

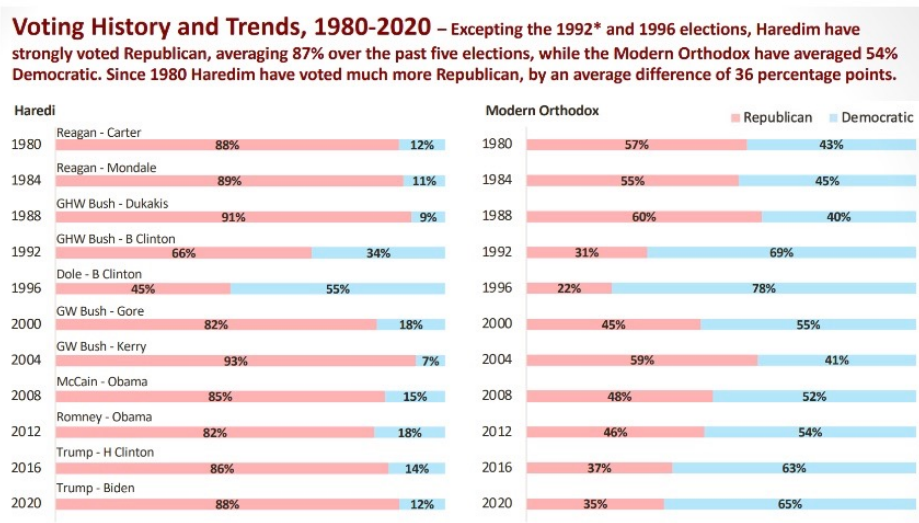
Survey: Ninety- Percent of Haredim Plan to Vote Republican in 2024

By Lauren Hakimi, October 3, 2023

Ninety percent of Haredi internet users plan to vote Republican in the 2024 presidential election, according to a survey conducted in August by historian David Myers and the organization Nishma, which conducts research in the Orthodox Jewish community.

The survey – which asked 1,257 Modern Orthodox and 1,224 Haredi American adults for their opinions on politics – found that the top issues Haredim said they consider when voting are the economy, crime, the Middle East, education, and religious freedom, in that order.

The respondents’ support for the Republican Party is consistent with recent election results. In the 2020 presidential election, the vast majority of voters picked Trump over President Joe Biden in areas with large Haredi populations, like Boro Park, South Williamsburg, Monsey, and Kiryas Joel in New York, and Lakewood in New Jersey.



Meanwhile, only 39% of Modern Orthodox survey participants said they planned to vote Republican in 2024.

The survey, which was conducted online, may not fully represent the views of Haredi Jews. Many Haredim are forbidden to use the internet, or only allowed to use it if they install a filter, but nearly half of Haredi respondents to this survey said they used the internet without any filters. More Litvish Jews than Hasidim participated, and of the Haredi respondents, 40% were women, 59% were men, and 1% did not state their gender.

A majority of respondents believed in refuted election conspiracies. Fifty-three percent of them either believed that Trump won the 2020 election or were “unsure” of who won.

In addition to multiple choice questions, the survey also asked respondents to provide short-form written answers to some queries. Many Haredi respondents wrote denunciations of the country’s current, Democratic leadership.

In a community that relies heavily on various safety-net programs for the poor, the goal of putting food on the table can come into conflict with other parts of political ideology. “I prefer Democrat public aid policy,” one respondent wrote, before listing reasons why they’ve shifted Republican: “Israel, pro-life, two genders, Constitution.”

Many Haredi participants in the survey said they were upset with how Democratic leaders handled the COVID-19 pandemic, and 60% of Haredi respondents to the survey said that the COVID-19 pandemic shifted their political attitudes, reducing their trust in the government. “It was the Democrat run states that were the most restrictive and punitive during covid,” one respondent wrote.

Because of a lack of earlier data about the Haredi community, it is difficult to say how many of the answers in the survey represent a shift in attitudes. However, for a community whose leaders were avowedly anti-Zionist in recent decades, the survey did show a favorable attitude towards Israel: 51% of Haredim said they identify as Zionists.

The founder of Nishma, Mark Trencher, said he hopes to conduct more research about the Haredi community, which has historically been neglected in most quantitative research of the Jewish community.

“While there are substantial research challenges involved in surveying the Haredi community, its members are increasingly eager to make their voices heard, and we appreciate the strong response to this study,” Trencher said in a press release.