

In an incredibly close race, can the Jewish vote make a difference? Five takeaways - opinion

Even if the Jewish vote does not swing the election, the polls give a rare snapshot of the priorities of the Jewish public in this historic election year.

By Ted Sasson / Oct. 26, 2024

A few weeks ahead of the November 5 presidential election, we now have a few relatively high-quality polls of Jewish Americans. The picture coming into focus is of a community that has retained its party commitments, is deeply worried about the future of American democracy, and continues to express high levels of support for Israel and concern about antisemitism. Here are five takeaways:

Despite the quick handoff from Biden to Harris in July, American Jews are likely to vote for the Democratic party nominee in proportions that compare to previous election cycles. A poll conducted a few days ago by the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank, has Harris leading Trump 67% to 31% among likely Jewish voters, a margin of 36 points. Polls conducted for the Jewish Democratic Council of America (JDCA) report larger margins.

In a JCDA poll of Jewish voters in seven battleground states conducted in October, Harris led Trump 71% to 26% for a 45-point spread. In a JDCA poll conducted nationwide in September, the spread was an even larger 47 points.

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