

MEMO

TO: Interested Parties
DATE: May 3, 2026
FROM: Mercury Public Affairs
SUBJECT: The Jewish Majority Survey Research Findings

Overview

This memorandum reports key findings from a telephone survey of 665 Jewish New York City voters who voted in the November 4, 2025 mayoral election, conducted in February 2026, concerning opinions and attitudes regarding the mayoral election, Mayor Mamdani's performance, antisemitism, public safety, Israel and related issues.

The findings of this survey are very clear: The rise of antisemitism and the need for adequate community safety are chief concerns. Even among the Jewish voters who supported Mamdani in the general election, the majority do not support the more extreme positions related to Israel and Palestine.

Put simply, the media narrative does not represent the reality regarding the opinions of Jewish New Yorkers.

Significant Support for a Two-State Solution

The most significant finding of the survey concerns attitudes toward resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. An overwhelming majority of Mamdani voters express support for a negotiated settlement when presented with its potential outcome:

- ❖ 84% of Mamdani voters would support a two-state solution if it would end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict — a position that stands in notable tension with Mayor Mamdani's publicly stated anti-Zionist views.

Heightened Concern Regarding Rising Antisemitism

New York City's Jewish community expresses widespread alarm about antisemitism, a concern that cuts across political lines:

- 82% of NYC Jewish voters — including nearly two-thirds of Mamdani voters — describe themselves as very or somewhat concerned about the rise in antisemitism.

- Among those concerned Jews, 73% link the increase in antisemitism to the normalization of anti-Zionism. This represents a majority (58%) of the overall sample.
- Only 25% of the overall sample disagree that the rise in antisemitism is connected to the normalization of anti-Zionism.

Jewish Identity, Israel & the Term “Intifada”

The survey explored a series of related questions about how NYC Jewish voters understand the relationship between Jewish identity, Israel, and recent political rhetoric. The results reveal strong consensus across each dimension:

- By a ratio of 3:1, NYC Jewish voters agree that opposing Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state undermines Jewish identity.
- By a ratio of 4:1, Jewish voters believe the word "intifada" connotes violence — not civil disobedience.
- By a ratio of more than 3:1, NYC Jewish voters believe Mayor Mamdani's refusal to condemn the phrase "globalize the intifada" has emboldened pro-Hamas protesters.
- By a ratio of nearly 5:1, NYC Jewish voters do not believe that Jews who support movements seeking to delegitimize or dismantle Israel are acting in the best interest of the Jewish community.

Summary Analysis

Despite the narrative in some quarters of the media regarding the waning support for Israel and wider acceptance of what have historically been beliefs and policies incompatible with Jewish identity, the overwhelmingly majority of Jewish voters in New York City still hold views simpatico with support for Israel as a Jewish state, have signaled a heightened concern regarding the rise in antisemitism and the need for additional safety measures, and do not buy the idea that “intifada” is an innocent term with no broader, existential meaning. These findings cut across sex, age, denomination, party, political ideology, and borough.

Even among the Jewish voters who supported Mamdani in the 2025 general election for mayor, support is still strong for these issues and measures. The more extreme language and positions such as “globalize the Intifada” are wholly unsupported by the majority of Jewish New Yorkers, including significant portions of those who voted for Mamdani, and even attribute those terms to a deterioration in safety and of tolerance for Jewish New Yorkers.

Methodology

The survey was conducted February 17-28, 2026, among 665 voters New York City voters identified as Jewish who voted in the November 4, 2025 mayoral election. The survey was conducted in English and Yiddish with the assistance of Mispar, and includes Jewish New Yorkers identified as Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, and Reconstructionist, with subsets thereof, as well as those who do not identify with a particular Jewish denomination. The sampling includes cellphones and landlines. The margin of error for this survey at the 95% confidence level is $\pm 3.797\%$ on the overall sample.