

# WHOSE PASSOVER IS IT ANYWAY?

2024 British Jewish Identity Edition

Things have changed since the Jewish people left Egypt... as they have since the time Jews first arrived in the UK. It is traditional to ask questions during the seder, but why stop at just the standard four? This seder, test your family's knowledge about Jews in the UK today while reading the Haggadah, and don't forget to check the full answers for more information.

## LIGHTING CANDLES

What proportion of British Jews report candles being lit in their home on Friday night, at least occasionally?

- a) About 80%
- b) About 70%
- c) About 60%
- d) About 50%

1

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (A)

80% of Jews have Shabbat candles lit in their homes at least occasionally. About half (51%) do so every or most weeks, a 4% increase from a decade ago.

## "LET ALL WHO ARE HUNGRY COME AND SHARE OUR MEAL"

2

What proportion of British Jewish adults report making at least one charitable donation in a typical year?

- a) About 45%
- b) About 60%
- c) About 75%
- d) About 90%

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

Nine out of ten Jews make at least one charitable donation annually. The equivalent proportion in British society as a whole is 66%. About four out of ten British Jews report donating over £500 each year.

## "WHY IS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT?"

3

Which of the following is most commonly practiced by Jews across the UK?

- a) Attending a Friday night meal at least most weeks
- b) Attending synagogue at least once a year
- c) Attending a Passover seder at least most years
- d) Fasting on Yom Kippur at least most years

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (C)

82% of British Jews typically attend a seder most or every year. 73% attend synagogue at least once a year, 63% commonly fast on Yom Kippur, and 61% attend a Friday night dinner most or every week.

## THE FOUR CHILDREN

The least common Jewish educational experience that British Jewish adults of all ages have had is...

- a) Regular involvement in a Jewish youth club or organisation
- b) Part-time classes in a synagogue, religion school or cheder
- c) Attending a Jewish school at primary and/or secondary stage or both
- d) Going on an Israel summer tour with a youth movement or organisation

5

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

Just one in three (33%) of all British Jewish adults today have been on an Israel summer tour. It is less common than the other three experiences mentioned (58%, 57% and 54%, respectively).

## "WE WERE SLAVES TO PHARAOH IN EGYPT"

What proportion of Jews in the UK say that they have felt personally discriminated against on the basis of their religion or belief?

- a) Less than 10%
- b) About 20%
- c) About 40%
- d) More than half

4

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (A)

7% of British Jewish adults reported personally experiencing anti-Jewish discrimination in 2023. Still, over 30% of Jews in the UK reported experiencing some kind of antisemitic incident. These proportions are much higher than those recorded in police and community incident reports.



## “IN EVERY GENERATION, THEY RISE TO DESTROY US”

Members of which group are most likely to report experiencing a verbal antisemitic incident in a typical year?

- a) Jewish students
- b) Jews with the strongest levels of attachment to Israel
- c) Charedi (Strictly Orthodox) Jews
- d) Jews who are currently employed

6

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (C)

39% of Charedi Jews reported falling victim to at least one verbal antisemitic incident in 2021, just ahead of 35% of Jewish students. Students are twice as likely to experience this type of antisemitism than those who are in employment.

## “WHO KNOWS ONE?”

What proportion of British Jewish adults believe that the Torah is the actual word of God?

- a) About 10%
- b) About 20%
- c) About 40%
- d) About 50%

9

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (B)

Just 18% of British Jews believe the Torah is the actual word of God, although a further 35% believe it is the inspired word of God but shouldn't be taken literally. The remaining half believe it is entirely of human origin.



10

## “NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM”

How many Jews made aliyah (emigrated to Israel) from the UK in 2023?

- a) About 10,000
- b) About 5,000
- c) About 1,000
- d) About 500

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

In recent decades, about 500 Jews have emigrated from the UK to Israel per annum, but just 396 did so in 2023, the lowest recorded number since 2005.

## “HE WENT DOWN TO EGYPT AND LIVED THERE IN SMALL NUMBERS”

What proportion of the UK's population today is Jewish?

- a) About 0.1%
- b) About 0.5%
- c) About 1%
- d) About 2%

7

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (B)

There are just under 68 million people living in the UK today. The Jewish population in the country stands at about 300,000, making up about 0.45% of the total.

## “DAYENU: IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH”

Which types of Jews report the highest levels of satisfaction with their lives?

- a) People who report the weakest levels of religiosity
- b) People who are very attached to Israel
- c) Young people in their late teens and twenties
- d) People who feel most strongly attached to their local Jewish community

8

### THE CORRECT ANSWER IS (D)

The more attached a person is to their community, the more likely they are to report higher levels of satisfaction and happiness in their life.



Scan to learn more

Scan to support our research

