March 2025 Election - Appendix

This Appendix refers to the first release of the march, 2025, off-cycle Israel National Election Study. It was conducted during a period with no nearby elections.

1. In general, with a few exceptions listed in the table below, variables are marked v (and the question number).

2. In specific instances the questions in the questionnaires and the variables in the dataset appear slightly differently or appear in one but not in the other. All of these are listed in the table below:

Variable in data file	Question # in the March questionnaire
resp_id	Respondent ID
age	2
agegroup	3
sex	4
educ	136
citizenship	5
religiosity	144
v143	143 (see note 7 below)
District_CBS	145 (see note 8 below)
SURVEY_MODE	See note 9 below
Weighting variables in data file	**Question # in questionnaire**
w_jews	
w_arabs	
w_sample	see note 9 below
agegroup5	
educ5	

3. Missing values are marked as 98 (don't know/refuse), unless specified otherwise.

4. Text responses for 'Other (specify)' options are stored in separate variables with the suffix '@' (e.g., v701@).

5. Questions v613, v614, v411, and v413 are multiple-choice questions. Each answer option is coded into a separate binary variable indicating whether the respondent selected that option.

6. The responses to question v143 in the data file are as follows: 1. Jewish; 2. Muslim; 5. Other (all other answers).

7. Out of concern for respondent anonymity, and in accordance with Israel's privacy law, we do not include the exact place of respondents' residence in the data file. Instead, question 145 was coded into bigger geographical units (districts) according to the Central Bureau of Statistics. See detailed description here:

   https://www.cbs.gov.il/en/cbsNewBrand/Pages/community.aspx?inc=https://boardsgenerator.cbs.gov.il/pages/WebParts/YishuvimPage.aspx?mode=Machoz.

8. SURVEY_MODE – this variable identifies the data collection method that was used to collect the data for the Arab sample. 1= internet (self-reply); 2= telephone (interview). See detailed description here: https://www.tau.ac.il/~ines/2022.html.

9. **Weights**

To ensure that our sample represents the full population of Israeli voters, the dataset includes post-stratification weights that correct over- or under-representation of key demographic subgroups. Weights align the survey data to known population benchmarks to adjust for non-random bias due to non-response and socio-demographic patterns of internet usage. Analysts who wish to infer nationally representative estimates about Israeli voters are advised to incorporate these weights into their analyses using appropriate statistical software.

The dataset includes three weight variables, one for the Jewish population, one for the Arab population, and one for the entire sample. Analysts should choose the appropriate weight based on their data selection in terms of group:

1. **w_jews**: weight for the sample of Jewish respondents.

2. **w_arabs**: weight for the sample of Arab respondents.

3. **w_sample**: a unified weight for both Jews and Arabs. This weight combines the two

subgroup weights (*w_jews* and *w_arabs*) and multiplies them by a relative group-size weight.

All weights are designed to represent their subgroup by gender, age group, education, and religiosity. The real-world distributions of these attributes by subgroup are from Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) data. Specifically, gender and age group distributions are taken from the CBS' Statistical Abstract of Israel 2024 (referring to 2023 data) and education and religiosity are taken from the 2023 Social Survey.

The INES and CBS categories for the relevant demographics do not always align. Hence, where necessary, the weighing was done using shorter common scales for both sources. These unified scales are detailed in a table at the end of this section.

The weights were calculated using post-stratification raking, an iterative procedure that produces weights aligning the survey's sample distributions to the population parameters when more than one factor is used for weighting. It adjusts sample weights repeatedly so that they add up to known population totals when those are only known marginally. The iteration concludes once the weights consolidate to stable values aligning with the target distributions. All weights sum up to the sample size and average around the value 1. An observation with a weight larger than 1 reflects sub-representation requiring inflation of weight, whereas weights smaller than 1 reflect over-representation necessitating devaluation. The procedure caps weight values at 5, the trimming threshold recommended by DeBell and Krosnick (2009).[1] The trimming is applied only for the subgroup weights; twenty observations (1.3% of the sample) in the combined weight have values between 5.7 and 5.73 due to the multiplication of subgroup weights and with group-size weights.

[1] DeBell, Matthew, and Jon A. Krosnick. 2009. *Computing Weights for American National Election Study Survey Data*. ANES Technical Report Series, no. nes012427 (available at http://www.electionstidies.org).

Common Demographic Scales Used for Weight Calculation

	INES Scale (Sample Data)	CBS Scale (Population Data)	Common Scale (Weighing)
Gender	Male	Male	Male
	Female	Female	Female
Age Group	18-22	18-20	18-29
	23-29	20-24	
		25-29	
	30-39	30-34	30-39
		35-39	
	40-49	40-44	40-49
		45-49	
	50-59	50-54	50-59
		55-59	
	60-69	60-64	60+
	70-79	65-74	
	80+	75+	
Education	No formal education	None	No high school diploma
		No diploma	
	Elementary school or less	Elementary school	
	Partial high school	Middle school	
	Complete high school - without matriculation diploma	Complete high school - without matriculation diploma	
	Complete high school with matriculation diploma	Complete high school with matriculation diploma	High school diploma with matriculation
	Post high school, non-academic (teacher's seminar, nursing school, engineering school, yeshiva)	Post high school, non-academic	Post-high school, non-academic diploma
	Partial academic degree	A different diploma	
	Academic degree, BA	Academic degree, BA	Academic degree, BA
	Academic degree, MA or over	Academic degree, MA or over	Academic degree, MA or over
Religiosity (Jews)	Very religious, Haredi	Very religious, Haredi	Very religious, Haredi
	Religious	Religious	Religious
	Traditional religious	Traditional religious	Traditional religious
	Traditional, not so religious	Traditional, not so religious	Traditional, not so religious
	Non-religious, secular	Non-religious, secular	Non-religious, secular
Religiosity (Arabs)	Very religious	Very religious	Very religious
	Religious	Religious	Religious
	Traditional religious		
	Traditional, not so religious	Not so religious	Not so religious
	Non-religious, secular	Non-religious	Non-religious