

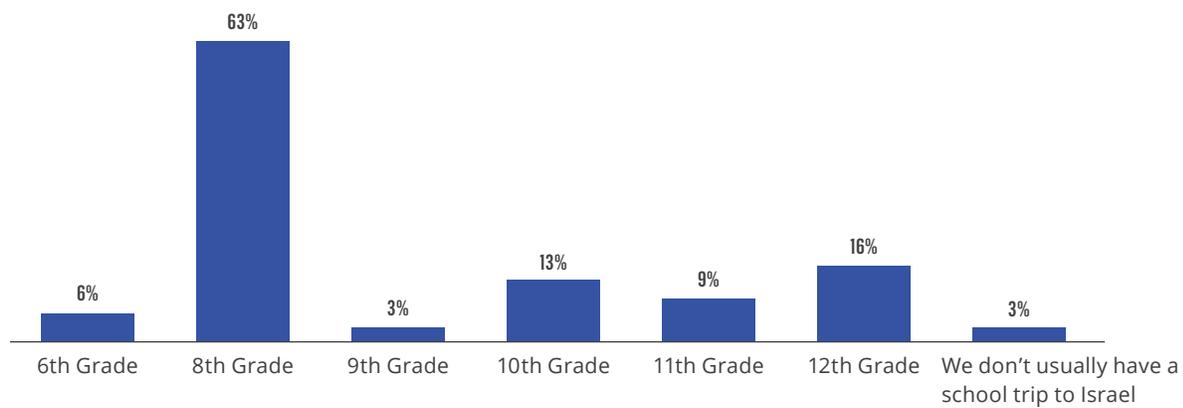
Israel Trips Survey Responses February 2024



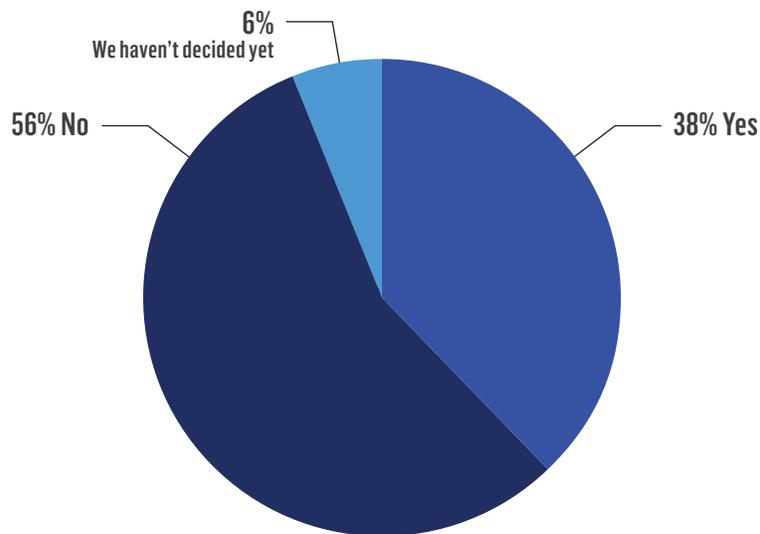
PRIZMAH
Center for Jewish Day Schools

Following discussions within Prizmah’s Head of School Reshet regarding the adjustments and planning processes that schools are undertaking for their annual Israel trip amidst the conflict in Israel, a brief survey was circulated in February among Head of School Reshet members. This survey aimed to gather information on the adjustments and planning process that schools are undertaking for the annual Israel trip during the current school year. A total of thirty-two schools participated, sharing details about the grades that typically participate in these trips, their intentions to conduct a trip this year, alternatives for schools choosing not to run a trip, and specific plans of those proceeding with their trips during the current school year.

In which grades do you (usually) have school trips to Israel?



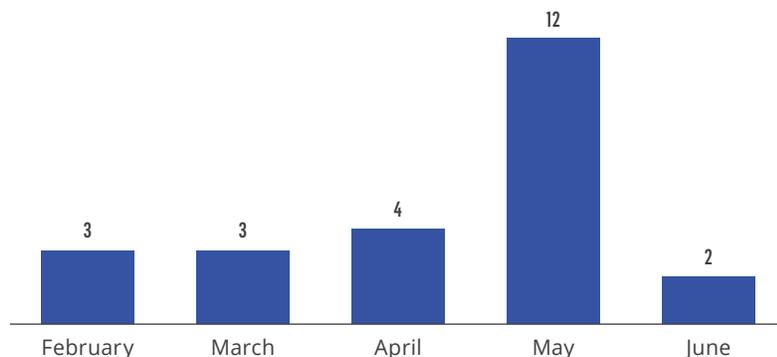
Is your school sending students to Israel before June 30, 2024?



If sending students to Israel this school year, in what ways has your trip planning shifted?

- Eliminated certain locations from the itinerary; twelfth- grade trip shortened from seven weeks to four
- Shorter, more service oriented
- Special mission to Israel to provide aid to people in Israel
- No north, no south, mostly Merkaz (Tel Aviv area), a few days in Jerusalem. Several days of volunteer service
- We moved from February to May and will have a more service oriented trip
- Just the itinerary. We considered shortening the trip from 2 weeks to 8-9 days but the cost to change the plane tickets was prohibitive
- We are limiting the trip to primarily Jerusalem and the lower Kineret to be more secure
- Mostly about cutting aspects in the north of Israel and near the Gaza envelope
- Itinerary will be abridged so as to avoid areas too far in the north or too close to Gaza, we are also attempting to incorporate more volunteer opportunities
- At this time, the changes are mostly geographic- we are not allowed to hike the upper Galili and the Gaza envelope
- We may add an additional volunteer opportunity. We have already had to change the place we stay in Jerusalem and may have to change more. We are looking at different airline tickets in case our current carrier does not end up resuming flights as announced
- We are obviously planning a revised itinerary that is ever-evolving. The trip will include more volunteering and be restricted in where we go throughout the country.

During which month/s of 2024 are you considering sending students to Israel?



What kind of insurance are you securing/have you secured for the trip?

- Usual medical insurance, looking into kidnap, ransom
- Each parent is required to purchase insurance
- Travel insurance: cancellation and interruption insurance are not available through our school for this trip. You may have coverage through your credit card. Medical insurance: personal medical insurance or credit card insurance does not always cover out of the country medical issues, emergencies, or related costs. Our host has arranged for group health insurance policy for all participants. The \$100 charge for this coverage is included in the overall fee. Enrollment in the group health insurance is mandatory, regardless of whether you have out of country medical coverage. The policy does not cover medical expenses that arise from a pre-existing condition. Participants will be sent a confidential questionnaire regarding their current health.
- Still in process. We know we'll have some but we're still in discussion to maximize what we get
- None at this time
- We have trip insurance, are considering workers comp insurance and other liability insurance
- We have not been able to secure insurance
- No liability insurance, which is an issue- we are going for waivers
- School insurance (AIG) and Israel tourist health insurance
- We recommend to families to secure their own
- Nothing additional at this time- the school's insurance policies are in effect

If you are working with any trip organizers, who would you recommend to colleagues?

- The Fuchsberg Center
- Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center
- Ramah Israel Programs
- Israel Maven
- Ramah Israel
- Alexander Muss High School in Israel
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- USCJ
- Ramah Israel Programs

If you have sent a group of students to Israel since Oct 7 2023, please describe the trip below

- Scheduled Feb 25-March 4
- Our senior grade is leaving Sunday Feb 18 for a week in Poland followed by 12 days in Israel

If not sending students to Israel this school year, if you are creating/have created an alternative experience for the students who will not be going to Israel this year, please describe your current plans

- Didn't allow for divided options- whole grade is going to Washington DC
- Our trip is usually end of November to early January, and the other three HS grades go on trips around the US the first week as well. We gave students two options- we had 10 available slots on our 11th grade trip to DC (which they all miss next year as they will go to Israel instead) and the others went to a last minute planned trip to San Francisco. Next year, they will go to Israel with our current 9th grade- this is what we did the year our trip was canceled for COVID as well.
- 8th grade- exploring a civil rights focused trip in the southeast or a Boston based trip
- We postponed our annual trip to Israel to Run4Shalva for this year. We are not planning an alternative trip
- Our 8th graders will travel to Prague and Poland instead of Israel in May
- We are joining together with a few other schools for a Jewish heritage trip to Spain run by a company called Authentic Israel
- 8th graders are going to Boston for 5 days and then have 3 day away at a local overnight camp
- We will be taking our 8th graders to NYC and DC for one week in May. We are using Academic Expeditions as our trip provider
- Shabbat in local site
- Going to New York in late May/early June for several days of touring and hopefully to participate in the Celebrate Israel parade on June 2.
- Our 11th graders will be going to Oregon on a service trip- for 4 days instead of 2 weeks in Israel. We hope they will go the following year with the 11th graders
- We are not creating one. We hope to take them in 11th grade
- We plan to take them on a shorter trip to Los Angeles. Visit the Holocaust Museum there, do some outdoor learning and some fun activities. I am also hoping we can connect with Jewish influencer/celebrity to talk about their experiences in Hollywood/public scene since October 7

Please describe what would need to be true for you to send your students to Israel this year

- Foreign travel insurance coverage
- We are set to go in March. We need appropriate liability insurance for travel to Israel. Right now in NY that does not seem possible as Israel is considered a war zone.