An in-depth analysis of the election results reveals how Yisrael Beiteinu managed to rise to eight seats.

(This is a translation of sections from the following Hebrew article: https://www.globes.co.il/news/article.aspx?did=1001302762)

Avigdor Lieberman's Yisrael Beiteinu party received eight Mandates in the last election, in what clearly made it the big winner of the election. But it's not just the success of receiving three more mandates in the short time between [the April and the September elections], or coming to control the [political] balance in assembling the government, but the way and places Lieberman managed to get those votes.

Just over 170,000 people voted for Lieberman's party in the April election, while two weeks ago, she garnered 310,154 votes. In other words, Yisrael Beiteinu received additional 137,150 new voters after a campaign of less than four months, and the result is eight mandates that don't allow either side, right or left, to form a government alone. Eight mandates to support the establishment of a unity government, and that alone.

What is the secret of this rise in the votes that Lieberman [received]? What caused so many voters to switch their ballots and put add three additional, unknown Members of Knesset to [Lieberman's] side?

Answering these questions involves voting analysis and a break-down [of the voters] by religious sector, or other affiliation, to understand the trends that led to this.

Analysis of the results presented here from various localities shows that Yisrael Beiteinu drew most of the new votes from the two major parties - from the Likud (including Moshe Kahlon's Kulanu and Moshe Feiglin's Zehut parties) and 'Blue & White'.

Knesset Member Oded Forer, who is considered the most senior member of Yisrael Beiteinu after Lieberman, tells Globes that there is no doubt that the 'religion & state' campaign that led Yisrael Beiteinu to refuse to enter Netanyahu's coalition in April [following the elections], due to the IDF conscription law, was the main factor in its success. According to him, most of the

new votes came "Because Yisrael Beiteinu established [itself] in [the public] consciousness as a kind of centrist bloc, and [voters] identified with our message about unity and solutions to the problems of religion and state, like public transportation on Saturday, conversion problems, the IDF conscription law, etc."

According to the data analysis, it is estimated that the strength of Yisrael Beiteinu among immigrants from Russian-speaking countries rose by about a third – this means at least one more mandate.

"That message, of standing as a barrier to the ultra-Orthodox and to religious coercion has been our message from the Party's [very] first day," says Forer, "And now this has been highlighted, and people have come to believe it again after Lieberman's principled conduct on the issue of conscription law. The publication of the ultra-Orthodox parties' demands of Netanyahu after the April elections, which showed that he sold himself completely to them, also helped us very much."

Forer further mentions the second generation of immigrants, the young people who were still children when they immigrated to Israel or were born in Israel, and now the Chief Rabbinate makes them miserable, forcing them to prove their Jewishness, "the same Jewishness they fought to protect when they were in the Soviet Union," according to him. The message permeated, and this time many of these voters voted Lieberman.

This message has seeped into another major audience - Blue and White voters, the secular centrists, middle-class people looking for change. Basically, Yair Lapid's voters.

The data shows that Yisrael Beiteinu increased [its voter share] in cities in the center [of Israel], Blue and White strongholds, at considerable rates - some at the Likud's expense, but also many of those who voted for Blue & White in the previous election, too.

Thus, in Tel Aviv, Yisrael Beiteinu leapt from 1.4% in April to 4.4% in September, while Blue & White dropped there from nearly 46% to less than 43%. In Givatayim, the increase in the number of voters for Lieberman from April to September amounted to no less than 452%; Lieberman's [share of the vote] rose 318% in Raanana, in Hod Hasharon, his party registered a 285% increase, in

Herzliya 195%, and so on and so on, sharp increases in other middle class Israeli middle class that want a change.