# Synagogues and Jewish Population Trends in the New York Area 

Based upon data from the Jewish Community Study of New York: 2002 and the UJ A-Federation of New York Synagogue Database: 2007

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Synagogues in Eight-County New York Area, 2007

| Borough/County | Number of <br> Synagogues |
| :--- | ---: |
| Brooklyn | 111 |
| Manhattan | 78 |
| Nassau County | 106 |
| Queens | 96 |
| Westchester <br> County | 60 |
| Suffolk County | 30 |
| Bronx | 26 |
| Staten Island | 10 |
| TOTAL | 517 |


| Denomination | Number of <br> Synagogues |
| :--- | ---: |
| Orthodox | 295 |
| Conservative | 119 |
| Reform | 80 |
| Reconstructionist | 11 |
| Not Affiliated | 12 |
| TOTAL | 517 |

## SYNAGOGUE DISTRIBUTION IN RELATION TO JEWISH POPULATION ESTI MATES AND TRENDS

## ESTI MATES: PEOPLE IN JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

## People in Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Borough/County | 2002 All People <br> in J ewish <br> Households | People in J ewish <br> Households as a <br> Percent of Total <br> Population | All People in J ewish <br> Households <br> Percent Change <br> $1991-2002$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Brooklyn | 516,000 | $21 \%$ | $31 \%$ |
| Manhattan | 292,000 | $19 \%$ | $-14 \%$ |
| Nassau County | 252,000 | $19 \%$ | $16 \%$ |
| Queens | 221,000 | $10 \%$ | $-14 \%$ |
| Westchester <br> County | 153,000 | $17 \%$ | $47 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | 127,000 | $9 \%$ | $10 \%$ |
| Bronx | 54,000 | $4 \%$ | $-40 \%$ |
| Staten Island | 52,000 | $12 \%$ | $41 \%$ |
| TOTAL | $1,667,000$ | $14 \%$ | $7 \%$ |

## ESTIMATES: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

## Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Borough/County | 2002 Number of <br> Jewish <br> Households | Jewish Households <br> as a Percent of All <br> Households | Number of Jewish <br> Households <br> Percent Change <br> $1991-2002$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Brooklyn | 171,000 | $19 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Manhattan | 155,000 | $21 \%$ | $-15 \%$ |
| Nassau County | 89,000 | $20 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Queens | 87,000 | $11 \%$ | $-22 \%$ |
| Westchester <br> County | 55,000 | $16 \%$ | $41 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | 44,000 | $9 \%$ | $19 \%$ |
| Bronx | 24,000 | 18,000 | $12 \%$ |

- Staten Island, Westchester, and Brooklyn experienced significant J ewish growth from 1991 to 2002.
- The Bronx, Queens and Manhattan experienced declining Jewish populations


Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002 Synagogues, Eight-County New York Area, 2007

| Borough/County | 2002 Number of <br> Jewish <br> Households | Percent <br> of Total | 2007 Number of <br> Synagogues | Percent <br> of Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Brooklyn | 171,000 | $27 \%$ | 111 | $21 \%$ |
| Manhattan | 155,000 | $24 \%$ | 78 | $15 \%$ |
| Nassau County | 89,000 | $14 \%$ | 106 | $21 \%$ |
| Queens | 87,000 | $14 \%$ | 96 | $19 \%$ |
| Westchester <br> County | 55,000 | $9 \%$ | 60 | $12 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | 44,000 | $7 \%$ | 30 | $6 \%$ |
| Bronx | 24,000 | $4 \%$ | 26 | $5 \%$ |
| Staten Island | 18,000 | $3 \%$ | 10 | $2 \%$ |
| TOTAL | 643,000 | $100 \%$ | 517 | $100 \%$ |

## SYNAGOGUE DISTRIBUTION IN RELATION TO DENOMI NATIONAL I DENTI TY

- There are more Reform households and Conservative households than Orthodox households, but there are more Jewish people in Orthodox households.

| Denomination | Number of <br> Jewish <br> Households <br> 2002 | Number of <br> Jewish <br> People <br> 2002 | Total Number of <br> People in J ewish <br> Households <br> (including non- <br> Jews) 2002 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Orthodox | 110,100 | 378,200 | 408,600 |
| Conservative | 149,900 | 317,900 | 348,800 |
| Reform | 168,400 | 345,400 | 396,600 |
| Reconstructionist | 8,200 | 18,800 | 20,700 |
| No Denomination ("J ust J ewish") | 90,700 | 167,200 | 198,800 |
| Secular, No Religion | 55,600 | 95,000 | 122,100 |
| Miscellaneous Denominations | 4,000 | 7,300 | 9,800 |
| All Other Respondents (non- <br> Jewish, denomination refused) | 56,100 | 82,200 | 163,100 |
| EIGHT-COUNTY NEW YORK AREA | 643,000 | $1,412,000$ | $1,667,000$ |

- More than 144,000 Jewish children live in Orthodox households - 48 percent of all Jewish children in the eightcounty area.

| Denomination | Average <br> Number of <br> Jewish Persons <br> in Household | Number of <br> Jewish <br> Children | Number of <br> J ewish <br> Adults | Percent of <br> Jewish Persons <br> in Eight- <br> County Area |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Orthodox | 3.4 | 144,300 | 233,800 | $28 \%$ |
| Conservative | 2.1 | 48,100 | 269,900 | $24 \%$ |
| Reform | 2.1 | 59,700 | 285,600 | $26 \%$ |
| Reconstructionist | 2.3 | 4,100 | 14,800 | $1 \%$ |
| Nondenominational - <br> "J ust Jewish" | 1.8 | 20,900 | 146,200 | $13 \%$ |
| Secular \& No Religion | 1.7 | 12,200 | 82,800 | $7 \%$ |
| Miscellaneous Answers | 1.8 | 1,300 | 5,900 | $1 \%$ |
| Total | 2.2 | 11,700 | 70,700 | $100 \%$ |

*The classification is based on respondents' reported denomination. Approximately 82,200 Jewish persons reside in households where either the respondent was not Jewish, or data

- Over the past ten years, there have been significant increases in the proportions of Jewish respondents that identify themselves as Orthodox, as secular, or who say that they do not have a religion.

| Denomination | Jewish <br> Respondents <br> $1991^{*}$ | Jewish <br> Respondents <br> 2002 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Orthodox | $13 \%$ | $19 \%$ |
| Conservative | $34 \%$ | $26 \%$ |
| Reform | $36 \%$ | $29 \%$ |
| Reconstructionist | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ |
| Nondenominational - Just J ewish | $10 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| Secular \& No Religion | $3 \%$ | $10 \%$ |
| Miscellaneous Answers | $2 \%$ | $<1 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

[^0]- Since 1991, the percentage of Jewish respondents identifying themselves as Orthodox has grown significantly, as has those who consider themselves "J ust J ewish" or Secular.

Changes in Jewish Respondent Denomination, 1991-2002

| Denomination | Bronx | Brooklyn | Manhattan | Queens | Staten <br> Island |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ORTHODOX |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1991 | $14 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $10 \%$ |
| 2002 | $20 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $10 \%$ |
| OTHER (Just Jewish, Secular, Miscellaneous) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1991 | $22 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| 2002 | $31 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $31 \%$ |
| REFORM |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1991 | $31 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $32 \%$ |
| 2002 | $22 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $33 \%$ |
| CONSERVATIVE | $34 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $35 \%$ |
| 1991 | $27 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $26 \%$ |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |

- The growth of the Orthodox population and is taking place in the suburbs as well as in New York City.

Changes in Jewish Respondent Denomination, 1991-2002

| Denomination | Eight-County <br> Total | Nassau <br> County | Suffolk <br> County | Westchester <br> County |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ORTHODOX | $13 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $5 \%$ |  |
| 1991 | $19 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $9 \%$ |  |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |
| OTHER (Just Jewish, Secular, Miscellaneous) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1991 | $17 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $21 \%$ |  |
| 2002 | $26 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $19 \%$ |  |
| REFORM | $36 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $50 \%$ |  |
| 1991 | $29 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $42 \%$ |  |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CONSERVATIVE | $24 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $24 \%$ |  |
| 1991 | $26 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $31 \%$ |  |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |

Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002 Synagogues, Eight-County New York Area, 2007

| Denomination | Percent of <br> Households <br> 2002 | Percent of <br> Synagogues <br> 2007 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Orthodox | $19 \%$ | $57 \%$ |
| Conservative | $26 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| Reform | $29 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| Reconstructionist | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ |
| Other <br> - People: "J ust Jewish, Secular, Miscellaneous <br> -Synagogues: Not Affiliated | $26 \%$ | $2 \%$ |
| TOTAL | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

*The classification is based on respondents' reported denomination. Approximately 82,200 Jewish persons reside in households where either the respondent was not Jewish, or data on denomination was not available.

# SYNAGOGUE DISTRIBUTION IN RELATION TO SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP TRENDS 

- $43 \%$ of survey respondents report that their household belongs to a Jewish congregation in New York.
- In 1999, the percentage was $38 \%$.

| Borough/County | Percent of All <br> Households That <br> Report Belonging to <br> a Synagogue 1991 | Percent of All <br> Households That <br> Report Belonging to <br> a Synagogue 2002 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Nassau County | $51 \%$ | $56 \%$ |
| Westchester County | $43 \%$ | $51 \%$ |
| Brooklyn | $46 \%$ | $47 \%$ |
| Queens | $37 \%$ | $46 \%$ |
| Bronx | $38 \%$ | $40 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | $36 \%$ | $36 \%$ |
| Staten Island | $35 \%$ | $33 \%$ |
| Manhattan | $31 \%$ | $30 \%$ |
| Eight County Total | $38 \%$ | $43 \%$ |

Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002 Synagogues, Eight-County New York Area, 2007

| Borough/County | 2002 Number <br> of Jewish <br> Households | Percent of <br> Households That <br> Report Belonging <br> to a Synagogue | Percent of All <br> Synagogues in <br> Eight- County <br> New York Area |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Nassau County | 89,000 | $56 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Westchester <br> County | 55,000 | $51 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| Brooklyn | 171,000 | $47 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Queens | 87,000 | $46 \%$ | $19 \%$ |
| Bronx | 24,000 | $40 \%$ | $5 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | 18,000 | $36 \%$ | $6 \%$ |
| Staten Island | 155,000 | $33 \%$ | $2 \%$ |
| Manhattan | 643,000 | $30 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| TOTAL | $43 \%$ | $100 \%$ |  |

## DEMOGRAPHY AND SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP

Households in which the respondent is not married are less likely than married households to belong to a synagogue.

| Marital Status | Percent of All <br> Respondents, <br> 2002 | Percent of Respondents <br> in Category That Report <br> Household Belongs to a <br> Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Married | $57 \%$ | $51 \%$ |
| Widowed | $12 \%$ | $37 \%$ |
| Never-Married | $20 \%$ | $33 \%$ |
| Separated/Divorced | $11 \%$ | $29 \%$ |

## Synagogue membership is particularly low among the

 intermarried.| Inmarried or <br> Intermarried Status | Percent of All <br> Married <br> Respondents | Percent of Households <br> in Category That <br> Belong to a Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Inmarried | $79 \%$ | $62 \%$ |
| Intermarried | $22 \%$ | $16 \%$ |

## Percent of Intermarried Couples, Eight-County New York Area, 2002



- Intermarriage is almost non-existent among those who self-identify as Orthodox, and is most prevalent among those who identify as secular.

| Denomination | In-Marriages | Conversionary <br> In-Marriages | Intermarriages |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Orthodox | $97 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $1 \%$ |
| Conservative | $86 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| Reform | $71 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Nondenominational - <br> "J ust Jewish" | $67 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $22 \%$ |
| Secular \& No Religion | $47 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $40 \%$ |
| Miscellaneous | $78 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $14 \%$ |

[^1]Households without children or seniors are less likely than households with children and senior households to belong to a synagogue.

| Household Composition | Percent of All <br> Jewish Households | Percent of Households <br> In Category That <br> Belong to a Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Minor Children in Household <br> Younger than Age 18 | $28 \%$ | $59 \%$ |
| Adults Ages 18-64, <br> No Minor Children in <br> Household | $39 \%$ | $34 \%$ |
| Senior Household - Someone <br> in Household is Age 65+ (No <br> Minor Children) | $32 \%$ | $41 \%$ |

- Over one-third of households in Brooklyn, Nassau, Suffolk, Staten Island \& Westchester contain a child age 17 or under
- One-fifth or fewer of households in Manhattan \& in the Bronx contain a child age 17 or under

- Across the entire eight-county New York area, 22\% of Jewish persons are younger than 18, while $20 \%$ are 65 or older.*
- The percentage of Jewish persons who are at least 75 years old has increased from 5\% in 1991 to 11\% in 2002.

| Ages | Jewish Persons |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1991^{* *}$ | 2002 |
| $0-17$ | $22 \%$ | $22 \%$ |
| $18-24$ | $8 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| $25-34$ | $15 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| $35-44$ | $18 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| $45-54$ | $11 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| $55-64$ | $10 \%$ | $11 \%$ |
| $65-74$ | $11 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| $75+$ | $5 \%$ | $11 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

* Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding in this and subsequent tables. When ages $0-17$ are combined for 2002, the percentage is rounded to $22 \%$.
** 1991 categories were slightly different (ages 15-19 combined), so 1991 percentages are interpolated.

Age and Gender Patterns, Jewish Persons, 2002 Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Age | Males | Females | Percent of Age Groups <br> That Is Female |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $0-5$ | 52,700 | 49,600 | $48 \%$ |
| $6-12$ | 59,800 | 57,000 | $49 \%$ |
| $13-17$ | 46,800 | 42,000 | $47 \%$ |
| $18-24$ | 59,600 | 64,300 | $48 \%$ |
| $25-34$ | 81,800 | 87,200 | $52 \%$ |
| $35-44$ | 80,000 | 85,000 | $52 \%$ |
| $45-54$ | 96,900 | 112,000 | $54 \%$ |
| $55-64$ | 72,000 | 77,700 | $52 \%$ |
| $65-74$ | 65,100 | 72,100 | $54 \%$ |
| $75+$ | 72,000 | 87,700 | $57 \%$ |
| Total | 72,000 | 734,600 | $52 \%$ |

Age by County of Residence, Jewish Persons Only Eight-County New York Area, 2002

|  | Age of Jewish Persons |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Borough/ County | $0-17$ | $18-44$ | $45-64$ | $65-74$ | $75+$ | TOTAL |
| Bronx | $12 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Brooklyn | $30 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Manhattan | $11 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Queens | $19 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Staten Island | $21 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Nassau County | $22 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Suffolk County | $18 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Westchester County | $26 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Total, Eight-County <br> New York Area | $22 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

- All denominations have a similar proportion of young adults (18-39), but Orthodox households have a much larger proportion of children compared with seniors.
- Nearly 60 percent of people in Conservative, Reform, Nondenominational, and Secular J ewish households are age 40 and older.

Age by Denomination of Household Respondent, All People in Jewish Households, Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Denomination | $0-17$ | $18-39$ | $40-64$ | $65+$ | Total |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Orthodox | $39 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Conservative | $18 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Reform | $19 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Nondenominational/ <br> Just Jewish | $16 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Secular/No Religion | $17 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
| Miscellaneous | $25 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

Less affluent households are less likely to belong to a synagogue.

| Household <br> Income | Percent of <br> All Jewish <br> Households | Percent of <br> Households In <br> Category That <br> Belong to a <br> Synagogue | Percent of Households That <br> Report Financial Cost Had <br> Prevented Them From Joining <br> a Synagogue in the Five <br> Years Preceding the Survey |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Over <br> $\$ 150,000$ | $17 \%$ | $57 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000-$ <br> $\$ 149,000$ | $15 \%$ | $45 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000-$ <br> $\$ 99,999$ | $24 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Under <br> $\$ 50,000$ | $45 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $22 \%$ |

## DETAI L: HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY BOROUGH/ COUNTY

Jewish Household Annual Income by County of Residence Eight-County New York Area, 2002

U.S. and Foreign-born respondents are about equally likely to be in households that belong to a synagogue, but there is much variation by specific place of birth.

| Place of Birth | Percent of All <br> Jewish Adults | Percent of Respondents <br> in Category That Report <br> Household Belongs to a <br> Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Other Middle East and Africa* | $1 \%$ | $72 \%$ |
| Western Europe | $3 \%$ | $59 \%$ |
| Israel | $3 \%$ | $50 \%$ |
| Eastern Europe | $6 \%$ | $48 \%$ |
| New York | $60 \%$ | $45 \%$ |
| Other USA | $13 \%$ | $36 \%$ |
| Former Soviet Union | $12 \%$ | $34 \%$ |
| Other non-U.S. | $3 \%$ | $32 \%$ |

[^2]Russian-speaking households are much less likely to report belonging to a synagogue.

In Queens, Russian-speaking and non-Russian-speaking membership rates are about equal, reflecting the presence of a large, traditional Bukharan community.

Synagogue Membership by Whether Household is Russian-Speaking

|  | Russian-Speaking <br> Jewish Households | Non-Russian <br> Speaking Jewish <br> Households |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Brooklyn | $25 \%$ | $60 \%$ |
| Queens | $49 \%$ | $45 \%$ |
| Eight-County Area | $31 \%$ | $45 \%$ |

- A quarter of a million people live in Russian-speaking J ewish households in the eight-county area. Additionally, many live nearby in New Jersey, Connecticut, and elsewhere in New York but maintain social and professional ties to the City.
- 62\% of Russian-speaking Jews in the Eight-County area live in Brooklyn; 19\% live in Queens.
- One in five Jews in New York City live in Russian-speaking Jewish households.

| The Russian-Speaking J ewish Community <br> in the Eight-County Area | Number |
| :--- | :---: |
| Russian-Speaking J ewish Households | 92,000 |
| Jewish Persons in Russian-Speaking <br> Jewish Households | 202,000 |
| All People Living in Russian-Speaking <br> Jewish Households (Including Non-J ews) | 223,000 |

Denominational I dentification, Russian-Speaking Jewish Respondents


## DENOMI NATI ONAL IDENTITY AND SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP

Among households in which the respondent identifies with a major denominational movement, the majority belongs to synagogues.

Among households in which the respondent identifies as secular or "J ust J ewish", one in six belong to a synagogue

| Denomination | Percent of <br> Jewish <br> Respondents | Percent of Households <br> in Category That <br> Belong to a Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Orthodox | $19 \%$ | $86 \%$ |
| Conservative | $26 \%$ | $57 \%$ |
| Reform | $29 \%$ | $55 \%$ |
| Reconstructionist | $1 \%$ | $37 \%$ |
| Nondenominational - Just J ewish | $15 \%$ | $18 \%$ |
| Secular \& No Religion | $10 \%$ | $16 \%$ |
| Miscellaneous Answers | $<1 \%$ | $46 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

- Respondent denomination is strongly related to the tendency to attend synagogue very frequently or not at all.
- The majority of all denominational identity groups except Orthodox attend synagogue infrequently (only on high holidays, only on special occasions, or a few times per year).

| Frequency of <br> Synagogue <br> Attendance | Orthodox <br> Respondents | Conservative <br> Respondents | Reform <br> Respondents | Non- <br> Denominational <br> Respondents | Secular, No <br> Religion <br> Respondents |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Not at All | $4 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $44 \%$ |
| Infrequent | $24 \%$ | $59 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $53 \%$ |
| Monthly or <br> More Often | $73 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## Impact of Childhood J ewish Experiences on Current Congregation Membership, Jewish Respondents Only, Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Childhood J ewish Education | Percent of All <br> Jewish <br> Respondents | Percent of Respondents <br> in Category That Report <br> Household Belongs to a <br> Synagogue |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| No Childhood J ewish <br> Experiences | $35 \%$ | $30 \%$ |
| Minimal Jewish Experiences | $19 \%$ | $37 \%$ |
| Moderate J ewish Experiences | $20 \%$ | $45 \%$ |
| Relatively High Jewish <br> Experiences | $12 \%$ | $59 \%$ |
| Very High Jewish Experiences | $14 \%$ | $75 \%$ |

## JEWISH CONNECTIONS AND SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP

Half of J ewish households are affiliated with Jewish organizational life.

| J ewish Affiliation Status of Household | Percent of All <br> Eight-County New <br> York Area Jewish <br> Households, 2002 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Congregation Member Only | $24 \%$ |
| Congregation Member and J CC Member or Other <br> Jewish Organization Affiliation | $19 \%$ |
| J CC member or Other Jewish Organization Only | $9 \%$ |
| Not Members | $48 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ |

- Two-thirds of Jewish survey respondents feel part of a Jewish community in New York.
- Many people feel part of a Jewish Community even if they don't place a very high priority on being part of a Jewish community.

|  | Percent That Say <br> Being Part of a <br> Jewish Community <br> is Very Important | Percent That Feel <br> Part of a J ewish <br> Community in the <br> New York Area |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| All Respondents | $52 \%$ | $65 \%$ |
| Synagogue/Congregation |  |  |
| - Member | $75 \%$ | $86 \%$ |
| - Not a Member | $32 \%$ | $49 \%$ |

The majority of Jewish survey respondents attend synagogue or temple, but relatively infrequently.

Synagogue or Temple Attendance


- People who attend synagogue often place more importance on being part of a Jewish community, and feel more part of a Jewish community.

|  | Percent That Say <br> Being Part of a <br> Jewish Community <br> is Very Important | Percent That Feel <br> Part of a J ewish <br> Community in the <br> New York Area |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| All Respondents | $52 \%$ | $65 \%$ |
| Frequency of Attending <br> Religious Services |  |  |
| - Never/Rarely | $26 \%$ | $50 \%$ |
| - Occasionally | $56 \%$ | $71 \%$ |
| - Monthly or More Often | $85 \%$ | $91 \%$ |

- Among respondents who feel it is very important for them to be part of a Jewish community, about one in four are not connected to the Jewish communal world.


## \% of Respondents for Whom Being Part of a Jewish Community Is Very Important, But



- Indicators of Jewish practice are slightly higher in 2002 than they were in 1991.*

*Always, usually, and sometimes combined in 2002 and 1991 for seder, Chanukah, Yom Kippur, and Shabbat candles. In
2002, respondent was asked: "Do you keep a kosher home?" In 1991, question was if household "...uses two sets of dishes."


## JEWISH PRACTICES BY AFFI LAITION LEVEL

- There are sharp differences in J ewish behavioral practices by level of belonging.



## JEWISH EDUCATION AND DENOMI NATION

- For the Eight-County area as a whole, respondent denomination is strongly related to Jewish education among children ages 6-17.

| Jewish Education <br> of Jewish <br> Children 6-17 | Orthodox <br> Respondent <br> Households | Conservative <br> Respondent <br> Households | Reform <br> Respondent <br> Households | Non- <br> Denominational <br> Households | Secular, No <br> Religion <br> Households |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current/previous <br> Full-time Day <br> School | $97 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Current/previous <br> Supplementary <br> School | $1 \%$ | $62 \%$ | $75 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $20 \%$ |
| No Jewish <br> Education | $1 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $63 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## Informal Jewish Education of Children Ages 6-17

by Denomination of Jewish Respondent Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Informal Jewish <br> Education of <br> Jewish Children <br> Ages 6-17 | Orthodox <br> Respondent <br> Households | Conservative <br> Respondent <br> Households | Reform <br> Respondent <br> Households | Non- <br> Denominational <br> and Secular <br> Households | All J ewish <br> Households |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Athletic or <br> Extracurricular <br> Activities in a <br> Jewish Setting | $55 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $46 \%$ |
| Jewish Youth <br> Group <br> Involvement | $63 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $46 \%$ |
| Summer <br> Overnight <br> Camp with <br> Jewish Content | $60 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $33 \%$ |
| Travel to Israel | $43 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $22 \%$ |

Percent of Jewish Children Younger Than 6 Who Are Enrolled in a Jewish Preschool or Jewish Daycare Program by Denomination of Respondent, Eight-County New York Area, 2002


UJA(P Federation

I NTERMARRIAGE

## I nmarried Jewish Households

- Both spouses raised as Jews.

Conversionary Jewish Households

- Jewish adult married to spouse who was not raised as a Jew, but the spouse currently considers self Jewish (regardless of whether formal conversion occurred).

Intermarried J ewish Households

- Jewish adult married to spouse who does NOT consider self J ewish.


## I NTERMARRI AGE: CALCULATI ONS

of New York

There are two ways to calculate intermarriage rates:

- For Jewish persons, and
- For marriages.

INMARRIED


1 out of 5 Jewish persons is intermarried - a 20\% J ewish persons intermarriage rate

INTERMARRIED

1 out of 3 couples are intermarried a 33\% couples intermarriage rate

## 2002 Survey Data:

- a 13\% Jewish persons intermarried rate, and
- a $22 \%$ couples intermarriage rate.

| Type of Marriage | Percent of Jewish <br> Born Persons* | Percent of <br> Marriages |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Inmarriage | $83 \%$ | $72 \%$ |
| Conversionary Marriage | $4 \%$ | $7 \%$ |
| Intermarriage | $13 \%$ | $22 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

[^3]Among 2002 respondents who are currently married, only 8\% who were married prior to 1970 are intermarried.

Intermarriage rates in the 1980s and the 1990s have been relatively stable.
\% of Currently Intermarried Couples Who Were Married...


## Intermarriage Rates in Latest Five-Year Period, Percentages Based on Couples and on Jewish Born Persons, Eight-County New York Area, 2002 and National Jewish Data, 2000-01

| Percent Intermarried in Last Five Years |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jewish Population Study | Married Couples | Jewish-Born Persons |
| New York: 2002 | $36 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| National Jewish Population <br> Study: 2000-01 | $63 \%$ | $47 \%$ |

Synagogue membership is more of a predictor of ritual observance and some organizational involvements than intermarriage status.


Intermarried households feel less connected and are involved in fewer other organizations even if they are synagogue members, but there is still a wide gap between member and non-member intermarried households.


There are over 60,000 children living in intermarried Jewish households.

| Type of Marriage | Number of <br> Children | Percent of <br> Children in <br> Household Type |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Inmarried Households | 240,000 | $65 \%$ |
| Conversionary Households | 18,000 | $5 \%$ |
| Intermarried Households | 61,000 | $16 \%$ |
| Other Households * | 51,000 | $14 \%$ |
| Total | 370,000 | $100 \%$ |

*"Other Households" can include unmarried partners, divorced, separated, widowed, and never-married households.

Over 99\% of children living in inmarried households are being raised as Jews.

About half of the 61,000 children living in intermarried Jewish households are not being raised as Jews

| Child Being <br> Raised: | Inmarried <br> Households | Conversionary <br> Households | Intermarried <br> Households |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jewish | $99 \%$ | $80 \%$ | $30 \%$ |
| Jewish and <br> Something Else | $<1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Not Jewish | $<1 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $48 \%$ |
| Undecided | $<1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Total | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

## Informal Jewish Educational Experiences of Children Ages 6-17 by Household Intermarriage Status Eight-County New York Area, 2002

| Informal J ewish <br> Education of Children <br> Ages 6-17 | Inmarried <br> Households | Conversionary <br> Households | Intermarried <br> Jewish Household |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Athletic or <br> Extracurricular <br> Activities in a J ewish <br> Setting | $56 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| Jewish Youth <br> Group Involvement | $54 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $24 \%$ |
| Summer Overnight <br> Camp With J ewish <br> Content | $42 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $11 \%$ |
| Travel to Israel | $29 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $<1 \%$ |

Information from this study can be obtained from:

- The Reports
- Jewish Community Study of New York: 2002
- Geographic Profile
- Report on Jewish Poverty
- Special Report on Nazi Victims in the New York Area
» Available at www.ujafedny.org/jewishcommunitystudy
- The Data File
» Available at the North American Jewish Data Bank
- Inquiries to UJ A-Federation of New York
» Address inquiries to Jennifer Rosenberg


## Questions?

$?$
$?$


[^0]:    *1991 published data have been recalculated to reflect denomination of respondent only, and to eliminate
    "do not know" answers from 1991 to make data comparable to 2002 study results.

[^1]:    *The classification is based on respondents' reported denomination. Approximately 82,200 Jewish persons reside in households where either the respondent was not Jewish, or data on denomination was not available.

[^2]:    *Fewer than 50 interviews; caution is advised in interpretation of rate of synagogue membership.

[^3]:    *Since an inmarriage involves two Jewish persons, intermarriage rates based on Jewish persons are different from intermarriage rates calculated on the basis of marriages/couples. Percentages may not add to $100 \%$ due to rounding.

