The Implications of the Pew Study: *Jewish Americans in 2020*

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Methodology

- The Pew Research Center is the “gold standard” for research on religion, ethnicity, and politics
- Survey completed via the internet and mail using Address-Based Sampling (ABS). Thus, the study has a random sample of respondents that did not rely on mailing lists or distinctive Jewish names
- 340,000 requests to participate were sent to American households and 68,400 interviews were completed by both Jews and non-Jews. 4,718 interviews with Jews (margin of error is ±3% on overall results)
- November 19, 2019 to June 3, 2020 (before and during the pandemic)
- Jews by Religion: Respondent identified as Jewish when asked their religion
  - What is your present religion, if any?
- Jews of No Religion: Respondent did not identify by religion, but identified ethnically, culturally, or because of family background
  - ASIDE from religion, do you consider yourself to be Jewish in any way (for example: ethnically, culturally or because of your family’s background)?
- Where we have results from the Miami 2014 Jewish community study sponsored by the GMJF, such comparisons are in green
- Full disclosure: I was an advisor on Pew 2020 and the Principal Investigator for Miami 2014
Topics

1) Number of American Jews
2) Jewish Identification
3) Nature of Jewish Feelings
4) Jewish Practices and Engagement
5) Synagogue Attendance and Membership
6) Marriage, Family, and Children
7) Jewish Community and Connection
8) Antisemitism
9) Israel
10) Political Views
11) Jewish Diversity
12) Demographics
1) Number of American Jews
Number of American Jews

• **ADULTS (5.8M)**
  • 5.8M Jewish adults
    • 4.2M Jews by Religion (73%)
    • 1.5M Jews of No Religion (27%)
  • Another 2.8M adults have a **Jewish background** They had at least one Jewish parent or were raised Jewish.
    • 1.9M are Christian
    • 0.7M have no religion (and do not consider themselves Jewish)
    • 0.2M are Jews by Religion but also profess another religion (part Jewish)
  • Another 1.4M adults have a **Jewish affinity**
    • No Jewish parent or upbringing and do not identify as Jews by Religion but consider themselves Jewish in some other way. (Messianic, Jesus was a Jew, all my friends are Jewish, relatives are Jewish, etc.) 76% raised Christian

• **CHILDREN (1.8M)**
  • 1.8M children being raised Jewish in some way
    • 1.2M being raised as Jews by Religion
    • 0.4M being raised as Jews of No Religion
    • 0.2M being raised as Jews by Religion and in another religion
  • Another 0.6M children in households with at least 1 Jewish adult who are not being raised Jewish in any way
  • Another 1M children in households with at least 1 adult of Jewish background. 0.9M not being raised Jewish in any way

• **PEW TOTAL JEWISH POPULATION IS 7.5M (5.8 + 1.8)**
Number of American Jews - Other Estimates

- **American Jewish Year Book:** 7.3M
- **Pew estimate:** 7.5M
- **Brandeis:** 7.6M

- Difference between 7.3M (AJYB) and 7.6M (Brandeis) is about 4%
- Pew found that 2.3% of Americans are Jews (7.5/331.5)
- Had Pew found 2.2%, their estimate would be 331,000 lower or the same 7.3M in the Year Book

**Conclusion:** all three methods are in the same ballpark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Jewish Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>7,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>6,775,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>448,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>393,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>292,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>16,600,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Sergio DellaPergola, World Jewish Population 2021, *American Jewish Year Book*
US Jewish Population 1780-2020
(in thousands)

Early Republic
Central European Immigration
Eastern European Immigration

Holocaust Survivors
FSU Immigrants

2) Jewish Identification
Jews by Religion
Jews of No Religion

Results are consistent with results for All Americans who say they have no religion (27% compares to 28%, the “nones”)

Jews of No Religion are an increasing percentage of younger Jews
Jewish Identification

These data are self-identification and may or may not reflect synagogue membership or level of religious practice.

The Jewish middle (Reform + Conservative) is shrinking among younger Jews.

More young people are Orthodox and "no particular branch".

Age 18-29 are 11% Ultra-Orthodox and 6% Modern Orthodox.

Age 65+ are 1% Ultra-Orthodox and 2% Modern Orthodox.
Retention of All US Adults Raised Jewish or Who Had at Least 1 Jewish Parent

- Now Jewish by Religion: 48%
- Now Jews of No Religion: 19%
- Now Christian: 19%
- Now other faith: 7%
- No Religion/Not Jewish: 7%
Jewish Identification - 1990 - 2020

1990
- Orthodox: 11%
- Conservative: 25%
- Reform: 33%
- Just Jewish: 30%

2020
- Miami: 11%
- Just Jewish: 32%
- Miami: 26%
- Conservative: 17%
- Miami: 31%
- Reform: 37%
- Orthodox: 9%
- Other: 4%

Jewish Identification - 2013 - 2020

2013
- Orthodox: 10%
- Conservative: 18%
- Reform: 35%
- Just Jewish: 30%
- Other: 6%

2020
- Orthodox: 9%
- Conservative: 17%
- Reform: 37%
- Just Jewish: 32%
- Other: 4%

Source: Pew 2013
Pew 2020
For 1800 and 1880, what might be viewed today as “Orthodox” was really “traditional.” The Trefa Banquet, at which blatantly non-kosher food was served to UAHC rabbis, was in 1883.

Source: Arnold Dashefsky, Ira Sheskin, and J. Alan Winter *Jewish Options* (forthcoming 2022)
Among US Adults Raised

ORTHODOX THEY ARE NOW:
- Orthodox: 67%
- Conservative: 10%
- Reform: 10%
- Just Jewish: 7%
- Not Jewish: 6%

CONSERVATIVE THEY ARE NOW:
- Orthodox: 2%
- Conservative: 41%
- Reform: 30%
- Just Jewish: 18%
- Not Jewish: 7%
Among US Adults Raised

**REFORM THEY ARE NOW:**
- Not Jewish: 12%
- Orthodox: 1%
- Conservative: 4%
- Just Jewish: 17%
- Reform: 66%

**JUST JEWISH THEY ARE NOW:**
- Not Jewish: 21%
- Orthodox: 1%
- Conservative: 7%
- Reform: 10%
- Just Jewish: 61%

Stayed
Identification of Jews Who Are Not Synagogue Members

- Orthodox: 1%
- Conservative: 11%
- Reform: 36%
- Just Jewish: 52%
- Orthodox: 1%
Age by Jewish Identification

The median age of adult Jews is 49, compared to 46 for all US adults and 58 for Miami Jews.

For Reform Jews, 53

For Conservative Jews, 62
3) Nature of Jewish Feelings
Importance of Religion

### JEWS
- Very Important: 21%
- Somewhat Important: 26%
- Not Too/Not at All: 53%

### ALL US ADULTS
- Very Important: 41%
- Somewhat Important: 25%
- Not Too/not at All: 34%
Religion Is Very Important

Conservative is much higher than Reform

No relationship with age

In-married much higher than intermarried
Being Jewish Is Very Important

Conservative is much higher than Reform

Is higher over age 50 than under age 50

In-married much higher than intermarried
Being Jewish Is Mainly a Matter of . . .

US JEWS

Culture Total: 56%
Ancestry Total: 52%
Religion Total: 36%

MIAMI JEWS

Culture Total: 79%
Ancestry Total: 68%
Religion Total: 54%
Essential Part of Being Jewish

Scale was “essential,” “important, but not essential,” “not important”

“Remembering the Holocaust” and “leading an ethical and moral life” rate high

“Eating traditional Jewish foods” and “observing Jewish law” rate low
Only following Jewish law and ethical and moral life are significantly different from overall results.
Belief in God

**Jews**
- Neither: 22%
- God of Bible: 26%
- Other Higher Power/Spiritual Force: 50%

**All US Adults**
- Neither: 10%
- Other Higher Power/Spiritual Force: 33%
- God of Bible: 56%
4) Jewish Practices and Engagement
Cultural Engagement

Many Jews connect in a cultural manner, but most who connect in a cultural manner also connect religiously.

- **71% at least sometimes** cook or eat traditional Jewish foods
- **30% at least sometimes** engage in political activism as an expression of Jewishness
- **16% at least sometimes** participate in Chabad activities (Miami 25%)

### Most U.S. Jews at least sometimes eat Jewish foods, share Jewish culture with non-Jews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cook or eat traditional Jewish foods</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit synagogues or historic Jewish sites when traveling</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Shabbat in a way that is meaningful to them</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share Jewish culture or holidays with non-Jewish friends</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read Jewish newspapers or seek out Jewish news online</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read Jewish literature, biographies or books on Jewish history</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listen to Jewish or Israeli music</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch TV shows with Jewish themes or content</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage in political activism as an expression of Jewishness</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go to Jewish film festivals or seek out Jewish films</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in activities or services with Chabad</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in online conversations about Judaism and being Jewish</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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## Religious Practices

**Seder and life milestones most observed**
- Less than one in five keep kosher at home
- One in five attend services monthly or more
- Miami shows little difference

### Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Miami 20%</th>
<th>Jews by Religion</th>
<th>Jews of No Religion</th>
<th>All Jews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Held or attended a Seder last year</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observed life milestone ritual last year (bar/bat mitzvah, yahrzeit candle, etc.)</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fasted all/part of Yom Kippur</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Often/sometimes mark Shabbat in meaningful way</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attended synagogue monthly+</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep kosher at home</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Miami data shows little difference compared to the overall Jewish population.
Held or Participated in a Seder Last Year

- Strong relationship with Jewish identification
- No relationship with age
- In-married much higher than intermarried
- Increases with household income

[Bar chart showing the percentage of respondents who held or participated in a Seder last year across different categories, such as age, marital status, education level, income, and religious affiliation.]
Fasted All or Part of Yom Kippur Last Year

- Strong relationship with Jewish identification
- No relationship with age (Health reasons 65+)
- In-married much higher than intermarried
Often or Sometimes Mark Shabbat in a Meaningful Way

- Strong relationship with Jewish identification
- No relationship with age
- In-married much higher than intermarried
- No relationship with education or income
Keep Kosher at Home

Significant relationship with Jewish identification

Higher for younger people

In-married much higher than intermarried

Higher for less educated and lower income

The relationship with age and education is because the orthodox tend to be younger and less educated
Other Jewish Connections
(among Jews Who Do Not Regularly Attend Synagogue)

Foods, sharing with non-Jewish friends, and historic sites are most common

Note that one in four Jews attend Jewish film festival

Part of Pew survey was pre-pandemic, part during the pandemic
Political Activism as an Expression of Jewishness

- Highest for Conservative Jews
- No relationship with age
- In-married much higher than intermarried
- No relationship with education or income
Ownership of Jewish Items

Eight in ten Jews own a menorah

More than half of Jews of No Religion own a menorah and about 1 in 4 own a mezuzah, siddur, seder plate
Ownership of a Menorah

Almost 6 in 10 of Jews of No Religion own a menorah

Youngest age group least likely

3 out of 4 intermarried Jews own a menorah

No relationship with education

Income <$50 are less likely to own a menorah
## Ownership of a Mezuzah

- About 2 out of 3 Jews own a mezuzah.
- 28% of Jews of No Religion own a mezuzah.
- Significant relationship with Jewish identification.
- Younger people less likely to own a mezuzah.
- Income <$50 are less likely to own a mezuzah.

### Chart: Ownership of a Mezuzah

- **All Respondents**: 64% (78% Miami 80%)
- **Jews by Religion**: Orthodox 28%, Conservative 35%, Reform 57%, Just Jewish 73%
- **Jews of No Religion**: 82% (96% Miami)
- **Income**:
  - $50-$100: 46%
  - $200,000+: 68%
  - $100-$200: 51%
  - $50-$100: 51%
  - Income <$50: 67%
- **Age**:
  - Age 65+: 46%
  - Age 50-64: 70%
  - Age 30-49: 58%
  - Age 18-29: 61%
- **Education**:
  - College graduate: 61%
  - Some college: 61%
  - High school or less: 64%
- **Marital Status**:
  - In-Married: 73%
  - Intermarried: 90%
- **Intermarried**: 68%
- **Religion**:
  - Just Jewish: 64%
  - Reform: 51%
  - Conservative: 69%
  - Orthodox: 67%
  - Jews of No Religion: 61%

- **All Respondents**: 73%
- **Jews by Religion**: Orthodox 35%, Conservative 57%, Reform 73%
- **Jews of No Religion**: 82%
- **Income**:
  - $50-$100: 46%
  - $200,000+: 68%
  - $100-$200: 51%
  - $50-$100: 51%
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- **Intermarried**: 68%
- **Religion**:
  - Just Jewish: 64%
  - Reform: 51%
  - Conservative: 69%
  - Orthodox: 67%
  - Jews of No Religion: 61%
Ownership of a Hebrew Language Siddur

- 6 out of 10 Jews own a siddur
- 24% of Jews of No Religion own a siddur
- Significant relationship with Jewish identification
- Ownership of a siddur is higher for age 50+ than for under age 50
- No relationship with education
- Income <$50 are less likely to own a siddur
Ownership of a Seder Plate

56% own a Seder plate

Significant relationship with Jewish identification and age

No relationship with education

Income <$50 are less likely to own a Seder plate
Participation in Chabad Activities

In Miami, 26% of households attended activities organized by Chabad in the past year (47% for under age 35)
Profile of the 16% Who Often or Sometimes Participate in Chabad Activities

**TYPE OF JEW**
- Jews of No Religion: 10%
- Jew by Religion: 90%

**JEWSHE IDENTIFICATION**
- Just Jewish: 24%
- Orthodox: 24%
- Conservative: 26%
- Reform: 27%
Profile of the 16% Who Often or Sometimes Participate in Chabad Activities

**AGE**
- 65+ 30%
- 50-64 17%
- 30-49 35%
- 18-29 18%

**TYPE OF MARRIAGE**
- Not Married 37%
- In-married 47%
- Intermarried 16%

Intermarriage rate is 25%
5) Synagogue Attendance and Membership
Attendance at Religious Services

**Jews**
- Never: 28%
- Weekly: 12%
- Once or Twice/Month: 8%
- Few Times/Year: 27%
- Seldom/Never: 24%

**All US Adults**
- Weekly: 27%
- Once or Twice/Month: 8%
- Few Times/Year: 50%
- Seldom/Never: 22%
Attend Services 1/Month+

1 out of 5 Jews attend 1/month+
No relationship with age
Strong relationship with Jewish identification
Strong relationship with type of marriage
No relationship with education or gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews by Religion</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews of No Religion</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just Jewish</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-29</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 30-49</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 50-64</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 65+</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Married</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermarried</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College graduate</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school or less</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why Not Attend Services? (among those who seldom or never do)

Not religious, not interested, express Jewishness otherwise are the top reasons.

Not knowing enough is cited by 23%.

Cost is cited by 17%, not feeling welcome by 11% (7% + 4%).
Why Not Attend Services?
(among those who rarely or never do)
For Age 18-29 and for Reform Jews

Not religious, not interested, express Jewishness otherwise are the top reasons

Cost is cited by only 10% of the youngest age group and 24% of Reform Jews
Why I Attend Services?
(among those who attend at once per month or more)

Spiritually meaningful, sense of belonging, and to feel connected to ancestry are top reasons

Because of family and I would feel guilty are least important
Why I Attend Services?
(among those who attend at once per month or more)
For Orthodox and Not Orthodox

Religious obligation, family tradition, and feel guilty are more important for the Orthodox

Learn something new, sense of belonging, seeing friends, and because of family more important for the non-Orthodox
Synagogue Membership of Households

1 out of 3 households are synagogue members

No relationship between membership and age

Strong relationship with type of marriage

Strong relationship with income
6) Marriage, Families, and Children
Interruption
(% of married Jews with a non-Jewish spouse)

Interruptions increases significantly from Orthodox to Conservative to Reform to Just Jewish

For those with 1 Jewish parent: 82% are themselves intermarried

For those with 2 Jewish parents: 34% are intermarried
Intermarriage by Year
(% of married Jews with a non-Jewish spouse)

Overall, 42% of all married Jews are married to a non-Jew (Miami 16%)

Recent (2010 – 2020) marriages are much more likely to be intermarriages than marriages pre-2010

72% of non-Orthodox Jews who married in 2010-2020 have a non-Jewish spouse
Raising Jewish Children

98% of children in in-married households are being raised with some Jewish identity

Only 70% in intermarried households are being raised with some Jewish identity
Should Rabbis Perform Interfaith Marriages?

Only 9% of Jewish adults believe that rabbis should never perform interfaith marriages.

The greatest opposition is from Orthodox Jews and Republicans.

Reform has the highest level of acceptance.

Little difference by age.
Should Rabbis Perform Same-Sex Marriages?

Only 15% of Jewish adults believe that rabbis should never perform same-sex marriages.

The greatest opposition is from Orthodox Jews and Republicans.

Little difference by age.
Very Important That Grandchildren Are Jewish

One-third of Jewish adults say it is very important that their grandchildren be Jewish.

Decreases from Orthodox to Conservative to Reform to Just Jewish.

No differences by age.

Much higher for Republicans.
69% of Jewish adults have two Jewish parents. Decreases from Orthodox to Conservative to Reform to Just Jewish. Increases with age. Much higher for in-married adults.
The 7+ years percentage is included in the total percentage

Over 80% attended some formal Jewish education, half of whom attended for 7 or more years
Jewish Education of Adults As Children

Jewish day school decreases from Orthodox to Conservative to Reform and Just Jewish.

On camp, little difference between Conservative and Reform; Orthodox is much higher and Just Jewish is much lower.
Jewish Education of Adults as Children

Age

No significant difference in bar/bat Mitzvah

Camp is higher for adults < 65

Jewish day school is higher among younger age groups

Other schools plus day school varies from 83% to 89%
Jewish Education of Adults As Children

Gender

Bar mitzvah is much higher for men than bat mitzvah for women.

Combined formal Jewish education (day school + other school) is higher for men than women (92% vs. 79%).

No difference for camp.
7) Jewish Community and Connection
How Many of Your Close Friends Are Jewish?

- Some: 44%
- Most: 23%
- Hardly any: 20%
- None: 5%
- All: 5%
All or Most Close Friends Are Jewish

Much higher for Jews by Religion

Significant relationship with Jewish identification

Age 65+ is much higher as is high school or less

Much higher in the NE
I Have a Sense of Belonging to the Jewish People

- A great deal: 48%
- Some: 37%
- Not much: 11%
- None at all: 3%
I Have a Sense of Belonging to the Jewish People
(I feel that way “a great deal”)

Significant relationship with Jewish identification

Increases with age

92% of Jewish respondents in Miami agree with the statement “I have a strong sense of belonging to the Jewish people”
Feel Responsibility to Help Jews in Need around the World

- A great deal: 28%
- Some: 51%
- Not much: 16%
- None at all: 3%
Feel At Least Some Responsibility to Help Jews in Need around the World

Significant relationship with Jewish identification

No relationship with age

77% of Jewish respondents in Miami agree with the statement “I have a special responsibility to take care of Jews in need around the world”
How Much Do You Have in Common with Jews in Israel?

- A lot: 19%
- Some: 40%
- Not much: 31%
- None at all: 8%
Have a Lot or Some in Common with Jews in Israel

Strong relationship with Jewish identification, type of marriage, political party, and having visited Israel

No significant relationship with age
As a(n) ______ Jew, I Have a Lot in Common with Jews Who Are . . .

Orthodox

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Orthodox</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reform</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

79%
20%
9%
As a ______ Jew, I Have a Lot in Common with Jews Who Are . . .
8) Antisemitism
Perception of Antisemitism in the US Today

- A lot: 45%
- Some: 47%
- Not much: 6%
- None at all: 1%
A Lot of Antisemitism in the US Today

1. Just Jewish is lower than the other branches
2. Strong relationship with age and gender
3. Much higher among those who wear Jewish items

Bar chart showing percentages of respondents who feel there is a lot of antisemitism in the US today, categorized by religious affiliation, age, gender, political affiliation, and whether they wear Jewish items.
Perception of Antisemitism in the US Today Compared to 5 Years Ago
(2020 compared to 2015)

- More: 75%
- The same: 20%
- Less: 5%
Perceive More Antisemitism in the US Today Compared to 5 Years Ago

- Jews by Religion are significantly higher than Jews of No Religion
- Relationship with Jewish identification and age
- Democrats higher than Republicans
- Even 66% of Jews who said Trump was friendly to US Jews perceived more antisemitism
Perceived Increase in Antisemitism

The reasons for the increase is because more people feel *free to express* antisemitic views, not because more people *hold* antisemitic views.

38% do believe that more people hold antisemitic views (33% + 5%)
Feeling of Being Safe as a US Jew Compared to 5 Years Ago (2020 Compared to 2015)

- More safe: 3%
- Not much change: 42%
- Less safe: 53%
- Did not live in US in 2015: 1%
Feeling Less Safe as a US Jew Compared to 5 Years Ago

- Jews of No Religion, Just Jewish, and Republicans are lower
- No relationship with age, although lower for age 18-29
- Women feel less safe than men
- Much higher among those who wear Jewish items
Safety and Participation in Jewish Events

In total, 53% feel less safe today than 5 years ago.

Only 5% have not participated in Jewish events due to safety concerns.

Another 12% hesitated but did participate.
Forms of Antisemitism Experienced in the Past Year

Half of Jewish adults experienced antisemitism in the past year

Anti-Jewish graffiti/vandalism is the most common form

Been physically threatened or attacked is the least common form

- Experienced at least one of the following: 51%
- Seen anti-Jewish graffiti or vandalism: 37%
- Been made to feel unwelcome: 19%
- Been called offensive names: 15%
- Been harassed online: 8%
- Been physically threatened or attacked: 5%
Antisemitic Tropes

Results for Reform Jews are almost the same

Almost two-thirds have heard Holocaust denial either directly or second hand
Heard Someone Who Is Not Jewish Express Support for Jews in the Past Year

Higher for age 18-29

Lower for the Just Jewish

Much higher for Jews who wear Jewish items
More Jews see widespread discrimination than do all American adults against every group except Evangelicals.

More Jews see discrimination against Muslims and Blacks than they do against other groups.
9) Israel
Visited to Israel

- Never 54%
- Once 19%
- More than once 26%

In Miami, 71% of households contain a member who has visited Israel (Pew data are of Jewish adults)

Note: “More than once” includes adults who have lived in Israel
45% of adults have been to Israel

Strong relationship with Jewish identification

No relationship with age

Republicans more likely to visit than Democrats
Attachment to Israel

In Miami:
- Extremely 32%
- Very 30%
- Somewhat 27%
- Not 11%
Emotional Attachment to Israel

(Very or somewhat attached)

33% of Jews of No Religion and 40% of the Just Jewish are very or somewhat emotionally attached to Israel.

Very strong relationship with Jewish identification.

Emotional attachment is lower for under age 50 than age 50 and over.
Emotional Attachment to Israel
(Very or somewhat attached)

- No difference by gender
- Higher for Republicans than Democrats
- Higher if visited to Israel
Caring about Israel Is an Essential Part of Being Jewish

27% of Jews of No Religion consider caring about Israel essential

Highest for Conservative Jews

Increases with age
Caring about Israel Is an Essential Part of Being Jewish

Little difference by gender

Higher for Republicans than Democrats

Higher for high school degree or less
Follow News about Israel

- Very closely: 14%
- Somewhat closely: 43%
- Not too closely: 32%
- Not at all: 11%
Follow News about Israel Very or Somewhat Closely

Jews of No Religion are lower than Jews by Religion

Just Jewish is lower than the 3 other denominations

Higher for over age 50 than under age 50

Much higher for Republicans than Democrats
US Support for Israel
Survey done during the Netanyahu/Trump Era

- Level about right: 54%
- Too supportive: 21%
- Not supportive enough: 19%
- Don't Know: 5%
US Support for Israel (Too Supportive)

- Much higher for Jews of No Religion, Reform, and Just Jewish
- Is much higher for age 18-29
- Increases with education
- Much higher for Democrats than Republicans
No relationship with Jewish identification or age

Higher for women than men

Higher for Republicans than Democrats
Can a Way Be Found for Israel and an Independent Palestinian State to Coexist?

- Much lower for Orthodox and Republicans
- No relationship with age or gender
- Higher for those with a college degree
Israeli Government Is Making a Sincere Effort toward Peace

Highest for Orthodox and Republicans

Decreases with education
Palestinian Leadership Is Making a Sincere Effort toward Peace

Relationship with Jewish identification
- Decreases with age
- No relationship with education
- Higher for Democrats than Republicans
How Much Have the Respondent Heard about the BDS Movement?

- A lot: 24%
- Some: 31%
- Not much: 19%
- Nothing at all: 24%
Heard A Lot or Some about the BDS Movement

- Strong relationship with Jewish identification
- Higher age 50 and over
- Higher for men than women
- Higher for college graduates
- Higher for Republicans than Democrats
Support or Oppose BDS among US Jews

- Strongly support: 2%
- Somewhat support: 8%
- Somewhat oppose: 9%
- Strongly oppose: 34%
- Know not much: 19%
- Know nothing about BDS: 24%
Believe that God Gave the Land That Is Now Israel to the Jewish People

- God gave the land: 32%
- Not believe in God: 24%
- Not literally: 42%
- No answer: 3%
God Gave the Land That Is Now Israel to the Jewish People

- Strong relationship with Jewish identification
- Highest for Orthodox and Republicans
- No difference by age and gender
- Lower for college graduates
Summary of Israel Findings

- 45% consider caring about Israel as an “essential part” of being Jewish
- About 59% have “a lot” (19%) or “some” (40%) in common with Jews in Israel; only 8% responded “none at all.” The 59% rises to 91% for Orthodox Jews
- 45% of adults have been to Israel; 26% more than once
- 25% are very attached to Israel, 32% somewhat, and 41% not too much or not at all
- 58% follow news about Israel either very closely (14%) or somewhat closely (43%)
- 22% say that the US is too supportive of Israel, 54% feel the level of support is about right, and 19% feel the US is not supportive enough
- 63% feel that a way can be found for Israel and an independent Palestinian state to coexist
- Only 33% believe the Israeli government is making a sincere effort toward peace (Netanyahu was prime minister at the time of the survey); 12% believe that Palestinian leadership is making a sincere effort toward peace
- 55% have heard a lot (24%) or some (31%) about the BDS movement
- Only 10% somewhat (8%) or strongly (2%) support the BDS movement
- 32% believe that God gave the land to the Jews
- 40% believe that Trump’s Israel policy was excellent or good
10) Political Views
Overall, 71% of Jews are or lean Democrats.

75% of Orthodox Jews are or lean Republican.

About 20% of non-Orthodox Jews are 20% Republican or lean Republican.
Why Do Jews Remain Democrats in Such Overwhelming Numbers?

• From Jewish culture:
  • Tikkun Olam
  • Tzedakah

• Jews generally view the Democrat Party as closer to these ideals

• Because Jews are Jews and are reluctant to change philosophy

• Historically, more antisemitism occurred from the right than from the left

• Jews live in cities which are Democrat areas

• The Republican Party has moved significantly to the right given the base of evangelical Christians

• The perceived anti-science, anti-intellectualism of the base of the Republican party (climate change

• Social Issues (abortion, gay marriage, immigration, Medicare, Social Security)

• Jews have not yet seen a presidential candidate on the Democrat side who is viewed as sufficiently negative on Israel
Political Party

2013
- Democrat/Lean: 70%
- Republican/Lean: 22%
- Independent/Other: 8%

2020
- Democrat/Lean: 71%
- Republican/Lean: 26%
- Independent/Other: 3%
Political Party

ALL US ADULTS

Democrat/Lean 52%
Republican/Lean 44%
Independent/Other 4%

JEWS

Democrat/Lean 71%
Republican/Lean 26%
Independent/Other 3%
Percentage Republican for Orthodox Jews

- 2000: 25%
- 2013: 57%
- 2020: 75%
Republican or Lean Republican

Orthodox are much more likely to be Republican

No difference by age

Men are more likely to be Republican

Those with less education are more likely to be Republican
Democrat or Lean Democrat

Orthodox are much less likely to be Democrat

No difference by age

Women are more likely to be Democrat

Those with higher education are more likely to be Democrats
Political View

**Jews**
- Conservative: 16%
- Moderate: 32%
- Liberal: 50%

**All US Adults**
- Conservative: 32%
- Liberal: 25%
- Moderate: 40%
Conservative (Politically)

- Orthodox are much more likely to be Conservative
- No difference by age
- Those with less education are more likely to be Conservative
- More than half of Republicans are Conservative
Significant relationship with Jewish identification

Orthodox are much less likely to be liberal

Higher for those under age 50 than for those age 50 and over

Women more likely to be liberal

Those with higher education are more likely to be liberal

69% of Democrats are liberal
Disapproved of Trump’s Job Performance

Jews were much more likely to disapprove than all US adults.

No difference by age.

Those with higher education were more likely to disapprove.

96% of Democrats disapproved while only 12% of Republicans did.
Rated Trump’s Immigration Policy as Excellent or Good

Orthodox were much more likely to approve

No difference by age

Men were more likely to approve

Those with higher education were less likely to approve

76% of Republicans, while on 4% of Democrats did
Rated Trump’s Environmental Policy as Excellent or Good

Orthodox were much more likely to approve

No difference by age or gender

Those with higher education were less likely to approve

63% of Republicans approved while only 3% of Democrats did
Rated Trump’s Israel Policy as Excellent or Good

- Significant relationship with Jewish identification
- Orthodox were much more likely to approve
- Approval increases with age
- Men were more likely to approve than women
- Those with higher education were less likely to approve
- 89% of Republicans approved while only 21% of Democrats did

### Graph: Trump’s Israel Policy Is Excellent or Good

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democratic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews by Religion</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews of No Religion</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just Jewish</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-29</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 30-49</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 50-64</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 65+</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school or less</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College graduate</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trump Is Friendly toward:

**ISRAEL**
- Friendly: 63%
- Neutral: 20%
- Unfriendly: 14%

**US JEWS**
- Friendly: 31%
- Neutral: 28%
- Unfriendly: 37%
11) Jewish Diversity
Jews of Color (JOC)

- All Americans 58%
- Non-Hispanic White 92%
- Hispanic 4%
- Black 1%
- Asian/Other 3%

Miami 15%
Hispanic Jews

All Jews

Age Groups:
- 18-29
- 30-49
- 50-64
- 65+

- 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Non-Hispanic White
Hispanic
Black
Asian/Other

Asian is <1% in all cases
Other is mostly multi-racial persons
Signs of Diversity: Sephardic, Israeli, and FSU Jews

13% of Jewish adults live in multi-ethnic households, but many times it is a non-Jewish adult who is a person of color.
12) Demographics
Regional Distribution of Jews

**Jews**
- Northeast: 38%
- Midwest: 10%
- South: 27%
- West: 25%

**All Americans**
- Northeast: 17%
- Midwest: 20%
- South: 38%
- West: 24%
Later Marriage Is Becoming the Norm

Jews, as are all Americans, are getting married later

Pew: Jewish women in the US are averaging 1.5 children each (1.7 for all Americans)
2.1 is replacement rate

Fertility for Orthodox is 3.3 children
Non-Orthodox is 1.4 children

Pew: Average age at first child is 28.1 years (26 for all Americans)

20% of Jewish women age 40-59 have no children, compared to 10% of all US women

Significant impact on synagogue membership
Age of Adults

**Jews**
- Age 18-29: 18%
- Age 30-49: 32%
- Age 50-64: 20%
- Age 65+: 29%
- Median Age = 49
- Miami: 39%

**All US Adults**
- Age 18-29: 22%
- Age 30-49: 33%
- Age 50-64: 25%
- Age 65+: 20%
- Median Age = 46
- Miami: 24%
Age of Adults by Jewish Identification - I

**ORTHODOX**
- Age 18-29: 35%
- Age 50-64: 16%
- Age 65+: 9%
- Median Age = 35

**CONSERVATIVE**
- Age 18-29: 9%
- Age 30-49: 21%
- Age 50-64: 27%
- Age 65+: 43%
- Median Age = 62
Age of Adults by Jewish Identification - II

**REFORM**
- Age 18-29: 14%
- Age 30-49: 32%
- Age 50-64: 19%
- Age 65+: 34%

**JUST JEWISH**
- Age 18-29: 23%
- Age 30-49: 37%
- Age 50-64: 19%
- Age 65+: 21%

**Median Age**
- REFORM: 53
- JUST JEWISH: 42
Highest Level of Education of Adults

**JEWs**
- Postgraduate: 28%
- College degree: 30%
- Some college: 22%
- High school or Less: 20%
  - Miami: 32%

**All US Adults**
- Postgraduate: 11%
- College degree: 18%
- Some college: 31%
- High school or Less: 40%
  - Miami: 39%
Household Income
(% of Jewish adults who live in households in each income group)
(Income in thousands)

JEWS

- <$30: 10%
- $30-$50: 11%
- $50-$100: 26%
- $100-$150: 18%
- $150-$200: 13%
- $200+: 23%

Total $100+ is 54%

Miami 31%

ALL US HOUSEHOLDS

- <$30: 26%
- $30-$50: 22%
- $50-$100: 22%
- $100-$150: 11%
- $150-$200: 4%
- $200+: 4%

Total $100+ is 19%
Trouble in the Past year in Paying Bills or Debts (during the pandemic)

- Medical care: 15%
- Rent/Mortgage: 11%
- Food: 8%
- Other bills/debts: 19%
- At least one of the above: 26%
Employment Status of Jews Prior to the Pandemic

The 63% currently employed compares to 61% of all Americans.
Class of Worker

- For profit company: 48%
- Non-profit: 16%
- Government: 13%
- Self-employed: 21%
- All Americans: 10%
Class of Worker

For profit company: 48%
Non-profit: 16%
Government: 13%
Self-employed: 21%

For profit company: 68%
Non-profit: 8%
Government: 14%
Self-employed: 10%

ALL US WORKERS

For profit company: 68%
Non-profit: 8%
Government: 14%
Self-employed: 10%
### One-in-ten or more Jewish workers employed in education, health care or entertainment

Among U.S. Jews who are employed full or part time, % who work in the industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>NET Jewish %</th>
<th>Jews by religion %</th>
<th>Jews of no religion %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, recreation, travel, accommodations or food services</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial services such as banking, investing, accounting, insurance</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale or retail trade</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction, manufacturing, transportation, warehousing, utilities,</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>protective services or waste management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing or information technology</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications, such as media, social media, marketing, public relations</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law/legal services</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific and technical services, such as physical and life sciences,</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>engineering, architecture, social sciences, data analytics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government or public administration</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social or human services</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate, such as development, sales, leasing and rental</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Philanthropy</td>
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<tr>
<td>gas extraction</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.*


*“Jewish Americans in 2020”*

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
So, is it good news for the Jews or bad news for the Jews?

- Yes
- More Jews than we thought, but many are kind of just Jew – “ish”
- There are signs of both strength and weakness
- The URL for these slides:

- For the Pew Report:
  - https://www.pewforum.org/2021/05/11/jewish-americans-in-2020/
The Implications of the Pew Study:
*Jewish Americans in 2020*

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