

Jewish Miami: A 2024 Community Study

Dr. Janet Krasner Aronson and Prof. Leonard Saxe
Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies Brandeis University

Presented by Professor Ira M. Sheskin
University of Miami



Presented to the Board of AJC Miami and Broward
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Brandeis | MAURICE AND MARILYN
COHEN CENTER FOR
MODERN JEWISH STUDIES

NORC at the
University of
Chicago

Study Methodology

- February to June 2024
- N = 2,686 Miami-Dade Jewish households via online surveying (option to call NORC)
- The random digit dialing (RDD) method used in 2014 is now ineffective due to changes in the culture of telephone use
- Employed Address Based Sampling (ABS) of both known and unknown Miami-Dade households
- Responses statistically weighted to represent all Miami Jewish households
- Comparisons where available to:
 - *Jewish Americans in 2020* (Pew Research Center) (used ABS sampling and online survey)
 - Miami 2014 (Comparisons to 2014 Miami study must be treated with caution because of the RDD to ABS change)

- Population Size, Population Diversity, and Demographics
- Geographic Distribution and Regional Differences
- Geographic Mobility, Newcomers, and Origins
- Patterns of Jewish Life
- **Israel, Antisemitism, and Politics**



Israel Travel and Attachment

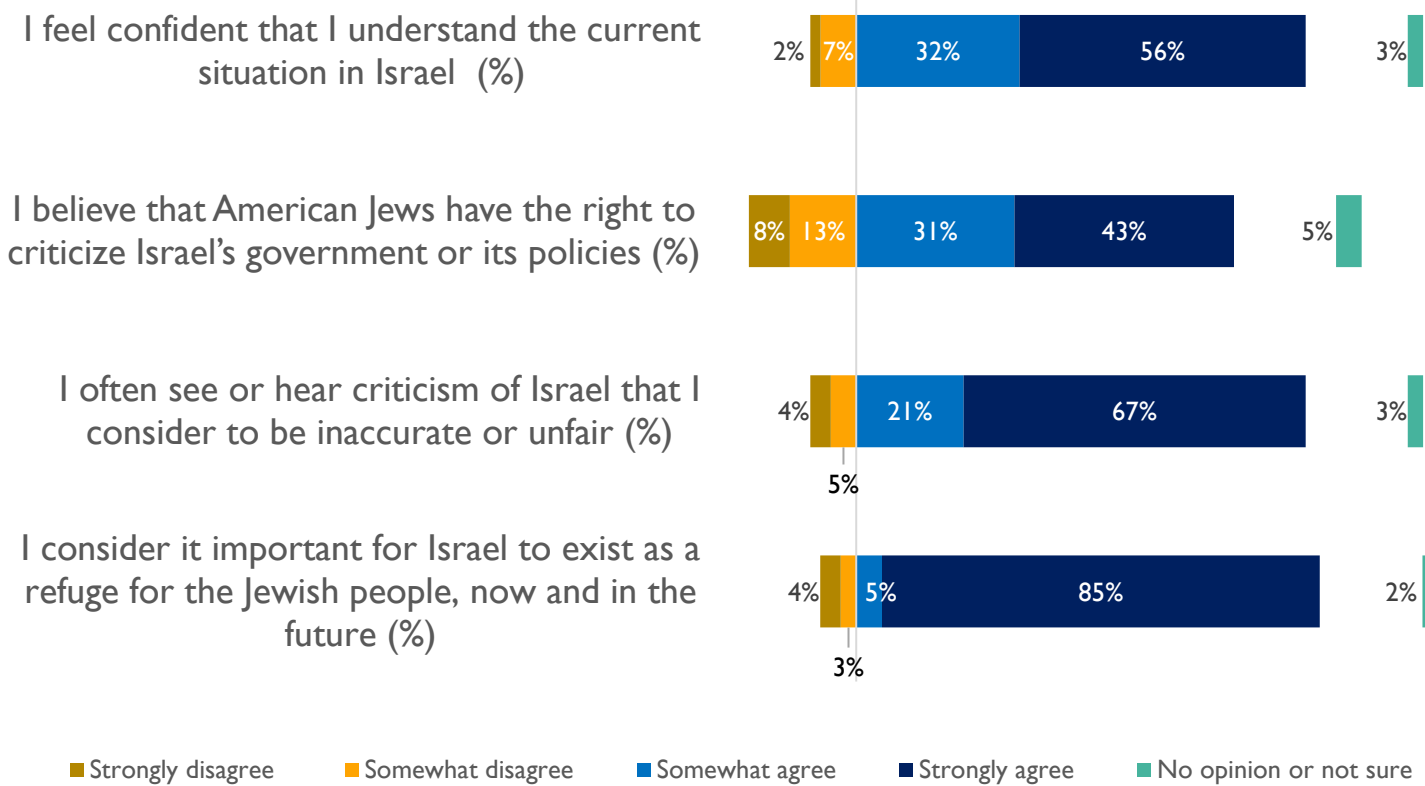
- 71% have been to Israel at least once (**71% in 2014**) (45% of US Jews)
- 41% who have visited 2+ times and 13% have lived in Israel
- 53% are very attached to Israel, (25% of US Jews)
- 10% are not at all attached to Israel, (**11% in 2014**)
- Attachment is highest among 22-39 and 65+
- 77% consider caring about Israel to be an essential part of being Jewish
- 64% donated to an Israel-related organization in the past year

	Not at all (%)	Not too attached (%)	Somewhat (%)	Very attached (%)	Total (%)
All Jewish adults	10	12	25	53	100
Age					
22-39	5	9	23	62	100
40-54	16	17	20	46	100
55-64	21	3	33	43	100
65-74	2	19	21	58	100
75+	8	10	33	50	100

Views about Israel

- 85% of Miami Jewish adults strongly agree that it is important for Israel to exist as a refuge for the Jewish people
- 43% strongly agree that American Jews have the right to criticize Israel's governments or policies

Views about Israel (% of Jewish adults)

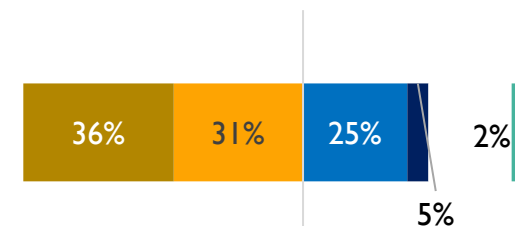


Conversations about Israel

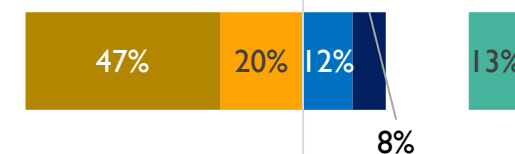
- 30% of Jewish adults feel that they **don't know enough** to participate in conversations about Israel
- 20% of Jewish adults feel that their views about Israel are **unwelcome in Jewish settings**. Discomfort is higher among those who identify as politically liberal
- 45% feel their views about Israel are **unwelcome in non-Jewish settings**

Conversations about Israel (% of Jewish adults)

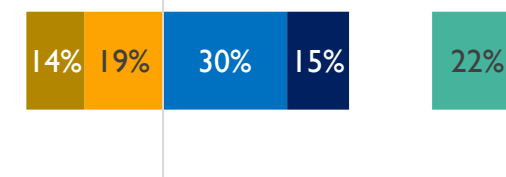
I often feel that I don't know enough about the current situation to participate in conversations about Israel (%)



I often feel my views about Israel are unwelcome in Jewish settings (%)



I often feel my views about Israel are unwelcome in non-Jewish settings (%)

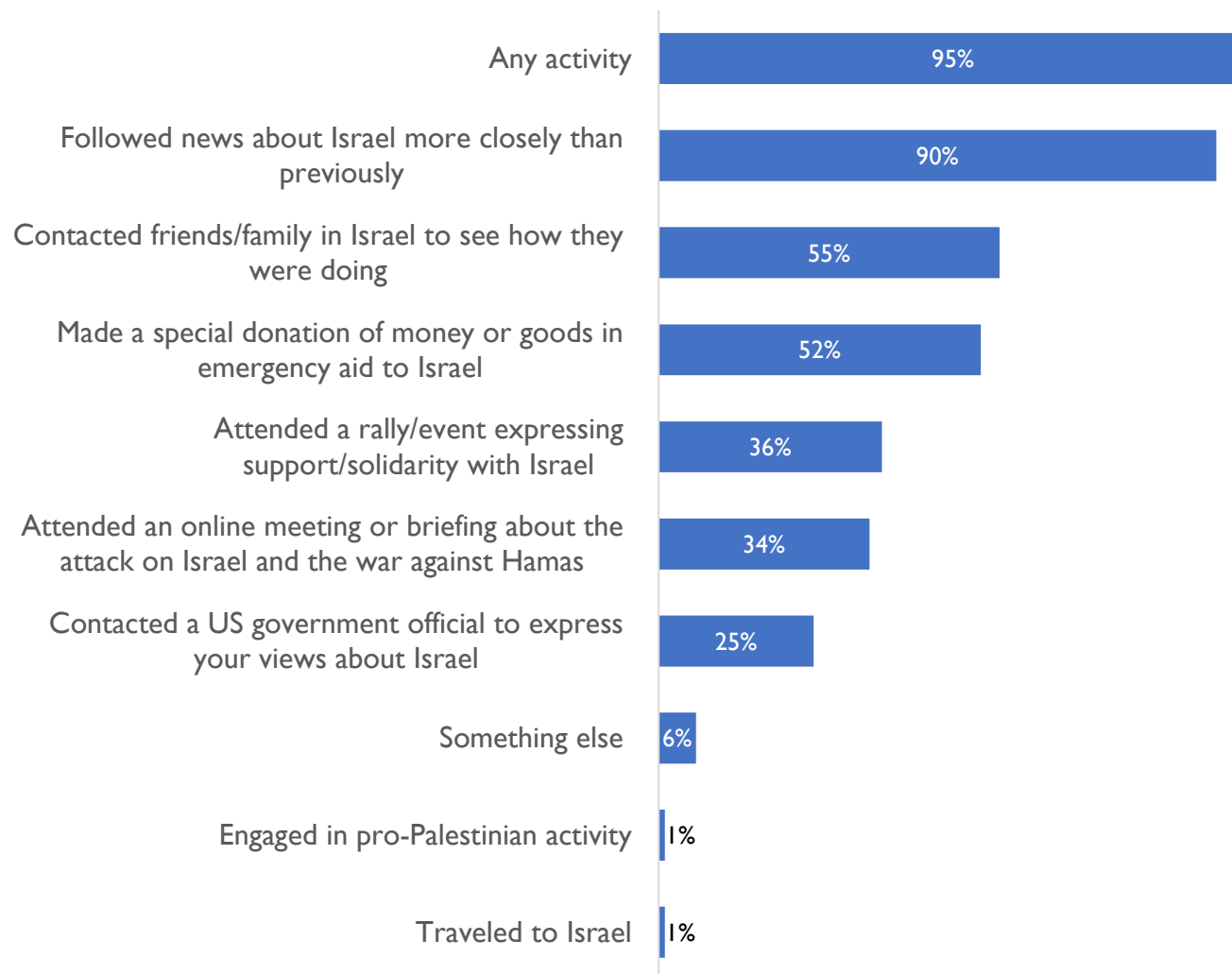


■ Strongly disagree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Strongly agree ■ No opinion or not sure

Response to October 7

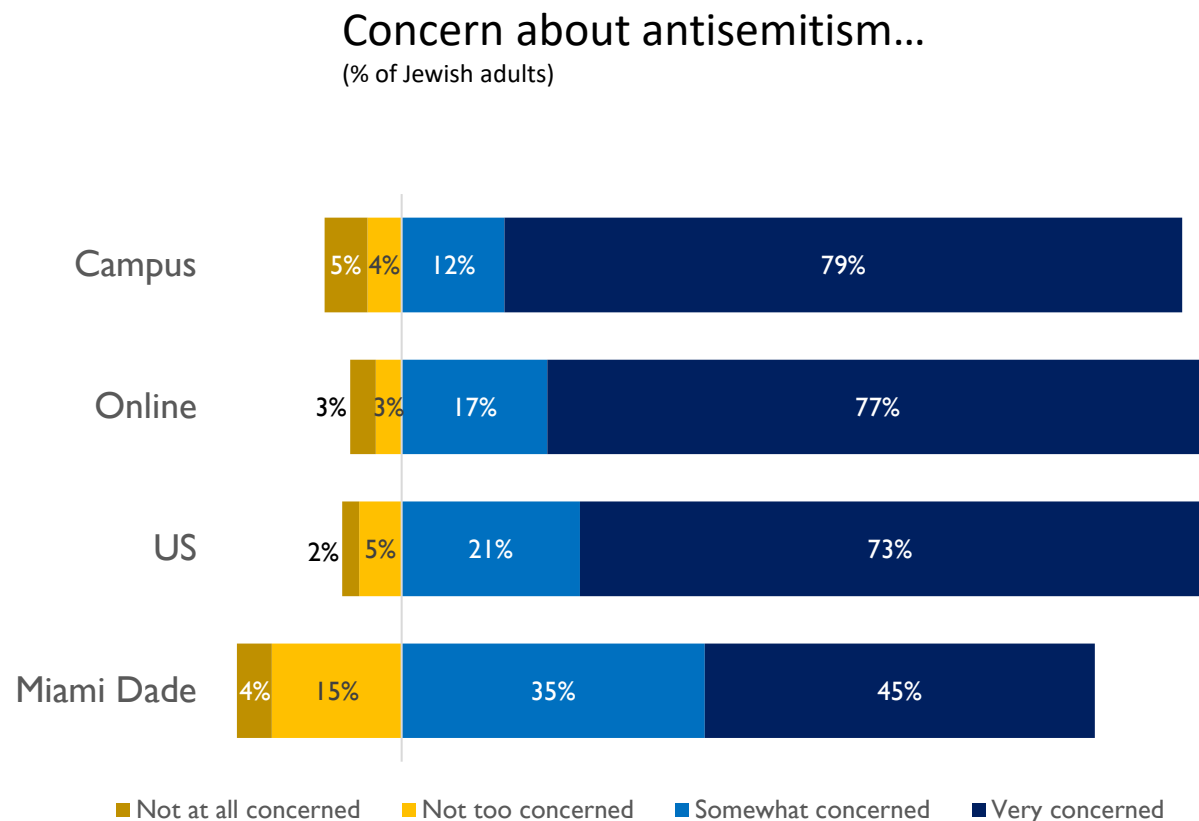
- 95% of Miami Jewish adults responded to October 7 in some way
- 90% followed news about Israel more closely than previously

Israel-related activities since October 7, 2023 % of Jewish adults



Concerns about Antisemitism

- 79% of Miami Jewish adults are very concerned about antisemitism on college campuses; 77% online and in social media, and 73% in the US as a whole
- 57% listed combating antisemitism as a top cause for philanthropy and volunteering



Antisemitic Incidents in the Past Year

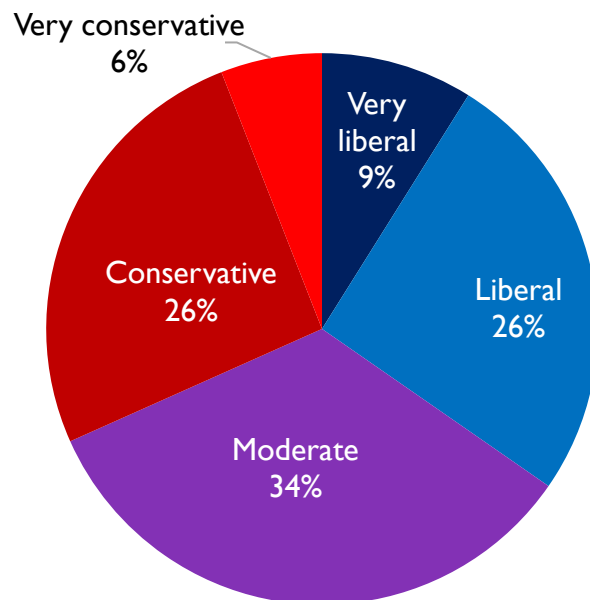
- Most incidents were verbal remarks (including on social media)
- 3% reported vandalism and 1% reported attacks or threats
- 40% of all Jewish adults avoided an activity out of fear of antisemitism
- Of ages 22-39, 58% avoided an activity

	All Jewish adults (%)	Ages 22-39 (%)
Avoided any activity out of fear of antisemitism	40	58
Going to certain places or events	24	36
Mentioning Israel, in person or online	23	42
Wearing or displaying objects that would identify you as a Jew	17	19
Posting Jewish content online that would identify you as a Jew	15	24

Political Orientation

- Miami Jewish community is divided fairly evenly among those who describe themselves as politically conservative (32%), politically liberal (35%), and moderate (34%)
- Compared to all US Jews, Miami has a higher share who are politically conservative (32% compared to 16% of US Jews) and a smaller share who are liberal (35% compared to 50% of US Jews)
- Nationally, 32% are moderate compared to 34% in Miami

Miami Jewish adults



Outline of Slide Set

- **Population Size, Population Diversity, and Demographics**
 - Geographic Distribution and Regional Differences
 - Geographic Mobility
 - Patterns of Jewish Life
 - Israel, Antisemitism, and Politics



Size of the Miami Jewish Community

- 25% increase in Jewish households
- 31% increase in people in Jewish households.
- 7% increase in Jewish people
- 13% increase Jewish children

	2014	2024	Change
Jewish households	55,700	69,700	25%
People in Jewish households	129,700	170,300	31%
Jewish people	122,150	130,100	7%
Jewish adults	98,900	103,900	5%
Jewish children	23,250	26,200	13%

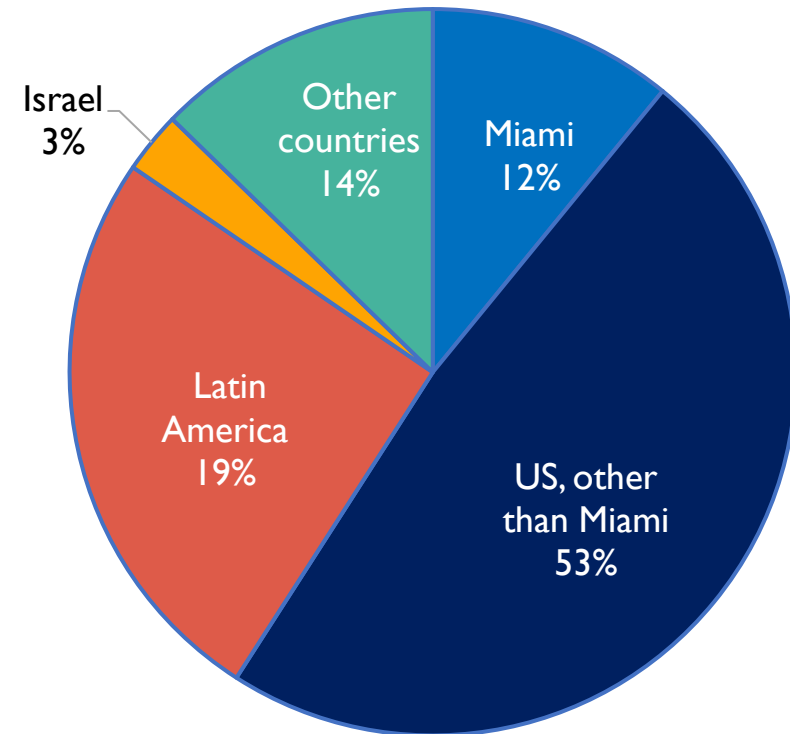
Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Diversity

- 73% of Jewish adults describe themselves as **white** and non-Hispanic
- 22% of Jewish adults describe themselves as white **Hispanic**
- Just 3% of *persons in Jewish households* consider themselves to be persons of color
- 76% of Jewish adults identify as Ashkenazi
- 18% of Jewish adults identify as **Sephardi** (**17% in 2014**) (6% of US Jews)
- 7% of Jewish adults identify as **LGBTQ+**
- 12% of households (**2% in 2014**) include someone who identifies as LGBTQ, whether Jewish or not

Place of Birth

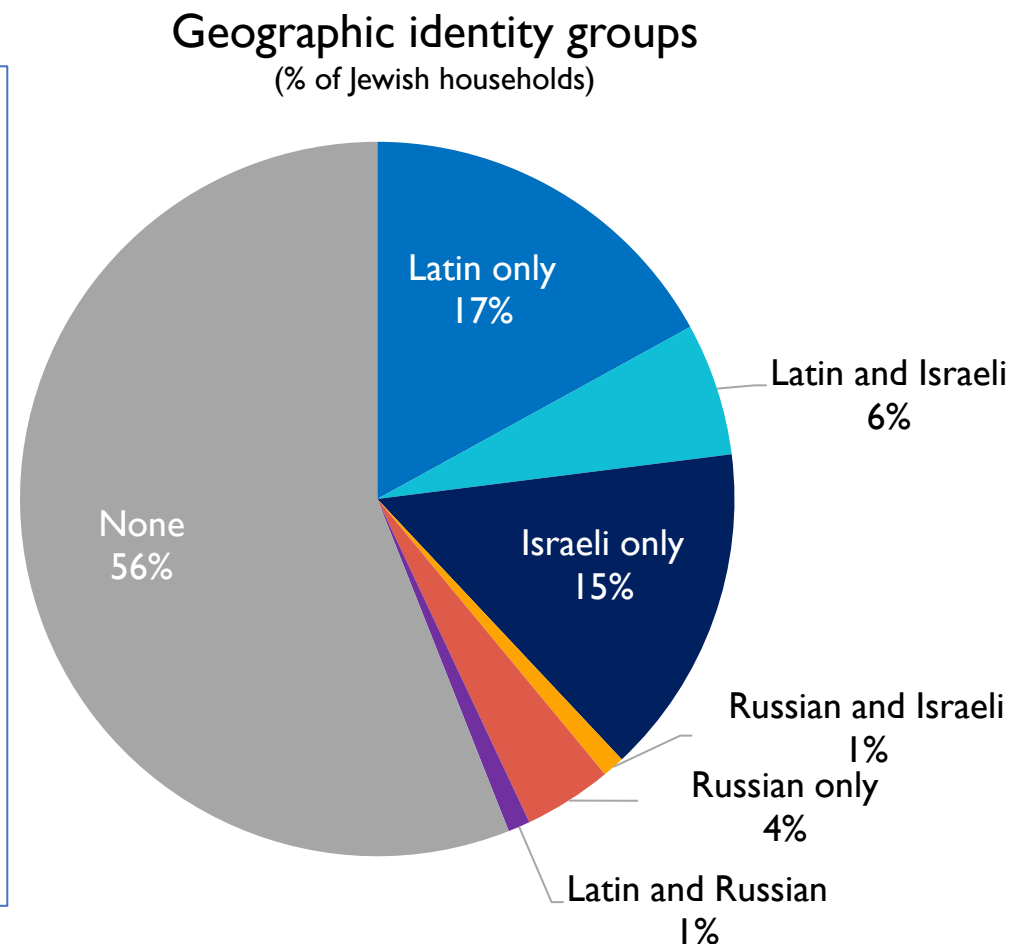
- 64% (**67% in 2014**) of Miami Jewish adults were born in the US, including 12% in Miami (**18% in 2014**).
- 19% of Jewish adults were born in Latin America (**10% in 2014**)
- 3% of Jewish adults were born in Israel (**5% in 2014**)

Birthplace of Jewish adults
(% of Jewish adults)



Latin, Israeli, and Russian-Speaking Jews

- 45% of Miami Jewish households include at least 1 foreign-born adult
- 33% of **all** adults are foreign born (33% in 2014)
- **Latin American** Jewish community:
 - 26% of Jewish adults (23,700 Jewish adults) (14,700 in 2014)
 - 24% of Jewish households (13,900 households) (8,400 in 2014)
- **Israeli** American Jewish community
 - 19% of Jewish adults (21,000 Jewish adults) (9,000 in 2014)
 - 23% of Jewish households (13,100 households) (6,100 in 2014)
- **Russian-speaking** Jewish community:
 - 6% of Jewish adults (6,100 Jewish adults)
 - 6% of Jewish households (3,500 households)

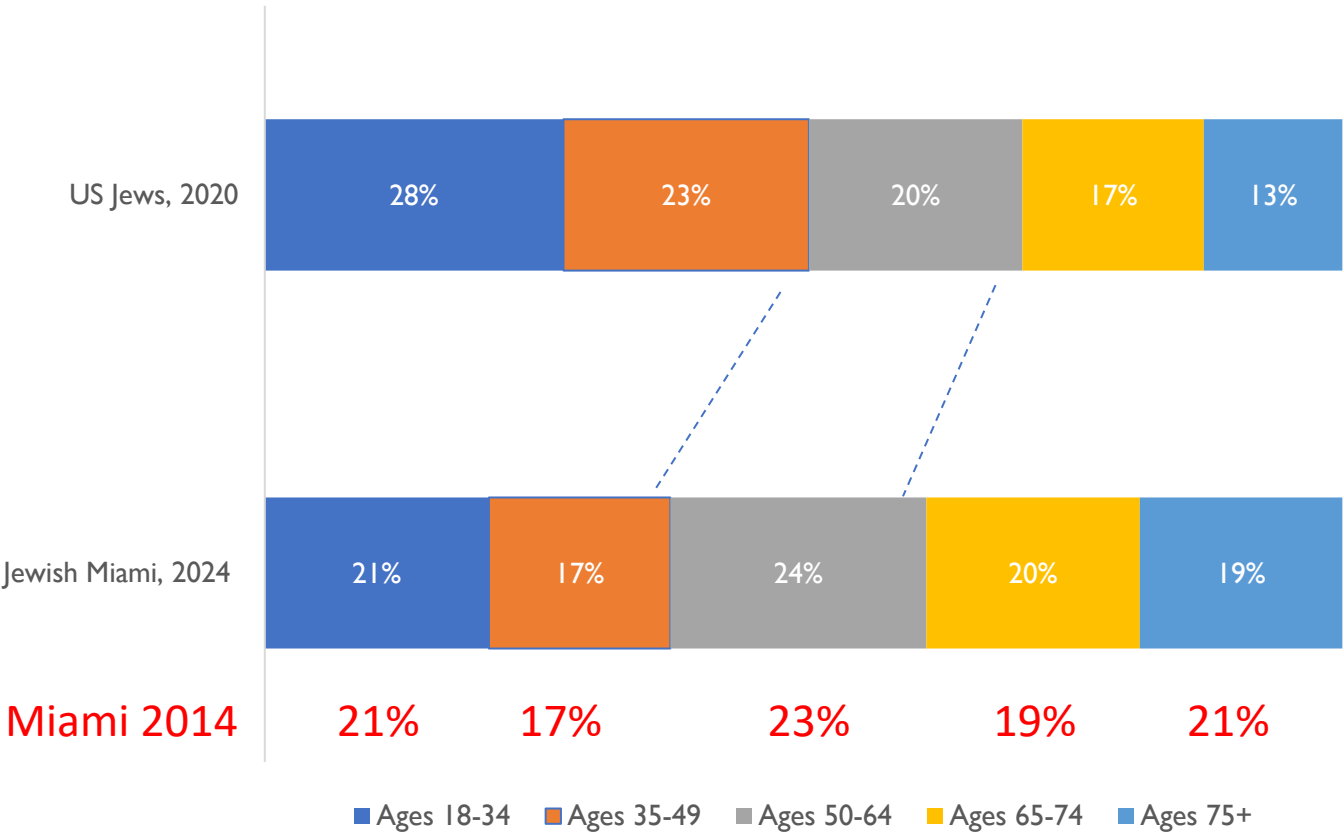


Holocaust Survivors and Descendants

- 4% of Miami Jews *aged 80 +* are Holocaust survivors or flight cases
- 11% of Jewish households *aged 80+* contain at least one survivor or flight case
- 27% of Miami Jewish *adults* are children or grandchildren of a Holocaust survivor, victim, or refugee
- 33% of Miami Jewish *households* contain at least one child or grandchild of a survivor

Age of Jewish Adults

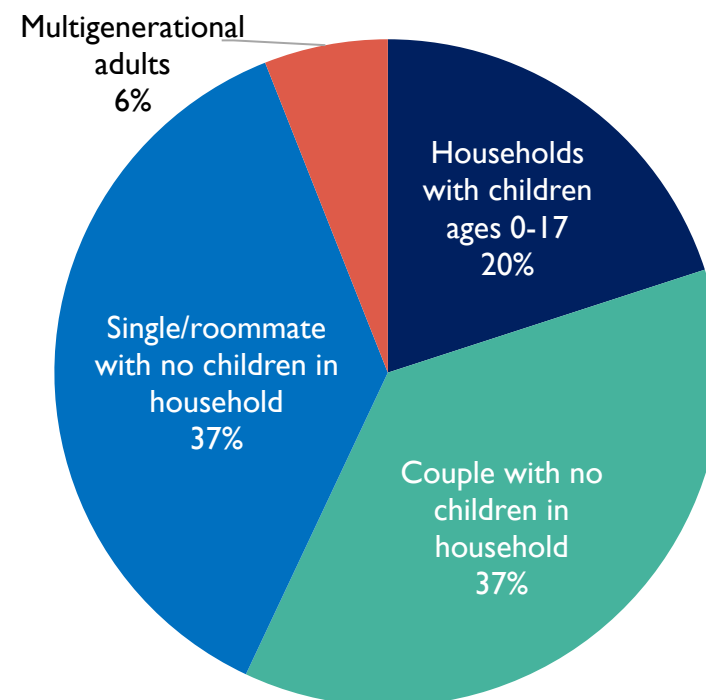
- The median age of Jewish adults in Miami is 59, compared to 49 for all US Jewish adults
- In Miami, the 39% of Jewish adults age 65+ has not changed since 2014



Household Structure

- 20% of households include a child aged 0-17 (**23% in 2014**)
- 37% of households include a married/partnered couple only (**32% in 2014**)
- 37% of households include someone living alone or with unrelated roommates (**35% in 2014**)
- 6% of households include multigenerational adults (**10% in 2014**)

Miami Jewish households



Household Income

Income (2023)	Jewish households (%)	Jewish Households Omitting Refusals (%)	US National Pew 2020 (%)
Less than \$50,000	14	19	21
\$50,000 to \$99,999	23	31	26
\$100,000 to \$149,999	10	14	18
\$150,000 to \$199,999	7	9	13
\$200,000 or more	19	26	23
Don't know	1		
Prefer not to answer	25		
Total	100	100	100
Median		\$100,000	\$108,000

Subjective Financial Situation

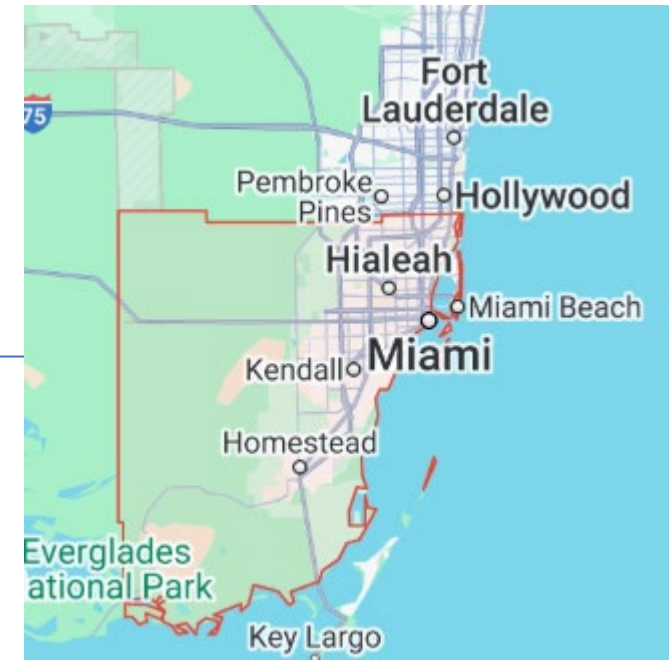
Standard of living	Jewish households (%)
Struggling	26
Cannot manage to make ends meet	4
Just managing to make ends meet	22
Have enough money	36
Have some extra money	23
Well off	16
Total	100

Financial Situation

	Struggling (%)	Have enough money (%)	Have some extra money (%)	Well-off (%)	Total (%)
All Jewish adults	26	36	23	16	100
Region					
Central	13	35	26	26	100
South Dade	26	37	23	14	100
The Beaches	32	33	27	8	100
North Dade	30	37	18	15	100
Age					
22-39	28	37	26	8	100
40-54	30	30	31	9	100
55-64	31	27	11	31	100
65-74	22	45	19	15	100
75+	20	36	26	18	100

Outline of Slide Set

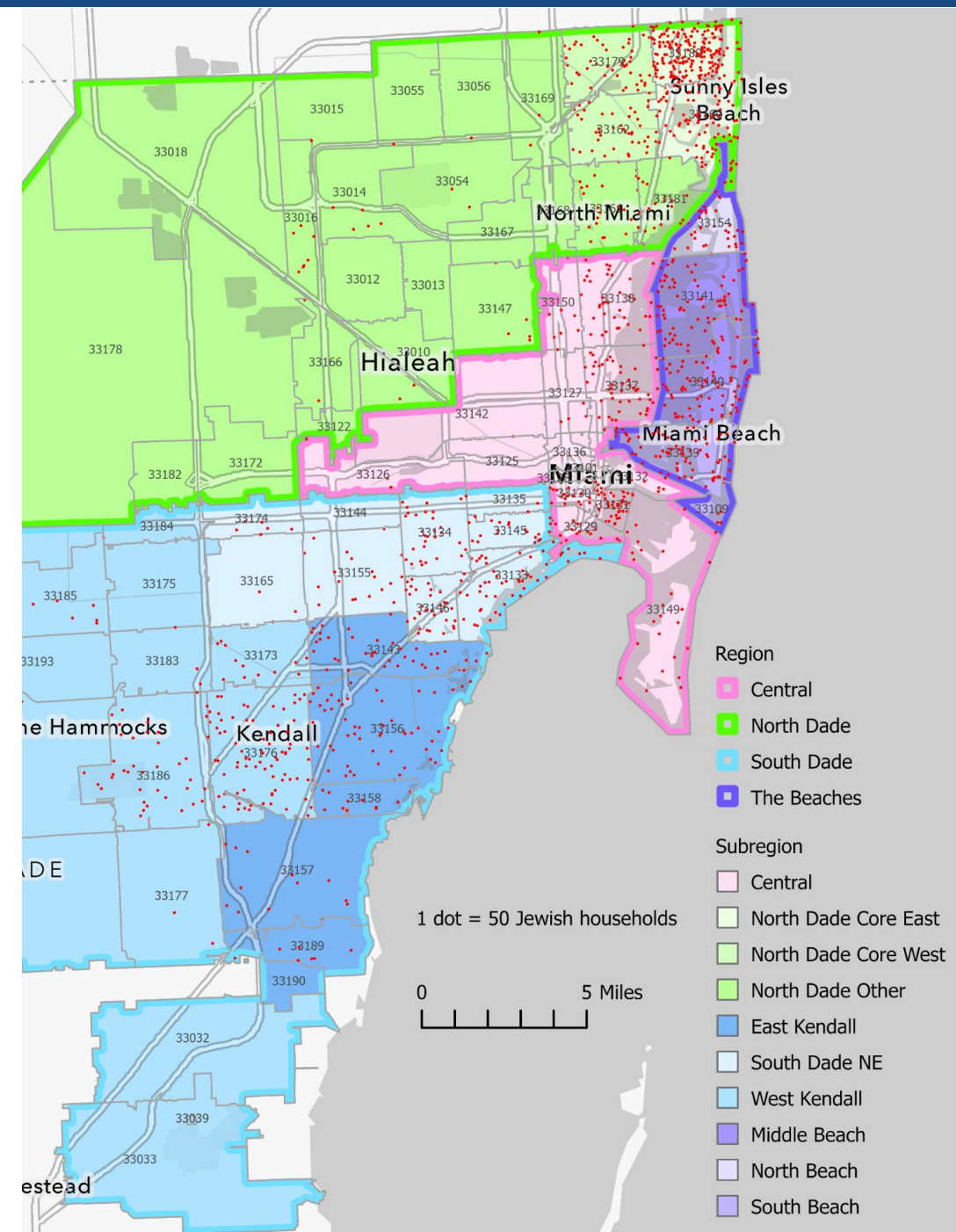
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Geographic Distribution

The largest share of Jewish households and Jewish individuals are in North Dade and South Dade

	Jewish households (%)	Jewish individuals (%)
Central	16	13
South Dade	32	29
The Beaches	20	18
North Dade	33	39
Total	100	100



Change in Jewish Population by Region

Since 2014

- The **Central** region has experienced the largest increase in Jewish households (158%), Jewish individuals (119%), and people in Jewish households (126%)
- **North Dade** has seen a decline in Jewish households (-20%) and Jewish individuals (-20%), but an increase in total people in Jewish households (15%)

Region	Jewish households			All people in Jewish household		
	2014	2024	Change	2014	2024	Change
Central	4,300	11,100	158%	8,800	19,900	126%
South Dade	14,500	22,100	52%	34,900	49,200	41%
The Beaches	8,300	13,700	65%	20,900	26,500	27%
North Dade	28,600	22,800	-20%	65,100	74,800	15%
Total	55,700	69,700	25%	129,700	170,300	31%

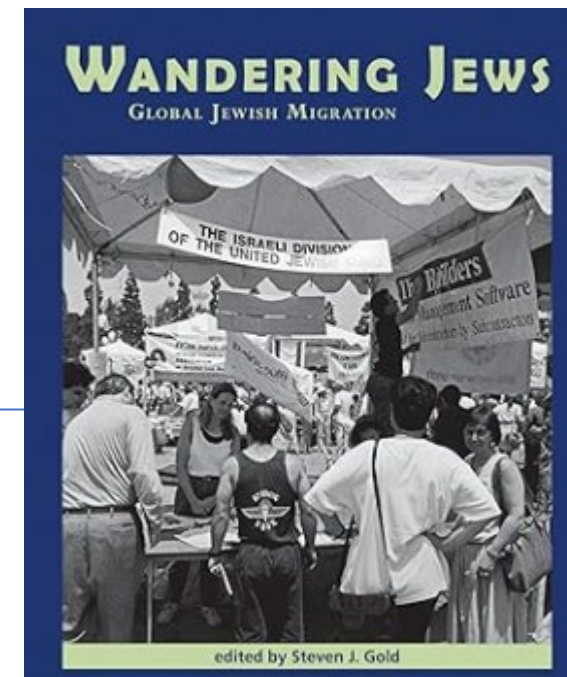
Household Composition by Region

- 54% of **Central** households are individuals living alone or with unrelated roommates and only 11% contain children
- 47% of **South Dade** households are couples without children
- 45% of **The Beaches** households are singles
- 25% of **North Dade** households include minor children

	Minor child	Couple, no children	Single/ roommates	Multigenerational	Total
All Jewish households	20	37	37	6	100
Region					
Central	11	27	54	8	100
South Dade	20	47	26	7	100
The Beaches	18	32	45	5	100
North Dade	25	38	34	4	100

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Newcomers to Miami

- 25% of Jewish adults have lived in Miami for < 10 years (**17% in 2014**)
- Newcomers (<10 years) are significantly younger than longer-term residents. More than half of Jewish adult newcomers (52%) are under age 40
- **Very few newcomers are moving into South Dade**
- 59% have lived in Miami for 20+ years (**65% in 2014**)
- Family, friends, and climate are the most important attractive factors

Length of Residence	Jewish adults (%)
0-2	7
3-5	11
6-9	7
10-19 years	16
20 + years	59
Total	100

Region	Jewish newcomers (%)
North Dade	37
Central	28
The Beaches	23
South Dade	12
Total	100

Jewish Adults Considering Leaving in Next 3 Years

- 22% of Miami Jewish adults (**16% in 2014**) are considering leaving Miami in the next 3 years
 - 5% definitely and 17% probably (**5% and 11% in 2014**)
- Most common reasons are cost of living (46%), followed by the political climate (38%)

Reason for leaving	Jewish adults planning to leave Miami area (%)
Cost of living	46
Political climate	38
To be close to family who live elsewhere	28
Other reasons	78

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Jewish Denominations

- Orthodox includes 4% Modern, 6% Haredi/Yeshivish, 1% each Hasidic, Lubavitch/Chabad, other
- Small changes since 2014
- More Orthodox and Conservative, less Reform and Just Jewish compared to US Jews

	Miami (%)	Miami 2014	US Jews 2020 (%)
Orthodox	13	11	9
Conservative	23	26	17
Traditional	5	N/A	N/A
Reform	31	31	37
Just Jewish	25	33	32
Other	4	N/A	4
Total	100	100	100

Jewish Denominations by Age

- Orthodox Jews are younger than the rest of the population (ages 22 to 39, make up 52% of the Orthodox)

	22-39 (%)	40-54 (%)	55-64 (%)	65-74 (%)	75+ (%)	Total (%)
All Jewish adults	25	22	14	22	17	
Orthodox	52	21	12	8	8	100
Conservative	25	24	13	20	17	100
Traditional	27	17	8	34	13	100
Reform	15	18	14	30	23	100
Just Jewish	25	18	16	24	17	100

Jewish Denomination by Region

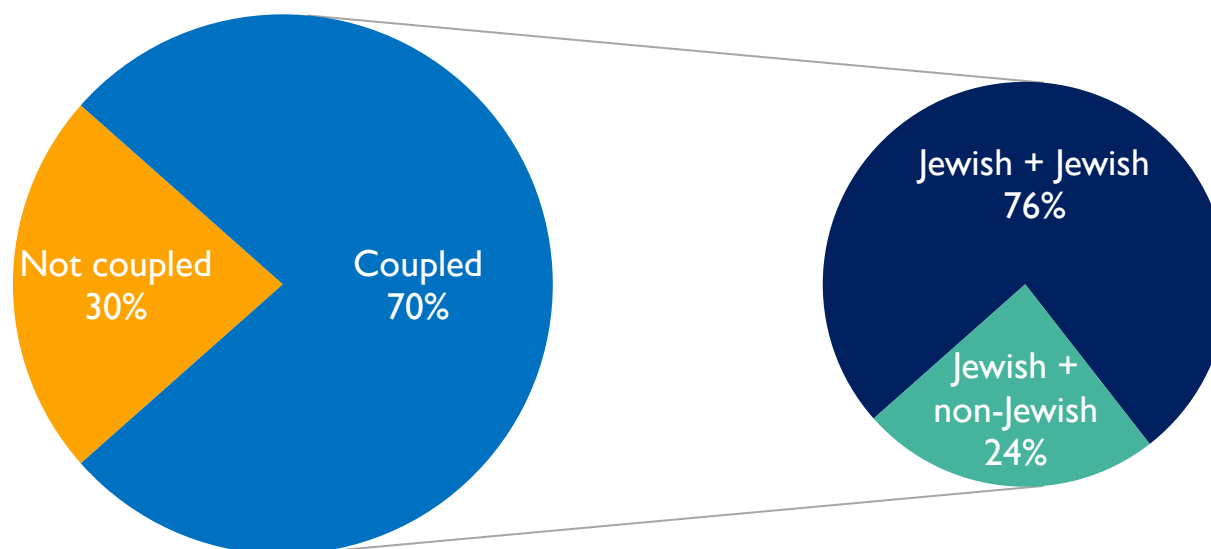
- **Orthodox** Jews primarily reside in The Beaches (41%) and North Dade (45%)
- **Conservative** and **Traditional** Jews primarily reside in North Dade (41%)
- 50% of **Reform** Jews reside in South Dade
- The **Just Jewish** are concentrated in South Dade

	Central (%)	South Dade (%)	The Beaches (%)	North Dade (%)	Total (%)
All Jewish adults	15	36	20	29	
Orthodox	3	11	41	45	100
Conservative	17	26	17	41	100
Traditional	27	15	5	52	100
Reform	17	50	14	20	100
Just Jewish	16	37	21	25	100

Marital Status and Inter-marriage

- 70% of Jewish adults are married or partnered (**52% in 2014**) (66% of US Jews)
- Miami's Inter-marriage rate* is 24%, (**9% in 2014**) (42% of US Jews)
- Inter-marriage is higher among older adults (26% of aged 60-69, 25% of aged 70-79) compared to < 20% of aged 18-60
- * % of married Jewish adults with a non-Jewish spouse

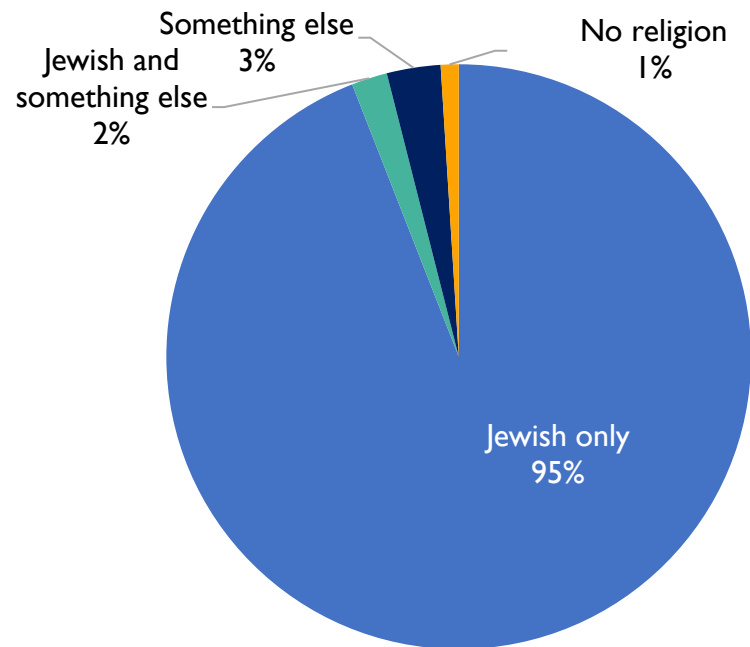
Adult marital status
(% of Miami Jewish adults)



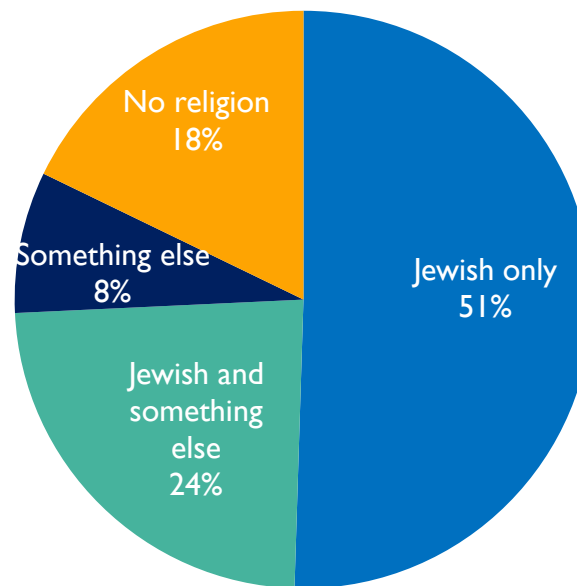
Children of In-marriage and Inter-marriage

- 75% of Jewish children are being raised by inmarried parents (2 Jewish parents)

Jewish identity of children in inmarried households (2 Jewish parents)



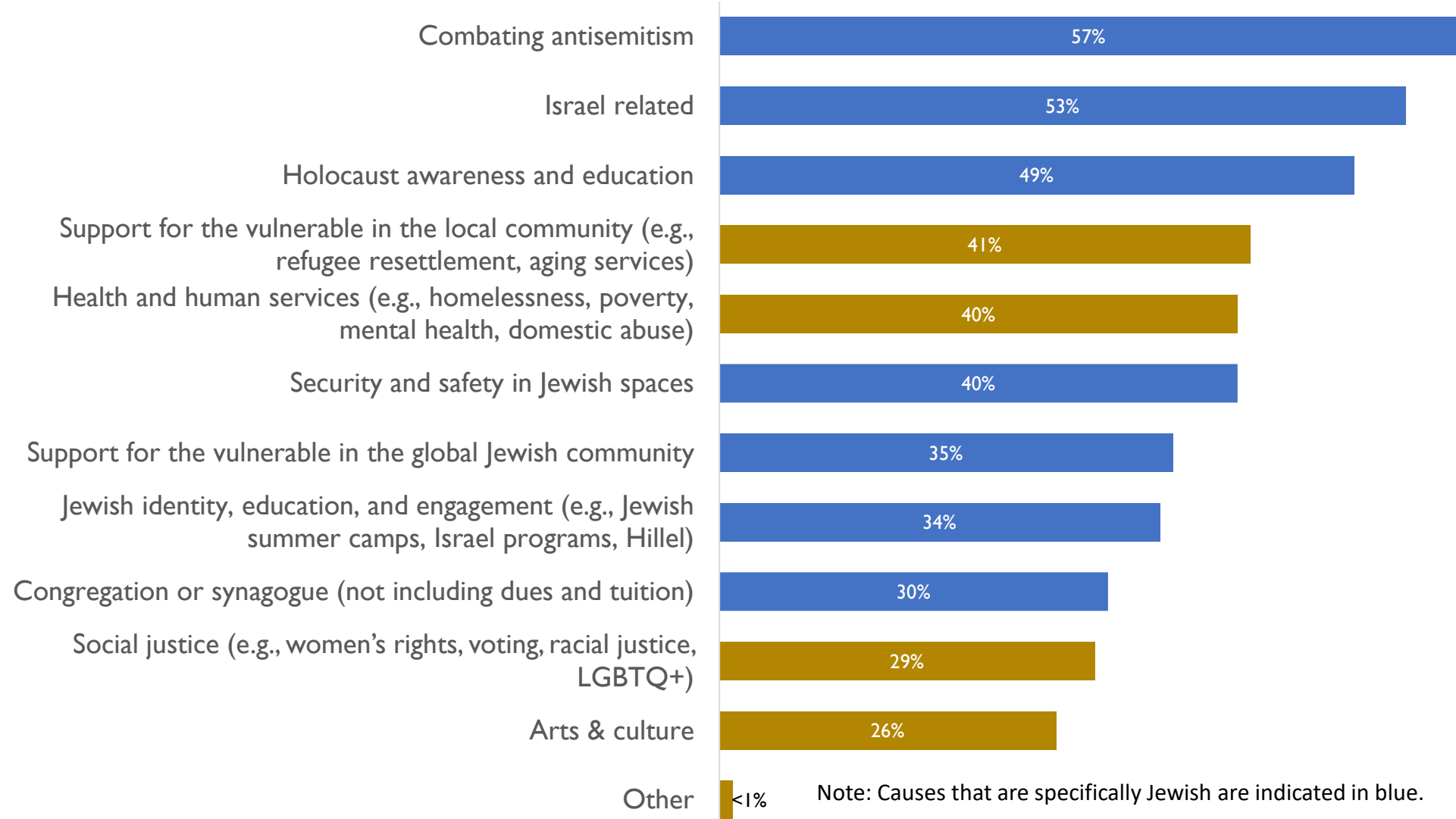
Jewish identity of children in intermarried households (1 Jewish parent)



Some Measures of Jewish Connectivity

Activity	Percentage of Households
Synagogue Member	35 (36% in 2014)
Miami JCC	8 (12% in 2014)
Other Jewish Organization	18 (24% in 2014)
Donate to a Jewish Charity	49 (60% in 2014)

Important Causes for Volunteering or Donating



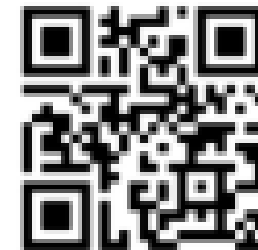
Note: Causes that are specifically Jewish are indicated in blue.



THANK YOU TO

The Greater Miami Jewish Federation
The organizations and agencies who participated
The 2,686 survey respondents

You may access the full report online
at [JewishMiami.org/2024communitystudy](https://jewishmiami.org/2024communitystudy)



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