

2004

JEWISH COMMUNITY STUDY | SUMMARY REPORT

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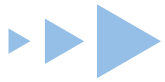
CONNECTING OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY



**JEWISH
COMMUNITY
FEDERATION**

of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties

I am pleased to share with you the findings of the 2004 Jewish Community Study of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties. The study was underwritten by a generous grant from the Jewish Community Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Federation. A grant from the Koret Foundation supports the dissemination of the findings. ▶▶▶



There were two general purposes for this survey, which were defined by the Community Study Advisory Committee. One purpose was to provide *actionable* information about the *service needs* of the community, to help our Jewish agencies, synagogues, and organizations provide appropriate services and plan for the future. The last survey conducted by Federation was done in 1986; this latest survey continues Federation's critical community planning role.

The second purpose was to provide as many *actionable* clues as possible about the *continuity needs* of the community. At the first committee meeting, the question "What can be done that will better insure a strong and vital Jewish community for our children and grandchildren?" was asked. It was felt that answers to this challenging question would inform our institutions, the community as a whole, and planners as they consider the allocation of resources. Accordingly, the official "mission statement" of the study included a strong emphasis on the discovery of information about viable *connections* to the community and how they might be strengthened.

The committee understood the limitations of the survey, especially with regard to ascertaining continuity needs. It also was understood that such a survey would be unlikely to come up with "magic bullets"

that no one had ever thought of before. However, the committee did hope to find clues about how institutions and overall planners might better deal with and further relationships between residents and communal organizations.

The committee selected Bruce Phillips, Ph.D., to devise and conduct a survey that provided the basic background information needed by institutions to plan their future services. He applied the dynamic term "pathways" to and within the various "formal and non-formal" connections, with some measured description of their multiplicity and relationships. By these means, he was able to present clues, as well as data for further exploration, that can be used to build an ever-stronger Jewish community for our children and grandchildren.

I wish to convey my personal thanks to the members of the Community Study Advisory Committee who guided this project to successful completion. Additionally, thanks to agency directors and rabbis, Federation staff and lay leadership, and to community members who offered their input through interviews and focus groups during the development stages of the project. Finally, thank you to members of our community who responded to the telephone survey and provided us with the vital information contained in this summary report.

SUSAN FOLKMAN, PH.D.
Chair

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dissemination of these important findings.*

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS STUDY ◀◀

This study has uncovered some remarkable and important information about the Jewish community that we serve. Our growth has been rapid, and today we are part of one of the largest metropolitan Jewish populations in the country. As a result, we are faced with both opportunities and challenges:

- The 2004 Jewish Community Study focused on Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, as well as the northernmost part of Santa Clara County (Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Cupertino). The Jewish Community Federation of Silicon Valley and the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay, which had been part of the last community study of 1986, declined to participate in this study.
- The Jewish population of the Federation Service Area (referred throughout the report as “FSA”) has almost doubled from 119,000 in 1986 to nearly 228,000 in 2004. Assuming that the areas covered by the Jewish Community Federation of Silicon Valley and the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay grew at this same rate, the “Bay Area” is now the third largest metropolitan Jewish population in the United States (behind New York and Los Angeles).
- In the past, the FSA has been perceived to be different from the rest of American Jewry. Over the past two decades, however, the Jewish population in the FSA has come to more closely resemble the national Jewish population. Conversely, the national Jewish population has changed in ways that make it more similar to the FSA. For example, in decades past the rate of interfaith marriage in the FSA was considerably higher than nationally. Now they are almost the same.
- Interfaith couples in the FSA are more connected to the Jewish community than interfaith couples nationally.
- Adults with only one Jewish parent have become a significant part of the Jewish population and will continue to grow.
- Since 1986, the trend has been for young adults raised by Jewish parents to become more Jewishly committed and involved, particularly in comparison to the young adult children of interfaith parents.

▶▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS STUDY ◀◀◀

- Mostly as a result of interfaith marriage, there has been a further distinction between ethnic and religious identification among Jews in the FSA.
- Formal connections such as synagogue membership have declined, but informal connections with the Jewish community are both strong and widespread.
- Using 150% of the Federal guidelines as our definition of “poor,” almost 1 in 10 Jewish households in the FSA falls into this category, underlining the fact that there is a segment of the Jewish population that needs a broad range of institutional assistance.
- Children are particularly hard hit by the downturn in the economy: 11% of children under the age of 12 live in a poor household, and 22% of children in single parent households are poor. Almost one out of five children live with two parents where one is looking for work.
- Although the absolute number of families with children has increased as part of overall Jewish population growth, households with children as a proportion of all Jewish households declined by 10%.
- The proportion of children living with a single parent doubled from 15% in 1986 to 32% in 2004.
- Half of all married couples include a non-Jewish partner, and as many children are being raised by one Jewish parent as are being raised by two.
- After a child has a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, enrollment in a Jewish educational organization drops by 50%. Re-engaging these children and their families in Jewish learning is essential for Jewish continuity.
- Communal leaders have come to think of Jewish seniors as the most economically vulnerable population. While this may have been true in the past, it is no longer so today. Today Jewish seniors are actually more affluent than Jewish young adults (ages 18-40).
- Jews in the FSA connect with Israel in multiple dimensions. Although most respondents described themselves as not emotionally attached to Israel, they nonetheless follow news about Israel and regard “unfair criticism of Israel” as anti-Semitic.
- Concern about anti-Semitism cuts across all sectors of the community.

- The self-identified lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender (LGBT) population, which used to be concentrated in San Francisco County, is now dispersed throughout the FSA.
- Émigrés from the former Soviet Union account for 8% of all Jewish households, with a particular affinity for San Francisco and the Peninsula.
- Israeli-identified households constitute 4% of all Jewish households and comprise 13% of all Jewish households in the South Peninsula.
- Federation is not well known to most Jews in the FSA. The more familiar members of the community are with the Federation, the more favorable their impression.
- Jews in the FSA are significantly involved in philanthropy and volunteerism both in the Jewish and general communities.

▶▶ HOW THE STUDY WAS DESIGNED ◀◀

Who Was Called

- > 500 Jewish households selected at random using random digit dialing (RDD).
 - Over 40,000 phone calls made to locate the RDD sample.
- > 1,016 households selected randomly from Federation's donor list.
- > 105 households randomly selected from an expanded list of Russian speakers to help analyze the Russian-speaking population.
- > Total sample: 1,621 households.

When Calls Were Made

- > Calls were made from March through June, 2004.
- > Up to 6 calls were made to each phone number at different times.
- > Calls were made from Monday morning to Friday at noon.
- > No calls were made on Jewish holidays.

Where We Live

Note: In this summary, the Federation Service Area—the geographic area covered by the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties—is referred to as the FSA.

> The five geographic regions of the Federation’s Service Area (FSA)

- San Francisco County
- North Peninsula, including most of San Mateo County and extending south to Redwood City
- South Peninsula, extending south from Redwood City to Sunnyvale
- Marin County
- Sonoma County

- > The Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay and the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley were invited to participate in the 2004 study and chose not to do so. Those Federations participated in the last survey of the Bay Area conducted in 1986.**
- > The 2004 study includes the towns of Sunnyvale and Cupertino (part of the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley’s service area), since these towns will be impacted by the future Campus for Jewish Life in Palo Alto.**

Who We Are

> Jewish households

- Where anyone in the household self identifies as Jewish by religion or ethnicity.

> Jewish residents

- Adults living in households as described above and all children being raised Jewish.
- Adults raised by interfaith parents who identify ethnically or religiously with both religions are included to provide a complete picture of the population and its diversity.
- Non-Jewish spouses are not counted as part of the Jewish population but are noted separately as household members, in keeping with the conventions used by most local surveys and the United Jewish Communities' 2001 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS 2001).

> Interfaith marriage categories

- **Judaic:** Jew by religion married to a non-Jew not practicing another religion; Judaism is only religion in home.
- **Dual religion:** Jew by religion married to a Christian; two religions in home.
- **Secular interfaith marriage:** Neither Jew nor non-Jew practices any religion.
- **Christian interfaith marriage:** Christianity only religion in home.

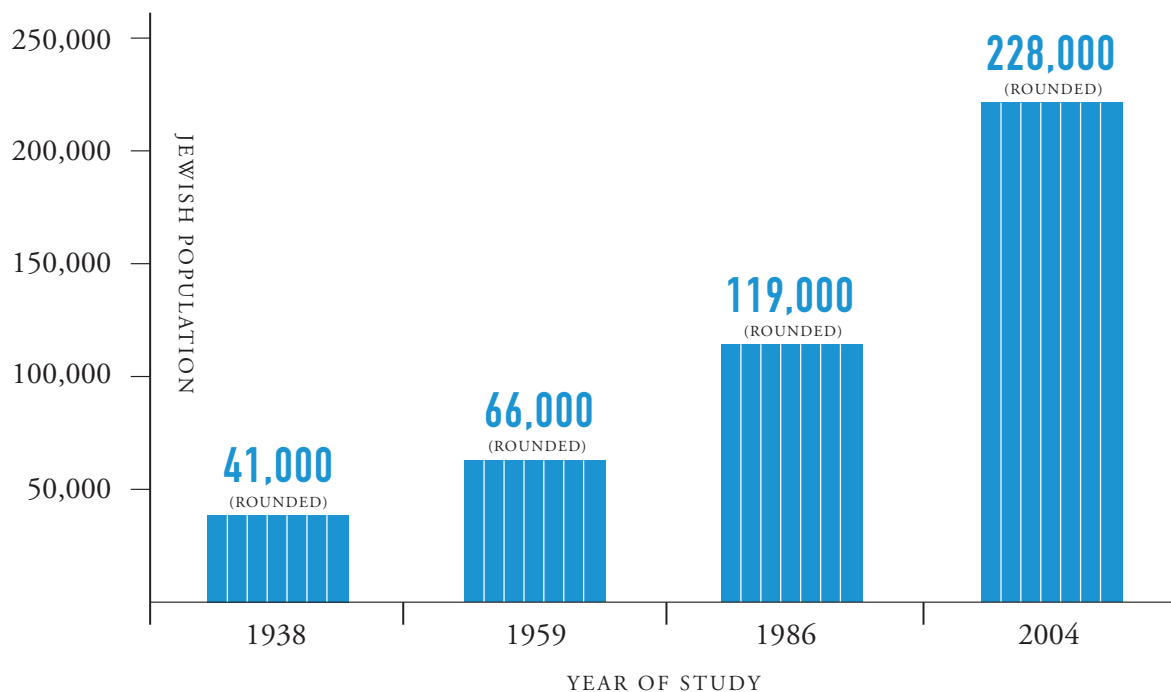
Note: All of the interfaith marriage rates presented in this report are the couple rate, or the percentage of all couples that include a non-Jewish spouse. Jews by choice (converts) are treated in this survey equally as Jews and not counted in interfaith marriages.

JEWISH POPULATION

> Today, there are almost 228,000 Jews living in 125,400 households in the FSA.

- In addition, there are 63,700 non-Jews living in Jewish households (a Jewish household is one in which at least one member identifies as Jewish).
- The growth of the Jewish population differs dramatically from that of the general population.

CHART A: Jewish Population in the FSA by Year of Study



▶▶ JEWISH POPULATION ◀◀

TABLE 1: *Jewish and General Population Growth, 1986-2004*

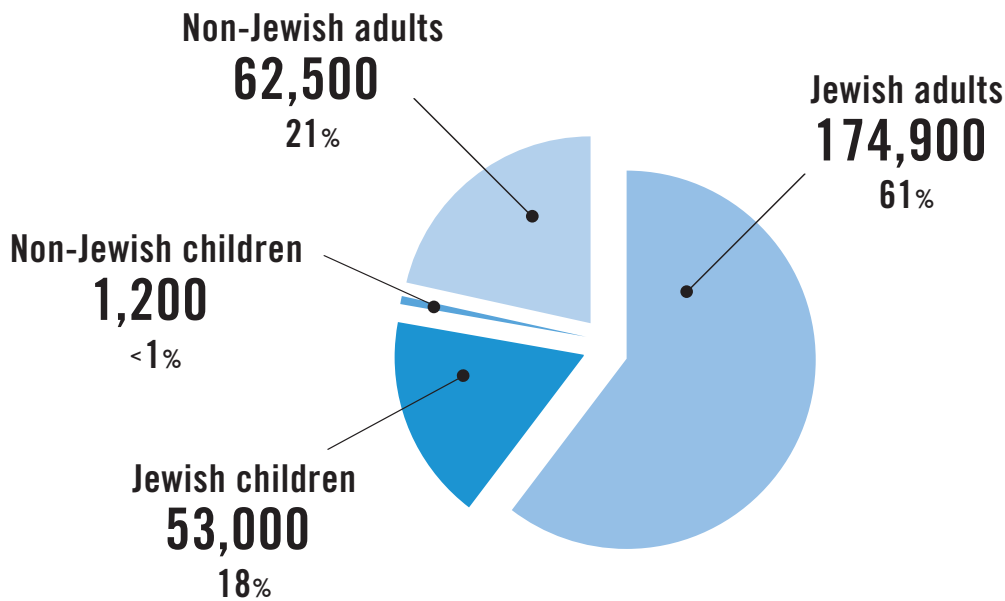
AREA	JEWISH POPULATION	GENERAL POPULATION
Sonoma County	171%	33%
Marin County	48%	9%
San Francisco County	36%	11%
North Peninsula	69%	14%*
South Peninsula	248%	21%**
Total	91%	16%

* FIGURE FOR SAN MATEO COUNTY

** FIGURE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Population figures were calculated from the 1980, 1990 and 2000 Census

CHART B: *Jewish Household Composition*

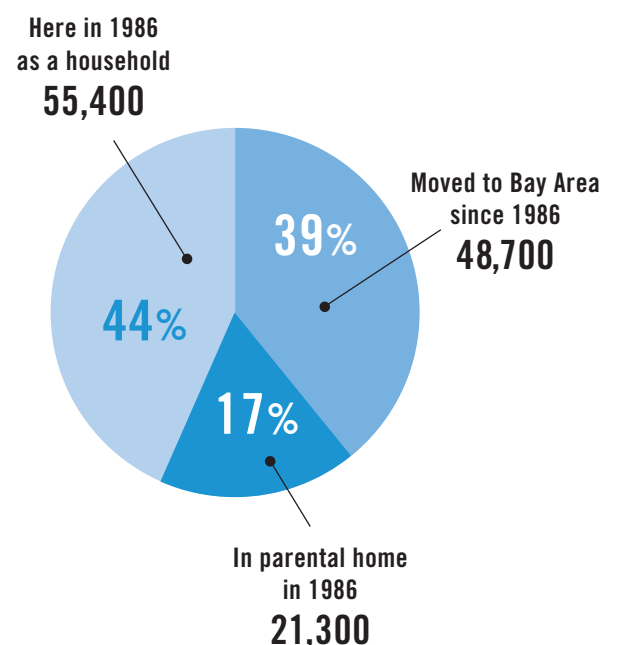


▶▶ HOUSEHOLD GROWTH & MIGRATION ◀◀

- > Jewish households grew at an even faster rate than the Jewish population. The number of Jewish households (a household in which at least one member identifies as Jewish) has more than doubled since 1986 from 53,800 to 125,400.
- > Approximately four out of ten Jewish households (39%) moved to the FSA since 1986, and slightly more (44%) were living in the Federation Service Area at the time of the last survey in 1986. The remaining 17% are households that were formed since the 1986 study by young adults who were living in their parents' home at the time of the last study.
- The age of people who moved to the area from other parts of the country has grown substantially older over time, changing gradually from people in their 20's in the 1960s and 1970s to people in their 30's and 40's currently.

- The proportion of households that say they plan to move out of the FSA in the next three years has doubled over the last 18 years to 15% (equivalent to just over 19,000 households). Overall community growth may slow over time.
- Most of the households that have changed residences in the past three years moved within FSA regions (74%), followed by moves from outside the FSA to the current residence (19%).
- Most of the movers between FSA regions are couples with children.

CHART C: *When Households Came to the FSA*



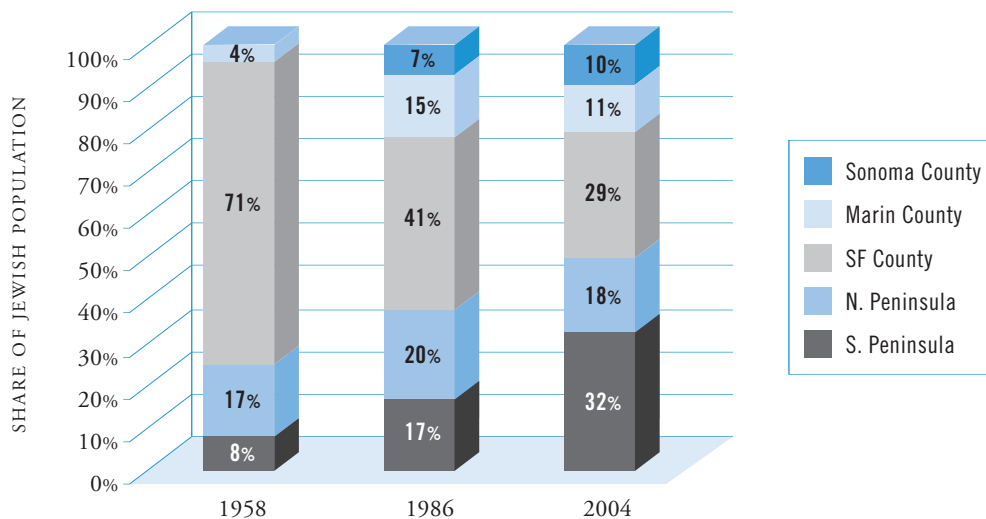
DISPERSION OF THE POPULATION

> Another significant trend is the increasing dispersion of the Jewish population across the FSA. The fastest recent growth has taken place in the areas farthest north and farthest south from San Francisco County.

TABLE 2: Jewish Population Growth by Region

AREA	JEWISH POPULATION			GROWTH BY % AND #	
	1958	1986	2004	1986-2004	1986-2004
Sonoma County	Not included	8,541	23,106	171%	14,565
Marin County	2,700	17,690	26,107	48%	8,417
San Francisco County	46,616	48,537	65,843	36%	17,306
North Peninsula	11,182	23,884	40,287	69%	16,403
South Peninsula	5,528	20,826	72,520	248%	51,694
Total	66,026	119,478	227,863	91%	108,385

CHART D: Share of Jewish Population in Each Area, 1958-2004



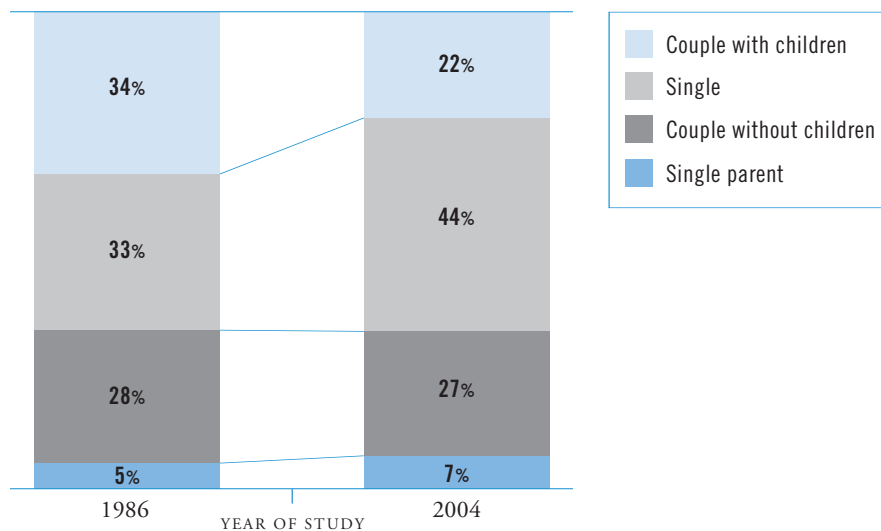
▶▶▶ OVERALL HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION ◀◀◀

> In addition to the change in absolute numbers and distribution, the composition of households within the FSA has also changed.

- The most dramatic change is the decrease in the proportion of couples with children from 34% of Jewish households in 1986 to 22% in 2004.

- There are many more singles in the FSA today than in 1986. The proportion of single households grew from 33% in 1986 to 44% in 2004, and is now the most prevalent type of household.
- The proportion of children living with a single parent doubled from 15% in 1986 to 32% in 2004.

CHART E: Overall Household Composition—1986 and 2004



▶▶ HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS BY REGION ◀◀

> San Francisco County

- San Francisco County has the highest proportion of young couples (including LGBT couples—16%) and the lowest proportion of households with children (22%).
- The children of Russian speakers account for 21% of Jewish children in San Francisco County.
- More than a quarter (29%) of Jewish seniors live in San Francisco County.

> Marin County

- Marin County has the highest proportion of empty nesters (26%) and the second highest proportion of couples with children (25%).
- Older single households (respondent is 40+) outnumber younger single households by more than 3:1.
- Marin County is tied with Sonoma County for the highest rates of interfaith marriage (75% for couples).

> Sonoma County

- Sonoma County has the highest proportion of non-Jews living in Jewish households (27%).
- More than a third of all households with children in Sonoma County are single parent families.
- As noted, Sonoma and Marin Counties have the highest couple rate of interfaith marriage (75% for couples).

> North Peninsula

- Just over one out of three households has children under the age of 18, the highest proportion in the FSA.
- One out of five households with children is a single-parent family.
- The children of Russian speakers account for 17% of Jewish children in the North Peninsula.

> **South Peninsula**

- The distribution of household composition in the South Peninsula resembles that of the FSA as a whole.
- Israeli-identified households are concentrated in the South Peninsula, where they constitute 13% of Jewish households.
- The rate of interfaith marriage is lowest in the South Peninsula (39% of all currently married couples), and it has the lowest proportion of households with a non-Jewish member (29%).

▶▶ AGE DISTRIBUTION ◀◀

> Overall there has been little change in the age structure of the Jewish population since 1986.

- The two most significant changes are a decrease in the proportion of 35-to-44-year-olds and an increase in the proportion of 45-to-54-year-olds.

CHART F: *Age Distribution of Jewish Population and Non-Jewish Spouses, 2004 and 1986*

AGE	1986	2004
75+	6%	6%
65-74	10%	7%
55-64	11%	13%
45-54	11%	17%
35-44	20%	16%
25-34	15%	15%
18-24	5%	6%
13-17	7%	6%
6-12	7%	7%
0-5	8%	7%

▶▶▶ ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY ◀◀◀

- > **Almost one in ten Jewish households is poor, defined as 150% of the Federal Poverty Level income for the San Francisco area. As an example, a family of three with an income of \$30,000 or less would be considered poor.**
 - Poverty is highest among singles, LGBT households, Russian speakers, and single parent families.
 - 11% of children under age 12 live in a poor household. Children under age 12 in single parent households are the most economically vulnerable: more than one in five (22%) live in a poor household.
 - The median income of all Jewish households in the FSA is approximately \$81,000 per year.
 - Households below the median Jewish income are more likely to report that cost had been an obstacle to participation in the Jewish community.

ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY

TABLE 3: Household Income by Region

HOUSEHOLD INCOME	SONOMA COUNTY	MARIN COUNTY	SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY	NORTH PENINSULA	SOUTH PENINSULA	ALL AREAS
Under \$25,000	19%	4%	11%	18%	5%	10%
\$25,000–\$49,999	29%	20%	27%	11%	10%	19%
\$50,000–\$74,999	26%	14%	22%	12%	10%	16%
\$75,000–\$99,999	8%	17%	11%	19%	29%	18%
\$100,000–\$149,999	11%	29%	17%	22%	23%	20%
\$150,000+	6%	16%	12%	18%	23%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Median Income	\$51,900	\$91,200	\$52,300	\$87,400	\$96,700	\$81,100

TABLE 4: Percent of Households that Are Low Income by Household Composition

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION	% LOW INCOME	# LOW INCOME
Single < 40	20	3,900
Young couple	4	500
Empty Nester	2	600
Couple with Children	8	2,300
Single parent family	10	800
Single 40+	11	3,200
Self-identified LGBT Household	32	3,300
FSU immigrant or Spouse	14	1,400
ALL HOUSEHOLDS IN FSA	9	11,100

▶▶ SOCIAL SERVICE NEEDS ◀◀

- > **On average, one third of the Jewish population needed at least one social service during the past year, with wide variations around economic status, household composition, and geography.**
 - The greatest single unmet need is employment help such as job counseling and placement, followed by individual or family counseling and emergency financial assistance.
 - Of those in need, most received some kind of help. However, the percentages of poorer households, single parents, and unemployed who did not receive services are quite high.
 - Single parents are particularly hard hit by the need for emergency financial assistance.
 - Unemployment is highest among couples with children. 17% of children living with two parents have a parent looking for work.
- Two out of five young singles (under age 34) describe themselves as “under-employed.” Almost a third needed employment counseling, but only 40% of this group received it.

▶▶▶ SOCIAL SERVICE NEEDS ◀◀◀

TABLE 5: *Types of Service Needed and Whether Help Was Received From Any Organization (Jewish or non-Jewish)*

TYPES OF SERVICE	Number that needed the service	% of households that needed this service	Number in need that did not receive service	% of in-need households that did not receive help for this need
Marital, family, or individual counseling	23,800	19	5,000	21
Help with finding a job	20,100	16	10,000	50
Help with children who have special needs	20,100	16	1,200	6
Emergency financial assistance	12,500	10	8,400	67
Assistance for drug or alcohol abuse	2,500	2	1,300	50

TABLE 6: *Particular Service Needs by Area*

During the past year, someone in the household needed help with	SONOMA COUNTY	MARIN COUNTY	SF COUNTY	NORTH PENINSULA	SOUTH PENINSULA
Marital, family, or individual counseling?	18%	19%	15%	28%	22%
Help in finding a job or career counseling?	11%	7%	19%	18%	19%
Assistance for children with problems at home or in school?	10%	18%	9%	27%	15%
Assistance with alcohol or drug abuse?	2%	2%	2%	1%	4%
Emergency financial assistance?	6%	10%	8%	23%	6%

▶▶▶ CONNECTING TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY ◀◀◀

- > 72% of households had at least some connection with the organized Jewish community in the past year, defined as attending a JCC or synagogue, belonging to or volunteering for a Jewish organization, attending a Jewish performance, participating in a Jewish adult education program or participating in Jewish social action.
- > Just over a quarter (28%) of households report one type of formal Jewish affiliation or membership, with synagogues being the most mentioned.
- > Synagogues and day schools are the principal gateway institution for new FSA residents. 61% of households with at least one affiliation identify a synagogue or day school as their first entry into the Jewish community.
- > Friendship networks serve as an avenue toward affiliation. Most of the respondents who are formally affiliated were encouraged to do so by someone they knew.
- > Federation and community groups are the most frequent points of connection for new young couples, most of whom mentioned the Federation’s Young Adults Division group.

TABLE 7: *Affiliations*

HOUSEHOLD	BELONGS TO			
	SYNAGOGUE	JCC	OTHER JEWISH ORGANIZATION	NOTHING
Single < 40	7%	11%	15%	72%
Young couple	1%	17%	3%	80%
Empty Nester	26%	8%	24%	58%
Couple with Children	32%	20%	23%	53%
Single parent family	36%	3%	29%	62%
Single 40+	24%	15%	25%	64%

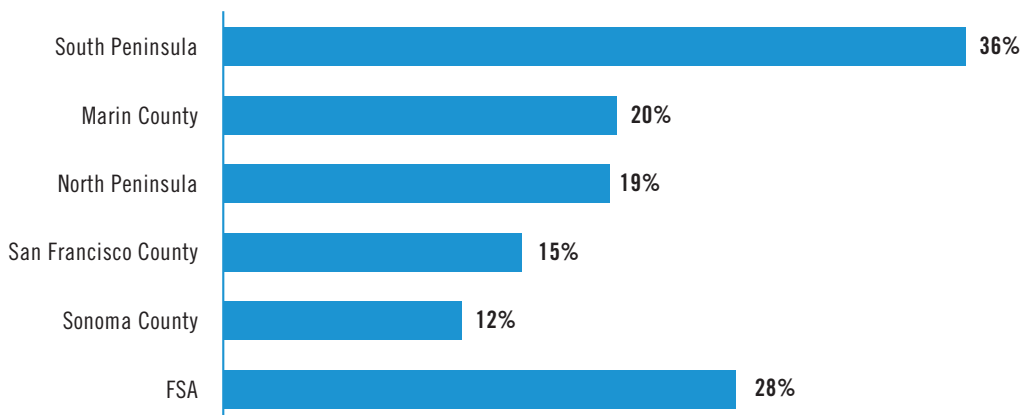
▶▶ RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION ◀◀

> Despite the significant increase in the Jewish population since 1986, there was minimal change in religious identification within Jewish households.

TABLE 8: Religious Identification of Jewish Households, 1986 and 2004

HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFICATION	1986	2004	ESTIMATED # OF HOUSEHOLDS, 2004
Orthodox-Traditional	3%	3%	3,500
Conservative	20%	17%	21,900
Reform or Liberal	39%	38%	47,200
Reconstructionist	1%	2%	2,700
No Denomination or secular	32%	33%	41,000
Other religion	4%	6%	8,100
Jewish Renewal	0%	1%	1,000
Total	100%	100%	125,400

CHART G: Synagogue Membership by Area (% of households)*



*These figures may include respondents who equated "paying dues to a synagogue in the past year" with occasional synagogue attendance, holiday services and programs at Hillels and JCCs, havurot and informal Jewish study.

VOLUNTEERISM

> **Volunteerism is another way to connect to the Jewish community.**

- Jewish volunteering is more prevalent than Jewish organizational membership (29% vs. 21%).
- Almost a third of volunteers for Jewish organizations also report holding a leadership position in a Jewish organization, federation or synagogue.

- The rate of Jewish volunteering among young singles and young couples is impressively high given their low rates of formal affiliation.
- Respondents under age 40 are much more likely to volunteer than to have formal affiliations.
- Respondents were much more likely to volunteer for non-Jewish than Jewish organizations.

TABLE 9: *Volunteerism by Type of Household*

HOUSEHOLD	% WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR	
	JEWISH ORGANIZATION	NON-JEWISH ORGANIZATION
Single < 40	26	56
Young couple	24	63
Empty nester	29	57
Couple with children	40	70
Single parent family	18	40
Single 40+	26	55
FSA	29	59

▶▶ EXPRESSING JEWISHNESS ◀◀

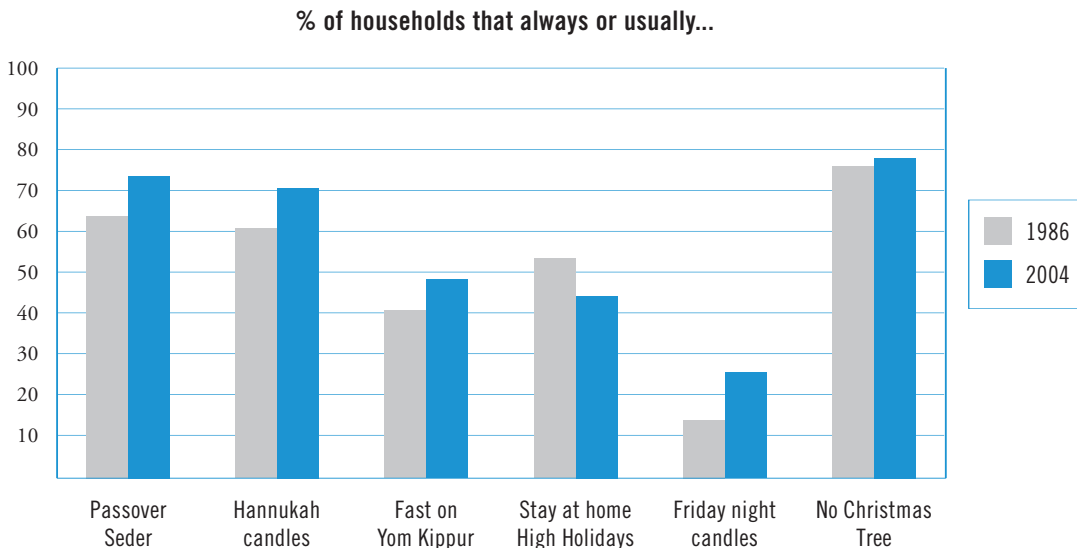
> There is great diversity in how the adult Jewish population identifies and expresses its Jewishness.

- Three quarters of the Jewish population identifies as Jewish by religion and the remaining quarter identifies as Jewish in solely ethnic terms, or as secular.
- Of households with no formal Jewish affiliation, 88% report at least one informal connection, defined as, “getting together with friends to celebrate Shabbat or other Jewish holidays;” “going to see a movie, concert, or other performance because it had Jewish

content;” “visiting a website with Jewish content;” “regularly following news about Jewish topics;” “participating in Jewish Studies courses, or attending a lecture on a Jewish topic;” or “reading a book, other than the Bible, because it had Jewish content.”

- Interestingly, celebration of Shabbat and Jewish holidays is popular among young couples (68%) and young singles (60%) who are not affiliated with synagogues.
- Since 1986, Jewish observances have increased among those raised by Jewish parents.

CHART H: *Observance by Year of Study (Respondents Raised by Jewish Parents)*



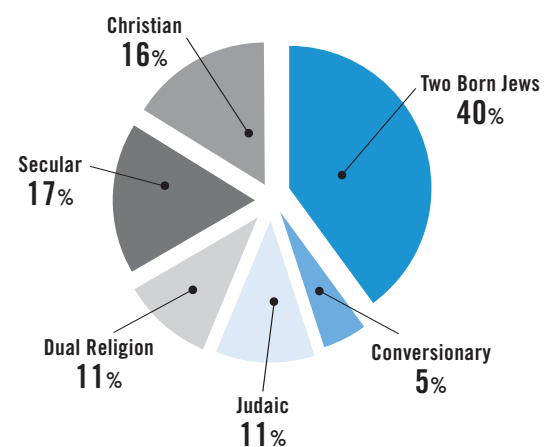
▶▶ INTERFAITH POPULATION ◀◀

> Interfaith households are a significant portion of the local Jewish community.

- The rate of interfaith marriage has doubled since 1986. Over half (55%) of all married couples in the FSA include a non-Jewish partner, up from 27% in 1986.
- However, the popular perception that the FSA has an extraordinarily high interfaith marriage rate is not true. In fact, the rate is lower than the national rate of 59% (according to the NJPS 2001*).
- There are significant regional differences in the interfaith marriage rate. Marin and Sonoma Counties have the highest rates—75%—of all currently married couples. The North Peninsula has the next highest rate at 62%. The rate of interfaith marriage was lowest in San Francisco County (54%) and the South Peninsula (39%).
- The percentage of non-Jewish spouses who identify with Judaism and have not formally converted is two percentage points higher (8%) than the national rate (6%).

- Just under half (45%) of married couples consist of two Jewish partners. An additional 11% of all married couples consist of interfaith couples who practice Judaism exclusively, and another 11% are interfaith couples practicing Judaism alongside another religion. Combining these categories, two-thirds of all couples in Jewish households practice Judaism in the home. Only 16% of all couples are interfaith married partners who practice Christianity to the exclusion of Judaism, and 17% are interfaith couples who identify themselves as secular. *(Note: Non-Christian religions did not show up as a statistically significant part of the sample.)*

CHART I: Households by Religious Identification

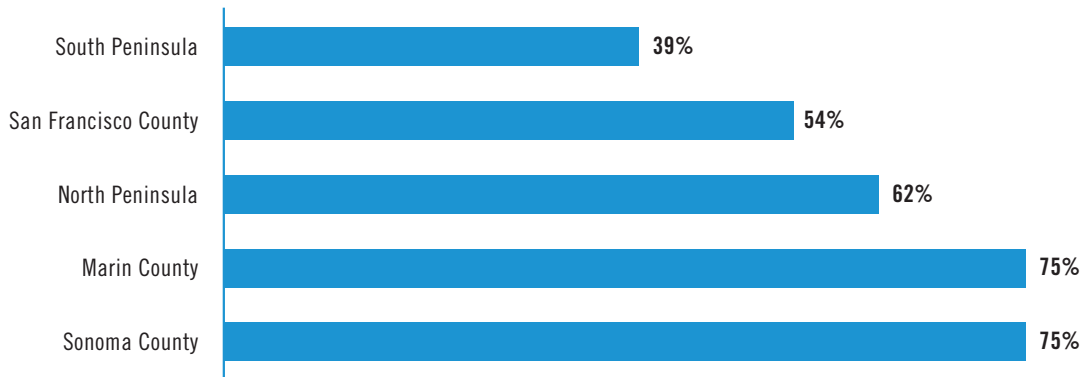


(For definition of interfaith marriage categories, see page 8.)

*The NJPS' published couples interfaith marriage rate is 47%. Factoring in the same eligibility criteria and definitions as the FSA study, the rate increases to 59%.

▶▶ INTERFAITH POPULATION ◀◀

CHART J: *Percent of Interfaith Married Couples by Region*



> **Informal Jewish behaviors are an important indicator of Jewish connection in both Jewish and interfaith households.**

- While informal connections are more prevalent among Jewish households, a significant percentage of interfaith

couples regularly follow news about Jewish topics; have visited a website with Jewish content in the past year; and have gotten together with friends to celebrate a Jewish holiday or Shabbat in the past year.

TABLE 10: *Informal Connections by Type of Marriage (Percent answering “Yes”)*

During the past year did you...	JEWISH (26,858)	INTERFAITH (33,493)
Regularly follow news about Jewish topics?	94%	70%
Get together with friends to celebrate Shabbat or other Jewish holidays?	92%	44%
Visit a website with Jewish content?	75%	54%
Go to see a movie, concert, or other performance because it had Jewish content?	51%	26%
Participate in any Jewish Studies courses, or attend a lecture on a Jewish topic?	39%	5%
Participate in a social action group that was Jewish sponsored or Jewishly identified in some way?	37%	5%

▶▶ CHILDREN ◀◀

> **There are 53,000 children (ages 17 and under) living in Jewish households in the FSA.**

- Of this total, 18% are living in a single parent household.

> **There are regional differences by numbers and age.**

- The South Peninsula has the most children (19,400), followed by San Francisco County (11,700).

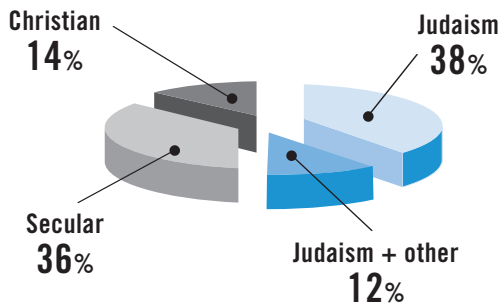
- Sonoma County has the highest percentage of children ages 13-17 (45%) and the lowest percentage of young children ages 5 and under (18%).
- Marin County has the highest percentage of 6-12-year-olds (42%).
- The North Peninsula has the highest percentage of children ages 5 and under (53%).

TABLE 11: *Number of Children by Age and Region (rounded)*

AREA	AGE OF CHILD			TOTAL	PERCENT
	0-5	6-12	13-17		
Sonoma County	1,100	2,200	2,700	6,100	11%
Marin County	2,100	2,900	1,900	6,900	13%
San Francisco County	4,000	4,200	3,500	11,700	22%
North Peninsula	4,700	1,700	2,500	8,900	17%
South Peninsula	6,200	7,900	5,400	19,400	37%
Total	18,100	18,900	16,000	53,000	100%

- > Overall, 38% of the children of interfaith marriages are being raised as Jews (higher than the national average of 33%).
- > Another 12% are being raised in Judaism plus another religion.

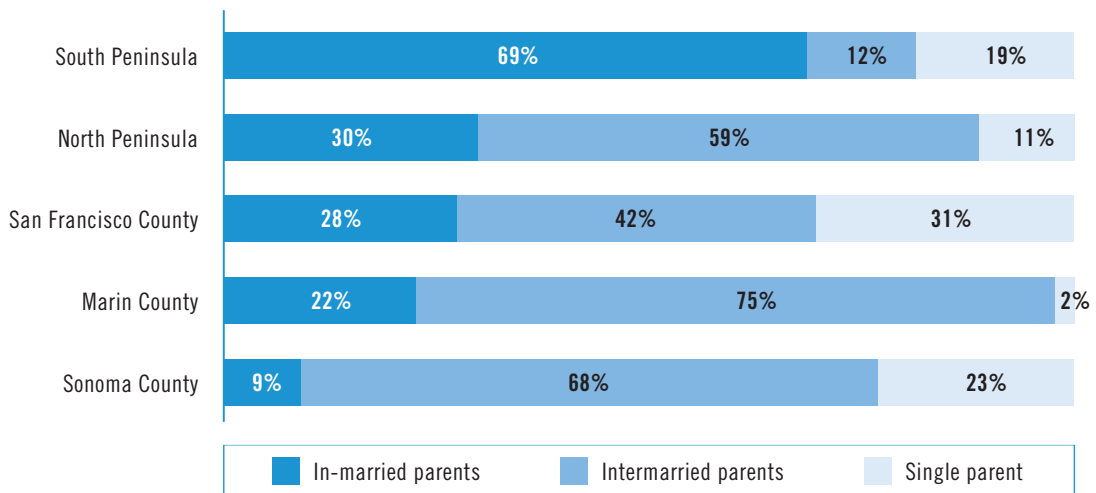
CHART K: *How Children are Being Raised in Interfaith Marriages*



- > Overall, almost as many children are living with two Jewish parents as with interfaith parents (41% and 42% respectively).

- The South Peninsula is the only area in which most children are growing up with two Jewish parents.
- Sonoma County has the lowest percentage of children being raised by two Jewish parents.
- San Francisco County has the highest percentage of children being raised by a single parent.

CHART L: *Whom Children Live With by Region*



▶▶ JEWISH EDUCATION OF CHILDREN ◀◀

- > Overall 55% of children between the ages of 6 and 17 have received some formal Jewish education.
- > For children with two Jewish parents, the percentage who have received some formal Jewish education is 77%.
- > The same proportion of 6-12 and 13-17-year-olds have received some formal Jewish education.
- > The percentage of children currently enrolled drops precipitously from 45% of 6-12 year olds to only 13% of 13-17 year olds.
- > Jewish educational enrollment will likely stay constant over the next decade.

▶▶ JEWISH EDUCATION OF CHILDREN ◀◀

- Only one third of parents say they would not consider day school as an option.
- Reasons most cited for not enrolling children in day school are cost and perception that day schools are academically weaker than available public and private schools.
- The majority of children of interfaith marriages who are being raised in Judaism have had some form of a Jewish education (85%), which is higher than that for children of two Jewish parents (77%).
- Most children being raised in Judaism and another religion have not received a Jewish education.

TABLE 12: Current and Cumulative Jewish Educational Enrollment of Children Ages 6-12 by Religion in Which Child is Being Raised

PARENTS ARE:	RELIGION IN WHICH CHILD IS BEING RAISED	# OF CHILDREN	EVER ENROLLED	CURRENTLY ENROLLED
Jewish	Judaism	19,700	77%	53%
Interfaith	Judaism	8,500	85%	20%
	Judaism + Other	2,700	1%	0%
	No Religion	7,900	8%	8%
	Christian	3,000	12%	12%
	All children of interfaith marriages	22,100	41%	13%

AFFINITY POPULATIONS

> Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) households

- There are 14,800 Jews and 6,300 non-Jews who reside in 10,400 Jewish households that identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.
- LGBT households comprise over 8% of all households in the FSA.
- In the 1986 study, LGBT households were concentrated in San Francisco County. Today, they are widely dispersed over the FSA.

- Two-thirds of the LGBT households are headed by a single person, split evenly between young (under age 40) singles and older (age 40+) singles.
- 11% of LGBT households have children. Most important, there are more single parents with children than couples with children among these households.
- Overall, 60% of respondents indicate that it is very likely or somewhat likely they would attend a Jewishly-sponsored LGBT program.

TABLE 13: *Distribution of the LGBT-Identified Population, 1986 and 2004*

AREA	1986	2004
Sonoma County	5%	11%
Marin County	13%	12%
San Francisco County	66%	21%
North Peninsula	8%	27%
South Peninsula	8%	29%
Total	100%	100%

TABLE 14: *Composition of LGBT-Identified Households and Numbers*

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION	%
Single	69
With partner	19
Single parent	7
Couple with children	5
Total	100

▶▶ AFFINITY POPULATIONS ◀◀

> Russian speaking community

- There are 26,400 Jews and 3,800 non-Jews who reside in 10,000 households in which the respondent or spouse immigrated from the Former Soviet Union (FSU) since 1970.
- Households with Jews from the Former Soviet Union who have migrated to the FSA since 1970 constitute 8% of all Jewish households.
- Russian speakers comprise between 9 and 11% of all Jewish households in San Francisco County and the North and South Peninsula, with minimal numbers in Marin and Sonoma Counties.
- Half of the older Russian-speaking households (age 50 and over) are concentrated in San Francisco County (52%) followed by the South Peninsula (34%). The younger Russian-speaking households (under age 50) are more geographically dispersed and are concentrated in the South Peninsula (39%), San Francisco County (38%) and the North Peninsula (24%).
- Of the older Russian-speaking households, 79% say all or almost all of their friends are Jewish and 72% are from the FSU.

- Of the younger Russian speaking households, 63% say all or almost all of their friends are Jewish and 50% are from the FSU.
- The children of Russian speakers account for 17% of Jewish children in the North Peninsula and 21% of Jewish children in the city.

> Israeli households

- There are 5,500 households in which someone identifies as an Israeli. They include 13,200 Jews and 300 non-Jews. These households are concentrated in the South Peninsula.
- Israeli identified households make up 4% of all Jewish households and are concentrated in the South Peninsula where they constitute 13% of all Jewish households.
- The proportion of young couples in Israeli identified households is three times that for the FSA as whole, and the proportion of older single households is much lower.

TABLE 15: *Distribution of Russian Speaking and Israeli Identified Households*

AREA	IMMIGRATED FSU SINCE 1970	ISRAELI IDENTIFIED HOUSEHOLD
Sonoma County	0%	2%
Marin County	2%	1%
SF County	40%	7%
North Peninsula	20%	4%
South Peninsula	38%	86%
Total	100%	100%

> **Israeli and Russian speaking households**

- The composition of Israeli-identified and Russian-speaking households differs from the FSA as a whole and from each other. Very few young singles are to be found among the Russian speaking households.

The proportions of young couples and couples with children are higher in both groups than for the FSA as a whole. Russian-speaking households with children make up a greater proportion of all households with children in the North Peninsula and in San Francisco County.

TABLE 16: *Composition of Israeli and Russian Speaking Households*

COMPOSITION	IMMIGRATED FROM RUSSIA SINCE 1970	BORN OR CONSIDERS SELF ISRAELI	FEDERATION SERVICE AREA
Single < 40	6%	16%	16%
Young couple	23%	32%	10%
Empty nester	21%	24%	22%
Couple with children	36%	23%	22%
Single parent family	<1%	<1%	7%
Single 40+	14%	5%	23%
Total	100%	100%	100%

▶▶ SINGLES POPULATION ◀◀

- > **There are 84,000 Jewish singles in the FSA.**
 - Of this population, more are age 40 and older (60%) than under age 40 (40%).
 - Singles with two Jewish parents are concentrated in San Francisco County (45%) and the South Peninsula (29%). Singles of interfaith parentage are concentrated in San Francisco County (35%) and the North Peninsula (25%).
 - Although less formally affiliated than other household types, young singles are oriented toward community as evidenced by volunteering and Shabbat celebration with friends.
- > **Singles under age 50 with two Jewish parents are far more likely to say it is at least somewhat important for them to marry someone Jewish as compared to singles of interfaith parentage (40% vs.10%).**
 - Singles under age 50 who say it is important to marry another Jew feel that websites such as Jdate.com are the most effective way to meet other Jewish singles, followed by connections through family or friends.

TABLE 17: Importance of Marrying a Jew by Parentage (Single Without Children and Younger than Age 50)

If you were to marry, how important is it that you marry someone Jewish?	PARENTAGE OF RESPONDENT	
	INTERFAITH PARENTAGE	JEWISH PARENTS
Very important	<1%	17%
Somewhat important	9%	23%
Somewhat unimportant	19%	14%
Very unimportant	71%	46%
Total	100%	100%

▶▶▶ OLDER ADULT POPULATION ◀◀◀

- > The FSA's older Jewish population is a smaller percentage than that of the national Jewish population: 19% of American Jews are age 65 and older compared with 13% in the FSA.
- > The number of older persons in the Jewish population has grown substantially since 1986 from 17,000 to 33,300. It will continue to grow as the baby boom ages.
- > Seniors as a group are generally better off economically than younger households, with the exception of seniors who have migrated from the FSU since 1970.
- > Over 70% of seniors are college graduates and 85% were born in the United States.
- > Seniors are concentrated in San Francisco County and the Peninsula.
- > More than two-thirds of seniors live with a spouse or other family member.
- > Under the age of 85, less than 6% of older persons living alone need assistance with activities of daily living, but over the age of 85 just over half need assistance.
 - Transportation is the principal service need, followed by home health care, social programs for older adults, and assisted living.
 - The area with the greatest unmet need for senior social services is Marin County.
 - Most of the social programs in which Jewish seniors participate are under Jewish auspices. A third of seniors who receive home health care or residential care receive the needed help from a Jewish agency.

▶▶▶ OLDER ADULT POPULATION ◀◀◀

TABLE 18: *Distribution of Older Persons by Region*

AREA	FREQUENCY	%	% OF JEWISH POPULATION 65+
Sonoma County	3,100	9	12
Marin County	4,100	12	13
SF County	9,600	29	13
North Peninsula	7,600	23	16
South Peninsula	8,900	27	11
Total	33,300	100	13

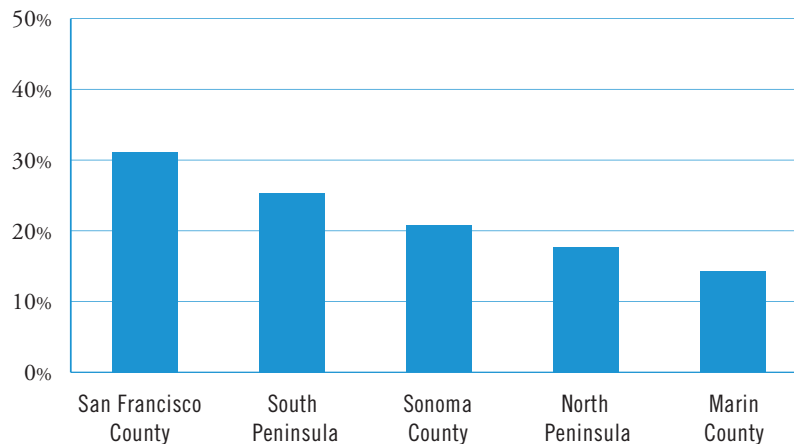
TABLE 19: *Age Distribution of the Older Adults in FSA*

AGE	ESTIMATED # OF PERSONS	%
65–69	9,500	29
70–74	8,800	26
75–79	6,700	20
80–84	5,200	16
85+	3,100	9
Total	33,300	100

▶▶ ANTI-SEMITISM ◀◀

- > Approximately one quarter of respondents had a personal experience with anti-Semitism in the past year (about the same as in the 1986 study).
 - Respondents in San Francisco County and the South Peninsula had experienced anti-Semitism the most frequently.
- > Three-quarters of respondents agree that anti-Semitism is a serious national problem, about the same as nationally.
- > Anti-Semitism is identified much less than in the past as social or economic discrimination. It is identified by most respondents in terms of “unfair criticism of Israel.”*
- > Interestingly, “unfair criticism of Israel” associated with anti-Semitism is not related to emotional attachment to Israel. Even respondents with no emotional attachment to Israel mention unfair criticism of Israel as a form of anti-Semitism.

CHART N: *Personally Experienced Anti-Semitism During the Past 12 Months*



*While, according to numerous surveys, most American Jews do not believe that all criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic, most of the respondents in this survey feel that unfair criticism of Israel is often associated with anti-Semitism.

▶▶ CONNECTION TO ISRAEL ◀◀

- > **Respondents with Jewish parents are significantly more emotionally attached to Israel than respondents of interfaith parentage.**
- > **Younger Jews (ages 18-34) with Jewish parents show a markedly higher emotional attachment to Israel than did those in other categories.**
- More than two-thirds of all respondents regularly follow news about Israel, including over 40% of respondents with no emotional attachment to Israel.
- Weaker emotional attachment to Israel is not synonymous with lack of interest in Israel.
 - > Most of those who say they are only “somewhat” attached to Israel and almost half of those who say they are not at all attached to Israel affirm that they follow news about Israel closely and regularly.
- 71% of respondents who say that being Jewish is very important to them are very or extremely attached to Israel.
- Three quarters of Federation donors are very or extremely attached to Israel as compared with only a third of non-givers.

▶▶▶ CONNECTING THROUGH PHILANTHROPY ◀◀◀

> **Jews in the FSA are philanthropic. 78% report giving at least one hundred dollars to a charity during the preceding year.**

- Federation giving is greatest among households over age 40, and among couples with children.
- Federation giving is greatest among the most affluent households.

- Jews in the FSA are significant contributors and volunteers for general community causes.
- In the past year more Jewish households contributed to non-Jewish charities than to Jewish charities (61% of households vs. 31% of households).

CHART O: *Federation Giving by Household Composition*

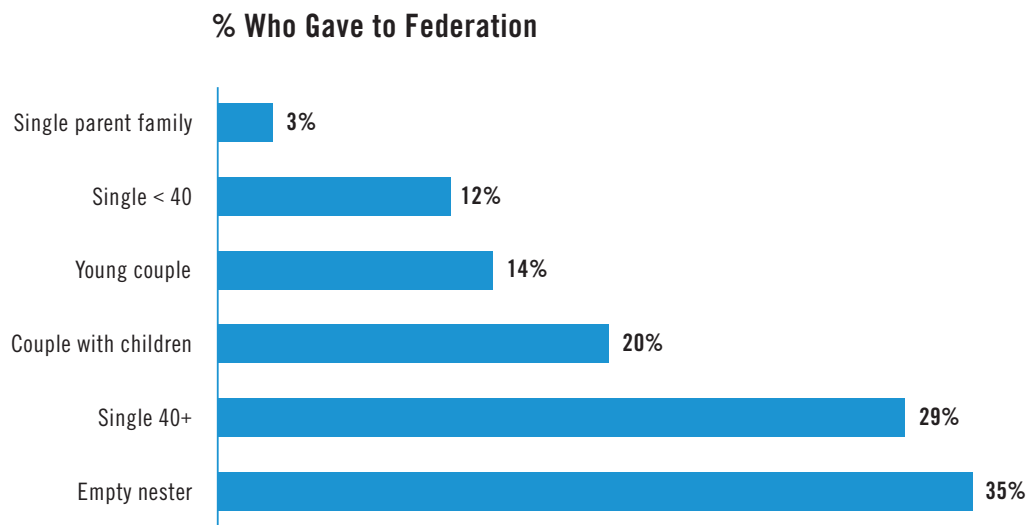
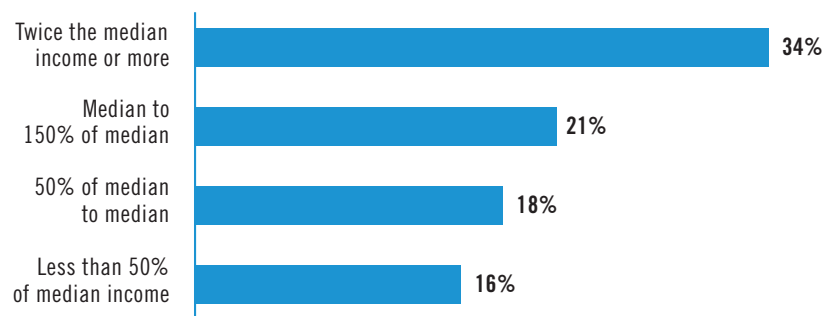


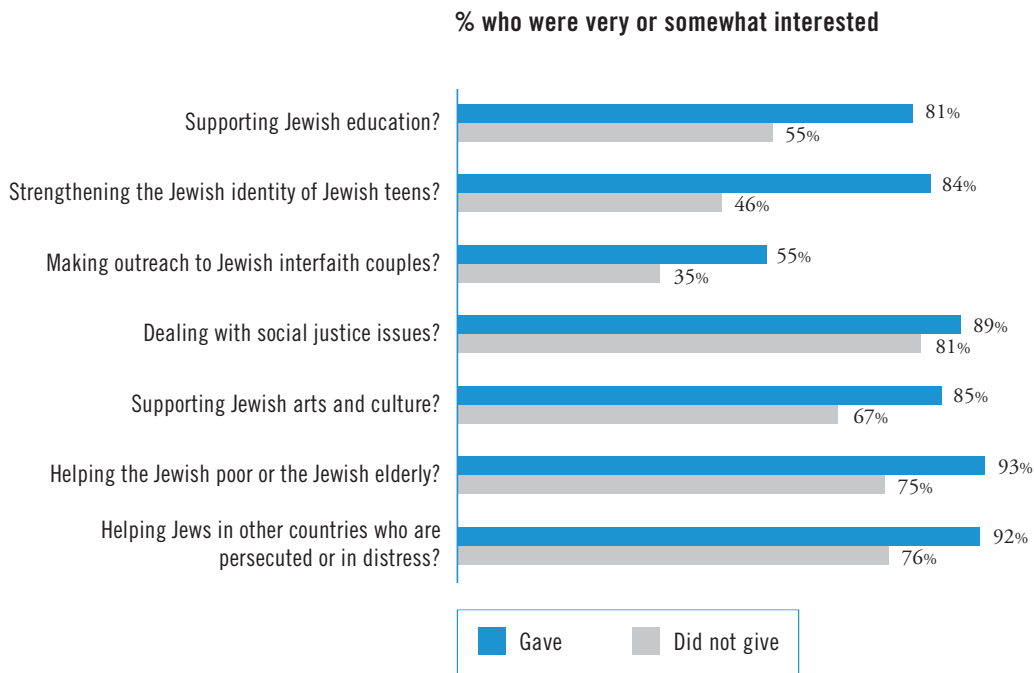
CHART P: *Federation Giving by Household Income*



FEDERATION GIVING

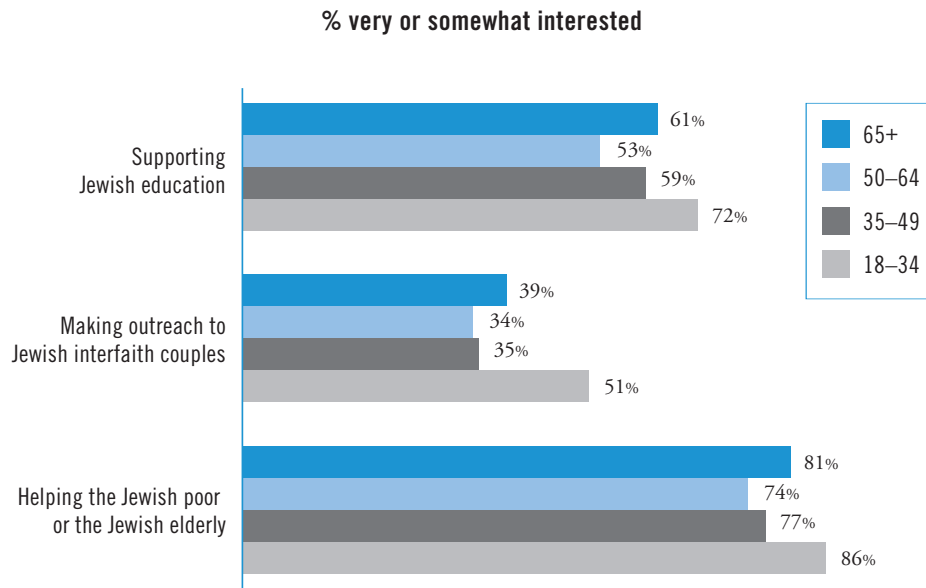
- > Overall, 23% of households report having contributed to the Federation Annual Campaign in the past year.
- > Just under a third (30%) of households report being contacted by the Federation. Of those who were contacted, 63% made a gift to Federation as compared with only 5% of those who said they had not been contacted.
- > The majority of Jewish households (60%) are not familiar with Federation.
- > Over half of the non-giving households are very or somewhat interested in social justice issues; helping Jews in other countries who are persecuted or in distress; helping Jewish poor and elderly; supporting Jewish arts and culture; and supporting Jewish education.

CHART Q: *Interests of Federation Givers and Non-givers*



> **Younger respondents (ages 18–34)**
demonstrate the greatest interest in the
areas of helping the Jewish poor and
elderly, supporting Jewish education and
outreach to interfaith couples.

CHART R: *Interests by Age*



▶▶▶ CONNECTING THROUGH PHILANTHROPY ◀◀◀

TABLE 20: *Federation Giving by Preference for Local vs. Overseas Needs*

In your opinion, should the Federation give a higher priority to needs in the local Jewish community or to Jewish needs in Israel and other countries?	GAVE TO FEDERATION	DID NOT GIVE TO FEDERATION
The needs in the local Jewish community	49%	49%
Jewish needs in Israel and other countries	21%	25%
Give the same to both	24%	9%
Don't know/refused	6%	17%
Total	100%	100%

- > Interestingly, both Federation givers and non-givers give a higher priority to local needs over Jewish needs in Israel and other countries.
- > The desire to designate a gift is strongly associated with knowing that the gift has an impact and accountability to the funder. It is less strongly associated with a desire for direct participation in the decision making.
- > Of the 15,870 households in which the respondent or spouse is 50 years of age or older with an income of \$100,000 or more, 63% (almost 10,000 households) have created a will or estate plan within the past

five years. Of these households, 38% (3,800) have a will or estate plan that includes a charity, and 12% (1,200) have a provision for the Jewish Community Endowment Fund (JCEF). Less than 3% of the households that do not have a provision for the JCEF have been asked to make such a provision (data not shown). Since this data was collected only about wills and estate plans made within the past five years (and therefore more easily remembered), the absolute number of households with charitable estates and/or provisions for the JCEF are probably greater than the estimates here.

▶▶ AFTERWARD ◀◀

The data contained in this Summary Report are intended to be a resource for the community to help us better understand who we are at this important juncture in our history and the opportunities and challenges we face. The findings also raise critical planning and policy questions that will influence the decision making of individual agencies, congregations, and the community as a whole.

These questions include:

- 1** How do we focus scarce human and financial resources on an increasingly geographically dispersed population? How do our communal institutions respond to the overall growth of the Jewish community and to the increasing numbers living in the outlying geographic regions of the FSA?
 - 2** How do we reach out in an effective and efficient way to the growing number of households that contain a single individual, the predominant household type in the FSA? Can we assume that this growing household structure heightens the importance of focusing on the development of community and connection? What are the new opportunities?
 - 3** What are the current and future implications of the fact that children today are as likely to be raised in an interfaith household as they are in a household of two Jewish parents?
- What does this mean in terms of curricula and personnel training in both formal and informal Jewish education; marketing of Jewish services; volunteerism; philanthropy? What are the effective inreach and outreach strategies to engage this growing sector?
- 4** To what extent have we shut out the economically vulnerable and near vulnerable from the Jewish community? What are our responsibilities to this significant segment of our population? What effective and respectful ways can be created to address a challenge that touches all community entities?
 - 5** How do we reach out to and involve subgroups of our community that have distinct cultural and/or social needs in meaningful ways? What is the balance of separate and integrated programming? What is our goal in creating connections with Israelis, Russian speakers and the LGBT population?

▶▶▶ AFTERWARD ◀◀◀

6 Finally, how can we better communicate to members of our community the services our agencies and congregations provide, the needs and opportunities for volunteerism, and the case for philanthropic giving? How do we successfully compete with what is offered in the wider community and make the Jewish communal enterprise exciting, compelling, and welcoming?

How we use the data to build and strengthen Jewish communal life will be a measure of our success. This report not only presents information, but a challenge to us all.

SHARON FRIED

Acting Director

Planning and Agency Support

Jewish Community Federation

▶▶▶ FEDERATION SERVICE AREA ◀◀◀



■ Federation service area



**JEWISH
COMMUNITY
FEDERATION**

of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties