

## **COMPARISONS OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES: A COMPENDIUM OF TABLES AND BAR CHARTS**

*Comparisons of Jewish Communities: A Compendium of Tables and Bar Charts* was prepared by Dr. Ira M. Sheskin for the Berman Jewish DataBank, under a grant provided by the Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation and with support from The Jewish Federations of North America.

The compendium is a single source of tables and bar charts designed to provide a comparative context for understanding American Jewish communities. It is intended for local Jewish communities seeking to compare themselves to others, as well as for researchers, teachers, and students of American Jewry.

Each of the 36 Sections of this compendium is available as a stand-alone PDF. A single PDF (a "portfolio of all Sections") with all content is also available.

The comparison tables and bar charts are based on local Jewish community studies archived at the DataBank ([www.jewishdatabank.org](http://www.jewishdatabank.org)). The Data Bank holds reports, questionnaires, methodological documentation and information about sponsoring organizations and researchers for each study in the compendium. From time to time, the compendium is updated with information from new local Jewish community studies.

Following social science convention, the year of each community study reflects when the survey interviews were completed, which may differ from the year the study report was issued.

The compendium also includes information from the National Jewish Population Survey 2000-01 (NJPS, [www.jewishdatabank.org/NJPS2000.asp](http://www.jewishdatabank.org/NJPS2000.asp)) and the US Census Bureau's Decennial Census and American Community Survey (ACS, [www.census.gov/acs/www/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/)).

The Appendix at the end of this section provides further information to help readers use the tables and bar charts.

For further information or inquiries, please contact the Data Bank at:  
[info@jewishdatabank.org](mailto:info@jewishdatabank.org).

**Note that this edition of *Comparisons of Jewish Communities* (Current Jewish Population Report 12) is an updated version of reports released in 2012 (Report 5) and 2013 (Report 8). It replaces the Columbus 2001 results with 2013 results, Miami 2004 results with 2014 results, and St. Louis 1995 results with 2014 results.**

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**SECTION 10 - JEWISH IDENTIFICATION**

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<b>TABLE 1 JEWISH IDENTIFICATION COMMUNITY COMPARISONS</b>						
<b>BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS</b>						
<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Orthodox</b>	<b>Conser- vative</b>	<b>Recon- struc- tionist</b>	<b>Reform</b>	<b><i>Just Jewish</i></b>
Portland (ME)	2007	2%	14	1	35	48
Las Vegas	2005	3%	23	1	26	47
East Bay	2011	3%	15	4	33	45
Tucson	2002	2%	21	2	32	44
San Francisco	2004	3%	17	2	38	40 <sup>1</sup>
New York	2011	20%	19	1	23	37
St. Paul	2004	2%	32	1	28	37
Sarasota	2001	2%	22	1	38	37
Jacksonville	2002	2%	38	1	24	36
St. Petersburg	1994	3%	23	0	39	36
New Haven	2010	4%	30	1	30	35
Minneapolis	2004	2%	31	0	32	35
Rhode Island	2002	6%	30	1	28	35
Seattle	2000	5%	19	NA	41	35
Westport	2000	2%	22	0	41	35
Orlando	1993	2%	33	0	30	35
Washington	2003	2%	30	3	31	34
Hartford	2000	4%	31	0	31	34
Broward	1997	4%	37	1	24	34
Milwaukee	1996	3%	24	1	39	34
Miami	2014	11%	26	1	31	33
Columbus	2013	5%	28	2	34	33
Wilmington	1995	6%	28	4	29	33

**TABLE 1  
JEWISH IDENTIFICATION  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Orthodox</b>	<b>Conser- vative</b>	<b>Recon- struc- tionist</b>	<b>Reform</b>	<b><i>Just Jewish</i></b>
San Diego	2003	3%	22	3	40	32
Charlotte	1997	2%	26	0	40	32
Harrisburg	1994	10%	33	4	22	32
Denver <sup>2</sup>	2007	2%	16	5	39	31 <sup>3</sup>
Lehigh Valley	2007	4%	34	2	30	31
San Antonio	2007	4%	25	2	39	30
Bergen	2001	12%	31	1	25	30
Richmond	1994	4%	37	0	29	30
Middlesex	2008	7%	35	0	29	29
W Palm Beach	2005	2%	32	1	37	29
Atlantic County	2004	1%	32	1	37	29
Rochester	1999	6%	24	0	41	29
St. Louis	2014	6%	19	1	47	28
Phoenix	2002	3%	24	0	44	28
Tidewater	2001	3%	39	1	29	28
Monmouth	1997	9%	37	NA	26	28
S Palm Beach	2005	4%	35	1	34	26
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	1%	22	0	51	26
Howard County	2010	1%	30	12	32	25
York	1999	1%	24	1	49	25
Buffalo	1995	6%	31	5	35	23
Cincinnati	2008	5%	27	0	47	22
Detroit	2005	11%	28	3	36	22 <sup>4</sup>

**TABLE 1**  
**JEWISH IDENTIFICATION**  
**COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Orthodox</b>	<b>Conser- vative</b>	<b>Recon- struc- tionist</b>	<b>Reform</b>	<b><i>Just Jewish</i></b>
Los Angeles	1997	6%	29	2	41	22
Baltimore <sup>5</sup>	2010	21%	25	1	27	20
Essex-Morris	1998	3%	27	NA	51	20
Philadelphia	2009	6%	31	3	42	18
Atlanta	2006	10%	27	0	45	18
Boston <sup>6</sup>	2005	4%	31	1	43	18
Pittsburgh	2002	7%	32	2	41	18
Cleveland	2011	10%	25	3	46	16
Chicago <sup>7</sup>	2010	7%	22	4	45	14
Palm Springs <sup>8</sup>	1998	6%	31	0	42	14
NJPS <sup>9</sup>	2000	8%	25	2	35	30

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1% of respondents who identify as Jewish Renewal.

<sup>2</sup> 6% of respondents identify as Traditional.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 3% of respondents who identify as Jewish Renewal.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 3% of respondents who identify as Jewish Humanistic and 1% as Jewish Renewal.

<sup>5</sup> 5% of respondents identify as Traditional.

<sup>6</sup> 3% of respondents identify with another denomination.

<sup>7</sup> 8% of respondents identify as Traditional.

<sup>8</sup> 7% of respondents identify as Traditional.

<sup>9</sup> NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

Note: Respondents who identify as Sephardic are included in *Orthodox*.

**TABLE 2  
ORTHODOX IDENTIFICATION  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

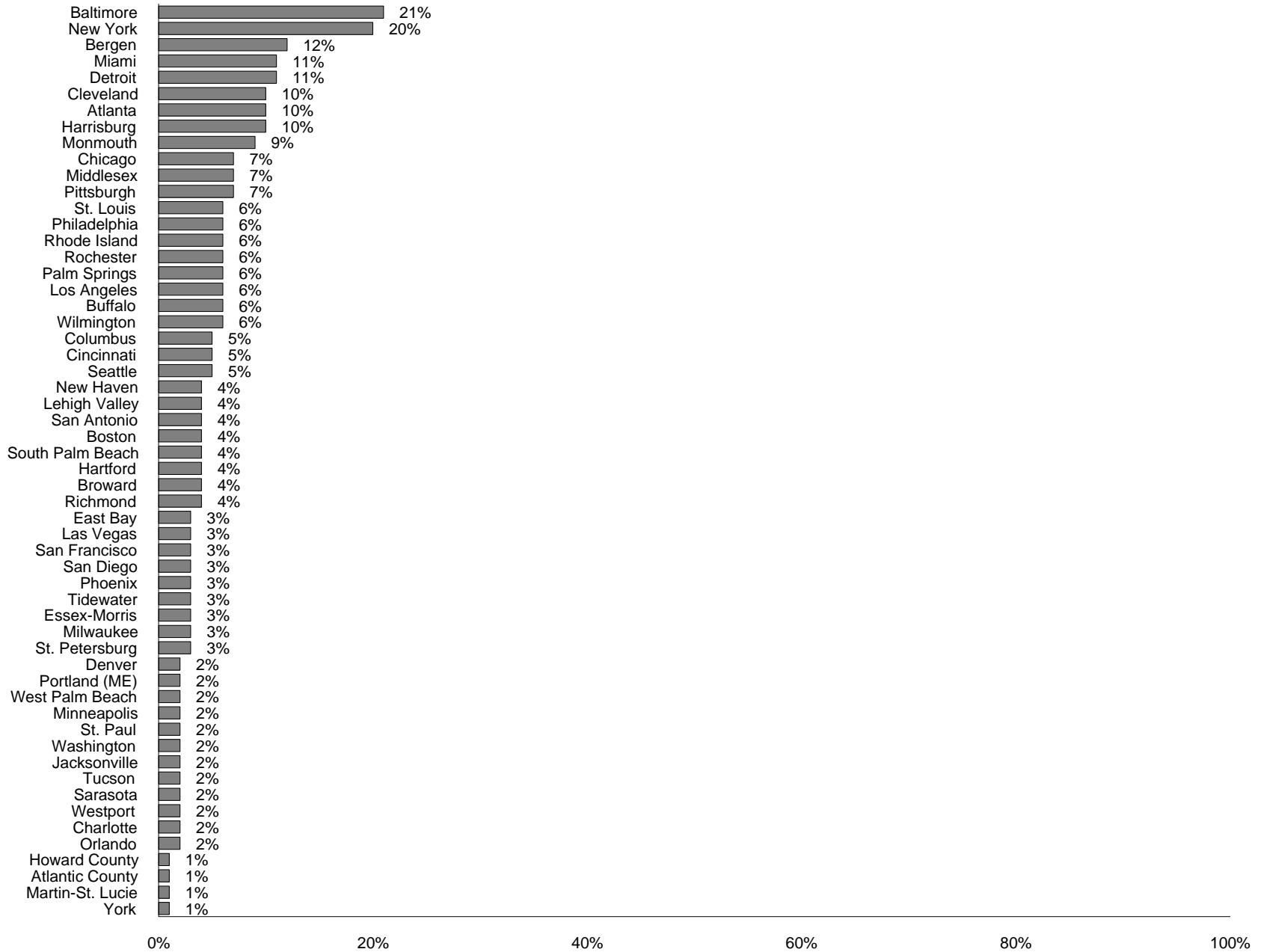
**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>
Baltimore <sup>5</sup>	2010	21%		Richmond	1994	4%
New York	2011	20%		East Bay	2011	3%
Bergen	2001	12%		Las Vegas	2005	3%
Miami	2014	11%		San Francisco	2004	3%
Detroit	2005	11%		San Diego	2003	3%
Cleveland	2011	10%		Phoenix	2002	3%
Atlanta	2006	10%		Tidewater	2001	3%
Harrisburg	1994	10%		Essex-Morris	1998	3%
Monmouth	1997	9%		Milwaukee	1996	3%
Chicago <sup>7</sup>	2010	7%		St. Petersburg	1994	3%
Middlesex	2008	7%		Denver <sup>2</sup>	2007	2%
Pittsburgh	2002	7%		Portland (ME)	2007	2%
St. Louis	2014	6%		W Palm Beach	2005	2%
Philadelphia	2009	6%		Minneapolis	2004	2%
Rhode Island	2002	6%		St. Paul	2004	2%
Rochester	1999	6%		Washington	2003	2%
Palm Springs <sup>8</sup>	1998	6%		Jacksonville	2002	2%
Los Angeles	1997	6%		Tucson	2002	2%
Buffalo	1995	6%		Sarasota	2001	2%
Wilmington	1995	6%		Westport	2000	2%
Columbus	2013	5%		Charlotte	1997	2%
Cincinnati	2008	5%		Orlando	1993	2%
Seattle	2000	5%		Howard County	2010	1%
New Haven	2010	4%		Atlantic County	2004	1%
Lehigh Valley	2007	4%		Martin-St. Lucie	1999	1%
San Antonio	2007	4%		York	1999	1%
Boston <sup>6</sup>	2005	4%		NJPS <sup>9</sup>	2000	8%
S Palm Beach	2005	4%				
Hartford	2000	4%				
Broward	1997	4%				
				<b>See footnotes on Table 1</b>		

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# ORTHODOX IDENTIFICATION

(Jewish Respondents)



**TABLE 3  
CONSERVATIVE IDENTIFICATION  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>
Tidewater	2001	39%		Cincinnati	2008	27%
Jacksonville	2002	38%		Atlanta	2006	27%
Broward	1997	37%		Essex-Morris	1998	27%
Monmouth	1997	37%		Miami	2014	26%
Richmond	1994	37%		Charlotte	1997	26%
Middlesex	2008	35%		Cleveland	2011	25%
S Palm Beach	2005	35%		Baltimore <sup>5</sup>	2010	25%
Lehigh Valley	2007	34%		San Antonio	2007	25%
Harrisburg	1994	33%		Phoenix	2002	24%
Orlando	1993	33%		Rochester	1999	24%
W Palm Beach	2005	32%		York	1999	24%
Atlantic County	2004	32%		Milwaukee	1996	24%
St. Paul	2004	32%		Las Vegas	2005	23%
Pittsburgh	2002	32%		St. Petersburg	1994	23%
Philadelphia	2009	31%		Chicago <sup>7</sup>	2010	22%
Boston <sup>6</sup>	2005	31%		San Diego	2003	22%
Minneapolis	2004	31%		Sarasota	2001	22%
Bergen	2001	31%		Westport	2000	22%
Hartford	2000	31%		Martin-St. Lucie	1999	22%
Palm Springs <sup>8</sup>	1998	31%		Tucson	2002	21%
Buffalo	1995	31%		St. Louis	2014	19%
Howard County	2010	30%		New York	2011	19%
New Haven	2010	30%		Seattle	2000	19%
Washington	2003	30%		San Francisco	2004	17%
Rhode Island	2002	30%		Denver <sup>2</sup>	2007	16%
Los Angeles	1997	29%		East Bay	2011	15%
Columbus	2013	28%		Portland (ME)	2007	14%
Detroit	2005	28%		NJPS <sup>9</sup>	2000	25%
Wilmington	1995	28%				

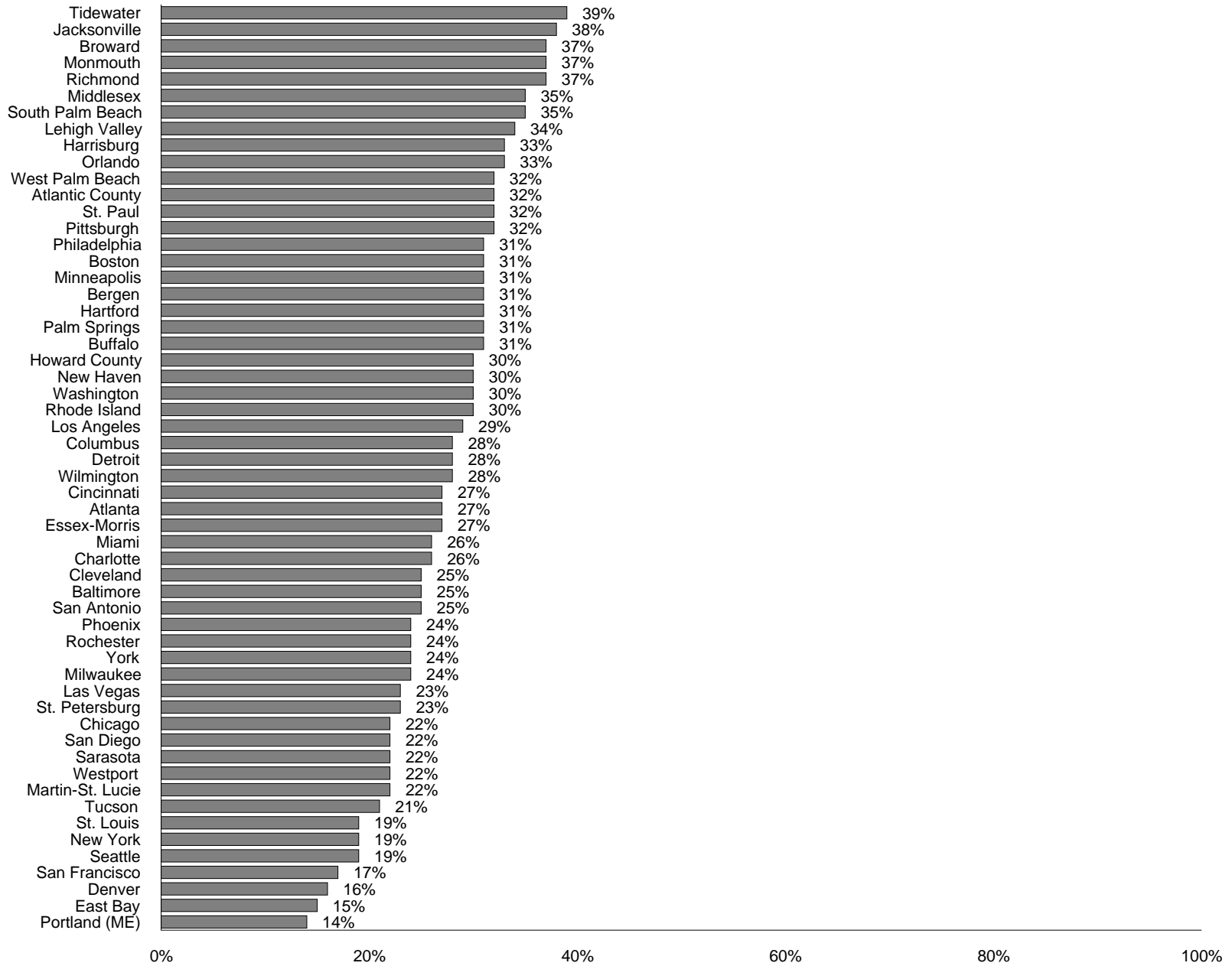
See footnotes on **Table 1**.



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# CONSERVATIVE IDENTIFICATION

(Jewish Respondents)



**TABLE 4  
REFORM IDENTIFICATION  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

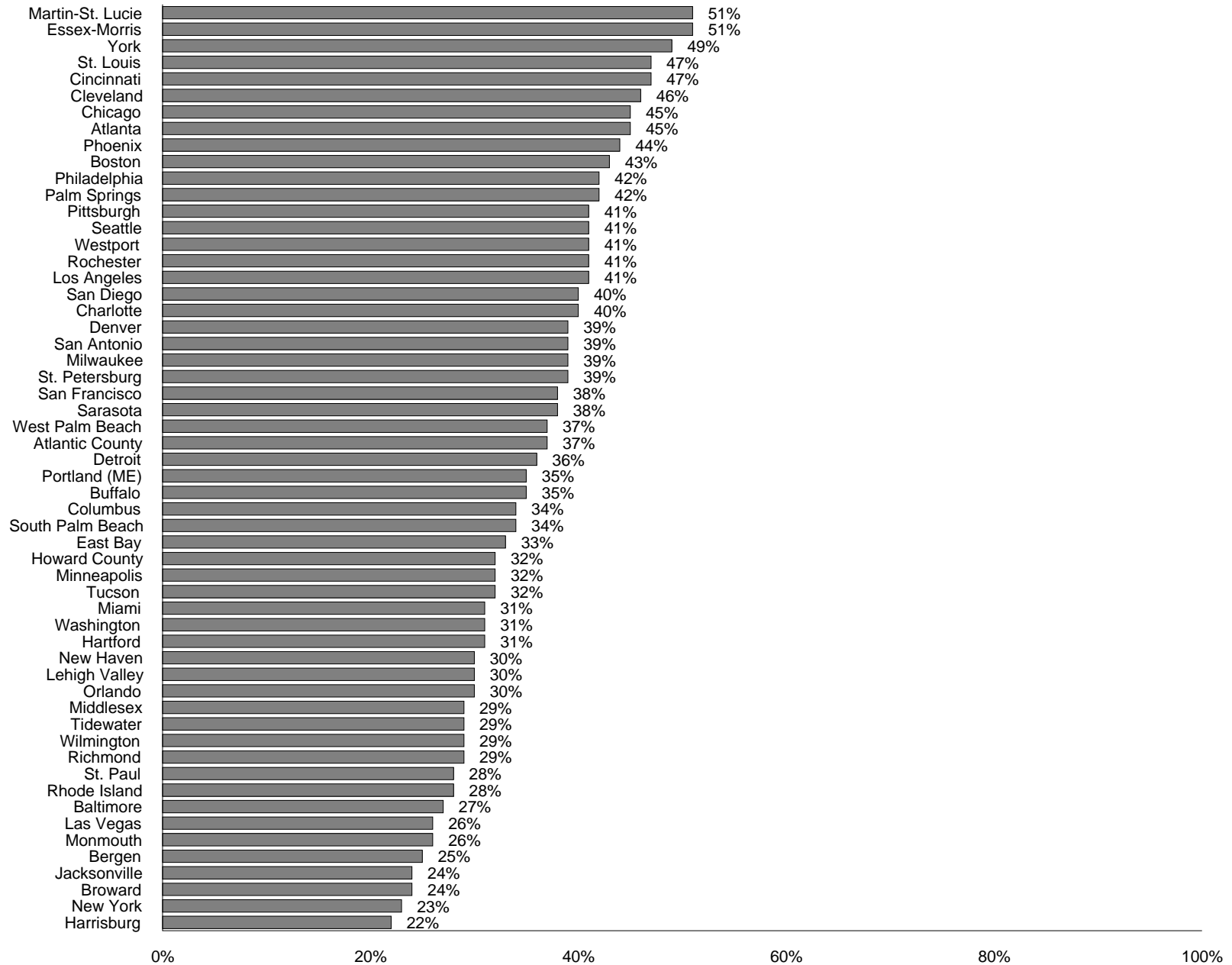
<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	51%		Buffalo	1995	35%
Essex-Morris	1998	51%		Columbus	2013	34%
York	1999	49%		S Palm Beach	2005	34%
St. Louis	2014	47%		East Bay	2011	33%
Cincinnati	2008	47%		Howard County	2010	32%
Cleveland	2011	46%		Minneapolis	2004	32%
Chicago <sup>7</sup>	2010	45%		Tucson	2002	32%
Atlanta	2006	45%		Miami	2014	31%
Phoenix	2002	44%		Washington	2003	31%
Boston <sup>6</sup>	2005	43%		Hartford	2000	31%
Philadelphia	2009	42%		New Haven	2010	30%
Palm Springs <sup>8</sup>	1998	42%		Lehigh Valley	2007	30%
Pittsburgh	2002	41%		Orlando	1993	30%
Seattle	2000	41%		Middlesex	2008	29%
Westport	2000	41%		Tidewater	2001	29%
Rochester	1999	41%		Wilmington	1995	29%
Los Angeles	1997	41%		Richmond	1994	29%
San Diego	2003	40%		St. Paul	2004	28%
Charlotte	1997	40%		Rhode Island	2002	28%
Denver <sup>2</sup>	2007	39%		Baltimore <sup>5</sup>	2010	27%
San Antonio	2007	39%		Las Vegas	2005	26%
Milwaukee	1996	39%		Monmouth	1997	26%
St. Petersburg	1994	39%		Bergen	2001	25%
San Francisco	2004	38%		Jacksonville	2002	24%
Sarasota	2001	38%		Broward	1997	24%
W Palm Beach	2005	37%		New York	2011	23%
Atlantic County	2004	37%		Harrisburg	1994	22%
Detroit	2005	36%		NJPS <sup>9</sup>	2000	35%
Portland (ME)	2007	35%				

See footnotes on **Table 1**.

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# REFORM IDENTIFICATION

(Jewish Respondents)



**TABLE 5  
JUST JEWISH IDENTIFICATION  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

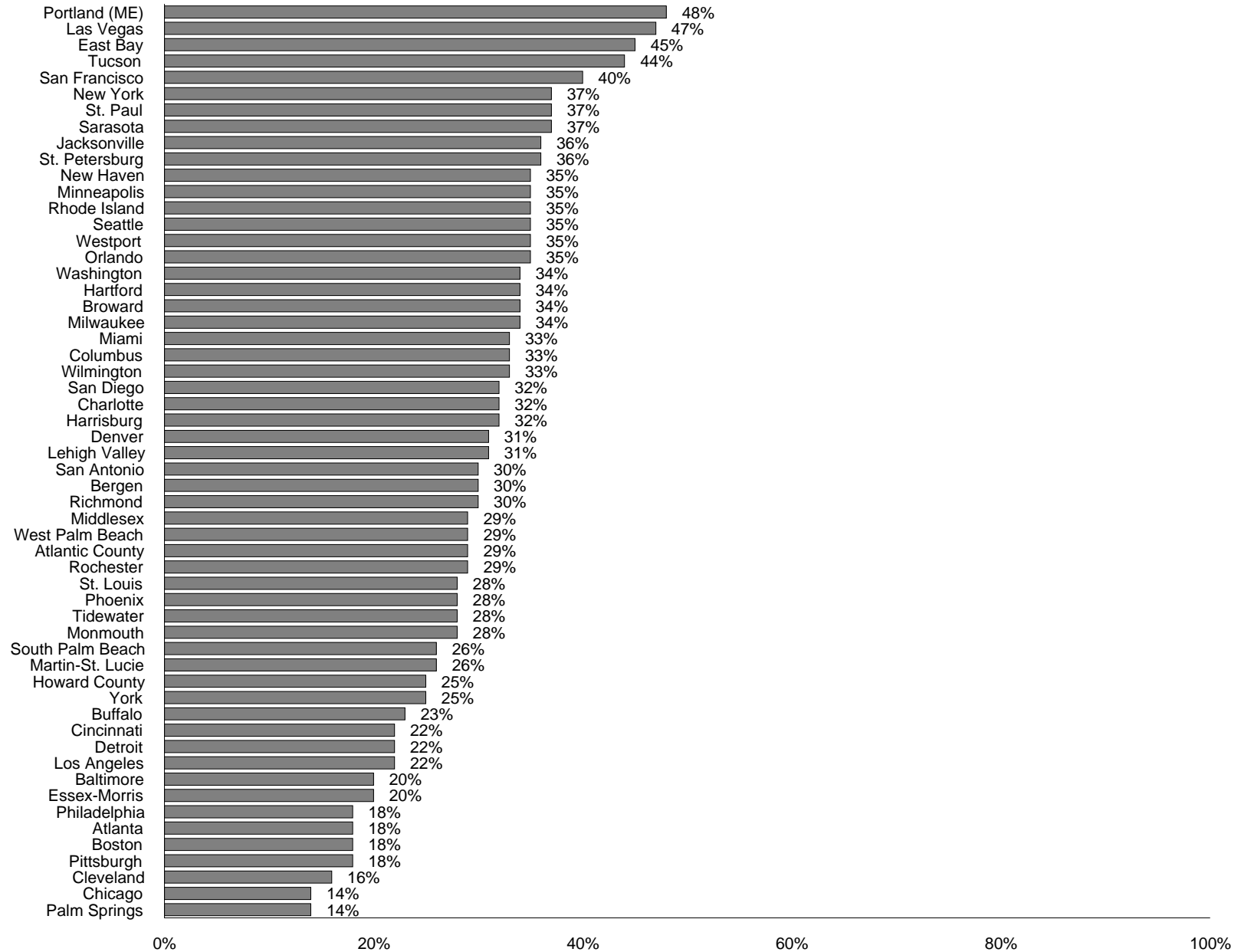
<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>%</b>
Portland (ME)	2007	48%		Richmond	1994	30%
Las Vegas	2005	47%		Middlesex	2008	29%
East Bay	2011	45%		W Palm Beach	2005	29%
Tucson	2002	44%		Atlantic County	2004	29%
San Francisco	2004	40% <sup>1</sup>		Rochester	1999	29%
New York	2011	37%		St. Louis	2014	28%
St. Paul	2004	37%		Phoenix	2002	28%
Sarasota	2001	37%		Tidewater	2001	28%
Jacksonville	2002	36%		Monmouth	1997	28%
St. Petersburg	1994	36%		S Palm Beach	2005	26%
New Haven	2010	35%		Martin-St. Lucie	1999	26%
Minneapolis	2004	35%		Howard County	2010	25%
Rhode Island	2002	35%		York	1999	25%
Seattle	2000	35%		Buffalo	1995	23%
Westport	2000	35%		Cincinnati	2008	22%
Orlando	1993	35%		Detroit	2005	22% <sup>4</sup>
Washington	2003	34%		Los Angeles	1997	22%
Hartford	2000	34%		Baltimore <sup>5</sup>	2010	20%
Broward	1997	34%		Essex-Morris	1998	20%
Milwaukee	1996	34%		Philadelphia	2009	18%
Miami	2014	33%		Atlanta	2006	18%
Columbus	2013	33%		Boston <sup>6</sup>	2005	18%
Wilmington	1995	33%		Pittsburgh	2002	18%
San Diego	2003	32%		Cleveland	2011	16%
Charlotte	1997	32%		Chicago <sup>7</sup>	2010	14%
Harrisburg	1994	32%		Palm Springs <sup>8</sup>	1998	14%
Denver <sup>2</sup>	2007	31% <sup>3</sup>		NJPS <sup>9</sup>	2000	30%
Lehigh Valley	2007	31%				
San Antonio	2007	30%				
Bergen	2001	30%				

See footnotes on **Table 1**.

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# JUST JEWISH IDENTIFICATION

(Jewish Respondents)



**TABLE 6  
IMPORTANCE OF BEING JEWISH  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Not Very Important</b>	<b>Not at All Important</b>
Palm Springs	1998	87%		13	
Cincinnati	2008	76%	21	2	1
Cleveland	2011	75%	20	3	2
Miami *	2014	74%	20	4	2
Baltimore	2010	74%	17	5	4
Chicago	2010	73%	23	4	1
Howard County	2010	70%	24	4	2
Philadelphia	2009	70%	23	6	
Pittsburgh	2002	67%	25	6	2
Essex-Morris	1998	65%	27	8	
San Diego	2003	64%	26	6	4
Phoenix	2002	63%	28	5	4
Sarasota	2001	62%	31	5	2
Denver	2007	61%	29	7	3
Wilmington	1995	61%	29	7	3
New York	2011	57%	27	9	7
Atlanta	2006	56%	35	5	4
St. Louis	2014	53%	31	12	5
Las Vegas	2005	53%	34	8	6
Columbus	2013	44%	31	11	14
East Bay	2011	42%	33	16	10
San Francisco	2004	41%	41	12	6
NJPS <sup>1</sup>	2000	52%	34	10	4

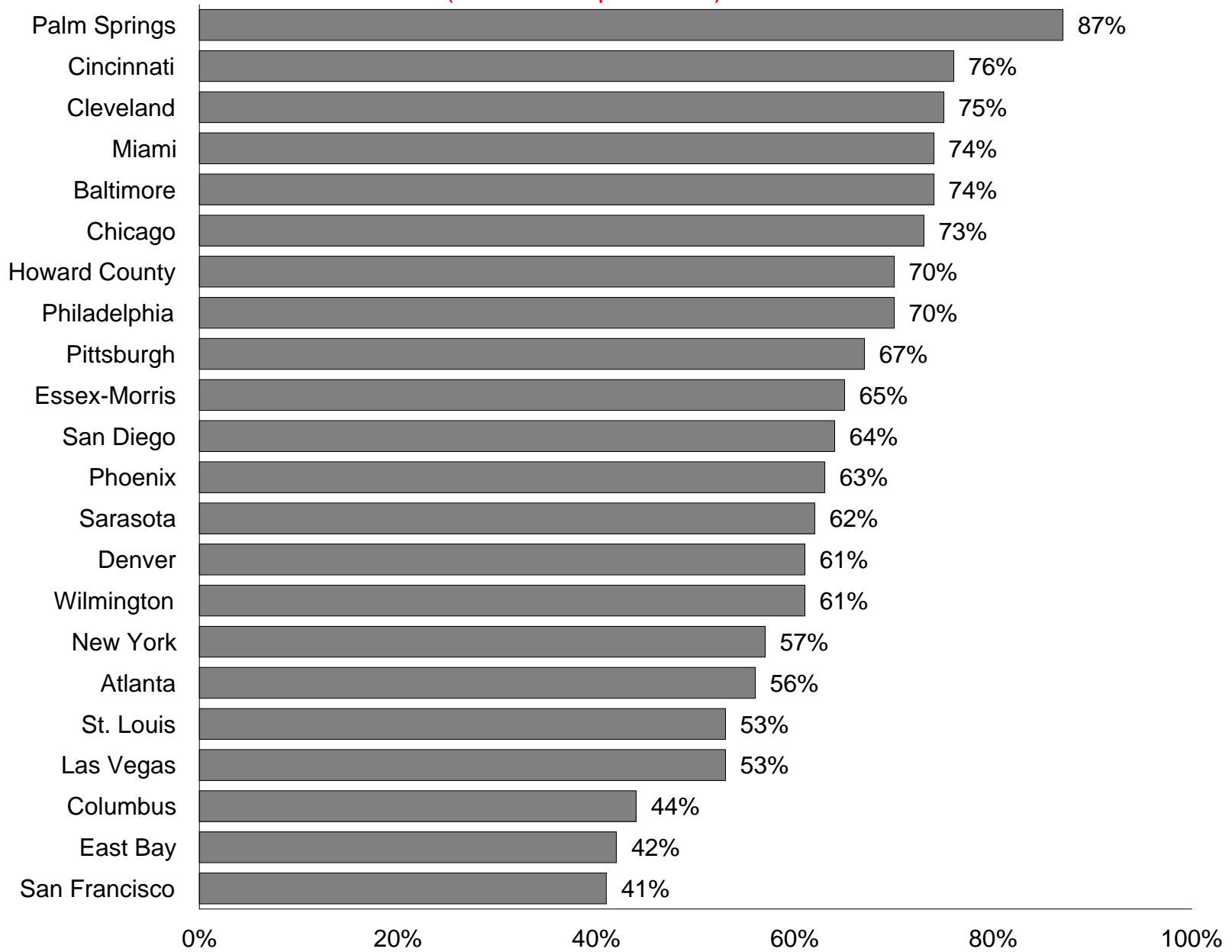
\* Question was asked using the responses very important, somewhat important, not too important, not at all important.

<sup>1</sup> NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

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# IMPORTANCE OF BEING JEWISH

% Very Important  
(Jewish Respondents)



**TABLE 7  
FEEL PART OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY  
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Very Much/ Somewhat</b>	<b>Very Much</b>	<b>Some- what</b>	<b>Not Very Much</b>	<b>Not at All</b>
Detroit	2005	79%	40%	39	11	10
Baltimore *	2010	70%	46%	24	13	17
Cleveland *	2011	67%	41%	25	22	11
Pittsburgh *	2002	65%	36%	29	22	14
New York *	2011	63%	37%	25	20	18
S Palm Beach	2005	61%	25%	36	24	16
Bergen	2001	60%	26%	34	21	19
Miami	2014	59%	22%	38	26	15
San Antonio	2007	56%	28%	29	26	18
Rhode Island	2002	55%	22%	33	26	19
W Palm Beach	2005	55%	18%	37	27	18
Lehigh Valley	2007	54%	23%	31	25	20
Hartford	2000	53%	23%	30	26	21
Tidewater	2001	53%	22%	31	27	20
Washington	2003	51%	19%	32	28	22
Jacksonville	2002	50%	23%	27	26	25
Palm Springs *	1998	50%	21%	49	24	26
Middlesex	2008	50%	18%	32	28	22
New Haven	2010	49%	16%	34	27	24
Sarasota	2001	46%	17%	29	28	26
Atlanta *	2006	44%	19%	25	32	24
Howard County *	2010	43%	26%	17	30	27
Tucson	2002	43%	16%	27	31	26



**TABLE 7**  
**FEEL PART OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY**  
**COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

**BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS**

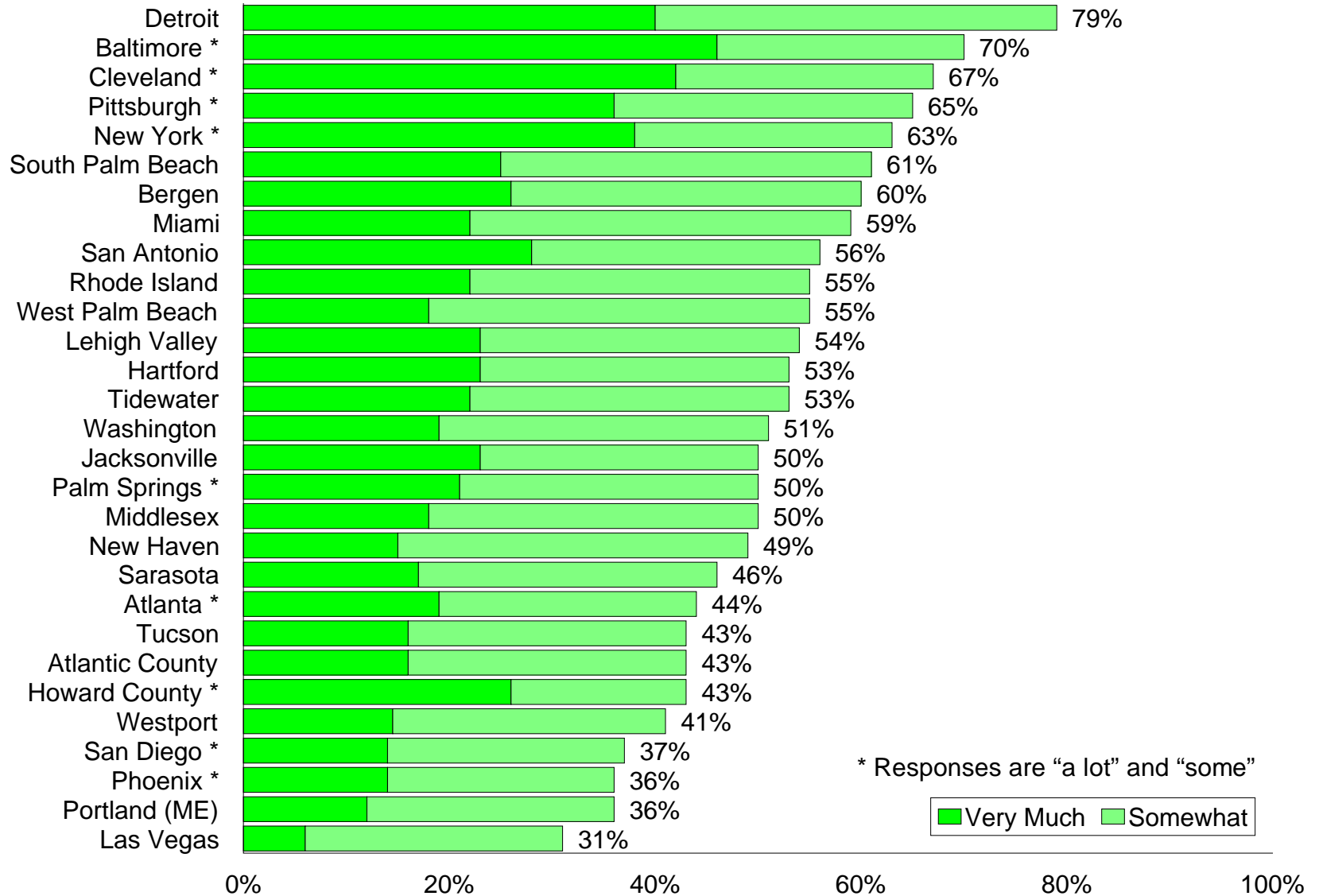
<b>Community</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Very Much/ Somewhat</b>	<b>Very Much</b>	<b>Some- what</b>	<b>Not Very Much</b>	<b>Not at All</b>
Atlantic County	2004	43%	16%	27	28	28
Westport	2000	41%	15%	27	26	33
San Diego *	2003	37%	14%	23	28	35
Phoenix *	2002	36%	14%	22	34	30
Portland (ME)	2007	36%	13%	24	29	35
Las Vegas	2005	31%	6%	26	29	40

\* Question was asked using the responses *a lot, some, only a little, not at all.*

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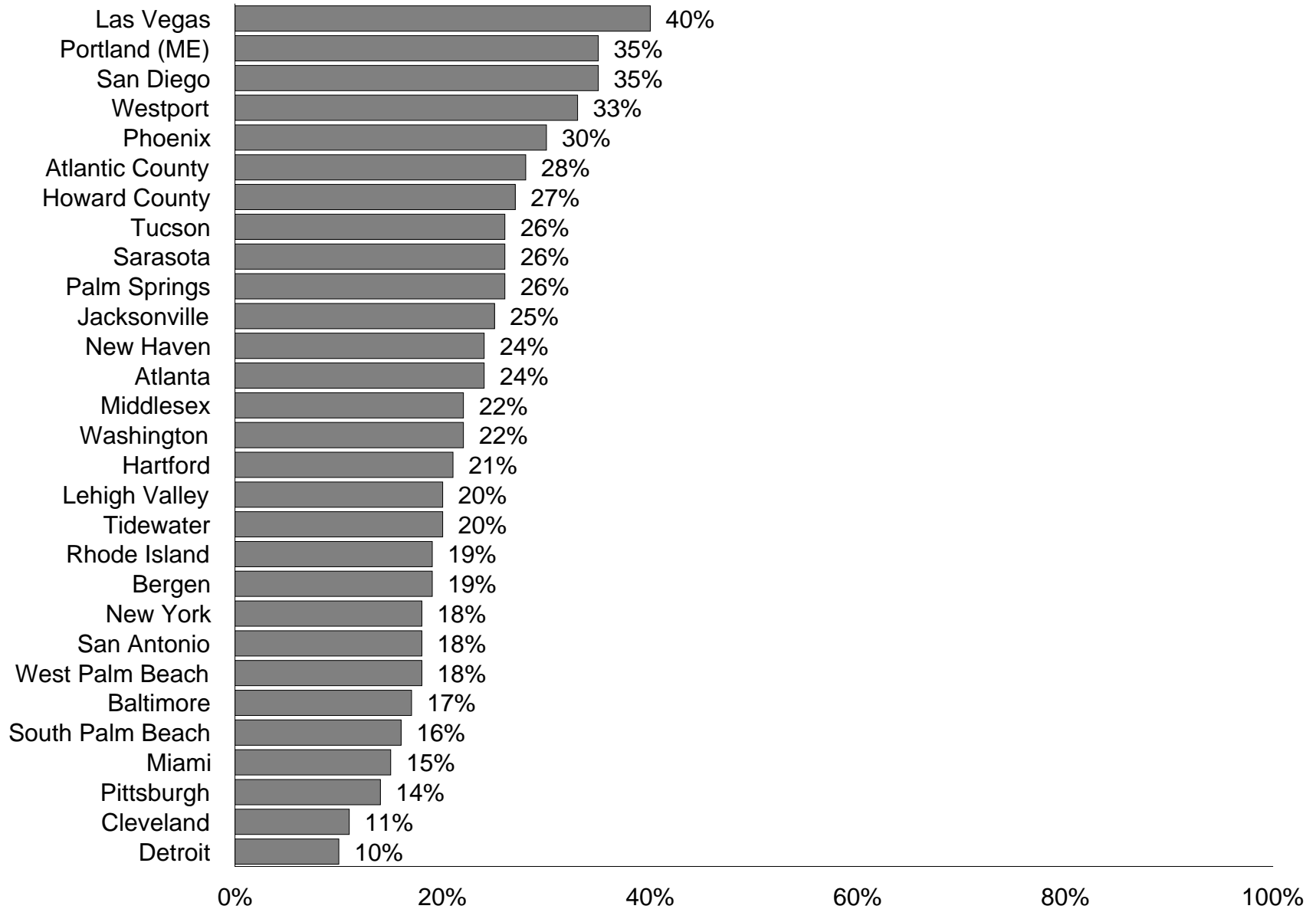
# FEEL VERY MUCH/SOMEWHAT PART OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY

(Jewish Respondents)



# 7 FEEL NOT AT ALL PART OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY

(Jewish Respondents)



## COMPARISONS OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES: A COMPENDIUM OF TABLES AND BAR CHARTS

### APPENDIX

This appendix provides further information to help readers use the tables and bar charts, including rules for inclusion of local studies in the compendium, methodological issues in comparing communities, the order of communities, and tips for reading the tables and bar charts.

#### RULES FOR INCLUSION OF COMMUNITY STUDIES

To be included in the comparison tables and bar charts, a community study must meet the following criteria:

- ❶ The study had to include a telephone survey using random digit dialing for at least part of the sample.
- ❷ The study had to be completed since 1993. If a community completed multiple studies during this period, only the results of the most recent study are shown.
- ❸ The study had to ask the questions addressed in the tables and bar charts using wording similar to other studies and to report the results in a manner facilitating comparison. In many cases where the original results were not reported in a manner facilitating comparison, Dr. Sheskin obtained the original survey data and produced results that permit comparisons. In some cases, differences in the wording of the questions or categories used to report the results are noted in the footnotes to the tables.
- ❹ The study had to ask the questions addressed in the tables and bar charts of the same set of households or persons in a household (known as the *base*) as other studies asked. For example, a question asked only about *Jewish children in Jewish households* cannot be included in the tables and bar charts with other studies that asked the same question about *all children (both Jewish and non-Jewish) in Jewish households*. Minor differences in the set of households or persons queried are noted in the footnotes to the tables. In some cases, communities for which the base is significantly different from that used in the table are listed at the end of the table with the alternative base noted. Such communities are not included in the comparison bar charts.

## COMPARISONS AMONG COMMUNITIES: METHODOLOGICAL CONCERNS

As noted, comparisons among Jewish communities help provide an important context for understanding American Jewish communities. Nonetheless, the comparisons should be treated with caution for the following reasons:

❶ **Different Dates of the Studies.** The Jewish community studies included in the comparison tables and bar charts were completed over an extended period of time. Differences between Community A in 1993 and Community B in 2010 may be due to the temporal differences in the community studies. For example, the intermarriage rate in Community A may be lower than in Community B simply because the community study in Community A was completed 17 years earlier, when intermarriage rates generally were lower. This is an extreme example since most comparisons are between studies completed closer in time than in this illustration.

❷ **Different Sampling Methods.** Three different sampling methods generally have been used in Jewish community studies: a random digit dialing (RDD) only sample (drawn from randomly generated telephone numbers); an RDD sample combined with a Distinctive Jewish Name (DJN) sample (drawn from a telephone directory); and an RDD sample combined with a List sample (usually drawn from the local Jewish Federation mailing list). Only Jewish communities that used RDD sampling for at least part of the sample are included in the comparison tables and bar charts. Different sampling methods *may* lead to differences in survey results. See Section I - Methodology for the sampling methods and sample sizes used in each community study included in the comparison tables and bar charts.

❸ **Different Questionnaires.** A variety of questionnaires have been used in Jewish community studies. For examples, see the Jewish Survey Question Bank (<http://jewishquestions.bjpa.org/>). The survey research literature indicates that even small changes in question wording or in the sequence in which questions are asked on a telephone survey can have a significant impact upon survey results.

❹ **Small Sample Sizes.** In general, when comparing the overall results for Jewish households or persons in Jewish households among Jewish communities, the sample sizes used in the community studies are such that differences of five percentage points or more may be considered statistically significant. On the other hand, when comparing the results among Jewish communities for *population subgroups* (such as households with children or respondents under age 35), the sample sizes may be substantially smaller such that even differences of 10-15 percentage points may not be statistically significant.

❺ **Missing Data.** Researchers sometimes treat missing data and “don’t know” responses differently, leading to minor differences in reported results.

⑥ **Identifying Jewish Households.** While there is considerable agreement among researchers and policy makers about how to define Jewish households and persons, different studies may use different questions for qualifying Jewish households and respondents, and researchers may use different methods for deciding if households and persons should be considered Jewish when a particular case is ambiguous.

⑦ **Time-Specific Conditions.** Some comparisons are affected by the year in which a study was completed. This applies particularly to comparisons on economic variables such as income and philanthropy (which may be affected by the state of the economy in a given year) and variables related to Israel (which may be affected by the political situation in Israel in a given year).

### ORDER OF COMMUNITIES IN THE COMPARISON TABLES AND BAR CHARTS

**Tables.** Each comparison table is ordered based upon one particular data column (referred to as the *primary column* in the discussion below), in descending order of magnitude of the data. Except for those tables with only one data column, the primary column has an *italicized* heading. The choice of primary column is determined by the data thought to be most interesting. Thus, for example, the household size table is ordered by the percentage of one-person households and the employment status table is ordered by the percentage employed full time. While listing the communities in alphabetical order might simplify finding the results quickly for a particular community, such a presentation would be much less helpful in facilitating comparisons among Jewish communities.

When two or more communities show the same percentage (or number) in the primary column, three rules are followed to determine the order in which the communities are listed:

① The first rule applies when a secondary column is used to order the communities that show the same percentage in the primary column.

In some cases, when the primary column is the sum of two (or more) other columns, the communities are listed according to the community that has the higher percentage on the more “extreme” of the columns being summed. For example, if two communities show the same percentage for “always/usually,” the community with the highest “always” percentage is listed first.

In other cases, a table is ordered on a particular column, but a secondary “related” column is used to order the communities that show the same percentage in the primary column. For example, in the employment status table, if two communities show the same percentage for “full time,” the community with the highest “part time” percentage is listed first.

If the communities continue to show the same percentages after applying this rule, the process is continued using the next appropriate column.

② The second rule applies when the first rule is not applicable or does not resolve the situation, that is, the communities show the same percentages in all the data columns. In this case, the community with the most recent study is listed first.

③ The third rule applies when the first two rules do not resolve the situation, that is, the communities also have the same year of study. In this case, the communities are listed in alphabetical order.

Communities for which data are unavailable for the primary column (but are available for other columns) are listed below a thick horizontal line in the tables.

**Bar Charts.** Comparison bar charts correspond to each primary column in the comparison tables, with the data presented in the same order as it appears in the table. In addition, for tables with multiple data columns, additional bar charts are presented to correspond to those additional data columns thought to be most interesting, with the data presented in descending order of magnitude. In these additional bar charts, when two or more communities show the same percentage (or number), the community with the most recent study is listed first. If the communities also have the same year of study, the communities are listed in alphabetical order.

## READING THE TABLES AND BAR CHARTS

Demographic data are easily misunderstood. The most common error in interpretation occurs when readers do not concentrate on the *nature of the denominator (or base) used in calculating a percentage*. Thus, the base in each table and bar chart is generally shown directly below the title.

In some tables and bar charts, “don't know” responses are included in the computations, while in other tables and bar charts they are excluded. The inclusion or exclusion of “don't know” responses depends on whether “don't know” is a statement of value (generally included) or merely an inability to remember or a refusal to respond (generally excluded). In some tables and bar charts, “don't know” responses are treated as negative responses. For example, if a respondent does not know whether the household maintains a synagogue membership, a reasonable assumption is that they do not. Missing responses are excluded from the tables and bar charts.

The reader may notice small differences in the percentages between tables and bar charts due to rounding. At times, also due to rounding, the reported percentages may not sum to 100% and the reported numbers may not sum to the appropriate numerical total. However, the convention employed shows the total as 100% or the appropriate numerical total.

White numbers in black circles (❶, ❷, ❸, etc.) are used in the column headings of tables to indicate that definitions of the terms are provided in the footnotes at the bottom of the table.

Some of the footnotes in the tables are not included in the bar charts to simplify the presentation.

### **ERRORS IN THE TABLES AND BAR CHARTS**

In an undertaking like this, errors in the data are inevitable. Please bring potential errors to the attention of Ira Sheskin at [isheskin@miami.edu](mailto:isheskin@miami.edu).