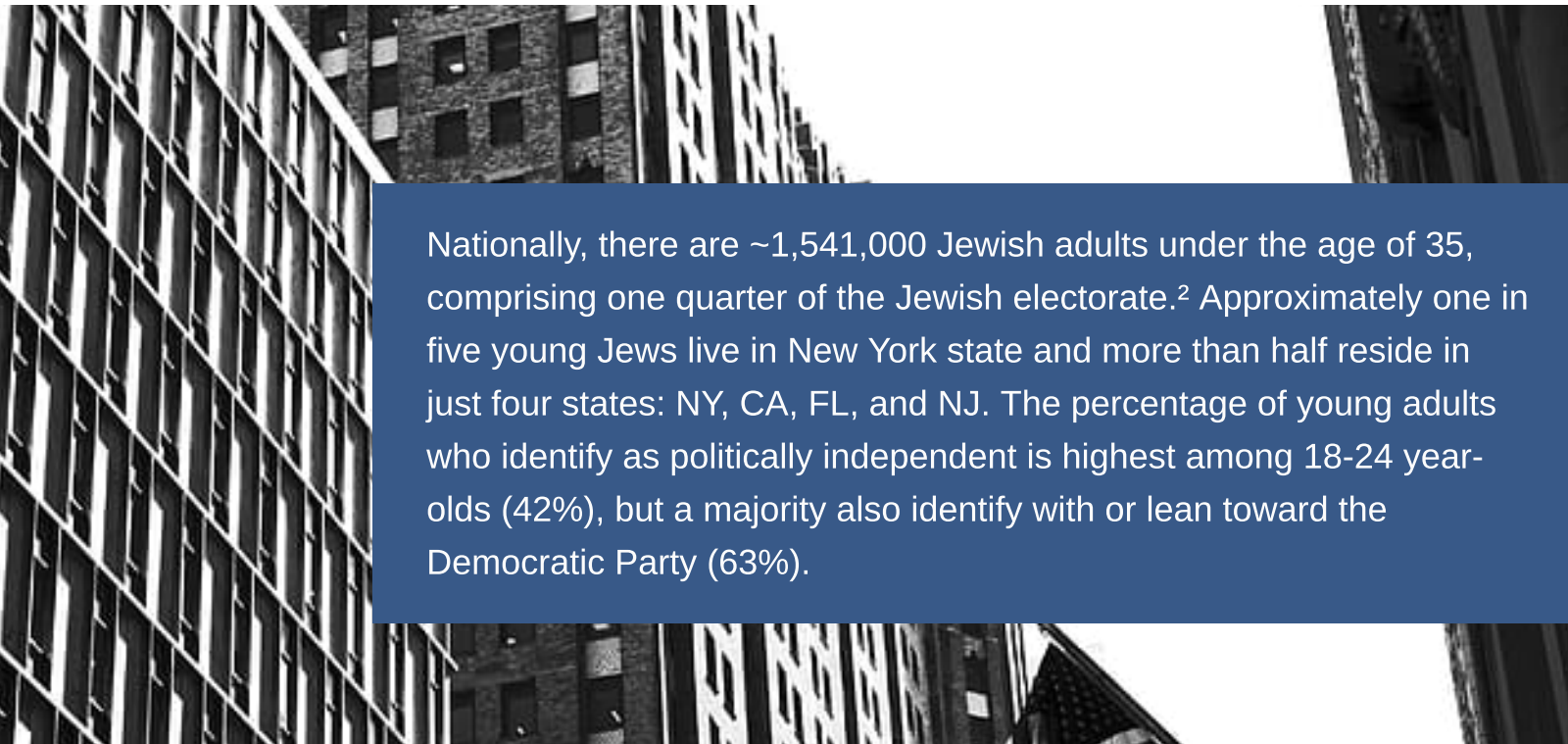


The Jewish Electorate: Young Adults

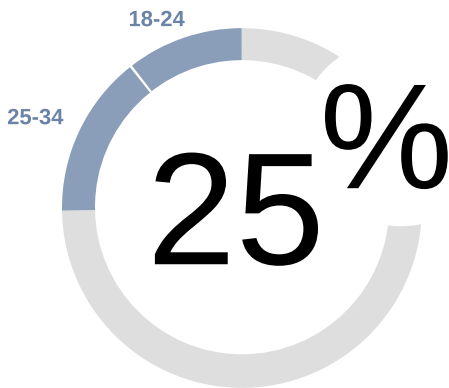
An Analysis of Jewish Young Adults for the Jewish Electorate Institute by the American Jewish Population Project

The Jewish Electorate Institute (JEI), a non-partisan resource on Jewish voters in the United States, provides research and analysis critical for understanding the Jewish electorate. On behalf of JEI, the American Jewish Population Project (AJPP) at the Steinhardt Social Research Institute conducted an analysis, using ZIP Code-level data from hundreds of independent surveys of over 1.4 million US adults, to estimate the size and characteristics of the Jewish electorate in each of the 435 districts of the 116th US Congress and the District of Columbia. The percentages of political identity are not sensitive to quick changes in attitudes that can result from current events and they are not necessarily indicative of voting behaviors. The following report presents a portrait of Jewish adults ages 18 to 34 in the United States.¹



Nationally, there are ~1,541,000 Jewish adults under the age of 35, comprising one quarter of the Jewish electorate.² Approximately one in five young Jews live in New York state and more than half reside in just four states: NY, CA, FL, and NJ. The percentage of young adults who identify as politically independent is highest among 18-24 year-olds (42%), but a majority also identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party (63%).

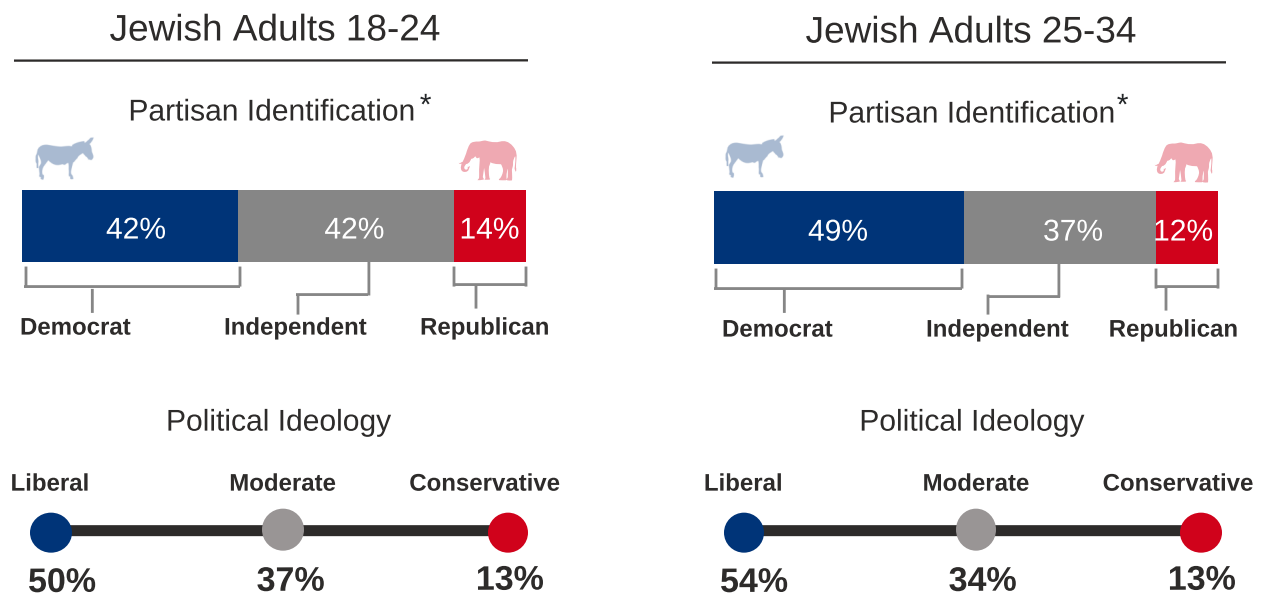
Jewish Young Adults at a Glance



One quarter of the Jewish electorate is under the age of 35, including 11% ages 18 to 24, and 15% ages 25 to 34. Together, young Jews under the age of 35 comprise an estimated 1,541,000 adults and are an important constituency for civic engagement and get-out-the-vote campaigns.

Political Party and Ideology

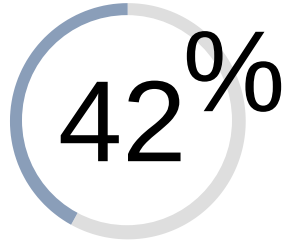
Identification with the Democratic Party is highest among Jewish adults ages 25 to 34 compared with the youngest age group of 18 to 24 year olds (49% vs. 42%, respectively). Few young adults in either age group are Republican; 14% of 18 to 24 year-olds and just 12% of 25 to 34 year-olds are Republican.



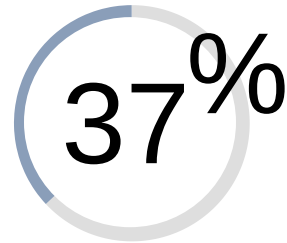
A greater percentage of Jewish adults ages 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 are liberal (50% and 54%, respectively) than conservative (13%).

*Total does not sum to 100% due to omitted "Other" category.

Young Jewish Independents

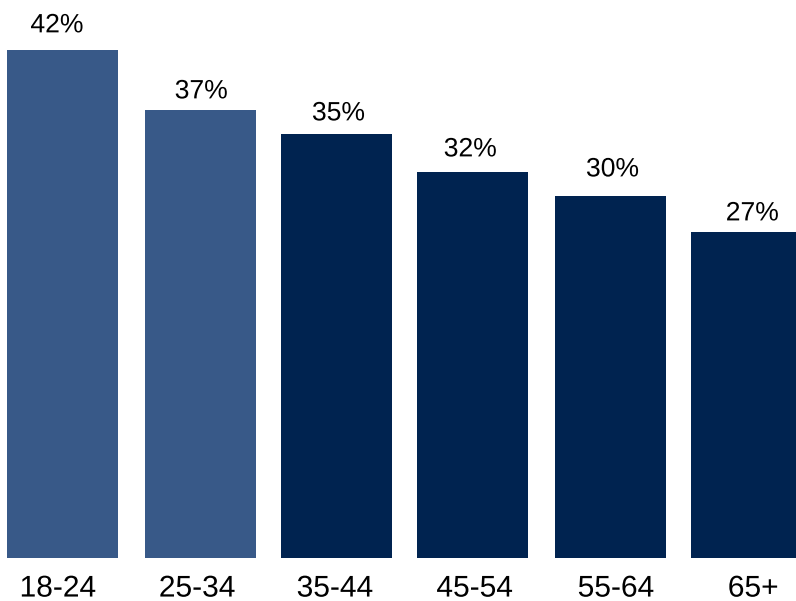


of adults 18 to 24
are Independent



of adults 25 to 34
are Independent

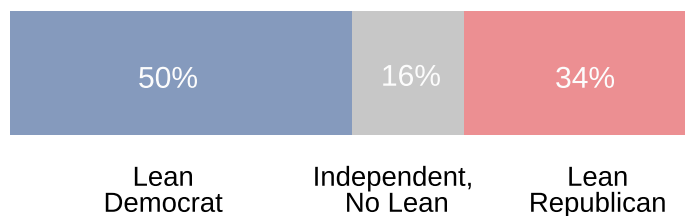
Jewish Young Adults, Pct. Independent, by Age Group



Young Jewish adults ages 18 to 24 are significantly more likely to identify as politically Independent than Jewish adults ages 65 and older (42% vs. 27%, respectively). Across all age groups, as age increases, partisanship also increases.

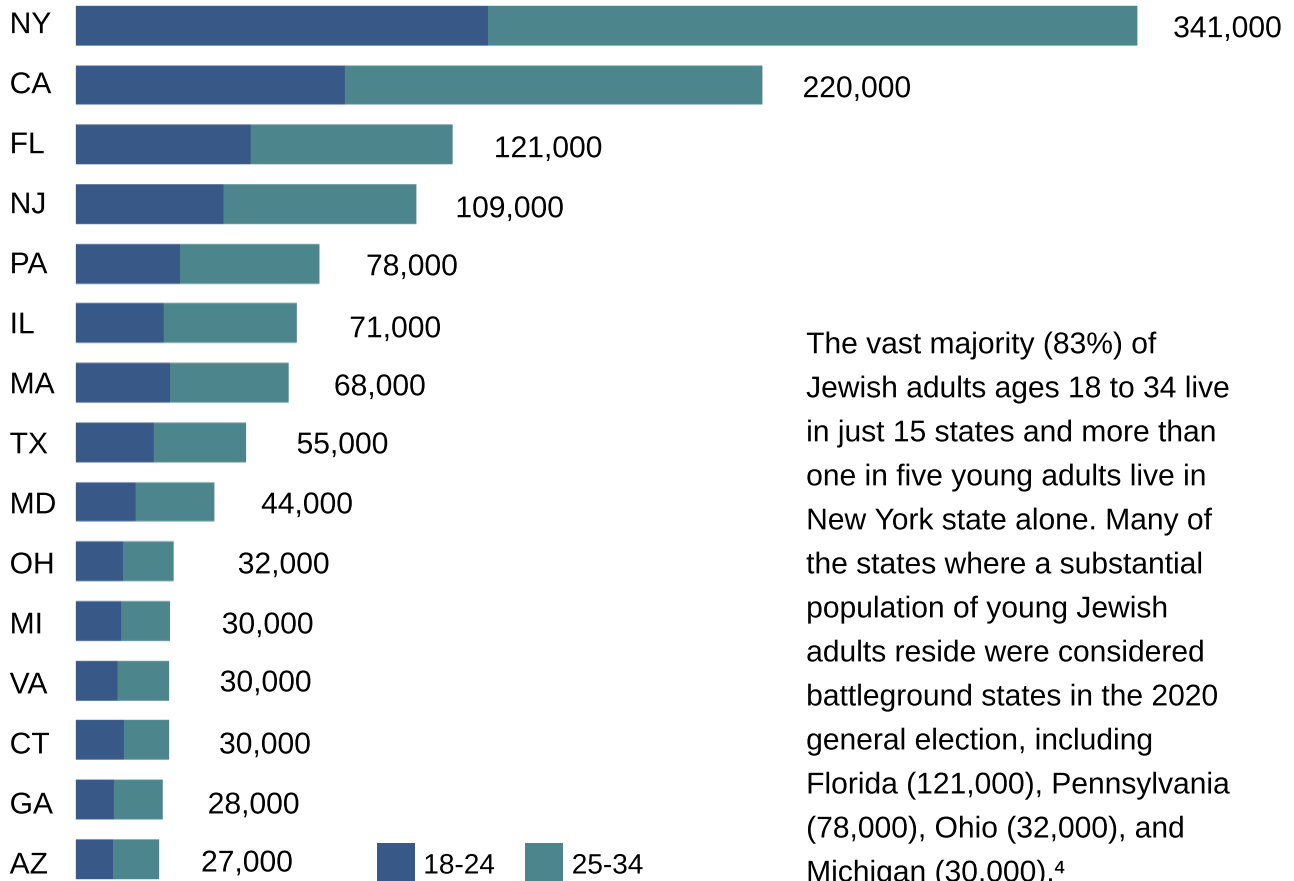
A greater percentage of Jewish Independents ages 18 to 34 lean Democrat (50%) compared with those who lean Republican (34%).³ Just 16% of Independents lean neither Democratic nor Republican.

Jewish Independents Age 18-34, Pct. Lean Democrat or Lean Republican



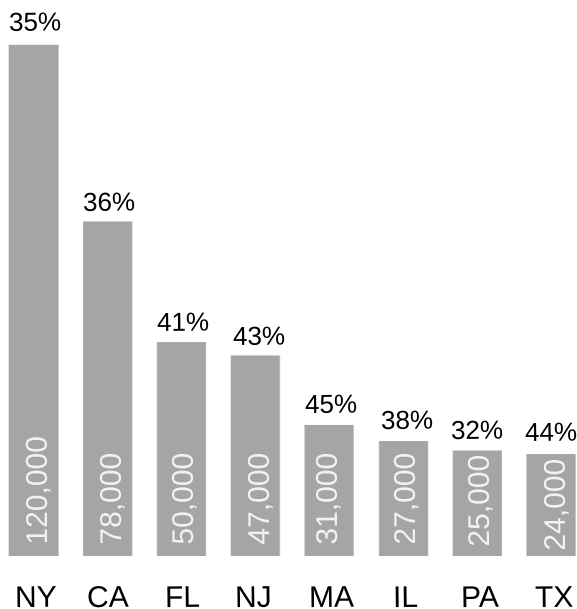
STATE-LEVEL

Top 15 States of Young Jewish Adults



The vast majority (83%) of Jewish adults ages 18 to 34 live in just 15 states and more than one in five young adults live in New York state alone. Many of the states where a substantial population of young Jewish adults reside were considered battleground states in the 2020 general election, including Florida (121,000), Pennsylvania (78,000), Ohio (32,000), and Michigan (30,000).⁴

Top States of Jewish Independents Ages 18-34, by Population



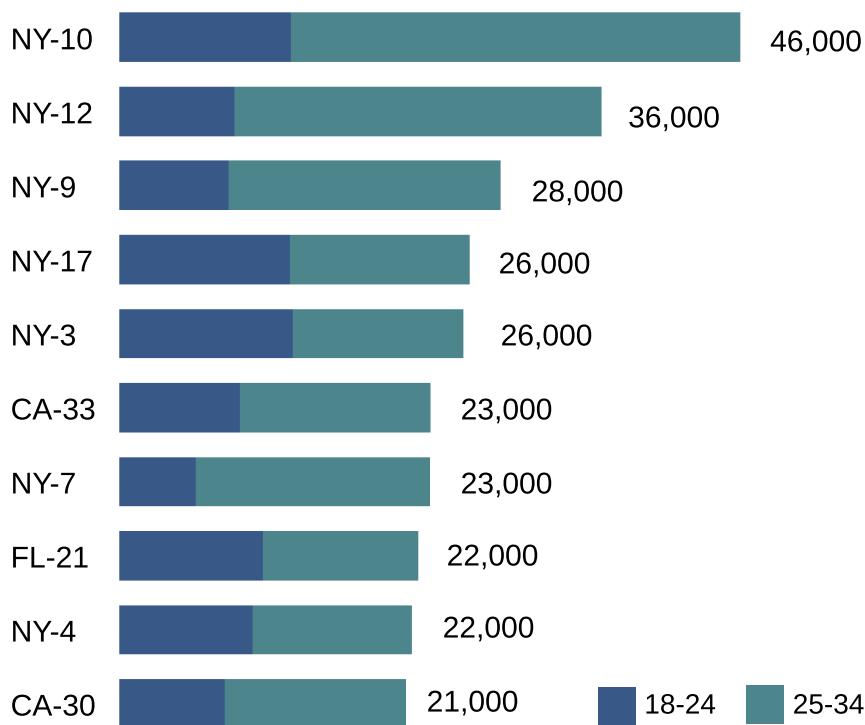
Several of the top 15 states also have a large number of young Jewish adults who are Independent. Each of these states have at least 24,000 Independent Jewish adults under the age of 35, ranging from 32% of Pennsylvania's Jewish young adult population to 45% of Massachusetts's Jewish young adult population.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Congressional districts with the highest population of Jewish adults ages 18 to 34 are located in the New York metropolitan area, South Florida, and Los Angeles County.

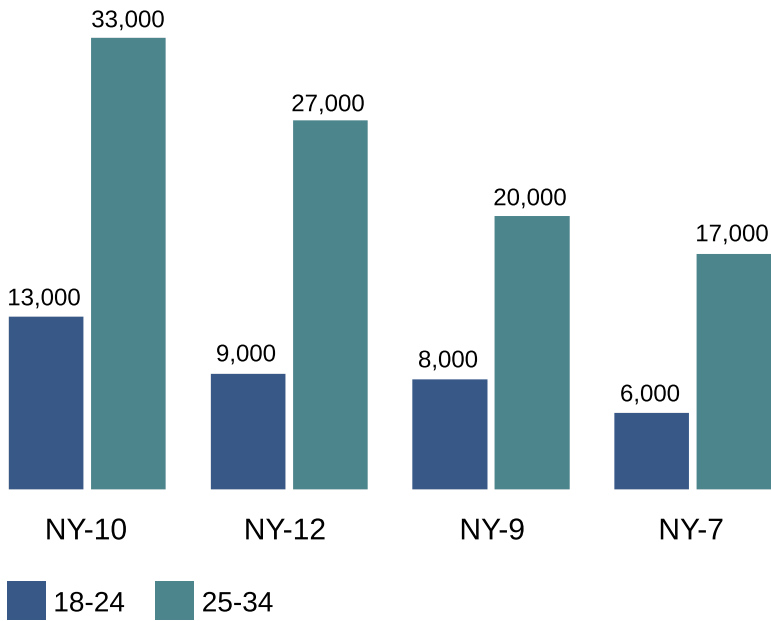
The top ten districts are represented by Democrats and were all considered safe for the incumbent representatives in the 2020 US House elections. Two districts in New York, NY-3 and NY-4, were rated as competitive for the 2020 US presidential race.⁴

Top 10 Districts of Young Jewish Adults



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

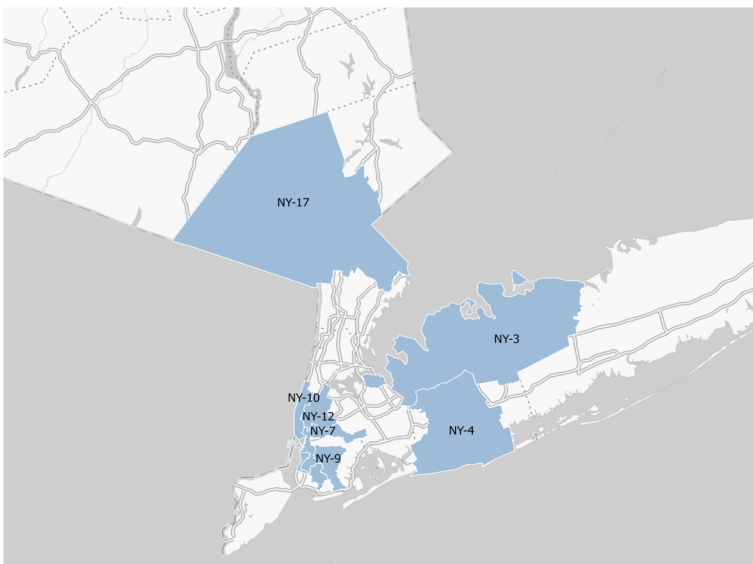
Young Jewish Adults in New York Districts



Among the top ten congressional districts, four districts are located in and around the New York metropolitan areas of Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens (NY-10, NY-12, NY-9, NY-7). Together, these districts comprise about 40% of all Jewish young adults in New York state.

These districts have between two and three times as many Jewish adults in the 25 to 34 age group as there are in the 18 to 24 age group.

Comparatively, the two age groups are roughly equal in size among the top districts of the New York City suburbs of White Plains, Rockland County, Nassau County, and Suffolk County (NY-17, NY-3, NY-4).



Summary

This analysis provides a summary of Jewish young adults ages 18 to 34 across states and congressional districts. Results from this analysis yield estimates of partisanship and political ideology for two subgroups: the youngest adults, ages 18 to 24, and an older group, ages 25 to 34. Additionally, this report provides estimates for the partisan leanings of Jewish Independents, as well as a more detailed look at the age breakdowns in congressional districts that belong to the New York metropolitan area.

Nationally, one quarter of the Jewish electorate is under the age of 35 (~1,541,000 adults), including 11% of young adults ages 18 to 24, and 15% ages 25 to 34. Both age groups are more likely to identify with the Democratic Party (42% and 49%, respectively) than the Republican Party (14% and 12%, respectively). Relative to older Jewish adults, those in the youngest age groups are more likely to be Independent when asked about party affiliation. Though many Jewish young adults are Independent, their support for the Democratic Party is significantly stronger than for the Republican Party.

NOTES

¹ Methodology: Individual-level data from all surveys were combined using Bayesian multilevel modeling with poststratification. Poststratification included geographic distributions of respondents by ZIP Codes within congressional districts, and demographic characteristics of age, educational attainment, race/ethnicity, population density, as well as interactions of age by educational attainment, population density by age, and population density by educational attainment. Modeling is based to Jewish adults who self-identify as Jewish when asked about their religion. Estimates of "Total Jewish Adults" are obtained by adding to the model-based estimate, independent estimates of the percentage of Jewish adults who do not identify religiously as Jewish. This percentage can range from a low of 10% to a high of 30% depending on the region.

² State-level Jewish adult totals are estimated from AJPP 2020 models and adjustments for Jewish adults who do not identify religiously as Jewish.

³ Partisan lean of Independents was estimated using a design-based pooled analysis method in which each survey's original survey weights were adjusted for survey specific designs and sample sizes. This method is not as sensitive to estimation of rare populations as the Bayesian methods used for the main Jewish population estimates but provides an initial ballpark estimate of the groups of interest. Follow-up studies will compare these estimates to those derived from more fully developed Bayesian model-based estimates.

⁴ Congressional district and state competitive scores from Cook Political Report House Race Ratings (Nov 2, 2020) and FiveThirtyEight's Partisan Lean (Oct 19, 2020); data accessed January 2021.