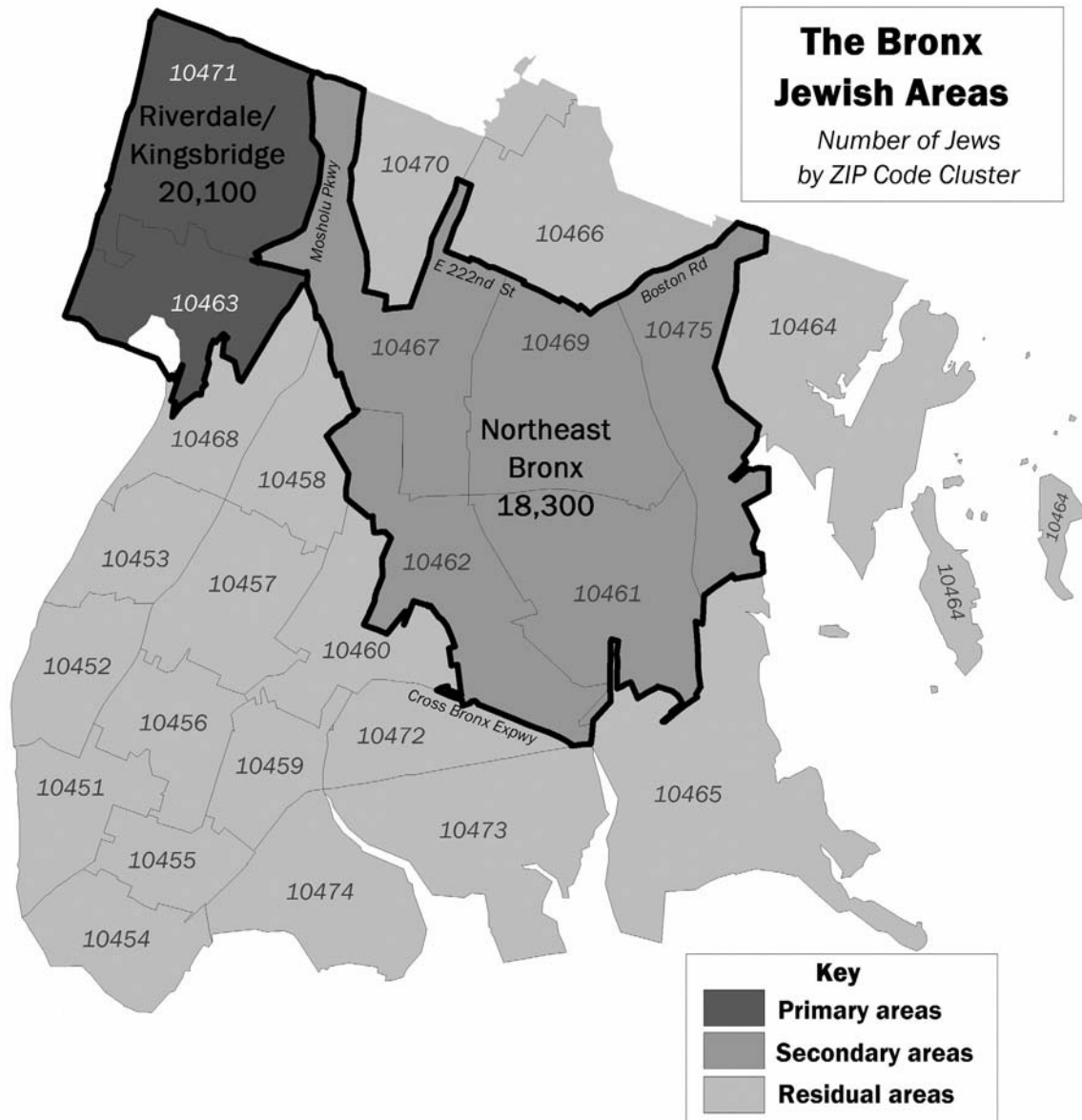


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## CHAPTER 2

## THE BRONX

### Riverdale/Kingsbridge Northeast Bronx



## Exhibit 2: The Bronx: Population and Household Estimates by Area, 2011

	All Households (Census)*	Jewish Households	Jewish Households as a Percent of All Households	Jews	Jews in Area as a Percent of Jews in County	All People (Census)*	People in Jewish Households	People in Jewish Households as a Percent of All People in Area
<b>Primary Area**</b>								
Riverdale/Kingsbridge	37,700	12,000	32%	20,100	37%	90,900	22,200	25%
<b>Secondary Area**</b>								
Northeast Bronx	126,200	10,700	8%	18,300	34%	330,900	29,600	9%
Bronx Residual Areas**	322,900	7,500	2%	15,500	29%	960,700	27,600	3%
<b>TOTAL, BRONX</b>	<b>486,800</b>	<b>30,200</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>53,900</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,382,500</b>	<b>79,400</b>	<b>6%</b>

Sources: Jewish Community Study of New York: 2011 and 2010 U.S. Census data.

Note: All data is rounded to the nearest hundred for presentation.

\* The 2010 U.S. Census-based county household and population totals in this table differ slightly from the county totals listed in exhibit 1-13 in the *Jewish Community Study of New York: 2011 Comprehensive Report* either due to small rounding differences or because Jewish areas in this chart are based on clusters of ZIP codes and some ZIP codes cross county boundaries. Please note that when such boundary-crossing ZIP codes occur, the population's numbers are included in only one county.

\*\* Primary areas are clusters of ZIP codes with at least 90 interviews corresponding to a population of at least 25,000 Jewish residents (and a margin of error below 14); this chapter includes complete profiles of the Jewish population in these areas. Secondary areas have smaller concentrations of Jewish residents with approximately 50 interviews (and margins of error above 14); their descriptions are limited to the population estimates in the table above. Residual areas consist of the population residing outside the areas described above.

## THE BRONX: COUNTY OVERVIEW

### Demography and Social Characteristics

The number of Jews in the Bronx grew considerably since 2002, largely because of the identification in 2011 of a population characterized by weak or tenuous ties to the Jewish community and Jewish life. The Jewish population in the county's one primary Jewish neighborhood, Riverdale/Kingsbridge, has decreased slightly over the past nine years although the number of Jewish households has increased. In the rest of the Bronx, the 2011 survey uncovered a surprisingly large number of households and Jews with rather unconventional characteristics. More than elsewhere in the eight-county area, respondents here identify as "partially Jewish." This population also contains a large number of Jews with one Jewish parent, couples who are intermarried, and households that are biracial or nonwhite.<sup>13</sup> This growth is hypothesized to reflect the increase in the population of more loosely connected Jews who reside outside of more populated and historically Jewish areas.

As in 2002, people residing in Jewish households in the Bronx in 2011 are generally older than those residing elsewhere in the eight-county area: 27% of those in the Bronx are ages 65 and older compared with 20% overall in the eight-county area.<sup>14</sup> Unlike 2002, when the Bronx contained relatively few children, the proportion of children under age 18 residing in Jewish households in the Bronx (24%) is now comparable to the overall eight-county figure of 23%.<sup>15</sup> This change reflects the younger ages of the people in Jewish households in the Northeast Bronx and in the residual areas. However, marital patterns in the Bronx are quite different from the overall patterns: in the Bronx, those who have never married comprise 34% of respondents, compared with 21% overall in the eight counties, and the currently married or partnered comprise 40% in the Bronx, compared with 56% overall. In the Bronx, 8% of Jewish households include a Holocaust survivor and 5% include a Russian speaker.

13 These characteristics are also found in other areas of low Jewish residential density — the areas that fall outside of the primary and secondary areas of higher density.

14 These figures are based on people in Jewish households. When Jewish-only figures are used, 34% of those in the Bronx are ages 65 and older, compared with 22% overall. The lower prevalence of seniors among all people in Jewish households reflects a significant non-Jewish population living in Jewish households that is younger on average than Jews in these households.

15 These figures are based on people in Jewish households. When Jewish-only figures are used, only 10% of those in the Bronx are Jewish children under age 18. The higher prevalence of children among all people in Jewish households reflects a significant number of children in Bronx Jewish households that are not being raised as Jews.

## People in Need

The economic profile for the Bronx as a whole differs from the economic profile of its primary Jewish neighborhood, Riverdale/Kingsbridge, and is also at variance with the eight-county picture. The Bronx is the second most low-income county, after Brooklyn, as evidenced by the percentage of Jewish households with annual incomes below \$50,000 (57% in the Bronx, 42% overall, and 36% in Riverdale/Kingsbridge) and also the percentage of Jewish households that are poor (24% in the Bronx, 19% overall, and 12% in Riverdale/Kingsbridge). A high level of financial distress is also reflected by the 50% in the Bronx who report that they cannot make ends meet or are just managing, compared with 42% overall; this also represents a slight increase since 2002, when 46% reported this level of subjective poverty. Similar to Brooklyn, only 17% of Bronx Jewish households report annual incomes in excess of \$100,000, a proportion that has remained virtually stagnant since 2002, when 15% of Bronx Jewish households were in this income bracket. Seniors in the Bronx do not appear to be exceedingly vulnerable: a slightly smaller proportion of people ages 75 and over live alone (50% in the Bronx compared with 53% overall), and fewer than elsewhere report needing help with activities of daily living (19% in the Bronx compared with 25% overall).

## Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education

In the Bronx, 31% of respondents identify as secular or having no religion — the second-highest proportion in this category among the eight counties — and another 13% indicate that they are nondenominational or “just Jewish.” Regarding denominational identification, 22% identify as Reform, 19% as Conservative, and 15% as Orthodox. Not only does the Bronx appear less Jewishly connected and identified than the other counties but also its overall level of Jewish engagement appears to have weakened considerably since 2002, probably because of the lower identification levels of those residing in the Northeast Bronx and residual areas. For example, over the past nine years, the proportion of Jewish households that belong to a synagogue has decreased from 40% to 29%. Similar decreases were found in the Bronx proportions that have traveled to Israel (44% in 2002 and 27% in 2011), state that being Jewish is very important to them (68% in 2002 and 52% in 2011), and usually attend a Passover seder (67% in 2002 and 48% in 2011). Furthermore, on many of the 2011 measures, Bronx Jewish respondents manifest lower levels of Jewish connections than respondents in the overall eight-county area. At the same time, the intermarriage rate in the Bronx has nearly doubled in the past nine years, from 15% in 2002 to 29% in 2011.

## Philanthropy

As in 2002, Bronx-wide Jewish philanthropy trends seem resistant to demographic forces. Contrary to its challenging economic situation and its generally weak level of Jewish engagement, the borough’s level of reported Jewish giving is generally aligned with (and only slightly lower than) the overall 2011 rates. In this county, a total of 50% give Jewish gifts (42% in combination with gifts to non-Jewish causes and 8% exclusively to Jewish causes) compared with 59% across the eight-county area. In 2011, 20% of Jewish households in the Bronx report that they donate to UJA-Federation, slightly lower than the 24% overall rate and substantially lower than the county’s 2002 rate (35%).

Exhibit 3: **The Bronx: Jewish Population Estimates, 1991, 2002, and 2011**

<b>Population Estimates</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2011</b>
Jewish Households	40,000	24,200	30,200
Jews	82,000	45,100	53,900
People in Jewish Households (including non-Jews)	90,000	54,300	79,400
People in Jewish Households as a Percent of All People in County	7%	4%	6%




Exhibit 3a: **The Bronx: Demography and Social Characteristics, 2011**

<b>Age Distribution</b>	<b>Percent of All People in Jewish Households</b>
0–17	24%
18–39	20%
40–64	30%
65–74	11%
75+	16%

<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Percent of All Respondents</b>
Married	33%
Partnered	7%
Never Married	34%
Separated or Divorced	13%
Widowed	13%

	<b>Percent of Households</b>
<b>Russian-Speaking Jewish Households</b>	5%
<b>Households With a Holocaust Survivor</b>	8%

Exhibit 3a (continued): **The Bronx: Demography and Social Characteristics, 2011****Household Composition (Percent of Households)**

Households With Children 17 and Younger	 24%
Households With Only Adults 18–64	 37%
Households With Seniors 65+ (no children 17 and younger)	 39%

Annual Household Income	Percent of Households
Under \$50,000	57%
\$50,000–\$99,999	26%
\$100,000–\$149,000	10%
\$150,000+	7%

Home Ownership	Percent of Households
Own	41%
Rent	59%

Employment Status by Gender	Percent of Respondents and Spouses Ages 18–64
Employed Males*	72%
Employed Females*	70%

\* Includes full-time, part-time, and self-employed.

Exhibit 3b: **The Bronx: People In Need, 2011**

Subjective Assessment of Household Financial Condition	Percent of Households
Cannot Make Ends Meet or Just Managing	50%
Have Enough	28%
Have Extra Money or Wealthy	22%

**Poverty (Percent of Households)**

Poor: Under 150% of Federal Poverty Guideline	24%
Near Poor: Between 150%–250% of Federal Poverty Guideline	10%
Above Poverty or Poverty Status Unknown	66%

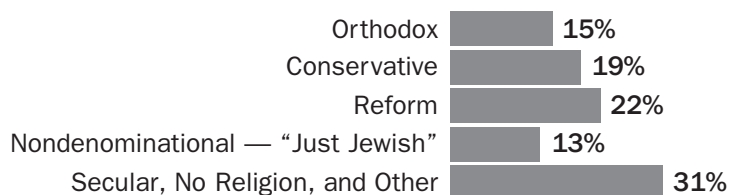
Vulnerable Seniors	Percent of Senior Households
Need Help With Activities of Daily Living	19%

Isolated Seniors	Percent of Seniors in Age Group
Ages 65 to 74 Living Alone	35%
Ages 75+ Living Alone	50%

Seeking Assistance for Human-Service Needs	Number of Households*
Assistance for Household Member's Serious or Chronic Illness	5,800
Help With Food or Housing	4,600
Help Finding a Job or Choosing an Occupation	5,300
Services for an Adult With a Disability	5,700
Homecare Services for an Older Adult in the Household	1,100
Help for a Child With a Physical, Developmental, or Learning Disability or Other Special Needs	1,400

\* We are reporting absolute numbers rather than percentages for this variable because, due to filtering, the information is based on a small amount of data and we believe that local areas are most interested in actual numbers.



Exhibit 3c: **The Bronx: Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education, 2011****Denomination (Percent of Respondents)**

<b>Jewish Affiliations and Participation</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Synagogue Member, Anyone in Household	29%
JCC: Anyone in Household Went to a Program in Past Year	29%
Jewish Organization, Belong/Regularly Participate, Anyone in Household	20%
Jewish Museum or Jewish Cultural Event, Respondent Went in Past Year	49%
Respondent Has Ever Traveled to Israel	27%
Respondent Feels Very Attached to Israel	36%
Respondent's Closest Friends Are Mostly Jewish	31%

<b>Feeling Connected</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Being Jewish Is Very Important	52%
Being Part of Jewish Community Is Very Important	39%
Feels Part of a Jewish Community — A Lot	20%
Wish Knew More About Being Jewish	25%

<b>Jewish-Engagement Level<sup>16</sup></b>	<b>Percent</b>
High	21%
Moderate	26%
Low	53%

<sup>16</sup> These percentages are based on the Index of Jewish Engagement as defined on page 118 of the *Jewish Community Study of New York: 2011 Comprehensive Report*. This summary classification consists of 12 items: attending a program or event at a Jewish community center or YM-YWHA; belonging to a synagogue; belonging to a Jewish organization; usually or always attending a Passover seder; usually or always lighting Sabbath candles; usually or always lighting Chanukah candles; feeling it's very important to be part of a Jewish community; regularly talking about Jewish-related topics with Jewish friends; feeling a lot a part of a Jewish community; volunteering for Jewish organizations or causes; having closest friends who are mostly Jewish; and contributing to any Jewish charity, including UJA-Federation of New York. Households with high scores affirmed seven or more items, with moderate scores affirmed four to six items, and with low scores affirmed three or fewer items.

Exhibit 3c (continued): **The Bronx: Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education, 2011**

<b>Jewish Practices and Behaviors</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Household Member Attends Seder — Usually + Always	48%
Chanukah Candles Lit in Household — Usually + Always	45%
Yom Kippur, Respondent Fasts All Day	41%
Sabbath Candles Lit Friday Night in Household — Usually + Always	20%
Kosher Household	30%
Shabbat Meal, Respondent Participates — Sometimes + Regularly	40%
Respondent Talks Regularly About Jewish-Related Topics With Jewish Friends	35%
Respondent Studies Informally, Alone, With Friend, or With Teacher	36%

<b>Jewish Education</b>	<b>Percent of Jewish Children Ages 5–17</b>
Day School — Current or Previous	55%
Supplemental School — Current or Previous	3%
Tutoring or Other Type of Jewish Education — Current or Previous	33%
None Ever	10%

	<b>Number of Jewish Children Ages 0–4*</b>
Jewish Preschool or Daycare Program	300

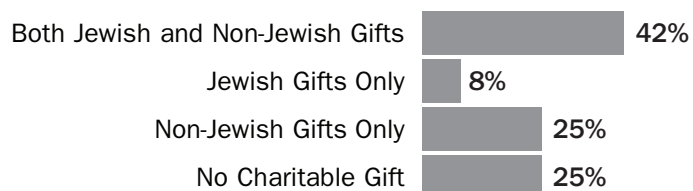
  

<b>In-Married and Intermarried Households</b>	<b>Percent of Married Couples</b>
In-Married (including conversionary marriages)	71%
Intermarried	29%

\* We are reporting absolute numbers rather than percentages for this variable because, due to filtering, the information is based on a small amount of data and we believe that local areas are most interested in actual numbers.

### Exhibit 3d: The Bronx: Philanthropy and Volunteering, 2011

#### Charitable Giving (Percent of Households)



#### Giving to UJA-Federation of New York

#### Percent of Households

Contributed to UJA-Federation	20%
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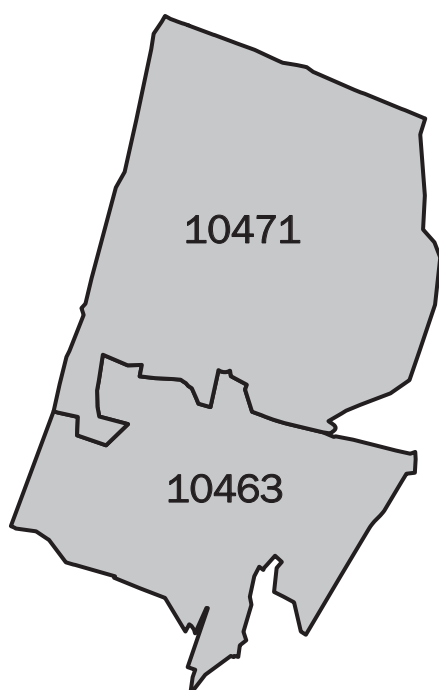
#### Volunteering

#### Percent of All Respondents Who Volunteer\*

Both Jewish and Non-Jewish Organizations	45%
Jewish Organizations Only	19%
Non-Jewish Organizations Only	36%

\* Asked only of respondents who said they volunteered their time for any type of charitable organization.

## THE BRONX: RIVERDALE/KINGSBRIDGE



### Demography and Social Characteristics

Despite a 7% decrease from 2002 to 2011 in Riverdale/Kingsbridge's Jewish population, the number of people in Jewish households as a proportion of its total population has remained steady: it was 26% in 2002 and is 25% in 2011. In Riverdale/Kingsbridge in 2011, there are 12,000 Jewish households containing 22,200 people, of whom 20,100 are Jewish.

However, demographic changes have taken place in the area over the nine years. Specifically, the percentage of people ages 65 and over in Jewish households has increased from 25% to 34%, and the number of children under age 18 has decreased from 19% to 14%. The household composition reflects the age distributions: compared with the rest of the Bronx, there are fewer Jewish households in Riverdale/Kingsbridge with children ages 17 and under (13% in this area compared with 24% overall in the Bronx) and more senior households — that is, households where at least one person is 65 and older but there is no one under age 18 (48% in this area compared with 39% in the Bronx). In Riverdale/Kingsbridge, 43% of the respondents are married or partnered, 21% have never been married, and 16% are widowed. In Riverdale/Kingsbridge, 6% of Jewish households include a Holocaust survivor.

## People in Need

Riverdale/Kingsbridge is a relatively economically well-off area; the proportion of area households with income levels \$100,000 or above (32%) is higher than for Jewish households in the Bronx (17%) yet on par with the eight-county area (30%). Consistent with this pattern, there are considerably fewer Jewish households in Riverdale/Kingsbridge with annual household incomes below \$50,000 compared with overall Jewish households in the Bronx (36% in Riverdale/Kingsbridge versus 57% for the Bronx). The proportion of home ownership in this area (61%) is substantially higher than it is overall in the Bronx (41%) and somewhat higher than overall in the eight counties (54%). Given the high proportion of seniors in Riverdale/Kingsbridge, it is important to note that 65% of those ages 75 and over live alone — higher than the Bronx rate (50%) and the eight-county rate (53%) — a possible marker of a population in need. However, only 20% report needing help with activities of daily living, which is about the same as the Bronx-wide rate (19%) and eight-county rate.

## Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education

In Riverdale/Kingsbridge, 33% identify as Reform, 24% as Conservative, and 14% as Orthodox. The proportions that identify as secular or no religion has increased from 8% in 2002 to 17% in 2011. Riverdale/Kingsbridge is characterized by relatively strong Jewish connections: 61% assert that being Jewish is very important to them (compared with 52% overall in the Bronx and 57% overall in the eight-county area), and this area's level of synagogue membership (42%) is similar to the eight-county rate (44%). However, in this area as elsewhere, many measures of Jewish connection have decreased since 2002; for example, in 2002 54% of the Jews in this area were synagogue members and 75% stated that being Jewish was very important to them. Riverdale/Kingsbridge also has a high level of Jewish cultural and Jewish organizational involvement: 63% attend Jewish cultural events (compared with 49% in the Bronx) and 49% participate in programs at Jewish community centers (compared with 29% in the Bronx). A large proportion of the Jewish children ages 6 to 17 in this area (80%) attend or have attended a Jewish day school. There is also evidence that the area's Jewish population seeks greater Jewish engagement: although 51% report that being part of a Jewish community is very important to them, only 36% feel a lot that they are part of a Jewish community. In Riverdale/Kingsbridge, the intermarriage rate is 21%, which is below the Bronx rate (29%) and comparable with the eight-county rate (22%).

## Philanthropy

Riverdale/Kingsbridge's philanthropic giving is somewhat above the eight-county levels. In this area, 63% contribute to a combination of Jewish and non-Jewish charities and 29% report contributing to UJA-Federation of New York, compared with 44% and 24%, respectively, overall in the eight-county area.

Exhibit 4: **Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Jewish Population Estimates, 2002 and 2011**

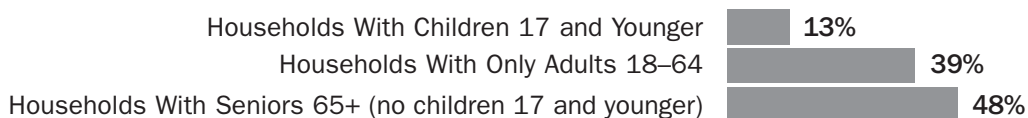
<b>Population Estimates</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2011</b>
Jewish Households	10,300	12,000
Jews	21,600	20,100
People in Jewish Households (including non-Jews)	23,900	22,200
People in Jewish Households as a Percent of All People in Area	26%	25%

Exhibit 4a: **Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Demography and Social Characteristics, 2011**

<b>Age Distribution</b>	<b>Percent of All People in Jewish Households</b>
0–17	14%
18–39	13%
40–64	40%
65–74	14%
75+	20%

<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>Percent of All Respondents</b>
Married	40%
Partnered	3%
Never Married	21%
Separated or Divorced	20%
Widowed	16%

	<b>Percent of Households</b>
<b>Russian-Speaking Jewish Households</b>	4%

Exhibit 4a (continued): **Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Demography and Social Characteristics, 2011****Household Composition (Percent of Households)**

Annual Household Income	Percent of Households
Under \$50,000	36%
\$50,000–\$99,999	33%
\$100,000–\$149,000	18%
\$150,000+	14%

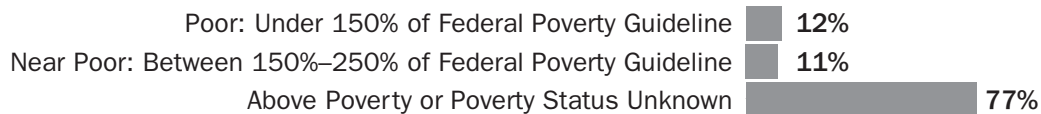
Home Ownership	Percent of Households
Own	61%
Rent	39%

Employment Status by Gender	Percent of Respondents and Spouses Ages 18–64
Employed Males*	81%
Employed Females*	67%

\* Includes full-time, part-time, and self-employed.

Exhibit 4b: Riverdale/Kingsbridge: People In Need, 2011

Subjective Assessment of Household Financial Condition	Percent of Households
Cannot Make Ends Meet or Just Managing	38%
Have Enough	36%
Have Extra Money or Wealthy	26%

**Poverty (Percent of Households)**

Vulnerable Seniors	Percent of Senior Households
Need Help With Activities of Daily Living	20%

Isolated Seniors	Percent of Seniors in Age Group
Ages 65 to 74 Living Alone	49%
Ages 75+ Living Alone	65%

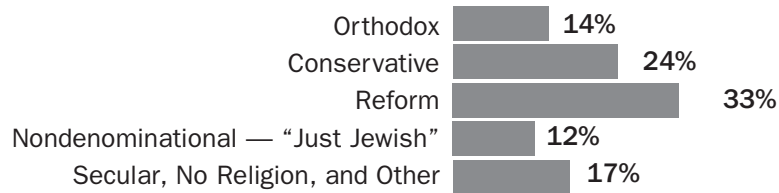
Seeking Assistance for Human-Service Needs	Number of Households*
Assistance for Household Member's Serious or Chronic Illness	1,800
Help With Food or Housing	400
Help Finding a Job or Choosing an Occupation	1,000
Services for an Adult With a Disability	2,400
Homecare Services for an Older Adult in the Household	700
Help for a Child With a Physical, Developmental, or Learning Disability or Other Special Needs	500

\* We are reporting absolute numbers rather than percentages for this variable because, due to filtering, the information is based on a small amount of data and we believe that local areas are most interested in actual numbers.



## Exhibit 4c: Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education, 2011

## Denomination (Percent of Respondents)



## Jewish Affiliations and Participation

## Percent

Synagogue Member, Anyone in Household	42%
JCC: Anyone in Household Went to a Program in Past Year	49%
Jewish Organization, Belong/Regularly Participate, Anyone in Household	30%
Jewish Museum or Jewish Cultural Event, Respondent Went in Past Year	63%
Respondent Has Ever Traveled to Israel	49%
Respondent Feels Very Attached to Israel	40%
Respondent’s Closest Friends Are Mostly Jewish	46%

## Feeling Connected

## Percent of Respondents

Being Jewish Is Very Important	61%
Being Part of Jewish Community Is Very Important	51%
Feels Part of a Jewish Community — A Lot	36%
Wish Knew More About Being Jewish	15%

Exhibit 4c (continued): **Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Jewish Engagement, Connections, and Education, 2011**

<b>Jewish-Engagement Level*</b>	<b>Percent</b>
High	38%
Moderate	31%
Low	31%

<b>Jewish Practices and Behaviors</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Household Member Attends Seder — Usually + Always	71%
Chanukah Candles Lit in Household — Usually + Always	70%
Yom Kippur, Respondent Fasts All Day	58%
Sabbath Candles Lit Friday Night in Household — Usually + Always	26%
Kosher Household	26%
Shabbat Meal, Respondent Participates — Sometimes + Regularly	44%
Respondent Talks Regularly About Jewish-Related Topics With Jewish Friends	46%
Respondent Studies Informally, Alone, With Friend, or With Teacher	40%

<b>Jewish Education</b>	<b>Percent of Jewish Children Ages 5–17</b>
Day School — Current or Previous	80%
Supplemental School — Current or Previous	8%
Tutoring or Other Type of Jewish Education — Current or Previous	<1%
None Ever	12%

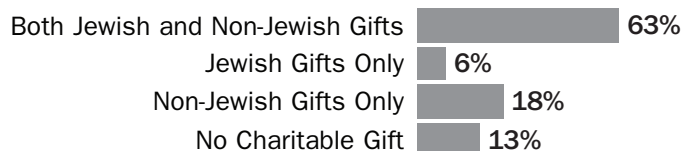
	<b>Number of Jewish Children Ages 0–4**</b>
Jewish Preschool or Daycare Program	300

<b>In-Married and Intermarried Households</b>	<b>Percent of Married Couples</b>
In-Married (including conversionary marriages)	79%
Intermarried	21%

\* See page 57 for a description of the Index of Jewish Engagement and definitions of high, moderate, and low scores.

\*\* We are reporting absolute numbers rather than percentages for this variable because, due to filtering, the information is based on a small amount of data and we believe that local areas are most interested in actual numbers.

Exhibit 4d: **Riverdale/Kingsbridge: Philanthropy and Volunteering, 2011****Charitable Giving (Percent of Households)****Giving to UJA-Federation of New York****Percent of Households**

Contributed to UJA-Federation	29%
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**Volunteering****Percent of All Respondents  
Who Volunteer\***

Both Jewish and Non-Jewish Organizations	46%
Jewish Organizations Only	21%
Non-Jewish Organizations Only	33%

\* Asked only of respondents who said they volunteered their time for any type of charitable organization. See exhibit B-26 on page 424 for the total percent that volunteered within this area.

