Brandeis | COHEN CENTER FOR MODERN JEWISH STUDIES
STEINHARDT SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2021-2022 Louisville Jewish Population Study
Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University
Documentation of Public Use Dataset

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Introduction

This document describes the public use dataset for the 2021-2022 Louisville Jewish Population Study, developed by the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University. It explains the constructed variables in the dataset and the procedures for statistical weighting. This dataset is provided for the use of the research community. It is the researcher's responsibility to ensure that analyses are conducted properly.

Variables that begin with the prefix "m_," "x_," and "wt_" were not part of the original data, but were constructed from other variables, some of which are not included in the public dataset (see below). All other variables are documented in the codebook (Section D of the technical appendices) and are taken directly from the survey.

You can find the report and technical appendices at:
https://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/community-studies/louisville-report.html

You can also contact the research team for consultation on the use of this dataset.

Dropped Variables and Observations

This dataset does not include respondents contacted for the survey who were not members of Jewish households in the Louisville area. Only respondents whose answers were used in the analysis by CMJS were kept in the public dataset.

Additionally, some variables were deleted, and some responses were consolidated from the public dataset in order to protect the identity of respondents. Contact the CMJS/SSRI research team to apply for access to a restricted dataset.

About the Public Use Dataset

The public use dataset contains all raw data provided by respondents who were members of Jewish households in the Louisville area, except for data that might be used to identify individual respondents. Primarily, these removed variables were open-ended responses, household ZIP codes, and answers with fewer than 50 responses that could be used to identify a respondent. Where possible, potentially identifying variables were recategorized into larger groups.

Constructed and certain other variables have prefixes as follows:

1. Variables with the prefix "m_" denote metadata. For more information, see the section **Survey Metadata.**
2. Variables with the prefix "x_" denote those that are not part of the original data. For more information, see the section **Definitions of Constructed Variables.**
3. Variables with the prefix "wt_" denote weights. For more information, see the section **Weighting**.

Variable naming conventions

1. All variables with a "resp" in the name refer to the respondent (e.g., x_respage5cat is the age of the respondent and x_respmartype is the constructed variable noting the marital status of the respondent).
2. Variables with a "hhad" prefix refer to non-respondent adults in the household; these variables range from 2-5 because the respondent is considered as the first adult (e.g., x_hhadage5cat3 is the age of the third adult in the household).
3. Variables with a "hhch" prefix refer to the children in the household; these range from 1-7 (e.g., x_hhchage3cat1 is the age of the first child in the household).

Potential Issues with Data Interpretation

CMJS as a rule maintained the integrity of the data as collected. As such, two potential issues warrant caution. First, responses skipped through survey logic are coded as missing (.l in Stata) and individually skipped items are coded as ".s". In general, the survey programming did not include separate "Don't Know" or "Refused" response options, and so such cases are recorded as item skips. When a "Don't know" response option was included for a question, it has a numerical value, rather than one of the previously listed missing values ("." or ".s") from Stata.

Second, there are cases where respondents answered a question and its follow-up before seemingly backtracking and changing the original response, which would otherwise render the follow-up response invalid. Such overwritten responses remain in the dataset.

It is up to the analyst's own interpretation as to how to account for these characteristics of the dataset.

Survey Metadata
m_stype: If the respondent comes from the primary or supplementary frames.

m_strata: The strata identified is used for weighting.

Definitions of Constructed Variables (x_ prefix)
Variables were constructed from raw data for three purposes:

1. Standardized recoding of open-ended or skip-logic data.
2. Recategorization and consolidation of responses to make them less identifiable.
3. Analytical variables created through complex combinations of multiple raw variables.

Recoding from Other Data

x_resprelig4cat, x_hhadrelig4cat2-5: Religion of respondents and other adults in the household. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option whenever possible. Responses were also recategorized to protect privacy.

x_respedu: The highest degree obtained by the respondent. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option whenever possible.

x_resprelrsd: Religion the respondent was raised as. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option whenever possible.

x_respdenom5cat, x_hhaddenom5cat2-5: Jewish denomination of respondents and other adults in the household. Open-ended responses given as "other denomination" were recoded to an existing denomination wherever appropriate. Denominations were also consolidated into different categories.

x_hhchrlg1-7: In the original survey, after identifying the religion in which the first child is being raised, respondents were asked if all children are being raised in the same religion. These variables fill in the responses for children 2-7 who have the same religion as child 1. Open ended responses were also used to recode this variable.

x_respherg* x_spherg*: In the original survey, respondents were asked about their Jewish heritage and that of their spouse/partner (if any). Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option whenever possible.

x_charc*: Respondents were asked to select the causes which were most important to them which they might volunteer for or donate to. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option wherever possible.

x_hlcarepar: If respondents are caring for a parent. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option wherever possible.

x_hldisment, x_hldisphys, x_hldischron: Respondents were asked about the particular health issues faced by household members. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option wherever possible.

x_jllmt*: Respondents were asked about factors that limited their engagement with Jewish life. Open-ended responses were recoded to an existing option wherever possible.

Recategorized and Consolidated Responses

x_respgender, x_hhadgen2-5, x_hhchgen1-7: In order to protect privacy, those who identify as neither male nor female were replaced with the value: .s and labeled as an item skip. The gender variables are the only instances in which an item skip may not refer to an individual refusing to respond to a question.

x_respage3cat, x_hhadage3cat2-5, x_hhchage3cat1-7: Ages of household members were categorized.

x_hhhnwpoc: Whether anyone in the household (adult or child, Jewish or non-Jewish) identifies in at least one of the following ways: Hispanic, a racial identity other than white, or as a person of color. These questions were originally asked about each individual in the household. They were combined in this way in the public dataset to protect privacy.

x_locrsd: Where respondents were raised. Locations were categorized to protect privacy.

x_locyearscomb4: The number of years respondents have lived in the area. Years were categorized to protect privacy.

x_nojed*: The survey asked for each individual child the reasons why that child was not enrolled in Jewish school or Jewish camp (if applicable). Responses for each individual child were combined at the household-level to protect privacy.

x_hlcareoth: Of households were someone provides care to someone, who that person is providing care for. People with low numbers of responses were consolidated into an “other” category to protect privacy.

x_hldisother: Health issues with low numbers of responses were combined to protect privacy.

x_wbfinsit4cat: Self-described financial situation. “Cannot make ends meet” and “Just managing to make ends meet” were combined into the category “Struggling” to protect privacy.

x_wbhardnow, x_wbhardpast: Economic hardships faced in the past year (x_wbhardnow) or between 1-3 years ago (x_wbhardpast). Responses were consolidated to protect privacy.

x_wbjewlife: Households were asked about particular elements of Jewish life that they could not participate in for financial reasons. To protect privacy, this datafile has a variable for any financial limitation.

Constructed Analytic Variables

x_hhsize: The total number of people in the household.

x_region: Respondents supplied the ZIP code of their primary residence in the area. To protect their identities, this variable groups ZIP codes into regional boundaries. See the report for more details on these regions.

x_respjewback x_hhadjewbck2-5: Background of respondent and other adults living in the household. Adults were considered to have a Jewish background if they met at least one of the following conditions: they were raised Jewish in any way, if at least one of their parents considered themselves to be Jewish, or if they converted.

x_respjewtype, x_hhadjewtype2-5: These variables denote the “type of Jew” corresponding to the respondent or the household adults.

All Jewish adults have a Jewish background: at least one Jewish parent, were raised Jewish, or converted to Judaism. Jews by Religion (JBR) say their religion is exclusively Jewish. Jews of No Religion (JNR) are either atheists, agnostics, or have no religion and consider themselves Jewish aside from religion. JNRs are also those who say their religion is both Jewish and atheist/agnostic. Jews of Multiple Religions (JMR) either say they have two religions, one of which is Judaism; or have another religion but consider themselves Jewish aside from religion. Unknown Jews (UJ) are individuals who did not provide enough information to be classified as JBR, JNR, or JMR, but provided enough information to be identified as Jewish.

People of Jewish Background (JB) are those who have a Jewish background but do not identify as Jewish. People of Jewish Affinity (JA) are those who have no Jewish background but do identify as Jewish. Non-Jews (NJ) are people who do not have a Jewish background and do not identify as Jewish. Unknown Non-Jews (UNJ) are people who did not provide enough information to be classified as JB, JA, or NJ.

Unknown (U) did not provide enough information to be classified as any “type of Jew” or “type of non-Jew.”

x_respjewish, x_hhadjewish2-5: Jewish adults who are JBR, JNR, JMR, or UJ.

x_hhchjewish1-7: Children are counted as Jews if they are considered Jewish or Jewish and another religion (corresponding to the variables x_hhchrlg1-7).

x_hhadjewct x_hhchjewct x_hhjewct: The number of Jewish adults, Jewish minor children, and total Jews in the household.

x_bmdues x_altsyn: These variables denote household congregational membership. x_bmdues indicates whether the household pay dues to a “brick and mortar” synagogue and x_altsyn indicates if they belong to another type of congregation or a non-local synagogue (see Chapter 6 for definitions).

x_fplpoor: A variable was constructed, combining household income and size of household, to indicate whether households were below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.

x_jengage: This is the category of the index of Jewish engagement of the respondent (see Chapter 3).

x_hhage3cat: The age of the “head” of the household. Head of household is defined as the respondent if the respondent is married/partnered and Jewish. If the respondent is unmarried or non-Jewish, the head of the household is the oldest married/partnered Jewish member of the household. If a non-Jewish respondent does not live with any married Jewish adults, the head of the household is the oldest Jews in the household. By definition, every Jewish household includes at least one Jewish adult.

x_respmartype: This indicates if the respondent is inmarried, intermarried, or unmarried (for this variable, both spouses and unmarried partners are counted as being “married”).

x_hhmartype: This notes if the household contains an inmarried or intermarried couple, or no couple, whether or not the respondent is part of the married couple (for this variable, both spouses and unmarried partners are counted as being “married”).

x_hhchild x_respispar: These variables indicate if there is a minor child in the household or if the respondent is a parent of a minor child in the household.

Weighting

Two sets of weights are available for this dataset. One set is at the household level (wt_primhh and wt_fullhh) and one is at the respondent level (wt_primresp and wt_fullresp). Household-level weights should be used to calculate characteristics of the household, population counts, and anything involving children. Respondent-level weights should be used to calculate characteristics of individual adults (e.g., behaviors and attitudes).

For each set of weights (household and respondent) there are two variants: one is used for the primary sample (wt_primhh, wt_primresp) and the other is for the full sample (wt_fullhh, wt_fullresp). The primary weights apply only to respondents in the primary or probability sample. The full weights include all respondents, whether in the primary/probability sample or the supplement/nonprobability sample.

Primary weights are used to estimate counts or characteristics of the overall population. Full weights are used to estimate characteristics of subpopulations or any within-group analysis. For example, the primary weights would be used to estimate the proportion of the entire population that belongs to a synagogue. The full weights would be used to estimate the proportion of synagogue members and synagogue non-members who attended a Passover Seder.

The public-use dataset does not include screened-out non-Jewish households but does include all screener data.

Weighting instructions below are designed for use with the Stata statistical analysis program.

In most cases, analysis of individuals is limited to Jewish respondents using variable x_respjewish.

<u>Constructed variables for weighting</u>
m_stype: If the respondent comes from the primary or supplementary frames.

m_strata: The strata variable used for weighting.

wt_primhh: The primary-sample household weight.

wt_fullhh: The full-sample household weight.

wt_primresp: The primary-sample respondent/individual weight.

wt_fullresp: The full-sample respondent/individual weight.

Primary Weights

Primary weights should be used for generating characteristics of the population as a whole, including population counts, characteristics, and the sizes of various subgroups.

For household estimates use wt_primhh to estimate the characteristics of households including counts and proportions. For estimations on the number of people—i.e., counts—use the household weights with totals of count variables—e.g., x_hhadct, x_hhchct. In Stata the primary household weights are set with the following syntax:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_primhh], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)

Use the respondent weights for characteristics of individual adults. For example, use wt_primresp for characteristics of adults (including respondent and non-respondent adults). In Stata, the primary respondent weights are set with the following syntax:
svyset _n [pweight=wt_primresp], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)

Example: Household Characteristics
The number or proportion of Jewish households that experienced antisemitism in the past year:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_primhh], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)
svy: tab jlantiexp, count
svy: tab jlantiexp

Example: Count of Adults
The total number of adults in Jewish households:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_primhh], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)
svy: total x_hhadct

Example: *Respondent or Individual Characteristics*
The proportion of Jewish denomination limited to Jewish adults:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_primresp], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)
svy, subpop(x_respjewish): tab x_respdenom5cat

Full Weights

Full weights should be used for characteristics of subgroups or for any within-group analysis using crosstabs.

In Stata the full household weights are set with the following syntax:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_fullhh], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)

The full primary weights are set with the following syntax:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_fullresp], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)

Example: Household Subpopulations
The proportion of Jewish households who donated to Jewish charities by financial situation
svyset _n [pweight= wt_fullhh], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)
svy: tab charany x_wbfinsit4cat, col

Example: Respondent or Individual Characteristics
The proportion of Jewish respondents who have been to Israel by denomination of respondent:
svyset _n [pweight= wt_fullresp], strata(m_strata) vce(linearized) singleunit(missing)
svy, subpop(x_respjewish): tab x_respdenom5cat isrnum, row

Outliers and Excepts to Weights

When presenting data based on small cell sizes, outlier cases can have an outsized effect that distorts the interpretation of findings. We suppressed outliers in a number of cases under conditions where excluding a single response changed the point estimate by 15% of the original estimate and a minimum of a five-percentage point change.

For example, if excluding a case changes an estimate from 20% to 15%, the case is suppressed because the five-point change in the estimate reflects a 25% change from the original estimate (5/20 = 25%). However, if excluding the case changes the estimate from 50% to 45%, the case is not suppressed because the five-point change represents only 10% of the original estimate (5/50 = 10%).

The table below lists the tables in the report in which outliers were suppressed, the relevant analyses, and the tokens of the outliers.

Removed Outlier Cases

Report chapter	Table	Row	Column	Token
2. Demographic Snapshot	2.12	0-4 years	Ages 65+	LV700745
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.2	Minimally involved	Often	LV403003
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.6	Minimally involved	Both Jewish and non-Jewish	LV294181
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.7	Entire table	Don't Know	LV984899
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.7	Entire table	Don't Know	LV700745
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Minimally involved	Jewish education	LV984899
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Minimally involved	Synagogue	LV984899
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.2	Great deal	Not at all satisfied	LV700745
9. Connections to Israel	9.3	Minimally involved	Very attached	LV888444
9. Connections to Israel	9.4	Involved	Not at all closely	LV014042
9. Connections to Israel	9.2b	Not at all attached	Educational/volunteer trip	LV610881

Additionally, although our general practice in this study is to report estimates of subgroups within the population derived from the full sample, using full sample weights, there are places where we have substituted estimates derived from the primary sample only, using primary sample weights. In each case, we have done so because the complexity of deriving full-sample weights from the primary-sample weights can result in situations where either all subgroup estimates are higher

than the overall estimate or all subgroup estimates are lower than the overall estimate. Presenting estimates where either all subgroup estimates exceed the overall estimate or all subgroup estimates are exceeded by the overall estimates may be confusing to the average reader, who will not be familiar with the impact of confidence intervals on analysis or the complexities of survey weighting. In the interest of full transparency, the following table lists all tables in the report in which primary weights were used in place of full weights.

Analyses Using Primary-Sample Weights Instead of Full Weights

Report chapter	Table	Subpopulation	Column (If applicable)
5. Financial Well-Being and Health Needs	5.12	Child in household	Any hardship over previous three years
5. Financial Well-Being and Health Needs	5.14	Age	Keep current savings/investments
5. Financial Well-Being and Health Needs	5.14	Parent status	Keep current savings/investments
5. Financial Well-Being and Health Needs	5.14	Synagogue member	Keep current savings/investments
6. Synagogues and Ritual Life	6.4	Child in household	Light Shabbat candles: Ever
6. Synagogues and Ritual Life	6.4	Child in household	Have special meal for Shabbat: Ever
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.5a	Parent status	Read books, watch movies or TV, listen to music: Often
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.5a	Synagogue member	Read books, watch movies or TV, listen to music: Ever
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.5b	Region	Read or post on social media about Jewish life: Often
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Marital status	Other education
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Parent status	Other education
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Volunteer	Other education
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Parent status	Social justice
7. Organizations and Philanthropy	7.9b	Synagogue member	Israel
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.1	Marital status	Jewish people: A great deal
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.1	Marital status	Online Jewish community: Any
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.1	Parent status	Online Jewish community: Any

Report chapter	Table	Subpopulation	Column (If applicable)
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3a	Parent status	Not confident in Jewish knowledge
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3a	Synagogue member	Not confident in Jewish knowledge
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3a	Parent status	Too expensive
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Age	Political views are unwelcome
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Synagogue member	Political views are unwelcome
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Jewish engagement	Feel unwelcome
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Marital status	Feel unwelcome
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Parent status	Feel unwelcome
8. Community, Connections, and Concerns	8.3b	Synagogue member	Safety or security concerns
9. Connections to Israel	9.4	Parent status	Very closely