

Berman Jewish DataBank

Comparisons of Jewish Communities

A Compendium of Tables and Bar Charts

Number 12 - 2015



CURRENT
JEWISH
POPULATION
REPORTS

COMPARISON SERIES

Religious Practices and Synagogue Attendance

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Combined Table of Contents for All Reports in the Comparison Series

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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). 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) and the US Census Bureau's Decennial Census and American Community Survey (ACS, 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.

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 11 - RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE

June 2015

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**TABLE 1
PRACTICE
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

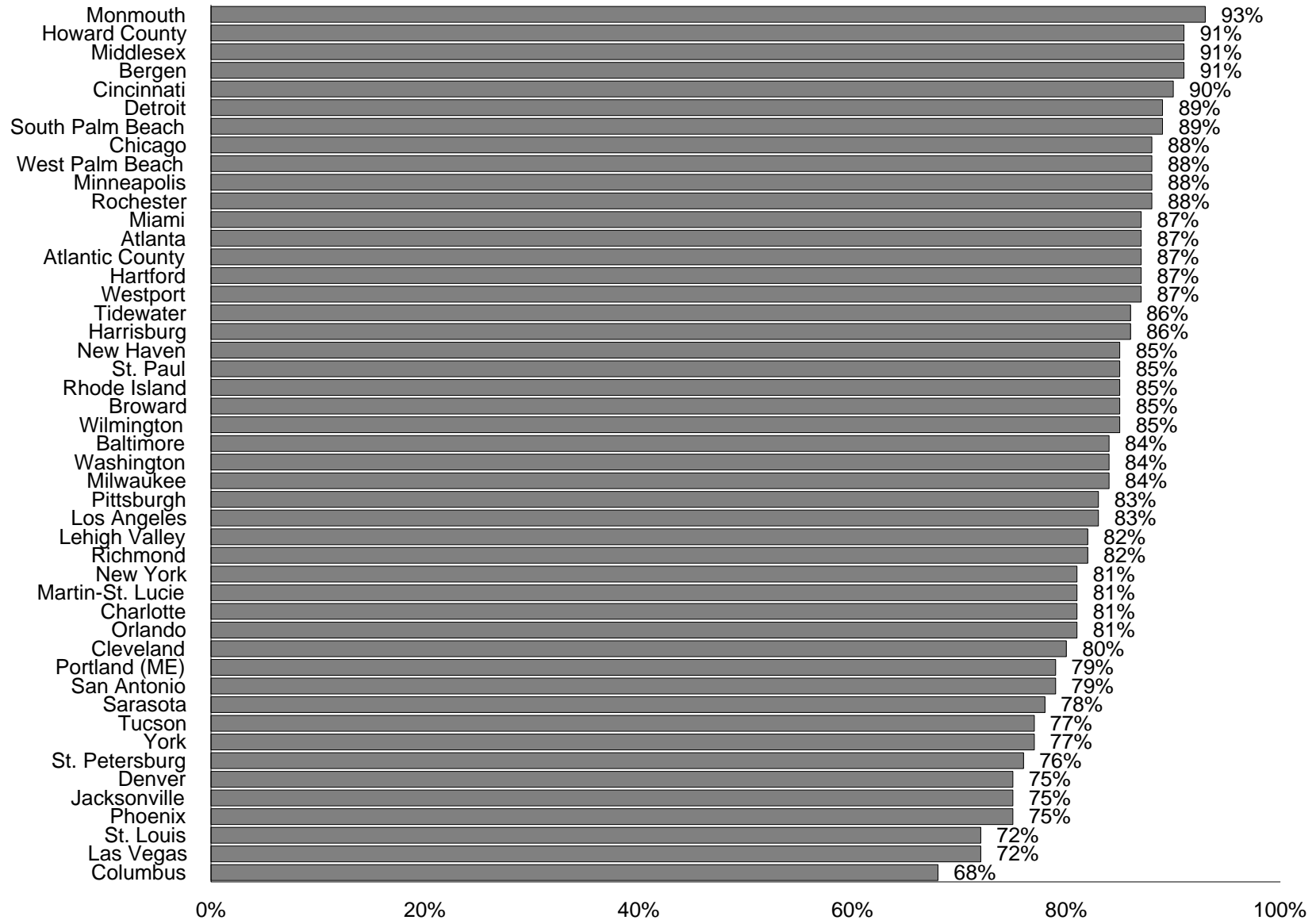
Community	Year	%		Community	Year	%
Monmouth	1997	93%		Los Angeles	1997	83%
Howard County	2010	91%		Lehigh Valley	2007	82%
Middlesex	2008	91%		Richmond	1994	82%
Bergen	2001	91%		New York	2011	81%
Cincinnati	2008	90%		Martin-St. Lucie	1999	81%
Detroit	2005	89%		Charlotte	1997	81%
S Palm Beach	2005	89%		Orlando	1993	81%
Chicago	2010	88%		Cleveland	2011	80%
W Palm Beach	2005	88%		Portland (ME)	2007	79%
Minneapolis	2004	88%		San Antonio	2007	79%
Rochester	1999	88%		Sarasota	2001	78%
Miami	2014	87%		Tucson	2002	77%
Atlanta	2006	87%		York	1999	77%
Atlantic County	2004	87%		St. Petersburg	1994	76%
Hartford	2000	87%		Denver	2007	75%
Westport	2000	87%		Jacksonville	2002	75%
Tidewater	2001	86%		Phoenix	2002	75%
Harrisburg	1994	86%		St. Louis	2014	72%
New Haven	2010	85%		Las Vegas	2005	72%
St. Paul	2004	85%		Columbus	2013	68%
Rhode Island	2002	85%				
Broward	1997	85%				
Wilmington	1995	85%				
Baltimore	2010	84%				
Washington	2003	84%				
Milwaukee	1996	84%				
Pittsburgh	2002	83%				

Note: A household is considered to "practice" if anyone in the household observes *at least one* of the following religious practices: ❶ Participate in a Passover Seder (always/usually); ❷ Light Chanukah candles (always/usually); ❸ Light Sabbath candles (always/usually); or ❹ Keep a kosher home (yes).

1

PRACTICE

(Always/Usually Do One or More of the Following:
 Passover Seder, Chanukah Candles, Sabbath Candles, or Kosher Home)
 (Jewish Households)



**TABLE 2
HAVE A MEZUZAH ON THE FRONT DOOR
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

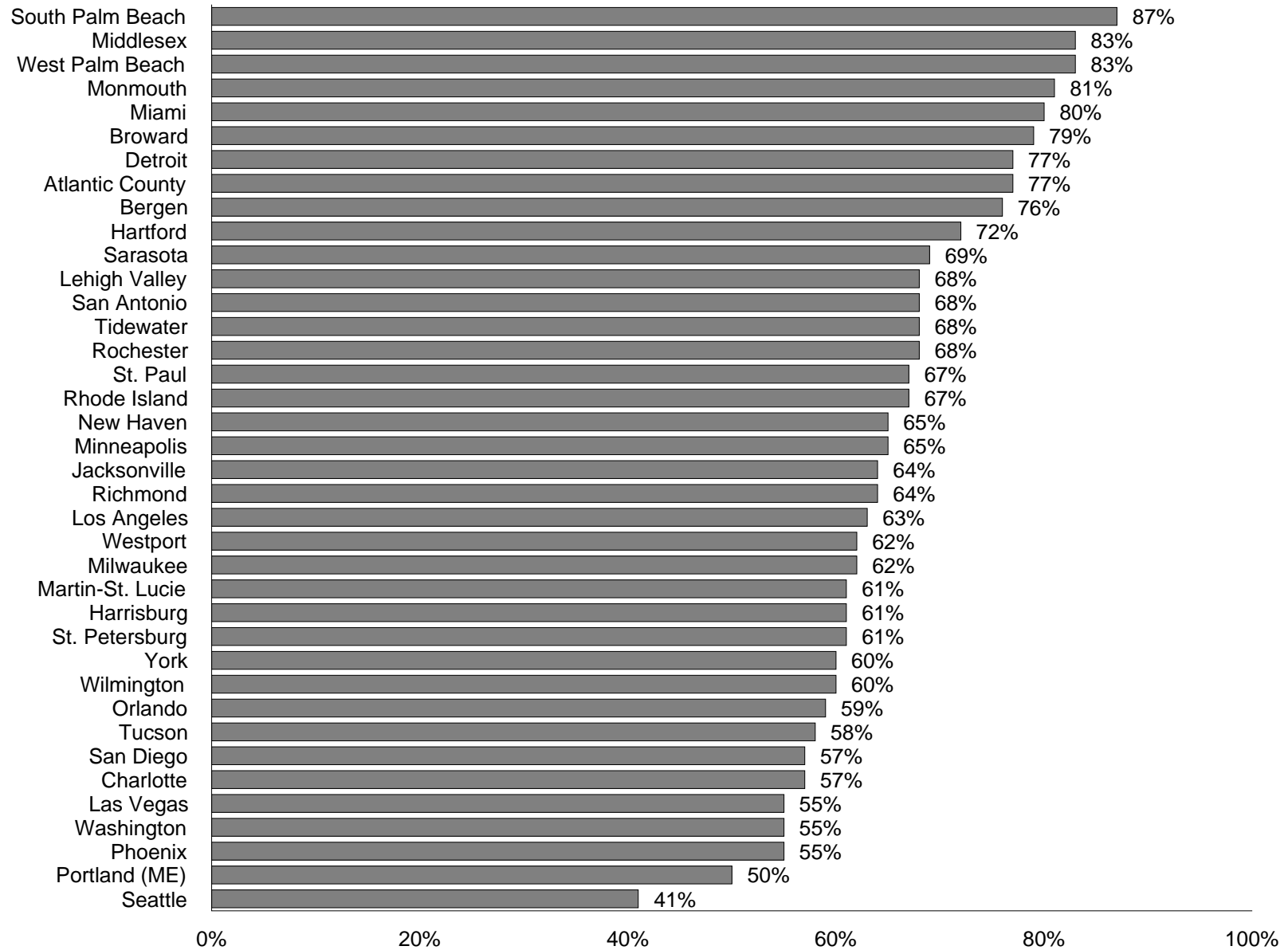
BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	%		Community	Year	%
S Palm Beach	2005	87%		Los Angeles	1997	63%
Middlesex	2008	83%		Westport	2000	62%
W Palm Beach	2005	83%		Milwaukee	1996	62%
Monmouth	1997	81%		Martin-St. Lucie	1999	61%
Miami	2014	80%		Harrisburg	1994	61%
Broward	1997	79%		St. Petersburg	1994	61%
Detroit	2005	77%		York	1999	60%
Atlantic County	2004	77%		Wilmington	1995	60%
Bergen	2001	76%		Orlando	1993	59%
Hartford	2000	72%		Tucson	2002	58%
Sarasota	2001	69%		San Diego *	2003	57%
Lehigh Valley	2007	68%		Charlotte	1997	57%
San Antonio	2007	68%		Las Vegas	2005	55%
Tidewater	2001	68%		Washington	2003	55%
Rochester	1999	68%		Phoenix *	2002	55%
St. Paul	2004	67%		Portland (ME)	2007	50%
Rhode Island	2002	67%		Seattle	2000	41%
New Haven	2010	65%		NJPS * ¹	2000	61%
Minneapolis	2004	65%		* Question was asked about a mezuzah on any door of the house.		
Jacksonville	2002	64%		¹ NJPS 2000 data are for the more Jewishly-connected sample.		
Richmond	1994	64%				

2

HAVE A MEZUZAH ON FRONT DOOR

(Jewish Households)



**TABLE 3
PARTICIPATE IN A PASSOVER SEDER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Monmouth	1997	86%	77%	9	10	5
Bergen	2001	85%	76%	9	11	4
Essex-Morris	1998	84%	76%	8	9	7
Middlesex	2008	83%	74%	9	11	6
Detroit	2005	82%	75%	7	12	6
Howard County	2010	81%	73%	8	8	11
Miami	2014	81%	69%	11	13	6
S Palm Beach	2005	80%	68%	12	14	7
Westport	2000	79%	68%	11	13	8
W Palm Beach	2005	79%	66%	13	15	7
Rochester	1999	78%	70%	9	15	7
Hartford	2000	78%	69%	9	13	9
Minneapolis	2004	78%	68%	11	15	7
Chicago	2010	78%	68%	10	13	9
Atlantic County	2004	78%	66%	12	15	6
Washington	2003	77%	65%	12	16	7
Milwaukee	1996	77%	65%	12	12	11
Baltimore	2010	76%	70%	6	11	13
St. Paul	2004	76%	68%	8	17	8
Cincinnati	2008	76%	65%	12	12	11
New Haven	2010	76%	64%	12	17	7
Philadelphia	2009	76%	76%		24	
Harrisburg	1994	75%	66%	9	13	12
Pittsburgh	2002	75%	65%	10	13	13

**TABLE 3
PARTICIPATE IN A PASSOVER SEDER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Broward	1997	75%	64%	11	16	8
Tidewater	2001	75%	64%	11	15	10
Los Angeles	1997	74%	64%	10	14	12
Wilmington	1995	74%	64%	10	14	13
Richmond	1994	73%	63%	10	16	11
Rhode Island	2002	73%	61%	12	17	10
Boston	2005	72%	64%	8	20	8
Palm Springs	1998	72%	72%		17	12
Lehigh Valley	2007	70%	59%	11	19	11
Cleveland	2011	70%	58%	12	17	12
New York	2011	69%	60%	9	16	14
Charlotte	1997	69%	58%	11	20	11
Sarasota	2001	69%	57%	12	17	14
San Antonio	2007	69%	57%	11	20	11
Orlando	1993	67%	54%	12	20	14
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	66%	54%	12	16	18
St. Petersburg	1994	65%	56%	9	16	19
York	1999	64%	55%	9	20	16
San Diego	2003	64%	51%	13	20	16
Jacksonville	2002	63%	53%	10	22	15
Atlanta	2006	62%	53%	10	19	19
Phoenix	2002	62%	49%	13	26	12
Columbus	2013	61%	49%	12	11	29
Tucson	2002	61%	49%	11	26	13

TABLE 3
PARTICIPATE IN A PASSOVER SEDER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS

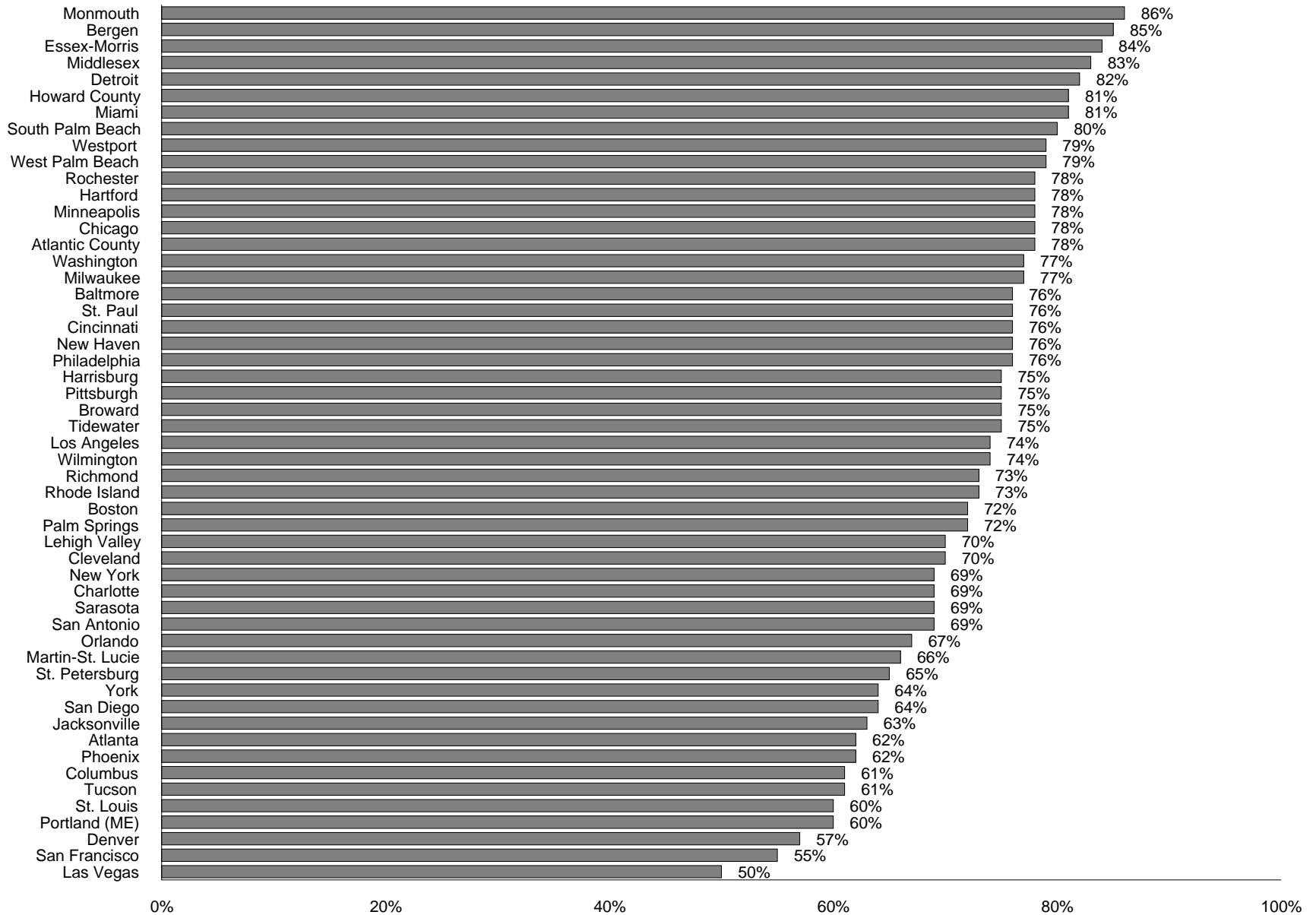
BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
St. Louis	2014	60%	50%	11	16	23
Portland (ME)	2007	60%	47%	13	28	12
Denver	2007	57%	48%	9	25	18
San Francisco	2004	55%	55%		45	
Las Vegas	2005	50%	40%	11	28	21
Buffalo	1995	NA	91%			9

3

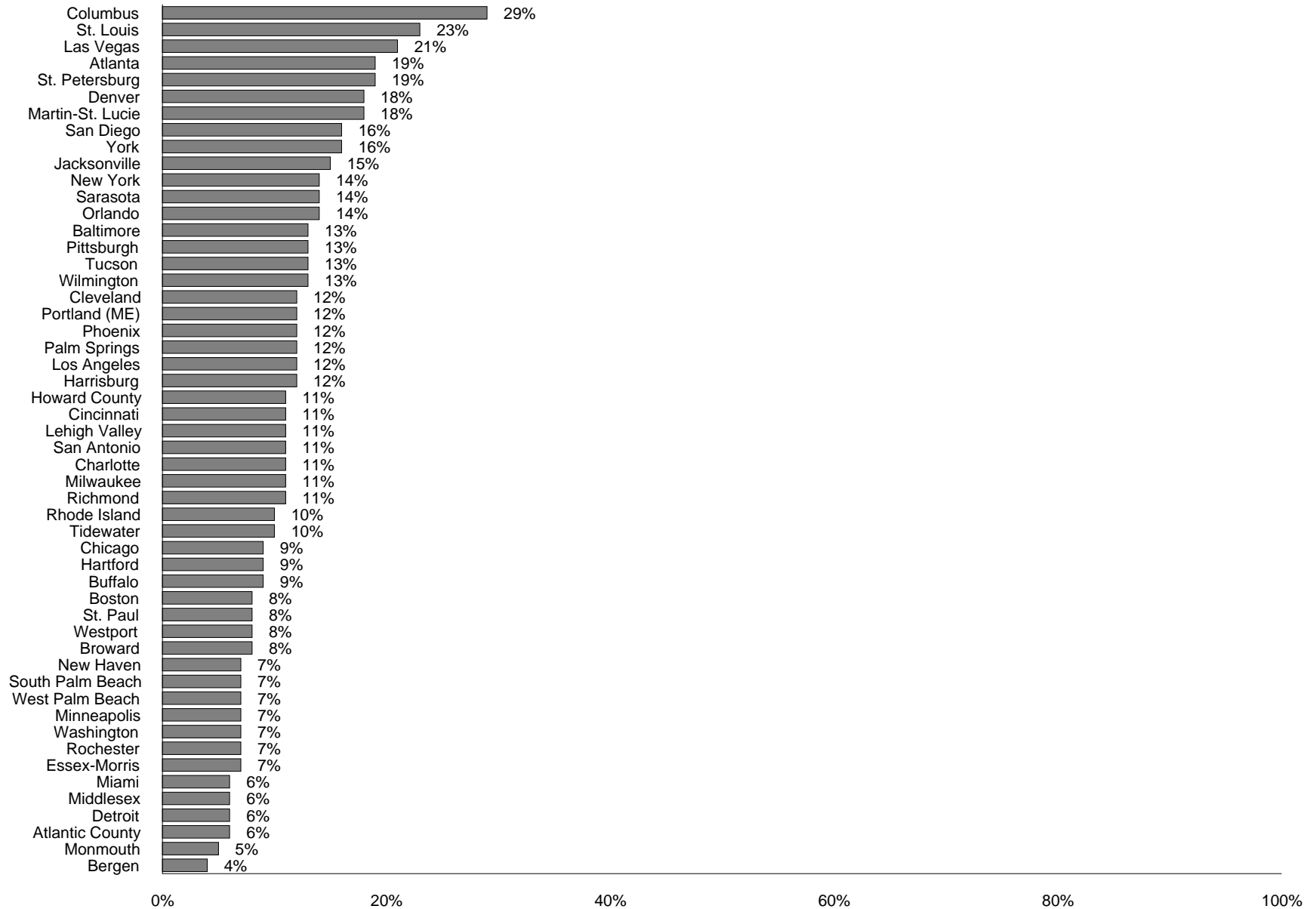
ALWAYS/USUALLY PARTICIPATE IN A PASSOVER SEDER

(Jewish Households)



4 NEVER PARTICIPATE IN A PASSOVER SEDER

(Jewish Households)



**TABLE 4
LIGHT CHANUKAH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Monmouth	1997	87%	82%	5	7	6
Middlesex	2008	84%	77%	7	10	7
Bergen	2001	83%	76%	7	8	9
Howard County	2010	81%	68%	14	8	11
Rochester	1999	80%	72%	8	9	11
Harrisburg	1994	80%	71%	9	5	15
Boston	2005	79%	68%	11	11	10
Hartford	2000	78%	71%	8	8	13
Westport	2000	78%	70%	8	9	14
Minneapolis	2004	78%	65%	13	14	8
Chicago	2010	78%	65%	12	12	10
Detroit	2005	77%	69%	8	10	13
Atlantic County	2004	77%	68%	10	10	12
S Palm Beach	2005	77%	68%	9	10	13
Tidewater	2001	77%	67%	10	10	13
W Palm Beach	2005	76%	68%	9	11	13
Miami	2014	76%	67%	10	12	12
St. Paul	2004	76%	66%	10	14	10
Rhode Island	2002	76%	66%	10	11	13
Cincinnati	2008	76%	60%	16	14	10
New Haven	2010	75%	66%	9	14	11
Baltimore	2010	75%	65%	10	9	16
Broward	1997	74%	68%	6	10	16
Wilmington	1995	74%	67%	7	9	17

**TABLE 4
LIGHT CHANUKAH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Orlando	1993	74%	64%	10	10	16
Atlanta	2006	74%	61%	12	15	12
Essex-Morris	1998	74%	74%		26	
Charlotte	1997	73%	67%	6	10	17
Lehigh Valley	2007	73%	64%	10	14	13
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	73%	63%	10	9	17
York	1999	71%	65%	7	11	18
Richmond	1994	71%	64%	7	12	17
Los Angeles	1997	71%	61%	10	12	17
Philadelphia	2009	71%	71%		29	
Milwaukee	1996	70%	63%	7	11	19
Pittsburgh	2002	70%	60%	10	13	17
San Antonio	2007	70%	59%	11	17	13
Washington	2003	70%	59%	11	17	13
Portland (ME)	2007	70%	58%	12	15	16
Cleveland	2011	69%	54%	15	13	18
Jacksonville	2002	68%	61%	7	15	17
New York	2011	68%	60%	8	12	21
Tucson	2002	68%	57%	11	16	16
San Diego	2003	68%	56%	13	16	16
St. Petersburg	1994	67%	62%	5	10	23
Denver	2007	66%	54%	12	17	17
Palm Springs	1998	66%	66%		15	19
Sarasota	2001	65%	57%	8	13	22

TABLE 4
LIGHT CHANUKAH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS

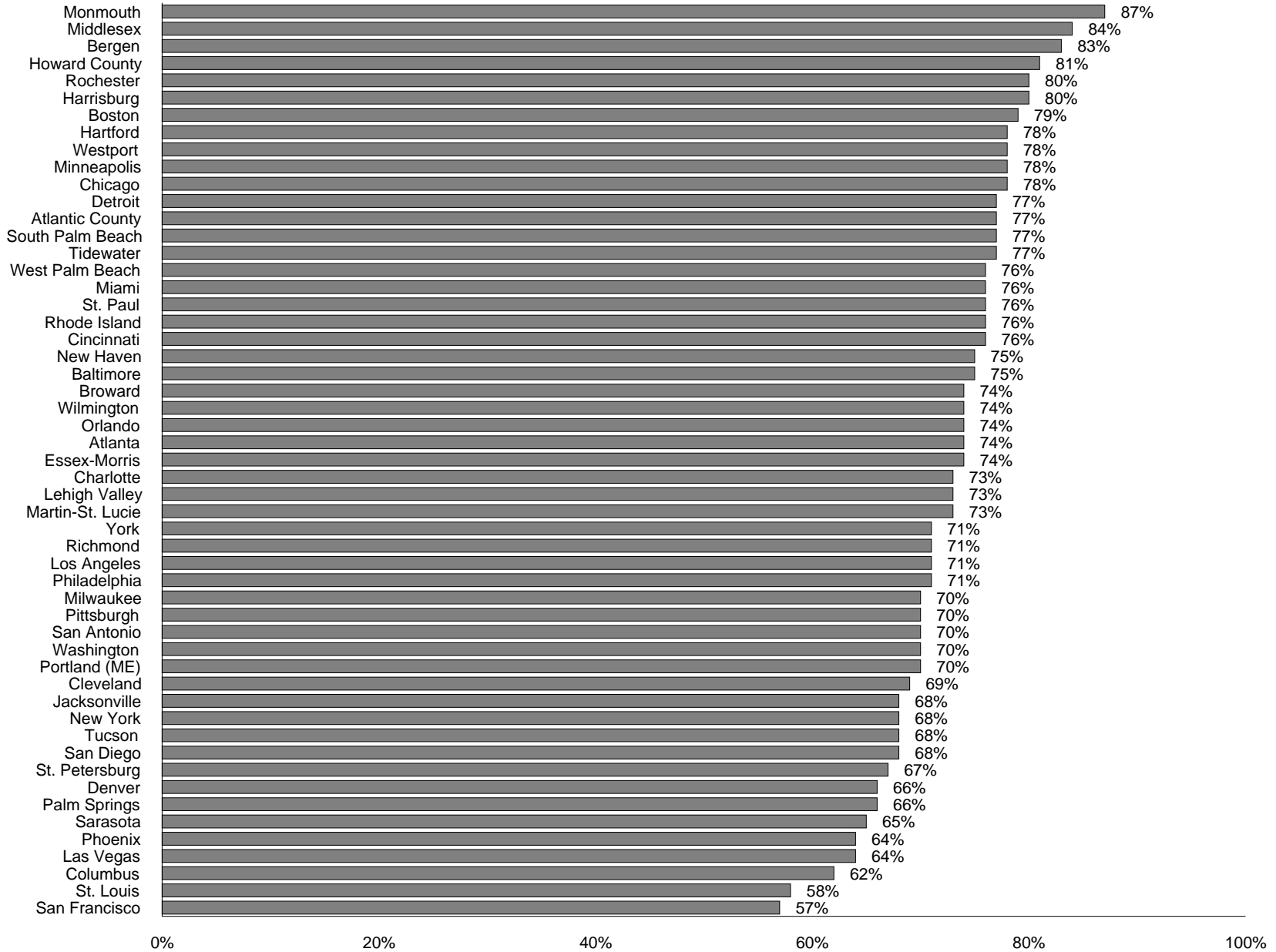
BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Phoenix	2002	64%	53%	11	18	18
Las Vegas	2005	64%	53%	11	16	20
Columbus	2013	62%	45%	17	10	28
St. Louis	2014	58%	47%	11	17	25
San Francisco	2004	57%	57%		43	

5

ALWAYS/USUALLY LIGHT CHANUKAH CANDLES

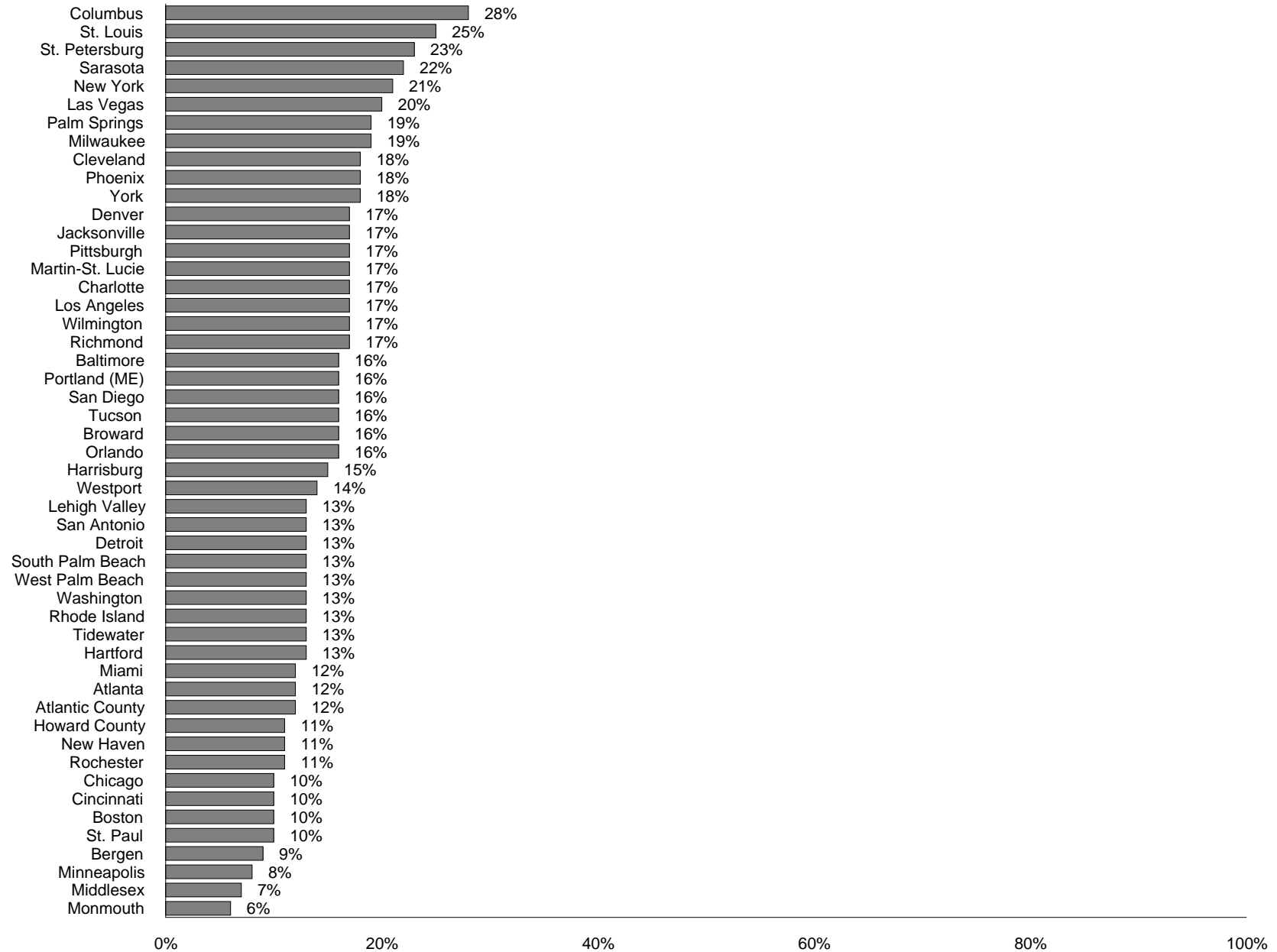
(Jewish Households)



6

NEVER LIGHT CHANUKAH CANDLES

(Jewish Households)



**TABLE 5
LIGHT SABBATH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Baltimore	2010	36%	28%	8	21	43
New York	2011	33%	29%	4	17	50
Essex-Morris	1998	33%	26%	7	27	40
Bergen	2001	32%	26%	6	23	44
Miami	2014	32%	25%	7	22	46
Detroit	2005	29%	22%	7	31	40
Cincinnati	2008	29%	17%	13	30	41
Rochester	1999	28%	19%	9	30	42
Harrisburg	1994	27%	15%	12	28	46
Boston	2005	26%	18%	7	28	47
Minneapolis	2004	26%	15%	11	32	42
Middlesex	2008	25%	20%	5	24	51
Hartford	2000	25%	18%	8	27	48
Pittsburgh	2002	25%	17%	8	28	48
Los Angeles	1997	25%	17%	8	26	49
Monmouth	1997	25%	16%	9	29	46
St. Paul	2004	25%	15%	10	37	39
Jacksonville	2002	24%	16%	8	25	51
Milwaukee	1996	24%	15%	9	29	47
Cleveland	2011	23%	17%	7	27	50
Atlanta	2006	23%	17%	6	29	48
S Palm Beach	2005	22%	17%	5	22	55
Lehigh Valley	2007	22%	14%	8	29	49
Chicago	2010	22%	14%	8	26	52

**TABLE 5
LIGHT SABBATH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Tidewater	2001	22%	14%	8	25	54
St. Petersburg	1994	22%	14%	7	28	51
Broward	1997	21%	15%	6	28	52
Rhode Island	2002	21%	13%	8	26	53
Palm Springs	1998	21%	21%		27	51
San Antonio	2007	20%	14%	6	32	48
San Diego	2003	20%	13%	8	26	54
New Haven	2010	20%	13%	7	24	56
Richmond	1994	20%	11%	9	31	49
San Francisco	2004	20%	20%		80	
Washington	2003	19%	13%	6	29	52
Wilmington	1995	19%	12%	7	25	56
Denver	2007	19%	11%	8	25	56
Howard County	2010	18%	11%	7	33	49
York	1999	18%	11%	7	30	52
Philadelphia	2009	18%	18%		82	
W Palm Beach	2005	17%	13%	4	24	59
Sarasota	2001	17%	12%	5	21	63
Tucson	2002	17%	11%	6	26	58
Westport	2000	17%	11%	6	25	58
Columbus	2013	17%	10%	7	27	56
St. Louis	2014	17%	10%	7	25	58
Charlotte	1997	17%	10%	6	27	56
Phoenix	2002	16%	11%	5	26	57

**TABLE 5
LIGHT SABBATH CANDLES
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

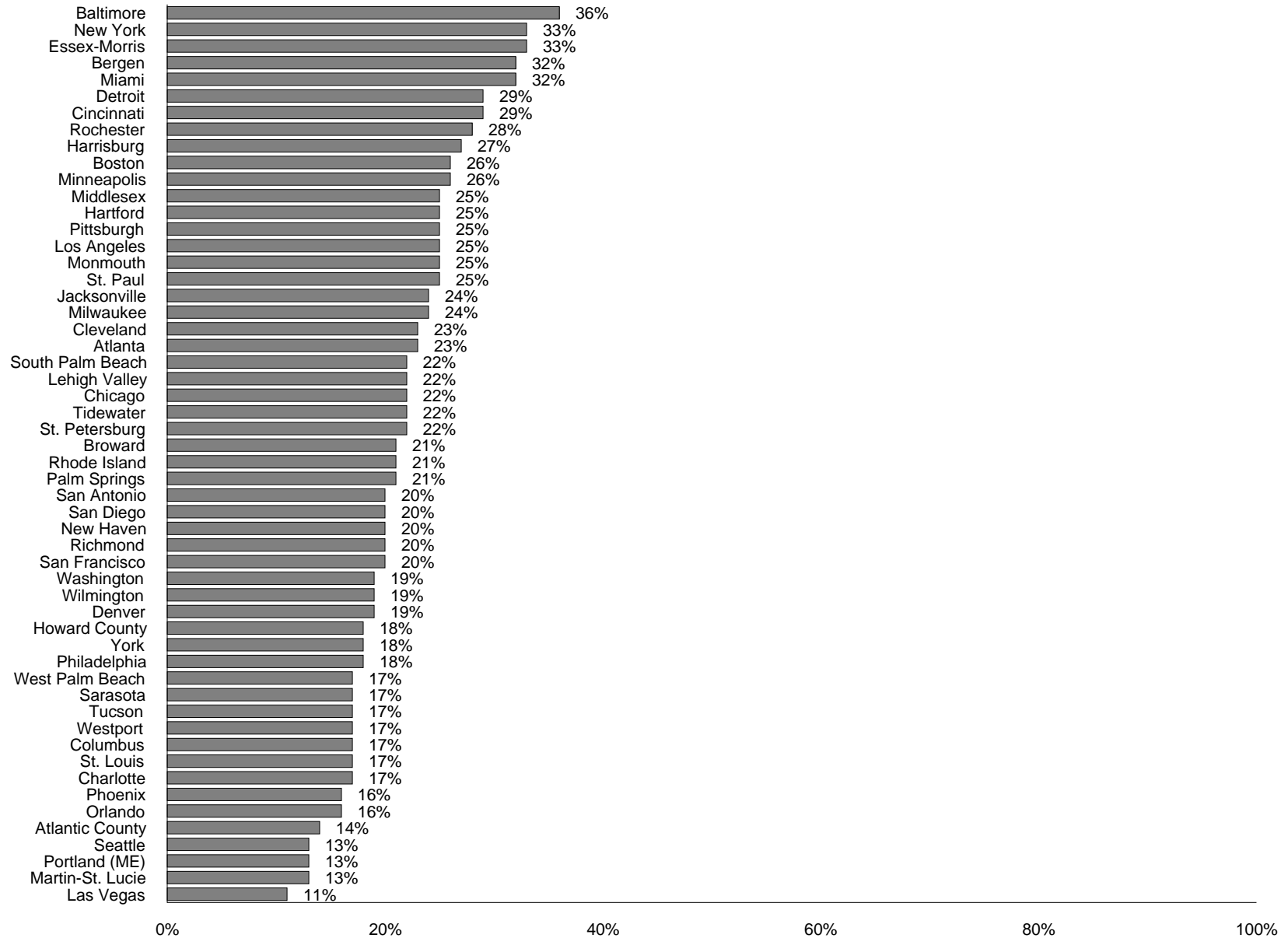
BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Orlando	1993	16%	9%	7	29	55
Atlantic County	2004	14%	10%	3	28	58
Seattle	2000	13%	11%	3	29	58
Portland (ME)	2007	13%	9%	4	26	61
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	13%	8%	5	28	59
Las Vegas	2005	11%	7%	4	22	67
Buffalo	1995	NA	56%			44
NJPS ¹	2000	23%	16%	7	26	51

¹ NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

7 ALWAYS/USUALLY LIGHT SABBATH CANDLES

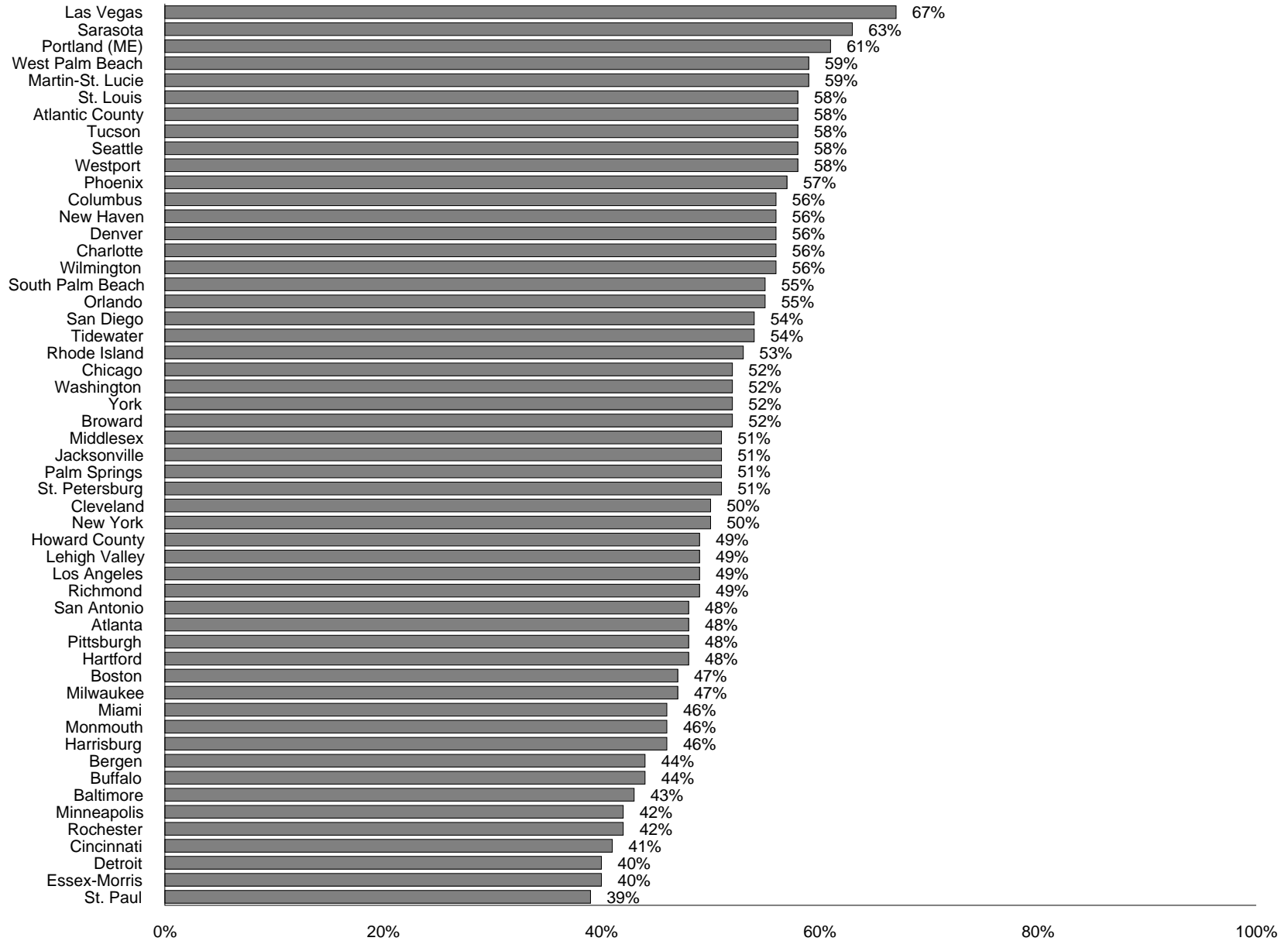
(Jewish Households)



8

NEVER LIGHT SABBATH CANDLES

(Jewish Households)



**TABLE 6
KEEP KOSHER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Total In Home	In Home Only	In and Out of Home
New York	2011	32%	NA	NA
Bergen	2001	29%	11%	18
Monmouth	1997	26%	15%	11
Baltimore ♣	2010	26%	NA	NA
Middlesex	2008	23%	11%	12
Harrisburg	1994	23%	15%	8
Detroit	2005	22%	8%	14
Rochester	1999	22%	13%	8
Essex-Morris ♣	1998	22%	NA	NA
Miami	2014	20%	6%	13
Cleveland ♣	2011	20%	NA	NA
Cincinnati ♣	2008	19%	NA	NA
Pittsburgh ♣	2002	19%	NA	NA
Hartford	2000	17%	11%	6
Buffalo ♣	1995	17%	NA	NA
Rhode Island	2002	16%	8%	8
Broward	1997	16%	11%	5
New Haven	2010	15%	8%	8
Chicago ♣	2010	15%	NA	NA
Philadelphia ♣	2009	15%	NA	NA
St. Paul	2004	14%	6%	9
S Palm Beach	2005	14%	9%	5
Minneapolis	2004	13%	7%	6
York	1999	13%	8%	6

**TABLE 6
KEEP KOSHER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Total In Home	In Home Only	In and Out of Home
Milwaukee	1996	13%	8%	5
St. Louis	2014	13%	NA	NA
Denver ♣	2007	13%	NA	NA
Atlanta ♣	2006	13%	NA	NA
Palm Springs ♣	1998	13%	NA	NA
Washington	2003	12%	5%	7
Wilmington	1995	12%	7%	5
Tucson	2002	11%	5%	6
Columbus	2013	11%	6%	5
Lehigh Valley	2007	11%	5%	5
Los Angeles ♣	1997	11%	NA	NA
San Antonio	2007	10%	4%	5
Jacksonville	2002	10%	5%	5
Tidewater	2001	10%	5%	5
Atlantic County	2004	10%	6%	4
St. Petersburg	1994	10%	6%	4
Richmond	1994	10%	6%	3
W Palm Beach	2005	9%	6%	3
Orlando	1993	9%	6%	3
Howard County ♣	2010	9%	NA	NA
Phoenix ♣	2002	9%	NA	NA
Charlotte	1997	8%	5%	3
San Diego ♣	2003	8%	NA	NA
Boston ¹	2005	7%	NA	NA

**TABLE 6
KEEP KOSHER
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	<i>Total In Home</i>	<i>In Home Only</i>	<i>In and Out of Home</i>
Sarasota	2001	6%	4%	3
Westport	2000	6%	4%	1
Las Vegas	2005	5%	3%	3
Seattle ♣	2000	5%	NA	NA
Portland (ME)	2007	3%	1%	3
NJPS ²	2000	17%	7%	10

♣ Question was only asked about *keeping kosher in the home*.

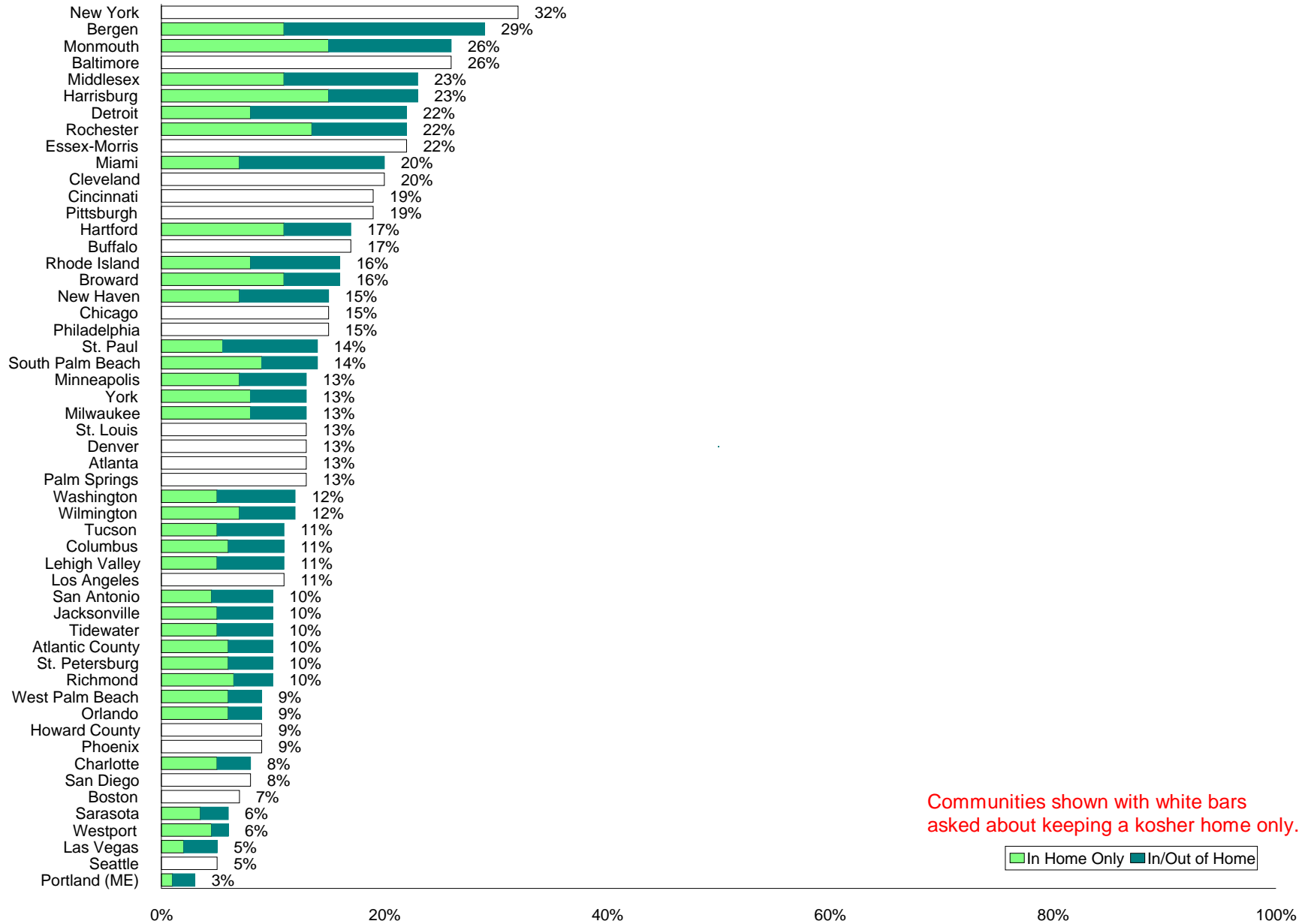
¹ Question was about *following Jewish dietary laws in the home*.

² NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

9

KEEP A KOSHER HOME

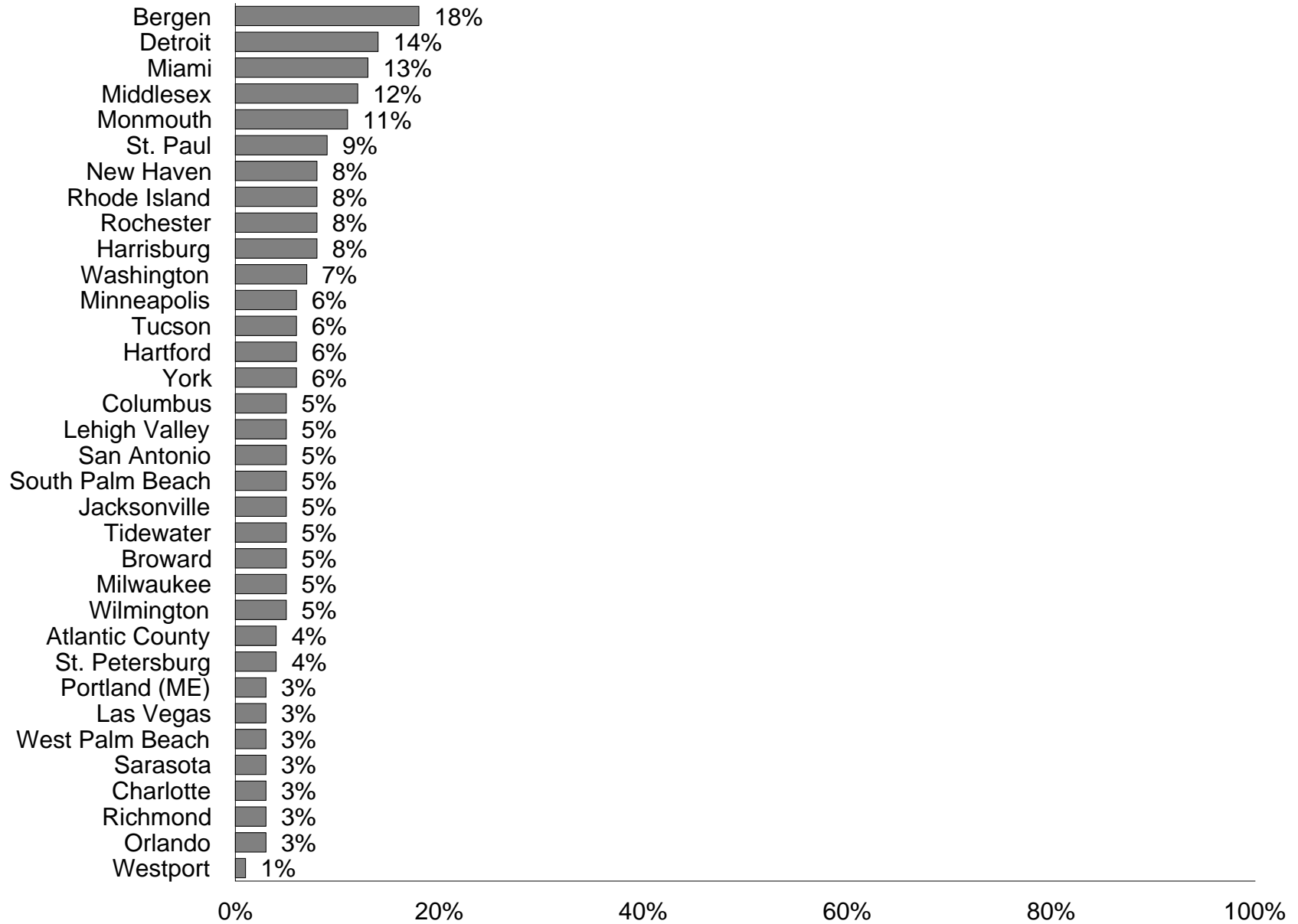
(Respondents)



10

KEEP KOSHER IN AND OUT OF HOME

(Respondents)



**TABLE 7
REFRAIN FROM USING ELECTRICITY ON THE SABBATH
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

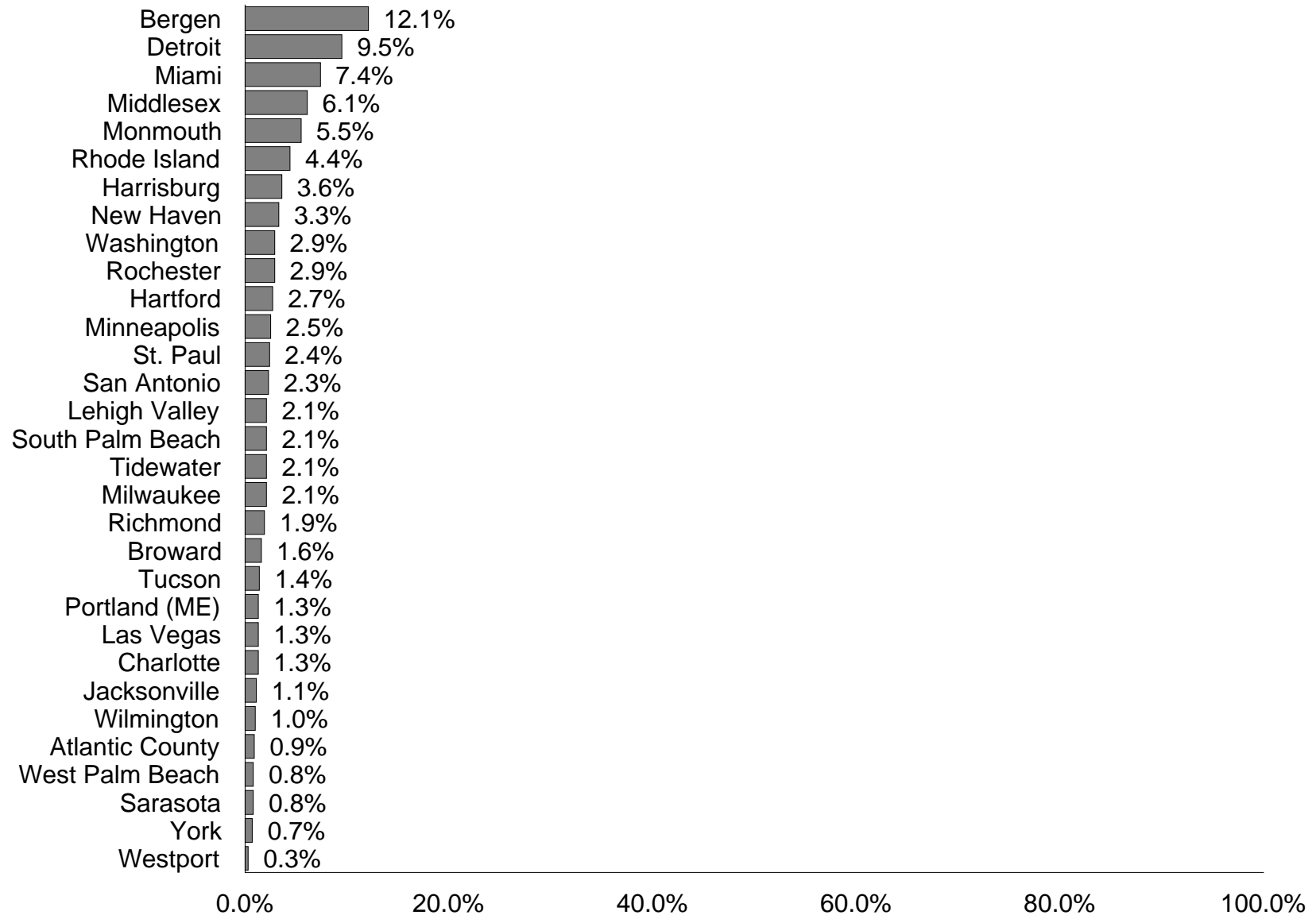
BASE: RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	%		Community	Year	%
Bergen	2001	12.1%		Tidewater	2001	2.1%
Detroit	2005	9.5%		Milwaukee	1996	2.1%
Miami	2014	7.4%		Richmond	1994	1.9%
Middlesex	2008	6.1%		Broward	1997	1.6%
Monmouth	1997	5.5%		Tucson	2002	1.4%
Rhode Island	2002	4.4%		Portland (ME)	2007	1.3%
Harrisburg	1994	3.6%		Las Vegas	2005	1.3%
New Haven	2010	3.3%		Charlotte	1997	1.3%
Washington	2003	2.9%		Jacksonville	2002	1.1%
Rochester	1999	2.9%		Wilmington	1995	1.0%
Hartford	2000	2.7%		Atlantic County	2004	0.9%
Minneapolis	2004	2.5%		W Palm Beach	2005	0.8%
St. Paul	2004	2.4%		Sarasota	2001	0.8%
San Antonio	2007	2.3%		York	1999	0.7%
Lehigh Valley	2007	2.1%		Westport	2000	0.3%
S Palm Beach	2005	2.1%				

11

REFRAIN FROM USING ELECTRICITY ON SABBATH

(Respondents)



**TABLE 8
HAVE A CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE HOME
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually/ Sometimes</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Portland (ME)	2007	48%	30%	6	12	52
Las Vegas	2005	34%	17%	4	13	66
York	1999	33%	24%	5	4	67
Orlando	1993	32%	18%	4	10	68
Charlotte	1997	31%	23%	4	5	69
Westport	2000	31%	18%	3	9	69
Harrisburg	1994	30%	21%	3	7	70
Tidewater	2001	30%	17%	6	8	70
Richmond	1994	29%	18%	3	8	71
Tucson	2002	28%	12%	6	11	72
Washington	2003	27%	14%	4	9	73
Wilmington	1995	26%	19%	2	4	74
Rhode Island	2002	26%	18%	4	5	74
Lehigh Valley	2007	26%	17%	3	5	74
St. Petersburg	1994	26%	16%	4	7	74
San Antonio	2007	26%	16%	2	8	74
New Haven	2010	25%	16%	3	6	75
St. Paul	2004	25%	16%	2	7	75
Jacksonville	2002	25%	15%	2	8	75
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	25%	13%	5	7	75
Atlantic County	2004	24%	13%	3	8	76
Milwaukee	1996	23%	15%	3	6	77
Rochester	1999	23%	15%	1	7	77
Minneapolis	2004	23%	14%	2	7	77

**TABLE 8
HAVE A CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE HOME
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

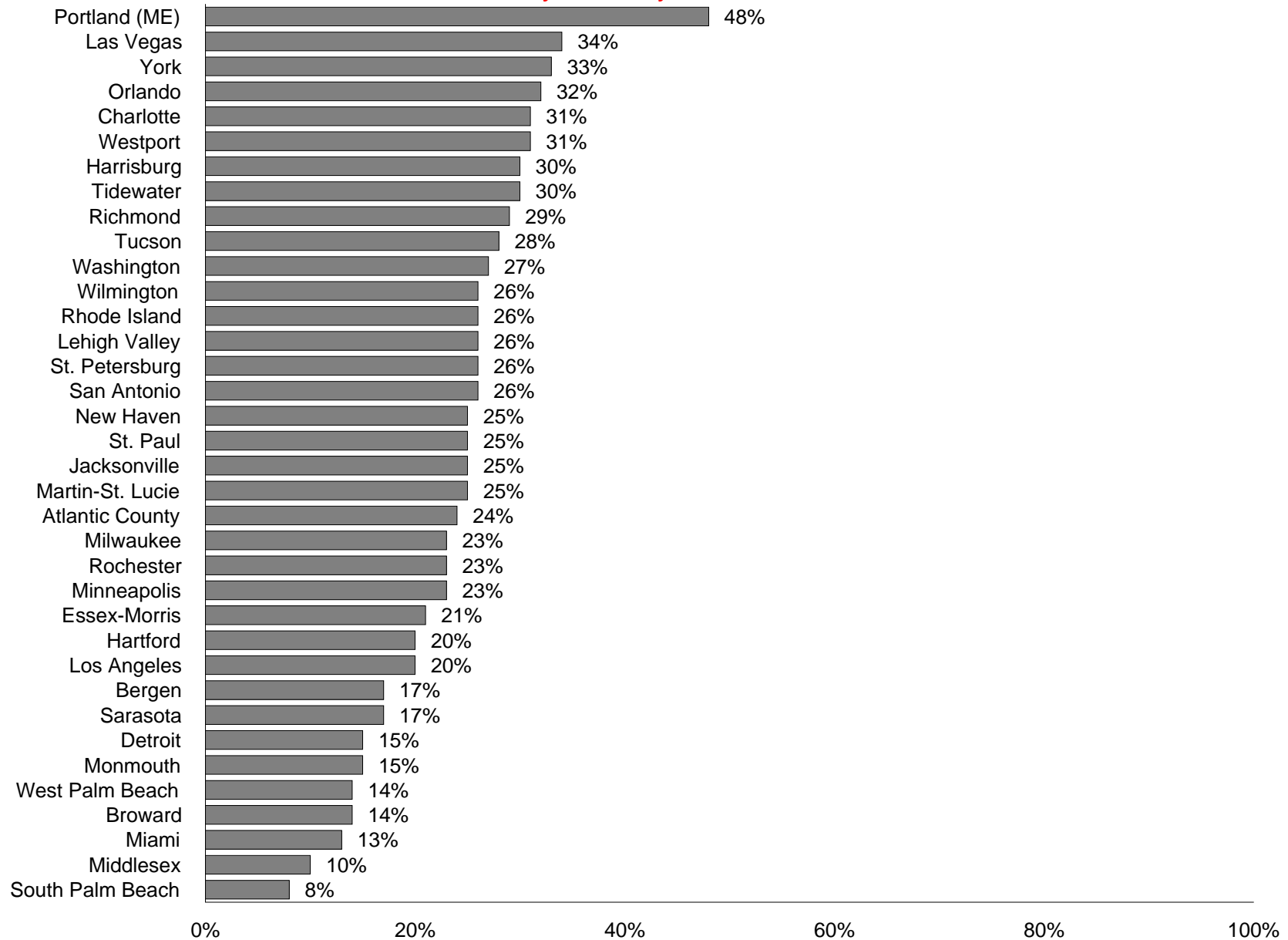
Community	Year	<i>Always/ Usually/ Sometimes</i>	Always	Usually	Some- times	Never
Essex-Morris	1998	21%	13%	2	5	79
Hartford	2000	20%	14%	2	5	80
Los Angeles	1997	20%	10%	3	7	80
Bergen	2001	17%	11%	2	4	83
Sarasota	2001	17%	11%	1	5	83
Detroit	2005	15%	9%	2	4	85
Monmouth	1997	15%	9%	2	4	85
W Palm Beach	2005	14%	9%	1	4	86
Broward	1997	14%	9%	1	4	86
Miami *	2014	13%	6%	1	6	87
Middlesex	2008	10%	7%	1	3	90
S Palm Beach	2005	8%	4%	1	3	93

* Question was asked about *having a Christmas tree (without specifying in the home.*

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HAVE A CHRISTMAS TREE IN HOME

(Jewish Households)
Always/Usually/Sometimes



**TABLE 9
SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Never/ Special Occasions ¹	Only on High Holidays	A Few Times per Year	Once per Month or More
Pittsburgh	2002	23%	17	27	33
Boston	2005	68%			32
Cleveland *	2011	32%	14	23	31
New York *	2011	35%	12	24	29
Harrisburg	1994	27%	21	22	30
Bergen	2001	23%	27	21	29
St. Louis	2014	40%	12	19	29
Tidewater	2001	21%	22	29	28
Detroit	2005	22%	24	26	28
St. Paul	2004	23%	24	26	28
St. Petersburg	1994	32%	17	23	28
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	41%	16	15	28
Buffalo	1995	72%			28
Hartford	2000	27%	21	25	27
Rochester	1999	24%	24	27	26
Jacksonville	2002	31%	23	20	26
San Antonio	2007	25%	22	28	25
York	1999	28%	20	27	25
Charlotte	1997	25%	25	26	25
Milwaukee	1996	26%	24	26	25
Los Angeles	1997	29%	23	23	25
Sarasota	2001	32%	21	22	25
New Haven	2010	32%	24	20	25
San Diego *	2003	40%	13	23	24

**TABLE 9
SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS**

BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Never/ Special Occasions ¹	Only on High Holidays	A Few Times per Year	Once per Month or More	
Monmouth	1997	23%	32	21	24	
Columbus	2013	55%	8	13	24	
Lehigh Valley	2007	29%	25	23	23	
Westport	2000	29%	29	19	23	
Minneapolis	2004	23%	23	33	22	
Washington	2003	31%	17	30	22	
Richmond	1994	25%	30	23	22	
Middlesex	2008	25%	31	22	22	
Miami	2014	28%	33	18	22	
Wilmington	1995	29%	23	27	21	
Orlando	1993	34%	20	26	21	
Philadelphia *	2009	39%	15	25	21	
Rhode Island	2002	29%	29	22	21	
Tucson	2002	38%	21	20	21	
S Palm Beach	2005	28%	31	21	20	
Palm Springs	1998		80%			20
East Bay	2011		81%			19
Atlantic County	2004	29%	28	25	18	
Phoenix	2002	37%	20	25	18	
Broward	1997	32%	31	20	18	
W Palm Beach	2005	31%	31	21	16	
Portland (ME)	2007	45%	22	17	15	
Las Vegas	2005	44%	25	18	13	
Essex-Morris	1998	28%	30	42		

TABLE 9
SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS

BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Never/ Special Occasions ¹	Only on High Holidays	A Few Times per Year	Once per Month or More
NJPS * ²	2000	40%	18	19	24

* Question was asked about synagogue attendance *in the past year*.

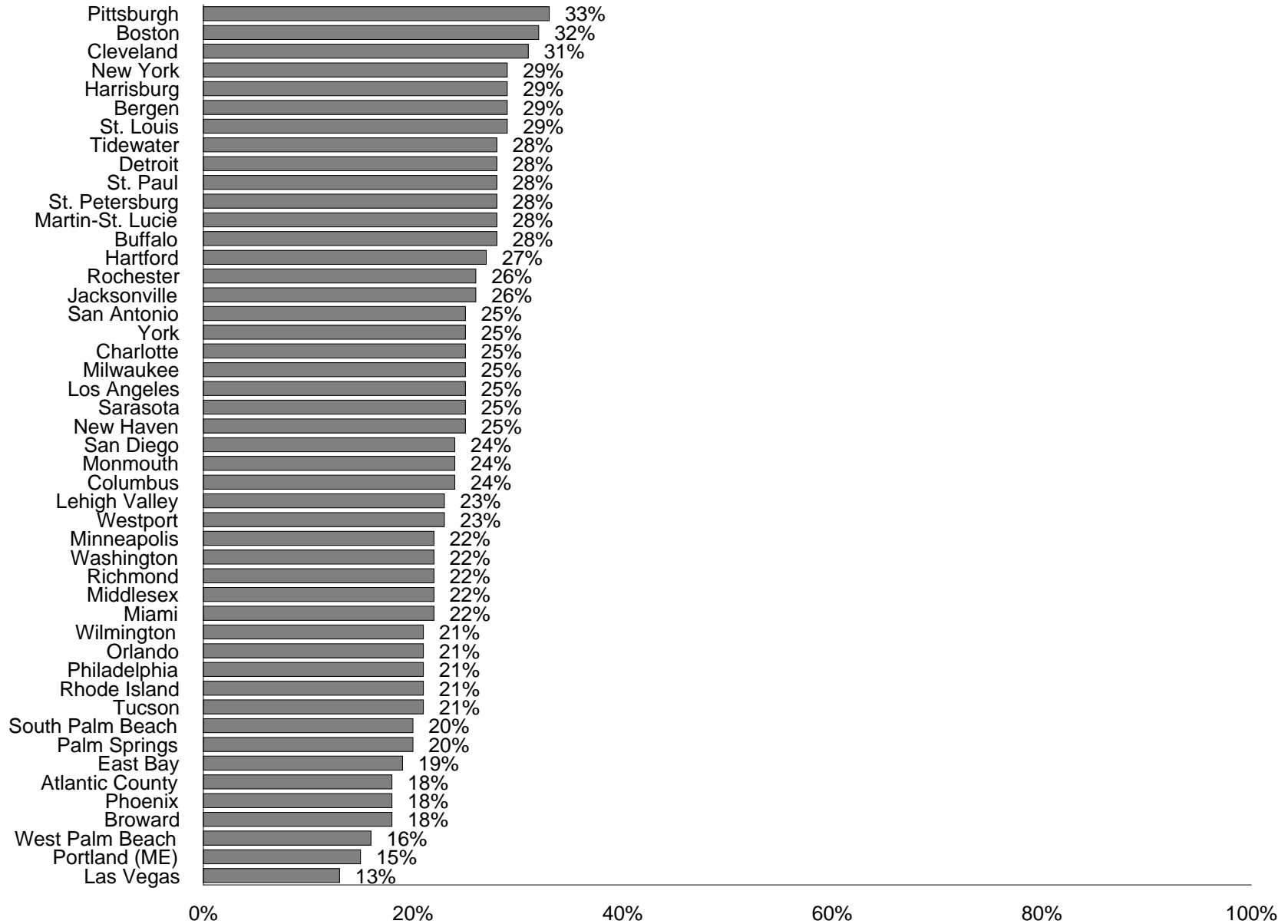
¹ *Never/Special Occasions* includes respondents who never attend synagogue services and respondents who attend synagogue services only for special occasions, such as weddings/b'nai mitzvah.

² NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

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ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

(Jewish Respondents)



14

NEVER ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

(or only for weddings/b'nai mitzvah)
(Jewish Respondents)

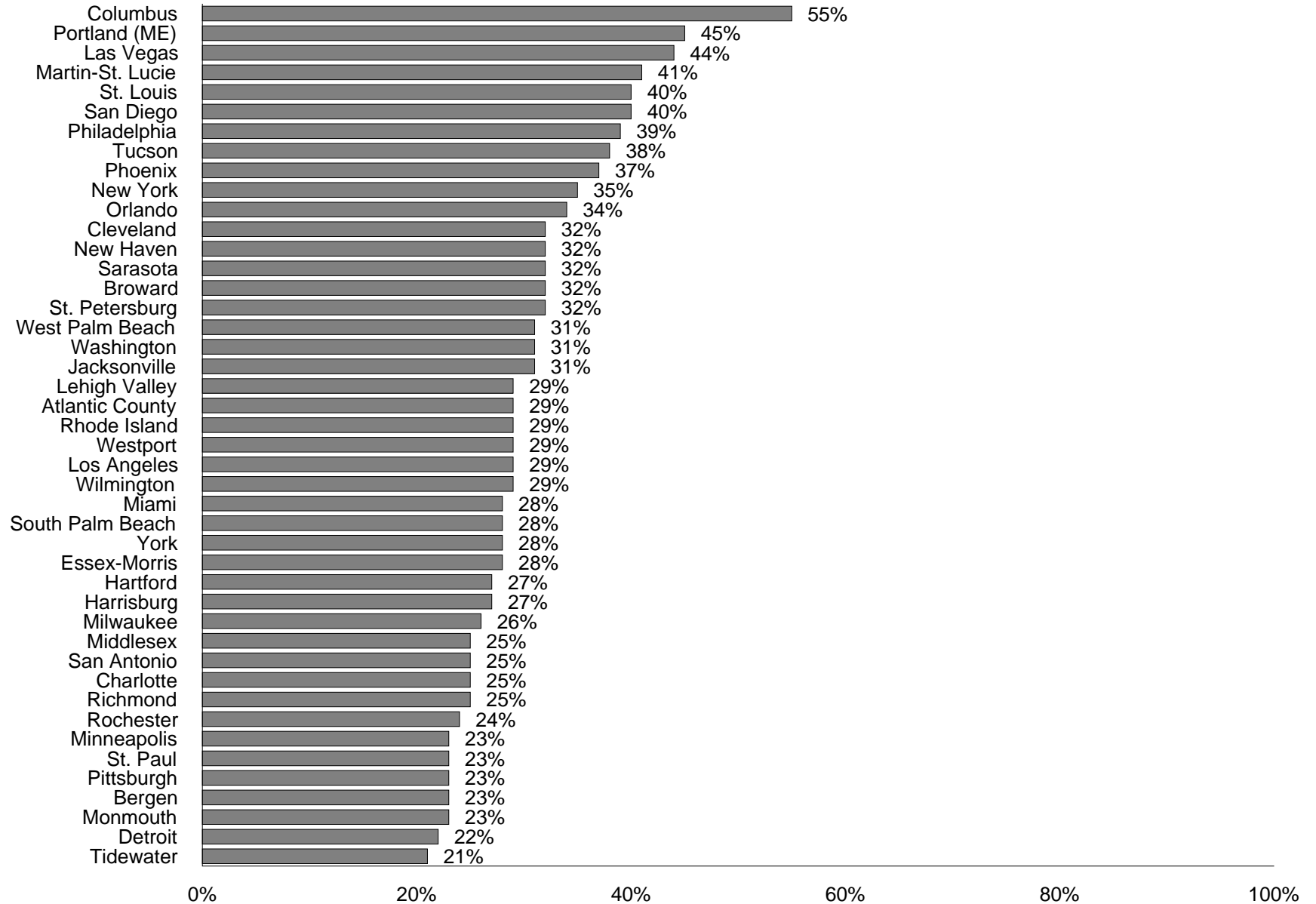


TABLE 10
SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE
BY AGE OF RESPONDENT
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS

BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS

Community	Year	Under 35	35-49	50-64	65-74	75+	65+	All
Hartford	2000	16%	36%	26%	23%	27%	25%	27%
Martin-St. Lucie	1999	NA	36%	21%	36%	20%	30%	28%
Pittsburgh	2002	23%	34%	33%	32%	39%	36%	33%
Jacksonville	2002	12%	34%	21%	30%	33%	32%	26%
Detroit	2005	43%	33%	27%	31%	20%	24%	28%
New York	2011	41%	33%	29%	21%	26%	24%	30%
Bergen	2001	35%	33%	23%	26%	29%	27%	29%
Tidewater	2001	16%	33%	25%	35%	36%	36%	28%
San Antonio	2007	24%	32%	25%	21%	25%	23%	25%
York	1999	23%	30%	24%	18%	19%	18%	25%
New Haven	2010	27%	29%	23%	21%	25%	23%	25%
San Diego ¹	2003	18%	29%	13%	18%	22%	20%	24%
Harrisburg	1994	18%	29%	35%	43%	38%	41%	29%
St. Petersburg	1994	25%	28%	24%	28%	30%	29%	28%
Monmouth	1997	19%	28%	20%	23%	29%	25%	24%
Westport	2000	16%	28%	21%	12%	33%	21%	23%
Charlotte	1997	15%	28%	26%	29%	37%	33%	25%
St. Paul	2004	12%	28%	35%	27%	29%	29%	28%
Washington	2003	12%	28%	23%	26%	20%	22%	22%
Miami	2014	27%	27%	22%	20%	17%	18%	22%
Atlantic County	2004	NA	27%	10%	16%	26%	21%	18%
Cleveland	2011	43%	26%	32%	27%	29%	28%	31%
Rochester	1999	22%	26%	27%	23%	29%	26%	26%
Orlando	1993	12%	26%	12%	38%	23%	33%	21%
Middlesex	2008	35%	25%	20%	18%	21%	20%	22%

TABLE 10
SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE
BY AGE OF RESPONDENT
COMMUNITY COMPARISONS

BASE: JEWISH RESPONDENTS

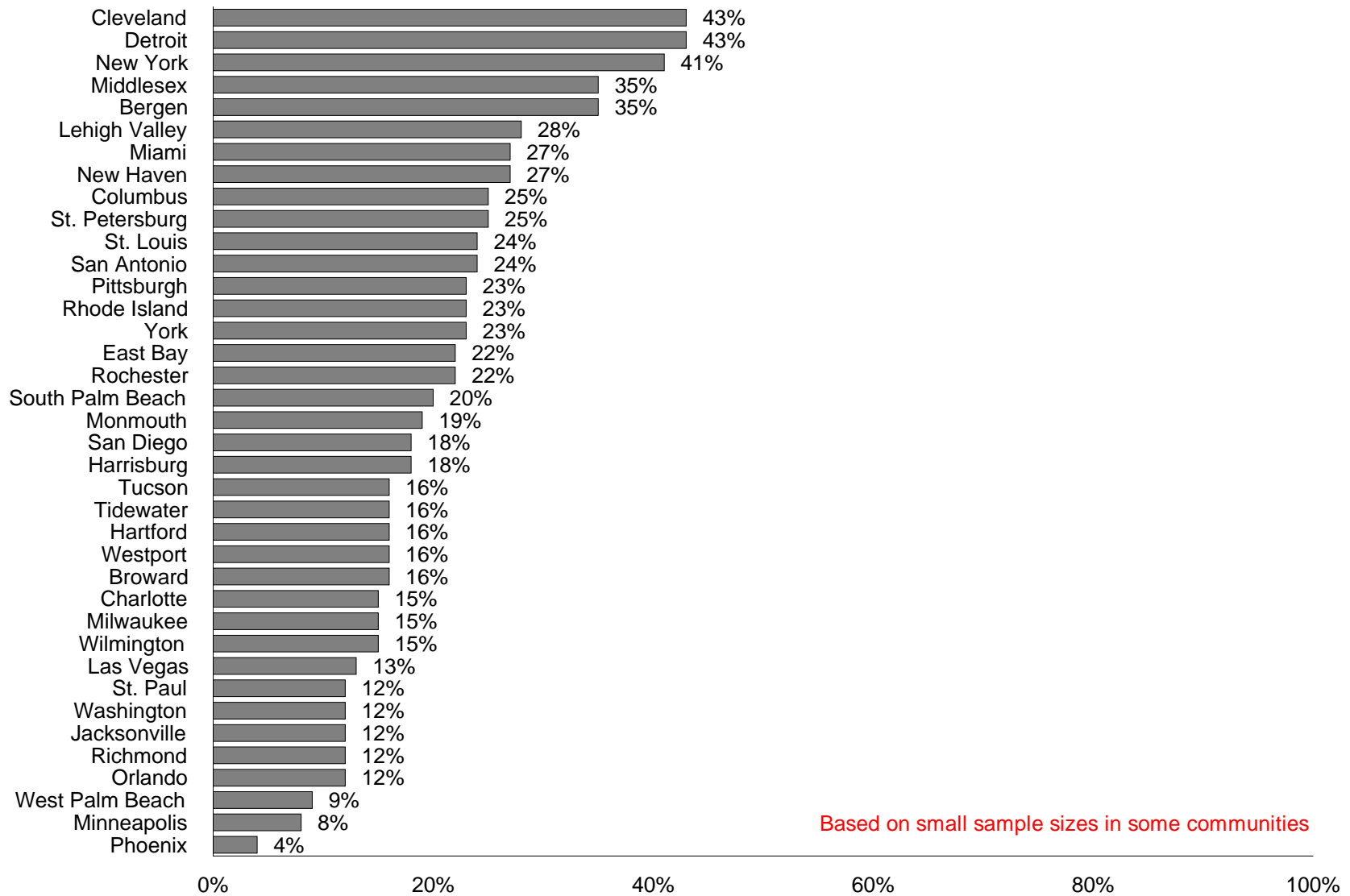
Community	Year	Under 35	35-49	50-64	65-74	75+	65+	All
Richmond	1994	12%	25%	29%	23%	24%	23%	22%
Lehigh Valley	2007	28%	24%	22%	26%	18%	21%	23%
Columbus	2013	25%	24%	22%	21%	28%	24%	24%
St. Louis	2014	24%	24%	29%	29%	47%	38%	29%
S Palm Beach	2005	20%	24%	15%	18%	21%	20%	20%
Tucson	2002	16%	24%	18%	27%	23%	24%	21%
Milwaukee	1996	15%	24%	22%	35%	31%	33%	25%
Phoenix	2002	4%	24%	17%	26%	18%	21%	18%
Rhode Island	2002	23%	23%	18%	21%	22%	21%	21%
East Bay	2011	22%	23%	17%	15%	13%	15%	19%
Broward	1997	16%	23%	15%	18%	18%	18%	18%
Minneapolis	2004	8%	22%	19%	26%	28%	28%	22%
Wilmington	1995	15%	21%	21%	19%	35%	26%	21%
Portland (ME)	2007	NA	21%	14%	18%	13%	15%	15%
Sarasota	2001	NA	18%	25%	31%	25%	27%	25%
W Palm Beach	2005	9%	16%	15%	16%	18%	17%	16%
Las Vegas	2005	13%	11%	11%	14%	16%	15%	13%
NJPS ^{1,2}	2000	18%	29%	24%	22%	26%	24%	24%

¹ Question was asked about synagogue attendance *in the past year*.

² NJPS 2000 data are for the *more Jewishly-connected sample*.

15

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE RESPONDENT UNDER AGE 35 (Jewish Respondents)

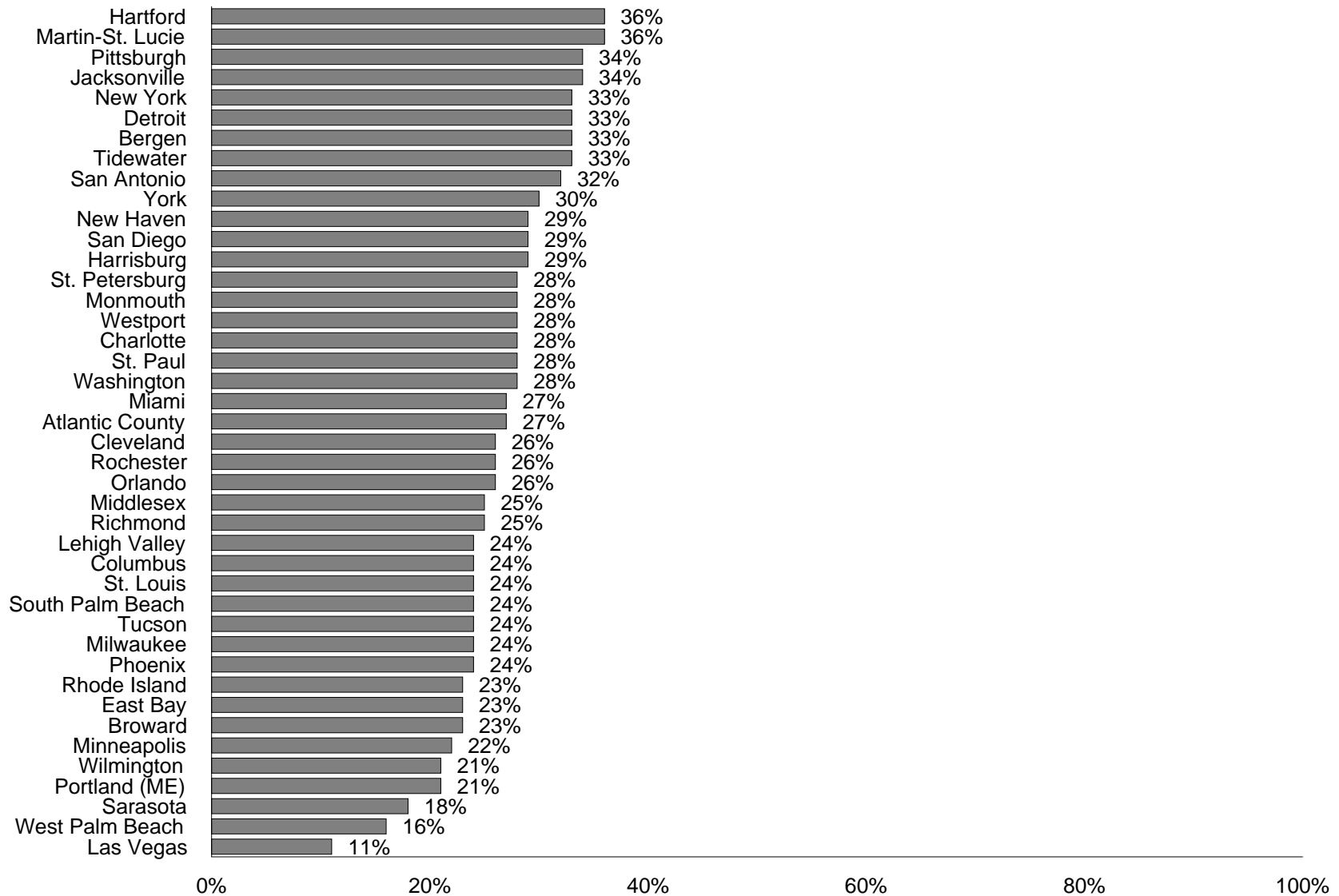


16

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

RESPONDENT AGE 35-49

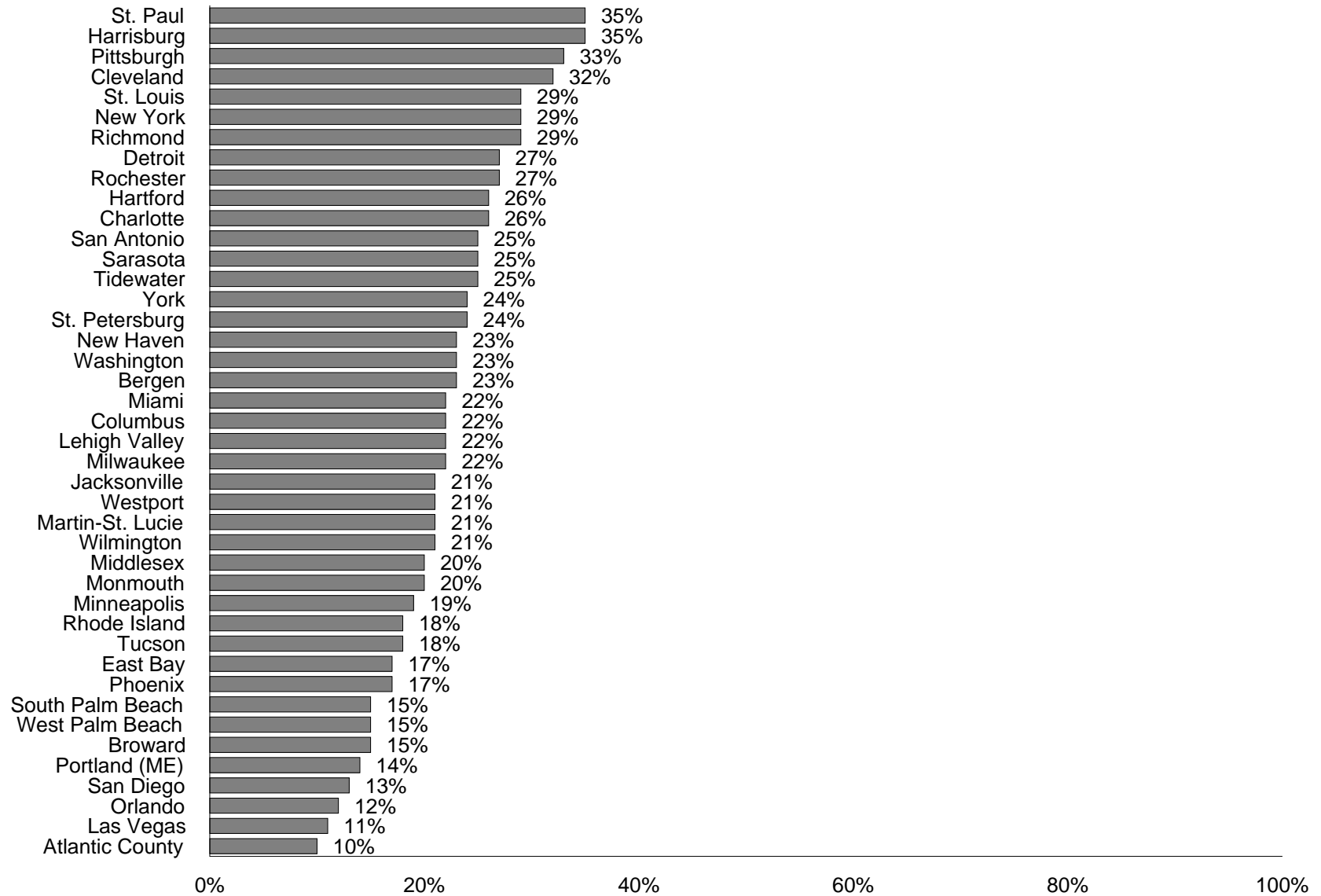
(Jewish Respondents)



17

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

RESPONDENT AGE 50-64
(Jewish Respondents)

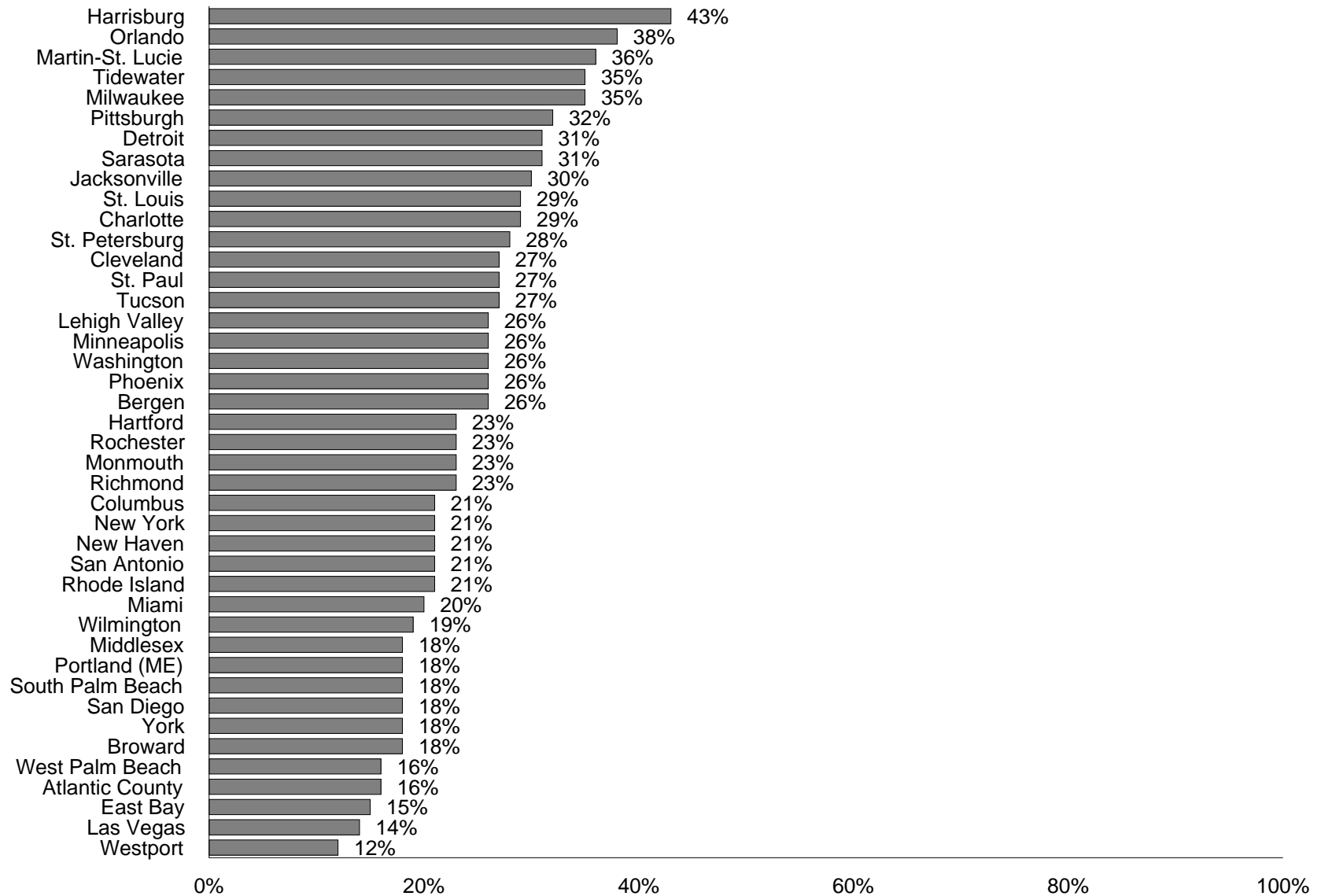


18

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

RESPONDENT AGE 65-74

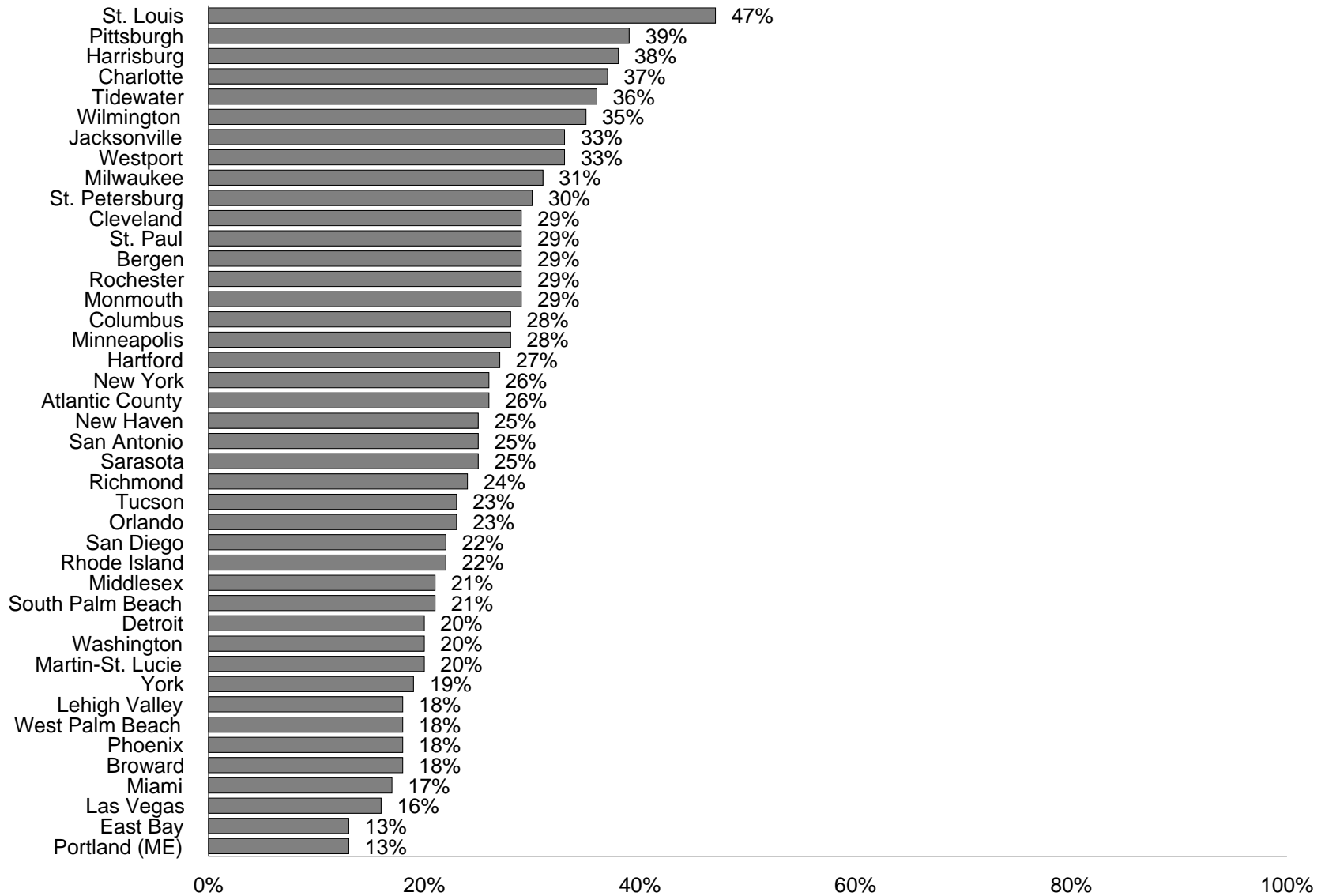
(Jewish Respondents)



19

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

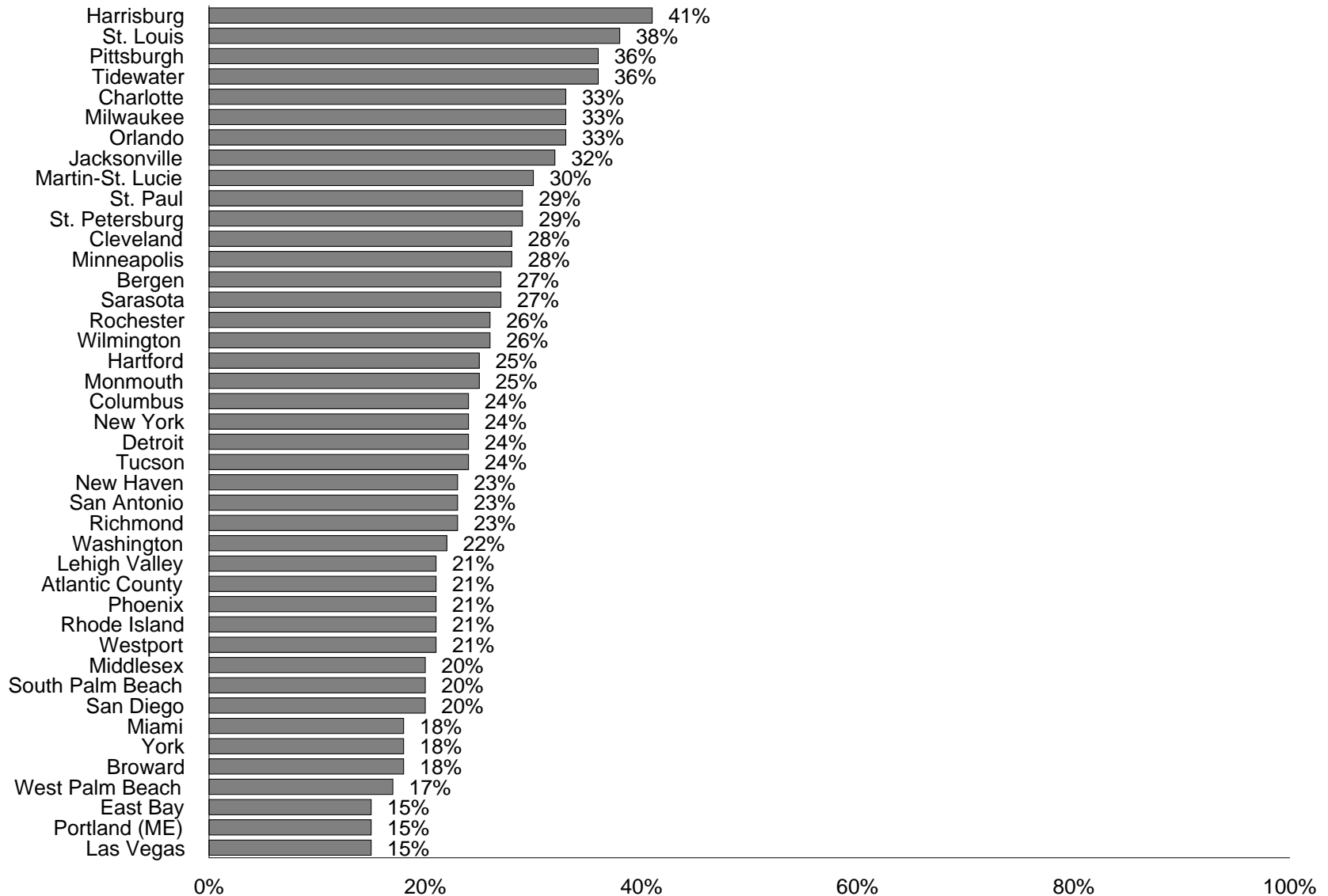
RESPONDENT AGE 75 AND OVER (Jewish Respondents)



20

ATTEND SYNAGOGUE SERVICES ONCE PER MONTH OR MORE

RESPONDENT AGE 65 AND OVER (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.

BERMAN JEWISH DATABANK

A Project of
The Jewish Federations
OF NORTH AMERICA



Berman Jewish DataBank

A project of The Jewish Federations of North America
in partnership with

The Berman Jewish Policy Archive @ NYU Wagner

The Center for Judaic Studies and
Contemporary Jewish Life at the
University of Connecticut

and

The Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation



The Jewish Federations
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