Chapter 16
Political Profile

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Political Party

Jewish respondents in the Twin Cities were asked whether they think of themselves as Republican, Democrat, Independent, or something else. **Table 16-1** shows that 10% (1,938 households) of respondents think of themselves as Republican; 66% (12,445 households), Democratic-Farmer-Laborer (*Democrat*); 18% (3,496 households), Independent; and 6% (1,121 households), something else. This discussion focuses on the percentage Republican and percentage Democrat.

✔ If all Jewish adults in households in which the respondents think of themselves as Republican also think of themselves as Republican, then 3,076 Jewish adults think of themselves as Republican. If all Jewish adults in households in which the respondents think of themselves as Democrat also think of themselves as Democrat, then 20,203 Jewish adults think of themselves as Democrat.

Comparisons with Other Jewish Communities. **Table 16-2** shows the 10% Republican compared with four other comparison Jewish communities. The 10% compares to the 14% national figure. The 66% Democrat compares to the 61% national figure. The 18% Independent compares to the 20% national figure. The 6% something else compares to the 6% national figure.

Comparisons Among Population Subgroups. **Table 16-1** shows the percentage Republican for various population subgroups. Overall, 10% of respondents consider themselves Republican. The percentage of respondents who consider themselves **Republican** is much higher for respondents in:

* households in the Southern Suburbs (21%)
* households in residence for 0-4 years (24%)
* households in which the respondent identifies as Orthodox (45%)

The percentage of respondents who consider themselves Republican is much lower for respondents in:

* elderly single households (3%)

Overall, 665 of respondents consider themselves Democrats. The percentage of respondents who consider themselves **Democrats** is much higher for responde nts in:

* households age 75 and over (77%)

The percentage of respondents who consider themselves Democrats is much lower for respondents in:

* households in which the respondent is male (53%)
* households in which the respondent identifies as Orthodox (30%)
* conversionary in-married households (54%)

Other Important Findings.

* the percentage Republican decreases with length of residence and age of respondent
* the percentage Democrat generally increases with age of respondent

Note that the respondent in 8.4% of the 1,240 interviews was not Jewish. In almost all of these cases, the respondent was the non-Jewish spouse of a Jewish adult. In these cases, the question reported on in this section was asked of the non-Jewish respondent on behalf of the Jewish household member (in a "proxy" fashion).

Non-Jewish household members were generally interviewed in two situations. First, in some cases, the Jewish household member would not cooperate with our survey, but the non-Jewish household member would. Second, in some cases, the Jewish household member was simply unavailable at the time of the survey.

Table 16-1
Political Party

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	Sample Size	Number of House-holds
All	10.2%	65.5	18.4	5.9	1,240	19,000
Geographic Area						
Minneapolis	9.2%	66.4	18.7	5.7	746	13,850
City of Minneapolis	5.6%	73.6	11.8	9.0	160	2,963
Inner Ring	8.8%	67.9	19.1	4.2	418	7,505
Outer Ring	13.3%	56.4	24.1	6.2	168	3,382
St. Paul	12.9%	62.9	17.9	6.3	494	5,150
City of St. Paul	5.1%	70.1	17.5	7.3	247	2,395
Southern Suburbs	21.0%	55.9	18.9	4.2	201	2,432
Northern Suburbs	5.3%	68.4	15.8	10.5	**47**	323

Table 16-1
Political Party

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	Sample Size	Number of House-holds
Any Adult Is from the FSU						
FSU	18.3%	56.7	17.5	7.5	177	2,495
Non-FSU	9.1%	66.7	18.6	5.6	1,063	16,505
Length of Residence						
0 - 4 years	24.0%	55.8	17.3	2.9	65	1,862
5 - 9 years	11.6%	61.5	17.3	9.6	96	969
10 - 19 years	11.0%	65.5	15.5	8.0	229	3,591
20 or more years	7.9%	67.2	19.4	5.5	850	12,578
Age of Respondent						
Under 35	14.4%	58.8	17.6	9.2	111	2,061
35 - 49	14.8%	63.0	15.9	6.3	344	6,688
50 - 64	6.4%	65.6	20.8	7.2	385	4,667
65 - 74	7.1%	63.5	25.4	4.0	151	2,211
75 and over	5.0%	76.9	16.5	1.6	249	3,373
➜ 65 and over	6.1%	71.2	20.1	2.6	400	5,584
Sex of Respondent						
Male	14.9%	53.2	24.5	7.4	518	8,232
Female	6.6%	75.0	13.7	4.7	722	10,766

Table 16-1
Political Party

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	Sample Size	Number of House-holds
Household Structure						
Household with Children	16.3%	61.1	16.5	6.1	401	6,878
Household with Only Adult Children	4.2%	66.7	20.8	8.3	97	1,292
Non-Elderly Couple	9.9%	63.4	21.8	4.9	186	2,394
Non-Elderly Single	8.8%	59.5	19.0	12.7	119	2,090
Elderly Couple	6.6%	71.5	19.5	2.4	189	2,299
Elderly Single	3.3%	72.7	21.4	2.6	183	2,755
Household Income						
Under $25,000	10.3%	72.4	13.5	3.8	186	3,553
$25 - $50,000	6.1%	69.6	16.9	7.4	160	2,964
$50 - $100,000	12.0%	63.2	17.7	7.1	309	6,137
$100 - $200,000	10.2%	67.5	18.9	3.4	236	4,142
$200,000 and over	11.5%	60.5	21.9	6.1	123	2,204
Jewish Identification						
Orthodox	45.0%	30.0	20.0	5.0	**28**	361
Conservative	7.9%	72.8	15.3	4.0	406	5,966
Reform	7.2%	70.3	19.3	3.2	364	5,833
Just Jewish	13.4%	56.2	20.6	9.8	436	6,764

Table 16-1
Political Party

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	Sample Size	Number of House-holds
Type of Marriage						
In-married	9.7%	69.2	16.1	5.0	512	6,799
Conversionary	17.6%	54.4	20.6	7.4	77	1,090
Intermarried	15.7%	55.7	22.7	5.9	243	4,188
Synagogue Membership						
Member	7.1%	70.9	18.0	4.0	725	10,279
Non-Member	13.7%	59.3	18.9	8.1	515	8,721
JCC Membership						
Member	7.1%	72.4	15.2	5.3	331	4,313
Non-Member	11.1%	63.5	19.4	6.0	909	14,687
Jewish Organization Membership						
Member	5.7%	70.4	19.6	4.3	449	6,308
Non-Member	12.5%	63.1	17.8	6.6	791	12,692
Federation Market Segments in the Past Year						
Donated to Federation	7.6%	70.2	17.7	4.5	703	9,942
Asked, Did Not Donate	12.9%	63.8	18.1	5.2	124	1,949
Not Asked	12.8%	59.3	19.8	8.1	413	7,109
Donated to Federation in the Past Year						
Nothing	12.9%	60.3	19.3	7.5	537	9,058
Under $100	8.7%	72.3	14.0	5.0	284	4,386
$100 - $500	6.6%	72.4	17.8	3.2	220	3,256
$500 and over	7.5%	61.4	25.0	6.1	162	2,300

Table 16-2
Political Party
Comparison with Other Communities

Base: Jewish Respondents

Community	Year	Republican	*Democrat*	Independent	Something Else
Washington	2003	11%	69	17	4
Los Angeles	1997	11%	69	9	11
Minneapolis	**2004**	**9%**	**66**	**19**	**6**
Twin Cities	**2004**	**10%**	**66**	**18**	**6**
St. Paul	**2004**	**13%**	**63**	**18**	**6**
Bergen	2001	11%	63	19	6
Columbus	2001	15%	58	22	5
NJPS	2000	14%	61	20	6

Profiles of Republicans and Democrats

While **Table 16-1** shows the percentage of Jewish respondents in *each population group* in the Twin Cities who think of themselves as Republican or Democrat, **Table 16-3** shows *profiles of Jewish respondents who think of themselves as Republican (Republicans) or Democrat* (*Democrats*). As an example of the interpretation of this table, note that while **Table 16-1** shows that 14% of *Jewish respondents under age 35* think of themselves as Republican, **Table 16-3** shows that 15% of *Republicans* are under age 35.

Compared to Democratic households, Republican households are much more likely to:

* live in the Southern Suburbs and the Outer Ring
* live in households in residence for 0-4 years
* be under age 50
* be male
* be households with children
* be in households in which the respondent is Orthodox or Just Jewish
* never attend services
* be intermarried
* be synagogue non-members, JCC non-members, Jewish organization non-members, and JCC non-participants
* be less likely to donate to the Jewish Federation
* be more likely to not have been asked to donate to the Jewish Federation in the past year

Compared to all Democratic households, Republican households are much less likely to:

* live in the City of Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul
* live in households in residence for 20 or more years
* be age 50 and over
* be female
* live in elderly single households
* be in households in which the respondent is Conservative or Reform
* be in-married
* be synagogue member households, JCC member households, JCC participant households, and Jewish organization member households
* donate to the Jewish Federation in the past year

Table 16-3
Profiles of Republicans and Democrats

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Geographic Area			
City of Minneapolis	8.9%	18.2%	10.3%
Inner Ring	33.9	40.4	40.2
Outer Ring	23.2	15.2	23.0
City of St. Paul	6.3	13.3	11.8
Southern Suburbs	26.8	11.1	13.2
Northern Suburbs	0.9	1.8	1.5
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Length of Residence			
0 - 4 years	22.3%	8.1%	8.9%
5 - 9 years	5.4	4.4	4.4
10 - 19 years	19.6	18.1	15.3
20 or more years	52.7	69.4	71.4
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Age of Respondent			
Under 35	15.2%	9.6%	10.3%
35 - 49	52.7	34.6	30.9
50 - 64	16.1	25.3	28.4
65 - 74	8.0	11.1	15.7
75 and over	8.0	19.4	14.7
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sex of Respondent			
Male	63.7%	35.6%	58.3%
Female	36.3	64.4	41.7
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 16-3 Profiles of Republicans and Democrats			
Base: Jewish Respondents			
Variable	**Republican**	**Democrat**	**Independent**
Household Structure			
Household with Children	59.8%	34.8%	33.2%
Household with Only Adult Children	2.7	6.6	7.3
Non-Elderly Couple	12.5	12.5	15.1
Non-Elderly Single	9.8	10.4	11.7
Elderly Couple	7.1	12.2	11.7
Elderly Single	4.5	15.5	16.1
Other	3.6	8.0	4.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Household Income			
Under $15,000	6.3%	9.3%	6.0%
$15 - $25,000	10.4	8.9	6.7
$25 - $50,000	9.4	16.6	15.2
$50 - $75,000	20.8	14.2	18.1
$75 - $100,000	17.7	17.4	15.2
$100 - $150,000	16.7	16.5	13.3
$150 - $200,000	5.2	6.0	10.3
$200,000 and over	13.5	11.1	15.2
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Jewish Identification			
Orthodox	8.0%	0.8%	2.0%
Conservative	24.8	35.5	26.6
Reconstructionist	0.0	0.6	0.0
Reform	22.1	33.7	33.0
Just Jewish	45.1	29.4	38.4
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 16-3
Profiles of Republicans and Democrats

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Attend Services			
Never + Special Occasions	31.6%	20.1%	25.4%
Only High Holidays	18.9	24.1	24.0
Few Times per year	26.1	31.0	32.4
Once a Month	10.8	9.7	7.4
Few Times a Month	7.2	8.2	4.9
Weekly	5.4	5.8	4.4
Several Times a Week	0.0	1.1	1.5
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Type of Marriage			
In-married	41.6%	59.5%	45.9%
Conversionary	13.5	8.4	10.5
Intermarried	44.9	32.1	43.6
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Synagogue Membership			
Member	37.5%	58.3%	52.7%
Non-Member	62.5	41.7	47.3
Total	100.0	100.0%	100.0%
JCC Membership			
Member	15.2%	24.3%	18.1%
Non-Member	84.8	75.7	81.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
JCC Participation			
Participant	29.3%	49.5%	41.7%
Non-Participant	70.7%	50.5%	58.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 16-3
Profiles of Republicans and Democrats

Base: Jewish Respondents

Variable	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Jewish Organization Membership			
Member	18.6%	36.2%	36.0%
Non-Member	81.4	63.8	64.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Federation Market Segments in the Past Year			
Donated to Federation	40.2%	56.6%	50.5%
Asked, Did Not Donate	13.4	10.2	10.3
Not Asked	46.4	33.2	39.2
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Donated to Federation in the Past Year			
Nothing	60.9%	44.8%	50.0%
Under $100	19.1	24.8	16.8
$100 - $500	10.9	19.0	16.3
$500 - $1,000	1.8	5.2	5.0
$1,000 and over	7.3	6.2	11.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sample Size	102	749	210
Number of Households	1,767	11,419	3,211

Note: Sample sizes and numbers of households are lower for *Type of Marriage* (based on number of married couples). In addition, sample sizes are lower for *Household Income* and *Donated to Federation in the Past Year* due to missing responses.