



For the first time in 15 years, new data on Twin Cities Jewish population

## **New study of Twin Cities Jewish population shows growth, exciting data**

**Twin Cities, Minnesota**—An exciting new compilation of data on the Twin Cities Jewish population is now available for the first time in 15 years. The culmination of over a year of collaborative work between the Minneapolis Jewish Federation, St. Paul Jewish Federation, and the Harry Kay Charitable Foundation (HKCF), the Twin Cities Jewish Population Study provides an essential update on demographic information about the local Jewish community.

The study was managed by the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University, and funded by the Federations, the HKCF, and private donors. It surveyed over 3,300 respondents from Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the surrounding suburbs in late 2019 and covered the geographic area of Hennepin, Scott, Carver, Wright, Sherburne, Anoka, Ramsey, Dakota, and Washington counties. Respondents came from a random sample of the local population created through Jewish organization lists and a purchased market research data set. One of the most exciting study takeaways shows that the Jewish population in the Twin Cities has grown by nearly 34 percent in the last 15 years, with numbers up from around 40,000 in 2004 to nearly 65,000 in 2019—a significant increase. New data has also been compiled around intermarriage, engagement in Jewish life, Jewish people of color, and more.

“15 years is a long time to go without data on our population, and this new study provides us with a critical update that will help our organizations make funding decisions, and more,” said Marisa Gage, Research Manager at the Minneapolis Jewish Federation and a key player in the development of the Population Study. “The success of the study is an excellent example of bi-cities cooperation that will provide benefits for the local Jewish community for years to come.”

“Not only does this study demonstrate significant growth in the size of our Jewish community, it provides important data about how Twin Cities Jews engage in Jewish life,” said Ted Flaum, St. Paul Jewish Federation CEO. “This information will help all of our organizations provide the outreach and services that are most useful and meaningful to community members.”

On August 13, Jewish community professionals gathered together virtually to hear a presentation of these top line results from researchers at Brandeis. A community-wide event rolling out the population study is planned for September 15, 2020, and will further break down the significance of Brandeis’s findings.

The full population study report and its technical appendix can be found at [twincitiespopstudy.org/results](https://twincitiespopstudy.org/results). For further information about the population study, email Marisa Gage at [mgage@jewishminneapolis.org](mailto:mgage@jewishminneapolis.org) or Ted Flaum at [tflaum@stpaulfed.org](mailto:tflaum@stpaulfed.org).

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