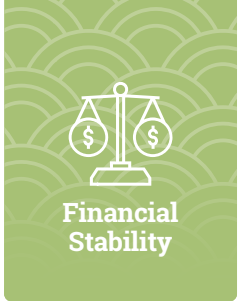




Optimism
& Growth



Security
& Safety



Financial
Stability



Threats &
Challenges



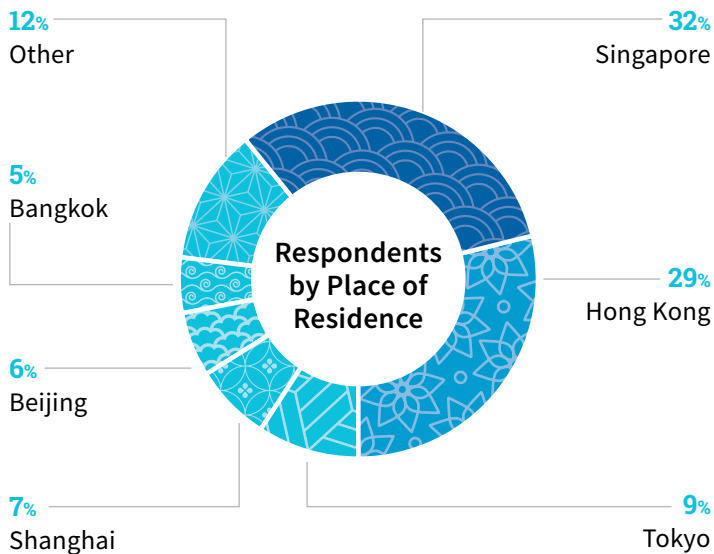
Intermarriage
& Membership
Criteria



Younger
Respondents

THE FIRST SURVEY OF JEWISH LEADERS AND PROFESSIONALS IN ASIA

JDC, 2020



Optimism & Sustained Growth

*“Our congregation is only eight years old and has been **constantly growing and expanding** over this time. We opened an **education program** which has become our **most successful asset**. Shanghai*

74% believe that **their local Jewish community is stronger** than in the past.

64% say more **Jewish educational programming** was created over recent years.

79% think that **the future of Jews in Asia is vibrant and positive**.

90% think that it is important to **strengthen relationships between Jews living in different parts of Asia**.

*“There has been an **increase in outreach to Jewish communities across Asia**, especially [for the purpose of] **connecting teens**. Tokyo*

Security and Safety

99% feel rather or very safe as a Jew.

Only 9% view **terrorism and violence against Jews** as a threat.

Only 12% stated that **anti-Semitism** is a threat.

Financial Stability

Are Jewish communities in Asia **financially stable**?

59% Tight, but currently manageable



23% Financially sustainable

16% Tight & increasingly unmanageable

Concerns regarding lack of economic sustainability according to the different Jewish denominations:

Orthodox

17%

Secular/ cultural

18%

Liberal/Reform/Masorti

46%

Threats and Challenges

Top three identified threats:



55%
Increasing difficulties in finding people to volunteer and/or serve as lay leaders.



53%
Lack of sufficient members in the community.



44%
Lack of participation by members in community affairs or activities.



Diverse Jewish Experiences: breadth of Jewish life differ greatly across the region.

Transient nature of people:



Only 44% believe they will stay in their current country of residence for the foreseeable future.



35% of the respondents see demographic decline as a threat.



9.3/10
One of the top priorities: developing creative outreach policies towards newcomers.

Intermarriage & Membership Criteria

Who should be allowed to become a member?



85%
Anyone with a Jewish father.



83%
Anyone who converted under the supervision of a rabbi from any denomination.



86%
Intermarried couples should be allowed to become members of the congregation.

Non-Jewish partners in our community are supportive and are even taking leadership roles...
Shanghai

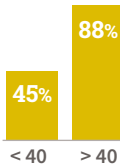
We should not be encouraging intermarriage; however, we need to maintain a balanced and sensitive position regarding those couples and their children who have already intermarried (perhaps non-halakhically), and accept them into our community.
Hong Kong

80% Including intermarried families in Jewish community life is a critical factor for the community's survival.

Younger Respondents



Do you believe all Jews have a responsibility to support Israel?



Top priorities for <40

- ↑ Encouraging internal pluralism.
- ↑ Encouraging regional interaction among Jewish communities in Asia.
- ↑ Investing in leadership development.

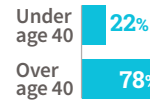
Less important priorities for <40

- ↓ Supporting the State of Israel.
- ↓ Combating anti-Semitism.
- ↓ Strengthening Jewish religious life.
- ↓ Strengthening interfaith relations.

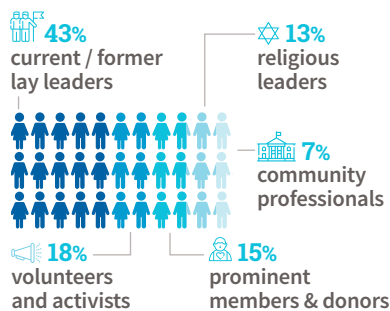
About the Survey Respondents

123
Respondents
conducted
Jan-Feb 2020

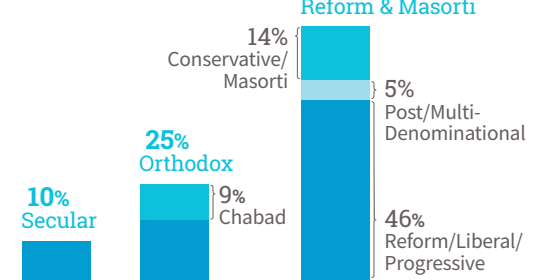
Place of birth:



Community roles

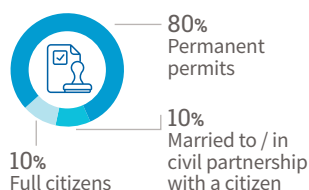


Denomination:

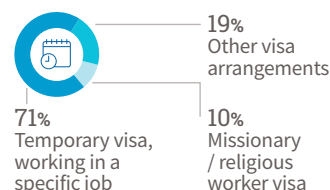


Residency status

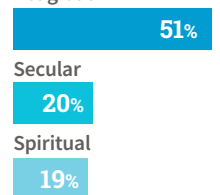
59% Permanent



41% Temporary



Religious Self-Definition



American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee



Jewish Community Leaders and Professionals in Asia. JDC, The First Survey, 2020