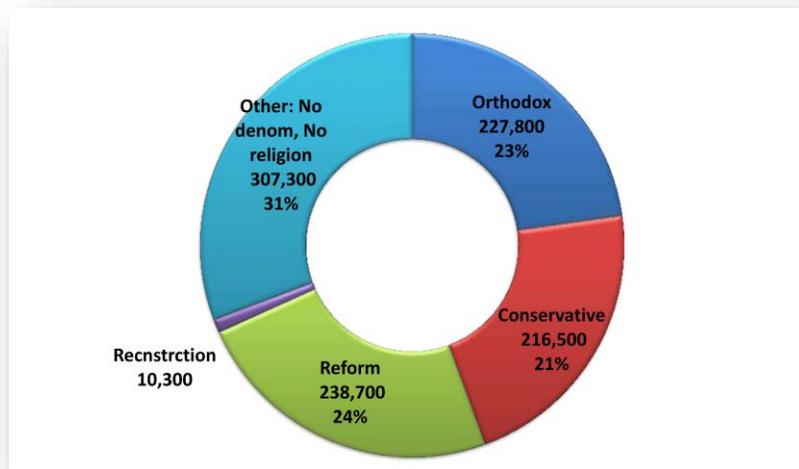


# Jewish voters are diverse

(Original post: April 17, 2016) As the 2016 Presidential Primary draws near we've received many questions about, "Where the Jews Are" and how they break down by denomination.

According to the 2008 exit polls, 291,000 Jews voted statewide and they chose then-Senator Hillary Clinton by a 2:1 margin. The exit polls estimated that Jews were 16% of the Democratic voters that year even though they were only approximately 9% of the total population of New York State.



## Denominational breakdowns.

One of the important findings of UJA-Federation of NY's *The Jewish Community Study: 2011* was that the Jewish community was essentially divided in three equal parts: the unengaged (other, no religion, no denomination), the super-engaged (AKA, the

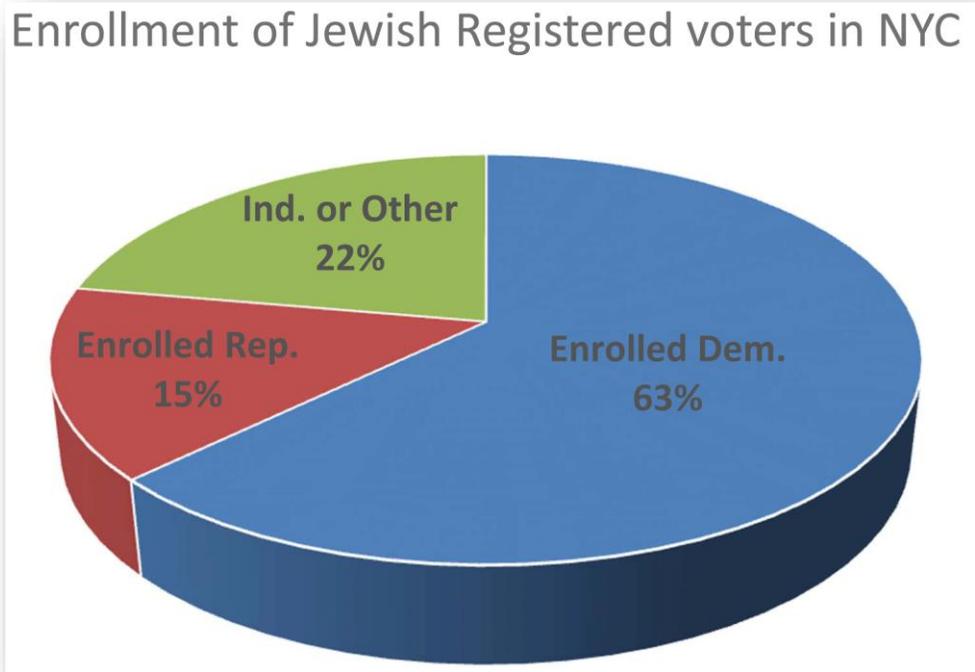
Orthodox) and those in the middle. The Jewish voter profile differs.

While the "others" comprise slightly under one-third of all Jewish voters, the Orthodox are fewer than one-quarter. It is important to note that the relative imbalance is time-limited, due to the fact that the median age of Orthodox individuals is lower than other Jewish cohorts. As Orthodox children reach adulthood they will register to vote, changing the overall Jewish voter profile.

## Party enrollment

According to [PrimeNY](#), Jews (or more accurately, voters with distinctive Jewish surnames) are 14% of the 3.9 million registered voters in NYC. 63% of Jewish registered voters are enrolled as

Democrats and 15% as Republicans (the balance are not enrolled in a party or they are enrolled in one of the minor parties). Jews vote: they are 13% of the Democrats but 20% of the Democratic “prime” voters; 17% of the Republicans and 24% of the “prime” Republicans. The raw number and percentage of Jewish voters is likely to be higher due to the fact that many Jews do not have distinctive Jewish surnames.



### Congressional districts

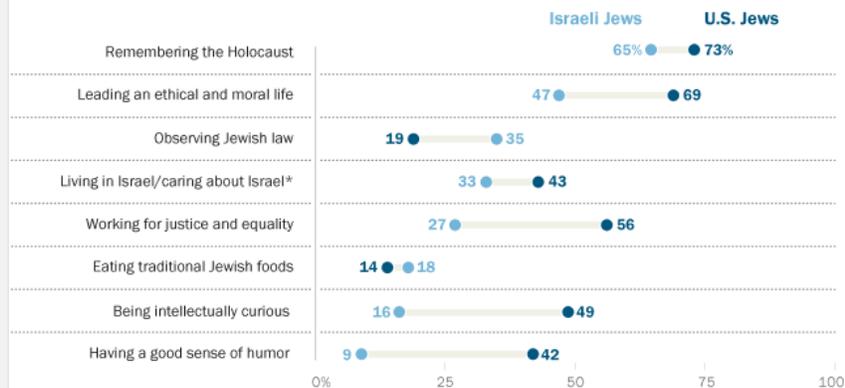
There are Jews in every Congressional District. Congressman Jerrold Nadler has 140,800 Jewish voters in his district, which is Jewishly diverse: 61,800 Orthodox (most in Borough Park) and 37,800 Others (probably Westsiders). Click [here](#) for more details about the Jewish demographics of the metropolitan area Congressional districts.

ESTIMATES OF JEWISH VOTERS IN METRO NY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

District	Incumbent	Orthodox	Conservative	Reform	Reconstructionist	Other: No denom, No religion	Total registered Jewish voters
1	Zeldin	300	8,300	7,900	300	6,800	23,800
2	King	100	6,900	7,000	-	7,900	21,800
3	Israel	5,600	42,000	41,000	1,700	24,800	115,200
4	Rice	16,100	24,600	27,800	600	13,000	82,200
5	Meeks	13,000	5,500	3,300	-	5,500	27,300
6	Meng	15,300	24,700	12,700	300	33,300	86,300
7	Valazquez	29,200	4,300	4,000	500	8,100	46,200
8	Jeffries	8,100	11,400	9,000	200	27,200	55,900
9	Clarke	38,700	5,400	5,500	100	24,600	74,300
10	Nadler	61,800	18,700	20,400	1,100	38,700	140,800
11	Donovan	11,200	8,500	13,800	400	22,500	56,500
12	C.Maloney	5,000	16,400	31,900	700	32,200	86,100
13	Rangel	5,400	3,300	4,800	400	13,100	27,000
14	Crowley	4,400	3,700	2,800	100	7,100	18,100
15	Serrano	900	1,500	2,000	-	3,800	8,200
16*	Engel	9,900	16,600	15,700	1,800	14,300	58,400
17*	Lowey	1,100	7,700	20,600	1,800	10,600	41,700
18*	S.Maloney	300	1,800	4,000	-	1,400	7,600
<b>Total</b>		<b>227,800</b>	<b>216,500</b>	<b>238,700</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>307,300</b>	<b>1,000,500</b>

**U.S. Jews more likely to see ethics, justice as essential to being Jewish**

% of Jews who say ... is an essential part of what being Jewish means to them, personally



Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015. Data on U.S. Jews from survey conducted February-June 2013.

\*Question was phrased as "Caring about Israel" in the U.S. and "Living in Israel" in Israel.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

**How do Jews lean?**

It is harder to predict how Jews will vote. The Pew Research Center American data reflect nationwide trends, when we know that Orthodox Jews are the plurality here in New York.

The **Pew Study** concludes that nationally, Jews support the Democratic Party over the Republican Party by more than three-to-one: 70% say they are Democrats or lean toward the Democratic

Party, while 22% are Republicans or lean Republican. Among Orthodox Jews, however, the balance

tilts in the other direction: 57% are Republican or lean Republican, and 36% are Democrats or lean Democratic.

## Special elections

The denominational profiles of the two districts with special elections differ significantly.

	<b>Assembly District 65</b>	<b>Senate District 9</b>
<b>Total Jewish Voters</b>	7,000	53,400
<b>Orthodox</b>	19%	26%
<b>Conservative</b>	21%	28%
<b>Reform</b>	26%	28%
<b>Reconstructionist</b>	3%	1%
<b>Other</b>	28%	16%

David M. Pollock  
April 17, 2016