

# Intermarriage\*\*

## IN JEWISH HOUSEHOLDS

Intermarried households are households that include a Jewish adult who is married/partnered and cohabitating with a non-Jewish adult.



### HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

#### POPULATION:

Intermarried households in Los Angeles include around **240,000 adults** and **54,600 children** (age 0-17). These households include:

- 132,000 Jewish adults
- 108,000 non-Jewish adults
- 32,900 Jewish children
- 21,700 non-Jewish children

#### GEOGRAPHY:

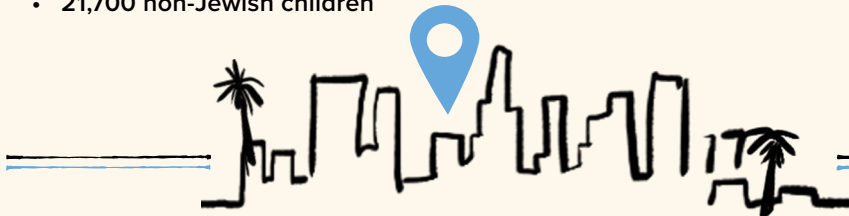
Jewish intermarried households are spread out across all regions of Los Angeles.

#### AGE:

Intermarried and inmarried Jewish adults<sup>†</sup> are of similar ages. Intermarriage is becoming more common overall in the United States and LA.<sup>††</sup>

#### EDUCATION:

Intermarried Jews are just as likely to have had any type of Jewish education<sup>‡</sup> growing up as inmarried, but less likely to have had full-time Jewish schooling.



\* Aronson, J.K., Brookner, M.A., Saxe, L., Bankier-Karp, A., Boxer, M., Seeskin, Z.H., & Dutwin, D. (2022). 2021 Study of Jewish LA. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University. [www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/community-studies/los-angeles-report.html](http://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/community-studies/los-angeles-report.html)

\*\* We used this term because it was used in the survey but we recognize that there are many other terms that are used for households where there are people with different religions.

\*\*\* This percentage parallels what was found in Pew Center's 2020 national study of Jewish Americans.

† Intermarried Jews are Jewish adults who are married/partnered and cohabitating with a non-Jewish adult. Inmarried Jews are Jewish adults who are married/partnered and cohabitating with a Jewish adult.

†† Pew Research Center, (2021). "Jewish Americans in 2020." <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2021/05/11/jewish-americans-in-2020/>

‡ Education includes attendance rates for part-time, full-time Jewish school, and camp.

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## A CLOSER LOOK...



### JEWISH EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

Intermarried Jews who had any kind of Jewish education as a child are more engaged in Jewish life as adults.

Intermarried Jewish parents\* with any kind of Jewish education are also more likely to raise their child Jewish in some way.



\* to a minor child age 0-17

### OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT

There are multiple opportunities for the Jewish community to engage Intermarried Jews and their families, including through:

- **Initiating Friendships:** 34% of intermarried Jews have hardly, if any, close Jewish friends.
- **Promoting Local Jewish Connections:** 88% of intermarried Jews report feeling little, if any, connection to a local Jewish community.
- **Religious Services:** 48% of intermarried Jews typically attend organized Jewish religious services. Of these adults, 49% attend every few months or more.
- **Shabbat:** 44% of Intermarried Jews mark Shabbat. They engage in a similar variety of practices as inmarried Jews (e.g., time with family or friends, light candles, special meal).
- **Outreach:** 55% of intermarried Jews have no opinion about how welcoming Jewish organizations are to interfaith\*\* families, likely reflecting their lack of experience with Jewish organizations.
- **Welcoming:** For intermarried Jews with an opinion about how welcoming Jewish organizations are to interfaith families, 15% say they are not too/not at all welcoming.

### DIVERSITY

Intermarried households have unique diversity that is important to consider when connecting and learning about their experiences.

Compared to inmarried households, more intermarried households include someone who is:

- **Person of Color:** 21% intermarried vs. 8% inmarried
- **LGBTQ+:** 18% intermarried vs. 11% inmarried
- **Latino/a:** 15% intermarried vs. 8% inmarried

\*\* The survey question used the term "interfaith" instead of "intermarried."