

Health, Emotional, Financial & Religious Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic in the Jewish Community

Nishma Research – June 10, 2020



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Introduction and Methodology

A growing number of surveys are being conducted relating to the coronavirus/COVID-19. (In this survey and report, we used the term “coronavirus,” as slightly less technical). Some have included a few results for the Jewish community (usually based on small samples), but they have not well-explored issues specific to Judaism. This study, sponsored by Nishma Research, aims to address that gap.

This was an “opt-in” survey, conducted May 4-19, 2020. We reached Jews through organizations across denominations, and through 15 social media platforms frequented by Jewish individuals, also across Jewish denominations. Invitations to the online survey were provided, and 929 people responded. Most of this report is based on the 860 U.S.-based respondents (a few summary findings for non-U.S. respondents are provided).

We follow the guidance of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, that opt-in surveys are not ideal but may be the best approach, lacking other options. As is true for all surveys, the results should be viewed with appropriate understanding and caution.

The survey sample makeup differs from that of the overall Jewish population in a few ways. The 275 Non-Orthodox Jews we reached were more often Conservative (47%), while Reform (11%) and unaffiliated (12%) are under-represented.

We reached 431 Modern Orthodox and 72 Haredi (Yeshivish/ Agudah and Hasidic/Chabad groups (sometimes described as “Ultra-Orthodox”). There are more Haredi than Modern Orthodox in the U.S., and so we applied sample weights to derive the “All Orthodox” figures shown throughout this report, applying weights of 0.37 and 0.63 to the two groups, respectively, reflecting their representation within the U.S. Orthodox community. The sample of Haredi is small and, therefore, has a larger margin of error. Note also that the online survey required Internet access of some form, and so our sample may contain fewer of the more insular members of the Hasidic community (who often lack any form of Internet access).

Rather than trying to portray the Jewish community as a whole, this study has an inter-denominational focus. We present results for the groups listed above and make observations relating to differences between Non-Orthodox and Orthodox, and between Modern Orthodox and Haredi.

A few additional indicators of sample representativeness:

- 53% of respondents are from the Northeast U.S., compared to 43% as per the 2013 Pew Survey;
- our median age is 56, compared to 51 in Pew;
- half of our respondents (50%) had household income of \$125,000 or more, compared to an estimated 40% in Pew (adjusted for inflation).

So our respondents skew a bit older, more affluent and more Northeast U.S. Nevertheless, the survey results have a lot to teach us about how U.S. Jews are reacting to the coronavirus and the many issues it raises.

Despite these limitations, the study uncovers intriguing findings, many of which find parallels in research on Americans generally and some of which are distinctive to the Jewish population. To that end, we include a few comparisons to other coronavirus-related surveys of the general U.S. population. Our findings can inform future research.

While survey error is less germane to opt-in surveys, because we are often asked for this metric, note that the calculated sample errors at the 95% level, based on the sample sizes, are $\pm 5\%$ for Non-Orthodox; $\pm 4\%$ for all Orthodox and for Modern Orthodox; and $\pm 10\%$ for Haredi.

We reviewed a number of external surveys, as a guide to development of our questionnaire as well as for purposes of data comparison. In this report, we compare some of our findings (those based on comparably worded questions) with those of The SSRS Corona Virus Poll. conducted April 8-13, 2020 by SSRS, Glen Mills, PA among a nationally representative survey of 1,001 U.S. adults. The survey was conducted 31 days before the Nishma survey, which could affect some responses.

Summary of Key Findings (Page 1 of 4)

- The following is based on a May 2020 survey of 860 U.S.-based members of the Jewish community.
- **Awareness, Incidence & Concern** – About 70% are very closely following news about coronavirus, and nearly everyone (90%+) is following it at least somewhat closely. Coronavirus has higher incidence among Orthodox (88% know someone who has contracted it), than among Non-Orthodox (67% know someone), with a sizeable gap between Haredi (94%) and Modern Orthodox (78%).

Haredi are a bit less worried that someone in their household will contract the coronavirus, perhaps because more of them have already contracted it and so they have become more exposed to it.

- **Individuals at Higher Risk** – 19% of Non-Orthodox and 11% of Orthodox are in higher-risk groups, due to age and/or underlying medical conditions. Interestingly, the Haredi have the fewest in the higher risk group (9%), likely due to their younger average age.
- **Testing** – Few (about 4%) had been tested at the time of the survey. Among those not tested, 5% of Non-Orthodox and 12% of Orthodox believe they had contracted the coronavirus. In the area of antibody testing, more Orthodox (6%) had been tested than Non-Orthodox (1%).
- **Personal Safety and Social Distancing Measures** – There is generally strong compliance (about 80%) with recommended behavioral changes, across all groups,

although slightly more so among the Non-Orthodox than among Orthodox. This is likely attributable to larger Orthodox families in closer physical proximity (less geographically dispersed). [See Fig. 1; the index is a composite measure, defined on page 11]

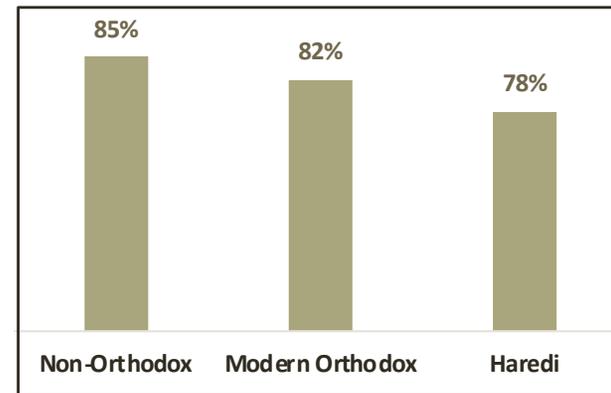


Figure 1. Average of Personal Safety and Social Distancing Indices

- **Sense of Isolation** – About 20% feel a great sense of personal isolation, and about two-thirds feel at least some sense of isolation. [See Fig. 2 on next page]
- **Ability to Meet Financial Expenses** – Among the previously employed, a majority are working from home. But there is much financial pain: some had hours cut (12%), pay cut (10%), or lost their job (5%). While 1-2% are unable to pay for necessary items, many more are finding it hard to do so (12% of Non-Orthodox, 14% of Modern Orthodox, and 24% of Haredi. [See Fig. 3A on next page]

Summary of Key Findings (Page 2 of 4)

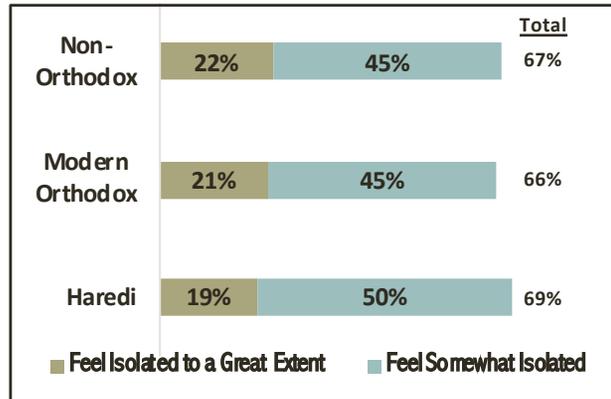


Figure 2. Feelings of Isolation

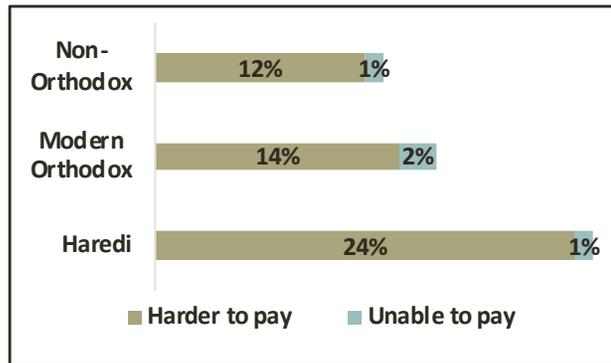


Figure 3A. Ability to Pay For Necessary Expenses

- Financial Impact Index** – A composite measure of several responses relating to finances, shows that the Haredi (9.3%) have been more adversely affected financially than Modern Orthodox (7.8%), who have been affected more than Non-Orthodox (6.8%). [See Fig. 3B; the index is defined on page 14]

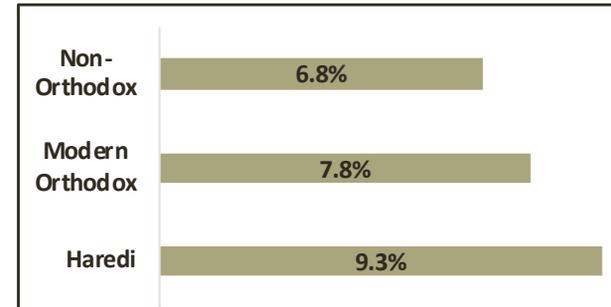


Figure 3B. Financial Impact Index
(Higher figure denotes more adverse financial impact)

- Satisfaction With Policymakers** – Respondents are satisfied with the coronavirus responses of their local Jewish community, the medical/scientific communities and their local government, but dissatisfied with the federal government response.
- Synagogue Contact and Online Offerings** – More than two-thirds of synagogues are checking up on members by phone or other means, and many are using technology to provide services.

In online prayer, Non-Orthodox are very active (90% offer it); more so than Modern Orthodox (68%) and Haredi (20%). All groups are active in conducting online classes.

- Participation and Satisfaction With Online Offerings** – Where online prayer is offered, Non-Orthodox have participated a bit more than Orthodox (a median of three times vs. one-two times in past four weeks).

Summary of Key Findings (Page 3 of 4)

About three-fourths of attendees are at least somewhat satisfied. While online prayer is less common among Haredi, they do participate substantially in online classes.

- **Satisfaction With Support by Synagogue and Overall Jewish Community** – There is generally high satisfaction (about 50% very satisfied, and 80% very or somewhat satisfied). More than one-third have sought out online offerings of synagogues and Jewish institutions beyond their locale.
- **Perceived Value of Synagogue Membership** – Very few see their synagogue as now having less value to them due to their pandemic experiences. And, while most views haven't changed, a notable minority of shul members (17% of Non-Orthodox and 28% of Orthodox) now see more value in membership.
- **Impact on How People Feel "Jewishly"** – Very few (3%) say their "feelings of Jewishness" have weakened during the pandemic, while more say their feelings have strengthened (18% of Non-Orthodox, 22% of Modern Orthodox, and a notably high 38% among Haredi). [See Fig. 4]
- **Modern Orthodox Views on Halachic Flexibility** – Slightly less than one-third (29%) of Modern Orthodox believe that rabbis should consider more halachic flexibility in areas of technology; the rest are opposed (46%) or not sure (25%).

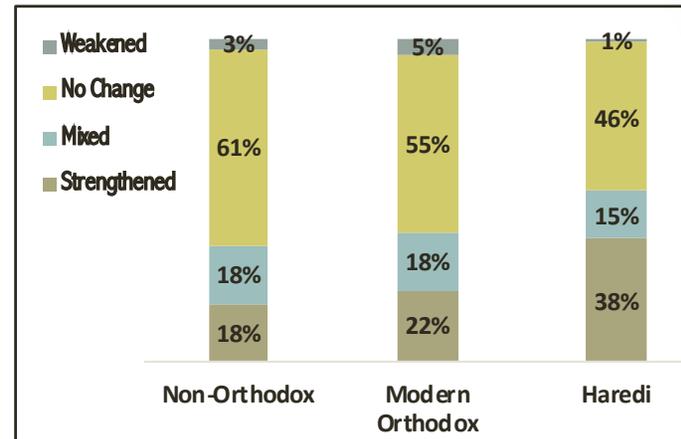


Figure 4. Impact on How People Feel "Jewishly"

- **Children's Education** – Among respondents with children in grades 1-12, the vast majority (84% of Orthodox and 94% of Non-Orthodox) are being schooled using virtual techniques. Among them, about 30% are very satisfied, and about 80% are very or somewhat satisfied.
- **Political Views** – Differences in party affiliation and preferences are consistent with those uncovered in other studies, i.e., Non-Orthodox almost entirely in Biden's corner, Modern Orthodox leaning strongly to Biden, and Haredi leaning strongly to Trump.

Since February there has been little impact on political views, i.e., a very small (but not statistically significant) swing toward Biden (1% to 2%).

Summary of Key Findings (Page 4 of 4)

Groups Hardest-Hit vs. Least Affected Across Physical, Emotional and Financial Health; and Variations in Personal/Social Safety Compliance

(A summary of key metrics shown in a Coronavirus Dashboard section – see pages 30-40 for detail).

	All	Hardest Hit	Least Affected
<u>PHYSICAL</u> Respondent has contracted coronavirus	7%	Haredi 26% NYC residents (excl. Manhattan) 20% Less than college degree 18%	Modern Orthodox in total 4% Age 60+ 4% Non-Orthodox in total 5% Income Under \$50K 5% Democrats 5%
<u>EMOTIONAL</u> Very worried	23%	Retirees 31% NYC residents (excl. Manhattan) 30% Democrats 28% Ages 60+ 27% Less than college degree 26%	New Jersey residents 13% Manhattan residents 14% 18-29 15% 2+ children 16%
Feels isolated to great extent	21%	Not married 36% Less than college degree 32% Income Under \$50K 30% 1 child 29% Age 18-39 27% NYC residents (excl. Manhattan) 27%	Income \$200K+ 15% Age 60-69 16% Married 17% 2+ Children 17% Retired 17% New Jersey residents 17%
<u>FINANCIAL</u> Financial Impact Index	7.4%	Income under \$50K 16.1% Self-employed 14.6% Less than college degree 13.9% One child at home 11.9% Not married 10.7% Income \$50K-\$79.9K 10.5% Republicans 10.4%	Retirees 0.6% Ages 70+ 2.0% Graduate degree 5.2% Income \$125K+ 5.3% Democrats 5.6% Married 6.1%

- The accompanying table shows the groups ranking high and low in areas of physical, emotional and financial health, and compliance with safety and distancing recommendations.
- Groups are identified by specific demographic characteristics. Future analysis will identify affected sub-groups across combinations of factors.

Among the many findings:

- Those with less than a college degree are hard-hit across all measures.
- The elderly are most worried but less affected financially.
- In NYC, Manhattan residents are less affected than those in other boroughs.
- Young people and singles are harder hit by feelings of isolation.
- Self-employed are hard-hit financially.
- Republicans (often Haredi) are harder-hit financially and less compliant with safety/distancing recommendations.
- But Democrats are more worried.

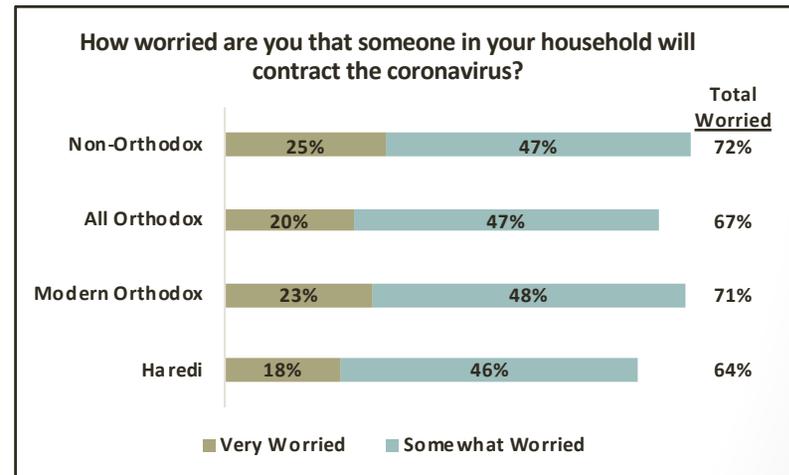
	All	Least Compliant	Most Compliant
<u>COMPLIANCE</u> Average of Personal Safety & Social Distancing Indices	81%	Republicans 75% Less than college degree 76% Haredi 77%	Non-Orthodox in total 89% Manhattan residents 87% Self-Employed 87% Democrats 86% Income \$200K+ 85%

Awareness, Incidence & Concern – About 70% are very closely following news about coronavirus, and nearly everyone (90%+) is following it at least somewhat closely. Coronavirus has higher incidence among Orthodox (88% know someone who has contracted it), than among Non-Orthodox (67% know someone), with a sizeable gap between Haredi (94%) and Modern Orthodox (78%). Haredi are a bit less worried that someone in their household will contract the coronavirus, perhaps because more of them have already contracted it and so they have become more exposed to it.

How closely have you followed news and information about the coronavirus in the past four weeks?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Very closely	73%	69%	70%	68%
Somewhat closely	23%	21%	24%	20%
Not too closely	3%	9%	5%	11%
Not at all closely	<0.5%	1%	<1%	1%

SSRS found 94% of all Americans very or somewhat closely following coronavirus; and 26% of Americans very worried and 48% somewhat worried that they or someone in their family will contract coronavirus. For both questions, Non-Orthodox and Modern Orthodox were quite comparable to the overall U.S. population, while the Haredi were a few percentage points lower.

Have any of the following contracted the coronavirus?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
I have contracted coronavirus	5%	18%	4%	26%
Other member(s) of household	3%	18%	4%	26%
Family members	23%	38%	33%	42%
Friend(s)	48%	68%	59%	74%
Colleague(s) or co-worker(s)	23%	40%	27%	47%
At least one of the above	67%	88%	78%	94%
None of the above	33%	12%	22%	6%

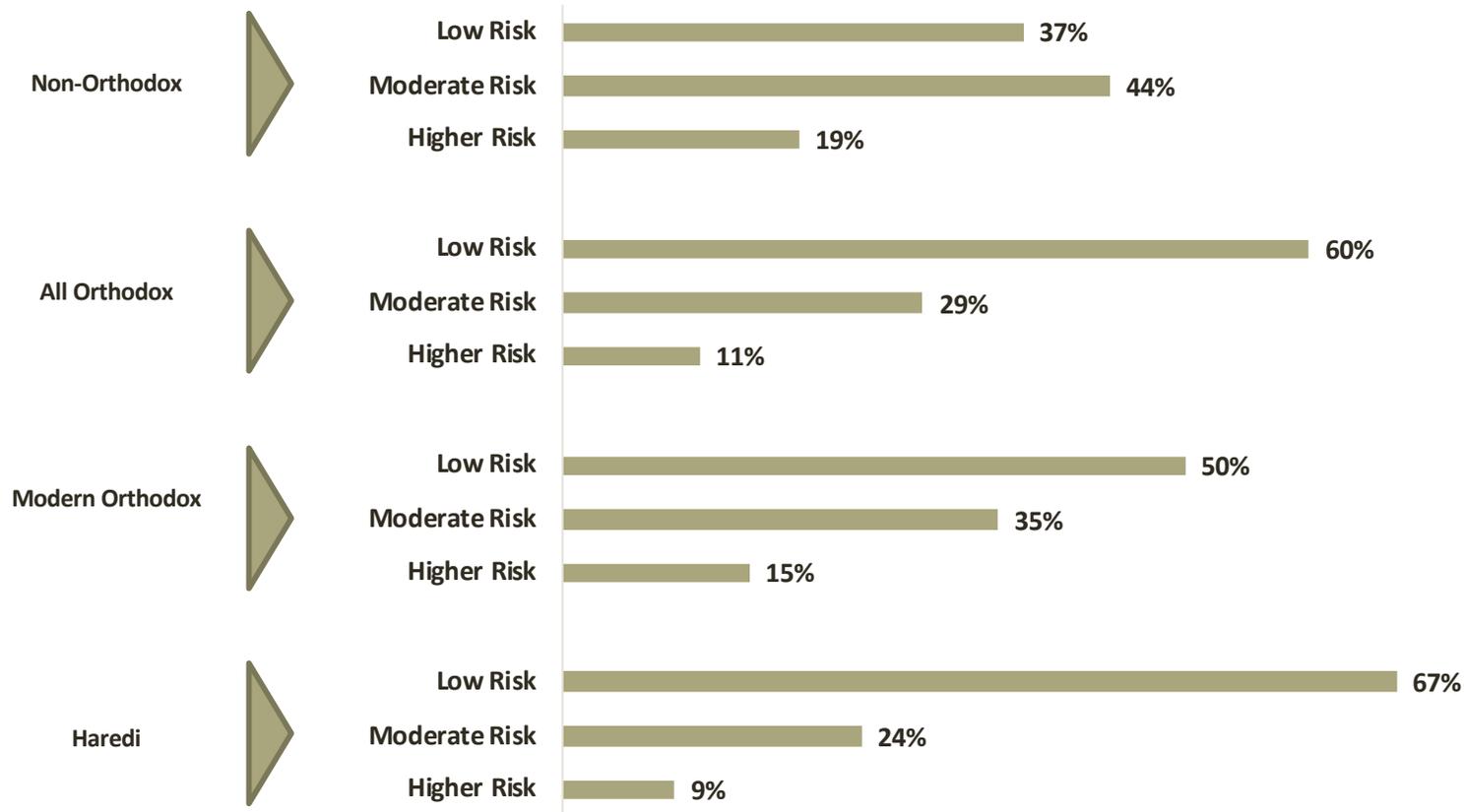


Q. How closely have you followed news and information about the coronavirus in the past four weeks? – Very closely; Somewhat closely; Not too closely; Not at all closely. (n = 274, 430, 72)

Q. Have any of the following contracted the coronavirus? (Check all that apply) – I have contracted coronavirus; Member(s) of my household, other than myself, have contracted coronavirus; Family member(s) not in my household (parent, sibling, child, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin) have contracted coronavirus; Friend(s) have contracted coronavirus; Colleague(s) or co-worker(s) have contracted coronavirus; None of the above. (n = 274, 430, 72)

Q. How worried are you that someone in your household will contract the coronavirus? If any have already contracted it, then are you worried that additional people in your household will also get it? – Very worried; Somewhat worried; Not too worried; Not worried at all; Not applicable – All members of my household have already contracted it). (n = 275, 431, 72)

Individuals at Higher Risk – 19% of Non-Orthodox and 11% of Orthodox are in higher-risk groups, due to their age and/or underlying medical conditions. Interestingly, the Haredi have the fewest in the higher risk group (9%), likely due to their younger average age.



Low Risk = Under 60, no underlying medical conditions. Moderate Risk = 60+, no medical conditions or under 60, medical conditions. Higher risk = 60+ with medical conditions.

Q. Aside from your age, are you personally in a higher risk group due to your having any of the following, or have medical conditions? – Diabetes; chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; severe obesity; immunocompromised or having a condition that can cause one to be immunocompromised (conditions listed are according to the CDC) – I have none of these conditions; I have one of these conditions; I have two or more of these conditions. (n = 259, 417, 69)

Testing – Few (about 4%) had been tested at the time of the survey; among those not tested, 5% of Non-Orthodox and 12% of Orthodox believe they had contracted the coronavirus. In the area of antibody testing, more Orthodox (6%) had been tested that Non-Orthodox (1%).

Have you been tested for coronavirus? (among those who had not contracted coronavirus)				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Yes, and I tested negative	3%	3%	5%	2%
Yes, and I don't know yet	<0.5%	<0.5%	<1%	0%
No, I was not tested	96%	97%	94%	98%
If not tested, do you believe you have, or had coronavirus?				
Yes, almost definitely	0%	<0.5%	<0.5%	0%
Yes, probably	5%	12%	9%	14%
Probably not	54%	49%	49%	49%
Definitely not	27%	23%	28%	20%
Not sure	14%	16%	14%	17%
Tested for coronavirus antibodies				
Yes, tested positive	1%	6%	1%	8%
Yes, tested negative	4%	4%	4%	4%
Yes, don't know yet	0%	3%	2%	4%
Not tested	95%	87%	92%	83%

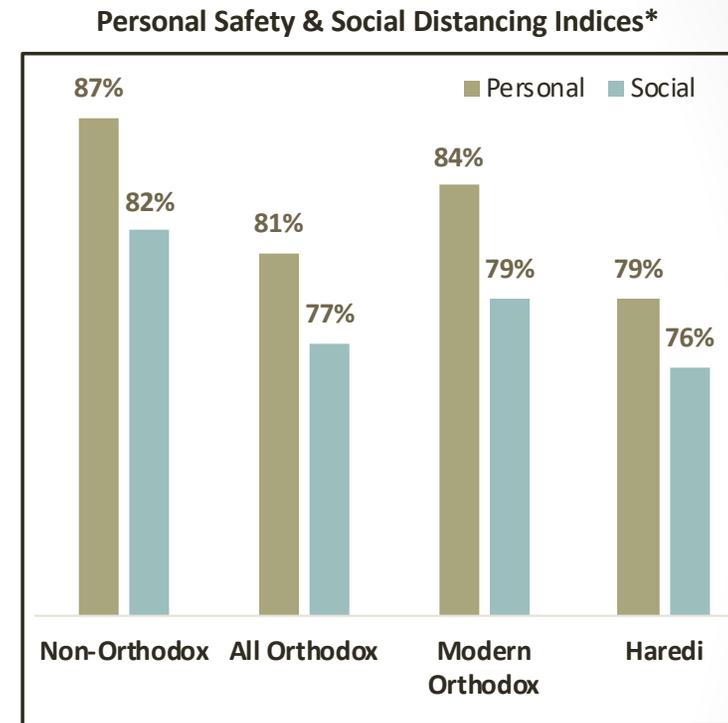
Q. (Asked if respondents did not indicate that he or she had contracted coronavirus) Have you been tested for coronavirus? – Yes, and I tested positive; Yes, and I tested negative; Yes, and I don't know yet; No, I was not tested. (n = 261, 410, 52)

Q. (Asked if respondent had not been tested) Do you believe you have, or had coronavirus? – Yes, almost definitely; Yes, probably; Probably not; Definitely not; Not sure. (n = 250, 386, 51)

Q. Have you been tested for coronavirus antibodies? – Yes, and I tested positive; Yes, and I tested negative; Yes, and I don't know yet; No, I was not tested. (n = 273, 431, 72)

Personal Safety and Social Distancing – There is strong compliance (about 80%) with recommended behaviors, across all groups, although slightly more among Non-Orthodox than Orthodox. This is likely attributable to larger Orthodox families in closer physical proximity (less geographically dispersed).

Which of the following are you currently doing as a result of the coronavirus?				
Multiple Responses	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Often wash my hands	93%	80%	91%	74%
Often wear a face mask	81%	81%	77%	83%
PERSONAL SAFETY INDEX	87%	81%	84%	79%
Only leave home for necessary items	85%	80%	79%	81%
Keep a distance of six feet from people	87%	86%	89%	85%
Stopped meeting with people in-person	75%	64%	70%	61%
SOCIAL DISTANCING INDEX	82%	77%	79%	76%
At least one of the above	99%	99%	99%	99%
I have not changed my habits	<1%	1%	1%	1%

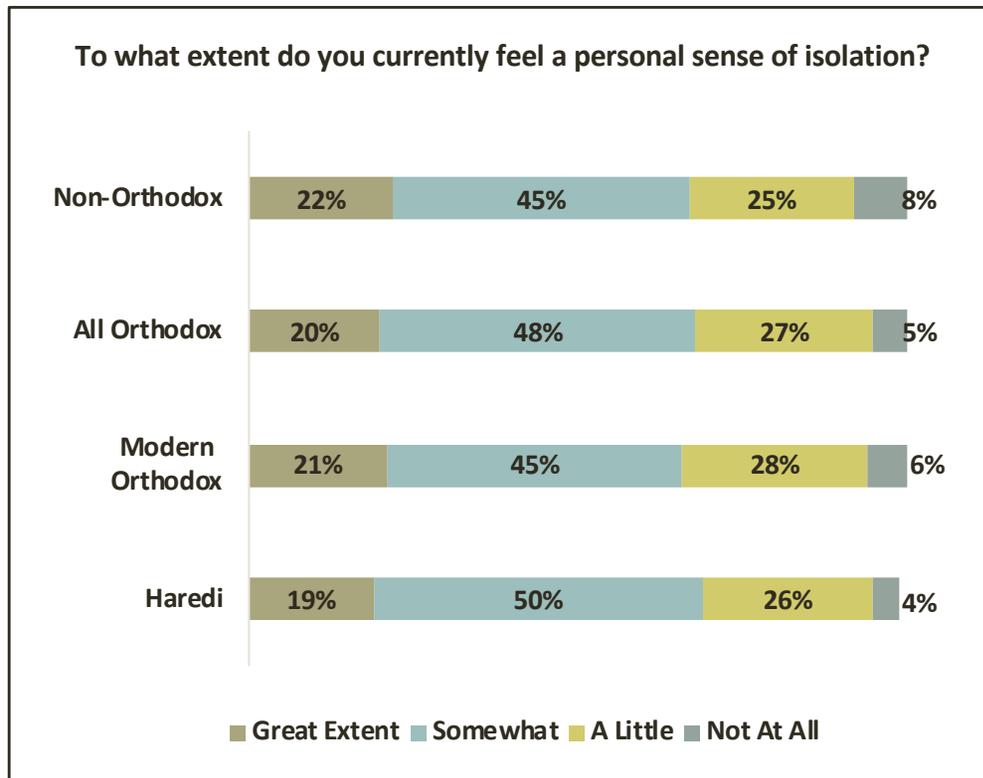


SSRS found 97% following at least some of the recommended social distancing guidelines, compared to 99% of our respondents. A little over half (55%) said they stopped meeting up in-person with those outside their household (vs. our 60-75%), 83% mostly stayed at home (vs. our 80-85%), 66% engaged in social distancing (vs. our 85%), Our respondents' higher levels of compliance may arise from its being conducted a month later, as awareness was growing.

Q. Which of the following are you currently doing as a result of the coronavirus? (Check all that apply) – I often wash my hands; I often wear a face mask; I stay at home and only go out to obtain necessary items such as food or medicine; I make it a point to keep a distance of six feet from people other than immediate family members who live with me; I have stopped meeting up with people in-person, other than with family members who live with me; I have not changed my habits as a result of the coronavirus. (n = 274, 431, 72)

* The Personal Safety Index is the average of the first two indicators (hand-washing and wearing of a facemask). The Social Distancing Index is the average of the next three indicators (only leaving home for necessary items, keeping a distance of six feet, and stopped meeting with people in-person). We do recognize that wearing a facemask also has elements of social distancing behind it.

Sense of Isolation – About 20% of Jews feel a great sense of personal isolation, and about two-thirds feel at least some sense of personal isolation.



- Few people (9%) left home and moved to another place because they wanted to be in a safer environment with respect to the coronavirus.
- This occurred much more often among those residing in Manhattan (35%), with insignificant variations in other geographic locations or by denomination.

A sample of comments on the topic of isolation:

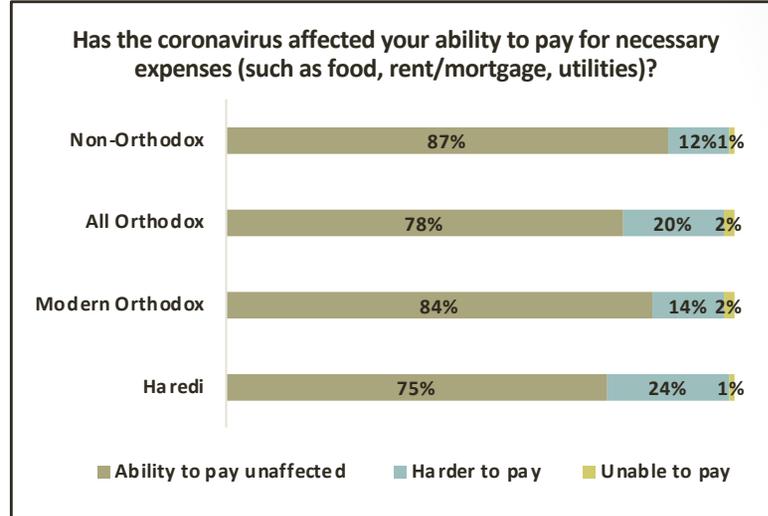
- *I think, even though, close friends and neighbors are no longer dropping in or coming for Shabbat, we've developed a stronger bond from the isolation. We simply keep in touch...differently... We've come to appreciate more deeply our friendships...due to the separation.*
- *I feel less inspired while isolated and not able to attend events in person..*
- *The community is now caring about so many issues of singles being isolated and mental health (but) I don't feel any less Jewish in isolation.*
- *It's really lonely living alone during this time.*

Q. To what extent do you currently feel a personal sense of isolation? – To a great extent; Somewhat; A little; Not at all. (n = 275, 431, 72)

Q. Since March 1 of this year, have you lived for one week or more at a place other than your primary residence, such as a vacation home, or a friend's home, because you wanted to be in a safer environment with respect to the coronavirus? (n = 765)

Financial Impact – Among the previously employed, a majority are working from home. But there is much financial pain: some had hours cut (12%), pay cut (10%), or lost their job (5%). While 1-2% are unable to pay for necessary items, many more are finding it hard to do so (12% of Non-Orthodox, 14% of Modern Orthodox, and 24% of Haredi).

Which, if any, of the following work/job-related events has happened to you as a result of the coronavirus?				
As a result of coronavirus: (Multiple Responses)	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
I am working from home	50%	58%	56%	60%
I had my work hours cut	12%	11%	12%	11%
I had my pay cut	11%	9%	11%	7%
I lost my job	5%	6%	5%	7%
I am working more hours	14%	16%	13%	18%
I have gotten a new job	<0.5%	1%	<0.5%	1%
I retired from work	<1%	<0.5%	1%	0%
None – No impact on my job	8%	10%	9%	10%
None – Not employed at start	29%	19%	23%	17%
Among those employed at the start of the pandemic, % with jobs affected	89%	88%	88%	88%



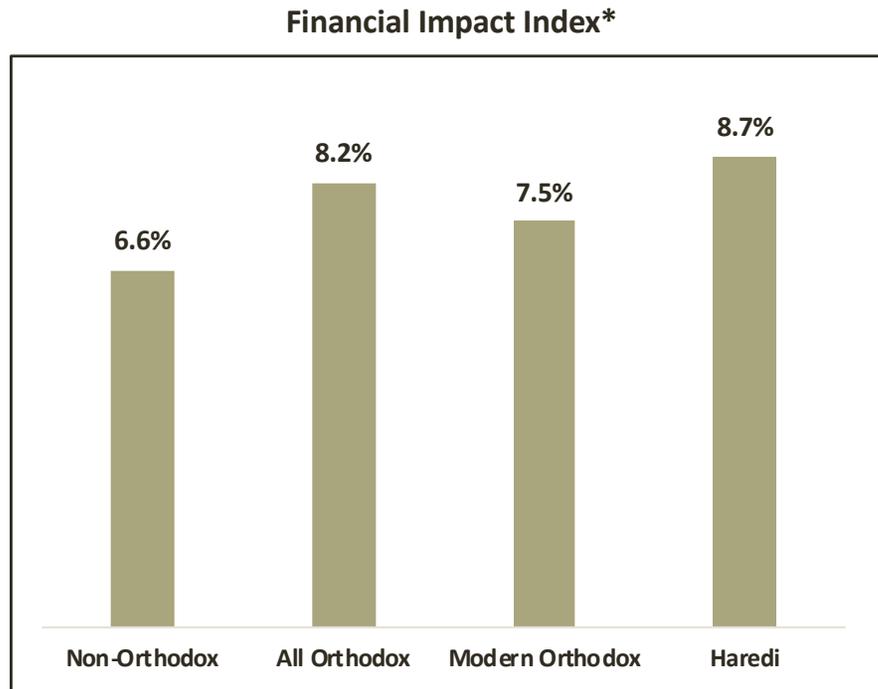
SSRS found that Americans have had their work hours cut (26%), pay cut (11%), or lost a job (5%) due to the coronavirus. While a majority of Americans (60%) say their ability to pay for necessities has not been impacted, about one in three (36%) say it is harder than usual to pay for these expenses, and 4% say they cannot afford to pay their expenses. Our survey respondents were less often financially affected in terms of ability to pay for necessary items.

continued ➡

Q. Which, if any, of the following work/job-related events has happened to you as a result of the coronavirus? (Check all that apply) – I am working from home due to the coronavirus; I have had my work hours cut due to the coronavirus; I have had my pay cut due to the coronavirus; I have lost my job due to the coronavirus; I am working more hours due to the coronavirus; I have gotten a new job because of the coronavirus; I have retired from work due to the coronavirus; NONE – The coronavirus has not affected my job; NONE – I was not employed at the start of the coronavirus. (n = 275, 431, 72)

Q. Has the coronavirus affected your ability to pay for necessary expenses (such as food, rent/mortgage, utilities)? – My ability to pay for such necessary expenses has not been affected; It's harder than usual for me to pay for such necessary expenses; I am currently unable to pay for such necessary expenses. (n = 275, 431, 72)

Financial Impact Index – A composite measure of several responses relating to finances, shows that the Haredi (9.3%) have been more adversely affected financially than Modern Orthodox (7.8%), who have been affected more than Non-Orthodox (6.8%).

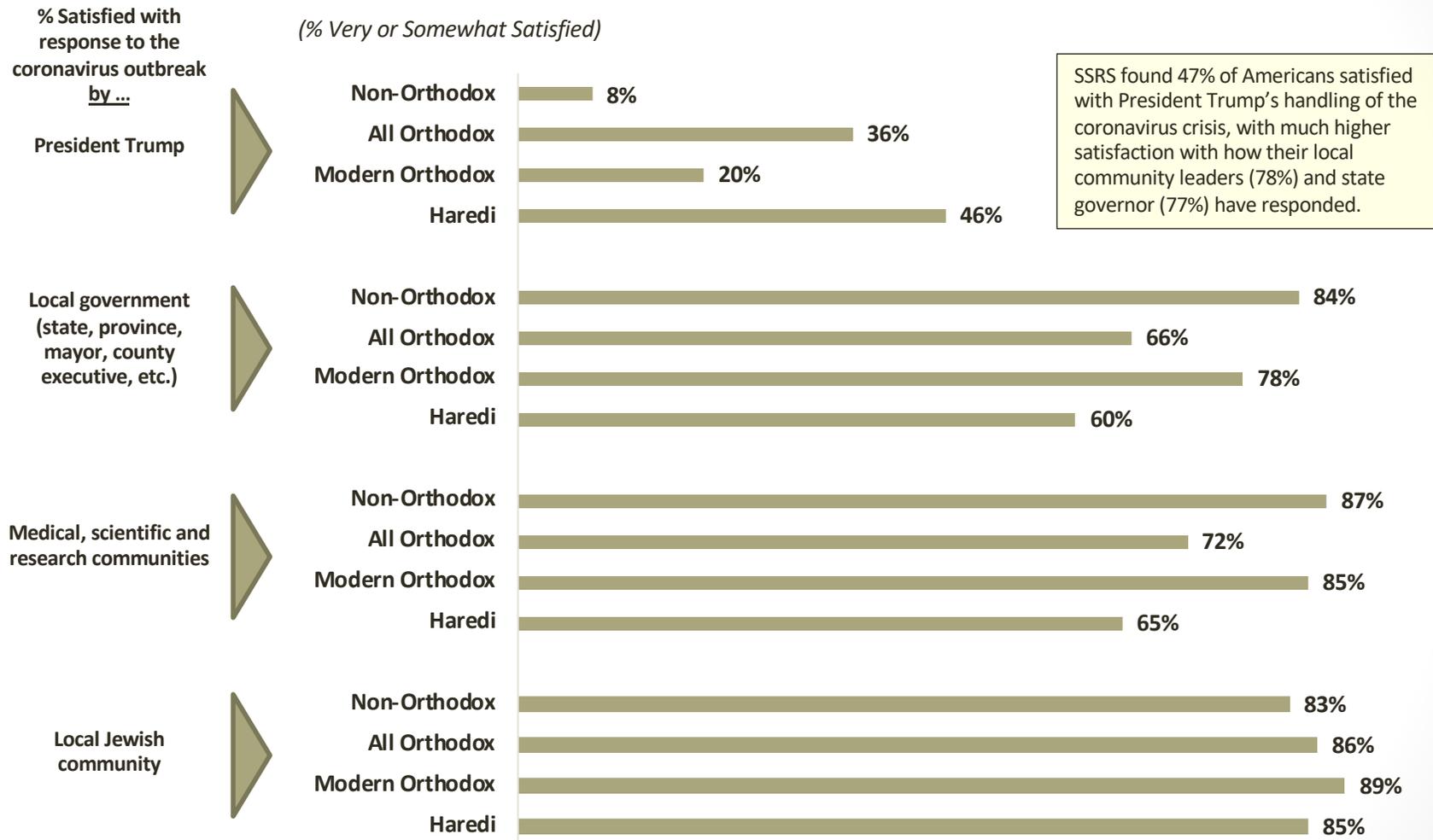


A sample of comments on the topic of finances:

- *I appreciate ... knowing there's a support system financially if I need it.*
- *Please help Jewish (people) in need or who lost their homes, job ... especially parents with kids and the sick. Do not leave any Jew behind.*
- *There are people in the community who are in financial difficulties... people you interact with but don't realize.*
- *I lost my job and I begged for financial help. They said we will only help you if you are food insecure.*
- *Older adults are isolated and families are impacted with loss of jobs or need for respite from their kids being home all the time.*
- *We who can stay home and not worry about our finances are supremely privileged. We have health insurance and resources to deal with emergencies. There are many people in our communities, our country and the world who are not so lucky.*

* The Financial Impact Index is a weighted average of the following five items, drawn from the questions shown on the preceding page (their weights shown in parentheses): I have had my work hours cut due to the coronavirus (0.1); I have had my pay cut due to the coronavirus (0.15); I have lost my job due to the coronavirus (0.35); It's harder than usual for me to pay for such necessary expenses (0.15); I am currently unable to pay for such necessary expenses (0.40). As the last two items are mutually exclusive, the maximum sum of the five weights is 1.0.

Satisfaction With Policymakers – Respondents are satisfied with the coronavirus responses of their local Jewish community, the medical/scientific communities and their local government, but dissatisfied with the federal government response.



Q. How satisfied are you with how ... – (Asked if in USA) President Trump has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?; (Asked if Outside USA) Your national leader has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?; Your local government (state, province, mayor, county executive, etc.) has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?; The medical, scientific and research communities have responded to the coronavirus outbreak?; Your local Jewish community leaders have responded to the coronavirus outbreak? Response Scale: Very satisfied; Somewhat satisfied; Somewhat dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied; Don’t know. (n = 273, 430, 72)

Synagogue Contact and Online Offerings – More than two-thirds of synagogues are checking up on members by phone or other means, and many are using technology to provide services. In online prayer, Non-Orthodox are very active (90% offer it); more so than Modern Orthodox (68%) and Haredi (20%). All groups are active in conducting online classes.

Are you a member of a Jewish congregation (synagogue, shul, temple, etc.)?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
% Yes	86%	98%	97%	99%
Among synagogue members: Which of these services is your congregation offering? (% responding “yes” – those responding “not sure” included among the remainder)				
Online group prayer services	90%	38%	67%	20%
Online classes	88%	82%	94%	75%
Online social programs	65%	48%	69%	36%
Assistance with food or other delivery	59%	58%	71%	51%
Checking up on members by phone or other means	76%	70%	74%	68%

Q. Are you a member of a Jewish congregation (e.g., synagogue, shul, temple, etc.)? Yes; No. (n = 275, 431, 72)

Q. (Asked of congregation members, with introductory message “If you belong to more than one congregation, the following questions will relate to the one that you consider your primary congregation.”) Which of these services is your congregation offering? – Online group prayer services; Online classes; Online social programs; Assistance with food or other delivery; Checking up on members by phone or other means. Response Options: Yes; No; Not Sure. (n = 230, 414, 72-)

Participation and Satisfaction With Online Offerings – Where online prayer is offered, Non-Orthodox have attended a bit more than Orthodox (estimated median of three times vs. one-two times in past four weeks). About three-fourths of attendees are at least somewhat satisfied. While online prayer is less common among Haredi, they do participate substantially in online classes.

In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online group prayer services? (among those whose synagogue offers it)				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox NM = Not meaningful due to small Haredi sample		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Five or more times	28%	NM	23%	NM
Three or four	25%		13%	
Once or twice	24%		25%	
Haven't participated	23%		40%	
How satisfied have you been with online group prayer services? (among those who have participated)				
% Very satisfied	29%	NM	28%	NM
% Somewhat satisfied	52%		42%	
Total Satisfied	81%		70%	
In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online classes or social programs? (among those whose synagogue offers it)				
Three or more times	34%	43%	39%	45%
Once or twice	25%	29%	31%	28%
Haven't participated	41%	28%	30%	27%

A sample of comments on the topic of online prayer and classes:

- *I feel a greater sense of the strength of my Jewish community which quickly responded... Shuls of all Jewish denominations were closed. On-line prayer groups, learning groups, exercise groups an social groups were established free to all. Chesed opportunities are very numerous.*
- *My wife and I have attended more on-line study sessions... and tefillot than in the past.*
- *The incredible importance of allowing people to say Kaddish and hold Seders over Zoom. It's pikuach nefesh (preservation of human life) to break down isolation.*
- *The importance of shul gatherings and face-to-face. Programs, classes and davening are extremely important in building our connections to Judaism and each other.*
- *We have seen that we can still be a community even when we are not able to be near one another. Zoom classes are something we should consider continuing.*

Q. (Asked if online group prayer is offered) In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online group prayer services? – Five or more times; Three or four times; Once or twice; Haven't participated. (n = 209, 276, 14)

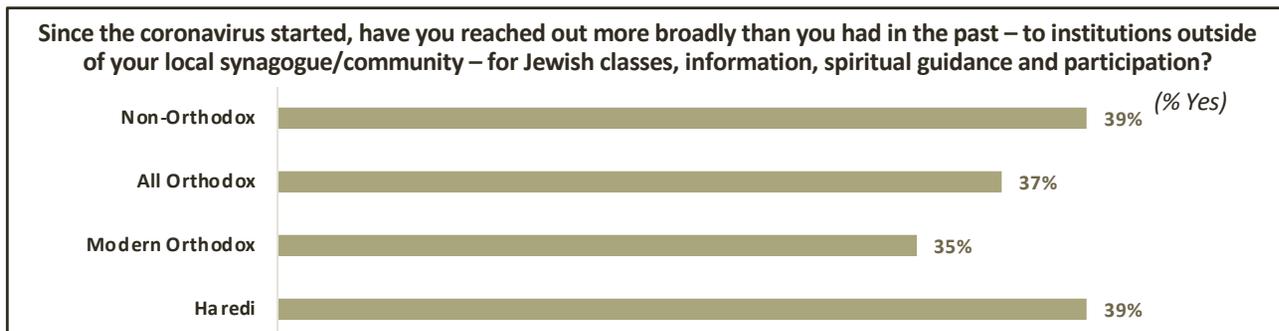
Q. (Asked if participated in online group prayer) How satisfied have you been with online group prayer services? – Very satisfied; Somewhat satisfied; Somewhat dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied; Don't know. (n = 160, 166, 4)

Q (Asked if Online classes and/or social programs are offered) In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online classes or social programs offered by your congregation? – Three times or more; Once or twice; Haven't participated. (n = 209, 388, 53)

Satisfaction With Support by Synagogue and Overall Jewish Community – There is generally high satisfaction (about 50% very satisfied, and 80% very or somewhat satisfied). More than one-third have sought out online offerings of synagogues and Jewish institutions beyond their locale.

Assessment of Synagogue Support				
How satisfied have you been with your congregation's activities and support overall during the coronavirus pandemic?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Very satisfied	52%	51%	54%	49%
Somewhat satisfied	29%	27%	27%	27%
Total satisfied	81%	78%	81%	76%
Somewhat dissatisfied	7%	7%	8%	6%
Very dissatisfied	3%	6%	2%	8%
Not relevant to me	5%	6%	5%	7%
Don't know	5%	3%	4%	3%

Assessment of Overall Jewish Community Support				
How satisfied have you been with your Jewish community's support during the coronavirus pandemic?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Very satisfied	42%	54%	49%	57%
Somewhat satisfied	35%	32%	36%	29%
Total satisfied	77%	86%	85%	86%
Somewhat dissatisfied	3%	5%	5%	6%
Very dissatisfied	2%	2%	2%	3%
Not relevant to me	5%	3%	3%	3%
Don't know	13%	4%	5%	3%



Q. How satisfied have you been with your congregation's activities and support overall during the coronavirus pandemic? – Very satisfied; Somewhat satisfied; Somewhat dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied; Not relevant to me; Don't know. (n = 234, 419, 71)

Q. Thinking of your Jewish community as a whole (synagogues, Jewish community centers, Federation, other Jewish organizations, etc.), how satisfied have you been with your community's support during the coronavirus pandemic? – Very satisfied; Somewhat satisfied; Somewhat dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied; Don't know. (n = 275, 430, 72)

Q. Since the coronavirus started, have you reached out more broadly than you had in the past – to institutions outside of your local synagogue/community – for Jewish classes, information, spiritual guidance and participation? – Yes; No. (n = 275, 430, 72)

Perceived Value of Synagogue Membership – Very few view their synagogue as having less value to them due to their pandemic experiences. And, while most views haven't changed, a notable minority of shul members (17% of Non-Orthodox and 28% of Orthodox) now see more value in membership.

Have the events of the past few weeks, during the coronavirus pandemic, changed your views regarding the value of synagogue membership?				
Among Current Synagogue Members	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
I now see more value in synagogue membership	17%	28%	23%	31%
My views on the value of synagogue membership have not changed	76%	69%	71%	67%
I now see less value in synagogue membership	7%	3%	6%	1%

Among those who are not currently synagogue members:
The vast majority of synagogue non-members are Non-Orthodox. Among them, 14% say they now see more value in synagogue membership, and virtually none see less value.

Q. (Asked if not currently a synagogue member) You indicated that you are not currently a member of a Jewish congregation. Have the events of the past few weeks, during the coronavirus pandemic, changed your views regarding the value of synagogue membership? – I now see more value in synagogue membership; My views on the value of synagogue membership have not changed; I now see less value in synagogue membership. (n = 203, 389, 70)

Q. (Asked if currently a synagogue member) Have the events of the past few weeks, during the coronavirus pandemic, changed your views regarding the value of synagogue membership? – I now see more value in synagogue membership; My views on the value of synagogue membership have not changed; I now see less value in synagogue membership. (n = 35, 11, 1)

Impact on How People Feel “Jewishly” – Very few (3%) say their “feelings of Jewishness” have weakened during the pandemic, while more say their feelings have strengthened (18% of Non-Orthodox. 22% of Modern Orthodox, and a notably high 38% among Haredi).

Have your experiences since the start of the coronavirus pandemic affected how you feel "Jewishly"? This might include such aspects as your sense of connection, community, involvement, spirituality, etc.?				
My "Jewish feelings" overall ...	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Have become strengthened	18%	32%	22%	38%
Have become weakened	3%	3%	5%	1%
Are mixed; in some ways strengthened, but in some ways weakened	18%	16%	18%	15%
No real change	61%	49%	55%	46%

Please tell us more about why you responded that way (continued) ➡

Q. Have your experiences since the start of the coronavirus pandemic affected how you feel "Jewishly"? This might include such aspects as your sense of connection, community, involvement, spirituality, etc.? – My "Jewish feelings" overall have become strengthened during the pandemic; My "Jewish feelings" overall have become weakened during the pandemic; My "Jewish feelings" are mixed; in some ways strengthened, but in some ways weakened; No real change in my "Jewish feelings." (n = 273, 430, 72)

Impact on How People Feel "Jewishly" – (The following is a sample of the responses. We recommend review of all the responses, which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>).

Response	Summary and Sample Responses
<p>My "Jewish feelings" overall have become strengthened during the pandemic. (n-101)</p>	<p>Connections to the Jewish community – local and virtual – have been strengthened. People are taking advantage of online offerings and "time at home" to engage more in Jewish rituals and practices. People are proud that their communities are functioning and assisting so many.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I see that there are more people who might be able to participate at a distance in synagogue functions easily from their homes if they have the need, using virtual meetings.</i> • <i>I just feel awed by the moral leadership from our rabbi in particular, and I just have this powerful sense of pride that we as a community are ... showing such respect for Halacha and Jewish tradition.</i> • <i>Greater appreciation for Jewish community life and synagogue services.</i> • <i>Hashem is in control and He is leading us somewhere, even though it is not clear to us or to me personally right now. I want to grow and do His Will.</i>
<p>My "Jewish feelings" overall have become weakened during the pandemic. (n-23)</p>	<p>The factor most mentioned is the missing of physical community/services. Some are bothered by unanswerable theological questions, i.e., why is God creating these challenges and tragedies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community is necessary for many parts of davening especially on Shabbos. It isn't the same.</i> • <i>Living alone and Struggling with loneliness</i> • <i>I find it difficult under the current circumstances to see that "everything is for the best." I feel disconnected from G-d ...</i>
<p>My "Jewish feelings" are mixed; in some ways strengthened, but in some ways weakened. (n=80)</p>	<p>Some respondents want the physical interactions to better maintain their connection. A few were "turned off" by decisions/activities that occurred in their community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>My sense of being part of my immediate Jewish community has been somewhat weakened since we can't go to events that usually connect us. ... Online events (are) just not a substitute for the relaxed socializing that happens in person.</i> • <i>The reaction of my fellow Jews has both horrified me and delighted me.</i> • <i>Not being in shul and having human direct interaction has weakened my Jewish feeling. But Jewish feelings are strengthened by the outreach of the shul and community to those in need.</i>
<p>No real change in my "Jewish feelings." (n-208)</p>	<p>Some say their Jewishness is so strong that even something as significant as the pandemic does not affect it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>My primary "Jewish feelings" are between myself and G-d and therefore not subject to change based on community involvement.</i> • <i>My Jewish feelings are solid and "built in" and not dependent on whether I am home or alone or on zoom online or physically present at a Jewish institution or among other Jewish people physically etc.</i> • <i>I've always been a very spiritual person, with great faith in Hashem. That hasn't changed. I don't feel any more or less connected to my community. I probably talk to friends more than I used to, but I don't feel like anything has really changed.</i> • <i>This is part of Jewish life. We go thru tough times, we move on.</i>

Haredi Community Reactions and Feedback – *(The following is a sample of the responses; We recommend review of all the responses, which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>)*

- **85% of the Haredi respondents indicated that before the coronavirus they had personal access to the Internet (not filtered), and the remainder had access via a filtered browser/app. While information about Haredi use of the Internet is anecdotal, these results strongly suggest that either our Haredi respondents are less insular than what is typical in their community as a whole, or there is more Internet use than has been suspected ... or both.**
- **About 90% say their views regarding getting information from outside world sources have not changed.**
- **Give the opportunity to share their thoughts, the following is a sample of responses:**
 - *I believe the pandemic will accelerate many issues currently prevalent in the community. I am waiting to see the effects.*
 - *Making online zoom classes allows for a wider outreach to members of the community.*
 - *Some sort of filtered internet access is vital for distance learning. Phone hook-up is not enough for young children to learn effectively.*
 - *Our community has a higher median number of contacts and by extension a higher R0 for viruses. This means that we are more susceptible to exponential infection by orders of magnitude, and require particular guidance from epidemiologists ... We need guidance from experts in these fields. Stop making speeches that you know reasons for anything and how everyone should fix things.*
 - *I would urge them to appeal to their constituents that they must always adhere to the 'rules' that Government officials demand from us in times of crises. Jews are being examined under a 'microscope.' And whenever we appear to ignore rules that are issued by Government officials, we are singled out more so than any other nationality.*
 - *Science and technology are gifts from HaShem for us to use with our sechel. Scientists and public health officials generally have the public's best interests in mind. They should be heeded.*
 - *The biggest thing that changed with covid, was our immediate access to truly great people all over the world. Rabbonim, Roshei Yeshiva, and speakers could be heard across the world - much more so than usual.*

(Asked of Yeshivish / Litvish / Agudah or Chasidic, Chabad):

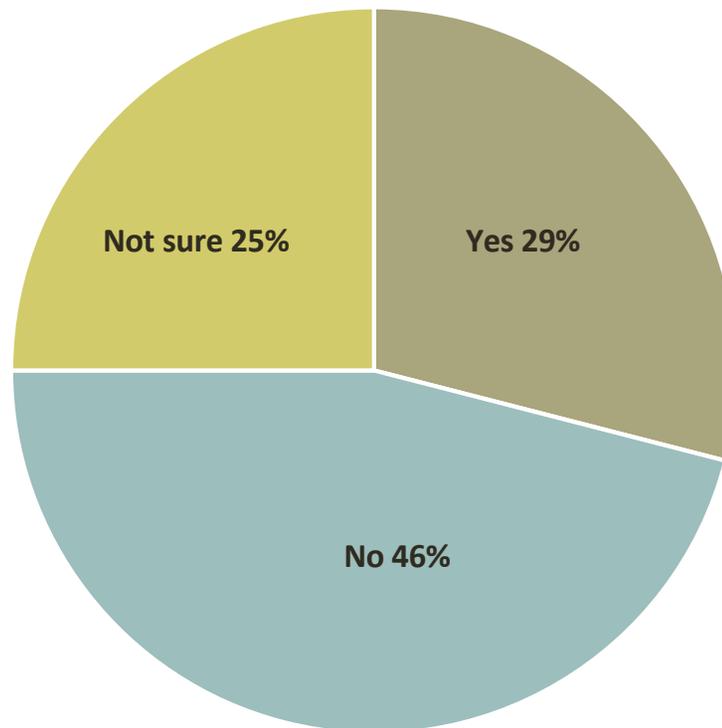
Introduction – “Please remember that this survey is 100% anonymous. No one who responds can be identified, and all responses are confidential.”

Q. Before the coronavirus, did you have personal access to the Internet (not including access you might have had through your work)? – Yes, I had access to the full Internet; Yes, I had filtered access to the Internet; No, I had no Internet access of any type; Would rather not answer. (n = 70)

Q. Since the coronavirus, have your views changed regarding getting information from the outside world – such as TV, secular newspapers, Internet, etc.? – I am now more open to the idea of getting information from outside world sources; I am now less open to the idea of getting information from outside world sources; I have not changed my views on getting information from outside world sources; Not sure. (n = 71)

Q. If you had the opportunity to share with your religious leaders (*rabbonim, poskim, roshei yeshiva*, etc.) ideas or suggestions you gained during this pandemic, what would you tell them? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED (n = 26 responses offered)

Modern Orthodox Views on Halachic Flexibility – Less than one-third (29%) of Modern Orthodox agree that rabbis should consider more halachic flexibility in areas of technology; the rest are opposed (46%) or not sure (25%).



Q. (Asked of Modern Orthodox) During the pandemic, some flexibility has emerged in areas of technology (e.g., smartphones) on Shabbat and Yom Tov. Do you think rabbis should give more thought to such flexibility, even after the pandemic. – Yes; No; Not sure. (n = 424)

Modern Orthodox Feedback to the Community – *(The following is a sample of the many diverse responses. We recommend review of all the responses, which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>).*

- *Religious leaders are working really hard to help people who are isolated during this pandemic. I encourage them to continue to do so after the pandemic ends. When shuls re-open, I encourage clergy to think about how to be more inclusive of people who can't physically attend frequently/at all. Perhaps they can continue livestreaming events and classes.*
- *That I am grateful for the decisions they have made during these unbelievable times to help those in need, those who required any sort of assistance or information, that they were, for the most part, available. Also, I have to commend all denominations for adjusting and/or modifying what are called rules, laws, traditions etc. to meet the needs of our people yet within the accepted practices except for those sects that continue to defy wisdom and put health and survival second to their interpretation of the will of G-d.*
- *I am fearful that this experience might lead people to decide that they're fine without traditional Jewish observance, or that there's no reason why Zoom is inconsistent with Shabbat. I would urge that the necessary kulot and temporary measures that rabbis are rightly authorizing be balanced with powerful and stirring exhortations about why mesorah and continuity matter.*
- *While it is important to listen to public health officials in deciding whether to resume shul activity, the principle of dina d'malchuta dina should also be considered. When civilian officials prohibit gatherings for health reasons, and they are taking advice from competent health authorities, there should be no question of ignoring these orders.*
- *Communication is key. So is checking in regularly with your constituents. I know it's time consuming but shuls should be connecting individually with members, educators with students, organizational leaders with supporters, etc. Not everyone is experiencing this the same way and email blasts are not a replacement for one-on-one check ins.*
- *I am dissatisfied with lack of leadership and initiative regarding mikvah and niddah during this time. It's not fair to expect people to risk their health and safety and their family's health and safety.*
- *Don't wait to hear what rabbinic leaders have to say before you caution your own congregation to practice safe distancing. Listen to the advice of the medical community, don't base your recommendations on what a rabbi says.*
- *My rabbi does not have a strong presence during non-pandemic times. I find myself watching other rabbis on FB to hear what they say because they are more inspiring.*
- *The Jewish community must remain alert and strong, and must not be intimidated by antisemitism. We cannot allow antisemites to create a second Holocaust by disguising it as the coronavirus pandemic.*

Q. (Asked of Modern Orthodox) If you had the opportunity to share with your religious leaders (shul rabbis, halachic poskim, educators, organizational leaders, etc.) ideas or suggestions you gained during this pandemic, what would you tell them? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED (n = 166 responses offered)

Children’s Education – Among respondents with children in grades 1-12, the vast majority (84% of Orthodox and 94% of Non-Orthodox) are being schooled using virtual techniques. Among them, about 30% are very satisfied, and about 80% are very or somewhat satisfied.

Do you have any school-age children (grades 1-12) living at home?				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Yes – 1 child	5%	11%	9%	13%
Yes – 2 children	6%	8%	9%	7%
Yes – 3 or more children	6%	23%	11%	30%
No	83%	58%	71%	50%
What kind of school(s) do your child(ren) currently attend? (among those with children in grades 1-12) – Multiple responses scaled to 100%				
Public school	47%	3%	8%	0%
Orthodox Jewish day school	8%	71%	68%	73%
Other type of Jewish day school	30%	6%	16%	0%
Private school	9%	18%	6%	24%
Other	6%	2%	2%	3%
% of school-age children being educated using virtual techniques	94%	84%	99%	74%
% of virtually schooled children’s parents who are satisfied				
Very Satisfied	27%	38%	32%	42%
Somewhat Satisfied	55%	40%	48%	35%
Total (Very or Somewhat Satisfied)	82%	78%	80%	77%

What have you as a parent learned from the experience of your child(ren)’s virtual schooling (continued) ➡

Q. Do you have any school-age children (grades 1-12) living at home? – Yes – 1 child in grades 1-12; Yes – 2 children in grades 1-12; Yes – 3 or more children in grades 1-12; No. (n = 272, 423, 70)

Q. (Asked if 1+ child in grades 1-12) What kind of school(s) do your child(ren) currently attend (i.e., at the start of the coronavirus pandemic)? (Check all that apply) – Public school; Orthodox Jewish day school; Other type of Jewish day school; Private school; Other. (n = 47, 121, 35)

Q. (Asked if 1+ child in grades 1-12) Are any of your school-age children currently being educated using virtual techniques (e.g., Zoom, online)? – Yes; No. (n = 47, 121, 35)

Q. How satisfied are you, taking everything into account, with your child(ren)’s virtual schooling? – Very satisfied; Somewhat satisfied; Somewhat dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied; Don’t know. (n = 44, 120, 26)

Feedback on Children's Education – *(The following is a sample of the many diverse responses. We recommend review of all the responses, which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>).*

- *I sacrificed an enormous amount to send my child to Jewish day school I am not happy I haven't gotten a refund on my tuition money when I know they have furloughed staff and are saving on utilities and supplies I do not know if I will send her next year as I am sending her for an immersive education not classes online*
- *I am very proud of the school for how quickly they transitioned to online learning and how much they have tweaked along the way. It has helped our family maintain some routine and kept my kids focused. I am noticing that in some ways this mode of learning is beneficial and in others it is not. My children really miss their friends and the social interactions.*
- *It's a complete waste of time.*
- *It doesn't replace real school but it is good for them to have some structure and communication with their friends*
- *Zoom and remote learning can work well for middle and high school aged children who are motivated and don't need much help or input from their parents. Lower school age children will have a much more difficult time and remote learning is not as effective.*
- *Virtual schooling en masse doesn't work. Schools had really made strides in individualized learning the past few years and that has now gone out the door completely.*
- *Zoom and similar technology can serve as a partial replacement for face to face learning - but it isn't as good. Teachers need more training to effectively use zoom.*
- *The virtual schooling has been amazing - it's not really comparable to in-class teaching, but my kids have been thriving. The biggest issue is that it doesn't really provide a social outlet - they have no time to relax with their friends the way they would at school.*
- *I have seen other schools provide much more. Our schools have basically wasted the school year.*
- *A seven year old needs assistance with materials etc. and a parent needs to be available throughout the duration of the class.*
- *It has been a great response to the times. Our community is very organized. Every Sunday there is a contactless pickup at the school where the kids receive their work for the week and papers. Even the preschoolers receive supplies for projects. They then complete these assignments with their class on zoom. I would add that this has potentially given me the idea that these type of lessons should be available for kids who can't make it to school. If a family goes on vacation or needs to be away for a while a child should still be able to dial in.*

Experiences of Communal & Synagogue Rabbis – Rabbis have been heavily called upon in these difficult times; 29 of them shared their thoughts as to what they have learned. *(The following is a sample of the responses, all of which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>).*

- *People need to feel looked after and cared for. This is one of the primary roles of the Rabbi. In this time it is extremely important for the Rabbis of the community to be reaching out to congregants to make sure that they are well and to show them that you care. Do people have access to the food that they need (elderly)? Are people unable to pay bills due to loss of jobs?*
- *Covid helped bring many communities together and Rabbis who previously never worked together, now did, and in unison. In this time it is essential that the community Rabbonim work together to ensure the safety of their communities.*
- *The depths of personal communication possible remotely. Stronger sense of the compelling depths of close personal interactions. The appreciation expressed by those to whom I have offered outreach.*
- *I have learned how to connect to people remotely. I make a point of calling various people who live alone either daily or weekly. I have learned how to teach on zoom.*
- *The experience of isolation as a shared experience is providing some profound insights for people. We have *got* to be more sensitive to people who are isolated not just in times of pandemic!*
- *I am generally frustrated with the inability to daven in our shul and to meet personally and teach my congregants in person. I am learning new tools like Zoom and my YouTube channel, but it is no substitute. I fear what will happen to the synagogue if we are not able to reopen soon.*
- *It pays to get to know your infrequent congregants better, for when you need to check on them during this time period, it seems more out of the blue. We also need to work on better means of getting information to different age groups*
- *Importance of providing traditional practices as a touchstone but also the importance of not trying to replicate the synagogue experience. Using technology creatively. Shortening the amount of prayers but increasing the quality, the kavvanah, the intentions and sense of shared community online.*
- *I have learned that rabbis need to be far more proactive relating to the mental health needs of those in our community.*
- *The ultimate purpose of a shul is to give people a sense of community and belonging. The most important thing you can do is check in on people.*

Q. Are you a community or synagogue rabbi? – Yes; No. (n = 271, 425, 70 ... of which the numbers of rabbis are 22, 17, 2)

Q. (Asked of rabbis) What have you in your role as a rabbi learned from your experiences during the coronavirus pandemic? How have things gone for you? Please share any key lessons, observations, etc. We plan to share respondents' thoughts with the rabbinic community. OPEN-ENDED (n = 29 responses offered)

Political Views – Differences in party affiliation and preferences are consistent with those uncovered in other studies, i.e., Non-Orthodox almost entirely in Biden’s corner, Modern Orthodox leaning strongly to Biden, and Haredi leaning strongly to Trump. Since February there has been a very small (but not statistically significant) swing toward Biden (1% to 2%).

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a ...				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Democrat	73%	24%	47%	10%
Republican	6%	41%	20%	54%
Independent	18%	26%	26%	26%
Something else	3%	9%	7%	10%
Presidential Voting Preference				
Currently	Biden 90% Trump 10%	Trump 54% Biden 46%	Biden 70% Trump 30%	Trump 68% Biden 32%
February 2020	Biden 89% Trump 11%	Trump 56% Biden 44%	Biden 69% Trump 31%	Trump 70% Biden 30%
3-Month Shift	Biden +1%	Biden +2%	Biden +1%	Biden +2%

A sample of comments relating to political views:

- *The pandemic has effected my habits and routines - not my political or philosophical life.*
- *I am as a trained scientist appalled at the venality and incompetence of Trump, his family and his administration.*
- *I see the current situation as a social, medical, economic and political issue and not as a Jewish issue per se.*
- *If recent past and current overall performance (in regards to coronavirus, Israel, Jewish interests, etc.) is any indication of the future, all Jews should wake up to reality and facts on the ground and be supporting the pro-Israel/Jewish-friendly candidates in the Republican Party, including Pres Trump.*
- *I probably would not vote for Biden, but I most definitely will never vote for Trump.*
- *(T)he USA (was)unprepared for the epidemic that (Trump) "decided" was not coming. Vote for Biden.*

Q. (Asked of those in Israel) You indicated that you live in Israel. Have you maintained dual US citizenship, and eligibility to vote in US elections? – Yes; No. (n = 16 responded “yes”) The following questions were asked of those residing in the USA or who responded “yes” above (US voters residing in Israel)

Q. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else? – Democrat; Republican; Independent; Something else. (n = 269, 432, 70)

Q. If Joe Biden is the Democratic presidential candidate and Donald Trump is the Republican presidential candidate, for whom would you be more likely to vote? – Definitely Biden; Probably Biden; Probably Trump; Definitely Trump; Not sure. (n = 268, 431, 70)

Q. Now please think back to February (before the emergence of the coronavirus). How would you at that time have answered the same question, for whom were you more likely to vote? – Definitely Biden; Probably Biden; Probably Trump; Definitely Trump; Not sure. (n = 270, 428, 70)

Voting preferences are based on a weighted average score derived from intentions to definitely vote for a candidate (100), to probably vote for a candidate (90), and not sure (50).

Survey Respondents' Closing Thoughts – *(The following is a small sample of the many, diverse responses received, addressing aspects of all issues raised in the survey. It is not possible to summarize their scope. As with the other open-ended, verbatim questions, we recommend review of all the responses, which are available at <http://nishmaresearch.com/social-research.html>).*

Common Themes	Sample Responses
Appreciation of shul and community efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I honestly have been so impressed by everything I have seen come out from schools, shuls, etc.</i> • <i>I have seen synagogue communities working hard to assure their members are not socially isolated, even though we are physically isolated, and assuring that vulnerable members have food, medications, etc., that they need.</i>
Technology, virtual events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The pandemic has brought our group, who are geographically very far flung, together via Zoom in wonderful ways.</i> • <i>How can Jewish education use technology to better meet the needs of adults, kids and families?</i> • <i>We'll need to keep online learning options as a way to keep people engaged now that they've gotten used to this.</i>
Unmet needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I lost my job and I begged for financial help they said we will only help you if you are food insecure.</i> • <i>Lots of talk about helping people and no one's even asked if I need it (aside from my rabbi).</i>
Being excluded, lonely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The needs of single individuals are not often taken into consideration.</i> • <i>It's really lonely living alone during this time.</i>
Health, worry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I hope (we) take a very cautious approach to reopening ... too quickly will cost lives.</i>
Political views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Angry and disgusted with the President, lack of leadership... I am afraid of what's ahead.</i>
Halachic changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>... Lasting impact on community and the need to adapt to a 'new normal' (and) creative ways to explore halakhah and technology...</i> • <i>I don't want religious observance and Halacha to be one of those things (where we re-examine our approaches)</i>
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>There has been an exaggerated depiction of the situation creating fear, collateral damage and a corrupt picture of reality.</i>
Mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I have a history of depression and the lockdown is making it worse. I'm struggling but I persist in getting through each day.</i>
Jewish example	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It upsets me when I see members of my community who do not (use social distancing and masks).</i>
Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A wake up call to humanity to transform the way we organize ourselves, our relationship to our planet and to one another.</i>
The will of God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is G-d saying? I don't know. But I'm obligated to try and find out and change what I think, say, and do based on the answer.</i>

Q. Do you have any final thoughts you'd like to share on any aspect of the coronavirus, your experiences, what you learned, suggestions to the community or others Anything at all that you want to say on this topic? OPEN-ENDED (n = 217 responses offered)

continued ➡

Summary Dashboards: Physical, Emotional, Financial Health, Compliance & Non-U.S. Respondents

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – All U.S. Respondents

All U.S. Survey Respondents	864 Responses
Has contracted the coronavirus	7%
Other household member(s) have contracted the coronavirus	7%
Has one or more of the underlying medical conditions that increase risk	29%
Very worried that someone in household will contract the coronavirus	23%
Very closely following news and information about coronavirus	71%
Feel a sense of personal isolation to great extent	21%
Personal Safety Index*	84%
Social Distancing Index*	79%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	47%
Financial Impact Index**	7.4%

- This appendix to the report presents a selected dashboard of key metrics that describe the impact of various aspects of the coronavirus pandemic on the population a hand.
- The accompanying table contains the selected dashboard elements – data previously presented in scattered tables throughout this report.
- The following pages contain this dashboard set of metrics for various key sub-groups.

* See definition of this metric (which appears on all pages in this section) on page 11.

** See definition of this metric (which appears on all pages in this section) on page 14.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Jewish Denominations

	Non-Orthodox	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
# of Respondents	275	431	72
Contracted coronavirus	5%	4%	26%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	3%	4%	26%
Underlying medical conditions	33%	27%	23%
Very worried	25%	23%	18%
Following very closely	73%	70%	68%
Feel isolated to great extent	22%	21%	19%
Personal Safety Index	97%	84%	79%
Social Distancing Index	82%	79%	76%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	43%	49%	57%
Financial Impact Index	6.6%	7.5%	8.7%

- In general, only small gaps separate Modern Orthodox and Non-Orthodox Jews, but the Haredim differ from both.
- Haredi households are far more likely to have contracted or have a family member who has contracted coronavirus. Their higher rates of infection reflect in part their high-density New York area residence, but they also lag slightly in observing CDC recommendations about washing, wearing face masks and social distancing (which may be more difficult due to their living in greater proximity). On the plus side, Haredim have fewer medical conditions, with one reason being their younger ages.
- Haredi respondents are somewhat more likely to score high on the Financial Impact Index, reflecting cutbacks in employment, pay, job losses and ability to pay one’s bills.
- The highest level of satisfaction with Jewish community support is found among the Haredi, a group known for its strong communal support network.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Age and Gender

	Age						Gender	
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Male	Fem.
# of Respondents	81	155	100	123	165	142	342	420
Contracted coronavirus	14%	8%	10%	6%	4%	4%	6%	7%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	16%	6%	10%	7%	3%	4%	7%	6%
Underlying medical conditions	21%	17%	19%	31%	35%	45%	30%	27%
Very worried	15%	21%	18%	25%	28%	25%	23%	23%
Following very closely	42%	66%	70%	72%	82%	81%	73%	69%
Feel isolated to great extent	28%	27%	19%	18%	16%	20%	22%	21%
Personal Safety Index	81%	83%	88%	83%	87%	85%	84%	85%
Social Distancing Index	78%	79%	79%	81%	80%	80%	78%	72%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	35%	41%	51%	50%	52%	52%	42%	51%
Financial Impact Index	8.7%	8.0%	8.7%	9.4%	7.9%	2.0%	6.8%	6.4%

- Older people (60+) report fewer instances of coronavirus among themselves, their family members, and others in their social circles. Their lower rates come despite the fact that they also report many more pre-existing medical conditions, in addition to the higher risk attributable to their age.
- Not surprisingly, given their vulnerability, older people more often feel worried by the pandemic and much more closely follow the related news.
- Problems of felt social isolation are somewhat higher among those under 40 than their elders.
- The oldest cohort – age 70+ – is much less likely to report economic hardship, in part a reflection of their having entered retirement (less job-loss impact) as well as having less direct responsibility for raising children.
- Satisfaction with Jewish community support is much lower among those ages under 40. They may be less connected to synagogues and children’s schools.
- There are few significant differences in these measures, between males and females. One exception is the higher satisfaction among females for their Jewish community’s support.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Marital Status

	Married/ Partner*	Single	Other**
# of Respondents	594	106	75
Contracted coronavirus	6%	8%	9%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	8%	7%	2%
Underlying medical conditions	27%	32%	61%
Very worried	18%	18%	20%
Following very closely	73%	58%	76%
Feel isolated to great extent	17%	35%	39%
Personal Safety Index	84%	82%	88%
Social Distancing Index	81%	80%	76%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	50%	34%	41%
Financial Impact Index	6.1%	10.0%	11.6%

- Married people report fewer instances of coronavirus among themselves, their family members, and others in their social circles.
- Marrieds also report fewer underlying medical conditions, feel far less isolated, have been less impacted financially and are more satisfied with Jewish community support than the other groups.
- Singles are following coronavirus events less closely and are less satisfied with Jewish community support than the other groups, probably because of weaker connections to synagogues.

* Married (n = 569) or Living with a partner or in a long-term relationship, or engaged to be married (n = 25).

** Total of Divorced (n = 37), Separated (n = 8), Widowed (n = 28), Other (n = 2).

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Number of Children

	Number of Children		
	None	1	2+
# of Respondents	573	62	149
Contracted coronavirus	6%	8%	11%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	5%	11%	11%
Underlying medical conditions	70%	68%	73%
Very worried	25%	23%	16%
Following very closely	70%	68%	73%
Feel isolated to great extent	22%	29%	17%
Personal Safety Index	85%	83%	82%
Social Distancing Index	80%	80%	82%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	44%	52%	56%
Very satisfied with children's virtual schooling		26%	2 children 34% 3+children 37%
Financial Impact Index	7.0%	11.9%	6.6%



- More children translates to greater incidence of coronavirus, although those with children are less worried and less often feel isolated.
- Interestingly, the financial impact is highest for families with one child, and lower among those with more children.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Education

	Less Than College Degree	College Degree	Graduate Degree
# of Respondents	162	227	480
Contracted coronavirus	18%	6%	6%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	16%	5%	6%
Underlying medical conditions	36%	25%	30%
Very worried	26%	19%	24%
Following very closely	65%	62%	76%
Feel isolated to great extent	32%	23%	20%
Personal Safety Index	82%	83%	85%
Social Distancing Index	71%	78%	82%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	55%	43%	48%
Financial Impact Index	13.9%	8.7%	5.2%

- Those with less than a college degree have a higher incidence of coronavirus – both individually and in their household – as well as a higher incidence of underlying medical conditions and greater feelings of isolation.
- Social distancing is higher among the more educated.
- The financial impact is sharply related to education – the second worst impact among all sub-groups examined, exceeded only by the self-employed (see next page).

Less Than College Degree = Two-year associate degree; Some college, no degree; High school graduate; Less than high school graduate. College Degree = Four-year Bachelor’s degree. Graduate degree = Postgraduate or professional degree, including master’s, doctorate, medical or law degree; Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Employment

	Full-Time Employees	Part-Time Employees	Retired	Other	Subtotal Self-Employed
# of Respondents	420*	134**	141	75	83
Contracted coronavirus	7%	6%	4%	12%	6%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	9%	5%	2%	7%	2%
Underlying medical conditions	21%	27%	47%	44%	21%
Very worried	20%	20%	31%	25%	24%
Following very closely	70%	72%	82%	52%	77%
Feel isolated to great extent	21%	22%	17%	31%	19%
Personal Safety Index	86%	87%	82%	78%	93%
Social Distancing Index	79%	83%	79%	81%	81%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	46%	52%	50%	44%	40%
Financial Impact Index	8.0%	11.5%	0.6%	7.5%	14.6%

- Retirees differ from those working in many ways. They are less likely to have incidence of coronavirus themselves, among household members or others in their social circles. Given their age, they are more prone to report pre-existing medical conditions, express concerns about the pandemic, and very closely follow the related news. At the same time, fewer retirees express feelings of social isolation.
- The self-employed as a group have the worst financial impact of any sub-group examined.

* Includes 41 self-employed full-time.

** Includes 42 self-employed part-time.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Income

	Under \$50,000	\$50,000-\$79,999	\$80,000-\$124,999	\$125,999-\$199,999	\$200,000 or more
# of Respondents	76	75	129	131	186
Contracted coronavirus	5%	7%	9%	8%	6%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	1%	9%	8%	6%	9%
Underlying medical conditions	38%	32%	26%	33%	19%
Very worried	25%	20%	19%	25%	21%
Following very closely	57%	56%	71%	76%	75%
Feel isolated to great extent	30%	25%	26%	23%	15%
Personal Safety Index	77%	83%	85%	85%	87%
Social Distancing Index	79%	79%	77%	80%	83%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	45%	47%	46%	46%	56%
Financial Impact Index	16.1%	10.5%	7.6%	5.0%	5.4%

- Lower income individuals are the hardest-hit group affected financially, among all demographic segments examined.
- They also suffer more often from social isolation, much less often closely follow the related news, and more often have underlying medical conditions. But the incidence of coronavirus among them is not greater than it is among higher income groups.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Location

	Manhattan	Rest of NYC Area*	New Jersey**	Rest of the USA
# of Respondents	66	127	48	491
Contracted coronavirus	9%	20%	19%	4%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	11%	19%	15%	3%
Underlying medical conditions	29%	23%	38%	28%
Very worried	14%	30%	13%	23%
Following very closely	70%	67%	73%	72%
Feel isolated to great extent	24%	27%	17%	20%
Personal Safety Index	89%	85%	82%	84%
Social Distancing Index	85%	79%	77%	80%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	41%	47%	60%	48%
Financial Impact Index	9.6%	9.5%	8.0%	6.5%

- The New York City has a much higher incidence of coronavirus – and more people saying they are very worried – than the rest of the country.
- This is particularly true outside of Manhattan, as the rest of the Greater NYC area has very high levels of contraction of the virus and worrying. These areas include Haredi communities in Brooklyn and Rockland.
- The Jewish community in the NYC area has been hit harder financially than the rest of the country.

* Includes Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx, Staten Island, Westchester, Rockland and a few in western Long Island.

** Much of NJ (e.g., Bergen County), but not all (e.g., Lakewood) is part of Greater NYC area, but we have broken it out. While much of Connecticut is part of the Greater NYC area, most of our survey respondents came from central and northern CT (e.g., Hartford area), and so they are included in the Rest of the USA. There were few from Fairfield County.

Coronavirus Summary Dashboard – Political Affiliation

	Democrat	Republican	Other
# of Respondents	411	139	223
Contracted coronavirus	5%	13%	6%
Other household member(s) contracted coronavirus	4%	10%	8%
Underlying medical conditions	31%	26%	27%
Very worried	28%	17%	18%
Following very closely	77%	65%	64%
Feel isolated to great extent	19%	26%	23%
Personal Safety Index	88%	77%	83%
Social Distancing Index	85%	73%	76%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	50%	46%	42%
Financial Impact Index	5.6%	10.4%	8.0%

- When we talk about the data for Democrats vs. Republicans, we are largely observing the impact of their different Jewish denominational makeups. Specifically, Democrats are largely Non-Orthodox and many Modern Orthodox, while Republicans are largely Haredi and some Modern Orthodox.
- Contraction of coronavirus and the financial impact are much higher among the Republicans. On the other hand, the Democrats follow the news more closely and are more worried.

Appendix I – Demographic Characteristics of U.S. Respondents and Summary of Selected Data for Non-U.S. Respondents

Demographic Characteristics – Age, Gender, Marital Status and Education

Age				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
18 to 29	12%	13%	9%	16%
30 to 39	14%	26%	23%	28%
40 to 49	11%	16%	14%	17%
50 to 59	15%	19%	16%	20%
60 to 69	23%	14%	22%	10%
70 or older	25%	12%	17%	9%
Est. Median	58	46	52	43

Gender				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Male	39%	51%	46%	54%
Female	58%	49%	53%	46%
Non-conforming, other	3%	<0.5%	<1%	0%

Marital / Relationship Status				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Married	66%	80%	76%	83%
Living w/partner	6%	<1%	2%	0%
Single	19%	11%	11%	12%
Divorced/separated	5%	4%	7%	3%
Widowed	4%	3%	3%	3%

Education				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Postgraduate degree	65%	48%	66%	38%
Some postgraduate	10%	11%	8%	13%
Four-year Bachelor's	16%	24%	21%	26%
Two-year associate	2%	1%	1%	1%
Some college	6%	11%	3%	16%
High school graduate	1%	3%	<1%	4%
Less than high school	<0.5%	1%	0%	1%

Q. What is your age? – 18 to 29; 30 to 39; 40 to 49; 50 to 59; 60 to 69; 70 or older. (n = 259, 419, 69)

Q. What is your gender? – Male; Female; Non-conforming, other. (n = 263, 422, 71)

Q. What is your marital/relationship status? – Married; Living with a partner or in a long-term relationship, or engaged to be married; Single; Divorced; Separated; Widowed; Other. (n = 264, 423, 69)

Q. What is the highest level of schooling you have completed? – Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree; Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree; Four-year Bachelor's degree; Two-year associate degree; Some college, no degree; High school graduate; Less than high school graduate. (n = 261, 420, 69)

Demographic Characteristics – Employment and Household Income

Employment Prior to Coronavirus				
	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Employed full-time	39%	58%	55%	60%
Employed part-time	11%	13%	11%	15%
Student	7%	4%	4%	4%
Work/volunteer non-paid	2%	<0.5%	1%	0%
Self-employed full-time	6%	3%	6%	2%
Self-employed part-time	8%	4%	4%	4%
Retired	22%	12%	17%	9%
Homemaker	2%	4%	1%	6%
Disabled/handicapped	2%	<0.5%	1%	0%
Not employed	2%	<0.5%	1%	0%

Household Income in 2019				
<i>(Excludes 28% who did not respond)</i>	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Under \$50,000	17%	8%	11%	7%
\$50,000 - \$79,999	12%	17%	12%	20%
\$80,000 - \$124,999	22%	29%	20%	34%
\$125,000 - \$199,999	22%	17%	23%	13%
\$200,000 or more	28%	29%	34%	26%
Estimated Median	\$125K	\$120K	\$150K	\$112K

Q. Which of the following best describes your employment status prior to the coronavirus? – Employed full-time; Employed part-time; Student; Working or volunteering - non-paid; Self-employed full-time; Self-employed part-time; Retired; Homemaker; Disabled/handicapped; Not employed. (n = 263, 420, 68)

Q. What was your total household income in 2019? –Under \$50,000; \$50,000 - \$79,999; \$80,000 - \$124,999; \$125,000 - \$199,999; \$200,000 or more; Prefer not to answer. (n = 200, 322, 61)

Demographic Characteristics – Geographic Location

Country	Responses
United States	864
Israel	28
United Kingdom	15
Canada	11
Other – Australia 3; Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Turkey, 1 each.	
State/Area	Responses
Total New York State	208
– includes NYC (Manhattan 66, Queens 43, Brooklyn 36, Bronx 24)	169
Massachusetts (mostly Greater Boston, incl. New Hampshire)	146
DC / MD (Silver Spring area)	117
Baltimore	30
Connecticut	52
New Jersey	48
Other (these four states account for a total 95 responses) – California, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania,. The following had fewer than 10 responses each: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington	

- The vast majority of responses came from the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states
- About one-third of the Jewish community – across all denominations – lives in areas that have very high incidence of coronavirus.
- Two-thirds of Orthodox and a bit more than half of Non-Orthodox live in areas with higher-than-average incidence.

Relative Level of Coronavirus Incidence Where Respondent Lives				
Level of coronavirus where you live, compared to rest of your country	Non-Orthodox	Orthodox		
		All	Modern Orthodox	Haredi
Very high, much higher than the national average	27%	30%	30%	30%
High	27%	35%	32%	37%
About the national average	17%	19%	21%	17%
Low	19%	11%	10%	11%
Very low, much lower than the national average	5%	1%	1%	1%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%	3%

Note: A total of 916 respondents provided their country location and, among the 864 in the United States, 733 provided their state (zip code) location.

Q. Thinking of the local area where you live (your county, etc.), what in your view is the level of coronavirus incidence as compared to the rest of your country? – Very high, much higher than the national average; High; About the national average; Low; Very low, much lower than the national average; Not sure.

Summary of Selected Data for Non-U.S. Respondents

All Non-U.S. Survey Respondents	64 Responses
Has contracted the coronavirus	15%
Other household member(s) have contracted the coronavirus	10%
Has one or more of the underlying medical conditions that increase risk	23%
Very worried that someone in household will contract the coronavirus	17%
Very closely following news and information about coronavirus	72%
Feel a sense of personal isolation to great extent	29%
Personal Safety Index	74%
Social Distancing Index	72%
Very satisfied with Jewish community support	40%
Financial Impact Index	8.7%

- We did not receive enough responses from outside the U.S. to develop comparisons with U.S. respondents at a high level of statistical validity. We therefore present this information more for the sake of completeness.
- The preceding page showed the locations of non-U.S. respondents.

Appendix II – Survey Questionnaire

Survey Questionnaire (Page 1 of 5)

Nishma Research Coronavirus Survey – May 2020

INTRODUCTION

This survey seeks to understand how Jewish people are dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. We are seeking the participation of Jews around the world in all of their diversity – across all denominations, identities, backgrounds, and geographic areas.

The survey is completely anonymous, is open to people age 18 or older, and will take about 10-12 minutes to complete. Responses are not required to all questions, but we hope you will respond as fully as possible. The survey link is <https://bit.ly/coronavirus-jewish>, and feel free to share it with others. The link will be provided again at the end of the survey.

This study is sponsored by and conducted by Nishma Research, an independent research firm that conducts studies in the Jewish community. Results will be publicized and will be available at <http://nishmaresearch.com>. If you have any difficulties accessing the survey please email mark@nishmaresearch.com.

Thank you.

***Q1. Do you identify as being Jewish?** [Questions denoted with asterisk require response]

- Yes
- No – TERMINATE

***Q2. In what country is your principal residence?**

- United States
- Israel
- France
- Canada
- United Kingdom
- Other – Please enter

Q3. How closely have you followed news and information about the coronavirus in the past four weeks?

- Very closely
- Somewhat closely
- Not too closely
- Not at all closely

***Q4. Have any of the following contracted the coronavirus? (Check all that apply)**

- I have contracted coronavirus
- Member(s) of my household, other than myself, have contracted coronavirus
- Family member(s) not in my household (parent, sibling, child, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin) have contracted coronavirus
- Friend(s) have contracted coronavirus
- Colleague(s) or co-worker(s) have contracted coronavirus
- None of the above

***Q5. How worried are you that someone in your household will contract the coronavirus? If any have already contracted it, then are you worried that additional people in your household will also get it?**

- Very worried
- Somewhat worried
- Not too worried
- Not worried at all
- Not applicable – All members of my household have already contracted it

Q6. Aside from your age, are you personally in a higher risk group due to your having any of the following, or have medical conditions? – Diabetes; chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; severe obesity; immunocompromised or having a condition that can cause one to be immunocompromised (conditions listed are according to the CDC)

- I have none of these conditions
- I have one of these conditions
- I have two or more of these conditions

Ask if Q4 ≠ Yourself

Q7. Have you been tested for coronavirus?

- Yes, and I tested positive
- Yes, and I tested negative
- Yes, and I don't know yet
- No, I was not tested

Ask if Q7 = No

Q8. Do you believe you have, or had coronavirus?

- Yes, almost definitely
- Yes, probably
- Probably not
- Definitely not
- Not sure

Q9. Have you been tested for coronavirus antibodies?

- Yes, and I tested positive
- Yes, and I tested negative
- Yes, and I don't know yet
- No, I was not tested

Survey Questionnaire (Page 2 of 5)

Q10. Which of the following are you currently doing as a result of the coronavirus? (Check all that apply)

- I often wash my hands
- I often wear a face mask
- I stay at home and only go out to obtain necessary items such as food or medicine
- I make it a point to keep a distance of six feet from people other than immediate family members who live with me
- I have stopped meeting up with people in-person, other than with family members who live with me
- I have not changed my habits as a result of the coronavirus

***Q11. To what extent do you currently feel a personal sense of isolation?**

- To a great extent
- Somewhat
- A little
- Not at all

***Q12. Which, if any, of the following work/job-related events has happened to you as a result of the coronavirus? (Check all that apply)**

- I am working from home due to the coronavirus
- I have had my work hours cut due to the coronavirus
- I have had my pay cut due to the coronavirus
- I have lost my job due to the coronavirus
- I am working more hours due to the coronavirus
- I have gotten a new job because of the coronavirus
- I have retired from work due to the coronavirus
- NONE – The coronavirus has not affected my job
- NONE – I was not employed at the start of the coronavirus

***Q13. Has the coronavirus affected your ability to pay for necessary expenses (such as food, rent/mortgage, utilities)?**

- My ability to pay for such necessary expenses has not been affected
- It's harder than usual for me to pay for such necessary expenses
- I am currently unable to pay for such necessary expenses

Q14. How satisfied are you with how ...

- [Ask in USA] President Trump has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?
- [Ask outside USA] Your national leader has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?
- Your local government (state, province, mayor, county executive, etc.) has responded to the coronavirus outbreak?
- The medical, scientific and research communities have responded to the coronavirus outbreak?
- Your local Jewish community leaders have responded to the coronavirus outbreak?

Response Scale:

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

***Q15. Are you a member of a Jewish congregation (e.g., synagogue, shul, temple, etc.)?**

- Yes
- No

Show if Q15 = Yes

If you belong to more than one congregation, the following questions will relate to the one that you consider your primary congregation.

Q16. Which of these services is your congregation offering?

- Online group prayer services
- Online classes
- Online social programs
- Assistance with food or other delivery
- Checking up on members by phone or other means

Response Options:

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

Ask if Q16 Online group prayer = Yes

Q17. In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online group prayer services?

- Five or more times
- Three or four times
- Once or twice
- Haven't participated

Ask if Q16 Online classes / social programs (Either/Or) = Yes

Q18. In the last four weeks, about how often in total have you participated in online classes or social programs offered by your congregation?

- Three times or more
- Once or twice
- Haven't participated

Ask if Q17 Participated in online group prayer once or more

Q19. How satisfied have you been with online group prayer services?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Ask if Q15 = Yes

***Q20. How satisfied have you been with your congregation's activities and support overall during the coronavirus pandemic?**

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not relevant to me
- Don't know

Survey Questionnaire (Page 3 of 5)

Q21. Thinking of your Jewish community as a whole (synagogues, Jewish community centers, Federation, other Jewish organizations, etc.), how satisfied have you been with your community's support during the coronavirus pandemic?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Q22. Since the coronavirus started, have you reached out more broadly than you had in the past – to institutions outside of your local synagogue/community – for Jewish classes, information, spiritual guidance and participation?

- Yes
- No

Ask if Q15 = Not currently a synagogue member

Q23a. You indicated that you are not currently a member of a Jewish congregation. Have the events of the past few weeks, during the coronavirus pandemic, changed your views regarding the value of synagogue membership?

- I now see more value in synagogue membership
- My views on the value of synagogue membership have not changed
- I now see less value in synagogue membership

Ask if Q15 = Currently a synagogue member

Q23b. Have the events of the past few weeks, during the coronavirus pandemic, changed your views regarding the value of synagogue membership?

- I now see more value in synagogue membership
- My views on the value of synagogue membership have not changed
- I now see less value in synagogue membership

Q24. Have your experiences since the start of the coronavirus pandemic affected how you feel "Jewishly"? This might include such aspects as your sense of connection, community, involvement, spirituality, etc.?

- My "Jewish feelings" overall have become strengthened during the pandemic
- My "Jewish feelings" overall have become weakened during the pandemic
- My "Jewish feelings" are mixed; in some ways strengthened. but in some ways weakened
- No real change in my "Jewish feelings"

Ask if Q24 is answered

Q24a. Please tell us more about why you responded that way. [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

***Q25. With which of the following denominations do you most closely identify?**

- Orthodox
- Conservative
- Reform
- Other denomination
- Of no particular denomination, or "just Jewish"

Ask if Q25 = Orthodox

Q26. Would you say you are (please pick the response that most closely describes you) ...

- Modern Orthodox – Centrist
- Modern Orthodox – "To the right" - more stringent (machmir)
- Modern Orthodox – "To the left" - more liberal
- Yeshivish / Litvish / Agudah
- Chasidic, other than Chabad
- Chabad
- Other, none of the above, or would rather not say

Ask Q27-29a if Q26 = Haredi (Yeshivish / Litvish / Agudah or Chasidic, Chabad)
Please remember that this survey is 100% anonymous. No one who responds can be identified, and all responses are confidential.

Q27. Before the coronavirus, did you have personal access to the Internet (not including access you might have had through your work)?

- Yes, I had access to the full Internet
- Yes, I had filtered access to the Internet
- No, I had no Internet access of any type
- Would rather not answer

Q28. Since the coronavirus, have your views changed regarding getting information from the outside world – such as TV, secular newspapers, Internet, etc.?

- I am now more open to the idea of getting information from outside world sources
- I am now less open to the idea of getting information from outside world sources
- I have not changed my views on getting information from outside world sources
- Not sure

Q29a. If you had the opportunity to share with your religious leaders (rabbonim, poskim, roshei yeshiva, etc.) ideas or suggestions you gained during this pandemic, what would you tell them? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

Ask Q29b-30 if Q26 = Modern Orthodox

Q29b. If you had the opportunity to share with your religious leaders (shul rabbis, halachic poskim, educators, organizational leaders, etc.) ideas or suggestions you gained during this pandemic, what would you tell them? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

Q30. During the pandemic, some flexibility has emerged in areas of technology (e.g., smartphones) on Shabbat and Yom Tov. Do you think rabbis should give more thought to such flexibility, even after the pandemic.

- Yes
- No

Survey Questionnaire (Page 4 of 5)

Q31. Do you have any school-age children (grades 1-12) living at home?

- Yes – 1 child in grades 1-12
- Yes – 2 children in grades 1-12
- Yes – 3 or more children in grades 1-12
- No

Ask Q32-35 if Q31 = Yes

Q32. What kind of school(s) do your child(ren) currently attend (i.e., at the start of the coronavirus pandemic)? (Check all that apply)

- Public school
- Orthodox Jewish day school
- Other type of Jewish day school
- Private school
- Other

Q33. Are any of your school-age children currently being educated using virtual techniques (e.g., Zoom, online)?

- Yes
- No

Q34. How satisfied are you, taking everything into account, with your child(ren)'s virtual schooling?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Don't know

Q35. What have you as a parent learned from the experience of your child(ren)'s virtual schooling? Include any feedback you would give to your child(ren)'s school(s)? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

Q36. Are you a community or synagogue rabbi?

- Yes
- No

Ask if Q36 = Yes

Q37. What have you in your role as a rabbi learned from your experiences during the coronavirus pandemic? How have things gone for you? Please share any key lessons, observations, etc. We plan to share respondents' thoughts with the rabbinic community. [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

Ask if resides in Israel

Q38. You indicated that you live in Israel. Have you maintained dual US citizenship, and eligibility to vote in US elections?

- Yes
- No

Ask Q39-41 if resides in USA or in Israel and eligible to vote in USA

Q39. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent
- Something else TEXT BOX

Q40. If Joe Biden is the Democratic presidential candidate and Donald Trump is the Republican presidential candidate, for whom would you be more likely to vote?

- Definitely Biden
- Probably Biden
- Probably Trump
- Definitely Trump
- Not sure

Q41. Now please think back to February (before the emergence of the coronavirus). How would you at that time have answered the same question, for whom were you more likely to vote?

- Definitely Biden
- Probably Biden
- Probably Trump
- Definitely Trump
- Not sure

Q42. The last section will contain some demographic questions, describing your background. Before we get to that, here is a final feedback opportunity for you.

Do you have any final thoughts you'd like to share on any aspect of the coronavirus, your experiences, what you learned, suggestions to the community or others Anything at all that you want to say on this topic? [Note that the box will expand as you type, if needed] OPEN-ENDED

Q43. What is your age?

- 18 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60 to 69
- 70 or older
- Prefer not to answer

Q44. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Non-conforming, other

Survey Questionnaire (Page 5 of 5)

Q45. What is your marital/relationship status?

- Married
- Living with a partner or in a long-term relationship, or engaged to be married
- Single
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed
- Other

Q46. What is the highest level of schooling you have completed?

- Postgraduate or professional degree, including master's, doctorate, medical or law degree
- Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree
- Four-year Bachelor's degree
- Two-year associate degree
- Some college, no degree
- High school graduate
- Less than high school graduate

Q47. Which of the following best describes your employment status prior to the coronavirus?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Student
- Working or volunteering - non-paid
- Self-employed full-time
- Self-employed part-time
- Retired
- Homemaker
- Disabled/handicapped
- Not employed

Q48. What was your total household income in 2019?

- Under \$50,000
- \$50,000 - \$79,999
- \$80,000 - \$124,999
- \$125,000 - \$199,999
- \$200,000 or more
- Prefer not to answer

Ask if in USA

Q49. What are the first three digits of your primary residential zip code? __ __ __

Q50. Thinking of the local area where you live (your county, etc.), what in your view is the level of coronavirus incidence as compared to the rest of your country?

- Very high, much higher than the national average
- High
- About the national average
- Low
- Very low, much lower than the national average
- Not sure

Q51. Since March 1 of this year, have you lived for one week or more at a place other than your primary residence, such as a vacation home, or a friend's home, because you wanted to be in a safer environment with respect to the coronavirus?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

About Nishma Research

- Nishma Research was founded in 2015, with the purpose of informing the Jewish community through communal and organizational studies. “Nishma” means “we listen” – and our mission involves conducting research on topics that will promote greater listening among the diverse strands of the Jewish people.
- Nishma is a full-service research firm that supports synagogues, schools, community organizations, and other researchers. We conduct custom research, data collection, analysis, and presentation employing quantitative and qualitative research approaches.
- This is Nishma’s sixth broad communal study conducted over the past five years, each serving as the first quantitative study ever done on its topic: (1) a 2016 survey of people who have left Orthodoxy (“off the *derech*”), across all segments of Modern Orthodox and Haredi Jewry; (2) a 2017 broad demographic and attitudinal profile of American Modern Orthodoxy; (3) a 2019 study of the future of Modern Orthodoxy as it confronts challenges and opportunities emanating from its interaction with secular society; (4) a 2019 study that explored the religious journeys of *Baalei Teshuvah*; (5) an early 2020 study of the political views of Orthodox Jews, including differences between Modern Orthodox and Haredi; and (6) the current study of the coronavirus in the Jewish community.
- All Nishma Research reports are available free to the public. We appreciate the opportunity to share our findings, which, to date, have been discussed at 31 venues.

