ARIZONA REPORT

An Analysis of the Jewish Electorate for the Jewish Electorate Institute by the American Jewish Population Project

At the request of the non-partisan Jewish Electorate Institute, researchers at the American Jewish Population Project at Brandeis University’s Steinhardt Social Research Institute conducted an analysis of hundreds of national surveys of US adults to describe the Jewish electorate in each of the 435 districts of the 116th US Congress and the District of Columbia. Surveys include the American National Election Studies, the General Social Survey, Pew Political and social surveys, the Gallup Daily Tracking poll, and the Gallup Poll Social Series. Data from over 1.4 million US adults were statistically combined to provide, for each district, estimates of the number of adults who self-identify as Jewish and a breakdown of those individuals by age, education, race/ethnicity, political party self-identification, and political ideology. The following report presents a portrait of the Jewish electorate in Arizona and its nine congressional districts.¹
Arizona is home to ~113,000 Jewish adults, comprising 2% of the state’s electorate. Worth 11 electoral votes, Arizona was won by Mitt Romney (+9.03%; 208,422 votes) in 2012 and by President Trump (+3.5%; 91,234 votes) in 2016. In addition to the upcoming House and presidential races, a special election is scheduled for November 2020 to fill the late Senator John McCain’s seat. Republican Martha McSally, who was appointed to fill the vacancy in the interim by Governor Doug Ducey (R), faces a competitive special election that favors Democratic challenger Mark Kelly.

OVERVIEW: THE ARIZONA JEWISH ELECTORATE

The majority (≈82%) of Jewish adults in Arizona resides in five congressional districts that include parts of Tucson, Phoenix, and other metropolitan areas within Maricopa County.

The majority (55%) of Arizona’s Jewish electorate, consistent with the Jewish electorate nationally, identifies with or leans toward the Democratic Party.²

<table>
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<tr>
<th>JEWISH ADULTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Democrat &amp; Lean Democrat</td>
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<tr>
<td>55%</td>
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Total does not sum to 100% due to omitted “Other” category.
Just over half of Jewish adults in Arizona are college educated. Compared to the general adult population of the state, Arizona's Jewish electorate is more likely to be college educated (55% vs. 26%), with educational attainment comparable to Jewish adults nationally (55% vs. 57%).

The Arizona Jewish electorate is older compared to all adults in the state, with a greater proportion of adults ages 65+ (34% vs. 23%, respectively).
STATE-LEVEL POLITICS

Jewish adults in Arizona are more likely to identify as Democrats (55%) than all adults in the state (44%). Of the 55% of Jewish adults who identify as Democrats in some way, 38% identified as Democrat when asked if they identify with a political party. An additional 16% identify as Independent who lean toward the Democratic Party. Among all Arizona adults, 27% identify as Democrats, and an additional 17% lean Democratic. Jewish adults are also less likely to identify as or lean Republican (39%) and as Independent (4%) than all Arizona adults (46% and 10%, respectively).

When asked about political ideology, Jewish adults in Arizona are far more likely to identify as liberal (36%) than all adults in the state (24%). Jewish adults are also far less likely to identify as conservative (26%) than all adults (38%). Both groups, Jewish adults and the general Arizona population, identify as moderate in approximately equal proportions (38% and 37%, respectively).

Age of Independents

Within the Arizona Jewish electorate, those in younger age groups are more likely to identify as Independent compared with older adults. Jewish adults ages 18-24 are about 50% more likely to identify as Independent than Jewish adults ages 65 or older (47% vs. 31%, respectively).
Of Arizona’s nine congressional districts, the top five by Jewish population account for about 82% (~93,000 adults) of the state’s total Jewish electorate (~113,000 adults). AZ-2 spans the majority of the Tucson metropolitan area in the southeastern corner of the state. The remaining four districts encompass much of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Of the top five Arizona districts by Jewish adult population, three are represented by Republicans and two by Democrats. AZ-9, represented by Greg Stanton (D), is considered reliable for Democrats in the upcoming House race. Districts AZ-2 and AZ-6 are both competitive. The former, represented by Ann Kirkpatrick (D), is likely to remain Democrat while the latter, represented by David Schweikert (R) leans Republican. The two remaining districts—AZ-8, represented by Debbie Lesko (R), and AZ-5, represented by Andy Biggs (R)—are considered reliable for Republicans in the upcoming House races.
Competitive Districts

The majority of Arizona's congressional districts—seven out of nine—are considered safe for their incumbent representatives in upcoming House elections and are split evenly between Democrats and Republicans. The remaining three districts—AZ-6 and AZ-1—are rated as competitive for the upcoming House races.³

Three of Arizona's nine districts are rated competitive in the presidential race. Of these, AZ-9 and AZ-2 have significant Jewish populations.

Arizona Competitive House Races

Three of Arizona's nine congressional districts are considered competitive House races in 2020.

Three of Arizona's nine congressional districts are considered solidly Republican. Of these, only AZ-8 and AZ-5 have significant Jewish populations. The former, represented by Debbie Lesko (R), is home to ~12,000 Jewish adults and the latter, represented by Andy Biggs (R), is home to ~10,000 Jewish adults. Together, these two districts account for one fifth of Arizona's Jewish electorate.

Competitive district AZ-6, represented by David Schweikert (R), leans Republican. It is home to more Jewish adults (~40,000) than any other district in Arizona, accounting for about one third (35%) of the state's Jewish electorate.

Four of Arizona's nine congressional districts are considered solidly Democratic. Of these, two have significant Jewish populations—AZ-9, represented by Greg Stanton (D) and AZ-2, represented by Ann Kirkpatrick (D).

Competitive district AZ-1, represented by Tom O'Halleran (D), leans Democrat. It does not have a significant Jewish population.
AZ-6 has the largest Jewish adult population in the state and is represented by David Schweikert (R). Trump won this district by nearly 10 points in 2016. The district is considered competitive for the upcoming House race, though the race leans in favor of the incumbent.

Spanning portions of Maricopa County, AZ-6 is home to ~40,000 Jewish adults, accounting for 6.3% of the district's voting-age population. The majority (~84%) of the AZ-6 Jewish electorate lives in 21 ZIP Codes, encompassing northeastern portions of the Phoenix metropolitan area, including the Phoenix suburbs of Paradise Valley and Scottsdale.

The majority of the AZ-6 Jewish electorate identifies with the Democratic Party (54%), and a plurality are politically moderate (41%).
AZ-2 District Profile

AZ-2 has the third largest Jewish adult population in the state. The upcoming House race was considered competitive in the early summer, but by August 2020, the race rating was changed to reliable for the incumbent, Ann Kirkpatrick (D). Despite Clinton's win here (+4.8%) in 2016, the district is considered competitive in the upcoming presidential race.

Located in the southeastern corner of Arizona, AZ-2 is home to ~15,000 Jewish adults, accounting for 2.5% of the district's voting-age population. A large majority (84%) of the AZ-2 Jewish electorate lives in 16 ZIP Codes,* encompassing the northwestern portions of the district.

Jewish adults in AZ-2 are more likely to identify with the Democratic Party (57%) and as politically liberal (44%) than all adults in the district (46% and 29%, respectively).

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**Partisan Identification**

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<tr>
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<th>Democrat &amp; Lean Democrat</th>
<th>Independent/No lean</th>
<th>Republican &amp; Lean Republican</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 Presidential</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018 Congressional</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
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Political Ideology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political Ideology</th>
<th>Liberal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Conservative</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>21%</td>
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*ZIP Codes: 85704, 85707, 85715, 85718, 85730, 85742, 85748, 85750, 85708, 85710, 85711, 85712, 85716, 85719, 85741.

†Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation (CV) for the "lean" political estimates is greater than 30%.
NOTES

¹ Methodology: Individual-level data from all surveys were combined using Bayesian multilevel modeling with poststratification. Poststratification included geographic distributions of respondents by ZIP Codes within congressional districts, and demographic characteristics of age, educational attainment, race/ethnicity, population density, as well as interactions of age by educational attainment, population density by age, and population density by educational attainment. Modeling is based to Jewish adults who self-identify as Jewish when asked about their religion. Estimates of “Total Jewish Adults” are obtained by adding to the model-based estimate, independent estimates of the percentage of Jewish adults who do not identify religiously as Jewish. This percentage can range from a low of 10% to a high of 30% depending on the region.

² Partisan lean of Independents was estimated using a design-based pooled analysis method in which each survey’s original survey weights were adjusted for survey specific designs and sample sizes. This method is not as sensitive to estimation of rare populations as the Bayesian methods used for the main Jewish population estimates but provides an initial ballpark estimate of the groups of interest. Follow-up studies will compare these estimates to those derived from more fully developed Bayesian model-based estimates.

³ Congressional district competitive scores from Cook Political Report and fivethirtyeight.com; data accessed May 2020.