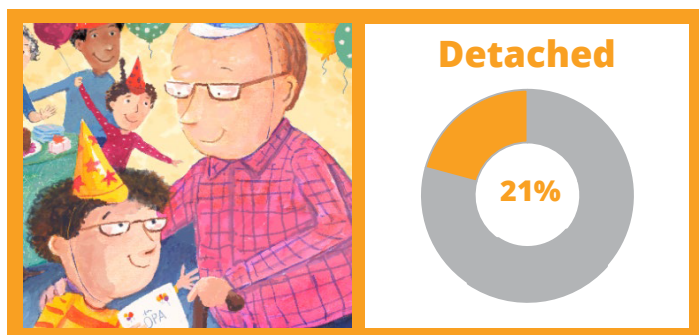
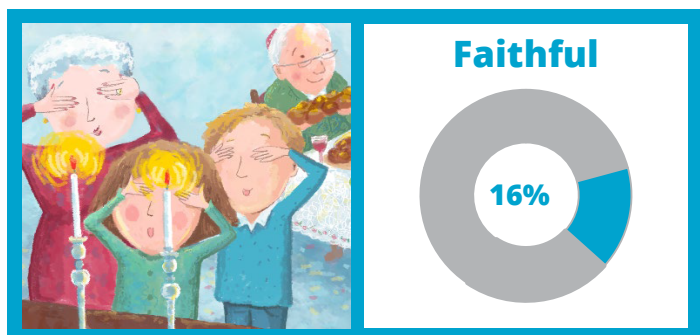




UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENT GRANDPARENT-GRANDCHILD RELATIONSHIPS



In analyzing the data, it was important to go beyond looking at the Jewish grandparent population as a whole, in order to identify and understand the different types of grandparent-grandchild relationships that exist within this population. This was accomplished by having each respondent characterize his/her attitudes about grandparenting and about Judaism, as well as his/her Jewish aspirations for the randomly selected grandchild. Thirty-one statements were used to measure these attitudes using a five-point agree-disagree scale. Multivariate segmentation was then used to divide the 1,017 grandparent-grandchild relationship profiles into groups (or segments) based on attitude similarities derived from the thirty-one statements.

This statistical process teases out distinct segments or groupings that are interpretable and actionable. The statistical model found five different types of grandparent-grandchild relationships that are defined by similar attitudes, which are depicted above. While these grandparenting groups total 100% (listed percentages total 101% due to rounding), it is important to note that a Jewish grandparent with more than one grandchild may well identify with more than one of these groups, depending on their different relationships with individual grandchildren and their overall attitudes toward grandparenting.

Joyful Grandparents — 20% of the nationally representative sample



Joyful grandparents love being grandparents and being part of a multigenerational family. They feel it is very important to transmit Jewish values and beliefs, which they model for their grandchildren.

Key statements they are *more* likely to agree strongly with include:

- Being a grandparent is generally a joyful experience
- Watching my adult child(ren) be parents is a great joy
- I feel respected by my child(ren) and grandchild(ren) in my role as a grandparent
- It is important to me to transmit Jewish values to my grandchild
- It is important to me to teach my grandchild about Jewish heritage, traditions and customs
- Being Jewish is an important part of my life
- It is important to support Jewish charities/causes
- I consider myself a spiritual person

Nearly two-thirds are members or regular participants in a synagogue or minyan. Their children participate at close to the same rate and tend to be married to other Jews.

Faithful Grandparents — 16% of the nationally representative sample



Faithful grandparents want their grandchildren to have a strong connection to Judaism and to marry other Jews. They are deeply committed grandparents, who are involved on a regular basis with their grandchildren and intentionally model Jewish behaviors for them.

Key statements they are *more* likely to agree strongly with include:

- I want my grandchild to have a strong connection to Judaism
- It is important to me to transmit Jewish values to my grandchild
- I want my grandchild to be interested in doing Jewish activities
- It is important to me that my grandchild marry a Jewish partner
- Being Jewish is an important part of my life
- It is important to support Jewish charities/causes

Over three-quarters are members or regular participants in a synagogue or minyan. Their children participate at close to the same rate and the vast majority are married to other Jews.

Secular Grandparents — 23% of the nationally representative sample



Secular grandparents are genuinely involved and confident grandparents who take great pleasure in their role. They enjoy being part of a multi-generational family, but don't model Jewish faith or practice for their grandchildren.

Key statements they are *more* likely to agree strongly with include:

- Being a grandparent is generally a joyful experience
- I enjoy pampering my grandchild
- My grandchild only participates in Jewish programs and activities because it matters to their grandparent
- I wish that my kids had a greater appreciation for their Jewish heritage

Secular grandparents are among the least likely to describe themselves as religious or spiritual. Less than a quarter are members or regular participants in a synagogue or minyan, and two-thirds have a child whose spouse or partner does not identify as Jewish.

Wistful Grandparents — 20% of the nationally representative sample



Wistful grandparents want to be more involved with their grandchildren, but family dynamics or emotional distance get in the way. Their ideas about child-rearing differ from those of their adult children and they don't feel valued as grandparents.

Key statements they are *more* likely to agree strongly with include:

- I wish I could be more involved in my grandchild's life
- I don't always agree with how my grandchild's parents 'parent' (him/her)
- My ideas about child-rearing conflict with my adult child(ren)'s approach to parenting
- My child(ren) doesn't fully appreciate all I do as a grandparent

Key statements they are *less* likely to agree strongly with include:

- I feel respected by my child(ren) & grandchild(ren) in my role as a grandparent
- Being a grandparent is generally a joyful experience
- Being a grandparent has improved my relationship with my adult child(ren)

Over a third of Wistful grandparents are members or regular participants in a synagogue or minyan, and half have a child whose spouse or partner does not identify as Jewish.

Detached Grandparents — 21% of the nationally representative sample



Key statements they are *less* likely to agree strongly with include:

- It is important to me to transmit Jewish values to my grandchild
- I want my grandchild to have a strong connection to Judaism
- I want my grandchild to be interested in doing Jewish activities
- It is important to me that my grandchild marry a Jewish partner
- Being Jewish is an important part of my life
- I wish that my kids had a greater appreciation or their Jewish heritage
- I feel that it is important to support Jewish charities or causes

Detached grandparents are neither Jewishly engaged nor interested in passing on Jewish practices to their grandchildren. Most report satisfying family relationships and 25% provide grandchild caretaking. Their overall level of interaction with their grandchildren is more modest than other groups (except Wistful Grandparents).

Less than one-in-seven Detached grandparents are members or regular participants in a synagogue or minyan. Over two-in-five are married to someone of another faith, and the vast majority have a child whose spouse or partner does not identify as Jewish.

A Note on the Outreach Sample

While the five grandparent-grandchild relationship groups are fairly evenly distributed across the nationally representative sample, that is not the case in the outreach sample which consists of grandparents who are, in some way, affiliated with organized Jewish life or who opted in to the study.

As the chart below illustrates, Joyful and Faithful grandparents, the two groups who are most actively engaged in Jewish life and in transmitting Jewish values and customs, are overrepresented in the outreach sample: 75% collectively versus 36% collectively in the nationally representative sample. Conversely, Secular, Wistful and Detached grandparents are all underrepresented in the outreach sample.

In order to provide the most accurate and complete picture of the diversity of grandparent-grandchild relationship across the U.S., we have focused on the findings from the nationally representative sample throughout the report and in the analysis.

