

# Counting on Our Jewish Educators

The success of Jewish educational programs depends, in large part, on the expertise, talent and professionalism of the Jewish education workforce. In order to design programs that better support the capacity of Jewish educators to effectively and meaningfully serve their learners we need to know who Jewish educators are and what they need to succeed in their work.

## About the Census

In order to support the professional growth of Jewish educators, we need to understand the size and scope of the Jewish education workforce. How many Jewish educators are there in the U.S.? In what kinds of settings do they work? The CASJE National Jewish Educator Census offers an estimate of the number of individuals working as Jewish educators in the U.S. in 2019 across multiple settings. These estimates reflect the size and scope of the workforce *before* the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Census is part of the larger CASJE Career Trajectories Study, a multi-year, multi-strand research project addressing the recruitment, retention, and

development of educators working in Jewish settings in North America. This study is funded by the William Davidson Foundation and the Jim Joseph Foundation. You can read more about the study [here](#).

A second round of the Census will launch in June 2021. We seek to learn more about the size of and changes to the Jewish education workforce in 2021, collect more demographic data about Jewish educators and refine our methods and estimates. If your Jewish educational organization was not included in the 2020 Census please complete this [Contact Information Form](#).

## Key Findings from the National Jewish Educator Census

### Jewish Educators in the US

As many as

**71,000** 

educators filled over

**93,000** 

Jewish education positions in 2019

#### Roles

**28,483**  
Full-time Roles

**26,681**  
Part-time Roles

**32,624**  
Seasonal Roles

#### Top Venues

The most positions for Jewish educators are in:



Camp



Dayschool



Preschool



Supplementary School

You can learn about the Census methodology and inclusion criteria [here](#).

Year 2 of the Census launched in June 2021 and will close in July 2021. If your Jewish educational organization was not included in Year 1 of the Census or has not received an invitation yet please complete this [Contact Information Form](#).

The CASJE National Jewish Educator Census was sponsored by a generous grant from the Jim Joseph Foundation

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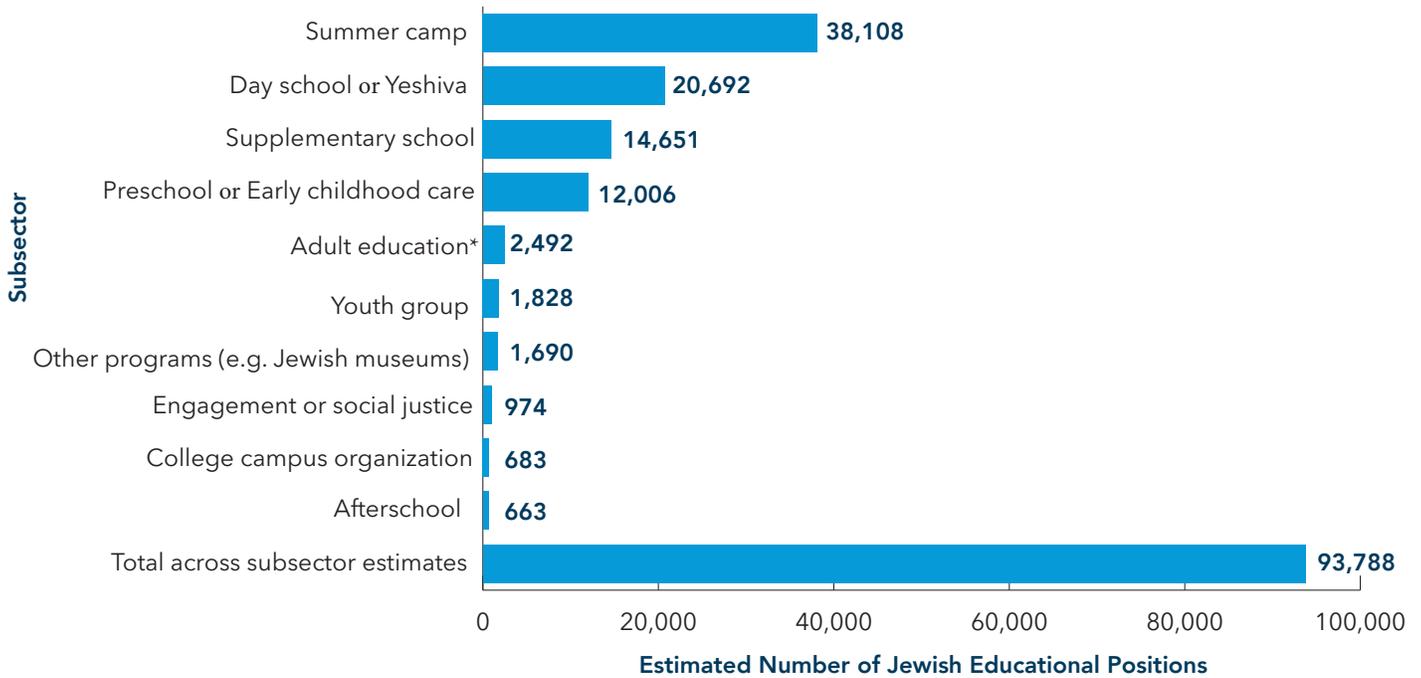
CASJE Managing Director: Arielle Levites, PhD, George Washington University



## Key Findings from the 2020 National Jewish Educator Census (continued)

In 2019 camps, day schools and yeshivas, supplementary schools, and early childhood programs had the most *positions* for Jewish educators, including full-time, part-time and seasonal positions.

### JEWISH EDUCATIONAL POSITIONS IN THE US

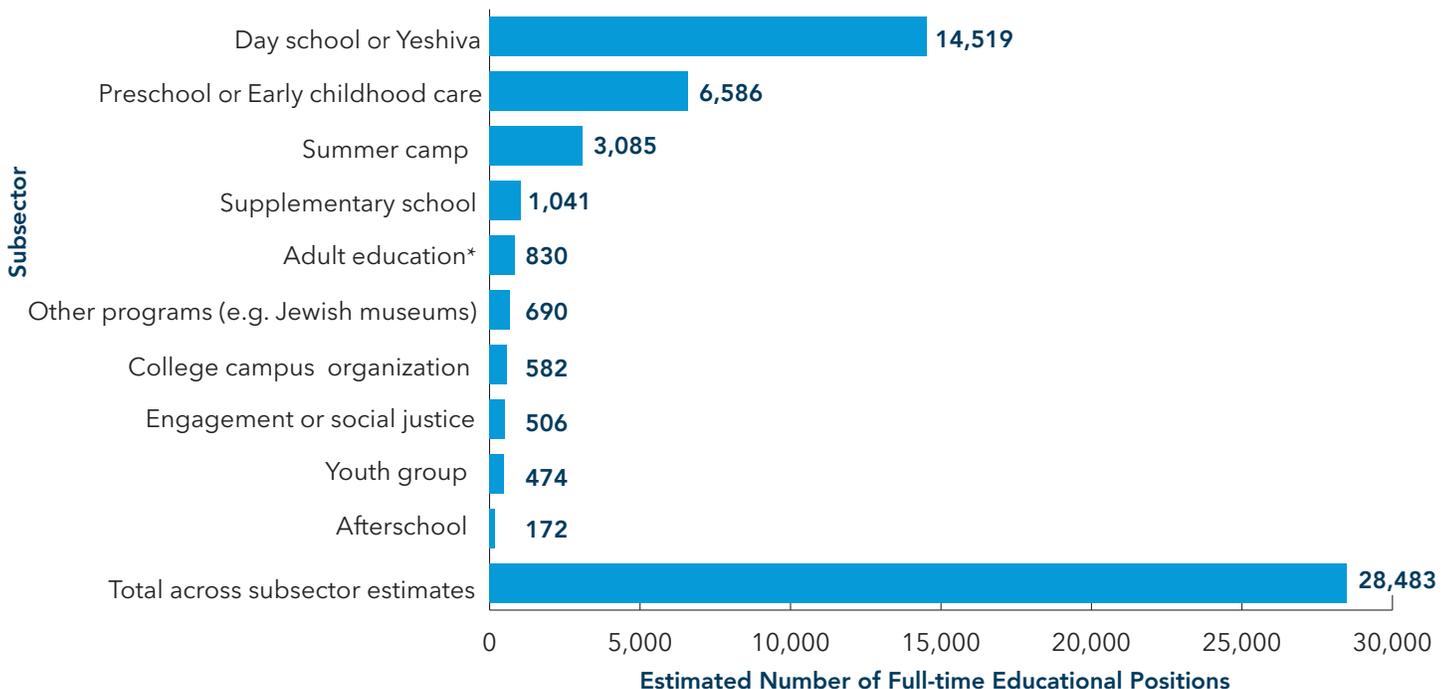


\*Does not include pulpit Rabbis where teaching is not their primary role

Note: Orthodox congregations were not included in this study. Centralized data was provided by the Orthodox Union for national Jewish educational staff, this includes educators who are not pulpit rabbis who work out of synagogues. This chart does not account for overlap between sectors.

In 2019 Day schools and yeshivas offered the most *full-time positions* for Jewish educators, followed by early childhood, camp and supplementary schools.

### FULL-TIME JEWISH EDUCATIONAL POSITIONS IN THE US



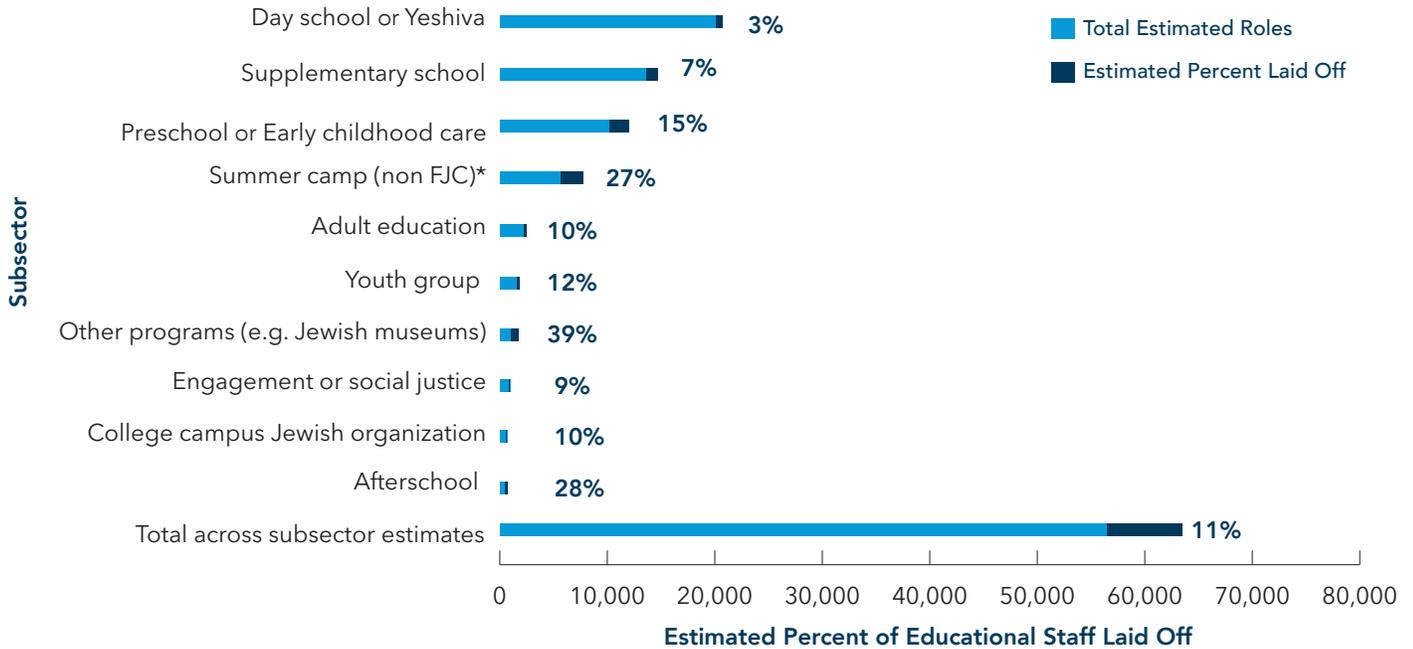
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## Key Findings from the National Jewish Educator Census (continued)

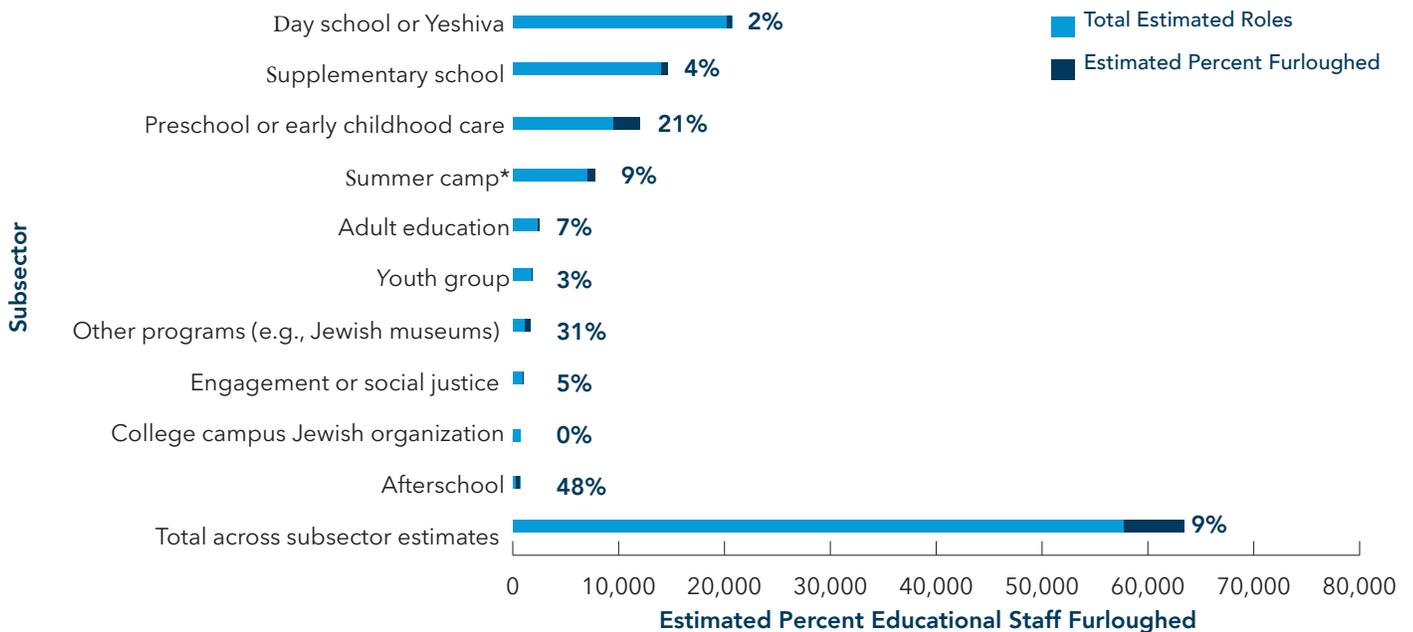
In the early months of the Covid-19 pandemic (March – September 2020) the overall size of the Jewish education workforce shrank. In this period, we estimate that layoffs affected 11% of all roles; furloughs affected 9% of all roles. We estimate that the largest numbers of layoffs and furloughs were in camping and the Jewish early childhood workforce.

### ESTIMATED LAYOFFS (MARCH - SEPTEMBER 2020)



\*This data does not include Foundation for Jewish Camp. This is reflected in the total across subsectors as well. FJC provided staffing totals for 2019 and 2020 but did not report change between the specific period of March and September 2020. Due to the seasonal nature of summer camp, changes in staffing size may not be best understood as a layoff or furlough.

### ESTIMATED FURLOUGHS (MARCH - SEPTEMBER 2020)



\* This data does not include Foundation for Jewish Camp. This is reflected in the total across subsectors as well. FJC provided staffing totals for 2019 and 2020 but did not report change between the specific period of March and September 2020. Due to the seasonal nature of summer camp, changes in staffing size may not be best understood as a layoff or furlough.