

Surveys of the Jewish and General Communities of Greater New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina

Conducted June-December, 2006

Preliminary Findings

Jewish Community: N = 707. Representative sample
General Community*: N=436. *Not* Representative

*Includes:

Orleans (with a few Jefferson), N=221

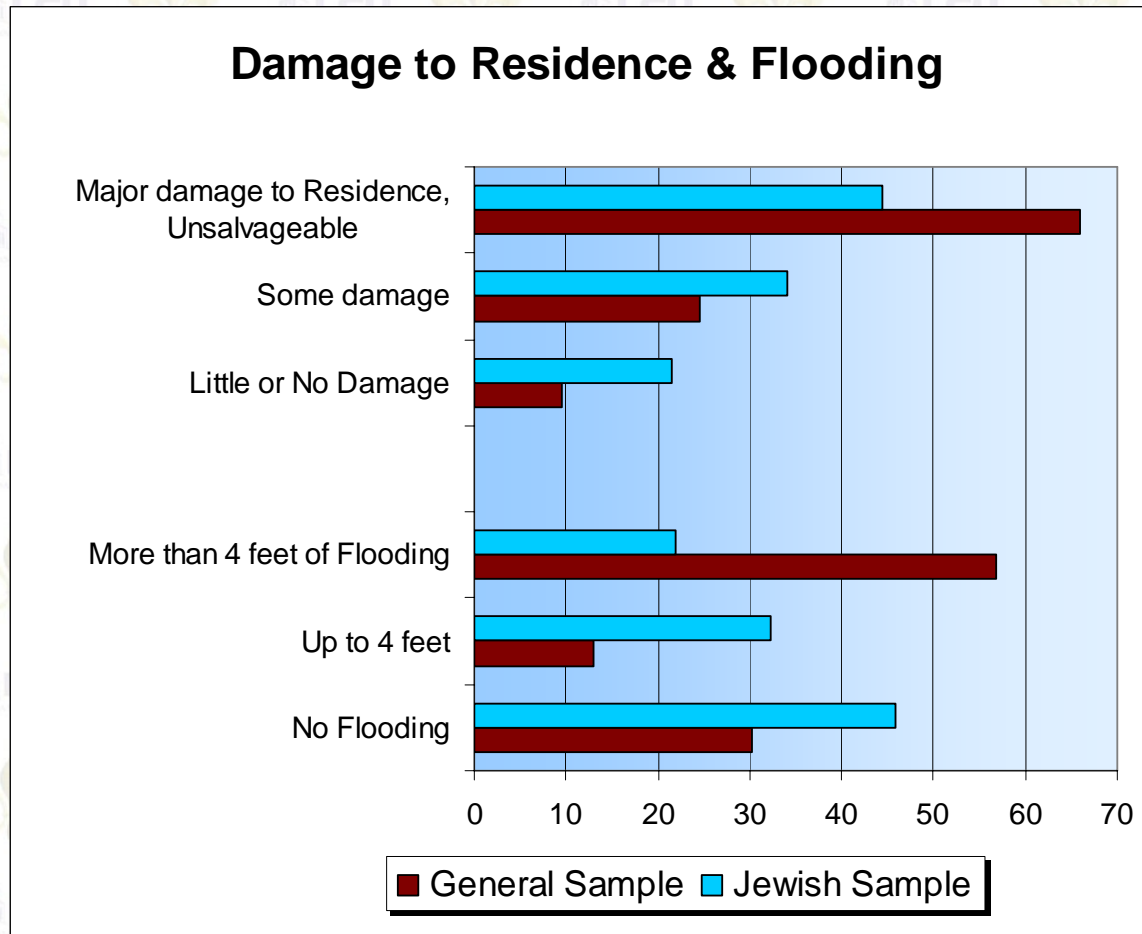
St. Bernard, N=166

St. Tammany, N=49

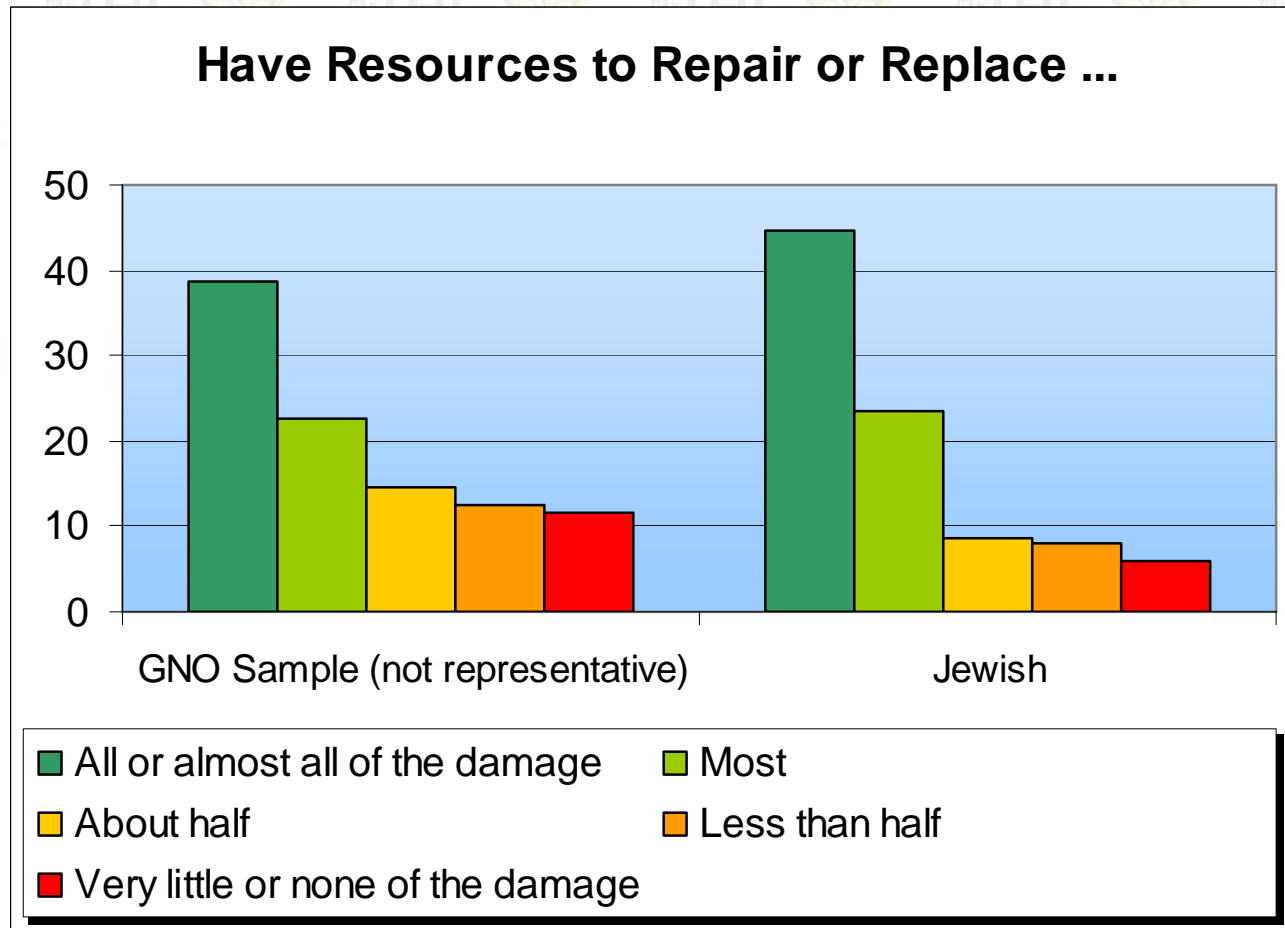
Frederick Weil, LSU

www.fweil.com

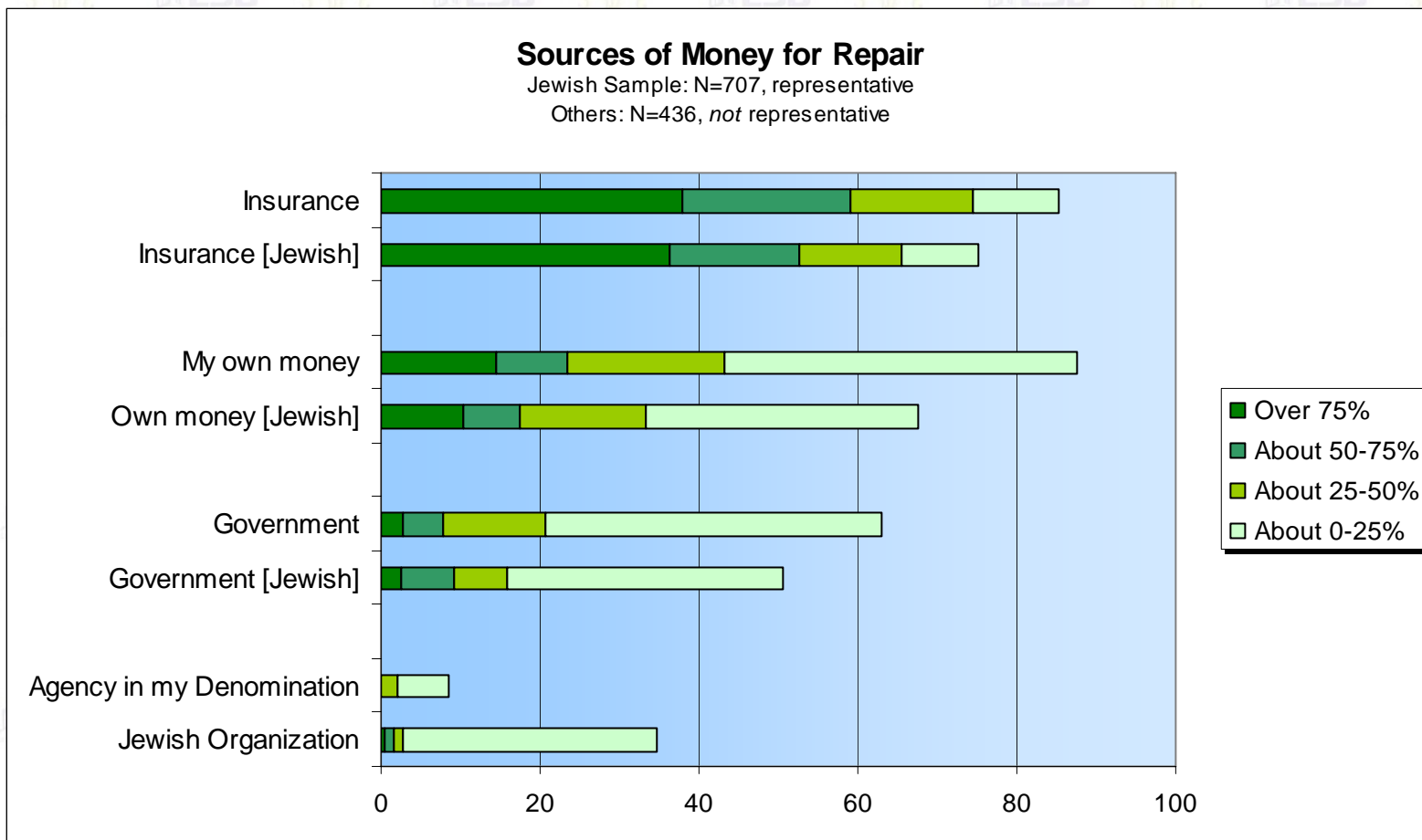
Most people in the samples experienced a good deal of damage, and had at least some flooding.



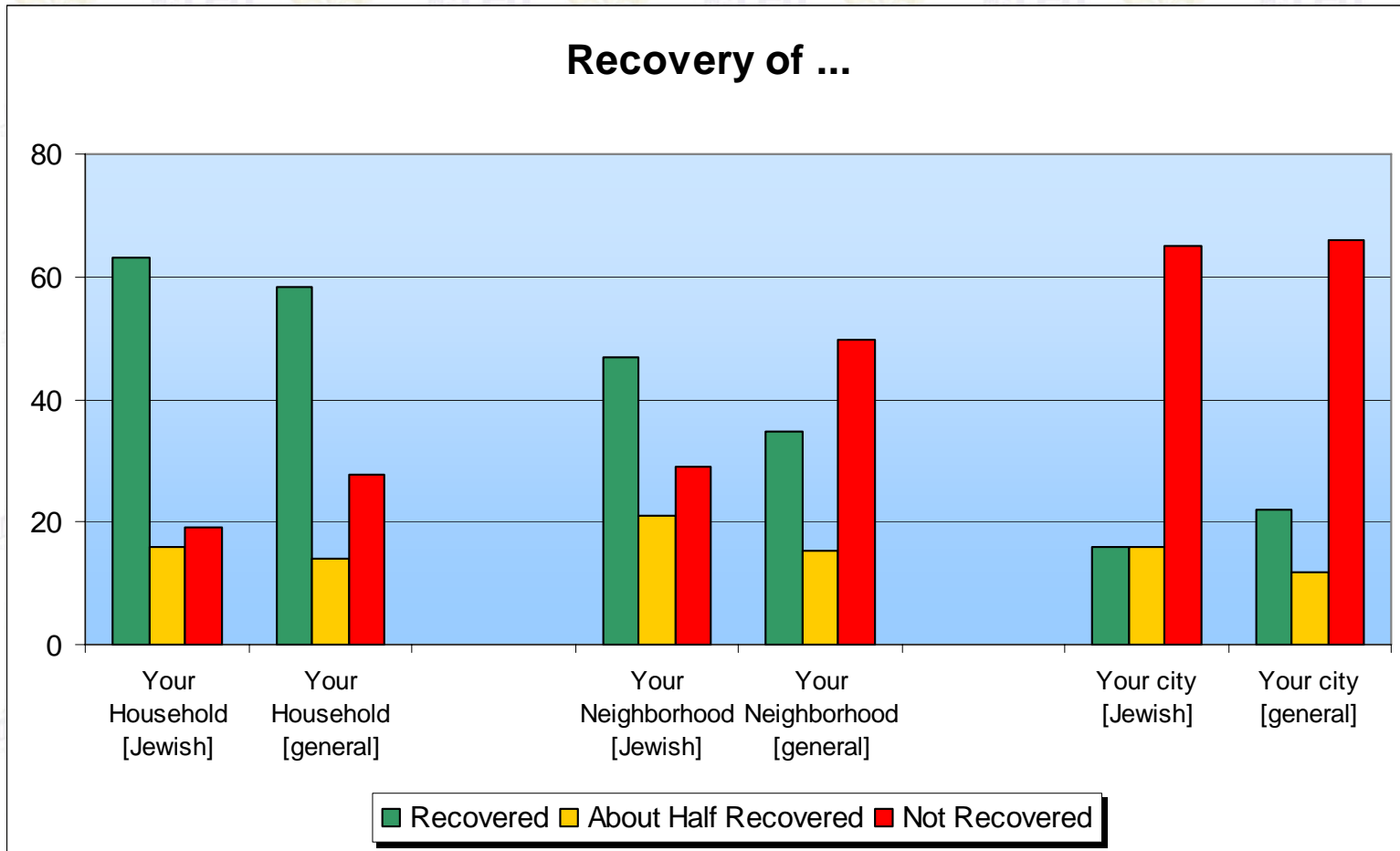
Yet most people in these samples have resources to repair or replace at least some of the damage.



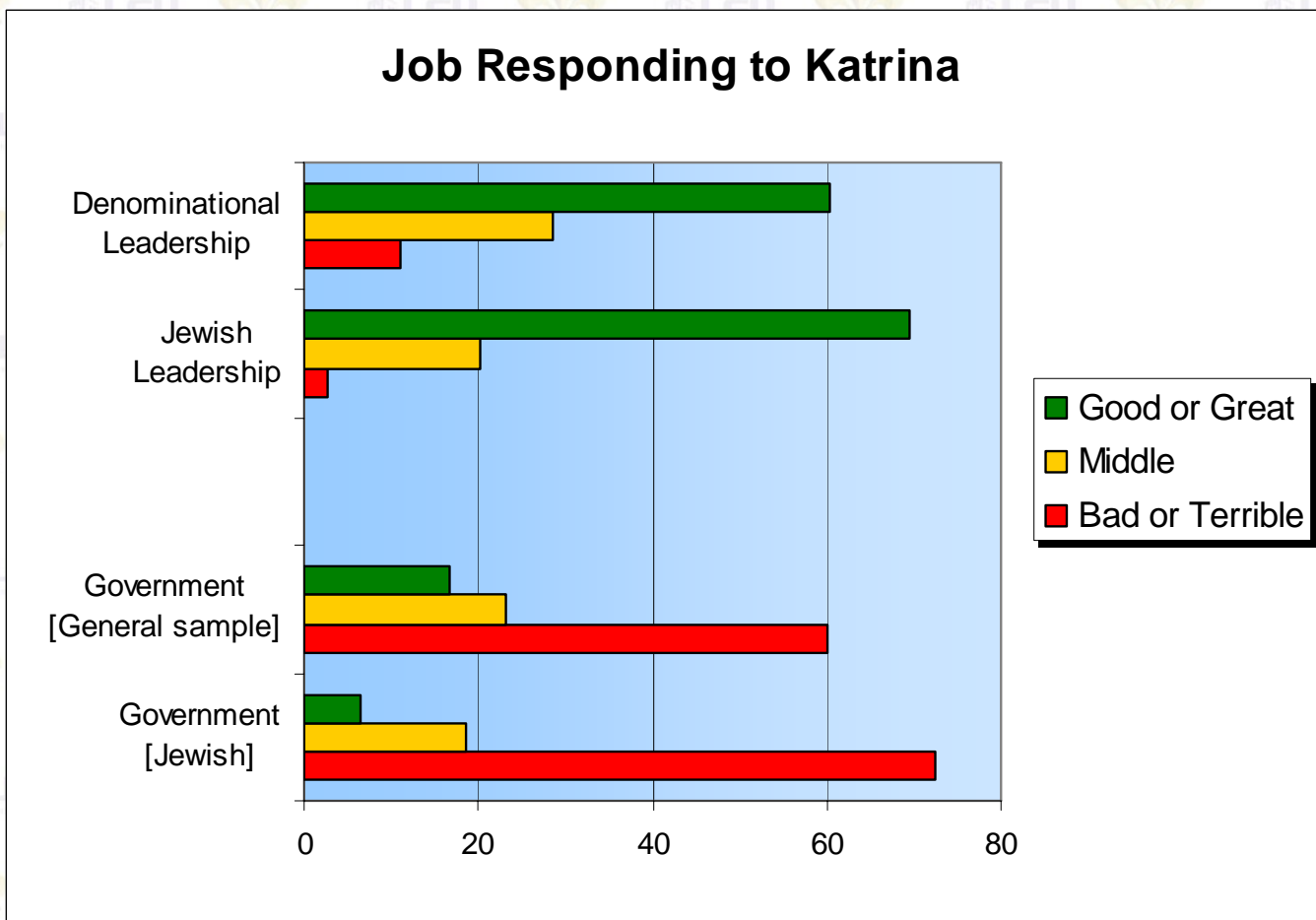
The money for repair has come mostly from insurance or people's own money. Government programs have also helped. Jews also received (mostly nominal) help from their community.



Most people in the samples feel their household has recovered, and that their neighborhood is part-way recovered. They are much more worried about their city's recovery.



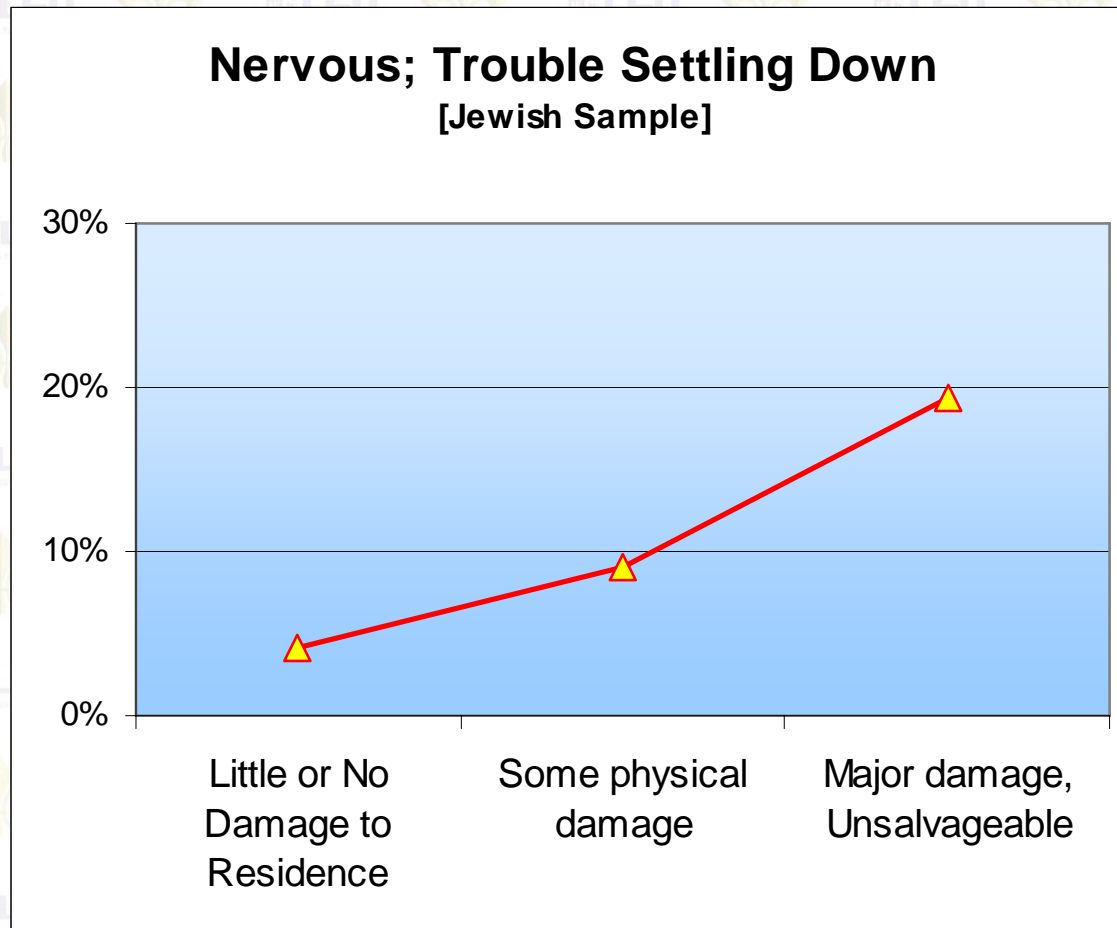
People feel their own community leaders did a very good job responding to the Hurricane and its aftermath ... but that government – at all levels – did a bad job.



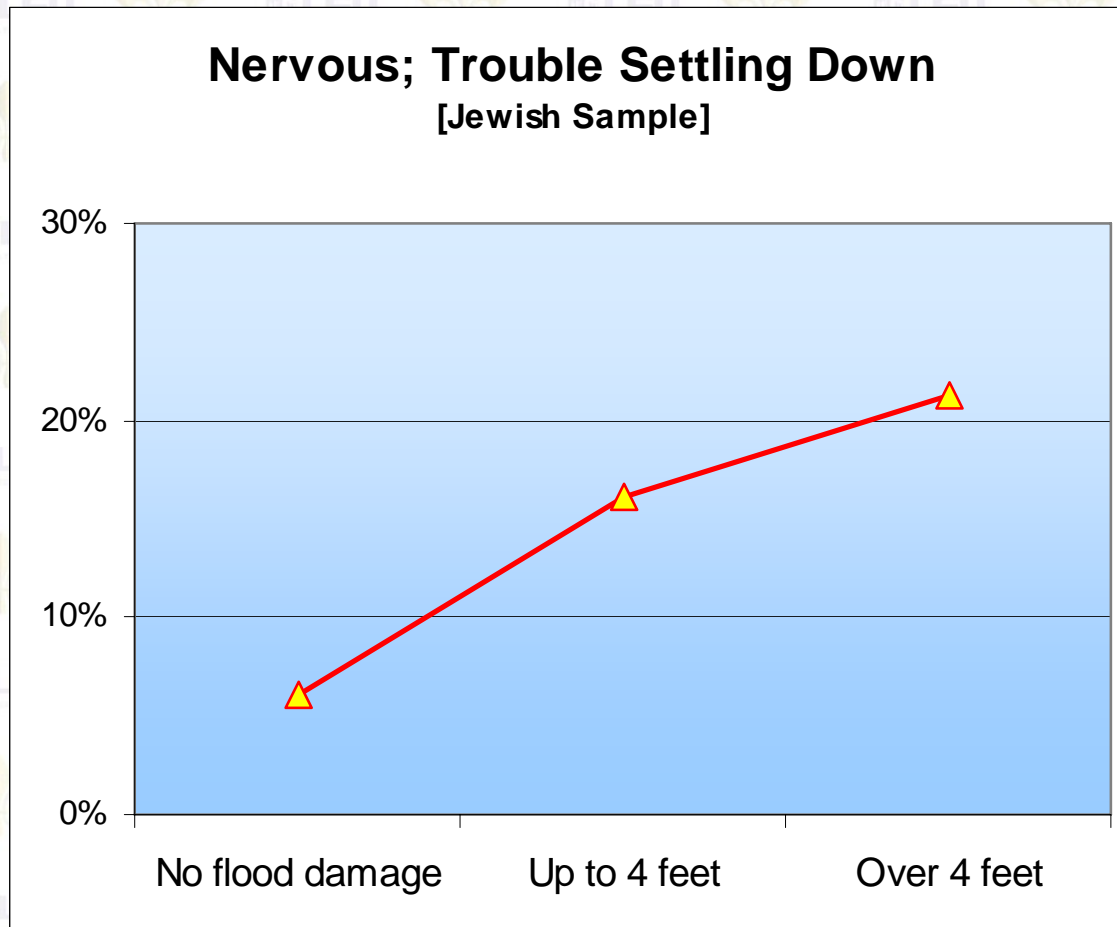
The background of the slide is a repeating pattern of the Louisiana State University (LSU) logo, which consists of a fleur-de-lis and the letters 'LSU' with 'LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY' written in smaller text below it. The logos are arranged in a grid and are semi-transparent.

What Effect did Storm Damage have on Stress?

People whose Houses were Damaged Suffer more Stress

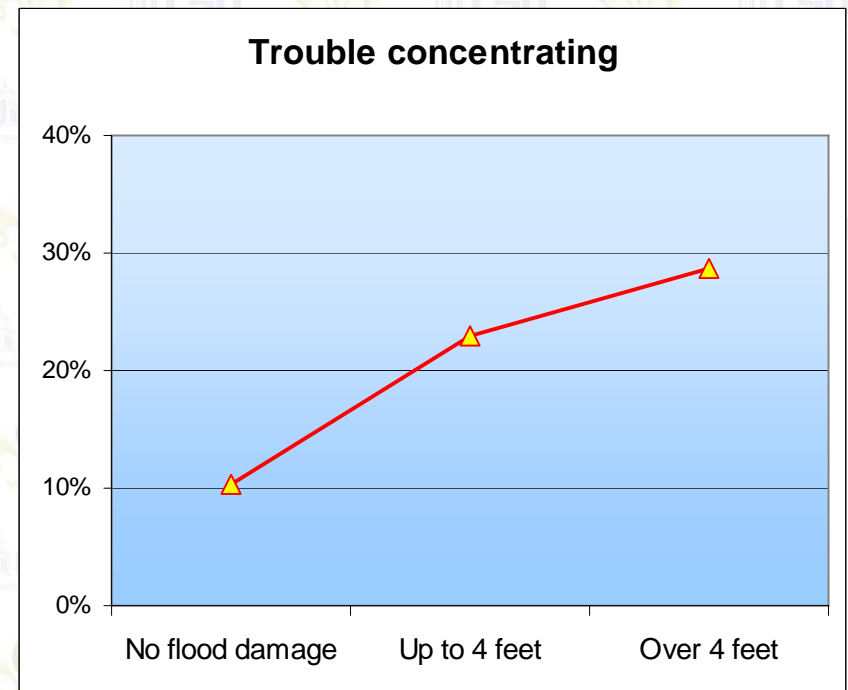
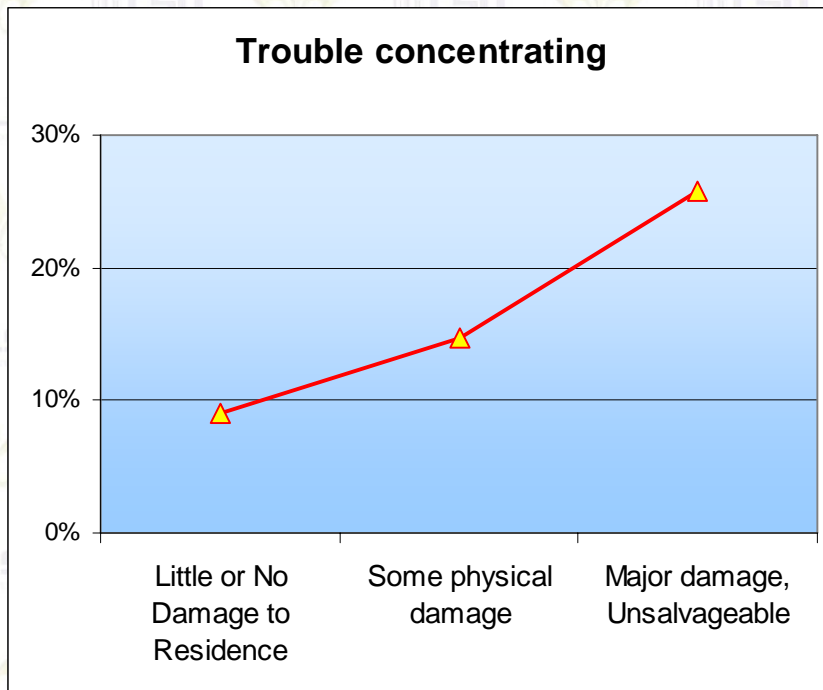


The Same is True for People Whose Houses were Flooded



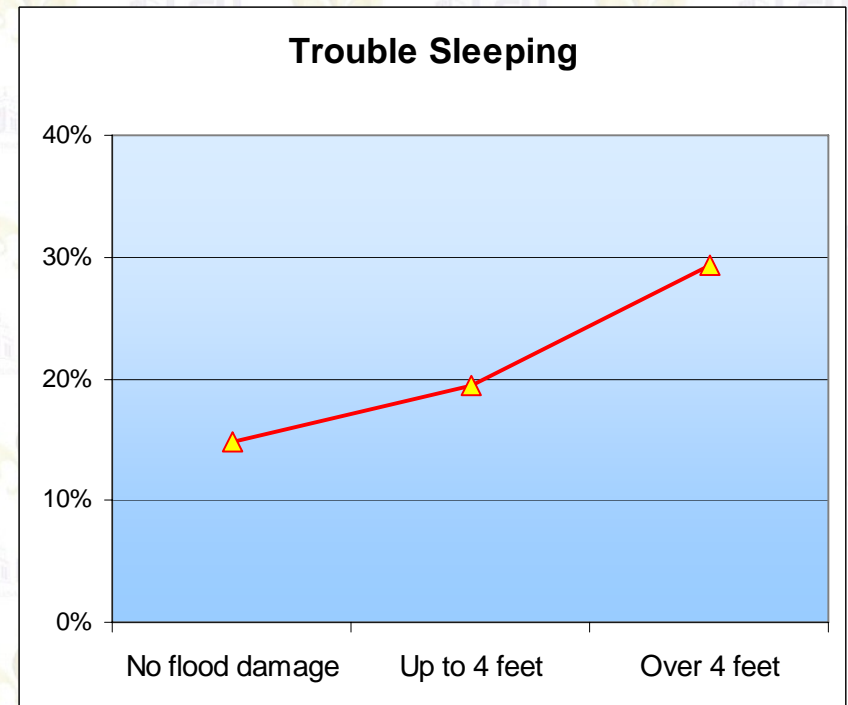
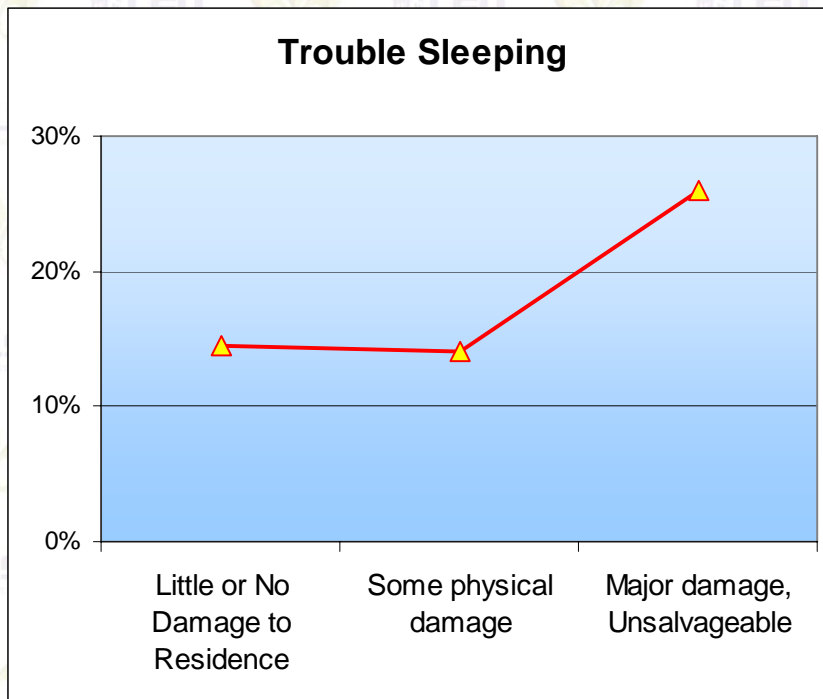
The Same Pattern is Repeated for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Trouble concentrating [Jewish sample]



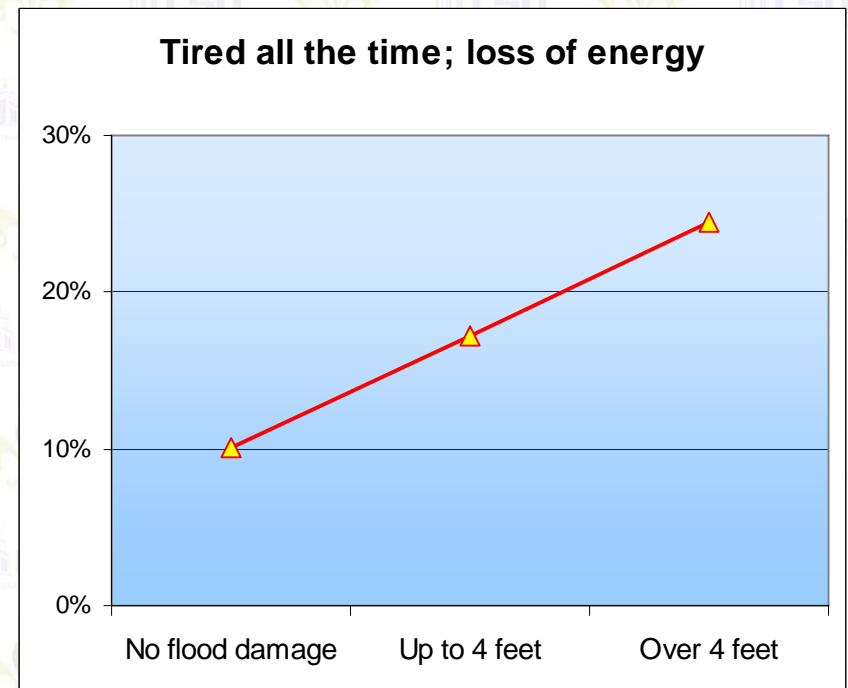
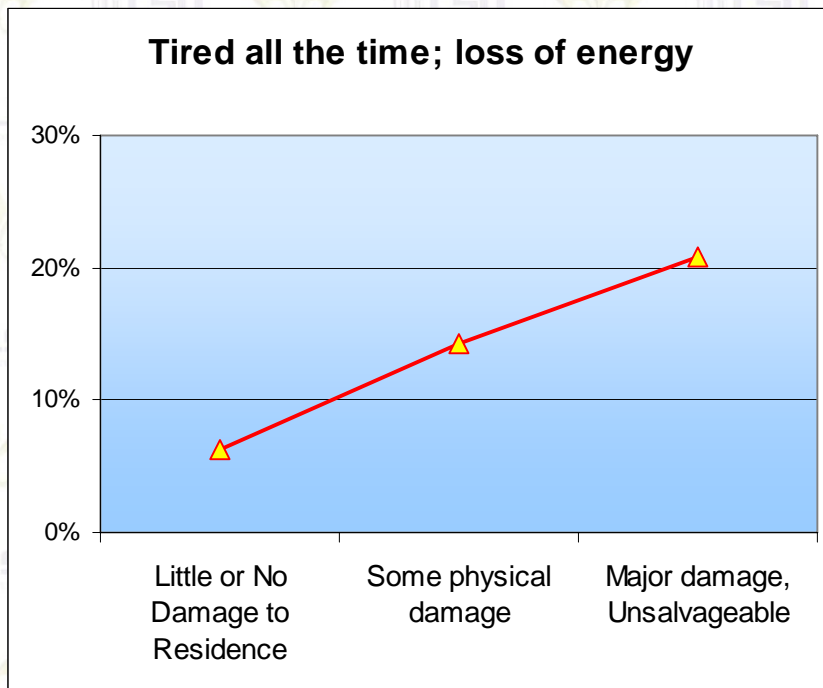
The Same Pattern is Repeated
for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Trouble Sleeping [Jewish sample]



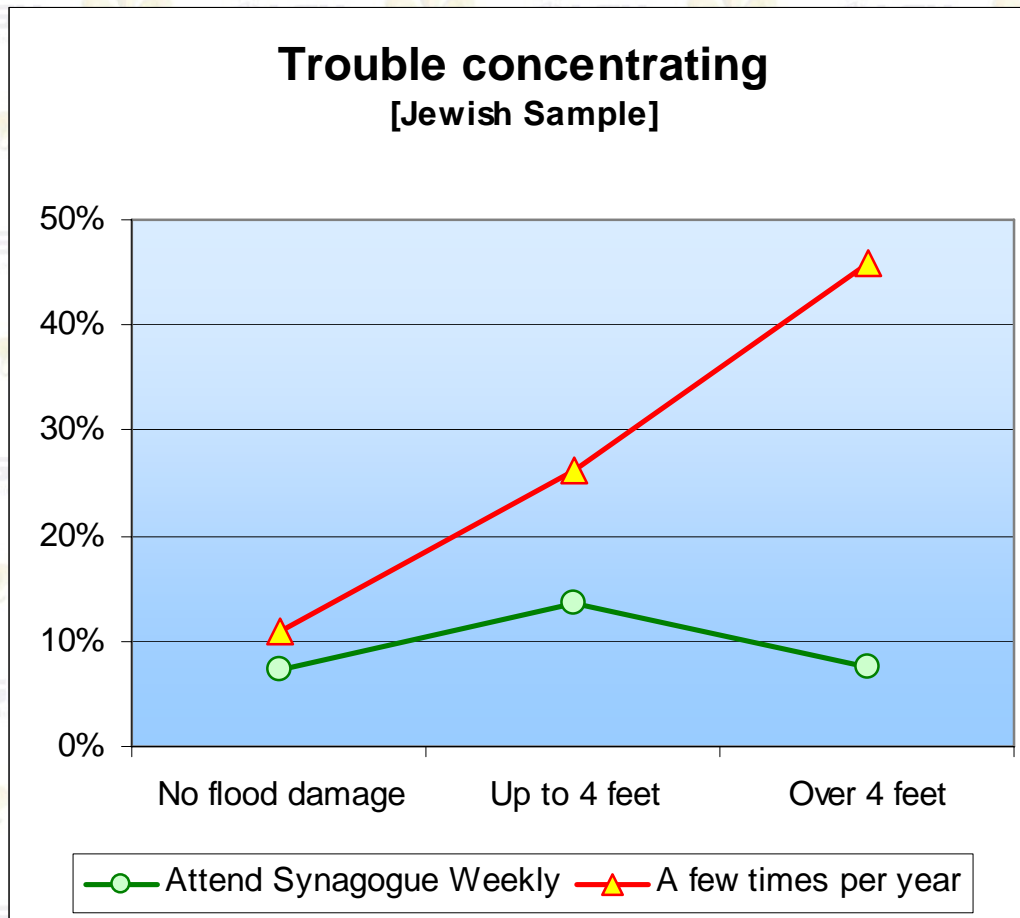
The Same Pattern is Repeated
for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Tired all the time; loss of energy [Jewish sample]



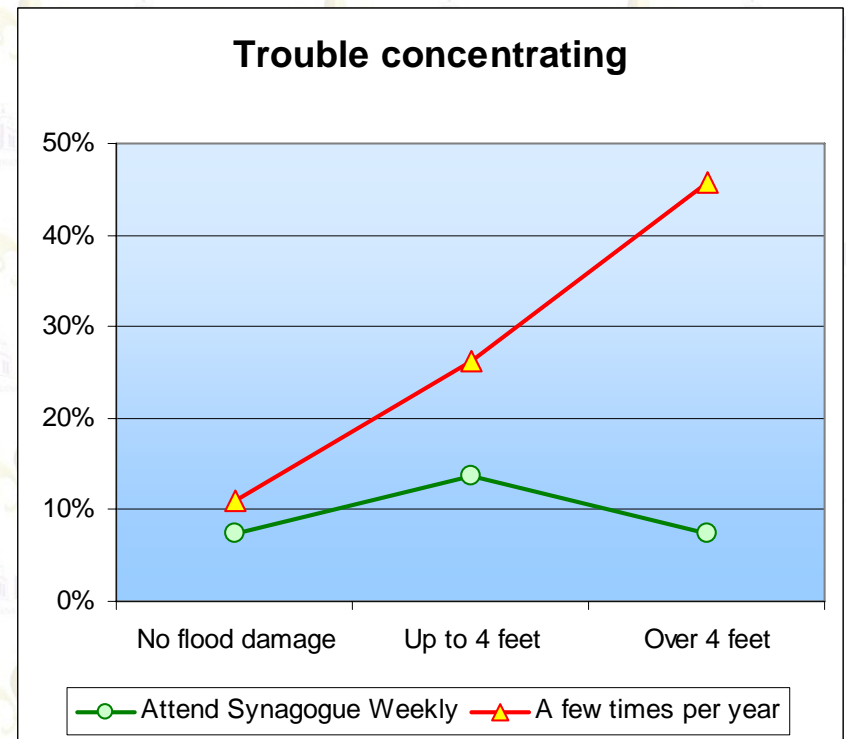
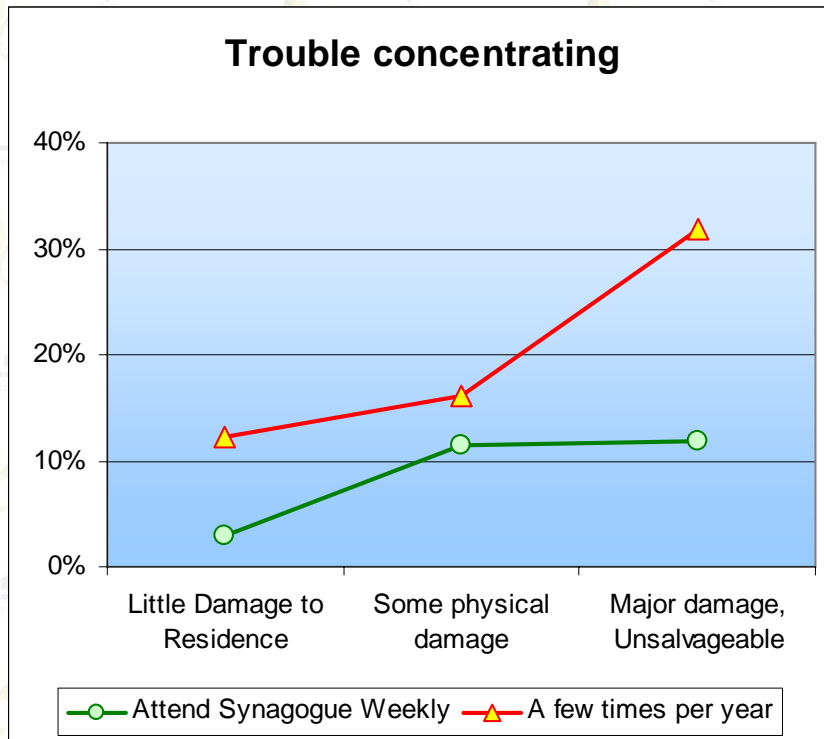
**Going to Church
or Synagogue
Reduces or Removes
this Stress.**

This is the only type of social support that consistently helps.



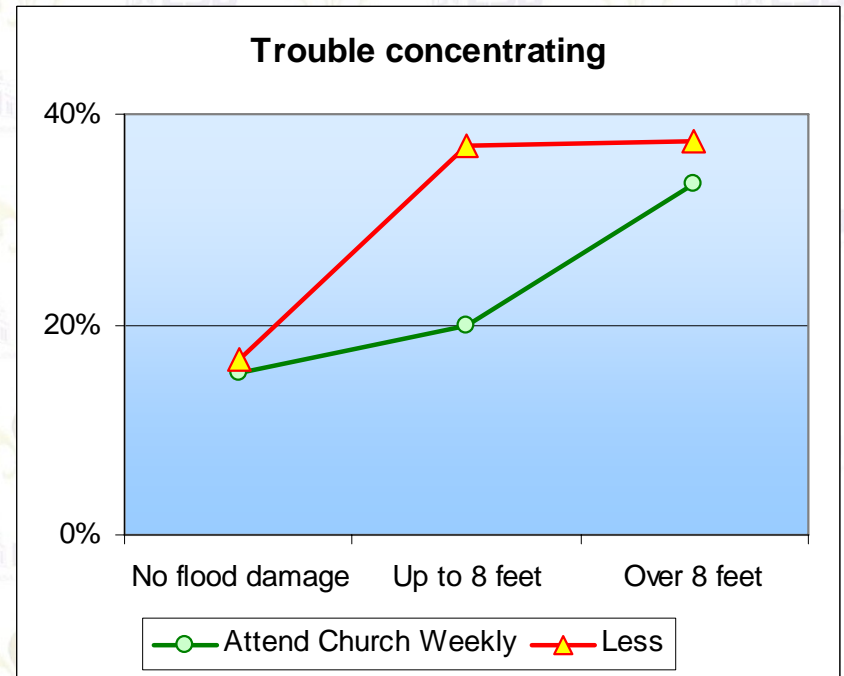
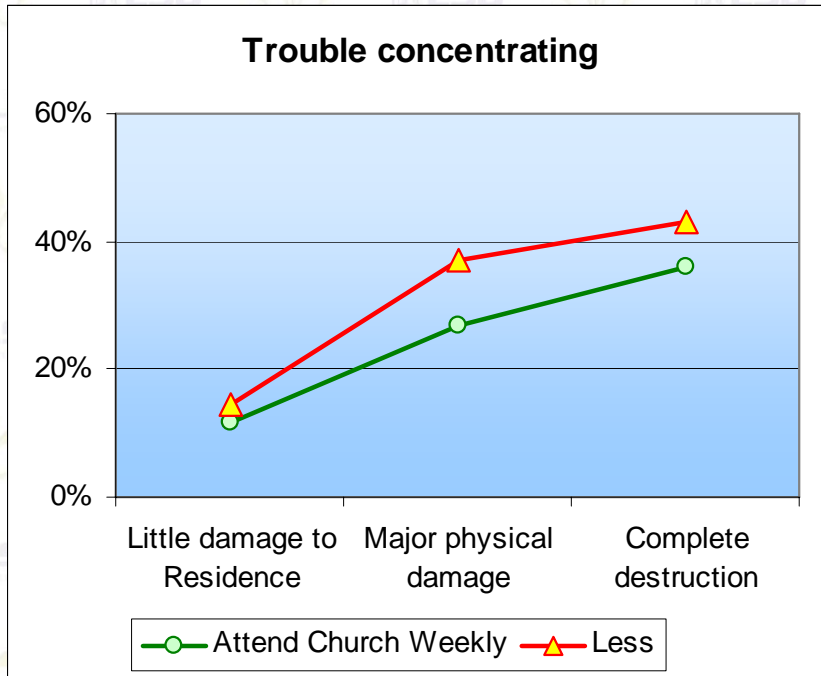
The Same Pattern is Repeated for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Trouble concentrating [Jewish sample]



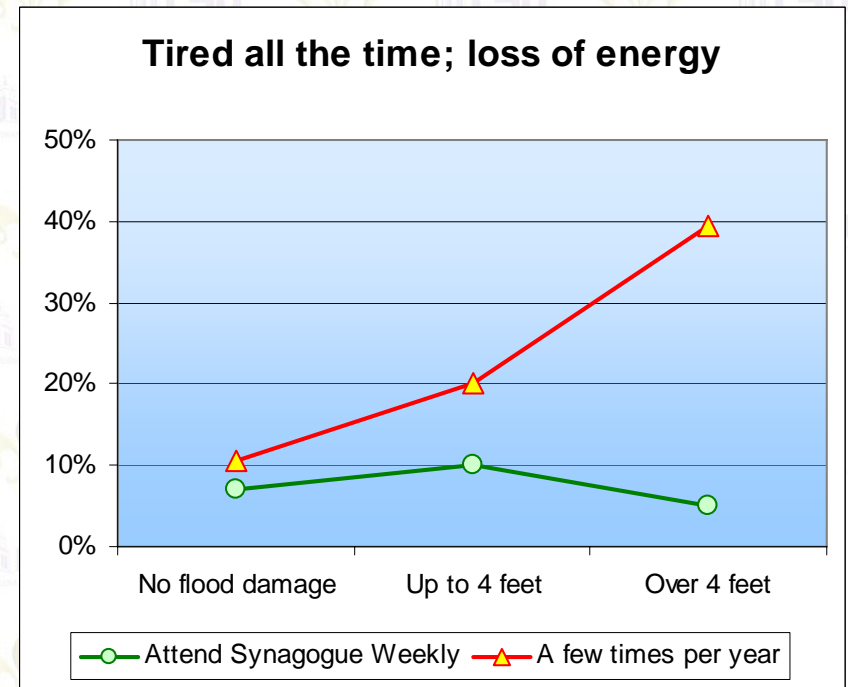
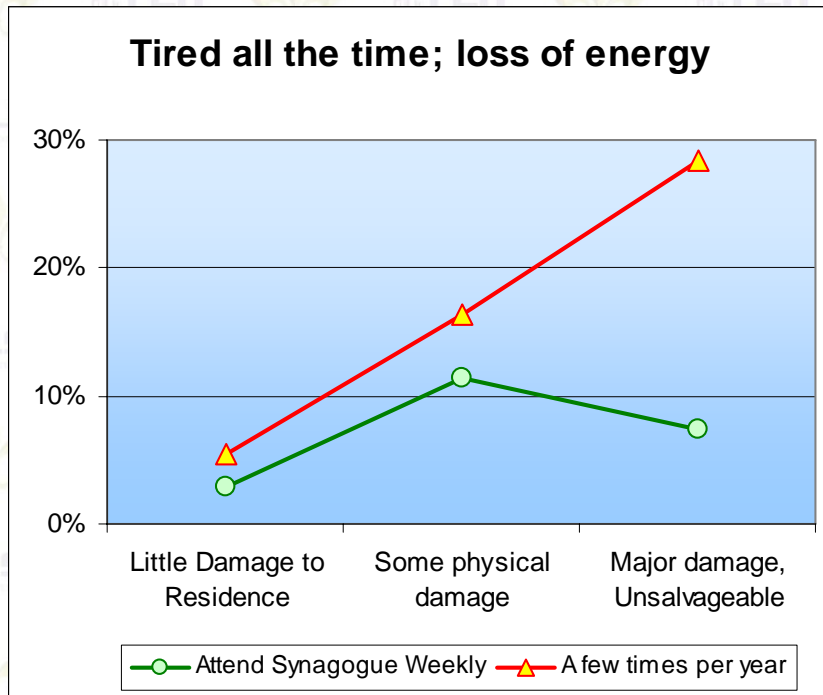
The Same Pattern is Repeated
for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Trouble concentrating [General sample]



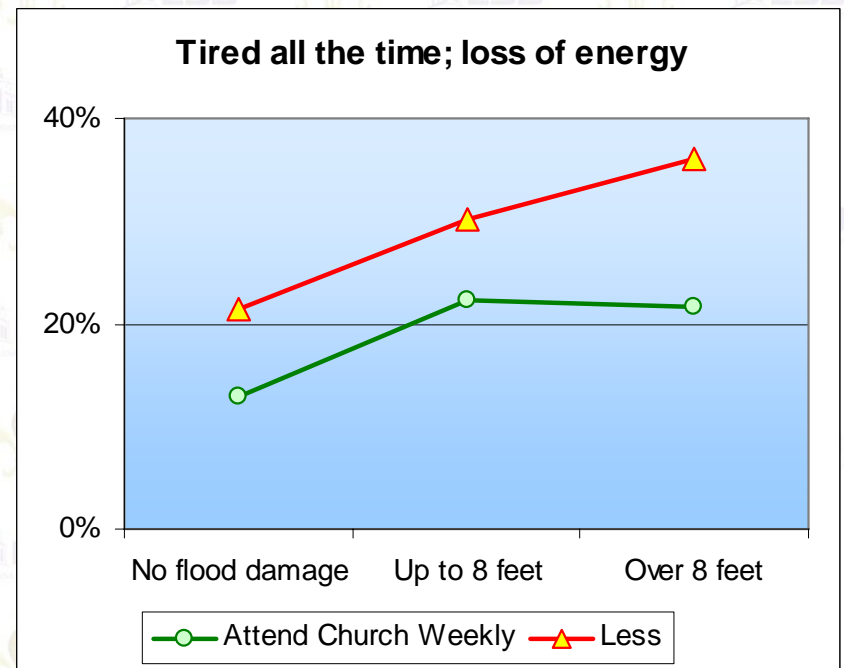
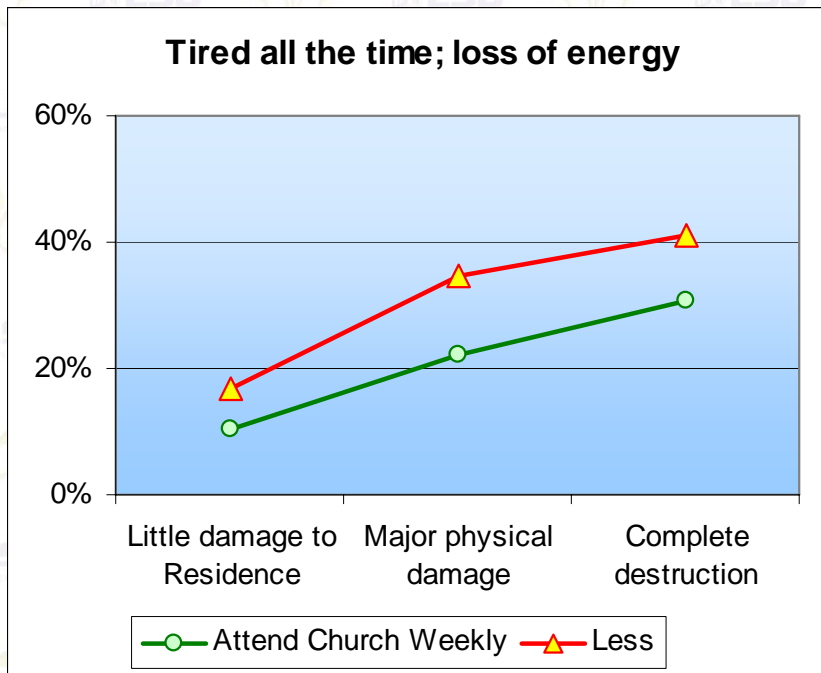
The Same Pattern is Repeated for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Tired all the time; loss of energy [Jewish sample]



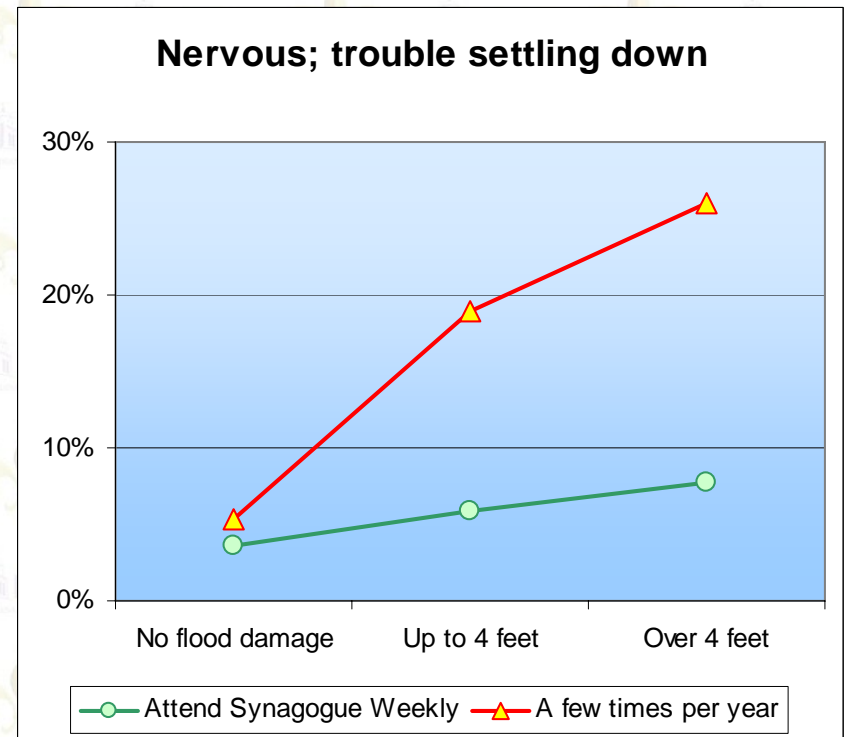
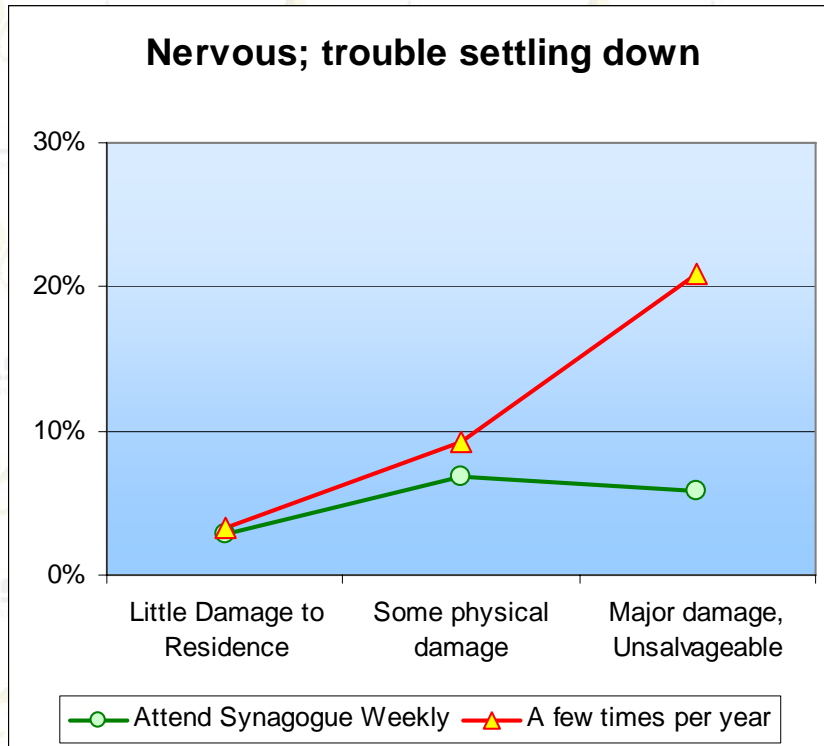
The Same Pattern is Repeated for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Tired all the time; loss of energy [General sample]



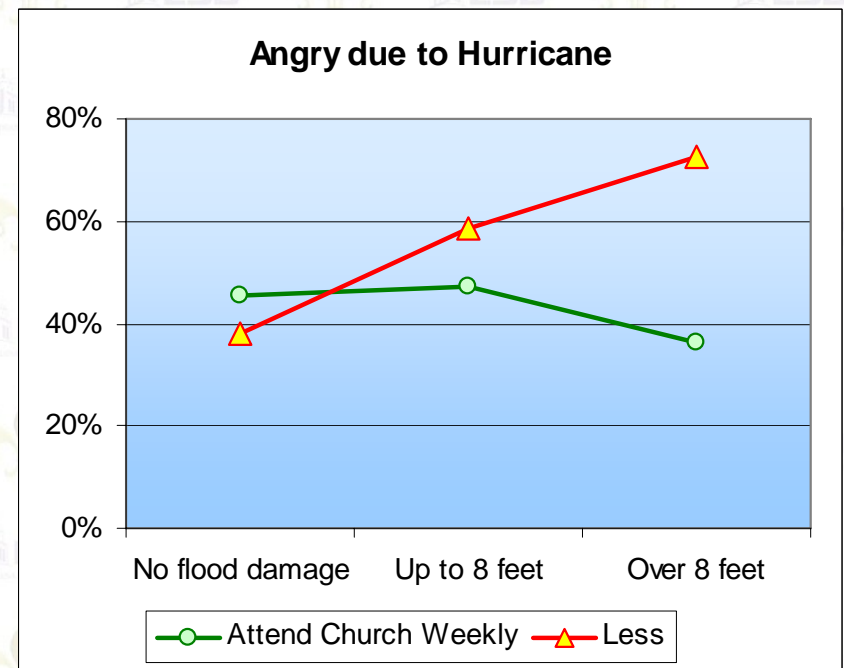
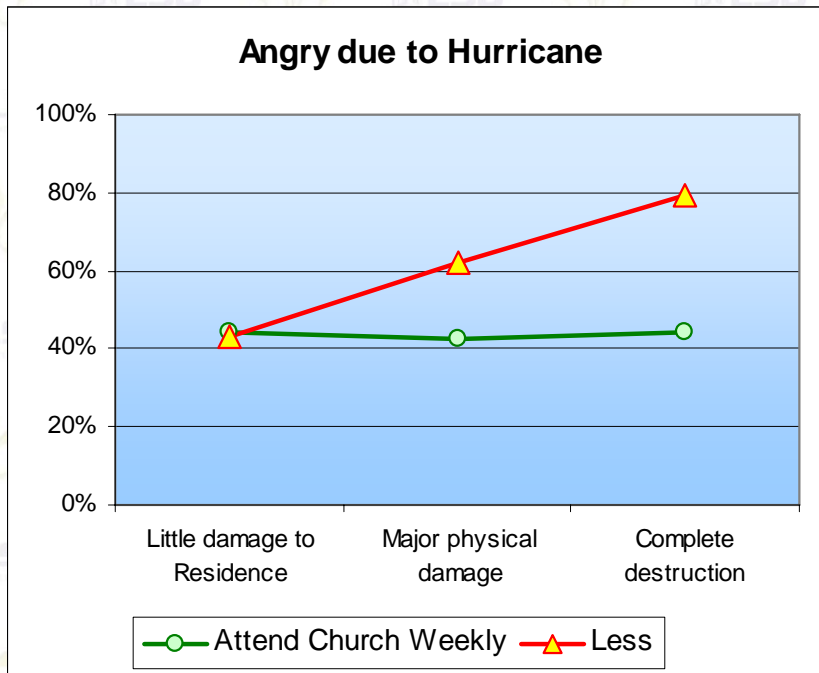
The Same Pattern is Repeated for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Nervous, excitable; trouble settling down [Jewish sample]



The Same Pattern is Repeated
for Different Symptoms of Stress:

Angry due to Hurricane [General sample]

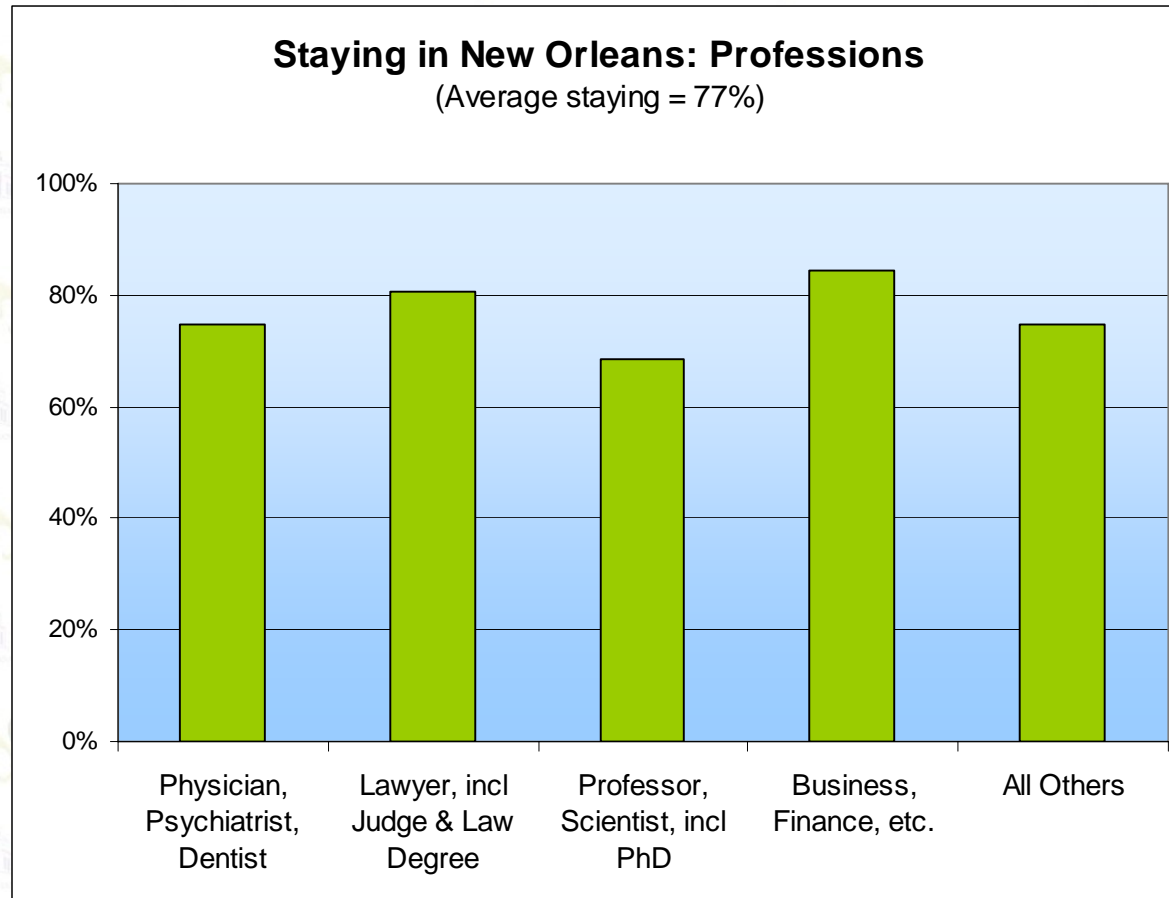


Is there a “Brain Drain” in New Orleans?

“New Orleans Threatened by 'Brain Drain,'”
Associated Press, December 15, 2006.

“...New Orleans is losing an alarming number of young professionals in Katrina's aftermath. Many doctors, lawyers, architects, engineers and other highly educated people are gone. Some left during the storm and never came back. Others came back, but soon gave up and moved out altogether. Whether a full-blown brain drain is under way is unclear. But some suspect so, and fear the exodus will only get worse.”

There is no “Brain-Drain” in the Jewish Community.
Professionals are returning in the same numbers
as other members of the Jewish Community.



Survey and Analysis by Rick Weil

Department of Sociology
LSU, Baton Rouge

www.fweil.com