



The AVI CHAI Foundation

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2012-13 Day School Enrollment Data Demonstrate Stability and Commitment

The question raised frequently in the press, at board meetings and around Shabbat tables across the country has been how the recent and lingering economic crisis is affecting day school enrollments. Since 2009 there have been widespread predictions of significant enrollment decline, including in the Modern Orthodox sector.

Just-released research by Dr. Marvin Schick provides 2011-12 enrollment data for all schools outside the yeshiva world and Chassidic sectors:

Group	# Schools 2012	2011 Enrollment as reported last year	2011 Enrollment as reported this year	2012 Enrollment	% Change
Centrist Orthodox	63	18,776	19,092	19,443	1.8%
Community	93	19,417	20,053	20,052	0.0%
Modern Orthodox	77	29,766	29,542	29,515	-0.1%
Reform	12	4,222	3,826	3,642	-4.8%
Solomon Schechter	41	11,338	10,748	10,356	-3.6%
TOTAL	286	83,519	83,261	83,008	-0.3%

While the above data provide but a snapshot of the day school enrollment situation, they indicate that day school enrollment, aside from that of the Solomon Schechter schools, has remained fairly stable, despite the continued stresses of the economy.

This year's essentially flat enrollment suggests that on the whole day schools have thus far weathered the economic crisis, notwithstanding the strains on both parents and scholarship budgets.

“We once again thank Dr. Schick for his work in providing important information on day school enrollment. The data is heartening in that it demonstrates quite clearly that despite the economic difficulties of the past three years, parents see the value proposition in day schools as

outweighing the economic burden,” says Arthur Fried, Chairman of The AVI CHAI Foundation.

Click [here](#) for previous years' enrollment data.

To discuss the data further with Dr. Schick or to arrange for an interview, please contact Michael Trapunsky at (212) 396-8850 or at mtrapunsky@avichaina.org.