

World Jewish Population

IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE to ascertain the exact number of Jews in the various countries of the world in 1971. The figures presented below are estimates based on local censuses, communal registrations, estimates supplied by informed residents, and data obtained from a special inquiry conducted in 1969 and 1970 (AJYB, 1971 [Vol. 22], p. 475). The figures given below vary in accuracy and will have to be revised when more precise data become available. It should be noted that some of our informants repeated in 1971 the estimates given in previous years. While some changes undoubtedly have taken place, we used these figures since there was no way of arriving at meaningful new estimates. It should be pointed out that, under present conditions, this is the only way a statistical summary of world Jewish population can be compiled; it can only be hoped that the figures given reflect the actual situation.

No mass migrations took place in the year under review. It is estimated that, altogether, and including about 13,000 from the Soviet Union, some 42,000 immigrants entered Israel.

DISTRIBUTION BY CONTINENTS

The estimated world Jewish population at the end of 1971 stood at about 14,236,000, as against some 13,950,000 in 1970. The increase was due mainly to the new figure that became available on the number of Jews in the United States. Of the total world Jewish population, about 7,169,000

TABLE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF JEWISH POPULATION BY CONTINENTS

<i>Continent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Europe (including Asiatic USSR and Turkey)	4,070,175	29.0
America: North, Central, and South	7,169,105	50.0
Asia	2,738,700	19.0
Africa	181,440	1.5
Australia and New Zealand	77,000	0.5
TOTAL	14,236,420	100.0

(over 50 per cent) were in the Americas; some 4,000,000 (29 per cent) were in Europe; 2,738,700 (19 per cent) were in Asia; only 181,000 (about 1.5 per cent) were in Africa, and some 77,000 (0.5 per cent) were in Australia and New Zealand.

Europe

Of the more than 4,000,000 Jews in Europe, some 2,850,000, including an estimated 2,644,000 in the Soviet Union, were in the Communist area. (A discussion of the 1970 Soviet census and the figure on the Jewish population in the Soviet Union will be found on page 536. It should be pointed out that

TABLE 2. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN EUROPE, BY COUNTRIES

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Albania	2,075,000	300
Austria	7,390,000	9,000
Belgium	9,730,000	40,500
Bulgaria	8,490,000	7,000
Czechoslovakia	14,500,000	14,000
Denmark	4,920,000	6,000 ^x
Finland	4,680,000	1,450 ^x
France	51,280,000	550,000 ^x
Germany	78,810,000	32,000 ^y
Gibraltar	30,000	625
Great Britain	55,730,000	410,000 ^x
Greece	8,960,000	6,500
Hungary	10,360,000	80,000
Ireland	2,970,000	5,400
Italy	54,080,000	35,000 ^x
Luxembourg	340,000	1,000 ^x
Malta	330,000	50
Netherlands	13,190,000	30,000
Norway	3,880,000	750
Poland	32,750,000	8,000
Portugal	9,630,000	600 ^x
Rumania	20,470,000	100,000
Spain	34,130,000	9,000
Sweden	8,110,000	15,000 ^x
Switzerland	6,280,000	20,000 ^x
Turkey	36,160,000	37,000
USSR	242,770,000	2,644,000 ^b
Yugoslavia	20,550,000	7,000 ^x
TOTAL	734,531,000	4,070,175

^a United Nations Statistical Office, *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and other sources including local publications.

^b Includes Asian regions of the USSR and Turkey.

^x Reply to 1970 inquiry.

^y Includes both West Germany, East Germany, and Berlin.

^z Reply to 1969 inquiry.

the figure endeavors to take into account the "hidden" Jews, who have become so either at the "suggestion" of the Soviet authorities or on their own volition.)

The Jewish population of Poland dropped to some 8,000. No changes were recorded in Hungary or Rumania, where the number of Jews stood at 80,000 and 100,000, respectively. About 1,200,000 Jews were in non-Communist countries. France had an estimated Jewish population of 550,000; Great Britain, 410,000; Belgium, some 40,000; Italy, 35,000; Germany,

TABLE 3. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN NORTH, CENTRAL, AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES, BY COUNTRIES, 1971

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Canada	21,410,000	300,000
Mexico	50,830,000	35,000 ^x
United States	206,280,000	6,059,730
Total North America ..	278,520,000	6,394,730
Barbados	253,000	75 ^x
Costa Rica	1,740,000	1,500
Cuba	8,390,000	1,500
Curacao	150,000	700
Dominican Republic	4,320,000	300
El Salvador	3,530,000	300 ^x
Guatemala	5,350,000	1,900 ^x
Haiti	4,970,000	150
Honduras	2,580,000	150
Jamaica	2,000,000	600 ^x
Nicaragua	1,980,000	200
Panama	1,460,000	2,000
Trinidad	1,070,000	200
Total Central America and West Indies	37,793,000	9,575
Argentina	23,983,000	500,000
Bolivia	5,060,000	2,000 ^x
Brazil	95,310,000	150,000 ^x
Chile	9,780,000	32,000
Colombia	21,770,000	10,000
Ecuador	6,300,000	1,800
Paraguay	9,390,000	1,200
Peru	14,010,000	5,300 ^x
Surinam	410,000	500
Uruguay	2,920,000	50,000 ^x
Venezuela	10,400,000	12,000 ^{x, b}
Total South America ..	199,333,000	764,800
TOTAL	515,646,000	7,169,105

^a See Table 2, note ^a.

^b Including 5,000 recorded members of the community.

^x See Table 2, note ^x.

32,000. No other European country had a Jewish population of more than 25,000.*

North, Central, and South America

The new estimate of the Jewish population of the United States brought the total from 5,870,000 to 6,060,000, an increase of some 190,000. It was estimated that there were about 300,000 Jews in Canada, and some 775,000 in Central and South America. There were some departures of Jews from some of the countries of Latin America, but, as of this writing, these have not substantially reduced the number of Jews in the area.

Asia, Australia, and New Zealand

Of the 2,738,000 Jews in Asia, 2,632,000 were in Israel, where the total Jewish population was rapidly approaching that of the Soviet Union. There were 80,000 Jews in Iran, and some 14,500 in India. No other country in Asia, except Turkey and the Asian areas of the USSR, had as many as 4,000 Jews. Syria had 3,500; Iraq and Lebanon each had 2,500. The number of Jews in any of the other Asian countries did not exceed 800.

The Jewish population of Australia was estimated at about 72,000, and that of New Zealand at 5,000.

TABLE 4. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN ASIA, BY COUNTRIES, 1971

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Afghanistan	17,480,000	800
Burma	27,580,000	200
China	787,180,000	20
Cyprus	630,000	30
Hong Kong	4,050,000	200
India	550,370,000	14,500
Indonesia	124,890,000	100
Iran	29,780,000	80,000
Iraq	9,750,000	2,500
Israel	3,090,000	2,632,000
Japan	104,660,000	500 ^x
Lebanon	2,870,000	2,500
Pakistan	116,600,000	250
Philippines	37,960,000	500 ^x
Singapore	2,110,000	600 ^x
Syria	6,450,000	3,500
Yemen	5,900,000	500
TOTAL	1,831,350,000	2,738,700

^a See Table 2, note ^a.

^x See Table 2, note ^x.

* Because of differences in sources and dates, some figures given here may not agree with figures in other sections of this volume.

TABLE 5. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1971

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Australia	12,730,000	72,000 ^z
New Zealand	2,850,000	5,000
TOTAL	15,580,000	77,000

^a See Table 2, note ^a.

^z See Table 2, note ^z.

Africa

The Jewish population of Africa continued to decrease, except for South Africa where the Jewish population has reached about 118,000. The North-African Jewish communities were in fact in the process of gradual liquidation. Only 100 Jews remained in Libya, 800 in Egypt, 1,500 in Algeria, and 8,000 in Tunisia. Morocco had 35,000 Jews. The Jewish communities of the Maghreb, which were among the old Jewish settlements, were disappearing.

TABLE 6. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AFRICA, BY COUNTRIES, 1971

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Algeria	14,770,000	1,500
Congo Republic	17,100,000	250
Egypt	34,130,000	800
Ethiopia	25,050,000	12,000
Kenya	11,690,000	200 ^x
Libya	2,010,000	100
Morocco	15,530,000	35,000
Republic of South Africa	19,618,000	117,990
Rhodesia	5,270,000	5,200 ^x
Tunisia	5,140,000	8,000
Zambia (Northern Rhodesia) ..	4,300,000	400
TOTAL	154,608,000	181,440

^a See Table 2, note ^a.

^x See Table 2, note ^x.

COMMUNITIES WITH LARGEST JEWISH POPULATION

The largest Jewish communities in 1971 were in the United States, the Soviet Union, and Israel. Together they accounted for about 80 per cent of the world Jewish population. In only four other countries were there Jewish communities of over 200,000: France, Argentina, Great Britain, and Canada.

TABLE 7. COUNTRIES WITH LARGEST JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Country</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
United States	6,060,000
Soviet Union	2,644,000
Israel	2,632,000
France	550,000
Argentina	500,000
Great Britain	410,000
Canada	300,000

TABLE 8. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION, SELECTED CITIES^a

<i>City</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Amsterdam	12,000
Antwerp	13,000
Athens	2,800
Basle	2,300
Belgrade	1,600 ^x
Berlin (both sectors)	6,000 ^x
Berne	800
Bordeaux	6,400
Brussels	24,500
Bucharest	50,200
Budapest	65,000
Buenos Aires	350,000
Casablanca	22,000
Cochin	500
Copenhagen	6,000
Florence	1,400
Geneva	3,250 ^x
Glasgow	13,400 ^x
Guatemala City	1,500
Haifa	210,000
Helsinki	1,100
Izmir	4,000
Jerusalem	266,000
Johannesburg	57,500
Kiev	220,000
Leeds	18,000 ^x
Leningrad	165,000
Lima	5,250
London (greater)	280,000 ^x
Luxembourg	850
Lyons	20,000
Malmö	2,000
Manchester	31,500
Manila	300
Marseilles	65,000 ^x

TABLE 8 (Continued)

Melbourne	35,000 ^a
Mexico, D. F.	30,000
Milan	9,500
Montreal	113,000
Moscow	285,000
Nice	20,000
Oslo	600
Ottawa	6,000
Paris	300,000 ^x
Plovdiv	1,000
Rabat	2,500
Rio de Janeiro	50,000 ^z
Rome	15,000 ^x
Salonika	1,300
Santiago	30,000
São Paulo	65,000 ^a
Sarajevo	1,100 ^x
Sofia	4,000
Stockholm	8,000
Strasbourg	12,000
Subotica	400
Sydney	28,000 ^z
Teheran	50,000
Tel Aviv-Jaffa	394,000
Tokyo	400 ^x
Toronto	97,000
Toulouse	18,000
Trieste	1,200
Vancouver	8,000
Valparaiso	4,000
Vienna	8,200
Warsaw	5,000
Winnipeg	21,000
Zagreb	1,350
Zurich	6,150 ^a

^a For cities in the United States, see p. 388.

^x See Table 2, note ^x.

^z See Table 2, note ^z.

LEON SHAPIRO