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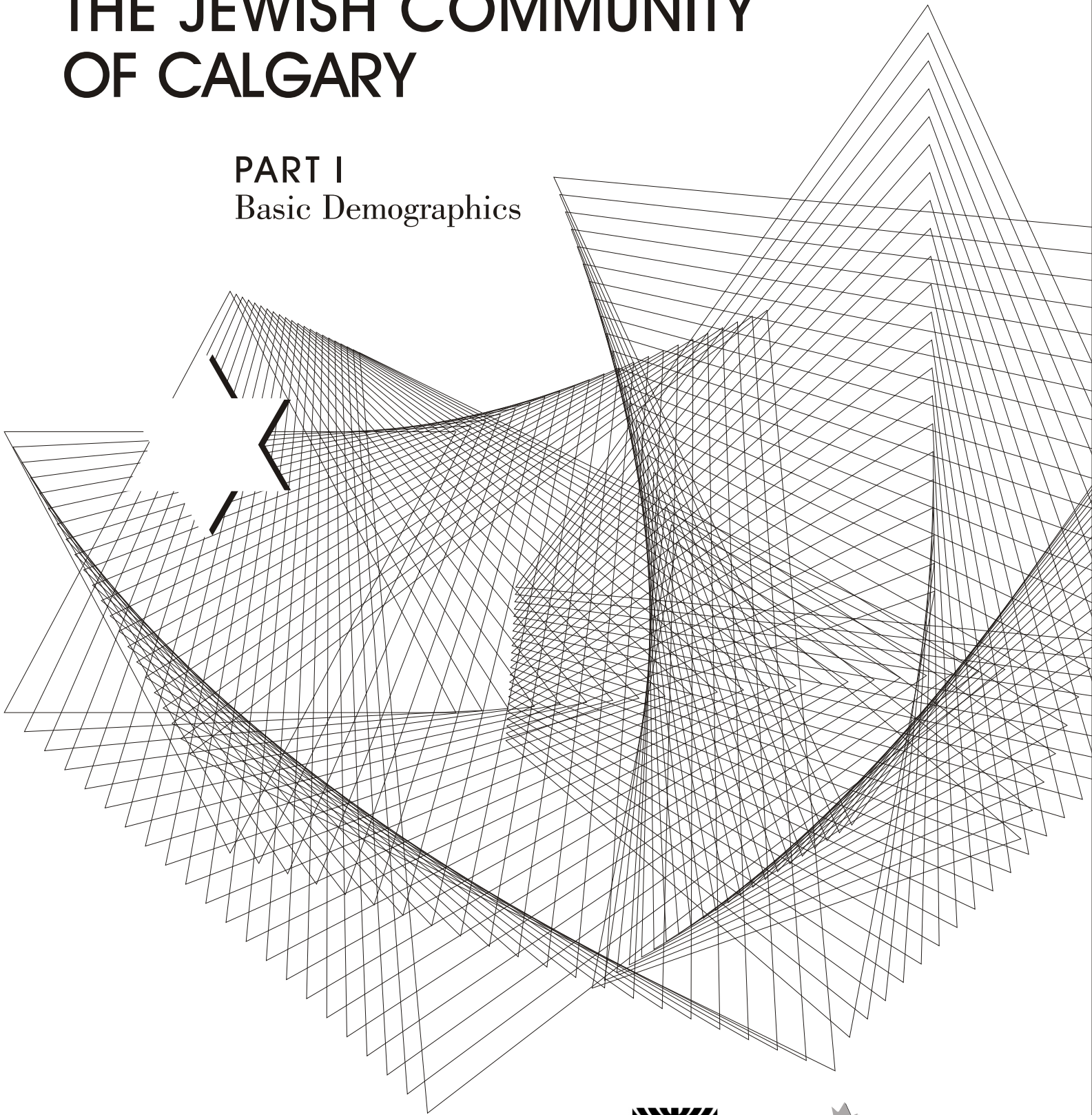
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2001 Census Analysis Series THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF CALGARY

PART I Basic Demographics



By Charles Shahrar
November, 2003



UJA Federations Canada
מגבית הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה

2001 Census Analysis
The Jewish Community of Calgary

Part 1
Basic Demographics

By
Charles Shahr

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Highlights of Results

- The Jewish population of Calgary was 7,945 in 2001. Jews comprised 0.8% of the total Calgary population.
- Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish community grew by 690 people, or 9.5%. The rate of growth of the community has slowed somewhat in the last decade.
- Calgary has the sixth largest Jewish community in Canada, and about 2.1% of the country's Jewish population.
- Regarding the age distribution of the Calgary Jewish community, the 45-64 age group has increased very significantly since 1991. There were 2,115 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 1,195 in 1991. This age group represents the “baby-boomer” generation.
- The median age of the Calgary Jewish community (37.2 years) is somewhat younger than that of the Canadian Jewish population (40.2 years).
- The size of the Jewish community's population ranks seventeenth among ethnic groups in Calgary. The top five ethnic affiliations include British, Canadian, German, Ukrainian, and Chinese.
- Jews rank eighth in size among religious groups. The top five religious affiliations include Protestants, Catholics, non-specified Christians, Muslims, and Buddhists.
- A majority (57.3%) of the Jewish population in Alberta resides in the Calgary metropolitan area.

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Census Analysis Series

Basic Demographics

The 2001 Census provides an important opportunity to obtain a demographic “snapshot” of Calgary’s Jewish community. This analysis is the first in a series of Census reports that examine the characteristics of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area.

This report is considered particularly timely given the challenges facing Calgary’s Jewish population. A significant challenge has been the provision of a full range of Jewish institutions to serve a relatively small community. The influx of Jews from other regions in Canada, and from around the world, has created a need for a rapid integration of newcomers through established institutions.

It is a fortunate minority of Jews in Calgary who have large, extended families, including seniors. Many of Calgary’s Jews are raising families without close relatives, and have come to depend upon each other rather than on parents for religious celebrations and rituals.

The community is close-knit, with a long history of Jewish philanthropy and a well-established system of communal organizations. As a result, under the umbrella of the Jewish Community Council, Calgary’s Jews currently have a community center, two day schools, a camp, and a Jewish Family Services. In addition, there is a variety of synagogues representing Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform affiliations.

As the Calgary Jewish population continues to grow, it is vital that community leaders and planners develop an accurate demographic picture of its diverse nature. The following analysis attempts to shed further light on the dynamics of the Jewish population in this city.

This report begins with an historical demographic perspective, followed by gender and age breakdowns. It then compares Calgary’s Jewish population with other ethnic and religious groups. Important explanations of the utility and reliability of the Census, as well as how Jewish identity is defined, are included in the Appendices.

Table 1
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations
Calgary CMA

	#	%
Jewish	7,945	0.8
Non-Jewish	935,365	99.2
Total	943,310	100.0

Table 2
Jewish Population of Calgary CMA
Historical Summary*

	Jewish Population	# Change From Previous Census	% Change From Previous Census
2001	7,945	+690	+9.5
1991	7,255	+1,170	+19.2
1981	6,085	+2,615	+75.4
1971	3,470	+589	+20.4
1961	2,881	+771	+36.5
1951	2,110	+350	+19.9
1941	1,760	+132	+8.1
1931	1,628	+395	+32.0
1921	1,233	+620	+101.1
1911	613	--	--
1901	NA	--	--

*Data previous to 1971 are based solely on the religion variable, whereas statistics cited for 1971 to 2001 are based on the Jewish Standard Definition described in Appendix 3. No figures are available for Census Metropolitan Areas before 1951. The researchers were able to construct equivalent geographic units for Censuses previous to that year.

Additional data tables are then presented in the final part of this analysis.

The current report is an analysis of the Jewish community within the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area or CMA. This corresponds to the Greater Calgary Area, and includes within its parameters all of the major suburbs and municipalities that surround the city of Calgary.

Note that anyone who expressed a Jewish affiliation, and fell within the parameters of the Jewish Standard Definition (see Appendix 3), is included in this analysis. Not included are Jews living in institutions—such as nursing homes, prisons or psychiatric facilities. This is because they were not given the long form of the Census, and hence, no data are available regarding their Jewish identification.

Total Population & Historical Analysis

In 2001, the Jewish population of the Calgary CMA was 7,945 (Table 1). Jews comprised 0.8% of Calgary's total population of 943,310.

The Jewish population figure for 2001 represented a gain from 1991, when there were 7,255 Jews in this metropolitan area. Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish population increased by 690 people, or 9.5% (Table 2).

The population increase between 1991 and 2001 was less pronounced than between 1981 and 1991. In the latter decade, the community grew by 1,170 people or 19.2%.

In short, at least for the last decade, the rate of growth of the Calgary Jewish population has slowed somewhat. In absolute numbers, the Jewish community increased 1.7x more between 1981 and 1991 than between 1991 and 2001.

Table 2 further shows that the gains between 1971 and 1981 were even more pronounced than those evident between 1981 and 1991. Between 1971 and 1981, the community experienced an increase of 2,615 people or 75.4%. This decade marked the peak period of population influx for the Calgary Jewish community.

In fact, the Calgary Jewish population has been increasing in size since Jews began to settle here in larger numbers at the turn of

Table 3
Jewish Population as Percentage of Total Calgary Population
Historical Summary

Census Year	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
2001	943,310	935,365	7,945	0.8
1991	748,210	740,960	7,255	1.0
1981	587,020	580,935	6,085	1.0
1971	403,325	399,860	3,470	0.9

Table 4
Calgary & Canadian Jewish Populations
Historical Summary

Census Year	Calgary Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	% of Cdn Jewish Population	Ranking Among Cdn Jewish Communities
2001	7,945	370,520	2.1	6
1991	7,255	358,055	2.0	6
1981	6,085	313,865	1.9	6
1971	3,470	286,555	1.2	7

Table 5
Gender Breakdowns
Calgary & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Calgary Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
Males	4,080	51.4	182,910	49.4
Females	3,865	48.6	187,610	50.6
Total	7,945	100.0	370,520	100.0

the last century. Particularly large increases were evident between 1911 and 1921, between 1951 and 1961, as well as between 1971 and 1991. In the 1930's, restricted Jewish immigration to Canada slowed the growth experienced in previous decades.

Table 3 looks at the Jewish population relative to the total population in Calgary. It can be seen that the percentage of the Jewish population relative to the total seems to have peaked in 1981 and 1991, when Jews comprised 1% of the Calgary population. In the 2001 Census, Jews represented 0.8% of the population, a figure slightly below the two previous Censuses.

The growth rate of the total Calgary population has been increasing at a faster pace than that of the Jewish population. For instance, between 1981 and 2001 the growth rate for the total Calgary population was 60.7%, whereas the Calgary Jewish community grew by 30.6%.

Table 4 compares Calgary's Jewish population to the Canadian Jewish population. Calgary's Jewish community is the sixth largest in Canada. In 1971 it was ranked seventh, but it surpassed the Jewish population of Hamilton in the 1981 Census.

The Calgary Jewish community comprised 2.1% of the national Jewish population in 2001. In 1971, it represented 1.2% of the Canadian Jewish total. Calculations reveal that between 1981 and 2001 the Canadian Jewish population increased by 18.1%, whereas the Calgary Jewish population grew by 30.6%. In short, the Calgary Jewish community is growing at a faster rate than the Jewish population in Canada as a whole.

Gender & Age Breakdowns

According to Table 5, there is a slightly higher proportion of males than females in the Calgary Jewish community. More than fifty percent (51.4%) of Calgary's Jewish population is male, and 48.6% is female. This discrepancy is somewhat unusual when compared to the breakdowns of other Jewish communities in the country, where females usually outnumber males.

In fact, examining the gender breakdowns of the Canadian Jewish population, it is apparent that there are fewer males (49.4%) than females (50.6%). An explanation is that females generally outnumber males in the older cohorts, and the larger proportions of elderly found elsewhere in the country

Table 6
Age Breakdowns for Jews & Non-Jews
Calgary CMA

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	187,185	19.8	1,530	19.3	185,655	19.8
15-24	135,610	14.4	1,160	14.6	134,450	14.4
25-44	330,115	35.0	2,295	28.9	327,820	35.0
45-64	210,380	22.3	2,115	26.6	208,265	22.3
65+	80,015	8.5	845	10.6	79,170	8.5
Total	943,305	100.0	7,945	100.0	935,360	100.0

Table 7
Age Breakdowns
Calgary & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Calgary Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-14	1,530	19.3	71,590	19.3
15-24	1,160	14.6	48,430	13.1
25-44	2,295	28.9	90,510	24.4
45-64	2,115	26.6	98,115	26.5
65+	845	10.6	61,875	16.7
Total	7,945	100.0	370,520	100.0

account for this gender discrepancy when compared to the Calgary community.

Table 6 examines age breakdowns for Calgary Jews, non-Jews and their totals. The Jewish population has a slightly lower proportion of children 0-14 years of age than the total population (19.3% and 19.8% respectively). The Jewish and total populations of Calgary have similar proportions in the 15-24 year cohort (14.6% and 14.4% respectively).

In the economically productive age group of 25-44 years, the discrepancy between the two populations is more marked. About 28.9% of Jews fall into this age cohort, whereas 35% of Calgary's total population is represented here.

The picture reverses for the 45-64 year cohort. The Jewish community has a larger proportion for this age group (26.6%) than Calgary's total population (22.3%).

Finally, a comparison of the two age distributions shows that the Jewish community has a larger proportion of seniors (10.6%) than the total population of Calgary (8.5%).

All in all, there is a somewhat higher percentage of Calgary Jews at the higher end of the age distribution (45+ years) than in the total population: 37.3% of Calgary Jews are 45+ years compared to 30.8% of the overall Calgary population.

Table 7 compares age distributions of the Calgary and Canadian Jewish populations. The distributions are very similar. There is a somewhat higher proportion in the 25-44 year cohort for Calgary, compared to Canadian Jews (28.9% and 24.4% respectively). The Calgary Jewish community has a lower proportion of elderly 65+ years than the Canadian Jewish population (10.6% and 16.7% respectively).

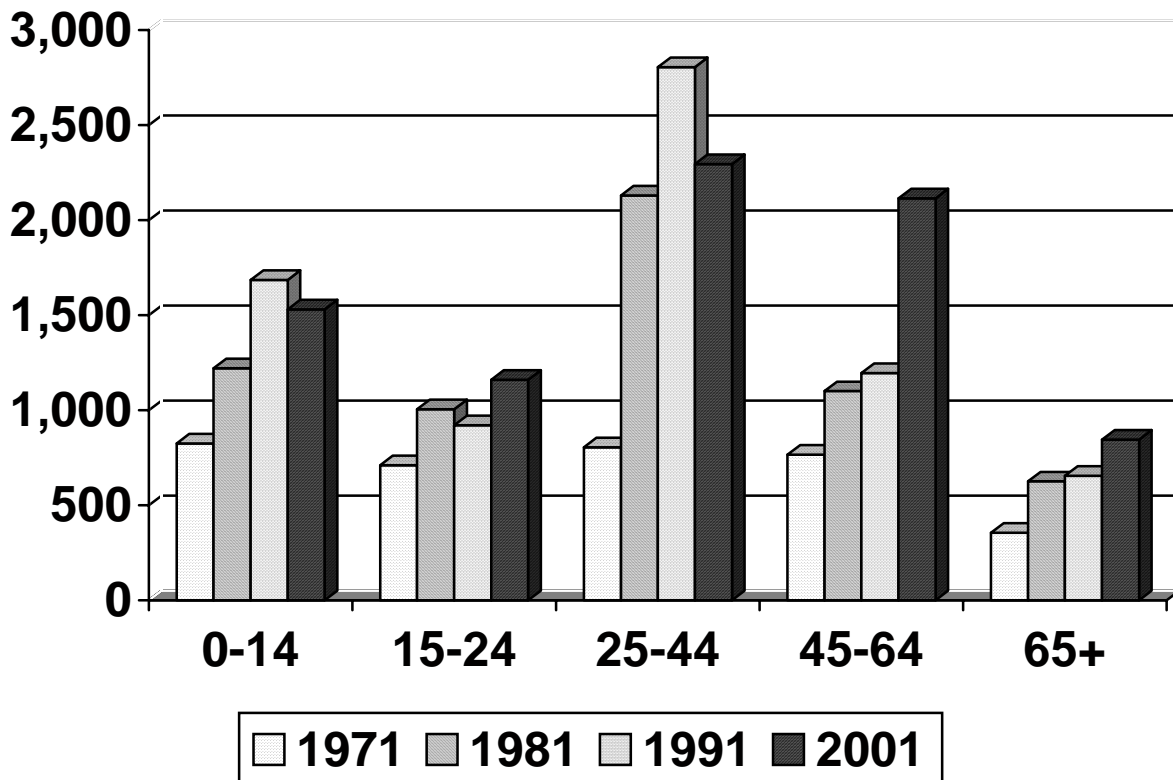
Table 8 is an historical summary of age breakdowns for Calgary's Jewish population. A number of interesting findings can be gleaned from this table. First, the number of those between 0-14 years of age has decreased since the 1991 Census, but is nonetheless higher than levels for the same cohort in 1981. In 2001, there were 1,530 children under 15 years of age, compared to 1,685 in 1991.

The 15-24 year cohort has increased since 1991. In 2001 there were 1,160 in this

Table 8
Age by Census Year
Calgary Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	1,530	19.3	1,685	23.2	1,220	20.1	825	23.8
15-24	1,160	14.6	920	12.7	1,005	16.5	710	20.5
25-44	2,295	28.9	2,805	38.6	2,130	35.0	805	23.3
45-64	2,115	26.6	1,195	16.5	1,100	18.1	765	22.1
65+	845	10.6	655	9.0	625	10.3	355	10.3
Total	7,945	100.0	7,260	100.0	6,080	100.0	3,460	100.0

Figure 1
Age by Census Year
Calgary Jewish Community



cohort, compared to 920 in 1991, and 1,005 in 1981. Since this cohort of older teens and young adults represents the future of the community, this is a positive finding.

The 25-44 year cohort has decreased somewhat since 1991. In 2001, there were 2,295 individuals in this age group, compared to 2,805 in 1991. But the numbers in 2001 are still above those in 1981.

The 45-64 age group has increased dramatically since 1991. There were 2,115 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 1,195 in 1991. This bulge in the distribution represents the “baby-boomer” generation.

Finally, the number of Jewish seniors has increased as well. There were 845 seniors in 2001, compared to 655 in 1991. The baby-boomers will begin swelling the ranks of the elderly even further by the time the next Census is conducted in 2011.

Figure 1 represents an historical analysis of age trends as measured in the last four Censuses. This graph vividly illustrates the various peaks and valleys related to gains and losses within each age cohort. The reader should follow each age group in a

step-wise progression, each step representing a different Census year.

It can be seen that the 0-14 age cohort has dipped slightly since 1991, after increasing steadily since 1971. The 15-24 cohort has vacillated somewhat. It demonstrated gains in 1981 and 2001, but dipped in 1991.

As Figure 1 also shows, the 25-44 cohort experienced a decrease between 1991 and 2001, after significant increases in the previous two decades. On the other hand, the 45-64 cohort has increased markedly in the last decade. This increase is perhaps the most dramatic aspect of the entire graph.

Finally, as noted in Table 8, the seniors (65+) cohort has increased somewhat in 2001, after remaining steady between 1981 and 1991.

The graph is also useful for anticipating general demographic trends in the coming decades. For instance, the peak in 1991 of the 25-44 year “baby-boomer” cohort translated into significant gains for the 45-64 cohort in 2001. This cohort simply moved into the next age range in the intervening decade. As mentioned above, this bulge will have an impact on the elderly cohort in the

Table 9
Age by Gender
Calgary Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	1,530	19.2	820	20.1	710	18.3
15-24	1,165	14.6	615	15.1	550	14.2
25-44	2,305	28.9	1,155	28.3	1,150	29.6
45-64	2,120	26.6	1,105	27.1	1,015	26.2
65+	845	10.6	390	9.5	455	11.7
Total	7,965	100.0	4,085	100.0	3,880	100.0

next Census, and will likely continue to “feed” into this cohort for at least another decade following 2011.

The 15-24 age group represents the children of the baby-boomers. It will begin to “feed” into the 25-44 age group by the 2011 Census. The 45-64 year segment will decrease in 2011 given the current dip in the 25-44 year cohort. Finally, it is likely that the 15-24 age group will not continue to grow, given that the 0-14 cohort will not “feed” into it as vigorously as it had in the decade between 1991 and 2001.

Using age breakdowns, it is possible to calculate the dependency ratio for a particular community. The dependency ratio is the proportion of children (0-14 years) and seniors (65+ years) relative to economically productive adults (15-64 years). The higher the dependency ratio of a community, the fewer the people in their wage earning years to support children and non-working seniors.

In 1971, the dependency ratio for the Calgary Jewish community was 0.52, whereas in 1981 it was 0.44. The ratio rose slightly in 1991 to 0.48, and has gone back down in 2001 to 0.43. It is currently at its

lowest level in 30 years. This is a very positive development for the economic viability of the community.

In comparison, the dependency ratio for the total Calgary population is 0.40, a little lower than that of Calgary’s Jewish community (0.43). The dependency ratio for the Canadian Jewish population is 0.56. It is 0.54 for the Toronto Jewish community, 0.70 for the Montreal Jewish community, and 0.42 for the Vancouver Jewish community.

A cross-tabulation of age by gender for the Calgary Jewish population is presented in Table 9. It can be seen that males outnumber females at the younger end of the distribution. For instance, there are 820 males between 0-14 years compared with 710 females. This is not a surprising finding since in most population distributions worldwide there is a small excess of males among births.

There are also more males than females in the 15-24 age group for the Jewish community, whereas the genders have about equal representation in the 25-44 cohort. Males outnumber females in the 45-64 age group.

Table 10
Median Age
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations by Census Year
Calgary CMA

Census Year	Total Population	Jewish Population	Non-Jewish Population
2001	34.7	37.2	34.6
1991	31.2	33.8	31.2
1981	26.5	29.5	26.5
1971	25.1	29.2	25.1

Table 11
Median Age
Canadian & Calgary Jewish Populations by Census Year

Census Year	Calgary Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population
2001	37.2	40.2
1991	33.8	37.3
1981	29.5	34.6
1971	29.2	33.6

In terms of the elderly, however, there are more females than males (455 and 390 individuals respectively). Such a discrepancy mirrors the trend for other populations worldwide with an excess of male versus female mortality. That is, males tend to have shorter life spans than females, and this accounts for the larger proportion of females among seniors.

The reader is referred to Tables 16 to 19 in Appendix 5 for more detailed age distributions, including 5-year and 10-year age breakdowns, as well as single-year breakdowns to age 19.

Table 10 looks at median ages for the Jewish, non-Jewish and total Calgary populations by Census year. It is clear from this table that the median age of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area has been steadily increasing. It was 29.2 years in 1971, 29.5 years in 1981, 33.8 years in 1991 and 37.2 years in 2001.

The 2001 median age for the Jewish community is 2.5 years older than that of Calgary's total population. It is interesting that between 1981 and 2001 the Jewish community's median age has increased at a somewhat slower pace than that of the total

Calgary population. It has increased by 7.7 years for Jews in these two decades, compared to 8.2 years for the total Calgary population. In other words, the general population here is growing older at a faster rate than the Jewish community.

The median ages of the Canadian and Calgary Jewish populations are examined in Table 11. It can be seen that the median age of the Calgary Jewish community is somewhat younger than that of the Canadian Jewish population (37.2 and 40.2 years respectively).

The differences between the median ages of the Calgary and Canadian Jewish populations have diminished over the last two decades. In 1981 that difference was 5.1 years; it was 3.5 years in 1991, and 3 years in 2001.

The median age for Toronto's Jewish community is 39.4 years, compared to 37.2 years for the Calgary Jewish community. The median age is 41.8 years for the Montreal Jewish community, 39.8 years for the Vancouver Jewish community, 44.5 years for the Winnipeg Jewish community and 39.4 years for the Ottawa Jewish community. In short, in comparison to other

Table 12
Ethnic Affiliation: Calgary CMA

	#	%
British	246,525	26.1
Canadian	123,570	13.1
German	117,845	12.5
Ukrainian	58,075	6.2
Chinese	56,410	6.0
French	54,775	5.8
Aboriginal	33,855	3.6
East Indian	31,325	3.3
Italian	27,560	2.9
Polish	25,315	2.7
Russian	20,675	2.2
Filipino	16,175	1.7
Arab	12,265	1.3
African	8,955	0.9
Vietnamese	8,875	0.9
Latin American	8,630	0.9
(Jewish: full definition)	(7,945)	--
Caribbean	6,535	0.7
Japanese	4,490	0.5
Spanish	4,160	0.4
Korean	3,865	0.4
American	3,715	0.4
Greek	3,485	0.4
Portuguese	3,395	0.4
Pakistani	3,155	0.3
All other ethnic categories	59,690	6.3
Total Calgary CMA	943,320	100.0

Jewish populations in this country, Calgary has a younger community, on average.

Comparisons With Other Ethnic Groups

Table 12 looks at the ethnic affiliations of the total population in the Calgary CMA. Ethnicity was a “multiple response” variable in the 2001 Census. This means that respondents could indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. To avoid double counting, a hierarchical method of assigning affiliation was employed in this analysis. This method is described fully in Appendix 4.

Note that the category for Jewish affiliation is described as “Jewish: full definition” in Table 12. Jewish affiliation is unique because it can refer to either an ethnic or religious identification, or both. It was felt that comparisons should be made with the full definition of “Jewishness”, so that the most inclusive attribution could be derived. A percentage wasn’t assigned to this category, however, because it overlapped with other groups (that is, some respondents may have described themselves as “Jewish and Russian” or “Jewish and Canadian”, etc.).

An examination of Table 12 reveals that British is the ethnic category with the most popular affiliation. About a quarter (26.1%) of Calgary residents say their ethnic affiliation is British, or 246,525 persons. This group includes individuals of English, Irish and Scottish origins.

A significant number report they are Canadian by ethnic origin. They comprise 123,570 individuals or 13.1% of Calgary’s population. People of German descent comprise 12.5% of the population (117,845 persons) and rank third among ethnic groups.

Another 58,075 persons claim Ukrainian descent, or 6.2% of the Calgary population. There is also a significant Chinese population in this metropolitan area (56,410 individuals). The Chinese rank fifth among ethnic communities and comprise 6% of the Calgary population. The French community ranks sixth, and comprises 54,775 persons.

All the other ethnic groups number below 50,000 individuals. The Aboriginal community numbers 33,855 people; the East Indian population numbers 31,325 people; and the Italian community numbers 27,560 people. Finally, the Polish community

Table 13
Ethnic Affiliation by Age: Calgary CMA

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
British	31,385	12.7	29,145	11.8	84,890	34.4	71,455	29.0	29,655	12.0
Canadian	34,665	28.1	21,970	17.8	38,845	31.4	21,165	17.1	6,925	5.6
German	22,935	19.5	16,835	14.3	43,565	37.0	24,540	20.8	9,975	8.5
Ukrainian	13,735	23.7	8,405	14.5	21,775	37.5	10,610	18.3	3,545	6.1
Chinese	11,770	20.9	8,430	14.9	18,665	33.1	12,160	21.6	5,380	9.5
French	9,835	18.0	7,965	14.5	21,370	39.0	12,670	23.1	2,940	5.4
Aboriginal	10,605	31.3	5,830	17.2	12,115	35.8	4,525	13.4	775	2.3
East Indian	6,935	22.1	5,095	16.3	10,030	32.0	6,970	22.2	2,300	7.3
Italian	6,840	24.8	4,260	15.5	9,035	32.8	5,215	18.9	2,215	8.0
Polish	5,030	19.9	4,160	16.4	8,790	34.7	5,475	21.6	1,865	7.4
Russian	4,305	20.8	3,100	15.0	7,965	38.5	4,145	20.0	1,160	5.6
Filipino	3,845	23.8	2,160	13.4	6,150	38.0	3,110	19.2	905	5.6
Arab	3,815	31.1	2,050	16.7	4,330	35.3	1,640	13.4	430	3.5
African	2,795	31.2	1,480	16.5	3,440	38.4	1,075	12.0	165	1.8
Vietnamese	2,085	23.5	1,390	15.7	3,425	38.6	1,425	16.1	550	6.2
Latin American	2,210	25.6	1,570	18.2	3,135	36.3	1,415	16.4	300	3.5
(Jewish: full def)	(1,530)	(19.3)	(1,160)	(14.6)	(2,295)	(28.9)	(2,115)	(26.6)	(845)	(10.6)
Caribbean	1,660	25.4	1,315	20.1	2,120	32.5	1,290	19.8	145	2.2
Japanese	1,120	25.0	830	18.5	1,425	31.8	835	18.6	275	6.1
Spanish	915	22.0	660	15.9	1,485	35.8	865	20.8	225	5.4
Korean	865	22.4	790	20.4	1,390	36.0	685	17.7	135	3.5
American	505	13.6	400	10.8	1,140	30.8	1,070	28.9	590	15.9
Greek	755	21.6	525	15.0	1,180	33.8	610	17.5	420	12.0
Portuguese	755	22.2	480	14.1	1,235	36.3	685	20.1	245	7.2
Pakistani	1,045	33.1	470	14.9	995	31.5	555	17.6	95	3.0
Other Ethnic	6,760	11.3	6,305	10.6	21,625	36.2	16,210	27.2	8,790	14.7
Total CMA	187,170	19.8	135,620	14.4	330,120	35.0	210,400	22.3	80,005	8.5

rounds out the ten largest ethnic groups with 25,315 individuals.

The Jewish community ranks seventeenth among ethnic groups, with a population of 7,945. As noted before, because ethnicity alone is not sufficiently inclusive to accurately describe the community, this figure is derived from a combined definition of religion and ethnicity (see Appendix 4).

Table 13 examines the age breakdowns of the various ethnic groups in Calgary. It can be seen that regarding children 0-14 years of age, the Pakistani (33.1%), Aboriginal (31.3%), and African (31.2%) populations have the highest proportions. The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (19.3%). The British (12.7%), American (13.6%), and French (18%) communities have the lowest proportions of children.

In terms of teenagers and young adults between 15-24 years of age, the Korean (20.4%), Caribbean (20.1%), Japanese (18.5%), and Latin American (18.2%) communities have the highest proportions. The Americans (10.8%), British (11.8%), and Filipinos (13.4%) have the lowest

proportions. The Jewish community is in the middle of the distribution (14.6%).

Regarding the economically productive 25-44 year cohort, it is noteworthy that the Jewish community has the lowest proportion of any ethnic community in Calgary (28.9%). The Americans (30.8%) also have low representation in this age group, as do those with a Canadian affiliation (31.4%). The French (39%), Vietnamese (38.6%) and Russian (38.5%) communities have the highest proportions in this age group.

The British (29%) have the highest percentage in the 45-64 year cohort, followed by the American (28.9%) and Jewish (26.6%) communities. The lowest percentages are found among the African (12%), Aboriginal (13.4%) and Arab (13.4%) communities.

The American community has the highest proportion in terms of seniors (15.9%), followed by the British and Greek populations (both 12%). The Jewish community also has a high percentage of elderly (10.6%) when compared to other ethnic groups. The lowest proportions of elderly are found among ethnic groups with large numbers of recent immigrants. These

Table 14
Religious Affiliation
Calgary CMA

	#	%
Protestant	331,905	35.2
Catholic	248,515	26.3
Christian, n.i.e.	40,600	4.3
Muslim	25,915	2.7
Buddhist	16,640	1.8
Sikh	13,325	1.4
Christian Orthodox	11,265	1.2
(Jewish: full definition)	(7,945)	--
Hindu	7,255	0.8
Jewish: religion alone	6,530	0.7
Other Eastern religions	1,365	0.1
Para-religious groups	2,415	0.3
No religious affiliation	237,575	25.2
Total	943,305	100.0

Note: "Christian, n.i.e." includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of "No religious affiliation" comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.

include the African (1.8%), Caribbean (2.2%), and Pakistani (3%) communities. On the other hand, Aboriginals also have a very low proportion of seniors (2.3%).

In terms of median ages, the populations with the lowest figures include the Aboriginal (25.4 years), Arab (26.1 years), African (26.2 years), and Pakistani (26.4 years) communities.

The ethnic groups with the highest median ages are the Americans (42.1 years), British (40.7 years), Jews (37.2 years), and Chinese (35.1 years).

Please refer to Table 20 in Appendix 5 for a complete breakdown of ethnic affiliation by median age.

Comparisons With Other Religious Affiliations

Table 14 looks at religious affiliations for the Calgary CMA. Note that the figures for the Jewish Standard Definition are cited in this analysis as well, although the figures for Jewish religion alone are likewise included in the table.

It can be seen that Protestants are the largest group in this metropolitan area, representing 35.2% of the population, or 331,905 individuals. Catholics comprise the second largest group with 26.3% of the total population, or 248,515 individuals.

“Christians not included elsewhere” are the third largest group with 4.3% of the population, or 40,600 individuals.

Muslims comprise the fourth largest group with 25,915 individuals, followed by Buddhists (16,640), Sikhs (13,325) and Christian Orthodox (11,265).

Jews rank eighth among religious groups. Note that Jews were defined using both the Standard Definition (which uses religion and ethnicity) and by religion alone. Their ranking is affected by the choice of definition, since they are only the ninth largest religious group if the definition of Jewishness relies on religion alone.

It is noteworthy that 25.2% of the total population, or 237,575 persons, said they have no religious affiliation. Within this category are included people who defined themselves as agnostics, atheists, or

Table 15
Religious Affiliation by Age
Calgary CMA

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Protestant	55,620	16.8	40,120	12.1	102,450	30.9	91,410	27.5	42,315	12.7
Catholic	53,630	21.6	34,660	13.9	89,430	36.0	52,235	21.0	18,570	7.5
Christian, n.i.e.	9,295	22.9	7,540	18.6	15,410	38.0	6,680	16.5	1,675	4.1
Muslim	6,950	26.8	4,565	17.6	8,125	31.3	4,880	18.8	1,410	5.4
Buddhist	2,910	17.5	2,265	13.6	6,085	36.6	3,625	21.8	1,760	10.6
Sikh	3,650	27.4	2,005	15.0	4,365	32.8	2,370	17.8	935	7.0
Christian Orthodox	1,815	16.1	1,130	10.0	4,620	41.0	2,410	21.4	1,285	11.4
(Jewish: full def)	(1,530)	(19.3)	(1,160)	(14.6)	(2,295)	(28.9)	(2,115)	(26.6)	(845)	(10.6)
Hindu	1,420	19.6	1,220	16.8	2,370	32.6	1,785	24.6	465	6.4
Jewish: religion alone	1,225	18.7	920	14.1	1,775	27.2	1,825	27.9	790	12.1
Eastern religions	245	18.0	210	15.4	510	37.5	345	25.4	50	3.7
Para-religions	355	14.7	440	18.3	1,010	41.9	505	21.0	100	4.1
No religious affil	50,080	21.1	40,540	17.1	93,965	39.6	42,325	17.8	10,670	4.5
Total	187,195	19.8	135,615	14.4	330,115	35.0	210,395	22.3	80,025	8.5

Note: "Christian, n.i.e." includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of "No religious affiliation" comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.

humanists, or who affiliated with no religion at all.

A very small proportion (0.3%) of the population are involved with Para-religious groups, such as Paganism, Scientology, Rastafarian, and New Age affiliations.

An examination of religious affiliation by age is presented in Table 15. It can be seen that among the mainstream religions, the groups with the highest percentages of children (0-14 years) are the Sikhs (27.4%) and Muslims (26.8%). Those with the lowest percentages of children include the Christian Orthodox (16.1%) and Protestants (16.8%). The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (19.3%).

Among those 15-24 years of age, the mainstream groups with the highest proportions include Muslims (17.6%) and Hindus (16.8%). The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (14.6%). The Christian Orthodox (10%) and Protestants (12.1%) have the lowest proportions in this age group.

For the 25-44 year cohort, the mainstream group with the highest proportion is the Christian Orthodox (41%). The Jewish

community has the lowest proportion in this age group (28.9%), followed by the Protestant community (30.9%).

Regarding the 45-64 age group, Protestants (27.5%) and Jews (26.6%) have the highest proportions, whereas Sikhs (17.8%) and Muslims (18.8%) have the lowest percentages.

Finally, in terms of the elderly population (65+), the Protestant community has the highest proportion (12.7%), followed by the Christian Orthodox (11.4%), and the Buddhist and Jewish populations (both 10.6%). Muslims (5.4%) and Hindus (6.4%) are the mainstream religious groups that have the lowest proportions.

The Protestant community has the highest median age (40.0 years) of any mainstream religious group in Calgary, followed by the Jewish (37.2 years) and Christian Orthodox (37.1 years) communities. The lowest median ages are found among Muslims (28.3 years) and Sikhs (29.1 years). Those with no religious affiliation average 30.2 years, whereas those involved in Para-religious practices have a median age of 32.6 years.

Please refer to Table 21 in Appendix 5 for a complete breakdown of religious affiliation by median age.

The Calgary Community in a Provincial Context

The total population of Jews in Alberta is 13,885. Jews make up 0.5% of the population of this province. In comparison, the Jewish population of Ontario numbers 211,465. There are 94,665 Jews in the province of Quebec, 29,875 Jews in British Columbia, and 15,210 Jews in Manitoba.

A significant proportion of the Jewish population in this province is located in the Calgary CMA. Specifically, 57.3% of Jews in Alberta reside in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area.

In terms of other Jewish communities in this province, Edmonton has a Jewish population of 4,920, or 35.4% of the provincial total. Just over a thousand (1,010) Jews live in other parts of Alberta, not including Calgary or Edmonton.

Appendix 1

The Utility of the Census

The information gleaned from the Census is useful from a number of perspectives. From a communal planning perspective, the data can be utilized to identify segments of the Jewish population at risk (economically and socially), and determine where they reside. It can also be used to examine whether, given certain demographic realities, programs or services should be established or continued.

Another application involves establishing population bases in order to determine what percentage of certain segments a service, program or philanthropic effort is reaching. For instance, knowledge of the base population of Jewish school-aged children can allow us to determine what percentages of these children attend Jewish versus non-Jewish schools. It is also possible to compare base populations of the poor, single

parents, etc. to the number of clients serviced by community agencies, in order to determine what proportions of these segments specific agencies are reaching.

The Census can be used to examine important questions related to community continuity. For instance: the adaptation of Jewish immigrant populations; the affiliation levels of children in intermarried families; and the migration patterns of Jews across the country are among the issues that can be examined using the Census.

Finally, the Census can be used to establish demographic trends over time, by comparing the latest figures to those of previous Censuses. These comparisons provide important indications to what extent a community has changed, and where it might be headed in the coming years.

Appendix 2

The Reliability of the Census

The Census is a massive and complex undertaking, and although high standards are applied throughout the process, a certain level of error still characterizes the endeavor. Such errors can arise at virtually any point in the Census process, from the preparation of materials to the collection of data and the processing of information.

There are a number of principal types of errors that impact on the Census. In coverage errors, dwellings or individuals are missed, incorrectly enumerated or counted more than once. In terms of non-response errors, responses to the Census cannot be obtained from a certain number of households and/or individuals due to extended absence or other extenuating circumstances.

In response errors, the respondent misunderstands a Census question and answers incorrectly or uses the wrong response box. Processing errors occur during the coding and inputting of data.

Finally, sampling errors apply only to the long-form. Statistics based on this form are

projected from a 20% sample of households. The responses to long-form questions, when projected to represent the whole population inevitably differ from the responses that would have been obtained if these questions were asked of all households.

Statistics Canada has a number of quality control measures that ensure Census data are as reliable as possible. Representatives edit the questionnaires when they are returned, and follow up on missing information. There are also quality control measures in place during the coding and data entry stages.

A number of errors and response-biases can nonetheless impact the data obtained from the Jewish population. For instance, certain segments of the Jewish community may be more reticent to answer the questions in the Census fully or accurately.

Recent immigrant populations who are suspicious of government-sponsored projects, and are wary of being identified as Jewish, may avoid indicating such an affiliation, or may answer certain questions more cautiously.

It is possible that members of the Chassidic and Ultra-Orthodox communities are more reluctant to participate fully in the Census effort, due to specific biblical injunctions that prohibit Jews from “being counted.” It is unclear whether such restrictions have had an impact on their responses, but anecdotal evidence suggests that these communities respond adequately. For instance, the Toshi Chasidic community of Montreal, which is fairly isolated geographically from the rest of the Jewish population, has had significant representation in previous Censuses, although it is unclear as to what extent their enumeration was complete.

Finally, since both the religion and ethnicity questions are only included in the long-form of the Census, sampling error arising from projections based on a 20% enumeration of households is a factor in all Census analyses related to the Jewish community.

The level of sampling error inherent in any cell of a data table can be precisely calculated. Statistics Canada provides a table that measures these errors, and they are summarized below. Obviously, for large cell values, the potential error due to sampling will be proportionally smaller than for smaller ones.

When using the table, the reader should consider the right column as reflective of the average level of error expected for a given cell size. Of course, some cells may reflect errors smaller or larger than the average. About ninety percent of errors will fall between \pm the average error specified below. Ten percent of errors are expected to fall outside this range.

Cell Value	Average Error
50 or less	15
100	20
200	30
500	45
1,000	65
2,000	90
5,000	140
10,000	200
20,000	280
50,000	450
100,000	630

Source for Appendix 2: 2001 Census Dictionary Reference Guide (pg. 275). Published by Statistics Canada, August 2002. Catalogue No. 92-378-XPE.

Appendix 3

The Jewish Standard Definition

This report uses what is known as the “Jewish Standard Definition” to distinguish who is Jewish from the rest of the population. Jim Torczyner of McGill University and the Jewish Federation of Montreal formulated this definition in 1981, using a combination of religious and ethnic identification.

According to this criterion, a Jew is defined as anyone who specified that they were:

- Jewish by religion and ethnicity.
- Jewish by religion and having another ethnicity.
- Jewish by ethnicity with no religious affiliation.

Anyone who specified another religion (Catholic, Muslim, etc.) and a Jewish ethnicity were excluded from the above definition.

Using this criterion, it is not possible to say how a person behaves “Jewishly”, for instance, whether they adhere to traditions or attend synagogue on a regular basis. However, despite this limitation, the fact that we can identify Jewish affiliation at all

is critical for using the Census as a tool to better understand our community. The Jewish Standard Definition is meant to be as inclusive as possible, reflecting the varied expressions that comprise the richness of the Jewish experience.

It is important to note that a significant change to the “Jewish Standard Definition” was implemented in the current analysis of Census data. The category of those who had “no religion and a Jewish ethnicity” was expanded to include those with “no religious affiliation and a Jewish ethnicity”.

The category of “no religious affiliation” is broader than that of “no religion” because it includes those who consider themselves as agnostics, atheists and humanists, as well as having no religion. Since it is possible to be Jewish and to have such affiliations, it was felt that this change would better reflect the broad spectrum of Jewish affiliation. Data from previous Censuses have been re-analyzed to ensure compatibility with the current criterion.

Appendix 4

The Attribution of Ethnic Origins

Ethnic origin was a multiple-response variable in the 2001 Census, meaning that respondents were allowed to indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. If all the multiple ethnic affiliations were included in the Census analysis the total would equal more than 100% because some people had more than one response to this question. A system was therefore devised for this analysis whereby a respondent would only be assigned one ethnic category. This system involved a hierarchy where an ethnic group would get precedence over those below it. The following order of precedence was established:

Aboriginal, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, East Indian, Pakistani, Arab, African, Caribbean, Latin American, Italian, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, German, Spanish, French, British, American, Canadian, Jewish, Other.

Rather than using a strictly ethnic definition of Jewishness, comparisons between Jews and other ethnic categories were made using the Jewish Standard Definition as the criterion. This definition uses a combination of religion and ethnicity, and is more inclusive than a strictly ethnic identification of Jewishness. For instance, out of a sense of patriotism some Jews may have said their ethnic background was single-response Canadian. As such, they would not have been counted in the ethnicity-only definition.

On the other hand, some converts likely considered themselves Jews by religion, but not ethnicity. They could not be appropriately compared as Jews to other ethnic categories, and yet they would be included in the Jewish Standard Definition. In short, the issue of Jewish affiliation is a complex one and there are shortcomings associated with whatever definition is used.

Appendix 5 Additional Data Tables

**Table 16
Age Breakdowns for Jews & Non-Jews
Calgary CMA**

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	58,075	6.2	445	5.6	57,630	6.2
5-14	129,105	13.7	1,080	13.6	128,025	13.7
15-24	135,610	14.4	1,160	14.6	134,450	14.4
25-34	154,000	16.3	1,010	12.7	152,990	16.4
35-44	176,125	18.7	1,295	16.3	174,830	18.7
45-54	138,930	14.7	1,425	17.9	137,505	14.7
55-64	71,455	7.6	695	8.7	70,760	7.6
65-74	48,960	5.2	390	4.9	48,570	5.2
75-84	25,075	2.7	330	4.2	24,745	2.6
85+	5,975	0.6	120	1.5	5,855	0.6
Total	943,310	100.0	7,950	100.0	935,360	100.0

Table 17
Age Breakdowns
Calgary & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Calgary Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-4	445	5.6	21,245	5.7
5-14	1,080	13.6	50,345	13.6
15-24	1,160	14.6	48,430	13.1
25-34	1,010	12.7	41,005	11.1
35-44	1,295	16.3	49,510	13.4
45-54	1,425	17.9	61,170	16.5
55-64	695	8.7	36,940	10.0
65-74	390	4.9	28,560	7.7
75-84	330	4.2	25,360	6.8
85+	120	1.5	7,955	2.1
Total	7,950	100.0	370,520	100.0

Table 18
Age by Census Year
Calgary Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	445	5.6	595	8.2	390	6.4	225	6.5
5-14	1,080	13.6	1,085	14.9	835	13.7	605	17.4
15-24	1,160	14.6	925	12.7	1,005	16.5	715	20.6
25-34	1,010	12.7	1,145	15.8	1,430	23.5	380	10.9
35-44	1,295	16.3	1,665	22.9	705	11.6	430	12.4
45-54	1,425	17.9	740	10.2	615	10.1	445	12.8
55-64	695	8.7	455	6.3	490	8.0	325	9.4
65-74	390	4.9	360	5.0	415	6.8	220	6.3
75-84	330	4.2	250	3.4	185	3.0	110	3.2
85+	120	1.5	40	0.6	20	0.3	20	0.6
Total	7,950	100.0	7,260	100.0	6,090	100.0	3,475	100.0

Table 19
Discrete Age Breakdowns by Gender
Calgary Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 1 year	95	1.2	50	1.2	45	1.2
1	115	1.4	80	2.0	35	0.9
2	70	0.9	35	0.9	35	0.9
3	80	1.0	50	1.2	30	0.8
4	85	1.1	50	1.2	35	0.9
5	85	1.1	40	1.0	45	1.2
6	110	1.4	40	1.0	70	1.8
7	80	1.0	40	1.0	40	1.0
8	105	1.3	50	1.2	55	1.4
9	120	1.5	60	1.5	60	1.5
10	110	1.4	55	1.3	55	1.4
11	120	1.5	55	1.3	65	1.7
12	140	1.8	80	2.0	60	1.5
13	115	1.4	60	1.5	55	1.4
14	95	1.2	65	1.6	30	0.8
15	100	1.3	70	1.7	30	0.8
16	140	1.8	80	2.0	60	1.5
17	85	1.1	50	1.2	35	0.9
18	135	1.7	100	2.5	35	0.9
19	115	1.4	45	1.1	70	1.8

Table 19 (cont'd)
Five-Year Age Breakdowns by Gender
Calgary Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
20-24	585	7.3	270	6.6	315	8.1
25-29	405	5.1	215	5.3	190	4.9
30-34	600	7.5	310	7.6	290	7.5
35-39	625	7.8	310	7.6	315	8.1
40-44	660	8.3	310	7.6	350	9.0
45-49	820	10.3	370	9.1	450	11.6
50-54	610	7.7	345	8.5	265	6.8
55-59	445	5.6	240	5.9	205	5.3
60-64	250	3.1	145	3.6	105	2.7
65-69	205	2.6	110	2.7	95	2.4
70-74	190	2.4	85	2.1	105	2.7
75-79	225	2.8	115	2.8	110	2.8
80-84	115	1.4	45	1.1	70	1.8
85-89	95	1.2	40	1.0	55	1.4
90+	40	0.5	15	0.4	25	0.6
Total	7,970	100.0	4,080	100.0	3,890	100.0

Table 20
Ethnic Affiliation by Median Age: Calgary CMA

	Median Age
British	40.7
Canadian	27.3
German	34.3
Ukrainian	31.2
Chinese	35.1
French	34.4
Aboriginal	25.4
East Indian	31.3
Italian	30.4
Polish	34.6
Russian	32.6
Filipino	32.9
Arab	26.1
African	26.2
Vietnamese	31.3
Latin American	28.1
(Jewish full definition)	(37.2)
Caribbean	27.3
Japanese	29.1
Spanish	32.4
Korean	29.4
American	42.1
Greek	32.5
Portuguese	32.7
Pakistani	26.4
Other Ethnic	41.0
Total	34.7

Table 21
Religious Affiliation by Median Age
Calgary CMA

	Median Age
Protestant	40.0
Catholic	34.0
Christian, n.i.e.	29.3
Muslim	28.3
Buddhist	36.5
Sikh	29.1
Christian Orthodox	37.1
(Jewish: full definition)	(37.2)
Hindu	33.7
Jewish: religion alone	39.4
Other Eastern religions	36.7
Para-religious groups	32.6
No religious affiliation	30.2
Total	34.7

Note: “Christian, n.i.e.” includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of “No religious affiliation” comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.