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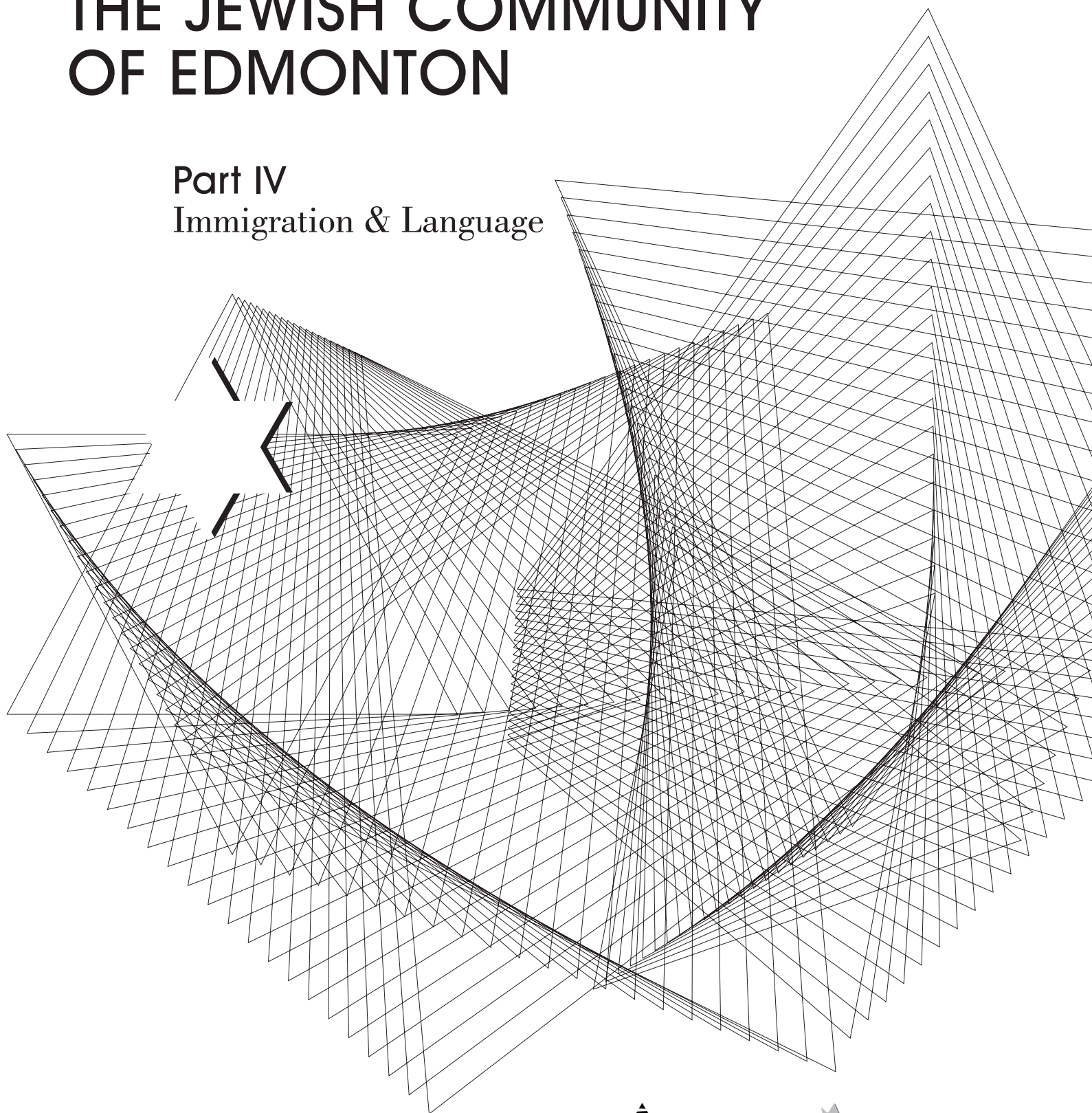
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2001 Census Analysis Series **THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF EDMONTON**

Part IV
Immigration & Language



By Charles Shahrar
May 2005



UJA Federations Canada
מגבית הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה

**2001 Census Analysis
The Jewish Community of Edmonton**

**Part 4
Immigration & Language**

**By
Charles Shahar**

Highlights of Results

- More than a third (38.6%) of the Edmonton Jewish population are immigrants, comprising 1,900 individuals. Almost two-thirds (61.4%) were born in this country, or 3,025 persons.
- The proportion of Jewish immigrants in the Edmonton CMA (38.6%) is higher than that of the national Jewish population (32.5%). In fact, the proportion of immigrants here is higher than any major Jewish centre in the country.
- In the local Jewish population, there are 655 Jews who were born in the Former Soviet Union. There are also 235 Jews who were born in Western Europe, 220 in Israel, 215 in Eastern Europe, and 185 in the United States.
- Those born in Israel and South Africa have the youngest median age (both 43.6 years) of any major immigrant group in the local Jewish community. The oldest groups include Jews born in Poland (75.3 years) and Romania (65 years).
- 530 immigrants arrived in the period between 1990-2001. This is a higher total than any other period in the recent history of the local Jewish community, suggesting that the momentum for Jewish immigration to Edmonton is increasing. Of these 530 recent arrivals, 300 were from the FSU.
- The dominant mother tongue of Edmonton Jews is English (71.4%). About one in seven (13.8%) say Russian is their mother tongue.
- The poverty statistics suggest there is a window of economic vulnerability that lasts at least for a decade, and is especially stark in the five years immediately following an immigrant's arrival here.

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Census Analysis Series

Immigration & Language

The current analysis attempts to shed light on some of the issues regarding the Jewish immigrant population in the Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), based on figures from the 2001 Census.

The topics covered in this monograph include the place of birth of immigrants and their year of immigration. Other topics include the mother tongue, home language, income distribution, income source, and poverty status of Jewish immigrants in the Edmonton CMA.

A number of important appendices are included in the back of this report. Appendix 1 describes how “Jewishness” is defined in this analysis, specifically as a combination of religious and ethnic affiliations. There is also a discussion of Census accuracy given population size in Appendix 2.

Appendix 3 describes the criteria used to define poverty in this report. Finally, data tables related to the local Jewish immigrant population are presented in the final section of this monograph.

The reader should note that any minor discrepancies found when totaling columns or rows in the tables described throughout this report are due to random rounding of data. Such rounding up or down is built into the Statistics Canada processing and cannot be avoided. Given the small nature of these rounding errors, their impact on the overall interpretation and reliability of the data is minimal.

The Birthplace of Jews Living in the Edmonton CMA

Table 1 examines the place of birth of the Jewish population in the Edmonton CMA. More than a third (38.6%) of the local community are immigrants, that is, were born outside Canada. They comprise 1,900 individuals. Almost two-thirds (61.4%) are non-immigrants. They comprise 3,025 individuals. In short, there is about 1.6X the number of Jews in the Edmonton CMA who were born in this country compared to those born outside Canada.

The level of immigrant Jews in the Edmonton CMA (38.6%) is higher than that

of the national Jewish population (32.5%). In fact, it is higher than any other major Jewish centre in Canada; including the Vancouver Jewish community (35.2%), the Toronto community (34.9%), the Montreal community (33.9%), the Calgary community (31.8%), the Ottawa community (24.3%), and the Winnipeg community (16.4%).

Table 1 reveals that the largest immigrant segment was born in the Former Soviet Union, comprising 655 individuals. There are 235 Jews born in Western Europe, 220 born in Israel, 215 in Eastern Europe (excluding the FSU), 185 in the United States, 60 in North Africa / Middle East (excluding Israel), and 35 in South America. There are 295 Jews from other parts of the world (such as Central America, Australia, the rest of Africa, and Asia).

Table 2 contains a detailed breakdown of the country of birth of Jews living in the Edmonton CMA. In terms of Western Europe, 140 local Jews were born in the United Kingdom, and 105 in the rest of Western Europe.

Regarding Eastern Europe, 95 Jews were born in Poland, 50 in Romania, and 80 in the rest of Eastern Europe. In terms of the

Former Soviet Union, 270 Jews were born in the Ukraine, 155 in Russia, and 235 in the rest of the FSU.¹

Of those from North Africa and the Middle East: 220 were born in Israel, and 55 in the rest of this region.

There are also 185 Jews born in South Africa living in the local Jewish community. Only a few Jews originated from South America (35). As noted in Table 1, 185 individuals were born in the United States. Finally, 105 Jews were born in other parts of the world.

The Age Breakdowns of Immigrants

Table 3 examines age cohorts by country of birth. The percentages are read across rows. It can be seen that the age distribution of Israelis peaks between 45-64 years (44.4%), with 100 individuals. In other words, almost half of Israelis are in this age group.

The age distribution of Jews from Eastern Europe is skewed toward the 65+ year group. Almost two-thirds (61.4%) of Jews

¹ The last figure includes those who said they were born in the Former Soviet Union, but did not report a currently identifiable country, such as Russia or the Ukraine.

born in Eastern Europe are elderly, comprising 135 individuals.

Jews born in the Former Soviet Union have their largest representation in the 45-64 year cohort (32.6%). There are 215 FSU-born Jews who are between 45-64 years.

Jews from Western Europe peak at 45-64 years, with 120 individuals, or more than half (51.1%) of their age distribution. Likewise, individuals born in the United States peak between 45-64 years. More than a third (38.9%) of their age distribution, or 70 persons, are middle-aged.

Table 4 is a detailed summary of median age by country of birth for the Jewish population of the Edmonton CMA. Non-immigrants (those born in Canada) have a median age of 34.2 years. The youngest ages among major immigrant groups (n>150) involve those born in Israel and South Africa (both 43.6 years).

At the other end of the distribution, Jews from Poland (75.3 years) and Romania (65 years) have median ages that are much higher than the median for the Jewish community as a whole (42.3 years).

Year of Immigration of Jews Residing in the Edmonton CMA

Table 5 is a breakdown of the year of immigration of Edmonton Jews. It should be noted that this table does not represent the total number of immigrants who came to Edmonton during the specified time periods (some may have left or died in the interim), but rather, is a “snapshot” of those who stayed or survived to be enumerated by the 2001 Census.

According to Table 5, 530 immigrants arrived in the period between 1990-2001. This is a higher total than any other period described in the table, suggesting that the *momentum for Jewish immigration to Edmonton is increasing.*

There were 235 immigrants who arrived between 1995-2001. These are the most recent immigrants, and further data tables in this report will provide more information regarding their characteristics and their economic adjustment.

There were 465 immigrants who came between 1980 and 1989, 415 immigrants between 1970-1979, and 180 between 1960-1969.

Finally, 105 Jews came between 1950 and 1959, and 85 before 1950. Almost all of the individuals in these latter groups are now elderly. Those who came before the Second World War are now well into their advanced years, and are at least in their eighties.

There are 40 non-permanent Jewish residents living in the Edmonton CMA. Non-permanent residents are those from another country who have had an employment authorization, a student visa, a Minister's permit, or who were refugee claimants at the time of the 2001 Census. Family members living with them are also included in this count.

Table 6 shows place of birth by year of immigration. In terms of immigrants arriving between 1990 and 2001, it is clear that the largest number by far came from the Former Soviet Union (300).

Between 1980 and 1989, the largest number also arrived from the Former Soviet Union (240). In the period between 1970 and 1979, the largest contingent of immigrants likewise came from the Former Soviet Union (105), followed by Western Europe (85) and Israel (85).

Between 1960 and 1969, the largest group of immigrants arrived from Eastern Europe (55). Finally, the largest immigrant group before 1960 also came from Eastern Europe (90) followed by Western Europe (55).

The reader is referred to Table 15 for a more detailed breakdown of country of birth by year of immigration for the Edmonton Jewish community.

It should be noted that the 2001 Census does not take into account more recent waves of Jewish immigration to the Edmonton CMA. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to get a description of their numbers until the next major Census in 2011.

The Mother Tongue & Home Language of Jews in the Edmonton CMA

According to Table 7, the dominant mother tongue of the Edmonton Jewish community is English. Almost three-quarters (71.4%) of the local Jewish population reports English as their native language, comprising 3,515 individuals. About one in seven (13.8%) report their native language is Russian, comprising 680 individuals.

There are even smaller percentages of those whose mother tongues are Hebrew (5.3%), Yiddish (3.3%), French (0.8%), or Spanish (0.4%). Finally, 5% claim another mother tongue, such as Polish or Romanian.

As Table 8 indicates, a significant majority (85.2%) of the local Jewish community speaks English at home, or 4,190 individuals. A much smaller proportion (10%) speaks Russian at home, comprising 490 persons. There are 2.5% who speak Hebrew at home, comprising 125 individuals. Smaller proportions speak French (0.5%) or Yiddish (0.5%). About 1.2% speak other languages at home.

Individual Income & Income Source of Immigrants

Table 9 examines place of birth by individual income. The percentage of adults earning under \$25,000 is highest for Jewish immigrants born in South America (100%), although there are relatively few such individuals. Almost 60% of those born in the Former Soviet Union earn under \$25,000.

Almost three quarters (73.4%) of Jewish immigrants from the FSU earn under

\$40,000. A similar percentage of Israeli immigrants (71.8%) earn under \$40,000.

Table 9 also presents median incomes by place of birth (last column). Jews born in South America show the lowest median income (\$4,535), although their numbers are few. Those born in Israel also have a relatively low median income (\$19,955). Jews from the FSU earn a median of \$20,616.

Jews born in Eastern Europe report the highest median income (\$37,820). This is not surprising since these individuals represent an older, more established immigrant group. Those born in the United States also have a high median income (\$32,226).

Table 10 shows year of immigration by individual income. Almost two-thirds (60%) of immigrants who recently arrived (1995-2001) earn under \$25,000 per year. This low-end income is earned by 64.8% of those who came between 1990-2001, 52.2% of those who came between 1980-1989, and 40.2% between 1970-1979.

At the high end of the income scale, immigrants who arrived between 1970-1979 have a higher percentage earning at least \$100,000 (15.9%) than any other immigrant group, or even non-immigrants (10.7%).

Table 10 also examines median incomes across various periods of immigration. The most recent arrivals (1995-2001) have a median income of \$19,722. Those who arrived between 1990-2001 have a median income of \$18,293, whereas immigrants who settled here between 1980-1989 have a median income of \$24,042.

The median income of those who arrived between 1970-1979 is \$28,087. For those who came before 1970 it is \$37,361, and it is \$25,449 for non-immigrants.

The above findings clearly show there is *a window of economic vulnerability for immigrants particularly in the ten years after settlement, but stretching for as long as two decades after immigration. It appears to require an adjustment of at least two decades for many immigrants to reach their economic potential.*

Table 11 looks at place of birth by major income source. The percentages are read

across rows. Jews from the FSU have the highest percentage of employed individuals earning wages or salaries (56%), but their wages are likely relatively small given their median income (see Table 9). A relatively large percentage of individuals born in Israel are also earning employment wages and salaries (55.3%).

Jews from Eastern Europe have the lowest percentage of wage and salary earners (33.3%), because many of them are seniors who rely on government or private pensions. Those from South America (37.5%) and the United States (48.3%) also have relatively low percentages of individuals earning wages or salaries.

Those from South America have the highest percentage of individuals relying on self-employment income (25%), although their numbers are very small. Jews born in Eastern Europe have the highest percentage of individuals relying on government pensions (23.8%), and the percentage is also high for those born in the FSU (15.2%).

In terms of immigrants relying on “Other Government Sources” (such as training income and social assistance), those born in South America (37.5%), Western Europe

(13.6%), and Israel (13.2%) have the highest percentages, although in absolute terms, the frequencies for all three groups are rather small.

Table 12 looks at year of immigration by major income source. Those who came between 1995 and 2001 have the highest level of reliance on “Other Government Sources”, including social assistance and training incomes (23.1%). Those who came between 1990-2001 have a 12.6% level of reliance. Reliance drops to 6.7% for those who came between 1980 and 1989, and 2.4% for those who arrived between 1970 and 1979.

With the passage of time, there is clearly a drop in reliance on social assistance and training incomes among immigrants, with the most significant drop-off occurring 5 years after arrival.

How do these figures compare with immigrants in the general population of the Edmonton CMA? An analysis indicates that 19.7% of immigrants who arrived between 1990 and 2001 into the overall Edmonton population rely on such government benefits, a figure somewhat above that of Jewish immigrants (12.6%).

In terms of economic productivity, about two-thirds (64.3%) of Jewish immigrants arriving between 1990-2001 earn wages or are self-employed.

Jewish immigrants have a slightly higher level of economic productivity than immigrants who arrived between 1990 and 2001 into the overall Edmonton population. Almost two-thirds (63.9%) of immigrants who arrived between 1990-2001 into the general Edmonton population earn employment wages or are self-employed, compared to 64.3% of Jewish immigrants.

Poverty Levels of Immigrants

Table 13 contains a breakdown of poverty status by place of birth. The highest level of economic disadvantage is found for Jewish immigrants from Western Europe (23.4%). Jewish immigrants from Israel also have a high level of disadvantage (20%).

In absolute terms, the largest number of poor among immigrant groups is counted among those coming from the Former Soviet Union (110), followed by individuals born in Western Europe (55).

Table 14 examines poverty status by year of immigration. This table suggests that the

burden of poverty is more prevalent among most recent immigrants. Those who arrived between 1995-2001 have a 33.3% level of economic disadvantage, compared to 21.7% of those who arrived between 1990-2001, and 11.8% of those who arrived between 1980-1989.

The level of disadvantage then decreases to 9.6% for those who arrived between 1970 and 1979, and rises to 11% for those who came before 1970. Many of those who arrived before 1970 rely on government pensions and this may explain why they have a relatively high level of poverty.

The findings of this table suggest *there is a window of economic vulnerability that lasts at least for a decade, and is especially stark in the five years immediately following an immigrant's arrival here.*

The poverty level of 33.3% for recent immigrants is among the highest of any segment in the local Jewish community (see Part 3 of the Census Analysis Series regarding the Jewish poor), and points to the economic hardships many immigrants face in adjusting to life in this metropolitan area.

The Challenges Ahead

Jewish immigrants have settled in Alberta in large numbers for several decades. Many of these individuals left their home countries due to severe political, economic or social difficulties to create a safe haven for themselves, their families and future generations.

The majority of recent Jewish immigrants to Edmonton are from the Former Soviet. As can be seen by the figures cited in this report, immigration is a dynamic process that does not end upon one's arrival to a new country. The challenges extend to include difficulties associated with how one settles, integrates and transitions into a new culture.

Immigration is an important issue in Alberta society and in particularly for the Jewish community. Because of low birthrates and an aging population, the future growth of the Edmonton Jewish community is dependant upon immigration and the successful integration of immigrants.

Cultural transitioning can be defined as the process of an immigrant moving from their culture of origin to that of a new country. Those immigrants who are successful in this

process are able to secure economic, occupational and social security within the new culture. Cultural transitioning is complex, as the needs of immigrant groups vary based on ethnicity, as well as religious affiliation.²

Yet regardless of country of origin, the literature indicates that there are three predominant factors that influence successful transition: education, employment, and integration. Thus in order to better assist immigrants, service providers must have the competencies to aid in these factors in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner.²

Similar to most groups, immigrants are particularly concerned for the well-being of their children. Providing children with access to the Jewish school system also serves to pave the way for immigrant families to become involved in other aspects of Jewish communal life.

Many new arrivals are graduates of colleges and universities. In addition, a significant number of arrivals from European and Latin

American countries have vocational training program certificates. These credentials are not always recognized in Alberta. There are many principal actors involved in the discussion of recognizing varying levels of equivalencies, and it is incumbent upon the Jewish community to provide ongoing advocacy in this area as well as that of employment.

While approximately 64% of Jewish immigrants who came between 1990-2001 are wage earners or self-employed, nearly 13% rely on government assistance. Many professionals who have trained in their country of origin are not able to practice their chosen occupation in Alberta and experience occupational stress, as they work at low paying jobs or struggle to find employment at all.

While it is impossible to recognize the equivalency of every profession throughout the world, the Jewish Community must remain actively involved with the various professional associations and with provincial government officials to relax the standards of acceptance into these associations and make this area more accessible for immigrants.

² Sinacore, A. (2005), *Immigrants' Experiences of Cultural Transitioning and Occupational Stress*. To be presented to the Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association. Montreal, Quebec.

Finally, integration is most successful when a community embraces the new immigrant group. Successful integration results when immigrants have been able to maintain aspects of their culture of origin, while at the same time developing skills and knowledge about the new culture.

Other obstacles to successful integration include challenges in family structure, stress related to the trauma of immigration, and racial and ethnic discrimination.² As stated in Table 14 of this report, the *window of vulnerability* for new immigrants is greatest during the first five years here, but can extend up to ten years after settlement.

Community planners and service providers must continue to work in a cooperative manner as immigration impacts on almost every aspect of Jewish communal life. This includes establishing contacts, promoting advocacy and developing partnerships with a variety of government agencies and specialized groups.

As the situation for Jews throughout the world becomes increasingly precarious, the role of the organized Jewish community remains vital to successful transitioning. We must encourage the promotion of cultural sensitivity amongst ourselves, our children and our community, and embrace the richness of each new group as it arrives.

Appendix 1

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 in 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 agnostics, atheists and humanists, as well as those having no religion. Since it is possible to be Jewish and 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 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. Regarding non-response errors, responses to the Census cannot be obtained from a certain number of households and/or individuals because of extended absence or 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.

Despite these controls, a number of errors and response-biases can nonetheless impact data obtained from the Jewish population. For instance, certain segments of the Jewish community may be reticent to answer Census questions 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.

Members of the Chassidic and Ultra-Orthodox communities may be 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 Tash 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% sampling 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 Low-Income Cut-Offs

This report uses the Statistics Canada measure of poverty. According to Statistics Canada, a person is living in poverty if they reside in a household containing a certain number of people who earn a total yearly income that falls under the “Low Income Cut-Off” (LICO). Hence, this criterion is based solely on information related to household size and household income.

There are some limitations related to this measure. Firstly, it does not take into account information regarding a person’s “net worth”. An individual can own a dwelling and an automobile yet can be classified as poor using the LICO criterion because their assets are not taken into account. There are some elderly, for instance, who own a house or a condominium, but receive a low pension income, and therefore fall under the poverty cut-off.

Also, there is a measure of arbitrariness to the definition employed by Statistics Canada. The low-income cut-offs are calculated taking into account how much of their total income Canadian households

spend on food, clothing and shelter, and estimating that households spending about a half or more of their income on such necessities would be in “strained” circumstances.

The reasoning is that any household spending such a high proportion of its income on these essentials has too little money left over for other important expenditures. Using these assumptions, low-income cut-off points are then set for different sizes of households.

Another limitation of the use of the LICO as a measure of poverty is that it takes into account only three basic necessities (food, clothing and shelter). A more meaningful measurement, critics argue, would be to determine the cost of a “basket” of all necessities, including such expenditures as transport, personal care, household supplies, recreation, health, and insurance. The main problem with this alternative approach is the difficulty of determining what ought to be

included in the basket of basic necessities of life and what ought to be excluded.³

Another issue regarding poverty relates to the cost of living “Jewishly”. The current definition of poverty does not take into account the cost of maintaining a Kosher diet, of buying various accoutrements necessary for proper holiday observances, or paying synagogue dues. Households experiencing financial strains may not be able to meet some of the basic demands of their traditions. This can represent a reality to disadvantaged Jews that is not necessarily part of the life experiences of secular Jews or non-Jews.

Despite the limitations described above, “The Poverty Line”, as derived from the low-income cut-off specified by Statistics Canada, remains the most comprehensive method for assessing financial disadvantage. In the case of the Census, it can be cross-tabulated with other important variables (such as age, family structure, labor force activity, income source, etc.), to yield a broad profile of the characteristics and

conditions of economically disadvantaged Jews.

The 2000 Low-Income Cut Offs were used for the 2001 Census analysis. The table below describes the interactions of household size and household income that determine these cut-offs.

**Low Income Cut-Offs for the year 2000
Urban areas of 500,000+ people**

Household Size	Household Income Cut-Off (\$)
1	18,371
2	22,964
3	28,560
4	34,572
5	38,646
6	42,719
7+	46,793

Source for the above table: 2001 Census Dictionary Reference Guide (pg. 149). Published by Statistics Canada, August 2002. Catalogue No. 92-378 XPE.

³ For a more comprehensive analysis of the LICO as a measure of poverty, see: “Poverty: Where to Draw the Line. The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, May 31, 2000.” Their Web Site can be accessed at: <http://www.policyalternatives.ca/manitoba/FastFactsMay31-00.pdf>

Table 1
Place of Birth
Edmonton Jewish Population

Place of Birth	#	%
Canada	3,025	61.4
Israel	220	4.5
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	215	4.4
Former Soviet Union	655	13.3
Western Europe	235	4.8
North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)	60	1.2
United States	185	3.8
South America	35	0.7
Other	295	6.0
Total	4,925	100.0

Table 2
Country of Birth
(Detailed Breakdowns)
Edmonton Jewish Population

Country of Birth	#	Country of Birth	#
United Kingdom	140	Morocco	15
France	20	Libya	0
Spain / Portugal	0	Algeria	0
Belgium	0	Egypt	10
Netherlands	10	Ethiopia	0
Germany	45	Syria	0
Austria	10	Lebanon	15
Italy	0	Iraq	0
Greece	10	Iran	15
Rest of Western Europe	10	Rest of N. Africa / Middle East	0
Czechoslovakia	30	South Africa	185
Hungary	40	Israel	220
Poland	95	Canada	3,025
Romania	50	United States	185
Bulgaria	0	Mexico	0
Yugoslavia	10	Argentina	10
Russia	155	Chile	15
Ukraine	270	Brazil	0
Georgia	0	Rest of South America	10
Belarus	50	Rest of World	105
Kazakhstan	0	Total Jewish Population	4,940
Rest of Former Soviet Union	185		

Table 3
Age by Place of Birth
Edmonton Jewish Population

Place of Birth	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canada	675	22.3	590	19.5	695	23.0	720	23.8	345	11.4
Israel	30	13.3	20	8.9	75	33.3	100	44.4	0	0.0
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	0	0.0	10	4.5	15	6.8	60	27.3	135	61.4
Former Soviet Union	40	6.1	70	10.6	165	25.0	215	32.6	170	25.8
Western Europe	15	6.4	25	10.6	30	12.8	120	51.1	45	19.1
North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)	0	0.0	0	0.0	20	33.3	40	66.7	0	0.0
United States	35	19.4	10	5.6	30	16.7	70	38.9	35	19.4
South America	0	0.0	10	25.0	10	25.0	10	25.0	10	25.0
Other	35	11.9	40	13.6	50	16.9	145	49.2	25	8.5
Total	830	16.8	775	15.7	1,090	22.1	1,480	30.0	765	15.5

Table 4
Median Age by Country of Birth
Edmonton Jewish Population

Country of Birth	Median Age	Country of Birth	Median Age
United Kingdom	59.3	Morocco	56.0
France	17.3	Libya	--
Spain / Portugal	--	Algeria	--
Belgium	--	Egypt	--
Netherlands	--	Ethiopia	--
Germany	54.3	Syria	--
Austria	--	Lebanon	--
Italy	--	Iraq	--
Greece	--	Iran	--
Rest of Western Europe	--	Rest of N. Africa / Middle East	--
Czechoslovakia	54.4	South Africa	43.6
Hungary	53.2	Israel	43.6
Poland	75.3	Canada	34.2
Romania	65.0	United States	49.0
Bulgaria	--	Mexico	--
Yugoslavia	--	Argentina	--
Russia	59.5	Chile	--
Ukraine	51.3	Brazil	--
Georgia	--	Rest of South America	--
Belarus	50.8	Rest of World	48.3
Kazakhstan	--	Total Jewish Population	42.3
Rest of Former Soviet Union	46.2		

Table 5
Year of Immigration
Edmonton Jewish Population

Year of Immigration	#	%
Non - Immigrants	3,095	63.0
Before 1950	85	1.7
1950-1959	105	2.1
1960-1969	180	3.7
1970-1979	415	8.4
1980-1989	465	9.5
1990-2001	530	10.8
(Subtotal 1995-2001)	(235)	(4.8)
Non-permanent residents	40	0.8
Total	4,915	100.0

Table 6
Place of Birth by Year of Immigration
Edmonton Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)

Place of Birth	Before 1960		1960-1969		1970-1979		1980-1989		1990-2001		Non-Permanent Residents	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canada	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Israel	0	0.0	35	18.9	85	20.5	35	7.3	40	7.5	25	62.5
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	90	47.4	55	29.7	15	3.6	40	8.3	10	1.9	0	0.0
Former Soviet Union	10	5.3	0	0.0	105	25.3	240	50.0	300	56.6	0	0.0
Western Europe	55	28.9	25	13.5	85	20.5	15	3.1	25	4.7	0	0.0
North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)	10	5.3	10	5.4	25	6.0	10	2.1	15	2.8	0	0.0
United States	25	13.2	10	5.4	50	12.0	15	3.1	45	8.5	15	37.5
South America	0	0.0	10	5.4	0	0.0	10	2.1	15	2.8	0	0.0
Other	0	0.0	40	21.6	50	12.0	115	24.0	80	15.1	0	0.0
Total	190	100.0	185	100.0	415	100.0	480	100.0	530	100.0	40	100.0

Table 7
Mother Tongue
Edmonton Jewish Population

Mother Tongue	#	%
English	3,515	71.4
French	40	0.8
Spanish	20	0.4
Russian	680	13.8
Hebrew	260	5.3
Yiddish	160	3.3
Other	245	5.0
Total	4,920	100.0

Table 8
Home Language
Edmonton Jewish Population

Home Language	#	%
English	4,190	85.2
French	25	0.5
Spanish	0	0.0
Russian	490	10.0
Hebrew	125	2.5
Yiddish	25	0.5
Other	60	1.2
Total	4,915	100.0

Table 9
Place of Birth by Individual Income
Edmonton Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Place of Birth	No Income / Under \$25,000		\$25,000 - \$39,999		\$40,000 - \$69,999		\$70,000 - \$99,999		\$100,000 or more		Median Income
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	\$
Canada	1,165	49.5	355	15.1	460	19.5	115	4.9	260	11.0	25,681
Israel	115	59.0	25	12.8	35	17.9	10	5.1	10	5.1	19,955
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	95	45.2	15	7.1	65	31.0	25	11.9	10	4.8	37,820
Former Soviet Union	370	59.7	85	13.7	95	15.3	30	4.8	40	6.5	20,616
Western Europe	95	41.3	45	19.6	50	21.7	10	4.3	30	13.0	27,056
N. Africa / Middle East	40	66.7	10	16.7	0	0.0	10	16.7	0	0.0	20,303
United States	55	37.9	30	20.7	25	17.2	20	13.8	15	10.3	32,226
South America	30	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4,535
Other	95	35.8	60	22.6	35	13.2	30	11.3	45	17.0	35,847
Total	2,060	50.1	625	15.2	765	18.6	250	6.1	410	10.0	25,346

Table 10
Year of Immigration by Individual Income
Edmonton Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Year of Immigration	No Income / Under \$25,000		\$25,000 - \$39,999		\$40,000 - \$69,999		\$70,000 - \$99,999		\$100,000 or more		Median Income
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	\$
Non-immigrants	1,190	49.9	360	15.1	465	19.5	115	4.8	255	10.7	25,449
Before 1970	155	42.5	40	11.0	100	27.4	50	13.7	20	5.5	37,361
1970 - 1979	165	40.2	75	18.3	75	18.3	30	7.3	65	15.9	28,087
1980 - 1989	235	52.2	75	16.7	70	15.6	35	7.8	35	7.8	24,042
1990 - 2001	295	64.8	70	15.4	60	13.2	10	2.2	20	4.4	18,293
(Subtotal: 1995-2001)	(120)	(60.0)	(40)	(20.0)	(30)	(15.0)	(10)	(5.0)	(0)	(0.0)	(19,722)
Non-permanent residents	10	33.3	10	33.3	10	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	29,958
Total	2,050	50.1	630	15.4	780	19.0	240	5.9	395	9.6	25,346

Table 11
Place of Birth by Major Income Source
Edmonton Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Place of Birth	Wages & Salaries		Self-Employment Income		Government Pensions		Other Income from Gov't Sources		All Other Sources		No Income	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canada	1,450	61.7	100	4.3	125	5.3	240	10.2	360	15.3	75	3.2
Israel	105	55.3	10	5.3	0	0.0	25	13.2	50	26.3	0	0.0
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	70	33.3	0	0.0	50	23.8	0	0.0	90	42.9	0	0.0
Former Soviet Union	350	56.0	65	10.4	95	15.2	40	6.4	60	9.6	15	2.4
Western Europe	110	50.0	15	6.8	20	9.1	30	13.6	45	20.5	0	0.0
N. Africa / Middle East	30	54.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	27.3	10	18.2
United States	70	48.3	15	10.3	10	6.9	10	6.9	40	27.6	0	0.0
South America	15	37.5	10	25.0	0	0.0	15	37.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	195	73.6	15	5.7	10	3.8	30	11.3	15	5.7	0	0.0
Total	2,395	58.4	230	5.6	310	7.6	390	9.5	675	16.5	100	2.4

Table 12
Year of Immigration by Major Income Source
Edmonton Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Year of Immigration	Wages & Salaries		Self-Employment Income		Government Pensions		Other Income from Gov't Sources		All Other Sources		No Income	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-immigrants	1,465	61.4	100	4.2	125	5.2	255	10.7	355	14.9	85	3.6
Before 1970	120	33.3	25	6.9	60	16.7	20	5.6	135	37.5	0	0.0
1970 - 1979	270	65.9	25	6.1	35	8.5	10	2.4	70	17.1	0	0.0
1980 - 1989	290	64.4	25	5.6	45	10.0	30	6.7	60	13.3	0	0.0
1990 - 2001	235	54.0	45	10.3	35	8.0	55	12.6	40	9.2	25	5.7
(Subtotal: 1995-2001)	(100)	(51.3)	(10)	(5.1)	(10)	(5.1)	(45)	(23.1)	(15)	(7.7)	(15)	(7.7)
Non-permanent residents	15	60.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	40.0	0	0.0
Total	2,395	58.9	220	5.4	300	7.4	370	9.1	670	16.5	110	2.7

Table 13
Place of Birth by Poverty Status
Edmonton Jewish Population

Place of Birth	Total	Poor		Not Poor	
	#	#	%	#	%
Canada	3,010	410	13.6	2,600	86.4
Israel	225	45	20.0	180	80.0
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	215	30	14.0	185	86.0
Former Soviet Union	655	110	16.8	545	83.2
Western Europe	235	55	23.4	180	76.6
N. Africa / Middle East	55	0	0.0	55	100.0
United States	180	10	5.6	170	94.4
South America	25	0	0.0	25	100.0
Other	295	35	11.9	260	88.1
Total	4,895	695	14.2	4,200	85.8

Table 14
Year of Immigration by Poverty Status
Edmonton Jewish Population

Place of Birth	Total	Poor		Not Poor	
	#	#	%	#	%
Non-immigrants	3,085	440	14.3	2,645	85.7
Before 1970	365	40	11.0	325	89.0
1970 - 1979	415	40	9.6	375	90.4
1980 - 1989	465	55	11.8	410	88.2
1990 - 2001	530	115	21.7	415	78.3
(Subtotal: 1995-2001)	(240)	(80)	(33.3)	(160)	(66.7)
Non-permanent residents	45	10	22.2	35	77.8
Total	4,905	700	14.3	4,205	85.7

Table 15
Country of Birth by Year of Immigration
Edmonton Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)

Country of Birth	Before 1960	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-2001	(Subtotal: 1995-2001)
United Kingdom	10	15	80	10	15	20
France	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spain / Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	10	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	25	10	10	10	0	0
Austria	10	0	0	0	10	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rest of Western Europe	0	0	0	0	0	0
Czechoslovakia	0	20	0	10	0	0
Hungary	20	0	10	10	0	0
Poland	55	20	0	10	15	0
Romania	10	15	0	15	0	0
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yugoslavia	0	10	0	0	0	0
Russian Federation	0	0	25	30	95	45
Ukraine	0	0	60	145	65	25
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belarus	0	0	0	20	30	10
Kazakhstan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rest of FSU	0	0	25	45	115	40

Table 15
Country of Birth by Year of Immigration
Edmonton Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)
(cont'd)

Country of Birth	Before 1960	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-2001	(Subtotal: 1995-2001)
Morocco	0	10	10	0	10	0
Libya	0	0	0	0	0	0
Algeria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	10	0	0
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	0	0	10	0	0	0
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iran	10	0	0	0	0	0
Rest of N.Africa / Mid.East	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Africa, Republic of	0	0	35	75	70	35
Israel	0	35	80	35	40	20
Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
United States	20	0	50	15	45	10
Mexico	0	0	0	0	0	0
Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chile	0	0	0	0	15	15
Brazil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rest of South America	0	10	0	0	0	0
Rest of World	10	35	10	35	10	10
Total	180	180	405	475	535	230

*Non-Permanent Residents are not included in this table.