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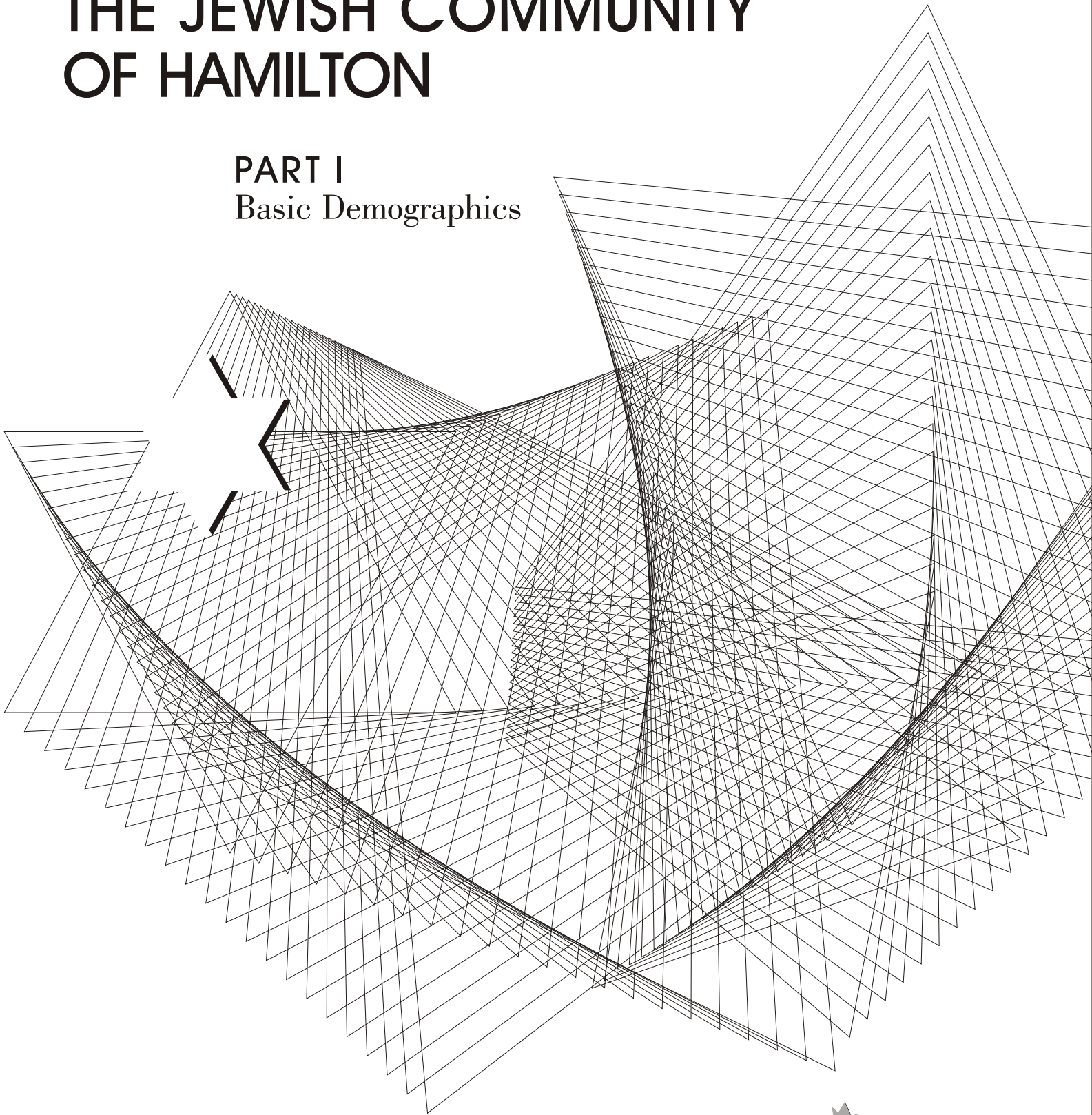
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2001 Census Analysis Series **THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF HAMILTON**

PART I Basic Demographics



By Charles Shahar
November, 2003



UIA Federations Canada
מגבית הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה

2001 Census Analysis
The Jewish Community of Hamilton

Part 1
Basic Demographics

By
Charles Shahar

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Highlights of Results

- The Jewish population of Hamilton was 4,675 in 2001. Jews comprised 0.7% of the total Hamilton population.
- Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish community declined by 490 people, or 9.5%. The decrease between 1991 and 2001 reversed a trend of population growth evident for the last several decades.
- Hamilton has the eighth largest Jewish community in Canada.
- Regarding the age distribution of the Hamilton Jewish community, the 0-14 year cohort has decreased markedly in the last decade. There were 770 in this age group in 2001, compared to 1,320 in 1991.
- The 25-44 age group has also decreased dramatically since 1991. There were 1,005 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 1,560 in 1991.
- On the other hand, the 45-64 age group has increased in the last decade. There were 1,320 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 895 in 1991.
- The median age of the Hamilton Jewish community (42.2 years) is somewhat older than that of the Canadian Jewish population (40.2 years).
- The size of the Jewish community's population ranks eighteenth among ethnic groups in Hamilton. The top five ethnic affiliations include British, Canadian, Italian, German, and French.
- Jews rank seventh in size among religious groups. The top five religious affiliations include Protestants, Catholics, Christian Orthodox, non-specified Christians, and Muslims.

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Census Analysis Series

Basic Demographics

The 2001 Census provides an important opportunity to obtain a demographic “snapshot” of the Jewish community in Hamilton. 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 emerging realities facing Hamilton’s Jewish population. The community has undergone significant changes in the last decade. A decline in overall population, a growing number of elderly, a decrease in the school-aged population, expansion into suburban areas, and an increasing number of unaffiliated are issues that the community has had to address in the last several years.

An important challenge has been the viability of maintaining multiple Jewish day schools. Shifting population trends, the complexities of integrating new (often unaffiliated) members into the community, and an uncertain financial outlook, all contribute to a renewed emphasis on the need for greater cooperation among the

varied segments of the Jewish community here.

The Jewish population of Hamilton was once a small and close-knit community with activity focused at the Delaware Avenue JCC. Over the past four decades, activities have been dispersed over a wide geographic area, and are now sponsored by a multiplicity of service providers.

As the population continues to change, 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 the Hamilton metropolitan area.

This report begins with an historical demographic perspective, followed by gender and age breakdowns. It then compares Hamilton’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. Additional data tables are

Table 1
Jewish Population of Hamilton CMA
Historical Summary*

	Jewish Population	# Change From Previous Census	% Change From Previous Census
2001	4,675	-490	-9.5
1991	5,165	+505	+10.8
1981	4,660	+410	+9.6
1971	4,250	+392	+10.2
1961	3,858	+622	+19.2
1951	3,236	+565	+21.2
1941	2,671	+9	+0.3
1931	2,662	+46	+1.8
1921	2,616	+836	+47.0
1911	1,780	+1,262	+243.6
1901	518	--	--

*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 1941. The researchers were able to construct equivalent geographic units for Censuses previous to that year.

Table 2
Jewish Population as Percentage of Total Hamilton Population
Historical Summary

Census Year	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
2001	655,060	650,385	4,675	0.7
1991	593,805	588,640	5,165	0.9
1981	537,640	532,980	4,660	0.9
1971	498,505	494,255	4,250	0.9

then presented in the final part of this analysis.

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

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 Hamilton CMA was 4,675 (Table 1). This figure for 2001 represented a loss from 1991, when there were 5,165 Jews in this city. Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish

population decreased by 490 people, or 9.5%.

Table 1 further shows that between 1981 and 1991 the community grew by 505 people or 10.8%. Between 1971 and 1981, the community experienced an increase of 410 people or 9.6%.

The decrease between 1991 and 2001 reversed a trend of population growth evident for the last several decades. In fact, the Hamilton Jewish population has been increasing in size since the first Jews settled here in significant numbers at the turn of the last century. With the exception of negative or slow growth between 1921 and 1941 and between 1991 and 2001, the increases have been very steady.

The gains and losses described in Table 1, however, do not reveal the entire story. They merely represent the relative impacts of mortality, birth rate, in-migration and out-migration on the Jewish community's demographics. These interacting factors will be examined more extensively in subsequent reports.

Table 2 looks at the Jewish population relative to the total population in Hamilton.

**Table 3
Hamilton & Canadian Jewish Populations
Historical Summary**

Census Year	Hamilton Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	% of Cdn Jewish Population	Ranking Among Cdn Jewish Communities
2001	4,675	370,520	1.3	8
1991	5,165	358,055	1.4	8
1981	4,660	313,865	1.5	8
1971	4,250	286,555	1.5	6

**Table 4
Gender Breakdowns
Hamilton & Canadian Jewish Populations**

	Hamilton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
Males	2,435	52.1	182,910	49.4
Females	2,240	47.9	187,610	50.6
Total	4,675	100.0	370,520	100.0

It can be seen that the percentage of the Jewish population relative to the total had remained steady between 1971 to 1991 at just under 1%. Jews represented 0.7% of the population in 2001, a figure slightly below that of the previous three Censuses.

The table also shows that the overall Hamilton population grew by 10.3% between 1991 and 2001, whereas the Hamilton Jewish community diminished by 9.5%. In other words, the Hamilton Jewish community is not keeping in step with the growth of the rest of the population.

Table 3 compares Hamilton's Jewish population to the Canadian Jewish population. In 2001, Hamilton's Jewish community was the eighth largest in Canada. The Hamilton community comprised 1.3% of the Canadian Jewish population in 2001, a slight drop from 1.4% in 1991, and 1.5% in 1981.

A comparison of Jewish communities across Canada suggests that only Edmonton has a comparable size to the Hamilton community, with 4,920 individuals. Victoria has the next lowest Jewish population after Hamilton, with 2,595 individuals.

Gender & Age Breakdowns

According to Table 4, there is a larger proportion of males than females in the Hamilton Jewish community. More than half (52.1%) of the Jewish population is male and 47.9% 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 breakdown for the Jewish population of Canada, it is apparent that there are fewer males (49.4%) than females (50.6%).

Table 5 examines age breakdowns for Hamilton Jews, non-Jews and their totals. The Jewish population has a somewhat lower proportion of children 0-14 years of age than the total population (16.5% and 19.5% respectively).

On the other hand, the Jewish population has a somewhat higher proportion of those 15-24 years than the total Hamilton population (15.3% and 12.9% respectively).

In the economically productive age group of 25-44, the discrepancy between the two populations is more marked. Specifically, 21.5% of Jews fall into this age cohort,

Table 5
Age Breakdowns for Jews & Non-Jews
Hamilton CMA

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	127,515	19.5	770	16.5	126,745	19.5
15-24	84,830	12.9	715	15.3	84,115	12.9
25-44	196,835	30.0	1,005	21.5	195,830	30.1
45-64	156,205	23.8	1,320	28.2	154,885	23.8
65+	89,685	13.7	870	18.6	88,815	13.7
Total	655,070	100.0	4,680	100.0	650,390	100.0

Table 6
Age Breakdowns
Hamilton & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Hamilton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-14	770	16.5	71,590	19.3
15-24	715	15.3	48,430	13.1
25-44	1,005	21.5	90,510	24.4
45-64	1,320	28.2	98,115	26.5
65+	870	18.6	61,875	16.7
Total	4,680	100.0	370,520	100.0

whereas 30% of the total Hamilton population is represented here.

The picture reverses for the 45-64 year cohort. The Jewish community has a larger proportion for this age group (28.2%) than the total Hamilton population (23.8%).

Finally, a comparison of the two age distributions shows that the Jewish community has a much larger proportion of seniors (18.6%) than Hamilton's total population (13.7%).

Table 6 compares age distributions of the Hamilton and Canadian Jewish populations. There is a smaller proportion of children 0-14 years for the Hamilton community than for Canadian Jews (16.5% and 19.3% respectively).

However, for the 15-24 year cohort, the picture reverses. The Hamilton Jewish community has a higher proportion in this age group (15.3% and 13.1% respectively).

In terms of the 25-44 year cohort, the Hamilton Jewish community has a lower percentage than the national Jewish population (21.5% and 24.4% respectively).

For the 45-64 age group, the picture again reverses. The Hamilton community has a higher proportion in this age group than the Canadian Jewish population (28.2% and 26.5% respectively).

Finally, there is a higher percentage of elderly (65+) among the Hamilton Jewish community than the national Jewish population (18.6% and 16.7% respectively).

All in all, the Hamilton Jewish community's age distribution is more similar to that of the Canadian Jewish population than to the distribution of Hamilton's total population. Particularly noteworthy are the relatively large percentages of elderly in the age distributions of both the local and national Jewish communities, compared to the overall population of Hamilton.

Table 7 is an historical summary of age breakdowns for Hamilton's Jewish community. A number of interesting findings can be gleaned from this table. First, the number of those between 0-14 years of age has decreased very significantly since the 1991 Census. In 2001 there were 770 children under 15 years, compared to 1,320 in 1991, and 915 in 1981.

Table 7
Age by Census Year
Hamilton Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	770	16.5	1,320	25.5	915	19.6	915	21.6
15-24	715	15.3	485	9.4	615	13.2	755	17.8
25-44	1,005	21.5	1,560	30.1	1,450	31.1	975	23.0
45-64	1,320	28.2	895	17.3	1,005	21.5	1,175	27.7
65+	870	18.6	915	17.7	680	14.6	425	10.0
Total	4,680	100.0	5,175	100.0	4,665	100.0	4,245	100.0

The 15-24 year cohort has increased in the last decade. There were 715 in this cohort in 2001, compared to 485 in 1991. The 25-44 year cohort has decreased dramatically since 1991. In 2001, there were 1,005 individuals in this age group, compared to 1,560 in 1991.

On the other hand, the 45-64 age group has increased very markedly since 1991. There were 1,320 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 895 in 1991. This bulge in the distribution represents the “baby-boomer” generation.

Finally, the number of Jewish seniors has declined slightly in the last decade. There were 870 seniors in 2001, compared to 915 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 significantly in 2001, after increasing markedly in 1991. The recent dip in this age cohort is one of the most dramatic features of this graph.

The 15-24 cohort has increased in 2001, after dipping somewhat in the previous two decades. The 2001 figure for this cohort almost reached the peak level of 1971.

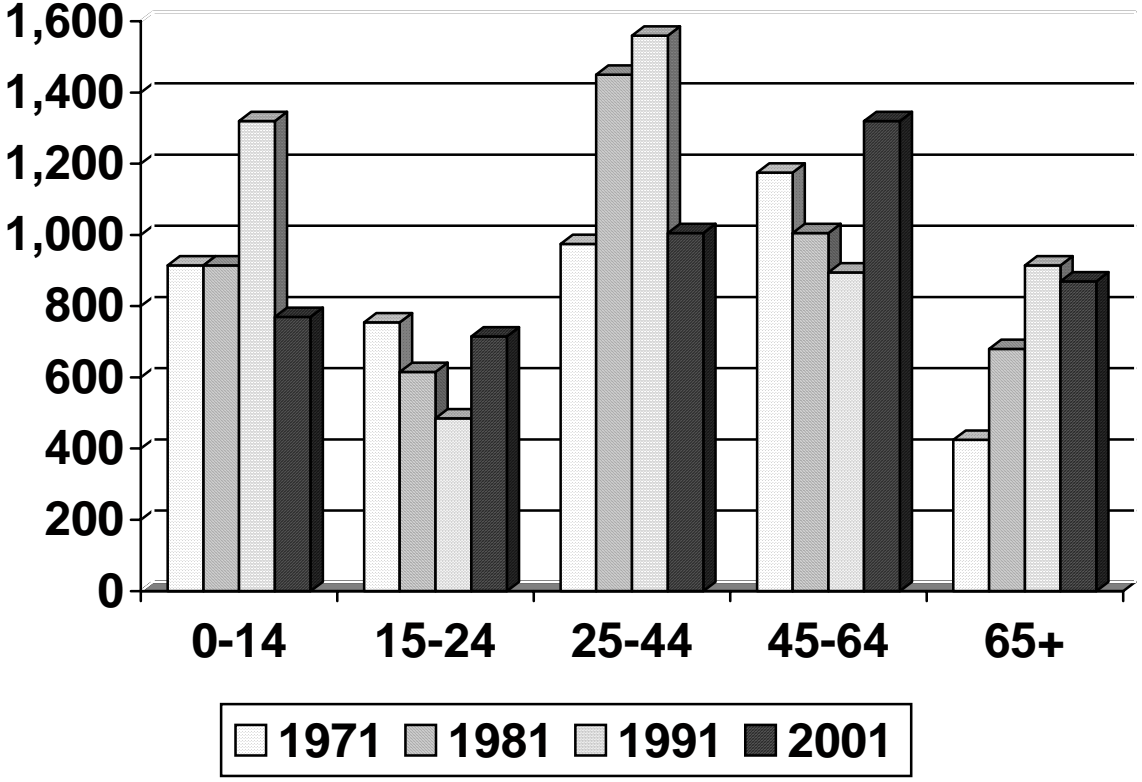
As Figure 1 also shows, the 25-44 cohort decreased significantly between 1991 and 2001, after experiencing its peak in the decade before. The decrease in this age group is another dramatic feature of this graph.

The 45-64 cohort has increased markedly between 1991 and 2001, after experiencing decreases in the previous two decades.

Finally, as noted in the summary of Table 7, the number of seniors (65+) has dipped very slightly in the last decade. Their numbers had increased steadily since 1971 till their current decline in 2001.

The graph is also useful for anticipating general demographic trends in the coming decades. For instance, the peak in 1981 and

Figure 1
Age by Census Year
Hamilton Jewish Community



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 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 very 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.

The dependency ratio for the Hamilton Jewish community is 0.54. This ratio has vacillated significantly in the last 30 years. In 1971 the dependency ratio was 0.46, whereas in 1981 it was 0.52. The ratio peaked in 1991 at 0.76, and has gone back down significantly in 2001. The peak in 1991 was due to the large numbers of children and elderly in that particular age distribution.

In comparison, the dependency ratio for the total Hamilton population is 0.50, similar to that of the Hamilton Jewish community (0.54). 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, 0.42 for the Vancouver Jewish community, and 0.64 for the Winnipeg Jewish community. In short, Hamilton’s dependency ratio falls in the middle of the distribution of Jewish populations across Canada.

Table 8 looks at median ages for the Jewish, non-Jewish and total Hamilton populations, as well as the Canadian Jewish population. It

Table 8
Median Age
Selected Populations by Census Year
Hamilton CMA

Census Year	Hamilton Total Population	Hamilton Non-Jewish Population	Hamilton Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population
2001	37.6	37.6	42.2	40.2
1991	34.2	34.1	37.2	37.3
1981	31.0	30.5	34.8	34.6
1971	27.4	27.4	32.6	33.6

is clear from this table that the median age of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area has been steadily increasing. It was 32.6 years in 1971, 34.8 years in 1981, 37.2 years in 1991 and 42.2 years in 2001.

The 2001 median age for the Jewish community is 4.6 years older than that of the total Hamilton population. But it is also interesting to note that the gap between the Jewish community's median age and that of the total Hamilton population has increased in the last decade. In 1991 it was 3 years, and 4.6 years in 2001. In other words, the Jewish community is growing older at a faster rate than the overall Hamilton population.

Table 8 also shows that the median age of the Hamilton Jewish community is somewhat older than that of the Canadian Jewish population (42.2 and 40.2 years respectively).

The differences between the median ages of the Hamilton and Canadian Jewish populations have increased since 1991. In that Census, the Hamilton Jewish community was 0.1 years younger than the Canadian Jewish population; whereas in 2001, it was 2 years older.

The median age is 39.4 years for the Toronto Jewish community, compared to 42.2 years for the Hamilton Jewish population. It is 41.8 years for the Montreal Jewish community, 39.4 years for the Ottawa Jewish community, 44.5 years for the Winnipeg Jewish community and 39.8 years for the Vancouver Jewish community. In other words, the Hamilton Jewish population is older than most other major Jewish centres in Canada.

Comparisons With Other Ethnic Groups

Table 9 looks at the ethnic affiliations of the total population in the Hamilton 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 9. 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

Table 9
Ethnic Affiliation: Hamilton CMA

	#	%
British	203,685	31.1
Canadian	96,620	14.7
Italian	66,175	10.1
German	44,940	6.9
French	35,875	5.5
Polish	25,635	3.9
Ukrainian	21,145	3.2
Aboriginal	12,855	2.0
Portuguese	12,855	2.0
East Indian	11,125	1.7
Chinese	10,345	1.6
Caribbean	9,485	1.4
Arab	7,000	1.1
Filipino	4,950	0.8
African	4,940	0.8
Latin American	4,815	0.7
Greek	4,775	0.7
(Jewish: full definition)	(4,675)	--
Russian	4,190	0.6
Spanish	3,175	0.5
Vietnamese	2,935	0.4
Korean	2,130	0.3
Pakistani	1,815	0.3
Japanese	1,355	0.2
American	980	0.1
All other ethnic categories	61,275	9.4
Total Hamilton CMA	655,075	100.0

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 9 reveals that British is the ethnic category with the most popular affiliation. Almost a third (31.1%) of Hamilton residents say their ethnic affiliation is British, or 203,685 persons. This group includes individuals of English, Irish and Scottish origins.

A significant number say they are Canadian by ethnic origin. They comprise 96,620 individuals or 14.7% of the Hamilton population. Almost one in ten individuals (10.1%) are of Italian origin. This group comprises 66,175 persons and ranks third among ethnic groups.

Another 44,940 persons claim German descent, or 6.9% of the Hamilton population. There are also significant French, Polish and Ukrainian populations in this city (35,875, 25,635, and 21,145 individuals, respectively).

The remaining ethnic groups number below 20,000 individuals. The Aboriginal community ranks eighth, with 12,855 persons. The Portuguese population numbers 12,855 people. Finally, the East Indian community rounds out the ten largest ethnic groups with 11,125 individuals.

The Jewish community ranks eighteenth among ethnic groups, with a population of 4,675. 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).

In terms of median ages, the ethnic groups with the lowest figures include the African (22.4 years), Latin American (25.0 years), Vietnamese (25.3 years), Arab (25.4 years), and Pakistani (25.4 years) communities.

The British have the highest median age (44.4 years), followed by the Jewish community (42.2 years), the Americans (39.1 years), and the Germans (38.1 years).

Please refer to Table 15 in Appendix 5 for a complete breakdown of ethnic affiliation by median age.

Table 10
Religious Affiliation
Hamilton CMA

	#	%
Protestant	242,940	37.1
Catholic	232,430	35.5
Christian Orthodox	17,165	2.6
Christian, n.i.e.	15,590	2.4
Muslim	12,880	2.0
Buddhist	4,730	0.7
(Jewish: full definition)	(4,675)	--
Hindu	3,910	0.6
Jewish: religion alone	3,855	0.6
Sikh	3,650	0.6
Para-religious groups	1,405	0.2
Other Eastern religions	990	0.2
No religious affiliation	115,515	17.6
Total	655,060	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.

Comparisons With Other Religious Affiliations

Table 10 looks at religious affiliations for the Hamilton CMA. Note that the figures for the Jewish Standard Definition will be 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 37.1% of the population, or 242,940 individuals. Catholics comprise the second largest group with 35.5% of the total population, or 232,430 individuals.

Christian Orthodox is the third largest group with 2.6% of the population, or 17,165 individuals. “Christians not included elsewhere” comprise the fourth largest group with 15,590 individuals, followed by Muslims with 12,880 individuals.

Jews rank seventh 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 there are fewer Jews when religion alone is taken into account. Jews

drop to eighth ranking with the latter criterion.

It is noteworthy that 17.6% of the total population, or 115,515 persons, have no religious affiliation. Within this category are included people who defined themselves as agnostics, atheists, or humanists, or who affiliated with no religion at all.

A very small proportion (0.2%) of the population are involved with Para-religious groups, such as Paganism, Scientology, Rastafarian, and New Age affiliations.

The Protestant community has the highest median age (43.6 years) of any mainstream religious group in Hamilton, followed by the Jewish population (42.2 years). The lowest median age is found among Muslims (25.1 years). Those with no religious affiliation average 30.4 years, whereas those involved with Para-religious groups have a median age of 29.1 years.

Please refer to Table 16 in Appendix 5 for a complete breakdown of religious affiliation by median age.

The Hamilton Community in a Provincial Context

The total population of Jews in Ontario is 211,465. Jews make up 1.9% of the population of this province. In comparison, the Jewish population of Quebec numbers 94,665. There are 29,875 Jews in British Columbia, and 15,210 Jews in Manitoba.

2.2% of the Jewish population in this province is located in the Hamilton CMA.

The great majority of Ontario Jews reside in Toronto, which has 84.7% of Jews in this province, and a Jewish population of 179,100. There are figures available for several other Jewish communities in Ontario. For instance, there are 13,445 Jews in Ottawa; 2,290 Jews in London; 1,530 in Windsor; 1,390 in Kitchener; and 1,095 in Kingston.

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 of certain segments in the community, in order to determine what percentage 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 or 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.

Despite these controls, 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 11
Age by Gender
Hamilton Jewish Community**

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	775	16.5	445	18.3	330	14.6
15-24	720	15.4	390	16.0	330	14.6
25-44	1,010	21.5	505	20.7	505	22.4
45-64	1,315	28.0	650	26.7	665	29.5
65+	870	18.6	445	18.3	425	18.8
Total	4,690	100.0	2,435	100.0	2,255	100.0

Table 12
Age Breakdowns for Jews & Non-Jews
Hamilton CMA

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	38,380	5.9	220	4.7	38,160	5.9
5-14	89,125	13.6	550	11.8	88,575	13.6
15-24	84,830	13.0	715	15.3	84,115	12.9
25-34	86,840	13.3	495	10.6	86,345	13.3
35-44	110,000	16.8	510	10.9	109,490	16.8
45-54	93,230	14.2	800	17.1	92,430	14.2
55-64	62,965	9.6	515	11.0	62,450	9.6
65-74	50,900	7.8	350	7.5	50,550	7.8
75-84	31,815	4.9	445	9.5	31,370	4.8
85+	6,970	1.1	75	1.6	6,895	1.1
Total	655,055	100.0	4,675	100.0	650,380	100.0

Table 13
Age Breakdowns
Hamilton & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Hamilton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-4	220	4.7	21,245	5.7
5-14	550	11.8	50,345	13.6
15-24	715	15.3	48,430	13.1
25-34	495	10.6	41,005	11.1
35-44	510	10.9	49,510	13.4
45-54	800	17.1	61,170	16.5
55-64	515	11.0	36,940	10.0
65-74	350	7.5	28,560	7.7
75-84	445	9.5	25,360	6.8
85+	75	1.6	7,955	2.1
Total	4,675	100.0	370,520	100.0

Table 14
Age by Census Year
Hamilton Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	220	4.7	495	9.6	320	6.9	220	5.2
5-14	550	11.8	820	15.9	590	12.6	700	16.5
15-24	715	15.3	485	9.4	615	13.2	755	17.7
25-34	495	10.6	620	12.0	835	17.9	560	13.2
35-44	510	10.9	945	18.3	615	13.2	420	9.9
45-54	800	17.1	510	9.9	475	10.2	600	14.1
55-64	515	11.0	375	7.3	530	11.4	575	13.5
65-74	350	7.5	555	10.8	450	9.6	300	7.1
75-84	445	9.5	310	6.0	205	4.4	110	2.6
85+	75	1.6	45	0.9	30	0.6	15	0.4
Total	4,675	100.0	5,160	100.0	4,665	100.0	4,255	100.0

Table 15
Ethnic Affiliation by Median Age for Hamilton CMA

	Median Age
British	44.4
Canadian	30.4
Italian	34.7
German	38.1
French	36.3
Polish	37.5
Ukrainian	37.8
Aboriginal	26.1
Portuguese	30.3
East Indian	31.1
Chinese	30.1
Caribbean	28.1
Arab	25.4
Filipino	34.2
African	22.4
Latin American	25.0
Greek	36.3
(Jewish: full definition)	(42.2)
Russian	35.7
Spanish	31.0
Vietnamese	25.3
Korean	28.2
Pakistani	25.4
Japanese	37.6
American	39.1
Other Ethnic	40.6
Total	37.6

Table 16
Religious Affiliation by Median Age
Hamilton CMA

	Median Age
Protestant	43.6
Catholic	37.0
Christian Orthodox	38.4
Christian, n.i.e.	28.4
Muslim	25.1
Buddhist	31.3
(Jewish: full definition)	(42.2)
Hindu	32.9
Jewish: religion alone	45.2
Sikh	30.2
Para-religious groups	29.1
Other Eastern religions	39.6
No religious affiliation	30.4
Total	37.6

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.