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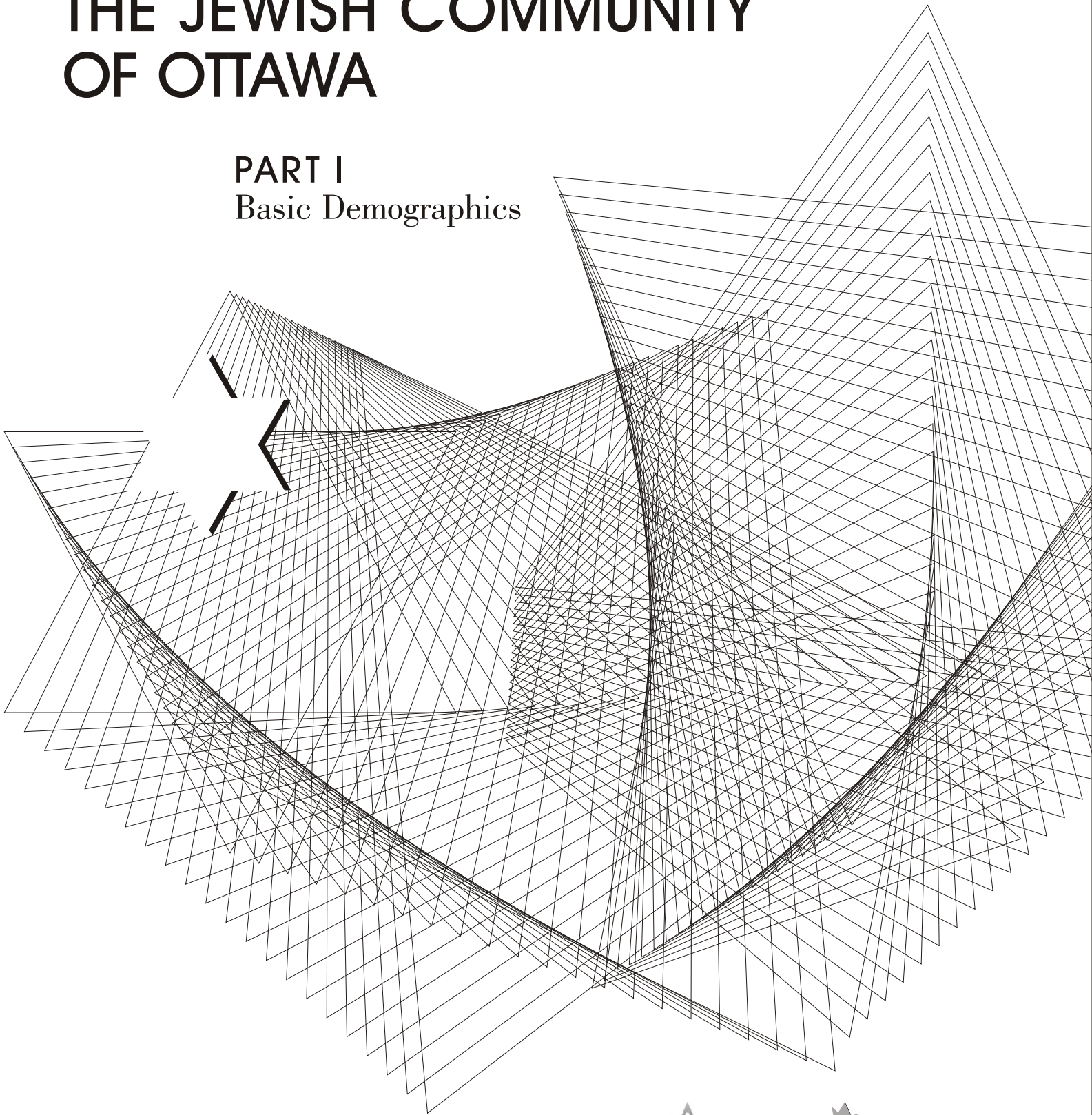
2001 Census Analysis Series

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

OF OTTAWA

PART I

Basic Demographics



By Charles Shahr
November, 2003

Jewish Community Council
of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'ir



UIA Federations Canada
מגבית הפרציות היהודיות בקנדה

2001 Census Analysis
The Jewish Community of Ottawa

Part 1
Basic Demographics

By
Charles Shahr

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Highlights of Results

- The Jewish population of Ottawa was 13,445 in 2001. Jews comprised 1.3% of the total Ottawa population.
- Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish community grew by 1,835 people, or 15.8%. The rate of growth of the community has slowed somewhat in the last decade.
- Ottawa has the fifth largest Jewish community in Canada, and about 3.6% of the country's Jewish population.
- Regarding the age distribution of the Ottawa Jewish community, the 25-44 year cohort has decreased markedly since 1991. In 2001 there were 3,025 individuals in this age group, compared to 4,075 in 1991.
- On the other hand, the 45-64 age group has increased very significantly since 1991. There were 4,120 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 2,035 in 1991. This age group represents the "baby-boomer" generation.
- The median age of the Ottawa Jewish community (39.4 years) is slightly younger than that of the Canadian Jewish population (40.2 years).
- The size of the Jewish community's population ranks fourteenth among ethnic groups in Ottawa. The top five ethnic affiliations include Canadian, French, British, German, and Arab.
- Jews rank sixth in size among religious groups. The religious affiliations that have larger numbers than Jews include Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, Christian Orthodox and non-specified Christians.

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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 the Greater Ottawa area. This analysis is the first in a series of Census reports that examine the characteristics of the Jewish population here.

This report is considered particularly timely given the emerging realities facing Ottawa’s Jewish population. In the last decade, the community has undergone significant changes. An important milestone has been the development of a new campus and a new central address for delivery of services to the community. In addition, the community has had continued population growth due to immigration, the expansion of the high tech and public sectors in this city, and the attraction of other Canadians to Ottawa due to its high quality of life.

The growth of the Ottawa community has presented many challenges. While the new campus has re-invigorated Jewish life here, it has also led to a greater recognition of the unmet needs of the community. Demands for increased services are being placed on all

agencies, and the community is faced with difficult choices regarding setting priorities.

The community has continued to reach out to unaffiliated and uninvolved Jews in Ottawa. Its aim has been to continue to offer an opportunity for people of all ages to experience and enhance their Jewish life; and to ensure that those who cannot afford the cost of participation remain involved.

The Ottawa Jewish population was once a small and close-knit community centered in the downtown and Sandy Hill areas. Today, the community has spread out to all parts of the greater Ottawa region. Meeting the needs of a growing and more diverse Jewish community, and maintaining the special unity that exists among Jews in Ottawa, will be some of the major challenges facing the community leadership and organizations in future years.

As the Ottawa 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

Table 1
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations
Ottawa CMA

	#	%
Jewish	13,445	1.3
Non-Jewish	1,037,310	98.7
Total	1,050,755	100.0

Table 2
Jewish Population of Ottawa CMA
Historical Summary*

	Jewish Population	# Change From Previous Census	% Change From Previous Census
2001	13,445	+1,835	+15.8
1991	11,610	+2,255	+24.1
1981	9,355	+2,610	+38.7
1971	6,745	+1,212	+21.9
1961	5,533	+975	+21.4
1951	4,558	+657	+16.8
1941	3,901	+470	+13.7
1931	3,431	+441	+14.7
1921	2,990	+1,152	+62.7
1911	1,838	+1,420	+339.7
1901	418	--	--

*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.

further light on the dynamics of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area.

This report begins with an historical demographic perspective, followed by gender and age breakdowns. It then compares Ottawa'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 then presented in the final part of this analysis.

The current report is an analysis of the Jewish community within the Ottawa Census Metropolitan Area or CMA. This corresponds to the Greater Ottawa Area, and includes within its parameters the Gatineau-Hull region in the province of Quebec, as well as the suburbs and municipalities surrounding the city of Ottawa.

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 Ottawa CMA was 13,445 (Table 1). Jews comprised 1.3% of Ottawa's total population of 1,050,755.

The Jewish population figure for 2001 represented a gain from 1991, when there were 11,610 Jews in this metropolitan area. Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish population increased by 1,835 people, or 15.8% (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 2,255 people or 24.1%. In short, at least for the last decade, the rate of growth of the Ottawa Jewish population has slowed somewhat.

Table 2 further shows that between 1971 and 1981 the gain was even more pronounced than that evident between 1981 and 1991. Between 1971 and 1981, the community experienced an increase of 2,610

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

Census Year	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
2001	1,050,755	1,037,310	13,445	1.3
1991	912,100	900,490	11,610	1.3
1981	711,920	702,565	9,355	1.3
1971	602,560	595,815	6,745	1.1

Table 4
Ottawa & Canadian Jewish Populations
Historical Summary

Census Year	Ottawa Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	% of Cdn Jewish Population	Ranking Among Cdn Jewish Communities
2001	13,445	370,520	3.6	5
1991	11,610	358,055	3.2	5
1981	9,355	313,865	3.0	5
1971	6,745	286,555	2.4	5

people or 38.7%. This latter decade marked the peak period of Jewish population growth for the Ottawa community.

In fact, the Ottawa Jewish population has been increasing steadily since before the turn of the last century. The largest increases took place between 1901 and 1921, and between 1961 and the present.

Table 3 looks at the Jewish population relative to the total population of Ottawa. It can be seen that the percentage of Jews relative to the total population has remained steady in the last twenty years. In the 2001 Census, Jews represented 1.3% of the Ottawa population, an identical figure to the two previous Censuses.

The Jewish population has grown at about the same pace as the overall Ottawa population. For instance, between 1981 and 2001 the growth rate for the total Ottawa population was 47.6%, whereas the Ottawa Jewish community grew by 43.7%.

Table 4 compares the Jewish populations of Ottawa and Canada. Ottawa's Jewish community is the fifth largest in Canada. It has held this rank since the 1951 Census. If current trends continue, it will likely surpass

the Jewish population of Winnipeg by the next Census, and become the fourth largest Jewish community in the country.

The Ottawa Jewish community comprised 3.6% of the Canadian Jewish population in 2001. In 1971, it comprised 2.4% of the Canadian Jewish total. Calculations reveal that between 1981 and 2001 the Canadian Jewish population increased by 18.1%, whereas the Ottawa Jewish population grew by 43.7%. In short, the Ottawa Jewish community is growing at a significantly faster rate than the Jewish population in Canada as a whole.

This is particularly evident when only the last decade is taken into consideration. Between 1991 and 2001, the Canadian Jewish population grew by merely 3.5%, whereas the Ottawa Jewish community increased by 15.8%.

Gender & Age Breakdowns

According to Table 5, there is a slightly higher proportion of males than females in Ottawa's Jewish community. More than fifty percent (50.9%) of the Jewish population is

Table 5
Gender Breakdowns
Ottawa & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Ottawa Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
Males	6,850	50.9	182,910	49.4
Females	6,595	49.1	187,610	50.6
Total	13,445	100.0	370,520	100.0

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

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	205,705	19.6	2,690	20.0	203,015	19.6
15-24	140,735	13.4	2,030	15.1	138,705	13.4
25-44	345,750	32.9	3,025	22.5	342,725	33.0
45-64	252,990	24.1	4,120	30.7	248,870	24.0
65+	105,565	10.0	1,575	11.7	103,990	10.0
Total	1,050,745	100.0	13,440	100.0	1,037,305	100.0

male, and 49.1% 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%). An explanation is that females generally outnumber males in the older cohorts, and the larger proportions of elderly found elsewhere in the country account for this gender discrepancy when compared to the Ottawa community.

Table 6 examines age breakdowns for Ottawa Jews, non-Jews and their totals. The Jewish population has a slightly higher proportion of children 0-14 years of age than Ottawa's total population (20% and 19.6% respectively). The Jewish population also has a higher proportion in the 15-24 year cohort than the total population (15.1% and 13.4% respectively).

In the economically productive age group of 25-44 years, the discrepancy between the two distributions is marked. About 22.5% of Jews fall into this age cohort, whereas 32.9% of the total Ottawa population is

represented here. In short, there seems to be proportionally much fewer Jews between 25-44 years of age.

The picture reverses for the 45-64 year cohort. The Jewish community has a larger proportion for this age group (30.7%) than the total Ottawa population (24.1%).

Finally, a comparison of these distributions shows that the Jewish community has a larger proportion of seniors (11.7%) than the total Ottawa population (10%).

All in all, there is a higher percentage of Ottawa Jews at the higher end of the age distribution (45+ years) than in the total population: 42.4% of Ottawa Jews are 45+ years, compared to 34.1% of the overall Ottawa population.

Table 7 compares age distributions of the Ottawa and Canadian Jewish populations. These distributions are quite similar. There is a higher proportion in the 0-14 year cohort for Ottawa Jews compared to Canadian Jews, and also a higher proportion in the 15-24 age group, but the differences are not marked. The Ottawa Jewish population has a lower proportion of individuals 25-44 years of age than the Canadian Jewish community,

Table 7
Age Breakdowns
Ottawa & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Ottawa Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-14	2,690	20.0	71,590	19.3
15-24	2,030	15.1	48,430	13.1
25-44	3,025	22.5	90,510	24.4
45-64	4,120	30.7	98,115	26.5
65+	1,575	11.7	61,875	16.7
Total	13,440	100.0	370,520	100.0

Table 8
Age by Census Year
Ottawa Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	2,690	20.0	2,570	22.1	2,090	22.4	1,400	20.7
15-24	2,030	15.1	1,265	10.9	1,180	12.6	1,330	19.7
25-44	3,025	22.5	4,075	35.1	3,255	34.9	1,715	25.4
45-64	4,120	30.7	2,035	17.5	1,575	16.9	1,685	24.9
65+	1,575	11.7	1,660	14.3	1,240	13.3	625	9.3
Total	13,440	100.0	11,605	100.0	9,340	100.0	6,755	100.0

but again, the figures are not significantly different.

The greatest discrepancies are in the older cohorts. The Ottawa Jewish community has a higher proportion in the 45-64 age group than Canada's Jewish population (30.7% and 26.5% respectively). The Ottawa Jewish community also has a significantly lower proportion of elderly than the Canadian Jewish population (11.7% and 16.7% respectively).

It is evident that the age distribution of Ottawa's Jewish community is much more similar to that of the Canadian Jewish community than to the distribution of the total Ottawa population.

Table 8 is an historical summary of age breakdowns for Ottawa'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 been increasing steadily since 1971, although at a less dramatic pace in the last decade. In 2001, there were 2,690 children under 15 years, compared to 2,570 in 1991.

The 15-24 year cohort has been increasing steadily since 1981. In 2001, there were

2,030 in this cohort, compared to 1,265 in 1991, and 1,180 in 1981. Since this cohort of older teens and young adults represents the future of the community, this is a positive finding.

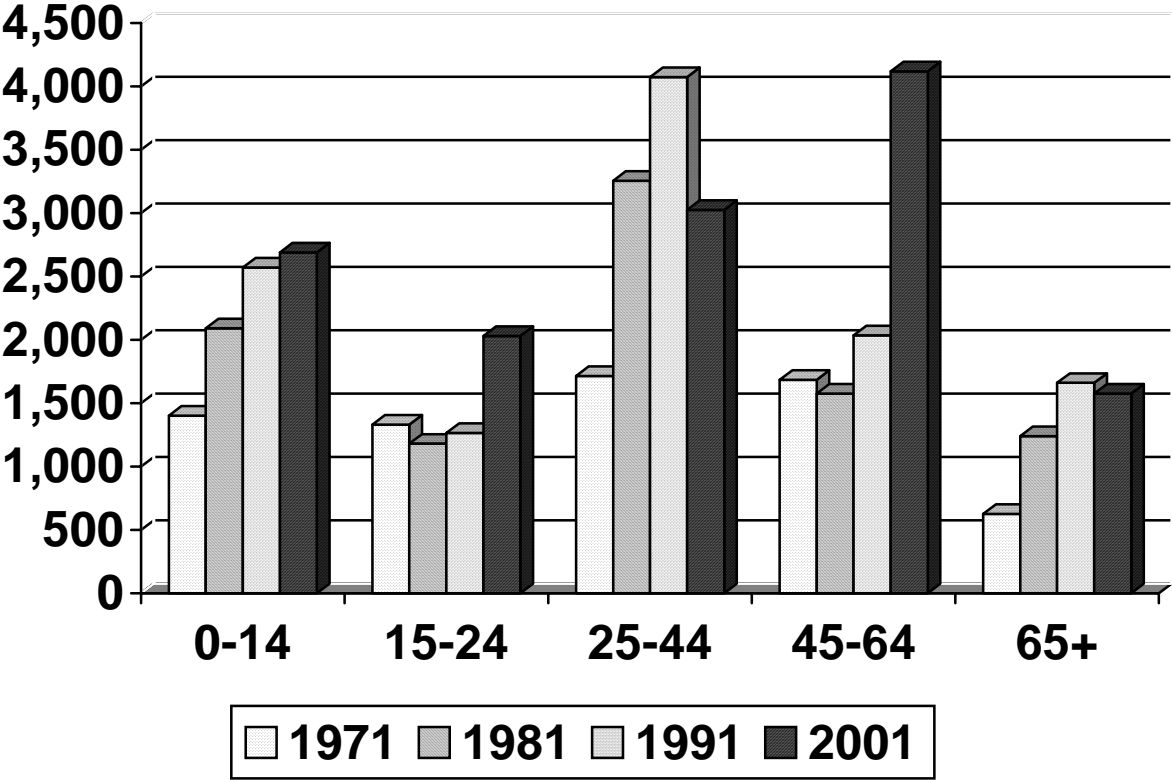
The 25-44 year cohort has decreased significantly since 1991. In 2001, there were 3,025 individuals in this age group, compared to 4,075 in 1991. The number in 2001 is actually below that of the 1981 level for this cohort.

The 45-64 age group has increased very dramatically since 1991. There were 4,120 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 2,035 in 1991. This bulge in the distribution represents the "baby-boomer" generation.

Finally, the number of Jewish seniors in Ottawa has decreased somewhat. There were 1,575 seniors in 2001, compared to 1,660 in 1991. However, the baby-boomers will begin swelling the ranks of the elderly 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

Figure 1
Age by Census Year
Ottawa Jewish Community



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 been increasing since 1971 in a steady fashion, but the pace has slowed by 2001. The 15-24 cohort remained at a similar level between 1971 and 1991, but then increased significantly in 2001. The 25-44 cohort experienced a peak in 1991, but has declined significantly in the last decade.

As Figure 1 also shows, the 45-64 cohort has increased dramatically in the last decade. This latter increase is perhaps the most prominent aspect of the entire graph. Finally, as noted in Table 8, the number of seniors (65+) has declined slightly in the last decade, after increasing steadily since 1971.

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

The current rise in the 15-24 age group will have implications in the next Census. This cohort represents the children of the baby-boomers. It will begin to “feed” into the 25-44 age group by the 2011 Census, erasing some of the declines evident for this latter age group in the 2001 Census.

Finally, the 45-64 year segment will decrease in 2011 given the current dip in the 25-44 year cohort. It is difficult to say whether the 15-24 age group will 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.

**Table 9
Age by Gender
Ottawa Jewish Community**

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	2,690	20.0	1,415	20.7	1,275	19.3
15-24	2,040	15.2	950	13.9	1,090	16.5
25-44	3,015	22.4	1,575	23.0	1,440	21.9
45-64	4,115	30.6	2,050	29.9	2,065	31.3
65+	1,580	11.8	860	12.6	720	10.9
Total	13,440	100.0	6,850	100.0	6,590	100.0

The dependency ratio for the Ottawa Jewish community is 0.46. In 1971, the dependency ratio was 0.43, whereas in 1981 it was 0.55. The ratio peaked in 1991 at 0.57, and has gone back down significantly in 2001. It is now only a little higher than the 1971 level.

In comparison, the dependency ratio for the total Ottawa population is 0.42, a little lower than that of the Ottawa Jewish community (0.46). 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, compared to most other communities, the dependency ratio for the Jewish community here is rather low, suggesting the burden of looking after its economically dependent members is not as pronounced as in most other major Jewish centres across Canada.

A cross-tabulation of age by gender for the Ottawa Jewish population is presented in Table 9. It can be seen that males outnumber females at the youngest end of the distribution. For instance, there are 1,415

males between 0-14 years compared with 1,275 females. This is not a surprising finding since in most population distributions worldwide there is a small excess of males among births.

However, there are more females than males in the 15-24 age group for the Jewish community, whereas for the 25-44 cohort there are more males than females. In the 45-64 age group both genders are about equally distributed.

Finally, there are 860 males compared to 720 females among the elderly. The fact that there are more males than females among seniors is a somewhat surprising finding since in most populations worldwide women generally have a longer life expectancy than men, and therefore outnumber them in the oldest cohorts.

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 Ottawa populations by Census year. It is clear from

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

Census Year	Total Population	Jewish Population	Non-Jewish Population
2001	36.3	39.4	36.3
1991	32.7	36.8	32.7
1981	29.4	32.7	29.3
1971	25.4	30.1	25.3

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

Census Year	Ottawa Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population
2001	39.4	40.2
1991	36.8	37.3
1981	32.7	34.6
1971	30.1	33.6

this table that the median age of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area has been steadily increasing. It was 30.1 years in 1971, 32.7 years in 1981, 36.8 years in 1991 and 39.4 years in 2001.

The 2001 median age for the Jewish community is 3.1 years older than for the total Ottawa population. It is interesting to note that between 1981 and 2001 the Jewish community's median age has increased at a slightly slower pace than the total Ottawa population. It has increased by 6.7 years for Jews in these two decades, compared to 6.9 years for the total population.

It is also noteworthy that the gap between the Jewish community's median age and that of the total Ottawa population has actually decreased in the last decade. In 1991, it was 4.1 years, and 3.1 years in 2001. In other words, the total Ottawa population is growing older at a faster pace than the Jewish community here.

The median ages of the Canadian and Ottawa Jewish populations are examined in Table 11. It can be seen that the median age of the Ottawa Jewish community is younger than that of Canada's Jewish population

(39.4 and 40.2 years respectively), but the difference is not that significant (0.8 years).

The differences between the median ages of the Ottawa and Canadian Jewish populations had been diminishing until 1991. In 1971, the difference was 3.5 years; it was 1.9 years in 1981 and 0.5 years in 1991. The 0.5-year difference in 1991 was the closest margin in the last 30 years. In 2001, it widened slightly to 0.8 years.

The median age of the Toronto Jewish community is 39.4 years, an identical figure to that of the Ottawa Jewish community. The median age is 41.8 years for the Montreal Jewish community, 39.8 years for the Vancouver community, and 44.5 years for the Winnipeg community. In short, in comparison to most other major Jewish populations in this country, Ottawa has a younger community, on average.

Comparisons With Other Ethnic Groups

Table 12 looks at the ethnic affiliations of the total population in the Ottawa CMA. Ethnicity was a "multiple response" variable in the 2001 Census. This means that respondents could indicate more than one

Table 12
Ethnic Affiliation: Ottawa CMA

	#	%
Canadian	236,435	22.5
French	223,215	21.2
British	214,165	20.4
German	51,600	4.9
Arab	35,915	3.4
Italian	35,155	3.3
Aboriginal	33,705	3.2
Chinese	31,495	3.0
African	22,475	2.1
Polish	18,240	1.7
East Indian	17,220	1.6
Caribbean	15,990	1.5
Ukrainian	14,595	1.4
(Jewish: full definition)	(13,445)	--
Portuguese	8,705	0.8
Latin American	8,375	0.8
Russian	7,745	0.7
Vietnamese	5,830	0.6
Filipino	5,215	0.5
Greek	4,755	0.5
Spanish	4,730	0.5
Japanese	1,730	0.2
Pakistani	1,650	0.2
American	1,610	0.2
Korean	1,600	0.2
All other ethnic categories	48,615	4.6
Total Ottawa CMA	1,050,765	100.0

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 “Canadian” is the ethnic category with the most popular affiliation. 22.5% of Ottawa’s population indicate their ethnic affiliation as Canadian, or 236,435 persons.

About one in five individuals (21.2%) consider themselves of French origin. This group comprises 223,215 persons and ranks second among ethnic groups. A significant number say they are British by ethnic origin.

They comprise 214,165 individuals or 20.4% of Ottawa’s total population. This group includes individuals of English, Irish and Scottish descent.

Another 51,600 persons claim German ancestry, or 4.9% of the Ottawa population. The Arab population ranks fifth among ethnic communities and comprises 3.4% of the total Ottawa population with 35,915 individuals.

The Italian population ranks sixth, and comprises 35,155 persons. The Aboriginal community numbers 33,705 people; the Chinese community numbers 31,495 people; and the African population numbers 22,475 people. Finally, the Polish community rounds out the ten largest ethnic groups with 18,240 individuals.

The Jewish community ranks fourteenth among ethnic groups, with a population of 13,445. 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 Ottawa. It can

**Table 13: Ethnic Affiliation by Age
Ottawa CMA**

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canadian	52,560	22.2	33,120	14.0	75,925	32.1	53,765	22.7	21,060	8.9
French	40,170	18.0	30,005	13.4	71,335	32.0	58,835	26.4	22,865	10.2
British	25,855	12.1	21,940	10.2	67,940	31.7	64,740	30.2	33,690	15.7
German	10,355	20.1	6,935	13.4	17,260	33.4	12,085	23.4	4,970	9.6
Arab	10,980	30.6	5,960	16.6	11,765	32.8	5,485	15.3	1,725	4.8
Italian	8,640	24.6	4,940	14.1	11,415	32.5	6,610	18.8	3,545	10.1
Aboriginal	8,305	24.6	5,905	17.5	12,370	36.7	6,170	18.3	960	2.8
Chinese	6,895	21.9	3,880	12.3	12,665	40.2	5,650	17.9	2,415	7.7
African	8,315	37.0	3,980	17.7	7,345	32.7	2,430	10.8	410	1.8
Polish	3,625	19.9	2,890	15.8	5,970	32.7	4,215	23.1	1,535	8.4
East Indian	3,425	19.9	2,730	15.9	6,025	35.0	3,770	21.9	1,265	7.3
Caribbean	4,465	27.9	2,605	16.3	4,910	30.7	3,085	19.3	925	5.8
Ukrainian	2,870	19.7	2,230	15.3	4,800	32.9	3,385	23.2	1,310	9.0
(Jewish: full def)	(2,690)	(20.0)	(2,030)	(15.1)	(3,025)	(22.5)	(4,120)	(30.7)	(1,575)	(11.7)
Portuguese	1,845	21.2	1,250	14.4	2,965	34.1	1,845	21.2	800	9.2
Latin American	2,155	25.7	1,615	19.3	2,780	33.2	1,530	18.3	295	3.5
Russian	1,555	20.1	1,125	14.5	2,735	35.3	1,795	23.2	530	6.8
Vietnamese	1,385	23.8	780	13.4	2,355	40.4	970	16.7	335	5.8
Filipino	1,345	25.8	600	11.5	2,025	38.9	925	17.8	315	6.0
Greek	975	20.5	555	11.7	1,750	36.8	1,000	21.1	470	9.9
Spanish	1,075	22.8	750	15.9	1,600	33.9	990	21.0	310	6.6
Japanese	395	22.9	205	11.9	645	37.4	375	21.7	105	6.1
Pakistani	470	28.5	320	19.4	555	33.6	260	15.8	45	2.7
American	275	17.1	225	14.0	495	30.8	480	29.9	130	8.1
Korean	430	26.9	240	15.0	680	42.5	185	11.6	65	4.1
Other Ethnic	7,340	15.1	5,930	12.2	17,465	35.9	12,395	25.5	5,490	11.3
Total CMA	205,705	19.6	140,715	13.4	345,775	32.9	252,975	24.1	105,565	10.0

be seen that regarding children 0-14 years of age, the African (37%) and Arab (30.6%) populations have the highest proportions. The Jewish community falls in middle of the distribution (20%). The British (12.1%) and American (17.1%) communities have the lowest proportions of children.

In terms of teenagers and young adults between 15-24 years, the Pakistani (19.4%) and Latin American (19.3%) communities have the highest proportions. The British (10.2%) and Filipinos (11.5%) have the lowest proportions. The Jewish community is in the middle of the distribution (15.1%).

Regarding the economically productive 25-44 year cohort, it is noteworthy that the Jewish community has by far the lowest proportion of any ethnic community in Ottawa (22.5%). The Caribbean (30.7%) and American (30.8%) communities also have low representations in this age group. The Korean (42.5%), Vietnamese (40.4%) and Chinese (40.2%) communities have the highest proportions in this age group.

The Jewish community (30.7%) has the highest percentage in the 45-64 year cohort, followed by the British (30.2%). The lowest

percentages are found among Africans (10.8%) and Koreans (11.6%).

The British have by far the highest proportion of any ethnic group in terms of seniors (15.7%), followed by the Jewish community (11.7%). The lowest proportions of elderly are found among ethnic groups with large numbers of recent immigrants. These include Africans (1.8%), Pakistanis (2.7%) and Latin Americans (3.5%). On the other hand, Aborigines also have a very low proportion of seniors (2.8%).

In terms of median ages, the populations with the lowest figures include the African (21.3 years), Pakistani (26.1 years), Arab (27.1 years), Korean (27.4 years), and Latin American (28.0 years) communities.

The ethnic groups with the highest median ages are the British (42.9 years), Jews (39.4 years), Americans (38.7 years), French (37.8 years), Germans (35.8 years) and Russians (35.8 years).

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

Table 14
Religious Affiliation
Ottawa CMA

	#	%
Catholic	569,105	54.2
Protestant	229,655	21.9
Muslim	41,725	4.0
Christian Orthodox	17,705	1.7
Christian, n.i.e.	17,315	1.6
(Jewish: full definition)	(13,445)	--
Jewish: religion alone	11,320	1.1
Buddhist	9,985	1.0
Hindu	8,150	0.8
Sikh	2,645	0.3
Other Eastern religions	1,740	0.2
Para-religious groups	1,705	0.2
No religious affiliation	139,710	13.3
Total	1,050,760	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 14 looks at religious affiliations for the Ottawa 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 Catholics are the largest group in this metropolitan area, representing 54.2% of the population, or more than half a million individuals. Protestants comprise the second largest group with 21.9% of the total population, or 229,655 individuals.

Muslims are the third largest group with 4% of the population, or 41,725 individuals. The Christian Orthodox comprise the fourth largest group with 17,705 individuals, followed by “Christians not included elsewhere” with 17,315 persons.

Jews rank sixth among religious groups with 13,445 individuals. Note that Jews were defined using both the Standard Definition (which uses religion and ethnicity) and by religion alone. Their ranking is not affected by the choice of definition, although there

are obviously fewer Jews when only religion is considered.

It is noteworthy that 13.3% of the total population, or 139,710 persons, say they 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.

An examination of religious affiliation by age is presented in Table 15. It can be seen that among the mainstream religions, the group with the highest percentage of children (0-14 years) is the Muslim community (34.3%), followed by the Jewish population (20%). Those with the lowest percentages of children include Protestants (15.2%) and Hindus (16.3%).

Among those 15-24 years of age, the mainstream groups with the highest proportions include Hindus (17.5%) and Muslims (16.7%). Protestants (11%) and

Table 15
Religious Affiliation by Age
Ottawa CMA

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Catholic	112,040	19.7	74,850	13.2	186,925	32.8	138,285	24.3	57,005	10.0
Protestant	34,975	15.2	25,255	11.0	68,040	29.6	66,195	28.8	35,180	15.3
Muslim	14,305	34.3	6,950	16.7	14,050	33.7	5,215	12.5	1,205	2.9
Christian Orthdx	3,455	19.5	2,375	13.4	6,685	37.8	3,685	20.8	1,500	8.5
Christian, n.i.e.	4,070	23.5	2,785	16.1	6,640	38.3	3,235	18.7	590	3.4
(Jewish: full def)	(2,690)	(20.0)	(2,030)	(15.1)	(3,025)	(22.5)	(4,120)	(30.7)	(1,575)	(11.7)
Jewish: religion alone	2,005	17.7	1,725	15.2	2,400	21.2	3,725	32.9	1,460	12.9
Buddhist	1,650	16.5	1,515	15.2	3,815	38.2	2,270	22.8	725	7.3
Hindu	1,325	16.3	1,425	17.5	3,010	37.0	1,885	23.1	500	6.1
Sikh	520	19.6	415	15.7	835	31.5	655	24.7	225	8.5
Other Eastern	340	19.6	235	13.5	650	37.5	425	24.5	85	4.9
Para-religions	140	8.2	375	22.1	760	44.7	370	21.8	55	3.2
No religious affil	30,870	22.1	22,825	16.3	51,940	37.2	27,055	19.4	7,025	5.0
Total	205,695	19.6	140,730	13.4	345,750	32.9	253,000	24.1	105,555	10.0

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.

Catholics (13.2%) have the lowest proportions in this age group. The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (15.1%).

In the 25-44 year cohort, the mainstream group with the highest proportion is the Buddhists (38.2%), followed by the Christian Orthodox (37.8%). The Jewish community has the lowest proportion in this age group (22.5%), followed by the Protestant community (29.6%).

Regarding the 45-64 age group, Jews (30.7%) and Protestants (28.8%) have the highest proportions, whereas Muslims (12.5%) have the lowest percentage.

Finally, in terms of the elderly population (65+), the Protestant community has by far the highest proportion (15.3%), followed by the Jewish population (11.7%). The Muslim community (2.9%) is the mainstream religious group that has the lowest proportion.

The Protestant community has the highest median age (41.7 years) of any mainstream religious group in Ottawa, followed by the Jewish community (39.4 years). The lowest median age is found among Muslims (24.2

years). Those with no religious affiliation average 30.5 years, whereas those involved with Para-religious groups have a median age of 33.9 years.

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

The Ottawa 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.

6.2% of the Jewish population in this province is located in the Ottawa CMA (only the Ontario part of the Ottawa CMA is included in this calculation). The Ontario part of the Ottawa CMA numbers 13,130 Jews, whereas the Quebec part (Gatineau-Hull) numbers 320 Jews.

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 4,675 Jews in Hamilton; 2,290 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 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
Ottawa CMA**

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	61,305	5.8	705	5.2	60,600	5.8
5-14	144,395	13.7	1,980	14.7	142,415	13.7
15-24	140,735	13.4	2,030	15.1	138,705	13.4
25-34	154,740	14.7	1,245	9.3	153,495	14.8
35-44	191,015	18.2	1,785	13.3	189,230	18.2
45-54	158,810	15.1	2,495	18.6	156,315	15.1
55-64	94,185	9.0	1,625	12.1	92,560	8.9
65-74	62,495	5.9	790	5.9	61,705	5.9
75-84	35,925	3.4	605	4.5	35,320	3.4
85+	7,145	0.7	180	1.3	6,965	0.7
Total	1,050,750	100.0	13,440	100.0	1,037,310	100.0

Table 17
Age Breakdowns
Ottawa & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Ottawa Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-4	705	5.2	21,245	5.7
5-14	1,980	14.7	50,345	13.6
15-24	2,030	15.1	48,430	13.1
25-34	1,245	9.3	41,005	11.1
35-44	1,785	13.3	49,510	13.4
45-54	2,495	18.6	61,170	16.5
55-64	1,625	12.1	36,940	10.0
65-74	790	5.9	28,560	7.7
75-84	605	4.5	25,360	6.8
85+	180	1.3	7,955	2.1
Total	13,440	100.0	370,520	100.0

Table 18
Age by Census Year
Ottawa Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	705	5.2	855	7.4	745	8.0	435	6.4
5-14	1,980	14.7	1,715	14.8	1,350	14.4	970	14.4
15-24	2,030	15.1	1,265	10.9	1,190	12.7	1,325	19.6
25-34	1,245	9.3	1,560	13.4	1,930	20.6	1,015	15.0
35-44	1,785	13.3	2,515	21.7	1,325	14.2	700	10.4
45-54	2,495	18.6	1,300	11.2	725	7.7	890	13.2
55-64	1,625	12.1	740	6.4	855	9.1	785	11.6
65-74	790	5.9	925	8.0	795	8.5	425	6.3
75-84	605	4.5	610	5.3	395	4.2	170	2.5
85+	180	1.3	120	1.0	50	0.5	30	0.4
Total	13,440	100.0	11,605	100.0	9,360	100.0	6,745	100.0

Table 19
Discrete Age Breakdowns by Gender
Ottawa Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 1 year	130	1.0	65	0.9	65	1.0
1	155	1.2	70	1.0	85	1.3
2	105	0.8	70	1.0	35	0.5
3	140	1.0	60	0.9	80	1.2
4	175	1.3	80	1.2	95	1.4
5	145	1.1	75	1.1	70	1.1
6	165	1.2	90	1.3	75	1.1
7	190	1.4	110	1.6	80	1.2
8	115	0.9	50	0.7	65	1.0
9	230	1.7	150	2.2	80	1.2
10	190	1.4	95	1.4	95	1.4
11	260	1.9	110	1.6	150	2.3
12	165	1.2	85	1.2	80	1.2
13	255	1.9	145	2.1	110	1.7
14	275	2.0	155	2.3	120	1.8
15	335	2.5	155	2.3	180	2.7
16	280	2.1	135	2.0	145	2.2
17	190	1.4	105	1.5	85	1.3
18	195	1.4	80	1.2	115	1.7
19	210	1.6	105	1.5	105	1.6

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

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
20-24	840	6.2	380	5.5	460	7.0
25-29	650	4.8	380	5.5	270	4.1
30-34	595	4.4	295	4.3	300	4.5
35-39	835	6.2	425	6.2	410	6.2
40-44	955	7.1	485	7.1	470	7.1
45-49	1,210	9.0	625	9.1	585	8.9
50-54	1,285	9.5	675	9.8	610	9.2
55-59	1,035	7.7	500	7.3	535	8.1
60-64	595	4.4	255	3.7	340	5.1
65-69	430	3.2	260	3.8	170	2.6
70-74	355	2.6	200	2.9	155	2.3
75-79	410	3.0	215	3.1	195	3.0
80-84	195	1.4	95	1.4	100	1.5
85-89	155	1.2	75	1.1	80	1.2
90+	25	0.2	10	0.1	15	0.2
Total	13,475	100.0	6,865	100.0	6,610	100.0

Table 20
Ethnic Affiliation by Median Age: Ottawa CMA

	Median Age
Canadian	34.9
French	37.8
British	42.9
German	35.8
Arab	27.1
Italian	32.5
Aboriginal	29.2
Chinese	33.3
African	21.3
Polish	35.1
East Indian	31.4
Caribbean	28.2
Ukrainian	35.0
(Jewish full definition)	(39.4)
Portuguese	32.7
Latin American	28.0
Russian	35.8
Vietnamese	31.4
Filipino	32.6
Greek	33.9
Spanish	32.4
Japanese	30.4
Pakistani	26.1
American	38.7
Korean	27.4
Other Ethnic	37.3
Total	36.3

Table 21
Religious Affiliation by Median Age
Ottawa CMA

	Median Age
Catholic	36.7
Protestant	41.7
Muslim	24.2
Christian Orthodox	34.4
Christian, n.i.e.	30.1
(Jewish: full definition)	(39.4)
Jewish: religion alone	42.4
Buddhist	34.9
Hindu	31.3
Sikh	32.6
Other Eastern religions	35.5
Para-religious groups	33.9
No religious affiliation	30.5
Total	36.3

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.