

2011

NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF EDMONTON

PART 1
BASIC DEMOGRAPHICS
PART 2
**JEWISH POPULATIONS
IN GEOGRAPHIC AREAS**



**2011 National Household Survey Analysis
The Jewish Community of Edmonton**

**Part 1
Basic Demographics**

**Part 2
Jewish Populations in Geographic Areas**

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Highlights of Part 1

- The Jewish population of Edmonton was 5,545 in 2011. Jews comprised 0.5% of the total Edmonton population.
- Between 2001 and 2011 the Jewish community grew by 515 people, or 10.2%. The Jewish population has rebounded after showing a decrease of 8.3% between 1991 and 2001. In fact, from an historical perspective, the current population of 5,545 individuals is a peak number for the Jewish community here.
- Edmonton has the seventh largest Jewish community in Canada.
- Regarding the age distribution of the Edmonton Jewish community, the 0-14 year cohort has increased slightly in the last decade. There were 915 in this age group in 2011, compared to 855 in 2001.
- The size of the 25-44 age group has increased since 2001. There were 1,270 individuals in this cohort in 2011, compared to 1,120 in 2001.
- The 45-64 age group has likewise increased in the last decade. There were 1,650 individuals in this cohort in 2011, compared to 1,495 in 2001. This age group represents the Baby Boomer generation.
- The median age of the Edmonton Jewish community (41.8 years) is somewhat older than that of the Edmonton total population (36 years).
- The size of the Jewish community's population ranks nineteenth among ethnic groups in Edmonton. The top five ethnic affiliations include British, German, Ukrainian, Canadian, and Aboriginal.

Highlights of Part 2

- The West-End has 1,645 Jewish residents. Almost a third (29.7%) of Edmonton's Jewish community lives in the West-End.
- The Downtown Groat Estates area has a Jewish population of 455 individuals, whereas the area immediately West of Downtown has 425 Jewish residents.
- Westridge / Wolf Willow, a part of the West-End, has 750 Jewish residents, or 13.5% of the Edmonton Jewish population. More than one in ten people (11.6%) living in Westridge / Wolf Willow are Jews.
- Both the Downtown Groat Estates area and the West-End have seen increases in the sizes of their Jewish populations, by 15.2% and 13.1% respectively. The area immediately West of Downtown has seen a 39.7% drop in the number of Jews.
- The Jewish population in the West-End has the youngest median age of any of the primary areas considered in this analysis (39.9 years). The oldest median age is evident for the Jewish residents of the Downtown Groat Estates area (60.2 years).
- The Jewish community in Westridge / Wolf Willow represents the second largest ethnic group in this area, numbering only below those with a British affiliation.

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2011 National Household Survey Analysis

Introduction

The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) provides a wealth of demographic information regarding the Edmonton Jewish population. This analysis is the first in a series of NHS reports that examine the characteristics of the Jewish community here.

This report is considered particularly timely given the emerging realities facing Edmonton's Jewish population. The community has seen an increase in the size of its population in the last decade. It has been going through many changes in its composition, including an increase in the numbers of South Africans, Israelis, and new younger families.

These changes have led to a renewed emphasis on unity and cooperation among the varied segments of the Jewish community. The community has continued to reach out to unaffiliated and uninvolved Jews, and has continued to offer an opportunity for people of all ages to experience and enhance the quality of their Jewish life here.

A current challenge facing the community relates to Jewish education, and more specifically, the fact that Jewish day school enrollment has dropped. The need to determine what efforts must be taken to replace or improve existing facilities for the elderly is another important challenge that must be addressed.

The Jewish population here was once a small and close-knit community centered in the downtown core. Now, a large segment of the population lives in the West End, with a continued presence of seniors in the downtown area.

As the Edmonton Jewish population continues to change, it is vital that community leaders and planners develop an accurate demographic picture of its diverse and complex nature. The 2011 National Household Survey data will help leadership make critical decisions and respond to the needs of community members in an informed and strategic way.

This report begins with a discussion of methodological considerations related to the

National Household Survey, and their implications for interpreting the data presented in this study. A description of changes to the Jewish definition will also be discussed.

Part 1 of this report then examines the local Jewish population from an historical demographic perspective, followed by a description of gender and age breakdowns. This section also compares Edmonton's Jewish population with other ethnic and religious groups.

Part 2 describes the demographic characteristics of Jewish populations in various geographic areas; again, looking at historical data, gender and age breakdowns, as well as comparisons across different ethnic and religious affiliations.

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

Also noteworthy is that anyone who expressed a Jewish affiliation according to

the definition used in this report (see Appendix 2), 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 administered the National Household Survey, and hence, no data are available regarding their Jewish identification.

Methodological Considerations

The two major questions used to define who is Jewish in this report, namely religion and ethnicity, were located in what was previously known as the Long Form of the National Census. In 2011, this Long Form became voluntary rather than mandatory to fill out. Because the sample was self-selected, this instrument became a survey rather than a Census.

The National Household Survey (NHS) was distributed to a third of the households in Canada, compared to 20% of households for the Census Long Form. However, whereas the Census had an almost universal rate of response, the NHS had a 73.9% response rate across Canada, and 74.6% in the Edmonton CMA.

It is not clear to what extent non-response biases played a role in the results. For instance, it is possible that certain socioeconomic groups, such as the poor, less educated individuals, and recent immigrants were generally less inclined to answer the National Household Survey. Statistics Canada applied sophisticated treatments to deal with possible gaps in the data but the change in methodology has meant that it is difficult to determine error ranges based on projections gleaned from the sample.

This change in methodology has also made it difficult to compare the results of the National Household Survey with those of previous Censuses. Although some tables in this report present side-by-side comparisons of 2011 NHS data with previous Censuses, these comparisons should be interpreted with caution.

A further issue is the fact that since the 2001 Census, the number of Jews identifying themselves by ethnicity has declined dramatically. This was evident in 2006 and again in 2011. All those who considered themselves as Jewish by religion were included as Jews according to the definition employed in this report; but some who said they had no religious affiliation might have

“fallen through the cracks” because they did not identify themselves as Jewish by ethnicity.

There may be several reasons why there has been a decline in Jewish ethnic identification, but only two will be considered here. First, since the 2001 Census, the label “Canadian” was the first on the list of ethnic sample choices. This has changed the dynamics of the question significantly. It is possible that some people wanted to tout their attachment to Canada by indicating they were only of Canadian ethnicity. This is not an issue if they also indicated they were Jewish by religion. But if they said they had no religious identification, they could not be identified as Jewish using the traditional definition.

Second, the order of sample choices is determined by how many people indicated a particular ethnicity in the previous Census (2006). As the number of individuals choosing Jewish as their ethnicity diminishes, the Jewish choice has fallen further down the list, and was therefore among the last sample choices in the 2011 NHS. This may have had an impact on the self-reported affiliation of people.

A final consideration has to do with the definition used to identify Jews for the purposes of this report. The “Jewish Standard Definition”, formulated by Jim Torczyner of McGill University, has been used since 1971. This definition employs a combination of religious and ethnic identification.

However, given changes in how Jews have responded to the ethnicity question, it was felt that a broader definition should be used. Hence, elements of other questions were incorporated, including place of birth, five-year mobility and knowledge of non-official languages. This new definition was called the “Revised Jewish Definition”. A full description of this definition can be found in Appendix 2.

This new Jewish definition makes comparisons between the National Household Survey and previous Censuses even more difficult. Hence, these latter Censuses were re-analyzed along the lines of the revised definition, and whenever

possible, these new figures are presented in this report. Again, all comparisons of the NHS with previous Censuses, and particularly the identification of demographic trends, should be interpreted with caution.

All in all, despite the changes in methodology outlined above, the 2011 National Household Survey provides an important opportunity to better understand the demographic situation of the Edmonton Jewish population, and to make use of this data for community planning and decision-making.

We are fortunate to have a national survey which includes questions related to religion and ethnicity (the American Census does not). Also, the National Household Survey is one with a much larger scope than any Canadian Jewish community can implement on its own. Please see Appendix 1 for a more detailed description of the utility of the National Household Survey.

Part 1

Basic Demographics

In 2011, the Jewish population of the Edmonton CMA was 5,545 (Table 1). Jews comprised 0.5% of Edmonton's total population of 1,139,580.

Table 2 shows historical trends for the Edmonton Jewish population. Note that figures for the Revised Jewish Definition are included in the first three rows for 1991, 2001 and 2011. For a full explanation of the criteria used for deriving the Revised Jewish Definition, please see Appendix 2.

The Jewish Standard Definition figures are included for 1971 and 1981. Previous to 1971, no combined definition was available, so Jews were identified either on the basis of religion or ethnicity alone, depending on which was most inclusive (numbered the most Jews) at the time.

The Jewish population figure for 2011 represented a gain from 2001, when there were 5,030 Jews in this metropolitan area. Between 2001 and 2011 the Jewish population increased by 515 people, or 10.2%. In fact, from an historical perspective, the figure of 5,545 is a peak

number for the Jewish population in Edmonton.

The population increase between 2001 and 2011 represented a reversal of the trend evident between 1991 and 2001. In the latter decade, the Jewish community diminished by 455 people or 8.3%. The decrease in Jewish population between 1991 and 2001 marked the first time that the Edmonton community had shrank in size since the turn of the last century.

Table 2 further shows that between 1981 and 1991 the community experienced an increase of 780 people or 16.6%. The peak period of population influx for the Edmonton Jewish community occurred between 1971 and 1981, when the community gained 2,030 people, or 75.9%.

In fact, as mentioned above, the Edmonton Jewish population has been increasing in size since Jews began to settle here in larger numbers about a century ago. Particularly large increases were evident between 1911 and 1921, between 1951 and 1961, as well as between 1971 and 1991.

Table 1
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations
Edmonton CMA

	#	%
Jewish	5,545	0.5
Non-Jewish	1,134,035	99.5
Total	1,139,580	100.0

Table 2
Jewish Population of Edmonton CMA
Historical Summary

	Jewish Population	# Change From Previous Census	% Change From Previous Census
2011	5,545	+515	+10.2
2001	5,030	-455	-8.3
1991	5,485	+780	+16.6
1981	4,705	+2,030	+75.9
1971	2,675	+180	+7.2
1961	2,495	+742	+42.3
1951	1,753	+331	+23.3
1941	1,422	+372	+35.4
1931	1,050	+245	+30.4
1921	805	+623	+342.3
1911	182	+165	+970.6
1901	17	--	--

Note: Figures for the first three rows (1991 to 2011) are based on the Revised Jewish Definition described in Appendix 2. The rest of the figures are based on the Jewish Standard Definition (1971 & 1981), or were derived from either the religion or ethnicity variables individually (1901 to 1961).

Table 3 looks at the Jewish population relative to the total population in Edmonton. It can be seen that the percentage of the Jewish population relative to the total has remained within a certain range (0.5% to 0.7%) for the last two decades. Jews represented 0.5% of the population in 2001, a figure slightly below that of the previous Census, and identical to the more recent number obtained by the NHS in 2011.

The table also shows that the overall Edmonton population grew by 22.9% between 2001 and 2011, whereas the Edmonton Jewish community increased by 10.2%. In other words, the Jewish community is growing at a slower pace than the rest of the Edmonton population.

Table 4 compares Edmonton's Jewish population to the Canadian Jewish population. In 2011, Edmonton's Jewish community was the seventh largest in Canada, and comprised 1.4% of the country's Jewish population.

Calculations reveal that between 2001 and 2011 the Canadian Jewish population increased by 4.7%, whereas the Edmonton Jewish population grew by 10.2%. In short, at least in the last decade, the rate of growth

of the local Jewish population has been more robust than that of the national Jewish population.

Gender & Age Breakdowns

According to Table 5, there is a larger proportion of males than females in the Edmonton Jewish community. More than half (51%) of the Jewish population is male and 49% 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 (49.6%) than females (50.4%).

Table 6 examines age breakdowns for Edmonton 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 17.9% respectively).

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

Census / NHS Year	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
2011	1,139,580	1,134,035	5,545	0.5
2001	927,020	921,990	5,030	0.5
1991	832,160	826,675	5,485	0.7

Table 4
Edmonton & Canadian Jewish Populations
Historical Summary

Census / NHS Year	Edmonton Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	% of Cdn Jewish Population	Ranking Among Cdn Jewish Communities
2011	5,545	391,665	1.4	7
2001	5,030	374,060	1.3	7
1991	5,485	359,110	1.5	7

Table 5
Gender Breakdowns
Edmonton & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Edmonton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
Males	2,830	51.0	194,270	49.6
Females	2,715	49.0	197,395	50.4
Total	5,545	100.0	391,665	100.0

The Jewish and total Edmonton populations have very similar proportions of those 15-24 years (14.7% and 14.3% respectively). In the economically productive age group of 25-44, the discrepancy between the two populations is marked. About one in four Jews (22.9%) fall into this age cohort, whereas 30.4% of the total Edmonton population is represented here.

The picture reverses for the 45-64 year cohort. The Jewish community has a somewhat larger proportion in this age group (29.8%) than the total Edmonton population (27%).

Finally, a comparison of the two age distributions shows that the Jewish community has a significantly larger proportion of seniors (16.1%) than Edmonton's overall population (10.4%).

All in all, there is a higher percentage of Edmonton Jews at the higher end of the age distribution (45+ years) than in the total population: 45.9% of Edmonton Jews are 45+ years, compared to 37.4% of the overall Edmonton population. In fact, almost half of Edmonton's Jewish community falls within this age range.

Table 7 compares age distributions of the Edmonton and Canadian Jewish populations. There is a smaller proportion of children 0-14 years among the Edmonton community than for Canadian Jews (16.5% and 18.2% respectively).

However, for the 15-24 year cohort, the picture reverses. The Edmonton Jewish community has a somewhat higher proportion in this age group (14.7% and 13.4% respectively).

In terms of the 25-44 year cohort, the Edmonton Jewish community has a lower percentage than the national Jewish population (22.9% and 23.5% respectively), although the difference is not remarkable.

For the 45-64 age group, the picture again reverses. The Edmonton community has a higher proportion in this age group than the Canadian Jewish population (29.8% and 28% respectively).

Finally, there is a lower percentage of elderly (65+) among the Edmonton Jewish community than the national Jewish population (16.1% and 16.9% respectively).

Table 6
Age Breakdowns for Jewish, Non-Jewish & Total Populations
Edmonton CMA

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	204,300	17.9	915	16.5	203,380	17.9
15-24	163,485	14.3	815	14.7	162,670	14.3
25-44	346,220	30.4	1,270	22.9	344,945	30.4
45-64	307,200	27.0	1,650	29.8	305,545	26.9
65+	118,380	10.4	895	16.1	117,485	10.4
Total	1,139,585	100.0	5,545	100.0	1,134,025	100.0

Table 7
Age Breakdowns
Edmonton & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Edmonton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-14	915	16.5	71,280	18.2
15-24	815	14.7	52,390	13.4
25-44	1,270	22.9	92,200	23.5
45-64	1,650	29.8	109,515	28.0
65+	895	16.1	66,280	16.9
Total	5,545	100.0	391,665	100.0

All in all, the Edmonton Jewish community's age distribution is much more similar to that of the Canadian Jewish population than to the distribution of the total Edmonton population. Although there are differences in the age distributions of both the local and national Jewish populations, none of these discrepancies appear very significant.

Table 8 is an historical summary of age breakdowns for Edmonton'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 increased somewhat in the last decade. In 2011 there were 915 children under 15 years, compared to 855 in 2001. However, the current figure is still well below the peak of 1,230 children in 1991.

The 15-24 year cohort has increased slightly in the last decade. There were 815 in this cohort in 2011, compared to 790 in 2001. The current figure represents a peak for this age group.

The 25-44 year cohort has increased somewhat in the last ten years. In 2011, there were 1,270 individuals in this age group, compared to 1,120 in 2001. Note the

significant decrease in this cohort between 1991 and 2001, from 1,990 to 1,120 individuals.

The 45-64 age group has likewise increased in the last decade. There were 1,650 individuals in this cohort in 2011, compared to 1,495 in 2001. Note the very large increase in this cohort between 1991 and 2001, from 975 to 1,495 people. This bulge in the age distribution represents the Baby Boomer generation.

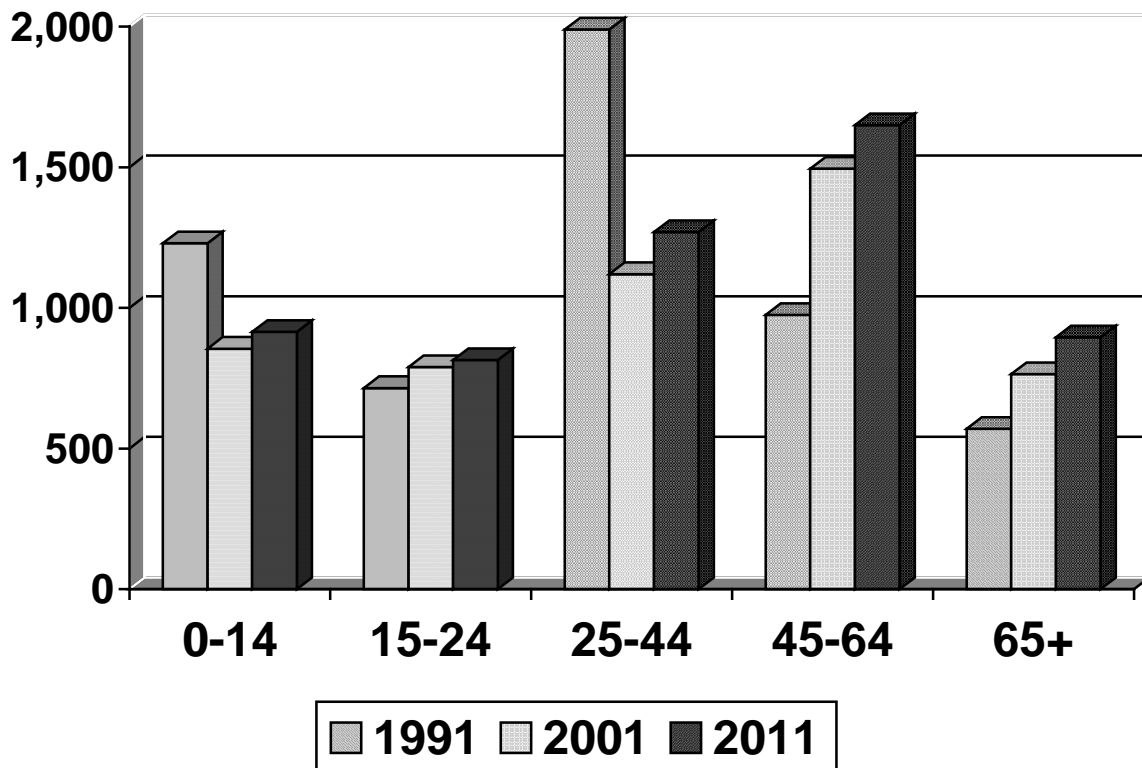
Finally, the number of Jewish seniors has likewise increased in the last decade. There were 895 seniors in 2011, compared to 765 in 2001. The Baby Boomers will begin swelling the ranks of Edmonton's Jewish elderly by the time the next National Household Survey is conducted in 2021.

Figure 1 represents an historical analysis of age trends as measured in the last two Censuses and the NHS. 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, with each step representing a different Census / NHS year.

Table 8
Age by Census / NHS Year
Edmonton Jewish Community

	2011		2001		1991	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	915	16.5	855	17.0	1,230	22.4
15-24	815	14.7	790	15.7	715	13.0
25-44	1,270	22.9	1,120	22.3	1,990	36.3
45-64	1,650	29.8	1,495	29.8	975	17.8
65+	895	16.1	765	15.2	570	10.4
Total	5,545	100.0	5,025	100.0	5,480	100.0

Figure 1
Historical Analysis of Age Trends
Edmonton Jewish Community



It can be seen that the 0-14 age cohort has rebounded slightly in 2011, after experiencing a significant decline between 1991 and 2001. The 15-24 cohort has been increasing steadily in the last two decades, although in relatively small numbers.

As Figure 1 also shows, the 25-44 cohort increased somewhat in 2011. However, it decreased very significantly between 1991 and 2001, representing by far the most dramatic feature of this graph.

The 45-64 cohort has increased somewhat between 1991 and 2001, after showing an even larger increase in the decade before. The increase in this age group in the last two decades is another striking feature of this graph.

Finally, as noted in the summary of Table 8, the number of Jewish seniors (65+) has increased in the last decade. Their numbers have been increasing steadily since 1991.

The graph is also useful for anticipating general demographic trends in the coming decades. For instance, the peak in 1991 of the 25-44 year “Baby Boomers” 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 National Household Survey, and will likely continue to “feed” into this cohort well after 2021.

The 15-24 cohort represents the children of the Baby Boomers, and it has been increasing in the last two decades, albeit in small increments. It has also been feeding into the 25-44 age group, stemming some of the major losses evident for this latter age group between 1991 and 2001.

Finally, it is very likely that the 15-24 age group will continue to grow, given that the 0-14 cohort will “feed” into it in the current decade.

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). A higher dependency ratio in a community means that fewer people in their wage earning years are supporting children and non-working seniors.

**Table 9
Generational Breakdown**

Generation	Age Range	Edmonton Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	Edmonton Total Population	Canadian Total Population
Generation Z (1993 to 2011)	0-18 yrs	23.6	23.5	23.0	22.3
Generation Y (1972 to 1992)	19-39 yrs	23.9	25.9	32.6	27.5
Generation X (1966 to 1971)	40-45 yrs	8.4	7.0	8.6	8.6
Baby Boomers (1946 to 1965)	46-65 yrs	28.9	27.7	26.1	28.6
World War II Generation (1941 to 1945)	66-70 yrs	3.9	4.7	3.2	4.3
Parents of Baby Boomers (1922 to 1940)	71-89 yrs	11.3	10.4	6.3	8.3
1921 and Before	90+ yrs	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.4

**Table 10
Age by Gender
Edmonton Jewish Community**

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	915	16.5	430	15.2	490	18.0
15-24	815	14.7	410	14.5	405	14.9
25-44	1,270	22.9	685	24.2	590	21.7
45-64	1,650	29.8	860	30.4	795	29.2
65+	895	16.1	445	15.7	445	16.3
Total	5,545	100.0	2,830	100.0	2,725	100.0

The dependency ratio for the Edmonton Jewish community is 0.48. This ratio has vacillated somewhat in the last 30 years. In 1971 the dependency ratio was 0.58, whereas in 1981 it was 0.43. The ratio increased to 0.49 in 1991, went down slightly in 2001 to 0.48, and stayed at that level in 2011. The peak in 1991 was due to the large number of children during that period.

In comparison, the dependency ratio for the total Edmonton population is 0.40, somewhat lower than that of the Edmonton Jewish community (0.48). The dependency ratio for the Canadian Jewish population is 0.54. It is 0.53 for the Toronto Jewish community, 0.67 for the Montreal Jewish community, 0.46 for the Vancouver Jewish community, and 0.56 for the Winnipeg Jewish community.

In short, the dependency ratio for the Jewish community here is relatively low, suggesting the burden of looking after its economically dependent members is not as pronounced as in other major Jewish populations across Canada. This has long-term implications for the economic viability of the community, and its ability to provide services and programs for its more vulnerable members.

Table 9 describes the age distribution of the Edmonton Jewish community along generational lines. The Edmonton Jewish population seems to have a higher proportion of Generation Z individuals (0-18 years) compared to the total Edmonton and Canadian populations; but it is very close to the percentage of Generation Z individuals for the Canadian Jewish population.

The local Jewish community has a lower proportion of Generation Y individuals (19-39 years) than the other populations described in the table. There is a particularly significant difference between the local Jewish population and the overall population of Edmonton in terms of this cohort.

The local Jewish community has a slightly smaller proportion of Generation X persons (40-45 years) than the total Edmonton and Canadian populations. But it has a higher percentage for this cohort than the Canadian Jewish population.

The Edmonton Jewish community has a higher percentage of Baby Boomers (46-65 years) than the other populations considered in this tabulation. However, the percentage

Table 11
Median Age
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations by Census NHS / Year
Edmonton CMA

Census / NHS Year	Total Population	Jewish Population	Non-Jewish Population
2011	36.0	41.8	36.0
2001	35.1	42.0	35.1
1991	31.1	34.5	31.1

Table 12
Median Age
Canadian & Edmonton Jewish Populations by Census NHS / Year

Census / NHS Year	Edmonton Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population
2011	41.8	40.5
2001	42.0	40.1
1991	34.5	37.3

for the local Jewish community is quite similar to that of the total Canadian population.

Finally, the Edmonton Jewish community has a higher proportion of parents of Baby Boomers (71-89 years) than all the other distributions considered in the table. In fact, there is a particularly significant difference between the percentage for the local Jewish community and that of the overall Edmonton population.

A cross-tabulation of age by gender for the Edmonton Jewish population is presented in Table 10. It can be seen that females outnumber males at the youngest end of the distribution. For instance, there are 430 males between 0-14 years compared with 490 females. This is a surprising finding since in most population distributions worldwide there is a small excess of males among births.

On the other hand, there are approximately equal numbers of males and females in the 15-24 cohort. There are more males than females in the 25-44 and 45-64 age groups. Finally, there is an equal representation of males and females in the 65+ cohort. The fact that there are equal numbers of males

and females among seniors is also a surprising finding since in most populations worldwide women generally have a longer life expectancy than men, and therefore outnumber them in the older cohorts.

The reader is referred to Tables 24 and 25 in Appendix 4 for more detailed age distributions involving 10-year age breakdowns.

Table 11 looks at median ages for the Jewish, non-Jewish and total Edmonton populations by Census / NHS year. It is clear from this table that the median age of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area has leveled off in the last decade. It was 31.2 years in 1971, 30.2 years in 1981, 34.5 years in 1991 and 42 years in 2001. It is currently at 41.8 years, slightly lower than the median age for this Jewish community a decade ago.

The 2011 median age for the Jewish community is 5.8 years older than that for the total Edmonton population. However, it is interesting to note that between 2001 and 2011 the Jewish community's median age has decreased slightly, whereas it has increased by 0.9 years for the total Edmonton population.

Table 13
Ethnic Affiliation: Edmonton CMA

	#	%
British	213,400	18.8
German	137,180	12.1
Ukrainian	130,455	11.5
Canadian	100,150	8.8
Aboriginal	75,325	6.6
French	67,255	5.9
Chinese	60,390	5.3
East Indian	49,075	4.3
Filipino	39,290	3.5
Polish	36,550	3.2
African	27,785	2.4
Italian	26,065	2.3
Russian	23,740	2.1
Arab	20,265	1.8
Latin American	15,890	1.4
Vietnamese	9,505	0.8
Caribbean	7,830	0.7
Portuguese	7,105	0.6
(Jewish: full definition)	(5,545)	--
Korean	4,825	0.4
Pakistani	4,755	0.4
Spanish	4,705	0.4
Greek	3,725	0.3
American	3,615	0.3
Japanese	3,150	0.3
All other ethnic categories	65,875	5.8
Total Edmonton CMA	1,137,905	100.0

It is also noteworthy that the gap between the Jewish community's median age and that of the total Edmonton population has lessened in the last decade. It was 6.9 years in 2001, and 5.8 years in 2011. However, the difference between the two populations is still quite wide.

The median ages of the Canadian and Edmonton Jewish populations are examined in Table 12. It can be seen that the median age of the Edmonton Jewish community is older than that of Canada's Jewish population (41.8 and 40.5 years respectively). In short, the local Jewish community is now 1.3 years older than the national average for Jews. In 2001, the median age of the Edmonton Jewish community was 42 years compared to 40.1 years for the Canadian Jewish population, a discrepancy of 1.9 years.

The median age is 40.6 years for the Toronto Jewish community, compared to 41.8 years for the Edmonton Jewish population. It is 39.9 years for the Montreal Jewish community, 40.3 years for the Vancouver community, 43.1 years for the Winnipeg community, 41.7 years for the Ottawa community, and 39.2 years for the Calgary community. In other words, the

Edmonton Jewish population is older than most other major Jewish centres in Canada.

Comparisons With Other Ethnic Groups

Table 13 looks at the ethnic affiliations of the total population in the Edmonton CMA. Ethnicity was a "multiple response" variable in the 2011 National Household Survey. This meant that respondents could indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. To avoid double counting, a hierarchical method of assigning affiliations was employed. This method is described fully in Appendix 3.

Note that the category for Jewish affiliation is described as "Jewish: full definition" in Table 13. 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.).

Table 14
Ethnic Affiliation by Median Age for Edmonton CMA

	Median Age
American	46.9
British	45.8
(Jewish full definition)	(41.8)
French	40.3
Polish	39.0
German	37.6
Chinese	36.0
Ukrainian	35.6
Portuguese	35.1
Vietnamese	34.9
Spanish	34.5
Russian	34.2
Filipino	33.5
Greek	33.4
East Indian	32.9
Italian	32.3
Korean	32.0
Latin American	29.7
Japanese	29.4
Canadian	28.8
Caribbean	28.7
Arab	26.7
Aboriginal	26.2
African	25.7
Pakistani	24.4
Other Ethnic Groups	42.2
Total Edmonton CMA	36.0

An examination of Table 13 reveals that British is the ethnic category with the most popular affiliation. Almost a fifth (18.8%) of Edmonton residents say their ethnic affiliation is British, or 213,400 persons. This group includes individuals of English, Irish and Scottish origins.

A significant number say they are German by ethnic origin. They comprise 137,180 individuals or 12.1% of the Edmonton population. More than one in ten individuals (11.5%) are of Ukrainian origin. This group comprises 130,455 persons and ranks third among ethnic groups.

Another 100,150 persons claim they are Canadian, or 8.8% of the Edmonton population. There are also significant Aboriginal and French populations in this city (75,325 and 67,255 individuals, respectively). A total of 60,390 people in this metropolitan area say they are of Chinese descent.

The remaining ethnic groups number below 50,000 individuals. The East Indian community ranks eighth, with 49,075 persons. The Filipino population numbers 39,290 people. Finally, the Polish population

rounds out the ten largest ethnic groups with 36,550 individuals.

The Jewish community ranks nineteenth among ethnic groups, with a population of 5,545. 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, ethnicity and other variables, reflecting the complex nature of Jewish identity (see Appendix 2).

Table 14 examines the median ages of the various ethnic groups in Edmonton. It can be seen that the populations with the lowest figures include the Pakistani (24.4 years), African (25.7 years), Aboriginal (26.2 years), Arab (26.7 years), and Caribbean (28.7 years) communities.

Most of these latter populations have a large number of more recent immigrants, many of whom settled in Edmonton in the last two decades. This infusion of people, often involving younger families, has revitalized these communities, and has kept their median ages at lower levels than the rest of the population.

Table 15
Religious Affiliation
Edmonton CMA

	#	%
Protestant	350,175	30.7
Catholic	298,995	26.2
Muslim	46,125	4.0
Christian Orthodox	24,000	2.1
Sikh	20,425	1.8
Buddhist	17,570	1.5
Hindu	15,620	1.4
(Jewish: full definition)	(5,545)	--
Jewish: religion alone	3,790	0.3
All other religions	5,875	0.5
Para-religious groups	2,090	0.2
No religious affiliation	354,930	31.1
Total Edmonton CMA	1,139,595	100.0

The ethnic groups with the oldest median ages are the American (46.9 years), British (45.8 years), Jewish (41.8 years), French (40.3 years), Polish (39 years) and German (37.6 years) populations.

These latter ethnic groups are older, more established communities, whose peak periods of immigration to this city have long passed. Since there has not been a large influx of recent immigrants among these groups, their average ages remain at fairly high levels. Most of their age distributions have a large “middle-aged” population, and generally more people who are 45+ years, and thus past their child-bearing years.

Comparisons With Other Religious Affiliations

Table 15 looks at religious affiliations for the Edmonton CMA. Note that the figures for the Revised Jewish Definition are cited in this analysis, although the figures for Jewish religion alone are included in the table as well.

It can be seen that Protestants are the largest group in the Edmonton metropolitan area, representing 30.7% of the population, or 350,175 individuals. Catholics comprise the

second largest group with 26.2% of the total population, or 298,995 individuals.

Muslims represent the third largest group with 46,125 individuals, or 4% of the total population. Christian Orthodox is the fourth largest group with 24,000 individuals, followed by Sikhs with 20,425 individuals.

Jews rank eighth among religious groups. As mentioned above, Jews were defined using both the Revised Definition (which uses religion, ethnicity, place of birth and other variables) 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 almost a third (31.1%) of the total population, or 354,930 persons, say they have no religious affiliation. Within this category are included people who defined themselves as agnostics, atheists, or humanists, or who did not affiliate with any religion at all.

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

Table 16
Religious Affiliation by Median Age
Edmonton CMA

	Median Age
Jewish: religion alone	45.5
Christian Orthodox	44.4
Protestant	42.5
(Jewish: full definition)	(41.8)
Buddhist	40.9
Catholic	38.4
Hindu	33.5
Sikh	31.7
Muslim	27.3
All other religions	34.6
Para-religious groups	31.8
No religious affiliation	30.9
Total Edmonton CMA	36.0

An examination of the median ages of various religious groups is presented in Table 16. The Christian Orthodox population has the oldest median age (44.4 years) of any mainstream religious group in Edmonton, followed by Protestants (42.5 years). Jews have the third oldest median age with 41.8 years. Note that the figure for “Jewish religion alone” is not taken into consideration because it does not adequately take into account the full range of Jewish affiliations.

The youngest median age is found among Muslims (27.3 years), followed by Sikhs (31.7 years). Those with no religious affiliation average 30.9 years, whereas those involved with para-religious groups have a median age of 31.8 years.

The Edmonton Community in a Provincial Context

The total population of Jews in Alberta is 15,795. Jews make up 0.4% of the population of this province. In comparison, the Jewish population of Ontario numbers 226,610. There are 93,625 Jews in the province of Quebec, 35,005 Jews in British Columbia, and 14,345 Jews in Manitoba.

About a third of the Jewish population in this province is located in the Edmonton CMA. Specifically, 35.1% of Jews in Alberta reside in the Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area.

In terms of other Jewish communities in this province, Calgary has a Jewish population of 8,340, or 52.8% of the provincial total. Just under two thousand (1,900) Jews live in other parts of Alberta, not including Edmonton and Calgary.

Part 2

Jewish Populations in Geographic Areas

Edmonton, Alberta was first incorporated as a town in 1892. At that time, there were about 700 permanent residents. The history of Jewish residency began soon after. Abraham and Rebecca Cristall, Edmonton's first Jews, arrived in 1893. By 1901, there were 17 Jewish citizens in Edmonton. In 1904, Edmonton became incorporated as a city, and in 1905, Alberta officially became a province and the CN Railway arrived.

The first Jewish settlers started out at 95th St. and Jasper in 1893. They moved to 101 St. where many established shops in the 1910s and 1920s. In 1907, Abe Cristall purchased land on the south side for a Jewish cemetery and the Chevra Kadisha was formed. In 1912, the foundations were laid for the Beth Israel Synagogue on the corner of 95th St. and Rowland Road.

The Edmonton Talmud Torah Society founded in 1912, erected its own building at 103rd St. and Jasper Avenue in 1925, as Jews began to move into the area. In 1933, the institution was incorporated as the first Hebrew day school in Canada.

The post-war years saw rapid growth in both the Jewish and general populations of Edmonton. As a result, a new Beth Shalom Synagogue was built on Jasper Ave. at 119th St. in 1951. A new Beth Israel Synagogue building was constructed on 118 St. in 1953, as well as a new Talmud Torah Building on 132nd St. that same year, reflecting the population shift of the Jewish Community from downtown to the West End.

In the 1960s, Jews started settling in Valleyview, Crestwood and Laurier. They then migrated to Rio Terrace, Westridge, and Wolf Willow in the 1970s and '80s, where they are still mostly today. In the 1990s and more recently, they have moved even further West to Donsdale, Lessard and Wedgewood; and beyond the Anthony Henday (the new ring road) to the Hamptons and even Lewis Estates.

This section of the report examines the demographic characteristics of Jewish populations in geographic areas within the Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area

Table 17
Jewish, Non-Jewish & Total Populations
Selected Geographic Areas
Edmonton CMA

	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
West-End	54,280	52,635	1,645	3.0
Immediately West of Downtown	14,365	13,940	425	3.0
Downtown Groat Estates	28,285	27,835	455	1.6
Rest of Edmonton CMA	1,042,650	1,039,625	3,020	0.3
Total Edmonton CMA	1,139,580	1,134,035	5,545	0.5

Westridge / Wolf Willow	6,465	5,710	750	11.6
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Table 18
Jewish Population Distribution
Percent of Total Jews in Edmonton CMA

	Jewish Population	% of Total Jewish Population
West-End	1,645	29.7
Immediately West of Downtown	425	7.7
Downtown Groat Estates	455	8.2
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	54.5
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	100.0

Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	13.5
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(CMA). Included are a brief historical analysis, age breakdowns, and comparisons with other ethnic and religious groups for each geographic area.

There are three primary geographic areas represented in each table: the West-End, the area immediately West of Downtown, and the Downtown Groat Estates area. Several of the tables include a miscellaneous area labeled “Rest of Edmonton CMA”. This latter category comprises districts not considered in any of the other areas. Finally, the complementary area of Westridge / Wolf Willow, which is subsumed in the West-End, is included in a separate breakdown for each table.

Appendix 5 provides additional data tables across geographic areas, which may be of use to community planners and service professionals. For instance, one table features breakdowns by gender across different geographic areas. Another presents 10-year age breakdowns for Jews by various areas.

Finally, the reader should note that any minor discrepancies found when totaling columns or rows in the tables are due to random rounding of data. Such rounding up

or down is built into the Statistics Canada processing and cannot be avoided. These rounding errors are minor, with minimal impact on the overall interpretation and reliability of the data.

The Distribution of Jewish Populations

Table 17 examines the distribution of Jewish populations relative to the total populations in various areas of the Edmonton CMA. It can be seen that the West End has the largest number of Jews of the three primary districts chosen for analysis, with 1,645 individuals.

The Downtown Groat Estates has 455 Jewish residents, and the area immediately West of Downtown has a Jewish population of 425 individuals. The “Rest of Edmonton CMA” has a total of 3,020 Jews.

The area of Westridge / Wolf Willow, which is a part of the West-End, has a Jewish population of 750 persons.

In terms of Jewish population density (defined in this report as the percentage of Jews relative to the total population in a given area), Table 17 shows that Westridge /

Table 19
Jewish Population Distribution
Selected Geographic Areas
Historical Summary

	2011 Population	2011-2001 % Difference	2001 Population
West-End	1,645	+13.1	1,455
Immediately West of Downtown	425	-39.7	705
Downtown Groat Estates	455	+15.2	395
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	+22.0	2,475
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	+10.2	5,030
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	-3.2	775

Wolf Willow has the highest density, with Jews comprising 11.6% of its total residents. In other words, more than one in ten people in Westridge / Wolf Willow are Jewish.

Jews comprise only 3% of total West-End residents. In the area immediately West of Downtown, they likewise constitute only 3% of the overall population. They comprise an even smaller percentage of the Downtown Groat Estates (1.6%), and are a very small minority in the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” (0.3%).

Table 18 looks at the distribution of Jews in various areas as a percentage of the total Jewish population in the Edmonton CMA. More than a quarter (29.7%) of Jews in the metropolitan area reside in the West-End, 8.2% reside in the Downtown Groat Estates, and 7.7% in the area immediately West of Downtown.

The “Rest of Edmonton CMA” has 54.5% of the total Jewish population. In short more than half of the total Jewish population resides in areas not specified in these tabulations.

Finally, Westridge / Wolf Willow has 13.5% of the total Jewish population in the Edmonton Metropolitan area.

An Historical Perspective of Population Distributions

Table 19 examines Jewish population distributions in 2001 and 2011. In general terms, of the three primary areas examined in this table, two have shown Jewish population gains in the last decade, and one has shown a population loss. The miscellaneous area of “Rest of Edmonton CMA” has shown an increase, and the complementary area of Westridge / Wolf Willow has stayed roughly the same in terms of the size of its Jewish population.

In terms of individual areas: The West-End has shown a 13.1% increase in the last decade, or a gain of 190 individuals. Although this increase is not remarkable, this area seems to be showing a positive momentum for growth.

The area immediately West of Downtown decreased by more than a third (39.7%) of its Jewish population between 2001 and

Table 20A
Age Breakdowns for Jews
by Selected Geographic Areas
(Column %)

	Total		0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
West-End	1,645	29.7	340	37.2	275	33.7	295	23.2	500	30.3	230	25.6
Immediately West of Downtown	425	7.7	105	11.5	35	4.3	85	6.7	120	7.3	75	8.3
Downtown Groat Estates	455	8.2	0	0.0	35	4.3	125	9.8	125	7.6	170	18.9
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	54.4	470	51.3	470	57.7	765	60.3	905	54.8	425	47.2
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	100.0	915	100.0	815	100.0	1,270	100.0	1,650	100.0	900	100.0
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	13.5	185	20.2	130	16.0	85	6.7	235	14.2	105	11.7

2011, a loss of 280 individuals. There seems to be significant downward pressures on the size of the Jewish community here.

The Jewish population of the Downtown Groat Estates has increased by 60 individuals or 15.2% in the last decade. This increase is not remarkable, and it is difficult to know whether there will be momentum for future growth here.

The size of the Jewish population in the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” has increased by 545 individuals or 22%. This increase is robust and is the largest of any of the areas examined in the table.

Finally, the size of the Jewish population in Westridge / Wolf Willow has remained relatively steady, losing only 25 individuals or 3.2% in the last decade. In fact, this change is so small that it can be accounted for by sampling error, at least with respect to the 2011 National Household Survey.

Comparisons of Age Breakdowns Across Geographic Areas

Table 20A compares the proportions of age groups across areas in the Edmonton CMA. For instance, by looking at the column percentages in this table, we can know

where the highest proportions of Jewish children, young adults, and elderly reside in the metropolitan area.

As Table 20A shows, the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” population has the largest number of Jewish children (< 15 years), with 470, or 51.3% of the total in the metropolitan area. The West-End has the next highest number, with 340 Jewish children, or 37.2% of the total. Within the West-End, Westridge / Wolf Willow has 185 Jewish children or 20.2% of the total in this cohort.

In terms of Jewish teenagers and young adults 15-24 years, the largest number likewise resides in the “Rest of Edmonton CMA”, with 470, or 57.7% of the total for this cohort. The West-End has 275 individuals between 15-24 years, or 33.7% of the total for this age group.

Regarding the economically productive age group of 25-44 years, the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” again shows the highest figure with 765, or 60.3% of the total for this cohort. The West-End population follows with 295, or 23.2% of the total.

Table 20B
Age Breakdowns for Jews
by Selected Geographic Areas
(Row %)

	Total	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
West-End	1,645	340	20.7	275	16.7	295	17.9	500	30.4	230	14.0
Immediately West of Downtown	425	105	24.7	35	8.2	85	20.0	120	28.2	75	17.6
Downtown Groat Estates	455	0	0.0	35	7.7	125	27.5	125	27.5	170	37.4
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	470	15.5	470	15.5	765	25.2	905	29.8	425	14.0
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	915	16.5	815	14.7	1,270	22.9	1,650	29.8	900	16.2
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	185	24.7	130	17.3	85	11.3	235	31.3	105	14.0

The “Rest of Edmonton CMA” has the largest number of Jews in the 45-64 age group, with 905 individuals, or 54.8% of the total. There are 500 individuals between 45-64 years in the West-End, or 30.3% of the total.

Finally, the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” also has the largest number of Jewish seniors, with 425, or 47.2% of the Jewish elderly population in the metropolitan area. There are 230 Jewish seniors in the West-End, or 25.6% of the total.

Age Breakdowns Within Geographic Areas

Table 20B shows the percentages of Jewish children, teens, elderly, etc. within a certain geographic area. It can be seen that among primary areas, the district immediately West of Downtown has the highest percentage of Jewish children 0-14 years (24.7%), although in absolute terms, their number (105) is smaller than that of the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” or the West-End. Children also comprise 24.7% of the Westridge / Wolf Willow Jewish population.

The Downtown Groat Estates area does not appear to have any Jewish children, but given the small numbers involved it may be

that cell suppression was employed here by Statistics Canada.

Among primary areas, the highest percentage of Jewish teens and young adults 15-24 years is found in the West-End (16.7%). Westridge / Wolf Willow, which is subsumed within the latter area, has 17.3% of its population in this cohort. The lowest proportion (7.7%) is found in the Downtown Groat Estates area, but the number here is very small and thus may be prone to sampling error.

Regarding the economically productive age group of 25-44 years, the highest percentage is found in the Downtown Groat Estates (27.5%). The West-End has the lowest percentage (17.9%) among primary areas. Note that the complementary area of Westridge / Wolf Willow has an even lower percentage (11.3%) of individuals in this age group.

The highest percentage of the 45-64 age group is found in the West-End (30.4%); and particularly in Westridge / Wolf-Willow (31.3%). In short, middle-aged Jews dominate the age distributions of these

Table 21
Median Ages
Jewish, Non-Jewish & Total Populations
by Selected Geographic Areas

	Median Age Total Pop	Median Age Jews	Median Age Non-Jews
West-End	34.6	39.9	34.5
Immediately West of Downtown	43.9	41.9	44.0
Downtown Groat Estates	33.9	60.2	33.7
Total Edmonton CMA	36.0	41.8	36.0
Westridge / Wolf Willow	43.8	39.5	44.2

areas. The lowest percentage for this cohort is found in the Downtown Groat Estates area (27.5%).

Finally, the Downtown Groat Estates has the highest proportion of Jewish seniors (37.4%); although in absolute numbers there are only 170 elderly Jews in this area. The lowest percentage of elderly among primary areas is found in the West-End (14%). Seniors likewise comprise 14% of the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” Jewish population.

Median Ages by Geographic Areas

Table 21 looks at median ages for Jews, non-Jews and their totals across geographic areas. Unfortunately, no information is available regarding median ages for the “Rest of Edmonton CMA”.

The Jewish population with the youngest median age resides in Westridge / Wolf Willow (39.5 years). At the other end of the distribution, the Downtown Groat Estates has by far the oldest median age (60.2 years). In fact, this district has among the oldest median ages for Jews in the country. The area immediately West of Downtown has the median age closest to the average for

the entire Jewish community in the Edmonton CMA.

An examination of the distribution of median ages for Jews relative to total populations reveals that Jews are younger, on average, in Westridge / Wolf Willow and the area immediately West of Downtown. They are older than the total average in the West-End and Downtown Groat Estates.

Ethnic Groups in Geographic Areas

Table 22 examines the distribution of ethnic affiliations across geographic areas. Ethnicity was defined as a “multiple response” variable in the 2011 National Household Survey, meaning 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 3.

It is important to note that the category for Jewish affiliation is described as “Jewish: full definition” in the first columns of Table 22. Jewish affiliation in this context refers to the “Revised Jewish Definition” described in Appendix 2. It was felt that comparisons

Table 22
Population Distributions of Ethnic Groups
by Selected Geographic Areas

	Jewish Full Definition	Aboriginal	Chinese	Japanese	Korean	Filipino	Vietnamese	East Indian	Pakistani	Arab	African	Caribbean
West-End	1,645	3,055	4,075	195	260	3,955	465	1,760	140	915	1,310	650
Immediately West of Downtown	425	550	475	140	30	205	75	145	0	190	140	225
Downtown Groat Estates	455	1,325	2,000	125	230	930	100	630	25	580	625	195
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	75,325	60,390	3,150	4,825	39,290	9,505	49,075	4,755	20,265	27,785	7,830

Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	350	465	20	0	95	30	85	25	170	150	0
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	Jewish Full Definition	Latin American	Italian	Greek	Portuguese	Russian	Ukrainian	Polish	German	Spanish	French	British
West-End	1,645	660	1,120	230	105	1,825	5,065	1,535	5,370	105	2,905	9,395
Immediately West of Downtown	425	80	420	115	90	530	1,655	515	1,915	45	725	3,770
Downtown Groat Estates	455	480	675	185	110	735	3,070	1,140	3,135	105	1,975	6,090
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	15,890	26,065	3,725	7,105	23,740	130,455	36,550	137,180	4,705	67,255	213,400

Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	35	160	0	0	335	650	180	615	0	340	1,475
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should be made with the full definition of “Jewishness”, so that the most inclusive attribution could be derived.

It should also be noted, however, that the Jewish designation may overlap with other categories; that is, some respondents may have described themselves as Jewish by religion, and as having an ethnic affiliation other than Jewish, such as Russian or Polish. They therefore may have been counted twice as both Jewish and Russian. This is inevitable given the types of comparisons implemented in this table.

Individuals who reported a single-response ethnic affiliation of Canadian are not included in Table 22. This was done to emphasize ethnic categories with roots outside of Canadian origins.

Due to the large number of ethnic categories under consideration, Table 22 is divided into two parts. Note that information for the “Rest of Edmonton CMA” is not available regarding ethnic affiliations.

Looking first at the West-End, British is the most common ethnic affiliation (9,395), followed by German (5,370), Ukrainian (5,065), and Chinese (4,075). There is also a

significant Filipino population in the West-End (3,955). The Jewish community is the tenth largest among ethnic groups here, with 1,645 individuals.

In the area immediately West of Downtown, British is the largest ethnic affiliation (3,770), followed by German (1,915) and Ukrainian (1,655). The Jewish community (425) is the ninth largest among ethnic affiliations in this area.

In terms of the Downtown Groat Estates area, the British are again the largest ethnic group (6,090), followed by Germans (3,135) and Ukrainians (3,070). There are also significant Chinese (2,000) and French (1,975) populations in this area. Jews rank fifteenth among ethnic communities here, with 455 individuals.

The British are the largest ethnic group in the complementary area of Westridge / Wolf Willow (1,475). Jews are the second largest ethnic group in this area (750), followed by the Ukrainians (650) and Germans (615).

Table 23
Population Distributions of Religious Groups
by Selected Geographic Areas

	Jewish Full Definition	Jewish Religion	Catholic	Protestant	Christian Orthodox	Muslim	Hindu	Buddhist	Sikh	Other Eastern Religions	Para-Religious Groups	No Religious Affiliation
West-End	1,645	1,420	14,880	16,085	1,560	2,340	570	750	255	375	60	16,000
Immediately West of Downtown	425	370	3,575	4,840	445	160	70	165	0	115	50	4,565
Downtown Groat Estates	455	370	6,140	6,870	870	1,115	260	245	65	200	140	12,010
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	3,790	298,995	350,175	24,000	46,125	15,620	17,570	20,425	5,875	2,090	354,930
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	720	1,580	1,800	135	220	25	70	0	25	0	1,880

Religious Groups in Geographic Areas

Table 23 looks at religious affiliations across geographic areas. Note that the figures for the Revised Jewish Definition are cited in this section as well, although those for Jewish religion alone are likewise included in the table.

In the West-End, Protestants represent the largest religious group, with 16,085 individuals. The next largest group includes Catholics (14,880). There is also a significant Muslim community here, numbering 2,340 persons. Jews rank fourth among mainstream religious groups in the West-End, with 1,645 individuals. Note the large number of individuals in this area not affiliated with any religion (16,000).

In the area immediately West of Downtown, Protestants comprise the largest religious

group with 4,840 persons, followed by Catholics (3,575). Jews comprise the fourth largest mainstream religious group in this area, with 425 individuals.

Regarding the Downtown Groat Estates area, Protestants are again the largest mainstream group (6,870), followed closely by Catholics (6,140). There is also a significant Muslim community here (1,115). Jews are the fifth largest mainstream group in the Downtown Groat Estates, with 455 individuals.

Finally, Protestants comprise the largest religious group in the complementary area of Westridge / Wolf Willow, with 1,800 persons. Catholics are the second largest group (1,580). Jews are the third largest mainstream religious group in Westridge / Wolf Willow, with 750 individuals.

Appendix 1

The Utility of the National Household Survey

The information gleaned from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) 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, continued, expanded, or even discontinued.

Another application of the NHS 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 schools. It is also possible to compare base populations of the poor, single parents, young adults, Baby Boomers, etc. to the number of clients serviced by community agencies, in order to estimate what proportions of these segments specific agencies are reaching.

Information about base populations can also be used as a tool when conducting community surveys, so that proper demographic segmentations can be done to ensure the samples are representative of the wider population of Jews in a given metropolitan area.

The NHS can also 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 NHS.

The NHS can provide valuable information to secure funding from various levels of government, foundations, or other sources, by showing that certain critical needs exist in the community. For instance, it is possible to estimate the number of long-term nursing-care beds that are needed (now or in the near future) given the numbers of seniors in the age distribution.

The issue of “urban sprawl” can also be investigated using the NHS. That is, to what extent are Jews moving outside traditionally Jewish neighborhoods into areas which are at the periphery of Jewish life, and how will services to them be impacted as a result?

Finally, the NHS can be used to establish demographic trends over time, by comparing

the latest figures to those of previous Censuses. These comparisons provide important indications of the extent to which a community has changed. Unfortunately, given the recent changes in methodology, comparisons of the NHS with previous Censuses must be treated with caution.

Appendix 2

The Revised Jewish Definition

Since 1971 all major analyses related to the Census have utilized 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 using a combination of religious and ethnic identification.

According to this criterion, a Jew was defined as anyone who specified he or she was:

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

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

It is important to note that 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 would better reflect the broad spectrum of Jewish adherence.

Given the marked decline in the number of Jews who identified themselves as ethnically Jewish since 2001, it was decided to expand the above definition of Jewishness. This “Revised Jewish Definition” incorporates more than just the religion and ethnicity variables in the National Household Survey.

According to this new criterion a Jew is defined as anyone who is:

- Jewish by religion and ethnicity.
- Jewish by religion and having another ethnicity.
- Having no religious affiliation and Jewish or Israeli by ethnicity.
- Having no religious affiliation and having knowledge of Hebrew or Yiddish as a “non-official” language.
- Having no religious affiliation and born in Israel.
- Having no religious affiliation and living in Israel in 2006.

A check was done to see whether the above criteria would erroneously include groups who should not be considered as Jews. For

instance, there are Arab Israelis who might have no religious affiliation. Since their mother tongue would be Arabic, and they would likely identify as having an Arab ethnicity, it was straightforward to determine that there were virtually no such individuals who were wrongly identified as Jews according to the Revised Jewish Definition.

All in all, the Revised Jewish Definition did not result in substantial increases in the Jewish populations of various metropolitan areas. The table below shows the differences

in numbers using the revised and standard definitions.

Finally, it is not possible to say how a person behaves “Jewishly” using any definition of Jewishness based on the NHS. For instance, we cannot know whether they adhere to traditions or attend synagogue on a regular basis. No questions of these types were asked in the National Household Survey. Despite this limitation, the fact that we can identify Jewish affiliation at all is critical for using the NHS as a tool for better understanding our community.

Jewish Populations Based on Standard & Revised Definitions 2011 National Household Survey

	Jewish Standard Definition	Revised Jewish Definition
Halifax CMA	2,080	2,120
Montréal CMA	89,665	90,780
Toronto CMA	186,010	188,715
Ottawa CMA	13,850	14,010
Hamilton CMA	5,055	5,110
Kitchener CMA	1,970	2,015
London CMA	2,610	2,675
Windsor CMA	1,475	1,520
Winnipeg CMA	13,260	13,690
Calgary CMA	8,210	8,340
Edmonton CMA	5,440	5,550
Vancouver CMA	25,740	26,255
Victoria CMA	2,630	2,740
Total Canada	385,345	391,665

Appendix 3

The Attribution of Ethnic Origins

Ethnic origin was a multiple-response variable in the 2011 National Household Survey, meaning that respondents were allowed to indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. If all the multiple ethnic affiliations were included in the NHS 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 Revised Jewish Definition as the

criterion (see Appendix 2). This definition uses a combination of several variables (including religion, ethnicity, place of birth and knowledge of non-official language, etc.), 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 Revised Jewish Definition. In short, the issue of Jewish affiliation is a complex one and there are shortcomings associated with whatever definition is used.

Appendix 4 Additional Data Tables Basic Demographics

**Table 24
Age Breakdowns for Jewish, Non-Jewish & Total Populations
Edmonton CMA**

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	73,740	6.5	325	5.9	73,420	6.5
5-14	130,555	11.5	590	10.6	129,965	11.5
15-24	163,490	14.3	815	14.7	162,670	14.3
25-34	184,970	16.2	655	11.8	184,320	16.3
35-44	161,245	14.1	620	11.2	160,630	14.2
45-54	175,430	15.4	875	15.8	174,560	15.4
55-64	131,765	11.6	780	14.0	130,990	11.6
65-74	68,855	6.0	455	8.2	68,395	6.0
75-84	39,170	3.4	385	6.9	38,790	3.4
85+	10,355	0.9	55	1.0	10,305	0.9
Total	1,139,575	100.0	5,555	100.0	1,134,045	100.0

Table 25
Age Breakdowns
Edmonton & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Edmonton Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-4	325	5.9	24,530	6.3
5-14	590	10.6	46,750	11.9
15-24	815	14.7	52,395	13.4
25-34	655	11.8	47,015	12.0
35-44	620	11.2	45,185	11.5
45-54	875	15.8	50,910	13.0
55-64	780	14.0	58,610	15.0
65-74	455	8.2	34,295	8.8
75-84	385	6.9	21,860	5.6
85+	55	1.0	10,125	2.6
Total	5,555	100.0	391,675	100.0

Appendix 5

Additional Data Tables

Jewish Populations in Geographic Areas

Table 26
Gender Breakdowns for Jews
by Selected Geographic Areas

	Total	Male		Female	
	#	#	%	#	%
West-End	1,645	760	26.9	880	32.4
Immediately West of Downtown	425	205	7.2	220	8.1
Downtown Groat Estates	455	240	8.5	215	7.9
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	1,625	57.4	1,400	51.6
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	2,830	55.8	2,715	62.2
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	375	13.3	375	13.8

Table 27
Age Breakdowns for Jews
by Selected Geographic Areas

	Total	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
West-End	1,645	120	220	275	130	175	270	230	125	90	0
Immediately West of Downtown	425	20	90	35	30	55	20	95	35	35	0
Downtown Groat Estates	455	0	0	35	45	75	45	85	90	80	0
Rest of Edmonton CMA	3,020	185	280	470	450	315	540	370	205	180	55
Total Edmonton CMA	5,545	325	590	815	655	620	875	780	455	385	55
Westridge / Wolf Willow	750	45	140	130	40	50	145	95	90	0	0