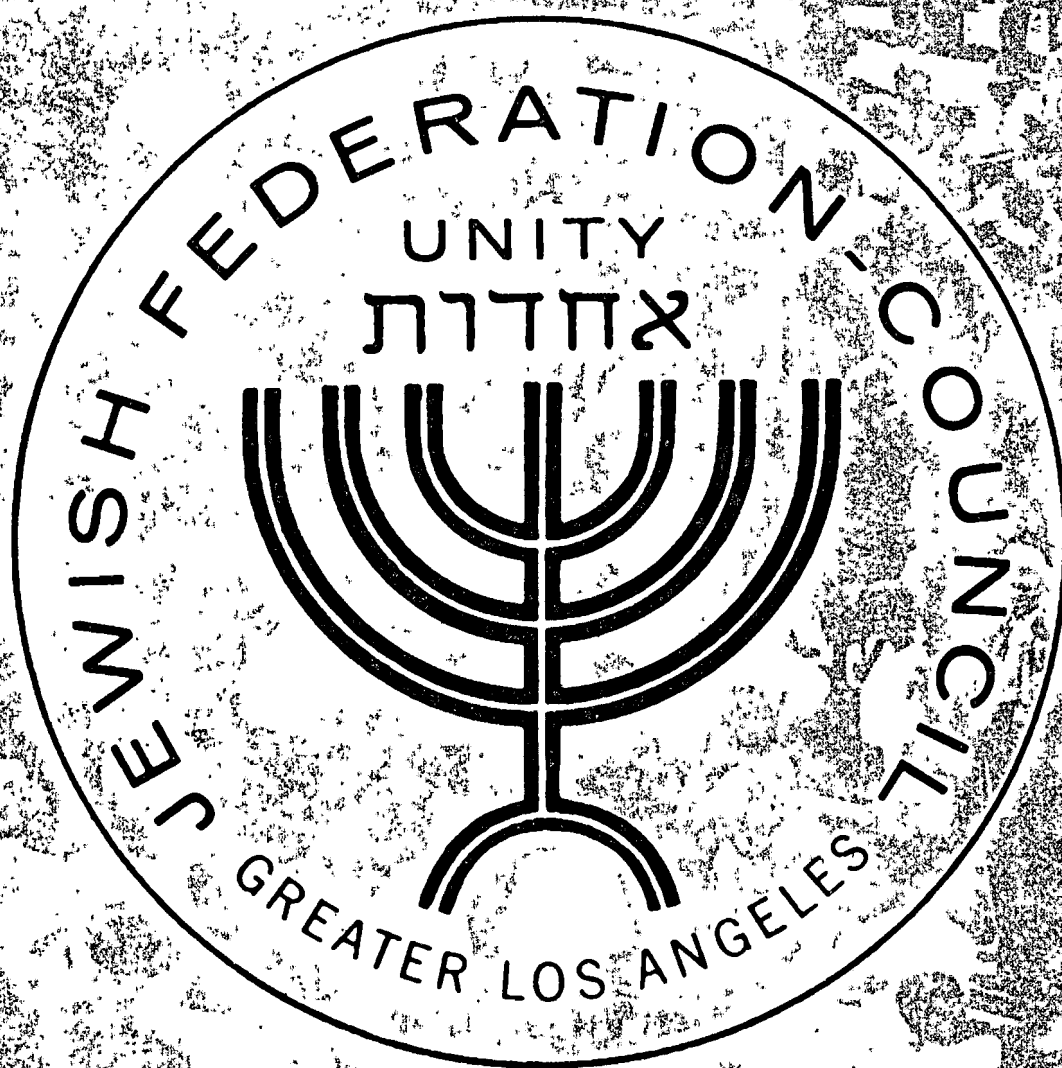


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*J. J. J.*

*a report on  
the Jewish Population  
of Los Angeles  
1959*



**RESEARCH SERVICE BUREAU**

**JEWISH FEDERATION - COUNCIL  
OF GREATER LOS ANGELES**

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City-wide Data

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A REPORT ON  
THE JEWISH POPULATION OF LOS ANGELES  
1959

by  
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November, 1959

## I

INTRODUCTION

As part of its continuing program of research on Jewish community life, in 1958, the Research Service Bureau of the Jewish Federation-Council of Greater Los Angeles commenced a major city-wide study of Jewish population. The study covered the entire geographic area as defined by the Federation-Council, including all parts of Los Angeles City and County with the exceptions of Pasadena, Long Beach, and the eastern most parts of the San Gabriel Valley, such as Pomona and Claremont. It was the basic purpose of the study to furnish a full background of facts to guide all phases of Jewish community planning. A careful review of survey objectives as recognized by executive and lay committees of the organized Jewish community preceded the formulation of the research design.

This report summarizes findings for the Los Angeles area as a whole. It will be followed by more detailed analyses of results by age and sex categories, and by smaller geographic sub-areas. Finally, a series of planning memoranda will highlight selected items of information, focusing on particular areas of service, as for instance, the aged, health, culture, education, etc.

While a detailed appendix will summarize the nature of the methods used, the following may serve as a brief review of design and methodology.

1. A series of preliminary estimates of density of Jewish population, together with available information based on the 1951 study, provided a rough picture of the geographic distribution of L. A. Jewry. In turn this step readied the way for the development of the samples of households to be contacted.
2. It was determined to proceed with interviewing on a "geographic sample" basis for those parts of the city in which Jewish population was sufficient to warrant contacting a complete cross-section of all homes. Full interviews were conducted with households that were identified as Jewish, while non-Jewish homes were noted, but not interviewed further. This procedure assured that the resulting samples of Jewish households would be true cross-sections and relatively unbiased by active participation in Jewish life. Approximately 3/4 of all interviews were based on these samples, thus assuring a substantially high level of representativeness.
3. In areas in which Jewish population density was clearly too low to warrant the ringing of a cross-section of all door bells, it was necessary to resort to sampling from the broadest available list of Jewish households. These lists were so arranged as to show minimum bias in the direction of active participation in Jewish activities. Approximately 1/4 of all interviews were of this kind.

4. Interviews were conducted in all households that could be defined as Jewish. This required a minimum willingness by a respondent to regard the household as "Jewish". Of course, in some cases, other members of the family may not have been Jewish. Thus instances of intermarriage are included in the survey. Any adult member of the household, over the age of 18, who was present at the time of the interviewer's call was interviewed. If only one respondent was present this person was used as the source of information concerning objective facts pertaining to all members of the household. Questions concerning attitudes were asked of all present respondents with whom the interviewer could speak directly, although these, of course, could not express ideas on behalf of other members of the household.
5. Those households that were identified as Jewish, but whose respondent refused to cooperate with the interviewer during the initial contact, were followed up in order to induce them to assist the study on a later occasion. Of course, a relatively small "hard core" of Jewish households failed to cooperate even upon repeated follow-up contacts and therefore could not be included. Data for these households are being analyzed separately to ascertain the extent to which they may differ from the actual survey sample.
6. Households who had no adult members home at the time of the initial interviewer contact, were re-contacted later. As many as four or five contacts were made at any one address in order to provide the necessary data.
7. The survey yielded nearly 1,200 detailed interviews in Jewish households. The average interview duration was approximately one hour. However, there were numerous interviews of considerably greater length. The interviews, as noted previously, covered every part of the Jewish Federation-Council area. The particular ratios determining the number of cases in the samples varied among the several geographic sub-areas. A city-wide cross-section sample was developed, weighting the sub-areas in their appropriate proportions. This sample provides an overall picture of L. A. Jewry at one glance. Results of this sample are reported in the report on city-wide results.
8. All responses were coded, i.e. translated into numerical form, and punched on IBM cards. The analysis was performed by appropriate IBM tabulating procedures.
9. The interpretation of sampling survey data is based upon ranges of accuracy. Prior research has indicated that the prevailing limits of accuracy are quite adequate for most purposes of community planning. In addition, various internal and external checks are employed to assure sufficient levels of precision. Generally, the larger geographic area

the more accurate the expected results, the smaller the geographic unit or the more detailed the breakdown desired the greater is the risk of error in the interpretation.

In reporting the city-wide results, we shall frequently make comparisons with the 1951 L. A. Jewish Population Study. Thus, we shall have an opportunity to trace changes that have occurred from 1951 to 1959, supplementing our usual cross-section images of Jewish community life.

The flexible IBM format of the data permits reanalysis from a wide variety of view points. Agencies of the Jewish community and other interested persons are invited to consider various re-examinations of the data to test in line with particular hypotheses and to seek answers to specific questions. Such work can be performed at modest cost and may prove useful in a variety of planning and research endeavors.

II  
Behind The Scenes:  
PATTERNS OF INTERVIEWING:

INTERVIEWS: LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED - TABLE 1

Interviews of the 1959 study were consistently longer than those of the 1951 study. Seventy-eight percent of the 1959 interviews required 40 minutes or more, while in 1951, less than 30% took this amount of time. The median interview duration in 1959 was just under one hour. Almost 1/3 of all interviews took more than an hour of time.

Interviews: Length of Time Required - Table 1

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
20 Minutes or Less	1.2	14.1
21 " 30 Minutes	6.6	36.1
31 " 40 "	12.9	20.1
41 " 50 "	24.1	
51 " 60 "	20.8	
61 " 70 "	12.5	
71 " 80 "	9.1	
81 " 90 "	3.6	
91 " 100 "	2.6	
101 Minutes Up	3.3	
Not Given	3.3	(*)
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0

- 78.0

- 29.7

Not computed in 1951

# INTERVIEWS: TIME OF DAY - TABLE 2

Both in 1959 and 1951, approximately 1/2 of all interviews were conducted during the afternoon. The 1951 study included somewhat more late afternoon and evening interviewing, while conversely the present survey showed a higher proportion of interviewing during the morning hours.

## Interviews: Time of Day - Table 2

	1959	1951	Per Hr. '59	Percent Rate Per Hr. '51
8:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon	30.6	12.6	7.7	3.2
12:01 P.M.- 5:00 P.M.	51.5	48.5	10.3	9.7
5:01 P.M.- 7:00 P.M.	9.3	17.1	4.7	8.6
7:01 P.M.- 9:00 P.M.	6.7	19.6	3.4	9.8
9:01 P.M. On	.1	2.2	-	-
Not Given	1.8	(*)	(*)	-
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(\*) Not computed in 1951

# INTERVIEWS: DAY OF WEEK - TABLE 3

There were few major differences in the proportions of interviews completed on the days of the week. This pattern was somewhat more distinct in the present study than in 1951. With somewhat fewer taking place in 1951. However, the 1959 study showed a higher proportion of week-end interviews. No Friday night or Saturday daytime interviews were conducted.

## Interviews: Day of Week - Table 3

	1959	1951
Monday	19.6	14.8
Tuesday	19.5	24.6
Wednesday	16.8	21.2
Thursday	19.1	21.5
Friday	16.3	12.3
Saturday	1.2	.5
Sunday	7.2	5.1
N.A.	.3	(*)
	100.0	100.0

(\*) Not computed in 1951

INTERVIEWS: CONTACT WHEN REACHED - TABLE 4.

Approximately 2/3 of all interviews were completed on the first contact. The remainder required at least one return contact, while approximately 10% necessitated two or more return visits. Every effort was made to re-contact those homes which were identified as Jewish but whose respondent initially refused to cooperate with the survey; 3.7% of the interviews were composed of successful follow-ups with Jewish homes that originally had declined to participate in the survey.

Interviews: Contact When Reached - Table 4

Reached on 1st contact	65.8
1 prior not at home	21.0
2 prior not at home	8.5
3 or more not at home	1.3
Prior uncooperative	3.7
	<u>100.3(*)</u>

Total exceeds 100.0 percent because "prior uncooperative" includes some contacts that previously had been "not at home".

## III

BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

The geographic distribution of Jewish population provides a basic guide affecting virtually all phases of community planning. Los Angeles particularly, as a community of dynamic growth has shown major population re-alignments within relatively brief time periods. To assess the nature of the emerging Jewish population patterns, area-by-area estimates were performed as an important phase of the Los Angeles Jewish population study. These estimates are, of course, subject to the usual sampling variations as well as to difficulties characteristically inherent in Jewish population research. However, the resulting findings have been carefully developed and should provide a useful basis for community thinking.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF THE JEWISH POPULATION - TABLE 5

The Jewish population of Los Angeles, as defined by the area of the Jewish Federation-Council, is estimated at approximately 391,000. As noted, excluded are the Jewish communities of Long Beach (also Lakewood area), Pasadena, San Pedro, as well as the Pomona-Claremont area. Orange County, which has given evidence of tremendous population increase, also falls outside the study. The following are major Jewish population trends:

1. Greatest and rapid growth in the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valley areas.
2. Significant growth in Beverlywood-Cheviot Hills-Mar Vista, in the Bay Cities and Beach Cities, and in West Hollywood.
3. Relative stability in Beverly-Fairfax, Wilshire-Fairfax Beverly Hills-Westwood, Westchester and South Los Angeles. The Westside continues to be the area of highest Jewish population concentration. While the total population of South Los Angeles has mushroomed, no corresponding Jewish community growth has taken place.
4. Jewish population decrease on the Eastside, West Adams and Exposition-University, as well in the apartment house area of Central Wilshire. Jewish population loss on the Eastside and West Adams have been offset in part by Jewish population growth within other portions of the same planning areas. Specifically, Baldwin Hills increase has partly counterbalanced West Adams decline, and growth near Los Angeles State College has occurred while Boyle Heights has lost Jewish population.

Detailed findings are reported on page 8.

Geographic Distribution of the Jewish Population - Table 5

	(a) # J. du's '59 Avg. Est.	(b) Avg. J. du Size	(c) Tot. J. Pop '59 Est.	(d) Tot. Pop '59 Est.	(e) J. Pop: % Tot. Pop	(f) 1951 J. Pop	(g) Chg. J. Pop '51-59
sh.-Fairfax	9,294	3.12	28,997	46,000	63.0	26,608	S
erly-Fairfax	9,371	2.98	27,926	39,900	70.0	24,848	S
erlywd-Chev.H.-MV	13,124	3.60	47,246	173,900	27.2	34,191	+
erly Hills	6,563	3.11	20,410	38,800	52.6	35,413	S
twd.-Brentwd.	5,038	3.53	17,784	82,600	22.0	23,037	--
t L. A.	4,967	3.10	15,398	187,200	8.2	23,037	--
and W. Valley	3,776	3.94	14,877	225,600	6.6		
eda-Encino	3,767	3.86	14,540	140,000	10.4		
Nuys-Sh. Oaks	4,157	3.70	15,380	139,400	11.0	41,812	++
Hollywood	6,456	3.48	22,469	125,200	17.9		
land-Tuj.-Crescenta	4,671	3.36	15,695	328,000	4.8		
dw.H.-W. Adams	5,813	3.30	19,183	151,600	12.7	27,843	--
tchester-Inglewood	2,139	3.67	7,850	123,800	6.3	8,196	S
lywood(W. & Central)	15,337	2.82	43,250	183,300	23.6	33,396	+
tral Wilshire	5,308	2.72	14,437	81,500	17.7	18,211	-
theast	5,228	2.74	14,325	296,000	4.8	12,072	+
erson-University	1,381	2.08	2,872	153,600	1.9	8,343	--
th L.A.	3,386	3.43	11,614	866,800	1.3	11,021	S
ch Cities	1,457	3.80	5,537	424,300	1.3	4,225	+
Gabriel Valley	4,345	4.04	17,553	766,800	2.3	5,435	++
ta Monica Area	4,268	2.63	11,225	126,700	8.9	18,000	+
nsient and stitutional	(h) (2,500) 122,346	(h) (2,500)	(*) 391,068	(*) 4,701,000	(*) (1,561) 8.3	(*) (1,561) 323,212	(*) 21.2% increase

. of "Jewish households"; i.e. dwelling units

g. no. of persons per Jewish household (dwelling unit)

. of Jewish persons; estimate. Last two digits not significant

sed on reports of L. A. City Planning Commission, or Regional Planning  
mmission

wish population density

51 L. A. Jewish population study estimate

ange in absolute size of Jewish population 1959 vs. 1951:

++ Greatest growth areas

+ Growth areas

S Stable areas

- Decrease areas

-- Greatest decrease area

cluding transient and institutional population: 119,846 dwelling units  
388,568 persons

t directly comparable to 1959 data

t computed

Area Name, Welfare Council Planning Area(s) and Geographic  
Description (continued)

Santa Monica (69-70-10A)

(Bay Cities) - Creek Area -  
Santa Monica proper, Ocean Pk.,  
Venice, and parts of Ballona

Transient and Institutional:

Transient Jewish population in Downtown area and elsewhere;  
Jewish population in homes for the aged, hospitals and other  
institutions.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE - TABLE 6

The number and proportion of relatively large Jewish households  
has increased since 1951. While in 1951, some 11% of Jewish  
homes had five or more members, the corresponding 1959 figure  
is 18%. On the other hand, the ratio of single-person homes  
and other smaller households has declined.

Household Size - Table 6

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
One person	6.1	7.5
Two persons	28.2	31.4
Three persons	19.7	27.5
Four persons	28.3	22.8
Five persons	13.7	9.4
Six persons	3.8	1.2
Seven or more persons	.4	.2
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

Table 5 (Supplement)  
Definitions Of Geographic Areas

Area Name, Welfare Council Planning Area(s) and Geographic Description

<u>Wilshire-Fairfax (40)</u> Wilshire Blvd. to 18th St. and Venice; Durango and Beverly Hills City Limits to Rimpau.	<u>Baldwin Hills-West Adams (35,37)</u> Baldwin Hills, West Adams, Windsor Hills, Leimert Pk., View Pk., Adams area, Pico, Crenshaw, etc.
<u>Beverly-Fairfax (41)</u> Beverly and Rosewood to Wilshire; Beverly Hills City Limits to Rimpau.	<u>Westchester-Inglewood (11,12)</u> Westchester, portions Playa Del Rey, and Inglewood.
<u>Beverlywood-Cheviot Hills-MarVista (36, 10B,9)</u> 18th St., Whitworth, and south thru Culver City, Barnes City, MarVista to Santa Monica City Limits and Venice.	<u>West and Central Hollywood (42,45)</u> West. Hollywood (from the hills south to Rosewood and Beverly) Central Hollywood, Hollywood Hills, Beachwood, Sunset-Western-Los Feliz.
<u>Beverly Hills (7)</u> City of Beverly Hills, incl. hill area, to Mulholland on the north, and Bel-Air Estates.	<u>Central Wilshire (38,39)</u> Rimpau to Hoover, Beverly to Pico.
<u>Westwood-Brentwood (8)</u> Westwood Village and Hills, Brentwood and Pacific Palisades to Ocean.	<u>Northeastern (46-49,55-59)</u> Westlake, Elysian Pk., Silverlake, Mt. Washington, Eagle Rock, Highland Pk.
<u>East Los Angeles (60-64)</u> East Los Angeles, City Terrace, Belvedere, Hollenbeck, Boyle Hts.	<u>Jefferson-University (33,34,50)</u> University of Southern Calif. area, Exposition Pk; Pico to Slauson, Van Ness to Hoover and Main.
<u>North and West Valley (1,2)</u> Pacoima, Granada Hills, Sylmar, San Fernando City, Chatsworth, Canoga Pk., and Woodland Hills.	<u>South Los Angeles (19-32,51,91,92)</u> Compton, Lynwood, Downey, Bell, Huntington Pk., South Gate, Watts, Florence, Green Meadows, South Vermont, Norwalk, Bellflower.
<u>Reseda-Encino (3A)</u> Reseda and Encino, Northridge, Panorama City, and Tarzana	<u>Beach Cities (13-16, <del>70</del>-71)</u> Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, parts of Hawthorn and Gardena; Torrance; Palos Verdes.
<u>Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks (3B)</u> Van Nuys and Sherman Oaks, parts of Panorama City.	<u>San Gabriel Valley (65,82-85,87-90)</u> Monteray Pk, Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monrovia, Arcadia, Covina, El Monte, Montebello, and Whittier.
<u>North Hollywood (4)</u> North Hollywood, Studio City, and Toluca Lake.	
<u>Sunland-Tujunga-La Crescenta (5,6,80,79X)</u> Sunland, Tujunga, Sun Valley, Verdugo Hills, Burbank, La Crescenta, North Glendale.	

# AGE DISTRIBUTION - TABLE 7

This table summarizes the age distribution of the Jewish population for 1959, and compares it to the 1951 survey results as well as to the age pattern of the Los Angeles City total population in 1956.

Perhaps the most notable finding concerning the age distribution of the 1959 L. A. Jewish population is the large group of children under 14. More than 29% of the total Jewish population falls within this age category. This compares to a proportion of some 21% in 1951. While the percentage of aged over the age 65, has grown somewhat, this increase is dwarfed by the growth of child population; the proportion of aged has risen from 6.8% to about 7.4%.

Relatively, the group of young adults between the ages of 20-29 declined somewhat since 1951. This age category represents in substantial measure the crop of "depression babies" of which there were, of course, relatively few. Also, the other segments of the adult population, between the ages of 30 and 64, either declined in various degrees or showed little percentage change.

The age figures provided by the Special Census of 1956 for L. A. City (not county), provide a rough basis for comparison between the present Jewish population and the total population. We find that in the child group between the ages 5-19, the increase in proportion has been higher for the Jewish population than for the total population. On the other hand there appears to be little difference in the age group under 4, possibly indicating that the Jewish birth rate at present is approximately on par with the recent general birth rate. However, apparently the Jewish birth rate may have been in excess of the general birth rate a few years ago, although the present evidence is only inferential.

In the young adult range age 20-29, the Jewish population is proportionately smaller than the general population. The same holds true for the 30-34 age range. There are few difference in the proportions of the Jewish population and the total population in the 35-44 age range. In percentage, the Jewish group between the ages 45-54 somewhat exceeds the proportion for L. A. City as a whole. There are no differences in percentages for ages 55-64, but among the senior citizens, 65 and up, it is the total population that shows a somewhat higher proportion than the Jewish community.

It appears that the 1959 L. A. Jewish population is, in a sense, coming to be an increasingly youthful one, both as compared with Los Angeles City and with its 1951 Jewish community counter-part. At present the median Jewish population age is 32.7 years; this means that one-half of all Jewish men and women are older than this figure and one-half are younger. For L.A. Jewry, on the other hand the median age in 1951 was 35.4 years, and even in 1956 the L. A. City total median age approximated 33.8 years. This downward shift in Jewish average age, as here defined, probably is due to the in-migration of younger families as well as to the very substantial recent birth rate.

Age Distribution - Table 7  
(Percentages)

Age Group	Percent		Jewish Population		Percent Total L.A. City '56	J. Pop. '59 vs. '51	J. Pop. '59 vs. Total Pop. '56
	Males 1959	Females 1959	Percent Total 1959	Percent Total 1951			
0, up	.12	.06	.64	1.23			
5-79	.61	.46	1.07	7.4	-9.6	H	L
9-74	1.07	.98	2.05				
5-79	2.12	2.02	4.14				
0-64	1.81	2.58	4.39	5.31	-9.8	L	ND
5-59	2.42	2.82	5.24	6.19		L	
0-54	3.38	3.16	6.54	6.40	-11.0	ND	H
5-49	3.56	3.44	7.00	7.12		ND	
0-44	3.84	4.27	8.11	9.05	7.8	L	ND
5-39	4.11	4.51	8.62	11.03	8.4	L	ND
0-34	3.81	4.17	7.98	8.01	8.5	ND	L
5-29	1.96	3.04	5.00	6.86	7.4	L	L
0-24	1.65	1.84	3.49	4.93	5.7	L	L
5-19	3.62	2.82	6.44	5.31	4.9	H	H
0-14	4.45	4.24	8.69	5.77	6.5	H	H
5-9	5.56	4.88	10.44	7.70	8.7	H	H
4, under	5.16	4.82	9.98	8.22	9.6	H	ND
	49.25	50.11	100.00	100.00	100.00		

Median age L. A. Jewish population 1959: 32.7 years  
 Median age L. A. Jewish population 1951: 35.4 years  
 Median age L. A. City total population 1956: 33.8 years

\*) H indicates '59 Jewish population percentage higher than comparable population percentage

L indicates '59 Jewish population percentage lower than comparable population percentage

ND indicates '59 Jewish population percentage not different from comparable population percentage (i.e. within 0.5 percent)

MARITAL STATUS - TABLE 8

More than ever, the Jewish population of L. A. today is a married population. In excess of 3/4 of all males and just slightly less than the same proportion of females are currently married. This compares to a figure near 64% for the Jewish population in 1951. As might be expected, the proportion of single men and women has decreased rather substantially: while 29% were single in 1951 the present proportion is only 15.4%. This upward trend in the married, and downward trend in the single may be the result of a number of factors. There are indications that the age of marriage may be shifting into the younger age brackets. Further it may be that the in-migrants of recent years are younger and married, rather than single persons "seeking their fortune in the west".

The proportion of widowed has risen since 1951, from 4.5% to 6.2%. In part, this is due to the rise in the number of aged.

While the difference is small, it would appear that the divorce and separation rate for the L. A. Jewish population declined somewhat since 1951. It appears to be very near the national average for this statistic.

Continuing a comparison with the U.S. population as a whole, as reflected in figures for the year 1957, we note that the proportion of married in the Jewish community exceeds the corresponding national proportion. The ratio of single persons, and particularly the ratio of widowed is smaller, however, than is indicated for the U. S.

Marital Status - Table 8  
(persons 15 yrs old and up)(a)

	Males	Females	Total	1951 Tot.J.Pop	1957 U.S. Pop(b)
Married	77.6	73.3	75.4	63.9	66.6
Single	18.4	12.7	15.4	29.0	18.6
Widowed	1.9	10.2	6.2	4.5	12.6
Divorced or Separated	1.6	2.8	2.2	2.6	2.3
No Informa- tion	.5	1.0	.8	*	*
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.1</u>

(a) 1959 results based on 1121 male cases and 1191 female cases.  
1951 results based on sub-sample of 424 cases.

(b) Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1958, p. 43  
(crude percent, persons 14 yrs old and over)

## IV

The Current And The Stream:  
STABILITY AND MOBILITY

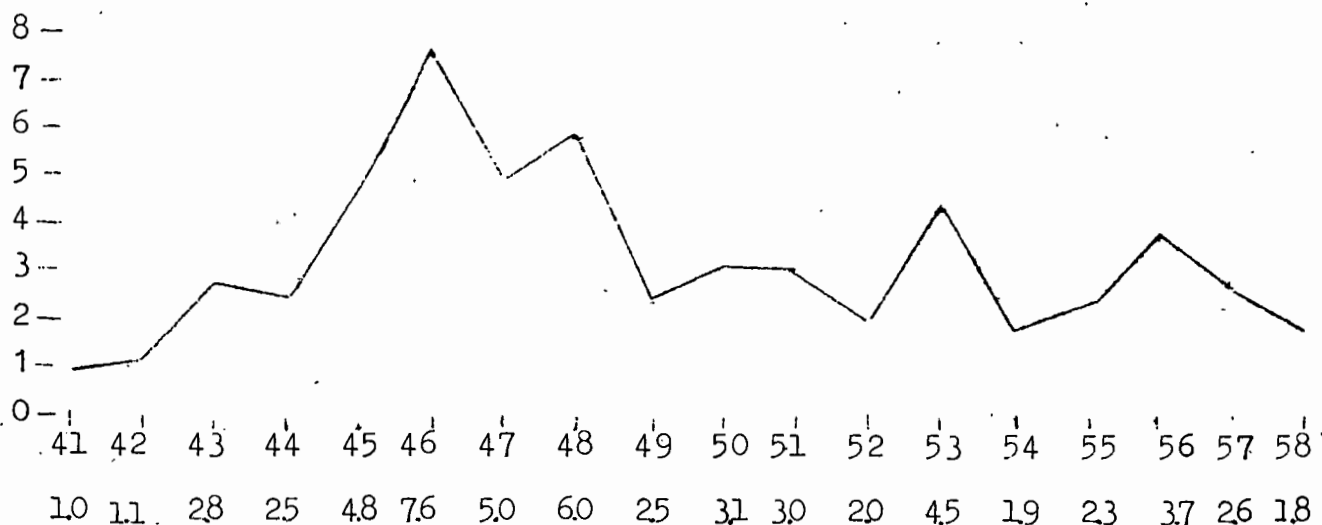
At the time of the 1951 L. A. Jewish population study, the great currents of migrants from N.Y., Chicago and other points east had barely reached their L. A. destination. These currents formed the greatest crest in the years immediately following World War II, most notably in 1946, 1947 and 1948. By no means did the flow stop thereafter. However, it continued somewhat more steadily with lesser dips and rises, also it came to be counterbalanced to some extent by a reverse flow, away from the L. A. area. Throughout the recent years other changes have been occurring that have given a somewhat different complexion to the Jewish population stability and mobility, as contrasted with the turbulent late '40's.

YEAR ARRIVED IN L.A. - TABLE 9

The graph and table 9, show the peaks and valleys of the migratory stream to L. A. Here we find a breakdown of the household heads of L. A. Jewry, classified as to their year of arrival in L. A.

The post World War II wave stands out with prominence. However, we also find downward trends in the curve, particularly those related to economic recessions, such as the ones of 1949, 1954 and 1958. The Korean conflict likewise variously served as a temporary restraining factor and then as a stimulus to migration.

Year Arrived in Los Angeles - Table 9  
 (household heads)



HOME OWNERSHIP - TABLE 10

The percentage of home ownership in the Jewish population has risen significantly since 1951 : from 58% to nearly 69%. This upward trend in home ownership, probably part of a more general tendency, no doubt strongly reflects the suburbanization movement. As the San Fernando Valley Jewish community as well as other communities in outlying areas grew, home ownership came to be the "typical" pattern.

Home Ownership - Table 10

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Own home	68.8	58.0
Rent home	31.0	42.0
No. Info.	.2	*
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

HOME OWNERSHIP AND HOUSEHOLD SIZE - TABLE 11

An interesting relationship is found between household size and home ownership. Up to and including a household size of five, home ownership continues to rise. For instance, only slightly more than 36% of one person households are home owners. The figure jumps to almost 57% for two person households, changes but little for three persons households (61.8%); but again moves upward very significantly for four and five person homes, going beyond the 80% mark in both instances. For six or more persons, however, a slight decline in home ownership occurs. This dip may be related to increasing economic pressures upon very large families, which in some cases may force families to rent homes rather than to buy them.

Home Ownership and Household Size - Table 11

	<u>1959</u>
	<u>Percent home ownership within</u>
	<u>household size category</u>
One person	36.1
Two persons	56.9
Three persons	61.8
Four persons	82.5
Five persons	89.1
Six or more persons	77.5

# PLANS TO MOVE FROM PRESENT HOME - TABLE 12

Although home ownership has become more widespread, there appears to be substantial continued interest in moving from one home to another. The present statistics are not strictly comparable to 1951, due to a change in question wording. However, there are signs that moving plans "short range and long range" continue to be of significant concern in many Jewish homes. One may speculate that in 1951 most of the moving plans were concerned with the eventual acquisition of a family home, and with the trend toward suburban settlement. At present it may well be that moving plans are often related to anticipated greater housing needs in young and expanding families, to relocations to areas with more outdoor space, etc.

On the other hand, when statistical averages are considered, it is increasingly likely that home owners do plan to remain within their present place of residence, while renters are more prone to move. Among home owners, more than 77% contemplate no move, while for renters the corresponding percentage is less than one-half. While somewhat more than 9% of home owners are presently moving or plan to do so within the year, the corresponding proportion for renters exceeds one-fourth. Obviously, the renter is more mobile. He may be likely to move for a variety of reasons different from those that motivate a move on the part of a home owner. Further one must not discount the possibility that the renter may be a frequent "planner of moves" even though he does not always carry these plans into action.

Plans to Move From Present Home - Table 12

	1959	1951(a)	1959 Home Owners	1959 Renters
Plans to remain	68.5	75.8	77.3	46.8
Plans to move within 5 years	15.5	16.1(b)	11.8	23.6
Plans to move within 1 year	8.6	8.1	5.3	15.8
Now moving	5.9		4.0	10.0
No. information	<u>1.5</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1.6</u>	<u>3.8</u>
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) 1951 results comparable only by inference.

(b) Includes those planning to move in indefinite future

PLANS TO MOVE AND HOME OWNERSHIP - TABLE 13

The relationship between home ownership and plans to move may also be examined from a somewhat different standpoint. We may consider the various categories of moving plans, such as homes that, "plan to remain", "plan to move within five years", etc. We may then consider the extent to which home ownership occurs within each of these several categories. As may be assumed from prior evidence, the greatest majority of those planning to remain, (78.8%) are home owners. However, those who plan to move within 5 years only contain slightly more than 1/2 home owners, while the percentage drops further for those intending to move within one year. There is a slight but probably insignificant rise for those now in the process of moving. In substance, the data again point out that home ownership and the desire to move are inversely related: as one rises the other drops. Considering the future, one may speculate that as home ownership increases the amount of actual moving will decline somewhat, and will be motivated by factors such as basic changes in the "families" housing needs, as contrasted with the prior switch from rental status to home ownership status.

Plans to Move and Home Ownership - Table 13

	Percent Home owners in "moving plan" category
Plan to remain	78.8
Plan to move within 5 years	52.9
Plan to move within 1 year	43.0
Now moving	47.5
No information	36.8

MOVING DESTINATIONS: 1959 - TABLE 14

All families who expressed plans to move within five years or sooner were asked as to the destination of this possible move. Uncertainty was a keynote of their responses. Also, rather substantial proportions indicated that they would be likely to move within the general area within which their home now is located. Among the specific destinations noted, the western part of town, notably Wilshire-Fairfax and Beverly-Fairfax, received a rather substantial number of mentions.

Moving Destinations: 1959 - Table 14

Plans to remain	68.5	
Plans to move	30.0	
Destination unknown		12.9
Within present area		6.7
Other L. A. area		10.3
Other So. Calif.		1.2
Away from L. A. and So. Calif.		1.7
		(32.8)

Moving Destinations: 1959 - Table 15

Specific L. A. Destination - (outside present area)

Beverly-Fairfax; Wilshire-Fairfax	3.3
Beverly Hills-Westwood-Brentwood	1.9
San Fernando Valley	1.6
Hollywood	1.1
San Gabriel Valley	.8
Beverlywood-Cheviot Hills	.6
Baldwin Hills-Leimert Park	.2
Unspecified L.A. area	.8
	(10.3)

COMPARISON OF MOVING DESTINATIONS, 1949 vs. 1951 - TABLE 16

If we consider only those persons who intend to move, we may attempt a comparison between the potential movers of 1951 and those expressing a desire to move in 1959. The feeling of uncertainty appears to be even more pronounced in 1959 than in 1951 with 43% as against 29%, saying that they did not know where they wished to move. The proportion of those mentioning Beverly-Fairfax or Wilshire-Fairfax declined somewhat. There was a slight and probably insignificant decline concerning moving plans to Beverly Hills, Westwood and Brentwood. However, a rather clear cut reduction appears in the frequency with which the San Fernando Valley is mentioned as a potential destination. This may be due to a variety of factors. It is possible that much of the move of already existing Jewish families to the suburbs is well progressed; on the other hand new families which are always in the process of formation may come to be the primary source of suburban growth.

Concerning movement out of state and away from L. A., an increase is found in 1959 over 1951. Thus, out-migration from L. A. while no doubt not a major stream, still is a factor that must be considered in the assessment of L. A. Jewish population trends.

It should be stressed that intentions concerning destinations do not necessarily predict future fact. However, the high proportion of intent to move to the San Fernando Valley as expressed in 1951 certainly was implemented in the intervening years. Likewise, the substantial numbers indicating a desire to move to the west-side was supported by experience, though in this respect we may be dealing with a "moving-in" and "moving-out" phenomenon rather than with simple growth.

Comparison of Moving Destinations - Table 16  
1959 vs. 1951

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(potential movers only)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Destination, unknown	43.0	29.0
Beverly-Fairfax - Wilshire-Fairfax	11.0	14.0
Beverly-Hills- Westwood-Brentwood	6.3	7.5
San Fernando Valley	5.3	19.6
Other L. A. destinations	24.7	25.2
Out of state, or away from L. A.	9.7	4.7
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

## V

Some Roots and Directions:  
NATIVITY AND LANGUAGES

NATIVITY - TABLE 17

The survey again highlights the trend toward the establishment of a Jewish population composed increasingly of native-born. Slightly more than 75% now are of U. S. birth, as contrasted with a corresponding 1951 figure of 67.9%

In terms of specific countries of origin, it is particularly the Russian born group that has declined during recent years: from 13.3% to 8.2%. Likewise there has been a slight decrease in the proportion of Polish born and in the proportion of those born in miscellaneous countries other than Germany and Austria.

The decline in the Russian born is no doubt related to the fact that among the Russian born there were relatively great numbers of aged, many of whom have since died. Other places of birth may have declined to a lesser extent because deaths that may have occurred may have been off-set in part by the arrival of foreign-born in-migrants to L. A., particularly from places of residence in the east and midwest.

Nativity - Table 17  
 (all persons)(a)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Foreign Born	<u>24.8</u>	<u>32.1</u>
Russia	8.2	13.3
Poland	4.4	4.7
Germany	1.3	1.2
Austria	1.3	
Other	9.6	
U. S. Born	<u>75.2</u>	<u>67.9</u>
	100.0	100.0

NATIVITY, PERSONS 15 YRS. OLD AND UP - TABLE 18

If we consider only those persons who have reached or passed their 15th birthday, we find somewhat higher proportion of foreign-born than if we consider the entire Jewish population including the great number of children who are overwhelmingly of U. S. birth. But even excluding the children, we find that the "adult" Jewish population is native born to a greater degree than was the case in 1951: 65.4% as against 60.4%. Increasingly, not only native-born, but L. A. born young Jewish men and women will be a significant part of the L. A. Jewish adult population.

1959 results based on 3293 cases; 1951 results based on 1853 cases

Perhaps, we may expect the eventual development of a L. A. Jewish culture that will to a lesser extent reflect foreign-born or eastern roots but that rather will begin to shape its own western cultural orientation.

Nativity, Persons 15 Yrs. Old and Up - Table 18(a)(b)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Foreign Born	34.6	39.6
U. S. Born	65.4	60.4
Born in L. A. Area	11.8	8.3
Born outside L. A. Area	53.6	52.1
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0

(a) 1959 results based on 2272 cases, not including 40 cases for which nativity information was unavailable; 1951 results based on 1446 cases.

(b) Persons under 15 yrs. of age are 96.9% U.S. born.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES: USE AND KNOWLEDGE - TABLE 19

In comparison to 1951, the proportion of homes in which Yiddish is used as a spoken language in day-by-day conversation declined from 26% to 21.2%. This reduction in Yiddish speaking may be related to the increasing youthfulness of the Jewish population, and to existence of fewer homes whose household heads were foreign born and for whom Yiddish was the native tongue. Some 2.7% of households use German as a spoken language, while there is a scattering of day-by-day speaking of Spanish, Hebrew, Hungarian, French and Russian.

Somewhat more than 1/2 of household heads have a speaking knowledge of Yiddish, although this does not imply that they necessarily utilize this knowledge. Slightly more than 17% of household heads have a reading knowledge of Hebrew while the proportion with Hebrew speaking knowledge is somewhat less than 8%.

Foreign Language: Use and Knowledge - Table 19

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1959</u>
	<u>Use</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>speaking</u>	<u>reading</u>
Yiddish	21.2	26.0	52.8	35.4
Russian	.5	*	6.5	5.3
Polish	1.0	*	6.7	4.9
German	2.7	*	12.4	11.9
Spanish	1.3	*	7.1	6.1
Hebrew	1.1	*	7.8	17.3
Hungarian	1.1	*	*	*
French	.8	*	*	*

## VI

## Ways To Make A Living:

OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY AND ECONOMIC STATUS

It is well known that the occupational patterns of Jewish wage earners vary considerably from those of the total community. In addition, we find that there have been some significant changes in Jewish occupation life in Los Angeles since 1951. One may assume that these changes are not simply a reflection of alterations in the economy as a whole. On the other hand it may be supposed that they are in part due to such diverse factors as the characteristics of newly arrived Jewish immigrants to L. A., the Jewish population downward shift in age, and increasingly high educational level.

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION - TABLE 20

The study finds a substantial proportional increase of employment in the professional and semi-professional category: a rise from 15.3% in 1951 to 24.9% in 1959. This upswing in professional employment is accompanied by percentage declines in most other occupation categories. Employment in the proprietor-manager group, which accounts for much of the retail and wholesale merchants group - showed a drop from 35.5% to 24.2%. Corresponding downward shifts are noted in the various blue collar technical and labor group categories; although the ratio of service workers shows an increase.

Further, a comparison is made with the white employed male labor force for the United States, for persons age 14 and over. This comparison clearly shows that in the professional and semi-professional, proprietor-manager and clerical-sales categories, the Jewish household head group substantially exceeds the national employment percentage figure. Conversely, the proportion employed in the craftsmen-foreman, operative, service worker, and labor categories is below the national average. These comparisons substantiate the wide-spread belief that the occupational level of the Jewish population is higher than the general occupational level. Present data, of course, do not provide a direct comparison with the labor force for the Los Angeles area. However, other research suggests that the relationship for the local area is similar to the nation-wide pattern.

The Index in this table, noted in footnote (b) is a measure of the extent to which the proportion of employment of Jewish household heads in Los Angeles is greater or smaller than the national average for a given occupation group. It is noteworthy that the proportion of representation of Jewish household heads in the professional and semi-professional category is more than twice as great as might be expected on the basis of the total population figure. There appears to be increasing movement of the Jewish household heads into professional employment. This may be related to rising educational attainment

as well as to increased social mobility. At the other end of the scale, it is evident that Jewish household head employment as unskilled labor or in the blue collar jobs is far below the corresponding levels.

Occupational Distribution - Table 20  
(household heads; employed only)

	1959	1951	1959(b) (U.S. white employed males 14 and over)	INDEX(b)
Professional and Semi-professional	24.9	15.3	10.4	2.39
Proprietors, Managers, Officials	30.5	35.5	20.4	1.50
Clerical, Sales, etc.	24.2	28.3	13.2	1.83
Craftsmen, Foremen, etc.	11.9	12.4	19.7	.60
Operatives, etc.	4.7	5.6	19.2	.25
Service Workers	2.9	1.7	5.4	.54
Labor	.9	1.2	11.7	.08
	100.0	100.0	100.0	

(a) "Employment and Earnings", vol. 6, no. 2, avg. 1959 U. S.  
Dept. of Labor; P. 6.

(b) Ratio of 1959 Jewish household head percentage to U.S.  
white, employed male percentage.

#### INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION - TABLE 21

In many industrial groups, the changes between 1951 and 1959 are not great. On the other hand, there is a rather substantial reduction of employment in the wholesale trade and retail trade group, reflecting in part the decline in proprietor-manager employment. Likewise there is a small reduction in manufacturing employment which may be due to the further percentage declines of Jewish employment in the craftsmen - foremen, operative and labor classifications. Upward shifts appear for the business, repair and personal service industries as well as for professional services. Government employment also has risen.

Industrial Distribution - Table 21  
(household heads; employed only)(a)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>	
Construction	7.2	7.4	
Manufacturing	18.7	20.9	
Transportation, Communications	2.2	2.0	
Wholesale Trade	9.1	32.9	38.6
Retail Trade	23.8		
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	7.2	8.6	
Business, Repair and Personal Services	10.6	5.3	
Amusement, Recreation	3.3	3.1	
Professional Services	14.4	11.9	
Government	<u>3.5</u>	<u>2.2</u>	
	100.0	100.0	

(a) Agriculture nil and excluded

ECONOMIC INVENTORY - TABLE 22

Data shown here are reported dollar incomes for 1958. These findings should be interpreted with the awareness that the rate of response on this item was 68.4%. However, a general review of the information suggests that the resulting picture is reasonable and warrants attention.

As compared to income statistics for Urban U. S. families, 1956, the L. A. Jewish population enjoys an economic level substantially higher than average. Income categories under \$6,000 consistently show smaller proportions for the Jewish population as compared to the national average. Above the \$6,000 mark, the ratios of Jewish households substantially exceed corresponding ratios for the general population. Indeed, the gap widens as one considers successively higher income brackets. This is indicated by the Index appearing in the third column of the table, showing the ratio of proportions of L. A. Jewish household incomes, 1959, to the 1956

Urban U. S. family figures. For instance in the \$10,000 - \$25,000 range, the proportion of Jewish households is more than twice as large as the general proportion; in the range above \$30,000 it is more than four times as great.

A corresponding analysis is obtained as one considers "median income", which measures the mid-point in the income distribution above which and below which 50% of all cases fall. For the Jewish population the 1959 median income is \$6,465. This compares to the 1956 national average for Urban U. S. families of \$5,221. Even accounting for increases in national income level between 1956 and 1959 a substantial difference remains. In 1951, the estimated median income for L. A. Jewish population was \$5,077 as compared to a national average during that year of approximately \$4,000.

If we wish to consider whether the rise in median income of the Jewish population from 1951 to 1959 is simply a reflection of inflation, we may make adjustments using the Consumer Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. For L. A., this index rose from 106.8 in 1950 to 122.9 in 1957, an increase of 15.1%. Roughly assuming an equivalence of this index between 1950 and 1951 on one hand, and 1957 and 1959 on the other, a rise of 15.1% in median income might be assumed to be sufficient to take into account inflationary conditions and shrinking purchasing power shown reflected in the Consumer Price Index. However, the L. A. Jewish median income did not increase by 15% but rather rose by almost 27%, significantly outstripping a general rise in Consumer Price level.

Economic Inventory - Table 22  
(approximate annual dollar income 1958)

	1959	1956 (Urban families, U. S.)	Index (c)
Under 3,000	9.6	19.1	.50
3,000 3,999	8.6	11.8	.73
4,000 4,999	13.6	15.9	.86
5,000 5,999	13.2	14.5	.91
6,000 6,999	9.6	10.6	.91
7,000 7,999	8.8	18.5	1.24
8,000 8,999	3.8		
9,000 9,999	10.4		
10,000 11,999	6.6	9.0	2.18
12,000 13,000	3.8		
14,000 15,999	4.7		
16,000 17,999	2.2		
18,000 19,999	1.0	0.6	4.67
20,000 24,999	1.3		
25,000 29,999	1.3		
30,000 Up	1.5	2.8	

Median 6,465 5,221 L. A. Jewish population '51: 5,077

- 68.4% of households reporting
- Increase in Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles: ('50) 106.8; ('57) 122.9; or 16.1 points. This is equivalent to percentage rise of 15.1%. On this basis to keep up with price rise, 1959 median income of Jewish pop. would have been expected to be \$5077 + 15.1%, or \$5843. However it rose to \$6465.
- Ratio of percentage in category, L. A. Jewish households, '59; to U.S. urban families, 1956

ECONOMIC RATING - TABLE 23

The economic rating of Jewish households was made by each interviewer using as a basis all available information concerning a given home, including the nature of the furnishing, the type of neighborhood, etc. This measure of economic status may mirror a "style of life", and need not correspond precisely to dollar income. The distribution of economic rating shows a weighting in the direction of the A and B categories, roughly defined as "luxurious" and "well-to-do." Slightly more than 1/4 of all Jewish households are so classified. On the other hand, only 9% were rated "D", indicating the below-average style of life pattern, while slightly more than 1% were rated "E", denoting severely deprived Jewish homes.

Economic Rating - Table 23 (a)

	<u>1959</u>
A ("luxurious")	6.0
B ("well-to-do")	20.0
C ("middle class")	63.9
D ("below average")	9.0
E ("deprived")	1.1

(a) This measure is more stringent than, and therefore not comparable to the 1951 L. A. Jewish population study "E.R." (Economic Rating)

EMPLOYMENT STATUS - TABLE 24

We find that the proportion of household heads in the labor force has changed very little since 1951, although there is the barest indication of a small proportionate reduction. This may be due primarily to the greater current ratio of the retired household heads, 10.4% as compared against 8.6%.

At the time of survey interviewing, the economy was in a recession, and unemployment figures therefore are greater than reported in 1951.

However, one must not assume that this unemployment ratio reflects anything but a passing phenomenon in the ebb-and-flow of the Jewish labor force.

While the 1951 study provided no indication of self-employment as distinguished from employment in private enterprise or government, such figures are available at present. Approximately 1/2 of Jewish household heads are employed in private enterprises, while 1/4 are self-employed. Few other studies provide comparable data. However a recent study in Passaic, New Jersey, showed a self-employment proportion of 32.5%, somewhat higher than the rate reported here.

Employment Status - Table 24  
(household heads)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Self-employed	<u>24.9</u>	<u>*</u>
Employed: private enterprise	49.5	*
Employed: Government	<u>4.2</u>	<u>*</u>
Total: employed	78.6	83.0
Unemployed	<u>4.8</u>	<u>1.8</u>
Total in labor force	83.4	84.8
Students	___(a)	1.0
Housewives	6.2	5.6
Retired	<u>10.4</u>	<u>8.6</u>
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

(a) 3.2% are students, but also are in labor force, therefore do not appear separately as students.

OCCUPATIONAL FAMILY PATTERN - TABLE 25

In somewhat more than 15% of all Jewish households, no person was employed at the time of the study. This proportion is composed largely of households whose heads are retired, as well as of those homes whose heads were unemployed at the time of the study. More than 16% of the household had two persons presently employed while an additional 1.2% indicated that there were as many as three or more wage earners in a family.

Occupational Family Pattern - Table 25

	1959
No persons now employed	<u>15.5</u>
One person now employed	63.7
Two persons now employed	16.5
Three or more persons employed	1.2
N. A.	3.1
	<u>100.0</u>

## VII

GENERAL EDUCATION

While the comparison to 1951 data is not for household heads, but rather for all Jewish persons 15 yrs. old and up, it does appear that the educational level of the Jewish population has been shifting upward. 22.5% of household heads either are college graduates or have obtained advanced college degrees, while in 1951, 16.5% of Jewish adults had the benefits of higher education. At the other extreme, in 1959, only 24.2% had had less than a high-school education as contrasted with a 1951 figure of 38.9%. This comparison at the lower end of the education level scale must be evaluated in light of the fact that in dealing with persons 15 yrs. old and up, some are included who have not yet graduated from high-school, thus somewhat increasing the figure. However, this may be counterbalanced in part by the greater number of young people in their twenties and thirties who presumably have had the advantages of American public education, while more household heads are in the older age brackets.

General Education - Table 26

	1959	1951 (15 yrs. and up)
Less than elementary school	8.8	6.3
Elementary school (but not high school grad)	15.4	32.6
	24.2	38.9
High school grad., (with or without some college)	49.3	43.1
College grad.	11.8	11.7
Advanced college degree.	10.7	4.8
	22.5	16.5
N. A.	4.0	1.5
	100.0	100.0

## -VIII-

RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Attitudes and feelings of identification are an important aspect of religious and ideological experience. Orientation toward Reform, Conservative or Orthodox Judaism may form the basis for membership in congregations and for participation in other phases of Jewish community life. However, identification as such is primarily part of the person's "view of himself" and need not correspond to activity or membership. Here we shall consider briefly both attitude and action determining Jewish religious patterns.

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION - TABLE 27

Since 1951, some significant shifts in Jewish religious identification appear to have taken place. Specifically the proportion of those who consider themselves non-identified with any one of the major orientations of Judaism declined substantially from 31.9% to 22.4%. The proportion of Reform identification has remained approximately stable, presently involving some 28.6% of all Jewish households vs. a 1951 estimate of 29.5%. On the other hand, there has been a considerable upswing in Conservative identification from 20.5% in 1951 to 35.3% at present. Orthodox identification has declined from 17.1% to 12.6%. A fraction of families either did not respond to this question, or identified explicitly with some other phase of Jewish life, i.e. Sephardi, Reconstructionists, etc. Results are shown in Table 27.

Distribution of Religious Identification - Table 27(a)

	1959	1951	Percent Change '59 vs. '51 (within category)
Non-identifying	22.4	31.9	-42.4
Reform	28.6	29.5	- 3.0
Conservative	35.3	20.5	+72.2
Orthodox	12.6	17.1	-26.3
Others	1.1	1.0	+10.0
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0	

This table summarizes religious identification by household head. In some instances the identification of other members of the family may vary from those of the household head so that the total distribution in identification may differ somewhat.

In this table, and in other tables, percent change, '59 vs. '51 shows the extent to which the proportion of a given category increased or decreased during this period. The 1951 percentage figure serves as the base. \* indicates that the computation is not deemed to be relevant, or that data are unavailable.

RELIGIOUS SERVICE ATTENDANCE - TABLE 28

Some 30% of household heads say that they never attend services at a synagogue or temple. Thirty-five percent indicate that they attend during the High Holidays only, while the remainder report that they attend relatively more often. However, only 4.3% of household heads attend services at least weekly.

A comparison with a roughly equivalent statistic for 1951 suggests decline in the ratios of those "never attending" and of those attending frequently ("every few months" or more often). Attendance for the High Holidays only, on the other hand, apparently has risen during the interval between 1951 and 1959.

Religious Service Attendance - Table 28

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u> (adults, aged avg.)(a)
Never Attends	30.0	35.5
High Holidays Only (1-4)	35.1	27.8
"Every Few Months" (5-11)	13.1	36.7
Monthly and Up (but less than weekly)	(12-51) 13.7	
Weekly and Up	(52+) 4.3	
N.A.-D.K.	3.8	
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>

( ) interpolated

OBSERVANCE OF KASHRUTH - TABLE 29

In interpreting findings concerning Kashruth, it must be noted that this information is a self-description as provided by the person interviewed and does not necessarily conform to actual behavior. 13.7% of the Jewish households indicate that they are strictly observant of Kosher. An additional 21.9% say that they keep many or some Kosher observances. The present analysis does not provide a qualitative picture as to the nature of these selected observances, although later qualitative examination will provide more detailed insight.

Observance of Kashruth - Table 29

	<u>1959</u>
Non-Kosher	64.0
"Strictly Kosher"	13.7
"Many or Some Kosher Observances"	21.9
N.A.	.4
	<u>100.0</u>

RITUAL OBSERVANCES - TABLE 30

In almost 2/3 of the households it is indicated that a Seder is held or attended. Table 31 indicates that the Seder celebration typically takes place either in the family's own home, or in the home of parents or relatives. More than 1/2 say that these sites are most typically chosen. A scattering attended Seders at a temple or synagogue or at the homes of friends. Of course, several Seders may be attended during one year.

In somewhat more than 1/2 of homes, Chanukah candles are regularly lit, while more than one-quarter of homes report that Friday night candles are a regular part of the family's pattern of ritual observance.

While no similar data are available in the 1951 study, a survey recently completed for the Jewish Welfare Federation of San Francisco Marin County and the Peninsula does provide some comparable statistics. In San Francisco, Seder is celebrated in 46.4% of homes each year, (L.A.: 65.5%); Chanukah candles are lit in 35.4% of homes (L.A.: 57.1%); and Friday night candles are lit regularly in 20.4% of homes, (L.A.: 29.4%). Thus, in these ritual observances, the frequency of regular celebration in L. A. exceeds comparable figures for San Francisco.

Ritual Observances - Table 301959

	Friday Night Candles	Chanukah Candles	Seder
Regularly	29.4	57.1	65.5
Sometimes	18.9	10.1	18.0
Never	51.2	32.3	16.1
N.A.	.5	.5	.4
	100.0	100.0	100.0

Site of Seder - Table 31

(for households attending Seder only)

1959

Own Home	52.0
Parents' or Relatives Home	54.5
Friends' Home	5.3
Temple or Synagogue	6.6
Other	1.4
	119.8 (a)

a) Percent total exceeds 100.0 because several Seders at different sites may be attended

CONGREGATION MEMBERSHIP - TABLE 32

We note that about 1/3 of Jewish households claim membership in a congregation. This is an increase from 23.7% in 1951. Congregation membership, as studied by the survey, does recognize that some households who acquire High Holiday tickets only still do consider themselves to be "members" of a congregation. Therefore, it is not necessarily to be expected that the proportion of belonging summarized here will correspond precisely with known membership statistics.

Congregation Membership - Table 32

	1959	1951	Percent Change '59 vs. '51 (within category)
Belong	<u>33.7</u>	<u>23.7</u>	+42.2
Do Not Belong	65.8	75.3	*
N.A.	.5	1.0	*
	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	

PLANS TO JOIN A CONGREGATION. - TABLE 33

Beyond those who are congregation members at present the survey finds an additional 17% do intend to join within 5 years, 10.6% intend to join within one year and 1.8% are presently in the process of joining a congregation. The remainder have no plans to become affiliated with a temple or synagogue. Thus, the overall picture shows a fairly even division between those households who are now members, those who have no plans whatsoever to become members, and those who contemplate membership at some future date.

Plans To Join A Congregation - Table 33

	1959
Belongs Now	<u>33.7</u>
Does Not Plan to Join	31.6
May Join Within 5 Years	17.0
May Join Within 1 Year	10.6
Now Joining	1.8
N.A.-D.K.	<u>5.3</u>
	100.0

# CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOL ON YOM KIPPUR - TABLE 34

While the data for 1951 and 1959 are not rigorously comparable, the available comparison suggests that a somewhat greater percentage of children in 1959 refrain from attending public school on Yom Kippur: the 1959 proportion never attending was 87.1%

Children Attending Public School on Yom Kippur - Table 34  
(for households with children of school age approx. 6-18 only)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>	
Children Attend Always	8.9	12.9	17.1
Children Attend Sometimes	4.0		
Children Never Attend	87.1	82.9	
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0	

## INTERMARRIAGE - TABLE 35

As minimum willingness to identify as "Jewish" is a condition for inclusion in a Jewish population study, intermarriage data necessarily exclude intermarried families denying Jewishness. However, results of the 1959 study suggest that there has been a slight increase in the L. A. Jewish population intermarriage rate since 1951. The current figure of 6.3% is somewhat below the estimated national average, although differences and comparisons must be made with caution in light of limitations inherent in the data. As is supported by findings of other studies, the pattern "husband Jewish, wife not Jewish" is substantially more frequent than "wife Jewish, husband not Jewish".

Intermarriage - Table 35

	1959	1951
Husband Jewish; Wife not Jewish	4.2	*
Wife Jewish; Husband not Jewish	<hr/> 2.1	<hr/> *
	6.3	4.8

## IX

Table 36 summarizes findings concerning Jewish education of children 5-14 and teenagers, 15-19. There has been an upswing in the proportion of Jewish children reported as being enrolled in Jewish educational programs, such as Sunday Schools, weekday Hebrew Schools, etc. The proportion has risen from 29% to more than 40%. Included in these figures are children actually enrolled in a formal Jewish educational program at any time during the survey period, as well as those whose parents regarded the children as being so enrolled, Jewish children in secular Jewish schools, private tutoring etc.

In line with the increase in present Jewish education, the proportion of children who either attend now, or who had attended in the past, i.e. those "ever exposed" to Jewish education, has risen both for boys and girls; nearly 2/3 of Jewish children in the 5-14 age range so far have been exposed to Jewish education. Others may, of course, enroll in a Jewish School at a later time.

More than 3/4 of teenagers have been exposed to a Jewish educational experience. Typically, the relevant proportion of boys exceeds the corresponding proportion of girls. This is probably due to the impact of Bar Mitzvah, which exceeds the incidence of Bat Mitzvah.

Jewish Education - Table 36

	1959	1951
Percent of children 5-14 attending a Jewish religious school	40.5	29.0
Percent of children 5-14 "ever exposed" to Jewish education: (boys)	65.3	57.7
(girls)	62.6	51.4
Percent of teenagers 15-19 "ever exposed" to Jewish education: (boys)	83.2	90.0
(girls)	75.0	69.4

X

Leaders and Members:  
ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

Table 37 considers membership in organizations by Jewish household heads, contrasting participation in Jewish organizations with participation in general organizations. Approximately 40% of Jewish household heads consider themselves to be associated with one or more Jewish groups. Involvement in Jewish organization life is somewhat more widespread than activity in general lodges, clubs and groups; (32.9% are general organization members) The proportions belonging to as many as three or more organizations are less than 5%, both in Jewish and general membership.

Table 38 summarizes percentages belonging to Jewish organizations, and relates these to comparable 1951 results. There appears to be an increase in the joining of Jewish organizations by adult Jewish males, while the proportion for females has not undergone major change.

Organization Membership - Table 37  
(household heads)

	Jewish Organizations	General Organizations
Belongs to No Organization	60.0	65.3
Belongs to One Organizations	26.6	21.6
Belongs to Two Organizations	8.6	7.4
Belongs to Three Organizations	2.7	2.8
Belongs to Four Organizations or More	2.1	1.1
N.A.	(nil) 100.0	1.8 100.0

- (a) Such as B'nai Brith, Zionist groups, congregation auxiliaries, etc.  
(b) Such as general lodges, labor unions, professional societies, etc.

Organization Membership - Table 38  
(Percent belonging to one or more Jewish Organizations)

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1951</u>
Household Heads	40.0	(*)
Males (20 yrs. up)	49.1	35.7
Females (20 yrs. up)	44.0	45.7

## XI

A Time For Service:  
VETERAN STATUS

In interpreting this table one must recall that there are substantial numbers of other persons in the Jewish population besides heads of households who are veterans. However, considering the household heads only it is found that in excess of 1/3 are veterans of the U. S. military. The table also specifies instances in which a given person may have been a veteran of two U. S. armed conflicts. 30.8 of the household heads were World War II veterans, 3.3% were Korean veterans and 3.9% were World War I veterans.

Veteran Status - Table 39(household heads only)

	<u>1959</u>	
U. S. Veterans	<u>37.8</u>	
Non-Veterans	<u>62.2</u>	
	100.0	
Koren Veteran Only	2.9	
World War II and Korean Veteran	<u>.4</u>	
Total: Korean Veteran	3.3	
World War II Veteran Only	30.3	
World War II and Korean Veteran	.4	
World Wars I and II Veteran	<u>.1</u>	
Total: World War II Veteran	30.8	
World War I Veteran Only	3.8	
World War I and II Veteran	<u>.1</u>	
Total: World War I Veteran	3.9	
Peacetime or Other U. S. Veteran	.4	
Veteran of Other Country's Military	1.4	

XII  
Some Matters Of Opinion:  
ATTITUDES

dy considers the attitudes of Jewish persons toward a variety of issues. This was done with the belief that a true understanding of Jewish life requires insight into the way in which people feel about matters of concern such as anti-semitism, religion, etc. This section, then deals with opinions and attitudes.

PERCEIVED SEVERITY OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN LOS ANGELES - TABLE 40

Age and sex appear to be factors associated with attitude toward the severity of anti-semitism. In general, older persons regard it a more serious problem than younger persons, and women tend to view it as a more serious matter than men.

A small fraction of Jewish teenage and young adult males regard anti-semitism to be an extremely serious problem. Many females at the corresponding age level however, tend to be more moderate in this matter. Depending upon age and sex, somewhere between 10% and 25% of Jewish persons beyond the age of 30 regard anti-semitism with much concern.

In all groups, the most frequent response is a belief that anti-semitism constitutes a slight problem in Los Angeles. The proportion expressing this attitude range from 27% (for aged females) to 60% (for male teenagers and young adults).

Perceived Severity of Anti-Semitism In L. A. - Table 40

	Extremely Serious Problem	Serious Problem	Slight Problem	No Problem	D.K.	Total
Teenage and Adults	2.0	24.0	60.0	10.0	4.0	100.0
Teenage and Adults	14.9	21.6	43.8	13.5	6.2	100.0
Teenage and Adults	13.9	31.7	35.6	12.9	5.9	100.0
Los Angeles Teenage and Adults	12.8	22.7	44.7	12.1	7.7	100.0
Los Angeles Teenage and Adults	10.7	30.4	38.2	13.8	6.9	100.0
Los Angeles Teenage and Adults	24.3	24.3	27.0	15.8	8.6	100.0

CHANGES IN PERCEIVED SEVERITY OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN L.A. 1959 vs. 1951  
TABLE - 41

Taking as a measure of perceived severity, the total of those persons for each age-sex category who indicate that anti-semitism is a "serious" or "extremely serious" problem, some comparisons may be made with 1951 attitude survey results. It is notable that a decline occurs for all categories in the extent in which anti-semitism is regarded as a serious issue. For the corresponding age-sex groups, the decline is greatest for the young and smallest for the old. However, among teenagers and young adults, both for men and women, twice as many viewed anti-semitism as serious in 1951 than do so in 1959. For instance, while slightly more than 51% of male teenagers and young adults felt strongly in 1951, the corresponding 1959 percentage is 26%

Proportionately fewer adults also regard anti-semitism as serious, while for the aged a relatively small decline in concern appears. It is likely that broad cultural factors as well as specific experiences determine attitudes toward anti-semitism.

Changes In Perceived Severity of Anti-Semitism  
In L. A. - 1959 vs. 1951  
Table 41

	Percent Indicating Anti-Semitism As Serious or Extremely Serious Problem		Percent Change 1959 vs. 1951
	1959	1951	
<u>Males</u>			
Teen and Young Adults	26.0	51.1	-49.1
Adults	36.5	54.0	-32.4
Aged	45.6	50.0	- 8.8
<u>Females</u>			
Teen and Young Adults	35.5	66.7	-46.8
Adults	41.1	59.4	-30.8
Aged	48.6	54.4	-10.7

# EXPERIENCE WITH ANTI-SEMITISM - TABLE 42

In light of the considerable differences among the various age groups in attitude toward the severity of anti-semitism, it is remarkable that no corresponding differences appear in reported experience with anti-semitism. Quite consistently for men and women, and for the several age levels, 1/4, more or less indicate that they have encountered anti-semitic incidents. This percentage does not, of course, measure the gravity of these incidents, nor indeed their character as authentically anti-semitic.

Within the narrow range noted, adults appear to be just slightly more aware of personal anti-semitic encounters than either young people or aged. Also in small degree, men report anti-semitic experiences somewhat more frequently than women.

About one-half specify that they have not been exposed to personal contact with anti-semitism, while the rest present relatively vague reports of anti-semitic experience, or comment to the effect that they are aware of anti-semitism through indirect sources, such as word-of-mouth reports, newspapers, radio, TV, etc.

Experience with Anti-Semitism - Table 42

	Reports Personal Experience With A-S	Specifies That Has -Had No Per- sonal A-S Experience	Awareness of A-S by In- direct means (by word of mouth, TV, etc.	Vague Response Re. A-S Experience	D.K. N.A.
<u>Males</u>					
Teen and young adults	28.0	42.0	8.0	12.0	10.0
Adults	31.7	41.8	4.3	14.4	7.8
Aged	27.7	50.5	3.0	8.9	9.9
<u>Females</u>					
Teen and young adults	21.3	59.6	7.1	6.4	5.6
Adults	27.3	52.7	6.6	9.1	4.3
Aged	25.7	58.6	5.3	8.6	1.8

NOTE: Total for each category: 100.0

ATTITUDE TOWARD RELATIONS WITH NON-JEWISH NEIGHBORS - TABLE 43.

About one-fourth of men and women of various ages indicate that relationships with their non-Jewish neighbors are usually warm and pleasant, (++) , while an additional 1/3 to 1/2 consider relations to be reasonably warm and pleasant. (+) Young people are most likely to say that their dealing with non-Jewish neighbors are neither pleasant nor unpleasant (o). This may be a reflection of an underlying feeling that "Jews are much like their neighbors", and that therefore a kind of general acceptance or neutrality dominates the contact. The diagnosis of tension, "occasionally or sometimes unpleasant", (-), and "always or seriously unpleasant", (-- ) is relatively rare, ranging from negligible percentages to less than five percent.

Attitude Toward Relations With Non-Jewish Neighbors - Table 43.

	++	+	0	-	--	No Contact	Neighb. All J.	N.A. D.K.	Total
<u>Males</u>									
Teen and Young Adults	26.0	42.0	18.0	nil	nil	4.0	4.0	6.0	100.0
Adults	26.0	38.0	8.7	2.9	nil	6.7	9.1	8.6	100.0
Aged	30.7	42.6	5.0	3.0	nil	7.9	6.9	3.9	100.0
<u>Females</u>									
Teen and Young Adults	24.8	38.3	14.9	1.4	.7	5.0	13.5	5.9	100.0
Adults	27.3	43.6	10.2	2.1	.2	5.7	6.8	4.1	100.0
Aged	23.7	45.4	5.9	3.9	.7	5.9	9.2	5.3	100.0

# ATTITUDE TOWARD NECESSITY OF JEWISH EDUCATION - TABLES 44 and 45

There appears uniformly little explicit rejection of Jewish education. However, there are substantial disagreements among age groups as to whether Jewish education is a "must", or whether an element of choice is provided. Younger respondents are more likely to express the belief that Jewish children should have Jewish education if they want it, while older people are more likely to insist upon Jewish education as an absolute requirement.

## Attitude Toward Necessity Of Jewish Education - Table 44

	Child Must Have Jewish Education	Child Should Have Jewish Education	Child Need Not or Should Not Have Jewish Education	N.A. D.K.	Total
--	--	--	---	--------------	-------

Girls and Young Adults	38.6	59.1	nil	2.3	100.0
Boys	59.9	34.2	2.6	3.3	100.0
	77.0	17.6	4.1	1.3	100.0

Girls and Young Adults	57.2	41.4	1.4	nil	100.0
Boys	61.7	35.4	2.1	.8	100.0
	77.4	19.0	.7	2.9	100.0

If the "must" reply is taken as a measure of the intensity of feeling toward the necessity of Jewish education, some upward shifts in intensity appear for all groups. Particularly among younger people and especially among young women - in 1959 greater proportions feel that Jewish education is essential than felt this way in 1951. For teen and young adult males the percentage shifted from 32.7% to 38.6%, and for teen and young adult females it rose from 38.0% to 57.2%. Thus, endorsement of Jewish education as a necessity appears to be on the swing.

## Comparison of Attitude Toward Jewish Education

1959 vs. 1951

Table 45

	Child Must Have Jewish Education	Index:(a)
	1959	1951
Girls and Young Adult	38.6	32.7
Boys	59.9	52.7
	77.0	72.1
Girls and Young Adult	57.2	38.0
Boys	61.7	58.0
	77.4	69.6

Percent Change

+18.0

+13.7

+ 6.8

+50.0

+ 6.4

+11.2

(a) Percent increase in 1959 percentage over 1951 percentage

# ATTITUDES TOWARD PURPOSES OF JEWISH COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS, -TABLES 46 and 47

The following partial list of Jewish community agencies and institutions was included in the attitude part of the study: Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Vocational Service, L. A. Jewish Community Council, Jewish Home for the Aged, UJWF, and Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

Respondents were asked whether they knew the agency's purpose, or "what the agency does". Their replies must be viewed as relative; there were no formal "test questions" to check the depth or reality of the reported understanding of agency purpose. Still, some rather interesting differences appear in extent to which various respondents indicate familiarity with the selected agencies. Further, some agencies appear clearly more "visible" than others as judged from the attitude patterns of the Jewish population.

Table 46 shows the percentages within each age-sex group reporting that they are aware of the particular agency's purpose. If an average percentage is computed for each group, relative degrees of "knowledgeability" appear; (see Index: Avg. Percent). Apparently, men tend to be better informed concerning the agencies and institutions than women: avg. percent males 59.9 vs. females 47.6%. The discrepancy is greater for the aged, with males widely familiar with the agencies, 67.5%; and women least familiar, 37.6%. The discrepancy is smallest among the young.

Awareness of Purposes of Jewish Community Agencies  
Agencies and Institutions  
("percent aware")

	Males			Females		
	Teen and Young Adults	Adults	Aged	Teen and Young Adults	Adults	Aged
Bureau of Jewish Education	36.0	48.6	48.5	27.7	41.1	29.6
Jewish Community Centers	58.0	75.0	68.3	55.3	63.9	52.0
Jewish Family Service	32.0	44.2	51.5	35.5	47.1	29.6
Jewish Vocational Service	52.0	68.3	61.4	46.1	59.5	37.5
L. A. Jewish Community Council	32.0	52.4	58.4	27.7	40.0	28.9
Jewish Home for the Aged	54.0	76.9	80.2	53.9	69.5	67.1
UJWF	58.0	77.9	84.2	66.0	73.8	67.1
Cedars of Lebanon Hospital	58.0	73.6	87.1	61.7	72.1	63.8
Index: Avg. Percent.	47.5	64.6	67.5	46.7	58.4	37.6
	(59.9)			(47.6)		

Consider the relative extent to which various agencies are known by the several groups of respondents (see Table 47) we may rank the percentages within each age sex-group, with "1" indicating the best known agency for the group and "8" the least known; (ties are handled by averaging rank numerals). For instance, among male teens and young adults, the three best known agencies, all tied at 58.0%, are the Jewish Community Centers, the United Jewish Welfare Fund, and Cedars of Lebanon Hospital; each therefore is ranked with a numeral 2:  $(1+5, \text{divided by } 3=2)$ . For male adults, the best known agency is the United Jewish Welfare Fund, (rank 1) 77.9%, followed by the Home for the Aged, (rank 2) 76.9%, etc. In turn, averaging the ranks among all age-sex groups, we derive a measure of the extent to which Jewish agencies generally claim familiarity with agency purposes. The lowest "average rank" indicates most widespread community awareness with the agency.

Of the programs studied, the United Jewish Welfare Fund is the most widely known. It is followed in order by Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, the Jewish Home for the Aged and by the Jewish Community Centers. Least known are the Jewish Community Council (as it existed at the time of the survey, prior to merger), the Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Family Service and the Jewish Vocational Service (then known as the Jewish Employment and Counselling Service).

The broad awareness of the UJWF no doubt reflects the scope, publicity and "psychological coverage" of this general community fund raising campaign. Further, the more "concrete" programs, those involving physical facilities, such as hospital, centers etc., tend to be better known than those providing more intangible services such as work, vocational aid, educational coordination, etc.

Relative Measures: Awareness of Purposes of Jewish  
Community Agencies and Institutions - Table 47  
("awareness ranks")

	Males			Females			Avg. Rank
	Teen & Yng. Adults	Adults	Aged	Teen & Yng. Adults	Adults	Aged	
of Jew. Educa.	6	7	8	7.5	7	6.5	7.0
Community Center	2	3	4	3	4	4	3.3
Family Ser.	7.5	8	7	6	6	6.5	6.8
Vocational Ser.	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.0
Jew. Comm. Center	7.5	6	6	7.5	8	8	7.2
Home for the Aged	4	2	3	4	3	1.5	2.9
	2	1	2	1	1	1.5	1.4
Cedars of Lebanon Hosp.	2	4	1	1	2	3	2.3

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