

Chicago, Ill.

Study of the Jewish Population of Chicago

By the Chicago Community Inventory of the University of Chicago
Under the Direction of Dr. Philip M. Hauser

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Prepared for the

JEWISH FEDERATION OF CHICAGO

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ESTIMATE OF JEWISH POPULATION, CHICAGO: 1951

1. General statement. At the request of the Jewish Federation of Chicago, the Chicago Community Inventory, University of Chicago, undertook to estimate the size and areal distribution of the Jewish population of Chicago. Preliminary planning of the study design by the Inventory staff began in May, 1954.

The cooperation of the following Jewish undertakers of Chicago is gratefully acknowledged: Furth and Company, Hartman-Miller, Inc, Palmer-Lauer Jewish Funeral Directors, Inc., Piser Memorial Chapels, Louis Wallman, J. Weinstein and Sons, Inc., and Weinstein Brothers. The Board of Health, City of Chicago, supplied a series of special tabulations of deaths for the project.

All computational work and the preliminary analysis of the data have now been completed. This report summarizes briefly the results of the study of the Jewish population of Chicago; a comprehensive report of the methodology and the results of the study is in preparation and should be available within six weeks.

2. Size of the Jewish population. An estimate of the Jewish population of the City of Chicago of 265,000 persons was obtained by A.J. Jaffe for the year 1930. This estimate was obtained by the "death certificate" technique and is probably more nearly comparable with the estimate obtained in the present study than any other available.

The original estimate prepared by W. A. Goldberg for 1931 and based on the Yom Kippur technique was about 300,000, or 35,000 higher than the Jaffe estimate for the preceding year. However, the basic data obtained by Goldberg were reworked by Erich Rosenthal in 1946 and a revised estimate for 1931 of 274,000 was obtained, or an estimate only 9,000 higher than the Jaffe estimate for 1930.

Unfortunately, the estimate of the Jewish population for 1946, prepared by Erich Rosenthal and based on a variation of the surname selection technique, was restricted to selected areas within the City of Chicago. As a result, no estimate of the total Jewish population of the city was obtained. However, an estimated Jewish population of 269,000 resided in the areas covered by the study. Insofar as the areas selected were those in which it was believed most of the Jewish population was concentrated, the estimate is probably only moderately below the figure which would have been obtained for the entire city.

A special tabulation of the Chicago Tribune 1947 Sample Survey of Metropolitan Chicago was obtained by Rosenthal. On the basis of this tabulation, the Jewish population of the City of Chicago was estimated to be 333,000. For various reasons not too much reliance should be placed on this estimate. The original sample design was for the city and 225 suburbs within a 40 mile radius. The original estimate of the Jewish population within this entire area was 343,000 persons.

Year	Estimated Jewish population	Technique
1930	265,000 (City of Chicago)	"death certificate," Jaffe
1931	274,000 (City of Chicago)	"Yom Kippur," Goldberg data revised by Rosenthal
1946	269,000 (part of city)	"surname selection," Rosenthal
1947	333,000 (City of Chicago)	"sample survey," Chicago Tribune
1947	10,000 (Chicago suburbs)	"sample survey," Chicago Tribune
1951	252,000 (City of Chicago)	"death certificate," Chicago Community Inventory
1951	10,000 (Chicago suburbs)	"death certificate," Chicago Community Inventory

It is extremely difficult to determine how much of the change in the size of the estimated Jewish population between 1930-31 and 1946-47 is only a result of the difference in estimation techniques and consequently the difference in definition of the Jewish population. A difference of about 60,000 is observed, or an increase of about 22 per cent in 15 years. In view of the fact that the total white population of the city decreased by 25,568, or 0.8 per cent, from 1930 to 1950, it seems unlikely that there was actually a substantial increase in the Jewish population.

Some additional evidence can be obtained by examining the natural increase in the white population of Chicago between 1931 and 1946. During these 15 years, there were approximately 250,000 more births than deaths in the white population. The Jewish population comprised roughly nine per cent of the white population in 1930. The proportionate share of the 250,000 excess of births over deaths for the Jewish population would be approximately 22,500. If it is assumed that no in-or out-migration occurred in the Jewish population of the City of Chicago between 1931 and 1946, the Jewish population observed in 1946 would be expected to be between 288,000 and 296,000. This suggests that the apparent increase reflects at least in part changes in the definition of the Jewish population rather than actual increases in that population.

In fact, there is some indication that the Jewish population has experienced somewhat less than this proportionate share of natural increase. The proportion of persons 45 years of age and over is somewhat higher in the Jewish population than in the total white population, while there is a relative deficit of persons 25 to 44 years of age. The excess of older persons probably results in a disproportionate share of the deaths while the deficit of persons in the young adult ages suggests fewer births.

The Jewish population of the City of Chicago in 1951 based on the present study is estimated to be 251,800; and the Jewish population of the suburban area outside of Chicago is estimated to be 9,800. This may be regarded as a minimum estimate of the Jewish population of Chicago. Deaths occurring in the Jewish population of Chicago which are recorded by non-Jewish undertakers within the City of Chicago or by undertakers outside of the city are not included among the deaths upon which the estimate is based. As a result the total Jewish population of the City of Chicago may be underestimated, on the basis of the best judgment available, by a maximum of ten per cent. Hence, at a maximum, the Jewish population of the city would be 277,000.

It is impossible to determine the extent to which the Jewish population of the suburban area is underestimated; however, the degree of underestimation is probably somewhat greater than for the City of Chicago.

3. Distribution of Jewish population. For selected areas of the city, estimates of the Jewish population are available for 1931, based on the revised Goldberg estimates; for 1946, based on the Rosenthal estimates; and for 1951. There are, of course, serious problems of comparability between the three sets of estimates. The estimates for 1931 and 1951 relate to the Jewish population participating in different Jewish traditions, Yom Kippur and burial by a Jewish undertaker, respectively; whereas the estimate for 1946 relates to the population identified as Jewish on the basis of surnames. Although it is impossible to determine conclusively the differences produced by the particular technique of estimation, it seems probable that the 1946 estimate relates to a somewhat different and perhaps larger population than the 1931 or 1951 estimates. The estimated Jewish population and the total population for 1931, 1946, and 1951 is shown below for selected areas.

Community Area	Estimated Jewish population			Total population			Jewish, as a per cent of total		
	1931	1946	1951	1930	1946 ^{a/}	1950	1931	1946	1951
1-Rogers Park	10,800	19,200	18,400	57,094	61,600	62,252	19	31	30
2-West Ridge	1,800	10,600	11,200	39,759	46,200	47,930	4	23	23
14-Albany Park	23,400	34,500	26,400	55,577	54,500	52,995	42	63	50
29-North Lawndale	75,400	64,400	42,300	112,261	101,500	100,489	67	64	42
39-Kenwood	4,100	9,500	5,300	26,942	33,300	35,705	15	29	15
41-Hyde Park	9,000	22,500	14,700	48,017	53,300	55,206	19	42	27
43-South Shore	11,600	17,300	17,800	78,755	79,400	79,336	14	22	22

a/ Total population for 1946 obtained by linear interpolation between populations of 1940 and 1950.

In general, the above table indicates that the Rogers Park, West Ridge, and South Shore areas have increased markedly in Jewish population since 1931. If it is assumed that the 1946 estimates, based on a name selection technique, slightly overstate the Jewish population which would have been obtained from an estimate by the "death certificate" technique in 1946, these three areas have gained population since 1946 as well.

The North Lawndale area shows a decline in Jewish population between 1931 and 1946 and an even more marked decline between 1946 and 1951. It is probable that with comparable estimating techniques the loss of Jewish population between 1931 and 1946 would have been slightly greater than is indicated. However, it is also probable that the rate of out-movement from the North Lawndale area has been somewhat faster between 1946 and 1951 than it was between 1931 and 1946.

It is somewhat difficult to evaluate the changes in the Albany Park, the Kenwood, and the Hyde Park areas on the basis of the three sets of estimates. In Albany Park, a moderate increase in the absolute size of the

Jewish population and an increase in the percentage of the total population which is Jewish, resulting from a decline in total population, are indicated between 1931 and 1951. In Kenwood, only a moderate change in the absolute size of the Jewish population and no change in the percentage of the total population which is Jewish are indicated between 1931 and 1951. However, if the 1946 estimates are regarded as at least indicative of the size of the Jewish population in 1946, a pattern of increase in Jewish population between 1931 and 1946 and decline in Jewish population between 1946 and 1951 is indicated. In the case of Hyde Park, the 1951 estimated Jewish population is substantially greater than the 1931 estimated Jewish population; however, the 1951 estimate is considerably below the 1946 estimate.

This information, coupled with the analysis of the distribution of the Russian foreign-born population in 1930, 1940, and 1950, strongly suggests that these areas, Albany Park, Kenwood, and Hyde Park, experienced marked increases in Jewish population between 1931 and the 1940's followed by a decline in Jewish population. By 1951, the Jewish population of Albany Park and of Kenwood had declined to about the 1931 level in absolute size; in Hyde Park, the Jewish population remained substantially larger than in 1931 although somewhat reduced from a peak probably reached in the 1940's.

In 1931 over one-fourth of the total Jewish population of the City of Chicago resided in the North Lawndale area; twenty years later, less than one-fifth of the Jewish population resided in North Lawndale.

Only one-twentieth of the Jewish population of Chicago resided in the Rogers Park-West Ridge area in 1931, but over one-tenth resided in that area by 1951.

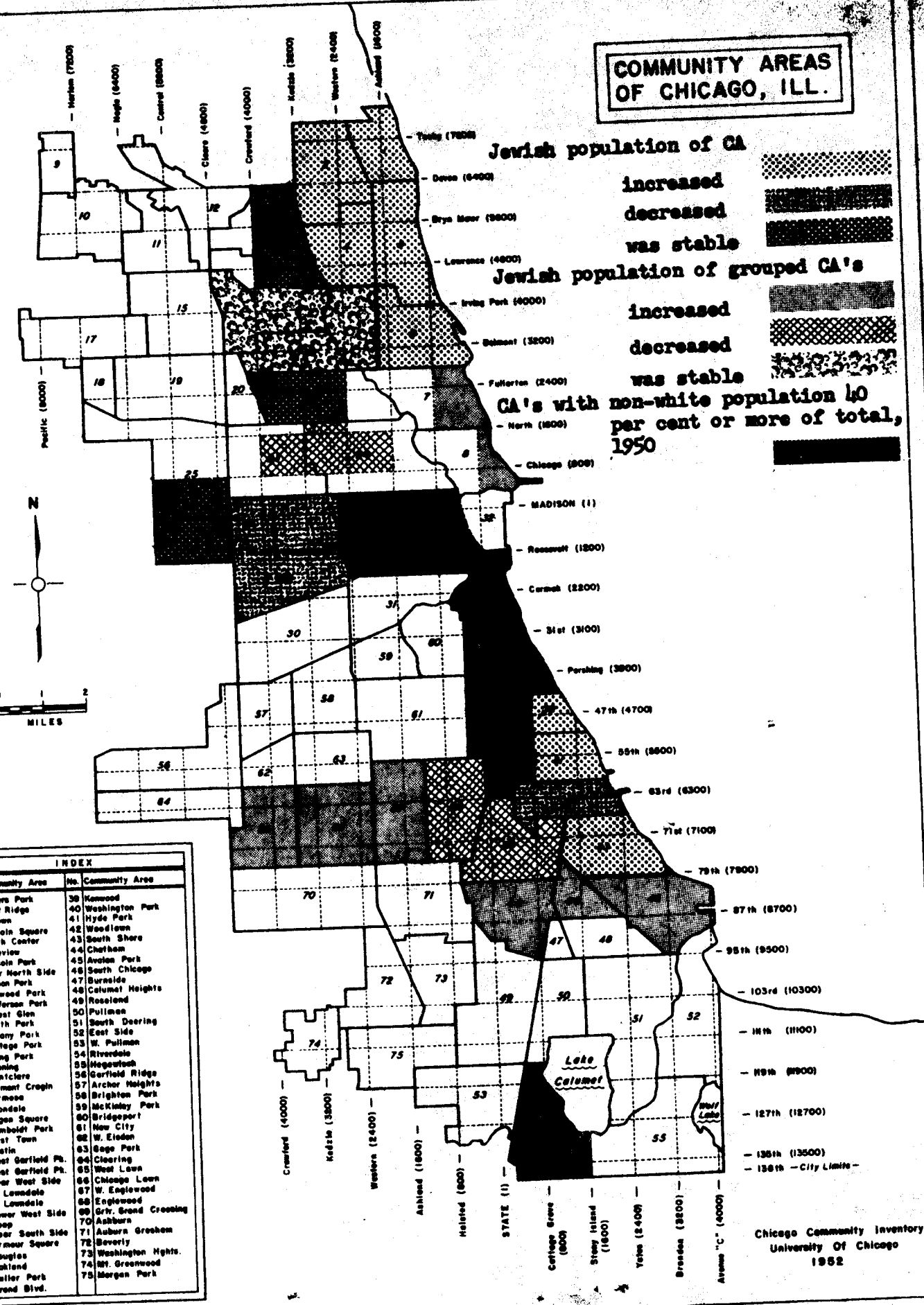
Whereas about one-twelfth of the Jewish population resided in the Kenwood-Hyde Park-South Shore area in 1931, one-sixth of the population resided in these three areas in 1951.

The general pattern of the redistribution of Jewish population within the city is shown in Map 1. The basic data are shown below for selected Community Areas and for the City of Chicago.

Community Area	Estimated Jewish population		Percentage of Jewish population of City of Chicago, by area	
	1931	1951	1931	1951
1-Rogers Park	10,800	18,400	4	7
2-West Ridge	1,800	11,200	*	4
3-Uptown	9,600	16,400	4	6
4-Lincoln Square	1,500	2,100	*	*
6-Lake View	6,300	16,100	2	6
13-North Park (part)	3,600	3,700	1	2
14-Albany Park (part)	23,400	26,400	8	10
22-Logan Square (part)	7,100	6,700	3	3
25-Austin (part)	7,300	7,400	3	3
26-West Garfield Park	18,000	5,300	7	2
27-East Garfield Park	15,300	5,600	6	2
29-North Lawndale	75,400	42,300	28	17
39-Kenwood	4,100	5,300	2	2
41-Hyde Park	9,000	14,700	3	6
42-Woodlawn	3,400	1,900	1	*
43-South Shore	11,600	17,800	4	7
5, 16, 21	5,600	6,500	2	3
7, 8 (part)	2,900	5,000	1	2
23, 24 (part)	28,100	11,400	10	4
44, 45, 46	3,200	5,300	1	2
65, 66, 67	800	3,500	*	1
68, 69	4,100	2,800	2	1
Remainder of city	21,500	15,900	8	6
City of Chicago	274,300	251,800	100	100

*Less than one per cent.

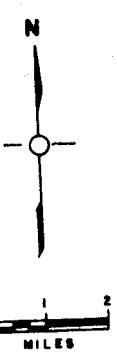
COMMUNITY AREAS OF CHICAGO, ILL.



Jewish population of CA
 increased
 decreased
 was stable

Jewish population of grouped CA's
 increased
 decreased
 was stable

CA's with non-white population 40 per cent or more of total, 1950



INDEX			
No.	Community Area	No.	Community Area
1	Regans Park	38	Kenwood
2	West Ridge	40	Washington Park
3	Uptown	41	Hyde Park
4	Lincoln Square	42	Woodlawn
5	North Center	43	South Shore
6	Lakeview	44	Chatham
7	Lincoln Park	45	Avon Park
8	Near North Side	46	South Chicago
9	Edison Park	47	Burnside
10	Norwood Park	48	Columar Heights
11	Jefferson Park	49	Roosevelt
12	Forest Glen	50	Pullman
13	North Park	51	South Deering
14	Albany Park	52	East Side
15	Puridge Park	53	W. Pullman
16	Irving Park	54	Riverdale
17	Dunning	55	Hegeworth
18	Montclare	56	Garfield Ridge
19	Balmart Crogin	57	Archer Heights
20	Hermosa	58	Brighton Park
21	Arundale	59	McKinley Park
22	Logan Square	60	Bridgeport
23	Humboldt Park	61	New City
24	West Town	62	W. Elston
25	Austin	63	Gate Park
26	West Garfield Ph.	64	Clearing
27	East Garfield Ph.	65	West Law
28	Near West Side	66	Chicago Lawn
29	N. Lawndale	67	W. Englewood
30	S. Lawndale	68	Englewood
31	Lower West Side	69	Grv. Good Crossing
32	Loop	70	Ashburn
33	Near South Side	71	Auburn Grookem
34	Armour Square	72	Beverly
35	Douglas	73	Washington Hghts.
36	DuSable	74	St. Greenwood
37	Father Park	75	Morgan Park
38	Grand Blvd.		

Chicago Community Inventory
 University Of Chicago
 1952

Map 1

The population shifts are, of course, depicted only in gross terms on Map 1. However, the pattern is clear. The west side area, including North Lawndale, East and West Garfield Park, Humboldt Park and West Town, has experienced a large scale out-movement of Jewish population during the twenty year period, while the north and the south lakefront areas have experienced substantial increases in Jewish population. The north central area of the city, Lincoln Square, North Center, North Park, Albany Park, Irving Park, Avondale, Logan Square, as well as the Austin area, has maintained a Jewish population of virtually the same size.

The relation between the movement of the Jewish population and the movement of the Negro population is relevant in assessing the changes. It has been shown that within the City of Chicago reversals in the pattern of Negro movement virtually never occur, i.e., once an area of the city becomes an area of predominantly Negro residence it does not subsequently revert to an area of white residence. In 1950, 40 per cent of the population of Community Area 28, the Near West Side, were nonwhite; more detailed maps indicate increasing proportions of nonwhites in the areas immediately to the west and north of CA 28. In view of this, it seems probable that the movement of total white population as well as of Jewish population from the west side will continue.

On the south side of the city, the area of Negro residence expanded rapidly between 1940 and 1950. The pressures of this expansion are probably at least in part responsible for the observed out-movement of Jewish population from the Woodlawn, Englewood, and Greater Grand Crossing areas. As was indicated previously, it is likely that the Jewish population of Kenwood and Hyde Park have declined during the past few years although their populations are still somewhat greater than in 1931.

4. Composition of the Jewish population. The age and sex composition of the Jewish population of Chicago is obtained as a by-product of the estimating technique. The estimates for age and sex groups are considerably less stable than the estimate for the population as a whole and must be interpreted with caution. However, the distribution by age and sex probably at least approximates the age-sex structure of the Jewish population of the City of Chicago. In comparison with the total white population of the city, the Jewish population has a relative excess of children under 14, a deficit of persons between the ages of 15 and 44 years, and an excess of persons 45 years of age or older. The proportion of females appears to be very slightly higher in the Jewish population than in the total white population.

Age	Estimated Jewish population, 1951					Total white population, 1950		
	Number		Per cent			Per cent		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Less than 14	29,900	33,900	24.7	11.6	13.1	21.3	10.8	10.5
15 - 24	11,600	11,400	9.1	4.6	4.5	13.0	6.3	6.7
25 - 34	18,700	17,700	14.5	7.5	7.0	17.0	8.3	8.7
35 - 44	17,100	22,300	15.7	6.8	8.9	15.9	7.7	8.2
45 - 54	17,700	18,400	14.4	7.1	7.3	13.6	6.7	6.9
55 - 64	14,900	16,100	12.3	5.9	6.4	11.2	5.7	5.5
65 - 74	8,300	9,500	7.1	3.3	3.8	5.8	2.8	3.0
75 or more	2,500	3,100	2.2	1.0	1.2	2.2	0.9	1.3
All persons	120,200	131,600	100.0	47.8	52.2	100.0	49.2	50.8

About two-thirds of the Jewish population of the City of Chicago are native while about one-third are foreign-born. Of these foreign-born, one-sixth were born in what is now the U.S.S.R. while one-sixth were born in other countries. The estimates of the Jewish population by nativity must be regarded as only approximate. It was possible to obtain place of

birth from about 72 percent of the death certificates; however, the percentage varied considerably among different areas of the city. It appears that more than one-half of the Jewish population is native in all areas of the city with the exception of the Humboldt Park-West Town area and East and West Garfield Park.

5. Analysis of changes in foreign-born of U.S.S.R. Despite the fact that the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. comprise only one-sixth of the Jewish population of the City of Chicago, the analysis of changes in the distribution of the foreign-born is useful in assessing changes in the distribution of the Jewish population.

Furthermore, it is possible to determine the areas in which the relative concentration of foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. is greater than the relative concentration of Jewish population and to make appropriate adjustments in the analysis and interpretation of the data. Although there is not a one to one correspondence of the distributions of foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. and Jewish population, the correspondence is sufficiently close to indicate trends.

A comparison of the percentage of the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. enumerated in the City of Chicago in the 1950 Census of Population, and the total Jewish population of the City of Chicago residing in areas with a Jewish population of 7,500 or more is shown below.

Community Area	Percentage of Population residing in area	
	Foreign-born of U.S.S.R.	Jewish population
1-Rogers Park	4.7	7.3
2-West Ridge	2.4	4.4
3-Uptown	5.4	6.5
6-Lake View	4.0	6.4
13, 14-North Park, Albany Park (part)	11.3	11.9
22-Logan Square (part)	3.0	2.7
23, 24-Humboldt Park, West Town (part)	8.1	4.5
29-North Lawndale	20.8	16.8
41-Hyde Park	3.7	5.8
43-South Shore	3.6	7.1
Remainder of city	33.0	26.6
City of Chicago	100.0	100.0
Number	52,879	251,800

About 44,000 of the 53,000 persons born in the U.S.S.R. are estimated to be Jewish, or slightly more than four-fifths.

6. Map series. A Series of maps has been prepared to show changes in the distribution of the foreign-born of what is now the U.S.S.R. between 1930, 1940, and 1950. It is believed that these are indicative of the changes in the distribution of the Jewish population as well. The data plotted are for census tracts with 50 or more U.S.S.R. foreign-born residents in 1950.

Map 1 in the series shows census tracts classified by change in the number of persons born in the U.S.S.R. per square mile of land area between 1930 and 1940, and 1940 and 1950. The Rogers Park, West Ridge, and South Shore areas show increases in the number of persons born in the U.S.S.R. for both decades while the North Lawndale, Garfield Park, Humboldt Park, West Town, and Logan Square areas indicate a decline in the number of persons born in the U.S.S.R. for both decades. The Kenwood, Hyde Park, and Albany Park areas show an increase between 1930 and 1940 but a decrease between 1940 and 1950.

Census tracts, classified by change in the percentage of total population comprised by the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R., are shown in Map 2. For a census tract to show an increase, the number of foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. must have increased at a more rapid rate than the total population or have declined less rapidly than the total population of the area. The general pattern of change is similar to that described above with respect to Map 1.

The census tracts shown on Map 3 are those in which the percentage of total population comprised by persons born in the U.S.S.R. was higher than the percentage of total population comprised by persons born in the U.S.S.R. for the city as a whole in 1950. These tracts might be thought of as areas of relative concentration of the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. They have been further classified by the duration of time that they have been areas of relative concentration. The North Lawndale, Garfield Park,

Humboldt Park, West Town, Logan Square, Albany Park, and North Park areas have been areas of concentration of the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. since 1930. By 1940, the Kenwood-Hyde Park-South Shore area was becoming an area of concentration of the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. and the Rogers Park area became increasingly an area of concentration. The West Ridge area first appears as an area of concentration in 1950 while the South Shore area of concentration expanded between 1940 and 1950.

These areas of concentration are also shown in relation to the areas of nonwhite concentration within the city. All census tracts in which the proportion of nonwhites was higher than their proportion in the city as a whole in 1950 have been shaded. Those parts of Kenwood and Hyde Park adjacent to Cottage Grove Avenue are areas of relative concentration of both the nonwhite and the U.S.S.R. foreign-born population in 1950 as are the eastern parts of North Lawndale. It may be expected that the proportion nonwhite in these areas will increase while the proportion of U.S.S.R. foreign-born will decline.

Maps 4, 5, and 6 show by census tract the percentage of the total population comprised by the U.S.S.R. foreign-born population for 1930, 1940, and 1950 respectively. The census tracts were ordered from high to low by the percentage of population comprised by the U.S.S.R. foreign-born. Intervals were selected in such a way that ten per cent of the U.S.S.R. foreign-born residing in the tracts analyzed are included in each interval.

In 1930, ten per cent of the foreign-born of the U.S.S.R. resided in two census tracts just east of Crawford at Roosevelt Road. These two tracts contained less than one per cent of the total population; the U.S.S.R. foreign-born comprised about 34 per cent of the total population in the tracts. One-fifth of the U.S.S.R. foreign-born resided in seven tracts, all in the North Lawndale area, while only one and one-half per cent of the total population

resided in these tracts.

In 1940, one-fifth of the U.S.S.R. foreign-born resided in 11 census tracts, nine in the North Lawndale area, one in East Garfield Park, and one in Albany Park; these tracts contained a little over one and one-half per cent of the total population.

By 1950, one-fifth of the U.S.S.R. foreign-born resided in 11 census tracts, eight in the North Lawndale area and three in the Albany Park area; these tracts contained two per cent of the total population.

Changes in the ranking of census tracts by percentage of the total population comprised by the U.S.S.R. foreign-born can be observed by comparing the three maps. For example, in 1930 the north and south lake front areas show virtually no concentration of U.S.S.R. foreign-born population; by 1940 these areas show moderate concentration, and by 1950 they show a relatively heavy concentration.

This discussion indicates in very general terms the changes in distribution revealed by a cartographic analysis. While the distributions of the Jewish population and the U.S.S.R. foreign-born population do not coincide perfectly, the analysis of changes for the U.S.S.R. foreign born population and the comparison of different sets of estimates of the Jewish population substantiate one another in terms of the direction of movement of population and to some extent in terms of the magnitude of these shifts.

7. Method of estimation. The technique of estimation used in the study has been referred to as the "death certificate" method of population estimation. The basic information essential for the application of the technique is (1) a schedule of age-sex-specific death rates which approximates the mortality experience of the population to be estimated during the period for which the estimate is to be made and (2) the number of deaths, classified by the age and sex of the deceased, occurring in the population

which is to be estimated during the period for which the estimate is to be made.

The success of the "death certificate" technique of population estimation depends in large part upon the closeness of the schedule of age-sex-specific death rates used in the estimation procedure to the schedule of age-sex-specific death rates actually existing in the population which is being estimated. The age-sex-specific death rates for the white population of each area should closely approximate the age-sex-specific death rates for the Jewish population of the area. This is especially true for those areas in which a large proportion of the white population is Jewish.

The age-sex-specific death rates for the white population were based on the average number of deaths occurring in the population during 1950 and 1951. Deaths for the Jewish population were obtained for 1950 and 1951. Hence, the estimates are not distorted by changes in the death rate over time.

The computational procedure can be illustrated with hypothetical data. The white population, classified by age and sex, of Community Area X on 1 April 1950 is available from the 1950 Census of population. The number of deaths, classified by age and sex, occurring to white residents of Community Area X between 1 January 1950 and 31 December 1951 is available from the death registration records of the city. With these data, a table for the computation of age-sex-specific death rates is constructed.

Age and sex	White population 1950	Average deaths 1950-51	Deaths per 1,000 white population
Persons 25-34			
Males	20,000	200	10
Females	20,000	160	8
Persons 35-44			
Males	20,000	260	13
Females	20,000	220	11

For persons 25 to 34 years of age, the death rate is 10 per 1,000 for males and 8 per 1,000 for females in Community Area X in 1950. For persons 35 to 44 years of age, the death rate was 13 per 1,000 for males and 11 per 1,000 for females.

The number of deaths occurring in the Jewish population, classified by age and sex, for the period 1 January 1950 to 31 December 1951, is available from the records of the Jewish undertakers. The number of these deaths, classified by age and sex, with the place of residence recorded as Community Area X is compiled. A table for the computation of the estimated Jewish population can then be constructed.

Age and sex	Average deaths 1950-51	Deaths per 1,000 white population	Estimated Jewish population
Persons 25-34	.	.	.
Males	22	10	2,200
Females	18	8	2,250
Persons 35-44	.	.	.
Males	26	13	2,000
Females	21	11	1,909

Among males 25 to 34 years of age, 22 deaths were observed in the Jewish population; with each 10 deaths in the white population representing 1,000 persons, the 22 observed deaths represent 2,200 persons (.01 divided into 22). Similarly, among females 25 to 34 years of age, 18 deaths were observed; with each 8 deaths representing 1,000 persons, the 18 observed deaths represent 2,250 persons.

These computational steps were carried out for each age and sex group within each area of the city. The estimated Jewish population of the area is the sum of the estimates for the age and sex groups in the area; the estimated Jewish population for the City of Chicago is the sum of the estimates for all areas comprising the city.

8. Comments on estimation technique. For purposes of this study, the universe of Jewish deaths has been defined as deaths recorded by Jewish undertakers in the City of Chicago. Hence, the estimated Jewish population obtained represents the Jewish population which observes the tradition of burial by a Jewish undertaker.

It has been noted in previous studies that the estimated size of the Jewish population in a city is affected by the way in which "Jewish" is defined. The Yom Kippur estimation technique obtains an estimate of the Jewish population which observes Yom Kippur, as indicated by the absence of Jewish children from the schools on that day. A survey estimation technique obtains an estimate of the Jewish population which reports itself as of the Jewish faith. Any estimation technique based upon the identification of Jewish names obtains an estimate of the population identified by a research staff as Jewish.

The "death certificate" technique, as well as the Yom Kippur technique, limits the Jewish population to those persons actually participating in the traditions of the Jewish faith. Hence, it might be expected to be a slightly smaller population than the population reporting itself as of the Jewish faith and a somewhat different population than that identified by an outside observer.

Other studies of the Jewish population of Chicago have been used for comparative purposes. These include:

A. J. Jaffe, "A Study of Chicago Jewry (1930). Based on Death Certificates," in Jewish Population Studies, ed., by Sophia M. Robison.

W. A. Goldberg, Jewish Population of Chicago, 1931, by Community Areas and Census Tracts, Jewish Charities of Chicago, 1934.

Erich Rosenthal, The Jewish Population of Chicago, Illinois, The College of Jewish Studies, 1952.

Population Characteristics of Metropolitan Chicago, 1947, The Chicago Tribune, 1947.