

**National Jewish
Population Study**

MOBILITY
Facts for Planning

One of a series of reports on the study findings



**Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds
315 Park Ave. South, New York, N. Y. 10010**

This is one of a series of reports on the findings of the National Jewish Population Study sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. This is the first comprehensive national study made of the Jewish population of the United States.

The NJPS, under the direction of Dr. Fred Massarik of the University of California of Los Angeles and a distinguished group of colleagues, was based on a sample scientifically chosen so as to be representative of the total U.S. Jewish population. This sample included communities of all sizes and in all parts of the country, with random samplings to include Jews not on any organizational lists as well as those who were.

While the NJPS data are of interest and value to many individuals concerned with Jewish life, the Federations which financed the study have as their purpose the use of the findings in local, regional and national planning. The initial set of reports will, therefore, be elements relating most closely to these concerns.

Each community will also now have facts which set a national perspective for its own local situation. In addition, the projections for the future made possible by the national study should enable Federations to anticipate in their planning the demands brought about by changing population patterns.

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MOBILITY OF JEWISH POPULATION
by
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The mobility of Jews has a direct bearing on community financing, planning, services, and structure.

It affects fund raising organization and coverage, location of facilities and services, involvement in boards and committees. Even more basically, it affects community stability, personal and social loyalties, ties, relationships, and influences.

The National Jewish Population Study has gathered the first comprehensive body of facts on the extent and nature of Jewish mobility, and projections of what may be expected. The following are some of the first highlights of the findings:

58% of those aged 30-34 were in a different city in 1970 from where they were in 1965. 19% were in a different state.

51% of those aged 35-39 were in a different city in 1970 from where they were in 1965. 7% were in a different state.

61% of those aged 25-29 were planning to move. 11% immediately.

19% of those aged 35-39 were planning to move. 9% immediately.

20% of those aged 25-29 were planning to move within the same city; 18% outside the city but in the same state; 12% outside the state.

4% of those aged 35-39 were planning to move within the same city; 2% outside the city but in the same state; 10% to a different state.

With different types of mobility, there are usually associated differential sets of characteristics based on age and socio-economic levels.

Overall, 82% of the sample had resided five years previously in the same city or in the same county or census metropolitan area. Some 9% had come from another state. However, there were significant differences between age groups.

For those aged 25 to 34, approximately one out of every five had moved from another state to their residence in 1970-71. This proportion then drops so that for the age groups 50 to 64, the range is from 3% to 7%. With the age groups 65 to 74, the proportions coming from a different state to the present residence jumps to a level of from 8% to 11%.

The substantial movement from state-to-state in the age group 25 to 34 is consistent with demographic data reported for this group; namely, high educational achievements and a larger proportion in the professional occupational categories. Thus, a substantial proportion of young households with children will not have roots in the community in which they have come to live.

A different problem surfaces with the statistics on the aging population. If mobility between states were random, the anticipated increases in the absolute number of aged after 1970-71 would also be random. But we know that the aged tend to move from what has been described as the "snow belt" to the "sun belt". Therefore, the impact of the increase in the number of aging individuals will be greater in the cities located in the "sun belt" while somewhat attenuated for the cities in the other areas.

Tables 2 and 3 reflect "plans" for moving rather than past residence. Roughly, one in six (18%) of Jewish adults indicate that some move, from their present home to another, is in their future. This itself suggests a fairly high degree of potential mobility. But as shown in Table 2, age is a crucial factor in forecasting the future likelihood of a move away from the home now occupied. The most significant contrasts appear at the extremes of the adult age distribution.

The aged, especially the "older" aged, those past their seventieth birthday, are the most reluctant movers. Twelve percent or fewer of those in their advanced years contemplate a change in residence. On the other hand, there is a time when a move becomes inevitable: 8% of those in the 75 to 79 age bracket are in the midst of immediate moving plans, perhaps in connection with a move to an aged home, an economy apartment, or to a nursing home or other protective environment.

A dramatically different picture, as expected, appears in the years of young adulthood. Here, the pressure toward movement peaks. The extent of this coming-and-going is significant. Very nearly two-thirds (61%) of those aged 25 to 29 are planning to move. The corresponding figures for

the 20 to 24 group and for the 30 to 34 group respectively are 47% and 29% -- again very considerably above the general adult average of 18%. It is only beyond the thirty-five year age mark that some measure of "settling down" occurs in the Jewish population's residential mobility.

Immediate plans, or plans to move within one year, are most prevalent for those under thirty. Between 18 to 21% of these age groups are now "on the move".

There is often uncertainty as to just where one intends to move. However, in Table 3, some sense of trend by type of destination is indicated.

A good share of projected movement is expected to occur within the boundaries of the city, town or county of present residence. This includes continuing trends toward suburban location, as well as the makings of possible movement toward higher-income and upper-middle class urban areas; the figures are striking especially for those between the ages of 20 and 34. Those aged 25 to 29 are most likely to move out-of-state (12%).

Within-state movement is expected to be substantial among young men and women under thirty (13 to 18%). But there is also a notable amount of doubt as to destination (9%).

For the aged, 65 years old and over, overwhelmingly it is the local community of present residence that is mentioned as a moving destination, if indeed a move of any kind is visualized.

Given the substance of the figures above, a large scale exodus from one state to another, or a major realignment of Jewish population from one part of the country to another cannot be projected. Rather, the likely tendency is one of rather selective movement, primarily within local community areas, and to a lesser extent intra-state shifts.

It would appear from a comparison of "plans to move" and actual change in residence that there may be a tendency for persons to report conservatively on plans to move out of the present state of residence. In 1970-71, approximately one out of every eleven adults lived in a state different from his or her residence in 1965. Yet, expected moving destination to another state was four percent for all adults.

Exact comparisons are difficult, but the data from the two tables would seem to indicate that "plans" for interstate moving may understate actual experience.

TABLE I

MOBILITY: CURRENT RESIDENCE BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN 1965, BY AGE
(TOTAL FOR EACH AGE GROUP = 100%)

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Same City As 1965</u>	<u>Different city, same general area, In 1965*</u>	<u>Different area same State As 1965</u>	<u>Different State From 1965</u>	<u>In Foreign Country In 1965</u>
20 - 24	60.2	28.3	1.3	8.0	1.7
25 - 29	48.0	21.3	2.6	22.8	4.2
30 - 34	41.6	30.8	2.9	18.8	4.5
35 - 39	48.6	28.7	11.7	7.1	3.5
40 - 44	62.2	22.1	1.6	12.0	1.5
45 - 49	66.8	16.6	1.3	11.9	1.0
50 - 54	67.2	17.7	3.0	6.5	5.1
55 - 59	75.3	13.6	2.0	3.4	5.4
60 - 64	76.1	12.4	1.7	4.8	1.5
65 - 69	70.1	14.8	.7	10.9	2.6
70 - 74	70.2	17.5	.7	8.2	2.3
75 - 79	69.9	17.6	3.7	4.0	2.7
80 up	62.7	24.6	1.5	5.2	2.6
Total**	61.6	20.0	3.1	8.9	2.5

NB - Horizontal details may not add to 100 because of "no answer".

* - Same county or same Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area.

** - Includes six percent persons under 19 for whom no detailed data are shown above.

TABLE 2

MOBILITY: PLANS TO MOVE, BY AGE
(TOTAL POPULATION FOR EACH AGE GROUP = 100 PERCENT)

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Immediately</u>	<u>Within 1 Year</u>	<u>Within 5 Years</u>	<u>Total moving plans specified by Time</u>	<u>Don't know about moving time</u>	<u>Total planning to move</u>
20 - 24	11.2	6.5	23.2	40.9	6.0	46.9
25 - 29	11.0	9.6	38.9	59.5	1.7	61.2
30 - 34	3.2	2.9	22.2	28.3	.9	29.2
35 - 39	9.1	1.8	7.0	17.9	.7	18.6
40 - 44	4.0	1.2	9.4	14.6	.7	15.3
45 - 49	6.0	1.3	7.7	15.0	.8	15.8
50 - 54	2.8	1.3	9.5	13.6	1.6	15.2
55 - 59	5.6	1.0	10.1	16.7	2.0	18.7
60 - 64	2.6	2.4	8.9	13.9	2.6	16.5
65 - 69	4.0	1.5	7.0	12.5	4.7	17.2
70 - 74	4.3	1.5	3.6	9.4	1.5	10.9
75 - 79	7.5	.8	2.5	10.8	1.0	11.8
80 and Over	.7	.6	1.9	3.2	1.3	4.5
Avg: Jewish Adults	4.3	2.0	9.8	16.1	1.6	17.7

TABLE 3

MOBILITY: EXPECTED MOVING DESTINATION
(TOTAL POPULATION FOR EACH AGE GROUP = 100 PERCENT)

Age Group	<u>In Same City</u>	<u>In Same State</u>	<u>To different State</u>	<u>To Foreign Country</u>	<u>Destination Uncertain</u>	<u>Other, Moving Plans Uncertain</u>	<u>Total Planning to move</u>
20 - 24	10.7	12.5	8.3	1.5	8.9	5.0	46.9
25 - 29	20.1	17.5	11.5	1.6	8.7	1.8	61.2
30 - 34	14.3	5.4	5.5	1.1	2.3	.6	29.2
35 - 39	4.2	2.4	9.8	.7	1.0	.5	18.6
40 - 44	3.9	4.8	4.2	.6	1.2	.6	15.3
45 - 49	4.6	3.6	3.2	2.0	1.9	.5	15.8
50 - 54	4.3	2.1	4.1	2.1	1.3	1.3	15.2
55 - 59	3.7	2.2	3.1	2.2	5.7	1.8	18.7
60 - 64	5.8	1.5	4.2	1.3	1.1	2.6	16.5
65 - 69	6.8	.7	3.0	.7	1.6	4.4	17.2
70 - 74	5.7	.7	1.2	.9	.9	1.5	10.9
75 - 79	2.6	.7	1.7	.5	5.9	.4	11.8
80 up	1.3	.9	.9	.2	0	1.2	4.5
Avg.: Jewish Adults	5.2	3.7	3.6	1.0	2.7	1.4	17.7

Note: Each age group (e.g. 20-24) equals 100%. Thus, the first data line shows that, of all Jewish persons in ages 20 to 24, 46.9% are planning to move.