2001 Census Analysis Series
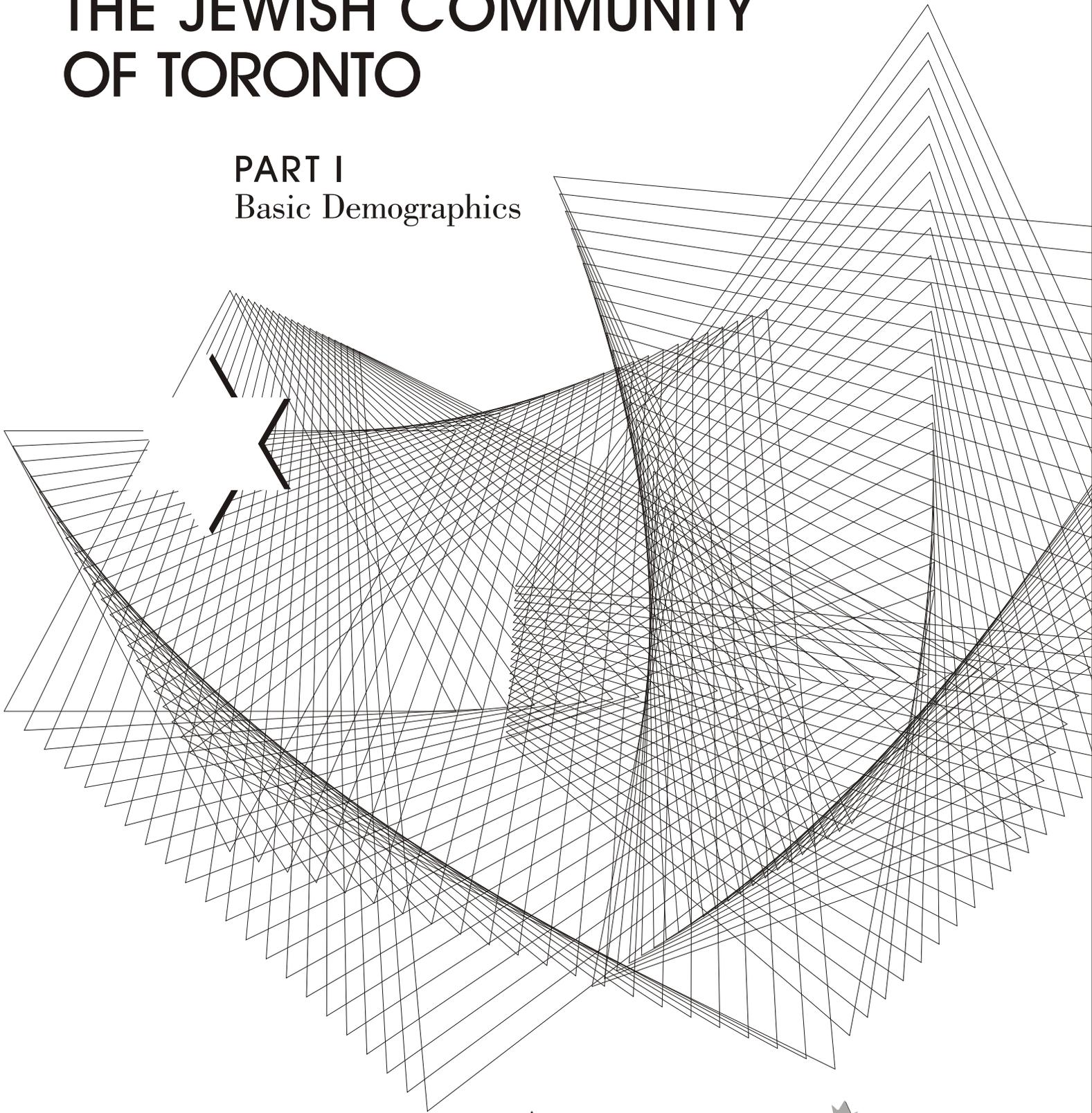
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF TORONTO

PART I
Basic Demographics

By Charles Shahar &
Tina Rosenbaum
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UJA FEDERATION
OF GREATER TORONTO

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מגבית הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה

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Highlights of Results

- The Jewish population of Toronto was 179,100 in 2001. Jews comprised 3.9% of the total Toronto population.

- Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish community grew by 16,050 people, or 9.8%. The rate of growth of the community has slowed somewhat in the last decade.

- Toronto has the largest Jewish community in Canada, and about a half (48.3%) of the country's Jewish population.

- In terms of age breakdowns, the 15-24 year cohort has risen since 1991. In 2001 there were 23,210 in this cohort, compared to 19,535 in 1991.

- The 25-44 age group has decreased markedly in the last decade. In 2001, there were 46,365 individuals in this cohort, compared to 53,425 in 1991.

- The 45-64 age group has increased dramatically since 1991. There were 46,800 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 30,500 in 1991. This cohort represents the "baby-boomer" generation.

- Finally, the number of Jewish seniors has increased as well. There were 27,495 seniors in 2001, compared to 24,860 in 1991.

- The median age of the Toronto Jewish community (39.4 years) is slightly younger than that of the Canadian Jewish population (40.2 years).

- A very significant proportion (84.7%) of the Jewish population in Ontario is located in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area.

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Census Analysis Series
Basic Demographics

The 2001 Census provides an important opportunity to obtain a demographic "snapshot" of the Jewish community in Toronto. This analysis is the first in a series of Census reports that examine the characteristics of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area.

This report is considered particularly timely given the continued growth of the Toronto Jewish community in the last decade. As immigrants from overseas and across Canada have settled here, the community has continued to thrive and gain in prominence. Toronto currently has the largest Jewish community in the country, and almost half of its Jewish population.

Toronto's Jewish community is close-knit and diverse, with a long history of Jewish philanthropy and a well-established system of communal organizations. But like most other large Jewish communities across North America, it is also facing certain challenges.

A particular challenge has been the enhancement of existing infrastructure to accommodate rapid Jewish expansion in the greater Toronto area. Other issues include how to reach segments residing in areas outside of Jewish concentration, and how to respond to a growing elderly population.

As the population continues to grow, it is vital that community leaders and planners develop an accurate demographic picture of its diverse nature. The following analysis attempts to shed further light on the dynamics of the Jewish population here.

This report begins with an historical demographic perspective, followed by gender and age breakdowns. It then compares Toronto's Jewish population with other ethnic and religious groups. Important explanations of the utility and reliability of the Census, as well as how Jewish identity is defined, are included in the Appendices. Additional data tables are then presented in the final part of this analysis.

The current report is an analysis of the Jewish community within the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area or CMA. This includes within its parameters not only the

Table 1
Jewish & Non-Jewish Populations
Toronto CMA

	#	%
Jewish	179,100	3.9
Non-Jewish	4,468,855	96.1
Total	4,647,955	100.0

Table 2
Jewish Population of Toronto CMA
Historical Summary*

	Jewish Population	# Change From Previous Census	% Change From Previous Census
2001	179,100	+16,050	+9.8
1991	163,050	+33,725	+26.1
1981	129,325	+22,015	+20.5
1971	107,310	+18,662	+21.0
1961	88,648	+21,875	+32.8
1951	66,773	+14,335	+27.4
1941	52,418	+5,816	+12.5
1931	46,602	+12,075	+35.0
1921	34,527	--	--

*Data previous to 1971 are based solely on the religion variable, whereas statistics cited for 1971 to 2001 are based on the Jewish Standard Definition described in Appendix 3. No figures are available for Census Metropolitan Areas before 1941. The researchers were able to construct equivalent geographic units for Censuses previous to that year.

city of Toronto, but surrounding suburbs and municipalities such as York Region to the North; Pickering, Ajax and Uxbridge to the East; and Brampton, Mississauga, and Oakville to the West.

Note that anyone who expressed a Jewish affiliation, and fell within the parameters of the Jewish Standard Definition (see Appendix 3), is included in this analysis. Not included are Jews living in institutions-such as nursing homes, prisons or psychiatric facilities. This is because they were not given the long form of the Census, and hence, no data are available regarding their Jewish identification.

Total Population & Historical Analysis

In 2001, the Jewish population of the Toronto CMA was 179,100 (Table 1). Jews comprised 3.9% of Toronto's total population of 4,647,955.

The Jewish population figure for 2001 represented a net gain from 1991, when there were 163,050 individuals here. Between 1991 and 2001 the Jewish population of Toronto rose by 16,050 people, or 9.8% (Table 2).

The population gain between 1991 and 2001 was less pronounced than between 1981 and 1991. In the latter decade, the community grew by 33,725 people or 26.1%.

In terms of absolute numbers, the gain between 1991 and 2001 was only about half as pronounced as between 1981 and 1991. At least for the last decade, the rate of growth of the Toronto Jewish population has slowed somewhat.

Between 1971 and 1981 the gain was not quite as dramatic as that evident between 1981 and 1991, but it represented a substantial increase nonetheless. Between 1971 and 1981, the community experienced a gain of 22,015 people or 20.5%.

The Toronto Jewish population has been increasing since the community began to swell in numbers at the turn of the last century. Particularly large increases were evident between 1901 and 1931, as well as between 1945 and 1971. In the 1930's, restricted Jewish immigration to Canada slowed some of the growth experienced in previous decades.

Table 3 looks at the Jewish population relative to the total population in Toronto. It

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

Census Year	Total Population	Non-Jewish Population	Jewish Population	% Jewish
2001	4,647,955	4,468,855	179,100	3.9
1991	3,863,110	3,700,060	163,050	4.2
1981	2,975,500	2,846,175	129,325	4.3
1971	2,628,125	2,520,815	107,310	4.1

Table 4
Toronto & Canadian Jewish Populations
Historical Summary

Census Year	Toronto Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population	% of Cdn Jewish Population	Ranking Among Cdn Jewish Communities
2001	179,100	370,520	48.3	1
1991	163,050	358,055	45.5	1
1981	129,325	313,865	41.2	1
1971	107,310	286,555	37.4	2

Table 5
Gender Breakdowns
Toronto & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Toronto Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
Males	87,465	48.8	182,910	49.4
Females	91,635	51.2	187,610	50.6
Total	179,100	100.0	370,520	100.0

can be seen that the percentage of the Jewish population relative to the total seems to have peaked in 1981, when Jews comprised 4.3% of the total population.

Jews have represented a smaller proportion in the last two Censuses because the growth rate of the total Toronto population has been increasing at a faster pace than that of the Jewish population. For instance, between 1981 and 2001 the growth rate for the total Toronto population was 56.2%, whereas the Toronto Jewish community grew by 38.5%.

On the other hand, the discrepancy between both growth rates is not that large when one considers that in 1971, the Jewish community comprised 4.1% of the total Toronto population, whereas in 2001 it comprised 3.9%, a difference of only 0.2%.

Table 4 compares Toronto's Jewish population to the Canadian Jewish population. In 1981, Toronto's Jewish community became the largest in Canada, surpassing the Jewish population of Montreal.

Toronto comprised almost half (48.3%) of the Canadian Jewish population in 2001. In 1981, it represented 41.2% of the Canadian

Jewish total. Calculations reveal that between 1981 and 2001 the Canadian Jewish population increased by 18.1%, whereas the Toronto Jewish population grew by 38.5%. In short, the Toronto Jewish community is growing at a faster rate than the Jewish population in Canada as a whole.

This is particularly evident when only the last decade is taken into consideration. Between 1991 and 2001, the Canadian Jewish population grew by a mere 3.5%, whereas the Toronto Jewish community increased by 9.8%. In other words, whereas the Toronto Jewish community's rate of growth was slower than in previous decades, it was nonetheless more pronounced than that of the national Jewish population.

Gender & Age Breakdowns

According to Table 5, there is a slightly smaller proportion of males than females in Toronto's Jewish community. Less than forty-nine percent (48.8%) of the Jewish population is male, compared to 51.2% female. The longer life expectancy of female seniors largely explains this discrepancy, as will be discussed below.

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

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	918,975	19.8	35,235	19.7	883,740	19.8
15-24	607,665	13.1	23,210	13.0	584,455	13.1
25-44	1,548,010	33.3	46,365	25.9	1,501,645	33.6
45-64	1,069,570	23.0	46,800	26.1	1,022,775	22.9
65+	503,735	10.8	27,495	15.4	476,240	10.7
Total	4,647,955	100.0	179,105	100.0	4,468,855	100.0

Table 7
Age Breakdowns
Toronto & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Toronto Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-14	35,235	19.7	71,590	19.3
15-24	23,210	13.0	48,430	13.1
25-44	46,365	25.9	90,510	24.4
45-64	46,800	26.1	98,115	26.5
65+	27,495	15.4	61,875	16.7
Total	179,105	100.0	370,520	100.0

A slight discrepancy in the gender breakdown is also apparent for the Jewish population of Canada, but it is not as marked as that for Toronto. Males comprise 49.4% of the Canadian Jewish population, whereas females comprise 50.6%.

Table 6 examines age breakdowns for Toronto Jews, non-Jews and their totals. The Jewish population has an almost identical proportion of children 0-14 years of age as the total population (19.7% and 19.8% respectively). The proportions of those 15-24 years of age are also comparable for the Toronto Jewish and total populations (13% and 13.1% respectively).

However, in the economically productive age group of 25-44, the discrepancy is marked. Only 25.9% of Jews fall into this age cohort, whereas 33.3% of the total Toronto population is represented here.

Another comparison of these two age distributions shows that there is a somewhat higher proportion of those 45-64 years for Jews than the total Toronto population (26.1% and 23% respectively). Finally the Jewish community also has a larger proportion of seniors (15.4%) than the total population (10.8%).

All in all, there is a significantly higher percentage of Toronto Jews at the higher end of the age distribution (45+ years) than in the total population: 41.5% of Toronto Jews are 45+ years, compared to 33.8% of the overall population.

Table 7 compares age distributions of the Toronto and Canadian Jewish populations. These distributions are very similar. There is a slightly higher proportion in the 25-44 year cohort for Toronto, compared to Canadian Jews (25.9% and 24.4% respectively). The Toronto Jewish community has a lower proportion of elderly 65+ years than the Canadian Jewish population (15.4% and 16.7% respectively).

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

Table 8 is an historical summary of age breakdowns for Toronto's Jewish community. A number of interesting findings can be gleaned from this table. First, the number of those between 0-14 years of age has increased since the 1991 Census, but not by a significant amount. In

Table 8
Age by Census Year
Toronto Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	35,235	19.7	34,715	21.3	24,300	18.8	22,735	21.2
15-24	23,210	13.0	19,535	12.0	18,600	14.4	20,445	19.1
25-44	46,365	25.9	53,425	32.8	40,275	31.1	24,955	23.3
45-64	46,800	26.1	30,500	18.7	27,700	21.4	27,765	25.9
65+	27,495	15.4	24,860	15.2	18,450	14.3	11,410	10.6
Total	179,105	100.0	163,035	100.0	129,325	100.0	107,310	100.0

Figure 1
Age by Census Year
Toronto Jewish Community
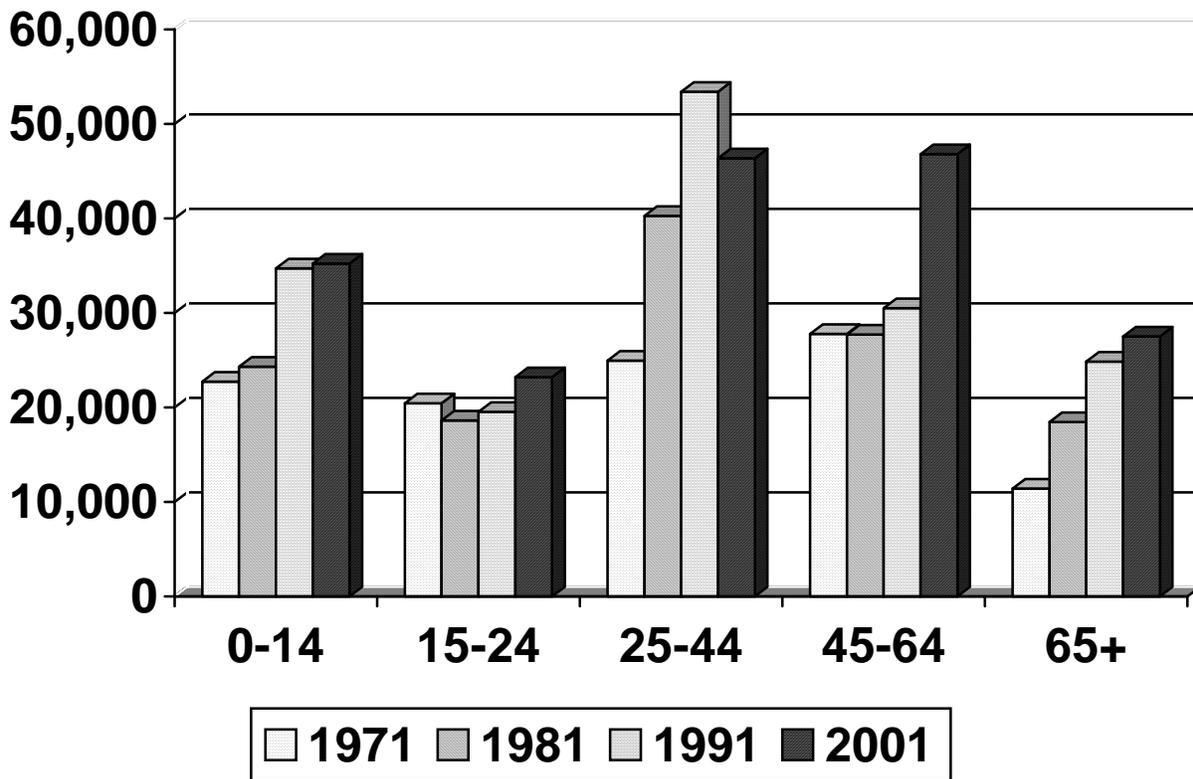
2001 there were 35,235 children under 15 years of age, compared to 34,715 in 1991.

The 15-24 year cohort has been rising steadily since 1981. In 2001 there were 23,210 in this cohort, compared to 19,535 in 1991, and 18,600 in 1981. This finding is particularly encouraging since this cohort of older teens and young adults represents the future of the community.

The 25-44 year cohort has decreased since 1991. In 2001, there were 46,365 individuals in this group, compared to 53,425 in 1991. This represents a noteworthy drop for this economically productive age group. In 1991 this group comprised almost a third (32.8%) of the Jewish population, but in 2001 it comprised only a quarter (25.9%) of the distribution.

The 45-64 age group has increased very significantly since 1991. There were 46,800 individuals in this cohort in 2001, compared to 30,500 in 1991. This bulge in the distribution represents the "baby-boomer" generation.

Finally, the number of Jewish seniors has increased as well. There were 27,495 seniors in 2001, compared to 24,860 in 1991. The baby-boomers will begin swelling the ranks of the elderly even further by the time the next Census is conducted in 2011.

Figure 1 represents an historical analysis of age trends. This graph vividly illustrates the various peaks and valleys related to gains and losses within each age cohort. The reader should follow each age group in step-wise progression, each step representing a different Census year.

It can be seen that the 0-14 age cohort had increased dramatically in 1991, and only slightly in the last decade. The 15-24 cohort has remained relatively steady in the last thirty years, with the largest increase evident in the last decade.

As Figure 1 also shows, the 25-44 cohort peaked in 1991, and significantly decreased by 2001. The 45-64 cohort has increased substantially in the last decade. This increase is perhaps the most dramatic aspect of the entire graph.

Finally, as noted in Table 8, the seniors (65+) cohort has been rising steadily. Its growth is the most consistent feature of this graph, and is represented by a step-like progression in the last set of bars.

Table 9
Age by Gender
Toronto Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	35,235	19.7	17,940	20.5	17,290	18.9
15-24	23,210	13.0	11,850	13.5	11,355	12.4
25-44	46,365	25.9	22,620	25.9	23,750	25.9
45-64	46,795	26.1	22,865	26.1	23,930	26.1
65+	27,495	15.4	12,185	13.9	15,310	16.7
Total	179,100	100.0	87,460	100.0	91,635	100.0

The graph is also useful for anticipating general demographic trends in the coming decades. For instance, the peak in 1991 of the 25-44 year "baby-boomer" cohort translated into significant gains for the 45-64 cohort in 2001. This cohort simply moved into the next age range in the intervening decade. As mentioned above, this bulge will have an impact on the elderly cohort in the next Census, and will likely continue to "feed" into this cohort for at least another decade following 2011.

The 15-24 age group represents the children of the baby-boomers. It will begin to "feed" into the 25-44 age group by the 2011 Census. The 45-64 year segment will likely decrease somewhat in 2011 given the current dip in the 25-44 year cohort.

Finally, the 15-24 age group will continue to grow, given that the 0-14 cohort will "feed" into it as vigorously as it had in the decade between 1991 and 2001.

Using age breakdowns, it is possible to calculate the dependency ratio for a particular community. The dependency ratio is the proportion of children (0-14 years) and seniors (65+ years) relative to economically productive adults (15-64

years). The higher the dependency ratio of a community, the fewer the people in their wage earning years to support children and non-working seniors.

The dependency ratio for the Toronto Jewish community is 0.54. This ratio has increased in the last 30 years. In 1971 the dependency ratio was 0.47, whereas in 1981 it was 0.49. The ratio peaked in 1991 at 0.58, a similar level to the 2001 figure.

In comparison, the dependency ratio for the total Toronto population is 0.44, well below that of the Toronto Jewish community (0.54). The dependency ratio for the Canadian Jewish population is 0.56. It is 0.70 for the Montreal Jewish community and 0.42 for the Vancouver Jewish community.

A cross-tabulation of age by gender for the Toronto Jewish population is presented in Table 9. It can be seen that males slightly outnumber females at the younger end of the distribution. For instance, there are 17,940 males between 0-14 years compared with 17,290 females. This is not a surprising finding since in most population distributions worldwide there is a small excess of males among births. There are also

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

Census Year	Total Population	Jewish Population	Non-Jewish Population
2001	36.0	39.4	35.9
1991	33.1	36.4	33.0
1981	30.5	34.0	30.4
1971	28.1	32.3	28.0

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

Census Year	Toronto Jewish Population	Canadian Jewish Population
2001	39.4	40.2
1991	36.4	37.3
1981	34.0	34.6
1971	32.3	33.6

more males than females in the 15-24 age group for the Jewish community.

In the remaining cohorts, however, females outnumber males. This trend is particularly evident among seniors. There are 15,310 female elderly, compared to 12,185 male elderly. Such a discrepancy mirrors the trend of other populations worldwide with an excess of male versus female mortality. That is, males tend to have shorter life spans than females, and this accounts for the larger proportion of females among seniors.

The reader is referred to Tables 16 to 19 in Appendix 5 for more detailed age distributions, including 5-year and 10-year age breakdowns, as well as single-year breakdowns to age 19.

Table 10 looks at median ages for the Jewish, non-Jewish and total Toronto populations by Census year. It is clear from this table that the median age of the Jewish population in this metropolitan area has been steadily increasing. It was 32.3 years in 1971, 34 years in 1981, 36.4 years in 1991 and 39.4 years in 2001.

The 2001 median age for the Jewish community is 3.4 years older than for the total Toronto population. It is interesting to note that between 1981 and 2001, the Jewish community's median age has increased at about the same pace as the total Toronto population. It has increased by 5.4 years for Jews in these two decades, compared to 5.5 years for the total population.

The median ages of the Canadian and Toronto Jewish populations are examined in Table 11. It can be seen that the median ages of the Canadian and Toronto Jewish communities are similar (40.2 and 39.4 years respectively), with Toronto being slightly younger. In 1981, the median ages of these two populations were only 0.6 years apart. This gap increased to 0.9 years in 1991, and remained fairly steady at 0.8 years in 2001.

The median age for Montreal's Jewish community is 41.8 years, compared to 39.4 years for the Toronto Jewish community. It is 39.8 years for the Vancouver Jewish community, 44.5 years for the Winnipeg Jewish community, and 39.4 years for the Ottawa Jewish community. In short, in comparison to other major Jewish populations, Toronto has a younger community, on average.

Table 12
Ethnic Affiliation for Toronto CMA

	#	%
British	865,500	18.6
Chinese	435,290	9.4
Italian	415,290	8.9
Canadian	403,950	8.7
East Indian	340,900	7.3
Caribbean	242,130	5.2
(Jewish: full definition)	**(179,100)**	--
German	172,580	3.7
French	147,140	3.2
Portuguese	147,105	3.2
Polish	132,655	2.9
Filipino	132,290	2.8
African	109,330	2.4
Ukrainian	89,145	1.9
Greek	79,530	1.7
Latin American	70,590	1.5
Arab	69,405	1.5
Russian	59,525	1.3
Aboriginal	44,405	1.0
Korean	42,440	0.9
Pakistani	36,480	0.8
Vietnamese	35,850	0.8
Spanish	31,845	0.7
Japanese	19,170	0.4
American	7,855	0.2
All other ethnic categories	517,565	11.1
Total Toronto CMA	4,647,965	100.0

Comparisons With Other Ethnic Groups

Table 12 looks at the ethnic affiliations of the total population in the Toronto CMA. Ethnicity was a "multiple response" variable in the 2001 Census. This means that respondents could indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. To avoid double counting, a hierarchical method of assigning affiliation was employed. This method is described fully in Appendix 4.

Note that the category for Jewish affiliation is described as "Jewish: full definition" in Table 12. Jewish affiliation is unique because it can refer to either an ethnic or religious identification, or both. It was felt that comparisons should be made with the full definition of "Jewishness", so that the most inclusive attribution could be derived. A percentage wasn't assigned to this category, however, because it overlapped with other groups (that is, some respondents may have described themselves as "Jewish and Russian" or "Jewish and Canadian", etc.).

An examination of Table 12 reveals that British is the ethnic category with the most popular affiliation. Almost 19% of Toronto residents report their ethnic affiliation as British, or 865,500 persons. This group includes individuals of English, Irish and Scottish origins.

Almost one in ten individuals (9.4%) are of Chinese origin. This group comprises 435,290 persons. Italians rank third as far as ethnic affiliations are concerned. There are 415,290 Italians in Toronto, or 8.9% of the population.

Another 403,950 persons report their ethnic affiliation as Canadian, or 8.7% of Toronto's population. There are also significant East Indian and Caribbean populations in this metropolitan area (340,900 and 242,130 individuals respectively).

The Jewish community ranks seventh among ethnic groups, with a population of 179,100. As noted before, because ethnicity alone is not sufficiently inclusive to accurately describe the community, this figure is derived from a combined definition of religion and ethnicity (see Appendix 4).

The German population is almost as large as the Jewish community, with 172,580 individuals. The French and Portuguese

Table 13
Ethnic Affiliation by Age: Toronto CMA

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
British	107,650	12.4	84,665	9.8	269,145	31.1	251,845	29.1	152,195	17.6
Chinese	80,630	18.5	63,025	14.5	152,570	35.1	96,755	22.2	42,310	9.7
Italian	84,180	20.3	50,020	12.0	135,230	32.6	91,040	21.9	54,830	13.2
Canadian	113,520	28.1	61,600	15.2	121,775	30.1	75,570	18.7	31,485	7.8
East Indian	78,770	23.1	50,870	14.9	117,900	34.6	72,520	21.3	20,835	6.1
Caribbean	60,505	25.0	37,595	15.5	80,945	33.4	49,205	20.3	13,875	5.7
(Jewish: full def)	**(35,235)**	**(19.7)**	**(23,210)**	**(13.0)**	**(46,365)**	**(25.9)**	**(46,800)**	**(26.1)**	**(27,495)**	**(15.4)**
German	30,125	17.5	18,870	10.9	57,700	33.4	42,000	24.3	23,885	13.8
French	25,580	17.4	17,565	11.9	54,765	37.2	36,980	25.1	12,245	8.3
Portuguese	27,645	18.8	22,600	15.4	49,950	34.0	32,680	22.2	14,235	9.7
Polish	23,405	17.6	18,810	14.2	42,480	32.0	34,060	25.7	13,890	10.5
Filipino	30,330	22.9	18,220	13.8	46,740	35.3	28,835	21.8	8,165	6.2
African	35,175	32.2	17,400	15.9	37,745	34.5	15,755	14.4	3,255	3.0
Ukrainian	16,360	18.4	11,040	12.4	28,905	32.4	20,465	23.0	12,375	13.9
Greek	11,845	14.9	10,140	12.7	26,135	32.9	20,990	26.4	10,425	13.1
Latin American	17,890	25.3	11,590	16.4	25,890	36.7	12,940	18.3	2,280	3.2
Arab	18,425	26.5	10,445	15.0	24,275	35.0	12,455	17.9	3,810	5.5
Russian	11,600	19.5	8,275	13.9	21,985	36.9	13,075	22.0	4,595	7.7
Aboriginal	12,075	27.2	6,700	15.1	16,895	38.1	7,575	17.1	1,150	2.6
Korean	8,010	18.9	7,505	17.7	14,715	34.7	9,765	23.0	2,440	5.7
Pakistani	12,170	33.4	5,795	15.9	12,705	34.8	4,945	13.6	865	2.4
Vietnamese	8,695	24.3	4,770	13.3	15,030	41.9	5,595	15.6	1,765	4.9
Spanish	7,200	22.6	4,700	14.8	11,090	34.8	6,780	21.3	2,070	6.5
Japanese	3,530	18.4	2,255	11.8	6,140	32.0	4,165	21.7	3,080	16.1
American	1,810	23.0	895	11.4	2,215	28.2	2,210	28.1	730	9.3
Other Ethnic	91,855	17.7	62,320	12.0	175,085	33.8	121,365	23.4	66,940	12.9
Total CMA	918,980	19.8	607,670	13.1	1,548,010	33.3	1,069,570	23.0	503,730	10.8

populations round out the ten largest ethnic groups in the Toronto Metropolitan Area.

Table 13 examines the age breakdowns of the various ethnic groups in Toronto. It can be seen that the Pakistani (33.4%) and African (32.2%) populations have the highest proportions of children 0-14 years. The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (19.7%). The British (12.4%) and Greek (14.9%) communities have the lowest proportions of children.

In terms of teenagers and young adults between 15-24 years, the Korean (17.7%) and Latin American (16.4%) communities have the highest proportions. The British (9.8%) and Germans (10.9%) have the lowest proportions. The Jewish community is in the middle of the distribution (13%).

Regarding the economically productive 25-44 year cohort, it is noteworthy that the Jewish community has the lowest proportion of any ethnic community in Toronto (25.9%). The Vietnamese (41.9%) and Aboriginal (38.1%) communities have the highest proportions in this age group.

The British (29.1%) and American (28.1%), communities have the highest percentages in the 45-64 year cohort. The Jewish population is among the highest in this age cohort (26.1%). The lowest percentages are found among Pakistanis (13.6%) and Africans (14.4%).

The Jewish community also has among the highest proportion of seniors (15.4%). The British (17.6%) and Japanese (16.1%) are the only groups with higher percentages of elderly. The lowest proportions of elderly are found among ethnic groups with large numbers of recent immigrants, such as Pakistanis (2.4%) and Africans (3%). However, Aboriginals also have a very low percentage of seniors (2.6%).

In terms of median ages, the populations with the lowest figures include the Pakistani (25.2 years), African (26.2 years), Aboriginal (29.2 years), and Latin American (29.3 years) communities.

The ethnic group with the highest median age is the British (43.2 years), followed by Jews (39.4 years), Germans (38.6 years) and Ukrainians (38.4 years).

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

Table 14
Religious Affiliation
Toronto CMA

	#	%
Catholic	1,578,875	34.0
Protestant	1,131,060	24.3
Muslim	254,110	5.5
Hindu	191,305	4.1
(Jewish: full definition)	**(179,100)**	**--**
Christian Orthodox	178,695	3.8
Jewish: religion alone	164,510	3.5
Christian, n.i.e.	160,420	3.5
Buddhist	97,165	2.1
Sikh	90,590	1.9
Other Eastern religions	10,985	0.2
Para-religious groups	5,540	0.1
No religious affiliation	784,700	16.9
Total	4,647,955	100.0

Note: "Christian, n.i.e." includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of "No religious affiliation" comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.

Comparisons With Other Religious Affiliations

Table 14 looks at religious affiliations for the Toronto CMA. Note that the figures for the Jewish Standard Definition will be cited in this analysis as well, although the figures for Jewish religion alone are likewise included in the table.

It can be seen that Catholics are the largest group in this metropolitan area, representing 34% of the population, or more than 1.5 million individuals. Protestants comprise the second largest group with 24.3% of the total population, or 1.13 million individuals.

Muslims are the third largest group with 5.5% of the population, or 254,110 individuals. Note that the number found for Arabs under ethnic affiliation was smaller. This is because not all Muslims are Arabs. Muslims originating from Pakistan or Iran, for instance, do not necessarily consider themselves as Arabs.

Hindus comprise the fourth largest group with 191,305 individuals. Jews rank fifth among religious groups. Note that Jews were defined using both the Standard Definition (which uses religion and

ethnicity) and by religion alone. The ranking of the Jewish community falls to sixth if the "religion only" definition is employed.

The Christian Orthodox comprise 178,695 individuals living in the Toronto CMA. "Christians not indicated elsewhere" include 160,420 people. All the other groups fall below 100,000 in terms of their populations. For instance, Buddhists comprise 97,165 and Sikhs comprise 90,590 individuals.

It is noteworthy that 16.9% of the total population indicate they have no religious affiliation. Within this category are included people who defined themselves as agnostics, atheists, or humanists, or who affiliated with no religion at all.

A very small proportion (0.1%) of the population are involved with Para-religious groups, such as Paganism, Scientology, Rastafarian, and New Age affiliations.

An examination of religious affiliation by age is presented in Table 15. It can be seen that among the mainstream religions, the groups with the highest percentages of children (0-14 years) are Muslims (29.0%) and Sikhs (27.1%). Those with the lowest percentages of children include Buddhists

Table 15
Religious Affiliation by Age
Toronto CMA

	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Catholic	315,915	20.0	211,760	13.4	520,635	33.0	364,415	23.1	166,150	10.5
Protestant	178,430	15.8	122,695	10.8	327,755	29.0	313,640	27.7	188,540	16.7
Muslim	73,795	29.0	40,245	15.8	88,455	34.8	41,695	16.4	9,930	3.9
Hindu	47,245	24.7	25,735	13.5	70,840	37.0	36,615	19.1	10,865	5.7
(Jewish: full def)	**(35,235)**	**(19.7)**	**(23,210)**	**(13.0)**	**(46,365)**	**(25.9)**	**(46,800)**	**(26.1)**	**(27,495)**	**(15.4)**
Christian Orthx	28,595	16.0	22,820	12.8	64,310	36.0	42,305	23.7	20,675	11.6
Jewish: religion	31,400	19.1	21,135	12.8	42,125	25.6	43,735	26.6	26,115	15.9
Christian, n.i.e.	37,560	23.4	25,640	16.0	59,090	36.8	28,990	18.1	9,140	5.7
Buddhist	15,225	15.7	12,160	12.5	34,815	35.8	23,135	23.8	11,830	12.2
Sikh	24,565	27.1	12,305	13.6	31,695	35.0	16,420	18.1	5,605	6.2
Other Eastern	1,855	16.9	1,735	15.8	3,655	33.3	2,830	25.8	915	8.3
Para-religions	805	14.5	795	14.3	2,600	46.8	1,190	21.4	165	3.0
No rel affiliation	163,585	20.8	110,650	14.1	302,040	38.5	154,605	19.7	53,815	6.9
Total	918,975	19.8	607,675	13.1	1,548,015	33.3	1,069,575	23.0	503,745	10.8

Note: "Christian, n.i.e." includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of "No religious affiliation" comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.

(15.7%) and Protestants (15.8%). The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (19.7%).

Among those 15-24 years of age, the mainstream group with the highest proportion is Muslims (15.8%). The Jewish community falls in the middle of the distribution (13%). Protestants have the lowest percentage for this age cohort (10.8%).

In the 25-44 year cohort, mainstream groups with the highest proportions include Hindus (37%) and Christian Orthodox (36%). It is noteworthy that the Jewish community has the lowest proportion for this age group (25.9%).

Regarding the 45-64 age group, Protestants (27.7%) have the highest proportion, followed by Jews (26.1%).

Finally, in terms of the elderly population (65+), the Protestant community has the highest proportion (16.7%), followed by the Jewish community (15.4%). Muslims (3.9%) and Hindus (5.7%) are the mainstream religious groups that have the lowest proportions.

The Protestant community has the highest median age (41.7 years) of any religious group in the Toronto CMA, followed by the Jewish community (39.4 years). The lowest median age is found among Muslims (28.3 years). Those with no religious affiliation average 32.9 years, whereas those involved in Para-religious practices have a median age of 35 years.

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

The Toronto Community in a Provincial Context

The total population of Jews in Ontario is 211,465. Jews make up 1.9% of the population of this province. In comparison, the Jewish population of Quebec numbers 94,665. There are 29,875 Jews in British Columbia.

A very significant proportion of the Jewish population in this province is located in the Toronto CMA. Specifically, 84.7% of Jews in this province reside in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area.

There are figures available for several other Jewish communities in this province. For instance, the Jewish population in the Ottawa CMA comprises 13,445 individuals; in Hamilton it is 4,675; in London it is 2,290; and in Windsor it is 1,530 Jews.

Appendix 1
The Utility of the Census

The information gleaned from the Census is useful from a number of perspectives. From a communal planning perspective, the data can be utilized to identify segments of the Jewish population at risk (economically and socially), and determine where they reside. It can also be used to examine whether, given certain demographic realities, programs or services should be established or continued.

Another application involves establishing population bases in order to determine what percentage of certain segments a service, program or philanthropic effort is reaching. For instance, knowledge of the base population of Jewish school-aged children can allow us to determine what percentages of these children attend Jewish versus non-Jewish schools. It is also possible to compare base populations of the poor, single

parents, etc. to the number of clients serviced by community agencies, in order to determine what proportions of these segments specific agencies are reaching.

The Census can be used to examine important questions related to community continuity. For instance: the adaptation of Jewish immigrant populations; the affiliation levels of children in intermarried families; and the migration patterns of Jews across the country are among the issues that can be examined using the Census.

Finally, the Census can be used to establish demographic trends over time, by comparing the latest figures to those of previous Censuses. These comparisons provide important indications to what extent a community has changed, and where it might be headed in the coming years.

Appendix 2
The Reliability of the Census

The Census is a massive and complex undertaking, and although high standards are applied throughout the process, a certain level of error still characterizes the endeavor. Such errors can arise at virtually any point in the Census process, from the preparation of materials to the collection of data and the processing of information.

There are a number of principal types of errors that impact on the Census. In coverage errors, dwellings or individuals are missed, incorrectly enumerated or counted more than once. In terms of non-response errors, responses to the Census cannot be obtained from a certain number of households and/or individuals due to extended absence or other extenuating circumstances.

In response errors, the respondent misunderstands a Census question and answers incorrectly or uses the wrong response box. Processing errors occur during the coding and inputting of data.

Finally, sampling errors apply only to the long-form. Statistics based on this form are projected from a 20% sample of households. The responses to long-form questions, when projected to represent the whole population inevitably differ from the responses that would have been obtained if these questions were asked of all households.

Statistics Canada has a number of quality control measures that ensure Census data are as reliable as possible. Representatives edit the questionnaires when they are returned, and follow up on missing information. There are also quality control measures in place during the coding and data entry stages.

A number of errors and response-biases can nonetheless impact the data obtained from the Jewish population. For instance, certain segments of the Jewish community may be more reticent to answer the questions in the Census fully or accurately.

Recent immigrant populations who are suspicious of government-sponsored projects, and are wary of being identified as Jewish, may avoid indicating such an affiliation, or may answer certain questions more cautiously.

It is possible that members of the Chassidic and Ultra-Orthodox communities are more reluctant to participate fully in the Census effort, due to specific biblical injunctions that prohibit Jews from "being counted." It is unclear whether such restrictions have had an impact on their responses, but anecdotal evidence suggests that these communities respond adequately. For instance, the Tosh Chasidic community of Montreal, which is fairly isolated geographically from the rest of the Jewish population, has had significant representation in previous Censuses, although it is unclear as to what extent their enumeration was complete.

Finally, since both the religion and ethnicity questions are only included in the long-form of the Census, sampling error arising from projections based on a 20% enumeration of households is a factor in all Census analyses related to the Jewish community.

The level of sampling error inherent in any cell of a data table can be precisely calculated. Statistics Canada provides a table that measures these errors, and they are summarized below. Obviously, for large cell values, the potential error due to sampling will be proportionally smaller than for smaller ones.

When using the table, the reader should consider the right column as reflective of the average level of error expected for a given cell size. Of course, some cells may reflect errors smaller or larger than the average. About ninety percent of errors will fall between ± the average error specified below. Ten percent of errors are expected to fall outside this range.

Cell Value	Average Error
50 or less	15
100	20
200	30
500	45
1,000	65
2,000	90
5,000	140
10,000	200
20,000	280
50,000	450
100,000	630

Source for Appendix 2: 2001 Census Dictionary Reference Guide (pg. 275). Published by Statistics Canada, August 2002. Catalogue No. 92-378-XPE.

Appendix 3
The Jewish Standard Definition

This report uses what is known as the "Jewish Standard Definition" to distinguish who is Jewish from the rest of the population. Jim Torczyner of McGill University and the Jewish Federation of Montreal formulated this definition in 1981, using a combination of religious and ethnic identification.

According to this criterion, a Jew is defined as anyone who specified that they were:

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

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

Using this criterion, it is not possible to say how a person behaves "Jewishly", for instance, whether they adhere to traditions or attend synagogue on a regular basis. However, despite this limitation, the fact that we can identify Jewish affiliation at all

is critical for using the Census as a tool to better understand our community. The Jewish Standard Definition is meant to be as inclusive as possible, reflecting the varied expressions that comprise the richness of the Jewish experience.

It is important to note that a significant change to the "Jewish Standard Definition" was implemented in the current analysis of Census data. The category of those who had "no religion and a Jewish ethnicity" was expanded to include those with "no religious affiliation and a Jewish ethnicity".

The category of "no religious affiliation" is broader than that of "no religion" because it includes those who consider themselves as agnostics, atheists and humanists, as well as having no religion. Since it is possible to be Jewish and to have such affiliations, it was felt that this change would better reflect the broad spectrum of Jewish affiliation. Data from previous Censuses have been re-analyzed to ensure compatibility with the current criterion.

Appendix 4
The Attribution of Ethnic Origins

Ethnic origin was a multiple-response variable in the 2001 Census, meaning that respondents were allowed to indicate more than one ethnic affiliation. If all the multiple ethnic affiliations were included in the Census analysis the total would equal more than 100% because some people had more than one response to this question. A system was therefore devised for this analysis whereby a respondent would only be assigned one ethnic category. This system involved a hierarchy where an ethnic group would get precedence over those below it. The following order of precedence was established:

Aboriginal, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, East Indian, Pakistani, Arab, African, Caribbean, Latin American, Italian, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, German, Spanish, French, British, American, Canadian, Jewish, Other.

Rather than using a strictly ethnic definition of Jewishness, comparisons between Jews and other ethnic categories were made using the Jewish Standard Definition as the criterion. This definition uses a combination of religion and ethnicity, and is more inclusive than a strictly ethnic identification of Jewishness. For instance, out of a sense of patriotism some Jews may have said their ethnic background was single-response Canadian. As such, they would not have been counted in the ethnicity-only definition.

On the other hand, some converts likely considered themselves Jews by religion, but not ethnicity. They could not be appropriately compared as Jews to other ethnic categories, and yet they would be included in the Jewish Standard Definition. In short, the issue of Jewish affiliation is a complex one and there are shortcomings associated with whatever definition is used.

Appendix 5
Additional Data Tables

Table 16
Age Breakdowns for Jews & Non-Jews
Toronto CMA

	Total		Jews		Non-Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	289,790	6.2	10,485	5.9	279,310	6.3
5-14	629,185	13.5	24,750	13.8	604,435	13.5
15-24	607,665	13.1	23,210	13.0	584,455	13.1
25-34	715,050	15.4	21,175	11.8	693,880	15.5
35-44	832,960	17.9	25,190	14.1	807,765	18.1
45-54	662,110	14.2	30,085	16.8	632,030	14.1
55-64	407,455	8.8	16,710	9.3	390,745	8.7
65-74	297,845	6.4	12,785	7.1	285,065	6.4
75-84	166,440	3.6	11,330	6.3	155,100	3.5
85+	39,455	0.8	3,380	1.9	36,075	0.8
Total	4,647,955	100.0	179,100	100.0	4,468,860	100.0

Table 17
Age Breakdowns
Toronto & Canadian Jewish Populations

	Toronto Jewish Population		Canadian Jewish Population	
	#	%	#	%
0-4	10,485	5.9	21,245	5.7
5-14	24,750	13.8	50,345	13.6
15-24	23,210	13.0	48,430	13.1
25-34	21,175	11.8	41,005	11.1
35-44	25,190	14.1	49,510	13.4
45-54	30,085	16.8	61,170	16.5
55-64	16,710	9.3	36,940	10.0
65-74	12,785	7.1	28,560	7.7
75-84	11,330	6.3	25,360	6.8
85+	3,380	1.9	7,955	2.1
Total	179,100	100.0	370,520	100.0

Table 18
Age by Census Year
Toronto Jewish Community

	2001		1991		1981		1971	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-4	10,485	5.9	12,210	7.5	8,400	6.5	6,750	6.3
5-14	24,750	13.8	22,505	13.8	15,900	12.3	15,990	14.9
15-24	23,210	13.0	19,535	12.0	18,600	14.4	20,445	19.1
25-34	21,175	11.8	23,500	14.4	24,835	19.2	13,275	12.4
35-44	25,190	14.1	29,930	18.4	15,440	11.9	11,680	10.9
45-54	30,085	16.8	17,155	10.5	12,965	10.0	14,545	13.6
55-64	16,710	9.3	13,350	8.2	14,735	11.4	13,225	12.3
65-74	12,785	7.1	14,275	8.8	12,720	9.8	7,695	7.2
75-84	11,330	6.3	8,880	5.4	5,055	3.9	3,095	2.9
85+	3,380	1.9	1,710	1.0	680	0.5	620	0.6
Total	179,100	100.0	163,050	100.0	129,330	100.0	107,320	100.0

Table 19
Discrete Age Breakdowns by Gender
Toronto Jewish Community

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 1 year	2,055	1.1	1,050	1.2	1,005	1.1
1	2,075	1.2	1,090	1.2	985	1.1
2	2,125	1.2	1,030	1.2	1,090	1.2
3	2,165	1.2	1,150	1.3	1,020	1.1
4	2,070	1.2	1,015	1.2	1,050	1.1
5	2,215	1.2	1,225	1.4	990	1.1
6	2,480	1.4	1,280	1.5	1,195	1.3
7	2,385	1.3	1,300	1.5	1,085	1.2
8	2,420	1.4	1,280	1.5	1,135	1.2
9	2,305	1.3	1,125	1.3	1,175	1.3
10	2,640	1.5	1,270	1.5	1,370	1.5
11	2,570	1.4	1,330	1.5	1,240	1.4
12	2,400	1.3	1,195	1.4	1,205	1.3
13	2,605	1.5	1,240	1.4	1,365	1.5
14	2,745	1.5	1,370	1.6	1,370	1.5
15	2,765	1.5	1,445	1.7	1,320	1.4
16	2,560	1.4	1,315	1.5	1,250	1.4
17	2,490	1.4	1,305	1.5	1,185	1.3
18	2,430	1.4	1,155	1.3	1,280	1.4
19	2,435	1.4	1,270	1.5	1,165	1.3

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

	Total		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
20-24	10,520	5.9	5,360	6.1	5,160	5.6
25-29	10,460	5.8	5,190	5.9	5,270	5.8
30-34	10,710	6.0	5,210	6.0	5,505	6.0
35-39	11,540	6.4	5,585	6.4	5,960	6.5
40-44	13,655	7.6	6,635	7.6	7,015	7.7
45-49	14,750	8.2	6,935	7.9	7,810	8.5
50-54	15,340	8.6	7,755	8.9	7,580	8.3
55-59	9,265	5.2	4,530	5.2	4,730	5.2
60-64	7,445	4.2	3,645	4.2	3,800	4.1
65-69	6,400	3.6	3,070	3.5	3,330	3.6
70-74	6,385	3.6	2,805	3.2	3,585	3.9
75-79	6,680	3.7	2,835	3.2	3,845	4.2
80-84	4,655	2.6	2,045	2.3	2,605	2.8
85-89	2,370	1.3	1,010	1.2	1,365	1.5
90+	1,005	0.6	425	0.5	580	0.6
Total	179,115	100.0	87,475	100.0	91,620	100.0

Table 20
Ethnic Affiliation by Median Age: Toronto CMA

	Median Age
British	43.2
Chinese	35.9
Italian	35.9
Canadian	29.3
East Indian	31.4
Caribbean	31.1
(Jewish: full definition)	**(39.4)**
German	38.6
French	36.9
Portuguese	34.7
Polish	38.2
Filipino	34.0
African	26.2
Ukrainian	38.4
Greek	37.2
Latin American	29.3
Arab	30.0
Russian	35.5
Aboriginal	29.2
Korean	32.1
Pakistani	25.2
Vietnamese	31.5
Spanish	33.0
Japanese	37.3
American	37.0
All other ethnic categories	36.8
Total Toronto CMA	36.0

Table 21
Religious Affiliation by Median Age
Toronto CMA

	Median Age
Catholic	35.8
Protestant	41.7
Muslim	28.3
Hindu	31.4
(Jewish: full definition)	**(39.4)**
Christian Orthodox	36.6
Jewish: religion alone	40.0
Christian, n.i.e.	31.2
Buddhist	38.3
Sikh	29.3
Other Eastern religions	35.9
Para-religious groups	35.0
No religious affiliation	32.9
Total	36.0

Note: "Christian, n.i.e." includes individuals who identified themselves as Christian but did not report a specific denomination. The category of "No religious affiliation" comprises Agnostics, Atheists, Humanists, those with No Religion, and Other n.i.e.