

2011

NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF MONTREAL

PART 8
IMMIGRATION & LANGUAGE

PART 9
CORE FSU JEWS



JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF CANADA - UIA
UIA - הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה - UIA
FÉDÉRATIONS JUIVES DU CANADA - UIA

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

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**By
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All data in this report are adapted from:
Statistics Canada, special order tabulations for Jewish Federations of Canada - UIA, CO-1421.

Highlights of Part 8

- About a third (33.9%) of the Montreal Jewish population are immigrants, that is, they were born outside Canada, whereas 66.1% were born in this country.
- Of a total of 129,680 Jewish immigrants residing in Canada, 23.7% live in the Montreal metropolitan area, comprising 30,795 individuals.
- In the local Jewish population, there are 8,380 Jews who were born in North Africa / Middle East (excluding Israel). There are also 4,465 Jews who were born in Israel, 4,365 born in the Former Soviet Union, 3,965 in Western Europe, 3,965 in Eastern Europe, 3,880 in the United States, and 870 in South America.
- During the period 2000-2011, 6,420 Jewish immigrants settled in Montreal; of these, 3,885 arrived in 2005 or later.
- Between 2000 and 2011, the largest number of Jewish immigrants came from the Former Soviet Union (1,915), followed by 1,300 from Israel and 1,105 from the United States. Many of the Jewish immigrants from the United States are likely Ultra-Orthodox Jews.
- The youngest median ages, of any immigrant group in the Montreal Jewish community, are of those born in Mexico (34 years) and the United States (35.4 years). The oldest include Jews born in Poland (82.5 years), Czechoslovakia (79.2 years), Syria (77.9 years), Iraq (76 years), Hungary (74.2 years), and Rumania (74.2 years).
- Cote St. Luc has the largest number of foreign-born Jews in Montreal (7,535), followed by "Rest of Montreal" (4,835), Ville St. Laurent (3,030), and the West Island (2,545).

- In terms of the most recent immigrants (2005 – 2011), the largest contingents by far are living in "Rest of Montreal" (1,055) and Cote St. Luc (1,025). Other areas where such immigrants have settled include the West Island (250), Snowdon (245), and Outremont (200).
- More than half (53%) of the local Jewish population report English as their native language. Less than one in five (17.8%) say French is their mother tongue.
- More than two-thirds (68.3%) of the Jewish community has a conversational knowledge of both English and French. In terms of age cohorts, 80.2% of Montreal Jews between 15-24 years are bilingual, compared to 82.6% of those 25-34 years, 79.7% of those 35-44 years, 75.1% of those 45-54 years, and 74.8% of those 55-64 years. Only 56.8% of seniors 65+ years are bilingual. In short, level of bilingualism diminishes with age.
- About a quarter (22.8%) of Jewish immigrants rely on government benefits such as social welfare or training income within the first five years of their arrival, whereas almost two-thirds (59.4%) earn wages or are self-employed. Immigrants in the overall Montreal CMA population have higher rates of those receiving government assistance (27.6%), and lower levels of those earning employment income or who are self-employed (51.5%).
- Jewish immigrants who arrived between 2005 and 2011 have a 32.8% level of poverty, compared to 28.3% of those who arrived between 2000-2011. The level of economic disadvantage then drops to 23.5% for those who arrived between 1990-1999, and 21.7% for those who came between 1980-1989.
- The findings on poverty and income level suggest that there is a window of economic vulnerability that lasts at least for a decade, and is especially stark in the five years immediately following an immigrant's arrival here.
- The highest level of poverty is found amongst Jewish immigrants from the Former Soviet Union (28.8%) followed by individuals born in the United States (28.3%).

Highlights of Part 9

- Jews of “Core” FSU extraction were defined as individuals who identified themselves as Jewish according to the Revised Jewish Definition, and were born in the FSU, had parents who were born in the FSU, or were children in a household where the parents met any of the above criteria.
- The total number of Core FSU Jews in the Montreal CMA was found to be 7,760. Individuals of Core FSU extraction comprise 8.5% of the total population of 90,780 Jews residing in the Greater Montreal Area.
- Compared to "Other Jews" living in Greater Montreal, Core FSU Jews have greater percentages of individuals for every cohort less than 45 years of age, whereas "Other Jews" have larger proportions for every age group 45+ years of age. In fact, 30.9% of Core FSU Jews are 45+ years compared to 46.1% of "Other Jews".
- The median age of Core FSU Jews (32.9 years) is lower than that of "Other Jews" living in the Montreal CMA (40.8 years).
- There is a large representation of Core FSU Jews in Cote St. Luc (1,855). There is also a large contingent of Core FSU Jews in Snowdon (1,050). Other areas with at least 500 Jews of Core FSU extraction include the West Island (950) and NDG / Montreal Ouest (555).
- There are 1,715 Core FSU Jews living in the miscellaneous geographic category of “Rest of Montreal”. These persons may be less affiliated with the Jewish community, and harder to reach from the point of view of providing social services and supports.
- Jews of Core FSU extraction comprise almost a fifth (19.6%) of the Snowdon Jewish population. They also comprise 13.4% of Jews living in "Rest of Montreal".

- Core FSU Jews comprise 7,780 of 43,390 total individuals of FSU extraction living in the Montreal CMA, or 17.9%. In other words, more than a sixth of the total FSU population residing in Greater Montreal are identified as Jews.
- Core FSU Jews comprise a majority of total individuals of FSU extraction in Hampstead (83.1%) and Snowdon (52.5%). Almost half (49.7%) of all individuals of FSU extraction located in Cote St. Luc are Jews.
- The Cote St. Luc Jewish community has the largest numbers of Core FSU children less than 15 years (495), teens and young adults 15-24 years (260), and seniors 65+ years (275). The "Rest of Montreal" Jewish population has the largest numbers of Core FSU individuals 25-44 years (620) and middle-aged persons 45-64 years (325).

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2011 National Household Survey Analysis

Part 8: Immigration & Language

This report examines the characteristics of Jewish immigrants in the Montreal Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) based on figures from the 2011 National Household Survey. The first part describes the linguistic and economic profiles of Jewish immigrants, and identifies individuals who are most economically vulnerable and likely in need of community intervention. The second part presents a detailed analysis of "Core" FSU Jews, including their demographic characteristics and geographic distribution.

Since before the turn of the last century, Jewish immigrants have settled here in large numbers from various parts of the world, providing a stimulus for population and economic growth, and more recently, counteracting the effects of significant out-migration. Immigrants have enriched the fabric of the Jewish community in Montreal, bringing with them different cultural expressions, languages, and occupational skills.

The Montreal Jewish community has a long history of responding to the needs of its

immigrants. As early as 1847, the Hebrew Philanthropic Society was established to help needy immigrants from Poland and Germany.¹ In 1863 the Society became known as the Young Men's Hebrew Benevolent Society. After 1881, when more massive waves of immigrants from Eastern Europe arrived, the community mobilized on a larger scale, converting warehouses to shelters, and soliciting extensive funds from its members.¹

The Montreal Jewish population swelled in size as immigration exploded at the turn of the twentieth century. In 1891, there were 2,460 Jews living in Montreal. This figure rose to 6,916 by 1901, 28,540 by 1911, and 45,728 by 1921. The 1921 population of Jews was already about half as large as the current size of the Montreal Jewish community.

Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe brought with them a rich tradition and

¹Kage, J. *With Faith & Thanksgiving: The Story of Two Hundred Years of Jewish Immigration and Immigrant Aid Effort in Canada (1760-1960)*. The Eagle Publishing Company Ltd., Montreal, 1962.

cultural life, both religious and secular. But the life of an immigrant was not easy. The Jewish immigrant often worked from morning to night, and was poorly paid. Because of poverty and need, children would begin working as young as 13-14 years of age.²

The hub of the Montreal Jewish community during the first half of the twentieth century lay in the few blocks from Craig Street (St. Antoine) running north to Mount Royal Avenue, along St. Lawrence Blvd.³ This area was referred to simply as “The Main”. This intensely Jewish neighborhood was a bustling square mile of vibrant Jewish life, and a breeding ground for Jewish artists, intellectuals, professionals and entrepreneurs.³

The economic life of Canada, as of other countries, was shaken by the unprecedented industrial collapse and depression of the 1930s. At the same time, Canadian immigration policy became more and more restrictive. In 1931, the Federal Government promulgated a law which prohibited the landing in Canada of all immigrants of all

classes, all countries and all occupations, with the exception of British subjects and United States citizens with means to maintain themselves.⁴

Tragically, as Germany began its virulent persecution of Jews, Canada’s restrictive immigration policy rarely wavered, spurred on in the 1930s by anti-Semitism and Fascist sympathizers within the country itself. It was not until after the Second World War that immigration policy was eased, but too late to save those who had desperately sought to leave Europe.

Between 1947 and 1952, Canada admitted about 16,000 survivors of the Holocaust from Europe.⁵ Almost half of these individuals settled in Montreal. In 1956, the Hungarian Revolution erupted, and 4,500 of the 37,000 Hungarian refugees admitted to Canada were Jews (again, mostly survivors of the Holocaust and their families). About a third of them chose to reside in Montreal.⁶

² Kage, J. *Studies on Jewish Immigration to Canada: The Growth Period of Jewish Immigration to Canada (1900-1920)*. Montreal, 1958. (Monograph)

³ King, J. *From the Ghetto to the Main: The Story of the Jews of Montreal*. The Montreal Jewish Publication Society, Montreal, 2000.

⁴ Belkin, S. *Through Narrow Gates: A Review of Jewish Immigration, Colonization and Immigrant Aid Work in Canada (1840-1940)*. The Eagle Publishing Company Ltd., Montreal, 1966.

⁵ The figure of 16,000 Survivors was derived from manuscripts of the Department of Immigration (1946-1950) and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration (1948 to 1953).

⁶ Kage, *With Faith & Thanksgiving: The Story of Two Hundred Years of Jewish Immigration and Immigrant Aid Effort in Canada (1760-1960)*.

Immigration of Sephardic Jews from North Africa and the Middle East gained momentum in the late 1950s. Between 1957 and 1973, more than 6,500 North African Jews immigrated to Canada, and three out of four chose to live in Montreal.⁷ By 1971, North African immigration helped bring the total Jewish population in Montreal to 112,020.

The final major wave of Jewish immigration was from the Former Soviet Union (FSU), starting in the late 1980s and continuing for the past two decades. Soviet Jews left their home country for a number of reasons, including rising anti-Semitism, an unstable political and economic situation, employment limitations, a bleak outlook for the next generation, and a lack of social security. Many of the FSU Jews who settled in Canada came to Montreal, although the majority settled in Toronto.

The current analysis will attempt to shed further light on some of the issues regarding the Jewish immigrant population in Montreal. It is hoped that it will become an informative tool for use by community planners and service-providers alike.

⁷ Kage, J. A Brief Account of the Admission of Jewish Immigrants from North Africa. Paper prepared for JIAS.

The topics covered in this report include the place of birth of immigrants, their year of immigration, and their geographic distribution. Other topics include the mother tongue, home language, income distribution, income source, and poverty status of Jewish immigrants residing in the Montreal CMA.

A number of important appendices are included in the back of this report. Appendix 1 is a discussion of methodological considerations related to the National Household Survey, and their implications for interpreting the data presented in this study.

A detailed explanation of the definition used to identify Jewishness in this report, including a description of changes to this definition, is presented in Appendix 2.

Appendix 3 is a description of the “Low Income Cut-Offs” formulated by Statistics Canada, and how they were used to define poverty. Issues related to difficulties in defining economic disadvantage are also discussed in this appendix.

Appendix 4 presents additional data tables related to the local Jewish immigrant population.

Table 1
Place of Birth
Montreal Jewish Population

Place of Birth	#	%
Canada	59,995	66.1
Israel	4,465	4.9
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	3,965	4.4
Former Soviet Union	4,365	4.8
Western Europe	3,965	4.4
North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)	8,380	9.2
United States	3,880	4.3
South America	870	1.0
Other	905	1.0
Total	90,790	100.0

Finally, the reader should note that any minor discrepancies found when totaling columns or rows in the tables are due to random rounding of data. Such rounding up or down is built into the Statistics Canada processing and cannot be avoided. These rounding errors are minor, with minimal impact on the overall interpretation and reliability of the data.

The Birthplace of Jews Living in the Montreal CMA

Table 1 examines the place of birth of the Jewish population in the Montreal CMA. About a third (33.9%) of the local community are immigrants, that is, were born outside Canada. They comprise 30,795 individuals. Almost two-thirds (66.1%) are non-immigrants. They comprise 59,995 individuals. In short, there are about twice the number of Jews in Montreal who were born in this country compared to those born outside Canada.

The level of immigrants in Montreal (33.9%) is slightly higher than that of the national Jewish population (33.1%). It is higher than that of Jewish communities in Calgary (32.9%), Ottawa (28.4%), and Winnipeg (24%). On the other hand, it is lower than the proportions of immigrants in

the Toronto (34.7%) and Vancouver (36.6%) Jewish communities.

Of 129,680 Jewish immigrants residing in Canada, 23.7% live in the Montreal CMA, or 30,795 individuals. In comparison, Toronto has 65,440 Jewish immigrants, or more than twice the number as Montreal.

Table 1 reveals that the largest immigrant segment, comprising 8,380 individuals, was born in North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel). A total of 4,465 Jews were born in Israel, 4,365 in the Former Soviet Union, 3,965 in Western Europe, 3,965 in Eastern Europe (excluding the FSU), and 3,880 in the United States. There are also 870 Jews from South America, and 905 from other parts of the world (such as Central America, Australia, the rest of Africa, and Asia).

Table 2 contains a detailed breakdown of the country of birth of Jews living in the Montreal CMA. In terms of North Africa and the Middle East: 6,330 were born in Morocco, 4,460 in Israel, 625 in Egypt, 430 in Iraq, 290 in Lebanon, 150 in Algeria, and 580 in the rest of this region.

Table 2
Country of Birth
(Detailed Breakdowns)
Montreal Jewish Population

Country of Birth	#	Country of Birth	#
United Kingdom	735	Morocco	6,330
France	1,755	Libya	0
Spain / Portugal	115	Algeria	150
Belgium	275	Egypt	625
Netherlands	55	Ethiopia	0
Germany	485	Syria	40
Austria	220	Lebanon	290
Italy	130	Iraq	430
Greece	35	Iran	110
Rest of Western Europe	165	Rest of N. Africa / Middle East	430
Czechoslovakia	280	South Africa	100
Hungary	1,125	Israel	4,460
Poland	1,330	Canada	59,995
Romania	1,115	United States	3,880
Bulgaria	30	Mexico	175
Yugoslavia	90	Argentina	445
Russia	1,795	Chile	65
Ukraine	1,475	Brazil	150
Georgia	15	Rest of South America	210
Belarus	220	Rest of World	575
Kazakhstan	140	Total Jewish Population	90,760
Rest of Former Soviet Union	715		

There are also 100 Jews born in South Africa living in the local Jewish community. Note that there may be some Jews of Ethiopian origin living in the Montreal CMA, but due to suppression of cell frequencies under 15 individuals, their number was not recorded in this breakdown.

In terms of Western Europe, 1,755 local Jews were born in France, 735 in the United Kingdom, 485 in Germany, 275 in Belgium, 220 in Austria, and 500 in the rest of Western Europe.

Regarding Eastern Europe, 1,330 Jews were born in Poland, 1,125 in Hungary, 1,115 in Romania, 280 in Czechoslovakia, and 120 in the rest of Eastern Europe. In terms of the Former Soviet Union, 1,795 Jews were born in Russia, 1,475 in the Ukraine, and 1,090 in the rest of the FSU.⁸

Fewer Jews originate from South America: namely, 445 from Argentina, 150 from Brazil, and 275 from the rest of that continent. As noted in Table 1, 3,880 Montreal Jews were born in the United States. Mexico is the birthplace of a much

smaller number of Jews living in Montreal (175). Finally, 575 Jews were born in all other parts of the world.

The Age Breakdowns of Immigrants

Table 3 examines age cohorts by country of birth. The percentages are read across rows. It can be seen that the age distribution of Israelis peaks between 25-44 years (33.3%), with 1,485 individuals. In other words, a third of Israelis are between 25-44 years old.

On the other hand, more than two-thirds (68.4%) of local immigrant Jews who were born in Eastern Europe are 65+ years, comprising 2,695 individuals.

Jews born in the Former Soviet Union peak in the 25-44 cohort (36.1%), with 1,570 individuals. There are also 1,175 FSU-born Jews who are between 45-64 years, and 905 who are 65+ years.

Jews born in Western Europe peak at 45-64 years, with 1,390 individuals, or about a third (35.1%) of their age distribution. Likewise, individuals born in North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) peak between 45-64 years. Almost half of their

⁸ The last figure includes those who said they were born in the Former Soviet Union, but did not report a currently identifiable country, such as the Russian Federation or the Ukraine.

Table 3
Age by Place of Birth
Montreal Jewish Population

Place of Birth	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canada	15,750	26.3	10,325	17.2	12,755	21.3	11,920	19.9	9,240	15.4
Israel	935	21.0	465	10.4	1,485	33.3	1,320	29.6	255	5.7
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	0	0.0	45	1.1	125	3.2	1,075	27.3	2,695	68.4
Former Soviet Union	135	3.1	570	13.1	1,570	36.1	1,175	27.0	905	20.8
Western Europe	205	5.2	430	10.8	975	24.6	1,390	35.1	965	24.3
N. Africa / Middle East	30	0.4	90	1.1	790	9.4	3,680	43.9	3,795	45.3
United States	595	15.3	705	18.2	1,130	29.1	985	25.4	465	12.0
South America	65	7.5	85	9.8	320	36.8	325	37.4	75	8.6
Other	90	9.9	85	9.4	290	32.0	300	33.1	140	15.5
Total	17,805	19.6	12,800	14.1	19,440	21.4	22,170	24.4	18,535	20.4

distribution (43.9%) is middle-aged, comprising 3,680 individuals.

Table 4 is a detailed summary of median age by country of birth for the Jewish population of Montreal. Non-immigrants (those born in Canada) have a median age of 29.9 years. The youngest age groups include Jews whose country of birth is Mexico (34 years) and the United States (35.4 years). The median age of individuals born in Israel is 38.9 years.

At the other end of the distribution, Jews born in Eastern European countries such as Poland (82.5 years), Czechoslovakia (79.2 years), Hungary (74.2 years) and Romania (74.2 years) have median ages that are much higher than the median for the Jewish community as a whole (39.9 years). Those born in Syria have the oldest median age of non-European Jews (77.9 years), followed by those born in Iraq (76 years).

Year of Immigration of Montreal's Jews

Table 5 is a breakdown of the year of immigration of Montreal's Jews. It should be noted that this table does not represent the total number of immigrants who came to Montreal during the specified time periods

(some may have left or died in the interim), but is rather a “snapshot” of those who stayed or survived to be enumerated by the 2011 National Household Survey.

According to Table 5, 6,420 immigrants arrived in the period between 2000 and 2011. This is a higher total than any other period described in the table. However, attrition due to deaths or out-migration is more likely for earlier periods given that more time has elapsed. It is therefore difficult to make comparisons of immigrant numbers across time periods.

There were 3,885 immigrants who arrived between 2005 and 2011. These are the most recent immigrants, and further data tables in this report will provide more information regarding their characteristics and their economic adjustment. In the decade between 2000 and 2011, 6,420 Jewish immigrants settled in Montreal.

There were 3,935 immigrants who came between 1990 and 1999. Fewer arrived between 1980 and 1989 (3,740). During this latter period the Montreal Jewish community likely experienced decreased immigration given the political and social

Table 4
Median Age by Country of Birth
Montreal Jewish Population

Country of Birth	Median Age	Country of Birth	Median Age
United Kingdom	51.9	Morocco	63.0
France	40.2	Libya	--
Spain / Portugal	57.8	Algeria	60.5
Belgium	51.0	Egypt	66.8
Netherlands	63.6	Ethiopia	--
Germany	64.7	Syria	77.9
Austria	64.3	Lebanon	58.3
Italy	62.4	Iraq	76.0
Greece	57.6	Iran	58.4
Rest of Western Europe	39.1	Rest of N. Africa / Middle East	62.4
Czechoslovakia	79.2	South Africa	46.3
Hungary	74.2	Israel	38.9
Poland	82.5	Canada	29.9
Romania	74.2	United States	35.4
Bulgaria	60.6	Mexico	34.0
Yugoslavia	60.5	Argentina	43.0
Russia	45.6	Chile	51.6
Ukraine	41.9	Brazil	38.4
Georgia	41.5	Rest of South America	45.3
Belarus	49.2	Rest of World	47.1
Kazakhstan	36.3	Total Jewish Population	39.9
Rest of Former Soviet Union	43.3		

Table 5
Year of Immigration
Montreal Jewish Population

Year of Immigration	#	%
Non - Immigrants	60,635	68.0
Before 1950	1,315	1.5
1950-1959	3,130	3.5
1960-1969	4,710	5.3
1970-1979	5,240	5.9
1980-1989	3,740	4.2
1990-1999	3,935	4.4
2000-2011	6,420	7.2
(Subtotal: 2005-2011)	(3,885)	(4.4)
Total	89,125	100.0

Note: Non-permanent residents are not included in this breakdown.

Table 6
Place of Birth by Year of Immigration
Montreal Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)

Place of Birth	Before 1970		1970-1979		1980-1989		1990-1999		2000-2011	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Israel	580	6.3	640	12.2	805	21.4	655	16.7	1,300	20.3
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	2,910	31.8	440	8.4	245	6.5	240	6.1	105	1.6
Former Soviet Union	410	4.5	225	4.3	195	5.2	1,485	37.8	1,915	29.9
Western Europe	1,490	16.3	385	7.4	390	10.4	355	9.0	920	14.3
North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)	3,100	33.9	2,865	54.7	1,460	38.9	370	9.4	380	5.9
United States	455	5.0	495	9.5	445	11.9	550	14.0	1,105	17.2
South America	50	0.5	70	1.3	110	2.9	115	2.9	490	7.6
Other	155	1.7	115	2.2	105	2.8	160	4.1	200	3.1
Total	9,150	100.0	5,235	100.0	3,755	100.0	3,930	100.0	6,415	100.0

Note: Non-permanent residents are not included in this breakdown.

climate in this province throughout the 1980s.

There were 5,240 immigrants who came between 1970 and 1979, and 4,710 between 1960-1969. These periods were “boom” years for Jewish immigration to this city, particularly in light of the influx of Sephardim during the late 1960s and throughout the 1970s.

Finally, 3,130 Jews came between 1950 and 1959, and 1,315 before 1950. Almost all of the individuals in these groups are now elderly. Those who came before the Second World War are now well into their advanced years, and are at least in their eighties.

Table 6 shows place of birth by year of immigration. In terms of immigrants arriving between 2000 and 2011, the largest number came from the Former Soviet Union (1,915), followed by 1,300 from Israel, and 1,105 from the United States. It is possible that many of those who came from the United States during that period were Ultra-Orthodox, since there is an ongoing interchange of population between local Chassidic communities, and their counterparts in New York City, namely through arranged marriages.

Between 1990 and 1999, the largest number of immigrants originated from the Former Soviet Union (1,485), followed by those coming from Israel (655).

Between 1980 and 1989, the largest group came from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) (1,460), followed by Israel (805). In the period between 1970 and 1979, the largest contingent of immigrants likewise came from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) (2,865), followed by Israel (640).

Finally, before 1970 the largest group of immigrants arrived from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) (3,100), followed by immigrants from Eastern Europe (2,910) and Western Europe (1,490).

In short, two distinct periods of immigration can be distinguished in Table 6: an influx of Jews from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) from before 1970 till the end of the 1980s; and a more recent influx from the Former Soviet Union starting in the 1990s and continuing till the present time.

Table 7
Place of Birth of Immigrants by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population

District	Israel		Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)		Former Soviet Union		Western Europe		North Africa / Middle East (excl. Israel)		Other	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	45	1.0	80	2.0	105	2.4	175	4.4	190	2.3	235	4.2
Chomedey	110	2.5	85	2.1	65	1.5	85	2.1	420	5.0	50	0.9
Cote des Neiges	285	6.4	425	10.7	220	5.1	285	7.2	650	7.7	525	9.4
Cote St Luc	1,280	28.7	1,545	39.0	1,070	24.6	740	18.6	2,265	27.0	635	11.4
Hampstead	140	3.1	170	4.3	75	1.7	170	4.3	430	5.1	240	4.3
NDG / Montreal Ouest	230	5.2	215	5.4	360	8.3	250	6.3	255	3.0	360	6.5
Outremont	135	3.0	205	5.2	0	0.0	225	5.7	30	0.4	665	11.9
Park Avenue / Ext.	95	2.1	65	1.6	30	0.7	210	5.3	95	1.1	215	3.9
Snowdon	305	6.8	175	4.4	525	12.1	230	5.8	585	7.0	445	8.0
Town of Mont Royal	55	1.2	40	1.0	30	0.7	70	1.8	355	4.2	55	1.0
Ville St. Laurent	475	10.7	305	7.7	255	5.9	285	7.2	1,540	18.4	170	3.0
Westmount	65	1.5	160	4.0	35	0.8	220	5.5	175	2.1	330	5.9
West Island	595	13.4	235	5.9	405	9.3	285	7.2	660	7.9	365	6.5
Rest of Montreal	640	14.4	255	6.4	1,175	27.0	740	18.6	740	8.8	1,285	23.0
Total Montreal CMA	4,455	100.0	3,960	100.0	4,350	100.0	3,970	100.0	8,390	100.0	5,575	100.0

Immigration from Israel peaked in the most recent period (2000-2011) (1,300), although a significant number also came between 1980 and 1989 (805).

The reader is referred to Table 25 in Appendix 4, for a more detailed breakdown of country of birth by year of immigration for the Montreal Jewish community.

In terms of the most recent immigrants identified in Table 25 (2005-2011): The largest number came from Israel (930), followed by the United States (685), the Ukraine (485), the Russian Federation (410), France (410), and the Rest of the FSU (240).

It should be noted that the 2011 National Household Survey does not take into account even more recent waves of Jewish immigration to Montreal. For instance, there have been Jews arriving from Israel, and likely places such as France, in the last four years who are not included in this report. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to get a description of their numbers until the next major National Household Survey in 2021.

The Geographic Distribution of Jewish Immigrants

Table 7 examines the geographic distribution of Jewish immigrants residing in the Montreal CMA. Totaling the figures across rows in this table indicates that Cote St. Luc has the largest number of foreign-born Jews in Montreal (7,535), followed by Ville St. Laurent (3,030), the West Island (2,545), and Cote des Neiges (2,390).

The “Rest of Montreal CMA” has 4,835 Jewish immigrants. These individuals are living in neighborhoods that do not necessarily have significant numbers of Jews. They may be choosing more affordable neighborhoods, may feel less connected to the Jewish community, and have lower levels of affiliation as well.

The largest contingent of Israelis is found in Cote St. Luc (1,280). In fact, more than a quarter (28.7%) of Israelis living in the local community are located in Cote St. Luc. Other areas with significant numbers of Israelis include the "Rest of Montreal CMA" (640) and the West Island (595).

In terms of Jews born in Eastern Europe, the largest contingent is found in Cote. St. Luc (1,545). More than a third (39%) of persons

Table 8
Year of Immigration by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)

District	Before 1970		1970-1979		1980-1989		1990-1999		2000-2011		(Subtotal: 2005-2011)	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	215	2.3	90	1.7	55	1.5	120	3.1	210	3.3	160	4.1
Chomedey	325	3.5	260	5.0	105	2.8	65	1.7	80	1.2	60	1.6
Cote des Neiges	825	9.0	405	7.7	250	6.7	285	7.3	430	6.7	170	4.4
Cote St Luc	3,030	33.1	1,150	21.9	880	23.5	585	14.9	1,470	22.9	1,025	26.5
Hampstead	365	4.0	315	6.0	145	3.9	130	3.3	145	2.3	120	3.1
NDG / Montreal Ouest	475	5.2	245	4.7	115	3.1	290	7.4	390	6.1	125	3.2
Outremont	280	3.1	185	3.5	135	3.6	160	4.1	330	5.1	200	5.2
Park Avenue / Ext.	105	1.1	95	1.8	90	2.4	75	1.9	200	3.1	160	4.1
Snowdon	460	5.0	320	6.1	365	9.7	510	13.0	435	6.8	245	6.3
Town of Mont Royal	370	4.0	130	2.5	20	0.5	20	0.5	90	1.4	40	1.0
Ville St. Laurent	1,005	11.0	765	14.6	605	16.2	370	9.4	240	3.7	140	3.6
Westmount	325	3.5	220	4.2	110	2.9	75	1.9	170	2.7	120	3.1
West Island	730	8.0	485	9.2	375	10.0	300	7.6	555	8.7	250	6.5
Rest of Montreal	655	7.1	585	11.1	495	13.2	945	24.0	1,670	26.0	1,055	27.3
Total Montreal CMA	9,165	100.0	5,250	100.0	3,745	100.0	3,930	100.0	6,415	100.0	3,870	100.0

Note: Non-Permanent Residents are not included in this table.

born in Eastern Europe are located in Cote St. Luc. Many of these individuals are seniors and have Yiddish as their mother tongue. Other areas with large numbers of individuals born in Eastern Europe include Cote des Neiges (425) and Ville St. Laurent (305).

The “Rest of Montreal”, has 1,175 Jews originating from the Former Soviet Union, suggesting that many of these individuals do not necessarily settle in traditionally Jewish areas. Cote St. Luc has 1,070 and Snowdon has 525 Jews from the FSU.

There are 740 Jews in Cote St. Luc who were born in Western Europe. The “Rest of Montreal” also has 740 Jews from Western Europe. Table 26 in Appendix 4 confirms that many of these latter individuals were born in France. They likely live in areas that are predominantly French-speaking, particularly in the Eastern part of Montreal.

Finally, the largest number of Jews from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) lives in Cote St. Luc (2,265), followed by 1,540 in Ville St. Laurent, and 660 in the West Island.

Table 26 in Appendix 4 presents a detailed breakdown of country of birth across geographic areas for the Montreal Jewish population. A cursory examination of this table suggests that the largest number of Jews from the United Kingdom lives in "Rest of Montreal" (160). The largest number of Jews born in France also resides in the “Rest of Montreal” (395), likely in predominantly French-speaking areas. The largest number of Jews who were born in Germany resides in Cote St. Luc (150).

Cote St. Luc likewise has the largest contingents of Hungarian (485), Polish (550), and Romanian Jews (400). The largest numbers of Russian (510) and Ukrainian Jews (410) reside in “Rest of Montreal”.

The largest numbers of Jews born in Morocco live in Cote St. Luc (1,860) and Ville St. Laurent (1,355). Egyptian Jews have their largest contingent in Cote des Neiges (185), whereas Jews of Iraqi descent are mostly found in Cote St. Luc (120) and Town of Mount Royal (105).

The largest number of Jews born in South America resides in the “Rest of Montreal” (260). Jews originating from the United

Table 9
Mother Tongue
Montreal Jewish Population

Mother Tongue	#	%
English	48,090	53.0
French	16,195	17.8
Spanish	2,195	2.4
Russian	4,740	5.2
Hebrew	4,270	4.7
Yiddish	9,745	10.7
Other	5,545	6.1
Total	90,780	100.0

Table 10
Home Language
Montreal Jewish Population

Home Language	#	%
English	60,190	66.3
French	14,820	16.3
Spanish	1,110	1.2
Russian	4,115	4.5
Hebrew	2,345	2.6
Yiddish	6,905	7.6
Other	1,290	1.4
Total	90,775	100.0

States also have their largest representation in the “Rest of Montreal” (820). Many of these latter Jews are likely Chassidim living in the Tosh community of Boisbriand. There is also a large number of American-born Jews in Outremont (595), also likely Chassidim.

Table 8 examines year of immigration across geographic areas. Looking at those who arrived most recently (between 2005-2011), the largest contingents by far are found in the “Rest of Montreal” (1,055) and Cote St. Luc (1,025). Other areas where the most recent immigrants have settled include the West Island (250), Snowdon (245), and Outremont (200).

In the geographic distributions of those who arrived in every time period between 1970 and 2000, the largest proportions of immigrants are found in Cote St. Luc; whereas those who came in the last decade (2000-2011) have their largest contingent in the “Rest of Montreal”. It seems that increasingly, immigrants are settling farther from the major centers of Jewish life. On the other hand, it should be noted some of these individuals may not have initially settled in the same area they currently reside in.

Mother Tongue, Home Language & Bilingualism

According to Table 9, the dominant mother tongue of the Montreal Jewish community is English. A total of 48,090 individuals, comprising more than half (53%) of the local Jewish population, report English as their native language. Less than one in five (17.8%), or 16,195 persons, say French is their mother tongue.

About one in ten Montreal Jews, or 9,745 individuals, say Yiddish is their mother tongue. Smaller proportions say their native language is Russian (5.2%), Hebrew (4.7%), or Spanish (2.4%). Finally, 6.1% claim another mother tongue, such as Polish or Romanian.

As Table 10 indicates, 60,190 individuals, or about two-thirds (66.3%) of the local Jewish community, speaks English at home. About one in six (16.3%) speaks French at home, comprising 14,820 persons. There are 7.6% who speak Yiddish at home, comprising 6,905 individuals. Smaller proportions speak Russian (4.5%), Hebrew (2.6%), or Spanish (1.2%) in their domicile. Less than 2% speak other languages at home.

Table 11
Knowledge of Official Languages
Montreal Jewish Population

Official Language	#	%
English Only	22,590	24.9
French Only	3,800	4.2
Both English & French	62,010	68.3
Neither English or French	2,380	2.6
Total	90,780	100.0

Table 11 is a breakdown of knowledge of official languages for the Montreal Jewish community. The National Household Survey defines knowledge of official languages as a “conversational” knowledge of English and / or French. There is a high level of bilingualism in the local community. *More than two-thirds (68.3%) of the Jewish community has a conversational knowledge of English and French, comprising 62,010 individuals.* About one in four (24.9%), or 22,590 persons, have knowledge of English only. Smaller proportions have knowledge of French only (4.2%), or have knowledge of neither English nor French (2.6%).

A further analysis reveals that age is a significant factor as far as bilingualism is concerned. For instance, 80.2% of Montreal Jews between 15-24 years are bilingual, compared to 82.6% of those 25-34 years, 79.7% of those 35-44 years, 75.1% of those 45-54 years, and 74.8% of those 55-64 years. Only 56.8% of seniors 65+ years are bilingual. In short, level of bilingualism diminishes with age.

Table 12 examines the distribution of mother tongue across geographic areas in the Montreal CMA. The largest numbers of individuals with French as their native

language are found in Cote St. Luc (4,150), "Rest of Montreal" (2,650), and Ville St. Laurent (2,575). There are also significant contingents of French native speakers in the West Island (1,480), Snowdon (885), and Cote des Neiges (880).

The largest segments of Jews with Russian as their mother tongue reside in "Rest of Montreal" (1,375) and Cote St. Luc (1,115). Those with Hebrew as their mother tongue are concentrated in Cote St. Luc (1,255) and Ville St. Laurent (585).

Yiddish as a mother tongue is prominent among individuals in Outremont (3,405), followed by "Rest of Montreal" (2,100), and Park Avenue / Ext (1,580). Finally, Cote St. Luc has the largest number of individuals with “other languages” as their mother tongue (2,010).

Table 27 in Appendix 4 looks at home language across geographic areas. Cote St. Luc (3,575), "Rest of Montreal" (2,925), and Ville St. Laurent (2,495) have the largest numbers of individuals who speak French as their home language. Hebrew as a home language is particularly prevalent in Cote St. Luc (810). The largest numbers of those

Table 12
Mother Tongue by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population

District	English		French		Russian		Hebrew		Yiddish		All Other	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	1,425	3.0	355	2.2	95	2.0	65	1.5	65	0.7	225	2.9
Chomedey	1,100	2.3	610	3.8	70	1.5	130	3.0	75	0.8	255	3.3
Cote des Neiges	2,865	6.0	880	5.4	240	5.1	270	6.3	420	4.3	655	8.4
Cote St Luc	9,965	20.7	4,150	25.6	1,115	23.6	1,255	29.4	905	9.3	2,010	25.9
Hampstead	3,875	8.1	735	4.5	70	1.5	200	4.7	120	1.2	375	4.8
NDG / Montreal Ouest	3,715	7.7	670	4.1	380	8.0	185	4.3	140	1.4	505	6.5
Outremont	765	1.6	185	1.1	0	0.0	85	2.0	3,405	34.9	170	2.2
Park Avenue / Ext.	835	1.7	190	1.2	35	0.7	45	1.1	1,580	16.2	120	1.5
Snowdon	2,640	5.5	885	5.5	525	11.1	385	9.0	395	4.0	520	6.7
Town of Mont Royal	795	1.7	370	2.3	30	0.6	45	1.1	50	0.5	155	2.0
Ville St. Laurent	2,785	5.8	2,575	15.9	280	5.9	585	13.7	275	2.8	565	7.3
Westmount	3,620	7.5	470	2.9	40	0.8	60	1.4	85	0.9	220	2.8
West Island	8,600	17.9	1,480	9.1	475	10.0	570	13.3	140	1.4	800	10.3
Rest of Montreal	5,110	10.6	2,650	16.4	1,375	29.1	395	9.2	2,100	21.5	1,195	15.4
Total Montreal CMA	48,095	100.0	16,205	100.0	4,730	100.0	4,275	100.0	9,755	100.0	7,770	100.0

who speak Russian at home are found in "Rest of Montreal" (1,285) and Cote St. Luc (1,000).

Yiddish is spoken as a home language by significant numbers in Outremont (3,005) and Park Avenue / Extension (1,430); probably due to the large populations of Ultra-Orthodox Jews, who typically speak Yiddish at home. There are also 2,020 individuals in the "Rest of Montreal" who speak Yiddish at home, the great majority likely representing the Tosh Chassidic community of Boisbriand.

The Identification of the Ultra-Orthodox through Yiddish Language Usage

It seems that the prevalence of Yiddish as a mother tongue or home language can yield rough estimates of the size of Ultra-Orthodox populations in well-defined areas where their numbers are known to far exceed those of other Jews. It can accordingly be estimated that in the Outremont-Park Avenue area there are about 4,985 Ultra-Orthodox Jews based on mother tongue, and 4,435 Ultra-Orthodox Jews based on home language.

These figures do not include the Yeshiva community in the Eastern part of Cote des Neiges; or the Lubavitch community spread across Snowdon, Cote des Neiges and Hampstead, many do not speak Yiddish at home.

Two analyses were done to further test the assumption regarding the relationship of Yiddish mother tongue / home language and Ultra-Orthodox populations. Firstly, of 2,095 Jews living in Boisbriand, 95.9% said Yiddish was their mother tongue, and 95.7% said it was their home language. In short, in the case of this particular Chassidic community, Yiddish mother tongue or home language was an excellent identifier of the Ultra-Orthodox, particularly since it is unlikely that other Jews live in this area.

Secondly, a comparison was performed between the 2011 NHS figure obtained for Ultra-Orthodox individuals residing in the Outremont-Park Avenue area (4,985), and figures based on a 2015 study of the Ultra-Orthodox population done by the author. He used counts based on community lists and extrapolated average household sizes for individual communities based on a study

Table 13
Place of Birth by Individual Income
Montreal Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Place of Birth	No Income / Under \$25,000		\$25,000 - \$39,999		\$40,000 - \$69,999		\$70,000 - \$99,999		\$100,000 or more		Median Income
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	\$
Canada	20,610	46.6	6,565	14.8	8,400	19.0	3,330	7.5	5,340	12.1	31,801
Israel	1,675	47.5	580	16.5	650	18.4	305	8.7	315	8.9	30,153
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	1,685	42.9	695	17.7	630	16.0	390	9.9	530	13.5	30,058
Former Soviet Union	2,435	57.6	705	16.7	640	15.1	240	5.7	205	4.9	22,275
Western Europe	1,720	45.7	545	14.5	765	20.3	280	7.4	450	12.0	31,214
N. Africa / Middle East	3,415	40.9	1,450	17.4	1,730	20.7	825	9.9	920	11.0	33,150
United States	1,615	49.2	575	17.5	520	15.9	230	7.0	340	10.4	28,554
South America	320	39.8	165	20.5	155	19.3	85	10.6	80	9.9	33,453
Other	370	45.4	125	15.3	205	25.2	50	6.1	65	8.0	33,101
Total	33,845	46.4	11,405	15.6	13,695	18.8	5,735	7.9	8,245	11.3	30,670

done by Shahar in 2003.⁸ On the basis of the 2015 study, the total Ultra-Orthodox population residing in the Outremont-Park Avenue area was estimated to be 5,844 individuals, somewhat higher than the figure of 4,985 obtained using the 2011 NHS. Although it is likely that the community has grown in the last 4 years, it is also possible that some Ultra-Orthodox had not filled out the NHS or did not list Yiddish as a mother tongue.

Individual Income and Income Source of Immigrants

Table 13 examines place of birth by individual income. The percentages of adults earning under \$25,000 are highest for Jewish immigrants born in the FSU (57.6%) and the United States (49.2%). This coincides with the fact that those from the FSU are among the newest arrivals to Montreal; and a significant number of immigrants from the United States are Ultra-Orthodox, a group with traditionally higher rates of poverty.

About three-quarters (74.3%) of Jewish immigrants from the FSU earn under

\$40,000, as do two-thirds (66.7%) of those from the United States.

Table 13 also presents median individual incomes by place of birth (last column). The highest median income is found for Jews born in South America (\$33,453), followed by those born in North Africa and the Middle East (\$33,150). Both these groups have higher median incomes than non-immigrant Jews (\$31,801).

The lowest median income is evident for immigrants from the FSU (\$22,275), followed by those from the United States (\$28,554).

Table 14 shows year of immigration by individual income. About two-thirds (62.6%) of the most recent arrivals (2005-2011) earn under \$25,000 per year. This low-end income is earned by 56.5% of those who came between 2000-2011, 51.9% of those who came between 1990-1999, 45.1% of those who came between 1980-1989, and 36.5% of those who came between 1970-1979.

At the high end of the income scale (\$100,000+), those who came between 1970 and 1979 have the highest percentage in this

⁸ Shahar, C. A Comprehensive Study of the Frum Community of Greater Montreal. Federation CJA & Ahavas Chesed, 2003.

Table 14
Year of Immigration by Individual Income
Montreal Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Year of Immigration	No Income / Under \$25,000		\$25,000 - \$39,999		\$40,000 - \$69,999		\$70,000 - \$99,999		\$100,000 or more		Median Income
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	\$
Non-immigrants	20,830	46.7	6,590	14.8	8,445	18.9	3,335	7.5	5,365	12.0	31,692
Before 1970	3,655	39.9	1,600	17.5	1,790	19.6	885	9.7	1,225	13.4	33,999
1970 - 1979	1,915	36.5	840	16.0	1,090	20.8	650	12.4	750	14.3	38,124
1980 - 1989	1,690	45.1	645	17.2	800	21.4	270	7.2	340	9.1	29,594
1990 - 1999	2,030	51.9	680	17.4	695	17.8	255	6.5	250	6.4	25,134
2000 - 2011	2,830	56.5	915	18.3	765	15.3	260	5.2	240	4.8	23,768
(Subtotal: 2005-2011)	(1,865)	(62.6)	(475)	(15.9)	(345)	(11.6)	(130)	(4.4)	(165)	(5.5)	(18,420)
Total	32,950	46.0	11,270	15.7	13,585	19.0	5,655	7.9	8,170	11.4	30,670

Note: Non-permanent residents are not included in this breakdown.

category (14.3%). Similar percentages are also found for those who came before 1970 (13.4%) and non-immigrants (12%).

Table 14 also examines median incomes across various periods of immigration. The most recent arrivals (2005-2011) have a median income of \$18,420. Those who arrived between 2000-2011 have a median income of \$23,768.

Immigrants who settled here between 1990 and 1999 have a median income of \$25,134; whereas those who arrived between 1980 and 1989 have a median income of \$29,594. The highest median income is evident for immigrants who came between 1970 and 1979 (\$38,124). Also earning above the median income for the entire Jewish community (\$30,670) are immigrants who came before 1970 (\$33,999) and non-immigrants (\$31,692).

The above findings clearly show *there is a window of economic vulnerability for immigrants particularly in the first five years after settlement. This economic vulnerability is prominent throughout the decade after settlement. Even those who have resided here for 10-20 years continue to be economically disadvantaged, in*

comparison to the median income of the Jewish community as a whole. It appears to require an adjustment of at least two decades for many immigrants to reach their full economic potential.

Table 15 looks at place of birth by major income source. The percentages are read across rows. Those with the highest percentage of employed individuals earning wages or salaries are from South America (60%). A large proportion of Jews from Israel are also earning employment wages and salaries (50.7%).

Jews from Eastern Europe represent the lowest percentage of wage and salary earners (21%), as many of them are seniors who rely on government pensions. Those from North Africa / Middle east (excl. Israel) also have a low percentage of individuals earning wages or salaries (39.7%), again because many are earning government pensions.

Those born in the United States represent the highest percentage of individuals relying on self-employment income (12.8%). As previously mentioned, it is probable that many of these are Ultra-Orthodox who are

Table 15
Place of Birth by Major Income Source
Montreal Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Place of Birth	Wages & Salaries		Self-Employment Income		Government Pensions		Other Income from Gov't Sources		All Other Sources		No Income	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Canada	20,935	47.3	3,735	8.4	4,010	9.1	4,220	9.5	8,475	19.2	2,865	6.5
Israel	1,790	50.7	370	10.5	170	4.8	570	16.1	385	10.9	245	6.9
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	825	21.0	235	6.0	1,340	34.1	155	3.9	1,345	34.2	35	0.9
Former Soviet Union	2,010	47.5	365	8.6	430	10.2	745	17.6	500	11.8	180	4.3
Western Europe	1,600	42.6	310	8.2	460	12.2	460	12.2	765	20.3	165	4.4
N. Africa / Middle East	3,320	39.7	625	7.5	2,105	25.2	600	7.2	1,585	19.0	120	1.4
United States	1,530	46.5	420	12.8	110	3.3	495	15.0	510	15.5	225	6.8
South America	480	60.0	30	3.8	40	5.0	105	13.1	85	10.6	60	7.5
Other	415	50.6	75	9.1	45	5.5	110	13.4	130	15.9	45	5.5
Total	32,905	45.1	6,165	8.4	8,710	11.9	7,460	10.2	13,780	18.9	3,940	5.4

Note: "Other Income from Government Sources" includes social assistance benefits and training income.

pursuing their own businesses. Individuals from Israel represent the next highest percentage (10.5%) of self-employed persons.

A high percentage of Jews born in Eastern Europe rely on government pensions (34.1%). Those born in the Former Soviet Union (17.6%) and Israel (16.1%) have the highest percentages in terms of those relying on “Other Government Sources” (such as training income and social assistance).

Of those born in Eastern Europe (excluding the FSU), there is a particularly high proportion of individuals relying on “All Other” sources of income (34.2%). Many of these persons are seniors who depend on private pensions and investment incomes.

The data on those earning no income are difficult to interpret since they may represent not only individuals looking for work, but students and homemakers as well.

Table 16 examines year of immigration by major income source. The most recent immigrants (those who came between 2005-2011) have the highest level of reliance on “Other Government Sources”, including

social assistance and training incomes (22.8%). Those who arrived between 2000-2011 have a similar level of reliance on such sources (19%). Reliance drops to 16.5% for those who came between 1990-1999, 10.8% for those who arrived between 1980-1989, and 6.7% for those who came between 1970-1979.

Therefore, about a quarter (22.8%) of Jewish immigrants rely on government benefits within the first five years of their arrival. A comparison analysis indicates that 27.6% of immigrants who arrived between 2005 and 2011 in the overall (Jewish & non-Jewish) population rely on other government benefits (such as social assistance or training incomes), a somewhat higher figure than that of Jewish immigrants (22.8%).

In terms of economic productivity, about half (59.4%) of the newest Jewish immigrants (2005-2011) earn employment wages & salaries or are self-employed. The figures are similar for those who came between 2000-2011 (61.4%), 1990-1999 (61.7%), or 1980-1989 (62.4%).

Table 16
Year of Immigration by Major Income Source
Montreal Jewish Population (15+ Years)

Year of Immigration	Wages & Salaries		Self-Employment Income		Government Pensions		Other Income from Gov't Sources		All Other Sources		No Income	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-immigrants	21,035	47.2	3,760	8.4	4,020	9.0	4,295	9.6	8,510	19.1	2,945	6.6
Before 1970	2,240	24.5	610	6.7	2,810	30.7	460	5.0	2,940	32.1	90	1.0
1970 - 1979	2,435	46.4	485	9.2	1,020	19.4	350	6.7	885	16.9	75	1.4
1980 - 1989	1,930	51.6	405	10.8	540	14.4	405	10.8	460	12.3	0	0.0
1990 - 1999	2,055	52.6	355	9.1	255	6.5	645	16.5	435	11.1	160	4.1
2000 - 2011	2,600	51.9	475	9.5	25	0.5	950	19.0	445	8.9	515	10.3
(Subtotal: 2005-2011)	(1,485)	(49.7)	(290)	(9.7)	(0)	(0.0)	(680)	(22.8)	(225)	(7.5)	(305)	(10.2)
Total	32,295	45.1	6,090	8.5	8,670	12.1	7,105	9.9	13,675	19.1	3,785	5.3

Note: "Other Income from Government Sources" includes social assistance benefits and training income.

*Non-permanent residents are not included in this breakdown.

In fact, Jewish immigrants have a greater level of economic productivity than immigrants in the general Montreal population who arrived between 2005 and 2011. About half (51.5%) of immigrants who arrived between 2005 and 2011 into the general Montreal population earn employment wages or are self-employed, compared to 59.4% of Jewish immigrants.

Poverty Levels of Immigrants

Table 17 contains a breakdown of poverty status by place of birth. The highest level of economic disadvantage is found for Jewish immigrants from the Former Soviet Union (28.8%), followed by individuals born in the United States (28.3%) and South America (26.4%). The lowest level of poverty of any immigrant group is experienced by Jews from North Africa and the Middle East (excluding Israel) (19.5%).

All immigrant groups have a higher level of poverty than individuals born in Canada (18.2%). This is not surprising since second and third generation Canadians do not have the same economic burdens as their immigrant parents or grandparents.

Table 18 examines poverty status by year of immigration. It is very clear from this table that the burden of poverty is especially

prevalent among most recent immigrants. Those who arrived between 2005-2011 have a 32.8% level of economic disadvantage, compared to 28.3% of those who arrived between 2000-2011. The level of disadvantage then drops to 23.5% for those who arrived between 1990-1999, 21.7% for those who came between 1980-1989, and 18.3% for those who settled here between 1970-1979.

The findings of this table support previous conclusions regarding median income by year of immigration. *There is a window of economic vulnerability that lasts at least for a decade, and is especially stark in the five years immediately following an immigrant's arrival here.*

The poverty level of 32.8% for recent immigrants is among the highest of any segment in the Jewish community (see Part 4 of the National Household Survey Analysis regarding the Jewish poor), and points to the economic hardships many immigrants face in adjusting to life in this metropolitan area.

Table 17
Place of Birth by Poverty Status
Montreal Jewish Population

Place of Birth	Total	Poor		Not Poor	
	#	#	%	#	%
Canada	59,995	10,900	18.2	49,095	81.8
Israel	4,460	950	21.3	3,510	78.7
Eastern Europe (excl. FSU)	3,960	845	21.3	3,115	78.7
Former Soviet Union	4,365	1,255	28.8	3,110	71.2
Western Europe	3,970	1,000	25.2	2,970	74.8
N. Africa / Middle East	8,380	1,635	19.5	6,745	80.5
United States	3,885	1,100	28.3	2,785	71.7
South America	870	230	26.4	640	73.6
Other	900	215	23.9	685	76.1
Total	90,785	18,130	20.0	72,655	80.0

Table 18
Year of Immigration by Poverty Status
Montreal Jewish Population

Year of Immigration	Total	Poor		Not Poor	
	#	#	%	#	%
Non-immigrants	60,645	11,065	18.2	49,580	81.8
Before 1970	9,150	1,805	19.7	7,345	80.3
1970 - 1979	5,245	960	18.3	4,285	81.7
1980 - 1989	3,740	810	21.7	2,930	78.3
1990 - 1999	3,930	925	23.5	3,005	76.5
2000 - 2011	6,420	1,820	28.3	4,600	71.7
(Subtotal: 2005-2011)	(3,885)	(1,275)	(32.8)	(2,610)	(67.2)
Total	89,130	17,385	19.5	71,745	80.5

Note: Non-permanent residents are not included in this breakdown.

The Challenges Ahead

Jewish immigrants have settled in Montreal in large numbers for over a century. Many of these individuals left their countries of origin due to severe political, economic or social difficulties to create a safe haven for themselves, their families and future generations.

The majority of recent Jewish immigrants are Russian-born Israelis and their Israeli children, as well as a smaller number from France and other countries, each with their own unique cultural identities. As can be seen by the figures cited in this report, immigration is a dynamic process that does not end upon arrival at a new country. The challenges include difficulties associated with how one settles, integrates and transitions into a new culture.

Many of the immigrants who settle here are assisted by Agence Ometz. In order to welcome these newcomers into the Jewish community as well as into Quebec society, Agence Ometz and other Jewish communal agencies offer a wide spectrum of settlement and integration services designed to make the transition into Canadian life as smooth as possible.

Immigration is an important issue in Quebec society and in particular for the Jewish community. In a report submitted by la Ministre des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration (MRCI) titled "Les personnes immigrantes formées à l'étranger et l'accès aux professions et métiers réglementés"⁹ the MRCI discusses the importance of growing Quebec's population through immigration in order to help offset low birthrates, an aging population and a declining workforce.

The Montreal Jewish community is faced with similar challenges. In order to counter the effects of significant out-migration, the community has made a similar commitment to increase its numbers through immigration.

Regardless of country of origin, the literature on immigration indicates that there are three predominant factors that can facilitate a successful transition into a new culture: employment, education, and integration.¹⁰ Thus, in order to better assist

9 Les personnes immigrantes formées à l'étranger et l'accès aux professions et métiers réglementés. Des valeurs partagées des intérêts communs. Plan d'Action. La ministère des relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration (MRCI). septembre 2004. www.mrci.gouv.qc.ca

10 Sinacore, A. L., Gotlieb, M., & Kassan, A. Immigrants experiences of cultural transitioning and occupational stress. Paper presented at the annual

immigrants, service providers must have the competencies to address these factors in a culturally appropriate and sensitive manner.

As with most groups, immigrants are particularly concerned for the well-being of their children. Providing children with access to the Jewish day school system and camps also serves as an integration tool to help pave the way for immigrant families to become involved in other aspects of Jewish communal life.

Many new arrivals are graduates of colleges and universities in their country of origin. In addition, a significant number of arrivals from European and Latin American countries have vocational training program certificates. These credentials are not always recognized in Quebec. It is the community's role to help newcomers get the right information and negotiate the relevant systems.

While approximately 60% of Jewish immigrants who came between 2005 and 2011 are wage earners or self-employed, nearly 23% rely on government assistance or

training income. Many professionals who have trained in their country of origin are not able to practice their chosen occupation in Quebec and experience occupational stress, often due to underemployment, as they work for low wages at jobs that don't match their skill levels.

In terms of employment, it is incumbent upon the community to provide various services for immigrants, including advocating for job opportunities, marketing their skills, supporting job development, providing job placement services, assisting them with professional networking, and providing them with career mentors.

Integration is most successful when a community embraces the new immigrant group. Successful integration results when immigrants have been able to maintain aspects of their culture of origin, while at the same time developing skills and knowledge about the culture they are adopting.

The integration of newcomers is further enhanced by having opportunities to participate in the breadth and scope of Jewish community life; for instance, through membership in the Jewish Community Centre (JCC), by engaging in networking

meeting of the Canadian Psychological Association. Montreal, QC., June 2005.

with non-immigrant families, through involvement in activities that link their past with their current experience, and by feeling welcome enough to assume hands on volunteer and leadership roles within community agencies and organizations.

Community planners and service providers must continue to work in a cooperative manner as immigration impacts on almost every aspect of Jewish communal life. This includes establishing contacts, promoting advocacy and developing partnerships with

a variety of government agencies and specialized groups.

As the situation for Jews throughout the world becomes increasingly precarious, the role of Federation CJA and its affiliated agencies remains vital to successful transitioning. We must encourage the promotion of cultural sensitivity amongst ourselves, our children and our community, and embrace the richness of each new group as it arrives.

Part 9: Core FSU Jews

This section examines the characteristics of Jews of “Core” FSU extraction. These are individuals who identified themselves as Jewish according to the Revised Jewish Definition (see Appendix 2). In order to be considered a Jew of “Core” FSU extraction, they also had to meet at least one of the following criteria:

- The respondent was born in the FSU
- The respondent was born after 1956 and their father and / or mother was born in the FSU
- The individual is a child living in a household where a parent meets either of the above criteria

It should be noted that the current analysis presents figures for total FSU Jews that are generally lower than those cited by local community organizations. It is likely that not all individuals who were of FSU extraction, and had some level of Jewish ancestry, necessarily identified themselves as Jewish in the National Household Survey. In fact, in the case of such individuals, it is likely that their Russian ancestry was more identifiable through the NHS than their Jewish origins, for a number of reasons that are outlined below.

Individuals who were not considered as Core FSU Jews were those who did not identify themselves as Jewish for the following possible reasons:

- They had only a tenuous affiliation with Judaism in terms of their ancestry, and may not have even been considered as Jewish according to the Halachic definition.
- They had only a tenuous affiliation with Judaism in a cultural or religious sense.
- They were reluctant to identify as Jews given the hardships they endured in the FSU, and their resulting attitude of suspicion toward government agencies prevented them from divulging their religious or ethnic identity.
- The children of intermarried Jews from the FSU may not have been considered as Jewish by their parents.

The term “Core” was used to distinguish FSU Jews whose identity or affiliation was prominent enough to be identified as Jews using the Revised Jewish Definition (the same criteria of inclusion applied to the rest of the Jewish community) from those who did not identify themselves as Jews.

It is certain that some Jews of FSU extraction (or their children) were not included in this definition, but it is also

Table 19A
Age Breakdowns
Core FSU, Other and Total Jews
(Column %)

Age Cohort	Total Jews		Core FSU Jews		Other Jews	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	17,835	19.6	2,075	26.7	15,760	19.0
15-24	12,810	14.1	1,260	16.2	11,550	13.9
25-44	19,435	21.4	2,025	26.1	17,410	21.0
45-64	22,170	24.4	1,500	19.3	20,670	24.9
65+	18,525	20.4	900	11.6	17,625	21.2
Total	90,775	100.0	7,760	100.0	83,015	100.0

Median Age	39.9	32.9	40.8
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Table 19B
Age Breakdowns
Core FSU, Other and Total Jews
(Row %)

Age Cohort	Total	Core FSU Jews		Other Jews	
	#	#	%	#	%
0-14	17,835	2,075	11.6	15,760	88.4
15-24	12,810	1,260	9.8	11,550	90.2
25-44	19,435	2,025	10.4	17,410	89.6
45-64	22,170	1,500	6.8	20,670	93.2
65+	18,525	900	4.9	17,625	95.1
Total	90,775	7,760	8.5	83,015	91.5

possible that community organizations overestimate the number of FSU Jews by including individuals no matter how tenuous their Jewish identification; and by including non-Jewish spouses and their children in the case of intermarried households.

There is also a philosophical question related to who should be considered as part of the Jewish “community”, given the strength (or weakness) of their affiliation. That is, if respondents do not identify themselves as Jewish, are they necessarily part of the community?

These issues of inclusion cannot be resolved in the context of the National Household Survey, because researchers can only work within its parameters. However, it may have been useful to separately survey Jews of FSU origins about what ethnic or religious affiliations they indicated in the NHS. A future study should perhaps be implemented in conjunction with the next National Household Survey in 2021 that examines response patterns and identifications among local FSU Jews.

Basic Demographics of Core FSU Jews

Using the definition described above, the total number of Core FSU Jews in the Montreal CMA was found to be 7,760. Individuals of Core FSU extraction comprise 8.5% of the total population of 90,780 Jews residing in the Greater Montreal Area. In short, about one in twelve members of the local Jewish community is a Core FSU Jew.

Tables 19A and 19B examine age cohorts for Core FSU Jews and all other Jews. Table 19A features column percentages, whereas Table 19B shows row percentages. Both tables should be interpreted differently.

For instance, Table 19A indicates that there are 2,075 Core FSU children under 15 years of age, comprising 26.7% of the Core FSU population. There are 1,260 teenagers and young adults between 15-24 years, comprising 16.2% of the Core FSU community; 2,025 adults between 25-44 years comprising 26.1% of the Core FSU population; 1,500 adults between 45-64 years comprising 19.3% of the Core FSU community; and 900 seniors (65+ years)

Table 20
Geographic Distribution
Total Jewish & Core FSU Populations
(Row %)

District	Total Jewish Population	Core FSU Jews	% Core FSU of Total Jews
Centre Ville	2,230	125	5.6
Chomedey	2,240	130	5.8
Cote des Neiges	5,335	345	6.5
Cote St. Luc	19,395	1,855	9.6
Hampstead	5,375	270	5.0
NDG / Mtl. Ouest	5,585	555	9.9
Outremont	4,610	55	1.2
Park Avenue / Extension	2,795	80	2.9
Snowdon	5,355	1,050	19.6
Town of Mount Royal	1,440	110	7.6
Ville St. Laurent	7,065	390	5.5
Westmount	4,485	150	3.3
West Island	12,055	950	7.9
Rest of Montreal	12,815	1,715	13.4
Total Montreal CMA	90,780	7,770	8.6

comprising 11.6% of the Core FSU population. In short, the largest Core FSU age cohort featured in Table 19A involves adults between the ages of 25 and 44 years.

Compared to "Other Jews" living in the Montreal CMA, Core FSU Jews have greater percentages of individuals for every cohort less than 45 years of age, whereas "Other Jews" have larger proportions for every age group 45+ years of age. In fact, only 30.9% of Core FSU Jews are 45+ years compared to 46.1% of "Other Jews".

According to Table 19A the median age of Core FSU Jews (32.9 years) is significantly younger than that of "Other Jews" living in the Montreal CMA (40.8 years).

Table 19B looks at age breakdowns in absolute, rather than relative terms. For instance, of all children 0-14 years in the Montreal Jewish community, 11.6% are Core FSU Jews. Of Jews between 15-24 years, 9.8% are Core FSU Jews. Of Jews between 25-44 years, 10.4% are Core FSU Jews. Of middle-aged Jews between 45-64 years, 6.8% are Core FSU Jews. Finally, of elderly Jews 65+ years, 4.9% are Core FSU Jews. In short, individuals of Core FSU extraction comprise from 4.9% to 11.6% of

total Jews within the age cohorts described in Table 19B.

The Geographic Distribution of Core FSU Jews

Table 20 examines the distribution of Core FSU Jews across geographic areas in the Montreal CMA. According to this table, the largest representation of Core FSU Jews is in Cote St. Luc (1,855). There are also large contingents of Core FSU Jews in "Rest of Montreal" (1,715) and Snowdon (1,050).

Two other areas have populations with at least 500 Jews of Core FSU extraction: the West Island (950) and NDG / Montreal Ouest (555). Within the latter area, 495 Core FSU Jews reside in NDG alone.

In short, although most Jews of Core FSU extraction tend to reside in traditionally "Jewish" areas, there are 1,715 such individuals living in the miscellaneous geographic category of "Rest of Montreal CMA". These persons may be less affiliated with the Jewish community, and harder to reach from the point of view of providing social services and supports.

Table 21
Geographic Distribution
Jews & All Others of FSU Extraction
(Column %)

District	Total FSU Extraction	Core FSU Jews		All Others of FSU Extraction*	
	#	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	670	125	18.7	545	81.3
Chomedey	1,525	130	8.5	1,395	91.5
Cote des Neiges	1,910	345	18.1	1,565	81.9
Cote St Luc	3,730	1,855	49.7	1,875	50.3
Hampstead	325	270	83.1	55	16.9
NDG / Montreal Ouest	2,705	555	20.5	2,150	79.5
Outremont	135	55	40.7	80	59.3
Park Avenue / Ext.	335	80	23.9	255	76.1
Snowdon	2,000	1,050	52.5	950	47.5
Town of Mont Royal	365	110	30.1	255	69.9
Ville St. Laurent	2,255	390	17.3	1,865	82.7
Westmount	530	150	28.3	380	71.7
West Island	4,205	950	22.6	3,255	77.4
Rest of Montreal	22,695	1,715	7.6	20,980	92.4
Total Montreal CMA	43,390	7,780	17.9	35,610	82.1

*Includes non-Jews, as well as Jews who did not identify themselves as Jewish according to the Revised Jewish Definition.

Jews of Core FSU extraction comprise almost a fifth (19.6%) of the Snowdon Jewish population, and 13.4% of Jews living in the "Rest of Montreal". They comprise less than 10% of Jewish populations in all the other areas featured in Table 20.

The lowest incidences of Jews of Core FSU extraction are found in Outremont (1.2%), Park Avenue / Extension (2.9%), and Westmount (3.3%).

Table 21 examines Core FSU Jews and "all others" of FSU extraction across geographic areas. Among "all others" are included non-Jews and individuals of Jewish ancestry who did not identify themselves as Jews according to the Revised Jewish Definition (see Appendix 2). It is not possible given the NHS parameters to know what percentage of "all others" this latter group represents.

Core FSU Jews comprise 7,780 of 43,390 total individuals of FSU extraction living in the Montreal CMA, or 17.9%. In other words, of the total FSU population residing in Greater Montreal, more than a sixth are identified as Jews.

Core FSU Jews comprise a majority of total individuals of FSU extraction in Hampstead

(83.1%). More than half of all individuals of FSU extraction located in Snowdon are Jews (52.5%). About half of the total FSU population in Cote St. Luc are Jews (49.7%). The next highest percentage of Core FSU Jews is found in Outremont (40.7%), but their actual number is quite small.

Of 14 geographic areas considered in Table 21, Core FSU Jews comprise more than a third of the total FSU populations in 4 areas, and more than 20% of the total FSU populations in 8 areas.

The lowest percentages of Core FSU Jews among total FSU populations are found in the "Rest of Montreal" (7.6%) and Chomedey (8.5%). In these areas, Jews make up only a small percentage of total individuals of FSU extraction.

Age by Geographic Areas

Table 22A compares the proportions of age groups of Core FSU Jews across geographic areas in the Montreal CMA. For instance, by looking at the column percentages in this table, we can see where the largest

Table 22A
Age by Geographic Area
Core FSU Jews
(Column %)

District	Total		0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	105	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	55	2.7	50	3.4	0	0.0
Chomedey	115	1.5	35	1.7	0	0.0	35	1.7	30	2.1	15	1.7
Cote des Neiges	345	4.5	75	3.6	55	4.6	75	3.7	70	4.8	70	8.0
Cote St Luc	1,855	24.4	495	24.0	260	21.8	505	25.0	320	21.9	275	31.6
Hampstead	270	3.6	110	5.3	45	3.8	30	1.5	60	4.1	25	2.9
NDG / Montreal Ouest	545	7.2	115	5.6	135	11.3	105	5.2	105	7.2	85	9.8
Outremont	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Park Avenue / Ext.	45	0.6	20	1.0	0	0.0	25	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0
Snowdon	1,045	13.8	320	15.5	185	15.5	145	7.2	205	14.0	190	21.8
Town of Mont Royal	75	1.0	55	2.7	0	0.0	20	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ville St. Laurent	390	5.1	65	3.2	60	5.0	150	7.4	65	4.5	50	5.7
Westmount	145	1.9	65	3.2	20	1.7	25	1.2	35	2.4	0	0.0
West Island	950	12.5	300	14.6	180	15.1	230	11.4	195	13.4	45	5.2
Rest of Montreal	1,715	22.6	405	19.7	250	21.0	620	30.7	325	22.3	115	13.2
Total Montreal CMA	7,600	100.0	2,060	100.0	1,190	100.0	2,020	100.0	1,460	100.0	870	100.0

proportions of Core FSU children, young adults, and elderly reside in the metropolitan area. Note that whenever the term "Core FSU" is used in the following analysis, it is meant to denote Jewish individuals.

As Table 22A shows, the Cote St. Luc Jewish community has the largest number of Core FSU children younger than 15 years, with 495, or 24% of total Core FSU children in the Montreal CMA. In other words, almost a quarter of all Core FSU children in the Montreal CMA reside in Cote St. Luc.

"Rest of Montreal" has the next highest number, with 405 children, or 19.7% of the total. Snowdon also has a noteworthy number of Core FSU children (320), as does the West Island (300).

In terms of Core FSU teenagers and young adults (15-24 years), the largest number resides in Cote St. Luc, with 260, or 21.8% of the total for this age group among Core FSU Jews in the Montreal CMA. "Rest of Montreal" has the next highest figure in this cohort with 250, or 21% of total Core FSU Jews in this age group.

Regarding the economically productive cohort of 25-44 years, "Rest of Montreal"

has the highest figure with 620 Core FSU Jews, or 30.7% of the total for this age group. Cote St. Luc follows with 505, or 25% of the total.

"Rest of Montreal" also has the largest number of Core FSU Jews in the 45-64 age group, with 325 individuals, or 22.3% of the total. There are 320 Core FSU Jews between 45-64 years in Cote St. Luc, or 21.9% of the total.

Finally, Cote St. Luc has the largest number of Core FSU seniors, with 275, or 31.6% of the total Core FSU elderly population in the Montreal CMA. There is also a significant population of Core FSU elderly in Snowdon (190).

Table 22B shows the percentages of age cohorts within a certain geographic area. Using this table, we can determine the "relative" proportion of Core FSU children, young adults or elderly residing in a given area. Only five areas with a total Core FSU population of at least 500 individuals will be included in this analysis; namely, Cote St. Luc, NDG / Montreal Ouest, Snowdon, the West Island, and "Rest of Montreal".

Table 22B
Age by Geographic Area
Core FSU Jews
(Row %)

District	0-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65+		Median Age
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Centre Ville	0	0.0	0	0.0	55	52.4	50	47.6	0	0.0	39.5
Chomedey	35	30.4	0	0.0	35	30.4	30	26.1	15	13.0	38.5
Cote des Neiges	75	21.7	55	15.9	75	21.7	70	20.3	70	20.3	42.7
Cote St. Luc	495	26.7	260	14.0	505	27.2	320	17.3	275	14.8	35.0
Hampstead	110	40.7	45	16.7	30	11.1	60	22.2	25	9.3	17.2
NDG / Mtl. Ouest	115	21.1	135	24.8	105	19.3	105	19.3	85	15.6	32.1
Outremont	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	22.3
Park Avenue / Extension	20	44.4	0	0.0	25	55.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	28.5
Snowdon	320	30.6	185	17.7	145	13.9	205	19.6	190	18.2	27.4
Town of Mount Royal	55	73.3	0	0.0	20	26.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	14.9
Ville St. Laurent	65	16.7	60	15.4	150	38.5	65	16.7	50	12.8	34.3
Westmount	65	44.8	20	13.8	25	17.2	35	24.1	0	0.0	19.5
West Island	300	31.6	180	18.9	230	24.2	195	20.5	45	4.7	24.8
Rest of Montreal	405	23.6	250	14.6	620	36.2	325	19.0	115	6.7	33.0
Total Montreal CMA	2,060	27.1	1,190	15.7	2,020	26.6	1,460	19.2	870	11.4	32.9

It can be seen that 31.6% of the Core FSU population in the West Island is comprised of children aged 0-14 years. Snowdon also has a large proportion of Core FSU children (30.6%). The lowest percentage of children among Core FSU Jews is found in NDG / Montreal Ouest (21.1%).

Regarding Core FSU teens and young adults aged 15-24 years, the highest percentage is found in NDG / Montreal Ouest (24.8%). The lowest percentage is found in Cote St. Luc (14%).

The largest proportions of Core FSU Jews aged 25-44 years are found in the "Rest of Montreal" (36.2%) and Cote St. Luc (27.2%). The lowest percentage is found in Snowdon (13.9%).

In terms of middle-aged Core FSU Jews aged 45-64 years, the highest percentage is found on the West Island (20.5%), and the lowest in Cote St. Luc (17.3%). In this age group there is a very small range between the highest and lowest percentages.

Finally, the largest proportion of Core FSU seniors is found in Snowdon (18.2%). The lowest percentage is found in the West Island (4.7%).

Table 22B also shows the median ages of Core FSU Jews across geographic areas. Again, only areas with a total population of at least 500 Jews of Core FSU extraction are considered in this analysis.

The oldest Core FSU populations are found in Cote St. Luc (35 years) and "Rest of Montreal" (33 years). The youngest communities of Core FSU Jews are found in the West Island (24.8 years) and Snowdon (27.4 years).

The median age most similar to that of the median age of the total Core FSU population residing in the Montreal CMA (32.9 years) is found for the Core FSU population in NDG / Montreal Ouest (32.1 years).

Immigration Breakdowns for Core FSU Jews

Table 23 examines the place of birth of Core FSU Jews residing in the Montreal CMA. More than half (56.1%) were born in the Former Soviet Union; about a third (30.1%) were born in Canada; and about one tenth (10.5%) were born in Israel. A very small percentage (3.2%) were born in other countries.

Table 23
Place of Birth
Core FSU Jews

Place of Birth	#	%
Canada	2,340	30.1
Israel	815	10.5
Former Soviet Union (FSU)	4,360	56.1
All Other Countries	250	3.2
Total	7,765	100.0

Table 24
Year of Immigration
Core FSU Jews

Year of Immigration	#	%
Non - Immigrants	2,380	30.7
Before 1970	425	5.5
1970-1979	240	3.1
1980-1989	260	3.4
1990-1999	1,640	21.1
2000-2005	1,170	15.1
2006-2011	1,425	18.4
Non-Permanent Residents	220	2.8
Total	7,760	100.0

Table 24 shows the year of immigration of Core FSU Jews. The largest wave of Jews of FSU extraction came in the period between 2000 and 2011, when 2,595 individuals arrived here. There was also a significant influx between 1990 and 1999 (1,640).

There was a greater level of immigration between 2006-2011 (1,425) than between 2000-2005 (1,170). In short, the number of

arrivals of Core FSU Jews has been increasing in the last decade, although it is difficult to say whether some of the earlier immigrants left Montreal in the intervening years.

Table 24 also shows that about a third (30.7%) of Core FSU Jews are non-immigrants and 2.8% are non-permanent residents.

Appendix 1

Methodological Considerations

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

The National Household Survey (NHS) was distributed to a third of the households in Canada, compared to 20% of households for the Census Long Form. However, whereas the Census had an almost universal rate of response, the NHS had a 73.9% response rate across Canada, and 80.3% in the Montreal CMA.

It is not clear to what extent non-response biases played a role in the results. For instance, it is possible that certain socioeconomic groups, such as the poor, less educated individuals, and recent immigrants, were generally less inclined to answer the National Household Survey. Statistics Canada applied sophisticated treatments to deal with possible gaps in the data but the

change in methodology has meant that it is difficult to determine error ranges based on projections gleaned from the sample.

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

A further issue is the fact that since the 2001 Census, the number of Jews identifying themselves by ethnicity has declined dramatically. This was evident in 2006 and again in 2011. All those who considered themselves as Jewish by religion were included as Jews according to the definition employed in this report; but some who said they had no religious affiliation might have “fallen through the cracks” because they did not identify themselves as Jewish by ethnicity.

There may be several reasons why there has been a decline in Jewish ethnic

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

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

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

combination of religious and ethnic identification.

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

This new Jewish definition makes comparisons between the National Household Survey and previous Censuses even more difficult. Hence, these latter Censuses were re-analyzed along the lines of the revised definition, and whenever possible, these new figures are presented in this report. Again, all comparisons of the NHS with previous Censuses, and particularly the identification of demographic trends, should be interpreted with caution.

All in all, despite the changes in methodology outlined above, the 2011 National Household Survey provides an important opportunity to better understand

the demographic situation of the Montreal Jewish population, and to make use of this data for community planning and decision-making.

We are fortunate to have a national survey which includes questions related to religion

and ethnicity (the American Census does not). Also, the National Household Survey is one with a much larger scope than any Canadian Jewish community can implement on its own.

Appendix 2

The Revised Jewish Definition

Since 1971 all major analyses related to the Census have utilized what is known as the “Jewish Standard Definition” to distinguish who is Jewish from the rest of the population. Jim Torczyner of McGill University and the Jewish Federation of Montreal formulated this definition using a combination of religious and ethnic identification.

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

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

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

It is important to note that the category of “no religious affiliation” is broader than that of “no religion” because it includes those who consider themselves as agnostics, atheists and humanists, as well as having no

religion. Since it is possible to be Jewish and to have such affiliations, it was felt that an inclusive definition would better reflect the broad spectrum of Jewish adherence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

in numbers using the revised and standard definitions.

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

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

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

Appendix 3

The Definition of Poverty

According to Statistics Canada, a person is living in poverty if he or she resides in a household containing a certain number of people who earn a total yearly income that falls below the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO). Hence, this criterion is based solely on information related to household size and household income. The table at the end of this appendix presents specific low income cut-offs given a certain household size and income.

There are some limitations related to this measure. Firstly, it does not take into account information regarding a person's "net worth". An individual can own a dwelling and an automobile yet can be classified as poor using the LICO criterion because his or her assets are not taken into account. There are some elderly, for instance, who own a house or a condominium, but receive a low pension income, and therefore fall below the poverty cut-off.

Also, there is a measure of arbitrariness regarding the definition employed by Statistics Canada. The low-income cut-offs

are calculated taking into account how much of their total income Canadian households spend on food, shelter and clothing, and (arbitrarily) estimating that households spending about two-thirds (63.6%) or more of their income on such necessities would be in "strained" circumstances.

The reasoning is that any household spending such a large proportion of its income on these essentials has too little money left over for other important expenditures. Using these assumptions, low-income cut-off points are then set for different sizes of households.

Another limitation of the use of the LICO as a measure of poverty is that it takes into account only three basic necessities (food, shelter and clothing). A more meaningful measurement, critics argue, would be to determine the cost of a "basket" of all necessities, including such expenditures as transportation, personal care, household supplies, recreation, health, and insurance. The main problem with this alternative approach is the difficulty of determining what ought to be included in the basket of

basic necessities of life and what ought to be excluded.

Another issue regarding poverty relates to the cost of living “Jewishly”. The current definition of poverty does not take into account the cost of maintaining a kosher diet, of buying various accoutrements necessary for proper holiday observances, or paying synagogue dues. Households experiencing financial strains may not be able to meet some of the basic demands of

their traditions. This can represent a reality to disadvantaged observant Jews that is not necessarily part of the life experiences of secular Jews.

Despite the limitations described above, “The Poverty Line”, as derived from the low-income cut-off specified by Statistics Canada, remains the most comprehensive method for assessing financial disadvantage.

Low Income Cut-Offs for the year 2010
Urban areas of 500,000+ people

Household Size	Household Income Cut-Off (\$) Before Taxes	Household Income Cut-Off (\$) After Taxes
1	22,637	18,759
2	28,182	22,831
3	34,646	28,430
4	42,065	35,469
5	47,710	40,388
6	53,808	44,791
7+	59,907	49,195

Source for the above table: Income in Canada. Published by Statistics Canada, June 2012. Catalogue No. 75-202-XWE.

Appendix 4

Additional Data Tables

Table 25
Country of Birth by Year of Immigration
Montreal Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)

Country of Birth	Before 1970	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2011	(Subtotal: 2005-2011)
United Kingdom	300	85	105	50	135	85
France	335	180	160	225	615	410
Spain / Portugal	35	15	25	0	0	0
Belgium	95	25	0	25	65	55
Netherlands	20	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	405	35	0	20	0	0
Austria	170	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	75	0	20	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rest of Western Europe	0	15	35	0	55	15
Czechoslovakia	190	50	25	0	0	0
Hungary	910	70	45	30	35	0
Poland	1,200	85	20	25	0	0
Romania	575	225	150	135	35	20
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yugoslavia	15	0	0	30	0	0
Russian Federation	225	105	70	675	665	410
Ukraine	0	100	80	440	740	485
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belarus	0	0	0	85	85	35
Kazakhstan	0	0	0	75	60	35
Rest of FSU	90	15	35	210	345	170

Table 25
Country of Birth by Year of Immigration
Montreal Jewish Population
(Immigrants Only)
(cont'd)

Country of Birth	Before 1970	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2011	(Subtotal: 2005-2011)
Morocco	2,245	2,225	1,235	325	205	120
Libya	0	0	0	0	0	0
Algeria	25	0	35	0	55	50
Egypt	385	170	0	0	0	0
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syria	20	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	70	150	20	15	0	0
Iraq	190	155	60	0	0	0
Iran	15	50	20	0	20	0
Rest of N.Africa / Mid. East	125	120	80	0	70	55
South Africa, Republic of	0	15	0	10	30	20
Israel	585	640	805	655	1,300	930
Canada	0	0	0	0	0	0
United States	460	500	440	550	1,105	685
Mexico	0	0	25	-	45	30
Argentina	0	0	50	35	315	45
Chile	0	20	0	0	0	0
Brazil	0	0	0	50	55	30
Rest of South America	0	35	35	20	95	60
Rest of World	100	85	65	125	115	45
Total	8,860	5,170	3,640	3,810	6,245	3,790

Note: Non-Permanent Residents are not included in this table.

Table 26
Country of Birth by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population

District	United Kingdom	France	Belgium	Germany	Austria	Rest of W. Europe	Czech.	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Rest of E. Europe
Centre Ville	0	120	0	20	0	0	0	10	0	20	0
Chomedey	0	40	0	0	0	10	0	20	20	30	0
Cote des Neiges	40	125	30	40	0	20	25	135	125	125	0
Cote St Luc	90	315	35	150	75	35	85	485	550	400	15
Hampstead	30	60	0	15	0	0	0	25	90	50	0
NDG / Montreal Ouest	35	120	0	40	0	20	0	35	125	55	0
Outremont	70	65	45	0	20	0	40	95	0	35	0
Park Avenue / Ext.	120	50	15	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0
Snowdon	35	125	15	0	0	0	0	60	25	70	0
Town of Mont Royal	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0
Ville St. Laurent	20	135	0	30	0	65	0	50	165	85	0
Westmount	55	80	25	15	0	20	45	25	40	50	0
West Island	55	85	15	70	0	25	0	85	85	55	0
Rest of Montreal	160	395	30	60	0	85	25	50	45	115	25
Total Montreal CMA	710	1,750	210	440	95	280	220	1,120	1,270	1,105	40

Table 26
Country of Birth by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population
(cont'd)

District	Russian Fed.	Ukraine	Rest of FSU	Morocco	Egypt	Iraq	Rest of N. Africa / Mid East	Israel	South America	United States	Canada	Rest of World
Centre Ville	45	30	0	55	45	0	50	45	0	155	1,400	20
Chomedey	30	0	0	380	0	0	0	110	10	20	1,405	0
Cote des Neiges	115	55	55	400	185	25	15	285	0	475	2,935	20
Cote St Luc	435	390	235	1,860	95	120	180	1,280	120	425	11,870	60
Hampstead	45	25	0	285	0	25	115	140	15	175	4,155	20
NDG / Montreal Ouest	90	75	185	150	25	20	30	230	75	205	3,920	55
Outremont	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	135	0	595	3,350	0
Park Avenue / Ext.	20	0	0	75	0	0	0	95	0	175	2,070	0
Snowdon	220	200	110	495	30	0	0	305	65	290	3,090	55
Town of Mont Royal	0	0	0	135	75	105	30	55	0	60	800	0
Ville St. Laurent	85	85	80	1,355	25	65	80	475	30	50	4,025	55
Westmount	20	0	0	110	25	20	0	65	0	245	3,500	60
West Island	165	150	80	505	60	0	65	600	125	175	9,505	55
Rest of Montreal	510	410	240	505	40	0	200	635	260	820	7,980	210
Total Montreal CMA	1,780	1,420	985	6,330	605	380	765	4,455	700	3,865	60,005	610

Table 27
Home Language by Geographic Area
Montreal Jewish Population

District	English		French		Russian		Hebrew		Yiddish		All Other	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Centre Ville	1,765	2.9	305	2.1	45	1.1	30	1.3	0	0.0	90	3.8
Chomedey	1,455	2.4	570	3.8	65	1.6	90	3.9	0	0.0	55	2.3
Cote des Neiges	3,585	6.0	950	6.4	205	5.0	170	7.3	210	3.1	205	8.7
Cote St Luc	13,475	22.4	3,575	24.1	1,000	24.4	810	34.8	80	1.2	455	19.3
Hampstead	4,650	7.7	570	3.8	35	0.9	40	1.7	0	0.0	70	3.0
NDG / Montreal Ouest	4,370	7.3	650	4.4	295	7.2	95	4.1	0	0.0	175	7.4
Outremont	1,300	2.2	235	1.6	0	0.0	35	1.5	3,005	43.7	30	1.3
Park Avenue / Ext.	1,105	1.8	220	1.5	0	0.0	20	0.9	1,430	20.8	20	0.8
Snowdon	3,355	5.6	785	5.3	490	11.9	375	16.1	105	1.5	240	10.2
Town of Mont Royal	1,080	1.8	315	2.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ville St. Laurent	3,870	6.4	2,495	16.8	195	4.8	265	11.4	0	0.0	230	9.8
Westmount	4,120	6.8	330	2.2	25	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
West Island	10,095	16.8	910	6.1	465	11.3	265	11.4	30	0.4	290	12.3
Rest of Montreal	5,965	9.9	2,925	19.7	1,285	31.3	130	5.6	2,020	29.4	495	21.0
Total Montreal CMA	60,190	100.0	14,835	100.0	4,105	100.0	2,325	100.0	6,880	100.0	2,355	100.0