



FOREIGN
COUNTRIES

World Jewish Population

THE FIGURES on world Jewish population given below may serve as a useful guide to a demographic picture of Jewish communities the world over. As they were based mostly on local estimates, and checked against all available data, they represent the best possible approximations, subject to constant revision in the light of new information.

In compiling these data, the large migratory movements were taken into account; however, natural increase is reflected only to the extent that it was noted in the figures supplied by local sources.

Large-scale emigration to Israel continued throughout the period under review, decreasing considerably the size of the Jewish population in various countries. During the course of 1949, about 239,000 Jews went to Israel, and from January through July, 1950, another 72,000 left their old homes for the Holy Land. In addition, numbers of Jews left Europe for the United States, and others went to Latin America, Canada, and other areas.

It is estimated that the world Jewish population in 1950 amounted to 11,500,000. Of this number, approximately 5,800,000, or over 50 per cent, resided in North and South America.

TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION OF JEWISH POPULATION BY CONTINENTS

<i>Continent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Europe (including Asiatic U.S.S.R. and Turkey)	3,550,000	30.9
America (North and South)	5,819,930	50.6
Asia	1,374,350	12.0
Africa	702,400	6.1
Australia and New Zealand	44,000	0.4
TOTAL	11,490,680	100.0

Europe

There were about 3,550,000 Jews in Europe, including an estimated 2,000,000 residing in the Soviet Union. Data on postwar Jewish population in the Soviet Union have never been made available, but the figure of about 2,000,000 seems to be borne out by the material on evacuation of Jews to Asiatic Russia and the extermination of those remaining under the Germans.¹

¹ See AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, Volume 50, p. 696.

The Jewish population of Eastern Europe outside of the U.S.S.R. was about 600,000, compared with some 640,000 during 1950. Large numbers of Jews left Poland and Roumania for Israel, a movement which was still in progress at the time of writing in July, 1950.

TABLE 2

ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN EUROPE, BY COUNTRIES^a

Country	General Population	Jewish Population
Albania.....	1,175,000	300
Austria.....	7,000,000	21,000 ^b
Belgium.....	8,614,000	42,000
Bulgaria.....	7,160,000	7,000
Czechoslovakia.....	12,463,000	17,000
Denmark.....	4,230,000	5,500
England.....	50,363,000	450,000
Finland.....	4,015,000	1,800
France.....	41,180,000	235,000
Germany.....	67,032,242	40,000 ^b
Greece.....	7,852,000	7,000
Hungary.....	9,165,000	160,000
Irish Free State.....	2,991,000	5,400
Italy.....	45,996,000	35,000 ^b
Luxembourg.....	295,000	800
Netherlands.....	9,956,000	27,000
Norway.....	3,233,000	1,200
Poland.....	24,500,000	65,000
Portugal.....	8,491,000	4,000
Roumania.....	15,873,000	335,000
Soviet Union.....	193,000,000	2,000,000 ^c
Spain.....	28,023,000	3,000
Sweden.....	6,956,000	12,500
Switzerland.....	4,640,000	21,000
Turkey.....	19,623,000	50,000 ^c
Yugoslavia.....	16,040,000	3,500
TOTAL.....	599,866,242	3,550,000

^a Data on general population were derived from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations, August, 1950, IV, 8, Great Neck, N. Y. They represent available figures for 1948 and 1949. In some cases use was made of other sources, including various United Nations publications. Figures on Jewish population are for 1949 and 1950 and are based on information supplied by local sources.

^b Including local residents and displaced persons.

^c Including Asiatic regions of the Soviet Union and Turkey

In Western Europe and Scandinavia the total Jewish population was about 800,000 including 450,000 residing in England.² Thus England contained the second largest Jewish community in Europe, followed by Roumania (335,000) and France (235,000).

Asia and Australia

In July, 1950, there were about 1,374,000 Jews in Asia, including an estimated 1,115,000 in Israel. The two largest communities outside of Israel—

² According to the *Jewish Year Book* for 1950 (London), the Jewish population of Great Britain and Northern Ireland amounted to 450,000.

Iraq and Iran—had 110,000 and 90,000 Jews, respectively. During 1949–50 there was a substantial emigration from Iraq to Israel, and the old Jewish settlement of Yemen was almost entirely removed to Israel, leaving only some 3,000 Jews in Yemen.

No changes were recorded in Australia and New Zealand, where the Jewish population remained at 40,000 and 4,000, respectively.

Israel

According to official estimates,³ the Jewish population of Israel at the end of March, 1950, was 1,057,000, constituting together with 152,000⁴ Arabs and others, a total population of 1,209,000. Continuous immigration in subsequent months of 1950 brought the Jewish population to an estimated 1,115,000 in July, 1950.

Africa

The largest Jewish communities in Africa were situated in Morocco (260,000), Algeria (130,000), and Tunisia (105,000).⁵

The Jewish community in Egypt decreased substantially through emigration, and the Jewish settlement in Libya was in process of liquidation. According to the 1946 census, the Jewish population of the Union of South Africa was 103,435.

North and South America

Out of a total of about 5,800,000 Jews in the Western hemisphere, an estimated 5,000,000 resided in the United States and 198,000 in Canada. It may be in order to indicate that estimates of the total Jews in the United States vary from 4,500,000 to 5,000,000. Elsewhere in this volume Ben B. Seligman presents an upward revision of his earlier estimate⁶ of the total Jews in the United States from 4,500,000 to 4,700,000. The figures on Jewish population in South America show an increase from 597,850 to 621,930, the largest community being in Argentina (360,000), the next largest in Brazil (115,000).

³ *Statistical Bulletin of Israel*, Vol. 1, 7, May-July, 1950, Jerusalem, Israel.

⁴ Exclusive of the Arab villages in the Sharon and the areas in the Negev, where the registration had not yet been completed, and exclusive of Arabs who had infiltrated into Israel.

⁵ Latest estimates from Tunisia indicate 105,000 as against 90,000 given before.

⁶ See AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1950, Volume 51, pp. 3–52.

TABLE 3
ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN NORTH AND
SOUTH AMERICA, BY COUNTRIES ^a

<i>Country</i>	<i>General Population</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Canada	13,549,000	198,000
United States	149,215,000	5,000,000
TOTAL North America	<u>162,764,000</u>	<u>5,198,000</u>
Argentina	16,109,000	360,000
Bolivia	3,990,000	4,000
Brazil	49,350,000	115,000
Chile	5,709,000	40,000
Colombia	11,015,000	7,500
Costa Rica	837,000	100
Cuba	5,199,000	10,000
Curacao	105,617	1,000
Dominican Republic	2,277,000	600
Dutch Guiana	189,484	1,000
British Guiana	390,000	130
Ecuador	3,324,000	3,500
El Salvador	2,150,000	200
Guatemala	3,784,000	800
Haiti	3,500,000	200
Honduras	1,326,000	150
Jamaica	1,350,000	2,200
Mexico	24,448,000	25,000
Nicaragua	1,184,000	150
Panama	764,000	1,000
Paraguay	1,304,000	3,000
Peru	8,204,000	3,000
Trinidad	595,000	400
Uruguay	2,353,000	40,000
Venezuela	4,596,000	3,000
TOTAL South America	<u>154,053,101</u>	<u>621,930</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>316,817,101</u>	<u>5,819,930</u>

^a See Table 2, footnote (a).

TABLE 4

ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN ASIA, BY COUNTRIES ^a

<i>Country</i>	<i>General Population</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Aden.....	730,880	2,000
Afghanistan.....	10,000,000	3,500
Cyprus.....	460,000	200
China.....	463,493,000	5,000 ^b
Indonesia.....	79,260,000	1,200
French Indo-China.....	25,000,000	1,500
India.....	346,000,000	25,000
Iran.....	17,000,000	90,000
Iraq.....	4,800,000	110,000
Israel.....	1,280,000	1,115,000
Japan.....	82,636,000	250
Pakistan.....	75,000,000	2,000
Philippines.....	19,356,000	700
Singapore.....	940,756	1,000
Syria-Lebanon.....	4,560,000	14,000
Yemen.....	3,500,000	3,000
TOTAL.....	<u>1,134,016,636</u>	<u>1,374,350</u>

^a See table 2, footnote (a). Excluding Asiatic regions of the Soviet Union and Turkey.

^b Including Manchuria.

TABLE 5

ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AFRICA, BY COUNTRIES ^a

<i>Country</i>	<i>General Population</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Abyssinia.....	15,000,000	20,000
Algeria.....	7,234,684	130,000
Egypt.....	19,528,000	65,000
Libya.....	888,000	15,000
Morocco (including Tangiers)	8,500,000	260,000
Southern Rhodesia.....	2,022,000	4,000
Tunisia.....	3,015,170	105,000
Union of South Africa.....	12,108,000	103,400
TOTAL.....	<u>68,295,854</u>	<u>702,400</u>

^a See Table 2, footnote (a).

TABLE 6

ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ^a

<i>Country</i>	<i>General Population</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Australia.....	7,912,000	40,000
New Zealand.....	1,881,000	4,000
TOTAL.....	<u>9,793,000</u>	<u>44,000</u>

^a See Table 2, footnote (a).

TABLE 7

COUNTRIES OF LARGEST JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Country</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
United States.....	5,000,000
Soviet Union.....	2,000,000
Israel.....	1,115,000
England.....	450,000
Argentina.....	360,000
Roumania.....	335,000
Morocco.....	260,000
France.....	235,000

TABLE 8

ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN SELECTED CITIES *

<i>City</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Alexandria.....	25,000
Algiers.....	30,000
Amsterdam.....	14,000
Athens.....	3,700
Belgrade.....	1,900
Berlin.....	7,000
Bombay.....	14,350
Bucharest.....	160,000
Budapest.....	110,000
Cairo.....	35,000
Casablanca.....	100,000
Constantine.....	15,000
Dzerzoniow.....	6,120
Florence.....	1,500
Haifa.....	135,000
Helsinki.....	1,350
Jerusalem.....	108,000
Johannesburg.....	50,000
La Paz.....	3,500
Lodz.....	12,000
London.....	234,000
Melbourne.....	14,900
Milan.....	6,000
Montreal.....	80,000
Oran.....	22,000
Paris.....	125,000
Rio de Janeiro.....	45,000
Rome.....	12,000
Sao Paulo.....	30,000
Sydney.....	14,000
Teheran.....	25,000
Tel Aviv.....	275,000
Toronto.....	65,000
Trieste.....	1,500
Tunis.....	50,000
Turin.....	2,700
Vienna.....	11,000
Warsaw.....	3,000
Wroclaw.....	5,000

* Mostly for 1948-1949.