

World Jewish Population

THE JEWISH POPULATION figures presented here are the best possible estimates for 1975; precise data were not available. Estimates are based on local censuses, communal registration, and data obtained from a special inquiry conducted in the various countries for 1975. We have also used estimates supplied by knowledgeable private local informants. The figures are of varying degrees of accuracy, are subject to a substantial margin of error, and will be revised when more reasonable and precise data become available. In the tables below, figures obtained through the 1974 inquiry are indicated by an *x* (AJYB, 1976 [Vol. 76], p. 434).

DISTRIBUTION BY CONTINENTS

The estimated world Jewish population at the end of 1975 was 14,144,390, some 86,000 less than the 1974 estimate. This difference is attributable essentially to new estimates supplied by local Jewish community organizations, mainly in Argentina. Of the total number, about 6,770,000 (some 48 per cent) lived in the Americas, some 4,060,000 (29 per cent) in Europe, including the Asian parts of Turkey and the USSR, and over 3,052,000 (21 per cent) in Asia. Only some 183,000 (1.5 per cent) remained in Africa and about 77,000 (0.5 per cent) in Australia and New Zealand.

TABLE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF JEWISH POPULATION BY CONTINENTS

<i>Continent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Europe (including Asiatic USSR and Turkey)	4,059,345	29.0
America, North, Central, and South	6,771,745	48.0
Asia	3,052,510	21.0
Africa	183,790	1.5
Australia and New Zealand	<u>77,000</u>	<u>0.5</u>
TOTAL	14,144,390*	100.0

*Because sources and dates were not always identical, there may be discrepancies between figures given in the tables below and those in other sections of this volume.

Europe

Of an estimated 4,060,000 Jews in Europe, some 2,855,000 lived in the Communist area, including 2,680,000 in the Soviet Union. There were about 80,000 Jews

in Hungary and, according to the 1975 communal registration, some 60,000 in Rumania. About 6,000 Jews remained in Poland. Over 1,200,000 were in non-Communist countries. France, with a substantial number of Sephardi Jews from the Maghreb, had a Jewish population of some 550,000, the largest in Western Europe. Great Britain had 410,000; Belgium, 40,500; Italy, 35,000, and Germany (including both West and East Germany) had 33,000, of whom 5,500 lived in West Berlin.

TABLE 2. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN EUROPE, BY COUNTRIES, 1975

Country	Total Population [£]	Jewish Population
Albania	2,420,000	300
Austria	7,530,000	13,000
Belgium	9,770,000	40,500
Bulgaria	8,680,000	7,000
Czechoslovakia	14,690,000	12,000
Denmark	5,050,000	7,000
Finland	4,680,000	1,320 ^x
France	52,510,000	550,000
Germany	79,210,000	33,000 ^b
Gibraltar	30,000	625
Great Britain	55,970,000	410,000 ^x
Greece	8,960,000	6,000
Hungary	10,480,000	80,000
Ireland	3,090,000	4,000
Italy	55,360,000	35,000 ^x
Luxembourg	360,000	1,000
Malta	320,000	50
Netherlands	13,540,000	30,000 ^x
Norway	3,990,000	950 ^x
Poland	33,690,000	6,000
Portugal	8,780,000	600
Rumania	21,030,000	60,000
Spain	35,220,000	9,000
Sweden	8,160,000	15,000
Switzerland	6,440,000	21,000 ^x
Turkey	38,270,000	30,000 ^{cx}
USSR	252,060,000	2,680,000 ^c
Yugoslavia	21,150,000	6,000 ^x
TOTAL	761,440,000	4,059,345

^aUnited Nations Statistical Office, *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, and other sources, including local publications.

^bIncludes West Germany, East Germany, and both sectors of Berlin.

^cIncludes Asian regions of the USSR and Turkey.

^xReply to 1974 inquiry.

North, Central, and South America

The Jewish population of the United States was estimated at 5,840,000 for 1975.* Canada had an estimated 305,000 Jews, and Central and South America about

TABLE 3. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN NORTH, CENTRAL, AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE WEST INDIES, BY COUNTRIES, 1975

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Canada	22,480,000	305,000 ^x
Mexico	58,120,000	37,500 ^x
United States	211,890,000	5,840,000
Total North America	292,490,000	6,182,500
Barbados	240,000	85
Costa Rica	1,920,000	1,500
Cuba	9,090,000	1,500
Curaçao	150,000	700
Dominican Republic	4,560,000	200 ^x
El Salvador	3,980,000	310 ^x
Guatemala	5,540,000	1,900
Haiti	4,510,000	150
Honduras	2,930,000	200 ^x
Jamaica	2,000,000	500 ^x
Nicaragua	2,080,000	200
Panama	1,620,000	2,000
Trinidad	1,060,000	300
Total Central America and West Indies	39,680,000	9,545
Argentina	25,050,000	300,000
Bolivia	5,470,000	2,000
Brazil	104,240,000	165,000
Chile	10,080,000	27,000
Colombia	23,950,000	12,000 ^x
Ecuador	6,950,000	1,000
Paraguay	2,570,000	1,200
Peru	15,380,000	6,000
Surinam	410,000	500
Uruguay	3,030,000	50,000
Venezuela	11,630,000	15,000
Total South America	208,760,000	579,700
TOTAL	540,930,000	6,771,745

^aSee Table 2, note^a.

^xSee Table 2, note^x.

*The United States Jewish population estimate as of September 1976 was 5,845,000 (p. 229).

590,000, some 158,000 fewer than in 1974. This decrease reflects the present view in Argentina that earlier Jewish population estimates reported by Jewish bodies may have been 175,000 higher than warranted. In this connection, it must be noted that the policy of the AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK has been to accept figures supplied by the local Jewish communities, except where, for a variety of reasons, the data obviously are incorrect or dictated by conditions beyond the control of the Jewish community. Nevertheless, we will continue to study all available sources to find an explanation for the reported significant decrease in the estimate for Argentina and to arrive at the best possible approximation of the number of Jews in that country.

Asia, Australia, and New Zealand

The Jewish population of Asia increased. Of its more than 3,052,000 Jews, 2,953,000, or over 93 per cent, were in Israel, now the second largest Jewish community in the world. There were 80,000 Jews in Iran and 10,000 in India. It was difficult to ascertain at the time of writing whether events in Lebanon had any impact on the number of Jews in that state and in Syria.

The Jewish population of Australia was estimated at about 72,000, and that of New Zealand at 5,000.

TABLE 4. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN ASIA, BY COUNTRIES, 1975

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population^a</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Afghanistan	18,800,000	200
Burma	30,310,000	200
China	824,960,000	30
Cyprus	640,000	30
Hong Kong	4,250,000	200
India	586,270,000	10,000
Indonesia	127,590,000	100
Iran	32,140,000	80,000
Iraq	10,770,000	500
Israel	3,490,000	2,953,000
Japan	109,670,000	500 ^x
Lebanon	2,780,000	1,800
Pakistan	68,210,000	250
Philippines	41,460,000	200 ^x
Singapore	2,220,000	500
Syria	7,200,000	4,500
Yemen	6,480,000	500
TOTAL	1,877,240,000	3,052,510

^aSee Table 2, note^a.

^xSee Table 2, note^x.

TABLE 5. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1975

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population[†]</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Australia	13,340,000	72,000
New Zealand	3,030,000	5,000
TOTAL	16,370,000	77,000

[†]See Table 2, note^a.

Africa

The Jewish population of Africa was very small. It remained at 118,000 in South Africa, and at 4,800 in Rhodesia. The once-great Jewish communities of the North African Maghreb, which had essentially disintegrated, now showed little change in numbers. There were 8,000 Jews in Tunisia, 1,000 in Algeria, 400 in Egypt, and perhaps 40 in Libya. The estimate for Morocco was 30,000, a drop of 1,000 from the year before.

TABLE 6. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION IN AFRICA, BY COUNTRIES, 1975

<i>Country</i>	<i>Total Population[†]</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Algeria	16,280,000	1,000
Egypt	36,420,000	400
Ethiopia	27,240,000	20,000
Kenya	12,910,000	400
Libya	2,350,000	40
Morocco	16,880,000	30,000
Republic of South Africa	24,920,000	118,000 ^x
Rhodesia	6,100,000	4,800 ^x
Tunisia	5,640,000	8,000
Zaire	24,220,000	750
Zambia	4,750,000	400
TOTAL	177,710,000	183,790

[†]See Table 2, note^a.

^xSee Table 2, note^x.

COMMUNITIES WITH LARGEST JEWISH POPULATION

The United States Jewish community was the largest, followed by Israel and the Soviet Union. Together they accounted for some 81 per cent of the world Jewish

population. France, Great Britain, Canada, and Argentina had Jewish communities of 300,000 or more.

TABLE 7. COUNTRIES WITH LARGEST JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Country</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
United States	5,840,000
Israel	2,953,000
Soviet Union	2,680,000
France	550,000
Great Britain	410,000
Canada	305,000
Argentina	300,000

TABLE 8. ESTIMATED JEWISH POPULATION, SELECTED CITIES^a

<i>City</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>
Amsterdam	20,000 ^x
Ankara	500 ^x
Antwerp	13,000
Athens	2,800
Auckland	1,500
Basle	2,300
Belgrade	1,500 ^x
Berlin (both sectors)	6,000
Berne	800
Bogotá	5,500 ^x
Bordeaux	6,400
Brussels	24,500
Bucharest	40,000
Budapest	65,000
Buenos Aires ^b	
Cape Town	25,650 ^x
Cochin	500
Copenhagen	6,000
Florence	1,400
Geneva	3,250
Glasgow	13,000 ^x
Guatemala City	1,500
Haifa	210,000
Helsinki	1,000 ^x
Istanbul	22,000 ^x
Izmir	2,500 ^x

TABLE 8 (Continued)

Jerusalem	266,000
Johannesburg	63,000 ^x
Kiev	170,000
Leeds	18,000 ^x
Leningrad	165,000
Lima	5,250
Lisbon	565
Liverpool	6,500
London (greater)	280,000 ^x
Luxembourg	850
Lyons	20,000
Madrid	3,000
Malmö	2,000
Manchester	35,000 ^x
Manila	300
Marseille	65,000
Melbourne	34,000
Mexico D.F.	32,500 ^x
Milan	10,000 ^x
Montivideo	48,000
Montreal	114,000 ^x
Moscow	285,000
Nice	20,000
Oslo	750 ^x
Ottawa	7,000 ^x
Paris	300,000
Perth	3,000
Plovdiv	1,000
Prague	3,000
Rabat	2,500
Rio de Janeiro	50,000
Rome	15,000
Salisbury	2,600 ^x
Salonika	1,300
São Paulo	65,000
Sarajevo	1,100 ^x
Sofia	4,000
Stockholm	8,000
Strasbourg	12,000
Subotica	250
Sydney	28,000

TABLE 8 (Continued)

Teheran	50,000
Tel Aviv-Jaffa	394,000
Tokyo	400
Toronto	110,000 ^x
Toulouse	18,000
Trieste	1,200
Vancouver	8,000
Valparaiso	4,000
Vienna	9,000
Wellington	1,500
Warsaw	5,000
Winnipeg	18,500 ^x
Zagreb	1,200 ^x
Zurich	6,150

^aFor cities in the United States, see p. 233.

^bWe are endeavoring to obtain a Jewish population figure for this city, the capital of Argentina.

^xSee Table 2, note^x.

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