

American Jewish Year Book



VOLUME 54

1953

Prepared by
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE



MORRIS FINE, Editor
JACOB SLOAN, Associate Editor

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
New York

THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Philadelphia

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PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BY AMERICAN BOOK-STRATFORD PRESS, INC., NEW YORK



UNITED STATES

Socio-Economic Data

RECENT DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN SOME JEWISH COMMUNITIES

ONE of the most striking sociological changes in recent years has been the unexpected shift in demographic trends. The population of the United States has altered markedly in its numbers, age structure, and marital status since 1940. Not only has there been an increase of over twenty-five million persons, but there have also been sharp increases in the number of young children under the age of five and from five to ten and ten to fifteen. There is reason to believe that this tendency was accentuated after 1950.

While there is little evidence to demonstrate that the Jewish population has precisely followed the pattern set by these general demographic changes, it may be surmised that similar shifts occurred in the Jewish population, although in all probability they were not so large. Past studies of Jewish populations in specific communities have provided fairly complete data on some demographic aspects, although on many significant matters the information has been fragmentary. In general, most of the Jewish communities for which studies have been made are aging ones and are clearly replenishing themselves at a rate slower than the general population (*see* AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1950 [Vol. 51], p. 3 ff; and 1951 [Vol. 52], p. 3 ff). However, the general population has in recent years spurred so sharply that all the gloomy estimates and dour predictions of the 1930's and 1940's may now have to be revised. In fact, most demographic experts now hesitate to make the kind of predictions that were so common prior to World War II.

This remarkable growth in American population has been due to three factors: (1) a net in-migration greater than what was expected in the immediate postwar years; (2) fewer deaths than the experts anticipated; and (3) births that so far outstripped expectations that the impossibility of forecasting them for more than a year in advance is conceded. It is quite evident by now that population growth in the United States is not leveling off as was once thought, but that increases will continue, with a new flood of births to be expected in the 1970's.

Available data on the Jewish populations of the United States, albeit of a fragmentary nature, seems to indicate a condition of incipient decline. This was most evident during the 1930's, when Jewish population studies were made in a number of the larger Jewish communities (*see Jewish Population Studies*, ed. Sophia M. Robison, New York, 1943). These studies invariably showed the age group under five years as a relatively narrow one. When the data for more recent postwar studies are examined (*see* AMERICAN JEWISH

YEAR BOOK, 1950 [Vol. 51], p. 5; and 1951 [Vol. 52], p. 5) one notes an expansion in the infant age groups for the Jewish population. At that time it was suggested that this spurt in the birth rate was a temporary phenomenon. However, with the persistent continued increase in the population of the United States, it seems likely that Jewish births have increased too.

Partial data are currently available for several communities in addition to those listed in the earlier studies. These are given in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1
JEWISH POPULATION STUDIES

<i>Community</i>	<i>Jewish Population</i>	<i>Year of Study</i>
Passaic, N.J.	11,215	1949
Port Chester, N.Y.	2,235	1950
Los Angeles, Cal.	323,000	1950
Savannah, Ga.	3,120	1950
Sioux City, Iowa.	2,219	1951

The first three of these studies are fairly detailed and systematic investigations of the demographic characteristics of the Jewish population in the communities. The other two are fragmentary and partial inquiries which unfortunately did little more than obtain a listing of the Jewish persons in the community. The Los Angeles and Passaic studies were based on sampling methods which employed approved techniques for estimating population data from representative samples.

Age Composition

Table 2 below presents age composition data for four of the communities listed above. These show a growth of the infant age groups, although not nearly as marked as for Trenton, Nashville, and Gary (*see* AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1951 [Vol. 52], p. 5). However, counterbalancing the growth in births as compared with the pre-war years there has been a continual aging of the Jewish populations as evidenced by the average (median) ages. In the earlier studies these were usually below thirty years, whereas at present the averages tend to be closer to thirty-five years.

The highest average is to be seen in Savannah: a median age of 44.6 years is indicative of an old community, demographically speaking, with a large part of its population in the upper age brackets. This is indeed the case in this community in which 42 per cent of its population is past the age of fifty.

In the case of Passaic, an opportunity presented itself for observing the actual growth of a Jewish population, for, as in the case of Trenton, Passaic made two Jewish population surveys at intervals of about a decade. In Passaic a study made in 1937 reported a Jewish population of 10,066. The increase since then has been 11.4 per cent. The general population of Passaic meanwhile suffered a 6 per cent decline, dropping from 61,000 in 1940 to 58,000 in 1950.

TABLE 2
AGE COMPOSITION BY SEX: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Age Groups</i>	Passaic			Port Chester			Los Angeles			Savannah*
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
0-4.....	3.3	3.9	7.2	3.8	4.1	7.9	4.4	3.8	8.2	7.0
5-9.....	3.8	4.3	8.1	5.2	4.3	9.5	3.7	4.0	7.7	7.5
10-14.....	2.8	2.9	5.7	3.5	3.7	7.2	2.6	3.2	5.8	7.0
15-19.....	3.4	3.9	7.3	2.7	2.4	5.1	2.0	3.2	5.2	5.0
20-24.....	3.2	3.6	6.8	2.7	2.0	4.7	2.9	2.0	4.9	3.5
25-29.....	3.0	3.1	6.1	3.0	3.0	6.0	3.6	3.2	6.8	3.5
30-34.....	3.2	3.8	7.0	3.6	4.2	7.8	4.7	3.2	7.9	4.0
35-39.....	4.8	4.8	5.6	3.9	5.0	8.9	5.4	5.6	11.0	5.5
40-44.....	4.3	4.5	8.8	3.9	3.8	7.7	4.6	4.4	9.0	7.0
45-49.....	3.7	3.3	7.0	3.7	3.3	7.0	3.4	3.6	7.0	8.0
50-54.....	3.8	2.9	6.7	3.5	2.5	6.0	3.3	3.1	6.4	13.0
55-59.....	2.7	2.6	5.3	2.5	1.9	4.4	2.8	3.3	6.1	18.0
60-64.....	2.7	2.8	5.5	1.9	1.8	3.7	2.5	2.8	5.3	11.0
65-69 (and over).....	1.6	1.5	3.1	1.7	1.3	3.0	3.1	3.8	6.9	—
70-74 (and over).....	1.2	0.7	1.9	0.7	0.6	1.3	—	—	—	—
75 and over.....	1.0	0.6	1.6	0.7	0.5	1.2	—	—	—	—
Median age.....	36.7	33.8	35.9	36.1	35.7	36.0	36.0	37.1	36.6	44.6

* Breakdown for sex is not available for Savannah.

Changes in the age structure of Passaic's Jewry are evident from a comparison of the 1937 data and the 1949 material. In 1937, the under five year age group was 6.1 per cent of the total, as compared to 7.2 per cent in 1949. Thus, the earlier study indicated aging by virtue of the low concentrations in the "under five" age groups with high percentages in the twenty-five to forty-four year old groups. By the middle 1940's, however, this condition changed. The war and postwar period ushered in the usual high crop of war babies, and the Jewish birth rate increased together with the general birth rate. The data for Passaic, Port Chester, and Los Angeles would seem to indicate that while there has been a postwar slackening in the number of births, the drop has not reached the low levels shown for the 1930's, when in some communities the infant age group was 6 per cent or less of the total Jewish population. In Port Chester, the largest age group is the five- to nine-year olds. The relatively larger size of this group is also a result of the wartime growth in population. In this community too the postwar age groups declined somewhat, following the pattern set by other Jewish communities.

In contrast to the foregoing pattern, the Jewish population of Los Angeles shows a higher ratio for the group under five than for the succeeding age cohort, thus indicating a continued natural growth in the Jewish population here. The major growth in the Jewish population of Los Angeles has, of course, come about through in-migration. But it is clear that this community's population is growing even aside from inward movements. The largest groups are in the age cohorts from thirty to forty.

Thus it may be fairly stated that, despite lags, the Jewish population, at least in the larger cities (and this would include the bulk of American Jewry), conforms to the patterns exhibited by the general population. The age distribution of the general population now shows a larger proportion of children under the age of five; in many Jewish communities this class increased during and after the war and although there have been declines in this cohort, it is still sizeable. The percentage of older people has also been rising, and for Jewish communities perhaps even more rapidly than in the general population.

Sex Ratios

As was stressed in previous YEAR BOOK summaries of Jewish population, the balance between males and females (sex ratios) is an important feature of demographic composition, since it influences birth rates, death rates, marriages, and migrations. Defined as the number of males per 100 females, the sex ratio indicates an important aspect of population profile. Earlier studies in Jewish communities revealed some interesting features, such as a higher proportion of females to males in the middle-age cohorts in Miami, and a higher proportion of males to females in the old-age brackets in several other Jewish communities. These were explained by specific local economic and social situations, such as the resort town character of Miami and the prevalence of service industries such as beauty shops.

Three of the studies reviewed here provided data of sufficient detail to

permit computing sex ratios: Passaic, Port Chester, and Los Angeles. The data are given in Tables 3 and 4 below.

TABLE 3
SEX RATIOS OF JEWISH POPULATIONS

<i>Community</i>	<i>Ratio</i>
Passaic.....	96.9
Port Chester.....	103.5
Los Angeles.....	100.1

TABLE 4
SEX RATIOS BY AGE GROUP OF JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Passaic</i>	<i>Port Chester</i>	<i>Los Angeles</i>
0-4.....	82.9	91.3	116.3
5-9.....	88.5	122.4	92.0
10-14.....	93.9	92.6	79.2
15-19.....	87.4	113.0	61.9
20-24.....	90.1	135.5	150.3
25-29.....	98.6	97.0	113.0
30-34.....	82.6	86.3	144.2
35-39.....	100.9	76.2	98.0
40-44.....	96.0	101.2	104.8
45-49.....	109.3	112.0	95.6
50-54.....	134.3	135.0	108.5
55-59.....	103.4	132.5	85.9
60-64.....	95.2	107.5	89.0
65-69 (and over).....	105.9	139.2	83.2
70-74.....	180.0	113.0	—
75 (and over).....	176.9	145.0	—

In Passaic, the sex ratio in the 1937 study was 100.1, indicating an almost perfect balance between men and women. Twelve years later there was a decline in the proportion of men to women, the sex ratio being 96.9. This was true not only for the Jewish community as a whole, but also for all brackets up to age thirty-five. The shortage of men was particularly marked in the fifteen-nineteen age group as well as in ages below ten. The long run effect of such a trend might very well result in making it difficult for single persons to find marriage partners within the local Jewish community. In smaller towns, distant from the larger metropolitan centers, this may create problems.

In Port Chester, the sex ratio data indicate an excess of men over women for the community as a whole (103.5) and particularly so for the age groups over fifty. This feature, while contrary to the experience of the general population, is in consonance with the experience of such Jewish communities as Miami, Worcester, Passaic, and Trenton. However, in the age groups between twenty-five and forty, the data indicate more women than men in Port Chester. In the infant-age group there are more girls than boys, while in the five-nine age group the reverse is true. The over-all picture for Port Chester

shows less imbalance in this population characteristic than is the case in a number of other Jewish communities.

In Los Angeles, on the other hand, the infant-age group shows a heavy predominance of males as compared to females, while the obverse holds for all groups through age nineteen. In fact, the age cohort fifteen to nineteen shows the heaviest proportion of females of any Jewish community thus far included in these surveys, a feature that is probably accounted for by the great attraction that the entertainment industry has for young women. Again, the succeeding age groups up to age thirty-four show a greater proportion of males, shading off into a pattern in the higher age brackets that approximates that exhibited in the general population. For the entire community, the sex ratio in Los Angeles was reported at 100.1, indicating a fairly even over-all balance between male and female.

It might be noted that the pattern of sex ratios in the age group over twenty in Port Chester and Los Angeles is somewhat erratic, thereby suggesting some response bias on questions concerning age. It would seem that the "21 plus" response favored by many women is employed even when the enumerator does not possess police powers. However, in the case of Port Chester (as well as Passaic) the "cluster" test for age response indicated a high reliability. In the case of Los Angeles, single-year age data were not available so that this test could not be made. Of course, biases in age response may affect the age composition pattern as well as the sex ratios.

Marital Status

As was indicated in the earlier demographic reviews, many of the community studies failed to include data on marital status. However, two of the surveys included in the present article did come up with fairly detailed information on marital status, analyzing this population characteristic not only by status but by age as well. These were Passaic and Port Chester; the data for Los Angeles and Sioux City were estimated from other tabulations.

Table 5 again indicates that the greater majority of persons are classified as married, thus bearing out the tentative conclusion offered in the earlier reviews that Jewish populations conform to the general pattern, although there is the possibility that the percentage of divorces is smaller for Jews than for the general population.¹

In the Passaic and Port Chester studies marital status was cross-tabulated for the first time with age and sex, thus providing a more detailed analysis. These data revealed that for Passaic there were more single females than males in the fifteen-nineteen year old group; on the other hand, in Port Chester, there were more single young men than single young women. The data show, as might be expected, that the number of unmarried people declined as the population grew older. Comparison of marital status by age for men and women in both communities revealed the fact that men stay single longer than women.

¹ See AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1950 [Vol. 51], pp. 13-16.

TABLE 5
MARITAL STATUS OF JEWISH POPULATIONS

	Passaic ^a				Port Chester ^a			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Single.....	1,160	26.3	935	21.1	208	24.2	157	18.9
Married ^c	3,090	69.6	3,065	69.2	594	69.5	596	71.9
Widowed....	40	.9	105	2.4	33	3.9	57	6.9
Divorced....	5	—	25	.6	3	—	11	1.3
Not reported.	135	3.2	305	6.7	20	2.4	8	1.0
TOTAL.....	4,430	100.0	4,435	100.0	858	100.0	829	100.0

	Los Angeles ^a				Sioux City ^b			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Single.....	48,730	38.4	42,700	33.9	163	19.8	78	10.0
Married ^c	78,170	61.6	83,300	66.1	628	76.1	628	81.0
Widowed....	NS	—	NS	—	{ 34	4.1	{ 70	9.0
Divorced....	NS	—	NS	—				
Not reported.	—	—	—	—				
TOTAL.....	126,900	100.0	126,000	100.0	825	100.0	776	100.0

^a Age 15 and over.

^b Excludes children of elementary and high school age.

^c Differences between the number of married men and women are explained by interviewer or response errors which cannot be corrected statistically. For example, such errors or biases occur when widows or widowers will say in response to marital status questions that they are "married." Such a bias can be eliminated only by careful interviewing in the field. Errors of this nature are magnified when samples are used to estimate the characteristics of a universe.

NS—Not Specified, included in "Single" category.

The Passaic data showed the largest proportion of married persons to be in the thirty-five–forty-five year groups. The twenty-thirty year age groups in this community included only 10.2 per cent of the total number of married persons; when this was compared with the proportions of single persons in the same age group (40 per cent of the single persons) a basis was suggested for an incipient decline in population growth, to which postponed marriages are an important contributing factor. However, as in the general community, earlier marriage by females was indicated by an excess of married females over married males in all age groups up to age forty-five. Virtually the same observations, with but slight variations in the basic data, apply to Port Chester.

Family Size

As emphasized in earlier studies, the evidence thus far gathered suggests that the family is smaller among Jews than in the general native white population, which in 1950 was reported to average 3.6 persons. The existence of the smaller Jewish family is attested to by the fact that the dominant size is the two- and three-person family as compared to the larger three- and four-person family found in the general population.

The studies reviewed here add to the body of information on this aspect of Jewish demography.² In Passaic, the three-person family was the most numerous type. Additional data on the "number of all children" emphasized the fact that Jewish families in Passaic tended to be small.³ The greatest concentrations of reported "all" children were in the one- or two-children group, forming 55 per cent of the total. However, the greatest distributions within these groups were in the ages below forty-five, indicating that there was a biological possibility for larger families. Only 40 per cent of the total number of Jewish mothers in Passaic were in the age group over forty-five. It is interesting to note also that the number of Jewish households in Passaic has increased 46 per cent since 1937.

In Port Chester too there was a skewness in the distribution of families toward the smaller sizes, with the three-person family being the most numerous type. Additional data on "number of all children" showed that the one- and two-children groups were 56 per cent of the total. Mothers below the age of forty-five, the biologically procreative ages, were 46 per cent of the total, indicating also a possibility for larger families.

In Los Angeles, the data indicated that the estimated 323,000 Jews were distributed among 107,600 households, with an average size of three (the median was smaller, -2.4). Here the largest group was the two-person family, representing 31.4 per cent of the total number of households. Unfortunately, an analysis by age is not yet ready at this time, so that it is not known whether this large two-person group consists of young people who have not started their families, older retired persons with completed families, or middle-aged people without children. In the absence of such an age analysis little can be surmised about the natural growth prospects of the Los Angeles Jewish community. (Table 6.)

Fertility Ratios

As was previously indicated, little is known of the dynamic changes in Jewish population. In the absence of specific birth rates and death rates, the only index of change that can be computed is the fertility ratio defined as either the number of children under the age of five per 1,000 females of child-

² The data on Sioux City do not appear to be entirely reliable since there was an inclusion of single men and women in one context and an exclusion in another.

³ Tables were not included on this, since the data were available for Passaic and Port Chester only.

TABLE 6
FAMILY SIZE OF JEWISH POPULATIONS

<i>No. of Persons</i>	Passaic				Port Chester				Los Angeles				Sioux City			
	<i>Families</i>		<i>Individuals</i>		<i>Families</i>		<i>Individuals</i>		<i>Households</i>		<i>Individuals</i>		<i>Families^b</i>		<i>Individuals^b</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
1.....	330	9.0	330	2.9	93	12.6	93	4.2	8,075	7.5	8,075	2.5	164	20.4	164	8.2
2.....	960	26.1	1,920	17.2	162	22.0	324	14.5	33,785	31.4	67,570	20.9	310	38.9	620	31.0
3.....	1,065	29.0	3,195	28.4	205	27.9	615	27.5	29,590	27.5	88,770	27.5	134	16.8	402	20.2
4.....	945	25.7	3,780	33.8	200	27.2	800	35.9	24,380	22.7	97,520	30.2	150	18.8	600	30.0
5.....	310	8.4	1,550	13.8	61	8.3	305	13.6	10,095	9.4	50,475	15.6	37	4.7	185	9.3
6.....	50	1.4	300	2.7	9	1.2	54	2.4	1,345	1.3	8,070	2.5	3	.4	18	.9
7.....	20	0.4	140	1.2	4	0.5	28	1.2	170	.1	1,190	.4	1	—	7	.4
8.....	—	—	—	—	2	0.3	16	0.7	160	.1	1,280	.4	—	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	3,680	100.0	11,215	100.0	736	100.0	2,235	100.0	107,600	100.0	322,950*	100.0	799	100.0	1,996	100.0
ARITHMETIC MEAN.....	3.04				3.0				3.0				2.8°			
MEDIAN.....	2.5				2.3				2.4				1.5°			

* Underestimate of 50 due to rounding.

^b Excludes 174 single men and women living at home but not counted as family units.

° Includes 174 single men and women not counted in body of table.

bearing age, or the number of children under the age of five per 1,000 persons of procreative age. Such information is available for three of the communities included in the present review.

TABLE 7

FERTILITY RATIOS

	(A) Children per 1,000 Females Age 20-44	(B) Children per 1,000 Persons, Age 20-54
Passaic.....	362.6	139.5
Port Chester.....	435.0	163.2
Los Angeles.....	450.0 ^a	160.0 ^a

^a Estimated.

In Passaic, there was a considerable jump in the fertility ratio between 1937 and 1949, from 81.2 (on basis B) to 139.5. It seems evident that this trend was true for other Jewish communities as well. The Port Chester data appear higher than in other Jewish communities, but are lower than for the general community, a comparison that holds true for virtually all Jewish communities. The figure for Los Angeles (estimated from sample data) is high on basis A, but not as high as in other Jewish communities for which data are available (*see* AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, *ibid.*). The implication of this is the presence of relatively larger numbers of older persons.

Economic Status: Occupation and Industry

Three of the studies reviewed here presented somewhat more detailed information on occupation and industry than was made available in earlier community population studies. Table 8, Labor Force, gives data for Passaic, Port Chester, and Los Angeles. In Passaic 38.8 per cent of the total Jewish population was reported as part of the labor force. A similar percentage existed also in Port Chester. These were somewhat smaller ratios than were earlier reported for Newark, Trenton, Nashville, and Gary, where the proportion in the labor force was closer to the 50 per cent mark. Men in the Passaic and Port Chester labor forces outnumbered women in the ratio of about four to one. Salaried workers represented 20.8 per cent of the total Jewish population in Passaic, or 54 per cent of the labor force itself, while the self-employed were reported to be 44 per cent of the labor force. This relationship appeared to be about the same as in most large and intermediate Jewish communities, although in smaller towns the self-employed group is often the larger of the two. In Port Chester, for example, the self-employed were 19.9 per cent of the total population and 52 per cent of the labor force, while wage and salary workers were 41 per cent of the labor force. The fact that Port Chester is largely an upper-class residential community, while Passaic is an industrial community, is relevant here.

Housewives, who represented 26.8 per cent of the total Jewish population in Passaic, were also 52.7 per cent of the total number of females. In Port Chester, housewives were 23.1 per cent of the total population and 47 per

TABLE 8
LABOR FORCE

A. LABOR FORCE—PASSAIC

	Male		Female	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Self employed	1,795	32.5	120	2.1
Wage and salary earner . .	1,675	30.3	665	11.7
Unemployed	70	1.3	15	0.2
TOTAL LABOR FORCE . . .	3,540	64.1	800	14.0
Housewife	—	—	3,000	52.7
Student	390	7.1	355	6.2
Retired	200	3.6	100	1.8
Others	1,230	22.3	1,330	23.4
No answer	160	2.9	110	1.9
TOTAL	5,520	100.0	5,695	100.0

B. LABOR FORCE—PORT CHESTER

	Male		Female	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Self employed	410	36.2	35	3.2
Wage and salary earner . .	253	22.2	118	10.7
Unemployed	19	1.6	21	1.9
TOTAL LABOR FORCE . . .	682	60.0	174	15.8
Housewife	—	—	516	47.0
Student	81	7.1	51	4.6
Retired	29	2.6	3	0.2
Others	284	25.0	279	25.5
No answer	60	5.3	76	6.9
TOTAL	1,136	100.0	1,099	100.0

C. LABOR FORCE—LOS ANGELES

	Male		Female	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Self employed	} 99,500	} 61.8	} 31,000	} 19.3
Wage and salary earner . .				
Unemployed	2,400	1.5	2,000	1.2
TOTAL LABOR FORCE . . .	101,900	63.3	33,000	20.5
Housewife	—	—	80,700	49.9
Student	13,300	8.2	6,000	3.7
Retired	10,000	6.2	4,100	2.5
Others	34,000	21.1	36,000	22.2
No answer	2,000	1.2	2,000	1.2
TOTAL	161,200	100.0	161,800	100.0

TABLE 9
OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF JEWISH LABOR FORCE

<i>Occupation</i>	Passaic				Port Chester				Los Angeles			
	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Professional and semi-professional	410	11.9	90	12.3	99	14.9	26	17.1	17,500	17.5	4,500	14.6
Proprietors and managers	1,490	43.6	100	13.5	373	56.3	31	20.3	36,600	36.9	4,000	13.0
Clerical and sales	640	18.8	410	55.4	107	16.1	73	47.8	25,000	24.9	15,600	50.3
Craftsmen (skilled)	225	6.7	25	3.4	39	5.9	3	1.9	11,800	11.9	800	2.7
Operatives (semi-skilled)	250	7.4	30	4.1	22	3.3	14	9.1	5,000	5.3	3,400	10.8
Service	80	2.3	5	0.7	5	0.8	—	—	2,100	2.0	2,500	8.1
Laborers	110	3.2	10	1.3	10	1.5	2	1.3	1,500	1.5	200	0.5
Others	55	1.6	5	0.7	3	0.4	1	0.6	—	—	—	—
No answer	155	4.5	65	8.6	5	0.8	3	1.9	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3,415	100.0	740	100.0	663	100.0	153	100.0	99,500	100.0	31,000	100.0

cent of females. Students and retired persons were 9.2 per cent of the total Jewish population in Passaic and 7.3 per cent in Port Chester. (The "other" category included children not in the labor force.)

The Los Angeles study did not distinguish between salaried workers and self-employed in its labor force analysis, so that all that can be said is that 41.7 per cent of the population is included in the active labor force of the Los Angeles Jewish population. This is a smaller ratio than has been reported in the past for larger Jewish communities; it may be attributed in part to the fact that many people come to Los Angeles to retire. Men outnumber women in the Los Angeles Jewish labor force about three to one. Close to half the women are reported as housewives; this group represents 25 per cent of the Jewish population in Los Angeles.

The same three communities also provided useful and interesting data on occupational classifications, as seen in Table 9. The occupational features of the small and intermediate communities were emphasized in the material on Passaic and Port Chester. In the former, the major groups were proprietors and managers (38.3 per cent), clerical and sales (25.3 per cent), and professional and semi-professional (12.0 per cent). The same pattern with slightly different proportions (proprietors, 49.5 per cent; clerical, 22.1 per cent; professional, 15.3 per cent) existed for Port Chester. However, the data in Los Angeles show that the clerical-sales and the proprietary groups are exactly the same in size, both being 31 per cent of employed members of the Jewish labor force. If this pattern holds true for other large Jewish communities, then the usual preconceptions concerning Jewish occupational patterns will need revision.

In Passaic, the proportion of craftsmen, service workers, laborers, and operatives was somewhat higher than in other Jewish communities, being 17.7 per cent. This may be due to Passaic's proximity to major industrial areas. The original data revealed also that proprietorship in Passaic was heavily predominant among foreign-born males, while the clerical-sales group consisted largely of native-born females. A large male concentration in clerical-sales existed in Port Chester and in Los Angeles; in the latter city, men comprised more than 60 per cent of the clerical-sales category.

Information on specific professional occupations was made available in the Passaic and Port Chester surveys. The 1937 Passaic study indicated that the major professional group was "lawyers, judges, etc." with 20.5 per cent of all professionals, while "physicians, dentists, pharmacists" were second with 18.6 per cent. The 1949 study reversed this ranking; the latter group was in first place with 39 per cent while "lawyers, judges, etc." was second with 24 per cent. In Port Chester too physicians, dentists, and pharmacists were reported as the largest professional group, constituting 27.2 per cent of all professionals.

Data on industrial classifications emphasize the concentration of the Jewish labor force in wholesale and retail trades in the three communities for which such information is available. In Passaic, the proportion is 40 per cent, while in Port Chester it is 46.5 per cent. This ratio is smaller in Los Angeles where the proportion of those in trades is 36 per cent, indicating a concomitantly more even distribution, especially in manufacturing enterprises and in business and professional services. It might be noted that in all three communi-

TABLE 10
PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS

<i>Profession</i>	Passaic		Port Chester	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Physicians, dentists, pharmacists	195	39.0	34	27.2
Lawyers, judges, etc	120	24.0	18	14.4
Rabbis, teachers, etc	95	19.0	20	16.0
Architects, accountants, other	50	10.0	49	39.2
Semiprofessionals	40	8.0	4	3.2
TOTAL	500	100.0	125	100.0

ties the manufacturing group was a sizeable proportion of the labor force. Specific data on the wholesale and retail trades for Passaic and Port Chester indicate that in this general field the major concentrations are in food establishments, apparel and shoes, and furniture and hardware. This pattern appears to be similar to that of other Jewish communities. (Tables 11 and 12.)

In the Passaic and Port Chester surveys certain cross-tabulations were attempted for the first time which revealed significant relationships in the

TABLE 11
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES

<i>Trade</i>	Passaic		Port Chester	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
Food establishments	420	24.3	75	19.9
Eating and drinking places	110	6.4	9	2.3
Liquor	85	4.9	9	2.3
Apparel and shoes	375	21.8	75	19.9
Furniture, hardware, lumber	185	10.7	58	15.3
Auto and related	45	2.6	24	6.3
General merchandise	45	2.6	36	9.5
Other	320	18.6	63	16.6
No answer	140	8.1	30	7.9
TOTAL	1,725	100.0	379	100.0

economic structure of these Jewish communities. When employment status was crossed with industry it was discovered that in Passaic 44.5 per cent of those in the "trades" category were wage earners. In Port Chester, the ratio was smaller, with 32.4 per cent of the "trades" group reported as wage earners. In the professional and business service groups, about half in Passaic were

TABLE 12
INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION

	Passaic				Port Chester				Los Angeles			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Construction	45	1.3	—	—	40	6.0	1	0.6	8,900	9.0	2,200	7.1
Manufacturing	495	14.2	55	6.8	95	14.4	24	15.8	21,600	21.7	6,100	19.8
Transportation-communication	75	2.1	—	—	18	2.7	3	1.9	1,900	1.9	300	1.1
Wholesale, retail trades	1,535	43.6	190	23.6	319	48.2	60	39.3	37,600	37.8	9,300	29.8
Real estate, insurance, finance	90	2.5	5	.6	26	3.9	2	1.3	6,100	6.2	3,100	9.9
Professional and business services	905	25.8	340	42.3	93	14.0	17	11.1	20,400	20.5	8,200	26.3
Government	95	2.7	60	7.5	18	2.7	13	8.5	2,600	2.6	1,500	4.9
Other	30	.9	10	1.2	7	1.0	5	3.2	400	.3	300	1.1
No answer	245	6.9	145	18.0	47	7.1	28	18.3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3,515	100.0	805	100.0	663	100.0	153	100.0	99,500	100.0	31,000	100.0

wage earners, while in Port Chester the proportion dropped to 30 per cent. The data on this are given in Table 13.

TABLE 13
EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND INDUSTRY

	Passaic		Port Chester	
	<i>Self-Employed</i>	<i>Wage Earner</i>	<i>Self-Employed</i>	<i>Wage Earner</i>
Construction	25	15	27	14
Manufacturing	130	425	38	81
Transportation-communication	25	50	7	14
Wholesale-retail trade	970	775	256	123
Real estate, insurance	70	25	14	14
Professional and business services	635	630	77	33
Government	—	165	—	31
Other	15	25	4	8
No answer	45	230	22	53
TOTAL	1,915	2,340	445	371

Further light on economic structure was provided by a cross-tabulation of occupation and industry.⁴ Here the Passaic data indicated that at least 30 per cent of the professionals were not independently engaged. The proprietorship group, as might be expected, was heavily concentrated in the trades. The clerical-sales group was to be found mainly in trades and services. A similar pattern was revealed for Port Chester.

Port Chester, which is so close to New York and is within the latter city's suburban region, was interested in the extent to which its labor force was employed in places other than its own community. The data on this revealed that 57.4 per cent of the household heads to which this question applied have their places of work in Port Chester, that 16 per cent commute to other parts of the same county, and that only 8.1 per cent commute to New York. The community felt, as a result of these findings, that the largest number of its people had economic roots and interests in the local community itself.

The best measure of economic position is, of course, income. However, as was mentioned in one of the earlier YEAR BOOK articles,⁵ this is the sort of information that only the tax collector seems able to gather. Nevertheless, the Los Angeles study attempted to measure income levels among Jews in that community. On the basis of a sub-sample, a number of respondents were asked to indicate their income groups by means of a "secret ballot" device. While the interviewer explained the need for obtaining such data, the respondent was given a paper on which various income figures were listed and asked to check the correct figure. The paper was placed in an envelope by the respond-

⁴ The statistical data on this may be found in the original reports. They are not reproduced here because of their cumbersome character.

⁵ See AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1950 [Vol. 51], p. 31.

ent and sealed, thus making the source of the information entirely anonymous. The data in Table 14 indicate that the largest number of heads of households report moderate incomes.

TABLE 14

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, ANNUAL INCOME OF HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS, LOS ANGELES (Jewish Population)

	<i>Less than \$4000</i>	<i>\$4000-\$8000</i>	<i>Over \$8000</i>	<i>Total</i>
Professionals	27.4	27.5	45.1	100
Proprietors, managers	15.5	54.5	30.0	100
Clerical, sales	33.4	49.9	16.7	100
Other occupations	53.2	32.7	14.1	100
Retired persons	58.8	23.6	17.6	100

The Los Angeles study also provided some data on home ownership which indicated that 58 per cent of Jewish persons in that city owned their own homes. The proportion of home ownership was higher for the professional and proprietary than for other occupational groups.

Education: General and Religious

The only surveys which provided information on general education were those for Port Chester and Los Angeles (in the latter the data were estimated from a sample). In both instances the Jewish population exhibited fairly high attainments. In Port Chester 25 per cent of those age fifteen or over reported graduation from high school; in Los Angeles the per cent was 30.6. Those without formal education were in the main persons over the age of 55. It is interesting to note that in Port Chester 18.5 per cent were still attending school, while in Los Angeles the proportion was a little over 20 per cent. From what is known of those characteristics in the general population, it would appear that with regard to general education Jewish communities seem to stand somewhat higher than the average for the entire population.

TABLE 15

GENERAL EDUCATION: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION (Jewish Population)

	<i>Port Chester</i>	<i>Los Angeles</i>
No formal education	1.7	6.3
Attended elementary school without graduation	11.6	16.1
Graduated from elementary school	5.4	9.3
Attended high school without graduation	8.5	7.2
Graduated from high school	24.9	30.6
Attended college without graduation	9.6	12.5
Graduated from college	9.3	11.7
Attended post graduate or professional school	4.9	4.8
Other	0.8	1.5
No answer	23.3	—
TOTAL	100.0	100.0

The data available on Jewish education in the present series of surveys are summarized in Table 16. The analysis was originally according to age and it

TABLE 16
JEWISH EDUCATION: TYPE, PER CENT

	<i>Passaic</i>	<i>Port Chester</i> ^a	<i>Los Angeles</i>
Sunday school	9.3	9.4	15.6
Hebrew school	16.5	45.6	29.2 ^b
Parochial school	4.2	1.8	2.6
Private instruction	3.0	5.1	3.6
None	21.5	38.1	49.0
No answer	45.5		
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0

^a Age 5 and over.

^b Includes 2.7 per cent in Yiddish schools.

revealed in the main a small proportion of Jewish children currently being schooled in things Jewish. In Passaic, of all children between the ages of one and nineteen only one-third were receiving a Jewish education, while in Port Chester 38 per cent of the population age five and over reported no exposure to any form of Jewish education. In Los Angeles only about half the population were being or had been exposed to Jewish education.

The most popular type of Jewish education remained the part-time Hebrew school. In Passaic, it was the three-day school; the other studies did not specify the particular type of Hebrew school that was most popular. The Port Chester data, which compared the number of persons in each age group who received or were receiving Jewish education to the total number of persons in the age group, seemed to suggest that there was a greater emphasis on Jewish education for younger persons than was formerly the case. The Los Angeles data also suggested a high proportion of such exposure in the younger age groups. The period of such education was usually two to five years. Of course, in the absence of comparable data over a period of years, it is difficult to say whether this was indicative of any trend or whether there was change in Jewish education as respects foreign- and native-born or as between boys and girls. The answers to these questions would require further detailed investigation.

Yiddish

Data on familiarity with written and spoken Yiddish were available only for Passaic and Port Chester. In Passaic, Yiddish was spoken in 47.8 per cent of the families and read in 37.8 per cent. In both categories the largest number of "yes" responses were reported for families in which both parents were foreign-born. Where both parents were native-born, the proportion was low. While Yiddish was spoken in more Passaic families than not, this was not the case with respect to Yiddish for reading. In Port Chester, 64 per cent of persons over the age of six reported that they understood Yiddish, and 56.8 per cent reported their ability to speak it, but only one-third were able to read it.

TABLE 17
COUNTRY OF BIRTH, JEWISH POPULATION

	Passaic			Port Chester			Los Angeles		
	Number	Per Cent of Total	Per Cent of Foreign Born	Number	Per Cent of Total	Per Cent of Foreign Born	Number	Per Cent of Total	Per Cent of Foreign Born
Native-born	7,670	68.4	—	1,667	74.6	—	219,000	67.9	—
Foreign-born	3,490	31.1	—	569	25.4	—	104,000	32.1	—
Austria	410	3.7	11.8	21	1.0	3.7	5,400	1.6	5.1
Belgium	5	^a	.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	20	.2	.6	5	.2	.9	—	—	—
Czechoslovakia	50	.4	1.4	3	.1	.5	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	2	^a	.3	—	—	—
Germany	70	.6	2.0	19	.8	3.3	3,900	1.2	3.8
Great Britain	110	1.0	3.2	11	.5	1.9	5,500	1.7	5.3
Hungary	215	1.9	6.0	8	.4	1.4	4,300	1.3	4.1
Latvia	50	.5	1.4	6	.3	1.0	5,200	1.6	5.0
Lithuania	105	.9	3.0	36	1.7	6.3	—	—	—
Israel-Syria	20	.2	.6	1	^a	.2	2,600	.8	2.5
Poland	700	6.7	20.0	109	4.9	19.2	15,100	4.7	14.5
Rumania	55	.5	1.6	19	.8	3.2	4,900	1.5	4.7
Russia	1,660	14.8	47.5	262	11.6	46.1	43,000	13.3	41.4
Other	20	.2	.6	4	.2	.7	14,200	4.4	13.6
No answer	55 ^b	.5	—	63 ^c	2.9	11.1	—	—	—
TOTAL	11,215	100.0	100.0	2,236	100.0	100.0	323,000	100.0	100.0

^a Less than 0.1 per cent.

^b No answer as to whether native or foreign born.

^c Foreign born but no answer as to country of origin.

Nativity and Place of Birth

As might be expected, the proportion of the foreign-born in Jewish communities has been declining with the passage of years. In Passaic, for example, the percentage of foreign-born persons in 1937 was 36.4; this declined to 31.6 per cent in 1949. In this community too, the foreign-born group was relatively older than the native-born. In fact, an age pyramid for the foreign-born alone would show all the characteristics of an old population, with a very narrow base and tending toward a broad apex—a triangle pointing downward. The predominantly foreign origin of the older group was evident also in the other surveys reviewed here. In Port Chester the ratio of foreign-born to native-born was very low in the younger age groups, rising markedly above the age of thirty-five, until by age fifty-five there were more than twice as many foreign-born as native-born.

In terms of country of origin, most of the foreign-born in all three communities indicated that they came from Russia and Poland. As many as 65 per cent of the Jewish foreign-born, as in Port Chester, indicated origin in these countries. Other areas which were mentioned by respondents as important countries of origin were Austria, Germany, and Lithuania. (Table 17.)

Port Chester and Los Angeles also inquired into the place of birth of the native-born respondents in order to ascertain the degree of inward migration. In the first of these cities about 95 per cent of the native-born Jews reported the northeast regions of the United States as their birthplace. These data together with the information on length of residence suggest that in Port Chester perhaps 40 per cent of the Jews are native to the community.

In contrast to such stability, the data on Los Angeles reveal a heavy inward migration, which, of course, accounts for the spectacular growth of that community in recent years. The Central Atlantic states were the birthplaces of 29.7 per cent of present Los Angeles native-born Jewry, while 26.6 per cent reported coming from Middle Western states. Actually, 65 per cent of native-born Jews in Los Angeles reported coming from regions other than the Far West. As might be expected, the in-migrants from New York and Chicago are mainly adults, while most of the Los Angeles-born are children. The data on these aspects are given in Table 18.

TABLE 18

REGION OF BIRTH, PER CENT OF NATIVE-BORN JEWS

<i>Region of Birth</i>	<i>Port Chester</i>	<i>Los Angeles</i>
New England.....	5.0	4.5
Central Atlantic.....	88.9	29.7
Middle West.....	0.4	26.6
Southwest.....	0.2	1.2
Southeast.....	0.2	3.0
Far West.....	^a	35.0
No answer.....	5.2	—
TOTAL.....	100.0	100.0

^a Less than 0.1 per cent.

Length of Residence

The fact that most communities are fairly stable, a situation revealed in earlier studies, is further emphasized in Table 19. The large majority of most

TABLE 19
LENGTH OF RESIDENCE, PER CENT OF JEWISH POPULATION

<i>Years</i>	<i>Passaic</i>	<i>Port Chester</i>	<i>Los Angeles</i> ^a
1-5.....	15.4	17.7	21.6
6-10.....	14.7	17.5	22.9
11-15.....	10.8	10.7	} 55.5
16-20.....	10.0	8.1	
21-25.....	10.5	9.2	
26-30.....	11.2	6.8	
Over 30.....	24.1	22.2	
No answer.....	3.3	7.8	
TOTAL.....	100.0	100.0	100.0

^a Heads of households.

Jewish communities has lived in their cities more than five years. In Port Chester about 38 per cent of the Jewish families indicated that they moved within the last decade. Of those who reported residing in Port Chester twenty years or more, only 6 per cent reported that they resided at their present address that length of time. These data suggest a fairly high degree of movement within the community, a characteristic in the general population. In Passaic, where the analysis of residence was made according to nativity, the information revealed that 70 per cent of the foreign-born Jews had been in the United States more than thirty years. The data further suggested an outward movement of native-born Passaic Jewry offset somewhat by an inward movement. For example, 20.7 per cent of native Jews residing in Passaic who were born elsewhere had been living in Passaic ten years or less. The tendency toward considerable moving about is further illustrated by the fact that about 18.5 per cent of Los Angeles Jewish households were planning to move at the time the survey was conducted.

Communal Activity

The Passaic and Port Chester surveys were among the very few that obtained data on participation in communal affairs. Table 20A shows such participation by type of organization while Table 20B shows the pattern of activity by number of organizations. It is clear that in both communities there is a large group of persons with multiple memberships in communal bodies. Port Chester, which exemplifies the small community, shows a higher degree of such activity; whether this is true of other small communities is not known

TABLE 20A^aMEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNAL BODIES BY TYPE
(Per Cent)

	<i>Passaic</i>	<i>Port Chester</i>
Religious.....	25.4	26.6
Recreational.....	15.1	24.0
Fraternal.....	11.0	13.9
Zionist.....	9.6	22.0
Health and welfare.....	5.2	6.8
Other.....	14.3	6.7
No answer.....	19.4	—
TOTAL.....	100.0	100.0

^a It should be noted that the percentages in this table refer to the proportion of total memberships rather than to the per cent of persons who belong to such organizations.

TABLE 20B^aMEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNAL BODIES BY NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS
(Per Cent)

<i>No. of Organizations</i>	<i>Passaic</i>	<i>Port Chester</i>
None.....	19.4	—
1.....	20.9	11.7
2.....	21.8	21.0
3.....	17.2	27.0
4.....	12.4	25.5
5.....	4.0	12.2
6.....	2.2	1.4
7 or more.....	2.1	1.2
TOTAL.....	100.0	100.0

^a The ratios in this table refer to the proportion of persons belonging to various organizations.

since the necessary data are not yet available. It is clear however that in both communities the most popular type of organization is the religious congregation. In fact, the cross-tabulations indicated that most of the single organization memberships were in this category. On the whole, the data suggest a fairly high participation by Passaic and Port Chester Jewry in some form of communal activity.

BEN B. SELIGMAN