

**REVIEW OF RELEVANT DEMOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION ON WORLD JEWRY**

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**FINAL REPORT PRESENTED TO
THE HON. SECRETARY LAWRENCE S. EAGLEBURGER
CHAIRMAN
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST ERA
INSURANCE CLAIMS**

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CHAPTER 1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 BACKGROUND, RESEARCH PROBLEMS, AND AIMS OF THIS REPORT

This report aims at providing a new, independent, thorough and reliable evaluation of the number of Shoah survivors.¹ To achieve this goal we need, on the one hand, to review previous research that has been conducted in recent years on the same or related topics. On the other hand, we need to apply independent and systematic research criteria that will provide the most comprehensive answer possible to the question at stake, and an answer that can be judged and evaluated in full autonomy by the users of this report.

For analytic and practical purposes, the definition of who is eligible to the title of *Shoah survivor* is open to widely differing interpretations. In this report we adopt an *Intermediate Extensive* concept. It includes *all those Jewish persons who are alive today and who at least for a brief period of time were submitted in their locations to a regime of duress and/or limitation of their full civil rights in relation to their Jewish background—whether by a Nazi foreign occupying power or by a local authority associated with the Nazis' endeavor—or had to flee elsewhere in order to avoid falling under the aforementioned situations.* Such definition incorporates all Jews who actually suffered physical or other kinds of persecution, those who escaped from areas in which they were the designated target for persecution, and those who suffered any kind of other—even temporary or potential—limitation of personal freedom.

Over the last years, several studies have been undertaken concerning aspects of the question of the number of Shoah survivors and their geographical distribution worldwide. Some of these investigative efforts tried to provide a comprehensive picture of the relevant population worldwide. Other efforts focused on specific subpopulations, defined by country of residence or by other criteria inherent in the matter of sufferance and survivorship. Very interesting contributions to understanding the topic of Shoah survivors were produced through

¹ Throughout this report we consistently refer to *Shoah* rather than *Holocaust*. As the inherent meanings of these two terms are deeply different, *Shoah* clearly is the more appropriate in our case. For the practical

a variety of approaches using quantitative research and institutional sources. There are however a number of crucial weaknesses in the body of research available so far. These problems include:

- (One) a nearly exclusive focus on events and people in Europe, basically ignoring all non-European territories that should be included because they once were under the rule of hostile European powers;
- (Two) not very consistent and sometimes reductive criteria for defining the period of sufferance;
- (Three) quite inconsistent, and sometimes biased or speculative criteria for establishing Jewish population estimates at different points in time as a basis for estimating the number of victims;
- (Four) quite simplistic and therefore inaccurate demographic techniques used to reconstruct the course of Jewish population change before, during, and after the Shoah period.

Because of these and other reasons, a systematic reassessment was needed of the complex problems inherent with the demography of Shoah survivors.

1.2 MAIN TRENDS IN JEWISH DEMOGRAPHY

Figures on population size, characteristics, and trends are a primary tool in the assessment of Jewish community needs and prospects at the local level and worldwide. The estimates for major regions and individual countries adopted in this report reflect a prolonged and ongoing effort to study scientifically the demography of contemporary world Jewry.

Demographic events produce ceaseless changes in Jewish (as in any other) population size and composition. The main thrust of Jewish demographic change over the whole post-World War II period and more intensely since the 1990s included overall quantitative stagnation at the global level, considerable aging due to comparatively low fertility rates and comparatively high longevity, and a dramatic migration transfer from Muslim countries and Eastern Europe to Israel and to the western countries. In turn, regional differences in the

purposes of this report, however, the two terms can be considered as equivalent.

incidence of negative balances of Jewish births and deaths, and of weak propensities to raise as Jews the children of intermarriages, further impacted Jewish population size and distribution. As a cumulative result of these trends, entire Jewish communities dried up completely, especially in the Middle East and North Africa, and others shrank significantly, notably in the Former Soviet Union (FSU), in other parts of Eastern Europe, in Latin America, and in South Africa. Israel, from a relatively small and marginal Jewish community at the end of World War II, emerged as one of the two leading centers of world Jewish population, together with the United States. In the US, however, much because of the same reasons just outlined, the historical momentum of Jewish population growth reached a standstill at the end of the 20th century.

Constant monitoring of Jewish demographic trends in the republics of the FSU is of great significance within the global assessment of Jewish demographic trends. Recent findings do not confirm the assumption that the official data in the past significantly underreported the number of Jews. The opportunity that emerged since 1991 for Jews fearful of the past regime to come out into the open and reveal their identity, and the considerable investments in cultural and social Jewish activities by local and international agencies, were supposed to produce a significant increase in the readiness to declare their Jewish identity in the census among people who supposedly had concealed it in the past. The new data, perhaps regrettably, disprove this assumption and confirm that past and present demographic data form a highly coherent body of information. The crucially relevant message is that because of the intertwined effect of continuing low fertility, assimilation, and large scale emigration, the Jewish population in the FSU is continuing its rapid downward course.

The momentum of these trends is not exhausted, and they are expected to continue to operate at least for several years ahead with obvious implications for emerging changes in Jewish population distribution globally.

1.3 SHOAH SURVIVORS: REASSESSMENT AND INTERPRETATION

It should be clearly understood that there does not exist one single central reliable registry of Shoah survivors. Any evaluation of the numbers has to rely on a set of assumptions

and on an adequate investigative methodology. The result of such an evaluation is at best the most plausible central value in a range of less plausible alternatives. It is within these specific limits that our findings should be read and interpreted.

A full reassessment of the number and geographical distribution of Shoah survivors was performed perusing or newly processing the whole gamut of existing sources on Jewish population worldwide. The basic approach comprised:

- (One) detailed examination of the number and distribution of Jews born before 1946 and therefore liable to have incurred in the Shoah;
- (Two) a detailed analysis of the distribution by countries of birth of Jews of relevant ages in each country of residence;
- (Three) further verification of the years of immigration for Jews of relevant countries of origin.

This painstaking reconstruction is largely possible thanks to the recent accumulation of a large amount of new censuses and sociodemographic surveys that were not available at the time previous assessments of the topic at stake were undertaken. Our results largely derive from detailed statistical sources, particularly for the largest Jewish populations that constitute the vast majority of the total of world Jewry. In those cases where detailed data were not available, assumptions were developed on the basis of regional analogies that clearly exist in the socio-historical and demographic experience of Jewish communities.

TABLE 1. ESTIMATE OF SHOAH SURVIVORS,^a BY MAJOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS, 2003

Region	Number	Percent
World Total	1,092,000	100.0
Israel	511,000	46.8
United States	174,000	15.9
Former Soviet Union	146,000	13.4
Western Europe	197,000	18.1
Eastern Europe	32,000	2.9
Rest of the world	32,000	2.9

^a Intermediate extensive definition, see p. 3.

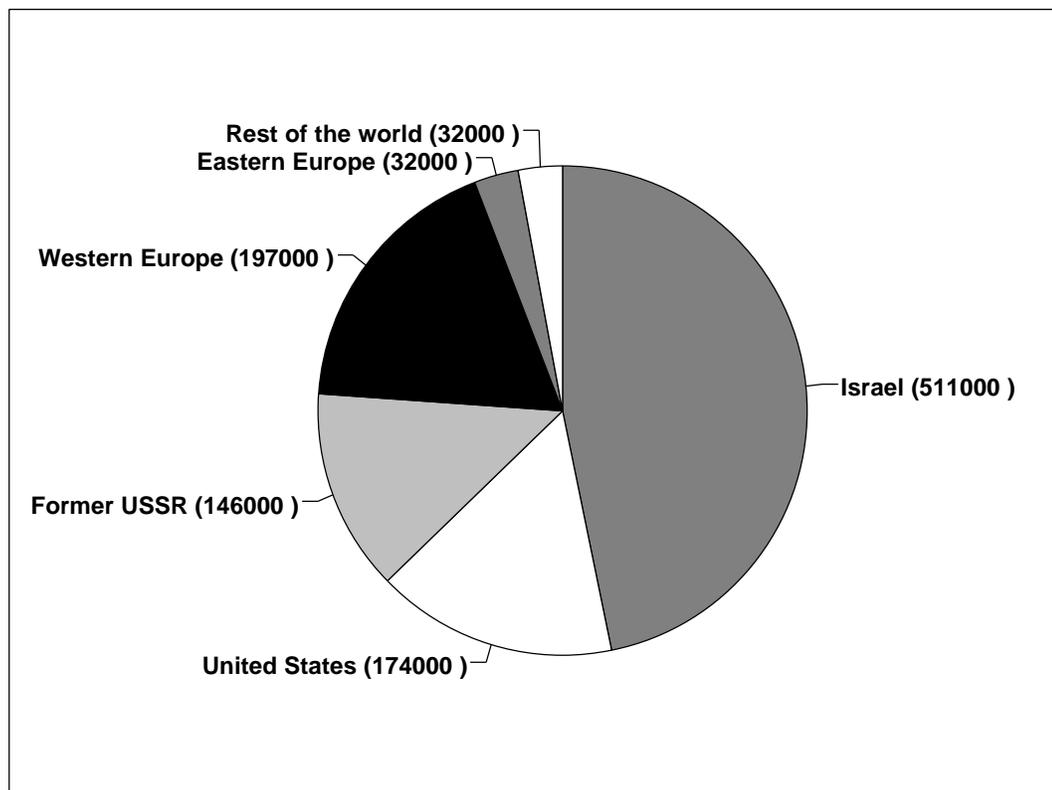
The total of Shoah survivors reassessed in 2003 according to the comprehensive criteria outlined above, is currently evaluated at 1,092,000 persons (see Table

1). Of these, 511,000 live in Israel, 174,000 in the United States, 146,000 in the Former Soviet Union, 197,000 in Western Europe, 32,000 in Eastern Europe, and 32,000 in the remaining countries in Canada, Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania.

In accordance with the definitional criteria adopted, our estimates are generally higher than those suggested by previous reports. The share of Israel is higher than in previous assessments, mainly because of two factors:

- (a) the continuing inflow of immigrants produces increases in Israel's population and decreases in the relevant countries of origin, particularly the Former Soviet Union;
- (b) the incorporation of North African and Middle Eastern communities that were mistakenly omitted in previous assessments tends to expand Israel's share more than that of other parts of the world (with the exception of Western Europe), because most of the migrants from relevant former European colonies in Muslim countries settled in Israel.

FIGURE 1. ESTIMATE OF SHOAH SURVIVORS, BY MAJOR GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS, 2003



According to our reevaluation, the partition of 511,000 Shoah survivors in Israel, is 393,000 from Europe and 118,000 from Africa and Asia.

Our assessment of the number of survivors in the United States, too, is somewhat higher than in previous assessments. This indicates the good reliability of previous estimates, but also the advantages of having at hand a good new and comprehensive source of data, the 2000-2001 National Jewish Population Survey. Our assessment for Western Europe is significantly higher than previously thought, because of

- (a) the rapid Jewish population growth experienced in Germany in recent years, mostly through immigration from the Former Soviet Union, and
- (b) the incorporation of a substantial number of survivors among the Jewish population of North African origin now living in France.

It is not surprising, therefore, that reflecting continuing demographic erosive trends, including continuing emigration, our assessment of Shoah survivors in the Former Soviet Union is somewhat lower than in previous reports. It should be stressed that the number of Shoah survivors of FSU origin now living out of the FSU, in Israel, in the US, in Germany and elsewhere, has increased over the years and significantly exceeds the number still living in the FSU.

1.4 IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The trends outlined in this report should be taken not only for the comprehensive picture they unveil of the Shoah survivors, but also for what they can teach us about the ceaseless effects of demographic change for future Jewish community planning and social policies. While because of the unavoidable effects of aging, the total pool of Shoah survivors is bound to diminish significantly over the next years, nevertheless for several decades ahead it will continue to be a very significant constituency. Not only their total number, but also their geographic distribution will continue to shift from one region to another reflecting differential migration flows and differential survival chances at various locations.

Shoah survivors are the scant living residue of a great and vibrant Jewry that was destroyed in tragic circumstances. They were to different degrees of personal sufferance direct or indirect victims, and in any case they were witnesses. They are entitled to the highest possible level of respect, service, and nurturing by the Jewish community system and by the civil community at large.

CHAPTER 2.

BACKGROUND, RESEARCH PROBLEMS, AND AIMS OF THIS REPORT

2.1 BACKGROUND

On April 10, 2003, Mr. Lawrence S. Eagleburger, Chairman of the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims, wrote to the author of this report:

"In order to make decisions regarding the allocation of funds, ICHEIC has made use of the studies that have been carried out regarding estimates of Nazi victims in various locations. [...] I have decided to request [...] to review the demographic data already available to determine whether there are significant errors or changes in the facts (e.g. immigration) underlying the figures [...]"

On June 11, 2003, Mr. Eagleburger further wrote to this author:

"This is to confirm my request that you conduct a review of relevant demographic information on world Jewry [...]"

To our request for clarification about

"the criterion for definition and inclusion of the Jewish population [...] relevant for the purposes of your Commission",

on June 12, 2003, Mr. Eagleburger answered as follows:

"Clearly my preference is that you emphasize the more extensive criteria in your analysis."

In the following report we provide a thorough answer to the topic that was raised. In so doing, the author is fully aware of the sensitivity and complexity of the issues involved. The matters to be dealt with do not simply represent an exercise in demographic research, but involve delving into incomparable sufferance related to the Shoah in its broadest sense. This in turn implies dealing with very complex conceptual and definitional problems related with the topic at stake. Moreover, the implications of this analysis are deeply and urgently important for a number of major organizations which have attended at the noble and sensitive task to invest resources aimed at easing—not only in a practical material scope but also in a broader cultural and communal perspective—the cumulative sufferance and damage caused to Jewish individuals personally, and to world Jewry as a collective. Under these circumstances, research is called to provide the keenest, most comprehensive and best documented analysis possible.

The author, while aware of the responsibility invested in him, trusts that the cumulative research experience that has been built since 1959 at the Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem offers the best guarantee for the thoroughness and reliability of the following investigation.

2.2 AIMS AND ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

This report aims at providing a new, independent evaluation of the number of Shoah survivors. To achieve this goal we need, on the one hand, to review previous research that has been conducted in recent years on the same or related topics. On the other hand, we need to apply independent and systematic research criteria that will provide the most comprehensive answer possible to the question at stake, and an answer that can be judged and evaluated in full autonomy by the users of this report.

In the following of Chapter 2, we shall address alternative possible definitions of the Shoah survivor population, and we shall review the main sources of information on the topic based on research undertaken in recent years. We shall point to strengths and weaknesses of the various available materials.

Chapter 3 provides an overview of the major trends and patterns in contemporary Jewish demography. A thorough review of the subject is necessary in view of the centrality of

demographic change as the underlying force shaping contemporary Jewish society, its resources, and its needs. This section also comes to provide systematic answers to questions that are often raised and to misperceptions that are sometimes circulated both in popular and in more serious writings.

Chapter 4 provides our systematic data analysis and evaluation of all the information needed to reach a judgement about the current number of Shoah survivors. Our evaluation is based on an independent perusal and processing of all available data sources on Jewish population worldwide. The detailed results discussed and presented are clearly summarized at the end of chapter.

Chapter 5 comprises a brief assessment of the results and of their implications for Jewish community planning and social policies.

An Appendix comprises several documents relevant to this report, and the full detail of the data and estimates used to reach our conclusions.

2.3 ALTERNATIVE DEFINITIONS OF SHOAH SURVIVOR POPULATION

For all analytic and practical purposes, the definition of who is eligible to the title of *Shoah survivor* is open to widely differing interpretations. Shoah affected Jewish society worldwide with infinitely different amounts and shadows of intensity. The major consequence was the physical annihilation of about six million persons. Among those who lived after the end of World War II, consequences ranged from suffering the most excruciating violence and indignity in extermination camps, through irreversible or reversible physical and mental health deterioration, loss of property, limitation of educational and occupational opportunities, residential dislocation, limitation of personal freedom, pain, and anxiety for the fate of self and other dear persons.

Because of the unfolding of historical circumstances, the contemporary size and geographical distribution of the surviving population is not necessarily directly related to the location and intensity of anti-Jewish persecution when it actually occurred. Indeed, there may even be a reverse relationship due to the fact that where persecution was most intensive and efficient, the share of survivors was probably lower than elsewhere. On the other hand, most

intensive attacks on the Jews often occurred in the presence of very sizeable Jewish communities. Thus a low share of survivors among a large initial pool of Jews would sometimes make for a higher number of individuals than a higher share of survivors among a smaller initial pool.

Definitions of the pool of Shoah survivors involve consideration of specific circumstances of time and space. Regarding the definition of relevant *space*, there are essentially four major approaches to defining Shoah survivors:

1. ***Most Restrictive Possible***. The most restrictive concept would be to focus on the hard core group who suffered, and survived the most brutal manifestations of actual physical attack. In particular, this comprises those people who were *confined in concentration camps, or were otherwise detained, tortured, or suffered permanent physical damage*.
2. ***Intermediate Restrictive***. A somewhat less restrictive concept would address *all those who in their locations suffered significant and permanent physical, mental, and/or socioeconomic damage* in connection with the Shoah period.
3. ***Intermediate Extensive***. A more extensive concept includes *all those Jewish persons who are alive today and who at least for a brief period of time were submitted in their locations to a regime of duress and/or limitation of their full civil rights in relation to their Jewish background—whether by a Nazi foreign occupying power or by a local authority associated with the Nazis' endeavor—or had to flee elsewhere in order to avoid falling under the abovementioned situations*. Such definition incorporates those who actually suffered physical or other kinds of persecution, those who escaped from areas in which they were the designated target for persecution, and those who suffered any kind of other—even temporary or potential—limitation of personal freedom.
4. ***Most Extensive Possible***. In the criminal mind of the Nazi regime, the *final solution* targeted all Jews who lived at the time for annihilation. At the January 1942 Wannsee conference, which can be considered the beginning point of a systematic, operative logistical effort to destroy all Jews worldwide, statistical tables were circulated indicating that the Nazis had quite a correct perception of the size and distribution of Jewish population worldwide. Given the opportunity, all existing Jews would have been destroyed. Hence, in the broadest sense, *any Jew who was born and lived before the end of World*

War II and the demise of Nazism and its allies in 1945, regardless of country of residence,
is a survivor.

In this report we shall follow the *third, Intermediate Extensive* definitional strategy, which better than the other three fits both a solid and relevant concept, and an extensive approach as requested by the committing authority for the present report. Indeed, at this stage of historical process it would appear quite invidious and inappropriate to deny a request for recognition as Shoah survivor to anyone who has justifiable and documentable reasons for such request. In the case of doubt, it appears definitely more plausible to include than to exclude.

With regard to *time*, the emergence of a situation of acute civil discrimination and physical danger can be identified with the rise to power of the Nazi regime in 1933, and in a broader sense with the rise to power of the Fascist regime in Italy in 1922. Therefore all Jews who were born after those dates, but not after 1945, or were born before and lived in the relevant geographical areas during the relevant time period enter our definition of those who suffered. Jews who emigrated from the relevant areas to other areas not touched by anti-Jewish discrimination before the beginning of the Shoah period should not be included in the definition. The end of the period associated with Shoah is usually identified with the end of World War II. Actually, it could be plausibly claimed that a situation of duress and displacement applies as well to all those who lived in displacement, in transit camps or otherwise until full post-war normalization. A better date for dividing a period of Jewish sufferance and its aftermath, from a period of relative normalcy—at least in terms of available civil rights—might be May 15, 1948, i.e. before and after the independence of the State of Israel. Taking 1948 as the dividing point would expand quite significantly the number of people eligible under a broad definition of those who suffered and survived. However, in this report we abide by the end of 1945 as the dividing point, thus including all Jews who were born during the several months after the end of the war and whose mothers carried them under circumstances of duress.

Further details on the criteria for ascertaining the size and distribution of the relevant population are provided in the continuation of this report.

2.4 PREVIOUS STUDIES AND INTERPRETATIONS

Over the last years, several studies have been undertaken concerning aspects of the question of the number of Shoah survivors and their geographical distribution worldwide. Some of these investigative efforts try to provide a comprehensive picture of the relevant population worldwide. Other efforts focus on specific subpopulations, defined by country of residence or by other criteria inherent in the matter of sufferance and survivorship. In the following we briefly review the main research accomplished so far, and suggest some critical observations about the respective methods and findings.

The *Spanic report* issued in 1997 provides a concise overview of the size and geographical distribution of Shoah survivors.² The Spanic Committee was established following a meeting of the *Israeli Prime Minister's Office* on May 14, 1997. The target population includes all those born until 1944 "who were under Nazi ruling, or under Nazi occupation, or under the ruling of collaborators with the Nazis, or had to flee because of such ruling or occupation". The authors mostly base their quantitative conclusions on an assessment of the number of survivors at the end of World War II, and an examination of population movements known to have occurred before the war and likely to have occurred since. One of the problems with this approach is that it makes extensive use of rough death rates without relying on clear assumptions about life expectancy among Jews in different parts of the world. In the absence of clear criteria about Jewish mortality levels and the respective similarity or difference vis-a-vis other populations, these assumptions are bound to lead to rather speculative findings. The world total of Shoah survivors is assessed in the Spanic report at 834,000 to 960,000, and separate estimates, each with its own range, are provided for Israel, the Former Soviet Union, the United States, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and the balance of other countries.

The *Ukeles report* on behalf of the *Planning Committee of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany* was issued in 2000.³ This is probably the most serious

² A. Spanic, H. Factor, V. Strominski, "Shoah Survivors and Their Number Today", 4 p., 1997 (Hebrew).

³ J. Ukeles (consultant), *A Plan for Allocating Successor Organization Resources*, Report of the Planning

attempt to systematically evaluate the number of survivors and discuss the policy implications of the findings. The report's policy oriented discussion is out of the scope of our review. The Ukeles report reviews a variety of available sources of data. The target population includes Jews born before 1945 "who lived in a country at a time when it was under a Nazi regime, under Nazi occupation, or under the regime of Nazi collaborators or who fled to a country or region not under Nazi rule or occupation due to Nazi rule or Nazi occupation". Some of the database for estimating Jewish populations in the different countries uses selected quotations of 1996 estimates that were originally published by the author of the present report. Other estimates, in particular those for the Former Soviet Union, are based on different assumptions.⁴ Among the main strengths of the Ukeles report is extensive reporting about age composition of the target population, and an attempt to assess its socioeconomic status, particularly regarding those in need of economic assistance. Among the report's weaknesses are a somewhat inconsistent approach to Jewish population data without a clear rationale for such inconsistencies; reliance on somewhat unrealistic assumptions about Jewish mortality levels, particularly in the Former Soviet Union; and a gap of several years between the demographic database and the date for estimating the surviving population. It should be noted, and it will be stressed in the following chapter of this report, that the effect of time on Jewish population size and composition cannot be neglected. The world total of survivors is assessed in the Ukeles report at 831,900 to 935,600, with a preference explicitly stated for the low of the range. Estimates, each with its own range, are suggested for the world's main geographical divisions.

Interestingly, a compromise was elaborated between the Spanic and the Ukeles report. In the framework of a case brought in front of the *US Federal District Court* on November 22, 2000, it was suggested that the number and world distribution of Shoah survivors should correspond to the simple arithmetic average between the recommendations of the Spanic and of the Ukeles reports.⁵ Totals and continental distributions of survivors according to the Spanic and Ukeles reports appear in Appendix 4 of the present report.

Committee, Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, 88 p., 2000 (see also: <http://www.claimscon.org>).

⁴ See, e.g., Ukeles (2000), p. 19.

⁵ See *Special Master's Proposed Plan of Allocation and Distribution of Settlement Proceeds in Re Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation (Swissbanks) Special Master's Proposal September 11, 2000* (see also: www://swissbankclaims.com).

A detailed evaluation of the Shoah survivor population in Israel was released in 2001 at the initiative of *JDC-Brookdale*.⁶ This analysis is based on a representative sample of Jews living in Israel, born in Europe, aged 60 and over in 1997 (therefore born up to 1937), and resident in places other than kibbutzim, moshavim, or institutions. The strength of this report consists in the detailed classification of survivors across the main typological categories of those who were in concentration camps, those who were in ghettos or forced labor camps, other survivors, and those who fled, as well as in the information provided on the personal characteristics of these persons. The main weakness of the report lies in its somewhat limited geographical and age-wise definitions. The survey addresses a population equivalent of 282,968 survivors.

A further processing of the same 1997 survey of people aged 60 and over was devoted to an assessment of the current and projected needs for home nursing care.⁷ A survivor was defined as anyone who had lived in one of the countries occupied or under the direct influence of the Nazi regime at any time between 1933 and 1945. Also included in the population was anyone who had fled slightly before, or during, the Nazi occupation (that is displaced persons – “fled”). As already noted, the limitation to people born before 1937 and the exclusion of residents in Israeli kibbutzim, moshavim and other rural localities and in institutions produced a significant underestimate of the real number of survivors. An attempt to correct for such undercounting produced a higher revised estimate of survivors which however was reduced to 279,000 in 2002 (as against the original figure of 283,000 for 1997) due to intervening incidences of death. Some of the assumptions for estimating the missing numbers among survivors born after 1937 in the original survey, and the exclusive focus on the European-born seem quite questionable. The main strength of this report is its attempt to project the number of survivors expected to live in the community and in long-term care institutions.

A further, more generic and indirect effort to define the size of Shoah survivor population exists in the form of a special tabulation of Israel's population prepared by *Israel's*

⁶ See J. Brodski, "Shoah Survivors: Characteristics and Needs - Selected Research Findings", Jerusalem, JDC-Brookdale Institute of Gerontology and Human Development, 6 p., 2001 (Hebrew).

⁷ See J. Brodsky, S. Be'er, Y. Shnoor, "Holocaust Survivors in Israel: Current and Projected Needs", Jerusalem, JDC-Brookdale Institute, 2003, 15 pp.

Central Bureau of Statistics at the initiative of the *Jewish Agency for Israel-World Zionist Organization*.⁸ The data consist in a tabulation of the Jewish population permanently resident in Israel, born in Europe and immigrated between 1948 and 2001, by detailed places of residence. The strength of the data stands in their recentness and comprehensiveness. The weakness of these data consists again on the exclusive European focus and on ignoring any relevant immigration in earlier years. The total thus arrived at is 348,300.

Higher figures can be obtained by processing Israel's Ministry of Interiors population register, which also includes many Israelis who have been residing for prolonged periods in other countries.

Several sets of data have been developed relating to the more hardly hit core among the whole Shoah surviving population. Among these, the *Swiss Fund for Needy Victims of the Holocaust/Shoa* produced in 2002 a final Report of its distribution program.⁹ The background for establishing the fund lies in the public debate on the role of Switzerland in the Second World War, and the subsequent decision to undertake a humanitarian initiative to needy survivors. The strength of the report consists in the attempt to create a systematic worldwide database with the collaboration of appropriate agencies in different countries, and in the attempt to address also the survivors from among non-Jewish groups that suffered severe losses during the Shoah. The weakness consists in the somewhat limited framework for defining the people entitled to compensation and in a most likely inconsistent framing of the concept of "needy" in different countries. The data provide a country-by country synopsis of the number of recipients, amounting to a world total of 255,078 Jews and another 57,137 non-Jews classified under the following categories: Roma, Sinti, Yenish; Political victims; Homosexuals, Jehova's Witnesses, Disabled persons/others; Righteous of the Nations.

Several other existing programs and funds endeavor to provide compensation to selected categories of victims.¹⁰ National Social Security Institutions in several countries pay compensations to respective citizens—whether resident of the countries of origin or emigrated elsewhere. The total number of individuals covered by nine countries¹¹ in 2000 was 59,952.

⁸ Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, "Data on Shoah Survivors in Israel", Jerusalem, 3 p., 2003 (Hebrew).

⁹ Swiss Fund for Needy Victims of the Holocaust/Shoa, *Final Report*, Berne, 96 p., 2002.

¹⁰ We thank Mr. Noah Flug for bringing these data to our attention.

¹¹ Austria, Belgium, Britain, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland.

The German Former Slave and Forced Labor Compensation Program was actually paying 113,621 cases in 2003, out of 263,445 applications. The special Fund for Flight Cases paid over the last ten years a *una tantum* allocation to 260,000 persons worldwide (especially in the FSU) and 160,000 in Israel. Israel's administration for the disabled supported in 2002 about 10,000 ex-servicemen and about 40,000 persecution victims. Among other programs covering individual compensation or payment one may mention: the Fund for Victims of Medical Experiments and Other Injuries; the Article 2 Fund; the Central and Eastern European Fund; the Hardship Fund; the Swiss Refugee Program; the Swiss Deposited Assets Program; the Insurance PA1 Program; the Community Leader Fund; as well as the Hassidei Umot Haolam Program. All of these programs, and the respective statistical databases, besides the possibility of overlaps in the criteria for eligibility, obviously address selected and quite limited sub-sets among the total of Shoah survivors.

Finally, a brief comment is needed about further databases sometimes used for estimating Jewish populations and their characteristics and needs. One important example is the *Hessed* database,¹² a large collection of information concerning people assisted by the *American Joint Distribution Committee* in the Former Soviet Union. The advantage of databases of this sort is that they allow for the establishment of cross-sectional profiles and for follow-up studies of people's family processes, health care, emigration, and death. The fundamental weakness of such databases is that in the lack of continuous and painstaking updating of individual records, they become large conglomerates of people who *ever were* relevant to a certain program, but over time increasingly lose a clear relationship to the current characteristics, eligibility, and most importantly existence of the persons included. Moreover, such databases tend not to be sensitive to the typology of *core* and *enlarged* Jewish populations (discussed in detail in the next chapter of this report), namely the proportion of Jewish and non-Jewish family members in a population where intermarriage is extremely frequent. The *Hessed* and similar computerized records might be usefully processed to perform follow-up studies based on periodical re-interviewing, from which the probabilities of certain lifecycle transitions, such as stay/emigrate or survive/die might be assessed. Social welfare

¹² We thank Mr. Asher Ostrin, Director, FSU Program, The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. for calling our attention to these data.

services may be enhanced by such prospective research. Short of that, and in their present configuration, databases such as Hessed and other similar ones are of little use in describing actual population size and composition for demographic research purposes.¹³

2.5 OVERVIEW

Summing up the information reviewed in the previous section, it appears that very serious and important contributions have been produced to understanding the topic of Shoah survivors. A variety of different approaches were used through exploitation of existing institutional sources and execution of independent fieldwork and quantitative research. There are, however, a number of crucial weaknesses in the body of research available so far. These weaknesses can be summarized as follows:

1. A nearly exclusive focus on events and people in Europe is shared by practically all research efforts and databases reviewed above. Besides the general plausibility of such conventional approach in assessing the main damages and sufferance produced by Shoah, such exclusively European focus results in a major analytic shortcoming. Indeed, once an extensive definition is adopted for identifying Shoah survivors, all non-European territories that were under the rule of hostile European powers should be included. This applies to former colonies and protectorates in North Africa by France (Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco) and Italy (Libya), and in Asia by France (Syria and Lebanon), and to their Jewish populations. Substantial numbers of Jews lived in those countries and they experienced duress, legal discrimination, imprisonment and deportation. True, the number of Jews actually deported and killed from those countries is very minor in comparison with the consequences of Shoah in Europe, but in other regards there is no difference in the attitude of authorities vis-à-vis the Jews and in the consequences for local Jewish communities. Therefore the fate of these communities needs to be taken into account as well in a broad assessment of the impact of Shoah.

¹³ As noted, Israel's Ministry of Interiors Population Register incurs too in problems of obsolescence, and tends to portray a biased picture of population characteristics.

2. The criteria for defining the period of sufferance are not very consistent and tend to be reductive, e.g. when excluding from calculations those Jews born during the whole year 1945, and in some of the reports, even in previous years.
3. The criteria for establishing Jewish population estimates at different points in time as a basis for estimating the number of victims tend to be quite inconsistent, and sometimes based on speculation rather than on empirical findings.
4. The demographic techniques used to reconstruct the course of Jewish population change before, during, and after the Shoah period tend to be quite simplistic and therefore inaccurate. For example no population projection should be undertaken without incorporating data on age composition together with known or assumed vital statistics.

Demographic trends and patterns constitute the crucial underlying factor of the question at stake. We have seen that different authors and reports have attempted to deal with Jewish demography, but this has resulted in inconsistencies in the coverage and quality of the materials presented, and therefore of the conclusions reached. We therefore proceed to devote Chapter 3 to a concise but comprehensive review of the major demographic trends of world Jewry. Chapter 4 will be devoted to applying a unified analytic framework to estimating the number of Shoah survivors.

CHAPTER 3.

MAIN TRENDS IN JEWISH DEMOGRAPHY

3.1 PATTERNS AND DETERMINANTS OF JEWISH POPULATION CHANGE

Before we can address the question of how many Shoah survivors exist today worldwide, we need to clarify the general conceptual framework and main thrust of the trends and characteristics that have prevailed among world Jewish population since the end of World War II.¹⁴ Clearly, Shoah survivors are a sub-set of the total Jewish population. By definition, survivors must have been borne before 1946. This makes it most important to ascertain not only the Jewish population's size and geographical distribution, but also its age composition. In turn, age composition is a most sensitive product of several other demographic trends, such as fertility, longevity, and geographical mobility.

Figures on population size, characteristics, and trends are a primary tool in the assessment of Jewish community needs and prospects at the local level and worldwide. The estimates for major regions and individual countries reported in this short overview reflect a prolonged and ongoing effort to study scientifically the demography of contemporary world Jewry.¹⁵ Besides perusal and independent processing of the widest possible range of available sources, data collection and comparative research have benefited from the collaboration of scholars and institutions in many countries. It should be emphasized, however, that the elaboration of a worldwide set of estimates for the Jewish populations of the various countries is beset with difficulties and uncertainties. The analyst has to come to terms with the paradox

¹⁴ This section draws on Sergio DellaPergola, "World Jewish Population 2003", *American Jewish Year Book*, 103, 2003. For a more detailed overview and list of sources see *American Jewish Year Book*, vol. 102, 2002, pp. 601-42. See also Sergio DellaPergola, Uzi Rebhun, and Mark Tolts, "Prospecting the Jewish Future: Population Projections 2000-2080," *American Jewish Year Book*, vol. 100, 2000, pp. 103-46; and previous AJYB volumes for further details on earlier estimates.

¹⁵ Many of these activities are carried out by, or in coordination with, the Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics at the A. Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry (ICJ), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The collaboration of the many institutions and individuals in the different countries who have supplied information for this update is acknowledged with thanks.

of the *permanently provisional* character of Jewish population estimates, depending on the accumulating availability of relevant information (see below).¹⁶

The current, updated world Jewish population figures reflect a significant downward revision mostly related to a new estimate of the Jewish population in the United States (see below). Moreover, new data on Jewish population have become available in several other countries with large Jewish populations, usually confirming our previous estimates but sometimes suggesting upward or downward revisions. New information emerging from national population censuses or special surveys makes it possible to improve and update the worldwide Jewish demographic picture.

The world's Jewish population was estimated at 12.948 million at the beginning of 2003. There has been a slowing down of Jewish population growth globally since World War II. Based on a post-Shoah world Jewish population estimate of 11,000,000, a growth of 1,079,000 occurred between 1945 and 1960, followed by growths of 506,000 in the 1960s, 234,000 in the 1970s, 49,000 in the 1980s, and 32,000 in the 1990s. While it took 13 years to add one million to world Jewry's postwar size, the next 45 years have not been enough to add another million. In recent years, world Jewish population developed basically at "zero population growth". At the same time significant differences have prevailed in the pace of Jewish population change in different parts of the world. Table 2 outlines the geographical changes in the regional distribution of world Jewry between 1948 and 2003.

Since the end of World War II, major changes occurred in world Jewish population. International migration played a major role in reshaping the sociodemographic profile of world Jewry. From the dramatic situation of post-war dislocation and displacement, Jews strove to gradually normalize their situation moving from areas of discrimination and duress mostly in Eastern and Central Europe and in Muslim countries, to an array of Western countries and especially to Israel. Since World War II, about 4.7 million Jews were involved in international migration: 1.9 million between 1948 and 1968; 1 million between 1969 and 1988; and 1.8 million between 1989 and 2002. Israel received 63% of the total migrants, while 37% went to

¹⁶ For overviews of the subject matter and technical issues see Paul Ritterband, Barry A. Kosmin, and Jeffrey Scheckner, "Counting Jewish Populations: Methods and Problems," *American Jewish Year Book*, vol. 88, 1988, pp. 204–21; Sergio DellaPergola, "Demography" in Martin Goodman, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Jewish Studies* (Oxford, 2002), pp. 797-823.

the major Western countries.

TABLE 2. JEWISH POPULATION BY MAJOR REGIONS, 1948-2003

Region	Number (thousands) ^a			Percent ^a			Percent change		
	1948 ^b	1971 ^c	2003 ^c	1948 ^b	1971 ^c	2003 ^c	1948-1971	1971-2003	1948-2003
World	11,185	12,633	12,948	100.0	100.0	100.0	13	2	16
America, total	5,620	6,200	6,061	50.2	49.1	46.8	10	-2	8
North America ^d	5,100	5,686	5,660	45.6	45.0	43.7	11	-0	11
Central, South America	520	514	401	4.6	4.1	3.1	-1	-22	-23
Europe, total	3,550	3,088	1,551	31.7	24.4	12.0	-13	-50	-56
Europe, West	1,035	1,119	1,066	9.3	8.9	8.2	8	-5	3
Former USSR, Europe ^e	1,850	1,757	390	16.5	13.9	3.0	-5	-78	-79
Rest East ^e	665	212	95	5.9	1.7	0.7	-68	-55	-86
Asia, total	1,275	3,080	5,143	11.4	24.4	39.7	142	67	303
Israel	650	2,582	5,100	5.8	20.4	39.4	297	98	685
Former USSR, Asia	350	394	23	3.1	3.1	0.2	13	-94	-93
Rest Asia	275	104	20	2.5	0.8	0.2	-62	-81	-93
Africa, total	700	195	86	6.3	1.5	0.7	-72	-56	-88
North Africa ^f	595	71	7	5.3	0.6	0.1	-88	-90	-99
South Africa ^g	105	124	79	0.9	1.0	0.6	18	-36	-25
Oceania^h	40	70	107	0.4	0.6	0.8	75	53	167

a Minor discrepancies due to rounding. b May 15. c January 1. d U.S.A., Canada.
e Including Asian parts of Russian Republic and Turkey. f Including Ethiopia.
g South Africa, Zimbabwe, and other sub-Saharan countries. h Australia, New Zealand.
Sources: adapted from DellaPergola (1998), DellaPergola (2003), DellaPergola, Rebhun, Tolts (2000).

More recently, since the end of the 1980s, major geopolitical and socioeconomic changes have affected the world scene, particularly the political breakup of the Soviet Union, Germany's reunion, South Africa's change of regime, political and economic instability in several Latin American countries, and the volatile situation in Israel and the Middle East. Jewish population trends were most sensitive to these developments. Large-scale emigration from the FSU and rapid population growth in Israel were the most visible effects, accompanied by other significant Jewish population transfers. A drastic drop occurred in Jewish population in the FSU, and in Muslim countries. Between 1971 and 2003, the number of Jews diminished by 78% in the European parts of the FSU, by 94% in the Asian parts of the FSU, 90% in North Africa, 55% in other countries in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, 36% in Southern Africa, 22% in Latin America, and 5% in Western Europe. Jewish population increases were recorded in Israel (98%) and Oceania (53%).

Geographical mobility and the increased fragmentation of the global system of nations notwithstanding, over 80 percent of world Jewry live in two countries, the United States and Israel, and 95 percent are concentrated in the ten largest country communities. Six of the G8 countries¹⁷ (the United States, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Russian Republic, and Germany) comprise 87 percent of the total Jewish population out of Israel. The aggregate of these major Jewish population centers virtually determines the assessment of world Jewry's total size and trends.

One fundamental aspect of population in general and of Jewish population in particular is its perpetual change. Population size and composition reflect three well-known sets of determinants. Two of these are shared by all populations:

- (a) the balance of vital events (births and deaths);
- (b) the balance of international migration (immigration and emigration). Both of these factors affect increases or decreases in the physical presence of individuals in a given place.
- (c) The third determinant consists of changes in group identification (in our case, accessions to Judaism and secessions from Judaism) and only applies to populations defined by some cultural or symbolic peculiarity. The latter type of change does not affect people's physical presence but rather their willingness to identify with a specific religious, ethnic or otherwise culturally defined group.

In our population updating procedure we consistently apply the known or assumed direction of change concerning Jewish vital events, Jewish migrations, and Jewish identificational changes, and accordingly add to or subtract from previous Jewish population estimates. If there is evidence that intervening changes balanced each other off, Jewish population remains unchanged. This procedure has proven highly efficient. Whenever improved Jewish population figures became available reflecting a new census or survey, our annually updated estimates generally proved on target.

The more recent findings confirm the existence of robust trends in the demography of world Jewry.¹⁸ Concisely stated, these involve a positive balance of vital events among Jews in

¹⁷The eight leading economies in the world, also comprising Japan and Italy.

¹⁸See Roberto Bachi, *Population Trends of World Jewry* (Jerusalem, 1976); U.O. Schmelz, "Jewish Survival:

Israel and a negative one in nearly all other Jewish communities; a positive international migration balance for Israel, the United States, Australia, Germany, and a few other western countries, and a negative one in Latin America, Eastern Europe, Muslim countries, and some western countries as well; a positive balance of accessions and secessions in Israel, and a negative, or, in any event, rather uncertain one elsewhere. Jewish population estimates highlight the increasing complexity of demographic, socioeconomic and cultural-identificational processes underlying the definition of Jewish populations, hence the estimates of their sizes. This complexity is magnified at a time of enhanced international migration, often implying the risk of double counts of people on the move.

Most significantly, the trends observed over the last several decades all over world Jewry, with the exception of Israel, have produced a visible, and in some cases very extreme aging in Jewish population structure. The proportion of children is generally lower or much lower than among the neighboring non-Jewish populations. Comparatively few Jewish children and youth reflect both low levels of fertility, and the non-affiliation with Judaism of a large share (and quite usually of a majority) of the children born to a continuously growing number of interfaith and interethnic marriages including Jewish and non-Jewish spouses. As a consequence, and by converse, the proportion of elderly individuals is generally much higher among Jews than among the total population of the same countries.

3.2 DEFINITIONS

A major problem in Jewish population estimates periodically circulated by individual scholars or Jewish organizations is a lack of coherence and uniformity in the definition criteria followed—when the issue of defining the Jewish population is addressed at all. Three operative concepts should be considered in order to put the study of Jewish demography on serious comparative ground:

The Demographic Factors,” AJYB 1981, vol. 81, pp. 61–117; U.O. Schmelz, *Aging of World Jewry* (Jerusalem, 1984); Sergio DellaPergola, “Changing Cores and Peripheries: Fifty Years in Socio-demographic Perspective,” in Robert S. Wistrich, ed., *Terms of Survival: The Jewish World since 1945* (London, 1995) pp. 13–43; Sergio DellaPergola, *World Jewry beyond 2000: Demographic Prospects* (Oxford, 1999).

1. The *core Jewish population*¹⁹ includes all those who, when asked, identify themselves as Jews; or, if the respondent is a different person in the same household, are identified by him/her as Jews. This is an intentionally comprehensive and pragmatic approach reflecting the nature of most available sources of data on Jewish population. In countries other than Israel, such data often derive from population censuses or social surveys where the interviewees decide how to answer to relevant questions on religious or ethnic preferences. Such definitions of a person as a Jew, reflecting *subjective* feelings, broadly overlap but do not necessarily coincide with Halakhah (rabbinical law) or other normatively binding definitions. They do *not* depend on any measure of that person's Jewish commitment or behavior—in terms of religiosity, beliefs, knowledge, communal affiliation, or otherwise. The *core* Jewish population includes all converts to Judaism by any procedure, as well other people who declare themselves to be Jewish. Also included are persons of Jewish parentage who claim no current religious or ethnic belonging. Persons of Jewish parentage who adopted another religion are excluded, as are other individuals who did not convert out but explicitly identify with a non-Jewish group. In Israel, personal status is subject to the rulings of the Ministry of the Interior, which relies on rabbinical authorities. Therefore the *core* Jewish population in Israel does not simply express subjective identification but reflects definite legal rules, namely rabbinical Halakhah.
2. The *enlarged Jewish population*²⁰ includes the sum of (a) the *core* Jewish population; (b) all other persons of Jewish parentage who are *not* Jews currently (or at the time of investigation); and (c) all of the respective further non-Jewish household members (spouses, children, etc.). Non-Jews with Jewish background, as far as they can be ascertained, include: (a) persons who have themselves adopted another religion, even though they may claim still to be Jews by ethnicity or religion; (b) other persons with Jewish parentage who disclaim being Jews. It is customary in sociodemographic surveys to consider the religio-ethnic identification of parents. Some censuses, however, do ask about

¹⁹The term *core Jewish population* was initially suggested by Barry A. Kosmin, Sidney Goldstein, Joseph Waksberg, Nava Lerer, Ariela Keysar, and Jeffrey Scheckner, *Highlights of the CJF 1990 National Jewish Population Survey* (New York, 1991).

²⁰The term *enlarged Jewish population* was initially suggested by Sergio DellaPergola, "The Italian Jewish Population Study: Demographic Characteristics and Trends," in U.O. Schmelz, P.Glikson, and S.J. Gould, eds., *Studies in Jewish Demography: Survey for 1969–1971* (Jerusalem-London, 1975), pp. 60–97.

more distant ancestry. For both conceptual and practical reasons, this enlarged definition does not include other non-Jewish relatives who lack a Jewish background and live in exclusively non-Jewish households.

3. The *Law of Return*, Israel's distinctive legal framework for the acceptance and absorption of new immigrants, awards Jewish new immigrants immediate citizenship and other civil rights. According to the current, amended version of the Law of Return, a Jew is any person born to a Jewish mother, or converted to Judaism (regardless of denomination—Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform), who does not have another religious identity. By ruling of Israel's Supreme Court, conversion from Judaism, as in the case of some ethnic Jews who currently identify with another religion, entails loss of eligibility for Law of Return purposes. The law per se does not affect a person's Jewish status, which, as noted, is adjudicated by Israel's Ministry of Interior and rabbinical authorities. The law extends its provisions to all current Jews, their children, and grandchildren, as well as to the respective Jewish or non-Jewish spouses. As a result of its three-generation and lateral extension, the Law of Return applies to a large population, one of significantly wider scope than *core* and *enlarged* Jewish populations defined above.²¹ It is actually quite difficult to estimate what the total size of the *Law of Return* population could be. These higher estimates are not discussed below systematically, but some notion of their possible extent is given for the major countries.

In the following of this report we will consistently deal with *core* Jewish populations, unless otherwise indicated.

3.3 SOURCES AND QUALITY OF DATA

The amount and quality of documentation on Jewish population size and characteristics is far from satisfactory. In recent years, however, important new data and estimates have become available for several countries through official population censuses and Jewish-sponsored sociodemographic surveys. National censuses yielded results on Jewish populations

²¹For a concise review of the rules of attribution of Jewish personal status in rabbinical and Israeli law, including reference to Jewish sects, isolated communities, and apostates, see Michael Corinaldi, "Jewish

in the Soviet union (1989), Ireland, the Czech Republic, India (1991), Romania, Bulgaria (1992), the Russian Republic, Macedonia (1994), Israel (1995), Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand (1991, 1996 and 2001), Belarus, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan (1999), Brazil (1991 and 2000), Mexico, Switzerland (1990, 2000), Estonia, Latvia, Tajikistan (2000), the United Kingdom, Lithuania, Ukraine (2001), and the Russian Republic (2002).²² Permanent national population registers, including information on the Jewish religious, ethnic or national group, exist in several European countries (Switzerland, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), and in Israel.

In addition, independent sociodemographic studies have provided most valuable information on Jewish demography and socioeconomic stratification, as well as on Jewish identification. Surveys were conducted over the last several years in South Africa (1991 and 1998), Mexico (1991 and 2000), Lithuania (1993), the United Kingdom, Chile (1995), Venezuela (1998–99), Israel, Hungary, the Netherlands, Guatemala (1999), Moldova, Sweden (2000), the United States (1990 and 2000–2001), France and Turkey (2002). Several further Jewish population studies were separately conducted in major cities in the United States (notably in New York City in 2002) and in other countries. Additional evidence on Jewish population trends can be obtained from the systematic monitoring of membership registers, vital statistics, and migration records available from Jewish communities and other Jewish organizations in many countries or cities, notably in the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Buenos Aires, and Sao Paulo. Detailed data on Jewish immigration routinely collected in Israel help to assess changing Jewish population sizes in other countries. Some of this ongoing research is part of a coordinated effort constantly to update the profile of world Jewry.²³

In Table A-1 in the Appendix we provide separate figures for each country with

Identity,” chap. 2 in his *Jewish Identity: The Case of Ethiopian Jewry* (Jerusalem, 1998).

²²The final data were not yet available at the time of this writing. The relevant data we report below may be slightly overestimated.

²³Following the *International Conference on Jewish Population Problems* held in Jerusalem in 1987, initiated by the late Roberto Bachi of the Hebrew University and sponsored by major Jewish organizations worldwide, an International Scientific Advisory Committee (ISAC) was established. See Sergio DellaPergola, Leah Cohen, eds., *World Jewish Population: Trends and Policies* (Jerusalem, 1992). A new *Initiative on Jewish Demography*, sponsored by the Jewish Agency has resulted in an *International Conference* held in Jerusalem in 2002 and a plan of data collection and analysis. The newly established *Jewish People Policy Planning Institute (JPPPI)*, chaired by Ambassador Dennis Ross, provides a framework for policy suggestions namely in relation to population issues. See Sergio DellaPergola, *Jewish Demography: Facts, Outlook, Challenges*, JPPPI Alert

approximately 100 or more resident *core* Jews. Residual estimates of Jews living in other smaller communities supplement some of the continental totals. For each of the reported countries, we provide an estimate of midyear 2002 total population,²⁴ and the estimated 1/1/2003 Jewish population.

There is wide variation in the quality of the Jewish population estimates for different countries. For many Diaspora countries it would be best to indicate a range (minimum-maximum) rather than a definite figure for the number of Jews. It would be confusing, however, for the reader to be confronted with a long list of ranges; this would also complicate the regional and world totals. The figures actually indicated for most of the Diaspora communities should be understood as being the central value of the plausible range of the respective core Jewish populations. The relative magnitude of this range varies inversely to the accuracy of the estimate. The three main elements that affect the accuracy of each estimate are the nature and quality of the base data, how recent the base data are, and the method of updating. A general evaluation of the reliability of the Jewish population figures reported below reflects the following criteria:

- (A) Base figure derived from countrywide census or relatively reliable Jewish population survey; updated on the basis of full or partial information on Jewish population movements in the respective country during the intervening period.
- (B) Base figure derived from less accurate but recent countrywide Jewish population data; partial information on population movements in the intervening period.
- (C) Base figure derived from less recent sources, and/or unsatisfactory or partial coverage of a country's Jewish population; updating according to demographic information illustrative of regional demographic trends.
- (D) Base figure essentially speculative; no reliable updating procedure.

One additional tool for updating Jewish population estimates is provided by a recent set of demographic projections developed at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.²⁵ Such projections extrapolate the most likely observed or expected Jewish population trends over the

Paper 2 (Jerusalem, 2003).

²⁴Data and estimates derived from Population Research Bureau, *2002 World Population Data Sheet* (New York, 2003).

²⁵See DellaPergola, Rebhun, and Tolts, "Prospecting the Jewish Future."

first decades of the 21st century. Even where reliable information on the dynamics of Jewish population change is not immediately available, the powerful connection that generally exists between age composition of a population and the respective vital and migration movements helps to provide plausible scenarios of the developments bound to occur in the short term. Where better data were lacking, we used indications from these projections to refine the 2003 estimates as against previous years. On the other hand, projections are clearly shaped by a comparatively limited set of assumptions, and need to be periodically updated in the light of actual demographic developments. The quality assessment for Jewish population data in each country appears in Table A-1.

3.4 WORLD JEWISH POPULATION SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

In this section we discuss in greater detail the current demographic profile and trends of world Jewry. The size of world Jewry at the beginning of 2003 is assessed at 12,948,000. World Jewry constituted about 2.08 per 1,000 of the world's total population of 6,215 millions. One in about 480 people in the world is a Jew. According to the revised figures, between January 1, 2002 and 2003 the Jewish population grew by an estimated 15,000 people, or about 0.1 percent. This compares with a total world population growth rate of 1.3 percent (0.1 percent in more developed countries, 1.6 percent in less developed countries). Despite all the imperfections in the estimates, world Jewry continued to be close to “zero population growth,” with increase in Israel (1.5 percent) slightly overcoming decline in the Diaspora (-0.8 percent).

As already shown in Table 2, the number of Jews in Israel was 5,100,000 at the beginning of 2003—an increase of 75,000 people as against 2002, or 1.5 percent. In contrast, the estimated Jewish population in the total of the Diaspora was 7,848,000—a decrease of 60,100 people as against 2002, or -0.8 percent. These changes reflect the continuing Jewish emigration from the FSU and other countries, but also the internal decrease typical of the aggregate of Diaspora Jewry. In 2002, the estimated Israel-Diaspora net migratory balance (immigration minus emigration) amounted to a minimum gain of Jews for Israel.²⁶ Internal

²⁶Israel, Central Bureau of Statistics, *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* (Jerusalem, 2003).

demographic evolution (including vital events and conversions) produced nearly all of the growth among the Jewish population in Israel, and of the decline in the Diaspora. Recently, instances of accession or “return” to Judaism can be observed in connection with the emigration process from Eastern Europe and Ethiopia, and the comprehensive provisions of the Israeli Law of Return. The return or first-time access to Judaism of some of such previously not included or unidentified individuals contributed to slowing down the pace of decline of the relevant Diaspora Jewish populations and some gains for the Jewish population in Israel.

About 47 percent of the world’s Jews reside in the Americas, with about 44 percent in North America. About 40 percent live in Asia, including the Asian republics of the FSU (but not the Asian parts of the Russian Republic and Turkey)—most of them in Israel. Europe, including the Asian territories of the Russian Republic and Turkey, accounts for 12 percent of the total. Fewer than 2 percent of the world’s Jews live in Africa and Oceania. Among the major geographical regions, the number of Jews in Israel—and, consequently, in total Asia—has been regularly increasing in recent years. Moderate Jewish population gains have also been estimated for the European Union (including 15 member countries), and Oceania. North, Central and South America, other regions in Europe, Asian countries outside of Israel, and Africa have sustained decreases in Jewish population size. These regional changes reflect the trends apparent in the Jewish population in each of the major countries. We now turn to a brief review of recent trends in the 14 largest Jewish populations worldwide.

In the United States, following publication of the American Jewish Identity Survey (AJIS)²⁷ and preliminary releases of data from the 2000-01 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS),²⁸ the total core Jewish population appeared to be comprised in the range of 5.2-5.35

²⁷Egon Mayer, Barry Kosmin, Ariela Keysar, *American Jewish Identity Survey 2001 - AJIS Report - An Exploration in the Demography and Outlook of a People* (New York, Center for Jewish Studies, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, 2002). See also Barry A. Kosmin, Egon Mayer, Ariela Keysar, *American Religious Identification Survey 2001* (New York, Graduate Center of City University of New York, 2001).

²⁸United Jewish Communities, *U.S. Jewish Population Fairly Stable over Decade, According to Results of National Jewish Population Survey 2000-01* (New York, UJC, October 8, 2002). Following this first press release, the UJC lead management deliberated on a thorough technical check of the survey’s methodology and results. The final, checked database had not yet been released at the time of this writing. In the view of most experts who have closely followed the 2000-01 NJPS planning and execution, the final data should substantially confirm the initial release. In any case, the amendments expected should not much affect the total Jewish

million. The revised estimate was at least 400,000 short of the 5.7 million we had projected for 2002 based on the estimate of 5.515 million for mid 1990 from the previous NJPS.²⁹ The expected Jewish population increase was supposed to reflect the inflow over the 1990s of at least 200,000 new immigrants—from the Former Soviet Union, Israel, Latin America, South Africa, Iran, and Western Europe. However—pending thorough analysis and possibly slight revisions in the new database—a continuing low Jewish fertility rate, the consequent aging in population composition, and continuing erosion in the willingness to identify with Judaism among the younger age groups apparently led to a significantly lower total core population size. We choose an estimate of 5.3 million for U.S. Jewry, intermediate between the figures so far available from the two major surveys. On the other hand, the enlarged total of current Jews, former Jews, and their non-Jewish family members resulted significantly higher than the 8.2 million found in 1990, and was estimated at between 9.2 and 10 million individuals in 2001. A 2002 study of the Jews in New York, the major U.S. metropolitan community,³⁰ pointed to a stable Jewish population of 1.4 million in the extended 8 boroughs area, but for the first time less than one million in New York City's 5 boroughs.

In Canada, the 2001 population census³¹ indicated a decrease in the number of Jews according to ethnicity (including holders of a non-Jewish religion) from 369,565 in 1991 to 348,605 in 2001 (-20,960 or 5.7 percent). Of the latter, 186,475 indicated to be Jewish as their sole ethnicity, and 162,130 as one of their several ethnic identities. The percentage of single-ethnic Jews thus diminished to 53 percent in 2002, from 66 percent in 1991. On the other hand the number of Canada's Jews according to religion increased from 318,070 in 1991 to 329,995 in 2001 (+11,925 or 3.7 percent). Of the latter total, 22,365 Jews immigrated during the ten year interval between the two censuses. Were it not for this immigration, the Jewish population would have decreased by 10,440 (3.3 percent). Keeping in mind that some ethnic Jews are not Jewish by religion, and a greater number of Jews by religion do not declare a Jewish ethnicity, we updated the estimate of Canada's core Jewish population from 356,315 in 1991 to 360,000 in 2003.

population estimate.

²⁹See Kosmin et al. *Highlights of the CJF 1990 National Jewish Population Survey*, cit.

³⁰See <http://www.ujafedny.org/site/PageServer?pagename=jewishcommunitystudy>

³¹See <http://www.statcan.ca>

In Latin America, the Jewish population was generally declining reflecting economic and local security concerns. In Argentina, following a sharpening of the ongoing economic crisis, about 6,000 emigrated to Israel in 2002—the highest figure ever in a single year from that country.³² While, based on the experience of previous years, 10 to 20 percent of these migrants were non-Jewish household members in the enlarged population, partial evidence from different sources indicated that less than half of total Jewish emigration from Argentina went to Israel. We consequently assessed Argentina's Jewish population at 187,000.

The 2000 census of Brazil indicated a stable Jewish population of 86,828, versus 86,416 in 1991.³³ Considering the possible non-inclusion of people who failed to indicate a religion we assessed the total at 97,000. This appeared to be consistent with a systematic documentation effort undertaken by the Jewish Federation of Sao Paulo, and an assumption that about one half of Brazil's Jews live in that city.

In Mexico the 2000 census indicated a Jewish population of 45,260 individuals aged 5 and over.³⁴ Of these, 32,464 lived in the capital's metropolitan area and, consistently with erratic figures in past censuses, a most unlikely 12,796 appeared to live in states other than the Federal District and Mexico state. Allocation of the 0-4 age group based on a 2000 Jewish survey determined a corrected estimate of about 35,000 Jews in Greater Mexico City, and 40,000 nationwide.

Jewish population in Europe tended to be increasingly concentrated in the western part of the continent, and within the European Union particularly. The 15 country EU, bound for expansion to another 10 countries in 2004, had an estimated total of 1,1046,500 Jews. The largest community was in France where a new countrywide survey undertaken at the beginning of 2002 suggested a downward revision to 500,000 Jews and an additional 75,000 non-Jewish members of the enlarged households.³⁵ Our 2002 Jewish population estimate stood at 519,000. The difference, cumulated over several years, was primarily explained by a growing pace of emigration of French Jews not only to Israel, which received 2000 in 2002, but also to Canada

³²See Israel Central Bureau of Statistics: <http://www.cbs.gov.il>

³³See <http://www.ibge.br>; Rene D. Decol, "Brazilian Jews: a Demographic Profile", International Conference of Jewish Demography (Jerusalem, 2002).

³⁴See Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática, *XII Censo General de Población y Vivienda 2000* (Mexico City, 2002).

³⁵See Erik H. Cohen, *Les Juifs de France: Valeurs et identité* (Paris, 2002).

and other countries. This was in response to a feeling of uneasiness facing increasing manifestations of anti-Jewish intolerance and physical violence.

In the United Kingdom for the first time since the 19th century a population census provided detailed data about religion.³⁶ The total Jewish population of 266,741 for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland closely approximated our 273,500 estimate for 2002. However, considering that 22.8 percent of the UK population stated no religion, and another 7.3 percent did not answer the question, at a time when the organized Jewish community largely supported participation in the census, we suggest the estimate should be raised to 300,000. Data on composition unveiled significant aging. Based on more detailed data on Scotland (included in the total for the U.K.), 6,448 indicated a current Jewish religion but 7,446 said they were raised as Jews—a net loss of 13 percent.

In Germany, significant Jewish immigration continued. More particularly in 2002 the enlarged total of Jews and non-Jewish family members who came from the Former Soviet Union was 19,262 against 18,878 who immigrated to Israel. The total number of core Jews registered with the central Jewish community grew to 98,335.³⁷ Of these, 14,732 were the survivors of the initial pool of 28,081 members that existed at the end of 1990, and the rest were recent immigrants. The age composition of the Jewish old-timers, and even more so of the newcomers was extremely overaged. Allowing for delays in joining the organized community and a minority's preference for renouncing the inherent benefits of membership, we assess Germany's core Jewish population at 108,000.

In the Former Soviet Union, rapid Jewish population decrease continued reflecting an overwhelming unbalance of Jewish births and Jewish deaths, and continuing emigration. Our assessment of the total core Jewish population in the aggregate of the former Soviet Republics was 413,000, of which 389,700 in Europe and 23,300 in Asia. We estimate that at least as many non-Jewish family members integrated the respective enlarged households. In the Russian Republic, pending publication of the 2002 census, we estimated the 2003 core population at 252,000. The size of Jewry in Russia was comparatively more stable and resilient than in the

³⁶See <http://www.statistics.gov.uk>; Barry Kosmin, Stanley Waterman, "Commentary on Census Religion Question" (London, JPR, 2002).

³⁷Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland, *Mitgliederstatistik; Der Einzelnen Jüdischen Gemeinden und Landesverbände in Deutschland* (Frankfurt a. M., 2002).

other former Soviet republics, partly as a consequence of Jewish migrations between the various republics, partly due to lower emigration propensities from Moscow and some of the other main urban areas.³⁸ Nevertheless, a striking unbalance of Jewish births and deaths determined a continuing population decline. This reflected the inherently low fertility levels of Jews in the FSU, their extremely overaged age composition, and the prevalence there of life expectancy levels much below those typical of western countries. As a consequence, high numbers of Jewish deaths reflect a high exposure to the risk related to both reaching elderly ages, and comparatively poor health conditions, also associated with the general context of the local public health system.³⁹

In the Ukraine, the population census undertaken on December 5, 2001 yielded 103,600 Jews, whereas we had expected 100,000 on January 1, 2002. These Ukrainian data are extremely important in probating the reliability and plausibility of available official sources about Jews in the FSU. It should be noted that the previous baseline for population estimates in Ukraine were the 486,300 Jews counted in the previous census of January 1989 (not including a few "oriental" Jews).⁴⁰ The new census fully confirmed our year-by-year assessment of ongoing trends which took into account the dramatic pace of emigration since 1989, the other major intervening changes in the demography of Ukraine's Jewry, such as reported Jewish births, deaths, marriages, and migration exchanges with other FSU Republics, and also continuing emigration at the end of 2001. Taking into account continuing emigration in 2002, we assess the core Jewish population at 95,000 in 2003.

It should be stressed that there is nothing in the new data that might confirm the widespread assumption that the official data in the past significantly underreported the number of Jews. The opportunity that emerged since 1991 for Jews fearful of the past regime to come out into the open and reveal their identity, and the considerable investments in cultural and social Jewish activities by local and international agencies, were supposed to produce a

³⁸Mark Tolts, "Aliya from the Russian Federation: An Analysis of Recent Data", *Jews in Eastern Europe*, 1-2 (47-48), 2002, pp. 5-23.

³⁹ Previous assessments of Shoah survivors have sometimes wrongly assumed that life expectancy in the Former Soviet Union equals that found in the Western countries.

⁴⁰Ukraine Goskomstat, *Population Census 2001* (Kiev, 2002); Mark Tolts, *Main Demographic Trends of the Jews in Russia and the FSU* (Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, The A. Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics, 2002).

significant increase in the readiness to declare their Jewish identity in the census among people who supposedly had concealed it in the past. The new census data, perhaps regrettably, disprove this assumption and confirm that past and present demographic data form a highly coherent body of information. The crucially relevant message is that because of the intertwined effect of continuing low fertility, assimilation, and large scale emigration, the Jewish population in the Ukraine—and by analogy in the rest of the FSU—is continuing its rapid downward course.

The largest Jewish community in the rest of Central and Eastern Europe is Hungary's. Our core estimate of 50,000 reflects the expectedly negative balance of Jewish births and deaths in a country whose total population for several years, too, has incurred in a negative vital balance. While a Jewish survey in 1999 indicated a conspicuously larger enlarged Jewish population, a demographic extrapolation based on the usually accepted number of post-Shoah core Jewish survivors and accounting for the known or estimated numbers of births, deaths and emigrants closely matches our assessment.⁴¹

As noted, Jewish population in Asia is mostly affected by the trends in Israel. Israel's core Jewish population reached 5,100,000, to which another 275,000 non-Jewish members of households can be added to reach an enlarged Jewish population of about 5.4 million.⁴² Israel's Jewish fertility rate continued to be stable, above that of all developed countries, and probably twice or more as high as that of most Jewish communities in the Diaspora. In 2002, 33,500 new immigrants arrived in Israel, about half of them Jewish.⁴³ Current Jewish emigration generated a net migration balance close to nil. Some 4,500 new immigrants underwent conversion to Judaism—half of them arrived from Ethiopia. In broader terms, large scale immigration during the 1990s had a tremendous impact for Israeli Jewish demography. Immigration was overall stable: out of 1,073,132 new immigrants between 1989 and June 2003, 89,973 had left and had not returned for more than a year.⁴⁴ This constitutes 8.9% of the whole pool of immigrants—an extremely low rate in international comparison. The

⁴¹Andras Kovacs (ed.), *Jews and Jewry in Contemporary Hungary: Results of a Sociological Survey* (Budapest, 2002).

⁴²See <http://www.cbs.gov.il>

⁴³Not including foreign workers and illegal residents.

⁴⁴ Amiram Bareket, "New Immigrants from North America Leave more than New Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union", *Haaretz*, 15 August 2003, pA1, A10.

corresponding re-emigration rate for immigrants from the Former Soviet Union was 6.5%, including a few thousands who moved back to the countries of origin. In 2003, of Israel's 5,100,000 core Jews, 4,880,000 lived within pre-1967 borders, including East Jerusalem and the Golan heights, and 220,000 lived in the West Bank and Gaza.

Jewish population in Africa is mostly concentrated in South Africa. Emigration continued at a moderate pace. Based on a 1998 survey⁴⁵ and pending publication of the 2001 census results, we assessed the Jewish community size at 77,500.

Continuing immigration produced some increase in the size of Jewish populations in Oceania. Australia's 2001 census indicated a Jewish population of 83,500, up about 4,000 from 1996.⁴⁶ Taking into account non-response, but also the community's aging composition, we estimate the core Jewish population at 100,000.

3.5 OVERVIEW

In conclusion, it should be reiterated that demographic events produce ceaseless changes in Jewish (as in any other) population size and composition. The main thrust of Jewish demographic change over the whole post-World War II period and more intensely since the 1990s has included overall quantitative stagnation at the global level, considerable aging due to comparatively low fertility rates and comparatively high longevity, and a dramatic migration transfer from Muslim countries and Eastern Europe to Israel and to the western countries. In turn, regional differences in the incidence of negative balances of Jewish births and deaths, and of weak propensities to raise as Jews the children of intermarriages, further impacted Jewish population size and distribution. As a cumulative result of these processes, entire Jewish communities dried up completely, especially in the Middle East and North Africa, and others shrank significantly, notably in the FSU, in other parts of Eastern Europe, in Latin America, and South Africa. Israel, from a relatively small and marginal Jewish community at the end of World War II, emerged as one of the two leading centers of world Jewish population, together with the United States. In the US, however, much because of the same reasons just outlined

⁴⁵Barry A. Kosmin, Jaqueline Goldberg, Milton Shain, Shirley Bruk, *Jews of the New South Africa: Highlights of the 1998 National Survey of South African Jews* (London, 1999).

the historical momentum of Jewish population growth reached a standstill at the end of the 20th century.

The impact of these demographic trends is not exhausted, and they are expected to continue to operate at least for several years ahead with obvious implications for emerging changes in Jewish population distribution globally. In global synthesis, it can be assessed that out of a world Jewish population estimated at 12,948,000 at the beginning of 2003, about 3,388,000 or 26 percent, were born before 1946 and therefore were potential victims or at least witnesses of Shoah (see Table A-1). This overall pool of people is bound to decline quite significantly over the forthcoming decades, as it grows older and more fragile. Further implications of past and recent demographic trends among world Jewry for the assessment of the number and distribution of Shoah survivors will be discussed in the next chapter.

⁴⁶Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Population Census 2001* (Canberra, 2002).

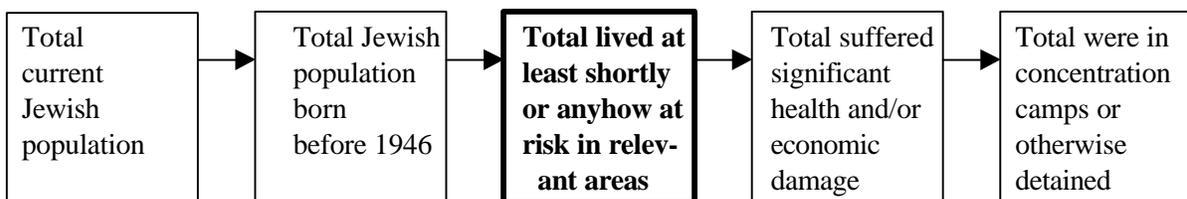
CHAPTER 4.

SHOAH SURVIVORS: REASSESSMENT AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 METHOD AND SOURCES

In this chapter we proceed to present our reconstruction of the most plausible number of Shoah survivors according to an *Intermediate Extensive* definitional criterion, as discussed in Chapter 2. At the outset of our discussion, it should be clearly understood that there does not exist one single central reliable registry of Shoah survivors. Any evaluation of the numbers has to rely on a set of assumptions and on an adequate investigative methodology. The result of such an evaluation is at best the most plausible central value in a range of less plausible alternatives. It is within these specific limits that our findings should be read and interpreted.

The rationale for our mode of proceeding is summarized in the following chart, which highlights the definition adopted in this report:



Clearly, the total number of Shoah survivors must be smaller than the total number of Jews born before 1946, and larger than the nucleus of survivors who suffered the most excruciating pains.

A full reassessment of the number and geographical distribution of Shoah survivors was performed perusing or newly processing the whole gamut of existing sources on Jewish population worldwide. The basic approach comprised: (a) a detailed examination of the

number and distribution of Jews in each country in 2003; (b) a detailed examination of the number of Jews born before 1946 and therefore liable to have incurred in the Shoah; (c) a detailed analysis of the distribution by countries of birth of those of relevant ages in each country of residence; (d) a further verification of the years of immigration for those coming from relevant countries of origin. This painstaking reconstruction was largely made possible thanks to the recent accumulation of a large amount of new censuses and sociodemographic surveys that were not available at the time previous assessments of the topic at stake were undertaken. Our results largely derive from detailed statistical sources, particularly for the largest Jewish populations that constitute the vast majority of the total of world Jewry. In those cases where detailed data were not available, assumptions were developed on the basis of regional analogies that clearly exist in the socio-historical and demographic experience of Jewish communities.

To obtain a thorough picture of the population of Shoah survivors at the global level we used what to the best of our knowledge is the full array of main available published and unpublished sources.⁴⁷ To make the reconstruction process perfectly understandable and transparent, we first obtained a detailed assessment of total Jewish population size country by country (see the detailed display in Table A-1 in the Appendix). We then evaluated what proportion in each country was born before 1946, since people born before that date can claim to have been submitted to a regime of anti-Jewish duress in the context of Shoah.⁴⁸ We subsequently estimated what proportion among these ever lived in relevant areas characterized by Nazi occupation or otherwise hostile regimes. The latter information takes into account international migration and the consequent relocation of people from relevant areas to other countries since the end of World War II. We therefore mainly obtained our estimates of Shoah survivors by applying to the total Jewish population of each country a compound of the proportion who were alive during the relevant period and the proportion who had lived in relevant countries.

⁴⁷ The main sources used are explicitly quoted in this report. The full documentation is available on request at the Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics of the A. Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ See, however, our discussion in Chapter 2.

When the available data did not allow operation in that order, an alternative way to estimate Shoah survivors was to first assess how many among the total Jewish population in a given country ever lived in relevant countries, and to subsequently estimate how many of these lived there during the relevant periods of time. A further useful parameter was the proportion of Shoah survivors out of the total foreign born in a given country.

The figures of survivors thus obtained reflect each of the various intervening components of change. In examining the situation in each country, we pay particular attention to the following factors:

- ? What was the political context of a given country during the relevant period;
- ? What was the volume of Jewish emigration from that country;
- ? What was the volume of immigration in the receiving countries;
- ? What was the composition by countries of origin of such immigration;
- ? What was the amount of flight of Jews facing incoming dangers.

Our assessment clearly relies on a very large and detailed number of data and estimates. The disadvantage may be a certain disparity in the quality and quantity of information available for each country. The advantage lies in the fact that even if some of the original data are not perfectly accurate, there is no reason to believe that all data imperfections go into the same upward or downward direction, therefore causing significant prejudice to the broad regional totals or to the global grand total which constitute the real aim of this evaluation. It can be reasonably assumed that small errors tend to compensate and neutralize mutually. It should also be noted that when specific data on age composition or on birthplaces of Jews in a country were not available, we relied on regional estimates based on historical and sociocultural analogy. In the lack of detailed data, often inference can be drawn for a certain country in relation to the experience in another country with comparatively similar characteristics. The advantage of this inferential approach is that were better data to become available at a later stage, the new information can always be factored into our calculations providing improved estimates.

4.2 DETAILED FINDINGS

The total and geographic distribution of Shoah survivors assessed in 2003 according to the comprehensive criteria adopted in this report is reported in Table 3 below. A more detailed presentation of the data appears in Table A-1 in the Appendix. In turn, detailed data about the composition of Jewish population in the United States and in Israel are presented below in Tables A-2 and A-3, respectively.

We first describe the essential contents of Table A-1 which provides a detailed, country-by country outline of:

- ? Total population in 2002 (in column b);
- ? Jewish population in 2003 (col. c), based on a systematic assessment of existing sources;⁴⁹
- ? Quality of the Jewish population estimates (col. d), which helps to assess the possible range of errors in the reported population figures;
- ? Percent of Jewish population born before 1946 (col. e), reflecting systematic use of available sources or estimates based on regional similarities;
- ? Number of Jews born before 1946 (col. f), based on actual data or on applying the known or inferred percentages (col. e) to the total Jewish population (col. c);⁵⁰
- ? Percent of Jews who lived in relevant areas and years out of the total born before 1946 (col. f);
- ? Corresponding number of Jews who can be considered Shoah survivors (col. h), obtained from applying the above percentages (col. g) to the relevant age group (col. f) (grey shaded in Table A-1);
- ? Percent distribution on a worldwide basis of Shoah survivors (col. i);

There is wide variation in age composition in different Jewish populations. While the global total is assessed at 26 percent that were born before 1946, local estimates vary between a low value of 19 percent in Israel where the Jewish population is comparatively young (with an even lower value of 6 percent among the Jewish residents in the West Bank and Gaza), and a high value of 60 percent in Romania (and in a few splinter communities in countries that experienced a nearly complete exodus of Jews in the past). Translated into absolute numbers, it

⁴⁹ See Sergio DellaPergola, "World Jewish Population 2003", in *American Jewish Year Book*, vol. 103, 2003. For a more detailed review of the previous literature see: Sergio DellaPergola, "World Jewish Population 2002", in *American Jewish Year Book*, vol. 102, 2002.

⁵⁰ Applying percentages to a given base figure to obtain another figure, as demonstrated in columns f and h in

appears that 3,388,000 Jews globally were born before 1946.

The next step is to assess how many of these were living in relevant areas at relevant times. This requires a careful country-by-country evaluation. To begin with, we are in the good position that for the two largest Jewish populations, those of the United States and of Israel, we have at our disposal updated, detailed and reliable data available. We first focus on the United States (see Table A-2). The 2000-2001 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS), sponsored by United Jewish Communities, includes several direct questions related to the Shoah period. To a question whether they lived in country under Nazi rule, 116,065 respondents answered affirmatively.⁵¹ According to the same survey, 96,613 left country or region under Nazi rule, 57,139 respondents were in concentration camp, 56,761 were in labor camp. As noted, these figures relate to Jewish people who actually responded in the survey and do not include other members of the respective households (mostly spouses of respondents and a few others) who had the same experiences. It is necessary to further process the data to obtain the relevant information.

Table A-2 provides detailed information on all foreign-born respondents and spouses living in the US in 2000-2001 (columns e-g). The total amounts to 570,048 Jewish individuals. Of these, 316,385 were born in countries that were under Nazi or associated rule (gray shaded in Table A-2). Out of these, we single out those who were born before 1946 *and* immigrated to the United States after 1932 (columns b-d). This processing provides a grand total of 184,480 respondents and 66,700 spouses, for a total of 251,180 Jews.⁵² Among these, 126,911 respondents and 46,697 spouses, for a total of 173,608 individuals, were born in the relevant countries. World and continental totals are provided in the table both for all foreign countries and for relevant countries only. It should be noted that the number of relevant respondents thus indirectly obtained (126,911) is very similar though slightly higher than the number of respondents who directly declared they were under Nazi rule (116,065). We shall prefer the higher figure as a basis for the overall estimate of Shoah survivors. Besides the advantage of detail available for the whole relevant adults and not for the respondents only, another good

Table A-1, may produce minor discrepancies between local, regional, continental, and global totals.

⁵¹ NJPS is based on a national representative sample. The figures reported here are weighted population equivalents of the original sample estimates.

⁵² Only 2.8% of the total foreign born were immigrated to the United States before 1933.

reason for preferring the higher estimate is that NJPS figures refer to the concept of *core Jewish population*, whereas the status of Shoah survivor certainly applies also to a certain amount of persons of Jewish origin though not currently identified with Judaism. The figure of 173,608 thus obtained from Table A-2 is factored into Table A-1.

Table A-2 also provides a further important parameter: it is the percentage of individuals defined as Shoah survivors out of the total pool of foreign born regardless of year of birth and year of immigration (see columns h-j). With minor variations between respondents and their spouses, Shoah survivors represent 30 percent of the total of foreign born Jews, and 55 percent of the total born in relevant countries. These percentages can usefully be applied to the Jewish populations in other countries where equally detailed data are not available, as a helpful parameter toward obtaining an estimate of Shoah survivors.

We proceed with a similar approach with regard to Israel's Jewish population (see Table A-3). Based on yearly updating of its periodical population censuses, the last of which was undertaken in 1995, Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics provides detailed tabulations on Jewish population composition by year of birth, country of birth, and period of immigration. On the average of the year 2001, a total of 1,978,100 Jews were born abroad. Of these, 829,800 were born before 1946, and of these, 626,700 were born in relevant countries. The latter figure needs to be adjusted by deducting (a) those who immigrated to Palestine before 1932, (b) those who left their countries of origin to a third country and were not exposed there to Nazi or associated rule before immigrating to Israel, and (c) those who lived in countries only partially under Nazi rule. The latter case is especially relevant for the FSU, large parts of which were never occupied.⁵³ In Table A-3, column g, we provide criteria for inclusion in the Shoah surviving population, i.e. the percentage actually eligible out of the total born in a given country. The results of these estimates appear in column g and provide an overall total of 510,900 individuals. Of these, 392,900 were born in European countries, 7,700 in Asia (Syria and Lebanon), and 110,400 in North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya). The estimate of Shoah survivors thus obtained is factored into Table A-1, adjusted to Israel's Jewish population in 2003.

⁵³ According to previous investigations of the matter, 58.5% of the Jews in the FSU lived in territories that were occupied during World War II.

In the continuation of Table A-1, country-by country estimates are provided of Shoah survivors based on a combination of the total number of people born before 1946 (col. f) and the known or estimated proportions who lived in relevant areas at relevant times (col. g). Very wide variation appears in the likelihood of people living in each country to have been under Nazi or similar rule. In no case we adopted a 100 percent value, taking into account geographical mobility and other factors related to Jewish identification. Great care was applied to estimating the relevant percentages in the FSU, preferring always a rather conservative estimate aimed also at accounting for possible undercounts, if any, of Jewish population size. When actual figures of Shoah survivors can be estimated directly, as noted, the percentages of those who lived in relevant areas are factored into the table for the respective country.

TABLE 3. ESTIMATED CORE JEWISH POPULATION, TOTAL BORN BEFORE 1946, TOTAL SHOAH SURVIVORS, RECEIVED SWISS FUND FOR NEEDY, BY CONTINENTS AND MAJOR REGIONS, 2003^a

Region	Total population 2002 (thousands)	Total Jewish Population 2003	Percent born before 1946	Number born before 1946	Of these: % lived in relevant areas	Number lived in relevant areas	Percent Distribut. of Shoah survivors
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)=(c*d)	(f)	(g)=(e*f)	(h)=%(g)
Grand Total	6,282,405	12,948,000	26	3,387,700	32.3	1,092,000	100.0
America, Total	849,870	6,061,100	29	1,757,000	11.2	197,400	18.1
North ^b	318,827	5,660,000	29	1,641,400	11.3	185,700	17.0
Central	177,000	52,100	21	10,900	10.0	1,100	0.1
South	354,043	349,000	30	104,700	10.1	10,600	1.0
Europe, Total	795,435	1,550,800	38	588,700	63.5	374,300	34.3
European Union	381,350	1,046,500	32	334,900	58.2	194,900	17.8
Other West	12,685	19,900	33	6,600	27.5	1,800	0.2
Former USSR ^c	213,100	389,700	53	206,500	70.4	145,300	13.3
Rest East ^c	188,300	94,700	43	40,700	79.2	32,300	3.0
Asia, Total	3,765,100	5,142,800	19	984,800	52.4	512,000	46.9
Israel, Palestine	9,911	5,100,000	19	969,000	52.7	510,900	46.8
Former USSR ^c	73,500	23,300	45	10,500	10.0	1,000	0.1
Rest	3,681,689	19,500	27	5,300	1.3	100	0.0
Africa, Total	840,000	86,400	30	26,200	14.3	3,700	0.3
North ^d	248,100	7,300	34	2,500	85.9	2,100	0.2
South ^e	591,900	79,100	30	23,700	6.6	1,600	0.1
Oceania^f	32,000	106,900	29	31,000	14.8	4,600	0.4

a January 1. Minor discrepancies due to rounding.

b U.S.A. and Canada.

c Asian regions of Russia and Turkey are included in Europe.

d Including Ethiopia.

e South Africa, Zimbabwe, and other sub-Saharan countries.

f Australia, New Zealand.

Having thus reconstructed a whole global matrix, it is possible to focus on major geographical divisions. In reality, the reader is warned that the detailed figures reported in Table A-1 for individual countries, and especially for small Jewish populations, are purely indicative. However the resulting regional and continental subtotals and totals can be considered a robust assessment of the real situation. The aggregated product of the detailed analysis is presented in Table 3.

A total of 1,092,000 individuals is reported in Table 3 as Shoah survivors, of these 186,000 in North America (United States and Canada), about 12,000 in Latin America, 197,000 in the European Union and other countries in Western Europe, 146,000 in the Former Soviet Union, 32,000 in the rest of Eastern Europe, 511,000 in Israel, 2,000 in North Africa, about as many in South Africa, and 4-5,000 in Australia and New Zealand. Percent wise, 46.8% of Shoah survivors are located in Israel, 17% in North America, 1.1% in Latin America, 18% in the European Union and other Western Europe, 13.4% in the Former Soviet Union, 3% in the rest of Eastern Europe, 0.3% in Africa, and 0.4% in Oceania.

An interesting comparison can be carried out between our estimates of Shoah survivors, and the number of persons who received allocation from Swiss Fund for Needy (Table 4). Although not directly related to our estimates, these figures are useful for comparison, in that our estimates should never fall significantly below the minimal criterion thus outlined. In comparison with our estimates, the figures of the Swiss fund for the needy - 255,078 in all - produce the following percent distribution: 48.6% in Israel, 27.2% in North America, 0.4% in Latin America, 8.3% in the European Union and other Western Europe, 3.7% in the FSU, 13.6% in the rest of Eastern Europe, 0.2% in Africa, and 1.6% in Oceania. While clearly the concept of “needy” may have been interpreted quite differently in different countries, Israel’s share is slightly higher among the specific constituency covered by the Swiss Fund for Needy than in our much more extensive estimates of total Shoah survivors. In our own assessment the share of people who currently live in the Former Soviet Union and in Western Europe is significantly higher, and the share in North America and in the rest of Eastern Europe is significantly lower.

TABLE 4. ESTIMATED SHOAH SURVIVORS, AND PERSONS WHO RECEIVED SWISS FUND FOR NEEDY, BY CONTINENTS AND MAJOR REGIONS, 2003^a

Region^a	Number of Shoah survivors	Percent distrib. of Shoah survivors	Received Swiss Fund for Needy	Percent distrib. Swiss Fund
Grand Total	1,092,000	100.0	255,078	100.0
America, Total	197,400	18.1	70,541	27.7
North	185,700	17.0	69,460	27.2
Central	1,100	0.1	97	0.0
South	10,600	1.0	984	0.4
Europe, Total	374,300	34.3	55,966	21.9
European Union	194,900	17.8	11,716	4.6
Other West	1,800	0.2	102	0.0
Former USSR	145,300	13.3	9,378	3.7
Rest East	32,300	3.0	34,770	13.6
Asia, Total	512,000	46.9	124,048	48.6
Israel, Palestine	510,900	46.8	124,000	48.6
Former USSR	1,000	0.1	48	0.0
Rest	100	0.0	0	-
Africa, Total	3,700	0.3	484	0.2
North	2,100	0.2	351	0.1
South	1,600	0.1	133	0.1
Oceania	4,600	0.4	4,039	1.6

a See notes to Table 3.

4.3 OVERVIEW

The world total of Shoah survivors according to the comprehensive criteria outlined in this report, is currently evaluated at 1,092,000 persons (see Tables 1 and 3). Of these, 511,000 live in Israel, 174,000 in the United States, 146,000 in the Former Soviet Union, 197,000 in Western Europe, 32,000 in Eastern Europe, and 32,000 in the remaining countries in Canada, Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania.

In accordance with the definitional criteria adopted, our estimates are generally higher than those suggested by previous reports. The share of survivors who live in Israel is higher than in previous assessments, mainly because of two factors:

- (a) the continuing inflow of immigrants produces increases in Israel's population and decreases in the relevant countries of origin, particularly the Former Soviet Union;
- (b) the incorporation of relevant North African and Middle Eastern communities that were mistakenly omitted in previous assessments tends to expand Israel's share more than that of other parts of the world because most of the migrants from former European colonies in Muslim countries settled in Israel.

According to our re-evaluation, the partition of 511,000 Shoah survivors in Israel is 393,000 from Europe and 118,000 from Africa and Asia.

Our assessment of the number of survivors in the United States, too, is somewhat higher than in previous assessments. This indicates the good reliability of previous estimates, but also the advantages of having at hand a good new and comprehensive source of data, the 2000-2001 National Jewish Population Survey. Our assessment for Western Europe is significantly higher than previously thought, because of:

- (a) the rapid Jewish population growth experienced in Germany in recent years, mostly through immigration from the Former Soviet Union, and
- (b) the incorporation of a substantial number of survivors among the Jewish population of North African origin now living in France.

It is not surprising, therefore, that reflecting continuing demographic erosive trends, our assessment of Shoah survivors in the Former Soviet Union should be somewhat lower than in previous reports. It should be stressed that the number of Shoah survivors of FSU origin now living out of the FSU, in Israel, in the US, in Germany and elsewhere, significantly exceeds the number still living in the FSU.

CHAPTER 5.

IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

In this report we have attempted to provide an updated assessment of the current number and geographic distribution of Shoah survivors. The findings outlined in this report reflect the continuing changes determined by demographic patterns that since the 1990s have operated very powerfully to change the profile of world Jewry. These findings should be learned not only for the comprehensive picture they unveil of the current profile of Shoah survivors, but also for what they can teach us about the ceaseless effects of demographic change for future Jewish community planning and social policies.

While because of the unavoidable effects of aging, the total pool of Shoah survivors is bound to diminish significantly over the next years, nevertheless for several decades ahead it will continue to be a very significant constituency. Not only their total number, but also their geographic distribution will continue to shift from one region to another reflecting differential migration flows and differential survival chances at various locations.

Shoah survivors are the scant living residue of a great and vibrant Jewry that was destroyed in tragic circumstances. They were to different degrees of personal sufferance direct or indirect victims, and in any case they were witnesses. They are entitled to the highest possible level of respect, service, and nurturing by the Jewish community system and by the civil community at large.

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6.1. APPOINTMENT LETTER

06/11/03 WED 14:57 FAX 2022884101

ICHEIC

001

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST ERA INSURANCE CLAIMS

1300 L Street, NW • Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20005
202-289-4100 • 202-289-4101 fax
www.ICHEIC.org

June 11, 2003

Dr. Sergio DellaPergola
Professor
The Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus
Jerusalem

VIA FACSIMILE: 972-2-654-0708

Dear Dr. DellaPergola:

Following our telephone conversation, this is to confirm my request that you conduct a review of relevant demographic information on world Jewry along the lines of our discussion. I would appreciate if you could compile this study and have it in my hands by mid July.

Sincerely,



Lawrence S. Eagleburger
Chairman

6.2. CLARIFICATION REQUEST

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry
Division of Jewish Demography and Statistics
Prof. Sergio DellaPergola

המכון ליהדות זמננו ע"ש אברהם הרמן
המדור לדמוגרפיה ולסטטיסטיקה של היהודים
פרופ' סרג'ו דלה-פרגולה

Jerusalem, June 11, 2003

Hon. Secretary
Lawrence S. Eagleburger
Chairman
The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims
1300 L Street, NW
Suite 1150
Washington DC 20005

Dear Mr. Eagleburger,

Thank you very much for your letter of June 11 including your request that I conduct a review of relevant demographic information on world Jewry. I will be pleased to submit my conclusions to you as agreed.

Before I can begin my evaluation, I would appreciate to receive one important piece of information from you, i.e. the criterion for definition and inclusion of the Jewish population that you deem relevant for the purposes of your Commission. Clearly, different criteria - more restrictive or more extensive - of who is the surviving constituency that suffered during the Holocaust Era may produce very different statistical assessments. I therefore look forward to receive your instructions about what types of persons are eligible and should be included.

Sincerely,



Prof. Sergio DellaPergola
Head of Division

Mount Scopus, Jerusalem 91905
Email: sergioa@huji.ac.il

טל. 972-2-5882470/2
פקס 972-2-5881243

ירושלים הר הצופים, 91905
פקס בית 972-2-6540708

6.3. EXPLANATORY LETTER

06/12/03 THU 16:49 FAX 2022894101

ICHEIC

001

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST ERA INSURANCE CLAIMS

1300 L Street, NW • Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20005
202-289-4100 • 202-289-4101 fax
www.ICHEIC.org

June 12, 2003

Professor Sergio DellaPergola
The Hebrew University, Mt. Scopus
Jerusalem 91905, Israel

VIA FACSIMILE: 972-2-588-1243

Dear Professor DellaPergola,

The best definition I can give you is as follows: "In order to facilitate decisions on the allocation of funds, ICHEIC has used, *inter alia*, studies regarding estimates of Nazi victims in various locations around the world. Specifically, the Commission has drawn upon a chart entitled "Worldwide Estimates of Nazi Victims" (I assume you already have this from our previous correspondence).

My previous letter also stated, "I have decided to appoint a small group of experts to review the demographic data already available to determine whether there are any significant analytical or factual errors, or changes in the facts (immigration/emigration) underlying the figures in the chart." Obviously, the decision to appoint a small group of experts no longer pertains, but with that exception the guidance I had originally set forth is the best I can provide.

Frankly, Professor DellaPergola, I am no expert on this matter and extremely reluctant to enter where angles fear to tread. Clearly my preference is that you emphasize the more extensive criteria in your analysis. I hope this will suffice.

Sincerely,



Lawrence S. Eagleburger
Chairman

6.4. WORLDWIDE ESTIMATES OF NAZI VICTIMS

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST ERA INSURANCE CLAIMS ICHEIC HUMANITARIAN FUNDS - WORLDWIDE ESTIMATES OF NAZI VICTIMS

Region	Spanic Committee 1997		Ukeles 2000		MEAN % International Nazi Victim Population
	Estimated Nazi Victim Population	% International Nazi Victim Population	Estimated Nazi Victim Population	% International Nazi Victim Population	
Israel	360,000-380,000	39.6%-43.2%	325,600-354,700	39.1%-39.1%	40.3%
FSU	184,000-220,000	22.1%-22.9%	193,000-223,000	23.2%-23.8%	23.0%
USA	140,000-160,000	16.7%-16.8%	127,400-145,600	15.3%-15.6%	16.1%
Europe--Western, Central and Eastern	130,000-180,000	15.6%-18.8%	141,900-169,260	17.1%-18.1%	17.4%
Other countries	20,000	2.1%-2.4%	43,000	4.5%-5.2%	3.6%
TOTAL WORLDWIDE	834,000-960,000	100.0%-100.1%	831,900-935,600	99.9%-101.8%	100.4%

Note: The figures are taken from the *Special Master's Proposed Plan of Allocation and Distribution of Settlement Proceeds In Re Holocaust Victim Assets Litigation (Swiss Banks) Special Master's Proposal September 11, 2000*, approved by the US Federal District Court on November 22, 2000 (available at <http://www.swissbankclaims.com>). The Spanic Committee was established following a meeting of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office on May 14, 1997. The Ukeles estimates are contained in the June 28, 2000 Report of the Planning Committee of the Claims Conference (available at <http://www.claimscon.org>). Percentages add up to more than 100 due to rounding.

6.5. RELEVANT JEWISH POPULATION DATA

TABLE A-1. ESTIMATED CORE JEWISH POPULATION, TOTAL BORN BEFORE 1946, TOTAL SHOAH SURVIVORS, RECEIVED SWISS FUND FOR NEEDY, BY COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE, 2003

Country	Total population 2002	Jewish population 2003	Quality of estimate	Percent born before 1946	Number born before 1946	Of these: % lived in relevant areas	Number lived in relevant areas	Percent distribution of Shoah survivors	Received Swiss Fund for Needy
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c*e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)	(i)=%(h)	(j)
GRAND TOTAL	6,282,405,000	12,948,000		26	3,388,694	32.2	1,092,038	100.0	255,078
TOTAL AMERICA	849,870,000	6,061,100		29	1,757,719	11.2	197,386	18.1	70,541
Canada	31,300,000	360,000	B	28	100,800	12.0	12,096	1.1	7,091
United States	287,400,000	5,300,000	B	29	1,537,000	11.3	173,608	15.9	62,369
North America	318,827,000	5,660,000		29	1,641,400	11.3	185,704	17.0	69,460
Bahamas	300,000	300	D	50	150	10.0	15	0.0	
Costa Rica	3,900,000	2,500	C	25	625	10.0	63	0.0	
Cuba	11,300,000	600	C	30	180	0.0	0	0.0	
Dominican Republic	8,800,000	100	D	30	30	10.0	3	0.0	
El Salvador	6,600,000	100	C	25	25	10.0	3	0.0	
Guatemala	12,100,000	900	A	22	198	10.0	20	0.0	
Jamaica	2,600,000	300	A	30	90	10.0	9	0.0	
Mexico	101,700,000	40,000	B	20	8,000	10.0	800	0.1	97
Netherlands Antilles	215,000	200	B	30	60	10.0	6	0.0	
Panama	2,900,000	5,000	C	22	1,100	10.0	110	0.0	
Puerto Rico	3,915,000	1,500	C	30	450	10.0	45	0.0	
Virgin Islands	114,000	300	C	40	120	10.0	12	0.0	
Other	22,556,000	300	D	30	90	10.0	9	0.0	
Central America	177,000,000	52,100		21	10,941	10.0	1,094	0.1	97
Argentina	36,500,000	187,000	C	30	56,100	10.0	5,610	0.5	532
Bolivia	8,800,000	500	C	30	150	10.0	15	0.0	58
Brazil	173,800,000	97,000	B	30	29,100	10.0	2,910	0.3	181
Chile	15,600,000	20,900	C	30	6,270	10.0	627	0.1	44
Colombia	43,800,000	3,400	C	30	1,020	10.0	102	0.0	56
Ecuador	13,000,000	900	C	30	270	10.0	27	0.0	2
Paraguay	6,000,000	900	B	30	270	10.0	27	0.0	1
Peru	26,700,000	2,500	C	30	750	10.0	75	0.0	31
Suriname	417,000	200	B	30	60	10.0	6	0.0	

TABLE A-1. CONTINUATION

Country	Total population 2002	Jewish population 2003	Quality of estimate	Percent born before 1946	Number born before 1946	Of these: % lived in relevant areas	Number lived in relevant areas	Percent distribution of Shoah survivors	Received Swiss Fund for Needy
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c*e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)	(i)=%(h)	(j)
Uruguay	3,400,000	20,000	C	30	6,000	10.0	600	0.1	24
Venezuela	25,100,000	15,700	B	25	3,925	15.0	589	0.1	55
South America	354,043,000	349,000		30	104,700	10.1	10,588	1.0	984
TOTAL EUROPE	795,435,000	1,550,800		38	589,304	63.5	374,322	34.3	55,966
Austria	8,100,000	9,000	B	40	3,600	80.0	2,880	0.3	406
Belgium	10,300,000	31,400	C	30	9,420	80.0	7,536	0.7	1,083
Denmark	5,400,000	6,400	C	33	2,112	75.0	1,584	0.1	214
Finland	5,200,000	1,100	B	30	330	75.0	248	0.0	
France	59,500,000	498,000	B	31	154,380	80.0	123,504	11.3	5,500
Germany	82,400,000	108,000	B	41	44,280	60.0	26,568	2.4	1,328
Greece	11,000,000	4,500	B	35	1,575	90.0	1,418	0.1	337
Ireland	3,800,000	1,000	B	33	330	5.0	17	0.0	
Italy	58,100,000	29,000	B	33	9,570	70.0	6,699	0.6	740
Luxembourg	450,000	600	B	33	198	50.0	99	0.0	27
Netherlands	16,100,000	30,000	B	42	12,600	65.0	8,190	0.7	661
Portugal	10,400,000	500	C	30	150	25.0	38	0.0	
Spain	41,300,000	12,000	D	30	3,600	25.0	900	0.1	15
Sweden	8,900,000	15,000	C	33	4,950	50.0	2,475	0.2	407
United Kingdom	60,400,000	300,000	B	34	102,000	12.5	12,750	1.2	998
European Union	381,350,000	1,046,500		32	334,880	58.2	194,904	17.8	11,716
Gibraltar	25,000	600	B	30	180	10.0	18	0.0	
Norway	4,500,000	1,200	B	33	396	75.0	297	0.0	28
Switzerland	7,300,000	18,000	A	33	5,940	25.0	1,485	0.1	74
Other	860,000	100	D	30	30	25.0	8	0.0	
Rest West Europe	12,685,000	19,900		33	6,567	27.5	1,808	0.2	102
Belarus	9,900,000	23,000	B	50	11,500	80.0	9,200	0.8	716
Estonia	1,400,000	1,800	B	50	900	75.0	675	0.1	
Latvia	2,300,000	9,200	B	50	4,600	75.0	3,450	0.3	88
Lithuania	3,500,000	3,500	B	50	1,750	75.0	1,313	0.1	196
Moldova	4,300,000	5,200	C	67	3,484	75.0	2,613	0.2	516
Russia	143,500,000	252,000	B	55	138,600	65.0	90,090	8.2	2,519
Ukraine	48,200,000	95,000	B	50	47,500	80.0	38,000	3.5	5,343
Former USSR, Europe	213,100,000	389,700		53	206,541	70.4	145,341	13.3	9,378

TABLE A-1. CONTINUATION

Country	Total population 2002	Jewish population 2003	Quality of estimate	Percent born before 1946	Number born before 1946	Of these: % lived in relevant areas	Number lived in relevant areas	Percent distribution of Shoah survivors	Received Swiss Fund for Needy
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c*e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)	(i)=%(h)	(j)
Bosnia-Herzegovina	3,400,000	500	C	55	275	90.0	248	0.0	265
Bulgaria	7,800,000	2,200	C	55	1,210	90.0	1,089	0.1	1,186
Croatia	4,300,000	1,700	C	55	935	90.0	842	0.1	959
Czech Republic	10,300,000	4,000	C	55	2,200	90.0	1,980	0.2	2,494
Hungary	10,100,000	50,000	C	40	20,000	90.0	18,000	1.6	19,859
Macedonia (FYR)	2,000,000	100	C	55	55	90.0	50	0.0	
Poland	38,600,000	3,300	C	55	1,815	90.0	1,634	0.1	1,825
Romania	22,400,000	10,600	B	60	6,360	90.0	5,724	0.5	5,853
Serbia-Montenegro	10,700,000	1,500	C	55	825	90.0	743	0.1	830
Slovakia	5,400,000	2,700	C	55	1,485	90.0	1,337	0.1	1,496
Slovenia	2,000,000	100	C	55	55	90.0	50	0.0	
Turkey	67,300,000	18,000	B	32	5,760	10.0	576	0.1	
Rest East Europe	188,300,000	94,700		43	40,721	79.2	32,270	3.0	34,770
TOTAL ASIA	3,765,100,000	5,142,800		19	984,750	52.0	512,018	46.9	124,048
Israel	6,631,000	4,880,000	A	20	955,800	53.1	507,600	46.5	
West Bank and Gaza	3,280,000	220,000	A	6	13,200	25.0	3,300	0.3	
Israel and Palestine	9,911,000	5,100,000		19	969,000	52.7	510,900	46.8	124,000
Azerbaijan	8,200,000	7,500	C	45	3,375	10.0	338	0.0	
Georgia	4,400,000	4,700	C	45	2,115	10.0	212	0.0	
Kazakhstan	14,800,000	4,200	B	45	1,890	10.0	189	0.0	31
Kyrgyzstan	5,000,000	800	B	45	360	10.0	36	0.0	
Tajikistan	6,300,000	100	B	45	45	10.0	5	0.0	
Turkmenistan	5,600,000	500	C	45	225	10.0	23	0.0	
Uzbekistan	25,400,000	5,500	C	45	2,475	10.0	248	0.0	17
Former USSR, Asia	73,500,000	23,300		45	10,485	10.0	1,049	0.1	48
China	1,287,900,000	1,000	D	35	350	5.0	18	0.0	
India	1,049,500,000	5,200	B	30	1,560	0.0	0	0.0	
Iran	65,600,000	11,000	C	25	2,750	0.0	0	0.0	
Japan	127,096,000	1,000	C	35	350	5.0	18	0.0	
Korea, South	48,400,000	100	C	35	35	5.0	2	0.0	
Philippines	80,000,000	100	D	35	35	5.0	2	0.0	
Singapore	4,200,000	300	B	35	105	5.0	5	0.0	
Syria	17,200,000	100	C	25	25	90.0	23	0.0	

TABLE A-1. CONTINUATION

Country	Total population 2002	Jewish population 2003	Quality of estimate	Percent born before 1946	Number born before 1946	Of these: % lived in relevant areas	Number lived in relevant areas	Percent distribution of Shoah survivors	Received Swiss Fund for Needy
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c*e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)	(i)=%(h)	(j)
Thailand	62,600,000	200	C	30	60	5.0	3	0.0	
Yemen	18,600,000	200	B	25	50	0.0	0	0.0	
Other	920,593,000	300	D	40	120	0.0	0	0.0	
Rest Asia	3,681,689,000	19,500		27	5,265	1.3	69	0.0	0
TOTAL AFRICA	840,000,000	86,400		30	25,920	14.3	3,718	0.3	484
Egypt	71,200,000	100	C	60	60	0.0	0	0.0	
Ethiopia	67,700,000	100	C	60	60	0.0	0	0.0	
Morocco	29,700,000	5,500	B	33	1,815	90.0	1,634	0.1	
Tunisia	9,800,000	1,500	B	33	495	90.0	446	0.0	350
Other	69,700,000	100	D	60	60	90.0	54	0.0	1
North Africa	248,100,000	7,300		34	2,482	85.9	2,133	0.2	351
Botswana	1,541,000	100	B	30	30	5.0	2	0.0	
Congo D.R.	50,948,000	100	B	30	30	5.0	2	0.0	
Kenya	31,100,000	400	B	40	160	5.0	8	0.0	
Namibia	1,800,000	100	B	30	30	5.0	2	0.0	
Nigeria	129,900,000	100	D	30	30	5.0	2	0.0	
South Africa	43,600,000	77,500	B	30	23,250	6.7	1,558	0.1	133
Zimbabwe	12,300,000	500	B	35	175	5.0	9	0.0	
Other	320,711,000	300	D	30	90	5.0	5	0.0	
Rest Africa	591,900,000	79,100		30	23,730	6.7	1,585	0.1	133
TOTAL OCEANIA	32,000,000	106,900		29	31,001	14.8	4,595	0.4	4,039
Australia	19,700,000	100,000	B	29	29,000	15.0	4,350	0.4	4,039
New Zealand	3,900,000	6,800	A	24	1,632	15.0	245	0.0	(included)
Other	8,400,000	100	D	24	24	5.0	0	0.0	

Note: Continental and regional totals may include countries not listed separately. Asian regions of Russia and Turkey included in Europe.

Figures in bold italics are based on recent research. Other figures are estimates based on regional evidence. Minor discrepancies due to rounding.

Shoah survivors figures in Column (h): for United States estimate, see Table A-2; for Israel estimate, see Table A-3.

Source for Jewish population estimates: S. DellaPergola, World Jewish Population 2003, in *American Jewish Year Book*, 2003.

Detailed list of other sources available on request.

TABLE A-2. FOREIGN BORN JEWISH POPULATION, BORN BEFORE 1946, IMMIGRATED AFTER 1932, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH, USA, 2001

Country	Age-period relevant respondents	Age-period relevant spouses	Age-period relevant total	Total foreign-born respondents	Total foreign-born spouses	Total foreign-born total	Percent relevant respondents	Percent relevant spouses	Percent relevant total
Relevant countries Grey shaded	(b)	(c)	(d)=(b+c)	(e)	(f)	(g)=(e+f)	(h)=(b/e)	(i)=(c/f)	(j)=(d/g)
GRAND TOTAL	184,480	66,700	251,180	434,889	135,159	570,048	29.2	34.5	30.5
GRAND TOTAL	126,911	46,697	173,608	234,460	81,825	316,285	54.1	57.1	54.9
TOTAL AMERICA	24,516	10,764	35,280	73,285	17,863	91,148			
Canada	6,005	2,704	8,709	20,049	3,872	23,921			
United States	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total North America	6,005	2,704	8,709	20,049	3,872	23,921			
Bahamas	495	0	495	495	0	495			
Costa Rica	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cuba	1,363	0	1,363	3,663	681	4,344			
Dominican Republic	1,135	0	1,135	1,664	0	1,664			
El Salvador	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Guatemala	0	0	0	1,779	0	1,779			
Jamaica	11,064	4,625	15,689	11,563	4,625	16,188			
Mexico	1,943	0	1,943	12,050	1,871	13,921			
Netherlands Antilles	0	0	0	1,132	0	1,132			
Panama	0	0	0	778	0	778			
Puerto Rico	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other	1,045	0	1,045	7,346	551	7,897			
Total Central America	17,045	4,625	21,670	40,470	7,728	48,198			
Argentina	1,466	3,435	4,901	4,737	4,123	8,860			
Bolivia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Brazil	0	0	0	2,573	1,065	3,638			
Chile	0	0	0	0	442	442			
Colombia	0	0	0	2,170	254	2,424			
Ecuador	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Paraguay	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Peru	0	0	0	1,001	0	1,001			
Suriname	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Uruguay	0	0	0	1,704	0	1,704			
Venezuela	0	0	0	581	379	960			
Total South America	1,466	3,435	4,901	12,766	6,263	19,029			

TABLE A-2. CONTINUATION

Country	Age-period relevant respondents	Age-period relevant spouses	Age-period relevant total	Total foreign-born respondents	Total foreign-born spouses	Total foreign-born total	Percent relevant respondents	Percent relevant spouses	Percent relevant total
Relevant countries Grey shaded	(b)	(c)	(d)=(b+c)	(e)	(f)	(g)=(e+f)	(h)=(b/e)	(i)=(c/f)	(j)=(d/g)
TOTAL EUROPE	142,913	50,318	193,231	263,551	86,841	350,392	47.9	53.8	49.3
TOTAL EUROPE	126,208	46,697	172,905	232,842	80,719	313,561	54.2	57.9	55.1
Austria	6,498	0	6,498	6,836	0	6,836			
Belgium	831	0	831	831	0	831			
Denmark	1,194	0	1,194	1,194	0	1,194			
Finland	1,466	0	1,466	2,168	0	2,168			
France	1,879	786	2,665	7,176	786	7,962			
Germany	30,764	4,699	35,463	47,008	4,831	51,839			
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Ireland	0	0	0	1,209	0	1,209			
Italy	1,053	1,074	2,127	3,425	1,074	4,499			
Luxembourg			0	0	0	0			
Netherlands	507	722	1,229	3,356	722	4,078			
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Spain	0	0	0	2,488	0	2,488			
Sweden	0	892	892	0	892	892			
United Kingdom	13,302	2,729	16,031	21,728	3,221	24,949			
Total European Union	57,494	10,902	68,396	97,419	11,526	108,945			
Gibraltar	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Norway	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Switzerland	404	0	404	1,560	2,009	3,569			
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total rest West Europe	404	0	404	1,560	2,009	3,569			
Belarus	8,237	5,993	14,230	12,984	6,397	19,381			
Estonia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Latvia	338	0	338	2,724	0	2,724			
Lithuania	3,697	722	4,419	4,190	868	5,058			
Moldova	2,139	758	2,897	5,600	758	6,358			
Russia	12,562	4,324	16,886	41,321	18,039	59,360			
Ukraine	32,641	19,545	52,186	61,943	36,471	98,414			
Total former USSR, Europe	59,614	31,342	90,956	128,762	62,533	191,295			

TABLE A-2. CONTINUATION

Country	Age-period relevant respondents	Age-period relevant spouses	Age-period relevant total	Total foreign-born respondents	Total foreign-born spouses	Total foreign-born total	Percent relevant respondents	Percent relevant spouses	Percent relevant total
Relevant countries Grey shaded	(b)	(c)	(d)=(b+c)	(e)	(f)	(g)=(e+f)	(h)=(b/e)	(i)=(c/f)	(j)=(d/g)
Bosnia-Herzegovina	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Croatia	0	0	0	881	881	1,762			
Czech Republic	3,557	912	4,469	5,773	1,102	6,875			
Hungary	3,565	2,197	5,762	4,750	2,615	7,365			
Macedonia (FYR)	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Poland	11,705	4,077	15,782	15,246	5,287	20,533			
Romania	2,642	888	3,530	4,503	888	5,391			
Serbia-Montenegro	933	0	933	933	0	933			
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Turkey	2,999	0	2,999	3,724	0	3,724			
Total rest East Europe	25,401	8,074	33,475	35,810	10,773	46,583			
TOTAL ASIA	12,676	4,720	17,396	75,223	26,470	101,693	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL ASIA	0	0	0	364	364	728	0.0	0.0	0.0
Israel									
West Bank and Gaza									
Total Israel, Palestine	5,924	1,885	7,809	37,876	11,243	49,119			
Azerbaijan	548	404	952	3,112	0	3,112			
Georgia	1,115	0	1,115	2,334	419	2,753			
Kazakhstan	282	0	282	282	0	282			
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	0	347	0	347			
Tajikistan	379	0	379	379	379	758			
Turkmenistan	0	0	0	0	404	404			
Uzbekistan	758	1,162	1,920	5,505	3,023	8,528			
Total former USSR, Asia	3,082	1,566	4,648	11,959	4,225	16,184			
China	1,411		1,411	3,302	695	3,997			
India	661	293	954	954	293	1,247			
Iran	881	432	1,313	12,243	5,838	18,081			
Japan	0	0	0	541	905	1,446			
Korea, South	0	0	0	2,422	0	2,422			
Philippines	0	404	404	2,383	404	2,787			
Singapore	0	0	0	0	0	0			

TABLE A-2. CONTINUATION

Country	Age-period relevant respondents	Age-period relevant spouses	Age-period relevant total	Total foreign-born respondents	Total foreign-born spouses	Total foreign-born total	Percent relevant respondents	Percent relevant spouses	Percent relevant total
Relevant countries Grey shaded									
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)=(b+c)	(e)	(f)	(g)=(e+f)	(h)=(b/e)	(i)=(c/f)	(j)=(d/g)
Syria	0	0	0	364	364	728			
Thailand	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Yemen	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other	717	140	857	3,179	2,503	5,682			
Total rest Asia	3,670	1,269	4,939	25,388	11,002	36,390			
TOTAL AFRICA	2,804	898	3,702	15,014	2,154	17,168	4.7	0.0	4.1
TOTAL AFRICA	703	0	703	1,254	742	1,996	56.1	0.0	35.2
Egypt	347	0	347	867	0	867			
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Morocco	310	0	310	718	742	1,460			
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other	393	0	393	536	0	536			
Total North Africa	1,050	0	1,050	2,121	742	2,863			
Botswana	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Congo D.R.	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Kenya	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Namibia	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	0			
South Africa	1,021	0	1,021	12,028	544	12,572			
Zimbabwe	0	165	165	0	135	135			
Other	733	733	1,466	865	733	1,598			
Total rest Africa	1,754	898	2,652	12,893	1,412	14,305			
TOTAL OCEANIA	1,571	0	1,571	7,816	0	7,816	0.0	0.0	0.0
Australia	1,571	0	1,571	6,496	0	6,496			
New Zealand	0	0	0	1,320	0	1,320			
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0			

Source: United Jewish Communities, US 2000-2001 National Jewish Population Survey, author's data processing. Minor discrepancies due to rounding.

TABLE A-3. FOREIGN BORN JEWISH POPULATION, BORN BEFORE 1946, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH AND AGE, ISRAEL, AVERAGE 2001, THOUSANDS

Country of birth Relevant countries Grey shaded	Age					Of total 55+: Percent included ^a	Corrected Subtotal Age 55+
	Gd. Total	55-64	65-74	75+	Total 55+		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c+d+e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)
GRAND TOTAL	1978.1	296.3	280.3	253.2	829.8		
GRAND TOTAL		207.7	210.2	208.8	626.7	82.0	510.9
TOTAL AMERICA, OCEANIA	126.4	12.4	9.0	4.9	26.3	0.0	0.0
Total North America, Oceania	71.0	4.7	3.0	2.4	10.1	0.0	0.0
Argentina	32.5	5.0	4.1	2.0	11.1	0.0	0.0
Latin America, other	22.9	2.7	1.9	0.5	5.1	0.0	0.0
Total Latin America	55.4	7.7	6.0	2.5	16.2	0.0	0.0
TOTAL EUROPE	1300.4	149.5	168.1	189.6	507.2		
TOTAL EUROPE		147.4	166.7	188.3	502.4	78.0	392.9
France	28.1	1.9	1.8	0.7	4.4	95.0	4.2
Germany and Austria	32.3	2.1	5.9	12.1	20.1	95.0	19.1
United Kingdom	18.9	2.1	1.4	1.3	4.8	0.0	0.0
Other	31.2	4.4	4.1	3.4	11.9	85.0	10.1
Total European Union	110.5	10.5	13.2	17.5	41.2	81.0	33.4
Total former USSR	937.5	103.7	92.6	81.1	277.4	65.0	180.3
Bulgaria and Greece	23.2	5.1	6.5	6.7	18.3	95.0	17.4
Czech, Slovakia, Hungary	27.8	2.8	7.3	11.3	21.4	95.0	20.3
Poland	78.9	7.3	18.2	40.5	66.0	95.0	62.7
Romania	122.5	20.1	30.3	32.5	82.9	95.0	78.8
Total rest East Europe	252.4	35.3	62.3	91.0	188.6	95.0	179.2
TOTAL ASIA	232.0	65.8	54.0	33.4	153.2		
TOTAL ASIA		3.0	3.2	1.9	8.1	95.0	7.7
Turkey	30.6	7.7	8.1	5.5	21.3	0.0	0.0
Iraq	75.3	26.1	21.1	11.1	58.3	0.0	0.0
Yemen	36.0	13.0	9.4	8.1	30.5	0.0	0.0
Iran	51.3	11.0	8.9	5.0	24.9	0.0	0.0
India and Pakistan	18.1	3.5	2.2	1.1	6.8	0.0	0.0
Syria and Lebanon	12.8	3.0	3.2	1.9	8.1	95.0	7.7
Other	7.9	1.4	1.1	0.7	3.2	0.0	0.0

TABLE A-3. CONTINUATION

Country of birth	Age					Of total 55+: Percent included ^a	Corrected Subtotal Age 55+	
	Gd. Total	55-64	65-74	75+	Total 55+			
Relevant countries Grey shaded	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(c+d+e)	(g)	(h)=(f*g)
TOTAL AFRICA	319.2	68.6	49.2	25.2	143.0			
TOTAL AFRICA		57.3	40.3	18.6	116.2	95.0	110.4	
Morocco	165.2	39.4	26.5	12.3	78.2	95.0	74.3	
Algeria and Tunisia	41.7	11.1	8.5	4.0	23.6	95.0	22.4	
Libya	19.2	6.8	5.3	2.3	14.4	95.0	13.7	
Egypt	21.7	6.6	5.4	3.8	15.8	0.0	0.0	
Ethiopia	58.9	3.1	2.5	2.0	7.6	0.0	0.0	
Other	12.6	1.6	1.0	0.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	

a Percent who lived in relevant areas out of total in age group. Minor discrepancies due to rounding.

Source: adapted from Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel, vol. 53, 2002, Table 2.23.

6.6 ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sergio DellaPergola, born in Italy, 1942; refugee in Switzerland, 1943-1945; lived in Milan, 1945-1966; in Jerusalem, Israel, since 1966. M.A., University of Pavia, 1966; Ph.D., The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1973. Professor at The Hebrew University's Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, and Institute Chairman, 1991, 1994-1998, and 2000-2002.

An internationally known specialist on the demography of Jewish communities worldwide, he has researched Jews in Western Europe, the United States, Latin America, and Israel. He has published numerous books and over one hundred papers on Jewish historical demography, the Jewish family, Jewish migration and absorption in Israel and the Western countries, quantitative aspects of Jewish education worldwide, and Jewish population projections in the Diaspora and Israel.

He has lectured at over 40 universities and research centers worldwide, including Brown University, UCLA, the University of Judaism, the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, SOAS (London), INED (Paris), the Universidad Hibernoamericana (Mexico City), the University of Moscow, the University of Sao Paulo, and the University of Milano, and has served as senior consultant to numerous important national and international organizations.

In 1999 he won the Marshall Sklare Award for distinguished achievement awarded by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry, and currently serves as Academic Chairman of the President of Israel's Forum on World Jewry.