

JEWISH POPULATION IN U.S.

NEW YORK -- While American Jews are continuing to migrate in large numbers to the nation's "Sun Belt," the number of Jews living in Manhattan has also increased dramatically, according to an article on "Jewish Population in the United States" in the just-published 1983 American Jewish Year Book.

In 1982, reports the article, written by Alvin Chenkin of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, 33.5 per cent of America's 5,725,000 Jews lived in the Sun Belt -- the southern and western states -- as against 31.5 per cent in 1981, 31.1 per cent in 1980, and 27.8 per cent in 1977.

The total Jewish population of the Sun Belt states, the article continues, was 1,917,580 in 1982. Among the southern and western states whose Jewish populations increased markedly between 1981 and 1982, Year Book figures indicate, were California, where the increase was 21,515; Colorado, with an increase of 12,600; Flo-

rida, up 11,020, and Missouri, up 14,065.

The Jewish communities of the New England and Middle Atlantic states, on the other hand, either decreased, remained the same, or increased slightly during the past year, with a net decrease of 742,865 for the whole area.

Nevertheless, the Year Book points out, although those states now have both a lower number and a lower percentage of the nation's Jews than formerly, they still have 3,110,705 Jews, or 54.3 per cent of the total American Jewish population.

Similarly, the article goes on, the Greater New York area continues to have the country's heaviest concentration of Jews even though their number has dropped considerably over the years: from 1,998,000 in 1970 to 1,734,000 in 1982.

One exception to Greater New York's downward trend, Mr. Chenkin notes, is Manhattan, whose Jewish community grew from 171,000 in 1970 to 297,320 in 1982.

"When detailed characteristics of Man-

hattan's Jewish population become available," writes Mr. Chenkin, "it will be possible to evaluate the reasons for Manhattan's growth."

Turning to the nation's third major sub-section, the article reports that the Jewish population of the north central states has remained relatively stable at 695,315, or 12.2 per cent of the total, as against 689,555, or 11.6 per cent, last year.

Among the Jewish population figures for U.S. cities listed in the Year Book's tables are: Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, 500,870; San Francisco, 75,000; Greater Washington, 160,000; Ft. Lauderdale, 80,000; Hollywood, Fla., 55,000; Miami, 225,000; Chicago Metropolitan Area, 253,000; Baltimore, 92,000; Montgomery and Prince Georges County, Md., 100,000; St. Louis, 53,500; Bergen County, N.J., 100,000; Essex County, N.J., 95,000; Cleveland, 70,000; Philadelphia Metropolitan Area, 295,000.

A Year Book report on "World Jewish Populations," by Profs. U.O. Schmelz

and Sergio DellaPergola of the Hebrew University, estimates that the total Jewish population in 1980 was 13,027,900. Countries other than the United States with large numbers of Jews, states the report, are: Israel, 3,282,000; the Soviet Union; 1,700,000; France, 535,000; Great Britain, 390,000; Canada, 380,000; Argentina, 242,000; Brazil, 110,000, and South Africa, 108,000.

The report estimates also that 6,492,000 (49.8 per cent) of the world's Jews live in the Americas; 2,969,500 (22.8 per cent) in Europe, including the Asian parts of the USSR and Turkey; 3,328,000 (25.5 per cent) in Asia; 164,500 (1.3 per cent) in Africa, and 74,000 (0.6 per cent) in Oceania.

In another Year Book article, Professors Schmelz and DellaPergola report

the findings of a study on "The Demographic Consequences of U.S. Jewish Population Trends."

The American Jewish Year Book, the authoritative record of trends and events in Jewish life, is published by the American Jewish Committee in association with the Jewish Publication Society of America. The editors are Milton Himmelfarb and David Singer. The book sells for \$23.50.

U.S. PUBLIC FAVORS ISRAEL

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The American public continues to support Israel more than the Arab nations, according to a new Gallup poll which was released here February 24 by the American Jewish Committee which commissioned the study.

The poll was conducted by the Gallup organization between January 21 and January 30, with a nationally representative sample of 1,515 adults aged 18 and older. Those who were polled were asked: "In the Middle East situation, are your sympathies more with Israel or more

with the Arab nations?"

The findings showed that the sympathies of the American public toward Israel had returned to the pre-Lebanon crisis proportions: in favor of Israel, 49 per cent; in favor of the Arab nations, 12 per cent; 2 percent said they favored neither Israel nor the Arabs, while 17 per cent said they did not know nor have the answer to the question.

The poll also revealed that persons in higher income brackets and formal education are more likely to express sympathy for Israel. The support for Is-

rael among those with less than high school education was only 42 percent. The findings also showed that people in the western part of the country sympathize more with Israel (57 per cent) more than those who live in the east (46 per cent).

The support for Israel among religious groups in the U.S. was highest among Jews (94 per cent) who indicated zero support for the Arab nations; Protestants, 52 per cent for Israel and 10 per cent for the Arabs; and Catholics, 43 percent for Israel and 16 per cent for the Arabs.

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