

Demographic Proportions

a. Structure

The actual number of Jews in Częstochowa had always come to somewhat more than the number of Jews registered at the Town Hall. This may be explained by the fact that not all Jews, and especially the poor ones, fulfilled their obligation to register their newborn children at the right time.

Over the years of occupation, the real number of Jews in Częstochowa was significantly higher than reported. The reason for this was that refugees - and even permanent citizens who had returned from their wanderings during the first period of the War - refrained from registering themselves, because "Let's just see how things will look".

Most importantly, people did not wish to appear in any listings, in order to dodge the multiple taxes that the *Judenrat* imposed upon each individual, at every opportunity, for as long as they could, as well as to avoid fulfilling the obligation of forced labour. Later, the *Stadthauptmann's* decree, that no Jew was allowed to register without his permission, came on top of that. Few Jews decided to ask the *Stadthauptmann* for permission to register, fearing the consequences of having infiltrated the city illegally.

When we embark upon covering the structure of the Jewish populace in Częstochowa during the occupation years, we rely on two sources:

- 1) a report from Town Hall's Statistics Bureau (letter № 47/1/891-A, dated 18th February 1947 and
- 2) the Statistics Yearbook of the *Judenrat* for 1940 (*Rocznik Statystyczny*, Vol. 2).

We must, however, treat both these reports with great reserve. That they are to be treated in such a manner is corroborated by the following facts. In the aforementioned report from the Statistics Bureau of the Town Hall, it is remarked that the number of unregistered Jews, during the time of the occupation, fluctuated by ten to twenty percent. That same report states (see the subsequent tables) that, in July 1942, there were 34,920 registered Jews, while already one year earlier, or in June 1941, the Town Hall's provisioning bureau had distributed food rations to 37,667 Jews. And the *Stadthauptmannschaft*, on its part, on 5th August 1941 in a letter numbered 3365/41, informed the chief of the Radom district, that there were in Częstochowa 164,567 inhabitants, of whom 37,667 were Jewish. Then, on 16th January 1942, the *Stadthauptmannschaft* reported to Radom (letter № 6107) that, in Częstochowa, there were approximately 40,000 Jews.

In the aforementioned report, the Town Hall's Statistics Bureau shows the number of registered Jews in Częstochowa according to the following table*:

* [TN: Some of the numbers in these tables and in the subsequent text are faded due to technical problems in the original printing. We have reproduced them as it seems most likely – nevertheless, not all the sums add up exactly.]

<u>Year and month</u>	<u>No of Jews</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
1939 January	28,486	13,692	14,794
1940 January	31,758	14,727	17,031
1941 January	33,921	15,634	18,187
1942 July	34,920	16,122	18,808

The Town Hall's provisioning bureau distributed food rations, in 1941, as shown in this table:

<u>Month</u>	<u>For how many souls</u>
February	34,193
March	35,072
April	37,309
May	37,518
June	37,667

From June to the end of 1941, the sum only fluctuates by a few hundred.

At the end of 1940, the *Judenrat's* Statistics Bureau closed the card index of the Jews in Częstochowa and carried out an analysis of the age, gender, education and occupation of the 32,744 Jews, which the card index encompassed at the time. This research was completed at the beginning of March 1941 and yielded the following results:

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-4	917	845	1,762	5.39
5-9	1,240	1,200	2,440	7.45
10-14	1,474	1,373	2,847	8.69
15-19	1,606	1,663	3,269	9.98
20-29	2,497	3,103	5,599	17.10
30-39	2,909	3,275	6,184	18.89
40-49	1,879	2,376	4,255	13.00
50-59	1,498	1,701	3,199	9.90
60-69	949	1,057	2,006	6.00
Over 70	<u>505-</u>	<u>678</u>	<u>1,183</u>	<u>3.60</u>
	15,474	17,271	32,744	100.00

Forty-one non-Polish citizens and twenty converts to Christianity were counted within the total number of 32,744.

We must approach the numbers reported for the ages 10-14 and 15-19, as well as 50-59 and 60-69, with a certain criterion – for in a bid to avoid the obligation of forced labour, some youths aged above fourteen presented themselves as younger, and Jews younger than sixty reported higher ages. In 1942, the exact opposite phenomenon occurred, because the frenzy to be “covered” at “*placówki*” then arose and everyone desired to be reckoned in the category of those fit for work.

In conducting the analysis regarding the educational status of the 32,744 Jews, the *Judenrat's* Statistics Bureau bore in mind that children aged up to ten, due to the specific state of affairs,

could not receive any lessons and they were, therefore, not included in any category. [Only] Jews aged over ten were taken into account, which came to 28,541 individuals - among whom 3,782, or 13.29%, were illiterate (1,454 men and 2,328 women); 14,401, or 50.45%, could read and write (7,236 men and 7,165 women); 5,858, or 20.51%, had completed primary school (2,727 men and 3,131 women); 2,653, or 9.28, had middle-school education (1,054 men and 1,599 women); 394, or 1.38%, had higher education (252 men and 142 women); and 1,454, or 5.09%, were home-schooled (594 men and 860 women).

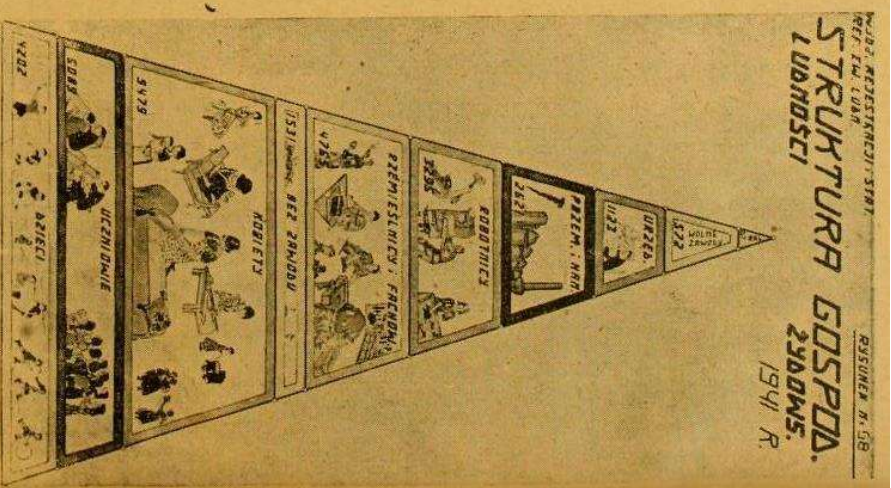
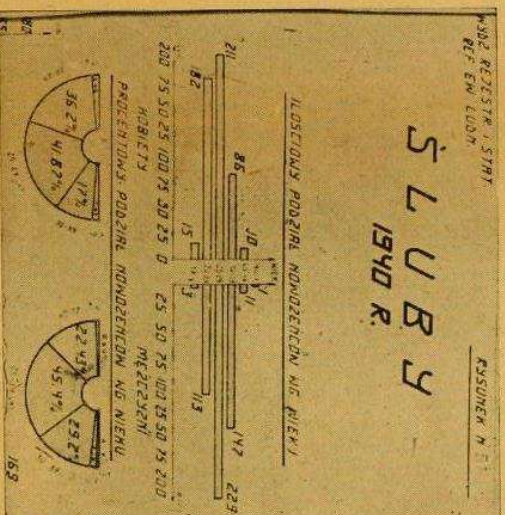
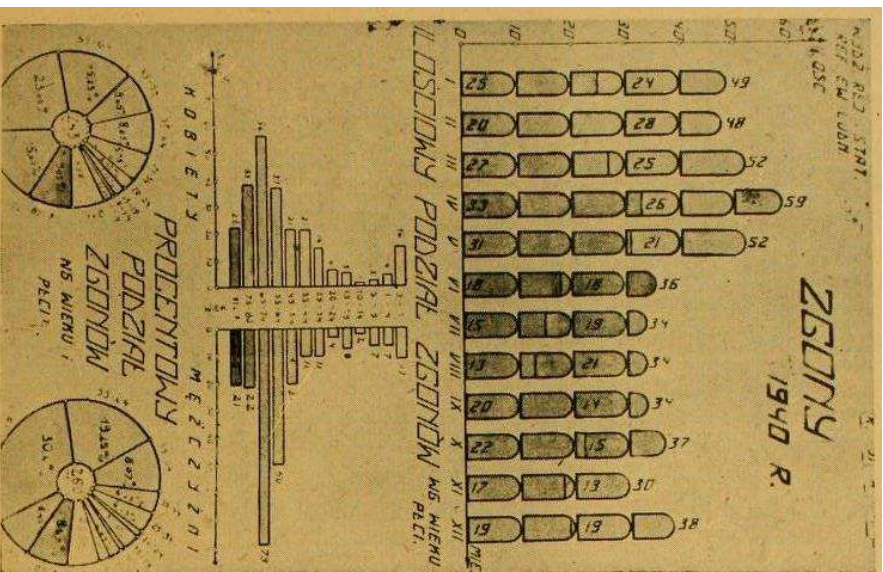
In compiling the statistics on the occupations of the Jewish populace in 1940, the *Judenrat's* Statistics Bureau eliminated children aged up to ten and the number taken into account was 28,542 - among whom 9,479 women, who were occupied mainly with housework, and 5,089 male and female students were deducted as being a passive economic element. The sum total of economically active people, who worked for reasons of livelihood came, to 13,974. Within this number of economically active, there were 4,765 craftsmen, 3,295 labourers, 1,959 tradesmen and merchants, 662 manufacturers, 1,531 without specific occupations, 1,088 officials and 572 in the liberal professions. The rest consisted of farmers, musicians etc. The statistics of that same bureau looked different for the year 1941, as shall be illustrated in diagram № 58 [which is] presented [on the following page].

In all probability, the Statistics Bureau of the *Judenrat* took in account, here, each person's pre-war occupation as, in 1940, Jews could not engage in agriculture or in the liberal professions, and 43 lawyers are enumerated, while it is a known fact that lawyers were not allowed to practise in their profession during the occupation.

The same may be said of teachers, because only a small number of *gimnazjum* professors held illegal classes for pupils and drew their livelihood from it. Another proof that the *Judenrat's* Statistics Bureau took into account each person's pre-war occupation is the fact that, on 9th May 1942, the *Stadthauptmannschaft* received a telegraphic demand from the chief of the Radom district to report the exact number of craftsmen in Częstochowa. The *Judenrat* then compiled a list of craftsmen who were employed in their professions, showing the following [data]:

<u>[Occupation]</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Textile craftsmen	255	322	577
Metal "	505	12	517
Teachers	192	5	197
Construction workers	100	1	101
Wood craftsmen	187	3	190
Hairdressers	<u>83</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>94</u>
Total	1,322	354	1,676

As we perceive from the table above, in 1942 - at a time when it was estimated, in *Judenrat* circles, that there were already approximately 48,000 Jews in Częstochowa - 1,676 craftsmen were employed in their professions. True, the stratification of the Jewish population indeed changed constantly - but not in such a large proportion as 4,765 craftsmen in 1940 and 1,676 in 1942, when the number of Jews was far greater.



Left panel:

DEATHS in 1940

Number in total by month (top)

Women v Men and by number (middle)

Same as middle – as pie charts (bottom)

Middle panel:

MARRIAGES in 1940

Newly married by gender and age (top)

Same as top expressed in percentages (bottom)

Right panel:

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF JEWISH POPULATION in 1941

Top is illegible

Liberal professions

Administrators/Clerks

Industrialists & [illegible]

Workers

Craftsmen & Tradesman

Unemployed

Women

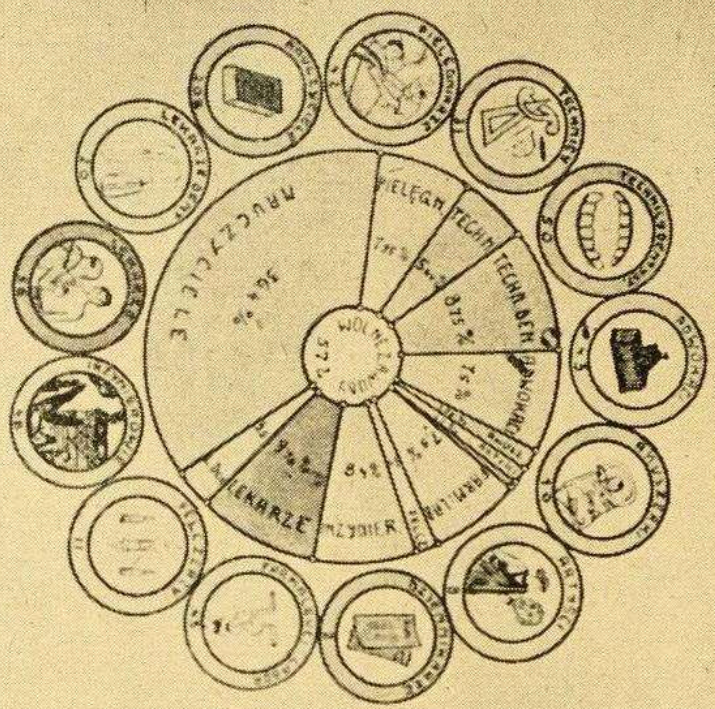
Students

Children

МОН. РЕЗ. 15151
 REF. EM. LUDN.

Р.35.М.19

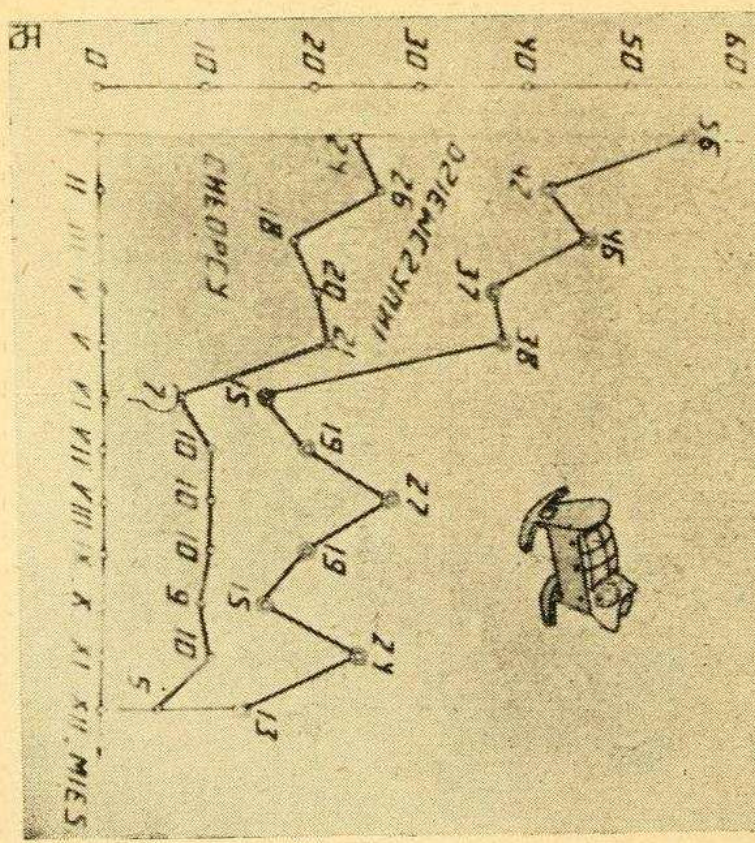
ВОЛНЕ ЗНАКОД ПОДЗИЕ ПРОСЕНТ. 1941. R.



МОН. РЕЗ. 15151
 REF. EM. LUDN.

Р.35.М.19

УРОДЗЕНІА 1940. R.



Left panel:

Liberal Professions in 1941

By percentage

[Most of the labels are illegible]

Right panel:

Births in 1941 by month

Top label: GIRLS

Bottom label: BOYS

The economic structure of the Jewish population, from the onset of the War to the great liquidation, was constantly changing. The tempo of the change depended upon the German decrees on the Jewish populace inside the city itself, and on the growth in the number of Jews in the city, which was mostly as a result of the relocations that the Germans implemented in the surrounding *shtetls*, as well as of their special *akcje* to make a few *shtetls* “*judenrein*”, relocating some of the local residents to the Czestochowa Ghetto.

b. Natural Movement*

According to the statements of the *Judenrat*’s Statistics Bureau, it appears that 504 marriages were held in 1940 - 98 of them in the first half of the year, and 406 in the second half. The largest number of weddings were in December - 169. This phenomenon is explained by the fact that a rumour spread in the second half of 1940 to the effect that the rabbinate would have the right to officiate religious marriages only to 31st December 1940 and, after this deadline, the rights of the rabbinate would be suspended for two whole years⁸⁵.

Ages of those married in 1940

<u>Age</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>
Up to age 19	15	3
20-24	182	113
25-29	211	229
30-39	86	147
40 and above	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>
Total	504	504

This comes to about 16 marriages for every 1,000 residents. The same bureau indicates that, prior to the War, there were 7.8 marriages for every 1,000 residents⁸⁶.

According to the statements of the Town Hall’s Statistics Bureau, in 1939, there were 260 marriages, in 1940 - 500, in 1941 - 284 and in the first quarter of 1942 - 78.

As regards births, the Statistics Bureau of the *Judenrat* states that 351 children were born in 1940 - 170 boys and 181 girls. This comes to 10.7 per 1,000. The same bureau indicates that, in the years 1936-1938, there were 18.9 births for every 1,000 Jewish residents⁸⁷.

The Town Hall’s Statistics Bureau states that the births amongst the Jewish populace were: in 1939 - 339, in 1940 - 480, in 1941 - 281 and, in the first three months of 1942 - 66⁸⁸.

In the report on the mortality rate among the Jewish population, the *Judenrat*’s Statistics Bureau states that 260 men and 243 women died in 1940 - a total of 503 individuals, which

* [TN: The term “movement” is used here to denote development and fluctuation.]

⁸⁵ Statistics Book of the *Judenrat*, Vol. II, pp. 137, 141 and 142.

⁸⁶ Statistics Book of the *Judenrat*, Vol. II, pp. 137, 141 and 142.

⁸⁷ Statistics Book of the *Judenrat*, Vol. II, pp. 137, 141 and 142.

⁸⁸ Report by the Evidence Department of the municipal administration, № 47/I/891A.

comes to about 16 deaths per 1,000 residents. The remark is added that, compared with the years 1936-1938, the mortality rate grew by 5.7 per 1,000⁸⁹.

The Town Hall's Statistics Bureau, on its part, presents the following table on the mortality rate and natural growth of the Jewish populace:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mortality rate</u>	<u>Natural growth</u>
1939	298	+41
1940	537	+57
1941	958	-677
1942 (first quarter)	310	-244 ⁹⁰

The numbers given, both when dealing with the structure and with the natural movement, cannot be taken as absolute because, due to the specific conditions under which the Jewish populace was living, it is impossible that the aforementioned bureaus should have been able to collect all [the data] and record it with precision. From that which *was* reported, however, one sees that the births were progressively diminishing and the deaths – increasing. This already sheds a certain light on the conditions of Jewish life in Częstochowa, during the occupation years from 1939 to 22nd September 1942, when the German murderers began carrying out their verdict of “resettlement” upon the entire Jewish community in Częstochowa.

⁸⁹ Statistics Book of the Judenrat, Vol. II, p. 138.

⁹⁰ Statistics Book of the Judenrat, Vol. II, p. 138.