

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – *Written by Linda S Trapasso*

Jews Around the World

As I was at the Noam Katz concert in March, listening to him talk about his time with the Abayudaya Jews in Uganda, I began wondering about the Jewish communities around the world. Are there Jews in every country? Where are the largest and smallest communities? How many Jews are there around the world? I also was thinking about *Pesach* and how all the Jews in the world will be celebrating the holiday at the same time and in the same way.

On The Holocaust Explained's [Jewish Identity](#) pages, essentially four questions are answered:

- Is there a typical Jew? (no)
- Where in the world do Jews live? (everywhere)
- How are Jews identified? (you can't tell by looking at them)
- How do Jews live in the world? (as part of the surrounding community)

The Jewish Virtual Library has statistics for 2014 on its [Vital Statistics](#) page. There are lists of countries in different areas of the world, as well as a historic population list by year. You also can check Wikipedia's [Jewish Population by Country](#) page.



The Pew Research Center has two articles from 2015. One is on [Population Growth Projections for the Jews](#). In 2010, there were about 14 million Jews, and the projection for 2050 is 16 million, about the same number of Jews as before the Holocaust. Be sure to read the article to see how the Jewish population is projected to shift around the world between now and 2050.

In conjunction with this article is another one on [The Continuing Decline of Europe's Jewish Population](#). As of 2010, there were 1.4 million Jews in Europe, less half the number in 1945 (3.8 million) after the Holocaust.

More detailed information on the Jewish communities in Europe can be found at the [Communities](#) page at the European Jewish Congress web site. There's an interactive map and for each country, you can find details on history, demography, community, religious life, relations with Israel, and Jewish sites of interest.

As for the United States, do you know which are the most Jewish cities? Go to an [IBTimes article for August 2015](#) and see if you guessed correctly.

Be'chol Lashon (In Every Tongue) is a San Francisco-based organization that:

“grows and strengthens the Jewish people through ethnic, cultural, and racial inclusiveness. We advocate for the diversity that has characterized the Jewish people throughout history, and through contemporary forces including intermarriage, conversion and adoption. We foster an expanding Jewish community that embraces its differences.”

Its [Research & Community](#) page highlights Jewish communities in Africa, Asian, and India, as well as Spanish speaking Jews and Black Jews. For more detailed information on the Jewish communities in Africa, go over to the [African Jewish Communities](#) web site. Scroll down to access the Communities and Countries links on the left.

Jews really do live around the world. So no matter where you may find yourself, you'll likely find another Jew with whom you can connect. Happy travels!

