Claims Conference Center for the Study of Holocaust Survivor Demography
The Center is devoted to research and statistical analysis of data on
the Holocaust survivor population worldwide to provide reports of their
geographic distribution and demographic profile. The center is a nonpartisan
research center. www.claimscon.org
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

We are pleased to present this report assessing recent data concerning the demography of the New York population of survivors of Nazi persecution. Since 1951, the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) has negotiated for compensation and restitution on behalf of the survivors of the unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust, and has ensured that survivors receive pensions, one-time payments and, for the neediest among them, medical aid, home care and a variety of other life-sustaining services.

Our ongoing negotiations with Germany – beginning shortly after the end of the Second World War and continuing to this day – have enabled ever-greater numbers of Holocaust victims to become eligible for assistance. As a result of these efforts, in recent years, a great many Nazi victims who had been eligible for one-time payments in the 1980s are now able to receive additional support. These new programs, successfully negotiated with Germany since 2021, have offered the Claims Conference an opportunity to reestablish contact with many of these elderly survivors and to reassess the current survivor population, globally and in the State of New York.

We trust that the information in this report provides a fuller picture of the Holocaust survivors who have bravely sought to rebuild their lives in New York, and whom we consider it our sacred mission to assist.

Sincerely,

Gideon Taylor
President

Greg Schneider
Executive Vice President
We are grateful to all of our colleagues who contributed to this report. This includes Elvira Zilberbrand and Julia Belkin, whose patience and commitment to data processing and data quality was invaluable. We are also appreciative to colleagues Karen Heilig, Jamie Schaefer-Wilson, Shari Reig, Arie Bucheister, and Miriam Weiner, who provided feedback, insights, and helpful suggestions on earlier versions of the report.

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We are also grateful to a number of our external colleagues who provided helpful comments and perspectives on the report. These include: Hudi Falik, the Director of Holocaust Survivor Support Systems programs and services, Aliza Kelman, LMSW, Director of Client Services, Holocaust Survivor Support Services and Rabbi Moshe Wiener, Executive Director, Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island (JCCGCI); Shelley Rood Wernick, Managing Director, Center on Holocaust Survivor Care and Institute on Aging and Trauma Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA); Stuart C. Kaplan, Chief Executive Officer and Hanan Simhon, Vice President- Holocaust Survivor Program, Selfhelp Community Services Inc.; Kayleh Levy-Weller and Jake Brzowsky from UJA-Federation NY.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes data on Holocaust survivors residing in New York State. The report is based primarily on review and analysis of data collected internally by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference).

Since its founding in 1951, the Claims Conference has been dedicated to securing a small measure of justice for Holocaust survivors worldwide. Through a combination of negotiations, disbursing funds to individuals and organizations, and seeking the return of Jewish property lost during the Holocaust, the Claims Conference has established a number of compensation funds that provide direct payments to survivors, as well as grants to organizations that help address the needs of the aging population of survivors. The organization has conducted extensive outreach to identify and build relationships with survivors worldwide.

In New York State, the Claims Conference administers payments to survivors and provides grants to over 30 Jewish organizations who provide welfare services to survivors. Through their work and the development of reporting systems, they have amassed a large volume of data with which to describe the population. This report focuses on the most basic demographic characteristics of the population and the geographic distribution throughout New York State.

Key Findings:

— Statewide, there are approximately 14,700 Holocaust survivors in New York

— Survivors live in 35 of the 62 counties in New York

— The vast majority of the survivor population (over 70%) is in Brooklyn

— An additional 10% are in Queens while 6% are in Manhattan

— The median age of NY Holocaust survivors is 86 years

— 58% of survivors are aged 85 to 94

— 11% are aged 95 years and older

— 63% of survivors are women
INTRODUCTION

Since its founding in 1951, Claims Conference has secured recognition, compensation and restitution for survivors of the Holocaust. Historic agreements were signed in 1952, in Luxembourg, between the governments of Israel and Germany, and the Claims Conference, and in the decades that followed, Germany has paid more than $90 billion in indemnification to individuals for suffering and losses resulting from Nazi persecution. Over the years, ongoing Claims Conference negotiations with Germany have resulted in the creation of compensation programs which provide direct payments to survivors who were persecuted as Jews in Germany, Austria and other countries that were occupied by the Nazis or their Axis allies. Moreover, German funds negotiated by the Claims Conference support a wide range of vital and life-sustaining care for survivors in need around the world, including home health care, medicine, hot meals and friendly support networks. Perhaps most importantly, with the support of the Claims Conference and its partner social welfare agencies, Holocaust survivors are better able to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

New York State is home to the largest number of Holocaust survivors in the United States, with the overwhelming majority residing in Brooklyn. Some of the survivors in New York receive monthly pensions, while others have received or are eligible to receive one-time payments, from compensation programs negotiated by the Claims Conference. Eligibility for these compensation programs often qualifies the survivor for social welfare assistance from over 30 Jewish organizations in New York State that receive funding from the Claims Conference. Roughly 43% of the survivors in New York avail themselves of some welfare services funded by the Claims Conference.
SOURCES OF COMPENSATION

Although the Claims Conference has negotiated and administered a large number of agreements and Holocaust compensation programs throughout its 70-year history, today, Holocaust survivors in New York receive funds from four main pension programs — administered either by the Claims Conference itself, or by Germany or Austria — or from Claims Conference compensation programs, known collectively as the Hardship Fund, that provide a one-time payment.

Given the fact that it is not possible to simultaneously receive both a pension and a Hardship Fund one-time payment, the recipients of these different programs can be aggregated to obtain the total number of Holocaust survivors.

For the pension programs, eligible recipients must demonstrate on an annual basis that they are alive.

For one-time payment programs, the situation is more complex. Because the original one-time payment program — the Hardship Fund — was created in 1980, the Claims Conference does not have data as to which recipients remained alive over the 40 plus years during which Hardship Fund payments have been made.

However, data obtained from the Hardship Fund Supplemental Payment (in effect, a recent, additional Hardship Fund payment described below) has yielded reliable information as to the number of Hardship Fund recipients that were still alive in the period 2021-2022.

Because this more recent data provides updated information about a group of Nazi victims who had received payments several decades ago, but whose status thereafter generally was unknown until the 2021-2022 payment program, the Claims Conference is now better able to calculate the number of survivors in New York.

In addition, there is one unknown group – Holocaust survivors who never wanted to receive or somehow remain unaware of the existence of available compensation programs. The size of this group cannot be precisely measured but is estimated to be no more than an additional 5-10% of the total number of survivors living in New York State.

The compensation programs relevant to assessing the size of the current Holocaust survivor population residing in New York are as follows:

BEG (“Bundesentschädigungsgesetz”)

The West German Federal Indemnification Law enacted by the Government of West Germany implementing the 1952 Luxembourg Agreement with the Claims Conference. The BEG encompasses three separate German laws that were adopted in 1953, 1956 and 1965 (along with various amendments). Although referred to by the German government as Wiedergutmachung — literally meaning “making good again” — the Claims Conference has consistently rejected use of that term because Holocaust survivors, who lost families, livelihoods and their way of life, can never be “made good again” by any amount of material compensation. The deadlines for filing BEG claims have expired, thus, it is no longer possible for new applicants to receive compensation under this compensation program.
**Article 2 Fund**

From the earliest negotiations in 1952, West Germany recognized its obligations in principle to provide compensation to Holocaust survivors. In contrast, despite the Claims Conference’s many efforts, the Communist East German government flatly denied any such responsibility. In 1990, when West and East Germany were negotiating their unification agreement, the Claims Conference insisted that the newly unified Germany should meet its responsibility to survivors of the Holocaust who had previously received little or no compensation.

With the active support of the U.S. government, Claims Conference negotiations with the German government at the time resulted in a further German commitment to compensate certain survivors. Article 2 of the Implementation Agreement to the German Unification Treaty of October 3, 1990, provides, in pertinent part:

“The Federal Government is prepared, in continuation of the policy of the German Federal Republic, to enter into agreements with the Claims Conference for additional Fund arrangements in order to provide hardship payments to persecutees who thus far received no or only minimal compensation according to the legislative provisions of the German Federal Republic.”

Compensation is made in the form of quarterly payments.

Ongoing Claims Conference negotiations have resulted in an expansion of the Article 2 Fund eligibility criteria; for example, individuals who were subject to persecution in forced labor camps, in camps outside of Germany such as in Austria, Hungary, Croatia, and North Africa, and in former Communist countries, now qualify for Article 2 pensions.¹

**RSP (“Regional Specific Fund”)**

The RSP is a pension program negotiated in 2021, which provides direct payments to the following groups not previously eligible for pensions: those who survived the siege of Leningrad or the Axis occupation in Romania (without being incarcerated in ghetto or camps), as well as those who lived in hiding in France (for at least three months), with some access to the outside world.

**Austrian Government Pensions:**

Jewish Holocaust survivors from Austria generally receive a monthly payment from Austria. These pensions are provided to individuals entitled to payment under the General Social Insurance Law – i.e. technically they are pensions for time “worked” in Austria and paid under the Austrian social security system (even though an Austrian Jew may have fled the country as an infant in 1939).

**Hardship Fund and Hardship Fund Supplemental:**

As noted previously, the Hardship Fund, a one-time payment program, was originally negotiated by the Claims Conference in 1980. It provides compensation to those who had been excluded from the original BEG agreement, in particular those who were living in Soviet bloc countries in the 1950s and ‘60s. The fund continues to accept applications, and includes individuals who were persecuted as Jews and:

— Suffered deprivation of liberty (such as confinement in a ghetto or camp, forced...
labor, living in hiding or under false identity) and do not receive a pension; or
— Fled from the Nazi regime; or
— Fled between June 22, 1941 and January 27, 1944 from areas of the Soviet Union that were generally up to 100 kilometers from the most easterly advance of the German army (Wehrmacht) but were not later occupied by the Nazis; or
— Stayed in Leningrad at some time between September 1941 and January 1944 or fled from there during this period; or
— Suffered “restriction of liberty” as defined by the German government (such as being forced to wear the Star of David); or
— Were restricted in movement, lived under curfew, suffered compulsory registration with limitation of residence (e.g., résidence forcée) as in Morocco, etc.; or
— Suffered during the relevant period Nazi persecution in Algeria, such as loss of education, loss of property or economic, professional and social restrictions; or
— Were part of the Kindertransport; or
— Were a fetus at the time that their mother suffered persecution as described above.

These one-time payments are not available to those who currently receive payments from ongoing pension programs.\(^2\)

As a result of ongoing Claims Conference negotiations that seek to reduce or remove many of the barriers limiting survivors’ eligibility for these programs, over time, the criteria for receiving one-time payments have changed. Liberalizations have included removing income limits, as well as including survivors who suffered from persecution not previously recognized by Germany, such as those who lived under or fled from the Leningrad Siege, those who currently live in the countries of the former Soviet Union, and other new criteria as described above.\(^3\)

One of the Claims Conference’s most recent achievements was its negotiation of supplemental payments for those who had previously been entitled to a Hardship Fund payment or had received a one-time payment under Germany’s BEG program. These additional supplemental payments were approved for distribution in each of 2021, 2022, and 2023.

These relatively new supplemental payments, as noted previously, have been instrumental in understanding the current demography of Holocaust survivors. Prior to the inception of the program in 2021, the estimates of the number of living survivors (and their profiles) were derived from one-time payments under a program that began several decades ago, beginning in 1980. Recipients of these one-time payments, if they were not also receiving Claims Conference funded social welfare services (see below), often had no contact with the Claims Conference - in many cases, for years or even decades. Therefore, studies of survivor demographic data necessarily relied on estimates, taking into account general mortality rates. As a result of the new supplemental payment program that began in 2021, the Claims Conference has been able to communicate with hundreds of thousands of survivors around the world. This new information has been critical in enabling the Claims Conference to update its prior estimates and provide a current

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\(^2\) For full details of eligibility criteria see: [www.claimscon.org/hardship](http://www.claimscon.org/hardship)

\(^3\) For more information, see: [www.claimscon.org/kindertransport](http://www.claimscon.org/kindertransport)
snapshot of the size, and other demographic characteristics, of the survivor population.

**Welfare Services**

In addition to these individual compensation programs, many Holocaust survivors in New York also receive social welfare services from agencies funded by the Claims Conference. As part of the negotiations in 1990 resulting in the unification of East and West Germany, a new restitution law for property located within the boundaries of the former East Germany was established and the Claims Conference was designated as the “Successor Organization” for unclaimed Jewish-owned property located in what had been East Germany. Under this program, tens of thousands of owners and heirs filed claims and recovered assets. In addition, the Claims Conference recovered and sold – or received compensation for – thousands of unclaimed properties that, otherwise, would have reverted to the German government. The Claims Conference applied the sales proceeds and compensation for such properties to assist Holocaust victims. This program has enabled the Claims Conference to allocate more than $1 billion in grants, mainly to social welfare agencies. These grants support relief programs assisting the poorest and most vulnerable Holocaust survivors with desperately needed food, medicine, and home care to enable them to live their final years in dignity. In addition, as survivors age and their physical and psychological needs have deepened, it has become clear that most would rather stay in their own homes, but often lack sufficient resources. They also typically face unique health problems caused or worsened by their Holocaust experiences. Apart from the funds obtained from Successor Organization efforts, Claims Conference negotiations with Germany on behalf of survivors in need of home care, which initially led Germany in 2004 to commit 6 million Euros, has increased by many orders of magnitude. For 2023 alone, the Claims Conference has successfully negotiated approximately $850 million for survivors’ home health care needs.

Approximately 43% of survivors in the state of New York — all of whom receive or have received or qualify for Holocaust-related compensation — are receiving care that is subsidized by the Claims Conference. Additional detailed data is available for those who receive these services, which includes survivors who do not receive payments administered by the Claims Conference, such as those who receive pensions directly from the German government (e.g., under the BEG).

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4) See www.claimscon.org/successor

5) See Appendix [A] for allocations to social welfare agencies serving Holocaust survivors in New York.
The population represented in this report has a specific definition: any Jewish person currently residing in New York State who is verified as having been persecuted as a Jew in Germany, Austria or any other country occupied by the Nazis or their Axis allies. The definition takes into account the fact that dates of occupation varied by country. For those who had been in Germany, the dates are from January 30, 1933 – the date Adolf Hitler was sworn in as Chancellor – to May 1945, after Germany signed an agreement of unconditional surrender. For those in Poland, the date range is from September 1, 1939, when German troops invaded Poland, to January 1945, when virtually all of Poland within its pre-war borders had been liberated by Soviet forces. For a detailed list by country see Appendix B.

The current definition used by the Claims Conference in assessing eligibility for compensation programs is very different from the narrow criteria established in early negotiations with Germany and Austria, and includes virtually every Jewish individual affected by Nazi persecution — from those who were in concentration camps, forced labor camps and ghettos, to those who were forced to flee, or live in hiding, or who were in utero at the time their mothers were persecuted. It also includes the Jews who were persecuted in North Africa, including Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco.

To assist survivors with their applications, the Claims Conference employs historians and other researchers who help document each claimant’s persecution history.
The description of the survivor population in New York State presented in this report is based on a combination of data. The main source of data is derived from the administrative records of the Claims Conference. These records include:

— Individual characteristics in each compensation application
— Documentation of individual persecution histories
— Payments received from each compensation program administered by the Claims Conference (i.e., those other than the BEG and Austrian programs)
— Services received from social welfare agencies that provide home care, emergency assistance and other assistance

In addition to Claims Conference data, two other sources of data are used to describe the population. These are reports of the number of current BEG and Austrian pension recipients, provided annually by the German and Austrian governments, respectively. The most recent data for BEG recipients is as of December 31, 2021. The most recent data for Austrian pension recipients is as of December 1, 2022. Germany and Austria each report the number of pension recipients by country. These data are used to estimate the overall number of BEG and Austrian pension recipients in the state of New York (as described below). Individual level data, such as sex, age, and persecution history are not available from the data provided by the two European governments. Many of the BEG pensioners in NY, however, also receive services through local social welfare agencies. Demographic characteristics of these individuals are included in the NY population profile.
In New York State, there are an estimated 14,655 Holocaust survivors who receive compensation through pension programs administered by Germany, Austria, or the Claims Conference, or have received a one-time payment, or services in the past year (see Table 1). The number of Article 2 Fund and RSP (Regional Specific Fund) pension recipients are all those who received the most recent payment in the first Quarter of 2023. Hardship Fund recipients include all those who received the second Hardship Fund Supplemental payment. The number of BEG and Austrian pensions are estimated from the reports of current pension recipients issued by each government. Both Germany and Austria report the number of pensioners by country. The most recent report of the number of Austrian pension recipients, as of December 1, 2022, indicated a total of 1,242 in the United States. The most recent report of the number of BEG pension recipients was for the previous year, as of December 31, 2021, with a total of 3,180 in the United States. The present number is likely closer to 2,760 with assumptions of mortality in the past year. It is also assumed that the percentage of BEG/Austrian pension recipients in New York is likely similar to the percentage of Article 2 Fund pensioners in the United States who are in New York. This is approximately 40%. Applying this percentage to the reported and estimated number of BEG/Austrian pensioners in the United States yields estimates of just over 1,000 BEG pensioners and ~500 Austrian pensioners. Of the BEG pensioners, nearly half (n = 516) receive services funded by the Claims Conference.

Table 1: Holocaust Survivors in New York State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Administered By</th>
<th>Known</th>
<th>Estimated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article 2</td>
<td>Claims Conference</td>
<td>2,380</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Specific Pension: RSP</td>
<td>Claims Conference</td>
<td>259</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardship Fund</td>
<td>Claims Conference</td>
<td>10,439</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEG</td>
<td>German Government</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austrian</td>
<td>Austrian Government</td>
<td>497</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (known and estimated)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>14,655</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6) In addition, there were several dozen survivors within our compensation programs who are also eligible for Hardship Fund Supplemental payments.
Holocaust survivors in New York state range in age from 77 to 100+ years old, with the majority aged 85 years and older (see Table 2; seventy one percent of female Holocaust survivors are aged 85 years and older compared to 39% among all females aged 77 years and older in NY State. Among men, 67% of Holocaust survivors are aged 85 years and older, compared to 32% of all men 77 years and older in NY). Similar to national trends among older adults, Holocaust survivors are disproportionately female (63%) which is similar to the proportion female among all adults aged 77 years and older in New York (60%).

### Table 2. Percentage of New York Adults Age 77 and Older Versus Holocaust Survivors in New York State: Sex and Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New York Adults 77 years and older</th>
<th>Holocaust Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>63.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Adults</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 to 79 years</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 84 years</td>
<td>34.2</td>
<td>29.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 years and older</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>69.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 to 89 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 to 94 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 to 99 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 years and older</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Range (years)</strong></td>
<td>77 to 100+</td>
<td>77 to 100+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median (years)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex ratio (males age 77 years and older per 100 females age 77 years and older)</strong></td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 to 79 years</td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 84 years</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>28.4</td>
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<td>85 years and older</td>
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<td>85 to 89 years</td>
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<td>95 to 99 years</td>
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<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 years and older</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 to 79 years</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 84 years</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>31.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 years and older</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>67.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 to 89 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>39.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 to 94 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 to 99 years</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 years and older</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Holocaust Survivors in New York State

Survivor Demographics

63% of survivors are women
37% of survivors are men

86 years is the median age of survivors
58% of survivors are aged 85 - 94
11% are aged 95 years or older
Although there are Holocaust survivors in 35 of the 62 counties in New York, the majority (95%) are in eight counties in the NY metro area, including Kings (Brooklyn), Queens, New York (Manhattan), Bronx, Nassau, Richmond (Staten Island), Westchester and Suffolk (see Table 3), with an additional ~3% in Rockland and Monroe counties. The majority (71%) live in Brooklyn, with 10% in Queens and 6% in Manhattan.
### Table 3. Holocaust Survivors in New York State: Top 10 Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>New York Total Population</th>
<th>Holocaust Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kings County</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>70.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens County</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York County</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nassau County</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx County</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond County</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockland County</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westchester County</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk County</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Ninety-one percent of the Holocaust survivors living in New York State live in New York City.

Figure 2. Where Holocaust Survivors Live in New York City
INCREASING NEEDS

Holocaust survivors are among the oldest seniors in the state, with a median age of 86 years old and, over 30% aged 90 years and older. In addition, similar to general demographics of the older population in the U.S., there are more female Holocaust survivors than male survivors. Although some may live to 100+ years, it is known that costs of care increase for these older adults, especially in the last three years of life (cf. French, et al. 2017, https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2017.0174). This is seen in new requests for home care and related services — in the past three years there have been over 1,000 new requests per year. Of these new requests, 95% are survivors who are compensation recipients and known to the Claims Conference. Only roughly 5% had not applied for compensation previously based on initial intake.

Such increases in requests for assistance are indicative of the trends reported by agencies. Although the total number of Holocaust survivors is, unfortunately but obviously, decreasing, the needs among those who remain alive are increasing. Two factors are at play: (i) survivors who, heretofore did not need help, are aging and requiring more assistance; and (ii) those who are already receiving assistance are experiencing increasing disability which requires increasing assistance. The chart above shows the increasing allocations to NY state agencies over the past four years, reflecting the increasing needs. In addition, especially in these high inflation years, the cost of providing these services have also increased. This is why more resources are needed even though the population, in general, is decreasing.

Figure 3: CLAIMS CONFERENCE TOTAL SOCIAL WELFARE ALLOCATIONS 2020-2023
Please note: Numbers have been rounded for clarity.
SUMMARY

The Claims Conference has determined that there are 14,655 Holocaust survivors currently living in New York State, of whom 89% are receiving ongoing payments, or received payments in the past year directly from the Claims Conference. Further an additional 4%, although receiving compensation funds negotiated by the Claims Conference and administered by other entities or governments, are receiving Claims Conference funded services. Thus, 93% of documented Holocaust survivors in New York State were in direct communication with the Claims Conference during 2022.

Over the previous decades, and through 2022, the Claims Conference conducted extensive outreach to ensure that as many survivors as possible were made aware of and encouraged to apply for compensation. This outreach has included advertising (print and media), communication to communal organizations, survivor groups, synagogues, and the like. Notwithstanding these numerous and continuing outreach efforts, it is likely that there are survivors who did not seek Holocaust-related compensation or otherwise may never have been in contact with the Claims Conference. Moreover, the Claims Conference receives a small number of new applications for compensation or services each year. For example, over the past three years, there have been on average over 1,000 new requests for services through social welfare agencies in NY funded by the Claims Conference. The vast majority of these (95%) are from survivors already in the compensation programs, but there are others who are not. Thus, while it is unlikely that there are large numbers of survivors unknown to the Claims Conference, some data may not have been captured. Precisely how much greater than what is represented in the Claims Conference data is unknowable, absent a census of Holocaust survivors. As a result, we will assume that perhaps up to 5-10% of the Holocaust survivors in the state may not be known to us. Working with that assumption, that is, that as many as 5-10% of the survivor population is not currently represented in the Claims Conference data, would result in a total population of about 15,400 to almost 16,300 Holocaust survivors in New York state.

The survivor population, although dispersed throughout the state, is most heavily concentrated within Brooklyn. A large number (10%) are in Queens, and Manhattan (6%). In many counties, such as Niagara or Oneida, there are fewer than five survivors.

The present analysis of the demographic composition of the Holocaust survivor population in New York State does not include data on BEG or Austrian pensioners who do not receive services through agencies funded by the Claims Conference (which represents 7% of the population). These individuals might not want or need services, or might receive services from other sources. Because the German and Austrian governments only report numbers of those who receive pensions and do not share data on individual level characteristics, it is unknown how these pensioners might differ from other Holocaust survivors in New York, such as whether they might be older. At 7% of the total population, it is unlikely they would alter the results significantly.

As explained previously, some survivors are receiving ongoing payments and the Claims Conference is in contact with these individuals at least quarterly. Others have received payments or services during the
past year. Among those who might have received a one-time payment or services and are not in frequent contact with Claims Conference staff or with agencies that are funded by the Claims Conference, a LexisNexis search was conducted to search for death announcements. It is expected, given their advanced age, this population, unfortunately, will continue to decline. While new applications for compensation continue to be submitted, they are few in number (<0.1% of the total population) and would not change the overall landscape of the survivor population. Future work will include modeling of mortality rates and population projections, taking into account all of the factors affecting the population.

14,655 Holocaust survivors currently live in New York state
89% are receiving ongoing payments from the Claims Conference
4% are receiving other compensation
91% of Holocaust survivors in New York State live in one of the five boroughs of New York City
APPENDIX A: AGENCIES IN NEW YORK STATE THAT RECEIVE CLAIMS CONFERENCE FUNDING TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO NEW YORK HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

TOTAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2023: $118,248,131

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bikur Cholim of Rockland County</td>
<td>Monsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Card</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boro Park YM-YWHA</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Legal Services</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Improvement Council</td>
<td>Spring Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith and Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guardians of the Sick/Bikur Cholim Hesed Organization</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Community Council of Canarsie</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Community Council of the Rockaway Peninsula (JCCRP)</td>
<td>Far Rockaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights-Inwood</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Jewish Health System Hospice and Palliative Care</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nachas Health &amp; Family Network</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Legal Assistance Group</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesach Tikvah/Door of Hope</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockland Jewish Family Service</td>
<td>West Nyack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selfhelp Community Services</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Marion &amp; Aaron Gural JCC</td>
<td>Cedarhurst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westchester Jewish Community Services</td>
<td>White Plains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes Home Care

In addition, 10 organizations are funded for socialization programs such as Café Europa.
APPENDIX B: CLAIMS CONFERENCE JEWISH NAZI VICTIM DEFINITION
GERMAN GOVERNMENT APPROVED FOR HOME CARE

Last updated as of June 2018

A Jewish Nazi victim is considered to be any Jew who is verified as being persecuted as a Jew in Germany, Austria or any other country occupied by the Nazis or their Axis allies during the dates below or who emigrated from any of the countries below after the beginning dates and before liberation and suffered recognized persecution:

— Germany, between 30 January 1933–May 1945
— Austria, between July 1936–May 1945
— Czechoslovakia, between October 1938–liberation in May 1945
— Poland, between 1 September 1939–liberation in January 1945 (NOTE: the city of Lviv (also known as Lemberg), formerly in Poland–now Ukraine was liberated in July 1944)
— Algeria, between July 1940–November 1942
— Tunisia, between July 1940–May 1943
— Morocco, between July 1940–November 1942 (those in Spanish Morocco–Tangiers are not eligible)
— Denmark, between April 1940–May 1945
— Norway, between April 1940–May 1945
— Belgium, between May 1940–February 1945
— Netherlands, between May 1940–liberation in May 1945
— France, between May 1940–liberation in September 1944
— Luxembourg, between May 1940–February 1945
— Hungary, between April 1941–liberation in Budapest in January 1945 (certain parts of Western Hungary were liberated in March 1945)
— Yugoslavia, between April 1941–liberation in May 1945
— Greece, between April 1941–November 1944 (liberation of some islands such as Rhodes was in May 1945)
— Libya, between February 1941–February 1943 (for those who were in recognized camps only)
— Albania, between September 1943–November 1944
— Italy, between 9 September 1943–liberation in April 1945 (NOTE: Rome was liberated in June 1944–more southern parts of Italy were liberated even earlier.)
— Bulgaria, between April 1941–September 1944
— Romania, between April 1941–August 1944 (NOTE: Hungarian-occupied Transylvania, e.g. Satu Mare, was liberated in October 1944)
— Dutch East Indies, between November 1943–May 1945
— Former Soviet Union-occupied Western areas, which include:
  — Northern Caucasus, between August 1942–February 1943
  — Pskov Region, Russia, between June 1941–July 1944
  — Latvia and Lithuania, between June 1941–October 1944 (Kurland in Latvia was liberated in May 1945)
  — Estonia, between June 1941–October 1944
  — Belarus, between June 1941–July 1944
  — Moldova, between June 1941–August 1944
— Ukraine, between June 1941–liberation in March 1944 (although the Eastern part of Ukraine was liberated earlier, such as Kiev, in November 1943, the former Polish parts of Galicia were liberated later in summer 1944 (e.g. Lviv in July 1944) and the former Czechoslovakian Karpato-Ukraine was liberated in October 1944)
— Leningrad/St Petersburg, between June 1941–January 1944
THE DEFINITION OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR ALSO INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

— Jews who survived the Leningrad siege
— Jews who fled between June 22, 1941 and January 27, 1944 from areas of the Soviet Union that were up to 100 km from the most easterly advance of the German army (Wehrmacht) but were not later occupied by the Nazis. This covers cities such as Moscow and Stalingrad.
— Jews born in Shanghai between February 1933 and May 1945 with parents that fled from Nazi Germany after January 30, 1933 or fled the Nazis from a country that had been occupied by Nazi Germany or their Axis allies
— “Fetus cases”, i.e., persons who were in utero at the time their mothers were persecuted. The Nazi victim’s mother must meet the above criteria.

In cases where Nazi victim status is unclear, agencies should consult the Claims Conference which will refer the matter to an in-house expert for clarification.
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