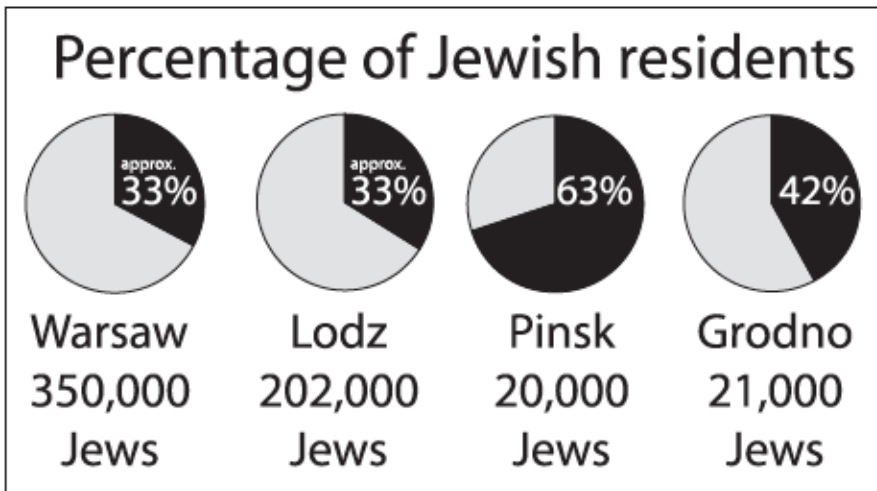


The Golden Age

- From 1919 to 1939, Jews accounted for about 10% of the population of Poland: in 1921 they were 2.8 million out of 27 million; in 1939 3.5 million out of 35 million.
- Jews constituted over 27% of Poland's city and town dwellers. Over one-quarter of the Jewish population was concentrated in the nation's six major cities.



- In Poland, 55% of all petty shopkeepers were Jewish.
- Twenty-seven percent of all actively working Polish Jews were petty merchants, the overwhelming majority self-employed, with family rather than hired help.
- Because Polish Jews were excluded from state employment, all but shut out of municipal jobs, and rarely school teachers on any level, they were overrepresented in the professions: Half of all physicians and lawyers in private practice (approx. 10,000) were Jewish.
- In the early twenties about a quarter of all students enrolled in Polish universities were Jewish. By the end of the decade, 40% of Poland's university graduates were Jewish.