A Timeline of Jewish Records in Congress Poland, Galician Poland and Prussian Poland

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JRI-Poland.org is the largest fully-searchable database of the Jewish vital records located in today’s Polish Archives. In collaboration with the Polish State Archives (PSA) JRI-Poland provides direct access to individual records for your family.

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 The following pages are timelines providing a historical overview of the Jewish Vital Records of Congress Poland, Eastern Galicia, and Prussia.

Overview of Jewish Records Availability for Congress Poland

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time Period | before 1808 | 1808-1825 | 1826-1867 | 1868-1915 | 1916-1942 | Post-War |
| Register Type | Magistrate, Notary & CensusRecords | Separate Jewish Vital Records | Separate Jewish Vital Records | Separate Jewish Vital Records, Some Kahal | Separate Jewish Vital Records, Some Kahal, Some Census | Civil Vital Records |
| Language | Latin & Polish | Polish | Polish | Russian | Polish | Polish |
| Location of Registers | Polish State Archives | Polish State Archives | Polish State Archives | Polish State Archives | TownHall Archives (USC) | TownHall Archives (USC) |
| On-Line Scan Status | Varies by Town; Newly Available | Varies by Archive | Varies by Archive | Varies by Archive | Generally Not Available Online | Generally Not Available Online |
| Indexing Status | Scattered Projects Developed | Well-Developed but not Easily Accessed | JRI-Poland offers "Click to View" Scan where Possible | JRI-Poland offers "Click to View" Scan where Possible | 250 Towns Indexed; See Area Coordinator | Handful of Towns Indexed; See Area Coordinator |
| Challenge | Very Few Surnames | Surnames not Mandated until 1821 | Extracting Parents' Names to Facilitate Tree Building | Written in Cyrillic Alphabet | Births Public after 100 years; M&D after 80 years | Jews not Separate; Often Changed Names; and, No Internal Indices |

An Overview of Jewish Vital Records from Galician Poland

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Years | up to 1772 | 1772-1783 | 1784-1788 | 1789-1876 | 1877-1918 | 1918-1938 | 1939-1942 |
| Galicia was part of | Kingdom of Poland | Austrian Empire | Republic of Poland |
| Responsibility to Maintain | No Civil Records  | Catholic Church | Jewish Community | Jewish Community on behalf of Austrian or Polish Government |
| Language |  |  | Latin | Mainly Polish | Polish or German | Polish |
| For Birth Records in Archives in Poland including AGAD |
| Location of Registers |  |  | None found in Catholic Registers | AGAD, Warsaw  | USC Warsaw  |
| JRI-Poland Indexing |  |  |  | AGAD Polish State Archives Project  | Not Available for Indexing |
| For Marriage and Death Records in Archives in Poland including AGAD |
| Location of Registers |  |  | None found in Catholic Registers | AGAD, Warsaw  | USC Warsaw |
| JRI-Poland Indexing |  |  |  | AGAD Polish State Archives Project  | Not Available for Indexing |
| For All Vital Records in Archives in Ukraine |
|  |  |  | None found in Catholic Registers | Ukraine State Archive in Lviv FamilySearch has microfilmed and digitized Gesher Galicia is indexing |
| To determine whether records exist and where they can be located | Use the Archive Database at Miriam Weiner's Routes to Roots Foundation website *http://www.rtrfoundation.org/* |
| To check the availability from AGAD Archives and status of indexing | Check with AGAD Archive Coordinator AGAD@jri-poland.org |
| Glossary |
| AGAD, Archiwum Glowne Akt Dawnych (Central Archive of Historical Records) in Warsaw |
| USC, Urzad Stanu Cywilnego (Civil Registry Office) in Warsaw Houses births up to 100 years old and marriages/deaths up to 80 years old |

Overview of Jewish Records Availability for Prussian Poland

