



CENTRAL BUREAU
OF STATISTICS



Israel

IN FIGURES

2009



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INTRODUCTION

The Central Bureau of Statistics [CBS] is pleased to present the public with the booklet "Israel in Figures", which covers a broad range of topics related to Israeli demography, society, and economy.

The booklet provides a brief summary of data on Israel. In this limited format, many topics could not be covered.

The data presented here are updated to 2008, unless otherwise stated. Some of the figures are rounded.

For more comprehensive information about the country, including detailed definitions and explanations related to a broad range of topics, please refer to the Statistical Abstract of Israel No. 60, 2009 and the CBS website (www.cbs.gov.il) and other CBS publications that deal specifically with the topic in question.

Jerusalem 2009

Prof. Shlomo Yitzhaki



The Government Statistician

ABOUT THE CBS

The CBS is an independent unit affiliated with the Prime Minister's Office, and operates in accordance with Statistical Order (new version) 1972.

The goal of the CBS is to provide policymakers and the public with accurate, current statistical information on developments and activities in the State of Israel. The CBS provides data to international organizations with whom Israel maintains contractual and other agreements.

The clientele of the CBS include the Knesset, the government, local authorities, research institutions, businesses, and the general public.

The work of the CBS is based on recognition of the need for reliability, and the importance of maintaining the privacy of individuals. The CBS makes decisions based on professional considerations.

The CBS collects, processes, and publishes thousands of statistical series which describe demographic and social developments (e.g., related to population, education, labour and wages, standard of living, consumption, etc.). The economic areas dealt with by the CBS focus on developments in various industries and changes in national accounts, trade and commodities, the country's international balance of payments, balance of energy, etc.

The CBS strictly maintains international standards accepted in most parts of the world – an approach that facilitates comparison of data published in different countries.

The vision of the CBS is to create a database and develop tools to provide rapid, reliable responses to queries related to every area in which it produces information.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL



Prickly sage

Declaration of Independence: 14 May 1948

Flag: The colours blue and white were chosen according to the colours of the 'Tallit' – the Jewish prayer shawl. The Star of David appearing in the center of the flag has been a Jewish symbol for hundreds of years.

State emblem: The official emblem of the State of Israel is the Menorah – a candelabrum, whose shape is derived from the sage plant (Moria). In certain species of the plant, the leaves branch out in a way that resembles the candelabrum that stood in the Holy Temple in ancient Jerusalem. The Menora appearing in the state emblem is similar to the one carved on the Arch of Titus in Rome. It is flanked by two olive branches that symbolize Israel's longing for peace.

Official languages: Hebrew, Arabic.

Currency: The Israeli currency is the New Israeli Sheqel (NIS), which is divided into 100 agorot (as of January 1986).

Capital: Jerusalem.

The Proclamation of Independence (selected excerpts):

"...The State of Israel will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions... We extend our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land..."

Governing system: democratic - parliamentary.

Legislative branch is the Knesset. The Knesset is the parliament of the State of Israel. It is located in Jerusalem, and has 120 members. The present Knesset is the 18th in number, and the elections for this Knesset were held on 10 February 2009.

The Knesset has parliamentary sovereignty, and enacts legislation on every issue.

Executive branch includes the government and government ministries.

The judiciary includes the system of courts: the Supreme Court, the District Court, Magistrates Court, Court for Local Affairs, Religious Court, Traffic Court, Labour Court, Juvenile Court, etc.

President: The first President: Dr. Chaim Weizmann, was sworn into office on 16 February 1949. The President is elected by the Knesset every seven years, and his main duties are representational. The incumbent President: Shimon Peres, was sworn into office on 13 June 2007.

The Prime Minister: The first Prime Minister was David Ben-Gurion. The first government was established on 8 March 1949. The incumbent Prime Minister: Binyamin Netanyahu, has been in office since 31 March 2009.

Local authorities: Municipalities, local councils, and regional councils. These authorities have governmental and administrative powers in their areas of jurisdiction, and are responsible for provision of services to their constituencies.

Location: The State of Israel is located on the southwest tip of the Asian continent, on the eastern basin of the Mediterranean Sea. The State of Israel lies at a latitude between 29° and the 33° north of the Equator.

Area of the country: 22,072 sq. km. (as of 1967 including East Jerusalem and as of 1982 including the Golan Heights).

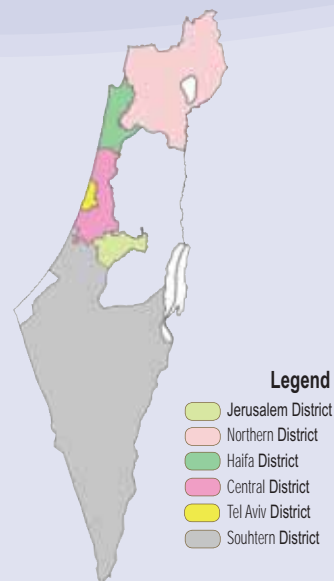
Land area: 21,643 sq. km.

Area of lakes: 429 km. (Sea of Galilee – 164 sq. km., the Dead Sea-265 sq. km.)

Land border: Total length of border: 857 km.

Coastline: Length of Mediterranean Sea Coast 194 km.
Length of Red Sea Coast about 12 km.

The State of Israel, by District



Area, Population and Population Density, by District, 2008

| District | Area (sq. km.) | Population ⁽¹⁾ | Population Density (persons per sq. km.) |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Total | 22,072⁽²⁾ | 7,374,000 | 320.9 |
| | 100.0% | 100.0% | |
| Jerusalem | 3.0% | 12.3% | 1,394.1 |
| Northern | 21.0% | 16.8% | 277.7 |
| Haifa | 3.9% | 11.9% | 1,016.2 |
| Central | 5.9% | 24.0% | 1,368.0 |
| Tel Aviv | 0.8% | 16.6% | 7,134.0 |
| Southern | 65.5% | 14.3% | 74.3 |

⁽¹⁾ 3.9% of the total population lives in Jewish localities in the Judea and Samaria area.

⁽²⁾ Incl. area of lakes.

Lowest point: The Dead Sea, 421 m. below sea level.

Highest point: Mount Hermon, 2,224 m.

The only river in Israel: The Jordan River, approximately 250 km.

Main streams: Alexander, Besor, Hadera, Yarqon, Sa'ar, Qishon, and Soreq.

Natural resources:

Raw materials for construction of buildings and roads: gravel and stone, sand, kurkar, clay, limestone, gypsum, and tuff.

Raw materials for manufacturing: potash, bromine, magnesium, salt, phosphates, sand, clay, and limestone.

Energy sources: natural gas, oil shales.



Large Cities (over 100,000 residents), (end of 2008):

| | | Number of residents |
|----|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Jerusalem | 763,600 |
| 2 | Tel Aviv-Yafo | 392,500 |
| 3 | Haifa | 264,800 |
| 4 | Rishon LeZiyyon | 226,100 |
| 5 | Ashdod | 209,200 |
| 6 | Petah Tiqwa | 193,900 |
| 7 | Be'er Sheva | 187,200 |
| 8 | Netanya | 179,000 |
| 9 | Holon | 170,600 |
| 10 | Bene Beraq | 153,300 |
| 11 | Ramat Gan | 134,300 |
| 12 | Bat Yam | 128,900 |
| 13 | Ashqelon | 110,400 |
| 14 | Rehovot | 108,300 |

KEY FIGURES

| Population | |
|--|-----------|
| | 2008 |
| Population-Total (end of year) | 7,374,000 |
| Males | 3,647,100 |
| Females | 3,726,900 |
| Selected age groups | |
| 0-14 | 28.4% |
| 65+ | 9.7% |
| Percentage of annual population growth | 1.8% |
| Thereof: Percentage of natural increase out of the total | 90.2% |
| Urban population | 91.6% |
| Population density: (persons per km ²) | 320.9 |

| Households | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| | 2008 |
| No. of households -Total | 2,087,400 |
| Average size of household | 3.33 |
| One-person households | 17.8% |

| Families | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| | 2008 |
| Number of families | 1,728,700 |
| Average size of family | 3.73 |

| Vital Statistics | |
|--|---------|
| | 2008 |
| Crude marriage rate (2007) | 6.5 |
| Median marriage age (1st marriage) - grooms (2007) | 27.3 |
| Median marriage age (1st marriage) - brides (2007) | 24.3 |
| Live births | 156,923 |
| Crude birth rate | 21.5 |
| Total fertility rate | 2.96 |
| Deaths | 39,255 |
| Crude mortality rate | 5.4 |
| Infant mortality rate | 3.8 |
| Life expectancy - males | 79.1 |
| Life expectancy - females | 83.0 |

| Education | |
|--|-----------|
| | 2007/08 |
| Pupils and students - Total | 2,193,038 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| Kindergartens | 20.3% |
| Primary education | 38.4% |
| Post-primary (intermediate and secondary) | 27.7% |
| Schools for apprentices under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor | 0.6% |
| Non-academic post-secondary institutions | 2.7% |
| Non-university higher education institutions | 4.8% |
| Universities | 5.5% |
| Teaching staff - total ¹ | 128,064 |
| Pre-primary education (kindergarten teachers in formal education) | 12,310 |
| Primary education | 64,594 |
| Intermediate schools | 23,358 |
| Secondary schools | 40,501 |

¹ A teacher who teaches at more than one level is counted separately at each level, but only once in the total.

| Health Services | |
|---|------------|
| | 2008 |
| Beds in hospitals | 42,178 |
| Thereof: Beds for general care | 14,582 |
| Beds per 1,000 residents | 5.7 |
| Thereof: Percentage of beds for general care | 2.0 |
| Hospitalization days | 14,304,200 |
| Thereof: General hospitalization days | 5,200,500 |
| Hospitalization days per 1,000 residents | 1,957 |
| Thereof: Rate of general hospitalization | 711.6 |
| Doctors (up to age 65) ⁽¹⁾ | 25,542 |
| Doctors (up to age 65) per 1,000 residents ⁽¹⁾ | 3.46 |

¹ Licensed doctors (not necessarily practicing medicine)

| Law and Public Order | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| | 2008 |
| Judges in Supreme Court | 12 |
| Judges in District Courts | 132 |
| Judges in Magistrates' Courts | 382 |
| Judges in Labour Tribunals | 55 |
| Judges in Rabbinical Courts | 92 |
| Licensed lawyers | 40,652 |
| Israel Police | 27,302 |
| Prison service | 7,851 |
| Files opened by the police | 419,837 |

| Labour and Wages | |
|---|-----------|
| | 2008 |
| Population aged 15+ - Total | 5,232,900 |
| Civilian labour force | 2,957,100 |
| Civilian labour force out of aged 15+ | 56.5% |
| Males | 62.0% |
| Females | 51.3% |
| Employed out of civilian labour force | 93.9% |
| Unemployed out of civilian labour force | 6.1% |
| Average wage per employee job (NIS) | 8,075 |
| Recipients of Pensions and Allowances from the National Insurance Institute | |
| | 2008 |
| Old age and survivors | 740,689 |
| Maternity grant | 151,991 |
| Maternity allowance | 93,630 |
| Child allowance | 2,372,515 |
| Income support benefits (families) | 111,809 |
| Unemployment benefits | 48,219 |

| Standard of Living | |
|---|-----------------------|
| | 2007 |
| Total monthly consumption expenditure per household (NIS) | 11,584 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| Food | 16.9% |
| Housing | 22.3% |
| Dwelling and household maintenance | 10.1% |
| Furniture and household equipment | 3.9% |
| Clothing and footwear | 3.4% |
| Health | 5.3% |
| Education, culture and entertainment | 13.3% |
| Transport and communications | 20.1% |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 4.7% |
| Gross monthly money income per household (NIS) | 12,935 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| From work | 77.9% |
| From capital | 3.1% |
| From pension and provident funds | 7.0% |
| From allowances and assistance | 12.0% |
| Ownership of durable goods per household (percentage of all households) | אחוז מסך כל משקי הבית |
| Air conditioner | 70.5% |
| Clothes dryer | 37.8% |
| Computer | 68.9% |
| Internet connection | 59.3% |
| Dishwasher | 33.3% |
| Freezer | 18.7% |
| Two cars or more | 16.5% |

| National Economy | |
|---|--------|
| | 2008 |
| Gross Domestic Product (percentage of change compared with previous year) | 4.0 |
| Gross Domestic Product - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) - billions of \$ | 201.9 |
| Gross Domestic Product per capita - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) \$ | 27,622 |
| Fixed capital formation (% of GDP) | 18.0 |
| Government consumption (% of GDP) | 24.8 |
| Government liabilities (% of GDP) | 75.4 |

| Balance of Payments | |
|--|---------|
| | 2008 |
| Current account (% of GDP) | 1.05 |
| Excl. direct defence imports (% of GDP) | 2.3 |
| Israel's foreign liabilities (millions of \$) | 185,355 |
| Israel's foreign assets (millions of \$) | 189,323 |
| Imports of goods and services (millions of \$) | 84,313 |
| Exports of goods and services (millions of \$) | 81,250 |

| Energy | |
|--|------------|
| | 2008 |
| Total final consumption of energy (tons of oil equivalent) | 13,324,700 |
| Final consumption of electricity (tons of oil equivalent) | 4,198,600 |
| Thereof: household consumption of electricity (tons of oil equivalent) | 1,329 |

| Prices | |
|---|--|
| | 2008 (% change compared with previous year) |
| Consumer Price Index | 3.8 |
| Price Index of Inputs in Residential Building | 3.3 |
| Wholesale Price Index of Manufacturing Output | -4.4 |

| Construction | |
|---|-----------|
| | 2008 |
| Area of building completed (sq. m.) | 7,141,000 |
| Area of building begun (sq. m.) | 8,123,000 |
| No. of dwellings - building completed | 30,346 |
| No. of dwellings - building begun | 31,449 |
| Construction and widening of roads - completed (km.) (2007) | 439 |
| Construction and widening of roads - begun (km.) (2007) | 437 |

| Agriculture | |
|---|-------|
| | 2008 |
| Agricultural area (thousand dunams) | 2,901 |
| Total agricultural output (NIS billion) | 25.1 |

| Manufacturing | |
|--|--|
| | 2008 (% change compared with previous year) |
| Index of Manufacturing Production - total (excl. diamonds) | 7.4 |
| Mining and quarrying | 0.6 |
| Food, beverages and tobacco | -1.4 |
| Textiles and wearing apparel | -3.5 |
| Leather and leather products | -0.5 |
| Wood and wood products, and furniture | 2.4 |
| Paper and paper products | -0.4 |
| Printing and publishing | -3.0 |
| Rubber and plastic | 7.1 |
| Chemicals and petroleum | 32.6 |
| Non-metallic mineral products | -1.7 |
| Basic metal | -6.7 |
| Metal products | 1.3 |
| Machinery | 16.0 |
| Electrical and electronic equipment | 3.0 |
| Transport equipment | 13.3 |
| Miscellaneous | -1.2 |

| Transport | |
|--|------------|
| | 2008 |
| Licensed drivers | 3,363,755 |
| Kilometers traveled - millions of kilometers a year | 47,169 |
| Private vehicles | 1,875,765 |
| Trucks and commercial vehicles | 358,673 |
| Buses | 13,595 |
| Railways: passengers | 35,135,600 |
| Freight (tons) | 6,836,500 |
| Air transport: passengers | 11,134,100 |
| Planes landed | 38,362 |
| Road Accidents | |
| Road accidents with casualties (excl. Judea and Samaria) | 16,531 |
| Casualties in road accidents (excl. Judea and Samaria) | 31,811 |
| Thereof: killed (excl. Judea and Samaria) | 412 |

| Post | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| | 2006 |
| Total mail items | 735,000,000 |
| Parcels | 1,640,000 |
| Communications | |
| | 2008 |
| Direct subscribers' lines | 3,085,000 |
| Public telephones | 12,500 |

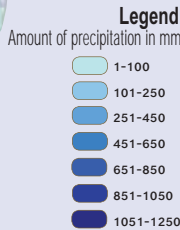
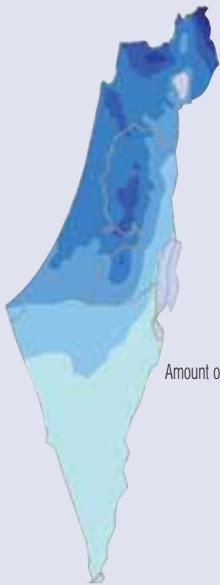
| Tourism and Tourist Hotels | |
|--|------------|
| | 2008 |
| Departures of Israelis | 4,206,900 |
| Returns of Israelis | 4,197,800 |
| Visitor arrivals | 3,034,300 |
| Tourist hotels | 335 |
| Rooms in tourist hotels | 47,501 |
| Person-nights in tourist hotels | 21,595,500 |
| Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights | 47.2% |
| Room occupancy | 65.9% |



Detail from the Knesset menorah sculptor - Benno Elkan

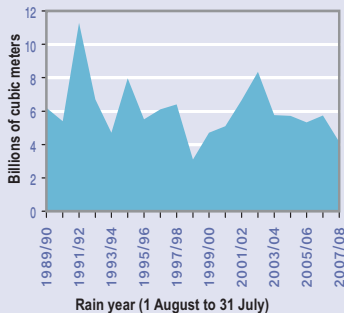
CLIMATE

Amount of Precipitation in mm. Multi-Annual Average 1961-1990



Source of data: The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, based on data from the Meteorological Service.

Volume of Precipitation



Volume of precipitation: The total amount of rain that fell during every rain year in the area of the State of Israel (excluding Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area)(billions of cubic meters). A substantial portion of the precipitation evaporates or flows into the sea, and only a small amount reaches the ground water and upper aquifers.

Source: The Meteorological Service

Source: The Meteorological Service

Israel is on a "climatic crossroad", which is a transitional area between a temperate and arid climate. The southern and eastern areas of Israel are characterized by an arid climate, while the other areas are characterized by a Mediterranean climate. Due to this climatic formation, there is high variability in the amount of precipitation from year to year, and in the different areas of the country.

Multi-annual averages 1981-2000

| Station | Temperatures C° | | | | No. of days per year with temperature | | | |
|------------|---|---------|---------|------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------|--|
| | Monthly average min/max daily temperature | | | | Above 30° | | Below 10° | |
| | January | | July | | | | | |
| Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum | | | | | |
| Jerusalem | 6.4 | 11.8 | 19.4 | 29.0 | 44 | 116 | | |
| Tel Aviv | 9.6 | 17.5 | 23.0 | 29.4 | 41 | 52 | | |
| Haifa | 8.9 | 17.0 | 23.0 | 31.1 | 87 | 67 | | |
| Zefat | 4.5 | 9.4 | 18.8 | 29.8 | 51 | 146 | | |
| Beer-Sheva | 7.5 | 16.7 | 20.5 | 32.7 | 126 | 102 | | |
| Elat | 9.6 | 20.8 | 25.9 | 39.9 | 202 | 44 | | |

| Precipitation: Multi - annual averages 1971-2000 | | |
|--|--------------------|--|
| | Precipitation (mm) | No. of rain-days per year (with more than 1 mm. per day) |
| Jerusalem | 554 | 45 |
| Tel Aviv | 530 | 45 |
| Haifa | 538 | 50 |
| Zefat | 682 | 58 |
| Be'er Sheva | 204 | 27 |
| Elat | 29 | 5 |



The greatest amount of rain in the 2007/08 rain-year was recorded at Mizpe Horeshim - 661.4 mm.

The least amount of rain in the 2007/08 rain-year was recorded in Elat - 2.4 mm.

Did you know?

The highest temperature ever recorded in Israel was 54° C. This temperature was recorded in Tirat Zvi on 21 June 1942.

The lowest temperature ever recorded in Israel was -13.7° C. This temperature was recorded in the Bet Netofa Valley on 7 February 1950.

ENVIRONMENT



Environment deals with the interactions among humans, flora, fauna, and their physical surroundings.

Intensive human intervention on earth has changed environmental conditions and caused environmental hazards such as: air pollution, water and ground pollution, and accumulation of toxic waste.

Air pollution is a process in which matter generated by human activity and natural sources penetrates the atmosphere in hazardous concentration. The main sources of air pollution are: fuel combustion from motor vehicles and industries, industrial processes such as production of cement and landfills that emit gases produced by the decomposition of organic matter. These sources cause greenhouse gases to be emitted, which lead to global warming and to climate changes.

Israel faces difficult challenges related to the amount and quality of drinking water and water that is available for use in agriculture and industry. There are various indices for testing water quality, including concentrations of nitrates, turbidity, and salinity (chlorides). In Israel, the permitted standard of chlorides in drinking water is 600 mg. per liter. By contrast, the standard permitted by the World Health Organization is only 250 mg. per liter.

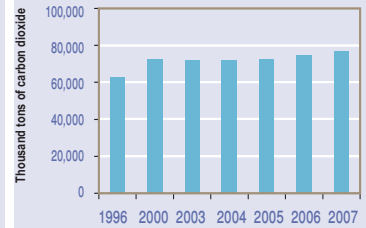
Hazardous waste is a by-product of chemical/industrial processes and of agricultural or commercial activity, etc.. Exposure to hazardous waste can cause severe damage and even pose a potential threat to human, animal, and plant life.

Exposure to hazardous waste entails immediate as well as long-term hazard as a result of toxic accumulation in fauna, flora, and ground water.

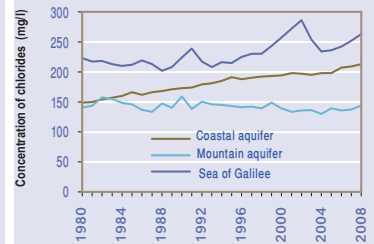
Did you know?

In 2008, about 4.5 million tons of domestic and commercial solid waste were collected.

Emission of Greenhouse Gases (in units equivalent to carbon dioxide)

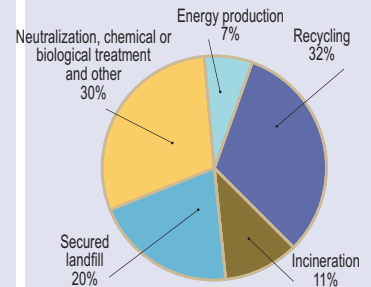


Average Salinity in the Water Sources



Source: The Hydrological Service and the Kinneret Limnological Laboratory and the Environmental Services Company Ltd.

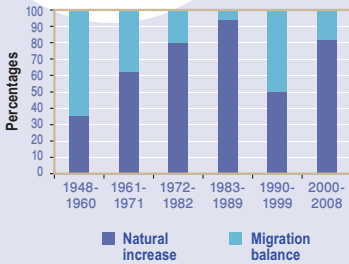
Methods for Treatment of Hazardous Waste 2006



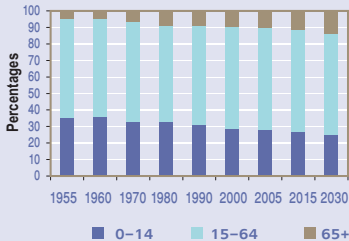
Source: Ministry of the Environment and the Environmental Services Company Ltd.

POPULATION

Sources of Population Growth



Population and Population Projections, by Age



Did you know?

42% of all Jews in the world live in Israel.

About one-tenth of the Israeli population (about 715,300 persons) are 65 or older. 57% of them are women.

On 31 December 2008, the population of Israel numbered about 7.4 million inhabitants. The population of Israel comprises the following groups:

Jews and Others 79.8%

Total 100.0%
Jews 94.6%
Non-Arab Christians 0.5%
Not classified by religion 4.9%

Arabs 20.2%

Total 100.0%
Moslems 83.4%
Arab-Christians 8.3%
Druze 8.2%



The population data are based on the last Census of Population and Housing (1995), and on records of vital statistics in the Population Register (births, deaths, changes of address, marriages, divorces, etc).

Population growth derives from natural increase (births less deaths) and the migration balance (immigration less emigration).

The share of immigration in population growth has changed over the years. The large waves of immigration were between 1948 and 1951 (about 688,000 immigrants), and in the 1990s (about one million immigrants).

Population of Israel, 2008 (End of Year)

| | Total | Jews and Others | | Arabs |
|--|-----------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| | | Total | Thereof: Jews | |
| Population - Total | 7,374,000 | 5,886,300 | 5,569,200 | 1,487,600 |
| Males | 3,647,100 | 2,890,400 | 2,742,700 | 756,700 |
| Females | 3,726,900 | 2,996,000 | 2,826,600 | 730,900 |
| Percent of population growth | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.6 |
| Percent of population aged 0-18 | 34.9 | 31.6 | 32.0 | 47.6 |
| Percent of population aged 19-64 | 55.4 | 57.1 | 56.5 | 48.9 |
| Percent of population aged 65+ | 9.7 | 11.3 | 11.5 | 3.5 |
| Percent of urban population (localities with 2,000 residents and more) | 91.6 | 91.0 | 90.7 | 94.1 |
| Percent of population: | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Jerusalem district | 12.3 | 10.7 | 11.1 | 18.7 |
| Northern district | 16.8 | 9.9 | 9.7 | 44.5 |
| Haifa district | 11.9 | 11.3 | 11.1 | 14.4 |
| Central district | 24.0 | 27.6 | 28.0 | 9.7 |
| Tel Aviv district | 16.6 | 20.5 | 20.6 | 1.2 |
| Southern district | 14.3 | 15.0 | 14.5 | 11.5 |
| Judea and Samaria Area (Jewish localities) | 3.9 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 0.0 |

VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics include births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. The data are obtained from forms that the various authorities are required by law to fill out for the purpose of updating the Population Register (notification of live birth, notification of death, marriage certificate, or divorce certificate).



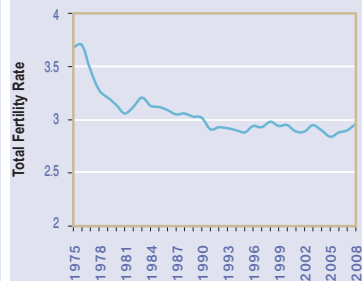
Live Births, Deaths, Life Expectancy, Marriages and Divorces

| | Total | Jews and Others | | Arabs (1) |
|---|---------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| | | Total | Thereof: Jews | |
| Live births (in 2008) | 156,923 | 117,473 | 112,803 | 39,450 |
| Crude birth rate (births per 1,000 persons in the average population) | 21.5 | 20.1 | 20.4 | 26.9 |
| Total fertility rate (average number of children a woman is expected to bear during her lifetime) | 2.96 | 2.79 | 2.88 | 3.57 |
| Deaths (in 2008) | 39,255 | 35,271 | 34,075 | 3,984 |
| Crude mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 persons in the average population) | 5.4 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 2.7 |
| Infant mortality rate (infant mortality per 1,000 live births) | 3.8 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 6.5 |
| Life Expectancy at Birth (in 2008) | | | | |
| Males | 79.1 | 79.6 | 79.9 | 75.9 |
| Females | 83.0 | 83.4 | 83.3 | 79.7 |
| Couples who married (in 2007) | 46,448 | .. | 35,504 | 9,235 |
| Crude marriage rate (marriages per 1,000 persons in the average population) | 6.5 | .. | 6.5 | 7.8 |
| Median marriage age (1st marriage) | | | | |
| Males | 27.3 | .. | 27.6 | 26.0 |
| Females | 24.3 | .. | 25.3 | 20.7 |
| Couples who divorced (in 2007) | 13,105 | .. | 10,996 | 1,225 |
| Crude divorce rate (divorces per 1,000 persons in the average population) | 1.8 | .. | 2.0 | 1.0 |

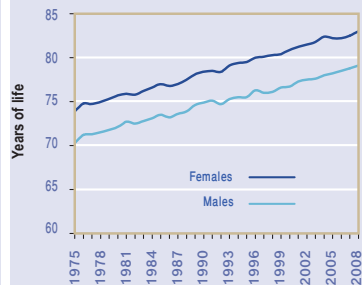
.. Unknown data

(1) The data on marriage and divorce relate to Moslems only.

Total Fertility Rate



Life Expectancy at Birth, by Sex



HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

Did you know?

A **household** is defined as one person or a group of persons living together in one dwelling on a permanent basis most of the week, who have a common expense budget for food. A household may include persons who are not a family.

A **family** is defined as two persons or more who share the same household and are usually related to one another as husband and wife, as an unmarried couple, or as a parent and child. The most common type of family is a couple with children (63%).

Today, the structure of families and households is more diverse than in the past, as a result of changing demographic, social, and economic trends in society.

The structure of the family and household is influenced by a variety of factors, some of which are presented below:

In recent years, more young people have been delaying marriage. Some live alone or with a roommate and others cohabit with their partners.

Age at marriage and age at birth of first child have risen, as have divorce rates. Consequently, there has been an increase in the number of single-parent families.

Increased life expectancy led to a rise in the proportion of elderly persons in the population, many of whom live alone.

Additionally, the population of immigrants from the former USSR consists of a relatively high percentage of single-parent families.

About 8% of all children up to age 17 live with a single parent, and about 7% of all children in that age group live with their mother.

Households, by Type of Household, 2008

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Total | 2,087,400 |
| Total (percentages) | 100.0 |
| Family households | 80.8 |
| One family | 76.2 |
| One family with others | 2.8 |
| Two or more families | 1.8 |
| Non-family households | 19.2 |
| Thereof: One-person households | 17.8 |

Families, by Type of Family, 2008

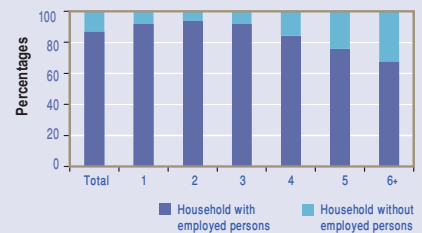
| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total | 1,728,700 |
| Total (percentages) | 100.0 |
| Thereof: | |
| Couple without children | 23.7 |
| Couple with children | 63.3 |
| The youngest child aged: up to 17 | 50.0 |
| The youngest child aged: 18 and over | 13.3 |
| Single parent | 12.2 |
| The youngest child aged: up to 17 | 6.0 |
| The youngest child aged: 18 and over | 6.2 |



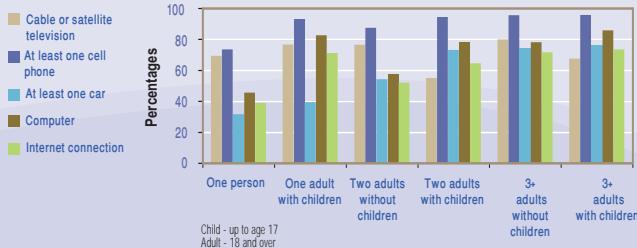
The number of households in 2008 was 2,087,400. Average household size is 3.33. 76% of the households had at least one employed person. 1,730,800 households had at least one person of working age – between 15 and 60 (women) or 65 (men). Of those households, 88% are households with employed persons. In 77.6% of the single-parent households (with children aged 0-17) there was at least one employed person.

Source of the data: Labour Force Survey

Households with Children, by Labour Force Characteristics of Household Members and Number of Children in the Household, 2008



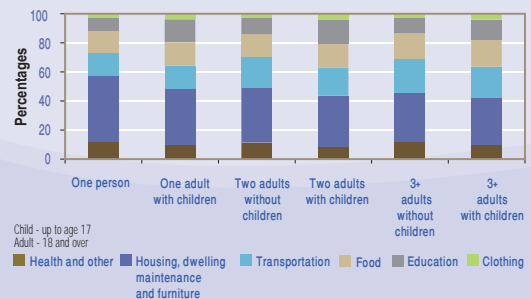
Ownership of Durable Goods, by Type of Household, 2007



Child - up to age 17
Adult - 18 and over

Source of the data: Household Expenditure Survey.

Monthly Consumption Expenditure, by Type of Household, 2007



Child - up to age 17
Adult - 18 and over

SOCIETY

The Social Survey examines the welfare of persons aged 20 and over. It includes questions on various areas of life such as employment, security, social involvement, level of religiosity, health, education, family relationships, financial situation, leisure, and housing.

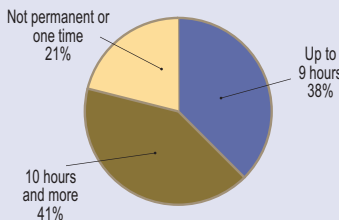
For each of the areas, the items in the questionnaire relate to the individual's general situation, behavior, feelings, and perceptions.

Did you know?

59% of the population aged 20 and over had used the Internet during the three months preceding the interview.

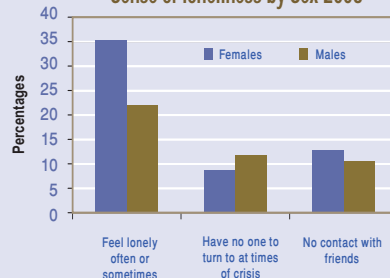
Volunteer Activity during the Twelve Months Preceding the Interview, by Number of Hours a Month, 2008

Self Assessment of Health, 2008

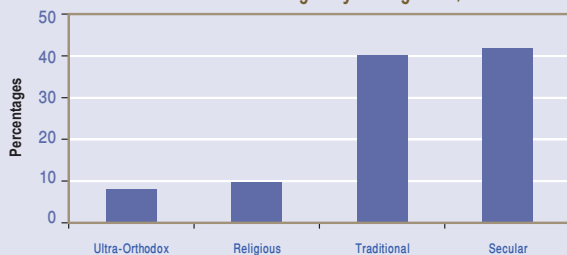


About 19% of total population aged 20 and over engage in volunteer activity.

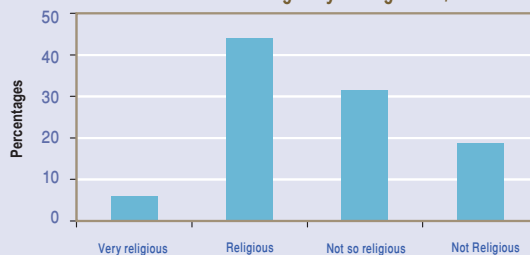
Sense of Loneliness by Sex 2008



Self-Definition of Religiosity among Jews, 2008



Self-Definition of Religiosity among Arabs, 2008

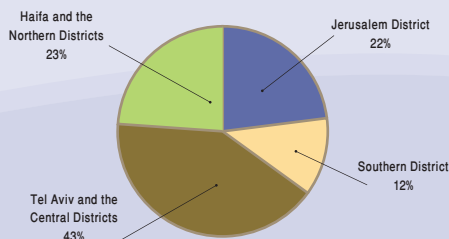


WELFARE

The data were obtained from the basic data file maintained by the Ministry of Social Affairs, which includes information on families registered at social services departments in the local authorities. In 2008 there were 1,247,058 individuals registered, which constitutes approximately 482,903 families.

Registered at the department of social services: anyone registered at the social services, whether or not they have been defined as needing those services (clients and non-client family members).

Children (in Jewish Localities) Aged 1-18, In Out-of-Home Therapeutic placement, Financed by the Ministry of Social Affairs, by District - 2008



Registered at Social Services Departments, by Selected Characteristics - 2008

| | Rate of Applications per 1,000 Persons | Registered at Social Services Departments (Percentages) | Total Population of Israel (Percentages) |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Total | 170.6 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Sex | | | |
| Men | 159.2 | 46.1 | 49.4 |
| Women | 181.8 | 53.9 | 50.6 |
| Population Group | | | |
| Jews and Others | 154.2 | 72.2 | 79.9 |
| Thereof: Jews | 155.7 | 69.0 | 75.6 |
| Arabs | 217.1 | 25.6 | 20.1 |
| Marital Status | | | |
| Married | 147.1 | 34.6 | 40.1 |
| Widow/er | 396.4 | 9.5 | 4.1 |

EDUCATION



In Israel, the educational level of the population has reflected the impact of the education system on students, as well as the educational characteristics of the various waves of immigration.

Years of Schooling, Persons Aged 15 and Over (%), 2008

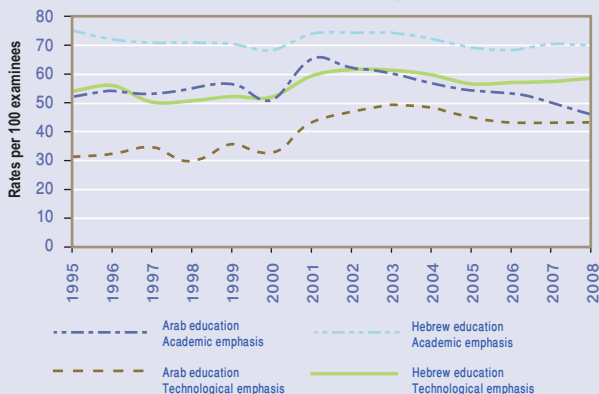
| Years of Schooling | Aged 15 and over - total | Women | Men |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 0-4 | 3.6 | 4.7 | 2.4 |
| 5-12 | 53.4 | 51.3 | 55.8 |
| 13-15 | 22.6 | 23.8 | 21.2 |
| 16+ | 20.4 | 20.2 | 20.6 |

Pupils and Teaching Staff in the Educational System, 2007/08

| | Pupils | Teaching staff |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Total ⁽¹⁾ | 1,893,562 | 128,064 |
| Pre-primary education (teachers in formal education) | 444,904 | 12,310 |
| Primary education | 841,417 | 64,594 |
| Intermediate education | 252,743 | 23,358 |
| Secondary education | 354,498 | 40,501 |

⁽¹⁾A teacher who teaches at more than one level is counted separately at each level, but only once in the total.

Entitled to a Matriculation Certificate, by Type of Examinations (Hebrew and Arab Education)



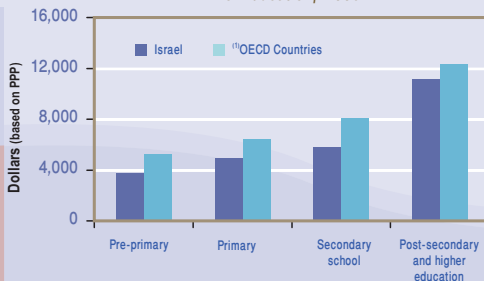
Recipients of Degrees from Institutions of Higher Education 2007/08

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Universities – Total | 32,830 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| First degree | 57.2% |
| Second degree | 35.8% |
| Third degree | 4.3% |
| Diploma | 2.6% |
| Colleges – Total | 19,856 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| Academic colleges – Total | 14,130 |
| Total | 71.2% |
| First degree | 90.8% |
| Second degree | 9.2% |
| Colleges of education – Total | 5,726 |
| Total | 28.8% |
| First degree | 95.5% |
| Second degree | 4.5% |
| Open University – Total | 2,625 |
| Total | 100.0% |
| First degree | 86.1% |
| Second degree | 12.6% |
| Diploma | 1.3% |

Did you know?

The percentage of pupils in ultra-Orthodox primary schools increased from approximately 11% in 1995/96 to approximately 27% in 2007/08

National Expenditure on Education per Pupil, by Level of Education, 2006



¹ Countries that are members of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development

HEALTH

Did you know?

In January 1995 the State Health Insurance Law took effect. On the basis of this law, the state is responsible for insuring the health of all residents within a basket of health services. The law mandates a uniform basket of services that the sick funds are obligated to provide to their clients, as well as a basket of medications that every resident of Israel is entitled to receive. The law enables everyone, including elderly and chronically ill persons, to transfer membership between the sick funds.

Citizens of Israel pay a progressive health tax to the National Insurance Institute, according to income. Responsibility for provision of services is divided among the sick funds and the Ministry of Health.

Health services include: public clinics and preventive medicine, hospitals and research, dental care, private physicians and government administration.

The first sick fund in Israel was established by the Histadrut in 1912.

The national expenditure on health in 2008 was about NIS 56.2 billion. The expenditure was divided according to the following sectors:

- 33.3% sick funds
- 55.6% private hospitals and households (including all general hospitals in the economy).
- 5.7% government, local authorities, the National Insurance Institute and national institutions
- 5.4% private non-profit institutions

The rate of hospitalization days in general care declined by 31% from the mid-1970s to 2008. In psychiatric care, the rate of hospitalization

days declined by 81%, and in long-term care and rehabilitation, the rate of hospitalization days increased by a factor of 2.6 during that period.

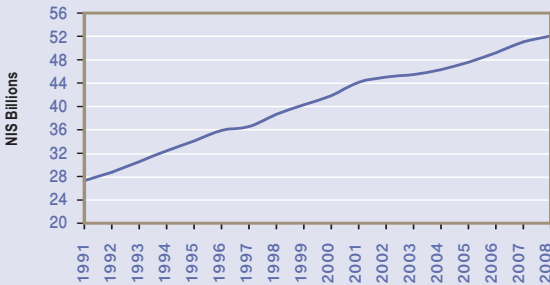
The main causes of death in 2007 were malignant neoplasms (almost 25% of all deaths), heart disease (almost 18%), cerebrovascular disease (6%), Diabetes mellitus (6%), and (5%) deaths due to external causes (not related to disease).

From the mid-70s' to 2007 the age-standardized mortality rates from ischaemic heart disease and cerebrovascular disease dropped by almost 80%, and from malignant neoplasms by approximately 17%.

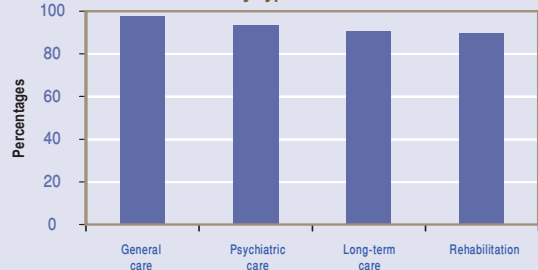
AIDS cases: At the end of 2008, 438 AIDS patients lived in Israel.

Persons diagnosed with HIV: by the end of 2008, 4,545 HIV carriers were identified in Israel.

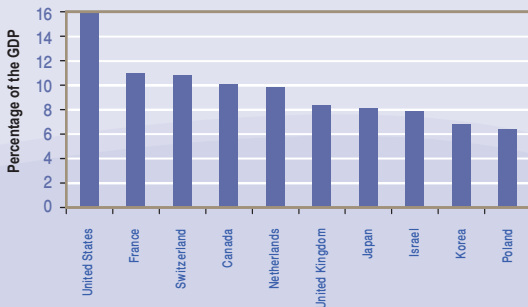
National Expenditure on Health at 2005 Prices



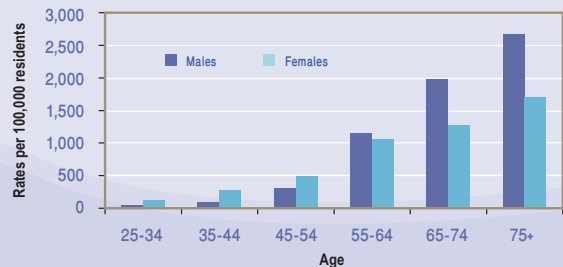
Bed Occupancy in Hospitals, by Type of Bed, 2008



National Expenditure on Health - International Comparison, 2007

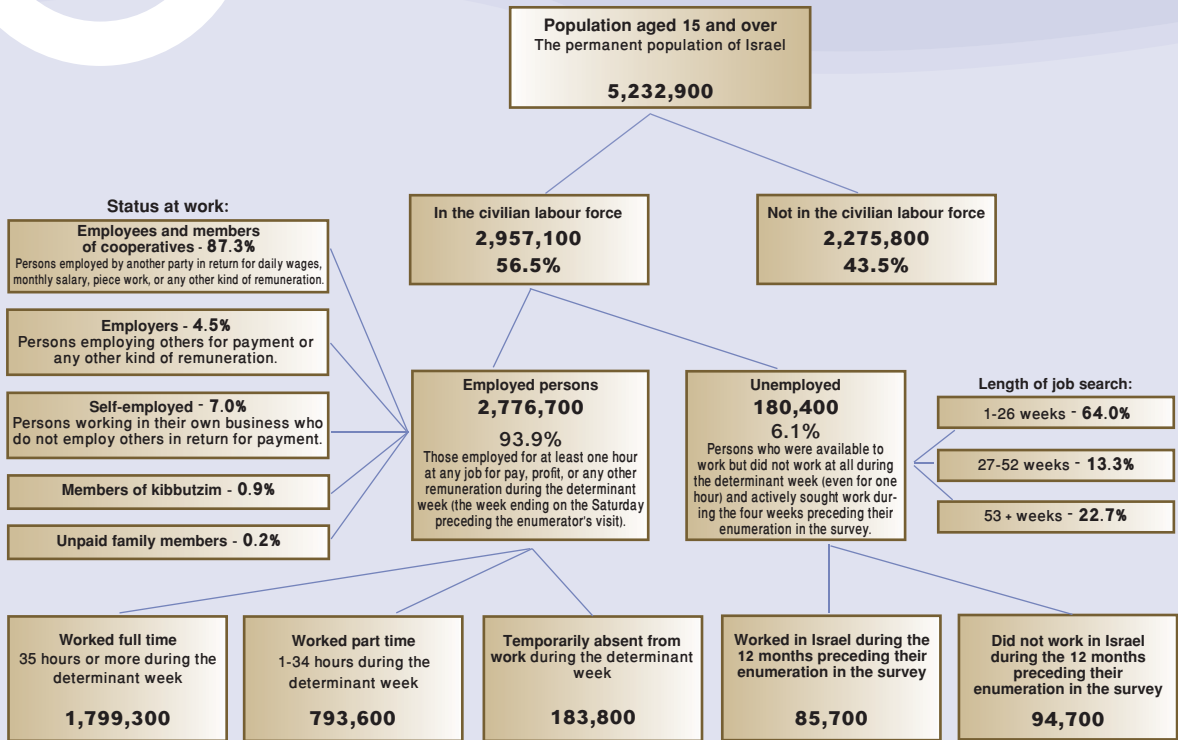


New Cases of Malignant Neoplasms, by Sex and Age, 2007



LABOUR

The main source of information on the labour force in Israel is the continuing Labour Force Survey, conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The survey follows the development of the labour force in Israel, its size and characteristics, extent of unemployment, etc. Data refer to 2008.



| Occupation | Employed persons – Total | Usually employed ⁽¹⁾ part time | Women |
|---|--------------------------|--|-------|
| | | Percent of total employed persons | |
| Total ⁽²⁾ | 2,776,700 | 23.6 | 46.4 |
| Academic professionals | 396,800 | 23.4 | 47.2 |
| Associate professionals and technicians | 422,200 | 36.8 | 58.9 |
| Managers | 187,900 | 5.7 | 31.5 |
| Clerical workers | 443,400 | 22.2 | 74.7 |
| Agents, sales workers and service workers | 564,800 | 31.4 | 55.4 |
| Skilled workers | 531,700 | 8.5 | 10.5 |
| Unskilled workers | 199,600 | 35.1 | 42.1 |

¹ Excl. the population living outside of localities (Bedouins in the South and others) and residents of institutions (permanent samples).

² Incl. unknown.

WAGES

Indices of employment and wages – administrative data obtained every month, based primarily on reports of employers to the National Insurance Institute as well as other administrative sources such as Malam Systems Ltd. or the Israel Local Authorities Data Processing Center.
Data refer to 2008.

Employee Jobs
The number of employees (permanent and temporary) on the payroll of establishments or institutions who worked for at least one day during the surveyed month. Employees on the payrolls of more than one establishment or institution in that month were counted as many times as they appeared on the payroll.
2,919,300

Israeli workers
2,810,900
96%

Foreign workers
108,400
4%

Workers from abroad
79,900
74%
14% in construction
32% in agriculture
54% other

Workers from Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area
28,500
26%
50% in construction
25% in agriculture
25% other

Average wage per employee job
NIS 8,075

| Industry | % Employee jobs | Average wage (NIS) |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| Total | 100.0 | 8,075 |
| Electricity and water | 0.6 | 19,694 |
| Banking | 3.2 | 15,732 |
| Public administration | 4.0 | 12,378 |
| Manufacturing | 12.9 | 10,982 |
| Transportation | 5.8 | 9,116 |
| Business activities | 18.4 | 8,513 |
| Trade and repairs | 14.1 | 7,023 |
| Construction | 4.7 | 7,137 |
| Health, welfare and social work services | 10.4 | 6,705 |
| Education | 13.3 | 6,375 |
| Community services | 5.6 | 5,343 |
| Agriculture | 1.8 | 5,269 |
| Accommodation services and restaurants | 5.4 | 3,765 |

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

National accounts provide a comprehensive and detailed description of the country's economic activity, the relationships among various economic entities, and Israel's economic relations with foreign countries.

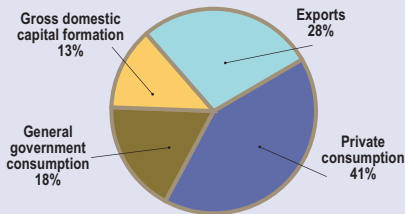
The main indicator of these accounts is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which reflects the net value of goods and services produced by economic units functioning in Israel.

This value is equal to the sum of private and general government consumption expenditure and gross domestic capital formation (private and general government) plus net export (exports less imports) of goods and services.

Data on the Economy, 2008

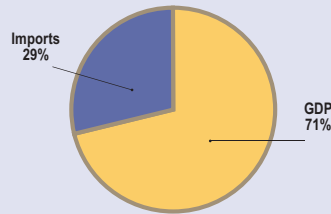
| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Gross Domestic Product (in current prices) | NIS 725 billion |
| Percent of growth in the GDP compared with previous year | 4.0% |
| Gross Domestic Product per capita | NIS 99,215 |
| Private consumption expenditure | NIS 422 billion |
| General government consumption expenditure | NIS 180 billion |
| Gross domestic capital formation | NIS 134 billion |
| Capital formation in economic industries | NIS 97 billion |
| Residential building | NIS 33 billion |
| Export of goods and services | NIS 290 billion |
| Import of goods and services | NIS 301 billion |

Composition of Uses, 2008



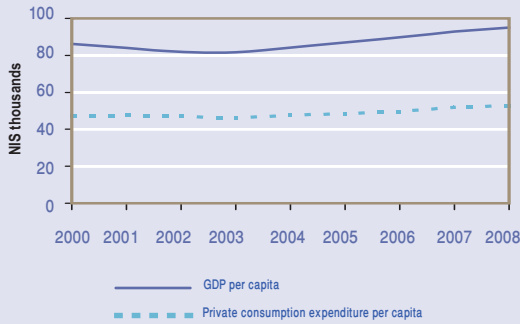
Total uses – NIS 1,026 billion

Composition of Resources, 2008

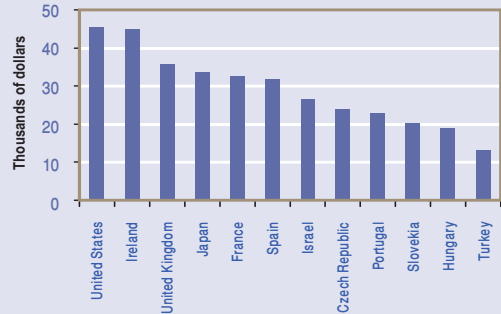


Total sources – NIS 1,026 billion

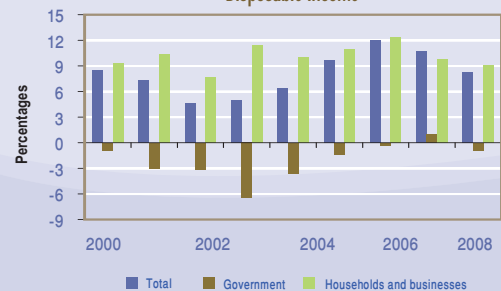
GDP per Capita and Private Consumption Expenditure per Capita, at 2005 Prices



GDP per Capita in International Prices (PPP - Purchasing Power Parities), 2007



National Saving by Sector, as a Percentage of the National Disposable Income



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The general government includes the government, the National Insurance Institute, local authorities, national institutions (the Jewish Agency for Israel, the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish National Fund, and the United Israel Fund), as well as non-profit institutions whose main expenditures are financed by the government.

General government consumption expenditure is equal to the value of its intermediate consumption of goods and services, compensation of employees, taxes on production, and consumption of fixed capital.

In 2008, general government consumption expenditure amounted to approximately NIS 180 billion, which comprised about 25% of the GDP.

About half of the general government consumption expenditure (about 12.8% of the GDP) is allocated for wages.

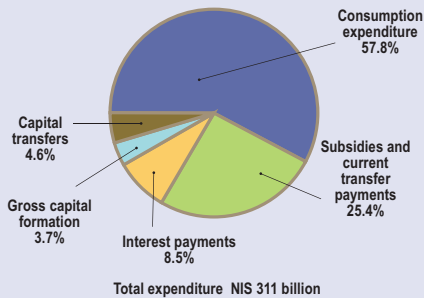
In addition, the general government expenditure includes transfer payments, interest payments, and fixed capital formation. General government expenditure amounted to approximately NIS 311 billion in 2008 (about 42.9% of the GDP).

The general government income includes: revenue from taxes, revenue from property, transfer payments from abroad, and transfer payments from the private sector.

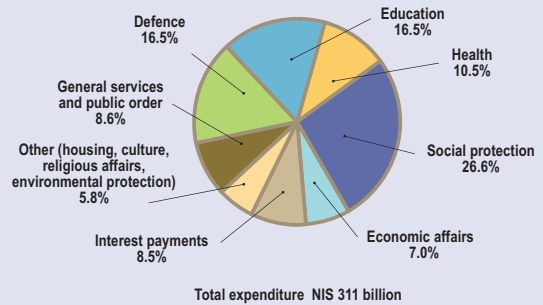
Receipts from taxes include: income tax; revenue from National Insurance payments; taxes on wages; fees, levies, and fines; Value Added Tax; taxes on imports; other indirect taxes; and capital taxes.

The total general government expenditure less total income equals the total deficit /surplus of the general government. In 2008 there was a deficit in the general account of the government sector which amounted to 1.93% of the GDP.

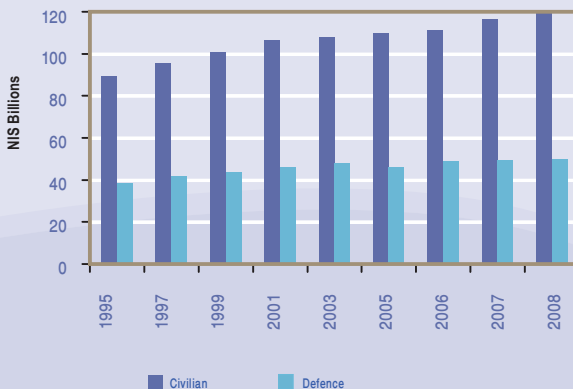
General Government Expenditure, by Type, 2008



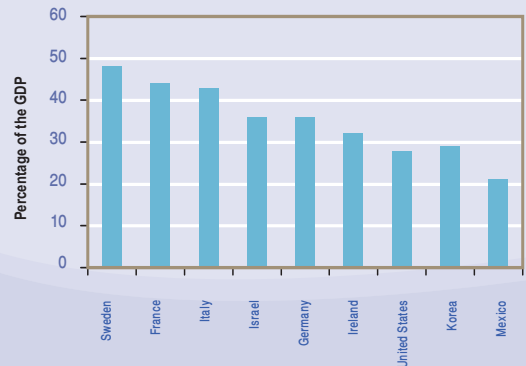
General Government Expenditures, by Function, 2008



General Government Consumption Expenditure, at 2005 Prices



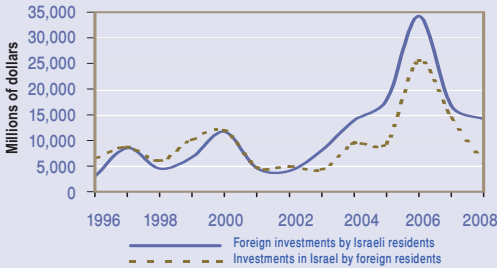
Tax Burden – International Comparison, 2007



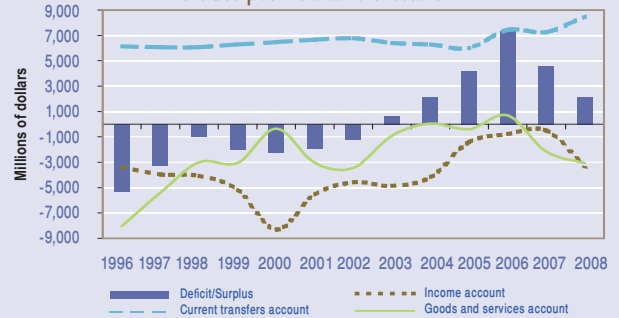
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FOREIGN TRADE

Israel's balance of payments is a record of all economic transactions carried out between the Israeli economy and the rest of the world. The current account of the balance of payments presents payments connected with trade in goods and services, transfers, and income from work and property. The financial account presents foreign investments by Israeli residents, as well as investments in Israel by foreign residents.

The Financial Account in the Balance of Payments



Deficit/Surplus in the Current Account



Balance of Payment Data
Goods and Services, 2008

| Exports | | Imports | |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| | Billions of dollars | | Billions of dollars |
| Goods - Total | 57.2 | Goods - Total | 64.4 |
| | | Thereof: | |
| | | Defence imports | 2.5 |
| Thereof: Export of goods to the Palestinian Authority | 3.3 | Import of goods from the Palestinian Authority | 0.6 |
| Services - Total | 24.1 | Services - Total | 19.9 |
| Thereof: Export of services to the Palestinian Authority | 0.4 | Thereof: Import of services from the Palestinian Authority | 0.2 |

Foreign Trade

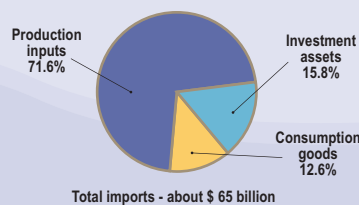
| Exports of Selected Commodities (excluding exports to the Palestinian Authority) 2008 | % of all exports |
|---|------------------|
| Diamonds | 31.6 |
| Pharmaceutical products | 7.2 |
| Electrical apparatus for line telephony | 4.7 |
| Chemical products and preparations | 4.2 |
| Mineral or chemical fertilizers | 3.3 |
| Aircraft parts | 2.1 |
| Electronic integrated circuits | 1.5 |
| Tools and equipment for medical sciences | 1.4 |
| Pesticides and herbicides | 1.4 |
| Implements and tools for measuring | 1.3 |

| Imports of Selected Commodities (excluding imports from the Palestinian Authority and excluding direct defense imports) 2008 | % of all imports |
|--|------------------|
| Diamonds | 14.4 |
| Crude oils | 12.4 |
| Petroleum oils | 4.2 |
| Passenger vehicles | 4.1 |
| Coal | 2.7 |
| Electronical apparatus for line telephony | 1.9 |
| Pharmaceutical products | 1.7 |
| Parts and accessories for machinery | 1.7 |
| Computers | 1.6 |
| Electronic integrated circuits | 1.4 |

Imports and Exports of Commodities, by Continent, 2008



Imports, by Economic Use, 2008



excl. trade with the Palestinian Authority, and excl. direct defense imports

excl. trade with the Palestinian Authority, and excl. direct defense imports

CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICITY AND WATER



The construction industry includes building and civil engineering works. **Building** refers to civilian building in Israel, including building in Jewish localities in the Judea and Samaria Area.

Civil engineering works refers to construction of roads, widening and reconstruction of roads, installation of water pipes, installation of drainage pipes (for concentration and disposal of sewage water), canalization (for concentration and disposal of rainwater), and other work. (e.g., building sea ports and airports, building bridges, and preparation of

agricultural land). Unlike other industries, the building industry is characterized by sharp fluctuations in the volume of activity. The industry is sensitive to change in overall business activity, and fluctuations in building tend to cause fluctuations in the overall economy.

In 2008, the gross domestic capital formation in building amounted to NIS 59.4 billion – 56% of that sum was allocated to residential building, 24% to non-residential building, and 20% to civil engineering projects.

Area of construction (2008)

Construction completed - 7,141,000 sq. m.

Construction begun - 8,123,000 sq. m.

Dwellings (2008)

Construction completed - 30,346

Construction begun - 31,449

Widening roads and construction of new roads (2007)

Completed - 439 km.

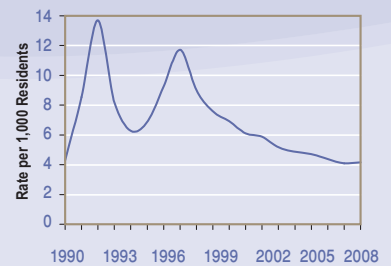
Begun - 437 km.

Electricity Supply, 2008

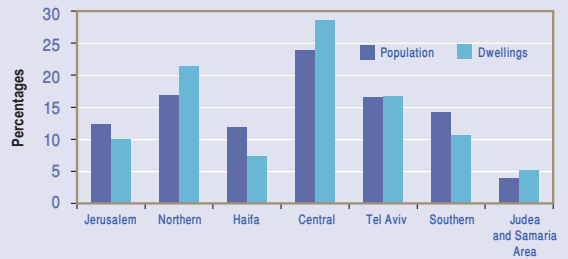
| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Total | 50,161 million KWH |
| Household consumption | 15,201 million KWH |
| Trade | 15,499 million KWH |
| Manufacturing | 11,218 million KWH |
| Water pumping | 2,749 million KWH |
| Agriculture | 1,827 million KWH |
| Bulk | 3,666 million KWH |

Source: Israel Electric Corporation Ltd.

Construction of Dwellings Completed



Dwellings Completed, Compared with Population Growth, by District, 2008



Water Consumption by Purpose, 2007

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Agricultural | 1,186 million cubic meters |
| Domestic and public | 767 million cubic meters |
| Industrial | 119 million cubic meters |

Water Production (Million Cubic Meters), 2007

| | |
|--|-------|
| Total | 2,199 |
| Mekorot Water Co. - Total | 1,394 |
| Wells | 747 |
| Hamovil Water Carrier | 224 |
| Upper water | 194 |
| Effluents and Dan Region Reclamation Project | 229 |
| Other producers - Total | 682 |
| Wells | 317 |
| Upper water | 207 |
| Effluents | 158 |

Source: The Water Authority

MANUFACTURING, COMMERCE AND SERVICES



Over the years, the Israeli economy has developed from a small, closed economy to a relatively large, developed economy that uses modern methods and advanced technologies for manufacturing.

Manufacturing in Israel has evolved from small establishments that engaged primarily in processing of agricultural products and clothing, to high technology production.

The Central Bureau of Statistics collects monthly data from a sample of about 2,200 manufacturing establishments. The data are used to prepare current manufacturing indices, which serve as indicators of the development of manufacturing in particular and of the economy in general.

In 2008, the Gross Domestic Product of manufacturing amounted to NIS 112 billion (excluding diamonds) and GDP per work-hour per employee job amounted to about NIS 147.

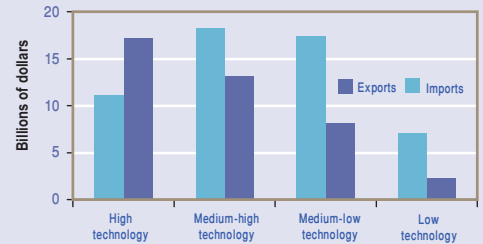
The manufacturing export was NIS 146 billion (41% of the total revenue in manufacturing), and is based mainly on high-tech products.

Establishments, Jobs and Revenue in Manufacturing, by Technological Intensity, 2008

| Technological Intensity | Establishments | Jobs | Revenue (NIS Billions) |
|--|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Total - absolute numbers | 11,706 | ⁽¹⁾ 364,785 | 359 |
| Percentages | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| High-tech (electronics, aircraft, and pharmaceuticals) | 4.2 | 26.8 | 26.8 |
| Medium-high tech (chemicals excl. pharmaceuticals, machinery, electrical equipment, and transport equipment excl. aircraft) | 9.1 | 14.4 | 28.3 |
| Medium-low tech (Mining and quarrying, rubber and plastic, basic metals, and metal products) | 35.4 | 25.2 | 19.8 |
| Low technology (Food products, beverages, textiles, wearing apparel, leather products, paper, printing, wood and its products) | 51.3 | 33.6 | 25.1 |

(1) Including jobs of workers hired through employment agencies.

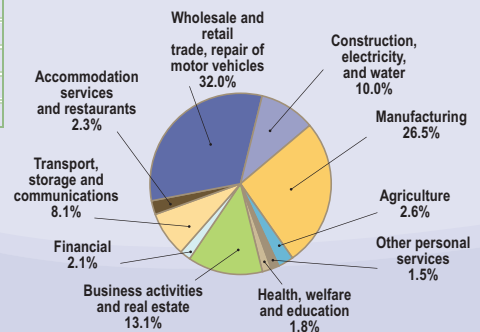
Manufacturing Exports and Imports (Gross), by Technological Intensity (excluding diamonds), 2008



Establishments and Jobs, by District, 2008

| District | Establishments | | Jobs | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| | Absolute numbers | Percentages | Absolute numbers | Percentages |
| Total | 11,706 | 100.0 | 364,785 | 100.0 |
| Thereof: | | | | |
| Jerusalem | 910 | 7.8 | 17,713 | 4.9 |
| Northern | 1,531 | 13.1 | 66,288 | 18.2 |
| Haifa | 1,460 | 12.5 | 49,133 | 13.5 |
| Central | 3,263 | 27.9 | 102,426 | 28.1 |
| Tel Aviv | 3,123 | 26.7 | 77,138 | 21.1 |
| Southern | 1,189 | 10.2 | 47,313 | 13.0 |

Revenue of Industries in the Economy, 2008



Total about NIS 1.3 trillion (excluding diamonds)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

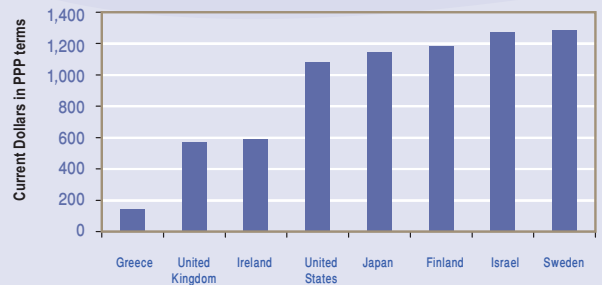
Research and Development (R&D)

Modern economies rely on research and technology, including advanced technology for communications and dissemination of information.

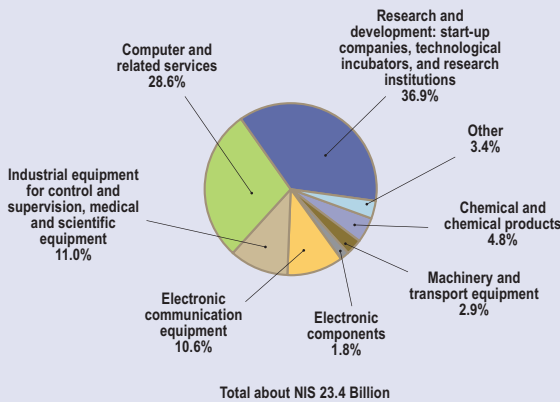
The value of investment in research and development in Israel as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the highest in the world.

An increasing share of industries use advanced technologies in the production process, and manufacturing exports consist primarily of commodities that were produced using these technologies. Additionally, industries that use advanced technologies to provide information and communication technology services have developed rapidly in recent years.

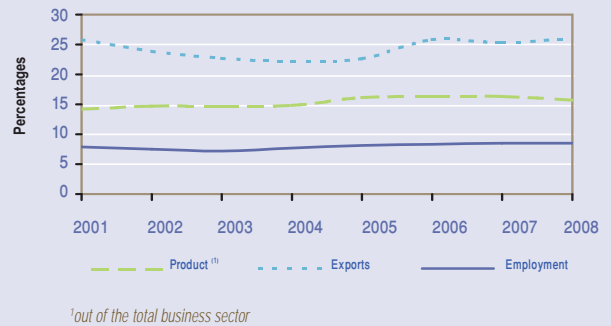
National Expenditure on Research and Development Per Capita - International Comparison, 2007



Expenditures for Business Research and Development 2006



Share of ICT Industries, out of the Total Economy



Information and Communications Technologies (ICT)

Information and Communications Technologies are among the fastest growing industries in the past decade. These industries include manufacturers of hardware, as well as companies that deal with software, broadcasting, and display of information. ICT is characterized by high productivity (in 2008, jobs in those industries, which comprise 8.5% of all jobs in the business sector, produced 16% of the product in that sector). ICT industries conduct extensive research and development activities, and a considerable share of the output in ICT is allocated to export.

Israel occupies a leading position in various information technology indicators in comparison to many countries that are members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Did you know?

In 2008, 26% of all exports were from Information and Communications Technologies (ICT).

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS



Transport, storage, and communications includes: land transport, sea transport, air transport, transportation services, storage, parking lots and freight terminals, postal and courier services, and communication.

In 2008 there were about 18,100 km. of urban, non-urban, and access roads in Israel. About 2.4 million Israeli civilian vehicles traveled approximately 47,000 million kilometers.

About 78% of the vehicles (1.9 million) are private vehicles; 359 thousand (15.0%) are trucks and commercial vehicles, 13,600 vehicles are buses (0.6%), and the remaining 143,000 vehicles (6.0%) are minibuses, taxis, special service vehicles, and motorcycles.

About 3.4 million licenced drivers drove these vehicles, and caused about 16,500 road accidents with casualties (excluding accidents with casualties that occurred in the Judea and Samaria Area). About 31,800 persons were injured in those accidents. Of those, 412 persons were killed, and bringing the total number of deaths in road accidents (excluding the Judea and Samaria Area) to 25,029 since the establishment of the State of Israel.

Did you know?

The number of railway passengers is more than five times greater today than it was a decade ago.

Number of Vehicles per 1,000 Residents, 2006

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------|-----|
| USA | 828 | France | 639 |
| Greece | 770 | Germany | 646 |
| Switzerland | 646 | Israel | 306 |

Source: International Road Federation

Accidents with Casualties, by Type of Accident, 2008

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Total - Absolute numbers | 16,531 |
| | 100.0% |
| Hitting a pedestrian | 18.0% |
| Front-to-side collision | 48.0% |
| Front-to-rear end collision | 11.1% |
| Sideswipe | 6.5% |
| Head-on collision | 4.0% |
| Other collision | 5.9% |
| Overturning | 2.5% |
| Running off road, skidding | 2.4% |
| Other | 1.6% |

Railways (2008)

Passengers – 35,135,600
Freight – 6,836,500 tons

Ships (2008)

Ships sailing – 5,310
Passengers – 316,000

Aircraft (International) (2008)

Aircraft landings – 38,362
Passengers – 11,134,100
Thereof: In Israeli aircraft – 4,341,800
Freight – 320,932 tons

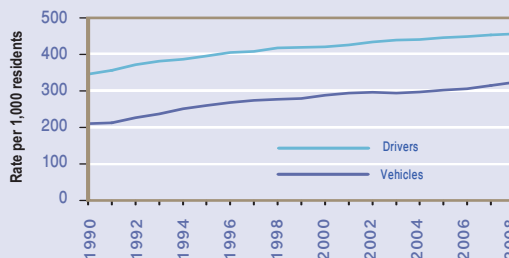
Post (2006)

Total mail – 735 million items
1,640,000 parcels

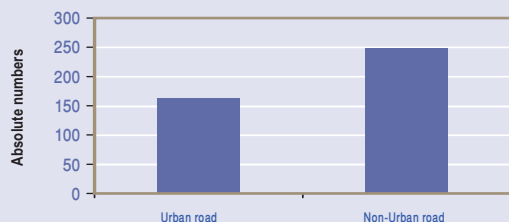
Communications

12,500 public telephones (in 2008)
59.3% of all households are connected to the Internet (in 2007)
89.3% of all households have at least one cellphone (in 2007)

Vehicles and Drivers



Killed in Road Accidents, 2008



TOURISM



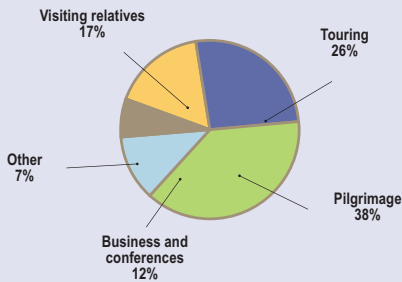
Foreign and domestic tourism have considerable economic, social, and political significance. The development of tourism can be attributed to a number of causes, such as: increased disposable income, increased paid vacation in workplaces, reduction of prices for transportation, increased leisure hours, and changes in habits for spending leisure time.

Three main types of tourism can be distinguished: Incoming tourism, Israelis travelling abroad, and domestic tourism.

The number of tourist arrivals to Israel and departures of Israelis abroad is a sensitive barometer of Israel's economic and security situation.

In 2008, there were 3,034,300 visitor arrivals to Israel, and 4,206,900 departures of Israelis abroad.

Tourists by Main Purpose of Visit, 2008



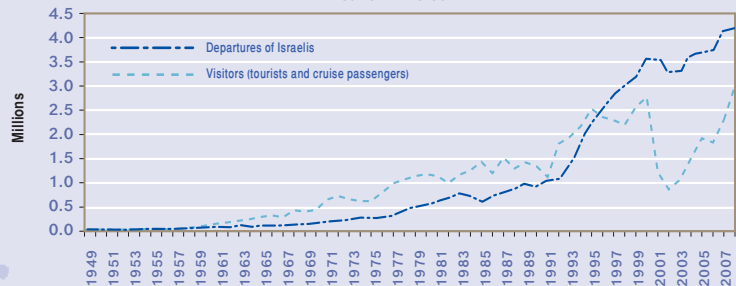
Source: Ministry of Tourism

Accommodation Services, 2008

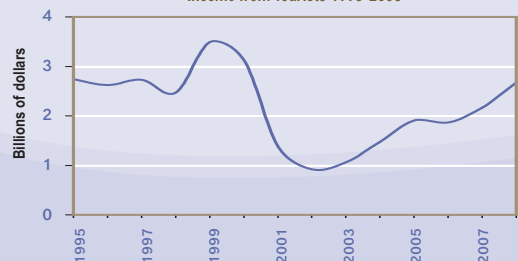
| Accommodation services | Person-nights in all accommodation services | 26,733,100 |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| | | 100.0% |
| Tourist hotels | | 80.8% |
| Other hotels | | 5.4% |
| Rural tourism | | 8.5% |
| Youth hostels | | 3.9% |
| Field schools | | 1.4% |
| | | 100.0% |
| | Israeli person-nights | 58% |
| | Tourist person-nights | 42% |

| Tourist hotels | Hotels | 335 |
|----------------|--|------------|
| | Rooms | 47,501 |
| | Person-nights in tourist hotels | 21,595,500 |
| | Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights | 47.2% |
| | Room occupancy | 65.9% |

Tourism in Israel



Income from Tourists 1995-2008



Did you know?

In 2008, 2.3 million Israelis travelled abroad (some of them departed more than once, so that the total number of departures was 4,200,000).

Israelis travelling abroad comprised about 31% of the total population of Israel.

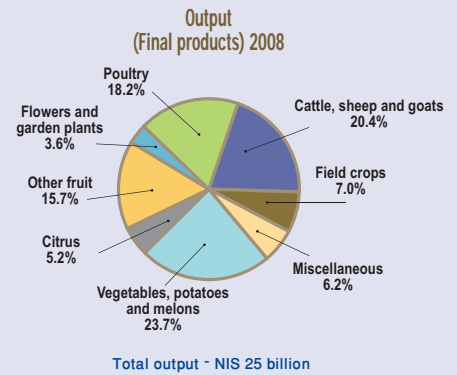
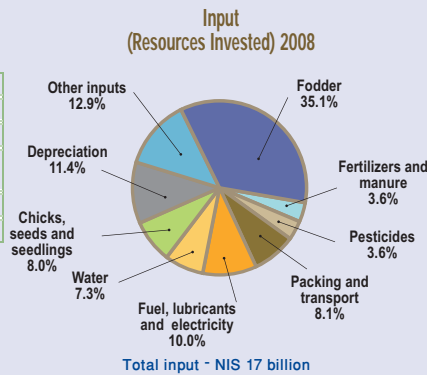
AGRICULTURE

Agriculture includes: Plant crops, afforestation, gardening, livestock and livestock products. The agriculture industry has undergone many changes over the years. Israeli agriculture is developing in terms of the quantity and quality of produce, as well as in terms of diversification and growth in plant crops and livestock breeding. There has also been a considerable improvement in methods of cultivation: irrigation, greenhouses, and mechanical equipment for processing and harvesting of crops.

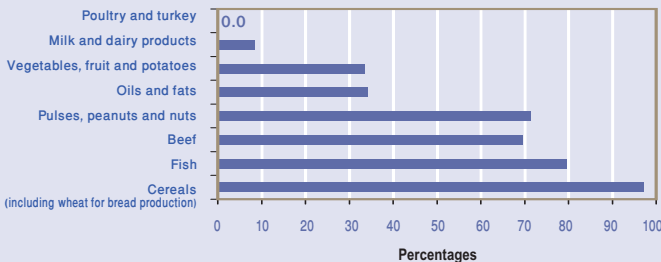


Agricultural crop areas (Thousand dunams), 2008

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Total | 2,880 |
| Thereof: | |
| Field crops | 1,406 |
| Vegetables, potatoes and melons | 701 |
| Plantations | 589 |
| Citrus | 184 |



Import Dependency Ratio of Israel by Main Products 2007



Did you know?

Planted forests in Israel comprise 4.5% of the land area in the country. In 2008, the forest area (under the care of the Jewish National Fund) spanned 980,000 dunams.



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Illustrations and photographs: David and Orit Penso
The photos of Sunflowers and Tractor on the cover page
are courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism.

Design: Betty Sasson-studio KAV NAKI