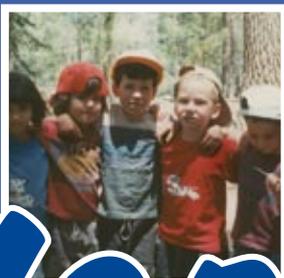




**CENTRAL BUREAU
OF STATISTICS**



ISRAEL

2007

IN FIGURES



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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 2006, 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. 58, 2007 and the CBS website (www.cbs.gov.il) and other CBS publications that deal specifically with the topic in question.

Jerusalem 2007

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 agrot (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 17th in number, and the elections for this Knesset were held on 28 March 2006. 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: Ehud Olmert, has been in office since 4 May 2006.

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.

Area, Population and Population Density, by District, 2006

District	Area (sq. km.)	Population ⁽¹⁾	Population Density (persons per sq. km.)
Total	22,072⁽²⁾	7,116,700	310.5
	100.0%	100.0%	
Jerusalem	2.9%	12.2%	1,332
Northern	21.0%	16.9%	269
Haifa	3.9%	12.1%	998
Central	5.9%	23.8%	1,307
Tel Aviv	0.8%	16.9%	6,997
Southern	65.5%	14.3%	72

⁽¹⁾ 3.7% of the total population lives in Jewish localities in the Judea and Samaria area.

⁽²⁾ Incl. area of lakes.

Lowest point: The Dead Sea, 419 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:

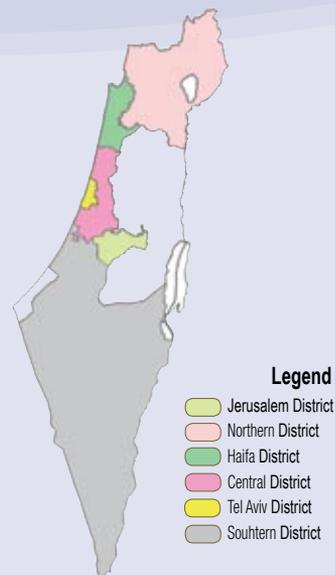
Raw materials for construction of buildings and roads: gravel and stone, sand, kurkar, clay, limestone, gypsum, and tuff.

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

Energy sources: natural gas, oil shales.



The State of Israel, by District



Large Cities (over 100,000 residents), (end of 2006):

		Number of residents
1	Jerusalem	733,300
2	Tel Aviv-Yafo	384,400
3	Haifa	266,300
4	Rishon LeZiyyon	222,000
5	Ashdod	204,200
6	Be'er Sheva	185,400
7	Petah Tiqwa	184,200
8	Netanya	173,800
9	Holon	167,100
10	Bene Beraq	147,900
11	Ramat Gan	129,700
12	Bat Yam	129,400
13	Ashqelon	107,800
14	Rehovot	104,500

KEY FIGURES

Population	
	2006
Population-Total (end of year)	7,116,700
Males	3,517,300
Females	3,599,400
Selected age groups	
0-14	28.4%
65+	9.9%
Annual population growth	1.8%
Thereof: natural increase	86.8%
Urban population	91.8%
Population density: (persons per km ²)	310.5

Households	
	2006
No. of households -Total	2,007,300
Average size of household	3.34
One-person households	17.7%

Families	
	2006
Number of families	1,659,500
Average size of family	3.74

Vital Statistics	
	2006
Crude marriage rate (2005)	5.9
Median marriage age (1st marriage) - grooms (2004)	27.3
Median marriage age (1st marriage) - brides (2004)	24.2
Live births	148,170
Crude birth rate	21.0
Total fertility rate	2.88
Deaths	38,666
Crude mortality rate	5.5
Infant mortality rate	3.9
Life expectancy - males	78.5
Life expectancy - females	82.2

Education	
	2006/2007
Pupils and students - Total	2,129,216
Total	100.0%
Kindergartens	19.2%
Primary education	39.0%
Post-primary (intermediate and secondary)	28.6%
Non-academic post-secondary institutions	2.5%
Non-university higher education institutions	4.3%
Universities	5.7%
Other institutions	0.7%
Teaching staff - total ¹	130,287
Pre-primary education (kindergarten teachers in formal education)	11,865
Primary education	68,028
Intermediate schools	24,781
Secondary schools	39,295

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

Health Services	
	2006
Beds in hospitals	42,108
Thereof: Beds for general care	14,582
Beds per 1,000 residents	5.9
Thereof: Percentage of beds for general care	2.1
Hospitalization days	13,997,100
Thereof: General hospitalization days	5,054,600
Hospitalization days per 1,000 residents	1,985
Thereof: Rate of general hospitalization	717
Doctors (up to age 65) ⁽¹⁾	25,138
Doctors (up to age 65) per 1,000 residents ⁽¹⁾	3.53

¹ Licensed doctors (not necessarily practicing medicine)

Law and Public Order	
	2006
Judges in Supreme Court	10
Judges in District Courts	121
Judges in Magistrates' Courts	353
Judges in Labour Tribunals	53
Judges in Rabbinical Courts	87
Licensed lawyers	35,730
Israel Police	28,550
Prison service	5,805
Files opened by the police	477,175

Labour and Wages	
	2006
Population aged 15+ - Total	5,053,100
Civilian labour force	2,809,700
Civilian labour force out of aged 15+	55.6%
Males	61.1%
Females	50.4%
Employed out of civilian labour force	91.6%
Unemployed out of civilian labour force	8.4%
Average wage per employee job (NIS)	7,576
Recipients of Pensions and Allowances from the National Insurance Institute	
	2006
Old age and survivors	728,921
Maternity grant	143,599
Maternity allowance	82,676
Child allowance	2,297,301
Income support benefits	130,341
Unemployment benefits	55,941

Standard of Living	
	2006
Total monthly consumption expenditure per household (NIS)	11,133
Total	100.0%
Food	16.6%
Housing	21.4%
Dwelling and household maintenance	10.4%
Furniture and household equipment	3.9%
Clothing and footwear	3.4%
Health	5.1%
Education, culture and entertainment	13.6%
Transport and communications	20.7%
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.9%
Gross monthly money income per household (NIS)	12,345
Total	100.0%
From work	75.5%
From capital	4.3%
From pension and provident funds	7.5%
From allowances and assistance	12.7%
Ownership of durable goods per household (percentage of all households)	
Air conditioner	68.5%
Clothes dryer	37.4%
Computer	65.8%
Internet connection	54.6%
Dishwasher	33.2%
Freezer	18.5%
Two cars or more	16.3%

National Economy	
	2006
Gross Domestic Product (percentage of change compared with previous year)	5.2
Gross Domestic Product - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) - billions of \$	198.7
Gross Domestic Product per capita - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) \$	28,170
Fixed capital formation (% of GDP)	17.1
Government consumption (% of GDP)	26.0
Government liabilities (% of GDP)	85.0

Balance of Payments	
	2006
Current account (% of GDP)	5.6
Excl. direct defence imports (% of GDP)	7.3
Israel's foreign liabilities (millions of \$)	172,244
Israel's foreign assets (millions of \$)	158,620
Imports of goods and services (millions of \$)	61,892
Exports of goods and services (millions of \$)	62,992

Energy	
	2006
Total final consumption of energy (tons of oil equivalent)	13,432,000
Final consumption of electricity (tons of oil equivalent)	3,924,000
Thereof: household consumption of electricity (millions of KWH)	14,313

Prices	
	2006 (% change compared with previous year)
Consumer Price Index	-0.1
Price Index of Inputs in Residential Building	5.9
Wholesale Price Index of Manufacturing Output	2.1

Construction	
	2006
Area of building completed (sq. m.)	6,847,000
Area of building begun (sq. m.)	7,419,000
No. of dwellings - building completed	29,900
No. of dwellings - building begun	29,678
Construction and widening of roads - completed (km.)(2005)	433
Construction and widening of roads - begun (km.)(2005)	536

Agriculture	
	2006
Agricultural area (thousand dunams) 2004-05	2,957
Total agricultural output (NIS billion)	21.0

Manufacturing	
	2006 (% change compared with previous year)
Index of Manufacturing Production - total (excl. diamonds)	9.8
Mining and quarrying	-0.3
Food, beverages and tobacco	2.0
Textiles and wearing apparel	4.1
Leather and leather products	6.9
Wood and wood products, and furniture	4.0
Paper and paper products	1.7
Printing and publishing	4.4
Rubber and plastic	4.5
Chemicals and petroleum	23.8
Non-metallic mineral products	3.9
Basic metal	0.3
Metal products	11.8
Machinery	6.9
Electrical and electronic equipment	13.4
Transport equipment	3.5
Miscellaneous	-3.1

Transport	
	2006
Licensed drivers	3,198,419
Kilometers traveled - millions of kilometers a year	43,242
Private cars	1,684,694
Trucks and commercial vehicles	354,472
Buses	12,549
Railways: passengers	28,351,000
Freight (tons)	7,642,000
Air transport: passengers	8,896,000
Planes landed	31,939
Sea transport: freight (tons)	48,124,000
Road Accidents	
Road accidents with casualties (excl. Judea and Samaria)	17,193
Casualties in road accidents (excl. Judea and Samaria)	35,903
Thereof: killed (excl. Judea and Samaria)	414

Post	
	2005
Total mail items	775,000,000
Parcels	1,556,000
Communications	
	2006
Direct subscribers' lines	3,032,000
Public telephones	12,000

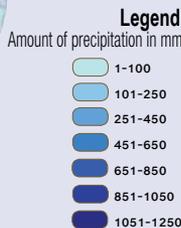
Tourism and Tourist Hotels	
	2006
Departures of Israelis	3,713,100
Returns of Israelis	3,686,300
Tourist arrivals	1,825,200
Tourist hotels	331
Rooms in tourist hotels	46,534
Person-nights in tourist hotels	19,307,700
Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights	35.5%
Room occupancy	58.0%



Detail from the Knesset menorah sculptor - Benno Elkan

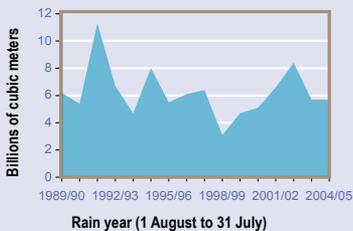
CLIMATE

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					
	January		July		Above 30°	Below 10°
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 2005/06 rain-year was recorded at Beit Jann - 945 mm.

The least amount of rain in the 2005/06 rain-year was recorded in Elat - 3 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.

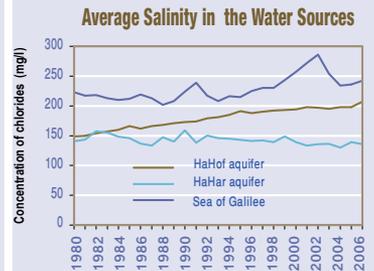
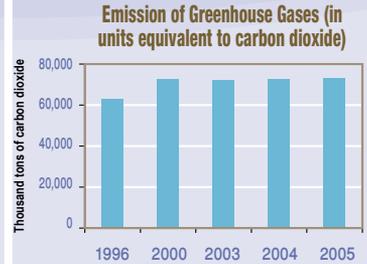
Following the reduction of living space for various species of plants and animals as a result of human

activity, many species are in danger of extinction to a greater or lesser degree.

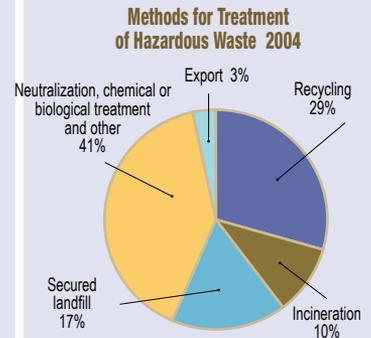
Among amphibians and mammals, a large percentage of species are in high and critical risk of extinction due to a reduction of living space, as well as to excessive use and pollution of surface water.

Did you know?

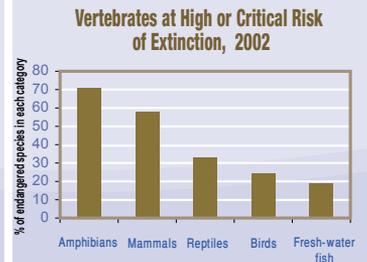
In 2006, about 4 million tons of domestic and commercial solid waste were collected.



Source: The Hydrological Service and the Laboratory for Research on the Sea of Galilee



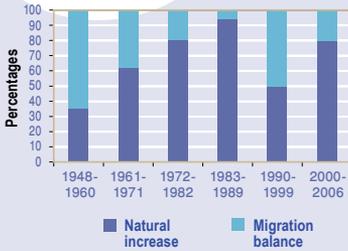
Source: Ministry of the Environment



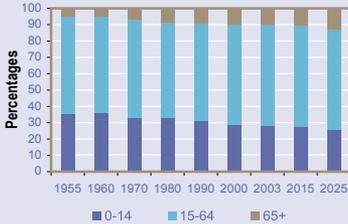
Source: The Nature and Parks Authority

POPULATION

Sources of Population Growth



Population and Population Projections, by Age



On 31 December 2006, the population of Israel numbered about 7.1 million inhabitants. The population of Israel comprises the following groups:

Jews and Others 80.1%
 Total 100.0%
 Jews 94.6%
 Non-Arab Christians 0.5%
 Not classified by religion 4.9%

Arabs 19.7%
 Total 100.0%
 Moslems 83.0%
 Druze 8.3%
 Arab Christians 8.5%



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, 2006 (End of Year)

	Total	Jews and Others		Arabs
		Total	Thereof: Jews	
Population - Total	7,116,700	5,703,400	5,393,400	1,413,300
Males	3,517,300	2,798,400	2,653,800	718,900
Females	3,599,400	2,904,900	2,739,600	694,500
Percent of population growth	1.8	1.6	1.5	2.6
Percent of population aged 0-18	34.9	31.5	31.8	48.3
Percent of population aged 19-64	55.3	57.0	56.4	48.4
Percent of population aged 65+	9.9	11.5	11.7	3.4
Percent of urban population (localities with 2,000 residents and more)	91.8	91.2	90.9	94.0
Percent of population:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Jerusalem district	12.2	10.7	11.0	18.5
Northern district	16.9	10.0	9.8	45.0
Haifa district	12.1	11.6	11.3	14.5
Central district	23.8	27.2	27.6	9.7
Tel Aviv district	16.9	20.8	20.9	1.2
Southern district	14.3	15.1	14.7	11.1
Judea and Samaria Area (Jewish localities)	3.7	4.6	4.7	0.0

Did you know?

41% of all Jews in the world live in Israel.

About one-tenth of the Israeli population (about 702,100 persons) are 65 or older. 57% of them are women.

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).



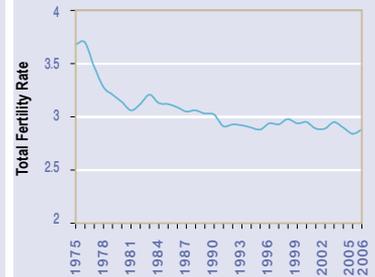
Live Births, Deaths, Life Expectancy, Marriages and Divorces

	Total	Jews and Others		Arabs (1)
		Total	Thereof: Jews	
Live births (in 2006)	148,170	109,188	104,513	38,982
Crude birth rate (births per 1,000 persons in the average population)	21.0	19.3	19.5	27.9
Total fertility rate (average number of children a woman is expected to bear during her lifetime)	2.88	2.67	2.75	3.68
Deaths (in 2006)	38,666	34,697	33,568	3,969
Crude mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 persons in the average population)	5.5	6.1	6.3	2.8
Infant mortality rate (infant mortality per 1,000 live births)	3.9	2.9	2.9	6.7
Life Expectancy at Birth (in 2006)				
Males	78.5	79.0	79.2	74.6
Females	82.2	82.7	82.7	78.1
Couples who married (in 2005)	41,029	..	31,284	8,280
Crude marriage rate (marriages per 1,000 persons in the average population)	5.9	..	5.9	7.4
Median marriage age (1st marriage)				
Males	27.3	..	27.5	26.1
Females	24.2	..	25.2	20.6
Couples who divorced (in 2005)	11,030	..	9,767	1,136
Crude divorce rate (divorces per 1,000 persons in the average population)	1.6	..	1.9	1.0

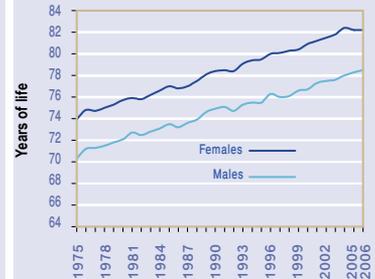
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(1) The data on marriage and divorce relate to Moslems only.

Total Fertility Rate



Life Expectancy at Birth, by Sex



HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

Did you know?

A **household** is defined as a group of persons living in one dwelling, who have a common expense budget for food. A household usually comprises a family, but may also comprise only one person or include persons who have no family relationship.

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.

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 (64%).

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.

Households, by Type of Household, 2006

Total	2,007,300
Total (percentages)	100.0
Family households	80.5
One family	75.6
One family with others	2.9
Two or more families	2.0
Non-family households	19.5
Thereof: One-person households	17.7

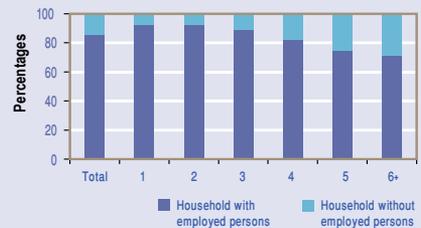
Families, by Type of Family, 2006

Total	1,659,500
Total (percentages)	100.0
Thereof:	
Couple without children	22.8
Couple with children	64.1
The youngest child aged: up to 17	50.7
The youngest child aged: 18 and over	13.4
Single parent	12.3
The youngest child aged: up to 17	6.0
The youngest child aged: 18 and over	6.2



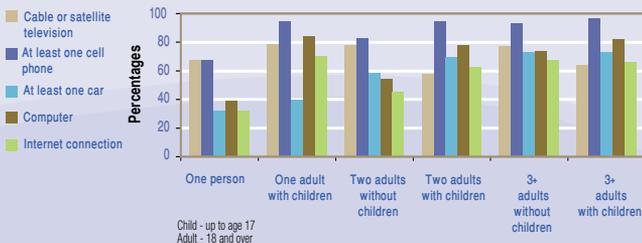
The number of households in 2006 was 2,007,300. Average household size is 3.34. 74% of the households had at least one employed person. 1,670,500 households had at least one person of working age – between 15 and 60 (women) or 65 (men). Of those households, 86% are households with employed persons. In 74% of the single-parent households (with children aged 0-17) there was at least one employed person.

Households with Children, by Labour Force Characteristics of Household Members and Number of Children in the Household, 2006



Source of the data: Labour Force Survey

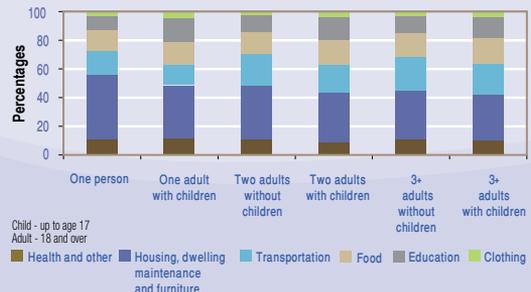
Ownership of Durable Goods, by Type of Household, 2006



Child - up to age 17
Adult - 18 and over

Source of the data: Household Expenditure Survey.

Monthly Consumption Expenditure, by Type of Household, 2006



Child - up to age 17
Adult - 18 and over

Health and other, Housing, dwelling maintenance and furniture, Transportation, Food, Education, Clothing

WELFARE

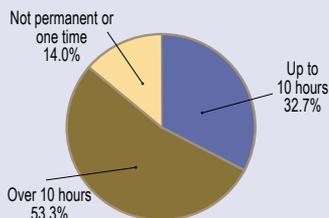
Welfare reflects a feeling based on one's situation, activities, and living conditions in various areas of life. Welfare is measured by various indicators in the overall population and among various population groups. The Social Survey examines the welfare of persons aged 20 and over. It includes questions 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.

The combination of topics reflects the general sense of welfare among the population aged 20 and over in Israel.

Did you know?

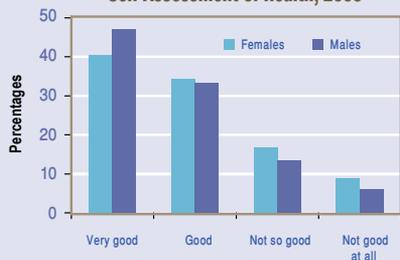
47% of the population aged 20 and over had used the Internet during the month preceding the interview.

Volunteer Activity during the Three Months Preceding the Interview, by Number of Hours a Month, 2005

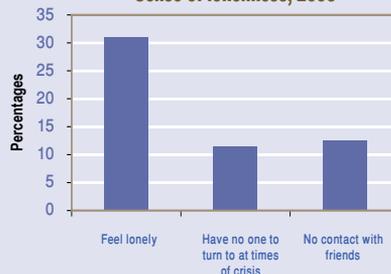


About 14% of total population aged 20 and over engage in volunteer activity.

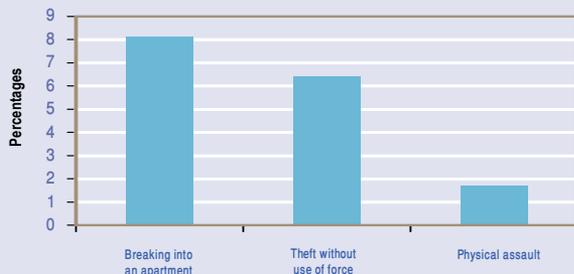
Self Assessment of Health, 2005



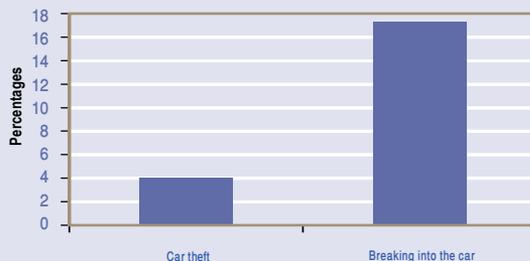
Sense of loneliness, 2005



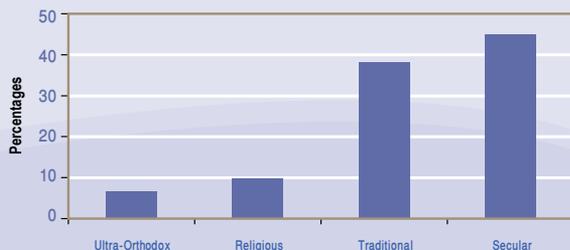
Victims of Crime, by Type of Offence during the 12 Months Preceding the Interview, 2005



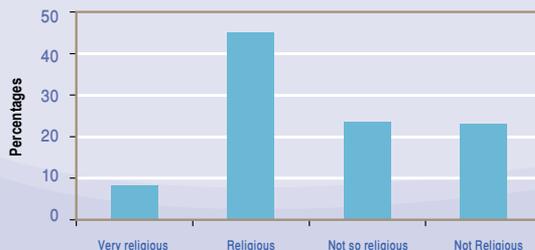
Persons Aged 20 and Over whose Cars Were Broken into or Stolen, during the 12 Months Preceding the Interview, 2005



Self-Definition of Religiosity among Jews, 2005



Self-Definition of Religiosity among Arabs, 2005



EDUCATION



The compulsory education law requires school attendance, and gives every child in the country the right to receive free education for 11 years – from kindergarten until 10th grade. 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 (%), 2006

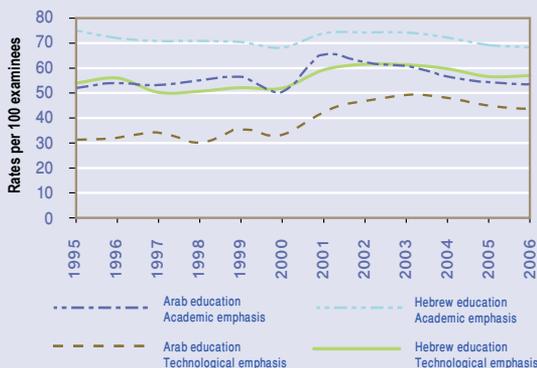
Years of Schooling	Aged 15 and over - total	Women	Men
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
0-4	4.3	5.4	2.9
5-12	54.0	51.9	56.3
13-15	22.0	23.0	20.9
16+	19.8	19.7	19.9

Pupils and Teaching Staff in the Educational System, 2006/07

	Pupils	Teaching staff
Total ⁽¹⁾	1,846,117	130,287
Pre-primary education (teachers in formal education)	408,000	11,865
Primary education	828,448	68,028
Intermediate education	255,230	24,781
Secondary education	354,439	39,295

⁽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 Examination (Hebrew and Arab Education)



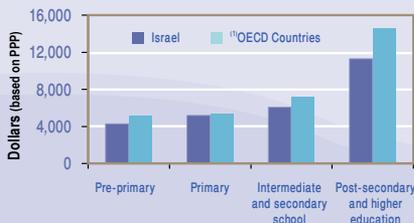
Recipients of Degrees from Institutions of Higher Education 2005/06

Universities – Total	32,254
Total	100.0%
First degree	59.0%
Second degree	34.4%
Third degree	3.7%
Diploma	2.9%
Colleges – Total	18,271
Total	100.0%
First degree	93.9%
Second degree	6.1%
Open University – Total	2,114
Total	100.0%
First degree	90.0%
Second degree	8.7%
Diploma	1.4%

Did you know?

The percentage of pupils in ultra-Orthodox primary schools increased from approximately 11% in 1995/96 to approximately 26% in 2005/06

National Expenditure on Education per Pupil, by Level of Education, 2004



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 national expenditure on health in 2006 was about NIS 49 billion. The expenditure was divided according to the following sectors:

- 34% sick funds
- 50% private hospitals and households (Including all general hospitals in the economy).
- 9% government, local authorities, the National Insurance Institute and national institutions
- 7% private non-profit institutions

The rate of hospitalization days in general care declined by 31% from the mid-1970s to 2006. In psychiatric care, the rate of hospitalization

days declined by almost 80%, and in long-term care and rehabilitation, the rate of hospitalization days increased by a factor of 2.7 during that period.

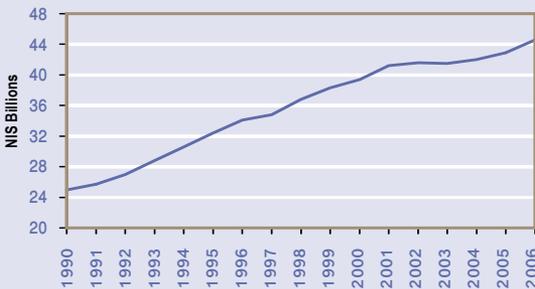
The main causes of death in 2004 were malignant neoplasms (25% of all deaths), heart disease (19%), cerebrovascular disease (7%), deaths due to external causes (not related to disease) (6%).

AIDS cases: At the end of 2006, 415 AIDS patients lived in Israel.

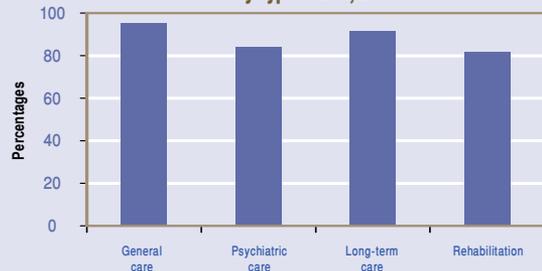
Persons diagnosed with HIV: by the end of 2006, 3,907 HIV carriers were identified in Israel.

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

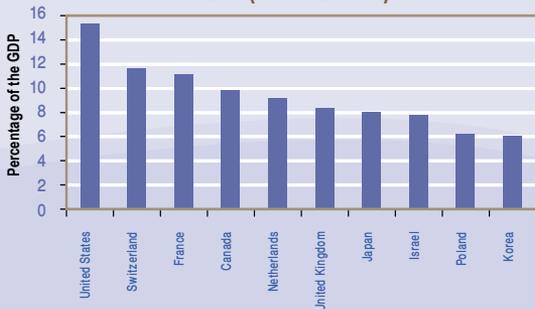
National Expenditure on Health at 2000 Prices



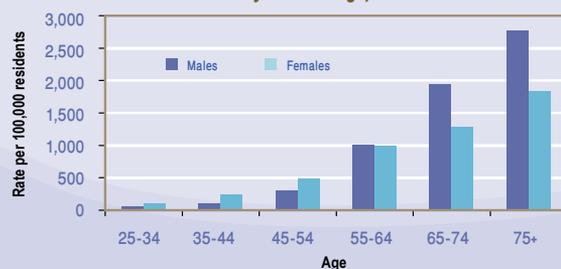
Bed Occupancy in Hospitals, by Type of Bed, 2006



National Expenditure on Health – International Comparison, 2005 (Provisional Data)

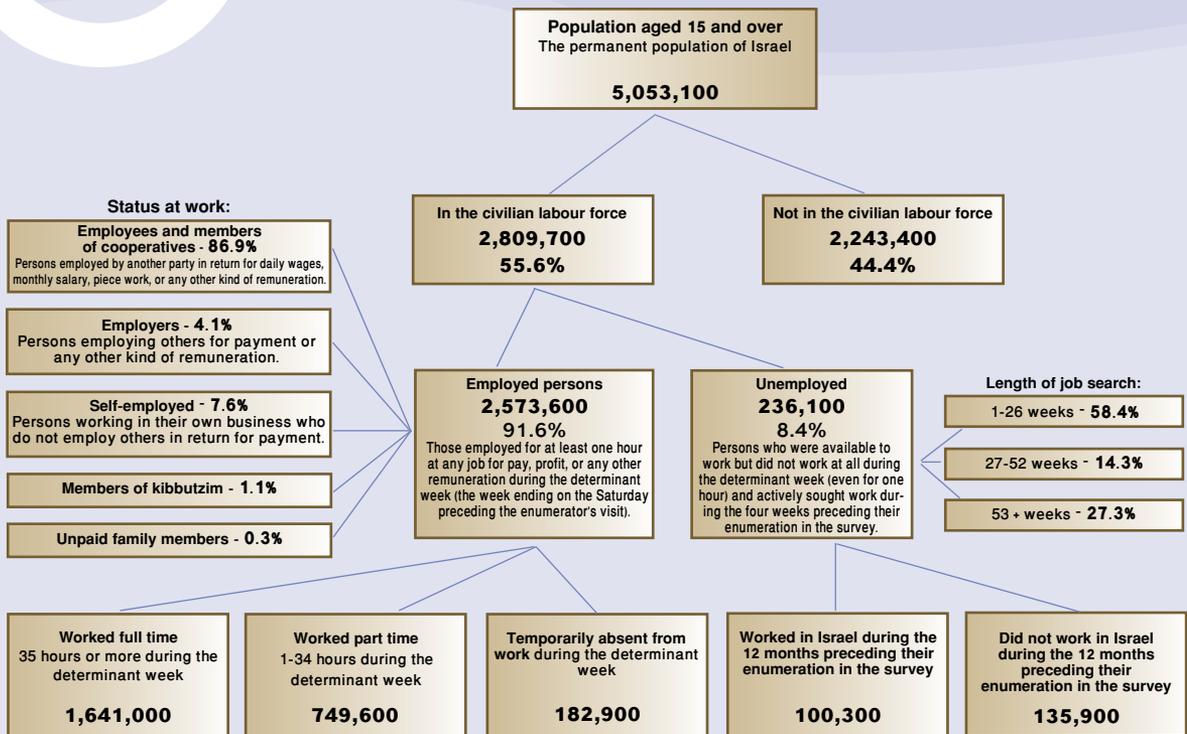


New Cases of Malignant Neoplasms, by Sex and Age, 2005



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 2006.

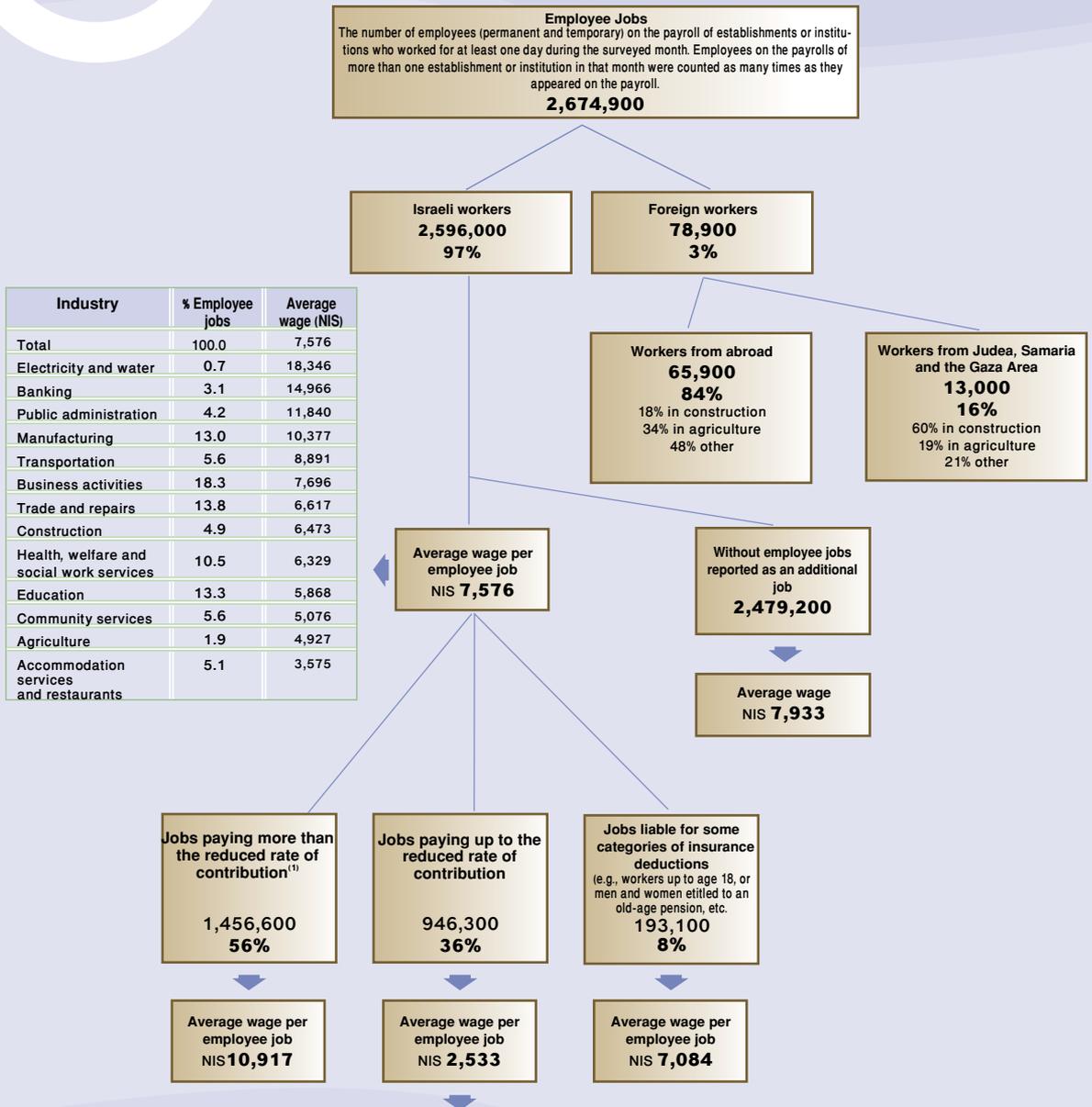


Occupation	Employed persons – Total	Usually employed part time	Women
		Percent of total employed persons	
Total ¹⁾	2,573,600	24.9	46.2
Academic professionals	358,000	25.2	48.7
Associate professionals and technicians	402,300	37.8	58.9
Managers	156,100	5.4	28.9
Clerical workers	407,800	23.7	74.9
Agents, sales workers and service workers	514,000	32.6	55.1
Skilled workers	466,700	8.6	10.4
Unskilled workers	205,900	36.8	40.8

¹⁾ Incl. unknown.

WAGES

Indices of wages and employment – 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 2006.



⁽¹⁾As of January 2006, National Insurance and State Health Insurance shall be reduced for income up to 60% of the average wage.

The industries that usually have a high number of part-time workers according to the data of labour force surveys are:

Education - 36% of the employee jobs paying up to the reduced rate of contribution and the average wage was NIS 2,667. 30% of the employees in education usually work part time.

Accommodation services and restaurants - 58% of the employee jobs paying up to the reduced rate of contribution and the average wage was NIS 2,104. 36% of the employees in this industry usually work part time.

Business activities - 43% of the employee jobs paying up to the reduced rate of contribution and the average wage was NIS 2,273. 18% of the employees in this industry usually work part time.

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.

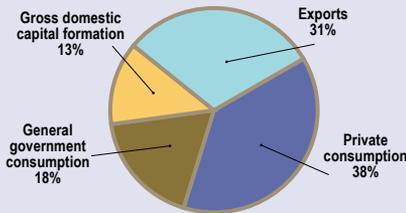
The main indicator of these accounts is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which reflects the net value of goods and services produced by economic units functioning in Israel.

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, 2006

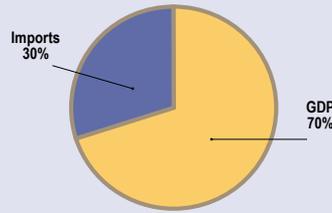
Gross Domestic Product (in current prices)	NIS	633 billion
Percent of growth in the GDP compared with previous year		5.2%
Gross Domestic Product per capita	NIS	89,750
Private consumption expenditure	NIS	344 billion
General government consumption expenditure	NIS	164 billion
Gross domestic capital formation	NIS	120 billion
Capital formation in economic industries	NIS	79 billion
Residential building	NIS	30 billion
Export of goods and services	NIS	280 billion
Import of goods and services	NIS	275 billion

Composition of Uses, 2006



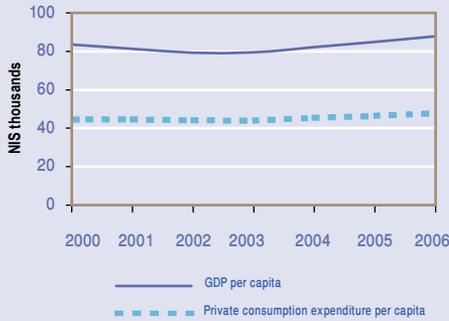
Total uses – NIS 908 billion

Composition of Resources, 2006

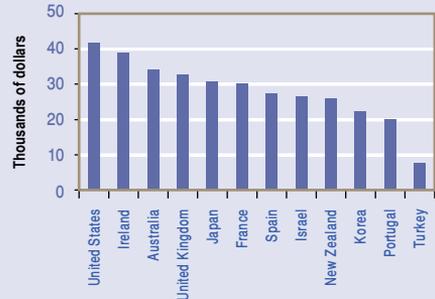


Total sources – NIS 908 billion

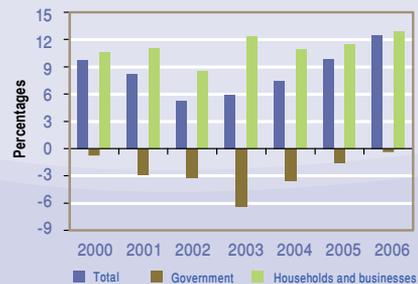
GDP per Capita and Private Consumption Expenditure per Capita, at 2005 Prices



GDP per Capita in International Prices (PPP - Purchasing Power Parities), 2005



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 2006, general government consumption expenditure amounted to approximately NIS 164.3 billion, which comprised about 26% of the GDP.

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

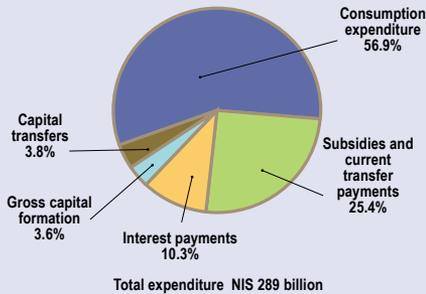
In addition, the general government expenditure includes transfer payments, interest payments, and fixed capital formation. General government expenditure amounted to approximately NIS 289 billion in 2006 (about 45.6% of the GDP).

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

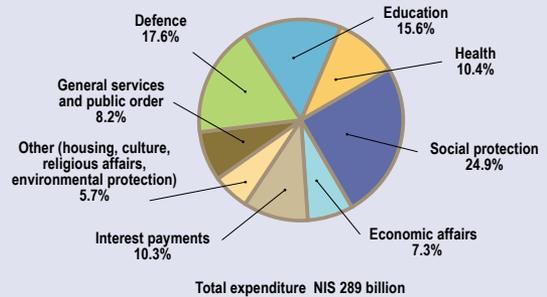
Receipts from taxes include: income tax; revenue from National Insurance payments; taxes on wages; fees, levies, and fines; Value Added Tax; taxes on imports; other indirect taxes; and capital taxes.

The total general government expenditure less total income equals the total deficit of the general government, which reached 1.4% of the GDP in 2006.

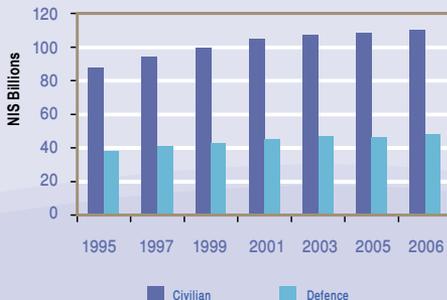
General Government Expenditure, by Type, 2006



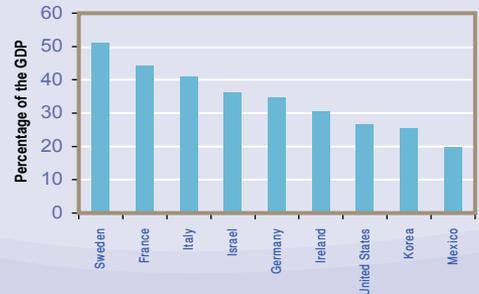
General Government Expenditures, by Function, 2006



General Government Consumption Expenditure, at 2005 Prices



Tax Burden – International Comparison, 2005



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, 2006

Exports		Imports	
	Billions of dollars		Billions of dollars
Goods - Total	43.7	Goods - Total	47.0
		Thereof:	
		Defence imports	2.5
Thereof: Export of goods to the Palestinian Authority	2.0	Import of goods from the Palestinian Authority	0.3
Services - Total	19.3	Services - Total	14.9
Thereof: Export of services to the Palestinian Authority	0.3	Thereof: Import of services from the Palestinian Authority	0.1

Foreign Trade

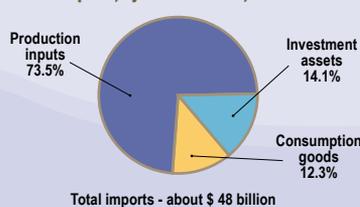
Exports of Selected Commodities (excluding exports to the Palestinian Authority) 2006	% of all exports
Diamonds	34.5
Pharmaceutical products	6.1
Electrical apparatus for line telephony	5.6
Industrial fatty acids	3.2
Electronic integrated circuits	2.7
Aircraft parts	2.0
Implements and tools for measuring or testing	1.9
Tools and equipment for medical sciences	1.6
X-ray apparatus	1.3
Mineral or chemical fertilizers	1.2

Imports of Selected Commodities (excluding Imports from the Palestinian Authority and excluding direct defense imports) 2006	% of all imports
Diamonds	18.9
Crude oils	10.0
Petroleum oils	3.7
Passenger vehicles	3.6
Computers	2.3
Electronic integrated circuits	2.0
Pharmaceutical products	1.7
Coal	1.6
Radio and telephony equipment	1.4
Parts and accessories for machinery	1.1

Imports and Exports of Commodities, by Continent, 2006



Imports, by Economic Use, 2006



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 2006, the gross domestic capital formation in building amounted to NIS 51.5 billion – 58% of that sum was allocated to residential building, 22% to non-residential building, and 20% to civil engineering projects.

Construction of Dwellings Completed



Area of construction (2006)

Construction completed - 6,847,000 sq. m.

Construction begun - 7,419,000 sq. m.

Dwellings (2006)

Construction completed - 29,900

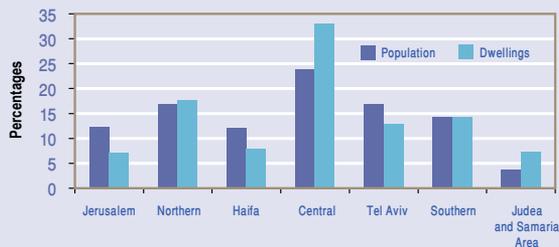
Construction begun - 29,678

Widening roads and construction of new roads (2005)

Completed - 433 km.

Begun - 536 km.

Dwellings Completed, Compared with Population Growth, by District, 2006



Electricity Supply, 2006

Total	46,175 million KWH
Household consumption	14,313 million KWH
Trade	13,785 million KWH
Manufacturing	10,387 million KWH
Water pumping	2,838 million KWH
Agriculture	1,755 million KWH
Bulk	3,097 million KWH

Source: Israel Electric Corporation Ltd.

Water Consumption by Purpose, 2005

Agricultural	1,126 million cubic meters
Domestic and public	715 million cubic meters
Industrial	120 million cubic meters

Water Production (Million Cubic Meters), 2005

Total	2,063
Mekorot Water Co. - Total	1,379
Wells	564
Hamovil Water Carrier	401
Upper water	211
Effluents and Dan Region Reclamation Project	203
Other producers - Total	684
Wells	319
Upper water	233
Effluents	132

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 2006, the Gross Domestic Product of manufacturing amounted to NIS 84 billion (excluding diamonds) and GDP per work-hour per employee job amounted to about NIS 125.

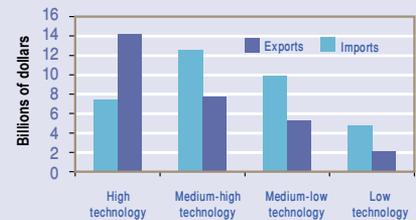
The manufacturing export was NIS 135 billion (43% of the total revenue in manufacturing), and is based mainly on high-tech products.

Establishments, Jobs and Revenue in Manufacturing, by Technological Intensity, 2006

Technological Intensity	Establishments	Jobs	Revenue (NIS Billions)
Total - absolute numbers	11,806	⁽¹⁾ 347,923	317
Percentages	100.0	100.0	100.0
High-tech (electronics, aircraft, and pharmaceuticals)	4.4	25.4	29.8
Medium-high tech (chemicals excl. pharmaceuticals, machinery, electrical equipment, and transport equipment excl. aircraft)	9.4	13.6	25.3
Medium-low tech (Mining and quarrying, rubber and plastic, basic metals, and metal products)	34.4	24.6	19.6
Low technology (Food products, beverages, textiles, wearing apparel, leather products, paper, printing, wood and its products)	51.7	36.4	25.3

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

Manufacturing Exports and Imports (Gross), by Technological Intensity (excluding diamonds), 2006



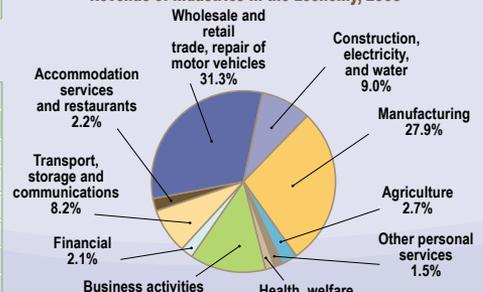
Establishments and Jobs, by Sector, 2006

Sector	Establishments		Jobs	
	Absolute numbers	Percentages	Absolute numbers	Percentages
Total	11,806	100.0	347,923	100.0
Private	11,563	97.9	294,808	84.7
Kibbutz and cooperative society	230	1.9	27,715	8.0
Public	13	0.1	25,400	7.3

Establishments and Jobs, by District, 2006

District	Establishments		Jobs	
	Absolute numbers	Percentages	Absolute numbers	Percentages
Total	11,806	100.0	347,923	100.0
Thereof:				
Jerusalem	985	8.3	22,473	6.5
Northern	1,603	13.6	59,168	17.0
Haifa	1,306	11.1	49,331	14.2
Central	3,185	27.0	95,853	27.6
Tel Aviv	3,485	29.5	78,627	22.6
Southern	1,062	9.0	37,686	10.8

Revenue of Industries in the Economy, 2006



Total about NIS 1.2 trillion (excluding diamonds)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

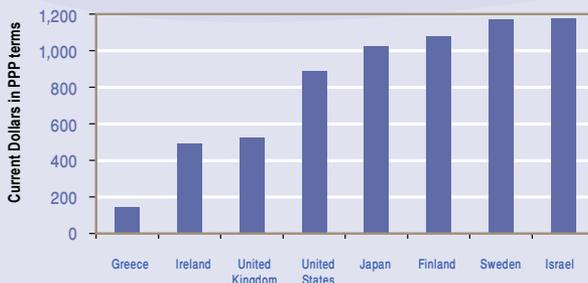
Research and Development (R&D)

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

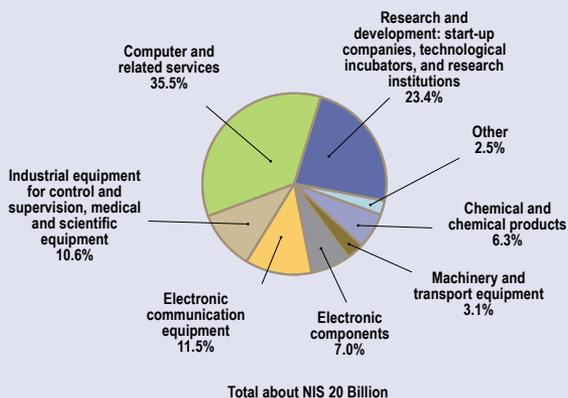
The value of investment in research and development in Israel as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the highest in the world.

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.

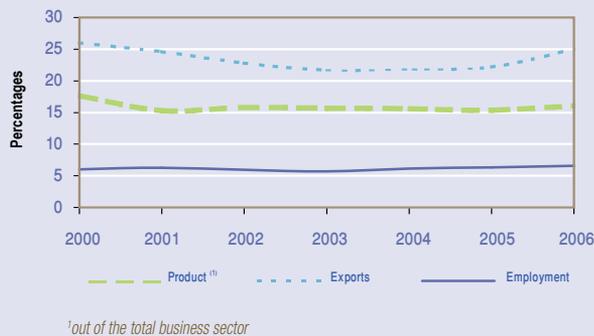
National Expenditure on Research and Development Per Capita - International Comparison, 2005



Expenditures for Business Research and Development 2004



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 2006, jobs in those industries, which comprise 8% 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 2006, 25% 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 2006 there were about 17,700 km. of urban, non-urban, and access roads in Israel. About 2.2 million Israeli civilian vehicles traveled approximately 43,200 million kilometers.

About 77% of the vehicles (1.7 million) are private cars; 354 thousand (16.3%) are trucks and commercial vehicles, 12,550 vehicles are buses (0.6%), and the remaining 124,000 vehicles (5.7%) are minibuses, taxis, special service vehicles, and motorcycles.

About 3.2 million licenced drivers drove these vehicles, and caused about 17,000 road accidents with casualties (excluding accidents with casualties that occurred in the Judea and Samaria Area). About 36,000 persons were injured in those accidents. Of those, 414 persons were killed, and bringing the total number of deaths in road accidents (excluding the Judea and Samaria Area) to 24,274 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, 2004

USA	828	France	635
Greece	711	Germany	626
Austria	674	Belgium	565
Switzerland	637	Israel	300

Source: International Road Federation

Accidents with Casualties, by Type of Accident, 2006

Total - Absolute numbers	17,193
	100.0%
Front-to-side collision	50.1%
Hitting a pedestrian	16.7%
Front-to-rear end collision	10.8%
Other collision	6.4%
Sideswipe	5.5%
Head-on collision	4.2%
Overturning	2.8%
Running off road, skidding	1.9%
Other	1.6%

Railways (2006)

Passengers – 28,351,000
Freight – 7,642,000 tons

Ships (2006)

Ships sailing - 5,239
Passengers - 261,000
Freight - 48,124 thousand tons

Aircraft (International) (2006)

Aircraft landings - 31,939
Passengers - 8,896,000
Thereof: In Israeli aircraft - 4,437,000
Freight - 318,747 tons
Thereof: in Israeli aircraft - 203,421 tons

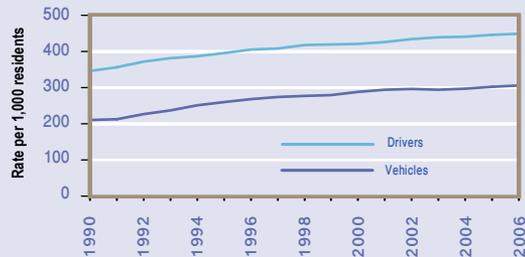
Post (2005)

Total mail – 775 million items
1,556,000 parcels

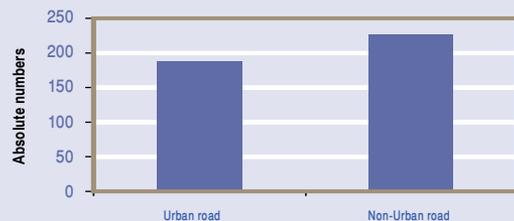
Communications (2006)

12,000 public telephones
54.6% of all households are connected to the Internet
87.2% of all households have at least one cellphone

Vehicles and Drivers



Killed in Road Accidents, 2006



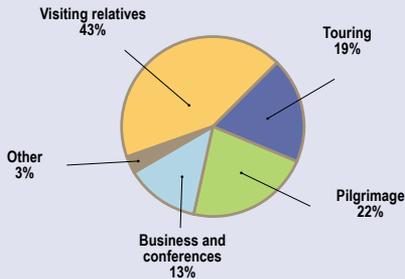
TOURISM



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 2006, there were 1,800,000 tourist arrivals to Israel, and 3,700,000 departures of Israelis abroad.

Tourists by Main Purpose of Visit, 2006

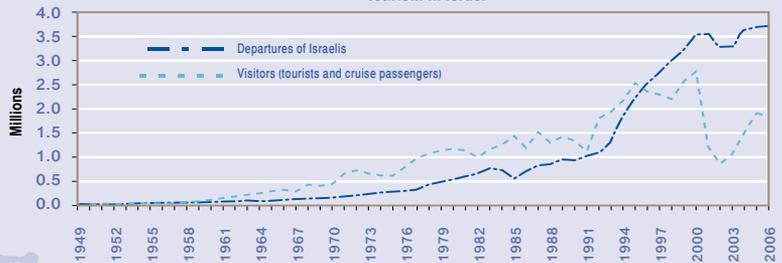


Accommodation Services, 2006

Accommodation services	Person-nights in all accommodation services	23,950,100
		100.0%
Tourist hotels		80.7%
Other hotels		5.7%
Rural tourism		8.5%
Youth hostels		3.7%
Field schools		1.4%
		100.0%
Israeli person-nights		68%
Tourist person-nights		32%

Tourist hotels	Hotels	331
	Rooms	46,534
	Person-nights in tourist hotels	19,307,700
	Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights	35.5%
	Room occupancy	58.0%

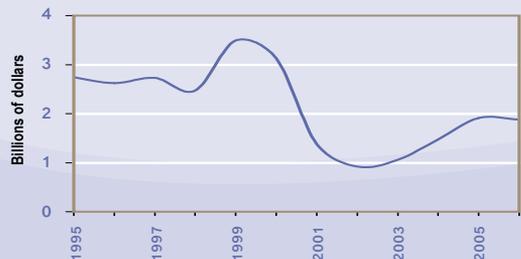
Tourism in Israel



Did you know?

In 2006, 2 million Israelis travelled abroad (some of them departed more than once, so that the total number of departures was 3,700,000). Israelis travelling abroad comprised about 29% of the total population of Israel.

Income from Tourists 1995-2006



AGRICULTURE

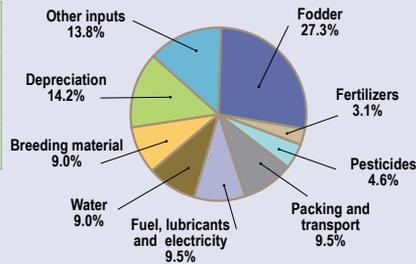
Agriculture includes: Plant crops, afforestation, gardening, livestock and livestock products. The agriculture industry has undergone many changes over the years. Israeli agriculture is developing in terms of the quantity and quality of produce, as well as in terms of diversification and growth in plant 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.



Area for Agriculture (Thousand dunams), 2004-05

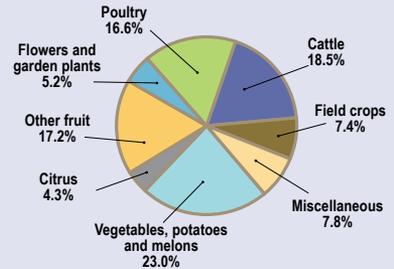
Total	3,951
Thereof:	
Field crops	1,561
Vegetables, potatoes and melons	649
Plantations	534
Citrus	161

Input (Resources Invested) 2006



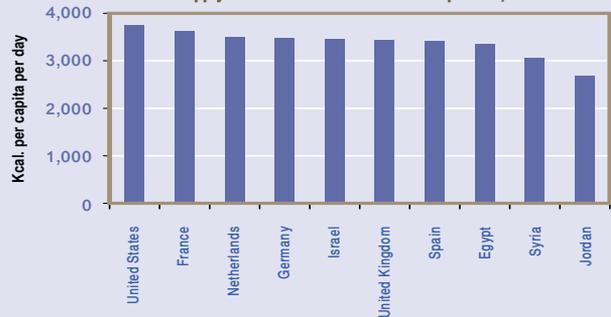
Total input - NIS 13.1 billion

Output (Final products) 2006

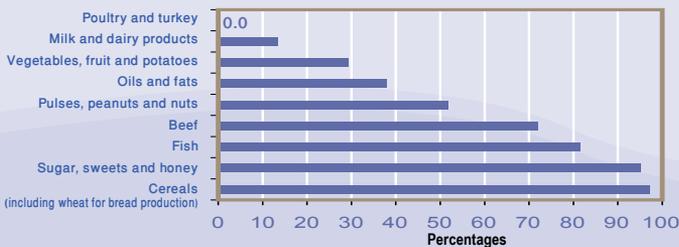


Total output - NIS 21 billion

Supply of Calories - international Comparison, 2003



Import Dependency Ratio of Israel by Main Products 2005



Did you know?

Planted forests in Israel comprise 5% of the land area in the country. In 2006, the forest area (under the care of the Jewish National Fund) spanned 999,000 dunams.



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