

NATIONAL POPULATION ESTIMATES

Estimates of the population and its demographic characteristics - both national and by geographic divisions - are based on the results of the population Censuses and on the changes which occurred in the population after the Censuses, as recorded in the Population Register. Since the end of 1995 and onwards estimates both of population and geographic distribution are based on the **1995 Census**.

DEFINITIONS

De jure population includes permanent residents - Israeli citizens and permanent residents without Israeli citizenship (including those who had been out of the country less than one year at the time of the estimate) - as well as potential immigrants staying in Israel or in Jewish localities in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area. Also included is an estimate of tourists and temporary residents residing in Israel for more than one year, based on the enumeration of this group at the time of the 1995 population Census, without subsequent updating.

The components of change in the de jure population are as follows: natural increase (births less deaths) and the migration balance. The positive elements of the migration balance are: immigrants and potential immigrants, tourists who changed their status to immigrants or potential immigrants, persons entering the country for the purpose of family reunification, returning potential immigrants, permanent residents returning to Israel after staying abroad more than 12 months and immigrating citizens. Residents staying abroad more than 12 months and potential immigrants staying abroad were subtracted from the above mentioned population. In the distribution of the population by religion, there is another component - net changes and corrections of religion. Up to 1995, this component was included in the migration balance (Tables 2.2, 2.5 and 2.6). As of 1996, it is included only in the total growth.

Because of errors in the recording of border movements, data on persons staying abroad for more than 12 months, and on persons who returned after an extended stay, have been based on estimates only. As of 1995, potential immigrants have not been included in these

movements, due to their small number.

The components of change of the population estimates by geographical divisions include (besides the above mentioned components) also internal migrants by their characteristics.

De facto population includes the permanent (de jure) population and potential immigrants, temporary residents and tourists staying in Israel or in Jewish localities in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area on the date of the estimate. Not included are permanent residents and potential immigrants absent from the country on the date of the estimate. Tables in this chapter refer to the permanent population, beginning with the data of 1961.

Population groups and religion: Up to the 1995 Census, tables include, as a rule, the population broken down by Jews, Moslems, Christians and Druze. Included with the Druze are members of other religions (such as: Buddhists, Hindus, Samaritans, etc.), who constitute only a few hundred in the population.

When this breakdown is impossible due to unavailability of data or to scarcity of cases in the total population, data are broken down by population groups only - "Jews" and "Other religions" or "thereof: Moslems".

Starting with the 1995 Census, due to the arrival of many immigrants not listed as Jews in the Ministry of the Interior, the definitions of religion and population group were altered in the population estimates tables. The Christian group was divided in two - Arab Christians and Other Christians, according to several criteria: locality of residence, nationality and country of birth. An Arab Christian is defined as anyone living in an Arab Locality or anyone who lives in another locality, but is listed as having an Arab nationality in the Ministry of the Interior. If these details were missing whoever was born in an Arab country or in Israel, but to a father born in an Arab country, was included in the Arab Christians group. The rest of the Christians are defined as Other Christians (not Arabs). Another group presented separately since 1995 is the group unclassified by religion in the Ministry of the Interior. The persons in this group are usually family members of Jewish immigrants, as is usually the case with other Christians.

As a result, the figures in the tables are classified by religion according to the following groups: Jews, Moslems, Christians - total, Arab Christians,

Other Christians, Druze and Religion Unclassified. The last group also includes members of religions that were not specified separately (Buddhists, Hindus, Samaritans, etc.), that up until 1995 were included with the Druze. In the 1995 Census this population comprised 400 persons.

The figures in the tables are also specified according to two population groups: **Jews and Others**, which includes Jews, Other Christians (not Arabs) and those unclassified by religion, and the **Arab Population** that includes Moslems, Arab Christians and Druze.

Age is defined as the number of completed years at the estimation date.

Country of birth is defined by borders at the time of the estimate, with the exception of the USSR, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. Data on those countries relate to the political situation before their dissolution.

Country of origin for persons born abroad - the country of birth; for persons born in Israel - father's country of birth.

EXPLANATIONS, SOURCES AND METHODS OF COMPUTATION

Basis for population estimates: The estimates until the Census of May 22, 1961 are based on the Registration of the Population conducted on November 8, 1948 and relate to the *de facto* population. From the 1961 Census on, the estimates relate to the *de jure* population. From 1972 through 1982, estimates are based on the Census of Population and Housing conducted in May 20, 1972. From 1983 through 1994 (incl. average population in 1995), estimates are based on the results of the Census held on June 4, 1983. As of 1995, the data on population are based on the Census of November 4, 1995, unless otherwise stated.

As of 1967, the population includes the residents of East Jerusalem (who numbered 70,900 at the end of 1967) and as of 1969, potential immigrants. In 1982, the Druze and Moslem population of the Golan (about 12,000 persons at the end of 1982) was added.

REVISIONS MADE FOLLOWING THE CENSUSES

Regarding the Jewish population, the results of the 1961 Census were very close to the current estimates, and therefore, served as the basis for the estimates. The 1972 results were adjusted to the current estimates, because of deficiencies in the number of children in the Census. The results of the 1983 Census were 42,520 persons lower than the current estimates. After evaluating the results, the Census figure was increased by

21,000 persons, as a basis for the estimates. In the 1995 Census the results for the Jewish population were lower by 70,000 persons than the current estimates.

After adjusting the current estimates by religious affiliation (by 20,000 persons) and after the results were evaluated, the Census results were increased as a basis for current estimates by 43,000 persons. Thus, there is a discontinuity between the estimates for the end of 1982 and the beginning of 1983, and between the estimates for the end of 1994 and the estimate for the end of 1995 (which is based on the 1995 Census).

Regarding the population belonging to "Other religions", results of the 1961 Census exceeded current estimates by about 4,000 persons (especially Moslems), and the 1972 Census results were lower by 5,000 (especially Christians). In the 1983 Census, the results for the Moslem population were lower than the current estimate by about 10,000 persons. After evaluating the results, the 1983 Census results were increased by 5,000 persons, as a basis for the estimates. In the 1995 Census the results for the Moslem population were similar to the current estimate. Over-enumeration in East Jerusalem was offset by under-enumeration of the Bedouin population. The results of the 1995 Census as a basis for estimates were lowered by 1,400 persons. The results for the Druze population in the 1995 Census were lower by 1,800 persons than the current estimate, but were accepted as a basis for the estimates. The results for Christians (who up until the 1995 Census also included persons whose religion was unclassified), were higher by 17,700 persons, mainly due to errors in the attribution of religion in the current population estimates (to the extent of 20,000 persons).

After the Census results were evaluated, the figures for the Christian population were increased by 4,100 persons as a basis for current population estimates. As of the end of 1995, persons not classified by religion are presented separately from the Christians.

Revisions to the 1983 Census resulted in an addition of 26,000 persons to the total population, and revisions to the 1995 Census added 45,800 persons as a basis for current population estimates.

Consequently, there are discontinuities between estimates for the end of 1960 and the beginning of 1961, the end of 1971 and the beginning of 1972, the end of 1982 and the beginning of 1983, and the end of 1994 and end of 1995.

Census figures in this chapter are after adjustment. The data for 1995 refer to the end of the year and not to the date of the Census which

was conducted in 4.11.1995.

Estimates by age, combined with other characteristics, are calculated once a year.

The estimate of age composition, for the end of a given year, is based on the estimate by age for the end of the preceding year, after "aging" all age groups by one year. Births, and immigrants by age, are added to this base, while deaths and the migration balance are subtracted. By adding the balance of additions and subtractions to the base, the estimate of age groups for the end of the year is obtained.

Average population until 1983 and from 1990 to 1993 was computed as the mean of the 12 monthly averages. From 1983 to 1989, when immigration was relatively at a low ebb, and from 1994 onwards, years in which immigrants arrived more or less evenly every month, the average population was calculated as half the sum of the population at the end and at the beginning of the surveyed year.

Immigrants from USSR (former) who immigrated since 1990 - the basis for the population estimate is the Population and Housing Census of 4.11.1995, to which 36,000 persons were added in a differential correction according to the year of immigration (to immigration year 1990 10,600 persons were added). This estimate refers to all the immigrants from the USSR, without differentiation by religion. The estimate also includes children who were born in Israel to mothers belonging to this population. Therefore, the components of change for this population are: natural increase (births less deaths) and the migration balance.

Due to revisions made in the Census, especially in the estimates by year of immigration (see above), there is a discontinuity between the estimates up to 1994 and the estimates after the Census.

Immigrant population from Ethiopia - for the first time in this Abstract data for immigrant population from Ethiopia are published. The table includes Ethiopian immigrants by two immigration periods: until 1989 and from 1990 and on. The estimate includes also the immigrant's children born in Israel.

Population projections - the projections are based on the population at the end of 1995, and the development expected from this year until the end of 2020. Presented here are projections based on 3 different assumptions regarding the levels of fertility and the migration balance. The assumption is that the number of immigrants for the total projected period is between 745,000 to 975,000, of which 535,000 and 600,000, respectively, are immigrants from USSR (former).

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION

DEFINITIONS

Locality is a permanently inhabited place that meets the following criteria:

- It is usually inhabited by 40 or more adult residents (until the 1961 Census - 10 residents and until 1997 - 20 permanent residents or more);
- It has self-administration;
- It is not officially included in another locality.
- Its establishment was approved by the planning institutions.

Localities are classified as "**Jewish**" or "**Non-Jewish**" according to the majority population in the locality. In most localities, there is a large majority either of "Jews" or of "Other religions".

There are eight urban localities, defined as "mixed", with a large majority of Jews, but with a considerable minority of persons of other religions: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Haifa, Akko, Ramla, Lod, Ma'alot-Tarshiha, Nazerat Illit (since 1983) and the rural locality Neve Shalom (since 1985). These localities were included among both "Jewish" and "Non-Jewish" localities, but in the total localities they were counted only once. The population listed under the religion "Jews" refers to Jews living in Jewish and Non-Jewish localities. The population listed under the Arab population group refers to Arabs living in Non-Jewish and Jewish localities.

Israeli localities in the Judea, Samaria and Gaza Areas, are included in the list of localities - their population included - detailed by type of locality, municipal status and size of locality.

District and sub-district were defined according to the official administrative division of the state. In 1982, the Golan Sub-district was added and included in the Northern District.

Natural region: Within the frame of the official division into 15 sub-districts, a more detailed sub-division was made into natural regions. Each natural region is part of one sub-district or, in some cases, identical to a whole sub-district or district.

Natural regions are continuous areas, as homogeneous as possible in their physical structure, climate and soil, as well as in the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of their population. Before the 1995 Census, the natural region system was updated and the number of regions rose from 45 to 50.

TYPE OF LOCALITY

Tables in this Abstract are presented according to the definitions determined for the 1983 Census, and updated for the 1995 Census.

Urban localities include all localities with 2,000 or more inhabitants and are classified by size.

Rural localities include all localities with a population of up to 2,000 (even if not agricultural).

Rural localities are sub-divided as follows:

Moshav is a rural locality, organized as a cooperative society which has the right to agricultural farm land, as defined by the Israel Land Administration. These localities consist of family units, each of which is an independent economic entity. Part of the production, and the economic administration is carried out by the cooperative society, the degree of cooperation being determined by the members;

Collective moshav is a rural collective locality, where production and marketing are collective and consumption is private;

Kibbutz is a rural collective locality where both production, marketing and consumption are collective;

Institutional locality: institutions which have the characteristics of a locality and are not within the municipal boundaries of another locality;

Communal locality: A locality organized as a cooperative society, which has no right to farm land, and where the extent of the cooperative activities (whether in production, consumption, municipal and social activities) is determined by its members.

Other rural locality: A locality numbering less than 2,000 residents which is not included in any of the other categories described above.

Living outside localities: Residents living outside the boundaries of any locality, in locations that do not have the characteristics of a locality (as defined above).

Bedouin tribes refers to the Bedouin population living outside localities, mainly in the Negev and in northern Israel (since the 1983 Census, this population has been included among those "living outside localities"). Reports of changes in personal data such as marriages, divorces, etc., among the Bedouin in the South are incomplete. In addition, the Bedouin often indicate the name of their tribe instead of the locality in which they live when asked to give their address. Since the Bedouin tribes are considered as "living outside localities", these reports may cause people to be registered as having moved from localities to outside areas. In addition this leads to excessive registration of births among those living outside localities, and to unreasonable birth rates and age

composition. As a result it is difficult to estimate the proportion of the Bedouin population outside localities, and the characteristics of the Bedouin population both within and outside localities.

CURRENT AND PERMANENT LOCALITY TYPE

There are localities for which the definition of type of locality may change, e.g., from rural to urban or from one type of urban locality to another. In order to enable comparison of demographic data from different years, a permanent locality type was determined. The permanent locality type was fixed after each Census and updated once midway between the Censuses. Before the 1995 Census, 1988 was the last year to which the permanent locality type referred.

As of 1995, the permanent locality type refers to that of the 1995 Census and appears in tables 2.6, 2.11 and 2.16, in the rest of the tables, the locality type is the current one.

METROPOLITAN AREA

A large cluster of local authorities whose territories are contiguous, and are integrated socio-economically and culturally.

Metropolitan area is a new term replacing the former term "conurbation". Unlike a conurbation, a metropolitan area also includes the territories of regional councils and rural localities that are economically and functionally integrated with the metropolitan localities.

The Tel Aviv metropolitan area includes all the localities of the Tel Aviv district, the Central district, and the Ashdod natural region.

The metropolitan areas were divided up according to their internal structure:

Core: the territory of the primary city serving as the focus of the population of the metropolitan area.

Inner Ring: the area containing the localities surrounding the core.

Middle Ring: the area containing the localities surrounding the Inner Ring (in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area only).

Outer Ring: area containing the localities surrounding the Middle Ring.

Sections (Northern, Eastern, Southern): sub-divisions of the rings in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area.

Two metropolitan areas were defined in Israel: the Tel Aviv and the Haifa metropolitan areas. The areas were defined for the 1995 Census.

MUNICIPAL STATUS OF LOCALITIES:

Three types of local authorities are distinguished:

Municipality refers to one locality only.

Local council refers to one locality only.

Regional council refers, generally, to a number of rural localities.

Regional councils include localities which have a representative on the council as well as localities that are within the municipal jurisdiction of the council, but are not represented in it. The latter, however are included in the number of localities in the council, and their population is included in the population of that council.

INTERNAL MIGRATION

The data on internal migration between localities are based on analysis of the file of changes recorded in the Population Register of the Ministry

of the Interior, referring to residents' notification of change of address. Data do not include first place of settlement of new immigrants, but include their changes of address.

As of the end of 1981, change of address has also been based on passport application forms, identity card applications and birth notifications; the use of birth notification was discontinued in mid-1990. Consequently, there has been a considerable increase in the number of changes registered since 1982, and one should be cautious in comparing data with previous years.

The data on internal migration in tables 2.16 and 2.17, are registration data. The data include all those who reported a change of address to the Ministry of the Interior in 1999, even if the change itself took place before.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

- 1023 Demographic Characteristics of the Population in Israel, 1994
- 1026 Population in Localities, 1994, Demographic Characteristics, by Geographical Divisions
- 1038 Internal Migration in Israel, 1993
- 1076 Immigrant Population from USSR (former), 1995 - Demographic Trends
- 1109 Internal Migration in Israel of Immigrants of the 1990's, 1997

CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING 1995

- 1 Population and Household - Provisional Results
- 3 List of Localities - Geographical Characteristic and Population - 1948-1995
- 7 Demographic Characteristics of the Population in Localities and Statistical Areas
- 8A Socio-Economic Characteristics of Population and Households in Localities

with 2,000 Inhabitants and More - Selected Findings (Hebrew only)

- 10A Level of Education of the Population in Israel - Selected Findings (Hebrew only)

TECHNICAL SERIES

- 70 List of Localities, Their Population and Codes 31 XII 1998

CURRENT BRIEFINGS IN STATISTICS

- 11, 1998 Population in Localities with 2,000 and More Inhabitants - Selected Demographic Data from the 1995 Census of Population and Housing.
- 16, 2000 Internal Migration in Israel, 1997-1998.
- 17, 2000 Immigrant Population from the Former USSR, Selected Data, 1998

PUBLICATION ON THE INTERNET SITE

Population Projections for Israel up to 2020

Functioning, Mobility and Self Assessment of Persons Aged 60+, Living in Households, 1997