

PRESS RELEASE

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Eve of Rosh Hashanah 5772 (2011)

On the eve of Rosh Hashanah 5772 (2011), the population of Israel numbers approximately 7,797,400 persons¹ – approximately 5,874,300 Jews, approximately 1,600,100 Arabs, and approximately 323,000 persons categorized as "others" (preliminary estimations at the end of September 2011).

Population Growth ([Chapter 2](#))

- **At the end of 2010**, Israel's population numbered 7.695 million persons¹: Of those, 5.803 million were Jews (75.4%), 1.574 million were Arabs (20.5%), and another 318,000 were Others² (4.1%).
- **The rate of growth of the total population during 2010 was 1.9%**, similar to the previous eight years. A similar rate of growth was prevalent in Israel during the 1980's, years with a low rate of immigration. In the 1990's, years with a high rate of immigration from the Former Soviet Union, the average rate of growth was approximately 3% per year.
- In 2010, the rate of growth of the Jewish population was 1.7%, of the Arab population – 2.5%, and of the population of Others² – 1.7%.
- The rate of growth of the Moslem population was 2.7%, of the Christian population – 0.9%, and of the Druze population – 1.8%.

¹ Not including foreign workers, whose number is estimated at approximately 217,000 in 2010 (a portion of them have stayed in Israel less than a year).

² Including non-Arab Christians and those not classified by religion in the Ministry of Interior.

Age and Sex ([Chapter 2](#))

- **The Israeli population is considered a relatively younger population than that of Western countries.** In 2010, the percentage of children aged 0-14 in Israel was 28%, compared to an average of 17% in other Western countries, and the percentage of those aged 65 and over was close to 10%, compared to 15%, respectively.
- The share of those **aged 75 and over** among the Israeli population grew moderately over the years: 4.7% in 2010, compared with 3.8% at the beginning of the nineties. Among Jews, the share of those aged 75 and over was relatively higher (5.8% in 2010, compared with 4.4% at the beginning of the nineties).
- The population's aging trend is continuing. In 2010, the median age rose and stood at 29.4 years. In 2009, the median age was 29.3. In comparing the sexes, the median age of men was 28.3 in 2010, and that of women was 30.5.
- **In Israel, there are 979 males per 1,000 females.** Up to age 29, the number of males is greater than the number of females, and from the age of 30 and over the number of females is greater than the number of males. At age 75 and over, 684 males are alive per 1,000 females.

Marital Status (Average for 2009) ([Chapter 2](#))

- In the Jewish population, a phenomenon of pushing off the age of marriage can be discerned, which is expressed by the high percentage of never-married persons aged 25-29. In 2009, approximately 64.4% of the men and approximately 45.5% of the women were still never-married at these ages, compared with 2000, in which approximately 54.0% of the men and 38.1% of the women at those ages were never-married.
- Among the Moslems only about 43.5% of the men and 19% of the women at those ages are never-married.

Origin ([Chapter 2](#))

- In 2010, the **proportion of natively born Israelis** in the population continued to show an increasing trend, and their number reached 4.3 million persons. The proportion of those born in Israel among the Jewish population and Others has increased consistently since the establishment of the State of Israel. Those born in Israel constituted 35% of total Jews at the time of the State's establishment, compared with 72.3% of total Jews at the end of 2010.
- **The largest category of origin³ was that of those who originated from Europe-America.** This category numbered more than 2.2 million persons at the end of 2010, approximately 36% of Jews and Others. Of Jews and Others, 37.7% were born in Israel, and their father was born in Israel as

³ "Origin": For persons born abroad – own continent of birth; for persons born in Israel – father's continent of birth.

well. Approximately 14.7% of total Jews and Others (898,000 persons) were born in Africa or their father was born in Africa. **The smallest category is those originating from Asia – approximately 697,000 persons – 11.4% of total Jews and Others.** Those born in Asia immigrated to Israel mainly in the 1950's and 60's, since then, immigration from Asia has almost entirely ceased.

Geographical Distribution of the Population ([Chapter 2](#))

- **Approximately 40% of Israel's population lives in the center of the country – approximately 24% in the Central District and close to 17% in the Tel Aviv District.** Approximately 17% live in the Northern District, approximately 14% in the Southern District; approximately 12% live in the Haifa District and the same in the Jerusalem District, and an additional approximately 4% live in the Judea and Samaria Area.
- **About half of the Jewish population is concentrated in Israel's center** (28.1% in the Central District and 20.7% in the Tel Aviv District).
- **Close to 60% of the Arabs are concentrated in the north of Israel** (43.2% in the Northern District and 14.5% in the Haifa District); approximately 13% of the total Arab population are found in the Southern District (most of whom are Bedouins).
- In 2010, **the population's percentage of growth was 1.9%**. In the **Jerusalem and Central** Districts, a growth larger than the average was recorded, similar to previous years (2.3% and 2.2%, respectively). In the **Tel Aviv** District the percentage of growth was lower, only 0.6%.
- **Among the six major cities in Israel (those that have more than 200,000 residents), Ashdod had the highest percentage of growth in 2010 (2.0%).** There was an **increase** in the percentage of growth in **Rishon LeZiyon** in comparison with the previous year (1.2% compared with 0.6% last year). The percentages of growth in the other major cities were: Jerusalem – 1.9%, Haifa – 1.0%, Petah Tiqwa – 0.8%, and Tel Aviv-Yafo – zero percent growth.
- **In 2010, the percentage of growth in rural localities reached 3.3%;** the main growth was recorded in communal localities (5.3%).

Internal Migration ([Chapter 2](#))

- **During 2010, close to 255,100 address changes (between localities) were recorded in the Population Register.** The number of address changes decreased compared with the previous year (2009), in which a record number of address changes (since the beginning of the 1990's) was recorded, and it stood at approximately 274,000 changes.
- **The Central District had the highest internal migration among districts in 2010;** it held this position in the previous two decades as well. During 2010, approximately 9,900 persons were added to the population in the Central District. In the Judea and Samaria Area, there was a positive

migration balance of approximately 3,500, slightly less than previous years. **In the Haifa District, a positive migration balance of approximately 1,200 persons was recorded in 2010**; thus, the directional change in the trend of the Haifa District's balance compared with previous years, in which there was a negative migration balance in the District, has continued. In other districts (Jerusalem, Northern, Tel Aviv, and Southern), the migration balance was negative. **The negative migration balance in the Jerusalem District was especially prevalent with -6,000 persons**; there were -2,700 persons in the Southern District. There was no clear trend in the Tel Aviv District in 2010, and the balance continued to be negative, at -4,300, compared with 3,900 in 2009.

- Similar to the previous year, in all the **cities numbering more than 200,000 residents**⁴ (except Petah Tiqwa), **there was a negative migration balance**. The negative migration balance with the **highest value** was recorded in **Jerusalem** (-7,300 persons). The **lowest value** negative migration balance was recorded in **Haifa** (-100 persons). In **Petah Tiqwa**, on the other hand, a **positive migration balance** was recorded of 1,900 persons (in 2009, the migration balance was higher and stood at 2,600).
- Of the eight cities with 100,00 to 199,999 residents, there was a positive internal migration balance in Ashqelon, Holon, Netanya, and Rehovot. A negative migration balance was recorded in all the rest of the cities in this group.⁵
- The migration balance among the rural population remained positive as it has been for many years, at 5,900 residents in 2010.

Population Density ([Chapter 2](#), [Table 28:1](#))

- **In 2010, the population density in Israel** (excluding the Judea and Samaria Area) **was approximately 334 persons per square kilometer**, compared with approximately 247 in 1995, and approximately 209 in 1989 (before the wave of immigration from the Former Soviet Union).
- For the sake of comparison, in Slovenia, with an area close to that of Israel, the population density was 101 persons per sq. km., and in Belgium, with a somewhat larger area, the population density stood at 356 persons per sq. km.
- **Tel Aviv District is the most densely populated district**, approximately 7,470 persons per sq. km. live in it. The Jerusalem and Central Districts are very densely populated as well, relatively, with 1,447 and 1,433 persons per sq. km., respectively. This is in comparison with the especially low population density in the north and south: approximately 286 persons per sq. km. in the Northern District and approximately 78 persons per sq. km. in the Southern District.

⁴ Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Haifa, Ashdod, Rishon LeZiyyon, and Petah Tiqwa.

⁵ The rest of the cities are: Be'er Sheva, Bene Beraq, Bat Yam, and Ramat Gan.

- The especially high population density in urban localities is influenced by a number of factors, such as a change in the area of jurisdiction or high rates of population growth. **The most densely populated city in Israel is Bene Beraq, in which the population density is 21,636 persons per sq. km. Of the cities numbering over 200,000 residents, Tel Aviv is most densely populated city (7,803 persons per sq. km.), followed by Jerusalem (6,296 persons per sq. km.).** Other cities with high population density include Bat Yam (15,962 persons per sq. km.), Giv'atayim (16,647 persons per sq. km.), El'ad (13,921 persons per sq. km.), and Qiryat Motzkin (10,170 persons per sq. km.). Of the Arab localities numbering over 10,000 residents, the most densely populated locality is Jisr Az-Zarqa, in which the population density is 7,926 persons per sq. km. It is followed by Nazareth with a population density of 5,172 persons per sq. km., and then Yafi with 4,102 persons per sq. km.
- The average population density in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area was 2,216 persons per sq. km., in the Haifa metropolitan area – 1,010, and in the Be'er Sheva metropolitan area – 63 persons per sq. km.

Marriages and Divorces ([Chapter 3](#))

- **In 2009, 48,997 couples married in Israel**, of those, 37,165 were Jewish couples (76%) and 9,999 were Moslems (20%).
- In this year, **13,233 couples divorced in Israel**, of those, 10,928 were Jewish couples (83%) and 1,393 were Moslems (11%).
- In 2009, the **rate of marriages was 6.5 per 1,000** persons in the population, and the **rate of divorces was 1.8 per 1,000** persons.

Live Births and Fertility ([Chapter 3](#))

- **In 2010, 166,255 infants were born in Israel, an increase of 3.2% compared with 2009.**
- **The average number of children per women⁶ (total fertility rate) in 2010 was estimated at approximately 3.03**, high in comparison with 2.96 in 2008-2009, and similar to the level at the end of the 1980's and the beginning of the 1990's.
- **In 2010, an increasing trend in the average number of children for Jewish women continued; it was estimated at 2.97 children per woman** (compared with 2.90 in 2009). **This is the highest level recorded since 1977.**

⁶ The average number of children a woman is expected to bear in her lifetime; the rate is based on the assumption that all the women will survive for the entire period of their fertility (between the ages 15 and 49), and that they will give birth according to the specific birth rates of women of the age they were in 2010.

- A slight increase in the number of children per woman was recorded also among Moslem women, from 3.73 in 2009 to 3.75 in 2010, as well as among women without a religious classification – from 1.56 to 1.64.
- The average number of children for Druze women decreased slightly after three years of stability, from 2.49 in the years 2007–2009, to 2.48 in 2010. A slight decrease was recorded among Christian women as well, from 2.15 children per woman in 2009 to 2.14 in 2010.
- **In 2010, the average age of mothers giving birth to their first child was 27.2. Among Jewish women, the average age was 28.1, and among Arab women 23.8;** of those, the average age of Moslem women giving birth to their first child was 23.4.
- In 2010, the average number of children per woman in urban localities was lower than the average in rural localities by approximately 0.4 children (2.99 compared with 3.42, respectively).

Life Expectancy and Infant Mortality ([Chapter 3](#))

- The life expectancy at birth in 2010 was 79.7 years for men, and 83.4 years for women.
- **Life expectancy among the general population did not rise in 2010, compared with 2009. However, among Arabs there was an increase in life expectancy, both for men and for women.** Life expectancy among Jews is higher than that of Arabs, but in recent years the gap has been reducing, and in 2010 it stood at 3.6 years among men and 2.7 years among women. In 2005 the gap stood at 4.4 among men and 4.5 among women.
- **The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births in 2010 was 3.7.** Thus, there was a continuation of the decreasing trend in infant mortality rates. The infant mortality rate was high among Arabs (6.9), compared with Jews and Others (2.6).

Cause of Death ([Chapter 3](#))

- **The main causes of death in 2009 were malignant neoplasms (cancer) – 25.7% of deaths, and heart disease – 16.9% of deaths.** The percentage of deaths from diabetes mellitus was 6.2%, and from cerebrovascular disease – 5.5%. Of the total deaths, 5.2% were from external causes (non-disease related causes). The distribution of causes of death in 2009 is similar to the distribution in 2008.

National Expenditure on Health ([Chapter 6](#); [Table 28.2](#))

- **The national expenditure on health, at constant prices, increased by 3% in 2010, compared with 2009.** The national expenditure on health, at current prices, totaled NIS 61.2 billion in 2010, which is 7.5% of the GDP.

- **In 2010, private financing of the national expenditure on health decreased to 38%**, from 39% in the years 2008 – 2009. The decrease was on account of the increase in the share of financing from collecting the health tax: 27% in 2010 compared with 26% in 2009. Within private financing, household expenditures on medicines and medical services (such as doctors, clinics, dentists) financed 28% of the national expenditure on health. The remaining 10% of the private financing was the expenditure of **private non-profit institutions and general hospitals belonging to them, and private insurance**. The percentage of financing from the government's budget decreased in 2010 to 33% from a level of 34% in 2009.
- In 27 OECD countries, **the percentage of the GDP for expenditure on health** is higher than that of Israel.
- In 2009, **expenditure per capita on health in Israel**, in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), was \$2,092 – similar to the expenditure of Slovenia and the Czech Republic, and lower than most other OECD countries. The USA had the highest expenditure per capita – \$7,960. Note that international comparisons do not take into account differences that are likely to influence the expenditure, such as age composition, employment structure, etc. Israel's relatively young population caused a reduction in the expenditure per capita on health in 2009.

Immigration and International Migration ([Chapter 4](#))

- In 2010, 16,633 immigrants⁷ arrived in Israel, an increase of approximately 14% in the number of immigrants compared with 2009. The largest amounts of immigrants were from the following countries: Russia (3,404 immigrants), USA (2,530), France (1,775), Ukraine (1,752), and Ethiopia (1,655).
- **In 2010, there was an increase in the extent of immigration from Ethiopia: From 239 immigrants in 2009 to 1,655 immigrants in 2010.**
- **The median age** (the age at which half the population are younger and half are older) of immigrants who arrived in 2010 was 30.2. It decreased somewhat compared with the previous year (30.6 in 2009). In 2010, the lowest median age was among the African immigrants (19.9), while the highest median age was among the European immigrants (33.7).
- **In 2010, immigration continued to be composed of a majority of women** – 919 men per 1,000 women.
- The migration balance⁸ of Israelis (not including immigrants) who departed from Israel during 2009 in comparison with Israelis who returned in 2009 was negative and stood at 4,900 Israelis

⁷ Including immigrants and potential immigrants, and excluding immigrating citizens.

⁸ The migration balance of residents is the difference between residents who departed abroad for a stay of a year or more and residents who returned after a stay abroad of a year or more.

(compared to a negative migration balance of 8,500 in 2008). The rate of the migration balance of residents of Israel stood at 0.7 per 1,000 residents. This was the lowest rate recorded in more than thirty years.

- In 2010, approximately 32,000 foreign citizens entered Israel with a work permit. Thailand, the Philippines, and the Former Soviet Union led the number of entries in 2010. In that year, approximately 30,000 workers from abroad who had entered with a work permit left the country.

Demographic Characteristics of Households and Families ([Chapter 5](#))

- **The number of households in Israel in 2010 was estimated at 2,166,200 households**, an increase of 1.3% compared with 2009. This rate was somewhat less than the population's rate of growth – 1.9%.
- Of the total households, a Jew stood at the head of 1,799,700 households (83%), and an Arab stood at the head of 315,600 households (about 15%).
- The average number of persons per household stood at 3.4 persons per household in the total population; in the Jewish population – 3.1, and in the Arab population – 4.8.
- Of the households, 1,746,400 (about 81%) are "family" households (in which at least one nuclear family lives) and 419,800 (about 19%) are "non-family" households, which are mostly households of one person living alone (they comprise approximately 18% of the total households).
- The proportion of households with one person is three times more among the Jews (20.0%) than among the Arabs (6.3%).
- **In 2010, 1,796,100 families lived in Israel.** Most of the families (about 91%) lived without additional persons or additional families in the household.
- **Among the total families in Israel, 24% are couples without children and approximately 50% are couples with children up to age 17. Of the total families in Israel, 6% are lone-parent families with children up to age 17.**
- In 2010, the number of lone-parent families with at least one child up to age 17 was 106,800. These families comprise approximately a tenth of the total families with children up to age 17 in Israel.
- Among the various population districts, **Tel Aviv District is characterized by the highest percentage of couples without children (33%) and the lowest percentage of couples with children up to age 17 (38%).**
- **The Southern District is characterized by the highest percentage of lone-parent families with children up to age 17 (about 8%),** compared with the national average of 6%.

- **The highest average number of persons per family was found in the Judea and Samaria Area (4.6 persons per family)** and in the Jerusalem District (4.3), and the lowest was in the Tel Aviv District (3.2).

Note: Data on households and families are based on the Labour Force Survey 2010, based on the 2008 Population Census estimates. The data include the total households, excluding households of institutions, kibbutzim, student dormitories, and those who live outside of localities (Bedouins in the South and others).

Society and Welfare ([Chapter 7](#))

- **One of every six persons in the total population is registered at social services departments of the Ministry of Social Affairs.**
- One of every four persons among the *Arab population* is registered at the social services departments.
- One of every three persons *aged 65 and over* is registered at the social services departments.
- One of every two persons *aged 75 and over* is registered at the social services departments.
- One of every two persons among the population of *Ethiopian origin* is registered at the social services departments.
- **In 2010, approximately 17% (approximately 1.3 million persons) of the total population were registered at social services departments of the Ministry of Social Affairs.**
- **Children up to age 14 comprised 27% of the total persons registered at the social services departments**, a percentage similar to their share in the general population (28%).
- **Approximately 20% were elderly persons over age 65**, twice as much as their share in the general population (9.9%). Fifteen percent of the men registered at the social services departments are elderly persons over age 65, and approximately 23% of the registered women.
- More than half (51%) of those registered belong to families with children, and approximately 18% to lone-parent families.
- **The rate of applications among the Arab population** is 1.4 times more than that of the Jewish population (222 per 1,000 persons versus 154 per 1,000 persons, respectively).
- **The rate of applications for social services among those born abroad** is higher than that of those born in Israel (206 per 1,000 persons versus 135 per 1,000 persons, respectively).
- The rate of applications among the **Ethiopian immigrants** is higher than that of the **immigrants of the Commonwealth of Independent States** who immigrated in 1990 and after (610 per 1,000 persons versus 162 per 1,000 persons, respectively).

Social Survey Data ([Chapter 7](#))

Religiosity, Persons Aged 20 and Over

- Among the Jewish population, 8% define themselves as ultra-Orthodox, 12% – religious, 13% – traditional-religious, 25% – traditional-not so religious, and 42% as not religious, secular.

Among other religions: 8% define themselves as very religious, 44% as religious, 27% as not so religious, and 21% not religious.

Changes in Level of Religiosity over Life Course

- 21% of the Jews aged 20 and over (approximately 790,000 persons) report that today they are **more religious** than they were in the past.
- 14% of the Jews aged 20 and over (approximately 520,000 persons) report that today they are **less religious** than they were in the past.
- **Newly observant: Approximately 200,000 persons aged 20 and over, which comprise 5.4% of the Jewish population** at this age, define themselves as newly observant. About half (49%) of the newly observant reported that the main cause for change in their level of religiosity was study and the acquisition of new knowledge, about a quarter (25%) changed as a result of influence from family, spouse, or environment, and 17% due to a personal crisis. Of those who became newly religious, 29% were raised in a secular home, 20% in a traditional-not so religious home, 33% in a traditional-religious home, and 14% in a religious home. Seventy percent of the newly observant were born in Israel.

Attitudes about the Public Sabbath Atmosphere (Opening places of entertainment, attending sports events, shopping on the Sabbath)

- **Most of the Jewish public (64%) is interested in allowing places of entertainment to be open on the Sabbath:** 93% of the secular, 76% of the traditional-not so religious, 35% of the traditional-religious, and 12% of the religious. Sixty percent of Jews support opening shopping centres outside of cities on the Sabbath.
- Less than half of the Jews (46%) support opening shopping malls and stores **within** cities on the Sabbath.
- 62% are in favor of having sports events on the Sabbath.
- 53% of the Jewish population support operating public transportation on the Sabbath.
- 59% of the Jewish population thinks that it is important to avoid paid work on the Sabbath (except emergency services, such as hospitals, ambulances, and fire department).

Education ([Chapter 8](#))

This year data on students of "yeshivot" and "kollelim" budgeted by the Ministry of Education are presented in the Statistical Abstract. The data relate to institutions for persons aged 17 and over; mainly men, who study in the budgeted institutions; women comprise only 3% in them.

- In 2009/2010, **138,249 students studied in budgeted yeshiva-type institutions**. This is an increase of approximately 28% compared with the number of students in 1997/1998.
- **83,055 students studied in a kollel framework** (60% of the total students); these are institutions designated for married men. An additional 40,047 studied in a "higher yeshiva" which is designated for single men. There were 8,407 students in Hesder Yeshivot, which combines service in the IDF with yeshiva studies.
- **Approximately 11% of the students do not have Israeli citizenship** – most of them are USA citizens.
- Most of the students study in yeshivot that are under Ministry of Education supervision in Jerusalem and Bene Beraq: Approximately 39% study in Jerusalem, and approximately 15% in Bene Beraq.

Athletes Actively Engaging in Individual Sports ([Chapter 9](#))

This year data on athletes actively engaging in individual sports, who receive a budget from the Sports Authority, appears in the Statistical Abstract. The data were based on files obtained from the Sports Authority, and processed in the CBS.

- Of the individual sports, **tennis has the highest number of active athletes (3,030)**, followed by athletics and exercise (1,893).
- **The sports division with the highest participation of children up to age 11 is ice skating (78%)**, and in fact this is the sole division in which most of the athletes are of this age.
- **The sport division with the highest participation of Arab athletes is Wusho, boxing, and judo (9%)**.

Students Studying Cultural Fields and Sports ([Chapter 9](#))

Data on students studying cultural fields in universities, colleges, and non-academic tertiary-Type B education appear this year in the Statistical Abstract. The data are based on files obtained from the universities and colleges, and are processed by the CBS.

- **70% of the students studying cultural fields in universities are women.**
- In universities, the cultural field in which the percentage of women studying is the highest is **art therapy (97%)**. In academic colleges and colleges of education, the field in which the percentage of women studying is the highest is **dance (94% and 95%, respectively)**.

- In colleges of education, 81% of the students studying for a first degree in cultural fields and sports are women, but in studies for a second degree only 3% of the students in these fields are women.
- 4,556 students in non-academic tertiary-Type B education study in cultural fields. The largest number of tertiary-Type B students study in the field of design and graphics (1,804, which comprises 40% of the students studying culture fields).

National Expenditure on Education ([Chapter 8](#); [Table 28.4](#))

- **In 2010, the national expenditure on education, at constant prices, increased by 3.5%**, following an increase of 4.1% in 2009. Expenditure on education includes the expenditures of public and private educational institutions in all levels of education – from pre-primary to higher education, as well as households' expenditure for private lessons, textbooks, etc.
- **The most updated OECD figures (for 2008) show that the expenditure on educational institutions in Israel is relatively high – 7.3% of the GDP, compared with 6.1% in OECD member countries.** In this comparison, one should take into account that the percentage of young people in the Israeli population is relatively higher than that of OECD nations. Thus, Israel has a higher percentage of students while at the same time the percentage of residents at working age who can fund education is less.
- **A comparison of the average expenditure per student at Purchase Price Parity (PPP) shows that in Israel the average expenditure per student in all levels of education is lower than the average in OECD countries. The gap is especially prevalent in tertiary and higher education:** \$12,568 in Israel compared with \$18,239 in the OECD; and in pre-primary education: \$3,953 in Israel compared with \$6,254 in the OECD.
- The latest data on funding for 2010 expenditures shows that the government, local authorities, and non-profit institutions funded 80% of the expenditure for education, and households funded 20% of the expenditure.

National Expenditure for Culture, Entertainment, and Sport ([Chapter 9](#))

- **National expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport in 2010 totaled NIS 41.9 billion, which comprises 5.2% of the Gross Domestic Product.** National expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport, at constant prices, increased by 6% in 2010, in comparison with 2009.
- Households funded a sum of approximately NIS 34 billion, which comprises 83% of the national expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport.
- 66% of the total household expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport was the expenditure for cultural services (plays, movies, concerts, and more); the rest was for the purchase of products (television sets, personal computers, and others).

- **The largest expenditure of the total current expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport was for music and performing arts – 19.8%.**
- The current expenditure for culture, entertainment and sport per capita, at current prices (NIS 5,219 in 2010), rose by 4.5%, after a decrease of 2.5% in 2009.
- Investment by government, local authorities, and non-profit institutions in buildings and equipment for the use of culture, entertainment and sport totaled approximately NIS 2.1 billion at current prices in 2010. Most of the investments were made by local authorities (84.1%).

National Expenditure on Civilian R&D ([Chapter 26](#))

- **National expenditure for civilian research and development, at current prices, totaled NIS 35.8 billion in 2010, and its share of the GDP was 4.4%.** In 2010, the national expenditure for civilian R&D, at constant prices, increased by 1.2%, after a decrease of 3.4% in 2009 and an increase of 3.8% in 2008.
- In 2010, **the expenditure for R&D in the business sector rose by 1.8%**, at constant prices, an increase that mainly reflects an increase in R&D of the computers and computer services division (6.4%) and the manufacturing divisions (2.0%). In the R&D companies there was a decrease of 2.3%.
- The expenditure for civilian R&D in the business sector reached NIS 28.6 billion in 2010 (at current prices), which is 80% of the total national expenditure for civilian R&D. The rest of the expenditure for R&D was spent by the higher education sector (13%), government (4%), and private non-profit institutions (3%).
- International comparison to 2009 shows that the Israeli investment in R&D as a percentage of the GDP (4.5%) was higher than OECD member countries. **The percentage of investment for civilian R&D was 4.0% in Finland, 3.5% in Sweden, 3.4% in Japan and South Korea, and 3.0% in Switzerland. In six countries the percentage ranged between 2.0-2.7%: Iceland, Australia, United States, Germany, Belgium and France. In the rest of the countries it varied from 0.5 - 1.9%.**

National Accounts ([Chapter 14](#))

Income and Expenditure of Non-Profit Institutions, by Field of Activity, from 1991 - 2010

- **Expenditure on services by the general non-profit sector (at constant prices) increased consistently in the years from 1991 – 2010, except for 2003.** The average rate of quantitative growth was 3.7% per year.

- **The three main sources of funding** of non-profit institution activity (in 2007) were: Current government funding (52% of the income), sales of services to the government and private sector (32%), and private donations from businesses and from abroad (14%).
- **The percentage of non-profit institution income coming from current transfers from government** was highest in the fields of health (64% of income), and education and research (62%). Among the rest of the fields of activity, current transfers from government ranged from 9 – 39% of total income.
- Labour cost was the lion's share of expenditures of non-profit institutions in the fields of education and research (72% of expenditure) and social services (50%). In the other fields, labour costs ranged from 20 – 48%, with the exception of the field of philanthropy and voluntarism in which the labour cost was especially low and stood at 6% of the expenditure.

Agriculture ([Chapter 19](#))

- **The value of agricultural output in 2010 stood at NIS 26.5 billion** (NIS 16.2 billion – crops; NIS 10.3 billion – livestock and livestock products). **Compared to 2009, there was an increase of approximately 1% in the output value** (an increase of about 2% in livestock and livestock products, and no change in crops); this stemmed from an increase in the output prices by 3.0% and a decrease in the output quantity of 2.1%.
- **In 2010, there was an increase of 6.3% in the quantity of citrus fruit for export, compared with 2009.** There was a decrease of approximately 7.5% in the quantity of vegetables, potatoes, and melons, which resulted from the heat waves in Israel in 2010, among other things.
- The value of agricultural input increased in 2010 by 7.1%. This increase stemmed mainly from an increase in the prices of fodder, water, lubricants and electricity, and pesticides.
- **There was a decrease of 9% in the consumption of water in agriculture in Jewish and mixed localities**, from 1,009 million cubic meters in 2008 to 996 million cubic meters in 2009.
- In 2010, there was no significant change in the export of organic agriculture, which stood at 73,600 tons (mainly vegetables and field crops).
- **The import of apples increased from 8.8 million tons in 2009 to 9.7 million tons in 2010**, and the import of pears from 1.3 million tons to 2.6 million tons, respectively.

Food Supply Balance Sheet ([Chapter 19](#))

- **3,517 kilocalories per capita were made available to the public in 2009**; a third came from cereal and cereal products. 19% came from oils and fats, 10% from fruits, and vegetables and melons, 11% from meat, and 8% from milk and dairy products. There were also 112 grams of

protein per capita available to the public, half of which originated from animals, and 145 grams of fat, half of which originated from oils and fat and about a third from animals (18% from meat).

- **In 2009, Israel supplied:** 218 kg of vegetables per capita, 172 kg of fruit, 127 kg of cereals and cereal products, 175 liters of milk, 42 kg of potatoes and potato starch, 21 kg of sugar and sweets, 68 kg meat, 8 kg of fish, and 248 eggs, per capita.
- **There was a steady decline from 1950 - 2000 in the relative share of total calories supplied by cereals and cereal products (from 48% to 31%). Since 2000, there has been a slight increase in the share of cereals.**
- **The proportion of oils and fats in the supply of calories has increased gradually from 13% in 1950 to 19% in 2009.**

Construction ([Chapter 22](#))

- **In 2010, construction began on approximately 40,000 apartments, an increase of approximately 13% compared to 2009.** However, the number of dwellings whose construction was completed in 2010 increased moderately by just 1%. Note the high number of apartments in the active building process, approximately 70,600 apartments at the end of 2010, an increase of 10.1% compared to the end of 2009. The number of new dwellings sold under privately initiated construction increased, 18,000 dwellings in 2010 compared to 16,400 apartments in 2009.

Transport and Communication ([Chapter 24](#))

- **Number of vessels** – The number of vessels in the merchant fleet in 2010 numbered 56 ships (54 in 2009), 44 of them were cargo ships, with a gross tonnage of 2,114,000 tons, and a deadweight of 2,405,000 tons.
- **International air movement** – In 2010, 40,512 aircraft landed in Israeli airports, an increase of approximately 5% in the number of landings compared with 2009. In 2009 there was a decrease of approximately 5% in the number of passengers arriving and departing, which was followed by an increase once again in 2010 of approximately 9% – 11,571,000 passengers compared with 10,574,000 in 2009.
- **Railway** – **In 2010, close to 36 million passengers traveled on the railway.** There was no significant change in the number of passengers over the past two years, thus halting the increase that had been recorded until 2008.
- **Ports** – In 2010, there was an increase of approximately 17% in freight traffic to and from Israel. This followed a decrease of approximately 10% in 2009. In 2010, 24,142,000 tons of goods were unloaded at Israel's ports of trade, an increase of 12% compared with 2009. In addition, 19,270,000 tons of goods were loaded, an increase of 25% compared with 2009.

- **In 2010, 583,000 passengers passed through Israel's ports, an increase of 53% compared with 2009.**
- **Road accidents with casualties** - In 2010, there was a decrease of approximately 10% in the number of road accidents with casualties, of which 305 were fatal (the data do not include the Judea and Samaria Area). However, in this year there was an increase of 12% in the number of those killed compared with 2009 (352 killed in 2010, compared with 314 killed in 2009).
- **Motor Vehicles** - In 2010, 277,000 vehicles were added to the number of vehicles, of which approximately 244,000 were new vehicles. During this period approximately 169,000 vehicles were subtracted from that total, so the net addition to the number of vehicles amounted to only about 107,000 vehicles, an increase of 57% compared with 2009.
- In 2010 there were 395,100 vehicles powered by diesel, about 15% of all vehicles. The percentage of private vehicles that use diesel fuel continued to increase, and reached 59,217 in 2010, which comprised only 2.9% of all private vehicles. In 2010, 8,253 vehicles were powered by natural gas (about 6,700 in 2009), of which approximately 6,181 were private vehicles (about 5,000 in 2009).

International Comparison of Motor Vehicles, Level of Motorization, Road Accidents with Casualties and Fatalities ([Table 28.23](#) and [Table 28.24](#))

- In 2008, the rate of fatalities in road accidents in Israel stood at approximately six deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, similar to Turkey and Finland. In the United States, the rate of fatalities reached 12 per 100,000 residents.
- **The level of motorization in Israel is relatively lower than other countries.** In 2008, there were 206 vehicles traveling per 1,000 residents in Israel, in Italy – 596, in Switzerland – 522, and in Austria – 514.

Environment ([Chapter 27](#))

- **The Dead Sea continues to recede at a rate of over one meter per year and in December 2010 reached an unprecedented low of -424 meters below sea level.**
- The **water level of the Sea of Galilee** in November 2010 was -213.9 meters below sea level. The average lake salinity was 273 milligrams of chloride per liter (according to the Ministry of Health's public health regulations, the desired maximum concentration of chloride in drinking water is 250 milligrams per liter).
- In 2010, the average percentage of exceedance results of bacterial (intestinal enterococcus) detection tests at the beaches stood at 3.3%. **Beaches at which the most exceedance results were recorded were Bat Galim (13.6%) and Sironit (10.5%).**

- Coastal aquifer salinity continues to rise, reaching a peak of 223 milligrams of chloride per liter in 2010. However, the mountain aquifer salinity decreased in the past year and reached 139 milligrams of chloride per liter.
- In the coastal rivers, an increase in chemical oxygen demand (COD) was measured, which is a measure of industrial wastewater pollution.
- **There was a decrease in the total quantity of wastewater treated in treatment plants - 455 million cubic meters in 2010** compared to 465 million cubic meters in 2009. This decrease is probably due to the reduction of water consumption in the commercial and domestic sector. The amount of wastewater treated in the DRRP Plant (Dan Region Wastewater Treatment Plant) decreased as well - 126 million cubic meters in 2010 compared to 127 million cubic meters in 2009.
- **There continued to be a decrease in emissions of pollutants from motor vehicles:** Carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur oxides (SO_x), hydrocarbons (HC), nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and suspended particulate matter (SPM) emissions decreased as a result of technological improvements and improved fuel quality.
- **There was a reduction in emissions from fuel combustion in 2010** of sulfur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and suspended particulate matter (SPM), as a result of increased natural gas use, while reducing use of fuel oil. On the other hand, there was an increase of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 3% compared with 2009.
- In 2009, approximately 74 million tons of greenhouse gases were emitted in Israel, in terms of carbon dioxide (CO₂), and the emission per capita in 2009 stood at approximately 9.91 tons (a decrease of 5% compared with 2008). The decrease in emissions from 2008 to 2009 was mainly due to a change in the basket of fuels used in the energy industry and from a decrease in the use of the greenhouse gas sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). In addition, there was a decrease in emissions per capita, which were reduced by 7% compared with 2009.
- There was a substantial increase in exceedances from the half-hourly standard in measurements of total nitrogen oxides in monitoring stations in the central region and Jerusalem.
- Total household and commercial waste stood at approximately 4.6 million tons in 2010 in Israel; the national average is approximately 1.7 kg of waste per capita per day.
- **In 2010, the planted forest area increased** by 1.1% and reached 1,035,000 dunam. The areas consumed by fire were particularly large (mainly as a result of the Carmel forest fire) and encompassed approximately 54,000 duman.