

Media Release

info@cbs.gov.il; www.cbs.gov.il; Fax: 02-6521340

Jerusalem
December 21, 2022
415/2022

Christmas 2022 - Christians in Israel

- **On the eve of Christmas 2022, approximately 182,000 Christians¹** live in Israel; they comprise about 1.9% of the State of Israel's population. The Christian population grew by 2.0% in 2021.
- 75.8% of the Christians in Israel are Arab Christians. They constitute 6.9% of the total Arab population of Israel.
- **Most of the Arab Christians reside in the Northern District (70.2%) and in the Haifa District (13.6%).**
- 39.0% of the non-Arab Christians reside in the Tel Aviv and Central Districts, as compared to 36.3% in the Northern and Haifa Districts.
- **The localities with the largest Arab Christian populations** are Nazareth (21,100), Haifa (16,700), Jerusalem (12,900), and Shefar'am (10,500).
- 582 Christian couples **married** in Israel in 2020.² The average age at the first marriage of Christian grooms was 30.6, and that of Christian brides was 26.8. These ages are higher than the average marriage ages among the other religions, for both grooms and brides.
- In 2021, 2,434 **infants were born to Christian women**, about 72% of whom (1,749 infants) were born to Arab Christian women.

¹ This preliminary estimate for December 2022 excludes Christians who do not appear in the Population Register (foreigners).

Other than this preliminary estimate, the population data in this release are for the end of 2021.

² Marriage data for 2020 were affected by the closures and restrictions put into place in Israel during that year due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**For explanations and clarifications,
please contact the Statistical Information Center at 02-659-2666**

- In 2021, the **total fertility rate** of a Christian woman was an average of 1.77 children per woman. The number of children per Arab Christian woman was lower still, at 1.68 children per woman.
- The **average size of a household** headed by a Christian was 3.06 persons – similar to the size of households headed by a Jew (3.05), and lower than the size of households headed by a Moslem (4.46).
- **The average number of children up to age 17** in Christian families with children up to this age is 1.86. Of these Christian families, the average number of children up to age 17 in Arab Christian families is 1.94 – smaller than the numbers in Jewish families (2.42) and in Moslem families (2.62).
- In the 2021/22 school year, 26,752 Christian **students** – 1.4% of the total number of students – attended primary and secondary schools.
- 83.8% of Christian 12th-grade students were eligible for a **matriculation certificate**.
- 52.9% of the Arab Christians **continued their studies toward a first degree within eight years of graduating high school**, compared to only 31.2% of the total number of high-school graduates in the Arab school system and 48.2% in the Hebrew education.
- The **proportion of women among the Christian students** was higher than women's proportion among the total number of students in the advanced degrees: 65.2% and 53.1%, respectively, of those studying for a third degree, and 73.8% and 64.2%, respectively, of those studying for a second degree.
- Compared with Moslem students, the percentage of Christian-Arab students studying for a first degree (bachelor's degree) was lower in the following **fields of study**:³ Education and teacher training, Business and management sciences, as well as Paramedical studies. In contrast, the percentage of those who studied Social sciences (excl. Business and management sciences), Law, as well as Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer sciences was higher.
- Of all students who were studying for a first degree, representation among the Christian students was highest in the following **subjects of study**:⁴ musicology (15.7%), management information systems (10.5%), and food engineering and technology (9.9%).

³ Fields in which at least 100 students studied for a first degree are discussed.

⁴ Subjects for which there were more than 100 cases of students studying toward a first degree. Excluding the academic colleges of education. Students studying two fields were counted in each of their fields of study.

- **The percentage of participation in the labour force** in 2021 among **Christians** aged 15 and over was 66.3% (69.2% of men and 64.1% of women). This figure was 56.4% among **Christian Arabs** (63.8% of men and 49.2% of women).
- Approximately 16,300 Christians – a rate of 89.7 per 1,000 persons – were **registered at the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs** in 2021.
- In 2021, about 4,400 Christians – a rate of about 24.4 per 1,000 persons – were **placed in social service frameworks**.
- In the year of judgement 2020, the rate of persons **judged in criminal trials** among the Christian population in Israel was about 208 per 100,000 persons, out of those judged, the rate among **non-Arab Christians** was substantially **higher** than the rate among **Arab Christians** (about 289 and 181 per 100,000 persons, respectively).
- The rate of **convicted** Christians was about 185 per 100,000 persons. The rate of **non-Arab Christian** persons convicted was substantially higher than the rate of **Arab Christians** (about 252 and about 164 per 100,000 persons, respectively).
- The **most common offences among persons convicted** from the Christian population in Israel are as follows: offences against public order (22.9%), bodily harm (21.8%), property offences (16.1%), and morality offences (15.0%).

Selected Data on the Christian Population (end of 2021)

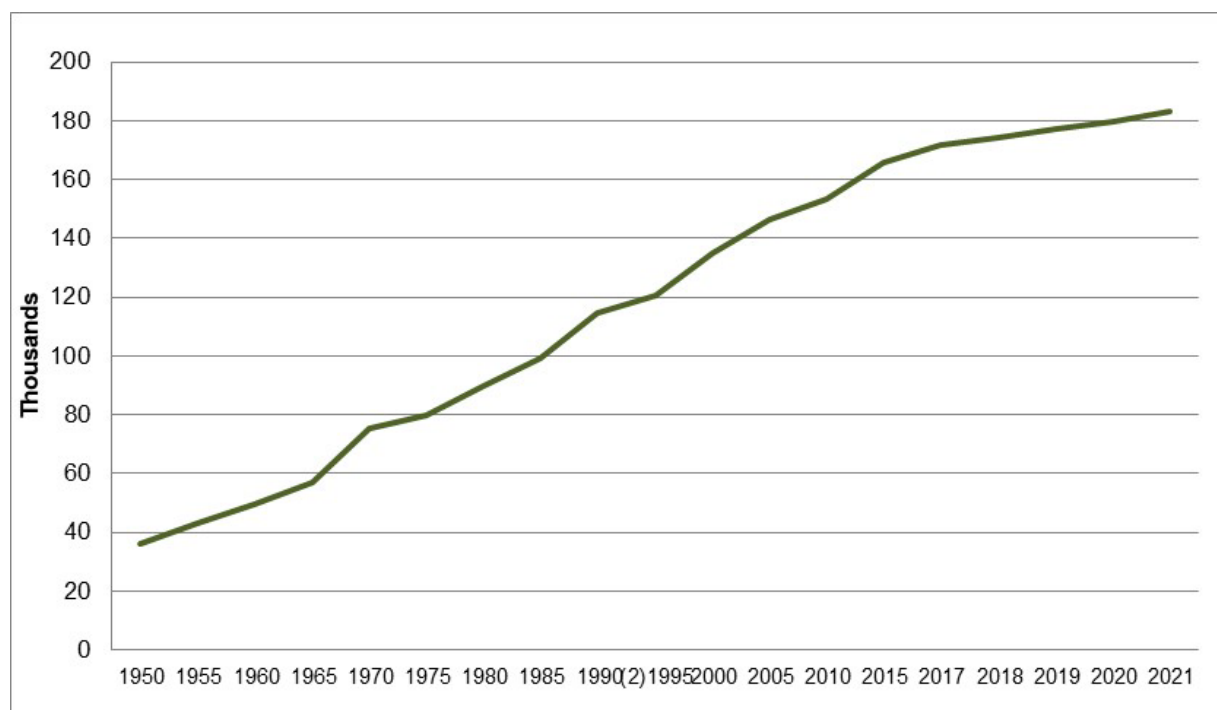
At the end of 2021, there were approximately 183,000 Christians living in Israel, comprising 1.9% of the total population in Israel: 75.8% of the Christian population in Israel (138,800) were Arab Christians, comprising 6.9% of the total Arab population in Israel.

Of the Christian population in Israel, 24.2% (44,400) were non-Arab Christians. Most of them (including their children who were born in Israel) immigrated to the country with their Jewish family members under the Law of Return during the 1990s.

The growth rate of the **overall Christian population** was 2.0% in 2020. By way of comparison, the growth rate of the Jewish population was 1.6%, and that of the Moslem population was 2.2%. During the course of 2021, the Christian population grew by 3,600 persons, of whom 966 were added as a result of natural increase and 952 as a result of a change of religion.

Another 1,713 Christians were added to the Israeli population in the international migration balance, compared to 1,257 in the previous year.

Diagram 1 - The Christian Population of Israel, 1950–2021 (1)



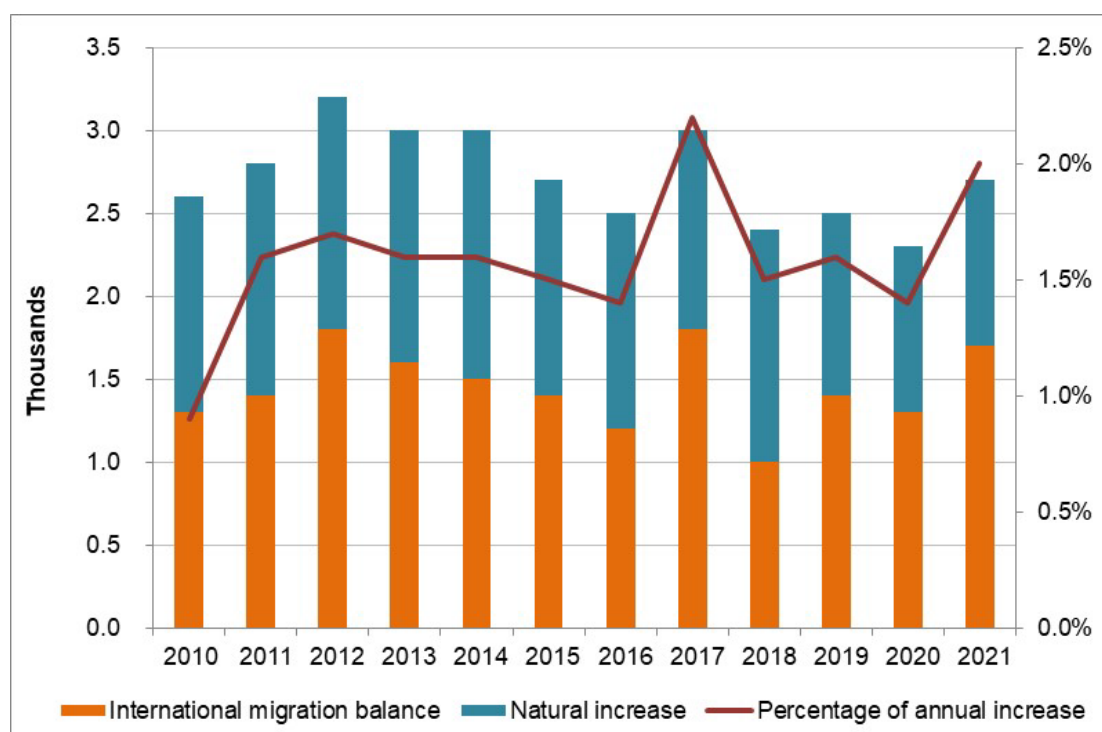
- (1) Until 1994, the Christian population also included persons who were not classified by religion in the Population Register. Between 1990 and 1994, the population of persons who were thus unclassified was relatively large, and included the immigrants from the USSR (former).
- (2) The figure is based on the census for that year.

Table A - The Sources of Growth in the Christian Population, 2021

Distribution of the Christian population	Total Christians	Arab Christians	Non-Arab Christians
Total Christian population (beginning of 2021) – thousands	179.5	137.6	41.9
Natural increase – absolute numbers	966	914	52
Change of religion – absolute numbers	952	152	800
International migration balance – absolute numbers	1,713	79	1,634
Percentage of migration balance out of total growth	47.2	6.9	65.7
Total Christian population (end of 2021) – thousands	183.2	138.8	44.4
Percentage of annual increase	2.0	0.8	5.9

The Arab Christian population grew by 0.8% in 2021, primarily as a result of natural increase. By contrast, **the non-Arab Christian population** grew by 5.9%, primarily as a result of international migration.

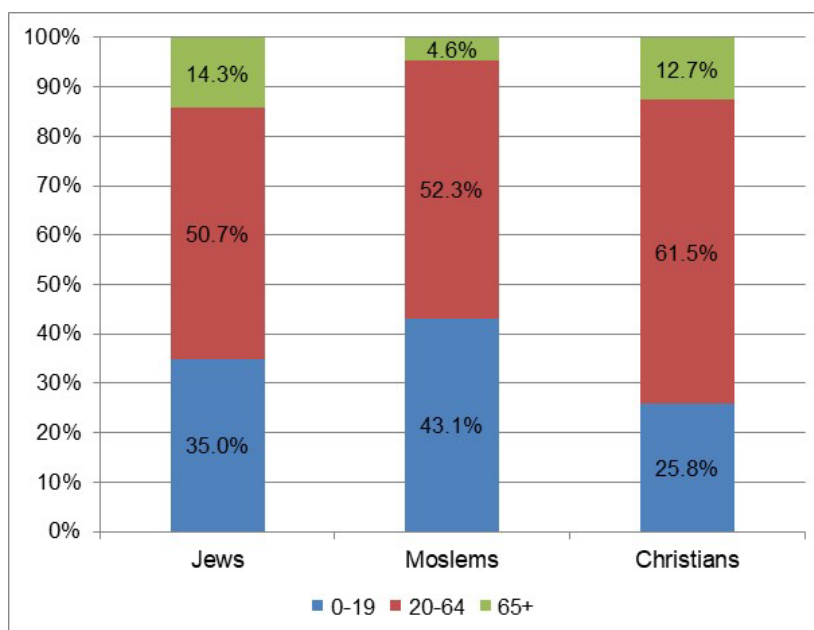
Diagram 2 - Sources of Increase of the Christian Population Over the Past Decade



The age composition of the total Christian population is different from that of the Jewish and Moslem populations. The percentage of young people aged 0–19 was 25.8%, lower than that of the Jewish population (35.0%), and still lower than that of the Moslem population (43.1%).

Persons aged 65 and over made up 12.7% of the total Christian population, compared to 14.3% of the Jewish population and 4.6% among the Moslem population.

Diagram 3 - Age Structure of Christians, Jews, and Moslems, 2021



Young people aged 0–19 accounted for 28.0% of Arab Christians, compared with only 18.7% among non-Arab Christians. Persons aged 65 and over comprised 11.9% of the Arab Christian population, lower than the percentage among non-Arab Christians (15.3%).

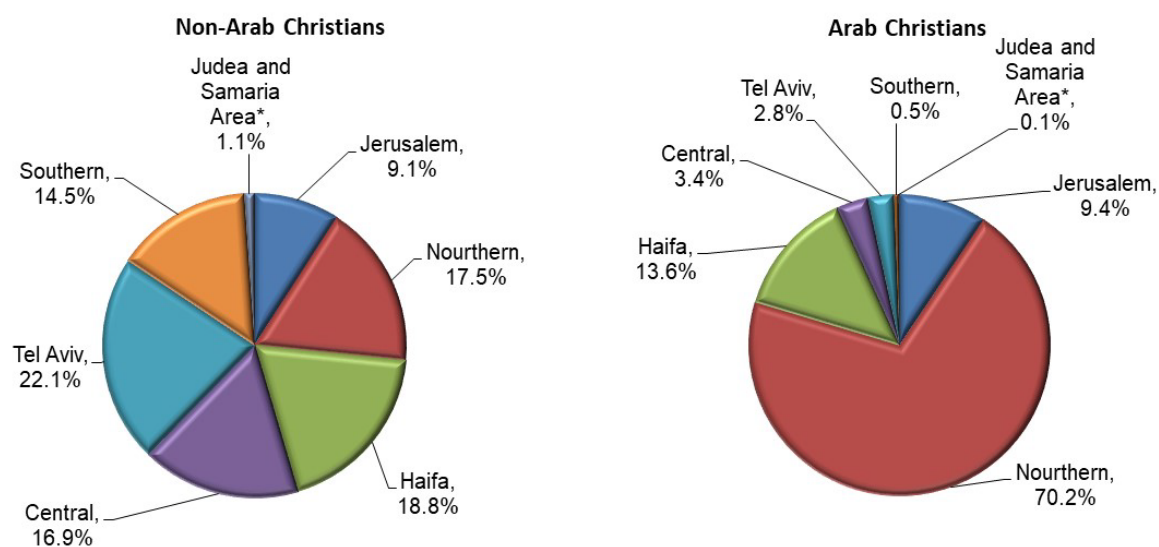
Geographic Distribution

Most of the Arab Christians lived in the north: 70.2% lived in the Northern District and 13.6% in the Haifa District. 9.4% lived in the Jerusalem District. The localities with the largest Arab Christian population were Nazareth (21,100), Haifa (16,700), Jerusalem (12,900), and Shefar'am (10,500).

The geographic distribution of non-Arab Christians was different than that of Arab Christians: 39.0% lived in the Tel Aviv and Central Districts, and 36.3% lived in the Northern and Haifa Districts.

Large communities of non-Arab Christians were concentrated in the three large cities: Haifa (3,900), Tel Aviv-Yafo (3,800), and Jerusalem (3,400).

Diagram 4 - Population Distribution of Christians by District, 2021



* Israeli localities only.

Table B – The Ten Localities with the Largest Christian Population Concentration, 2021

Locality	The Christian population (thousands)
Nazareth	21.1
Haifa	20.6
Jerusalem	16.4
Shefar'am	10.5
Nof HaGalil	9.2
Tel Aviv-Yafo	7.3
I'billin	5.7
Kafa Yasif	5.4
Mughar	5.0
Ramla	4.1

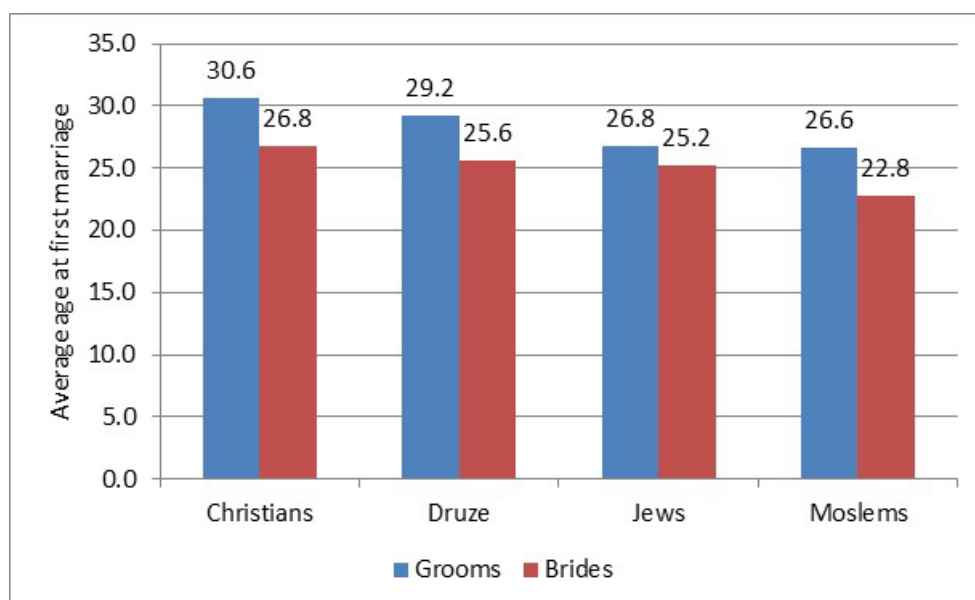
Marriage and Fertility

In 2020, 582 Christian couples married in Israel; 89% of the grooms and 89% of the brides were Arab Christians.⁵

The average age of Christian grooms marrying for the first time in 2020 was 30.6, older than in the other religions: about 1.5 years older than the Druze grooms and about 4 years older than the Jewish and the Moslem grooms.

The average age of Christian brides marrying for the first time (26.8) was also higher than in the other groups: more than a year older than the Druze brides, about 1.5 years older than the Jewish brides, and about 4 years older than the Moslem brides.

Diagram 5 - Average Age at First Marriage, by Religion and Sex, 2020



In 2021, 2,343 infants were born to Christian women; approximately 72% of them (1,749 infants) were born to Arab Christian women; 685 infants were born to non-Arab Christian women.

In 2021, the number of children a Christian woman was expected to bear during the course of her lifetime (the total fertility rate) declined to 1.77 children per woman, as opposed to 1.85 in 2020. This continues the downward trend that began before the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The number of children per Arab Christian woman was lower still, at 1.68 children per woman, whereas the total fertility rate of non-Arab Christian women was higher (2.03).

⁵ Non-Arab Christians usually marry abroad.

By way of comparison, a Jewish woman was expected to bear 3.13 children during her lifetime, a Moslem woman – 3.01, and a Druze woman – 2.00.

In 2021, 36% of births to Christian women were the mother's first birth. About 37% were the second birth, 20% were the third birth, and 7% were the fourth or later birth. By way of comparison, among Jewish and Moslem women, the distribution was: about 27% first births, about 26% second births, about 20% third births, and about 27% fourth or later births.

Most of the births to Christian women (57%) were in the Northern District, 15% in the Haifa District, 9% in the Central District, 7% in each of the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv districts, and 5% in the Southern District.

In contrast, the distribution of births by district was more equal among non-Arab Christian women: 21% in the Central District, 19% in the Tel Aviv District, 18% in the Haifa District, 16% in the Southern District, 13% in the Northern District, and 12% in the Jerusalem district.

Households and Families⁶

In 2021, approximately 60,000 households – 2.2% of all households in Israel – were headed by a Christian. Of these households, approximately 41,000 were Arab Christian.

The average size of a household headed by a Christian was 3.06 persons – similar to the size of households headed by a Jew (3.05), and lower than the size of households headed by a Moslem (4.46).

In approximately 68% of the households headed by a Christian, the head of the household was an Arab Christian. The average size of these households was 3.31 persons.

⁶ A **household** is defined as one person or a group of persons living together in one dwelling on a permanent basis most of the week, who have a joint expense budget for food. They may be related or unrelated persons or a combination of persons both related and unrelated.

A **family household** is a household that contains at least one family. A family household can include: one family, one family with "other persons", or two families or more.

A **family** (a nuclear family) is defined as two or more persons who share the same household and are related to one another as a married or unmarried couple (including same-sex couples), or as parent and child (including an adopted child). The major types of families are a couple only, a couple with children (in various age groups, defined by the age of the youngest child), or a lone parent (a lone-parent family) with children. Other types of families that have been defined are: a grandparent with grandchildren, without the children's parents; and siblings who live together, without spouses and without children.

The data on households and families are based on the Labour Force Survey 2021. The data do not include persons living in institutions, kibbutzim, or student dormitories, or persons living outside localities (Bedouin in the South).

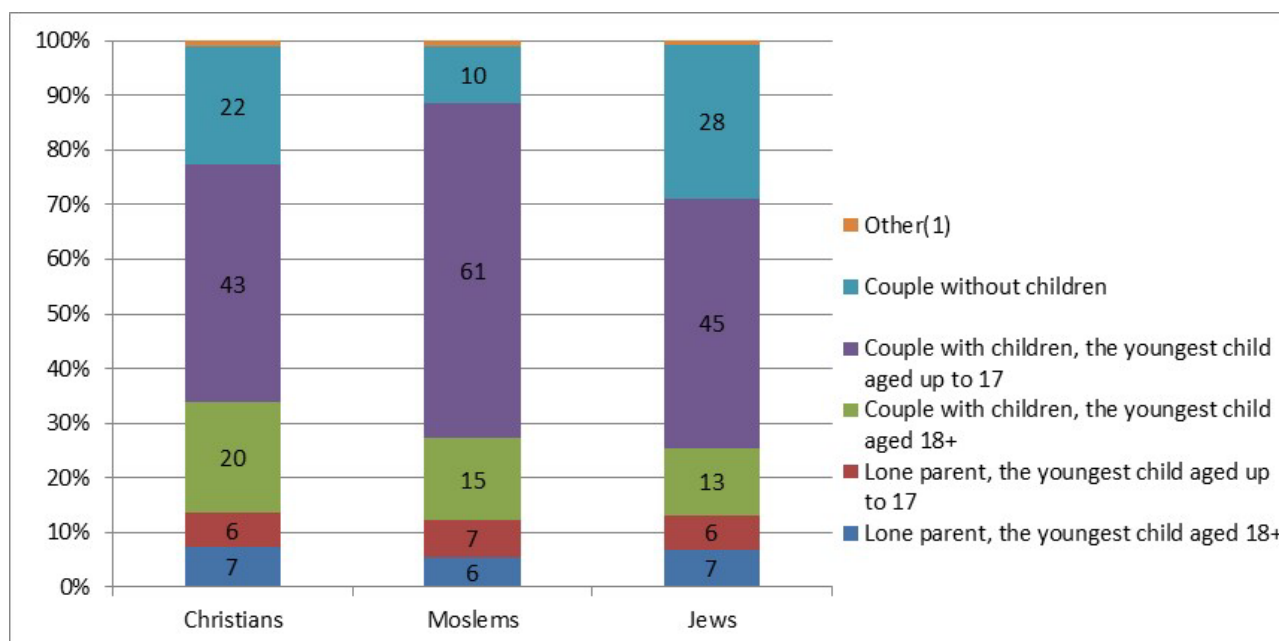
Of Christian households, approximately 80% (approximately 48,000) were “family” households (which include at least one family). This was slightly higher than the percentage of Jewish family households – 76%, and lower than that of Moslems – 92%.

Non-family households, which include one person only or a group of persons who are not a family, comprised approximately 20% of the Christian households. This was lower than the percentage among Jewish households – 24%, and higher than the percentage among Moslem households, which was only about 8%.

Approximately 6% of the households headed by a Christian consisted of 6 or more persons, lower than among households headed by a Jew (about 9%), compared to approximately 28% of the households headed by a Moslem.

There were approximately 49,000 Christian families in Israel. The distribution of Christian families by type of family differed from that among Jewish families, and differed even more from that among Moslem families.

Diagram 6 - Families by Type of Family: Jews, Moslems, and Christians, 2021



(1) Incl. families of siblings who live together, without spouses and without children; and a grandparent with grandchildren, without the children’s parents; about 1%.

The average number of children up to age 17 in Christian families with children up to that age was 1.86. Of these Christian families, the average number in Arab Christian families was 1.94. These figures are lower compared to Jewish families (2.42) and compared to Moslem families (2.62).

Education

Students in the Education System (School Year 2021/22)

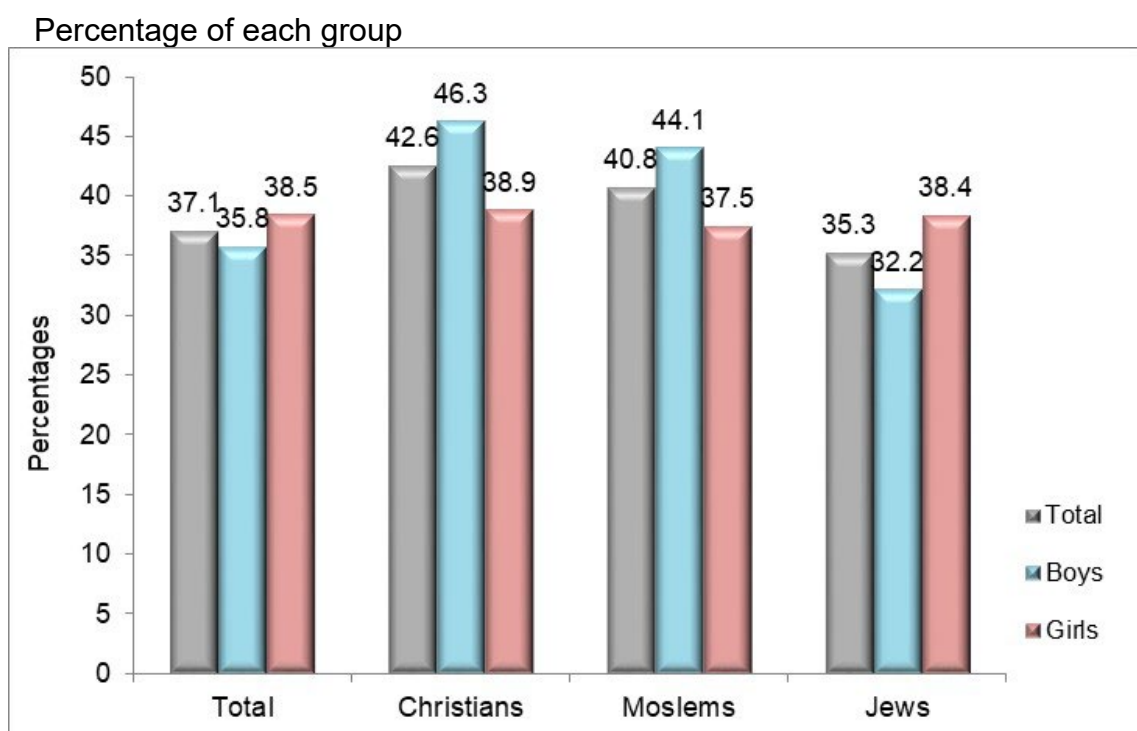
In the 2021/22 school year, there were 26,752 Christian students in primary and secondary school, comprising 1.4% of all primary and secondary school students. This percentage was the same as in the school year 2020/21 (1.4%).

The vast majority (86.3%) of these students were Arab. Christian students comprised 4.9% of the students in Arab education.

That same year, there were 1,803 Christian students in first grade (Arab education) – 4.6% of all first-graders in Arab education.

Among Christian upper secondary education students (Arab education), 42.6% studied in a technological/vocational track.⁷ This figure was slightly higher than the percentage among Moslems (40.8%), and considerably higher than the percentage among Jewish upper secondary students (Hebrew education), which was 35.3%.

Diagram 7 - Students in Upper Secondary Schools Who Studied in Technological/Vocational Tracks, by Religion and Sex, 2021/22



⁷ Beginning in the 2016/17 school year, the method of identifying technological/vocational education (formerly the technological track) was changed, and updated to reflect the current definitions of the Ministry of Education.

Matriculation Exams (2020/21)

In the 2020/21 school year, Christians comprised 6% of all 12th-grade students in Arab education.

In recent years, an increase has been observed in the rate of those eligible⁸ for a matriculation certificate; in this year, this increase was maintained and 83.8% of Christian students in 12th grade were eligible. The percentage of Christian students eligible for a matriculation certificate in 2020/21 was lower than the percentage in Hebrew education⁹ (85.6%) and lower than the percentage of Druze (90.6%), but higher than the percentage of Moslems (69.5%).

A high percentage of Christian Arabs students (75.7%) received a matriculation certificate that meet university entrance requirements (and who were thus potential candidates for continuing to higher education). It was higher than the percentage among students in Hebrew education (75.5%), and higher than the percentage of Druze (64.4%) and Moslems (47.2%) who were awarded the certificate.

⁸ Until the school year of 2019/20, the calculation was made from the total of 12th grade students and did not include students in Arab education whose religion was unknown. As of the 2019/20 school year, the rate of those entitled to a matriculation certificate is calculated from the total number of 12th grade students, and the number of cases of unknown religion is negligible.

⁹ Not including students in schools under ultra-Orthodox supervision.

Continuing to Study for a First Degree among Christian Upper Secondary School Graduates in 2012/13 within Eight Years of Graduating Upper Secondary School (Tracking Until 2020/21)

Arab Christians

Of the Arab Christians, 52.9% went on to study for a first degree within eight years of graduation from upper secondary school, compared to only 34.1% of all upper secondary school graduates in Arab education.

The percentage of Arab Christians who attended **universities**, of the total number of Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree, was significantly higher than the percentage of students in Arab education who went on to study for a first degree at the universities (44.5% and 31.0%, respectively).

The percentage of Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree at the **academic colleges** was slightly higher than the percentage of all students in Arab education (37.5% and 34.8%, respectively).

The percentage of Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree at the **Open University** was significantly lower than the percentage of all the students in Arab education (11.0% and 17.4%, respectively).

A small percentage of Arab Christian students chose to continue their studies at the **academic colleges of education** – 7.0% compared to 16.8% of the total number of students in Arab education.

Non-Arab Christians

Only 31.2% of the non-Arab Christians went on to study for a first degree within eight years of graduating high school, compared to 48.2% of all high-school graduates in Hebrew education.

The percentage of non-Arab Christians who attended **universities**, out of the total number of non-Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree, was lower than the parallel percentage of the total number of students in Hebrew education (29.8% and 35.2%, respectively).

The percentage of non-Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree at the **academic colleges** was also slightly lower than the percentage of all students in Hebrew education (38.6% and 40.8%, respectively).

The percentage of non-Arab Christians who went on to study for a first degree at the **Open University** was substantially higher than the percentage of all the students in Hebrew education (31.6% and 12.1%, respectively).

Table C - Persons Who Continued to Study for a First Degree Among All Upper Secondary School Graduates and Among Christian Upper Secondary School Graduates (Arab and Non-Arab Christians) Within Eight Years after Completing School (2012/13), by Type of Institution

-	Hebrew Education, Total	Arab Education, Total	Arab Christians	Non-Arab Christians
Total Number of Upper Secondary School Graduates – absolute numbers	78,496	22,807	1,746	183
Of them:				
Continued to academic studies – percentages	48.2	34.1	52.9	31.2
Continued to academic studies, by type of institution – percentages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Universities	35.2	31.0	44.5	29.8
The Open University	12.1	17.4	11.0	31.6
Academic colleges	40.8	34.8	37.5	38.6
Academic colleges of education	11.9	16.8	7.0	-

Students in 2021/22¹⁰

In 2021/22, there were 6,900 Christian students, who comprised 2.3% of the total students at all the institutions of higher education in Israel – slightly more than their share of the population (about 2%). Among Christian students, 95.0% (6,500 students) were Arabs and 5.0% (340 students) were non-Arab Christians.

Among the Christian students, 71.2% were studying for a first degree, of whom 20.5% were in their first year; 22.9% were studying for a second degree, and 3.9% were studying for a third degree. Christian students comprised 2.3% of the total number of students studying for a first degree, 2.3% of the total students studying for a second degree, and 2.2% of the total students studying for a third degree.

Of the Christian students, 52.0% studied at universities (including the Open University), 38.8% studied at academic colleges (22.6% at budgeted colleges and 16.2% at non-budgeted colleges) and 9.2% studied at academic colleges of education.

Christian students comprised 2.5% of all university students, and 2.3% of the students at the academic colleges (2.2% at budgeted colleges, and 2.3% at non-budgeted colleges), and 1.6% of all students at academic colleges of education.

Compared with Moslem students, the percentage of Christian-Arab students studying for a first degree (bachelor's degree) was lower in the following fields of study: ¹¹ Education and teacher training, Business and management sciences, as well as Paramedical studies. In contrast, the percentage of those who studied Social sciences (excl. Business and management sciences), Law, as well as Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer sciences was higher

¹⁰ The Open University has characteristics that set it apart from other institutions of higher education. This is reflected in the admission processes of the students and in the course of their studies. At the end of this chapter there is a separate paragraph with the data of the Open University.

¹¹ Fields in which at least 100 Christian-Arab students studied for a first degree are discussed.

Table D - Distribution of Christian Arab Students Studying for Their First Degree, by Field of Study and Selected Religion and Population Groups (2021/22)

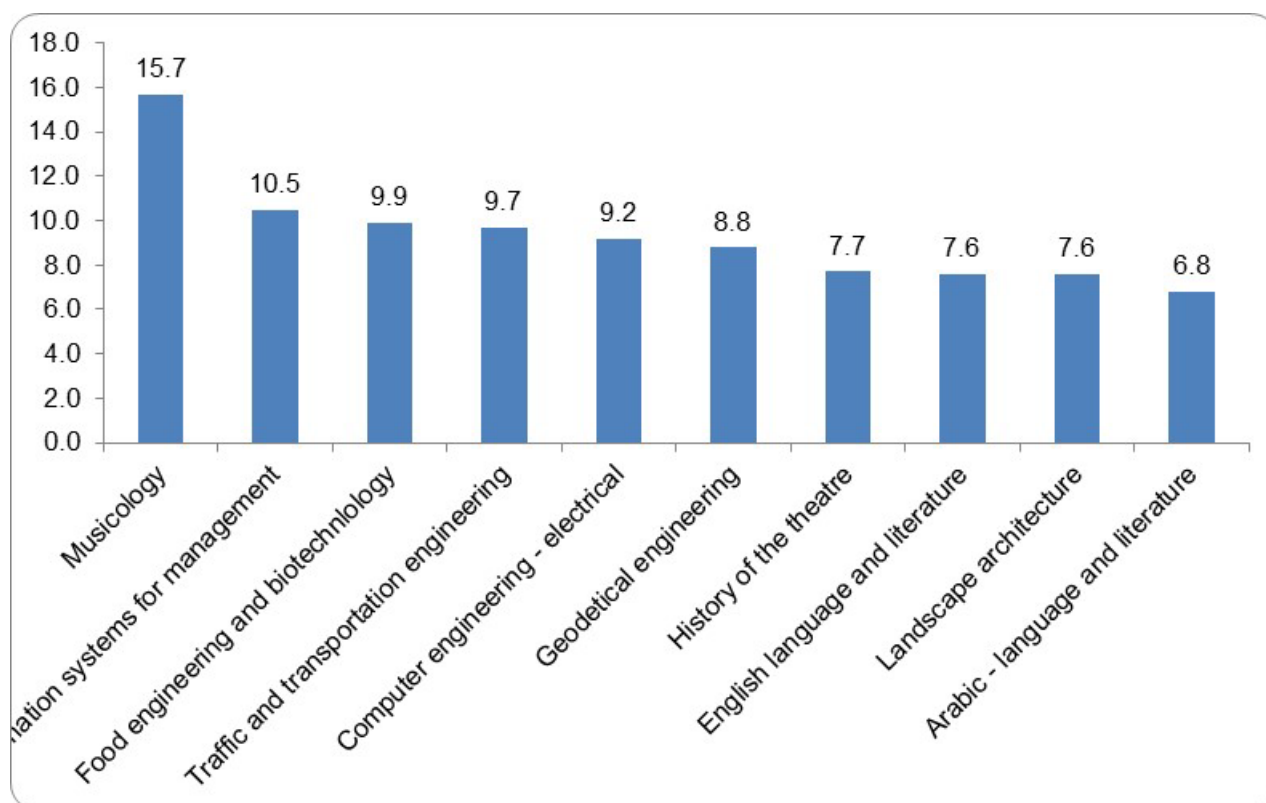
Percentages, unless otherwise stated

Field of Study/Population Group	Total	Total Christians	Thereof: Arab Christians	Moslems
Total – Absolute numbers	214,542	4,899	4,650	33,912
Total – Percentages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
General humanities	2.5	1.8	1.6	1.6
Languages, literature and regional studies	1.2	2.1	2.1	1.8
Education and teacher training	15.7	9.6	9.6	24.3
Arts, crafts, and applied art	3.6	4.4	4.2	1.9
Social sciences (excl. Business and management sciences)	17.3	14.5	14.5	13.6
Business and management sciences	11.5	11.0	10.9	16.4
Law	7.5	9.6	9.8	6.1
Medicine	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.5
Paramedical studies	6.9	8.9	8.9	10.0
Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer sciences	9.5	9.8	9.8	6.5
Physical sciences	1.4	0.7	0.6	1.1
Biological sciences and agriculture	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.8
Engineering and architecture	18.5	23.2	23.5	13.4

Of all students who were studying for a first degree, representation among the Christian students was highest in the following subjects of study:¹² musicology (15.7%), management information systems (10.5%), and food engineering and technology (9.9%).

¹² Subjects for which there were more than 100 cases of students studying toward a first degree. Excluding the academic colleges of education. Students studying two fields were counted in each of their fields of study.

Diagram 8 - Subjects of Study with a Higher Percentage of Christian Students (Percentage of Christians Out of the Total Number of Students in Each Subject), 2021/22



The share of women among the Christian students was higher than it was among the total number of students among those studying for advanced degrees.

Table E - Percentage of Women among the Christian Students and Among the Total Number of Students, By Degree (2021/22)

Degree	Among Christian students	Among all students
Total (including diplomas)	61.8	60.2
First degree	57.4	58.7
Second degree	73.8	64.2
Third degree	65.2	53.1

Students at the Open University in 2021/22

In 2021/22, there were 600 Christian students at the Open University; they comprised 1.3% of the total number of students there, less than their share in the general population (about 2%); 81.0% of the Christian students were Arabs (500 students).

For a first degree, the percentage of Christian students who studied Social Sciences was higher than that of non-Christian students (65.3% versus 58.1%, respectively) whereas the percentage of Christian students who studied Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science was lower (13.4% versus 15.4%, respectively).

Employment

The **percentage of participation in the labour force** among **Christians** aged 15 and over in 2021 was 66.3% (69.2% among men and 64.1% among women). Among **Arab Christians**, this figure was 56.4% (63.8% among men and 49.2% among women). By comparison, the percentage of participation in the labour force among **Jews** aged 15 and over in 2021 was 66.3% (67.8% among Jewish men, and 64.9% among Jewish women).

The **employment rate** (percentage of employed persons out of all persons aged 15 and over) among Christians aged 15 and over was 63.9% (66.2% among men, and 62.1% among women). The employment rate among **Arab Christians** was 54.2% (61.5% among men and 47.1% among women). By comparison, the employment rate among **Jews** aged 15 and over was 63.0% (64.4% among Jewish men and 61.6% among Jewish women).

The **percentage of unemployed persons among Christians** aged 15 and over was 3.7% (4.3% among men and 3.2% among women). This figure among **Arab Christians** was 3.9% (3.5% among men and 4.3% among women). By comparison, the percentage of unemployed persons among **Jews** aged 15 and over was 5.0% (5.0% among men and 5.0% among women).

In 46,400 **Christian households** (77.4% of all Christian households), there was **at least one employed person** (in 19,400 households there was only one employed person, and in 27,000 households there were two or more employed persons). In 31,800 **Arab Christian households** (77.5% of all Arab Christian households) there was at least one employed person (in 12,700 households there was only one employed person, and in 19,100 households there were two or more employed persons). By comparison, in 1,781,700 **Jewish households** (78.5% of all Jewish households), there was at least one employed person (in 727,000 households there was only one employed person, and in 1,054,700 households there were two or more employed persons).

The **housing density** of Christian households was 0.93 persons per room (0.97 persons per room in **Arab Christian** households). By comparison, the housing density of **Jewish** households was 0.78 persons per room.

Welfare

Persons Registered¹³ at the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs and Persons Defined as Needing Intervention¹⁴

In 2021, about 1.04 million persons were registered at the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs – about 111.1 per 1,000 persons. Of them, about 16,300 were Christians – about 89.7 per 1,000 persons. Of the Christians who were registered, about 58.2% were women and about 41.8% were men.

Also among the Christians who were registered, 64.9% (58.2 per 1,000 persons) were defined as needing intervention. The rest of the Christians who were registered belonged to families in which at least one person was defined as needing intervention. Among Christians defined as needing intervention, the most common interventions needed were for difficulties in obtaining services and utilizing rights for which they were eligible (27.1%), difficulties in caring for oneself and performing everyday functions (20.4%), and emotional distress (12.6%).

¹³ Person registered at social services department: A family or individual who has applied or been referred to the social services departments of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs and for whom a treatment file has been opened. As of 2021, the published data are from the new basic data system, in which changes were made in terms of both clusters of households' and individuals' needs for intervention, and in the method of counting those in need of intervention. Thus, more than one treatment file can be opened for a family or an individual, or they can be recorded for more than one need for intervention, and they are counted for each one of them. Due to the move to the new system, the number of persons registered and the number of persons with defined needs for interventions might be updated. Therefore, the figures for 2021 are temporary.

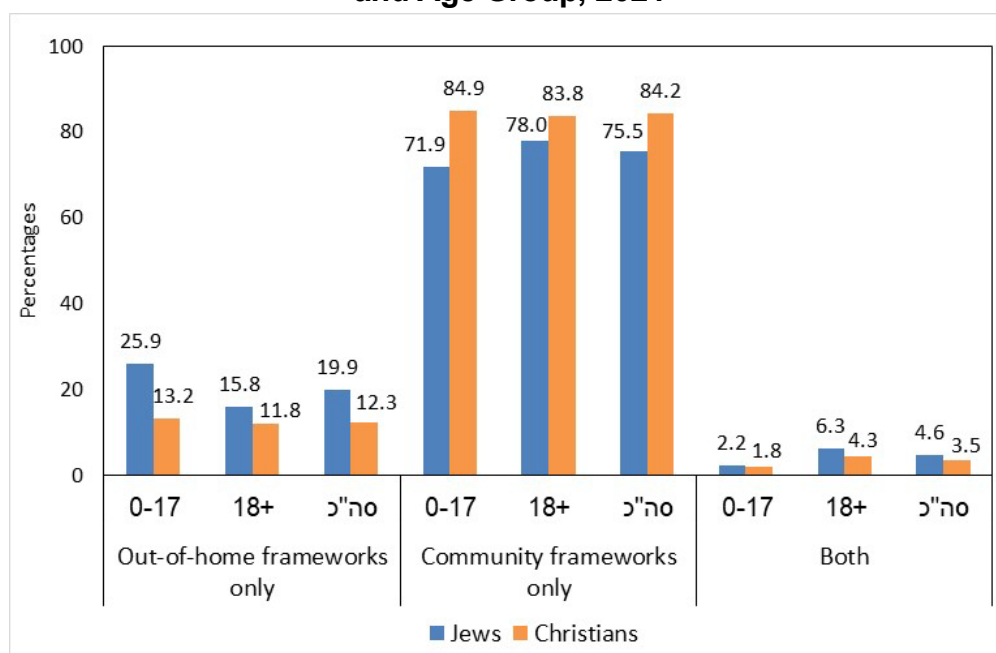
¹⁴ Need for intervention: The reason why the individual/family applied or was referred to the social-services departments. The social worker treating the family records the household's need for intervention from a list of 29 needs, for each treatment file, as well as the individual needs of family members from a set list of 47 needs (including "normal"). The need for intervention of family members listed in the file who have no need for intervention is recorded as "no intervention defined".

Recipients of Welfare Services in Community and Out-of-Home Frameworks of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs

In 2021, about 4,400 Christians were placed in settings of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs, a rate of about 24.4 per 1,000 persons. Most of the Christians who were placed in social service frameworks (about 84.2%) were placed in community frameworks only.¹⁵ In contrast, about 12.3% were placed in out-of-home frameworks only,¹⁶ and about 3.5% were placed in both community frameworks and out-of-home frameworks. This breakdown is different from the breakdowns of Jews who were placed in social service settings: 75.5% of them were placed in community frameworks only, about 19.9% were placed in out-of-home frameworks only, and about 4.6% were placed in both community frameworks and out-of-home frameworks.

The discrepancy is mostly due to the difference between the percentages of those aged 0–17 who were placed in out-of-home frameworks: 25.9% among Jews compared with 13.2% among Christians.

Diagram 9 - Persons Placed in Social Service Frameworks, by Religion, Type of Framework and Age Group, 2021



¹⁵ Placed in the community framework refers to a person who continues to live with his natural family and receives community services and support in accordance with the "Looking Towards the Community" policy of the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs. Examples of community frameworks are: day care centers, after-school child care programs, day care in a home settings, parent and child centers, and centers for the prevention of violence.

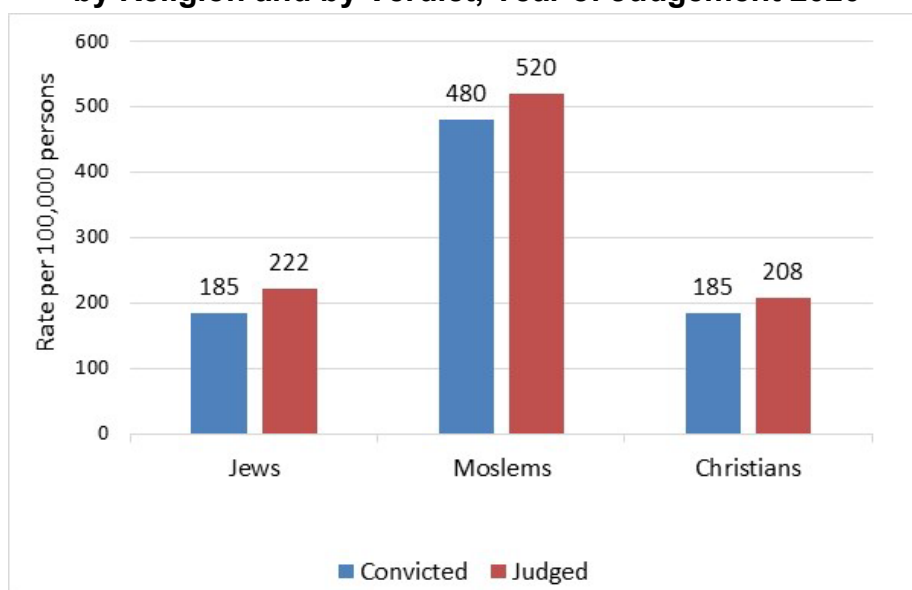
¹⁶ Placed in an out-of-home framework refers to a person who is unable to live with his family due to his own exposure or exposure of his family to situations of distress and risk. Examples of out-of-home frameworks are: foster families, shelters, boarding schools, emergency centers, and nursing homes.

Crime and Justice, Year of Judgement 2020

Persons Judged in Criminal Trials

In the year of judgement 2020, the rate of persons judged in criminal trials among the Christian population in Israel was about 208 per 100,000 persons, considerably lower than the rate among Moslems (about 520 per 100,000 persons) and similar to the rate among Jews (about 222 per 100,000 persons).

Diagram 10 - Persons Judged in Criminal Trials among Israel's Population, by Religion and by Verdict, Year of Judgement 2020

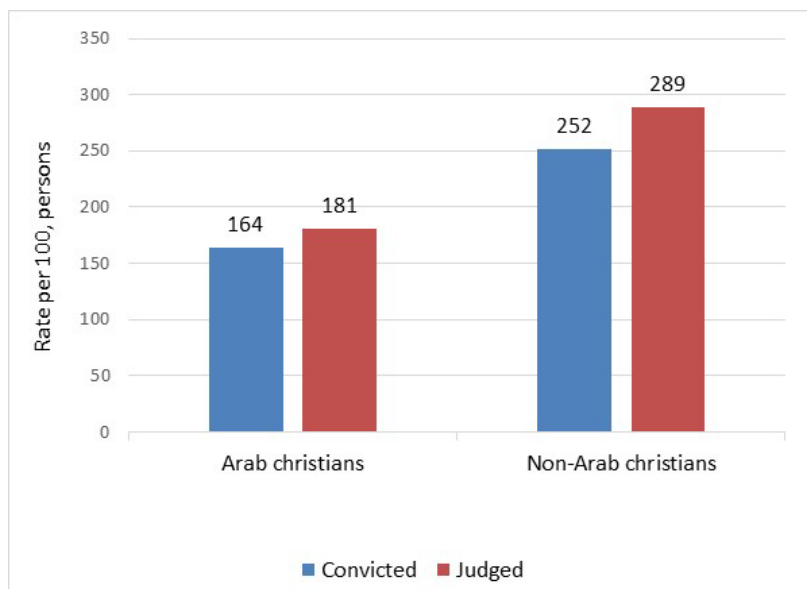


Of those judged in criminal trials among the Christian population, the proportion of men was 411 per 100,000 persons. Of those, the rate of non-Arab Christian men was about 671 per 100,000 persons, compared with the rate of Arab Christian men, about 343 per 100,000 persons. The rate of women judged in criminal trials was 27 per 100,000 persons: about 40 per 100,000 persons among non-Arab Christian women and about 23 per 100,000 persons among Arab Christian women.

As mentioned, the rate of men judged in criminal trials among the Christian men (about 411 per 100,000 persons) was slightly higher than the rate of Jews but substantially lower than the rate among Moslems (about 405 and about 993 per 100,000 persons, respectively). The rate of women judged in criminal trials among the Christian women (about 27 per 100,000 persons) was lower than both the rate of persons judged in criminal trials among Jews and the rate of persons judged in criminal trials among Moslems (about 45 and about 40 per 100,000 persons, respectively).

In the year of judgement 2020, the rate of non-Arab Christian persons convicted was substantially higher than the rate of Arab Christians (about 252 and about 164 per 100,000 persons, respectively).

Diagram 11 - Persons Judged in Criminal Trials among the Christian Population, by Verdict, Year of Judgement 2020



Convicted Persons

The rate of convicted Christians (about 185 per 100,000 persons) is similar to the rate of convicted persons among Jews (about 185 per 100,000 persons) and considerably lower than the rate among Moslems (about 480 per 100,000 persons).

The rate of convicted men among the Christian population was about 369 per 100,000 persons. This rate is similar to the rate of Jews (about 339 per 100,000 persons), but significantly lower than the rate among Moslems (about 919 per 100,000 persons).

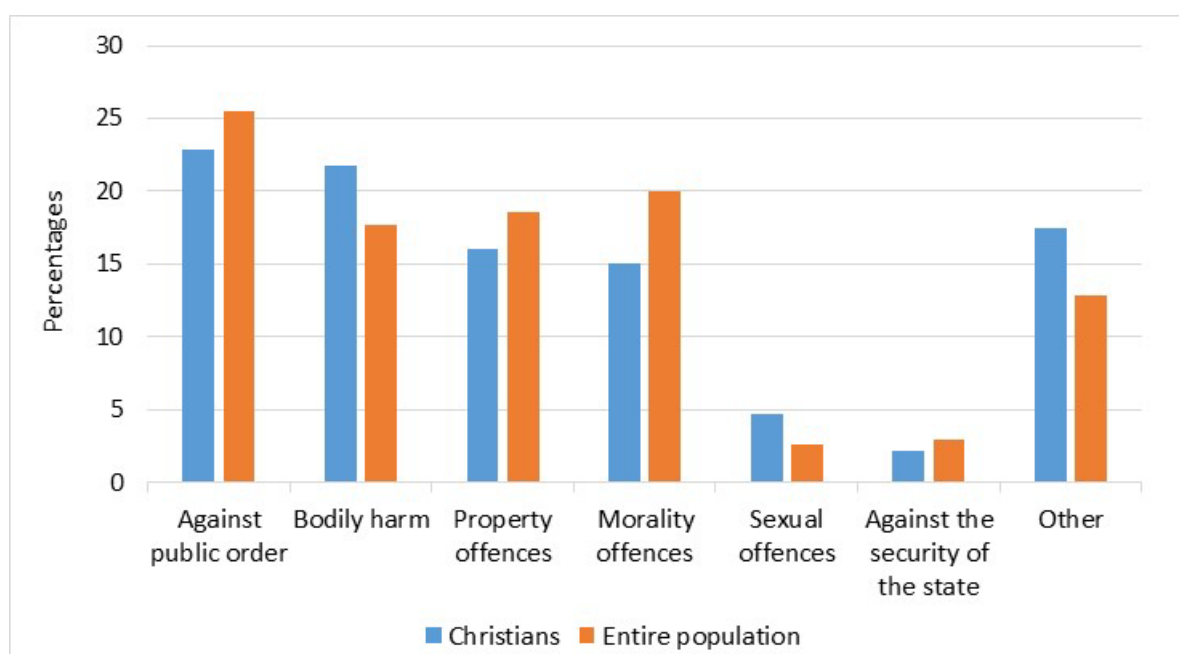
The rate of convicted women among the Christian population was about 22 per 100,000 persons. This rate is lower than both the conviction rate among Jews and the conviction rate among Moslems (about 35 per 100,000 persons for each group).

Recidivists and Common Offences

In the year of judgement 2020, 52.9% of those convicted among the Christian population in Israel were recidivists¹⁷ (43.5% among Arab Christians and 71.3% among non-Arab Christians) compared with 58.5% among all residents of Israel.

In examining the distribution of offence groups, the most common offences among persons convicted from the Christian population in Israel are as follows: offences against public order (22.9%), bodily harm (21.8%), property offences (16.1%) and morality offences (15.0%). The least common offences among the Christian population are sexual offences (4.6%) and offences against the security of the state (2.1%).

Diagram 12 – Persons Convicted, by Offence Group, Year of Judgement 2020



¹⁷ Recidivists are persons judged in criminal trials who have been convicted of two or more convictions by the end of the year under investigation.