

Media Release

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Jerusalem
7 February, 2024
043/2024

Family Day 2024 - Families and Households in Israel

- In 2022 there were approximately **2.25 million families** in Israel, compared with 1.91 million in 2013.
- The average size of the Israeli family was **3.69 persons**.
- The most common living arrangement is in a family framework.
- About half of all families were composed of a couple with at least one child up to age 17.
- There was a higher **percentage of couples without children** among families in which the head of the household was Jewish, (about 29%), compared to about 12% among families in which the head of the household was an Arab.
- About 2.94 million children up to age 17 lived in families. Most of them lived with two parents (about 91%), and the rest lived with a lone-parent.
- Approximately 12% of all families with children of up to age 17 were lone-parent families (about 143,000). In about 86% of those families a woman was the head of the household. About 22% of all lone-parent mothers with children up to age 17 were never married.
- Among the large cities with 100,000 residents or more, the **highest percentage of families composed of couples with children up to age 17** was in Bet Shemesh (about 68%), compared to 48% on the national average. Ashqelon had the highest percentage of lone-parent families with children up to age 17 (9.5%) compared to about 6% on the national average. Tel Aviv-Yafo had the highest percentage of families consisting of couples without children (about 41%) compared to 26% on the national average.
- The highest **average number of persons per family** was in Bet Shemesh (4.96), Bene Beraq (4.73), and Jerusalem (4.25), compared to 3.69 on the national average.

For explanations and clarifications, please contact the Media Relations Unit at

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- **The Arab families are larger than the Jewish families.** The average number of persons per family among Jews increases concomitantly with higher levels of religiosity, whereas among Arabs families who maintained traditional lifestyle are the largest.
- Approximately 94% of all couples in Israel were **married couples**, and the rest (approximately 117,000) were **cohabiting couples**.
- **Most of the Jewish cohabiting couples are childless** (71%); about one fourth of the Jewish cohabiting couples (about 25,000) have children up to age 17, compared with about half of the married couples.
- Households consisting of a couple with children have a higher **percentage of households with employed persons** than households without children (95.5% and 64.1%, respectively). Among households of couples whose youngest child was aged 18-24, an even higher percentage (96.5%) had employed persons.
- Among **students** (men and women) who studied at institutions of higher education in 2022/23, 27.3% were married. The percentage of **married women** was higher than the percentage of married men (28.8% and 25.2%, respectively); 26.1% of the female students were **mothers** (13.6% of female students for a first degree).
- Students who were the **first generation in higher education** accounted for 42.7% of new first-degree students in 2022/23.
- Approximately 238,000 families (903,900 persons) were **registered at the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs** in 2022.
- In 2022, the Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs maintained approximately 3,500 **foster families** for children aged 0-17, in which approximately 5,000 children were placed. Approximately half (49.6%) of the children are placed in foster care with their relatives.
- Among adult Israelis residents who were **judged in criminal trials**, 46.3% were never-married, 35.4% were married, 17.5% were divorced and 0.7% were widowed.