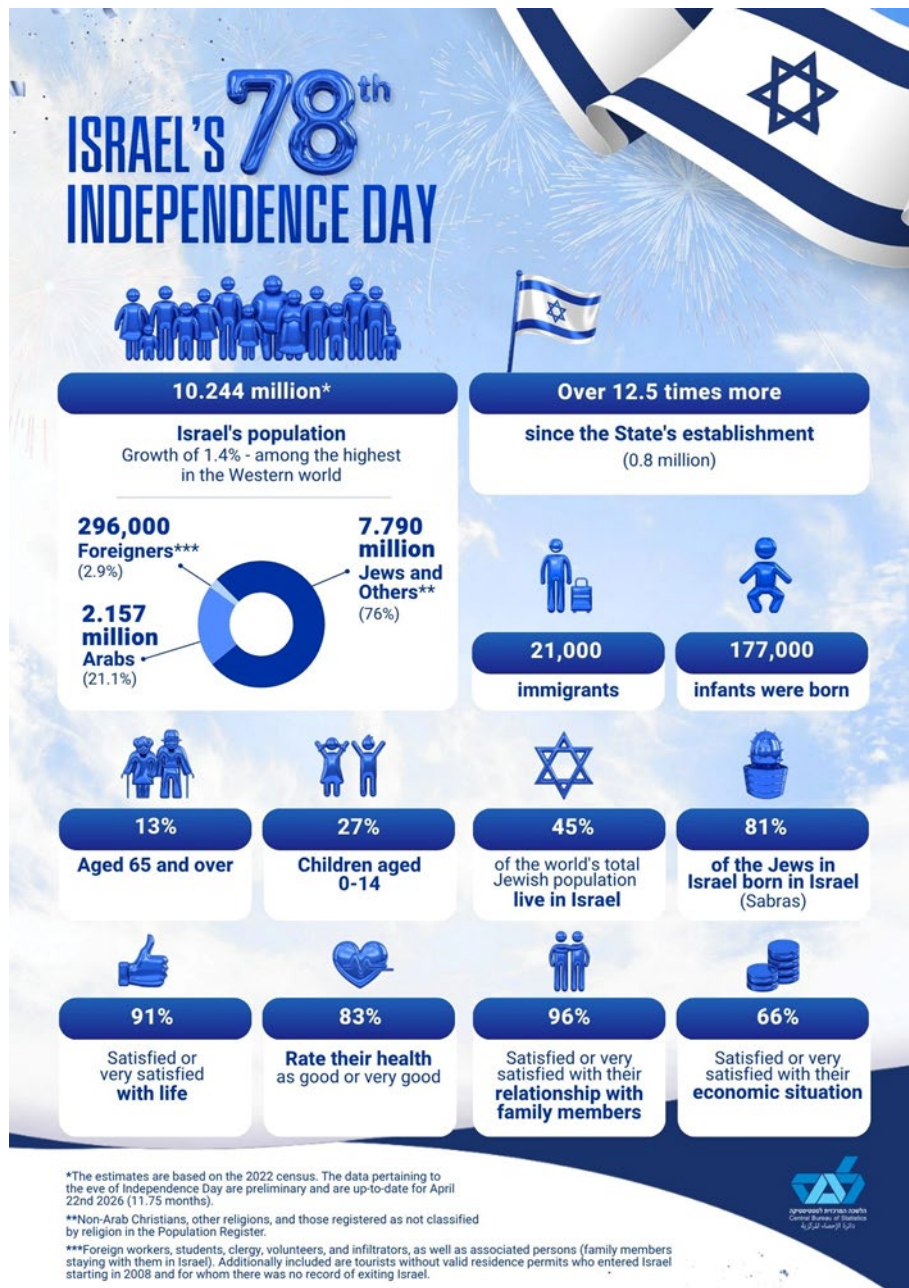


Media Release

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🇮🇱 Israel's Independence Day 2026 🇮🇱



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- On the eve of Israel's 78th Independence Day, the population of Israel was 10.244 million:¹
 - 7.790 million Jews and Others² (76%)
 - 2.157 million Arabs³ (21.1%)
 - 296,000 Foreigners⁴ (2.9%)
- Since last year's Independence Day, Israel's population has grown by 146,000 (an increase of 1.4%);⁵ of this, the population of Israelis grew by 110,000 (an increase of 1.1%) and the population of foreigners grew by about 36,000. During this period, about 177,000 infants were born, about 21,000 immigrants arrived, about 48,000 persons died, the balance of Israelis staying abroad was 45,000 (negative) and 5,000 persons arrived through family reunification.⁶
- At the time of the establishment of the State of Israel, the population of Israel was 806,000. Today, the population of Israel is more than 12.5 times the population at the time of the establishment of the State.
- Since the State's establishment, over 3.5 million immigrants have arrived in Israel. Of these, about 1.68 million (47.8%) have arrived since 1990. Since 1970, about 158,000 immigrating citizens have also settled in the country.⁷
- At the end of 2024, about 45% of the world's total Jewish population lived in Israel. About 81% of the Jews in Israel are Sabras (born in Israel).

The population of Israel is a young population: About 27% are children aged 0-14 and about 13% are aged 65 or over.

¹ **The estimates are based on the 2022 census.** The data pertaining to the eve of Independence Day are preliminary and are up-to-date for April 22nd 2026 (11.75 months).

² Others: Non-Arab Christians, other religions, and those registered as not classified by religion in the Population Register, mainly immigrants who immigrated under the Law of Return or family reunification, but are not defined as Jews in the Population Register.

³ Arabs: Moslems, Arab Christians and Druze.

⁴ Data on the population of foreigners relates to the end of 2025.

Starting in 2023, population estimates also include the population of foreigners who stayed in Israel legally during the year for which the estimate is calculated. This group includes: foreign workers, students, clergy, volunteers, and infiltrators, as well as associated persons (family members staying with them in Israel). Additionally, included are tourists without valid residence permits who entered Israel starting in 2008 and for whom there was no record of exiting Israel. 6 This is the increase since the previous Independence Day.

⁵ The total increase since the previous Independence Day does not equal the difference between this year's and last year's population figures due to the change in calculation methodology.

⁶ Family reunification includes other new registration.

⁷ Immigrating citizen: A person born to an Israeli citizen during his stay abroad, who enters Israel with the intention to settle. The data of immigrating citizens are available since 1970.

Diagram 1 - The Population in Israel by Age at the End of 2024, Percentages

