

**ISRAEL**

**IN FIGURES**

**2005**

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# INTRODUCTION

The Central Bureau of Statistics [CBS] is pleased to present the public with the booklet "Israel in Figures", which covers a broad range of topics related to Israeli demography, society, and economy.

The booklet provides a brief summary of data on Israel. In this limited format, many topics could not be covered.

The data presented here are updated to 2004, unless otherwise stated. Some of the figures are rounded.

For more comprehensive information about the country, including detailed definitions and explanations related to a broad range of topics, please refer to the Statistical Abstract of Israel No. 56, 2005 and the CBS website ([www.cbs.gov.il](http://www.cbs.gov.il)) and other CBS publications that deal specifically with the topic in question.

Jerusalem 2005

Prof. Shlomo Yitzhaki

  
The Government Statistician

## ABOUT THE CBS

**The CBS** is an independent unit affiliated with the Prime Minister's Office, and operates in accordance with Statistical Order (new version) 1972.

**The goal of the CBS** is to provide policymakers and the public with accurate, current statistical information on developments and activities in the State of Israel. The CBS provides data to international organizations with whom Israel maintains contractual and other agreements.

**The clientele of the CBS** include the Knesset, the government, local authorities, research institutions, businesses, and the general public.

**The work of the CBS** is based on recognition of the need for reliability, and the importance of maintaining the privacy of individuals. The CBS makes decisions based on professional considerations. The CBS collects, processes, and publishes thousands of statistical series which describe demographic and social developments (e.g., related to population, education, labour and wages, standard of living, consumption, etc.). The economic areas dealt with by the CBS focus on developments in various industries and changes in national accounts, trade and commodities, the country's international balance of payments, balance of energy, etc.

The CBS strictly maintains international standards accepted in most parts of the world – an approach that facilitates comparison of data published in different countries.

**The vision of the CBS** is to create a database and develop tools to provide rapid, reliable responses to queries related to every area in which it produces information.

# THE STATE OF ISRAEL



Prickly sage

**Declaration of Independence:** 14 May 1948

**Flag:** The colours blue and white were chosen according to the colours of the 'Tallit' – the Jewish prayer shawl. The Star of David appearing in the center of the flag has been a Jewish symbol for hundreds of years.

**State emblem:** The official emblem of the State of Israel is the Menorah – a candelabrum, whose shape is derived from the sage plant (Moria). In certain species of the plant, the leaves branch out in a way that resembles the candelabrum that stood in the Holy Temple in ancient Jerusalem. The Menora appearing in the state emblem is similar to the one carved on the Arch of Titus in Rome. It is flanked by two olive branches that symbolize Israel's longing for peace.

**Official languages:** Hebrew, Arabic.

**Currency:** The Israeli currency is the New Israeli Sheqel (NIS), which is divided into 100 agorot (as of January 1986).

**Capital:** Jerusalem.

**The Proclamation of Independence** (selected excerpts):

"...The State of Israel will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions... We extend our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land..."

**Governing system:** democratic - parliamentary.

**Legislative branch** is the Knesset. The Knesset is the parliament of the State of Israel. It is located in Jerusalem, and has 120 members. The present Knesset is the 16th in number, and the elections for this Knesset were held on 28 January 2003.

The Knesset has parliamentary sovereignty, and enacts legislation on every issue.

**Executive branch** includes the government and government ministries.

**The judiciary** includes the system of courts: the Supreme Court, the District Court, Magistrates Court, Court for Local Affairs, Religious Court, Traffic Court, Labour Court, Juvenile Court, etc.

**President:** The first President: Dr. Chaim Weizmann, was sworn into office on 16 February 1949. The President is elected by the Knesset every seven years, and his main duties are representational. The incumbent President: Moshe Katzav, was sworn into office on 1 August 2000.

**The Prime Minister:** The first Prime Minister was David Ben-Gurion. The first government was established on 8 March 1949.

The incumbent Prime Minister: Ariel Sharon, has been in office since 6 February 2001.

**Local authorities:** Municipalities, local councils, and regional councils. These authorities have governmental and administrative powers in their areas of jurisdiction, and are responsible for provision of services to their constituencies.

**Location:** The State of Israel is located on the southwest tip of the Asian continent, on the eastern basin of the Mediterranean Sea. The State of Israel lies at a latitude between 29° and the 33° north of the Equator.

**Area of the country:** 22,072 sq. km. (including East Jerusalem as of 1967 and the Golan Heights as of 1982).

**Land area:** 21,643 sq. km.

**Area of lakes:** 429 km. (Sea of Galilee – 164 sq. km., the Dead Sea-265 sq. km.)

**Land border:** Total length of border: 857 km.

**Coastline:** Length of Mediterranean Sea Coast 194 km.  
Length of Red Sea Coast about 12 km.

**District and subdistrict:** According to the official administrative division, Israel has 6 districts and 15 sub-districts. As of 1972, the Judea, Samaria and Gaza areas were added to include the Jewish localities there.

### Area, Population and Population Density, by District, 2004

District	Area (sq. km.)	Population <sup>(1)</sup>	Population Density (persons per sq. km.)
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,072 <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>6,869,500</b>	<b>300</b>
	100.0%	100.0%	
Jerusalem	3.0%	12.1%	1,274
Northern	20.7%	17.0%	261
Haifa	4.0%	12.4%	983
Central	6.0%	23.5%	1,247
Tel Aviv	0.8%	17.1%	6,841
Southern	65.5%	14.3%	69

<sup>(1)</sup> 3.6% of the total population lives in Jewish localities in the Judea, Samaria and Gaza areas.

<sup>(2)</sup> Incl. area of lakes.

**Lowest point:** The Dead Sea, 417 m. below sea level.

**Highest point:** Mount Hermon, 2,224 m.

**The only river in Israel:** The Jordan River, approximately 250 km.

**Main streams:** Alexander, Besor, Hadera, Yarqon, Qishon, and Soreq.

### Natural resources:

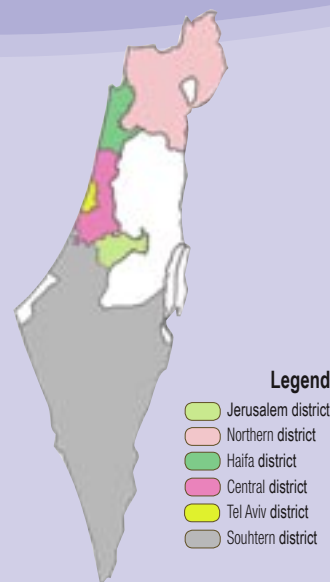
Raw materials for construction of buildings and roads: gravel and stone, sand, kurkar, clay, limestone, gypsum, and tuff.

Raw materials for manufacturing: potash, bromine, magnesium, salt, phosphates, sand, clay, and limestone.

Energy sources: natural gas, oil shales.



### The State of Israel, by District



Source : GIS-CBS

### Large cities (over 100,000 residents), (end of 2004):

	Number of residents
Jerusalem	706,400
Tel Aviv-Yafo	371,400
Haifa	268,300
Rishon LeZiyyon	217,400
Ashdod	196,900
Be'er Sheva	184,500
Petah Tiqwa	176,200
Netanya	169,400
Holon	165,800
Bene Beraq	142,300
Bat Yam	130,400
Ramat Gan	127,400
Ashqelon	105,100
Rehovot	101,900

# KEY FIGURES

Population	
	2004
Population-Total (end of year)	6,869,500
Males	3,392,600
Females	3,477,000
Selected age groups	
0-14	28.4%
65+	9.9%
Annual population growth	1.8%
Thereof: natural increase	88.6%
Urban population	91.7%
Population density: (persons per km <sup>2</sup> )	300.2

Households	
	2004
No. of households -Total	1,926,400
Average size of household	3.36
One-person households	17.4%

Families	
	2004
Number of families	1,604,500
Average size of family	3.74

Vital Statistics	
	2004
Crude marriage rate (2003)	6.1
Median marriage age (1st marriage) - grooms (2003)	26.9
Median marriage age (1st marriage) - brides (2003)	23.9
Live births	145,207
Crude birth rate	21.3
Total fertility rate	2.90
Deaths	37,767
Crude mortality rate	5.5
Infant mortality rate	4.5
Life expectancy - males (2003)	77.6
Life expectancy - females (2003)	81.8

Education	
	2004/2005
Pupils - Total	2,080,900
Total	100.0%
Kindergartens	18.9%
Primary education	37.7%
Post-primary (intermediate and secondary)	29.1%
Non-academic post-secondary institutions	2.8%
Non-university higher education institutions	3.7%
Universities	6.0%
Other institutions	1.8%
Teaching staff - total <sup>1</sup>	127,138
Pre-primary education (kindergarten teachers in formal education)	11,340
Primary education	65,494
Intermediate schools	23,049
Secondary schools	39,923

<sup>1</sup> A teacher who teaches at more than one level is counted separately at each level, but only once in the total.

Health Services	
	2004
Beds in hospitals	41,618
Thereof: Beds for general care	14,395
Beds per 1,000 residents	6.1
Thereof: Percentage of beds for general care	2.1
Hospitalization days	13,856,600
Thereof: General hospitalization days	5,178,600
Hospitalization days per 1,000 residents	2,036
Thereof: Rate of general hospitalization	761
Doctors (up to age 65)	24,869
Doctors (up to age 65) per 1,000 residents	3.6

Law and Public Order	
	2004
Judges	
Supreme Court	14
District Courts	121
Magistrates' Courts	349
Labour Tribunals	54
Judges in Rabbinical Courts	96
Licensed lawyers	31,311
Police officers	31,155
Prison staff	5,115
Investigation files opened by the police	390,885

Labour and Wages	
	2004
Population aged 15+ - Total	4,876,000
Civilian labour force	2,678,500
Civilian labour force out of aged 15+	54.9%
Males	60.6%
Females	49.6%
Employed out of civilian labour force	89.6%
Unemployed out of civilian labour force	10.4%
Average wage per employee post (NIS)	7,099

Recipients of Pensions and Allowances from the National Insurance Institute	
	2004
Old age and survivors	724,145
Maternity grant	141,181
Maternity allowance	77,505
Child allowance	2,226,366
Income support benefits	145,374
Unemployment benefits	58,644

Standard of Living	
	2004
Total monthly consumption expenditure per household (NIS)	10,440
Total	100.0%
Food	16.3%
Housing	22.2%
Dwelling and household maintenance	10.0%
Furniture and household equipment	4.0%
Clothing and footwear	3.8%
Health	5.0%
Education, culture and entertainment	13.6%
Transport and communications	20.4%
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.7%
Gross monthly money income per household (NIS)	11,220
Total	100.0%
From work	76.8%
From capital	2.4%
From pension and provident funds	7.3%
From allowances and assistance	13.5%
Ownership of durable goods per household (percentage of all households)	
Air conditioner	65.8%
Clothes dryer	35.1%
Internet connection	40.7%
Dishwasher	31.8%
Freezer	17.8%
Two cars or more	15.2%

National Economy	
	2004
Gross Domestic Product (percentage of change compared with previous year)	4.4
Gross Domestic Product - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) - billions of \$	165.6
Gross Domestic Product per capita - in international prices - (purchasing power parities PPP) \$	24,320
Fixed capital formation (% of GDP)	17.7
Government consumption (% of GDP)	28.6
Government liabilities (% of GDP)	104.2

Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade	
	2004
Current account (% of GDP)	1.2
Excl. direct defence imports (% of GDP)	2.8
Israel's foreign liabilities (millions of \$)	134,973
Israel's foreign assets (millions of \$)	100,272
Imports of goods and services (millions of \$)	52,040
Exports of goods and services (millions of \$)	51,445

Energy	
	2004
Total final consumption of energy (tons of oil equivalent)	13,030,600
Final consumption of electricity (tons of oil equivalent)	3,680,400
Thereof: household consumption of electricity (millions of KWH)	13,814

Prices	
	2004 (% change compared with previous year)
Consumer Price Index	1.2
Price Index of Inputs in Residential Building	4.9
Wholesale Price Index of Manufacturing Output	7.6

Construction	
	2004
Area of building completed (sq. m.)	7,434,000
Area of building begun (sq. m.)	6,375,000
No. of dwellings - building completed	32,482
No. of dwellings - building begun	28,756
Construction and widening of roads - completed (km.)	332
Construction and widening of roads - begun (km.)	257

Agriculture	
	2003
Agricultural area (thousands of dunams)	4,284
Total agricultural output (Billions of NIS)	17.9

Manufacturing	
	2004 (% change compared with previous year)
Index of Manufacturing Production - total (excl. diamonds)	7.0
Mining and quarrying	-2.8
Food, beverages and tobacco	1.7
Textiles and wearing apparel	-2.3
Leather and leather products	-8.6
Wood and wood products, and furniture	7.9
Paper and paper products	0
Printing and publishing	5.1
Rubber and plastic	5.9
Chemicals and petroleum	12.4
Non-metallic mineral products	-8.2
Basic metal	7.7
Metal products	6.6
Machinery	-7.0
Electrical and electronic equipment	11.0
Transport equipment	16.6
Miscellaneous	-2.2

Transport	
	2004
Licensed drivers	3,032,821
Kilometers traveled - millions of kilometers	39,869
Private cars	1,567,000
Trucks and commercial vehicles	344,600
Buses	11,400
Trains: passengers	22,906,700
Freight (tons)	791,990
Air transport: passengers	7,735,600
Planes landed	28,213
Sea transport: freight (tons)	49,386,000

Road Accidents	
Road accidents with casualties (excl. Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area)	17,762
Casualties in road accidents (excl. Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area)	36,919
Thereof: killed (excl. Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Area)	480

Post and Communications	
	2004
Total mail items	735,000,000
Packages	1,600,000
Direct subscribers' lines	2,896,000
Public telephones	15,050

Tourism and Tourist Hotels	
	2004
Departures of Israelis	3,614,100
Returns of Israelis	3,584,500
Tourist arrivals	1,505,700
Tourist hotels	336
Rooms in tourist hotels	46,375
Person-nights in tourist hotels	16,973,500
Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights	28.0%
Room occupancy	51.0%

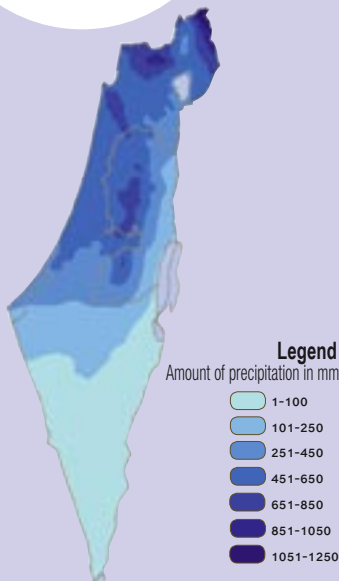


Detail from the Knesset menorah sculptor - Benno Elkan



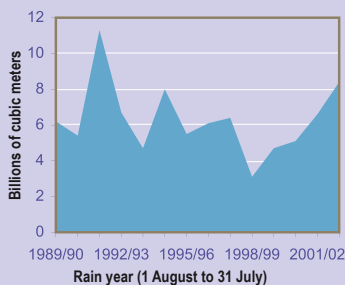
# CLIMATE

## Amount of Precipitation in mm. Multi-Annual Average 1961-1990



Source of data: The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, based on data from the Meteorological Service.

## Volume of Precipitation



**Volume of precipitation:** The total amount of rain that fell during every rain year in the area of the State of Israel (excluding Judea, Samaria and the Gaza area)(billions of cubic meters). A substantial portion of the precipitation evaporates or flows into the sea, and only a small amount reaches the ground water and upper aquifers.

Source: The Meteorological Service

## Source: The Meteorological Service

Israel is on a "climatic crossroad", which is a transitional area between a temperate and arid climate. The southern and eastern areas of Israel are characterized by an arid climate, while the other areas are characterized by a Mediterranean climate. Due to this climatic formation, there is high variability in the amount of precipitation from year to year, and in the different areas of the country.

## Multi-annual averages 1981-2000

Temperatures C°						
Station	Monthly average min/max daily temperature				No. of days per year with temperature	
	January		July			
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Above 30°	Below 10°
Jerusalem	6.4	11.8	19.4	29.0	44	116
Tel Aviv	9.6	17.5	23.0	29.4	41	52
Haifa	8.9	17.0	23.0	31.1	87	67
Zefat	4.5	9.4	18.8	29.8	51	146
Beer-Sheva	7.5	16.7	20.5	32.7	126	102
Elat	9.6	20.8	25.9	39.9	202	44

Precipitation: Multi - annual averages		
1971-2000	Precipitation (mm)	No. of rain-days per year (with more than 1 mm. per day)
Jerusalem	554	45
Tel Aviv	530	45
Haifa	538	50
Zefat	682	58
Be'er Sheva	204	27
Elat	29	5



*The most rain in the 2003-2004 rain-year was recorded at Mitzpe Harshim (near Zefat) 1,247 mm.*

*The least rain in the 2003-2004 rain-year was recorded in Elat – 24 mm.*

## Did you know?

The highest temperature ever recorded in Israel was **54° C**. This temperature was recorded in Tirat Zvi on 21 June 1942.

The lowest temperature ever recorded in Israel was **-13.7 C°**. This temperature was recorded in the Bet Netofa Valley on 7 February 1950.



# ENVIRONMENT



This field deals with the interactions among humans, flora, fauna, and their physical surroundings.

Intensive human intervention on earth has changed environmental conditions and caused environmental hazards such as: air pollution, water and ground pollution, and accumulation of toxic waste.

Air pollution is a process in which matter generated by human activity and natural sources penetrates the atmosphere in hazardous concentration. The main sources of air pollution are: fuel combustion from motor vehicles and industries, industrial processes such as production of cement and asbestos, and landfills that emit gases produced by the decomposition of organic matter.

Israel faces difficult challenges related to the amount and quality of drinking water and water that is available for use in agriculture and industry. There are various indices for testing water quality, including concentrations of nitrates, turbidity, and salinity (chlorides). In Israel, the permitted standard of chlorides in drinking water is 600 mg. per liter. By contrast, the standard permitted by the World Health Organization is only 250 mg. per liter.

Hazardous waste is a by-product of chemical/industrial processes and of agricultural or commercial activity, etc.. Exposure to hazardous waste can cause severe damage and even pose a potential threat to human, animal, and plant life.

Exposure to hazardous waste entails immediate as well as long-term hazard as a result of toxic accumulation in fauna, flora, and ground water.



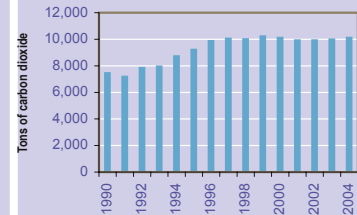
Following the reduction of living space for various species of plants and animals as a result of human activity, many species are in danger of extinction to a greater or lesser degree.

Among amphibians and freshwater fish, a large percentage of species are in high and critical risk of extinction because of excessive use and pollution of surface water.

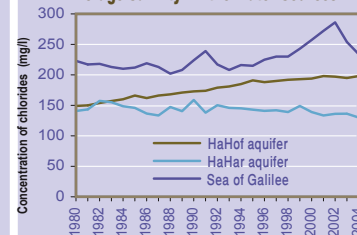
## Did you know?

In 2003, about 300 thousand tons of hazardous waste were treated in Israel.

**Emission of Carbon Dioxide from Fuel Combustion, Average per Capita**

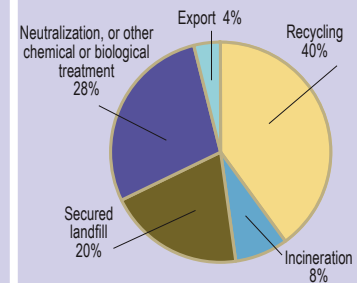


**Average Salinity in the Water Sources**



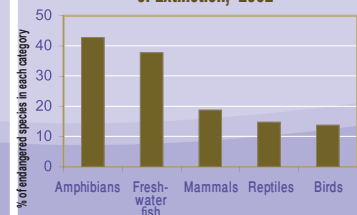
Source: The Hydrological Service and the Laboratory for Research on the Sea of Galilee

**Methods for Treatment of Hazardous Waste 2003**



Source: Ministry of the Environment

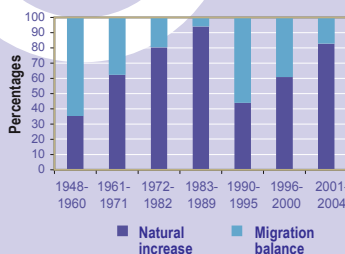
**Animal Species in high or critical risk of Extinction, 2002**



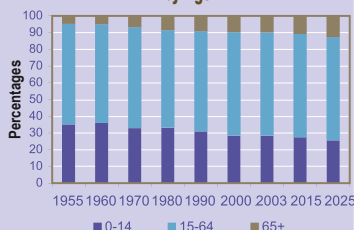
Source: The Nature and Parks Authority

# POPULATION

Sources of population growth



Population and Population Projections, by Age



*Did you know?*

40% of all Jews in the world live in Israel.

About one-tenth of the Israeli population (about 670,000 persons) are 65 or older. 57% of them are women.

On 31 December 2004, the population of Israel numbered about 6.9 million inhabitants. The population of Israel comprises the following groups:

## Jews and Others 80.5%

- Total 100.0%
- Jews 94.7%
- Non-Arab Christians 0.5%
- Not classified by religion<sup>(1)</sup> 4.8%

## Arabs 19.5%

- Total 100.0%
- Moslems 82.6%
- Christians 8.7%
- Druze 8.4%

<sup>(1)</sup> As recorded in the Population Register.  
Mostly family members of Jewish immigrants



The population data are based on the last Census of Population and Housing (1995), and on records of vital statistics in the Population Register (births, deaths, changes of address, marriages, divorces, etc.

Population growth derives from natural increase (births less deaths) and the migration balance (immigration less emigration).

The share of immigration in population growth has changed over the years. The large waves of immigration were between 1948 and 1951 (about 688,000 immigrants), and in the 1990s (about one million immigrants).

## Population of Israel, 2004 (End of Year)

	Total	Jews and Others		Arabs
		Total	Thereof: Jews	
Population - Total	6,869,500	5,529,300	5,237,600	1,340,200
Males	3,392,600	2,710,800	2,574,200	681,800
Females	3,477,000	2,818,500	2,663,400	658,500
Percent of population growth	1.8	1.5	1.4	3.0
Percent of population aged 0-18	35.0	31.7	31.9	48.6
Percent of population aged 19-64	55.1	56.8	56.2	48.1
Percent of population aged 65+	9.9	11.5	11.8	3.2
Percent of urban population (localities with 2,000 residents and more)	91.7	91.2	90.9	93.8
Percent of population:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Jerusalem district	12.1	10.6	10.9	18.3
Northern district	17.0	10.1	9.9	45.5
Haifa district	12.4	11.9	11.6	14.6
Central district	23.5	26.8	27.2	9.7
Tel Aviv district	17.1	21.0	21.1	1.2
Southern district	14.3	15.2	14.8	10.7
Judea, Samaria and Gaza areas (Jewish localities)	3.6	4.4	4.5	

# VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics include births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. The data are obtained from forms that the various authorities are required by law to fill out for the purpose of updating the Population Register (notification of live birth, notification of death, marriage certificate, or divorce certificate).



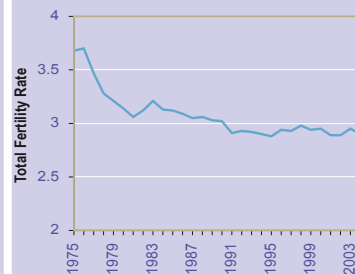
## Live Births, Deaths, Life Expectancy, Marriages and Divorces

	Total	Jews and Others		Arabs (1)
		Total	Thereof: Jews	
Live births (in 2004)	145,207	104,357	100,062	40,850
Crude birth rate (births per 1,000 persons in the average population)	21.3	19.0	19.2	30.9
Total fertility rate (average number of children a woman is expected to bear during her lifetime)	2.90	2.62	2.71	3.99
Deaths (in 2004)	37,767	34,176	33,117	3,591
Crude mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 persons in the average population)	5.5	6.2	6.4	2.7
Infant mortality rate (infant mortality per 1,000 live births)	4.5	3.2	3.1	8.0
Life Expectancy at Birth (in 2003)				
Females	81.8	82.2	82.2	78.2
Males	77.6	78.1	78.3	74.9
Couples who married (in 2003)	39,154	..	29,649	8,006
Crude marriage rate (marriages per 1,000 persons in the average population)	6.1	..	5.8	7.6
Median age at first marriage				
Females	23.9	..	24.9	20.4
Males	26.9	..	27.2	25.6
Couples who divorced (in 2003)	10,689	..	9,506	1,036
Crude divorce rate (divorces per 1,000 persons in the average population)	1.7	..	1.9	1.0

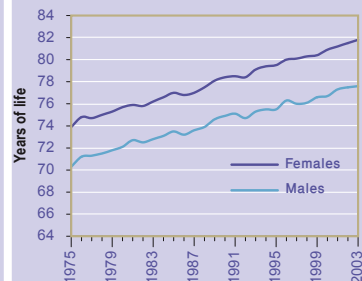
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(1) The data on marriage and divorce relate to Moslems only.

Total Fertility Rate



Life Expectancy at Birth, by Sex



# HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

A **household** is defined as a group of persons living in one dwelling, who have a common expense budget for food. A household usually comprises a family, but may also comprise only one person or include persons who have no family relationship.

A **family** is defined as two persons or more who share the same household and are usually related to one another as husband and wife, as an unmarried couple, or as a parent and child. The most common type of family is a couple with children (64.0%).

Today, the structure of families and households is more diverse than in the past, as a result of changing demographic, social, and economic trends in society.

The structure of the family and household is influenced by a variety of factors, some of which are presented below:

In recent years, more young people have been delaying marriage. Some live alone or with a roommate and others cohabit with their partners.

Age at marriage and age at birth of first child have risen, as have divorce rates. Consequently, there has been an increase in the number of single-parent families.

Increased life expectancy led to a rise in the proportion of elderly persons in the population, many of whom live alone.

Additionally, the population of immigrants from the Former Soviet Union consists of a relatively high percentage of single-parent families.

*Did you know?*

About 8% of all children up to age 17 live with a single parent

## Households, by Type of Household, 2004

Total (thousands)	1,926.4
Total (percentages)	100.0
Family households	81.0
One family	75.7
One family with others	3.2
Two or more families	2.1
Non-family households	19.0
Thereof: One-person households	17.4

## Families, by Type of Family, 2004

Total (thousands)	1,604.5
Total (percentages)	100.0
Thereof:	
Couple without children	23.1
Couple with children	64.0
The youngest child aged: up to 17	50.6
The youngest child aged: 18 and over	13.3
Single parent	12.2
The youngest child aged: up to 17	6.4
The youngest child aged: 18 and over	5.8



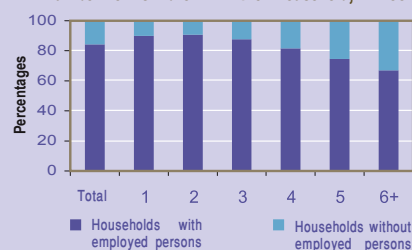
The number of households in 2004 was 1,926,400.

73% of the households had at least one employed person.

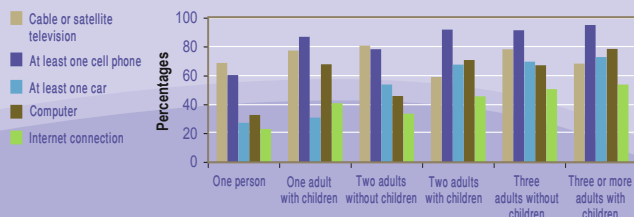
1,599,200 households had at least one person of working age – between 15 and 60 (women) or 65 (men). Of those households, 85% are households with employed persons. In 70% of the single-parent households (with children aged 0-17) there was at least one employed person.

Source of the data: Labour Force Survey

## Households with Children, by Labour Force Characteristics of Household Members and Number of Children in the Household, 2004

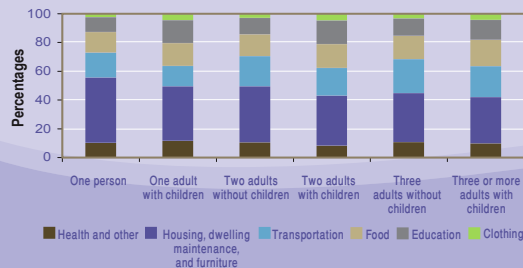


## Ownership of Durable Goods, by Type of Household, 2004



Source of the data: Household Expenditure Survey.

## Monthly Consumption Expenditure, by Type of Household, 2004



# WELFARE

Welfare reflects a feeling based on one's situation, activities, and living conditions in various areas of life. Welfare is measured by various indicators in the overall population and among various population groups.

The Social Survey examines the welfare of persons aged 20 and over. It includes questions on various areas of life such as employment, security, social involvement, level of religiosity, health, education, family relationships, financial situation, leisure, and housing.

For each of the areas, the items in the questionnaire relate to the individual's general situation, behavior, feelings, and perceptions.

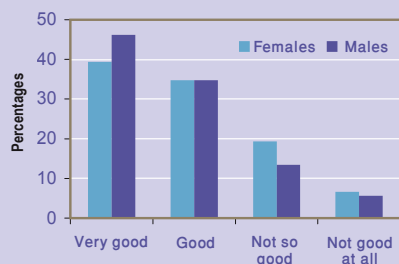
The combination of topics reflects the general sense of welfare among the population aged 20 and over in Israel.

## Did you know?

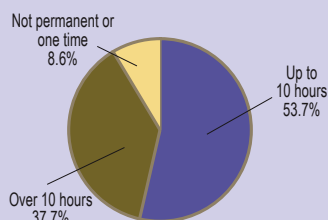
About 16% of persons aged 20 and over engage in volunteer activity

12% of persons aged 20 and over feel they have no one they can rely on at a time of crisis or distress.

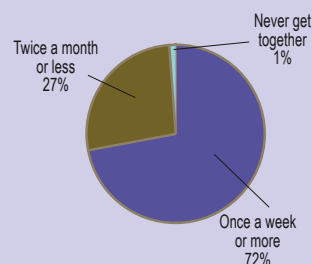
**Self Assessment of Health, 2003**



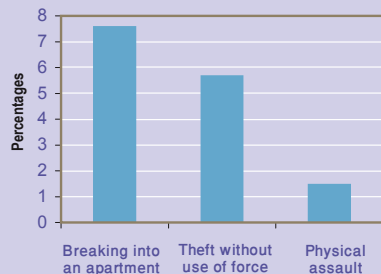
**Volunteer Activity during the Three Months Preceding the Interview, by Number of Hours, 2003**



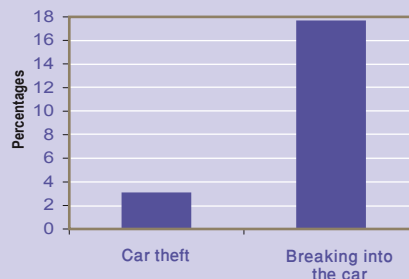
**Frequency of Get-Togethers with Family Members who Do Not Live with the Respondent, 2003**



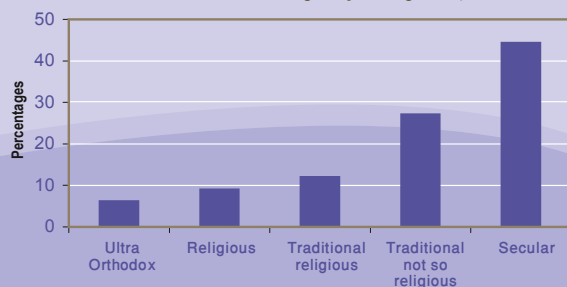
**Victims of Crime, by Type of Offence, 2003**



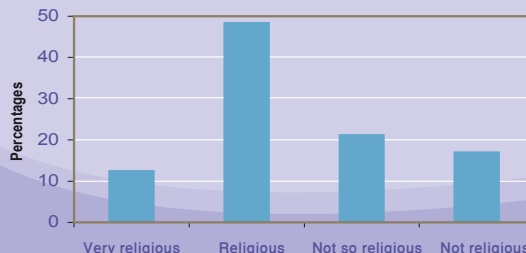
**Persons Aged 20 and Over whose Cars Were Broken into or Stolen, 2003**



**Self-Definition of Religiosity among Jews, 2003**



**Self-Definition of Religiosity among Arabs, 2003**



# EDUCATION



The compulsory education law requires school attendance, and gives every child in the country the right to receive free education for 11 years – from kindergarten until 10th grade. In Israel, the educational level of the population has reflected the impact of the education system on students, as well as the educational characteristics of the various waves of immigration.

## YEARS OF SCHOOLING, PERSONS AGED 15 AND OVER (%), 2004

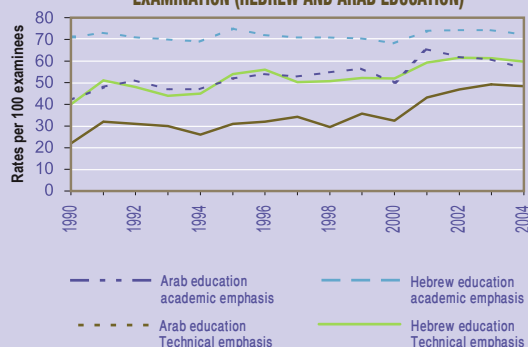
Years of Schooling	Aged 15 and over	Women	Men
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
0-4	4.5	5.9	3.1
5-12	55.1	53.1	57.3
13-15	21.9	22.9	20.8
16+	18.5	18.1	18.8

## PUPILS AND TEACHING STAFF IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, 2004/05

	Pupils	Teaching staff
	2004/05	2003/04
Total <sup>(1)</sup>	2,080,900	127,138
Pre-primary education (teachers in formal education)	389,500	11,340
Primary education	777,800	65,494
Intermediate education	253,500	23,049
Secondary education	347,100	39,923

<sup>(1)</sup>A teacher who teaches at more than one level is counted separately at each level, but only once in the total.

## ENTITLED TO A MATRICULATION CERTIFICATE, BY TYPE OF EXAMINATION (HEBREW AND ARAB EDUCATION)



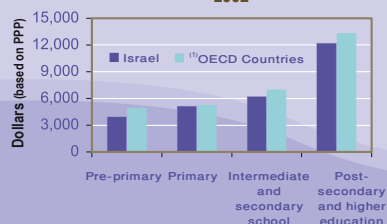
## RECIPIENTS OF DEGREES FROM INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION 2003/04

Universities – Total	30,219
Total	100.0%
First degree	59.5%
Second degree	33.5%
Third degree	3.8%
Diploma	3.2%
Colleges – Total	15,439
Total	100.0%
First degree	97.1%
Second degree	2.9%
Open University – Total	1,784
Total	100.0%
First degree	96.2%
Second degree	1.6%
Diploma	2.2%

## Did you know?

The percentage of pupils in ultra-Orthodox primary schools is three times greater than it was a decade ago.

## NATIONAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION PER PUPIL, BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION, 2002



<sup>1</sup> Countries that are members of the organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development

# HEALTH

In January 1995 the State Health Insurance Law took effect. On the basis of this law, the state is responsible for insuring the health of all residents within a basket of health services. The law mandates a uniform basket of services that the sick funds are obligated to provide to their clients, as well as a basket of medications that every resident of Israel is entitled to receive. The law enables everyone, including elderly and chronically ill persons, to transfer membership between the sick funds.

Citizens of Israel pay a progressive health tax to the National Insurance Institute, according to income. Responsibility for provision of services is divided among the sick funds and the Ministry of Health.

**Health services include:** public clinics and preventive medicine, hospitals and research, dental care, private physicians and government administration.

**The national expenditure on health** in 2004 was about NIS 46 billion. The expenditure was divided according to the following sectors:

- 40% sick funds
- 28% private hospitals and households
- 20% government, local authorities, the National Insurance Institute and national institutions
- 12% private non-profit institutions

**The rate of hospitalization days** in general care declined by about 25% from the mid-1970s to 2004, whereas the rate of hospitalization days in long-term care increased by a factor of 2.8 during that period.

**The main causes of death** in 2003 were malignant neoplasms (25% of all deaths), heart disease (20%), cerebrovascular disease (6%), deaths due to external causes (not related to disease) (6%).

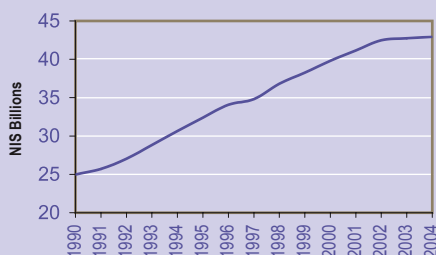
## HIV/AIDS:

At the end of 2004, 3,336 HIV carriers and 344 AIDS patients lived in Israel.

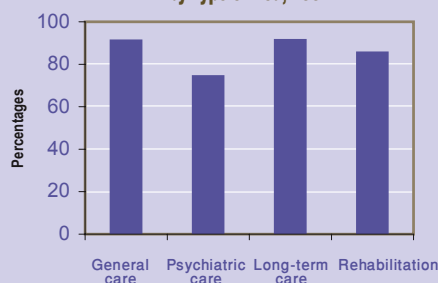
## Did you know?

The first sick fund in Israel was established by the Histadrut in 1912.

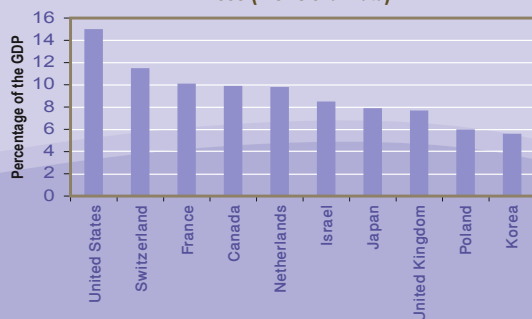
**National Expenditure on Health in 2000 Prices**



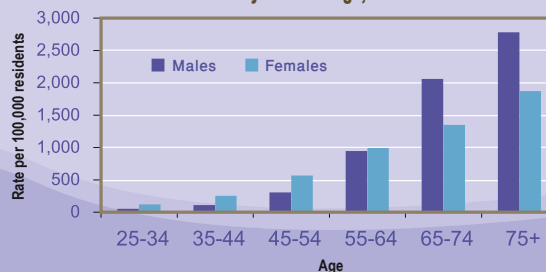
**Bed Occupancy in Hospitals, by Type of Bed, 2004**



**National Expenditure on Health – International Comparison, 2003 (Provisional Data)**



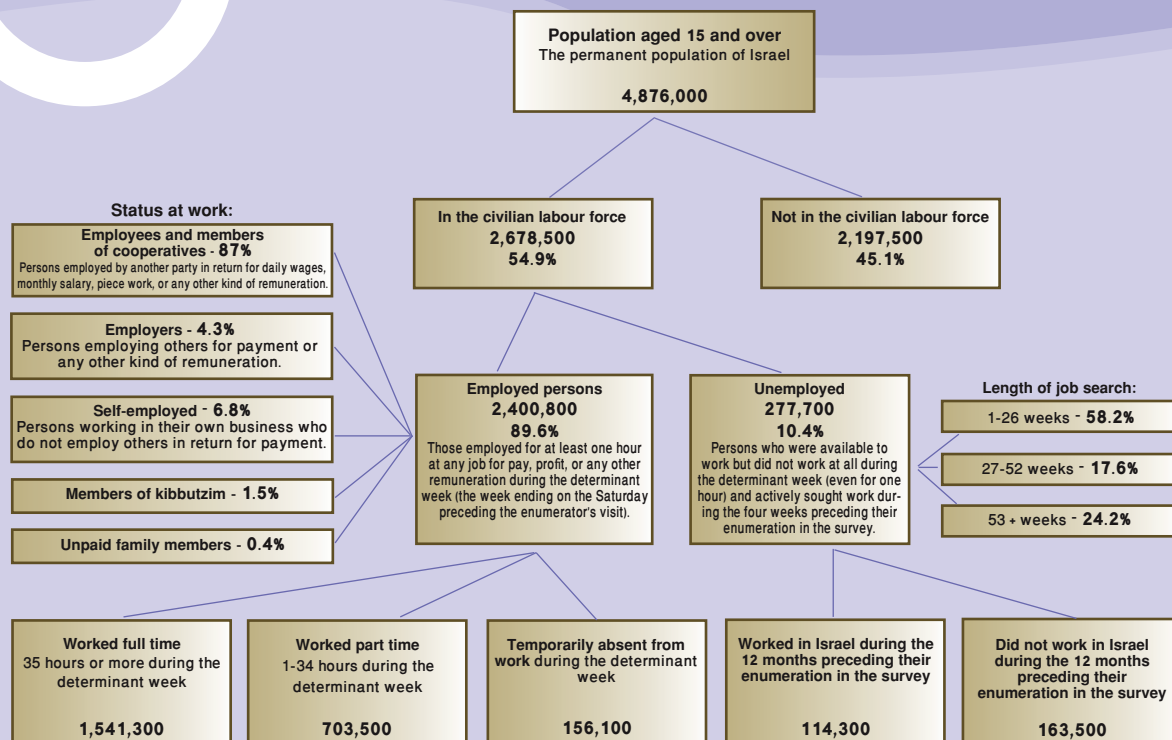
**New Cases of Malignant Neoplasms, by Sex and Age, 2002**





# LABOUR

The main source of information on the labour force in Israel is the continuing Labour Force Survey, conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The survey follows the development of the labour force in Israel, its size and characteristics, extent of unemployment, etc. Data refer to 2004.

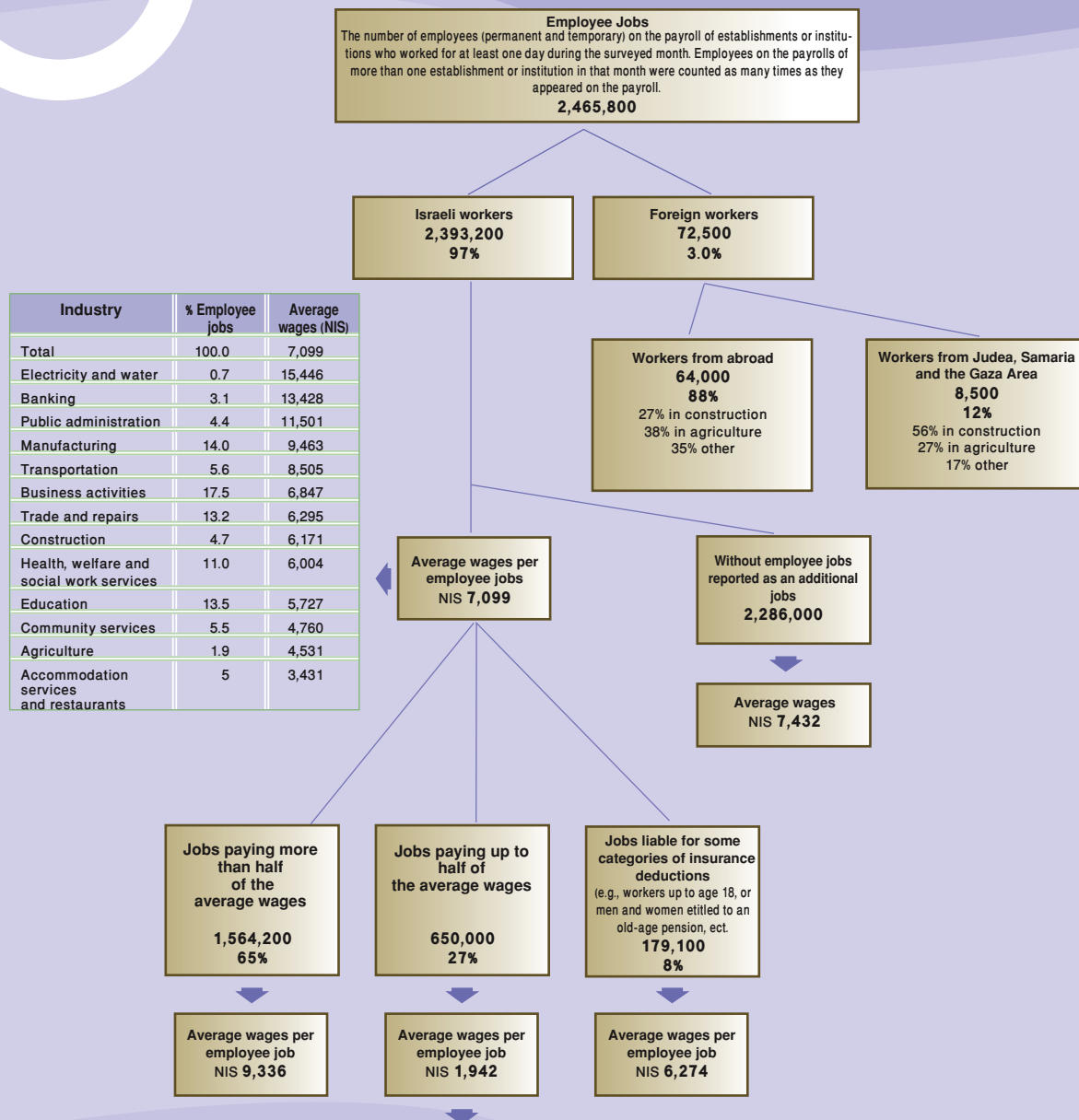


Occupation	Employed persons – Total	Usually employed part time	Women
		Percent of total employed persons	
Grand total <sup>(1)</sup>	2,400,800	24.3	45.8
Academic professionals	330,300	24.9	47.8
Associate professionals and technicians	360,400	36.5	58.7
Managers	147,800	5.8	26.7
Clerical workers	390,000	23.0	74.1
Agents, sales workers and service workers	472,200	32.9	54.6
Skilled workers	483,200	9.6	11.3
Unskilled workers	193,500	35.1	43.6

<sup>1</sup> Incl. unknown.

# WAGES

Indices of wages and employment – administrative data obtained every month, based primarily on reports of employers to the National Insurance Institute as well as other administrative sources such as Malam Systems Ltd. or the Israel Local Authorities Data Processing Center. Data refer to 2004.



The industries that usually have a high number of part-time workers according to the data of labour force surveys are:

**Education** - 26% of the employee jobs paying up to half of the average wage and the average wage was NIS 2,151.  
29% of the employees in education usually work part time.

**Accommodation services and restaurants** - 48% of the employee jobs paying up to half of the average wage, and the average wage was NIS 1,599.  
35% of the employees in this industry usually work part time.

**Business activities** - 36% of the employee jobs paying up to half of the average wage, and the average wage was NIS 1,710.  
18% of the employees in this industry usually work part time.

# THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

National accounts provide a comprehensive and detailed description of the country's economic activity, the relationships among various economic entities, and Israel's economic relations with foreign countries.

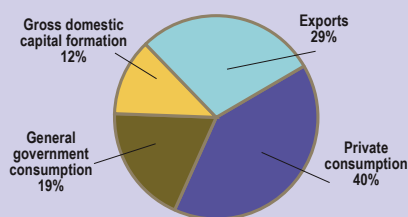
The main indicator of these accounts is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which reflects the net value of goods and services produced by economic units functioning in Israel.

This value is equal to the sum of private and general government consumption expenditure and gross domestic capital formation (private and general government) plus net export (exports less imports) of goods and services.

## Data on the Economy, 2004

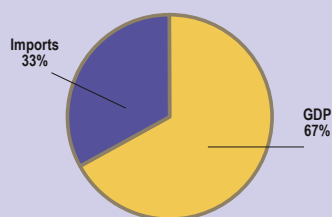
Gross Domestic Product (in current prices)	NIS	524 billion
Percent of growth in the GDP compared with previous year		4.4%
Gross Domestic Product per capita	NIS	76,900
Private consumption expenditure	NIS	310 billion
General government consumption expenditure	NIS	150 billion
Gross domestic capital formation	NIS	91 billion
Capital formation in economic industries	NIS	68 billion
Residential building	NIS	25 billion
Export of goods and services	NIS	231 billion
Import of goods and services	NIS	258 billion

### Composition of uses, 2004



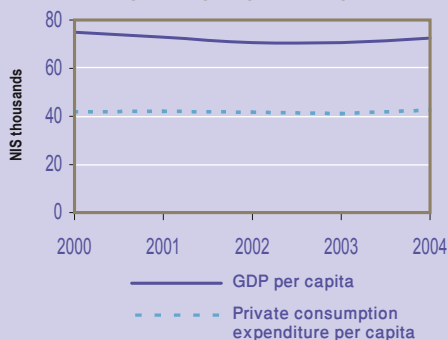
Total uses – NIS 782 billion

### Composition of resources, 2004

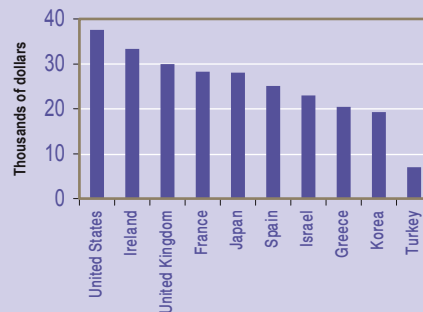


Total sources – NIS 782 billion

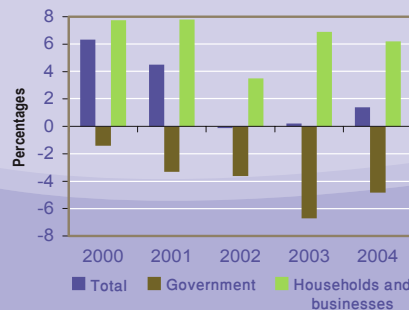
### GDP per capita and private consumption expenditure per capita, at 2000 prices



### GDP per capita in international prices (PPP - Purchasing Power Parities), 2003



### National Saving by Sector, as a Percentage of the National Disposable Income



# GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The general government includes the government, the National Insurance Institute, local authorities, national institutions (the Jewish Agency for Israel, the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish National Fund, and the United Israel Fund), as well as non-profit institutions whose main expenditures are financed by the government.

General government consumption is equal to the value of its intermediate consumption of goods and services, compensation of employees, taxes on production, and consumption of fixed capital.

In 2004, general government consumption amounted to approximately NIS 150 billion, which comprised about 29% of the GDP.

About half of the general government consumption expenditure (about 15% of the GDP) is allocated for wages.

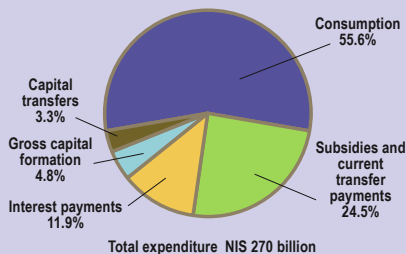
In addition to government consumption, the total general government expenditure includes transfer payments, interest payments, and fixed capital formation, and amounted to approximately NIS 270 billion in 2003 (about 52% of the GDP).

The general government income includes: revenue from taxes, revenue from property, transfer payments from abroad, and transfer payments from the private sector.

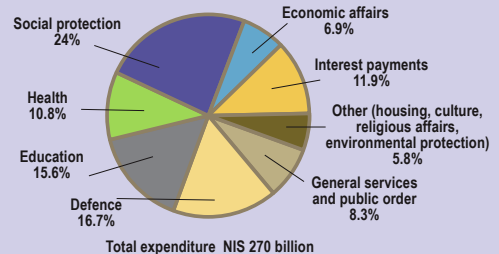
Receipts from taxes include: income tax; revenue from National Insurance payments, taxes on wages; fees, levies, and fines; Value Added Tax; taxes on imports; other indirect taxes; and capital taxes.

The total general government expenditure less total income equals the total deficit of the general government, which reached 5.1% of the GDP in 2004.

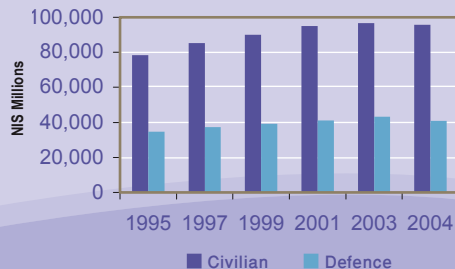
**General Government Expenditure, by type, 2004**



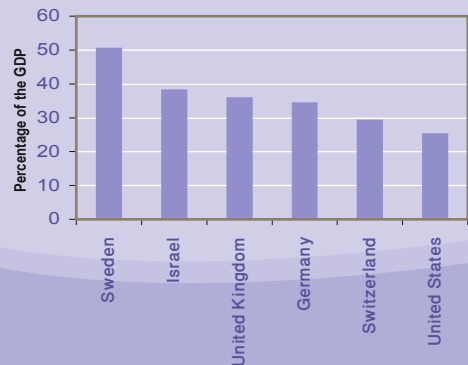
**General Government Expenditures, by Purpose, 2004**



**General Government consumption Expenditure, in 2000 Prices**



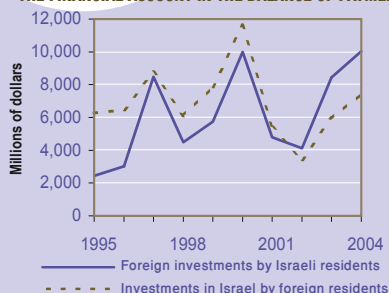
**Tax Burden – International Comparison, 2004**



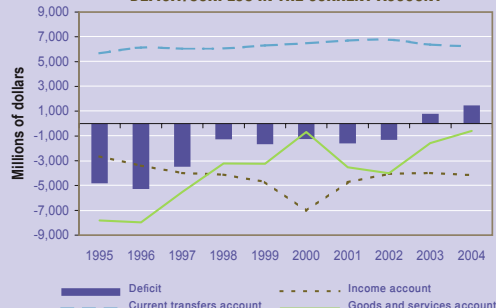
# BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FOREIGN TRADE

Israel's balance of payments is a record of all economic transactions carried out between the Israeli economy and the rest of the world. The current account of the balance of payments presents payments connected with trade in goods and services, current transfers, and current income from work and property. The financial account presents foreign investments by Israeli residents, as well as investments in Israel by foreign residents.

## THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNT IN THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS



## DEFICIT/SURPLUS IN THE CURRENT ACCOUNT



## GOODS AND SERVICES, 2004

Exports		Imports	
Balance of payments data			
	Billions of dollars		Billions of dollars
Goods - Total	37	Goods - Total	40
		Thereof:	
		Defence imports	1.9
Thereof: Export of goods to the Palestinian Authority	1.7	Import of goods from the Palestinian Authority	0.3
Services - Total	15	Services - Total	13
Thereof: Export of services to the Palestinian Authority	0.2	Thereof: Import of services from the Palestinian Authority	0.1

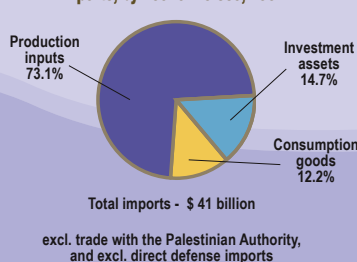
Exports of Selected Commodities (excluding exports to the Palestinian Authority) 2004	
	% of all exports
Diamonds	36.1
Electrical apparatus for line telephony	5.5
Electronic integrated circuits	3.2
Pharmaceutical products	3.0
Aircraft parts	2.6
Industrial fatty acids	2.2
Implements, tools and machinery	2.0
Parts for machines, computer equipment and mechanical equipment	1.5
Mineral or chemical fertilizers	1.4
X-ray apparatus	1.4

Imports of Selected Commodities (excluding Imports from the Palestinian Authority and excluding Direct Defense Imports) 2004	
	% of all imports
Diamonds	22.6
Crude oils	6.0
Passenger vehicles	3.8
Petroleum oils	3.1
Electronic integrated circuits	2.7
Computers	2.2
Machinery and electrical equipment	1.6
Pharmaceutical products	1.6
Radio equipment	2.7
Parts for machines, computer equipment and mechanical equipment	1.3

## Imports and Exports of Commodities, by Continent, 2004



## Imports, by Economic Use, 2004



# CONSTRUCTION, ELECTRICITY AND WATER



The construction industry includes building and civil engineering works. **Building** refers to civilian building in Israel, including building in Jewish localities in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza area.

**Civil engineering works** refers to construction of roads, widening and reconstruction of roads, installation of water pipes, installation of drainage pipes (for concentration and disposal of sewage water), and canalization (for concentration and disposal of rainwater).

Unlike other industries, the building industry is characterized by sharp fluctuations in the volume of activity. The industry is sensitive to change in overall business activity, and fluctuations in building tend to cause fluctuations in the overall economy.

In 2004, the gross domestic capital formation in building amounted to NIS 44.9 billion – 55% of that sum was allocated to residential building, 26% to non-residential building, and 19% to civil engineering projects.

## Area of building

Building completed - 7,434,000 sq. m.

Building begun - 6,375,000 sq. m.

## Dwellings

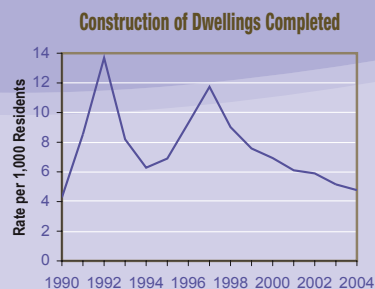
Building completed - 32,482

Building begun - 28,756

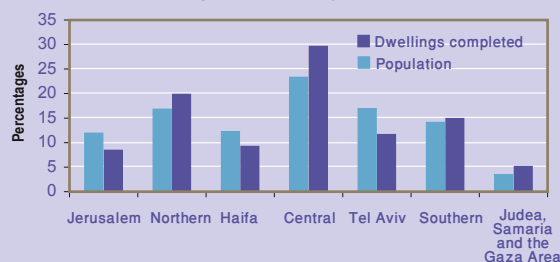
## Widening roads and construction of new roads

Completed - 332 km.

Begun - 257 km.



## Dwellings Completed, Compared with Population Growth, by District, 2004



## Electricity Supply, 2004

Total	42,800 million KWH
Household consumption	13,815 million KWH
Trade	12,296 million KWH
Manufacturing	11,149 million KWH
Water pumping	2,716 million KWH
Agriculture	1,696 million KWH
Bulk	1,128 million KWH

Source: Israel Electric Corporation Ltd.

## Water Consumption by Purpose, 2003

Agricultural	1,045 million cubic meters
Domestic	698 million cubic meters
Industrial	117 million cubic meters

## Water Production (Millions of Cubic Meters), 2002

Total	1,970
Mekorot Water Co. - Total	1,346
Wells	40.0%
National Water Carrier	30.0%
Surface water	16.0%
Effluents and Dan Area Wastewater Treatment Works	14.0%
Other producers - Total	624
Wells	48.0%
Surface water	36.0%
Effluents	16.0%

Source: The Water Commission

# MANUFACTURING, COMMERCE AND SERVICES



Over the years, the Israeli economy has developed from a small, closed economy to a large, developed economy that uses modern methods and advanced technologies for manufacturing.

Manufacturing industries produce about 37% of their product for export, and are based primarily on high-tech commodities.

Manufacturing in Israel has evolved from small establishments that engage in processing of agricultural products and clothing, to high technology production.

The Central Bureau of Statistics collects monthly data from a sample of about 2,200 manufacturing establishments. The data are used to prepare current manufacturing indices, which serve as indicators of the development of manufacturing in particular and of the economy in general.

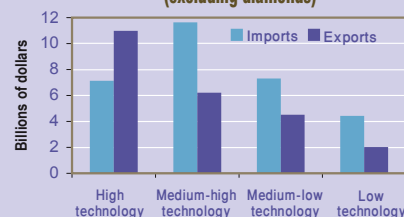
In 2004, the Gross Domestic Product of manufacturing amounted to NIS 72 billion (excluding diamonds) and GDP per work-hour per employee amounted to about NIS 109.

The manufacturing export was NIS 103 billion, and constituted 40% of the total revenue in manufacturing.

## Establishments, Employed Persons, and Revenue in Manufacturing, by Technological Intensity, 2004

Technological Intensity	Establishments	Employed persons	Revenue (NIS Billions)
Total - absolute numbers	12,310	331,900	254
Percentages	100.0	100.0	100.0
High-tech (electronics, aircraft, and pharmaceuticals)	4.3	24.1	28.7
Medium-high tech (chemicals excl. pharmaceuticals, machinery, electrical equipment, and transport equipment excl. aircraft)	9.6	13.8	23.2
Medium-low tech (Mining and quarrying, rubber and plastic, basic metals, and metal products)	37.1	25.0	20.5
Low technology (Food products, beverages, textiles, wearing apparel, leather products, paper, printing, wood and its products)	49.0	37.1	27.6

## Manufacturing Exports and Imports (Gross) by Technological Intensity, 2004 (excluding diamonds)



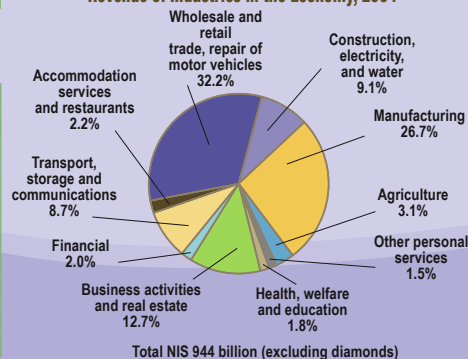
## Establishments and Employed Persons, by Sector, 2004

Sector	Establishments		Employed Persons	
	Absolute numbers	Percentages	Absolute numbers	Percentages
Total	12,310	100.0	331,900	100.0
Private	12,047	97.9	279,300	84.2
Kibbutz and cooperative society	248	2.0	27,600	8.3
Public	15	0.1	25,000	7.5

## Establishments and Employed Persons, by District, 2004

District	Establishments		Employed Persons	
	Absolute numbers	Percentages	Absolute numbers	Percentages
Total	12,310	100.0	331,900	100.0
Thereof:				
Jerusalem	1,041	8.5	20,900	6.3
Northern	1,628	13.2	56,600	17.0
Haifa	1,229	10.0	43,200	13.0
Central	3,240	26.3	94,000	28.3
Tel Aviv	3,626	29.5	76,300	23.0
Southern	1,147	9.3	33,600	10.1

## Revenue of Industries in the Economy, 2004





# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Research and Development (R&D)

Modern economies rely on research and technology, including advanced technology for communications and dissemination of information.

The value of investment in research and development in Israel as a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the highest in the world.

An increasing share of industries use advanced technologies in the production process, and manufacturing exports consist primarily of commodities that were produced using these technologies. Additionally, industries that use advanced technologies to provide information and communication technology services have developed rapidly in recent years.

## Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

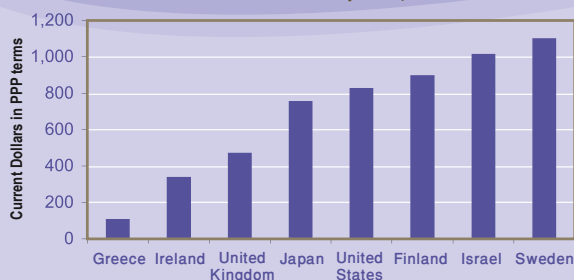
Information and Communication Technologies are among the fastest growing industries in the past decade. These industries include manufacturers of hardware, as well as companies that deal with software, broadcasting, and display of information. ICT is characterized by high productivity (in 2004, employed persons in those industries, who comprise 8% of all employed persons in the business sector, produced 15% of the product in that sector).

ICT industries conduct extensive research and development activities, and a considerable share of the output in ICT is allocated to export. Israel occupies a leading position in various information technology indicators in comparison to many OECD countries (Countries that are members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development).

## Biotechnology

This refers to the application of science and technology to living organisms, parts of organisms, products of organisms, models, etc. in order to develop, produce and/or change living and non-living material for the purpose of producing knowledge, goods or services.

**National Expenditure on Research and Development Per Capita - International Comparison, 2002**



**Share of ICT Industries, out of the Total Economy**



## Companies Engaging in Biotechnology, by Industry, 2002

	Total	Agriculture and food	Pharmaceuticals	Medical Equipment	R&D
No. of companies	148	9	18	4	117
No. of employed persons	3,427	437	1,030	31	1,929
Expenditure for biotechnology R&D (NIS millions)	953	57	182	16	698
External funding sources (NIS millions)	706	5	16	4	680
Income from biotechnology (NIS millions)	1,260	364	629	3	264
Thereof: biotechnology exports (NIS millions)	951	299	409	3	239

*Did you know?*

Manufacturing exports in high technology industries were four times greater in 2002 than in 1990.

# TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS



Transport, storage, and communications includes: land transport, sea transport, air transport, transportation services, storage, parking lots and freight terminals, postal and courier services, and communication.

In 2004 there are about 17,400 km. of urban, non-urban, and access roads in Israel. About 2 million Israeli civilian vehicles traveled approximately 40,000 million kilometers.

77% of the vehicles (1.6 million) are private cars; 345 thousand (16.9%) are trucks and commercial vehicles, 11,400 vehicles are buses (0.6%), and the remaining 115 thousand vehicles (5.6%) are minibuses, taxis, special service vehicles, and motorcycles.

About 3 million licenced drivers drove these vehicles, and caused about 18,000 road accidents with casualties (excluding accidents with casualties that occurred in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area). About 37,000 persons were injured in those accidents. Of those, 480 persons were killed, bringing the total number of deaths in road accidents (excluding Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area) to 23,412 since the establishment of the State.

*Did you know?*

The number of railway passengers is more than five times greater today than it was a decade ago.

## Number of Vehicles per 1,000 Residents, 2002

USA	783	France	634
Italy	728	Greece	634
Canada	705	Belgium	552
Germany	647	Israel	296

Source: International Road Federation

## Accidents with Casualties, by Type of Accident, 2004

Total - Absolute numbers	17,762
	100.0%
Front-to-side collision	51.7%
Hitting a pedestrian	14.9%
Front-to-rear end collision	12.1%
Other collision	6.4%
Sideswipe	5.0%
Head-on collision	4.1%
Overturning	2.9%
Running off road, skidding	1.6%
Other	1.3%

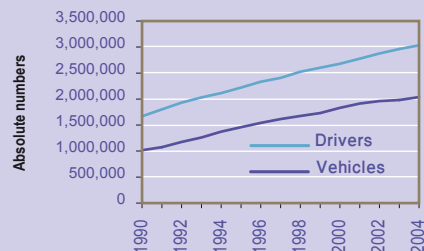
## Railways (2004)

Passengers – 22,907,000  
Freight – 7,920,000 tons

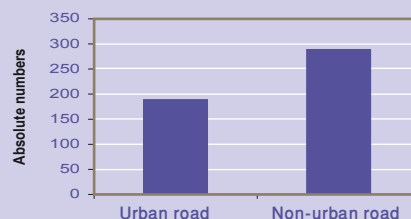
## Ships (2004)

Ships sailing - 5,362  
Passengers - 175,000  
Freight - 49,386 thousand tons

## Vehicles and Drivers



## Killed in Road Accidents, 2004



## Aircraft (International) (2004)

Aircraft landings - 28,213  
Passengers - 7,735,600  
Thereof: In Israeli aircraft - 3,870,900  
Freight - 332,850 tons  
Thereof: in Israeli aircraft - 234,872 tons

## Postal and Communications (2004)

Total mail – 735 million items  
1,600,000 parcels  
15,050 public telephones  
41% of all households are connected to the Internet  
84% of all households have at least one cellphone

# TOURISM



Foreign and domestic tourism have considerable economic, social, and political significance. The development of tourism can be attributed to a number of causes, such as: increased disposable income, increased paid vacation in workplaces, reduction of prices for transportation, increased leisure hours, and changes in habits for spending leisure time.

There are three main types of tourism:

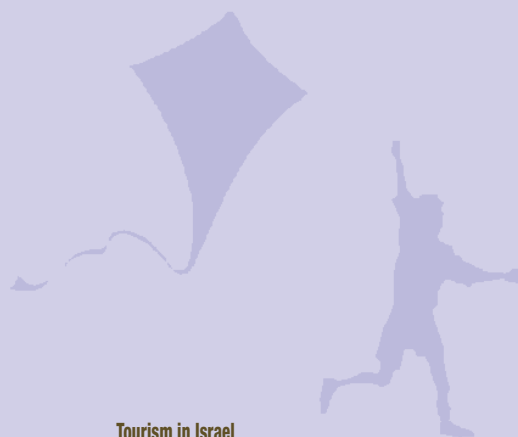
Inbound tourism, Israelis travelling abroad, and domestic tourism.

The number of arrivals and departures of tourists and Israelis is a sensitive barometer of Israel's economic and security situation during a given period. In 2004, about 1,500,000 tourists arrived in Israel, and about 3,600,000 Israelis travelled abroad.

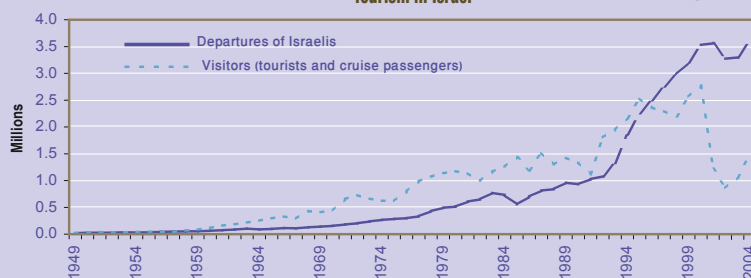
## ACCOMMODATION SERVICES, 2004

Accommodation services	Person-nights in all accommodation services	20,331,100
		100%
	Tourist hotels	79.0%
	Other hotels	5.0%
	Rural tourism	12.0%
	Youth hostels	3.0%
	Field schools	1.0%
Total person-nights in accommodation services		
		100%
	Israeli person-nights	72%
	Tourist person-nights	28%

Tourist hotels	Hotels	336
	Rooms	46,375
	Person-nights in tourist hotels	16,973,500
	Tourist person-nights as a percentage of all person-nights	28%
	Room occupancy	51%



Tourism in Israel



## Did you know?

In 2004 there were 531 departures per 1,000 residents of Israel.

## Person-Nights in Tourist Hotels in Selected Localities, 2004



# AGRICULTURE

Agriculture includes: Plant crops, afforestation and gardening, and raising livestock and livestock products.

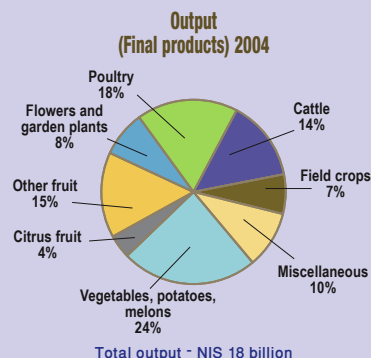
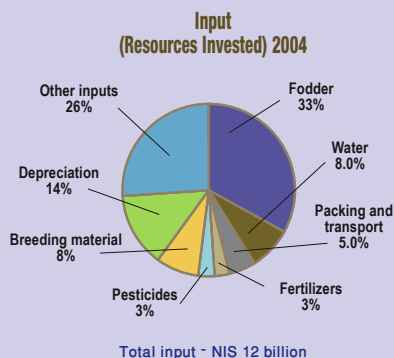
The agriculture industry has undergone many changes over the years. Israeli agriculture is developing in terms of the quantity and quality of produce, as well as in terms of diversification and growth in plant crops and livestock breeding.

There has also been a considerable improvement in methods of cultivation: irrigation, greenhouses, and mechanical equipment for processing and harvesting of crops.



## Area for Agriculture (Thousand dunams), 2003

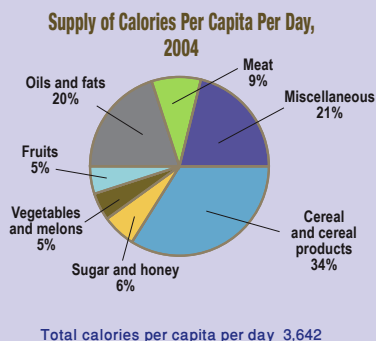
Total	4,284
Thereof:	
Field crops	2,436
Plantations	653
Vegetables	204



**Supply of calories** (average per capita per day) is the amount of calories available to the public and the sum total of calories, by source, for the average population in Israel.

## International Comparison, 2002

	Supply of calories (Kcal per capita per day)	Percentage of calories from vegetables
United States	3,774	72
Greece	3,721	78
Israel	3,611	80
France	3,654	63
Germany	3,496	69
Spain	3,371	72
Netherlands	3,362	66
Lebanon	3,196	83
Jordan	2,673	91



## Did you know?

The forests in Israel (planted and natural) comprise 4%-6% of the land area in the country. In 2003, the forest area (handled by the Jewish National Fund) spanned 983 thousand dunams.

The growth rate of the Palania tree during the first year is one meter per month.



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