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ARAB YOUTH IN ISRAEL: BACKGROUND FIGURES

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1. DEMOGRAPHY

Proportion of young population in society

Total population and those aged 0-18 by population and religious groupings (figures in '000s and percentages, 2006 average)¹

		Total	Jews and others*	Arabs			
				Total	Muslims	Christians	Druze
Total population	Thousands	7,053.7	5,658.5	1,395.2	1,156.9	121.9	116.4
	% of total population	100.0	80.2	19.8	16.4	1.7	1.7
Age 0-18	Thousands	2,460.5	1,785.5	675.0	585.0	42.0	48.0
	% of population group	34.6	31.3	47.8	49.9	34.2	40.9
	% of total 0-18 year-olds in Israel	100.0	72.6	27.4	23.8	1.7	1.9
Median age		28.6	30.9	20.0	18.8	30.8	23.8

* The "Jews and others" population comprises Jews, Christians and those without religious affiliation.

Distribution by age

Children and youth by age cohorts, population and religious groupings (figures in '000s and percentages, 2006 average)²

Age	0-4		5-14		15-18	
	'000s	% of age cohort	'000s	% of age cohort	'000s	% of age cohort
Population group						
Total	719.2	100.0	1,280.1	100.0	461.4	100.0
Jews	497.2	69.1	877.3	68.5	323.8	70.2
Arabs	200.4	27.9	361.8	28.3	112.8	24.4
Of whom: Muslims	177.5	24.7	313	24.5	94.5	20.5
Of whom: Christians	9.9	1.4	22.3	1.7	9.0	1.9
Of whom: Druze	12.9	1.8	25.8	2.0	9.3	2.0
Others	21.6	3.0	41.0	3.2	24.8	5.4

¹ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 2.19.

² Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 2.19.

Population of Arab and Jewish youth aged 15-18 (2006 average, '000s)³

	15-year-olds	16-year-olds	17-year-olds	18 year-olds	Total 15-18 year-olds
Arabs	30.2	29.1	27.6	25.9	112.8
Jews	82.0	81.9	82.3	83.2	329.4

2. Schooling and education

Educational levels

Distribution of youth by age group and type of last school attended (2006, %)⁴

Age	Type of schooling											
	Elementary and middle		Technological and agricultural high school		General high school		Post-secondary		Academic		Other	
	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs
15-17	9.7	16.0	15.5	5.4	68.1	76.9	-	-	-	-	6.7	1.7
18-24	1.4	16.4	14.1	5.6	49.9	48.8	9.9	8.7	16.2	19.0	8.5	1.5

Youth and young adults – median years of study, by population group (2006)⁵

Age	Median years of study	
	Jews	Arabs
15-17	11.1	10.9
18-24	12.4	12.1

Atmosphere at school

Reports about school experiences, by age group (2002, in %)⁶

	Jews	Arabs	Druze
Reported feeling of belonging to school	71	69	83
Reported that school had fair rules	51	59	69
Reported taking part in bullying or hounding	38	35	35
Reported carrying weapons	9	17	12

³ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 2.19.

⁴ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Tables 8.3, 8.5.

⁵ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 8.3

⁶ The figures are taken from Miriam Cohen-Navot, Iman Awadyeh and Viacheslav Konstantinov *Identifying the Needs of Druze Youth* (Engelberg Center, Myers-Joint-Brookdale Institute, November 2006) (Hebrew).

School dropout rates

School dropout rates between 2005/6-2006/7 school years, by grades (%)⁷

	7	8	9	10	11	12	% dropout 9-11 grades	% dropout 7-12 grades
Jewish schooling	0.5	2.2	3.0	3.4	5.3	1.7	17.8	2.7
Arab schooling	1.3	3.9	11.7	6.6	5.3	1.9	27.6	5.2

Entitled to matriculation (high-school graduation) diploma⁸

Proportion of 17-year-olds studying in 12th grade and % of those entitled to matriculation diploma, by age group in selected years (%)

Year	1998		2001		2005	
Population group	Studying in 12th grade	Entitled to matriculation diploma	Studying in 12th grade	Entitled to matriculation diploma	Studying in 12th grade	Entitled to matriculation diploma
Total	80.6	49.7	81.7	55.1	85.3	53.8
Jews	89.4	51.4	93.5	55.6	98.1	55.1
Arabs	-	39.6	55.3	52.2	61.3	47.2
Of whom: Muslims	52.9	36.5	51.0	50.3	57.6	44.9
Negev Bedouin	49.7	9.6	63.0	27.7	71.5	26.6
Of whom: Christians	60.3	59.5	64.9	68.5	68.0	63.9
Of whom: Druze	72.5	42.2	79.6	50.2	82.8	50.3

⁷ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 8.22.

⁸ Swirski, Shlomo and Ety Schwarz, "Entitlement to matriculation diploma by locality 2004-2005" (Adva Center, August 2006) (Hebrew); Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 8.24; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2006 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 57: Table 2.18; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2003 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 54: Table 8.21; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2002 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 53: Table 2.18; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2000 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 51: Table 22.21; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 1999 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 50: Table 2.18; Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 1997 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 48: Table 22.19.

Higher education

Percentage of holders of a matriculation diploma meeting higher education institutions' admission requirements, by population groups in select years.⁹

Year	2000	2003	2005
Population group			
Total	86.2	84.6	86.5
Jews	88.6	86.7	88.0
Arabs	70.4	71.8	79.9
Druze	66.0	66.4	72.2
Negev Bedouin	38.4	59.6	60.4

3. EMPLOYMENT

Work and study

15-24-year-olds by employment and studies (2006, %) ¹⁰

Age	Studying & working		Working only		Studying only		Not working or studying	
	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs
15-17	6.9	-	1.1	3.3	86.2	82.6	5.8	13.8
18-24	10.5	2.5	25.3	29.9	18.7	22.8	45.6	44.7

Youth integration in the civilian labor force

% of youth and young adults integrated in the civilian labor force, by age cohort, 2005-2006¹¹

Age Year	Ages 15-17			Ages 18-24		
	Entire population	Jews	Arabs	Entire population	Jews	Arabs
2005	9.1	10.7	3.8	42.6	44.3	35.4
2006	9.4	11.0	4.5	42.7	43.7	38.5

⁹ Swirski and Schwarz, op. cit.

¹⁰ Central Bureau of Statistics, *Israel 2007 Statistical Yearbook*, No. 58: Table 12.31.

¹¹ Op. cit., Table 12.10.

4. WELFARE

Incidence of poverty among children and youth

Disparities in incidence of poverty among Jewish and Arab children and youth by decade (1005-2005)¹²

	1995	2005	Change
Arabs	40.6%	64.2%	+23.6%
Jews	18.6%	24.4%	+5.8%

5. ALCOHOL AND DRUG CONSUMPTION

Use of psychoactive substances among youth

Youth who use tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs, by population groups (% , 2004)¹³

	Tobacco use (cigarettes)			Alcohol use			Use of illegal drugs		
	Arabs	Jews	Druze	Arabs	Jews	Druze	Arabs	Jews	Druze
During year before survey	14.0	23.0	8.0	17.0	59.0	20.0	12.0	10.0	10.0
Month before survey	11.5	17.0	7.0	14.0	44.0	15.0	11.0	6.0	8.0
Week before survey	10.0	14.0	6.0	12.0	28.0	13.0	10.5	4.0	8.0

Use of psychoactive substances among Arab and Druze high-school students (% , 2004)¹⁴

	Total	Illegal use of medication	Cannabis	Illegal drugs	Opiates	LSD	Cocaine	Crack	Ecstasy	P.C.P.
Arabs	12.0	8.0	6.0	9.3	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.5	4.8	4.4
Druze	10.0	7.0	4.0	7.0	3.1	3.9	3.7	3.3	2.9	3.3

¹² National Insurance Institute, *2006 Annual Review*, pp. 389-390 (Hebrew). Ramses Graa and Raphaela Cohen, "Poverty among Arabs in Israel and sources of inequality among Arabs and Jews", *Economics Quarterly* (No. 4), 2001 pp. 557-559 (Hebrew).

¹³ Azaiza Faisal, Khaled Abu-Asba, Rachel Bar-Hamburger and Meirav Shaham, "The use of psychoactive substances among school pupils in the Israeli Arab population" (Powerpoint presentation - Hebrew).

¹⁴ Azaiza Faisal, Khaled Abu-Asba, "Psychoactive Substance Use Among Arab and Druze Adolescent Students and Dropouts in Israel – 2004" (research summary, Israel Anti-Drug Authority, 2004) (Hebrew).