

THE STATE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN ISRAEL

2015



Israel National Council for the Child

With the support of the

Bernard van Leer Foundation



Israel National Council for the Child

The Israel National Council for the Child (NCC), an independent non-governmental organization, stands as Israel's foremost advocate for all children's rights and well-being. Since 1980, the NCC has sought to advance children's rights and promote and protect the well-being of all children in Israel, age birth to 18, regardless of ethnicity, religious affiliation, or social-economic status.

The NCC serves as a nationwide address for anyone wishing to report violations of children's rights; we provide support and services to children in distress; we successfully influence public policy and raise public awareness of children's rights and issues affecting their welfare and wellbeing; we initiate innovative projects addressing complex problems at home, at school, and in the community.

The distinctiveness of the NCC is marked by its combination of activities on behalf of individual children and finding solutions for concrete problems, and those activities on a macro level that deal with fundamental issues in a manner that improves the rights and well-being of thousands of children in Israel.

Dealing with an enormous spectrum of issues including education, health, children-at-risk, abuse, delinquency, legislation, media and consumerism, the NCC has succeeded in making real changes in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children of all walks of life.

The NCC diligently and courageously speaks out for the children. To retain our independence, objectivity, and freedom to act in defense of children under all circumstances, the NCC does not accept government funding. The NCC depends on the generosity of foundations, businesses, and individuals around the world who are concerned with the welfare of Israel's children.

www.children.org.il

Bernard van Leer Foundation

Investing in a good start for children

The Bernard van Leer Foundation is a private foundation that makes grants, shares knowledge and conducts advocacy to improve the opportunities of young children (age 0–8) growing up in circumstances of social and economic disadvantage.

Bernard van Leer, a Dutch industrialist and philanthropist, established the Foundation with broad humanitarian goals in 1949. After Bernard's death in 1958, his son Oscar focused the Foundation's activities on giving children a fair start in life – not only for the sake of the children themselves, but also because it is crucial to building societies that are more peaceful, prosperous, cohesive and creative.

We made our first early childhood development grant in 1966, in Jamaica. Since then we have invested over half a billion dollars in more than 50 countries. Our legacy includes helping to start and grow some of the world's leading early childhood organizations and contributing to the development of public policies and models of service delivery that have reached national scale in countries as diverse as Jamaica, Colombia, Kenya, the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Currently, the Foundation funds innovative projects in eight countries – Brazil, India, Israel, the Netherlands, Peru, Tanzania, Turkey and Uganda – chosen for their economic, geographical and cultural diversity. Our work in those countries informs our growing global programme of advocacy and knowledge development, through which we aim to increase interest and investment in young children and families around the world.

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Introduction



The document, based on the statistical yearbook *Children in Israel 2014*, presents data on the population of young children in Israel. The document, commissioned by the Bernard van Leer Foundation, was prepared by the Israel National Council for Child (NCC). The *Children in Israel* series has been produced annually by the NCC for 25 years.

The document presents a current picture of the well-being of young children in Israel intended to assist policy-makers and practitioners to understand the situation of this group of children and to provide a foundation for creating interventions based on these data. Such data are essential for the promotion of policy, planning services and employing interventions with young children and their families as appropriate.

The uniqueness of this document is its focus on young children, from birth to age six. It is known today that early childhood is a critical period in the child's development and therefore warrants a focused examination separate from data presented on the total population of children. No other source in Israel provides a comprehensive, up-to-date examination of the situation of young children across all areas of young children's lives.

The data are presented by age or age groups. Unfortunately, it was not always possible to provide data on children aged 0-6, for example, in data on poverty and family structure in Israel. In these cases, the data are presented within a broader age group.

This document contains nine chapters dealing with various areas pertaining to the lives of young children, including: demography, education, health, welfare, immigration, poverty, accidents and child abuse.

Summary



- In 2013, close to a million children aged 0-6 lived in Israel, making up 37% of the total child population.
- In 2013, approximately 172,000 new babies were born in Israel, an increase of 50% since 1995.
- In the 2013-14 school year, approximately 117,000 children aged 0-3 were enrolled in early childhood education under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy, accounting for only 23% of all children in this age group.
- In the 2013-14 school year, about 234,000 children aged 3-4 were in kindergartens, an increase of 20% since 1995.
- The percentage of children immunized in Israel is high, ranging from 91% to 100%.
- From the year 2000 to 2013, we see a decline in the percentage of newborns weighing under 2.5 kg, from 8.5% in 2000 to 7.9% in 2013.
- The infant mortality rate in the Muslim population (6.5%) is higher than the rate in the total population of children in Israel (3.1%).
- In the 2013-14 school year, 15,000 children with special needs attended special education preschools or were integrated in regular kindergartens.
- The most common disability among preschool children in special education is developmental delay (39.1%). The second most common disability is language delay (32.3%).
- About 2,000 infants ages 0-3 attended rehabilitative day care centers in 2013.
- Almost half (48.4%) of all children admitted to hospital emergency rooms in 2013 were children aged 0-4.
- In 2014, approximately 89,000 immigrant children aged 0-6 lived in Israel, accounting for 30.0% of the immigrant child population.
- In 2013, 30.8% of the children of Israel, that is, more than every third child, lived below the poverty line.
- In January 2014, approximately 53,000 children aged 0-3 and about 67,000 children aged 4-6 were known to Social Services, constituting a quarter of all children known to social services.
- For children ages 0-5, the most common reason for a report to a Child Protection Officer (Youth Law Social Worker) was neglect (24.7%). For ages 6-13, it was sexual abuse (41.7%), and age 14-17, attempted suicide (48.5%).

Chapter 1

Demographics



Table 1.1: Number of Young Children in Israel (in Thousands), by Gender and Age, 2013 Average

Age	Total*	Gender	
		Girls	Boys
Total Children (0-17)	2,654.2	1,294.3	1,360.1
Total Preschool children (0-6) **	988.9	482.3	506.7
Of which:			
0	170.7	83.1	87.5
1	169.5	82.8	86.8
2	167.5	81.6	85.9
3	165.3	80.6	84.8
4	160.4	78.3	82.1
5	155.5	75.9	79.6

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel, Table 2.3, 2014.

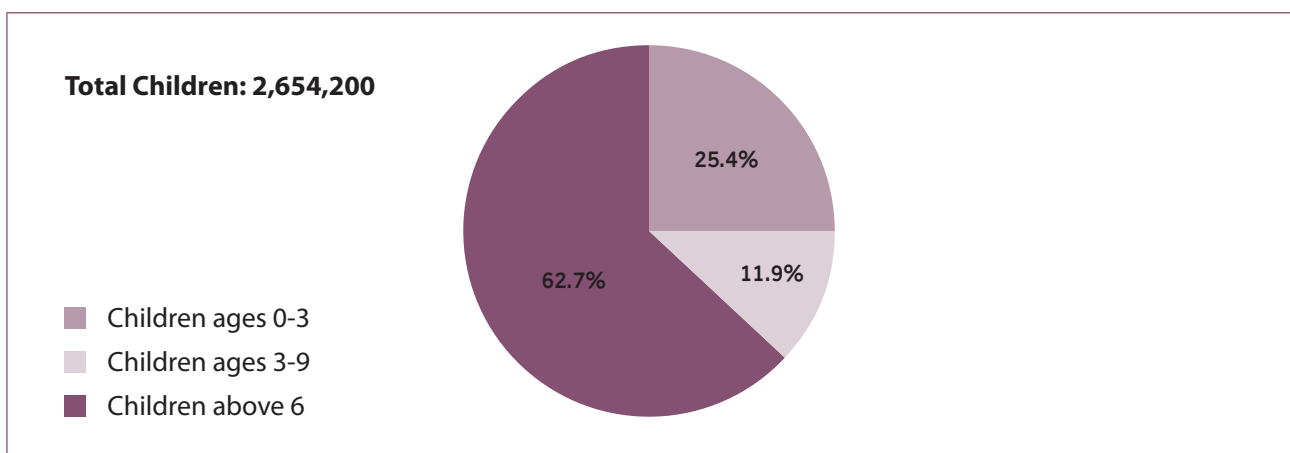
*Differences between the sub-totals presented in the columns and rows and the total are due to the rounding off of the numbers.

** Through the age of five.

There are about 2.5 million children in Israel, representing 33% of the total population.

In 2013, there were over a million young children ages 0-6.

Figure 1A: Distribution of Children (0-17) in Israel (Percentages), 2013



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, , Statistical Abstract of Israel, Table 2.3, 2014, and specially processed data of the Israel National Council for the Child

Nearly 40% of children in Israel are children under the age of 6.

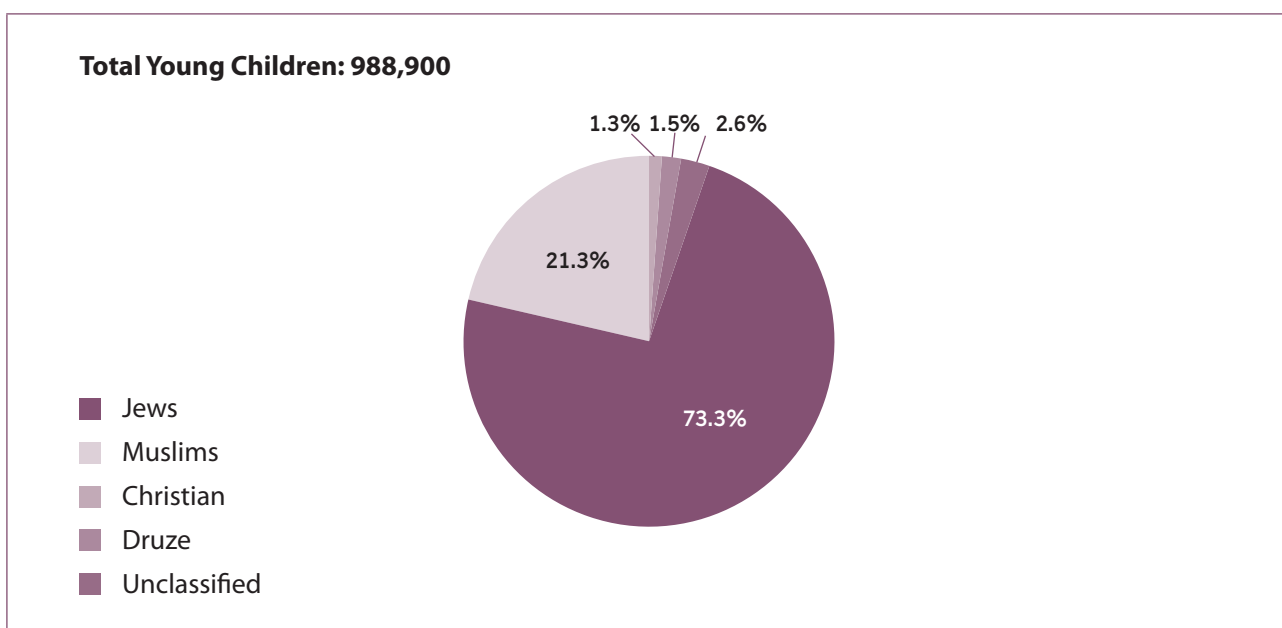
Table 1.2: Young Children in Israel by Religion (Thousands), 2013 Average

Age	Total*	Religion				Religion Unclassified
		Jews	Muslims	Christians	Druze	
Total (0-17)	2,654.2	1,870.4	621.8	41.7	46.3	73.6
Total (0-6)	988.9	724.5	210.7	12.9	14.8	25.6
Of which:						
0	170.7	127.4	34.8	2.2	2.4	3.9
1	169.5	124.6	35.7	2.2	2.4	4.5
2	167.5	122.6	35.8	2.2	2.5	4.5
3	165.3	120.7	35.6	2.1	2.5	4.3
4	160.4	116.7	34.7	2.1	2.5	4.3
5	155.5	112.5	34.1	2.1	2.5	4.1

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel 2014, Table 2.3.

*Differences between the sub-totals presented in the columns and rows and the total are due to the rounding off of the numbers.

Figure 1B: Distribution of Young Children in Israel by Religion (Percentages), 2013



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel 2014, Table 2.3.

The child population in Israel is heterogeneous. Nearly three-quarters of the population of young children in Israel are Jews, nearly a quarter are Muslims and the rest Christians, Druze and children with no religious affiliation.

Table 1.3: Number of Young Children and Proportion in the Population of their Localities* (Numbers and Percentages), December 2013

Locality	Total Population of Children in Israel	Total Young Children (0-6)	Of which:		Percent of all Children in Locality
			0-3**	3-6***	
Total	2,649,740	999,460	510,450	489,010	37.7
Municipalities					
Jerusalem	329,900	124,630	64,570	60,060	37.8
Tel-Aviv-Yafo	84,820	37,240	20,570	16,670	43.9
Haifa	60,900	23,630	12,530	11,100	38.8
Afula	11,320	4,260	2,240	2,020	37.6
Akko	13,040	4,740	2,460	2,280	36.3
Arad	6,640	2,540	1,450	1,090	38.3
Ariel	4,240	1,570	800	770	37.0
Ashdod	68,860	25,200	13,190	12,010	36.6
Ashkelon	33,250	12,860	6,700	6,160	38.7
Baqa al-Gharbiyye	11,280	3,640	1,830	1,810	32.3
Bat Yam	26,330	10,170	5,420	4,750	38.6
Beersheba	52,830	19,980	10,470	9,510	37.8
Beit She'an	5,450	1,970	1,030	940	36.1
Beit Shemesh	49,010	19,460	9,840	9,620	39.7
Beitar Illit	28,660	12,040	6,120	5,920	42.0
Bnei Brak	79,810	32,830	17,690	15,140	41.1
Dimona	9,720	3,420	1,770	1,650	35.2
Eilat	12,760	4,810	2,480	2,330	37.7
Elad	25,790	10,270	4,910	5,360	39.8
Givat Shmuel	8,430	3,330	1,620	1,710	39.5
Givatayim	13,020	5,750	3,110	2,640	44.2
Hadera	22,460	8,400	4,330	4,070	37.4
Herzliya	20,940	8,100	4,150	3,950	38.7
Hod Hasharon	15,830	5,740	2,760	2,980	36.3
Holon	47,210	18,310	9,230	9,080	38.8
Kafar Kasem	9,020	2,920	1,440	1,480	32.4
Kalansawe	9,130	3,070	1,470	1,600	33.6
Karmiel	11,230	3,810	1,900	1,910	33.9
Kfar Sava	23,930	9,550	4,850	4,700	39.9
Kiryat Atta	13,440	4,930	2,560	2,370	36.7
Kiryat Bialik	8,590	3,380	1,760	1,620	39.3
Kiryat Gat	14,500	5,590	3,000	2,590	38.6
Kiryat Malachi	6,780	2,730	1,470	1,260	40.3

Table 1.3: Number of Young Children and Proportion in the Population of their Localities* (Numbers and Percentages), December 2013 (continued)

Locality	Total Population of Children in Israel	Total Young Children (0-6)	Of which:		Percent of all Children in Locality
			0-3**	3-6***	
Municipalities (continued)					
Kiryat Motzkin	8,610	3,210	1,650	1,560	37.3
Kiryat Ono	10,630	4,330	2,120	2,210	40.7
Kiryat Shmona	6,180	2,260	1,140	1,120	36.6
Kiryat Yam	7,730	2,940	1,540	1,400	38.0
Lod	23,570	9,100	4,750	4,350	38.6
Ma'ale Adumim	12,980	4,370	2,180	2,190	33.7
Ma'alot-Tarshiha	5,910	2,130	1,090	1,040	36.0
Migdal HaEmek	7,470	2,550	1,280	1,270	34.1
Modi'in Illit	37,910	18,490	9,800	8,690	48.8
Modi'in-Macabbim-Re'ut	33,750	11,660	5,340	6,320	34.5
Nahariya	14,050	5,120	2,600	2,520	36.4
Nazareth	25,950	8,050	4,020	4,030	31.0
Nazareth Illit	9,150	2,970	1,470	1,500	32.5
Nes Ziona	14,640	5,470	2,640	2,830	37.4
Nesher	5,200	2,000	1,020	980	38.5
Netanya	53,780	21,240	11,100	10,140	39.5
Netivot	12,440	4,860	2,520	2,340	39.1
Ofakim	8,460	3,290	1,770	1,520	38.9
Or Akiva	4,490	1,750	940	810	39.0
Or Yehuda	10,220	3,720	1,940	1,780	36.4
Petah Tikva	63,130	25,240	13,040	12,200	40.0
Ra'anana	18,630	6,330	3,190	3,140	34.0
Rahat	31,850	11,480	5,950	5,530	36.0
Ramat Gan	32,700	13,250	7,130	6,120	40.5
Ramat HaSharon	12,020	4,840	2,340	2,500	40.3
Ramla	21,150	8,070	4,180	3,890	38.2
Rehovot	36,980	15,720	8,200	7,520	42.5
Rishon LeZion	58,340	20,980	11,030	9,950	36.0
Rosh HaAyin	12,730	4,290	2,220	2,070	33.7
Sachnin	10,890	3,760	1,840	1,920	34.5
Safed (Zefat)	13,160	5,190	2,590	2,600	39.4
Sderot	6,070	2,590	1,490	1,100	42.7
Shfaram	13,850	4,110	2,010	2,100	29.7
Taibe	16,190	5,160	2,430	2,730	31.9
Tamra	12,210	3,840	1,810	2,030	31.4
Tiberias	12,430	4,620	2,370	2,250	37.2

Table 1.3: Number of Young Children and Proportion in the Population of their Localities* (Numbers and Percentages), December 2013 (continued)

Locality	Total Population of Children in Israel	Total Young Children (0-6)	Of which:		Percent of all Children in Locality
			0-3**	3-6***	
Municipalities (continued)					
Tirat Carmel	4,650	1,710	890	820	36.8
Tire	8,590	2,660	1,340	1,320	31.0
Umm Al-Fahm	21,790	6,910	3,310	3,600	31.7
Yavne	10,470	4,190	2,220	1,970	40.0
Yehud	8,010	2,800	1,380	1,420	35.0
Yokneam Illit	7,000	2,310	1,100	1,210	33.0
Regional Councils (over 10,000 inhabitants)					
Abu Sinan	4,710	1,440	690	740	30.6
Ar'ara	9,410	3,010	1,510	1,500	32.0
Ar'ara-Banegev	8,630	3,260	1,680	1,580	37.8
Arrabe	9,920	3,210	1,580	1,630	32.4
Azor	3,150	1,340	720	620	42.5
Be'er Yaakov	6,170	2,930	1,520	1,410	47.5
Beit Jann	3,730	1,170	550	620	31.4
Binyamina-Giv'at Ada	5,190	1,760	770	990	33.9
Daliat Al-Carmel	5,050	1,670	840	830	33.1
Deir Al-Asad	4,630	1,480	720	760	32.0
Ein Mahil	4,910	1,550	810	740	31.6
Even Yehuda	4,100	1,460	680	780	35.6
Fureidis	4,620	1,530	710	820	33.1
Gadera	9,510	3,330	1,590	1,740	35.0
Gan Yavne	7,680	2,330	1,050	1,280	30.3
Ganei Tikva	4,740	1,810	880	930	38.2
Givat Ze'ev	5,460	2,440	1,310	1,130	44.7
Hura	10,720	4,120	2,130	1,990	38.4
l'billin	4,650	1,400	700	700	30.1
Iksal	5,370	1,710	840	870	31.8
Isifya	3,640	1,150	550	600	31.6
Jatt	4,090	1,250	600	650	30.6
Jisr Az-Zarka	6,060	2,080	1,030	1,050	34.3
Judeide-Maker	7,650	2,370	1,320	1,050	31.0
Kabul	5,070	1,670	820	850	32.9
Kadima-Zoran	6,450	1,880	830	1,050	29.1
Kefar Kara	6,480	2,110	1,050	1,060	32.6
Kefar Kanna	8,580	2,750	1,340	1,410	32.1

Table 1.3: Number of Young Children and Proportion in the Population of their Localities* (Numbers and Percentages), December 2013 (continued)

Locality	Total Population of Children in Israel	Total Young Children (0-6)	Of which:		Percent of all Children in Locality
			0-3**	3-6***	
Regional Councils (over 10,000 inhabitants) (Continued)					
Kefar Manda	7,890	2,590	1,360	1,230	32.8
Kfar Yona	7,140	2,790	1,300	1,490	39.1
Kiryat Ekron	2,990	1,100	610	490	36.8
Kiryat Tivon	4,510	1,490	720	770	33.0
Kuseife	9,960	3,900	1,970	1,930	39.2
Lakiye	5,780	2,190	1,160	1,030	37.9
Ma'ale Iron	5,740	1,700	830	870	29.6
Majd Al-Kurum	5,830	1,820	890	930	31.2
Mazkeret Batya	3,850	1,210	550	660	31.4
Mevasseret Zion	6,910	2,510	1,260	1,250	36.3
Mughar	7,620	2,390	1,180	1,210	31.4
Nahef	5,040	1,610	830	780	31.9
Pardes Hanna-Karkur	11,090	4,220	2,040	2,180	38.1
Reine	6,760	2,110	1,030	1,080	31.2
Shoham	6,900	1,540	670	870	22.3
Tel Mond	4,170	1,130	630	630	27.1
Tel Sheva	10,220	3,780	1,970	1,810	37.0
Tur'an	5,200	1,690	840	850	32.5
Yafi	6,740	2,150	1,060	1,090	31.9
Yirka	5,940	1,880	900	980	31.6
Zichron Yaakov	7,420	2,250	1,070	1,180	30.3
Regional Councils (5,000 - 10,000 inhabitants)					
Abu Ghosh	2,480	830	420	410	33.5
Alfei Menashe	2,690	960	410	550	35.7
Basma	3,680	1,220	610	610	33.2
Basmat Tab'un	2,810	870	430	440	31.0
Beit Dagan	2,220	710	350	360	32.0
Beit El	2,980	1,020	540	480	34.2
Bnei Ayish	1,640	570	290	280	34.8
Bi'ina	3,100	930	460	470	30.0
Bir El-Maksur	3,390	1,190	600	590	35.1
Bu'eine-Nujeidat	3,590	1,170	580	590	32.6
Buk'ata	2,230	710	330	380	31.8
Daburiyya	3,740	1,140	580	560	30.5
Deir Hanna	3,530	1,140	550	590	32.3
Efrata	3,270	1,050	510	540	32.1

Table 1.3: Number of Young Children and Proportion in the Population of their Localities* (Numbers and Percentages), December 2013 (continued)

Locality	Total Population of Children in Israel	Total Young Children (0-6)	Of which:		Percent of all Children in Locality
			0-3**	3-6***	
Regional Councils (5,000 - 10,000 inhabitants) (Continued)					
Eilabun	1,730	570	310	260	32.9
Hatzor Haglilit	2,920	1,090	540	550	37.3
Hurfeish	2,110	650	320	330	30.8
Illut	3,090	1,030	490	540	33.3
Jaljulia	3,890	1,210	600	610	31.1
Julis	1,920	570	250	320	29.7
Karnei Shomron	2,260	860	450	410	38.1
Katzrin	1,890	630	320	310	33.3
Kfar Vradim	1,650	400	160	240	24.2
Kfar Yasif	2,940	880	450	430	29.9
Kiryat Arba	3,080	1,260	680	580	40.9
Kisra-Sumei	3,190	1,040	530	510	32.6
Kochav Ya'ir	2,570	590	280	310	23.0
Lehavim	1,840	480	220	260	26.1
Majdal Shams	3,540	1,130	540	590	31.9
Meitar	2,350	710	320	390	30.2
Meshhed	3,110	1,030	520	510	33.1
Mitzpe Ramon	1,770	620	320	300	35.0
Omer	2,040	640	280	360	31.4
Oranit	2,680	900	420	480	33.6
Pardesia	1,340	370	180	190	27.6
Peki'in (Buqei'a)	1,690	550	280	270	32.5
Ramat Yishay	2,150	770	380	390	35.8
Rame	2,250	670	350	320	29.8
Rechasim	4,990	1,980	1,070	910	39.7
Segev-Shalom	4,800	1,710	870	840	35.6
Sha'ab	2,490	820	450	370	32.9
Shibli-Umm al-Ghanam	2,300	810	390	420	35.2
Shlomi	1,920	700	330	370	36.5
Tuba Zangaria	2,350	750	390	360	31.9
Yanuh-Jat	2,280	730	370	360	32.0
Yeroham	3,110	1,170	600	570	37.6
Zarzir	2,960	1,040	540	500	35.1
Zemer	2,430	830	440	390	34.2

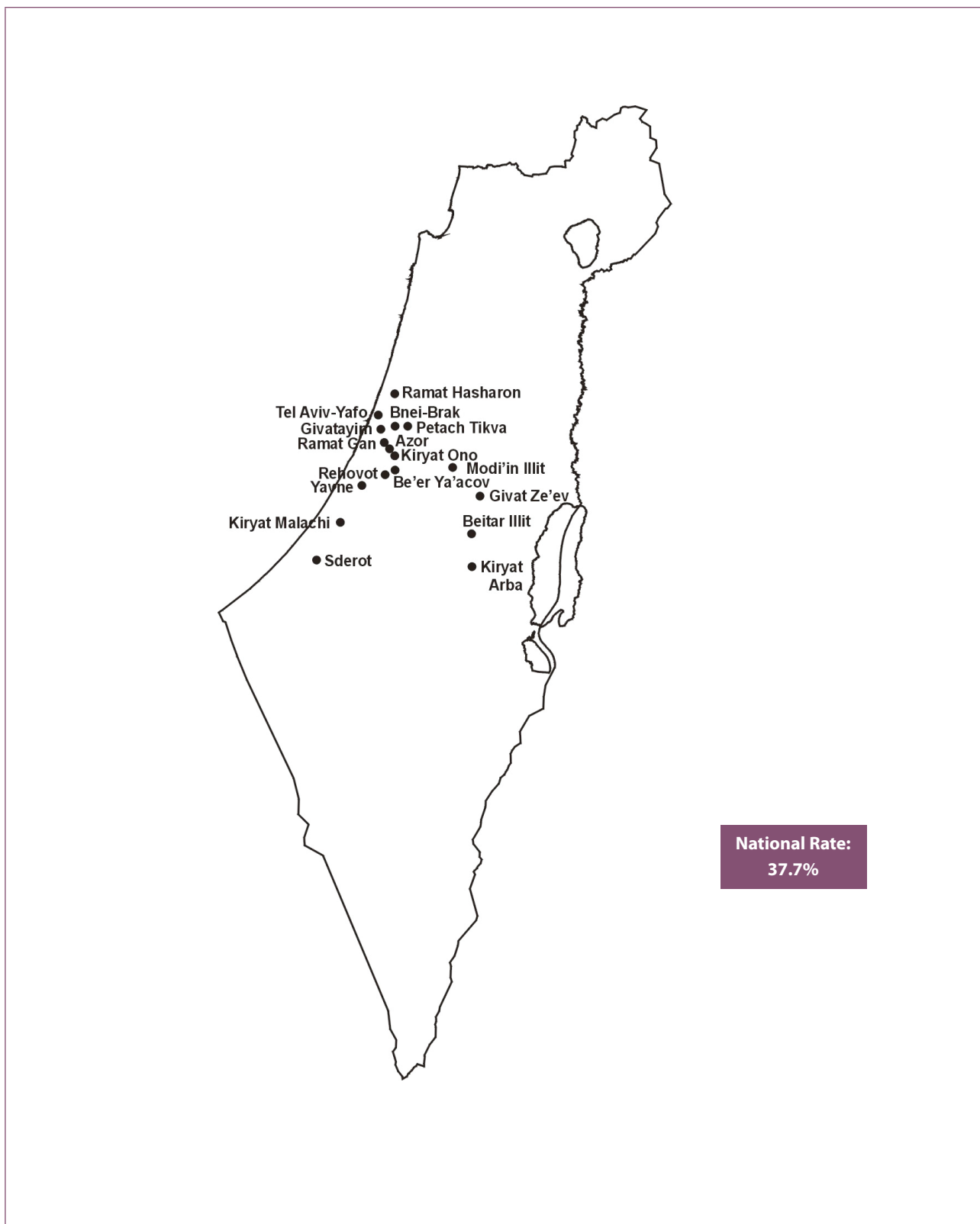
Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Population and Demographic Division, special processing, 2014.

* Localities with 5,000 residents or more

** Refers to children up to age 3.

*** Refers to children up to age 6.

Figure 1C: Localities in which Young Children (0-6) comprise more than 42% of all Children in the Locality



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Population and Demographic Division, special processing, 2014.

Table 1.4: Live births by Population Group (Numbers), 1995-2013

	1995	2000	2013	Percent of Change
Total Population	116,886	136,390	171,444	+46.7
Jews and Others	81,316	95,599	132,254	+62.7
Arabs	35,570	40,831	39,190	+10.1

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel, Table 3.11, various years.

Between the years 1995-2013, the number of live births in Israel has grown steadily, most of the increase was in the Jewish population (62.7%).

Table 1.5: Families with Children up to age 17 in Israel based on the Number of Children per Family (Numbers, Averages and Percentages), 1980-2013*

Number of Children in Family	1980		1990		2000		2013	
	Number of Families	Percent-ages	Number of Families	Percent-ages	Number of Families	Percent-ages	Number of Families	Percent-ages
Total	572,489	100.0	679,036	100.0	921,327	100.0	1,098,388	100.0
1	156,047	27.3	187,349	27.5	325,164	35.3	339,593	30.9
2	179,122	31.3	210,613	31.1	279,146	30.3	337,213	30.7
3	117,485	20.5	154,972	22.8	166,618	18.1	231,474	21.1
4	53,922	9.4	63,051	9.3	76,822	8.3	98,864	9.0
5	26,094	4.6	25,525	3.8	35,016	3.8	43,718	4.0
6+	39,819	6.9	37,526	5.5	38,561	4.2	47,526	4.0
Average number of children in the family	2.7		2.5		2.3		2.4	

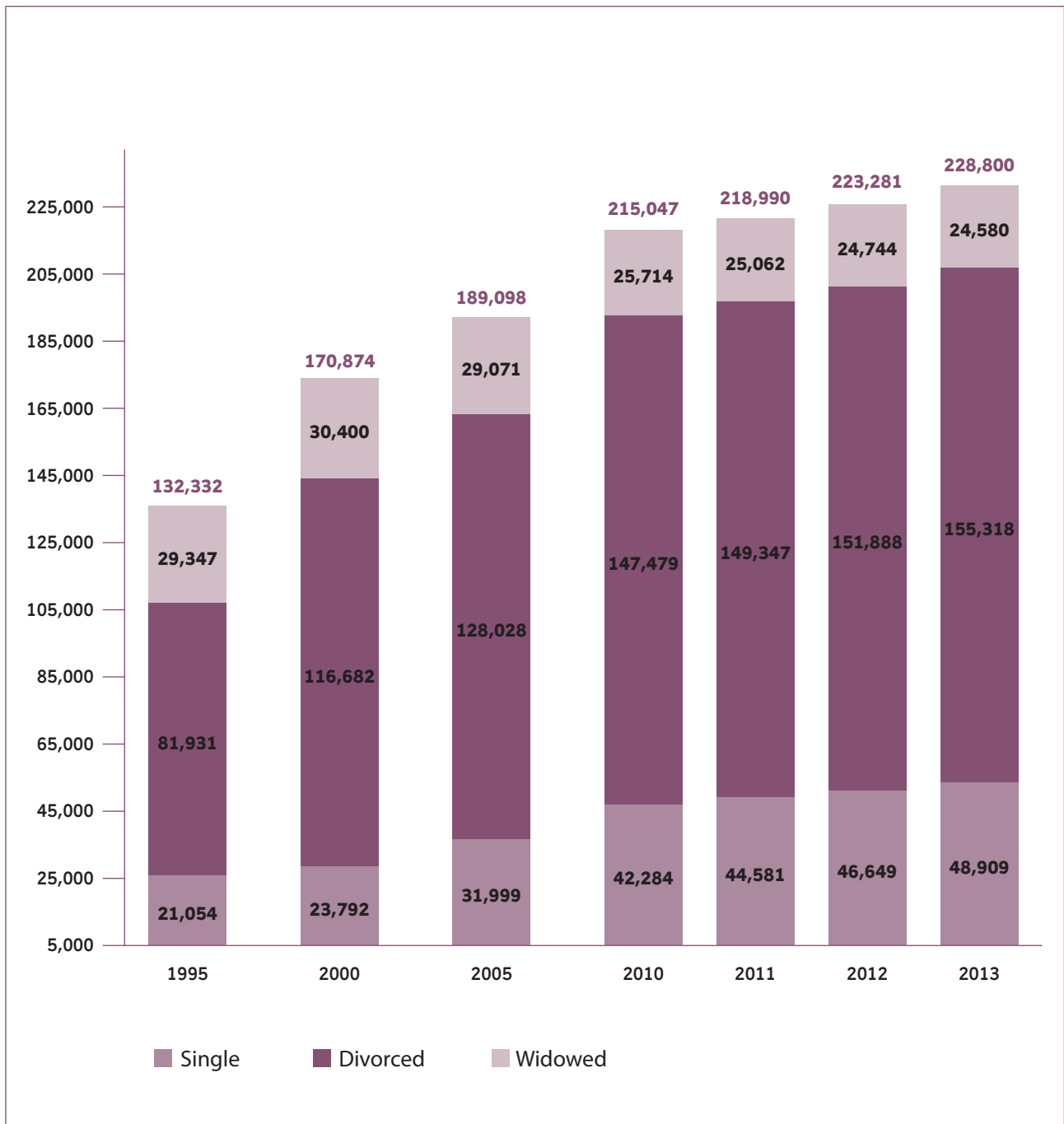
Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Child Allowances file, various years.

*The data for the years 1980 and 1990 refer to the month of March of each year. The data from 2000 and 2013 relate to December.

Between the years 1980 and 2000, the average number of children in a family was decreasing, but after 2000 there was a slight increase that stabilized in 2005.

Most of the families in Israel have between one and three children.

Figure 1D: Children in Single-Parent Families by Marital Status of Parent, 1995-2013*



Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Single-parent file, various years.

*Data relate to December of each year.

Approximately 230,000 Israeli children live in single parent families, accounting for close to 10% of all children in Israel.

Since 1995, the number of children living in single-parent families has grown steadily (+72.9%). The significant increase lies in the number of children living in families headed by a single parent (+132.3%) or a divorced parent (+89.6%).

Chapter 2

Early Childhood Education



Introduction

The Compulsory Education Law-1949 provides free education for children in Israel from ages 3 to 18. The amendment to include free education for children aged 3-4 was already legislated in 1984 but its full implementation only went into effect in 2013. In 2013, following the recommendations of the Trajtenberg Committee, the decision was made to include free education for children aged 3-4 (pre-kindergarten) throughout the country.

Moreover, the Compulsory Education Law does not apply to children aged 0-3. Today the responsibility and the supervision of early childhood education in Israel is held by the Nursery and Day Care Division of the Ministry of the Economy. The Division only oversees frameworks for children under age three for which recognition has been requested, approximately 1,700 nurseries and 3,700 daycare centers. All other educational frameworks for young children, the exact number of which is unknown, are not monitored. The data in this chapter show that only 20% of the young children in Israel attend early childhood education frameworks supervised by the Ministry of the Economy.

Table 2.1: Children (aged 3 months to 3 years) in Frameworks Supervised by the Ministry of Economy according to key characteristics (Numbers and Percentages), 2009/10 - 2013/14

Characteristics	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	101,102	101,755	106,632	111,361	116,269
Children in day care centers	74,507	73,961	76,930	80,577	85,268
Children in home-based day care centers	10,704	11,212	12,516	12,983	13,157
Children placed in Educational Framework by Toddlers at Risk Act*	15,891	16,582	17,186	17,821	17,844
Percentage in Total Population of Children aged 0-3	21.3	20.8	21.3	21.9	23.0

Source: The Knesset Research and Information Center, The Public Response to Young Children in Israel, Current Situation, July 20, 2015 (המענה הציבורי לילדים בגיל הרך בישראל תמונת מצב).

*The Toddlers-at-Risk Act -2000, aims to ensure that every infant under one of the situations of risk stipulated in the law shall be entitled to a day care center near his home. Responsibility for implementing the law lies with the Ministry of Social Services and Social Services through the social services departments of the local municipalities.

Over the years, the number of children under the supervision of the Nursery and Day Care Division increased from 101,102 in the 2009/10 school year to 116,296 in 2013/14 (an increase of 15%). However, there has not been a significant change in the percentage of children attending registered day care settings among all children aged three months to three years (21% in 2009/10 compared to 23% in 2013/14).

Table 2.2: Children in Kindergartens and Day Care Centers * by Age and Religious Sector ** (Numbers and Percentages), 2012/2013

Age of Child	Numbers			Percentage of Age Group***		
	Total	Public and Municipal Kindergartens*	Private Kindergartens****	Total	Public and Municipal Kindergartens*	Private Kindergartens****
			Total			
Total	574,230	484,612	89,618	79.4	63.0	11.9
2	75,027	47,184	27,843	46.9	29.4	17.5
3	163,201	128,361	34,840	104.2	81.7	22.5
4	161,781	144,390	17,391	105.6	94.0	(11.6)
5	151,323	144,747	6,576	100.7	96.2	4.5
6	22,900	19,931	(2,969)	16.0	13.9	(2.1)
Jews and Others						
Total	464,680	381,629	83,051	78.0	64.1	13.9
2	67,776	40,620	27,156	53.4	32.0	21.4
3	134,224	100,235	33,989	108.9	81.3	27.6
4	127,715	112,505	15,210	107.4	94.6	12.8
5	114,976	110,273	4,703	100.3	96.2	4.1
6	19,989	17,996	(1,993)	17.9	16.1	(1.8)
Arab Sector						
Total	109,551	102,983	6,568	63.0	58.8	4.2
2	7,250	6,563	(687)	21.3	19.2	(2.1)
3	28,977	28,126	851	85.8	83.1	2.7
4	34,066	31,885	2,181	99.0	91.8	7.2
5	36,347	34,474	(1,873)	102.1	96.0	(6.1)
6	2,911	1,935	-	9.1	5.9	-

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel 2014, Table 8.5, various years.

*Day care centers belonging to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.

**The percentage of children does not include Arab residents of Jerusalem, due to the lack of data regarding many institutions in East Jerusalem.

***The percentage of children does not include Arab residents of Jerusalem, due to the lack of data regarding many institutions in East Jerusalem.

****Children in private kindergartens in mixed communities were included under the Jewish sector.

() - Data based on estimates or on a relatively high sampling error

In the 2012/13 school year, 79.4% of Israeli children aged 2-6 attended kindergartens and day care centers (an increase of 66.2% since 2009/10). The percentage of children who attend kindergartens and day care centers in the Arab sector is lower than the corresponding percentage in the Jewish sector, especially among two year olds. In both sectors, the percentage increases with age and at the age of six declines since the majority of children at this age enroll in school.

Table 2.3: Children in Kindergartens, by Age and District (Numbers and Percentages), 2011/12 - 2013/14

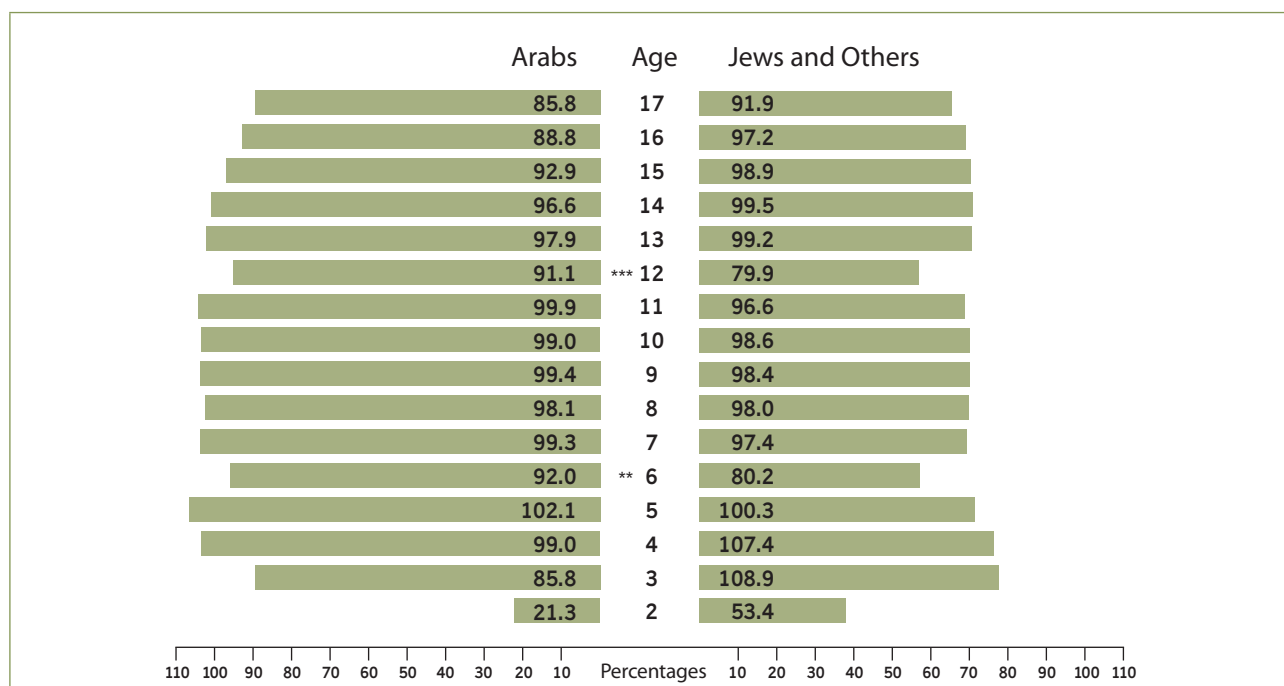
District	Total									Percent of Change
	2011/12			2012/13			2013/14*			
	Total 3-4	Age 3	Age 4	Total 3-4	Age 3	Age 4	Total 3-4	Age 3	Age 4	
Total	233,297	111,889	121,408	272,510	124,845	147,665	278,516	135,519	142,997	19.4
North	45,622	23,323	22,299	47,597	22,474	25,123	46,471	23,227	23,244	1.9
Haifa	22,109	10,401	11,708	27,239	12,456	14,783	27,729	13,423	14,306	25.4
Tel Aviv	30,475	13,572	16,903	49,163	21,745	27,418	51,035	24,470	26,565	67.5
Jerusalem	44,757	22,302	22,455	55,186	25,447	29,739	57,334	27,621	29,713	28.1
Center	52,717	23,822	28,895	52,251	23,764	28,487	54,121	26,375	27,746	2.7
South	37,617	18,469	19,148	41,074	18,959	22,115	41,826	20,403	21,423	11.2

Source: Ministry of Education, Economic and Finance Administration, Economics and Statistics Division, 2014.

*Incomplete data for 2013/14

Between the years 2011-2013, the number of children aged 3-4 attending kindergartens supervised by the Ministry of Education increased more than 19%. The greatest increase is seen in the Tel Aviv District (67.5%), followed by the Jerusalem District (28.1%). The increase derives from the full implementation of the amendment to the Compulsory Education Law that mandates free education for children ages 3-4 beginning in 2013.

Figure 2A: Rate of Enrollment in the Education System* by Age and Sector (Percentage of Age Group in the Population), 2012/13



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel 2014, Tables 8.5, 8.11 and 8.22, 2014.

*Arab residents of Jerusalem are not included in the rate of student enrollment, due to lack of data regarding many educational institutions in East Jerusalem. 9,710 students within the education system who do not hold Israeli ID cards are not included in the calculation. The rate of student enrollment is calculated according to the student's religion.

**A large group of six-year-old children enrolled in kindergartens are not included in the enrollment rate for Jewish education, biasing the percentage downward.

***A large group of 12-year-olds enrolled in primary education are not included in the enrollment rate for Jewish education, biasing the percentage downward.

Notes: 1. It should be noted that, like other countries, the calculation of students in the school system in Israel is based on the number of children as a percentage of all children. The calculation of the number of all children is only an estimate, and hence there are deviations in the percentages. **2.** The percentages exceed 100 percent due to the inclusion of children who are not Israeli citizens in the registry of the Ministry of Education and who do not appear in the records of the Ministry of the Interior.

There is a noticeable gap between the number of two-year-olds enrolled in the Jewish and Arab education systems.

Table 2.4: Kindergarten Age Children under Supervision of School Attendance Officers* and their Porportion in the Total Number of Children Enrolled in Kindergartens (Numbers and Rates per Thousand), 2004/05 - 2013/14

Grade	2004/05	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Total (First through Twelfth Grade)	58,299	87,228	85,530	85,367	86,254	75,210
Kindergarten	480	328	521	461	391	301
Rate per 1,000 Kindergartners	1.1	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.5

Source: Ministry of Education, Pedagogic Administration, Department of Education and Welfare Services, Department of Truancy and Dropout Prevention, various years.

*School Attendance Officer – (Truant Officer) a professional employed by the Ministry of Education and by the local municipal education department to ensure the regular attendance of students in kindergarten through twelfth grade and to prevent their dropping out.

Since 2011, there has been a reduction in the number of preschool children under supervision of School Attendance Officers.

Table 2.5: Expenditure of Local Municipalities on Education by Ten Socio-Economic Clusters* (Numbers), 2011/12

Cluster	Total Number of Students in Cluster	Total Expenditure on Education in NIS (Thousands)	Average Expenditure per Student in NIS (Thousands)
1 (Lowest)	44,648	137,057	3.1
2	180,617	1,154,518	6.4
3	186,624	1,025,128	5.5
4	290,626	1,975,543	6.8
5	324,873	3,891,793	12.0
6	179,195	2,230,236	12.4
7	119,655	1,461,406	12.2
8	197,559	2,583,023	13.1
9	17,226	208,081	12.1
10 (Highest)	2,719	37,540	13.8

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Local Municipalities File, 2012, special processing: The National Council for the Child.

*Socio-economic level: The basis for determining the level is the Census of Population and Housing-1995 (Central Bureau of Statistics) and data on revenue and receipt of benefits (National Insurance Institute). By analyzing multivariate data, a measure is produced that reflects the socio-economic level of local municipalities. Municipalities were divided into ten homogeneous groups according to the socio-economic index.

As the socio-economic level of the cluster falls, the municipalities' expenditure on education is smaller. This is due to the fact that the municipalities with lower socio-economic populations have fewer resources, and to the fact that those municipalities have many more children.

Chapter 3

Young Children and Health



Table 3.1: Birth Weight, by Sector (Percentages), 2000-2013

Birth Weight (kg)	Year			
	2000	2005	2010	2013
Total*				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 2.5 kg	8.5	8.2	8.2	7.9
2.5 kg or more	91.5	91.8	91.8	92.1
Jews				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 2.5 kg	8.8	8.3	8.1	7.8
2.5 kg or more	91.2	91.7	91.9	92.2
Arabs				
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 2.5 kg	7.8	8.0	8.5	8.3
2.5 kg or more	92.2	92.0	91.4	91.7

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Health and Vital Statistics, various years.

*Includes Jews, Arabs and others.

Between the years 2000 and 2013, there has been a decrease in the percentage of newborns born weighing under 2.5 kg.

Note: With the rise in life expectancy and the advancement of fertility treatments, there is an increase in the ability of women to give birth at an older age than in the past. It should be noted that in Israel the number of fertility treatments is not limited as it is in other countries, leading the world in the number of treatments given to women. These factors have a direct impact on the number of babies born prematurely. We know that approximately 30% of low birth weight infants are born after infertility treatments. These babies have a greater risk for birth defects, disabilities and learning disabilities.

Table 3.2: Percentage of Children Immunized by Age Two* by Population Group, Region and District, 2003-2011

Region and District	Population Group	Triple vaccine Diphtheria Tetanus- Pertussis 4 Servings DTaP**		Polio**		Measles, Mumps and Rubella MMRV ***		Hepatitis				HIB Menin- gitis
								IPV by injection		Hepatitis B****		
				#1	#2							
		2003	2011	2003	2011	2003	2011	2003	2011	2011		2011
National	Total	93	94	93	94	96	97	98	98	93	87	94
	Jews	91	93	91	93	95	96	97	97	91	84	93
	Non-Jews	97	98	97	98	98	99	100	99	98	94	98
Safed (Zefat)	Total	-	93	-	93	-	96	-	94	93	93	93
	Jews	93	90	94	90	96	95	93	92	90	91	90
	Non-Jews	99	99	99	99	99	99	100	99	99	99	99
Kineret	Total	-	97	-	97	-	98	-	97	96	93	97
	Jews	93	94	95	94	98	96	93	96	93	88	94
	Non-Jews	99	99	99	99	99	99	10	99	99	99	99
Afula	Total	-	96	-	96	-	91	-	95	93	90	96
	Jews	95	94	95	94	97	87	99	94	90	85	93
	Non-Jews	95	99	95	99	97	99	99	98	99	99	99
Nazareth	Non-Jews	100	99	100	99	100	99	100	99	99	99	99
Akko	Total	-	98	-	98	-	99	-	99	99	98	98
	Jews	97	96	97	96	98	97	69	99	96	96	96
	Non-Jews	100	99	100	99	100	99	98	99	99	99	99
Haifa	Total	-	95	-	95	-	95	-	99	91	93	95
	Jews	99	94	95	94	96	94	97	99	90	92	94
	Non-Jews	100	99	95	99	97	99	97	99	98	95	99
Hadera	Total	-	95	-	94	-	96	-	97	95	92	94
	Jews	95	90	96	89	100	92	97	93	90	86	89
	Non-Jews	99	98	99	98	100	99	100	99	99	96	98
HaSharon	Total	-	98	-	96	-	98	-	97	94	91	98
	Jews	96	97	95	96	98	97	96	96	93	88	98
	Non-Jews	97	99	98	98	98	99	92	99	99	99	99

Table 3.2: Percentage of Children Immunized by Age Two* by Population Group, Region and District (Continued), 2003-2011

Region and District	Population Group	Triple vaccine Diphtheria Tetanus- Pertussis 4 Servings DTaP**		Polio**		Measles, Mumps and Rubella MMRV ***		Hepatitis				HIB Menin- gitis
				IPV by injection				Hepatitis B****		Hepatitis A		
										#1	#2	
		2003	2011	2003	2011	2003	2011	2003	2011	2011	2011	
Petach Tikva	Total	-	98	-	98	-	98	-	98	97	95	98
	Jews	94	98	94	98	100	98	100	98	97	94	98
	Non-Jews	97	99	97	99	100	99	98	99	99	99	99
Ramle	Total	-	97	-	98	-	99	-	97	96	90	98
	Jews	93	97	94	97	95	99	96	97	96	89	98
	Non-Jews	94	98	96	99	90	99	92	98	98	93	99
Rehovot	Total	100	98	100	98	100	99	95	99	99	94	98
Tel Aviv	Total	83	91	84	91	90	95	95	96	86	70	91
	Jews	80	92	81	92	90	96	98	97	88	70	92
	Non-Jews	82	89	84	89	91	91	97	93	82	70	89
Jerusalem West	Total	88	88	97	88	94	95	99	99	89	83	88
	Jews	87	85	96	85	94	94	99	99	87	80	85
	East Non-Jews	94	97	94	97	94	97	98	96	96	94	97
Ashkelon	Total	91	95	90	95	93	98	96	96	95	94	95
Beersheba	Total	-	96	-	96	-	98	-	98	96	78	96
	Jews	92	95	92	95	96	96	92	97	95	77	95
	Non-Jews	86	96	88	96	93	99	100	98	97	79	96

Source: Ministry of Health, Department of Epidemiology, various years.

*The percent of immunization coverage includes those immunized in the past. The number expresses the percentage ratio between the total number of immunized children and the total number of children reported in the Health Bureaus and registered in the Family Health Stations (Tipot Halav), Health Funds (Kupot Holim), hospitals required by law to report to the Ministry of Health, and those listed with private physicians (some private clinics choose to report to the Ministry of Health). Thus, the data do not include all immunized children of that age in the region, only the vast majority. It is possible that some were immunized in private clinics or with private doctors who did not report the immunization and that some have not been vaccinated due to neglect or parental choice. According to the Health Bureaus, the low immunization coverage in the Jewish population should be attributed to the lack of parents' visits to the Family Health Stations (Tipot Halav) and the lack of vaccination after the child turns one.

**In 2004, the vaccination program changed from that in 1990-2004 (3 portions IPV and 3 portions OPV) to one that provides only the IPV vaccine. According to the District Health Bureaus, the low OPV coverage in a number of districts, particularly in Jerusalem, derives from the refusal of parents to receive OPV and their preference for the IPV vaccine.

DTaP-IPV - a combined vaccine against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough and Polio

***MMRV – a combined vaccine against Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Chicken Pox.

The percentage of children immunized in Israel is high, ranging from 91% to 100%.

Table 3.3: Infant Mortality by Religion (Rate per 1,000 Live Births), 1970-2013

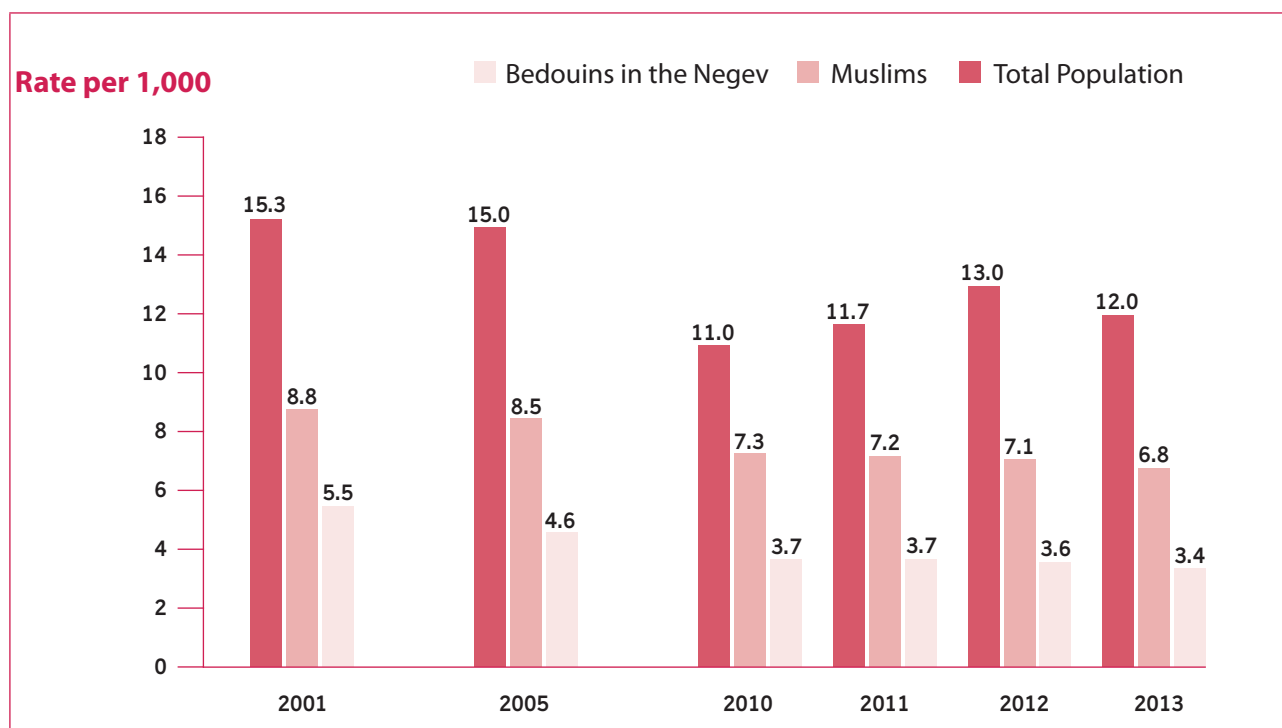
Year	Total	Jews	Muslims	Christians	Druze
1974-1970	23.5	18.7	40.1	29.6	33.9
1979-1975	18.9	15.0	32.6	20.9	32.1
1984-1980	14.4	11.8	23.0	18.0	22.7
1989-1985	10.9	8.8	17.4	12.1	16.0
1994-1990	8.8	6.8	13.8	9.5	13.6
1999-1995	6.3	5.0	9.7	5.2	8.4
2004-2000	5.1	3.8	8.9	2.8	5.9
2009-2005	4.0	2.9	7.5	2.3	5.2
2010	3.7	2.7	7.4	(2.8)	(3.2)
2011	3.5	2.6	6.8	(2.3)	(3.6)
2012	3.6	2.7	7.0	..	(3.8)
2013	3.1	2.3	6.5	..	(4.3)

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel, Table 3.1, various years.

.. Data unknown or not for publication. () Based on 5-19 infant deaths.

Since the 1970s and until 2013, a decline in infant mortality rates was observed in all religions. However, the infant mortality rate in the Muslim population is still higher than in other populations.

Figure 3A: Infant Mortality for Muslims and Bedouins in the Negev (Rate per 1,000 Live Births), 2001 – 2013



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel, Table 3.12, various years.

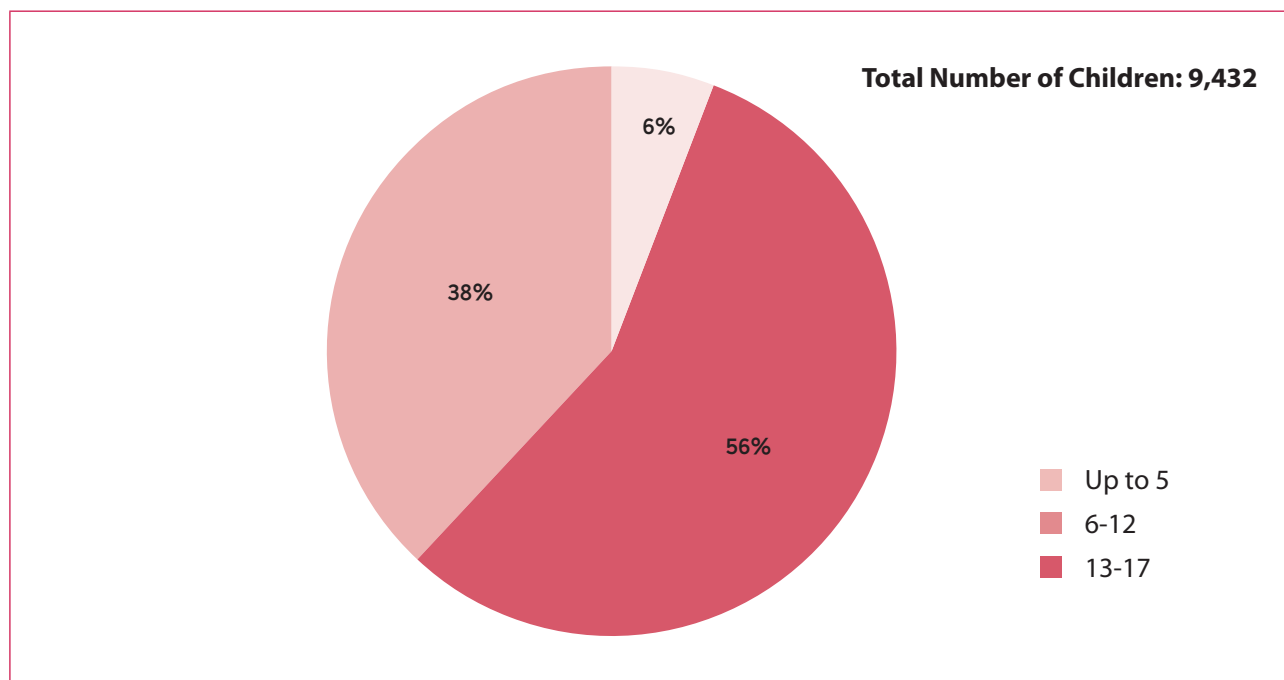
Table 3.4: Children Insured by Health Funds* treated at Government Mental Health Clinics, by Age and Health Fund (Numbers and Percentages), 2013

Health Funds (Kupot Holim)	Total 0-17		Children Aged 0-5	
	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages
Total	9,432	100.0	593	100.0
Clalit	4,539	48.1	243	41.0
Leumit	847	9.0	44	7.4
Maccabee	2,661	28.2	143	24.1
Meuhedet	1,292	13.7	160	27.0
Other/Unknown	93	1.0	3	0.5

Source: Ministry of Health, Mental Health Services, Department of Information and Evaluation, Mental Health in Israel - Statistical Abstract, various years.

*Includes patients whose treatment began in 2013 and patients whose treatment began previously and continued in 2013.

Figure 3B: Children and Youth Treated in Government Mental Health Clinics, by Age (Percentages), December 2013



Source: Ministry of Health, Mental Health Services, Department of Information and Evaluation, Mental Health in Israel - Statistical Abstract, 2014.

Only about 6% of children treated at Government Mental Health Centers in 2013 were under five years old.

Chapter 4

Young Children with Special Needs



Introduction

Approximately 13% of children in Israel are children with special needs. Among these children, 8.5% have severe disabilities, chronic illness or a disability that affects their daily functioning. The rest have a chronic disease or deficiency that does not affect their daily functioning. The Special Education Law enacted in 1988, which aims to ensure the rights of students with special needs in the education system, states that every child aged 3-21 who has a physical, mental, cognitive or behavioral disability, is eligible for special education that is free and close to home. In the education system there are two possibilities for the integration of kindergarten age children in special education: placement in a special education kindergarten or integration of a child with special needs in a regular kindergarten as part of the basket of integration services ("Integration Basket"). Legislative amendment No. 7 to the Special Education Law, passed by the Knesset in 2002, is concerned with the rights of special needs students integrated into mainstream education. As a result of the implementation of the law by the Ministry of Education, there was an increase in the number of students integrated into mainstream education. However, there are still many children who could be integrated into the regular education system who remain in special education frameworks.

Table 4.1: Number of students in Special Education Programs *, 2013/2014

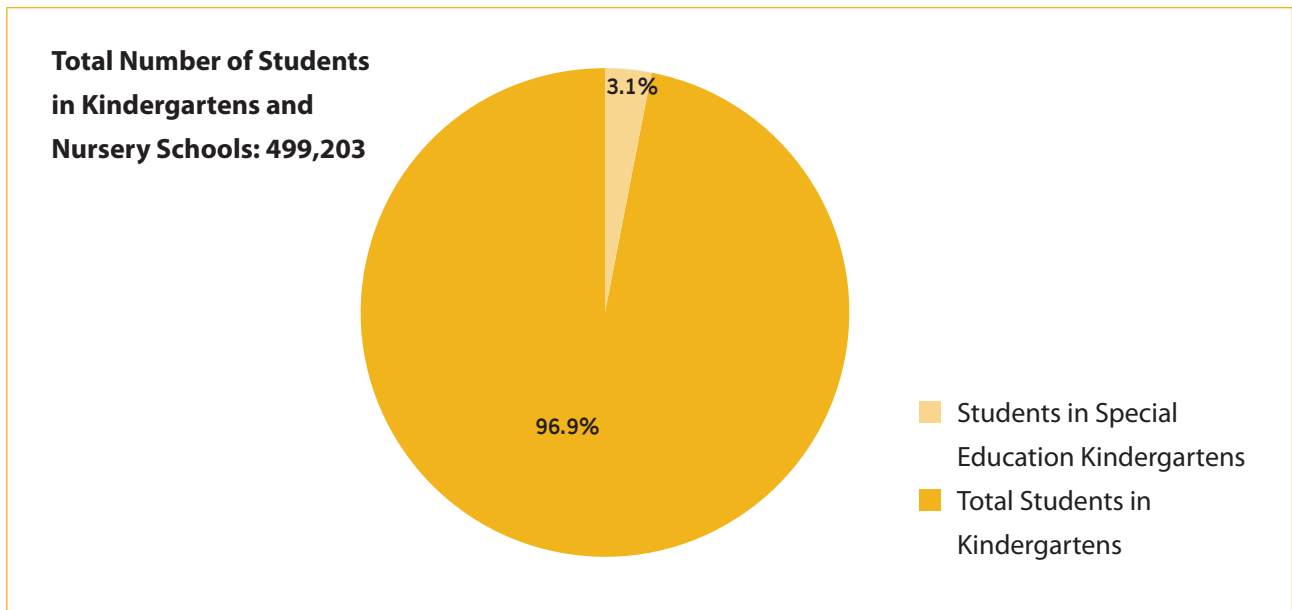
	Total	Level of Education			
		Kindergartens	Elementary Education	Junior-High School	High School
Numbers	77,616	15,533	40,108	11,948	10,027
Percentages	100.0	20.0	51.7	15.4	12.9

Source: Ministry of Education, Special Education Division, special processing, 2014.

*Special Education - Special schools and special classes in regular schools

About one-fifth of all children in special education in the education system are kindergartners.

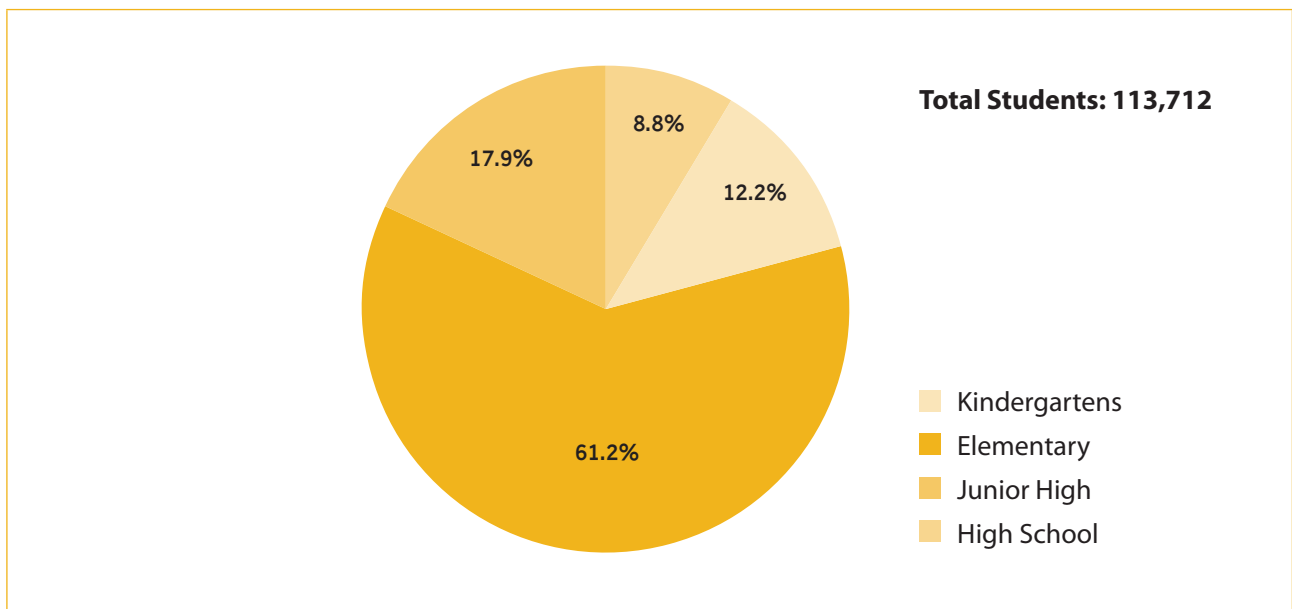
Figure 4A: Students in Special Education Kindergartens* by their Proportion of all Students in Kindergarten, 2013/14



Source: Ministry of Education, Special Education Division, special processing, 2014
 *Special classes in regular schools and kindergartens and special schools.

About 3% of children enrolled in kindergartens in 2013/14 were enrolled in special education.

Figure 4B: Students Eligible for the Basket of Integration Services* by Education Level (Percentages), 2013/14



Source: Ministry of Education, Special Education Division, special processing, 2014.
 *Basket of Integration Services- the entire array of services provided for special needs children by power-of-law, while they are integrated within the general education system.
 Note: Pre-kindergarten age children individually integrated in regular kindergartens receive integration subsidies that are not determined through the integration committee process.

12.2% of all children eligible for the Basket of Integration Services are kindergartners.

Table 4.2: Kindergartners Enrolled in Special Education Frameworks* by Type of Disability (Numbers and Percentages), 2013/14

Type of Disability	Special Kindergartens	
	Numbers	Percentages
Total	15,533	100.0
Developmental Delay	6,082	39.1
Language Delay	5,015	32.3
Autism	1,824	11.7
Medium Retardation/ Complex Medium Retardation	748	4.8
Cerebral Palsy/ Severe Physical Disability (multiple diagnosis)	540	3.5
Deaf / Hearing Impairment (multiple diagnosis)	381	2.4
Behavioral/ Severe Emotional Problems	360	2.3
Severe/Profound Retardation/Requiring Nursing Care	259	1.7
Learning Disorders (multiple diagnosis)	184	1.2
Slight Retardation (multiple diagnosis)	79	0.5
Blindness and Vision Impairment	61	0.4

Source: Ministry of Education, Department of Telecommunication and Information Systems, special processing, 2014.

*Special classes in regular schools and kindergartens and special schools.

The most common disability of kindergarten age children is developmental delay (39.1%). The second most common disability is language delay (32.3%).

Table 4.3: Type of Disability of Kindergarten Children Eligible for the Basket of Integration Services (Numbers and Percentages), 2013/14

	Total number of children eligible for kindergarten		Of which:	
	Numbers	Percentages	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten
Total Numbers	13,815	-	2,468	11,347
Percentages	-	100.0	17.9	82.1
Learning Disability/ AD(H)D	817	5.9	37	780
Developmental Delay	7,257	52.6	1,389	5,868
Language Delay	3,850	27.9	698	3,152
Behavioral disorders / Emotional /AD(H)D	676	4.9	50	626
Deaf / Hearing Impairment	205	1.5	55	150
PDD/Autism	365	2.6	64	301
Borderline Intelligence	45	0.3	15	30
Cerebral Palsy/Severe Physical Disability	150	1.1	46	104
Psychiatric disorders	57	0.4	8	49
Blindness / Vision Impairment	114	0.8	40	74
AD(H)D	11	0.1	0	11
Disease/ Rare Disorder	140	1.0	44	96
Developmental Intellectual Disability (Mental Retardation)	40	0.3	3	37
Other	82	0.6	13	69

Source: Ministry of Education, Special Education Division, special processing, 2014.

The most common type of disability of kindergarten age children entitling them to the Basket of Integration Services is developmental delay. The next most common disability is language delay (27.9%).

Table 4.4: Children Receiving a Disabled Child Allowance by Age, Gender and Entitlement Group (Numbers and Percentages), 2013

Entitlement Group	Gender	Total (0-18)		0-5		Of which:	
		Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages	Before Age 3	Ages 3-5
Total	Numbers	37,965	-	9,697	-	2,995	6,702
	Percent-ages	-	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Boys	24,681	65.0	6,207	64.0	58.9	66.3
	Girls	13,284	35.0	3,496	31.1	41.1	33.8
Children dependent on the help of others	Boys	4,597	12.1	583	12.1	0.0	8.7
	Girls	3,295	8.7	449	8.7	0.0	6.7
Children dependent on constant supervision	Boys	4,095	10.8	963	10.8	10.9	9.5
	Girls	2,265	6.0	637	6.0	7.4	6.2
Children with special impairment	Boys	12,731	33.5	3,609	33.5	31.0	40.0
	Girls	5,110	13.5	1,607	13.5	21.2	14.5
Children in need of special medical treatment	Boys	3,258	8.6	1,049	8.6	16.9	8.1
	Girls	2,614	6.9	800	6.9	12.4	6.4

Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Annual Report 2013. Chapter 3: Activities and Trends in the Field of Pensions - Disability Insurance, Table 10.

Note: Only about 14% of children with severe disabilities meet the National Insurance Institute criteria for a Disabled Child Allowance. Assistance to these disabled children is provided according to the "primary" disability. Thus, children with multiple disabilities receive support only for one disability. Other children with severe disabilities (chronic illness or impairments greatly affecting daily functioning, or for which constant monitoring is required) are not entitled to receive any allowance. Moreover, many children with disabilities that are considered "light", such as learning disabilities, do not receive adequate assistance from the state. These children are generally treated privately. As a result, often only children whose parents can afford to pay receive the treatment they need. Several volunteer organizations attempt to address the needs of children who fall between the bureaucratic cracks.

About 25% of children receiving a disabled child allowance are children aged 0-5.

In all age groups the percentage of boys who receive a Disabled Child Allowance is greater percentage than for girls.

Table 4.5: Children Receiving a Disabled Child Allowance by Cause of Entitlement and Age Group (Percentages), December 2005 - 2013

	Total		Age	
	Numbers	Percentages	0-4	5-9
Total	18,917	100.0	7,098	11,819
Spectrum of Autism	5,848	30.9	26.0	33.9
Needs supervision	3,377	17.9	16.8	18.5
Dependence on others	2,126	11.2	6.7	13.9
Hearing Impairment	1,866	9.9	9.9	9.8
Strong dependence on others	300	1.6	0.4	2.3
Diabetes	593	3.1	1.4	4.2
Sight Impairment	512	2.7	2.9	2.6
3 Simultaneous Treatments	430	2.3	3.3	1.6
Down Syndrome	520	2.7	4.4	1.7
Intravenous Infusion	564	3.0	5.1	1.7
Malignant disease	395	2.1	2.6	1.7
Frequent Out-of-home Testing	281	1.5	1.6	1.4
Limb impairment	427	2.3	3.0	1.8
Developmental Delay	527	2.8	7.4	*
Urinary tract Impairment	205	1.1	1.3	0.9
Communication Assistance	416	2.2	3.3	1.5
Rare Syndrome	193	1.0	1.1	1.0
Respiratory Therapy	202	1.1	1.9	0.5
Bone Abnormalities	89	0.5	0.5	0.4
Eating Disorder	45	30.9	0.3	0.2

Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Disabled Child File, 2014.

*Under 10.

The most common cause of eligibility for the Disabled Child Allowance is autism (30%).

Table 4.6: Day Care for Children and Toddlers up to Age Three with Special Needs, 2013

	Children with Mental Retardation	Children with Physical Disabilities
Integration in Regular Day Care	140	710
Rehabilitative Day Care	120	1,900

Source: Social Services Review, 2013, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.

Chapter 5

Young Children and Accidents



Table 5.1: Admission of Children to Emergency Rooms, by Age and Cause as Recorded upon Admission (Numbers and Percentages), 2013

Cause of Referral		2013			
		Total (0-17)	Of which: Ages 0-9		
			0	1-4	5-9
Total*	Numbers	585,410	96,473	186,885	113,353
	Percentages	100.0	16.5	31.9	19.4
Illness	Numbers	377,629	88,707	127,760	60,649
	Percentages	100.0	23.5	33.8	16.1
Birth		791	-	-	-
External Causes**	Numbers	206,990	7,766	59,125	52,704
	Percentages	100.0	3.6	28.6	25.5
Road Accident		17,046	833	3,171	4,235
Work Accident		836	-	-	-
Terrorist Activity		122	3	12	27
Intentional Injury - Total		2,848	16	93	216
Domestic violence***		221	8	31	42
Sexual assault		212	-	28	33
Assault / Fight		1,507	8	26	97
Attempted Suicide		806	-	-	31
Other		102	-	8	13
Unintentional Injury - Total		122,847	5,400	41,298	31,747
Poisoning		872	60	548	81
Burns		1,743	175	931	269
Fall, Injury, Cut		101,143	4,404	33,308	26,285
Penetration of a Foreign Object		5,776	213	2,086	1,456
Heat Stroke/Electricution		36	4	11	6
Drowning		77	3	40	4
Fire		52	4	15	12
Inhalation		55	5	15	7
Other		13,093	532	4,343	3,628
Other Injury - Total		60,459	1,139	13,703	15,902
Injury from Animals		5,279	108	1,482	1,494
Sport Injury		1,087	-	-	96
School Accident		15,411	-	399	4,294
Kindergarten Accident		1,547	21	1,177	349
Foreign Object in the Eye		56	1	13	11
Other Accident		37,078	1,009	10,631	9,658
Unknown		2,831	375	849	576

Source: Ministry of Health, Information Division, various years

*Total includes diseases, external causes, unknown reason and births

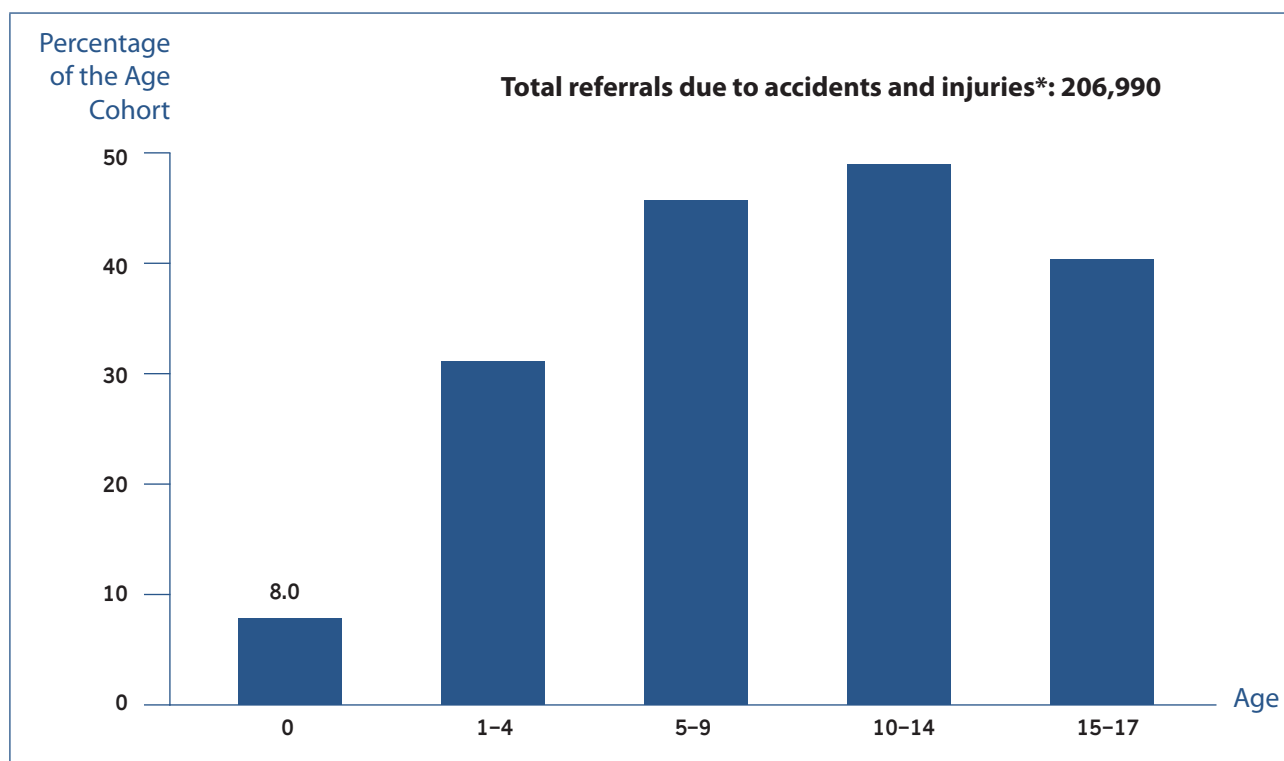
**External causes include accidents and injuries of any kind

***This is the reason for referral as recorded in the emergency room. Other cases may appear in a reference to another matter.

- No cases.

Almost half (48.4%) of all children (0-17) admitted to the emergency room in 2013 were between the ages of 0-4. The most common cause of referral for these ages was illness and the next most frequent cause was accidents.

Figure 5A: Referrals of Children to Emergency Rooms due to Accidents and Injuries (External Causes) by Age Group (Porportion of all Referrals to the Emergency Room), 2013



Source: Ministry of Health, Information Department, 2014.

*Unknown

One-third of the children referred to emergency rooms following accidents and injuries were children under the age of 4.

Table 5.2: Age of Children (0-17) Referred to Emergency Rooms due to Accidents and Injuries (External Causes) (Numbers and Percentages), 2009 - 2013 (three-year figures)

Years	Numbers					
	Total (0-17)		0-4		5-17	
	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages
Total	1,764,447	100.0	563,687	32.0	791,176	44.8
2009-2011	568,801	100.0	179,429	31.5	389,372	68.4
2010-2012	591,043	100.0	189,339	32.0	401,704	68.0
2011-2013	604,603	100.0	194,919	32.2	409,684	67.8

Source: Ministry of Health, Information Department, Information Division, Hospitalization Database, various years.

Note: Figures do not include the Ma'ayanei HaYeshua Hospital in Bnei Brak and hospitals in East Jerusalem, and are therefore incomplete.

From 2009 to 2013, there was a considerable increase in the number of children facing emergency rooms due to external causes.

Table 5.3: Age at Injury of Children Left Alone in a Vehicle (Numbers and Percentages), 2008-2013

Age	Total 2008-2013	
	Numbers	Percentages
Total	236	100.0
Under One Year Old	74	31.4
1-3	107	45.3
4-5	23	9.7
6-14	32	13.6

Source: Beterem, National Pediatric Injury & Surveillance System (NAPIS), Database of Child Injury Incidents Reported in the Media August 2013.

Almost half of all children aged 0-14 left alone in the car were aged 1-3.

Table 5.4: Deaths of Children Unintentionally Injured by Sector (Numbers, Percentages and Rate per Thousand in the Relevant Group), 2008-2013

Year	Numbers			Rate per 100,000	
	Total*	Jews	Arabs	Jews	Arabs
2008	112	50	62	2.8	9.2
2009	104	54	50	3.0	7.4
2010	153	78	80	4.3	11.7
2011	106	51	55	2.7	8.0
2012	117	63	54	3.3	7.8
2013	109	44	65	2.3	9.2

Source: Beterem, National Pediatric Injury & Surveillance System (NAPIS), Report on Child Mortality as a Result of Unintentional Injury 2013, January 2014, Table 3, Publication No. 1088.

*Includes cases in which the sector is unknown.

The mortality rate as a result of unintentional injury was greater in the Arab sector than in the Jewish sector each year (more than double).

Chapter 6

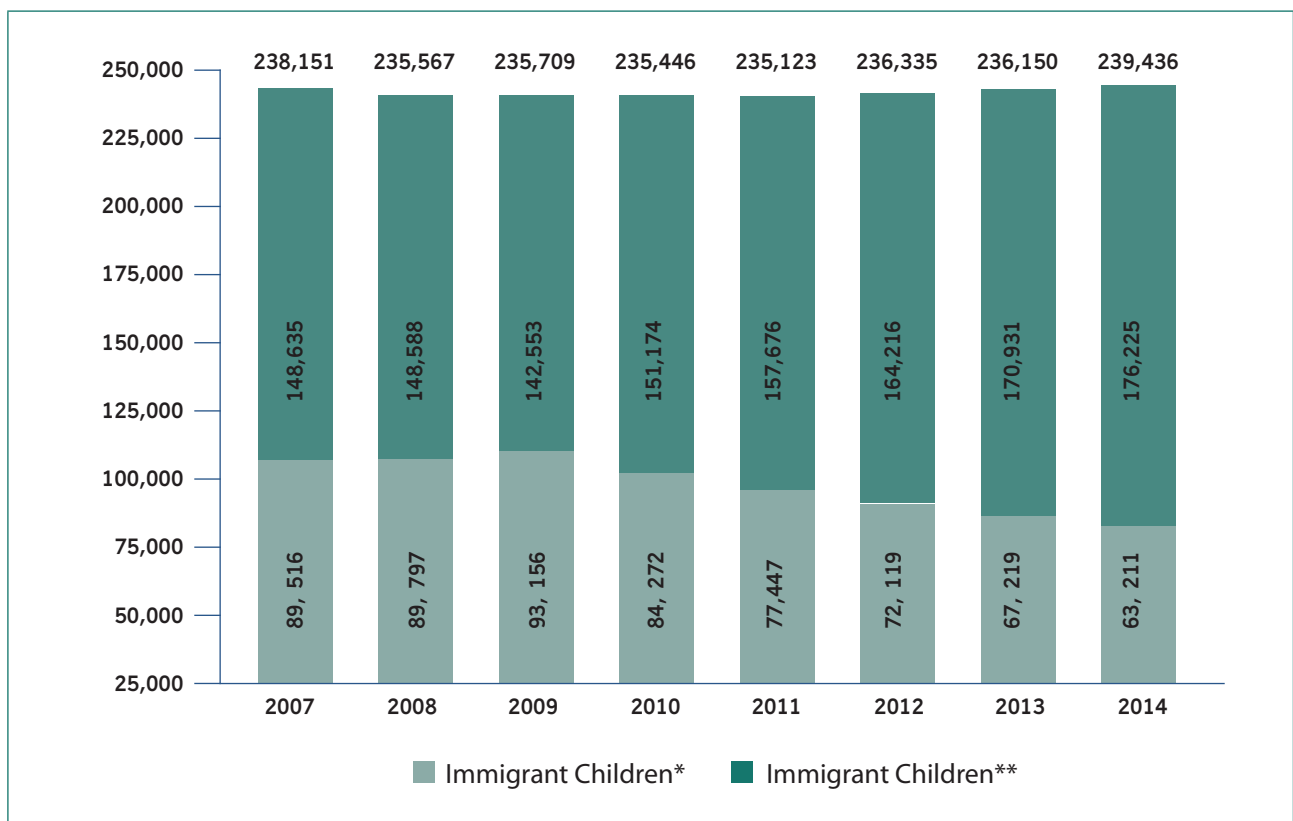
Special Groups: Young Immigrant Children and Young Children of Foreign Workers and Refugees



Introduction

The share of immigrant children in the general population of Israeli children is among the highest in Western countries. It is customary to refer to two groups of immigrant children: The **first group** is that of children who immigrated to Israel since 1996 - with or without parents. The **second group** consists of immigrant children, meaning children born abroad or children born in Israel to parents who immigrated to Israel since 1990 - second-generation immigrant children. Since the experience of immigration affects many aspects of the lives of all family members, these children are immigrants in every sense.

Figure 6A: Child Immigrants* and Immigrant Children aged 0-17 (Numbers), January 2007 - January 2013**



Source: Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Senior Division of Information Systems, National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, processing of Child Allowances File, various years.

*Child Immigrants - children born abroad ** Immigrant Children - children born abroad or born in Israel to parents who immigrated to Israel since 1990.

In January 2014, approximately 240,000 children of immigrants lived in Israel, most of them children who were born in Israel to parents who immigrated after 1990. Immigrant children represent approximately 9.0% of all children in Israel.

Table 6.1: Young Immigrant Children* (0-6) by Age (Numbers and Percentages), 2013

Age	Numbers	Percentages
Total (0-17)**	239,436	100.0
Total Young Children (0-6)	88,886	37.1
Of which:		
0	11,443	4.7
1	13,131	5.4
2	12,824	5.3
3	13,090	5.4
4	12,820	5.3
5	12,831	5.3
6	12,747	5.3

Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Processing of Child Allowances file, 2013.

*Children born abroad or born in Israel to parents who immigrated to Israel since 1990

**Including children whose age is unknown and therefore the numbers do not add up to the total.

About a third of immigrant children are ages 0-6.

Table 6.2: Child Immigrants (foreign-born) Aged 0-9, by Country of Origin and Age Today (Numbers and Percentages), 2005-2013

Country of Origin	Total immigrant children aged 0-17		Of which: Children aged 0-9			
	Numbers	Percentages	Total	Percentages	0-4	5-9
Total	63,211	100.0	18,443	100.0	4,862	13,581
Former Soviet Union	9,547	25.5	4,707	49.3	1,238	3,469
Ethiopia	8,567	17.6	3,248	38.1	630	2,618
Canada and United States	7,174	21.8	4,025	56.1	1,053	2,972
France	4,621	11.7	2,163	46.8	603	1,560
Latin America*	1,779	4.8	888	49.9	253	635
Great Britain	1,196	3.7	679	56.8	198	481
Other	4,548	14.8	2,733	60.0	887	1,843

Source: Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Senior Division of Information Systems, 2013.

*Countries of South America, Central America, North America and the Caribbean, in which the principle language is Spanish or Portuguese.

About 30.0% of immigrant children living in Israel in 2013 were between the ages of 0-9.

Table 6.3: Young Immigrant Children (0-6) who Immigrated to Israel in 2013 (Numbers and Percentages), 2013

Age	Numbers	Percentages
Total (0-17)**	4,655	100.0
Total Young Children (0-6)	2,360	50.7
Of which:		
0	269	5.8
1	400	8.6
2	353	7.6
3	342	7.3
4	346	7.4
5	316	6.8
6	334	7.1

Source: Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Senior Division of Information Systems, 2014.

In December, 2013, 4,655 children immigrated to Israel, of which 50.7% were children up to age 6.

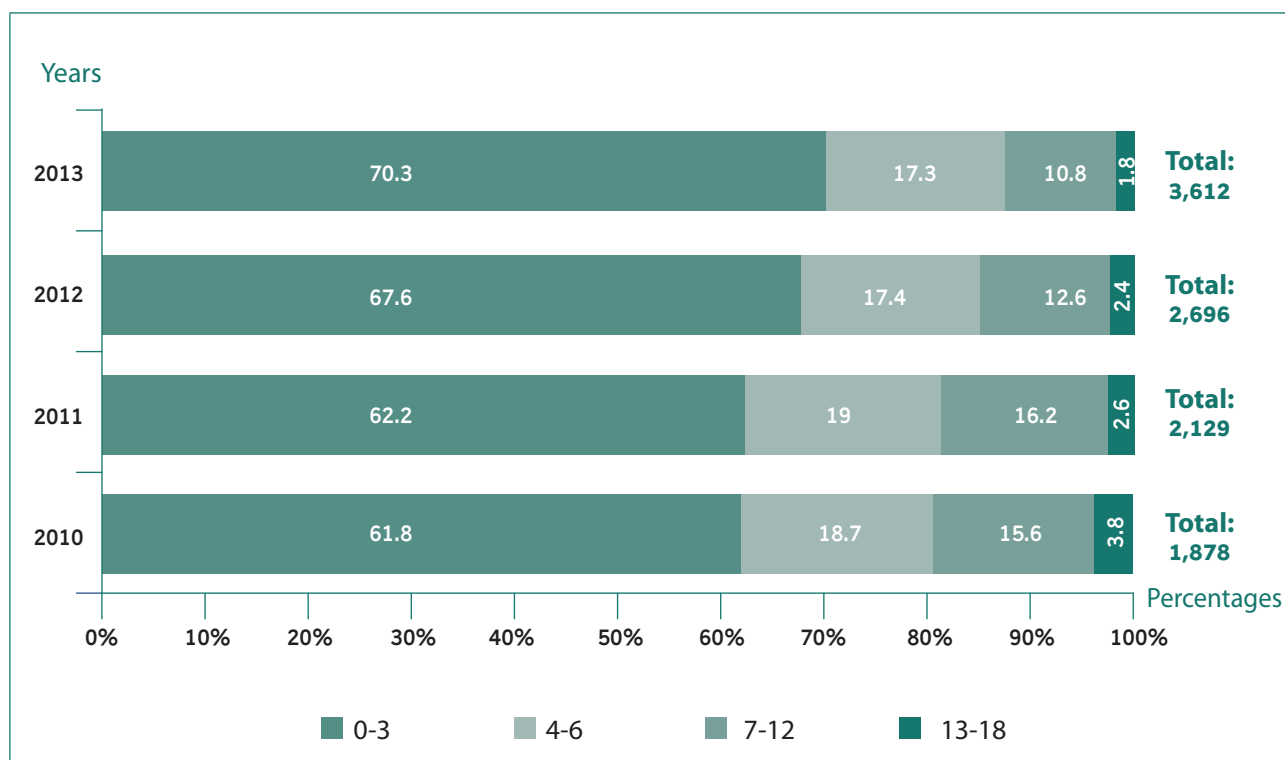
Children of foreign workers (migrant workers) and children of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers (refugees)

Two additional groups of children who were not born in Israel or were born in Israel to immigrant parents are children of foreign workers and asylum seekers as described below:

Children of Foreign Workers are children born in Israel to parents of foreign workers. The law prohibits a foreign worker to remain in the country with her child, so soon after giving birth, the worker must leave Israel with her baby. However, in practice many children of foreign workers have remained in the country illegally. Israel has not yet conducted a census of this population, and the majority of data regarding this population is based on estimates. The estimates range from several hundred to several thousand. According to the data on hand, the number of these children continues to grow. Some of the children have received permanent resident status by the Government of Israel (decisions from 2006 and 2010).

Children of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers (refugees) are another group. These are children accompanied by their parents who came to Israel across the Egyptian border as asylum seekers, or children born in Israel to parents who are asylum seekers. Due to the difficulty of obtaining data on this population, the data available is incomplete. The Immigration Authority is engaged in registering asylum seekers upon their arrival in Israel and in making decisions regarding their status. Unlike the children of immigrants, these children temporarily live in the country legally. However, full registration is lacking and their number is unknown. These children enter Israel illegally, most of them accompanied by their parents and a few enter alone. They are detained by the security forces stationed at the border and placed in detention centers under the supervision of the Prison Service. Children without parents are released only after the detention facilities find an alternative in the community. Many asylum seekers live in the city of Tel Aviv. Others live in different towns, mainly in the southern region.

Figure 6B: Age of Children of Foreign Workers and Children of Illegal Immigrants* Receiving Services from Meuhedet Health Fund (Numbers and Percentages), 2010-2013



Source: Kupat Holim Meuhedet, Advertising and Marketing Department, 2014.

*Children aged 0-3 and 4-6, mostly born in Israel, others from Sudan, Ethiopia and the Philippines. Most of the children ages 7-12 are born in Israel, others came from Sudan, Ethiopia and the Philippines and the rest from Eastern Europe and South America. Ages 12-18 are mostly born in Israel, others are refugees from Sudan, and the rest are from South America and Africa.

Between the years 2010-2013, there was an increase in the number of children of foreign workers and children of illegal immigrants age 0-3 who received services from Kupat Holim Meuhedet.

Table 6.4: Children of Foreign Workers Studying in the Education System in Tel Aviv-Yafo, Jerusalem and Haifa, according to Educational Level (Numbers and Percentages), 2012/13

District	Total (Kindergarten – 12 th Grade)	Kindergarten Level	
		Numbers	Percentage among all children of foreign workers
Total	512	77	15.0
Tel Aviv-Yafo	410	53	10.3
Jerusalem	74	19	3.7
Haifa	28	5	0.9

Source: Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, Department of Education, Culture and Sport, various years. The Ministry of Education, Haifa and Tel Aviv Districts, 2014.

*Includes 76 students with Israeli ID cards who are not necessarily children of foreign workers.

Approximately 15% of all children of foreign workers attend kindergartens, most of which are in the city of Tel Aviv-Yafo.

Table 6.5: Babies and Infants (0-5) of Asylum Seekers and Illegal Immigrants Treated in Family Health Stations, by District and Age (Numbers), 2010-2013

District	Total	Age	
		0-1	1-5
Total 2010	857	354	503
Total 2012	3,839	1,100	2,739
Total 2013	4,364	1,150	3,214
North	0	0	0
Haifa	88	52	36
Jerusalem	0	0	0
Tel Aviv	3,568	869	2,699
Center	102	54	48
Beersheba	321	83	238
Ashkelon	285	92	193

Source: Ministry of Health, Public Health Services, various years.

In 2013, 4,364 newborns and infants of asylum seekers and illegal immigrants were treated in Family Health Stations. Three quarters of the children who were treated were a year old or older. Since 2010 the number of children treated in these Stations has increased fivefold. According to the authorities, most of the increase is attributed to the increase in the illegal immigrant population, their longer period of stay in Israel and a rise in birthrate.

Table 6.6: Kindergarten Age Children of Illegal Immigrants/Asylum Seekers Studying in the Education System by Locality of Framework (Numbers and Percentages), 2013/14.

District	Total (Kindergarten – 12 th Grade)	Kindergarten	
		Numbers	Percentage among all children of illegal immigrants/ asylum seekers
Total	723	105	14.5
Tel Aviv-Yafo	453	20	2.7
Jerusalem*	71	45	6.2
Haifa**	18	-	-
Eilat	59	24	3.3
Arad**	35	11	1.5
Ashdod**	11	5	0.6
Boarding Schools ***	76	0	0

Source: National Council for the Child, Center for Research and Development, various years. The Ministry of Education, Haifa District and Southern District. Municipalities of Tel Aviv-Yafo, Arad, Eilat and Jerusalem, various years. The Knesset, Research and Information Center, Education Services for Children of Foreigners Without Civil Status, January 2014.

*Segmentation was done by country of origin and does not include 11 children for whom it was impossible to know for sure whether they were children of illegal immigrants or of foreign workers.

**It is possible that some were children of foreign workers.

***Boarding Schools of the Ministry of Education and Youth Aliyah.

-Missing data.

In the 2013/14 school year, 723 children of illegal immigrants and asylum seekers attended school, 14.5% of which were kindergarten age. 6.2% studied in Jerusalem.

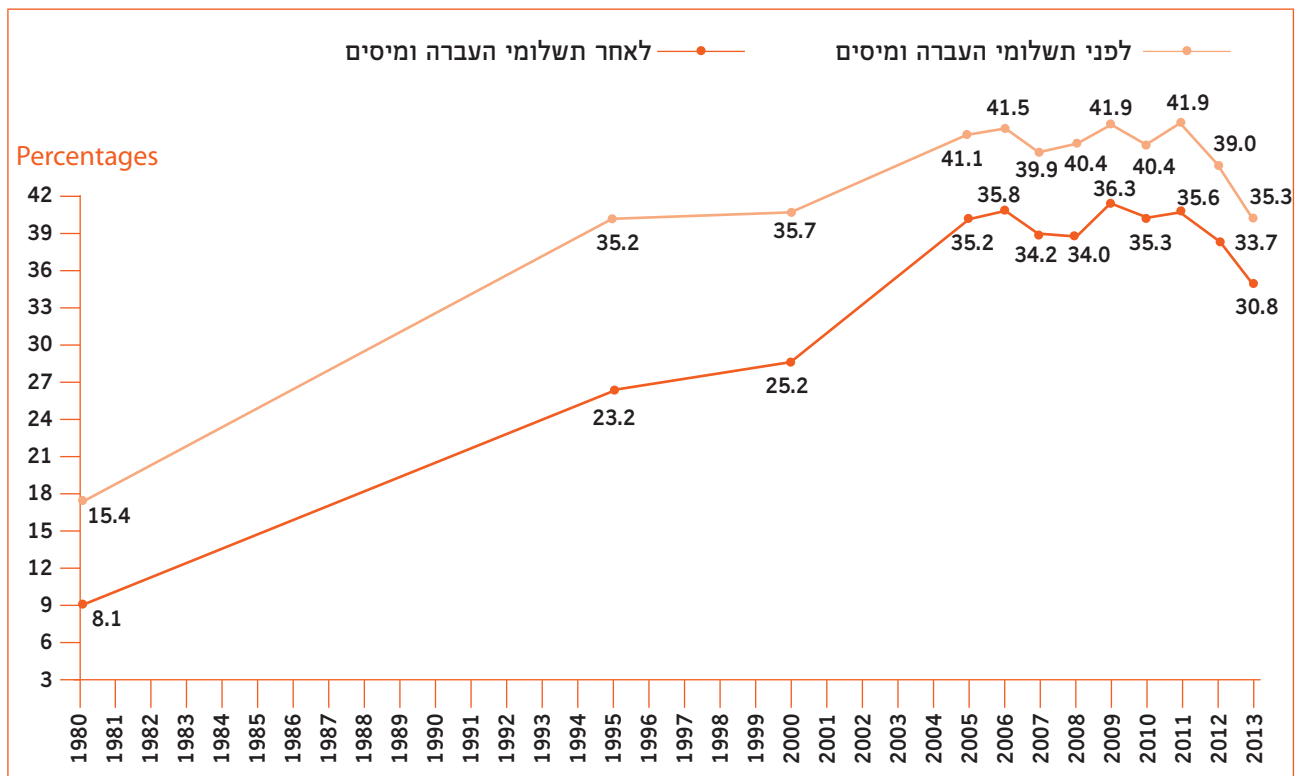
Chapter 7

Children and Poverty



Note: In 2012, a change was made in the structure of the Central Bureau of Statistics survey on which the National Insurance Institute's report on poverty and social gaps is based. For the first time, the 2012 report was based on data from the survey on household expenditures. Due to the great difficulty to cover the Bedouin population in the South, this population was not included in the 2012 survey and later surveys. These changes caused a break in the series of data over time and therefore the comparison between the 2012 – 2013 data and the data for previous years should be treated carefully.

Figure 7A: Poverty Prevalence* among Children (Percentages), 1980-2013**



Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Division, Annual Report on Poverty and Social Gaps, various years.

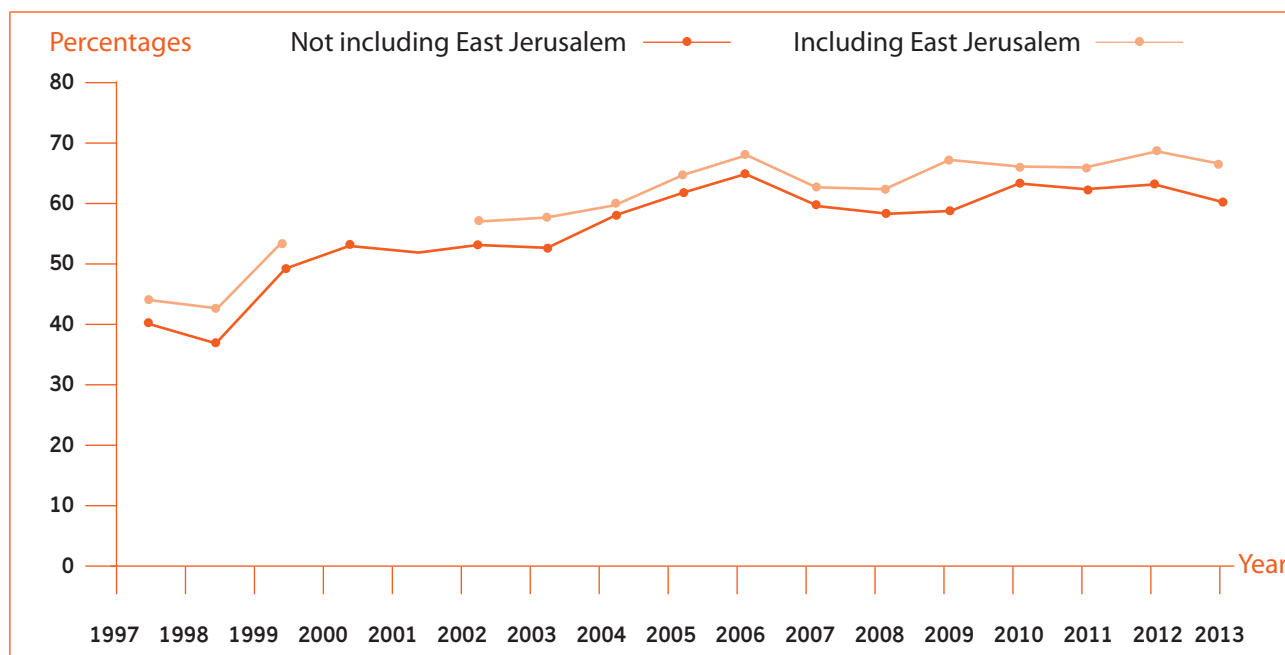
*Children living below the poverty line as defined by the National Insurance Institute (Bureau of Statistics).

**Until 2001, the data did not include children in East Jerusalem. From 2002 and onwards, these children are included in the data. Data for 1997-2010 are based on a sample, for which the scope of data about poverty is greater than for previous years.

Notes: The 2012 data still does not include the effect of the cut in child allowances (August 2013) that will be expressed in the report on poverty in 2013.

In 2013, 30.8% of the children in Israel, that is more than every third child, lived below the poverty line. Over the last three decades, the percentage of poor children is four times greater (increasing from 8.1% to 30.8% in 2013). Until the early 2000s, the transfer payments and taxes contributed to a decline in the poverty prevalence among children, and its relative stability. However, since then, the ability of these payments to reduce poverty among children has eroded, such that in 2010-2013 the lowest contribution of these payments to reduce poverty over the last three decades was recorded with 4.9%-5% compared to 10.5% in 2000.

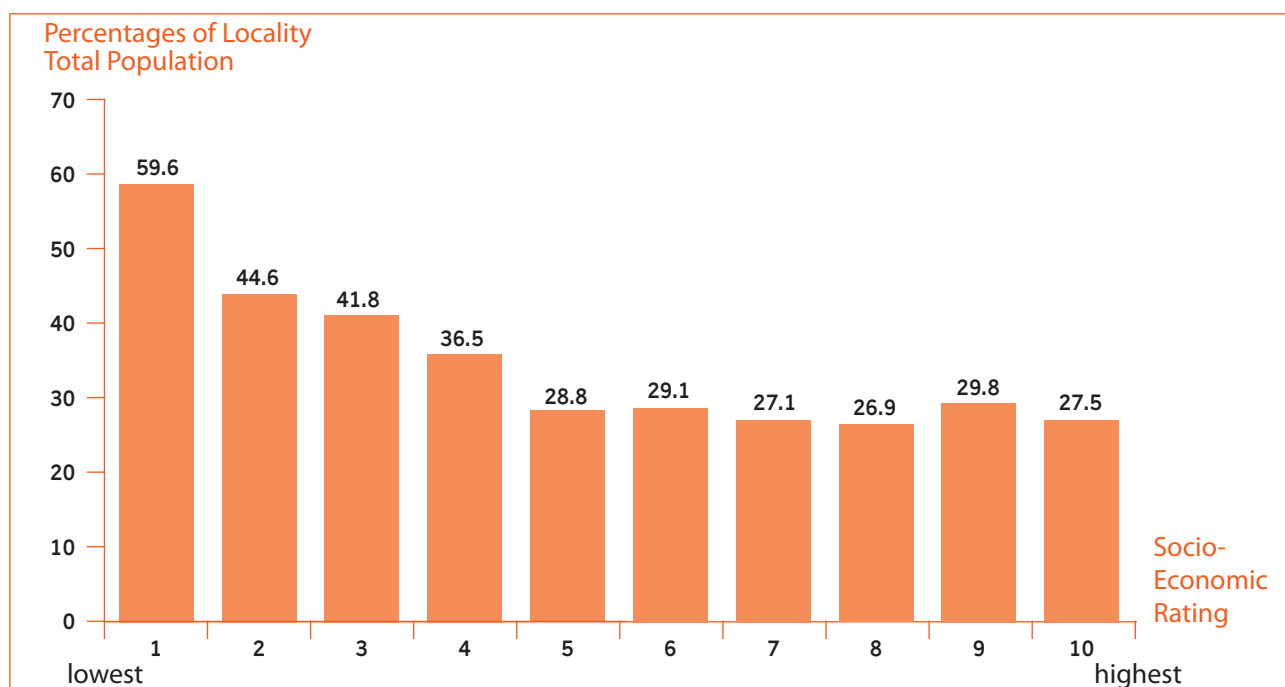
Figure 7B: Poverty Prevalence among Arab Children in Israel after Transfer Payments and Taxes (Percentages), 1997-2013



Source: National Insurance Institute, Research and Planning Administration, Poverty, Education and Employment in the Arab-Bedouin Society: a Comparative View –Abu-Bader, Suleiman and Dr. Daniel Gottlieb, June 2009. In 2000 and 2001 data is missing in the source.

Since 1997, the non-linear growth trend in the incidence of poverty among Arab children in Israel continues, especially for children of East Jerusalem. In 2013, the percentage of poor children in the Arab population reached 60.5% - 66.4%.

Table 7C: Percentage of Children in the Ten Locality Clusters ranked by Socio-Economic Level, 2013



Source: National Council for the Child, Center for Research and Development: Processed data from the Central Bureau of Statistics, Classification of Local Authorities by Socio-economic Level of the Population 2008, and special processing for the National Council for the Child, December 2013.

As the ranking of the socio-economic cluster rates are lower (that is to say, the lower their socio-economic level), the greater the percentage of children in that cluster.

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 1	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	59.6
Beitar Illit	63.8
El Batuf	43.2
Jisr Az-Zarka	45.1
Lakiye	53.4
Modi'in Illit	63.1
Tel Sheva	58.3
Cluster 2	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	44.6
Abu Ghosh	37.6
Ar'ara	40.3
Ar'ara-Benegev	58.3
Arrabe	43.1
Basma	43.3
Basmat Tab'un	39.1
Beit Jann	33.5
Bir El Maksur	40.8
Bu'eine	40.5
Bu'eine-Nujeidat	41.2
Buk'ata	36.1
Bustan el-Madj	39.5
Daburiyya	39.2
Deir Al-Assad	41.0
Ein Mahel	40.7
Ein Qiniyye	37.0
El'ad	60.6
Fureidis	38.9
Hura	58.7
Iksal	41.0
Ilut	42.4
Immanu'el	51.9
JalJulia	42.8
Judeide Maker	39.1
Kabul	39.6
Kalansawe	44.2
Kaokab Abu Al-Hija	37.7
Kefar Kanna	41.8
Kefar Manda	44.6
Kisra Sumei	40.5
Kuseife	55.0
Ma'ale Iron	42.1
Majd Al-Kurum	40.9
Majdal Shams	34.2
Mas'ada	37.6
Mazra'a	29.3
Meshhed	41.0
Mughar	36.1
Nahef	43.1

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013 (continued)

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 2 (continued)	
Rahat	55.1
Rechasim	49.5
Sachnin	38.7
Segev Shalom	56.5
Sha'ab	39.0
Shibli-Umm al Ghanam	42.0
Umm Al-Fahm	43.1
Yirka	37.6
Zarzir	41.9
Cluster 3	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	41.8
Abu Sinan	36.1
Baqa El-Garbiyye	41.6
Beit Shemesh	52.1
Bnei Brak	46.3
Daliat Al-Carmel	31.1
Deir Hanna	37.0
Hazor Haglilit	32.9
Hurfeish	35.9
I'billin	37.9
Jatt	38.2
Julis	32.1
Ka'abiyye-Tabbash-Hajarjara	42.2
Kafar Bara	46.9
Kafar Kasem	42.9
Kiryat Ye'arim	47.0
Nazareth	34.9
Netivot	42.1
Ofakim	33.7
Reine	38.1
Sajur	35.8
Shfaram	35.8
Taibe	40.9
Tamra	39.2
Tire	35.7
Tur'an	40.5
Yafi	38.1
Yanuh-Jat	37.4
Zemer	38.6
Cluster 4	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	36.5
Akko	27.5
Beit She'an	31.6
Dimona	29.3
Eilabun	32.5
Fassuta	27.0
Isfiya	31.5
Jerusalem	39.8

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013 (continued)

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 4 (continued)	
Kafar Ara	37.8
Kafar Kama	29.2
Kafar Yasif	31.7
Kiryat Arba	43.0
Kiryat Gat	29.4
Kiryat Malachi	31.8
Lod	32.9
Mizpe Ramon	35.4
Nachal Sorek	50.0
Or Akiva	27.1
Peki'in	30.8
Rame	30.8
Ramla	30.6
Safed (Tzfat)	40.0
Sderot	27.7
Tiberias	29.6
Tirat Karmel	24.8
Yavne'el	42.4
Yeroham	35.5
Cluster 5	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	28.8
Afula	26.5
Arad	27.4
Ariel	23.4
Ashdod	31.8
Ashkelon	26.9
Bat Yam	20.4
Beersheba	26.5
Bnei Ayish	23.7
Bet El	50.5
Eilat	26.5
Elyakhin	33.6
Emek HaMaayanot	30.5
Emek HaYarden	25.8
Emek Lod	40.5
Giv'at Ze'ev	38.0
Gush Ezion	47.4
Hadera	26.3
HaGilboa	35.8
Har Hebron	49.6
Hevel Elot	32.6
Holon	25.3
Jish (Gush Halav)	30.4
Karmi'el	25.1
Katzrinn	28.0
Kedumim	46.0
Kiryat Atta	25.2

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013 (continued)

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 5 (continued)	
Kiryat Ekron	27.9
Kiryat Shmona	26.7
Kiryat Yam	20.0
Lachish	37.7
Ma'a lot-Tarshiha	28.0
Ma'ale Adummim	34.9
Ma'ale Efrayim	25.5
Ma'ale Yosef	31.7
Marom HaGalil	34.4
Mateh Binyamin	49.7
Merchavim	40.9
Mi'elya	28.5
Migdal	31.3
Migdal Haemek	30.1
Nahariyya	26.3
Nazareth Illit	22.6
Netanya	27.3
Or Yehuda	28.8
Ramat Negev	35.3
Sdot Negev	39.9
Shafir	40.1
Shlomi	31.0
Shomron	46.4
Tamar	28.8
Yavne	28.7
Megilot Yam HaMelech	39.5
Cluster 6	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	29.1
Arvot HaYarden	38.0
Azor	26.6
Be'er Tuvia	34.0
Be'er Ya'akov	35.2
Eshkol	32.7
Gan Yavne	36.2
Gedera	37.7
Golan	37.6
Hof Ashkelon	35.2
Karnei Shomron	34.5
Kiryat Bialik	22.3
Kiryat Motzkin	21.9
Mateh Asher	31.6
Mateh Yehuda	35.3
Megido	30.4
Menashe	35.9
Mevuot HaHermon	29.1
Pardes Hanna - Karkur	31.0
Pardessiya	24.5

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013 (continued)

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 6 (continued)	
Petach Tikva	28.8
Rehovot	29.6
Rishon LeZion	24.5
Rosh HaAyin	30.7
Sha'ar HaNegev	29.8
Upper Galilee	37.4
Yokne'am Illit	33.7
Zvulon	33.5
Cluster 7	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	27.1
Alona	37.8
Beit Arye	36.6
Bnei Shimon	37.4
Bet Dagan	31.2
Efrata	41.3
Emek Yezreel	35.2
Gezer	34.2
HaArava HaTichona	35.5
Haifa	22.3
Harish	46.0
Hevel Modi'in	37.7
Hevel Yavne	41.0
Kadima-Zoran	34.6
Kfar Yona	34.7
Lower Galilee	37.1
Metula	22.4
Misgav	38.9
Nes Ziona	32.7
Nesher	22.3
Ramat Gan	21.9
Rosh Pinna	28.8
Yehud	28.4
Yoav	36.8
Cluster 8	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	26.9
Alfei Menashe	35.5
Binyamina – Giv'at Ada	36.4
Brenner	33.2
Drom Hasharon	33.6
Elkane	37.2
Emek Heffer	33.5
Even Yehuda	32.3
Gan Raveh	31.6
Gannei Tikva	31.7
Gderot	33.6
Giv'at Shmu'el	35.0
Giv'atayim	23.2

Chart 7.1: Children as a Percentage of the Total Population of their Local Authority in the Ten Socio-Economic Clusters, 2013 (continued)

Locality*	Percentage of Children out of Total Residents
Cluster 8 (continued)	
Herzliya	23.3
Hod Hasharon	30.2
Hof HaKarmel	31.3
Hof Hasharon	29.3
Kfar Sava	26.1
Kfar Tavor	32.9
Kiryat Ono	29.9
Kiryat Tivon	25.8
Lev HaSharon	33.3
Mazkaret Batya	34.4
Mevasseret Zion	28.0
Modi'in-Macabbim-Re'ut	39.5
Oranit	35.1
Ra'anana	26.9
Ramat Yishay	29.3
Shoham	35.2
Tel Aviv-Yafo	20.3
Yesud Hama'ala	31.7
Zichron Ya'akov	34.6
Cluster 9	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	29.8
Har Adar	36.7
Kfar Vradim	29.3
Kochav Ya'ir	27.9
Lehavim	29.3
Meitar	33.8
Ramat Hasharon	27.4
Tel Mond	36.6
Cluster 10	
Percentage of Children of Cluster Population	27.5
Kfar Shmaryahu	25.0
Omer	28.1
Savyon	27.7

Source: National Council for the Child, Center for Research and Development: processing data from the Central Bureau of Statistics, Characterization and Ranking of Municipal Authorities by Socio-Economic Level of the Population 2008, and special processing for the National Council for the Child, Data from December 2013.

Note: In 2012 the local Council "Katzir-Harish" was split into Harish (local council) and Katzir (urban settlement), and Katzir was attached to the Menashe Regional Council. In addition, the Abu Basma Regional Council was cancelled and two new regional councils were established: Al Kasum and Neveh Midbar.

In general, the higher the cluster, the smaller the percentage of children in the population. Cluster 1-3 include mostly Bedouin and Arab localities and a number of Jewish localities with a primarily religious population (Ofakim, Netivot, Beit Shemesh and Bnei Brak).

Chapter 8

Young Children at Risk and in Distress, and Child Abuse



Table 8.1: Children Known to Social Services Departments by Age (Numbers* and Percentages), 2014

Age	Total		Total at Direct/Family Risk**	
	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentage of all children known to Social Services
Total	441,167	100.0	360,621	81.7
0-3	52,089	11.8	41,316	11.5
4-6	66,597	15.1	53,747	14.9
7-12	200,453	45.4	163,335	45.3
13-17	122,028	27.7	102,223	28.3

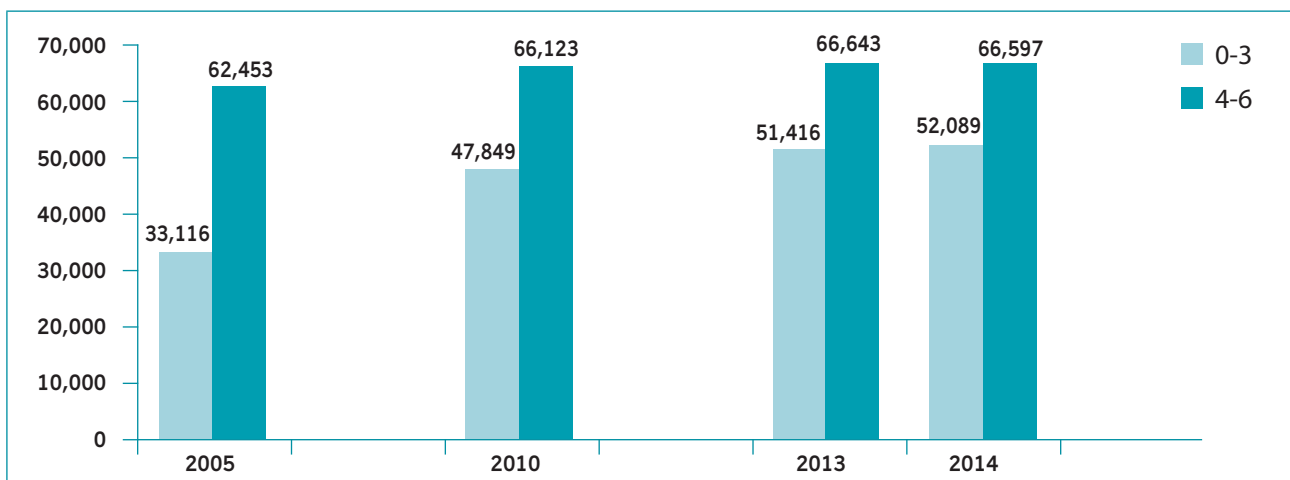
Source: Analysis of basic data from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, Children and Youth Services, Myers-Joint-Brookdale Institute, Engelberg Center for Children and Youth, various years.

*In this table, each child is counted once but may appear in a number of cases associated with different households. There are approximately 2%-3% of the children who appear in more than one case belonging to one household. The decision as to which household the children are listed is random.

**Direct risk or family risk. This refers to factors endangering the child's normal life and development and which require assistance, not necessarily removing the children from their home. The majority of children have additional difficulties, mostly economic, which do not constitute direct risk. Known children who are not at risk are children registered in Social Services due to family issues that are unrelated to the parents' or children's functioning. These are mainly economic problems.

In January 2014, 441,167 children in Israel were known to Social Services departments (constituting 16.6% of all children in Israel), approximately 80% of whom were at direct or family risk. A quarter of children known to social services are children under the age of 6.

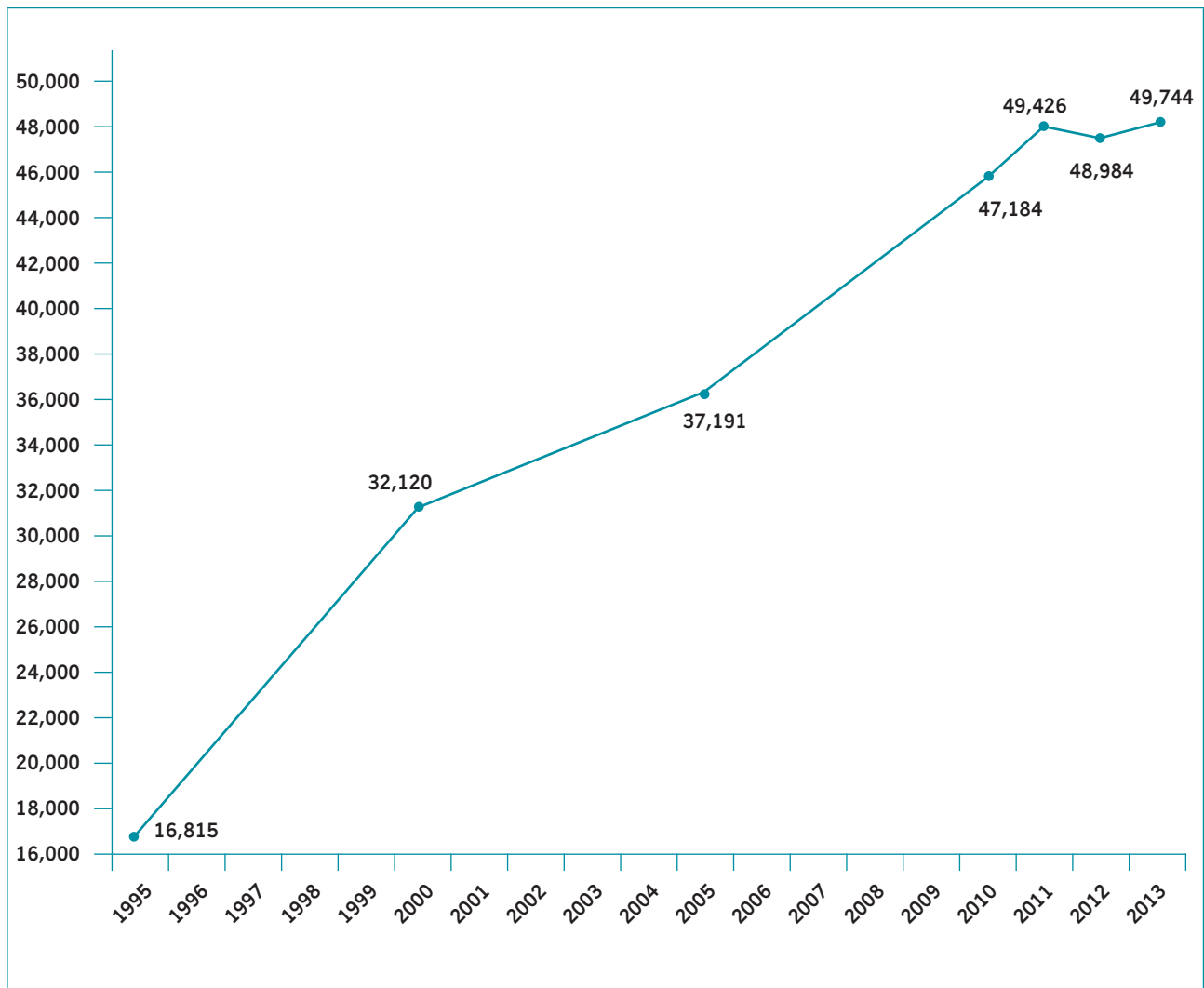
Figure 8A: Children Ages 0-6 known to Social Services Departments by Age Group, 2005-2014



Source: Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, Analysis of basic data, 2014. Special analysis, The National Council for the Child, various years.

An increase in the number of children ages 0-6 known to Social Services can be seen from 2005 to 2014. The number of children ages 4-6 known to Social Services is higher than for children ages 0-3.

Figure 8B: Number of Children Reported to Child Protection Officers* for Suspicion of Abuse, Neglect and Risk, 1995-2013



Source: The National Council for the Child, Center for Research and Development, various years; Haruv Institute, Referrals to Child Protection Officers and their Intervention: Summary of Findings for 2013, Research Report, 2014.

*The figures refer to the number of children treated by a Child Protection Officer living in localities where the combined child population in 2005 numbered about 86% of the total population of children in Israel. In 2010, approximately 95.8%, in 2011, approximately 97.5%, in 2012, as 97.0% and in 2013, 96.4%.

Note: Israeli law requires every citizen who has a reasonable suspicion that a minor is being abused by a person responsible for that child, to report that suspicion to the police or to a Child Protection Officer. In practice, the majority of reports reach Child Protection Officers. In 2013, the number of reports reached approximately 50,000. It is important to point out, however, that the increase in the number of children in distress was not accompanied by the allocation of resources necessary for the treatment of these children.

Since 1995, there has been an increase in the number of children reported to Child Protection Officers for suspected abuse and neglect. In the years 2011-2013, that number was close to 50,000.

According to estimates, for every reported case of suspected abuse, there are 3-10 additional cases of child abuse that are not reported. Hence, the scope of the phenomenon of children at risk or suspected risk in all communities in Israel is greater.

Table 8.2: Reason for Report/Referral* to Child Protection Officers by Age (Numbers and Percentages in a row), 2013

Reason for Report*	Total		Age		
	Numbers	Percentages	0-5	6-13	14-17
Physical Abuse	15,426	100.0	14.7	34.9	16.9
Neglect	11,986	100.0	24.7	37.1	14.0
Sexual Abuse	5,905	100.0	12.7	41.7	21.0
Emotional Abuse	5,641	100.0	16.6	37.2	20.9
Attempted Suicide	1,845	100.0	0.3	17.7	47.0
Youth involved in crime	1,550	100.0	0.1	12.9	48.5
Diagnosis, treatment and psychiatric hospitalization	1,235	100.0	0.8	16.4	37.3
Addictions	933	100.0	0.4	5.1	45.0

Source: Haruv Institute, Referrals to Child Protection Officers and their Treatment: Summary of findings 2013, Research Report, Table 1, 2014.

*The reason for which a report was made about a minor or the reasons for which a Child Protection Officer was needed to intervene. A minor can be included in more than one category.

Note: The report by age is lacking and therefore the percentages do not add up to 100%.

Between the ages 0-5, the most common reason for which a report was made to a Child Protection Officer regarding suspicion of abuse and neglect was neglect (24.7%), for aged 6 to 13 it was sexual abuse (41.7%), and for ages 14-17, attempted suicide (48.5%).

Table 8.3: Number of Criminal Files Opened Due to Offenses Committed Against Children in the Family by Type of File and Type of Offense, 1998-2013

Type of File	Year				
	1998	2000	2010	2012	2013
Total					
Total	1,509	2,462	2,597	2,366	2,338
Criminal Files	785	1,551	2,534	2,272	2,266
C.T. File***	724	911	63	94	72
Assault of Minors* (Injuries and Assaults)					
Total	1,020	1,983	1,816	1,702	1,691
Criminal Files	481	1,018	1,776	1,646	1,643
C.T. File***	539	965	40	56	48
Abuse of Minors (Physical, Emotional, Sexual)					
Total	206	974	276	168	156
Criminal Files	102	227	274	168	155
C.T. File***	104	747	2	0	1
Of which: Neglect**					
Total (Criminal Files Only)	8	18	59	50	53
Sexual Offenses					
Total	283	404	505	496	491
Criminal Files	202	306	484	458	468
C.T. File***	81	98	21	38	23

Source: Israel Police, Desk of Strategic Research and Statistics, Annual Reports, various years.

* Including homicide, attempted homicide and various physical injuries.

** All neglect cases were opened as criminal files and no Conditional Treatment files were opened for this offense.

*****Conditional Treatment:** In certain cases involving minors, police may decide to close the case without a criminal record. This is a one-time procedure that requires the admission of a minor to having committed the offense. If another offense is committed, the case can be reopened and a criminal investigation can be conducted that could result in prosecution.

Most of the files opened in 2013 for offenses against children in the family were for assault. More than a fifth

of all offenses in the family were sexual offenses.

Table 8.4: Number of Community Services funded by the Department of Child and Youth Services of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services for Children aged 0-11 by Type of Service, 2013

Type of Framework	Number of Services
Day Care	14,850
After-school child care program	13,906
Home-based Day Care (5 children)	8,314
Multipurpose Day Care (for families who need more supportive and therapeutic services)	4,114
Treatment Center (<i>Paths for Parents</i>)	1,667
Parent-Child Center	3,645
Culturally Sensitive Program	75
<i>Greenhouse</i> (support for children at risk in the family in the community)	9
<i>First</i> (home intervention program)	10
Home support including home care	3,324
<i>Orion</i> (program to strengthen family relationships)	15
<i>Families</i> Program	7
Rehabilitative After-school child care program	25
Club/Community Center	0

Source: Social Service Review, 2013, Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services.

Table 8.5: Frameworks for Children Ages 0-11, According to the Type of Framework 2013

Type of Framework	Number of Placements
Emergency Center	256
Boarding School	2,767
Foster Family	1,428

Source: Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services, Social Service Review, 2013.

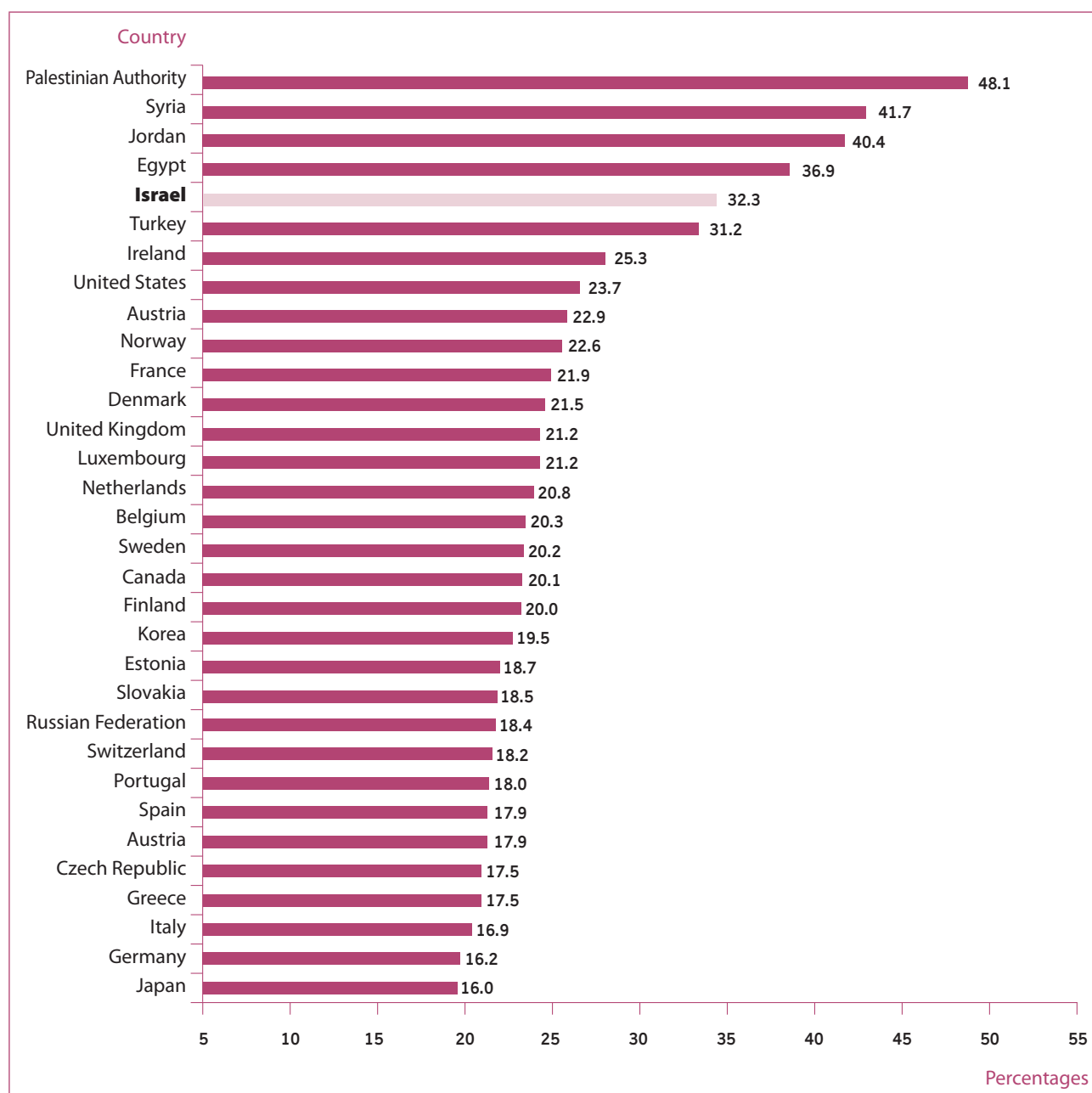
Most of the children ages 0-11 were placed in boarding schools.

Chapter 9

Young Children in Israel and in the World



Figure 9A: Percentage of Children, Ages 0-17, of Total Population in Select Countries, 2012



Source: UNICEF, The State of the World's Children 2014, Table 6 – Demographic Indicators, 2014.

The proportion of children up to age 17 in Israel's population is smaller than the proportion of children in this age group in the Middle East, and is the highest in comparison to surveyed Western countries.

Table 9.1: Percentage of Students Ages 3-4 in Select Countries, 2011

Country	Age 3-4
Total-OECD	74.0
Belgium	99.0
Spain	99.0
France	99.0
Norway	96.0
Italy	94.0
Denmark	94.0
Germany	93.0
Holland	93.0
Sweden	93.0
United Kingdom	91.0
Israel	90.0
Japan	85.0
Portugal	82.0
Korea	82.0
Austria	76.0
Russia	73.0
Czech Republic	72.0
Ireland	70.0
United States	64.0
Finland	53.0
Australia	40.0
Greece	27.0
Canada*	24.0
Switzerland	22.0
Turkey	12.0

Source: OECD, Education at a Glance 2013, Table C1.1a, 2013.

*As of 2010.

-Data missing in the original source.

Note: In **Ireland** the percentage of students aged 3-4 is low because early childhood education is not funded by the state.

Table 9.2: National Expenditure on Education per Student* in Select Countries by Level of Education (Dollars), 2011

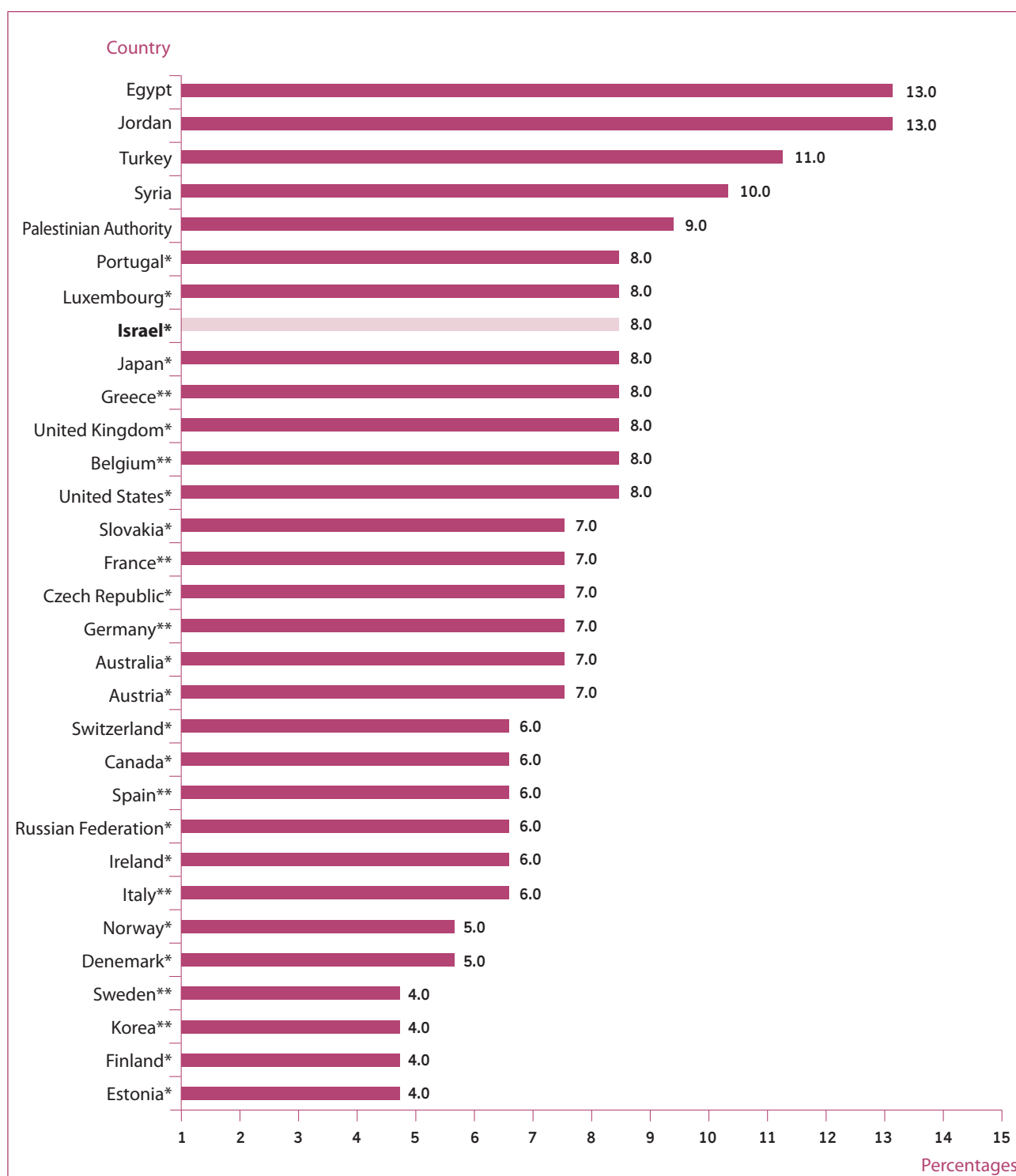
Country	Expenditure on Education		
	Preschool Age 3-4	Elementary	Secondary
OECD Average	7,044	7,900	9,505
Denmark	14,148	9,434	10,937
New Zealand	11,088	8,084	9,312
Australia	10,734	8,671	10,354
United States	10,010	10,958	12,731
United Kingdom	9,692	9,857	9,648
Iceland	9,138	10,339	8,470
Austria	8,933	10,600	13,607
Germany	8,351	7,579	10,275
Netherlands	8,020	8,036	12,100
Sweden	6,915	10,295	10,939
South Korea	6,861	6,976	8,199
Spain	6,725	7,288	9,615
France	6,615	6,917	11,109
Belgium	6,333	9,281	11,732
Finland	5,700	8,159	9,792
Czech Republic	4,302	4,587	7,270
Israel	4,058	6,823	5,712
Estonia	2,618	5,328	6,389
Mexico	2,568	2,622	2,943

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Abstract of Israel 2014, Table 8.75, 2014.

*The total basket of services received by every student.

The national expenditure on education in all three stages of education in Israel in 2011 was much lower than the OECD average.

Figure 9B: Percentage of Newborns with Low Birth Weight (Less than 2,500 Grams) of All Newborns, 2008-2012



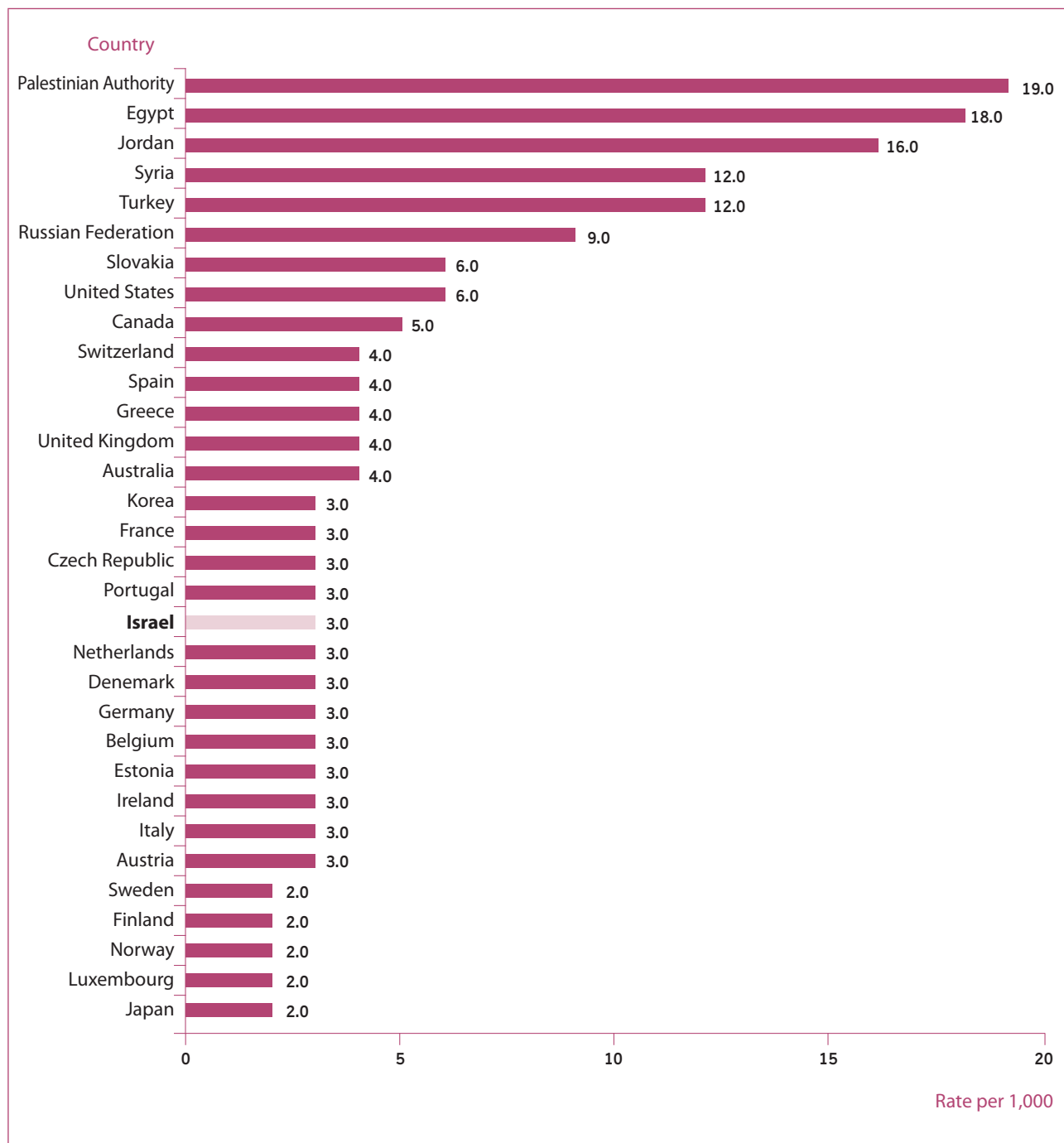
Source: UNICEF, The State of the World's Children, 2014, Table 2, Nutrition, 2014.

* Data refer to a specific year between the years 2008-2012

** Data for 2007-2011. Data refer to the most updated year between 2007-2011.

The weight of 8% of all newborns born in Israel was less than 2,500 grams. This percentage is among the highest in Western countries but the lowest in the Middle Eastern countries that were surveyed.

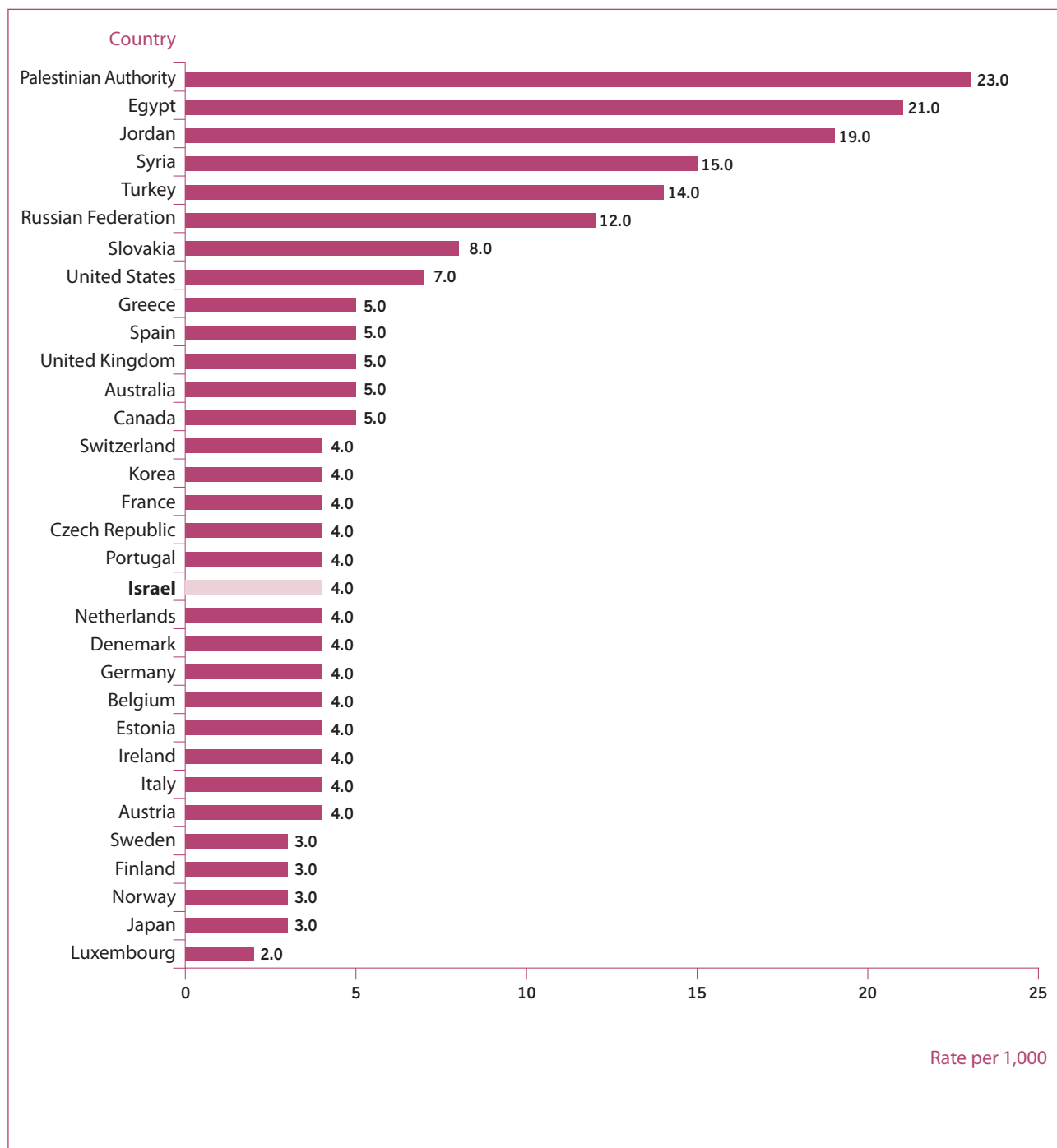
Figure 9C: Infant Mortality in Select Countries (rate per 1,000 live births), 2012



Source: UNICEF, The State of the World's Children 2014, Table 1-Basic Indicators, 2014.

The infant mortality rate in Israel is similar to the comparable rate in developed Western countries.

Figure 9D: Mortality of Children Under Age Five in Select Countries (rate per thousand in the age group), 2012



Source: UNICEF, The State of the World's Children 2014, Table 1-Basic Indicators, 2014.

The mortality rate of children under five in Israel is similar to the comparable rate in most European countries.

Table 9.3: Percentage of Immunized One-Year-Old Infants in All Infants in Their Age Group in Select Countries, 2012

Country	Percentage of Immunized Infants					
	Hib Meningitis	HEPB Triple	MCV Measles	POLIO 3	DPT Triple	
					DPT3	DPT1
Austria	83.0	83.0	76.0	83.0	83.0	93.0
Australia	92.0	92.0	94.0	92.0	92.0	92.0
Italy	96.0	97.0	90.0	97.0	97.0	99.0
Ireland	95.0	95.0	92.0	95.0	95.0	98.0
Estonia	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	94.0	96.0
United States	90.0	92.0	92.0	93.0	95.0	98.0
Belgium	98.0	98.0	96.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
United Kingdom	97.0	-	93.0	97.0	97.0	99.0
Germany	94.0	86.0	97.0	95.0	93.0	97.0
Denmark	94.0	-	90.0	94.0	94.0	97.0
Netherlands	97.0	-	96.0	97.0	97.0	99.0
Russian Federation	18.0	97.0	98.0	98.0	97.0	97.0
Palestinian Authority	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	97.0	98.0
Turkey	97.0	96.0	98.0	97.0	97.0	98.0
Greece	94.0	98.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Japan	-	-	96.0	99.0	98.0	99.0
Jordan	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
Israel	93.0	97.0	96.0	95.0	94.0	96.0
Luxembourg	99.0	95.0	96.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Egypt	-	93.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	94.0
Norway	95.0	-	94.0	95.0	95.0	99.0
Syria	45.0	43.0	61.0	52.0	45.0	68.0
Slovakia	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Spain	97.0	96.0	97.0	97.0	97.0	99.0
Portugal	98.0	98.0	97.0	98.0	98.0	99.0
Finland	99.0	-	97.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Czech Republic	99.0	99.0	98.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
France	98.0	74.0	89.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Korea	-	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0	99.0
Canada	95.0	70.0	98.0	99.0	95.0	98.0
Sweden	98.0	-	97.0	98.0	98.0	99.0
Switzerland	95.0	-	92.0	96.0	95.0	95.0

Source: UNICEF, The State of the World's Children, 2014, Table 3-Health, 2014.

Table 9.4: Average Second Child Allowance in OECD countries (as Percentage of GDP per Capita), 2013

Country	Percentage of GDP per Capita
Germany	6.8
Belgium	5.7
Hungary	5.5
France	4.9
Ireland	4.7
Denmark	4.2
Austria	3.9
Sweden	3.8
Luxembourg	3.7
Finland	3.7
The European Union	3.6
Iceland	3.5
Switzerland	3.2
United Kingdom	2.8
Netherlands	2.6
Israel	2.5
Poland	2.3
Slovakia	2.1
Czech Republic	2.0
Norway	1.9
Greece	1.7
Israel after the the Arrangements Law, August 2013	1.4
Spain	1.3

Source: National Insurance Institute, The Research and Planning Administration (Based on data from EUROSTAT and MISSOC), 2013 Annual Report.

In Israel, the child allowance per second child as a percentage of the GDP per capita is lower than the EU average.

Table 9.5: Poverty of Children and of Households with Children according to the OECD Index according to the Parents' Employment Status (Rate per Thousand) and the Rate of Change since 1995 (Percentages), 2010

Country	Total Poverty among children		Total households with children		Marital Status and Employment Status				
	2010	Rate of Change since 1995	2010	Rate of Change since 1995	Single		Two Parents		
					Unem-ployed	Em-ployed	Unem-ployed	One parent em-ployed	Two working parents or more
Israel	28.5	14.0	24.3	11.5	86.3	30.2	88.7	44.1	4.0
Turkey*	27.5	7.9	22.9	6.1	44.7	32.4	45.0	21.5	20.2
Mexico	24.5	-1.5	21.5	-0.3	41.9	28.2	75.3	32.9	10.4
Chile**	23.9	-	20.5	-	82.5	37.4	76.5	33.0	5.1
United States	21.2	-1.1	18.6	-0.1	90.7	31.1	86.9	28.1	5.8
Spain	20.5	-	18.9	-	84.6	23.9	73.4	27.1	7.5
Italy	17.8	-1.8	16.6	-1.9	84.2	27.0	84.7	29.2	5.6
Greece	17.7	5.8	15.8	5.2	54.0	16.7	57.8	26.3	4.7
Portugal	16.2	-	14.2	-	60.6	23.8	78.7	30.3	4.6
Japan*	15.7	3.6	14.6	3.3	50.4	50.9	36.0	13.6	11.8
Australia	15.1	2.1	12.5	1.5	73.1	14.4	67.5	10.3	1.9
Canada	14.0	-0.4	11.9	-0.8	87.0	27.4	68.5	23.2	4.4
Poland	13.6	-	12.1	-	64.8	15.1	62.1	26.6	4.4
OECD average	13.3	2.0	11.6	1.8	58.0	20.9	53.6	18.6	4.1
New Zealand*	13.3	0.6	10.4	-0.6	47.4	13.8	46.9	13.0	2.5
Belgium	12.8	-	10.5	-	67.0	16.9	63.4	15.5	1.0
Estonia	12.4	-	11.4	-	78.7	18.2	65.8	17.3	3.7
Slovakia	12.1	-	10.9	-	59.0	7.6	70.6	20.2	4.8
Luxembourg	11.4	3.5	9.9	2.6	60.2	41.6	34.6	16.8	3.8
France	11.0	2.0	8.7	0.4	49.7	18.4	24.8	11.4	2.9

Table 9.5: Poverty of Children and of Households with Children according to the OECD index according to the Parents' Employment Status (Rate per Thousand) and the Rate of Change since 1995 (Percentages) 2010 (Continued)

Country	Total Poverty among children		Total households with children		Marital Status and Employment Status				
	2010	Rate of Change since 1995	2010	Rate of Change since 1995	Single		Two Parents		
					Unem-ployed	Em-ployed	Unem-ployed	One parent em-ployed	Two working parents or more
Ireland*	10.2	-	9.7	-	36.9	2.1	26.9	9.9	0.6
Netherlands	9.9	0.2	7.9	0.5	58.2	22.6	66.4	15.4	2.0
United Kingdom	9.8	-6.3	9.2	-3.2	27.8	4.8	30.3	8.6	1.0
Switzerland*	9.8	-	8.7	-	31.6		7.2		
Korea	9.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Czech Republic	9.0	3.5	7.6	3.4	83.7	14.8	66.2	9.3	1.8
Germany	9.1	1.1	7.1	0.5	54.0	23.8	16.4	2.5	0.5
Austria	8.2	-	6.7	-	58.8	16.9	47.9	13.1	2.2
Hungary*	9.4	-0.9	9.0	0.3	71.8	15.1	16.9	8.5	2.3
Slovenia	9.4	-	8.2	-	82.2	24.9	80.0	35.7	2.4
Sweden	8.2	5.7	6.9	4.7	56.7	10.9	58.4	18.2	1.2
Norway	5.1	1.4	4.4	1.4	42.3	9.9	42.4	12.6	1.0
Finland	3.9	1.9	3.7	1.9	43.0	6.8	43.2	7.3	1.4
Denmark	3.7	1.7	3.0	1.4	26.7	5.6	30.5	9.3	0.9

Source: OECD Family Database www.oecd.org/social/family/database, OECD - Social Policy Division - Directorate of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Table CO2.2.A.

**Data relates to the year 2011.

- Unknown/ No data, or unable to be calculated.

In 2010, Israel was in first place in the rate of poor children and the rate of households with poor children in relation to the other countries in the OECD.

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