

PRESS RELEASE

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63rd Independence Day – Approximately 7,746,000 Residents in the State of Israel

- The population of Israel numbers 7,746,000 people on the eve of Israel's 63rd Independence Day.¹ At the time of the establishment of the State, it numbered 806,000 residents.
- The Jewish population numbers approximately 5,837,000 residents (75.3% of the total population); the Arab population numbers approximately 1,587,000 residents (20.5%); and the population of "others" (referring to immigrants and their offspring who are not registered as Jews in the Ministry of the Interior) numbers 322,000 (4.2%).
- Since Independence Day last year there have been approximately 178,000 babies born, and 43,000 people passed away; 24,500 immigrants arrived in Israel (of those, 6,500 were "immigrating citizens"²). On the other hand, there were approximately 12,000 persons less in the population due to the migration balance of Israelis (the departures and returns of Israelis who stayed abroad more than one continuous year). An additional 7,500 were added to the population from other components.
- In total, the population of Israel grew since the 62nd Independence Day by approximately 155,000 residents – a growth of 2.0%.³
- Over 70% of the total Jewish population is 'Sabras' – born in Israel (at least half are second generation in the country) - compared with 35% native-born in 1948.
- In 1948 there was only one city in Israel with more than 100,000 residents – Tel Aviv-Yafo. Today, 14 cities number more than 100,000 residents, of which six number more than 200,000 residents: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Haifa, Rishon LeZiyyon, Ashdod, and Petah Tiqwa.

¹ The above are preliminary data, based on the results of the 2008 Population Census. The population estimate does not include the foreign population, who numbered about 220,000 persons at the end of 2009.

² Immigrating citizen – A person born to an Israeli citizen while staying abroad, who entered Israel with the intention of settling.

³ Due to differences in the Hebrew calendar, the data relate to the 13 months that passed since the last Independence Day.