

## 4. POPULATION

### ■ General Demographic Features

		WBGs Total	West Bank	Gaza
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>1997 census:</b>	2,895,683	1,873,476 <sup>1</sup>	1,022,207
	<b>mid-2005<sup>2</sup></b>	3,762,005	2,372,216	1,389,789
	<b>Projected 2007<sup>2</sup></b>	4,016,416	2,517,047	1,499,369
	<b>Projected 2015<sup>3</sup></b>	5,091,314	3,110,489	1,980,825
<b>Growth Rate (2005)</b>		3.3%	3.0%	3.8%
<b>Birth rates (% per 1,000, 2005)</b>		37.3	34.5	42.2
<b>Median Age (2003):</b>		16.5 years	17.6 years	15.3 years
<b>Sex ratio (male-female at birth, 2005):</b>		103.5		
<b>Life expectancy at birth (2005):</b>		72.3 years	72.7 years	71.6 years
<b>Population density (persons per km<sup>2</sup>, 2004):</b>			463.5	3,945.4

<sup>1</sup> Incl. East Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> PCBS, *Projected Mid-Year Population in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate (2001-2007)*

<sup>3</sup> PCBS, *Population Projections. Projected Summary Statistics*

### Distribution of the Palestinian Population by Governorates and Cities (mid-2004)

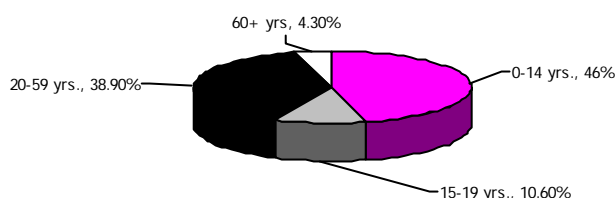
Locality	Number of Inhabitants	
	in Governorate	City only
Jenin	261,756	35,760
Tubas	48,128	16,087
Tulkarem	172,793	45,463
Qalqilya	97,472	44,709
Salfit	64,129	9,756
Nablus	336,380	134,116
Ramallah/Al-Bireh	290,401	25,467 / 39,538
Jerusalem	407,090*	253,394**
Jericho	43,620	20,416
Bethlehem/Beit Jala/Beit Sahur	180,116	29,927/16,689/15,388
Hebron	542,593	166,003
North Gaza	278,180	Jabalia + RC 176,332
Gaza City	505,702	409,680
Deir Al-Balah	208,716	city + RC 61,755
Khan Younis	279,853	city + RC 179,768
Rafah	171,363	city + RC 130,986

\*\* annexed East Jerusalem (estimates)

Source: PCBS, *Small Area Population, Revised Estimates, 2004-06.*

- The Gaza Strip has the highest **population density** almost 4,000 people per km<sup>2</sup>, while the most densely populated areas in the West Bank are the governorates of Jerusalem (1,164.8 persons/km<sup>2</sup>), Tulkarem (682 persons/km<sup>2</sup>), Qalqilya (562.1 persons/km<sup>2</sup>), and Nablus (540.1 persons/km<sup>2</sup>). Least populated is are Jericho and Tubas with 70.9 and 115.6 persons/km<sup>2</sup>, respectively. PCBS, *Land Use Statistics, 2003*.

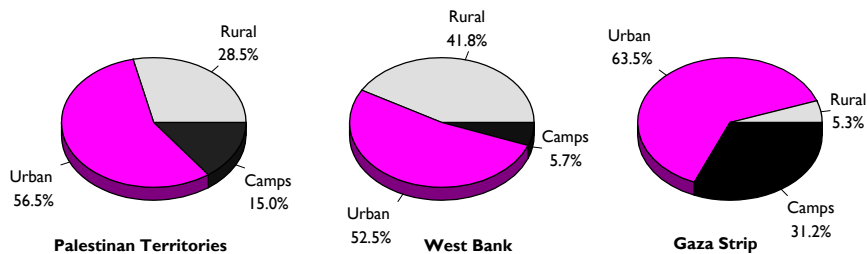
### ■ Age Structure, WBGs, 2004:



(Source: PCBS, *Population in the Palestinian Territories, 1997-2025*)



### ■ Distribution of the Population by Place of Living



Source: PCBS, *Children Statistics* No. 5, 2002

### ■ Distribution of the Palestinian People Worldwide

Inside (mid-2005)		Outside	I <sup>2</sup>	II <sup>3</sup>	III <sup>4</sup>
West Bank & Gaza Strip <sup>1a</sup>	3,762,000	Jordan	2,797,674	2,472,501	2,626,000
		Lebanon	415,066	456,824	463,000
		Syria	436,157	494,501	411,000
		Egypt	61,917	51,805	48,000
		Saudi Arabia	309,582	291,778	299,000
Areas Occupied in 1948 <sup>1b</sup>	1,400,000	Kuwait & other Gulf	163,632	149,786	135,000
		Libya and Iraq	-	78,884	79,000
		Other Arab countries	6,523	5,887	-
		The Americas	-	216,196	-
		Other Countries	537,334	275,303	606,000
		<b>Total Outside</b>		<b>4,834,427</b>	<b>4,493,465</b>
<b>Total Inside</b>	<b>5,162,000</b>				

<sup>1a</sup> PCBS, *Demographic Statistics*.

<sup>1b</sup> Israeli CBS.

<sup>2</sup> PCBS, 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Salman Abu Sitta. *Palestine 1948 - Commemoration of Al-Naqba*. London: Palestinian Return Center, May 2000.

<sup>4</sup> Justin McCarthy. "Population", entry in *Encyclopedia of the Palestinians*, ed. By Philip Mattar. New York, 2000.

### ■ Population of Israel

#### Total Israeli population (Sept. 2005):

	6,955,000	
• Jews	5,300,000	(80%)
• "Others"*	299,000	
• Arabs	1,400,000	(19%)

#### Annual growth rate: (2004) Israel all 1.8%\*\*

Jews	1.4%*
Arabs	3.0%
- Muslims	3.3%
- Christians	1.4%

#### Projection of Population (medium variant):

	2005	2010	2020
Jews	5.320,6	5.688,9	6.368,4
Muslims	1.124,4	1.299,8	1.676,6
Christians	116,7	124,4	138,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.930,0</b>	<b>7.534,4</b>	<b>8.672,9</b>

#### Population density:

(end of 2004) 299.2 people/km<sup>2</sup>

\* Mainly immigrants and their families who are not registered as Jews in the Population Register \*\* Or 124,000 in total numbers, incl. 19,000 new immigrants mainly from the former Soviet Union (46%), Ethiopia (18%) and France (11%).  
(Source: Israeli CBS, 2005.)



- The largest **ethnic group** in Israel – 41% - consists of people of European and American origin, and their children who were born in Israel (some 37% of whom are immigrants from the former USSR). Jews of African origin made up some 16% of the Jewish population and Jews of Asian origin some 13%.

**Recommended Research Sources:**

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<http://www.pcbs.org/statistics/populate.aspx>

<http://www.cbs.gov.il/engindex.htm>

**Heiberg, Marianne and Geir Ovansen.** *Palestinian Society in Gaza, West Bank and Arab Jerusalem*. FAFO Report 151, 1993.

**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).** *Demographic Survey in the West Bank and Gaza Strip*. Annual updates.

**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).** *Population, Housing and Establishments Census*. Dec. 1997

**Pedersen Jon, Sara Randell and Marwan Khawaja (eds.).** *Growing Fast - Palestinian Population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip*. FAFO Report 353, 2001. (also available at: [www.fao.no/pub/rapp/353/353.pdf](http://www.fao.no/pub/rapp/353/353.pdf))

