

The approximately 202,000 Jewish settlers on the WB constitute only 9-10% of the WB population and the 6,000 Jewish settlers in Gaza .6% of Gaza's population. (Figures do not include the 200,000 settlers in East Jerusalem) (PASSIA, *Settlements - Special Bulletin*, 2001). While in Israeli settlements there is enough water to fill swimming pools and water greeneries, some 200,000 Palestinian villagers are not even connected to a water network and have to rely on rainfall, springs and water tankers. Part of the Arab land has been turned into desert. Jewish settlers and the Israeli army regularly destroy Palestinian water pumps, pipes, cisterns and tanks, and pollute their wells and aquifers.



Swimming pool in a Jewish settlement



Palestinian Children filling water at a spring

In addition to their use of the WB groundwater, Israel has another five aquifer basins that provide approximately 60% of Israel's productivity from groundwater. Figure 2 illustrates Israel's relative percentage productivity from groundwater aquifer basins.

Figure 1: Status of the Utilization of the West Bank Aquifers

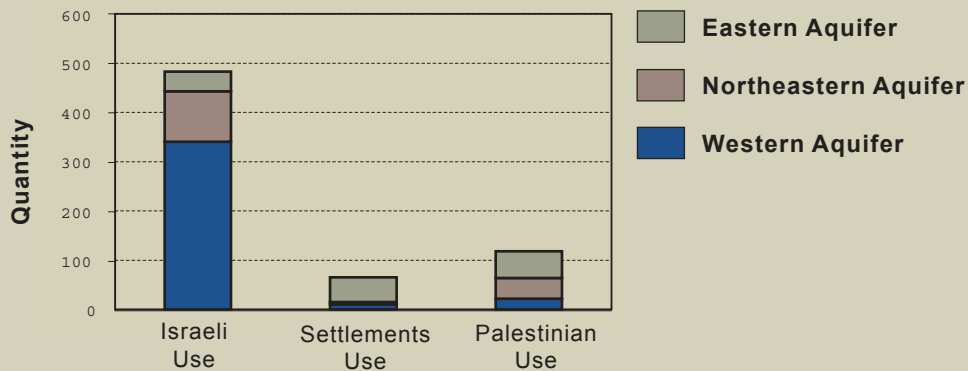
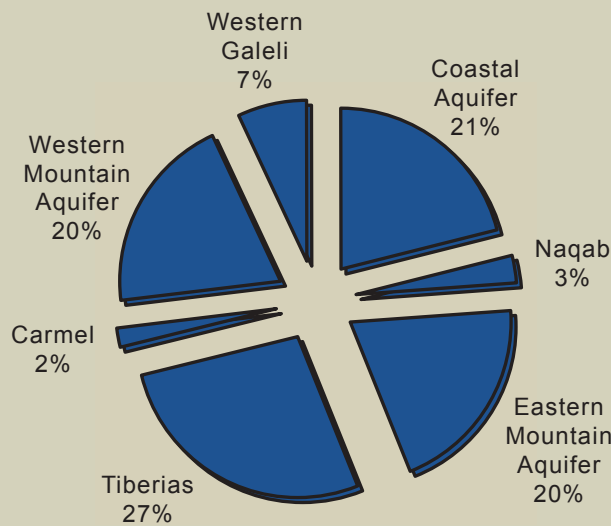


Figure 2: Relative Percentage Productivity from the Groundwater Aquifer Basin In Israel



Source: Israeli Ministry of Agriculture, *Hydrological Services Division, Annual Report 1995*