



Jordan – Recent Demographic Indicators (April 2024)

| Changes in Population Size of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Since the Beginning of the Millennium | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| Source and Year | Population Size (millions) | Annual Population Growth Rate Since Previous Year (%) ^a |
| The 4 th Population and Housing Census 2004 (adjusted figure) | 5.6 | |
| The 5 th Population and Housing Census 2015 (end of the year) | 9.6 | 4.9 |
| Current Population Size (April 2024) | 11.6 | 2.3 |

Data Source: http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/DataBank/Population_Estimares/PopulationEstimates.pdf; and DOS Population Clock.

a. The annual population growth rate was calculated using the exponential change equation.



First: Population Size, Fertility, Family Planning and Mortality

- ◆ The current population size is 11.6 million (almost one third of whom do not hold Jordanian citizenship); six (6) million of the current population size were added in the last 20 years.
- ◆ The number of registered births during the years 2010-2022 reached about 2.68 million births with an annual average of more than two hundred thousand births (one and quarter million births every six years).
- ◆ Sex ratio at birth is 105 boys for 100 girls in 2010-2002; which is the normal ratio.
- ◆ Only 24% of children under 6 months of age depend on exclusive breastfeeding (2023).
- ◆ The completed fertility rate per woman in the age group 40-49 years (2023) is 3.7 children for Jordanian woman, 4.5 children for Syrian woman, 4.7 children for Syrian woman in the camps.
- ◆ The contraceptive prevalence rate in 2023 among MWRA (38.4% for modern methods, 21.7% for traditional methods).
- ◆ About 32.5% of couples (2023) need to use a modern method to plan for their childbearing and achieve their reproductive desires: (10.8% have an unmet need + 21.7% use ineffective traditional methods).
- ◆ Infant mortality rate is (14) deaths per thousand live births, and the neonatal mortality rate is (9) deaths per thousand live births (for 2023).
- ◆ Maternal mortality ratio (2021) 85.2 deaths per 100,000 live births (29.8 when the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is excluded).
- ◆ Life expectancy in years (2022) 73.3 years (male 72.3, female 75.1).
- ◆ Healthy life expectancy in years (2022) (male 68.1, female 67.2).
- ◆ The percentage of Jordanian girls who married in 2022 under the age of 18 was 10% of the total number of first-time marriages, while the same percentage among Syrian refugees reached 38%.
- ◆ In the years 2010-2022, around 115 thousand girls under the age of 18 years were married.



Second: The Population Age Structure is Young, and the Rate of Economic Participation is Low:

- ◆ The percentage of children (2023) under the age of fifteen is 34.4%, or about 4 million children; the proportion of children among Syrian refugees (according to the 2015 Census) is 45%.
- ◆ 44.3% of the population is under 20 years of age (5.1 million of children and adolescents).
- ◆ The number of elderly population (2023) 60+ years is 627 thousand (5.7% of total population); 65+ years is 424 thousand (3.9% of total population).
- ◆ The median age of the population (22.9 years; 2023), that is, half of the population is under this age.
- ◆ The unemployment rate among Jordanians for the year 2023 (19.6% among males, 30.7% among females), and about 70% of the unemployed Jordanians are males, the rest are females, with 60% of the unemployed males do not have a secondary education.
- ◆ The percentage of employed Jordanians 15+ years in 2023 is 25.9%; (42.8%) among males compared to (9.7%) among females.
- ◆ The percentage of Jordanian youth 15-24 years who are unemployed and not enrolled in education or training is 31.6% among males and 18.5% among females (in 2023).
- ◆ **The consequences of the young age structure are the continuation of rapid increase in:**
 - Number of new households and dwellings as well as water and other basic needs.
 - Number of people entering the working and schooling age.
 - The number of unemployed young men and women, even if the unemployment rate decreases.
 - The number of girls of marriage and childbearing age; they now amount to 2.84 million at the ages 15-49 years, and for every 100 women leave the reproductive age (aged 50-54 years) 276 girls enter that age (aged 15-19 years).
 - The number of births (see first section), even if the birth rate decreases.
 - Number of drivers, vehicles, and traffic crisis.



Third: The geographical distribution of the population is unbalanced, harmful to the environment, rural and women economy, food security, and financially and administratively costly:

- ◆ Only 8% of the population live in the southern half of the Kingdom, in its four governorates; while 92% live in the northern half (central governorates 63.5%, northern governorates 28.5%).
- ◆ Three-quarters of the population lives in 3 governorates: the capital (Amman), Irbid, and Zarqa; Mafraq governorate comes the fourth and is the highest governorate in the percentage (not the number) of Syrian refugees among its population.



Sources:

- Department of Statistics: Population and Housing Censuses, Jordanian Statistical Yearbook, Jordan in Figures, Population and Family Health Surveys, Labor Force Surveys; for the years shown.
- Civil Status and Passports Department: Annual Statistical Reports for the years indicated.
- Supreme Judge Department, Annual Statistical Report for the years shown.
- Ministry of Health, National Report on Maternal Mortality 2021.
- World Economic Forum - Global Gender Gap Report 2021.

