



Jordan – Recent Demographic Indicators (Early 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 (January 2024)	11.5	2.3
a. Data Source: http://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/DataBank/Population_Estimares/PopulationEstimates.pdf ; and DOS Population Clock. The annual population growth rate was calculated using the exponential change equation.		



First: Population Size, Fertility and Family Planning

- ♦ The current population size is 11.5 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).
- ♦ 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% use modern methods, 21.7% use traditional methods).
- ♦ About 32.5% of couples (2023) need to use a modern method to plan for their childbearing to achieve their reproductive desires: (10.8% have an unmet need + 21.7% use ineffective traditional methods).
- ♦ 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%.
- ♦ Only 24% of children under 6 months of age depend on exclusive breastfeeding (2023).



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

- ◆ The percentage of children (2022) under the age of fifteen is 34.4%, or about 3.9 million children; the proportion of children among Syrian refugees (according to the 2015 Census) is 45%.
- ◆ 40% of the population is in childhood - under 18 years of age (4.6 million children).
- ◆ The median age of the population (22.4 years), that is, half of the population is under this age.
- ◆ The unemployment rate among Jordanians for the year 2022 (22.8%) (20.6% among males, 31.4% among females), and about 71% of the unemployed Jordanians are males, the rest are females, with 63% of the unemployed males do not have secondary education.
- ◆ The economic participation rate (2022) is low (for Jordanians 15+ years) 33.4%; (53.1% for males; 13.9% for females).
- ◆ The percentage of employed Jordanians in 2022 is 25.8%; (42.2%) among males compared to (9.6%) among females.
- ◆ Economic dependency ratio (among Jordanians) 1: 4.2, that is, every hundred persons in the labor force support 420 persons, including himself.



◆ The consequences of the young age structure of the population are the continuation of rapid increase in:

- Number of new households and dwellings and in 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 amounts to 2.79 million at the ages 15-49 years, and for every 100 women leave the reproductive age 275 girls enter that age.
- The number of births, even if the birth rate decreases.
- Number of drivers, vehicles, and traffic crisis.
- ◆ The number of the elderly 60+ is 615 thousand; 65+ is 417 thousand; the proportion of the elderly 60+ years is 5.5%; 65+ years is 3.7%.
- ◆ 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).
- ◆ Sex ratio at birth: 105 male births compared to 100 female births, which is the expected normal ratio.
- ◆ 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).



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; Mafrq 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.
- Ministry of Health, National Report on Maternal Mortality 2021.
- World Economic Forum - Global Gender Gap Report 2021.

