Abstract

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“As for the foam, it vanishes, [being] cast off; but as for that which benefits the people, it remains on the earth”

(Surah Ar-Ra’d, Verse 17)

It is with love and pride that the Galilee Society, The Arab National Society for Health Research and Services, cordially presents the results of the fifth socio-economic survey conducted by the Rikaz Center for Applied Social Research. This survey culminates an entire year’s work done by a team which included dozens of surveyors who collected data from our towns, from the North to the far South, covering all segments of society. This study is in line with a series of periodical socio-economic studies initiated by the Galilee Society over twenty years ago, through which, the status of individuals, households and the community has been monitored.

The statistics provided by the Galilee Society are considered a cornerstone for future planning for our community. The statistical figures cover many aspects of life: population structure, housing conditions, housing crisis, labor force, living standards, education, culture, media, health, environment, identity, electoral participation and social capital. The data is disaggregated by geographical areas, taking into account town-size, including mixed cities and the unrecognized villages in the Naqab. It should be noted that the current survey contains a new chapter on social capital, which will enable researchers, and all those interested, further examination of the many aspects of this important topic and its impact on the development of our society. The addition of this chapter is in line with our community’s need for this important information at this stage and in line with the project for developing human capacities in Arab society. This project, led by the High Follow-up Committee for Arab Citizens, in partnership with the civil society and local Arab authorities; among which the Galilee Society is considered a central pillar and partner.

This survey, similar to our other surveys and research studies, reflects our passion and ambition to produce information and knowledge about ourselves, the Palestinian community, to understand our needs, challenges, fears and the possible opportunities we are facing. It aims to influence the development of policies and plans, on local and governmental levels, based on scientific and objective information.

There is no doubt that the huge database collected over the past years is an important achievement and a pioneering national project for Palestinian civil society and for our community.
society as a whole. It includes the characteristics of individuals, households and towns, in addition to vital issues, such as the violence epidemic, the housing crisis and internally displaced refugees. The database was built and is being fed with data based on our vision of being producers of knowledge and researchers in the topics and issues that concern us and affirm our existence and expand our choices, believing in the following verse, where Allah says: “As for the foam, it vanishes, [being] cast off; but as for that which benefits the people, it remains on the earth”. In this sense, it is essential that Arab local authorities and high political organizations be effective partners in the development of socially required research studies. Therefore, we take this opportunity and call upon all concerned parties, especially the Committee of Arab Local Authorities, to build an effective strategic partnership with the Galilee Society. We invite you to adopt this research center to become a developmental research tool for the benefit of our society, to contribute to understanding our reality and positively influencing various development policies.

We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Rikaz and its Director, Mr. Ahmed Al-Sheikh Mohammad, and colleagues: Dr. Mohammad Khatib and Ms. Sawsan Rizik-Marjia for the great efforts they made to produce this research. We also extend our gratitude and appreciation to the team of surveyors, who are considered the backbone of the project, as well as to the steering committee that contributed to the success of this work by developing the questionnaire and providing the required professional consultation. We are also grateful to all members of the Galilee Society family for their dedication, assistance and commitment to doing the best for our society.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and its President, Dr. Ola Awad, and the staff of PCBS for the great support as well as the important strategic partnership between our institutions, which is being renewed and boosted further over the years.

With respect and appreciation

**Mr. Baker Awawdy**
General Director

**Dr. Jamal Dakdouky**
Chairperson of Board of Directors

The Galilee Society –
The National Arab Society for Health Research and Services
Who are we

The Galilee Society is the largest and deep-rooted Arab professional association in the Palestinian society, established in 1981. Four pioneer physicians initiated the establishment of the Society for the purpose of improving the health status of the Palestinians in the country; they are, namely: Hatem Kana’neh, Anwar Awad, Shukri Atallah and Rona Makaay.

Currently, the Society is working on improving the health and environmental conditions of the Palestinian society in Israel and asserting their rights in these areas through research studies, technological development, public action and influencing domestic and national policies.

The Society employs specialists from related fields as well as researchers in the fields of social and biotechnological research.

The Galilee Society is a leading non-partisan professional organization in the field of health and environment. It has become a reference for community-wide knowledge, information and cooperation, researchers, students, schools, local authorities, civil society organizations, the Ministry of Health and academic and other research institutions. The Galilee Society is well known among the Palestinian and research communities as a leading organization in biotechnology academic research which aims to find suitable solutions for environmental problems such as olive oil waste, treatment of industrial sewage, bioenergy and medical herbs.
Scope of Work

Research and development

The Society works in the field of research through the Institute of Applied Research in Shafa’amr which is equipped with modern laboratories and employs the best researchers in the field. During its process the Society established seven start-up companies; one of them is the well-known “Enzymotec” company, a business and large factory that employs approximately 200 workers in “Majdal Haa’mek”.

The Institute is supervised by the University of Haifa and is recognized by the Ministry of Science and Technology. Its main objectives are:

- Development of applied regional research in the fields of environment, health, agriculture and medicinal herbs, biotechnology, molecular biology and others.
- Improving the health, economic and social conditions of the community through applied research that benefits the public.
- Developing innovative technologies and industries.
- Building networks of cooperation with researchers in research institutions in the country and the world and initiating joint research proposals.
- Investing in young researchers and developing human capital in the region.
- Developing relations with local authorities, city federations, industries, public and agricultural institutions and schools.
- Strengthening relations with the society through education and counselling.

Rikaz- Databank

“Rikaz” is an institute for applied social research within the Galilee Society. “Rikaz” is characterized by being an institution working in and for the Palestinian society. It works on diagnosing issues that require research in the Palestinian society, in addition to gathering, analyzing and processing socio-economic information on a regular basis. “RIKAZ”’s work is characterized by a research methodology based on personal interviews, reaching a very wide sample of the Palestinian community from the Galilee to the Naqab, and reflecting the diversity of the Palestinian society (for example, living in a recognized / unrecognized village, a mixed / unmixed town, small / medium / large town).

“Rikaz” aims to be a reliable and up-to-date source of information to form the basis for the strategic social planning of the Palestinian community in the country. Through RIKAZ’s research the attitudes and perceptions of the Palestinian society reach decision makers.

“Rikaz” Objectives:
- Producing reliable and updated data on Palestinian society in Israel in the social, economic, health and environmental fields for academic research and policy
development at the local and national levels.

• Developing the knowledge produced by the surveys to draw a holistic picture through the use of information from other sources (Central Bureau of Statistics, National Insurance Institute and others) and making it available to the public.

• Working to help decision makers and following up the needs of the Palestinian society, as well as using the information available to develop policies and allocate in-kind resources to meet these needs.

Center for Environmental Justice

The Center for Environmental Justice views environmental security as a fundamental human right that must be equally accessible to all citizens, allowing them to live in a sustainable and healthy environment. The Center works to promote environmental values and behaviors among the public, to raise awareness and advocate for the realization of environmental rights and to achieve environmental justice for the Palestinian society in this country. The Center’s work is based on three strategies: community education and awareness, advocacy, and surveying and research.

Objectives of the Center for Environmental Justice:

• Protecting the environmental rights of the Palestinian society through prosecution, deterrence, regional campaigns and the dissemination of environmental research and surveys.

• Raising the awareness within the Palestinian society regarding the importance of preserving the quality of the environment and promoting environment friendly practices.

• Enabling citizen groups to take effective measures on environmental issues through professional counselling and training.

• Fostering professional dialogue with local, regional and international organizations on environmental rights of interest to the Palestinian Arab society in Israel.

Center for Health Rights

The right to health is a fundamental right guaranteed by international laws and charters. However, implementation of this right in Israel varies from one region to another and is affected by the distance from the center, the level of awareness, socio-economic levels and ethnic affiliation. Through its various activities and partnerships, the Galilee Society works to monitor and compare the level of health services provided to Arab citizens and follow up the gaps between the Center and the other regions and between the Arab and Jewish societies. This is in addition to its long-term work in health awareness and education through various in-kind projects.

The Galilee Society is participating in developing a special multi-faceted and multiyear program for promoting the Arabs’ health status in Israel led by the prime CEO of the health
ministry Mr. Nir Kidar. The partners base the program on Rikaz’ data in order to provide solutions that fit the Arab society.

The management team of the Galilee Society has a number of professional personalities (The names are listed in alphabetical order):

1. Professor Ashraf Ebriq, researcher in the “Technion”, he is a recipient of the “Tibaa’” Award for Excellence in the name of Elie Horofitz.
2. Ms. Afnan Al Haj Ali, quality control researcher
3. Dr. Jamal Daqdouki, A clinical psychologist and the director of the “Shafi” unit (psychological counselling service) in Kufr-Kanna.
4. Professor Husam Hayek, researcher in the “Technion” and is ranked as one of the top 35 researchers in the world.
5. Dr. Rema’ Da’aas, researcher in statistics
6. Dr. Rozland Dae’em - lecturer, the Academic College of Haifa
7. Dr. M’badda Naoum, a prominent physician in the Arabic society
8. Ms. Nadira Khouryya, Pharmacist and works in heath development
9. Mr. Wael Omari - Nurse and social activist
10. Mr. Baker Awawdy, General Director of the Socie

Funding Resources:

- Competing in funding research at the local and international levels, tenders from various government ministries and international research funds.
- EU: Competing in tenders.
- Self-resourced from the revenues of research services.
- Returns from patents and start-ups.
- Income from educational activities.
- Local and international donors.
The 5th Socio-economic Survey, 2017

Survey Objectives:

The socioeconomic survey’s goal is to provide up-to-date statistical data on the following subjects:

Demographic characteristics of the Palestinian population in Israel; their health situation; environmental hazards and conditions; educational characteristics; workforce and workforce participation characteristics; housing situation and conditions, as well as a wider look at the housing crisis; decision making in the household; standard and quality of life in Palestinian households in Israel; participation in municipal and national elections; social capital and social solidarity; self-identification; and finally, leisure and culture.

Methods

The survey sample was 1,890 Palestinian households, which were distributed according to the size of the statistical stratum, of which 930 households were in the North, (31 statistical areas from 28 towns), 330 households in Haifa district (11 statistical areas from 9 towns), 390 households in the South (13 statistical areas from 11 towns, of which 6 are unrecognized), and 240 households in the Center (8 statistical areas from 8 towns). Also included in the sample are the mixed cities of Haifa, Natseret Illit, Acre, Jaffa and Ramla (6 statistical areas which have 180 households); as well as the unrecognized villages in the Naqab. The data collection took place during the period of February to May 2017 by the fieldwork team.

Main Findings Summary

Demography

In the first half of 2016, 1,421,500 Palestinians lived in Israel, making up around 17.2% of the population. Over the past decade the family structure of the Palestinians in Israel changed; families became smaller, and accordingly the percentage of children in the general population decreased. This change comes alongside an increase in the population aged 65 and over, and points to changes not only in the Palestinian family structure, but also in the population structure which is becoming older, despite children still making up a relatively large portion of the population. In addition, over the last decade, the marriage age of Palestinian women in Israel went up.
Housing and Housing Conditions

Data shows that over the past decade the percentage of persons living in private homes has gone down in favor of apartments. This data also points to the increase in high-rise buildings in Palestinian towns, as well as apartment living in mixed cities. An examination of the current and future housing needs of the community shows that current private land availability is not enough to meet those needs. This reality has led to social, familial and personal pressure in Palestinian towns in Israel, as well as distrust in the local and national State institutions.

Nearly a third of the population are certain the solution to the housing crisis lies first in expanding the building areas in the Arab towns, while a fifth see it in the allocation and selling of State lands at reasonable prices to citizens. Another fifth of the population think the solution to the housing crisis lies in dense, multistory buildings in Arab towns.

In 2017, there still exists households which are not connected to basic infrastructure such as water, electricity and the sewage system; a situation which has severe health and environmental ramifications. Additional municipal infrastructure such as public parks and playgrounds for children do not exist near the residence of nearly half the Palestinian population in Israel. Most of the population is connected to network (communication) infrastructure (landlines, mobile phones, and internet).

In the past decade, private car ownership increased by nearly a quarter. Today, most households own at least one private car. This trend comes alongside the lack of quality public transportation solutions in the Arab towns.

Workforce

The most remarkable phenomenon from the last decade is the increase, by more than two-thirds, of women participating in the workforce. Among employed women, a fifth are part-time employees and nearly half work in their field of qualification. Around half of all women with higher education said the main motivation behind their participation in the workforce is their education, for women with no higher academic education the reason for participation was the need for monetary compensation.

Examining the professional segmentation among Palestinian men, most are employed in industrial and manual labor; a small percentage work in academic professions compared to a quarter of Jewish men. The gap between women who work in academic professions is much smaller. Nearly a third of all women work in education, a quarter work in trade, and a fifth work in health professions.

Living Standard

Most Palestinian households in Israel rely on income from work, while a quarter rely on welfare and pensions. Both the income and expenses gaps between Jews and Palestinians in 2017 is still high at around two-thirds. This gap stems, among other reasons, from the high employment rates in labor intensive yet low-paying jobs (industry, manual labor,
trade and education), and the low number of employees in the academic professions. The income source is divided into three main branches - Israeli private sector, Palestinian private sector, and public sector.

Nearly 40% of all families reported economic hardship, a third are paying monthly loans; in contrast, 37%, (and more than 50% in the Center) state that their economic situation is good. A worrying figure that arises from the survey is that the average household spends almost 500 ILS a month on tobacco and cigarettes.

Education

7.6% of Palestinians ages five and up study in higher academic institutions, over two-thirds of them study in colleges and universities in Israel, while a third study in foreign countries, specifically Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. Most female Palestinian students in Israel study education, while most men (nearly two thirds) study medicine and health professions, mostly outside Israel. A closer look into the gender division reveals that the number of female students in Israel is double the number of male students, although 42.2% of male students study in foreign countries, compared to only a quarter of female students.

Leisure, Culture and Media

A quarter of the population read books, newspapers, and magazines and women are more likely to than men. More than half read in both Arabic and Hebrew, a little more than a third read only in Arabic.

The most common activity in leisure hours is spending time with family and friends. Almost the entire Palestinian population in Israel watch TV on a daily basis, or occasionally. Around two thirds of the population use computers, three quarters use mobile phones. The percentage increases among the younger population and women also use their phones more than men.

Health

One of the most remarkable and worrying points when examining the changes in the health situation of the Palestinian population in Israel over the past decade is the 10% increase in cigarette smoking among ages 15 and up. This data is in contrast with trends in the West and in the decrease in the percentage of smokers in the Jewish society in Israel. Other worrying trends are the increase of hookah smokers and smoking hookah and cigarettes starting at a young age.

Nearly a sixth of the population suffers from a at least one chronic illness, mainly diabetes and hypertension. A sixth also experience difficulties carrying out daily tasks due to health reasons.

Healthy lifestyle; less than a sixth of the population exercises on a regular basis, another quarter exercises once in a while. Running and walking are the most common forms of exercise.
Data shows an increase in the percentage of first degree relations marriage at around a quarter in 2017; in the South the percentage stands at 40%.

Environment

A third of the population is exposed to noise pollution, which according to the Ministry for Environmental Protection can pose a hazard with dire health consequences1. A quarter of the population is exposed to smoke and smell hazards which may also have health ramifications.

Identity and Religiosity

Most of the population ages 15 and up define their first or second identity as Arab. A third define their first or second identity as Palestinian, a fifth define themselves as Israeli. Religious affiliation is a significant component of the identity for nearly half the population and mainly forms a complementary identity to their Arab identity when it is second.

Participation in Elections

Most of the Palestinian population participates in municipal elections whether on a regular basis or occasionally. Participation rates are especially high among the educated and men. The percentage of regular voters to the Knesset is significantly lower (less than half the population), only a third vote occasionally.

Most of the population identifies a certain worthwhileness in participating in municipal elections, compared to two thirds regarding Knesset elections.

Evaluation of Services and Infrastructure in Area of Residence

The survey findings show that most of the population is highly or somewhat satisfied with public transportation services, while only a fifth are not satisfied at all. There exists dissatisfaction mainly regarding municipal infrastructure, especially in regards to green spaces and the situation of the streets and sidewalks. The shortage of green spaces and playgrounds has a significant impact on the life and health of the residents who lack places for physical exercise, social and communal activities. Generally speaking, one can note that there is a significant difference between the level of satisfaction among Palestinian citizens of Israel living in mixed communities, compared to Palestinians not living in mixed communities. Residents of mixed cities tend to be more satisfied with the different services: transportation, streets, green spaces, and traffic.

Evaluation of Living Conditions

When examining the general level of satisfaction from life, data shows that over 85% of the population are highly or reasonably satisfied with their life. Though when examining the situation in the Naqab, especially the unrecognized villages, over half of the residents are not satisfied at all with their life, compared to 10% of the general Palestinian population in Israel.

Most of the population is satisfied or very satisfied with their economic situation, most are also satisfied with the education system and the health services in the State.

Perception of the future; the educated are optimistic, over two thirds of those are certain that a positive change will happen in their lives, compared to a quarter of those with low education.

**Social Capital and Social Consolidation**

The level of trust in public servants, both at the local and national level, is partial (40%); less than a third of the population stated they completely trust public servants.

Feeling safe walking alone at night near their area of residence changes in accordance with people’s region and gender. Women feel less safe than men, and there is a big gap between residents in the center and the north.

A worrying figure is the high rates of those who feel taken advantage of (often or sometimes), by others (75%). This figure is in addition to nearly two thirds who stated they cannot trust others or expressed doubts regarding others’ intentions. Here again, there is a gap between residents of the Center and residents of the North. The gap between mixed cities and non-mixed cities is small. The figures regarding feeling taken advantage of are higher in the unrecognized village in the Naqab, at over half the population. There, also, the percentage who are certain people care more about themselves than others is the highest.
Abstract

The survey sample was 1,890 Palestinian households, which were distributed according to the size of the statistical stratum, of which 930 households were in the North, (31 statistical areas from 28 towns), 330 households in Haifa district (11 statistical areas from 9 towns), 390 households in the South (13 statistical areas from 11 towns, of which 6 are unrecognized), and 240 households in the Center (8 statistical areas from 8 towns). Also included in the sample are the mixed cities of Haifa, Natseret Illit, Acre, Jaffa and Ramla (6 statistical areas which have 180 households) as well as the unrecognized villages in the Naqab. The data collection took place during the period of February to May 2017 by the fieldwork team.

The main results:

Population

- The Palestinians constitute about 17.3% of the total population in Israel
- The Palestinian society in Israel is still characterized by being very young, the percentage of individuals up to 14 years of age is 34.1% (compared to 26.7% among the Jewish population in 2015).
- The demographic structure of Palestinian society in Israel is changing and is marked by a decrease in the percentage of children under the age of 14, now 34.1% compared with 40.3% in 2007, and an increase in the percentage of those 65 years old and above from 3.2% in 2007 to 4.4% in the recent survey. In addition, there has been an increase in the median age
- 60.0% of the Palestinians (15 years and above) in Israel are married (58.9% of men and 60.8% of women). It should be noted that 7.4% of men were married more than once (5.0% in the North compared with 30.4% in the South).
- The median age at the first marriage among women increased in the past decade (21
years in 2017 compared with 20 years in 2007). In contrast, there was no change in the median age of marriage for men (25 years)

- The average size of Palestinian households in Israel was 5.15 persons compared to 5.6 in 2007.
- 3.8% of men stated that they changed their place of residence, of which 14.7% changed because of the housing crisis, 14.2% for work reasons, and 3.2% due to quality of life.
- 24.0% of all marriages take place among first degree relatives, while the percentage of another relationship (including second degree and other relationship) reached 17.7%. The percentage of marriages among first degree relatives reached 40.5% in the South.

**Housing and housing conditions**

- 41.6% of Palestinian households live in apartments compared with 24.6% in 2007. In contrast, the percentage of households who live in independent houses decreased to 53.0% in comparison with 73.2% in 2007.
- 90.3% of Palestinian households in Israel own the houses they live in compared to 89.4% in 2007.
- 4.5% of the Palestinian housing units are not connected to the public water network, while 8.8% are not connected to the public electricity network and 13.6% are not connected to the public sewage network.
- 37.5% of Palestinian households have no land line telephone, while 93.1% have at least one cellular phone.
- 61.0% of Palestinian households have a computers (51.6% of the households have a PC and 42.7% of them have a laptop).
- 45.6% of Palestinian household have an internet connection, 76.6% of households that own computers have an internet connection.
- 82.7% of Palestinian households own at least one private car (in comparison with 67.3% in 2007).
- 53.1% of Palestinian households suffer from a lack of playgrounds and public gardens. 37.9% of households reported that there is no children’s playground, and 32.9% responded that they lack a nearby cultural center.

**Housing Crisis**

- 59.5% of Palestinian households in the Israel need at least one housing unit during the next ten years 28.9% need only one housing unit while 18.4% of expressed their need for two units, and 10.1% of the households expressed their need for three or more housing units during the next ten years.
- In the next five years, 46.4% of the households in need of at least one housing unit
cannot secure any needed housing; this percentage is higher in the North at 53.4% of the needy households.

- 54.6% of the households in need for one housing unit stated that cannot secure that unit.
- 75.1% of individuals strongly agree that the absence of government housing projects in the Arab towns is one of the causes of the current housing crisis, while 72.0% agreed that the housing crisis is caused by the difficult economic situation of Palestinian families.
- 76.2% of citizens strongly agreed that the housing crisis has "a negative effect on Arab youth psychology"
- There was a strong agreement, 68.8% that the housing crisis caused "delaying the age of marriage among youth"
- About two thirds of Palestinian citizens (66.7%) strongly agree that the housing crisis has a negative effect on social relations, and 64.8% agree it has a negative effect on household inter-relations,
- The survey also showed poor trust in the government and the state at 62.4% and poor trust in the local authorities by 60.1% of Palestinian citizens.
- As for possible solutions for the housing crisis, 88.1% of the Palestinian population consider ‘the allocation and selling of state land to citizens at reasonable prices’ as a possible solution, ‘government facilitation in licensing operations’ was seen as a solution by 84.7% and 84.4% consider ‘planning the expansion of the construction’ a solution
- In regards to priorities, 30.3% of Palestinian citizens consider the ‘expansion of the construction in Arab localities’ as the first priority to solve the housing crisis, followed by ‘the allocation and selling of state land to citizens at reasonable prices’ at 21.5%, then 21.1% considered the priority as ‘the construction of multi-floors and flats building in the Arab towns’, putting it in third place.

Labor Force

- The labor force participation rate among Palestinians (15 years and above) (both sexes) reached 49.9%.
- The participation rate in the labor market for Arab men is stable at 66.6%, in comparison with a sharp increase for the women participation rate at 32.9% in 2017 compared with 18.9% in 2007.
- The unemployment rate among Palestinians in Israel reached 3.7% (6.6% among Arab women compared to 2.2% among men); it decreased in the Center to only 1.0%.
- 31.5% of those outside the labor force said it was due to their study and education (44.1% among men and 25.3% among women)
- 5.9% of the labor force non-participants reported it was due to the absence of work in
their specialization or in their place of residence.

- The percentage of the part time employed persons was 9.9% (4.1% among males and 21.9% among females).
- 40.2% of the employed women said that the economic return is the main encouraging factor for their going to work.
- It was found that 51.1% of women with higher education indicated that their earned qualifications are the motive for their participation in the labor market, while the economic return is the main motive among women with less education.
- Data showed that 82.6% of employed Arab males and females stated that they are paid employees, in comparison with 16.6% as employers (19.4% among males and 10.7% among females).
- According to the data of the current survey, 40.7% of Arab employees work in their fields of specialization (44.0% among females and 39.2% among males).
- 59.2% of Arab men work in craft and related trade works, while the percentage of men employed in the academic professions was 6.5% compared to 7.4% among women. Moreover, for Jewish men the percentage employed in academic professions was 25.0% and it was 8.8% for Jewish women.
- It was found that about one third (32.2%) of the Arab men work in the construction sector compared to only 5.5% of the Jewish men.
- The teaching profession is the main economic sector for employed Arab women as 31.1% work in this profession, compared to 19.4% among Jewish women. The trade sector constituted 26.1% of Arab women’s employment and the health services sector was 16.3%.

**Living Standards**

- 56.8% of the Palestinian households in Israel rely on wages and salaries as their basic source of income.
- The sources of wages and salaries are distributed in three main sectors: 22.0% from the Israeli private sector, 20.7% from the Arab private sector and 14.1% from the public sector.
- In total, 73.4% of the Palestinian households in Israel rely on a source of income from employment, while 20.8% of them depend on benefits and 4.4% on retirement.
- The average net monthly income of the Palestinian household in Israel was NIS 10,733. The income of the Arab household still accounts for about two-thirds of the income of the Jewish household.
- The average monthly expenditure of Palestinian households in Israel was NIS 9,340 making up about three-quarters of what a household spends in Israel, where the average of expenditure for the year 2015 was about NIS 12,323.
- The Arab household spends more than a quarter of its expenses (26.2%) on food.
and drink, while the expenses on education amounted to 6.2%, health services and insurance amounted to 4.0%, Tobacco and cigarettes constituted 5.2% of the expenditure and social events about 2.1%.

- 25.1% of Arab households assess their economic status as difficult or very difficult, increasing to 30.9% in the South. On the other hand, 37.8% of the households felt that their economic status is good, and this percentage increased in the Center to 55.5%.
- The percentage of Palestinian households that have great difficulty or are not able to cover their monthly needs was 39.4%.
- About one third (32.1%) of Arab households pay monthly loans, excluding housing and mortgage loans which amounted to 9.0%.

**Education**

- The overall literacy rate among the Palestinian population in Israel (15 years and above) reached 96.4%.
- The educational enrollment rate among the Palestinian population in Israel from the age of 5 years and above reached 37.6%.
- The enrollment rate in high education (colleges and universities) for Arab citizens was 8.8%, 6.1% among males and 11.5% among females.
- 11.8% of Palestinian individuals study currently in academic institutions.
- 2.8% of the Arab population (5 years and above) never enrolled in education; this percentage increased among the population in the South to 4.8%.
- The percentage of dropout among the Arab population for individuals 5 years and above reached 21.8%, 23.0% among males and 20.5% among females.
- 13.3% of the Arab population completed 13 years of schooling, 12.0% among males and 14.7% among females.
- The percentage of those holding a bachelor degree and above was 9.1%, an increase from 7.5% in 2007.
- The most common specialization among women is the educational sciences and teachers training at 37.6% compared to 13.5% for men.
- 18.4% of women chose paramedical professions for their study (compared to 8.6% in 2007).
- The data indicated that 68.4% of students for higher degrees study in Israeli colleges and universities; the percentage of those who study in the universities was 17.9% while it was 50.4% for those who study in the Israeli colleges.
- About 31.6% of the students for higher degrees study abroad, of which 18.5% in Arab countries (Jordan and Palestine specifically) and 13.2% in European educational institutions.
• 31.5% of the male students chose paramedical professions, while 27.2% chose to study medicine, most of them in universities outside the country.

• 18.6% of female students chose the paramedical professions, 18.0% of them chose the social sciences, 13.8% the education and teachers training and about 10.4% chose medicine.

Culture and Media

• 76.1% of Palestinians (15 years and above) did not read any books during the last month before the survey and 23.9% read one book or more, 28.2% of females and 19.4% of males.

• 22.0% of individuals (15 years and above) stated that they read websites and electronic newspapers on a frequent basis of males and 24.6% of females.

• The results showed a significant difference in the percentage of reading websites and electronic newspapers, according to the geographic regions; this percentage was 69.9% in the North compared with 28.8% in the South.

• Only 14.0% stated that they always read newspapers and about 29.1% read them sometimes; this percentage is lower than the 2007 figures of 38.9% and 21.5% for the frequency of always and sometimes respectively.

• 9.6% of the printed newspaper and magazine readers stated that they read them in Hebrew, 55.7% read in both Arabic and Hebrew and 34.0% of them read in Arabic only.

• Spending time with family is the most common activity among the Palestinians; 61.7% said they always spend time with family and 36.2% they sometimes do, while 2.1% of them do not spend time with the family at all.

• 88.2% stated that they visit family and friends either always or sometimes.

• 41.3% of the population (15 years and above) did not undertake any hobby in the past month, and 63.2% of the population (15 years and above) did not have an outing during the month prior to the survey.

• 14.6% of the individuals (15 years and above) participated in training courses during the year prior to the survey compared with 6.0% in 2007. This percentage increased to 28.0% for the participation among those having a college degree and above; demonstrating a correlation with individuals’ qualifications and participating in training courses.

• 47.6% of Palestinians (15 years and above) reported that they went on vacation inside the country in the last year, while 32.2% traveled abroad for vacation, in comparison to 35.4% for inside the country and 19.8% outside the country in 2007.

• The percentage of Palestinians (5 years and above) who use computers was 59.9%, 61.2% of males and 58.6% of females. The age group 10-14 years is the group with the highest use of computers at 92.2%.
Among regions, Haifa had the highest percentage of persons using computers at 67.8% compared with the South, the lowest at 56.6%.

76.9% of individuals (5 years and above) have cellular phones compared with 54.6% in 2007.

10.8% of children in the age group 5-9 years have a cellular phone in comparison to 38.0% for the children in the age group of 10-14 years.

49.2% of individuals stated that they use the computer either always or sometimes, 68.8% of them stated that their main purpose for using the computer was the Internet, 60.5% said communication and social networks was also the purpose and 37.3% said that they use the computer for the purpose of study and education.

The most frequent purpose for using computers was communication and social networks at 24.7% and entertainment at 21.8%.

The use of cellular phones for the internet was wide at 62.2%.

36.5% of the Internet users reported that they use it in Arabic, 30.1% among males and 43.0% among females, compared with 49.8% using the internet in both Arabic and Hebrew, and 7.7% of them using it only in Hebrew.

69.6% of individuals (15 years and above) stated that they have an active e-mail, distributed by 68.5% for males and 70.6% for females.

Watching TV is the main entertainment for Palestinians, as the percentage of persons who always watch TV is 40.7% and 53.7% for sometimes.

82.2% of males (15 years and above) stated that they are good at speaking Hebrew, compared with 63.5% for the females.

16.9% of males stated that they speak good English, compared with 22.2% for females.

**Health**

14.8% of the Palestinians in Israel reported that they suffer from chronic diseases, 15.6% among women, and 14.0% among men.

7.6% of the Palestinian population in Israel reported that they suffer from diabetes, 6.8% suffer from high blood pressure, 3.1% suffer from Cardiac disease, and 5.3% suffer from Lipids and cholesterol.

12.7% of the Palestinians in Israel suffer from a certain health difficulty in their daily functions, either a slight difficulty or a large difficulty in performing their daily tasks.

The results of the survey showed that the marriage of relatives is still prevalent among the Palestinians in Israel, and even increased over the last ten years 24.1% of the married women reported that they have a first-degree relation with their husbands compared with 18.1% in 2007.

The South has a significant percentage of relatives’ marriage at 40.5% for first degree relation and 25.3% for other type of relations.
The percentage of smokers among individuals (15 years and above) in the Palestinian society in Israel was 31.6%, 54.4% of males and 7.7% of females, in comparison with 21.6% in 2007, 39.1% among males and 3.7% among females.

13.7% of individuals ages 15-17 years old are smokers; it increased among males in this age group to 20.8% and among females it was at 5.0%.

10.7% of the Palestinians individuals in Israel (15 years and above) reported that they smoke narghila, 16.6% of males and 4.6% of females.

The percentage of nargila smokers among the young males and females in the age group of 15-17 years was 9.6%, 13.9% of males and 4.3% of females. This percentage among the age group of 18-24 years increased to 16.6%, 28.6% of males and 4.3% of females.

37.0% of the population (15 years and above) stated that they practice sport, of which 13.8% practice on a frequent basis and 23.2% practice it sometimes. The data showed that males were more active than females as it was 44.0% among males and 30.4% among females.

The most common sport among individuals (15 years and above) was walking which was practiced by 71.8% (68.8% by males and 75.9% by females) followed by running at 45.5% (50.7% by males and 38.1% by females). The percentage practicing football among males was 52.0%, while dancing was practiced by 31.8% of females.

46.3% of individuals considered that their health status was excellent, while 34.0% of them assessed it as good, and 12.2% said that it was okay.

35.9% of Palestinians over the age of 15 years suffered from being overweight, and 13.5% were assessed as obese. This percentage gradually increased with age.

Men were more overweight than women (40.3% for men compared with 31.4% for women). The percentage of obesity was 13.5% for men and 13.4% for women. In addition, men were more overweight than women in all age groups, while women were more obese than men in most age groups.

Environment

As for the environmental status and some environmental hazards, the survey showed that 30.6% of Palestinian households suffered from the problem of noise in the surroundings of their housing units, the region most suffering from noise was the North at 35.2% while it was 16.9% in Haifa.

25.8% of Palestinian households reported that they suffered from smoke in the surroundings of their housing units either very often or sometimes.

71.7% of Palestinian households reported that the water quality was good, while 25.2% stated that it was of moderate quality, and 3.1% said that the water they received was of bad quality.

24.4% of the households stated that they suffered from odor in their housing unit surroundings; 17.8% of were exposed sometimes and 6.6% were exposed very often.
Identity and Religiosity

- 76.1% of the population (15 years and above) identified as Arabs in their first self-identification, while 17.0% of them identified by their religious affiliation (Muslim, Christian and Druze) in their first self-identification.
- 4.1% identified as Palestinians first and to 2.1% first self-identified as Israelis.
- The religious affiliation was identified by 37.3% as a second self-identification, while 28.8% of them said that their second self-identification is Palestinians, 21.5% of them as Israelis and 12.3% of them as Arabs.
- 33.9% of the Palestinians (15 years and above) in Israel stated that they are committed and always practicing religious rituals, compared with 15.5% who are not committed at all.
- 75.0% of the individuals with no qualification indicated that they are always committed and practice religious rituals; compared with 28.6% among individuals with a college degree and above.

Electoral Participation

- 65.9% of the Palestinians (18 years and above) participate in the local elections frequently, 71.8% among males and 60.1% among females, while 23.4% stated that they participate sometimes. The participation in local elections is positively affected by individuals qualifications, as 73.5% among those with a college certificate and above participate compared with 60.9% for those with no educational attainment.
- 43.8% of the population participate on a frequent basis in the parliamentary elections, while the percentage of those who participate sometimes was 34.4%, and 19.1% do not participate at all. The percentage of participation on a frequent basis increased by the educational attainment and reached 62.2% for those with college certificate and above, compared with 26.0% for those with low education.
- 57.9% of the Palestinians (18 years and above) stated that participation in local elections was of great benefit, while 24.3% of them said it was of moderate benefit, and 17.9% of them said there was low or no benefit from participating in the local elections.
- 33.4% of the Palestinian population believe that there was low or no benefit at all from participation in the parliamentary elections.

Assessment of Some Services and Infrastructure in the Towns

- 39.7% expressed high satisfaction with the public transportation service in the town, while 40.9% stated moderate satisfaction; on the contrary 19.4% were dissatisfied.
- 55.2% expressed their dissatisfaction with the green areas in their towns. In contrast, 18.0% were very satisfied, while 26.8% of stated moderate satisfaction.
- 39.8% of the population were dissatisfied with the streets and pavements in their towns, while 26.4% expressed great satisfaction and 33.8% responded with moderate satisfaction.
- In general, there is a significant variance in the degree of citizens’ satisfaction with the level of services in the mixed localities compared to other Arab localities. The
residents in the mixed localities are more satisfied with transportation, streets, green areas and road traffic.

**Individuals Assessment of Current and Future Life**

- 54.3% of all individuals (18 years and above) expressed their satisfaction with their lives (satisfied or very satisfied), while 35.8% were somewhat satisfied. On the other hand, 9.9% were dissatisfied.
- The Naqab residents were the least satisfied; 21.9% of them were dissatisfied with their lives, and this percentage increased to 52.6% for those living in the unrecognized villages.
- 13.3% of the population believe that their lives will be worse in the future, while 38.2% believe there will be no change. The percentage of optimism among those with high educational attainment increased to 69.4% compared to 25.2% for those with a low level of education.
- 53.7% of individuals in the Naqab believed that their lives will be better in the future, in contrast, 6.6% of them stated that it will be worse.
- Despite their dissatisfaction with their current situation, the vast majority of the residents of the unrecognized villages believed that there will be no change in their lives in the future, while 11.1% expected their lives will be worse and only 17.4% of them expected a better life.
- 15.5% were dissatisfied with their economic status, in contrast, 40.6% were satisfied, while 43.9% expressed moderate satisfaction.
- 57.3% of individuals (18 years and above) expressed satisfaction with the education system (17.8% for satisfied and 39.5% for very satisfied), while 36.1% were somewhat satisfied, and 6.6% were dissatisfied.
- 69.4% of individuals said that they were very satisfied or satisfied with the health services in the country (29.4% very satisfied and 40.0% satisfied), and 24.0% were somewhat satisfied, while 6.5% expressed their dissatisfaction with health services.

**Social Capital**

- 26.7% of individuals (18 years and above) expressed their mistrust in the employees of their local authorities, and 44.6% said they somewhat trusted them. On the other hand, 28.6% trusted the employees of local authorities.
- The mistrust in employees of their local authorities increased among youth groups compared to older ages; about 33.8% of individuals aged 20-24 years mistrust the employees of local authorities, it decreased to 20.5% of individuals aged 55 years and above.
- The percentage of mistrust in Haifa reached 34.6% and was similar in the South at 34.4%, while it was 29.9% in the Center and decreased to 19.1% in the North.
The percentage of dissatisfaction in the large localities increased at 30.4% compared with 20.2% in the medium localities and 24.6% in the small ones.

27.5% of individuals (18 years and above) mistrust the governmental personnel and 44.7% expressed their moderate trust "somewhat" while 27.8% trust in the governmental personnel.

41.0% of individuals (18 years and above) in the Center mistrust the employees of governmental institutions, 39.5% in the South, 37.2% in Haifa and 16.8% in the North.

88.6% of individuals (18 years and above) were satisfied with their relations with family member, while 8.3% were somewhat satisfied and 2.9% were not satisfied at all.

The results showed that 28.4% of individuals (18 years and above) expressed their feeling of being unsafe while walking in the neighborhood at night, 32.6% for women compared with 24.3% for men.

Only 33.5% of individuals (18 years and above) in the Center felt safe while walking at night in their area of residence, 65.7% in Haifa, 79.0% in the South and 84.3% in the North.

22.8% of individuals (18 years and above) believed that others can be trusted while 29.0% distrust the intentions of others against them.

26.2% of individuals (18 years and above) believed that others try to exploit them, while 48.8% thought that they were somewhat exploited by others, and 25.0% believed that others were fair with them.

The percentage of individuals who experienced attempts to be exploited by others varied between regions: it was 42.4% in the Center, 31.8% in Haifa, 25.6% in the South and 20.0% in the North.

There was an increase in the percentage of individuals who stated that others had attempted to exploit them in mixed cities at 33.6% compared with 25.5% in other Arab localities.

More than half (52.6%) of individuals (18 years and above) stated that others had attempted to exploit them in the unrecognized villages.

29.7% of individuals (18 years and above) stated that people care about themselves only and do not try to help others; in contrast, 22.9% believed that the individuals in society try to help.

The percentage of individuals who believed that others care about themselves was 39.0% in the Center, 31.8% in the South, 26.2% in Haifa and 28.0% in the North.

The percentage of individuals who believed that others care about themselves, increased to 64.1% in the unrecognized villages in Naqb.