1. Historical Facts & Figures

Prior to the 1948 War, Palestinians formed the overwhelming majority in the Jerusalem district and owned most of the land. The last British Survey of Palestine (Dec. 1946) made the following demographic estimates:

**Population pre-1948:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Palestinians</th>
<th>Jews</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>65,010</td>
<td>99,320</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>253,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Districts</td>
<td>150,590</td>
<td>102,520</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>355,270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Property Ownership 1948:**

- **West Jerusalem:**
  - Palestinian: 40.0%
  - Jewish: 26.1%
  - Public: 33.9%

- **Jerusalem Sub-District:**
  - Palestinian: 84.0%
  - Jewish: 2.0%
  - Public: 14.0%

- **Western Villages:**
  - Palestinian: 90.0%
  - Jewish: 10.0%


NB: ‘Public’ includes land owned by Palestinian religious institutions and government land.

- During the War of 1948, Jewish forces captured much of the territory assigned to the proposed Arab state, including 85% of Jerusalem (mainly in the city’s western part and surrounding neighborhoods). The Jordanian Arab Legion took control of the West Bank, including 11% of the eastern part of Jerusalem (including the Old City and adjacent villages). The remaining 4% of the Jerusalem area was considered no-man’s land in which the UN established its headquarters.

- Some 64,000-80,000 Palestinians fled the western part of Jerusalem and the nearby villages. In June 1948, their property came under the control of the Israeli ‘Custodian of Absentee Property’.

- Some 40 Palestinian villages in and around Jerusalem were depopulated, many of them destroyed.
• The 1949 armistice agreement formally divided the city into Jordanian-controlled East and Israeli-controlled West Jerusalem. On 2 Feb. 1949, Israeli PM David Ben-Gurion unilaterally declared that Israeli-held (West) Jerusalem was no longer occupied territory but an integral part of the Israeli state, and on 13 Dec. 1949, West Jerusalem was, according to international law, illegally declared the capital of Israel. On 19 Dec. 1949, the UN General Assembly voted for Res. 303, restating its intention to place Jerusalem under a permanent international regime, which, however, was never implemented.

• After Israel occupied the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in the course of the June War of 1967, the Arab East Jerusalem municipal boundaries, comprising 6.5 km², were expanded through the annexation of an additional 70 km² (70,000 dunums) and some 28 surrounding villages into the State of Israel's territory (added to the 38,000 dunums of West Jerusalem at the time) (B'Tselem, A Policy of Discrimination. Jerusalem, 1995).

• The new municipal boundaries, now embracing 108 km² (East and West Jerusalem), were designed to secure geographic integrity and a demographic Jewish majority in both parts of the city. Thus, many Palestinian populated areas, or parts of them, were excluded (e.g., Ar-Ram, Abu Dis, Izzariya, Qalandia).

• On 28 June 1967, the Knesset amended the Law of 1950, which proclaimed Jerusalem as Israel's capital, to extend illegally Israeli jurisdiction to the eastern part of the city. One of the first moves after the war was the forceful eviction of approx. 650 Palestinians from the Old City's Mughrabi Quarter and the destruction of their houses (at least 135) in order to create a plaza in front of Al-Buraq (Western Wall).

• On 4 July 1967, UN General Assembly Resolution 2253 called upon Israel to “rescind all measures taken (and) to desist forthwith from taking any action which would alter the status of Jerusalem.” In total disregard of the resolution, Israel confiscated over 25,870 dunums of Palestinian land in Jerusalem in the first three years of occupation alone (UN, Report of the Security Council Commission, Nov. 1980 – S-14268).

• Palestinian-owned land was referred to as vacant or unused in order to justify expropriation and to block Palestinian development and housing to drive Palestinians out of the city. Between 1967-1996 some 23,500 dunums of Palestinian land in Jerusalem were expropriated under the 1943 Land (Acquisition Public Purposes) Ordinance, authorizing the Israeli Finance Minister to issue expropriation orders for privately owned land if a ‘public purpose’ existed, which had simply to be defined as such by the Finance Minister (B’Tselem, A Policy of Discrimination. Jerusalem, 1995).

• On 30 July 1980, the Israeli government reaffirmed the 1967 de facto annexation and declared Jerusalem its ‘eternal undivided capital’ through its Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel. Constituting a harsh violation of international law, the move was condemned by UNSC Resolution 478 (20 Aug. 1980), which declared “that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying power, which have altered or purport to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and, in particular, the recent ‘Basic Law’ on Jerusalem, are null and void and must be rescinded forthwith.”
2. Legal Status

- Under international law, East Jerusalem is occupied territory, thus the Fourth Geneva Convention is applicable and Israel has no claim to East Jerusalem by virtue of having taken control of it militarily. The international community rejects Israel’s claim to both West and East Jerusalem as its “eternal undivided capital” and has consistently denounced Israeli attempts to change the character and status of the city, and has never recognized the annexation of East Jerusalem (consequently, most foreign embassies and consulates are in Tel Aviv).

- Under Israeli law, East Jerusalem’s legal status is thus different from that of the rest of the territories occupied in 1967: as permanent residents, Jerusalem Palestinians are entitled to certain benefits denied to Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip (e.g., national insurance and health insurance), they can travel freely and have access to employment in Jerusalem and in Israel. However, they must also pay all the government and municipal taxes that Israel’s citizens pay, cannot leave the country without travel documents (also called ‘laissez-passer’) issued by Israel’s Ministry of the Interior, and are subject to discriminatory laws and policies.

- Palestinians in Jerusalem are entitled to participate in municipal elections (both to vote and to be elected) but in rejection of recognizing Israel’s illegal annexation, only a small percentage does - in October 2013 around 1% of Palestinians voted (http://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=640225).

Jerusalem ID: After the 1967 occupation of East Jerusalem, most Palestinians refused the offer of receiving Israeli citizenship, as this would have required them to take an oath of allegiance to the Israeli state. Upon this refusal, the Israeli authorities decided to acknowledge Palestinians living in Jerusalem as “permanent residents” and issued “Jerusalem Identity Cards” for them. However, residency can be revoked by Israel if one chooses to live abroad or in the Palestinian territories for an extended period of time. (See also Chapter on Residency Rights below).


3. Jerusalem in Negotiations

- The Madrid peace conference in October 1991 delayed negotiations on the issue of Jerusalem because Israel refused to accept it on the agenda (and also rejected representatives from Jerusalem as part of the Palestinian delegation). Neither the official talks in Washington during 1992-93, nor the 1993 Declaration of Principles resulting from the secret Oslo talks, or any of the subsequent 1994/1995 Oslo Accords, added any significant momentum to the issue of Jerusalem. Only “The Framework for the Conclusion of a Final Status Agreement” (better known as Abu Mazen-Beilin Agreement) drawn up by the PLO’s Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin in October 1995 (the existence of which was denied for five years) dared to draft a proposal for Jerusalem, which, however, was not taken into consideration.

- At the July 2000 Camp David Summit, the issue of Jerusalem was for the first time officially tackled; Israel offered the Palestinians responsibilities over some neighborhoods in Jerusalem and discussed Israeli plans for the joint administration of the Old City. However, Israeli demands that Palestinians recognize its settlements established within the West Jerusalem Municipality (WJM) boundaries, in addition to the Jewish historic-religious relationship with the Haram ash-Sharif requiring shared ‘sovereignty’ over the site, were unacceptable and led, inter alia, to the summit’s failure. Negotiations continued nevertheless and in December, US President Clinton offered his “Parameters” to serve as guidelines for final accelerated negotiations (based on which the January 2001 Taba talks took place). On Jerusalem, Clinton suggested “that Arab areas are Palestinian and Jewish ones are Israeli”, that “maximum contiguity for both sides” should be ensured, and that the Haram Al-Sharif be treated less as an administrative than a symbolic issue of sovereignty.

- Since then, all initiatives (Saudi peace plan and Road Map in 2002, the 2003 Geneva Accord, 2007 Annapolis conference, the 2013/14 Kerry talks) have failed to achieve progress, while Israel continues to create facts on the ground, making a viable solution for the city increasingly impossible.

- On 28 November 2017 a Knesset Committee cleared for a final vote a bill requiring the support of two-thirds of the Knesset to approve any decision to cede Israeli sovereignty over any part of Jerusalem under a possible future two-state solution or peace deal.
PASSIA Factsheet 2018

### Population

Since 1967, successive Israeli governments have worked to limit the number of Palestinians in Jerusalem. The Israeli 1967 census counted 66,000 Palestinians living in East Jerusalem within the new municipal borders and classified them as “permanent residents of Jerusalem”; those who were absent (studying or visiting, etc.) had later to apply for family reunification to the Interior Ministry (see Residency Rights below). According to Israeli records, the city’s 1967 ratio was 25.8% Arabs and 74.2% Jews and the 1973 ministerial “Gafni Commission” stipulated that a demographic balance be maintained at a ratio of 30:70.

However, at the end of 2015, the **total population** of Jerusalem was 865,720 - 37.4% (323,720) of them Palestinians and 61.1% (528,710) Jews, comprising 10.2% of Israel’s total population (Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research Studies, Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2017).

![Population of Jerusalem](image)

### Selected Demographic Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jews &amp; Others</th>
<th>Palestinians</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POPULATION</strong> (end of 2015)</td>
<td>542,000 (62.6%)</td>
<td>323,720 (37.4%)</td>
<td>865,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of which</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Jews</td>
<td>528,700 (61.1%)</td>
<td>311,130 (35.9%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- settlers in East Jerusalem</td>
<td>204,680</td>
<td>12,420 (1.8%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Muslims</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Arab Christians</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Non-Arab Christians</td>
<td>10,100 (1.2%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- not classified by religion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Projected Population 2020</strong></td>
<td>587,200 (61.2%)</td>
<td>371,700 (38.8%)</td>
<td>958,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Growth Rate 2015</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- total 1967-2010</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- average 2010-2015</td>
<td>155%</td>
<td>314%</td>
<td>196%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population by age</strong> (2015) in %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 0-14 yrs.</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>37.1 (Muslims: 38.1, Christians:21)</td>
<td>33.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 15-44 yrs.</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>45.9 (Muslims: 45.6, Christians: 44.3)</td>
<td>42.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 45-64 yrs.</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>13 (Muslims: 12.6, Christians: 21)</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 65+ yrs.</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>4 (Muslims: 3.6, Christians: 13.8)</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Median age</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>20.8 (Muslims: 20.4, Christians: 33.6)</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Birth Rate</strong> (2015; per 1,000)</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fertility Rate</strong> (2015)</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td>3.23 (Muslims: 3.32)</td>
<td>3.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Natural Increase</strong> (2015; per 1,000)</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of households</strong> (2015)</td>
<td>152,000 (73%)</td>
<td>61,700 (26%)</td>
<td>216,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average household size</strong> (2015)</td>
<td>3.3 persons</td>
<td>5.2 persons</td>
<td>3.8 persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average household density</strong> (person/room)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household with 3+ persons per room (%)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Internal Migration Balance</strong> (2015)</td>
<td>-7,600</td>
<td>-200</td>
<td>-7,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In comparison: in 1946 Arab Christians constituted 19% of the population and accounted for 83% of the city’s Christians.

Jerusalem

- Of the city’s total population, 531,930 (or 61.4%) lived in areas illegally annexed in 1967, 38.5% (or 204,680) of them Jewish settlers and 60.3% (or 320,601) Palestinians (Ibid.).
- Some 99% of the city’s total Arab population lived in East Jerusalem as did 38.7% of the city’s Jewish population (Ibid.).

Population in West Jerusalem

- Total: 333,800
- 324,020 (97%)
- 3,290 (1%)
- 6,420 (1.9%)

Population in East Jerusalem

- Total: 531,930
- 320,260 (60.2%)
- 6,880 (1.3%)
- 204,680 (38.5%)

Age Structure by Population Group, 2015


Metropolitan Jerusalem had a population of 1.22 million in 2015: 865,720 within the municipal boundaries and an additional 358,100 in the outer ring (Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research, Jerusalem: Facts and Trends 2017, 2017).

According to a medium scenario, population projections for East Jerusalem suggest that the city’s Palestinian population will increase - at decreasing growth rates - from 268,000 in 2015 to 336,000 in 2030 to 426,000 in 2050. East Jerusalem’s population will recede as compared to the entire West Bank and the Gaza Strip, mainly due to a faster demographic transition. Hence, the share of East Jerusalem, which is now a 5.6% of the total population of the State of Palestine, is expected to fall to 4.4% in the middle of the century, and the population in East Jerusalem will age earlier and faster than in the rest of the West Bank and Gaza, with the share of those 65+ years old rocketing from 4% to almost 13% (Prime Minister's Office, State of Palestine & UNFPA, PALESTINE 2030 - Demographic Change: Opportunities for Development, December 2016).
Municipal Area of Jerusalem (in thousand dunums)

Excluding 6 km² (incl. the Old City) of the Jordanian East Jerusalem municipality (1948-67).
First municipal jurisdiction defined under British rule (gradually extended to 38,100 dunums by 1967).


Population in Palestinian Neighborhood in East Jerusalem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Area (dunums)</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anata (New)</td>
<td>1,031</td>
<td>8,240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ath-Thori (Abu Tor)</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>13,060</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-Tur (Mt. of Olives)</td>
<td>2,995</td>
<td>25,420</td>
<td>includes Suwaneh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bab Az-Zahrah</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>4,060</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beit Hanina</td>
<td>5,420</td>
<td>38,080</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beit Safafa</td>
<td>9,222</td>
<td>12,490</td>
<td>includes Sharafat &amp; Der Karmizan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Issawiya</td>
<td>2,028</td>
<td>16,070</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jabal Mukabber</td>
<td>4,820</td>
<td>22,290</td>
<td>includes Arab As-Sawahreh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kufr Aqab</td>
<td>5,722</td>
<td>23,620</td>
<td>incl. Atarot Industrial Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old City</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>35,550</td>
<td>excludes Jewish Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ras Al-Amud</td>
<td>1,282</td>
<td>25,890</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheikh Jarrah &amp; Wadi Joz</td>
<td>1,071</td>
<td>15,530</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shu’fat</td>
<td>2,845</td>
<td>21,830</td>
<td>excl. Anatot industrial area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shu’fat Refugee Camp</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>19,480</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silwan</td>
<td>1,026</td>
<td>19,540</td>
<td>Includes Wadi Al-Hilweh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sur Baher</td>
<td>3,974</td>
<td>16,280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Um Tuba</td>
<td>2,496</td>
<td>3,670</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>46,711</strong></td>
<td><strong>321,110</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The PA Jerusalem Governorate

The PA Jerusalem governorate (on the map in dark gray) has different boundaries than the Israeli municipal area (lighter shade). The governorate’s total land area is 345 km² with a total of 44 Palestinian communities and a population density of 1,236 people per km². By mid-2016, the PCBS estimated a total population of 426,533 (264,937 inside and 161,596 outside the WJM boundaries), with a growth rate of 1.8% over 2015. Some 35.2% of the total are 14 years or younger. Palestinians in the Jerusalem Governorate account for 8.9% of all Palestinians in the WBGS (or 14.5% of the West Bank population) [PCBS, Jerusalem Statistical Yearbook 2017].
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cracatic pretexts is one of Israel methods to control the number of Palestinians
salem since
f Health approved new inadequate, expensive, and dis
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sitanians who marry Israeli citizens or Jeru
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"Israeli Family Unification Law Leaves 247 Palestinian Kids Without Legal Status," in Israel. It is estimated that this applies to some 9,900 people, including 247 minors (Nir Hasson, “Israeli Family Unification Law Leaves 247 Palestinian Kids Without Legal Status,” Haaretz, 18 June 2016).

As of 2016, at least 14,595 ID cards were revoked from Palestinian residents of Jerusalem since 1967 (not including their children, which would bring the number of those stripped of their residency rights – and with it of social and health benefits – to over 86,000):
In 2016, the residency status of 66 Palestinians was "reinstated", while at least 47 cases were pending (http://www.hamoked.org).

In mid-March 2017, Israeli High Court justices Uzi Fogelmen, Meni Mazuz and the court president, Miriam Naor, have ordered the Interior Ministry to restore the residency rights of Akram Abdel Hak, 58, a Palestinian born in East Jerusalem who was denied permission to live in the city after being away for over seven years. The precedent-setting ruling recognized that residents of East Jerusalem are not immigrants but have rights due to the fact they were born here, with Fogelman saying that "these residents — that as opposed to immigrants seeking status - they have a strong affinity to the place where they live, as people born in this area - and sometimes even their parents and grandparents were born there", and Mazuz adding that “considering the special status of East Jerusalem residents as native born - as opposed to those who won the right to permanent residency by license after immigration - [the appellant] has enough to justify his request to renew recognition in his status as a permanent resident.” (Hasson, Nir, “In Precedent-setting Ruling, Israel’s Top Court Recognizes East Jerusalem Arabs as ‘Native-born Residents’”, Haaretz, 16 March 2017).

Between 2004 and March 2015, the Israeli Ministry of Interior received a total of 10,956 Palestinian applications for family reunification in East Jerusalem, of which 4,596 were approved, 3,550 were rejected, and 2,810 were still in process (“Official Israeli Data on Jerusalem”, Jerusalem Quarterly, No. 70, Summer 2017).

Between 2004 and December 2016, Palestinians in Jerusalem submitted a total of 24,921 applications for child registration, of which 15,065 were approved, 4,989 were rejected, and 4,867 were still in process (“Official Israeli Data on Jerusalem”, Jerusalem Quarterly, No. 70, Summer 2017).

Statistics from the Israeli Population and Immigration Authority (obtained and quoted by The Times of Israel) show that between 2003 and Sept. 2016, 8,074 applications for Israeli citizenship were submitted by Palestinians from East Jerusalem, for a total of 14,629 people (applications can include more than one person, e.g., spouses and children). Of these, 2,897 (5,597 people) were granted, 2,521 (4,408 people) rejected, 121 (210 people) delayed, 2,535 (4,414 people) were still being processed (Lieber, D. “Israel almost entirely halts citizenship approvals for East Jerusalemites”, Times of Israel, 26 September 2016).

Since 2014, the processing of requests has slowed with applicants waiting months for an appointment with the Interior Ministry and an average of three years for a decision. In 2017 as of August, 530 requests for citizenship were submitted by East Jerusalemites and 174 East Jerusalemites were granted citizenship (likely cases that applied back in 2014) (Lieber, D. "Surge of East Jerusalemites getting citizenship still leaves lion’s share in limbo," Times of Israel, 28 August 2017).
Jerusalem

2003-August 2016 Summary:
- Total No. of Applications: 8,074
- Total No. of People applying: 14,629 people
- Applications granted: 2,897 (5,597 people)
- Applications rejected: 2,521 (4,408 people)
- Applications delayed: 121 (210 people)
- Applications in process: 2,535 (4,414 people)


6. Housing & House Demolitions

• As Israel’s policy in East Jerusalem is politically motivated, aimed at maintaining a Jewish majority in the city, it is very difficult (and expensive) for Palestinians to obtain building permits. According to figures by the Israeli Interior Min. and the WJM over 20,000 buildings in East Jerusalem have been built without permits (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts & Figures 2017, May 2017).

• Among the main obstacles in obtaining building permits are (for details see: Ir Amin, Displaced in Their Own City, June 2015):
  a) Israel’s declaration of large areas of East Jerusalem land as ‘unfit for building’ or as ‘green’ or ‘open space,’ where construction is forbidden.
  b) The difficulty of proving land ownership as land is often owned by several inheritors and Israel froze the land registration processes for non-Jewish property owners after 1967 so that today, approx. half of the land in East Jerusalem is not registered in any form. In addition, Israel’s demand (since 2001) that Palestinians register land with the Land Registry is a very complex and expensive for the owners (unlike in Israel proper, where this is done by the authorities!), and people fear to have land seized by the General Custodian or the Custodian of Absentee Property (on the pretext that one of the owners, their heirs or descendants do not live within the city).
  c) The non-existence of a general outline plan as none has ever been approved for East Jerusalem since 1967, making construction there virtually impossible.
d) While in Jewish Jerusalem most construction is initiated by the government (e.g., Israel Lands Authority or the Construction and Housing Ministry) and are built and sold by contractors supervised by the state, there are no government construction initiatives in East Jerusalem.

e) In most cases, East Jerusalem residents cannot get mortgages because of problems with registering their properties in the Land Registry. Even if they can build their homes legally, they must pay very large sums in levies and taxes, sums that in Jewish Jerusalem are shared by the state, the contractor and the home buyer, who can also get a mortgage (Hasson, Nir, “Only 7% of Jerusalem Building Permits Go to Palestinian Neighborhoods,” Haaretz, 7 Dec. 2015).

- Unlicensed construction provides the WJM with a pretext to punish the builder twofold: (1) with a monetary fine plus the requirement either to produce a permit or restore the status quo ante, and (2) home demolishing (way over 2,000 houses since 1967). Most recently,
  - As of 8 August 2017, B’Tselem counted 730 demolitions in East Jerusalem since 2004, which left 2,639 people homeless, incl. 1,439 minors. In 2017 alone, 45 homes were destroyed, 6 of them by the owner, and 126 people became homeless, 70 of them minors.
  - According to OCHA, 119 structures were demolished in 2017 by 23 October, displacing 211 people (OCHA, Protection of Civilians, Weekly Report, 10-23 October 2017).

- While in 1967, there were 69,000 Palestinian residents in East Jerusalem, living in 12,600 housing units, there are over 320,000 Palestinians, living in 55,000 housing units in 2016. The Jerusalem municipality issued only about 4,000 building permits since 1967 (covering an estimated 10,000 housing units). Over 38,000 out of the 55,000 Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem were built illegally, meaning that over 50% of the Palestinians there are under constant threat of home demolition (“East Jerusalem: Emerging Pattern”, Terrestrial Jerusalem (http://t-j.org.il), 6 March 2016).

- According to OCHA estimates, at least 180 Palestinian households in East Jerusalem have eviction cases filed against them, putting over 800 Palestinians, including 372 children, at risk of displacement. Most of the cases were initiated by Israeli settler organizations based on ownership claims as well as claims that the residents are no longer ‘protected tenants’ (OCHA, “East Jerusalem: Palestinians at risk of eviction,” 3 November 2016).

- Over 3,000 Israeli settlers are currently living in densely populated Palestinian neighborhoods of Jerusalem, mainly in the Muslim and Christian quarters of the Old City, in Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah, At-Tur (Mt. of Olives), Wadi Joz, Ras Al-Amud and Jabal Mukabber, either in houses expropriated via the Absentee Property Law (alleged prior Jewish ownership), purchased from Palestinians, or built and financed by settler organizations (OCHA, The Humanitarian Bulletin, August 2017).

- There is a high housing density in Arab East Jerusalem. In 2015, the average size of a Jewish household was 3.3 persons, compared to an average Arab household of 5.2 persons (Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2017, 2017).
In a November 2016 report about local authorities, Israeli State Comptroller Joseph Shapira criticized that the decision-making process regarding building in Jerusalem was faulty, took too long, did not promote transparency or equality, and especially in the city’s Arab neighborhoods not enough permits were granted (Hoffman, Bygil, “Comptroller Criticizes Discrimination in Jerusalem,” Jerusalem Post, 22 November 2016).

In 2016, only 15% of building permit requests by East Jerusalem Palestinians were approved, while construction in at least four East Jerusalem settlements was enabled by granting building permits for over 900 housing units (UNSCO, Briefing to the Security Council on the Situation in the Middle East, 24 March 2017).

For more than 10 years, the Israeli local and district planning authorities have not advanced even a single outline plan in the Palestinian neighborhoods, including those initiated by the Municipality itself (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts and Figures 2017, May 2017).

While Palestinian housing needs are ignored, the Israeli cabinet approved a plan on 28 May 2017, to encourage government workers to move to a yet to be built residential enclave in Jerusalem, as less than half of the 18,000 civil servants working in the city are residents of it (Skop, Y., N. Hasson & Z. Rinat, “Cabinet Approves Plan to Expand Israeli Curriculum in Arab East Jerusalem Schools,” Haaretz, 29 May 2017).

### Land & Settlement

4 dunum = ¼ acre = 1,000 m² / 1 acre = 4 dunums = 4,000 m²

At least 66% of today’s Jerusalem is territory seized by force (5% of the old Jordanian municipality and 61% of former West Bank territory). Within this area, Israel has expropriated approx. 24,500 dunums - over one-third of the land illegally annexed to Jerusalem, most of which was privately owned by Palestinians - mainly to establish the 12 settlements existing today in the city (B’Tselem, Land Grab, Draft Report. May 2002). The settlements form two rings around the city - the inner ring in East Jerusalem and the outer ring (’Greater Jerusalem’) reaching far into the West Bank.

#### Land Expropriation in East Jerusalem (in dunums)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Date of expropriation</th>
<th>Land taken</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French Hill &amp; Mt. Scopus</td>
<td>8 Jan. 1968</td>
<td>3,345</td>
<td>2,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramot Eshkol &amp; Givat Hamivhar</td>
<td>8 Jan. 1968</td>
<td>588</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ma’alot Dafna (East)</td>
<td>8 Jan. 1968</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neve Ya’akov</td>
<td>14 April 1968/30 Aug. 1970</td>
<td>765 / 470</td>
<td>1,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old City (Jewish Quarter)</td>
<td>14 April 1968</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramot Alon</td>
<td>30 Aug. 1970</td>
<td>4,840</td>
<td>2,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shu’afat</td>
<td>30 Aug. 1970</td>
<td>2,240</td>
<td>No Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Talpiyot</td>
<td>30 Aug. 1970</td>
<td>1,196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilo</td>
<td>30 Aug. 1970</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>2,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Atarot (incl. the airport)</td>
<td>30 Aug. 1970/1 July 1982</td>
<td>1,200 / 137</td>
<td>3,327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Regional Planning Committee approved three settlement plans in East Jerusalem, in addition to a nine-story yeshiva (Orthodox Jewish seminary) campus and a six-story office, all in the heart of Sheikh Jarrah, near the Al-Hayat Clinic and the Asmar petrol station. The plan will require the expulsion of five Palestinian families. (Peace Now, 3 July 2017).

The Jerusalem Regional Planning Committee approved a number of plans that together will allow for the construction of 944 units in the Pisgat Ze‘ev settlement (Haaretz, 4 July 2017).

On 16 July, the Regional Planning Committee approved three settlement plans in Sheikh Jarrah - Town Plan 68858, to build a yeshiva; and Town Plans 14151 and 140249, involving the demolition of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ramot Eshkol, Givat HaMivtar</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1,357</td>
<td>11,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramot Allon</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>7,997</td>
<td>44,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neve Ya'akov</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>1,786</td>
<td>21,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pisgat Ze‘ev</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>5,469</td>
<td>41,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Talpiot</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>14,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilo</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>3,008</td>
<td>28,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Scopus</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1,057</td>
<td>incl. in Givat Shapira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Givat Shapira (French Hill)</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>8,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramat Shlomo</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1,314</td>
<td>15,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Givat HaMatos</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>incl. in Har Homa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Har Homa (Homat Shmuel)</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>19,950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 204,680

Source: Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2017, except column two & three: PCBS.

Recent settlement activities:

Israel’s policies in East Jerusalem aim at reducing the city’s Palestinian population by various means: creation of Jewish-only settlements, forceful eviction of Palestinians, making their lives miserable and any development (thus future prospects) impossible, and cutting the city off its natural hinterland. During the past year, settlement-related activities included:

Settlements:

- On 22 January 2017, Prime Minister Netanyahu decided to lift all restrictions on Israeli construction in East Jerusalem resulting from international diplomatic pressures. The same day, the Jerusalem Local Planning and Building Committee approved the construction of 566 housing units in the Pisgat Ze‘ev, Ramot and Ramat Shlomo settlements.
- On 29 March 2017, the Jerusalem Municipality and Jerusalem Development Authority submitted a plan for the construction of a 197-m-long pedestrian bridge over the Ben-Hinnom Valley, connecting Abu Tor and Mount Zion.
- Israel plans to advance nearly 1,800 housing units in two new three- and five-story buildings, in addition to a nine-story yeshiva (Orthodox Jewish seminary) campus and a six-story office, all in the heart of Sheikh Jarrah, near the Al-Hayat Clinic and the Asmar petrol station. The plan will require the expulsion of five Palestinian families. (Peace Now, 3 July 2017).
- The Jerusalem Regional Planning Committee approved a number of plans that together will allow for the construction of 944 units in the Pisgat Ze‘ev settlement (Haaretz, 4 July 2017).
- On 16 July, the Regional Planning Committee approved three settlement plans in Sheikh Jarrah - Town Plan 68858, to build a yeshiva; and Town Plans 14151 and 140249, involving the demolition...
of two Palestinian homes to be replaced by settlers. Another plan - Town Plan 466699, for a multi-
story, settler-controlled office bloc - is approved for public review (Terrestrial Jerusalem).

- The Regional Planning Committee approved 869 units in settlements: 270 in Gilo (Town Plan
400812), 244 in Ramot (Town Plans 291419 and 483354), 214 in Neve Ya’acov (Town Plan 413658),
116 in Pisgat Ze’ev (Town Plan 464859), and 15 in Har Homa (Town Plan 430848) (Terrestrial
Jerusalem, 8 August 2017).

- On 19 July, the Jerusalem Municipality announced plans for 800 new housing units in the settle-
ments of Pisgat Ze’ev, Neve Yaakov, Ramot and Gilo, and on 20 July for 500 new housing units in
Ramat Shlomo and 152 in Ramot settlement.

- Israel’s Construction and Housing Ministry announced plans for a new 1,100-unit project filling in the
“gap” between the Adam (or Geva Binyamin) and Neve Yaakov settlements on a hill known as ‘Mir
Forest’. If realized, the project will severely impede on Palestinian territorial contiguity. (Berger, Yotam,

- On 24 August 2017, Arieh King, director of the right-wing Israel Land Fund (ILF) settler organization,
told the Jerusalem Post that up to 500 Israeli families would move into Sheikh Jarrah within the next
decade, and that the ILF is currently working on “four main compounds.”

- In September 2017, press reports revealed Israeli plans to nearly triple the size of the Nof Zion
settlement, located in the heart of Jabel Mukaber, by adding 176 new housing units to the 91
existing ones.

- In late September, Netanyahu green-lighted construction at the planned new settlement of Givat
Hamatos between Gilo settlement and Bethlehem, with tenders expected early 2018.

- On 24 October, the Jerusalem Municipality approved the construction of 176 new units in the Nof
Zion settlement in the midst of Jabel Mukaber.

- **Settler “Security”:**

- The Israeli government allocates annually some $20 million to private security for the less than
3,000 Israeli settlers living in enclaves in the heart of Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem
(“Israel’s cleanup plan for Jerusalem to have ‘very little effect’ on Palestinians,” Maannews, 31 May 2017).

- In 2016, the security budget for the settler compounds in Palestinian neighborhoods of Jerusalem
amounted to some NIS 75 million (Hasson, Nir, “Police Question East Jerusalem Security Guards”, Haaretz, 29
December 2016.).

- **Settler groups:**

- The settler organization Amana almost finished building its headquarters on land expropriated
from the Abu Ta’a family in Sheikh Jarrah, close to St. Joseph Hospital and the sports field.

- An estimated minimum of 1,000 Jews live currently in the Muslim Quarter, half of them yeshiva
students, most of whom are linked to Ateret Cohanim, which runs at least 20 buildings in the
quarter (“Israeli Settler Group Takes Over Muslim Quarter Building in Jerusalem”, Haaretz, 9 May 2016).

- On 31 July, The Jerusalem District Court awarded the title to three Old City properties belonging to
the Greek Orthodox Church (two hotels at Jaffa Gate and one property in Bab Hutta) to the Ateret
Cohanim settler organization.

- On 24 August, settlers inaugurated a synagogue set up in a building owned by the Palestinian Abu
Nab family in Silwan, attended by some 300 Israelis, including MKs and Agriculture Minister Uri
Ariel.

- On 5 September, the Shamasneh family was evicted from their home of 53 years in Sheikh Jarrah,
making way for Jewish settlers deemed by the Supreme Court to be the rightful owners.

- In finalizing one of three transactions concluded in 2004 with then Greek Patriarch Irenaios (who
was eventually dismissed) Ateret Cohanim is about to take over the Petra Hostel inside the Old
City’s Jaffa Gate.

- **Excavations / Tunnels:**

- Excavation work is ongoing the Western Wall tunnel under Al-Buraq Wall, a tunnel extending from
Hamam Al-Ein (100 m), and one from Silwan (720 m) towards Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- **Roads:**
The Separation Barrier in Jerusalem

The Separation Barrier in Jerusalem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constructed</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Construction</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OCHA.

Israel's Separation Barrier around the City - The 'Jerusalem Envelope'

- The barrier around Jerusalem measures 139 km, of which only 3% lie on the Green Line (OCHA). In Walaja, Kufr Aqab, Ras Khamis, Shu'fat camp, Ras Shahadeh, and Dahiet As-Salam, its route severs either the entire neighborhood or a significant portion of it from the city, minimizing not only development options but keeping large areas of 'open space' and 'nature' as reserves for the future expansion of settlements. Once completed, 9.4% of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and No-Man’s Land will be isolated by the barrier (OCHA, 10 Years Since the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion, July 2014).

- Some 140,000 Palestinians live in neighborhoods separated from Jerusalem by the barrier and do not receive any of the municipal services (Kufr ‘Aqab, Shu’fat Camp area) (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Fact and Figures 2017, May 2017).

- There are currently 12 full and one partial checkpoint to enter Jerusalem from the West Bank. Palestinians with West Bank ID cards who are granted special permits can only enter through four of them: (1) Qalandia from the north, (2) Gilo from the south, (3) Shu’fat Camp from the east, and (4) Ras Abu Sbeitan for pedestrian residents of Abu Dis and Al-Izzariyya. The other crossing points into Jerusalem - only open to residents of Israel and non-Israelis with valid visas - are Ar-Ram, Beitunia commercial crossing, Hizma, Az-Za’im, the...

- After a three-year hiatus, work on the separation barrier resumed in April 2017 in Al-Walaja.

8. The Old City

- Founded around 4000 BC, the Old City is divided into four quarters: Muslim, Christian, Jewish and Armenian. The present walls surrounding the Old City were built by the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman Al-Qanouni in 1542. The walls stretch over approx. 4 km and encompass an area of barely 1 km².

- Jerusalem’s Old City is listed on the World Heritage List since 1981 and on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 1982. It houses 25 mosques, 65 churches and 20 synagogues, while its surrounding wall has 11 gates, seven of which are open:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Area (dunum)</th>
<th>Persons per dunum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muslim¹</td>
<td>26,070</td>
<td>481²</td>
<td>54.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>4,260</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenian</td>
<td>2,260</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>2,960</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Excl. over 1,000 settlers occupying houses in the Muslim and Christian Quarters.
² Incl. the 135 dunums of Al-Haram Mosque.
Total  | 35,550 | 950 | 37.4
---|---|---|---

Sharif compound. If this area is not counted, the population density in the Muslim Quarter rises to over 75 persons/dunum.


**Al-Haram Ash-Sharif**

- **Al-Aqsa Mosque (compound)**
  1. Islamic Museum
  2. Bab Al-Magharbeh (Moroccans Gate)
  3. Bab As-Silsileh (Chain Gate)
  4. Bab As-Salaam (Tranquility Gate)
  5. Silsileh (Chain) Minaret
  6. Bab Al-Matarah (Ablution Gate)
  7. Bab Al-Qattain (Cotton Merchants Gate)
  8. Bab Al-Hodid (Iron Gate)
  9. Bab An-Nazir/Majilis (Council Gate) (Waqf office is outside the gate)
  10. Minaret of Ghawanimah
  11. Bab al-Alim (Gate of Darkness)
  12. Bab Al-Huthah (Gate of Remission)
  13. Minaret Al-Asbat
  14. Bab Al-Asbat (Gate of the Tribes)
  15. Bab Az-Zahabi (Golden Gate)
  17. Bab At-Tauba (Door of Repentance)
  18. Cradle of Jesus
  19. Al-Mussallalah Al-Marwani (Solomons' Stables – substructure)
  20. Al-Masjidul Aqsa – Al-Aqsa Mosque
  21. Fakhr-Iya Minaret
  22. Dome of Yusuf Asha
  23. Station of Buraq
  24. Al-Kas (The Cup)
  25. Minbar of Buran Eddin
  26. Dome of Yousef
  27. Dome of An-Nahawiyyah (School of Literature)
  28. Dome of Moses
  29. Fountain of Qasim Pasha
  30. Pool of Raneij
  31. Fountain of Qayt Bay
  32. Dome of the Rock (Qubbat As-Sakhra)
  33. Dome of the Prophet
  34. Dome of the Mina
  35. Dome of Al-Khali
  36. Mihrab Al Pasha
  37. Dome of Al-Khdeir
  38. Dome of the Spirits (Ruh)
  39. Fountain of Sh’alan
  40. Solomon’s Dome
  41. Dome of the Lovers of the Prophets
  42. Fountain of Sultan Solomon
  43. Solomon’s Throne

2017 was yet another year of continued tensions in and around the Haram Ash-Sharif - or Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, with increasing provocative visits by Israeli right-wing activists, including those trying to perform prayers, and numerous incidents where access to the site was limited or denied for Palestinians, fueling their fears that Israel intends to change the status quo of the site.

According to the Waqf, a total of 22,195 Israeli settlers and extremists have entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque the compound in 2017 (as of mid-November) as compared to 14,806 in 2016.

According to the “Yeraeh’ - Volunteers encouraging ascent to the Temple Mount” group, some 22,552 Jews toured the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the Hebrew year 5777 (ending in September 2017), marking a 60% increase of the previous Hebrew year (=14,094 Jews). “Daily record” was the
Jewish holiday of Tish'a B'Av (commemorating the destruction of the Temple, 31 July 2017) with 1,264 Jews ascending the compound, and a “monthly record” in the month of Av (July/August 2017) with 4,369 Jews.

Following the deadly attack near Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in July 2017, the Israeli Police has launched a special unit, expected to become operational in 2018 and number 200 officers, to oversee security and public order on the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound (Breiner, Josh, “Israel Forms Special Temple Mount Police Unit Following Deadly July Shooting,” Haaretz, 1 Nov. 2017).

Education

- The education system in East Jerusalem is divided into:
  1. the ‘government’ (=public/municipal) schools, which are maintained by the WJM but teaching a separate "Arab Educational System" (currently 88 schools);
  2. the recognized but unofficial schools: licensed schools owned by private bodies that are recognized by the Ministry of Education, permitted to charge tuition, and largely funded by the Ministry and recently also by the WJM, which partially supervise their activities (currently 97 schools);
  3. Private schools: owned and run by either churches, the Waqf in coordination with the PA, UNRWA or other bodies and serve about the same number of students as the public schools (currently 79 schools).

The 1949 Israeli Compulsory Education Law requires that all children aged 5-16 attend school and stipulates that all are entitled to free public education regardless of the legal status of their parents. As “permanent residents,” Palestinians in East Jerusalem are entitled to the same benefits as Israeli citizen, including the right to public education, but there are deep gaps in the education system for Palestinians and Israelis. According to the Israeli Education Department Jerusalem, Palestinian students were divided into the following five categories of school management:

- Since 2000, schools in East Jerusalem used the curriculum developed by the PA following the Oslo Accords (replacing the Jordanian curriculum which had been used since 1967). However, since March 2011, the Jerusalem municipality is increasingly trying to force Palestinian schools to purchase and use textbooks prepared by the Jerusalem Education Administration (JE), a joint body of the municipality and the Israeli Ministry of Education. These were censored so as to erase any reference to Palestinian identity, culture, heritage, and historical and contemporary narratives, while the PA’s logo was replaced with that of the Jerusalem Municipality.

- Another attempt to force Israeli identity on Palestinians in Jerusalem is the plan – introduced for the 2013-14 school year – to pressure East Jerusalem schools to adopt the Israeli curriculum (i.e., studying towards the Israeli bagrut rather than the tawjihi), which only teaches the Israel narrative.
and ignores Palestinian history and identity. In 2016, the Israeli Ministry of Education decided to force Palestinian schools to switch to the Israeli curriculum by offering extra funding to schools that do so. However, while there is a growing trend (in the 2012/13 school year around 44 classes in two schools studied the Israeli curriculum compared to 88 classes in six schools in 2015/16 and 104 classes in 14 schools in 2016/17), this represents less that 6% of the pupils in the East Jerusalem school system (Education in Jerusalem, PASSIA Bulletin, Sept. 2016). It should be noted that the tawjih exam does not qualify for Israeli institutions of higher education (as also some degrees offered by Palestinian universities are not recognized in Israel).

Number of Palestinian Students studying the Israeli Curriculum

![Number of Palestinian Students studying the Israeli Curriculum](image)


- On 28 May 2017, the Israeli cabinet approved a plan to financially induce East Jerusalem schools to switch from the Palestinian to the Israeli curriculum, with the purpose of - according to an Education Ministry statement - “improv[ing] the quality of education in East Jerusalem, with an emphasis on encouraging the study of the Israeli curriculum in the schools” so as to “enhance the ability of East Jerusalem residents to integrate into the Israeli economy and society.” The 5-year plan aims to gradually increase the number of first grades that will begin studying the Israeli curriculum (with 15 new classes to be added during the first year, 18 in the second, 21 in the third, 24 in the fourth, and 27 in the fifth), the ratio of East Jerusalem students earning the Israeli matriculation (bagrut) certificate from 12% to 26%, and of those earning a technological certificate from 11% to 33%, as well as to reduce the dropout rate among 9th-12th graders from 28% to 25.5%. The schools joining the Israeli system will get economic incentives, i.e., extra funding. (Skop, Yarden, Nir Hasson and Zafirin Rinat, “Cabinet Approves Plan to Expand Israeli Curriculum in Arab East Jerusalem Schools,” Haaretz, 29 May 2017).

The budget for the Arab Education branch (East Jerusalem) was with NIS 18 million still much smaller than that for state education (NIS 54 million) and ultra-Orthodox education (NIS 37.4 million), and allocated only NIS 1.5 million for classroom construction (compared to NIS 9.5 million in the state and NIS 21 million in the Haredi sector) (Hasson, Nir, “Enlarged Jerusalem Budget Gives Little to Local Arabs”, Haaretz, 9 March 2017).

- In February 2011, the Israeli High Court imposed two mandates on the state: the completion of the infrastructure necessary to admit East Jerusalem students to official municipal schools; and a marked increase in the funding of “unofficial” but recognized institutions absorbing the remaining students. The court gave the WJM and the state until February 2016 to implement the changes, including adding 2,200 classrooms, or otherwise to cover the expenses for students forced to enroll in private educational institutions instead. Since then, only 237 classrooms have been added and the classroom shortage is now greater than it was in 2011. The High Court ruled that as of February 2017, the government must pay for the private school tuition of children who cannot find a place in a municipal school (Nir Hasson, “Despite Court Decision, Jerusalem Has Not Built 2,000 Classrooms for Arab Neighborhoods,” Haaretz, 6 Sept. 2016). In 2017, 1,633 Palestinian students applied to the Jerusalem Municipality to move from recognized but unofficial schools to official public schools. Of these, 1,209 were accepted and 424 rejected (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts & Figures 2017, May 2017).

- East Jerusalem currently lacks 2,000 classrooms in the official public system, which to build will cost some NIS 2 billion. In 2016, only 44 new classrooms were added in East Jerusalem, while 339 addi-
tional ones are to be constructed until 2019/20. During 2011-2016, a total of 247 classrooms were constructed and another 218 were rented (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts & Figures 2017, May 2017).

- Of the classrooms in use in the official public system, 857 – almost 50% - are sub-standard (Ibid.).
- While Interior Ministry figures suggest that there are 127,198 Palestinian children aged 3-18 in Jerusalem, only 109,481 are registered in the current school year. About 17,717 children are not accounted for (Ibid.), although some are presumed to be studying outside Jerusalem.

### Israeli Municipal Education (up to 12th Grade), 2015/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Students at:</th>
<th>Hebrew Education</th>
<th>Arab Education</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J’lem Education Authority (MANHI)</td>
<td>Ultra-Orth. Division</td>
<td>Jerusalem Education Authority (MANHI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschools</td>
<td>12,400</td>
<td>24,100</td>
<td>16,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Education</td>
<td>23,900</td>
<td>38,000</td>
<td>39,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Primary</td>
<td>25,400</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special education (all classes)</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>64,000</td>
<td>98,600</td>
<td>90,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total no. of classes</td>
<td>2,905</td>
<td>3,842</td>
<td>3,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students per class (average)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed new class-rooms in 2010-16 (2016)</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In addition, to another ~21,000 who attended private schools run by the Waqf, UNRWA and others as reported by MANHI. 2 In addition to those who took the tawjihi exam.


- The school dropout rate in East Jerusalem is very high: 33% of students in public and the recognized/unofficial schools fail to complete high school. The 2017 budget for the prevention of dropout in East Jerusalem is NIS 4.1 million (up from NIS 3 million in 2015), but the Jerusalem Municipality estimates that NIS 15 million would be needed to properly tackle the problem. While 17 attendance officers work in the west on dropout cases, East Jerusalem has only 4 such positions, of which only one is actually filled (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts & Figures 2017, May 2017).

- Chronic understaffing in Palestinian schools is also reflected in the fact that there are 130 school psychologists in West Jerusalem, but only 20 in East Jerusalem, and there are only 57 positions for educational counselors for the 185 official and recognized/unofficial schools (Ibid.).

### Employment and Poverty

- East Jerusalem men have a very high labor-force participation rate (chiefly in manual labor and services), while that of women is much lower (14%, compared to 32% among Arab women in the Galilee villages). The monthly per capita income in East Jerusalem is around NIS 2,000 compared to nearly NIS 5,000 in West Jerusalem (Ben Avrahami, “The Residents of Eastern Jerusalem at a Historic Crossroads,” Shiloah, 30 July 2017; https://hashiloach.org.il/residents-eastern-jerusalem-historic-crossroads/).

Labor Force Participation Rate, Population Aged 25-64, Israel and Jerusalem, 2015
According to Israel’s National Insurance Institute, there were 74,204 East Jerusalem Palestinian employees in 2015, whose average monthly income was NIS 6,047 (compared to NIS 8,869 for Jews) and who were mainly employed in construction, trade, administrative and support (maintenance and cleaning) services, and hospitality and food services (Shtern, M., Polarized Labor Integration: East Jerusalem Palestinians in the City’s Employment Market, Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research, 2017).

A report by the Workers Advice Center found that only 12-13% of Palestinian working-age women (ages 15-64) from East Jerusalem enter the labor market, mainly because some 70% of them do not have more than a high-school education. Those who do work do so primarily in education, health and care of the elderly, often under abusive conditions (Report – Condemned to Unemployment: East Jerusalem Women Struggle for Integration into the Labor Market, WAC-MAAN, July 2017).

Another reason for the low female labor force participation rate is the lack of pre-school childcare facilities in East Jerusalem: for some 30,000 children of 0-4 years, there are only 31 publicly funded nurseries (WAC-MAAN).

8,973 children from East Jerusalem are defined as children at risk by the welfare services (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts and Figures 2017, May 2017).

Poverty rates among Palestinians in Jerusalem are considerably higher than among the Jewish population as the following table illustrates:

Poverty Rates in Jerusalem

Under Israeli law, Palestinians from East Jerusalem are - as “permanent residents” - entitled to the same services, infrastructure maintenance, and rights granted to Israeli citizens. However, since 1967 the Israeli government has intentionally neglected the development of East Jerusalem: While Palestinian Jerusalemites constitute 37% of the population, Arab East Jerusalem receives only around 12-13% of the municipal budget (ACRI, East Jerusalem 2015: Facts and Figures, May 2015).

Palestinians must pay the same tax rates as Israelis whose per capita income is approx. 8 times higher. Especially the Arnona property tax - the amount of which depends on the area, the state and construction quality of the building, and its size (not on income or economic activity) - is a huge burden for residents and businesses and has forced many Palestinian businesses to close.

In March 2017, the Jerusalem municipality approved an enlarged budget (by NIS 700 million to a total of NIS 7.3 billion), which, however, failed to increase budget items aimed at closing gaps between Arab East Jerusalem and the Jewish west side, while allocating NIS 66 million for improving the city’s appearance, NIS 124 million for education, and NIS 323 million for planning and urban renewal. While funds were earmarked for building plans in the area of Arab As-Sawahra, the NIS 300,000 budget for planning in Issawiya and Ras Al-Amud were canceled. (Hasson, Nir, “Enlarged Jerusalem Budget Gives Little to Local Arabs”, Haaretz, 9 March 2017).

the Israeli cabinet approved on 28 May 2017 a NIS 90 million plan to improve the waste and sewage infrastructure in East Jerusalem (“Cabinet Approves Plan to Expand Israeli Curriculum in Arab East Jerusalem Schools,” Haaretz, 29 May 2017). However, according to Israeli lawyer Danny Seidemann, even if these funds were to be approved, it would be merely a “drop in the sea,” a “minor adjustment” of the usual budget and with no effect on the real issues facing Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem (Moanews, 1 June 2017).

In terms of provision of land for public services, Israeli plans fail to provide adequate lands for educational, health, social, and cultural facilities for Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, who also suffer from discriminative public-investment allocations and the resulting inadequate infrastructure (roads, sewage, water, electricity, waste collection, public recreational facilities) (PA Ministry of Local Government, State of Palestine - Cities Report 2016, Ramallah, 2016).

In May 2017 media reports revealed that Prime Minister Netanyahu was considering a plan by Likud MK Anat Berko to transfer its municipal responsibilities over Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem that are not receiving most of these services for more than a decade (e.g., Shufat refugee camp and Kufr Aqab), to the PA and revoke the Jerusalem ID of the 140,000 Palestinians living in those areas (Caspit, Ben, “Report: Netanyahu Mulling Radical Plan For East Jerusalem Neighborhoods”, Jerusalem Post, 25 May 2017).

Unlike Jews, Palestinians must prove their residency in Jerusalem, in order to receive benefits from the National Insurance Institute (health insurance, wage substitution, child allowances, pensions, maternity benefits, rehabilitation, etc.) and receive nothing while their claims are being investigated by the NII. About 70% of claims are eventually approved. Due to such procedures, Physicians for Human Rights estimate that there are at least 10,000 Palestinian children in Jerusalem who have no health insurance (“Revocation of Social Rights and Health Insurance,” 1 Jan. 2012, http://www.btselem.org/jerusalem/social_security).
PASSIA Factsheet 2018

- Due to the lack of housing permits, only 59% of households are properly connected to the city’s water network via the municipality’s Gihon Corporation. The worst situation is in areas cut off from the city by the separation barrier (e.g., Ras Khamis, Ras Shehada, Dahiet As-Salam and Shu‘fat camp) which have an irregular water supply. Since 1967, not a single outline plan for these neighborhoods was approved, and the existing water lines are sufficient for only 10% of the total population living there today (ACRI, East Jerusalem: Facts and Figures 2017, May 2017).

- In 2015-2016, Gihon laid 9 km of sewage lines in the east of the city, and repaired another 6 km. It planned to lay a further 15 km during 2017 (ibid.).

- Israel is currently planning a second light rail line (“Green Line”) to connect - at an estimated cost of NIS 5 billion - Mount Scopus with the Gilo (south) and Ramot (north) settlements, and to extend the first “Red Line”, inter alia, from the Pisgat Zeev to the Neve Yaakov settlement. (Bar Eli, Avi, “Foreign Companies Wary of Operating Jerusalem’s Light Rail Because It Traverses ’67 Border”, Haaretz, 18 July 2017).

### Services and Infrastructure: East-West Discrepancies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>West Jerusalem</th>
<th>East Jerusalem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of population</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of municipal budget invested</td>
<td>&gt;86%</td>
<td>&lt;14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Parks</td>
<td>1,000 (95.5%)</td>
<td>45 (4.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Pools</td>
<td>34 (91%)</td>
<td>3 (9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>26 (92.3%)</td>
<td>2 (7.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Facilities</td>
<td>531 (93.8%)</td>
<td>33 (6.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of residents per playgrounds</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare Offices</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- No. of clients serves</td>
<td>57,472</td>
<td>36,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Workers</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- No. of cases handled per social worker</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office Branches and Agencies</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>9⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal Workers</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>5⁷</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Healthcare Stations (Israeli Health Ministry)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³Three others were to open in 2017. ²Only five of East Jerusalem’s 22 neighborhoods receive home delivery of mail.


- Israel’s law enforcement system mistreats Palestinian teenagers from East Jerusalem, indiscriminately arresting them and leaving them, in complete disregard of their youth, without the protection of their parents or other trusted adults. According to figures obtained by HaMoked, 1,737 Palestinian boys aged 12 to 17, were arrested in Jerusalem from January 2014 through August 2016 alone. Of the 12- and 13-year-olds 78% were held in detention for over 24 hours and 72% of those aged 14 to 17 were kept in detention for longer than 48 hours (Hamoked and B’Tselem, Unprotected - Detention of Palestinian Teenagers in East Jerusalem, October 2017).
Teenagers from East Jerusalem, detained January 2014 to August 2016

- 12 + 13 years: 71 teenagers
- 14 + 15 years: 713 teenagers
- 16 + 17 years: 676 teenagers

Source: Hamoked and B’Tselem, Unprotected - Detention of Palestinian Teenagers in East Jerusalem, October 2017.

Recommended Research Sources:

- http://www.civiccoalition-jerusalem.org
- http://www.tj.org.il (Terrestrial Jerusalem)
- http://www.ipcc-jerusalem.org
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- http://www.palestine-studies.org/jq
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