



## Children & Youth

- **Children** up to the age of 14 years represent 39.4% of the total Palestinian population (PCBS, *Palestinian Youth Survey, 2015*, February 2016).
  - In mid-2016, **youth** (15-29 years) represented 30% of the total population in Palestine: 37% of them in the 15-19 age group, and 63% between 20-29 years. The **sex ratio** among youth is 104.1 males to 100 females (PCBS, *Press Release on the Eve of International Youth Day, 12 Aug. 2016*).
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- Some 55.8% of children aged 5 were enrolled in **preschool education** (PCBS, *Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014 – Final Report*, Dec. 2015).
  - In 2015, 36.9% of the youth (15-29 years), were **enrolled in education** in 2015 (32.1% of the males, 42% of the females): 82% of the 15-17 years age group, 46% of the 18-22 years old ones, and 9% of those 23-29 years. The **dropout rate** was 34% (41% for males, 27% for females) (PCBS, *Press Release on the Eve of International Youth Day, 12 August 2016*). Main reasons for dropouts were failed examinations (20%) and lack of interest in education (36.6%) due to non-existing job perspectives (PCBS-ILO announce the results of school-to-work transition survey 2015, 5 October 2016).
  - Of the youth enrolled in education, 12.7% had **completed university** education with a BA or higher (11.2% of males and 14.3% of females) (PCBS, *Palestinian Youth Survey, 2015*, February 2016).
  - Dropout rates in secondary stage reached 3.7% (4.2% for males, 3.3% for females) in 2013-14, while some 3.2% of males and 1.6% of females had **not completed any educational stage** (PCBS, *Press Release on the Eve of International Youth Day, 12 August 2015*).
  - Some 51.5% of youth (15-29 years) have at most **completed basic education**, while 21.9% had **not completed any** level and 22.3% had **completed tertiary** level education (up from 19.7% in 2013) (PCBS-ILO announce the results of school-to-work transition survey 2015, 5 October 2016).
  - Some 73.7% of children aged 1-14 years experienced **physical punishment** and 88.8% **psychological aggression** (PCBS, *Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014 – Final Report*, Dec. 2015).
  - In 2015, 19.6% of **youth** (15-29 years) participated in some kind of **volunteer work**, 6.3% were members in **sports clubs** and 3% in civil, **cultural or other associations**, whereby the participation of females was significantly lower than that of males (PCBS, *Palestinian Youth Survey 2015*, Feb. 2016).
  - In 2015, 2,179 children aged 11-18 years were **detained** by Israeli forces, marking a 72.1% increase compared to 2014 (PCBS, *Press Release on Palestinian Child Day, 5 April 2016*). In August 2016, the Israeli Knesset amended the **Israeli Youth Law** that allows for children aged 12-14 to be sentenced to prison for specific serious crimes, targeting predominantly Palestinian children. In 2016, the number of children in administrative detention is the highest number for seven years. ([http://www.btselem.org/administrative\\_detention/statistics](http://www.btselem.org/administrative_detention/statistics)).
  - Detained Palestinian children are being **abused** by Israeli forces, “routinely” **interrogated** without the presence of their parents, subjected to unnecessary force in the arrest and detention, and held in unsafe conditions (HRW, *Palestine: Israeli Police Abusing Detained Children*. April 11, 2016).