

Population Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025

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by
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Forecasting Requirements

Current Population Accuracy

The original Study, Arab Population in the West Bank and Gaza: The Million Person Gap found the population in the Territories was 2.5 million instead of the 3.8 million published by Palestine Bureau of Statistics. Given the magnitude of the errors in the PCBS Model -- its 2004 population was inflated by over 50% -- demographers and state agencies should first correct current figures before issuing forecasts.

Consideration of All Possible Scenarios

The future demographic balance in the region will also be driven by trends in Jewish majority which in recent years has shown *rising* birth rates and immigration, while the Arab population has experienced *high but declining* birth rates and emigration.

To date, researchers assumed that Arab and Jewish growth rates would move in tandem, or that Jewish growth rates would decline and Arab rates would remain stable. There are clearly other realistic possibilities.

		Arab Growth		
		<i>High</i>	<i>Med</i>	<i>Low</i>
Jewish Growth	<i>Low</i>			
	<i>Med</i>			
	<i>High</i>			

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Sources and Assumptions

Israel Jews

- Analyzes ICBS Forecast 2000 – 2025
- Jewish fertility since 2000 above highest scenarios considered by ICBS
- New Forecast includes slightly higher fertility scenarios for Israel Jewish population
- Considers aliyah at various levels

Israel Arabs

- Analyzes ICBS Forecast 2000 – 2025
- Arab fertility since 2000 near lowest levels considered by ICBS
- New Forecast develops slightly lower fertility scenarios for Israel Arab population
- Assesses the impact of different migration levels

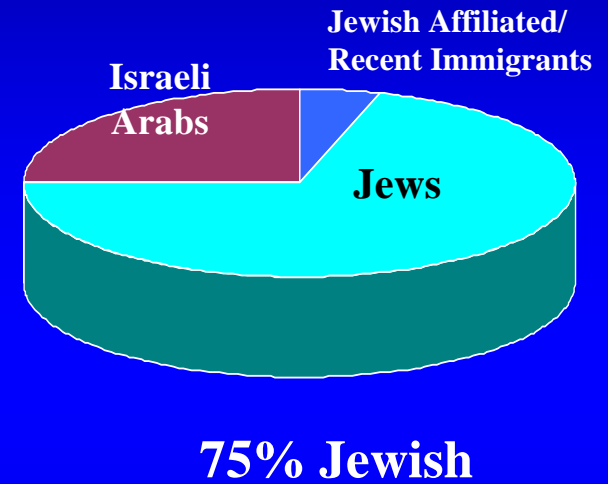
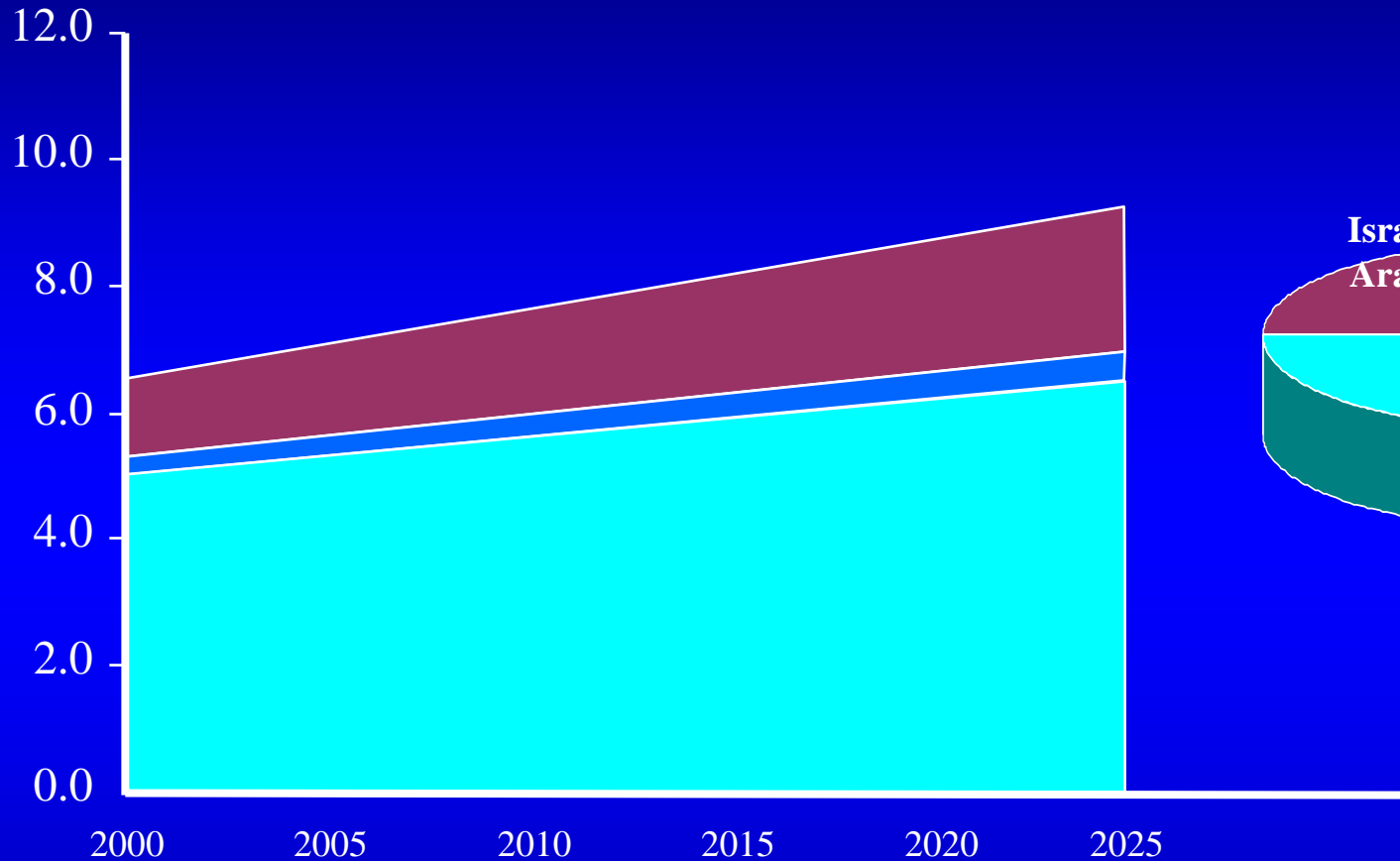
West Bank Arabs

- Starts with 2004 West Bank Arab population figure of 1.4 million as measured in '*Arab Population in the West Bank and Gaza: The Million Person Gap*'
- New Forecast applies UN Population Division fertility assumptions (supplied by PCBS)
- Considers migration at different levels with Israeli controlled borders.

NOTE: 'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025' does not consider large-scale Arab immigration into the West Bank or movement through free passage zones from Gaza that might result from future political agreements. These scenarios, including the impact on Israel Arab population patterns, should be examined in future studies.

ICBS Forecast for Israel: Mid-Case Scenario (2000 - 2025)

Millions of People



Source: ICBS, Demographic Trends in Israel, by Ahmad Hleihal, Director, Demography Sector

	2000		2025	
Israel Jews	4.96	77.8%	6.51	70.3%
+ <u>Recent Immig.</u>	<u>0.23</u>	<u>3.5%</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>4.7%</u>
Jews & Others	5.18	81.4%	6.94	75.0%
Israel Arabs	1.19	18.6%	2.32	25.0%

ICBS Forecast for Israel (2000 - 2025)

		Base Population 2000 (In Millions)		Forecast Population 2025 (In Millions)	
Jews	High Variant	4.96	77.8%	6.75	69.0%
	Medium Variant			6.51	70.3%
	Low Variant			6.29	71.4%
Others*	High Variant	0.23	3.5%	0.53	5.5%
	Medium Variant			0.43	4.7%
	Low Variant			0.40	4.5%
Jews & Others	High Variant	5.18	81.4%	7.29	74.5%
	Medium Variant			6.94	75.0%
	Low Variant			6.68	75.9%
Israeli Arabs+	High Variant	1.19	18.6%	2.50	25.5%
	Medium Variant			2.32	25.0%
	Low Variant			2.12	24.1%

Source: ICBS, Demographic Trends in Israel, by Ahmad Hleihal, Director, Demography Sector

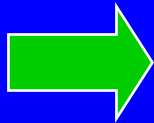
- Others are comprised of mostly immigrants from the Former Soviet Union who have moved to Israel under the Law of Return but who are not halachically Jewish. Beginning in 1995, the ICBS began to report on Jews & Others together due to the Jewish affiliation of these immigrants.
- + Israeli Arabs are comprised of Moslem, Christian Arabs, and Druze citizens of Israel.

ICBS Forecast for Israel (2000 - 2025)

Jewish Portion of Population Different Scenarios

2000

81%



Jewish Growth
High
Medium
Low

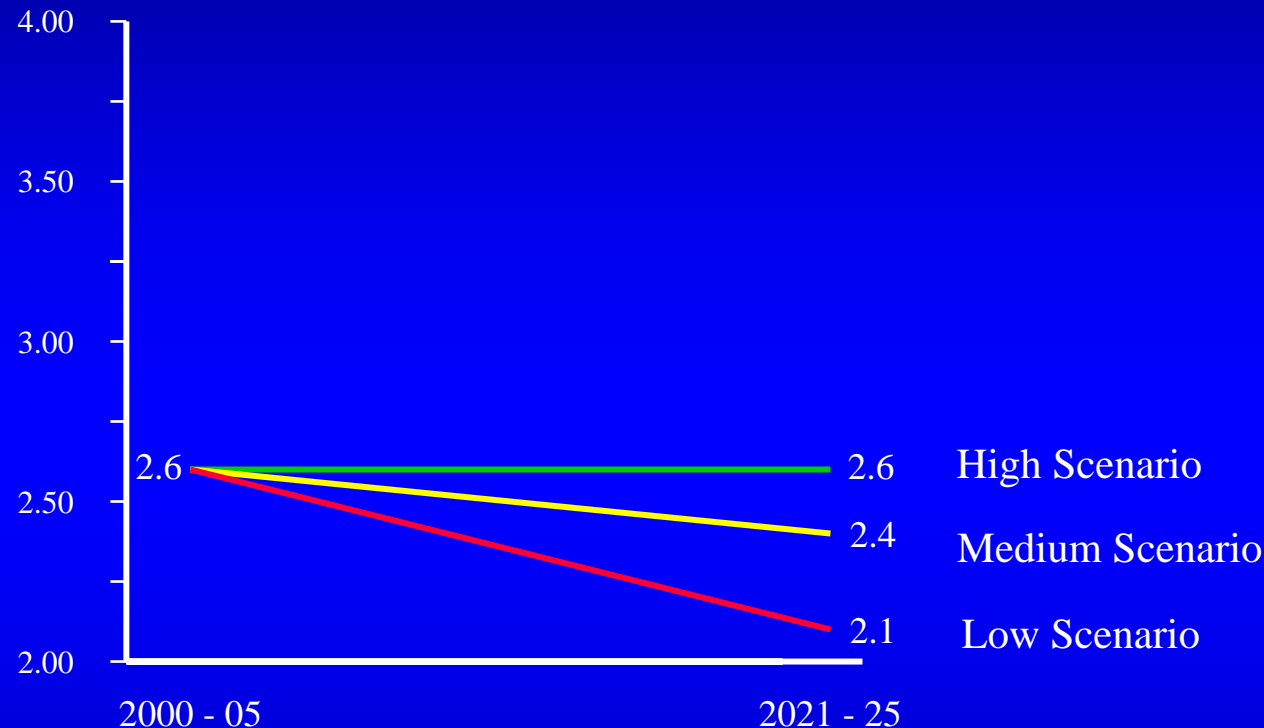
2025

Arab Growth

	High	Medium	Low
High	74%	76%	77%
Medium	74%	75%	77%
Low	73%	75%	76%

Fertility Assumptions in ICBS Forecast for Israel: Jews (2000 - 2025)

Total Fertility Rates



The ICBS assumed Jewish fertility rates (births expected per woman) would remain Stable at 2.6 in the high case scenario and drop to 2.1 in the low case scenario

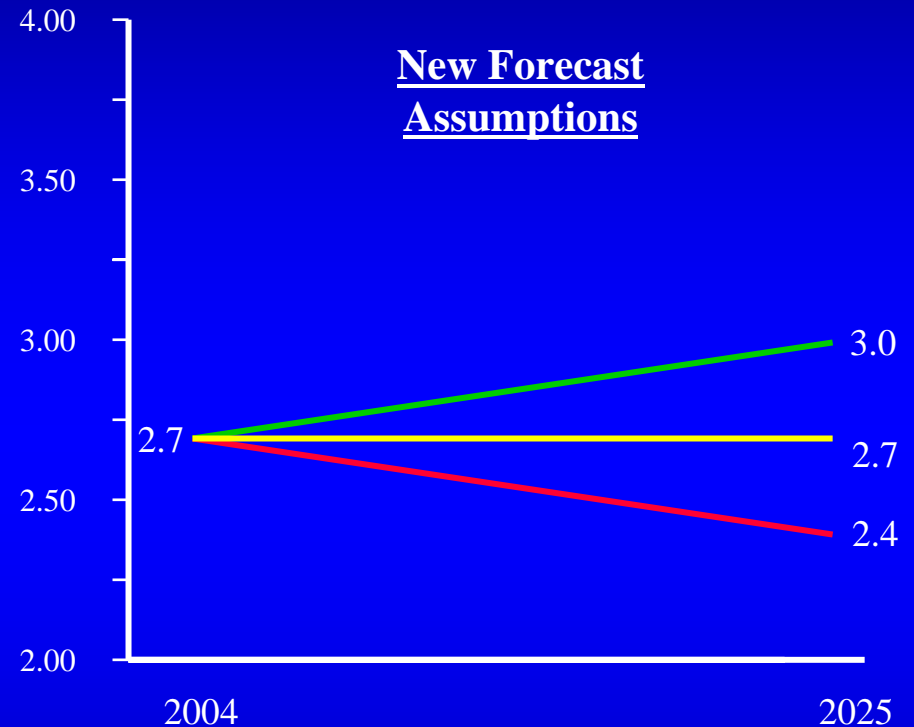
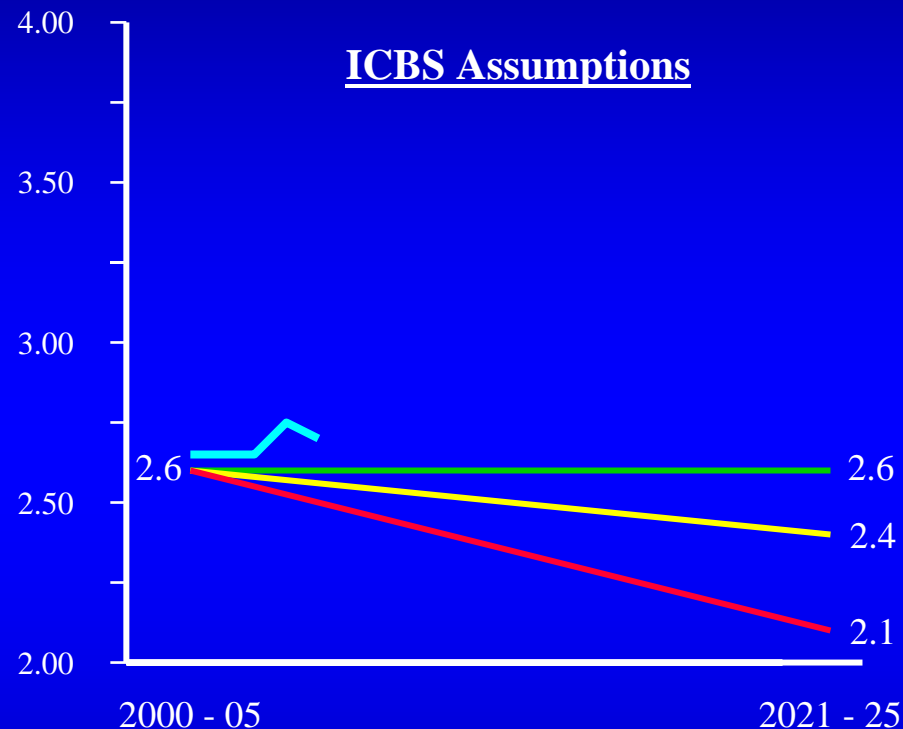
Net Immigration was expected to drop from 10,000/year to 7,000/year in the high case and 4,000/year to -2,000 emigration in the low case

'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025': Jews

Fertility Assumptions in New Forecast

(2004 - 2025)

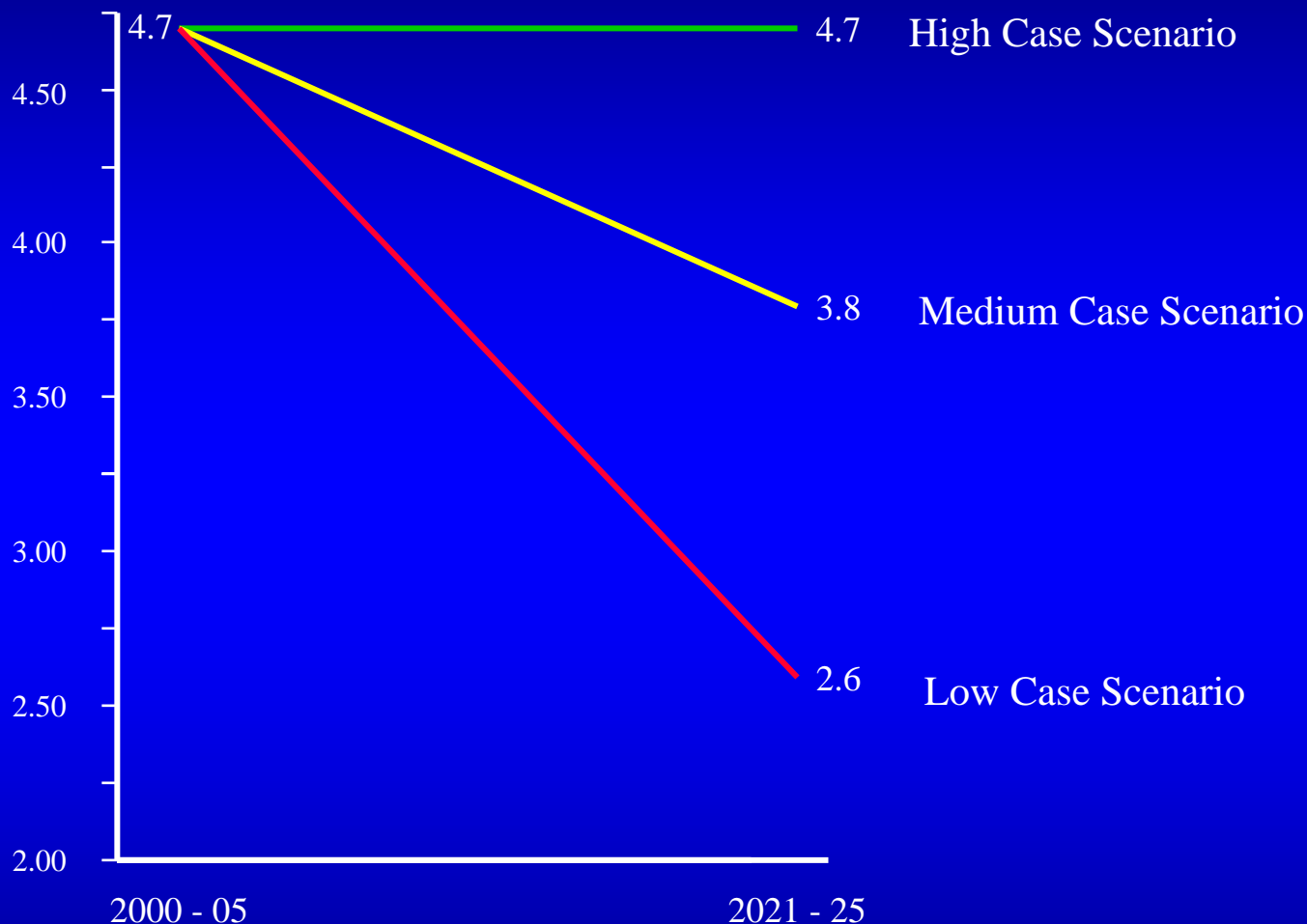
Total Fertility Rates



'Forecast for Israel 2025' considers three modestly higher fertility scenarios and also assesses the impact of different immigration levels

Fertility Assumptions in ICBS Forecast for Israel: Israel Moslems (2000 - 2025)

Total Fertility Rates

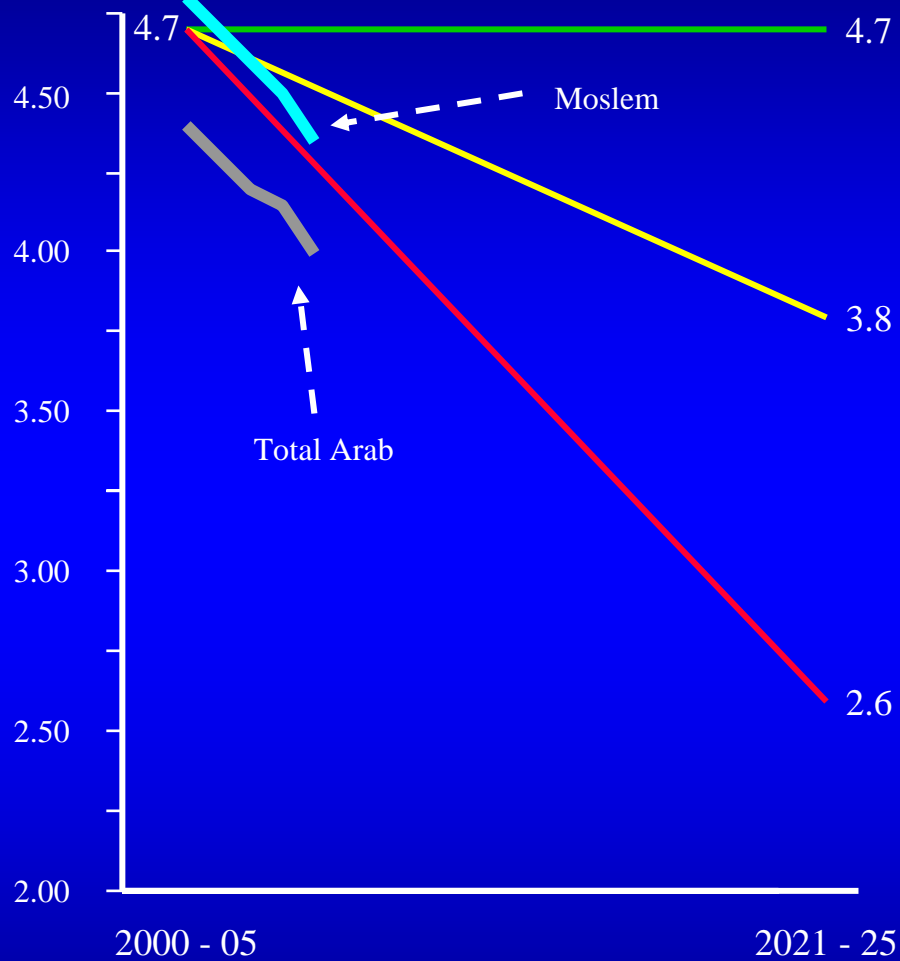


The ICBS assumed Moslem fertility rates (births expected per woman) would remain stable at 4.7 in the high case scenario and gradually drop to 2.6 in the low case scenario

No immigration or emigration scenarios were considered for the sector

Assumptions vs. Actuals in ICBS Forecast for Israel: Israel Moslems (2000 - 2004)

Total Fertility Rates



Actuals

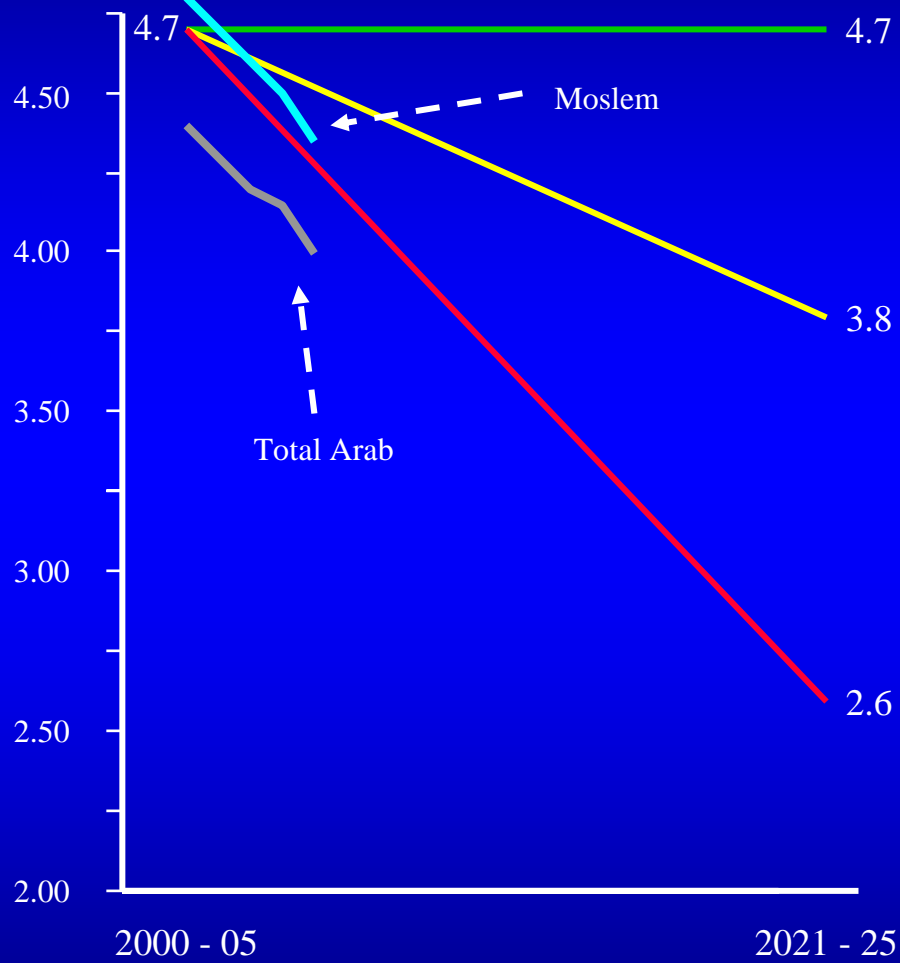
			<u>2000</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Moslems	1,090	83%	4.74	4.58	4.50	4.36
Christians	116	9%	2.55	2.29	2.31	2.13
Druze	112	8%	<u>3.07</u>	<u>2.66</u>	<u>2.85</u>	<u>2.66</u>
Total Arab	1,318		4.40	4.22	4.17	4.02

Actual fertility rates for Moslems were decreasing to the lowest level considered by the ICBS in its forecast

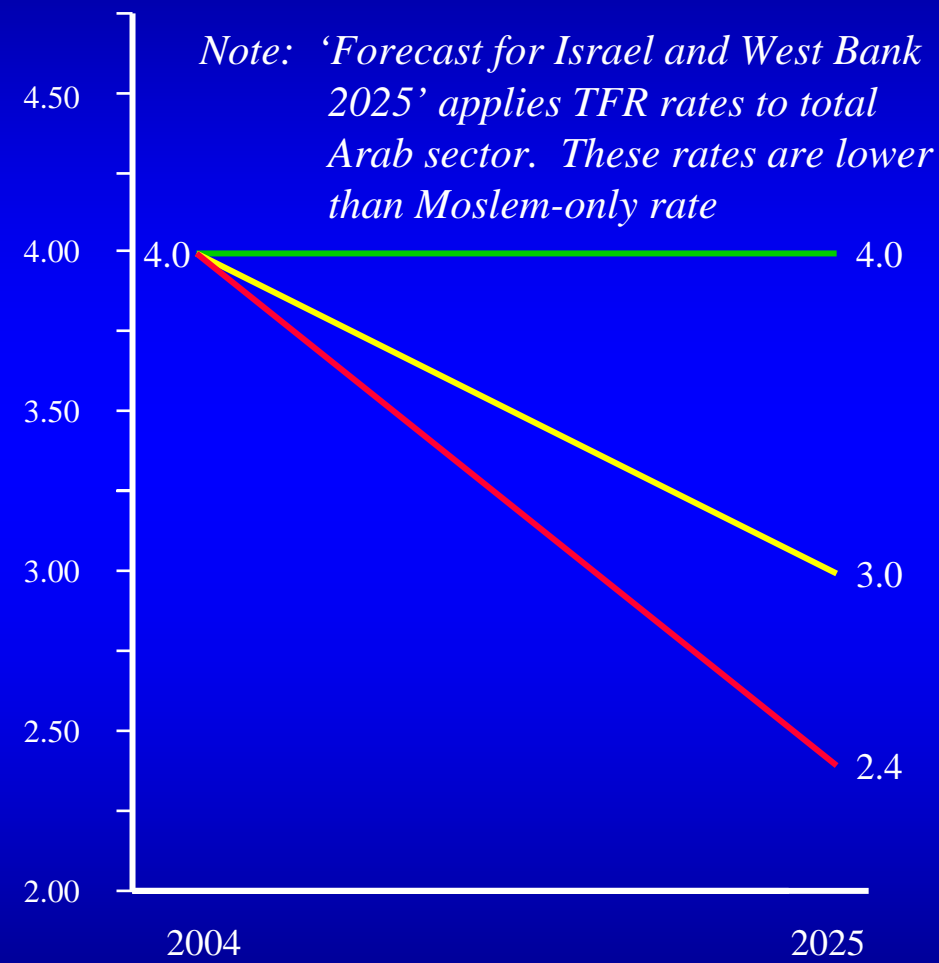
Similar reductions occurred in all communities of the Arab sector

'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025': Israel Arab **Fertility Assumptions in New Forecast** **(2004 - 2025)**

Total Fertility Rates



Total Fertility Rates



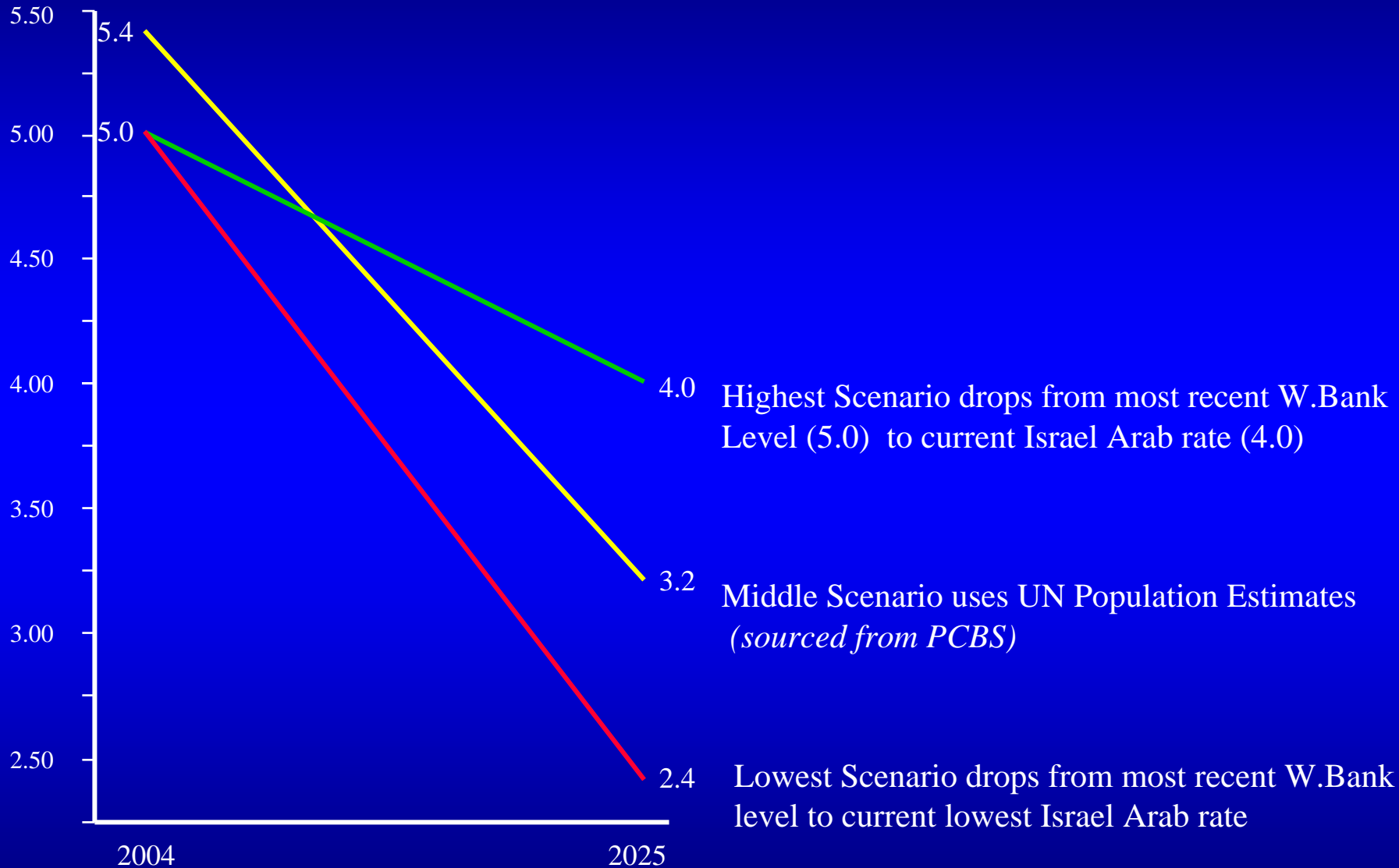
'Forecast for Israel 2025' considers three modestly lower fertility scenarios for the total Israel Arab sector and also assesses the impact of different migration levels

'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025': West Bank Arabs

Fertility Assumptions in New Forecast

(2004 - 2025)

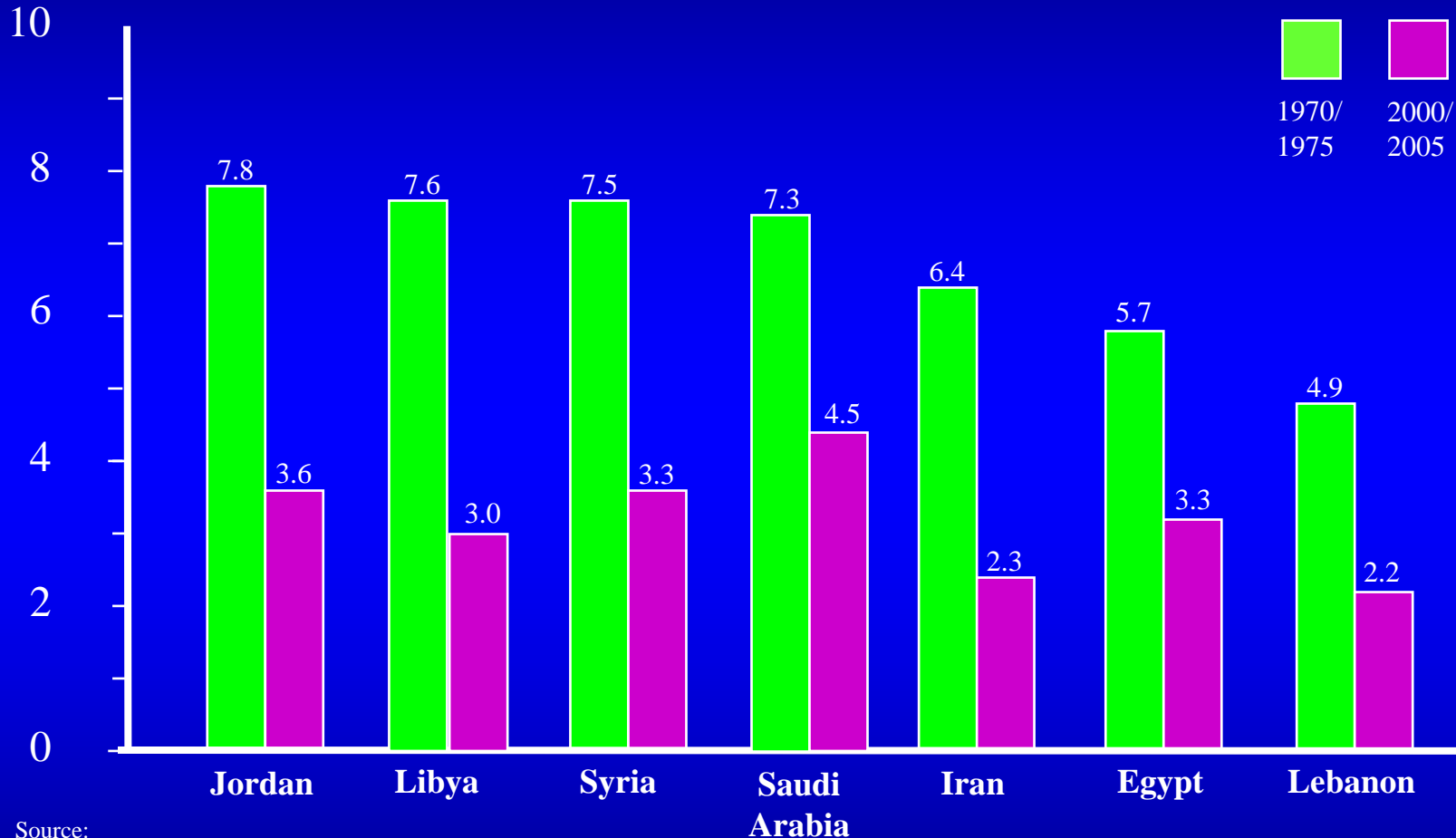
Total Fertility Rates



'Forecast for Israel 2025' takes the population figures found in 'Arab Population in the West Bank and Gaza' and applies three fertility scenarios

Total Fertility Rates (TFR) Middle Eastern Comparisons 1970/75 – 2000/05

Total Fertility Rate
Births/Woman



Source:
UN Population Division

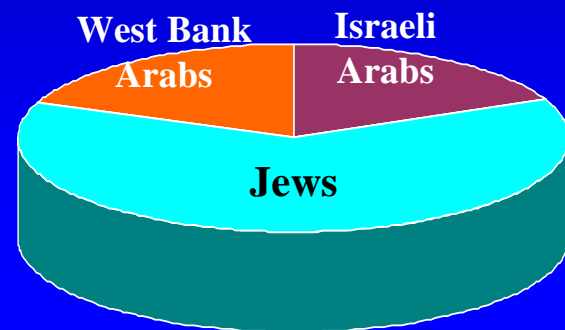
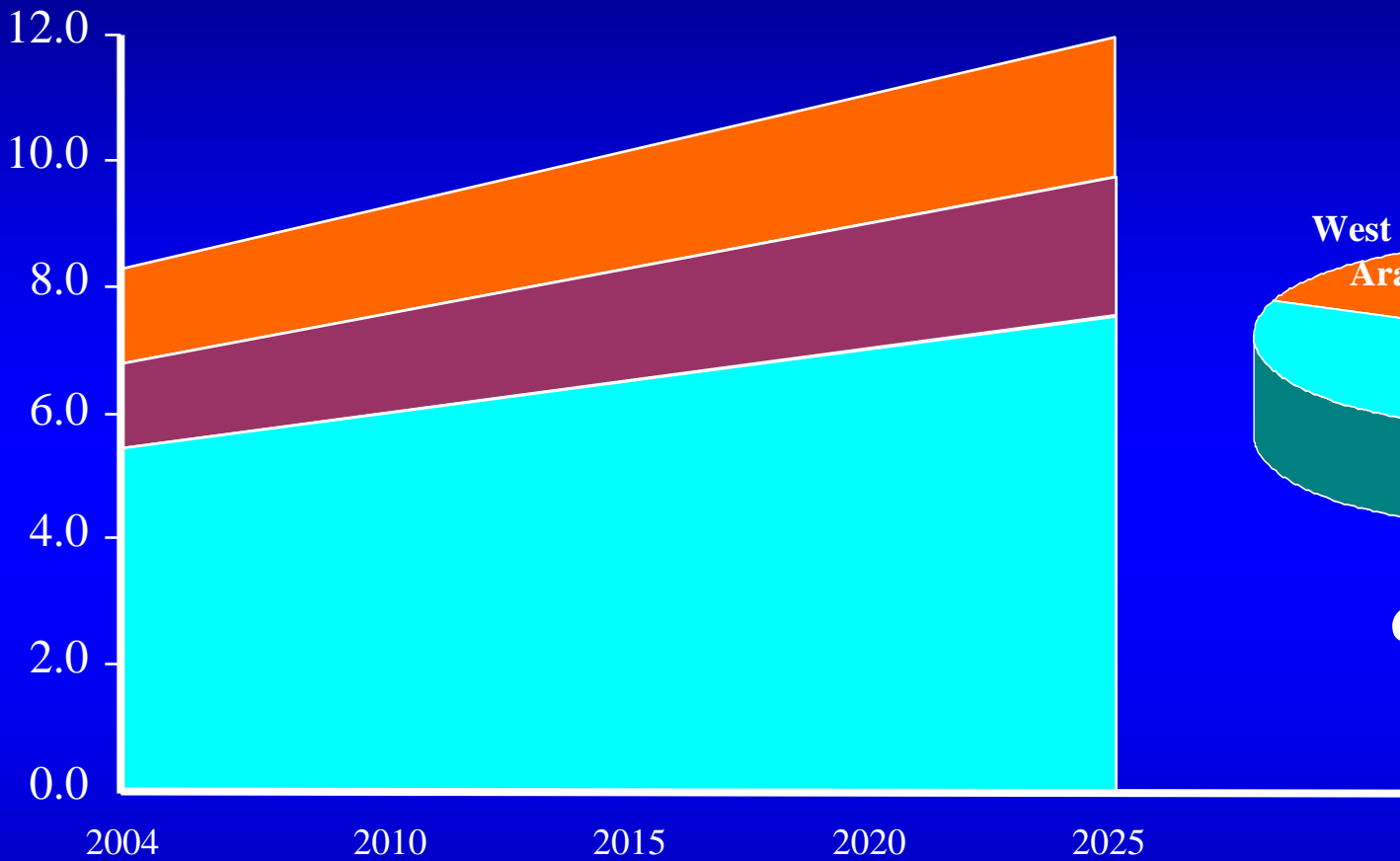
Fertility rates have dropped throughout the Middle East.

All fertility scenarios considered for Israel and West Bank Arabs start well above levels found in the region.

'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025': Mid-Case Scenario

(2004 - 2025)

Millions of People



63% Jewish

Source: Forecast for Israel 2025, Copyright 2005 Zimmerman, Seid, Wise

	2004		2025	
Israel Jews	5.49	67%	7.51	63%
Israel Arabs	1.32	16%	2.20	18%
West Bank Arabs	1.40	17%	2.24	19%

'Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025' (2004 - 2025)

	Scenario	2004 Base	Forecast 2025 Annual Net Migration				Total Fertility
			+ 0	+ 10,000	+ 20,000	+ 50,000	
Jews & Others	High		7.10	7.37	7.65	8.47	2.7 to 3.0
	Medium	5.49	6.97	7.24	7.51	8.33	2.7 to 2.7
	Low		6.85	7.11	7.38	8.19	2.7 to 2.4
			Annual Net Migration				
			- 10,000	+ 0	+ 10,000		
Israeli Arabs†	High			1.97	2.31	2.64	4.0 to 4.0
	Medium	1.32		1.88	2.20	2.52	4.0 to 3.0
	Low			1.76	2.07	2.38	4.0 to 2.4
			Annual Net Migration				
			+ 0	- 10,000	- 15,000	- 20,000	
West Bank Arabs#	High		2.66	2.34	2.18	2.02	5.0 to 4.0
	Medium	1.40	2.54	2.24	2.08	1.93	5.4 to 3.2
	Low		2.32	2.02	1.88	1.73	5.0 to 2.4

Forecast calculations use Spectrum Policy Modeling System Software. 2004 Data from ICBS for Israel Jewish and Arab population. West Bank population from *Arab Population in the West Bank & Gaza*, Zimmerman, Seid & Wise, Begin-Sadat Center

Forecast for Israel and West Bank

(2004 - 2025)

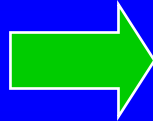
Jewish Portion of Population Different Scenarios

2004

2025

Israel

81%

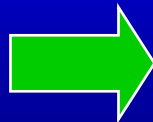


Jewish Growth
High
Medium
Low

		Arab Growth		
		High	Medium	Low
High	76%	79%	83%	
Medium	74%	77%	81%	
Low	72%	76%	80%	

Israel &
West Bank

67%



Jewish Growth
High
Medium
Low

		Arab Growth		
		High	Medium	Low
High	62%	66%	71%	
Medium	59%	63%	68%	
Low	56%	61%	66%	

‘Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025’

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Arab Population in the West Bank and Gaza: The Million Person Gap debuted at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. on January 10, 2005. The Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies plans to publish a version of the Study. The study can be found at www.pademographics.com

Forecast for Israel and West Bank 2025 debuted at the 6th Herzliya Conference in Herzliya, Israel on January 23, 2006.