



24.73x21.9	1/2	9 עמוד	the jerusalem postlite	11/01/2023	84556665-5
מדינה חברה כלכלה ומדיני ותאבי וייט - מנכ"ל מרכז טאו - 25170					

Fewer Weddings, More Babies

Israelis got married less,
but had more babies in 2022

page 16





24.57x29.8	2/2	16 עמוד	the jerusalem postlite	11/01/2023	84556664-4
מדינה חברה כלכלה ומדיניותאבי וייס - מנכ"ל מרכז טאו - 25170					

fewer Weddings, More Babies

Israelis got married less, but had more babies in 2022



PHOTO: INGIMAGE

By MAARIV ONLINE

Israelis are getting married less and having more children, says the 2022 State of the Nation (מצב האומה) report by the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies (מרכז טאוב לחקר המדיניות החברתית בישראל).

The report looks at Israel's society and economy in 2022. It is part of a larger group of such studies by the Taub Center.

A study of macroeconomic trends done by Prof. Binyamin Bentel and Dr. Laviv Shami touches on the differences between Europe, the US and Israel in terms of food and energy prices. In Europe and the US, the rise in food prices was faster than the rise in the Consumer Price Index (CPI — מדד המחירים לצרכן), while in Israel the two went up almost as fast.

In terms of energy prices, the differences between Israel and other countries are even clearer.

In the US and Europe, energy prices have risen about 40%, while Israel only saw about a 20% rise. This does not change the fact that prices in Israel are still among the highest in the West, and studies have found that high cost of living mostly hurts the poor.

Marriage and salary

A study by Michael Davoy, Prof. Gil Epstein and Prof. Avi Weiss looked at the relationship between marriage and salary. It found that a married man has a better chance of having a job than an unmarried man. Among women, however, married women are today 2% less likely to have a job than single women. Women who were married but are no longer married and women whose husbands died are 2% more likely to have a job than single women who never married.

The average hourly pay of married men is about 30% higher than that of single men after controlling for other variables, and married women make about 20% more than single women.

Israel is growing fast

In a study done by Prof. Alex Weiner and Kirill Scherberman on the demographic trends in Israel, it was found that the population of Israel is growing fast. In 2022, the population growth rate returned and rose to about 2.1%. Because of this, the population of Israel is expected to get to 9.65 million by the end of the year, compared to 9.45 at the beginning of the year. In 2021, the total fertility rate in Israel went up by 0.1 children, to 3.0 children per woman. This rise was mostly because of an increase of 0.13 children among Jewish women. Among Muslim women who are citizens of Israel, the total fertility rate went up by only 0.02 children.

The report also shows that more than 51% of the territory of European OECD countries is covered by nature such as trees, grasslands and swamps, compared to only 3.2% of Israel's territory. At the same time, the share of man-made and urban areas in Israel (buildings, roads, etc.) has grown over the past years much faster than it has in OECD countries.

Prof. Alex Weiner finds that among Jewish women in the years before COVID, there was a big drop in the rate of women expected to marry at least one time by the age of 55 — from a rate of more than 80% in 2012–2014 to 70% in 2019. Among Muslim and Druze women there was a drop to just under 75%.

The overall marriage rate of Jewish, Christian and Druze men fell below 70% between 2015 and 2019.

“For the most part, these drops are because of a rise in the number of single men and women who live together without getting married,” says Weiner.

Their rate out of all partnerships in Israel is about 5% and is still much lower than in other countries: 12% in the USA, 13% in Germany, 24% in Denmark and 27% in Norway.

Dictionary

Report	רפורט	רוח
Society	סוסיטי	חברה
Economy	אקנמי	כלכלה
Studies	סטודיז	מחקרים
Terms	טרמו	מובן
Among	אמנג	בין
Salary	סלרי	משכורת
Likely	ליקלי	צפויות
Average	אברג'ו	ממוצע
Variables	וריאבלז	משתנים
Population	פופולישן	אוכלוסייה
Rate	רייט	שיעור
Expected	אקספקטד	צפויה
Compared	קמפרד	בהשוואה
Fertility	פרטיליטי	פריון
Citizens	סידיסנו	אזרחיות
Grasslands	גרסלנדו	שטחי מרעה
Swamps	סואמפז	ביצות
Share	שר	חלק
Areas	אריאז	שטחים