



EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2013

ISRAEL

A very young and well-educated country with a unique military service

Israel ranks second among OECD countries for the proportion of 5-14 year-olds in its total population, with 18% compared with an OECD average of 12.5%. The 5-29 year-old population makes up 41% of Israel's total population, placing it just below Mexico (47%) and Turkey (44%) and well above the OECD average of 33%. Although access to education for 5-14 year-olds is universal, Israel, Mexico and Turkey are the three OECD countries with enrolment rates for 15-19 year-olds below 65%, almost 20 percentage points below the OECD average of 84%.

Nonetheless, Israel's population is well educated. Israel ranks second among OECD countries (tied with Japan and just after Canada) for the percentage of 25-64 year-olds that have achieved tertiary education: 46% compared with an OECD average of 32%. The share of 25-64 year-olds with at least an upper secondary education is 83%, well above the OECD average of 75%, while at the same time, the proportion of those with only an elementary education is well below the OECD average, 17% compared with 25% across OECD countries.

It should be noted however, that Israel has mandatory military service for 18-21 year-old men (18-20 year-old women) which has an impact on some indicators including the following:

- Israel reports the fourth highest proportion of 15-19 year-olds neither employed nor in education or training (NEETs). More than three-quarters of those NEETs count as inactive, i.e. not looking for employment. As inactives also include military conscripts, interpretations should take this into consideration. Adjustments should be made in the near future to improve comparability with other OECD countries.
- In Israel, on average, students obtain their first university-level degree at the age of 29, compared with the OECD average age of 27. Consequently, graduates from advanced research programmes are on average aged 37 in Israel, compared with an average of 35 for OECD countries.

Israel's expenditures impacted by the New Horizon Reform

Israel's annual expenditure per student by educational institutions for all services (from primary to tertiary education, including research and development activities) was more than USD 6 500 in 2010, which is almost one-third less than the OECD average of USD 9 313. This represents the eighth lowest expenditure per student of OECD countries.

However, Israel ranks fifth among OECD countries in expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP, spending in 2010, 7.4% of its GDP, 1.1 percentage points more than the OECD average. Although the expenditure per student is not particularly high, Israel's relatively large youthful population explains the total level of expenditure.

Between 2005 and 2010, spending did not keep pace with the significant increase in tertiary student enrolments. During that period, tertiary enrolments increased by 8% while expenditure increased by 7%, decreasing expenditure per student by 1%. At the primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary levels of education, however, student enrolments increased by 8% and expenditures increased by 30%, leading to an increase of expenditures per student of 20%.

This increase in expenditure related to the *Ofek Hadash* (New Horizon) education reform which has

been implemented in Israeli schools since 2008. This reform aimed at improving the wages of teachers and quality of students' education by changing employment conditions and the current structure of studies. In terms of purchasing power parities (PPP), the annual increase in teachers' salaries (after 15 years of experience) between the years 2010-2011 is of 7.9% in primary education and 8.5% in lower secondary education, thus placing Israel second among OECD countries for these levels of education.

Although in most countries, changes over time in teachers' salaries were similar at the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels, in Israel, teachers' salaries increased significantly more at the primary level than at other levels of education. This increase is largely due to the implementation of the New Horizon reform negotiated between the education authorities and the Israeli Teachers Union for primary and lower secondary education. The agreement included increased teachers' salaries with more teaching hours. In 2011, 80% of the full-time equivalent teachers in primary education, 26% in lower secondary education and 8% in pre-primary education were included in the reform. That same year, the Israeli government negotiated a similar programme for upper secondary schools with the secondary school teachers' union. As the implementation of the reform continues, salaries at the lower and upper secondary levels are also expected to increase.

The teachers' actual salary, relative to other tertiary-educated workers, was higher in 2011 in Israel than the OECD average for every level of education (Pre-primary through upper secondary). A primary teacher earned 95% of an equivalent worker with tertiary education in Israel (compared to an OECD average of 82%). Similarly, a lower secondary teacher earned 93% of an equivalent worker with tertiary education (compared to an OECD average of 85%). This same figure reached 102% when only accounting for teachers in the New Horizon reform.

Other findings:

- In 2011, in Israel, the unemployment rates among 25-64 year-olds are below the OECD average. For example, among those with a below upper secondary education, the unemployment rate is almost half the OECD average, 6.7% compared to 12.6%. Conversely, the employment rates among 25-64 year-olds are above the OECD average for individuals with qualifications with tertiary-type A (more theoretical university-based programmes) and advanced research programmes. This may suggest above-average inactivity rates for other levels of education.
- In Israel, in 2011, there were more women with a tertiary education than there were either men or women with any other level of education.
- Teachers in Israel are younger than the OECD average. For example, 53% of primary teachers are aged 39 or below, compared to 41% on the average for OECD countries.
- In Israel, in 2011, primary school teachers had almost 40% and 60% more annual net teaching time than lower secondary school teachers, and upper secondary school teachers, respectively.
- On average across the OECD at pre-primary level of education, there are 12.2 students to contact staff (teachers and teachers' aides) and 14.4 students to teaching staff only. Conversely in Israel at the same level of education, there are almost 13 fewer pupils per contact staff (teachers and teachers' aides) than per teaching staff. Israel makes extensive use of teachers' aides, the greatest among OECD countries with available data.

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Key Facts for Israel in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Israel		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Educational Access and Output								
	Enrolment rates	2011	2005	2011	2005	2011	2005	
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	86%	67%	67%	64%	77%	73%	11 of 36
	4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	94%	84%	84%	79%	90%	84%	16 of 36
C1.1a	5-14 year-olds (all levels)	97%		99%		98%		27 of 38
	Percentage of population that has attained below upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	17%	m	26%	34%	25%	34%	23 of 35
	Percentage of population that has attained upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	37%	m	44%	44%	48%	46%	28 of 36
	Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.3a A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	46%	m	31%	22%	28%	20%	4 of 36
	30-34 year-olds	53%		39%		37%		4 of 34
	25-34 year-olds	45%	m	39%	26%	36%	24%	10 of 36
	55-64 year-olds	45%	m	24%	15%	21%	14%	2 of 36
	Entry rates into tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
C3.1a	Vocational programmes (Tertiary-type B)	27%	31%	19%	16%	15%	11%	11 of 32
	University programmes (Tertiary-type A)	60%	48%	60%	48%	59%	46%	18 of 36
	Graduation rates	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A2.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	85%	m	83%	76%	83%	77%	14 of 27
A3.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	40%	m	39%	28%	41%	27%	13 of 26
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes								
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Men and Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4b	Below upper secondary	7.3%	9.8%	12.6%	8.8%	15.6%	10.4%	25 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	5.8%	5.8%	7.3%	4.9%	8.5%	5.2%	21 of 36
	Tertiary	3.9%	3.7%	4.8%	3.3%	5.2%	3.2%	21 of 36
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4d	Below upper secondary	5.9%	10.6%	12.2%	9.5%	15.1%	11.0%	30 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	6.0%	7.3%	8.0%	5.7%	9.1%	6.1%	23 of 35
	Tertiary	4.1%	3.7%	5.1%	3.6%	5.5%	3.6%	18 of 36
	Average earnings premium for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	151		157		158		18 of 33
	Men	159		162		164		15 of 33
	Women	151		161		161		22 of 33
	Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	72		76		77		22 of 33
	Men	69		77		78		24 of 33
	Women	66		74		75		28 of 33
	Percentage of people not in employment, education or training for 15-29 year-olds, by level of education attained	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
C5.4d	Below upper secondary	17.2%	15.9%	15.8%	14.4%	15.3%	13.5%	15 of 34
	Upper secondary	35.4%	36.7%	16.2%	13.6%	15.1%	11.8%	1 of 34
	Tertiary	19.3%	18.8%	13.3%	10.6%	12.3%	9.6%	6 of 34

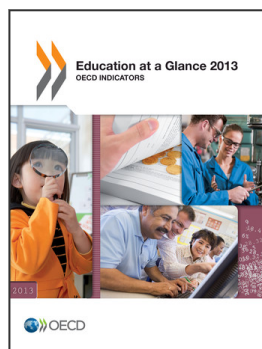
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Financial Investment in Education								
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2010		2010		2010		
B1.1a	Pre-primary education	3910 USD		6762 USD		7085 USD		26 of 32
	Primary education	5758 USD		7974 USD		8277 USD		25 of 34
	Secondary education	5616 USD		9014 USD		9471 USD		25 of 34
	Tertiary education	10730 USD		13528 USD		12856 USD		18 of 33
	Total expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B2.1	As a percentage of GDP	7.4%	7.7%	6.3%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%	5 of 33
	Total public expenditure on education	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B4.1	As a percentage of total public expenditure	13.6%	13.4%	13.0%	12.6%	11.4%	11.4%	12 of 32
	Share of private expenditure on educational institutions	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B3.2a	Pre-primary education	21.7%		17.9%		11.3%		9 of 28
B3.2a	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	7.6%	5.9%	8.5%	7.1%	6.1%	5.6%	17 of 31
B3.2b	Tertiary education	45.8%	41.5%	31.6%	22.6%	22.7%	14.3%	7 of 30
B3.1	All levels of education	22.4%	20.2%	16.4%	12.1%	10.7%	7.9%	8 of 29
Schools and Teachers								
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2011		2011		2011		
D2.2	Pre-primary education	24 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		13 students per teacher		2 of 31
	Primary education	16 students per teacher		15 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		17 of 35
	Secondary education	12 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		12 students per teacher		21 of 36
	Total intended instruction time for students (hours)	2011		2011		2011		
D1.1	Primary education	5738 hours		4717 hours		m		6 of 31
	Lower secondary education	2943 hours		3034 hours		m		16 of 31
	Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
D4.2	Pre-primary education	992 hours		994 hours		977 hours		13 of 29
	Primary education	842 hours	731 hours	790 hours	780 hours	777 hours	776 hours	11 of 31
	Lower secondary education	614 hours	579 hours	709 hours	697 hours	669 hours	658 hours	23 of 30
	Upper secondary education	521 hours	524 hours	664 hours	628 hours	651 hours	635 hours	27 of 31
	Index of change in statutory teachers' salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience/minimum training (2000 = 100)	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
D3.4	Primary school teachers	142	120	120	120	121	122	4 of 23
	Lower secondary school teachers	117	109	116	116	121	121	9 of 22
	Upper secondary school teachers	101	109	117	118	118	119	17 of 22
	Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education	2011		2011		2011		
D3.2	Pre-primary school teachers	0.85		0.80		0.77		7 of 22
	Primary school teachers	0.95		0.82		0.80		7 of 27
	Lower secondary school teachers	0.93		0.85		0.84		9 of 27
	Upper secondary school teachers	0.94		0.89		0.89		10 of 27

* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

** Compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100.

'm': data is not available.



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