

G-1: Jewish Population in the Land of Israel over Three Millennia

The Jewish population in the Land of Israel has fluctuated over millennia, from a large minority in ancient times to a small, often persecuted minority under Roman, Byzantine, Crusader, and Ottoman rule. Despite expulsions and massacres, Jews maintained a continuous presence in their homeland. Only in the 20th century, bolstered by Holocaust survivors, immigrants from Arab countries, and Zionist efforts, did Jews regain a majority with the establishment of the State of Israel.

Time Period	Jewish Population	Total Population	Jewish %
Iron Age (1000 BCE)	300,000 ¹	1,000,000 ¹	30%
Persian Period (5th Century BCE)	150,000 ²	800,000 ²	19%
Hellenistic Period (200 BCE)	200,000 ³	1,000,000 ³	20%
Roman Rule (70 CE)	500,000 ⁴	2,000,000 ⁴	25%
Byzantine Rule (500 CE)	200,000 ⁵	2,500,000 ⁵	8%
Early Islamic Rule (1000 CE)	300,000 ⁶	3,000,000 ⁶	10%
Crusader Rule (1200 CE)	50,000 ⁷	2,000,000 ⁷	2.5%
Ottoman Rule (1800 CE)	7,000 ⁸	275,000 ⁸	2.5%
Ottoman Rule (1890 CE)	43,000 ⁹	532,000 ⁹	8%
British Mandate (1922 CE)	84,000 ¹⁰	752,000 ¹⁰	11%
State of Israel (1948 CE)	716,700 ¹¹	1,900,000 ¹¹	38%
Modern Israel (2023 CE)	7,145,000 ¹²	9,727,000 ¹²	73.5%

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Notes

1. Iron Age estimates based on biblical and archaeological records, showing Jews a large minority.
2. Persian period estimates reflect post-Babylonian exile population.
3. Hellenistic period estimates reflect population under Greek rule.
4. Roman era data from Josephus, *The Jewish War*. Two-thirds of Jews were killed or expelled.
5. Byzantine period figures from *The Jews in the Roman World*.
6. Early Islamic period reflects relative stability under Muslim rule.
7. Crusader period estimates account for massacres during Crusades.
8. Ottoman period (1800 CE) based on Ben-Arieh's studies.
9. Late Ottoman estimates reflect Zionist immigration efforts.
10. British Mandate census figures from UN Partition Report.
11. State of Israel figures post-independence from 1948 census.
12. Modern Israel data from Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, 2023.