

Chapter IV - Vital Statistics

1. Births, Deaths and Natural Increase

The data are based on personal details that appear in the Population Registry and the following Ministry of Interior forms: *Notification of Live Birth*, *Notification of Death* and *Notification of Stillbirth*.

Live birth - the birth of a fetus that shows at least one of the following signs of life: respiration, heartbeat, umbilical pulse or obvious movements of voluntary muscles.

Stillbirth - the birth of a fetus after a pregnancy of at least 22 weeks or weighing 500 grams and over that does not show any of the above signs of life.

Infant - a baby that has not yet completed one year of life.

Pre-mature – a baby weighing less than 1500 grams at birth.

Infant mortality - death of infants before their first birthday.

Natural increase - is defined as the balance of births and deaths.

Infant mortality rate - computed per 1,000 live births.

Crude birth rate - the number of live births per 1,000 persons.

Total fertility rate - the average number of children a woman is expected to bear during her lifetime. The rate is based on the assumption that child bearing among all the women of a certain generation will occur between the ages 15 and 49, according to the specific birth rates of the women in the population, in every age group.

2. Termination of Pregnancy

Termination of a pregnancy may be carried out according to the Penal Law - 1977, Termination of Pregnancy, as follows:

1. The woman is under marriageable age (17 years) or over 40 years.
2. The pregnancy is a result of relations prohibited by criminal law, incestuous relations or extramarital relations.
3. The infant is likely to have a physical or mental defect.
4. Continuation of the pregnancy is likely to endanger the woman's life or cause her physical or mental harm.

3. Marriages and Divorces

From 2008 the only data source on marriages and divorces is the Population Registry. In the past, the primary source of data was marriage and divorce certificates.

For further details on the topics in this chapter, see CBS, [Statistical Abstract of Israel, introduction to chapter 3 \(Vital Statistics\)](#).

4. List of Sources for the Tables

Tables IV/1-5, 9: CBS, *Statistical Abstract of Israel*, for relevant years (Int.)

Table IV/6: Data based on the CBS' Population Department statistics

Table IV/7: Ministry of Health, *Inpatient Institutions and Day Care Units in Israel*, for relevant years (Int.)

Table IV/8: CBS, Health and Vital Statistics Department