

Topic: **Geographical Distribution and Type of Settlement**

Updated: **June 2014**

Geographical Distribution of the Arab and Druze Sector, 2012

District	Percentage	Population
Northern District/Galilee (including Yizrael, Akko and Golan sub District)	43.1%	686,900
Haifa District (including Haifa and Hadera [Northern Triangle] sub districts)	14.5%	230,500
Central Districts (including Sharon [Southern Triangle] sub districts)	9.7%	154,200
Jerusalem District	18.7%	298,400
Southern (Negev) District	12.8%	204,100
Others	1.2%	18,200
Total	100.0%	1,592,300

- As of 2012, about half of the entire Arab and Druze population resides in the Galilee.
- In certain parts of the Galilee, non-Jews constitute a majority, i.e., the Akko region (65%); Shfar'am – Nazareth area (94%).²
- Many of the non-Jewish villages in the Galilee are mixed Muslim, Christian and Druze villages. Maghar, for example has 20.7% Muslims, 21.2% Christians and 58.1% Druze; Kufr Yasif 44.1%, 52.7%, and 3.2% respectively; and Rama 18.3%, 50.3% and 31.4%.³
- The Triangle area was annexed to Israel, following the Armistice Agreement between Jordan and Israel signed in 1949 at Rhodes.⁴
- The Triangle area is a geographical strip stretching along the "Green Line" (the pre-1967 border), from Zalafa in the north (near Afula) to Kafr Qasim in the South (near Petach Tikva).

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² CBS, *Statistical Abstract of Israel*, 2012, table 2.8, 2.10.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ CBS, *Local Authorities in Israel 2011*.

See: http://www.cbs.gov.il/webpub/pub/text_page.html?publ=58&CYear=2011&CMonth=1 [Hebrew].

- A contiguous, predominantly Muslim area since 1967, the Triangle area has been strongly influenced by political, social, and economic developments among Palestinians in the adjacent West Bank.
- The Jerusalem District includes the Arabs of East Jerusalem and residents of three Arab villages in the vicinity of Jerusalem; the most well-known of these is Abu Gosh.
- The Southern District (See Fact Sheet on the Bedouin)
- Within Israel's pre-1967 borders, there are 136 predominantly Arab villages.
- The three largest Arab towns in Israel are Nazareth in the Lower Galilee (with a population of 73,700), the Bedouin town of Rahat in the Negev (with a population of 54,882),⁵ and Umm al-Fahm in the northern Triangle (with a population of 48,500).
- The following eight cities and towns are defined as mixed Jewish-Arab localities (with a Jewish majority and sizeable Arab minority): Akko, Haifa, Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Ramla, Lod, Ma'alot-Tarshiha, Upper Nazareth and Jerusalem.⁶

⁵ CBS, *Local Authorities in Israel 2011*. See: http://www.cbs.gov.il/webpub/pub/text_page.html?publ=58&CYear=2011&CMonth=1 (Hebrew).

⁶ CBS, *The Arab Population in Israel*, Statisti-lite no. 27 (November 2002), p. 3.