

learn your world israel

To support your global practice, ACC Docket offers country-specific fun facts from your peers who've been there – literally.

Economy

GDP (PPP) in 2014 (est.)
US\$300 billion

GDP per capita (Q1 2014)
US\$32,000

GDP per composition:
Trade and services (66.3%)
Manufacturing (19.7%)
Agriculture (2.9%)

GDP growth in 2014
(est.): 3.4%

Population: 8,059,000

Unemployment rate
(2014 est.): 6.9%

Inflation rate (2013): 1.8%

Life expectancy (2009):
81.55 years (one of the
world's highest scores)

Corruption

Ranked 36 out of 177 in
Transparency International
"2013 Corruption
Perceptions Index"

Additional resources

www.oecd.org/israel/

[www.doingbusiness.org/data/
exploreeconomies/israel/](http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploreeconomies/israel/)

www.investinisrael.gov.il/

www.financeisrael.mof.gov.il/



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First-time visitors to Israel are confronted with a mix of the ancient and ultra-modern: Colors, people, landscapes and tastes blend together to create a unique nation.

Israel is an immigrant country, with ancient roots deep in the land. The Israeli legal structure is a hybrid of four principle systems: Ottoman law from the period of Turkish rule; British common law introduced during the period of the British Mandate (1917-1948); traditional Jewish law – Halachah; and legislation adopted by the Knesset, the national legislature, since the country's establishment in 1948. Turkish law is not influential today and is seldom referenced. British common law is also becoming less important; however, many British legal concepts have remained influential, and courts often cite British and US precedents. Traditional Jewish law exercises a double influence: on issues of personal status within the Jewish population and in the investiture of authority in rabbinical courts and on new legislation, which refers to Jewish law whenever appropriate. The main body of Israeli law is legislation that the Knesset has instituted since the establishment of the State. It constitutes a coherent system based

on the needs of the modern Israeli society and inspired by Western legal systems.

There is no shortage of lawyers in Israel — 55,000 in 2014, with about 3,000 new lawyers joining the bar every year (a one-year training period, bar exams and membership in the Israeli bar are compulsory). In fact, Israel ranks number one worldwide in the number of lawyers per capita, with one lawyer for every 145 citizens! As you may imagine, this creates a pretty crowded legal market.

Israel's technology industry has been the driving force of the nation's economy, and has played a prominent role in Israel's economic development, particularly over the past decade. Only 25 years ago, most of the country's technology was concentrated in military and security-related industries. Although Israel was not a major player in the global hi-tech industry at the time, Israeli companies now have a strong foundation in hi-tech industries worldwide. Most ACC Israel chapter members come from the hi-tech industry.

RON BELKINE, TREASURER, ACC ISRAEL CHAPTER



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