

Preface

The *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem* has been published by the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies (JIIS) and the Municipality of Jerusalem since 1982. JIIS is an independent, non-profit think tank that produces updated and reliable data on Jerusalem, comprehensive background materials, position papers and professional analyses for all – from policy and decision makers through to the general public. Always with a focus on policy research, the fields covered by the Institute range from economics and society, primarily pertaining to contemporary Jerusalem; environmental policy; and the many angles of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Research on Jerusalem's myriad faces has stood at the center of our work since the Institute opened its doors in the 1970s. In that time, JIIS has built, expanded and enriched its databases. We have produced scores of books and policy papers, as well as drafting master plans, that address all aspects of life in Jerusalem.

In 2013, the JIIS Jerusalem research cluster has been occupied with evaluation studies for programs in a range of social fields – community, education, public health in the city. It has also undertaken several broad evaluation studies in the framework of the government's Merom Plan for the economic development of Jerusalem. The five-year plan addresses tourism, biotechnology and higher education; it is being implemented by the Jerusalem Development Authority (JDA) together with the Municipality. Our role is to assist JDA in consultation, research, monitoring and evaluation. Alongside these, research is being carried out on city-based migration patterns, in order to assess what the motivation for moving to and leaving Jerusalem are. We also have a project examining aspects of the neighborhoods of East Jerusalem; others dealing with social processes among the different population groups in the city; and more.

For the last decade, it was JIIS Head Prof. Yaacov Bar-Siman-Tov who penned this Preface, proudly introducing a new *Statistical Yearbook* each year. His unexpected death in February left a hole in our work space and in the JIIS family but we continue to march forth with our shared aims.

We hope that the latest *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem* will add another level to the wealth of knowledge on Jerusalem, and will assist in promoting projects for the city's development, advancement and status as the capital of the State of Israel.



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