## Area

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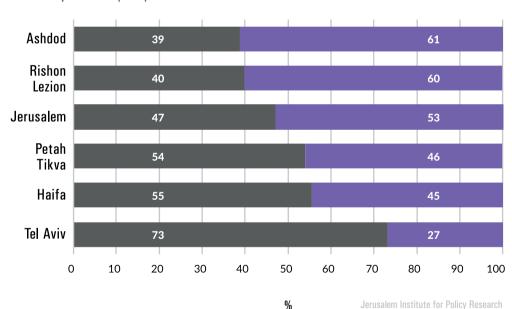
Jerusalem is the largest of Israel's major cities in terms of area.<sup>1</sup> Its area of jurisdiction as of 2013 spans 126 sq. km. By way of comparison, Be'er Sheva covers 117 sq. km., while Haifa has 69 sq. km., Rishon LeZion has 59 sq. km., Tel Aviv² has 52 sq. km., and Ma'ale Adumim has 49 sq. km.

In 2013 Jerusalem's built-up area constituted 47% of its total area and the remainder was open space. In Haifa 55% of the area is built-up, and in Tel Aviv the figure is 73%. The high percentage of open space (areas with no construction) in Jerusalem results, among other factors, from the city's

topography and from a longstanding policy that prohibits construction in its valleys. Consequently, Jerusalem is characterized by neighborhoods that are physically separated from one another by open space.

## Built-Up Area and Open Space in Jerusalem and Israel's Major Cities, 2013





For many years Jerusalem was Israel's largest city geographically. However, through a gradual process that began more than a decade ago, Dimona's boundaries have been expanded a number of times, and it now spans 220 sq. km., making it Israel's largest city in terms of area.

<sup>2</sup> All data relating to Tel Aviv refer to the city of Tel Aviv-Yafo.