

# 6

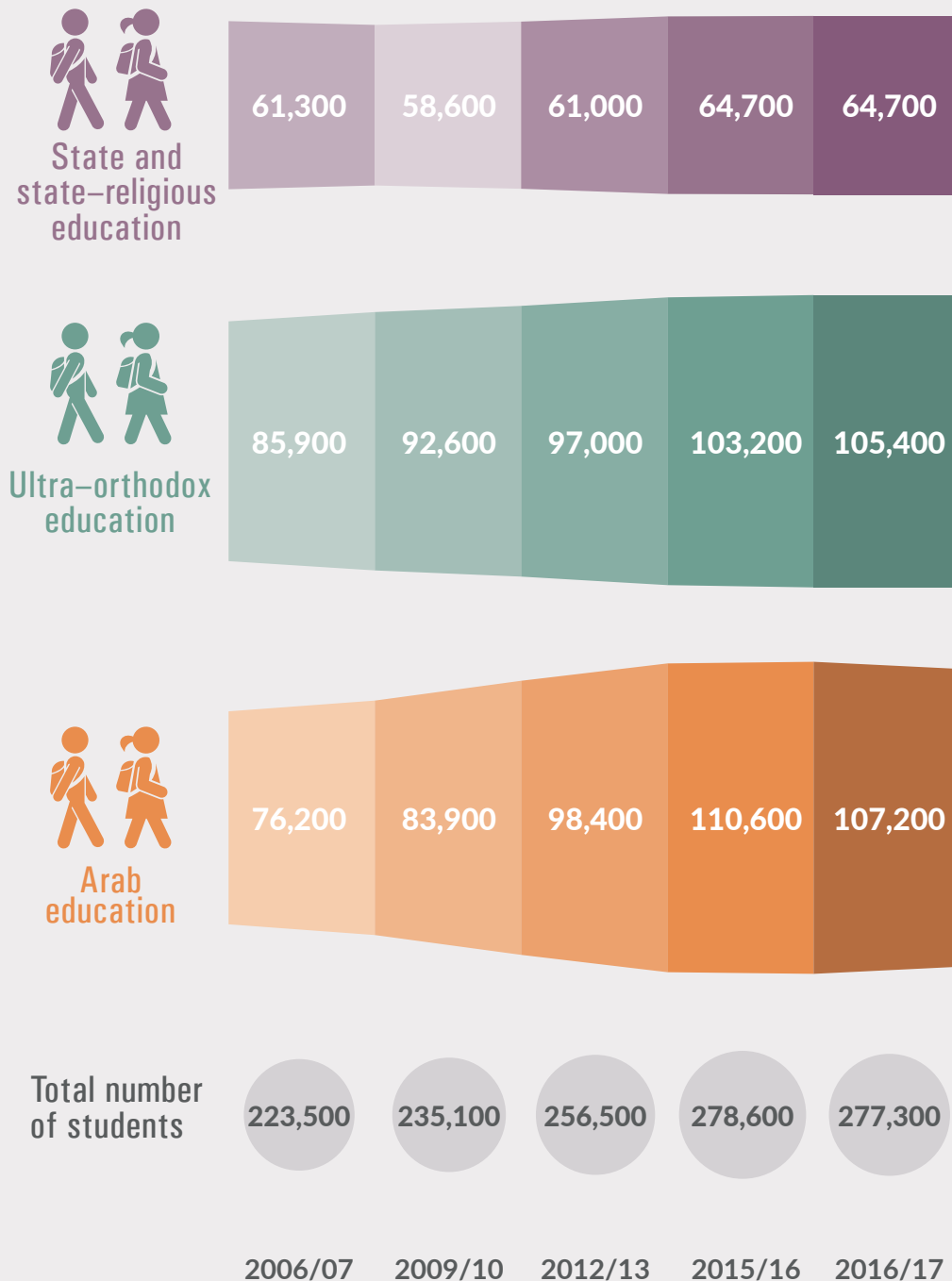
# Education and Higher Education

The education system in Jerusalem

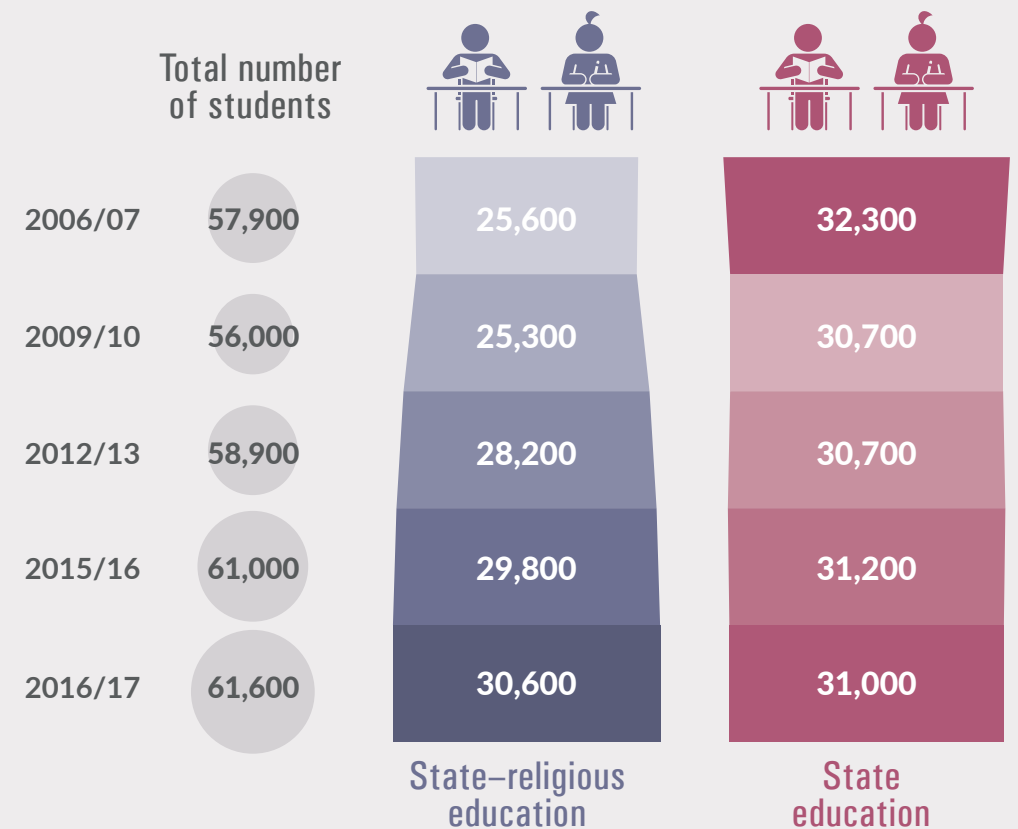
Higher education in Jerusalem



## Students in the Education System in Jerusalem, by Sector

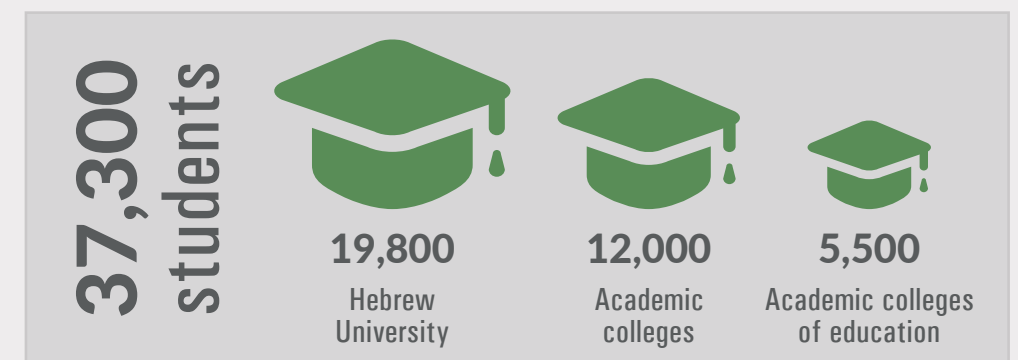


## Students in State and State-Religious Education in Jerusalem



Not including grades 13 and 14, special education, and state-ultra-orthodox education

## Students in Higher Education Institutions in Jerusalem, 2016/17



# The education system in Jerusalem

---

During the 2016/17 academic year, approximately 277,300 students were enrolled in Jerusalem's education system:<sup>26</sup> 64,700 students were enrolled in the Hebrew state and state-religious<sup>27</sup> education systems, and 105,400 students were enrolled in the ultra-orthodox education system. A total of 107,200 students were enrolled in the Arab education system: 90,400 students in the public education system and 16,800 students in private schools.

Jerusalem's education system is the largest, most varied, and most complex in Israel. It must meet the needs of diverse population groups with distinct characteristics. The four main sectors in Jerusalem's education system are: state, state-religious, ultra-orthodox, and Arab. The city's educational institutions also differ in terms of legal status across all these sectors, comprising official schools, recognized but unofficial schools, independent schools, and exempted schools.

During the past five academic years (2012/13–2016/17), the number of students in Jerusalem's education system increased by 7%, from 258,800 to 277,300. The number of students in the Hebrew state and state-religious systems increased by 6% (from 61,000 to 64,700), and the ultra-orthodox system recorded a similar increase, at 7% (from 98,400 to 105,400).

In the Arab public education system the number of students increased by 15% (from 78,400 to 90,400). The increased enrollment in the Arab sector results in part from an increase in the number of school-aged children but mostly from improved data collection, especially in recognized but unofficial schools.

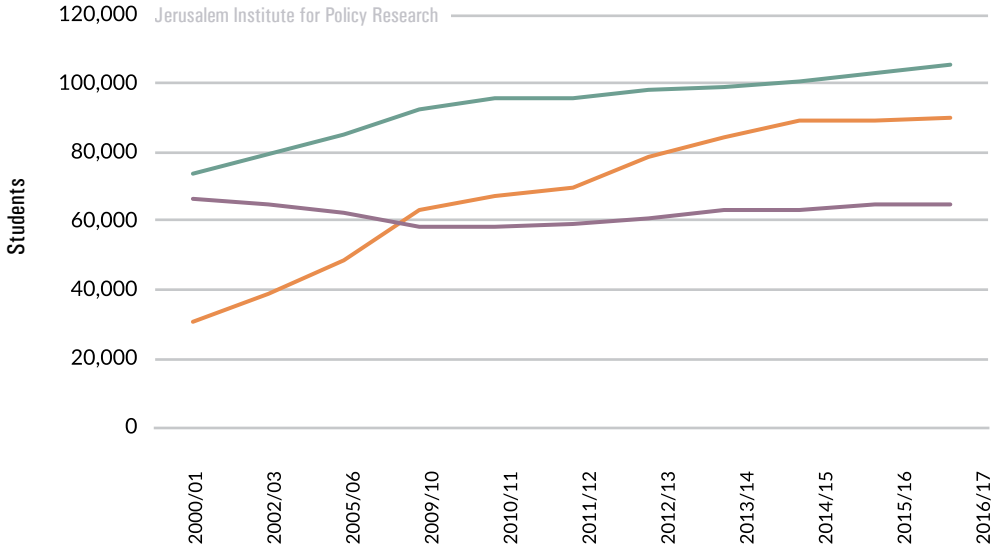
---

<sup>26</sup> This includes grades 13 and 14 as well as private Arab education.

<sup>27</sup> This includes 620 students enrolled in state-ultra-orthodox schools.

## Students in the Education System in Jerusalem, by Sector, 2000/01 – 2016/17

■ Hebrew ultra-orthodox education ■ Arab public education  
■ Hebrew state and state-religious education



### Hebrew education

During the 2016/17 academic year, 170,100 students were enrolled in the Hebrew education system in Jerusalem: 64,700 students (38%) were enrolled in state and state-religious schools, and 105,400 (62%) were enrolled in ultra-orthodox schools.

The distribution of students in the Hebrew state and state-religious education systems was as follows: 12,600 children (19%) in kindergarten and nursery school, 25,500 students (39%) in elementary school, and 24,400 students (38%) in secondary school. A total of 2,200 students (3%) were enrolled in schools for special education.

The distribution of students in the ultra-orthodox education system was as follows: 24,700 children (23%) in kindergarten and nursery school, 49,600 students (47%) in

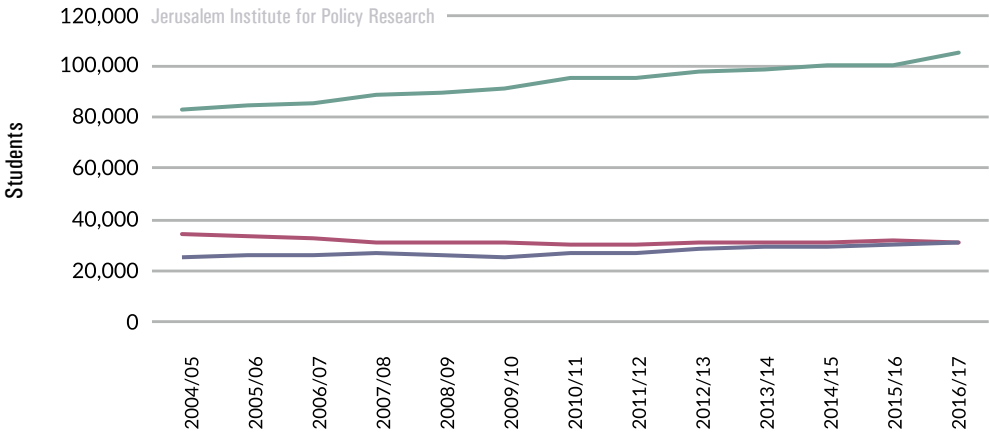
elementary school, and 28,600 students (27%) in secondary school. A total of 2,500 students (2%) were enrolled in schools for special education.

An analysis of the patterns of change in the number of students indicates different rates of growth among the various educational sectors. During the past five years (2012/13 – 2016/17), as noted, there was a 6% increase in the number of students in state and state-religious schools, from 61,000 to 64,700. Separate examinations of the state system and the state-religious system<sup>28</sup> reveal that the state system had a 1% increase in enrollment (from 30,700 to 31,100), while the state-religious system had a 9% increase (from 28,200 to 30,600).

<sup>28</sup> This does not include special education, grades 13 and 14, or state-ultra-orthodox schools.

## Students in the Hebrew Education System in Jerusalem, by Sector, 2004/05 – 2016/17

■ Ultra-orthodox education ■ State education ■ State-religious education



## Arab education

During the 2016/17 academic year, 107,200 students were enrolled in Jerusalem's Arab education system: 90,400 (84%) were enrolled in public schools<sup>29</sup> and 16,800 (16%) in private schools. Students in the Arab education system (public and private) constituted 39% of all students in Jerusalem's education system.

The distribution of students in public education was as follows: 17,700 children (20%) in kindergarten and nursery school, 41,000 (45%) in elementary school, 29,700 (33%) in secondary school. Approximately 2,000 students (2%) were enrolled in schools for special education.

Since the 2000s there has been a significant increase in the number of students enrolled in the Arab public education system. In 2002/03 there were 39,200 students enrolled in Arab public schools. The number rose to 48,300 in 2005/06, to 84,200 in 2013/14, and to 90,400 in 2016/17. This notable increase resulted from demographic growth as well as the reclassification of private schools as public schools, most of which received the status of recognized but unofficial schools.

<sup>29</sup> This includes official schools and recognized but unofficial schools.

# Higher education in Jerusalem

---

In 2016/17 Jerusalem's institutions of higher education had a total of 37,300 students, accounting for 14% of all post-secondary students in Israel. Approximately 19,800 students (53% of the total for Jerusalem) were enrolled at the Hebrew University,<sup>30</sup> 12,000 students (32%) were enrolled in the city's seven academic colleges, and 5,500 students (15%) were enrolled in its four teacher training colleges.<sup>31</sup>

The percentage of students studying at the Hebrew University out of all students enrolled in institutions of higher education in Jerusalem (53%) was slightly higher than the figure for Israel (48%).

The percentage of students studying at the Hebrew University out of all students in Jerusalem's higher education institutions has decreased over the years (from 58% in 2009/10 to 53% in 2016/17), while the number of students in Jerusalem's academic colleges rose slightly (from 30% in 2009/10 to 32% in 2016/17). The percentage of students enrolled in Jerusalem's teacher training colleges also rose slightly, from 13% to 15%.

The distribution of students by academic degree indicates that of the 37,300 students in Jerusalem's institutions of higher education, 71% were pursuing a first (bachelor's) degree, 22% a second (master's) degree, and 6% a third (PhD) degree.

The percentage of students pursuing a first degree in Jerusalem (71%) was comparable to the figure for Israel (73%), and so too with respect to students pursuing a second degree (22% in Jerusalem and in Israel). The percentage of students pursuing a third degree in Jerusalem was slightly higher than the figure for Israel (6% in Jerusalem and 4% in Israel).

## University applications

During 2016/17, the Hebrew University received 6,700 applications for registration as first-year students pursuing a first degree. Tel Aviv University received the highest number of applications (10,400), followed by Ben-Gurion University (7,400). The number of applications to other universities ranged between 3,800 and 4,900.

Forty-six percent of applicants to the Hebrew University were accepted and subsequently enrolled. By comparison, the percentage of applicants who were accepted and then enrolled was lower for Tel Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University, at 42% and 37% respectively, but higher for Bar-Ilan University (68%), Ariel University (58%), the Technion (54%), and Haifa University (54%).

---

<sup>30</sup> This figure includes the Hebrew University campus in Rehovot, which recorded 2,500 students that year.

<sup>31</sup> This includes only institutions recognized by the Council for Higher Education.

Twenty-seven percent of applicants to the Hebrew University were accepted but did not enroll, the highest rate of non-enrollment (following acceptance) among Israel's universities. For Bar-Ilan University the figure was 22%, for Haifa University it was 17%, and at Tel Aviv University 10% of those accepted did

not subsequently enroll. Ariel University and Ben-Gurion University recorded the lowest rates of accepted applicants who did not enroll, at 2%-3%. Over the past five years, the percentage of accepted applicants who did not enroll has remained steady at each university.

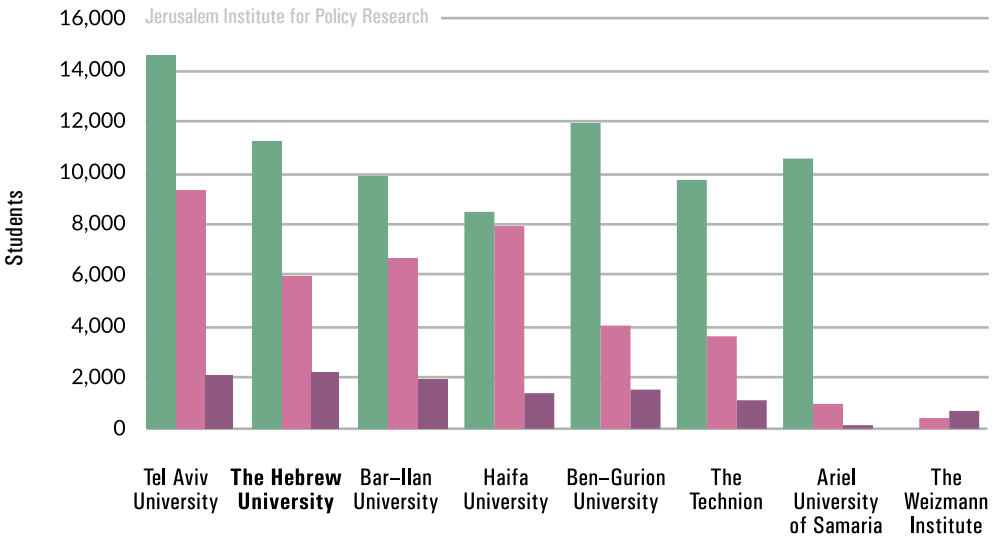
## Student distribution by degree and discipline

During the 2016/17 academic year, about 19,800 students were enrolled at the Hebrew University: 57% for a first degree, 31% for a second degree, 11% for a third degree, and 1% for a diploma.

The distribution of students by faculty was as follows: 24% in the social sciences, 22% in the natural sciences and mathematics, 19% in humanities,<sup>32</sup> 18% in medicine (including medical support professions), 9% in agriculture, 6% in law, and 2% in engineering.

## Students Enrolled in Israel's Universities, by Degree, 2016/17

■ First degree (Bachelor's) ■ Second degree (Master's) ■ Third degree (PhD)



<sup>32</sup> This category includes education and teacher training.

A review of data from the past decade indicates that the proportion of students in the humanities at the Hebrew University declined gradually from 26% in 2006/07 to 19% in 2016/17. The Faculty of Medicine, in contrast, recorded an increase in student enrollment, from 14% to 18%. For the other faculties and departments, the proportion of students remained stable. Such a decline in the proportion of humanities students is not

unique to the Hebrew University; in fact it is characteristic of all the humanities departments at Israel's universities.

The largest university in Israel in terms of student body for the 2016/17 academic year was Tel Aviv University (26,300 students), followed in descending order by the Hebrew University, with 19,800 students, and Bar-Ilan University, with 18,800 students.

## Doctoral (PhD) students

For many years the Hebrew University had the largest number of students pursuing a PhD. In 2016/17 the Hebrew University had 2,200 PhD students, who constituted 20% of the total across Israel's universities. Tel Aviv University, by comparison, had 2,000 PhD students (18%), and Bar-Ilan University had 1,900 (17%).

Over the years the number and percentage (out of all PhD students) of Hebrew University students pursuing a PhD has declined, as a result of several PhD programs opening across Israel's universities. The proportion of Hebrew University students among all PhD students consequently dropped from 30% in 2000/01 to 25% in 2008/09, and to 20% in 2016/17.

## Students by population group and gender

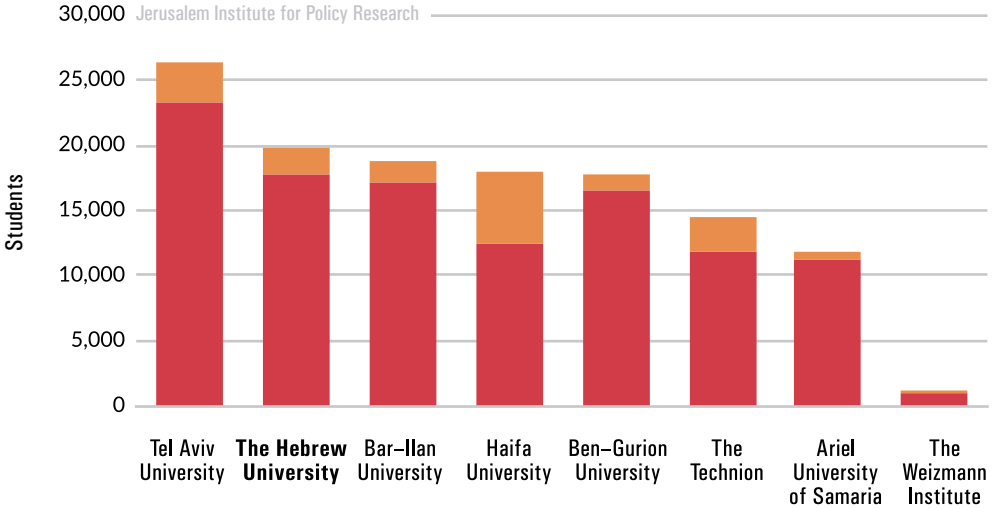
In 2016/17, 91% of the students at the Hebrew University and academic colleges of Jerusalem were Jewish and 9% were Arab. The proportion of Arab students out of all students at the Hebrew University (10%) was higher than among the academic colleges (8%). The three academic colleges in Jerusalem that recorded the highest percentage of Arab students were Hadassah College (15%), Azrieli College of Engineering (14%) and the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance (11%).

In 2016/17, 10% of the students enrolled at the Hebrew University were Arab. Across all of Israel's universities, Arab students constituted 13% of the student body. Haifa University recorded the highest percentage of Arab students (31%), followed by the Technion (18%). The lowest percentages were recorded at the Weizmann Institute of Science (2%) and Ariel University (5%).



## Students Enrolled in Israel's Universities, by Population Group, 2016/17

■ Jews ■ Arabs



There were more women than men enrolled in Israel's universities. During the 2016/17 academic year, women constituted 55% of the student body across Israel's universities. The proportion of women attending the Hebrew

University was identical to the proportion for Israel. Haifa University and Bar-Ilan University recorded the highest percentages of women (62%-66%), while the Technion recorded the lowest (36%).