



ARAB CITIZENS OF ISRAEL

עֲרָבִים אֲזְרָחֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל



Arabs comprise more than one-fifth of the citizens of Israel. While the Declaration of Independence guarantees all citizens equal rights regardless of ethnicity or religion, many Arab citizens struggle to see these values actualized in their lives. While the official term used most often to refer to this population group is Arab Israelis, many prefer to call themselves 1948 Arabs or Palestinian Israelis. They have full voting rights, and in the 2015 elections, the Joint Arab List became the third-largest party in the Knesset. Arabs attend all of the country's colleges and universities and work in every profession and sector of society. Many have relatives in the West Bank or Gaza—home to approximately four million Palestinians who are not citizens of Israel.