

Water in Jordan

Jordan is one of the most water stressed places on Earth. Population has increased due to refugees from Palestine, Syria and Iraq and Development is driving up demand. The River Jordan has almost dried up and the Dead Sea is shrinking. Where does Jordan get its water from and is it managing it sustainably to ensure that it will have the supplies that it needs in the future?

Where does Jordan's water come from?



Precipitation



Surface



Groundwater

Agriculture

Only 10% of land suitable for agriculture.



Only 3% of its land being used for agriculture.

4 Ecosystems

The Jordan Rift Valley (JRV) along the western border of the country, starts at Lake Tiberias in the north (212 m below sea level) and continues south through the Jordan Valley into the Dead Sea on the Israeli-Jordanian border (417 m below sea level).

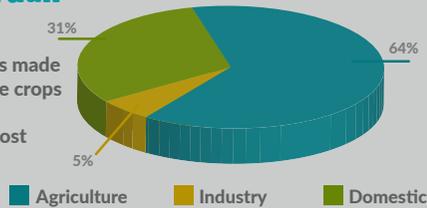
The Highlands to the east of JRV, run from north to south. They consist of ranges of mountains and plains at an altitude between 600 and 1 600 m above sea level and numerous side wadis sloping towards the JRV.

The plains, extend from north to south along the western borders of the Al-Badiah desert region.

The Al-Badiah desert region in the east, with a total area of around 69 000 km², is an extension of the Arabian Desert.

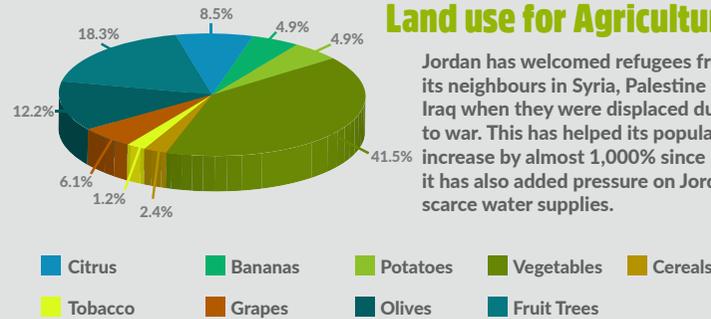
Water use in Jordan

Most Jordan's agriculture is made possible by irrigation. Some crops are thirstier than others. See which crops use the most of Jordan's scarce water.



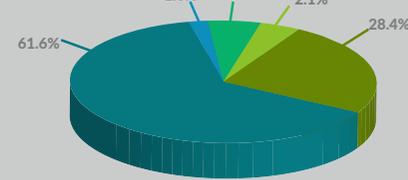
Land use for Agriculture

Jordan has welcomed refugees from its neighbours in Syria, Palestine and Iraq when they were displaced due to war. This has helped its population increase by almost 1,000% since 1960 it has also added pressure on Jordan's scarce water supplies.

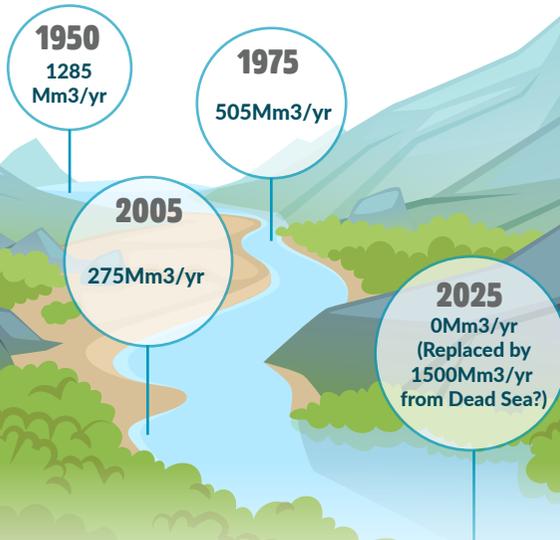


Nationalities living in Jordan

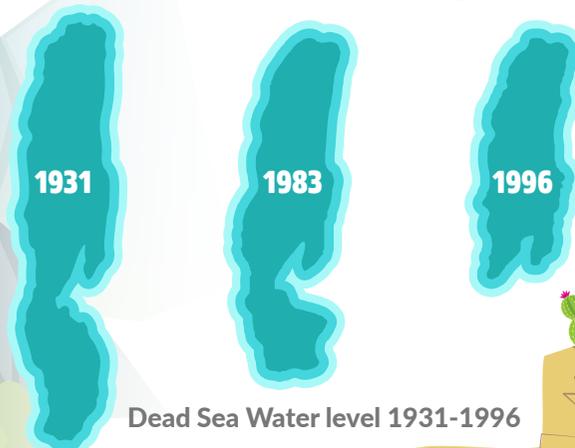
Other
Syrian
Iraqi
Palestinian
Jordanian



River Jordan Discharge



Is the Dead Sea Dying?



Dead Sea Water level 1931-1996

314,000 Tourists per year

Average Tourist Consumption - 1,000L per day

Refugee Allocation - 35L per day

Jordanian Average Consumption - 80L per day



One of the most water poor countries in the world.

110mm of precipitation per year.

