

3. STATISTICAL INDICATORS

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1.1 Child population

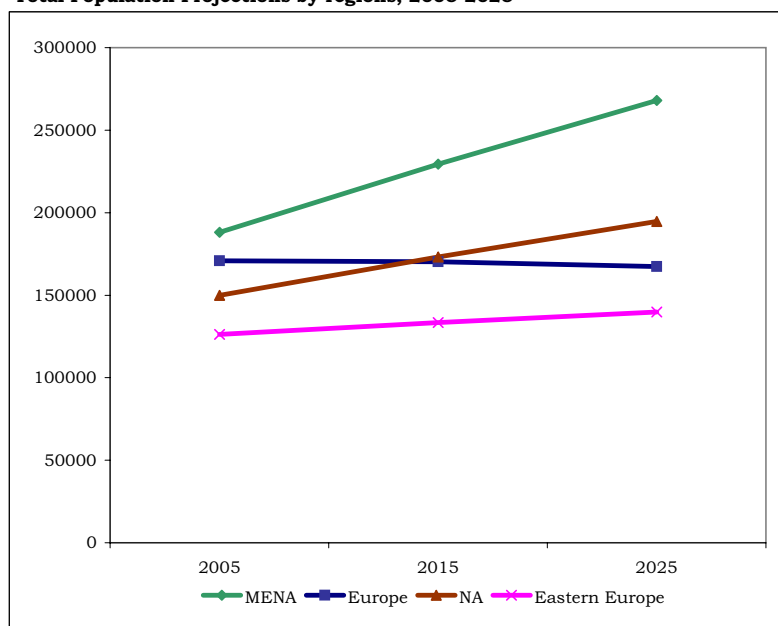
The combined total population of countries in the Middle East will sharply increase between 2005 and 2025, while the number of working age adults will double, and the number of elderly triple.

The child population will increase by 30 percent. The expansion will be faster in some countries than others. Yemen, for instance, will experience an abrupt population explosion in the coming years.

Something similar, although not as steep, will occur in the North Africa region.

In the north Mediterranean countries, the opposite will occur. In Europe the total population will remain almost stable, experiencing a slight downward trend. The most dramatic changes will occur in the population composition, where we will see a declining trend in the child population and an upward trend in the number of elderly.

Total Population Projections by regions, 2005-2025

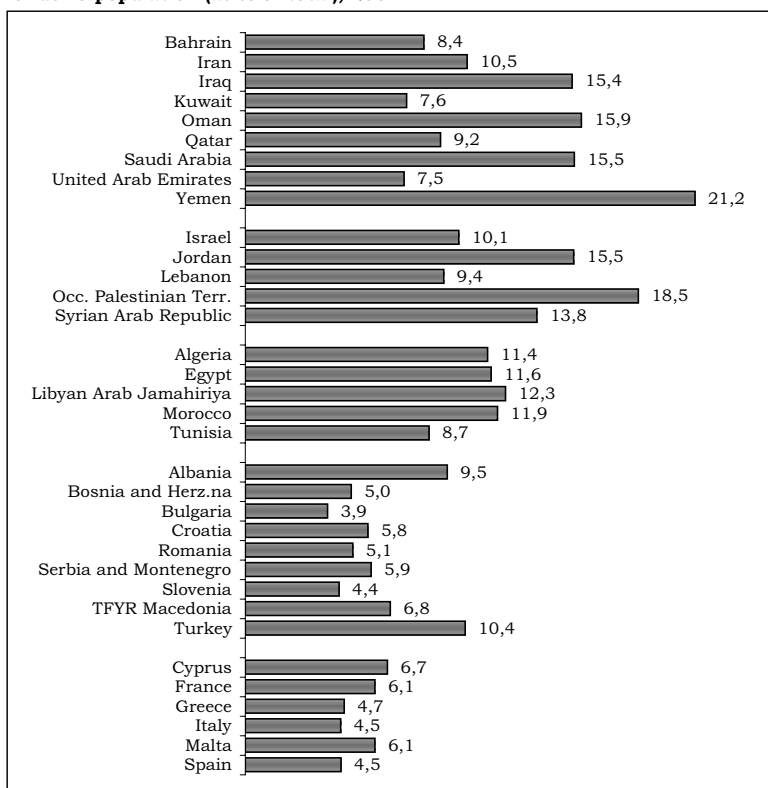


Source: *The World Bank, 2003*

1.2 Child population

Analysis of the demographic characteristics of countries in the Euro-Mediterranean area with respect to the under-five population reveals a sharp difference between the nations to the north and south of the Mediterranean. While the countries considered in southern Europe and the Arab region tend to coincide as a whole in terms of overall population, a significant gap emerges as regards their characteristic demographic trends. In southwest Europe and the Balkan region, the under-five population as a proportion of total population is around the average value for the industrialized countries (5.2%) with the exception of Turkey and Albania. While the average value of 11.1% shown for the developing countries is reflected in North Africa, a considerable increase is found in the countries of the Middle East and the Arabian peninsula. Over 15% of the population in Jordan, Iraq, Oman and Saudi Arabia are aged under five, with peaks of 18.5% and 21.2% recorded respectively for Palestine and Yemen.

Under-5 population (as % of total), 2001



Source: UNICEF, 2003

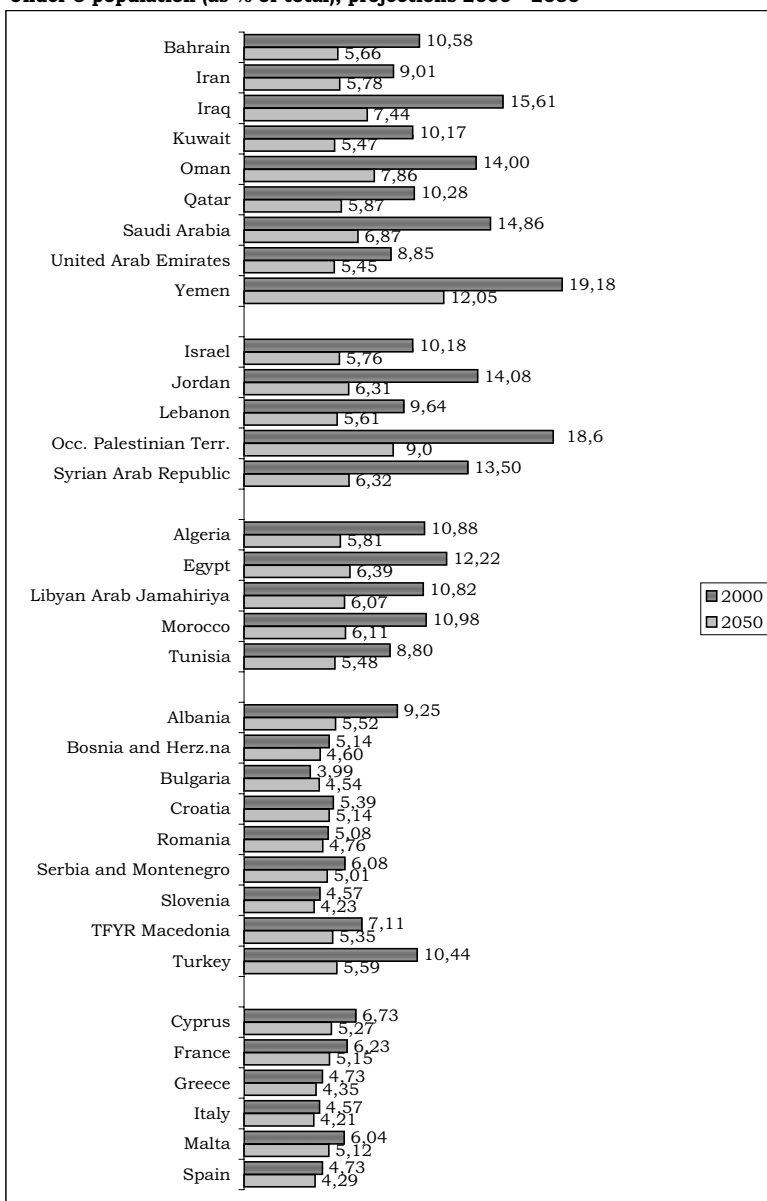
1.3 Child population

The following three figures, representing population projections for 2005 and 2050, illustrate the expected downward trend in the relative size of the under-5 population.

In the Middle East and North Africa, a major factor affecting this trend is related directly to the expected magnitude of the fall in fertility levels.

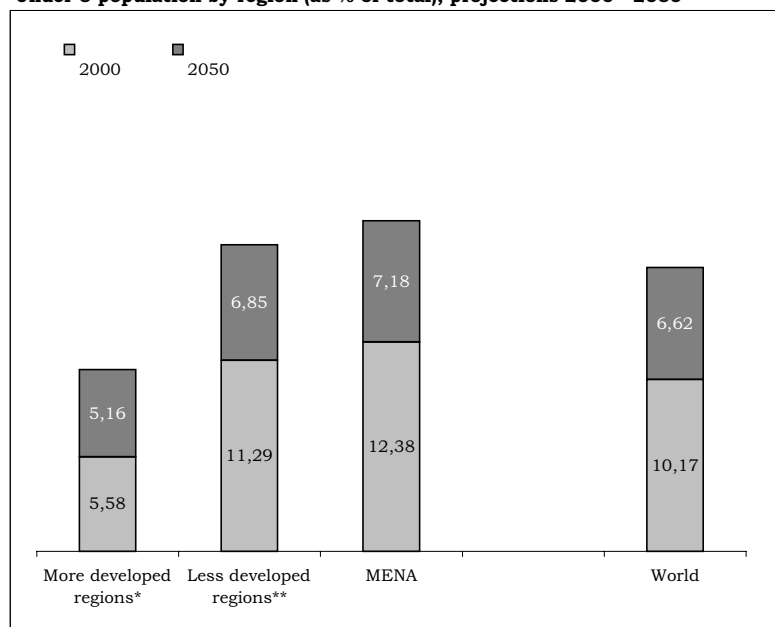
For the South European countries, which already have low fertility levels, the expected decrease in the relative size of the under-5 population will be of minor magnitude.

Under-5 population (as % of total), projections 2000 - 2050



1.4 Child population

Under-5 population by region (as % of total), projections 2000 - 2050



* The more developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan.

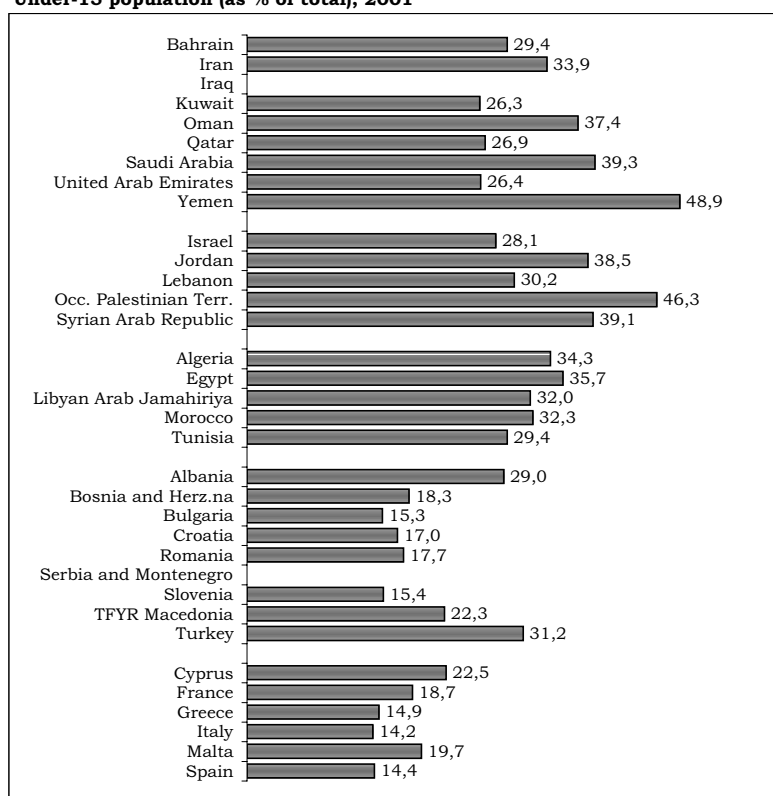
** The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean plus Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

Source: Lynkeus' processing of UN 2003 data

1.5 Child population

The analysis of this demographic segment reveals a marked gap between the areas south and north of the Mediterranean with respect to the under-15 population, but with considerable differences emerging within these two large geographical areas. While the percentage of children aged up to 14 in the countries of Southwest Europe is below the average for the industrialized countries (19.7%), this value is markedly higher in the Balkan region, where countries like Albania and Turkey have 29% and 31.2% of the population in the 0-14 age group respectively. This demographic segment accounts for 30-35% of total population in North Africa and some countries in the Middle East and the Arabian peninsula while figures of 38% and over are shown for Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, with a peak of 48.9% shown for Yemen.

Under-15 population (as % of total), 2001

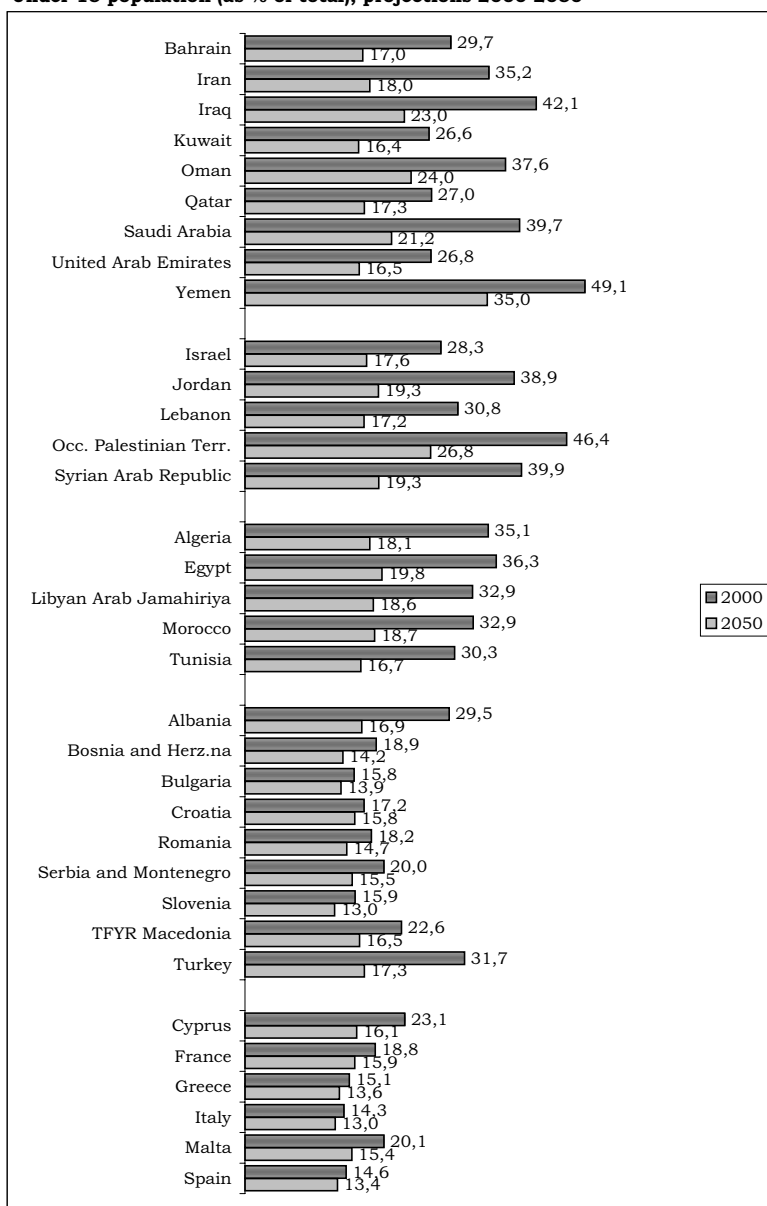


Source: Human Development Report, UNDP 2003

1.6 Child population

The child population constitutes a large proportion of the total population, and as a group requires special attention. In 2000, the Mediterranean region (MR) had approximately 175 million children at ages 0 to 14; that is, almost 29 percent of the MR total population. The region's largest share of the child population is in the Middle East. Yemen, Palestine, Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia have the youngest population in the Mediterranean region. In the next fifty years the share of the child population is estimated to decrease throughout the MR region. In terms of absolute numbers, however, there will be more children - and more adults and elderly.

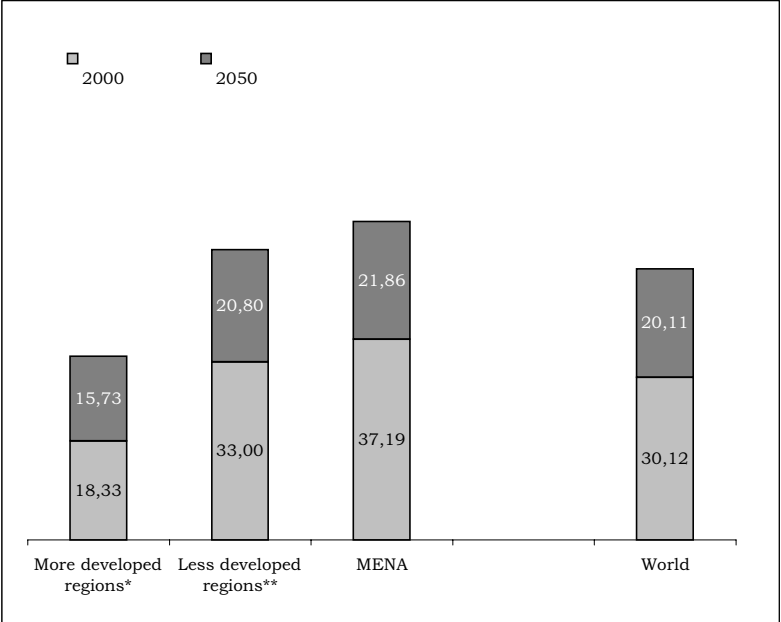
Under-15 population (as % of total), projections 2000-2050



Source: UN, 2003

1.7 Child population

Under-15 population by region (as % of total), projections 2000 - 2050



* The more developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan.

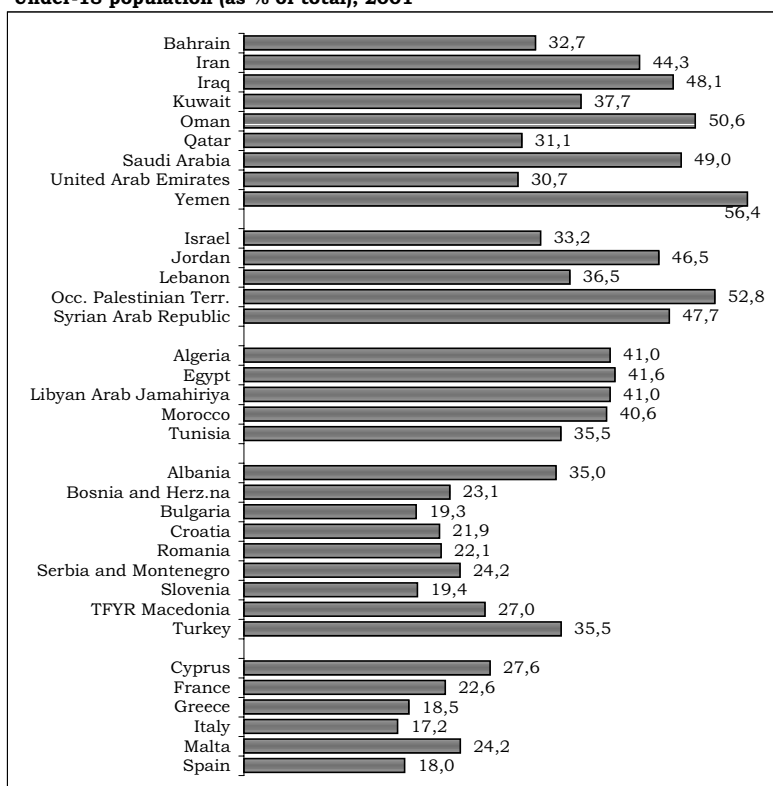
** The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean plus Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

Source: Lynkeus' processing of UN 2003 data

1.8 Child population

In the comparatively wealthy area of Southwest Europe, the proportion of the total population that is under 18 years of age ranges from 17.2% in Italy to 24.2% in Malta. Similar demographic differences emerge in the Balkan region, with the exception of Albania and Turkey, where this proportion rises to 35%. The same value is shown for Tunisia as against 40-41% in the other countries of the Maghreb. A greater degree of variation is found in the Middle East, where Jordan (46.5%), Syria (47.7%) and Palestine (52.8%) differ considerably from the neighboring countries of Israel (33.2%) and Lebanon (36.5%). In the Gulf region, young people aged under 18 account for 30-32% of the population in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain as against 44.3% in Iran, 48.1% in Iraq, 49.0% in Saudi Arabia, 50.6% in Oman and 56.4% in Yemen.

Under-18 population (as % of total), 2001



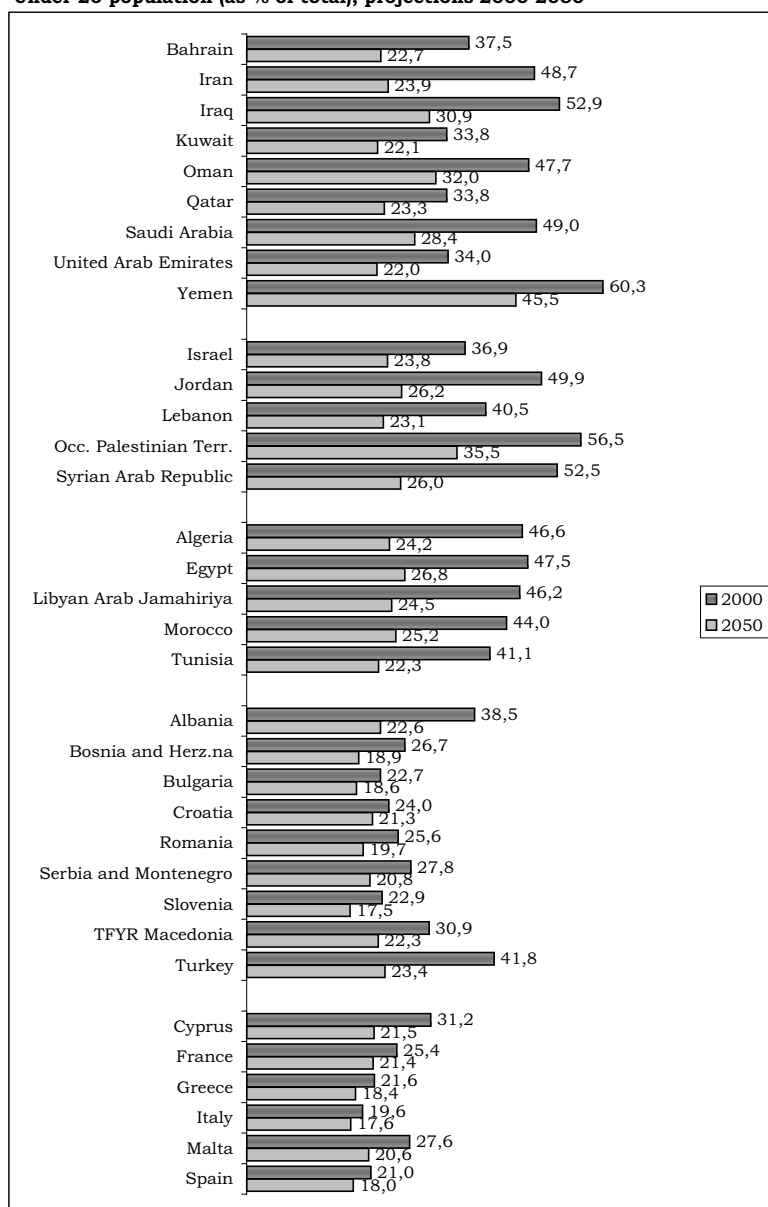
Source: UNICEF, 2003

1.9 Child population

Looking at the segments of population under 20 years the situation does not change. the reduction is particularly strong in the countries where the fertility in 2000 was very high (Middle East and North Africa). In fact, for 2050, in these countries a relevant decrease in the number of children per woman is foreseen; this will affect the weight of younger generations on the total population.

On the other hand, the countries who already in 2000 had a low fertility (Southern Europe) will show a more modest reduction. It should be specified that this modest reduction will occur notwithstanding the projections on fertility in these countries foreseeing a slight increase until 2050, which however will not be able to change a population structure that is already tipping towards the elder part of the population.

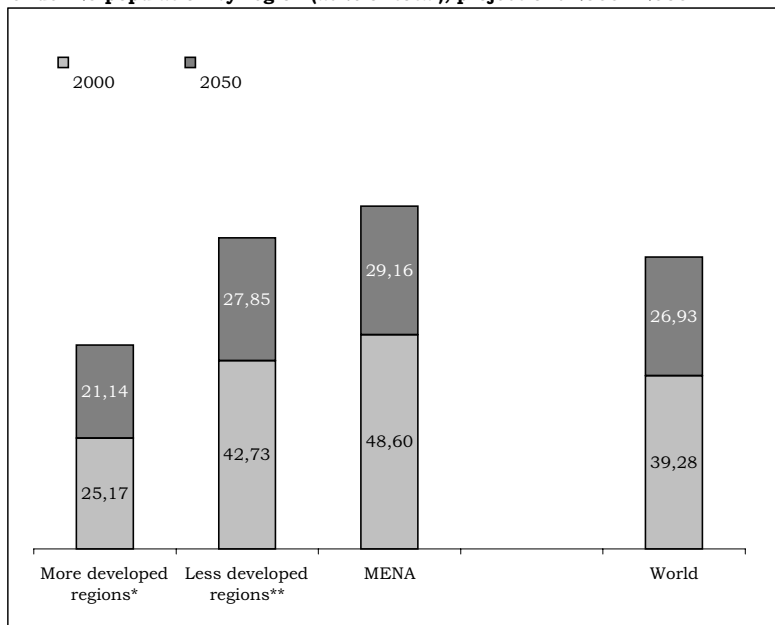
Under-20 population (as % of total), projections 2000-2050



Source: UN, 2003

1.10 Child population

Under-20 population by region (as % of total), projections 2000 - 2050



* The more developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan.

** The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean plus Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

Source: Lynkeus' processing of UN 2003 data

1.11 Child population

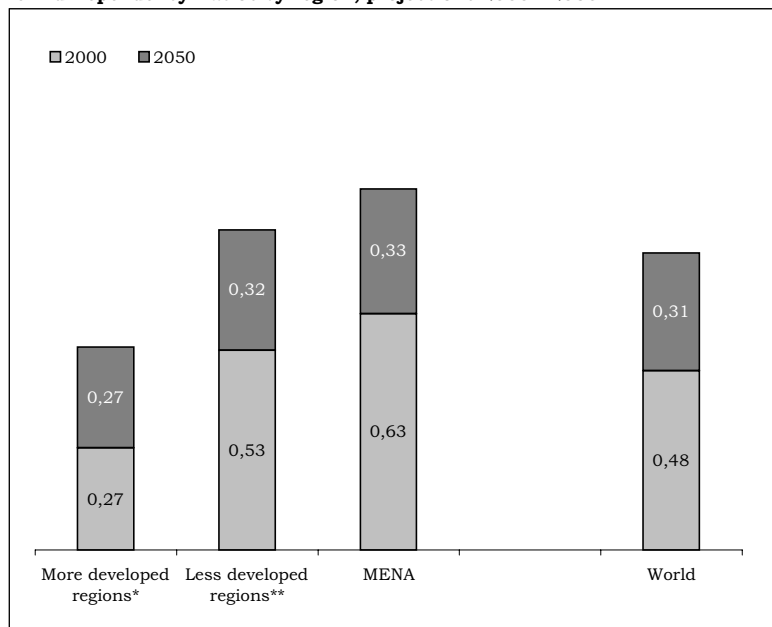
Population by age-groups (thousands), projections 2000 - 2050

Country	2000				2050			
	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19
Bahrain	71,6	70,8	58,7	53,1	71,9	71,8	72,0	72,6
Iran	5.986,6	8.308,7	9.105,6	8.953,8	6.094,6	6.455,2	6.486,8	6.204,1
Iraq	3.625,4	3.193,2	2.948,1	2.512,9	4.309,8	4.456,0	4.558,7	4.591,3
Kuwait	228,5	190,9	177,8	162,5	269,4	267,9	271,2	281,2
Oman	365,3	322,1	293,9	263,3	535,2	546,2	552,8	546,6
Qatar	59,7	50,0	47,0	40,0	51,3	49,9	49,6	52,5
Saudi Arabia	3.292,1	2.891,0	2.601,1	2.062,1	3.763,1	3.865,1	3.957,8	3.972,5
United Arab Emirates	249,6	256,3	251,0	203,0	224,1	227,1	226,5	228,0
Yemen	3.455,5	2.915,1	2.475,4	2.011,4	10.169,5	9.891,3	9.478,2	8.882,7
Israel	615,0	554,7	538,2	523,9	575,1	580,4	599,8	622,8
Jordan	709,2	651,7	595,9	553,6	641,0	644,2	673,9	699,6
Lebanon	335,3	364,9	369,4	337,7	277,7	284,4	289,1	292,4
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	595,1	469,7	417,0	321,1	999,3	996,8	986,1	968,8
Syrian Arab Republic	2.235,0	2.146,6	2.230,7	2.088,3	2.160,7	2.197,2	2.248,7	2.290,9
Algeria	3.291,2	3.589,7	3.741,5	3.478,2	2.825,9	2.954,0	3.004,7	2.969,0
Egypt	8.283,8	8.091,4	8.232,1	7.617,2	8.144,9	8.301,7	8.730,8	8.913,8
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	566,5	540,7	615,1	695,1	561,3	579,7	575,1	552,7
Morocco	3.196,5	3.107,3	3.285,3	3.204,2	2.876,8	2.923,0	3.014,2	3.064,5
Tunisia	837,2	981,2	1.063,6	1.032,4	705,7	727,2	725,2	717,1
Albania	287,9	320,4	310,4	280,7	202,7	207,8	209,4	210,1
Bosnia and Herz. na	204,6	239,6	309,0	310,2	164,1	169,1	171,4	170,2
Bulgaria	323,3	430,3	521,9	559,1	238,3	243,6	247,3	247,1
Croatia	239,5	251,6	273,6	304,4	184,5	189,3	194,2	194,5
Romania	1.141,7	1.221,7	1.737,5	1.660,5	859,5	885,5	910,4	905,6
Serbia and Montenegro	641,5	697,3	777,2	815,4	469,7	483,9	496,7	500,8
Slovenia	91,0	101,5	123,8	139,7	66,4	67,5	69,3	71,4
TFYR Macedonia	143,8	153,4	160,3	167,4	115,4	119,4	121,9	123,5
Turkey	7.131,5	7.204,6	7.331,4	6.892,6	5.465,8	5.603,0	5.805,5	5.968,6
Cyprus	52,7	62,6	65,3	63,3	47,0	48,3	48,5	48,1
France	3.691,7	3.618,8	3.845,7	3.909,8	3.308,9	3.398,3	3.490,8	3.538,2
Greece	516,2	539,2	589,8	710,4	426,9	445,9	464,8	468,9
Italy	2.626,8	2.780,0	2.815,7	3.053,1	1.890,1	1.946,4	2.005,1	2.061,7
Malta	23,5	26,2	28,4	29,3	20,6	20,8	20,7	20,8
Spain	1.927,0	1.914,7	2.107,2	2.616,0	1.603,2	1.660,0	1.723,7	1.742,1

Source: UN, 2003

1.12 Child population

Child Dependency Ratios by region, projections 2000 - 2050



* The more developed regions comprise all regions of Europe plus Northern America, Australia/New Zealand and Japan.

** The less developed regions comprise all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean plus Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

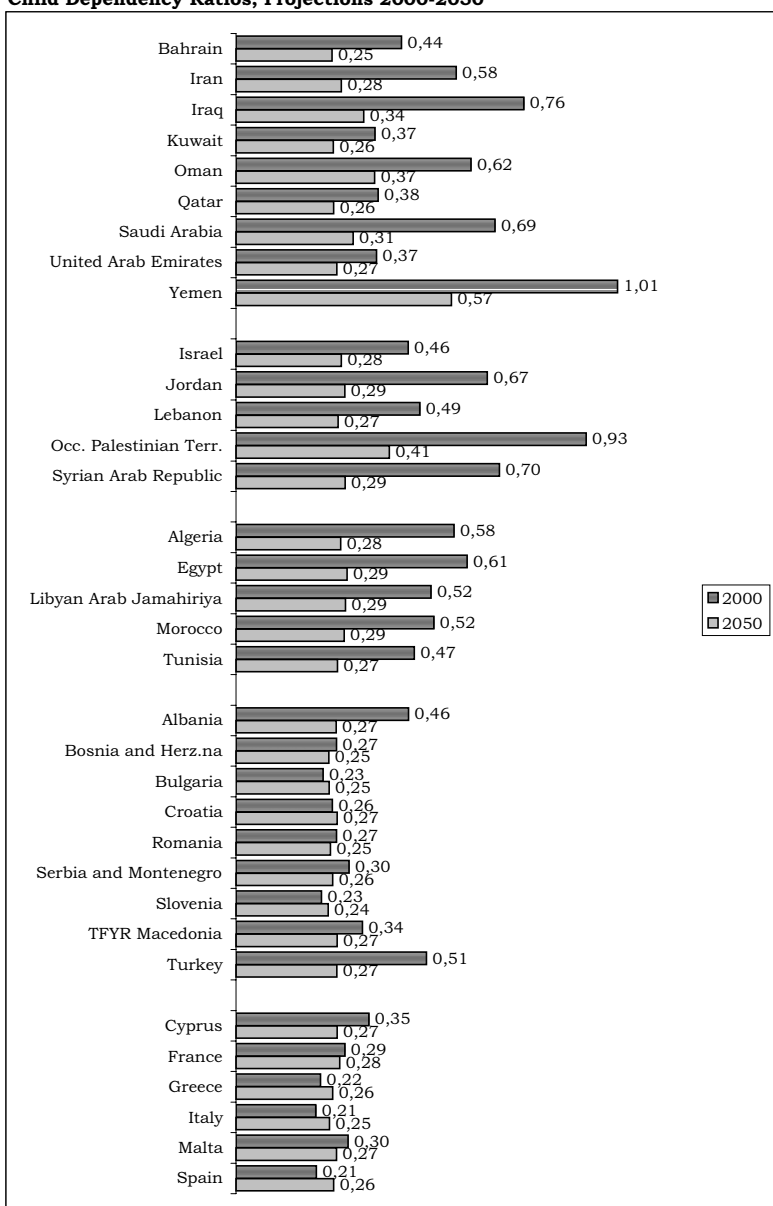
Source: Lynkeus' processing of UN 2003 data

1.13 Child population

Although the total number of children will increase in almost all countries - with the exception of Europe- the proportion of children compared to the total population, as well as to adults in the working age group - 15 to 64 years old - will decline in all sub-regions in the next 50 years.

For every child under 15 years of age, there will be 3 working adults. In the Middle East, there will be, on average, 1 child for every two working adults in 2050. In Europe the ratio will be much lower, almost 1 child for every five working adults.

Child Dependency Ratios, Projections 2000-2050

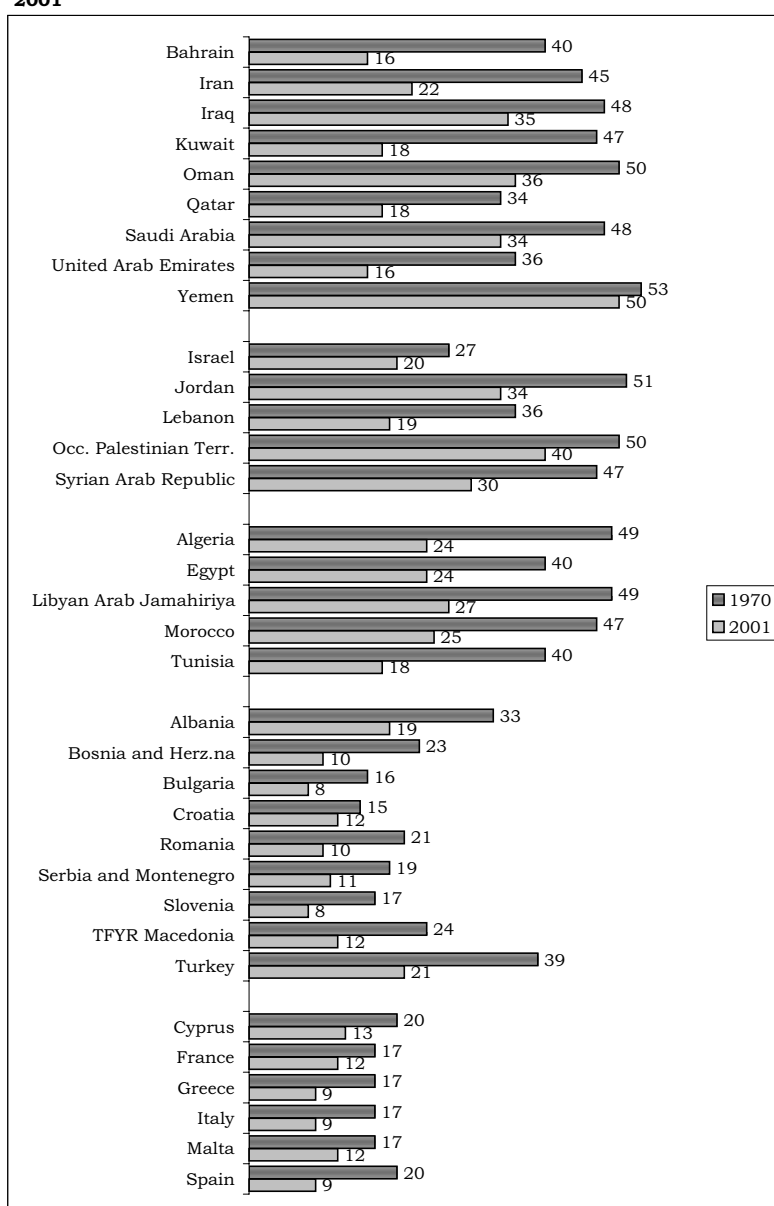


Source: Lynkeus' processing of UN 2003 data

2.1 Birth rate

The crude birth rate decreased since 1970 in the Balkan region and various countries in North Africa and the Middle East. Separate mention must be made of the Arabian peninsula, in some areas of which persist rather high values, even though diminishing between 1970 and 2000. The low birth rate in southern Europe still contrasts, however, with the rates in some countries to the south and southeast of the Mediterranean, where the levels of population growth are generally at least twice as high as those registered for the north. Higher growth rates are registered in Jordan, Iraq, Iran, the occupied Palestinian territory, Oman and Yemen (which has an annual birth rate over five times higher than Italy).

Crude birth rate (annual number of births per 1,000 population), 1970 and 2001

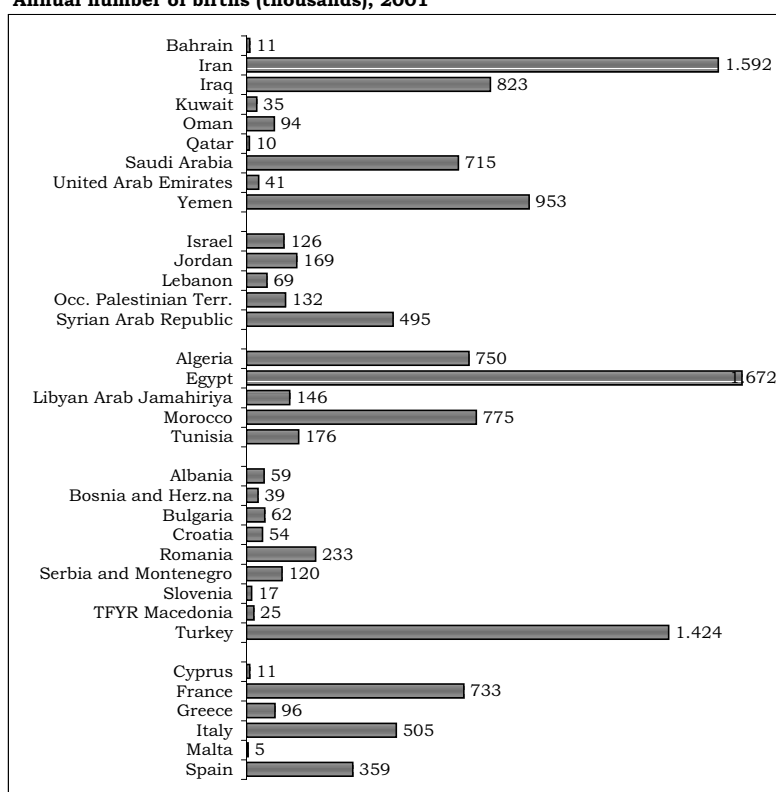


Source: UNICEF, 2003

2.2 Birth rate

The annual number of births provides an indication of the weight of a population with respect to the demographic balances in a region as a whole. It must be pointed out with respect to the graph below, however, that it is essential to correlate these figures with the final difference between birth and death rates. In this sense, the significant number of births in European countries like France and Italy must be seen in relation to the high mortality rates of their predominantly ageing populations. On the contrary, the very high levels of population growth in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Yemen, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Morocco is accompanied by a much lower proportion of the population aged 65 or more years.

Annual number of births (thousands), 2001

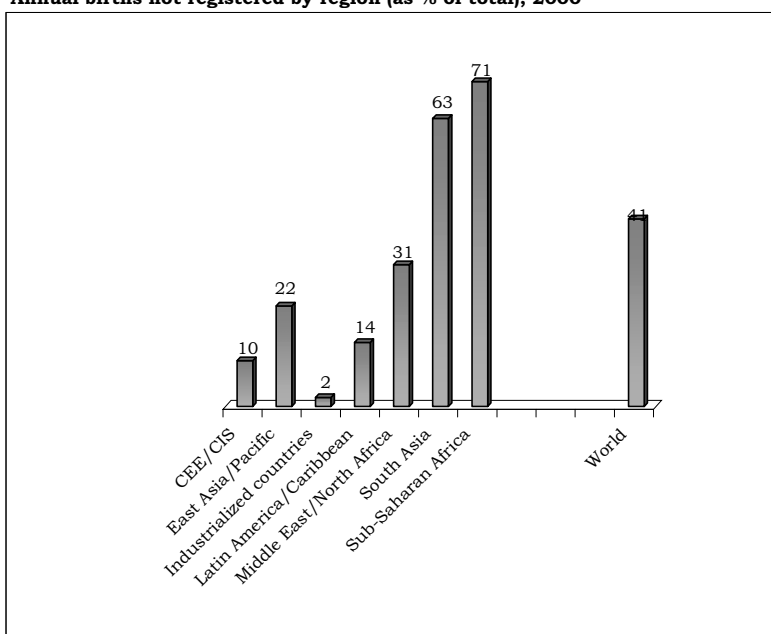


Source: UNICEF, 2003

3. Birth registration

The number of unregistered births still remains very high in many countries. The registration of a child's birth is the first step toward guaranteeing every child's right to a future, but this is still far from common practice in many developing countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, and especially in rural areas. By contrast with the 2% average for unregistered births in the industrialized countries, the figure for the Middle East and North Africa is still as high as 31%. This makes it impossible for many children and adults with no formal identity to assert their rights and to obtain access to health services, education and social protection.

Annual births not registered by region (as % of total), 2000

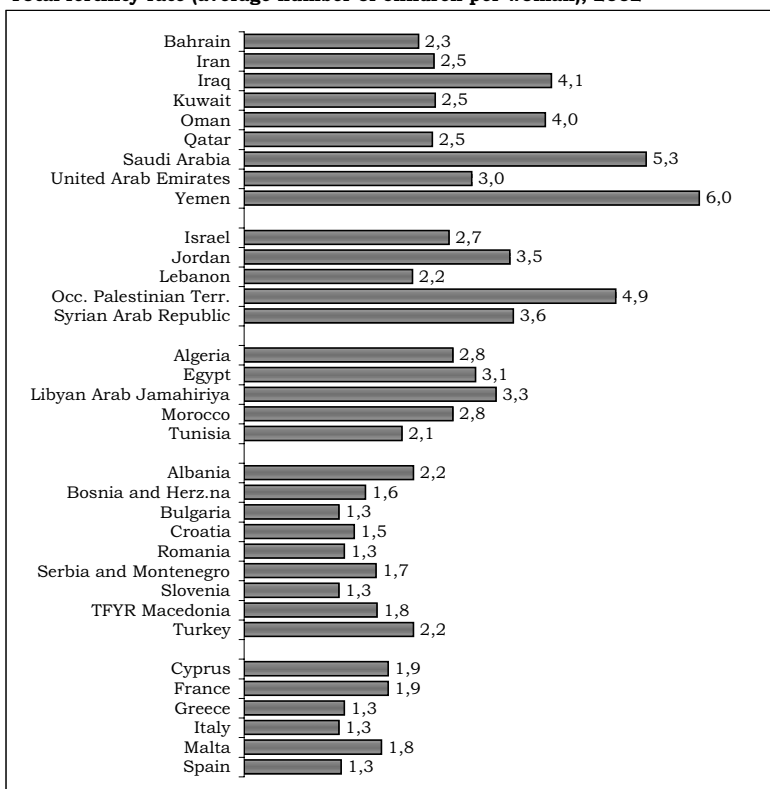


Source: UNICEF, 2001

4.1 Fertility rate

The average figures of 1.3 children per woman in Bulgaria, Spain, Slovenia and Italy, and 1.9 in France are not sufficient to ensure the growth of the indigenous population. The only European exceptions to this trend are Turkey and Albania, with a rate of 2.2 children per woman. This demographic revolution is also underway in North Africa, where a tendency to adopt the European norms can be observed. The most significant example of this is the rate of 2.1 children per woman in Tunisia as against the 3.4 recorded as recently as the period 1990-1995. Neighboring countries in the Middle East display marked differences in this respect, ranging from a rate of 2.2 children per woman in Lebanon to 3.6 in Syria, 3.5 in Jordan and 4.9 in the occupied Palestinian territories. With an average fertility rate of 6 children per woman, Yemen is second only to Niger at the world level. The strongest reductions in fertility rates were registered in the last decade.

Total fertility rate (average number of children per woman), 2002



Source: UNICEF, 2003

4.2 Fertility rate

Total fertility rate (average number of children per woman), 1960, 1990, 2001 and 2002

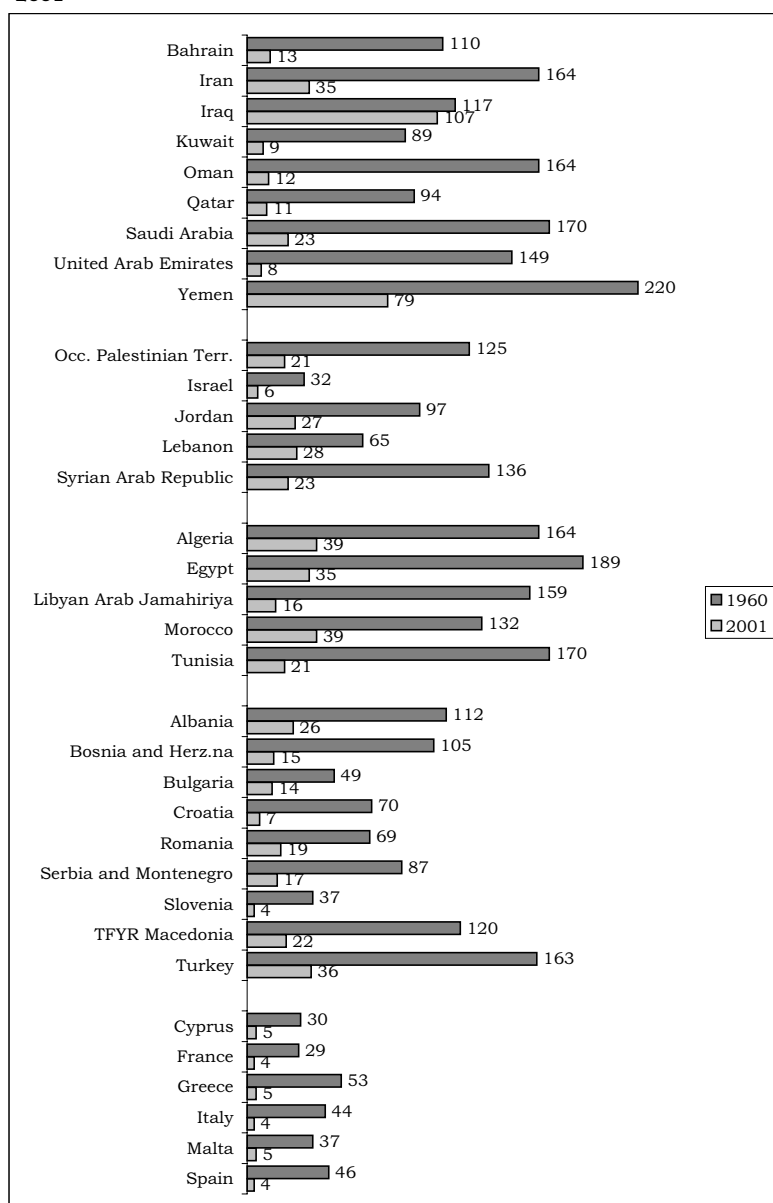
Country	1960	1990	2001	2002	Average annual rate of decrease (%)	
					1960-90	1990-2001
Bahrain	7,1	3,8	2,4	2,3	2,1	3,9
Iran	7,0	5,0	2,9	2,5	1,1	5,0
Iraq	7,2	6,0	4,9	4,1	0,6	1,7
Kuwait	7,3	3,6	2,7	2,5	2,4	2,6
Oman	7,2	7,0	5,6	4,0	0,1	2,0
Qatar	7,0	4,4	3,4	2,5	1,5	2,3
Saudi Arabia	7,3	6,9	5,7	5,3	0,2	1,7
United Arab Emirates	7,0	4,2	3,0	3,0	1,7	3,1
Yemen	7,6	7,6	7,6	6,0	0,0	0,0
Israel	3,9	3,0	2,8	2,7	0,9	0,6
Jordan	7,7	5,8	4,4	3,5	0,9	2,5
Lebanon	6,3	3,2	2,2	2,2	2,3	3,4
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	7,7	6,5	5,7	4,9	0,6	1,1
Syrian Arab Republic	7,3	5,7	3,8	3,6	0,8	3,7
Algeria	7,4	4,6	2,9	2,8	1,6	4,0
Egypt	7,1	4,2	3,0	3,1	1,8	3,1
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	7,1	4,9	3,5	3,3	1,2	3,1
Morocco	7,2	4,3	3,1	2,8	1,7	3,0
Tunisia	7,2	3,6	2,2	2,1	2,3	4,5
Albania	5,9	3,0	2,4	2,2	2,3	2,0
Bosnia and Herz. na	4,1	1,7	1,3	1,6	2,9	2,4
Bulgaria	2,3	1,7	1,1	1,3	1,0	4,0
Croatia	2,4	1,7	1,7	1,5	1,1	0,0
Romania	2,3	1,9	1,3	1,3	0,6	3,4
Serbia and Montenegro	2,7	2,1	1,6	1,7	0,8	2,5
Slovenia	2,4	1,6	1,2	1,3	1,4	2,0
TFYR Macedonia	4,2	2,0	1,6	1,8	2,5	2,0
Turkey	6,4	3,4	2,4	2,2	2,1	3,2
Cyprus	3,5	2,4	1,9	1,9	1,3	2,1
France	2,8	1,8	1,8	1,9	1,5	0,0
Greece	2,3	1,5	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,3
Italy	2,5	1,3	1,2	1,3	2,2	0,7
Malta	3,4	2,0	1,8	1,8	1,8	1,0
Spain	2,9	1,4	1,1	1,3	2,4	2,2
Developing countries	6,1	3,6	3,0		1,7	2,0
Industrialized countries	2,8	1,7	1,6		1,7	0,6
MENA	7,1	5,0	3,7		1,2	3,2

Source: UNICEF, 2003

5. Infant mortality rate

The great difference in infant mortality rates between the north and south of the Mediterranean basin confronts us inexorably with the immense gap damaging the prospects of young people in the Euro-Mediterranean area. Examination of trends since the 1960s through a careful reading of the most recent figures can, however, give some grounds for limited optimism with respect to the great successes achieved over the last 40 years in the survival of infants during the first year of life. While these successes are recorded not only in Southwest Europe but also in the rich countries of the Arabian peninsula, a substantial and worrying gap still emerges from the figures for some parts of Southeast Europe as well as the countries of North Africa and the Middle East. Infant mortality is still a dramatic problem in Albania, Turkey, Morocco, Egypt, Algeria, Lebanon and Jordan, but above all in Yemen and Iraq, where thousands of children fail to survive their first year of life due to the lack of basic maternal and child health care services, particularly in rural areas.

Infant mortality rate (deaths in the 1st year per 1,000 live births), 1960 and 2001



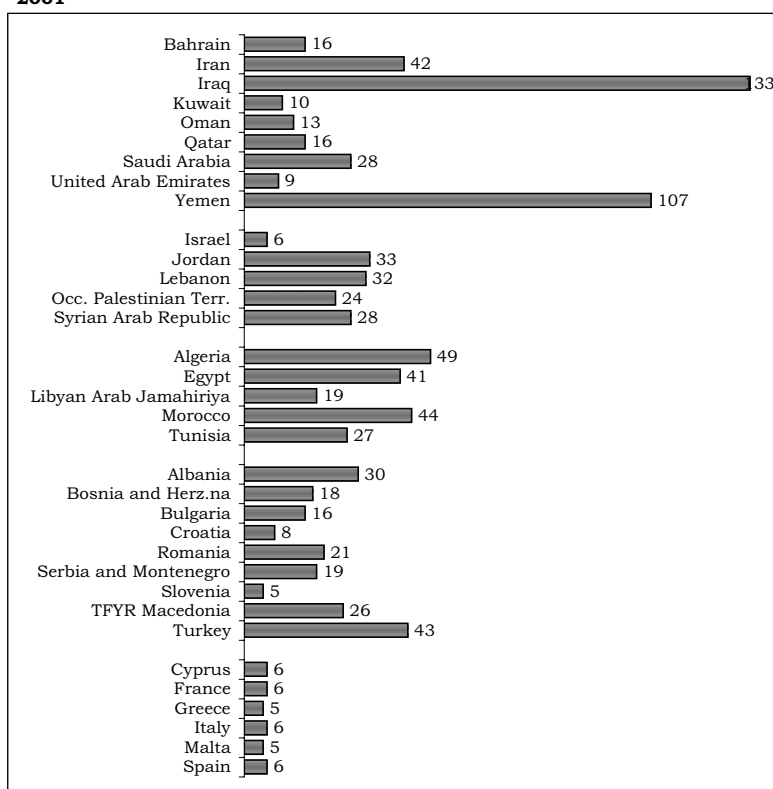
Source: UNICEF, 2003

6.1 Under-five mortality rate

The data on under-five mortality rates reveal a dramatic situation in various countries of the Euro-Mediterranean area. This indicator again points to a large gap between southwestern and southeastern Europe, and to a still greater extent between the countries to the north and south of the Mediterranean. The difference is large as regards both infant mortality rates and life expectancy at birth despite the great and generalized progress achieved in health standards. A Turkish child is 7 times more likely to die before the age of five than an Italian, a Yemeni child 18 times more likely than a Spaniard, and an Iraqi 22 times more likely than a Cypriot or Maltese child.

As next table shows, among the countries having a particularly low average yearly rate of decrease of under-5 mortality rate, is Yemen (2.9% in the period 1960-1990 and 2.6% in 1990-2001). Iraq shows an average yearly increase (8,9%) in U5MR in the years 1990-2001.

Under-five mortality rate (deaths in the first 5 years per 1,000 live births), 2001



Source: UNICEF, 2003

6.2 Under-five mortality rate

Under-five mortality rate (deaths in the first 5 years per 1,000 live births), 1960, 1990 and 2001

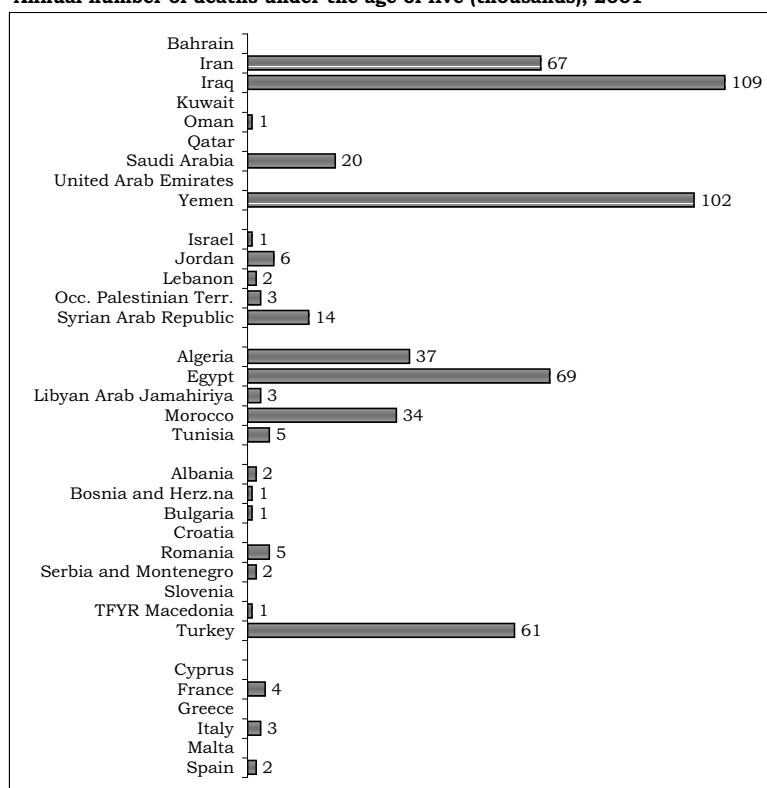
Country	1960	1990	2001	Medium reduction rate (%)	
				1960-90	1990-2001
Bahrain	160	19	16	7,1	1,6
Iran	281	72	42	4,5	4,9
Iraq	171	50	133	4,1	-8,9
Kuwait	128	16	10	6,9	4,3
Oman	280	30	13	7,4	7,6
Qatar	140	25	16	5,7	4,1
Saudi Arabia	250	44	28	5,8	4,1
United Arab Emirates	223	14	9	9,2	4,0
Yemen	340	142	107	2,9	2,6
Israel	39	12	6	3,9	6,3
Jordan	139	43	33	3,9	2,4
Lebanon	85	37	32	2,8	1,3
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	n.a.	40	24	n.a.	4,6
Syrian Arab Republic	201	44	28	5,1	4,1
Algeria	280	69	49	4,7	3,1
Egypt	282	104	41	3,3	8,5
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	270	42	19	6,2	7,2
Morocco	211	85	44	3,0	6,0
Tunisia	254	52	27	5,3	6,0
Albania	151	45	30	4,0	3,7
Bosnia and Herz.na	160	22	18	6,6	1,8
Bulgaria	70	16	16	4,9	0,0
Croatia	98	13	8	6,7	4,4
Romania	82	32	21	3,1	3,8
Serbia and Montenegro	120	30	19	4,6	4,2
Slovenia	45	9	5	5,4	5,3
TFYR Macedonia	177	41	26	4,9	4,1
Turkey	219	78	43	3,4	5,4
Cyprus	36	12	6	3,7	6,3
France	34	9	6	4,4	3,7
Greece	64	11	5	5,9	7,2
Italy	50	10	6	5,4	4,6
Malta	42	14	5	3,7	9,4
Spain	57	9	6	6,2	3,7
Developing countries	223	103	89	2,6	1,3
Industrialized countries	37	9	7	4,7	2,3
MENA	250	81	61	3,8	2,6
World	197	93	82	2,5	1,1

Source: UNICEF, 2003

6.3 Under-five mortality rate

The switch from comparative rates to absolute numbers paints an even more eloquent picture of the critical situation in some countries that are affected far more strongly by under-five mortality levels than their less densely populated neighbors. As regards southern Europe, the situation in Turkey (61,000 deaths per year) thus emerges as critical, while in North Africa and the Middle East, with some exceptions such as Libya, Tunisia and Israel, the number of deaths in the under-five population segment still remains excessively high despite the enormous advances achieved in neonatal and infant health in recent years. In particular, the critical situation in countries like Egypt (69,000 deaths a year), Iran (67,000 deaths), Algeria (37,000 deaths), Morocco (34,000 deaths), and the appalling figures for Yemen (102,000 deaths a year) and Iraq (109,000 deaths) give little cause for optimism.

Annual number of deaths under the age of five (thousands), 2001*



* no bar shown for a country on this bar graph is an indication of less than 1000 under-five child deaths per year.

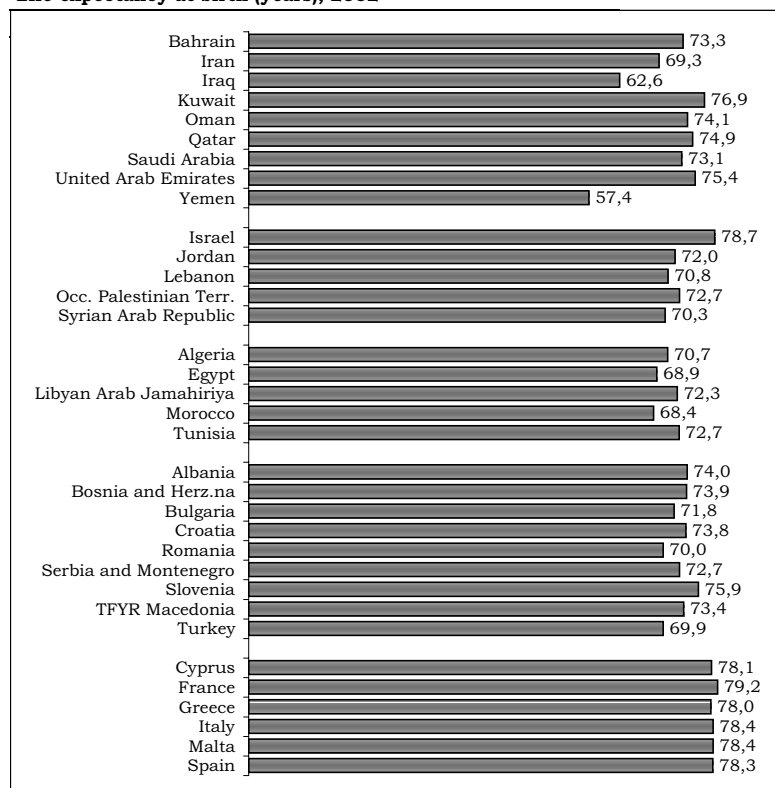
Source: UNICEF, 2003

7.1 Life expectancy

The marked difference in life expectancy between the Balkan region and Southwest Europe is further accentuated by comparison with the countries to the south of the Mediterranean. Decreases in mortality rates have contributed to an overall improvement in life expectancy for the new generations. One reassuring factor is the high life expectancy registered in some countries in the Middle East region and the Gulf, but this is offset by the glaring contrast between happy oases and areas of desperation. An inhabitant of Kuwait can expect at birth to live 20 years longer than a citizen of Yemen, an Israeli 6 years longer than a Palestinian, and an Italian 10 years longer than a Moroccan or an Egyptian. The average life expectancy of 58 years projected a Yemeni and of 62 for an Iraqi is a severe constraint on the future of whole generations of children who, unlike their peers in countries north of the Mediterranean, will most probably not live to old age.

As next table shows, the average life expectancy for females is higher than for males, the highest being in Spain (82 years) and France (83).

Life expectancy at birth (years), 2002



Source: World Development Indicators, WB 2003

7.2 Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth by gender (years), 2002

Country	Total	Males	Females
Bahrain	73,3	70,8	75,9
Iran	69,3	68,3	70,3
Iraq	62,6	61,4	63,9
Kuwait	76,9	74,9	79,0
Oman	74,1	72,6	75,6
Qatar	74,9	74,6	75,3
Saudi Arabia	73,1	71,4	74,9
United Arab Emirates	75,4	74,0	76,8
Yemen	57,4	56,8	58,1
Israel	78,7	76,7	80,7
Jordan	72,0	70,4	73,6
Lebanon	70,8	69,0	72,6
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	72,7	70,5	75,1
Syrian Arab Republic	70,3	68,0	72,7
Algeria	70,7	69,4	72,1
Egypt	68,9	67,3	70,5
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	72,3	69,9	74,9
Morocco	68,4	66,4	70,4
Tunisia	72,7	70,8	74,6
Albania	74,0	71,7	76,4
Bosnia and Herz.na	73,9	71,0	76,9
Bulgaria	71,8	68,5	75,3
Croatia	73,8	69,7	78,1
Romania	70,0	71,1	73,9
Serbia and Montenegro	72,7	66,2	75,2
Slovenia	75,9	70,3	79,8
TFYR Macedonia	73,4	72,2	75,9
Turkey	69,9	67,5	72,5
Cyprus	78,1	75,8	80,5
France	79,2	75,5	83,0
Greece	78,0	75,4	80,8
Italy	78,4	75,0	81,9
Malta	78,4	75,9	81,0
Spain	78,3	74,8	82,0

Source: World Development Indicators, WB 2003

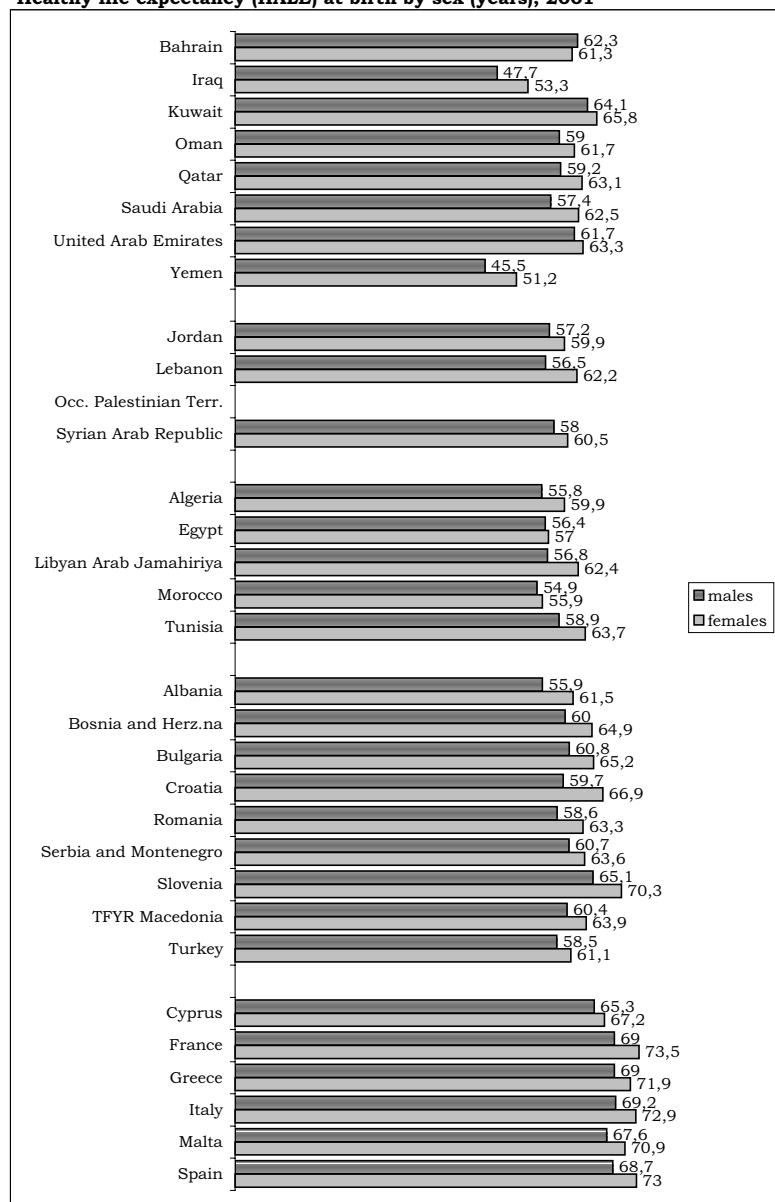
8.1 Healthy life expectancy

Health-adjusted life expectancy (HALE) is "the equivalent number of years in full health that a newborn can expect to live based on current rates of ill-health and mortality" (WHO, 2002). With the exception of Bahrain, healthy life expectancy is always higher for women than for men.

In the Arab region, Kuwait leads with a healthy life expectancy at birth of 64.1 for males and 65.8 for females. Of the 16 Arab states with data, healthy life expectancy for females is higher than 60 years in 12 countries, while for males, it exceeds 55 years in all but two countries.

In eastern Europe, healthy life expectancy for females ranges from 61.1 years in Turkey to 70.3 years in Slovenia, and for males, from 55.9 years in Albania to 65.1 years in Slovenia. The highest values are shown for southern Europe (67.2- 73.5 years for females and 65.3- 69.2 years for males).

Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at birth by sex (years), 2001



Source: World Health Report, WHO 2002

8.2 Healthy life expectancy

Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at birth and at age 60 by sex (years), 2001

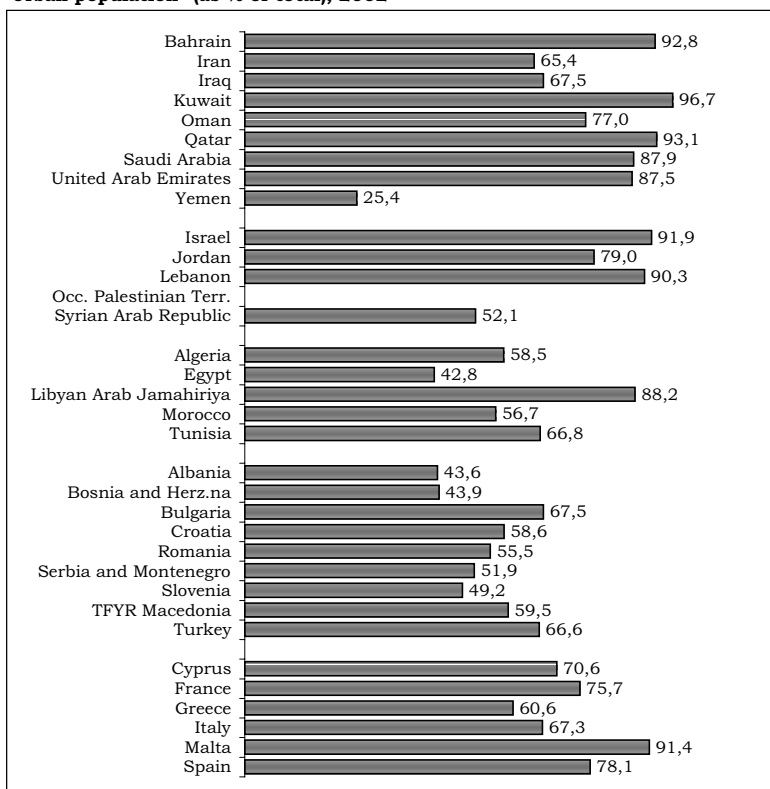
Country	Males		Females	
	at birth	at age 60	at birth	at age 60
Bahrain	62,3	10,5	61,3	9,4
Iraq	47,7	8,1	53,3	11
Kuwait	64,1	12,2	65,8	13
Oman	59	10,4	61,7	12,3
Qatar	59,2	9,4	63,1	12,7
Saudi Arabia	57,4	10	62,5	13
United Arab Emirates	61,7	10,6	63,3	12,3
Yemen	45,5	7	51,2	10,4
Jordan	57,2	9,9	59,9	11,5
Lebanon	56,5	10	62,2	12,9
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Syrian Arab Republic	58	10	60,5	11,5
Algeria	55,8	10,3	59,9	12,2
Egypt	56,4	9,4	57	9,2
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	56,8	9,8	62,4	12,9
Morocco	54,9	9,2	55,9	10
Tunisia	58,9	10,8	63,7	13,4
Albania	55,9	8,8	61,5	12,7
Bosnia and Herz.na	60	11,3	64,9	14,3
Bulgaria	60,8	11,5	65,2	13,9
Croatia	59,7	10,1	66,9	14,4
Romania	58,6	11,1	63,3	13,5
Serbia and Montenegro	60,7	11	63,6	12,8
Slovenia	65,1	13,3	70,3	16,6
TFYR Macedonia	60,4	11,4	63,9	13
Turkey	58,5	11,2	61,1	12,4
Cyprus	65,3	13,2	67,2	14,5
France	69	16,1	73,5	19,1
Greece	69	15,7	71,9	17,1
Italy	69,2	15,5	72,9	18,2
Malta	67,6	14,3	70,9	16,5
Spain	68,7	15,2	73	18,2

Source: World Health Report, WHO 2002

9.1 Urban population

In demographic terms, the urban centres in developing countries register higher rates of growth than the population as a whole. Within the next five years, over half the world's population will be living in urban environments. North Africa has undergone a marked process of urbanization in recent years fueled by high birth rates and the influx of migrants from rural areas. Urbanization in Morocco has affected small and medium-sized towns rather than big cities and has not been accompanied by the indispensable provision of essential infrastructure. The Countries in the Arabian peninsula have undergone a rapid increase in urban population also as a result of migrant flows of labour, concentrated predominantly in the cities. The four countries with the highest rates of urban population concentration are located in the Middle East and the Arabian peninsula. The lowest rate of urbanization is registered in Yemen followed by Egypt, Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Urban population* (as % of total), 2002



* For the exact definition of "Urban Population", please refer to the Glossary

Source: UNICEF, 2003

9.2 Urban population

Urban population (as % of total and average yearly growth rate), 2002

Country	Urban population (as % of total)	Urban population growth (annual growth rate %)
	2002	2002
Bahrain	92,8	3,3
Iran	65,4	2,4
Iraq	67,5	2,6
Kuwait	96,7	2,9
Oman	77,0	3,5
Qatar	93,1	2,3
Saudi Arabia	87,9	3,7
United Arab Emirates	87,5	2,8
Yemen	25,4	4,1
Israel	91,9	2,1
Jordan	79,0	3,4
Lebanon	90,3	1,6
Occ. Palestinian Terr.	na	na
Syrian Arab Republic	52,1	3,3
Algeria	58,5	2,8
Egypt	42,8	2,4
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	88,2	2,6
Morocco	56,7	2,9
Tunisia	66,8	2,1
Albania	43,6	3,6
Bosnia and Herz.na	43,9	2,5
Bulgaria	67,5	-0,1
Croatia	58,6	0,6
Romania	55,5	0,3
Serbia and Montenegro	51,9	0,6
Slovenia	49,2	0,3
TFYR Macedonia	59,5	1,3
Turkey	66,6	2,5
Malta	70,6	1,5
Italy	75,7	0,7
Greece	60,6	0,5
France	67,3	0,2
Cyprus	91,4	0,7
Spain	78,1	0,4

Source: World Development Indicators, WB 2003

