



Israel

GENERAL INFORMATION

Israel is a country with an approximate area of 21 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 7,285,033 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 97 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 31% and the proportion above age 60 is 10% (UNO, 2009). The life expectancy at birth is 78 years for males and 83 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 72 years for males and 83 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the high income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 7.53% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$1138.0 (WHO, 2006). The suicide rate for males is 8.7 per 100,000 population and for females is 3.3 per 100,000 population. In Israel, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 32.5% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy exists and was approved, or most recently revised, in 2011. Mental health is not specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved or most recently revised in 2010. The mental health plan components include:

- Timelines for the implementation of the mental health plan.
- Funding allocation for the implementation of half or more of the items in the mental health plan.
- Shift of services and resources from mental hospitals to community mental health facilities.
- Integration of mental health services into primary care.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and was initiated, or most recently revised, in 1991. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

FINANCING

Mental health and mental hospital expenditures by the government health department/ministry are not available.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary doctors to prescribe psychotherapeutic medicines, but with restrictions. The department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Official policy also does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are not available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist as do referral procedures from tertiary/secondary to primary care.

Mental Health Services

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	90	1.24	35	0.48
Day treatment facilities	22	0.30	3	0.04
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	331	4.54	63	0.86
Community residential facilities	258	3.54	UN	UN
Beds/places in community residential facilities	16,396	225.06	UN	UN
Mental hospitals	14	0.19	7 ¹	0.10
Beds in mental hospitals	3120	42.83	229	3.14

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	2290.63	UN	22.1%
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	287.99	43.0%	0.4%
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	50.05	47.3%	5.7%
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	115.24	43.5%	UN
Admissions to mental hospitals	243.25	35.1%	4.2%

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	64%
More than 1 and less than 5 years	14%
More than 5 years	22%

¹ This value refers to the number of hospitals that have psychiatric departments for children.

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HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	8.24	UN
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	UN	UN
Nurses	UN	UN
Psychologists	UN	UN
Social workers	UN	UN
Occupational therapists	UN	UN
Other health workers	UN	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country?	Yes	Yes
Number of members	UN	UN
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	frequently	frequently

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

Type of Medicines	Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ²	UN
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ³	UN
Medicines for psychotic disorders ⁴	UN
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁵	UN
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁶	UN

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

⁴ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁵ N05B & N05C

⁶ N06A

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INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	No	No	No
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes ⁷	Yes	No
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	Yes	No	No
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days spent in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in community residential facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes

Note: A specific report focusing mental health activities has been published by the Health Department or any other responsible government unit in the last three years.

⁷ Only for state-owned facilities.

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