

Jordan



Population and
Family Health Survey

2007



THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

Jordan Population and Family Health Survey 2007

Department of Statistics
Amman, Jordan

Macro International Inc.
Calverton, Maryland, USA

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The TFR is the sum of the age-specific fertility rates; it represents the average number of children a woman in Jordan would have at the end of her reproductive years if she were subject to the currently observed age-specific rates. At current levels, a woman would give birth to an average of 3.6 children in her lifetime. This figure is 50 percent lower than the rate recorded in 1976 (7.4 births per woman). Data in Table 4.1 indicate that the pace of fertility decline increased until 1997, and has since slowed down. Fertility declined 11 percent between 1976 and 1983 (dropping from 7.4 to 6.6 births per woman), 15 percent between 1983 and 1990 (dropping from 6.6 to 5.6 births per woman), and 21 percent between 1990 and 1997 (dropping from 5.6 to 4.4 births per woman). Between 1997 and 2002, the pace of fertility decline decreased by 16 percent (dropping from 4.4 to 3.7 births per woman). Recently, between 2002 and 2007, the level of fertility has remained almost unchanged (from 3.7 to 3.6 births per women). Overall, in the past seventeen years (1990-2007), the total fertility rate in Jordan has declined by 36 percent.

Age group	JFS 1976	JFFHS 1983	JPFHS 1990	JPFHS 1997	JPFHS 2002	JPFHS 2007
15 19	71	49	49	43	28	28
20 24	300	229	219	172	150	148
25 29	367	335	296	246	202	212
30 34	332	305	264	206	184	162
35 39	240	233	188	144	122	121
40 44	112	127	79	48	43	41
45 49	47	40	19	11	5	6
TFR 15 49	7.4	6.6	5.6	4.4	3.7	3.6

Notes: Age specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Rates for age group 45 49 may be slightly biased due to truncation. Rates are for the period 1 36 months prior to interview.
TFR: Total fertility rate expressed per woman

A decline in fertility levels has occurred among all age groups over the last three decades; however, the most significant proportional decline has been observed among teenagers: a 60 percent drop from 71 births per 1,000 women in 1976 to 28 births in 2007. Figure 4.1 shows that the bulk of the decline in fertility since 1990 can be attributed to the decrease in the number of births among women between the ages of 20 and 39. At the same time, the age-specific fertility rates in all of the surveys are highest for the 25-29 age group. The 2007 JPFHS data indicate that there has not been a significant decline in fertility overall or among any age group. There was even a slight increase in the fertility level among the 25-29 age group (from 202 children per 1,000 women in 2002 to 212 children in 2007).