



The Ethiopian-Israeli Community:

Facts and Figures

Full Report

February 2012

Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute

Facts and Figures

Facts and Figures provides basic data on the Ethiopian-Israeli community, with regard to population, education, army service, employment, social-economic status, poverty, and welfare. It includes comparisons between the Ethiopian-Israelis, other immigrants and the general Jewish population. When relevant and available, it includes comparisons between Ethiopian-Israelis born in Ethiopia and those born in Israel.

General note: Ethiopian-Israelis refer to Israelis born in Ethiopia and Israelis with one or more parents born in Ethiopia unless stated otherwise.

1. Population¹

Demographics (2010)

	Ethiopian-Israelis	All Jews
Population (% of total)	119,700 (2.0)	6,121,300
% children (0-17)	38.1	29.8
% elderly (65+)	5.9	11.4
Median age	22.9	31.6
Households** (% of total)	27,700 (1.6)	1,735,280
Average household size**	3.9	3.1
% of families with children (0-17)**	73.0	42.6
% of families with 3 or more children (0-17)**	48.0	30.0
% single parent families**	27.0	12.8

** Average 2005-2007 for Ethiopian-Israelis and 2006 for the general Jewish and other population

Sources: CBS. 2010. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival and Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS population data and Labor Force Surveys.

¹ In this section "Ethiopian-Israeli" refers to Israelis born in Ethiopia and Israelis with a father born in Ethiopia unless stated otherwise

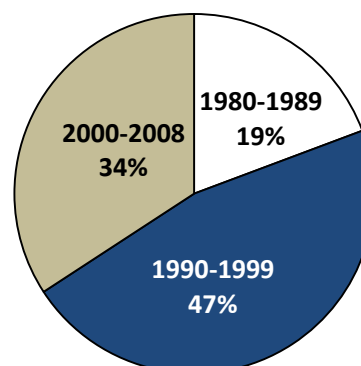
Immigration

Approximately 2,400 new immigrants arrived from Ethiopia in 2011 (January - October). Between 2000 and 2010, an average of about 3,000 Ethiopian immigrants arrived each year.

Geographic Distribution

Nearly three quarters of Ethiopian-Israelis live in cities with large numbers of Ethiopian-Israeli residents.

One Third of Ethiopian Immigrants Arrived in the Last Decade



Source: CBS. 2010. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival

Number and Percent of Ethiopian-Israelis in Cities with More than 2,000 Ethiopian-Israelis, by Age Group (end of 2009)

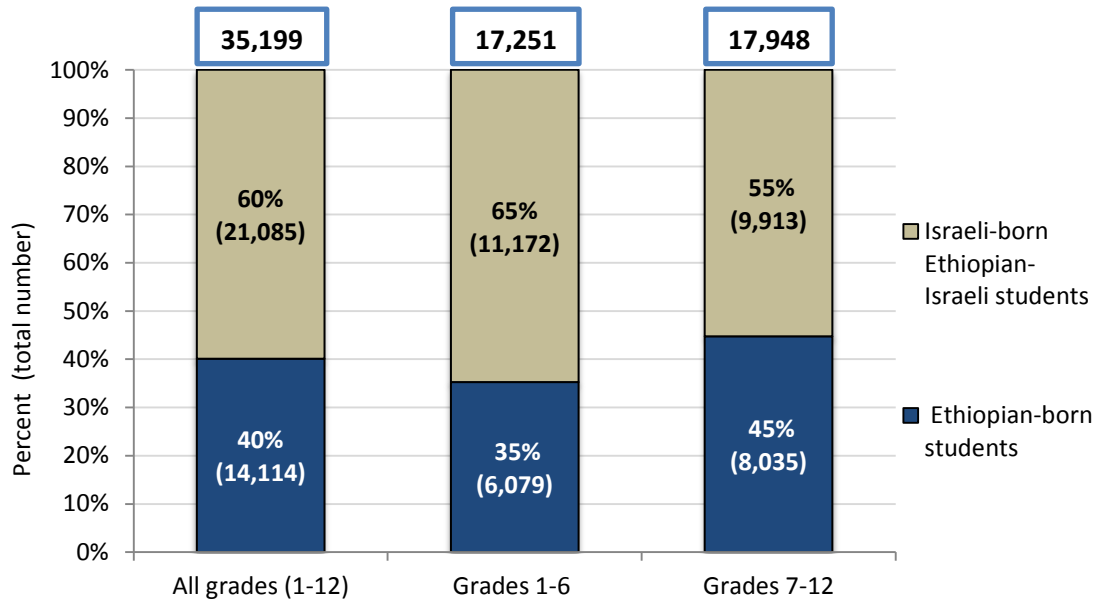
City	Ethiopian-Israelis	% Ethiopian-Israelis in the City	% Born in Ethiopia	% Children (0-17)
Netanya	11,155	5.4	64.9	40.9
Rishon-LeZion	6,983	2.8	76.4	41.7
Ashdod	6,722	2.9	62.7	40.9
Rehovot	6,539	5.3	61.0	39.7
Be'er-Sheva	6,291	3.1	63.1	37.6
Petach-Tikva	5,777	2.7	75.3	43.3
Ashkelon	5,398	4.4	58.8	36.2
Hadera	5,084	5.8	58.0	35.8
Jerusalem	4,467	0.5	75.5	40.7
Haifa	3,897	1.3	77.9	44.0
Ramle	3,666	5.1	61.5	34.1
Kiryat-Malachi	3,550	15.7	64.4	37.1
Bet-Shemesh	3,393	4.1	84.0	45.8
Lod	3,252	4.3	68.3	39.7
Kiryat-Gat	3,243	6.2	57.6	34.5
Afula	3,208	7.3	53.0	34.1
Yavneh	2,494	7.1	66.0	35.5
Bat-Yam	2,177	1.4	71.8	42.8

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS population data.

2. Education

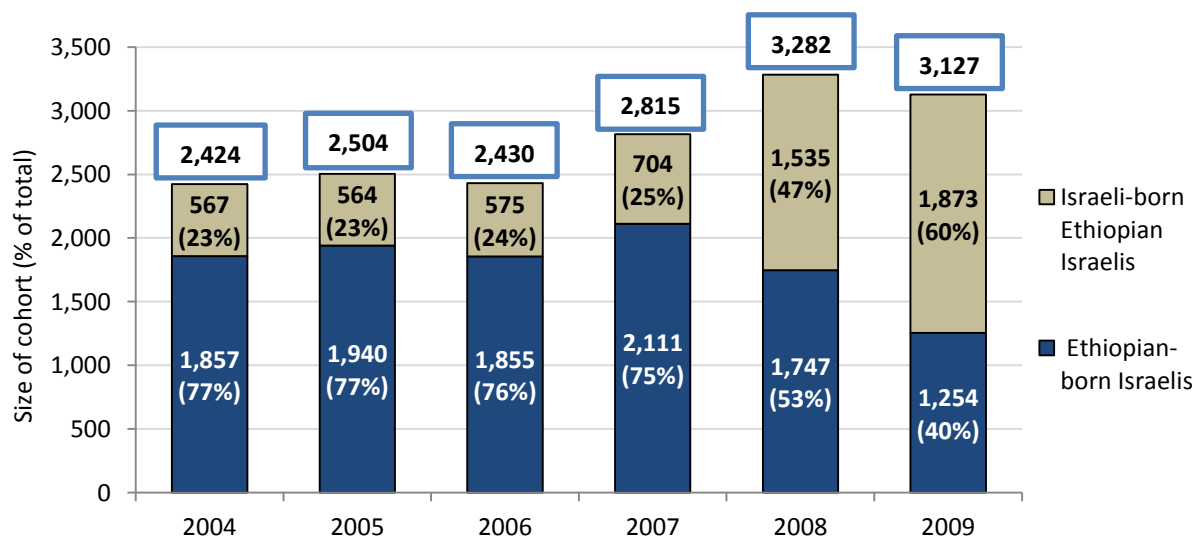
Primary and Secondary Education

Forty Percent of Ethiopian-Israeli Students Were Born in Ethiopia. There is a higher proportion of Ethiopian-Born Israeli Students in Grades 7-12 (2009/10)



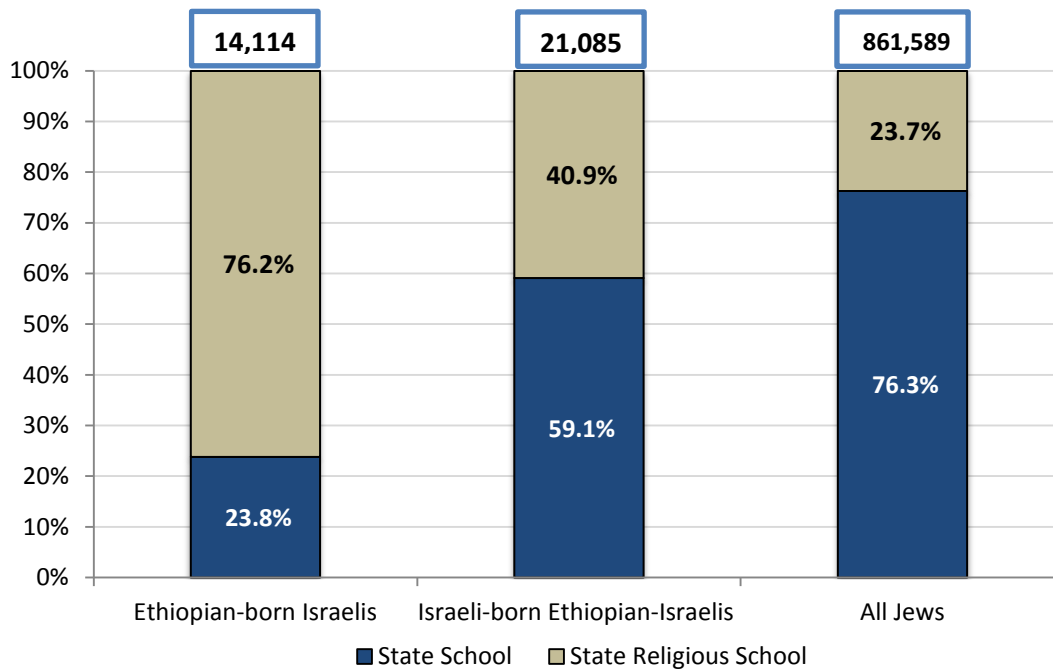
Source: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute analyses of Ministry of Education data.

The Size of the Ethiopian-Israeli 17-year-old Cohort Grew Rapidly Between 2006 and 2008 and the Proportion of Those Born in Israel is Growing Significantly, Both Due to Immigration Trends, Particularly the Large Wave of Immigration in 1990/91



Source: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute analyses of CBS population data.

Ethiopian-Born Israelis are Much More Likely to Study in State Religious Schools*, in Contrast to Ethiopians Born in Israel and the General Jewish Population (2009/10)



* Not including the ultra-orthodox

Source: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute analyses of Ministry of Education data.

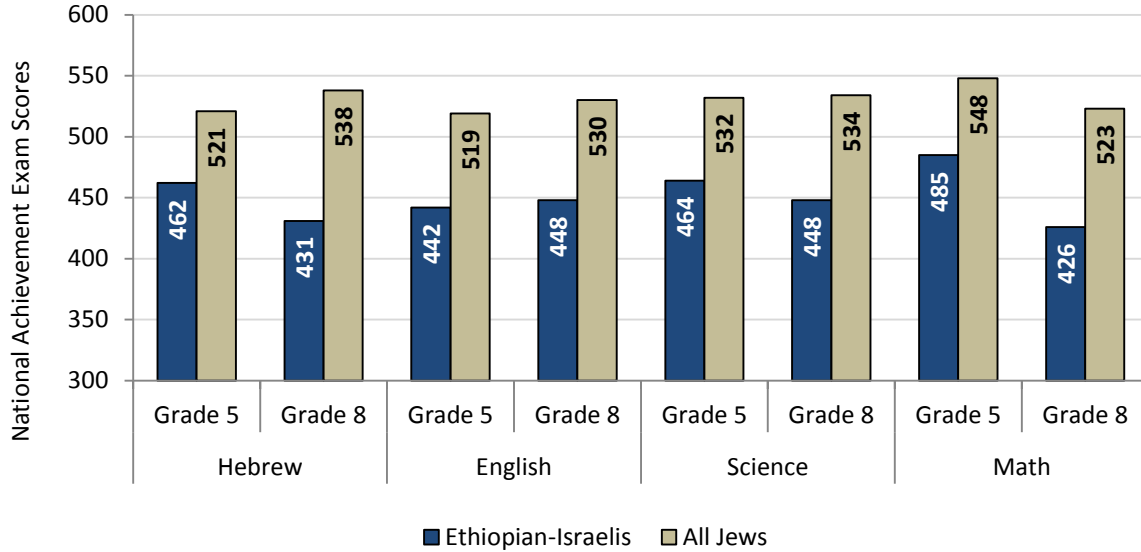
Higher Rates of Israeli-born Ethiopian-Israeli students attend Special Education Schools than Students Born in Ethiopia and in the General Population, 2009/10 (in Percentages)

	All grades	Grades 1-6	Grades 7-12
% of General population	8.9	10.6	6.3
% of Ethiopian-born Israelis	8.4	11.9	5.3
% of Israeli-born Ethiopian-Israelis	13.2	16.8	8.8

*Born in Israel with father born in Ethiopia

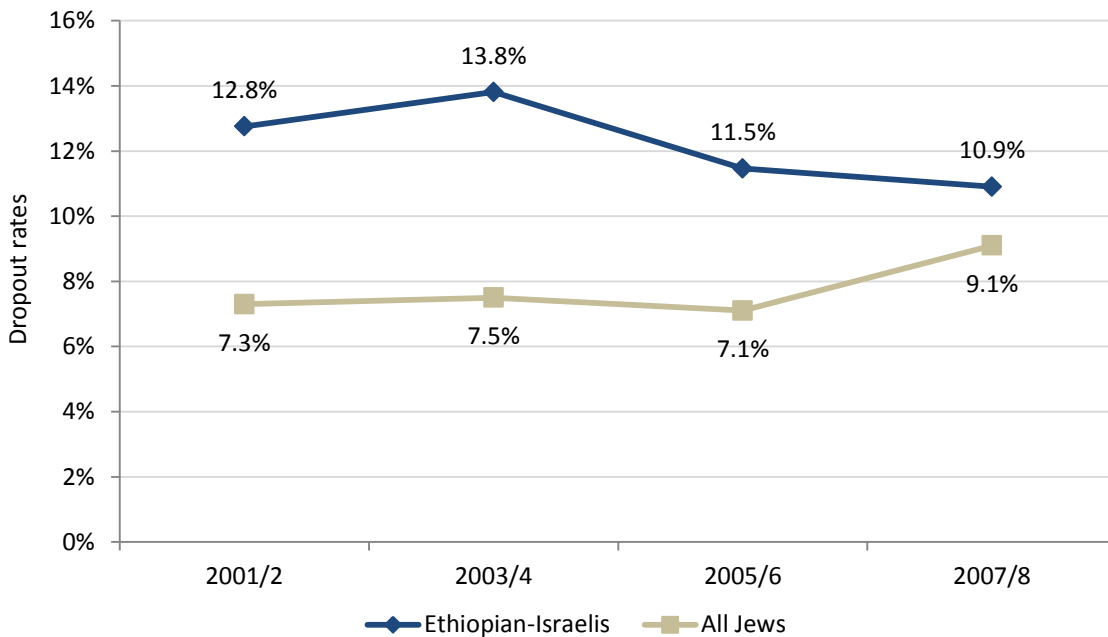
CBS. 2011. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival.

Average Scores of Ethiopian-Israeli Students on the National Achievement Exams (Meitzav) Ranged between 80-90 Percent of the Scores of the General Jewish Population in all Areas of Study and in all Grade Levels (2009/10)



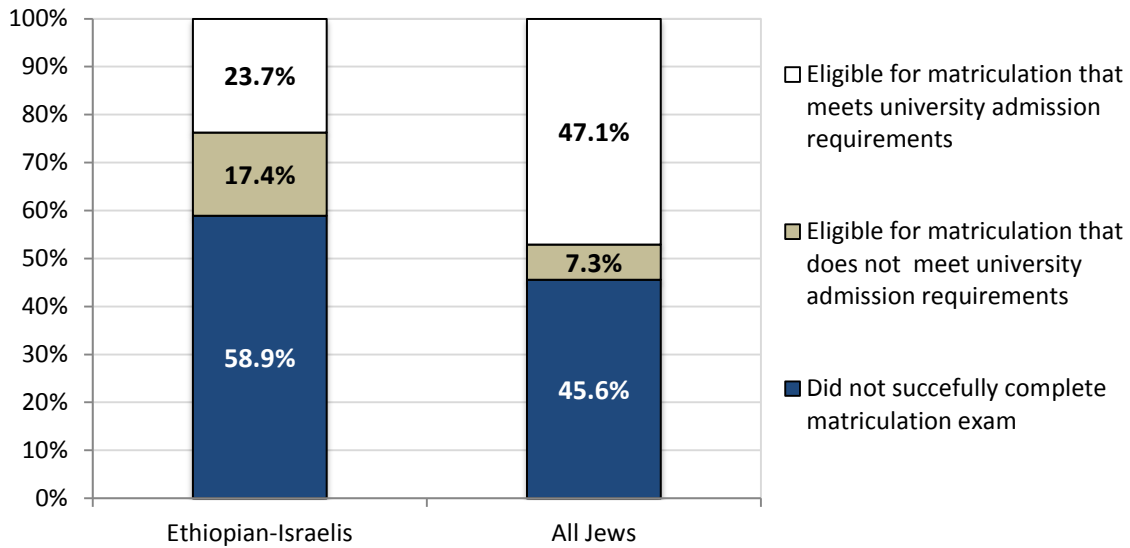
Source: Ministry of Education, 2011. Ethiopian-Israeli Students in the Israeli System of Education: Special Focus on Data from the National Achievement Exams (Meitzav).

Dropout Rates among Ethiopian-Israeli 17-year-olds are Declining and Gaps with the General Jewish Population are Closing



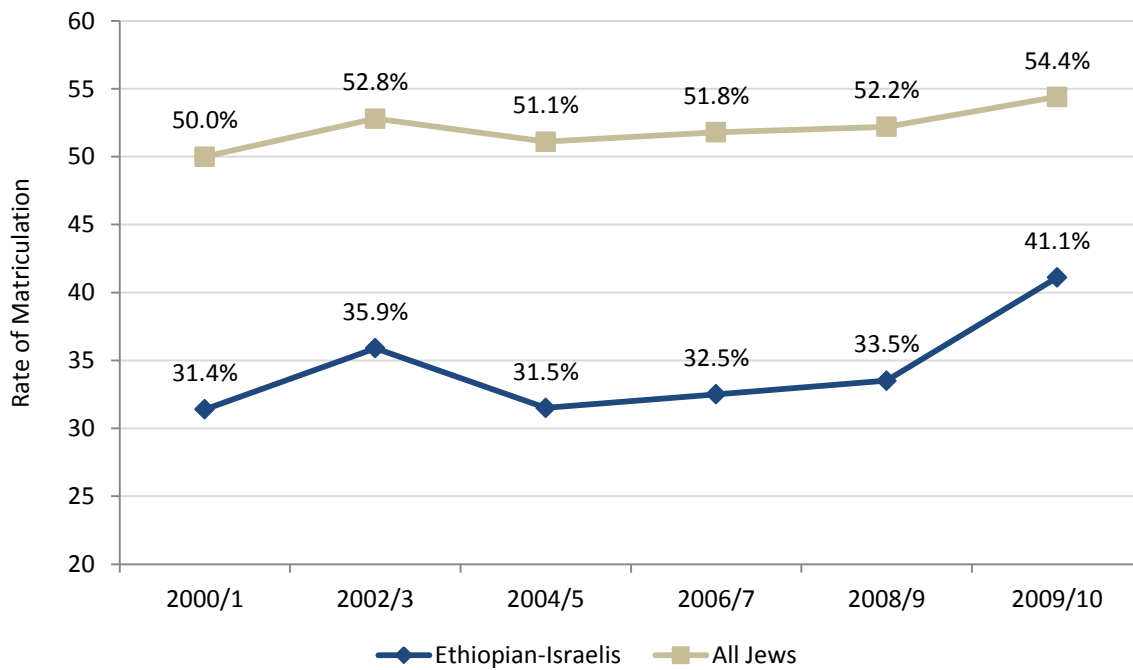
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of Ministry of Education and CBS data.

Matriculation Eligibility Rates are lower among Ethiopian-Israeli 17-year-olds than in the General Jewish Population (2009/10)



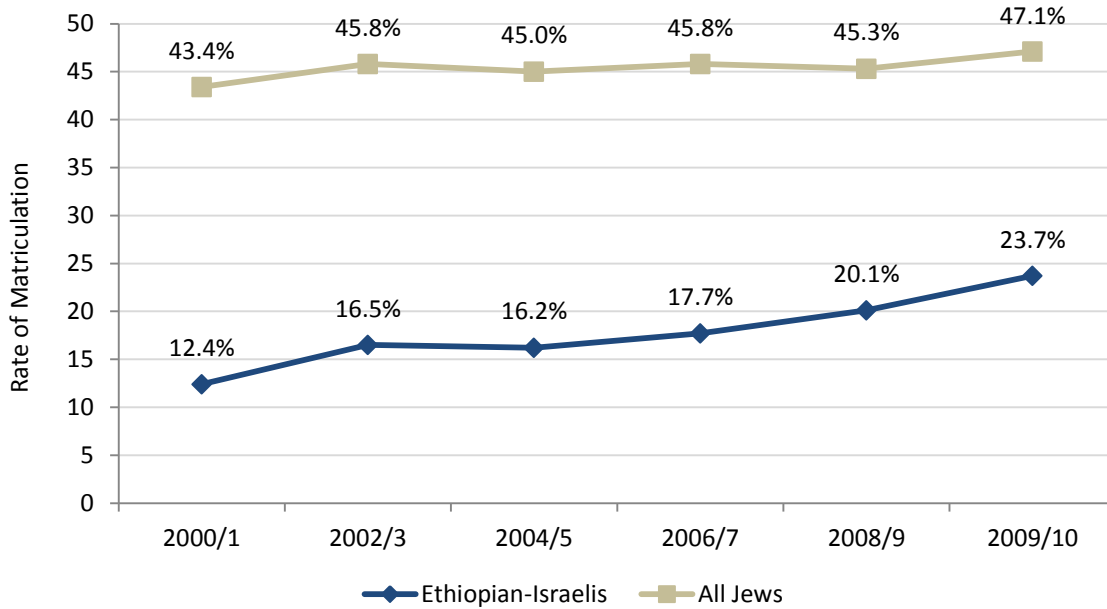
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of Ministry of Education and CBS data.

Gaps in Matriculation Eligibility between Ethiopian-Israeli 17-year-olds and the General Jewish Population Have Been Closing Since 2005



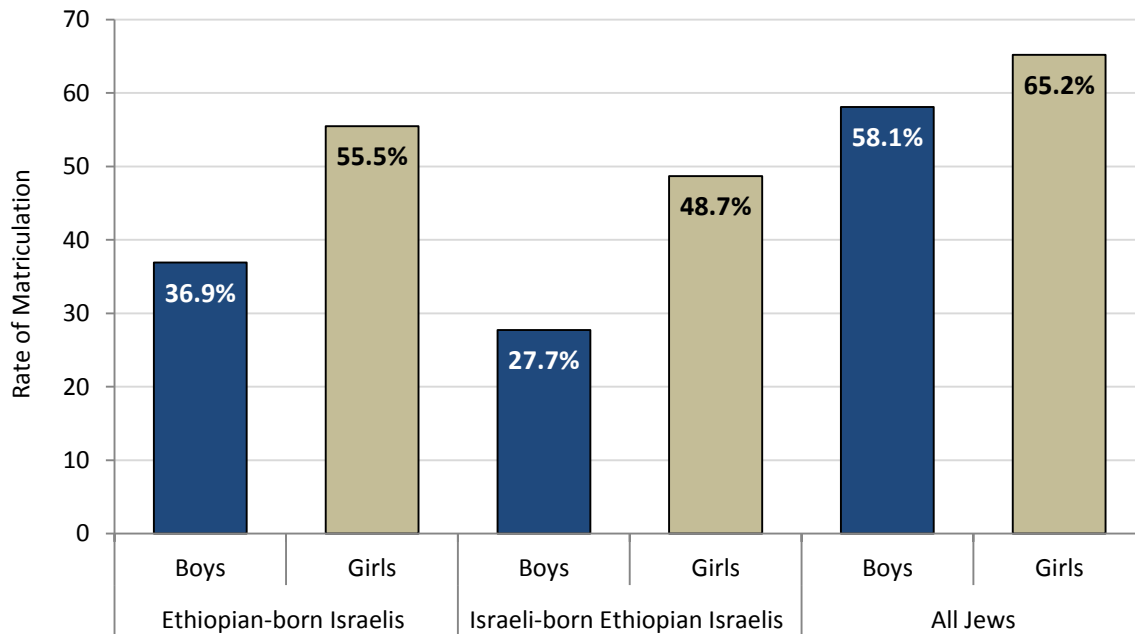
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of Ministry of Education and CBS data.

Eligibility for Matriculation that Meets University Admissions Requirements have Improved Dramatically among Ethiopian-Israeli 17-year-olds and Gaps with the General Jewish Population are Closing



Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of Ministry of Education and CBS data.

Among 12th Graders, Matriculation Eligibility Rates are Higher for Ethiopian-Israeli Girls than for Ethiopian-Israeli Boys (2009/10)



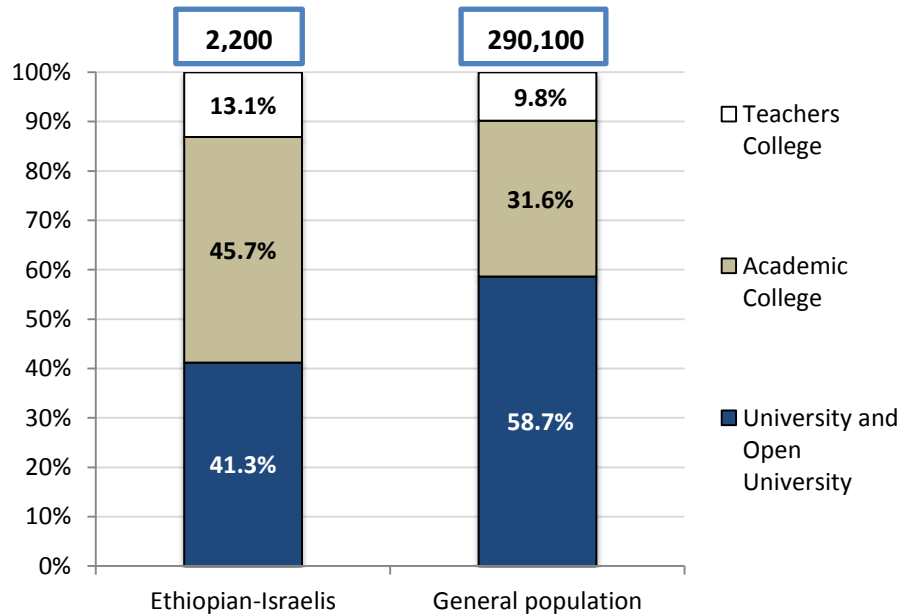
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of Ministry of Education and CBS data.

Higher Education

The average score of Ethiopian-Israelis in the 2007 entrance test into the higher education system (the psychometric test) was 75 percent of the scores of all Hebrew language examinees (424 versus 565).²

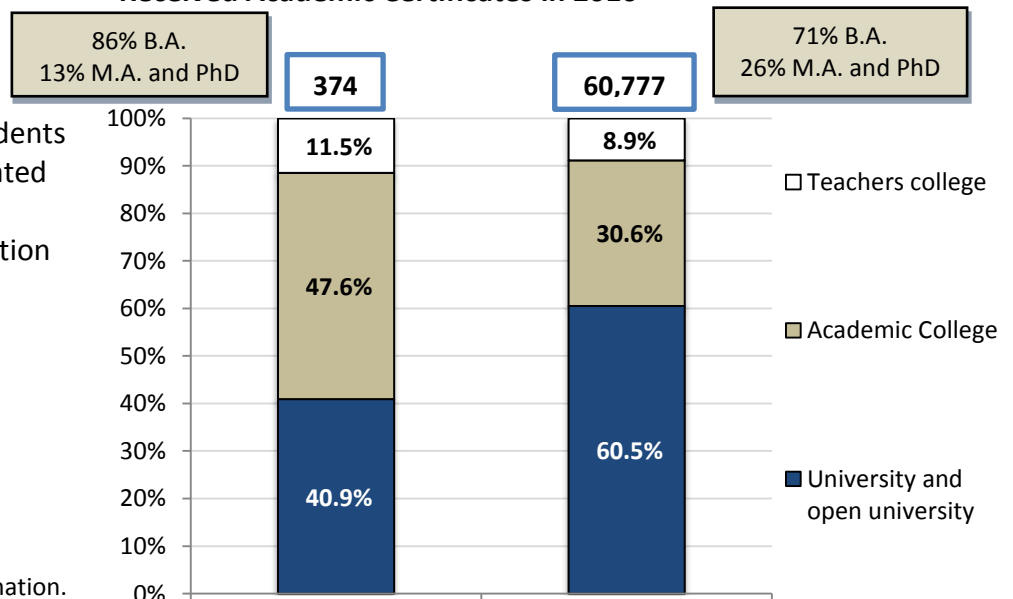
2,200 Ethiopian-Israelis were studying in higher education in 2010 (9.0% of the 20-29 Ethiopian-Israeli age group vs. 24.7% for the general population). 1,990 Ethiopian-Israeli students were studying for a B.A., 196 for an M.A., 11 for a PhD and 4 for other academic certificates.³

Ethiopian-Israeli Students are More Likely to Study in Academic and Teachers Colleges and Less Likely to Study in Universities than are all students (2009/10)



Source: CBS. 2011. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival.

Type of Institution of Ethiopian-Israeli Students Who Received Academic Certificates in 2010



Source: CBS. 2011. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival.

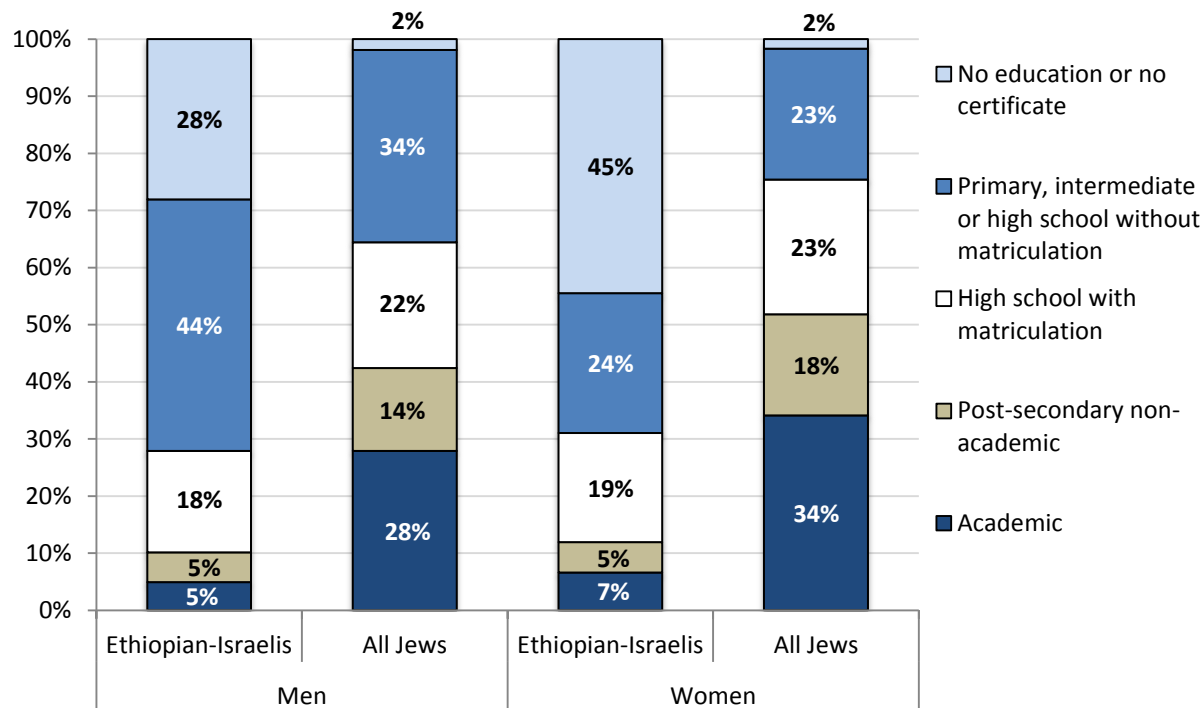
Forty percent of Ethiopian-Israeli students who received degrees in 2010 graduated from Universities, compared to sixty percent of all students. These graduation rates are consistent with the rate of university students within both populations.

² Knesset Center for Research and Information. 2011. The Integration of Ethiopian-Israelis in the System of Higher Education.

³ CBS. 2011. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival.

Level of Education

Highest Education Certificate for Ethiopian-Israelis and the General Jewish Population (22-64), By Gender (Average 2009-2010)



Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

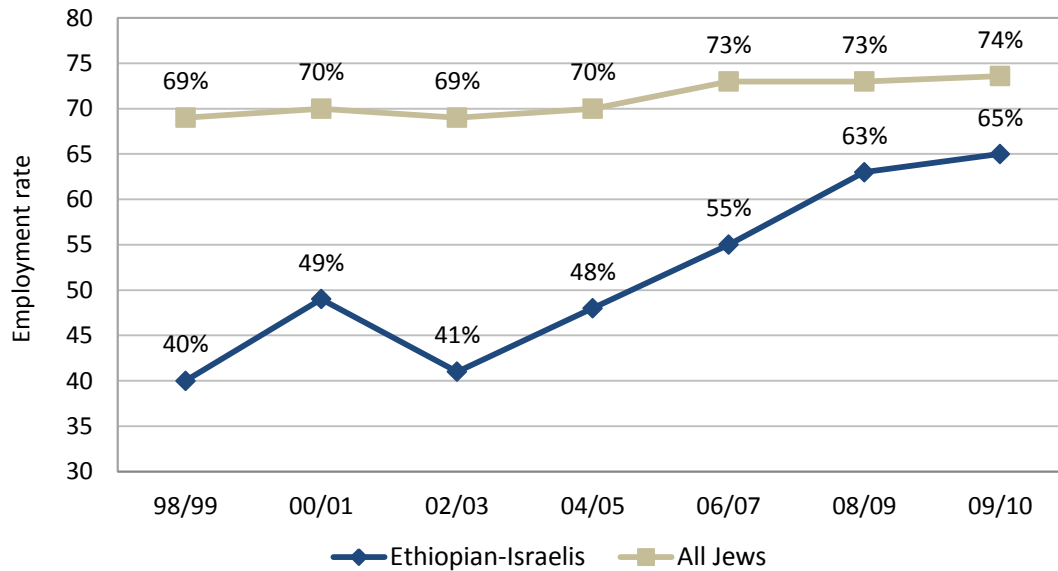
There are large gaps in education levels between Ethiopian-Israelis and the general Jewish population.

A significant percentage of Ethiopian-Israelis have little or no formal education, compared to minor percentages in the general Jewish population.

Within the Ethiopian-Israeli population, more women than men have little or no formal education, but the graduation rates in secondary and post-secondary education are similar.

3. Employment

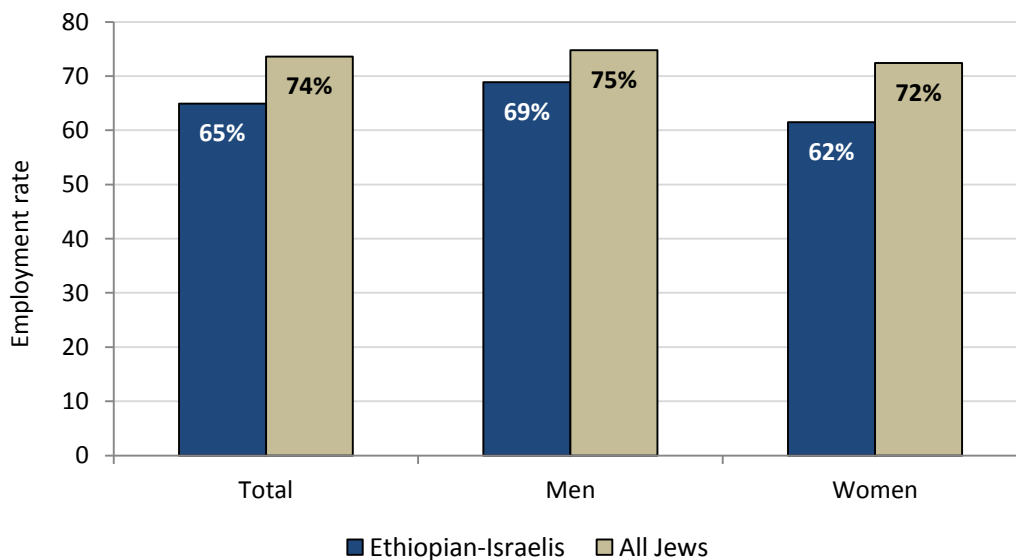
Gaps in Employment Rates between Ethiopian-Israelis* and the General Jewish Population* have Narrowed Dramatically



* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

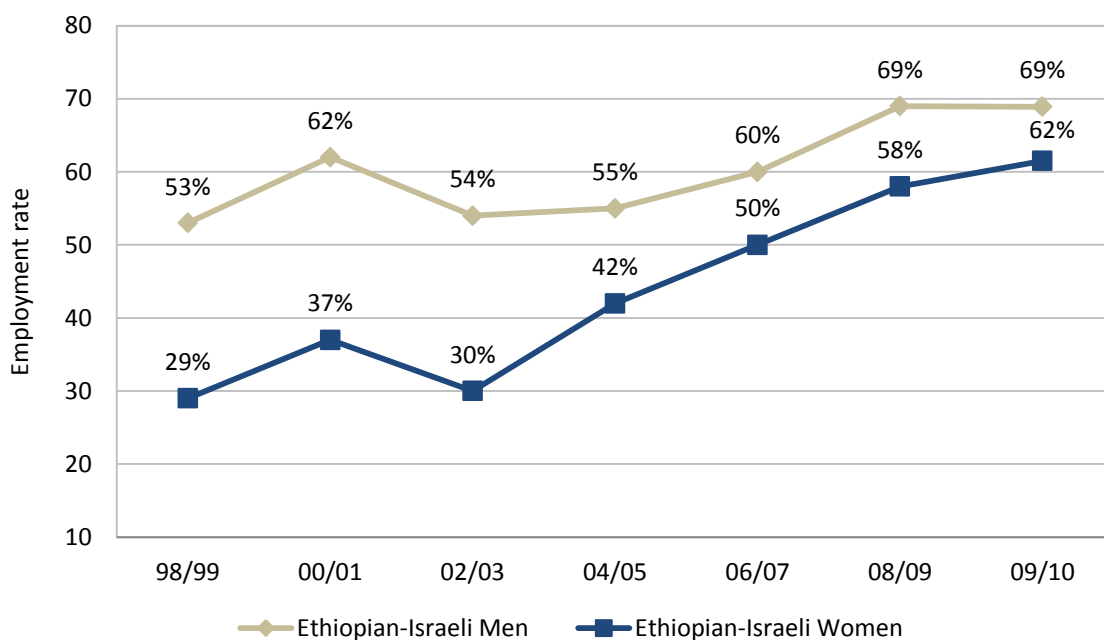
Gaps in Employment Rates between Ethiopian-Israelis* and the General Jewish Population* are Similar among Men and Women (Average 2009-2010)



* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

Gaps in Employment Rates between Ethiopian-Israeli Men and Women* are Closing Rapidly



* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

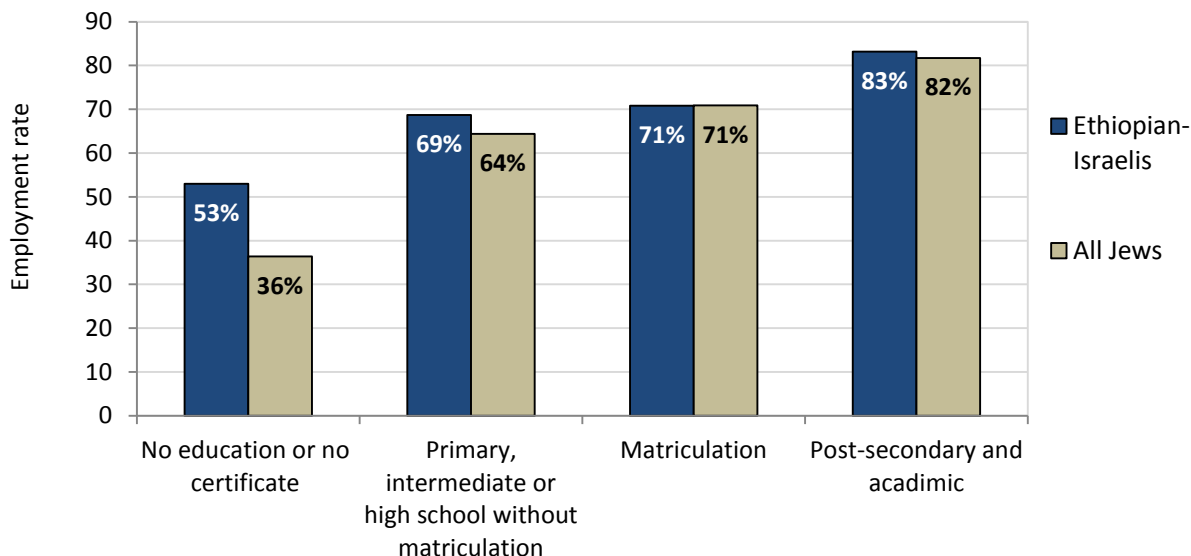
The Average Monthly and Hourly Income of Ethiopian-Israelis* is Lower than that of the General Jewish Population* (Average 2008-2009)

	Men		Women	
	Ethiopian-Israelis	All Jews	Ethiopian-Israelis	All Jews
Gross average monthly wage (NIS)	7,000	10,400	3,900	6,400
Gross average hourly wage (NIS)	37	53	30	43
Average weekly hours of work	45	45	34	41

* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Income and Labor Force Surveys.

Employment Rates are the same or Higher for Ethiopian-Israelis* than the General Jewish Population* Within all Education Groups (Average 2009-2010)

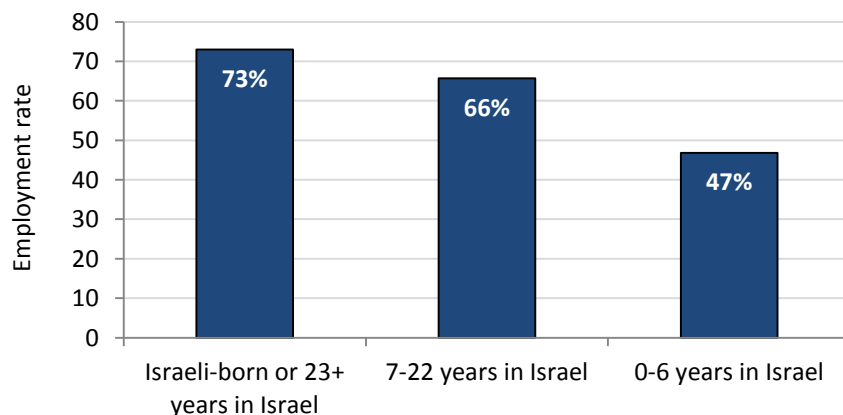


* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

There is still a gap in the employment rates between Ethiopian-Israelis and the general Jewish population, but the rates are similar or higher for Ethiopian-Israelis within education groups. The difference in the employment rate can be fully explained by the difference in the levels of education. That is, the level of education is lower among the Ethiopian-Israelis than among the general Jewish population.

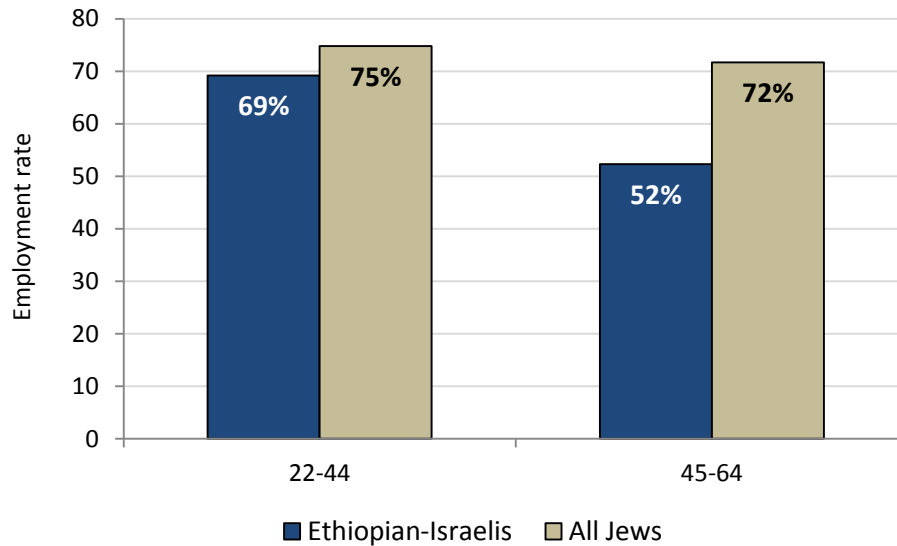
Employment Rates are Significantly Higher among Ethiopians born in Israel* and the more Veteran Immigrants* (Average 2009-2010)



* Ages 22-64

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

The Gaps in Employment Rates between Ethiopian-Israelis* and the General Jewish Population* are Much Lower in the Younger Age Group (Average 2009-2010)



* Ages 22-64

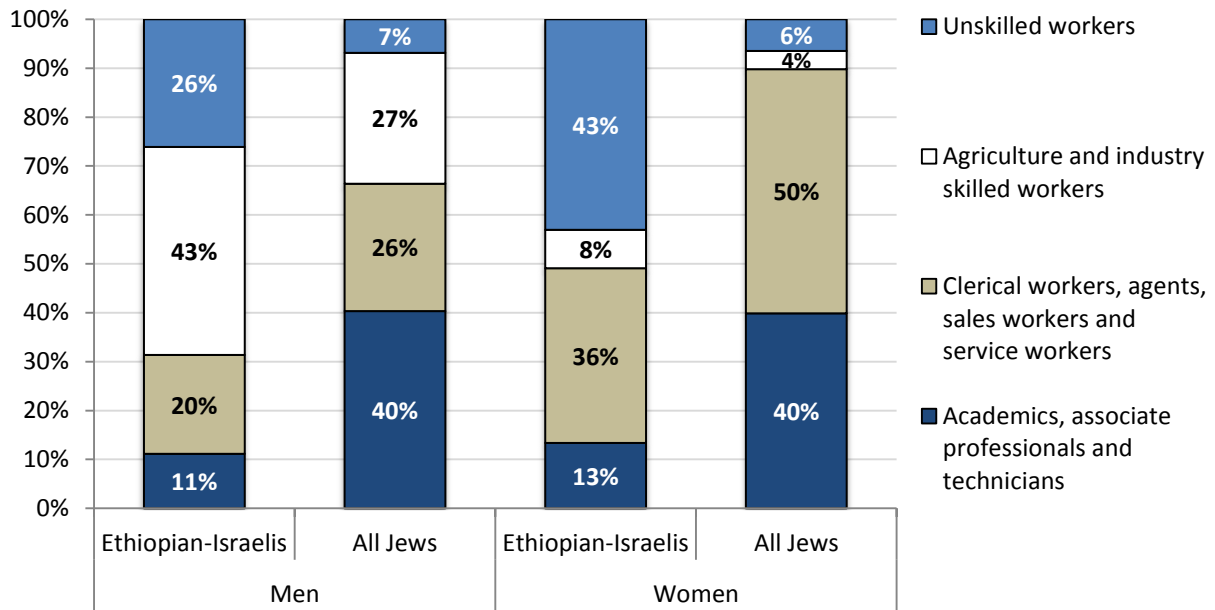
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

Working Age Ethiopian-Israelis are Younger than the General Jewish Workforce (in Percentages, Average 2009-2010)

Age group	Ethiopian-Israelis	All Jews
Total	100	100
22-44	74.5	60.1
45-64	25.5	39.9

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

Occupation of Working Age (22-64) Ethiopian-Israelis* and the General Jewish Population* (Average 2009-2010)



* Ages 22-64

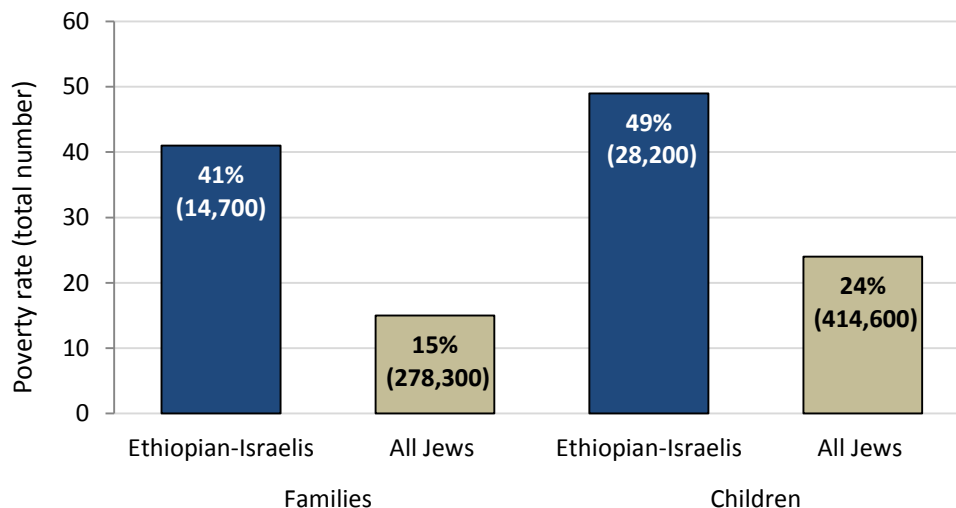
Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Labor Force Surveys.

A quarter of Ethiopian-Israeli men and slightly less than half of Ethiopian-Israeli women are employed as unskilled workers, compared to insignificant percentages among the general Jewish population.

The rates are consistent with the much larger group with little or no education among working-age Ethiopian-Israelis.

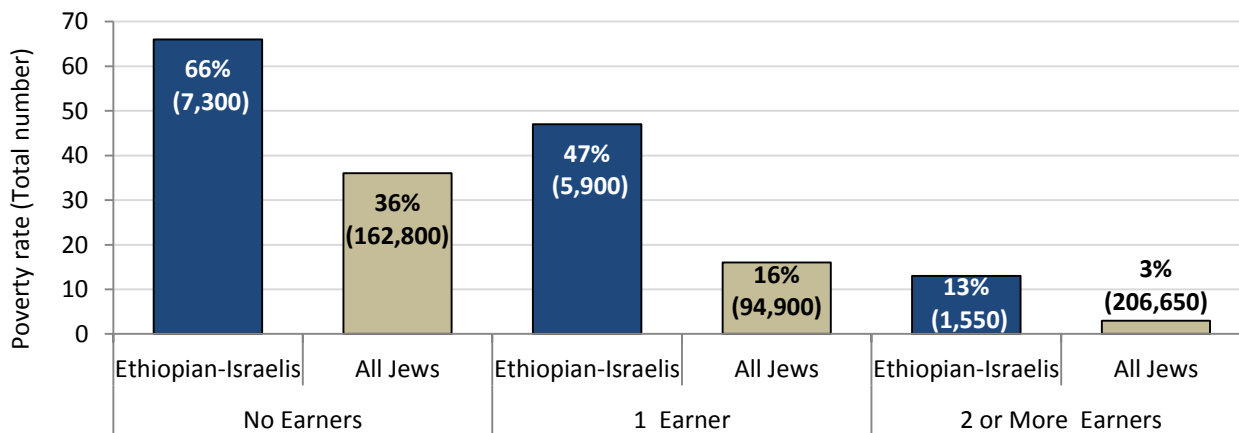
4. Socio-Economic Status, Poverty and Welfare

Poverty Rates are Much Higher among Ethiopian-Israeli Families and Children than among the General Jewish Population (Number and Percentage, Average for 2008-2009)



Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Income Surveys.

Poverty Rates are Much Lower among Families with One or More Earners (Number and Percentage, Average for 2008-2009)

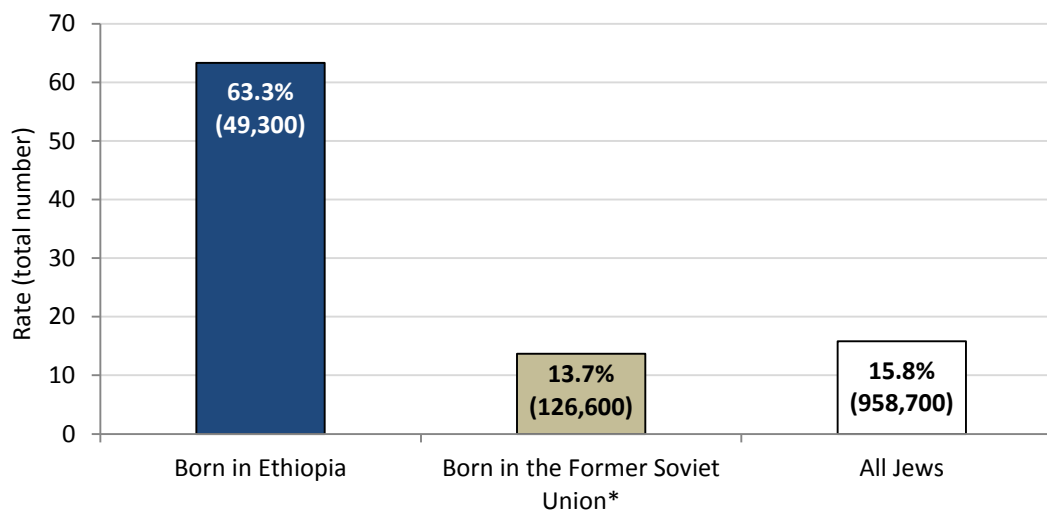


Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of CBS Income Surveys.

Poverty rates are lower in families with one earner and significantly lower in families with two or more earners among Ethiopian-Israeli and all Jewish families.

Poverty rates are considerably higher among Ethiopian-Israeli families regardless of the number of earners.

The Rate of Persons Registered at Social Service Departments is Much Higher among those Born in Ethiopia than among those born in the Former Soviet Union and the General Jewish Population (Number and Percentage, 2010)



* Immigrated since 1990

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of data from Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. 2012. Review of Social Services 2010.

About one-fifth of the Ethiopian-born Israelis registered at social service departments are children (about 10,000). They represent two thirds of Ethiopian-born children. The most common categories of need for Ethiopian-born Israeli children are economic hardship (78%) and family integration difficulties (57%).

Home Ownership Rates are Similar for Ethiopian-Israelis and the General Population but Housing Conditions are Poorer (2010)

	Ethiopian-Israelis	General population
Home ownership (%)*	66.3	69.2
Housing density (Persons per room)	1.27	0.89
Value of owned dwelling (NIS thousand)	521	1,237

* Rate of those residing in owner occupied dwelling

Source: CBS. 2011. The Ethiopian Community in Israel. Press Release for Sigd festival.

The rate of home ownership of the Ethiopian-Israeli population is similar to that of the general population, due to special mortgage assistance provided by the government. The homes they own, however, are lower in value.

Domestic Violence and Violence against Women

Newly Reported Cases of Domestic Violence against Women among Ethiopian-Born Israelis, Other Immigrants and the General Population (2005-2009)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number					
General population	15,944	15,404	14,732	15,175	15,215
Ethiopian-born Israelis*	368	406	356	343	399
Other immigrants *	3,372	3,279	3,240	3,280	3,261
Percent of total cases					
Ethiopian-born Israelis	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.6

* Immigrated since 1990

Source: Knesset Center for Research and Information. 2010. Violence against Women in the Ethiopian-Israeli Community.

Families Treated in Centers for Prevention of Domestic Violence among Ethiopian-Born Israelis, Other Immigrants, and the General Population, Per Year (2006-2009)

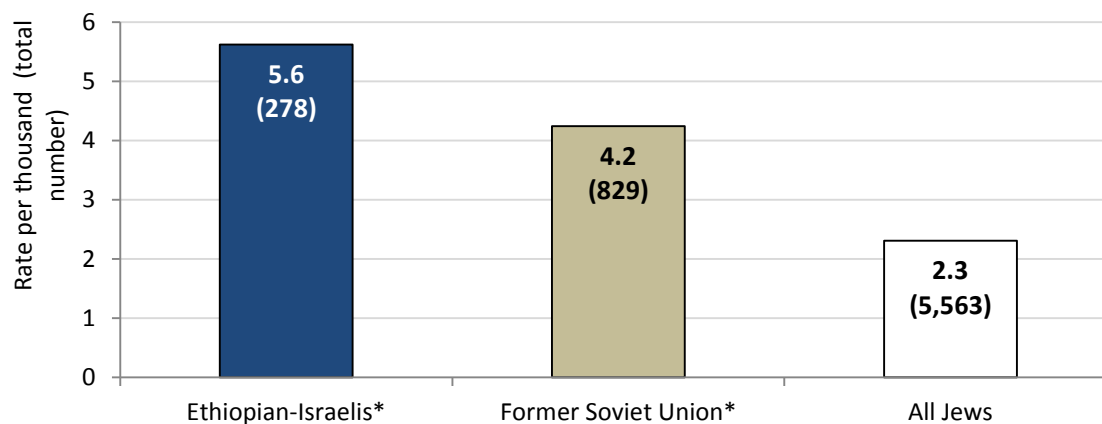
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number				
General population	7,934	8,274	8,608	8,545
Ethiopian Israelis	299	448	539	477
Other immigrants*	1,224	1,050	1,324	1,014
Percent of total families treated				
Ethiopian-born Israelis	3.8	5.4	6.3	5.6

* Immigrated since 1990

Source: Knesset Center for Research and Information. 2010. Violence against Women in the Ethiopian-Israeli Community.

Children and Youth at Risk

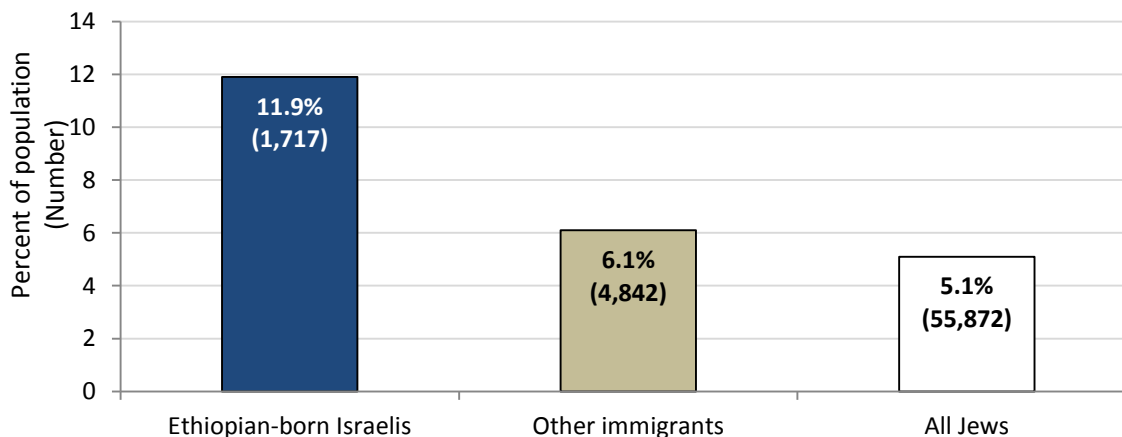
The Rate of Children Placed in Boarding Schools for Children at Risk of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services is Higher among Ethiopian-Israelis* than among Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union* and the General Jewish Population (Rate per Thousand and Number, 2007/08)



* Children born abroad or children born in Israel with one or more parents who immigrated after 1990

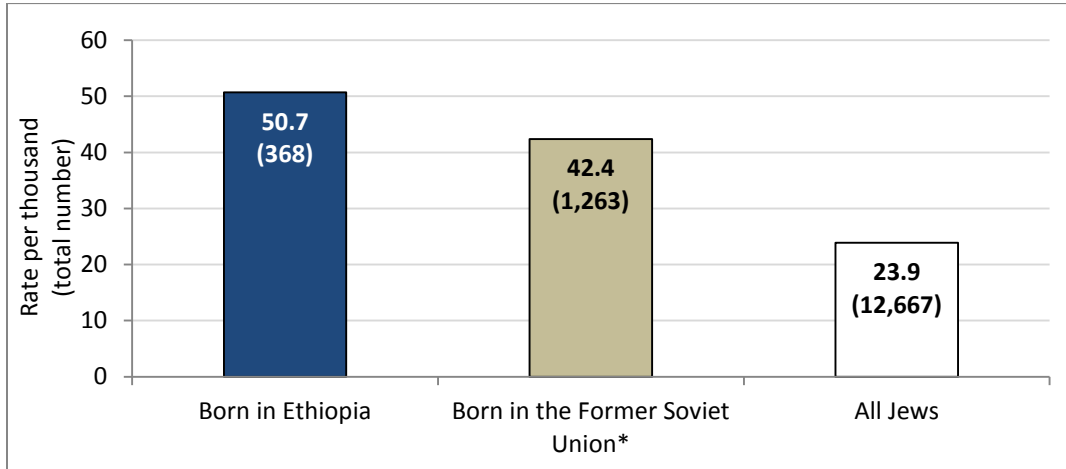
Source: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of data from Kosher, K.; Ben-Arie, A.; Cohen, S. 2011. Immigrant Children in Israel. Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and National Council for the Child, Jerusalem

The Percentage of Students under the Supervision of Truancy Officers among Ethiopian-Born Israelis is Higher than among Other Immigrants and the General Jewish Population (Percent of Population and Number 2009/10)



Source: Kosher, K.; Ben-Arie, A.; Cohen, S. 2011. Immigrant Children in Israel. Ministry of Immigrant Absorption and National Council for the Child, Jerusalem

The Rate of Youth (12-17) Referred To the Youth Probation Service among Israelis Born in Ethiopia is Higher than among Youth Born in the Former Soviet Union and among the General Jewish Population (Rate per Thousand and Number, 2010)



* Immigrated after 1990

Sources: Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute special analyses of data from Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Services. 2012. Review of Social Services 2010



5. Army Service

In 2010 there were 5,600 Ethiopian-Israelis in active mandatory service: 4,000 men and 1,600 women. 564 Ethiopian-Israelis were in career service.

Enlistment Rates of Ethiopian-Israelis are high (in Percentages, 2010)

	Men		Women	
	Ethiopian-Israelis	General population	Ethiopian-Israelis	General population
Enlistment *	86	74	52	56
Career service **	7	16	9	13
Early discharge ***	20	15	10	7
Officers ***	2	7	6	7

* Birth year 1990

** Of graduates of mandatory service in 2010

*** Of those discharged in 2010

Source: Knesset Center for Research and Information. 2011. The Integration of Ethiopian-Israelis in the Israeli Defense Forces

The enlistment rate of Ethiopian-Israeli men is higher than the enlistment rate of men in the general population, while it is similar among women.

The rate of female Ethiopian-Israeli officers is similar to the rate in the general population, while the rate of officers among Ethiopian-Israeli men is much lower than in the general population.

Type of Service of Ethiopian-Israelis Enlisted in 2009, by Gender (In Percentages)

	Men	Women
Total	100	100
Combat	42	3
Administrative and other	25	29
Technical	13	2
Drivers	11	2
Other quality positions (according to army definitions)	9	64

Source: Knesset Center for Research and Information. 2011. The Integration of Ethiopian-Israelis in the Israeli Defense Forces.