

DRUZE CITIZENS OF ISRAEL



This infographic provides a basic introduction to Druze citizens in Israel. Refer to the Source Sheet Companion for a list of links used to compile this explainer, as well as a selection of additional resources for further learning.



Who are the Druze?

The Druze community in Israel is a unique ethno-religious Arabic-speaking minority who practice the Druze faith. Part of a global Druze community of about 1 million people, and deeply connected to their ancestral lands, Druze generally consider it both a matter of faith and commitment to support the country where they live. Unlike Muslim and Christian Arabs, Druze men are obligated to serve in the army based on a historical covenant with the state.¹⁻⁹

Members of the community often describe themselves, and are referred to by others, as **Druze**, **Druze-Israeli**, **Israeli Druze**, **Arab Israeli Druze**, **Arab Druze** or **Druze-Arab**.

~ **150,000** DRUZE POPULATION **7.4%** of Arab Citizens **1.6%** of Israel's Population

Geography

Most Druze live in entirely Druze communities or areas with Christian and Muslim minorities. Therefore, **Druze and Jewish citizens have limited opportunities for meaningful interaction** prior to meeting in the army, higher education, or the workplace.¹⁰⁻¹⁴

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Druze localities are situated in **two main districts in Israel's northern periphery**.



