

HEALTH SYSTEM IN JORDAN



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القلعة نيوز: بقلم عبدالله مسمار
ليست المشكلة الصحية في الأردن حديثة ولا هي وليدة جائحة كورونا، ولا احدى نتاجاتها، ولا تتمثل بنقص الخبرات الطبية او ضعف الكفاءات، ولم تكشفها قضية الطفلة لين او غيرها من وفيات التقصير والاختفاء الطبية، ولكن هل الاطباء مذنبون؟

الاطفال وقضاياهم عادة ما يثيرون الرأي العام، وتصبح حوادث وفياتهم محط أنظار الجميع، وبذلك تصبح وفاة طفلة في الخامسة من عمرها

شهد القطاع الصحي في الأردن تحت القيادة الهاشمية وعلى مدى مئة عام تطوراً ملحوظاً منذ تأسيس إمارة شرق الأردن في العام 1921 وحتى وقتنا الحاضر في العام 2021

وفيما يلي تسليط بعض الضوء على هذه التطورات والتي يمكن تصنيفها بثلاثة مراحل:

(التأسيس والنهضة ومرحلة التعزيز والتطور)، وفيما يلي استعراض لأهم سمات هذه المراحل الثلاثة

التأسيس

1. العقد الاول للدولة الاردنية (1921-1930)

قبل مئة عام كانت منطقة شرق الأردن تفتقر إلى الرعاية الصحية الكافية، حيث اقتصر حينها على تقديم الإسعافات الأولية وتقديم بعض العقاقير، ولم يكن عدد الأطباء يت

وزير الصحة الدكتور إبراهيم البدور يستعرض الأهداف الاستراتيجية للقطاع الصحي- البرنامج التنفيذي لرؤية التحديث الاقتصادي (2026-2029)

الرئيسية | المركز الاعلامي | الاخبار | وزير الصحة الدكتور إبراهيم البدور يستعرض الأهداف الاستراتيجية للقطاع الصحي- البرنامج التنفيذي لرؤية التحديث الاقتصادي (2026-2029)

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SOURCE:

<https://100jordan.jo/AR/Pages/%D9%82%D8%B7%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%A9>

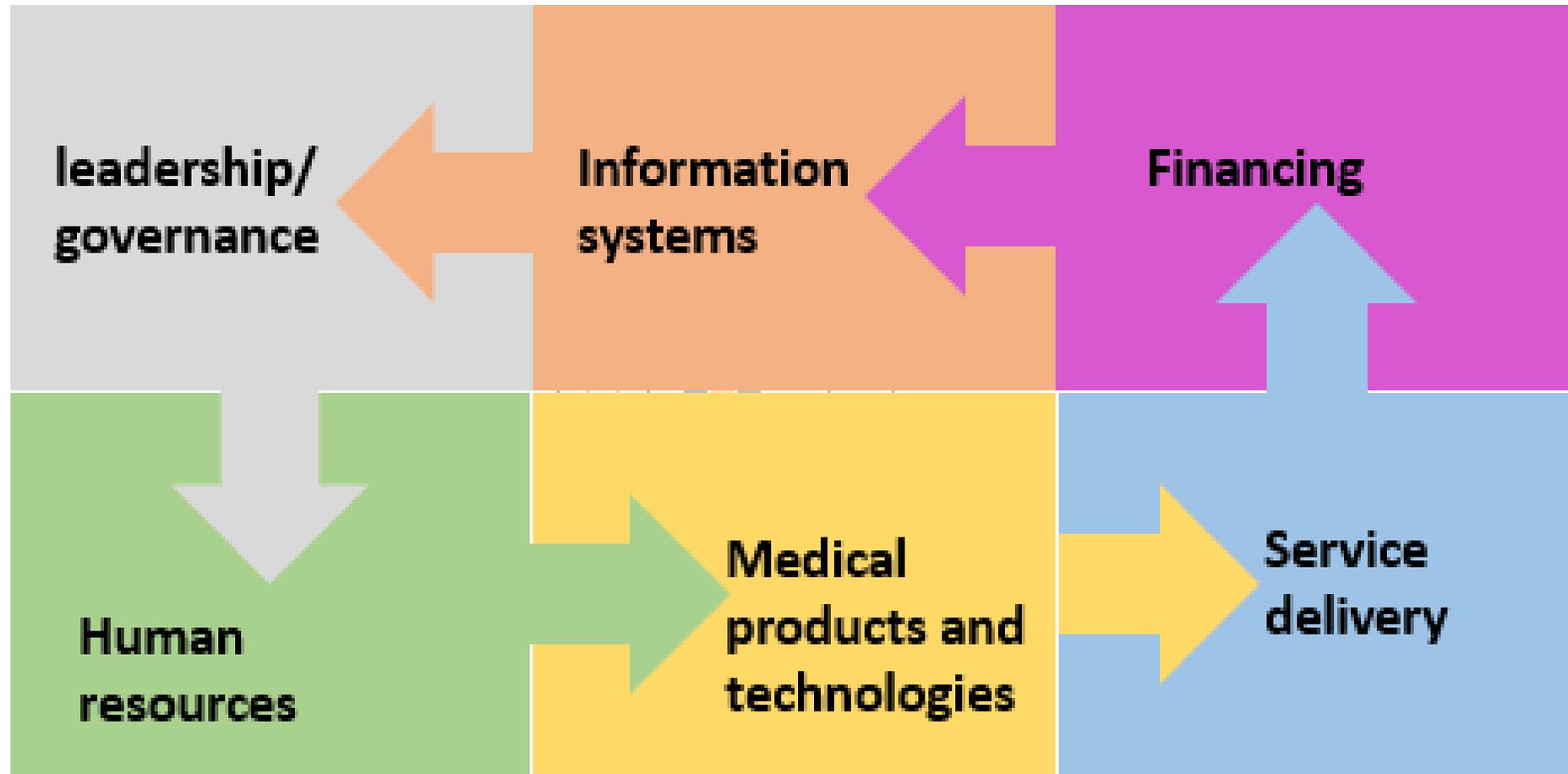


What is a health system?



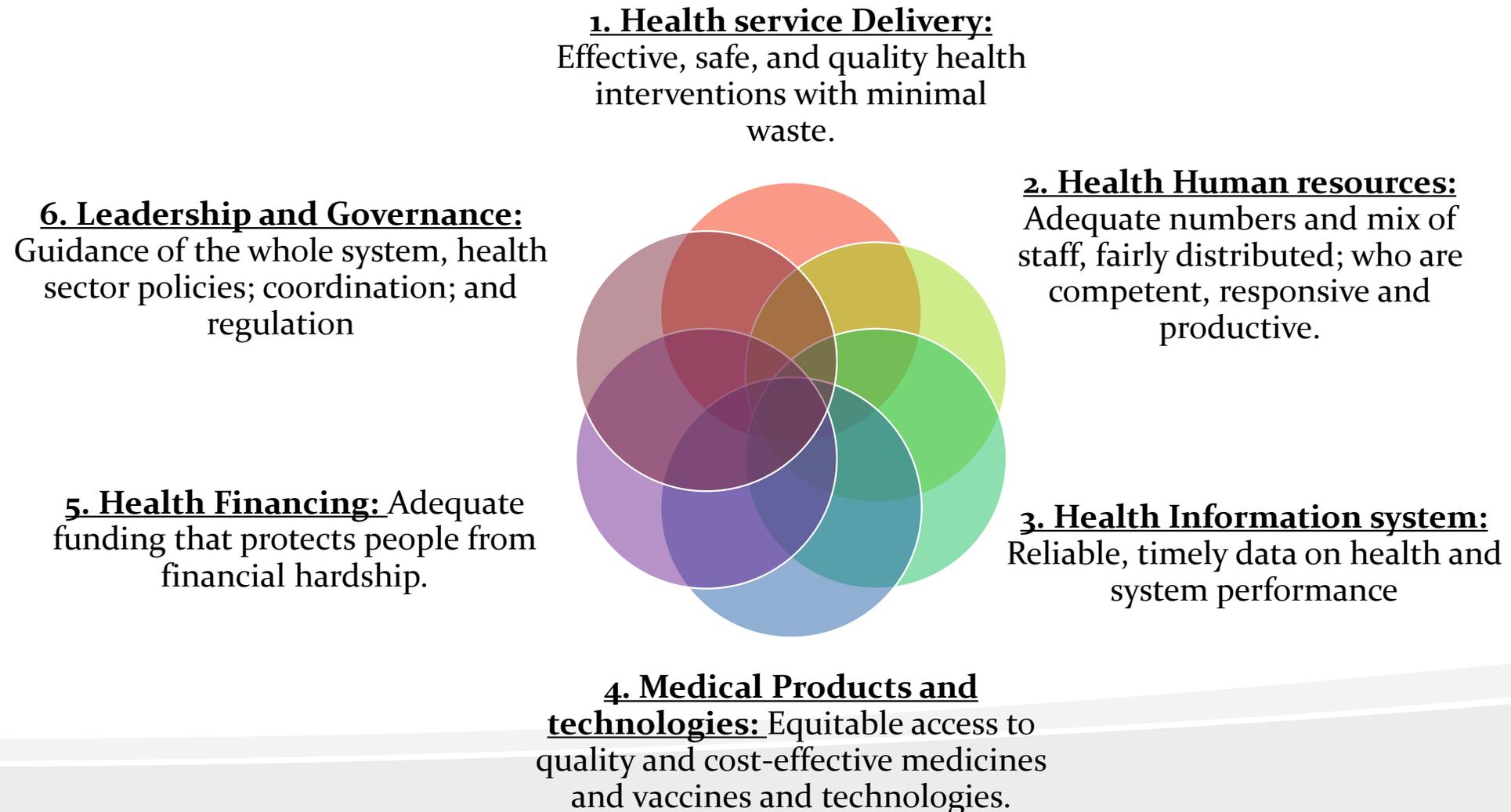
- A **health system** is the organization of **people**, **institutions**, and **resources** that deliver health care services to meet the health needs of target populations.

The six building blocks of a health system:





The six building blocks of a health system:





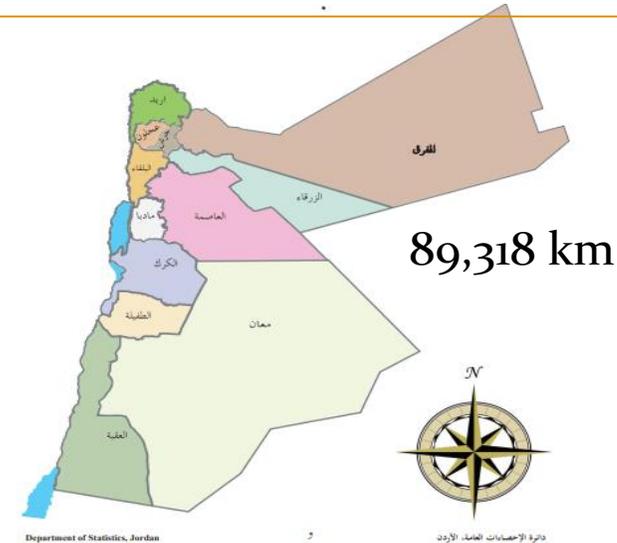
The Importance of a Strong Health System

- A strong health system ensures: equitable access to essential services, improves population health, and supports national stability.
- In Jordan, a well-organized system allowed major achievements such as universal childhood immunization, control of infectious diseases, and progress toward universal health coverage (UHC).





Jordan Demographics & Health Profile



- The population is distributed among 12 governorates over three regions (North, Middle, and South).

Jordan is a Lower Middle Income country (WB, 2023)

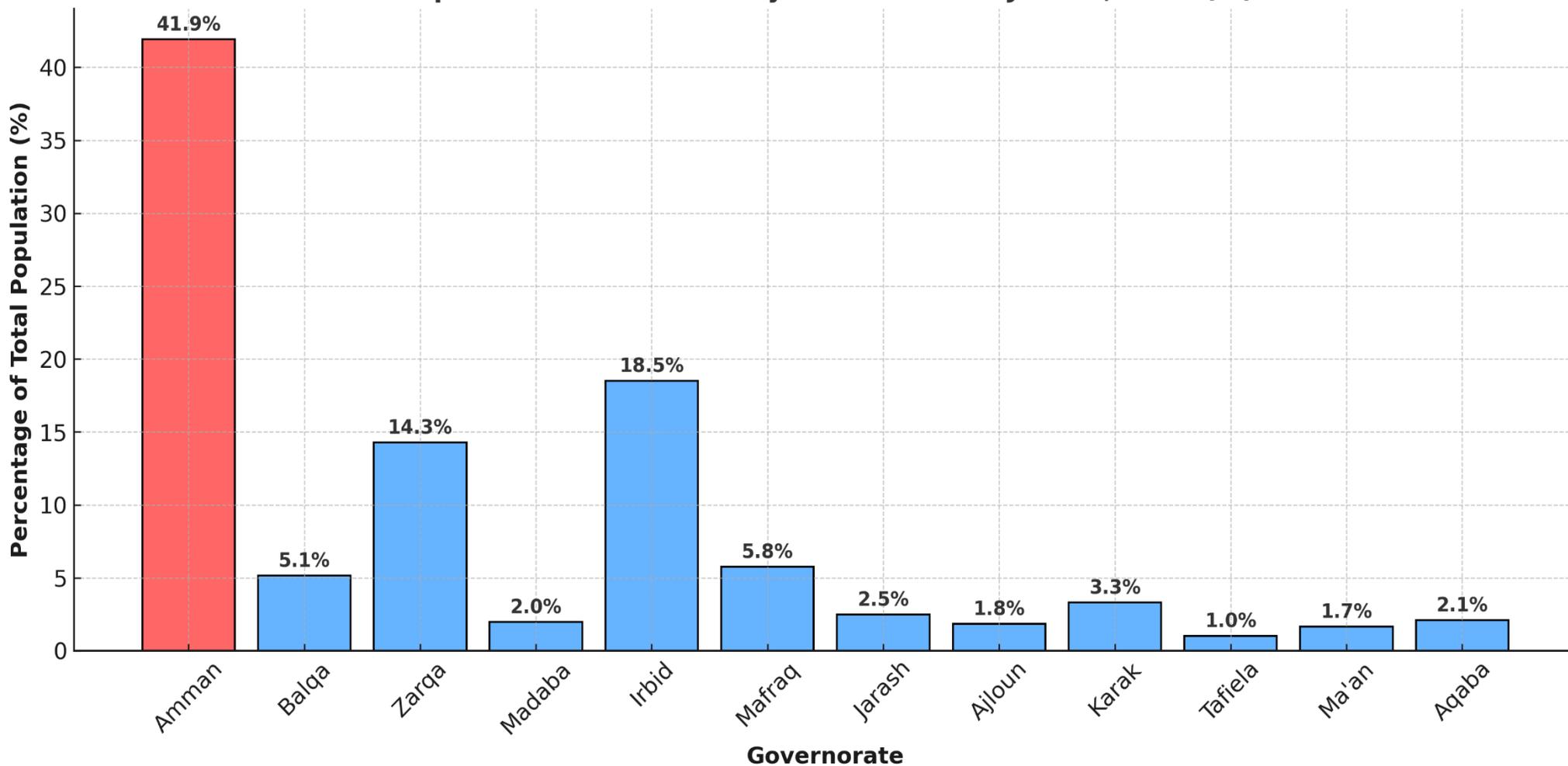
Total population (2025): **≈11.6 million**, Gender distribution: **52.9% males, 47.1% females** (sex ratio **≈ 112.5 per 100 females**) . **30%** of total populations are **Non-Jordanian residents**. **90% Urban, 10% rural**.



JORDAN

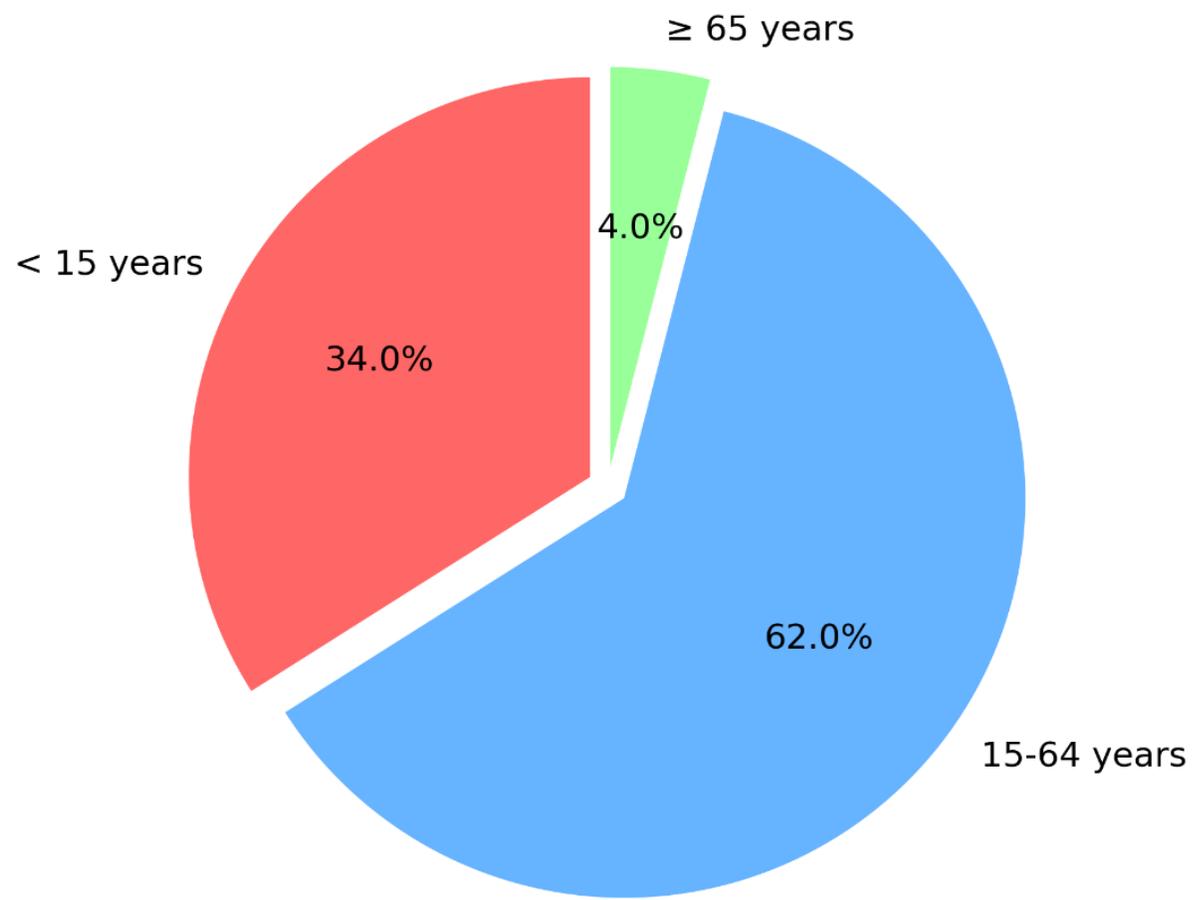


Population Distribution by Governorate - Jordan, 2024 (%)

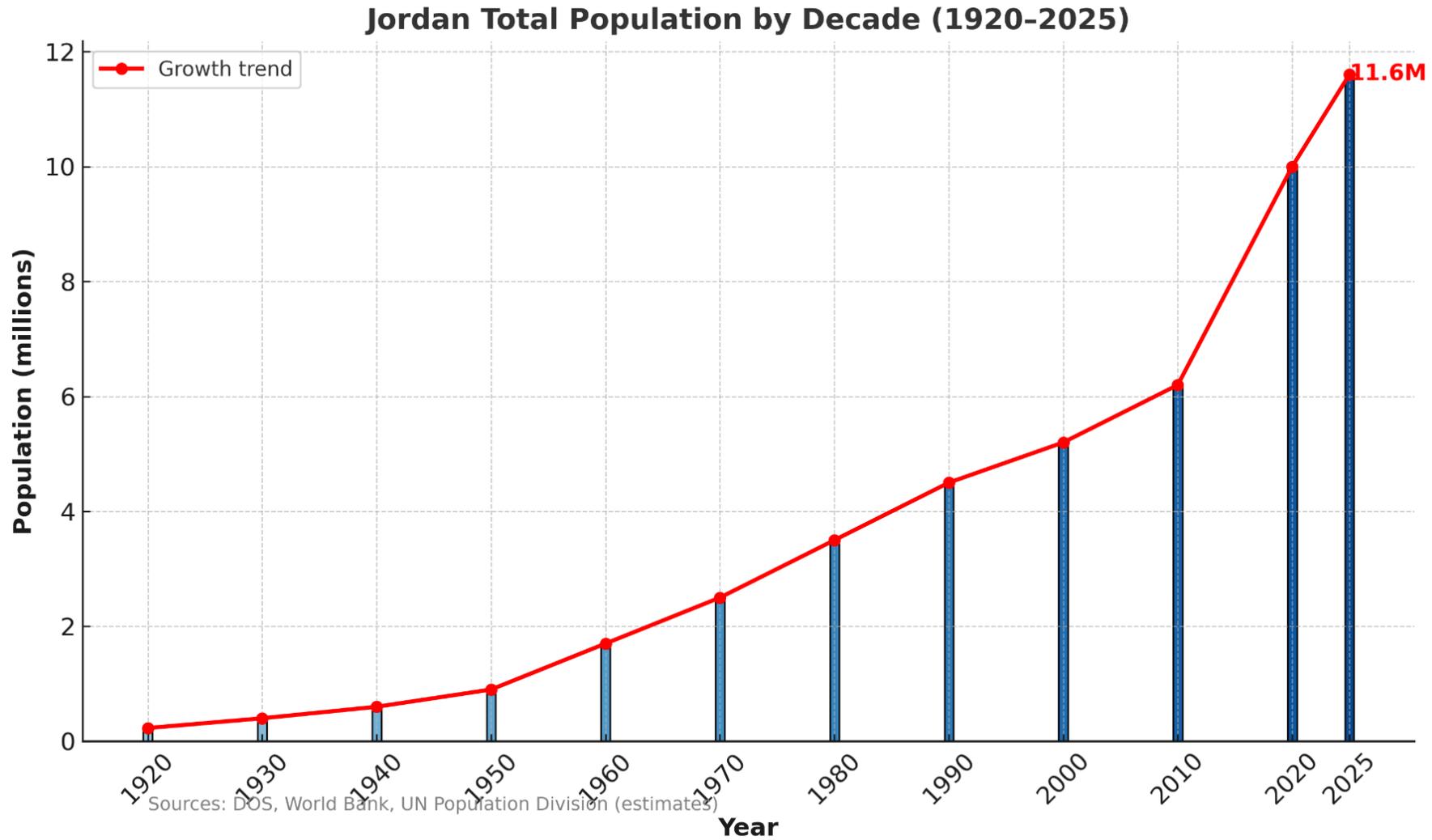




Population Age Distribution - Jordan (2025) Average family size: 4.8



Population : 34% < 15 years 62% at the age 15-64 years and 4% ≥ 65 years
Average family size: 4.8



Since 1950, the Kingdom's population has increased nearly 17-fold, reaching around 11 million in 2025, with a 3.2% average annual growth rate.

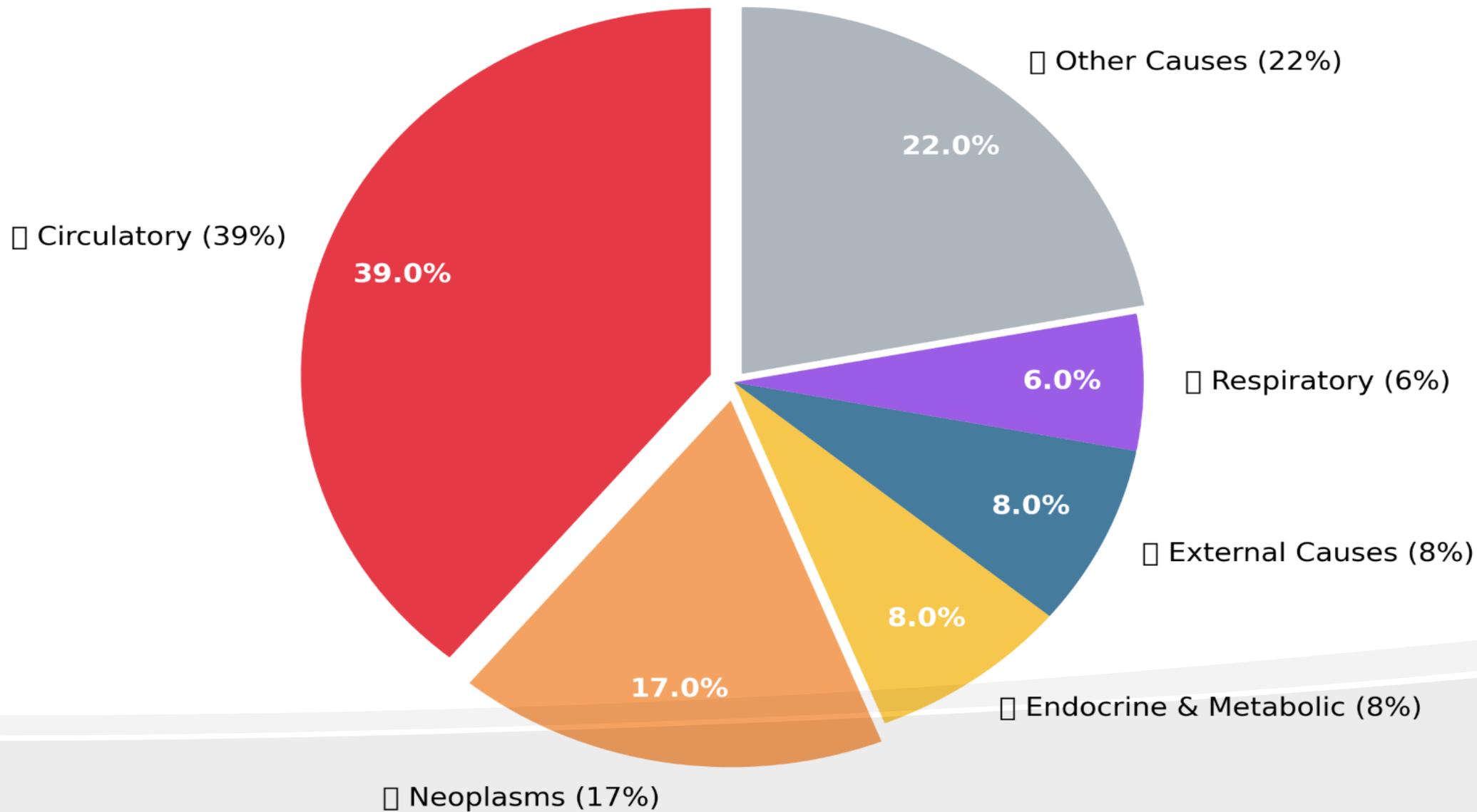


Health Status Indicators in Jordan

Indicator	Latest Value	Notes / Trend
Life expectancy	75 years (73 ♂ / 77 ♀)	↑ gradual improvement
Infant mortality rate	14 / 1,000 live births	↓31 in 1990
Maternal mortality rate	19 / 100,000 live births	↓70 in 1990
Crude birth rate	17 / 1,000 population	↓ due to fertility decline
Crude death rate	6 / 1,000 population	steady
Fertility rate	2.3 children per woman	↓ from 3.8 in 2000

Health status in Jordan is among the best in the Middle East.

Leading Causes of Death in Jordan - WHO Global Health Estimates 2021



The leading causes of death in Jordan



- **1- Circulatory system diseases:** ischemic heart disease, hypertensive diseases, and strokes.
- **2-Neoplasm's :** lung cancer leads cancer-related deaths among men, followed by colorectal, prostate, and leukemia. Among women, breast cancer is the top cause, followed by colorectal, lung, and leukemia
- **3- Endocrine:** caused mainly by diabetes mellitus and metabolic disorders
- **4-External causes of mortality :**injuries, road-traffic accidents, falls, drowning, and violence.
- **5. Respiratory Diseases:** Include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pneumonia, and asthma.
- **6. Others:** Represent infectious, maternal, perinatal, and nutritional causes combined.

Males (♂)	Females (♀)
1. Lung cancer	1. Breast cancer
2. Colorectal cancer	2. Colorectal cancer
3. Prostate cancer	3. Lung cancer
4. Leukemia	4. Leukemia

Primary Health Care (PHC) and Immunization Achievements



Figure 10.2 Childhood vaccinations

Percentage of children age 12–23 months vaccinated at any time before the survey

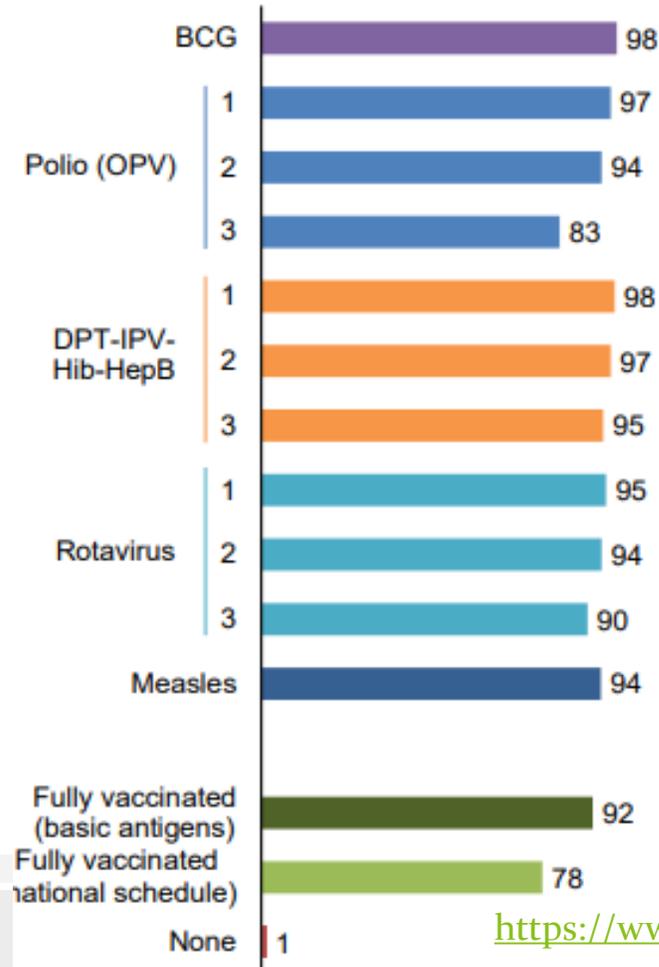
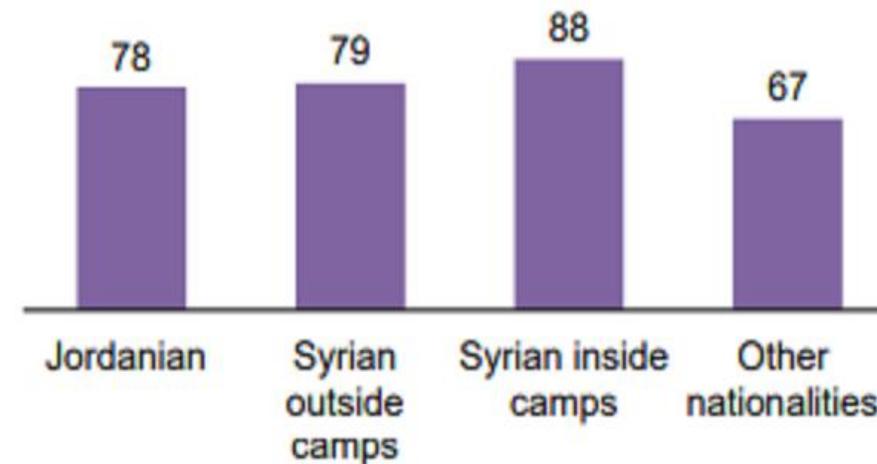


Figure 10.3 Vaccination coverage by nationality

Percentage of children age 12–23 months who were fully vaccinated (according to national schedule) at any time before the survey



Primary Health Care (PHC) and Immunization

Achievements



- **No polio cases recorded since 1992.**
- **Primary Health Care (PHC) network covers >95% of the population.**
- National programs include:
 - ✓ Maternal and child health services
 - ✓ Reproductive health
 - ✓ School health
 - ✓ Non-communicable disease screening



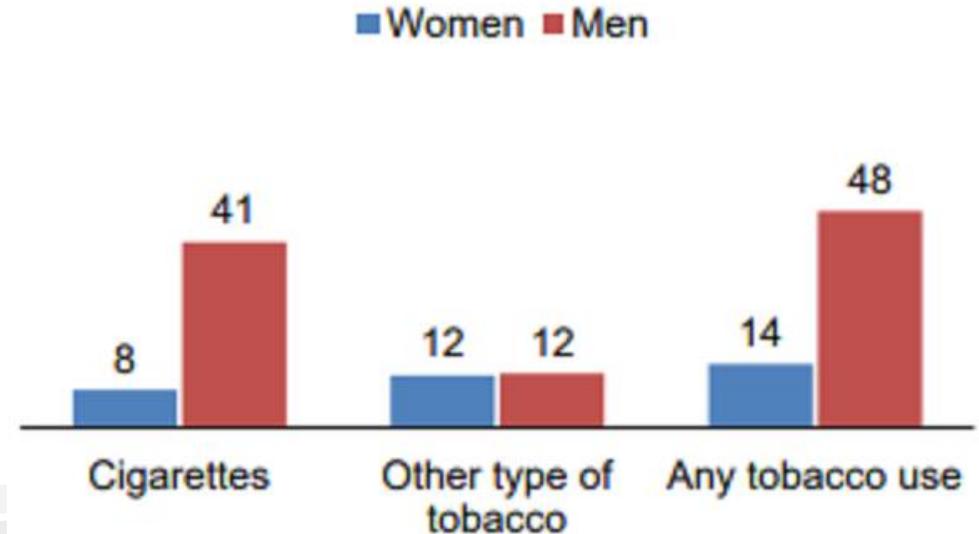
Other Health indicators

Tobacco use is higher among men across all age groups.

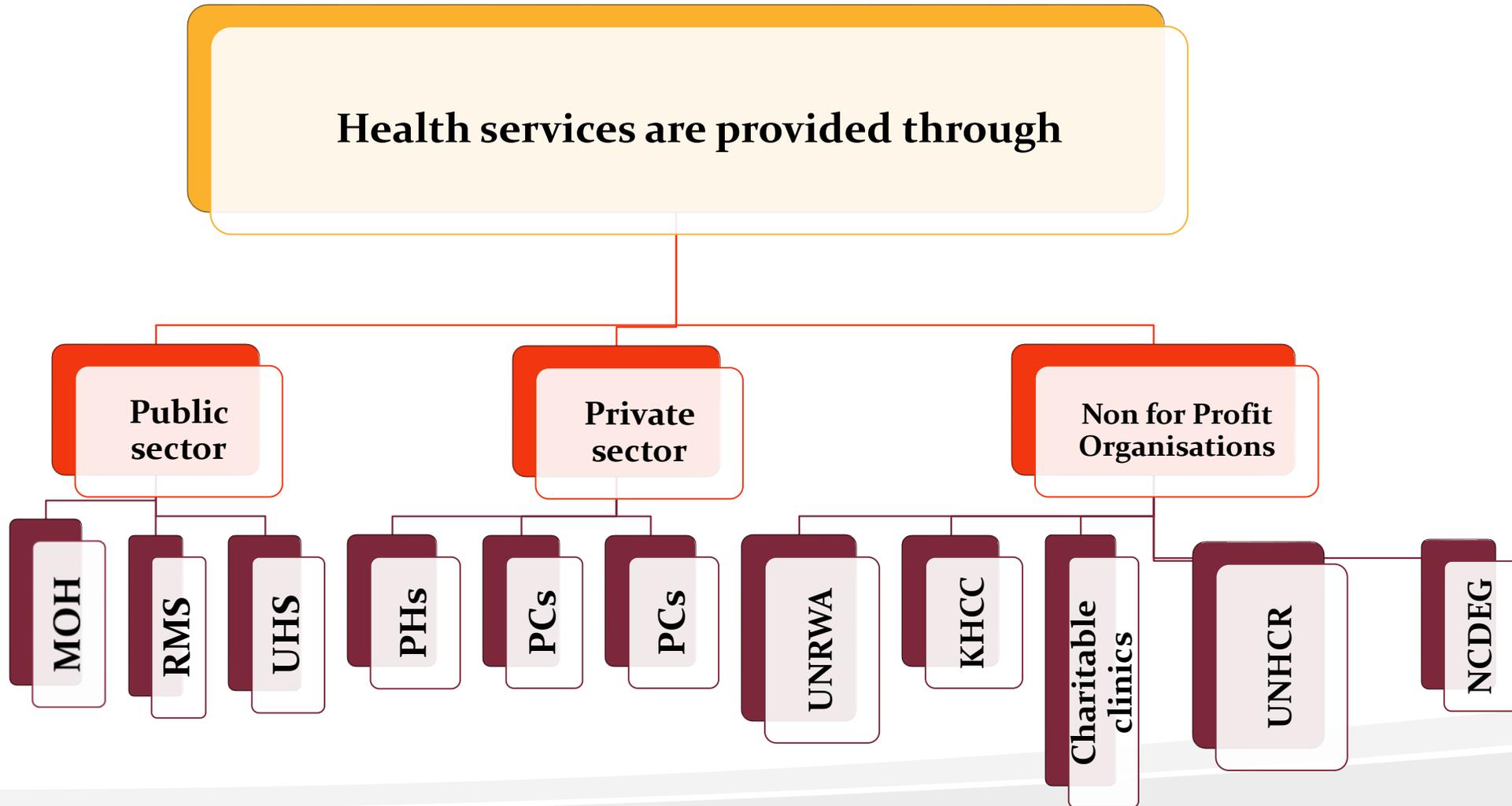
Tobacco use among women rises to 16% among those aged 35–39, while it peaks at 67% for men aged 30–34.

Figure 3.6 Use of tobacco among women and men

Percentage of ever-married women and all men age 15–49 who use tobacco products



Structure of the Jordanian Health System



Public Sector



1. The MOH

- The **largest public provider**, responsible for around **36% of hospital beds** in Jordan.
- Provides primary, secondary and tertiary care.
- Leads all **national programs** (immunization, maternal health, NCD screening).
- Supervises **public health surveillance, food safety, and environmental health.**
- Operates **32 public hospitals** and more than **1,200 primary and comprehensive health centers**
- Employs the **largest health workforce** in the country.

Public Sector



2. The Royal Medical Services (RMS)

- Provides comprehensive care for military personnel, their families, and retired army members.
- Operates 6 major hospitals, including King Hussein Medical Center, one of the region's most advanced facilities.
- RMS also acts as a referral center through providing high-quality care, including advanced procedures and specialty treatment to Jordanians and non-Jordanian patients.
- Known for rapid response during national emergencies (air medical evacuation services). It plays a major role politically through contributing in providing health services in disasters and conflict areas through medical teams and field hospitals. المستشفيات الميدانية، قوات حفظ السلام.
- Collaborates with MOH and universities for residency and training programs



Public Sector

- **3. University and Teaching Hospitals (UHs):**
- Serve as **referral centers** for specialized care and research, and postgraduate medical training
- **Jordan University Hospital (JUH) and King Abdullah University Hospital (KAUH)** they provide health insurance and services for university employees and their dependents.





Private Sector

- Fastest-growing component of Jordan's health system
- Provides about **1/3 of hospital beds** and a **large share of outpatient services.**
- Concentrated in **Amman**; serves both local and regional patients from nearby Arab nations (medical tourism)
- Known for high-quality care, still at higher costs.
- Examples: Al-Khalidi, Specialty Hospital, Arab Medical Center, Istishari Hospital..etc.

Non for profit organizations (NGOs) and International Organizations



The King Hussein Cancer Centre (KHCC) is a specialized centre for cancer care in Jordan since 1997. KHCC is a free-standing, independent, non-governmental, established by a Royal Decree to combat cancer in Jordan and the Middle East region.

The National Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Genetics (NCDEG) is an independent non for-profit Organization established in 1996 . The main goal of NCDEG is to provide high quality care, education and training in the fields of diabetes, endocrinology and genetics.



KHCC



NCDEG

Non for profit organizations (NGOs) and International Organizations



They are Important contributors to **public health and humanitarian services.**

The United Nation Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)

- Founded for Palestinian refugees since 1950s.
- Provides primary health-care services to registered Palestine refugees in Jordan through a network of 25 health centres and 4 mobile clinics.
- Focuses mainly on primary care, including: Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and hypertension, Maternal and child health, Preventive services (immunization, family planning, health education). Also provides referral support for secondary and tertiary care through contracts with partner hospitals when necessary.
- Financed primarily by international donors coordinated by the United Nations.



UNHCR:

provides health support for Syrian refugees since 2012.

Provides **comprehensive primary, secondary, and reproductive health services to registered Syrian refugees in both camps and urban areas.**

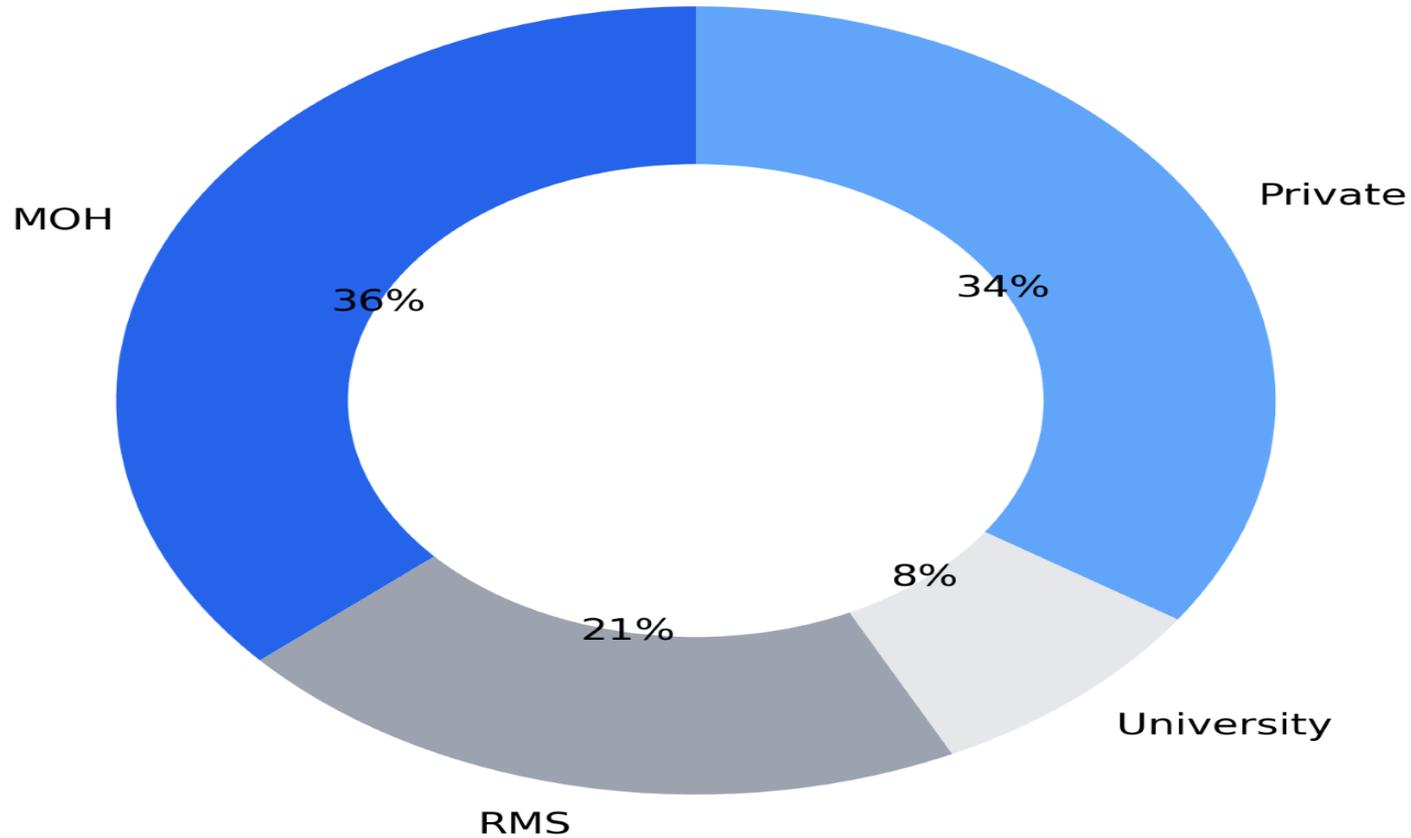
Works in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and WHO.

650,000 registered Syrian refugees (UNHCR, 2024).

Operates clinics in **Zaatari, Azraq, and Mrajeb Al Fhood camps.**



Hospital Bed Distribution by Sector - Jordan (2024)



Source: Tamimi A. (2024), WHO EMRO Country Profile

HB: all hospital beds which are regularly maintained and staffed and immediately available for the care of admitted patients. Provides information on healthcare capacities (indicator)



Health Insurance coverage



- Health insurance in Jordan is offered by various providers, including the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Royal Military, University Hospitals, UNRWA, UNHCR, and NGOs.
- Private and commercial insurance are also available.
- Many individuals hold multiple types of coverage.
- **70%** of the population have health insurance.
- **MoH is the main insurer (44%) of the population.**
- RMS insures 27% of the population, while the university hospitals insurance covers 1.3% of the population, and the private health insurance covers 5% of the population.



Civil Health Insurance Program (CIP – MOH)

- The **Civil Health Insurance Program (CIP)**, managed by the MOH, is the **largest insurance scheme** in Jordan.

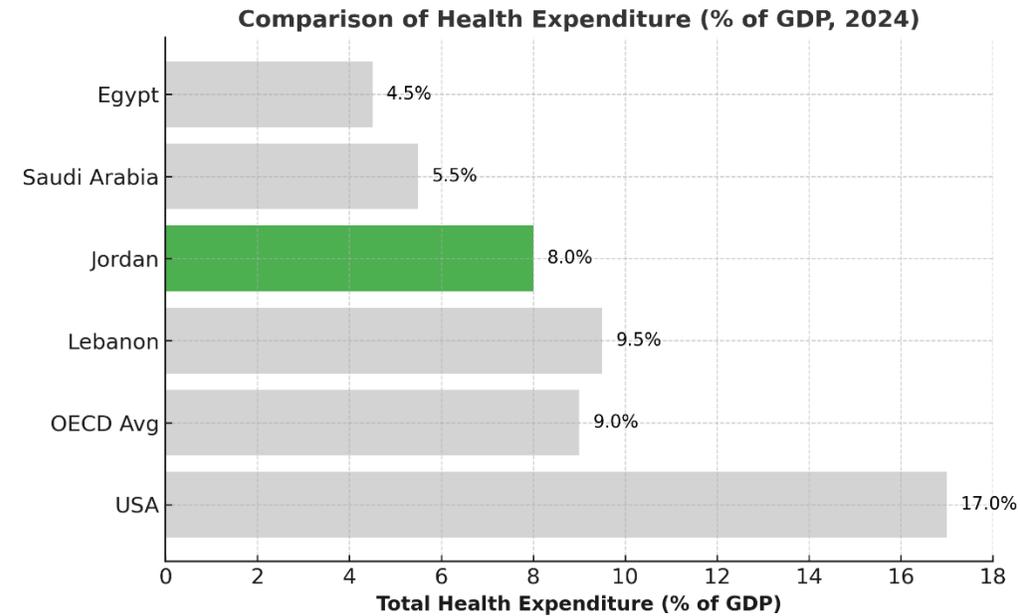
It covers:

- Civil servants and their dependents.
- Individuals certified as **poor** (based on social security or welfare criteria).
- **Disabled persons ($\geq 75\%$), elderly (> 60 years), and children under 6 years** (*regardless of nationality*).
- **Residents of remote or underserved areas**, classified as the least fortunate.
- **Organ donors** (coverage valid for 5 years after donation).
- **Blood donors** (coverage valid for 6 months after donation).

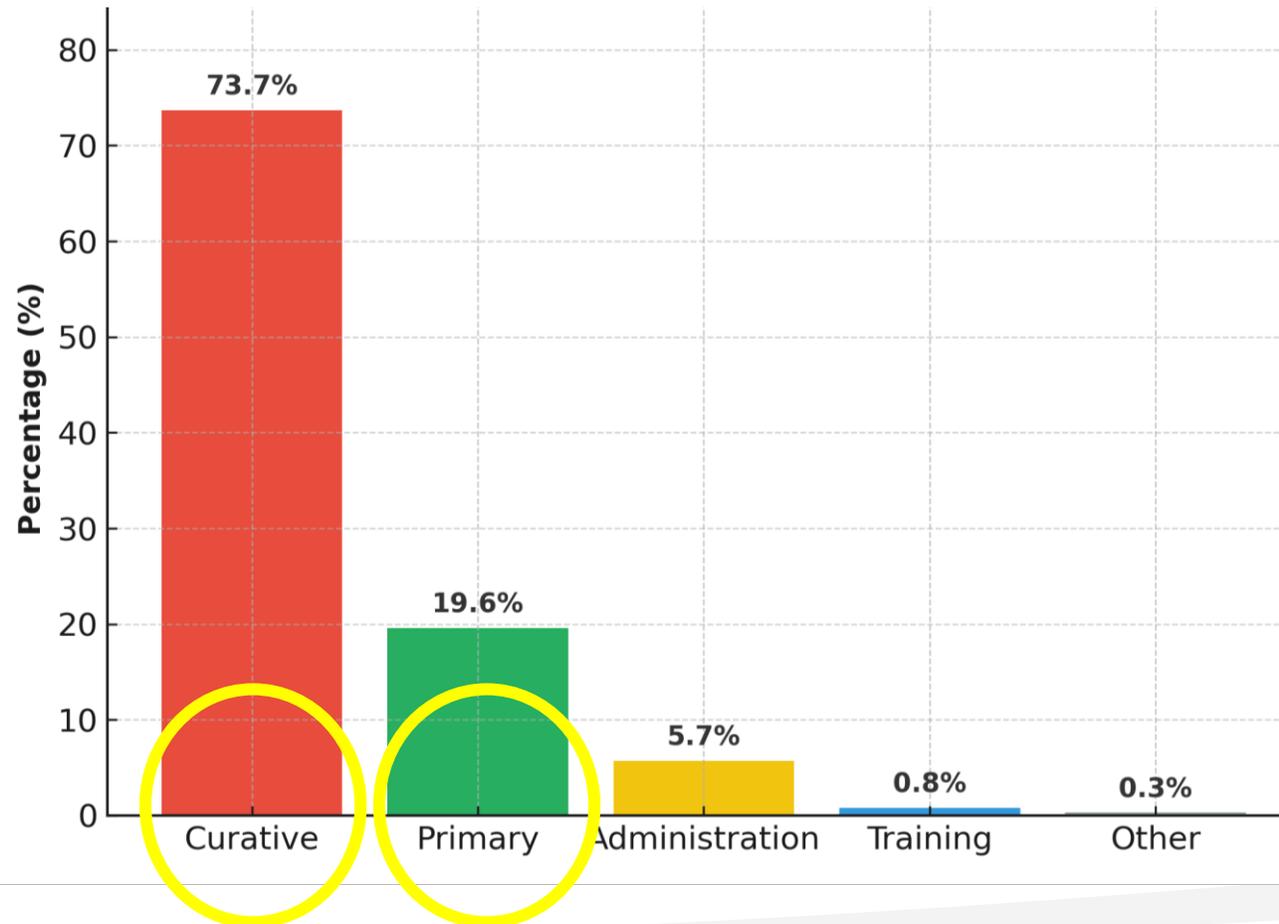


Health Expenditure and Financial Protection

- Jordan spends about **8% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** on health.
- **Out-of-pocket (OOP) spending** remains high — about 27% of total health expenditure — meaning households still carry a large financial burden.
- Health insurance increase has improved protection, but inequities persist among **informal workers and low-income households**.



Public Sector Expenditure By Function JOD (2017)



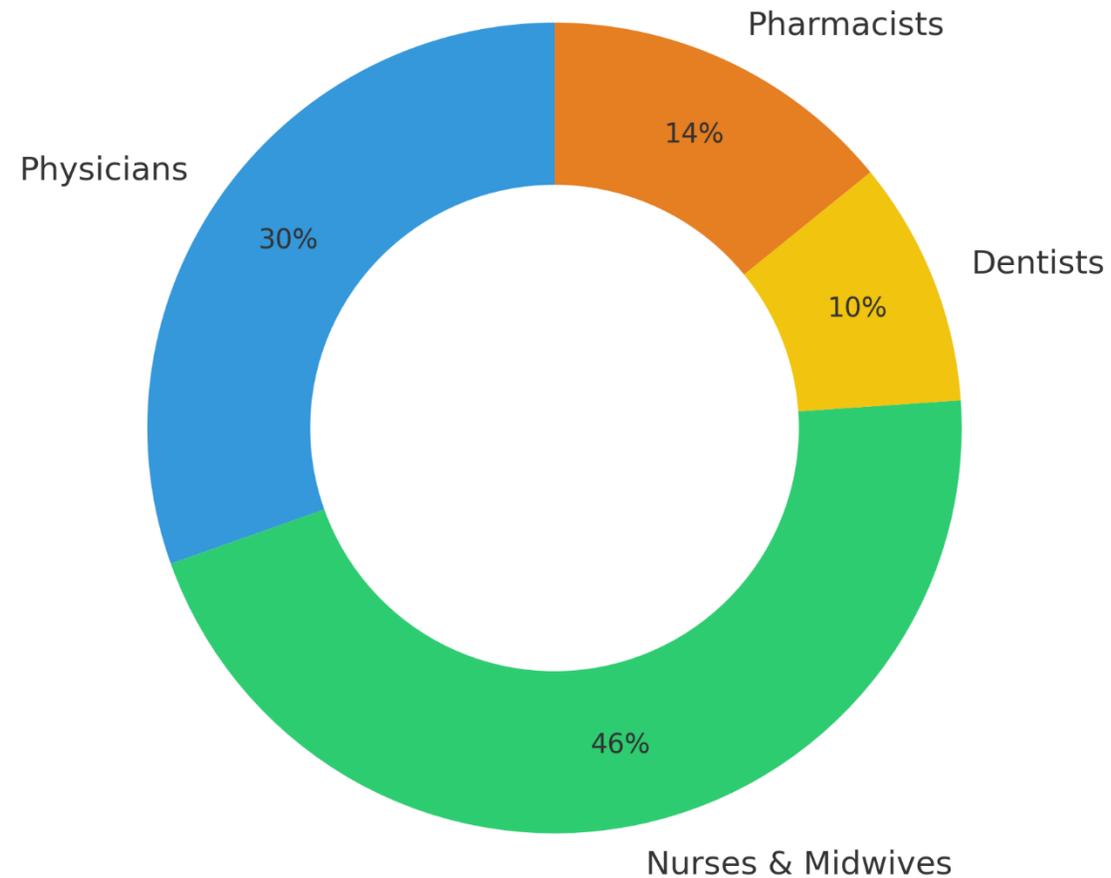
-Primary care costs less per patient, but Jordan's system still spends most of its budget on hospitals and curative services

Health Workforce in Jordan per 10,000 population

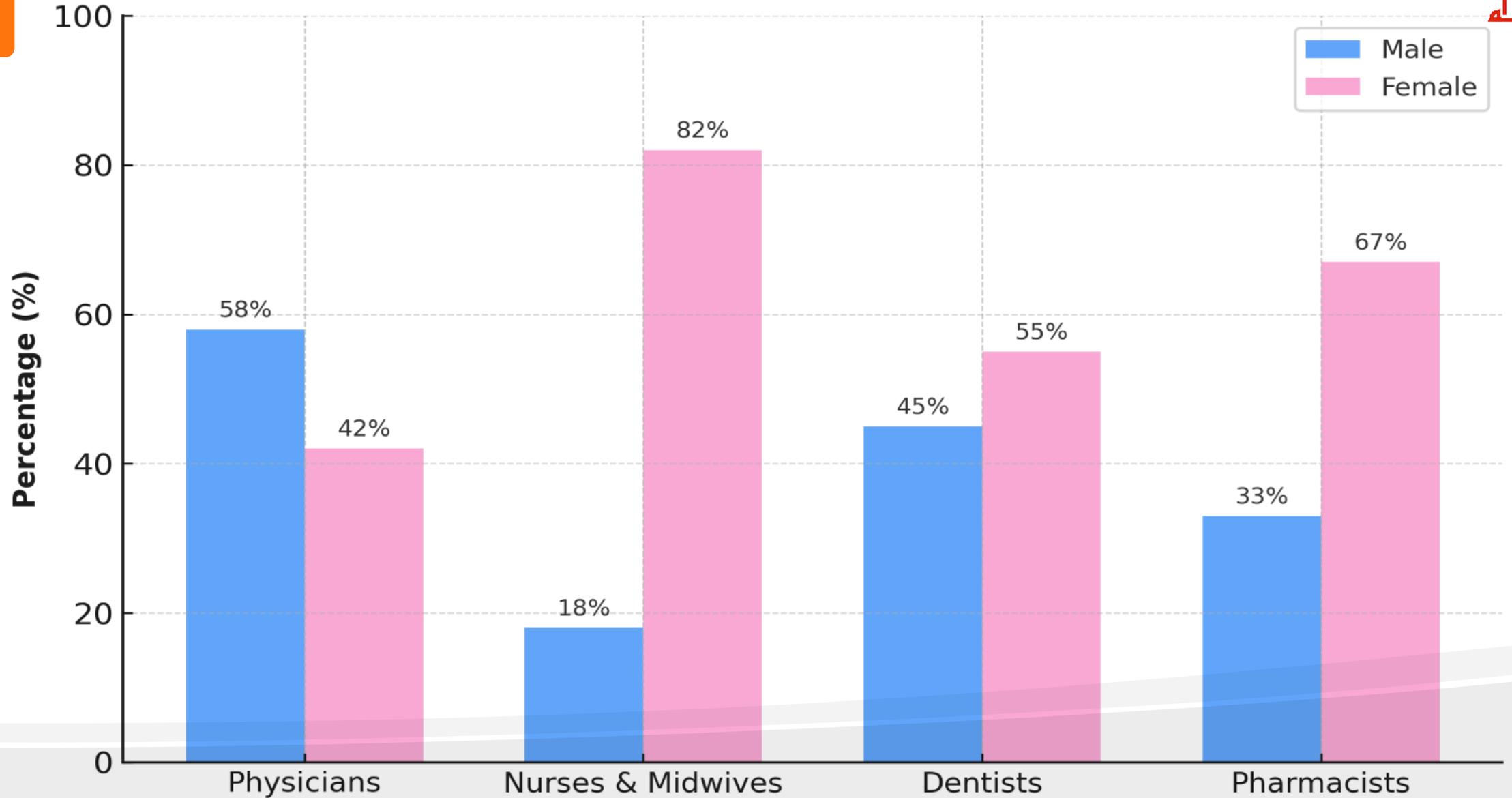
- The total number of health workers in Jordan continues to grow steadily.



Health Workforce Composition in Jordan (2024)



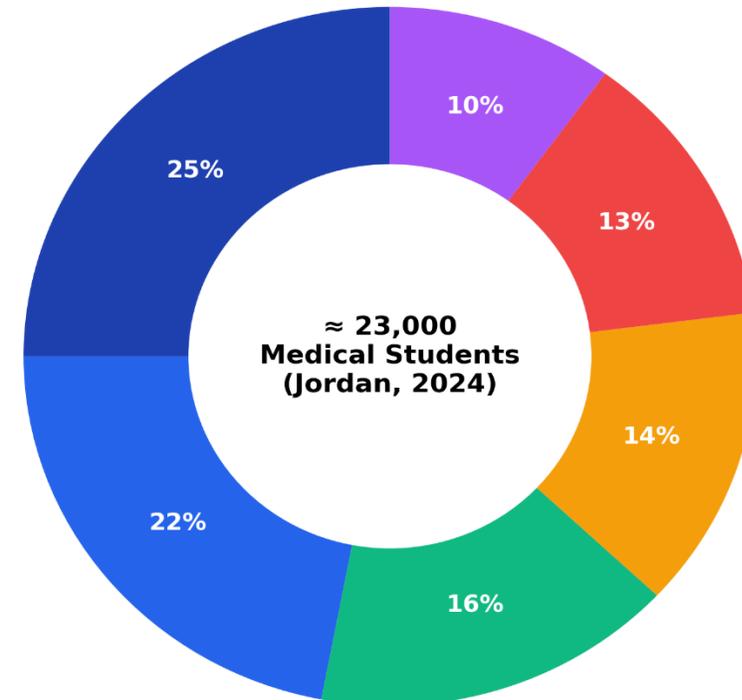
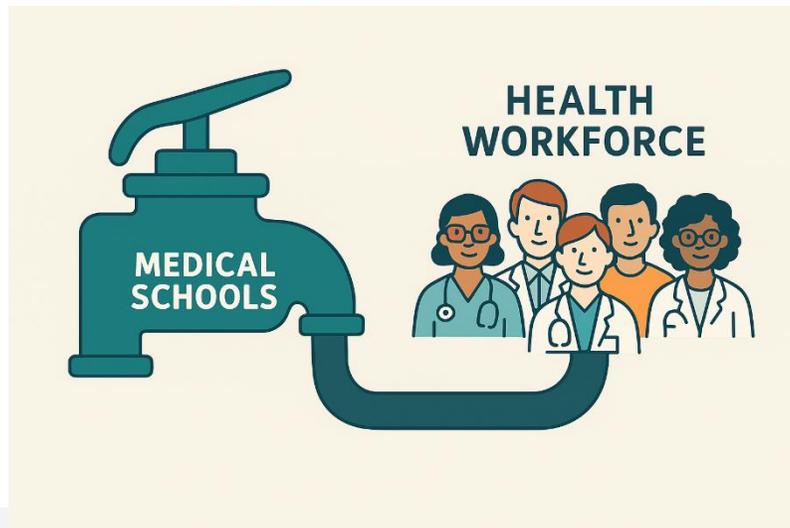
Health Workforce Gender Distribution by Profession - Jordan (2024)





Medical Education

- Jordan currently has six Governmental Medical Faculties (the University of Jordan, the Jordan University of Science and Technology, the Hashemite University, Mutah University, in addition to Al-Yarmouk University and AL-Balqa Applied University).
- Recent national changes were made to **limit new admissions** and support training with labor-market needs.





Achievements:

- **Universal Health Coverage:** >70 % of the population now covered by health insurance.
- **Primary Health Care strength:** >700 centers with >95 % immunization coverage and national NCD screening.
- **Disease control:** Jordan remains **polio- and malaria-free**.
- **Digital transformation:** “HAKEEM” electronic health record expanding on a national scale.
- **Health workforce & education:** Continuous professional training with international standards.



Achievements:

- Health sector in Jordan excelled in providing tertiary health care services, such as:
 1. **Organ Transplantation:** Jordan is one of the first countries in the region to conduct organ transplantation in its hospitals (**first in 1972**) and to enact laws on organ donation (1977).
 2. **Sophisticated Surgery:** Advanced cardiac, renal, and bone marrow procedures performed mainly at RMS and university hospitals.
 3. **Dialysis:** most Jordanian hospitals provide services to patients with kidney failure by providing dialysis sessions
 4. **Treatment of Infertility** (**First born IVF baby was in 1987**).

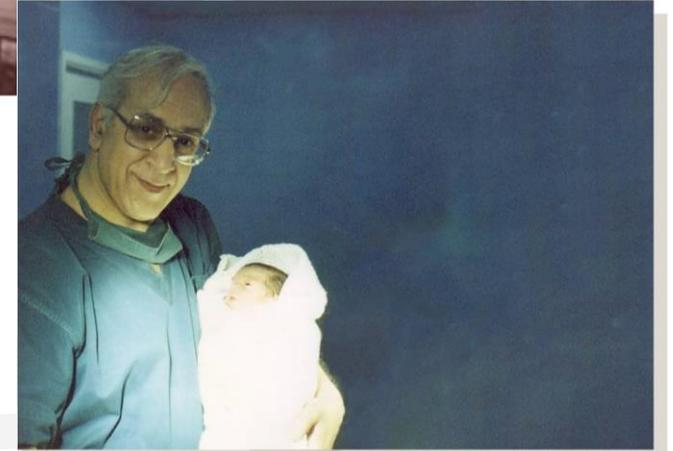
أول عملية زرع كلية في الأردن.

كانت أول عملية زرع كلية في الأردن على يد أطباء أردنيين، وقد جرت في أيار 1972.

أجريت في المستشفى العسكري وقام بها فريق من الأطباء برئاسة الطبيب الضابط داوود حنايا يعاونه فريق من الأطباء الضباط: حلمي حجازي، وطارق سحيمات وجهاد المصري، وسعيد الكرمي، وجمال الشريف ونزيه عمارين والمرضة مها درويش.

(المرضى) هو فلاح رشيد، و(المتبرع) هو مصطفى محمد عبود، وكان قد تعرض لحادث سير ووافق أهله على التبرع بكلية.

وكانت أول عملية زرع كلية في العالم قد جرت عام 1964 وتعد العملية الأردنية أول عملية من نوعها في الوطن العربي.



أول طفل ولد بتقنية أطفال الننايب في الأردن والعالم العربي
والرقم 9 على مستوى العالم
The first IVF baby in Jordan and the region and
number 9 internationally



First open heart surgery	1970
The first kidney transplant	1972
The first heart transplant	1985
The first stem cell transplant	1985
First IVF baby	1987
The first bone marrow transplant	1995
The first cochlear implant surgery	1998
The first liver transplant	2004
First transcatheter aortic valve implantation	2009
The first operation to separate Siamese twins	2021





Health Policy

- **Formulated by:** the *High Health Council (HHC)* in coordination with the Ministry of Health and key stakeholders.



The High Health Council
HHC General Secretariat
Strategies associated with the health sector
Projects Related to Health Policy
Research and Technical Reports

HHC Duties and Responsibilities

Role of the High Health Council

The Council aims at formulating the general policy of the health sector in the Kingdom and developing the strategy to achieve it, organizes health work and develops it in all sectors in order to achieve the expansion of health services for all citizens according to the latest methods, methods and advanced scientific



October 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Key challenges of Jordan's health system



Category	Key Issues
Demographic	High population growth rates, young high proportion, urban concentration, forced migration.
Epidemiologic	Rising chronic diseases, pandemic risk, climate-related health effects.
Economic	Cost increase, limited funding, workforce migration, high out-of-pocket spending.
Administrative	Poor coordination across sectors, frequent leadership changes, slow legislation, rapid technology shifts.

Thank You



For more info: https://dosweb.dos.gov.jo/product/jordan-statistical-yearbook-2024/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

الدرس خالص أي حد عنده سؤ....

