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The Underlying Causes of the Crises and Upheavals in the Middle East and North Africa: An Analytic Survey

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Introduction

The political dynamics and violence that shape the current series of crises in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) – and daily events in Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Tunisia, Syria, and Yemen – dominate the current course of virtually every aspect of these states including much of the current course of violence and instability in the region. Political dynamics and the current levels of, however, are only part of the story.

They have many underlying causes, and causes that vary sharply by country. The current pattern of politics, religion, and ideology are shaped by major tribal, ethnic, sectarian, and regional differences within a given nation. An examination of the broader demographic, economic, and security trends in the MENA region shows how critical these factors are in shaping public anger and discontent. They also show the critical role of the quality of governance, internal security systems, justice systems, and progress in social change in shaping and dealing with each nation's problems.

There is no reliable way to assess the deep underlying structural impact of factors like demographics and economics on unrest. Both efforts at modeling and analysis, and a wide range of polls show that it is impossible to credibly assign weight to a given measurement or trend. Efforts like the Arab Development report warned nearly a decade ago, however, that demographic pressures, failures in economic development and the combination of challenges related to income distribution, deep problems with corruption and nepotism, and discrimination were compounding pre-existing agitation over a lack of freedom, threatening regional stability, creating significant challenges to given countries.

No one can realistically address the current upheavals in key countries and the MENA region without considering such factors. A focus on politics and violence, and on issues like terrorism and religion understates both the forces at work and the time and effort needed to correct them. This briefing help set the stage for a better understanding of the underlying causes of unrest by surveying some of the key statistics and data on the key trends in demographics, economics, internal security and justice systems, governance, and social change, and showing how they affect both the region and differ by individual nation.

The Need for Far Better Data, Planning, and Analysis

The briefing serves another purpose as well: it illustrates the severe limits to the availability and quality of the data on many key aspects of stability. As such, it is a warning that countries, intelligence experts, members of international institutions, NGOs, and area experts need to do a far better job of developing basic data on the causes of instability.

The Need for Valid Data, and More Relevant Metrics, in A World of International Statistical Rubbish

One key problem affecting all of the current crises in the region is the failure to collect accurate, up-to-date data that measures the seriousness of the problems involved in nations whose instability and violence has now led to years of deterioration in the real-world economics that affect their citizens and key ethnic, sectarian, and income groups. Worse, in many cases, the data available not only long predate the now years long course of the Arab Spring, but never included information that went beyond national totals to examine difference by tribe, ethnicity, region, sect, class, and other key sources of discontent. As a result, measures like GDP growth not only become irrelevant, but also showed progress in terms that are totally misleading in regards to their real world impact on the population as whole, and the pressures and perceptions shaping the actions of key elements of the population

Even the limited and sometimes dated information in the charts and tables that this briefing presents, however, show that important variations exist in basic data on factors such as the size of given economies, per capita incomes, populations, and population growth rates. These discrepancies challenge much of the single point analysis used by the US government, some UN agencies, and key international organizations like the World Bank and IMF. They include enough comparisons of efforts to provide summary scores on factors like governance and justice systems. Some of these comparisons are untrustworthy or uncertain in measuring how given countries do or do not meet given challenges, but a lack of reliable measures – often driven by underfunding rather than the limits to collection – is always a warning that far better efforts are necessary.

It is also important to note that this briefing can only hint at the problems that currently exist in the data: no one source or organization emerges as reliable in reporting on any key parameter that is currently being measured. Seeming agreement is largely the result of using the same uncertain method or data. More often, serious variations exist in basic data on factors such as the size of given economies, per capita incomes, populations, and population growth rates. They include comparisons of efforts to provide summary scores on factors including governance and justice systems. Some of these comparisons speak for themselves in showing how untrustworthy such systems are as a substitute for looking at the details of how given countries do or do not meet given challenges.

The Drunkard and the Lamp Post: Failing Update Metrics and Analysis to Measure What Actually Counts

All this shows that far better data are needed in key areas like unemployment and underemployment, income distribution, the efficiency of the state sector, barriers to growth and economic development, the size and function security forces and police, and quality of governance.

Some key societal factors that affect a remarkably young population remain unmeasured. These include factors such as access to meaningful, job-related education, the cost of marriage, substantive employment leading to real careers and income to marry, dependence on the state sector, career options for young women, social mobility and status, and the belief that government and social order offer dignity and justice while being free enough of corruption and favoritism to create loyalty and hope.

The figures in this briefing also reflect the fact that there are few reliable qualitative data on key government services such as education, housing, medical services, water and refuse removal, and infrastructure. The data on corruption and rule of law do not begin to reflect the degree to which given elements of MENA populations are angry at their governments, furious about their living conditions, and identify the political and social framework as unjust.

Furthermore, the data that are available shows that there is a need for far better efforts at statistical standardization, for transparency, for added data on critical aspects of stability, and for accepting the sheer complexity of the various force at work.

Finally, it is clear that metrics and analyses that do not include survey data on popular perceptions of the quality of all these factors involved and ignore the country-by-country causes of popular discontent and anger, have only limited value. Polls can be a key tool in supplementing the metrics provided in this briefing, but they are often lacking – or unreliable – in measuring key areas of popular perceptions of the causes of instability.

The Near Certainty of Regime Change Cannot Bring Near Term Stability

That said, the briefing shows that the data presented in this briefing do illustrate the conditions that have made popular unrest so great, and many show why many of the peoples in the MENA region have reason to distrust their governments.

There are no reliable ways to provide exact measurements of the quality of governance and the justice system, but the briefing shows that indicators that are available regarding the quality of governance show that “corruption” is only part of a much broader pattern of gross inefficiency, favoritism and nepotism, and indifference to popular needs that has built up over decades.

The demographic and economic data reveal patterns of population growth and other trends that make any quick solutions or improvements difficult to impossible. In the case of far too many countries, problems such as the need for jobs on the part of the region’s youth are, in and of themselves, certain to put extreme stress on their governments for a decade or more to come. In such cases, governments may become more “legitimate” in the way they are chosen and in their reduced reliance on repression. They will not, however, be able to build legitimacy by successfully treating the underlying causes of unrest for years to come, and therefore political change alone offers little hope of future stability .

A Decade to a Quarter Century, Not a “Spring”

Finally, the broader patterns that emerge from the entire set of indicators warn that that the “Arab spring” is likely to involve a decade of more of political, economic, and social unrest. The causes of unrest are deep, complex, and involve structural problems in governance, demographics, and economics. None can be solved in a few months or years. Even the most successful nations – and the briefing shows that such nations clearly exist – still face major challenges over the next decade. Others must fight their way out of problems that have brought them close to the edge of becoming “failed states.”

Most MENA states have no real political parties or pluralistic structures, and only the monarchies have a history of political legitimacy. There is no clear basis for representative government, no experience with political compromise and making elections work, and no pattern of effective governance combined with economic progress and social evolution to build upon. Ethnic and religious issues often cut deep and have been repressed for decades. Justice systems are weak and/or corrupt, religious extremism challenges necessary social and economic change, and the security forces are often an equal or more serious problem.

The US and the West may still think in terms of rapid, stable democratic change. None of the proper conditions exist in many states, and political evolution is the only road to stability in the others. The reality is that far too many revolutions eat their young and the hopes of those who cause them. The “European spring” of 1848, for example, produced continuing instability through 1914 – when new crises led to still greater problems.

There will be Arab successes, particularly with proper support and help from neighboring Arab states and the outside world, but sudden successes are unlikely and even the best regimes face major challenges where it will take years for them to meet popular hopes and expectations.

Wealth Distribution

*Unequal distribution and income
fluctuations create instability*

The data involved are uncertain and many precede the current period of unrest, but it is clear that economics and inequities in the distribution of wealth are among the key forces driving unrest in the MENA region.

The Middle East has lagged considerably behind North America, Europe, and Central Asia, and somewhat behind Latin America, the Caribbean, East Asia, and the Pacific in terms of per capita GDP. The per capita GDP for the North American region also grew at a much greater rate than the per capita GDP for the Middle East: between 1980 and 2010 the North American GDP per capita nearly quadrupled, while the Middle East GDP per capita grew expanded by just 25 times its original value. In 2010, the per capita GDP in North America was \$47,111, while the average per capita GDP in the MENA region was just \$6,488.

In addition to stratification between the Middle East and other regions of the world, there is considerable discrepancy in GDP per capita ratios within the Middle East. The oil rich gulf countries had GDP per capita ratios far higher than their Levant counterparts; while Kuwait had a GDP per capita ratio of \$46,970 in 2012, Jordan's ratio was \$4,788.

At the same time, being a major oil producing and exporting state did not mean wealth. The per capita oil export income of Qatar, the MENA state with the high per capita income is 25 times the per capita income of Algeria, the MENA state with the lowest income.

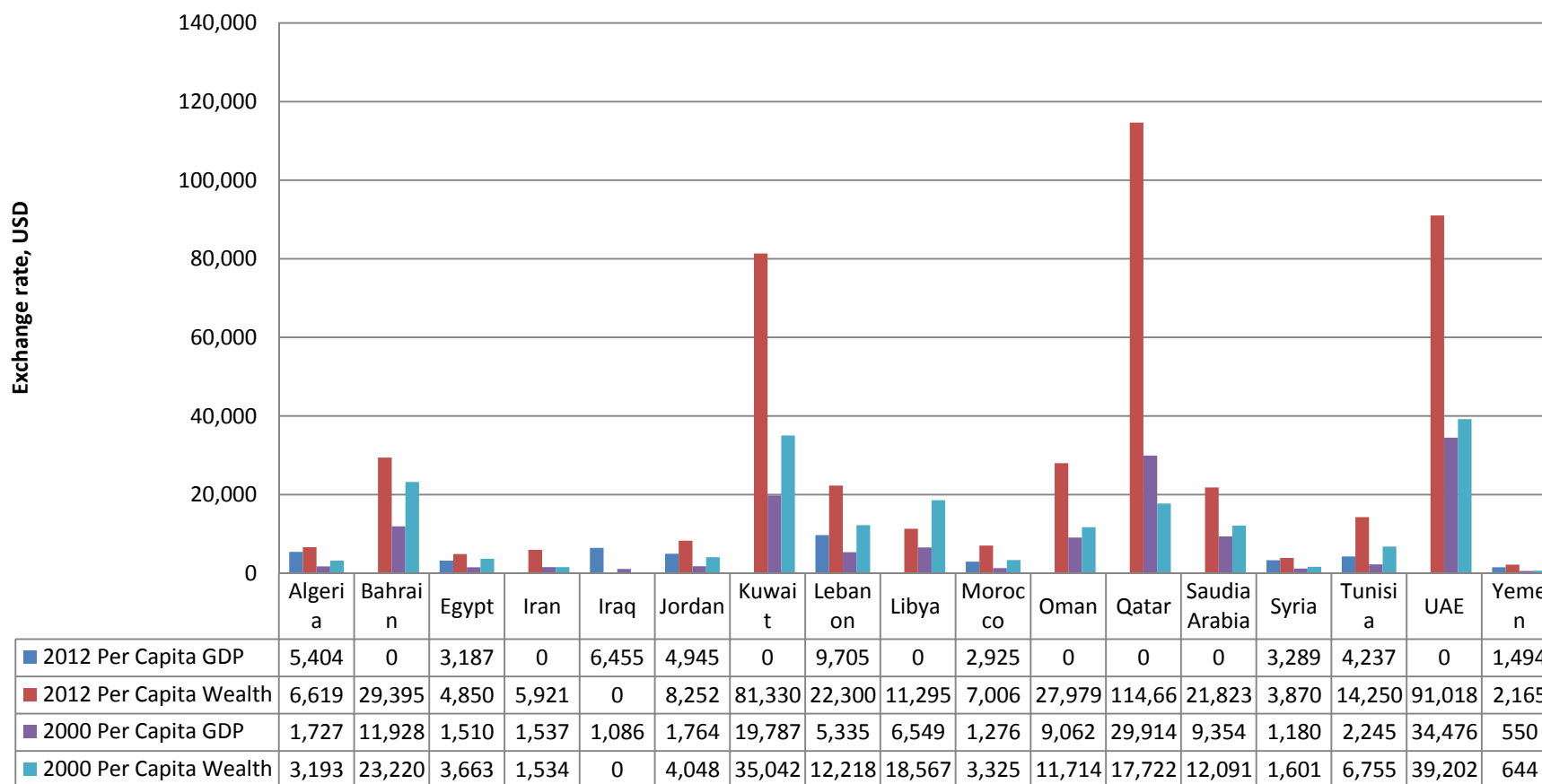
This stratification also effects the level of development of MENA countries. A higher GNI corresponds to a higher level of development, meaning that those countries in the GCC rank consistently higher on a development scale than those in the Levant or North Africa. However, countries in the Levant and North Africa still invest considerable amounts into infrastructure for social services, but do so less efficiently than their GCC counter parts, meaning they rank lower on the development scale than a country with a similar GNI but a more efficient government would.

What is even more critical, however, is the inability any aspect of these data to the equity in come distribution, and measure the trends in terms of both how they affect given classes, and ethnicities, sects, tribal groupings, and regions.

Moreover, there is no way to correlate income to key factors like the “youth bulge” described alter, and key problems like disguised unemployment, the ability to marry, housing and other key social dynamics.

It is obvious that these are key potential sources of unrest – and ones that need polling data as well as absolute numbers – but no meaningful data and analysis is usually available for a given country or group – much less show the mix of patterns and trends in the MENA region.

Per Capita Income and Wealth in the MENA Region: Comparing 2000 and 2012



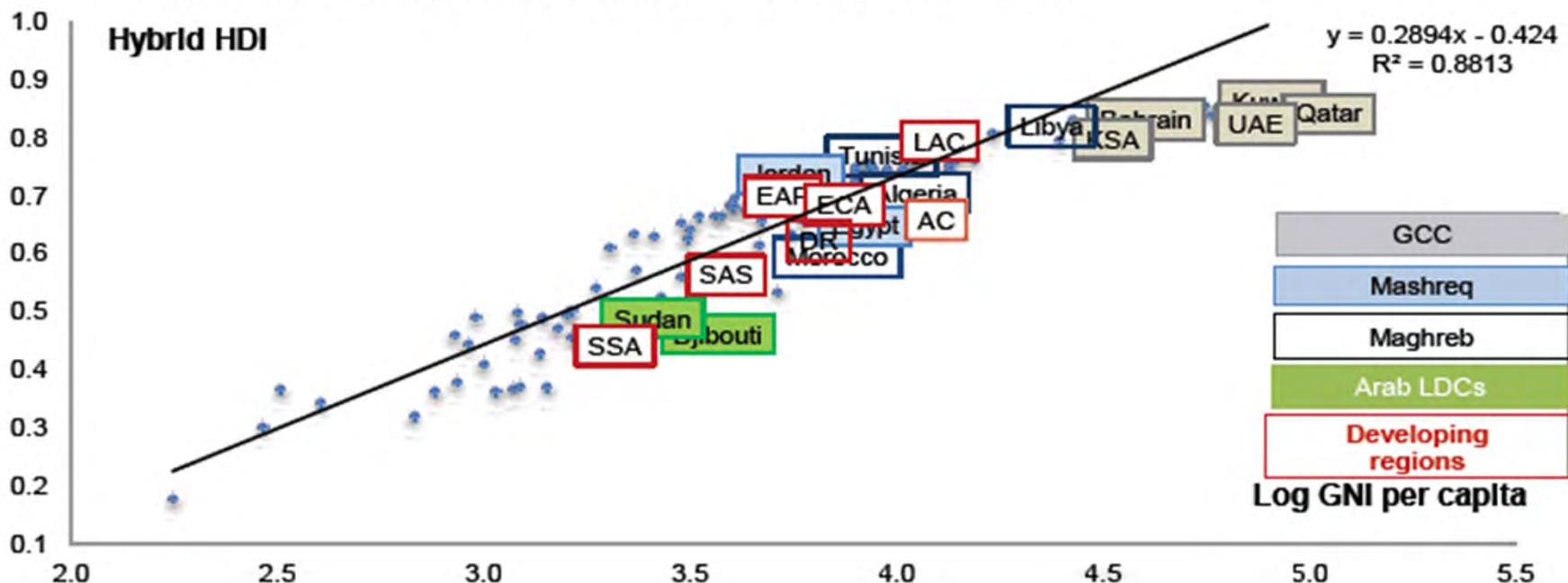
GDP Figures: "GDP per Capita (current US\$)," *The World Bank*, accessed August 6, 2013

Wealth Figures: "Global Wealth Data Book 2012," *Credit Suisse*, October 2012, Accessed August 6, 2013, p. 33-36, p. 81-84

Regional and National differences in HDI and Per Capita Income

Figure 3

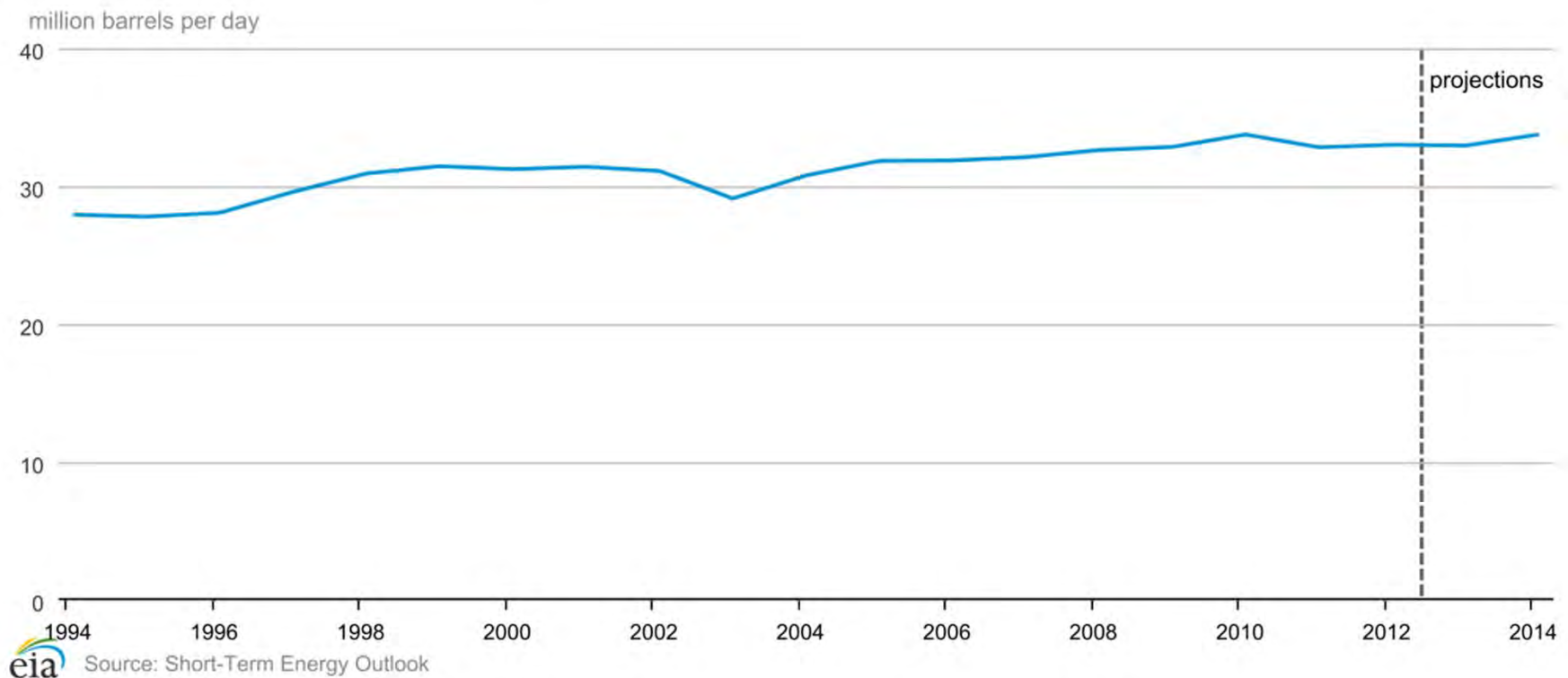
Figure 1: GNI per capita versus hybrid HDI for Arab and developing countries, 2010



...all Arab countries, which have been identified by the global Human Development Report as top-movers, still lag behind on human development relative to their income levels. Simply put, most Arab countries could have attained higher levels of HDI had they been as effective as their peers in the developing world in implementing a human centred development path. This poor performance on human development, despite substantial investment in health and education, is arguably due to the impact of poor governance structures on the effectiveness of these expenditures. Poor accountability frameworks have led to high rates of corruption and disregard of quality issues. Ineffective or nonexistent parent-teacher associations and limited provision of funding for operations and maintenance of public assets have undermined the quality of education services in particular. In fact, many school facilities have been left in dilapidated conditions and with insufficient supplies of teaching aids..

The Real World Limits to Oil Production-I

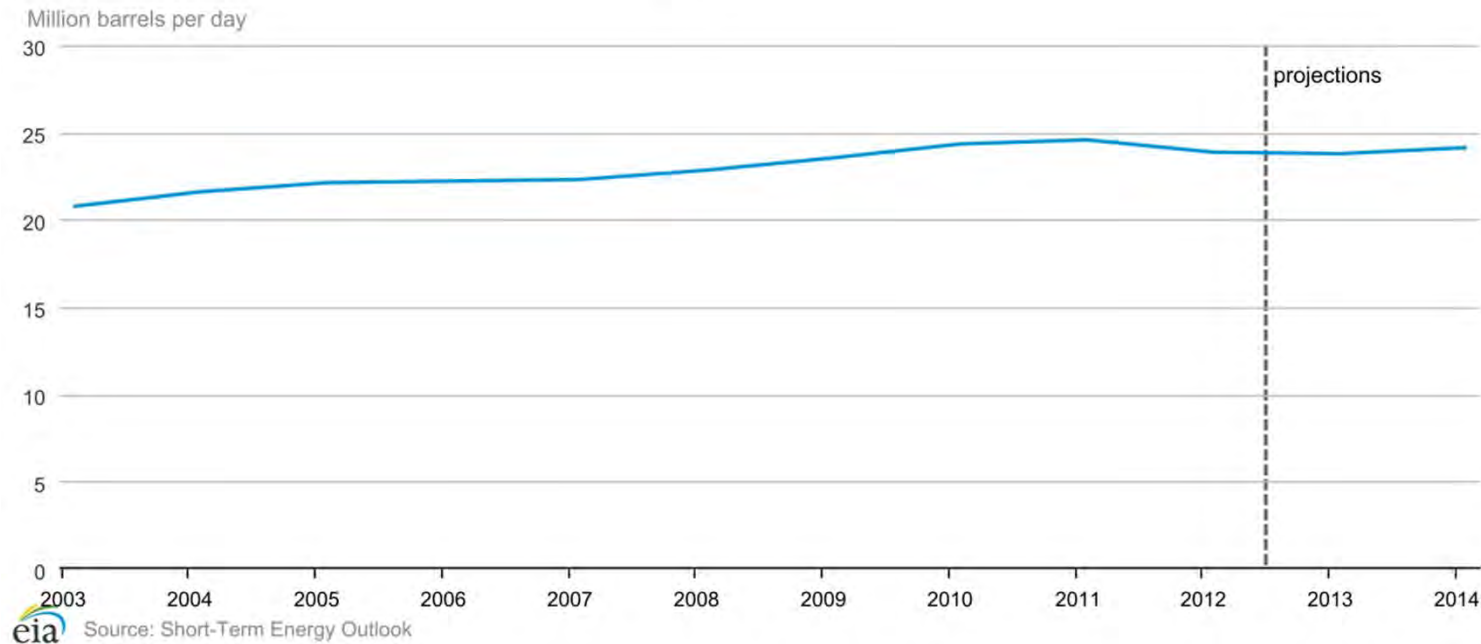
OPEC Total Crude Oil Production Capacity



Source: *US Department of Energy, Energy Information Agency, Short Term Energy Outlook, August 2013*, <http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/steo/query/>

The Real World Limits to Oil Production-II

OPEC Middle East Crude Oil Production Capacity



Source: US Department of Energy, Energy Information Agency, *Short Term Energy Outlook, August 2013*, <http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/steo/query/>

Figure 5

OPEC Net Oil Export Revenues

Available OPEC net oil export revenues

Country	Nominal (billion \$)				Real (billion 2005\$)			
	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2013	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Jun 2013
Algeria	\$62	--	--	\$29	\$52	--	--	\$24
Angola	\$68	--	--	\$33	\$58	--	--	\$28
Ecuador	\$10	--	--	\$5	\$8	--	--	\$4
Iran	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iraq	\$83	--	--	\$43	\$71	--	--	\$36
Kuwait	\$88	--	--	\$44	\$75	--	--	\$37
Libya	\$51	--	--	\$24	\$43	--	--	\$20
Nigeria	\$93	--	--	\$42	\$79	--	--	\$35
Qatar	\$55	--	--	\$26	\$46	--	--	\$22
Saudi Arabia	\$311	--	--	\$142	\$265	--	--	\$119
UAE	\$100	--	--	\$48	\$85	--	--	\$40
Venezuela	\$62	--	--	\$30	\$52	--	--	\$25
Available OPEC	\$982	\$940	\$903	\$466	\$835	\$788	\$744	\$391

Source: UAS Department of Energy, Energy Information Agency, July 22, 2013, accessed August 6, 2013

<http://www.eia.gov/countries/regions-topics.cfm?fips=OPEC&trk=c&scr=email>

OPEC Per Capita Net Oil Export Revenues

OPEC per capita net oil export revenues

Country	Nominal (\$)			Jan-Jun 2013	Real (2005\$)			Jan-Jun 2013
	2012	2013	2014		2012	2013	2014	
Algeria	\$1,740	--	--	\$816	\$1,480	--	--	\$684
Angola	\$5,002	--	--	\$2,384	\$4,254	--	--	\$1,998
Ecuador	\$683	--	--	\$321	\$581	--	--	\$269
Iran	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Iraq	\$2,675	--	--	\$1,349	\$2,275	--	--	\$1,131
Kuwait	\$29,440	--	--	\$14,362	\$25,037	--	--	\$12,037
Libya	\$7,591	--	--	\$3,572	\$6,456	--	--	\$2,994
Nigeria	\$611	--	--	\$274	\$520	--	--	\$229
Qatar	\$54,071	--	--	\$25,412	\$45,984	--	--	\$21,298
Saudi Arabia	\$10,315	--	--	\$4,662	\$8,773	--	--	\$3,907
UAE	\$18,754	--	--	\$8,744	\$15,949	--	--	\$7,328
Venezuela	\$2,195	--	--	\$1,060	\$1,866	--	--	\$888
OPEC	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Source: US Department of Energy, Energy Information Agency, July 22, 2013, accessed August 6, 2013, <http://www.eia.gov/countries/regions-topics.cfm?fips=OPEC>

Population Growth

*Demographics Threaten the Stability of
Many MENA States*

Demographic Pressures

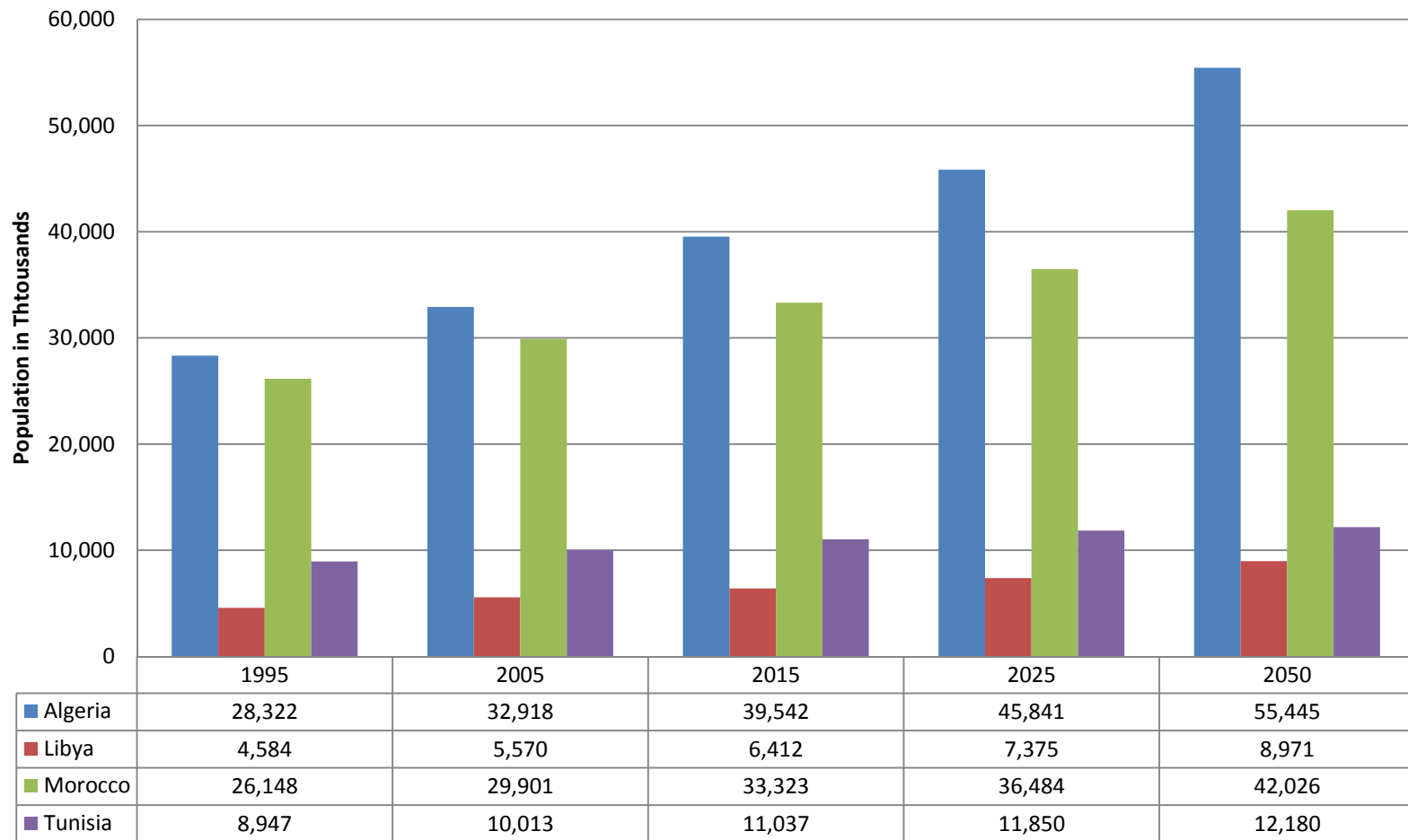
- Rapid population growth places additional strains on states already suffering from sluggish economic growth, and creates critical problems in terms of the future of the region's youth, its ability to gain productive employment, and social factors like marriage and child raising.
- The following tables illustrate how there has been massive population growth since 1950, and growth is projected to continue through at least 2030 and continue to have a major impact through 2050.
- What the tables cannot show is that this growth has led to major population movements, dislocation and hyperurbanization. It has created serious direct and indirect unemployment and jobs without meaningful productivity gain while creating social pressures to focus on male employment to the exclusion of women.
- It has also led to grossly swollen state sector employment, including inefficient state industries as well as distorted the employment levels in service industries.
- It has put broad pressure on the number of people working in agriculture at time when MENA countries need economies of scale and capital, not more farmers.
- At the same time, population growth has put a massive strain on both natural and government resources, including water, energy (including consumption of potential petroleum exports), education, and health.

UNDP Estimate of Population Growth: 1970-2015

Country/ Region	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	Projected Est.		Average Annual Growth Rates			
						2010	2015	1970 -80	1980 -90	1990-00	2000-10
Algeria	13,746	18,811	25,283	30,506	32,855	35,423	38,088	3.2%	3.0%	1.9%	1.5%
Bahrain	220	347	493	650	728	807	882	4.7%	3.6%	2.8%	2.2%
Comoros	238	329	438	552	616	691	767	3.3%	2.9%	2.3%	2.3%
Djibouti	162	340	560	730	805	879	953	7.7%	5.1%	2.7%	1.9%
Egypt	35,575	44,433	57,785	70,174	77,154	84,474	91,778	2.2%	2.7%	2.0%	1.9%
Iraq	10,210	14,024	18,079	24,652	28,238	31,467	35,884	3.2%	2.6%	3.1%	2.5%
Jordan	1,623	2,225	3,254	4,853	5,566	6,472	6,957	3.2%	3.9%	4.1%	2.9%
KSA	5,745	9,604	16,259	20,808	23,613	26,246	28,933	5.3%	5.4%	2.5%	2.3%
Kuwait	744	1,375	2,143	2,228	2,700	3,051	3,378	6.3%	4.5%	0.4%	3.2%
Lebanon	2,443	2,785	2,974	3,772	4,082	4,255	4,426	1.3%	0.7%	2.4%	1.2%
Libya	1,994	3,063	4,365	5,346	5,923	6,546	7,158	4.4%	3.6%	2.0%	2.0%
Mauritania	1,149	1,525	1,988	2,604	2,985	3,366	3,732	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%	2.6%
Morocco	15,310	19,567	24,808	28,827	30,495	32,381	34,330	2.5%	2.4%	1.5%	1.2%
Oman	747	1,187	1,843	2,402	2,618	2,905	3,198	4.7%	4.5%	2.7%	1.9%
OPT	1,096	1,476	2,154	3,149	3,762	4,409	5,090	3.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.4%
Qatar	111	229	467	617	885	1,508	1,630	7.5%	7.4%	2.8%	9.3%
Somalia	3,600	6,434	6,596	7,394	8,354	9,359	10,731	6.0%	0.2%	1.1%	2.4%
Sudan	15,039	20,509	27,091	34,904	38,698	43,192	47,730	3.2%	2.8%	2.6%	2.2%
Syria	6,371	8,971	12,721	16,511	19,121	22,505	24,494	3.5%	3.6%	2.6%	3.1%
Tunisia	5,127	6,457	8,215	9,452	9,878	10,374	10,884	2.3%	2.4%	1.4%	0.9%
UAE	225	1,015	1,867	3,238	4,089	4,707	5,193	16.3%	6.3%	5.7%	3.8%
Yemen	6,391	8,381	12,314	18,182	21,024	24,256	27,819	2.7%	3.9%	4.0%	2.9%
GCC	7,792	13,757	23,072	29,943	34,633	39,224	43,214	5.8%	5.3%	2.6%	2.7%
LDC	26,579	37,518	48,987	64,366	72,482	81,743	91,732	3.5%	2.7%	2.8%	2.4%
Maghreb	36,177	47,898	62,671	74,131	79,151	84,724	90,460	2.8%	2.7%	1.7%	1.3%
Mashreq	57,318	73,914	96,967	123,111	137,923	153,582	168,629	2.6%	2.8%	2.4%	2.2%
AC	127,866	173,087	231,697	291,551	324,189	359,273	394,035	3.1%	3.0%	2.3%	2.1%
EAP	971,537	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	2.1%	0.8%	1.4%	0.6%
LAC	286,472	362,655	442,310	521,228	556,512	588,649	618,486	2.4%	2.0%	1.7%	1.2%
SAS	283,267	355,774	439,591	517,193	554,079	589,615	622,911	2.3%	2.1%	1.6%	1.3%
SSA	294,963	389,754	518,053	674,842	764,328	863,314	970,173	2.8%	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%
DR	3,700,000	4,400,000	5,300,000	6,100,000	6,500,000	6,900,000	7,300,000	1.7%	1.9%	1.4%	1.2%

Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision, <http://esa.un.org/unpd>. December 25, 2010

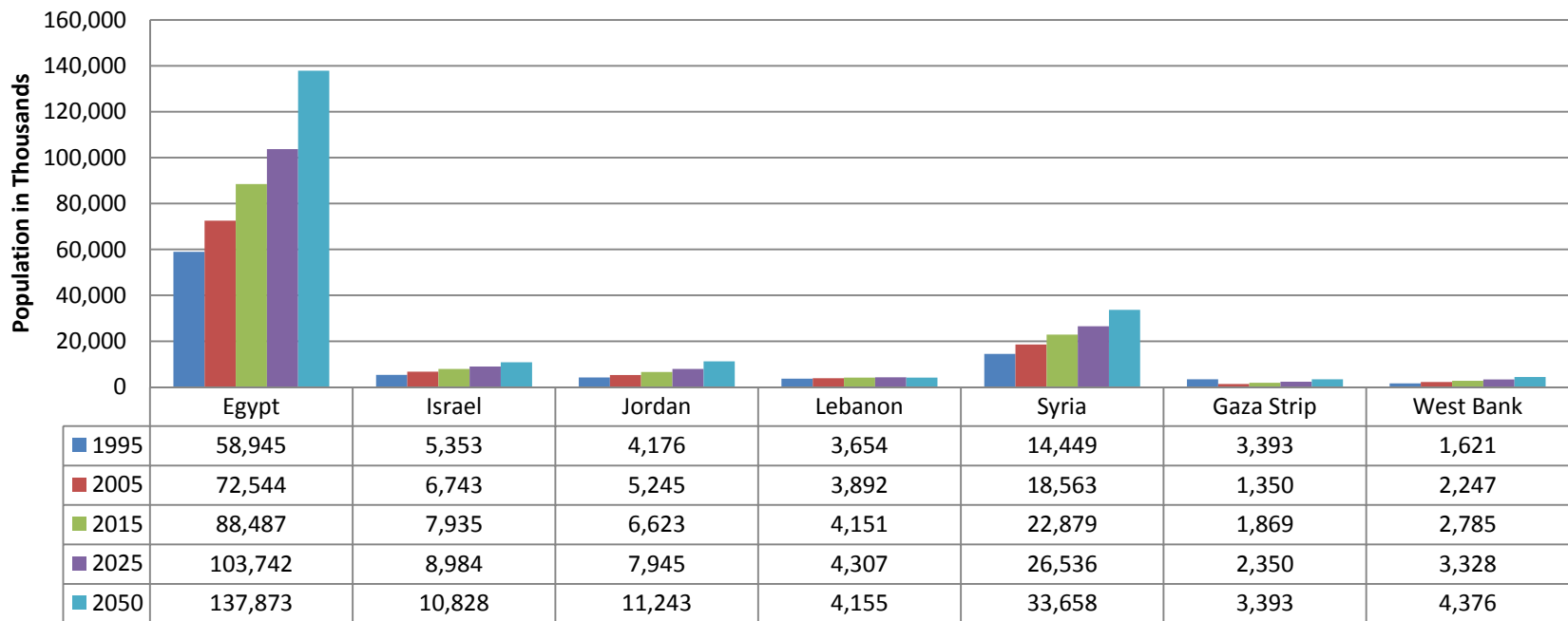
North African Demographic Pressure: 1995-2050



Source: United States Census Bureau, International Data Base, Accessed August 6, 2013.

<http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/region.php?N=%20Results%20&T=13&A=separate&RT=0&Y=2050&R=113&C=AG>

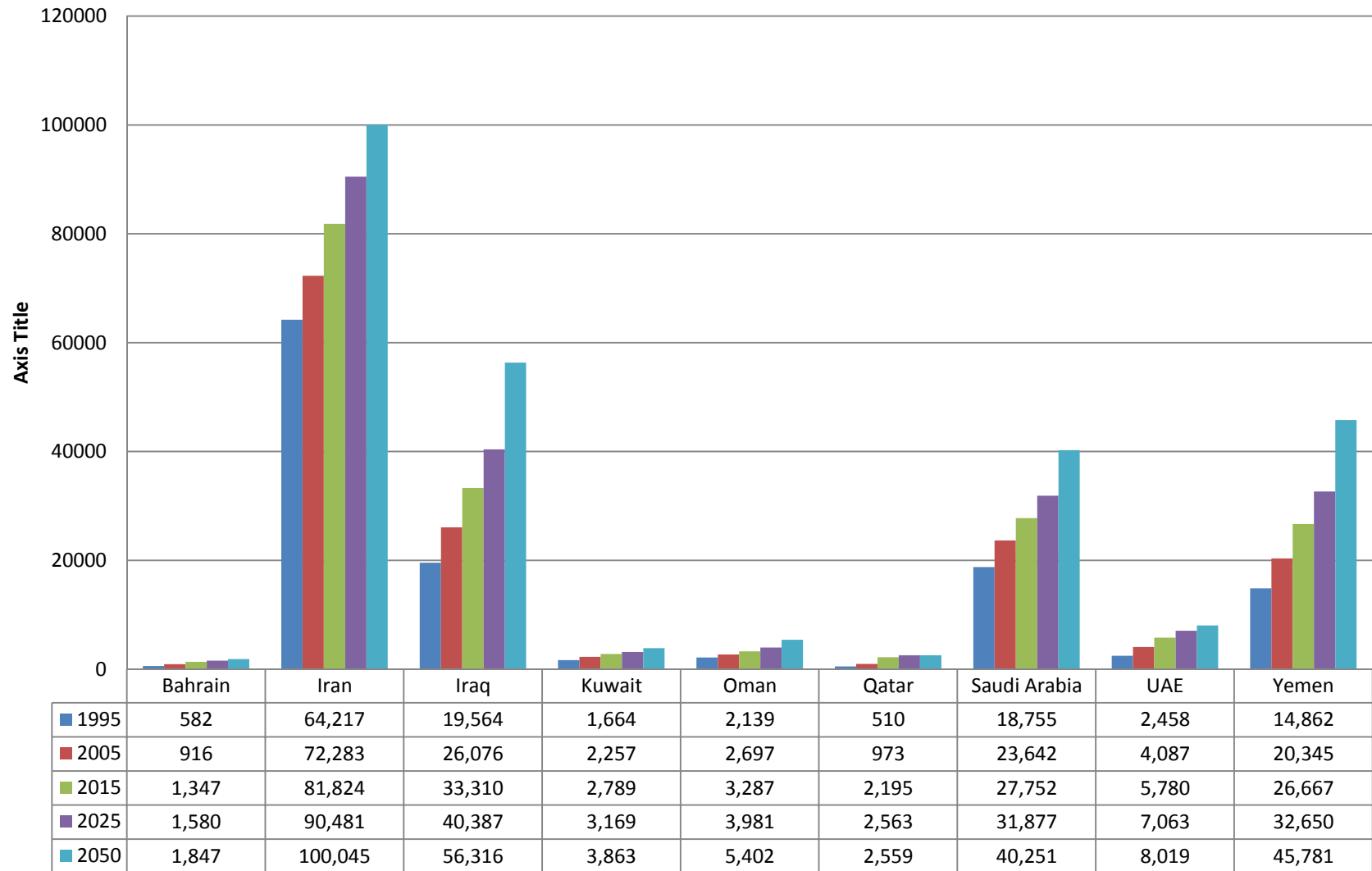
Arab-Israeli Demographic Pressure: 1995-2050 (In Millions)



Source: United States Census Bureau, International Data Base, Accessed August 6, 2013.

<http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/region.php?N=%20Results%20&T=13&A=separate&RT=0&Y=2050&R=124&C=AG>

Gulf Demographic Pressure: 1995-2050

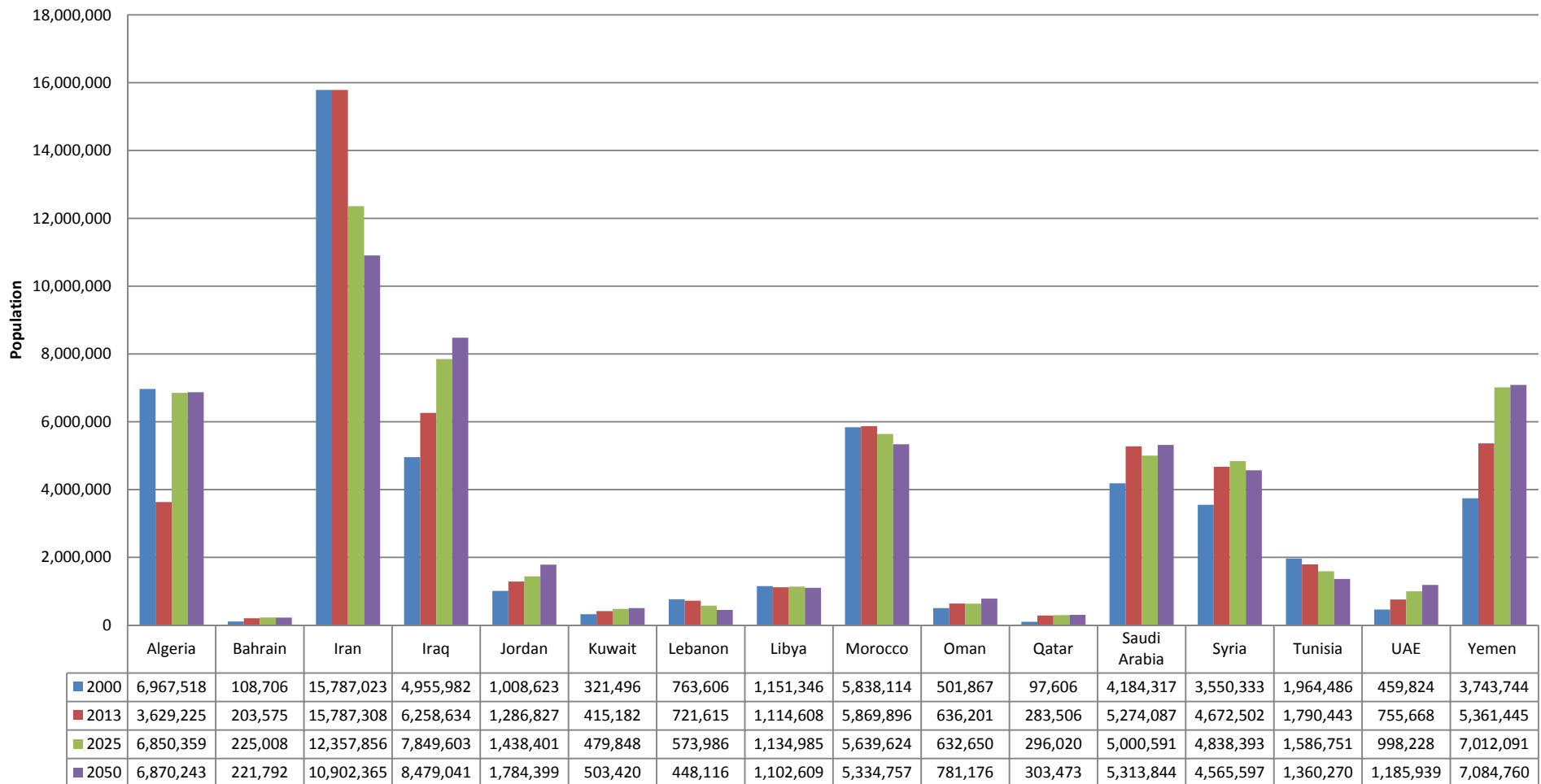


“Youth Bulge”

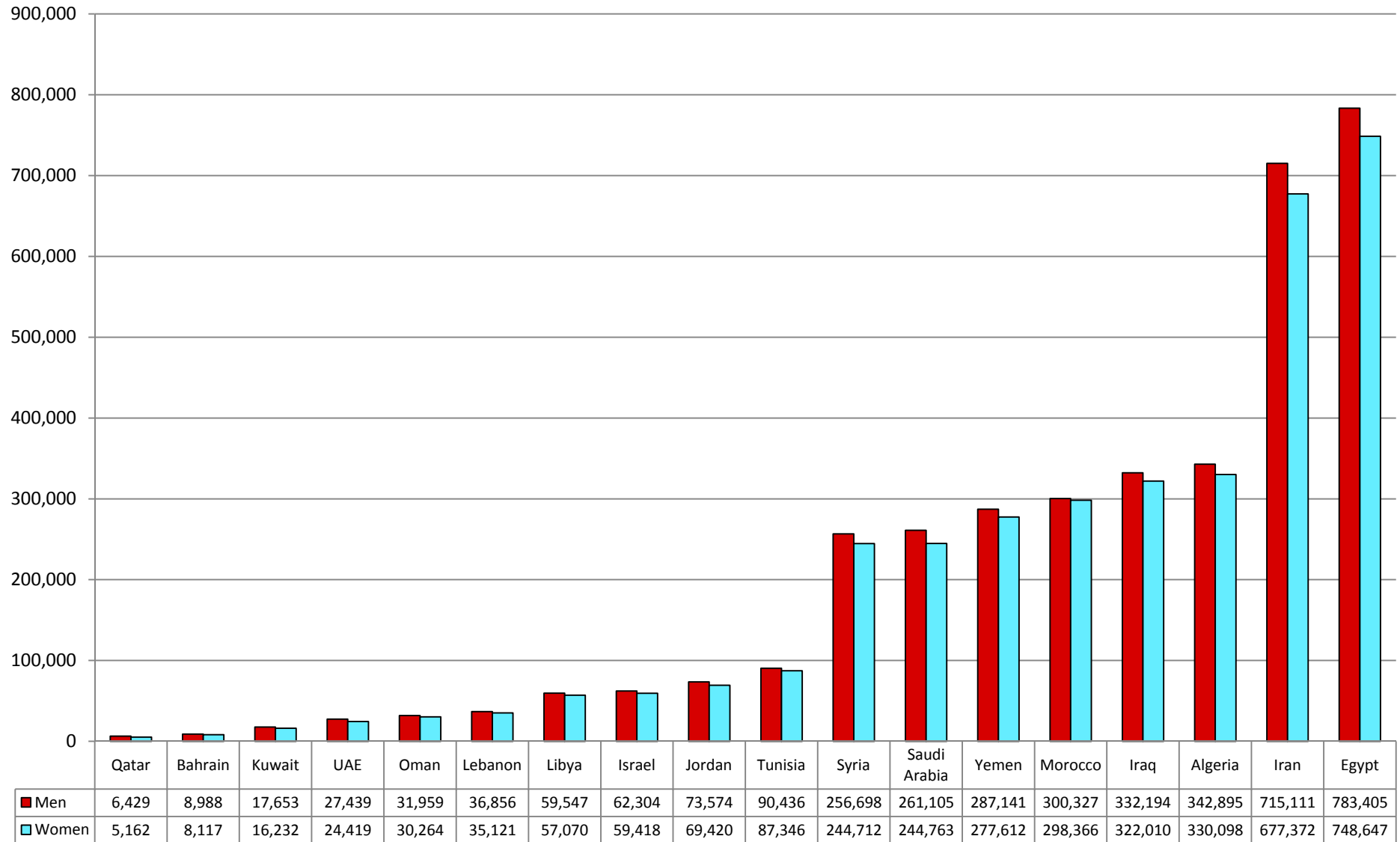
The population data in the following tables shows just how critical the “youth bulge” now is in the MENA region even though population growth rates have dropped. The problem is now very much the problem of the “already born:”

- **Breakdown in education quality and its quality and relevance.**
- **Extremely young populations with major lag in jobs, marriage, and housing.**
- **Low expectations for the future.**
- **Closing windows of security and state sector employment.**
- **Major problems in saving and in funding business.**
- **Pressure to leave the land.**
- **Disguised unemployment and hollow jobs with no productivity gain or real career prospects and motivation.**
- **Dissatisfaction with failed governance and secular alternative, and cause of religious extremism.**
- **Cutting edge cause of pressure on ethnic, sectarian, and tribal discrimination, corruption, nepotism, and favoritism.**

MENA Youth (Ages 15-24) Through 2050



MENA Young Persons Entering Labor Force Each Year



Source: CIA World Factbook, Accessed January 2011

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

Youth and The Unemployment Challenge

Table 22. Unemployment rates, total unemployment for the age group (15+), 1990-2011

Country/ Region	Base Yr	Latest Yr	Total		Male		Female	
			Base	Latest	Base	Latest	Base	Latest
Algeria	2001	2008	27.3	11.3	26.6	11.19	31.4	12.05
Bahrain	1991	2001	6.4	5.5	5.2	4.1	11.8	10.5
Egypt	1998	2007	8.2	8.9	5.1	5.9	19.9	18.6
KSA	2002	2008	5.3	5.1	4.2	3.5	11.5	13.8
Kuwait	1995	2005	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.0	1.5	1.8
Lebanon	2004	2007	8.1	9.0	6.9	8.6	7.7	10.1
Morocco	1990	2009	15.8	10.0	14.2	9.8	20.4	10.5
Syria	2002	2010	11.7	8.4	8.3	5.7	24.1	22.5
Tunisia	1997	2011	15.9	18.3	15.5	15	17.3	27.4
UAE	1995	2008	1.8	4.0	1.7	2.0	2.4	12.0
Yemen	1994	1999	8.3	11.5	9.3	12.48	3.1	8.2
GCC			4.5	4.6	3.6	3.0	8.9	11.6
LDC			8.3	11.5	9.3	12.5	3.9	8.2
Maghreb			22.3	11.9	21.7	11.2	24.4	14.3
Mashreq			9.0	8.9	5.9	6.0	20.0	18.7
AC			12.2	9.3	10.4	7.7	18.9	15.5

Source: Kilmnet and UN Data and National Institute for Statistics for Tunisia

Table 23. Unemployment rates, total unemployment for the age group (15-24), 1990-2011

Country/ Region	Base Yr	Latest Yr	Total		Male		Female	
			Base	Latest	Base	Latest	Base	Latest
Algeria	2001	2008	47.8	23.8	48.8	23.5	49.9	25.4
Bahrain	1991	2001	25.4	20.1	22.4	17.2	33.9	27.0
Egypt	1998	2007	23.1	24.8	15.8	17.2	42.8	47.9
KSA	2002	2008	28.1	29.3	25.2	24.1	39.1	50.0
Kuwait	1995	2005	13.2	11.3	15.6	11.8	7.6	10.0
Lebanon	2004	2007	20.9	22.1	20.3	22.3	19.0	21.5
Morocco	1990	2009	31.1	21.9	30.9	22.8	31.6	19.4
Syria	2002	2010	26.3	19.1	21.4	13.1	38.9	49.1
Tunisia	1997	2011	31.9	42.3	33.3	43.2	29.0	18.0
UAE	1995	2008	6.3	12.1	6.4	7.9	5.7	21.8
Yemen	1994	1999	17.9	19.9	20.2	20.7	9.8	17.3
GCC			22.8	23.3	20.8	19.4	29.9	35.9
LDC			17.9	19.9	20.2	20.7	9.8	17.3
Maghreb			41.0	25.5	42.1	25.5	37.6	25.5
Mashreq			24.0	23.7	17.7	17.0	40.6	45.9
AC			29.2	23.8	26.4	20.4	37.0	35.2

Source: ibid

Note: For Algeria and Tunisia, share of male and female of total labour force and employed for latest year available was used to estimate the youth unemployment rate by gender for 2008 and 2011 respectively.

Arab Development Challenges Report: Employment, Social Protection & Fiscal Policy

- **Employment gains despite demographic pressures**
 - **High average fertility rates** (3.1 children per woman) provide the basis for high population growth expectations
 - **The Arab region is going through a demographic transition, with more participants entering the labor force each year (in 2010, ages 15-64 made up 62.45% of the Arab Population)**
- **Employment in Arab countries** has averaged an impressive 3.3% annual growth rate, amongst the highest in developing regions. However, they also **exhibit one of the lowest labor force participation rates in the world** (due to low female participation rates)
- **The Arab region has one of the highest unemployment rates among developing regions— 9.3% (2001-11), vs. 6.6% for developing regions over the same period.** However, this rate has improved from the 1990s when it averaged 12%.
 - The unemployment rate in the GCC is roughly half that in Mashreq countries.
 - **Youth unemployment in the region, at 24%, is double the world average.**
 - While youth employment has been increasing, growth in the **youth population has been outpacing employment growth such that the employment/population ratio has declined from 27.1% to 24.3% (1997-2009), which is among the lowest rates in the world.**
- **The female unemployment rate is the highest in the world.** This is due to more females progressing through higher education and entering the labor force than before only to be faced with issues such as gender bias in hiring, for example.
- **There is an increase in the Arab region's informal job market** (i.e. jobs outside of social security programs; self employment was used as a proxy for measurement)
- **The education system fails to produce graduates with the requisite skills to find meaningful, productive jobs**

Demand Side Constraints to Arab Employment

“Arab unemployment is fundamentally a demand-side problem. [...] the growth return of education is low since misguided policies do not enable the country to translate the accumulated knowledge into ideas, innovations, and new productive activities.”

Investment has failed to generate sufficient growth in the Arab region (gross fixed capital formation (GFCF), has increased slightly but total employment has remained constant), and this is due to the ineffectiveness of these investments to generate high skilled, meaningful output-contributing jobs. Low wage premiums also cause human capital flight, while remaining workers are often inadequately trained.

Expected requirements for solving the job creation deficit (excluding GCC) :

Scenario 1: keep unemployment in the Arab region constant with no change in labor force participation rate

Scenario 2: cut the unemployment rate by half in the Arab region

Scenario 3: cut the unemployment rate by half and increase female employment to 35%

	2011-2015		2011-2020		2011-2030	
	Jobs required in millions	GFCF required in \$ millions	Jobs required in millions	GFCF required in \$ millions	Jobs required in millions	GFCF required in \$ millions
Scenario 1	6.1	292,800	15.4	739,200	24.7	1,185,600
Scenario 2	13.6	652,800	24.1	1,156,800	47.1	2,260,800
Scenario 3	28.6	1,372,800	40.8	1,958,400	91.8	4,406,400

Note: GFCF=gross fixed capital formation measured in 2005 constant prices; excludes costs of upgrading the conditions of the working poor; \$48,000 average cost of creating one job

The Job Creation Challenge: New Jobs Required

Table 24. Projected number of jobs required under the different scenarios in 2015, 2020 and 2030

Country/Region	Year	Unemployment Rate	LFPR	Labour Force	No. of Unemployed	No. of Employed	Working-Age Pop.	Scenario (1)			Scenario (2)			Scenario (3)		
								2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030
Algeria	2007	11.3	58.3	14,486	1,637	12,849	24,835	921	2,005	4,110	2,777	4,024	6,366	3,757	6,157	10,740
Bahrain	2001	5.5	65.4	314	17	296	480	38	83	143	63	110	173	103	199	3 2 7
Egypt	2008	9.4	48.8	27,411	2,573	24,838	56,183	2,119	5,012	10,658	5,004	8,227	14,403	8,629	16,801	32,636
Jordan	2004	12.9	49.3	2,040	263	1,777	4,139	169	525	1,197	475	940	1,699	761	1,829	3,729
KSA	2008	5.0	54.6	9,234	461	8,773	16,912	1,037	2,293	4,445	1,592	2,910	5,169	3,427	6,967	13,033
Kuwait	2005	2.0	69.4	1,428	28	1,400	2,059	141	311	587	176	349	630	287	595	1,093
Lebanon	2007	9.0	45.4	1,391	125	1,266	3,064	86	148	204	227	295	356	378	553	7 1 0
Mauritania	2000	20.6	68.5	1,030	212	818	1,505	149	351	776	471	715	1,227	584	982	1,816
Morocco	2008	10.0	52.3	11,982	1,199	10,783	22,910	714	1,455	2,728	2,030	2,868	4,268	3,079	5,006	8,277
Syria	2007	8.4	50.3	6,624	558	6,066	13,166	853	1,291	2,368	1,577	2,052	3,220	2,343	4,894	11,174
Tunisia	2005	14.2	47.7	3,503	499	3,004	7,344	172	308	511	752	907	1,139	1,029	1,404	1,962
UAE	2008	4.0	77.6	2,813	113	2,700	3,626	259	593	1,189	392	740	1,360	618	1,256	2,396
Yemen	2004	15.0	46.6	5,954	893	5,061	12,785	965	2,597	6,084	2,109	4,146	8,156	4,103	9,515	20,732
AC		9.7	52.9	88,210	8,578	79,632	169,009	7,623	16,972	34,999	17,644	28,283	48,167	29,097	56,158	108,627
GCC		4.5	61.1	13,788	619	13,170	23,077	1,475	3,280	6,364	2,222	4,109	7,333	4,435	9,017	16,849
LDC		15.8	49.8	6,984	1,106	5,879	14,290	1,114	2,948	6,859	2,580	4,862	9,383	4,687	10,497	22,548
Maghreb		11.1	54.7	29,971	3,335	26,636	55,090	1,807	3,768	7,349	5,558	7,798	11,773	7,865	12,567	20,980
Mashreq		9.4	49.0	37,466	3,519	33,947	76,552	3,227	6,975	14,427	7,284	11,514	19,678	12,110	24,077	48,250
AC excluding GCC		10.7	51.3	74,421	7,959	66,462	145,932	6,148	13,692	28,635	15,421	24,174	40,834	24,662	47,141	91,777

Source: Authors' estimates based on data from UNSD and Kilmnet, ILO

Notes: This table shows the projected number of jobs required under three different scenarios, scenario 1: if to keep unemployment rate constant, scenario 2: if to reach full employment, scenario 3: if to achieve full employment as well as higher female labour participation rate. Using projected rates of growth in working-age population by UNSD and holding constant the labour force participation rate and unemployment rate, we re-estimate the projected increase in the labour force and number of employed to reach the total number of jobs to be created under the aforementioned scenarios (For further details, Abu-Ismaïl, Abou Taleb, Olmsted and Moheiddin, 2010).

The Job Creation Challenge: Cost of New Jobs

Country/ Region	Cost of New Job (000)	Cost for Scenario 1 (in billions)									Actual GFCF/ GFP 2009	Share of GFCF/GDP								
		Scenario 1			Scenario 2			Scenario 3				Scenario 1			Scenario 2			Scenario 3		
		2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030		2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030	2015	2020	2030
Algeria	64	59	128	262	177	257	406	240	393	686	38.16	10.3	11.2	11.5	31.1	22.5	17.8	42.1	34.5	30.1
Bahrain	680	26	56	97	43	75	118	70	135	222	24.04	30.4	33.1	28.5	49.9	43.9	34.6	82.4	79.3	65.1
Egypt	36	77	183	389	182	300	525	315	613	1,190	18.31	12.5	14.7	15.7	29.4	24.2	21.2	50.7	49.4	48.0
Jordan	69	12	36	82	33	65	117	52	126	257	28.93	14.3	22.3	25.4	40.3	39.9	36.0	64.6	77.6	79.1
KSA	424	439	971	1,883	674	1,233	2,190	1,452	2,951	5,521	33.75	25.3	28.0	27.1	38.9	35.5	31.6	83.7	85.1	79.6
Kuwait	538	76	167	315	94	188	339	154	320	588	15.15	16.5	18.2	17.2	20.6	20.4	18.4	33.6	34.8	32.0
Lebanon	310	27	46	63	71	92	110	117	172	220	32.12	19.2	16.5	11.4	50.6	32.8	19.8	84.0	61.5	39.5
Mauritania	32	5	11	25	15	23	40	19	32	59	24.91	41.3	48.8	53.8	130.8	99.3	85.1	162.2	136.3	126.0
Morocco	106	75	154	288	214	303	450	325	528	874	31.58	23.0	23.5	22.0	65.4	46.2	34.4	99.3	80.7	66.7
Syria	30	25	38	70	47	61	96	70	146	332	29.33	14.6	11.0	10.1	26.9	17.5	13.7	40.0	41.8	47.7
Tunisia	156	27	48	80	117	141	177	160	219	306	24.09	15.2	13.7	11.3	66.6	40.2	25.2	91.1	62.2	43.4
UAE	662	171	392	787	260	490	900	409	832	1,586	39.82	19.0	21.8	21.8	28.8	27.2	25.0	45.4	46.1	44.0
Yemen	20	19	51	120	42	82	161	81	187	408	13.98	18.0	24.3	28.4	39.4	38.8	38.1	76.7	89.0	96.9
AC	133	1,038	2,283	4,463	1,969	3,308	5,630	3,464	6,653	12,249	30.60	19.3	21.2	20.7	36.6	30.7	26.1	64.3	61.8	56.9
GCC	490	712	1,588	3,083	1,071	1,985	3,547	2,085	4,238	7,917	32.52	22.4	25.0	24.2	33.7	31.2	27.9	65.6	66.6	62.2
LDC	21	24	63	145	57	105	200	100	219	467	15.07	20.4	26.7	31.0	48.6	44.8	42.8	85.3	93.7	99.8
Maghreb	91	161	330	630	509	701	1,034	725	1,140	1,865	33.85	15.0	15.4	14.7	47.4	32.7	24.1	67.6	53.1	43.4
Mashreq	47	141	303	605	333	517	848	554	1,056	2,000	22.95	13.9	14.9	14.9	32.8	25.5	20.9	54.6	52.0	49.3
AC excluding GCC	62	326	695	1,380	898	1,323	2,083	1,379	2,415	4,332	27.84	14.8	15.8	15.6	40.7	30.0	23.6	62.5	54.8	49.1

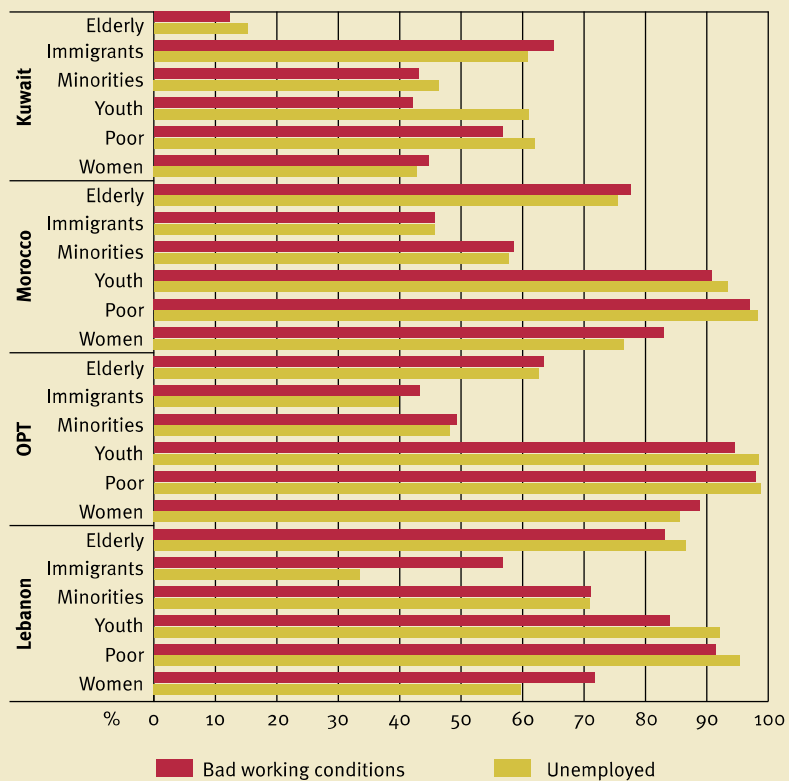
Unemployment and Underemployment are Broad Challenges

- **Governments often fail to report accurately. There are few reliable data on chronic employment, lack of real careers, crony-based employment, lack of productive employment for women.**
- **No credible data measure underemployment, lack of productivity gain, and impact on given classes, youth, and other key elements of society.**
- **Poverty data are essentially worthless. The threshold is set too low to be currently relevant and data are generally not reported or have no credible source.**

Perceptions of Unemployment in MENA

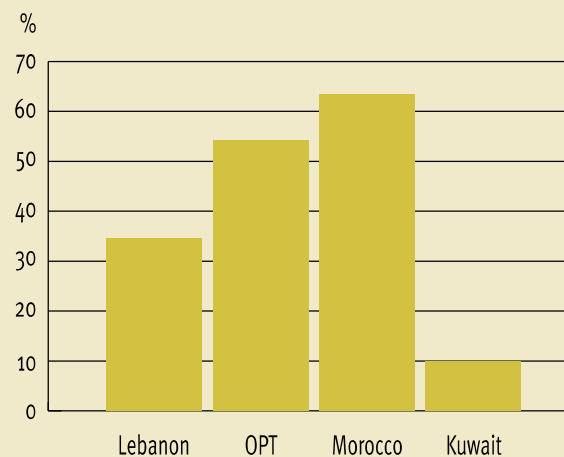
2) Is unemployment worse for particular groups in society?

3) Which groups encounter the worst working conditions when employed?



Percent Unemployed and Looking for Work

1) Is someone in your family unemployed and looking for work?



Taking into account the average size of households, answers in the affirmative to the first question suggest unemployment rates ranging between 30-35 per cent in Morocco and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and 15-20 per cent in Lebanon.

Perceptions of Personal Economic Situation in MENA

Middle East/N. Africa: Percent responding **Good**, all years measured

COUNTRY	2008	2009	2012	2013
Egypt	26	30	23	21
India	-	-	64	-
Israel	-	67	-	59
Jordan	31	37	33	30
Lebanon	31	32	26	30

Middle East/N. Africa: Percent responding **Bad**, all years measured

COUNTRY	2008	2009	2012	2013
Egypt	72	69	76	79
India	-	-	31	-
Israel	-	32	-	38
Jordan	68	63	64	69
Lebanon	67	67	73	70

Full question wording: Now thinking about your personal economic situation, how would you describe it - is it very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad or very bad?

Notes: Good combines "very good" and "somewhat good" responses. Bad combines "somewhat bad" and "very bad."

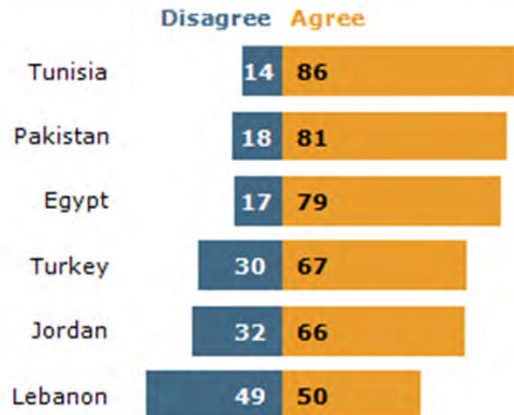
- The Pew Foundation, Global Attitudes Project, Global Indicators Database, Updated July 2013. <http://www.pewglobal.org/database/indicator/1/group/6/> Accessed August 12, 2013.

Who Has a Better Life in This Country?

	Men	Women	(Vol) Same	DK
	%	%	%	%
Pakistan	42	14	38	5
Turkey	41	31	25	3
Egypt	36	13	47	4
Jordan	30	22	43	6
Tunisia	28	41	29	2
Lebanon	19	32	45	4

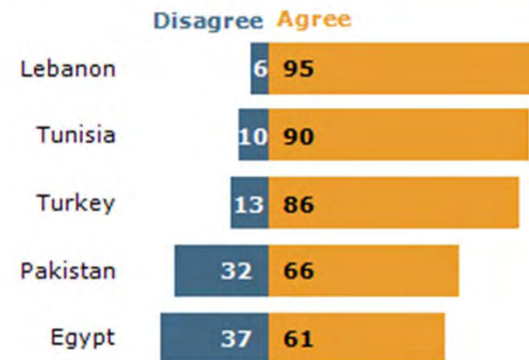
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q5.

When Jobs Are Scarce, Men Should Have More Right to a Job



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q86b.

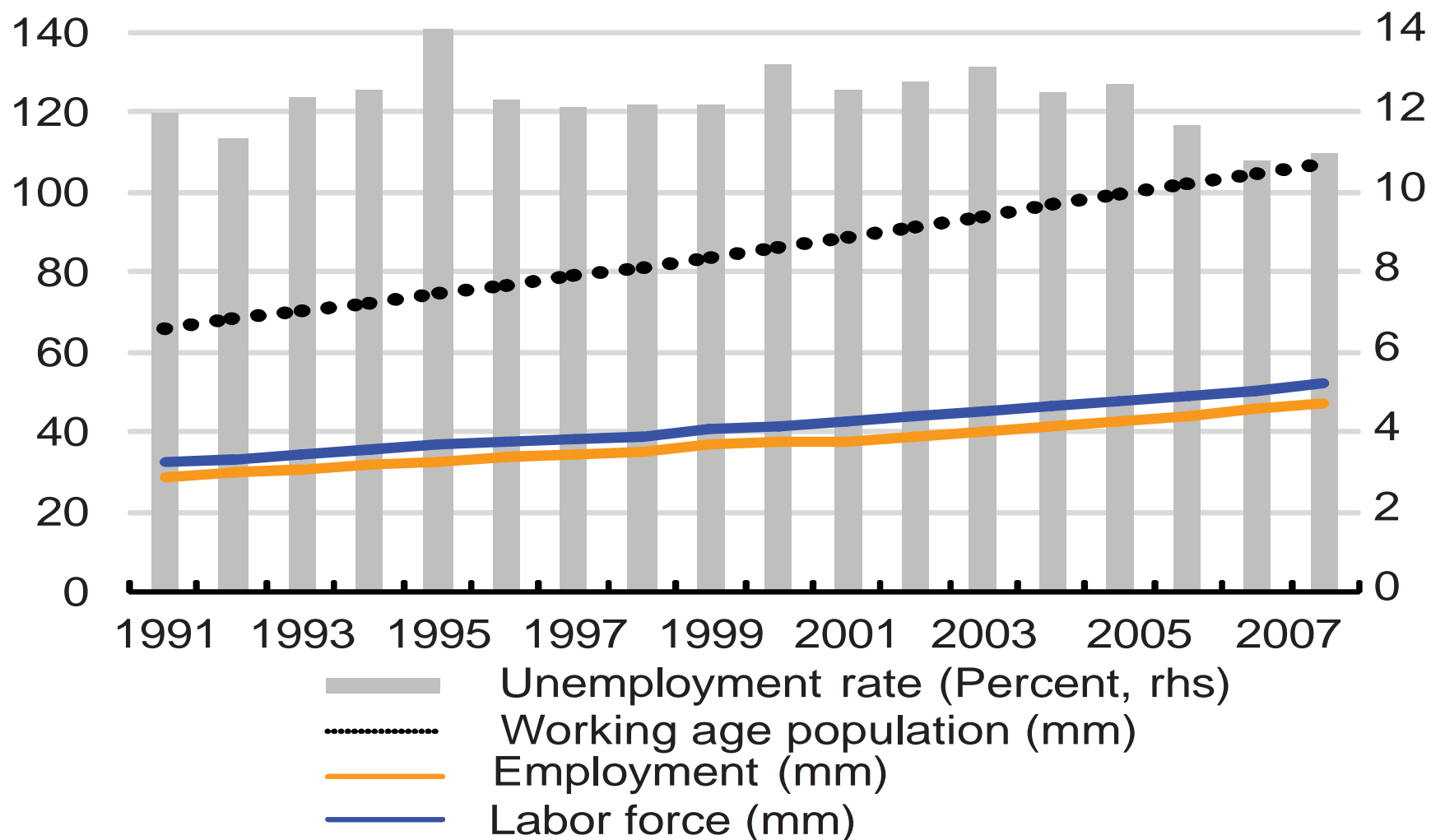
Women Should Be Able to Work Outside the Home



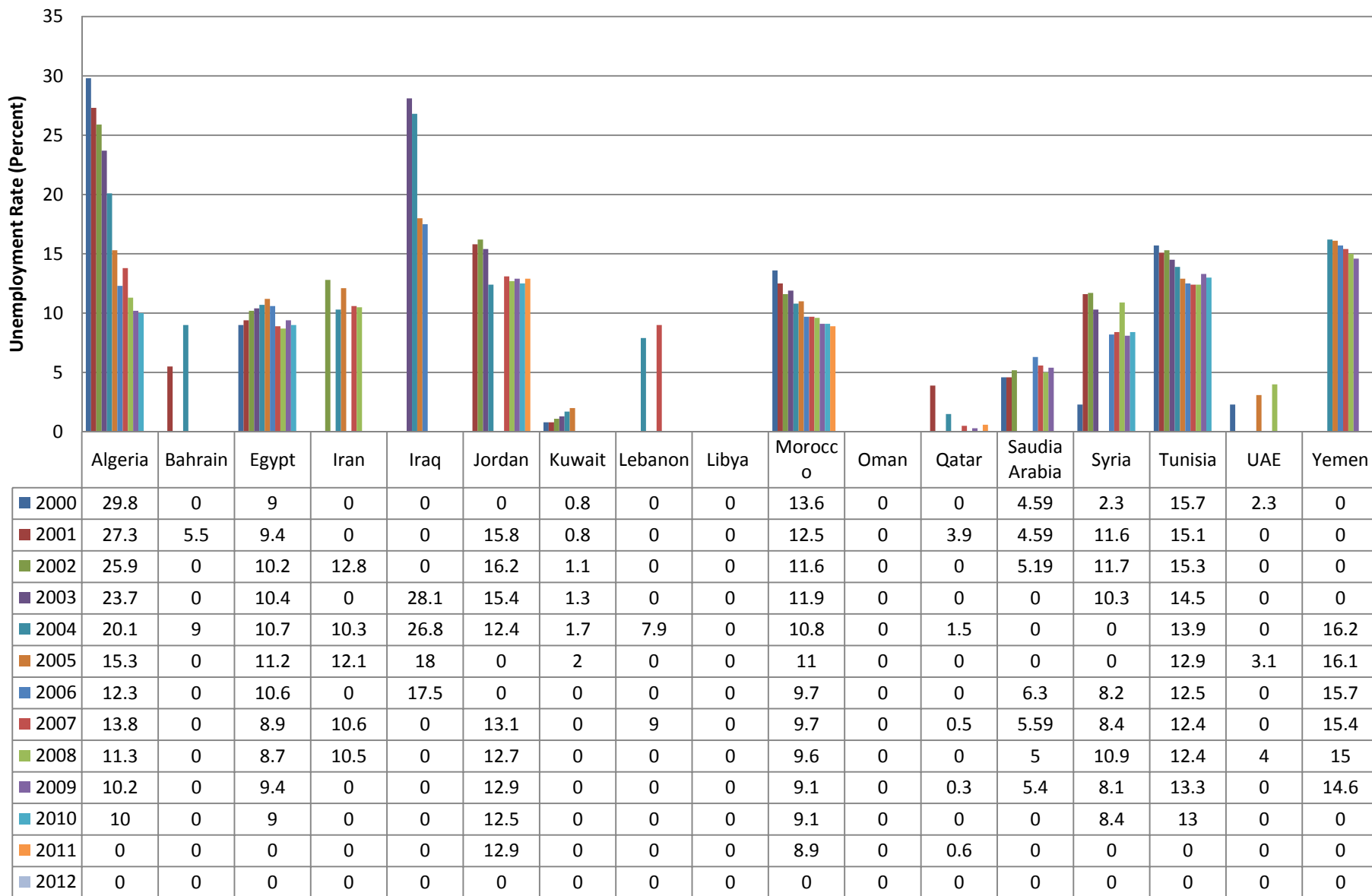
Data for Jordan not shown due to administrative error.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q86a.

MENA Demographics and Unemployment



Official Unemployment Rates

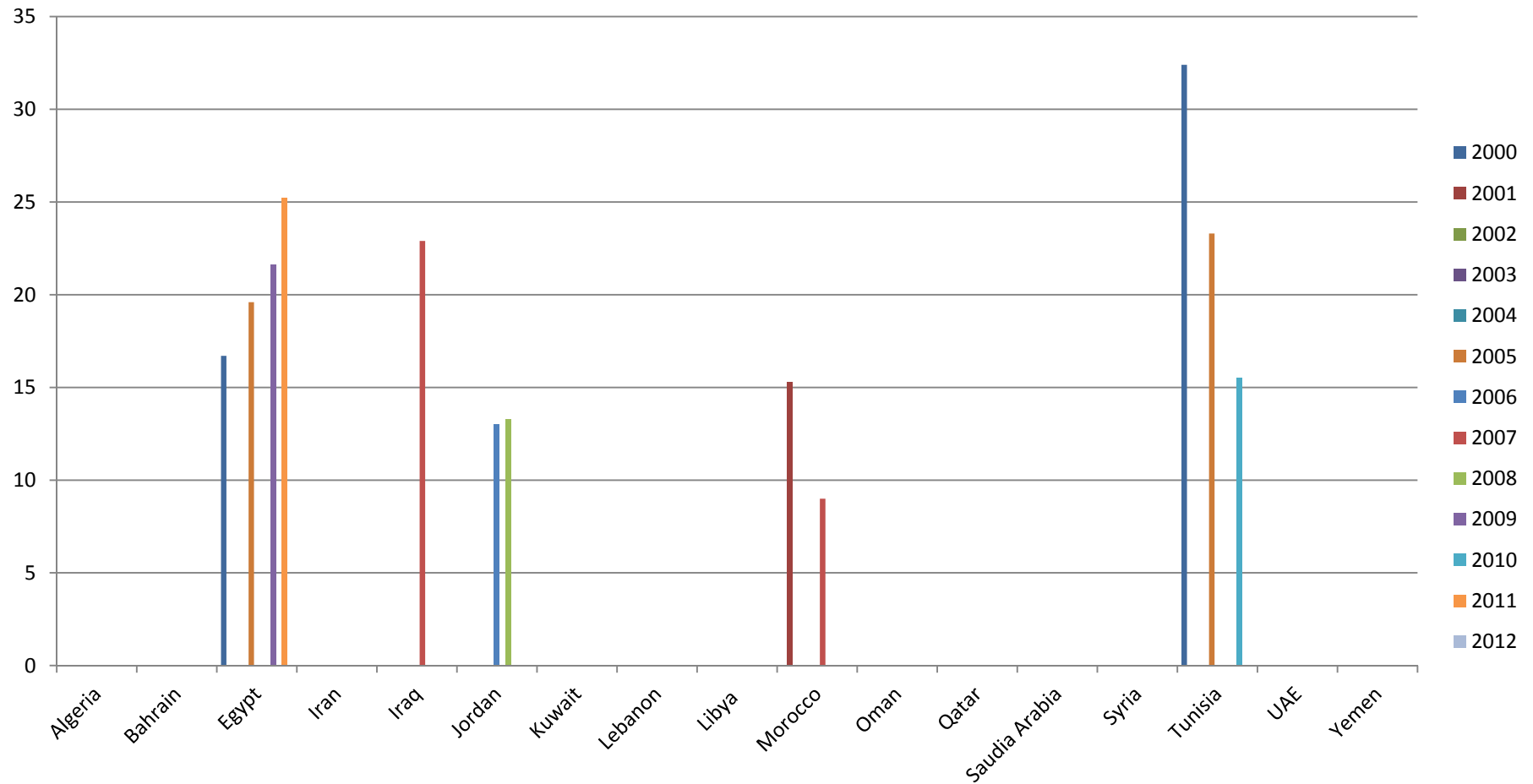


Source: The World Bank, dataBank, Accessed August 7, 2013. <http://databank.worldbank.org/ddp/home.do?Step=3&id=4>

A Very Young Population, a “Youth Bulge,” and Underemployment are Key Threats to Stability

Massive pressure on education, jobs, marriage, housing, low to mid-income families, and perceptions about governance, fairness and corruption

Population Below Poverty Line (In Percent)



Source: World Bank, dataBank, Accessed August 8, 2012

Note: Not all poverty figures are available.

Poverty Trends by Region and MENA Country

Table 5-4 Incidence of income poverty – world regions compared, 1981-2005
(percentage living below two dollars a day)

Region	1981	1984	1987	1990	1993	1996	1999	2002	2005
East Asia and Pacific	92.6	88.5	81.6	79.8	75.8	64.1	61.8	51.9	38.7
Of which China	97.8	92.9	83.7	84.6	78.6	65.1	61.4	51.2	36.3
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	8.3	6.5	5.6	6.9	10.3	11.9	14.3	12	8.9
Latin America and Caribbean	22.5	25.3	23.3	19.7	19.3	21.8	21.4	21.7	16.6
Middle East and North Africa	26.7	23.1	22.7	19.7	19.8	20.2	19	17.6	16.9
South Asia	86.5	84.8	83.9	82.7	79.7	79.9	77.2	77.1	73.9
Of which India	86.6	84.8	83.8	82.6	81.7	79.8	78.4	77.5	75.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	74	75.7	74.2	76.2	76	77.9	77.6	75.6	73
Total	69.2	67.4	64.2	63.2	61.5	58.2	57.1	53.3	47
Arab countries (MENA without Iran)	32	28.52	26.51	22.45	24.42	24.59	23.23	20.8	20.37

Source: Chen and Ravallion 2007.

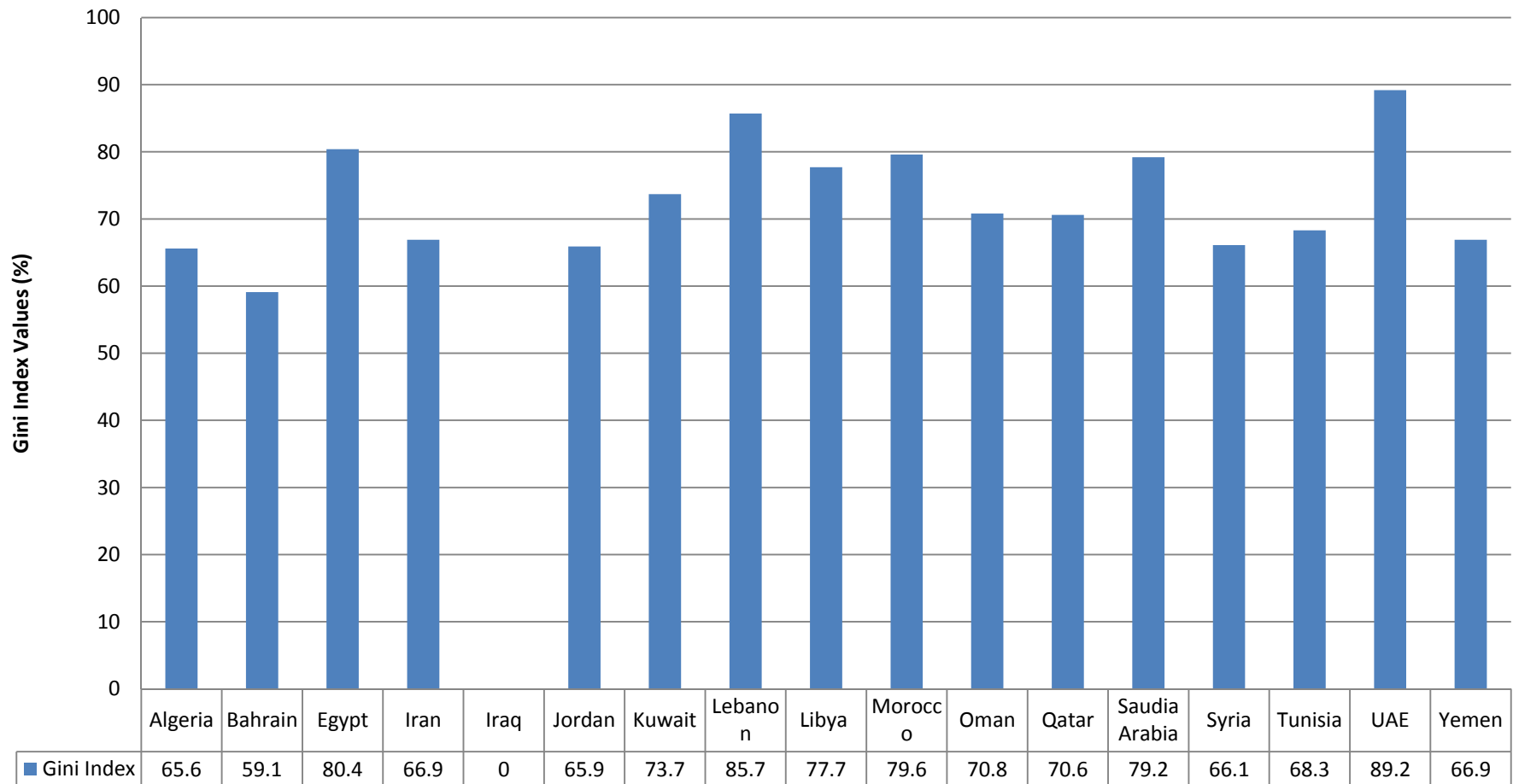
Note: The Arab countries aggregate includes the following countries: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen.

Table 5-5 The incidence of (extreme) poverty based on national lower poverty lines
(1991-1999 and 1999-2006)

Country	Survey year	Poverty incidence (%)	Pop. average (1995-2000) in millions	Estimated number of poor (millions)	Survey year	Poverty incidence (%)	Pop. average (2000-2005) in millions	Estimated number of poor (millions)
Lebanon	1997	10	3.6	0.4	2005	7.97	3.9	0.3
Egypt	1999	16.7	63.6	10.6	2005	19.6	69.7	13.7
Jordan	1997	15	4.6	0.7	2002	14.2	5.2	0.7
Syria	1997	14.3	15.6	2.2	2004	11.4	17.7	2.1
Algeria	1995	14.1	29.4	4.1	2000	12.1	31.7	3.8
Morocco	1991	13.1	27.9	3.7	1999	19	29.7	5.6
Tunisia	1995	8.1	9.3	0.8	2000	4.1	9.8	0.4
MICs		14.6	153.9	22.4		15.9	167.6	26.6
Mauritania	1996	50	2.4	1.2	2000	46	2.8	1.3
Yemen	1998	40.1	16.9	6.8	2006	34.8	19.6	6.8
LICs		41.4	19.2	8		36.2	22.4	8.1
Total		17.6	173.1	30.4		18.3	190	34.7

Source: UNDP/AHDR calculations based on World Bank 2007, 2008; UNDP 2005, 2007, 2008. (See Statistical references).

Gini Index



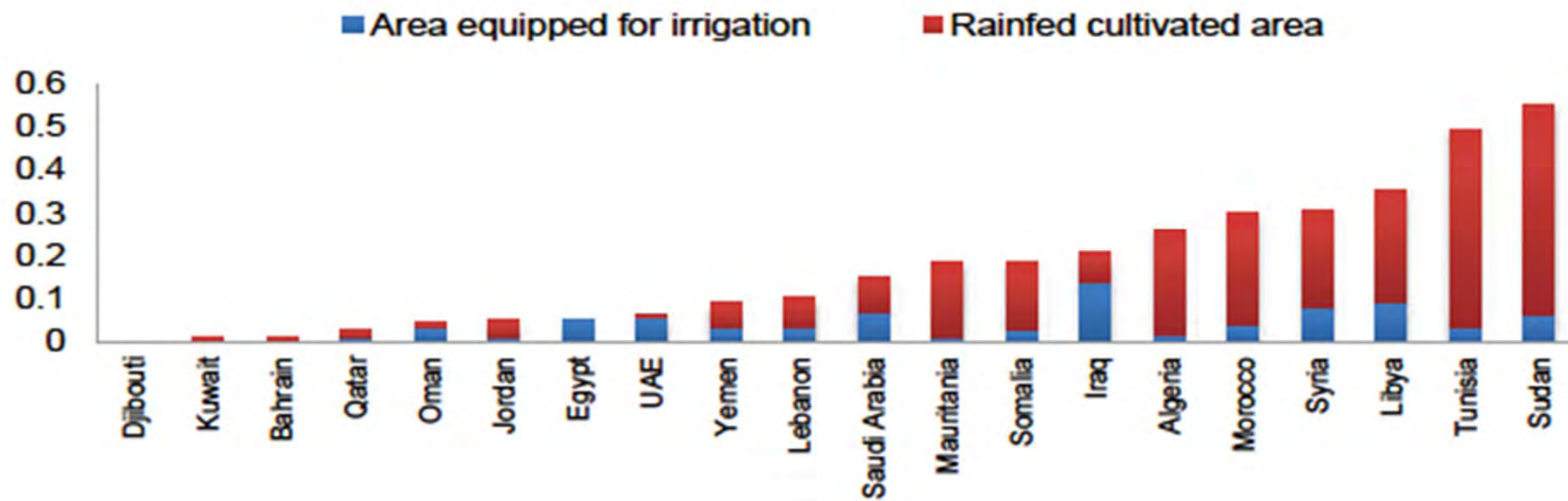
The GINI Index is a measure of statistical dispersion developed by the Italian statistician and sociologist Corrado Gini that measures the inequality among levels of income. The index is measured between 0% and 100%. 0% indicates a society in which all individuals have the same income, 100% indicates that all national wealth is concentrated into one individual

Like Poverty, Food Supply and Costs Are a Serious Issue and Key Cause of Instability

*Some estimates indicate the the region
has an exceptionally high spending on
food as a percent of total income*

The “Food Gap” in Arab States: Cultivated Areas Per Capita

Figure 34: Cultivated areas per capita in Arab countries (hectares), 2003-2007

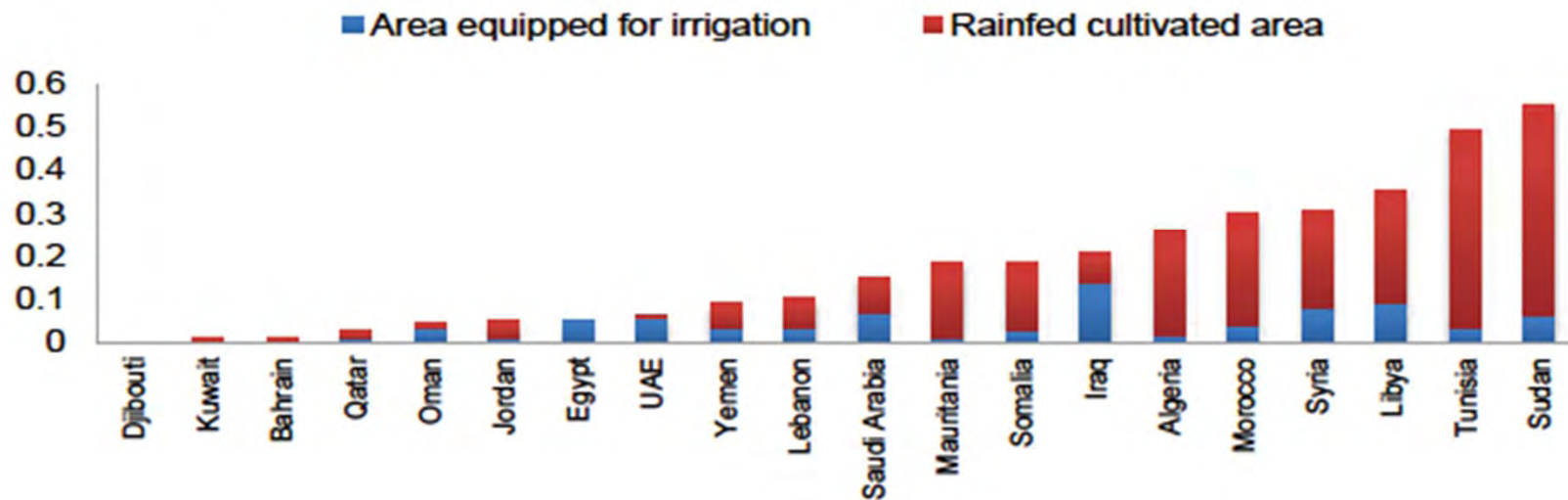


Falling mostly within the arid and semi-arid rainfall zones and with limited agricultural potential resources, most Arab countries have attempted to increase their agricultural production with improvement in productivity, intensive farming, extensive use of water resources for irrigation, and expansion of cultivated areas including the fragile rain-fed soils at the expenses of rangeland areas. While this extensive use of land and water has accentuated the fragility of the natural resource base, increase of the cultivated areas has been modest. Moreover, demographic growth, combined with urban expansion, has led to a dramatic decrease in per capita land and water availability in all countries of the region.

...In the agricultural sector where the majority of the poor reside, irrigation water subsidies have been justified on the grounds that they provide aid to the poor. However, newly accumulated data reveals that the poor in the agrarian sector, like their counterparts in urban centers, do not necessarily benefit from such policies. In Egypt, 75% of water subsidies benefits the richest 50% of households, whereas only 25% benefits the poorest 50%. These findings indicate that irrigation subsidies are not justified as a policy instrument for the redistribution of income. The main beneficiaries of subsidies are the rich, not the poor.

The “Water Gap” in Arab States: Renewable Water Per Capita

Figure 34: Cultivated areas per capita in Arab countries (hectares), 2003-2007



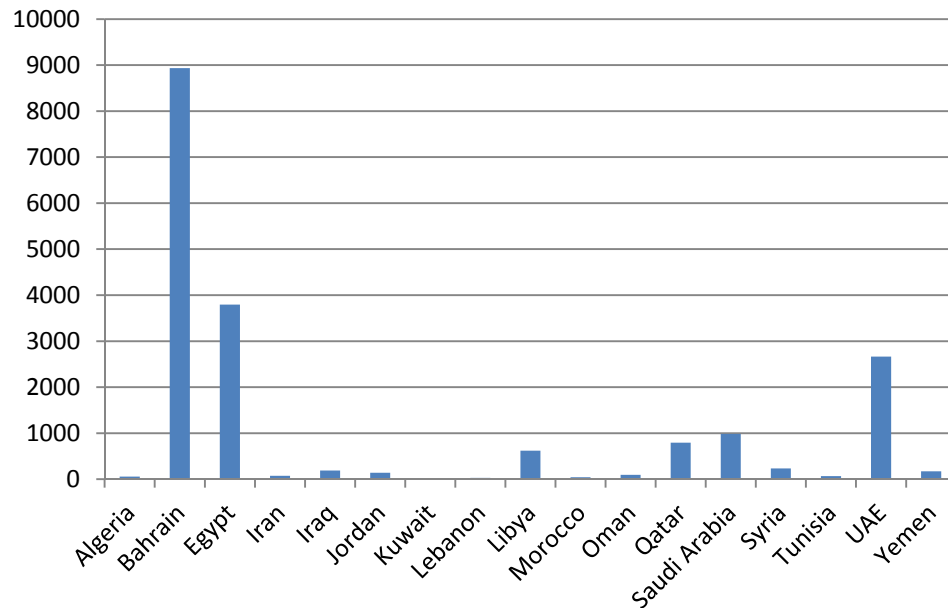
More than arable land, ...scarcity of water constitutes the most important constraint to agricultural production and food security in the region. Population increase conjugated with overexploitation of water resources, especially groundwater, has resulted in a sharp drop of available water. At the regional level, total renewable water per capita decreased from 3035 m³ in 1958-1962 to 973 m³ in 2003-2007. This low level makes the Arab region the most water scarce in the world (world average is about 7,000 m³ per capita).

While Morocco and Egypt are below the scarcity level of 1,000 cubic meters per person per year, 12 other countries, including Tunisia and Algeria, are in a state of “water crisis” (less than 500). Of these countries, 8 are in a state of “absolute scarcity” with less than 165 cubic meters per capita (including Jordan, Libya, Yemen and the high income countries of the GCC). Thus, only 3 countries in the region (Iraq, Sudan and Somalia) can be considered as having a sufficient level of water to meet their needs (more than 1,700 cubic meters per person).

Water per capita is about 100 cubic meters per year in Yemen, which is less than 10% of the average for Arab countries and less than 2% of the world average. With no significant perennial sources of surface water, Yemen relies almost exclusively on over-exploitation of groundwater. Water from the shallow aquifers is extracted at a rate that exceeds the recharge from the limited rainfall. The rate of depletion has accelerated over the last three decades due to the introduction of tube-well technology and pumps. According to the World Bank Assessment, groundwater is being mined at such a rate that large parts of the rural economy could disappear within a generation.

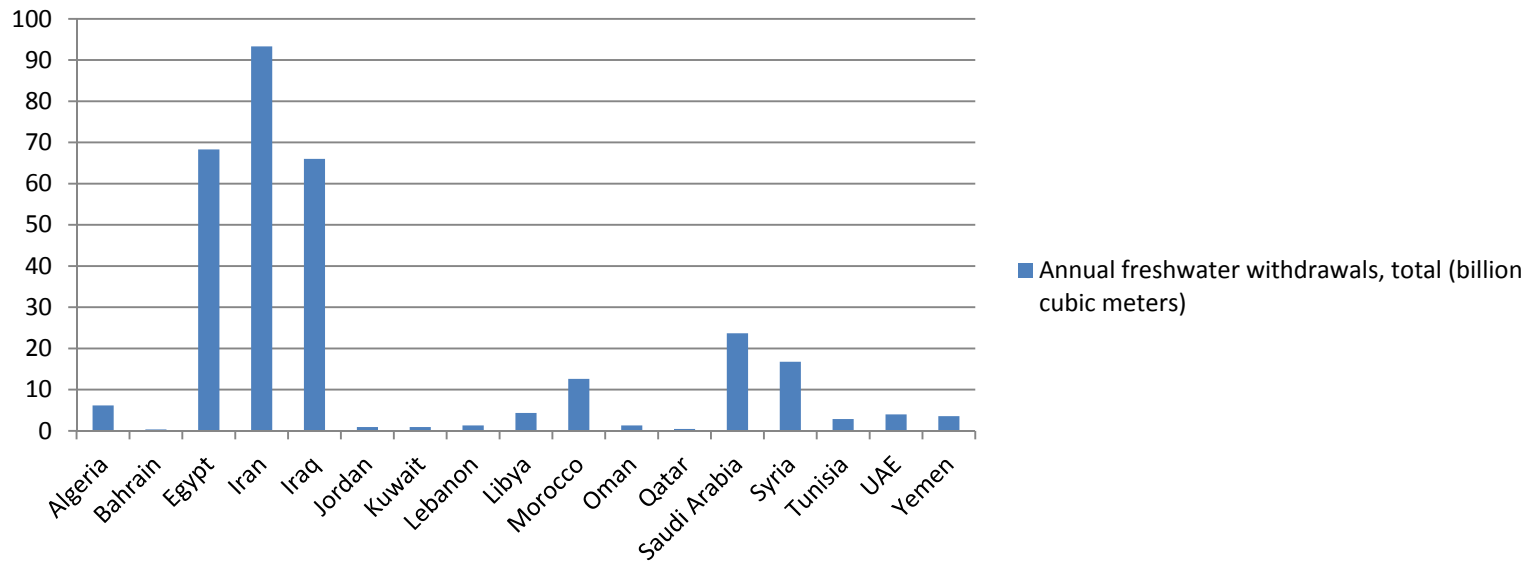
The “Water Gap” in Arab States: Annual Fresh Water Use-I

Annual freshwater withdrawals, total (% of internal resources)-2011



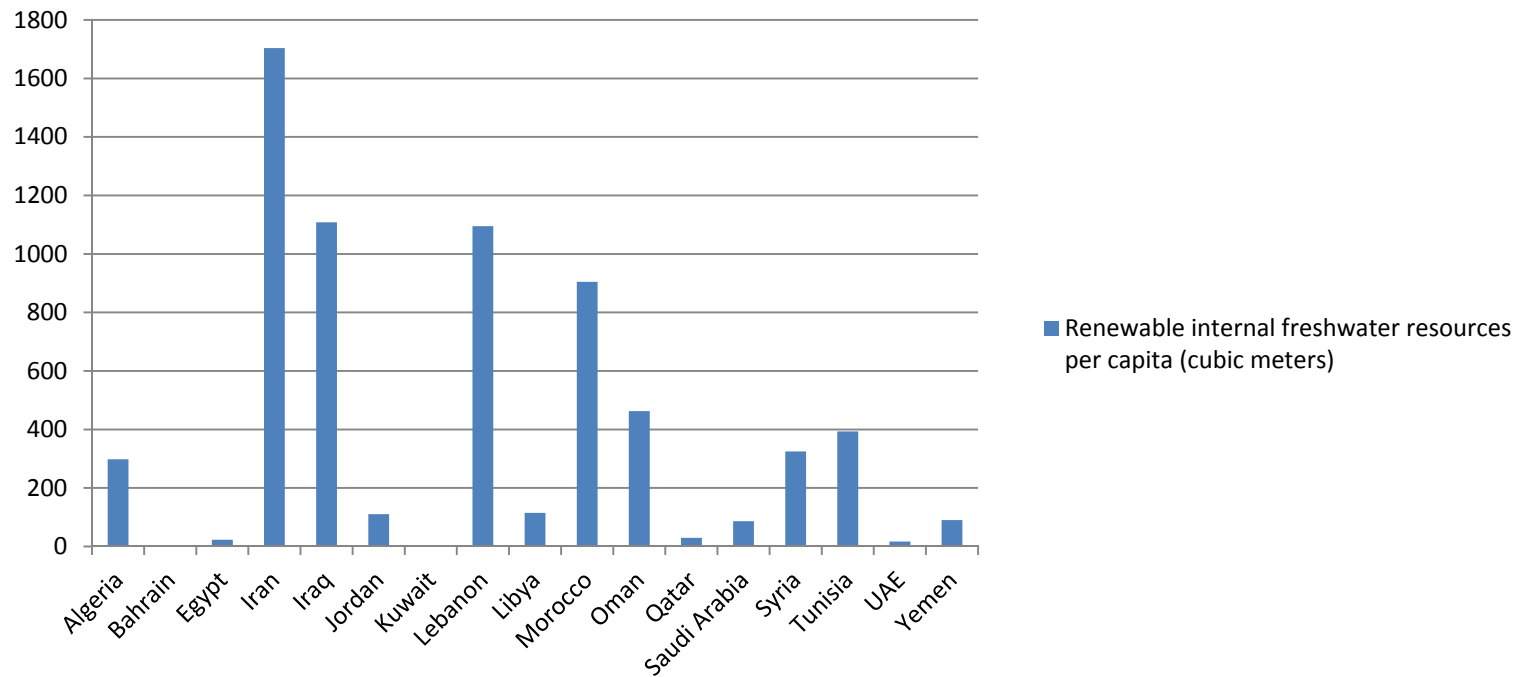
The “Water Gap” in Arab States: Annual Fresh Water Use-II

Annual freshwater withdrawals, total (billion cubic meters)-
2011

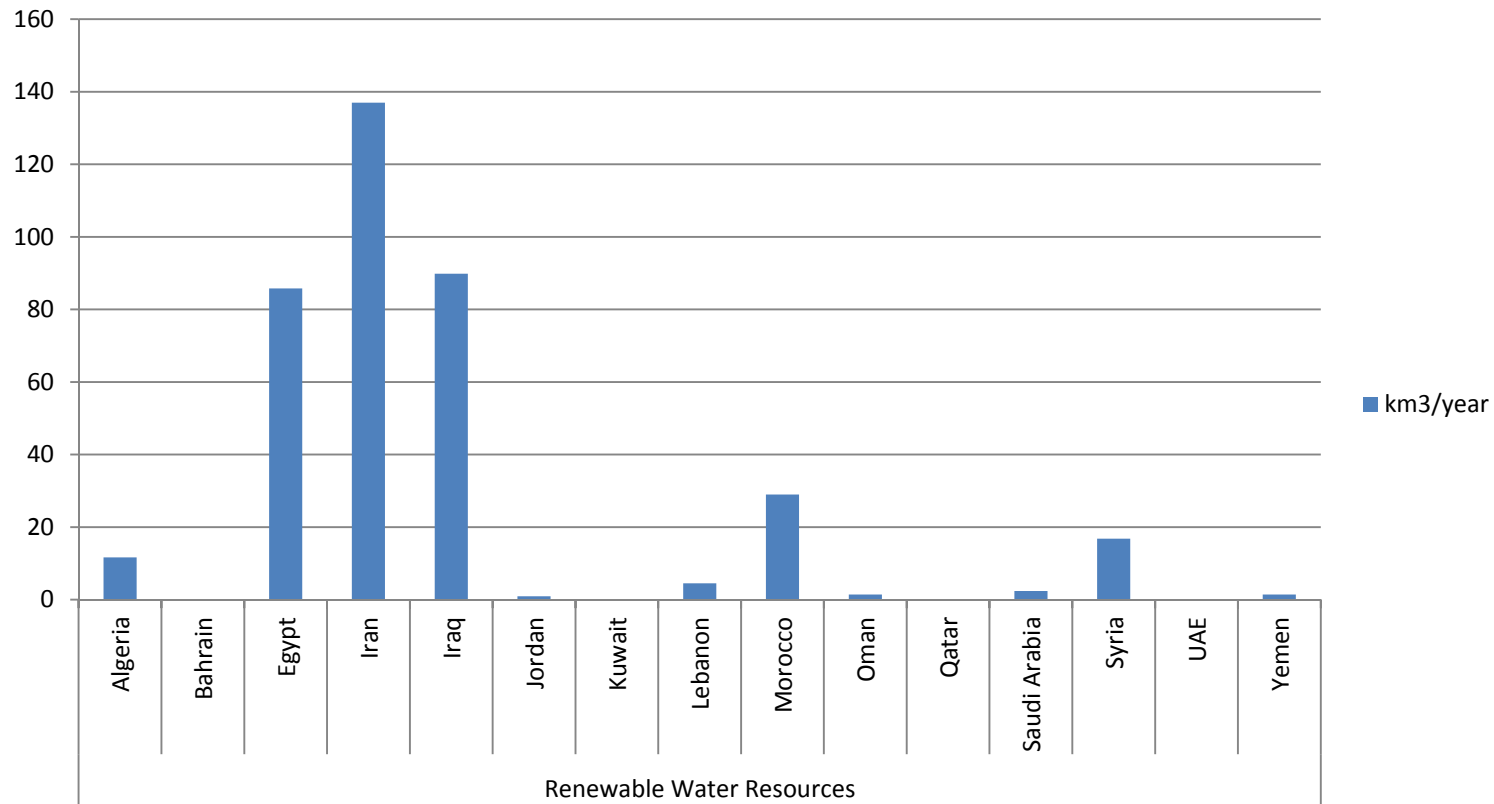


The “Water Gap” in Arab States: Renewable Internal Freshwater Per Capita

Renewable internal freshwater resources per capita (cubic meters)



Renewable Water Resources

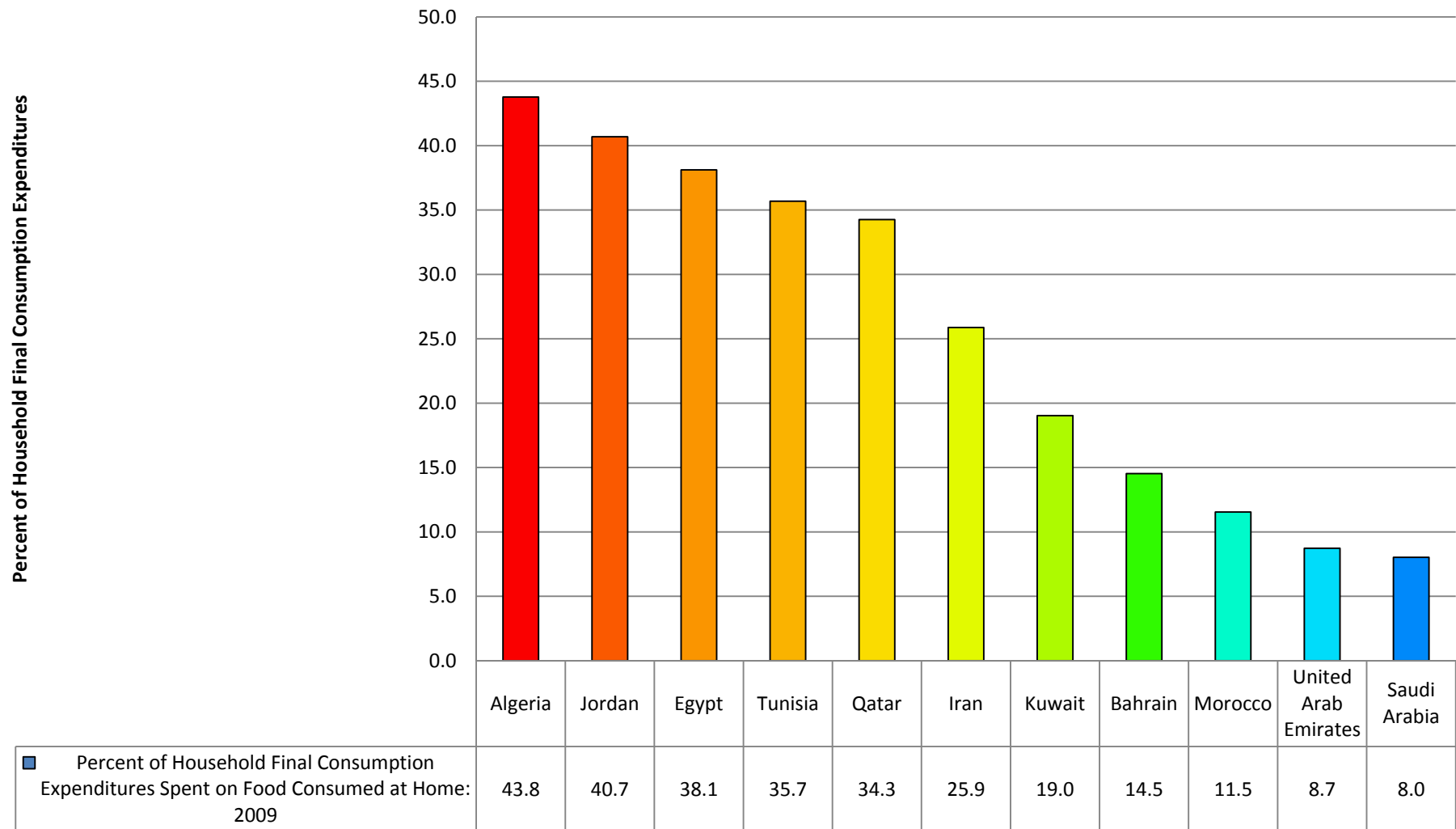


Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "Computation of long-term annual renewable water resources by country," Last Updated August 1st 2013. Data drawn from individual country reports, i.e. http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/data/wrs/readPdf.html?f=WRS_YEM_en.pdf. Accessed August 13, 2013.

Undernourished by MENA Country

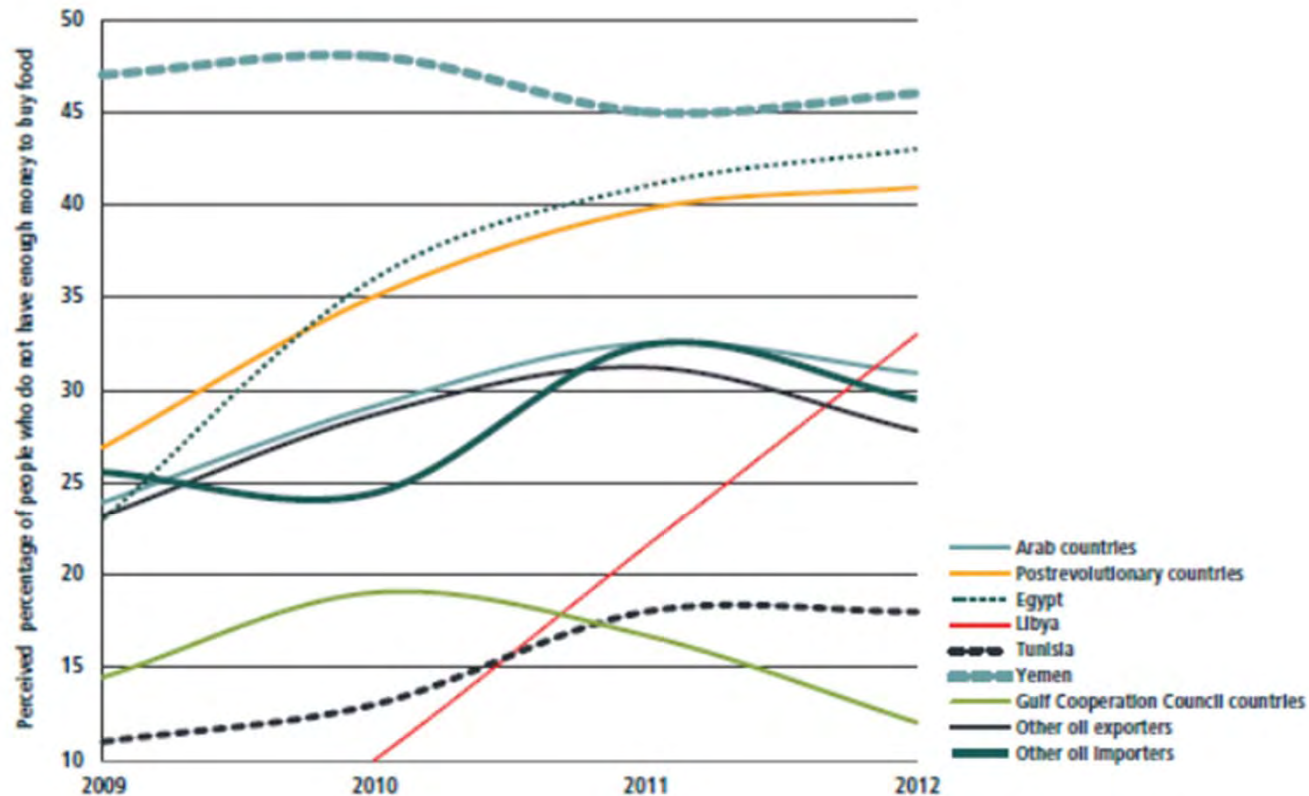
World Region/Subregion/country	Number of people undernourished							Proportion of undernourished in total population						
	1990– 1992	1999– 2001	2004– 2006	2007– 2009	2010– 2012	Change so far	Progress towards WFS target ⁴	1990– 1992	1999– 2001	2004– 2006	2007– 2009	2010– 2012	Change so far	Progress towards MDG target ⁴
	(millions)					(%)		(%)					(%)	
Western Asia	8	13	16	18	21	146.6	▲	6.6	8.0	8.8	9.4	10.1	53.0	■
Iraq	2	5	6	8	9	334.9	▲	10.9	19.0	23.1	25.9	26.0	138.5	■
Jordan	< 0.5	< 0.5	ns	ns	ns	na	na	6.7	6.1	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Kuwait	1	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	28.7	1.5	0.9	1.1	1.7	na	■
Lebanon	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Saudi Arabia	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Syrian Arab Republic	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Turkey	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
United Arab Emirates	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Yemen	4	5	7	7	8	124.3	▲	28.6	30.4	31.7	30.6	32.4	13.3	■
AFRICA	175	205	210	220	239	36.8	▲	27.3	25.3	23.1	22.6	22.9	-16.1	■
Northern Africa	5	5	5	4	4	-2.5	◀▶	3.8	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.7	-28.9	■
Algeria	1	2	ns	ns	ns	na	na	5.2	5.8	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Egypt	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Libya	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■
Morocco	2	2	2	2	2	-1.5	◀▶	7.1	6.2	5.2	5.2	5.5	-22.5	■
Tunisia	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	na	na	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	na	■

Percent of Household Final Consumption: Expenditures Spent on Food Consumed at Home, 2009



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service; "Food, CPI, Prices and Expenditures: Expenditure Tables," July 2011. http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/cats/international_statistics.html

Perception of Food Insecurity in Arab Countries 2009-2012



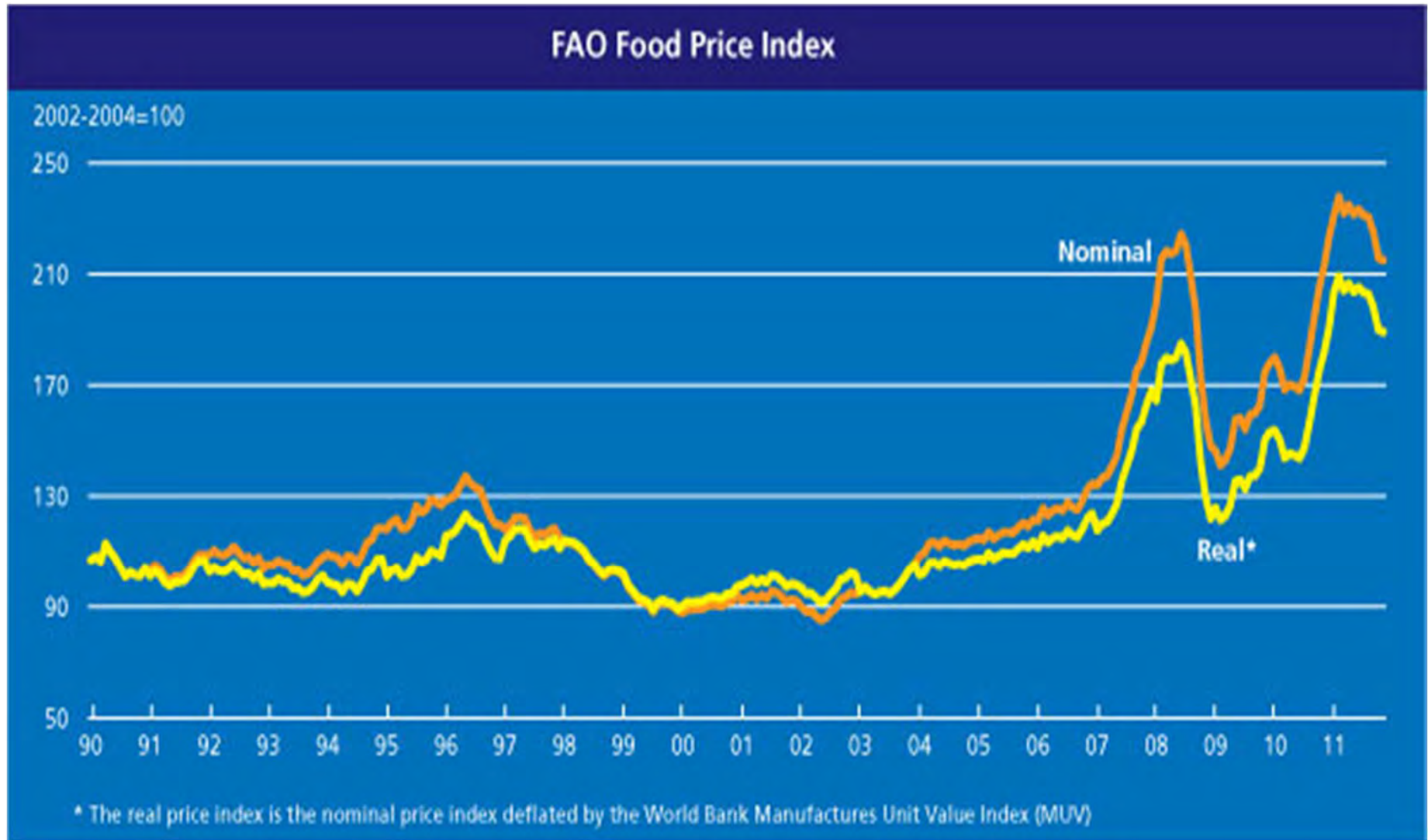
Source: Authors' representation based on data from Gallup World Poll, "WorldView," <https://worldview.gallup.com/signin/login.aspx>, accessed January 11, 2013.

Notes: Postrevolutionary countries include Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, and Yemen. Gulf Cooperation Council countries include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. Other oil-exporting countries include Algeria, Iraq, and Sudan. Other oil-importing countries are Comoros, Djibouti, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Somaliland (a region within Somalia), Syria, and West Bank and Gaza. Data for groups of countries are weighted by country population size. No estimates are available for Libya for 2009 and 2011. Estimate for Morocco is for 2008, not 2009.

Clemens Breisinger, "Beyond the Arab Awakening: From revolution to food security and development," presented at the University of Hohenheim-Food Security Seminar Series, April 18, 2013. Accessed August 13, 2013.

https://fsc.unihohenheim.de/fileadmin/einrichtungen/fsc/FSC_in_Dialog/previous_FSC_in_dialog/2013/Breisinger_Food_Security_Seminar.pdf

Peaks in Food Prices



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Food Price Index, Accessed January 2011.
<http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/wfs-home/foodpricesindex/en/>

Soaring Food Prices and Poverty: Egypt as a Case Study-I

As rising global food prices continue to threaten to push millions of people into extreme poverty, Egypt grapples with an insurmountable budget burden against the threat of further unrest and bread riots, lest it discontinue the food and fuel subsidies on which the livelihoods of so many Egyptians depend. As one of the largest importers of food, namely the largest importer of wheat in the world, Egypt is among the countries with the highest level of spending on food subsidies. Thus, in the context of the 'silent tsunami' of the 2008 crisis, preceded by the devaluation of the Egyptian currency, staggering inflation rates, with Egypt recording one of the highest increases in food prices in the world, the rising importance of food subsidies became inevitable. During this time, the purchasing power of poor households decreased by 10% (in 2007); an extreme poverty rate which stood at 16.7 in 2000 reached 19.6% by 2004/5 and 21.6% by 2008/9.

The increase in consumer food prices in Egypt was far from a simple transmission of international food prices. Paradoxically, the prices of local products experienced even a greater increase than imported products. The highest increases were recorded for dairy products (82%), fruits (139%) and vegetables (102%), the three food groups in which Egypt is actually self-sufficient. This had large negative ramifications on the composition and quality of the Egyptians' diet. The poor who were disproportionately affected by this price rise, shifted their consumption increasingly towards cereals such as subsidized bread.

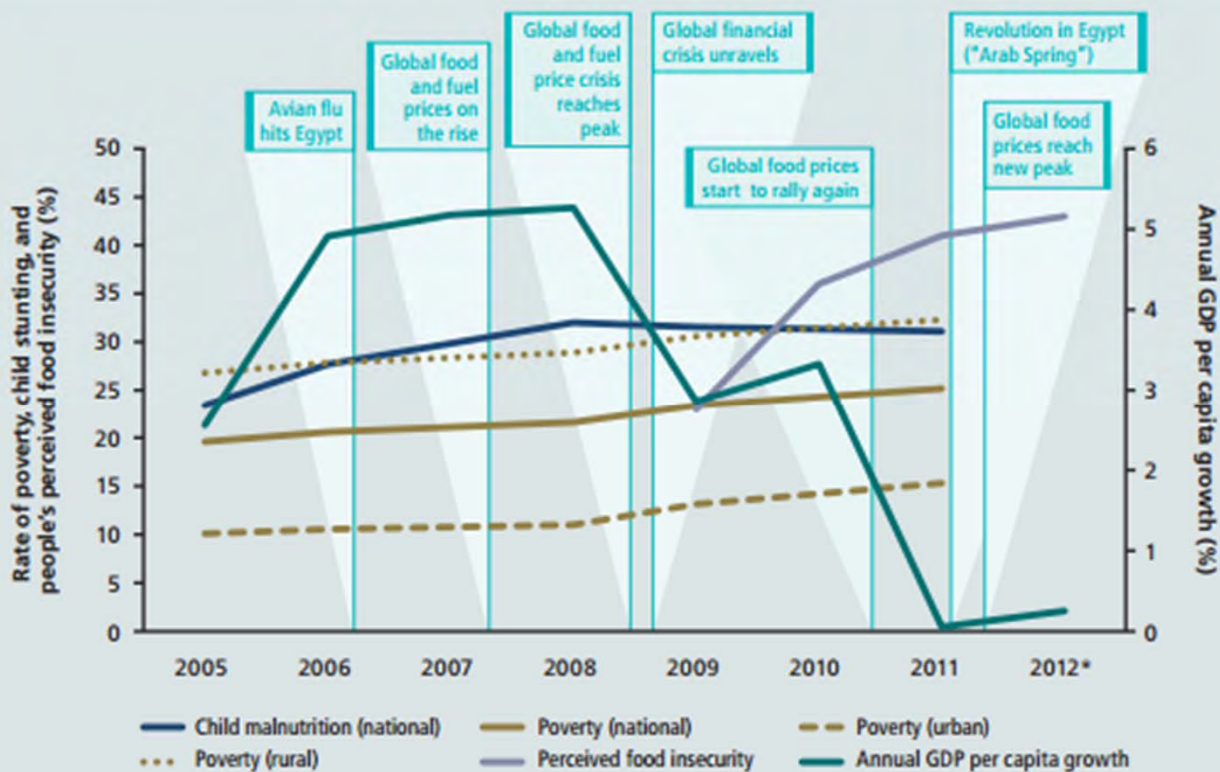
Poverty Rate and Local Food Price Index from 2000-2009



As a result, Egyptians have witnessed a remarkable increase in their dietary caloric intake over the recent years, but the nutritional value has decreased markedly as the composition of this energy supply has been overwhelmingly dominated by cereals, making up 60 percent of the Daily Energy Supply (DES) in Egypt (according to HIES data). As subsidized foods consist mainly of energy-dense and micronutrient poor commodities (sugar, oil, bread), micronutrient deficiency, in other words hidden hunger, still remains a serious problem. The prevalence of obesity in adults has become very high, especially amongst women. In addition, according to WHO, one in every two children under the age of five suffers from some degree of anemia and the share of stunted children, an indication of chronic malnutrition, is increasing at an alarming rate.

Soaring Food Prices and Poverty: Egypt as a Case Study-II

FIGURE 1 Overview of key food security and development indicators in Egypt, 2005–2012



Source: Authors' representation based on Demographic and Health Surveys; Household Income, Expenditure and Consumption Survey; Gallup World View data; Ministry of Finance, *Financial Monthly* (January 2013), www.mof.gov.eg/MOFGallerySource/English/Reports/monthly/2013/Jan2013/a-b.pdf; and Economist Intelligence Unit, *Country Report: Egypt* (January 2013). *Projected for annual GDP per capita growth.

The “Energy Curse”

Economics, Demographics, Subsidies, Poor Governance, and State Barriers to Effective Investment and Resource Development Form a Threat to Energy Export Income and MENA Stability

A Broader View of the MENA ‘Energy Curse’

- **Classic Problems are:**
 - State drive by export revenues, not broad social and economic needs.
 - Gross distortion of development coupled to finite life of resource
 - Rentier creation of disguised unemployment coupled to major population increases
- **2011 Arab Development Report adds:**
 - Massive waste through subsidies coupled to steadily growing loss of export capability.
 - Major opportunity cost coupled to loss of incentive for efficiency, global competitiveness.
 - Compounds job creation problems, disguised unemployment.
 - Energy subsidies come as cost of education, health and development.
 - Massive increase in pollution.

Arab Development Challenges Report: Growth and Structural Transformation

Volatile and oil-led growth perpetuate structural retardation

Average annual real GDP per capita growth rates during 1970-2009 reached 2% per annum for the Arab region, with the overall pattern of growth in the region dependent on oil and its price.

Structural economic problems in the Arab world include:

Stagnating agricultural and manufacturing sectors

A rapidly expanding services sector (mainly low value-added activities) at the expense of more productive sectors—Arab states are the least industrialized among developing regions

An overwhelming dependence on the oil sector, which exposes Arab economies to volatile oil markets

Creation of highly productive jobs has also been hindered by the above structural problems:

Mining has a high share of output, but a low share of employment

Low value added services have become the main employers of labor and contributors to output

Production and exports are concentrated in low value-added goods and services

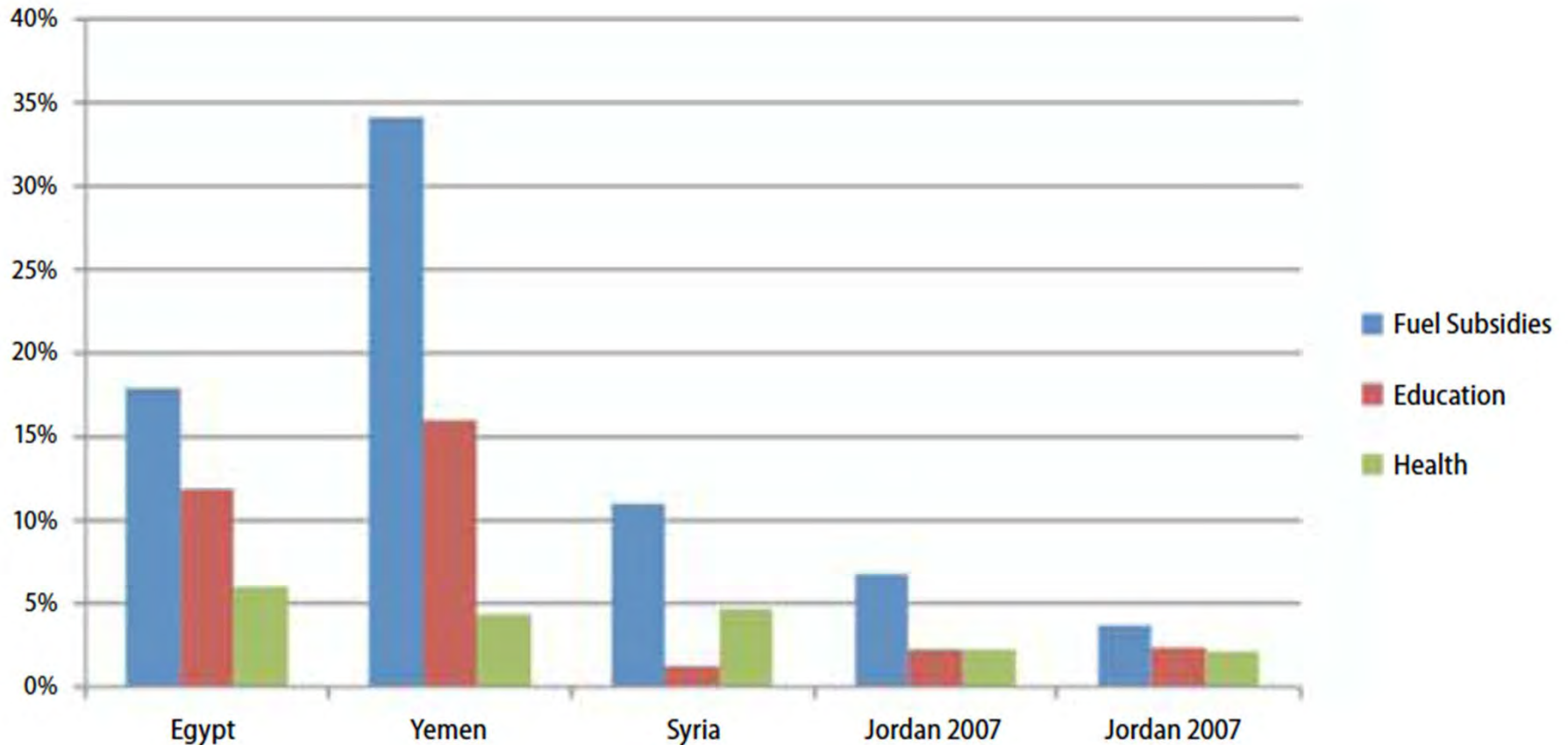
The region has failed to develop its trading capabilities within the global market:

Exports are still simple, primary products

Imports, on the other hand, are very diversified

The region is the least industrialized among developing regions, due to a weak manufacturing sector that produces low value-added petroleum and food-derived products and a services sector that is similarly engaged in low value output rather than higher value more specialized services such as communications or finance.

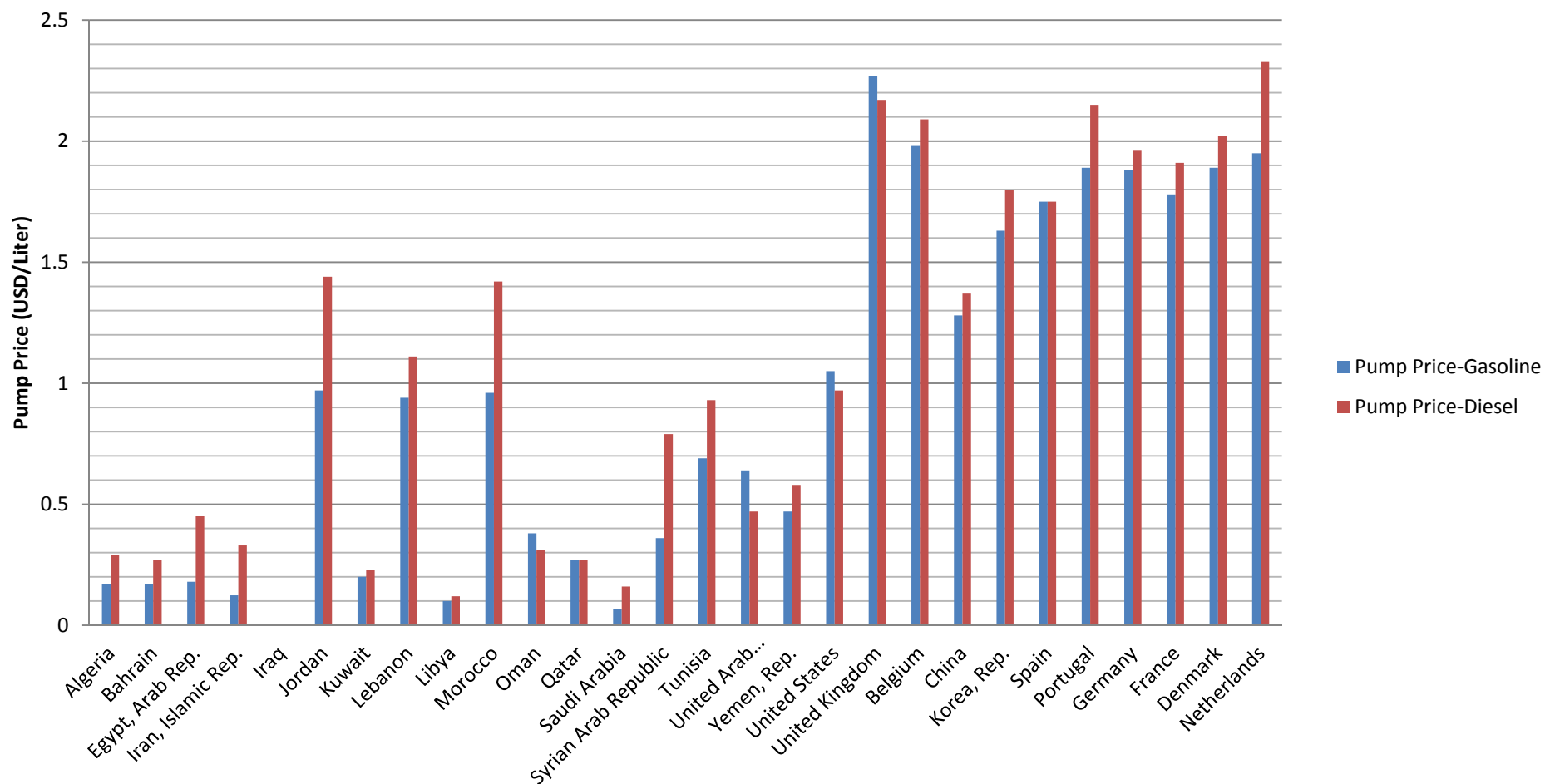
MENA Self-Inflicted Energy Wounds: Energy Subsidies vs. the Public Interest



Source: Egypt: World Bank (2011); Yemen: Breisinger et al (2011), Authors' own calculations; Syria: IMF (2010a), MEES, World Bank (2011); Jordan: IMF (2010b), World Bank (2011).

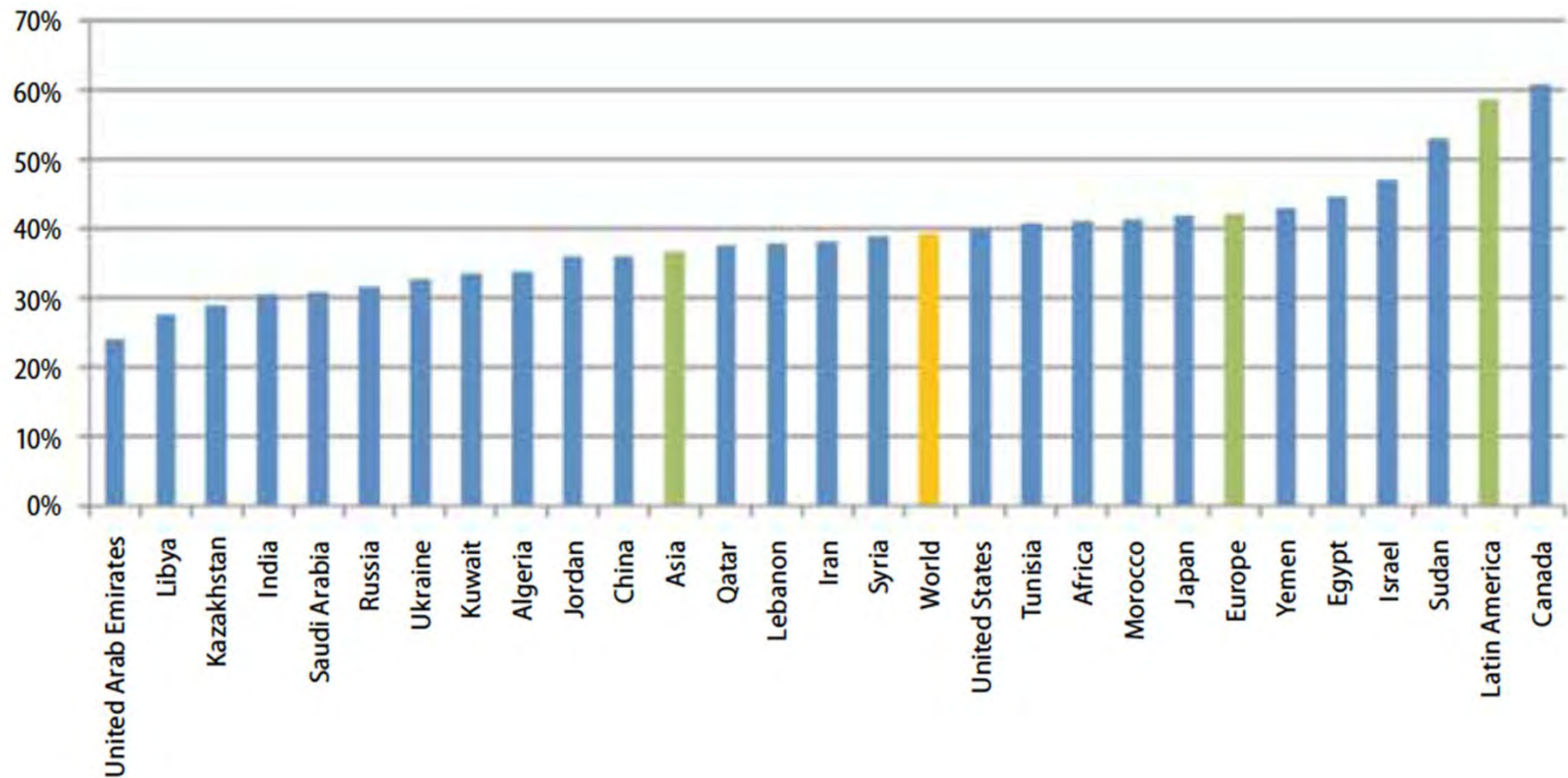
MENA Self-Inflicted Energy Wounds: Gas and Diesel Prices

Average Retail Prices for Gasoline and Diesel in Selected Arab, OECD, and Non-OECD Countries-2012



MENA Self-Inflicted Energy Wounds: Efficiency in Power Generation

FIGURE 5: ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN POWER GENERATION IN SELECTED ARAB, OECD, AND NON-OECD COUNTRIES (%), 2009



Source: ABB, Trends in Global Energy Efficiency 2011

Ethnic, Sectarian, and Tribal Differences: “Clash Within A Civilization”

*Not a “clash between civilizations,” but a
struggle within the Arab and Islamic
worlds*

Ethnic, Sectarian, Tribal, and Regional Differences

- **No real census efforts, Deal with key divisions through denial or dishonest, politicized estimates**
- **Deep and growing divisions at sectarian extremes, Sunni and Shi'ite.**
- **Tribal, sectarian, ethnic, and linguistic differences tend to cluster, and reflect government favoritism and wealth/income differences.**
- **Over-reliance on foreign labors often a critical problem. Denies jobs to native population that needs them, eliminates growth of a work ethic asnd meaningful social role for others.**
- **Mixed record in both correcting historical problems and offering clear path of hope for the future.**
- **Tensions made worse by resource and demographic pressures.**
- **Violent extremism feeds on these differences.**

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: North Africa

Algeria

Ethnicity: Arab-Berber 99%, European less than 1% (*note:* almost all Algerians are Berber in origin, not Arab; the minority who identify themselves as Berber live mostly in the mountainous region of Kabylie east of Algiers; the Berbers are also Muslim but identify with their Berber rather than Arab cultural heritage; Berbers have long agitated, sometimes violently, for autonomy; the government is unlikely to grant autonomy but has offered to begin sponsoring teaching Berber language in schools)

Religion: Sunni Muslim (state religion) 99%, Christian and Jewish 1%

Language: Arabic (official), French, Berber dialects

Libya

Ethnicity: Berber and Arab 97%, other 3% (includes Greeks, Maltese, Italians, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Turks, Indians, and Tunisians)

Religion: Sunni Muslim 97%, other 3%

Language: Arabic, Italian, English, all are widely understood in the major cities.

Morocco

Ethnicity: Arab-Berber 99.1%, other 1%

Religion: Muslim 98.7%, Christian 1.1%, Jewish 0.2% (about 600,000)

Language: Hassaniya Arabic, Moroccan Arabic, Berber dialects, French often the language of business, government, and diplomacy.

Tunisia

Ethnicity: Arab 98%, European 1%, Jewish and other 1%.

Religion: Muslim 98%, Christian 1%, Jewish and other 1%.

Language : Arabic (official and one of the languages of commerce), French (commerce).

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: Egypt & Levant - I

Egypt

Ethnicity 99.6%, other 0.4% (2006 census)

Religion: Muslim (mostly Sunni) 90%, Coptic 9%, other Christian 1%

Language: Arabic (official), English and French widely understood by educated classes

Israel

Ethnicity: Jewish 76.4% (of which Israel-born 67.1%, Europe/America-born 22.6%, Africa-born 5.9%, Asia-born 4.2%), non-Jewish 23.6% (mostly Arab.) Approximately 325,500 Israeli settlers live in the West Bank (2011 est.); approximately 18,700 Israeli settlers live in the Golan Heights (2011 est.); approximately 186,929 Israeli settlers live in East Jerusalem (2010) IDPs: 150,000-420,000 (Arab villagers displaced from homes in northern Israel) (2007)

Religion: Jewish 75.5%, Muslim 16.8%, Christian 2.1%, Druze 1.7%, other 3.9% (2008)

Language: Hebrew (official), Arabic (used officially for Arab minority), English (most commonly used foreign language).

Gaza Strip

Ethnicity: Palestinian Arab: 1,763,387 (July 2013 est.)

Religion: Muslim (predominantly Sunni) 99.3%, Christian 0.7%

Language: Arabic, Hebrew (spoken by many Palestinians), English (widely understood).

West Bank

Ethnicity: 2,676,740 (July 2013 est.) Palestinian Arab and other 83%, Jewish 17%.

Religion: Muslim 75% (predominantly Sunni), Jewish 17%, Christian and other 8%.

Language : Arabic, Hebrew (spoken by Israeli settlers and many Palestinians), English (widely understood).

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: Egypt & Levant - II

Jordan

Ethnicity: Arab 98%, Circassian 1%, Armenian 1%. Note: Jordan has been the recipient of refugees from countries around the MENA region: 1,979,580 Palestinian refugees (UNRWA-2011); 63,037 Iraqi refugees (2012); 515,068 Syrian refugees (2013).

Religion: Muslim (mostly Sunni) 90%, Coptic 9%, other Christian 1%

Language: Arabic (official), English (widely understood among upper and middle classes)

Lebanon

Ethnicity: Arab 95%, Armenian 4%, other 1% *note:* many Christian Lebanese do not identify themselves as Arab but rather as descendants of the ancient Canaanites

Religion: Muslim 59.7% (Shia, Sunni, Druze, Isma'ilite, Alawite or Nusayri), Christian 39% (Maronite Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Melkite Catholic, Armenian Orthodox, Syrian Catholic, Armenian Catholic, Syrian Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Chaldean, Assyrian, Copt, Protestant), other 1.3%. *note:* 17 religious sects recognized

Language: Arabic (official), French, English, Armenian.

Syria

Ethnicity: Arab 90.3%, Kurds, Armenians, and other 9.7%. *note:* approximately 18,700 Israeli settlers live in the Golan Heights (July 2011 est.)

Religion: Sunni Muslim (Islam - official) 74%, other Muslim (includes Alawite, Druze) 16%, Christian (various denominations) 10%, Jewish (tiny communities in Damascus, Al Qamishli, and Aleppo)

Language: Arabic (official), Kurdish, Armenian, Aramaic, Circassian (widely understood); French, English (somewhat understood).

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: Gulf & Arabia - I

Bahrain

Ethnicity: Bahraini 62.4%, non-Bahraini 37.6% (2001 census). Population 1,281,332, includes 235,108 non-nationals (July 2013 est..)

Religion: Muslim (Shia and Sunni – no break out) 81.2%, Christian 9%, other 9.8% (2001 census)

Language: Arabic (official), English, Farsi, Urdu.

Iran

Ethnicity Persian 61%, Azeri 16%, Kurd 10%, Lur 6%, Baloch 2%, Arab 2%, Turkmen and Turkic tribes 2%, other 1%

Religion: Muslim 98% (Shia 89%, Sunni 9%), other (includes Zoroastrian, Jewish, Christian, and Baha'i) 2%

Language: Persian and Persian dialects 58%, Turkic and Turkic dialects 26%, Kurdish 9%, Luri 2%, Balochi 1%, Arabic 1%, Turkish 1%, other 2%.

Iraq

Ethnicity: Arab 75%-80%, Kurdish 15%-20%, Turkoman, Assyrian, or other 5%

Religion: Muslim 97% (Shia 60%-65%, Sunni 32%-37%), Christian or other 3%

note: while there has been voluntary relocation of many Christian families to northern Iraq, recent reporting indicates that the overall Christian population may have dropped by as much as 50 percent since the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime in 2003, with many fleeing to Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon

Language: Arabic (official), Kurdish (official in Kurdish regions), Turkoman (a Turkish dialect), Assyrian (Neo-Aramaic), Armenian.

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: Gulf & Arabia - II

Kuwait

Ethnicity: Kuwaiti 45%, other Arab 35%, South Asian 9%, Iranian 4%, other 7%. Population is 2,695,316 (July 2013 est.,) includes 1,291,354 non-nationals

Religion: Muslim 85% (Sunni 70%, Shia 30%), other (includes Christian, Hindu, Parsi) 15%

Language: Arabic (official), English widely spoken.

Oman

Ethnicity: Arab, Baluchi, South Asian (Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi), African. Population is 3,154,134, includes 577,293 non-nationals (July 2013 est.).

Religion: Ibadhi Muslim 75%, other (includes Sunni Muslim, Shia Muslim, Hindu) 25%

Language: Arabic (official), English commonly used as a second language

Qatar

Ethnicity: Arab 40%, Indian 18%, Pakistani 18%, Iranian 10%, other 14%

Religion: Muslim 77.5%, Christian 8.5%, other 14% (2004 census)

Language: Arabic (official), English commonly used as a second language.

Saudi Arabia

Ethnicity: Arab 90%, Afro-Asian 10%. Population is 26,939,583, includes 5,576,076 non-nationals (July 2013 est.). About 80% of the 7.7 million labor force is non-national (2010 est.)

Religion: Muslim 100%

Language: Arabic (official).

Key Ethnic and Sectarian Differences by Country: Gulf & Arabia - III

UAE

Ethnicity: Ethnicity is Emirati 19%, other Arab and Iranian 23%, South Asian 50%, other expatriates (includes Westerners and East Asians) 8% (1982). Population is 5,148,664 . Note: estimate is based on the results of the 2005 census that included a significantly higher estimate of net immigration of non-citizens than previous estimates (July 2011 est.); less than 20% are UAE citizens (1982)

Religion: Muslim 96% (Shia 16%), other (includes Christian, Hindu) 4%

Language: Arabic (official), Persian, English, Hindi, Urdu.

Yemen

Ethnicity: predominantly Arab; but also Afro-Arab, South Asians, Europeans

Religion: Muslim including Shaf'i (Sunni) and Zaydi (Shia), small numbers of Jewish, Christian, and Hindu

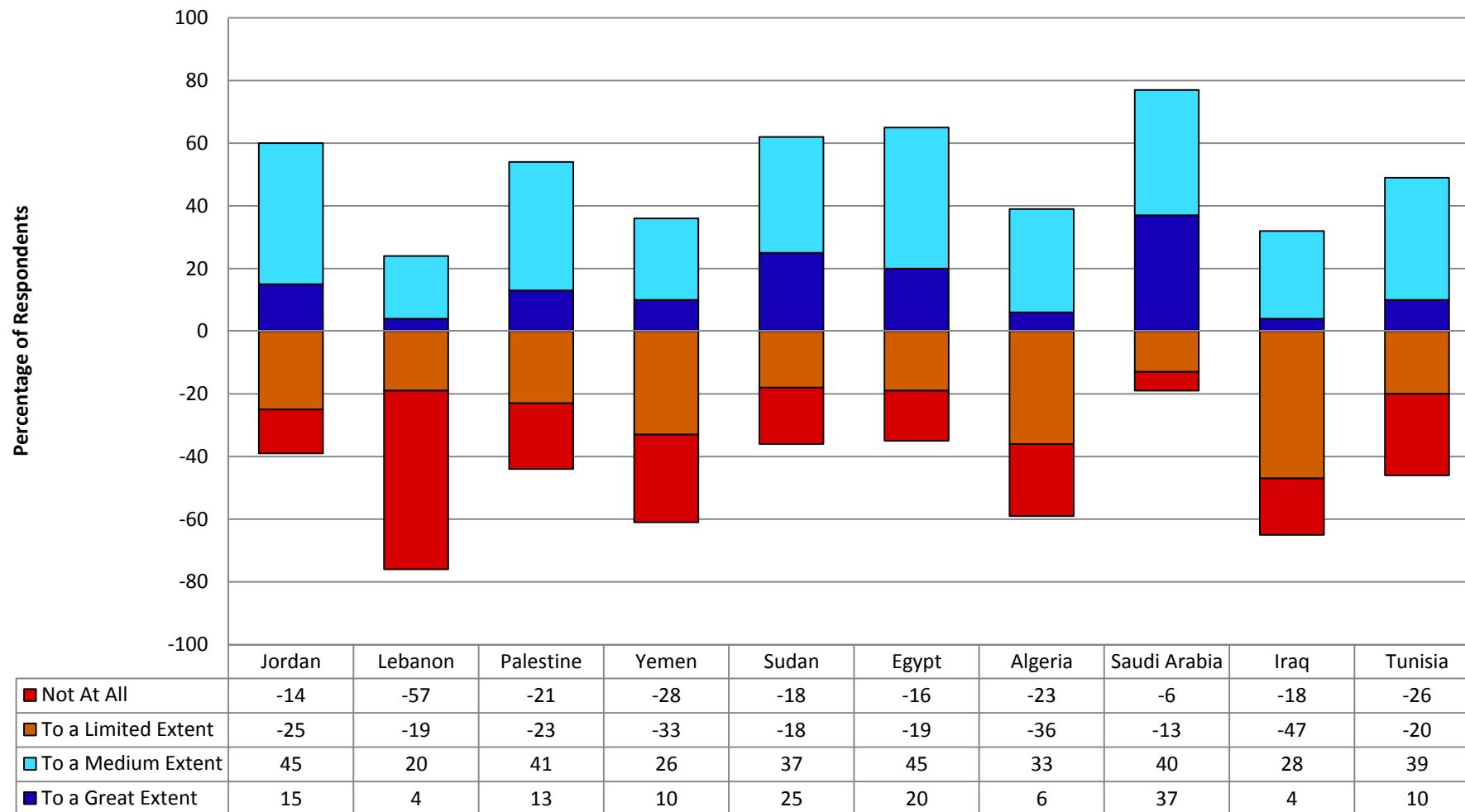
Language: Arabic (official)

Popular Perceptions of Equal Treatment from Fellow Citizens

(in %)

	Jordan	Lebanon	Palestine	Yemen	Sudan	Egypt	Algeria	Saudi Arabia	Iraq	Tunisia
To a great extent	15	4	13	10	25	20	6	37	4	10
To a medium extent	45	20	41	26	37	45	33	40	28	39
To a limited extent	25	19	23	33	18	19	36	13	47	20
To no extent	14	57	21	28	18	16	23	6	18	26
I don't know/ declined to answer	1	0	2	4	2	1	2	4	2	4

Popular Perception of Equal Treatment From Fellow Citizens



Arab Reform Initiative Arab Democracy Barometer, Saud al-Sarhan, "Data Explanation of Why There Was No 'Day of Rage' in Saudi Arabia," delivered at *The Rahmania Annual Seminar* 1/11-13/2012. p. 8.

Secularism vs. Religion vs. “Justice” vs. Other Ideological Issues

- Failure of secular options: practical and ideological.
- Combination of repression, economic pressure, youth bulge.
- Danger of religious extremism.
- Building on violence: Arab-Israeli issue, local conflicts, Iraq, counterterrorism.
- Uncertain role of education and clergy.
- “Justice” issue.

Concerns of Islamic Extremism

Concern About Islamic Extremism



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q38.

Extremism Concerns Steady, Except in Turkey

	% Concerned					
	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Lebanon	--	78	79	80	78	81
Egypt	68	72	62	61	65	69
Tunisia	--	--	--	--	--	65
Pakistan	74	72	79	65	63	58
Jordan	69	61	44	44	48	49
Turkey	46	41	47	43	52	32

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q38.

Views of Hamas and Hezbollah

Rating Hamas

	Fav %	Unfav %	DK %
Tunisia	50	31	20
Jordan	44	53	3
Egypt	39	56	5
Lebanon	30	67	2
<i>Christian</i>	14	84	1
<i>Shia</i>	58	42	0
<i>Sunni</i>	28	65	7
Pakistan	15	12	73
Turkey	10	65	25

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8p.

Rating Hezbollah

	Fav %	Unfav %	DK %
Tunisia	46	33	21
Lebanon	40	60	0
<i>Christian</i>	33	67	0
<i>Shia</i>	94	6	0
<i>Sunni</i>	5	94	1
Jordan	29	70	1
Egypt	20	75	6
Pakistan	15	11	74
Turkey	6	71	24

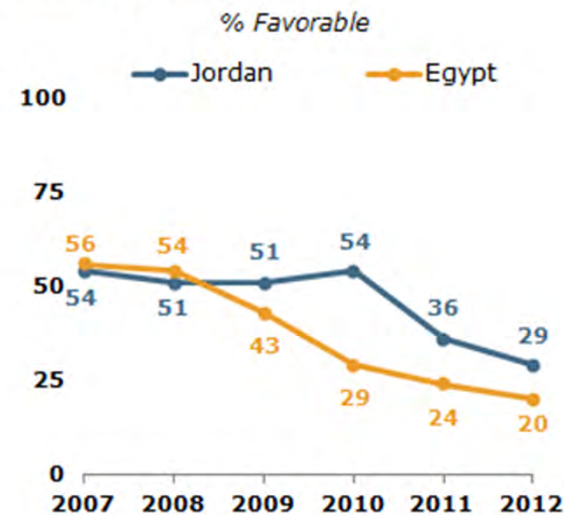
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8q.

Views of Hamas Over Time

	% Favorable					
	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %	2010 %	2011 %	2012 %
Tunisia	--	--	--	--	--	50
Jordan	62	55	56	60	47	44
Egypt	49	42	52	47	45	39
Lebanon	25	25	30	34	34	30
Pakistan	43	18	14	18	11	15
Turkey	14	6	5	9	10	10

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8p.

Hezbollah Losing Favor in Jordan and Egypt



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8q.

Views of Al Qaeda and the Taliban

Al Qaeda Viewed Unfavorably



* In Pakistan, this question is asked at a later point in the interview than in other countries.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8r & Q46b.

Rating the Taliban

	Fav %	Unfav %	DK %
Egypt	19	76	6
Pakistan*	13	66	20
Tunisia	12	59	28
Jordan	10	81	10
Turkey	7	69	24
Lebanon	2	97	1

* In Pakistan, this question is asked at a later point in the interview than in other countries.

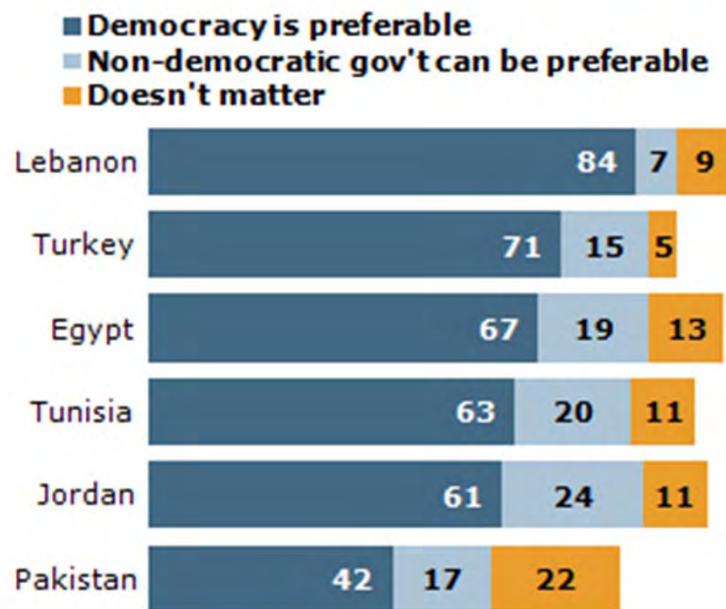
PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q8x & Q46d.

Rapid Social Change and Uncertainty and Risk

Past social norms, social stability, status, roles, and leadership elites often replaced by constant change in unstable socially anonymous conditions

Public Support for Democracy

Strong Preference for Democracy



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q21.

What is Important in a Democracy?

	Lebanon	Turkey	Pakistan	Jordan
<i>% Very important</i>	%	%	%	%
Prospering economy	90	74	54	70
Free elections	89	73	63	56
Freedom of religion	87	68	63	60
Political stability	90	61	46	65
Equal rights for women	76	65	60	48
Free speech	87	68	56	40
Small gap between rich and poor	89	71	49	42
Uncensored media	73	62	28	44
Uncensored access to internet	66	56	20	31

A modified version of this question was asked in Egypt and Tunisia.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q22a-i.

Public Support for Islam in Politics and Law

Islam Plays a Large and Positive Role in Politics

	<i>Islam plays a...</i>	<i>And this is...*</i>	
	Large role	Good	Bad
	%	%	%
Tunisia	84	82	11
Egypt	66	61	30
Turkey	64	57	33
Pakistan	62	79	13
Lebanon	61	43	36
Jordan	31	48	46

* Percentages among those who say Islam plays a large role.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q62 & Q63.

Many Believe Quran Should Hold Sway Over Laws

	<i>Laws should...</i>			
	Strictly follow the Quran	Follow the values and principles of Islam	Not be influenced by the Quran	DK
	%	%	%	%
Pakistan	82	15	0	2
Jordan	72	26	1	1
Egypt	60	32	6	3
Tunisia	23	64	12	2
Turkey	17	44	27	13
Lebanon	17	35	42	7

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q39.

Excessive Security, Weak Rule of Law, and Sometimes Repression

*Problems threaten stability and often the
regime as much as the people*

Civil Challenges to Stability

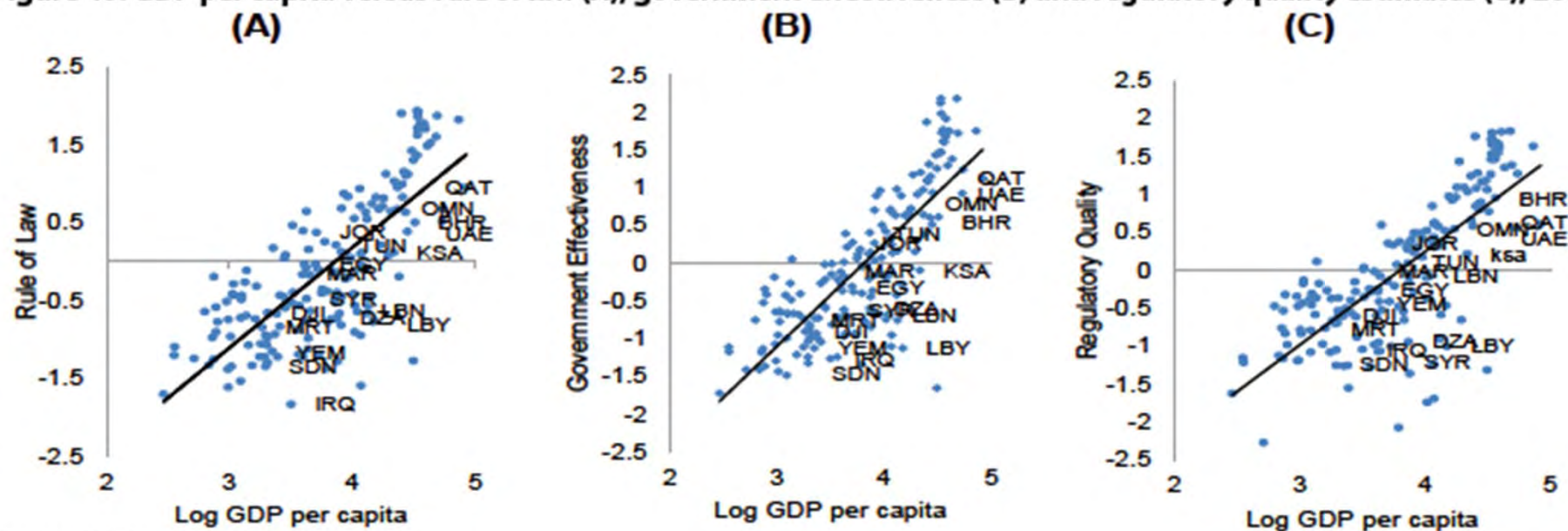
- **Rigid and/or Repressive Regimes; Lack of Peaceful Civil and Political Alternatives.**
- **Problems with Security Forces Police and Rule of Law.**
- **Ethnic, Sectarian, Tribal, and Regional Differences.**
- **Major Demographic Pressures – Youth Bulge.**
- **Social Change, Hyperurbanization, Media, Education**
- **Economic Pressures.**
- **Uncertain Governance: Services, Education, Health, Utilities (power, water, sewers/garbage)**
- **Secularism vs. Religion vs. “Justice” vs. Other Ideological Issues**

Rigid and/or Repressive Regimes; Lack of Peaceful Civil and Political Alternatives

- **Democracy and freedom of expression are only one set of issues.**
- **Elitism, corruption, concentration of wealth, failures of government services are critical.**
- **So are:**
 - **Lack of proper training and equipment at all levels of police and justice system, grossly inadequate pay.**
 - **Favoritism, cronyism, oligarchy, age.**
 - **Misuse of courts, police, and security services.**
 - **Misuse of detention, confessions-based justice, extreme interrogation.**
 - **Restrictions on freedom of expression and travel.**
 - **Failure to fund key governance: Services, Education, Health, Utilities (power, water, sewers/garbage)**

UNDP Estimate of Interaction Between Income, Governance, Rule of Law and Regulation

Figure 40: GDP per capita versus rule of law (A), government effectiveness (B) and regulatory quality estimates (C), 2009



Source: WDI online datasets.

Note: Arab Countries included are Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE and Yemen.

Personal Happiness with Current Situation in MENA Countries

Extremely Satisfied	Total	Algeria	Bahrain	Egypt	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Morocco	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Syria	Tunisia	UAE
Mental wellbeing	62	74	49	62	67	52	55	72	58	53	63	68	74	45
Relationship with family	52	57	57	49	51	55	49	53	61	56	53	42	56	53
Current physical health	43	54	44	44	41	36	38	51	44	41	40	42	47	35
Independence to take own decisions	42	50	36	44	39	36	38	44	40	40	40	37	43	36
Support received from family	36	37	41	32	29	39	34	36	46	48	39	27	35	44
Freedom to socialize (i.e. make friends)	35	38	33	36	32	35	41	40	35	30	29	35	41	32
Freedom of expression	34	37	21	37	30	31	32	38	36	35	29	24	40	29
Freedom to follow one's beliefs	29	28	37	27	27	33	35	23	37	33	28	32	34	34
Financial independence	24	24	22	26	23	25	18	20	26	30	28	20	22	19
Opportunities to socialize	23	24	20	24	21	21	26	27	22	20	19	22	25	20
Current standard of living	17	18	19	20	10	16	7	15	20	22	18	12	14	17

Figures listed are those that responded with "extremely satisfied." All figures presented as percentages.

Factors Contributing to Stress in MENA Countries

Q. Which of the following reasons do you believe contribute towards the stress in your life?

	Total	Algeria	Bahrain	Egypt	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Morocco	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Syria	Tunisia	UAE
Increasing cost of living	73	74	55	75	83	63	78	62	65	65	68	77	76	74
Current economic situation of the country where I live in	54	37	32	74	70	25	72	41	19	12	19	82	72	17
Work related issues	47	53	52	40	48	51	50	50	64	56	52	33	42	60
Current political situation of the country where I live	46	29	51	71	32	24	76	17	6	8	17	86	59	5
Inability to maintain a good work/life balance	43	38	48	42	39	44	54	35	44	50	47	31	36	50
Demands of the family	39	33	41	40	44	37	26	44	41	34	43	30	32	36
The physical environment and surrounding (i.e. weather conditions, ever changing infrastructure, etc.)	26	19	24	27	18	38	17	20	18	26	36	26	19	23
Need to keep up with technological changes	16	28	11	18	16	8	6	15	25	11	15	23	12	10
Inability to meet new people and make new friends	16	16	22	14	12	19	11	15	20	18	23	13	7	19
Other	6	7	7	5	6	11	6	7	11	10	10	3	6	10
Don't know/ Not sure	2	4	2	1	2	3	0	5	3	3	3	2	2	3

General Satisfaction with Country of Residence in MENA-I

Q. Which of the following do you consider the top 5 most important factors that impact your general happiness levels in your country of residence? (Please select up to 5)

	Total	Algeria	Bahrain	Egypt	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Morocco	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Syria	Tunisia	UAE
General safety and security	65	66	48	63	67	62	63	63	66	72	62	79	67	71
Leading a stable financial life	63	61	62	65	63	60	59	62	55	61	63	71	63	58
Employment opportunities	51	51	51	49	51	53	54	58	41	53	50	51	63	54
Low cost of living	41	38	35	43	44	37	43	40	33	29	39	51	54	32
Stability of political environment	41	39	34	44	41	32	50	32	37	33	42	54	40	37
Attitude and behavior of people in general	37	33	46	41	32	42	34	33	36	37	33	26	33	39
Availability of utilities	35	33	34	38	32	36	32	26	38	37	36	34	28	31
Ability to maintain healthy personal relationships with family and friends	32	37	40	29	33	34	27	37	39	39	28	26	29	35
Access to healthcare facilities	27	25	28	24	25	33	27	29	33	37	29	16	21	30
Availability of entertainment avenues (malls, parks, etc.)	21	23	28	16	23	26	16	19	23	28	25	18	23	26
Opportunities to socialize	18	16	20	16	17	23	23	21	20	18	16	16	17	22
Availability of public transport facilities	18	22	15	18	16	16	13	17	15	15	16	17	16	20
General infrastructure	14	14	16	12	16	12	10	18	21	10	18	15	18	18
Other	5	4	4	5	5	4	8	5	4	5	6	3	3	3

General Satisfaction with Country of Residence in MENA-II

Q. Lastly, how satisfied are you with your life in general?

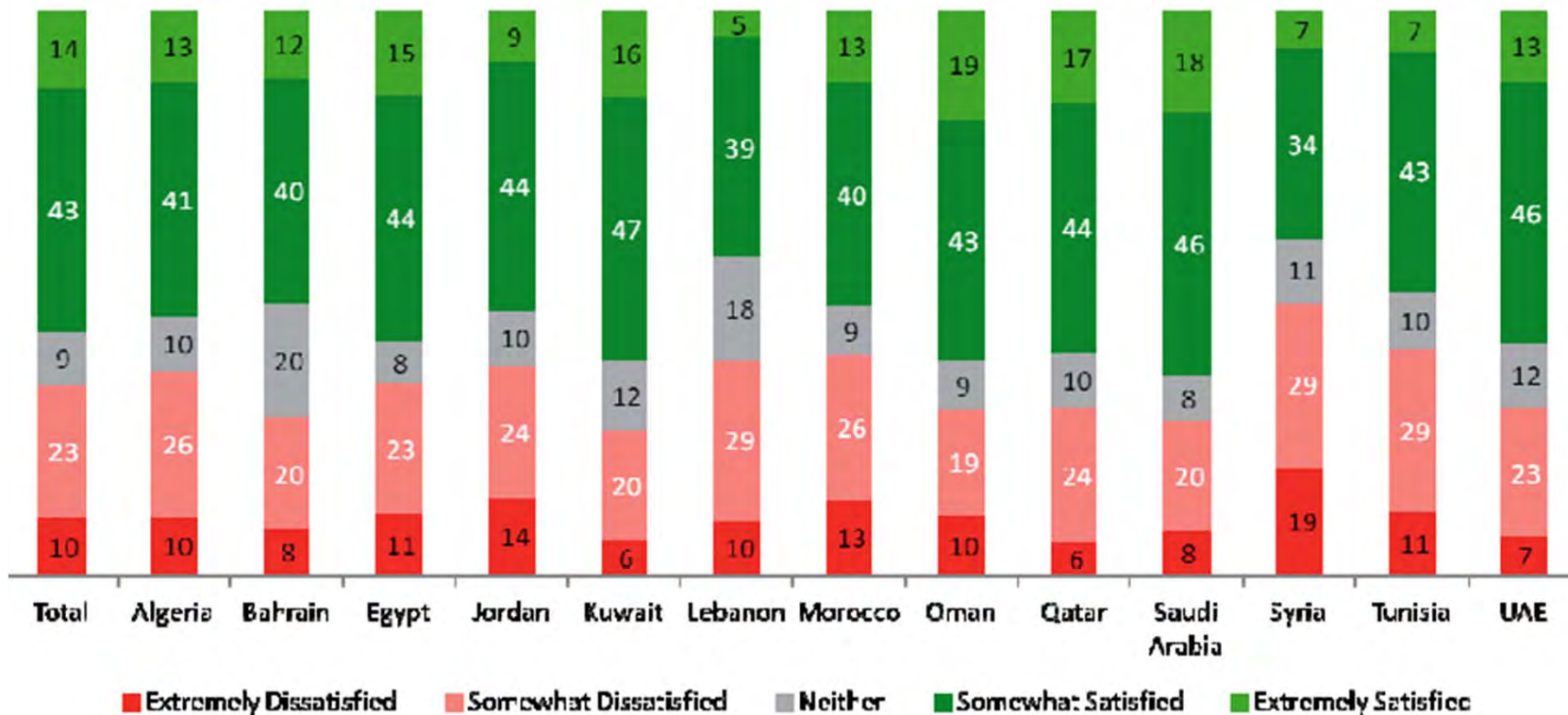
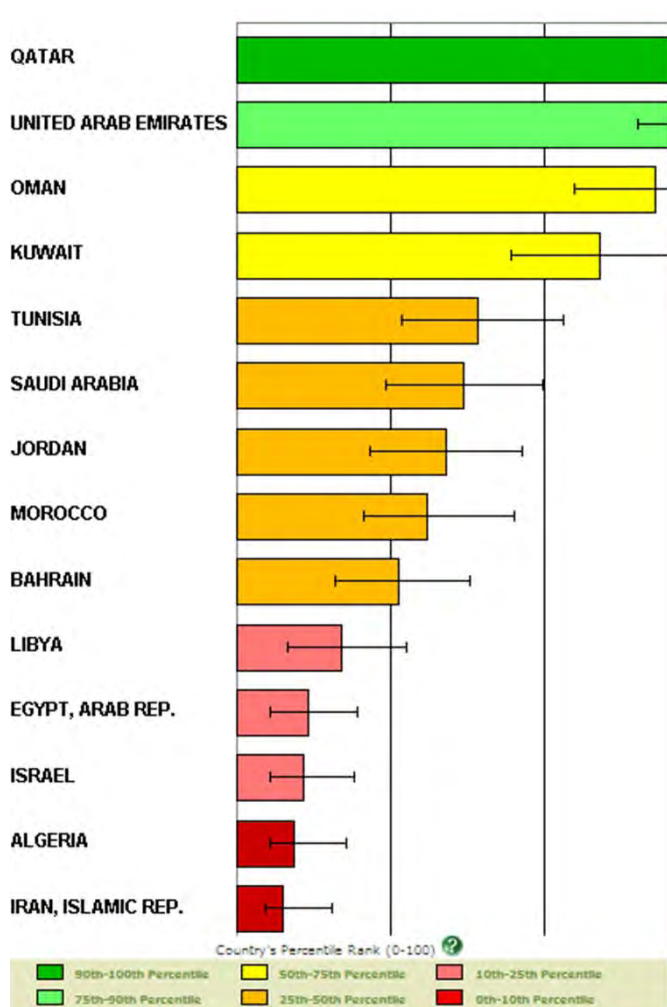


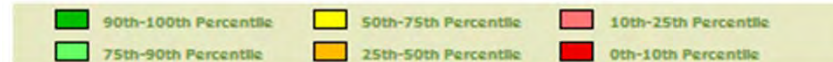
Figure 60

Political Stability (by world percentile)-2011



Country	Sources	Year	Percentile Rank (0-100)	Governance Score (-2.5 to +2.5)	Standard Error
ALGERIA	7	2011	9.4	-1.35	0.24
BAHRAIN	7	2011	26.4	-0.64	0.24
EGYPT, ARAB REP.	7	2011	11.8	-1.29	0.24
IRAN, ISLAMIC REP.	7	2011	7.5	-1.45	0.24
IRAQ	5	2011	3.8	-1.95	0.27
ISRAEL	8	2011	10.8	-1.30	0.24
JORDAN	8	2011	34.0	-0.42	0.24
KUWAIT	7	2011	59.0	+0.33	0.24
LEBANON	7	2011	6.6	-1.55	0.24
LIBYA	6	2011	17.0	-1.01	0.25
MOROCCO	6	2011	31.1	-0.47	0.25
OMAN	7	2011	67.9	+0.62	0.24
QATAR	7	2011	90.6	+1.21	0.25
SAUDI ARABIA	6	2011	36.8	-0.30	0.25
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	7	2011	4.7	-1.84	0.24
TUNISIA	7	2011	39.2	-0.23	0.24
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	8	2011	77.4	+0.96	0.24
YEMEN, REP.	7	2011	1.9	-2.29	0.24

Expand All Collapse All

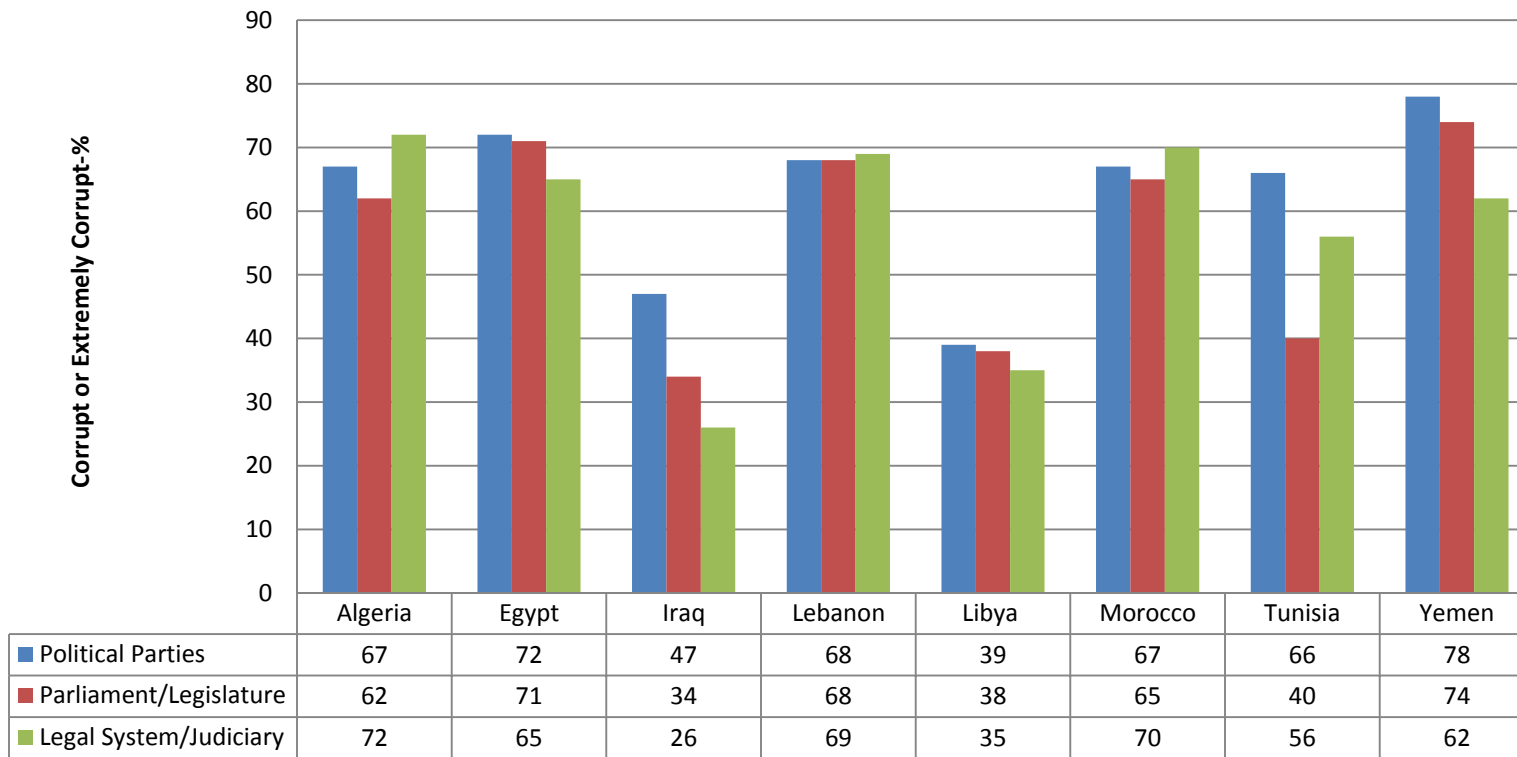


Source: Kaufmann D., A. Kraay, and M. Mastruzzi (2010), The Worldwide Governance Indicators: Methodology and Analytical

Political stability and Absence of Violence “measures the perceptions of the likelihood that the government will be destabilized or overthrown by unconstitutional or violent means, including domestic violence and terrorism.” Higher rankings show more political stability.

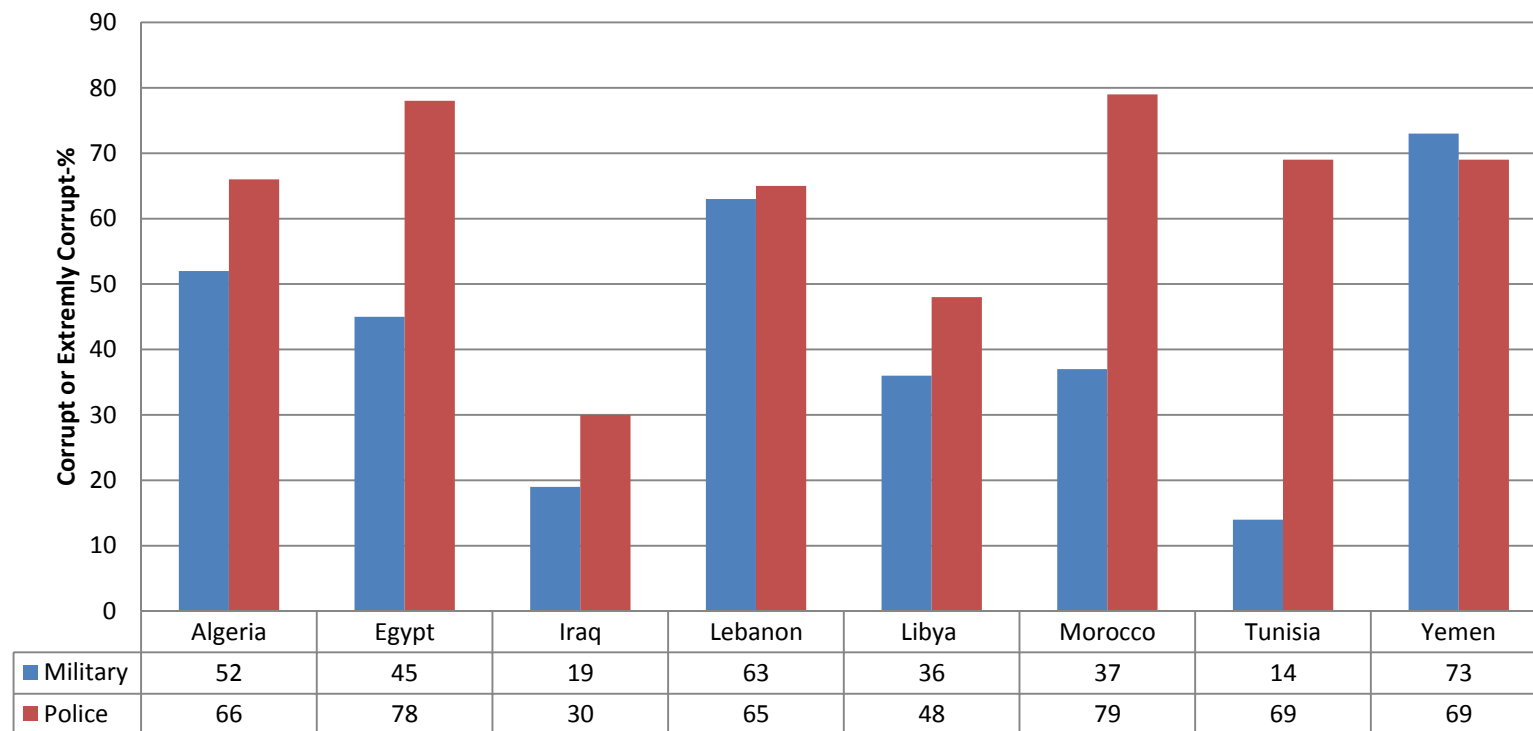
Corruption in MENA Civil Institutions

Percieved Corruption in MENA Institutions



Corruption in MENA Military/Police Institutions

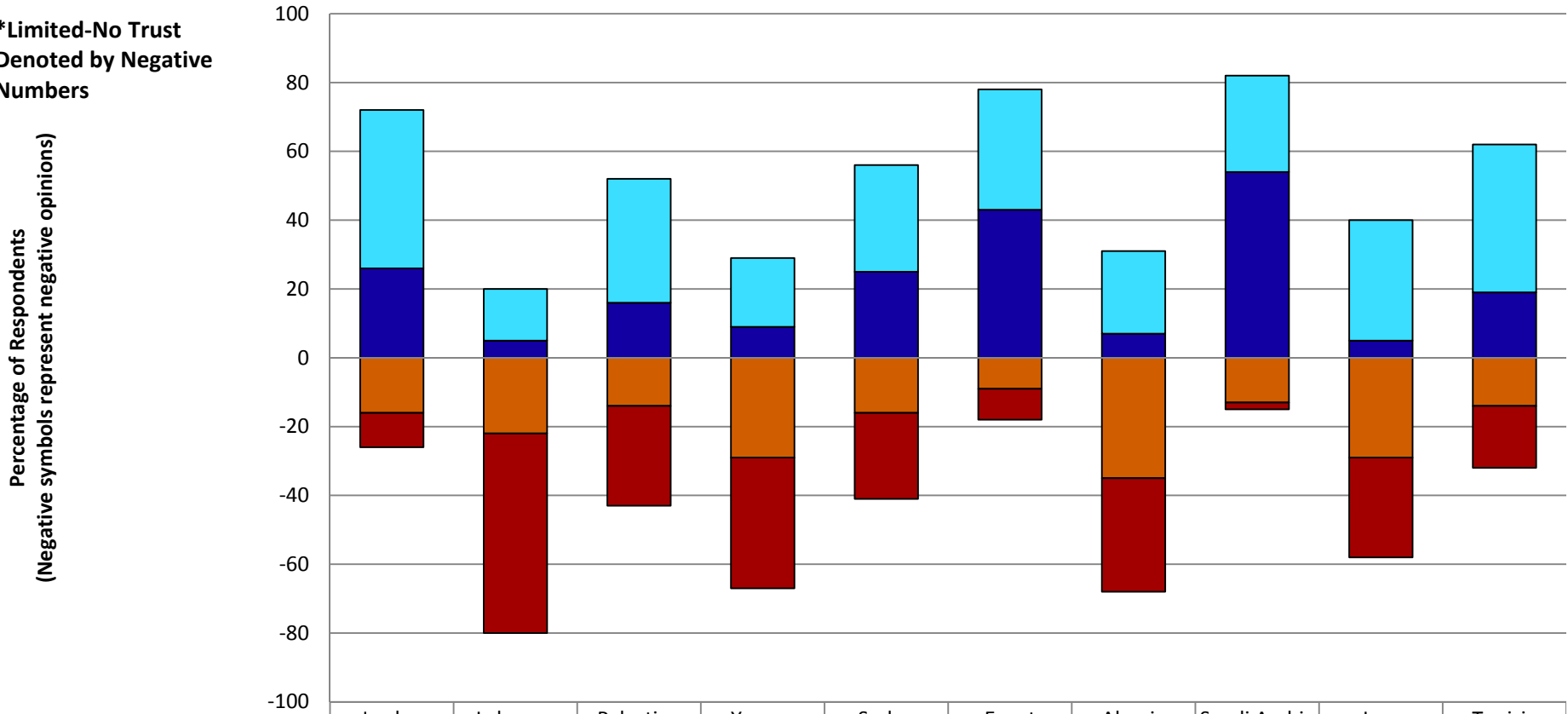
Perceived Corruption in MENA Institutions



Popular Perceptions of State Institutions:

Popular Trust in the Government (Cabinet)

*Limited-No Trust
Denoted by Negative
Numbers

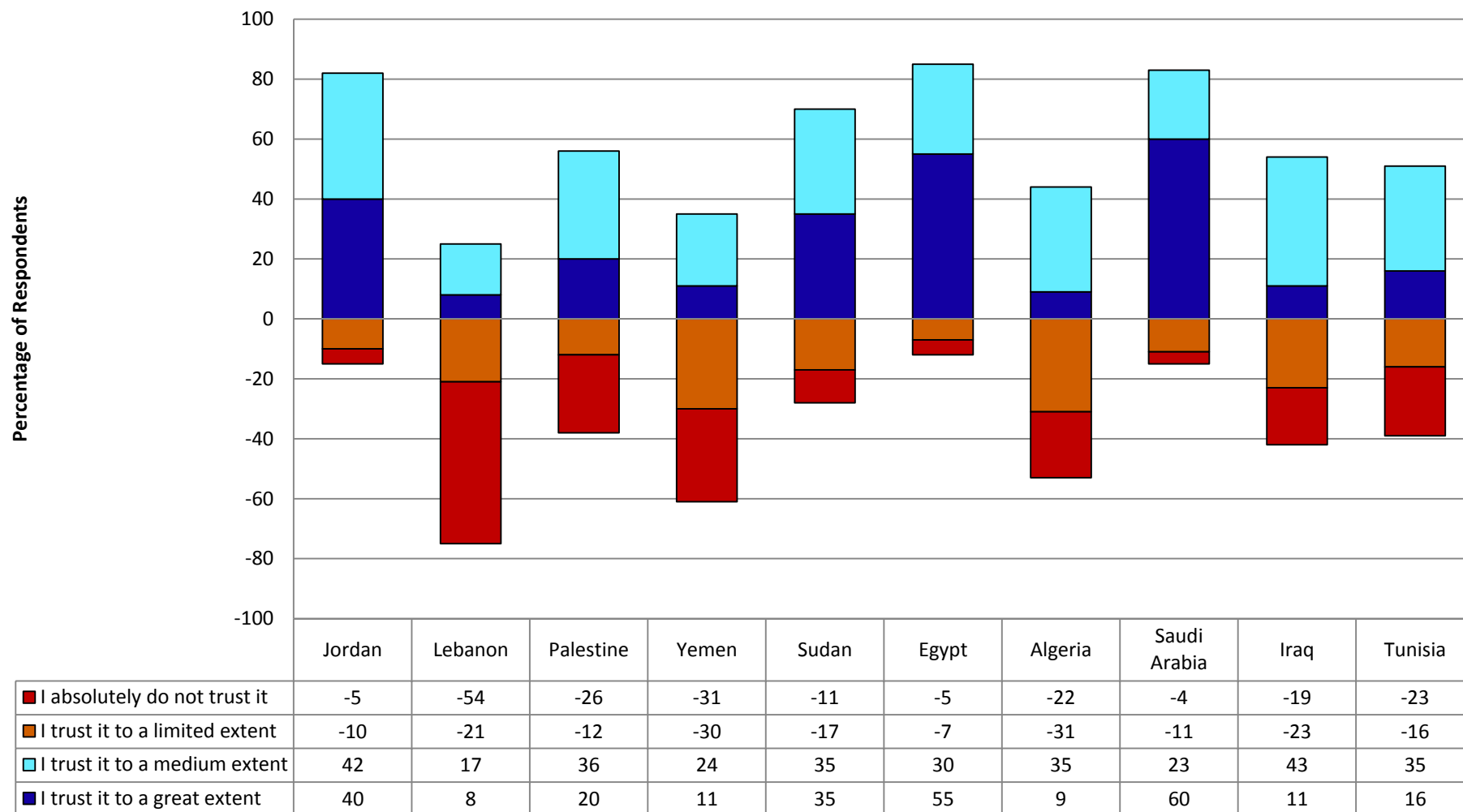


	Jordan	Lebanon	Palestine	Yemen	Sudan	Egypt	Algeria	Saudi Arabia	Iraq	Tunisia
I absolutely do not trust it	-10	-58	-29	-38	-25	-9	-33	-2	-29	-18
I trust it to a limited extent	-16	-22	-14	-29	-16	-9	-35	-13	-29	-14
I trust it to a medium extent	46	15	36	20	31	35	24	28	35	43
I trust it to a great extent	26	5	16	9	25	43	7	54	5	19

Popular Perceptions of State Institutions:

Popular Trust in the Judiciary

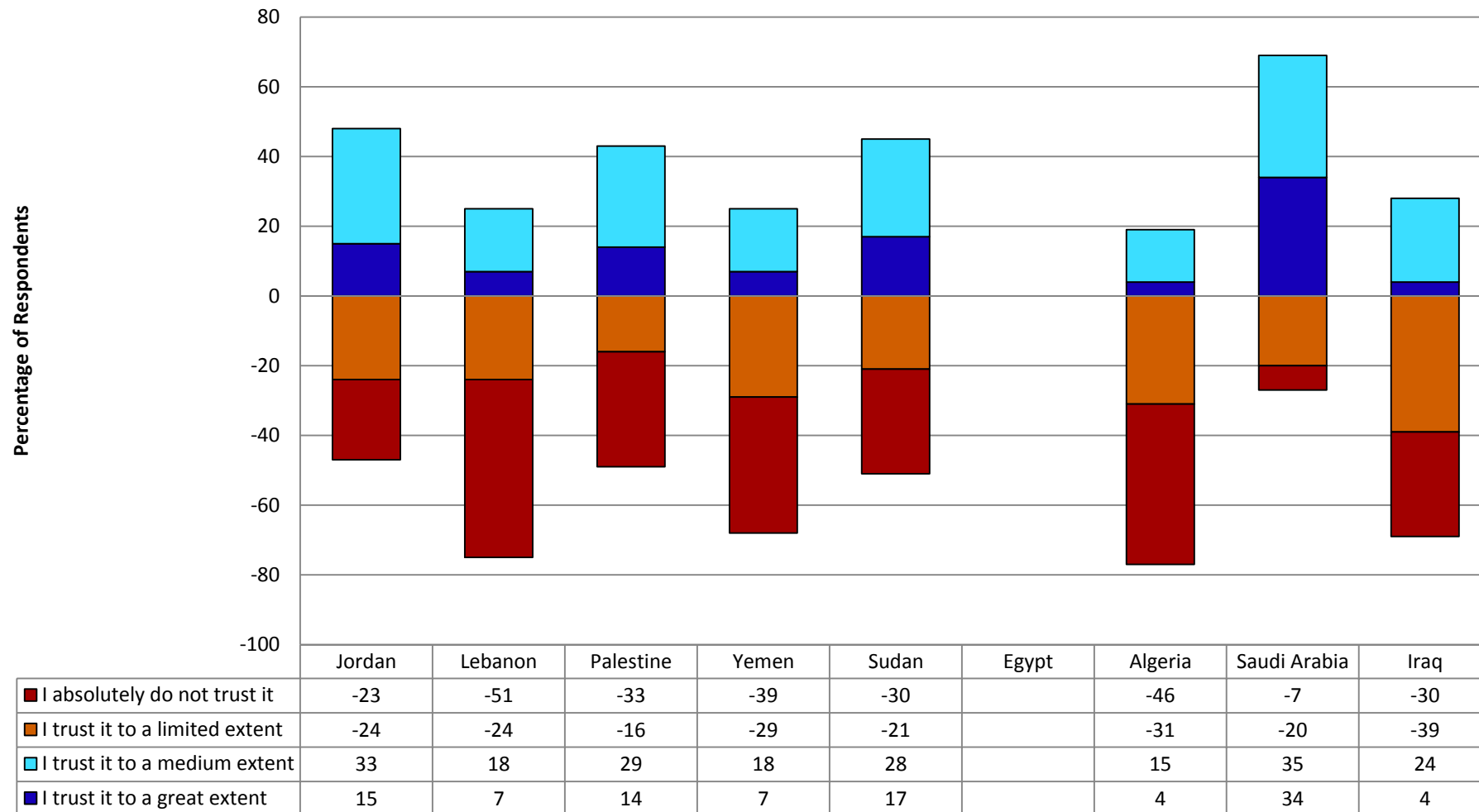
*Limited-No Trust Denoted by Negative Numbers



Popular Perceptions of State Institutions:

Popular Trust in the Elected Council of Representatives (the Parliament)

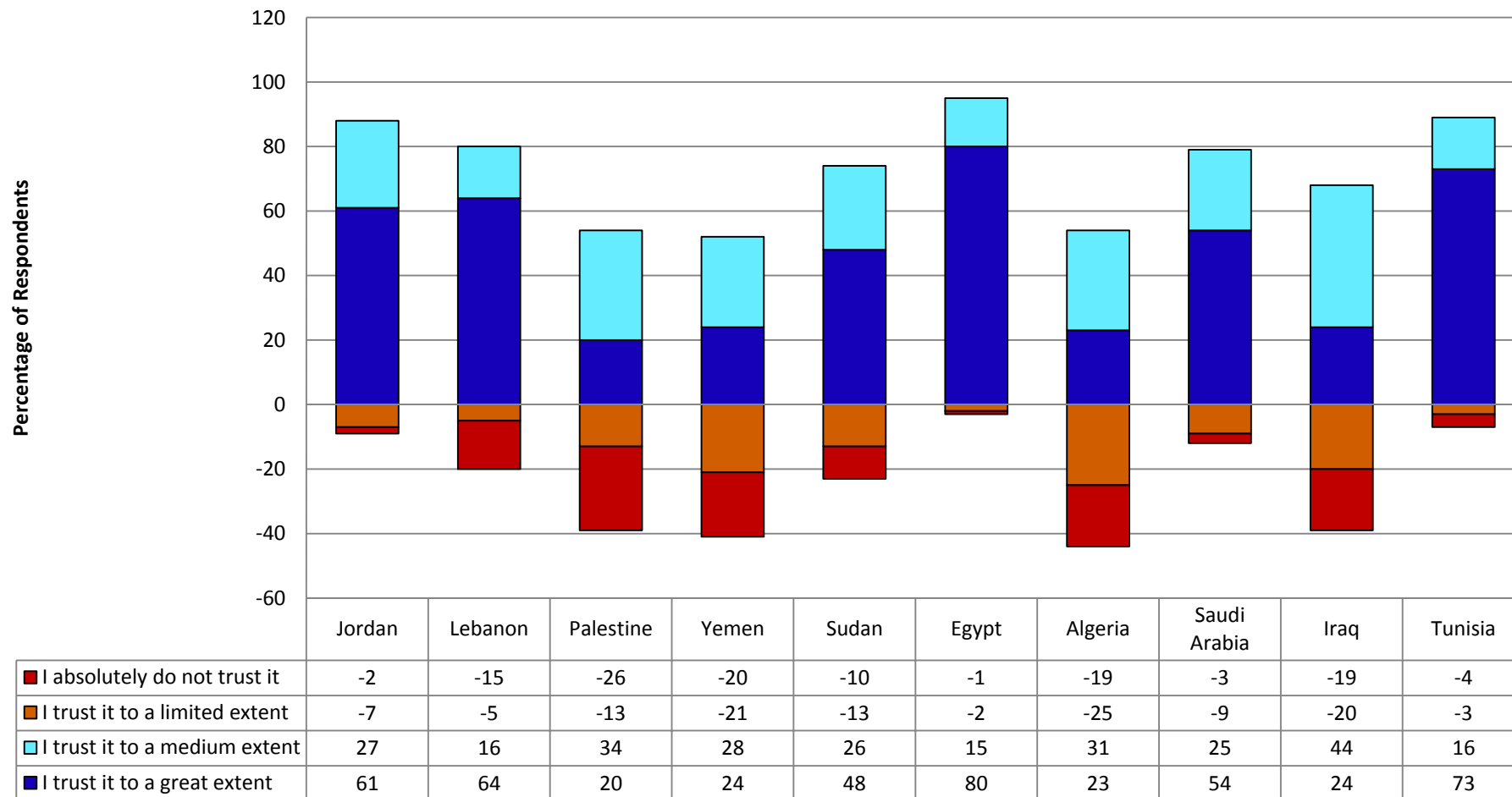
*Limited-No Trust Denoted by Negative Numbers



Popular Perceptions of State Institutions:

Popular Trust in the Armed Forces (the Army)

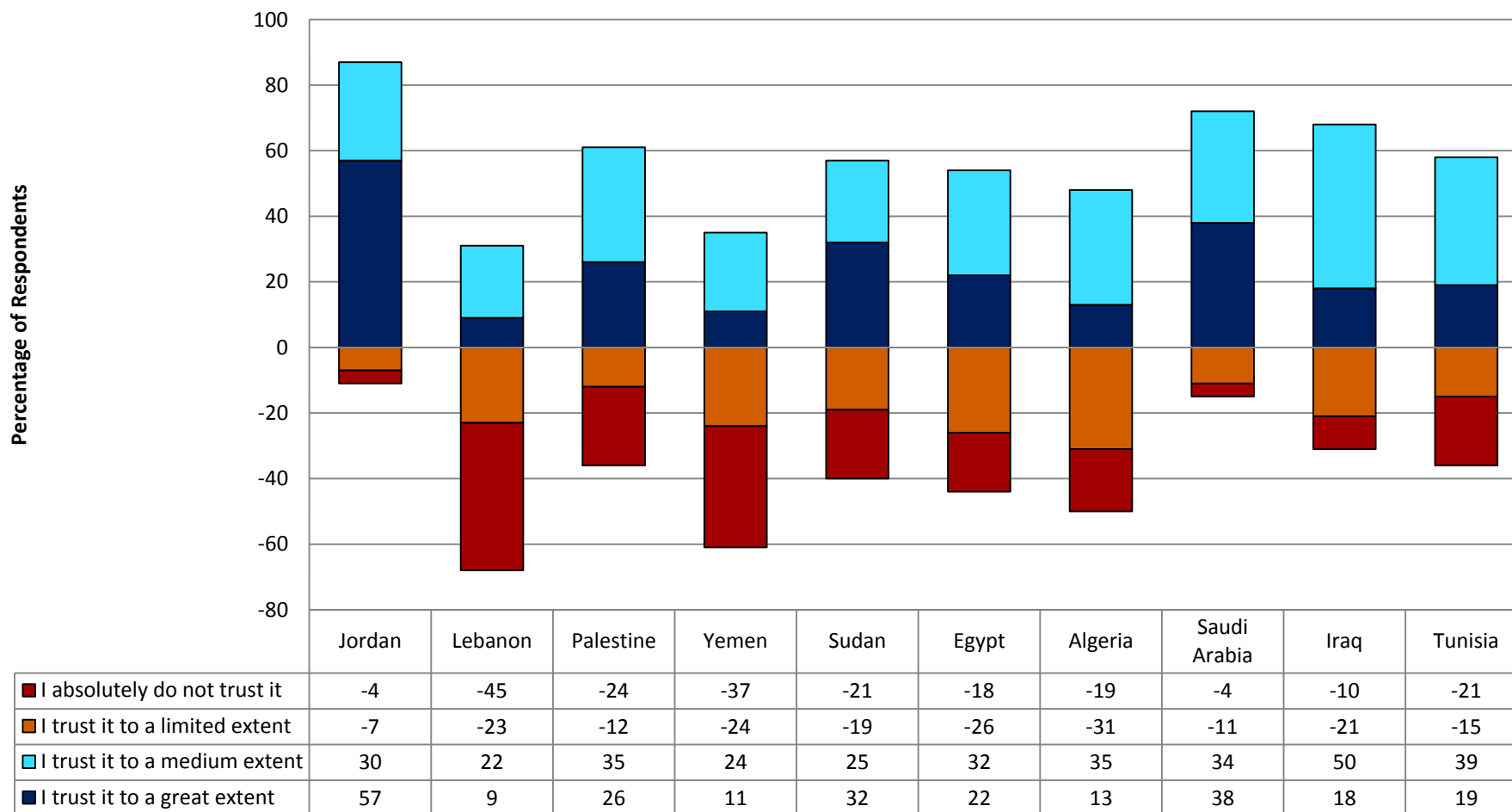
*Limited-No Trust Denoted by Negative Numbers



Popular Perceptions of State Institutions:

Popular Trust in the Public Security Forces (the Police)

*Limited-No Trust Denoted by Negative Numbers

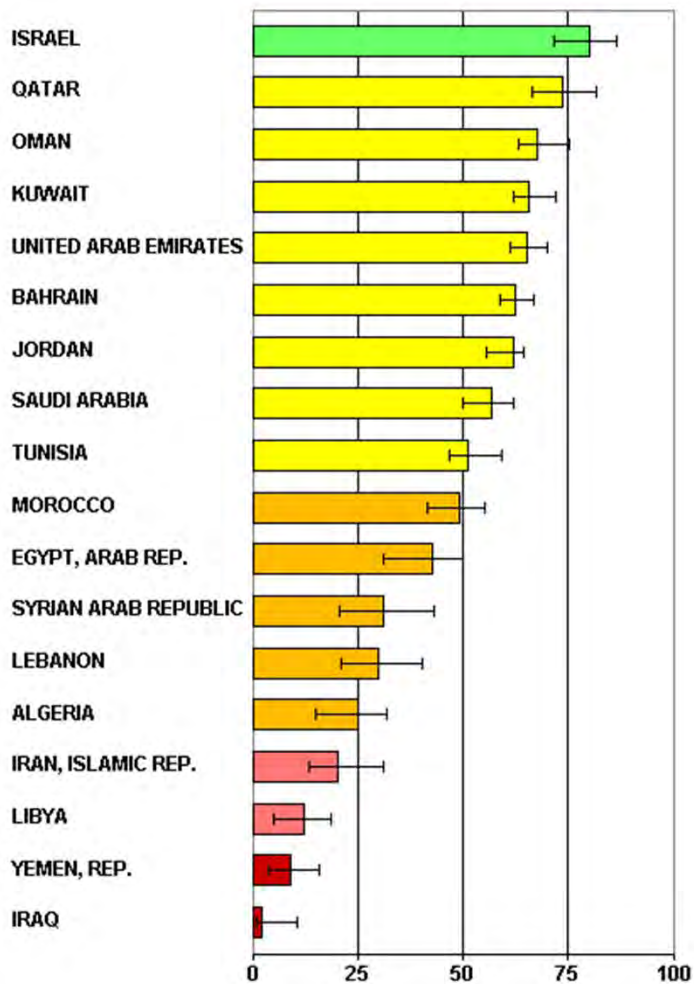


Problems with Rules of Law, Security Forces, and Police

- **Excessive use of force and repression by top level national leaders seriously distorts the rule of law and popular support for it.**
- **General lack of fair and adequate courts, legal representation, transparency. Civil criminal justice somewhat arbitrary and leads to excessive punishments.**
- **Corrupt civil justice, dated laws, courts that take excessive time to act and then cannot enforce judgments.**
- **Often arbitrary and confessions based “justice” than reliance on evidence.**
- **Detention facilities often a critical problem area.**
- **Counterterrorism tends to become a form of state terrorism and repression.**
- **Special security courts often unjust, excessive use of internal security services and special arrest, detention, and trial procedures.**
- **Sharp recent growth of paramilitary and CT forces often takes place without improving training, intelligence and equipment, leading to excessive violence rather than necessary restraint.**

Rule of Law-2011

Figure 78



Country	Sources	Year	Percentile Rank (0-100)	Governance Score (-2.5 to +2.5)	Standard Error
ALGERIA	14	2011	24.9	-0.82	0.13
BAHRAIN	11	2011	62.4	+0.35	0.15
EGYPT, ARAB REP.	15	2011	42.7	-0.42	0.13
IRAN, ISLAMIC REP.	11	2011	20.2	-0.90	0.15
IRAQ	9	2011	2.3	-1.50	0.17
ISRAEL	10	2011	80.3	+0.98	0.15
JORDAN	14	2011	62.0	+0.24	0.13
KUWAIT	10	2011	65.7	+0.50	0.15
LEBANON	14	2011	30.0	-0.68	0.13
LIBYA	11	2011	12.2	-1.16	0.15
MOROCCO	14	2011	49.3	-0.21	0.13
OMAN	9	2011	67.6	+0.63	0.15
QATAR	11	2011	73.7	+0.78	0.15
SAUDI ARABIA	10	2011	56.8	+0.07	0.15
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	12	2011	31.0	-0.66	0.15
TUNISIA	14	2011	51.2	-0.10	0.13
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	12	2011	65.3	+0.46	0.14
YEMEN, REP.	14	2011	8.9	-1.25	0.13

Rule of Law “captures perceptions of the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, and in particular the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence.” A higher ranking indicates a stronger rule of law.

Ranking Rule of Law in Comparison with 139 Countries World Wide (as of 2013)

Institution	Country Rank (/144)						
	Algeria	Bahrain	Egypt	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Morocco
Judicial Independence	123	32	53	48	36	131	81
Favoritism in decisions of government officials	134	14	74	45	99	141	42

Press Freedom Index

Rank 2013	Country	Rating	Status
1	Israel	31	Partly Free
2	Tunisia	52	Partly Free
3	Lebanon	53	Partly Free
4	Kuwait	59	Partly Free
	Libya	59	Partly Free
6	Algeria	61	Not Free
7	Egypt	62	Not Free
8	Jordan	63	Not Free
9	Morocco	66	Not Free
10	Iraq	67	Not Free
	Qatar	67	Not Free
12	Oman	71	Not Free
13	United Arab Emirates	74	Not Free
14	Yemen	79	Not Free
15	Saudi Arabia	84	Not Free
	West Bank and Gaza Strip	84	Not Free
17	Bahrain	86	Not Free
18	Syria	88	Not Free
19	Iran	92	Not Free

Status	Number of Countries	Percentage of Total
Free	0	0
Partly Free	5	26
Not Free	14	74
TOTAL	19	100

[The Press Freedom Index](#) “currently comprises 23 methodology questions and 109 indicators divided into three broad categories: the legal environment, the political environment, and the economic environment. For each methodology question, a lower number of points is allotted for a more free situation, while a higher number of points is allotted for a less free environment. A country’s final score is based on the total of the three categories: A score of 0 to 30 places the country in the Free press group; 31 to 60 in the Partly Free press group; and 61 to 100 in the Not Free press group.”

Source: Freedom House, Freedom of the Press 2013, Accessed August 12, 2013.

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/Global%20and%20regional%20tables.pdf>

Excessively Large Paramilitary and National Security Forces-I

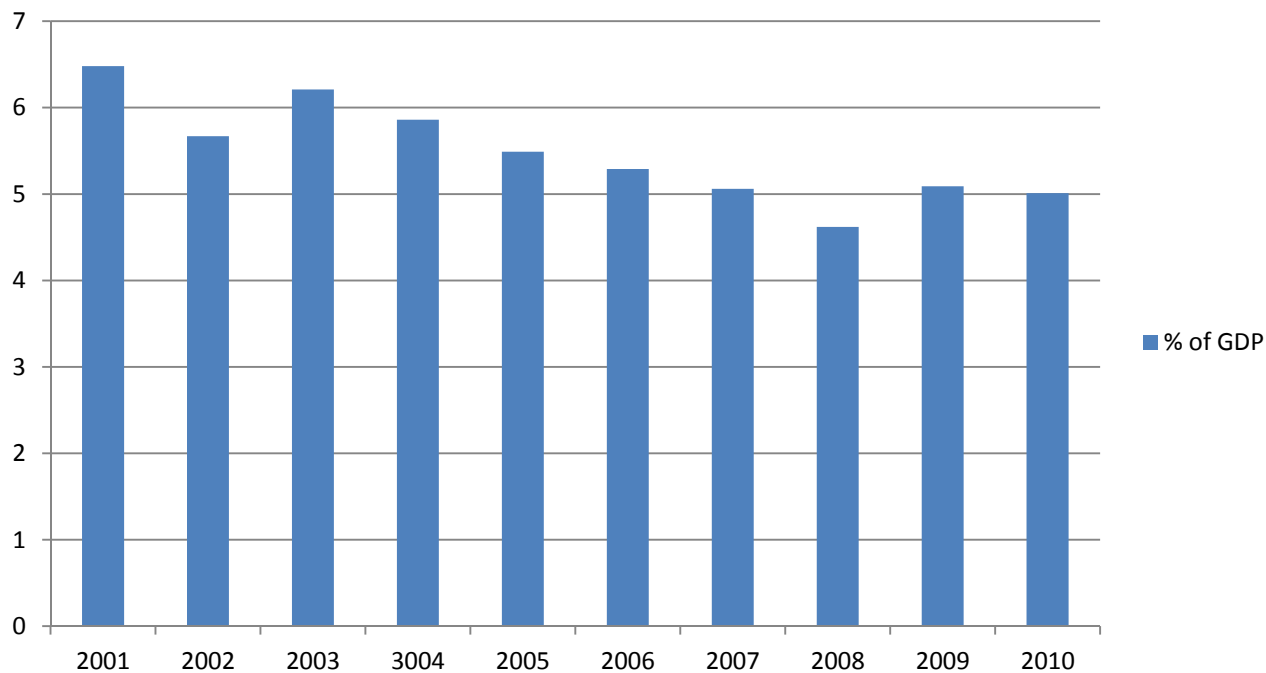
MENA Defense Expenditure: Top Ten and Regional Breakdown

	2010	% Regional Total	2011 Estimate	% Regional Total	Real % Change
Saudi Arabia	45.17	38.11%	46.18	36.18%	-3.1%
Israel	17.17	14.49%	18.25	14.30%	-2.8%
Iran*	10.56	8.91%	11.96	9.37%	-3.4%
UAE	8.65	7.29%	9.32	7.30%	5.1%
Algeria	5.59	4.72%	8.61	6.74%	44.01%
Egypt	5.43	4.58%	5.53	4.33%	-3.2%
Iraq	4.19	3.53%	4.79	3.75%	8.9%
Oman	4.19	3.53%	4.29	3.36%	-1.6%
Kuwait	3.91	3.30%	4.05	3.17%	-6.2%
Qatar	3.12	2.63%	3.45	2.71%	8.2%
Sub-Total	107.97	91.09%	116.42	91.21%	-1.01%
Regional Expenditure Breakdown					
Oil Exporting States	87.97	74.21%	95.57	74.88%	0.08%
Non-Oil Exporting states	30.57	25.79%	32.07	25.12%	-3.16%
Total	118.53		127.64		-0.77%

*Both 2010 and 2011 figures are estimates

Excessively Large Paramilitary and National Security Forces-II

MENA Regional Defense Expenditures-% of GDP



Arab Development Report Security Measures

To what extent does the state respect your basic rights?

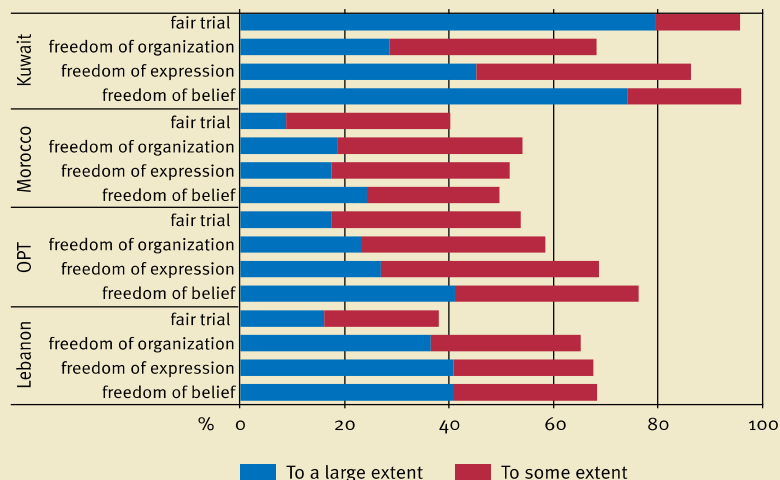


Table 3-2 Political prisoners in 5 Arab states, 2005 and 2007

State	Number of political prisoners, 2005	Number of political prisoners, 2007
Iraq	26,000 (reduced to 14,000)	24,661
Egypt	10,000	--
Lebanon	--	5,870
OPT	9,000	11,000
Yemen	1,000	--

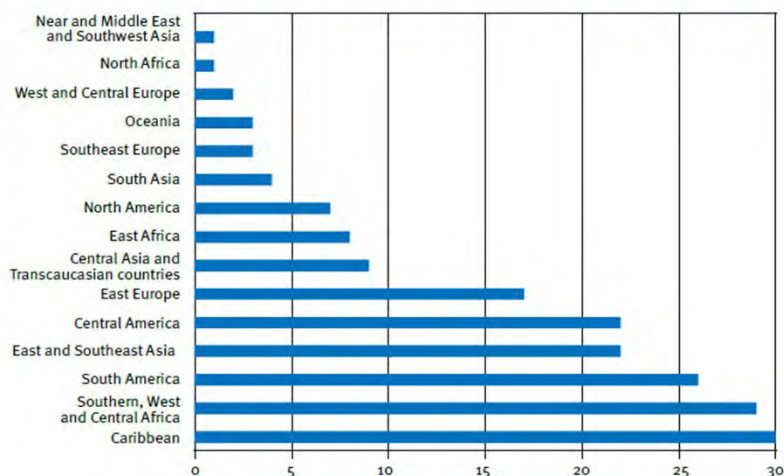
Source: AOHR 2008 (in Arabic).

Table 3-1 Arab countries under a declared state of emergency in 2008

State	Year of declared state of emergency
OPT	2007
Sudan	2005 (in the Darfur region), extended to the whole country in May 2008
Iraq	2004
Algeria	1992
Egypt	1981
Syria	1963

Source: AOHR 2008 (in Arabic).

Figure 3-1 Homicide rates (per 100,000 of the population), world regions, 2002



Source: UNODC 2005.