

The ratio of distribution among Sabras, Orientals, and European-American immigrants is 2.2 : 66.1 : 31.7 (in 1953), as compared to 12.2 : 65.5 : 22.3 (in 1962), respectively.¹ European-American immigrants seem to be competitors to Sabras in the occupational structure.

By 1974, evidence from Israel Monthly Bulletin of Statistics indicates that Oriental-Jews continue to be the most highly represented among Jewish wage-workers in unskilled productive occupations: representing 55.2 percent of all Jewish unskilled industrial and construction workers and 70.9 percent of agricultural cash-croppers (also unskilled labor).² They also represent the largest portion of skilled workers in industry and construction.

The representations of Arab and Oriental-Jewish proletariat in skilled occupational categories is more likely to be the result of on-the-job-training than formal schooling, and the fact that they are the least mobile in the employment structure. They become skillful over time. This is, for example, how Arab workers become skillful in construction. It has nothing to do with years of schooling.

Statistical Abstract of Israel, 1975 provides data on occupational structure, by population group and average years of schooling per occupational post. This reference, together with information above, suggest an occupational hierarchy; a hierarchy that reflects the predominant locations of the various ethnic/national segments of the working class (Scale 1). On the basis of the scale presented on the following page, Western (European-American immigrant) Jews rank the highest in the occupational hierarchy; second come Sabras, then Oriental-Jews, and then Arabs.