

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Educational fields and labor market among individuals aged (20-29 years) in 2020.

Business and Administration is the field where most students aged (20-29 years) were enrolled, whether for intermediate diploma or a bachelor's degree (BA).

In 2020, business and Administration is the field where most students aged (20-29 years) were enrolled, whether for intermediate diploma or a bachelor's degree (BA). In the past decade, the majority of them also majored in business and administration. While, the highest unemployment rates among graduates aged (20-29 years) with an intermediate diploma or bachelor's degree in Palestine is in mathematics and statistics.

Clear gap of unemployment rates between Females and Males for all fields of education

In 2020, the highest unemployment rates among male graduates aged (20-29 years) with an intermediate diploma or bachelor's degree in Palestine is in welfare by 63%, while the highest unemployment rates among female graduates aged (20-29 years) with an intermediate diploma or bachelor's degree in Palestine is in humanities (excluding languages) by 86%.

Percentage Distribution among Individuals (20-29 years) in Palestine with an Intermediate Diploma or Bachelor's Degree and Unemployment Rate by Field of Education and Sex in 2020

| Field of Education | Percentage of Individuals (20-29 years) with an Intermediate Diploma or Bachelor's Degree | | | Unemployment Rate of Individuals (20-29 years) with an Intermediate Diploma or Bachelor's Degree | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Total | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females |
| Business and administration | 28.0 | 28.9 | 27.4 | 48.1 | 31.7 | 68.9 |
| Education | 13.7 | 5.9 | 18.9 | 73.0 | 59.3 | 77.7 |
| Health | 11.7 | 13.8 | 10.0 | 42.0 | 37.7 | 65.7 |
| Law | 6.6 | 9.4 | 4.8 | 50.4 | 38.9 | 69.5 |
| Languages | 6.4 | 3.0 | 8.6 | 67.3 | 48.5 | 73.0 |
| Engineering and engineering trades | 6.2 | 11.6 | 2.6 | 39.5 | 30.4 | 70.4 |
| Information and Communication | 3.8 | 5.2 | 2.7 | 58.9 | 53.6 | 69.5 |
| Architecture and construction | 3.2 | 6.2 | 1.3 | 51.8 | 47.5 | 71.7 |
| Welfare | 3.1 | 1.2 | 4.3 | 64.9 | 62.9 | 73.0 |
| Social and behavioral sciences | 3.0 | 1.3 | 4.1 | 69.4 | {59.2} | 72.8 |
| Arts | 2.5 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 57.6 | 43.6 | 79.4 |
| Physical sciences | 2.4 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 68.7 | 48.7 | 80.3 |
| Journalism and information | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 56.0 | 51.0 | {61.1} |
| Humanities (excluding languages) | 1.8 | 1.0 | 2.4 | 72.4 | {24.0} | 86.2 |
| Biological and related sciences | 1.7 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 56.2 | 12.1 | 69.3 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 1.3 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 78.0 | {59.4} | 81.2 |
| Personal services | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 40.0 | 22.5 | {75.5} |
| Other disciplines* | 1.1 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 26.3 | 24.9 | 35.8 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 53.9 | 38.5 | 69.2 |

*: includes the following fields of education: security services, agriculture, manufacturing and processing, veterinary and transport services, in addition to fields of education which are not classified among fields above.

{ } : Refers that the variance in this category is too high.

Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2021. Database of Labor Force Survey, 2020. Ramallah-Palestine

Unemployment rate among individuals aged (20-29 years) with an intermediate diploma or bachelor's degree is still high, this rate reached 54% in 2020: 35% in West Bank and 78% in Gaza Strip, while it was about 53% in 2019 at the national level.

Clear gap of unemployment rates between West Bank and Gaza Strip for all fields of education

The highest rate of unemployment among graduates aged (20-29 years) with a bachelor's degree or an intermediate diploma in Gaza Strip was in mathematics and statistics by 100%, followed by social and behavioral sciences by 95%. The highest rate of unemployment among graduates aged (20-29 years) with a bachelor's degree or an intermediate diploma in West Bank was in mathematics and statistics by 74%, followed by education by 54%.

Unemployment Rate among Individuals (20-29 years) in Palestine with an Intermediate Diploma or Bachelor's Degree by Field of Education and Region, 2020

| Field of Education | Palestine | Region | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | West Bank | Gaza Strip |
| Business and administration | 48.1 | 31.8 | 74.9 |
| Education | 73.0 | 53.8 | 82.0 |
| Health | 42.0 | 20.3 | 73.6 |
| Law | 50.4 | 34.8 | 66.9 |
| Languages | 67.3 | 44.7 | 89.5 |
| Engineering and engineering trades | 39.5 | 24.2 | 74.7 |
| Information and Communication | 58.9 | 42.4 | 83.2 |
| Architecture and construction | 51.8 | 38.7 | 83.7 |
| Welfare | 64.9 | 40.4 | 90.3 |
| Social and behavioral sciences | 69.4 | 48.8 | 95.3 |
| Arts | 57.6 | 45.9 | 78.0 |
| Physical sciences | 68.7 | 52.5 | 90.1 |
| Journalism and information | 56.0 | {36.5} | 76.3 |
| Humanities (excluding languages) | 72.4 | {28.9} | 92.8 |
| Biological and related sciences | 56.2 | 41.6 | 70.8 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 78.0 | 73.5 | {100} |
| Personal services | 40.0 | 35.0 | {65.7} |
| Other disciplines* | 26.3 | 16.0 | 37.2 |
| Total | 53.9 | 35.2 | 78.4 |

*: includes the following fields of education: security services, agriculture, manufacturing and processing, veterinary and transport services, in addition to fields of education which are not classified among fields
{ }: Refers that the variance in this category is too high.

Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2021. Database of Labor Force Survey, 2020.

It takes graduates about 10-25 months before getting their first labor chance

In 2020, the highest period of unemployment for graduates aged (20-29 years) in Palestine with an intermediate diploma or bachelor's degree was in humanities (excluding languages), being 25 months. The lowest period was in mathematics and statistics with 10 months.

Period of Unemployment in Months among Individuals (20-29 years) in Palestine with an Intermediate Diploma or Bachelor's Degree by Field of Education and Sex, 2020

| Field of Education | Both Sexes | Sex | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------|---------|
| | | Males | Females |
| Business and administration | 15.1 | 14.4 | 15.6 |
| Education | 19.0 | 16.1 | 19.8 |
| Health | 15.6 | 14.2 | 16.8 |
| Law | 20.6 | 15.9 | 25.0 |
| Languages | 20.4 | 21.5 | 20.1 |
| Engineering and engineering trades | 11.2 | 11.5 | 10.8 |
| Information and Communication | 12.8 | 14.7 | 9.8 |
| Architecture and construction | 16.2 | 15.0 | {20.0} |
| Welfare | 24.1 | {21.5} | 25.1 |
| Social and behavioral sciences | 14.3 | {13.9} | 14.5 |
| Arts | 13.9 | {13.3} | 14.3 |
| Physical sciences | 18.3 | {20.6} | 17.5 |
| Journalism and information | 12.1 | {15.5} | {9.1} |
| Humanities (excluding languages) | 25.3 | {14.1} | 26.2 |
| Biological and related sciences | 14.4 | {7.2} | 14.8 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 10.4 | {18.0} | 9.5 |
| Personal services | 13.6 | 10.8 | 15.3 |
| Other disciplines* | 10.3 | {9.3} | {15.5} |

*: includes the following fields of education: security services, agriculture, manufacturing and processing, veterinary and transport services, in addition to fields of education which are not classified among fields above.

{ }: Refers that the variance in this category is too high.

Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2021. Database of Labor Force Survey, 2020. Ramallah-

In the 2020/2021 scholastic year, there were 84,598 thousand applicants for the General Certificate Exam. In Scholastic year 2018/2019 the number of students graduated from the Palestinian higher education institutions was 42,394. The local market accommodates 8 thousand job opportunities for graduates (20-29 years), while the COVID-19 Pandemic during the year 2020 affected that rate, there will be a loss of about 10 thousand job opportunities instead of absorbing new opportunities.