



منتدى الاستراتيجيات الأردني
JORDAN STRATEGY FORUM

International Teachers' Day: The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers

October 2022

1. Background

On October 5, almost all countries in the world celebrate **Teachers' Day**. Indeed, this is a global event which was launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1994. The theme of this year's world teachers' day is **"the transformation of Education begins with teachers"**.

Teaching is probably the most important job. Teachers shape the minds of youth. Teachers pass-on good values to youth and turn them into responsible citizens. A good teacher stimulates youth's intellect and curiosity, builds their confidence, and encourages them to set goals. Teachers are the cornerstone of society.

2. Few Observations

Based on the published statistics by the Ministry of Education (MoE), and the Social Security Corporation (SSC), we outline below few observations about **"TEACHERS"** in Jordan.

1. The total number of teachers is equal to 130,089. The Ministry of Education and the private sector account for 66.0% and 29.2% of this of total. It is interesting to note that while 69.5% of the teachers are females, this proportion is equal to 89.2% in private schools. In other words, the private sector tends to employ more women than the public sector.

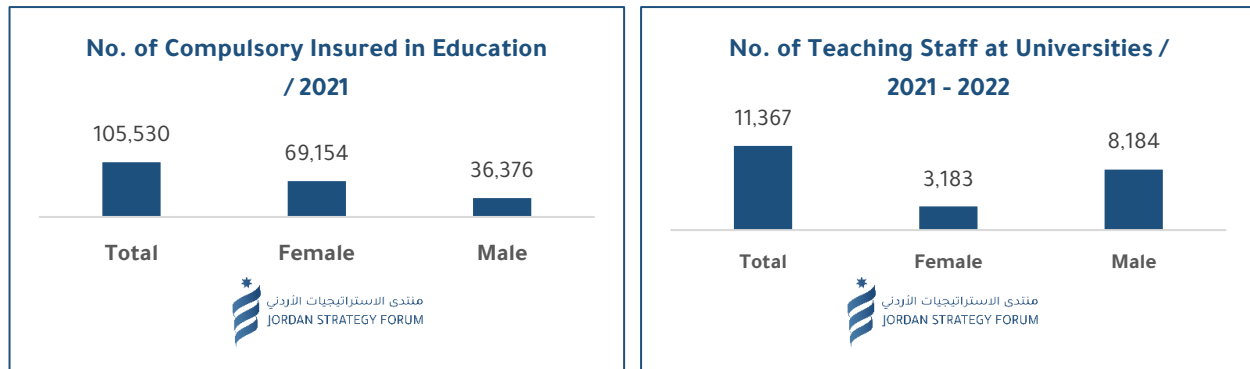
The Distribution of Teachers by Authority / 2020-2021					
Type of School	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Total	Females to Total
1. Ministry of Education	31,856	53,989	85,845	66.0%	62.9%
2. Private Schools	4,117	33,893	38,010	29.2%	89.2%
3. UNRWA	2,060	2,213	4,273	3.3%	51.8%
4. Other Governmental	1,620	341	1,961	1.5%	17.4%
			130,089	100.0%	69.5%

2. Based on the level of education, it is unfortunate to note that the total number of female teachers who work at kindergarten is very small. Here, it is also useful to note that UNRWA and other schools do not have kindergartens in the first place.

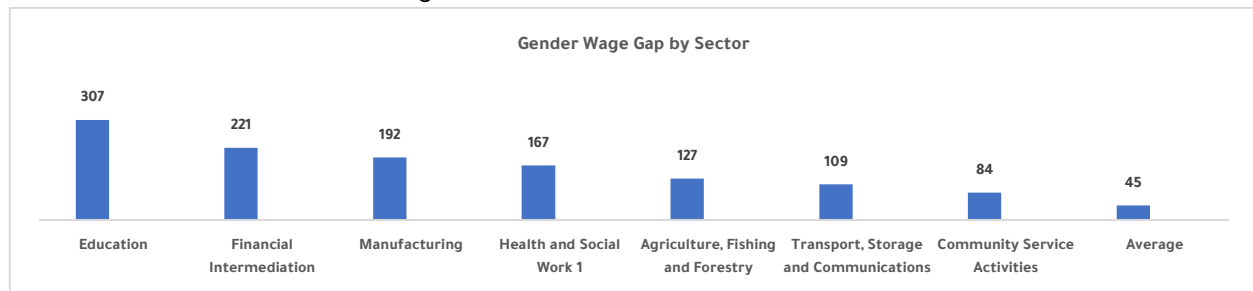
The Distribution of Teachers by Level - Kindergartens / 2020-2021				
Ministry of Education	Male	Proportion*	Female	Proportion*
Ministry of Education	0	0.0%	2,611	4.8%
Private Sector	0	0.0%	5,048	14.9%

* Proportion of male/female teachers in kindergartens from the total male/female workers in Jordan

3. Based on the SSC's 2021 Annual Report, the number of compulsory insured individuals working in the education sector is equal to 105,530 individuals (8% of the totally insured). About 65% of this number (69,154) are females. In addition, based on the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, the number of teaching staff at all universities is equal to 11,367 individuals. About 28% of this number (3,183) are females.



4. Based on the SSC's 2021 Annual Report, it is not encouraging that the mean monthly wage of females who work in the education sector is way lower than the mean wage of their male counterparts. Indeed, relative to other sectors, the education sector reflects the widest difference between the wages of males and females.



3. TO SUM UP

Improving education quality requires a lot more more than just having enough teachers. Teachers need to be trained, supported through professional development, and motivated to continually improve their teaching practices. In addition, if the government and the private sector work together on increasing the number of Jordanian boys and girls who attend kindergartens, not only the whole economy would benefit, but also the female participation rate would increase.

Within this context, it is heartening to note that the “Economic Modernization Vision”, which was launched by His Majesty King Abdullah II, included the education sector as one of the growth drivers of the Jordanian economy.

The vision proposes few initiatives in “education”, “early childhood care & development”, “basic & secondary education”, higher education”, and “technical & vocational education & training”. Within this context, one interesting initiative is to “Establish nurseries and kindergartens in the

workplace". In addition, the modernization vision calls for the creation of 90,000 additional education jobs during the next 10 years or so (2022-2033)

On this occasion, the Jordan Strategy Forum (JSF) congratulates all teachers in Jordan (and the rest of the world) on this happy occasion. Indeed, the JSF thanks them all for their contribution to their respective societies. Finally, the JSF urges all teachers (public and private) to always remember their huge role and responsibility in the improving the whole economy. Doing their best to ensure that our students get the best quality education, would enhance Jordan's competitiveness at large.

The Teachers in Jordan

Number of teachers
in Schools

130,089



66.0%

Ministry of Education



29.2%

Private Schools



3.3%

UNRWA



%1.5

Other Governmental



Number of teachers in schools & universities

Schools



Female

69.5%



Male

29.5%

Universities



Female

28%



Male

72%



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