

Demographic Preparation

By Scott Huckaby

6/14/2026



For Discussion: Why Israel Still Has Babies and The Western World Has Stopped

(prophecynewswatch; March 23, 2026)

https://www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent_news_id=9715

Which Middle East group has the higher fertility rate: Jews or Muslims?

According to Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics, the Jewish fertility rate currently stands at 3.09 births per woman, significantly higher than the Muslim fertility rate of 2.51.

- The annual number of Jewish births surged 74% between 1995 and 2025, while Arab births in the same period grew by only 21%.
- Jerusalem's total fertility rate stands at 4.57 children per woman, more than triple the rate of Washington, D.C.

How does Israel's fertility rate compare with the rest of Western Civilization?

Israel is the only country in the developed world with a fertility rate above the replacement level of 2.1.

- USA: 1.6, Europe: 1.39, Japan 1.38
- China: 1.0, India: 2.0, Africa 4.0 but declining
- World: 2.3 (versus 5.0 in 1960)

Why is the fertility rate declining in Africa?

- (1) Higher education; (2) Urbanization (cost of children); (3) Health policy (access to contraception)

Why do the more educated have fewer babies?

They have become indoctrinated by the culture that contributing to the population growth as being bad for the environment.

- Having children are seen by modern people as being a financial burden, not a blessing.
- The women's liberation movement has put careers ahead of families.

Why are Israelis having more children than the rest of Western Civilization?

It's certainly not due to government programs...

- Israel slashed child allowances in 2003 and the birth rate rose anyway.
- IVF subsidies, for all their generosity, mostly shift when women have children rather than how many they ultimately have.
- Israelis on average marry later than Americans and own homes at lower rates, yet they are still having more babies.

Israel's birth rate is high because Israelis are surrounded by people who marry and have children, which leads them to marry and have children, which gives the next generation the same social environment. Culture is self-replicating.

When did the USA have a higher birth rate?

The Baby Boom (fertility rate peaked at 3.77 in 1957)... When American GIs came home from fighting the Nazis and the Japanese in World War II, they brought far more than war stories with them. They brought moral clarity.

- These men knew without question that they were the good guys, that their civilization was worth something, and that the future belonged to them and to their children.
- That confidence produced the most dramatic birth rate surge in American history because an entire generation had come home knowing exactly what it had fought for.

How did the USA baby boom relate to Israel today?

People have children when they believe in their future -- not when the economy is good, not when the government offers the right subsidies, but when they believe their society is worth perpetuating.

- People proud of who they are will reproduce.
- People who have lost faith in their own goodness will not.

Why did the baby boom fizzle in the USA?

By the time of the Vietnam War, Americans were no longer sure they were the good guys. The campus movements of the 1960s and 70s taught an entire generation that Western civilization was a crime, that America was built on oppression, and that the past was something to atone for rather than build upon.

- A society that loses faith in its own goodness stops having children -- not because the economics change, but because the will to continue disappears.
- It is not pleasure that drives human beings, but meaning. When meaning collapses, so does everything else.

What has the Jewish fertility rate been in history?

It was less than the replacement rate of 2.1 during the Diaspora (in the USA it has been 1.86).

- But Israel's fertility rate was high when God was building them up as a nation...
- A family of 70 people descended into Egypt, and four centuries later numbered in the millions.
- Despite the brutality of Egyptian slavery, they kept having large families -- generation after generation, for over 200 years.

What did the Egyptians think of Israel's population growth?

Pharaoh was terrified of the growing Israelite population, and so he instituted a policy of "population reduction." He had the tools to enforce it: crushing forced labor, systematic oppression, and infanticide.

- His plan was to destroy the Israelites by breaking the men, exhausting the women, and eliminating the boys. Pharaoh's strategy was to grind down their will. A man who comes home every night broken and humiliated, who can barely lift his head, who sees no future for himself or his children, will stop building a family.

Why didn't Pharaoh's plan to reduce the Israelite population work?

It backfired: the more they were oppressed, the more they increased and spread out, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.

Exodus 1:12 – *the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel.*

The more the Egyptians afflicted the people of Israel, the more babies they had.

How did Israel continue to grow despite Egypt's oppression?

The women of Israel refused to let Pharaoh succeed. According to a Midrashic story, Israelite women used copper mirrors to make themselves attractive, to seduce their exhausted husbands who had come home from brutal labor with nothing left.

- Years later, Moses gathered donations from the Israelites to build the holy Tabernacle in the wilderness. The women of Israel brought their copper mirrors as their contribution. Initially, Moses refused them. What place did beauty mirrors have in the holy Tabernacle? These were mirrors women used to fix their hair and apply makeup -- what business did they have in the house of God?
- But God overruled him directly: "Accept these mirrors, for these are more precious to Me than anything because through them the women gave birth to legions of children in Egypt."

What is the parallel between the mentality of Israel during exile in Egypt and today?

- The Israelites in Egypt believed the future of Israel was worth fighting for.
- Today, surrounded by enemies who have tried everything to break them, Israelis believe their children's lives will be worth living.

Israel has today what the USA has lost: the knowledge of what is good and what is evil, and the confidence that comes from knowing which side you are on.

What is the prophetic significance of Israel's growing population?

This is an end-times promise...

Ezekiel 36:11 – *I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bear young; I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better for you than at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.*

This is in the context of God's promise to return Israel back to their land following their dispersion among the nations.

- Israel's population growth foreshadows the fulfillment of God's promise to make Abraham's descendants as numerable "as the dust of the earth" (Genesis 13:16), "as stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore" (Genesis 22:17).

What is the prophetic significance of the world's declining birth rate?

It foreshadows the distress and judgment that will characterize the Tribulation...

Isaiah 13:12 – *I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold*

Among the birth pangs Jesus mentioned in the Olivet Discourse was that *“the love of many will grow cold”* (Matthew 24:12). This means that people will no longer have the desire to have children... the last words of the Old Testament:

Malachi 4:5-6 – *Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.*

This passage is there because when love grows cold, people do not want children. It is very definitely an end of the Age trend.

What applications do we see from our discussion today?

- The birth rate of Israel is a sign of the end of the Age!
- The declining global birth rate is also a sign of the end of the Age!