

Amazing Facts about Israel



*"If you go to the Middle East looking for oil, you don't need to stop in **Israel**. But if you go looking for **brains, for energy, for integrity**, it's the **only place** you need to stop when you go to the Middle East".*

Warren Buffet, Chairman, **Berkshire Hathaway**



*"What sets **Israel** apart for us is the **spirit of the people** and the commitment to **innovation**."*

Steve Bolze, President and CEO **GE Healthcare**



*"**Israel is a major player in the high tech world**. People in high tech are very aware that **Israel** - compared to its small size - has some amazing technological achievements. There is a greater concentration of talented high tech manpower here in comparison to other countries - almost to the extent of Silicon Valley."*

Bill Gates, Founder of **Microsoft**.



*"This is a cutting edge community. If you look around the world, many of the countries that you visit are a few steps behind the cutting edge. **If you come to Israel you feel you are right there**."*

Richard Lampman, Senior Vice President of Research in **Hewlett Packard**



*"**Israel is an incredible source of entrepreneurship and brilliant ideas**."*

Safra Catz, President of **Oracle**



*"**Israel is a hotbed of new raw technology and scientific developments**."*

Matthew I. Growney, Managing Director, **Motorola Ventures**



*"**Israel is a small country with a tiny population, yet it has many significant high-tech success stories**"*

Sven Lingjaerde, Co-founder and general partner, **Vision Capital**

Characterized by groundbreaking entrepreneurship, Israel yields pioneering technologies, profitable business opportunities and high investment returns.

This is why have so many major multi-nationals - Microsoft, Berkshire-Hathaway, Motorola, Intel, HP, Siemens, GE, IBM, Philips, Lucent, AOL, Cisco, Applied Materials, IBM, J&J and more - chose to invest in Israel.

Voicemail, the Internet Fire Wall, instant messaging, VoIP telephony (internet phone calling), modern cellular billing and video endoscopy capsules were all conceived and developed in Israel.

If Israel, with her dynamic workforce from over 100 nations, did not exist, the world would be less advanced than it is today.

Here is a capsule of Israeli accomplishments you may not be fully aware of. Israel, the 100th smallest country, with less than 1/1000th of the world's population, can lay claim to the following:

Israel is ranked:

- 1st for total expenditure on R&D *
- 1st for business expenditure on R&D *
- 1st for availability of qualified scientists and engineers *
- 2nd for venture capital availability *
- 2nd for information technology skills *
- 3rd for Quality of Scientific Research Organizations **
- 3rd for Registered Patents Per Capita **
- 3rd for flexibility and availability of the workforce *
- 4th for higher education achievements *
- 6th for overall innovation **

* **IMD Global Competitiveness Yearbook 2007-2008**

** **WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2008-2009**

- The cell phone was developed in Israel by Israelis working in the Israeli branch of Motorola, which has its largest development center in Israel.
- Most of the Windows NT and XP operating systems were developed by Microsoft-Israel.
- The Intel Pentium chip technology was designed in Israel.
- Both the Pentium-4 microprocessor and the Centrino processor were entirely designed, developed, and produced in Israel. In January 2005, an upgraded version of its Centrino chipset

was, like its predecessor, conceived in Intel's development center in Haifa. The product features new graphics and audio capabilities, faster processing, and greater security features. Intel's next major endeavor, a chipset to support the more advanced WiMax standard for wireless Internet, is also being spearheaded in Israel.

- The Pentium microprocessor in your computer was most likely made in Israel.
- Internet voice-mail technology was developed in Israel.
- Both Microsoft and Cisco built their only R&D facilities outside the U.S. in Israel.
- Four young Israelis developed the technology for the AOL Instant Messenger ICQ in 1996.
- Checkpoint, the world's leader in online security and inventor of Firewall, is an Israeli company.
- Nobel prizes have been awarded to 167 Jews and persons of half-Jewish ancestry, accounting for 22% of all individual recipients worldwide between 1901 and 2004 and constituting 37% of all U.S. recipients during the same period. In the scientific research fields of chemistry, economics, medicine, and physics, the corresponding world and U.S. percentages are 26% and 39%, respectively. Jews currently make up approximately 0.25% of the world's population and 2% of the U.S. population. Yet they have won prizes in these fields:
 - CHEMISTRY: (28 prize winners, 19% of world total, 28% of U.S. total)
 - ECONOMICS: (21 prize winners, 38% of world total, 53% of U.S. total)
 - LITERATURE: (12 prize winners, 12% of world total, 27% of U.S. total)
 - PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE: (52 prize winners, 29% of world total, 42% of U.S. total)
 - PEACE: (9 prize winners, 10% of world total, 11% of U.S. total)
 - PHYSICS: (45 prize winners, 26% of world total, 38% of U.S. total)
- In 1955, Jewish doctor Jonas Salk gave the world the polio vaccine, which was composed of "killed" polio virus that retained the ability to immunize without running the risk of infecting the patient.
- Jewish entertainers, musicians, artists, comedians, singers, and film producers have blessed the world in a percentage far greater than their proportion in the world's population.
- Israel has the fourth largest air force in the world (after the U.S., Russia, and China). In addition to a large variety of other aircraft, Israel's air force has an arsenal of over 250 F-16s. This is the largest fleet of F-16 aircraft outside of the U.S.
- Israel's US \$100 billion economy is larger than all of its immediate neighbors combined.
- Israel has the world's highest percentage of home computers per capita.

- According to industry officials, Israel has designed the airline industry's most impenetrable flight security. U.S. officials now look to Israel for advice on how to handle airborne security threats.
- Israel has developed an in-flight cell-phone system that will allow cell-phone use on airlines at an affordable price.
- Israel has the highest ratio of university degrees to the population in the world; 24% of Israeli workers hold university degrees, ranking third in the industrialized world, after the U.S. and Holland, and 12% hold advanced degrees.
- Israel produces more scientific papers per capita than any other nation by a large margin—109 per 10,000 people—and have one of the highest per capita rates of patents filed.
- In proportion to its population, Israel has the largest number of start-up companies in the world. In absolute terms, Israel has the largest number of start-up companies compared to any other country in the world, except the U.S. (3,500 companies, mostly in high-tech). And with both high-tech companies and start-ups, Israel has the highest concentration of high-tech companies in the world—apart from the Silicon Valley in the U.S.
- The first PC antivirus software was developed in Israel in 1979, and Israel continues as the world leader in developing antivirus software programs.
- Israel is ranked number two in the world for venture capital funds, right behind the U.S.
- Outside the U.S. and Canada, Israel has the largest number of NASDAQ-listed companies.
- Israel has the highest average living standards in the Middle East.
- The per capita income in 2000 was over US \$17,500, exceeding that of the United Kingdom.
- On a per capita basis, Israel has the largest number of biotech start-ups.
- Israel is the only liberal democracy in the Middle East.
- In 1984 and 1991, Israel airlifted a total of 22,000 Ethiopian Jews, at risk in Ethiopia, to safety in Israel.
- When Golda Meir was elected prime minister of Israel in 1969, she became the world's second elected female leader in modern times.
- Israel has the third highest rate of entrepreneurship—and the highest rate among women and among people over 55—in the world.
- Israel has the highest density of startup companies in the world some 3,850, according to the Israel Venture Capital Research Centre
- Relative to its population, Israel is the largest immigrant-absorbing nation on earth. Immigrants come in search of democracy, religious freedom, and economic opportunity.

- Israel was the first nation in the world to adopt the Kimberly process, an international standard that certifies diamonds as “conflict-free.”
- Israel has the world’s second-highest per capita of new books.
- Israel is the only country in the world that entered the 21st century with a net gain in its number of trees, a remarkable feat because this was achieved in an area considered mainly desert.
- Israel has more museums per capita than any other country.
- In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra played a concert wearing gas masks as Scud missiles fired by Saddam Hussein fell on Tel Aviv.
- Israeli scientists developed the first fully computerized, no-radiation diagnostic instrumentation for breast cancer.
- Israel has two official languages, Hebrew and Arabic, with both English and Russian spoken widely.
- An Israeli company developed a computerized system for ensuring proper administration of medications, thus removing human error from medical treatment. Every year in U.S. hospitals, 7,000 patients die from treatment mistakes.
- Israel’s Given Imaging developed the first ingestible video camera, so small it fits inside a pill. It is used to view the small intestine from the inside to detect cancer and digestive disorders.
- Israeli start-up, Veterix, has developed an innovative new electronic capsule that sits in the stomach of a cow, sheep, or goat, sending out real-time information on the health of the herd, to the farmer via Email or cell phone. The e-capsule, which also sends out alerts if animals are distressed, injured, or lost, is now being tested on a herd of cows, in the hopes that the device will lead to tastier and healthier meat and milk supplies.
- Researchers in Israel developed a new device that directly helps the heart pump blood, an innovation with the potential to save lives among those with heart failure. The new device is synchronized with a camera and helps doctors diagnose the heart’s mechanical operations through a sophisticated system of sensors.
- Israel leads the world in the number of scientists and technicians in the workforce with 145 per 10,000, as opposed to 85 in the U.S., over 70 in Japan, and less than 60 in Germany. With over 25% of its workforce employed in technical professions, Israel places first in this category as well.

- A new acne treatment developed in Israel, the ClearLight device, produces a high-intensity, ultraviolet-light-free, narrow-band blue light that causes acne bacteria to self-destruct—all without damaging surrounding skin or tissue.
- An Israeli company was the first to develop and install a large-scale, solar-powered, and fully functional electricity-generating plant in southern California's Mojave Desert.
- Israel is not only a world leader in high tech, bio-technology, life sciences and computers but also in green technology involving agriculture, water treatment and solar power.
- In response to serious water shortages, Israeli engineers and agriculturalists developed a revolutionary drip-irrigation system to minimize the amount of water used to grow crops.
- Netafim changed the world of agriculture by developing drip-irrigation technology. Israeli companies continue to lead the world in this field.
- Date palms have been growing in the Middle East for centuries. The average tree is about 18 to 20 feet tall (about 5.5 to 6.1 meters) and yields about 38 pounds (about 17.2 kilograms) of dates a year. Israeli trees are now yielding 400 pounds (181.4 kilograms) per tree each year and are short enough to be harvested from the ground or a short ladder.
- Through Israel's problems associated with water scarcity, they have helped several African farming communities with drip irrigation schemes as well as establishing 1,000 water projects in 500 Romanian villages.
- Israel recycles 75% of its wastewater – a world record.
- It will soon be possible to order rain in Israel. A group of Israeli, Belgian and American researchers from Ben Gurion University in the Negev hope to transform this myth into a reality. "The Geshem Project" ('geshem' means rain in Hebrew) could significantly reduce world hunger. A virtual simulation is planned for the near future in the Negev: For 80 million Euros, the system put in place over a surface of 9 kilometers squared could bring rain to a region measuring 40 to 100 km².
- Israel airlifted over 14,000 threatened individuals to their country in the space of 36 hours who would have otherwise faced widespread persecution.
- Israel was one of the first countries to respond after the Pakistani earthquake in 2005 even though they have still not recognized Israel as a legitimate state.
- An award-winning scientist at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev developed a biological control for mosquitoes and black flies that cause malaria and river blindness, saving the sight and lives of millions of people in Africa and China.

- Microsoft has one of its three "strategic development centers" outside the US in Israel. It is based on several startup companies that Microsoft has acquired in Israel, which are now part of this development center.
- The Israeli company M-Systems developed the USB-Flash Drives, used for portable storage all over the world. The company was recently bought by SanDisk, an American company, the world's leader in the flash storage market, established by an Israeli guy.
- IBM, Kodak, Cisco, HP, Google, Novell and many more, also have large scale research and development centers in Israel.

Videos:

1. [Israel – Defying the Odds](#)
2. [Israel - From Innovation to Freedom](#)
3. [Start-up Nation, the story of Israel’s Economic Miracle](#)
4. [Environmental technologies developed by Israel](#)
5. [Novel Efficient Water Technologies](#)
6. [Truly Amazing Advanced Solar Cell from Israel](#)
7. [Israel Boasts Agricultural Innovations](#)
8. [Eliminating Rural Poverty](#)
9. [eFuture of Israel](#)
10. [Israel - Your NEXT best investment](#)
11. [Before you boycott Israel](#)
12. [I am Israel](#)

Articles:

1. [Unmatched Israeli Innovation Praised in New Book](#)
2. [Israel’s impact on the world](#)
3. [Israel and the Arab World - Their Contribution to Mankind](#)
4. [Science and Technology in Israel](#)

5. [Israel – A World Leader in Agricultural Technology](#)
6. [Israel plows new ground in exotic crops](#)
7. [Innovations in Medical Technology](#)
8. [How Israel's NewTECH Is Watering The Economy](#)
9. [Israel ranked 17th-most competitive economy](#)
10. [Despite Rejection and Isolation, Israel Keeps Giving](#)

PDF Documents:

1. [Israeli's Economy at a Glance](#)
2. [Israel Life Science Industry- The Wealth of Innovation](#)
3. [Israel's Agriculture- Innovations Make the Land Boom](#)

Books:

1. [Start-Up Nation – The story of Israel's Economic Miracle](#)
2. [Israel in the World: Changing Lives through Innovation](#)
3. [The Golden Age of Jewish Achievement](#)

Rockets into Roses Project Videos:

1. [New York Times - Rockets Into Roses](#)
2. [Rockets into Roses Slideshow](#)
3. [Watch Israeli Artist Turns Kassam Rockets into Roses](#)
4. [CBN News – Rockets into Roses](#)
5. [TV Interview – Rockets into Roses](#)
6. [Kassam Rocket Attacks in Israel Playlist](#)
7. [Operation Lifeshield Playlist](#)