

**The XXVI IUSSP International Population Conference
(Marrakech, Morocco , 27 September – 2 October 2009)**

International Migration in the Arab World

Socio Economic Effects of International Migration in the Eastern Part of
the Arab World, 1990-2008
(Jordan as a Case Study)

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Abstract

International Migration was and still one of the most important Demographic and socio economic factors affecting the Arab countries, in general and the Arab countries in the eastern part of the Arab World .

Since the early of the 20th Centaury the Arab World witnessed all types of international migration, including temporary, permanent, circular, regular and irregular migration. At the same time, and due to wars and political conflict, in Palestine in the Eastern part of the Arab World and liberation wars in the Western part of the Arab

World, we witnessed refugee problems in the Arab World, Palestinian refugees problem is one of the most important problems in the Arab World.

Starting from the middle of the 20th century, some of the Arab World countries, and due to the exploring oil, witnessed a new type of migration, the labour force migration. From that time we notice that Arab countries, specially in the Eastern part of the Arab World, regarding labour force migration, has been divided into three groups , sending labour force countries , receiving labour force countries and sending and receiving labour force countries. Since then labour force migration from Arab countries to the Arab oil producing countries played a very important rule as one of the main types of the international migration in the Arab World.

By the end of the last century, we notice in the Eastern part of the Arab World, and due to the II Gulf War a new type of migration, the returnee migrants. In the year 1990 hundreds of thousands left Iraq and the Arab Gulf States to their countries due to the Second Gulf War.

By the year 2003, and due to the occupation of Iraq, millions of Iraqis fled their countries to the neighboring countries, mainly to Jordan and Syria.

We can, from the previous introduction, realize how important to the scientists and politicians in the Arab World to study and understand international migration in the Arab World.

Jordan is a typical country to study and understand the international migration in Eastern part of the Arab World. All types of international migration which has been mentioned before are so clear and obvious in Jordan.

In this paper, international migration in the Eastern Part of the Arab World and its Demographic and Socio Economic Effects during 1990-2008 period will be studied, by taking Jordan as a case study, under the following headings :

1. Introduction
2. Types of International Migration
3. Size of International Migration and Main Characteristics of International Migrants
4. Labour Force International Migration
5. Labour force Remittances
6. Conclusions and Recommendations

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1.Introduction :

International Migration was and still one of the most important Demographic and socio economic factors affecting the Arab countries, in general and the Arab countries in the eastern part of the Arab World in particular.

Since the early of the 20th century the Arab World witnessed all types of international migration, including temporary, permanent, circular, regular and irregular migration. At the same time, and due to wars and political conflict, in Palestine in the Eastern part of the Arab World and liberation wars in the Western part of the Arab World, we witnessed refugee problems in the Arab World, Palestinian refugees problem is one of the most important problems in the Arab World.

Starting from the middle of the 20th century, some of the Arab World countries, and due to the exploring oil , witnessed a new type of migration , the labour force migration . From that time we notice that Arab countries, specially in the Eastern part of the Arab World, regarding labour force migration, has been divided into three groups:

- sending labour force countries .
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In this paper, international migration in the Eastern part of the Arab World will be studied ,by taking Jordan as a case study, under the following hidings :

1. Types of International Migration in Jordan
2. Size of International Migration and Main Characteristics of International Migrants in Jordan
3. Labour Force International Migration
4. Labour force Remittances
5. Conclusions and Recommendations

2. Types of International Migration in Jordan

2.1 Introduction :

Jordan has suffered repeatedly from the conflict and upheaval that has beset the Middle East since the World War I. Due to a series of wars with Israel, substantial variation has occurred in the population and land area of Jordan. The three Gulf wars during the last three decades has substantially affects Jordan economically and even demographically.

Jordan's Population has been growing rapidly since 1948. In 1948 Jordan received the first and largest wave of Palestinian refugees caused by the war with Israel. It produced a considerable impact on the demographic, economic and political situation in Jordan. The number of Palestinian refugees caused by the war with Israel was estimated in 1949 to be 350 thousands (280 thousands in the West Bank of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and 70 thousands in the East Bank of Jordan) representing about 27% of its population (36% of the West Bank and 13% of the East Bank) .

The First Population and Housing Census in Jordan in the year 1961 gave a total population of 1706 thousands (867.6 thousands males, 838.6 thousands females). The results of the 1961 Population Census showed that 805.2 thousands were in the West Bank of Jordan representing 47.2% of Jordan population, and 900.8 thousands were in the East Bank of Jordan representing 52.8% of total Jordan population , DOS ,Statistical Year Book ,2007.

Population distribution by age and sex in Jordan according to the 1961 Population Census (the East Bank of Jordan only) refers to a young population, where population

less than 15 years of age represented 45.6% of the total population while population 65+ represented only 3.8% of the total population. This age distribution was combined by high fertility and mortality rates (CBR 50.0, CDR 18.0 per (000)). Total Fertility Rate was also high (9.0 per woman) and expected life at birth was (54.0 years for both sexes) ,DOS, Statistical Year Book , 2007 .

The Population and Housing Censuses in Jordan 1961, 1979 ,1994 and 2004 shows a very huge and important changes that occurred in the demographic situation in Jordan , not only in the population size but also in all demographic indicators during the period 1961-2004.

Fertility and mortality rates have declined rapidly during the 1961-2004 priod (CBR declined from 18.0 per (000) in the year 1961 to 7.0 per (000) in the year 2004) . Total Fertility Rate (TFR) also declined to 3.7 per woman, at the same time life expectancy at birth increased to 71.5 years in the year 2004 for both sexes.

Population Growth Rate declined from an average of 4.8% for the period 1961-1979 to 2.6% in the year 2004, while the Rate of Natural Increase declined from 3.2% for the period 1961-1979 to only 2.2% for the year 2004.

From the previous discussion we can realize the very important role of international migration in Jordan, which represents the difference between natural growth rate and population growth rate .Although this rate declined from 1.6% to 0.8%, 0.65% and 0.4% during the periods 1961-1979, 1979-1994, 1988-1999 and 1999-2004 respectively, it is still playing a very important roll in population growth rate in Jordan.

2.2 Types of International Migration in Jordan

Since the early of the 20th centaury Jordan witnessed all types of international migration, including temporary, permanent, circular, regular, irregular and transit migration. At the same time, and due to wars and political conflict, in Palestine and Iraq , Jordan witnessed refugee problem.

In this paper, types of international migration in Jordan will be discussed under the following headings :

1. Irregular Labour Migration
2. Curcular Labour Migration
3. Transit Migration
4. Refugees

2.2.1 Irregular Llabour Migration in Jordan :

Iregular labour migrant includes those who are irregular entrance and /or regular entrance and irregular stay, or regular stay but irregular employment. It is clear that part of these migrant had been admitted as foreign workers on a legal basis ,who subsequently became irregular due to changing labour legislation or because they overstayed their residence permits . It is noteworthy that many Arab nationals can enter the country without entrance permit (Visa) including Egyptians, Syrians, and until very recently, Iraqis.

In general, while the irregular labour migrants respond to actual opportunities offered by the labour market of the countries where they are, they do not respond to a formal demand for labour and do not fulfill all the legal conditions of entry, stay and employment, and therefore may be considered undesirable by the government of the country in questions.

Irregular migration is a new phenomenon in Jordan. As far as the researcher knows, there is no specific data or research in Jordan concerning irregular migration as such. But we can say that refugees in Jordan are the most massive type of irregular migration. They originate mainly from Palestine, (refugees from Palestine since 1948, from West Bank and Gaza Strip since 1967) and from Iraq since early 1990's of the 20th century. Regular migrants in Jordan includes many other nationals, such as Egyptians, Syrians, etc.

2.2.2 Circular Labour Migration in Jordan :

Circular migration as a new concept needs to be more clarified and used as a reasonable way to understand and benefit from the circulation of workers between countries, or group of countries.

Although the term "Circular Migration" is new , circular migration is not new .It has been witnessed between Maghreb countries and Northern and Western Europe countries before the introduction of restrictive migration legislation to the European Countries in mid 1970's. Recently, circular migration is emerging again within specific programs in the European countries aiming at developing legal migration by recruiting seasonal workers directly from the sending countries.

Even that, there is a relatively long experience of forms of circular migration; the empirical research has focused very little on its positive and negative effects on the developments of the countries, on the short and long terms.

Circular migration may provide a solution to the labour market imbalances in some countries, where under the pressure of public opinion in countries of destination, some seem to believe that the only way to contrast the negative effects of foreign immigration on their countries is to control their borders and restrict access to their countries, although the labour market in some of these countries still needs additional workers .This is one of the main reasons that migration takes place irregularly , either by illegal entrance or by overstaying short-term instead of using temporary work contracts .

International migration in the future may not be based only upon temporary flows. This is because both sending and receiving countries need permanent flows of population. Receiving countries need migrants because their population is ageing and the sending countries because their population is still young and growing rapidly.

However, circular migration for sending countries could be less disruptive than long term (or definitive) migration, one of the most important questions is how circular or temporary migration can become a process which contributes to the development of the countries of origin.

Circular migration in Jordan is a very recent phenomenon, and as far as the author now, there is no empirical research on circular migration in Jordan, its size, types, and its actual and optimal length of staying, main characteristics and its positive and negative effects on Jordanian economy. Reference to the definition of circular migration, some of the Jordanians working abroad (mainly who are working in the Arab Gulf States) and all non-Jordanians working in Jordan might be covered by the definition of circular migration in Jordan.

2.2.3 Transit Migration in Jordan :

Transit migration refers to people initially heading for regions further away but they do not meet visa conditions. We notice this type of migration in Jordan since early 1970's. We notice that many Egyptians came to work in Jordan as a first leg to find a job in Iraq or in the Gulf countries. At the same time we can notice that many Iraq refugees in Jordan are planning to leave the country once they have any chance of getting a visa from USA or any European country. As a matter of fact we have very little if any information available in Jordan about transit migration, its size and the main characteristics of transit migrants in Jordan.

2.2.4 Refugees.

Many of the non-Jordanians living in Jordan are Palestinian Refugees from Palestinian 1948 and Palestinian territories, Gaza Strip and West Bank, living in Jordan since 1967. They don't need any type of permission to stay or work in Jordan.

Starting from early 1990's of the 20th century and due to the Gulf wars many Iraqis start to come to Jordan as refugees, started with few numbers during early 1990's and with huge numbers from the year 2003. Until very recent there was only very little data available about Iraqis in Jordan, their numbers, geographic distribution and main demographic and other characteristics. The influx of Iraqi refugees to Jordan is the largest recent population flows to Jordan and the most uncertain.

3. Size of International Migration and Main Characteristics of International Migrants in Jordan:

3.1 Introduction

As mentioned in the previous section there are many types of international migration in Jordan, in this section non-Jordanians in Jordan and refugees in Jordan is discussed in some details

3.2 Non-Jordanian Population Living in Jordan

Due to the importance of international migration in Jordan, where international migration specially labour force migration is one of the most important factors affecting Jordanian demography and economy, this paper discusses non-Jordanians living in Jordan, their number and main economic and demographic characteristics.

The 2004 Population Census revealed that out of the total number of Jordan population which was 5103.639 thousands, 7.7% were non-Jordanians (which comes to 393 thousands). This section discusses non-Jordanians living in Jordan by reason for incoming to Jordan, place of residence, age and sex, nationality, educational level, economic status, etc.

3.2.1 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Reason for Incoming to Jordan

From table No.1 we can see that 42.5% of non-Jordanians living in Jordan (53.6% for males, 26.6% for females) came to Jordan in order to find a Job in Jordan. The second largest group of non-Jordanians living in Jordan where those who came for accompaniment, especially for female, representing 35% of non-Jordanian females living in Jordan. Only 2.3% of the non-Jordanians living in Jordan came to study.

**Table No.1
Non-Jordanians 15+ Years Living in Jordan By Sex and Reason for Incoming to Jordan From 2004 Population and Housing Census**

Reason for Incoming to Jordan	Males	%	Females	%	Total	%
Work	123901	53.6	42790	26.6	166691	42.5
Study	6256	2.7	2700	1.7	8956	2.3
Accompaniment	38758	16.8	56260	35.0	95018	24.2
Tourism	8324	3.6	5250	3.3	13574	3.5
Treatment	1717	0.7	942	0.6	2659	0.6
Other	52384	22.6	52991	32.9	105375	26.9
Total	231340	100	160933	100	392273	100

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

3.2.2 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Sex and Place of Residence

From Table No. 2 we can notice that the majority of non-Jordanians were in the Middle Region, especially in the Amman Governorate .Their number comes to 292.8 thousands representing 74.7% of total non-Jordanians living in Jordan and 9.2 % of total population living in the Medial Region (of which 209.7 thousands were in Amman representing 53.5% of total non-Jordanians living in Jordan and 10.8 % of total Jordan population).

**Table N0.2
Jordan Population from 2004 Population and Housing Census
by Sex , Region and Nationality
(000)**

Region	Male	Female	Total	Non-Jordanians %
Amman	998.628	943.438	1942.066	10.8
Middle Region	1637.393	1545.637	3183.030	9.2
Northern Region	740.849	703.958	1444.807	4.6
Southern Region	248.049	227.753	475.802	6.6
Total	2626.291	2477.348	5103.639	7.7

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

From Table No. 3 , we can notice also that Zarqa Governorate which hosted 56508 non-Jordanians representing 14.4% of total non-Jordanians living in Jordan in the year 2004 came second .The third Governorate is Irbid Governorate which hosted 31394 representing 8% of total non-Jordanians in the Census year . This is some thing expected, were the number of non-Jordanians, as always the case in

international migration, concentrated in large cities where they expect to find suitable jobs and better life conditions.

Table No.3
Non-Jordanians Living in Jordan By Sex and Governorate
From 2004 Population and Housing Census

Governorate	Males	%	Females	%	Total	%
Amman	120161	51.9	89612	55.7	209773	53.5
Balqa	15185	6.6	6728	4.2	21913	5.6
Zarqa	31032	13.4	25476	15.8	56508	14.4
Madaba	3593	1.6	1898	1.2	5491	1.4
Irbid	18114	7.8	13280	8.3	31394	8.0
Mafrq	10151	4.4	4773	3.0	14924	3.8
Jarash	10659	4.6	8837	5.5	19496	5.0
Ajloun	899	0.4	395	0.2	1294	0.3
Karak	4835	2.1	3926	2.4	8761	2.2
Tafilleh	1037	0.4	381	0.2	1418	0.4
Ma'an	4185	1.8	1500	0.9	5685	1.4
Aqaba	11489	0.5	4127	2.6	15616	4.0
Total	231340	100	160933	100	392273	100

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

We can notice also that, and reference to the previous remark, only 12.9% of non-Jordanians were living in rural areas see Table No. 4

Table No. 4
Non- Jordanians Living in Jordan by Sex and Place of Residence from
2004 Population and housing Census

	Males	Females	Total	%	Sex Ratio
Rural	35261	15424	50685	12.9	
Urban	196079	145509	341588	87.1	
Total	231340	160933	392273	100	

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

3.2.3 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Age and Sex

From Table No.5 we can notice that there are clear differences between age distribution of Jordan population and age distribution of non-Jordanians living in Jordan, especially for the first main age groups, less than 15 years of age, 15-29 and.30-49. On the other hand sex ratio between non-Jordanians living in Jordan is very high, 143.7 males for every 100 females. Sex ratio by age is extremely high; specially for age group 30-49 were it exceeds 212 males for every 100 females. The reason for that is the number of non-Jordanian workers who are mainly males. With the exception of some females working as house keepers, very few non-Jordanian females are working in Jordan.

Table No.5
Non-Jordanians Living in Jordan By Age And Sex From
2004 Population and Housing Census

Age Group	Males	%	Females	%	Total	%	Sex Ratio
Less Than 15	48685	21.0	42815	26.6	91500	23.3	113.7
15-29	85397	36.9	64811	40.3	150208	38.3	131.8
30-49	79549	34.4	37438	23.3	116987	29.8	212.5
50-64	13127	5.7	8173	5.1	21300	5.4	160.6
65+	4582	2.0	4272	2.7	8854	2.3	107.3
Total	231340	100	160933	100	392273	100	143.7

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

3.2.4 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Educational Level

Education is one of the main characteristics of any population. Jordan population is highly educated with comparatively low illiteracy rates for both males and females. In contrast, non-Jordanian population living in Jordan has relatively low educational levels. Illiteracy rates between males and females are much higher between non-Jordanians living in Jordan. Only 37.4 % of non-Jordanians were with Secondary education or more. At the same time we can notice that there were 1184 of non-Jordanians with Ph.D and the majority of them working as university professors in privet Jordanian universities, the majority of them are Iraqis, see table No. 6.

Table No.6
Non-Jordanians 15+ Years Living in Jordan By Sex and Educational Level
From 2004 Population and Housing Census

Educational Level	Males	%	Females	%	Total	%
Illiterate	31777	18.7	16717	15.2	48494	17.3
Read and Write	11643	6.9	11168	10.2	22811	8.2
Elementary	20740	12.2	11956	10.9	32696	11.7
Preparatory	22921	13.5	19600	17.8	42521	15.2
Basic Education	11719	6.9	10502	9.6	22221	8.1
Vocational Apprenticeship	4454	2.6	380	0.3	4834	1.7
Secondary	29272	17.2	22570	20.5	51842	18.5
Intermediate Diploma	23970	14.1	7947	7.2	31917	11.4
B.A.	10427	6.1	7283	6.6	17710	6.3
Higher Diploma	257	0.2	175	0.2	432	0.2
M.A.	1005	0.6	570	0.5	1575	0.6
Ph.D.	960	0.6	224	0.2	1184	0.4
Total	169804	100	109878	100	279682	100

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

3.2.5 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Marital Status

Marital status is also one of the main demographic characteristics of any population.

From table No.7 we can notice that 54.1% (54.7% males and 53.1% females) were currently married, and 43.2% (44.4% males , 41.4 % females) were single never married . We also can notice that there is a reasonable proportion of non-Jordanian females living in Jordan were widowed (3.7%) which is some thing unexpected.

Table No.7
Non-Jordanians 15+ Years Living in Jordan By Sex and Marital Status to Jordan From 2004 Population and Housing Census

Marital Status	Males	%	Females	%	Total	%
Never Married	75352	44.4	45502	41.4	120854	43.2
Married	92882	54.7	58364	53.1	151246	54.1
Divorced	400	0.2	1264	1.2	1664	0.6
Widowed	481	0.3	4043	3.7	4524	1.6
Separated	7	0.0	50	0.0	57	
Unspecified	682		655		1337	
Total	169804	100	109878	100	279682	100

Source : DOS, 2004 Population and Housing Census Results , March ,2006 – Amman Jordan

3.2.6 Non-Jordanians living in Jordan by Nationality

From table No. 8 we can notice that the majority of non-Jordanians living in Jordan from the 2004 Population and Housing Census were Palestinians, mainly from Gaza Strip, representing 29.4 % of the total non-Jordanians living in Jordan in the year 2004. Egyptians representing the second largest national group of non-Jordanians living in Jordan representing 28.7% of the total non-Jordanians living in Jordan in that year. According to the results of the 2004 Population and Housing Census Iraqis and Syrians came in the third and fourth places with rations equal to 10.2% and 9.7% respectively .

Table No.8
Distribution of Non Jordanian Population Living in Jordan by Sex and Nationality from 2004 Population and Housing Census

Nationality	Male	Female	Total	Total %
Egypt	91687	20705	112392	28.7
Syria	22320	15810	38130	9.7
Palestine	61112	54078	115190	29.4
Iraq	24453	15631	40084	10.2
Other Arab Countries	10727	7118	17845	4.5
Pakistan	2075	1458	3533	0.9
India	3331	492	3823	1.0
Philippine	299	3874	4173	1.1
Srilanka	1219	12333	13552	3.5
China	1045	8986	10031	2.6
Indonesia	78	11232	11310	2.9
Bengladesh	5370	2148	7518	1.9
European Countries	2662	3693	6843	1.7
USA	1586	1255	2841	0.7
Total	231340	160933	392273	100

Source : DOS , 2004 Population and Housing Census , DOS, Amman – Jordan , 2006

3.3 Refugees in Jordan

3.3.1 Palestinian Refugees

According to the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) statistics there are 4562.8 thousands Palestinian refugees as of 31 December 2007 , 1903.5 of them , representing 42% of the whole registered refugees, are in Jordan , see Table No. 9. Only 332.9 thousands of them , representing 18% of the whole registered Palestinian refugees in Jordan , are residents in refugees camps. There are only (10) refugee camps in Jordan distributed all over the country, see Table No. 10 .

Table No.9
Palestinian Refugees from Palestine Occupied 1948 Registered By UNRWA as of 31 December 2007 by References Are to Agency Installations

	Jordan	Lebanon	<u>Syria</u>	Wes Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
Registered Refugees	1903490	413962	451467	745776	1048126	4562820
Increase in RRs over Previous Years (%)	<u>2.4</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>3.2</u>	<u>3.1</u>	<u>2.6</u>
RR as a % of Total RRs	42	9	10	16	23	100
Existing Camps	10	12	9	19	8	58
RRin Camps (RRCs)	332948	219210	121898	189787	491636	1355470
RRCs as %of RRs	18	53	27	25	47	30

Source : Public Information Office , UNRWA Headquarters (GAZA) , February 2008

The largest Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan is Al Baq`a Camp which hosting 68.4 thousand Palestinian refugees representing 20.5% of the whole registered Palestinian refugees in Palestinian refugees camps in Jordan , see Table No. 10.

Table No.10
Existing Palestine Refuges Camps in Jordan and Palestine Refuges Registered With UNRWA as of 31 March 2005

Camps	Registered Refugees	%
Amman New Camp	50703	15.2
Irbid	24351	7.3
Husn	20988	6.3
Souf	15882	4.8

Jabol Al-Hussein	29998	9.0
Baq'a	68386	20.5
Zarqa	18004	5.4
Marka	38425	11.5
Talbieh	871	0.3
Jerash	15488	4.7
Total	332948	100

Source : Public Information Office , UNRWA Headquarters (GAZA) , May 2005

Since its establishment by the UN resolution No.302(IV) of 8 December 1949 , the UNRWA bear the responsibility of supporting the Palestinian refugees in their hosted countries , including education ,health , relief and social services .

Reference to the UNRWA statistics , the number of pupils enrolled in the UNRWA schools in Jordan in the academic year 2007/2008 were 124574 pupils , 43.1% were females ,enrolled in 176 (Elementary and Preparatory Schools) . The Number of Educational Staff in these Schools comes to 5600 .In Jordan , there is only one Educational Science Faculty and two Vocational and Technical Training Centers and 1382 VTTC Training Places under the UNRWA control.

From all data available, we can realize the size of the economic problem facing Jordanian economy due to the size of the Palestinian refugees problem in Jordan.

3.3.2 Iraqi Refugees in Jordan

Starting from early 1990's of the 20th century and due to the Gulf wars many Iraqis start to come to Jordan as refugees , started with few numbers during early 1990's and with huge numbers from the year 2003 . Before Fafo Survey 2007, only very little data were available about Iraqis in Jordan, there numbers, geographic distribution and main demographic and other characteristics.

Upon the request of the Government of Jordan, The Norwegian Research Institute (FaFo) ,with the collaboration of the Department of Statistics in Jordan (DOS) , Ministry of Planning in Jordan (MOP) , and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) , conducted a survey on Iraqis in Jordan , (FaFo 2007).

FaFo Study on Iraqis in Jordan 2007, their number and characteristics, conclude that there are between 450000 - 500000 Iraqis residents in Jordan as of May 2007. (Many estimates of the number of Iraqis in Jordan before the results of the FaFo 2007 study have been put forward the number as high as one million or 750000 representing 18% of the total population) 77% of them arrived to Jordan in 2003 and later , with the highest volume of movement of population taking place in 2004 and 2005 .

The migration of Iraqis to Jordan is predominantly a migration of families. On average there are a small overweight of women in the Iraqi population in Jordan. They are on average older than the Jordanian population with mean age 29.5 years (it is 24 years for Jordanians). 70% of them are in working age (15+) years. 25% of Iraqi women aged 15-50 have given birth in Jordan during the last 5 years. Iraqis in Jordan are well educated and 22% of Iraqis adults in work. 60% of them are employees for someone else, 30% of Iraqi men are employers. 25% of the households own the dwelling they are currently residing.

It is clear from the results of the Iraqis in Jordan Survey 2007 that the number and the main characteristics of the Iraqis in Jordan is substantially different from what we have expected, which means that while it is still representing a meager problem for the Jordanian economy and the labour market in Jordan it is less than what we were expected .

4. Labour Force International Migration in Jordan :

4.1 Introduction:

Jordanian labor force, due to the high level of unemployment and poverty, has started to emigrate from Jordan since early 1950`s, looking for better opportunities of work, specially in the Arab Gulf countries. This type of migration was very helpful to the Jordan economy through easing the unemployment problem and providing Jordan's economy with a very important source of income represented by the remittances of Jordanians working abroad.

By 1973, owing to the implementation of extensive projects in Jordan and to the out-migration of Jordanians to the Gulf States, which were also witnessing a period of economic boom, the demand for Jordanian labor force had sharply increased. This affected Jordan's economy in many ways such as:

- i. Decreasing unemployment rates.
- ii. Increasing labor wages in Jordan due to the increasing demand for labor.
- iii. Increasing labor remittances from Jordanians working abroad
- iv. The high Gulf- States' demand for skilled Jordanians labour force made it necessary to Jordan to import labor force from other neighboring Arab countries such as Egypt, Syria ...etc.

Starting from early 1990's of the 20th century and due to the Gulf wars many Iraqis start to come to Jordan as refugees , started with few numbers during early 1990's and with huge numbers from the year 2003 .

4.2 Non-Jordanians Working in Jordan :

Before the announcement of the results of the 2004 Population and Housing Census, the only figure available about non-Jordanians working in Jordan was that of non-Jordanian workers holding work permits published regularly by the Ministry of Labor, see Table No.11. From this table we can see that the number of non-Jordanians holding work permits increased from only 4 thousands in the year 1976 to 313.962 thousands in the year 2007 .

The 2004 Population Census results show that the total number of labour force in Jordan in the year 2004 was 1454074 persons (1262765 Jordanians, 191307 non-Jordanians). The latter number is, however, much less than the number provided by the Ministry of Labour (MOL) for the same year which was (218.8 thousand). This mean that there are differences between the data about non-Jordanians working in Jordan , which is mainly due to the fact that some non-Jordanians living in Jordan , manly Palestinians from Gaza Strep and West Bank living in Jordan since the year 1967 , need not to have a work permit to work in Jordan , while some non-Jordanians are working in Jordan without having work permits from the Ministry of Labour . It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of Labour in Jordan is the sole responsible for organizing the labour market in Jordan. Therefore this source of data represents one of the most important sources of data about labour market in Jordan.

Although some of the non-Jordanians working in Jordan are working without work permits, due to security reasons, all non-Jordanians in Jordan enter the country legally. Nationals from many Arab countries can enter Jordan without visa, but they need work permits to work.

Table No. 11
Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits in Jordan by Sex 1983-2006
(000)

Year	Male	Female	Total	Year	Male	Female	Total
1983	51.9	6.6	58.4	1997	111.4	5.1	116.5
1985	91.4	10.0	101.5	1998	108.3	5.7	114.0
1986	86.1	11.8	97.9	1999	147.6	6.6	154.2
1987	68.0	11.8	79.8	2000	101.9	8.6	110.6
1988	52.8	10.3	63.0	2001	136.6
1989	39.6	8.0	47.6	2002	112.6	14.6	127.1
1990	30.7	6.9	37.6	2003	123.2	25.1	148.4
1991	24.0	6.1	30.1	2004	185.0	33.8	218.8
1992	88.8	7.7	96.4	2005	228.6	31.7	260.4
1993	44.8	8.2	53.0	2006	244.9	44.8	289.7
1994	35.3	7.0	42.3	2007	265.9	48.0	314.0
1995	88.1	6.3	94.3				

Source: Ministry of Labour (MOL), Annual Report, Several Years

4.2.1 Non- Jordanians Holding work permits and working in Jordan by Age , Sex and Marital Status .

From table No. 1 we can notice that the majority of non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan are males, where males representing 84.7% of them in the year 2007. There is no data available about non-Jordanians holding work permits in Jordan by Age , but the results from the 2004 population and housing census shows that 64.2% of the non-Jordanians economically active in Jordan are in the age group 20-39 , and only 5.2% of them are in the age group 50 years and over . Although these data represents non-Jordanians economically active in Jordan it is not very far from the age distribution of non-Jordanians holding work permits in Jordan, (DOS ,2004 Population and Housing Census , 2006)

To have more comprehensive picture about the demographic situation of non-Jordanians holding work permits in Jordan, it's worth mentioning that 94.4 % of them are single, (MOL, Annual Report , 2007) This means that the majority of the non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan are young single males.

4.2.2 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits by Sex and Nationality

From table No.12 we can notice that the majority of the non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan are Egyptians, 69.6%, and non-Arab Asian nationals 27.9%. We can notice also that the majority of males were Egyptians 82.2%, and non-Arab Asian nationals , 15.1%% . At the same time we can notice also that the overwhelming majority of females were from non-Arab Asian nationals , 97.5%. This means that the Jordanian labour market is attractive for the labour force from

neighbor Arab countries, mainly males and from non –Arab Asian nationals, mainly females.

Table No.12
Distribution of Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits By Sex and Nationality in Jordan in the Year 2006

Nationality	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Egypt	201381	82.2	210	0.5	201591	69.6
Syria	3023	1.2	75	0.2	3098	1.1
Other Arab Countries	1179	0.5	449	1.0	1628	0.6
Iraq	1492	0.6	153	0.3	1645	0.6
Pakistan	1550	0.6	145	0.3	1695	0.6
India	4957	2.0	174	0.3	5131	1.8
Philippine	1849	0.8	10905	24.4	12754	4.4
Srilanka	7994	3.3	9685	21.6	17679	6.1
Other Asian (Non-Arab Countries)	20848	8.5	22762	50.8	43610	15.1
Europe Countries	452	0.2	136	0.3	588	0.2
U.S.A.	126	0.1	24	0.0	150	0.1
African Countries	28	0.0	45	0.0	73	0.0
Other Countries	64	0.0	0.0	0.0	82	0.0
Total	244943	100	44781	100	289724	100

Source : Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006 , Amman - Jordan

4.2.3 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits by Sex and Educational Level .

Table No. 13 indicates that the educational level of the non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan is low , where 84.1% of them (82.5% males, 92.9% females) in the year 2006 were illiterate, 87.4% of them (85.4% males, 98.6% females) with educational level less than secondary educational level. It is worth noting that 11.4% of them were with Intermediate Diploma (13.4 % males, 0.9% females). Only 0.8% of them (0.9% males, 0.4% females) are with Bachelor degree or over. This mean that only small part of the non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan are well educated , while the majority of them are poorly educated and working in low occupational levels in agriculture , construction and services sectors .

Table No.1 3
Distribution of Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits By Sex and Educational Level in Jordan in the Year 2006

Educational Level	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Illiterate	202183	82.5	41600	92.9	243783	84.1
Read and Write	4500	1.8	2361	5.3	6861	2.4
Elementary	1597	0.7	106	0.2	1703	0.6
Preparatory	771	0.3	70	0.2	841	0.3
Vocational Apprenticeship	124	0.1	2	0.0	126	0.0
Secondary	772	0.3	85	0.2	857	0.3
Intermediate Diploma	32722	13.4	389	0.9	33111	11.4
Bachelor	1704	0.7	77	0.2	1781	0.6
High Diploma	19	0.0	1	0.0	20	0.0
Master	65	0.0	17	0.0	82	0.0
Ph.D	481	0.2	73	0.2	554	0.2
Total	244943	100	44781	100	289724	100

Source : Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006 , Amman - Jordan

4.2.4 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits and Working in Jordan by Sex and Economic Activity

From table No.14 we can notice that the majority of males are working in the agriculture sector (27.8%), manufacturing sector (25.2%), construction sector (18.1%), whole sale and retail trade, and restaurants and hotels (13.9%) and personal and social services (11.4%). While the majority of the female workers (79.7%) are working in the personal and social services sector. 18.1% of the female workers in the year 2006 were working in the manufacturing sector. These data is a reflection of the educational level of non-Jordanians working in Jordan where the jobs in these sectors don't need highly educated or highly qualified labour force, especially for females, where the majority of them are working as house workers in the personal services sector.

Table No1.4
Distribution of Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits By Sex and Economic Activity in Jordan in the Year 2006

Economic Activity	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Agriculture and Hunting	68170	27.8	168	0.3	68338	23.6
Mining and Quarrying	2934	1.2	6	0.0	2940	1.0
Manufacturing	61636	25.2	8103	18.1	69739	24.1
Electricity , Gas and Water	202	0.1	0.0	0.0	202	0.1
Construction	44241	18.1	23	0.1	44264	15.3
Whole Sale and Retail Trade and Restaurants and Hotels	34160	13.9	499	1.1	34659	12.0

Transportation ,Storage and Communications	1930	0.8	27	0.1	2002	0.7
Finance and Real Estate	3671	1.5	207	0.5	3878	1.3
Personal and Social Services	27999	11.4	35703	79.7	63702	22.0
Total	244943	100	44781	100	289724	100

Source: Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006, Amman – Jordan

4.2.5 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits Working in Jordan By Sex and Vocational Classification

Table No.15 reveal that 29.1% of the male non-Jordanian workers are working as agricultural workers and 19.9% of them as construction workers, this while 78.4% of the non-Jordanians female workers are working as house service workers. These figures are consistent with the previous figures in table No.1 4.

Table No.15
Distribution of Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits By Sex and Vocational Classification in Jordan in the Year 2006

Vocational Classification	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Agriculture Workers	71182	29.1	171	0.4	71353	24.6
Construction Workers	48643	19.9	25	0.0	48668	16.8
Cleaning Workers	14729	0.6	87	0.2	14816	5.1
Loading and Unloading Workers	20583	8.4	6	0.0	20589	7.1
House Service	6165	2.5	35113	78.4	41278	14.2
Others	77306	31.6	9378	20.9	86684	29.9
Bakery	6336	2.5	0.0	0.0	6336	2.2
Total	244943	100	44781	100	289724	100

Source : Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006, Amman – Jordan

4.2.6 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits and Working in Jordan By Sex and Job Categories

As we mentioned before , and due to low educational levels of the non-Jordanians working in Jordan we can realize why the majority of them are working in low job categories ,where 53.6% of male workers are unskilled and production workers , 29.1% agriculture workers ,15.2 % service workers and only 1.1% of them are professional and technicians. On the other hand, we can notice that non-Jordanian female workers are concentrated in personal service sector, where 79.9% of them working as service workers. And as in the case of males a reasonable proportion of female workers are working as a production workers and only 0.9% of them are professionals and technicians, see table No.16.

Table No.16
Distribution of Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits By Sex and Job Categories in Jordan in the Year 2006

Job Categories	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Professionals and Technicians	2903	1.1	422	0.9	3325	1.1
Seniors and Management Workers	1128	0.5	76	0.2	1204	0.4
Clerks	119	0.0	48	0.1	167	0.1
Sales Workers	923	0.4	11	0.0	934	0.3
Service Workers	37257	15.2	35797	79.9	73054	25.2
Agricultural Workers	71204	29.1	171	0.4	71375	24.6
Un-skilled and Production Workers	131409	53.6	8256	18.4	139665	48.2
Total	244943	100	44781	100	289724	100

Source : Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006, Amman – Jordan

4.2.7 Non-Jordanians Holding Work Permits and Working in Jordan By Monthly Earning

Due to the previous characteristics of the non-Jordanians workers working in Jordan, it's expected that they are working in low earning jobs. From table No.17 we can notice that 40.9% of non-Jordanian workers are working with less than 100 JD per month (JD=1.4\$), 57.3% with monthly earning from 100 and less than 150 JD and only 0.7% of them are working with 500 JD or more . This means that, although wages in Jordan are relatively low comparing with wages in the neighboring Arab Gulf Sate countries, non-Jordanians working in Jordan, generally, are working in low paid jobs in low paid sectors with low monthly earning comparing with Jordanian nationals.

Table No.17
Non-Jordanian Workers Holding Work Permits and working in Jordan Distributed By Monthly Earning (JD) in the Year 2006 and Jordanians Employed Persons Age 15+ years by Sex and Monthly Earning From Work in Jordan ,JD (as it was in February 2007)

Monthly Earning	Non-Jordanian %	(JD=1.4 \$) Jordanian %
Less than 100	40.9	7.5
100-199	57.7	44.0
200-299	0.4	30.4
300+	1.0	18.1
Total	100	100

Source : Ministry of Labour , Annual Report 2006, Amman – Jordan
 Department of Statistics ,Employment and Unemployment Survey , First Round , February 2007, Amman – Jordan

The majority of the non-Jordanians (73.7%) working in Jordan are in the medial region of the country, 51.7% of them in Amman governorate only. This is something expected, where this area is the most important area in the country, economically and demographically. The second area is the northern area of the country (18%), 11.5% of them in Irbid governorate. Although, the southern region of the country is a very important region in the Jordan, economically, where it include the Aqaba port (the only port in the country) only 8.2% of the non-Jordanian workers are in the southern governorates, only 0.8% of them are in Aqaba governorate (MOL, Annual Report 2006).

4.3. Jordanians Working Abroad

As we mentioned earlier, Jordanian labor force started to emigrate from Jordan to many countries, including, U.S, Europe, Australia and the Arab Gulf states from early fifties of the twentieth century. Unfortunately very little work and very little information available about Jordanian workers abroad. Ministry of Labor in Jordan started a project to collect information about Jordanian labor force working abroad during the period 1983-1987.

The data published by the Ministry of Labor referred to the number of Jordanian labor force in the Arab States by country during that period as in Table No.18. The majority of the Jordanian labor force at that time where in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Since that time, specially after the second Gulf War 1990, many of the Jordanian labor force in the Arab Gulf States, specially Kuwait, returned to Jordan, before they started to return back gradually to work in the Arab Gulf states late nineties of the last century.

Table No. 18
Jordanian Labor Force in the Arab States During 1983,1986,1987
(000)

Country	1983	1986	1987
Saudi Arabia	160	160	161
Kuwait	80	81	81
Qatar	7.5	8	8.3
United Arab Emirates	10	10.5	10.8
Bahrain	3	3	3
Oman	5	6	6
Lybia	3	3	3
Iraq	1.5	2	2
Other Arab Countries	1.0	2	2.1
Total	271.2	276	277.2

Source : DOS , Statistical Year Book , 1993 , Amman – Jordan

Jordanians started to emigrate towards EU countries, North and South America, Australia, and New Zealand, since early fifties of the 20th century. Some recent studies (UN- ESCWA 2007) estimated the number of Jordanians (15+ years) emigrants in some EU countries in the year 2000 using data from receiving countries by 72296 (61.3% of them were males) the majority of them (72.1%) are

young emigrants less than 45 years of age, see table No. 19 and they generally prefer to emigrate to Germany, see Table No. 20.

Table No. 19
Age Distribution of Jordanians Emigrants (15+ Years) in Some EU in the Year 2000

Age Group	%
15-24	12.6
25-34	27.7
35-44	31.8
45-54	16.4
55-64	6.4
65+	5.0
Total	100

Source : U.N. –ESCWA, Annual Report for Population and Development, No. 3, International Migration in the Arab Region : Challenges and Opportunities, ESCWA, Beirut, August 2007

Table No. 20
Jordanians Emigrants Trend towards Some EU Countries
(different years according to the receiving countries Statistics) 2000

Country	Number
<u>France</u>	<u>933</u>
<u>Spain</u>	<u>1297</u>
<u>Italy</u>	<u>2011</u>
<u>Germany</u>	<u>10435</u>
<u>Holland</u>	<u>833</u>
<u>Belgium</u>	=
<u>Greece</u>	<u>672</u>
Total	16181

Source : U.N. –ESCWA, Annual Report for Population and Development, No. 3, International Migration in the Arab Region : Challenges and Opportunities, ESCWA, Beirut, August 2007

5. Labour Force Remittances in Jordan

One of the main benefits for the sending countries of the labor force is to receive remittances from their labor force. Remittances in many countries, including Jordan, play a very important role in economic development, where they represent a reasonable share of the country's foreign currencies and its national income, see table No.21.

Table No.21
Top Ten Remittances Receiving Countries (2006)

Country	Remittances in \$ billions	Country	Remittances as % of GDP
India	25.7	Moldova	38.0
Mexico	24.7	Tonga	31.0
China	22.5	Guyana	22.0
Philippines	14.9	Haiti	21.0
France	12.6	Lebanon	21.0
Spain	8.9	Tajikistan	20.0
UK	7.3	Honduras	20.0
Belgium	7.2	Jordan	20.0
Germany	6.7	Bosnia& Herz	20.0
Bangladesh	5.5	Armenia	19.0

Source :Omet , Ghassan, The Development Role of Jordainians Remittances , The Third Conference on Scientific Research in Jordan , 17 November 2007 , Amman-Jordan

Arab and Non-Arabs emigrants in the Gulf Stats transfer more than 26 pillion US dollars pear year to their countries , represents 8% of the GDP of these countries , while migrants in US transfers 23 pillion US dollars pear year to their countries . KSA is the second largest source of transfers in the world (the average annual transfers per emigrant per year equal to 8885 \$), (UN. –ESCWA 2007).

At the same time, Arab countries resave in the year 2004 about 21.6 pillion US dollars as transfers from Arab emigrant abroad. These transfers went mainly to Lebanon , Morocco , Egypt , Jordan , Algeria , Tunes , Sudan , Yemen and SAR respectively (UN-ESCWA 2007) .

Regarding the issue of remittances the Arab region can be divided into two groups: net positive receiving remittances countries (including Jordan) and net negative receiving remittances countries (including the Arab Gulf states), see Table No. 22.

Table No.22
Net Workers Remittances (\$ billions)
1996-2006

Country	1996-99	2000-03	2004	2005	2006
Egypt	3.4	3.2	3.0	4.3	4.5
Jordan	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.5
Lebanon	0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4
Morocco	2.0	2.9	4.2	4.7	5.2
Tunisia	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.4
Algeria	1.0	1.1	2.5	2.0	2.5
Syria	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9
Yemen	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Bahrain	-0.7	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2
Kuwait	-1.5	-1.9	-2.4	-3.3	-3.4
Libya	-0.2	-0.6	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8

Oman	-1.5	-1.6	-1.8	-2.3	-1.9
Qatar	-1.2	-1.5	-2.2	-2.2	-2.3
Saudi Arabia	-15.2	-15.3	-13.6	-14.3	-15.0
United Arab Emirates	-3.5	-4.0	-4.6	-5.4	-6.0

Source : Scientific Research in Jordan , 17 Development Role of Jordainians Omet , Ghassan, The Remittances , The Third Conference on November 2007 , Amman-Jordan

Table No.23 reveal that the annual transfers from Jordanians abroad increased from 533.8 million US dollars during the period 1975-1979 to 2357.9 million US dollars for the period 200-2004 , (UN-ESCWA 2007) .

Table No. 23
Average Annual Received Remittances in Jordan between 1975-2004
(million US \$)

Period	Annual Received Remittances
1975-1979	533.8
1984	1053.6
1989	1055.6
1994	950.4
1996-1999	1559.9
2000-2004	2357.9

Source : U.N. –ESCWA , Annual Report for Population and Development , No. 3 , International Migration in the Arab Region : Challenges and Opportunities , ESCWA, Beirut , August 2007

Due to the limited natural resources in Jordan , and the high population growth rate , (the net population growth rate during the last five years averaged 2.7 %), the Jordanian economy has relied traditionally on the external dept, foreign aid and remittances in managing its economic affairs , see table No.24.

Table No.24
Some Features of the Jordanian Economy
2001-2005

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Mean
Remittances as a % of GDP	20.2	20.1	19.4	18.1	17.1	18.98
Exports as a % of GDP	21.3	22.9	23.2	28.5	28.5	24.88
External Debt as a % of GDP	78.1	78.9	74.8	65.5	55.5	70.56
Grants as a % of GDP	6.8	6.2	10.8	8.2	5.5	7.50
FDI as a % of GDP	1.5	0.8	4.3	5.7	12.1	4.88

Source : Omet , Ghassan, The Development Role of Jordainians Remittances , The Third Conference on Scientific Research in Jordan , 17 November 2007 , Amman-Jordan

Jordan, since early seventies of the last century, has been a sending and receiving country of labour force. Hundreds of thousands of non-Jordanians working in Jordan sending remittances to their countries. At the same time hundreds of thousands of Jordanian workers working outside Jordan are sending their savings as remittances to Jordan.

Remittances of emigrant differs from receiving country to another, and it differs also according to their age, sex, educational and occupational levels, temporary or permanent migration and between the first and second or more generation.

In the case of Jordan there are major differences between the qualifications of Jordanian labor force working abroad and non-Jordanian workers working in Jordan. Jordanians working abroad are more educated and better qualified. These differences are reflected in the large gap between receipts and transfers of workers` remittances in Jordan, See Table No.25.

From table No. 25 we can see that the receipt remittances increased from 763.7 million JD (1076.8 million \$) representing 20.68% of the GDP in Jordan in the year 1994 to 1782.7 million JD (2513.6 million \$) representing 17.6% of the GDP in Jordan in the year 2006 , with an average annual growth rate equals to 7.3% during the 1994-2006 period.

The payment remittances for the same period increased from 65.0 million JD (91.65 million \$) representing 1.76% of the GDP in Jordan in the year 1994 to 251.1million JD (354.1 million \$) representing 2.5 % of the GDP in Jordan in the year 2006, with annual growth rate equals to 8.8% during the 1994-2005 period.

This means that the gain of the Jordanian economy from labour force migration, by net remittances, increased from 698.7 million JD (985.17 million \$) in the year 1994 to 1531.6 million JD (2159.6 million \$) in the year 2006.

Table No. 25
Workers' Remittances in Jordan 1996-2004
(Million JD)

Year	Receipts	Payments	Net Remittances
1994	763.7	65.0	698.7
1995	871.7	75.0	796.7
1996	1094.8	70.8	1024.0
1997	1173.5	141.8	1031.7
1998	1093.8	146.8	947.0
1999	1179.8	144.6	1035.2
2000	1177.3	123.6	1053.7
2001	1283.3	120.8	1162.5
2002	1362.3	121.3	1241.0
2003	1404.5	141.9	1262.6
2004	1459.6	170.1	1289.5
2005	1544.8	218.4	1326.4
2006	1782.7	251.1	1531.6

Source : Central Bank of Jordan, Annual Reports Several Years ,Amman- Jordan

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

Department of Statistics in Jordan (DOS) statistics referred that the total population size in Jordan in the year 2007 was 5723.0 thousands (51.5% of the Jordanians are males), 62.9% of them living in the middle region, 27.8% in the North region and only 9.3% of them living in the South region.

Total labour force supply in the year 2007 was estimated to be 1779.1 thousands (1180.0 thousands males, 285.1 thousands females), the number of unemployed estimated to be 209.5 thousands (121.5 thousands males, 88.0 thousands females) with unemployment rate 11.8% (10.3% for males, 30.9% for females), (Ministry of Labour Annual Report, 2007).

The number of non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan in the year 2007 was 313962 (265943 males, 48019 females), 36% of them working in services sector, 25.1% in manufacturing sector, 23.6% in agricultural sector, and 15.3% in the construction sector, (MOL, 2006).

After the discussion of international migration in Jordan, we come with the following conclusions and recommendations.

6.1 Conclusions

1. Although the number of non-Jordanian who are working in Jordan and holding work permits has substantially increased during the last years according to the Ministry of Labor Statistics, due to the policy of the Labour Ministry to organized Jordan labor market, we believe that the number of non-Jordanians working in Jordan is still higher than the official figures.
2. Although, there is no data available about the long of staying of the non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan from the Ministry of Labour or any other sources of data, but from our notes we can say that there is no permanent labour force migration to Jordan. And while some of the non-Jordanians may stay in Jordan for a long period of time, may be for many years, many of them leave to their countries for few or even many months every year, specially those who are working in some economic sector such as the construction sector. This is why we think that this type of labour force migration is a circular migration.
3. The majority of non-Jordanians holding work permits and working in Jordan are young males, poorly educated, working in certain economic sectors, such as agriculture, construction, and services sectors.
4. They are working in low level occupations, working too much hours, and getting low monthly wages.
5. Although, Jordanian workers working outside Jordan are playing very important role in supporting Jordanian economy with remittances, and easing the unemployment problem in Jordan, there is very little, if any, information available about them.
6. Although there is not much data available about Jordanians working abroad, but from the little information available we can notice that the majority of them are young males, well educated, working in medium and high occupational levels and well paid.
- 7- International labour force migration in Jordan affected the unemployment rate in Jordan both ways: Jordanians emigrants eased the unemployment rates in Jordan all along the period from early fifties of the last century, while labour force migration to Jordan, in some period of time, specially since late eighties of the 20th century, affected the unemployment in Jordan negatively.

8- From remittances point of view , labour force migration in Jordan play a very important rule in Jordan economy by providing the Jordanian economy with high proportion of its needs from foreign currency .

6.2 Recommendations

Reference to the previous conclusions we can refer to the following ecommendations:

1. In order to ease the high unemployment rate in Jordan , we recommend the following:
 - i. Adopting a suitable population policy to determine suitable fertility, mortality, and migration levels and the proper policies to achieve these goals, (through the National Population Council in Jordan) .
 - ii. Adopting economic policies to encourage both local and foreign investment in Jordan, which is the most realistic way to create jobs and solve the unemployment problem.
 - iii. Controlling labour force migration to Jordan through the Ministry of Labour work permits.
2. Concerning data we recommend encouraging official (through the Ministry of Labor) and private (academic researchers) efforts to collect information about Jordanians working abroad and non-Jordanian workers working in Jordan .
3. Encouraging and helping Jordanian labor force to be more compatible with other labor force in the region in order to increase the number of Jordanian working outside Jordan.
- 4.Improving the work conditions in Jordan in order to encourage Jordanian workers to compete with the non-Jordanian workers working in Jordan , specially in occupations and economic sectors the non- Jordanian workers working in , such as agriculture , construction and services sectors .

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