

Main theme	Sub - Theme	Code Number
Socio-economic	Population	23
Study Name	Fertility Trends in the Badia of Jordan	
Author	A. Findlay (UK), M. Maani (Jor) and J. Briggs (UK)	
Date of Study	1993	
Objectives	<p>This paper will investigate these ideas from two recent surveys carried out by the authors in association with other Jordanian and British colleagues form an inter-disciplinary team, involved in a much wider research and development project in the Badia region of Jordan. This project was organized by the Jordanian Higher Council for Science and Technology, and the Royal Geographical Society, London. The first survey described in this paper was undertaken in the eastern Badia in 1993, and provides the opportunity for a very up to date analysis of the demographic regime of this most arid of environments. This study specifically addressed Caldwell's ideas, by investigating family structure and wealth flow directions in relation to fertility attitudes.</p>	
Output and Recommendation	<p>The research reported in this paper provides some evidence for the validity of Caldwell's (1982) ideas. It has been shown that Amman city has both the lowest total fertility rates in Jordan and according to the survey work which has been reported is also a location where most households experience net downward wealth flows. Conversely rural areas such as the Badia around Safawi and also the south of Jordan have been shown to have much higher total fertility rates than Amman and according to the survey results still experience net upward wealth transfers. The paper has argued that there is a need to merge concepts of the fertility transition with ideas about population mobility. The now classic statement of Caldwell (1982) on the causes of fertility decline provides one lime of approach to the topic. Caldwell has suggested that in so-called "primitive" and "traditional societies there is a net wealth flow form children to parents, making it illogical restrict fertility on economic grounds. This consequently favours high fertility levels. Inversely the circumstances of "nuclear" families make it economically rational to restrict fertility because of the net wealth flows from parents to children. To quote Caldwell (1982,141).</p>	
Development Aspects	<p>The population and urban geography of Jordan has been described elsewhere by one of the authors and is not repeated in detail here (Findly, 1986; Lavergne, 1992). The population of Jordan has risen from a mere 680,000 in 1952 to 900,800 in 1961 and 2.31 million at the time of the last census in 1979. Since the population growth has continued at a very rapid rate and was estimated to have reached 3.45 millions persons in 1990 according to National Population Commission of Jordan. Accepting these figures implies an average annual increase of population of 4.3 %.</p>	
Remarks	<p>doi: gatesopenres.13188.2/10.12688</p>	

