3 largest groups of Jewish Israelis:

1. **Ashkenazi** → Jews from central and Eastern Europe
   - historically associated with socialist ideology and kibbutzim
   - the founders of modern Israel are almost all Ashkenazi
   - historically had higher degrees of education

2. **Sephardi** → Jews from Spain and Portugal

3. **Mizrahi** → Jews from the Middle East and North Africa
   - In 1948 after Israel was established Mizrahi Jews were either expelled by Arab governments or chose to emigrate to Israel
   - absorption into Israeli society wasn’t easy, upon arrival Mizrahi immigrants were placed in ma’abarot, or rudimentary tent cities/transit camps; most Mizrahi did not traditionally engage in farm work, so settlement in moshavim, or farming villages was only somewhat successful
   - many suffered a severe decrease in their socio-economic status
Menachem Begin broke the hegemony of the Ashkenazi elite and turned the Mizrahi into a class aware of its interests. But the Mizrahi proved unable to unite into a coalition.

1977, Likud, headed by Begin, was elected; signified a change in Israeli society where the "Ashkenazi elite" was replaced with a coalition that represented Mizrahi Jews and many religious communities.

Project Renewal - an initiative to rehabilitate poor towns, with slum like conditions and substandard housing. These neighborhoods were mainly inhabited by Mizrahi and Sephardi Israelis.

Education in Israel: Israeli Jews & Arab Israelis

Schools are divided into four groups:

1. State schools
2. State religious schools
3. Arab and Druze schools (instruction is in Arabic, with a special focus on Arab/Druze history, religion and culture)
4. Private schools

As of 2016, fewer than 2000 students attend joint Jewish-Arab schools.

In 2005, the Israeli government spent $192 per year on each Arab student and $1,100 on each Jewish student.

In 2012 there was a shortage of 6,100 classrooms and 4,000 teachers in Arab communities.

Israeli Arats and Jews work together to boost Arab education

This is a platform where we are not talking about the conflict but about how to build a better future for our children," says Seeds.
Ethiopian Israeli community

• The Ethiopian Israeli population was 148,700 at the start of 2018.
• In 2015, the average income of an Ethiopian household was 35% lower than that of an Israeli household.
• 90% of the population have a high school education similar to the 93% overall Israeli population.

Opinion | We Should Have Warned the Ethiopians About Israel’s Racism

It was 1985. Journalist Amos Elon (a Haaretz colleague and a friend, until his death in 2009) whispered a big secret into my ear: A secret operation to rescue the Ethiopian Jews was in progress. And he, only he, had received a permit to go there and cover the story. “But not a word!” he said.