

Women's rights in the Middle East

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Country	% Illiterate (Age 15 and older)	Travel Restrictions (Require husband's or male relative's consent)	% of Women in Labor Force
Egypt	61.2% women	YES	21%
Iran	34.2% women	YES	12%
Iraq	55% women	YES	18%
Jordan	21.6% women	YES	21%
Libya	37% women	YES	21%
Palestinian Authority	23% women	N/A	11.4%
Saudi Arabia	49.8% women	YES	13%
Syria	44.2% women	YES	19%
Israel	7% women	NO	45% (same as US statistics)

Literacy Sources: A Gap Analysis report on the Status of Palestinian Women Prepared by Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling, www.wclac.org. CIA Factbook (2000) at www.gov/cia/publications/pubs.html

Travel Restrictions: US Dep't of State, 1999 Human Rights Report, at www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/c1470.htm

Work force: UN Stats unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/ww2000/tables.html

**Israel is the only country
in the Middle East that protects
women's rights**