

# Hizma Village Profile

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## *Acknowledgments*

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## Background

This report is part of a series of booklets, which contain compiled information about each city, village, and town in the Jerusalem Governorate. These booklets came as a result of a comprehensive study of all villages in Jerusalem Governorate, which aims at depicting the overall living conditions in the governorate and presenting developmental plans to assist in developing the livelihood of the population in the area. It was accomplished through the "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment;" the project funded by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID).

The "Village Profiles and Needs Assessment" was designed to study, investigate, analyze and document the socio-economic conditions and the needed programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current unsecure political, economic and social conditions in the Jerusalem Governorate.

The project's objectives are to survey, analyze, and document the available natural, human, socioeconomic and environmental resources, and the existing limitations and needs assessment for the development of the rural and marginalized areas in the Jerusalem Governorate. In addition, the project aims at preparing strategic developmental programs and activities to mitigate the impact of the current political, social, and economic instability with the focus on the agricultural sector.

All village profiles in Arabic and English are available online at <http://vprofile.arij.org>.

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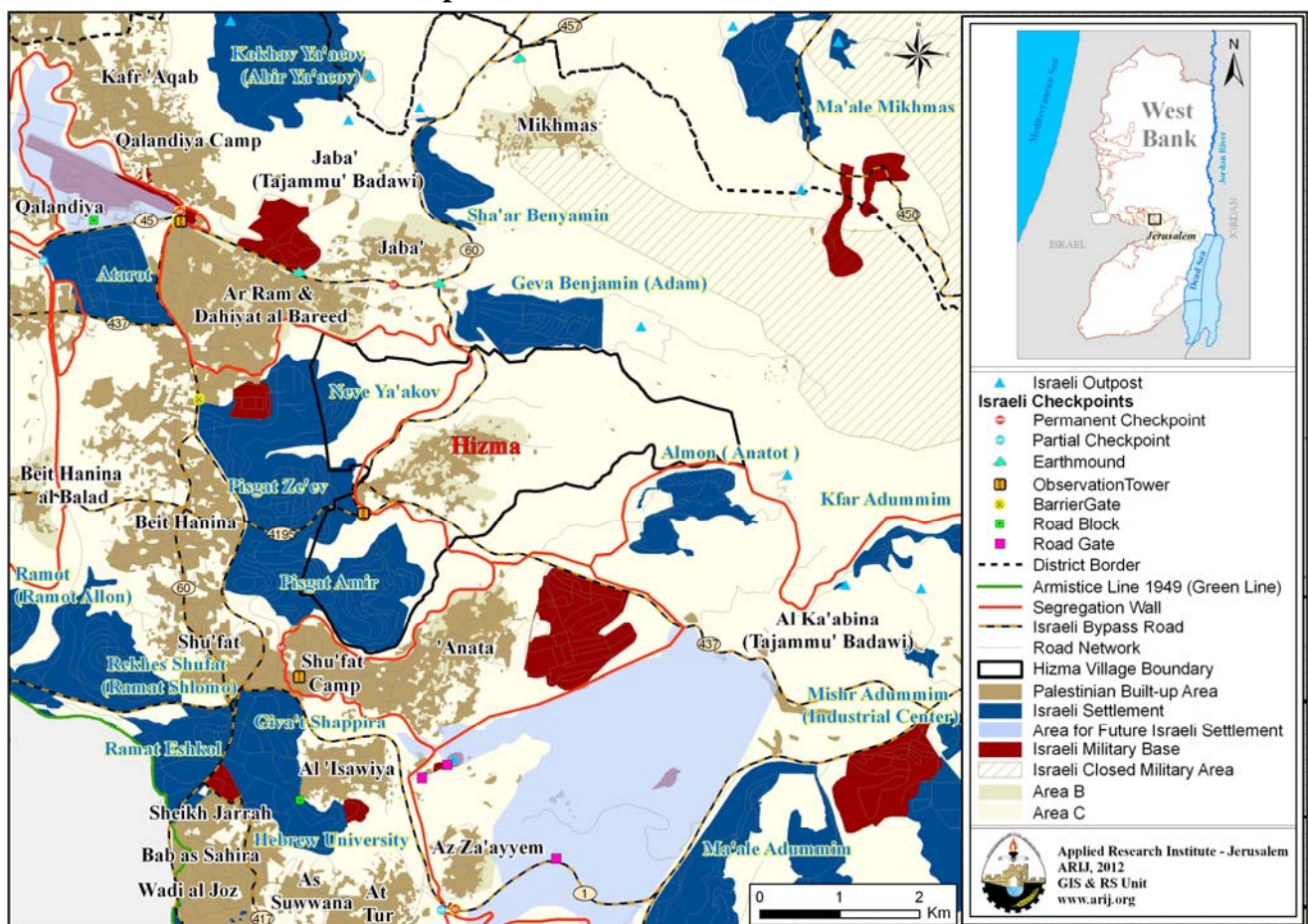
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# Hizma Village Profile

## Location and Physical Characteristics

Hizma is a Palestinian village in Jerusalem Governorate located (horizontally) 6.9km north of Jerusalem City. It is bordered by Jaba' lands to the east, Jaba' village to the north, Beit Hanina to the west, and 'Anata town to the south (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012) (See map 1).

Map 1: Hizma location and borders



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012

Hizma is located at an altitude of 602m above sea level with a mean annual rainfall of 381mm. The average annual temperature is 17 °C and the average annual humidity is approximately 60% (ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2012).

Since 1995, Hizma has been governed by a village council, which is currently administrated by 11 members appointed by the Palestinian National Authority in addition to 9 permanent employees. The

Village Council owns a permanent rented headquarters, but does not possess a vehicle for the collection of solid waste (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

It is the responsibility of the Village Council to provide a number of services to the residents of Hizma, including (Hizma Village Council, 2010):

- Infrastructure services such as water and electricity.
- Solid waste collection, road construction, pavement, and rehabilitation, cleaning streets and social development services.
- Implementing projects and case studies for the village.
- Organizing the processes of construction and license issuing.
- Protecting historical and archeological sites.
- Protecting governmental properties.
- Providing means of transportation.
- Providing sanitary slaughterhouses and organizing the slaughter of animals.
- Constructing and supervising kindergartens.
- Providing schools of all levels.

## **History**

Hizma (meaning determination, firmness and willpower) village was called so in relation to power, steadfastness and hardness (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

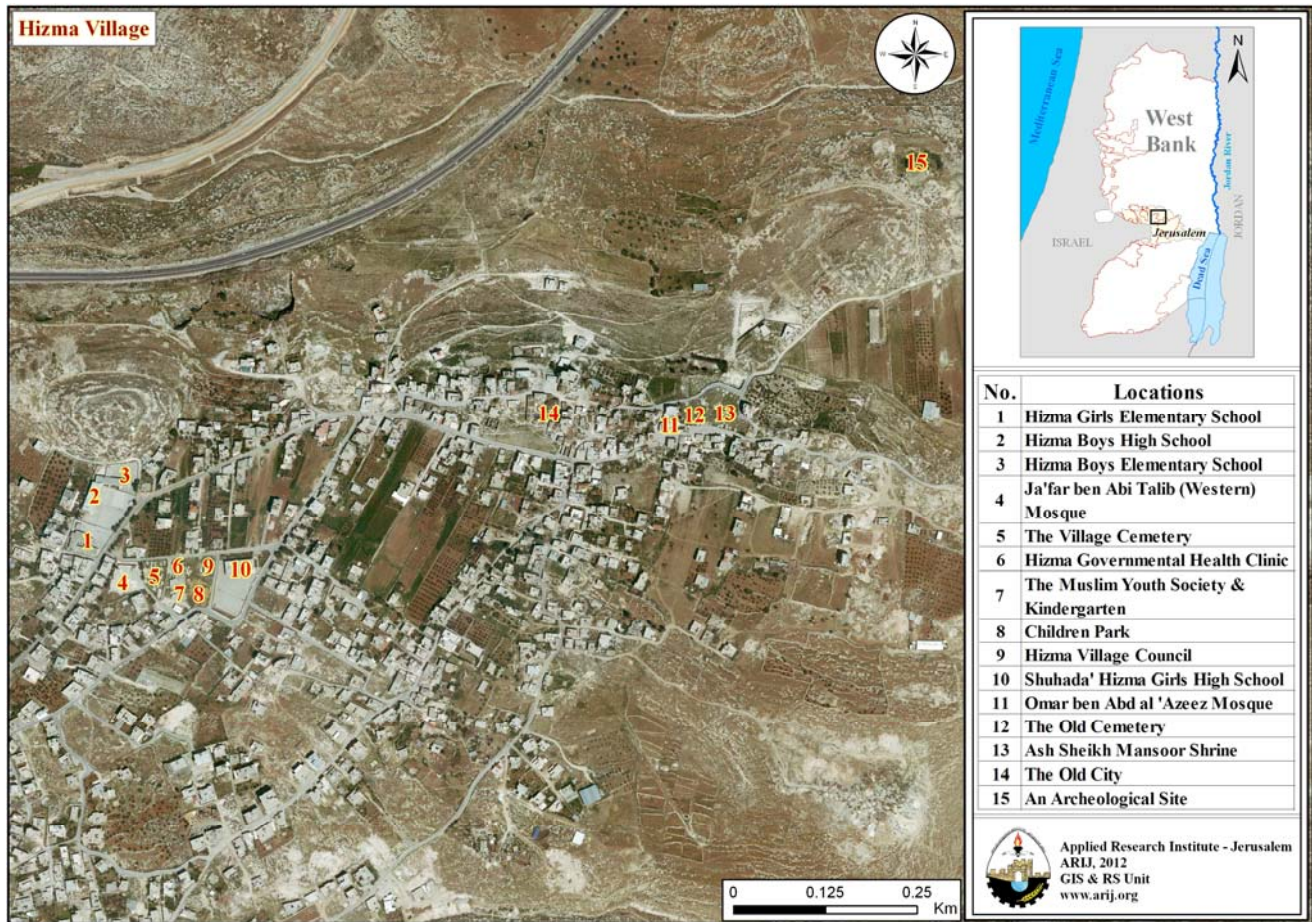
The establishment of the village dates back to hundreds of years ago (Hizma Village Council, 2010) (See photo below for Hizma village).

## **Religious and Archaeological Sites**

There are three mosques in the village, Omar ben Abd al Azeez, Ja'far ben Abi Talib and At Tabi'een Mosques. There are several sites of archaeological interests in Hizma. These include the remains of granite columns, the foundations of ancient walls, tombs and grottoes. Additionally, there are the ruins of Khirbet Al Kharaba, Israeli graves, Khirbet Abi Masarrah, and the 'Al Jei' caves (Hizma Village Council, 2010) (See Map 2).



Map 2: Main locations in Hizma Village



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

## Population

According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the total population of Hizma in 2007 was 5,654, of whom 2,804 were male and 2,850 female. There were 1,027 households living in 1,284 housing units.

## Age Groups and Gender

The General Census of Population and Housing carried out by PCBS in 2007 showed the distribution of age groups in Hizma was as follows: 40.2% were less than 15 years old, 53.8% between 15 - 64 years of age, and 3.1% 65 years of age or older. Data additionally showed that the sex ratio of males to females in the village is 98.4:100, meaning that males and females constituted 49.6% and 50.4% of the population respectively.

## Families

Hizma residents are from several families, mainly the Abu Khalil, Sbeih, 'Askar, Al Omari, Hasan, Mubarak, 'Ajer u abu Helu, Kan'an, Sa'id and Huda u Hakim families (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

## Education

According to the results of the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census-2007, the illiteracy rate amongst the population of Hizma was approximately 6.8%, of whom 74.3% were female. Of the literate population, 11.5% could only read and write with no formal education 24.3% had elementary education, 31.3% had preparatory education, 15% had secondary education, and 10.8% completed higher education. Table 1 shows the educational level in the village of Hizma by sex and educational attainment in 2007.

**Table 1: Hizma population (10 years and above) by sex and educational attainment, 2007**

Sex	Illite- rate	Can read & write	Elem- entary	Prepa- ratory	Second- ary	Associate Diploma	Bach- elor	Higher Diploma	Master	PhD	Un- known	Total
M	69	213	518	602	321	31	165	5	22	7	6	<b>1,959</b>
F	199	242	445	638	272	27	164	-	6	2	8	<b>2,003</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3,962</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

There are 4 public schools in the village run by the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) in addition to 2 private schools (see Table 2) (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

**Table 2: The Schools in Hizma by name, stage, sex, and supervising authority**

School Name	Supervising Authority	Sex
Shuhada' Hizma Girls High School	Government	Females
Hizma Boys High School	Government	Males
Hizma Girls Elementary School	Government	Females
Hizma Boys Elementary School	Government	Males
Ruwwad al Mustaqbal "B" School	Private	Mixed
Paradise Elementary School	Private	Mixed

Source: Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

In the village there are 1,413 students, 96 teachers, and 57 classes (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011). The average number of students per teacher in the school is nearly 15, whilst the average number of students per class is approximately 25 (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).



There are two local kindergartens run by a private body, attended by 90 children in 2011. Table 3 shows these kindergartens according to their names and supervising authority (Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011).

**Table 3: The Kindergartens in Hizma by name and supervising authority**

Kindergarten Name	No. of Children	Supervising Authority
Hizma Society Kindergarten	58	Private
Ruwwad al Mustaqbal Kindergarten	32	Private

Source: Directorate of Education in Jerusalem, 2011

In the absence of any level of education in the village's schools, students go to neighboring villages' schools, including Husni al Ashhab Elementary School, Ar Ram Boys High School, or Ar Ram Girls High School, each of which is located in Ar Ram about 5km from Hizma. Some students go to 'Anata Girls High School in 'Anata town, about 3km from the village (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

Students experience some difficulties due to the Israeli occupation, primarily Israelis breaking into school spaces (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

The educational sector in Hizma village suffers some obstacles, mainly:

- The lack of sufficient classrooms and the growing numbers of students.
- Students dropping out of school.
- The difficult economic conditions and their impact on the educational field.
- Israeli activity.

## Health Status

There are very few health centers in Hizma village. These are a governmental health center, a governmental medical laboratory, a motherhood and childcare center, a governmental physician clinic, 5 private physicians' clinics, 2 private dental clinics and 2 pharmacies (one governmental and one private), in addition to 4 specialized doctors' clinics. In the absence of required health services and in emergencies, residents of Hizma head to Ramallah Governmental Hospital in Ramallah city (14km in distance from Hizma), Al Maqasid Hospital or Al Muttala' Hospital in Jerusalem, each about 8km from the village, or As Salam Medical Center and Al Amal Center in Ar Ram, about 5km away (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

The health sector in the village faces many obstacles and problems, mainly (Hizma Village Council, 2010):

1. The patients' difficulties in accessing hospitals in Jerusalem.
2. The health center in Hizma requires better buildings and facilities.
3. The high prices of medicines not available from the government.
4. The physiological stress caused by the Israeli occupation.
5. The difficult economic conditions.

6. The lack of ambulances.

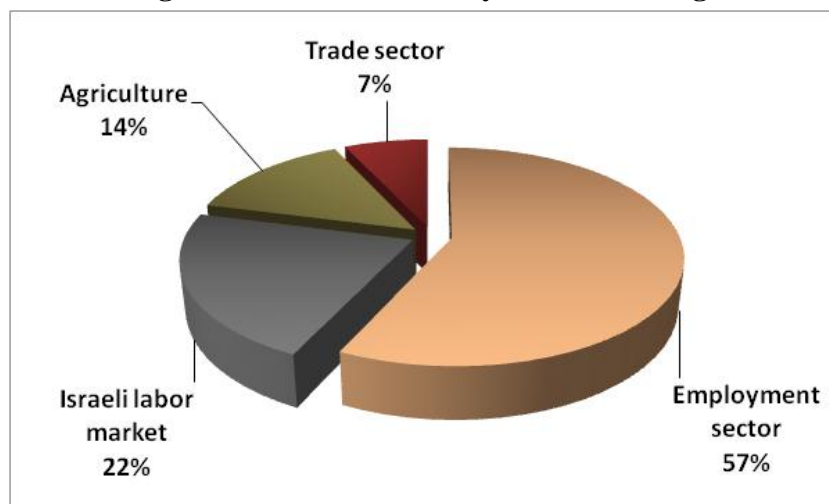
## Economic Activities

The economy in Hizma is dependent on several economic sectors, mainly the employee sector, which absorbs 57% of the workforce (Hizma Village Council, 2010) (See Figure 1).

A field survey conducted by ARIJ in 2010 showed that the distribution of labor by economic activity in Hizma is as follows:

- Government or private employees sector (57%)
- Israeli labor market (22%)
- Agriculture sector (14%)
- Trade sector (7%)

**Figure 1: Economic activity in Hizma village**



Source: Hizma Village Council, 2010

In terms of commercial and industrial productions in Hizma village, there are 62 grocery stores in the village, 2 bakeries, 2 butcheries, 4 vegetable and fruit stores, 20 different service stores, 15 different professional workshops (blacksmith, carpentry etc.), 5 stone quarries and a pottery factory (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

The unemployment rate in Hizma has reached around 30%, and it was found that the social groups most affected in the village as a result of Israeli restrictions and procedures are (Hizma Village Council, 2010):

1. Workers in the agriculture sector.
2. Former workers in Israel.

## Labor Force

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishment Census (2007), 32.5% of Hizma's labor force was economically active, of whom 81.4% were employed, and 66.1% were not economically active, of whom 55.1% were students and 35.5% were housekeepers (See Table 4).

**Table 4: Hizma population (10 years of age and older) by sex and employment status-2007**

SEX	Economically Active				Not Economically Active						Un-known	Total
	Employed	Currently Un-employed	Un-employed (Never worked)	Total	Students	House-keeping	Unable to work	Not working & Not looking for work	Other	Total		
M	846	132	77	<b>1,055</b>	693	3	114	22	35	<b>867</b>	37	<b>1,959</b>
F	201	7	23	<b>231</b>	751	926	67	3	5	<b>1,752</b>	20	<b>2,003</b>
T	1,047	139	100	<b>1,286</b>	1,444	929	181	25	40	<b>2,619</b>	57	<b>3,962</b>

Source: PCBS, 2009.

## Agricultural Sector

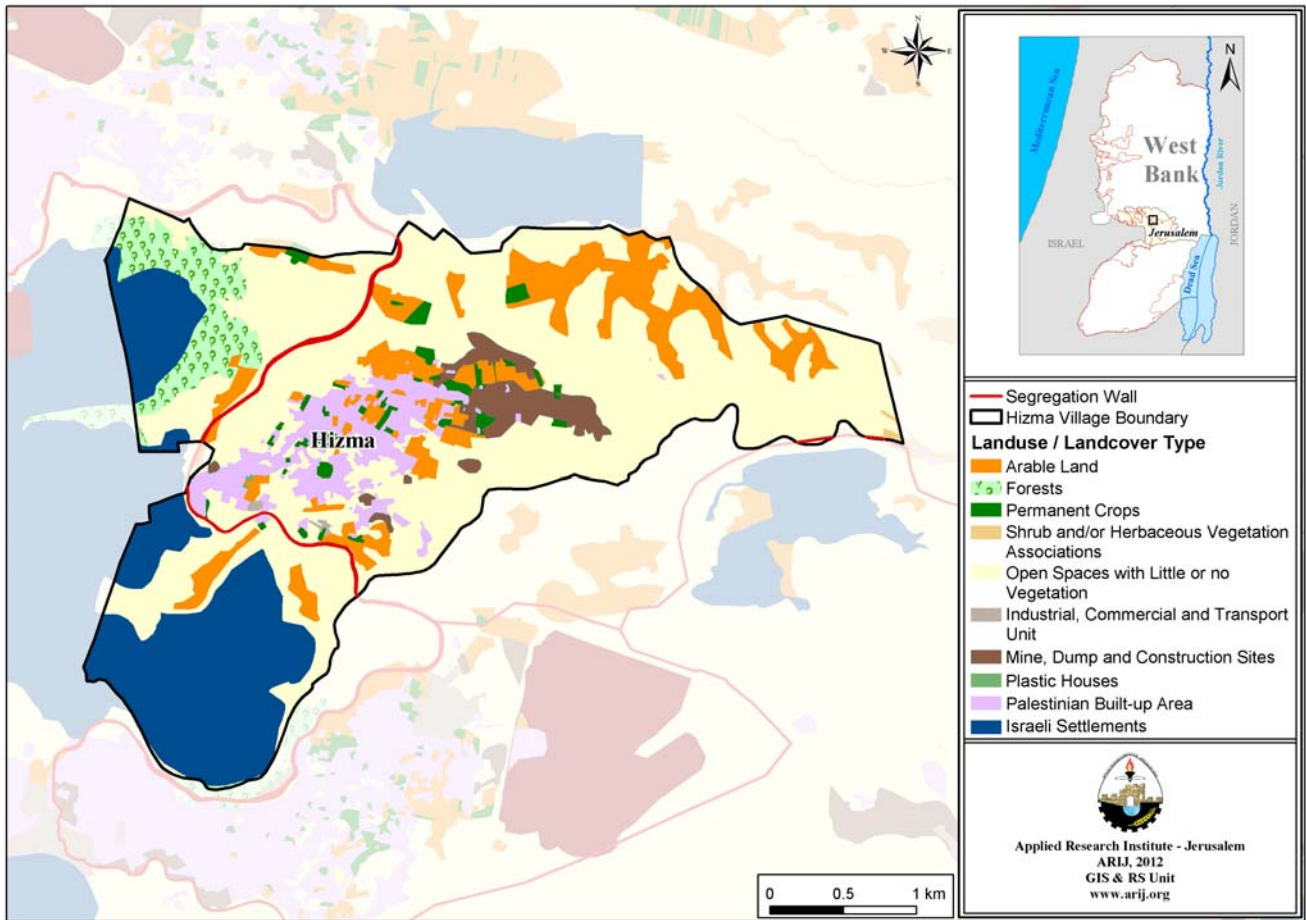
Hizma has a total area of around 10,513 dunums of which 1,431 are considered 'arable' land and 684 dunums are registered as 'residential' (See table 5 and map 3).

**Table 5: Land use and land cover in Hizma village in 2010 (area in dunum)**

Total Area	Built up Area	Agricultural area (1,431)				Inland water	Forests	Open Spaces	Area of Industrial, Commercial & Transport Unit	Area of Settlements, Military Bases & Wall Zone
		Permanent Crops	Green-houses	Range-lands	Arable lands					
10,513	684	180	3	11	1,237	0	536	5,399	343	2,120

Source: ARIJ – GIS Unit, 2012.

**Map 3: Land use/land cover in Hizma village**



Source: ARIJ - GIS Unit, 2012.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture – Jerusalem (2010), the tomato is the only rain-fed and irrigated vegetable cultivated in the village; there are 2 dunums in the village planted with tomatoes.

Table 6 shows the different types of fruit trees planted in the area. Hizma village is known for the cultivation of olives; there are 112 dunums of land cultivated with olive trees.

**Table 6: Total area of fruit and olive trees in Hizma village (dunums)**

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Olives	112	0
Citrus	0	0
Stone-fruits	11	0
Pome fruits	0	0
Nuts	3	0
Other fruits	21	0
<b>Total Area</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

In terms of field crops and forage in Hizma cereals, in particular wheat and barley, are the most cultivated covering an area of about 233 dunums (See table 7).

**Table 7: Total area of field crops in Hizma village (dunum)**

Fruit trees	Rainfed	Irrigated
Cereals	233	0
Bulbs	0	0
Dry legumes	0	0
Oil crops	0	0
Forage crops	5	0
Stimulating crops	0	0
Other crops	0	0
<b>Total Area</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>0</b>

**Source:** Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

The difference between the two sets of results obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and by ARIJ's GIS Unit in sizes of agricultural areas is explained by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2010) conducted a survey which used a definition of agricultural areas based on land ownership. Therefore, the areas included in the survey were those of actual holdings of agricultural areas instead of seasonal ones. The survey did not consider fragmented and small seasonal cultivated areas in residential and agricultural areas. ARIJ's survey, however, indicated the existence of a high proportion of small and fragmented holdings (home gardens) throughout the occupied Palestinian territories, thus accounting for the larger area of agricultural holdings calculated by ARIJ.

The field survey conducted by ARIJ shows that 10% of the residents in Hizma rear and keep domestic animals such as cows, goats, sheep, chickens, and bees (Hizma Village Council, 2010) (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Livestock in Hizma village**

Cows*	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Donkeys	Mules	Broilers	Layers	Bee Hives
31	550	600	0	0	0	0	14,300	2,500	40

\* Including cows, bull calves, heifer calves and bulls

**Source:** Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture - Jerusalem, 2010

There are also around 5 kilometers of agricultural roads in the village suitable for tractors and agricultural machinery only (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

The agricultural sector in the village faces several obstacles, mainly:

- The difficulties caused by the Israeli occupation.
- The dependence of a majority of Hizma's population on the employee sector.
- Devoting attention to livestock production at the expense of agricultural production.
- The difficulties in accessing agricultural lands.
- The existence of the Segregation Wall.

## Institutions and Services

Hizma village has very few governmental institutions, including a post office division, and to a number of local institutions and associations that provide services to various sectors of society. These services include (Hizma Village Council, 2010):

- **Hizma Village Council:** Founded in 1995 by the Ministry of Interior with the goal of solving issues in the village and providing various services to its population.
- **Hizma Sports Club:** Founded in 1996 by the Ministry of Sports & Youth, the Hizma Sports Club provides sports, social, and cultural activities for young people.
- **Hawa' Association:** Founded in 2005 by the Ministry of Interior and focused on cultural and educational issues.
- **Hizma Cooperative Society:** Founded in 1994 by the Ministry of Interior, the Society provides educational services to young people and children.

## Infrastructure and Natural Resources

### Electricity and Telecommunication Services

Hizma has been connected to a public electricity network since 1980. It is served by Jerusalem Electricity Company, which is the main source of electricity in the village. Approximately 95% of the housing units in the village are connected to this network. The village residents face some problems concerning electricity, primarily (Hizma Village Council, 2010):

1. The high cost of electricity.
2. The network's need for rehabilitation, renovation, and expansion.

Hizma is connected to a telecommunication network and approximately 40% of the housing units within the village boundaries are connected to phone lines (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

### Transportation Services

20 public buses are the main means of transportation in Hizma village (Hizma Village Council, 2010). There are 4km of designated 'main' roads and 7km of 'secondary' roads (Hizma Village Council, 2010) (See Table 9).

**Table 9: Roads in Hizma Village**

Status of Internal Roads	Road Length (km)	
	Main	Sub
Paved & in good condition	2	5
Paved but in poor condition	2	-
Unpaved	-	2

Source: Hizma Village Council, 2010



## Water Resources

Hizma is provided with water by Jerusalem Water Authority (for Ramallah and Al Bireh areas) through the public water network established in 1978. Approximately 95% of the housing units are connected to this network. There are 100 domestic harvesting cisterns located in the village; in addition to water tanks, these form alternative sources of water (Hizma Village Council, 2010). The quantity of water supplied to Hizma in 2010 was approximately 162,851 cubic meters/ year; therefore, the average rate of water supply per capita in Hizma is 71 liters per day (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). However, no Hizma citizen consumes this amount of water due to water losses, which are recorded at around 26.5%. These losses happen at the main source, major transport lines, in the distribution network, and at the household level (Jerusalem Water Authority, 2011). Therefore the rate of water consumption per capita in Hizma is 52 liters per day. The rate experienced by Hizma residents is low compared with the minimum quantity of 100 liters proposed by the World Health Organization.

To determine water costs, the water authority has adopted an upward rate where the price of water increases with increasing consumption. Table 10 shows the price of water by category of consumption.

**Table 10: Water tariffs of Jerusalem Water Authority adopted since 01.01.2012**

Consumption Category (m <sup>3</sup> )	Domestic (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Industrial (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Tourist (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Commercial (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )	Public Institutions (NIS/m <sup>3</sup> )
0 – 5	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.4
5.1 – 10	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	4.5
10.1 – 20	5.6	6.8	6.8	6.8	5.6
20.1 – 30	6.8	8.1	8.1	8.1	6.8
30.1+	9	9.9	10.8	9	9

Source: Jerusalem Water Authority, 2012

## Sanitation

Hizma lacks a public sewerage network with most of the village residents using cesspits as their main means of wastewater disposal (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

Based on the estimated daily per capita water consumption, the estimated amount of wastewater generated per day is approximately 262 cubic meters, or 95,756 cubic meters annually. At the individual level in the village it is estimated that the per capita wastewater generation is 42 liters per day, depending on the consumption rate. The wastewater collected by cesspits is discharged by wastewater tankers directly to open areas or nearby valleys with no regard for the environment. There is no wastewater treatment either at the source or at the disposal sites and this poses a serious threat to both environmental and public health (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## Solid Waste Management

Hizma Village Council is the official body responsible for managing the collection and disposal of solid waste generated by the citizens and establishments in the village. As the process of solid waste management is costly, a monthly fee (around 15 NIS/month) is charged to the population served by domestic solid waste collection and transportation services. However, the collected fees are not considered sufficient for good management of solid waste, especially as only 40% of these fees are collected from the citizens (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

Most of the population in Hizma benefits from the solid waste services, whereby waste is collected from households, institutions, shops, and public squares in plastic bags and then transferred to 80 containers<sup>1</sup> distributed throughout the village. The Village Council collects the solid waste once a day, and then transports it using a waste vehicle to El 'Eizariya dumping site located 20km outside of the village, where it is burnt. There is no system in the village and the governorate to separate hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, so hazardous and industrial solid waste are collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to landfill (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

The daily per capita rate of solid waste production in Hizma is 0.7kg. Thus the estimated amount of solid waste produced per day from Hizma residents is nearly 4.4 tons, or 1,602 tons per year (ARIJ-WERU, 2012).

## Environmental Conditions

Like other villages and camps in the Governorate, Hizma experiences several environmental problems which must be addressed and solved. These problems can be identified as follows:

### Water Crisis

- The amount of water supplied to citizens is insufficient to meet the citizens' daily water needs, due to the high rate of water loss (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

### Wastewater Management

- The absence of a public sewage network means that Hizma residents are forced to use unhygienic cesspits, endocrines and open channels for the disposal of wastewater, and/or discharge wastewater in the streets. This is particularly common in winter, as citizens cannot afford the high cost of sewage tankers during this period. All of these methods cause environmental damage and health problems and facilitate the spread of epidemics and diseases in the village. This wastewater also contaminates the groundwater because most cesspits are built without lining, allowing wastewater to enter into the ground and avoiding the need to use sewage tankers. Additionally, the untreated wastewater collected from cesspits by sewage tankers is disposed of in open areas with no concern for the damage it causes to the environment and to residents' health.

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<sup>1</sup> Each with a capacity of 800 liters

## Solid Waste Management

- The lack of a central sanitary landfill to serve Hizma and the other neighboring communities in the governorate is due mainly to the obstacles created by the Israeli authorities for local and national institutions in granting licenses to establish such a landfill, because the appropriate land is within Area C and under Israeli control. Additionally, the implementation of such projects depends on funding from donor countries. The lack of a sanitary landfill is hazardous to human health, a source of pollution to the groundwater and soil through the leachate produced from the solid waste, and produces bad odors and distortion of the landscape.
- There is no system in the village and the governorate to separate hazardous waste from non-hazardous waste, so hazardous and industrial solid waste are collected with non-hazardous waste and transported to El 'Eizariya landfill for disposal by burning.

## Impact of the Israeli Occupation

### Geopolitical Status of Hizma Village

According to the Oslo II Interim Agreement signed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1995 between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel, Hizma was divided into areas 'B' and 'C'. Approximately 984 dunums (9.4% of the total village area) were assigned as area 'B', where the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) has complete control over civil matters but Israel continues to have overriding responsibility for security. Area 'B' constitutes most of the inhabited Palestinian areas, including municipalities, villages, and some camps. Most of the village's population resides in area 'B' which constitutes a very small area in comparison to the total area of the village. Approximately 9,529 dunums (90.6% of the total village area) is classified as area 'C', where Israel retains full control over security and administration. In area 'C' Palestinian building and land management is prohibited unless through a permit given by the Israeli Civil Administration. Most of the lands lying within the area 'C' are agricultural and open spaces (Table 11).

**Table 11: The geopolitical divisions of Hizma village according to the Oslo II interim agreement in 1995**

Area	Area in dunums	Percent of Total village area
Area A	0	0
Area B	984	9.4
Area C	9,529	90.6
Nature Reserve	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,513</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

## Hizma Village and the Israeli Occupation Practices

Thousands of dunums of land have been confiscated from the village by the Israeli authorities for various Israeli purposes, including the construction of settlements, bypass roads and the Segregation Wall. Below is a detailed description of land confiscations in Hizma:

During the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory, the Israeli government has confiscated 2018 dunums of land from Hizma village (19.2% of the village total area) to establish the Israeli settlements of Neve Ya'akov, Pisgat Ze'ev and Pisgat Amir. The settlements are currently inhabited by around 70,000 Israeli settlers (Table 12).

**Table 12: Israeli Settlements constructed over Hizma lands**

Settlement Name	Year of construction	Area confiscated from Hizma (dunums)	Population of settlers
Neve Ya'akov	1972	385	20,383
Pisgat Ze'ev	1985	89	50,000
Pisgat Amir	1985	1544	
<b>Total</b>		<b>2018</b>	<b>70,383</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

## Israeli Bypass Roads in Hizma Village

Israel has also confiscated land from Hizma village to construct bypass roads 4195 and 437 to connect Israeli settlements established on the village's lands with neighboring settlements. The real threat of the bypass roads lies in the area of the buffer zone drawn by the IOF along the road, which extends to 75m on each side.

## Hizma Village and the Israeli Plan of the Segregation Wall

The Israeli plan of the Segregation Wall has had a negative and destructive impact on Hizma. According to the last amendment of the plan, published on the webpage of the Israeli Defense Ministry (30<sup>th</sup> April 2007), the Wall extends 4km over Hizma's lands and isolates 4207 dunums of the village, which comprises 40% of the total village's area. The isolated lands include forests, open and agricultural areas, Israeli settlements, and part of the village's Palestinian residential area (Table 13).

The Wall will isolate Hizma's urban center from Jerusalem city, cutting off Palestinians holding Palestinian IDs from educational, health, social, and economic services. Access to Jerusalem city will be limited to residents of Hizma who hold the blue Jerusalem ID, who will be able to enter the city only through the Hizma military checkpoint where they will go through inspection and be forced to show their Jerusalem IDs to prove their right to enter the City. This will generate further suffering and increased difficulties in mobility and communication. This strategy aims at the re-delineation of Jerusalem City borders as part of Israeli plans to change the demographic status in the City in favor of the Israelis and to exclude neighborhoods of high Palestinian population density from Jerusalem City.

**Table 13: the land classification of lands to be isolated in Hizma Village - Jerusalem Governorate**

No.	Land classification	Area (dunums)
1	Agricultural areas	203
2	Open spaces	1917
3	Israeli settlements	2018
4	Palestinian residential area	5
5	Wall zone	64
<b>Total</b>		<b>4207</b>

Source: ARIJ-GIS Unit, 2011

### **Hizma Israeli Military Checkpoint**

Hizma Israeli Military Crossing is located at the western entrance of the village, north-east of Jerusalem city. In June 2006 Israel completed the crossing construction; it consists of four tracks and gates for cars and other vehicles. Hizma crossing is one of nine crossings or entry points to Jerusalem from the West Bank, where only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs, settlers living in nearby settlements, and those with permits may cross.

On 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010, Israel issued a plan to expand and develop the Hizma checkpoint and to add more tracks for cars. The development process is to be completed in 2012. The plan includes the further development of private examination areas, inspection points, and security checks.

### **Israeli attacks on lands and properties in Hizma village**

Hizma village has been the target of attacks by the Israeli occupation authorities, who are increasingly targeting land and property in the village to displace people from their homes in the interest of using the land for existing Israeli settlements illegally established on the village territory. Israel is increasing the pace and severity of its actions against Palestinian homes, especially those located in area C, under the pretext that they were built illegally in this area without regard for the provisions of the Israeli Master Plans. Israel argues that Palestinians living in this area must obtain permits from the Israeli Civil Administration for construction and for the reclamation of land for any purpose. Additionally, the Israeli Civil Administration imposes strict conditions on Palestinians applying for permits to build on their lands located in area C. These permits are often rejected under the claim that they do not fulfill the necessary requirements, forcing Palestinians to build without permits in order to keep up with population growth. The aim of these policies as a whole is to:

1. Confiscate Palestinian lands to build the Segregation Wall.
2. Displace Palestinians so that lands can be confiscated to facilitate the expansion of existing Israeli settlements, the construction of new settlements, and the establishment of outposts.
3. Establish a network of Israeli bypass roads to facilitate the movement of Israeli settlers and occupation forces responsible for the protection of Israeli settlements. Therefore, Palestinian homes located near or adjacent to any Israeli bypass roads are also vulnerable to demolition.
4. Displace Palestinians from areas adjacent to illegal Israeli settlements.

5. Control lands in these areas to prevent the transfer of these lands to Palestinians and to exclude them from any final agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians.

### **Israeli Military Orders Issued in Hizma Village**

The Israeli occupation authorities have issued a set of military orders to confiscate lands in Hizma village for various military purposes. These include:

1. Israeli military order 33/04/T: issued on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2004 to confiscate 85.6 dunums in Hizma and 'Anata localities for the Segregation Wall construction.
2. Israeli military order 33-04: issued on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2004 to confiscate land in Hizma village for construction of the Segregation Wall.
3. Israeli military order 06/04/T: issued on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2004 to confiscate 75.8 dunums in Hizma, Ar Ram and Dahiyat al Bared, and Beit Hanina localities for construction of the Segregation Wall.



## Development Plans and Projects

### Implemented Projects

Hizma village council has implemented several development projects in Hizma during the past five years (See Table 14).

**Table 14: Implemented development plans and projects in Hizma during the last five years**

Name of the Project	Type	Year	Donor
Construction of roads' network	Infrastructure	2009	Hizma Village Council
Construction of retaining walls	Infrastructure	2009	German Grant
Pavement of roads	Infrastructure	2009	Ministry of Finance
Connecting households with the water network	Infrastructure	2009	Water Authority
Establishment of a children park	Entertainment	2008	UNICEF
Construction of a floor in Hizma Boys School	Educational	2007	CHF
Construction of retaining walls and tiling and pavement of roads	Public Services/ Infrastructure	2009	KFW
Supplying families with sheep	Public Services	2008	Palestinian Hydrology Group

Source: Hizma Village Council, 2010

### Proposed Projects

Hizma Village Council, in cooperation with the civil society organizations in the village and the village residents, hopes to implement several projects in the coming years. The project ideas were developed during the PRA workshop conducted by ARIJ staff in the village. The projects are as follows, in order of priority from the perspectives of the participants in the workshop:

1. Establishing a sewage network.
2. Rehabilitating and expanding the water network.
3. Rehabilitating and expanding the electricity network.
4. Expanding the village's structural plan.
5. Paving internal roads and sidewalks, and organizing and improving the schools' entrances, along with constructing an elementary school and additional classrooms in existing schools.
6. Rehabilitating and constructing a health center.
7. Creating development projects for women and agricultural societies.
8. Exploiting talents and organizing work for the improvement of the community.
9. Constructing agricultural roads and reclaiming agricultural lands.
10. Restoring old buildings.
11. Providing sports fields that serve the youth sector.
12. Establishing a public park.

## Village Development Priorities and Needs

Hizma suffers from a significant shortage of infrastructure and services. Table 15 shows the development priorities and needs in the village according to the village council's feedback (Hizma Village Council, 2010).

**Table 15: Development priorities and needs in Hizma**

No.	Sector	Strongly Needed	Needed	Not a Priority	Notes
<b>Infrastructural Needs</b>					
1	Opening and Pavement of Roads	*			9km*
2	Rehabilitation of Old Water Networks	*			3km
3	Extending the Water Network to Cover New Built up Areas	*			1.5km
4	Construction of New Water Networks	*			1.5km
5	Rehabilitation/ Construction of New Wells or Springs			*	
6	Construction of Water Reservoirs	*			3,000 cubic meters
7	Construction of a Sewage Disposal Network	*			12km
8	Construction of a New Electricity Network		*		2km
9	Providing Containers for Solid Waste Collection	*			50 containers
10	Providing Vehicles for Collecting Solid Waste	*			1 vehicle
11	Providing a Sanitary Landfill			*	
<b>Health Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			1 health center
2	Rehabilitation of Old Clinics or Health Care Centres	*			1 health center
3	Purchasing of Medical Equipment and Tools	*			
<b>Educational Needs</b>					
1	Building of New Schools	*			elementary school for girls & boys
2	Rehabilitation of Old Schools	*			elementary level
3	Purchasing of New Equipment for Schools	*			
<b>Agriculture Needs</b>					
1	Rehabilitation of Agricultural Lands	*			200 dunums
2	Building Rainwater Harvesting Cisterns	*			100 cisterns
3	Construction of Barracks for Livestock	*			25 barracks
4	Veterinary Services	*			
5	Seeds and Hay for Animals	*			700 tons per year
6	Construction of New Greenhouses	*			5 greenhouses
7	Rehabilitation of Greenhouses			*	
8	Field Crops Seeds	*			
9	Plants and Agricultural Supplies	*			

\*2km are main roads, 2km are sub roads and 5km are agricultural.

Source: Hizma Village Council, 2010.

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