

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

**The Arnold and Caroline Rose Monograph Series  
of the American Sociological Association**

Education, employment, and migration

Israel in comparative perspective

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)**Other books in the series**

J. Milton Yinger, Kiyoshi Ikeda, Frank Laycock, and Stephen J. Cutler: *Middle Start: An Experiment in the Educational Enrichment of Young Adolescents*

James A. Geschwender: *Class, Race, and Worker Insurgency: The League of Revolutionary Black Workers*

John Low-Beer: *Protest and Participation: The New Working Class in Italy*

Orrin E. Klapp: *Opening and Closing: Strategies of Information Adaptation in Society*

Rita James Simon: *Continuity and Change: A Study of Two Ethnic Communities in Israel*

Marshall B. Clinard: *Cities with Little Crime: The Case of Switzerland*

**Volumes previously published by the American Sociological Association**

Michael Schwartz and Sheldon Stryker: *Deviance, Selves and Others*

Robert M. Hauser: *Socioeconomic Background and Educational Performance*

Morris Rosenberg and Roberta G. Simmons: *Black and White Self-Esteem: The Urban School Child*

Chad Gordon: *Looking Ahead: Self-Conceptions: Race and Family as Determinants of Adolescent Orientation to Achievement*

Anthony M. Orum: *Black Students in Protest: A Study of the Origins of the Black Student Movement*

Ruth M. Gasson, Archibald O. Haller, and William H. Sewell: *Attitudes and Facilitation in the Attainment of Status*

Sheila R Klatzky: *Patterns of Contact with Relatives*

Herman Turk: *Interorganizational Activation in Urban Communities: Deductions from the Concept of System*

John DeLamater: *The Study of Political Commitment*

Alan C. Kerckhoff: *Ambition and Attainment: A Study of Four Samples of American Boys*

Scott McNall: *The Greek Peasant*

Lowell L. Hargens: *Patterns of Scientific Research: A Comparative Analysis of Research in Three Scientific Fields*

Charles Hirschman: *Ethnic Stratification in Peninsular Malaysia*

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

# Education, employment, and migration

Israel in comparative perspective

**Paul Ritterband**

*Associate Professor*

*City College and Graduate Center*

*City University of New York*

**Cambridge University Press**

*Cambridge*

*London New York Melbourne*

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,  
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521291927](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521291927)

© Cambridge University Press 1978

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1978

Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2010

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Ritterband, Paul.

Education, employment, and migration.

(The Arnold and Caroline Rose monograph series  
of the American Sociological Association)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Israeli students in the United States.
2. Education, Higher – Israel. 3. Brain drain – Israel.

I. Title. II. Series: The Arnold and Caroline Rose  
monograph series in sociology.

LB2376.3.175R57 301.32'8 76–62584

ISBN 978-0-521-21586-2 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-29192-7 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Chapter 2 is a revision of “The Determinants of Motives of Israeli Students Studying in the United States,” *Sociology of Education*, volume 42, number 4, Fall 1969.

An earlier version of a part of Chapter 4 was published as “Law, Policy and Behavior,” *American Journal of Sociology*, volume 76, number 1, July 1970.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

For my parents  
Joseph and Augusta Ritterband

## Contents

Preface	<i>page</i> ix
1 Introduction: the dimensions of the problem	1
The student brain drain and the new migration	2
Israel and international student exchange	4
Basic sociological problems associated with the brain drain	8
2 Coming to America	10
Prior research concerning motives for study abroad: who studies abroad and why do they go?	11
The empirical study of reasons	12
Organization of Israeli education and its impact on students' reasons for going abroad	16
Some nonacademic reasons for study abroad	27
Summary	29
3 Education and economic opportunity	30
Intention and behavior: validating the indicator	31
An estimate of the magnitude of the Israeli student brain drain	34
Differential migration as a function of educational achievement	41
Path model for analyzing Israeli student migration intentions	52
Summary	68
4 Public policy and student migration	69
The instruments of American policy	74
Administering the exchange visitor's program	78
Israel's policy alternatives	83
Summary	88
	vii

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii	<i>Contents</i>	
5	Some cross-national comparisons	90
	Foreign students in the United States and France	91
	Foreign graduate students in the United States	99
	Summary	108
6	The social utility of study abroad	109
	Evaluating costs and benefits of the brain drain	117
	Summary	122
	Epilogue	124
	Recent trends in Israeli student migration	124
	Occupational opportunity and repatriation	126
	Appendix: population and instrument	129
	Notes	131
	Index	141

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Preface

In the 1960s the term *brain drain* came into popular usage to describe the international migration of high-level manpower. The brain-drain issue was discussed in national legislatures, United Nations agencies, and made the headlines in newspapers around the world. Much or most of the discussion took place in a political context in which “blame” for the brain drain was assessed and placed upon the shoulders of those nations benefiting from this migration. Little attention was given to the determinants of the brain drain aside from the simplistic assertion that the rich nations were exploiting the poor in a new form of economic colonialism. *Education, Employment, and Migration* is a study of one particularly vexing form of brain drain, the permanent migration of overseas students.

A significant portion of the brain drain to the United States comes about when foreign students decide to remain in the United States after completing their studies. In most instances, they initially arrive in the United States as students, subsequently changing their legal status to that of immigrant, and ultimately remain in the United States. *Education, Employment, and Migration* focuses on the student’s educational experience in his home country as a determinant of his studying in the United States and shows how that educational experience is linked to his career opportunities in his home country’s labor market.

The study first engages in a detailed analysis of the experience of Israeli students in the United States. It begins with an account of the ways in which the Israeli educational system allocates opportunity *within* the schools all the way up to graduate study. It shows how relative success or failure in the Israeli schools determines both the student’s reasons for study abroad and the point at which he will study abroad. The study then goes on to examine the relationship between Israel’s educational system and occupational opportunity structure, showing how this relationship in turn is a key determinant of the migration decision. The impact of educational success on occupational opportunity



Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)x *Preface*

and ultimately on the migration decision is shown to vary significantly by sector of the economy. These relationships reflect characteristics of Israeli social structure and history. The study proceeds to examine national brain-drain policies, both operational and projected, and develops a method for determining the utility of alternative policies.

The Israeli experience is generalized through the analysis of two multinational data sets. The major Israeli findings are replicated among other national groups studying in the United States, whereas some important variations from the American patterns are shown among foreign students resident in France. In the course of this analysis, national rates of brain drain are computed and accounted for. The last section of the book looks at the costs and benefits of study abroad for the sending and receiving countries. It looks to the home country's level of development to explain the student's educational success in the United States and, ultimately, his professional achievement.

I would like to acknowledge debts I have incurred in the course of the work leading to this book.

First, my thanks and appreciation to my wife Ruth, who endured my obsessive mumblings and groanings over computer output, theoretical missteps, and general analytic angst.

I am grateful to Herbert H. Hyman and Robert K. Merton for their lectures, writings, and conversation.

To Yigal Allon (then Minister of Labor and now Deputy Prime Minister) and Avraham Ben Zvi (then Director of the Israel Government Bureau for Professionals), both of the State of Israel, my thanks for bringing their policy problem to me and encouraging me materially and morally in the analysis of the problem and the search for solutions. My understanding of the logic and method of reason analysis owes much to the tutelage of Charles G. Kadushin. The conceptual and editorial skill of Ida Harper Simpson, her editorial board, and the anonymous referees turned drafts into finished copy.

Steven M. Cohen, Evelyn Geller, and Harold S. Wechsler generously gave their time to read all or parts of the manuscript. Joseph Lopatin and Peter Abrams of the Calcologic Corporation supplied efficient and precise data processing skills. Naomi Even Rubenstein served as a responsible research assistant during the early part of the project. Muriel Bennett typed innumerable drafts with speed, patience, and accuracy.

The Israeli data collection and early analysis were supported by grants from the United States Office of Education and the Ministry of

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29192-7 - Education, Employment, and Migration: Israel in Comparative Perspective

Paul Ritterband

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

*Preface*

xi

Labor of the State of Israel. The cross-national work was supported by a grant from the Ford Foundation. The costs of typing were defrayed by a grant from the Meinhard Spielman Fund of the Department of Jewish Studies of the City College of the City University of New York. Clara Shapiro deftly managed the grant funds and helped keep the project solvent. The data for the cross-national analyses were kindly made available by William Glaser and Seymour Warkov.

To all who helped and encouraged me, both known and unknown, my thanks and appreciation.

*New York*  
*March, 1977*

P.R.