



Ministry of Absorption

**Immigrants absorption- Holistic approach:
insight to the employment perspective**

The Israeli experience



Speaker:

Mr. Sharon Glassman

M.A. political science

Senior adviser to the Managing Director

Israeli Ministry of Immigrant Absorption

You invite to contact me via Email:

shaong@moia.gov.il Or: shaong21@gmail.com

General facts about Israel (2005)

Population: 6,986,300

Jewish 80%, Muslim 16.1%, Christian 2.3%, Druz 1.6%

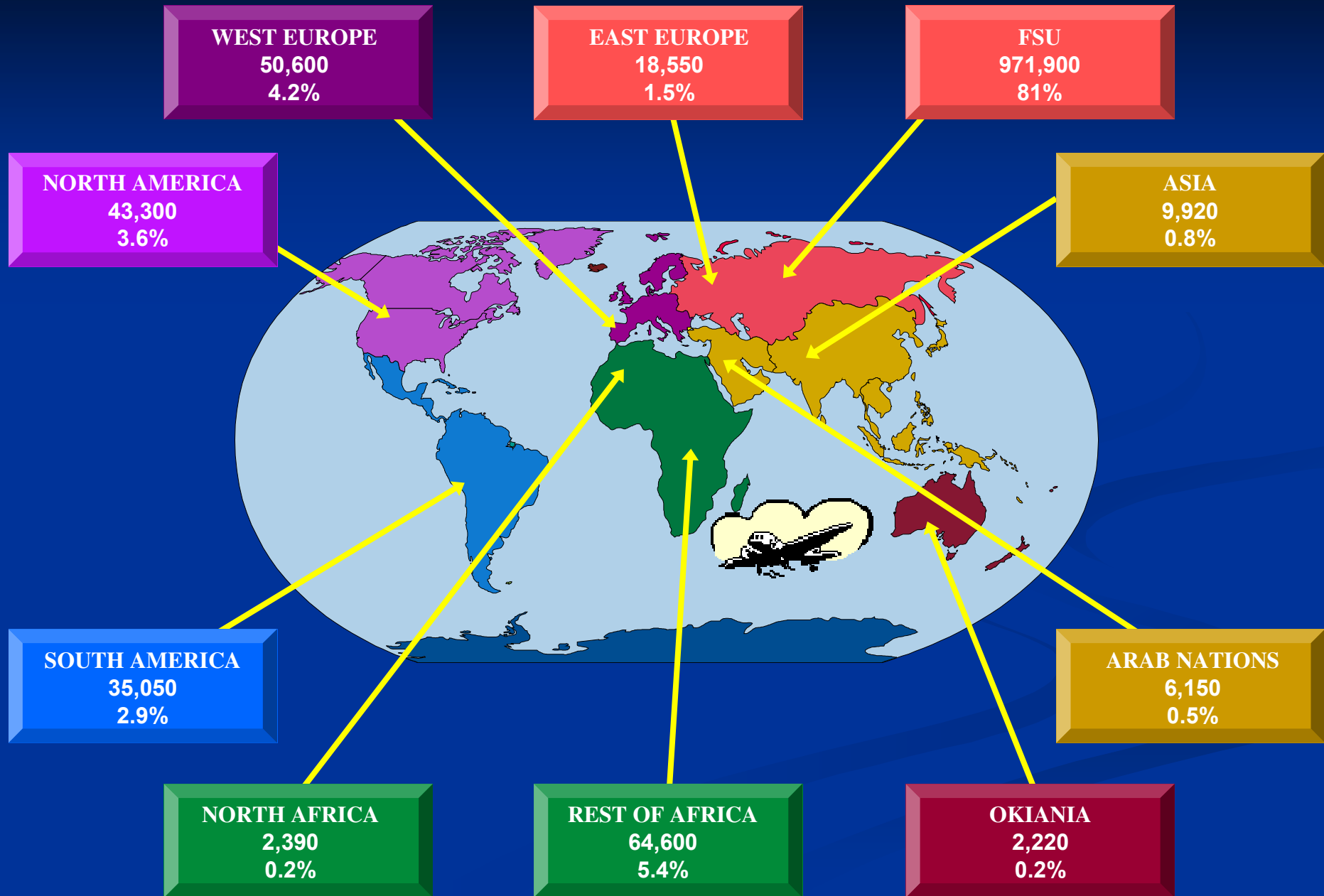
Pop. Growth - 1.7%

Unemployment - 8.9%

Language - Hebrew, Arabic

Capital City - Jerusalem (706,400 Residents)

1989-2005: 1,204,800 Immigrants 632,050 family units



A Challenge

Integration of immigrants into Israeli society is a large socio-economic challenge for the Government of Israel.

Great importance for success **is respect for the immigrants, their identity, and the heritage they represent.**

You can take the immigrants out of their country
But
you can't take their country out of the immigrants

recognizing that **each demographic group require an appropriate response** and individual attention within various frameworks

Community Absorption

- Community Absorption responsible for the integration of new immigrants into the cultural and social spheres.
- The Unit operates in conjunction with the local authorities, regional councils, immigrant associations or organizations, voluntary organizations and youth movements.
- These bodies receive financial assistance for operating social absorption projects.

Facts about immigrants in Israel

- 50% of the Immigrants own a car
- 63% of The immigrants purchased a house
- 67% satisfied from their situation
- Less than 9% of the Immigrants are unemployed
- Contribution to the Israeli Economy Major
- 81% feel part of the Israeli society
- 97% don't consider going back
- 95% of the Immigrants' children feel Israelis

The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption:

Approximately 500 staff members.

National headquarters,

4 regional headquarters,

17 district offices

19 branch offices and

20 offices in several peripheral communities.

Two absorption strategies

- Indirect Absorption – Absorptions centers.
- Direct Absorption

**full intervention or absorption
by market forces**

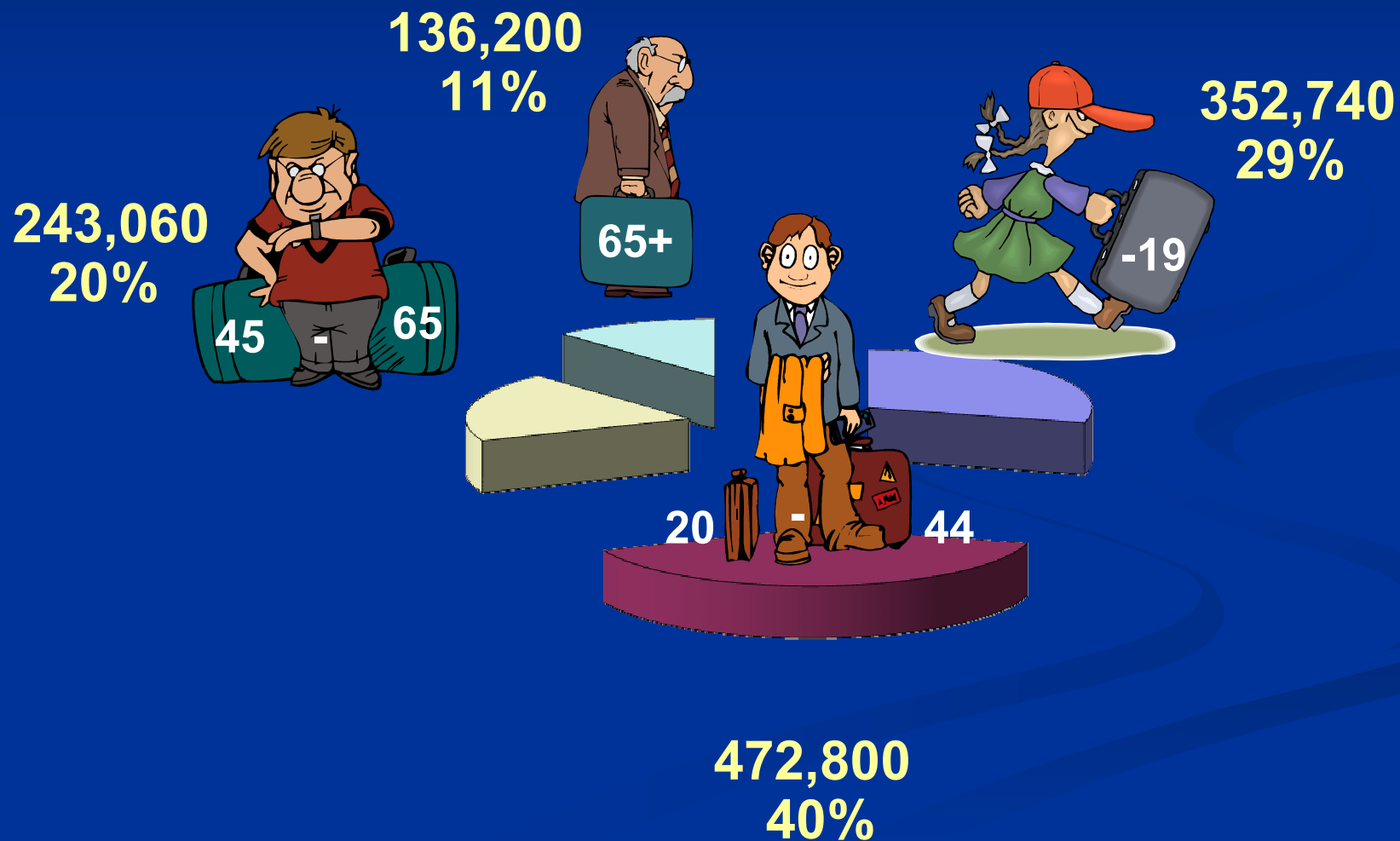
35 Absorption Centers-in Israel

The Government faces the task of preparing the immigrants absorption within absorption centers, facilitating their integration into Israeli society.

**The primary issues for the immigrants-
in the absorption centers are:**

Hebrew, Adjusting to everyday life in Israel, Introduction to Employment, Preparation and familiarization with permanent living arrangements.

Immigration According to Age Group 1989-2005 – 1,204,800 Individuals



Areas of Ministry Assistance

- Guidance, counseling, and advice to new immigrants and their families.
- Financial assistance and support
- Education & Assistance in learning Hebrew
- Assistance in employment and entrepreneurship
- Integration of immigrants into Israeli society
- Housing assistance
- Students financial aid to higher education.

learning the Hebrew language

- Hebrew studies are a basic requirement for the successful absorption of new immigrants.
- The Ministry of Immigrant Absorption enables new immigrants to spend their first months in the country learning Hebrew by offering them financial aid.
- Use of technology: internet, interactive TV

Housing

- Assistance with rental fees.
- Mortgages for purchasing apartments.
- Public Housing :is for special populations only.

Absorption Package

For a couple with 2 kids (in \$)

Grant-6 payment	10,000
Customs Grant	1,100
Total *	11,100\$

Medical insurance.

**Special Educational programs - for Children,
Teens & Adults.**

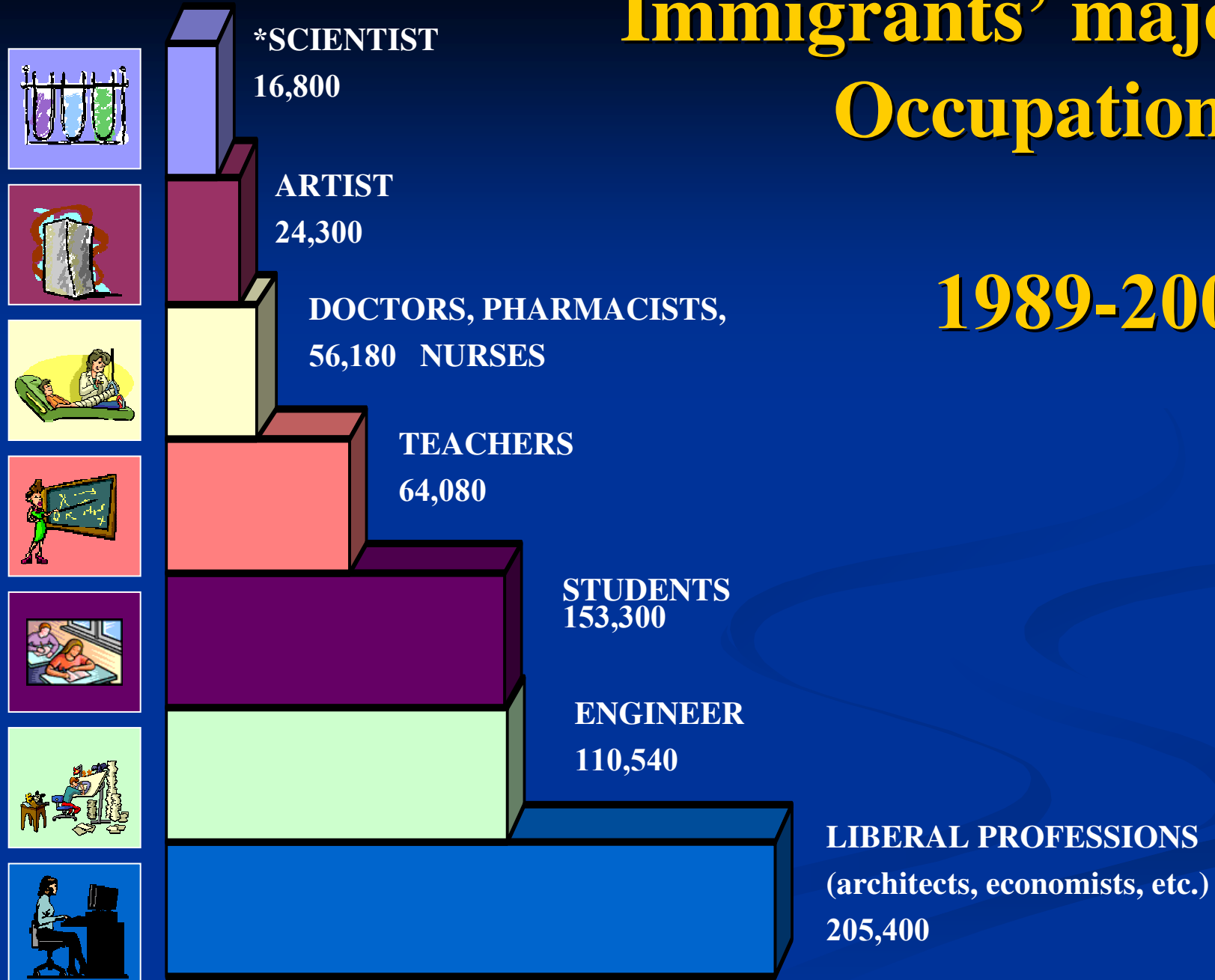
**preparation for integration into Israeli society, and special
preparation for entering Israeli schools.**

Main goals for the Ministry - 2008

- Promotion of employment-more intervention products will be offered.
- Encouraging Israeli citizens to return “home” this year 10,000 - expected to return.
- Promoting local income tax issues

Immigrants' major Occupations

1989-2005



Employment

- Programs to help new immigrants integrate into the job market in accordance with their education, personal capabilities and work experience.
- Assessment (Employment) centers; Diagnostic, placement ,upgrading
- Various of On the job training
- Special assistance for Artists and Athletes
- Preparatory Courses for Licensing and Certification
- Special programs for changing profession-Retraining courses.
- Grants to employers in the private & in the public sector -Salary ,
Employment Advancement .

entrepreneurs

- Programs to encourage immigrant entrepreneurs.
- The program assists new immigrants & returning citizens who are interested in opening and developing their own business.
- Assisting in creating a business Plan & establishing new businesses.
- Feasibility tests.
- Business consultation & training programs (courses + workshops)
- Helping in stabilizing and advancing existing businesses.
- A special loan granted – connection to financing resources.

The Center for Absorption in Science

- The Center tries to assist immigrant integrate into science, medicine and R&D.
- The Center helps immigrant scientists find work in institutions of higher education, research institutes, colleges, technological incubators and in the business sector.
- Various grants :Technology and exact sciences , Social and behavioral sciences , Biological and medical sciences
- Expensive programs-participating in employment costs.

THANK YOU