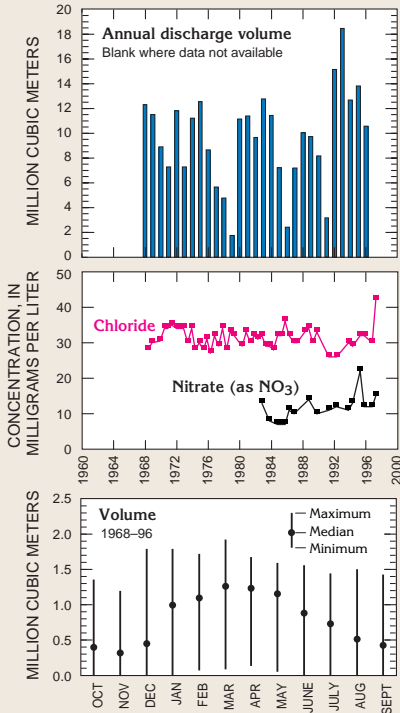


Auja Spring issues from limestone of geologic unit K_j into the Wadi Auja that drains to the Jordan River along the eastern slopes of the Eastern Mountain Basin. Springflow is influenced by precipitation and is highly variable—springflow in 1991, a dry year, was about 3.2 MCM; whereas, in 1992, a wet year, springflow was about 18.5 MCM. Monthly median springflow is between about 0.4 and 1.3 MCM. Occasionally during the summer and autumn months, the spring ceases to flow. Water from the spring is fresh, with chloride concentrations generally below 40 mg/L and nitrate below 25 mg/L. Concentrations of chloride fluctuate annually, but show little long-term trend. Concentrations of nitrate show a slight increase since the early 1980's.

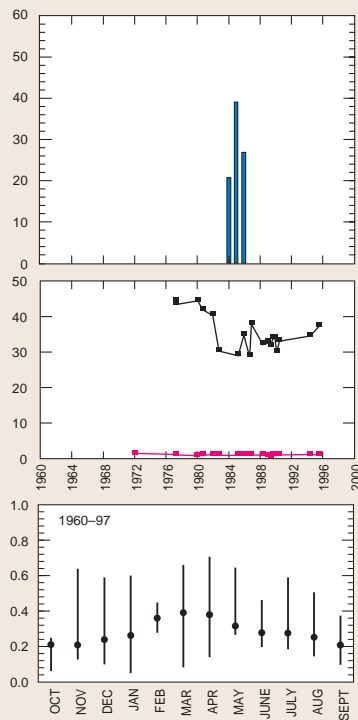


The spring at Jericho has served as a source of freshwater for thousands of years.

WHAT IS A MEDIAN?

Like an average, the median describes the center of a data set. The median is the number that half of the values are greater than, and half are less than. For streamflow data, the median is more representative than the average, which is biased by very large or small values.

Baqouriyeh Spring issues from limestone near the contact between geologic units K_j and K_k into a wadi that drains to the Jordan River along the southern part of the Side Wadis Basin. Springflow varies in response to seasonal precipitation. Monthly median springflow ranges from about 0.2 to 0.4 MCM; the spring never has been observed to cease flowing. Annual springflow during 1984-86 was between about 21 and 39 MCM. Although water from the spring is fresh with chloride concentrations less than 2 mg/L, concentrations of nitrate are high, generally above 30 mg/L. Since the early 1970's, concentrations of chloride have remained unchanged. Concentrations of nitrate decreased during 1977-84, and show a slight increase from 1984-96.



Barta's Spring issues from limestone of geologic unit K_j, in the Western Mountain Basin into the Hadera River that drains to the Mediterranean Sea. Annual springflow ranges from about 0.08 to 0.21 MCM, with most fluctuations observed during years of very high precipitation. Heavy precipitation during the winter of 1991-92 resulted in a nearly 50% increase in annual springflow, to about 0.21 MCM. Monthly median discharge ranges from about 0.008 to 0.011 MCM; the spring has never been observed to cease flowing. Water from the spring is fresh, with chloride concentrations below 100 mg/L and nitrate below 30 mg/L. Concentrations of chloride and nitrate show only minor changes in response to changes in discharge, decreasing slightly since the late 1960's.

