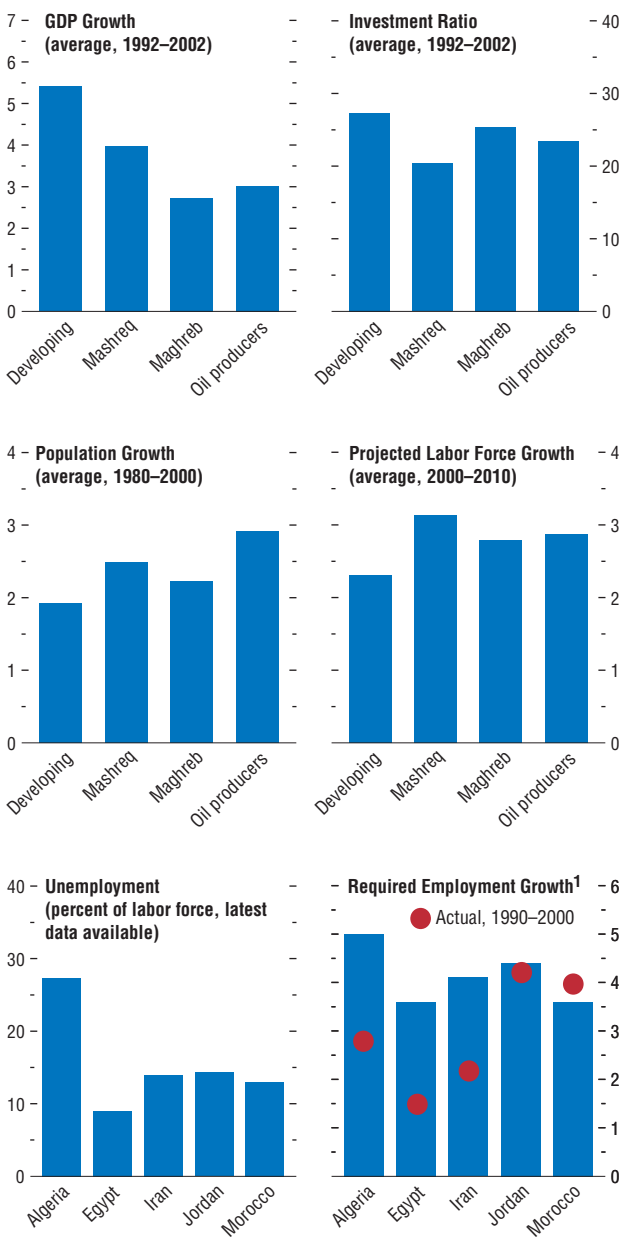


## Figure 1.15. Middle East and North Africa: Managing the Demographic Transition

In coming years, a key challenge will be to raise GDP growth and employment across the region to absorb the rapidly growing labor force and reduce high unemployment.



Sources: World Bank, *World Development Indicators*, 2002; and IMF staff estimates.

<sup>1</sup>See Dhonte, Bhattacharya, and Yousef (2001).