



The Humanitarian Monitor

occupied Palestinian territory

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Overview- Key Issues

Update on Gaza

Violence

Forty Palestinians were killed during May in the Gaza Strip in direct conflict related incidents, compared with 70 in April. The total includes six child fatalities compared to 21 in April. At least one-third of those killed (14) were unarmed civilians. An additional 107 Palestinians were injured in May, among whom 11 were children. Most casualties occurred as a result of Israeli Air Force (IAF) attacks.

Two Israeli civilians were killed and 20 injured, including 16 civilians and four IDF soldiers, by rockets and mortars fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip into Israel.

Impact of fuel crisis

During May, fuel supplies (including benzene, diesel and industrial gasoline) allowed by Israel into the Gaza Strip increased by 46% compared to April (from 7.8 million litres in April to 11.4 million litres in May). However, this amount constituted less than half of Gaza's monthly fuel requirements (about 26 million litres).

As a result, MoH (Ministry of Health) hospitals in the Gaza Strip continued to limit their services: for example, the Gaza European hospital continued to suspend half of its elective surgeries, while four out of 44 MoH ambulances were not operating due to the unavailability of benzene.

(See the Health Section for more details)

The CMWU (Coastal Municipalities Water Utility) received 20,000 litres of diesel in May, which constituted less than one-fifth of its monthly fuel requirement. Consequently none of the three wastewater treatment plants across the Gaza Strip was able to function normally, forcing the Utility to dump about 80,000 cubic metres (m³) of raw and partially treated sewage into the Mediterranean Sea each day. The MoH and WHO collected 30 seawater samples along the Gaza Strip coast, 11 of which were identified as polluted.

(See the Water and Sanitation section for more details)

Gaza crossings

During May, the number of truckloads allowed into Gaza (1,821) declined by about 9% compared to April 2008, and by 85% compared to May 2007 (12,378 truckloads). Of the 1,821 truckloads, 258 contained humanitarian aid goods. The vast majority of imported commodities in May remained limited to food, hygiene and medical supplies. No exports have been allowed since December 2007.

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Rafah Crossing has remained closed since 9 June 2007. Erez Crossing was open on 23 days during May, and was again closed on 22 May when a Palestinian suicide bomber blew up a truck filled with explosives at the crossing, which caused significant structural damage for the crossing but no casualties were reported. As a result, the crossing was closed for three days, obstructing the movement of humanitarian aid workers and medical cases.

(See the Access section for more details)

Access of Palestinian patients through Erez

During May, 1,089 patients from Gaza applied for permits to cross Erez Crossing for treatment in specialised health services in the West Bank (including E. Jerusalem), Israel, Egypt and Jordan. Of the total number, 570 patients (or 52%) were granted permits, 517 of whom had actually crossed.

(For more details, please go to the Access section)



A wave of “stop work” orders against Palestinian-owned structures in the southern West Bank

During May, 39 “stop work” orders and three demolition orders were issued by the ICA (Israeli Civil Administration) against structures that lack building permits and are owned by Palestinians, located in Area C of the Bethlehem and Hebron governorates. For this reason, no demolitions were carried out by the ICA in Area C of the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) during the same period.

Whenever a “stop work” order is issued, the owner of the targeted structure is invited to apply for a building permit and be heard by the relevant committee of the ICA. However, more than 94% of applications for such building permits submitted by Palestinians between 2000 and 2007 were denied. If no application is submitted or if the application is rejected by the ICA, a demolition order will be issued. No further step is required before a demolition order is executed.¹

The 39 “stop work” orders were distributed among five localities, two of which were in the Hebron governorate - namely Beit Kahil (19 orders) and Beit Awwa (eight orders) – and three in the Bethlehem governorate - Al Khader (eight orders), Khallet Sakariya (three orders), and Beit Jala (one order). The three structures that are subject to the demolition orders are located in Al Beqa’a village (Hebron governorate). These structures had been rebuilt by the Israeli Committee against House Demolitions following previous demolitions.

Of the 42 orders, 24 have been issued against inhabited residential structures as well as one veranda. The demolition of these structures would lead to the displacement of 226 people. Of the rest, nine orders targeted structures under construction, six of them were commercial structures and two water-related infrastructures. If all targeted structures are demolished, an estimated number of 236 people will be affected.

The most recent findings of the joint rapid WFP/UNRWA/FAO survey on food security in the oPt

Previously self-reliant families are progressively falling into the poverty trap due to the deteriorating Palestinian livelihoods. Those with work are facing increasing difficulties to manage due to unadjusted salaries, a degrading economic environment and high dependency ratios.

The joint rapid survey on food security showed that in 2008, 38% of the Palestinian population is food insecure as compared to 2006 when food insecurity stood at 34%; with 56%, food insecurity in the Gaza Strip is more widespread than in the West Bank, where it stands at 25%; food insecurity is also higher among refugees (44%) compared to non-refugees (33%); and approximately 54% of the food insecure people live in urban areas, 27% live in rural areas and 19% reside in camps. *(See the Food Security and Agriculture section for more details)*

The following UN Agencies, local and international NGOs and organisations participate in sector working groups and regularly provide information to the Humanitarian Monitor: United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG), ACF-E, AAA, ACP, ACAD, and members of the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM).



Overview- Regional Focus

West Bank including East Jerusalem

Protests against land requisition in Ni'lin village in the Ramallah governorate

During May, the village of Ni'lin in Ramallah governorate witnessed a series of demonstrations in protest against the commencement of Barrier constructions in the area. After taking a petition to the Israeli High Court of Justice to prevent construction of the Barrier on the village land, the Court directed the IDF to re-route the Barrier further away from the village. According to information provided to OCHA by Ni'lin's village council, the new route will affect approximately 2,500 dunums of Ni'lin agricultural land, which will be either used for the Barrier construction or left behind the Barrier once it is constructed. The village has received two additional land requisition orders for the purposes of constructing an IDF military base and a "Fabric of Life" tunnel under road 446 to connect the Palestinian villages of Ni'lin and Deir Qaddis. As a result, some further 650 dunums of Ni'lin land will be isolated and damaged.

The IDF has responded violently to each protest held by Palestinian, Israeli and international activists. This has led to the injury of 41 Palestinians and one international protestor. Injuries, including cases of asphyxia, were caused by tear gas, beatings and rubber-coated metal bullets.

Reports on incidents involving settlers leading to Palestinian casualties in the Jerusalem and Ramallah governorates

During May, two incidents involving Israeli settlers were reported in the Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates, resulting in the death and injury of Palestinians. On 6 May, a mob of more than 50 Israelis attacked two males, aged 16 and 18, from Shufat Camp in the East Jerusalem settlement of Pisgat Ze'ev. The incident was taped and 11 Israeli youths were indicted for stabbing and beating the two Palestinians.

On 9 May, Israeli settlers from the Beit El settlement shot and killed a 19-year-old Palestinian male, while he was hunting with another Palestinian near 'Ein Yabrud village in Ramallah governorate. According to the settlers' version of events, they open fire at the Palestinians because they were armed. Three Israeli settlers and the second Palestinian were detained by Israeli police and an investigation was opened into the incident. Further information on the investigation will be reported once available.

Since the beginning of the year, three Palestinians have been killed and nine injured in the Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates during different incidents involving Israeli settlers.

Increase in closure days

During May 2008, Palestinians holding West Bank IDs with valid permits to enter Israel were prevented from accessing East Jerusalem and Israel for 13 days due to announced closures on the West Bank during Jewish holidays. This figure represents a sharp increase compared to the 11 days of closure imposed during April 2008 and the two days imposed in May 2007.

In the first five months of 2008, Israel imposed this type of closure on 37 days (or 24% of the days), compared to 19 days (or 13% of the days) during the same period in 2007 and 37 days in the whole 2007. Among those most severely affected by these closures are more than 60,000 Palestinians employed in East Jerusalem and in Israel.

Gaza Strip

Update on fishing

The total fishing catch in May 2008 was 757 MT, representing more than a four-fold increase compared to the previous month (154 MT) and a 10% increase in comparison with May 2007 (687 MT). More than 90% of the fishing catch was sardine and small fish. The income from fishing catch represents about six NIS million (or about 1.8 million USD).

Reasons leading to significant improvement are due to the occurrence of the high season of sardines in May and the implementation of a new fuel distribution mechanism resulting in a slight increase in fuel allocated to fishermen.



Protection of Civilians

Protection of Civilians Analysis

In May 2008, the IDF killed 42 Palestinians and injured 183 others. The majority of deaths (40) and about half of the injuries (107) took place in the Gaza Strip. Following the trend observed since January 2008, at least a third of those killed in the Gaza Strip (14) were unarmed civilians. Settlers killed one Palestinian in the West Bank and injured 11 others, mainly in the Hebron governorate.

IAF missiles were responsible for approximately half of the fatalities and a third of injuries in the Gaza Strip. In contrast, 73% of West Bank casualties were a result of the firing of rubber-coated metal bullets by the IDF, primarily in demonstrations against the Barrier in Ni'lin (Ramallah). The highest single-incident casualty toll in the Gaza Strip took place on 22 May when IDF soldiers opened fire at a Hamas-organised peaceful demonstration, during which the protestors moved closely towards Karni Crossing, resulting in the death of a 16-year-old boy and the injury of eight adults and six children.

During May, two Israeli civilians were killed by rockets and mortars fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip at towns inside Israel and another 16 civilians and four IDF soldiers were injured. Three other IDF soldiers were injured in military operations inside the Gaza Strip. In addition, eight Israeli civilians were injured in the West Bank; one by Palestinians, five protestors by the IDF in anti-closure protests in the Tulkarm and Hebron governorates, and two settlers by the IDF after they had attacked Palestinian farmers working on their land in the Qalqiliya governorate. Three Palestinians (a mother and her two children) were also injured when a rocket fired from east of Gaza City towards Sderot landed on a house in Gaza.

Palestinian internal violence resulted in the death of four Palestinians in May compared with two deaths in April. While deaths have remained at a low level, injuries have increased two-fold (57 compared to 26 in April); this is primarily due to an increase in inter-factional violence (23 vs. 0) and the injury of 15 students in a dispute at Al Azhar University in the Gaza Strip.

Moreover, one Palestinian was killed and four were injured when a tunnel collapsed under the Egypt-Gaza border, and two were killed and ten injured due to the reckless handling of weaponry.



Protection of Civilians

"Protection encompasses all activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of the individuals in accordance with international human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law."^a

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Total 2007 (monthly average)	Jun - 07	July - 07	Aug - 07	Sep - 07	Oct - 07	Nov - 07	Dec - 07	Jan - 08	Feb - 08	Mar - 08	Apr - 08	May - 08
Number of Palestinian deaths - direct conflict ¹															
West Bank	216 (18)	678 (57)	396 (33)	10	6	10	7	10	1	4	9	6	8	3	3
Gaza Strip				30	23	37	30	27	25	58	80	67	104	70	41
Israel				0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Number of Palestinian injuries - direct conflict															
West Bank	1260 (105)	3194 (266)	1843 (153)	76	38	92	79	81	77	53	111	58	122	45	87
Gaza Strip				86	29	62	56	71	50	84	182	143	215	155	107
Number of Israeli deaths - direct conflict															
oPt	48 (4)	25 (2)	13 (1)	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	3	8	0
Israel				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	2
Number of Israeli injuries - direct conflict															
oPt	484 (40)	377 (31)	322 (27)	18	3	54	18	13	6	14	11	12	36	27	11
Israel				1	4	2	69	0	0	6	9	23	18	3	20
Number of Palestinian deaths - internal violence ²															
West Bank	12 (>1)	146 (12)	490 (41)	5	4	1	4	8	1	3	0	2	7	1	0
Gaza Strip				188	11	11	8	16	11	12	9	4	3	1	4
Number of Palestinian injuries - internal violence															
West Bank	130 (11)	871 (76)	2726 (227)	25	18	7	24	13	64	2	45	4	19	17	4
Gaza Strip				841	56	119	139	109	116	107	22	19	21	9	53
Average weekly IDF searches, arrests and detentions in the West Bank ³															
Search Campaigns	Ave Weekly (61)	Ave Weekly (109)	Ave Weekly (102)	101	86	98	91	78	89	71	94	103	113	117	105
Arrests and Detentions	Ave Weekly (74)	Ave Weekly (101)	Ave Weekly (96)	78	65	93	84	73	88	83	92	94	115	90	92

For more information, please contact OHCHR, (02) 2965534 or OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Isra' Muzaffar)



Child Protection

Child casualties

During May, a total of eight Palestinian children were killed and 44 injured in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Seven children were killed and 38 injured by the IDF, one was killed and another injured due to the reckless handling of weaponry, two were injured by Israeli settlers, one was injured in internal conflict, and two were injured by a rudimentary rocket that landed on a house in the Gaza Strip. One Israeli child was also injured this month by a rocket fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip.

Six out of seven Palestinian child fatalities took place in the Gaza Strip, and about 73% (29) of child injuries took place in the West Bank primarily as a result of the firing of rubber-coated metal bullets by the IDF in demonstrations or military operations. In the Gaza Strip, eight out of 11 children injured were injured by live ammunition.

Overall, the number of children killed in May represents a three-fold decrease compared to the previous month while injuries have remained at about the same level.

Children in detention

By the end of May, an estimated 337 Palestinian children were being held in custody by Israeli authorities, 319 of them in Israeli Prison Service (IPS) facilities and 18 in IDF interrogation and detention centres. This represents a 3% increase compared with April, when 327 children were held by Israeli authorities. Of those held in IPS facilities, 88% were between 16 and 17 years old and 12% between 12 and 15 years old. Ten of all the children held under Israeli custody were being kept in administrative detention; that is incarceration without charge or trial.

Violent incidents affecting educational facilities

The number of incidents affecting schools and pupils increased from two in April to 11 in May. Five of the 11 incidents in May involved the IDF, two unknown assailants and four of them Israeli settlers:

- On 6 May, 41 students were wounded and one was killed at Beit Awwa Basic School in Hebron by the IDF. Twenty other students and one teacher were arrested.
- On 16 May, a bomb was detonated outside the Zahwa Rosary Sisters School in Gaza City by unknown assailants.
- On 21 May, nine students were arrested in Hebron; some of the students were arrested at the entrance of the Al'Arrub Secondary School and some were taken from their homes.

- On 22 May, Israeli settlers threw stones at the Ibrahim Basic Boy's school in the Old City of Hebron and injured a 12-year-old boy.
- Also on 22 May, the IDF raided Qissaria secondary school in the Gaza Strip.
- On 25 May, the IDF entered the UNRWA Basic Boys School at El Far'a Camp (Nablus), cut parts of the wire fence and used the school's roof to fire rubber bullets at Palestinians. At least one child was injured.
- On 27 and 28 May, the IDF injured nine students with rubber-coated metal bullets in Qalqiliya city, in confrontations with the children that occurred during a two-day military operation in the city.
- Also on 27 May, three schools were broken into by settlers in the Qalqiliya governorate: Al Khansa' Girls Secondary School (breaking of 15 classroom door locks); Abu Ali Iyad Girls Schools (breaking of 17 classroom door locks); and Murabeteen Basic School (breaking of the main school gate).
- On 31 May, unknown gunmen broke into El-Manara School owned by the Bible Society of the Baptist Church, in Gaza City. The assailants were reported to have detained and tied up two school guards with the aim of stealing a bus belonging to the Bible Society. This is the second time the school has been targeted this year, following an attack by unknown gunmen on 21 February.

Displacement:

In May, OCHA recorded the demolition of eight inhabited houses by the IDF in the Gaza Strip and one in East Jerusalem due to the lack of building permit. The house demolition in East Jerusalem resulted in the displacement of seven Palestinians, including three children.



Child Protection

“Child protection includes strategies and activities aimed at the protection of children (under 18) against abuse, exploitation and violence.”^b

Children under 18 continue to be victims of Israeli-Palestinian violence and of conflict within the Palestinian community. UN Security Council Resolution 1612, adopted on 26 July 2005, makes explicit the need for protection of children in armed conflict. This section's indicators are used to monitor the rights of children for protection as stated in this Resolution.

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Total 2007 (monthly average)	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-07	May-08
Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict ⁴															
West Bank	52 (4)	127 (11)	43 (4)	1	2	2	3	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	1
Gaza Strip				3	1	6	2	2	2	0	4	10	26	21	6
Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict ⁵															
West Bank	129 (11)	470 (39)	265 (22)	14	14	21	29	24	17	6	38	12	41	12	29
Gaza Strip				4	1	2	3	9	0	0	27	17	52	26	11
Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict ⁶															
oPt	3 (<1)	1 (<1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	3 (<1)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict ⁷															
oPt	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Israel	0	7 (<1)	3(<1)	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	1	1	1
Number of Palestinian children killed - indirect conflict ⁸															
West Bank	5 (<1)	2 (<1)	1(<1)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	3 (<1)	6 (<1)	1	5	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence ⁹															
West Bank	0	2 (<1)	2(<1)	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	0	11 (<1)	36(3)	4	1	1	1	5	1	2	0	1	1	0	1
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities ¹⁰															
West Bank	n/a	n/a	357	384	375	328	335	319	324	311	327	307	324	327	337

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 584 0400 (Christine Gale).



Violence and Private Property

"The civilian population and individual civilians shall enjoy general protection against dangers arising from military operations...The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attacks. Acts or threats of violence, the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited."^c

	Total 2005 (monthly average)	Total 2006 (monthly average)	Total 2007 (monthly average)	Jun - 07	Jul - 07	Aug - 07	Sep - 07	Oct - 07	Nov - 07	Dec - 07	Jan - 08	Feb - 08	Mar - 08	Apr - 08	May - 08
Incidents involving Israeli settlers¹¹															
Total number of incidents	n/a	235 (20)	291 (24)	17	37	30	21	47	34	24	28	24	50	51	33
Leading to Palestinian casualties	n/a	63 (5)	76 (6)	6	7	10	9	5	7	3	9	1	12	11	9
Leading to Israeli Settler casualties	n/a	28 (2)	25 (2)	0	0	4	1	2	3	4	1	8	4	2	1
Leading to international casualties	n/a	11 (<1)	4 (<1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Number of rockets fired into/towards Israel¹²															
From the Gaza Strip	1 194 (100)	1 786 (149)	1 331 (111)	140	96	92	97	56	114	155	267	207	347	149	172
Number of IDF artillery shells															
Into the Gaza Strip	509 (42)	14 111 (1 175)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of IAF air strikes															
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	573 (48)	173 (14)	14	13	14	10	11	14	26	33	26	91	35	23
Number of Mortars fired from the Gaza Strip¹³															
Towards Israel	n/a	n/a	1071 (97)	69	116	135	122	110	118	342	256	98	147	174	133
Towards IDF troops	n/a	n/a	178 (16)	27	17	17	9	19	34	55	52	145	87	443	143
Physical structures demolished - West Bank¹⁴															
Structures demolished	n/a	201	190 (16)	7	9	17	29	21	7	1	69	42	42	3	2
Of which residential (occupied)	n/a	56 (5)	90 (7)	2	5	11	5	19	3	0	31	20	20	3	1
Physical structures demolished - Gaza Strip															
Structures demolished	n/a	246 (21)	24 (2)	2	1	1	0	0	3	1	1	14	11	11	30
Of which homes demolished	n/a	127 (11)	7 (<1)	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	7	5	9	8

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Mai Yassin or Isra' Muzaffar)

Incidents involving settlers

The number of reported incidents involving settlers in the West Bank decreased in May compared to April. The decrease was primarily in relation to attacks/intimidation (16 vs. 8) and property damage affecting Palestinians (15 vs. 3). Yet the number of trespass incidents affecting Palestinians (e.g. house or land occupation) increased from zero in April to five in May and took place in the Nablus, Ramallah and Bethlehem governorates.

Examples of property damage by Israeli settlers this month included the land leveling and opening of several dirt roads on 200 dunums of land west of the Revava settlement belonging to Palestinian farmers from Deir Istiya (Salfit); and an attack against a Palestinian shepherd near Far'ata village and the stealing of one of his sheep (Qalqiliya).

Incidents involving the prevention of Palestinian access by Israeli settlers accounted for almost one-quarter of overall settler incidents this month (8 out of 33), which is similar to the access prevention incidents observed in 2007. In 2008, so far an average of seven access prevention incidents involving settlers has taken place each month.

Of those incidents leading to casualties, one led to the killing of a 19-year-old Palestinian in 'Ein Yabrud (Ramallah) whilst the others led to the injury of 11 Palestinians and two foreigners by settlers, and the injury of two Palestinians and two settlers by the IDF.



Access

"Everyone has the right of freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."^d

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Monthly average 2007	Jun - 07	Jul - 07	Aug - 07	Sep - 07	Oct - 07	Nov - 07	Dec - 07	Jan - 08	Feb - 08	Mar - 08	Apr - 08	May - 08
IDF Physical obstacles in the West Bank^{*15}															
Staffed	62	74	86	85	86	86	88	87	87	87	87	87	88	88	88
Unstaffed	410	445	467	471	455	477	475	474	476	476	482	493	522	519	517
Total	472	518	552	556	541	563	563	561	563	563	569	580	n/a	607	605
Average weekly Random or 'Flying' checkpoints	73	136	113	105	107	100	104	70	74	50	61	85	88	71	79
Curfews imposed by IDF¹⁶															
No. incidents - West Bank	9	4	5	8	0	3	2	5	17	11	19	11	15	9	8
Total hours under curfew - West Bank	126	40	73	79	0	27	77	27	362	93	177	239	360	96	98
No. incidents - Gaza Strip	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total hours under curfew - Gaza Strip	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations¹⁷															
Access incidents reported in the West Bank	n/a	79	40	38	47	46	41	36	41	47	47	63	139	181	138
Average reported time to exit the Gaza Strip via Erez, in minutes.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ambulances incidents in the West Bank and access for medical referrals from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank and Israel¹⁸															
Ambulance access delays reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	10	28	39	44	37	27	22	28	n/a	24	25	24	13	n/a
Ambulance access denial reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	9	23	32	40	27	20	19	25	n/a	32	38	26	22	n/a
MoH medical referral requests (via Erez)	n/a	459	735	413	872	985	715	1103	n/a	1041	776	841	1036	1077	1089
Actual no. of medical referrals receiving permits to cross (via Erez)	n/a	416	599	369	777	787	591	850	n/a	669	542	664	683	709	570
Actual no. of medical referrals who approached Palestinian side to cross via Erez (number reported being denied passage on Israeli side)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	789 (27)	656 (16)	602 (6)	645 (5)	651 (5)	664 (n/a)	622 (54)	517 (31)
Access for Palestinians to East Jerusalem and Israel from oPt¹⁹															
West Bank (total closure days)	n/a	n/a	3	0	0	0	12	6	0	0	5	0	8	11	13
Gaza Strip (total closure days)	n/a	17	n/a	17	31	31	30	31	30	31	30	29	31	30	31
Movement of people from/to Gaza Strip - daily average²⁰															
Workers to Israel - Erez	1029	378	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traders to Israel - Erez	107	42	n/a	262	0	n/a	0	5	n/a	n/a	163	13	27	32	n/a
Rafah - daily crossing out	n/a	423	n/a	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rafah daily crossing in	n/a	424	n/a	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962

* OCHA is in the process of conducting a comprehensive update of its closure survey. New figures will be issued in April.



source: OCHA, January 2008



Access

“Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence.”^e

	Monthly average 2005	Monthly average 2006	Monthly average 2007	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open²¹														
Rafah crossing	n/a	57%	n/a	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Karni crossing	n/a	71%	n/a	26%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Sufa crossing	n/a	60%	n/a	100%	95%	68%	32%	n/a	46%	48%	79%	23%	70.3%	73.1%
Nahal Oz energy pipelines	n/a	n/a	n/a	100%	96%	100%	96%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average²²														
Karni import - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	156	n/a	13	10	19	24	25	18.3	33	20	10	13	21.3
Karni export - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	17	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total²³														
Sufa import - aggregates (construction materials) truckloads	3 527	1 598	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nahal Oz import - Fuel truckloads	n/a	583	n/a	523	474	396	472	403	364	n/a	n/a	n/a	129	n/a

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962.

West Bank

A highlight on curfews in Azzun village in Qalqiliya governorate

In May, Azzun village in the Qalqiliya governorate witnessed five incidents of curfew – 85 hours in total - imposed by the IDF following incidents of stone-throwing by Palestinians at settlers, who rode on the road close to the village. During the duration of the curfew, residents were banned from leaving their homes, thus severely affecting each and every aspect of life. As a result of the May curfews on Azzun, for example, schools in the village were forced to close on three different days (1, 3 and 12 May).

Throughout 2008, the Qalqiliya governorate witnessed the highest number of curfews of all West Bank governorates: 23 incidents, or more than one-third of overall incidents, and 578 hours, 60% of all hours. Most incidents and hours were imposed on Azzun village.

Gaza Strip

Gaza crossings

Erez was open for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers and critical medical cases only with special prior coordination. Most national UN staff members continued to be denied entry into Israel. Three Senior Palestinian businessmen (Businessmen Card holders) were allowed to cross this month.

Rafah has remained closed since 9 June 2007. It was opened on some days in May to allow access of medical cases to specialised health facilities in Egypt as well as delegations of Hamas and other Palestinian faction-representatives to cross into Egypt and back into Gaza.

The number of truckloads allowed into Gaza (1,821) through the Karni and Sufa Crossings declined by about 9% compared to April and by 85% compared to May 2007 (12,378 truckloads). Of the 1,821 truckloads, 258 contained humanitarian aid goods. Kerem Shalom Crossing has remained closed for commercial goods since 19 April, following the detonation of a vehicle by Palestinian militants at the crossing.

There was a slight increase in the amount of cooking gas that entered Gaza in May; three million litres compared to 2.2 million litres in April. However, this amount is only 40% of the monthly needs, which are estimated to be 7.5 million litres.

Access of Palestinian patients through Erez

During May, 1,089 patients from Gaza applied for permits to cross Erez Crossing for treatment in specialised health services in the West Bank (including E. Jerusalem), Israel, Egypt and Jordan. Of the total number, 570 patients (or 52%) were granted permits, 517 of whom had actually crossed, 31 (3%) had their applications denied, 460 (42%) patients had their applications being processed and 28 (3%) have been called for interviews by the Israeli General security Services (GSS) before granting them permits.



Socio-economic Conditions

Unemployment, poverty and socio-cultural changes as reported by UNRWA

According to a recent PCBS press release on Economic Establishments in 2007²:

- There are 132,874 establishments in the oPt, 71% of which are in the West Bank and 29% are in the Gaza Strip. The number represents a 13.4% increase in establishments since 2004.
- Of the total number of establishments, 116,804 (approx. 88%) were operating by end of 2007, while 3,657 were completely closed; 2,796 in the West Bank and 861 in the Gaza Strip. Almost 638 are about to start their activities ("under preparation"), 78% in the West Bank and 22% in Gaza.
- The highest number of establishments is in the Hebron governorate (17,661), followed by Nablus (14,582) and Gaza (14,053). The Jericho governorate records the lowest number (1,388 establishments).
- The majority of the establishments in the oPt are classified as operating in wholesale and retail trade (54%), while manufacturing enterprises represent only 14% of the total.
- 296,965 people are engaged in the establishments, 71% of which are based in the WB and 29% in Gaza. About 80% of the total workers are male.

A highlight on "Tekeyat Sedna Ibrahim Soup Kitchen"

Sedna Ibrahim Soup Kitchen is a traditional and well-known charity run by the Palestinian Ministry of Waqf and Religious Affairs in the Old City of Hebron. The establishment provides poor families with wheat soup ('Asseda) on five days a week and meals consisting of chicken, meat and vegetables twice a week. According to its administration, between 200 and 400 people approach the facility on soup days and up to 800 people on meal days.

Depending on family size and economic status, the kitchen staff decides the amount of food to dispense to beneficiaries, who are mainly the unemployed, families of prisoners, orphans and widows, as well as low-income employees. As most people, mainly men, feel ashamed of standing in queues to get soup, children between 7 and 15 years old or women who hide their identity are sent to collect the food instead. In other cases, adults mainly PA teachers come to the facility in the early hours, in order to avoid being seen. An indicator of the serious need for food is the fact that some people from Bethlehem areas pay transport costs of up to 10 NIS in order to get food.

According to kitchen staff, the number of beneficiaries has risen significantly. More people, including PA employees, rely on the Soup Kitchen as a result of the worsening economic situation. Accordingly, the amount of wheat used to prepare the soup increased by 17% between April and May, from 1,200 kg to 1,400 kg.

The charity operates through cash or kind donations from local donors. Donations have been affected by the recent increase in prices since donors find themselves unable to provide similar funding levels due to the deteriorating economic situation.



Socio-economic Conditions

“Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment”^f

	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	Q1 2003	Q1 2004	Q1 2005	Q1 2006	Q3 2006	Q4 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007	Q3 2007	Q4 2007	Q1 2008
Unemployment rate - relaxed definition - % - PCBS²⁴															
West Bank	22.9%	16.9%	32.5%	35.0%	40.3%	31.0%	28.8%	27.2%	25.3%	23.4%	24.3%	22.6%	25.20%	25.90%	25.70%
Gaza Strip	27.9%	21.8%	48.8%	46.4%	37.3%	35.1%	38.0%	39.6%	41.8%	39.6%	35.4%	32.3%	37.60%	35.30%	35.50%
oPt	24.7%	20.2%	37.7%	38.7%	39.3%	32.3%	31.7%	31.1%	30.3%	28.4%	27.9%	25.7%	29.10%	28.80%	28.90%
Households in poverty - based on consumption - % - PCBS²⁵															
Poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.7%	38.8%	29.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Deep poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.8%	23.8%	18.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements - PCBS²⁶															
West Bank	107067	105501	105501	57000	43281	49750	65255	59846	69478	68100	68100	63700	66800	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip	25758	25380	2580	2000	6295	5849	0	852	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	n/a
oPt	132825	130881	107630	59000	49576	55999	65255	60698	69478	68100	68100	63700	66800	n/a	n/a
Economic dependency ratio - PCBS²⁷															
West Bank	n/a	n/a	5.7	6	6.6	5.7	5.6	5	5	5	5.0	4.7	4.9	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	9.1	8.8	7.5	7.5	8.2	8	9	8	7.3	6.9	7.4	n/a	n/a
oPt	n/a	n/a	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.3	6	6	6	5.7	5.3	5.6	n/a	n/a
Evolution of consumer price index (CPI) - PCBS²⁸															
West Bank	19.9%	24.8%	26.0%	32.0%	39.7%	44.2%	49.2%	54.3%	55.3%	57.0%	57.0%	55.7%	59.3%	64.1%	70.7%
Gaza Strip	21.9%	24.7%	22.8%	23.2%	26.4%	32.0%	33.8%	38.1%	41.5%	40.7%	42.0%	41.9%	46.1%	53.0%	60.0%
oPt	20.7%	20.7%	24.2%	28.4%	36.2%	41.4%	46.1%	51.0%	53.1%	52.9%	53.5	53.1%	56.9%	62.2%	68.3%
Evolution of daily wages in NIS - PCBS²⁹															
West Bank	57.7	61.5	60	57.7	60	62.8	60	70	69.2	67.3	70.0	69.2	70.0	70.0	76.9
Gaza Strip	45.0	48.2	60	50	50	50	55.8	65.4	65.4	61.5	66.9	57.7	57.7	60.7	57.7
oPt	51.35	54.8	55	53.85	55.6	57.7	57.7	69.2	69.2	65.4	69.2	65.4	67.3	69.2	70.0

For more information, please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Valentina Debernardi)

PCBS Labour Force Survey Q1 2008

Current number of PA employees in the oPt is 159,000

Represents:

- 22.9% of the employed people in the oPt
- 16.3% of the employed people in the West Bank
- 38.7% of the employed people in the Gaza Strip

PCBS Poverty Consumption-based Yearly Figures

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	oPt
1998	14.5%	33%	20.3%
2001	16.2%	41.9%	23.6%
2004	19.8%	37.2%	25.6%
2005	22.3%	43.7%	29.5%
2006	24%	50.7%	30.8%

Poverty can be defined by using either of two indices: Consumption-based poverty, and Income-based poverty. For clarifications on definitions, please see footnote # 25.

Deep Poverty in the oPt Consumption-based (PCBS)

	West Bank	Gaza Strip	oPt
1998	8.4%	21.6%	12.5%
2001	12.0%	35.4%	19.5%
2004	11.6%	26.0%	16.4%
2005	13.1%	27.9%	18.0%
2006	13.0%	34.8%	18.5%

Source: PCBS, Poverty in Palestine (Aug 2007)



Health

"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."⁸

Impact of fuel, electricity and spare parts shortages on the provision of health services at the MoH health facilities

MoH hospitals in the Gaza Strip continued to limit their services as follows:

- The Gaza European hospital continued to suspend 50% of its elective surgeries;
- Four out of 44 MoH ambulances were not operating due to the unavailability of benzene;
- Only around one quarter of fuel tanks' capacity is filled for operating emergency generators at MoH hospitals;
- Patients currently treated at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) and Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU), and 412 patients with kidney failure receiving kidney dialyses sessions are at high risk if electricity cuts continue;
- In the Gaza European hospital, the CT machine and the main incinerator are still out of order due to the unavailability of spare parts. These services are being delivered by the nearby Nasser hospital, adding to the hospital's existing burden;
- An average of 5% of the health staff working at MoH hospitals were reported to have arrived late for duty during May due to a lack of fuel for public and MoH transport.

Availability of drugs and medical supply items in the Gaza Strip

By the end of May, fewer drugs were available at central drug stores in the Gaza Strip compared to April. The number of drug items at zero³ level increased to 49 drug items out of 416 items on the essential drug list, compared with 23 items in April 2008.

The number of medical supply items at zero stock has reached 91 items out of 596 items of the essential medical supply list. This shows a slight improvement in comparison with April, in which the number of items at zero stock was 140. In addition, there is a stock of 130 essential medical supply items available only for less than three months. MMR (Mumps, Measles and Rubella) vaccine and Solk polio vaccines have been delivered to Gaza, available to cover the period until December 2008.



Health

“A positive mental health is a state of emotional and social well-being in which the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively or fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.”^h

	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
Number of primary health care consultations by service provider³⁰												
MoH - West Bank	151,293	137,597	144,668	157,267	147,942	151,637	187,851	120,246	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - West Bank	158,420	153,433	162,627	158,625	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	162,878	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	216,294	225,021	204,728	186,780	188,620	183,092	172,120	164,927	185,944	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	324,193	386,560	370,756	352,782	344,883	346,932	350,073	332,193	335,733	n/a	358,582	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Proportion of deliveries by service provider³¹												
MoH - West Bank	39.0%	48.70%	47.60%	39.40%	45.30%	51.70%	53.30%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	78.10%	88.30%	89.90%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	41.9%	34.0%	27.70%	29.40%	16.8%	29.50%	20.50%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	9.20%	2.70%	2.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics - West Bank	14.70%	15.20%	20.10%	22.30%	27.40%	15.40%	22.10%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics - Gaza Strip	9.20%	8.60%	6.90%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - West Bank	3.33%	2.19%	4.53%	8.92%	10.22%	3.40%	4.20%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - Gaza Strip	0.10%	0.30%	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	0.0%	0.10%	0.50%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pharmaceutical items out of stock (416 drugs and 596 consumables)³²												
Drugs - West Bank	44.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.8%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Consumables - West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drugs - Gaza Strip	19.5%	15.60%	15.63%	14.7%	21.9%	n/a	25.20%	20.40%	19.20%	13.20%	5.5%	n/a
Consumables - Gaza Strip (at zero level)	22.5%	n/a	26.68%	30.03%	31.50%	26.30%	34.06%	22.15%	n/a	n/a	23.50%	n/a
Consumable - Gaza Strip (at less than three months)	32.0%	n/a	51.17%	49.33%	50.67%	51.70%	61.24%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Malnutrition among children 9 - 12 months³³												
Underweight - West Bank	4.0%	3.37%	3.29%	3.33%	2.08%	2.16%	1.97%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - West Bank	50.0%	50.08%	47.20%	51.96%	48.72%	43.92%	41.47%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Underweight - Gaza Strip	4%	4.10%	4.60%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - Gaza Strip	n/a	72.30%	69.2%	70.39%	67.15%	63.20%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics³⁴												
West Bank	921	1032	1312	1007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	883	n/a
Gaza Strip	1574	1693	1,596	1325	1232	1374	1123	1037	1166	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of new cases attending community and hospital mental health services³⁵												
UNRWA - West Bank	173	171	155	n/a	161	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	20	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - West Bank				n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	147	156	129	106	129	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGO - West Bank				n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGO - Gaza Strip	35	50	35	40	30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

For more information, please contact WHO, (02) 582 3537 (Dr. Katja Schemionek)



Food Security & Agriculture

“Food security exists when all people, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and lead an active and healthy life.”

Availability and prices of basic commodities and other factors affecting food security

Gaza Strip

During May, the total amount of imported basic food commodities declined by 45% compared with April 2008. All basic food commodities were available on the market despite localised shortages of fresh meat, frozen meat and frozen fish due to import restrictions. There was a sharp increase in imported vegetable oil and a decrease in that of wheat flour and rice. The price of wheat flour remained stable at 130 NIS per 50 kg, while the price of 1 litre of vegetable oil increased by 3% compared with the previous month (from 7.5 to 8 NIS). All kinds of vegetables were available on the market. The price of lemons was still high; 8 NIS per 1 kg compared to 5 NIS a month earlier due to limited import from Israel as well as destruction of land allocated to lemon trees in the Gaza Strip by the IDF.

West Bank

The market survey in the West Bank shows that all basic food commodities were available on the market; with prices of the basic food commodities remain stable.

Update on Social Hardship Cases

An approximate number of 40,000 Social Hardship Cases (SHCs) in the West Bank and Gaza Strip did not receive their monthly cash assistance from MoSA for the second consecutive month.

The most recent findings of the joint rapid WFP/UNRWA/FAO survey on food security in the oPt

Previously self-reliant families are progressively falling into the poverty trap due to the deteriorating Palestinian livelihoods. Those with work are facing increasing difficulties to manage due to unadjusted salaries, a degrading economic environment and high dependency ratios. A recent joint WFP/UNRWA/FAO report shows the following:

- In 2008, 38% of the Palestinian population is food insecure compared with 34 percent in 2006;
- Food insecurity in the GS is more widespread; 56% compared to 25% in the West Bank.
- Food insecurity is higher among refugees (44%) compared to non refugees (33 percent) however, both population groups faced a similar increase (10%) in their food insecurity in the past two years.
- Food insecurity reaches 50% in camps.

- In the West Bank, more than 50% of each dollar earned is now spent on food whereas in the Gaza Strip people spend more than 60% of each dollar earned on food. Poor families are the most affected, spending three quarters of their money on food.
- Palestinians living in refugee camps continue to exhibit the highest levels of food insecurity (50%); however, populations in urban areas have faced the highest increases in food insecurity over the past two years (from 19% to 22% in the WB and from 53% to 56% in the Gaza Strip).
- Approximately 54% of the food insecure people live in urban areas, compared to 27% in rural and 19% in camps.
- The share of food expenditure over the total household expenditure is as high as 64% in urban areas compared to 60% in rural areas and 67% in camps.



Agriculture

	Monthly Average 2006	Monthly Average 2007	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan -08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
Arable land requisitioned, levelled and reclaimed in dunums - West Bank³⁶														
Requisitioned	484	131	60	155	30	50	500	20	60	0	0	0	30	540
Levelled	n/a	126	130	720	25	75	33	2	6	26945	100	30	50	30
People affected	n/a	265	170	370	125	182	470	32	77	n/a	60	21	196	294
Reclaimed	n/a	83	55	10	90	42	156	150	70	71	110	98	230	100
Arable land requisitioned levelled or reclaimed in dunums - Gaza Strip														
Requisitioned	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Levelled	n/a	1623	1330	9100	1600	1400	2750	0	1300	6000	100	850	1723	1290
People affected	n/a	657	300	400	1400	2520	1020	0	1750	n/a	150	670	3192	1740
Reclaimed	n/a	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	170	200	40	611	190	165
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank³⁷														
Destroyed	n/a	30	26	100	0	0	20	7	2	4797	7	25	4	0
People affected	n/a	111	90	140	0	0	117	35	14	n/a	30	84	28	n/a
Rehabilitated	n/a	76	57	10	134	176	148	285	30	60	39	226	12	10
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - Gaza Strip														
Destroyed	n/a	3	15	0	12	4	0	0	0	4561	0	0	23	8
People affected	n/a	13	80	0	42	14	0	0	0	n/a	0	0	28	18
Rehabilitated	n/a	6	0	10	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	5
Number of trees destroyed³⁸														
Trees destroyed in the West Bank	n/a	318	300	80	375	30	1500	140	0	2059	500	3150	700	1140
People affected	n/a	62	94	20	90	21	130	28	0	n/a	180	49	714	264
Trees destroyed in the Gaza Strip	n/a	2883	0	0	3600	5000	16000	0	10000	n/a	400	n/a	11940	7500
People affected	n/a	292	0	0	1100	420	230	0	1750	n/a	150	n/a	2303	300
Agricultural produce trading in/out the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes³⁹														
Import	12901	13983	11270	16401	9526	2911	580	4753	13902	n/a	n/a	14049	4526	n/a
Export	1370	2691	422	0	125	0	0	37	238	n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a

For more information, please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Azzam Saleh)



Food Security

	Benchmark	Monthly average 2006 ⁴⁵	Monthly average 2007	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
Retail price of basic food commodities - West Bank, in NIS⁴⁰														
Wheat flour 50 kg	-	91.0	128.7	108.1	133	157	180	190	190	205	205	184.5	184.5	190.5
Olive oil 1 Kg	-	18.6	19	17.75	17.75	20.6	22	25	25	23.8	23.8	22.5	22.5	24
Rice 1 kg	-	3.6	4.3	4.28	5	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.9	5.1	6	6
Veg. oil 1 kg	-	5.5	6.4	6.163	6.163	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	8.7	8.7	9.4	9.4	9.3
Chickpeas 1 kg	-	4.8	4.9	4.5	4.5	5	5	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.3
Refined sugar 1 kg	-	3.7	3.3	3.51	3.51	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3	3	3
Milk powder 1 kg	-	23.2	25.5	26	26	25.7	25.7	28	28	32.1	32.1	32.6	32.6	32.4
Basket of 7 items	-	150.5	192.1	170.3	195.923	223	248	263.6	263.6	283.1	283.1	262.7	263.6	271.5
Price of basic food commodities - Gaza Strip, in NIS⁴¹														
Wheat flour 50 kg	-	82.9	104	98	104.6	118.4	134.6	130	130	135.0	135	130.75	130.5	130
Olive oil 1 Kg	-	23.1	24.09	22.85	22.65	23.05	26.6	27	27	27.0	27	27	27	27
Rice 1 kg	-	3.3	3.57	4	4	4	4	3.50	3.50	3.3	3	3.5	3.875	4
Veg. oil 1 kg	-	5.5	6.28	6	6	6.62	7	7	7	6.8	6.75	6.5	7.5	8
Chickpeas 1 kg	-	5.3	5.36	5	5	5	5.8	5.80	5.90	5.7	5.7	5	5	5
Refined sugar 1 kg	-	4.2	3.09	3.07	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.6	2.6	2.53	2.5	2.55
Milk powder 1 kg	-	33.4	35.14	38.81	38.81	38.81	37.38	31.10	28.8	29.0	31.7	29	31.5	32.75
Basket of 7 items	-	157.1	178.6	177.7	183.72	198.54	218	207	205	209.4	211.8	204.28	207.88	209.3
Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip⁴² (against benchmark of quantities needed per day)														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wheat - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - mT	111 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - mT	72 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - mT	44 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes⁴³														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	7338	5250	6194	5238	10529	18381	11473	8784	13341	12644	4478	4279
Rice	72 mt/day/pop	-	1382	916	1979	549	2222	2422	1592	3916	2091	1200	2361	48
Veg. oil	44 mt/day/pop	-	1437	963	2124	958	1862	3228	1860	3054	311	2991	1302	2116
Sugar	111 mt/day/pop	-	3350	2570	4208	4151	4576	2817	5250	4984	2496	4692	6115	1423
Veg. and fruits	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Commodities	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	-	-	13512	9699	14505	10942	19189	26848	20175	20738	18239	21527	14256	7866
Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip⁴⁴														
Total														
mT	2,323 (in 2005)	1604.2	2704.7	219.0	316.5	99.6	149.1	135.2	82.4	62.7	246.0	75.0	154.0	757

For more information, please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Azzam Saleh) or WFP, (02) 540 1340 (Salah Lahham)



Water & Sanitation

“The Human Right to Water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses.”^j

	Baseline Pre-Intifada	Average 2006 ⁵²	Average 2007	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
West Bank per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁶													
Minimum	-	20.3	18.8	16	19	19	20	13	18	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	207.2	178.3	220	192	192	197	215	196	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	90	65.3	60	67	66	64	63	65	62	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip - Per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁷													
Minimum	-	37.0	24.3	26	24	22	17	25	14	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	116.5	90.5	75	81	101	106	159	122	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	95	80.5	57.8	55	57	60	53	66	52	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Price of tankered water in the West Bank in NIS⁴⁸													
Minimum	-	7.3	8.5	10	10	10	10	10	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	22.5	22.8	30	27	27	27	25	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	11.4	14.0	14.0	16	15	15	15	15	14	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Price of tankered water in the Gaza Strip in NIS⁴⁹													
Minimum	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	-	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Percentage of HH connected to water network paying the bills⁵⁰													
West Bank	-	35.5%	35.2%	36.0%	35.0%	33.0%	34.0%	34.0%	35.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip	-	4.2%	36.3%	2.0%	3.8%	5.0%	6.0%	5.0%	5.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services⁵¹													
West Bank	-	2.2%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gaza Strip	-	4%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and municipalities in the West Bank⁵³													
Minimum	-	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	16.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	13.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and municipalities in the Gaza Strip⁵⁴													
Minimum	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 00 13/14 (Dr. Samson Agbo) or PHG, (02) 296 63 15/6 (Eng. Basema Bashir)

The CMWU (Coastal Municipalities Water Utility) received 20,000 litres of diesel in May, which constituted less than one-fifth of its monthly fuel requirement. Consequently none of the three wastewater treatment plants across the Gaza Strip was able to function normally, forcing the Utility to dump about 80,000 cubic metres (m³) of raw and partially treated sewage into the Mediterranean Sea each day. The MoH and WHO collected 30 seawater samples along the Gaza Strip coast, 11 of which were identified as polluted.

Malfunction and/or stoppage of sewage pumping stations may result in the flooding of the nearby areas. For example, Beit Lahiya waste water lake in North Gaza had reached an alarming level on 25 May (21 cm above its optimal level). A collapse of its banks would lead to a flood of 1.5 million m³ of sewage into the surrounding areas, threatening the lives and livelihoods of more than 10,000 people.

UNRWA responded to CMWU urgent appeal regarding

Beit Lahiya waste water lake by supplying 5,000 liters of fuel to enable the resumption of pumping wastewater into the emergency lagoons and thus bringing water down to its optimal level. Short and medium-term measures are being taken/considered:

- Gaza municipalities are to warn the public of the highly polluted beaches, where swimming is dangerous;
- MoH, WHO, UNICEF are to incorporate this public health risk in their hygiene-related awareness raising efforts;
- OCHA is to continue advocating with the relevant authorities in order that CMWU receives sufficient quantities of fuel and spare parts;
- UNICEF has supplied the CMWU with water and wastewater pumps and will continue supplying spare parts and supporting the vital infrastructure projects in the second half of the year.



Education

"All children deserve a quality education founded on a rights-based approach and rooted in the concept of gender equality."^k

	# of Schools	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - West Bank⁵⁵													
Bethlehem	100	1	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0
Hebron	207	0	n/a	n/a	15	4	0	0	0	11	0	0	0
South Hebron	159	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jenin	113	1	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jericho	20	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jerusalem	37	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jerusalem suburbs	55	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Nablus	196	0	n/a	n/a	11	5	0	0	13	0	0	0	0
Qabatiya	103	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qalqilia	67	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	14	0	0	6	10	8	0
Ramallah	159	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	3	2	0	6	0	1
Salfit	57	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	3	0
Tubas	-	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Tulkarm	107	0	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total West Bank	1,380	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - Gaza Strip⁵⁶													
Gaza	151	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gaza North	60	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Khan Younis	64	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Middle Area	37	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rafah	34	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Gaza Strip	346	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Shao Potung) and UNESCO, (02) 295 9740 (Frosse Dabit).

According to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE)

West Bank

- During May, a total of 168 children's schooling at a village school in the Ramallah governorate was disrupted for at least one day to mark the killing of their colleague by the IDF.

Gaza Strip

- In May, two UNRWA teachers were killed by the IDF in two separate occasions. On 5 May, a science teacher was killed in Rafah by an IAF missile. On 7 May, a female teacher was killed during IDF military operation east of Khan Yunis when IDF troops raided her home.

- PA teachers in the Gaza Strip were able to reach their schools following an agreement between the MoEHE and bus companies on 5 May to provide fuel for about 30 buses to facilitate the movement of PA civil employees, including teachers.
- UNRWA schools provide transportation for their teachers to ensure schools function at normal capacity.

(For more information on attacks on schools, please go to the Child Protection section)



The Institutional Response to the Crisis

Humanitarian and development assistance to the oPt

FUNDED in \$ million	The UN and the CAP	ICRC	INGOs	PNGOs	ECHO	Other EC Commitment	USAID
2005	193.3	30.6	n/a	n/a	35	241	386
2006	273	34.5	n/a	n/a	104.4	225	176
2007	272.5	57.4 (appeal)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	29.8*
2008	217.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: Relief web, ICRC, ECHO, USAID websites.

*Available up till April

The CAP

In \$ million	CAP 2007 - revised May 2007			CAP 2008			CAP 08 % Funded (as of 23 June 2008)	CAP 07 % Funded (as of 23 June 2008)
Sector	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Level of Funding in \$ million as of 27 May 2008	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Funding in \$ million		
Agriculture	11.3	14	6.7	22.2	26	2.8	13%	47%
Coordination and support services	14.2	7	17.3	18.3	8	21.1	100+%	100+%
Economic Recovery and Infrastructure	198.1	17	57.4	158	17	54.9	35%	35%
Education	9.1	4	7.3	7.9	6	2	25%	84%
Food	149.7	8	149.9	156.1	9	97.2	56%	100+%
Health & Psychosocial	35.7	30	28.1	40.1	26	11.3	28%	70%
Protection	1.7	4	0.5	8.7	15	2.5	29%	66%
Water and Sanitation	35.0	19	5.0	42.9	17	1.6	4%	15%
Shelter and non-food items	0.0	-	0.4	-	-	0	-	18%
Multi-Sector	0.0	-	0.1	5.5	1	0.8	12%	100%
Sector not yet specified	-	-	-0.2	2	1	23.4	100+%	-
Mine action	-	-	-	0.2	1	0	0%	-
Total	454.7	103	272.5	461.9	127	217.6	31%	64%

Source: OCHA, Financial Tracking System (FTS).

The PA operating budget

\$ million	2005		2006		2007				2008	
	\$ million	%	\$ million	%	Q1 2007 (\$million)	%	\$ million	%	Q1 2008 (\$million)	%
Clearance revenues collected by Gol	894	40	344	24	105	17	1318	51	278	33
Domestic revenues	476	22	378	26	289	46	323	12	101	12
External finances for budgetary support	349	16	738	51	219	35	1012	39	526	63
Total other financing, incl. Palestinian Investment Fund Dividend	477	22	-25	-2	15	2	-54	-2	-74	-9
TOTAL	2196	100	1435	100	628	100	2599	100	831	100

Source: Palestinian Ministry of Finance, www.pmf.ps, Monthly and annual financial reports for selected years

The PA (Palestinian Authority) fiscal situation recovered in 2007, following a significant decline in 2006, which resulted from the sanctions Israel and the international donor community imposed on the Hamas-led government in the aftermath of the January 2006 elections. The recovery took place in the second half of 2007, in response to the resumption of the clearance revenues, including VAT and customs, which the Government of Israel collects monthly on behalf of the PA. A further improvement was observed during the first quarter of 2008 following an increase in external aid income.



PEGASE

\$ million	Confirmed Pledges in million \$US	Total disbursed (as of 31 May 2008)
ESSP	78.00	55.30
Axis I	682.00	n/a
Axis II		237.30
Axis II		23.30
Total	760.00	290.38

From 1 January 2008, PEGASE is the new European mechanism launched on 1 February 2008 that aims to shift from emergency assistance to a sustainable Palestinian development process

Axis II: Social Development

1) Public administration and services

Type	Number of Beneficiaries	Number of allowances received since February 2008	Total amount recieved in US\$ as of 31 May 2008
Public service providers	67000	4	163.88
Pensioners	7000	4	12.9

2) Aid to vulnerable Palestinian families

Type	Number of Beneficiaries	Number of allowances received since February 2008	Total amount recieved in US\$ as of 31 May 2008
Support to Social Hardship Cases	41000	1	11.6

3) Provision of essential public services

Total Fuel delivered to Gaza Power Plant since February 2008	35.4
Cost in US\$	49

Axis III : Economic and private sector development

Number of payments since February 2008	Total amount recieved in US\$ as of 31 May 2008
3	23.3



Sources and Rationale

The following four factors have been identified by the United Nations Country Team as having the greatest impact on the current humanitarian situation: (1) Lack of protection for civilians and increasing violence; (2) Political, geographic, institutional and social fragmentation of the oPt; (3) Closure, lack of access, separation, restrictions and their effects on livelihoods; and (4) the impact of Israeli settlements and settlement expansion on Palestinian livelihoods, the availability of resources and a reduction in space for development.

OCHA has been monitoring and reporting monthly on protection and access concerns in the oPt since 2002. However, following a sharp deterioration in the humanitarian situation in 2006, UN agencies and NGOs participating in the 2006 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) have produced this monthly report monitoring developments and key humanitarian indicators in the following sectors: protection, child protection, socio-economic conditions, health including psychosocial support, food security, agriculture, education and water and sanitation. This report also includes information related to movement restrictions and humanitarian access including monitoring the 2002 Bertini Commitments.

The present Humanitarian Monitor uses UN Security Council resolutions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international humanitarian law (IHL), the Agreement on Movement and Access (AMA) as the standard for monitoring protection and access indicators. Sectors have also set out guiding humanitarian principles as the baseline for monitoring and developed indicators that can capture the humanitarian situation in a protracted crisis like the oPt.

The Humanitarian Monitor uses a combination of measurable humanitarian indicators, verified field observations and reports on the socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the oPt to analyse the humanitarian situation. These methods can provide different accounts of the situation. The humanitarian indicators reveal longer-term changes and trends from one month to another. Field observations illustrate signs of strain that may indicate future changes in the situation more generally. Reports provide information on specific topics or give larger overviews on the situation in the oPt.

The following sector groups and organisations contribute to the Humanitarian Monitor:

Sector	Sector Lead
Protection	OHCHR/OCHA
Socio-Economic	UNRWA
Health	WHO
Child Protection and Psychosocial	UNICEF
Food	WFP
Agriculture	FAO
Education	UNICEF
Water and Sanitation	UNICEF
Coordination and Security	OCHA

See page 2 for individual contributors.



Table Definitions

Protection of Civilians

1. Number of Palestinian and Israeli casualties (fatalities and injuries) - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. Casualties included within this figure relate directly to the conflict with Israel and the occupation of the oPt including in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, Barrier demonstrations, targeted killings, settler violence etc. The figures do not include events indirectly related to the conflict such as casualties from unexploded ordnance, etc. or events when the circumstances remain unclear or are in dispute. The figures include all reported casualties of all ages and both genders.
2. Number of Palestinian casualties - internal violence. Source: OCHA. Casualties included within this figure are caused by factional violence, family feuding, during internal demonstrations (that are linked to the conflict/occupation) and shooting of alleged collaborators with Israel. These incidents began to be comprehensively reported from May 2006 and earlier figures will be under-reported.
3. Number of search and arrest campaigns and arrests and detentions. Source: OCHA. These indicators refer to operations by the Israeli security forces to search houses or other properties throughout the oPt or arrests/detentions that take place at checkpoints or during demonstrations (i.e. no search). During these operations individuals are often detained or arrested. Detentions (without arrest) typically last for a few days but can last be extended up to a period of three months or longer. Since Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip the vast majority of these operations occur in West Bank towns and villages.

Child Protection

4. Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612, adopted on 26 July 2005 and relative to the protection of children in armed conflict. Children are killed in incidents related directly to the conflict and occupation of the oPt. These include casualties caused in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, demonstrations, targeted killing and Israeli settler violence.
5. Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612. Children are injured in incidents directly related to the conflict and occupation of the oPt. These include injuries caused in IDF military operations, artillery shelling, search and arrest campaigns, demonstrations, targeted killing and Israeli settler violence.
6. Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612.
7. Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict. Source: OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612.
8. Number of Palestinian children killed – indirect conflict. These are children killed in incidents indirectly related to the conflict and occupation of the oPt such as in incidents involving unexploded ordnance (UXO), traffic incidents in the oPt with Israeli vehicles, Palestinian homemade rockets (Qassams, etc.) missing their target, deaths in prison, deaths from probable underlying medical conditions that occurred during military operations or where access to medical care was denied.
9. Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence. Source OCHA. This indicator is used to monitor UN Security Council Resolution 1612. Children are killed in incidents by factional violence or family feuding, internal demonstrations and shooting of alleged collaborators with Israel. These incidents began to be comprehensively reported from May 2006: earlier figures will be underreported. Figure does not include the number of children killed as a result of reckless handling of explosives
10. Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities. Source: Defence for Children International (DCI) from 1 January 2007. This indicator reflects the general level of tension in the West Bank. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that deprivation of liberty of children should always be a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period.

Violence & Private Property

11. Incidents involving Israeli settlers. Source: OCHA. This indicator shows the level of tension between Palestinians and Israeli settlers in the West Bank. An incident is any event involving an aggressive action perpetrated by either Israeli settlers or Palestinians towards each other or others in the community (such as international observers) and that may – but not necessarily – lead to a death or an injury. The aggressive action can be an incident involving a car, such as the stoning of a car or driving it in a dangerous manner; any type of harassment such as intimidation and physical threats, stoning people, chasing people etc. that do not cause any casualty; an incident related to property damage to a private house, land, livestock, etc.; and any incident involving the entry into a private or prohibited property. This figure also included incidents when the IDF restrict Palestinian access due to Israeli settler presence or activity.
12. Number of Palestinian homemade (Qassam, etc.) rockets, IDF artillery shells and IAF airstrikes in and from the Gaza Strip. Source: OCHA Gaza Field Office relying on secondary sources from UNRWA reporting and the Palestinian DCL. These indicators show trends and the level of conflict existing in the Gaza Strip. This number includes rockets that detonated in the Gaza Strip.
13. Prior to July 07, the figure for mortars fired “in the Gaza Strip” included mortars known to be fired towards IDF troops in the Gaza Strip. In July 07, these figures were broken down.
14. Number of physical structures demolished in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Source: OCHA. A structure is demolished when it is completely destroyed, damaged to such an extent that it will have to be demolished before rebuilding can commence, damaged beyond use and includes structures where the owner chose to demolish his structure which was under a demolition order issued by Israeli authorities. The majority of demolitions in the West Bank occur when the Israeli authorities demolish a structure for reportedly being built without a permit although some demolitions occur in other contexts such as during military incursions or due to the construction of the Barrier. In the Gaza Strip, demolitions usually occur during IAF air strikes or ground incursions. A residential (occupied) structure is any form of inhabited shelter/shelter including seasonal shelters, during the time of the olive harvest for example.

Access

15. IDF physical obstacles in the West Bank. Source: OCHA field monitoring. The movement of Palestinians in the West Bank is restricted by a series of physical obstacles such as checkpoints, roadblocks, trenches, earthmounds, etc. that severely restrict Palestinians' freedom of movement. 'Flying' or random checkpoints further disrupt Palestinian movement as they are often deployed on key transit roads during morning and evening peak travelling times. Delays of more than one hour are regularly reported at flying checkpoints and their unpredictable nature means that Palestinians are unable to make travel plans. The annual total of curfew incidents is less than the aggregate of monthly incidents for that year because some curfew incidents began at the end of one month and continued into the next month and were, thus, counted as one incident in each of the two months. In 2007, there are three such incidents.
16. Curfews imposed by IDF. Source: OCHA field monitoring. The duration of a curfew is counted once for each curfew incident. A single curfew affecting multiple neighbouring locations is counted as one incident. A curfew that is lifted and re-imposed in the same place on a single day is counted as two incidents. A single curfew incident may last for several days.
17. Access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations. Source: ACIS forms collected by OCHA and UNRWA Operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The UN Security Council Resolution 1405 adopted in 2002 “emphasizes the urgency of access of medical and humanitarian organisations to the Palestinian civilian population.” In addition, the Government of Israel committed to “fully facilitate the assistance activities of international organisations...” (Bertini Commitments, 2002). In discussions between UNSCO and the IDF it was agreed that internationals should not wait any longer than 20 minutes at Erez crossing.
18. Incidents of ambulances delays and denials in the West Bank and medical movement from the Gaza Strip. Source: Palestinian Red Crescent Society and WHO. Incidents reported by PRCS ambulance crews at IDF checkpoints throughout the West Bank. Only delays in excess of 30 minutes are reported. For medical movement, Palestinians from the Gaza Strip referred for medical treatment by the MoH in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Israel must travel through Erez crossing while those seeking medical treatment abroad must cross through Rafah. Referral patients crossing Erez require a permit from the Israeli authorities. Figures for November 2007 inclusive only of the 13-30 November period.
19. External access to/from the oPt – closure days. Source: Ministry of Labour, closure reports, AMA bi-weekly reports and OCHA. These are the days when Palestinians from the West Bank cannot access East Jerusalem or Israel regardless of a valid permit. Normally (1) staff of international organisations, (2) medical staff, (3) humanitarian cases and (4) Palestinians with legal issues (needing to attend a court in Israel etc) are excluded from this comprehensive closure. In the Gaza Strip, these are days when Erez crossing is closed for all Palestinian access as reported in the bi-weekly AMA report.
20. Movement of people from/to the Gaza Strip – daily average. Source: OCHA Gaza Field Office; Erez is the only crossing point for Palestinian workers and traders to enter Israel from the Gaza Strip. The Rafah crossing is the Gaza Strip's only international crossing point with Egypt.
21. Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open. Source: AMA bi-weekly report. In terms of scheduled days open: (1) Karni is scheduled to be open six days per week; (2) Sufa is scheduled to open five days per week though at times opens on an additional day to allow the import of non-aggregates; and (3) Nahal Oz energy pipelines are scheduled to operate six days per week.
22. Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average. Source: AMA bi-weekly report. The daily average number of trucks is calculated on the basis of scheduled days open at Karni crossing point. Karni crossing is the main transit point for imports/exports into/from the Gaza Strip as well as humanitarian supplies. According to the 15 November 2005 Agreement on Access and Movement (AMA) signed between the GoI and PA, a minimum of 150 truckloads should be exported every day throughout 2006, to reach 400 per day by 31 December 2006.
23. Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total. Source: IDF, and Paltrade. This indicators reflects the total number of truckloads of aggregates (through Sufa) and fuel (through Nahal Oz energy pipelines) into the Gaza Strip each month.



Socio-economic Conditions

24. Unemployment rate – relaxed definition. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. In the context of a protracted crisis, the standard unemployment definition might be somehow deficient, as a considerable number of people are simply no longer seeking employment. A “relaxed definition” of unemployment is applied here, by adding to the total number of unemployed people according to International Labour Organization (ILO) standards the number of people currently not engaged in active job search (commonly defined as “inactive”).
25. Households living on poverty – consumption based. Source: PCBS. The poverty line is the level of income below which one cannot afford to purchase all the resources one requires to live. The official Palestinian (relative) poverty line is based on the average consumption of essential goods (food, clothing, housing, housekeeping supplies, utensils and bedding, personal and health care, transportation and education) by a six-member family. For 2006, PCBS estimates it at NIS 2,300 (\$518). The subsistence (absolute or deep) poverty line is calculated to reflect a budget for food, clothing and housing for a six-member family and stands at NIS 1,837 (\$419) in 2006 (PCBS).
26. The number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. In 2000, around 146,000 Palestinians from the oPt were employed in Israel and Israeli settlements. This figure represents roughly 3% of the Palestinian labour force and demonstrates how vital for Palestinians’ livelihoods is the ability to have access to Israel for working opportunities.
27. Economic dependency ratio. Source: PCBS labour force surveys. No. of population divided by No. of employed. The higher the ratio, the more the inactive population is dependent on the active one.
28. Evolution of Consumer Price Index (CPI). Source: PCBS. Measures changes in prices of purchased goods and services at given time intervals, providing a measure of inflation. Source: PCBS, CPI press releases, quarterly and annually, available from 1996.
29. Evolution of daily wages. Source: PCBS labour force survey. Total net wages paid to all employees divided by total workdays in a given period (median value would be considered). To be looked at in conjunction with changes in CPI to determine purchasing power.

Health

30. Number of primary health care consultations by service provider. Source: Primary Health Care (PHC) Directorates; Mother and Child Health Department, UNRWA Epidemiology Department. Compiled by WHO. The number of consultations by service provider indicates the availability of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and UNRWA (free) services, the availability of and recourse to alternative private paying services. It also shows how economical constraints may affect people’s choice to health services providers. NGOs in the Gaza Strip include Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) and Union of Health Workers Committees (UHCW), which are the main non-governmental providers of health services.
31. Proportion of deliveries by service provider. Source: Birth certificates showed at PHC during BCG immunization, compiled by WHO. This indicator shows the public services’ capacity to provide obstetric services, as well as the burden on these services. It also indicates the availability of and recourse to alternative private paying services. It shows how financial barriers may affect people’s access choice to health services.
32. Number of pharmaceutical items out of stock. Source: MoH Central Drugstore, compiled by WHO. Out of stock means ‘less than one month’s stock’. There are 416 drug items and 596 consumables that should always be available at central level in stock for more than three months to ensure an adequate response to pharmaceutical needs. This indicator shows the quality of care as well as the donors’ response.
33. Malnutrition among children 9-12 months in the Gaza Strip and 0-24 months in the West Bank. Source: On underweight in the Gaza Strip, data source is MoH newly developed national Nutrition Surveillance system in June 2006, where indicator is - 2SD. On Anemia in the Gaza Strip, the same source has been used since June 2006, whilst MoH PHC directorate has been used as a source for the data on Anemia between January and May 2006. Although data on both sources is for children 9-12 months and collected during measles immunization, trend cannot be defined when using the data from the two systems, as the methodology of data collection substantially differs. However, this new data should be more reliable than the previous ones, showing a more accurate prevalence. In the West Bank, data from the new surveillance system is not available yet, and the 5th percentile has been used as cut off point instead of -2SD for the Underweight. Also, the limit of West Bank data is that they are clinic based and it may not give a representative picture for all the children 0-2 years. Underweight is the weight for age ratio which indicates acute malnutrition. Anemia is deficiency in Iron micronutrient, where the level of hemoglobin is less than 11 mg/l. Indicators of malnutrition are used as early warning for a humanitarian crisis generally linked to food intake, poor living conditions, poor water and sanitation conditions. These indicators allow monitoring the impact of the ongoing economic crisis.
34. Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children between the ages of 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices. This indicator enables follow up of environmental health status and the quality and effectiveness of environmental programmes. Monthly figures are compared to the corresponding month in the previous year in order to check for seasonal patterns of disease.
35. Number of new cases attending UNRWA community mental health services, MoH community and hospital mental health services and Gaza Community Mental Health Program (GCMHP) in Gaza Strip and in the West Bank. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, MoH, Palestinian Health Information centre and PHC directorate in the West Bank and Gaza Strip compiled by WHO. This indicator shows how the crisis affects the psychological status of the Palestinians. It also indicates the quality of the Palestinians’ access to psychosocial care.

Agriculture

36. Arable land requisitioned, levelled or reclaimed in dunums - West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees, compiled by FAO. Requisitioned land is public or private arable land either confiscated or made unavailable to Palestinian farmers by the IDF for any reason (Barrier construction, settlements, roads, military areas, etc.). Levelled land is public or private land that has been deforested or devoid of inhabitation by the IDF. It, however, remains accessible to farmers and can be re-used once the levelling is completed. Reclaimed land is that land, which is originally non-productive, and is transformed into farming land, under a private or NGO/UN-led initiative. Most of the time, this land is privately owned.
37. Greenhouses’ land destroyed (greenhouses and land they are on) and rehabilitated or constructed in dunums - West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees, compiled by FAO.
38. Number of trees destroyed (uprooted, burnt or cut by Israeli authorities or settlers). Source: FAO; Ministry of Agriculture Directorates, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees.
39. Agricultural produce trading in or out of the Gaza Strip - the quantities of plant or animal produce that are imported to or exported from Gaza (metric tonnes). Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Gaza Strip, Directorates of Agricultural Marketing.

Food Security

40. Retail price of basic food commodities – West Bank, in NIS. Source: WFP, Market Monitoring System. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The prices are collected during the first week of each month from retail shops in all governorates of the oPt.
41. Retail price of basic food commodities – Gaza Strip, in NIS. Source: WFP, Market Monitoring System. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The prices are collected during the first week of each month from retail shops in all governorates of the oPt.
42. Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip. Source : Ministry of National Economy, collected by WFP. Basic commodities refers to commercial food only (humanitarian stocks excluded). The availability of each item is comparable to the estimated daily quantity of each item needed to cover the needs of the total population of the Gaza Strip.
43. Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip. Source : Paltrade, collected by WFP. Basic commodities refers to commercial and humanitarian food being imported every month into the Gaza Strip. Each commodity is compared to the estimated need in that specific commodity.
44. Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip. Source: Ministry of Agriculture, collected by WFP. Fish is the cheapest available animal protein source in the Gaza Strip. In addition, it contributes to the livelihoods of fisherfolk and their families. According to the Oslo Accords, the Palestinians are granted a fish catch area within 20 nautical miles off the Gazan coastline. The Gol agreed under the 2002 Bertini Commitments to a fishing zone of 12 nautical miles. Fisherfolk are presently able to fish up to 6 nautical miles off the Gaza Strip coastline except at a 1.5 and 1 nautical mile exclusion zone to the north and south respectively.
45. 2006 averages cover only data from 1 April - 31 December 2006.



Water & Sanitation

46. Per capita use of water per day – in litres - West Bank. This is the average volume of water used per day per person (including domestic agriculture, domestic livestock and all loss).
47. Per capita use of water per day – in litres – Gaza Strip. This is the average volume of water used per day per person (including domestic agriculture, domestic livestock and all loss).
48. Price of tankered watered in the West Bank- in NIS. Prices are indicated in NIS to limit distortion due to frequent fluctuations of the exchange rate between the shekel and the dollar.
49. Price of tankered watered in the Gaza Strip - in NIS. Prices are indicated in NIS to limit distortion due to frequent fluctuations of the exchange rate between the shekel and the dollar.
50. Percentage of HH connected to water network paying their bills. These figures reflect the percentage of HH from which the municipality, due to capacity limitations, is able to collect payment.
51. Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services
52. 2006 averages cover only data from 1 June - 31 December 2006.
53. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank
54. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the Gaza Strip.

Education

55. Number of schools with at least one day of disruption – West Bank. Source: MoEHE, collected by UNICEF. The indicator "Complete disruption" indicates that all students and teachers were unable to reach their schools and, therefore, the school was closed on that day. "Partial disruption" indicates that some students and/or teachers were unable to reach their schools and, therefore, some classes were not in session.
56. Number of schools with at least one day of disruption – Gaza Strip. Source: MoEHE. This indicator shows access to schools for students.

Sources of Sector Quotations

- a. Protection of Civilians: Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
- b. Child Protection: UNICEF
- c. Violence: Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions, Article 51
- d. Access: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13
- e. Access: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 12 (1)
- f. Socio Economic: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23
- g. Health: WHO Constitution, 1948
- h. Health: WHO
- i. Food Security: FAO/WHO/WFP
- j. Water and Sanitation: United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment No. 15 (November 2002)
- k. Education: UNICEF

End Notes

1. OCHA. "Lack of Permit" Demolitions and Resultant Displacement in Area C Special Focus. May 2008.
2. An establishment is defined as an enterprise or part of an enterprise that is situated in a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added. Source: United Nations System of National Accounts (1993).
3. Items at zero level mean a stock of 0-1 month, which is below the security level.