



Overview- Key Issues

Continued closure of Gaza crossings

The continued closure of the principle Gaza crossing points at Karni and Rafah have had a significant impact on the daily lives of Gaza's 1.4 million population. The closure has been effective since June following the defeat of Fatah forces by Hamas, which resulted in a break down in Israeli-Palestinian coordination mechanisms at the crossings.

Rafah crossing which serves as the principle entry-exit point to the outside world, was last open on 9 June. The sudden closure of the crossing in early June left thousands of Palestinians stranded south of the border in Egypt unable to return to their homes and families in Gaza. Between 29 July and 12 August an alternative crossing point was offered to 6,374 Palestinian passengers that involved entering Israel from Egypt through the Nitzana/Al Auja crossing. Passengers then traveled by bus to Erez crossing and continued their journey into Gaza. A similar route for departures from Gaza was made available 26 and 30 August, although not for arrivals.

The Gaza economy continues to contract on a daily basis as a result of the inability of the private sector to obtain raw materials and to export through Karni. A report released by the Palestinian Trade Centre (PalTrade) on 14 August confirmed these trends:

- 85% of manufacturing businesses have been temporarily shut down with over 35,000 workers laid off. An additional 35,000 workers have been laid off from other sectors including construction, trade and service sectors.
- Direct and indirect potential losses are estimated at \$35 million including \$8 million for the furniture sector, \$15 million for garments and textiles and \$3 million for processed food. The agricultural sector has estimated export losses at \$16 million.
- Due to the lack of necessary raw materials, 95% of construction projects have been halted at a value of \$160 million including \$93 million of UNRWA projects.

(For more details related to the passage of goods through Gaza crossings, see Access section herein.)

Gaza Power Station

Nahal Oz fuel pipelines were closed by the IDF on 16 and 17 August due to a security alert and then reopened on 19 August. Fuel supplies were then subsequently suspended by

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the European Commission leaving most of Gaza's population with power cuts of up to 12 hours per day with domestic water supplies down to 2-3 hours per day. Although fuel supplies were resumed by the EC from 22 August, capacity at the power station still remains an issue of concern with only two out of the four turbines currently working. One of the turbines was shipped to Israel for service and maintenance on 7 August and still awaits return. A fourth turbine lies idle, again pending transfer to Israel, due to the need for immediate service and maintenance.

Municipal Workers' Strikes

Gaza city municipality was on strike between 11 and 23 August with strikes of smaller duration in northern Gaza and Khan Younis. The strike by Gaza city's 1,870 municipal employees was due to the non payment of salaries that dates back to the beginning of this year. Eighty (80) percent of municipal revenue derives from service charges and currently the collection rate is only 15% as people are too poor to pay. During the period of the strike, garbage collection ceased with approximately 600 tons of rubbish accumulating each day on street corners throughout Gaza city.

An agreement was reached between the workers and the PA to pay January's salary. The emergence of communicable



diseases was the main concern during the strike. Data collected from UNRWA health facilities in the Gaza Strip, however, showed that the incidence of diarrheal disease among children remained within normal seasonal variations. The municipal workers are asking for February's salary and have threatened a second strike if it is not paid during September. Should the situation remain unresolved and future strikes take place for extended periods, serious health issues may arise, including typhoid, hepatitis and skin diseases.

Strike of Health Union Workers in Gaza

The Palestinian local health unions (excluding the nurses' union) called for a suspension of work for two hours daily in the health sector in the Gaza Strip, during the period 14-16 August. According to the unions, the strike was called to protest Hamas's actions against health workers. Hamas in response assigned volunteers to cover some of the work in the health facilities. On 19 August, the unions intensified the strike by suspending all services, except for emergency services, after 11:00 am until 23 August. On 26 August the unions called for a further extension of the strike until 13 September with the same measures. There has been a strong response to the call to strike with 95% of employees from all the health sectors on strike including many nurses, although the nursing union did not participate in issuing the call. The striking unions also requested physicians and pharmacists to decrease the consultation fees in their private clinics, and the prices of drugs in pharmacies, so people can afford to acquire services and purchase drugs.

The Closure Impacts Next Agricultural Season in the Gaza Strip

The autumn cycle forms about 80% of the Gazan crop production for export and local markets. The closure has resulted in a steadily increasing shortage of agricultural inputs, along with increasing prices and sub-optimal productivity of the sector. For example, the August prices of fertilizers, animal feed and poultry feed increased by around 20%, 43% and 26% respectively compared to pre-crisis levels. In most cases, if inputs are physically available, the decrease in farmers' incomes has made them economically inaccessible. The closure exacerbated the implementation of agricultural relief projects by national and international organizations,

who are unable to enter the needed materials for their projects, such as fodders for livestock, fertilizers, seeds and seedlings, metal and plastic materials for greenhouses, inputs for water wells and livestock farms, cement, water well electro-generators, etc.

About 23,000 farmers and 43,000 farm workers (particularly cash crop growers, smallholders and animal farms) are directly affected by the tightened closure. As there are very limited alternative economic activities for farmers in the Gaza Strip, the majority of them seem to have decided to stay in business with the hope that the siege will be lifted. Factors pushing for its opening -- the Israeli companies that have lost their Gaza consumers and the opportunity of sourcing cheap agricultural commodities for the 2007 - 2008 fallow year -- compete with the current isolation policy. Nevertheless, some farmers try to mitigate the risk by shifting their production patterns. For example, about 400 dunums which used to be planted with cherry tomatoes (an export crop) are currently being planted with normal tomatoes, which have better local market potential. This trend of uncertain production with increasing costs will result in further deterioration of the whole sector (total value of about US\$207 million in 2005/6, of which US\$121.3 million of plant production, US\$79.6 million of livestock and US\$6.1 million of fish) should the current closure policy continue.

New School Year Places Additional Economic Burden on Families

UNRWA reports that with the start of the new school year, some families in Bethlehem city and Jerusalem's periphery reported being unable to afford basic school fees for their children (NIS 40). Purchase of stationary has been reduced to the limit and families only buy what teachers ask for without spending money on bags or any additional items. Some families are simply waiting for in kind donations from charities or foreign organisations. One refugee woman mentioned that her daughter and son refused to go to school on the first day as she could not pay for their English textbooks.

The following UN Agencies, local and international NGOs and organisations participate in sector working groups/provide information to the Humanitarian Monitor: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 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) and members of the Temporary International Mechanism (TIM).



Overview- Regional Focus

West Bank including East Jerusalem

Closure of 'Asirah ash Shamaliya checkpoint, impact on humanitarian assistance

'Asirah ash Shamaliya checkpoint, which is situated just north of Nablus city, has been closed for Palestinian traffic since the beginning of the current Intifada. However, during the last 18 months, the IDF have allowed humanitarian organizations and ambulances to make use of the checkpoint. During the last week of August, this policy was changed, with the checkpoint closed to everyone except ambulances in emergency cases.

As a result of the closure, the communities north-west of Nablus are less accessible as humanitarian organizations must make a substantial detour via Al Badhan. The travel distance between Nablus and the village of 'Asirah ash Shamaliya increases from approximately 5 to 25 kilometers. Similarly, the distance between Nablus and the villages of Beit Imrin, Nisf Jubail and Ijnisiya quadruples. This will, in particular, delay the work of UNRWA and WFP, which are serving the local communities in these areas.

Since it was opened for humanitarian organizations, 'Asirah ash Shamaliya has been one of the most problematic checkpoints in the northern West Bank. Repeatedly, UN vehicles have been either denied access or allowed through only after the intervention of the Israeli DCL in Nablus. In August, humanitarian organizations lost more time at 'Asirah ash Shamaliya than any other checkpoint in the Nablus governorate. When the issue was raised in the past with the Israeli DCL, the response was usually that the soldiers at the checkpoint would be better informed in the future. Instead, the IDF has now closed the checkpoint to humanitarian organizations. When queried by OCHA as to the reason for the closure, the Israeli DCL officer replied that it was due to security reasons that he was not at liberty to reveal.

Increasing levels of conflict in Qalqiliya Governorate

Since June, the number of IDF operations, flying checkpoints, rates of internal violence and level of casualties have all risen in the Qalqiliya governorate, both in terms of total numbers and relative to other governorates. During August, 54% of all flying checkpoints erected by the IDF in the northern West Bank were in Qalqiliya (142 out of 264). Of all the Palestinians who were wounded in clashes with the IDF, 43% were from Qalqiliya. The governorate also had the highest relative percentage of internal violence: 33% of all the incidents north of Ramallah.

On 29 August, the IDF carried out a major operation in Qalqiliya, in which 20 Palestinians were injured, 15 by plastic-coated metal bullets and 5 by gas inhalation. Ten (10) of the injured were under the age of 18. During the same operation, the IDF demolished six houses, of which five were inhabited, along with other damage to Palestinian-owned property. According to the IDF, the operation was carried out in an attempt to arrest six wanted militants affiliated with Hamas. However, the operation did not succeed, and the six men have yet to be apprehended.

Difficulties affecting the grape harvest in Bethlehem and Hebron area

Bethlehem and Hebron-area farmers have been severely impacted by the inability to effectively market their grape harvest due to tightened Israeli internal closures, including being denied access to their lands especially around Israeli settlements, and the loss of markets in Israel, abroad, Gaza and the northern West Bank.

A key issue is that internal markets are unable to provide adequate prices for the grape harvest. For example, the village of Al Khader (Bethlehem) has grapes planted on more than 20,000 dunums of land. These grapes used to be marketed in Israel and some were even exported. However, due to the closure policy and the inability of reaching different markets, most of the produce is now marketed in the Bethlehem area at prices as low as 1.5 NIS/kg (for premium grapes). In the Hebron governorate, a number of cases exist (especially in Beit Ummar and communities on the outskirts of Hebron city such as Al Beqa, Al Bweira and Wadi Al Ghrous) in which farmers preferred to leave the grapes on the vine as it did not make economic sense to hire people to pick the grapes, rent the boxes in which grapes are to be collected, and pay for transportation to the market, only to be offered a price per kilogram that does not cover the "handling" charges.

Another factor affecting the grape markets is the high competition with the grapes harvested by Israel settlers; in Bethlehem area the settlements produce hundreds of tonnes of grape, which compete with Palestinian products. Finally, internal closures imposed by Israel have led to the reduction of grape (and other fruits and vegetables) markets. Case in point is the continued closure of the Beit Ummar vegetable market (which used to be a major grape market) despite its renovation by the ICRC in 2006.



Protection of Civilians

Protection of civilians analysis

In August, 47 Palestinians were killed by the IDF, a 62% increase over last month's total. This brings the overall number of Palestinians killed in direct conflict in 2007 to 232, which is higher than the figure for those killed in 2005 as-a-whole. Similar to the pattern observed during the preceding three months, the number of Palestinians killed in the Gaza Strip due to direct conflict constituted more than 75% of this month's deaths. Almost half of those killed (49%) were in the North Gaza and Khan Younis governorates. In the West Bank, Nablus and Jenin governorates accounted for 60% of direct conflict deaths. Direct conflict and internal violence deaths comprised 73% and 19%, respectively, of overall deaths. Factional violence accounted for 42% of Palestinians killed in internal violence (5 out of 12).

Compared to July 2007, there was a two-fold increase in the number of Palestinians injured due to the direct conflict (154 vs. 67). Of those, 83% were injured by the IDF. More than 60% of this increase took place in the West Bank, which conforms to the general trend in the geographical distribution of injuries; the West Bank has generally constituted the majority of monthly injuries and accounts for 61% of Palestinians injured in direct conflict since January 2005. Similarly, the number of Palestinians injured in internal violence almost doubled this month to reach 126, 47% of whom were injured due to factional clashes. On the other hand, and for the first time since April 2007, the figure was lower than the number of Palestinians injured in direct conflict.

There were 54 Israelis injured in August 2007, including 40 injured during confrontations between Israeli settler supporters and the Israeli Police when the IDF and the Israeli Police used force to evict two settler families from the vegetable market in the H2 area of Hebron City on 7 August.

Israeli-Palestinian Fatalities since 2000 – Key Trends

A recent report by OCHA found that:

- The total number of Israelis, killed by Palestinian armed groups, is declining while the total number of Palestinians, killed by the Israeli security forces remains high. In 2007 for every one Israeli death there were 25 Palestinian deaths compared to 2002 when the ratio was 1:2.5.
- The majority of persons killed in the conflict have been civilians not involved in the fighting. Amongst Israelis 69% were civilians, amongst Palestinians, of those whose status was known, 59% were civilians.

- The vast majority of Palestinian deaths, both conflict related and internal, occur in the Gaza Strip. In 2007, it accounted for 67% of all fatalities from the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Similarly in 2007, 95% of deaths from internal violence occurred in Gaza.
- Internal violence claimed more Palestinian lives in 2007 than conflict related violence. Until 2005 most internal deaths arose from the killing of suspected collaborators – now, inter-factional violence, and to a lesser extent family feuds, are the primary cause of internal deaths.
- There has been a sharp increase in the number of so-called "honor crimes" in the Gaza Strip in 2007 with 14 cases reported, to date, compared to four over the whole of 2006.

Infringement of the Right to Medical Treatment

There is an increasing number of people who have died after being denied passage through an Israeli checkpoint. The latest incident occurred in August when a 76-year-old woman from Barta'a a-Sharqiya (Jenin district), suffering from heart problems, died after Israeli soldiers posted at a gate in the Barrier refused to allow her to pass in order to reach the hospital in Jenin.

Since the beginning of the second Intifada in 2000, a total of 48 people have died after they were denied passage through an Israeli checkpoint. The vast majority of those deaths, 34, occurred during 2001 and 2002. Following international condemnation, the number of deaths then dropped dramatically to an average of 2-3 per year. From 1 January – 31 August 2007, however, five people have died because they were unable to access medical attention. The figure also corresponds to a disturbing increase in the number of delays and denials of ambulances at checkpoints. In 2006, there was a monthly average of 10 delays or denials of ambulance access. In 2007, there is a monthly average of 53 such incidents.

Under international humanitarian law there is an obligation to ensure that the sick, aged, feeble, and expectant mothers be accorded particular protection and respect. The IDF claims that soldiers are informed of a special procedure related to persons requiring medical treatment, which is intended to expedite their crossing at checkpoints. By obstructing ambulances and denying people medical care in emergency situations, soldiers not only violate those procedures, but also contribute to the unnecessary deaths of the sick and wounded.



Protection of Civilians

"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)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	July-07	Aug-07
Number of Palestinian deaths - direct conflict¹														
West Bank	216 (18)	678 (57)	7	12	17	12	8	11	7	9	8	10	6	10
Gaza Strip			24	48	121	3	3	2	2	10	54	30	23	37
Israel			0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian injuries - direct conflict														
West Bank	1260 (105)	3194 (266)	111	86	159	51	89	251	141	109	94	76	38	92
Gaza Strip			84	94	332	22	15	5	12	6	187	86	29	62
Number of Israeli deaths - direct conflict														
oPt	48 (4)	25 (2)	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Israel			0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Number of Israeli injuries - direct conflict														
oPt	484 (40)	377 (31)	19	16	19	10	10	35	14	22	10	18	3	54
Israel			5	3	11	2	2	0	1	0	20	1	4	2
Number of Palestinian deaths - internal violence²														
West Bank	12 (>1)	146 (12)	0	5	1	4	2	0	0	1	7	5	4	1
Gaza Strip			13	27	14	25	54	48	16	16	63	188	11	11
Number of Palestinian injuries - internal violence														
West Bank	130 (11)	871 (76)	0	29	1	45	12	5	2	10	25	25	18	7
Gaza Strip			73	257	35	130	249	285	102	88	308	841	56	119
Average weekly IDF searches, arrests and detentions in the West Bank³														
Search Campaigns	Ave Weekly (61)	Ave Weekly (109)	124	118	145	122	108	135	127	126	124	108	91	102
Arrests and Detentions	Ave Weekly (74)	Ave Weekly (101)	72	81	133	101	121	155	121	88	105	124	75	108
Number of administrative detentions – Being investigated by Protection Sector.														

For more information please contact OHCHR, (02) 2965534 or OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Catherine Cook or Mai Yassin)



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)	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict⁴														
West Bank	52 (4)	127 (11)	1	1	5	2	3	0	1	1	0	1	2	2
Gaza Strip			9	5	23	1	1	1	0	2	9	3	1	6
Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict⁵														
West Bank	129 (11)	470 (39)	26	20	58	18	12	30	11	31	22	14	14	21
Gaza Strip			1	2	8	2	1	0	2	2	10	4	1	2
Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict⁶														
oPt	3 (<1)	1 (<1)	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	0	0
Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict⁷														
oPt	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	7 (<1)	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Number of Palestinian children killed - indirect conflict⁸														
West Bank	5 (<1)	2 (<1)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	3 (<1)	6 (<1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	2
Number of Palestinian children killed in Palestinian internal violence⁹														
West Bank	0	2 (<1)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	0	11 (<1)	0	3	1	3	10	4	3	1	3	4	1	1
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities¹⁰														
West Bank	n/a	n/a	389	348	340	380	382	398	384	381	357	384	375	328

For more information, please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Anne Grandjean).

There was a three-fold increase in the number of Palestinian children killed in August compared to July (11 vs. 4). This brings the total number of Palestinian child fatalities in 2007 to 70, 47% of whom were killed by the IDF, 44% by Palestinians, and 9% by UXOs. In August, eight were killed by the IDF, two by a Qassam rocket that exploded in Palestinian territory, and one in internal violence. Of those killed by the IDF, two (aged 9 and 12 years) were allegedly present near a rocket launcher and were then hit by a surface-to-surface missile fired by soldiers stationed at the border line north of Beit Hanoun.

Throughout the month, 23 Palestinian children were injured due to direct conflict with Israel (21 by the IDF and 2 by Israeli settlers), a 53% increase compared to the 15 children injured by the IDF (12) and Israeli settlers (3) in July. Five

were injured by IDF live ammunition, eight by plastic-coated metal bullets during a military operation in Qalqiliya city, and six by rubber-coated metal bullets. Another 12 children were also injured in August, including seven due to factional violence. In 2007, 66% of Palestinian child injuries were by the IDF, 16% by Palestinians, 10% by UXOs, and 8% by Israeli settlers. No Israeli child was either killed or injured during the month of August.

In 2007, 425 people have been affected by house demolitions, 40% of whom are reported as children (170). A total of 328 Palestinian children are currently held in Israeli detention, including 10 in administrative detention (i.e. without charges).



Violence and Private Property

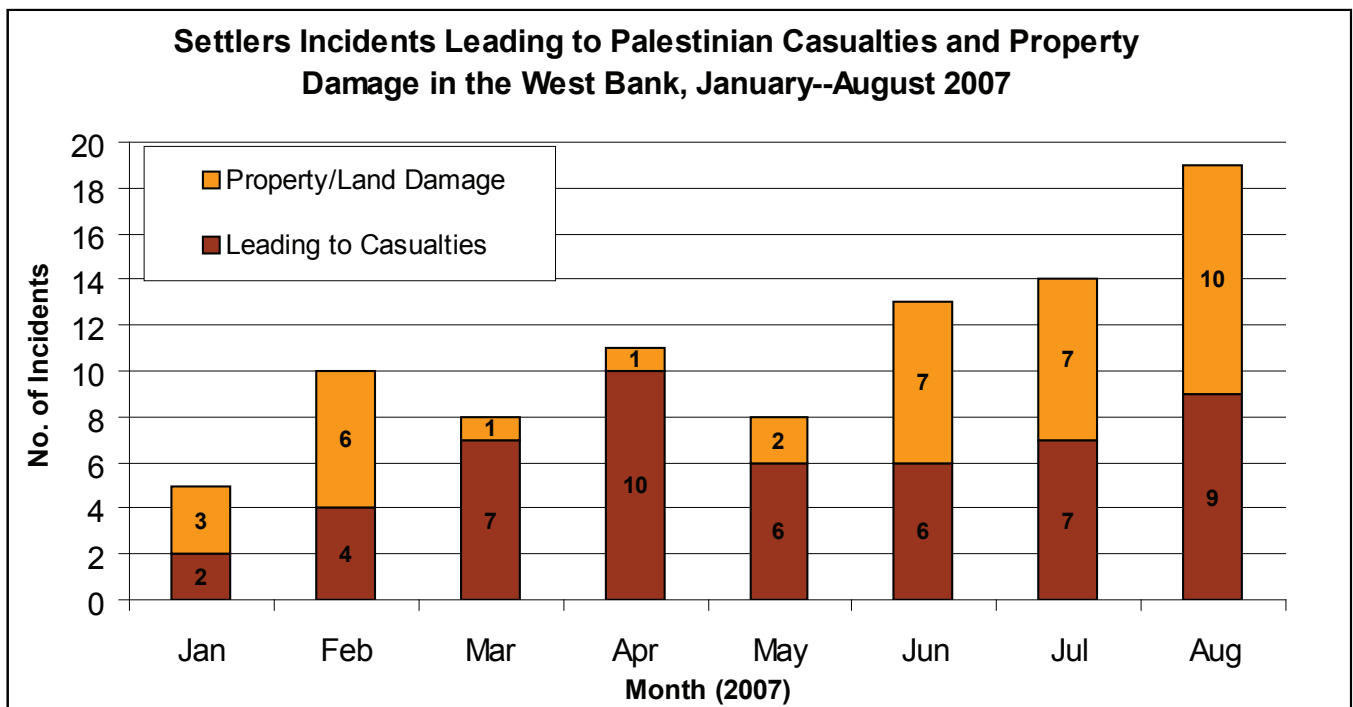
Settler-related incidents:

Increasing incidents of settler violence

July and August witnessed the highest total number of settler incidents in 2007, 37 and 30 respectively, and marked a significant increase compared to the previous two months (15 in May and 17 in June). The number of settler incidents in July and August were also considerably higher than the 2006 monthly average of 20. As the chart below indicates, the total number of incidents leading to Palestinian casualties and damage to Palestinian property are on the rise.

On 2 August, two Israeli settlers from Mitzpe Ya'ir outpost in southern Hebron district attacked a UN OCHA vehicle carrying three OCHA employees and two Israeli journalists. One settler broke the windshield of the vehicle, injuring one OCHA employee in the eye, while the other made the vehicle immobile by placing large rocks around its tires. The IDF and Israeli police intervened and detained the two settlers. They were later released on a NIS 3,000 bail.

The issue of settler violence against Palestinian civilians will be an issue of particular concern in the coming months as Palestinians throughout the West Bank attempt to harvest their olive crop.



*Number of injuries excluding traffic accidents and other hit-and-run incidents.



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)	Sept -06	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar-07	Apr -07	May -07	Jun -07	Jul -07	Aug -07
Incidents involving Israeli settlers¹¹														
Total number of incidents	n/a	235 (20)	13	19	30	17	10	20	15	21	15	17	37	30
Leading to Palestinian casualties	n/a	63 (5)	5	1	6	2	2	4	7	11	5	6	7	9
Leading to Israeli Settler casualties	n/a	28 (2)	1	3	2	2	1	3	2	3	0	0	0	4
Leading to international casualties	n/a	11 (<1)	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian Qassam rockets fired into/towards Israel¹²														
From the Gaza Strip	1 194 (100)	1 786 (149)	73	72	283	73	46	79	73	60	323	140	96	120
Number of IDF artillery shells														
Into the Gaza Strip	509 (42)	14 111 (1175)	561	113	248	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of IAF air strikes														
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	573 (48)	26	38	93	0	2	0	1	3	65	14	13	17
Number of Mortars fired¹³														
In the Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9	2	3	45	76	133	164
Physical structures demolished - West Bank¹⁴														
Structures demolished	n/a	201	4	0	35	4	18	54	8	11	8	7	10	17
Of which residential (occupied)	n/a	56 (5)	1	0	14	3	14	17	2	7	4	2	5	11
Physical structures demolished - Gaza Strip														
Structures demolished	n/a	246 (21)	41	24	38	0	0	0	0	0	16	2	1	1
Of which homes demolished	n/a	127 (11)	27	18	32	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Catherine Cook or Mai Yassin)



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	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
IDF Physical obstacles in the West Bank¹⁵														
Manned	62	74	83	83	84	82	82	84	84	86	86	85	86	86
Unmanned	410	445	435	459	456	445	446	466	465	453	467	471	455	477
Total	472	518	518	542	540	527	528	550	549	539	553	55	541	563
Average weekly Random or 'Flying' checkpoints	73	136	121	111	143	138	114	156	163	175	141	105	113	100
Curfews imposed by IDF¹⁶														
No. Incidents - West Bank	9	4	1	1	2	2	2	3	4	4	5	10	0	4
Total hours under curfew - West Bank	126	40	14	3	12	26	28	91	21	20	48	79	0	27
No. Incidents - Gaza Strip	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total hours under curfew - Gaza Strip	0	18	0	0	144	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	66	62	79	38	38	n/a	28	42	34	38	47	46
Average reported time to exit the Gaza Strip via Erez, in minutes.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	53	47	81	44	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 West Bank and Israel¹⁸														
Ambulance access delays reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	10	11	7	2	n/a	15	26	11	25	36	39	44	37
Ambulance access denial reported at West Bank checkpoints	n/a	9	5	9	4	n/a	16	25	9	14	24	32	40	27
MoH medical referral requests (via Erez)	n/a	459	438	379	509	434	508	595	681	515	344	282	n/a	n/a
Actual no. of medical referrals crossing (via Erez)	n/a	416	402	344	455	399	452	540	607	460	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Access for Palestinians to East Jerusalem and Israel from oPt¹⁹														
West Bank (total closure days)	n/a	n/a	20	4	11	4	0	0	5	13	1	0	0	
Gaza Strip (total closure days)	n/a	17	11	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	1	17	31	31
Movement of people from/to Gaza Strip - daily average²⁰														
Workers to Israel - Erez	1029	378	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traders to Israel - Erez	107	42	4	28	93	172	243	290	352	157	318	262	0	n/a
Rafah - daily crossing out	n/a	423	117	250	140	289	138	240	410	383	304	200	0	0
Rafah daily crossing in	n/a	424	151	220	155	199	270	139	309	345	294	125	0	0

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





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	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
Functioning of the Gaza Strips crossing points - percentage of days open/scheduled days open²¹														
Rafah crossing	n/a	57%	10%	23%	20%	32%	26%	25%	48%	37%	26%	18%	0%	0%
Karni crossing	n/a	71%	96%	96%	92%	96%	100%	92%	92%	96%	85%	46%	26%	0%
Sufa crossing	n/a	60%	71%	87%	77%	92%	100%	96%	29%	16%	43%	15%	100%	95%
Nahal Oz energy pipelines	n/a	n/a	100%	88%	100%	88%	100%	100%	96%	100%	96%	92%	100%	96%
Movement of goods through Karni crossing - daily average²²														
Karni import - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	156	197	189	191	196	220	232	218	253	210	84	13	10
Karni export - commercial truckloads incl. humanitarian supplies	n/a	17	15	19	31	40	46	52	44	51	25	12	0	0
Other imports into the Gaza Strip - total²³														
Sufa import - aggregates (construction materials) truckloads	3 527	1 598	1374	2178	1652	2422	3455	3257	1034	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0
Nahal Oz import - Fuel truckloads	n/a	583	557	493	548	532	539	714	601	n/a	n/a	n/a	523	474
Economic/access data for the West Bank are being investigated by OCHA														
For more information, please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Ray Dolphin).														

Gaza crossings

- Karni crossing, the main commercial crossing for the Gaza Strip has been closed since 12 June. One conveyor belt is in operation typically twice weekly for the transfer of truckloads of wheat grain and animal feed into Gaza. No other types of produce or materials have been allowed to enter Gaza through Karni and no exports have been permitted to leave via the crossing.
- A total of 2,468 truckloads of supplies entered Gaza in August compared to 3,190 in July. Of this total 171 truckloads were humanitarian and 2,297 commercial. The vast majority of these trucks entered through Sufa (1,848) with the smaller quantities at Kerem Shalom (421) and Karni (199). Exports left Gaza through Kerem Shalom on 27 August for the first time since 11 June and this has not been repeated since.
- With the continued closure of Karni, Sufa and Kerem Shalom serve as alternative crossing points for humanitarian and commercial supplies entering Gaza. Humanitarian supplies, of which 85% are food, primarily from UNRWA and WFP, comprise less than 10% of the total, with commercial supplies accounting for the remainder. On 27 August, 130 tons of potatoes were exported out of Kerem Shalom destined for Jordan.



Socio-economic Conditions

Recent PCBS figures¹ on Palestinian Youth (between 15 to 29 years) highlighted that:

- 37% of youngsters living in the oPt are presently unemployed, with higher rates among young women (45%) compared to men (36%).
- 24% of youth are unsatisfied with their current job, due to low wages.
- 54% of Palestinian households headed by young people are living in poverty (income definition) and 39% in deep poverty.
- 1/3 of youth are considering migrating mostly for economic reasons, and safety and security considerations. The proportion is considerably higher among young men (45%) than women (18%).

Anecdotal evidence: Unemployment, poverty and socio-cultural changes

In Hizma and Anata --where the construction of the Barrier severed traditional economic links with Jerusalem-- non-refugee men married to refugee women are now asking their wives to register with UNRWA in order to become eligible for assistance. Elder sons of refugee families are repeatedly forced to leave school in order to support the family. This happens even among very bright students, who must give up the prospect of higher education in order to support their families. Decisions to marry off school-age daughters are also occasionally reported as a means to reduce households' expenditures.

Poor families in Jerusalem's periphery reported lower levels of assistance from charities compared to the eve of Ramadan last year, as well as decreasing solidarity and support at the community level. Women from the most-needy families are approaching charity institutions in Jerusalem requesting food for their children. UNRWA staff reported that women from rural villages have shown up at distribution points up to four hours prior to the actual distribution of commodities.

A 30% increase in the price of bread was recorded over the West Bank in early August. In particular on 7 August, the cost of a bag containing ten pieces of bread raised from 3 to 4 NIS. According to Bethlehem residents, prices of basic food commodities (especially wheat, rice and dairy) increased during the 2nd half of the month and white meat (chicken) increased from NIS 6 per kg to 11. According to UNRWA social workers, some families cannot afford more than one meal per day with poor nutritional intake. It can be

inferred that food aid parcels, including substantial amounts of flour, are becoming a more significant means of support to household income.

Sale of food aid items is decreasing, as beneficiaries' conditions worsen. Refugees in the northern West Bank stated that distribution days have assumed a much greater importance -- they are a 'special event'. Some food aid beneficiaries, however, admit that they sell certain food commodities, in order to afford medical treatment. Refugees in the northern West Bank reported feeding their babies with tea rather than milk, as they could not afford buying the latter. Value of milk powder in food aid parcels is strongly appreciated. In Bethlehem city, non-refugee women are observed at UNRWA food distribution points trying to buy commodities from refugees as they cannot afford market prices.

Despite the strong decrease in Zaka' assistance to martyrs' widows over recent months, some Tulkarm women expressed the view that it would be easier to sustain their livelihoods as martyrs' widows rather than wives of unemployed men. Some Tulkarm labourers state that they work on average two days per month and at very low wages. A well known and relatively profitable enterprise also closed its doors in Tulkarm town; labourers lost their work and the owner emigrated. Desires of leaving the country are becoming more common and widespread.

Refugees from frontier villages find it hard to pay for transportation even to neighbouring localities, where UNRWA mobile clinics offer services. Stronger reliance on UNRWA Qalqiliya hospital services is being reported in the field, even by people living as far as 80 km away, and in particular for maternity cases. Qalqiliya hospital records highlight a 13.6% increase in the number of deliveries in the hospital in the first semester of 2007, as compared to the same period in 2006.

Economic difficulties are also reportedly leading to an increase in the age of marriage among men; in contrast, some evidence suggests that women are often getting married at a younger age. Young men admit they cannot sustain a wife, and would not want to offer "to somebody's daughter what they would not accept for their own sisters".



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 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	Q1 2003	Q1 2004	Q1 2005	Q1 2006	Q2 2006	Q1 2007	Q2 2007
Unemployment rate - relaxed definition - % - PCBS²⁴												
West Bank	23.5%	22.9%	16.9%	32.5%	35.0%	40.3%	31.0%	28.8%	27.2%	24.2%	24.3%	22.6%
Gaza Strip	30.7%	27.9%	21.8%	48.8%	46.4%	37.3%	35.1%	38.0%	39.6%	38.7%	35.4%	32.3%
oPt	26.0%	24.7%	20.2%	37.7%	38.7%	39.3%	32.3%	31.7%	31.1%	28.6%	27.9%	25.7%
Households in poverty - based on consumption - % - PCBS²⁵												
Poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.7%	38.8%	29.1%	36.9%	n/a	n/a
Deep poor	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.8%	23.8%	18.1%	25.9%	n/a	n/a
Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and in the settlements - PCBS²⁶												
West Bank	74213	107067	105501	105501	57000	43281	49750	65255	59846	57683	68100	63700
Gaza Strip	21899	25758	25380	2580	2000	6295	5849	0	852	0	0	0
oPt	96112	132825	130881	107630	59000	49576	55999	65255	60698	57683	68100	63700
Economic dependency ratio - PCBS²⁷												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.7	6	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.4	5	5.0	4.7
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.1	8.8	7.5	7.5	8.2	8.4	8	7.3	6.9
oPt	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.2	6	5.7	5.3
Evolution of consumer price index (CPI) - PCBS²⁸												
West Bank	10.9%	19.9%	24.8%	26.0%	32.0%	39.7%	44.2%	49.2%	54.3%	54.7%	57.0%	55.7%
Gaza Strip	12.6%	21.9%	24.7%	22.8%	23.2%	26.4%	32.0%	33.8%	38.1%	40.0%	42.0%	41.9%
oPt	11.3%	20.7%	20.7%	24.2%	28.4%	36.2%	41.4%	46.1%	51.0%	52.1%	53.5	53.1%
Evolution of daily wages in NIS - PCBS²⁹												
West Bank	57.9	57.7	61.5	60	57.7	60	62.8	60	70	69.2	70.0	69.2
Gaza Strip	45.0	45.0	48.2	60	50	50	50	55.8	65.4	67.3	66.9	57.7
oPt	53.9	51.35	54.8	55	53.85	55.6	57.7	57.7	69.2	69.2	69.2	65.4

For more information, please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Elena Mancusi)

Dependency on PA employment increased: 160,000 PA employees in oPt

Represents:

22.9% of the employed people in oPt

16.3% of the employed people in the West Bank

36.1% 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

The impact of the health unions strike on the provision of health services

The strike of Palestinian local health unions has not had a significant impact on the provision of health services in PHC facilities in quantitative terms, since the majority of the people seek health care services during the early morning hours with a smaller number seeking services after noon. However, the quality of the services is undermined. Diagnostic and outpatient service provision in PHC facilities has declined since the beginning of the strike as people have started to crowd the facilities as early as possible in order to receive the required service. Those who are unable to make the early morning appointments and need a specialized doctor are denied access to the needed health service. In hospitals, the provision of diagnostic, outpatient and surgical operation services have declined during the strike. Only urgent surgical operations are being carried out while all elective surgeries have been suspended. Admission to hospitals has not been greatly affected, since the majority of admissions to any hospital are admitted in an emergency; a service that continues to be provided during the strike. The provision of follow up services for hospitalized patients has been affected more in terms of quality rather than quantity.

UNFPA is deeply concerned about potential consequences on access to and quality of Reproductive Health (RH) services in Gaza as a result of the strike. The decrease of the daily working hours will affect the quality of antenatal care, post natal care and FP services, which will affect pregnant women and possibly lead to high rates of drop outs and serious health outcomes on mothers and babies. UNICEF reported that the awareness /educational program that targets mothers during the vaccinations, has been affected by the strike. The educational messages are not delivered properly, since the nurses attempt to provide the immunization service for all the children before the strike time. Vitamin A and D supplements are not distributed to children.

UNFPA'S continued commitment to supporting Reproductive Health needs

UNFPA is continuing its commitment in supporting RH needs to sustain quality RH services. UNFPA recently provided MOH with RH equipment and commodities including ultrasound, surgical operating table, six gynecological examination beds, 14 weight/height balance scales, D &

C kits and 14 fetal heart monitors; and contraceptives. In addition, UNFPA has provided its partners in Jabalia and Bureij Women Health Centers with 700 hygiene kits to be used in case of emergencies. UNFPA is in the process of procuring a total of \$450,000 of RH drugs and disposables to be delivered to MOH including narcotics.

Access to health care services abroad for Gazan residents

Given the closure of the Rafah border crossing, the only exit for patients referred abroad for treatment is the Israeli Erez checkpoint. Data collected on a monthly basis reveals that around 90% of those who made requests to cross Erez were allowed access, while the remaining were denied for security reasons. The delay of access for cases referred abroad remains a concern. While accurate data is not available on this matter, in August, a one year old child with cardiac problems received a permit from the Israeli side to cross Erez for a cardiac health service hospital in Israel. The child was to be escorted by his father. The patient was denied access on the first day. His father tried again on the second day, but the child died while waiting for permission to enter.



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

	Sept -06	Oct -06	Nov -06	Dec -06	Jan -07	Feb -07	Mar -07	Apr -07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul- 07	Aug -07
Number of primary health care consultations by service provider³⁰												
MoH - West Bank	36 441	39 979	39 294	143 242	173 742	101 197	53090	49270	53833	16360	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - West Bank	160 351	133 568	166 495	168 816	155 727	150 728	168 155	156246	175466	158420	153433	n/a
NGOs-West Bank	74176	68444	75459	87469	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	221 157	199 119	198 606	198 023	207 953	207215	212 903	235922	228046	216294	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	314 370	277 173	307 015	285 569	326 234	304 836	328282	336433	350374	324193	386560	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	17 083	14 416	16 397	14 633	17 552	18 592	19 627	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Proportion of deliveries by service provider³¹												
MoH - West Bank	13.6%	17.7%	11.7%	37.3%	64.6%	39.5%	48.2%	15.8%	14.6%	43.80%	n/a	n/a
MoH - Gaza Strip	73.9%	69.6%	69.1%	69.6%	70.3%	70.0%	72.0%	82.0%	68.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - West Bank	54.2%	53.3%	55.8%	42.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
NGOs - Gaza Strip	16.64%	16.1%	16.5%	14.4%	12.0%	7.0%	20.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics- West Bank	32.3%	29.1%	32.6%	18.8%	31.0%	56.8%	46.5%	73.7%	73.40%	32.05%	n/a	n/a
Private hospitals and clinics- Gaza Strip	15.87%	17.0%	16.4%	15.7%	15.8%	10.8%	12.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Home - West Bank	6.55%	6.09%	7.88%	4.98%	5.52%	6.18%	4.69%	4.28	5.74%	5.47%	n/a	n/a
Home - Gaza Strip	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.18%	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNRWA - Gaza Strip	0.14%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	n/a	n/a	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	25.7%	24%	19.7%	19.7%	n/a	19.7%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Consumables - West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	23.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drugs - Gaza Strip	18.9%	21.0%	16.8%	16.8%	14.7%	17.8%	24.0%	24.0%	28.6%	19.5%	15.60%	15.63%
Consumables - Gaza Strip (at zero level)	9.4%	10.9%	13.6%	n/a	9.7%	25.5%	31.2%	36.2%	22.8%	22.5%	n/a	26.68%
Consumable - Gaza Strip (at less than three months)	39.7%	39.4%	17.34%	24.2%	13.4%	23.3%	40.2%	49.8%	31.6%	32.0%	n/a	51.17%
Malnutrition among children 9 - 12 months³³												
Underweight - West Bank	4.9%	4.2%	4.0%	3.8%	5.5%	6.2%	4.7%	4.3%	5.7%	5.5%	n/a	n/a
Anemia - West Bank	45.3%	48.1%	48.1%	44.6%	50.5%	53.3%	44.6%	45.69%	45.0%	50.0%	n/a	n/a
Underweight - Gaza Strip	4.77%	5.47%	5%	n/a	2.9%	2.3%	2.6%	3.2%	3.85%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Anemia - Gaza Strip	73.0%	70.6%	66.7%	66.73%	67.8%	67.5%	71.9%	7.23%	72.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of consultation for diarrhoea in refugee children 0-3 years at UNRWA clinics³⁴												
West Bank	809	861	966	867	786	793	888	637	1068	921	1032	n/a
Gaza Strip	1 322	1 454	1 389	1 314	1 025	942	991	1224	1765	1574	1693	n/a
Number of new cases (adults) attending UNRWA community and hospital mental health services³⁵												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	134	132	34	n/a	193	151	173	171	155
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	35	27	58	n/a	47	25	20	3	n/a
Total oPt	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 - Total oPt	1 163	750	1 260	169	159	92	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of cases referred to specialised therapy - UNRWA³⁶												
West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	3	n/a	8	8	10	5	4
Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	0	n/a	7	6	2	4	n/a

For more information please contact WHO, (02) 582 3537 (Dr. Rajesh Sreedharan)



Agriculture

	Total oPt 2006	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
Arable land requisitioned, levelled and reclaimed in dunums - West Bank³⁷													
Requisitioned	5 811	121	0	1 328	385	20	221	152	40	260	60	155	30
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	110	216	105	30	60	130	720	25
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	190	497	210	203	650	170	370	125
Reclaimed	3 654	846	666	662	620	50	50	200	60	50	55	10	90
Arable land requisitioned levelled or reclaimed in dunums - Gaza Strip													
Requisitioned	6 516	900	850	1 100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Levelled	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	2000	1330	9100	1600
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	490	300	400	1400
Reclaimed	1 635	530	500	365	240	105	126	0	20	0	0	0	0
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank³⁸													
Destroyed	20	5	15	0	0	0	0	10	130	60	26	100	0
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	56	350	420	90	140	0
Rehabilitated	453	46	25	5	108	13	0	0	7	50	57	10	134
Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - Gaza Strip													
Destroyed	614	270	130	35	0	0	0	0	2	0	15	0	12
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	14	0	80	0	42
Rehabilitated	40	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	10	0
Number of trees destroyed³⁹													
Trees destroyed in the West Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	340	600	150	100	200	300	80	375
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	70	140	35	70	50	94	20	90
Trees destroyed in the Gaza Strip	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3600
People affected	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1100
Agricultural produce trading in/out the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes⁴⁰													
Import	83 884	n/a	27 048	23 576	24 168	43 276	15 738	15 501	16 834	17 101	11 270	16 401	9 526
Export	3 342	n/a	345	2 007	n/a	14 192	5 096	5 188	5 503	1 495	422	0	125

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



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.”

With most of the food items available in the Gazan markets, poor economic access is increasingly becoming the first and sole cause contributing to the food insecurity of the poorest quintiles of the Gaza Strip population.

The market survey in the Gaza Strip shows that all basic food commodities are available in the market and that there was a significant increase in the price of wheat flour compared to last month. The survey shows a continuous increase in the price of wheat flour by 7%. The market reveals a significant increase in the price of wheat flour and rice by 32% and 25% compared to August 2006.

Additionally, the market survey in West Bank shows that all basic food commodities are available in the market and that there was a significant change in the prices compared to last month. The price of wheat flour and rice has increased by 47% and 17% compared to July 2007. Traders attributed this increase to the increase of prices in the international market. The market survey shows a significant increase in the price of wheat flour and rice by 23% and 17% compared to August 2006.

The fishing catch in July 2007 was 316.5 tons, compared to 100 tons for the same month last year. (The Israeli authorities prevented fishing off the Gaza Strip coastline last year from 25 June until 24 October). Furthermore, despite an increased catch compared to the previous year, the fisher folk are forced to sell fish locally at a reduced price due to the export freeze that prevents them from marketing their goods in Israel and the West Bank. Eighty (80) percent of the fishing catch is small sardines and the price is 9 NIS /kg. As a result of the current export freeze, the fishing sector is losing 2 metric tonnes of fish exports, at a value of US\$ 32,000 per day.

The total basic food imported increased by 50% in comparison to July 2007. The total amount of wheat flour imported increased by 18% compared to July 2007.

Field observations from Gaza:

- Karni crossing is closed. A conveyor belt outside the terminal operates twice a week.
- Since Hamas's takeover of the Gaza Strip, access of goods to Gaza remains limited to food, medical, agriculture and other essentials. Raw materials and spare parts essential for the functioning of the economy and infrastructure are not being imported at the level required under the

current restrictions and there have been no exports from Gaza. As a result, Gazan industry is grinding to a halt and farmers, fishermen and laborers are heavily affected by rising unemployment and loss of income.

- Markets visits show that more and more poor people buy food on credit and have switched to least preferred and less nutritionally rich food. Additionally, both poor customers and small petty traders are becoming more indebted.
- According to MoA there was no export of fish from Gaza to Israel or the West Bank in the last three months.



Food Security

	Benchmark	Monthly average 2006	Sep - 06	Oct - 06	Nov - 06	Dec - 06	Jan - 07	Feb - 07	Mar - 07	Apr - 07	May - 07	Jun - 07	Jul - 07	Aug - 07
Retail price of basic food commodities - West Bank, in NIS⁴¹														
Wheat flour 50 kg		91.0	87.9	88.6	95.7	95	96.4	96.4	97.2	97.2	98.6	100	108.1	133
Olive oil l Kg		18.6	20.4	19	16.3	15	17.5	17.5	16.7	16.7	16.8	15.8	17.75	17.75
Rice l kg		3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.	4	3.9	3.9	4.1	4	4.28	5
Veg. oil l kg		5.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	6.163	6.163
Chickpeas l kg		4.8	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	5.3	5.3	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.5
Refined sugar l kg		3.7	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.51	3.51
Milk powder l kg		23.2	23.5	24.2	23.2	23.2	23.7	23.7	24.1	24.1	25	26	26	26
Basket of 7 items		150.5	149.4	149.2	152.5	150.5	155.5	155.5	156.3	156.3	157.9	159.3	170.3	195.923
Price of basic food commodities - Gaza Strip, in NIS⁴²														
Wheat flour 50 kg		82.9	81	83.3	88.5	86.6	86	86.5	83.4	82.9	82.8	111	98	104.6
Olive oil l Kg		23.1	23.2	24.8	24.1	24.1	25	24.4	22.5	22.8	22.5	22.85	22.85	22.65
Rice l kg		3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.7	4	4
Veg. oil l kg		5.5	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.8	5.9	5.7	6	6	6
Chickpeas l kg		5.3	5.2	5	4.6	4.6	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.9	5	5
Refined sugar l kg		4.2	3.7	6.6	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.36	3.07	2.66
Milk powder l kg		33.4	n/a	33.8	34.5	35.7	34.8	35.8	31.7	32.4	31.8	41.17	38.81	38.81
Basket of 7 items		157.1	n/a	162.5	164.3	163.5	164.5	165.4	155.5	155.7	154.1	157.7	177.7	183.72
Availability of basic commodities - Gaza Strip⁴³ (against benchmark of quantities needed per day)														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	7 960	11 870	11 700	10 865	8400	6800	10565	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wheat - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	11	26	26	24	19	15	23	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - mT	111 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	1 505	1 560	1 750	1 995	2045	1930	2075	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sugar - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	14	14	16	11	18	17	19	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - mT	72 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	1 385	1 495	1 535	1 655	1725	1900	1670	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rice - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	19	21	21	23	24	26	23	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - mT	44 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	1 065	1 105	1 050	1 240	1220	1220	1305	n/a	n/a	n/a
Veg. oil - days	-	-	n/a	n/a	65	26	24	29	28	28	30	n/a	n/a	n/a
Quantities of food imported in the Gaza Strip - metric tonnes⁴⁴														
Wheat - mT	450 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	5 686	7 517	10 159	3 348	7 244	6208	4622	5898	3673	5250	6194
Rice	72 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	5	450	600	1 474	2 032	757	826	857	952	916	1979
Veg. oil	44 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	n/a	631	618	754	268	1848	1277	1519	579	963	2124
Sugar	111 mt/day/pop	-	n/a	75	808	1 057	2 669	2 471	2034	3213	3292	2952	8570	4208
Veg. and fruits	-	-	n/a	438	438	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Commodities	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Total	-	-	n/a	n/a	9 844	12 434	8 263	12 015	10847	9938	11566	8156	9699	14505
Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip⁴⁵														
		Total												
mT	2,323 (in 2005)	1604.2	203.2	158.6	130.0	0.0	46	120.97	247.8	291.76	687.0	309.5	219.0	316.5

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.”¹

	Baseline Pre-Intifada	Average 2006	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
West Bank per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁶											
Minimum	-	20.3	21	16	18	20	24	21	20	20	16
Maximum	-	207.2	230	241	147	147	152	152	138	147	220
Average	90	65.3	63	61	50	52	56	59	58	63	67
Gaza Strip - Per capita use of water per day - in litres⁴⁷											
Minimum	-	37.0	38	36	18	18	22	24	29	31	26
Maximum	-	116.5	113	107	71	71	76	76	79	84	75
Average	95	80.5	80	76	51	49	51	55	57	63	55
Price of tankered water in the West Bank in NIS⁴⁸											
Minimum	-	7.3	8	8	5	5	8	8	8	10	10
Maximum	-	22.5	21	17	17	21	17	20	23	23	30
Average	11.4	14.0	14	13	13	13	14	14	14	15	16
Price of tankered water in the Gaza Strip in NIS⁴⁹											
Minimum	-	35	n/a	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Maximum	-	35	n/a	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Average	-	35	n/a	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Percentage of HH connected to water network paying the bills⁵⁰											
West Bank	-	35.5%	35.0%	36.0%	35.0%	37.7%	36%	38%	35%	33.0%	36.0%
Gaza Strip	-	4.2%	4.0%	3.0%	2.0%	1.5%	2%	2%	2%	2.0%	2.0%
Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services⁵¹											
West Bank	-	2.2%	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Gaza Strip	-	4%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank⁵²											
Minimum	-	0%	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	16.7%	n/a	100%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	13.5%	n/a	47%	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 Strip⁵³											
Minimum	-	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maximum	-	n/a	n/a	0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Average	75.0%	n/a	n/a	0%	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 (Hubert Oribon) or PHG, (02) 296 63 15/6 (Eng. Basema Bashir)

During the month of August, essential consumables (diesel, chlorine, spare parts, water pipe materials, etc.) needed for the construction and rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in Gaza Strip were blocked at the Israeli border. This situation has hindered the efficiency of water production and distribution facilities, and also the operations of sanitary land fills.

Analysis of Water and Sanitation data for the month of August 2007 indicates the following trends:

- An average of 67 l/c/d was supplied in the West Bank and 55 l/c/d in the Gaza Strip.
- The total water supply increased by about 7% in the West Bank and decreased by about 13% in the Gaza Strip compared to the average supply of July 2007.
- The number of households connected to a water network and paying their bills increased in the West Bank (36% against 33% in July 2007 and an average of

35% for the year 2006) and remains the same for Gaza as per June and July 2007 (2% since April 2007 and an average of 4% for the year 2006).

- The average price of water tankered to the unserved communities remains the same in the Gaza Strip (35 NIS per cubic meter) and increased slightly in the West Bank (16 NIS per cubic meter against 15 NIS per cubic meter in July). These averages do not show the wide range of prices, particularly in the West Bank, where people in remote areas may pay three times the average price. This is due to: remoteness, the extended distances that trucks must travel due to road closures and seasonal fluctuations.
- Since February 2007, there has been no change in the percentage of monthly income households spend on sanitation services.



Education

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

	# of Schools	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07	Feb 07	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun-07	Jul-07	Aug-07
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - West Bank⁵⁴													
Bethlehem	100	100	100	100	n/a	0	0	0	85	106	1	n/a	n/a
Hebron	207	207	207	207	n/a	0	72	0	150	214	0	n/a	n/a
South Hebron	159	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	0	112	160	0	n/a	n/a
Jenin	113	113	113	113	n/a	0	0	0	92	116	1	n/a	n/a
Jericho	20	20	20	20	n/a	2 (curfew)	1	0	12	17	0	n/a	n/a
Jerusalem	37	37	37	37	n/a	0	0	0	All	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Jerusalem suburb	55	55	55	55	n/a	0	0	0	16	56	0	n/a	n/a
Nablus	196	196	196	196	n/a	0	0	2	149	187	0	n/a	n/a
Qabatya	103	103	103	103	n/a	0	0	0	61	77	0	n/a	n/a
Qalqilia	67	67	67	67	n/a	0	0	0	10	69	0	n/a	n/a
Ramallah	159	159	159	159	n/a	0	0	2	113	161	0	n/a	n/a
Salfit	57	57	57	57	n/a	0	1	0	19	58	0	n/a	n/a
Tubas	-	-	-	-	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a	39	0	n/a	n/a
Tulkarm	107	107	107	107	n/a	0	n/a	0	66	110	0	n/a	n/a
Total West Bank	1,380	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	n/a	0.14%	5.4%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Number of schools with at least one day of disruption - Gaza Strip⁵⁵													
Gaza	151	151	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	80	152	0	n/a	n/a
Gaza North	60	60	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	39	66	0	n/a	n/a
Khan Younis	64	64	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	19	35	3	n/a	n/a
Middle Area	37	37	0	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	44	63	1	n/a	n/a
Rafah	34	34	0	34	n/a	0	n/a	0	29	37	0	n/a	n/a
Total Gaza Strip	346	100.0%	0.0%	9.8%	n/a	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	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 (Megumi Watanabe).

- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) announced that 1 September will be the first day of the 2007-2008 school year in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. This also implied the cancellation of Saturday as a day off from school. (Officials working in the MoEHE and different district educational directorates have Saturday as a day off, similar to all PNA officials). In response, the Teachers' Union called for a general strike to protest the loss of Saturday as a day off, which only lasted for one day before reaching an agreement with MoEHE. Following negotiations between the Union and MoEHE, the latter agreed to reinstate Saturday as a day off for teachers, except those who work in schools operating double shifts (a total of 35 in the West Bank). Teachers in the Gaza Strip work 6 full days.
- According to MoEHE, on 6 August, Deputy Minister Dr. Mohamed Abu-Shaqir, stationed at Gaza's MoEHE office, was discharged from his position following instruction by a presidential decree. Dr. Abu-Shaqir is one of several MoEHE's officials that were dismissed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This has created additional constraints to project implementation with the MoEHE and made the operational environment more difficult.
- MoEHE & UNICEF's "Back to School" campaign kicked off at the end of August, and aimed to benefit 65,000 children and 1,375 teachers. As part of this initiative, UNICEF provided training to teachers, remedial worksheets, classroom educational aid kits, notebooks for children, teachers/classrooms stationary and recreational equipment.
- On 3 August, two IDF tanks entered the UNRWA Al Shouka Elementary Co-Ed School and damaged school facilities after breaking down the main gate and demolishing part of the boundary wall. At 15:55, Islamic Jihad members fired a mortar shell at IDF soldiers inside the school, damaging part of the boundary wall (Rafah).
- On 6 August, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Beit Hadassah in the H2 area of Hebron City set fire to a pile of old furniture and paper at the main gate of Qurtuba school, which is located in front of the settlement.



The Institutional Response to the Crisis

Humanitarian and development assistance to the oPt

FUNDED in \$ million	The UN and the CAP	ICRC	INGOs	PNGOss	ECHO	Other EC Commitment	USAID
2005	193.3	30.6	n/a	n/a	35	241	386
2006	273.5	34.5	n/a	n/a	104.4	225	176
2007	196.8	57.4 (appeal)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	29.8

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

The CAP

Sector	CAP 2006 - revised May 2006			CAP 2007			CAP 07 % Funded (as of 24 Sept)
	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Level of funding as of 30 Dec 06	Requirements in \$ million	Number of Projects	Funding in \$ million	
Agriculture	36.9	11	4%	11.3	14	1.7	12%
Coordination and support services	10.3	5	63%	14.2	7	16.3	108%
Economic Recovery and Infrastructure	154.3	14	53%	198.1	17	57.9	36%
Education	8.3	4	48%	9.1	4	7.3	84%
Food	96.4	7	100% +	149.7	8	99.3	67%
Health & Psychosocial	53.8	31	47%	35.7	30	24.7	61%
Protection	-	-	-	1.7	4	0.2	23%
Water and Sanitation	23.5	20	27%	35.0	19	2.7	8%
Shelter and non-food items	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.3	17%
Multi-Sector	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.1	100%
Sector not yet specified	0	-	-	-	-	7.8	-
Total	383.6	92	77%	454.7	103	218.3	51%

Source: OCHA, Financial Tracking System (FTS).

The PA operating budget

\$ million	2005		2006				Total
	\$ million	%	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Clearance revenues collected by Gol	757	32	137	1	97	38	273
Domestic revenues	476	20	99	70	55	66	290
External finances	349	15	154	110	305	178	747
Other sources, incl. Palestinian Investment Fund Dividend	60	3	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	50
Net Lending	344	15	68	n/a	154	n/a	222
TOTAL	1986	100	470.5	193.5	623.5	294.5	1582

Source: reports from World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Temporary International Mechanism, UN Agencies.



Temporary International Mechanism (TIM)

\$ million	confirmed Pledges	Total disbursed as of 24 Sept 2007
TIM window 1/ ESSP	69.28	24.5
TIM window 2	160.80	111.72
TIM window 3	452.88	368.1
Total	682.96	504.32

Window II : “Window II of the TIM is entirely funded by the European Commission to ensure access to electricity, health care, and sanitation.”

1) Emergency Fuel Supply

Sector	Number of facilities	Fuel Received in million litres as of 24 Sept 2007
Hospitals and Health Centers	45	1.4
Water System	103	2.1
Waste Water System	75	0.8
General Power Generators	6	0.8
Um Nasir Disaster Relief	29	0.01
Total	258	5.1
Total Cost in US\$ million as of 24 Sept 2007		5.2

2) Support For Electricity production and distribution

	Cost in US\$ million as of 24 Sept 2007	Fuel received in million litres as of 24 Sept 2007
Gaza Power Plant	78.2	81
Electricity Production Gaza	7.5	
Electricity Distribution Gaza	4.7	
Electricity Distribution West Bank	11.4	
Total Cost in US\$ million as of 24 Sept 2007		101.8

3) Access to Quality Healthcare

Cost in US\$ million	
East Jerusalem hospitals referral costs in US \$million	4.8

Window III : “Window III of the TIM is funded by the EC, EU Member States and other donors. It provides relief to approximately one million vulnerable and poor members of Palestinian society affected by the current crisis through direct cash assistance.”

Type	Num of Beneficiaries	Num of Allowances Received	Total Amount Received in US\$ as of 24 Sept 2007
Low-income Healthcare provider workers	12000	13	61.0
Low-income public service providers	59000	11	225.6
Pensioners	6600	11	24.7
Social Hardship Cases Scheme for the Poor	36000	4	39.6
Social Hardship Cases Beneficiaries of Food for work/training programme	39000	1	9.6

Source: Temporary International Mechanism, Implementation Progress Update. Based on figures provided by TIM; originally in Euro Currency.



Sources and Rationale

Three factors have contributed to a worsening of the humanitarian situation in the oPt: (1) a lack of protection of civilians and increasing violence; (2) increased restrictions on movement; and (3) the financial and institutional crisis of the PA following the election of the Hamas movement in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) in January 2006.

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 working sector groups and organisations contribute to the Humanitarian Monitor:

Sector	Sector Lead	Participants
Protection	OHCHR/OCHA	OCHA, WHO, UNRWA, UNIFEM, Badil, Save the Children-UK, Al Haq
Socio-Economic	UNRWA	UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, WFP, CHFI, Mercy Corps
Health	WHO	UNICEF, UNFPA, UNRWA
Psychosocial & Protection Against Violence	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNFPA, WHO, UNRWA, DCI, Save the Children-UK, Save the Children (Sweden), MAP UK
Food	WFP	FAO, UNRWA, ACF-E, CARE, CHFI, CISP, CRS, GVC, ICRC, MC, OXFAM-GB
Agriculture	FAO	ACF-E, PHG, ACPP, ACAD, Allod Charitable Society
Education	UNICEF	UNESCO, OCHA, UNRWA, UNIFEM, OHCHR
Water and Sanitation	UNICEF	UNDP, UNRWA, WHO, UN-HABITAT, ICRC, PWA, PHG, OXFAM-GB, ACF-E, CARE, ACPP, CMWU, WBWD.
Coordination and Security	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	OCHA, United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), UNDSS
Other sources and contributors		TIM, EUBAM, World Bank, IMF, AIDA, LACS, PNGO



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, targeting 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. Since Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip the vast majority of these operations occur in West Bank towns and villages. 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.

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) 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 (that are linked to the conflict/occupation) and shooting of alleged collaborators with Israel. These incidents began to be comprehensively reported from May 2006: earlier figures will be underreported.
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.
12. Number of Palestinian homemade (qassam) 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 Qassam rockets that detonated in the Gaza Strip.
13. This number includes mortars fired towards IDF troops inside the Gaza Strip.
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/residence 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 the 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.
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.
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; Palestinian Passport and Border Police; EU Border Assistance Mission (BAM). 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. It is operated by the PA under the supervision of the EU BAM. The Gol is remotely monitoring Rafah operations and can refuse people's passage. Rafah cannot operate if the EU BAM team are not present and EU BAM staff are dependent on Gol-operated Kerem Shalom crossing opening to access Rafah.
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 Gol 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: UNSCO. 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 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 Q2 2006, PCBS estimates it at NIS 2,143 (\$477). 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 1,732 (\$385) in 2005 (PCBS). PCBS sample size does not allow disaggregating data for the Gaza Strip and West Bank.
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. Each monthly figure should be compared to the previous month and to that of the same month in the previous year(s). NGOs in the Gaza Strip include Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) and Union of Health Workers Committees (UHWK), 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. Each monthly figure should be compared to that of the same month in the previous year(s).
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 allows to follow up the environmental health status, 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 (adults) attending UNRWA community and hospital mental health services. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, compiled by UNICEF. 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.
36. Number of cases referred to specialised therapy – UNRWA. Source: UNRWA, Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices, compiled by UNICEF. This figure shows the number of people who need psychiatric treatment. These two indicators reflect the impact of the prolonged conflict on the mental health of the Palestinian population. According to international research, an average of one in four individuals suffers from a mental health problem at one point in their life. In the Palestinian context, this figure is exacerbated by years of continuous conflict. Closures, curfews, sporadic fighting, movement restrictions, targeted killings, arrests, humiliation, military incursions and poverty have a serious psychological impact on every individual, especially children and women. As a result, a majority of the population in the occupied Palestinian territory exhibits a degree of mental distress or illness.

Agriculture

37. 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 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 (most often on the ground of security reasons). It however remains accessible to the farmers and be re-used as a field once the levelling is completed. People affected are those owners whose land has been requisitioned or levelled and therefore loss all or part of their livelihoods. People affected refers strictly to owners in this document although a wider range of people are actually affected such as workers employed and traders. Reclaimed land is that land which is originally non-productive and is transformed in farming land under a private or NGO/UN-led initiative. This land is most of the time privately owned.
38. Greenhouses land destroyed and rehabilitated in dunums - West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Agriculture Relief Committees, compiled by FAO. Destroyed refers to the total destruction of a greenhouse, i.e. the greenhouse itself and the land it is installed on. Rehabilitated refers to the reconstruction of greenhouses done by their owners or under NGO/UN financed projects. People affected are those owners whose greenhouse(s) has been destroyed and who therefore see their livelihoods affected.
39. Number of trees destroyed. Source: FAO; Ministry of Agriculture Directorates. Destroyed trees are those trees belonging to Palestinians that are being uprooted, burnt, or cut by Israeli authorities or settlers. Trees are mainly olive trees but can include any type of fruit-trees (orange, almond, avocado, etc), and represent an important source of revenue for their owner. People affected are those directly affected by the loss of land or trees, i.e. the owner and its family although the number of people affected is actually far greater included extended family members and labourers.
40. Agricultural produce trading in/out 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

41. Retailed 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.
42. Retailed 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.
43. 3) 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.
44. 4) 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.
45. 5) 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 fishermen and their families. According to the Oslo Accords, the Palestinians are granted a fish catch area within 20 nautical miles off the Gaza coastline. The GoI agreed under the 2002 Bertini Commitments to a fishing zone of 12 nautical miles. Fishermen 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.



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 (1 USD equals approximately 4.2 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. (1 USD equals approximately 4.2 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.
51. Percentage of HH monthly income spent on sanitation services
52. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the West Bank
53. Cost recovery of water bills by village councils and Municipalities in the Gaza Strip.

Education

54. Number of schools with at least one day of disruption – West Bank. Source: MoEHE, collected by UNICEF. This indicators shows access to education.
55. 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
- h. Health: WHO Constitution, 1948
- 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. Source: PCBS Press release, International Youth Day (12 Aug 2007).