



**Palestinian National Authority**  
**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

**Socio-economic monitoring of the Palestinian**  
**Households' Survey, 2010**

**User Guide**

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## Concepts and Definitions

### **Household:**

The household is defined as one person or a group of persons with or without a family relationship, who live in the same housing unit or part of the housing unit, share meals and make joint provision of food and other essentials of living.

### **Household member:**

Persons staying in the housing unit at the time of the interview are considered members of the household if:

- The housing unit is their usual or only place of residence.
- The person resides most of his/her time in the same housing unit despite the fact that it is possible that he/she spends some time in another housing unit or elsewhere. In this survey, persons residing in certain localities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to study (students), students who are studying abroad as well as workers separated from their families and return home at the end of the week or month, and workers who work abroad but return every year to visit relatives and stay with them, as well as the prisoners are considered as residents with their families, and not in their places of work or studies or prison.

### **Head of household:**

It refers to the person who usually lives with the household and is considered as the head of the household by its other members. Often, he/she is the main decision-maker and responsible for the financial support and economic welfare of the household

### **Years of schooling completed successfully:**

For persons currently attending, attended and left, or successfully graduated, reference shall be made to the successfully completed formal educational years (completed years.) It neither includes drop out years, failure years nor ongoing formal schooling year. Educational training courses are not included as part of formal schooling years.

Years of schooling completed successfully includes schooling years in formal educational institutions (schools, universities, colleges), but not:

- The combination of several short courses to equal one year of education or
- Long-term courses (one year or more) or
- Period of education that is less than one year

### **Marital Status:**

The status of those 12 years old and over in terms of marriage traditions and laws in the country. The status could be one of the following cases:

- **Never married:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over has not been married or legally engaged (according to customs and traditions applicable in the country).
- **Legally engaged:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over has an official marriage document (issued by a competent court) but has not been actually married yet according to customs and traditions applicable in the country. The divorced, widowed, and married twice do not belong to this category. This category does not

include individual male who is currently married and got engaged for the second time because he is classified as married.

- **Married:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over is actually and officially married (according to customs and traditions applicable in the country) irrespective of his / her past marital status as well as of whether the couple were together during the reference period or not. The person married to more than one wife is classified as married.
- **Divorced:** The person aged 12 years and over who previously married and legally divorced but was not married again.
- **Widowed:** The married person aged 12 years and over whose marriage was ended by the death of the spouse and was not married again.
- **Separated:** The individual 12 years old and over who was married, but his/her marriage was revoked for some reason without any legal or official registration, and he/she did not marry again.

#### **Age:**

The completed age in years of the person enumerated, which is the difference between the date of birth and the survey's reference period.

#### **Formal education:**

The registration of the person in one of the stages of formal education, whether as regular or associate. Stages of formal education includes primary or preparatory (basic) or secondary school, college, academic or professional institutions that issue certification or diploma, and university; but do not include centers or institutes that provide training courses, regardless of the duration of these courses. Kindergartens or nurseries or literacy centers are not considered as part of educational stages.

#### **Locality**

A permanently inhabited place, which has an independent municipal administration or a permanently inhabited, separated place not included within the formal boundaries of another locality.

#### **Unemployed**

Unemployed persons are those individuals aged 15 years and over who did not work at all during the reference period, who were not absent from a job, were available for work and actively seeking a job during the reference period by one of the following methods news paper, registered at employment office, ask friends or relatives or any other method.

#### **Jerusalem Area J1**

Includes that part of Jerusalem which was annexed forcefully by Israel following its occupation of the West Bank in 1967. This part includes the following localities: (Beit Hanina, Shu'fat Refugee Camp, Shu'fat, Al' Isawiya, Jerusalem "Al-Quds"(Sheikh Jarrah, Wadi Al-Joz, Bab Al-Sahira, As Suwwana, At-Tur, Ash-Shayyah, Ras Al-Amud), Silwan, Ath-Thuri, Jabal Al-Mukabbir, As-Sawahira Al-Gharbiya, Beit Safafa, Sharafat, Sur Baher, and Um Tuba, Kufr A'qab).

#### **Jerusalem Area J2**

Includes the Remaining parts of Jerusalem governorate, namely: Rafat, Mikhmas, Qalandya Refugee Camp, the Bedouin Community-Jaba', Qalandya, Beit Duqqu, Jaba',

Al-Judeira, Beit Anan, Al-Ram, Dahiat Al-Bareed, Al Al-Jib, Bir Nabala, Beit Ijza, Al-Qubeiba, Khirbet Um Al-Lahem, Biddu, An-Nabi Samu'eil, Hizma, Beit Hanina Al Tehta, Qatanna, Beit Surik, Beit Iksa, A'nata, The Bedouin Community – Al-Khan Al-Ahmar, Az Za'eem, Al-Sawahreh Al- Sharqiyeh, Ash-Sheikh Sa'd, The Bedouin Communities. Al-Eizariya, Abu Dis.

### **Survey Questionnaire**

A special questionnaire was designed in accordance with UN standards and recommendations, the questionnaire include the identification data in addition to the quality control measures, it covers the following fields:

Part one: Social data which include name, relation with head of household, sex, age, refugee status, place of residence, reasons of changing place of residence if happened, health insurance, difficulties, education, labor and marital status.

Part two: that covers the housing unit data.

Part three: that covers the agricultural data.

Part four: that covers the data on assistants.

Part five: that covers the data on coping strategies>

Part six: that covers the income data.

Part seven: that covers the data on expenditure and consumption.

Part eight: that covers the nutrition and lack of food.

Part nine: that covers the data on freedom of movement.

### **Data Set Linkage**

The data set to users consists of two files, the first contains the individual's data which covers the demographic characteristics, and the second file contains the household's data which covers other survey indicators. The linkage between both files is the serial number in the sample as indicated in the data files.

### **Target Population**

The target population consisted of all Palestinian households that usually reside in the Palestinian Territory

### **Sampling Frame**

The sampling frame consisted of a master sample of enumeration areas (EAs) selected from the Population Housing and Establishment Census 2007 The master sample consists of area units of relatively equal size (number of households, about 150 housing units), and these units has been used as primary sampling units (PSUs).

### **Sample Size**

The sample size 7,500 households located in 300 enumeration areas in the Palestinian Territory, distributed by 5000 households in West Bank and 2500 in Gaza Strip. The design considered dissemination on governorate level and the localities affected by the annexation wall.

### **Sample design**

The sample is two stage stratified cluster sample with two stages:

**First stage:** selection a stratified systematic random sample of **300** Enumeration Areas (**200** in west Bank, **100** in Gaza strip).

**Second stage:** selection a systematic random sample of **25** households from each enumeration area selected in the first stage. And then to choose a legible person aged 18 years and above to be the respondent of the questionnaire questions.

**Note:** in Jerusalem Governorate (J1), **20** enumeration areas were selected; then in the second phase, a group of **25** households from each enumeration area were chosen using census-2007 method of delineation and enumeration. This method was adopted to ensure household response is to the maximum to comply with the percentage of non-response as set in the sample design.

### **Weighting**

Weights has been calculated to represent the whole population through the survey sample.

### **Calculation of Variances**

It is very important to calculate standard errors for the main survey estimates, so that the user can identify the accuracy of estimates and the survey reliability. Errors of the survey are of two kinds: statistical errors, and non-statistical errors. Non-statistical errors are related to the procedures of statistical work at different stages, such as the failure to explain questions in the questionnaire, unwillingness or inability to provide correct responses, low statistical coverage, etc. These errors depend on the nature of the work, training, supervision, and conducting of all the various related activities.

The work team spared no effort at the different stages to minimize non-statistical errors; however, it is difficult to estimate numerically such errors due to absence of technical computation methods based on theoretical principles to tackle them.

On the other hand, statistical errors can be measured. Frequently they are measured by the standard error, which is the positive square root of the variance. The variance of this survey has been computed by using SPSS package

## **Data Collection**

Field operations is considered the main stage in implementing the survey, therefore, all requirements had been taken in consideration during the preparation stage, that cover all technical needs including training and financial resources.

Data collection for the Socio-economic monitoring of the Palestinian Households' Survey, 2010 was conducted during (19/07/2010 –31/08/2010).

13 teams of interviewers, 10 in the West Bank and 3 in the Gaza Strip carried out the data collection. Fieldwork teams were distributed to different governorates according to sample distribution.

All field staff received theoretical and practical training course. Interviewers, supervisors and editors for the survey were carefully selected based on their experience. Fieldwork procedures were designed to ensure adequate supervision and the collection of high quality data. To this end, several quality control measures were used through out fieldwork.

## **Reference period**

The survey reference period had used vary dates depending on the nature of the question, as for demographic questions used the date of the interview, while labor questions used the previous week, and the rest of the questions used last week or last month or last six months or last year as stated in the questions which clear enough in the data files.

## **Response Rate**

The study is based on a random sample of 7,500 household, response rate was 92% in the Palestinian Territory, of which 100% in Gaza Strip (as the design used area sample) and 88% in the West Bank (2% refusal and 10% for other reasons).

## **Data Processing**

Both data entry and tabulation were completed by using the ACCESS and SPSS software programs. Data entry was organized into two files, corresponding to the main parts of the questionnaire. Data entry template was designed to reflect an exact image of the questionnaire, and included various electronic checks: logical check, range checks, consistency checks and cross-validation.

## **Data Quality**

### **1. Statistical Errors:**

Sampling rather than comprehensive enumeration has been used to collect data in this survey. Therefore it is liable to two types of errors affecting the quality of survey data, sampling (statistical errors) and non-sampling errors (non-statistical errors). Statistical errors mean the errors resulting from sample designing and this is computed simply.

Variance and effect of sample design has been computed for the Palestinian Territory, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### **2. Non-Statistical Errors:**

Non-statistical errors, on the other hand, could not be determined easily, due to the diversity of sources from which they may arise, e.g., the interviewer, respondent, editor, coder, and data entry operator.

However, several measures were adopted to minimize the effects of non-statistical errors on the data. To avoid errors and reducing their effects, the interviewers, editors, and coders have exercised intensive training course, and were provided with fieldwork manuals to resort to when facing any problem.

To have a fair idea on the situation and limiting obstacles, there has been continuous contact with supervisors and editors through regular visits to the regional offices and regular meetings. Also problems faced by interviewers have been discussed to clarify any issues they have faced.

Also data entry staff were trained on an entry program that was examined for the questionnaires received during the training, The data entry program was programmed in a way that allows error detection and correction, particularly logical errors that might not be discovered before data entry. Consistency check was applied to assure accuracy after data entry.

### **3. Data Quality:**

That data of this survey is of a high quality.