# Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

**The Labour Force Survey Results Fourth Quarter**

**(October– December, 2018)  Round**

**Main Results**

**Unemployment rate in Gaza Strip higher than in the West Bank three times**

The unemployment rate between the West Bank and Gaza Strip still high in the 4th quarter 2018; 51% in Gaza Strip compared with 16% in the West Bank, while 24% for males and 48% for females.

Unemployment Rate in Palestine by Region, 2018

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**A large gap in the labour force participation rate between males and females**

7 out of 10 of males are participated in the labor force, compared with 2 out of 10 of females.

There a significant increased in the participation rate of females between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, where the percentages were 27% in Gaza Strip and 18% in the West Bank.

**The number of the employment in the local market increased between the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter 2018**

The number of the employment in the local market increased from 827 thousand in the 3rd quarter 2018 to 871 thousand in the 4th quarter 2018, which it increased in the West Bank by 4%, while in Gaza Strip increased by 9% for the same period.

The services sector and other branches was the biggest employer in the local market, where the percentage of employment was more than one third of employed in the West Bank compared with more than half in Gaza Strip.

The average weekly hours worked by wage employees in the West Bank was 43.5 hour compared with 36.8 hour in Gaza Strip. And the average number of days worked per month was 22.6 day in West Bank and 22.8 day in Gaza Strip.

**The number of employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was increased by 5 thousand between the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter 2018**

The number of employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was about 131 thousand in the 4th quarter 2018, and the largest share of those 71% had a permit, and 22% worked without any permit, while who had an Israeli identity card or foreign passport about 7%.

The number of employees in Israeli settlements was 28 thousand in the 4th quarter 2018 compared with 23 thousand in the 3rd quarter.

The construction sector recorded the highest employment rate in Israel and Israeli settlements, which was 66% of the total Palestinian employment in the Israel and Israeli settlements.

The average daily wage for the wage employees in Israel and Israeli settlements decreased between the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter 2018 by 6 NIS, to reached 238 NIS.

**7 out of 10 of employed individuals are wage employees**

%70 of employed individuals are wage employees, 26% are self- employed and employers, while 4% are unpaid family members.

**About half of the wage employees in the private sector hired without any contract**

48% of wage employees in the private sector hired without any contract, and 25% of wage employees contribute to a pension fund. In contrast, less than half of wage employees women (44%) have paid maternity leave.

**31% of wage employees in the private sector received less than the minimum wage (1,450 NIS) in Palestine**

There had a significant increased in the wage employees in the private sector received less than the minimum wage in the West Bank from 11% to 12% between the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter 2018, while the percentage in Gaza Strip decreased from 84% to 75% during the same period.

Despite the low rate in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the gap in the monthly wage rate remains high; 634 NIS in Gaza Strip compared with 1,033 NIS in the West Bank.

**High percentage of child labor in the West Bank than in Gaza Strip**

3% of children aged (10-17 years) were employed; 5% in the West Bank and 2% in Gaza Strip.