



## Stability in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) August, 08/2020

The overall CPI for Palestine during August 2020 **Slightly Increased by 0.03%** compared with July 2020 (by 0.29% in Jerusalem J1\*, and by 0.20% in Gaza Strip, while it slightly decreased by 0.08% in the West Bank\*\*).

The changes in Palestinian CPI for August 2020 were traced back to changes in prices of the following expenditure sub groups compared with previous month:

Sub Groups	Percent Change
Fresh Chicken	+ 2.83%
Fish, Live, Fresh, Chilled, or Frozen	+ 2.78%
Potatoes and other Tubers	+ 2.40%
Gas	+ 1.84%
Eggs	- 6.48%
Fresh Fruit	- 1.78%
Dried Vegetables	- 0.53%
Fresh Vegetables	- 0.44%

The Palestinian CPI during August 2020 decreased by 2.42% compared with August 2019 (by 2.67% in the West Bank\*\*, by 2.10% in Gaza Strip, and by 0.45% in Jerusalem J1\*).

### Notice for Users:

1. Due to COVID-19 pandemic and inability to conduct face-to-face interview, data for Consumer Price Index has been collected using mobile phones, in all of the Palestinian Governorates interview.

2. The number of outlets, from which Consumer Prices are collected in Palestine, reached 2,664 outlets in August 2020. The percentage for the completion of data collection process is as follows:

Region	Number of Collected Outlets	Number of Non-Collected Outlets	Percentage of Collected Outlets
West Bank**	1,670	121	93.24%
Gaza Strip	671	23	96.69%
Jerusalem J1*	170	9	94.97%
Total	2,511	153	94.26%

3. All services outlets are excluded from collecting their data for August 2020, because of quarterly collection frequency.

4. The number of price observations collected to compile the Palestinian Consumer Price index is 38,395 price observations; where 96.35% was collected in August 2020. Hence, the percentages are as follows within the Palestinian regions:

Region	Number of Actual Collected Observation	Estimated Number of Observations	Percentage of Actual Collected Observation
West Bank**	25,812	1,015	96.22%
Gaza Strip	9,116	241	97.42%
Jerusalem J1*	2,066	145	93.44%
Palestine	36,994	1,401	96.35%

5. International recommendations are followed in estimating the missing data, which are mentioned in the Consumer Price Index guide. Moreover, the **(Group Relative Method)** is one of the best methods used to estimate the missing data, which is the process of estimating the prices based on the change in the prices of the remaining sources for the same category. Accordingly, in case of the closure of an entire source on a temporary basis, all the prices of that source have been estimated based on the change in the prices of the sources that share the same items, which are collected from that source.



6. The estimate also used at the **(Next Level Up in Aggregation)** in case of the disappearance of the index for a whole sub-group or a higher group reaching up to the major groups that constitute the index.

**Notes:**

\*Data represent those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli Occupation in 1967.

\*\*Data exclude those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli Occupation in 1967.

Please note that the press release in English is brief compared to the Arabic version

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