**Main Results**

**The labour force participation rate of individuals aged 15 years and above was 46.1%**

The number of individuals participating in the labour force in Palestine was 1,355,400 in the 3rd quarter 2016; 850,400 in the West Bank and 505,000 in Gaza Strip.

The labour force participation rate in the West Bank was 45.7% and 46.7% in Gaza Strip, the gap in the participation rate between males and females in Palestine still very big where it reached 72.3% for males compared with 19.2% for females.

**28.4% the unemployment rate among labour force participants**

Using ILO standards, the number of unemployed was 384,500 in the 3rd quarter 2016; distributed as 218,000 in Gaza Strip and 166,500 in the West Bank.

The unemployment rate in Gaza Strip was 43.2% compared with 19.6% in the West Bank in the 3rd quarter 2016, And the unemployment rate for males in Palestine was 23.5% compared with 47.3% for females in the 3rd quarter 2016.

The highest unemployment rate in the 3rd quarter 2016 was 45.6% among youth aged 20-24 years. For years of schooling, the highest unemployment rate among females with 13 years of schooling and more was 54.5%.

**The number of the employment in the local market decreased between the 2nd quarter and 3rd quarter 2016**

The number of employed in the local market decreased from 859,400 in the 2nd quarter 2016 to 857,400 in the 3rd quarter 2016. The number of employed individuals in the West Bank decreased by 4,800 employed, while the number of employed individuals in Gaza Strip increased by 2,800 employed person.

The services sector was the biggest employer in the local market with 32.1% in the West Bank and 52.9% in Gaza Strip.

The public sector employed 21.2% of those in employment; 36.0% in Gaza Strip and 14.9% in the West Bank.

The average daily wage for wage employees in the West Bank was 96.6 NIS compared with 59.0 NIS in Gaza Strip.

The average weekly hours worked by wage employees in the West Bank was 44.5 hour in the 2nd quarter and 3rd 2016. The average number of days worked per month was 22.9 and 23.1 day in the 3rd quarter 2016 and 2nd quarter 2016. The average number of hours worked per week in Gaza Strip was 38.8 and 37.8 hours per week in the 3rd quarter 2016 and 2nd quarter 2016, and the average number of days worked per month was 22.8 and 23.0 working day in 3rd quarter 2016 and 2nd quarter 2016.

**Number of employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was 111,800 in the 3rd quarter 2016**

The number of employed individuals employed in Israel and Israeli settlements was 111,800 in the 3rd quarter 2016 compared with 114,200 in the 2nd quarter 2016. Of these; 55,900 had a permit, 42,700 worked without any permit and 13,200 employed individuals have an Israeli identity card or foreign passport.

The number of employees in the Israeli settlements decreased from 19,100 in the 2nd quarter 2016 to 18,100 in the 3rd quarter 2016.

63.7% of employed in Israel and the Israeli settlements worked in the construction sector.

The average daily wage for the wage employees in Israel and the Israeli settlements reached 222.3 NIS in the 3rd quarter 2016 compared with 221.9 NIS in the 2nd quarter 2016.

The average number of hours worked per week in Israel and the Israeli settlements reached 40.9 in the 3rd quarter 2016 compared with 40.7 in the 2nd quarter 2016. The average number of days worked per month reached 19.7 working day the 3rd quarter 2016 compared with 20.1 in the 2nd quarter 2016.

**Employment Status in the 3rd quarter 2016**

69.5% of employed individuals are wage employees; 65.6% in the West Bank and 78.6% in Gaza Strip.

17.7% of employed individuals are self- employed; 19.7% in the West Bank and 13.0% in Gaza Strip.

5.5% of employed individuals are unpaid family members; 6.1% in the West Bank and 4.0% in Gaza Strip.

7.3% of employed individuals are employers; 8.6% in the West Bank and 4.4% in Gaza Strip.

**Percentage Distribution of Employed Individuals by Employment Status, Q3-2016**

**Working benefits for wage employees in the private sector**

25.6% of wage employees are hired by contract (10.2% of them with limited period and 15.4% with unlimited period), compared with 55.0% hired without any contract, and 19.4% of wage employees are hired by verbal agreement.

21.3% of wage employees contribute to a pension fund, 21.8% have annual paid leave and 32.8% of wage employees women have paid maternity leave.

18.7% of employed individuals in Palestine are affiliated to a workers vocational union; 13.2% in the West Bank and 31.8% in Gaza Strip.

**39.1% of wage employees in the private sector received less than the minimum wage (1,450 NIS) in Palestine.**

In the West Bank about 19.2% of wage employees in the private sector received less than minimum monthly wage, about 39,800 wage employees with average monthly wage 1,051 NIS.

In Gaza Strip the percentage of wage employees in the private sector who received less than the minimum monthly wage was 78.0% about 83,200 wage employees with average monthly wage 745 NIS.

**Child Labour**

4.5% of children aged 10-17 years in Palestine are employed; 6.3% in the West Bank and 1.9% in Gaza Strip.

All correspondence should be directed to:

**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

**P.O.Box 1647, Ramallah, Palestine.**

Tel: (972/970) 2 298 2700

Fax: (972/970) 2 298 2710

Toll free: 1800300300

E-Mail: diwan@pcbs.gov.ps

Web-Site: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps>