**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)**

**Sharp decrease in the number of building licenses by 45% in Palestine\* during the second quarter of 2020, during with the Corona pandemic**

A totalof 1,217 building licenses were issued in the second quarter of 2020 which included 813 for new buildings.

The total number of building licenses issued in the second quarter of 2020 decreased by 45% compared with the first quarter of 2020 and decreased by 46% compared with the second quarter of 2019, where the number of new building licenses decreased by 48% compared with the first quarter of 2020 and decreased by 40% compared with the second quarter of 2019.

The area of licensed buildings (residential and non-residential) totaled 461 thousand m2, of which new buildings made up 374 thousand m2 and existing buildings comprised 87 thousand m2.

The total number of licensed dwellings was 2,190 with a total area of 351 thousand m2, of which 1,728 were new dwellings with a total area of 279 thousand m2 and 462 were existing dwellings with a total area of 72 thousand m2.

The number of new dwellings in the second quarter of 2020 decreased by 50% compared with the first quarter of 2020 and decreased by 44% compared with the second quarter of 2019.

**Number of Building Licenses Issued in Palestine\* during the period, Second Quarter 2019 - Second Quarter 2020**

**\*Data excluded those parts of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967.**