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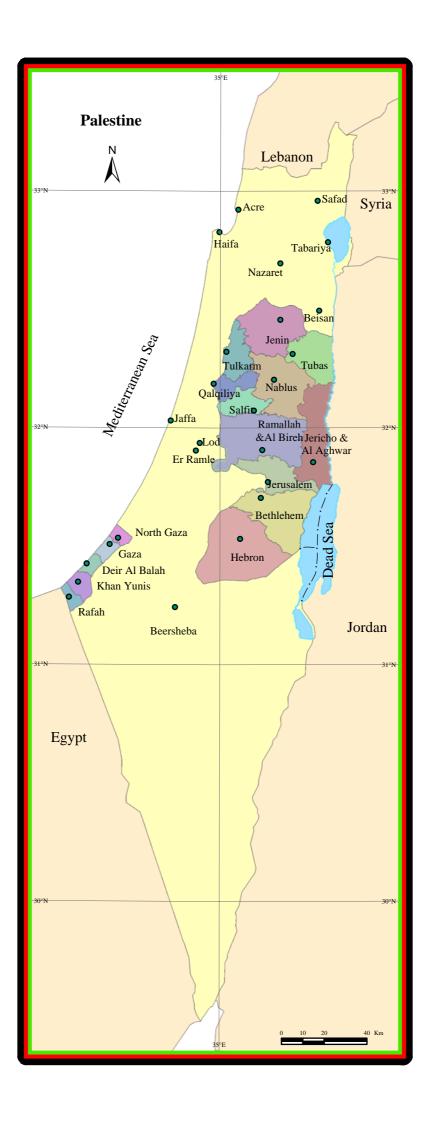


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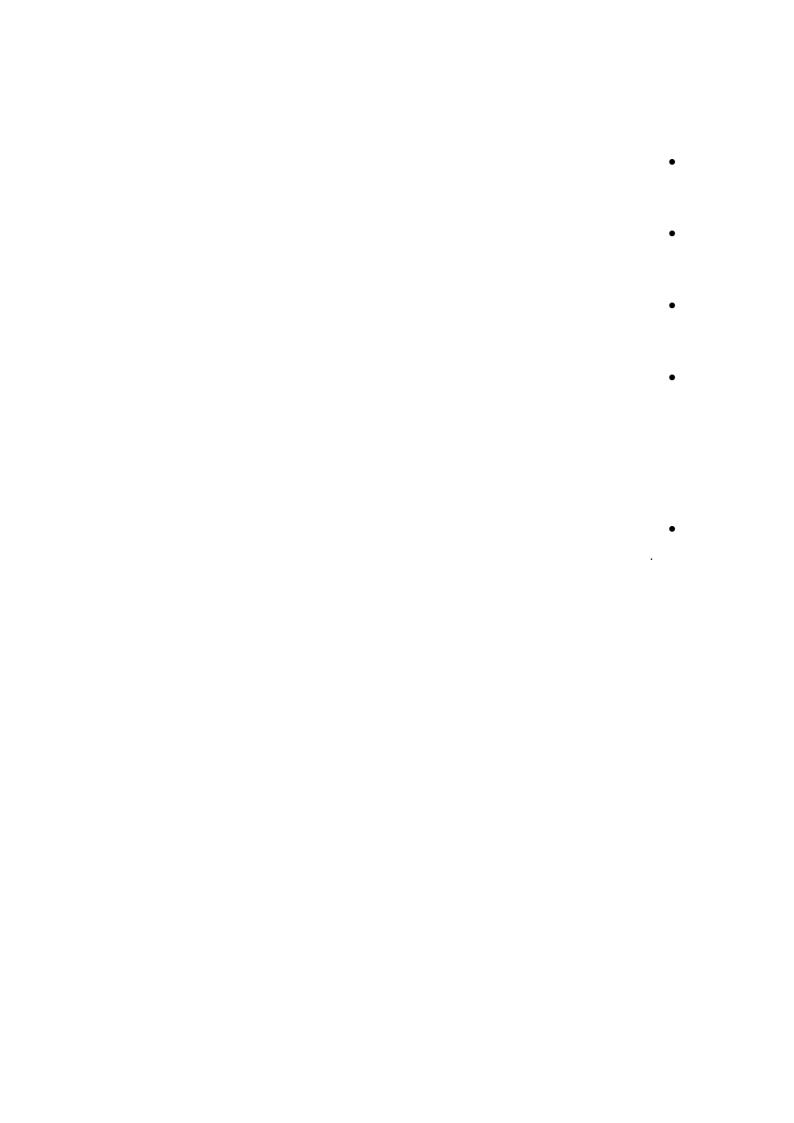


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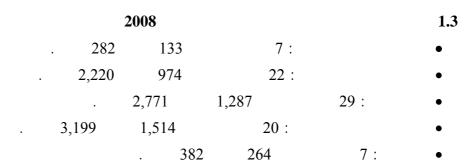
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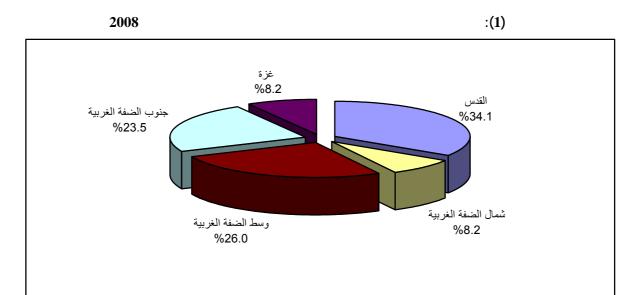
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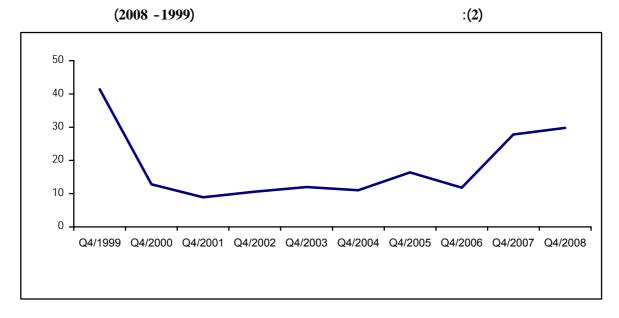


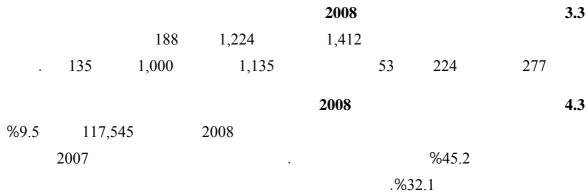
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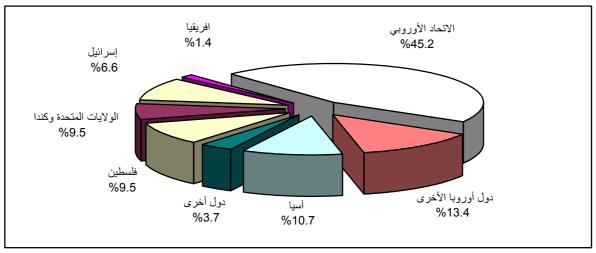
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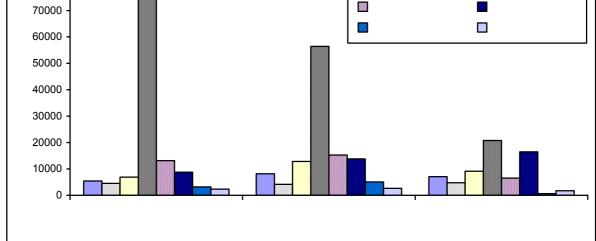
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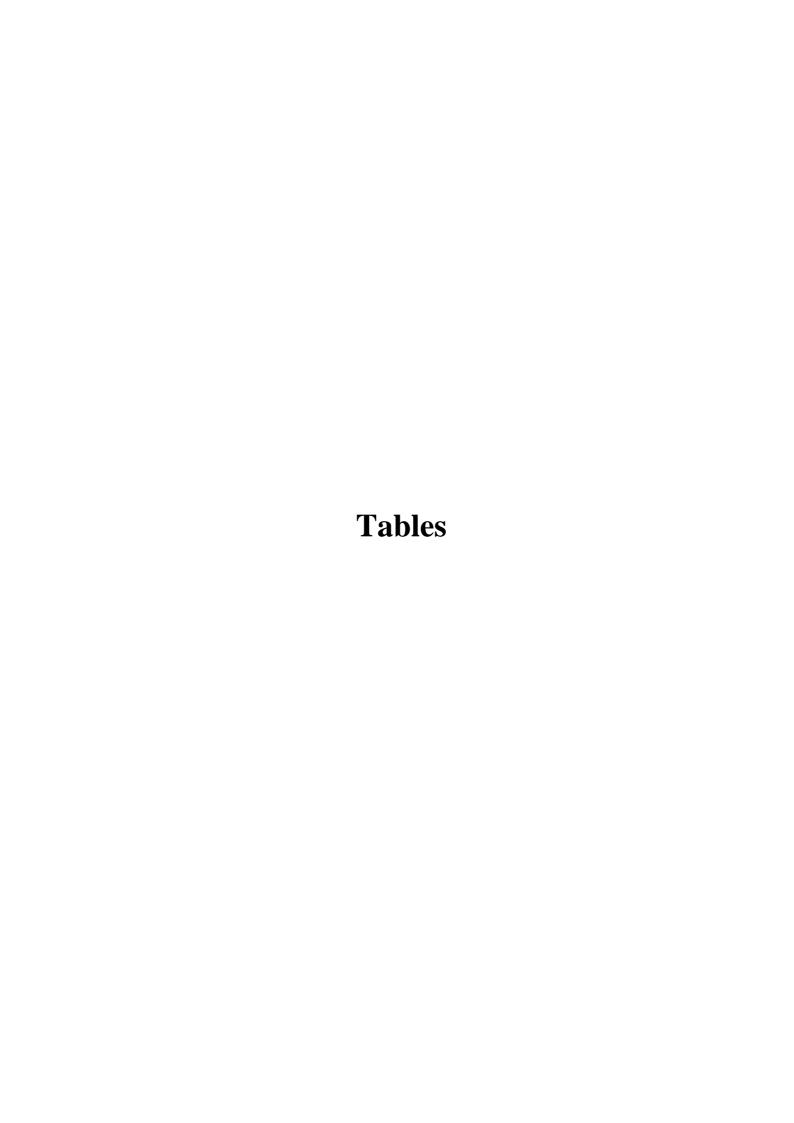
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2004 2002 1999 2008 2006·2007

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	1999		(%)			
2008	2007	2006	2004	2002	2008	
-6.6	-9.9	-13.2	-12.1	-20.9	85	
-23.9	-33.2	-29.8	-32.6	-33.4	1,412	
18.4	-10.5	-62.7	-75.5	-86.3	117,545	
8.0	-30.5	-71.6	-78.2	-84.6	309,638	
-24.2	-28.6	-70.3	-75.4	-80.2	1,241.4	
8.0	-30.5	-71.6	-78.2	-84.6	3,365.6	
-28.0	-32.4	-71.5	-73.4	-74.4	29.8	%
3.3	-35.3	-73.4	-76.1	-79.9	38.0	%

. %8.0 %18.4 2008



2008 :1 Table 1: Main Indicators for Hotel Activities by Month and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

		Bed C	Occupancy	Room O	ccupancy						
Region	Month	%	Average	%	Average	No. of Nights	No. of Guests	No. of Beds	No. of Rooms	No. of Operating Hotels	
Palestinian Territory *		38.0	3365.6	29.8	1241.4	309638	117545	9159	4301	85	*
All Regions	October	42.8	3998.3	31.2	1378.4	123950	39666	9342	4413	88	
	November	42.5	3945.8	30.0	1294.3	118375	49602	9280	4319	87	
	December	24.5	2171.4	25.2	1053.1	67313	28277	8854	4172	85	
North of West Bank	October	16.6	46.8	15.3	20.3	1451	817	282	133	7	
	November	15.7	44.1	19.2	25.6	1324	580	282	133	7	
	December	10.9	30.7	10.3	13.7	952	473	282	133	7	
Middle of West Bank	October	11.0	250.0	20.4	206.9	7751	4253	2264	1013	22	
	November	21.9	516.5	23.7	245.1	15495	9021	2355	1033	23	
	December	13.4	297.7	22.8	221.9	9230	4522	2220	974	22	
Jerusalem	October	76.6	2137.8	62.4	818.6	66271	17261	2792	1312	27	
	November	75.7	2106.8	58.0	735.5	63205	25119	2784	1268	28	
	December	51.2	1418.7	45.4	584.2	43979	17033	2771	1287	29	
South of West Bank	October	48.1	1546.4	21.5	328.2	47937	17156	3212	1527	20	
	November	40.1	1268.7	19.0	285.1	38062	14767	3166	1503	19	
	December	13.1	419.4	15.3	231.5	13000	6178	3199	1514	20	
Gaza Strip**	October	2.2	17.3	2.8	11.9	540	179	792	428	12	**
	November	1.4	9.6	1.6	6.3	289	115	693	382	10	
	December	1.3	4.9	0.7	1.9	152	71	382	264	7	

^{*} Represents the quarter average except number of guests and number of guest nights which represent the total for the quarter.

** Estimated data.

 $2008\ \ \,$:2 Table 2: Number of Hotels and Rooms by Facilities and Region as of December, 2008

	Facilities												
Region	Internet	DVD	Vedio	Telephone	Air Conditioning	Heating	Refrigerator	T.V	Radio	Private Bathroom	No. of Rooms	No. of Operating Hotels	
Palestinian Territory	1541	8	336	3561	3512	3835	2527	3526	666	3926	4172	85	
North of West Bank	0	0	0	99	99	99	99	99	0	99	133	7	
Middle of West Bank	266	0	90	788	757	851	716	845	220	885	974	22	
Jerusalem	42	8	246	905	999	1135	356	845	400	1164	1287	29	
South of West Bank	1186	0	0	1514	1433	1514	1150	1493	30	1514	1514	20	
Gaza Strip	47	0	0	255	224	236	206	244	16	264	264	7	

 $2008\ \ \,$:3 Table 3: Number of Hotels by Availability of Public Services and Region as of December, 2008

	Public S	Services		_									
Region	Other	Room Services	Hair Dresser	Shops	Laundry	Photoc- opying	Cofeshop	Typing	Bar	Intern et	Fax	Puplic Telephone	No. of Operating Hotels
Palestinian Territory	25	68	6	10	33	67	40	52	31	61	74	42	85
North of West bank				10								42	
	3	4	0	1	4	4	0	4	0	2	4	1	1
Middle of West bank	14	20	1	2	12	16	11	14	6	14	19	6	22
Jerusalem	2	17	4	2	7	20	10	11	9	22	26	22	29
South of West bank	6	20	1	4	9	20	14	17	16	19	18	9	20
Gaza Strip	0	7	0	1	1	7	5	6	0	4	7	4	7

2008 :4

Table 4: Average Number of Workers in Hotels by Type of Work, Sex and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

	Total		Operation		Administration		*	
Region	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	No. of Operating Hotels *	
Palestinian Territory	188	1224	135	1000	53	224	85	
North of West Bank	7	59	5	39	2	20	7	
Middle of West Bank	43	393	31	336	12	57	22	
Jerusalem	79	496	54	415	25	81	29	
South of West Bank	51	161	41	123	10	38	20	
Gaza Strip	8	115	4	87	4	28	7	

^{*} As in December, 2008 *

2008 :5

Table 5: Number and Percentage of Guests by Nationality and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

		Nationa	lity										
Region	Month	U.S.A 8	& Canada	,	Asia	Į;	srael	Arab	Countries	Pa	lestine	No. of	
		%	د Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Operating Hotels	
Palestinian Territory		9.5	11208	10.7	12581	6.6	7764	0.6	690	9.5	11133	85	
All Regions	October	6.0	2397	10.5	4149	5.7	2265	0.6	248	7.8	3105	88	
	November	11.4	5639	12.2	6058	5.1	2528	0.4	222	8.6	4282	87	
	December	11.2	3172	8.4	2374	10.5	2971	0.8	220	13.2	3746	85	
North of West Bank	October	5.9	48	1.3	11	7.2	59	1.5	12	65.1	532	7	
	November	3.1	18	1.2	7	3.4	20	9.0	52	69.8	405	7	
	December	7.9	37	0.8	4	7.6	36	2.5	12	69.3	328	7	
Middle of West Bank	October	11.5	490	0.9	40	6.9	294	4.2	177	43.1	1832	22	
	November	19.0	1710	15.3	1375	3.5	318	1.1	103	35.9	3241	23	
	December	9.3	422	4.9	223	6.4	291	2.1	96	62.8	2839	22	
Jerusalem	October	8.5	1468	5.0	865	6.0	1035	0.0	2	0.0	0	27	
	November	12.3	3086	7.4	1849	6.9	1724	0.3	63	0.3	81	28	
	December	14.7	2517	5.0	846	5.7	967	0.5	82	0.0	0	29	
South of West Bank	October	2.1	355	18.8	3222	5.1	873	0.3	55	4.2	717	20	
	November	5.5	810	19.1	2824	3.1	463	0.0	2	3.6	536	19	
	December	3.0	184	21.0	1297	27.1	1674	0.5	29	9.3	572	20	
Gaza Strip	October	20.4	36	5.9	11	2.0	4	1.1	2	13.6	24	12	
	November	12.9	15	2.2	3	2.2	3	1.5	2	16.9	19	10	
	December	16.4	12	6.2	4	4.9	3	1.2	1	9.7	7	7	

2008 :() 5
Table 5 (Cont.): Number and Percentage of Guests by Nationality and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

				Nationality											
Region	Month		Total		ralia & zeland	Af	rica		European untries	Europ	ean Union		entral & n America		
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number		
Palestinian Territory		100	117545	0.6	737	1.4	1678	13.4	15705	45.2	53082	2.5	2967		
All Regions	October	100	39666	1.2	479	1.1	425	7.8	3084	56.9	22578	2.4	936		
	November	100	49602	0.4	202	1.4	680	13.2	6517	43.7	21690	3.6	1784		
	December	100	28277	0.2	56	2.0	573	21.6	6104	31.2	8814	0.9	247		
North of West Bank	October	100	817	0.4	3	0.0	0	0.6	5	18.0	147	0.0	0		
	November	100	580	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.3	2	12.3	71	0.7	4		
	December	100	473	0.7	3	0.0	0	0.0	0	11.0	52	0.2	1		
Middle of West Bank	October	100	4253	6.6	280	0.1	5	5.9	248	20.4	868	0.4	19		
	November	100	9021	0.4	33	0.1	12	8.4	759	14.3	1286	2.0	184		
	December	100	4522	0.3	14	3.1	140	2.3	99	7.8	352	1.0	46		
Jerusalem	October	100	17261	1.1	187	2.1	362	8.3	1440	64.7	11163	4.3	739		
	November	100	25119	0.5	133	2.6	642	12.4	3122	53.8	13535	3.5	884		
	December	100	17033	0.2	32	2.5	433	29.0	4942	42.0	7150	0.4	64		
South of West Bank	October	100	17156	0.0	1	0.3	55	8.0	1374	60.2	10326	1.0	178		
	November	100	14767	0.2	33	0.2	25	17.9	2624	45.6	6738	4.8	712		
	December	100	6178	0.1	4	0.0	0	17.0	1054	19.8	1228	2.2	136		
Gaza Strip	October	100	179	4.5	8	1.4	3	9.4	17	41.7	74	0.0	0		
	November	100	115	1.8	2	0.7	1	9.2	10	52.6	60	0.0	0		
	December	100	71	3.8	3	0.0	0	12.8	9	45.0	32	0.0	1		

2008 :6

Table 6: Number and Percentage of Guest Nights by Nationality and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

		Nationa	ality										
Region	Month	U.S.A	& Canada	F	Asia	Is	rael	Arab	Countries	Pal	estine	No. of	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Operating Hotels	
Palestinian Territory		9.3	28895	11.3	34967	4.4	13482	0.4	1352	6.7	20751	85	
All Regions	October	5.6	6915	10.6	13162	3.7	4527	0.3	393	4.4	5460	88	
	November	10.8	12828	12.9	15246	3.5	4195	0.4	499	6.9	8171	87	
	December	13.6	9152	9.7	6559	7.1	4760	0.7	460	10.6	7120	85	
North of West Bank	October	6.4	93	1.3	19	5.4	79	1.9	27	57.8	839	7	
	November	4.1	55	2.4	32	2.6	35	9.1	120	60.8	806	7	
	December	9.0	86	4.7	45	4.7	45	4.0	38	68.7	654	7	
Middle of West Bank	October	11.5	891	4.9	378	7.9	613	3.5	274	41.7	3234	22	
	November	17.0	2641	13.8	2137	3.0	469	1.0	158	39.7	6145	23	
	December	11.2	1037	5.1	475	5.1	475	1.8	167	60.6	5596	22	
Jerusalem	October	6.8	4482	7.7	5104	3.4	2262	0.0	2	0.0	0	27	
	November	11.6	7349	10.8	6799	5.0	3161	0.3	215	0.2	148	28	
	December	17.4	7652	6.0	2657	3.8	1665	0.5	224	0.0	0	29	
South of West Bank	October	2.7	1299	15.9	7627	3.3	1568	0.2	86	2.8	1349	20	
	November	7.2	2742	16.5	6274	1.4	527	0.0	2	2.7	1033	19	
	December	2.7	353	26.0	3375	19.8	2571	0.2	29	6.6	857	20	
Gaza Strip	October	27.9	150	6.3	34	0.9	5	0.7	4	7.0	38	12	
	November	14.2	41	1.3	4	1.2	3	1.4	4	13.4	39	10	
	December	15.7	24	4.4	7	2.7	4	1.5	2	8.4	13	7	

:() 6 Table 6 (Cont.): Number and Percentage of Guest Nights by Nationality and Region During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

	Month			Nationa	lity								الجنسية		
Region		Total		& Australia NewZeland		Africa		Other European Countries		European Union		Central & South America		الشهر	
		%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number		
Palestinian Territory		100	309638	0.5	1541	1.3	3876	12.6	39090	50.6	156767	2.9	8917		
All Regions	October	100	123950	0.7	937	0.8	1029	7.1	8779	64.2	79541	2.6	3207		
	November	100	118375	0.3	376	1.5	1770	11.7	13796	47.7	56420	4.3	5074		
	December	100	67313	0.3	228	1.7	1077	24.5	16515	30.9	20806	0.9	636		
North of West Bank	October	100	1451	0.8	12	0.0	0	0.4	5	26.0	377	0.0	0		
	November	100	1324	0.1	1	0.0	0	0.2	2	20.2	267	0.5	6		
	December	100	952	0.5	5	0.0	0	0.0	0	6.6	63	1.7	16		
Middle of West Bank	October	100	7751	4.6	360	0.1	9	3.4	266	21.3	1652	1.0	74		
	November	100	15495	0.7	105	0.1	15	6.4	999	14.4	2230	3.8	596		
	December	100	9230	0.7	59	3.4	315	1.4	126	9.8	893	0.9	87		
Jerusalem	October	100	66271	0.8	538	1.2	802	8.5	5635	67.8	44941	3.8	2505		
	November	100	63205	0.3	184	2.5	1568	12.3	7746	53.1	33545	3.9	2490		
	December	100	43979	0.3	93	1.7	762	31.3	13780	38.5	16939	0.5	207		
South of West Bank	October	100	47937	0.0	5	0.4	206	5.9	2841	67.4	32328	1.4	628		
	November	100	38062	0.2	76	0.5	185	13.2	5026	53.1	20215	5.2	1982		
	December	100	13000	0.5	66	0.0	0	19.9	2591	21.8	2832	2.5	326		
Gaza Strip	October	100	540	4.0	22	2.2	12	5.9	32	45.1	243	0.0	0		
	November	100	289	3.3	10	0.6	2	7.9	23	56.7	163	0.0	0		
	December	100	152	3.1	5	0.0	0	12.1	18	52.1	79	0.0	0		

2008 (/) :7
Table 7: Average Length of Stay for the Guests in Hotels (Nights/Guest) by Region, Month and Nationality During

the Fourth Quarter, 2008

Nationality Region Month No. of Operating Hotels U.S.A & Canada Asia Israel Arab Countries Palestine **Palestinian Territory** 85 2.6 2.8 1.7 2.0 1.9 تشرين أول **All Regions** October 88 2.0 1.8 2.9 3.2 1.6 تشرین ثانی November 87 2.3 2.5 1.7 1.9 2.3 كانون أول December 85 2.9 2.8 1.6 2.1 1.9 تشرين أول North of West Bank October 7 1.9 1.7 1.3 2.3 1.6 تشرین ثانی November 4.6 2.0 3.1 1.8 2.3 كانون أول December 2.3 11.3 1.3 3.2 2.0 تشرين أول Middle of West Bank October 22 1.8 9.5 2.1 1.5 1.8 تشرین ثانی November 23 1.9 1.5 1.6 1.5 1.5 كانون أول December 22 2.5 2.1 1.6 1.7 2.0 تشرين أول Jerusalem October 27 3.1 5.9 2.2 1.0 0.0 تشرین ثانی November 28 2.4 3.7 1.8 1.8 3.4 كانون أول December 29 0.0 3.0 3.1 1.7 2.7 تشرين أول South of West Bank October 20 3.7 2.4 1.8 1.9 1.6 November تشرین ثانی 19 3.4 2.2 1.1 1.0 1.9 كانون أول December 20 1.9 2.6 1.5 1.0 1.5 Gaza Strip تشرين أول October 12 3.2 1.6 4.2 1.4 1.8 تشرین ثانی November 10 2.7 1.3 1.3 2.5 2.0 كانون أول December 2.1 1.5 1.2 2.7 1.8

2008 (/) :() 7
Table 7 (Cont.): Average Length of Stay for the Guests in Hotels (Nights/Guest) by Region, Month and Nationality During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

			Nationality					
Region	Month	Total	Australia & New Zeland	Africa	Other European Count.	European Union	Central & South America	
Palestinian Territory		2.6	2.0	2.3	2.5	3.0	3.0	
All Regions	October	3.1	2.0	2.4	2.8	3.5	3.4	
	November	2.4	1.9	2.6	2.1	2.6	2.8	
	December	2.4	4.1	1.9	2.7	2.4	2.6	
North of West Bank	October	1.8	4.0	0.0	1.0	2.6	0.0	
	November	2.3	1.0	0.0	1.0	3.8	1.5	
	December	2.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.2	16.0	
Middle of West Bank	October	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.1	1.9	3.9	
	November	1.7	3.2	1.3	1.3	1.7	3.2	
	December	2.0	4.2	2.3	1.3	2.5	1.9	
Jerusalem	October	3.8	2.9	2.2	3.9	4.0	3.4	
	November	2.5	1.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	
	December	2.6	2.9	1.8	2.8	2.4	3.2	
South of West Bank	October	2.8	5.0	3.7	2.1	3.1	3.5	
	November	2.6	2.3	7.4	1.9	3.0	2.8	
	December	2.1	16.5	0.0	2.5	2.3	2.4	
Gaza Strip	October	3.0	2.7	4.8	1.9	3.3	0.0	
	November	2.5	4.6	2.0	2.2	2.7	0.0	
	December	2.1	1.8	0.0	2.0	2.5	0.0	



Palestinian National Authority Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Hotel Activities in the Palestinian Territory (Fourth Quarter 2008) Executive Summary

Volume 14, Issue No. (4) February, 2008

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Preface

The Palestinian tourism sector has the potential to be a main contributor to the GDP in Palestine. However, the tourism industry is crippled by a multiplicity of problems especially the political situation, which must be overcome.

PCBS started publishing reports about hotel activities since the first quarter of 1996. PCBS is pleased to present the fourth issue of the fourteenth volume on "Hotel Activities in the Palestinian Territory" which covers statistics on the hotel industry for the fourth quarter of 2008.

During this year, a survey was conducted related to hotels guests as a supplementary survey to deal with the demand side of tourism in the hotel and other type of accommodations, in addition of the following surveys: Tourism Activities for the years 2002 and 2007, implemented Domestic Tourism survey for the years 1998, 2005 and 2006, 2008 in addition to the survey of Outbound Tourism in 2004, 2008 a survey of Inbound Tourism 2005, to cover an important aspect of tourist demand, an additional step for the further implementation of surveys related tourism statistics such as One Day Visitor survey 2009 in the attractive tourism places, in order to build the database necessary to establish the tourism satellite accounts (TSA) in the Palestinian Territory.

This survey addresses the main indicators of the hotel industry. These indicators include the number of operating hotels, number of rooms and beds, public facilities in the surveyed hotels, number of employed persons in hotels, number of guest nights in the reference period, number of guests by nationality and rates of bed and room occupancy.

We hope that the Hotel Activity survey in the Palestinian Territory conducted by the PCBS comprises a step towards a comprehensive statistical program encompassing all aspects of tourism activities according to the latest international standards.

February, 2009

Luay Shabaneh, Ph.D President

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Executive Summary

Results reveal that, there are 85 operating hotels in December 2008, offers 4,172 rooms with total available beds of 8,854.

- The total number of guests to the Palestinian hotels was 117,545 persons, of which 9.5% of them were Palestinian guests, and 45.2% were from the European Union countries.
- The average occupancy of rooms in the Palestinian hotels was 1,241.4 and the percentage occupancy of rooms was 29.8%.
- The number of workers in the hotels administration were 277 workers, and in hotels services 1,135 workers, of which 13.3% of them were females.
- Most of those guests, 50.6% of the guests total, stayed in Jerusalem hotels, whereas the percentage reached up to 15.1% in the Middle of the West Bank hotels, it reached 32.4% in the South of the West Bank hotels.
- The total number of guest nights in the Palestinian hotels during the fourth quarter 2008 was 309,638 nights, of which 6.7% of these nights was occupied by Palestinian guests while 50.6% by the guests whom arrived from European Union countries.
- The average length of stay in the Palestinian hotels was 2.6 nights per guest during the fourth quarter 2008.

Chapter One

Introduction

Tourism is considered to be a vital part of the Palestinian economy because there are many attractive tourist resorts for people of different interests. PCBS began in 1996 to collect statistical data on tourism and to monitor hotel activities through the use of a comprehensive survey on a regular basis, according to World Tourism Organization and European Union recommendations. The survey is aimed at producing a comprehensive database and time series of basic indicators in the hotel industry, hoping to enable the development and promotion of the tourism industry in Palestine.

This survey is carried out on a monthly basis using a specifically designed questionnaire about hotel guests, nights, workers and facilities.

Aquarterly report is regularly produced and a collective comprehensive report is produced annually. This publication presents data on hotels for the fourth quarter 2008, and results indicate an increase in most indicators compared to the previous seven years.

Chapter Two

Concepts and Definitions

This section presents the main concepts and definitions used to derive the main indicators of tourism statistics. These concepts and definitions are based on international recommendations in the field of tourism statistics, and are used for all subjects in the PCBS. The main concepts and expressions mentioned in this report were as follows:

Hotel

Defined as an accommodation establishment providing overnight lodging for the visitors in a room or unit. It should hold a number of persons exceeding that of an average single family. The establishment must be under one management, and provide different facilities and services to visitors.

Hotel Workers

Refers to all persons working in the hotel on full time or part time basis including owners and paid or unpaid household members.

Number of Rooms

Refers to furnished rooms for the use of guests. Such rooms might be single, double, triple, or quadruple. Rooms involving more than four beds were classified under (others) in the questionnaire. Suites are usually comprised of one bedroom or more, a living room and private toilet facilities.

Available Beds and Rooms

Refers to beds and rooms, which are ready for use during the reference period. Rooms closed for maintenance or repairs are excluded.

Guests

Refers to visitors staying in the hotels and using their facilities in return for a certain charge. Records of new guests are based on the number of visits regardless of whether it is the same or a different person.

Number of Guest Nights

Number of beds booked for hotel guests. Such beds are considered as occupied whether they were actually used or not. It is measured by guest night unit.

Room Occupancy

Number of booked and paid rooms. Such rooms are considered occupied whether they were actually used or not.

Bed Occupancy

Number of booked and paid beds. Such beds are considered occupied whether they were actually used or not.

Average (rooms, beds) Occupancy

Defined as the total number of occupied (rooms, beds) divided by number of days

Average Length of Stay

Represents the total of guest nights by nationality divided by number of guests of the same nationality.

Percentage of (rooms, beds) Occupancy

Defined as the average of (rooms, beds) occupancy divided by available (rooms, beds) multiplied by one hundred..

North of West Bank Region

Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Qalqiliya, Salfit and Tubas governorates.

Middle of West Bank Region

Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Jericho and Al-Aghwar governorates.

Jerusalem Region

Jerusalem governorate.

South of West Bank Region

Bethlehem and Hebron governorates.

Gaza Strip

North Gaza, Gaza, Deir Al-Balah, Khan Yunis and Rafah governorates.

Main Findings

The total number of hotels in the Palestinian Territory was 117 hotels, including those temporarily closed. There were 85 operating hotels in December 2008, offering 4,172 rooms with total available beds of 8,854.

3.1 Hotels and Capacity During the Fourth Quarter 2008

The hotels operating within the Palestinian Territory in December 2008 are distributed as follows:

- North of West Bank: 7 hotels including 133 rooms comprising 282 beds.
- Middle of West Bank: 22 hotels including 974 rooms comprising 2,220 beds.
- Jerusalem Region: 29 hotels including 1,287 rooms comprising 2,771 beds.
- South of West Bank: 20 hotels including 1,514 rooms comprising 3,199 beds.
- Gaza Strip: 7 hotels including 264 rooms comprising 382 beds.

3.2 Room Occupancy During the Fourth Quarter 2008

The average occupancy of rooms in the Palestinian hotels was 1,241.4 and the percentage occupancy of rooms was 29.8%.

3.3 Hotel Workers During the Fourth Quarter 2008

The number of workers in the hotels administration was 277 of which 224 were males and 53 were females. There were 1,135 workers in hotels services, of which 1,000 were males and 135 were females.

3.4 Guests and Occupancy During the Fourth Quarter 2008

The total number of guests in the Palestinian hotels was 117,545 persons, of which 9.5% were Palestinian guests, and 45.2% were from the European Union countries. The number of guests increased to 32.1%, compared with the same quarter of the year 2007.

The percentage distribution of guests by nationality was as in the figure below.

Israel Other Countries Palestine Asia 6.6% 3.7% 9.5% 10.7% Other European U.S.A & Canada Countries 9.5% 13.4% Africa 1.4% **European Union** 45.2%

Figure (1): Percentage Distribution of Guests by Nationality During the Fourth Quarter, 2008

The total number of guest nights in Palestinian hotels during the Fourth quarter 2008 was 309,638 nights; 6.7% of these nights was occupied by Palestinian guests, 50.6% by guests who arrived from European Union countries, and 9.3% of these nights was occupied by guests who arrived from the United States and Canada.

Guests spent 56.0% of total nights in Jerusalem hotels, and 10.5%, 31.9%, 1.2% in the Middle, South, and North of the West Bank, respectively, and 0.3% of nights in Gaza Strip hotels.

The table below presents the main results of the fourth quarter of 2008, and explains the changes that occurred in the main indicators for Palestinian hotels activities due to the Israeli siege, compared with the same quarter of the year 1999.

When comparing the results of the fourth quarter of 2008 with the same period in 1999, we note the lowest decline in the volume of main hotel indicators.

Percentage Change in the Variables During the Fourth Quarter of the previous Years, in Compare with the Fourth Quarter 1999

The Indicator	Value During the	Percentage change (%) comparing with 4 th Quarter 2000						
The mulcator	4 th Quarter 2008	2002	2004	2006	2007	2008		
Number of operating hotels	85	-20.9	-12.1	-13.2	-9.9	-6.6		
Average number of workers	1,412	-33.4	-32.6	-29.8	-33.2	-23.9		
Number of guests	117,545	-86.3	-75.5	-62.7	-10.5	18.4		
Number of guest nights	309,638	-84.6	-78.2	-71.6	-30.5	8.0		
Average occupancy of rooms	1,241.4	-80.2	-75.4	-70.3	-28.6	-24.2		
Average occupancy of beds	3,365.6	-84.6	-78.2	-71.6	-30.5	8.0		
Rooms occupancy %	29.8	-74.4	-73.4	-71.5	-32.4	-28.0		
Beds occupancy %	38.0	-79.9	-76.1	-73.4	-35.3	3.3		