



**Press Release**

**Palestinian Central Bureau Of Statistics (PCBS):**

**Palestinian Consumer Price Index Increases by 9.89% in 2008**

The overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Palestinian Territory with its 2004 base year (2004=100) reached 121.01 In the year 2008, the average increase of prices was 9.89% compared to the year 2007.

Analysis of consumer price developments for 2008 indicates **increases** in the following major expenditure groups:

- Food and soft drinks	+ 17.26%
- Restaurants and cafes	+ 12.94%
- Transportation	+ 8.01%
- Housing:	+ 7.64%
- Al Coholic Beverages and tobacco:	+ 7.44%
- Medical care	+ 7.25%
- Furniture, household goods	+ 6.49%
- Recreational, cultural goods & services	+ 1.39%
- Miscellaneous goods and services	+ 1.08%
- Communications	+ 0.62%
- Textiles, clothing and footwear	+ 0.51%

At the same time, there were **declines** in other major expenditure groups including:

- Education	- 0.59%
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Palestinian Territory **regions** experienced different overall CPI developments as follows:

- Gaza Strip:	+ 13.98%
- Remaining West Bank:	+ 9.81%
- Jerusalem:	+ 7.12%