



**The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) announces  
the preliminary results of the Palestinian Foreign Trade in Goods - 2006.**

**An increase of 6% in imports and increase of 1% in exports in 2006  
compared with 2005**

**US\$ 2,835 Million in Imports Against \$339 Million in Exports**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) announced the preliminary results of the Palestinian foreign trade statistics with world countries for 2006. The main results are not available in detail according to the country of origin and commodity due to the delay in receiving the requested data from the main sources. The main results is expected to be published during the Second quarter of 2008.

Preliminary results for the imports and exports of goods for the year 2006 were prepared based on 85% of the vouchers of the value added tax (VAT). It is expected that values will increase when the data from all sources is complete.

The main findings of the preliminary results are:

**Imports of Goods:**

The total of Palestinian imports of goods amounted to US\$ 2,835 Million in direct imports; 74% of imports were from Israel and 26% were from all countries excluding Israel. Imports increased by 6% compared with 2005. The main results indicate a 35% increase in imports of Petroleum products and electric power compared with 2005, and decreased in machinery and transport equipment by 22% and decreased by 9% of Food and live animals compared with the same year. Regarding country groups, the results indicate an increase of 18% from East European Countries and 9% from Asian Countries compared with 2005, and a decrease of 11% from European Union countries and 34% from USA compared with the same year.

**Exports of Goods:**

The total value of Palestinian exports of goods amounted to US\$ 339 Million. Exports increased by 1% in 2006 compared with 2005, the results show an increase in food and live animals by 17% and a decrease in the manufactured goods classified chiefly by material by 5% compared with 2005.

Regarding country groups, the results reveal an increase of 54%, 29% in exports to the Arab African and Asian Countries respectively and a decrease of 42% to the United States compared with 2005.

**Net Trade and Trade Transaction:**

The trade transaction on goods amounted to US \$3,174 Million, with an increase of 6% compared with 2005, while the trade balance deficit on goods amounted to US\$ 2,496 with an increase by 7% compared with 2005. This increase was a result of the increase in imports over exports.

**Table 1: Total Value of Imports, Exports, Net Balance and Transaction Trade in Goods for Remaining West Bank\* and Gaza Strip by the Year**

Value in Thousand US \$

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Value of Exports</b>	<b>Total Value of Imports</b>	<b>Net Balance Trade</b>	<b>Transaction Trade</b>
1995	394,177	1,658,191	-1,264,014	2,052,368
1996	339,467	2,016,056	-1,676,589	2,355,523
1997	382,423	2,238,561	-1,856,138	2,620,984
1998	394,846	2,375,102	-1,980,256	2,769,948
1999	372,148	3,007,227	-2,635,079	3,379,375
2000	400,857	2,382,807	-1,981,950	2,783,664
2001	290,349	2,033,647	-1,743,298	2,323,996
2002	240,867	1,515,608	-1,274,741	1,756,475
2003	279,680	1,800,268	-1,520,588	2,079,948
2004	312,688	2,373,248	-2,060,561	2,685,937
2005	335,443	2,666,772	-2,331,329	3,002,215
2006**	339,124	2,835,356	-2,496,233	3,174,480

**Table 2: Total Value of Imports and Exports in Goods for Remaining West Bank\* and Gaza Strip by SITC - 3 Sections 2005, 2006**

SITC-3 Code	Section	Total Value of Exports		Total Value of Imports	
		2006**	2005	2006**	2005
0	Food and live animals	42,330	36,180	412,874	452,081
1	Beverages and tobacco	14,416	14,322	106,165	102,389
2	Crude materials, inedible except fuels	12,662	13,165	57,667	61,966
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	12,590	12,220	966,594	718,269
4	Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	14,080	12,276	20,525	20,343
5	Chemical and related products, n.e.s.	30,517	28,866	210,227	222,925
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	122,901	129,788	453,187	490,359
7	Machinery and transport equipments	18,555	18,522	338,028	433,537
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	65,564	64,645	157,919	147,484
9	Commodities and transactions, n.e.s. in the SITC-Rev3	5,510	5,459	112,171	17,420
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>339,124</b>	<b>335,443</b>	<b>2,835,356</b>	<b>2,666,772</b>

Country	Trade Transaction		Net Trade Balance		Total Value of Exports		Total Value of Imports	
	2006**	2005	2006**	2005	2006**	2005	2006**	2005
Arab Asian Countries	64,290	59,553	-4,556	-13,244	29,867	23,155	34,423	36,399
Remaining Asian Countries	2,707,195	2,482,506	-2,102,151	-1,943,696	302,522	269,405	2,404,673	2,213,101
Arab African Countries	35,653	35,301	-27,325	-29,900	4,164	2,701	31,489	32,601
Remaining African Countries	4,425	4,864	-4,371	-4,694	27	85	4,398	4,779
United States of American	23,401	36,044	-18,622	-27,772	2,389	4,136	21,011	31,908
European Union Countries	227,882	268,089	-227,586	-244,934	148	11,578	227,734	256,511
Remaining European Countries	35,225	26,758	-35,225	-26,626	-	66	35,225	26,692
Other Countries	76,409	89,097	-76,396	-40,464	7	24,317	76,402	64,780
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,174,480</b>	<b>3,002,214</b>	<b>-2,496,232</b>	<b>-2,331,330</b>	<b>339,124</b>	<b>335,442</b>	<b>2,835,356</b>	<b>2,666,772</b>

\*Remaining west Bank refers to all West Bank excluding those parts of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israel in 1967.

\*\* preliminary Data