



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Press Release of the Survey “Impact of the Israeli Measures on the Well-being of the Palestinian Children, Women and Household”

330 Thousand Palestinians were exposed to Israeli Assaults Since The Beginning of The Israeli Aggression Late September 2000

The main objective of the survey on the impact of Israeli measures on the Palestinian child, woman, and household is to provide baseline data on the main indicators of health, education, labor force, culture, living conditions and psychological aspects of these vulnerable groups, and to measure the impact of the Israeli measures on these aspects as a part of socio-economic monitoring system.

Data Collection took place during the period 11/4-15/5/2001. A random stratified cluster sample composed of 3,393 households of which 2,301 in West Bank and 1,092 in Gaza Strip was selected to represent the target population. The sample included enumeration areas close to clashes, settlements, and Israeli checkpoints. The sample covered also areas were exposed to direct aggression from Israeli military machine (shelling, shooting, uprooting of trees, land drifting, etc), in addition to other areas.

Changing Place of Residence

About 56 thousand Palestinians (7,600 households) changed their place of residence due to the current crisis. Of them, 53% were children, 10,300 persons changed their place of residence permanently (18%), 38,700 temporarily (69%), while 7,000 reported that they don't know whether it is temporary or permanent (12%). The majority 60% (about 33,500) changed their place of residence because their residence is close to military checkpoint or Israeli settlements.

Maternal Health Care

The percentage of pregnant women (15-49 years) who didn't receive antenatal care, increased 4.5 times due to Israeli measures. This percentage increased from 4.4% during 2000 to 19.6% during the crises. Women who did not receive antenatal care were distributed by reason as 5.2% were unable to reach place of service, 1.6% for inability of medical staff to reach place of service, and 35.0% for not being able to afford the costs.

The percentage of pregnant women who didn't receive tetanus toxoid increased with 4.2 percent. This percentage increased from 73.5% in 2000 to 76.6% during the crises. Women who did not receive tetanus toxoid were distributed by reason as 5.4% were unable to reach place of service, 3.0% reported that medical staff was not able to reach place of service, while

6.3% for unavailability of vaccine. About 0.6% of the pregnancies ended with premature delivery and 2.9% of them ended with abortion.

Health Services

About 38% of the households reported that the main reason for not being able to access health services was due to unavailability of medications or unable to afford the cost of treatment, 23% for inability to reach the place of health services, and 18% reported that medical staff was not able to reach the place of health services or lack of medical equipments.

Education Process

The results revealed that 14% of total number of students 5-17 years (about 126,495 students) reported that their schools were exposed to Israeli attacks (closures of schools, bombarding, etc). About 60% of students (about 542,123 students) were absent from their schools for at least one day with a median of absence of 10 days. About 2.4% of students (about 21,685) have changed their schools, and about 4,518 students dropped out.

Role of Mass Media

As a response to what is heard, seen, or read in the media, the majority of households (98%) reported that at least one of the household members showed sadness signs, 95% showed angry signs, 94% felt insecure, 89% were frustrated, and 80% have the desire for revenge.

Israeli Assaults

About 10% of the surveyed individuals were exposed to Israeli assaults; thereof 35% females and 32% were children. About 32% were injured by bullets, shells splinters, gas, including martyrs, of them 45% were females. The children represented 54% of the total number of those whom were exposed to injuries.

About 9.4% of injuries were in the head; of them 7% were children, 1.7% in the chest; of them 13% were children, 2.3% in the abdomen; of them 52% were children, and 18.8% in the limbs; of them 37% were children. About 4.1% of the injures reported that they were injured by bullets, 14.9% by metallic bullets, 1.2% by shells splinters, 84.1% by gas inhalation, and 1.0% martyred.

About 66.8% of the injuries occurred at the same locality of residence; of them 50% were children, 26.2% occurred at another locality within the same governorate; of them 33% were children, and 4.8% occurred at another governorate; of them 44% were children.

Out of the total injured persons 1.2% suffered from permanent disability, 3.6% suffered from temporary disability and 2.7% suffered from deformities.

Psychological and Behavioral Symptoms

About 596,000 children (less than 18 years) showed crying signs, 788,000 children showed fear of loneliness, 839,000 showed fear of darkness and 172,000 suffered from involuntary urination.

Percentage of Persons Whom Suffered from Psychological Symptoms

Psychological Symptoms	% of children (5-17 years) whom suffered	% of Persons whom suffered (all ages)
Crying attacks	43.6	41.0
Fear of loneliness.	53.1	36.6
Fear of darkness	55.4	35.8
Fear of blood color	41.3	29.0
Feelings of hopelessness and frustration	33.6	45.2
Thinking too much of death	27.6	33.4
Anger and nervous breakdown	22.4	30.7