



سلطة النقد الفلسطينية
PALESTINE MONETARY AUTHORITY



الجهاز المركزي للإحصاء الفلسطيني
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and The Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA)

The Deficit in Current Account is USD 623 Million Of the Palestinian Balance of Payments – First Quarter 2022

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) announced the preliminary results of the Palestinian Balance of Payments (BoP) for the first quarter of 2022 under the joint issuance cycle. It should be noted that the data excludes those parts of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967.

The deficit in trade balance of goods is the main reason behind the current account deficit

An incessant deficit in the Current Account (goods, services, income, current transfers) which totaled USD 623 million. Mainly triggered by the deficit of the Trade Balance of Goods, which reached USD 1,810 million, as well as the deficit in Services Balance, which amounted to USD 347 million.

The compensations of employees working in Israel are the main reason behind the income account surplus

The surplus in Income Account (compensations of employees and investments income) amounted to USD 987 million. This surplus was due to compensations of the employees working in Israel, which reached USD 952 million. As for the received investments income, it amounted to USD 69 million; and was mainly caused by the income received on the portfolio investments abroad, in addition to the interest received on the Palestinian deposits in banks abroad.

The current transfers from abroad to other (non-government) sectors are the main reason behind the current transfers surplus

The Current Transfers achieved a surplus value amounted to USD 547 million with a decrease of 23% compared to the previous quarter. where the current transfers for the government sector constituted 14% of the total transfers from abroad, while the percentage of the transfers to other sectors reached 86%. The donors' current transfers constituted 9% of total transfers from abroad.

The preliminary results showed a surplus value for the Capital and Financial Account amounted to USD 514 million, the surplus in the Capital and Financial Account was mainly caused by the surplus in Financial Account which amounted to USD 411 million. There was a decrease in the reserve assets at PMA amounted to USD 9 million, compared to an increase of USD 79 million in the previous quarter.



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It is worth mentioning that the Balance of Payments (BoP) is used to determine the economic position of a country compared to other countries worldwide, and to calculate the size of its external debt. This data enables researchers and decision makers to devise informed economic policies and development plans to improve their external balance to guarantee the stability of the state and sustain the economic growth. BoP data was prepared according to the latest international recommendations taking into account the specificity of the Palestinian situation.

For further details, please contact:

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|--|-----------|--|
| Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics | Or | Palestine Monetary Authority |
| P.O BOX 1647, Ramallah, P6028179, Palestine. | | P.O.Box 452, Ramallah- Palestine. |
| Tel: (972/970) 2 2982700 | | Tel: (972/970) 2 2415250 |
| Email: diwan@pcbs.gov.ps | | Email: info@pma.ps |
| Website: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps | | Website: http://www.pma.ps |



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Table 1: Balance of Payments In Palestine* for the fourth quarter 2021 and first quarter 2022

(Value in million USD)

| Indicator | Q4 - 2021 | Q1 - 2022 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current account (net) | -390 | -623 |
| Goods (net) | -1,704 | -1,810 |
| Exports (fob) | 694 | 622 |
| Imports (fob) | 2,398 | 2,432 |
| Services (net) | -312 | -347 |
| Exports | 266 | 239 |
| Imports | 578 | 586 |
| Income (net) | 911 | 987 |
| Receipts | 960 | 1,034 |
| Compensation of employees | 881 | 965 |
| <i>Of which from Israel</i> | 867 | 952 |
| Investment income | 79 | 69 |
| Payments | 49 | 47 |
| Current transfers (net) | 715 | 547 |
| Inflows | 806 | 642 |
| To the government sector | 262 | 88 |
| <i>of which from Donors transfers</i> | 212 | 33 |
| To the other sectors | 544 | 554 |
| <i>of which from Donors transfers</i> | 25 | 25 |
| Outflows | 91 | 95 |
| Capital and financial account (net) | 569 | 514 |
| Capital account (net) | 141 | 103 |
| Capital transfers (net) | 141 | 103 |
| Inflows | 141 | 103 |
| To the government sector | 53 | 12 |
| <i>of which from Donors transfers</i> | 53 | 12 |
| To the other sectors | 88 | 91 |
| Outflows | 0 | 0 |
| Acquisition / disposal of non-Produced, non-financial assets non-financial assets (net) | 0 | 0 |



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Table 1 (Cont.): Balance of Payments In Palestine* for the fourth quarter 2021 and first quarter 2022

(Value in million USD)

| Indicator | Q4- 2021 | Q1- 2022 |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Financial account (net)** | 428 | 411 |
| Foreign Direct investment (net) | 87 | 106 |
| Change in investment abroad (net) | -3 | 5 |
| Change in investment in Palestine (net) | 90 | 101 |
| Foreign Portfolio investment (net) | 17 | 17 |
| Change in Assets (net) | -4 | -1 |
| Change in Liabilities (net) | 21 | 18 |
| Foreign Other investment (net) | 403 | 279 |
| Change in Assets (net) | 372 | 290 |
| <i>Of which Currency and deposits***</i> | <i>459</i> | <i>339</i> |
| Change in Liabilities (net) | 31 | -11 |
| <i>Of which Loans nonresidents</i> | <i>-3</i> | <i>-4</i> |
| <i>Of which Currency and deposits****</i> | <i>33</i> | <i>-9</i> |
| Net errors and omissions | -179 | 109 |
| Overall balance | 79 | -9 |
| Financing | -79 | 9 |
| Exceptional financing | 0 | 0 |
| Change in Reserve assets (- = Increase/+ = decrease) | -79 | 9 |

*The data excludes those part of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967.

** Include reserve assets.

***Currency and deposits: Including the cash of foreign currency in the banks and the deposits of the Palestinian institutions deposited abroad.

****Currency and deposits: Includes the deposits of non-residents deposited in Local banks.