



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Survey on the Perception of Palestinian Population Towards the Socioeconomic Conditions, August 2003

The press conference of the survey results

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All correspondence should be directed to:
Dissemination and Documentation Department\Division of user services
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.
P.O. Box 1647, Ramallah - Palestine.

Tel: (972/970) 2 240 6340
E-mail: diwan@pcbs.pna.org

Fax: (972/970) 2 240 6343
Web-site: <http://www.pcbs.org>



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Press Release

On the Main Findings of the Survey on the Perception of Palestinian Population Towards the Socioeconomic Conditions, August 2003

The overall well-being of more than half of Palestinian households deteriorated in August compared to July 2003, and closure was an obstacle faced about half of the Palestinian households

PCBS conducted a large-scale pilot survey on the perception of the Palestinian people about the socioeconomic conditions. Data collection took place during the period 24/8/2003-04/09/2003 on a sample composed of 900 households, of which 886 completed the interview (613 in West Bank and 273 in Gaza Strip).

Overall well being of households:

More than half of interviewed persons reported that the overall well being of their households is worse in August compared with one month ago, while 9.1% reported that it is better.

About 11.6% of the respondents expected that life will be much worse in one month time (12.5% in the West Bank and 9.8% in Gaza Strip), against 2.0% expected that life will be much better. In addition 26.8% expected that life will be somewhat worse in one year time against 29.0% expected that life will be somewhat better during this period.

Data reveal that the Palestinian people have an optimistic trend of perception in the short and medium run future. It is worth mentioning that the older and more educated persons have a more cautious optimistic perception trend. No significant differences were observed in the perception of Palestinian people by refugee status at the short run, despite the fact that refugees are more optimistic at the long run.

No significant discrepancies were also observed by type of ID card that respondents hold (Palestinian, Jerusalem, Israeli), despite the fact that Jerusalem ID holders reported a better situation in August compared with one month ago.

Restriction on Mobility:

About 36.2% of the respondents reported that their households faced a lot of restrictions on mobility during last month, 51.8% reported to face a lot of restrictions during the last six months. (56.4% in the West Bank and 43.0% in Gaza Strip).

As for the access for basic needs, 25.4% reported to face problems to get access for health services, and 17.4% to reach place of work, and 10.5% to cultivate agriculture land last month.

Priorities of households:

Data reveal that 22.3% of the households reported the need for food as a first priority, 29.5% the need for work, 14.5% the need for financial assistance and 13.5% reported the need for health services as a first priority. On the other hand, the survey indicated that 10.0% of the households depend humanitarian aid as primary source of food, 82.2% on their income, and 7.2% depend on the assistance from the relatives.

Priority Needs of Communities:

About 13.6% reported that the most important need for their community is food assistance, 32.0% reported the need for work, 18.4% for health services, and 10.8% for financial assistance. 14.9% of the respondents reported their knowledge about development projects conducted in their community of which 64.3% reported their satisfaction on the funding efforts made by donor community for these projects.