

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Press Release

PCBS releases the main findings of the Victimization Survey, 2008

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) conducted the fourth round of the Victimization Survey 2008. Data collection was conducted during the 4th quarter of 2008 (04/10/2008 – 31/12/2008). The main objective of the survey is to continue monitoring the key indicators concerning the Current status of the households and individuals victimized by criminal offenses. The survey is based on a random sample of completed 8,885 households questionnaire, of which 5,873 in the West Bank and 3,012 in Gaza Strip.

Victims of Criminal Offenses at the Households level

The survey results showed that 7.5% of the Palestinian households in the Palestinian Territory were exposed to criminal offenses, of which 5.8% in the West Bank and 10.9% in Gaza Strip. While this percentage was 11.2% in the Palestinian Territory in 2004.

The results showed that the percentage of households in the Palestinian Territory that were exposed to theft (excluding vehicle) is 2.0%, vehicle theft is 6.1% which increased 5 times comparing with 2004, property damage is 1.7%, threat is 0.9%, and assault is 0.9%.

The results showed that 2.4% of households in the Palestinian Territory were exposed to Israeli Soldiers or Settlers Harassment or Assault.

In general the results revealed that the percentage of households victimized by criminal offenses in Gaza Strip is higher than that of the West Bank.

Victims of Criminal Offenses at the Individual level

The survey results showed that 1.3% of the persons in the Palestinian Territory were exposed to criminal offenses, compared with 4.2% in 2004.

Results showed that the percentage of persons victimized by criminal offenses in the Palestinian Territory were exposed to theft at 31.7% of total persons were exposed to criminal offenses (37.5% in the West Bank and 26.3% in Gaza Strip) compared with 24.5% in the West Bank and 3.8% in Gaza Strip in the year 2004; assault at 12.1% of which 7.5% in the West Bank and 16.4% in Gaza Strip; and property damage at

18.3% of which 13.3.7% in the West Bank and 23.0% in Gaza Strip, and Israeli Soldiers or Settlers Harassment or Assault at 27.8% of which 30.1 in the West Bank and 25.6% in Gaza Strip.

The results revealed that 45.9% of criminal offenses in the Palestinian Territory has taken place inside the home, 26.4% nearby the home, and 6.5% outside locality, and 18.8% took place in other place inside locality. Percentage of criminal offenses occurred inside the home in Gaza Strip is 52.4% compared with 38.9% in the West Bank, and criminal offenses that took place outside locality is low in Gaza Strip 3.8% compared with 9.5% in the West Bank.

The results showed that 53.0% of persons victimized by criminal offenses in the Palestinian Territory reported about the crimes, the reporting registered increasing in 2008 by 80% compared with 2004.

The percentage of criminal offenses against persons in the Palestinian Territory and caused bodily harm registered 12.3%. It was higher in the West Bank at (13.1%) compared with (11.5%) in Gaza Strip.

The results showed that 30.4% of criminal offenses against persons in the Palestinian Territory caused tangible losses for more than 1000 Jordanian Dinars.