# Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

**International Women's Day 2014**

Ms. Ola Awad, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), presented statistical figures about the conditions of Palestinian female through a press release on the occasion of the eighth of March.

**About half of the population are women**

The estimated population of Palestine at the end of 2013 was 4.49 million of whom 2.28 million were males and 2.21 million were females. Males comprise 50.8 percent of the total population compared to 49.2 percent for females. In other words, a sex ratio of 103.2.

**Time Use 2012/2013**

Data of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, indicated that females spend approximately two hours and 14 minutes in the care of children against 48 minutes for males. Also females spend 3 hours and 51 minutes in domestic households against one hour for males and about two hours watching television against one hour and 50 minutes for males during 2012/2013,

**More than half of women’s aged 15 years and above are married**

56.9 percent of females aged 15 years were married, 33.2 percent had never been married. In addition, 5.8 percent were widowed, 1.6 percent divorced, 2.2 percent engaged for the first time, and 0.3 percent were separated.

**A continued rise in literacy among women’s**

Despite the progress in literacy among females over the last decade by 10 percent, the gap is still in favor of males by 4 percent.

**Literacy rates for men and women aged 15 years and above during 2001-2013**

**A gap in average daily wages among men and women**

The female participation rate in labor force reached 17.3 percent of females in labor force in 2013 compared to 10.3 percent in 2001.

The male labor force participation rate was still around four times higher than that of females.

There was a gap in the average daily wages of males and females: the average daily wage for females represented NIS 81.2 compared to NIS 100.1 for males in 2013.

**Men and women labor force participation aged 15 years and above during 2001-2013**

**Half of unemployed women with 13 years of schooling and above**

Unemployment rate was 35.0 percent in 2013 against to 13.8 percent among females in 2001 in comparison to 20.6 percent among males in 2013.

Needless to say that females unemployment rate was the highest among females with 13 years of schooling and above and reached 47.0 percent in 2013.

**Unemployment rate among men and women 15 years and above 2001-2013.**

**women and poverty**

The proportion of poor households headed by a female is higher in Gaza Strip at 29.7 percent compared to 22.5 percent in West Bank in 2011.

**Percentage of poverty by sex of household heads in 2011**

**Violence against women**

An increase in murder crimes against females was noticed according to Women's centre for legal aid counseling, as 27 females were killed in Palestine in 2013 for different reasons (15 females in West Bank and 12 females in Gaza strip) which is a double of that in 2012 as 13 female were killed.

Health sector

13.6% of Palestinian Medical Association members were females compared with 86.4% were males. This proportion of female physicians in West Bank is higher than in Gaza Strip at 16.6% and 10.8% respectively in 2012.

27.3% of Palestinian Dental Association members are females compared with 72.7% males. This proportion of female dentists in West Bank is higher than in Gaza Strip at 32.5% and 20.5% respectively in 2012.

**Women in public life**

21.0% of the members of the local councils are females in West Bank compared with 79.0% males in 2012 and 26.8% of the members of the student councils at Palestinian universities were females against 73.2% males in 2011. And 26.2% of journalists in Palestine were females against 73.8% males in 2012. While the proportion of female ambassadors in Palestine also did not exceed 4.3% compared with 95.7% for male ambassadors, there are 40.6% of employees in public sector were females female against 59.4% males in 2012.

### Percentage distribution of employed persons 15 years and over by sex and economic activity in 2013

Services and agriculture sectors comprise a main operator ( job absorber) for females by 59.3% and 20.9% respectively in 2013.