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The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute, or Ma'had Abhath As-Syasad Al-Iqtisadiyah Al-Filistini (MAS), is an autonomous think tank founded in 1994 that engages in applied economic and socio-economic research, and provides expert analysis of policies critical to the development of the Palestinian economy.

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FOREWORD

At an early stage of its work, MAS recognized the close interrelationship between economic and social developments and the difficulty of analyzing one in isolation from the other. Although specializing as an economic research institute, MAS has also paid special attention to the study and analysis of social developments and issues since these both reflect economic policies and exert an influence upon them.

Since social developments take place at a slower pace than economic developments, MAS issues a single publication of the *Social Monitor* per year rather than two as in the case of the *Economic Monitor*. These two publications together provide an accurate, comprehensive and up-to-date vision of socio-economic developments and trends.

This second issue of the *Social Monitor* from the Social Research Unit covers the major developments and changes in social indicators on demography, health, education, cultural life, quality of life and standards of living. For the first time, indicators on crime in Palestinian society are considered.

MAS is aware of the importance of active participation and feedback from relevant institutions and individuals at governmental and non-governmental levels. For this reason, MAS held a workshop to discuss the draft text of the *Monitor* prior to publication, a practice which will be continued in future. The contribution of participants was particularly useful in providing valuable comments and allowing for more accurate data and deeper analysis. We intend that the cooperation with public bodies and civil society will continue and we welcome both contributions and criticism as a way to improve our work.

MAS wishes to express its appreciation to all the individuals and institutions who supplied information and data for this second issue of the *Social Monitor* and to the research team that worked on this report. Special thanks and gratitude are due to the Ford Foundation and the International Development Research Center (IDRC) for their financial support.

Ghania Malhis
Director

MAS Social Monitor

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CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has adopted UN international standards to define the concepts and terminology used in its surveys. These terms and concepts were adjusted to meet the objectives of surveys and also to take into account the special circumstances surrounding the lives of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (WBGs).

Age-sex structure: The composition of a population as determined by the number or proportion of males and females in each age category. The age structure of a population is the cumulative result of past trends in fertility, mortality and migration rates. Information on age-sex composition is an essential prerequisite for the description and analysis of demographic data.

Age-specific enrollment rates: The number of students of a certain age group actually enrolled at school compared to the total population of that age group.

Crowding rate: Average number of individuals per room. This is calculated by dividing the number of individuals who live in the household by the total number of rooms occupied by that household.

Daily wage per employee: This is the total net wages paid to all employees divided by the total number of work days. Wages received in different currencies are converted into New Israeli Shekels according to the exchange rate in the survey month.

Dependency ratio: The number of dependents, including children under the age of 15 and the elderly over the age of 65, per 100 people of working age (those between the ages of 15-65).

Disability: Any long-term (lasting 6 months or more) physical or mental restriction or lack of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being. This could limit the ability to move freely, to interact comfortably with surroundings and community, inability to use public transportation or work, or any condition that might result in social isolation or staying in bed for a period of more than six months.

Dropout rate: Number of students who left school (basic and/or secondary education) and did not register at any other school during the scholastic year beginning in September and ending on the 31st of August the following year, compared to the total number of students registered.

Economic activity: The type of work carried out at an establishment where the worker is employed (regardless of his/her profession). This is in case of employment at an establishment. In the case where he/she is self-employed, then this refers to the type of work, goods or services that they produce or trade with.

Geographical divisions: According to current administrative divisions, the Palestinian Territories are divided into two geographic areas: The West Bank and Gaza

Strip. The West Bank was divided into 9 governorates and sometimes into 3 districts.

North of the West Bank: including the governorates of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqilia, Tubas and Salfet.

Center of the West Bank: including the governorates of Ramallah/El-Bireh, Jerusalem and Jericho.

South of the West Bank: including the governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron. The exclusion of East Jerusalem in some sections is due to the nature of the data available on this area of the West Bank.

Household: One person or more (related or not) living together in the same housing unit or part of it who makes common provisions (arrangements) for providing themselves with food or other essentials for living.

Household expenditure: is defined to include the following:

1. Cash spent on the purchase of goods and services for living purposes.
2. The value of goods, services and payments or part of payments received from an employer.
3. Cash expenditure spent on taxes (non-commercial or non-industrial), gifts, contributions, interest on debts and other non-consumption items.

Household consumption is defined to include:

1. Cash spent on the purchase of goods and services for living purposes.
2. The value of goods, services and payments or part of payments received from an employer.
3. Own-produced goods and food, including consumed quantities during the recording period.
4. Estimated rent value of the household dwelling.

Infant mortality rate: The number of infant deaths in a given year per 1,000 live births.

Labor force: is defined as the economically active population. This consists of all persons aged 15 years and more, who are either employed or unemployed at the time of the survey.

Live birth: A birth is considered as live if the baby born has shouted, cried, or shown any sign of life at birth.

Occupation: The kind of work done during the reference period by the person employed, or the type of work done previously if unemployed, irrespective of the industry or employment status of the person. Occupations are grouped together mainly on the basis of the similarity of skills required to fulfill the tasks and duties of the job. Occupations are classified according to the International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO 1988).

Private schools: Any licensed, local or foreign, non-governmental educational institution or UNRWA school that is established, directed, run or financed by foreign individuals, groups, societies or bodies.

Sex ratio: The ratio of males to females, expressed as the number of males per 100 females.

Standard of living: this is calculated by dividing food consumption by total consumption (Engel's Law of Poverty). This indicator is based on the assumption that the standard of living is defined as the proportion of consumption on food out of total consumption. This indicator is divided into three categories:

- Well-off: whose food consumption to total consumption is less than 30%.
- Middle category: whose food consumption to total consumption is between 30%-44%.
- Worse-off: whose food consumption to total consumption lies between 45%-100%.

Total fertility rate: The average number of children that would be born alive to a woman (or group of women) during her life if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates of a given year. The total fertility rate is calculated by the sum of the age-specific fertility rates multiplied by 5.

Underemployment: This phenomenon exists when a person's employment does not match his/her occupational skills, education or when they are working fewer hours than they would wish. The underemployed are classified into two groups:

1. Visible underemployment: refers to insufficient working hours per week, that is persons working less than 35 hours during the reference week or working less than the normal hours of work in their occupation.
2. Invisible underemployment: refers to the existence of fundamental imbalances between human resources and other factors of production, such as insufficient income, under-utilization, poor working conditions, etc.

Under-5 mortality (child mortality): The proportion of children born who die before reaching their fifth birthday.

The unemployed: Unemployed persons are individuals who are 15 years and over who do not work at all during the survey's reference week, who are not absent from their job and are available for work and actively seeking a job during the reference week. Persons who work in Israel or are absent from work due to border closure are considered as unemployed.

Working age population: All persons in the West Bank and Gaza Strip aged 15 years and over.

1. ABSTRACT

This second issue of the *Social Monitor* comes one year after the publication of the debut issue of this periodical and considers the changes and developments in social life in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (WBGs) during 1997 compared with 1996. The topics covered include the demography of the Palestinian people, health, education, culture, social security and quality of life, and standards of living. A new indicator on criminal offenses has been introduced in this issue and will provide the basis for future monitoring of crime rates, their type and analysis of possible solutions. In general, this issue of the *Social Monitor* discusses changes in a number of indicators analyzed in the first issue but it also provides insight into various new indicators wherever data is available.

As in the initial issue, this second issue of the *Social Monitor* attempts to comment on the quality of the data available and provides recommendations for improvements in this area. It is intended that this will assist those who collect and analyze data to provide better quality data for the end users. As the results of the Population, Housing and Establishments Census carried out by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) at the end of 1997 have now been made available, we hope to devote the third issue of the *Social Monitor* to an analysis of these results.

Despite some differences, there are similarities between the demographic trends revealed in the PCBS 1995 demographic survey and the results of the 1997 population census. The preliminary results of the population census revealed that the WBGs population is dominated by urban dwellers (54% of the population). In addition, the Palestinian population in the WBGs is youthful with 73.9% of the population under the age of thirty. Nearly 73% of WBGs families are nuclear while the remainder are extended families.

Health indicators for 1997 show that there has been little improvement in the provision of health services in the WBGs compared to the previous year. In the Gaza Strip, there was a slight improvement in services compared to 1996. In the West Bank there was a decline in some health indicators and this was also the case in the Gaza Strip, albeit to a lesser extent. Infant mortality rates increased in the West Bank in 1997 despite the decrease in the number of births for that year.¹ Infant mortality fell in the Gaza Strip. The average number of hospital beds to the total population decreased in 1997 in the West Bank, but remained unchanged in the Gaza Strip. The 1997 statistics also reveal that the number of doctors to total population remained very low compared with neighboring countries. These indicators are revealing about health conditions in the WBGs and highlight the tremendous burden that the Ministry of Health and other health care providers have to deal with.

Educational statistics were more positive and show an improvement in literacy rates during 1997 compared with 1995. This was manifested in the increase in the number of those who can read and write, which means a reduction in illiteracy rates. However, this improvement did not manifest itself in bridging the illiteracy gap between males and females. The illiteracy rate amongst females remained three times higher than that of males (for those above the age of fourteen). This can only mean the continued presence of a gender gap in education.

Figures on infant mortality reflect the number of reported deaths. This also applies to births. ¹

During the 1997/1998 academic year, there was a noticeable increase in the number of students in all stages of education in the WBGS, starting from pre-school (kindergartens) to university students. During the same year, the ratio of female students to the total number of students grew at a higher level than that of males, which is a positive development over the previous academic year 1996/1997. However, this rise in the number of students was not accompanied by an expansion in educational facilities or teachers. This was reflected in larger class sizes and a greater student-teacher ratio, with variations between districts and supervisory authority (government schools, UNRWA or private schools).

In 1997, there was a substantial increase in cultural activities in the WBGS compared with the period prior to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). and cultural centers have been successfully established. In addition, several cultural and educational periodicals are being published on a regular basis and tackle issues relevant to a variety of groups within Palestinian society. The establishment of a number of research centers in the WBGS has also enriched cultural life and enhanced research activities. A large number of conferences, workshops and seminars were held throughout the WBGS to discuss issues relevant to the Palestinians. Annual summer cultural festivals have become a regular tradition that aspires towards development and expansion. Yet despite these cultural activities, theater, cinema, musical concerts and art exhibitions are still very limited and tend to be concentrated in the center of the West Bank as well as the city of Nablus.

In terms of social support and quality of life in the WBGS, no substantial developments were recorded in this area during 1997. Government authorities are currently working on appropriate legislation to regulate and organize the labor market (the proposed Labor Law); provide an acceptable social safety net through legislation on social security and improve living conditions for public sector employees through the implementation of the Civil Service Law. The Ministry of Social Affairs also plans to develop its social assistance to marginalized groups. In fact, there was an increase in the number of beneficiaries receiving assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs. This indicates that there was a deterioration in standards of living but also shows that the services provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs have been expanded to more recipients.

Average household consumption and expenditure decreased slightly in the WBGS during 1997 compared with 1996. This was particularly true in the governorates that recorded low consumption and expenditure levels during 1996, specifically in the north of the West Bank and the governorate of Bethlehem.

1997 also saw a decline in the average wage of the bottom half of wage earners in the WBGS. Despite this setback, average nominal daily wages witnessed some improvement.

The Palestine Poverty Report of the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation stated that nearly a quarter of the WBGS population live below the poverty line. The incidence of poverty is particularly high in the south of the Gaza Strip while in the West Bank, poverty is less prevalent in the central district compared with the north and south. In 1997, the incidence of poverty was particularly high in the governorates of Jenin, Bethlehem and Jericho compared with 1996.

Statistics on crime and victimization in the WBGS (excluding East Jerusalem) are not as comprehensive and regular as statistics on other areas. Time series data on crime are also lacking on the frequency, type of crimes and their causes. In addition, there is no disaggregation of crime statistics by gender, age group and district, while official records do not take into account social class and bias or geographical distribution. The inadequacy of

regular surveys on crime rates and victims renders the already limited data of the PCBS on this issue incomplete. Surveys are essential as a source of data to analyze the types, causes of crime and the behavior of victims. Data are also essential to understand the role and effectiveness of the present conflict resolution mechanisms, the legal, police and judicial systems as well as institutions working in the area of crime prevention.

2. DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

At the end of 1997, the PCBS carried out the first census of population, housing and establishments in the history of the Palestinian people. The results of this census will resolve the problem of lack of data on the demography of the Palestinian people and dependency on Israeli estimates based on the Israeli census of 1967. It will also resolve a number of other problems encountered as a result of using Israeli statistics on the WBGS population provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel.

2.1 The population of the WBGS was 2.9 million in 1997

The PCBS population census carried out on the night of October 9th, 1997 showed that the WBGS population was 2,895,683. Of this total, 1,873,476 (64.7%) lived in the West Bank and 1,022,207 (35.3%) in the Gaza Strip. There were 210,209 Palestinians living within the boundaries of Jerusalem (that part of the governorate of Jerusalem annexed by Israel after the 1967 war).

There were 1,074,718 refugees in the WBGS, accounting for 41.4% of the total population. Refugees made up 26.5% of the West Bank population (excluding East Jerusalem) and 65.1% of the population in the Gaza Strip.

The West Bank population was shown to be concentrated in the north with 40.3% of the population compared to 30.8% in the center and 28.9% in the south.

2.2 Urban dwellers² account for more than half of the WBGS population

The initial results of the census indicate changes in the percentage of urban dwellers compared to 1996 estimates. The urban population accounted for 54% of the WBGS population (63.6% of the Gaza Strip and 47.9% of those living in the West Bank). In all cases, these results exceed the 1996 estimates. The rural population made up 30% of the WBGS population, (45.6% of West Bank and 5.3% of Gaza Strip inhabitants). The percentage of the population living in refugee camps was 31.1% in the Gaza Strip and 6.5% in the West Bank in 1997 (Table 2.1).

2.3 A youthful society: 47% of the WBGS population under the age of 15

The 1997 census results are similar to the estimated population figures of the 1995 PCBS demography survey. The census found that 47% of the population were under the age of 15. This percentage was higher in the Gaza Strip (50.2%) than in the West Bank (45%). Those under the age of 30 made up 73.9% of the population (72.6% in the West Bank and 76% in the Gaza Strip) while only 3.5% of the WBGS population were over the age

The PCBS defines urban communities as (1) ² any community with more than 10,000 people or (2) any community with between 5,000 and 9,999 people given that it meets four of the five following conditions: availability of a piped water supply, a health clinic, a post office, a supply of electricity and a secondary school. Centers of the main governorates are considered as urban regardless of the size of their population and rural centers are defined as those that are not urban centers or refugee camps. Prior to the census, the PCBS classified the population in terms of city dwellers, villagers and refugees and did not use the concept of urban centers. Cities were defined as those communities with a municipality established before 1967.

of 65. This age structure raises the dependency ratio (95.6 in the West Bank and 113.3 in the Gaza Strip) compared to those in Lebanon (65.6 in 1995), Egypt (73.1), Jordan (85.3) and Israel (63.3). The WBGS dependency ratio is the highest among neighboring countries (UNDP, 1998, p.176 and p.200).

These results reveal the youthful nature of Palestinian society. With the appropriate educational and training policies, this feature could become a huge source of social capital. Policies should be aimed at enhancing the skills and capabilities of the younger generation to become a driving force in the current development process.

2.4 Population distribution by age and gender

In 1997 there were 1,470,506 males in the WBGS and 1,425,177 females. In other words, males made up 50.8% of the total WBGS population and females accounted for 49.2%. Accordingly, the sex ratio (male for every 100 females) was 103.2 in the West Bank, 103.1 in the Gaza Strip and 103.18 in the two areas together.

The census results do not reveal any major differences between males and females in terms of age structure. Females under the age of 15 constituted 44.6% of the total female population in the West Bank, while males of the same age group accounted for 45.4% of the total male population. This was also the case in the Gaza Strip where females and males under the age of 15 made up 49.8%³ of the total female population and 50.6% of the male population respectively (PCBS, 1998c, p.42).

³ Note that 0.1% of data related to the age of the population in WBGS was classified as 'not stated'.

2.5 Decrease in the gap between average household sizes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

Differences in average household sizes between the West Bank and Gaza Strip had decreased in the 1997 census compared to 1995 estimates. In 1995, the size of the average private household was estimated at 6.58 in the West Bank and 7.81 in the Gaza Strip. The 1997 census recorded 262,568 private households in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) with 1,593,998 individual members. Accordingly, the size of the average West Bank household was 6.1 individuals. In the Gaza Strip, there were 144,497 private households with 1,001,120 members, which puts the average household size in this area at 6.9 individuals.

2.6 Nearly three-quarters of WBGS households are nuclear families

Of the 407,265 households covered by the census, 407,065 were private and 200 were common families (living in a shared dwelling). There were 40,522 households in East Jerusalem. Nuclear families with an average size of 5.9 members accounted for 73.2% of all WBGS households. Extended families with an average size of 8.3 members made up 23% and families with one member and structured families accounted for 3.3% and 0.5% of the total number of households respectively. The census results indicate that there have been changes in the size of Palestinian households. This could be attributed to the shift from agricultural work to wage-earning activities and services, impacting on the social values and customs of traditional families and thus affecting their structure.

Summary

Despite some discrepancies, the overall results of the 1997 population census were similar to those of the PCBS 1995 demographic survey. The 1997 census showed that the Palestinian population in the WBGS is mainly urban (54% of the population) and that the majority of the

population are young (73.9% are under the age of 30). In addition, the society is dominated by nuclear families (73.2%) with the rest as extended families. However, these indicators constitute only a small part of the trends that can be gleaned from the census results and an extensive analysis of the 1997 population census is essential for an in-depth analysis of the demographic characteristics of the Palestinian population.

3. HEALTH INDICATORS

The PCBS did not conduct a health survey during 1997 and it is therefore difficult to assess changes in this sector, particularly as regards subjects like the mortality rate, life expectancy and the use of contraceptives. For this reason, this issue of the *Social Monitor* utilizes statistics from the Ministry of Health to assess health indicators and major trends. Some data from the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishments Census of 1997 are also used.

3.1 A decrease in the number of live births and rise in infant mortality rates

During 1997, the number of live births in the WBGS declined by 6.3% compared to 1996. According to official registers, the decline was higher in the West Bank (9.4%) than in the Gaza Strip (approximately 2%). In the West Bank, live births fell to 47,882 infants in 1997 compared with 52,863 in 1996 while in the Gaza Strip, there were 37,485 live births in 1997 compared with 38,236 in 1996. The decrease in the number of live births in the West Bank was accompanied by an increase in infant mortality rates. In the Gaza Strip, the trend was the opposite and infant mortality rates declined.

According to Ministry of Health statistics, there was a substantial rise in the infant

mortality rate⁴ in the West Bank during 1997 compared with 1996, while this rate decreased in the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, the infant mortality rate increased from 10.2 infants per thousand in 1996 to 12.4 infants in 1997. In the Gaza Strip, the infant mortality rate declined from 22.6 infants per thousand in 1996 to 20.1 infants in 1997 (Table 3.1). Despite these figures, infant mortality rates remain higher in the Gaza Strip than the West Bank due to better health care facilities in the latter, especially with regard to mother and child health care. Infant mortality figures were 15.8 infants per thousand in the WBGS during 1997, an increase of about 0.4 infants over 1996 figures (Table 3.1).

To compare with neighboring countries, in 1996 the infant mortality rate was 21 infants per thousand in Jordan, 57 infants in Egypt, 33 infants in Lebanon and 8 per thousand in Israel (UNDP, 1998, p.156 and p.186). The infant mortality rate prevailing in the WBGS is lower than in neighboring Arab countries but nearly double that of Israel. The lower mortality rate in the WBGS compared to other Arab countries can be attributed to the availability of UNRWA health care services, especially in refugee camps, and to the role of a number of NGOs. In addition, the Palestinian Ministry of Health offers free national health insurance to children under the age of 3. However, rates are higher than in Israel because of better Israeli maternity care and the financial compensation given to Israeli families upon the birth of a new child.

In 1997, registered child mortality⁵ increased in absolute numbers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (Table 3.1). However, it is not possible to calculate the

Infant mortality rates include those who died under the age of one and were registered. ⁴

Child mortality includes all children who died under the age of five, including infant deaths. ⁵

rates of child mortality in WBGS due to the lack of sufficient data.

3.2 Decline in the number of doctors to total population

PCBS statistics indicate that the number of doctors to the total population in the WBGS has declined. In 1997, there were 99 doctors per hundred thousand people in the WBGS. This figure was higher in the Gaza Strip (156 doctors per hundred thousand people) compared to the West Bank (73 doctors per hundred thousand people).⁶

Within the West Bank, the number of doctors to total population varied from 80 per hundred thousand in the north, to 75 in the central area and 61 in the south.⁷

In 1993, there were 158 doctors per hundred thousand people in Jordan, 202 in Egypt, 191 in Lebanon and 459 in Israel (UNDP, 1998, p.158 and p.189). These figures show that the number of doctors to total population in the WBGS is lower than in all neighboring countries.

3.3 Decline in hospital beds to total population in the West Bank but unchanged in the Gaza Strip

The annual report of the Ministry of Health showed a large decrease in the number of beds to total population in 1997 compared to 1996. In 1996, there was one bed per thousand people compared to 0.97 in 1997. However, the report indicates that this decline has only taken place in the West Bank and the number of beds remained unchanged in the Gaza Strip (Table 3.2). This could be attributed to higher investment in the health sector in the Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank. Nevertheless, the number of beds to total population remains low in both regions.

Source: PCBS, unpublished figures. ⁶

Source: Ibid. ⁷

The decline in the number of beds to total population affected all the West Bank but was greater in the north than in other areas (Table 3.2).

3.4 Increase in the number of people covered by health insurance

The number of people covered by private health insurance is not included in either Ministry of Health or PCBS statistics on health insurance in 1997. However, the Health Insurance Directorate at the Ministry of Health provides information on those covered by government health insurance.⁸ These data reveal that the number of people with government health insurance increased by 22.1% in 1997 compared to 1996. The percentage increase was higher in the West Bank (30.4%) than in the Gaza Strip (15.8%). Nevertheless, the ratio of the civilian population to total population covered by government health insurance remains higher in the Gaza Strip (54.2%) than the West Bank (28.4%). For the WBGS together the ratio was 38.2%.⁹

3.5 Disabilities: motor disabilities are the most common type in the WBGS

According to the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishments Census of

Data from the Ministry do not cover ⁸ members of the security forces and their families, nor do they provide any estimate of their numbers. In addition, the data do not include children under the age of three who benefit from free government health care. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect that the percentage of those covered by government health insurance actually exceeds the published figures. Moreover, those with insurance from the private sector or UNRWA need to be added to the figures to reach an accurate percentage of those with health insurance in the WBGS.

This ratio was calculated based on the actual ⁹ population figures obtained from the 1997 Population, Housing and Establishments Census. The post enumeration estimates published by the PCBS were also used. These estimates exclude East Jerusalem.

1997, 1.7% of the WBGs population have some type of disability.¹⁰ The percentage of the disabled was higher in the West Bank (1.8%) than in the Gaza Strip (1.6%).

The highest rate of disability is among those with a motor disability (30.2%). The next are the visually impaired (14.6%), then the mentally disabled (14.5%) and those with multiple disabilities (7.9%). Other categories are 'other disabilities' (7.6%), the vocally impaired (5.6%), hearing disabilities (5.1%), those with both motor and mental disabilities (4.6%) and those who cannot use their hands (3.5%).

Between 1985 and 1992, the percentage of disabled to the total population was 0.5% in Jordan and 1.6% in Egypt (UNDP, 1998, p.158).¹¹ The higher percentage of disabled in Palestinian society compared to neighboring countries is mainly due to injuries sustained during the *Intifada* over the period from 1987 until the summer of 1993.

3.6 Rise in the number of hospital births

There was a noticeable increase in hospital births in the WBGs during 1997. This was accompanied by a decline in home births with a midwife while the number of births in clinics remained unchanged. The percentage of hospital births in the WBGs increased in 1997 to 71% compared with 66.5% in 1996 (Table 3.3).

The percentage increase in hospital births was higher in the West Bank than the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank it rose from

77.3% in 1996 to 83.4% in 1997. In the Gaza Strip the rate was 51.5%, rising to 55.6% in 1997. Births at clinics are higher in the Gaza Strip than the West Bank (Table 3.3). This could be due to the fact that the majority of Gazans are refugees who usually rely on UNRWA clinics for health services.

3.7 Distribution of health clinics

Data are not available on the number of private clinics and their distribution throughout the WBGs but the Ministry of Health holds details on government and UNRWA clinics. According to these data, the number and distribution of clinics remained unchanged during 1997. In the West Bank, there were 178 government clinics, 176 non-government clinics and 32 UNRWA clinics. In the Gaza Strip, there were 31 government clinics, 32 non-government clinics and 9 run by UNRWA. These data do not provide information on the distribution of these clinics in terms of their location in urban centers, villages or refugee camps (Ministry of Health, 1998a).

Summary

Health services in the WBGs did not undergo any substantial improvements during 1997 compared with the previous year. Overall health indicators remained stagnant, with the exception of some improvement in the Gaza Strip. In various instances, negative trends were noticed, especially in the West Bank. Infant mortality rates increased in the West Bank during 1997 despite the decline in live births during that year. Infant mortality did decline in the Gaza Strip, although child mortality (those between the ages of 1-5) rose. In addition, the number of hospital beds to total population also declined in the West Bank but remained unchanged in the Gaza Strip. The number of doctors to total population remains low in the WBGs, especially when compared to neighboring countries.

There is still much scope for improvement in the WBGs health sector. This could be

¹⁰ This includes the actual population covered by the census during the period from 10-24th of December 1997 in addition to estimates of the uncounted population based on the post enumeration study by the PCBS. This figure excludes the population of East Jerusalem.

¹¹ The UNDP report does not provide statistics on the disabled in Lebanon or Israel.

achieved through defining investment in the health sector as an item of priority expenditure in the Ministry of Health budget. In addition, efforts should be made to increase health sector income through broadening the base of those covered by health insurance. This could be accomplished by making health insurance compulsory (Hilal et al., 1998).

4. EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS

The PCBS Population, Housing and Establishments Census of 1997 provided new data on the status of education in the WBGS. In addition, during 1997 the PCBS cooperated with the Ministry of Education to publish a joint report on education, including data on educational services provided by the government, private sector, UNRWA and non-governmental sector. The characteristics of students and educational staff were also included. The Ministry of Higher Education supplied data on higher education, universities and community colleges in the WBGS.

4.1 Rise in literacy rates in the WBGS

The literacy rate for the WBGS population aged 15 and above was recorded at 85.6% in 1997, an improvement over the previous rate of 84.3% in the PCBS demography survey of 1995. Illiteracy rates in WBGS (for population aged 15 and over) equaled 13.9% with 0.6% 'not stated' (PCBS, 1998d, p.4). Illiteracy rates were higher in the West Bank (14%) than the Gaza Strip (13.6%).

4.1.1 Higher illiteracy rate amongst females

The illiteracy rate amongst females was substantially higher than that of males. In the WBGS, female illiteracy was 20.1% compared with 7.7% amongst males, figures that indicate that a gender gap in

education still persists. The gender gap in education appears to be smaller in the Gaza Strip than the West Bank. In the Gaza Strip, the male illiteracy rate was 8.6% compared to 18.7% for females. However, in the West Bank, the rate was 7.2% for males and 20.9% for females (PCBS, 1998d). The smaller gender gap in education in the Gaza Strip can be attributed to the fact that a large proportion of the population of Gaza are refugees who consider education as an alternative means of production to their original livelihood of agriculture, of which they were deprived in 1948. It is also partially due to the greater availability of UNRWA education in the Gaza Strip because of the larger number of refugees.

The census results do not provide disaggregated data on the illiteracy rate by age group. However, it is reasonable to assume that the illiteracy rate will be higher amongst older age groups.

4.2 Around 4.4% of the population over the age of 10 has completed undergraduate education or beyond

The illiteracy rate amongst the population aged 10 and over was 11.6% in 1997 in the WBGS. During the same year, the percentage of the population who could read and write but were without formal education stood at 16.9%. Those who had completed basic to secondary education¹² accounted for 62.3% of the population over the age of 10 while 4.3% had completed a two-year community college course and 4.4% had a bachelor degree or postgraduate qualification (PCBS, 1998d, p.4). Data on educational attainment by sex or age group are not provided.

Basic education comprises ages 6-16 years. ¹²
Secondary education comprises ages 16-18 years.

4.3 Rise in the number of pre-school (kindergarten) students

During the academic year 1997/1998, there were a total of 75,032 students enrolled in kindergartens in the WBGS, an increase of 8.5% over the previous year. The percentage increase in the number of female students at kindergartens (10%) was higher than that of males (7.2%) (Table 4.1). The increase in the number of female students indicates that the gender gap in education, at least at this level, is decreasing.

In addition, the number of pre-school kindergartens increased substantially by about 11.9% during 1997/1998 over the previous year. There were 789 kindergartens in 1997/1998 compared to 705 in 1996/1997. These kindergartens are found predominantly in the private sector or run by charitable organizations.

4.4 Student numbers increased by 7.1% during 1997/1998. Two-thirds attend schools provided by the public sector

In the 1997/1998 academic year, there were a total of 763,467 students in the WBGS, an increase of 7.1% over the previous year when the figure was 712,820. The increase in female students was higher (7.5%) than that of males (6.7%) (Table 4.2).

Male students accounted for 50.9% of all WBGS students during 1997/1998 compared with 51.1% in 1996/1997. This reflects an improvement in the male-female student ratio in schools (Table 4.2).

Most school students (92%) were enrolled in basic education while 8% were in secondary education. Data indicate that male students tend to favor scientific studies. Male students in the scientific stream accounted for 34.2% of all male students enrolled in secondary education in 1997/1998. Female students in the scientific stream made up 27% of all

female students in secondary education in 1996/1997 and this figure declined to 26.6% in 1997/1998 (Table 4.2).

In the literary stream, the reverse was the case. The percentage of female students was 71.1% in the literary stream in 1996/1997 and this increased to 72.2% in 1997/1998. The percentage of male students fell from 60.9% in 1996/1997 to 60.2% in 1997/1998. In the vocational secondary stream, percentages remained unchanged at 4.9% for male students and 1.2% for females during 1996/1997 and 1997/1998 (Table 4.2).

These figures indicate that enrollment trends in the three streams (scientific, literary and vocational) remained the same. Male students prefer the scientific stream while females tend to predominate in the literary stream. The vocational stream remained unpopular amongst both males and females, with slightly more male students. Despite efforts to encourage students to choose vocational studies, figures remain very low and this indicates that these attempts have been ineffective.

The government supervises most WBGS schools. The percentage of students enrolled in government schools was 67.6% during 1997/1998, which is comparable to the previous year. The second largest supervisory authority is UNRWA whose students account for 26.1% of all WBGS students compared with 27.2% in the previous year. This represents a decline of 0.9%. Private school students accounted for 6.3% during 1997/1998, an increase of 0.2% over the previous year (Table 4.3). These figures indicate that the trend towards private schools has caused numbers to drop at UNRWA schools since the number of students at government schools remained stable.

The decline in the percentage of students at UNRWA schools was limited to male students, while the percentage of female

students increased (Table 4.3). On the other hand, the percentage of male students increased at private schools while that of females declined by about 21.5%. This reflects the fact that families give more importance to the education of their male children than to females in the WBGs (private schools are considered to be superior to other schools). This could also indicate a wider interest in providing education for males in comparison with females.

Most private schools are located in the central area of the West Bank and 27.1% of all school students in this area were enrolled in private education during 1997/1998, an increase of 0.4% over the previous year. In the south of the West Bank, 9.3% of all students attended private schools, an increase of 2.1% over the previous year. Private schools in the south are located mainly in Bethlehem. In the north, 2% of all students attended private schools during 1997/1998, a decline of 0.3% over the previous year. In the Gaza Strip, 1.3% of all students attended private schools, an increase of 4% over the previous year. This indicates that the majority of Gaza Strip students attend government and UNRWA schools (Table 4.3).

4.4.1 A decline in the dropout rate in the WBGs.

There was a substantial decrease in the dropout rate from schools during 1996/1997. The dropout rate fell to 2.2% of the total number of students compared to 2.8% during the 1995/1996 academic year. The female dropout rate declined from 2.8% in 1995/1996 to 2.1% in the following year, a decrease of 0.7%. The male dropout rate declined from 2.7% to 2.3% in 1996/1997, which represents a 0.4% decrease (Table 4.4).

Although the dropout rate amongst females was higher than that of males during 1995/1996, this was the opposite in 1996/1997. The decline in the female dropout rate was mainly at the basic

educational stage but it remained higher than that of males at secondary level. Moreover, the dropout rate among female students in secondary education continued to increase over the prevailing rate in the previous year (Table 4.4). This could be attributed to early marriage or the reluctance of families to send female children to schools outside their localities, especially when secondary schools are not within walking distance.

Overall, the dropout rate increases gradually with the grade, the highest rate being in the tenth grade (Table 4.4). In basic education and amongst male students the dropout rate was 6.6% in 1996/1997 and 6.2% for female students. The dropout rate is also high in the literary streams in secondary schools and lower amongst students in scientific and vocational streams.

The Education Statistical Yearbook of the PCBS and the Ministry of Education does not provide data on dropout rates by region or locality. Such data are essential to analyze this problem and understand the causes and consequences of students dropping out of school.

4.4.2 Rise in student-teacher ratio in UNRWA and private schools. No change in government schools and kindergartens

Following a fall in the student-teacher ratio during 1996/1997, the reversal of an earlier trend, this ratio rose again during 1997/1998, particularly in UNRWA and private schools. In 1997/1998, the student-teacher ratio in UNRWA schools was 39 compared to 38 in the previous year. The number of students per teacher in private schools rose from 16 in 1996/1997 to 18 students in 1997/1998. Nevertheless, this ratio remains much lower than in government and UNRWA schools. The student-teacher ratio remained unchanged in government schools at 28 students per teacher (Table 4.5).

The rise in the student-teacher ratio in private schools could be attributed to the transfer of students to them from UNRWA and government schools. The rise in the student-teacher ratio in UNRWA and private schools was consistent in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The Education Statistical Yearbook of the PCBS and the Ministry of Education does not provide data on the student-teacher ratio according to level of education in order to compare basic and secondary education. However, it is expected that this ratio is higher at the basic educational stage than at secondary level and attempts will be made later to measure this ratio through looking at the number of students per class.

Data on pre-school kindergartens show a decrease in the number of students per teacher to 28 children in 1997/1998 compared to 32 in 1996/1997, a trend that applied in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This decrease in the student-teacher ratio occurred despite a rise in 1996/1997 over the 1995/1996 ratio (Table 4.5). It is important to note that the number of pre-school students increased by about 8.5% during 1997/1998 yet the pupil-teacher ratio still fell. This indicates a growth in the number of teachers.

4.4.3 Different class sizes according to educational stage, region and supervisory authority (UNRWA, government or private)

The Education Statistical Yearbook shows that class sizes vary at basic and secondary educational levels in the WBGs. The average number of students per class in basic education was 37 during 1997/1998 compared to 30 students in secondary education. These figures remained unchanged from the previous year (Table 4.6).

Class sizes remained higher in basic education than in secondary education in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, class sizes remained unchanged during 1996/1997 and

1997/1998 while in the Gaza Strip, the number of students per class at basic level registered an increase of one extra student during 1997/1998 over the 1996/1997 ratio. However, Gaza Strip schools also witnessed a decrease by three students per class at secondary level (Table 4.6). On the whole, class sizes are substantially lower in the West Bank than the Gaza Strip, possibly due to more limited financial resources for education in the latter. The high number of students per class indicates that there is an urgent need to expand educational facilities in the WBGs, especially in the Gaza Strip, in order to improve educational standards and attainment in Palestinian schools.

Private schools have the lowest number of pupils per class with 27 students at basic level and 17 students at secondary level (Table 4.6). In government schools, class sizes at basic level are lower than at UNRWA schools. However, UNRWA schools do not provide secondary education and this means that the number of students per class at secondary level in government schools is high.

There are substantial differences in class sizes according to the supervisory authority (Table 4.6). The highest rate, as noted earlier, was found at the basic level in UNRWA schools. Changes in the number of students per class over 1996/1997 and 1997/1998 according to the supervisory authority were small and the only change was a decrease in class sizes in private schools in the Gaza Strip.

Available sources of information do not provide data on class sizes according to gender. It is therefore difficult to assess the impact of gender on the policies implemented by the Ministry of Education as regards different schools and the sex of pupils.

4.5 Decline in community college students in the West Bank. Major differences in student

numbers by geographical region and gender

The number of students enrolled at community colleges in the WBGS was 4,299 in the academic year 1997/1998. The figure for 1996/1997 was 4,599, excluding students at Kalandia College and An-Najah College (Table 4.7). It is therefore impossible to compare the two years because of the inconsistency of the data.

There was a substantial increase in the number of students specializing in hotel management and nursing compared to other subjects, such as applied arts (Table 4.8). The number of female students studying nursing was higher than that of males in 1997/1998, while there were more male students studying hotel management.

4.6 Increase in number of university students, particularly females

In 1997/1998 there were 52,427 university students in the WBGS compared with 45,399 students in 1996/1997, an increase of 15.5%.¹³ The increase in the number of female students (16.3%) was higher than that of males (14.9%) which means that the percentage of female students at Palestinian universities was 43.6% in 1997/1998 compared with 43.3% in the previous year (Table 4.9).

The East Jerusalem area was the only governorate where the number of university students fell in 1997/1998 compared to the previous year (Table 4.9). Furthermore, the increase in the number of

¹³ The first issue of the *Social Monitor* put the number of university students in the WBGS in 1996/1997 at 46,176. This figure was taken from the Statistical Yearbook of 1996/97 p.205 published jointly by the PCBS and the Ministry of Education. However, the Statistical Yearbook of Palestinian Universities and Colleges published later by the Ministry of Higher Education noted that there were a total of 45,399 students.

university students was higher in the West Bank than in the Gaza Strip. Within the West Bank, the increase in university students was lowest in the central district while the south saw the largest increase in student numbers

4.6.1 Percentage of university students to total population

University students constitute 1.8% of the Palestinian population in the WBGS (PCBS, 1998c; Ministry of Higher Education, 1997).¹⁴ Of the total male population, 2.1% are university students compared to 1.6% of the total female population (Table 4.10).

University students account for a higher percentage of the population in the Gaza Strip (2.38%) than in the West Bank (1.47%) (Table 4.10). There are also differences in the percentage of male and female university students to the total population within the two areas. Within the West Bank, the highest percentage of university students to total population is in the north and then the south. The central area has the lowest percentage of university students per total population.

4.6.2 Concentration of university students in their home regions (localization of university education)

It is noticeable that most higher education students tend to attend universities located within their own regions i.e. most Gaza Strip students study at Gazan universities

¹⁴ In calculating the percentage of university students to the total population, Palestinian students in WBGS universities who come from the 1948 area were excluded. West Bank students studying abroad were also excluded. University students in Gaza classified under the Ministry of Higher Education's category of students from "other places" were included. Although these students are Palestinians currently living in the Gaza Strip, they only came there when the PNA assumed power and still do not hold identity cards. Palestinian students studying in non-Palestinian universities are not included because of lack of data.

while West Bank students study at West Bank universities, usually in their local district.

The number of students attending their local university increased in 1997/1998 compared to 1996/1997 (Ministry of Higher Education, 1998). This applied only to the West Bank since all university students in the Gaza Strip are defined as originating from that region (Table 4.11).¹⁵

The number of Gaza Strip students at West Bank universities has declined, mainly due to Israeli measures aimed at separating the West Bank from the Gaza Strip (Table 4.11). This includes a policy of closure by which students require permits to move between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Within the West Bank, the percentage of students studying at their local university increased (Table 4.11). In the central area, the percentage of local students per total university population increased in 1997/1998 compared to the previous year. The exception was at Al-Quds University where the percentage of students from other areas increased. This is due to the availability of a number of programs not offered by other universities, especially at postgraduate level.

A similar trend was noticed in the north of the West Bank. At Al-Najah University, the only university in the north, the percentage of local students increased. This was also the case in the south of the West Bank, although Hebron University did not register any increase since local

students already make up 90% of total student numbers. Some Palestinian universities registered a slight increase in the number of non-local students who came mostly from inside the 1948 area and the north of the West Bank (Table 4.11).

The increase in the number of local students at Palestinian universities can be attributed in part to the deterioration in economic conditions in the WBGS. This forces students to study close to their homes to reduce the overall costs of transportation and living expenses. Another factor is the unstable political situation with Israeli checkpoints and border closures as well as other measures aimed at separating the West Bank from the Gaza Strip. In addition, most Palestinian universities have started to expand the number of courses on offer, thus enabling local students to study their chosen discipline close to home rather than going elsewhere.

Government universities (Women's Community College) and UNRWA (Ramallah Community College) have a lower percentage of local students (Table 4.11). Since UNRWA universities only provide services to refugees, students from all over the WBGS join these universities. This is also the case with government universities, which offer only a limited number of programs in the area of education and teacher training for future employees.

Summary

In 1997 there was a noticeable increase in the literacy rate of the WBGS population compared to 1995 (the latest date for which there is information). Nevertheless, the gap between female and male literacy rates was not reduced and the illiteracy rate amongst females remained nearly three times higher than that of males. This indicates the persistence of discrimination between the two sexes in education but it is not possible to monitor changes in this gap without data on literacy rates according to gender and age group. Once

¹⁵ The Ministry of Higher Education (1998) showed that 25.2% of students at the Islamic University in the Gaza Strip come from "other places". Further queries established that these students were from outside the WBGS but now reside in the Gaza Strip without national identity cards. It could therefore be said that all students studying at Palestinian universities in the Gaza Strip come from that region.

such data becomes available, it would then be possible to explore differences in literacy rates for each age group and make informed judgments about trends in discrimination between the sexes in education.

The 1997/1998 academic year witnessed an increase in the number of students enrolled in all stages of education in the WBGS, from pre-school to university. The only decline in the number of students was in community colleges, primarily due to the increased opportunities for students to join universities. The percentage increase in the number of female students was higher than that of male students, which represents a positive improvement over the 1996/1997 academic year.

Despite the rise in the number of students, educational resources did not expand correspondingly. This becomes obvious from class sizes and student-teacher ratios, which vary according to region and supervisory authority. Data show that the educational facilities and resources offered by UNRWA were the least responsive in meeting the demands of the growing number of students compared to government and private schools. Greater financial and human resources must be allocated to the educational sector as a whole to meet the increased demand for education and to improve the quality of services. Libraries, computer and science laboratories and playgrounds are only some of the resources required both at schools and universities.

Although the *Social Monitor* only considers quantitative indicators in the area of education, it is important to note that Palestinian universities depend heavily on external sources for their funding. This results in persistent uncertainty and weakens the ability of universities to draw up coherent long-term plans. It also forces universities to operate in a perpetual state of competition over students and programs in order to secure the financial resources needed to cover

their costs. In order to avoid the duplication of resources and manpower, efforts should be targeted at creating complimentary programs in universities. Some brain drain has been observed in the last few years from local universities to the private and public sector and also to overseas institutions. This may be related to the deterioration of working conditions in universities in comparison to other sectors. The PNA should be responsible for formulating national educational objectives to meet the economic, social, cultural, educational and research needs of the Palestinian population in the WBGS.

5. CULTURAL INDICATORS

This section provides indicators on a number of cultural issues in the WBGS for which data were available. However, there are no data on some important issues, such as the percentage of the population participating in cultural activities.

5.1 Growth in the number of cultural centers

Up until September 1998, there were five licensed cinema houses in the WBGS. Two of these were licensed during 1998 while the rest acquired their licenses in 1997. These cinemas are located in the cities of El-Bireh, Jenin, Tulkarem, Nablus and Rafah.

In August 1998, there were 179 cultural centers. Between September 1997 and September 1998, 43 new cultural centers were opened, of which 31 were located in the West Bank and 12 in the Gaza Strip. The number of licensed cultural centers in refugee camps fell during 1998 to 19 compared to 24 in 1997. The growth in cultural centers was mainly in the cities, rising from a total of 65 in 1997 to 90 in 1998. In villages, the number of licensed cultural centers increased from 47 to 70.¹⁶

Source: Ministry of Culture. ¹⁶

These centers perform a variety of different activities but the scope of these and the role played by these centers in society is not covered here.¹⁷

5.2 Growth in the number of research centers, particularly in the central West Bank

In August 1998, there were 64 research centers in the WBGs including those of local universities, four more than in September 1997. Of the 64 working research centers, 36 had licenses from the Ministry of Culture. The majority of these centers (56) are located in the West Bank where they tend to be concentrated in the central area (35 centers).¹⁸ Although their activities vary, some centers such as those in the universities tend to play a limited role. However, there are a number of centers with a very active program. These include the Center for Palestine Research and Studies (CPRS), The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS), The Palestinian Institute for the Study of Democracy (Muwaten), the Center for Regional Studies in Ramallah and a number of programs affiliated with the University of Bir Zeit. In Jerusalem, the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA) also organizes many academic activities.

Research centers are usually dependent on external sources of finance, often linked to specific projects. As a result, centers are financially insecure and tend to tailor programs to meet the requirements and interests of donors. This also hampers the ability to draw up long term plans for development and growth. Some research centers have now started to work together

¹⁷ These include a number of established centers offering a wide range of activities such as the French Cultural Center, the Popular Arts Center, the Yabous Institute for Art and the Greek Cultural Center. There are also cultural centers in villages but these tend to focus on small-scale activities limited to lectures and training courses for village inhabitants.

Source: Ministry of Culture. ¹⁸

through a network of organizations to coordinate efforts and develop their work.

5.3 Private media companies concentrated in the West Bank: 7 radio stations and 24 television stations

The Gaza Strip does not have any private radio or TV stations. This can be attributed to the dominance of the government radio and TV station in that area. In the West Bank in August 1998, there were seven private radio stations with licenses or in the process of acquiring one. Three of these stations were in the north of the West Bank, 3 in the central district and 1 in the south. During 1997, 4 new stations acquired licenses. One station opened in 1998 and work is underway to open an eighth station in Hebron.¹⁹

In August 1998, there were 24 private TV stations in the West Bank. Of these, 14 were located in the north (9 in Nablus, 2 in Jenin and Qalqilia, and 1 in Tulkarem). Another 4 stations were located in the central area of the West Bank (in Ramallah) and 6 in the south (3 in Hebron and 3 in Bethlehem). Seven TV stations ceased broadcasting between September 1997 and August 1998.²⁰

The Palestinian Ministry of Information summarizes the activities of these stations as follows: "These stations have chosen the easy way. They rebroadcast programs initially prepared by satellite stations, in addition to light entertainment programs prepared locally and some news summaries, lectures, seminars and coverage of local activities. For this reason, some of these stations can be termed neighborhood stations or video stations."

Source: Ministry of Culture. ¹⁹

Source: Ibid. ²⁰

The limited scope of the local TV stations can be attributed to several causes. First, the PNA was unable to acquire its share of international broadcasting space and the Israelis are delaying the implementation of agreements related to telecommunications. As a result, local private TV stations tend to rely on whatever transmission waves are available. Second, there is no legislation to regulate the work of TV and radio stations, which requires a prior agreement between Israel and the International Telecommunications Union. At present, local private stations operate in accordance with regulations issued by the PNA but these could change at any time. Third, those in charge of these stations tend to be amateurs who lack professional expertise in this area. Fourth, responsibilities and administrative powers relating to supervising and monitoring local private stations are scattered between a number of ministries and PNA policies with regard to these stations are not clearly defined. The Ministry of Information aims to help these stations to develop and improve their professional skills (*Al-Ayyam* newspaper, 16/10/1998).

5.4 Around 14% of Palestinian households have a library at home

The PCBS Population, Housing and Establishments Census of 1997 recorded that 13.9% of Palestinian households in the WBGs have a library at home.²¹ This percentage was higher in the West Bank (15.7%) than in the Gaza Strip (10.5%).

In 1996, a group of professional librarians carried out a survey of libraries in the WBGs (excluding East Jerusalem) and found that there were a total of 295 public libraries. In Jerusalem, the Arab Studies Society is preparing a study on public

libraries (excluding school libraries) in the city.

Of all the libraries in the WBGs, 119 were public libraries (40%), 107 were specialized (36%), 44 libraries were academic (15%) and the remaining 25 were children (9%). The results of the librarians' survey showed that 79% of libraries serve more than 6,000 users. School students used 73% of the available libraries, university students used 17% and workers used 45%. Other users included housewives (using 37% of libraries), researchers (48%) and the retired (30%) (*Libraries in Palestine*, 1996).

In 1998, a group of librarians published a second survey entitled "Children's Libraries in Palestine: Current Status". This survey put the number of children's libraries in the WBGs at 97 in 1997.²² Of these, 52% were independent libraries while the rest were part of public libraries and 61% of them had been established after 1990. These libraries held books on the following topics: general knowledge (77% of libraries), philosophy and psychology (89%), religion (89%), social sciences (71%), sciences and applied sciences (65%), arts (70%), literature (53%), history, geography and autobiographies (80%), children's stories (99%), children's plays (44%), poetry and music (65%) (*Children's Libraries in Palestine*, 1998, p.34).

Nearly 35% of WBGs libraries were located in cities, 32% in villages and 10% in refugee camps. Nearly 6% served all three of these locations, 3% of libraries served only the immediate neighborhood and the remaining 14% provided services to users from two of these locations

²¹ A home library is defined as one with a minimum of 10 non-school books to develop the cultural or religious interests of the family members (PCBS, 1998c, p.34).

²² Libraries that provide services to those under the age of 18 (*Children's libraries in Palestine*, 1998, p.4).

(Children's Libraries in Palestine, 1998, p.43).

Distribution of Libraries in the WBS according to Size of Population in 1995

Population Concentration	Libraries	
	Number	Percentage (%)
1000 and less	71	24
1001-5000	56	18.9
5001-10000	15	5.5
10001-25000	4	1.3
25001-50000	3	1
50000 and more	11	3.7
Unspecified	135	45.6

Source: Libraries in Palestine, 1996.

5.5 Regularity of artistic and cultural activities

The *Social Monitor* does not provide indicators on the participation of individuals in cultural and artistic activities or public demand for these activities due to the lack of data. However, information from the Ministry of Culture on the number of events in the WBS provides some indicators on cultural life.

During 1997, six cultural festivals were held in the West Bank. Four of these took place in the central district of the West Bank, one in the north and another in the south. These festivals have been made into an annual event, usually held during the summer. In addition, governorate centers usually hold cultural evenings, especially during Ramadan. In 1997, the Ministry of Culture organized a cultural week in Gaza City and in Qalqilia.

Several art exhibitions were held at the Mohammad Siyam gallery in Ramallah and the Ministry of Information also organized art festivals in cooperation with the governorate of Ramallah.

A number of cultural centers are now well-established and provide regular

cultural activities (such as the Popular Art Center, the Khalil Sakakini center, and the Rashad Shawa center in Gaza). There are also centers at local universities, which were the only places providing cultural activities

prior to the *Intifada* at the end of 1987. Although the number of public cultural centers has now grown, those at universities continue to play a major role in cultural life, particularly through student unions and student political groups.

5.6 Production and marketing of cultural activities

Of a total of 49 licensed publishing houses, 22 are located in the central area of the West Bank. The rest are located in the Gaza Strip (12), the north of the West Bank (9) and the south (6). In addition, there are 6 licensed TV production companies located in the center of the West Bank but there are no data on the number and quality of their productions. The majority of shops retailing books, cassettes and videotapes are located in the north of the West Bank. There are 70 book shops in the north of the West Bank compared to 29 in the central area, 28 in

the south and 30 in the Gaza Strip. There are 42 cassette and video stores in the north of the West Bank compared with 29 in the central area and 17 in both the south of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.²³ There are no data on the size of operation or distribution of these stores and therefore a number of other indicators for which data is available must be relied upon for details of cultural activities in the WBGS.

5.6.1 Significant interest in issues related to democracy and human rights

Publications by Palestinian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) over the period from 1995-1997 reflect the changing trend in interests following the establishment of the PNA. These NGOs are the major source of publications in the WBGS. The topics covered by these publications vary and can be arranged as follows in order of importance (based on the number of publications as in Table 5.1):

- human rights and democracy (nearly one-fifth of NGO publications)
- agriculture (mainly training leaflets or agricultural directories)
- issues relating to refugees
- economics
- women's affairs
- politics
- education and training
- health
- children
- employment and the labor force
- Jerusalem
- development issues
- folklore and cultural issues (publications in this area are funded by the authors themselves or by the public sector)
- the environment
- demographic studies

It is clear from this list which topics are currently of concern to the Palestinian

public and also those issues which are of interest to donors.

5.6.2 Publication of periodicals concentrated in the central area of the West Bank

Nearly 75 regular publications are issued in the WBGS every year. There are 3 daily newspapers, 11 weekly newspapers, 40 journals and 21 newsletters. There are 12 periodicals published in the Gaza Strip. Nearly 73% of WBGS periodicals are published in the central area of the West Bank²⁴ where cultural activities appear to be concentrated. These findings are compatible with other indicators on cultural activities such as exhibitions, festivals, and research and cultural centers.

A number of periodicals specializing in social, economic and scientific issues related to Palestinian society are also published on a regular basis. These include the *Karmel*, *Al-Siyasah el-Falestinieh*, *Al-Dirasat el-Falastinieeh*, the United Nations Special Representative to the Occupied Territories (UNSCO) report and MAS *Economic and Social Monitors*.

It is noticeable that a high proportion of journals and periodicals cover topics related to academic, economic and cultural issues. Excluding publications dealing with light entertainment, 16 out of a total of 31 periodicals and journals deal with such topics. This is also the case with newsletters, 15 of which cover legal, political and economic issues (Table 5.2).

Ministries and other PNA organizations publish around 10 journals, accounting for a quarter of all the WBGS output. Another 13 journals are published, principally by NGOs but also research centers and political groups.

5.7 More than one quarter of Palestinian households own a

Source: Ministry of Culture. ²³

Source: Ministry of Information. ²⁴

satellite receiver and 4% own a computer

The Center for Palestine Research Studies (CPRS)²⁵ public opinion poll number 34 indicated that 27% of households in the West Bank own a satellite dish compared to a third of Gaza Strip households. The percentage of those with a satellite dish was higher in cities (34%) than in villages and refugee camps (24%). In the cities, the majority of satellite dishes were found in the Jerusalem area (52% of families), Gaza City (41%) and Ramallah (32%). Satellite dishes were less common in Jenin (9%), Nablus (13%), or Tulkarem and Qalqilia (15%).

Nearly 4% of Palestinian households in the WBGS own a computer (PCBS, 1998c).²⁶ The percentage of households with a computer in the West Bank was 4.7% compared to 2.6% in the Gaza Strip. The CPRS public opinion poll of June 1998 showed that computer ownership was most common in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Tulkarem, Hebron and Gaza City. Of those surveyed, 12% owned a computer and nearly 7% of these were linked to the Internet. Some 2% of the total sample were linked to the Internet through their work place while 1% subscribed to the Internet at their homes. Most of those linked to the Internet were in Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron and Jabalia.

5.8 Distribution of sports clubs in the West Bank

There are 229 sports clubs in the WBGS, 30 of which are in the Gaza Strip. Most sports clubs are located in villages (120 clubs) compared to 78 clubs in cities and 31 clubs in refugee camps (Table 5.3). This indicates that sports clubs and social

societies are the most common forms of recreation in villages.

Summary

Some forms of cultural activity expanded during 1997 and this represents a positive development in cultural life compared to the period before the PNA assumed power in 1994. Nevertheless, there are still some sectors that remain underdeveloped.

Positive developments include the establishment of a number of cultural and artistic centers to provide a variety of cultural activities. Also, a number of academic periodicals are published regularly to tackle issues of interest to a wide range of social groups. Research centers in the WBGS founded a lively research activity and many conferences, workshops and seminars took place. Summer festivals have also become an annual event, evolving and developing each year.

There is, however, a noticeable lack of cinema houses throughout the WBGS. There is also very little theater, art shows or musical concerts. Most cultural and artistic activities are concentrated in the center of the West Bank and the city of Nablus.

Data are not available on the number of people participating in cultural and artistic activities although it is important to monitor the level of public interest in these areas.

6. SOCIAL SECURITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

This section relies on data from the PCBS Population, Housing and Establishments Census of 1997, from the Ministry of Social Affairs and information collected by MAS. Data was not available on some important issues, specifically assistance provided by *Zakat* committees. Useful information on the quality of life of the

²⁵ The poll took place during 25-27 June 1998 and included 1,335 individuals over the age of 18, of whom 851 were from the West Bank. The margin of error was 3%.

²⁶ According to the CPRS public opinion poll, the percentage of Palestinian families with a computer was 12% in June. This poll took place 6 months after the PCBS 1997 census.

poor was obtained from the Palestine Poverty Report prepared by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation. This Report set a national poverty line for the WBGS based on the PCBS Household Expenditure and Consumption Surveys of 1996 and 1997.

6.1 Working conditions and workers' rights

There were no changes in labor legislation in the WBGS during 1997. The Legislative Council passed a new Civil Service Law and a labor law drawn up by the Ministry of Labor was also presented to the Council for debate.²⁷ It is expected that these two laws will bridge a large gap in labor legislation in the WBGS and most importantly, unify the law in the West Bank with that of the Gaza Strip.

The General Inspection Directorate at the Ministry of Labor published a report on the visits made by its staff to 8,675 establishments in the WBGS with a total of 55,305 employees (an average of 6.4 workers per establishment). This report showed that only 42.4% of establishments have work accident insurance.²⁸ It was found that 1.6%²⁹ of workers at these establishments had been injured whilst at work. This is equivalent to 910 accidents (360 minor accidents, 4 major accidents and 10 deaths). It is important to note that these figures are only rough indicators since they are not the result of a random sample and only cover a small percentage of WBGS establishments. There were

76,962 establishments in the WBGS in 1997 (PCBS, 1998c, p.112).

Statistics on the provision of health insurance and pension funds in these establishments were not available. There are also no data on the degree of organization in the local labor market (contracts and workers' rights according to labor law or collective work contracts).

6.2 A quarter of the population live below the poverty line

The National Commission for Poverty Alleviation estimated a poverty line based on the PCBS Household Expenditure and Consumption Surveys of 1996 and 1997. This line was set at NIS 1,390 per month for a household of six individuals in 1997. The Report stated that 23% of the WBGS population lived below the poverty line during 1997. When East Jerusalem is excluded from the calculations, this percentage rises to 25% of the population. Poverty rates are higher in the Gaza Strip (38%) than in the West Bank (16%).

According to the Report, nearly a third of those who received assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs were the elderly. In addition, the percentage of households headed by women accounted for nearly half of those receiving Ministry assistance. Nearly 52% of those receiving assistance were housewives while a quarter of the beneficiaries were in employment.

The recommendations made by the Report concentrate on the alleviation of poverty through strategies that rely on "human and economic developmental plans as well as policies targeted at mitigating the hardship of the poor and the vulnerable from a developmental standpoint rather than traditional assistance." Other recommendations relate to the labor force and include the expansion of pension funds to cover the private sector and non-governmental organizations; improvements to social assistance programs in the WBGS, especially in the

²⁷ The Civil Service Law took effect following ratification by the President at the end of 1998.

²⁸ Insurance against work accidents is a legal requirement but some establishments fail to comply with this law by insuring only a number of employees without specifying their names. In the case of an accident, the insurance company provides cover regardless of which worker was hurt.

²⁹ In Jordan, 1.95% of workers at surveyed establishments had been involved in a work accident in 1995 (Jordanian Department of Statistics, 1995, p.82).

area of health insurance; the creation of a new social assistance program; the development of vocational training programs, and assistance to non-profit making organizations working in the area of social development.

To mitigate the impact of poverty amongst laborers, the Report recommends legislation for a legal minimum wage, comprehensive work accident insurance as well as vocational training programs.

The Report suggests that the governorates of the south and central Gaza Strip and of Jenin and Hebron be given a top priority in investment plans and social assistance programs. This is in response to the high poverty rates in villages in the south of the West Bank, especially in the Hebron area, and in the north, particularly around Jenin. Landless families are identified as the most vulnerable group and therefore to be targeted in particular for social assistance. Within the Gaza Strip, the highest poverty rates were found in the refugee camps while villages had similar poverty rates. These results indicate that the authorities should give priority to refugee camps in the Gaza Strip.

The Report concludes: "Any strategy to alleviate poverty should be part of a comprehensive program of development that deals with the present problem of poverty in a systematic, realistic and flexible manner. The political and economic conditions in this transitional period in the WBGS must be taken into account as well as both present and future physical and human resources. The strategy must also deal with the poor as productive and capable citizens who have potential as well as rights and responsibilities. A strategy of poverty alleviation in the WBGS must, therefore, focus on all those vulnerable to poverty as well as the most deprived areas."

6.3 Increase in the numbers receiving assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs

In June 1997, around 26,133 families in the WBGS received assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs. This represents an increase of about five thousand families compared with the same month in 1996 (a rise of 25%) and indicates that there was increased demand for Ministry assistance. The number of individuals receiving assistance rose by 17% from June 1996 to June 1997 and there was also an increase of 21% in the percentage of assisted families to total population. Individuals receiving Ministry assistance comprised 3.58% of the WBGS population. The overall increase in those receiving Ministry assistance was mainly due to the Gaza Strip where the figures to total population rose from 4.42% in 1996 to 5.25% in 1997. This represents a total increase of 18.83%. In comparison, the percentage of the West Bank population assisted to the total population decreased from 2.73% in 1996 to 2.66% in 1997, a drop of 2.83% (Table 6.1). These percentages should be viewed with care since they were calculated based on population projections in mid-1996 and 1997. Population projections were used in the calculations because the actual population figures for 1996 were not available and it would have been necessary to re-estimate the total population for 1996 based on the 1997 PCBS population census.³⁰

Families usually receive assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs based on a scale linked to the size of the family. A

³⁰ According to PCBS estimates for 1997, the West Bank population in mid-1996 was 1,571,572. The population census in mid 1997 put the West Bank population at 1,787,562, an increase of 13.7%. In the Gaza Strip, the population increased by 3.4% over the same period. For the combined WBGS, the population increase was estimated at 9.8%, reflecting the need to adjust the estimates of 1996 and changing all previous percentages.

poor family of one person has the right to NIS 96 monthly, which represents about 23% of the poverty line. The purchasing power of the Ministry's assistance declined by 7.6% compared to 1996. This decrease represents the inflation rate during 1997 (MAS, 1998, p.17).

Data for December 1997 shows that in that month the Institute for Martyrs, Injured and Prisoners provided assistance to 7,826 families in the WBGS, 4,148 of them from the West Bank and the others from the Gaza Strip. In the same month, assistance was given to 3,739 families of martyrs, 1,534 families of those injured in political struggles, 1,619 families of prisoners and 401 social cases (ex-fighters or the families of collaborators killed for political reasons). Another 533 families were given health insurance. On average, each needy family received NIS 317 in the West Bank and NIS 289 in the Gaza Strip. These sums demonstrate the low contribution made by the Institute, whose assistance focuses on the poorest families.³¹ The assistance offered by the Institute represents about 10% of the average monthly consumption for a WBGS family for the same month (PCBS, 1998e). It represents about 22.8% of the WBGS poverty line in the West Bank and 20.8% in the Gaza Strip.

6.4 Slight increase in the absolute number of families receiving assistance from UNRWA

In June 1997, about 22,272 families in the WBGS received assistance from UNRWA (United Nations Refugee and Works Agency). This represents a 1.1% increase over the same month in the previous year. The number of families assisted by UNRWA in the Gaza Strip increased by 3.6% while it declined by 3.1% in the West Bank (from 8,309 families in 1996 to 8,048 families in 1997). The number of WBGS individuals receiving UNRWA

Source: Ministry of Social Affairs statistics on assistance given by the Institute, December 1997. ³¹

assistance increased by 1.17% over the same period. In the Gaza Strip, the numbers increased by 1.02% compared to 1.24% in the West Bank. The percentage of those receiving assistance from UNRWA to the total population in the WBGS decreased between June 1996 and June 1997 from 3.61% to 3.32%, a drop of 0.2%. There were 23,308 families with 92,516 individuals receiving UNRWA assistance in 1997 compared with 22,072 families with 91,660 members in 1996. The percentage decline in assistance was greater in the West Bank (11.19) than in the Gaza Strip (2.07%).³²

6.5 Decline in assistance from Zakat committees

Most assistance from *Zakat* committees is in the form of cash, particularly for families registered as regular beneficiaries. *Zakat* committees also provide assistance in-kind to other families considered less poor than those registered as 'regular beneficiaries'. In addition, some services are provided to regular beneficiaries at a lower price than normal at the facilities owned by the *Zakat* committees, such as hospitals, clinics, schools and kindergartens.

Data collected by MAS in the first quarter of 1998 from six *Zakat* committees in the West Bank³³ indicate that the number of beneficiaries fell by about 6.2% for orphans and 9.1% for families during 1997 compared with 1996. However, the

Based on UNRWA data. The percentage of refugees receiving assistance to the total number of refugees, according to UNRWA sources, was 6.8% in WBGS at the end of 1997 (8.4% in the Gaza strip and 4.75% in the West Bank). This represents an increase of 0.3% in the Gaza Strip compared to the end of 1996, and a decrease of 0.2% in the West Bank over the same period. ³²

These constitute the largest committees in the West Bank and provide the majority of all *Zakat* assistance. These committees are located in Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem, Jerusalem and Hebron. ³³

number of orphans and families assisted increased in the Gaza Strip. The number of orphans assisted by the Gaza *Zakat* committee in 1997 rose by 171% compared to 1996, while assistance to families increased by 149%. This is due to the closure of other Islamic organizations and the transfer of their beneficiaries to the Gaza *Zakat* committee. The percentage of those receiving assistance to the total population declined in 1997 despite the increase in the absolute number of beneficiaries, as was the case in the Nablus and Ramallah *Zakat* committees. The six largest *Zakat* committees in the WBGS provided assistance to 7,370 families and 5,715 orphans in 1996. During 1997, the West Bank *Zakat* committees provided assistance to 6,699 families and 5,360 orphans. In comparison, the Gaza *Zakat* committee provided assistance to 750 families and 1,200 orphans in 1996 compared to 1,870 families and 3,250 orphans in 1997.³⁴

6.6 More than two thirds of those receiving social support are the elderly

The Report by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation³⁵ showed that 37.6% of those receiving assistance during 1997 were over the age of 60 and 11.2% were over the age of 75. It is important to note that only 5.5% of Palestinians in the WBGS (including East Jerusalem) are over the age of 60 (PCBS, 1998c). Based

³⁴ In 1997 there were 60 *Zakat* committees working in the WBGS. In 1996, there were 54 registered committees but only 50 of these were actually functioning. (Hilal and Al-Malki, 1997).

³⁵ The sample size for this report was 1,868 households, 890 from the Gaza Strip and 978 from the West Bank (The Palestine Poverty Report, 1998).

on data from UNRWA and the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Report estimated that between one-fourth to one-fifth of those over the age of 60 rely on assistance from these two organizations. This estimate reflects both the inability of families to provide adequate assistance and care for the elderly and also the lack of pension funds and other old-age benefits.

Quality of life of the poor

The Report by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation in 1998 stated that nearly 6% of dwellings of those receiving assistance in the West Bank during 1997 lacked running water, compared to 1.6% in the Gaza Strip. Nearly 7.4% of the dwellings of poor families in the West Bank were without electricity, compared with 3% in the Gaza Strip. Around 30.8% of these poor families in the WBGS did not own a refrigerator, 51.2% did not own a washing machine, 48% did not have a gas stove, and 34.2% did not have a TV set.

6.7 Two individuals per room

The average number of rooms in a Palestinian household was found to be 3.4 (3.3 in the West Bank and 3.6 in the Gaza Strip) (PCBS, 1998c). The household density rate stood at 2 individuals per room (1.9 in the West Bank and 2.1 in the Gaza Strip). Nearly 78.1% of WBGS Palestinians own their houses (75.3% in the West Bank compared to 83.2% in the Gaza Strip). About 94.6% of Palestinian houses have an electricity supply (94.1% in the West Bank compared with 95.5% in the Gaza Strip) and 83.6% have running water (79.1% in the West Bank compared with 91.7% in the Gaza Strip). Furthermore, 33.7% of houses are served

by a sewerage system (24.4% in the West Bank and 50.6% in the Gaza Strip).

As regards ownership of non-durable goods, the 1997 Census results were similar to those of earlier PCBS surveys:

**Ownership by Palestinian families of
selected non-durable goods, 1997**

Item	West Bank	Gaza Strip	WBGs
Private car	23.2	15.1	20.4
Refrigerator	81.6	78.2	80.4
Washing machine	72.2	75	73.2
Central heating	2	0.6	1.5
TV set	86.4	81.4	84.6
Video	15.1	10.2	13.3
Computer	4.7	2.6	4
Phone line	20.2	18.2	19.5
Solar boiler	56.4	70.1	61.2

Source: PCBS, 1998c.

Summary

No major changes took place in the form of social security or the quality of life in the WBGs during 1997. The relevant government bodies are presently drawing up appropriate legislation to regulate the labor market (the Labor Law) and to provide reasonable social guarantees through the implementation of a social security law. A Civil Servants Law is intended to improve the lives of public sector employees. The Ministry of Labor is currently working on a social policy program aimed at improving social care for vulnerable groups in society.

There was a sizeable increase in the number of those receiving assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs. This indicates both a deterioration in living conditions and expansion of Ministry aid.

The Palestine Poverty Report by the National Commission on Poverty Alleviation is an important contribution to data on the incidence and forms of poverty in the WBGs. The Report also helps to form a concrete basis for the development of strategies to alleviate poverty in ways which are compatible with social norms and the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

7. STANDARDS OF LIVING

Data for this section was obtained from the second round of the PCBS Household Expenditure and Consumption Survey which covered the period from January to December 1997.³⁶ These data showed that there was a slight decline in standards of living during 1997 and that there are considerable variations in standards of living between different regions of the WBGs compared to 1996. Information was also taken from the 1998 Report by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation.

7.1 Decline in standards of living in the north of the West Bank

In 1997, average monthly household consumption³⁷ in the WBGs was Jordanian Dinars (JD) 628.9 compared with JD 637.3 in 1996. Based on nominal

³⁶ This survey covered a sample of 3,275 households, 2,282 from the West Bank and the rest from the Gaza Strip.

³⁷ Family consumption includes cash spent on the purchase of goods and services for living purposes, the value of goods, services and payments or part of payments received from an employer, own-produced goods and food, including that consumed during the recording period, and estimated rent value of the dwelling.

terms, this represents a decline of 1.3% but this is negligible and can be considered as lying within the margin of error. The decline can also be attributed to the rise in the purchasing power of the JD compared to the NIS.³⁸ According to the PCBS, average monthly household consumption in the Gaza Strip was about 80% of that in the West Bank.

There was a noticeable decline in living standards in the north of the West Bank during 1997. Average monthly household consumption decreased by 6.8%, while average monthly household expenditure³⁹ declined by 8.6% compared to the previous year. The slight increase in average monthly household consumption in the central West Bank (2.9%) does not compensate for the decrease in the north and, in any case, the increase does not necessarily indicate an improvement in living standards since it lies within the margin of error. Standard of living indicators did not change in any of the other WBGS districts (Table 7.1).

Data on household expenditure showed a similar trend to those on household consumption. In 1997, average monthly household expenditure declined by about 2.2% in the WBGS compared with the previous year, a decline of 1.7% in the West Bank and 2.5% in the Gaza Strip.

³⁸ In 1997, the purchasing power of the JD increased by about 1.6% compared to 1996. This means that real average monthly household consumption in the WBGS was actually JD 639 in 1997 calculated at 1996 prices. Current prices have been used for comparison purposes given that the change in the JD purchasing power was small and therefore would not affect the general trend of the value of average monthly household consumption.

³⁹ Household expenditure includes cash spent on the purchase of goods and services for living purposes, the value of goods, services and payments or part of payments received from an employer and cash expenditure spent as taxes (non-commercial or non-industrial), gifts, contributions, interest on debts and other non-consumption items.

The low percentage decline in these figures lies within the margin of error and is therefore considered as negligible. The largest decline in standards of living was noted in the north of the West Bank where average monthly household expenditure fell by 8.6% (Table 7.1).

In 1997, average monthly per capita consumption in the north of the West Bank declined by about 6.5% compared to 1996. Average monthly per capita expenditure recorded a higher decline in the same district (by about 13%). The rest of the WBGS witnessed small fluctuations in living standards compared with the previous year, with the exception of the south of the West Bank where average monthly per capita consumption fell by 4.6% during 1997.

Large differences in living standards, measured by average monthly per capita expenditure and consumption, are apparent between the different districts of the WBGS. Average monthly per capita consumption and expenditure in the Gaza Strip (JD 67.7 and JD 62 respectively) is nearly two-thirds of the average in the West Bank (JD 100 for consumption and JD 92.2 for expenditure). The Gaza Strip averages are just above half of the average consumption and expenditure figures for the central West Bank (Table 2).

The PCBS consumer price index for 1997 increased by 8.8% in the Gaza Strip compared to the previous year (taking 1996 as the base year). However, the consumer price index increased by about 7.6% in the West Bank over the same period. This means that the purchasing power of wages is declining at a higher rate in the Gaza Strip than in the West Bank. In addition, the gap between real consumption and expenditure between the two regions was 1.2% in 1997 (based on average JD prices in 1996) (MAS, 1998).

The percentage distribution of household consumption on various consumption groups in 1997 was similar to that of

1996. Percentage consumption on food was lower in the Gaza Strip compared to other districts, which is not consistent with other indicators that note severe poverty in the Gaza Strip. The percentage expenditure on food to total household expenditure in the Gaza Strip is similar to that in the central district of the West Bank. However, expenditure on meat is lower in the Gaza Strip and this could partly explain the low percentage of food consumption to total consumption in that region. Percentage expenditure on education and leisure increased in the Gaza Strip over its recorded average in the WBSG but there was a decline in expenditure on clothing, footwear, transportation and telecommunications. No major differences were noted in the percentage expenditure on various items between the different districts of the West Bank. The exception was in expenditure on taxes, which was highest in the center of the West Bank and lowest in the south (Table 7.1).

7.2 Decline in standards of living in the Jenin and Bethlehem governorates

The WBSG governorates can be ranked according to average monthly household consumption in the following order, starting with the highest: East Jerusalem, Ramallah and El-Bireh, Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, Tulkarem, Gaza governorates and Jenin. There is a large difference in standards of living between the governorate of Jenin (which has the lowest consumption level), and East Jerusalem (with the highest consumption level). Average monthly household consumption in the governorate of Jenin was 58.6% of that in East Jerusalem (Table 7.2).

In 1997, average monthly household consumption declined in the Jenin governorate by 15.9% compared to the previous year. There was also some decline in Bethlehem (10.2%) and Nablus (5.4%). At the same time, average monthly household consumption increased

in the governorates of Ramallah, El-Bireh and Jericho by about 4.4% and in the Hebron governorate by 3.9%. Governorates that already had low household consumption in 1996 saw a further deterioration in living standards, while average consumption increased in governorates with high consumption levels (Ramallah and El-Bireh), or remained unchanged (such as East Jerusalem).

The drop in figures on total expenditure indicates that living standards fell in 1997 in the north of the West Bank and Bethlehem compared with the previous year. On the other hand, standards of living (defined in terms of overall expenditure) improved in the governorates of Ramallah and El-Bireh, Jericho and Hebron. Average monthly household expenditure also declined in 1997 in the governorates of Gaza and East Jerusalem by a similar percentage (3%) compared to the previous year but this drop can be ignored since it lies within the margin of error (Table 7.2).

The percentage of food consumption to total household consumption in WBSG governorates was as follows:⁴⁰ Tulkarem (40.6%), Jenin (39.4%), Bethlehem (38.4%), Hebron (37.9%), East Jerusalem (36.5%), Nablus (36.3%), Ramallah, El-Bireh and Jericho (35.5%) and the Gaza Strip (35.3%). However, this indicator is not consistent with other indicators on WBSG living standards, especially in relation to the Gaza Strip, which usually performs badly. This could be due to the patterns of consumption and expenditure in the Gaza Strip (PCBS, 1998e, pp.37-38).

In 1997, the percentage expenditure on clothing and footwear to total expenditure

⁴⁰ Percentage household expenditure on food to total household expenditure can be compared as follows, in descending order: Tulkarem, Qalqilia, Bethlehem, East Jerusalem, Hebron, Jenin, Gaza, Nablus, Ramallah, El-Bireh and Jericho.

was similar for nearly all West Bank governorates (ranging between 9.7% and 9.3% in East Jerusalem, Hebron, Nablus and Bethlehem). Percentage expenditure on clothing and footwear to total expenditure was 8.4% in Ramallah, 8% in Jenin and 7.3% in the Gaza Strip governorates. Data indicate that there was an increase in percentage expenditure on clothing and footwear in the governorates of East Jerusalem (7.3%) and Bethlehem (6.79%) in 1997 compared with 1996 (PCBS, 1998e, pp.37-38).

Percentage expenditure on health care in the governorate of East Jerusalem fell in 1997 (2.7% in East Jerusalem compared to 5.2% in Ramallah, 4.1% in Jenin, and 3.1% in the Gaza governorates) (PCBS, 1998e, pp.37-38). This can be attributed to the fact that a large proportion of the East Jerusalem population is covered by health insurance.

Percentage expenditure on education to total expenditure increased considerably in 1997 compared with 1996. In the Gaza Strip, it rose from 2.13% in 1996 to 4.5% in 1997. In Nablus the increase was from 3.14% to 4.3% and in Hebron from 2.65% to 3.2%. There was some decline in other governorates. For example, in Ramallah (from 3.86% in 1996 to 2.6% in 1997), Bethlehem (from 4.39% to 3.3%) and in Tulkarem (from 3.07% to 2.6%) (PCBS, 1997a, pp.55-56; 1998e).

The governorates of the Gaza Strip had the highest percentage expenditure on leisure activities during 1997 (4% of total expenditure, which is similar to 1996) compared to other governorates. Percentage expenditure on leisure activities was lowest in the governorate of Jenin (1.3%) and Nablus (1.5%) (PCBS, 1997a; 1998e).

To place WBSGS living standards in context, two expenditure baskets can be used. The first is the 'basic needs expenditure basket' which reflects expenditure on food, clothing and

housing. The second, 'the average expenditure basket', reflects the items of the previous basket as well as expenditure on health care, education, transportation and telecommunications, utensils and furniture, plus other household items.

Percentage expenditure on the 'basic needs basket' increased during 1997 in the governorates of East Jerusalem (7.18%), Jenin (6.04%), Nablus (5.58%), Tulkarem and Qalqilia (5.29%). Percentage expenditure declined by between 1.9% and 3.1% in other districts. In 1997, average monthly household expenditure on the 'basic needs basket' ranged between 56.76% of total expenditure in the governorate of East Jerusalem to 51.87% in Ramallah.

In the 'average basket', average monthly household expenditure increased in 1997 compared to 1996 in the governorates of Nablus (7.3%) and Jenin (4.2%) but remained unchanged in the governorates of the Gaza Strip, Tulkarem and Qalqilia. The percentage declined elsewhere, ranging between 4% in Hebron to 1.3% in East Jerusalem. In 1997 the percentage expenditure on the items included in the 'average basket' to total expenditure was Bethlehem (84.7%), Nablus (84.5%), Tulkarem and Qalqilia (81.9%), Hebron (81.4%), Ramallah, El-Bireh and Jericho (80.2%), East Jerusalem (79.8%), Jenin (77.6%), and the Gaza Strip governorates (77%) (PCBS, 1997b; 1998e).

These data are not compatible with the incidence of poverty throughout the WBSGS, given that the governorates with the highest rates of poverty should have higher percentage expenditure on the 'basic needs basket'. This can be attributed to the pattern of expenditure in these governorates. The ratio of other non-consumption expenditure⁴¹ to total expenditure in the Gaza Strip was 8.9% in 199, with a ratio of 4% for leisure

This includes interest on loans, transfer payments and fees (*Zakat*, insurance). ⁴¹

activities, which is more than other governorates.

7.3 Families with the lowest standard of living are concentrated in the north and south of the West Bank

Palestinian households in the WBGS can be grouped into three categories according to their standard of living. The well-off group (whose percentage expenditure on food to total consumption is less than 30%) constituted 22.47% of all households in 1997, an increase of 2.94% over the previous year. The middle group (whose expenditure on food to total consumption ranges between 30-44%) constituted 31.25% of the total, representing an increase of 3% over 1996. The worse-off group (for whom food accounts for more than 44% of their consumption expenditure) made up 31.25% of Palestinian households, a decline of 5.92% over 1996. Based on this definition of living standards i.e. percentage expenditure on food to total consumption, there has been a decrease in the percentage of households within the third group during 1997 in favor of the middle and well-off groups. This was the trend throughout the WBGS (Table 7.3).

The percentage of well-off households in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are similar. The lowest percentage of households grouped within the worse-off category was in the center of the West Bank (Table 7.3).

7.4 Negative correlation between the size of the household and standard of living

PCBS data of 1997 show a clear negative correlation between the size of a household and its standard of living. Households classified as well-off tend to be small in size while the percentage of this group decreases with the rise in household size. The percentage of families categorized as worse-off tends to increase with size of the household. The only exception are families with 1-3

members which tend to be relatively poorer despite their small size due to the fact that many of these families are the elderly. Poverty rates among other family groups, (4-5 and 6-7 members) tend to increase with the rise in the family size.

The prime source of income for the well-off households is a family business while those with lower standards of living depend on wages or transfers. For 25.9% of all households, the primary income is from a family business. Those who live on income from salaries and wages account for 36.5% and 38% get their income from transfers (PCBS, 1997a; 1998e, p.52).⁴²

7.5 Half of WBGS workers earn an average daily wage of less than NIS 50

PCBS labor surveys in 1997 showed an increase in the nominal average daily wage in the WBGS between the first and third round of the surveys. The wages of West Bank workers continued to rise while those of workers in the Gaza Strip and Israel declined during the third round survey (July-September 1997). In the West Bank, real wages (calculated on the basis of first quarter prices in 1996) rose in the third quarter of 1997 compared to the same period in 1996. However, average real wages fell in the Gaza Strip and remained unchanged for workers in

⁴² Transfers include those from abroad and internally. According to the Palestine Poverty Report, the incidence of poverty among households whose source of income was internal transfers (mostly assistance) was 56%. The incidence of poverty amongst households whose prime source of income was transfers from abroad was 17%. These percentages reveal the huge differences in standards of living of those households who rely on transfers from abroad and those who rely on internal transfers. The incidence of poverty according to the source of income was as follows: work in Israel (16%), private sector employment (27%), pensions and inheritance (29%), family businesses and work in the public sector (19%).

Israel. The average wage level in the Gaza Strip was 80.5% of that in the West Bank during the third quarter of 1997 and was only 48.3% of the wages of Palestinian workers in Israel during the same period.

The lowest wage levels during the third quarter of 1997 were recorded in the agriculture, hunting and fishing sectors (NIS 48.8), equivalent to 59.1% of the wages earned by workers in the construction sector (NIS 82.6). The construction sector accounted for 18.4% of workers, including those who work in Israel. Palestinian workers in Israel and the settlements earn relatively higher wages than in the WBGS. These higher wages exert an upward pressure on the level of daily wages in the construction sector as a whole.⁴³ Data on wages show the differences in average daily wage levels between various districts of the WBGS. During the third quarter of 1997, the average daily wage in the agricultural sector in the West Bank was NIS 42.5, compared with NIS 29.3 in the Gaza Strip and NIS 55.8 for Palestinian workers in Israel and the settlements. Generally, this type of wage differential persists in other economic sectors.⁴⁴

⁴³ Nearly 52.9% of WBGS workers in Israel worked in the construction sector during the third quarter of 1997 while the percentage of the WBGS labor force working in Israel was 16.2%. Average daily wages in the construction sector were NIS 68.2 in the West Bank, NIS 39.6 in the Gaza Strip and NIS 100.9 in Israel (PCBS, 1997d, round 7, Tables 20, 21, 21a, 21b, 21c, pp. 72-81).

⁴⁴ During the third quarter of 1997, the average wage ratio in the WBGS to that of Palestinian workers in Israel was as follows, according to the sector: agriculture, hunting and fishing (76.16% in the West Bank and 52.2% in the Gaza Strip); mining, stone-cutting and manufacturing industries (57.14% WB and 41.18% GS); construction (67.59% WB and 39.25% GS); commercial activities, restaurants and hotels (51.96% WB and 34.53% GS); transportation, storage and telecommunications (64.5% WB and 47.87% GS); services and other sectors

Data on average daily wages reveal that nearly half of WBGS workers earned less than NIS 50 per day in the third quarter of 1997, including those working in Israel. In fact, half of West Bank workers earned less than NIS 48.5 per day, while in the Gaza Strip workers earned NIS 38.5 per day. The three labor survey rounds conducted in 1997 showed a drop in the wages of workers ranked in the lowest half of the wage-earning group (Table 7.4).

Unemployment increased during the third quarter of 1997 compared with the first quarter of the same year. Nearly one-fifth of the WBGS labor force was unemployed, particularly in the Gaza Strip where nearly a third of the labor force was affected. The labor surveys also revealed that the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Israeli labor markets are quite different. The Israeli labor market tends to be the most unstable for Palestinian workers due to political factors (such as the border closure policy used as a security measure by the Israelis).

7.6 More than a third of Gaza Strip households live below the poverty line⁴⁵

In 1997, the estimated incidence of poverty⁴⁶ in the WBGS was 23%. When

(65.06% WB and 56.71% GS) (PCBS, 1997d, round 7, pp.76-81).

⁴⁵ Based on the Report by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation.

⁴⁶ The definition of poverty used here is based on the 'basic needs basket' for a household of six members (a couple and four children).

Two poverty lines were estimated based on the actual household expenditure data of the PCBS. The first poverty line, 'the abject poverty line', includes the cost of food, clothing and housing, while the 'average poverty line' also includes the cost of health care, education, transportation, personal care and household utensils. The poverty lines were adjusted to reflect the consumption needs of the households according to household structure (household size and number of children) and the poverty lines

East Jerusalem is excluded from the calculations, this percentage rises to 25%. More than 38% of Gaza Strip households live below the poverty line i.e. two out of every three households are living in poverty or abject poverty compared to one out of every three households in the West Bank.

The incidence of poverty in the West Bank alone was estimated at 16% (rising to 18% when East Jerusalem is excluded). Although poverty rates are lower in the West Bank than the Gaza Strip, there are important geographical disparities within the West Bank itself. During 1997, poverty rates in the Hebron governorate were estimated at 23% compared to 16% in the north. These rates are substantially higher than those in the center of the West Bank (8%).

There are also differences between poverty rates in the various areas of the Gaza Strip. In the south of the Gaza Strip, the incidence of poverty was estimated at 51%, compared to 31% in the north and the city of Gaza. One out of every three households (35%) lives in abject poverty in the south of the Gaza Strip.

The incidence of poverty is higher among households headed by women⁴⁷ (nearly

vary with the household size. In 1997, the average monthly poverty line for a family of six was estimated at NIS 1,390, while the abject poverty line for the same household size was NIS 1,140. The average poverty line for a household made up of a couple and seven children was estimated at NIS 1,962 while the abject poverty line was calculated at NIS 1,610. The average monthly poverty line for a household of one person was NIS 418 with an abject poverty line of NIS 343.

The percentage of WBGS households headed by women is 8%.⁴⁷

30%) than households headed by men (22%).

Poverty rates correlate negatively with levels of education i.e. poverty is lower among those with higher levels of education. The incidence of poverty was estimated at 20% among those who had completed their basic education, 12% for those who had completed community or teachers' college (higher diploma), and only 8% for those with university degrees.

Poverty rates appear to increase towards the north and south of the West Bank. The incidence of poverty is highest in the Jenin governorate (28%), followed by Hebron (24%), Tulkarem and Qalqilia (17%), Bethlehem and Jericho (16%), and only 3% in East Jerusalem. This trend is also noticeable in the Gaza Strip, where poverty rates increase in the north and south compared to the center.

Although the incidence of poverty declined overall by 1% between 1996 and 1997, this did not affect all areas of the WBGS. The poverty rate in the Jenin governorate increased from 21% in 1996 to 28% in 1997 and in the Bethlehem/Jericho governorate by 6%. Other governorates saw a decline in their poverty rates, but not at a uniform level. The decrease in poverty rates in the West Bank ranged between 0.3% in East Jerusalem to 4.6% in the governorate of Nablus and 4.4% in Ramallah. The central district of the Gaza Strip saw the highest fall in poverty rates compared to other districts with a drop from 51% in 1996 to about 40% in 1997.

Poverty in the WBGs in 1997

Poverty in the West Bank is concentrated in rural areas where the incidence of poverty amongst households was 19%. This accounts for more than two-thirds of poor households in the West Bank. The highest incidence of poverty in the Gaza Strip was recorded in the refugee camps at 43%, accounting for 42% of poor households in the Gaza Strip.

The southern governorates of the West Bank have the highest poverty rates at 24%. The poverty rate in the north of the West Bank was 18% compared to 8% in the central governorate. The governorate of Hebron had the highest proportion of poor in the south of the West Bank with an abject poverty rate of 17.5% and an average poverty rate of 24.4%. Jenin also had the one of the highest poverty rates in the West Bank (27.6%), and an abject poverty rate of 15%. The south of the Gaza Strip is the poorest with a poverty rate of 51%, while nearly 35% of households live in abject poverty.

7.7 Substantial differences in the consumption pattern of the poor and the non-poor

The Report by the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation stated that the average monthly per capita consumption of the poor was NIS 308 compared to NIS 891 for the non-poor. Monthly per capita expenditure for the poor was NIS 287 compared with NIS 840 for the non-poor.⁴⁸

The share of food from total consumption was high for both poor and non-poor households. Monthly per capita food consumption for the poor was NIS 147,

equivalent to 47.7% of their total

expenditure, compared to NIS 333 for the non-poor, 37.4% of their expenditure.

The pattern of consumption of the poor in the West Bank is different from that in the Gaza Strip. The average monthly per capita consumption of the poor in the West Bank was estimated at NIS 316, of which NIS 160 were spent on food. This is equivalent to 50.6% of the per capita consumption of this group. The average per capita consumption of the non-poor was estimated at NIS 927, three times higher than that of the poor. In the Gaza Strip, monthly per capita expenditure for the poor was estimated at NIS 301, of which nearly NIS 134 are spent on food, thus accounting for 44.5% of per capita total consumption. The average per capita consumption of the non-poor in the Gaza Strip was NIS 777, of which NIS 268 are spent on food, accounting for 34.5% of total per capita consumption.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ The poor in WBGs make up 23% of the population but consume 9.1% of total goods and services. The non-poor constitute 77% of the WBGs population and consume 90.9% of total goods and services. The poor represent 15.6% of the West Bank population (including East Jerusalem) and consume only 6% of total West Bank consumption. The non-poor in the West Bank consume about 94% of total goods and services despite the fact that they only account for 84.4% of the West Bank population. In the Gaza Strip, the poor constitute 38.2% of the population and consume 19.3% of total goods and services. The percentage of non-poor are 61.8% and they consume 80.7% of total goods and services in the Gaza Strip (Palestine Poverty Report, 1997).

⁴⁹ Average per capita food consumption of the poor in the West Bank exceeded that in the Gaza Strip by 72% while that of the non-poor exceeded the Gaza Strip by about 73%. This is due to the higher cost of living in the

There are also considerable differences between consumption by the poor and non-poor on other items such as clothing and footwear. Average monthly per capita expenditure on clothing for the poor in the WBGS was NIS 15 compared with NIS 73 for the non-poor, more than four times greater. Average monthly per capita consumption of furniture by the poor was NIS 11 compared with NIS 51 for the non-poor. As regards expenditure on transportation and telecommunications, the average monthly per capita consumption of the poor was NIS 16 compared with NIS 97 for the non-poor, nearly five times higher. When it comes to cultural and leisure activities, the gap between the poor and non-poor increased by 667% during 1997. Monthly per capita expenditure by the poor on these items was NIS 3 compared with NIS 23 for the non-poor.

Monthly per capita expenditure on education and health care is relatively low for both the poor and non-poor due to the fact that education and health care services are available free of charge to a large proportion of the population, provided by the government, UNRWA and charitable organizations. The share of health care in per capita consumption in the WBGS was NIS 9 for the poor compared to NIS 36 for the non-poor.⁵⁰

West Bank compared to the Gaza Strip, in addition to the fact that meat prices in the Gaza Strip are lower (Palestine Poverty Report, 1997).

The average monthly per capita expenditure on health care and education in the WBGS conceal differences in expenditure on these items in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Average monthly per capita expenditure on education in the West Bank was NIS 5 for the poor compared with NIS 26 for the non-poor. In the Gaza Strip, this was NIS 9 for the poor compared with NIS 29 for the non-poor. Average monthly per capita expenditure on health care in the West Bank was NIS 11 for the poor compared with NIS 39 for the non-poor. In the Gaza Strip, it was NIS 7 for the poor and NIS 26 for the non-poor (Palestine Poverty Report, 1997).

Summary

Average consumption and expenditure levels in the WBGS declined in 1997 compared with 1996. This decline was higher in governorates that already had lower consumption and expenditure in 1996, especially in the north of the West Bank and the governorate of Bethlehem.

The average daily wage of the lowest half of the wage-earning group fell somewhat during 1997 compared to the previous year but on the whole, the average nominal daily wage for this group increased slightly.

The Palestine Poverty Report of the National Commission for Poverty Alleviation revealed that nearly one fourth of the WBGS population live below the poverty line. The incidence of poverty was higher in the south of the Gaza Strip than in the north while poverty rates were lower in the center of the West Bank compared with the north and south. The Report also showed that there was an increase in poverty rates in the governorates of Jenin, Bethlehem and Jericho compared with 1996.

8. INDICATORS ON CRIME, VICTIMS AND ROAD ACCIDENTS

The social sciences have always been concerned with the causes, pattern, frequency and impact of crimes on society. Theories on crime and the validity of official data abound. Data usually cover only crimes reported to the police and crime statistics may therefore reflect certain biases in which criminal behavior by the political or social elite or crimes against women and children may be ignored. Alternatively, data might focus on certain types of criminal behavior such as theft and drugs due to public

concern about these areas while other criminal behavior is neglected. The accuracy of any data on crime depends on the willingness and accuracy of the security forces in collecting and recording information. It also relies on the public to report criminal offenses against them. Some members of the public prefer to resort to traditional methods of dealing with offenders rather than the formal system and this undermines the validity of official data on crime. For these reasons, official data on crime in the WBSG must be treated with caution.

During the past few years, new developments have been taking place at international level in terms of data collection and the reporting of offenses. Officials are encouraged to collect data to provide indicators on crime as a vital tool to understand trends and patterns in crime rates and their causes. Such information assists crime prevention agencies to draw up strategies to counter growing crime rates and mitigate their impact on society.

Over the last decade, reported crimes increased by about 23% throughout the world.⁵¹ A report by the UN Committee for Crime Prevention noted that the percentage of reported crimes is increasing at an average rate of 5% annually. This rate is much higher than the population increase and this makes it difficult for the authorities to combat this trend.⁵²

Changes in social and economic conditions, population growth, urban

expansion and other transformations in Third World countries, including the Arab world, have altered the economic, cultural, and social balance and this is reflected in higher crime rates and changes in the type of crimes. The UN Economic and Social Committee of South West Asia⁵³ reported that crime rates in Arab countries increased during the eighties, with variables between one country and another. In the late eighties, figures based on the number of crimes per hundred thousand people were recorded as follows: Bahrain (5,546), Egypt (962), Qatar (708), Kuwait (669), Jordan (486), Lebanon (369), Saudi Arabia (348) and Syria (142).

Data on crime rates in the WBSG remain limited and inaccurate. No reliable data were available throughout the years of the occupation and the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics was the principal official source of data on criminal offenses and road accidents between 1967-1996. Based on this data, in addition to various other Palestinian sources, the PCBS published a report in 1998 on crime and the victims of crime in the WBSG. The report covered statistics on crime rates, victims, court cases, human rights violations, victims of road accidents and other sub-indicators on crime during the period 1967-1996.

Included in the 1998 report were the results of a 1996 PCBS survey of the victims of crime. This survey provided the first Palestinian data on victims and offenses and also covered criminal behavior against both people and property (PCBS, 1996b). The data collected included the type of criminal offense, the site of the crime, whether the crime was reported and any resulting physical or material damage.

Source: UN Conference on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Criminals. (1990). 'Crime prevention and the criminal judicial system in the course of development: reality and prospects for international cooperation.' A paper prepared by the General Council, Havana, Cuba, 27 August - 7 September, p.4.

Source: UN Economic and Social Council. (1990). Report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Reduction during its eleventh session in Vienna, 5-6 February.

Source: UN Economic and Social Council. (1992). A Profile of National Policies and Programs Aimed at Crime Prevention and Reduction in the Areas covered by the Economic and Social Committee of South West Asia.

Other data are taken from information on criminal offenses and road accidents collected by the General Directorate of the WBGS police force since 1997. These data are published in a monthly report on crimes and accidents according to governorate. Based on these data, the PCBS and the criminal investigation department of the General Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Interior published a first report on crime in the WBGS in 1997. The report is mostly aggregate and does not include a definition of the criminal offense recorded or a clear classification as to how the criminal offenses were grouped. In some cases, the classification of certain data in the West Bank is different from that in the Gaza Strip, which rules out the possibility of comparison between the two regions.

8.1 Lack of data on crime during the occupation

Data on criminal offenses in the WBGS (excluding Jerusalem) is available only for 1985, 1986 and 1987. There were 17,626 criminal offenses during 1985 (Table 8.1) (PCBS, 1998a, p.23). Of this total, 12,192 took place in the West Bank and 5,434 in the Gaza Strip. The definition of a criminal act during these years is based on Israeli conceptions and includes resistance to the occupation, which was considered to be illegal by the Israelis but was legitimate struggle in Palestinian eyes. This type of act accounted for 33.6% of all criminal offenses during 1985 and 36.2% in 1987.

Crimes against property were the most common offense and made up 36% of all offenses in the WBGS. Attempted murder accounted for 2.1% of all crimes compared to physical assault (16%) and offenses against morality (2.1%) (PCBS, 1998a, p.59).

The percentage of criminal offenses per 1,000 people decreased from 13.1% in 1985 to 10.98% in 1986 and 11.62% in 1987. Criminal activities related to drugs increased from 271 in 1985 to 621 in

1987, nearly 365 of which were in the Gaza Strip (PCBS, 1998a, pp.60 and 62).

The number of people charged and convicted in East Jerusalem (non-Jews) was high during the period from 1979-1993 (PCBS, 1998a). Their numbers increased from 99 prosecutions resulting in 80 convictions in 1979 to 817 prosecutions resulting in 773 convictions in 1993. The highest number of convictions was in 1991 (902, of which 352 were politically motivated although considered as crimes by the Israelis). The majority of those convicted in East Jerusalem were male. There were 818 adult males convicted of dangerous criminal offenses in 1992 compared to 42 women.

The lack of detailed statistical data on crime indicators during the occupation is obvious from these figures. Although the Israeli authorities used to collect data from its army and police headquarters in the WBGS, they only published a small percentage of these data and at irregular periods.

8.2 A higher rate of criminal prosecutions compared to civil litigation during the occupation

According to the PCBS Crime and Victimization Report of 1998, there were 6,758 civil court cases during 1969 (5,758 in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and the remainder in the Gaza Strip). The number of cases increased to 8,860 in 1973 (7,623 in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and the rest in the Gaza Strip). By 1983, the number had fallen to 4,703 cases (3,562 in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 1,141 in the Gaza Strip). This drop in the number of civil court cases can be attributed to the lack of confidence by Palestinians in the fairness of the Israeli judicial system. It was noticeable that there was increased use of traditional tribal intervention during this period and this was used to deal with various cases

which were never reported in the official courts (PCBS, 1998a, pp.74-75).

There were a higher number of criminal cases brought before the courts than civil cases. In 1987, 6,566 civil cases were heard in the WBGS (excluding Jerusalem), compared with 146,119 criminal cases. This indicates that Palestinians did not report civil disputes to the Israelis, relying on the traditional system, while they continued to report criminal offenses. The lack of a detailed breakdown of crimes according to category and the number of people convicted and sentenced makes it impossible to ascertain whether the number of criminal cases were on the increase compared to civil litigation.

8.3 Criminal offenses under the PNA: increase in theft and low reporting of crime

The 1996 PCBS survey of the victims of crime was intended to provide some basic indicators on criminal offenses and victims in Palestinian society in the WBGS. The survey reported that 5.6% of households had been the target of a criminal offense during 1996. These percentages were 6.5% in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 3.7% in the Gaza Strip. In the WBGS population, 54.2% had reported thefts, with 57.7% of the crimes taking place in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 41.3% in the Gaza Strip. Criminal assaults were reported by 18.8% of the WBGS population, 12.4% in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 42.6% in the Gaza Strip.

The survey showed that more than 50% of criminal offenses took place in the victim's home or nearby. The results also indicated that 40.2% of criminal offenses were reported with 27.2% of these cases reaching court.

According to the survey, the Israeli army or settlers were responsible for 11.6% of the criminal offenses reported in the

WBGS (14.1% in the West Bank and 2.35% in the Gaza Strip).

A high percentage of criminal offenses (22.1%) involved physical assault. Nearly 15.3% of criminal offenses caused damage to property of over JD 1,000. In 85.8% of cases, the victim had to pay for the material damage resulting from the criminal act.

8.4 Lower percentage of criminal offenses in the Gaza Strip relative to the West Bank

As stated earlier, in 1997 the General Police Directorate started to collect and publish statistical data on criminal acts in the WBGS (excluding East Jerusalem). This data can be considered as a base to monitor indicators as well as quantitative and qualitative changes in criminal offenses.

The data reveal that the number of criminal offenses reported in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) during 1997 was higher than in the Gaza Strip (Table 8.2). There were 11,737 criminal offenses in the West Bank during that year compared with 2,374 cases in the Gaza Strip. Within the West Bank, Nablus had the highest number of criminal offenses (2,903) with a percentage contribution of 24.73% to the total number of crimes. This was followed by Ramallah (2,401), with 20.45% of total crimes, then Tulkarem (1,578) with 13.44%. Hebron had the lowest number of criminal offenses (440), a percentage contribution of 3.74% to the total number of crimes, despite the fact that this governorate has the second largest population in the WBGS.

The highest number of criminal offenses in the Gaza Strip in 1997 was in the governorate of Gaza with 1,331 offenses, accounting for 56.6% of all crimes in that area. The governorate of Khan Younis was next (403) with 16.97% of the Gaza Strip total. The governorate of the central camps had the lowest crime rate in the

Gaza Strip (100), representing 4.21% of all crimes.

8.5 Increase in assault and decrease in crimes related to drugs and public order

The General Police Directorate data reveal that assault was the most common offense with a total of 3,475 offenses, accounting for 29.6% of all criminal offenses in the West Bank (excluding Jerusalem). A number of crimes come within this category; physical assault (38.24% of crimes in this category), bodily harm (25.35%), grievous bodily harm (12%), verbal abuse (10.4%) and others (14%).

The second most common offenses are those that fall into the category of 'other criminal offenses'. These totaled 3,336, accounting for 28.4% of all crimes. Road accidents make up 79.8% of these offenses.

Financial fraud is the third most common crime (2,727 cases), making up 23.2% of all West Bank crimes. This category includes offenses such as theft (60.8%), causing loss of money (11.7%), car theft (9.8%), and others (17.5%).

Crimes against 'state security'⁵⁴ (919) account for 7.8% of crimes in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem). Offenses in this category include shooting (25.7%), brawls and disturbances (17%), the storage and sale of expired food stuffs (13.6%), causing gun injuries (10.4%), forging official documents (10.1%), and others (22.9%).

Offenses against reputation represent 4% of the total number of criminal offenses in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem). This category includes obscene behavior (27.9%), slander (24.2%), and telephone harassment (19.5%).

Drugs-related offenses account for only a small percentage (2.3%) of all crimes in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem). The main offense within this category is the use of drugs (47.5%) and possession of drugs (45.5%). The trading or promoting of drugs do not constitute a major part of the drugs-related crimes in the West Bank.

Criminal offenses against public offices or employees account for 2.2% of all crimes in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem), while criminal offenses against public order make up 38%. Municipal fraud constitutes only 0.1% of West Bank crime.

The distribution and frequency of criminal offenses in the Gaza Strip is different from that in the West Bank. The most common offenses fall within the category of "other crimes" (35.9%). Offenses against reputation are second (33.8%) and offenses against 'state security' account for 13.9%. Financial fraud accounts for 8.3% of all crimes, plus offenses against public order (3.8%) and offenses against public offices (1.7% of the Gaza Strip total). Drugs-related offenses account for 1.5%, assault 0.5% and municipal fraud about 0.3% of criminal offenses in the Gaza Strip.

In 1997, there were 2,199 juvenile crimes in the WBGS, 65.1% of these in the West Bank and the rest in the Gaza Strip. Police Directorate statistics reveal that the majority of juvenile offenders (44.2%) dropped out of school at the preparatory stage of their education, while 24.2% dropped out during secondary education and 27.2% whilst at basic level. In addition, 3.6% of juvenile offenders were illiterate.

8.6 Increase in road accidents

The Central Bureau of Statistics for Israel provided detailed data on road accidents in the WBGS (excluding Jerusalem) during the occupation and these statistics are the only available time series data up

⁵⁴ As classified by the Ministry of Interior and General Police Directorate.

until the end of 1993, since the PNA assumed power in the Palestinian territories during 1994.

In 1975, there were 20,798 vehicles in the WBGS (excluding Jerusalem). Of these, 1,710 vehicles were involved in road accidents, about 8% of the total number of vehicles. In 1993, there were 123,453 vehicles, of which 2,404 were involved in road accidents (2% of all vehicles). Despite the decrease in the percentage of vehicles involved in road accidents, the absolute number of vehicles increased sharply (PCBS, 1998a, p.81).

The number of road accidents has been rising continuously since 1967 (Table 8.3). There were a total of 704 road accidents in the WBGS (excluding East Jerusalem) in 1968. This figure rose to 1,448 in 1987, then to 2,151 in 1992 and reached 7,186 in 1996.

The number of road accident casualties increased from 1,149 people in 1968, of whom 756 were from the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem), to 2,475 people in 1987 (1,812 from the West Bank). The numbers continued to rise to reach 8,327 people in 1996, of whom 6,825 came from the West Bank. The increase in the number of vehicles together with the lack of an adequate road infrastructure is the main reason for the rise in road accident casualties (PCBS, 1998a, p.90).

The number of fatal road accidents has also increased (Table 8.3). In 1968 there were 76 road accident fatalities, 52 in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 24 in the Gaza Strip. By 1987, the number had grown to 169, of which 102 were in the West Bank and 67 in the Gaza Strip. The number of serious injuries caused by road accidents has also increased over the years. In 1968, there were 184 serious injuries, jumping to 710 by 1987. There were 444 light injuries from road accidents in 1968 compared to 569 in 1987.

8.7 Passengers are the most vulnerable in road accidents

Passengers tend to be the most vulnerable in road accidents in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) and 1,443 passengers were injured in 1993 (Table 8.4). Drivers are the second most likely casualties and 836 were injured in 1993. In the same year, 444 pedestrians were injured in road accidents.

In the Gaza Strip, pedestrians are most likely to be injured in road accidents. In 1993 around 432 pedestrians were injured compared to 159 passengers and 70 drivers. The high rate of pedestrian injuries in the Gaza Strip can be attributed to the narrow roads, higher population density and poor road infrastructure in comparison to the West Bank.

There were a total of 7,532 road accidents during 1997 in the WBGS (excluding East Jerusalem). Of these, 5,641 accidents took place in the West Bank (74.9%) while the rest occurred in the Gaza Strip. There were 1,620 reported road accidents which did not involve human injury and were limited to material damage. Of this total, 1,384 (nearly 85.4%) took place in the West Bank. The total number of road accident casualties during that year was 8,312, of which 6,270 were in the West Bank (75.4%) and the rest in the Gaza Strip.

The majority (5,152) of road accident injuries were light, accounting for 61.9% of all injuries (Table 8.5). There were 2,325 medium injuries (27.9% of the total) and 2,325 serious injuries (7.8% of the total). There were 179 deaths resulting from road accidents (2.1% of the total).

Summary

Data on crime and victims in the WBGS (excluding East Jerusalem) suffer from a number of problems. These include the limited availability of data, inaccuracies and the absence of time series data that would permit detailed monitoring of

criminal offenses and their trends. There is also a lack of disaggregated data to monitor crime rates as they relate to gender, age groups, marital status, social status and vocation. In addition, clear classification and categorization of the types of crime is needed to take into account social and geographical factors that are usually absent from official crime statistics. The lack of surveys on crime in general renders the few statistics available from the PCBS very weak. Surveys are essential to learn about and analyze the different types of crime and the behavior of victims as well as to monitor the conditions that enhance and encourage crimes. In addition, surveys would play an important role in studying the effectiveness of traditional conflict resolution techniques compared to the role played by the judicial system, police

investigation of criminal offenses and crime prevention organizations.

Recommendations made by the security and justice department at the PCBS will contribute to the development of statistics on crime and victims and help to solve some of the problems discussed above (PCBS, 1998a, p.41). However, statistics rely on the availability of data from public officials working in this area, such as the police, the judicial system, the courts and insurance companies. Cooperation in the collation of accurate statistics by these departments will render the work of the PCBS more successful in this area.



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Statistical Annex

جدول 2-1: توزيع السكان في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة لعامي 1996 و 1997
Table 2.1: Population Distribution in the WBGS in 1996 and 1997

مخيمات Camps	ريف Villages	حضر* Urban Centers*	المجموع Total		المنطقة Area
			1997	1996	
النسبة من سكان الضفة الغربية					
Percentage of West Bank population					
4.1	34.1	61.8	30.33	25.9	جنوب الضفة West Bank- South
7.4	55.2	37.4	32.64	32.9	وسط الضفة West Bank – Center
8.1	37.3	54.6	37.04	41.2	شمال الضفة West Bank – North
			100.0	100.0	الضفة الغربية West Bank – Total
النسبة من مجموع السكان					
Percentage of total population					
6.5	45.6	47.9	63.2	62.0	الضفة الغربية West Bank
31.1	5.3	63.6	36.8	38.0	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip
15.9	30.1	54.0	100.0	100.0	الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة WBGS

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، سكان التجمعات الفلسطينية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة: تقديرات منقحة لعام 1996، 1996.
ودائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، التعداد العام للسكان والمساكن والمنشآت- كراس المؤتمر الصحفي، 1998.
* تغيير مفهوم الحضر بين عامي 1996-1997 كما ورد في النص. وتجدر الإشارة إلى أن النسب الخاصة بمفهوم الحضر في وسط الضفة الغربية لا تشمل القدس التي ضمتها إسرائيل عنوة عام 1967.

Sources: PCBS, (1996a; 1998b).

The figures on urban centers excludes East Jerusalem which was occupied by the Israelis in 1967.

* The definition of *el-Hadar* has changed between 1996 and 1997 as explained in the text.

جدول 1-3: وفيات الأطفال والرضع في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة لعامي 1996 و 1997
Table 3.1: Infant and Child Mortality Rates in the WBGs*
During 1996 and 1997

معدل وفيات الرضع لكل (1000) مولود حي Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	وفيات (عدد) Deaths (number)				مواليد (عدد) Live Births (number)		المنطقة Region	
	أطفال Children		رضع Infants		1997	1996		
	1997	1996	1997	1996				
12.4	10.2	216	207	594	537	47882	52863	الضفة الغربية West Bank
20.1	22.6	221	199	752	866	37485	38236	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip
15.8	15.4	437	406	1346	1403	85367	91099	الضفة والقطاع WBGs

وزارة الصحة الفلسطينية، التقرير السنوي 1996، حزيران 1997.
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Sources: Palestinian Ministry of Health, (1997a; 1997b; 1998).

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 3-2: عدد الأسرة العامة ونسبتها إلى كل 1000 مواطن
في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب المنطقة والسنة

Table 3.2: Total Number of Hospital Beds and Ratio per 1,000 people
in the WBGS by Region, District and Year

Region and District	سرير/1000مواطن		عدد الأسرة		المنطقة
	Beds per 1,000 People		Number of Beds		
	1997	1996	1997	1996	
West Bank – North	0.74	0.83	583	535	شمال الضفة
West Bank – Center	1.63	1.64	915	850	وسط الضفة
West Bank – South	1.10	1.12	572	454	جنوب الضفة
West Bank – Total	1.14	1.17	2070	1839	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	0.72	0.72	723	695	قطاع غزة
WBGS	0.97	1.00	2793	2534	الضفة والقطاع

المصدر: وزارة الصحة الفلسطينية، التقرير السنوي لعام 1996، 1997.
: التقرير الإحصائي الصحي السنوي (محافظة الضفة الغربية) 97/96، 1998.
: التقرير الصحي الربع سنوي لمحافظة قطاع غزة، 1997.

Sources: Palestinian Ministry of Health, (1997a; 1997b; 1998).

جدول 3-3: توزع الولادات حسب مكان الولادة والمنطقة لعامي 1996 و 1997.

Table 3.3: Distribution of Live Births by Place of Birth and Region for 1996 and 1997

Place of Birth	المجموع Total				قطاع غزة Gaza Strip				الضفة الغربية West Bank*				مكان الولادة
	1997		1996		1997		1996		1997		1996		
	%	عدد No.	%	عدد No.	%	عدد No.	%	عدد No.	%	عدد No.	%	عدد No.	
Hospitals	71.2	60737	66.4	60495	55.6	20821	51.5	19660	83.36	39916	77.3	40835	المواليد في المستشفيات
Clinics	19.1	16293	18.9	17128	38.1	14303	38.6	14736	4.156	1990	4.6	2439	عيادات
Midwife	9.7	8337	14.7	13379	6.3	2361	9.9	3794	12.48	5976	18.1	9589	بواسطة قابلة
Total	100	85367	100	91002	100	37485	100	38190	100	47882	100	52863	المجموع

وزارة الصحة الفلسطينية، التقرير السنوي 1996، حزيران 1997.
 —: التقرير الإحصائي الصحي السنوي 97/96 (الضفة الغربية)، أيار 1998.
 —: التقرير الصحي الربع سنوي -الربع الرابع 1997 - (قطاع غزة)، 1997.

Sources: Palestinian Ministry of Health, (1997a; 1997b; 1998).

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 4-1: توزيع رياض الأطفال حسب المنطقة والجهة المشرفة والجنس والسنة

Table 4.1: Distribution of Children at Kindergartens by Region, Supervisory Authority, Gender and Year

عدد الروضات Number of Kindergartens				النوع الاجتماعي Gender				المنطقة Area
المجموع Total	مختلطة Mixed	إناث Female	ذكور Male	مجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	السنة Year	
705	690	11	4	69134	32970	36164	96/97	المجموع العام Total
789	776	9	4	75032	36254	38778	97/98	
234	234	0	0	20104	9652	10452	96/97	شمال الضفة West Bank- North
278	278	0	0	22646	11136	11510	97/98	
117	106	8	3	10396	5119	5277	96/97	وسط الضفة West Bank- Center
119	110	6	3	11226	5564	5662	97/98	
154	151	3	0	13520	6468	7052	96/97	جنوب الضفة West Bank- South
173	169	3	1	15148	7293	7855	97/98	
505	491	11	3	44020	21239	22781	96/97	الضفة الغربية West Bank- Total
570	557	9	4	49020	23993	25027	97/98	
200	199	0	1	25114	11731	13383	96/67	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip
200	219	0	0	26012	12261	13751	97/98	

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية ووزارة التربية والتعليم، الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي (1997/1996)، ص58.

الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي (1998/1997)، ص1، 59.

ملاحظة: الجداول الخاصة برياض الأطفال والمدارس لا تشمل مدارس المعارف والبلدية في القدس الشرقية.

Sources: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1997, p.58; 1998, p.59).

Note: In Tables 4.1 to 4.6 inclusive East Jerusalem schools run by the Israeli Ministry of Education and municipal schools are not included in the figures.

جدول 4-2: توزيع الطلبة للعامين 1997/1996 و 1998/1997 ونسبة التغير حسب المرحلة والجنس

Table 4.2: Distribution of Students in Academic Years 1996/1997 and 1997/1998 and Percentage Change in Numbers by Educational Level and Gender

نسبة التغير Percentage Change	الطلبة Number of Students		الجنس Gender	المرحلة Level
	97/96	98/97		
7.11	712 820	763 467	Total مجموع	
6.72	364 036	388 508	Male ذكر	المجموع العام
7.50	348 784	374 959	Female أنثى	General total
6.78	334 402	357 060	Male ذكر	المرحلة الأساسية
7.26	321 951	345 322	Female أنثى	Basic education
7.91	10 145	10 947	Male ذكر	ثانوي علمي
8.69	7 252	7 882	Female أنثى	Secondary education – scientific stream
4.51	18 046	18 859	Male ذكر	ثانوي أدبي
11.21	19 249	21 406	Female أنثى	Secondary education–literary stream
-	-	121	Male ذكر	ثانوي شرعي
-	-	-	Female أنثى	Secondary education – religious stream
5.41	1 443	1 521	Male ذكر	ثانوي مهني
5.12	332	349	Female أنثى	Secondary education – vocational stream

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، الكتاب التربوي السنوي 1998/1997، 1998، ص100.
- : لا تنطبق

Sources: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1998, p.100).

_ : not applicable.

جدول 4-4: نسبة التسرب حسب الجنس والصف للعامين 96/95 و 97/96

Table 4.4: Dropout Rates in WBGS by Gender and Grade in 1996/1997 and 1997/1998

المتسربون 97/96 Dropout		المتسربون 96/95 Dropout		الجنس Gender	الصف Grade
%	عدد Numbers	%	عدد Numbers		
2.2	15471	2.8	18231	Total مجموع	
2.3	8279	2.7	9242	Male ذكر	المجموع العام
2.1	7192	2.8	8989	Female أنثى	General total
0.6	256	0.5	208	Male ذكر	الأول الأساسي
0.3	140	0.4	149	Female أنثى	First grade
0.3	133	0.3	114	Male ذكر	الثاني الأساسي
0.3	111	0.3	126	Female أنثى	Second grade
0.5	186	0.4	156	Male ذكر	الثالث الأساسي
0.3	113	0.4	123	Female أنثى	Third grade
0.7	249	0.7	256	Male ذكر	الرابع الأساسي
0.5	168	0.6	196	Female أنثى	Fourth grade
1.3	448	1.5	533	Male ذكر	الخامس الأساسي
0.8	272	1.2	376	Female أنثى	Fifth grade
2.2	728	2.4	746	Male ذكر	السادس الأساسي
1.4	440	2.1	607	Female أنثى	Sixth grade
3.7	1 108	4.2	1 220	Male ذكر	السابع الأساسي
2.2	634	3.2	892	Female أنثى	Seventh grade
5.0	1 374	6.0	1 481	Male ذكر	الثامن الأساسي
3.5	931	4.7	1 132	Female أنثى	Eighth grade
6.2	1 415	6.8	1 462	Male ذكر	التاسع الأساسي
5.0	1 131	6.4	1 301	Female أنثى	Ninth grade
6.6	1 216	8.4	1 438	Male ذكر	العاشر الأساسي
6.2	1 127	13.1	2 173	Female أنثى	Tenth grade
1.1	57	4.5	207	Male ذكر	أول ثانوي علمي
3.3	130	3.1	110	Female أنثى	Secondary education - First grade (scientific stream)
1.4	66	1.2	64	Male ذكر	ثاني ثانوي علمي
4.1	136	4.0	108	Female أنثى	Secondary education – second grade (scientific stream)

المتسربون 97/96 Dropout		المتسربون 96/95 Dropout		الجنس Gender	الصف Grade
%	عدد Numbers	%	عدد Numbers		
7.5	687	8.4	755	Male ذكر	أول ثانوي أدبي
9.5	1 024	10.7	1 028	Female أنثى	Secondary education - first grade (literary stream)
3.8	335	8.1	563	Male ذكر	ثاني ثانوي أدبي
9.8	828	8.8	649	Female أنثى	Secondary education – second grade (literary stream)

-	-	-	-	Male	ذكر	أول ثانوي شرعي
-	-	-	-	Female	أنثى	Secondary education- first grade (religious studies stream)
-	-	-	-	Male	ذكر	ثاني ثانوي شرعي
-	-	-	-	Female	أنثى	Secondary education – second grade (religious studies stream)
1.4	11	2.3	17	Male	ذكر	أول ثانوي مهني
3.8	7	5.2	10	Female	أنثى	Secondary education – first grade (vocational stream)
1.6	10	3.4	22	Male	ذكر	ثاني ثانوي مهني
0.0		6.9	9	Female	أنثى	Secondary education – second grade

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية ووزارة التربية والتعليم، الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي السنوي 1997/1996، 1997، ص102.

- لا تنطبق

الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي السنوي 1998/1997، 1998، ص 100.

Sources: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1997, p.102; 1998, p.100).

جدول 4-5: معدل عدد الطلبة لكل معلم حسب المنطقة والجهة المشرفة
**Table 4.5: Average Number of Students Per Teacher
by Supervisory Authority and Region**

رياض أطفال Kindergartens	مدارس خاصة Private Schools	وكالة UNRWA Schools	حكومة Government Schools	السنة الدراسية School Year	المنطقة Region
31	19	38	30	96/95	المعدل العام
32	16	38	28	97/96	Total average
28	18	39	28	98/97	
31	18	34	29	96/95	الضفة الغربية
32	16	31	27	97/96	West Bank
29	18	33	27	98/97	
24	23	39	34	96/95	قطاع غزة
29	19	40	32	97/96	Gaza Strip
27	20	41	31	98/97	

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية ووزارة التربية والتعليم الفلسطينية، الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي السنوي 1998/1997، رام الله، 1998.

Source: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1998).

جدول 4-6: معدل عدد الطلبة لكل شعبة في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب المرحلة والمنطقة والجهة المشرفة لعامي 1997/1996 و 1998/1997
 Table 4.6: Average Number of Students Per Class in WBGS Schools by Educational Level, Region and Supervisory Authority

Educational Level and Region	Supervisory Authority الجهة المشرفة								المرحلة والمنطقة
	خاصة Private Schools		وكالة UNRWA		حكومية Government		المجموع Total Average		
	98/97	97/96	98/97	97/96	98/97	97/96	98/97	97/96	
Basic education	27	27	46	45	36	36	37	37	المرحلة الأساسية
Jenin	24	27	37	37	33	34	33	34	جنين
Nablus	28	26	39	39	34	33	34	34	نابلس
Salfeet	0	0	0	-	31	31	31	31	سلفيت
Tulkarem	27	23	39	40	34	35	35	35	طولكرم
Qalqilia	15	15	41	43	33	34	33	35	قلقيلية
Ramallah	25	25	39	38	32	32	31	32	رام الله
Jerusalem	28	29	32	33	31	30	30	30	القدس
Jericho	28	28	41	39	31	31	34	33	أريحا
Bethlehem	28	27	35	35	33	34	32	32	بيت لحم
Hebron	27	27	41	39	37	36	36	36	الخليل
Southern Hebron	25	27	37	37	34	34	34	34	جنوب الخليل
West Bank	27	27	38	38	33	34	33	33	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	28	30	50	48	43	43	46	45	قطاع غزة
Secondary education	17	18	-	-	32	32	30	30	المرحلة الثانوية
Jenin	18	18	-	-	26	27	25	26	جنين
Nablus	21	23	-	-	29	29	28	29	نابلس
Salfeet	0	0	-	-	19	21	19	21	سلفيت
Tulkarem	12	8	-	-	27	27	26	27	طولكرم
Qalqilia	0	0	-	-	25	26	25	26	قلقيلية
Ramallah	16	15	-	-	26	26	23	22	رام الله
Jerusalem	13	13	-	-	27	28	18	18	القدس
Jericho	10	12	-	-	25	26	24	25	أريحا
Bethlehem	19	19	-	-	30	30	26	27	بيت لحم
Hebron	28	25	-	-	30	30	30	30	الخليل
Southern Hebron	0	0	-	-	31	30	31	30	جنوب الخليل
West Bank	17	16	-	-	27	28	26	26	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	29	34	-	-	40	41	37	40	قطاع غزة

المصدر: وزارة التربية والتعليم الفلسطينية ودائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي السنوي 1996/1997، رام الله، 1997. والكتاب الإحصائي التربوي السنوي 1998/1997، رام الله، 1998.

Sources: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1997; 1998).

جدول 4-7: توزع طلبة كليات المجتمع في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
حسب الجنس والمنطقة لعامي 97/96 و 98/97.

Table 4.7: Distribution of Community College Students in WBGS
by Gender and Region for 1996/1997 and 1997/1998

Governorate	97/98			96/97			المحافظة
	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	
Jerusalem	333	296	37	348	313	35	القدس
Ramallah	458	355	103	417	323	94	رام الله
Jericho	39	23	16	37	16	21	أريحا
West Bank – Center	830	674	156	802	652	150	وسط الضفة
Nablus	513	265	248	853	338	515	نابلس
Tulkarem & Qalqilia	513	302	211	560	267	293	طولكرم وقلقيلية
Jenin	246	125	121	313	158	155	جنين
West Bank – North	1272	692	580	1726	763	963	شمال الضفة
Hebron	842	424	418	803	434	369	الخليل
Bethlehem	125	80	45	196	105	91	بيت لحم
West Bank – South	967	504	463	999	539	460	جنوب الضفة
West Bank- Total	3069	1870	1199	3527	1954	1573	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	1225	480	745	1051	386	665	غزة
Palestinians from inside the Green Line	5	0	5	3	0	3	فلسطينيو 1948
Palestinians from other areas	0	0	0	18	5	13	أماكن أخرى
Total	4299	2350	1949	4599	2345	2254	المجموع

المصدر: وزارة التعليم العالي الفلسطينية، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1997/1996)، 1997، ص 153
- الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1998/1997)، 1998، ص 155.

Sources: Ministry of Higher Education, (1997, p.153; 1998, p.155).

جدول 4-8: توزيع طلبة كليات المجتمع المتوسطة
حسب الجنس والتخصص لعامي 97/96 - 98/97.

Table 4.8: Distribution of Community College Students by Gender and Specialization in 1996/1997 and 1997/1998

Program	97/98			96/97			البرنامج
	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	
Academic	506	423	83	484	398	86	الأكاديمي
Education	117	79	38	287	161	126	التربوي
Engineering	469	46	423	566	47	519	المهن الهندسية
Medical vocations	261	203	58	316	199	117	المهن الطبية المساعدة
Business admin. & finance	1485	846	639	1673	873	800	الأعمال الإدارية والمالية
Computer	774	431	347	680	316	364	الحاسوب
Applied arts	318	120	198	257	108	149	الفنون التطبيقية
Social work	46	18	28	70	43	27	العمل الاجتماعي
Hotel management	84	9	75	46	7	39	الفندقة
Vocational training	145	127	18	178	173	5	الأقسام المهنية
Nursing	90	48	42	42	20	22	التمريض
Total	4305.0	2356.0	1949.0	4599.0	2345.0	2254.0	المجموع

المصدر: وزارة التعليم العالي الفلسطينية، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1997/1996)، 1997، ص 153.
الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1998/1997)، 1998، ص 299.

Sources: Ministry of Higher Education, (1997, p.153; 1998, p.299).

جدول 4-9: توزيع طلبة الجامعات في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب الجنس ومنطقة السكن لعامي 97/96 و 98/97.

Table 4.9: Distribution of University Students in WBGS Palestinian Universities by Gender and Governorate in 1996/1997 and 1997/1998

Governorate	97/98			96/97			المحافظة
	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	
Jerusalem	2647	1742	905	2812	1802	1010	القدس
Ramallah	3831	1782	2049	3579	1681	1898	رام الله
Jericho	395	188	207	111	65	46	أريحا
West Bank – Center	6873	3712	3161	6502	3548	2954	وسط الضفة
Nablus	6553	2668	3885	5782	2383	3399	نابلس
Tulkarem & Qalqilia	3526	1499	2027	3093	1282	1811	طولكرم وقلقيلية
Jenin	2907	1204	1703	2523	1024	1499	جنين
West Bank – North	12986	5371	7615	11398	4689	6709	شمال الضفة
Hebron	4640	2228	2412	3981	1871	2110	الخليل
Bethlehem	2397	1330	1067	2171	1157	1014	بيت لحم
West Bank – South	7037	3558	3479	6152	3028	3124	جنوب الضفة
West Bank- Total	26896	12641	14255	24052	11265	12787	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	23338	9300	14038	21197	8315	12882	غزة
Palestinians from inside the Green Line	55	25	30	27	15	12	فلسطينيو 1948
Palestinians from other areas*	2138	915	1223	123	82	41	أماكن أخرى
Total	52427	22881	29546	45399	19677	25722	المجموع

المصدر: وزارة التعليم العالي الفلسطينية، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1997/1996)، 1997، ص 58.
 — ، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1998/1997)، 1998، ص 58.
 * يعود سبب الازدياد الكبير في عدد الطلاب من الأماكن الأخرى إلى اعتبار أبناء العائدين الدارسين في الجامعة الإسلامية في غزة ولا يحملون هويات، من أماكن أخرى، وقد بلغت نسبتهم حوالي ربع عدد طلاب الجامعة.

Sources: Ministry of Higher Education, (1997, p.58; 1998, p.58).

* The increase in the number of students from other areas is due to the classification system used by the Ministry of Higher Education. This defines students whose families returned to Palestine with the establishment of the PNA but who do not yet hold a Palestinian identity card as "Palestinians from other areas". Most of these students study at the Islamic University in Gaza, where they account for nearly a quarter of the students enrolled.

جدول 4-10: نسبة طلاب الجامعات الفلسطينية من عدد السكان
حسب المنطقة لعام 98/97

Table 4.10: Ratio of Students Enrolled at Palestinian Universities
to Total Population by Region and Gender in 1997/1998

قطاع غزة Gaza Strip	الضفة الغربية West Bank				الضفة والقطاع WBGS	الجنس Gender
	الضفة الغربية West Bank	جنوب South	وسط Center	شمال North		
2.81	1.54	-	-	-	2.01	ذكور Male
1.92	1.41	-	-	-	1.60	إناث Female
2.38	1.47	1.27	1.15	1.92	1.80	المجموع Total

المصدر: وزارة التعليم العالي، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والكليات الفلسطينية 1997/1998، ص 58.
دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، التعداد العام للسكان والمساكن والمنشآت 1997.

Sources: Ministry of Higher Education, (1998, p.58).

جدول 5-1: توزيع إصدارات المنظمات غير الحكومية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
حسب الموضوع وسنة النشر (باستثناء المجلات)

Table 5.1: Distribution of Publications by NGOs in WBGS by Subject
and Year of Publication (Excluding Journals)

Subject	%	المجموع Total	1997	1996	1995	الموضوع
Development issues	2.4	7	5	-	2	شؤون تنموية
Economics	9.9	29	17	6	6	اقتصاد
Human rights and democracy	18.7	55	18	18	19	حقوق إنسان وديمقراطية
Jerusalem	12.2	36	10	5	21	قضايا اللاجئين
Refugees	2.7	8	3	5	-	القدس
Women	9.5	28	16	7	5	قضايا المرأة
Agriculture	12.9	38	21	8	9	زراعة
Environment	1.0	3	2	1	-	بيئة
Demography	0.3	1	-	-	1	سكان
Health	5.8	17	7	4	6	صحة
Education & training	6.5	19	7	6	6	تعليم وتدريب
Politics	8.2	24	8	7	9	سياسة
Employment and labor force	3.7	11	5	5	1	عمل وعمال
Children	4.4	13	6	4	3	أطفال
Culture & folklore	1.7	5	1	2	2	تراث وثقافة
Total	100.0	294	126	78	90	المجموع

المصدر: مركز العمل التنموي (معا)، ببلويو جرافيا المؤسسات الأهلية الفلسطينية والعربية، 1998، رام الله.

Source: MA'AN Development Center, (1998).

جدول 5-2: توزيع الصحف والمجلات والنشرات الصادرة في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
حسب الموضوع ووتيرة الصدور، 1997

Table 5.2: Distribution of Newspapers, Journals and Publications
in WBGS by Subject and Regularity

Issues	نصف سنوية وسنوية Biannual	فصلية Quarterly	شهرية Monthly	أسبوعية Weekly	يومية Daily	المجموع Total	المطبوعات
Newspapers	0	0	0	11	3	14	الصحف
Journals & periodicals						41	المجلات والدوريات
General	0	0	10	2	0	12	عامة
Children	0	0	2	0	0	2	أطفال
Military and police force	0	0	2	0	0	2	عسكرية وشرطة
Youth and arts	0	1	3	0	0	4	شباب وفنون
Culture and academia	0	3	1	0	0	4	ثقافية ومدرسية
Sciences	1	3	4	0	0	8	علمية وفكرية
Economics	1	2	2	0	0	5	اقتصادية
Religion	0	1	0	0	0	1	دينية
Other	0	1	2	0	0	3	أخرى
Publications						21	النشرات
Politics & law	0	3	3	2	0	8	حقوقية وسياسية
Culture & academia	0	1	2	0	0	3	ثقافية ومدرسية
Sciences	0	1	0	0	0	1	علمية وفكرية
Economics	0	1	6	0	0	6	اقتصادية
Irregular publications	-	-	-	-	-	2	نشرات غير منتظمة الصدور
Total	2	17	37	15	3	76	المجموع

المصدر: وزارة الإعلام الفلسطينية. وجرى إضافة بعض الدوريات التي ليس لديها ترخيص من الوزارة، مثل النشرة الصادرة عن المنسق الخاص للأمم المتحدة ودوريات ماس.

Source: Ministry of Information, plus a number of periodicals that are not licensed by the Ministry such as the UNSCO report and MAS periodicals.

جدول 5-3: توزيع الأندية الرياضية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
حسب المحافظة والتجمع السكاني، 1997

Table 5.3: Distribution of Sports Clubs in WBS by Governorate and Locality - 1997

Governorate	المجموع Total	مخيم Camp	قرية Village	مدينة City	المحافظة
Nablus	22	4	13	5	نابلس
Jenin	23	1	14	8	جنين
Tulkarem	14	2	6	6	طولكرم
Jerusalem	37	1	21	15	القدس
Ramallah	47	6	33	8	رام الله
Bethlehem	34	4	15	15	بيت لحم
Hebron	22	3	10	9	الخليل
Gaza	30	10	8	12	غزة
Total	229	31	120	78	المجموع

المصدر: وزارة الرياضة والشباب- دائرة البحث والتوثيق.

Source: Ministry of Youth and Sports, Research Department.

جدول 6-1: عدد الأفراد المستفيدين من مساعدات وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب المنطقة لعامي 1996 و 1997

Table 6.1: Number of WBS* Beneficiaries in the Assistance Program of the Ministry of Social Affairs in 1996/1997 by Governorate*

District & Governorate	1997		1996		المنطقة / المحافظة
	نسبة من السكان % of total population	عدد No. of beneficiaries	نسبة من السكان % of total population	عدد No. of beneficiaries	
Jenin	3.25	7702	3.23	6780	جنين
Nablus	3.30	8537	3.64	7931	نابلس
Tulkarem	3.51	6346	4.00	6322	طولكرم
Qalqilia	3.68	2623	3.50	2171	قلقيلية
West Bank – North	3.37	25208	3.58	23204	شمال الضفة
Ramallah	3.20	6769	2.73	6393	رام الله
Jericho	2.87	930	2.43	682	أريحا
West Bank – Center	1.87	7699	2.35	7075	وسط الضفة
Bethlehem	3.66	4971	3.17	3584	بيت لحم
Hebron	2.40	9617	3.10	9110	الخليل
West Bank – South	2.72	14588	3.12	12694	جنوب الضفة
West Bank – Total	2.66	47495	2.73	42973	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	5.25	52271	4.42	42553	قطاع غزة
WBS	3.58	99766	3.37	85526	الضفة والقطاع

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية ، التعداد العام للسكان والمساكن والمنشآت- مؤتمر الإعلان عن النتائج النهائية، 1998. وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية الفلسطينية، إحصائية أعداد متلقي المساعدة من الوزارة.
* اعتمدت تقديرات منتصف العام لعدد السكان، واعتمدت أرقام شهر حزيران لأعداد المستفيدين.

Sources: PCBS, (1998d); Ministry of Social Affairs, monthly statistical data on the number of beneficiaries.

- The mid-year population estimates were used in addition to the number of beneficiaries of the Ministry of Social Affairs for June.

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 7-1: النسبة المئوية والمتوسط الشهري لاستهلاك الأسرة بالدينار
حسب مجموعات الاستهلاك والمنطقة الجغرافية

Table 7.1: Percentage and Average Monthly Household Consumption
in JD by Consumption Group and Region

المجموع Total		قطاع غزة Gaza Strip		الضفة الغربية West Bank								مجموعات السلع والخدمات Consumption groups	
				الضفة الغربية West Bank		جنوب South		وسط Center		شمال North			
1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996		
36.9	37.6	35.3	36.4	37.5	38.0	38.0	40.9	36.0	35.8	38.7	38.1	الاستهلاك الكلي من الطعام	
63.1	62.4	64.7	63.6	62.5	62.0	62.0	59.1	64.0	64.2	61.3	61.9	الاستهلاك الكلي من غير الطعام	
38.5	38.7	37.9	38.6	38.7	38.7	39.3	42.8	37.8	36.8	39.1	37.7	الإنفاق النقدي على مجموعات الطعام	
61.5	61.3	62.1	61.4	61.3	61.2	60.7	57.2	62.2	63.2	60.9	62.2	الإنفاق النقدي على غير الطعام	
الإنفاق النقدي على مجموعات مختارة من الإنفاق الكلي Cash expenditure on selected groups to total expenditure													
8.6	8.5	7.9	7.3	8.6	9.0	9.4	9.5	9.0	8.6	8.8	8.6	الملابس والأحذية	
1.3	13.3	13.8	1.3	13.2	1.3	1.4	13.7	1.4	14.4	1.2	3.7	المسكن والأثاث والأعمال والولائم المنزلية	
3.9	3.4	2.8	3.1	3.7	4.3	4.6	5.2	4.0	3.0	4.3	3.7	الرعاية الطبية	
10.7	10.7	9.4	9.1	11.1	11.3	11.5	12.2	10.5	12.0	11.4	11.0	وسائل النقل والاتصالات	
3.5	3.4	2.9	4.5	3.7	3.2	3.3	3.9	3.1	4.4	3.2	3.0	التعليم	
2.8	3.1	5.1	4.0	2.5	2.3	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.3	1.7	3.1	النشاطات الترفيهية والثقافية	
0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.3	ضرائب	
628.9	637.9	535.3	543.1	669.6	676.3	640.5	643.7	839.1	815.2	565.0	606.4	متوسط الاستهلاك الشهري بالدينار	
579.5	592.5	490.3	502.8	618.2	628.7	588.1	582.2	775.0	760.2	523.6	573.1	متوسط الإنفاق الشهري بالدينار	

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة - 1997، نيسان 1998، ص 43 و 48.

مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة (تشرين أول 1995 - أيلول 1996): التقرير النهائي، ص 46.

مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة (تشرين أول 1995 - أيلول 1996): التقرير السنوي، ص 49.

Sources: PCBS, (1997a, p.46; 1997b, p.49; 1998e, pp. 43 and 48).

جدول 7-2: التغير في متوسط إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة بالدينار الأردني

حسب المحافظة بين عامي 1996 و 1997

Table 7.2: Changes in Average Monthly Household Consumption in JD in WBS by Governorate – 1996/1997

Governorate	الإنفاق الكلي Total Expenditure			الاستهلاك الكلي Total Consumption			المحافظة
	نسبة التغير % change	1997	1996	نسبة التغير % change	1997	1996	
Gaza Strip	-2.5	490.3	502.8	-1.4	535.3	543.1	قطاع غزة
Tulkarem & Qalqilia	-4.4	519.4	543.1	0.7	570.2	566.1	طولكرم وقلقيلية
Hebron	5.3	579.1	550.2	3.9	622.2	598.7	الخليل
Jenin	-14.3	497.0	580.0	-15.9	513.3	610.4	جنين
Nablus	-6.9	550.9	591.8	-5.4	604.1	638.3	نابلس
Bethlehem	-8.7	611.9	670.2	-10.2	688.9	767.4	بيت لحم
Ramallah & Jericho	4.9	743.8	708.9	4.4	807.7	773.9	رام الله وأريحا
Jerusalem	-3.1	810.3	836.3	-0.2	874.6	876.4	القدس

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة - 1997، نيسان 1998.
مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة (تشرين أول 1995 - أيلول 1996): التقرير النهائي.
مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة (تشرين أول 1995 - أيلول 1996): التقرير السنوي.

Sources: PCBS, (1997a; 1997b; 1998e).

جدول 7-3: الأسر في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب مستوى المعيشة وبعض المتغيرات، 1997
Table 7.3: Distribution of Households in WBS by Standard of Living* - 1997

Region and Governorate	مستوى المعيشة (%) Standard of Living (%)			عدد أسر العينة Sample Size (households)	المتغيرات
	(3) مستوى أقل (3) Worse-off	(2) فئة متوسطة (2) Middle category	(1) مستوى أفضل (1) Well-off		
Palestinian Territories	31.25	46.28	22.47	3275	الأراضي الفلسطينية
West Bank – Total	32.53	45.27	22.21	2282	مجموع محافظات الضفة الغربية
West Bank – North	35.36	45.43	19.22	961	محافظات شمال الضفة الغربية
West Bank- Center	26.21	47.48	26.31	699	محافظات وسط الضفة الغربية
West Bank- South	35.27	42.52	22.21	622	محافظات جنوب الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	28.32	48.61	23.08	993	محافظات غزة

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، مسح إنفاق واستهلاك الأسرة - 1997، نيسان 1998.

*مستوى المعيشة = استهلاك الطعام ÷ الاستهلاك الكلي.

(1) مستوى أفضل: " حصة الطعام من الاستهلاك الكلي أقل من 30% "

(2) فئة متوسطة: " حصة الطعام من الاستهلاك الكلي من 30-44% "

(3) مستوى أقل: " حصة الطعام من الاستهلاك الكلي من 45-100% "

Source: PCBS, (1998e).

- Standard of living = Food consumption divided by total consumption.
- (1) Well-off: food consumption less than 30% of total consumption.
- (2) Middle group: food consumption of between 30-44% of total consumption.
- (3) Worse off: food consumption of between 45-100% of total consumption.

جدول 4-7: بعض المؤشرات الخاصة بتوزيع القوى العاملة الفلسطينية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة ومعدلات البطالة والعمالة المحدودة، 1997 (%)

Table 7.4: Indicators on Distribution of Palestinian Labor Force by Sector/Occupation in WBGs and Unemployment and Underemployment Rates, 1997 (%)

Indicator	Survey round دورة مسح القوى العاملة			المؤشر
	تموز- أيلول July-September	نيسان- حزيران April-June	شباط- آذار February-March	
% of laborers				نسبة العاملين
Agriculture	13.1	15.6	11.6	نسبة العاملين في الزراعة
Construction	18.4	17.2	19.0	نسبة العاملين في البناء والتشييد
Industry	16.0	16.7	16.6	نسبة العاملين في الصناعة
Services	27.7	26.8	29.2	نسبة العاملين في الخدمات
Elementary occupations	29.5	28.2	29.1	نسبة العاملين في المهن الأولية
Crafts & related trade workers	24.0	23.8	25.3	نسبة العاملين في المهن والحرف
Workers in Israel and settlements	16.1	16.6	18.6	نسبة العاملين في إسرائيل والمستوطنات
Unemployment rate				نسبة البطالة
WBGs	21.5	18.9	19.5	الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
West Bank	18.2	15.6	17.7	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	31.6	26.3	24.1	قطاع غزة
Males	21.7	19.2	19.4	نسبة البطالة بين الذكور
Females	20.5	17.5	20.4	نسبة البطالة بين الإناث
Underemployment				نسبة العمالة المحدودة
WBGs	9.3	9.9	9.1	الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
West Bank	11.4	12.3	10.6	الضفة الغربية
Gaza Strip	2.7	4.3	5.8	قطاع غزة
Males	10.2	10.9	9.7	نسبة العمالة المحدودة بين الذكور
Females	4.1	3.7	4.8	نسبة العمالة المحدودة بين الإناث
Average daily wage (NIS)	48.5	48.5	50	الأجر اليومي الوسيط (بالشيكل)

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، سلسلة مسح القوى العاملة في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة- الدورات 5-7، 1997.
Source: PCBS, (1997c).

جدول 8-1: التوزيع النسبي للأفعال الإجرامية في باقي الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة
حسب نوع الفعل الإجرامي 1985، 1986، 1987

Table 8.1: Percentage Distribution of Criminal Offenses in WBGS
by Type – 1985-87

Type of criminal offense	المجموع Total			قطاع غزة Gaza Strip			باقي الضفة الغربية West Bank*			نوع الفعل الإجرامي
	1987	1986	1985	1987	1986	1985	1987	1986	1985	
Security offenses	18.2	15.4	14.8	24.5	18.0	23.2	15.0	14.4	10.9	الإخلال بالأمن
Public order offenses	18.0	16.2	18.8	20.3	18.5	15.9	16.8	15.3	19.9	ضد الأمن العام
Offenses against human life	1.0	1.9	2.0	1.3	3.2	2.7	0.8	1.3	1.7	ضد حياة الأفراد
Causing bodily harm	16.6	17.0	16.0	15.9	18.3	15.2	16.9	16.6	17.2	أحداث ضرر جسمني
Morality offenses	3.8	2.6	2.1	6.5	4.5	4.3	2.4	1.8	1.1	جرائم أخلاقية
Property related offenses	33.6	35.4	36.0	23.3	28.1	29.4	38.8	38.4	38.6	ضد الملكية
Other offenses	8.9	11.5	10.2	8.2	9.4	9.2	9.2	12.4	10.5	جرائم أخرى
Total	16663	15195	17626	5656	4387	5434	11007	10808	12192	المجموع

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، إحصاءات الجريمة والضحية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة: سلسلة تقارير الوضع الراهن، (رقم 7)، 1997، ص59.

Source: PCBS, (1998a, p.59).

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 8-2: توزيع الأفعال الإجرامية في الضفة الغربية والضفة الغربية
وقطاع غزة حسب المحافظة، 1997

Table 8.2: Distribution of Criminal Offenses in WBGs* for 1997
by Governorate

Governorate	Number of Criminal Offenses عدد الجرائم	Number of Offenses per 1,000 People نسبة الجريمة/الف	المحافظة
Jenin	1356	5.7	جنين
Tulkarem	1578	8.6	طولكرم
Qalqilia	1152	16.0	قلقيلية
Nablus	2903	11.1	نابلس
Ramallah	2401	11.2	رام الله
Jericho	518	15.8	أريحا
Bethlehem	1389	10.1	بيت لحم
Hebron	440	1.1	الخليل
West Bank – Total	11737	6.3	الضفة الغربية - المجموع
Gaza Strip	2374	2.3	قطاع غزة
WBGs- Total	14111	4.9	الضفة والقطاع - المجموع

المصدر: المديرية العامة للشرطة الفلسطينية، كشف إحصائي شهري بالجرائم في المحافظات الفلسطينية.

Source: Police General Directorate, monthly statistical crime report.

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 5-8: مجموع حوادث الطرق وعدد المصابين حسب خطورة الإصابة والمنطقة في الأراضي الفلسطينية.

1996

Table 8.5: Total Number of Road Accidents and Injured by Severity of Injury and Region

Item	1997			1996			البيان
	المجموع Total	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip	الضفة الغربية West Bank*	المجموع Total	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip	الضفة الغربية West Bank*	
Number of road accidents	7532	1891	5641	7186	1624	5562	أولاً: مجموع حوادث الطرق
Number of casualties	8312	2042	6270	8327	1502	6825	ثانياً: إجمالي المصابين:
Slight injury	5152	789	4363	4975	511	4464	إصابات بسيطة
Moderate injury	2325	899	1426	2490	730	1760	إصابات متوسطة
Serious injury	656	277	379	671	180	491	إصابات خطيرة
Fatal injury	179	77	102	191	81	110	وفاة

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، إحصاءات الجريمة والضحية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة: تقارير الوضع الراهن، (رقم 7)، 1998، ص 89، 80.

Source: PCBS, (1998a, p.80 & 89).

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 4-3: توزيع الطلبة حسب المنطقة والجهة المشرفة والجنس

Table 4.3: Distribution of Students by Region, Supervisory Authority and Gender

مدارس خاصة Private Schools			وكالة UNRWA Schools			حكومة Government Schools			المجموع العام General Total			السنة Year	المنطقة Region and District
مجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	مجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	المجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male	مجموع Total	أنثى Female	ذكر Male		
5.45	6.74	6.13	27.16	25.43	26.36	67.61	67.39	67.72	712820	348784	364036	96/97	المجموع العام
6.27	5.29	7.21	26.13	26.90	25.38	67.61	67.81	67.41	763 467	374 959	388508	97/98	General Total
2.28	1.61	2.91	10.88	11.47	10.33	86.84	86.92	86.75	180920	87486	93434	96/97	شمال الضفة
1.96	1.30	2.58	9.08	9.67	8.54	89.30	89.34	89.24	192 816	93 898	98 918	97/98	West Bank – North
26.68	29.50	28.15	21.44	18.96	20.24	52.07	51.40	51.84	101625	50815	50810	96/97	وسط الضفة
27.11	24.31	29.94	19.98	21.35	18.59	52.78	54.36	51.19	106 510	53 541	52 969	97/98	West Bank – Center
7.24	9.22	8.27	10.80	7.17	8.99	82.12	83.04	82.86	149020	73244	75776	96/97	جنوب الضفة
9.26	7.66	10.82	8.84	10.82	6.92	81.81	81.44	82.16	159 755	78 500	81 255	97/98	West Bank – South
8.38	10.13	9.29	12.64	9.53	11.08	79.13	80.05	79.77	431565	211545	220020	96/97	الضفة الغربية
9.55	8.14	10.92	10.78	12.44	9.17	79.66	79.42	79.91	459 081	225 939	233 142	97/98	West Bank- Total
0.94	1.58	1.27	49.59	49.63	49.87	49.83	48.11	49.19	281255	137239	144016	96/67	قطاع غزة
1.31	0.96	1.64	49.27	48.82	49.71	49.42	50.22	48.65	304 386	149 020	155 366	97/98	Gaza Strip

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية ووزارة التربية والتعليم، الكتاب الإحصائي التربوي (1997/1996)، 1997ص58.

Source: PCBS and Ministry of Education, (1997, p.58).

جدول 3-8: حوادث السير مع إصابات حسب خطورة الحادث والمنطقة 1968-1987، 1996
Table 8.3: Road Accidents and Injured by Severity of Injury and Region, 1968-1987 and 1996

المجموع Total			قطاع غزة Gaza Strip				باقي الضفة الغربية West Bank*				السنة Year	
المجموع Total	حوادث ذات إصابات طفيفة Slight injury	حوادث ذات إصابات شديدة Serious injury	حوادث قاتلة Fatal injury	المجموع Total	حوادث ذات إصابات طفيفة Slight injury	حوادث ذات إصابات شديدة Serious injury	حوادث قاتلة Fatal injury	المجموع Total	حوادث ذات إصابات طفيفة Slight injury	حوادث ذات إصابات شديدة Serious injury	حوادث قاتلة Fatal injury	Year
704	444	184	76	259	146	89	24	445	298	95	52	1968
807	487	227	93	372	217	118	37	435	270	109	56	1969
908	507	306	95	399	197	173	29	509	310	133	66	1970
1020	557	352	111	447	227	172	48	573	330	180	63	1971
1341	710	477	154	715	353	298	64	626	357	179	90	1972
1241	607	477	157	589	248	278	63	652	359	199	94	1973
1395	651	574	170	611	226	301	84	784	425	273	86	1974
1308	624	510	174	589	270	239	80	719	354	271	94	1975
1323	783	361	179	588	326	179	83	735	457	182	96	1976
1406	734	499	173	619	261	277	81	787	473	222	92	1977
1451	673	602	176	637	245	308	84	814	428	294	92	1978
1288	587	544	157	523	173	266	84	765	414	278	73	1979
1373	618	597	158	570	238	253	79	803	380	344	79	1980
1345	642	557	146	524	241	222	61	821	401	335	85	1981
1126	491	526	109	445	216	184	45	681	275	342	64	1982
980	355	505	120	372	128	189	55	608	227	316	65	1983
1106	380	566	160	496	204	221	71	610	176	345	89	1984
1103	321	625	157	418	120	234	64	685	201	391	93	1985
1337	508	664	165	507	262	180	65	830	246	484	100	1986
1448	569	710	169	559	357	135	67	889	212	575	102	1987
7186	-	-	-	1624	-	-	-	5562	-	-	-	1996

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، إحصاءات الجريمة والضحية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة: تقارير الوضع الراهن، (رقم 7)، 1998، ص 60.

ملاحظة: حتى عام 1979، كانت منطقة غزة تشمل منطقتي العريش و رفح المصرية ومن عام 1979-1982، كانت تشمل منطقة غزة و رفح المصرية وأما بعد 1982 أصبحت منطقة غزة كما هي الآن.

Source: PCBS, (1998a, p.60).

Note: Up until 1979 the Gaza Strip included the Egyptian areas of el-Arish and Rafah. Between 1979-1982, it included the Egyptian part of Rafah. Since 1982 the Gaza Strip has remained as at present.

*Excluding East Jerusalem

جدول 4-8: المصابون في حوادث السير في باقي الضفة الغربية حسب نوع المصاب 1971-1993

Table 8.4: Number of Road Accident Casualties in WBGs* by group injured 1971-1993

Gaza Strip قطاع غزة						West Bank* باقي الضفة الغربية						السنة
المجموع	أخرى	سائقي الدراجات	الركاب	سائقي المركبات	مشاه	المجموع	أخرى	سائقي الدراجات	الركاب	سائقي المركبات	مشاه	Year
Total	Other	Bicycle riders	Passengers	Drivers	Pedestrians	Total	Other	Bicycle riders	Passengers	Drivers	Pedestrians	
580	23	34	173	50	300	889	13	28	400	131	317	1971
827	-	59	223	82	463	1018	-	24	480	128	386	1972
769	-	49	223	89	408	1088	-	29	465	162	432	1973
889	-	51	336	119	383	1175	-	33	457	194	491	1974
877	26	37	313	104	397	1252	1	35	575	204	437	1975
815	19	56	253	88	399	1193	5	39	542	171	436	1976
795	21	49	248	88	389	1157	13	55	452	179	458	1977
840	21	27	288	111	393	1204	3	63	449	203	486	1978
820	24	28	296	122	350	1176	4	47	449	211	465	1979
787	35	47	212	105	388	1249	10	72	479	208	480	1980
766	33	47	240	86	360	1437	9	60	659	223	486	1981
651	30	48	175	100	298	1215	12	45	559	229	370	1982
569	23	39	179	70	258	1108	9	29	489	240	341	1983
754	30	42	251	93	338	1072	4	44	432	241	351	1984
593	20	42	161	74	296	1250	4	38	583	226	399	1985
811	28	59	275	108	341	1417	6	37	582	295	497	1986
873	35	58	269	137	374	1620	12	60	703	370	475	1987
1130	81	65	383	169	432	2061	2	42	1042	552	423	1991
697	35	45	266	103	248	2676	12	39	1340	783	502	1992
740	32	47	159	70	432	2781	21	37	1443	836	444	1993

المصدر: دائرة الإحصاء المركزية الفلسطينية، إحصاءات الجريمة والضحية في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة: تقارير الوضع الراهن، (رقم 7)، 1998، ص60.

ملاحظة: حتى عام 1979، كانت منطقة غزة تشمل منطقتي العريش ورفح المصرية ومن عام 1979-1982، كانت تشمل منطقة غزة ورفح المصرية واما بعد 1982 أصبحت منطقة غزة كما هي الآن.

Source: PCBS, (1998a, p.60).

*Excluding East Jerusalem

Note: Up until 1979 the Gaza Strip included the Egyptian areas of el-Arish and Rafah. Between 1979-1982, it included the Egyptian part of Rafah. Since 1982 the Gaza Strip has remained as at present.

جدول 4-11: توزيع طلبة الجامعات في الضفة الغربية وقطاع غزة حسب المنطقة والجامعة لعامي 97/96 و 98/97 (%)

Table 4.11: Distribution of Students at Palestinian Universities by Region and University in 1996/1997 and 1997/1998

Governorate	القدس المفتوحة	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip Universities			جنوب الضفة South			شمال الضفة North	جامعات وسط الضفة West Bank Universities				السنة Year	المحافظة
	Al-Quds Open University	كلية التربية/ غزة College of Education - Gaza	الإسلامية Islamic	الأزهر El-Azhar	كلية الهندسة والتكنولوجيا College of Engineering & Technology	الخليل Hebron	بيت لحم Bethlehem	النجاح El-Najah	كلية العلوم التربوية ومجتمع رام الله College of Education & Ramallah College	كلية العلوم التربوية والمرأة College of Education & Women College	القدس Jerusalem	بيرزيت Bir Zeit		
West Bank Center	19.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6	2.6	35.1	2.8	23.0	21.9	59.0	59.9	96/97	وسط الضفة
North	19.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	2.4	30.7	2.6	23.1	28.0	54.5	62.0	97/98	شمال الضفة
South	33.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.7	1.9	3.0	92.4	42.2	39.0	14.9	20.8	96/97	جنوب الضفة
Gaza Strip	32.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.3	2.7	2.6	93.6	49.4	44.0	17.0	20.6	97/98	غزة
Palestinians from inside the Green Line	20.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	72.8	91.8	59.9	2.7	24.1	15.8	24.6	10.9	96/97	فلسطينيو 1948
Palestinians from other areas	20.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	75.0	90.0	65.7	2.5	25.6	21.2	23.9	10.6	97/98	أماكن أخرى
Total	25.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	0.0	0.3	1.3	1.9	10.7	23.2	0.9	7.1	96/97	المجموع
	28.4	100.0	74.8	100.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.2	1.9	6.8	0.9	5.3	97/98	
	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	96/97	
	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	97/98	
	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.1	96/97	
	0.0	0.0	25.2	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.1	97/98	
	8478	2045	6716	9700	525	1555	2071	7602	187	310	2564	3646	96/97	
	10697	2503	7709	11671	651	1956	1929	8442	160	307	2539	3863	97/98	

وزارة التعليم العالي الفلسطينية، الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية

المصدر:

(1997/1996)، 1997، ص 58.

_____ : الدليل الإحصائي للجامعات والمعاهد الفلسطينية (1998/1997)، 1998، ص 58.

Sources: Ministry of Higher Education, (1997, p.58; 1998, p.58).