

2009

2010 /

2006

.2010 ، - 1431 ، ©

.2009

.2010

1647 : .

(02-2982700) :

(02-2982710) :

diwan@pcbs.gov.ps :

[http:// www.pcbs.gov.ps](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps) :



Source: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

0 10 20 40 Km

36°E

2009

(PNA)

2009 (CFG)
. (SDC)

(CFG)

1996

2010

•

•

•

•

19

21

27

33

37

39

47

59

21	2009 - 2000	:1
23	(12) 2007	:2
24	(12) 2007	:3
28		:4
	2009/2008	
29		:5
	2009/2008	
30		:6
31		:7
32		:8
33	(10) 2009	:9
35	(10) 2009	:10
35	(10) 2009	:11
36	(10) 2009	:12

22	2009		:1
25	2007	1997	:2
27	(	15)	:3
		2009-2000	
28	2001/2000		:4
		2007/2006	
34	(	10)	:5
	2009		
37	(	10)	:6
		2009	
37	(	10)	:7
		2009	
38	(	10)	:8
		2009	
38	(	10)	:9
		2009	
39	(	15)	:10
		2009-2001	
40	(	15)	:11
	2009		
41	(	15)	:12
		2009	
42	(	15)	:13
		2009	
43	(	15)	:14
		2009	
44	2009-2001	(	15) :15

45	(	15)	:16
		2009	
47	2006		:17
48	2008		:18
48		2008	:19
49	2008		:20
50			:21
		2008	
51	2008		:22
52	2008		:23
53	2008		:24
54	2008		:25
55	2008		:26
56			:27
		2008/12/31	
57			:28
	2008/12/31		

:

%41.7 (15)
 (15) (%41.6 %42.1) 2009
 %29.1 (29-15)
 %3.0 (65)
 .2009

%49.7 2007
 (%49.0 %40.8)
 (%0.6 %5.8)

%11.5 (30)
 .2007 %3.7

:

15
 .2009-2000

(%46.8 %53.2)
 .2009/2008

()

.2009/2008

2009 (10) %45.7 •
 . %44.5 %46.9
 . %44.8 %48.5 %46.7
 . %28.0 %34.9 •
 %58.0 •
 %64.2 2009
 . %59.4 %67.1
 :
 . %38.2 2009 (%26.2) •
 . %62.9 2009 %51.3 •
 . %66.7 2009 %41.6 •
 :
 %10.3 2001 •
 2009-2001 .2009 %15.5
 .2009 %67.0 2001 %66.8
 (13) •
 .2009 (12-10)
 (%20.5 %61.8) •
 .2009
 . %67.1 %66.4 •
 %1.6 .2009 %7.3

:

. %87.0 2006 %13.0 •
(%12.0 %15.0)

. %94.6 2008 %5.4 •

. %88.3 2008 %11.7 •
(%11.4 %11.8)

%85.1 2008 %14.9 •
(%15.9)
(%11.7

2008 •
. %5.6 %5.7 . %5.6

1

¹<http://www.womengateway.com/NR/exeres/AA54C7F1-B04D-4D27-A468-03B9ED8C5FF1.htm>

2009-2000

Population

2009 - 2000

:1

Table 1: Sex Ratio in the Palestinian Territory, 2000-2009

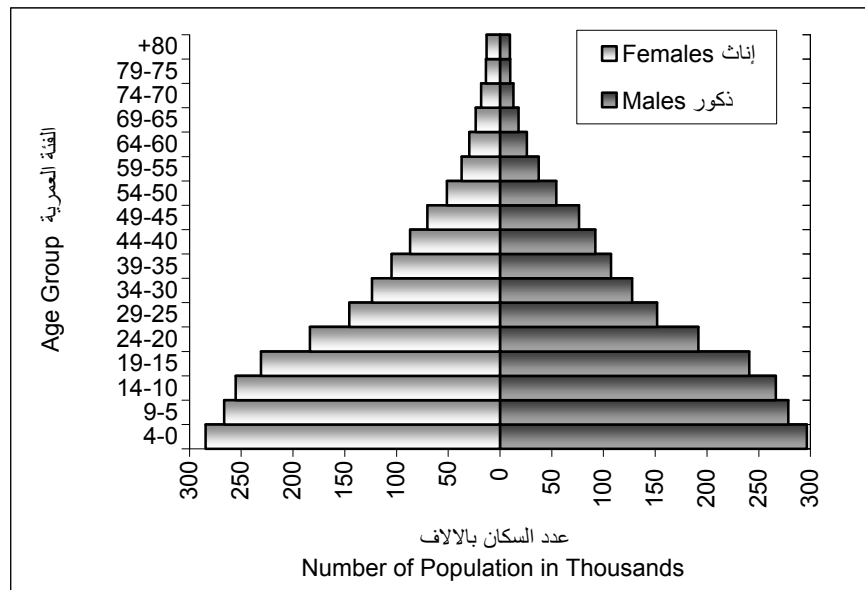
Percentage			Year
Sex Ratio	Females	Males	
102.2	49.4	50.6	2000
102.3	49.4	50.6	2001
102.4	49.4	50.6	2002
102.5	49.4	50.6	2003
102.6	49.4	50.6	2004
102.7	49.3	50.7	2005
102.7	49.3	50.7	2006
103.1	49.2	50.8	2007
103.1	49.2	50.8	2008
103.1	49.2	50.8	2009

102.2 2009 100 103.1

2000

Although the sex ratio increased to 103.1 male per 100 females in year 2009 compared with a sex ratio of 102.2 in year 2000, the population estimates show stability in the sex ratio for the past three years.

Figure 1: Population Pyramid in the Palestinian Territory, Mid Year Estimates 2009



(15) %41.7
 (%41.6 %42.1) 2009
 (15)
 %3.0 (65) %29.1 (29-15)
 .2009

The Palestinian society can be described as a young one where the percentage of persons aged less than 15 years reached 41.7% in the mid of 2009 distributed as 42.1% for males and 41.6% for females. The increase of the population in the age group (less than 15 years) could be referred to the high fertility rate in the Palestinian society. On the other hand, the percentage of youth (15-29 years) reached 29.1% while the percentage of elderly (65 years and over) amounted to 3.0% of total population in the mid of 2009.

2007

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of Persons (12 Years and Over) in the Palestinian Territory by Marital Status and Sex, 2007

Marital Status	Sex	
	Females	Males
Never Married	40.8	49.0
Married	51.9	49.7
Divorced	1.0	0.2
Widowed	5.8	0.6
Separated	0.2	0.1
Not stated	0.3	0.4
Total	100	100

%49.7 2007

(%49.0 %40.8)

(%0.6 %5.8)

More than half of women in the Palestinian Territory during the year 2007 were married compared to 49.7% for men. However, the percentage of single women is lower than men at 40.8% and 49.0% respectively; while the percentage of widowed women reached 5.8% compared to 0.6% for widowed men.

2007

Table 3: Palestinian Population (12 Years and Over) Who are Never Married in the West Bank by Sex and Age group, 2007

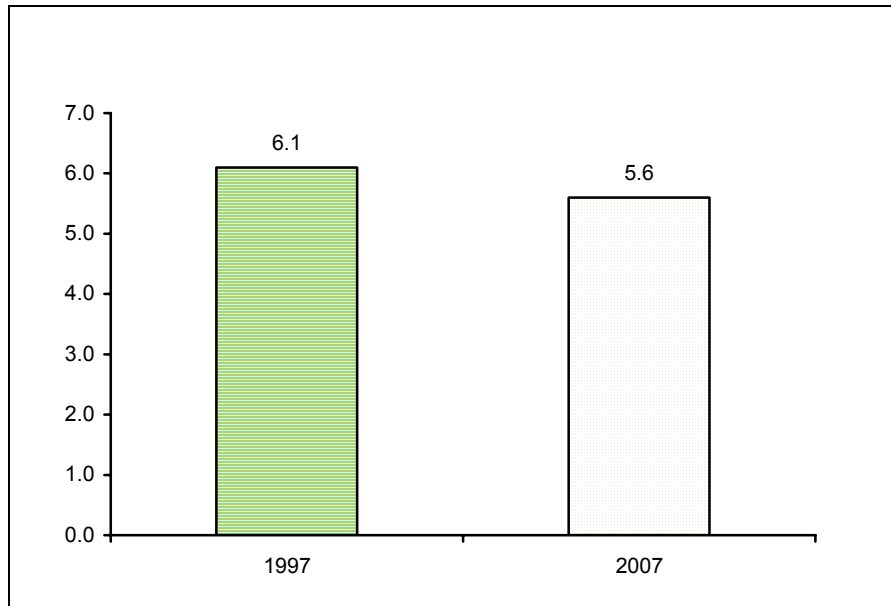
Age Group	Percentage		Number		فئة العمر
	Females	Males	Females	Males	
12-14	31.0	26.0	87,234	91,331	14 -12
15-19	38.4	37.2	108,161	130,948	19-15
20-24	13.9	23.6	39,171	83,186	24-20
25-29	5.2	9.5	14,539	33,472	29-25
30-34	3.1	2.3	8,855	7,922	34-30
35-39	2.4	0.6	6,634	2,266	39-35
40-44	1.9	0.3	5,264	1,043	44-40
45-49	1.4	0.2	3,875	598	49-45
50+	2.7	0.3	7,843	973	+50
Total	100	100	281,576	351,739	

%11.5 (30)

.2007 %3.7

The percentage of “never married” females in the age group (30 years and over) reached 11.5% compared to 3.7% for males in 2007.

2007 1997 :2
Figure 2: Average Household Size in the Palestinian Territory, 1997, 2007



5.6 1997 6.1
 2007
 %74.0 ،%81.8 في العام 2007
 .1997

The average household size had declined between the two censuses (1997, 2007) to reach 5.6 person in 2007 compared with 6.1 in 1997. Such result indicates a decline in fertility rate and an increase in the nucleus households on the account of extended ones. The percentage of nucleus households has increased to 81.8% compared to 74.0% in 1997.

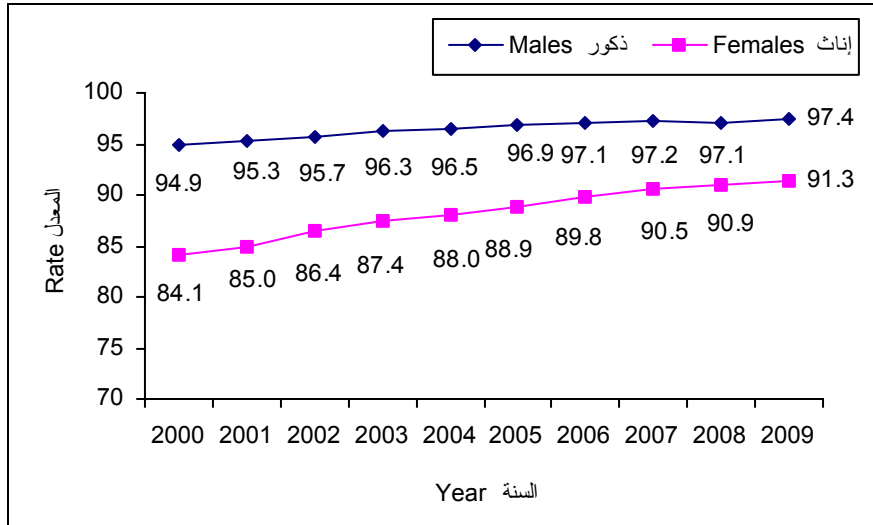
Education

(15)

:3

2009-2000

Figure 3: Literacy Rate of the Palestinian Population (15 Years and Over) by Sex, 2000-2009



15

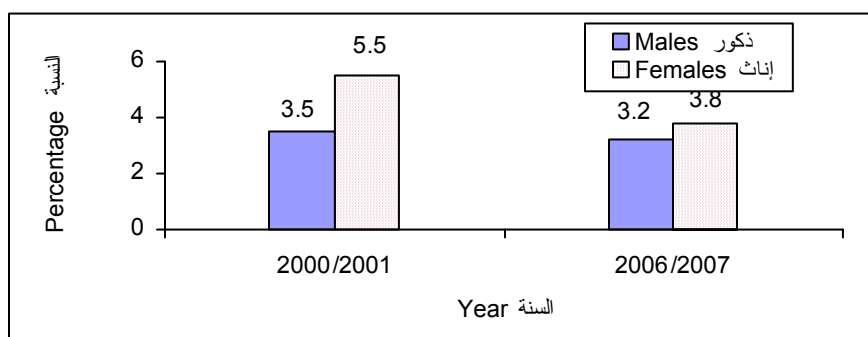
.2009-2000

The percentage of increase in literacy rate among females aged 15 years and over significantly exceeds that for males (4 times higher) during the period 2000-2009.

2007/2006 2001/2000

:4

Figure 4: Drop-out Rate in the Secondary Stage by Sex, 2000/2001, 2006/2007



2001/2000 %5.5

2007/2006 %3.8

There was a decline in the drop out rate in the secondary education especially among females where it decreased to 3.8% in the schooling year 2006/2007 compared with 5.5% in 2000/2001. Despite of the decrease in the gender gap, the drop-out rates among females had remained higher than dropout rates among males.

2009/2008

:4

Table 4: Percentage Distribution of Males and Females in Schools by Stage, 2008/2009

Sex	Stage		
	Total	Secondary	Basic
Males	50.0	46.8	50.5
Females	50.0	53.2	49.5
Both Sexes	100	100	100

(%53.2)

(%46.8

.2009/2008

The percentage of enrolled females in the secondary education is higher than the percentage of enrolled males (53.2% and 46.8% respectively). However, the percentage of enrolled males and enrolled females in the elementary stage are nearly equal in scholastic year 2008/2009.

Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Students in the Secondary Stage by Specialization and Sex, 2008/2009

Specialization	Sex		
	Females	Males	Both Sexes
Human Sciences	73.4	66.3	70.1
Scientific	23.0	25.3	24.0
Agricultural	3.1	5.1	4.0
Commercial	0.0	0.3	0.2
Industrial	0.3	2.7	1.4
Shari	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hostelling	0.0	0.1	0.1
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100	100	100

()

.2009/2008

Students in the secondary stage for the academic year 2008/2009 still significantly prefer enroll in scientific disciplines and humanities compared with other professional disciplines. From gender perspective, female students turn to humanities education more than males according to the data of the scholastic year 2008/2009.

Table 6: Number of Teachers in Governmental Schools by Sex and Selected Scholastic Years

Scholastic Year	Sex			
	Females	Males	Both Sexes	
1994/1995	5,668	7,865	13,533	1995/1994
1998/1999	9,005	10,277	19,282	1999/1998
1999/2000	9,745	10,693	20,438	2000/1999
2000/2001	11,213	11,740	22,953	2001/2000
2001/2002	11,798	11,791	23,589	2002/2001
2002/2003	12,826	12,257	25,083	2003/2002
2003/2004	13,778	12,599	26,377	2004/2003
2004/2005	14,450	13,077	27,527	2005/2004
2005/2006	15,275	13,743	29,018	2006/2005
2006/2007	15,857	14,217	30,074	2007/2006
2007/2008	16,085	14,479	30,564	2008/2007
2008/2009*	11,969	9,891	21,860	*2009/2008

* Represents West Bank data only.

2009/2008

More than half of the governmental teaching staff are females during the schooling year 2008/2009.

Table 7: Pupils Per Teacher by Supervising Authority, and Selected Scholastic Years

Scholastic Year	Private		UNRWA	Government	Grand Average	
	Kindergartens	Schools				
1994/1995	30.5	19.5	36.9	30.9	31.1	1995/1994
1998/1999	28.6	18.6	39.4	28.5	29.5	1999/1998
1999/2000	26.9	18.0	39.5	28.7	29.4	2000/1999
2000/2001	25.2	17.3	37.9	26.8	27.7	2001/2000
2001/2002	26.1	16.8	36.9	27.5	28.1	2002/2001
2002/2003	26.3	16.6	35.9	27.2	27.8	2003/2002
2003/2004	26.3	16.9	34.4	26.8	27.3	2004/2003
2004/2005	25.6	16.7	33.4	26.5	26.8	2005/2004
2005/2006	26.0	16.8	31.5	25.8	26.1	2006/2005
2006/2007	25.1	17.5	31.3	25.3	25.6	2007/2006
2007/2008	25.7	17.3	29.8	25.1	25.2	2008/2007

29.8

25.1

The students-teacher ratio in private schools is the lowest; while the highest ratio was in UNRWA's schools with a ratio of 29.8 compared to 25.1 in governmental schools in the Palestinian Territory.

Table 8: Number of Students at the Palestinian Universities and Community Colleges by Sex, and Selected Scholastic Years

Scholastic Year	Community Colleges			Universities*			
	Females	Males	Both Sexes	Females	Males	Both Sexes	
1994/1995	2,234	1,876	4,110	13,338	16,042	29,380	1995/1994
1997/1998	2,350	1,949	4,299	22,881	29,546	52,427	1998/1997
1998/1999	2,903	2,533	5,436	27,298	33,548	60,846	1999/1998
1999/2000	2,769	2,388	5,157	30,354	35,696	66,050	2000/1999
2000/2001	2,835	2,129	4,964	35,359	40,220	75,579	2001/2000
2001/2002	2,914	2,399	5,313	39,564	43,844	83,408	2002/2001
2002/2003	2,954	2,938	5,892	48,489	49,950	98,439	2003/2002
2003/2004	4,088	4,423	8,511	56,249	57,168	113,417	2004/2003
2004/2005	3,932	5,070	9,002	67,658	61,479	129,137	2005/2004
2005/2006	4,771	6,364	11,135	74,401	64,737	139,138	2006/2005
2006/2007	4,922	6,319	11,241	86,098	72,034	158,132	2007/2006
2007/2008	4,817	8,155	12,972	92,763	75,221	167,984	2008/2007

- Universities data include students and graduates of intermediate diploma, bachelor and higher education in universities and university colleges.

%23.3 2008/2007

2008/2007

There was an increase in the percentage of females who attain university during the scholastic year 2007/2008 by 23.3%. In addition, more than half of university students were females during the same scholastic year.

Culture

(10) :9

2009

Table 9: Percentage of Persons (10 Years and Over) Who Listen to the Radio by Sex, Region and Type of Locality, 2009

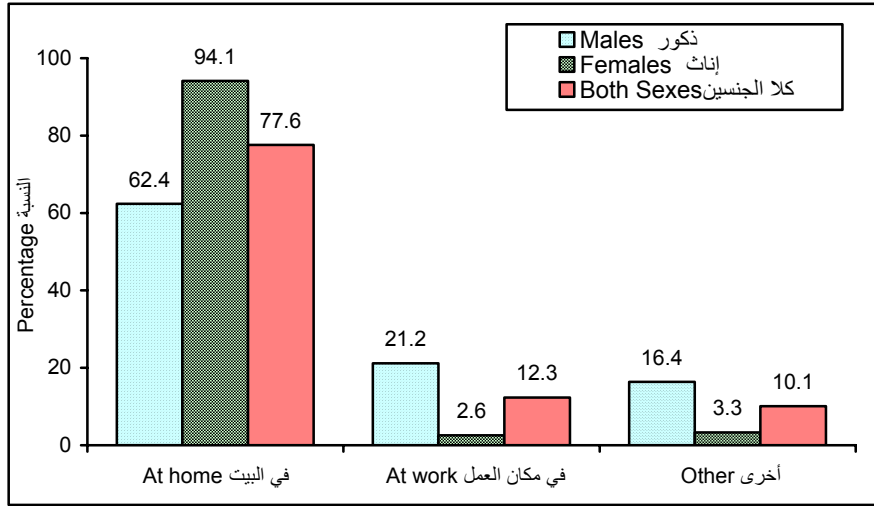
Region and Type of Locality	Sex		
	Females	Males	Both sexes
Region			
Palestinian Territory	44.5	46.9	45.7
West Bank	45.9	47.0	46.5
Gaza Strip	42.2	46.7	44.5
Type of Locality			
Urban	44.8	48.5	46.7
Rural	44.4	47.3	45.9
Camps	43.0	33.1	38.2

2009 (10) %45.7
 . %44.5 %46.9
 %44.8 %48.5 %46.7

About 45.7% of persons (10 years and over) listen to the radio in the Palestinian Territory during 2009 distributed as 46.9% for males and 44.5% for females. Although these percentages increase in the urban areas to reach about 48.5% for males and 44.8% for females, followed by rural areas and then camps.

2009

Figure 5: Percentage Distribution of Persons (10 Years and Over) Who Listen to the Radio by the Most Frequent Place for Listening and Sex, 2009



(%62.4 ، %94.1)

2009

(%2.6 و %21.2)

The percentage of women who listen to the radio at home reached 94.1% compared to 62.4% for males during 2009. Women spend most of their time at home compared to men. On the other hand, men at work do listen to the radio more than women (21.2% and 2.6% respectively).

2009 (10) :10

Table 10: Percentage of Persons (10 Years and Over) Who Read Newspapers by Sex and Region, 2009

Region	Sex		
	Females	Males	Both sexes
Palestinian Territory	28.0	34.9	31.5
West Bank	33.8	43.5	38.7
Gaza Strip	17.9	20.0	19.0

%28.0

%34.9

About 34.9% of male read newspapers compared to 28.0% of females.

(10) :11

2009

Table 11: Percentage of Persons (10 Years and Over) Who are Members in Public Institutions by Sex and Type of Public Institution, 2009

Type of Institutions	Sex		
	Females	Males	Both sexes
Sport Clubs	2.1	11.6	6.9
Cultural Clubs	2.0	4.0	3.0
Public Library	3.2	3.5	3.3
Charitable Association	3.6	4.9	4.3
Union / federation	2.1	7.0	4.6
political party	1.1	5.8	3.5
Other	2.0	1.9	2.0

%3.6

%11.6

%3.2

.2009

%7.0

Women participation in public life is still low where data shows that the percentage of men affiliated to public institutions in different areas is higher compared to women. The percentage of women affiliated to charitable Association reached 3.6% and to public libraries reached 3.2%. The percentage of males affiliated to sport clubs reached 11.6% followed by affiliation to unions and federations with about 7.0% during 2009.

2009

Table 12: Percentage of Person (10 Years and Over) Who Read Books by Sex, Region and Type of Locality, 2009

Region and Type of Locality	Sex		
	Females	Males	Both sexes
Palestinian Territory	64.2	58.0	61.0
West Bank	67.1	58.7	62.7
Gaza Strip	59.4	56.7	58.0
Type of Locality			
Urban	62.7	57.3	59.9
Rural	69.1	62.3	65.5
Camps	66.6	55.0	60.8

%58.0

%64.2 2009

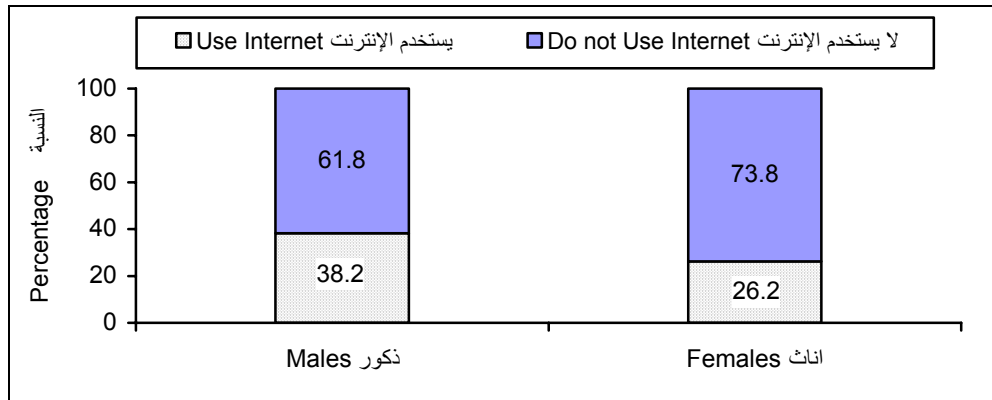
%59.4 %67.1

Women have greater interest than men in reading books. Results indicate that about 58.0% of males read books during 2009 compared to 64.2% for females. The reading habit among females reached 67.1% in the West Bank compared with 59.4% in the Gaza Strip.

Information Society

2009 (10) :6

Figure 6: Percentage Distribution of Persons (10 Years and Over) by Usage of Internet, 2009

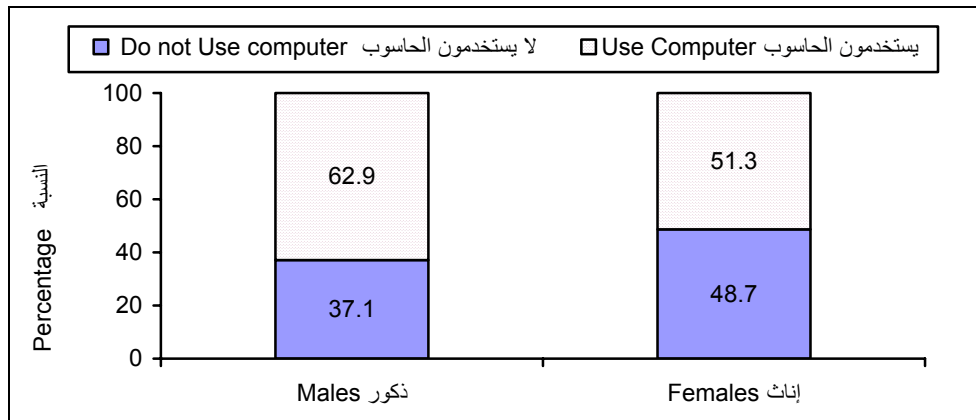


%38.2 ،2009 (%26.2)

About quarter of females (26.2%) use internet during 2009, compared to 38.2% of males.

2009 (10) :7

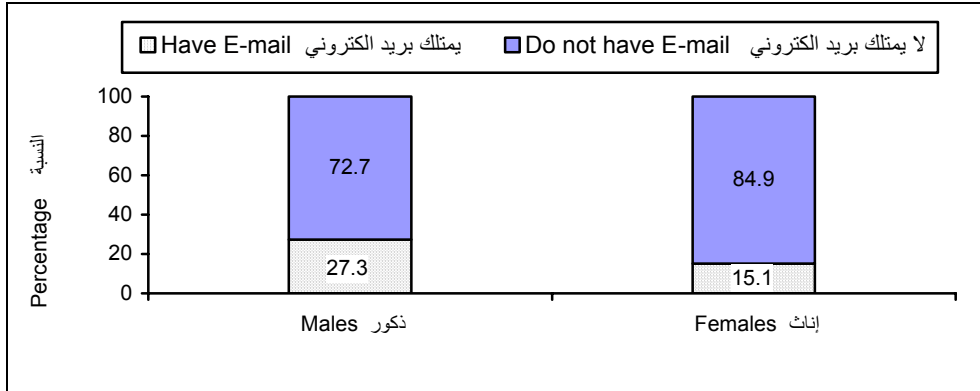
Figure 7: Percentage Distribution of Persons (10 Years and Over) by Usage of Computer and Sex, 2009



%62.9 2009 %51.3

About (51.3%) of females use computers during 2009, compared to (62.9%) of males.

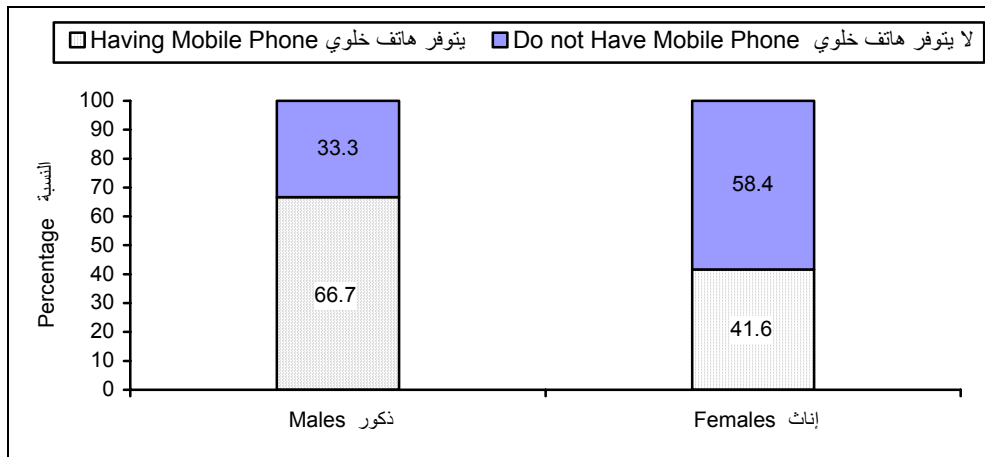
Figure 8: Percentage Distribution of Persons (10 Years and Over) by Having E-mail and Sex, 2009



→ 15.1% 2009

More than quarter of all males have electronic mail (email) during 2009, compared to 15.1% of females.

Figure 9: Percentage Distribution of Persons (10 Years and Over) Who Have Mobile Phone by Sex, 2009



→ 66.7% 2009

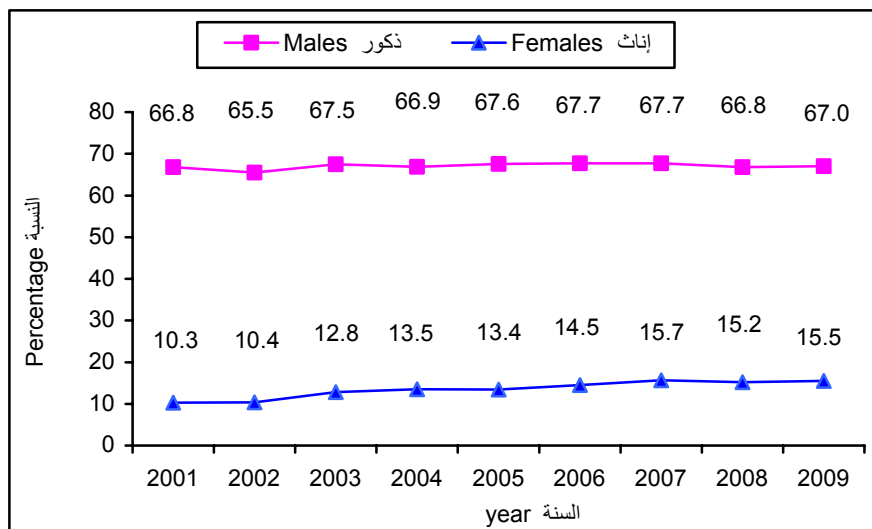
→ 41.6%

About 41.6% of females owned a cellular phone during 2009, compared to 66.7% of males.

Labor Force

2009-2001 (15) :10

Figure 10: Labour Force Participation Rate for Persons Aged (15 Years and Over) by Sex, 2001-2009



%10.3 2001

.2009 %15.5

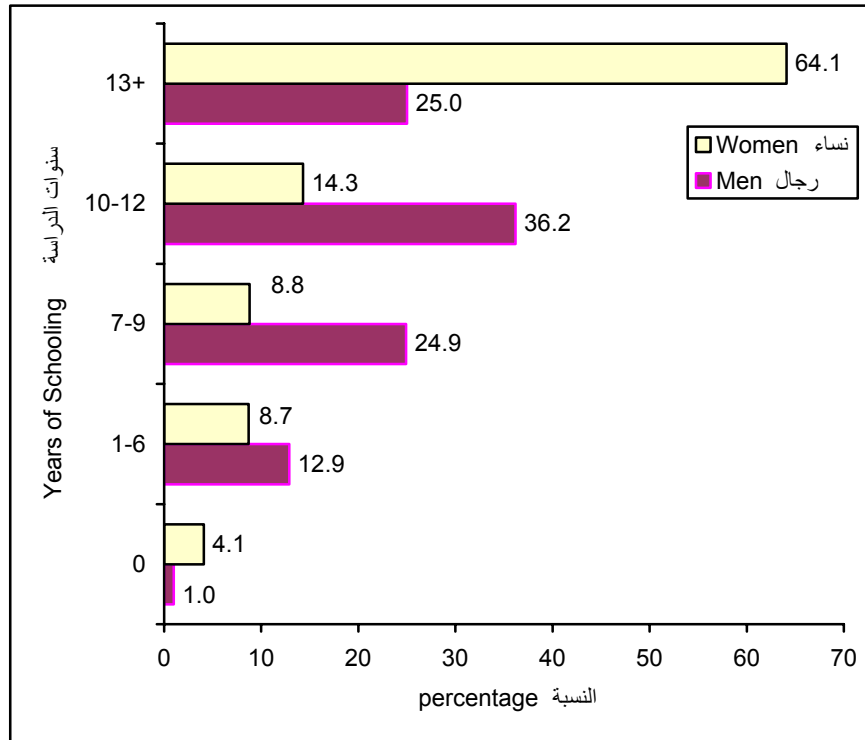
%67.0 2001 %66.8 2009-2001

.2009

The participation rate of women in labor force during the year 2001 was (10.3%) and increased up to 15.5% in 2009. The participation rate of men in labor force had witnessed changes during 2001-2009; increased from 66.8% in 2001 to 67.0% in 2009.

2009

Figure 11: Percentage Distribution of Persons Aged (15 Years and Over) Participated in Labour Force by Years of Schooling and Sex, 2009

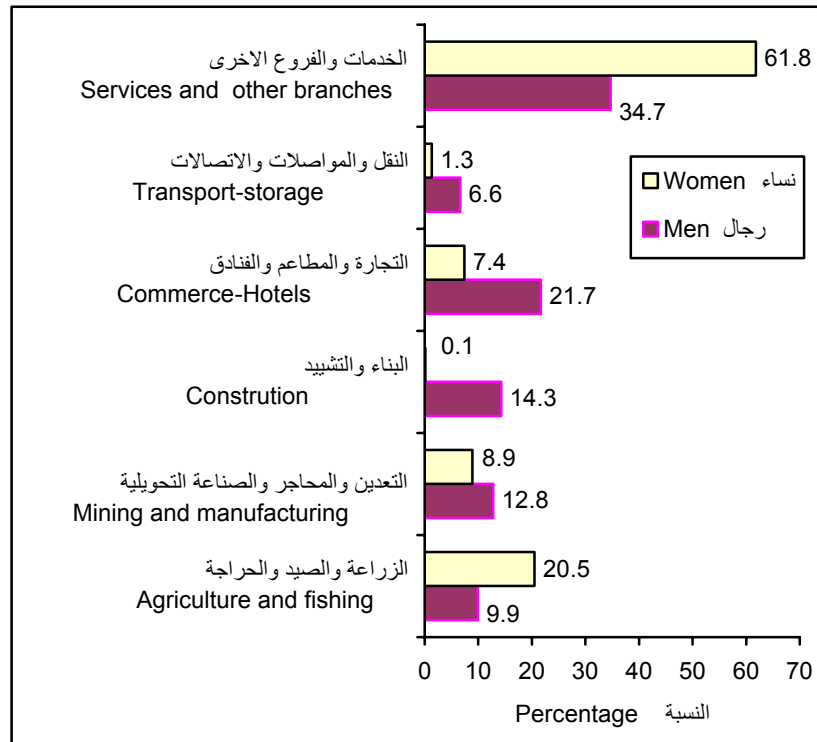


(13)

.2009 (12-10)

The majority of women participated in labor force those who have (13 years of schooling and above); while the majority of men participated in labor force those who have (10-12 years of schooling) in 2009.

Figure 12: Percentage Distribution of Employed Persons (15 Years and Over) by Economic Activity and Sex, 2009

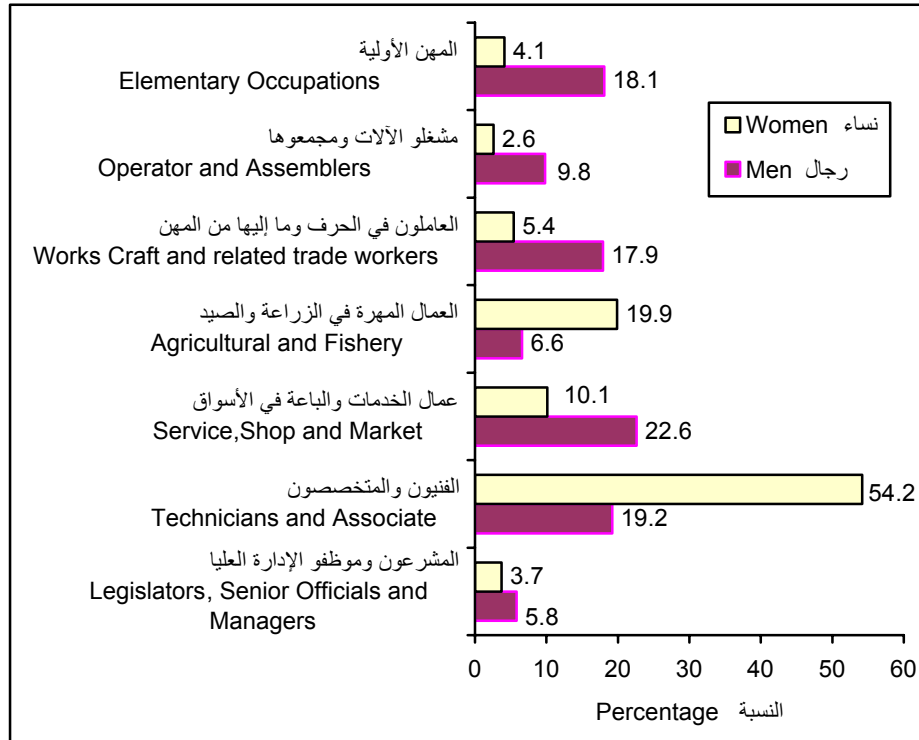


(%20.5 %61.8)

.2009

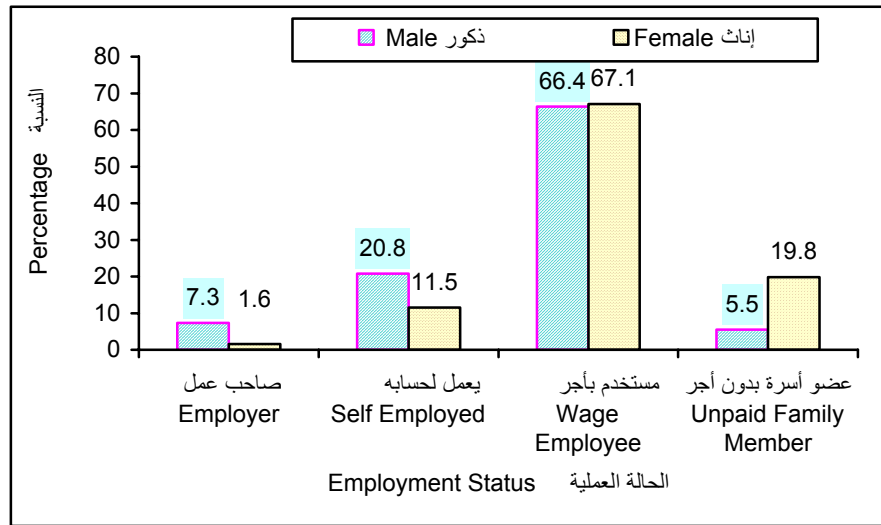
Women participation in the labor market still concentrated in agriculture (20.5%) and service (61.8%) in 2009.

Figure 13: Percentage Distribution of Employed Persons (15 Years and Over) by Occupation and Sex, 2009



Results indicate that the majority of occupations that women practice are still limited to traditional ones; where more than half of these women work as technicians or associates and about one fifth of them work in the agriculture sector.

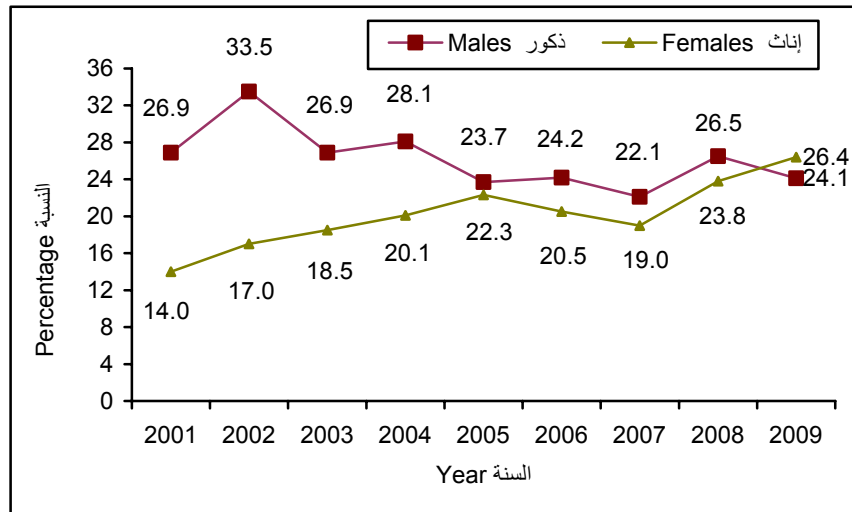
Figure 14: Percentage Distribution of Persons (15 Years and Over) by Employment Status and Sex, 2009



. %67.1
 %1.6
 .2009
 %66.4
 %7.3

About 66.4% of employed women are paid employee compared to 67.1% of men. The percentage of women who are employer is lower compared to men at 1.6% and 7.3% respectively in 2009.

2009-2001 (15) :15
Figure 15: Unemployment Rate (15 Years and Over) by Sex, 2001-2009



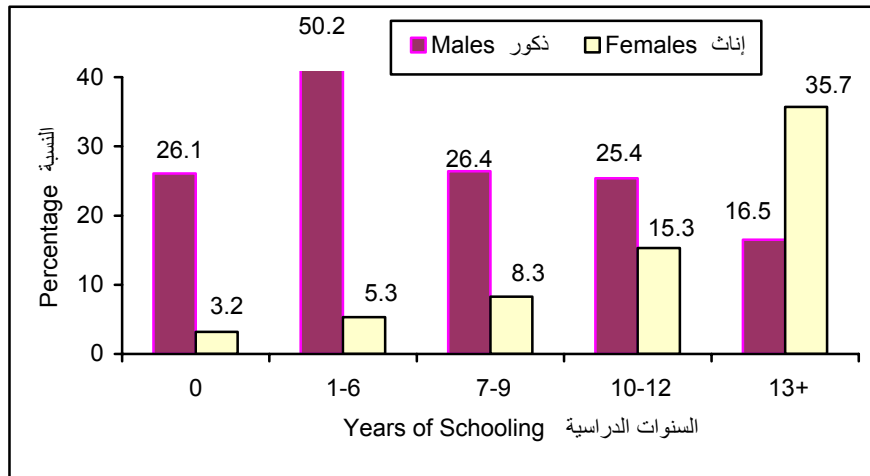
2001 %14.0

2009 %26.4

.2009 %24.1 2001 %26.9

There was a continuous increase in unemployment rate among women where the rate increased from 14.0% in 2001 to 26.4% in 2009. While there was a decline in unemployment rate among men where it reached 24.1% in 2009 compared with 26.9% in 2001.

2009 (15) :16
Figure 16: Unemployment Rate (15 Years and Over) by Years of Schooling and Sex, 2009



%35.7 13
 .2009 %16.5
 %5.3 %50.2 (6-1)

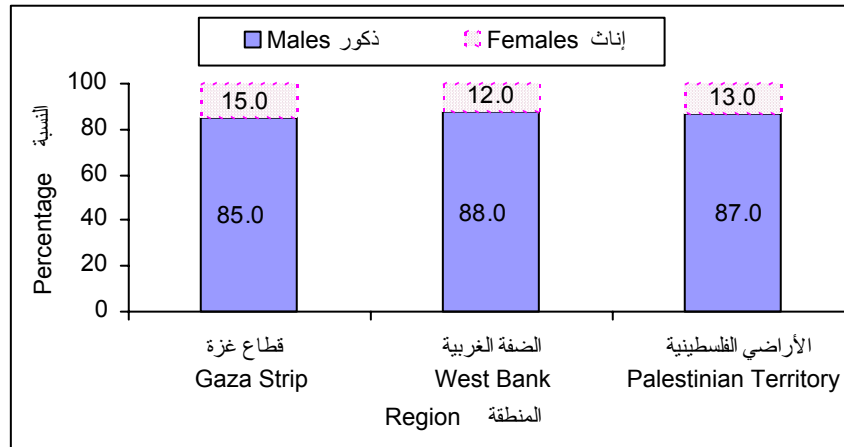
Unemployment rate among women with (13 years of schooling or above) reached 35.7% of all unemployed women compared to 16.5% for men. Unemployment rate for men reached 50.2% among those with (1-6 years of schooling) compared to 5.3% for women.

Al-Intifada and Public Life

2006

:17

Figure 17: Percentage Distribution of Legislative Council Members by Sex and Region, 2006



2006

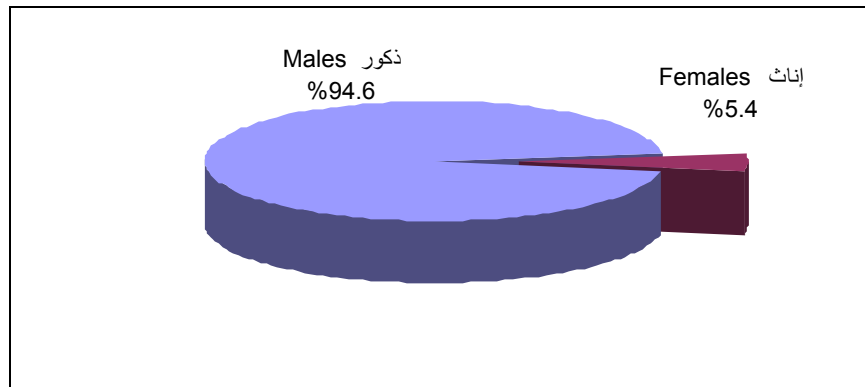
%13.0

. %87.0

(%12.0 %15.0)

About 13.0% of the members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elected in 2006 were females; while the percentage of female members is higher in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank with (15.0% and 12.0% respectively).

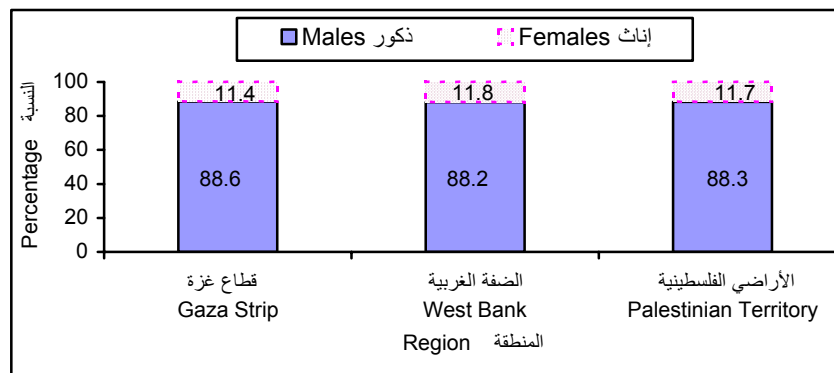
Figure 18: Percentage Distribution of Ambassador of the Palestinian National Authority by Sex. 2008



94.6% 2008 5.4%

Data showed that (94.6%) of the Palestinian National Authority’s ambassadors in the year 2008 were men, compared with (5.4%) were women.

Figure 19: Percentage Distribution of Judges by Sex and Region, 2008



88.3% 2008 11.7%

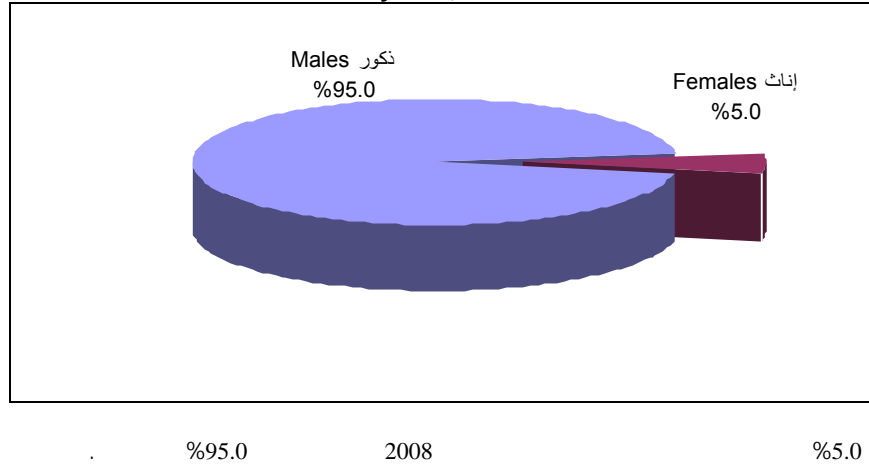
(%11.4 %11.8)

About (88.3%) of the judges in the Palestinian Territory are men; compared to (11.7%) are women judges in 2008. The percentage of female judges in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip are nearly equal with (11.8% and 11.4%) respectively.

2008

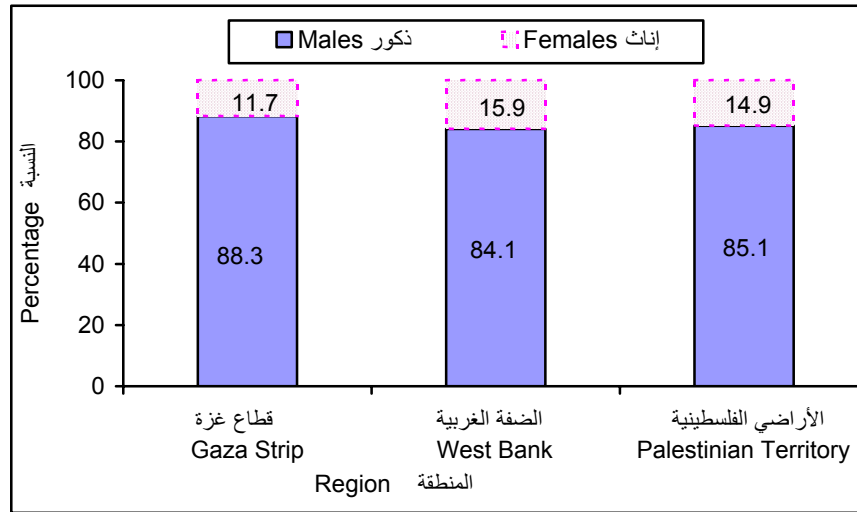
:20

Figure 20: Percentage Distribution of Prosecutors in the West Bank by Sex, 2008



About 5.0% of prosecutors in the West Bank were women in 2008 compared to 95.0% for men.

Figure 21: Percentage Distribution of Lawyers by Sex and Region, 2008



2008

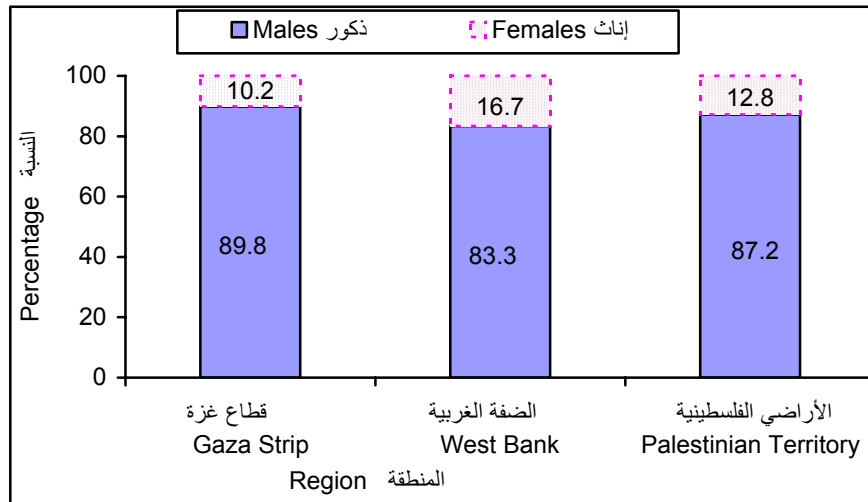
%14.9

%85.1

(%11.7 %15.9)

About 14.9% of lawyer practitioners in 2008 in the Palestinian Territory were women compared to 85.1% for men. While the percentage of female lawyer practitioners is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip with (15.9% and 11.7% respectively).

Figure 22: Percentage Distribution of Physicians by Sex and Region, 2008



2008

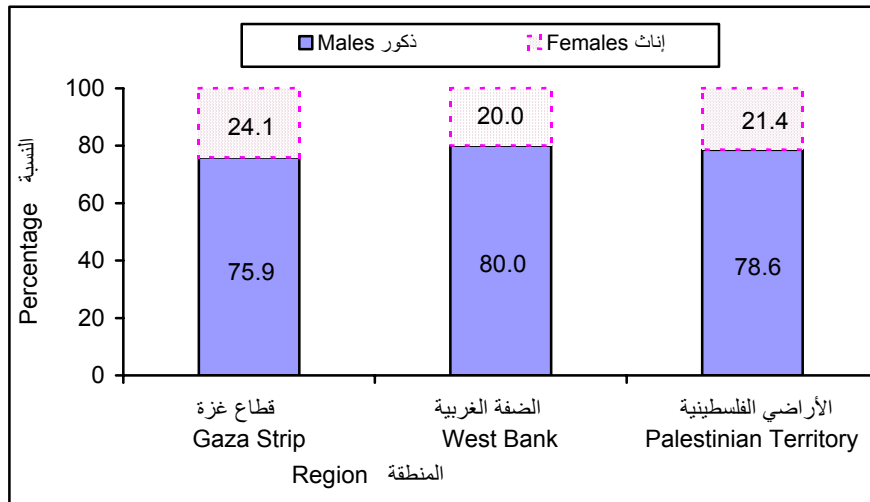
%12.8

. %87.2

. (%10.2 %16.7)

About 12.8% of registered physicians in 2008 in the Palestinian Territory were women compared to 87.2% for men. While the percentage of female registered physicians is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip with (16.7% and 10.2% respectively).

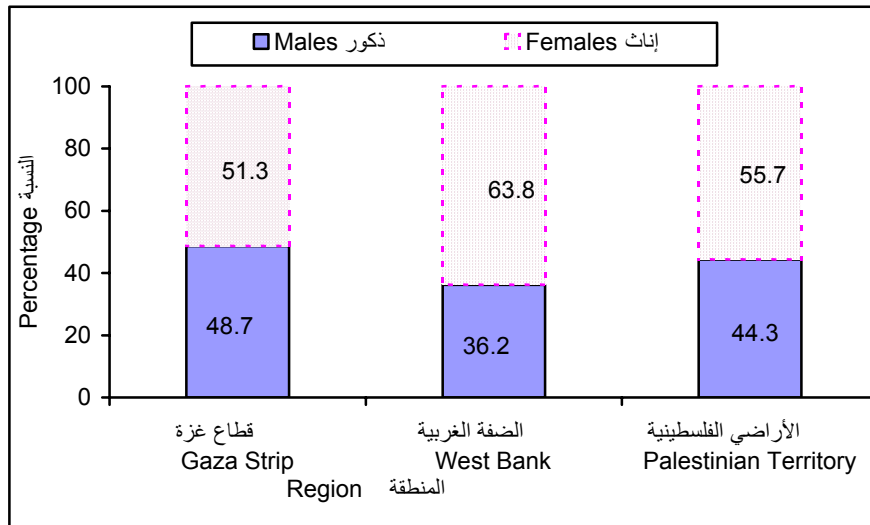
Figure 23: Percentage Distribution of Dentists by Sex and Region, 2008



2008
%78.6
(%20.0 %24.1)

About one fifth of registered dentists in 2008 in the Palestinian Territory were women compared to 78.6% for men. While the percentage of female registered dentists is higher in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank with (24.1% and 20.0% respectively).

Figure 24: Percentage Distribution of Nurses by Sex and Region, 2008



56

2008

%55.7

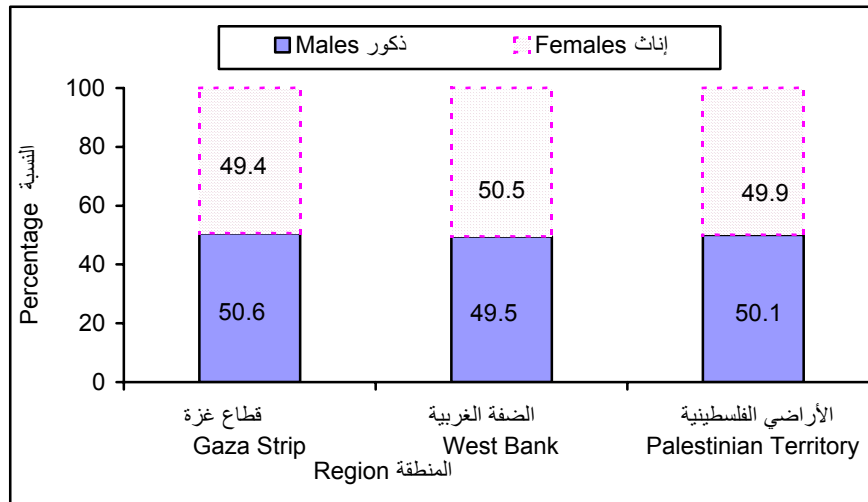
100

%44.3

(%51.3 %63.8)

In the health sector, there were 56 female in every 100 nurses and that reflects a more favorable view of females to the nursing occupation as compared with other health occupations in 2008. In other words, about 55.7% of all nurses were females compared to 44.3% male nurses. While the percentage of female nurses is higher in the West bank compared to the Gaza Strip with (63.8% and 51.3% respectively).

Figure 25 : Percentage Distribution of Pharmacists by Sex and Region, 2008



2008

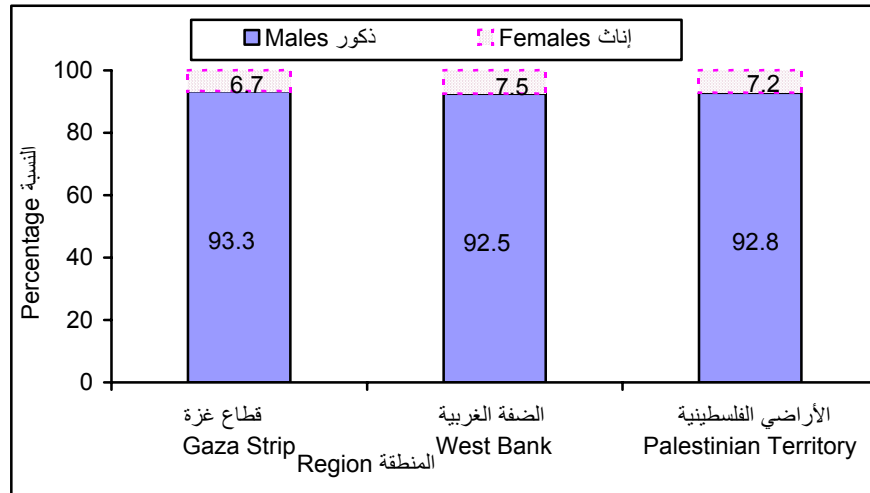
%49.9

%50.1

(%49.4 %50.5)

In 2008, (50.1%) of the employed in the pharmaceutical sector were men compared with (49.9%) were women. While for females, the results showed that (49.4%) were employed in the pharmaceutical sector in Gaza Strip versus (50.5%) in the West Bank.

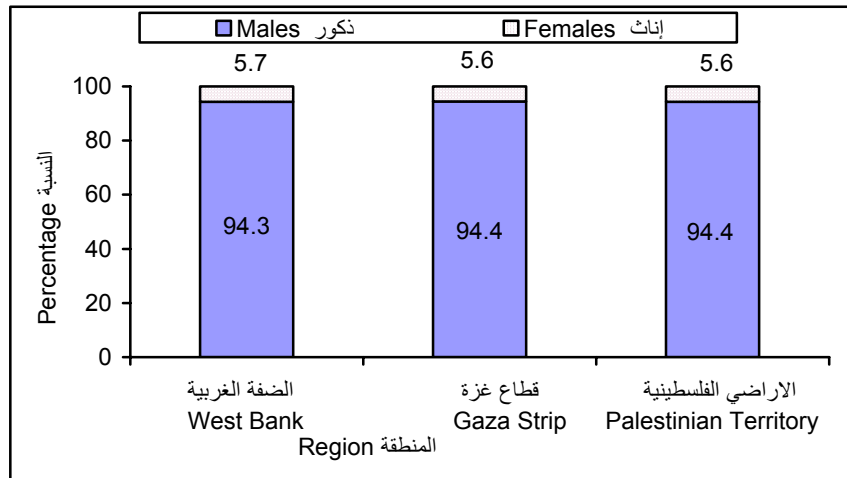
Figure 26: Percentage Distribution of Labor Union Members by Sex and Region, 2008



2008
 (%6.7 %7.5) %7.2
 %92.8

About 7.2% of the members of labor unions in the Palestinian Territory were women compared to 92.8% men during 2008. While the percentage of female members is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip with (7.5% and 6.7% respectively).

Figure 27: Percentage Distribution of Martyrs of Al-Aqsa Intifada by Region and Sex Until 31/12/2008



%5.6

%5.7

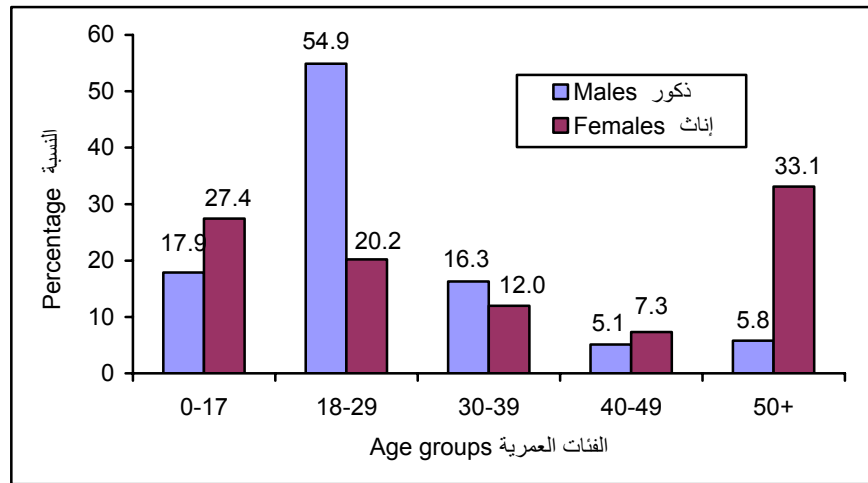
%5.6

2008

The percentage of female martyrs in the Palestinian Territory reached 5.6% of all martyrs (distributed as 5.7% in the West Bank and 5.6 in Gaza Strip) since the beginning of the Intifada until the end of 2008.

2008/12/31

Figure 28: Percentage Distribution of Martyrs of Al-Aqsa Intifada in the West Bank by Age Group and Sex Until 31/12/2008



Note: Data for Gaza Strip are not available according to age group.

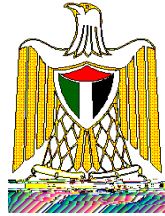
33.1% (50)
54.9% (29-18)
2008

The highest percentage of female martyrs was in the age group (50 years and above) where it reached 33.1% while for males the highest percentage was 54.9% in the age group (18-29 years) until the end of 2008.

	.2009	.1
	- .2007	
	.2009	.2
	- .2008	
	.2009	.3
	- .2009-1995	
2006	.2007	.4
	-	
2009	.2009	.5
	-	

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**Palestinian National Authority
Palestinian Central Bureau of
Statistics**

**Women and Men in Palestine
Issues and Statistics, 2009**

April, 2010

**This document is prepared in accordance with the
standard procedures stated in the Code of Practice
for Palestine Official Statistics 2006**

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Preface

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has strived since its inception to build and further develop Palestine's official statistics that is tailored to the needs of society and in accordance with the international recommendations.

As women are considered important contributor in comprehensive development, PCBS has given the production of gender statistics a high priority and ensured the availability of all possible indicators by gender to serve planning and policy making in achieving women empowerment and active participation in society.

PCBS has since 1996, through its Gender Statistics Program, developed comprehensive database on a range of gender relevant indicators in Palestine, and disseminated series of annual reports on the status of women and men identifying the gaps in their rights.

This report is the eighth in a series of specialized reports on gender issues disseminated by PCBS to shed light on the status of women and men in the Palestinian society and to provide adequate data necessary for related policy-making.

PCBS hopes that this report constitutes an effective tool in strengthening the basis of statistical data and indicators on women and men, and raises awareness among policy makers, planners and non-governmental organizations and advocates on gender issues.

April, 2010

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Acting President of PCBS

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Executive Summary

Population

- The Palestinian society can be described as a young one where the percentage of persons aged less than 15 years reached 41.7% in the mid of 2009 distributed as 42.1% for males and 41.6% for females. The increase of the population in the age group (less than 15 years) could be referred to the high fertility rate in the Palestinian society. On the other hand, the percentage of youth (15-29 years) reached 29.1% while the percentage of elderly (65 years and over) amounted to 3.0% of total population in the mid of 2009.
- More than half of women in the Palestinian Territory during the year 2007 were married compared to 49.7% for men. However, the percentage of single women is lower than men at 40.8% and 49.0% respectively; while the percentage of widowed women reached 5.8% compared to 0.6% for widowed men.
- The percentage of “never married” females in the age group (30 years and over) reached 11.5% compared to 3.7% for males in 2007.

Education

- The percentage of increase in literacy rate among females aged 15 years and over significantly exceeds that for males (4 times higher) during the period 2000-2009.
- The percentage of enrolled females in the secondary education is higher than the percentage of enrolled males (53.2% and 46.8% respectively). However, the percentage of enrolled males and enrolled females in the elementary stage are nearly equal in scholastic year 2008/2009.
- Students in the secondary stage for the academic year 2008/2009 still significantly prefer enroll in scientific disciplines and humanities compared with other professional disciplines. From gender perspective, female students turn to humanities education more than males according to the data of the scholastic year 2008/2009.

Culture

- About 45.7% of persons (10 years and over) listen to the radio in the Palestinian Territory during 2009 distributed as 46.9% for males and 44.5% for females. Although these percentages increase in the urban areas to reach about 48.5% for males and 44.8% for females, followed by rural areas and then camps.
- About 34.9% of male read newspapers compared to 28.0% of females.
- Women have greater interest than men in reading books. Results indicate that about 58.0% of males read books during 2009 compared to 64.2% for females. The reading habit among females reached 67.1% in the West Bank compared with 59.4% in Gaza Strip.

Information Society

- About quarter of females (26.2%) use internet during 2009 compared to 38.2% of males.
- About 51.3% of females use computers during 2009 compared to 62.9% of males.
- About 41.6% of females owned a cellular phone during 2009 compared to 66.7% of males.

Labor Force

- The participation rate of women in labor force during the year 2001 was (10.3%) and increased up to 15.5% in 2009. The participation rate of men in labor force had witnessed changes during 2001-2009; increased from 66.8% in 2001 to 67.0% in 2009.
- The majority of women participated in labor force those who have (13 years of schooling and above); while the majority of men participated in labor force those who have (10-12 years of schooling) in 2009.
- Women participation in the labor market still concentrated in agriculture (20.5%) and service (61.8%) in 2009.
- About 66.4% of employed women are paid employee compared to 67.1% of men. The percentage of women who are employer is lower compared to men at 1.6% and 7.3% respectively in 2009.

Public Life and AI - Intifada

- About 13.0% of the members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elected in 2006 were females; while the percentage of female members is higher in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank with (15.0% and 12.0% respectively).
- Data showed that (94.6%) of the Palestinian National Authority's ambassadors in the year 2008, were men compared with (5.4%) were women.
- About (88.3%) of the judges in the Palestinian Territory are men; compared to (11.7%) are women judges in 2008. The percentage of female judges in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip are nearly equal with (11.8% and 11.4%) respectively.
- About 14.9% of lawyer practitioners in 2008 in the Palestinian Territory were women compared to 85.1% for men. While the percentage of female lawyer practitioners is higher in the West Bank compared to Gaza Strip with (15.9% and 11.7% respectively).
- The percentage of female martyrs in the Palestinian Territory reached 5.6% of all martyrs (distributed as 5.7% in the West Bank and 5.6 in the Gaza Strip) since the beginning of the Intifada until the end of 2008.

Introduction

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has, since establishment, sought to provide national statistics about various aspects of the demographic, social, economic, and environmental life. PCBS aims to provide policy and decision-makers with the needed statistics for proper utilization in the planning and formulation of policies to meet national development objectives and international needs.

The issue of women has certainly become as a fundamental pillar in the public life of all societies despite of differences in customs, traditions, and concepts. The issue has also become an important platform in the field of research, studies, conferences and international forums. Women's rights, recognition, empowerment, and their active role in society have emerged as fundamental for society development and progress in the political, social and economic life. These developments on the status of women may lead to change in the law, as happened in the development of learning and education theories, as a result of women's greater involvement in this area. The marginal role of women is a result of the dominance of males on the economic life¹.

Women's empowerment does not require the marginalization of men but come through the promotion of women's economic role and active position in the labor market to reach equity in employment, wages, and training. Therefore, social, economic, and political empowerment of women are prerequisite for the national development.

This report is another publication by PCBS as part of a series of specialized reports on gender issues, to shed light on the reality of the status of men and women in the Palestinian society and to provide adequate data necessary for policy-making pertinent to gender equity.

The report presents a selected group of key indicators about gender issues from six relevant perspectives; demographic indicators, education, culture and information technology indicators, health indicators, labor force indicators; and indicators about the Intifada and public life. The report is based on different data sources namely the surveys conducted by PCBS (labor force survey, Palestinian family health survey and other surveys) and administrative records of the public and private institutions. The report presents results drawn from data series for the period 2000-2009 to comprehensively reflect on various gender issues.

¹<http://www.womengateway.com/NR/exeres/AA54C7F1-B04D-4D27-A468-03B9ED8C5FF1.htm>