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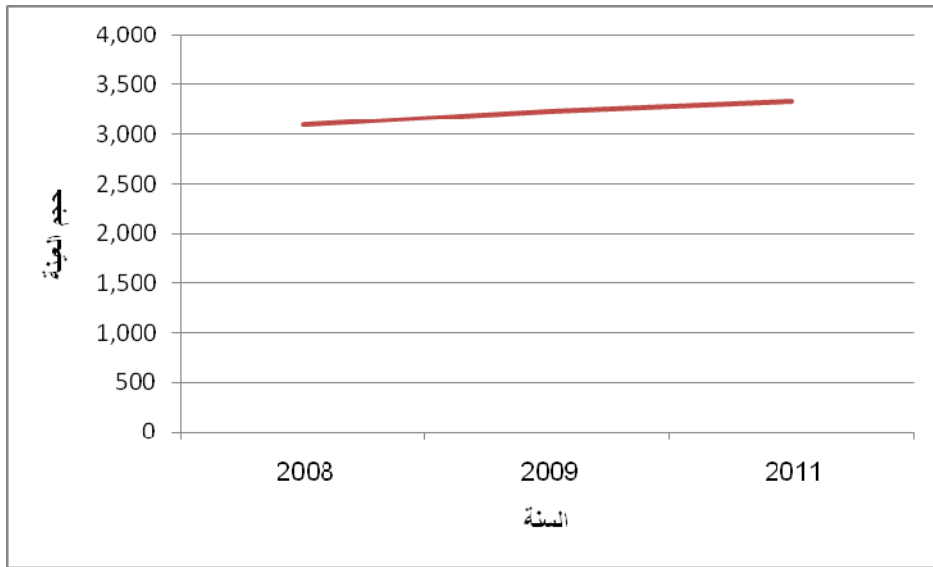
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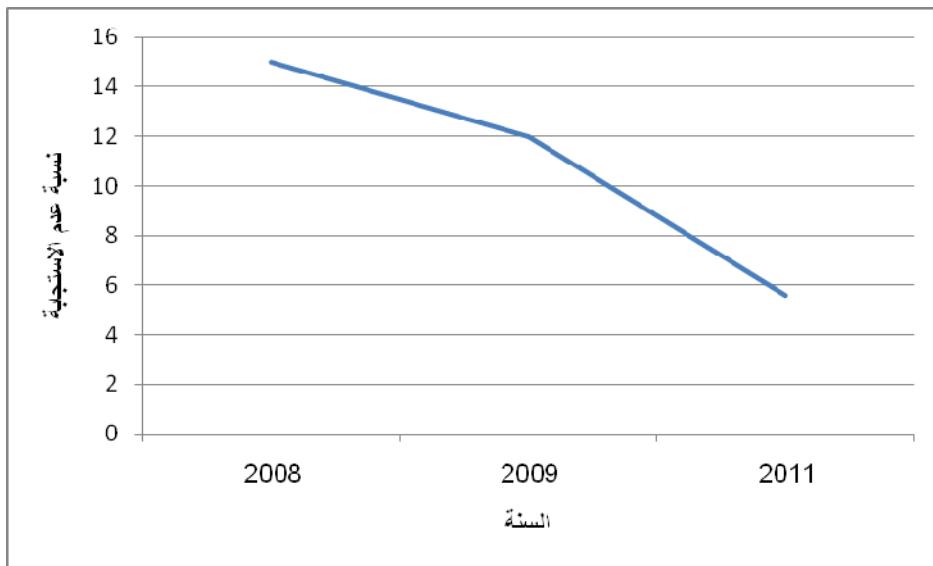
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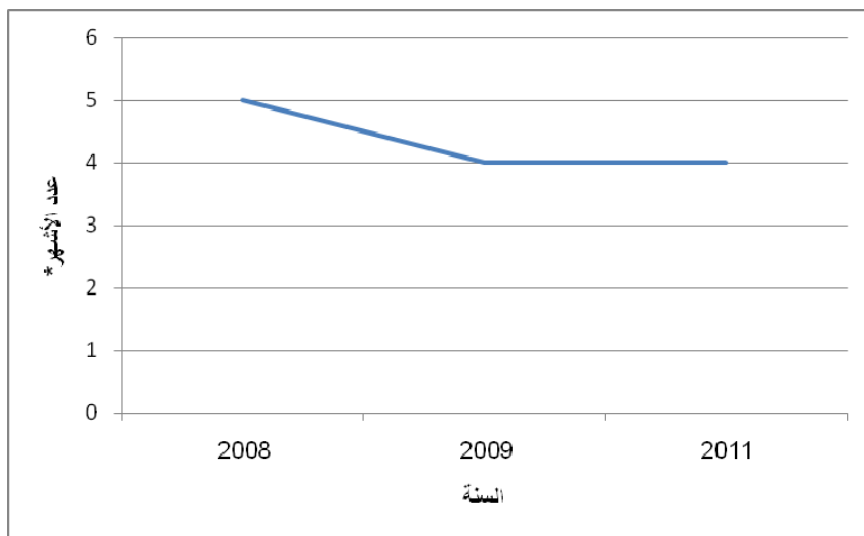
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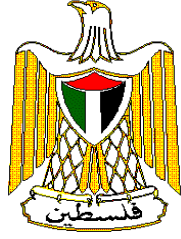
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**Palestinian National Authority
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

**Quality Report
Household Environmental Survey**

July 2012

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All correspondence should be directed to:

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

P.O.Box 1647, Ramallah City- Tokyo St. opposite to Ramallah Cultural Palace- Palestine

Tel: 00 (972/970) 2-298 2700

Fax: 00 (972/970) 2-298 2710

Toll Free: 1800300300

E-Mail: diwan@pcbs.gov.ps

Web Site: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps>

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Team Work

- **Report Preparation**
Mohammad Marie
Ali Al-Husien
Ola Al Khuffash
- **Preliminary Review**
Marwan Barakat
Inaya Zidan
- **Final Review**
Mahmoud Jaradat
- **Overall Supervision**
Ola Awad

PCBS President

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Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Quality control in general, refers to the degree of fulfillment of a group of correlative particularities of specific requirements. Thus, the data statistics quality refers to all fields related to extent of statistics that may meet users' requirements, and its reflection to their expectations regarding content, form and presentation method.

Therefore, data quality is measured through a group of dimensions (elements) namely: relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability, coherence and completeness. However, when talking about statistical system and its outputs, it is obligatory to take into consideration the dimensions and indicators of quality.

For this purpose, Quality Department had been working on preparing reports about data quality of statistical surveys conducted by Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) aiming at creating a general perspective regarding the extent of applying the dimensions/elements of quality and its indicators in statistical surveys.

This report is one of a series of quality reports for statistical surveys aiming to providing users with information about data quality of Household Environment Survey.

1.2 Report Structure

This report is divided into five chapters that review the quality control of Household Environment Survey. The first chapter describes the concept of quality in general and the aim of data quality in addition to report outline. The second chapter discusses the most significant scientific methods adopted in the survey including survey questionnaire, sample frame, sampling design, rate of responses and measures of sample weights. In addition, the chapter explores the applied methodology for training and hiring researchers and field trainers plus the mechanism for data processing, while the third chapter presents the dimensions and indicators of data quality and the reflection of such dimension on survey. The fourth chapter contains the mechanisms to compute the most important survey indicators, and defining these indicators. To concluding, the fifth chapter reviews the most important results and recommendations based on the reports contents.

Chapter Two

Household Environment Survey Methodology

The household environment survey carried out by Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics to providing needed data to build and update statistical databases that include environmental statistical indicators on household sector by water source, air pollution, solid waste, wastewater, and other topics.

This chapter reviews the more simplified scientific methodology followed in planning and implementation of household environment survey, including basic research tools design, frame and sampling, fieldwork, and methods of collecting and processing of survey data.

2.1 The Questionnaire

This survey presents data on various household environmental indicators in the Palestinian Territory, and presents statistical data on water consumption for household sector by water source, the methods of solid waste disposal and their main components, the disposal of wastewater, and existence of cesspits and water wells, in addition to exposure to noise and air pollution by source and time.

The questionnaire covered the following items:

1. Sources of water supply in houses.
2. Household solid waste disposal, its components, and its approximate quantity.
3. Wastewater disposal and the existence and use of cesspits in houses.
4. Air pollution in area of house by smell, dust and smoke.
5. Exposure to noise.
6. Environmental accounts of Palestinian households.

2.2 Questionnaire Design

Gone through process of questionnaire design in following stages:

- Refer to what is available from United Nations recommendations on environment questionnaires, concepts and glossary used.
- Refer to survey questionnaires implemented by Bureau, including questionnaires for economic environment survey, industrial environment survey, and environment survey to health care centers, in addition to household environment survey questionnaire for previous years.
- Modify the questionnaire based on results of previous sessions of survey, by redrafting some of questions, such as questions relating to existence of well and cesspit, and properties to cesspit from periodicity of evacuation and size ... etc.
- Preparation instructions for fulfill questionnaire, and for automated and office audit.

2.3 Sampling and Sampling Frame

2.3.1 Target Population

The target population consists of all Palestinian households who are normally residents in Palestinian Territory.

2.3.2 Sampling Frame

The sampling frame consists of a master sample that was selected from population, housing and establishment census. This master sample consists of converged geographical areas in size nearly (average is about 124 household), which are the enumeration areas used in census. These units were used as Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) at first phase of selecting sample.

2.3.3 Sample Size

The estimated sample size for household environment survey (for years 2008, 2009, and 2011) was 3,094, 3,234, and 3,336 households, respectively. These samples distributed by type of locality and area, depending on the distribution of sample for labour force survey.

2.3.4 Sample Type

A stratified cluster random systematic sample was designed and selected in two stages:

- **First stage:** it was done by selecting a stratified random systematic sample composed from enumeration areas.
- **Second stage:** it was done by selecting a random systematic sample of households within each enumeration area.

2.3.5 Sample Design

The sample of this survey is a sub-sample of that used for Labor Force Survey. The sample for Household Environmental Survey occupied six weeks of third quarter of Labor Force Survey.

2.3.6 Stratification

This process was achieved through the followings:

1. Stratification by district.
2. Stratification by type of locality which comprises: (urban, rural and camps).
3. Stratification by locality size (number of households in locality)

2.3.7 Target Cluster Size

The target cluster size is around 16 households per PSU's in 2008, 2009 and 2011.

2.3.8 Calculation of Weights

The weight of statistical units (sampling units) in sample is defined as mathematical inverse of the selection probability where sample of survey is a two-stage stratified cluster sample. Where in first stage, weight of enumeration areas calculated depending on probability of each enumeration area (regular random sample), then in second stage, weight of household calculated for each enumeration area, then calculated the multiplication of weight of first stage in weight of second stage we get first weight of households. Then, we adjusted these weights depending on estimates of households in mid-year execution survey, so we get final weight of households.

2.4 Field work operations

The fieldwork operations represent the real work of a survey in order to obtain required data from primary sources. Therefore, ensuring a success in this step is of core issues that have been worked on in details, this included, providing all technical and administrative requirements such as fieldworkers' recruitment, training and provision of necessary material requirements to work.

Fieldworkers were trained on the main skills before the start of data collection. The interviewers were trained on the Household Environment Survey in a training course held in Ramallah for West Bank trainees and in Gaza for Gaza Strip trainees. All field staff received a training session that included of general theoretical and practical components. The training provided the participants with the aims and definitions of the different indicators and expressions in the survey and instructions on how to fill in the questionnaire.

Fieldwork teams were distributed to all governorates in proportion to sample size of each governorate. The fieldwork team consisted of 24 members, including 1 fieldwork coordinator, 4 supervisors, 4 editors and 15 interviewers.

2.5 Data Processing

The data processing stage consisted of the following operations:

1. Data editing before entry: data were edited and checked before entry.
2. Preparation of data entry program: In this stage, data were entered into computer using the Access program. This program was prepared to satisfy a number of requirements, such as:
 - Duplication of questionnaire on computer screen.
 - Check on the logic and consistency of data entered.
 - Possibility for internal editing of answers.
 - User-friendly handling.
 - Possibility of transferring data into another format to be used and analyzed by using other statistical analytical systems such as SPSS.

Chapter Three

Dimensions and indicators of Household Environmental Survey data quality

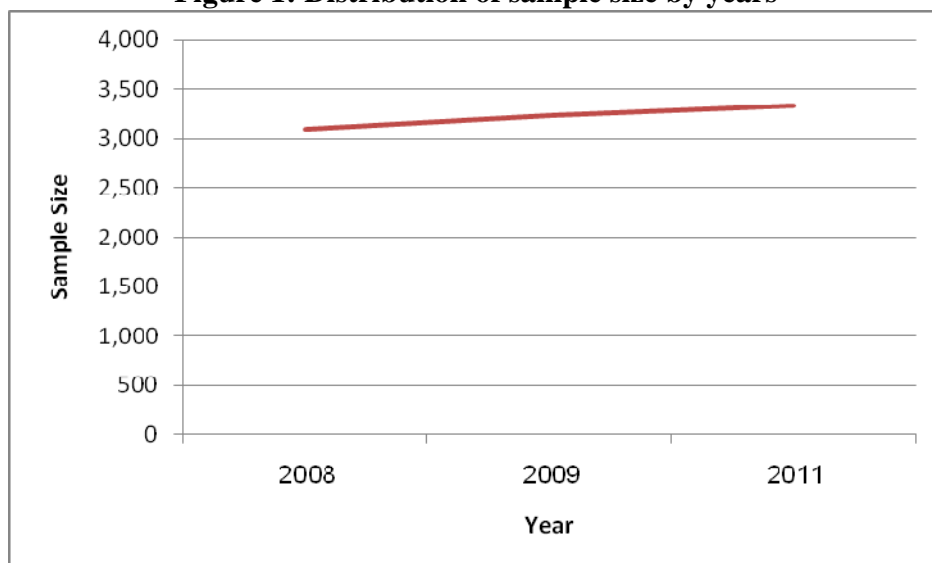
3.1 Relevance

This component related to the extent to which statistical data would meet current and potential users' needs, and were measured by the following indicators:

Indicator	Application
The main objective of the survey	<p>This survey presents data on various environmental household indicators in the Palestinian Territory and on water consumption for the household sector by water source, methods of solid waste disposal and their main components, the disposal of wastewater, and the existence of cesspits and water wells, in addition to exposure to noise and air pollution by source and time. The questionnaire covered the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source of water supply in houses. • Household solid waste disposal, its components, and its approximate quantity. • Wastewater disposal and the existence and use of cesspits in houses. • Air pollution in the area of the house by smell, dust and smoke. • Exposure to noise. • Environmental accounts for Palestinian households.
What is measured	<p>Measure the environmental state of household sector in Palestinian Territory by studying the source of water consumption for the household sector, disposal of solid waste and its components, disposal of wastewater, cesspits and household wells and exposure to noise and air pollution by source and time.</p>
Frequency	<p>PCBS conducted hundreds of statistical surveys in issues linked to Palestinian human life in all of demographical, social, and economical aspects. PCBS implemented this survey (attached with Labor Force Survey) as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first survey was implemented between 20/05/1998 and 10/07/1998. • The second survey was implemented between 09/10/1999 and 28/11/1999. • The third survey was implemented between 23/8/2003 and 02/10/2003. • The fourth survey was implemented between 22/02/2004 and 01/04/2004. • The fifth survey was implemented between 14/05/2005 and 07/07/2005. • The sixth survey was implemented between 16/05/2006 and 10/07/2006. • The seventh survey was implemented between 25/05/2008 and 3/07/2008. • The eighth survey was implemented between 23/08/2009 and 1/10/2009. • The ninth survey was implemented between 22/08/2011 and 20/10/2011.
Sample size	<p>Sample size was 3,094, 3,234, and 3,336 in 2008, 2009 and 2011 respectively (see Figure 1). Distributed according to Labor Force Survey (LFS) sample.</p>

Indicator	Application
Sample frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sample frame in 2008 consists of master sample and was chosen from census 1997, which update in 2003 and this master sample comprises geographical areas closed in size (number of households) which is the enumeration areas used in census, such frame has been used as PSUs in first stage of selection. • The sampling frame in 2009 is a master sample from the overall sample that was updated in 2003 for households that were visited for a third or fourth time, while households to be visited for first and second time were chosen from general frame of Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007. It consists of a list of enumeration areas used as PSU's in first stage of selection, and household frame was used in enumerator areas to choose households in second level. The frame of households has been updated in enumerator areas for new general sample at end of year 2003. • The sample frame in 2011 is a master sample from the overall sample that was chosen from general frame of Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2007. It consists of a list of enumeration areas used as PSU's in first stage of selection and household frame
Sample design	The sample of this survey is a sub-sample of that used for Labor Force Survey (LFS). The sample for Household Environmental Survey occupied six weeks of third quarter of 2011 of LFS.
Estimation	Some values have been estimated by the respondents, such as: the amount of household waste, the amount of the disposal of wastewater, the size of the hole... etc. In 2008, 2009 and 2011 it depends on estimations of households in middle of 2008, 2009, and 2011, respectively.
Outliers	There is an overestimation of the amount of waste and water consumption in some households (such as the amount of waste produced 500 kg in household, and the amount of consumption of a household of water 800 square meters), and there was overestimation in the cost of access to water and the cost of disposing of wastewater and solid waste, and was treated on survey that these values are outliers.
Weighting	<p>The weight of statistical units (sampling units) in sample is defined as the mathematical inverse of the selection probability where the sample of survey is a two-stage stratified cluster sample.</p> <p>In First stage: the sample of enumeration areas is selected and weight was called weight of enumeration areas (the sampling unit was enumeration areas).</p> <p>In Second stage: The sample of households was selected and weight was called household weight (A sample of household will be selected in each numeration area that were chosen in first stage).</p>

Figure 1: Distribution of sample size by years



Use and users:

PCBS, since its establishment is improving opportunities for developmental decision-making based on updated statistical figures and scientific bases. PCBS prepared hundreds of statistical reports on everything linked to Palestinian human life in all demographical, social, and economical aspects. Therefore, PCBS issued survey reports of Household Environmental Survey, and this is ninth report, which was released for household environmental survey 2011.

The survey was an opportunity for researchers, scholars, and decision-makers to have plans for protect the environment and stop the depletion of natural resources in Palestinian Territory by provides a reliable statistical figure, which help in monitoring the environmental state in Palestinian Territory, and it helps decision-makers in contributing of national development.

Strengths and Limitations:

One of the most important strengths in the survey of Household Environmental was that it had been implemented since 1998. So, new time series was built to make future projections. Data of this survey are consistent and comparable (by time and place), it is also comparable geographically. Data obtained from areas were compared, and the result was that there are no outlier's values, some of survey indicators were compared with data of census and data of housing conditions survey, and the results of comparing were close.

Data of this survey are consistent, where data consistency were checked, and no errors affect data quality has were found. Therefore, this gave a good impression of project managing of survey that can depends on data and give a consistent statistical indicators and data with high significance about in household sector in Palestinian Territory.

Also, the topics of this survey especially solid waste and amount of are a matter of controversy, but its indicators are needed globally so, the survey seeks to provide these indicators by asking household despite the lack of awareness of importance of these indicators.

One of the most prominent limitations of this survey was that some questions are objective and based on respondent estimation. Also, the answers were affected by respondent and its awareness that time, and amount of his understanding of question and answer, for example, respondent estimation of amount of solid waste, disposal of wastewater, amount of water consumption, size of cesspits and dimensions of well and cesspit.

Key Definitions

One of the most important definitions and terms contained in survey are: environment, wastewater, solid waste, cesspits, wastewater networks, noise and water quality. The survey uses definitions according to UN recommendations for environmental statistics as conducted in most of countries. In the mean time, it uses some national definitions (Palestinian particularity), but without prejudicing to international standards where they are not interpreted and applied in the same way in other countries.

3.2 Accuracy

The data accuracy reflects closeness of computations or estimates to exact or true values that statistics were intended to measure, and it is measured using several indicators. This includes checking the accuracy data in multiple aspects of survey, mainly statistical errors due to the use of a sample, as well as non-statistical errors due to staff work and survey tools, in addition to response rates in survey and the most important effects on estimates.

First: Statistical Errors

Data of this survey (2008, 2009 and 2011) are affected by statistical errors resulted from using a sample instead of population Census. Therefore, it is certain that differences appear of the real values were expected. The variance of the most important indicators in survey was calculated. There is no problem in publishing mentioned estimates in Household Environmental Survey by region (North, Center and South of West Bank, and Gaza Strip) and by locality (urban, rural, camp), but no publishing by governorate because of high variance coefficient.

Second: Non-Statistical Errors

Non-statistical errors were possible to occur through all stages of project: data collection and data entry, which could be categorized as non-response errors, response errors (respondent errors), interviewing errors (researcher errors) and data-entry errors. To avoid errors and reduce its effect, great efforts had been made through intensive training of field workers and researchers on conducting interviews and what should be done and what should not be followed during an interview, some practical and theoretical exercises were done during training courses, also handbook field workers were provided which contains questionnaire keys to reduce non response cases and give an accurate and unbiased data.

One of the most important non-statistical errors that accompanied the surveys in 2008, 2009 and 2011, that were resulting of privacy of this survey, which could be summarized as the following:

- Missing data because of non-response of households, such as the value and amount of water consumption of networks according to latest bill.
- What did respondents understand some question and their answers according to their interpretation, such as the evaluation of water quality in family, and public water network profile.

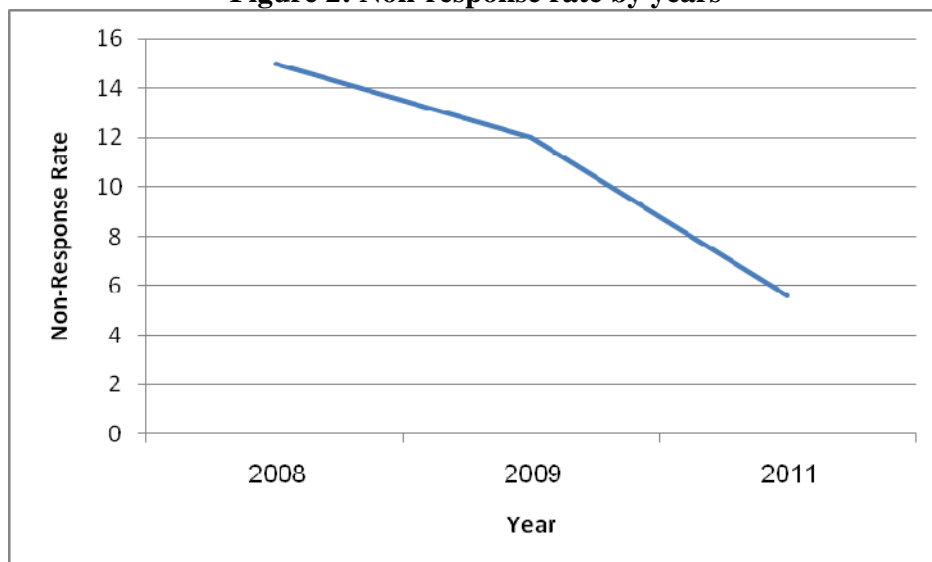
- Estimate some scale variables, such as amount of waste and wastewater, amount of used water, size of cesspit... etc.

Third: Response and Non-response Rates

During the fieldwork, it was found that non-response errors were due to unavailability of the household, empty housing units or refusal of household to cooperate in providing data. Where the non-response rates were 15.0%, 12.0% and 5.6% in 2008, 2009 and 2011 respectively.

This drop is due to percentage of non-response because of new frame (frame of housing and establishment census, 2007), but in 2008 and 2009 surveys depend on frame of housing and establishment census 1997. By updating the sample frame from census data, non-response rates had decreased in 2011 (as shown in Figure 2). These rates were generally relatively small if they would be compared to household's surveys conducted.

Figure 2: Non-response rate by years



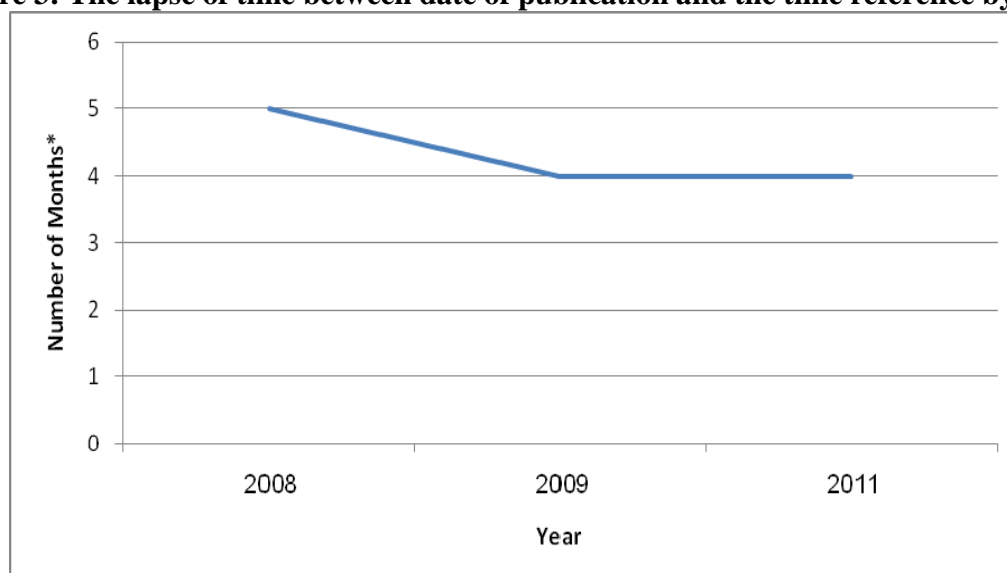
As well as refusal rates to survey about 1.5%, 1.6% and 0.8% in 2008, 2009, and 2011 respectively. So, the most refusals have concentrated in Jerusalem, but the refusal rate is low if compared to household surveys carried out by PCBS, and this is because the questionnaire is short, when compared to other questionnaires of household surveys.

3.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

Timeliness relates to length of time between data availability and the event or phenomenon that such data is describing, while punctuality relates to the time lag between data releasing date and targeted date when it should have been delivered or released. The challenge that is facing the statistical centers are improving the timeliness so that the data and information flow is disseminated in a timely manner while maintaining high accuracy, and it is measured by using the following indicators:

Indicator	Application
The reference-time reflected by data	Data reflects the time period as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Survey of 2008 was collected in April 2008. • Data Survey of 2009 was collected in July 2009. • Data Survey of 2011 was collected in July 2011.
The lapse of time between data publication date and time reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The period between Time reference of data till report published date is as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 05 months for Household Environmental Survey 2008. • 04 months for Household Environmental Survey 2009. • 04 months for Household Environmental Survey 2011. - The period between end of data collection till report published date is as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03 months for survey 2008. • 02 months for survey 2009. • 02 months for survey 2011.

Figure 3: The lapse of time between date of publication and the time reference by years



*Number of months: The lapse of time between publication and the period to which the date refer

It is noted from the above figure that data timeliness between 2009 and 2011 is good, where the period of time between data publication date and data time reference was within the standard period (between 01 to 02 months). But some weakness in timeliness of 2008 were noticed, where the period of time between data publication and data time reference was 03 months, which is outside the standard period.

The time lag between actual and planned dates of publication:

The scheduled publishing date of this survey was the same as of the actual scheduled publishing date as to PCBS statistical calendar in 2008, 2009 and 2011 was (October 2008, December 2009 and December 2010 respectively).

Noting from the above mentioned, the punctuality in data publication for survey in previous years has a strict timing.

3.4 Accessibility and Clarity

The concept of accessibility relates to easiness and conditions under which statistical data could be accessed and obtained, easy to use and convenient in both of form and content, while the concept of clarity relates to the data's environment whether data was accompanied with appropriate metadata and illustrations such as graphs and maps, or with availability of data quality.

PCBS general policy focuses on building a national statistical system that is accessible to various categories of data users through the publication of statistical data by traditional means such as publications and statistical reports and other means. As well as modern means by using modern techniques of electronic publishing, such as Internet, CD-ROMs and other modern means.

Since data users represent an important element in statistical process, using of statistical data would be made accessible to users at the best, easiest and fastest methods with a high data quality and credibility in a timely manner without any delays according to timetables of previously announced publishing dates.

Communication with data users through workshops, dialogue, contacts, conferences and other important means that are periodically implemented by PCBS to developing publishing processes.

The development process of the methodology, and applied means, which are currently in use, and developing of a communication strategy with the public are considered to be a priority of PCBS. PCBS is also focusing on increasing statistical awareness among permanent staff, academics and research centers to get use of abundant and accumulative statistical data through years.

PCBS had an abundant and accumulative statistical data in various fields that accumulated through surveys, censuses and administrative records that would assist in formulating of policies and making appropriate decisions to serve the society, one of the most important of these data includes (by topic):

- Censuses: Population, Housing and Establishment Census 1997 and 2007.
- Area Statistics: Environment, Agriculture, Tourism, Natural Resources, and others surveys.
- Economics: Finance and Insurance, National Accounts, Contractors, Transportation and Communication National Accounts, Industry and Construction, Finance, insurance and Payments, and others surveys.
- Population and Social: Population, Education and Culture, Health, Living Standards, and others surveys.

Reports and publications are being published in several ways, including:

1. Traditional publishing:

PCBS is publishing the statistical data that was collected by implementing field surveys or by administrative records and by census through the following means:

Statistical reports, brochures, wall panels, pocket brochures, executive summaries, reports, press releases, faxing bulletins.

It is highly considered that published data should be as simple and easy as possible by using modern technology, such as graphics and colors that should be applied on such data so that the reader can easily understand and benefit from it. The PCBS policy is tending towards the reduction of the volume of published data by replacing it with small paragraphs for statistical analysis. PCBS published several books and annual reports that interested in environment, and especially household environmental.

Accessing to report and the results of Household Environmental Survey could be obtained by various means, including visiting the Bureau (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Ramallah - Ein Monjed - near Ramallah Cultural Palace), and obtaining reports and annual books at very low prices, or visiting PCBS library which of all documents and versions of Household Environmental Survey, as well as an accumulative set of other statistical reports.

PCBS organized several annual exhibitions in all regions at nationwide, including universities, colleges, and participated in exhibitions outside the country. PCBS provided a discount of about 40% of the total value of all publications, so that everyone could afford these publications, full accessing data and benefiting of them.

2. Electronic publishing via Internet:

It is considered to be the best and the first in publishing, because of current tendency in publishing is to provide a space and chance for all users of public official statistics equally and fast on specific levels, without being biased to anyone. Consequently, internet became an appropriate tool for such process. It also characterized by particularity of being very effective, which is wide spread and less cost of use and with ability of huge amount of details. Based on that, PCBS established its own web site with an address of (www.pcbs.gov.ps) in 1996. Through which official statistics are published as a main and independent source for such statistics. It has been updated periodically, retiming statistics from the internet became significant and important as to policy and process of publishing at PCBS and this was obvious from the huge number of visitors to PCBS web site, where survey of users satisfaction in 2010 showed that 66.1% preferred to obtain data through website.

PCBS made available at the website, all of press releases of standards of the survey 1998 up to present, where users can access survey, as well as the possibility of printing or saving an electronic copy. The following table shows time reference and date of publication of survey report on web site:

Table 1: Time reference, Date of conduct, and Date of publication of survey report

Survey	Time Reference	Date of Conduct	Date of Publication
Household Environmental 2008	April 2008	May 2008 – July 2008	October 2008
Household Environmental 2009	July 2009	August 2009 – October 2009	December 2009
Household Environmental 2011	July 2011	August 2011 – October 2011	December 2011

3. Electronic publishing through CDs

PCBS uploaded all publications, reports and results of Household Environmental Survey on CDs, so that publications, reports and results of the survey were reviewed in an easy and quick way, in a way that allowed easy exploring and reviewing of them in an attractive, easy, and flexible manner (PDF), and PCBS sent copies of these publications to various parties inside and outside the country.

4. Users' services

PCBS purpose from its establishment date in 1993 is to execute an official comprehensive statistical plan that services all Palestinian sectors and non-Palestinian sector. PCBS established a special department to respond to beneficiaries needs called "Users Services Department" for the purpose of providing data to all users, through providing beneficiaries, government institutions, Politian's and all users with a clear picture about Palestinian society.

This department receives daily requests to Household Environmental Survey in addition to other requested surveys through e-mail (diwan@pcbs.gov.ps) or fax no. (00970-2-298710) or tel. (00970-2-2982700) and PCBS responded through fax or e-mail. In addition to the possibility of getting requested surveys by hand, through commuting to customer services and apply for getting statistical data by filling a special form in which a specific details should be stated. This department is in a daily contact with other technical and administration departments at PCBS to providing needed data.

User's survey results in 2010 showed that 12% preferred getting data through emails, and 10.7% preferred getting data through commuting to user's services department, and 3.4% preferred getting data through telephone or fax.

5. Communication with Media and beneficiaries

PCBS depends on local and international audio visual and written media means in publishing and disseminating statistical data through different methods:

1. Coverage of PCBS news and activities step by step.
2. Publishing of reports and data releases upon issuing or publishing any statistical publicity.
3. Organizing press conferences to announcing an execution of any statistical subject.
4. Holding interviews with radio, and TVs stations and written with senior management in Bureau.

PCBS keeps on contacts with media, media men and data users. PCBS holds workshops regularly, meetings for discussing and training purposes on dealing with statistical subjects. PCBS was able to hold various meetings on labor market, household expenditure and consumption, education, environmental and other subjects. Users' satisfaction survey results for

the year 2010 showed that 5.4% preferred getting data through press releases, and 2.5% preferred getting data through workshops.

Press releases on the survey were published in 2008, 2009, and 2011. So that has been brought to the attention of newspapers and users and interested ministries and decision makers at the most important results of its survey.

6. Statistical database:

Statistical database is a conclusion of a statistical process with huge and comprehensive accumulated data of PCBS and formed a thorough heritage and living memory of PCBS. It provided a tributary source of basic information to governments and researchers due to its coverage of a vital and important data and information that documented the past and reflect the present and the future in all aspects of life, and constitute the main pillar of the reform plans, development and policymaking.

PCBS has a huge amount of data in various periodical topics on population, social, economic and geographic fields on, so deliberately PCBS started establishing a geographic database of Palestinian territories in all social, economic and geographic fields and linked with geographical areas at various levels (Palestinian Territory, governorates, localities, enumeration areas, buildings ... etc).

The objective of establishing such base is compilation of available data in PCBS in an orderly fashion and according to scientific bases in a manner where it could be easier to manage and benefit from to providing data in a form of time series, and also linking such data with their geographic locations to be used easily and effectively for analysis, comparison and planning purposes. The first experience of PCBS in publishing statistical data by using maps was through preparing a Palestinian Statistical Atlas in 2004, as maps of statistical indicators were published and covering several indicators of different social, economic and natural subjects as well as tourist and historical maps. PCBS worked on establishing an electronic statistical atlas in 2006 to provide users with a new and advanced tool in preparing their own statistical maps according to their needs through PCBS website: (http://atlas.pcbs.gov.ps/atlas/Arabic_index.asp).

Maps of environmental were available in electronic statistical atlas (such as map of percentage distribution of households in Palestinian Territory by household evaluation of water quality and region, and map of percentage distribution of households in Palestinian Territory by exposure to noise and region) in 2008 and 2009, and lately 2011.

7. Micro Data for Public Use

At the end of August 2005, PCBS had produced micro data for public use on CD-ROMs, after security treatment of data, in abidance to article (17) that is stipulated in Palestinian General Law of Statistics No. (5) of 2000.

The process of providing metadata is a very advanced step in strengthening the relationship between PCBS (as a producer of raw data) and users. This step would access researchers, planners, students, universities, research institutes of public and private sectors, and international institutions of using metadata with great flexibility in their studies and analyses to derive

indicators that they would wish and meet their own needs without referring to PCBS for providing them with.

To be eligible to get the public use file (PUF) of any survey, you should:

- Submit a request through PCBS user's services department by any mean (via fax /e-mail).
- Processing the request internally and replying to it within a period of one week at the maximum.
- Contacting with applicants of data to sign an agreement and to paying of dues (at a symbolic price).
- A package of requested data to be handed over or sent through an email along with a license for using of such data.

There are many data of surveys and censuses that are available for public use, one of the most important of these data are as the following (by subject/topic):

- Censuses: Population, Housing and Establishment Censuses of 1997 and 2007.
- Area statistics: Household Environment, Economic Environment, Housing Conditions and others surveys.
- Economic statistics: Finance and Insurance, National Accounts, Contractors, Transportation and Communication and others surveys.
- Population and Social statistics: Expenditure and Consumption, Labour Force, Health and others surveys.

A set of data was issued for Household Environmental Survey and made available for public use, where a micro data for public use file contained a questionnaire survey data (SPSS and ASSCI), a brochure, data dictionary, and public use file (all of which are in Arabic and English).

Therefore, PCBS is implementing administrative and technical procedures to accessing for the public use file to all eligible applicants in a simple and easy way. The most important of these procedures:

1. Reviewing the survey, indicators and necessary variances in micro data for public use file to double check the availability of main indicators in PUF.
2. Reviewing possibilities of publishing on the lowest levels through studying of weights of sample to ensure disseminating data at specific levels. compute the variance of the most important indicators of survey in each of these years, shows no problematic in data dissemination both at the level of geographical area (North, Central, and South West Bank, and Gaza Strip), or type of locality (urban, rural, and camp), either for publication at the provincial level cannot be published because the coefficient of variation is high.
3. Processing public data file in accordance with previous conditions, examination and experience the post-processed file and rehabilitation, extract data and ensure consistent results and statistical number matches the publication, through audit and examination of the data and published results of survey (in 2008, 2009, and 2011) show that results matching for circular extract published results in survey report, publication with a mismatch when extracting some tables in 2008.
4. Processing manuals and data dictionary, data type, and given time and keys link files in order to facilitate the task of users data to ensure its ability to use simple and easy, and

your data file contains survey qualifying (in 2008, 2009, and 2011), survey data (SPSS & ASSCI), download brochure about survey, manual training, data, and computing machinery are in Arabic and English. But, during survey data file for survey in 2009 indicate a lack of data area (North, Central, and South of West Bank) and data type of locality (urban, rural, and camp), which lack the ability to extract tables contained in the report of survey in 2009 fully.

In 2009 and 2011, the data dictionary were reflected on PUF by defining full and clear variables, which contributed to reducing the burden of data users, as opposed to what it was in 2008, where he was a qualified data file contains data dictionary.

5. Adopting of Public use file by relevant departments and senior managers to ensure scientific interest of data users.
6. Preparing brochures and summaries about PUFs and announcements on available data for the public use through direct messages to research centers, line ministries, international institutions, universities and through announcements in newspapers, and PCBS website.
7. Preparing terms of references and agreement forms to be referred and signed by PCBS and data users.
8. Assigning of communication liaison officer at PCBS to coordinate with data users represented by PCBS department of data dissemination.

8. Metadata

Metadata is a descriptive data about statistical figures and methodologies of data collection to be provided to data users to be evaluated and to specifying its strengths and weaknesses and know its sources and resources. Providing available metadata is good and important to facilitate shifting from supply-based production to demand-based production and to achieving such a purpose, standards and regulations were designed to prepare metadata that describes the used procedures to evaluating the data by users.

Metadata is considered one of important products that PCBS provides to serve the researchers, which is not less important than digital data that cannot be explained or clarified without the collection and treatment tools of metadata.

PCBS adopted specific standards in preparing and publishing metadata that enables researcher to rely on it in his/her study and comparing it with international standards and it is also a commitment to implementing the Palestinian National Strategy for Development of official Statistics - NSDS (2009 - 2013), which states expressly for providing statistical data with high quality and at ease in accordance with accurate and reliable standards and in proper time (the second strategic purpose: publishing statistics and increase its uses), PCBS had published metadata on its website, responding to researchers and users' needs and implementing one of NSDS terms. In addition, an international standards were adopted (Data Documentation Initiative-DDI) for preparing metadata and using of "Accelerated Data Program-ADP" for preparing and publishing metadata on the websites.

The published descriptive metadata base consists of a large group of surveys that were compiled and published by PCBS for several years. Useful data of surveys were published, and whole data sets which consist of: of data collection and treatment process, methodology of sampling

techniques, treatment of errors and problems, definitions and terminology, statistical and geographical coverage, sample design, work plan and other documents and information. In addition to the database is providing copies of survey tools and documents such as questionnaires and published reports of surveys results

Therefore, the project manager is responsible for preparing metadata that is eligible for public use, which would start after the completion of technical committee works, completing or implementing the project, publishing statistical report and qualifying and documenting metadata. Metadata consists of explanations, clarifications of eligible data for public use along with data dictionary in both bilingual languages of Arabic and English.

The most important procedures of project manager should be constructing an accurate, precise and high quality metadata as of following:

- Preparing the eligible file/files through an SPSS program on ADP.
- Completing of metadata entry from MS Word file to ADP.
- Working on ADP should be in both languages (Arabic and English).
- Delivering final files of ADP (XML, RDF) to the PCBS webpage section of publishing and documentation directorate.
- Webpage section should publish metadata on ADP database on the website.

Among the examples on publishing of metadata of surveys is publishing of metadata for Household Environmental Survey, so it is possible for any user of website (http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_adp_arabic/) to review metadata of all surveys including Expenditure and Consumption Survey. By reviewing PCBS website, there is metadata of this survey for the years:

2008 (http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_adp_arabic/ddibrowser/?id=56),

2009 (http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_adp_arabic/ddibrowser/?id=36),

and 2011 (http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_adp_arabic/ddibrowser/?id=73)

As committed by PCBS to providing metadata for interested researchers and users.

Information and metadata of Household Environmental Survey had been published in 2008, 2009 and 2011 which consisted of the following: general information on survey, reference timing, purpose of survey, sources of data, donor, mythology and procedures of sampling, responding rate, definitions and terms used, collecting and treating of data, geographical coverage, questionnaire design and data dictionary. In addition to the database is providing copies of survey tools and documents such as questionnaires and published reports of surveys results. To approaching most of possible users, PCBS published metadata in both languages Arabic and English, and metadata documented electronically on office files, database and PDF at general directorate of computer information systems in PCBS.

9. Research Center

Within the context of PCBS policy to promoting the use of statistical data in the area of research center to accessing researchers to a variety of data which serving various scientific purposes,

Research center has been opened this year to using raw data of household environmental surveys at PCBS according to a determined and specific procedures and criteria adopted by PCBS.

PCBS provides required data at high standards to maintaining data confidentiality and privacy of individuals in accordance with article 17, paragraph 1 on Palestinian General Statistics Law of 2000, and which stipulates that all individual information and data provided to PCBS for purposes of statistical confidentiality may not be shared with any individual, public or private body or used other than for the purpose of preparing statistical tables.

Therefore, PCBS provides users with a suitable place to use the data through a computer with good specifications. In addition to documenting the data and used encoding lists during official working hours (8:30 - 2:30), while providing necessary technical support services, with commitment of a data user on using data for statistical purposes only, and abide by the rules of confidentiality and data security as indicated in General Statistics Law of 2000 and refraining from attempting to detect individual information. In addition to respecting and observance of enforced regulations of PCBS and reference is made to data source when you post any material derived from such surveys data.

Data users should certain actions in order to use search centre:

- Applying to public services section and clarifying required data to be used and research details. (http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/form.doc).
- Application would be internally and adopted (during a maximum period of two weeks).
- In the event of approval of the application, PCBS contacts data user to sign the agreement.

Finally, PCBS circulate printed periodicals of survey's results and provides CD's for the purpose of widely disseminating statistical data, a database related to local, Arab and international institutions had been developed, and so PCBS surveys products will be distributed to all of the above mentioned institutions, and the list of institutions is as the following:

Ministries, government institutions (civil and military bodies), research centers, universities, libraries, media institutions, chambers of commerce, consulates to Palestine, foreign representatives offices to PNA, political movements, unions, Palestinian embassies, Arab and foreign statistical institutions, governments and other donors, researchers and conferences..

3.5 Comparability

This dimension refers to the extent to which differences between statistics can be attributed to differences between the true values of the statistical characteristics, and it is measured by using several indicators.

The annual report contained surveys (2008, 2009 and 2011) of the most important results, tables, and graphs, which reflects household environmental state in Palestinian Territory, and that fit all categories of data users as researchers, decision makers, scholars and others. It is also contained time series for the most important indicators to enabling researchers, scholars and others who are interested in making comparisons between results by time series.

These reports (referred to in the paragraph above), provided for the survey reports these years time series of data and most important indicators of environmental state in the Palestinian Territory, which interested in existence of water network, quality of water household, solid waste components, disposal of wastewater and exposure to noise, in order to assist in making comparisons between results by this time series.

The survey data provided comparability by geographical distribution (North, Central, South of West Bank, and Gaza Strip), or by locality type (urban, rural and camp). Thus, it is clear that comparison between data in a time reference is going smoothly.

The survey data is compared in 2011 with similar data from housing conditions survey 2010, that results were similar (such as comparing the amount of water consumed, disposal of wastewater, and disposal of waste). However isn't compared survey data in 2008 and 2009 with similar data, because lack of same data in another survey in same this years, while survey indicators is compared by various molecules to study community.

3.6 Coherence

Regarding to this dimension of adequacy of statistics to be combined in different ways and for various uses, and the presence of comparable methodologies would lead to similar results in terms of measurements in different aspects of the statistical system including the primary and secondary data sources, and it is by measured using several indicators.

PCBS is using a regularly updated sample frame; the sample was withdrawn in 2008 by using census frame of 1997, which has been updated in 2003. Sample was withdrawn in 2009 by using updated frame in 2003 and census frame in 2007. In 2011, the sample was from census frame 2007.

In addition to that, the procedures and concepts of survey were set in accordance with concepts, regulations, classifications and international standards taking into consideration some of the Palestinian Privacy, without breaking the international standards.

Household Environmental Survey indicators will not be compared with the same indicators of the administrative records data, because there is no administrative records of household environmental but some indicators be compared with data of census 2007 (e.g. water sources indicators and contact with water network).

3.7 Completeness

This dimension focuses on the extent to which all statistics that are needed are available, and the completeness of the statistics in terms of coverage of indicators and geographical coverage, time coverage, and coverage in terms of target groups and other related matters, this dimension is measured by using the following indicators:

Indicator	Application
Extract the highest number of indicators that covers the survey subject	Indicators were calculated about percentage of water network contact, sewage network, percentage of access to water from different sources and water quality evaluations. Other indicators of solid waste were calculated (e.g. percentage of solid waste disposal in different ways, percentage of different component of solid waste...etc). The survey provides an average daily production per capita of household waste (kg), and average daily production of wastes (kg).
Covering all geographical regions in the study sample	It covers all geographical areas in sample: a stratified, cluster and random sample was chosen from enumeration areas used in housings and establishments census in 1997 and 2007. The geographical areas were divided into variant levels: the level of Palestinian Territory (North, Central, South of West Bank and Gaza Strip), and the geographical divisions by type of locality (urban, rural and camp).

Chapter Four

Calculation process of the most important indicators of Household Environmental Survey

PCBS has been conducting Household Environmental Survey since 1998 up to present, which aims to providing the data needed to build and update statistical databases that include environmental statistical indicators on household sector in the themes of water, air pollution, solid waste, wastewater, and others. That may be contribute to monitoring environmental situation in Palestinian Territory, which in turn helped policy and decision makers in making plans for protection of environment and depletion of natural resources in Palestinian Territory. We do hope that we have contributed in rationalizing decision making.

Thus, Household Environmental Survey provides various indicators related to environmental state in Palestinian Territory, such as indicators of sewage networks, exposure to noise, smokes, water quality evaluations ... etc. Below is a table that shows the most important indicators and its definition and process of its counting:

Indicator	Definition	Counting process	Measurement Unit
Percentage of Water Network Contact	Index measures the population contact with a general water network.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which contacts with water networks by total number of this units multiplied by 100	Percentage
Percentage of Sewage Network Contact	Index measures the extent of sewage network contact	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which contacts with sewage networks by total number of this units multiplied by 100	Percentage
Percentage of Exposure to noise and smokes	Index measures the size of exposure to the sources of noise, smokes, dust and odors.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which expose to noise, smokes, dust or odors by the total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100	Percentage
Percentage of Solid Waste Disposal	Index Measures the methods used to solid waste disposal.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which used a method solid waste disposal by total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100.	Percentage
Percentage of water quality evaluation.	Index Measures the evaluation of numeration units and respondents of water quality	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which measures water quality by total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100.	Percentage

Indicator	Definition	Counting process	Measurement Unit
Percentage of access to water from different sources.	Index Measures the different sources of water.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which used a source of water by total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100.	Percentage
Percentage of existence of waste collection service.	Index Measures if there is an existence of waste collection service for each numeration unit.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which has waste collection service by total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100.	Percentage
Percentage of Different Components of Solid Waste	Index Measures the Different Components of Solid Waste which resulting from numeration unit.	Calculated by dividing the number of numeration units which produced a component of solid waste by total number of numeration units and the result multiplied by 100.	Percentage
Average of daily production pair capita of household waste (kg)	Index measures Average of daily production pair capita of household waste (kg)	Dividing the Total size of waste which produced daily per capita by total number of members.	Kg/daily
Average of daily production of household waste (kg)	Index measures Average of daily production of household waste (kg)	Dividing the Total size of waste which produced daily by total number of numeration units.	Kg/daily

Chapter Five

Results and Recommendations

5.1 Results

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) implemented a range of studies and working and concept papers on subject of quality, this quality report of Household Environment Survey is one of these quality reports, where they were to publish a report of quality for each of Labour Force Survey and Household Expenditure and Consumption Survey. These reports are designed for graphic overview of the extent of application of quality dimensions/elements and indicators in survey to provide users and decision makers with information about quality of survey.

This report generally reviews survey methodology, which is displayed in annual report of survey with a simple and easy way. This methodology helping users and beneficiaries to understand what is the survey about, sample frame and mechanism of sample design, response rates, calculation of weights, main problem in fieldwork field, and reviews the fieldwork for survey, as well as data-processing mechanism.

This review showed clearly the extent and results of survey to meet the needs of current and potential future users (this represents the first dimension of quality dimensions: relevance). To reviewing indicators relating to this dimension - are defined by the basic objective of survey of starting date, periodicity, showing the size and design of the sample and sample frame and the calculation of weights, the most important definitions and terminology in this survey - as compliance with these indicators.

It showed also the extent of accounts and estimations when comparing with existing and real values that surveys measured (this represents the second dimension of the dimensions of quality: Accuracy). So that after calculating the contrast for the most important indicators, and lack of problematic in data dissemination both at level of geographical area (North, Central, and South Bank, as well as in Gaza Strip), or at level of type of locality (urban, rural, and camps). It is noted that a non-response rate of survey is the lowest if compared to data survey in other countries. Also, it was noted that the proportion of non-response rate was the least in 2011 amounted to 5.6%, and refusal rate was the lowest in same year at 0.8%.

Response rates are indications for accuracy (among others), these rates are put in order from largest to smallest (by years): 2011, 2009, 2008.

Publishing data in a timely manner while maintaining accuracy and high quality of data are the most important challenges faced by statistical institutions. Therefore, after reviewing report notes that the lapse of time between publication and the period to which the date refer (this represents the first part of the third dimension of quality dimensions: Timeliness) within standard period between 1 month and 2 months in 2009, and 2011, and out of period in 2008.

It is also noted that matching of planned publishing date for survey is the same as of actual scheduled publishing date in statistical calendar (this represents the second part of third dimension of quality dimensions: Punctuality) in 2008, 2009 and 2011. Through this review, it is

showed that 2009 and 2011 were the best year to achieve and implements the third dimension of quality (Timeliness and Punctuality).

The data user is an important element in statistical process and be allowed to use statistical data in an easier and faster method. In addition to appropriate data in form and content (this is the first part of the fourth dimension of quality dimensions: Accessibility), and quality and high credibility for data, and punctuality. Therefore, after examining survey files for year 2008, 2009 and 2011, turns out it was all of the following: dissemination of results (report) on the website of PCBS, a press release, data processing for public use file, uploading maps of statistical survey on the website of PCBS (would be later provided to survey 2011), and in 2008, 2009, and 2011 publish metadata for surveys.

It is noted that survey report contains permanent explanations such as graphs, charts, and tables of results for Palestinian Territory as a whole or by region and geographical distribution, as well as availability of information about quality of data (this is the second part of the fourth dimension of quality dimensions: clarity). Thus, we found a verification of the fourth dimension of quality (accessibility and clarity). In addition to PCBS keen to provide data to the public and by new methods.

The annual reports contained main results of survey and some indicators in time series form (Such as a connected to the public water network, exposure to noise, dust, smoke, and other selected indicators) to enable comparisons by years. Therefore, in order to achieve the fifth dimension from the dimensions of quality (comparability), it is compared between time series for the most important indicators survey, and between survey indicators according to geographical distribution of survey community.

The survey data is compared in 2011 with similar data from housing conditions survey 2010, that results were similar (such as comparing the amount of water consumed, disposal of wastewater, and disposal of waste). However, survey data in 2008 and 2009 with similar data wasn't compared, due to lack of same data in another surveys in same years, while survey indicators were compared by various molecules to study community. The survey indicators were compared according to study society as a whole, and thus we achieve comparability in 2008, 2009, and 2011 as a result of above mentioned (household environment survey 2011 was the most investigation for comparability).

The sixth quality dimension related to suitability of societal statistics with different methodologies and for different purposes including; coherence, availability of methodologies suitable for comparison that lead to similar results in sense of measuring different pillars of statistical system including preliminary and secondary resources. Therefore, the household environment survey is using a precise sample frame, where the survey sample was withdrawn in 2008 based on census frame 1997 (updated in 2003), and in 2009 was part of sample frame updated in 2003 and the other part of the framework from Census frame 2007, while household environment survey 2011 is using sample frame based on Census frame 2007. In addition to that, the procedures and concepts of survey were sitting in accordance with the concepts, regulations, classifications and international standards and taking into consideration Palestinian privacy without affecting the international standards.

The survey indicators are not compared with the same indicators of administrative records data, because lack of administrative records for household environment, while some survey indicators are compared with census data, where some of these indicators are compared with data from census (such as indicators of water resources, disposal of wastewater, and disposal of waste). Thus, from above are showed good obligation of consistency in survey.

When returning to survey reports showed availability of all necessary statistics (this represents the seventh dimension of quality dimensions: Completeness), which deals with survey reports for the most important statistical indicators on environmental reality (household sector) in Palestinian Territory. For example, the percentage of public water network, and sewage network, and percentage of obtaining water from different sources, in addition to an important indicator on proportion of water quality assessment. In addition, it is calculated for solid waste indicators (such as the percentage of solid waste disposal in different ways, the percentage of solid waste collection service, and various components of solid wastes), and other indicators.

The report also showed the extent of statistical completeness, from inclusion of indicators, geographical coverage, and time covering which has been divided into geographical areas in surveys of 2008, 2009 and 2011 to several levels: at the level of Palestinian Territory (North, Central, and South of West Bank, as well as in Gaza Strip), in addition to be divided to several geographical areas by type of locality (urban, rural, and camp).

5.2 Recommendations

1. Keeping reviewing data use file for more accuracy.
2. Developing quality indicators dimensions as of the following:
 - Comparing survey indicators with same indicators of administrative records.
 - Applying mechanisms and procedures for refusal cases in field.
 - Applying mechanisms and methods of imputation.
3. Calculating of indicators in reports of household environment to be included contained by upcoming reports.
4. Applying such review of quality report on other surveys in this year.
5. Applying such review of quality report on all surveys by next years, so that the project manager has to prepare the report, and it should be reviewed by Quality Department.

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