



**State of Palestine**

**Palestinian Central  
Bureau of Statistics**

**Ministry of  
Agriculture**

**Olive Presses Survey 2015**  
**User's Guide Raw Data**

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**Disclaimer: the data was provided for this year in one data file, in case was linked the data files for the previous years to the survey with this file returned to the definition of the variables in the file.**

## Concepts and Definitions

### **Olive Press:**

An enterprise or part of an enterprise in which one group of goods and services is produced: (olive oil, with the possibility of secondary activities).

### **Extraction Rate: (Indicator)**

Represents the amount of oil extracted, divided by the quantity of pressed olives.

### **Pressing Fees:**

The payment paid by clients for pressing the olives. It is paid in kind as a fixed proportion of extracted oil.

### **Outputs:**

The value of the final products of goods and services produced by a specific olive press which is used by other units for self-consumption or for the purposes of self gross fixed capital formation.

### **Intermediate Consumption:**

It consists of the value of the goods and services consumed as inputs by a process of production, excluding fixed assets whose consumption is recorded as consumption of fixed capital.

### **Value Added:**

Value added is a central concept of production and refers to the generated value of any unit that carries out any productive activity. Gross value added is defined as the value of gross output less the value of intermediate consumption. The net value added is defined as the gross value less the value of fixed capital consumption.

### **Employed Persons:**

Persons aged 15 years and above who were working at least for one hour during the reference period, or who were not at work during the reference period, but held a job or owned business from which they were temporarily absent (because of illness, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason) he\ she was employer, self employed, wage employed, unpaid family member or other. The employed person is normally classified in one of two categories according to the number of weekly work hours, i.e. 1–14 work hours and 15 work hours and above. Also the absence due to sick leave, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason considered employed from 1-14 hours.

### **Compensation of Employees: (Indicator)**

The total remuneration, in cash or in kind, including social security contributions, payable by an olive press to an employee in return for work done by the latter.

### **Olive Cake:**

Olive cake (*jefti*) is the solid remainder after the olive pressing. It is considered as a byproduct.

### **Disposal Liquid (*Zebar*):**

The olive liquid remainder (waste) after olive pressing.

## **Survey Questionnaire**

The olive presses questionnaire was designed in a manner to ensure compatibility with other economic series surveys. Special attention was devoted to the main agricultural and economic variables to meet the needs of policy planners and decision makers in the agricultural sector.

### **Target Population**

The survey was comprehensive and covered all operating olive presses in Palestine in 2015.

### **Frame and Coverage**

The frame for the survey comprises 272 operating olive presses. However, the non-operating presses have been visited to confirm their status.

### **Reference Date**

Data collected annually from all operating presses during olive picking season that extends from the beginning of October 2015, to final of December 2015.

### **Response Rate**

The response percent is 100%.

## **Data Quality**

### **Accuracy of the Data**

The most important observations regarding the twentieth round of the Olive Press Survey for 2015 are as follows:

### **Sampling Errors**

The survey was implemented on the basis of a comprehensive census of all studied statistical units (olive presses) and therefore this survey is free of sampling errors.

### **2. Non- Sampling Errors**

This type of error could appear in one or all stages of the survey that comprise data collection and data entry:

- Non-response errors: there was a very good response from all visited presses and no non-response cases were reported for this season.
- Response errors: these are related to respondents, field workers, and data entry personnel. To ensure data quality, a series of measures were implemented to support the accuracy of data collection and data processing, including:
  1. Respondents: Data were collected on the quantities of olives pressed and olive oil extracted on a daily basis. This was to ensure gathering reliable and accurate figures on the important indicators. Field workers visited the olive presses daily to check if data had been reported fully and correctly.
  2. Field workers: A series of actions were implemented to support the accuracy of data collection via the following:
    - The agriculture engineers of the ministry of agriculture received theoretical and applied training on the survey questionnaire.
    - Intensive field visits were conducted and problems were sent to the coordinator of the Ministry of Agriculture to solve.
  3. Data entry operators: To ensure the quality and consistency of data, a series of measures were implemented, including:
    - The setting up of a data entry program prior to data collection to check the operation of the program.
    - A series of validation rules were applied in the program to check the consistency of data.
    - The efficiency of the program was checked through pre-testing by entering a few questionnaires, including incorrect information, to monitor efficiency in capturing erroneous data.
    - Well-trained data entry personnel were selected and trained for the main data entry phase.
    - Data files were sent to the project management to be checked for accuracy and consistency. Notes were provided for data entry management for correction purposes.

### **Other actions taken by the project management to enhance data quality included:**

- Field visits were instrumental in testing the credibility of field workers and to solve any obstacles they might face.
- Verification of the edited questionnaires was conducted by project management.
- Some indicators were covered by more than one question to double check responses and enhance data credibility.

### **Comparison of the Data**

Comparison exercises were carried out with surveys of olive presses from previous years. The comparison revealed logical convergence with previous survey data.

### **Notes on Data**

1. Financial data were collected in NIS, but were converted and published in US dollars using the average exchange rate from October to December 2015: USD= 3.8784 NIS during that period.
2. Differences in the results of certain indicators are due to approximation.
3. There are no olive presses in Jericho and Al-Aghwar, and north Gaza governorates. The data of selected governorates were merged to maintain data confidentiality as stated in the General Statistics Law of 2000.
4. There may be some variation in the agricultural season of the olive presses, according to the olive quantity harvested.