



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

**Migration Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010**

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## **Introduction**

Migration has recently attracted greater attention due to its significant increase that is resulted from different social, economic and political factors. Migration affects the size and structure of society with greater impact on small localities either the source or the destination of migration.

One of the challenging aspects of migration is the provision of accurate statistics to monitor migration and its social and economic effects.

The migration survey-2010 in the Palestinian Territory was the first of its kind to be conducted by PCBS. The survey was designed to provide detailed and accurate statistics about internal and external migration in terms of size, characteristics and trends. In addition, the survey provides insights about the perception of the Palestinian non-emigrant population on emigration, emigrant's money transfers, factors that influence the decision of emigration, the characteristics of returned emigrants and the reasons behind their return.

## **Concepts and Definitions**

### **Age:**

The duration in completed years between the date of birth of the person being enumerated and the date of interview.

### **Household:**

It refers to the private household whose head holds the Palestinian nationality. As for non Palestinian household, it refers to the household whose head holds non Palestinian nationality irrespective of the nationality of other household members.

### **Special types of Households:**

**A one-person-Household:** It refers to the household comprised of one individual.

**Nuclear Household:** It refers to the household comprised of a couple only; a couple and a son or a daughter (not adopted son or daughter) or more; or a male head of a household with a son or a daughter or more; or a female head of a household with a son or a daughter or more. It is worthy to note that no other relatives or non-relatives live with this household.

**Extended Household:** A household of at least one nuclear household together with other relatives.

**Composite Household:** Refers to household consisting of at least one nuclear household with other non-relatives.

### **Sex Ratio:**

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

### **Marital Status:**

The status of those 12 years old and over in terms of marriage traditions and laws in the country. May be one of the following cases:

**Never married:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over has not been married or legally engaged (according to customs and traditions applicable in the country).

**Legally Engaged:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over has an official marriage document (issued by a competent court) but has not been actually married yet according to customs and traditions applicable in the country. The divorced, widowed, and married twice do not belong to this category.

**Married:** It applies if the person aged 12 years and over is actually and officially married (according to customs and traditions applicable in the country) irrespective of his / her past marital status as well as of whether the couple were together during the reference period or not. The person married to more than one wife is classified as married.

**Divorced:** The person aged 12 years and over who previously married and legally divorced but was not married again.

**Widowed:** The married person aged 12 years and over whose marriage was ended by the death of the spouse and was not married again.

**Separated:** The individual 12 years old and over who was married, but his/her marriage was revoked for some reason without any legal or official registration, and he/she did not marry again.

### **Educational Attainment:**

It refers to the highest successfully completed educational attainment level. The educational level for persons aged 10 years and over .

**Illiterate:** It applies to persons unable to read or write in any language and who were never awarded a certificate from any formal education system.

**Can Read and Write:** It applies to persons who are able to read and write without completing any of the educational stages. Such persons are generally able to read and write simple sentences.

**Qualification (The highest successfully completed educational attainment):** It refers to the highest educational attainment level (elementary and higher) the person successfully completed. **Elementary** is the educational level for persons who successfully completed the sixth elementary grade. Those who successfully completed the ninth grade shall be classified under the **preparatory** level. Likewise, persons who successfully completed the general secondary certificate examination shall be classified under the **secondary** level. As for the rest of levels, they are as follows: **Associate diploma, bachelor degree (BA/BS), higher diploma, masters degree (MA/MS), doctorate (Ph.D).**

### **Refugee Status:**

This status relates to the Palestinians who were forced to leave their land in the Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel in 1948. It applies to their male sons and grandchildren.

**Registered Refugees:** It applies to registered refugees holding refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

**Non-Registered Refugees:** It applies to unregistered refugees who do not hold refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

**Non-Refugee:** It applies to any Palestinian not categorized under any of the two aforementioned status types.

### **Nationality of Origin:**

It refers to the political identity of the individual as Palestinian, Jordanian, Egyptian, Brazilian, French, etc.

### **Migration:**

The movement of a person or a household from one locality to another or from one country to another, provided that he/she crosses the boundaries of that locality or country for the purpose of establishing a new residence.

### **Place of Residence:**

Place of residence if refers to the name of the locality in which the person spends most of his time during the year (lived there six months and above), irrespective of whether it is the person same place of residence at the date of interview, or the place in which he works and performs related activates or the place in which his original.

**Mothers Usually Place of Residence (Place of Birth)**

The mother's usual place of residence at the time of her child's birth.

**Current Usual Place of Residence:**

It refers to the name of the locality in which the person spends most of his/her time during the year (lived there six months and above), irrespective of whether it is the person's same place of residence at the date of interview, or the place in which he/she works and performs related activities or the place in which his/her original household is based or not.

**Duration of Residence:**

It refers to the duration the person has stayed in the current place of residence till the date of interview, in completed years without any attention to the months or days.

**Previous Usual Place of Residence:**

It refers to the place (if existing) where the person stayed for a minimum of six months before he moved to the current usual place of residence.

**Returned Immigrant:**

The person who was residing abroad and returned to the Palestinian Territory for residency.

**Reason for Changing Previous Place of Residence:**

**Work:** When the person changed previous place of residence to seek work or as a result of changing place of work

**Study:** When the reason for changing previous place of residence was to study

**Marriage:** When the reason behind changing previous place of residence was marriage.

**Accompanying:** When the reason behind changing previous place of residence is to accompany other household member or family reunion without any other reason. This is applicable to the spouse and children of the head of the household who change previous place of residence for the sole reason of accompanying the head.

**Displacement** (because of the annexation wall): When the reason for the forced displacement of the person is due to the annexation wall. This is applicable to all household members regardless of their age.

**Displacement (Israeli Measures):** When the reason for the forced displacement of the person is due to Israeli measures other than the annexation wall or war. This is applicable to all household members regardless of their age including deported persons, detainees and ex-detainees (providing that the previous place of residence is in Israel).

**Poor Financial Situation:** Changing previous place of residence to seek cheaper place due to poor financial situation.

**Return to Homeland:** Includes Palestinians who decided to return and reside in Palestine permanently without any other reason

**Hold on Jerusalem Identity:** Includes Palestinians who involuntarily resided in Jerusalem to keep Jerusalem identity

**Other:** Includes reasons not stated above

## Survey's Questionnaire

**Household Questionnaire:** The questionnaire includes detailed questions about the demographic, social, educational, and marital status characteristics of persons. In addition, this questionnaire includes questions on housing and emigrants.

**Emigrant's Questionnaire:** This questionnaire includes questions regarding short-term migration and citizenship of emigrants who are now 15 years old and above. In addition, there are sections on the background characteristics of emigrants, motives for emigration, emigrants' social relations abroad, the date on which emigrant started to work abroad, the desire to return, impressions of emigrant's experience abroad, as well as emigrant's money transfers.

**Returned Emigrant's Questionnaire:** this questionnaire includes questions regarding date of return for emigrants who came back since 1990 and were returned 15 years or above, motives for emigration, emigration networks, emigrant's social relations outside the Palestinian Territory, date of work, motivates behind return, perceptions about the experience of emigration, and the money transfers of returnees during their stay abroad, and date of returne.

**Non-immigrant's Perception Towards External Migration:** This questionnaire includes questions about temporary and past emigration as well as the desire and motives to emigrate. One person within the age group (15-59) years was selected from each sampled household using Kish table.

## Linking files: Data Set Linkage

The data set for the public use files by identification variables (keys). as below:

File Name	Content	Identification Variable
Roster1.sav	Household Roaster	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample HR01: Line no.
House.sav	Housing Conditions	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample
Migrant1 .sav	Identify Migrants outside the Palestinian Territory	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample
Migrant2.sav	Emigrant's	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample CO04: Emigrant's line number in the list of family Members
Migrant3.sav	Returnees	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample CR04 :Return line number in the list of family Members
Migrant4.sav	Perception Towards Emigration	IDH00: Questionnaire's serial number in the sample CN04 : Person line number in the list of family Members

## **The Comprehension of Community Sample**

The targeted population of the migration survey – 2010 includes all persons in the Palestinian Territory (West Bank and Gaza Strip).

### **Sample and Frame**

**Sample Design:** the sample is stratified clustered systematic random sample. The design is comprised of two phases:

1. Random sample of 384 enumeration areas (178 in the West Bank and 206 in Gaza Strip)
2. Systematic random selection of 50 households from each enumeration area in the West Bank and 25 random households from each selected enumeration area in Gaza Strip.

**Sampling Frame:** the sampling frame consists of enumeration areas that were used in the Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007. Each enumeration area consists of inhabited housing units. The enumeration areas were used as Preliminary Sampling Units (PSUs)

**Sample Size:** the sample size of the migration survey was 15,050 household distributed as 9,900 household in the West Bank and 5,150 household in Gaza Strip.

### **Weighting**

Weight of the statistical unit (the sampling unit) in the sample as inverted Mathematical probability of selection of the unit, and a sample survey of migration is a sample stratified clustered systematic random two-stage, therefore the weight is calculated for each stage of the process of selecting the statistical unit.

### **Variance Calculations**

Since the data reported in this survey is based on a sample survey and not on a complete enumeration, it is subject to sampling errors as well as non-sampling errors.

Data of this survey affected by statistical errors due to use of the sample; therefore, the emergence of certain differences from the real values obtained through censuses is possible. The above tables indicates high level of data accuracy, where coefficient of variation ranges from 0.02 to 0.09

### Variance Calculations on the Level of the West Bank for Selected Indicators

Variable	Estimate %	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	95% Confidence Interval		Observations
				Lower	Upper	
Persons 60 years and above	4.8%	0.2%	0.034	4.5%	5.2%	<b>2,996</b>
Registered refugees	28.0%	1.7%	0.059	24.9%	31.4%	<b>14,713</b>
Illiterate persons 10 years and above	4.5%	1.2%	0.036	4.2%	4.5%	<b>1,935</b>
Type of housing unit as a House	64.6%	1.2%	0.026	61.2%	67.8%	<b>6,271</b>
Owned housing unit	84.5%	0.9%	0.010	82.7%	86.2%	<b>8,182</b>
Main reason for emigration to improve living conditions	15.8%	1.4%	0.087	13.3%	18.7%	<b>181</b>
Returned emigrant's education level before emigration was Secondary	34.2%	1.6%	0.070	31.0%	37.5%	<b>376</b>
Residing in the homeland as one of the reason for returning	21.9%	1.5%	0.070	19.0%	25.1%	<b>361</b>
Returning to home land was the returnee's own decision	37.0%	1.6%	0.027	33.9%	40.1%	<b>655</b>
Advantages of emigration are more than the disadvantages	35.0%	1.6%	0.046	31.9%	38.3%	<b>623</b>
The emigrant transfers money through money transfer agencies	91.1%	2.3%	0.026	85.3%	94.8%	<b>248</b>
Have relatives abroad	38.5%	1.5%	0.039	35.6%	41.5%	<b>3,422</b>
Desire to emigrate	13.4%	0.7%	0.052	12.1%	14.9%	<b>1,109</b>
Temporality emigration is more preferable by emigrants	70.9%	3.3%	0.047	63.9%	77.0%	<b>157</b>

### Variance Calculations on the Level of Gaza Strip for Selected Indicators

Variable	Estimate %	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	95% Confidence Interval		Observations
				Lower	Upper	
Persons 60 years and above	3.7%	0.2%	0.045	3.4%	4.0%	<b>934</b>
Registered refugees	66.8%	2.2%	0.032	62.5%	70.9%	<b>19,371</b>
Illiterate persons 10 years and above	3.7%	0.2%	0.053	3.3%	4.1%	<b>644</b>
Type of housing unit as a House	35.3%	1.6%	0.047	32.1%	38.6%	<b>1,796</b>
Owned housing unit	86.0%	1.0%	0.012	83.8%	87.9%	<b>4,329</b>
Returned emigrant's education level before emigration was Secondary	43.1%	3.9%	0.09	35.7%	50.8%	<b>96</b>
Residing in the homeland as one of the reason for returning	45.1%	3.7%	0.083	37.9%	52.5%	<b>183</b>
Returning to home land was the returnee's own decision	41.3%	2.4%	0.059	36.7%	46.2%	<b>174</b>
Advantages of emigration are more than the disadvantages	35.6%	3.3%	0.094	29.4%	42.5%	<b>154</b>
The emigrant transfers money through money transfer agencies	89.9%	4.8%	0.054	75.8%	96.2%	<b>39</b>
Have relatives abroad	35.8%	1.7%	0.047	32.5%	39.1%	<b>1,725</b>
Desire to emigrate	12.4%	0.8%	0.062	10.9%	14.0%	<b>617</b>
Temporality emigration is more preferable by emigrants	65.3%	5.5%	0.085	53.8%	75.2%	<b>67</b>

## **Data Collection**

For the purposes of this survey have been considered as the date of interview is the date of award for the ages and other demographic and social indicators.

## **Fieldwork Operations**

The teamwork include 200 of interviewers, carried out the data collection. Fieldwork teams were distributed to different districts according to sample allocation. Fieldwork activities took place during month 2-4/2010 for the West Bank, and during 6-7/2010 for Gaza Strip.

All field staff received a training session combining general theoretical and practical components. Interviewers, supervisors and editors for the survey. Fieldwork procedures and organization were designed to ensure adequate supervision and the collection of high quality data. To this end, several quality control measures were used throughout fieldwork.

## **Encoding**

Been using a manual Palestinian communities and a guide as well as the International Classification of the Guide to the profession of coding to questions relating to groupings and the Palestinian State and the profession, and accredited in the pcbs.

## **Data Processing**

### **Programming and Data Entry**

The data entry program for the migration survey was designed using MS Access Database.

### **Data Entry Stage**

Data entry program was tested using correct and erroneous questionnaires to ensure consistency and validation checks were fully incorporated.

## **Data Quality**

### **Accuracy of the Data**

There are many aspects to the concept of data quality that includes the initial planning of the survey to the dissemination of the results and how well users understand and use the data. There are three components to the quality of statistics: accuracy, data comparability, and quality control.

Accuracy of data includes different aspects of the survey mainly statistical errors due to the use of statistical sample, as well as non-statistical errors due to the staff and survey tools, in addition to response rates in the survey and its effects on estimates. This section covers the following:

**Statistical Errors:** Since the data reported in this survey is based on a sample survey and not on a complete enumeration, it is subject to sampling errors as well as non-sampling errors.

Data of this survey affected by statistical errors due to use of the sample; therefore, the emergence of certain differences from the real values obtained through censuses is possible. The above tables indicates high level of data accuracy, where coefficient of variation ranges from 0.02 to 0.09

**Non-Statistical Errors:** Procedures were developed to ensure that non-statistical errors were minimized as much as possible. Fieldworkers were selected based on strict criteria with adequate qualifications and experience in data collection. All fieldworkers had gone training on data collection best practices, topics of the questionnaires, and how to interview and obtain accurate answers from respondents.

In addition, office editors were also trained on editing guidance to ensure data is consistent and complete. Data entry programs were also designed to resemble the structure of the questionnaire itself to ensure consistency within the data in each record and cross records as well. All entered data was verified by different data entry clerk to ensure that all data are entered correctly.

The fieldworkers reported that the respondents faced sometimes difficulty in understanding some of the questions and terminology. However, fieldworkers were able to overcome such difficulties due to the good training and proper understanding of the survey's instruments.

Main non-statistical errors emerged during the implementation of the survey can be summarized as:

Errors resulting from the way the question was presented by the fieldworker during the interview.

Errors resulting from the way the respondent understood and answered the questions of the survey.

### **Quality Control Procedures**

Procedures adopted during the fieldwork of the survey were considered a necessity to ensure the collection of accurate data, notably:

Develop schedules to conduct field visits to households during fieldwork by survey's management team.

Fieldwork editing rules were applied during the data collection to ensure corrections were implemented before the end of fieldwork activities. Validation rules were embedded in the data processing systems along with procedures to verify data entry and data editing.

### **Assessment of Data**

Different methods were applied in the assessment of survey's data including:

Occurrences of missing values and answers like "other" and "Do not know" . Examining inconsistencies between the various sections of the questionnaire, including within record and cross records consistencies. Comparability of data with previous surveys and other sources.

The results of these assessment procedures shows that the data is of high quality and consistency as supported by the table of variance calculations.