



**State of Palestine
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

Victimization Survey, 2020

User Guide

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Terms and Indicators

Terms and Indicators

Terms and indicators used in this survey are defined according to the statistical terms glossary and the guide on statistical indicators issued by PCBS and based on the latest international recommendations on statistics, consistent with international systems.

Victim:

The person effected by an offense or loss or prey to catastrophic, criminal or brutal event, Any person subject to an offense or whose properties were partially or totally affected by a criminal act or incident is classified as victim.

Crime:

Any act involving violation of the law or public rights duties towards the state or society in general.

Criminal:

The person violating effective law by undertaking criminal events against other persons or their properties.

Household:

One person or a group of persons with or without a household relationship, who live in the same housing unit, share meals and make joint provision of food and other essentials of living.

Assault:

It is Refers to physical attack against another person, including beating. Some criminal or penal codes distinguish between aggravated and simple assault depending on the degree of the resulting injury. For instance, aggravated assault involves attack with intentions to commit other crimes; attack under serious and inhuman conditions; the use of destructive weapons; attack on children; and any other dissolute attack. Simple assault involves attack not associated with criminal intentions, i.e. raising of a hand as a threat or unsuccessful attempt to beat.

Theft:

The removal of property without the property owner's consent. Theft includes burglary and house breaking; it includes the theft of motor vehicles, shoplifting and other minor offenses, e.g. pilfering and petty theft may or may not be considered as thefts.

Robbery:

Illegally breaking into the property of somebody with the intention to commit a crime.

Properties:

All movable and fixed assets belonging to the individuals (household members) regardless of whether they were inside or outside the house. Normally, the owner of a property is entitled to use it the way he/she deems appropriate, provided in accordance with the provisions of the effective law. A property applies to physical, nonphysical, tangible and intangible assets as well as any item that has a market value.

Crime Location:

The place where the crime took place.

Physical Harm:

All losses a person may suffer during the crime that took place in the last 12 months, which resulted in wounds, murder, malformation or disability.

Cybercrime:

In a broader sense (computer-related crimes) covers any illegal behavior committed by means of, or in relation to, a computer system or network, including such crimes as illegal possession and offering or distributing information by means of a computer system or network

Percentage of Victimized Households (Indicator):

Indicator measures the percentage of victimized households by Dividing the number of households who are victims of criminal acts by number of households within the sample, multiplied by hundred, according to Type of criminal act, Profession of the head of the family, Family size, type of locality and other variables.

Percentage of Victimized Individuals (Indicator):

Indicator measures the percentage of victimized individuals by Dividing number of individuals victims of criminal acts by number of individuals, multiplied by hundred according to Type of damages, Reporting the crime, Criminal Offense, Crime Location, The perpetrator and other variables.

Survey Questionnaire

The questionnaire is the main survey tool to gather information. It must be conforming to the technical standards of the fieldwork and should respond to the requirements of data processing and analysis. The questionnaire is composed of three sections:

The first part involves general questions on criminal offenses (theft, threat, assault, etc.) at the household level;

The second part has detailed questions about, victim of criminal offenses and the sociodemographic characteristics of perpetrators;

The third section relates to individuals feeling of security and their opinion about drug phenomenon, and individuals who have experienced discrimination. It should be noted that the questionnaire is an annex to the Labor Force Survey Questionnaire in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Data Set Linkage

The data set to users consists of three primary files that are related by identification variables (keys). A description of the files is below.

File Name	Content	Identification Variable
Households 2020	Victimized Households	IDSAM
Persons 2020	File of individual victims	IDSAM
Poll 2020	Individual file "Poll"	IDSAM

Target Population

It consists of all individuals residing in their households in Palestine during 2020. This survey focuses, in particular, on households and individuals who were victims of criminal acts during the last 12 months preceding the implementation of the survey.

Sampling Frame

The sampling frame consists of the master sample, which was updated in 2017: Each enumeration area consists of buildings and housing units with an average of about 150 households, where we used it for the Labor Force Survey sample in 2020 and these units were used as primary sampling units (PSUs), in the first stage of choosing the sample

Sample size

The sample size was 8,040 households.

Sampling Design

The sample is a two stage stratified cluster sample with two stages :

First stage: selection of a stratified sample of 536 EA with (pps) method.

Second stage: Selection of a systematic random of 15 households from each enumeration area selected in the first stage.

Sample strata:

The population was divided by:

- 1- Governorate (17 governorates, where Jerusalem was considered as two statistical areas)
- 2 - Type of Locality (urban, rural, refugee camps).

Publication Levels:

- 1- State of Palestine
- 2-Region: (West Bank and Gaza Strip).
- 3-Locality Type: (urban, rural, refugee camps).

Weights Calculation:

The weight of statistical units (sampling units) in the sample is defined as the mathematical inverse of the selection probability where the sample of the survey is a two-stage stratified cluster sample. Thus, in the first stage we calculate the weight of enumeration areas depending on the probability of each enumeration area (pps sample). In the second stage we calculate the weight of households in each enumeration area. Hence, initial household weights resulted from the product of the weight of the first stage and the weight of the second stage.

Final household weights were obtained after adjustment of initial weights with the household estimates of mid 2020 with regard to design strata (governorate, locality type).

Weights for victims individuals file are computed by the following :

- 1- Adding the household weights (wh) for each household member which is known as the primary weight of individuals in (ROSTER) file.
- 2- Adjusting the primary individuals weights to be comparable with the population estimates at the mid of November 2020 by these adjusted levels(region (West Bank ,Gaza strip), (gender (male , female), five-year age groups (17 group) .
- 3- Weight for (victims) file computed by merging the final individual weight from (roster) file.

Calculation of Variances:

Data in this survey is affected by sampling error because of use of a sample rather than a full census of all study population units. Therefore, differences from real values are expected to appear through censuses. Variance was calculated for the key indicators. The variance calculation table is annexed to this report. There are no problems at the level of publication of the said estimates at national (State of Palestine) and regional (West Bank and Gaza Strip) levels

Summary for variance calculation for main indicators

Indicator	Estimate	Standard Error	C.V%*	95% confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Percentage of Individuals, victims of theft during the past 12 months in the State of Palestine in 2020	57.2	3.1%	5.4	51.1%	63.2%
The percentage of male individuals who committed the last criminal act during the past 12 months in the State of Palestine in 2020	.084	3.9%	4.7	74.6%	90.3%
Percentage of individual victims who have been subjected to a criminal act by others who have not been identified during the past 12 months in the State of Palestine in 2020	.050	3.3%	6.6	43.6%	56.5%

*C.V: coefficient of variation

Data Collection

Questionnaires were filled in through personal interviews with one household member, capable of responding. The fieldwork started on October 4th 2020 in the West Bank and Gaza Strip governorates and ended on January 5th 2021. The fieldwork team was distributed to all governorates proportional to size of sample. The field team was provided with the necessary tools and equipment. In total, the team comprised 24 members including fieldwork coordinator, 4 supervisors and 19 fieldworkers.

Response Rate

8,040 households, representative of Palestine, were selected. There were 6,294 completed households, including 4,228 in the West Bank and 2,066 in the Gaza Strip. Weights were adjusted to the design strata to adjust the impact of refusal and non-response rates. Response rate in the West Bank attained 83.2% and in the Gaza Strip it was 81.9%.

Data Processing:

Data collection using PC-tablets in Gaza Strip and the West Bank (excluding Jerusalem (J1))

The use of PC-tablets reduces the time needed for survey implementation. The fieldworker enters and encrypts data by collecting data on the handheld tablet and sending data directly to the project manager.

In order to work in parallel with Jerusalem (J1), a Victimization Survey program was prepared using the same PC-tablet technology, using the same hardware database; data collected on paper is entered on the same program database.

Data Quality:

Data quality spans survey initial planning up to dissemination, understanding and use of data. Quality is assessed based on seven dimensions: accuracy, relevance, currency, accessibility, comparability, consistency and completeness.

Data Accuracy

Sampling Errors:

Data in this survey is affected by sampling error because of use of a sample rather than a full census of all study population units. Therefore, differences from real values are expected to appear through censuses. Variance was calculated for the key indicators. The variance calculation table is annexed to this report. There are no problems at the level of publication of the said estimates at national (State of Palestine) and regional (West Bank and Gaza Strip) levels.

Non-Sampling Errors

Non-sampling errors may appear in all phases of the project through data collection and entry. They include: non-response errors, response (respondents) errors, interview (researcher) errors, data entry errors. To avoid errors and minimize their effects, efforts were made to provide researchers with intensive training on conducting interviews and their protocols (what should be done and what should be avoided). Practical and theoretical exercises were organized during the training. Moreover, researchers were provided with the fieldworker guide with a special key to the questionnaire questions and how answers should be recorded. The guide also includes suggestions of how to deal with respondents to minimize non-cooperation and ensure provision of correct, unbiased data. Researchers were also trained to the PC-tablet data entry program where the questionnaire was uploaded. The entry program was tested prior to work commencement.

To minimize errors in filling in the questionnaire on the PC-tablet, an entry program was designed to prohibit any consistency errors during data entry; it applies a number of logical conditions.

After completion of the afore-stated operations, data consistency was tested using computer-supported cross-tabulation and were found to be full consistent. No errors that can affect the quality of data were found. This gave a good impression to survey implementers and that data is reliable and can be used to produce highly significant reliable statistical indicators about victimization in Palestine.

Survey endured non-response errors with the case (The housing unit is empty) during fieldworker visits, being the highest. Total non-response represented 17.2%. Refusal rate was 2.5%, which is low compared to household surveys conducted by PCBS. This is due short questionnaire and experienced field team

Response Rates

8,040 households, representative of Palestine, were selected. There were 6,294 completed households, including 4,228 in the West Bank and 2,066 in the Gaza Strip. Weights were adjusted to the design strata to adjust the impact of refusal and non-response rates. Response rate in the West Bank attained 83.2% and in the Gaza Strip it was 81.9%.

Response, Non-Response Cases and Over Coverage

Response, Non-Response Cases and Over Coverage	No. of cases
Household completed	6,294
Non-response cases	
Traveling households	26
No one at home	534
Refused to cooperate	195
No available information	30
Other	523
Over coverage cases	
Unit does not exist	24
Vacant Housing unit	414
Total sample size	8,040

Response and non-response formulas:

Percentage of over coverage errors = $\frac{\text{Total cases of over coverage}}{\text{Number of cases in original sample}} \times 100\%$

= 5.4%

Non response rate = $\frac{\text{Total cases of non response}}{\text{Net Sample size}} \times 100\%$

= 17.2%

Net sample = Original sample – cases of over coverage

Response rate = 100% - non-response rate

= 82.8%

Treatment of non-response cases using weight adjustment

$$fg = \frac{\sum_{ng} wi - \sum_{o.c} wi}{\sum_{rg} wi}$$

Where

wi : the primary weight before adjustment for the household i

g : adjustment group by (governorate, locality type).

fg : weight adjustment factor for the group g .

$\sum_{ng} wi$: Total weights in group g

$\sum_{o.cg} wi$: Total weights of over coverage cases

$\sum_{rg} wi$: Total weights of response cases

We calculate fg for each group, and finally we obtain the final household weight ($w'i$) by using the following formula:

$$w'i = wi * fgi$$

Comparability

Comparisons were made between the results of this survey with the previous surveys. Comparisons were made at household and individual levels. The tables of these comparisons are included in the introduction to the main tables of the survey

Technical Notes

The sources of these non-sampling errors can be summarized in:

- Inability to complete data because of non-response cases, including, no one at home, refusal by some households to meet the researcher.
- Errors related to how the field researcher asked the question.
- Question misunderstood by respondent, leading to erroneous answer.