



State of Palestine
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Socioeconomic Conditions for the Palestinian Households, 2016

Public User File

Table of Contents

Concept and Definitions
Survey Questionnaire
Data Set Linkage
Target Population
Sample and Frame
Weighing Calculation
Variance Calculation
Data Collection
Reference Period
Response Rate
Data Processing
Data Quality

Concepts and Definitions

Locality:

A permanently inhabited place, which has an independent municipal administration or a permanently inhabited, separated place not included within the formal boundaries of another locality and not have an independent administrative authority.

Building:

A building is defined as any fixed construction that is temporarily or permanently erected on the surface of the earth or water. A building is surrounded by four walls or with at least one completed ceiling, regardless of the construction material and the purpose of construction and utilization at the time of the visit. The building might be utilized for habitation, for work, for both, vacant, closed, deserted, under preparation or under construction at the time of the visit.

Housing Unit (Dwelling):

A building or part of a building constructed for one household only, with one or more independent entrance leading to the public road without passing through another housing unit. The unit might not be constructed for living purposes but found occupied with a household during the enumeration. Likewise, the unit might be utilized for habitation or for work purposes or both purposes.

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.

Head of Household:

The person who usually lives with the household and is recognized as head of household by its other members. Often he/she is the main decision maker and is responsible for financial support and welfare of the household.

Household Membership:

Persons staying in the dwelling unit are considered members of the household if the dwelling unit is their usual or only place of residence.

Gender:

Male or female.

Age in completed years:

The completed age in years of the person enumerated, which is the difference between the date of birth and the survey reference period.

Refugee Status:

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

Non-Registered Refugees:

It applies to unregistered refugees who do not hold refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

Registered Refugees:

It applies to registered refugees holding refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

Non-Refugee:

It applies to any Palestinian not categorized under any of the two aforementioned statuses.

Health Insurance:

Indemnity coverage against financial losses associated with occurrence or treatment of health problems.

Educational Attendance:

Attendance means registering the person in any formal education stage irrespective of whether it took the form of continuous attendance or distant learning. Formal education stages include the elementary stage, preparatory stage, (both of which are referred to as the basic stage), secondary stage, and higher education stage.

Years of Schooling Completed:

For persons currently attending, attended and left, or successfully graduated, reference shall be made to the successfully completed formal educational years (completed years.) It neither includes drop out years, failure years nor on – going educational year. Educational training courses are not included among the years of regular study.

Educational Attainment:

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

Work:

All activities performed by persons in order to gain profit or wage either monthly wage, weekly, daily, on piece for profit or family gain, in cash or in kind. One hour or more of such activity constitutes work. Work also includes unpaid activity on a family farm or business.

Employed:

Persons aged 15 years and over who were work at least 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.

Unemployed:

It refers to all persons who did not work at all during the reference period, (not engaged in a certain work) although they are able to work, were available for work and actively seeking work during the reference period. The unemployed persons are normally divided into two categories: Unemployed ever worked and unemployed never worked.

Employer:

A person who work in an establishment that is totally or partially belonging to him\ her and hires or supervises the work of one or more waged employees. This includes persons operating their projects or contracting companies provided they employ a minimum of one waged employee. Shareholders are not considered employers even if they are working in it.

Self-employed:

A person who work in an establishment that is totally or partially belonging to him/her (partner) and do not hires any wage employees. This includes self employed who worked to own selves outside establishments.

Paid-employed (wage employee):

A person who works for a public or private employer or under it's supervision and receives remuneration in wage, salary, commission, tips, piece rates or in kind ...etc. This item includes persons employed in governmental, non – governmental and private institutions along with those employed in a household enterprise in return for a specific remuneration.

Unpaid Family Member:

A person who works without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a related person living in the same household.

Marital Status:

The status of those 12 years old and over in terms of marriage traditions and laws in the country.

Single (Never married):

It applies if the person aged 12 years 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 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 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 married.

Divorced:

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

Widowed:

The married person aged 12 years whose marriage was split 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.

Room:

The housing unit or part of the housing unit surrounded with walls and has a ceiling, provided that its area is not less than 4m². If the area of the glassy balcony equals or surpasses more than 4m² and is used for living purposes, it is considered a room. Likewise, the salon or living room is considered a room. The kitchen, bathroom, paths and toilet are not considered rooms. Areas allocated for animals and poultry along with those used for work purposes only, are not considered rooms.

Expenditure:

It refers to the amount of Cash spent on purchase of goods and services for living purposes, and the value of goods and services payments or part of payments received from the employer, and Cash expenditure spent as taxes (non-commercial or non-industrial), gifts, contributions, interests on debts and other non-consumption items.

Consumption:

It refers to the amount of Cash spent on purchase of goods and services for living purposes, and The value of goods and service payments or part of payments received from the employer, and own-produced goods and food, including consumed quantities during the recording period, and Imputed rent for owned houses.

Income:

Cash or in kind revenues for individual or household within a period of time; could be a week or a month or a year.

Main Source of Income:

The more consistent and regular income. The sources of income are:

- Wages and Salaries.
- Net Income for employers or self employed.
- Net property Income.
- Net current Transfers.

Agricultural Holding

An economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all kept livestock and all land used totally or partially for agricultural production purposes regardless of legal form or size. Single management may be exercised by an individual or household, jointly by two or more individuals or households, by a clan or tribe, or by a juridical person such as a corporation, cooperative, or government agency. The land of the holding may consist of one or more parcels located in one or more separate areas, or in one or more territorial or administrative divisions, providing the parcels share the same means of production such as labour, farm buildings, machinery, or draught animals.

Agricultural Year

The period covering the first of October to the end of September of the following year.

Machinery and Equipment

Covering all machinery, equipment and implements used as inputs to agricultural production, this includes every thing from simple hand tools, such as a hoe, to complex machinery such as a combined harvester.

Survey Questionnaire:

A special questionnaire was designed in accordance with high quality statistical standards and best practices recommendations; the questionnaire is consist of the following fields:

Part one: Identification Data.

Part two: Quality Control Data.

Part three: Household Members Data.

Part four: Housing Data.

Part five: Assistance and Coping Strategies Data

Part six: Food diversity and facing food shortage Data.

Part seven: Income.

Part eight: Agriculture and Livestock Data.

Part nine: Freedom of movement Data.

Data Set Linkage:

The data set to users consists of two files, the first contains the individual's data which covers the demographic characteristics, and the second file contains the household's data which covers other survey indicators. The linkage between both files is the serial number in the sample (ID00) as indicated in the data files.

Target Population:

All households who are living normally in Palestine at the time of implementing the survey.

Sampling Frame:

Sample frame is the list of all households who are staying in Palestine, there addresses are recorded in statistical enumeration(average of 124 households) areas in addition to the building numbers and housing units depending on the 2007 Census in Palestine. The sampling frame contains all the auxiliary and identification data which help to create the strata and to allocate the sample.

Sample Size:

The sample size is 3278 household for Palestine level, 2204 household responded.

Sample design:**Sample type:****Two Stage Stratified cluster sample where:**

1. **the first stage** : selection of a PPS random sample of 111 Enumeration Areas (probability proportional to the size)
2. **The second stage**: selection systematic random sample of 20 households in each selected enumeration area in the first stage.

Weighting

The weight of statistical units (sampling unit) 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. In the first stage we calculate the weight of enumeration areas based on the probability of each enumeration area. In the second stage we calculate the weight of households in each enumeration area. Initial household weights resulted from the product of the weight of the first stage and the weight of the second stage. The final household weights were obtained after adjustment of the initial weights with the household estimates for mid-2016 according to design strata (governorate, locality type).

Weights for the ROSTER file were calculated as follows:

- 1- adding the household weights (wh) for each person per household, known as the primary weight of person.
- 2- adjusting the primary person weights in relation to the number of population in December - 2016 by these **adjusted levels**: (**region** (West Bank, Gaza Strip), (**gender** (male, female), **17-year age group**).
- 3- Finally, we obtain the final person weight in each adjusted level which the person belongs to.

Calculation of Variances

It is very important to calculate standard errors for the main survey estimates, so that the user can identify the accuracy of estimates and the survey reliability. Errors of the survey are of two kinds: statistical errors, and non-statistical errors. Non-statistical errors are related to the procedures of statistical work at different stages, such as the failure to explain questions in the questionnaire, unwillingness or inability to provide correct responses, low statistical coverage, etc. These errors depend on the nature of the work, training, supervision, and conducting of all the various related activities.

The work team spared no effort at the different stages to minimize non-statistical errors; however, it is difficult to estimate numerically such errors due to absence of technical computation methods based on theoretical principles to tackle them.

On the other hand, statistical errors can be measured. Frequently they are measured by the standard error, which is the positive square root of the variance. The variance of this survey has been computed by using SPSS package

Data Collection

Field work started on 16/11/2016 and lasted until 20/12/2016. Field work teams were distributed to all districts in proportion to the sample size of each governorate. The field work team consisted of 43 members, including 6 supervisors, 7 editors and 30 interviewers.

Reference Period

The reference period differed according to the nature of the question, for example the time reference for some of the questions a week, and other questions during the past month, and there was a reference period for some questions a year and six months.

Response Rate

The survey sample consisted of 3278 households, of which 2204 households completed the interview: 1264 households from the West Bank and 940 households in the Gaza Strip. Weights were modified to account for the non-response rate.

response cases for households

Results of interviews	Number of cases
Completed	2200
Partially completed	4
Household was abroad	54
No one at the house	579
Refused to cooperate	121
The housing unit is uninhabited	243
No available Information	32
Others	45
Total	3278

Equations of responsiveness and failures to response:

Percentage of increased inclusiveness errors = $\frac{\text{Total cases of increased inclusiveness}}{\text{Number of cases of the original sample}} \times 100\%$

Number of cases of the original sample

= 7.4%

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The percentage of non-response} &= \frac{\text{Total cases of non-response}}{\text{Original sample net size}} \times 100\% \\ &= 27.4\% \end{aligned}$$

Net sample = original sample - (cases of increased inclusiveness) = 3035

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Response rate} &= 100\% - \text{the percentage of non-response} \\ &= 72.6\% \end{aligned}$$

Data Processing

The data processing stage consisted of the following operations:

1. Editing and coding before data entry: All questionnaires were edited and coded in the office using the same instructions adopted for editing in the field.
2. Data entry: At this stage, data were entered into the computer using a data entry template designed in Access. The data entry program was prepared to satisfy a number of requirements such as:
 - Duplication of the questionnaires on the computer screen.
 - Check on the logic and consistency of data entered.
 - Possibility of internal editing of question answers.
 - Maintaining a minimum of digital data entry and fieldwork errors.
 - User friendly handling.
 - Possibility of transferring data into another format to be used and analyzed using other statistical analytical systems such as SPSS.

Data Quality

1. sampling Errors:

Sampling rather than comprehensive enumeration has been used to collect data in this survey. Therefore it is liable to two types of errors affecting the quality of survey data, sampling (sampling errors) and non-sampling errors (non-sampling errors). sampling errors mean the errors resulting from sample designing and this is computed simply. Variance and effect of sample design has been computed for the Palestinian Territory, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

2. Non-sampling Errors:

Non-sampling errors, on the other hand, could not be determined easily, due to the diversity of sources from which they may arise, e.g., the interviewer, respondent, editor, coder, and data entry operator.

However, several measures were adopted to minimize the effects of non-sampling errors on the data. To avoid errors and reducing their effects, the interviewers, editors, and coders

have exercised intensive training course, and were provided with fieldwork manuals to resort to when facing any problem.

To have a fair idea on the situation and limiting obstacles, there has been continuous contact with supervisors and editors through regular visits to the regional offices and regular meetings. Also problems faced by interviewers have been discussed to clarify any issues they have faced.

Also data entry staff were trained on an entry program that was examined for the questionnaires received during the training, The data entry program was programmed in a way that allows error detection and correction, particularly logical errors that might not be discovered before data entry. Consistency check was applied to assure accuracy after data entry.