



Press Release

Palestinian Central Bureau Of Statistics (PCBS):

Palestinian Consumer Price Index Increase by 1.05% in March 2009

The Overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Palestinian Territory with its 2004 base year (2004=100) reached 122.82 in March 2009, a 1.05% increase compared with February 2009, and increased by 3.48% compared with March 2008.

Analysis of consumer price developments for March indicates **increases** in the following major expenditure groups:

- Food and soft drinks	+ 1.84%
- Textiles, clothing and footwear	+ 0.07%
- Furniture, household goods	+ 0.72%
- Miscellaneous goods and services	+ 1.71%
- Housing	+ 1.05%
- Al Coholic Beverages and tobacco:	+ 0.56%
- Restaurants and cafes	+ 0.71%
- Recreational, cultural goods & services	+ 0.60%

At the same time, there were **declines** in other major expenditure groups including:

- Medical care	- 0.59%
- Communications	- 0.08%
- Transportation	- 0.05%
- Education	- 0.02%

Palestinian Territory **regions** experienced different overall CPI developments as follows:

- Remaining West Bank:	+ 1.18%
- Gaza Strip:	+ 0.95%
- Jerusalem:	+ 0.93%