

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Press Release

For the Hotel survey, First Quarter 2006

35,322 guests spent 98,269 nights during the first quarter 2006

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for the first quarter 2006, which aims at giving the public an overall idea of the most important indicators of the Hotel Survey, mainly the number of guests, average number of workers, occupancy rates, and other main indicators.

The number of hotels operating in the Palestinian Territory at the end of first quarter was 76 hotels, comprising a total of 3,703 rooms with a total of 7,898 available beds, of which 18 hotels including 869 rooms comprising 1,966 beds in Jerusalem area, and the results show that the number of workers in the Palestinian hotels was 1,315 of which 12.7% are females.

During the first quarter 2006, the total number of guests to the Palestinian Territory reached 35,322 persons, of which 27.2% were from European Union countries, and 24.2% were from Palestinian guests, while the total number of guest nights reached 98,269 nights, of which 19.3% were Palestinian guests, and 31.9% were guests from the European Union countries.

Short Term Changing

The number of guests whom arrived from outside Palestinian Territory during the first quarter of 2006, was increased to reach 75.8%, compared with 64.9%, 63.4%, 61.9%, and 74.5% in the four quarters of 2005. This increase was accompanied with an increase in the number of nights of those guests whom arrived from outside Palestinian Territory.

The average occupancy of rooms in the Palestinian hotels was 644.5, and the percentage occupancy of rooms was 17.7%, which is considered as the highest after year 2001.

Long Term Changing

Since September 2000, there has been a dramatic drop in the main indicators of hotel activity, because of the Israeli measures against the Palestinian foundations. By comparing with the same quarter of the year 2000, we found that the percentage occupancy of rooms declined by 52.2%, while the number of guests declined by 57.5%, and the number of nights declined by 61.4%, this reduction considered the lowest in the previous four years, which reflects the improvement of this indicator during this period, as shown in the table below, which reflects the percentage change in the main indicators during the first quarter of each year comparing with the first quarter 2000:

**Percentage Change in the Variables During the First Quarter of the Years
2001-2006, in Compare with the First Quarter 2000**

The Indicator	Value During the 1 st Quarter 2006	Percentage change (%) comparing with 1 st Quarter 2000					
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of operating hotels	76	12.4	-28.9	-21.6	-23.7	-14.4	-21.6
Average number of workers	1315	23.3	-44.2	-35.6	-29.5	-33.4	-31.6
Number of guests	35322	-79.8	-86.5	-86.1	-77.5	-70.2	-57.5
Number of guest nights	98269	-81.7	-84.2	-84.1	-77.7	-71.0	-61.4
Average occupancy of rooms	644.5	-97.8	-98.1	-97.9	-97.3	-97.0	-56.7
Average occupancy of beds	1091.9	-81.7	-84.2	-84.1	-77.9	-71.0	-61.4
Percentage occupancy of rooms %	17.7	-81.9	-72.2	-74.1	-64.1	-67.8	-52.2
Percentage occupancy of beds %	14.1	-84.8	-77.3	-80.6	-71.8	-68.2	-57.3