

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Press Release

For the Hotel survey, Annual Report 2005

131,908 guests spent 350,219 nights

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for year 2005. Similarly to the previous times we have published data, this release aims at giving the public an overall idea of the most important indicators in 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 as of December was 77 hotels, comprising a total of 3,648 rooms with a total of 7,732 available beds, of which 18 hotels including 896 rooms comprising 2,064 beds in Jerusalem area, and the results show that the number of workers in the Palestinian hotels was 1,273 of which 13% from these workers are females.

During the year 2005, the total number of guests in the Palestinian Territory hotels reached 131,908 persons, of which 36% of them were Palestinian guests, and 27% were from the European Union countries, while the total number of guest nights were 350,219 nights, of which 29% were for Palestinian guests, and 31% were for guests from the European Union countries.

Most of those guests were in Jerusalem hotels with a percentage of 49% from the guests total, where as the percentage reached up to 29% in the middle of the West Bank hotels, and 13%, 4% in the south and north of the West Bank hotels respectively, while percentage of guests in Gaza Strip hotels was 9%.

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 year 2000, we found that the number of guests reached 355,711 persons, but it declined in the years 2001 and 2002 to reach 60,211 and 51,357 respectively, which considered the lowest number of the guests since September 2000.

The hotel activity started growing up since after 2002, which where the lowest point of all the hotel indicators, after a series of the Israeli measurements at that time, so the number of guests was increased during the years after 2002, which reached 62,812 during 2003, while it reached 100,184 during 2004 and 131,908 during 2005.

The improvement in the number of guests was accompanied with an improvement in every aspects concerning hotel indicators, mainly the number of nights and the rate of occupancy rooms and beds, that the percentage of occupancy room durng 2000 was 32%, and it decreased in 2002 to reached 10% of hotel rooms, while it was 16% during the year 2005.