

Press Release
For the Hotel survey, First Quarter 2005
24,792 guests spent 73,870 nights

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for the first quarter 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.

As results indicate, the total number of hotels in the Palestinian Territory is 126 hotels, including the temporary closed hotels, 83 of those hotels are operating and offered 3,697 rooms with a total of 7,756 available beds in March 2005.

During the first quarter 2005, the total number of guests to the Palestinian Territory reached 24,792 persons, of which 35.1% of them were Palestinian guests, and 26.8% were from the European Union countries, while the total number of guest nights were 73,870 nights, of which 38.6% were Palestinian guests, and 29.9% were guests from the European Union countries, whereas the average number of workers in these hotels were 1,280 persons, 13.4% of them were females.

Since September 2000 emanating, results show that there was a clear drop in the main indicators of hotel activity, because of the Israeli measures against the Palestinian foundations. By comparing with same quarter of the year 1999, we found that the percentage occupancy of rooms declined by 67.9%, while the number of guests declined by 70.2% and the number of nights declined by 71.0%, on the other hand, this reduction considered the lowest in the previous three years, which reflect the improvement of this indicators during this period, as explained in table below, which reflects the percentage change in the main indicators during the first quarter of each year comparing with the first Quarter 2000:

The Indicator	Value During the 1 st Quarter 2005	Percentage change (%) comparing with 1 st Quarter 2000				
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Number of operating hotels	83	12.4	-28.9	-21.6	-23.7	-14.4
Average number of workers	1,280	23.3	-44.2	-35.6	-29.5	-33.4
Number of guests	24,792	-79.8	-86.5	-86.1	-77.5	-70.2
Number of guest nights	73,870	-81.7	-84.2	-84.1	-77.7	-71.0
Average occupancy of rooms	439.9	-78.4	-81.1	-79.2	-72.7	-70.4
Average occupancy of beds	820.8	-81.7	-84.2	-84.1	-77.9	-71.0
Percentage occupancy of rooms %	11.9	-82.0	-72.3	-74.0	-64.1	-67.9
Percentage occupancy of beds %	10.5	-84.8	-77.3	-80.7	-71.8	-68.1