

## **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)**

### **"Statistical Report on Building Licenses for the First Quarter of 2007"**

#### **Building licenses increased by 27.2% in the First Quarter 2007 compared with the Fourth Quarter 2006**

PCBS released a Statistical Report on Building Licenses for the First Quarter 2007 which indicates that the total number of building licenses issued in the Palestinian Territory was 1,044. They were distributed as follows: 505 licenses for new buildings, 255 licenses for additions to licensed buildings, 18 licenses for additions and existing parts, 246 licenses for existing buildings and 20 licenses for existing extensions. The results show that the total licensed areas were 404.7 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>), distributed as 312.2 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>) for new areas and 92.6 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>) for existing areas, The total number of licensed dwellings were 1,579 units, 1,160 were new dwelling units and 419 were existing dwelling units .

The total number of building licenses issued increased by 27.2% in the First Quarter 2007 compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2006, also there was an increase by 8.4% in the total number of licensed dwellings, and a decrease in the total licensed areas by 2.9% in the First Quarter 2007 compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2006, also there was a decrease in the number of boundary walls licensed by 7.3% compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2006.

The total number of building licenses issued decreased by 53.0% in the First Quarter of 2007 compared with the First Quarter of 2006, also it decreased by 17.6%, compared with the First Quarter of 2005, and decreased by 7.7% in the First Quarter of 2006 compared with the First Quarter of 2004.

Comparing the licensed new areas in the First Quarter of 2007 with the First Quarter of 2006, the results show a decrease of 43.8%, and a decrease of 71.5% in the licensed existing areas. Comparing licensed areas in the First Quarter 2007 with the same period in 2005, 2004 the results indicate that licenses of new areas decreased by 35.9%, 25.7% and the existing areas increased by 31.6%, 89.2%.

The total number of new dwelling units decreased by 45.5% in the First Quarter of 2007 compared with the same Quarter of 2006, whereas the existing dwelling units decreased by 70.9% Compared with the same period, whereas the total number of new dwelling units decreased by 41.7% and the total number of existing dwelling units increased by 40.2%, compared with the same Quarter of 2005, whereas the total number of new dwelling units decreased by 39.1%, and the total number of existing dwelling units increased by 72.4%, compared with the same Quarter of 2004.

Also the results show that the number of boundary walls licenses decreased by 15.6% in the First Quarter of 2007 compared with the First Quarter of 2006, and increased by 11.8%, 46.2% compared with the same period of 2005, 2004 consequently.