

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

"Statistical Report on Building Licenses for the Third Quarter of 2006"

Building licenses decreased by 35.8% in the Third Quarter 2006 compared with the Second Quarter 2006

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released a Statistical Report on Building Licenses for the third Quarter 2006 which indicates that the total number of building licenses issued in the Remaining West Bank (The West Bank excluding that part of Jerusalem Governorate, which was annexed after the 1967 occupation by Israel) and Gaza Strip was 1,181. They were distributed as follows: 582 licenses for new buildings, 260 licenses for additions to licensed buildings, 48 licenses for additions and existing parts, 263 licenses for existing buildings and 28 licenses for existing extensions. The results show that the total licensed areas were 511.9 thousand (m²), distributed as 410.0 thousand (m²) for new areas and 101.9 thousand (m²) for existing areas. The total number of licensed dwellings were 2,184 units, 1,695 were new dwelling units and 489 were existing dwelling units, and 69 licenses were issued for boundary walls.

The total number of building licenses issued decreased by 35.8% in the third Quarter 2006 compared with the Second Quarter of 2006. Also there was a decrease by 27.2% in the total number of licensed dwellings, and a decrease in the total licensed areas by 25.8% in the Third Quarter 2006 compared with the Second Quarter of 2006. Furthermore; there was an increase by 86.5% in the number of boundary walls licenses compared with the Second Quarter of 2006.

The total number of building licenses issued were decreased by 57.6% compared with the Third Quarter of 1999 (before the Intifada), also decreased by 42.4% in the third Quarter of 2006 compared with the third Quarter of 2005, also decreased by 2.8%, compared with the third Quarter of 2004, and decreased by 25.5% in the third Quarter of 2006 compared with the third Quarter of 2003.

By comparing the new licensed areas in the third Quarter of 2006 with the third Quarter of 2005, the results showed a decrease of 44.7%, and a decrease by 8.7% in the existing licensed areas. By comparing licensed areas in the third Quarter 2006 with the same period of 2004, the results indicated that licenses of existing areas increased by 111.4%, and decreased by 8.7% in the new licensed areas. By comparing licensed areas in the Third Quarter of 2006 with the same period in 2003, the results indicated that licenses of existing areas increased by 40.0%, and decreased by 26.5% in the new licensed areas.

The total number of new and existing dwelling units decreased by 44.5%, 20.9% respectively in the third Quarter of 2006 compared with the same Quarter of 2005, whereas the total number of new dwelling units decreased by 10.2% and existing dwelling units increased by 71.0%, compared with the same Quarter of 2004, whereas the total number of new dwelling units decreased by 32.5% and existing dwelling units increased by 11.1% compared with the same Quarter of 2003.

Finally the results showed that the number of boundary walls licenses decreased by 1.4%, in the Third Quarter of 2006 compared with the Third Quarter of 2005, 2004 and decreased by 17.9% compared with the same period of 2003.