

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Releases a Statistical Report About the Hotel Activities Survey, Fourth Quarter 2007

88,912 guests spent 199,132 nights during the fourth quarter 2007

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for the fourth quarter 2007 to give the public an overall idea of the most important indicators of the Hotel Survey, such as the number of guests, average number of workers, occupancy rates, and other main indicators.

There were 82 hotels operating in the Palestinian Territory at the end of fourth quarter, comprising a total of 4,094 rooms with a total of 8,901 available beds. Of this total, 25 hotels including 1,224 rooms comprising 2,770 beds were in Jerusalem region. The number of workers in the Palestinian hotels was 1,238, of which 154 are females.

During the fourth quarter 2007, the total number of guests to the Palestinian Territory reached 88,912 persons, of which 15.6% of them were Palestinian guests, and 49.0% were from European Union countries. Most of those guests were in Jerusalem hotels, which represented 50.4% of the guest total; the percentage in hotels in the Middle and South of the West Bank reached 24.0%, in hotels in the North of the West Bank reached 1.2%, and in Gaza Strip hotels was 0.4%.

Of guest nights, which totaled 199,132 nights, 10.9% of these nights was occupied by Palestinian guests, 51.9% by guests from European Union countries, and 8.5% by guests from United State and Canada.

When comparing the results of the fourth quarter 2007 with the same period in 1999, which witnessed a record high number of guests and of nights and therefore occupancy rate in the Palestinian Territory, we note the decline in the volume of main hotel indicators. There was a decrease in the number of guests, nights and room occupancy rate of 10.5%, 30.5% and 32.3% respectively. However, this rate of decline is the lowest in comparison to previous years, with declines recovering gradually since 2001, as shown in the table below.

**Percentage Change in the Variables in the Fourth Quarter of the Years
2001-2007 Compared with the Fourth Quarter 1999**

The Indicator	Value During the 4 th Quarter 2007	Percentage change (%) comparing with 4 th Quarter 1999						
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of operating hotels	82	-7.7	-20.9	-17.6	-12.1	-15.4	-13.2	-9.9
Number of guests	88,912	-88.7	-86.3	-83.4	-75.5	-65.2	-62.7	-10.5
Number of guest nights	199,132	-85.0	-84.6	-82.6	-78.2	-68.8	-71.6	-30.5
Percentage occupancy of rooms-%	28.0	-78.5	-74.4	.0-71	-73.4	-60.4	-71.5	-32.3
Percentage occupancy of beds-%	23.8	-81.3	-79.9	-77.7	-76.1	-66.8	-73.4	-35.3