

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Release A Report about the price and price indices in the Palestinian territory, 2003

4.40% increase for Consumer Price Index and 2.16% for Producer Price Index and 2.45% for Wholesale Price Index

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics released the annual statistical report on the prices and price indices in the Palestinian Territory for the year 2003.

This report contains statistical data about the prices and price indices indicators for consumer prices, producer, and wholesale prices for the Palestinian Territory, the report was produced according to the plan of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and it is the outcome of the efforts of the Bureau to produce a series of statistical reports aimed to provide information on the situation of the prices movements in the Palestinian Territory, the prices cover the year 2003, and were collected from 2500 outlets in the main cities, the total number of commodities included in calculating price indices was 1730 commodity.

The results indicate that there was an increase in the price index as follow:

For consumer price index it shows an increase by 4.40% for Palestinian Territory, 4.30% for Remaining West Bank (Includes all of the West Bank except for those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed after 1967 occupation by Israel), 2.45% for Gaza Strip, and by 5.35% for Jerusalem, the main reason for this increase for all regions was the increase in prices for the major groups of food, transport and communications, medical care, and education.

For producer price index, the results show that an increase by 1.74% for locally consumed products was reported, 5.09% for exported products, 2.16% for total index, the main reason for this increase was the increase in prices of manufacturing group and prices of fish.

For wholesale price index, the results show an increase by 0.25% for local products, 4.74% for imported products, 2.45% for total index, the main reason for this increase was the increase in prices of manufacturing group and prices of fish.

Comparing prices of 2003 with 1999 (The previous year of Al - Aqsa Intifada), the results show that there was an increase in the price index, for consumer price index by 14.84% for Palestinian Territory, 17.17% for Remaining West Bank, 6.61% for Gaza Strip, and 12.65% for Jerusalem.

For producer price index, the results show an increase by 6.48% for locally consumed products, 7.99% for exported products, and 6.64% for total index.

For wholesale price index, the results show an increase by 4.62% for local products, 15.85% for imported products, 9.87% for total index.