

**On the Occasion of International Tourism Day 27 September 2007**  
**The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics issued A Press Release on the Main Indicators of Tourism in the Palestinian Territory**

- **1,329 employees in the hotel activities, of whom 13% females**
- **Tourism indicators declined in comparison with 1999.**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) is pleased to release the most important indicators for the tourism sector in the Palestinian Territory during 2006. It is worth to mention that there is a decline in the tourism indicators in the Palestinian Territory due to the Israeli measures since Al-Aqsa Intifada outbreak in September 2000 compared with the year 1999.

**Number of operating hotels decreased by 13.2% .**

The number of operating hotels in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2006 was 79 hotels, comprising a total of 3,879 rooms with a total of 8,429 available beds. Data indicated that the number of operating hotels was decreased by 13.2% compared with 1999, the maximum decrease was during 2002 (20.9%), but during the last four years this indicator showed little increase. During 2006, the indicator increased by 10.0% compared with 2002.

**The occupancy rate of rooms decreased by 55.5% .**

The occupancy rate of rooms in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2006 was 15.8%. Data showed that the occupancy rate of rooms was decreased by 55.5% compared 1999. The maximum decrease was 77.3% during 2001 and 2002, but during the last four years this indicator showed little increase. During 2006, the indicator increased by 19.6% compared with 2001 and 2002.

**The occupancy rate of beds decreased by 58.7% .**

The occupancy rate of beds in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2006 was 12.5%. Data showed that the occupancy rate of beds was decreased by 58.7% compared with 1999, the maximum decrease was during 2001 and 2002, but during 2006 this indicator showed little increase compared with the last four years (2001 - 2004).

**151,801 Guests stayed 383,603 nights during 2006.**

During the year 2006, the total number of guests in the Palestinian Territory reached 151,801 persons with a decrease by 52.1% compared with 1999, and the total number of guest nights was 383,603 with a decrease by 57.2% compared with 1999.

**42.7% of the Palestinian households or one of its members conducted domestic trips during 2006.**

Data of 2006 showed that 42.7% of the Palestinian households or one of its members conducted domestic trips during the year 2006, with 35.5% in the West Bank, and 57.6% in Gaza Strip, and the average expenditure during the domestic tourism trip by the Palestinian household is estimated by 27.7 US \$.

Also, data indicated that 54.2% of the Palestinian households didn't conduct domestic trips during the year 2006 due to difficult economical situations of them.