

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Press Release

For the Hotel survey, Fourth Quarter 2004

24,365 guests spent 62,425 nights

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for fourth quarter 2004. Similarly to the previous times we have published data, this release aims at giving the public an overall idea of the most important indicators in Hotel Survey, mainly the number of guests, average number of workers, occupancy rates, and other main indicators.

As results indicate, the total number of hotels in Palestinian Territory is 124 hotels, including the temporary closed hotels, 80 of those hotels are operating and offered 3,554 rooms with a total of 7,575 available beds in December 2004.

During the fourth quarter 2004, the total number of guests to the Palestinian Territory hotels reached 24,365 persons, of which 42.7% of them were Palestinian guests, and 21.0% were from the European Union countries, while total number of guest nights was 62,425 nights, where 38.4% of those nights were occupied by Palestinian guests, 26.7% by the guests whom arrived from European Union countries, and 12.9% of those nights were occupied by the guests whom arrived from United State of America and Canada, whereas the average number of workers in the hotel sector was 1,249 persons, and 13.0% of them were females.

Since September 2000 emanating, results show that there was a clear drop in the main indicators of hotel activity, because of the Israeli measures against the Palestinian foundations. By comparing with same quarter of the year 1999, we found that the percentage occupancy of rooms declined by 73.4%, while the number of guests declined by 75.5 and the number of nights declined by 78.2%, on the other hand, this reduction considered the lowest in the previous three years, which reflect the improvement of this indicators during this period.

The table below represents the main results of the fourth quarter of 2004, and explains the changes occurred on the main indicators of the hotel activity, revert to the Israeli closure, compared with the same quarter of the year 1999. Also, the following table indicate that there is a reduction in the number of guests and number of nights in comparison with the same period in year 1999, which reached 75.5% and 78.2% respectively.

The Indicator	Value During the 4 th Quarter 2004	Percentage change (%) comparing with 4 th Quarter 1999				
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Number of operating hotels	80	3.9	-17.6	-29.4	-26.5	-21.6
Average number of workers	1,249	39.5	-41.4	-33.4	-34.4	-32.6
Number of guests	24,365	-71.2	-88.7	-86.3	-83.4	-75.5
Number of guest nights	62,425	-66.2	-85.0	-84.6	-82.6	-78.2
Average occupancy of rooms	402.0	-62.5	-83.3	-80.2	-77.6	-75.4
Average occupancy of beds	678.5	-66.2	-85.0	-84.6	-82.6	-78.2
Percentage occupancy of rooms %	11.0	-69.1	-78.5	-74.4	-71.0	-73.4