

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics released a Statistical Report about Building Licenses Statistics in the Palestinian Territory

Continuation Declivity in Building Licenses through the Third Quarter 2003

Comparing the results of this quarter with the same period of the year 2000 there is a gradual decline of the issued building licenses due to the continuous Israeli measures and siege.

The number of issued licenses, residential dwellings and licensed areas in the Palestinian Territory during the third quarter 2003 of building licenses statistics continuously decreased, as apart of economic activities decline because of Israeli measures and siege. While the number of issued building licenses was 2748 in the third quarter 2000 - the quarter that precede Al Aqsa Intifada - the number of building licenses decreased to 1585 in the third quarter 2003, the licensed areas also decreased from 969.4 thousand m² at the third quarter 2000 to 630.5 thousand m² at the third quarter 2003.

The results of the third quarter 2003 shows that the number of building licenses is 1585, distributed as 949 licenses for new buildings, 357 licenses for additions to licensed buildings, 41 licenses for additions + existing parts, 203 licenses for existing buildings and 35 licenses for existing extensions. The results indicate that the total licensed areas were 630.5 thousand m², distributed as 557.7 thousand m² for new areas and 72.8 thousand m² for existing areas. Also the number of licensed dwellings reached 2951 units distributed as 2511 for the new dwellings and 440 units for the existing dwellings.

There was a general decline in the total number of issued building licenses in the third quarter 2003 compared with the third quarter 2000 (around 42.3%), meanwhile there was an increase in the number of issued building licenses in the third quarter 2003 compared with the third quarter 2001(around 21.5%), also the issued licenses in the same period of the year 2003 increased by 104.0% compared with the third quarter of the year 2002, notice that the third quarter 2002 itself decreased compared with the third quarter 2000 by about 71.7% because of repeated closures and siege, the third quarter 2001 also decreased by 52.5% compared with the third quarter 2000.

Comparing data of the third quarter 2003 with the third quarter 2001, we note that the licensed new areas increased by 46.0%, and the existing areas decreased by 7.8%, and comparing licensed areas of the third quarter 2003 with the same period of 2000 we find that decrease percentage for both new and existing areas is 30.8% and 55.4% respectively.

Data cleared that there is an increase in the residential dwellings in the third quarter 2003 compared with the same period of 2001 reached 62.7% for the new dwellings, and 18.0% for the existing dwellings. And comparing data of the third quarter 2003 with the same period of 2000 we note that there is a decrease in the number of the new dwellings by 29.6% and 56.4% for the existing dwellings.

About the number of boundary walls licenses it decreased by 20.0% in the third quarter 2003 compared with the third quarter 2001, also it decreased by 32.8% compared with the third quarter 2000.