



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics released the results of Existing Building Survey 2003

Total expenditure of establishing new buildings and additions on buildings increased by 7.6% during the year 2003 compared with the year 2002.

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics released the main results of the Existing Building Survey in the Palestinian Territory 2003; the survey provides data on establishing new buildings and additions, capital repair and improvements on existing buildings and current maintenance on existing buildings.

The survey results indicate that the value of establishing new buildings and additions in the year 2003 was 408.9 million US\$, 327.0 million US\$ in the West Bank and 81.9 million was in Gaza Strip, meanwhile it was distributed by type of building as follows: 103.0 million US\$ for buildings, 131.1 million US\$ for villa/ house, 36.2 million US\$ for establishments and 138.6 million US\$ for other types of buildings. On the other hand it was distributed according to the building status as follows: 126.8 million US\$ for the complete ones, 137.9 million US\$ for buildings under construction and 144.2 million US\$ for the used buildings but not completed.

Compared the results of 2003 with the previous year 2002, we noticed an increase by 7.6% in the total cost of establishing new buildings and additions. But this percentage of increase is still less than to the change occurred in the year 2002 compared to the year 2001, which an increase was 50.8%.

The final results show a decrease in the total cost of capital repair and improvements by 0.2 million US\$ in the year 2003 compared with 2002, and show an increase in the total cost of current maintenance by 8.9% in 2003, the capital repair and improvements cost for existing buildings was 65.2 million US\$ for 2003, and the cost of current maintenance on existing buildings reached 39.3 million US\$ for the same year.

On other hand comparing results of 2003 with 2000, it is noticed that the cost of establishing new buildings and additions on buildings in the Palestinian Territory increased by 16.1%, while the cost of current maintenance on existing buildings decreased by 45.4%, and the capital repair and improvements cost on existing buildings decreased by 29.3% during the year 2003 compared with the year 2000.