



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Work Conditions Survey (May-June 2004)

Press Conference on the Work Conditions Survey Results

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Press Release on The Results of the Work Condition Survey (May -June 2004)

**61.9% of wage employees do not have work contracts.
18.3% of wage employees do not received wages regularly**

In its efforts to provide official statistical data at the national level, and in view of the fact that developmental and social planning in Palestine requires providing of reliable up-to-date statistics in all aspects of life in the Palestinian society, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) has conducted household surveys to avail such statistics and one was Work Conditions Survey that was conducted as a module with Labour Force Survey.

Data were collected for the survey during the period 2/05/2004 - 01/07/2004. The survey sample was 4,055 households were selected to represent the Palestinian society of which 3,567 questionnaires were completed.

Employed People 15 Years and Over:

Data showed that the number of employed persons aged 15 years and over totaled 584,000 employee of which 439,000 employee in the West Bank and 145,000 employee in Gaza Strip.

Employment Status:

Data showed that the number of wage employees worked in public sector 130,000 employee of which 187,000 employee worked in private sector and 267,000 employee worked (employer, self employed, unpaid family member).

Private Sector Wage Employee

Results showed, 81,7% of wage employee receive wages regularly, 43.7% employee in the private sector get annual paid vacations in addition to 47.7% get paid sick leaves.

Data showed that 24.8% of employee receive cash incentives and 54.5% receive in kind incentives, 39.0% of employee participate in decision making and 49.9% feel job security.

38.1% of wage employees in the Palestinian Territory have written contracts with their employers distributed by 35.1% in the West Bank and 51.8% in Gaza Strip. Results also showed that 89.3% of employees having written contracts include safe work environment rules. (86.6% in the West Bank and 97.7% in Gaza Strip).

Wage employees encountered sex discrimination totaled 2.2% (2.0% for males and 3.0% for females), employees encountered age discrimination reached 4.9% (5.4% for males against 2.7% for females). Results showed that 10.7% of total Palestinian Territory wage employee encountered insulting/ verbal violence during work (11.6% for males and 7.1% for females).

Results showed that 33.7% of wage employees have private health insurance, 4.0% have public health insurance and 35.0% have insurance against work injuries.

Data showed that 87.0% of wage employee stated that they have first aid equipment at work, 69.5% have fire extinguisher, 69.3% have emergency exits, 46.9% have instruction and raise awareness bill boards, 39.4% first aid provider, 27.8% have natural ventilation.

Results showed that 24.8% of employed persons who have diploma and above indicated that their occupation suites their qualifications, 23.0% in the West Bank, 32.7% in Gaza Strip.

Wage Employees in the Public Sectors:

Wage employees encountered sex discrimination totaled 3.0% (2.6% for males and 4.4% for females), employees encountered age discrimination reached 5.4% (5.3% for males against 5.5% for females). Results showed that 10.0% of total Palestinian Territory wage employee encountered insulting/ verbal violence during work (10.5% for males and 8.1% for females).

Results showed that 3.2% of wage employees have private health insurance, 94.0% have public health insurance and 37.0% have insurance against work injuries.

Data showed that 93.3% of wage employee stated that they have first aid equipment at work, 84.2% have fire extinguisher, 81.9% have emergency exits, 82.7% have instruction and raise awareness bill boards, 44.6% first aid provider, 50.7% have natural ventilation.

Results showed that 46.6% of employed persons who have diploma and above indicated that their occupation suites their qualifications, 58.4% in the West Bank, 33.9% in Gaza Strip.

Employed Persons:

The results showed that 51.3% of employed persons were exposed to noise, 3.0% consider light at their job not suitable, 36.2% of employed persons work under sun light, 50.6% were exposed to inhale dust, 19.0% were exposed to smoke and 5.8% to Gas inhalation.

Results showed that 9.3% from employed persons worked at height places from ground 27.5% worked near sharp machines, 7.6% worked near chemical, explosive and flammable materials, 27.3% of employed persons stated that their job required to stay setting for more than 4 hours daily compared with 43.2% standing for more that 4 hours daily and 28.1% their job is lifting heavy weights.

The results showed that 23.8% of employed persons required to wear protective clothes during their work, 70.5% of them indicated that clothes are available, 59.5% of the employed who have protection equipments stated that they are using it regularly and 38.0% using it sometime against 2.5% do not use it.

Results showed that 21.0% of employed persons who have diploma and above indicated that their occupation suites their qualifications, 20.1% in the West Bank, 23.4% in Gaza Strip.

Results showed that 68.6% of employed persons do not affiliate to labour union, 13.3% indicated that the reason is due to union affiliation rules, 79.3% were not interested because they are not convinced in the union performance and 7.7% due to other reasons.

Results showed that 7.5% of employed persons in the Palestinian Territory were exposed to work injuries, 9.1% in the West Bank, 2.9% of Gaza Strip also, the results indicated that 57.5% of these injuries were concentrated in upper extremes, 27.9% in lower extremes, 38.6% of injuries resulted from dealing with sharp equipments. The results showed that 66.5% of employed persons who were exposed to injuries in Palestinian Territory were absent from their work due to the injury 64.2% in West Bank 87.8% in Gaza Strip.

Results showed that 62.1% of the injuries were treated by the employed person himself, against 16.4% from the employer.

Concepts and Definitions

Reference week:

The week ending with Friday preceding the interviewer's visit to the household.

Employed:

All persons are 15 years and older who were working at a paid job or business for at least one hour during the reference week, or who did not work, but held a job or owned business from which they were temporarily absent (because of illness, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason) during the reference week. Employed persons are classified according to employment status as follows: Employer, Own-account worker (self-employed), Wage employee, Unpaid family member

Wage employee:

A person who works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wage, salary, commission, tips, piece-rates or paid in kind.

Health Insurance:

Indemnity coverage against financial losses associated with the occurrence or treatment of health problem.

Insurance against Work Injuries:

Compensation for financial loss by coverage of costs of treating Injuries resulted during work.

Tolerating Colleagues:

Friendship or correspondence in ideas and believes with other employees (work colleagues).

Job Security:

Set of Instructions and laws which do not allow the employer to fire the employee , according to his/her desire without referring to the rules.

Incentive (in kind or cash) :

Set of incentive which is given to employee as money premium , substitute of overtime , prizes, as an outcome of distinguished performance.

Moral Incentives:

Set of incentive which is given to employee as gratitude or any other in kinds incentive, as an outcome of distinguished performance.

Bad Lighting:

Inadequate lighting such as working in mines or under ground, or strong lighting which affects employee's eyes immediately or on later stage.

Protection Clothes:

Special clothes employee has to wear during his work , in order to protect him/herself from injury, such as : dark spectacles, or beekeeper's clothes,..etc.

