



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Survey on the Perception of the Owner/Managers of the Economic Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, September 2003

The press conference of the survey results

November, 2003

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Press Release
**On the Main Findings of the Survey on the Perception of the Owners/Managers
of the Economic Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, september
2003**

**The situation of half of the establishments is worse in september compared with August
2003, and more than 30% expected a worse situation in the coming month**

PCBS conducted the first round of the survey on the perception of the owners/managers of the economic establishments about the economic conditions. Data collection took place during the period 27/9/2003- 4/10/2003 on a sample composed of 545 establishments, of which (355 in West Bank and 190 in Gaza Strip).

The Current Situation:

About 46.6% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments in the Palestinian Territory reported that their current economic situation is worse compared with last month (41.1% in West Bank and 59.9% in Gaza Strip), against 20.7% reported better situation (25.9% in West Bank and 8.2% in Gaza strip).

Concerning restriction on mobility, 53.0% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments reported that there was no real difficulties in reaching the place of work in the past month, while this percent was 43.8% in the past six month, and 21.3% reported that workers faced some difficulties to reach place of work in the past month while this percent was 32.5% in the past six months. There was significant differences between the perceptions in West Bank and Gaza Strip, as 94.1% of them in Gaza Strip reported that the mobility was easy in August 2003, while this percent was 88.8% for the past six months, as for West Bank; only 65.4% reported that mobility was easy in August, while this percent was 55.0% for the past six months.

Short Term Expectations:

As for the expectation in the short term (in the coming month), 33.4% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments expect a worse situation for their establishment compared with today, against 26.1% expected a better situation (25.3% in West Bank and 28.0% in Gaza Strip).

The main findings of the survey indicate significant discrepancy between West Bank and Gaza Strip in this regard, the West Bank owners/ managers were more pessimistic compared with Gazans, (in West Bank 41.0% expected worse, against 15.1% in Gaza Strip).

The owners/managers of the economic establishments were pessimistic in expecting the level of employment at the short run. Data reveal that 20.4% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments expect that the employment level will be higher in the coming month. At the same time, 26.7% of the respondents expect that the level of employment will be lower in the coming month, and 52.9% expected it to be the same.

The owners and managers expectations about sales volume were the same, 21.5% of the owners/ managers of the economic establishments expected higher sales volume in the coming month, while 37.3% expected less.

Long Term Expectations:

Data reveal that 28.5% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments reported that the employment level will be higher in the coming six months, while 28.7% of them expect that it will be lower in the coming six months.

The main findings of the survey show some optimistic trend in expecting the level of sales in the coming six months as 37.2% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments expect there will be an increase in the level of sales of their establishments in the coming six months compared with the survey month (September 2003). On the other hand, 29.7% of the respondents expected that the level would go down in the coming six months.

Level of Direct Investment:

The main findings of the survey show that there may be no changes on the level of direct investments in the coming period in general, as 53.9% of the respondents expect that there will be no changes in this field in the coming year, and 19.8% expect an increase in the level of direct investment in the coming year.

The owners and managers of the economic establishments expect that the main reason for the expected investment level decline or constant will be the limited business prospects (60.5%) while 12.6% of respondents said it will be the lack of credit/finance, and 26.9% for both cases.

Problems facing the establishments:

The owners/ managers of the economic establishments reported facing major problems in their work as a result of the Israeli measures, some of them on obtaining raw materials and inputs (48.0% of the respondents), shipping goods and marketing (22.4%), and problems related to the ability of labourers to reach place of work (22.5%). In addition 15.7% of the owners and managers indicated that they were unable to operate regularly because of curfew, while 13.2% were suffering from financial problems.

جدول 1: التغييرات التي طرأت على توقعات أصحاب ومدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول أهم المؤشرات في الأراضي الفلسطينية (آب، أيلول 2003)

Table 1: Changes In Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Economic Establishments About the Main Indicators at Palestinian Territory (August, September 2003)

Indicator	أيلول 2003 September 2003		آب 2003 August 2003		المؤشر
	%		%		
	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months	الشهر القادم Next Month	السنة القادمة Next Year	الشهر القادم Next Month	
Percentage of expecting better Establishment situation	—	26.1	—	21.3	نسبة المتفائلين بتحسن وضع المنشأة
Percentage of expecting higher employment level	28.5	20.4	30.3	12.9	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع مستوى التشغيل
Percentage of expecting higher sales volume	37.2	21.4	49.8	18.1	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم المبيعات/الخدمات
Percentage of expecting higher investment level	19.8	—	18.5	11.0	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم الاستثمار

جدول 2: التغييرات التي طرأت على توقعات أصحاب ومدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول أهم المؤشرات في الضفة الغربية (آب، أيلول 2003)

Table 2: Changes In Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Economic Establishments About the Main Indicators at West Bank (August, September 2003)

Indicator	أيلول 2003 September 2003		آب 2003 August 2003		المؤشر
	%		%		
	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months	الشهر القادم Next Month	السنة القادمة Next Year	الشهر القادم Next Month	
Percentage of expecting better Establishment situation	—	25.3	—	20.6	نسبة المتفائلين بتحسن وضع المنشأة
Percentage of expecting higher employment level	21.5	18.5	32.1	14.1	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع مستوى التشغيل
Percentage of expecting higher sales volume	29.9	18.2	59.4	18.4	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم المبيعات
Percentage of expecting higher investment level	17.4	—	25.9	14.1	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم الاستثمار

جدول 3: التغييرات التي طرأت على توقعات أصحاب ومدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول أهم المؤشرات في قطاع غزة (آب، أيلول 2003)

Table 3: Changes In Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Economic Establishments About the Main Indicators at Gaza Strip (August, September 2003)

Indicator	أيلول 2003 September 2003		آب 2003 August 2003		المؤشر
	%		%		
	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months	الشهر القادم Next Month	السنة القادمة Next Year	الشهر القادم Next Month	
Percentage of expecting better Establishment situation	—	28.0	—	22.5	نسبة المتفائلين بتحسين وضع المنشأة
Percentage of expecting higher employment level	45.3	25.0	26.8	10.7	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع مستوى التشغيل
Percentage of expecting higher sales volume	54.8	29.6	35.0	17.5	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم المبيعات
Percentage of expecting higher investment level	25.7	—	6.5	6.0	نسبة المتفائلين بارتفاع حجم الاستثمار

جدول 4: توزيع آراء أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول وضع المنشآت بشكل عام بالمقارنة مع الوضع قبل شهر حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 4: Distribution of Opinions of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about the Establishments Conditions Compared With One-Month Ago by Region (September 2003)

Attitude	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip %	الضفة الغربية West Bank %	الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory %	الاتجاه
A lot better today	0.8	6.8	5.0	اليوم أفضل بكثير
Somewhat better today	7.4	19.1	15.7	اليوم أفضل إلى حد ما
About the same/ Unchanged	31.9	33.0	32.7	تقريبا نفس الشيء/ لم يطرأ تغيير يذكر
Somewhat worse today	46.3	29.4	34.4	اليوم أسوأ إلى حد ما
A lot worse today	13.6	11.7	12.2	اليوم أسوأ بكثير
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 5: توقعات أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية بشأن وضع المنشآت بشكل عام خلال الشهر القادم حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 5: Expectation of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about Establishments Conditions in the Next Month by Region, (September 2003)

Attitude	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip %	الضفة الغربية West Bank %	الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory %	الاتجاه
A lot better from now	0.9	0.6	0.7	ستكون أفضل بكثير من الآن
Somewhat better from now	27.1	24.7	25.4	ستكون أفضل إلى حد ما من الآن
About the same /unchanged	56.9	33.7	40.5	ستكون تقريبا نفس الشيء/ لن يطرأ تغيير يذكر من الآن
Somewhat worse from now	13.3	32.6	26.9	ستكون أسوأ إلى حد ما من الآن
A lot worse from now	1.8	8.4	6.5	ستكون أسوأ بكثير من الآن
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 6: توزيع المنشآت الاقتصادية حسب إمكانية وصول العاملين للعمل خلال الشهر الماضي والشهور الستة الماضية والمنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 6: Distribution of the Economic Establishments by Ability of Workers to Reach Place of Work in the Past Month and Past Six Months and Region (September 2003)

Ability of workers to reach place of work	المنطقة والفترة الزمنية						إمكانية وصول العاملين للعمل
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip		الضفة الغربية West Bank		الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory		
	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	
Impossible	0.1	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	1.8	مستحيل
Very difficult	3.0	0.4	8.4	8.7	6.8	6.2	بصعوبة بالغة
Difficult	8.1	4.3	32.9	19.6	25.7	15.1	بصعوبة
Few problems	11.1	13.9	25.3	23.9	21.1	21.0	كانت توجد بعض المشاكل
No problem at all	77.7	80.2	29.7	41.5	43.8	53.0	لم يكن هناك أي مشكلة
Not Applicable	0.0	1.2	3.7	3.7	2.6	2.9	لا ينطبق
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 7: توزيع آراء أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الإقتصادية حول المشاكل التي تواجهها المنشآت خلال الشهر الماضي والشهور الستة الماضية حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 7: Distribution of the Opinion of Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments About the Problems Faced the Establishment at the Past Month and Past Six Months by Region (September 2003)

Reason	المنطقة والفترة الزمنية						السبب
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip		الضفة الغربية West Bank		الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory		
	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Six Months %	خلال الشهر الماضي Past Month %	
Business did not suffer	70.4	71.2	34.6	34.2	45.1	45.0	العمل لم يواجه مشكلة
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	30.3	29.4	54.0	48.0	47.1	48.0	صعوبات في الحصول على المواد الأولية اللازمة ومدخلات الإنتاج
Problems of employees reaching place of work	8.9	8.0	39.2	28.5	30.3	22.5	صعوبات في وصول العاملين إلى مكان العمل
Unable to open/operate/work or limited operations because of curfew	1.7	1.6	37.5	21.6	27.0	15.7	لم نتمكن من فتح/تشغيل/ العمل بشكل منتظم بسبب منع التجول
Unable to open/operate/work or limited operations because of direct damages	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.3	لم نتمكن من فتح/تشغيل/ العمل بشكل منتظم بسبب تدمير المنشأة
Unable to open/operate/work or only limited operations because of physical	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.2	1.9	0.1	لم نتمكن من فتح/تشغيل/العمل بشكل منتظم بسبب تدمير المنشأة منذ الفترة السابقة لفترة الإسناد
Difficulties in shipping finished goods to market	0.0	0.0	32.3	31.7	22.9	22.4	صعوبات في شحن المنتجات الجاهزة للسوق
Financial problems, i.e., unable to obtain bank loans	0.0	0.0	19.8	18.7	14.0	13.2	مشاكل مالية، وقلة التسهيلات من البنوك

جدول 8: توقعات أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية بشأن مستوى التشغيل في المنشآت في المستقبل حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 8: Expectation of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about Level of Employment in the Establishments in the Future by Region (September 2003)

Level of employment	المنطقة والفترة الزمنية						مستوى التشغيل
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip		الضفة الغربية West Bank		الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory		
	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	السنة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	
Significantly higher	3.3	0.5	0.2	1.9	1.1	1.5	أعلى بكثير
Somewhat higher	42.0	24.5	21.3	16.5	27.4	18.9	أعلى إلى حد ما
About the same	40.4	62.1	43.9	49.1	42.8	52.9	تقريبا نفس المستوى
Somewhat less	12.0	12.0	25.1	28.9	21.3	23.9	أقل بعض الشيء
Significantly less	2.3	0.9	9.5	3.6	7.4	2.8	أقل بكثير
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 9: توقعات أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول حجم مبيعات/الخدمات للمنشآت في المستقبل حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 9: Expectation of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about Volume of Sales/Services in the Establishments in the Future by Region (September 2003)

Volume of sales/ Services	المنطقة والفترة الزمنية						حجم المبيعات/الخدمات
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip		الضفة الغربية West Bank		الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory		
	الستة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	الستة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	الستة شهور القادمة Next six months %	الشهر القادم Next Month %	
Significantly higher	3.8	0.5	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.3	أعلى بكثير
Somewhat higher	51.0	29.1	29.7	18.0	35.9	21.2	أعلى إلى حد ما
About the same	26.4	54.3	35.9	35.7	33.1	41.2	تقريبا نفس المستوى
Somewhat less	15.1	15.2	21.4	41.1	19.6	33.5	أقل بعض الشيء
Significantly less	3.7	0.9	12.8	5.0	10.1	3.8	أقل بكثير
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 10: توقعات أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية حول حجم الاستثمار في المنشآت في العام القادم مقارنة مع حجم الاستثمار في العام الحالي حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)
Table 10: Expectation of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about Volume of Investment in the Establishments in the Next Year Compared with Current Investment by Region (September 2003)

Volume of Investment	Region المنطقة			حجم الاستثمار
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip %	الضفة الغربية West Bank %	الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory %	
Significantly higher	1.8	0.3	0.7	أعلى بكثير
Somewhat higher	23.9	17.1	19.1	أعلى إلى حد ما
About the same	60.9	51.0	53.9	تقريبا نفس المستوى
Somewhat less	12.7	12.7	12.7	أقل بعض الشيء
Significantly less	0.7	18.9	13.6	أقل بكثير
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع

جدول 11: توقعات أصحاب/مدراء المنشآت الاقتصادية بشأن أسباب تراجع أو ثبات المستوى المتوقع للإستثمار للعام القادم حسب المنطقة (أيلول 2003)

Table 11: Expectation of the Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments about the expected Investment level stability or decline in the Next year by Region (September 2003)

Reason	Time Period and Region			السبب
	قطاع غزة Gaza Strip %	الضفة الغربية West Bank %	الأراضي الفلسطينية Palestinian Territory %	
Limited business prospects	70.2	56.9	60.5	تقلص حجم الأعمال
Lack of credit/finance	8.0	14.3	12.6	نقص التمويل والقدرة على الاقتراض
Both equally	21.8	28.8	26.9	كلتا الحالتين معاً
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	المجموع