



**Palestinian National Authority  
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

**Survey on the Perceptions of the Owners/Managers of the  
Industrial Establishments Toward the Economic  
Conditions, November 2005**

**The press conference of the survey results**

**December, 2005**

© December, 2005  
**All rights reserved.**

**Suggested Citation:**

**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2005.** *Survey on the Perceptions of the Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments Toward the Economic Conditions, November 2005*

**Ramallah- Palestine**

All correspondence should be directed to:  
Dissemination and Documentation Department\Division of user services  
**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.**  
**P.O. Box 1647, Ramallah - Palestine.**

Tel: (972/970) 2 240 6340  
E-mail: [diwan@pcbs.gov.ps](mailto:diwan@pcbs.gov.ps)

Fax: (972/970) 2 240 6343  
Web-site: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps>



# **Palestinian National Authority Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

## **Survey on the Perceptions of the Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments Toward the Economic Conditions, November 2005**

### **Contents**

1. The press release
2. The tables

**Press Release**  
**On the Main Findings of the Survey on the Perception of the Owners/Managers**  
**of the Industrial Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions,**  
**November 2005**

**Continious decline in the level of optimism in the opinion of improving establishments' conditions during November compared with January 2005.**

Industrial Activity is one of the bases of the economy, since the preliminary estimates for the Gross Domestic Product 2005 indicates that the industrial activity comprises a share of 12.7% of the Gross Domestic Product at constant prices, while its share was 15.7% before the outbreak of Al-Aqsa Intifada. This survey conducted to give an overview on the perception of the owners/managers of the Industrial establishments about the economic conditions. Data collection took place during the period 2-23/12/2005 on a sample composed of 261 establishments, of which 211 in Remaining West Bank and 50 in Gaza Strip. Large Industrial Establishments were choosen, which comprise 70% of the total industrial output.

**Overall trend: Continuous decline in the perception of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments towards the economic conditions comparing to January**

Levels of optimism in general declined continuously in different indicators during November compared with January 2005. The percentage of whom are expecting improvement on the establishments situation declined by 27.2% during November compared with 40.9% during October, in addition to that the percentage of whom are expecting higher employment level declined by 58.1% compared with 45.9% for the same months. At the same time, declining were reported on the perceptions of the managers who expect higher volumes of sales during November compared with January as this percentage declined by 18.2%, compared with decreasing in the perception by 21.1% during October.

There were differences on the geographic regions, as the percentage of owner expecting improvements on the situations declined by 27.0% in Remaining West Bank during November compared with January 2005, while it declined by 28.4% in Gaza Strip during the same period. Meanwhile, the percentage of owners who expected higher level of employment decreased by 83.7% in Remaining West Bank compared with an increase by 29.4% in Gaza Strip, the percentage of owners who expected higher volume of sales decreased by 26.7% in Remaining West Bank compared with an increase by 3.3% in Gaza Strip for the same period.

In addition to that, the overall trend for the pessimistic expectations for the coming six months in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip reported a significant differences at the level of geographic regions, as the perception of the owners who are expecting improvements on their establishments decreased by 48.7% during November compared with 46.1% during October and the percentage of owners expecting higher level of employments decreased by 63.2% compared with 63.7% for the same months. In the same line, the percentage of owners expecting increases in the volume of sales decreased during the next six months by 38.6% during November compared with a decline by 42.5% during October.

The above indicators indicate a general decline in the optimistic levels on the expectation of having positive improvements on the establishments situations in Remaining West Bank and in Gaza Strip according to the perceptions of the mangers of those establishments compared with their expectations on the beginning of the year 2005.

## **The Current Situation: Gaza Strip opinions are more optimistic than Remaining West Bank**

As for the expectations in the short run for November 2005, 34.0% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments expect a better situation for their establishments compared with October (33.6% in Remaining West Bank and 35.8% in Gaza Strip), against 9.0% expected a worse situation (11.2% in Remaining West Bank while it doesn't exceed zero in Gaza Strip), while 57.0% expected no changes (55.2% in Remaining West Bank and 64.2% in Gaza Strip).

The main findings of the survey regarding the level of employment were optimistic, as 15.7% expected increase in employment level (5.5% in Remaining West Bank and 55.4% in Gaza Strip), while 3.0% expected a decline (3.7% in Remaining West Bank, while it doesn't exceed zero in Gaza Strip), and 81.3% expect the same level (90.8% in Remaining West Bank and 44.6% in Gaza Strip).

Regarding the sales volume, 37.3% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip expect higher sales volume (30.7% in Remaining West Bank and 63.1% in Gaza Strip), and 15.1% expect lower sales volume (17.8% in Remaining West Bank and 4.7% in Gaza Strip).

**Mid-Term Expectations shows 65.4% of the owners/ managers in Gaza Strip expect better situation for their establishments compared with 32.9% in Remaining West Bank**  
As for the expectation on the mid term (the next six months), 65.4% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip expect a better situation for their establishment compared with November, against 32.9% in Remaining West Bank. Meanwhile, 15.0% expected a worse situation in Remaining West Bank while it doesn't exceed zero in Gaza Strip, 52.1% and 34.6% expected no changes in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip consequently.

The expectations of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip were optimistic as 75.7% expected increase in employment level, while no related opinion expected decreasing, and 24.3% expected the same level. In Remaining West Bank, owners/managers were less optimistic as 8.2% expected increasing employment level and 86.1% expected the same level, and 5.7% expected decreasing level of employment.

Data reveal that 47.7% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments reported that the volume of sales would increase in the coming six months (40.3% in Remaining West Bank, and 76.7% in Gaza Strip), while 12.4% of them expect a decline in the volume of their sales (14.3% in Remaining West Bank and 4.7% in Gaza Strip).

### **Summary**

First: On the overall trend:

- The percentage of whom is expecting improvements on the establishment's situation declined by 27.2% during November compared with 40.9% during October 2005 (Base month is January 2005).
- The percentage of whom is expecting higher level of employment declined by 58.1% during November compared with 45.9% during October 2005 (Base month is January 2005).

- At the same line, Decreasing were reported on the perceptions of the managers whom is expecting higher volumes of sales as it was decline by 18.2% during November compared with a growth by 21.1% during October.

Second: The expectations of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments were optimistic on the Mid-term period compared to the Short -term expectations, which can appear from the following:

- As for the establishment situation, 39.6% of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments expect better situation during the next six month while this percentage was 34.0% for the next month expectations.
- 47.7% of the owners were optimistic in their expectations about the volumes of the sales for the mid-term expectation, meanwhile this percent was 37.3% for the next month.

Third: The mid-term expectations of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments were more optimistic for Gaza Strip compared to the expectations of the owners in Remaining West Bank, which can appear from the following:

- 65.4% of the owners were optimistic in their mid-term expectations for the establishment situation in Gaza Strip; meanwhile this percent was 32.9% in Remaining West Bank.
- 76.7% expect increases in the volume of sales over the mid-term expectation in Gaza Strip compared with 40.3% in Remaining West Bank.
- 75.7% of the owners were optimistic in their expectations about increasing the level of employment in Gaza Strip; meanwhile this percent was 8.2% in Remaining West Bank.

Fourth: The expectations of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments on the expected sales level stability or decline were different in Gaza Strip compared to the expectations of the owners in Remaining West Bank, which can appear from the following:

- 37.5% of the owners in Remaining West Bank refer that the Declining in the purchasing power consider as the main reason affecting the level of sales, while it was 3.7% in Gaza Strip.
- 30.9% of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip expect difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs as the main reason affecting the level of sales, while it was 0.5% in Remaining West Bank.
- 18.6% of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip expect difficulties in exporting finished goods as the main reason affecting the level of sales, while it was 6.4% in Remaining West Bank.
- 6.7% of the owners/ mangers of the industrial establishments in Remaining West Bank reported that the decrease in demand as the main reason affecting the sales level while without any opinions reported that in Gaza strip.

**Table 1: Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Industrial Establishments about the Main Indicators in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip**

Indicator	*November 2005 %		*October 2005 %		* September 2005 %		* August 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	December	Next six Months	November	Next six Months	October	Next six Months	September	Next six Months	February
Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	39.6	34.0	41.6	27.6	36.6	31.6	32.8	34.1	77.2	46.7
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	22.0	15.7	21.7	20.3	22.2	22.2	20.5	16.6	59.8	37.5
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	47.7	37.3	44.7	36.0	42.8	39.7	32.1	38.3	77.7	45.6

\*Data collection for January took place during 4/2/2005-6/3/2005.

.2005/3/6-2005/2/4

\*

\*Data collection for August took place during 2-23/9/2005.

.2005/9/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for September took place during 2-23/10/2005.

.2005/10/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for October took place during 2-23/11/2005.

.2005/11/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for November took place during 2-23/12/2005.

.2005/12/23-2

\*

**Table 2: Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Industrial Establishments about the Main Indicators in Remaining West Bank**

Indicator	*November 2005 %		*October 2005 %		* September 2005 %		* August 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	December	Next six Months	November	Next six Months	October	Next six Months	September	Next six Months	February
Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	32.9	33.6	36.0	26.6	31.7	30.3	24.6	31.9	74.5	46.0
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	8.2	5.5	21.0	15.6	11.6	14.9	6.2	6.1	42.7	33.8
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	40.3	30.7	43.2	34.0	35.0	33.1	19.0	29.3	73.0	41.9

\*Data collection for January took place during 4/2/2005-6/3/2005.

.2005/3/6-2005/2/4

\*

\*Data collection for August took place during 2-23/9/2005.

.2005/9/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for September took place during 2-23/10/2005.

.2005/10/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for October took place during 2-23/11/2005.

.2005/11/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for November took place during 2-23/12/2005.

.2005/12/23-2

\*



**Table 3: Expectations of Owners/ Managers of the Industrial Establishments about the Main Indicators in Gaza Strip**

Indicator	*November 2005 %		*October 2005 %		* September 2005 %		* August 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	December	Next six Months	November	Next six Months	October	Next six Months	September	Next six Months	February
	Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	65.4	35.8	46.7	28.6	58.8	37.1	65.3	43.1	88.9
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	75.7	55.4	22.5	24.7	68.5	54.3	76.7	58.4	88.9	42.8
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	76.7	63.1	46.0	37.8	77.1	68.6	83.8	73.7	97.2	61.1

\*Data collection for January took place during 4/2/2005-6/3/2005.

.2005/3/6-2005/2/4

\*

\*Data collection for August took place during 2-23/9/2005.

.2005/9/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for September took place during 2-23/10/2005.

.2005/10/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for October took place during 2-23/11/2005.

.2005/11/23-2

\*

\*Data collection for November took place during 2-23/12/2005.

.2005/12/23-2

\*

2005

/

:4

2005

**Table4: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Opinions about Establishments Production During November 2005 Compared with October 2005 by Region**

Attitude	Gaza Strip		Remaining West Bank		Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip	
	%		%		%	
A lot better	0.5		1.5		1.4	
Somewhat better	10.6		48.8		41.0	
About the same/ Unchanged	86.4		27.4		39.4	/
Somewhat worse	2.5		16.9		14.0	
A lot worse	0.0		5.4		4.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>	

2005

/

:5

**Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about Establishments Production in December 2005 and Next Six Months by Region**

Attitude	Time Period and Region					
	Gaza Strip		Remaining West Bank		Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip	
	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %
A lot better	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.1
Somewhat better	63.9	35.3	32.6	33.6	39.0	33.9
About the same/ Unchanged	34.6	64.2	52.1	55.2	48.5	57.0
Somewhat worse	0.0	0.0	13.8	10.4	11.0	8.3
A lot worse	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 6: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During November and December 2005 in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip**

Problem	Time period and Opinion									
	A lot worse		Somewhat worse		/		Somewhat better		A lot better	
	About the same/ Unchanged									
	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.2	8.7	7.8	70.4	72.9	20.1	18.9	0.8	0.2
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	4.7	3.5	85.9	90.6	8.7	5.4	0.7	0.5
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.4	90.4	90.3	3.5	1.8	5.3	6.5
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	2.0	4.2	86.3	86.0	6.2	3.1	5.5	6.7
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	0.7	0.7	7.1	9.4	83.0	83.0	8.2	6.2	1.0	0.7
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	1.8	1.9	1.5	2.0	90.0	89.3	6.0	6.8	0.7	0.0

**Table 7: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During November and December 2005 in Remaining West Bank**

Problem	Time period and Opinion									
	A lot worse		Somewhat worse		/		Somewhat better		A lot better	
	About the same/ Unchanged									
	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.2	9.4	9.8	77.6	68.6	12.9	21.2	0.1	0.2
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	4.3	4.3	95.4	95.1	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.8	98.4	98.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	2.6	5.3	93.1	92.9	4.3	1.8	0.0	0.0
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	0.9	0.9	7.1	10.1	90.9	88.5	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.0
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	2.3	2.3	0.3	0.9	97.3	96.3	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0

**Table 8: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During November and December 2005 in Gaza Strip**

Problem	Time period and Opinion									
	A lot worse		Somewhat worse		/		Somewhat better		A lot better	
					About the same/ Unchanged					
	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %	Dec %	Nov %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	42.1	90.0	48.4	10.0	3.6	0.0
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	48.8	73.2	41.6	24.2	3.6	2.6
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.4	59.4	14.8	8.8	25.8	31.8
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.4	59.4	13.7	7.8	26.9	32.8
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	0.0	0.0	7.3	6.4	52.1	61.5	35.6	28.6	5.0	3.5
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	0.0	0.0	6.4	6.4	61.5	62.0	28.6	31.6	3.5	0.0

**Table 9: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about Level of Employment in the Establishments in the Future by Region**

Level of employment	Time Period and Region					
	Gaza Strip		Remaining West Bank		Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip	
	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %
Significantly higher	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1
Somewhat higher	74.2	55.4	8.2	5.4	21.7	15.6
About the same	24.3	44.6	86.1	90.8	73.5	81.3
Somewhat less	0.0	0.0	5.2	3.5	4.1	2.8
Significantly less	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 10: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about Volume of Sales in the Establishments in the Future by Region**

Value of sales	Time Period and Region					
	Gaza Strip		Remaining West Bank		Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip	
	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %	Next Six Months %	December %
Significantly higher	1.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1
Somewhat higher	75.6	63.1	40.0	30.6	47.2	37.2
About the same	18.6	32.2	45.4	51.5	39.9	47.6
Somewhat less	4.7	4.7	10.7	16.4	9.5	14.0
Significantly less	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.4	2.9	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 11: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about the Expected Sales Level Stability or Decline by Region**

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Gaza Strip %</b>	<b>Remaining West Bank %</b>	<b>Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip %</b>	
Decrease in Demand	0.0	6.7	5.8	
Lack of credit/finance	0.0	0.4	0.3	
Difficulties in Exporting Finished goods	18.6	6.4	7.9	
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	30.9	0.5	4.2	
Employees unable reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Decline in the Consumer Purchasing Power	3.7	37.5	33.5	
Obstacles in Marketing	28.2	21.2	22.0	
Competitive Goods	1.2	7.5	6.8	
Other	17.4	19.8	19.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	