



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Survey on the Perception of the Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, July 2005

The press conference of the survey results

August, 2005

© July, 2005
All rights reserved.

Suggested Citation:

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2005. *Survey on the Perception of the Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, July 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

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



Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Survey on the Perception of the Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, July 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, July 2005

Continuing decrease in the level of optimism in the opinion of improving establishments' conditions during July 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 2/8/2005-23/8/2005 on a sample composed of 261 establishments, of which 211 in Remaining West Bank and 50 in Gaza Strip. Large Industrial Establishments were chosen, 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

Levels of optimism in general declined continuously in different indicators during July compared with January 2005. The percentage of whom are expecting improvement on the establishments situation declined by 9.4% during July compared with 5.4% during June, in addition to that the percentage of whom are expecting higher employment level declined by 44.8% compared with 33.6% for the same months. On the other side, improvements were reported on the perceptions of the managers who expect higher volumes of sales during July compared with January as this percentage reached 9.6%, compared with June (8.6%).

There were significant differences on the geographic regions, as the percentage of owner expecting improvements on the situations declined by 10.2% in Remaining West Bank during July compared with January 2005, while it was 7.4% in Gaza Strip during the same period. Meanwhile, the percentage of owners who expected higher level of employment decreased by 56.5% in Remaining West Bank compared with 3.0% in Gaza Strip, as the percentage of owners who expected higher volume of sales increased by 20.0% in Remaining West Bank compared with a decrease by 20.1% in Gaza Strip for the same period.

In addition to that, the overall trend for the pessimistic expectations for the coming six months in Palestinian Territory 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 43.5% during July compared with 31.6% during June and the percentage of owners expecting higher level of employments decreased by 56.4% compared with 54.2% for the same months. On other hand, the percentage of owners expecting an increase in the volume of sales decreased during the next six months by 39.3% during July compared with 27.0% during June.

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 with cautious optimist in Gaza Strip according to the perceptions of the managers 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 July 2005, 42.3% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments expect a better situation for their establishments compared with June (41.3% in Remaining West Bank and 46.3% in Gaza Strip), against 16.4% expected a worse situation (19.5% in Remaining West Bank and 4.9% in Gaza Strip), while 41.3% expected no changes (39.2% in Remaining West Bank and 48.8% in Gaza Strip).

The main findings of the survey regarding the level of employment were optimistic, as 20.7% expected increase in employment level, while 7.0% expected a decline, and 72.3% expect the same level.

Regarding the sales volume, 50.0% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments in Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip expect higher sales volume, and 17.4% expect lower sales volume.

Mid-Term Expectations shows 65.8% of the owners/ managers in Gaza Strip expect better situation for their establishments compared with 37.0% in Remaining West Bank
As for the expectation on the mid term (the next six months), 65.8% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip expect a better situation for their establishment compared with July, against 37.0% in Remaining West Bank. Meanwhile, 21.0% expected a worse situation in Remaining West Bank against 4.9% in Gaza Strip, while 42.0% and 29.3% 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 63.4% expected increase in employment level, while 6.3% expected decreasing, and 29.3% expected the same level. In Remaining West Bank, owners/ managers were less optimistic as 15.4% expected increasing employment level and 80.4% expected the same level, and 4.2% expected decreasing level of employment.

Data reveal that 47.2% of the owners/managers of the industrial establishments reported that the volume of sales would increase in the coming six months (39.8% in Remaining West Bank, and 73.2% in Gaza Strip), while 19.6% of them expect a decline in the volume of their sales (39.2% in Remaining West Bank and 12.2% in Gaza Strip).

Summary

First: On the overall trend:

- The percentage of whom is expecting improvements on the establishment's situation declined by 9.4% during July compared with 5.4% during June 2005 (Base month is January 2005).
- The percentage of whom is expecting higher level of employment declined by 44.8% during July compared with 33.6% during June 2005 (Base month is January 2005).
- On the other side, improvements were reported on the perceptions of the managers whom is expecting higher volumes of sales as this percentage reached 9.6% during July compared with 8.6% during June.

Second: The expectations of the owners/ managers 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, 43.4% of the owners/ managers of the industrial establishments expect better situation during the next six months while this percentage was 42.3% for the short- term expectations.
- 26.1% of the owners were optimistic in their expectations about the level of employment for the next six month, meanwhile this percent was 20.7 % for the next months.
- 50.0% expect increases in the volume of sales in the short-term expectation, while this percentage was 47.2% for the next six months.

Third: The expectations of the owners/ managers 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:

- 65.8% of the owners were optimistic in their expectations for the establishment situation in Gaza Strip; meanwhile this percent was 37.0% in Remaining West Bank.
- 73.2% expect increases in the volume of sales over the med-term expectation in Gaza Strip compared with 39.8% in Remaining West Bank.
- 63.4% of the owners were optimistic in their expectations about increasing the level of employment in Gaza Strip; meanwhile this percent was 15.4% in Remaining West Bank.

Fourth: The expectations of the owners/ managers 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:

- 30.6% of the owners/ managers of the industrial establishments in Remaining West Bank reported that the decline in the consumer purchasing power as the main reason affecting the sales level while 19.0% in Gaza Strip reported it as the main reason.
- 23.9% of the owners in Gaza Strip refer that the difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs consider as the main reason affecting the level of sales, while 0.0% refer to that reason in Remaining West Bank.
- 19.0% of the owners/ managers of the industrial establishments in Gaza Strip expect difficulties in exporting as the main reason affecting the level of sales, while it was 6.9% in Remaining West Bank.

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

Indicator	* July 2005 %		* June 2005 %		*May 2005 %		*April 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	August	Next six Months	July	Next six Months	June	Next six Months	May	Next six Months	February
Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	43.6	42.3	52.8	44.2	53.9	40.8	60.4	46.2	77.2	46.7
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	26.1	20.7	27.4	24.9	27.2	21.4	34.0	24.9	59.8	37.5
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	47.2	50.0	56.7	49.5	61.8	47.6	63.5	48.2	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 April took place during 2-23/5/2005.

.2005/5/23-2

*

*Data collection for May took place during 2-23/6/2005.

.2005/6/23-2

*

*Data collection for June took place during 2-23/7/2005.

.2005/7/23-2

*

*Data collection for July took place during 2-23/8/2005.

.2005/8/23-2

*

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

Indicator	* July 2005 %		*June 2005 %		*May 2005 %		*April 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	August	Next six Months	July	Next six Months	June	Next six Months	May	Next six Months	February
Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	37.0	41.3	49.9	45.0	59.1	42.2	59.8	43.5	74.5	46.0
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	15.4	14.7	18.8	18.1	15.0	13.0	26.0	17.5	42.7	33.8
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	39.8	50.3	55.6	54.1	57.8	46.3	63.0	46.1	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 April took place during 2-23/5/2005.

.2005/5/23-2

*

*Data collection for May took place during 2-23/6/2005.

.2005/6/23-2

*

*Data collection for June took place during 2-23/7/2005.

.2005/7/23-2

*

*Data collection for July took place during 2-23/8/2005.

.2005/8/23-2

*

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

Indicator	* August 2005 %		*June 2005 %		*May 2005 %		*April 2005 %		*January 2005 %	
	Next six Months	August	Next six Months	July	Next six Months	June	Next six Months	May	Next six Months	February
Percentage of who are expecting better Establishment situation	65.8	46.3	64.3	40.4	59.1	36.4	62.8	55.8	88.9	50.0
Percentage of who are expecting higher employment level	63.4	41.5	62.8	52.5	68.2	50.0	62.8	51.1	88.9	42.8
Percentage of who are expecting higher sales volume	73.2	48.8	60.8	30.3	75.0	52.2	65.1	55.8	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 April took place during 2-23/5/2005.

.2005/5/23-2

*

*Data collection for May took place during 2-23/6/2005.

.2005/6/23-2

*

*Data collection for June took place during 2-23/7/2005.

.2005/7/23-2

*

*Data collection for July took place during 2-23/8/2005.

.2005/8/23-2

*

2005

/

:4

2005

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

Attitude	Gaza Strip		Remaining West Bank		Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip	
	%		%		%	
A lot better	0.0		5.6		4.3	
Somewhat better	36.6		39.9		39.1	
About the same/ Unchanged	56.1		27.3		33.7	
Somewhat worse	7.3		25.2		21.2	
A lot worse	0.0		2.0		1.7	
Total	100		100		100	

2005

/

:5

Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about Establishments Production in August 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 %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %
A lot better	9.8	0.0	2.7	0.7	4.3	0.5
Somewhat better	56.0	46.3	34.3	40.6	39.1	41.8
About the same/ Unchanged	29.3	48.8	42.0	39.2	39.3	41.3
Somewhat worse	4.9	4.9	20.3	18.8	16.8	15.9
A lot worse	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 6: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During July And August 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					
	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.0	2.7	7.1	56.5	50.5	32.6	37.0	8.2	5.4
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	3.3	5.5	73.2	73.8	16.9	16.9	6.6	3.8
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	2.2	2.2	2.2	78.3	73.8	4.8	12.0	14.7	12.0
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	1.1	2.8	79.9	75.5	4.3	8.7	14.7	13.0
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	1.2	1.1	7.1	10.3	70.1	67.9	16.3	20.1	5.4	0.5
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	1.1	1.1	3.3	3.8	77.2	78.3	10.8	13.5	7.6	3.3

Table 7: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During July And August 2005 in Remaining West Bank

Problem	Time period and Opinion									
	A lot worse		Somewhat worse		/		Somewhat better		A lot better	
	About the same/ Unchanged									
	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.0	2.8	8.4	60.1	49.6	30.8	35.0	6.3	7.0
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	4.2	6.3	81.7	79.6	9.9	9.9	4.2	4.2
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	2.8	2.1	88.8	87.4	4.2	6.3	4.2	4.2
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.8	90.9	89.5	3.5	3.5	4.2	4.2
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	1.4	1.4	9.1	12.6	77.6	75.5	11.9	10.5	0.0	0.0
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	1.4	1.4	4.2	4.2	86.0	86.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2

Table 8: Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Views about the Problems Faced the Establishment During July And August 2005 in Gaza Strip

Problem	Time period and Opinion									
	A lot worse		Somewhat worse		/		Somewhat better		A lot better	
					About the same/ Unchanged					
	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %	August %	July %
Business did not suffer	0.0	0.0	2.4	2.4	44.0	53.7	39.0	43.9	14.6	0.0
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	43.9	53.7	41.5	41.5	14.6	2.4
Problems of employees reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	41.5	26.8	7.3	31.8	51.2	39.0
Unable to open/operate/work	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	41.5	26.8	7.3	26.8	51.2	44.0
Difficulties in transporting finished goods to market	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	43.9	41.5	31.7	53.7	24.4	2.4
Financial problems or unable to obtain bank loans	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	46.4	51.2	34.1	46.3	19.5	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 %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %
Significantly higher	12.2	0.0	1.4	0.0	3.8	0.0
Somewhat higher	51.2	41.5	14.0	14.7	22.3	20.7
About the same	29.3	48.7	80.4	79.0	69.0	72.3
Somewhat less	7.3	9.8	4.2	6.3	4.9	7.0
Significantly less	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 10: Percentage Distribution of Owners/Managers of the Industrial Establishments According to their Expectation about Value 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 %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %	Next Six Months %	August %
Significantly higher	9.8	0.0	2.8	2.0	4.3	1.6
Somewhat higher	63.4	48.8	37.0	48.3	42.9	48.4
About the same	12.2	36.6	39.2	31.5	33.2	32.6
Somewhat less	14.6	14.6	18.2	16.8	17.4	16.3
Significantly less	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.4	2.2	1.1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

Reason	Gaza Strip %	Remaining West Bank %	Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip %	
Decrease in Demand	0.0	4.2	3.2	
Lack of credit/finance	4.8	1.4	2.2	
Difficulties in Exporting Finished goods	19.0	6.9	9.7	
Difficulties in obtaining needed raw materials or inputs	23.9	0.0	5.4	
Employees unable reaching place of work	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Decline in the Consumer Purchasing Power	19.0	30.6	28.0	
Obstacles in Marketing	9.5	12.5	11.8	
Competitive Goods	9.5	8.3	8.6	
Other	14.3	36.1	31.1	
Total	100	100	100	