

**The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics:  
“Environmental Survey of Health Care Centers 2004”**

**Health care centers in the Palestinian Territory generate 381 tons and 5.8 thousand cubic meters of solid waste monthly.**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics released a report in December 2004 concerning the environmental conditions of health care centers. The data in the report is based on an environmental survey conducted of health care centers and on an economic environmental survey implemented by PCBS in 2004.

The amount of solid waste produced per month by health care centers in the Palestinian Territory was estimated to be 381 tons and 5.8 thousand cubic meters; of this, 275 tons and 1.9 thousand cubic meters were in the West Bank, and 106 tons and 3.9 thousand cubic meters were in the Gaza Strip. The amount of treated waste was about 62.9 tons and 159.8 cubic meters in health care centers in the Palestinian Territory.

The report shows that the amount of water consumed by health care centers was 160.7 thousand cubic meters per month, of which 76.3 thousand cubic meters per month were by health care centers in the West Bank, and 84.4 thousand cubic meters per month were by the Gaza Strip.

The report shows that 93.2% of health care centers obtain water for consumption from the water network: 95.6% of the secondary health care centers, and 92.6% of the primary health care centers.

The results show that 68.7% of health care centers in the Palestinian Territory dispose of their wastewater through public networks, while 9.9% of health care centers use a contained cesspit, and 21.4% of health care centers use a porous cesspit.

Health care centers faced many problems due to the Israeli destruction of Palestinian infrastructure during the Al-Aqsa Intifada. The most serious problem that resulted was the decrease in the amount of water consumed; this was a problem for 87.8% of health care centers.

**Main Selected Environmental Indicators for Health Care Centers  
in the Palestinian Territory for 2003 and 2004**

Indicator	2003	2004
<b>Estimated Amount of Water Consumed per Month (1000 m3)</b>	<b>141.3</b>	<b>160.7</b>
<b>Distribution of Health Care Centers by Means of Obtaining Water (%)</b>		
Water network	87.3	93.2
Water tanks	6.3	4.4
Water catchment well	6.0	2.3
Other	0.4	0.1
<b>Distribution of Health Care Centers by Wastewater Disposal Method (%)</b>		
Wastewater network	65.9	68.7
Contained cesspit	8.6	9.9
Porous cesspit	25.5	21.4
<b>Amount of Solid Waste Produced per Month (Estimated by ton)</b>	<b>512.6</b>	<b>380.9</b>
<b>Amount of Solid Waste Produced per Month (Estimated by cubic meter)</b>	<b>4,011</b>	<b>5,825</b>
	<b>.1</b>	<b>.3</b>
<b>Health Care Centers that Separate Solid Waste (%)</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>49.0</b>
<b>Distribution of Health Care Centers According to Responsibility for Solid Waste Disposal (%)</b>		
Health care center	18.9	11.5
Local Authority	77.6	83.1
Private contractor	1.8	0.1
UNRWA	0.6	1.7
Others	1.1	3.6