

# **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

## **Press Release**

### **For the Hotel survey, Second Quarter 2008**

#### **An Unprecedented Rise in the number of Guests and the Occupancy Beds**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is pleased to release the main findings of the Hotel Survey for the second quarter 2008, which aims at giving the public an overall idea of the most important indicators of the Hotel Survey, mainly the number of guests, average number of workers, occupancy rates, and other main indicators.

The number of hotels operating in the Palestinian Territory at the end of second quarter was 82 hotels, comprising a total of 3,957 rooms with a total of 8,704 available beds, of which 26 hotels including 1,089 rooms comprising 2,566 beds in Jerusalem area, and the results show that the number of workers in the Palestinian hotels was 1,240 of which 147 are females.

During the second quarter 2008, The total number of guests was 126,633, it was increased to 68.3%, compared with the same quarter of the year, 12.9% of them were Palestinian guests, and 41.8% were from the European Union countries. Most of those guests were in Jerusalem hotels with a percentage of 52.5% from the guests total, whereas the percentage reached up to 16.6% in the Middle of the West Bank hotels

The results indicate that the total number of guest nights in the Palestinian hotels during the second quarter of 2008 was 328,892 nights, of which 10.7% of these nights was occupied by Palestinian guests, while 45.6% by the guests whom arrived from European Union countries, and 7.4% of these nights were occupied by the guests whom arrived from the United States and Canada. Whereas the guests spent 55.7% of those nights in Jerusalem hotels, while they spent 13.4%, 29.6%, 0.9% in the Middle, South, and North of the West Bank respectively, while the percentage of guest nights in Gaza Strip hotels was 0.4%.

When we compare the results of the second quarter of 2008 with the same quarter of 2007, we find that the number of operating hotels increased by 6%, the bed occupancy percent and guest nights increased by 91.0%, 103.8% respectively.

#### **Mid - Term Changes**

When comparing the results of the second quarter of 2008 with the same period in 2000, we note that the decline in the volume of main hotel indicators except the number of guests which records a high number since that time by an increase to about 19.1%, where the decrease in the number of nights and room occupancy rate reached 1.7% and 6.4% respectively, but this rate of decline is the lowest compared to second quarter of the previous years.