

**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)**

**"Statistical Report on Building Licenses  
for the First Quarter of 2006"**

**Building licenses increased by 0.86% in the First Quarter 2006 compared with the  
Fourth Quarter 2005**

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) PCBS released a Statistical Report on Building Licenses for the First Quarter 2006 which indicates that the total number of building licenses issued in the Remaining West Bank and Gaza Strip was 2,219. They were distributed as follows: 899 licenses for new buildings, 319 licenses for additions to licensed buildings, 97 licenses for additions and existing parts, 863 licenses for existing buildings and 41 licenses for existing extensions. The results show that the total licensed areas were 779.7 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>), distributed as 487.4 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>) for new areas and 292.3 thousand (m<sup>2</sup>) for existing areas, The total number of licensed dwellings were 3,569 units, 2,128 were new dwelling units and 1,441 were existing dwelling units .

The total number of building licenses issued increased by 0.86% in the First Quarter 2006 compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2005, also there was an decrease by 11.7% in the total number of licensed dwellings, and decreased in the total licensed areas by 5.9% in the First Quarter 2006 compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2005, also there was no change in the number of boundary walls licenses compared with the Fourth Quarter of 2005.

The total number of building licenses issued increased by 75.1% in the First Quarter of 2006 compared with the First Quarter of 2005, also it increased by 96.2%, compared with the First Quarter of 2004, and increase by 148.8% in the First Quarter of 2006 compared with the First Quarter of 2003.

Comparing the licensed new areas in the First Quarter of 2006 with the First Quarter of 2005, the results show an increase of 42.6%, and an increase of 314.6% in the licensed existing areas. Comparing licensed areas in the First Quarter 2006 with the same period in 2004, 2003 the results indicate that licenses of new areas increased by 26.1%, 46.6% and the existing areas increased by 468.7%, 292.3%.

The total number of new dwelling units increased by 7.0% in the First Quarter of 2006 compared with the same Quarter of 2005, whereas the existing dwelling units increased by 381.9% Compared with the same period, whereas the total number of new and existing dwelling units increased by 11.6%, 493.0% compared with the same Quarter of 2004, whereas the total number of new and existing dwelling units increased by 86.2%, 163.4% compared with the same Quarter of 2003.

Also the results show that the number of boundary walls licenses increased by 32.4%, 73.1% in the First Quarter of 2006 compared with the First Quarter of 2005, 2004 and increased by 32.4% compared with the same period of 2003.