

In the Occasion of the International Literacy day, 8th of September

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics:

In spite of the decrease in Illiteracy rate by 59% in the past decade, still there is 138 thousand adult illiterate in the Palestinian Territory, 77% of them female

- The illiteracy rates among individuals 15 years and over in the Palestinian Territory decreased in the period 1995-2006 from 15.7% to 6.5%. However, it decreased among males from 8.5% in 1995 to 2.9% in 2006, and among females it decreased from 23.0% to 10.2% for the same period. While as by the type of locality, the illiteracy rate in urban localities decreased from 12.8% in 1995 to 5.5% in year 2006, in rural localities it decreased from 18.4% to 8.8%, and in the refugee camps it decreased from 15.5% to 6.3% in the same period.
- In 2006, the illiteracy rate among individuals 15 years and over in the Palestinian Territory reached 6.5%, while it varies considerably between males and females, it is 2.9% for males and 10.2% for female. The findings indicated that the rates in the urban, rural and refugee camps are 5.5%, 8.8% and 6.3% respectively. Where as the illiteracy rates among males in the urban, rural and refugee camps are 2.7%, 3.5% and 2.8% respectively, and among females in the urban 8.4%, rural 14.1% and refugee camps 9.6%.
- The highest illiteracy rate is found among the individuals 65 years and over in comparison with other age groups (59.7%), and it is 0.9% among individuals aged 15-24 years.
- The highest illiteracy rate among individuals 15 years and over in 2006 is in Tubas Area (9.2%), followed by Hebron governorate (8.1%), and the lowest rate is in Gaza governorate (5.4%), while Tulkarm governorate the second lowest (5.6%).
- In the Palestinian Territory, there is 138,265 illiterate persons in the age group 15 years and over in 2006, 91,774 of them are in the West Bank and 46,491 in Gaza Strip, They are distributed by sex as follows: 31,082 males and 107,183 females, and by type of locality they are distributed as follows: 64,744 illiterate person in urban areas, 53,287 illiterate person in rural areas and 20,234 in refugee camps.