

## **The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Release A Report about Olives Presses in the Palestinian Territory, 2004**

- **95,765 tons of pressed olives & 22,106 tons of extracted oil.**
- **US \$ 5,266 thousands the output value of olive presses.**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released a statistical report about olives presses in the Palestinian Territory of the year 2004, which indicated that the total number of olive presses in the Palestinian Territory is 285, of which 242 are operating, while 43 are temporarily closed. The distribution of operating presses by automation level is as follows: 175 full automatic, 67 half automatic and traditional presses. Data indicated that operating presses are concentrated in the Northern part of West Bank, especially in Jenin Governorate and Tubas District.

Results showed that the total quantity of pressed olives in 2004 is 95,765 tons, and quantity of extracted oil is 22,106 tons in 2004, compared with 11,163 tons of oil extracted from 44,573 tons of pressed olives in 2003.

Comparing the extraction rate in the Palestinian Territory of the years 2004 and 2003, results showed that it reached 23.1% in 2004, and 25.0% in 2003, and showed that Qalqiliya Governorate still have the highest percentage with 25.1% in 2004 and 29.0% in 2003, while the lowest percentage of the extraction rate was in Khan Yunis and Rafah Governorates at 17.2% and 19.7% respectively.

Results showed that there is 1,110 employees participated in olive pressing activities in the year 2004, of which 74.1% were paid employees, compared with 954 employees of which 74.0% were paid employees in the year 2003. Concerning compensation of paid employees results showed that it reached US \$ 819 thousands in the year 2004 compared with US \$ 468 thousands in the year 2003.

Results showed an obvious high output value over the years 2000, 2002, and 2004, and the highest output value was US \$ 8,099 thousands in 2000 where it amounted to US \$ 5,266 thousands in 2004. While the years 1999, 2001, and 2003 showed low output value. The value added of olive pressing activity is amounted to US \$ 3,481 thousands in the year 2004 compared with US \$ 1,998 thousands in 2003.

Results showed a reduction in the quantities of olive provided to the presses in this season, due to different reasons, mainly the Israeli measures of imposed siege and closure which led to prevent farmers to commute to their farms to collect the olives, in addition to that their were some quantities of olives were smuggled from certain regions through the green line.

The table below represents the changes occurred on the main indicators for the Olive Presses Activity in the Palestinian Territory for, 1999- 2004:

Quantity in Metric Ton and Value in US \$ 1000

Variable	Year					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total No. of Operating Olive Presses	165	249	194	246	215	242
No. of Olive Presses Temporarily Closed	80	13	68	27	62	43
Quantity of Olive Pressed	15,092	126,149	22,154	124,564	44,573	95,765
Quantity of Oil Extracted	3,436	27,062	5,443	27,744	11,163	22,106
No. of Employees	641	1,406	1,003	1,840	954	1,110
No. of Unpaid Employees	269	435	333	430	248	287
No. of Paid Employees	372	971	670	1,410	706	823
Compensation of Employees	193	1,000	238	950	468	819
Total Olive Presses Revenue	1,335	8,099	2,033	5,819	2,818	5,266
Intermediate Consumption	367	1,352	943	1,752	820	1,785
Gross Value Added	968	6,747	1,090	4,067	1,998	3,481