

# **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

## **Survey on the Perception of the Owner/Managers of the Economic Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, August 2003**

### **The press conference of the survey results**

**September, 2003**

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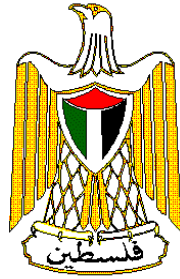
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## **Survey on the Perception of the Owner/Managers of the Economic Establishments Towards the Economic Conditions, August 2003**

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**Press Release**  
**On the Main Findings of the Survey on the Perception of the  
Owners/Managers of the Economic Establishments Towards the Economic  
Conditions, August 2003**

**The situation of one third of the establishments is worse in August compared with  
July 2003, and more than 40% expected a worse situation in the coming month**

PCBS conducted a large-scale pilot survey on the perception of the owners/managers of the economic establishments about the economic conditions. Data collection took place during the period 24/8/2003-04/09/2003 on a sample composed of 318 establishments, of which (160 in West Bank and 158 in Gaza Strip).

**Overall well being of establishments:**

About 34.6% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments in the Palestinian Territory reported that their current economic situation is worse compared with last month, against 19.9% reported better situation.

As for the expectation in the coming month, 42.4% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments expect a worse situation compared with today, (35.9% in West Bank and 53.9% in Gaza Strip), against 21.3% expected a better situation (20.6% in West Bank and 22.5% in Gaza Strip).

These figures indicate that the owners/managers of the surveyed establishments had a pessimistic attitude towards the possibility of having improvements in the current situation on the short run (one month). The main findings of the survey indicate a tangible differences between West Bank and Gaza Strip in this regard, the Gazan owners and managers were more pessimistic compared with the answers of the owners/managers in West Bank.

**Restriction on Mobility:**

About 70.8% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments reported that there was no real difficulties in reaching the place of work in the past month, while this percent was 52.3% in the past six month, and 20.6% reported that workers faced some difficulties to reach place of work in the past month while this percent was 35.8% in the past six months. There was significant differences between the perceptions in West Bank and Gaza Strip, as 94.5% of them in Gaza Strip reported that the mobility was easy in July 2003, while this percent was 87.2% for the past six months, as for West Bank; only 56.8% reported that mobility was easy in July, while this percent was 31.2% for the past six months.

**Level of employment:**

Data reveal that 30.3% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments reported that the employment level will be higher in the coming year and 12.9% of them expect that the level will be higher in the coming month. In the same time, 33.9% of the respondents expect that the level of employment will be lower in the coming month, while 28.4% of the them expect that it will be lower in the coming year.

**Level of sales:**

The main findings of the survey show some optimistic trend in this part as 81.1% of the owners/managers of the economic establishments expect there will an increase in the level of sales of their establishments in the coming month compared with the survey month (August 2003) and 49.8% of the respondents expect that the level of sales will increase in the coming

year compared with the level August 2003. On the other hand, 24.4% of the respondents expected that the level will go down in the coming year.

**Level of Direct Investment:**

The main findings of the survey show that there may be no changes on the level of direct investments in the coming period in general, as 66.4% of the respondents expect that there will be no changes in this field in the coming month compared with August 2003, and 51.4% expect it will be the same case in the coming month, even so 11.0% of the respondents expect positive increase in the coming month compared with August 2003 and 18.5% expect an increase in the level of direct investment in the coming year..