

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

On the eve of the International day of Refugees 20/06/2009

On the eve of the International day of refugees, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released a statistical review on the status of Palestinian Refugees. The main findings are summarized as follows:

- According to UNRWA records Palestinian registered refugees totaled to 4.7 million at end of 2008, of whom 41.8% in Jordan, 23.0% in Gaza Strip, 16.3% in the West Bank, 9.9% in Syria and 9.0% in Lebanon.
- The percentage of Palestinian refugees in the Palestinian Territory 2009, represents 44.1% of the total Palestinian Territory population, of which 30.2% in the West Bank and 69.2 % in Gaza Strip
- Refugees in the Palestinian Territory are characterized as young population, 42.3% of them are under the age of 15 years compared to 41.3% for non-refugees. On the other hand 3.0 % of refugees aged 65 years and over, compared to 3.1% for the non-refugees in the Palestinian Territory for the year 2009.
- The percentage of Palestinian Refugees aged less than 15 years of the total refugee population in Jordan in 2007 reached 35.9%, 33.1% in Syria in 2006, and 32.9% in Lebanon in 2006.
- Total Fertility Rate for refugees in the Palestinian Territory was 4.6 birth per woman for 2007, on the other hand the total fertility rate of the Palestinian refugee women in 2007 in Jordan was 3.3 children compared to 3.6 in Syria and 3.0 in Lebanon in 2006.
- 6.4% of the Palestinian refugees in the West Bank are disabled compared to 4.9% for the non-refugees in 2007.
- Percentage of poor households in refugee camps in the Palestinian Territory is 47.7%.
- Unemployment Rate of Palestinian refugees 15 years and over in the Palestinian Territory during the first quarter 2009, was 30.6% compared with 22.0% for non refugee.
- Approximately 67.2% of the employed persons are wage employees (74.6% for refugees and 62.7% for non-refugees). The percentage of those who own their business is 19.1% (15.8% for refugees and 21.0% for non-refugees).

- Illiteracy rate of Palestinian refugees 15 years and over in the Palestinian Territory in the 2008, was 5.4% compared with 6.4% for non - refugee.
- Illiteracy rate among Palestinian refugees in Jordan refugee camps in 2000 was approximately 17.6%, in Syria the rate in 2006 was 16.5%, and in Lebanon the rate in 2006 was almost 25.5%.
- Drop-out rate for refugees aged 6 years and above at schools in the Palestinian Territory in 2008 reached 20.4% (21.4% for males and 19.3% for females) compared to 25.0% for the non-refugees (26.5% for males and 23.5% for females).
- Percentage of refugees households which owns their housing unit in the Palestinian Territory in 2008, was 85.0% compared with 87.3% for non - refugees.
- Percentage of refugees households which owns private car in the Palestinian Territory in 2008, was 17.8% compared with 25.3% for non - refugees.