The Palestinian central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

E-crime is recognized   as a virtual crime of any committed offense against individuals or groups and to be motivated by a criminal intent as of a material or moral abuse, whether it comes directly or indirectly, and done by using a modern means of communication such as the Internet.

More than half of young people in Palestine are using the internet

Studies indicated that increasing percentages of uses of the Internet and computers among members of a community would lead to the emergence of electronic crime. The percentage of Internet usage in Palestine reached nearly to one-third of the population (30.4%) in 2011 compared with 9.2% in 2004. The percentage of Internet usage reached 30.6% in the West Bank, and 30.0% in Gaza Strip in 2011. As well as more than half of young people in Palestine (15-29 years old) use the Internet (55.0%) compared with five percent in 2004

More than half of Internet users were exposed to Informatics threats

Data of the household survey of ICT in 2011 indicated that more than half of individuals of the Internet users (aged 10 years and above) were subjected to varied threats of information 53.7%, and differences were clear between the West Bank at 49.1%, and Gaza Strip at 61.9%. This percentage was varied at the governorate level to reach its maximum of about 70% in Tulkarm and KhanYounis, and the lowest was in Salfit by 18.3%

Varying percentages of exposure to IT threats by its nature

The nature of these informatics threats like entering viruses through the Internet at 47.0%, the dissemination of indecent and inappropriate contents at 13.1%, disrupting and sabotaging of data at 9.3%, and the theft of personal data of 7.3%, and theft of credit card at 1.1%

The percentages of exposure to IT threats over the Internet were varied between the West Bank and Gaza Strip according to the nature of these threats. West Bank recorded the highest percentage with regard to the dissemination of indecent and inappropriate contents at 15.8% compared with 8.5% in Gaza strip, theft of personal data at 8.2% compared with 5.7%,   theft of credit card 1.6% compared with 0.1% in Gaza Strip.

Gaza Strip recorded the highest percentages with regard to the online entry of viruses at 55.9% compared with 41.9% in the West bank, as well as disrupting and sabotaging of data at 10.5% compared with 8.6% in the West Bank

Also, data indicated that there was a gender disparity in percentages of the nature of exposure to these IT threats ; as the percentage of women who were exposed to   theft of credit card reached 1.8% compared with 0.5% for males, as well as   women who were subjected to disrupting and sabotaging of data at 10.3% compared with 8.6% for males

It should be noted that the percentage of people who use the Internet in financial and banking services amounted to 4.9% while the percentage of those who use the Internet for e-commerce and online shopping reached 3.4%