

## **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)**

### **On the Eve of the International Population Day 11/7/2013**

On the Eve of International Population Day, the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released the following statistical review on the status of the Palestinian Population

#### **The Estimated Population of Palestine at mid 2013 was about 4.42 Million**

Based on estimates prepared by PCBS according to the results of the Population, Housing and Establishment Census of 2007, the total population of Palestine at mid 2013 was about 4.42 million; 2.24 million males and 2.18 million females. The estimated population of West Bank was 2.72 million of which 1.38 million males and 1.34 million females. While the estimated population of Gaza Strip totaled 1.70 million of which 864 thousand males and 837 thousand females. The percentage of urban population in mid-year 2013 was 73.8%, while the percentage of population in rural and camps areas was 16.8% and 9.4% respectively.

#### **Palestinian Population in Gaza Strip is Younger than the West Bank Population**

Data revealed that the population of Palestine is a young population; the percentage of individuals aged (0-14) constituted 40.1% of the total population at mid 2013 of which 38.0% in the West Bank and 43.4% in Gaza Strip. The elderly population aged (65 years and over ) constituted 2.9% of the total population of which 3.2% in the West Bank and 2.4% in Gaza Strip of mid 2013.

#### **High Population Density in Gaza Strip**

Population density of Palestine is generally high at 734 persons/ Km<sup>2</sup> , particularly in Gaza Strip is 4,661 persons/km<sup>2</sup> compared to lower population density in the West Bank at 481 persons/Km<sup>2</sup> at mid 2013 .

#### **High Fertility Rates in Palestine**

According to results of Family Health survey 2010, the total fertility rate in Palestine had declined to 4.4 births (2008-2009) compared to 6.0 births in 1997. At the regional level, the fertility rate in Gaza Strip is higher than West Bank during the period between (1997-2009), where it reached 4.0 births during the period between (2008-2009) in the West Bank compared to 5.6 births in 1997. While it reached 5.2 births in Gaza Strip during the period between (2008-2009) compared to 6.9 births in 1997.

#### **Decline in Crude Birth and Death Rates During (2013-2015)**

Population projections revealed that crude birth rate in Palestine is expected to drop from 32.6 births per one thousand of the population in 2013 to 31.9 births in 2015. On the other hand, it expected crude death rate to decline from 3.8 deaths per one 1000 of the population in 2013 to 3.6 deaths per 1000 in 2015 in Palestine.

#### **Decline in the Average Household Size**

Data revealed a decline in the average of households size in Palestine during the period between (1997-2012) from 6.4 persons in 1997 to 5.5 in 2012. This average declined in the West Bank from 6.1 persons in 1997 to 5.2 in 2012, while it declined in Gaza Strip from 6.9 persons to 6.2 for the same period.

### **One Household out of ten Households Headed by a Female**

Data of 2012 showed that 9.6% of households were headed by females in Palestine as of 10.4% and 7.9% in the West Bank and Gaza Strip respectively, the size of female-headed households were relatively small, with an average size of 2.9 persons compared to 5.9 persons for male-headed households.  
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### **Females Participation Rate in Labour Force is very Low Compared to Males in 1st Quarter of 2013**

Participation in labour force is a key indicator of the extent of labour market activity and effectiveness in providing job opportunities. The results of labour force survey revealed that the labour force participation rate in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2013 is 43.4% of the total labour force (Persons aged 15 years and above) of which 45.0% in the West Bank and 40.5% in Gaza strip. The females participation rate in labour force is very low compared to males participation rate in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2013 is 17.1% of which 18.0% in the West Bank and 15.4% in Gaza Strip, against 69.0% for males; of which 71.3% in the West Bank and 65.0% in Gaza Strip.

### **About One Fourth of Participants in the Labour Force were Unemployed (23.9%) in the First Quarter of 2013**

The results showed that more than one fourth of participants in the labour force were unemployed in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2013 at 23.9% as of 20.3% in the West Bank and 31.0% in Gaza Strip. Unemployment rate reached 35.3% among females compared to 21.2% among males.

### **More Than One Third of Total Expenditure Spending on Food**

The results of the Palestinian expenditure and consumption survey of 2011 revealed that the average monthly household expenditure on various goods and services amounted to 945.4 JDs in Palestine as of 1,058.4 JDs in the West Bank compared to 729.3 JD in Gaza Strip) for an average size of households in Palestine 6.0 persons (5.7 persons in the West Bank and 6.6 persons in the Gaza Strip). The major share of cash expenditure was on food at 34.5% of the total expenditure (32.7% in the West Bank compared with 39.4% in Gaza Strip).

### **The Poverty Rate Among Individuals in Gaza Strip Higher than in the West Bank**

The relative poverty line and the deep poverty line according to consumption patterns (for reference household consisted of 2 adults and 3 children) in Palestine in 2011 were 2,293 NIS, and 1,832 NIS respectively. The poverty rate among Palestinian individuals was 25.8% (17.8% in the West Bank, and 38.8% in Gaza Strip). Data revealed that 12.9% of the individuals in Palestine were suffering from deep poverty in 2010 according to consumption patterns. (7.8% in the West Bank, and 21.1% in Gaza Strip).

### **10.0% of Individuals (15 years and above) did not Complete any Stage of Education**

The 2012 data revealed that the percentage of individuals (15 years and over) who completed university education (A bachelor degree and above) was 11.7%. while the percentage of individuals who did not complete any stage of education reached 10.0%.

### **Female Illiteracy Rate was more than three Times Higher than that of Males**

Illiteracy rate among individuals aged 15 years and over in Palestine was 4.1% in 2012, illiteracy gap is significantly noticed among males and females at 1.8% and 6.4% respectively.

### **Half of Households have a Computer**

The percentage of households that have personal computers in 2012 in Palestine was 51.4% of which 55.2% in the West Bank and 44.2% in Gaza Strip.

### **Three out of ten Households in Palestine had Internet Access**

Available data indicated that 32.1% of households in Palestine had Internet access in 2012 of which 34.3% in the West Bank and 27.9% in Gaza Strip. The data showed that 39.4% of individuals (10 years and over) were using Internet, this percentage varies significantly between males and females at 44.3% and 34.3% respectively in 2011.

### **Decline in the Percentage of Unsafe Deliveries**

In 2010, 0.8% of deliveries in Palestine occurred at home or in other unsafe places; 1.2% in the West Bank compared to 0.3% in Gaza Strip. while the percentage was 5.2% in Palestine in 2000.

### **High Rate of Anti-Natal and Natal Care**

In 2010, 94.0% of married women aged 15-49 in Palestine reported receiving health care (4 visit at least) from qualified personnel during their last pregnancy: 92.7% in the West Bank and 95.7% in Gaza Strip.

### **Disability Rate is Higher in the West Bank than in Gaza Strip**

About 113 thousand people with disabilities in Palestine of which 75 thousand in the West Bank, or 2.7% of the total population in the West Bank; and 38 thousand in the Gaza Strip; or 2.4% of the total population in the Gaza Strip are with disabilities. And the ratio was 2.9% among males and 2.5% among females within Palestine.

### **More than Three-Quarters of Housing Units in Palestine Owned by a Family Member**

In 2012, the percentage of Palestinian households that a family member owned a housing unit was about 77.0% of which 73.8% in the West Bank and 83.0% in Gaza Strip, while the percentage of households who were living in a rented houses in Palestine was 10.6% of which 12.5% in the West Bank and 7.0% in Gaza Strip.

### **92.0% of Palestinian Households Connected to Water Public Network as Main Source**

Available data for 2012 showed that 92.0% of households in Palestine lived in houses that supplied with drinking water from public network of which 92.9% in the West Bank and 90.2% in Gaza Strip. Moreover, the majority of households in Palestine lived in houses connected to the electricity network at 99.4%.

### **More Than Half of Palestinian Families Living in Houses Connected to Public Sewerage Network**

About 42.3% of Palestinian households were living in houses connected to cesspits. where waste water disposed through of which 51.4% in the West Bank and 25.0% in Gaza Strip. While there were 57.4% of Palestinian households were living in houses connected to public sewage network of which 48.1% in the West Bank compared with 75.0% in Gaza Strip.