



SOCIO-ECONOMIC REPORT

APRIL 2012

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The UNSCO Socio-Economic Report is also accessible on www.unsco.org.

Since 1996 UNSCO has continually monitored and reported on socio-economic conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and, in the process, established an extensive socio-economic database. UNSCO does not produce primary data but rather makes use of available data, that in the oPt are relatively abundant. The information that is available, however, often remains dispersed and is not automatically shared between institutions. The objective of the database is to collate a wide range of social and economic indicators in one location, and, through the report, present a broad perspective of socio-economic conditions in the oPt.

The purpose of the present report is to: 1) broaden the access to the information contained in the database through publication of the most recent data gathered; and 2) provide readers with up-to-date information on short term changes in socio-economic conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory.

The report is divided into seven sections, as follows:

Section I. consists of a one-page fact sheet that provides a snapshot view of the socio-economic situation for the current and previous reporting periods.

Sections II. and III. report on the macro-economic and fiscal situation, and sections IV. and V. give an overview of developments in the banking and private sectors, respectively. Section VI. deals with trade, and Section VII. is dedicated to issues on Gaza.

Two annexes provide detailed reference information. Annex A presents detailed statistical reference tables, and Annex B lists the main socio-economic terms used in this report along with their corresponding definitions.

Topics of current interest are analyzed in-depth in periodic "Supplements".

Most sections provide data on the six preceding reporting periods for each indicator and a reference period.

Note: The data for the West Bank and the oPt in this report do not include occupied East Jerusalem unless otherwise specified.

I. SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACT SHEET - APRIL 2012

| Key macroeconomic indicators | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Production | | Q2/2000 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Change in Q4/2011 (%) |
| GDP (constant 2004 prices, US\$ million) | | a/ | 1,606 ^{b/} | 1,642 ^{b/} | 2.2 ^{b/} |
| GDP rate of change (year-on-year, constant 2004 prices, %) | | a/ | 11.8 ^{b/} | 11.2 ^{b/} | ---- |
| GDP per capita (annualized, constant 2004 prices, US\$) | | a/ | 1,630 ^{b/} | 1,652 ^{b/} | 1.3 ^{b/} |
| Prices | | Aug 2000 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 | Year-on-year (Apr 2012) |
| Change in prices (CPI, %) | Total ^{c/} | -0.9 | 0.3 | -0.2 | 2.9 |
| | East Jerusalem | -1.1 | 0.2 | -0.3 | 2.9 |
| | West Bank | -0.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 4.0 |
| | Gaza Strip | -0.8 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Labor market | | Q2/2000 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 | Change in Q1/2012 (%) |
| Labor force (thousands) | Total | 706.2 | 1,111.2 | 1,094.5 | -1.5 |
| | West Bank | 483.8 | 754.9 | 731.2 | -3.1 |
| | Gaza Strip | 222.4 | 356.3 | 363.3 | 2.0 |
| Unemployment rate (%) | Total | 8.8 | 21.0 | 23.9 | ---- |
| | West Bank | 6.5 | 16.6 | 20.1 | ---- |
| | Gaza Strip | 13.8 | 30.3 | 31.5 | ---- |
| Adjusted unemployment rate (%) | Total | 18.5 | 24.8 | 27.4 | ---- |
| | West Bank | 15.8 | 20.5 | 24.1 | ---- |
| | Gaza Strip | 24.2 | 33.8 | 34.1 | ---- |
| Public sector | | | | | |
| | | Jan 2011 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 | Change in Apr 2012 (%) |
| Government total net revenue (cash basis, NIS million) | | 605.9 | 680.1 | 574.8 | -15.5 |
| Government w age expenditure (cash basis, NIS million) | | 499.6 | 507.4 | 572.4 | 12.8 |
| Government non-w age expenditure (cash basis, NIS million) | | 223.0 | 234.8 | 390.7 | 66.4 |
| Government net lending (cash basis, NIS million) | | 42.4 | 48.0 | 40.2 | -16.3 |
| Government balance (cash basis, NIS million) | | -171.3 | -199.8 | -467.4 | 133.9 |
| External budget support (NIS million) | | 113.3 | 510.1 | 526.1 | 3.1 |
| Banking sector | | | | | |
| | | Q2/2000 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 | Change in Q1/2012 (%) |
| Bank credit (US\$ million) | | 1,234 | 3,553 | 3,658 | 3.0 |
| Bank deposits (US\$ million) | | 3,328 | 6,972 | 7,045 | 1.0 |
| Loan-to-deposit ratio (%) | | 37.1 | 51.0 | 51.9 | ---- |
| Private sector | | | | | |
| | | Aug 2000 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 | Change in Apr 2012 (%) |
| New company registrations | Total | 231 | 143 | 123 | -14.0 |
| | West Bank | 137 | 108 | 96 | -11.1 |
| | Gaza Strip | 94 | 35 | 27 | -22.9 |
| Area licensed for new construction (thousand m ²) | Total | 530.3 | a/ | a/ | a/ |
| | West Bank | 345.7 | 286.5 | 357.1 | 24.6 |
| | Gaza Strip | 184.6 | a/ | a/ | a/ |
| Gaza Strip | | | | | |
| Truck movement | | Aug 2000 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 | Change in Apr 2012 (%) |
| Gaza Strip imports (truckloads) ^{d/} | Karni (conveyor belt/chute) | 4,373 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | Sufa | 4,384 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | Rafah | 953 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | Kerem Shalom | 0 | 3,653 | 4,123 | 12.9 |
| | Kerem Shalom (fuel) | 0 | 97 | 203 | 109.3 |
| | Nahal Oz | 904 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Gaza Strip exports (truckloads) ^{d/} | Karni | 2,460 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | Kerem Shalom | 0 | 22 | 18 | -18.2 |
| Closure | | Aug 2000 | Complete closure-Apr 2012 | Partial closure-Apr 2012 | |
| Effective closure days (%) | Karni (conveyor belt) | 0 | 100 | 0 | |
| | Kerem Shalom | n.a. | 21 | 0 | |
| | Nahal Oz (fuel) | 0 | 100 | 0 | |
| | Sufa (aggregates) | 0 | 100 | 0 | |
| | Rafah (commercial) | 0 | 100 | 0 | |
| | Rafah (passenger) | 0 | 17 | 83 | |

Sources: PCBS: production, prices, labor market; MoF: public sector; PMA: banking sector; MoNE: new company registrations; Engineering Offices and Consulting Firms: area licensed for new construction; MoNE and General Petroleum Corporation: Gaza truck movement; UNSCO: closure and Gaza truck movement.

a/ Data not available.

b/ Preliminary data.

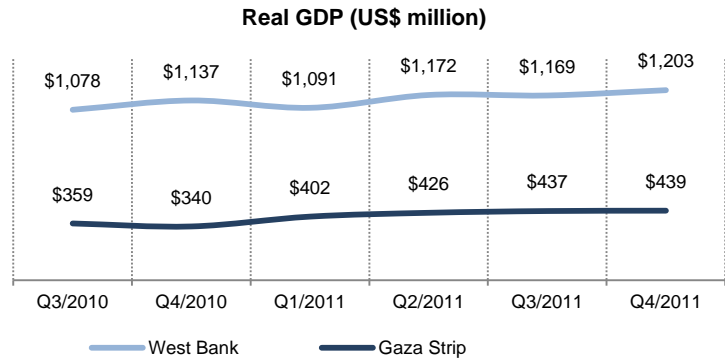
c/ Includes data for occupied East Jerusalem.

d/ MoNE data for August 2000 do not include aggregates or aid flows.

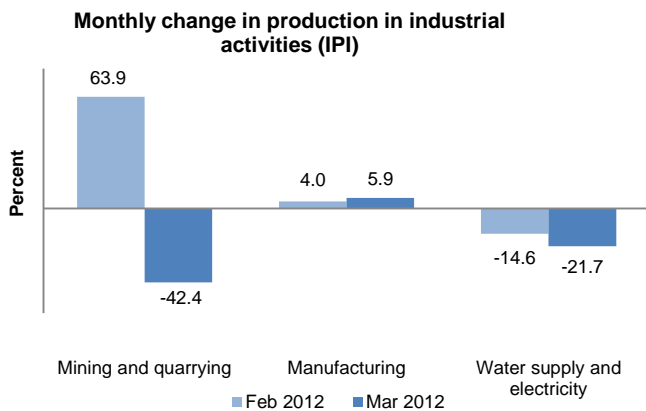
II. MACRO-ECONOMIC SITUATION

II.a Production

Real GDP grew by 2% in Q4/2011 compared to the previous quarter, and it was 11% higher than in Q4/2010. In Q4/2011, real GDP increased by 3% in the West Bank and by less than 1% in the Gaza Strip. Real GDP reached US\$1,642 million in Q4/2011 (US\$2,213 million in nominal terms), of which US\$1,203 million was generated in the West Bank and US\$439 million in the Gaza Strip. Overall, real GDP grew by 11% in 2011 compared to 2010.



Source: PCBS.
Note: Base year is 2004.

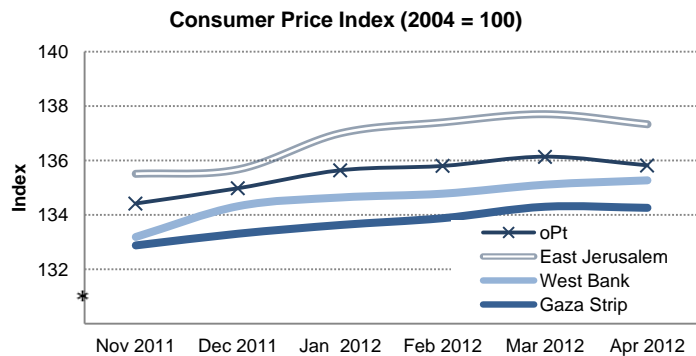


Source: PCBS.

The Industrial Production Index (IPI), used to gauge short-term changes in productive activity, decreased by 2.8% in March 2012 compared to the previous month. Productive activity in the mining and quarrying sector (which has a share of 4.6% in the IPI) decreased by 42.4% in March 2012 and by 21.7% in the water supply and electricity sector (with a share of 14.9%). The manufacturing sector (with a share of 80.6%), on the other hand, increased by 5.9% during the same month.

II.b Prices

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), used to measure inflation, decreased by 0.2% in April 2012 compared to the previous month, while it increased by 2.9% compared to April 2011. The highest price rises in April 2012 were in housing, transportation and in recreational, cultural goods and services. Food and soft drinks, furniture and household goods, restaurants, cafes and hotels, and medical care became cheaper on average.

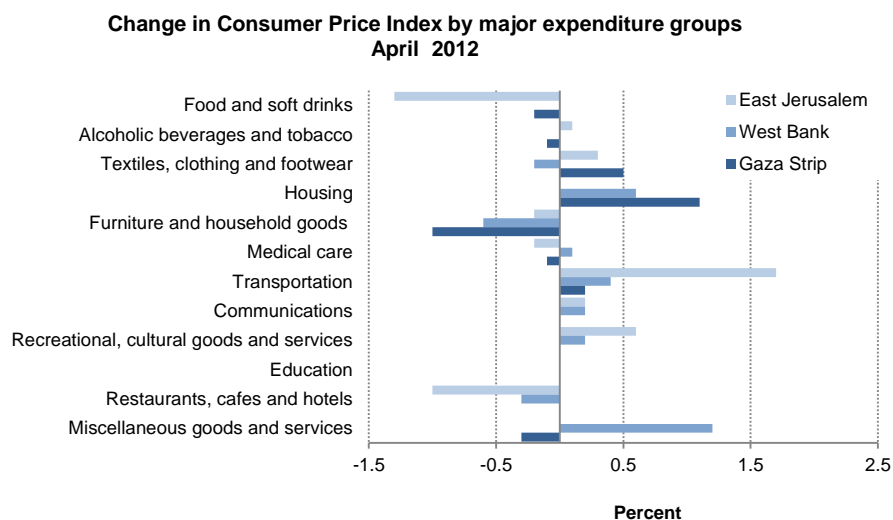


Source: PCBS.
Note: Base year is 2004.

The CPI increased by 0.1% in the West Bank in April 2012 compared to the previous month, due mainly to increases in the prices of miscellaneous goods and services, housing, transportation, communications, and recreational, cultural goods and services. The average cost of furniture and household goods, restaurants, cafes and hotels, and textiles, clothing and footwear decreased the most during the month.

In East Jerusalem the CPI decreased by 0.3%, due mainly to lower prices of food and soft drinks, in restaurants, cafés and hotels and for furniture and household goods. Average prices in the categories of transportation, recreational, cultural goods and services, and textiles, clothing and footwear increased the most during the month.

The CPI in the Gaza Strip decreased slightly in April 2012. Prices decreased the most in the categories for furniture and household goods, miscellaneous goods and services, and food and soft drinks. The prices of housing, textiles, clothing and footwear saw the biggest increases during the month, followed by the prices of transportation.



Source: PCBS.
Note: Base year is 2004.

II.c Exchange rates

The New Israeli Shekel (NIS) rose against both the US dollar and the Euro in April 2012. The Jordanian Dinar (JOD) also rose against the Euro while its exchange rate to the US dollar remained fixed at 0.71.

Average monthly exchange rates

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| NIS/US\$ | 4.05 | 3.73 | 3.77 | 3.81 | 3.74 | 3.76 | 3.75 |
| NIS/Euro | 3.66 | 5.05 | 4.97 | 4.92 | 4.95 | 4.97 | 4.94 |
| JOD/US\$ | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 |
| JOD/Euro | 0.64 | 0.96 | 0.93 | 0.91 | 0.94 | 0.94 | 0.93 |

Source: Bank of Israel, Central Bank of Jordan.

II.d Labor market

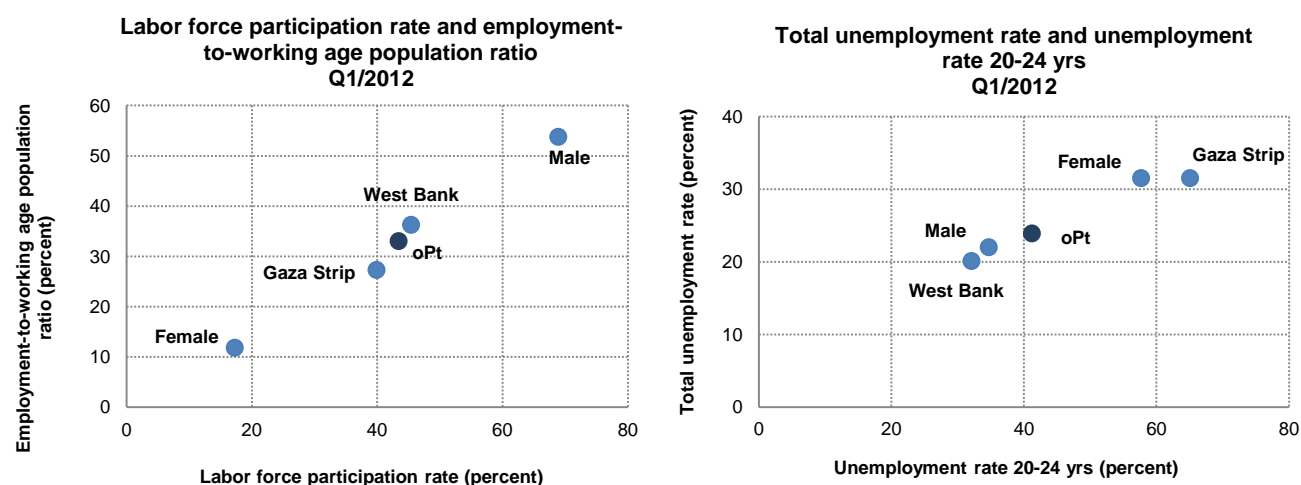
In Q1/2012, 43% of persons aged 15 years and above, or approximately 1.1 million persons, participated in the labor force, including about 731,200 people in the West Bank and 363,300 in the Gaza Strip. The labor force participation rate in the West Bank in Q1/2012 decreased by two percentage points to 45%, and it remained slightly below 40% in the Gaza Strip.

Labor force participation rate (%)
(Labor force in thousands)

| | Q2/2000 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| West Bank | 45.3 (483.8) | 44.5 (686.5) | 43.2 (672.7) | 45.3 (711.1) | 46.2 (732.1) | 47.3 (754.9) | 45.4 (731.2) |
| Gaza Strip | 40.1 (222.4) | 36.3 (314.7) | 37.0 (324.2) | 38.1 (336.8) | 39.0 (348.7) | 39.5 (356.3) | 39.9 (363.3) |
| oPt | 43.5 (706.2) | 41.5 (1001.2) | 41.0 (996.9) | 42.7 (1047.9) | 43.6 (1080.8) | 44.4 (1111.2) | 43.4 (1094.5) |

Source: PCBS.

The number of people employed relative to the working age population and the labor force participation rate continue to be higher in the West Bank than in Gaza, and both are considerably higher for men than for women. Male labor force participation decreased by one percentage point to 69% in Q1/2012 compared to the previous quarter, and it decreased by almost two percentage points for women to reach 17%, thus widening the existing gap.



Source: PCBS.

The labor force decreased by almost 17,000 in Q1/2012 persons but the number of people employed decreased by close to 45,000 persons, resulting in an increase of three percentage points, to 24%, in the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate in the West Bank was 20% in Q1/2012 after an increase of three percentage points, and in Gaza, it was 32% due to an increase of more than one percentage point. Unemployment for men increased by three percentage points to 22%, whereas the unemployment rate for women increased by more than four percentage points to 32%, increasing the existing gap between the sexes. For people between 20 and 24 years of age, the unemployment rate increased by three percentage points to 41%. In the West Bank, the unemployment rate for this age group increased from 28% to 32%, and in the Gaza Strip from 57% to 58%.

Average daily wages (excluding for those working in Israel and Israeli settlements) increased by almost NIS1 to NIS79 in Q1/2012. Average wages in the West Bank decreased by NIS1 to NIS85 during the quarter and those in Gaza increased by NIS3 to NIS64. Average wages in the private sector fell by NIS1 to NIS67 and they increased by NIS1 in the public sector to NIS91.

Average daily wages (NIS)

| | Sex | | Geographical area of employment | | Sector | |
|--------------------|--------|------|---------------------------------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Female | Male | West Bank | Gaza Strip | Private sector | Public sector |
| Average daily wage | 81 | 78 | 85 | 64 | 67 | 91 |

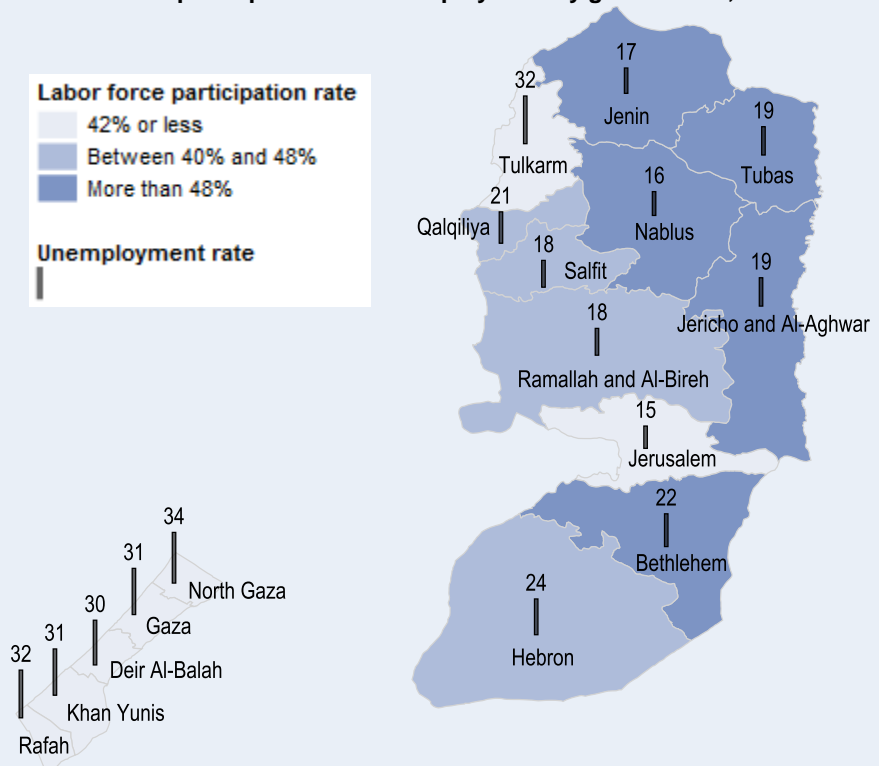
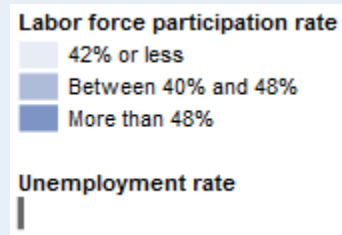
Source: PCBS.

Employment situation by governorate

Forty-three percent of those aged 15 years and above were economically active in the oPt in Q1/2012. The labor force participation rate was 45% in the West Bank, varying at the governorate level from a low of 34% in Jerusalem to a high of 57% in Tubas. In the Gaza Strip, where only 40% of those aged 15 years and above were economically active, the rate showed less variation, ranging between 39% in North Gaza and Deir-Al Balah and 42% in Rafah.

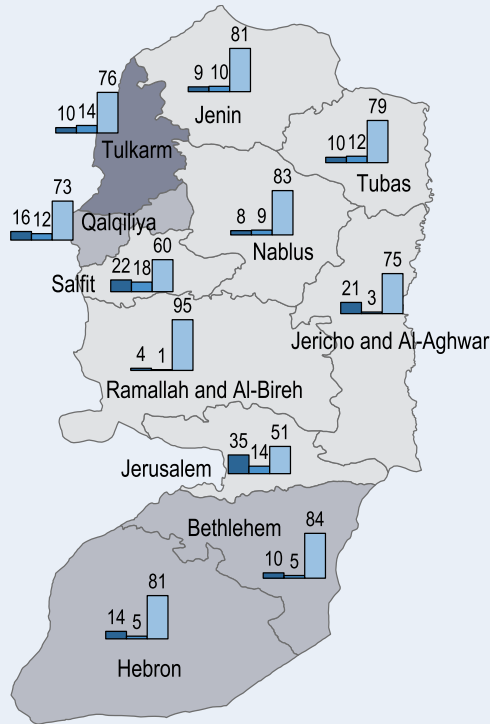
Of those in the labor force, 24% were without employment during the quarter. The unemployment rate was 20% in the West Bank but reflected significant variations between governorates. Jerusalem experienced the lowest unemployment rate, 15%, followed by Nablus with 16% and Jenin with 17%, while Tulkarm reported the highest unemployment rate in the West Bank, 32%, followed distantly by Hebron with 24%. In Gaza, on the contrary, where the lack of employment affected 32% of economically active persons, the unemployment rate was evenly high in all governorates, ranging from 30% in Deir Al-Balah to 34% in North Gaza.

Labor force participation and unemployment by governorate, Q1/2012



Overall, 81% of employed persons in the oPt in Q1/2012 worked in the same governorate where they lived, whereas 10% worked in a different governorate and 9% worked in Israel or Israeli settlements in the West Bank, including Jerusalem. In the West Bank, the Ramallah and Al-Bireh governorate presented an uncharacteristic situation where 95% of workers were employed in the governorate, and only 4% worked in Israel and Israeli settlements and 1% worked in another governorate. Jerusalem and Salfit showed a contrasting situation, with only 51% and 60% of employed persons working in the governorate, respectively. At the same time, 35% and 22% of persons from Jerusalem and Salfit worked in Israel or Israeli settlements, and 14% and 18% worked in another governorate, respectively.

Unemployment and location of employment by governorate



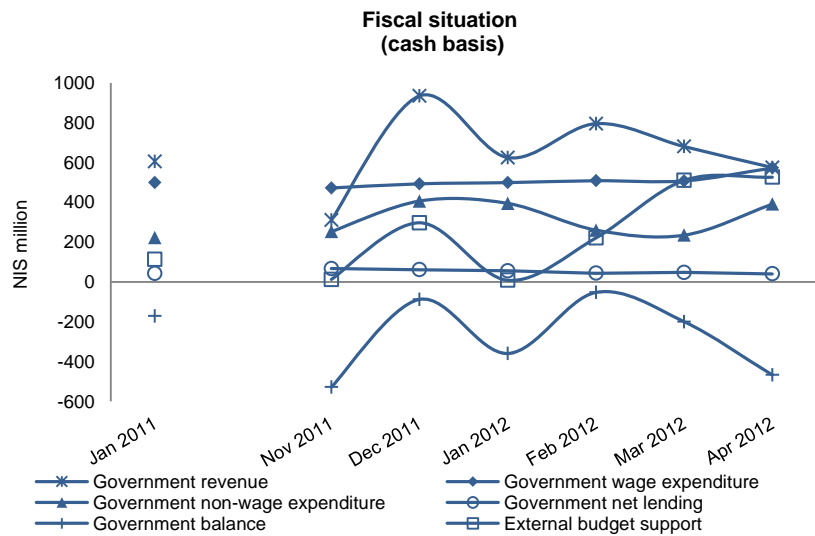
Significant variations are also observed at the governorate level in Gaza, whose residents do not have the possibility to work in either Israel or Israeli settlements in the West Bank. In particular, the highest proportion of workers who work in the same governorate where they live was observed in the Gaza governorate (97%), and the lowest in North Gaza (68%).

Note: The totals may not be exactly equal to the sum of percentages dues to rounding.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

III. PUBLIC SECTOR

Government net revenue (cash basis) decreased by 16% in April 2012 compared to the previous month, and decreased by 8% compared to April 2011, reaching NIS574.8 million. Non-tax revenue, which represents only 10% of total net revenue, was 19% higher than in the previous month and decreased by 55% from the April 2011 level. Tax revenue, which represents 19% of total net revenue, fell by 36% in April 2012 and was 3% lower than in April 2011. Clearance revenue, which accounts for 70% of total net revenue, decreased by 12% in April 2012 but was 6% higher than in April 2011.

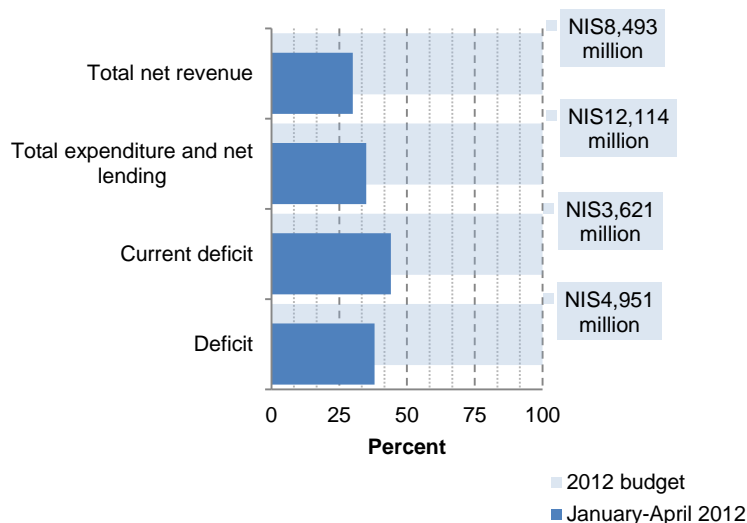


Source: Ministry of Finance.

Note: This graph updates information from previous months with information available as of 15 May 2012.

Total expenditure plus net lending reached NIS1,003.3 million in April 2012. Government wage expenditure increased in April 2012 and was 8% higher than in April 2011. Non-wage expenditure increased by 66% in April 2012. The government's net lending decreased by 16% in April 2012, reaching a level 5% lower than in April 2011. The resulting current deficit amounted to NIS428.5 million, which is considerably greater than the NIS110.1 million current deficit of March, as well as the current deficit seen in April 2011. Similarly, the overall deficit (after development expenditure) reached NIS467.4 million at the end of April 2012 – a level higher than the NIS199.8 million of March 2012, as well as the NIS350.1 million of April 2011. External budgetary support reached NIS526.1 million in the month.

Fiscal revenue, expenditure and deficit in January-April 2012 compared to 2012 budget



The PA's 2012 approved budget amounts to NIS13,444 million, based on a projected total net revenue of NIS8,493 million, and total expenditure plus net lending of NIS12,114 million. Four months into the year, the PA's total revenue equaled 30% of the annual budgeted amount, and total expenditure plus net lending equaled 35%. The current deficit reached 44% of the annual budgeted amount. Due to relatively low development expenditure the overall deficit was 38% of the annual budgeted amount. External budgetary support at the end of April 2012 had reached 33% of the annual budgeted amount.

Source: Ministry of Finance.
 Note: This graph updates information from previous months with information available as of 15 May 2012.

IV. BANKING SECTOR

Information on bank credit, particularly credit to productive sectors, gives an indication of economic progress and business confidence. In Q1/2012, the volume of credit increased by 3% to US\$3,658 million compared to the previous quarter. Most of bank credit is in the form of loans, and their size relative to total bank credit decreased by about one percentage point to reach 70% in Q1/2012. At the same time, the proportion of overdrafts in total credit increased, while the proportion of leasing did not change (see further details in Table A4 in Annex A).

Distribution of bank credit by type (%)
 (Bank credit by type in million US\$)

| | Q1/2008 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2010 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Loans | 59.9 (1,061) | 68.8 (1,986) | 69.9 (2,204) | 67.3 (2,354) | 72.7 (2,387) | 71.3 (2,534) | 70.1 (2,566) |
| Overdrafts | 39.5 (701) | 30.9 (893) | 29.9 (943) | 32.5 (1,138) | 27.1 (890) | 28.4 (1,010) | 29.6 (1,083) |
| Leasing | 0.6 (11) | 0.3 (8) | 0.2 (7) | 0.2 (8) | 0.3 (8) | 0.2 (9) | 0.2 (9) |
| Total | 100.0 (1,773) | 100.0 (2,887) | 100.0 (3,155) | 100.0 (3,500) | 100.0 (3,285) | 100.0 (3,553) | 100.0 (3,658) |

Source: PMA.

Note: The totals may not be exactly equal to the sum of percentages due to rounding.

Q1/2012 saw an increase of 1% in total bank deposits. Public sector deposits, which account for 8% of total deposits, decreased by 3% during the quarter, while private sector deposits increased by 1%. Deposits from residents, which account for 97% of total private sector deposits, increased by 1% and those of non-residents increased by close to 4%.

Distribution of bank deposits (in million US\$)

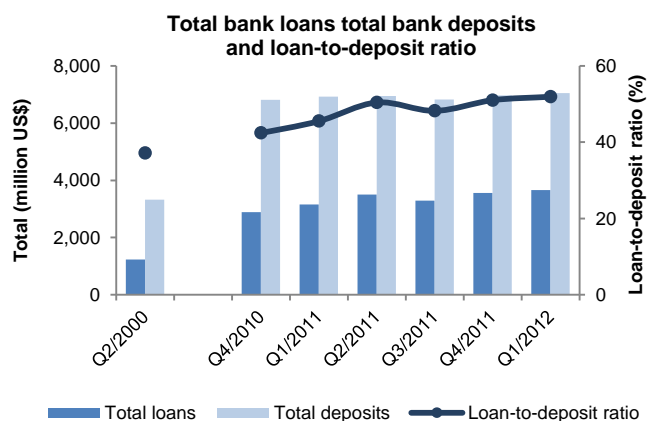
| | Q2/2000 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Public institutions and local authorities | 56.5 | 159.2 | 160.7 | 156.5 | 152.7 | 147.4 | 146.5 |
| Government | 115.1 | 534.1 | 534.3 | 399.8 | 370.1 | 437.1 | 419.6 |
| Total public sector deposits | 171.6 | 693.3 | 695.0 | 556.3 | 522.9 | 584.5 | 566.1 |
| Residents | 3,082.6 | 5,947.6 | 6,053.0 | 6,204.3 | 6,095.6 | 6,192.3 | 6,276.1 |
| Non-residents | 14.6 | 171.9 | 180.6 | 189.7 | 202.1 | 195.7 | 203.2 |
| Total private sector deposits | 3,097.2 | 6,119.5 | 6,233.7 | 6,394.0 | 6,297.7 | 6,388.0 | 6,479.3 |
| Total deposits (public and private sectors) | 3,268.8 | 6,812.9 | 6,928.7 | 6,950.4 | 6,820.5 | 6,972.5 | 7,045.4 |

Source: PMA

Note: Data do not include deposits of the PMA and commercial banks.

Current accounts are the main form of deposits for residents and non-residents, as well as for the government. (See further details in Table A5 in Annex A).

The amount of loans relative to deposits gives an idea of the liquidity of the banking system. In a functioning economy, a relative increase in loans versus deposits (within limits) can be perceived as a positive sign, as monies are not saved but invested or consumed, which in turn stimulates the economy. In oPt, the loan-to-deposit ratio increased from 51% to 52% in Q1/2012. (See further details in Table A6 in Annex A.)



Source: PMA.

V. PRIVATE SECTOR

In April 2012, the area licensed for new construction in the West Bank was 25% higher than in the previous month. Data for Gaza for April 2012 have not been released. (See further details in Table A8 in Annex A.)

Area licensed for new construction (thousand square meters)

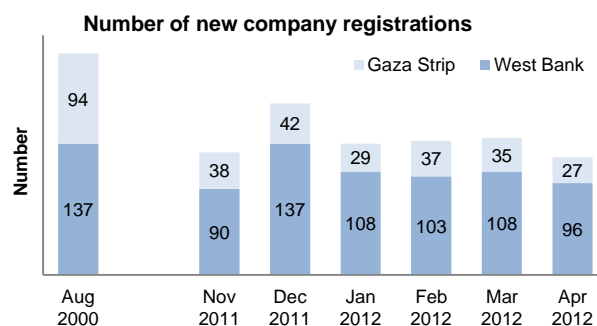
| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| West Bank | 345,685 | 199,528 | 1,019,779 | 238,105 | 224,791 | 286,463 | 357,058 |
| Gaza Strip | 184,577 | 547,640 | 651,620 | 620,150 | 561,780 | a/ | a/ |

Source: Engineering Offices and Consulting Firms.

a/ Data not available.

There were 12 fewer new company registrations in the West Bank in April 2012 than in the previous month, for a total of 96.

In Gaza, 27 new companies registered in April 2012, 8 less in the March 2012. (See further details in Table A7 in Annex A.)



Source: Ministry of National Economy.

The Palestine Securities Exchange was listed on the exchange on 4 April 2012, bringing the total of companies currently listed to 47. These companies are from five main economic sectors (banking and financial services, insurance, investments, industry, and services). At the end of April 2012, market capitalization was close to US\$2.8 billion.

Securities trade

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Number of shares traded (million) | 7.00 | 5.6 | 16.6 | 18.1 | 13.9 | 15.4 | 13.7 |
| Value of shares traded (million US\$) | 13.0 | 12.7 | 47.0 | 31.5 | 25.9 | 38.3 | 31.3 |
| Al-Quds index | 265.23 | 471.77 | 476.93 | 476.18 | 482.22 | 486.71 | 467.41 |

Source: Palestine Securities Exchange.

In April 2012, the number of shares traded decreased by 11% and the value of shares traded decreased by 18% compared to the previous month. Of the 35 companies traded in the month, 7 were gainers, 21 were decliners and 7 companies were stable. The Al-Quds index decreased by 4% in April 2012.

The majority of owners/managers of active industrial enterprises in the West Bank are satisfied with many governmental services provided. Some 70% are satisfied with electricity supply and 75% with the supply of water. The levels of satisfaction were lower but still high with the quality of roads, the ease of obtaining necessary permits and licenses and with the tax administration.

Proportion of owners/managers of the active industrial enterprises in the West Bank who are satisfied with governmental and private services (%)

| | West Bank | | Gaza Strip | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| | Satisfied | Not satisfied | Satisfied | Not satisfied |
| Electricity supply | 70 | 30 | 2 | 98 |
| Water supply | 75 | 25 | 63 | 31 |
| Quality of roads | 60 | 38 | 22 | 77 |
| Obtain necessary permits and licenses | 62 | 21 | 28 | 43 |
| Tax administration | 68 | 28 | 22 | 65 |

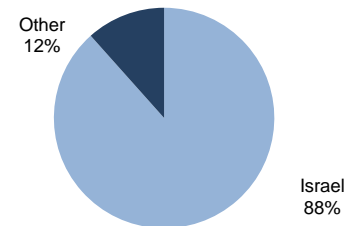
Source: PCBS.

The satisfaction of owners/managers in Gaza is in general lower, with only 2% satisfied with the supply of electricity and 63% with the supply of water. Satisfaction with the quality of roads in Gaza, with the ease of obtaining permits and licenses and with the tax administration is below 30%.

VI. TRADE

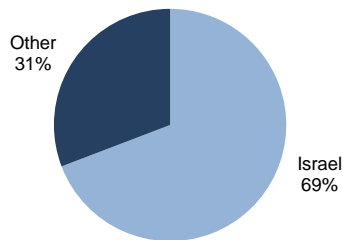
Registered exports of goods increased by 4% in March 2012 compared to February but were 10% lower than a year earlier, amounting to approximately US\$61.6 million. Palestinian exports of goods to Israel increased by 4% during the month, while exports to other countries increased by 2%. Israel continues to be the main market for Palestinian goods, absorbing 88% of goods exports from the oPt in March 2012.

Goods exports from oPt by destination March 2012



Source: PCBS.

Goods imports to oPt by origin March 2012



Source: PCBS.

Imports of goods increased by less than 1% in March 2012, but were 30% lower than a year earlier, amounting approximately US\$341.6 million. Imports from Israel increased by 6% during the month, whereas imports from other countries decreased by 9% compared to February 2012. Imports from Israel represented 69% of total Palestinian imports.

A goods trade deficit of US\$280 million was recorded in March 2012, reflecting a 0.2% decrease from the previous month.

VII. GAZA STRIP

There was a 80% increase in the amount of cooking gas imported in Gaza in April 2012, with 3,434 tons allowed in through the Kerem Shalom (Karem Abu Salem) crossing. In April 2012, 297,195 liters of diesel were imported for UNRWA, and 143,200 liters of diesel were imported for ICRC, while 643,622 liters of petrol and 981,643 liters diesel were imported for the private sector. The biggest change, however, was an increase in registered sales of industrial diesel, from zero in January and February 2012 to 436,100 liters in March and 6.7 million liters in April.

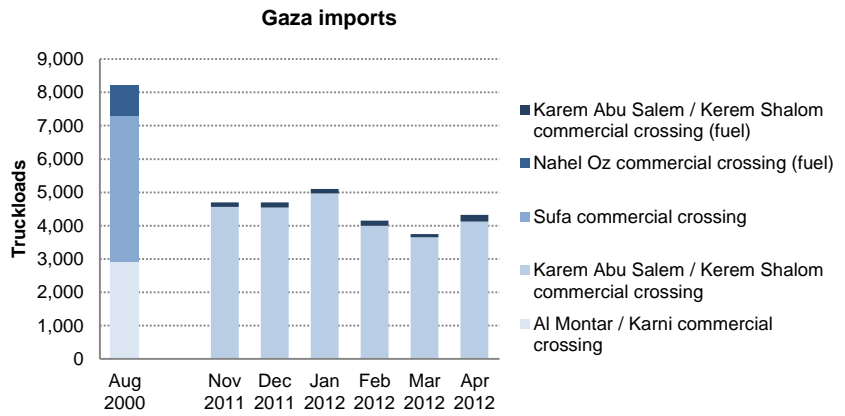
Volume of registered fuel sales in the Gaza Strip

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Nahal Oz | | Kerem Shalom | | | | |
| Petrol (1000 liter) | 3,188.9 | 35.0 | 38.0 | 70.0 | 55.0 | 236.6 | 643.6 |
| Diesel (1000 liter) | 11,343.0 | 111.0 | 139.0 | 375.5 | 326.0 | 335.6 | 1,422.0 |
| White diesel (1000 liter) | 243.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Cooking gas (1000 ton) | 1.9 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 1.9 | 3.4 |
| Industrial diesel (1000 liter) | n.a | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 436.1 | 6,714.3 |

Source: General Petroleum Corporation, Ministry of National Economy.

In April 2012, the number of truckloads (including fuel) imported into the Gaza Strip increased by 15% compared to March 2012. (See further details in Table A9 in Annex A.)

The proportion of truckloads with food items among imports increased by three percentage points and made up 31% of imported goods (1,277.5 truckloads) in April 2012, while the remaining 69% of imports (2,845.5 truckloads) were non-food items.



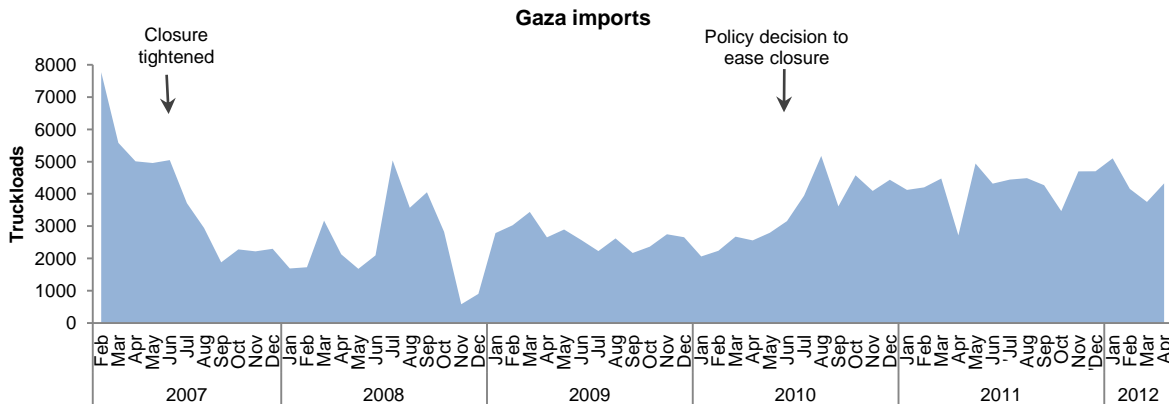
Source: Ministry of National Economy.

Note: Truckload imports exclude industrial diesel supplies to power plant.

Note: Karni crossing has remained closed since 12 June 2007 for the movement of goods in and out of Gaza, and on 1 March 2011, Israel closed the conveyor belt at Karni, too.

A total of 1,118 truckloads entering Gaza brought materials for approved international humanitarian building projects, including 886 truckloads (62,086 tons) of gravel, 205 truckloads (8,142 tons) of cement and 27 truckloads (938 tons) of steel bars for UNRWA and UNDP building projects, as well as the Palestinian Water Authority.

Following the June 2010 decision to ease the closure of Gaza, monthly import levels have averaged around 4,225 truckloads.



Source: Ministry of National Economy.

Note: The figures exclude gravel imported through Karni in February-May 2007, as well as imports through Rafah and Erez.

On 8 December 2010 Israel announced its intention to gradually expand the number and range of exports permitted from Gaza. According to this announcement, allowed exports will include agricultural produce, furniture and textiles.

Gaza exports

| | Total number of trucks | Goods | Destinations |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| November 2011 | 4 | Straw berries (4 trucks/ 5.5 tons) | Europe |
| December 2011 | 110 | Straw berries (265.7 tons) | } 104 trucks Europe |
| | | Carnations (177,040 stems) | |
| | | Cherry tomatoes (3.95 tons) | |
| | | Sw eet peppers (6 trucks/28.5 tons) | |
| January 2012 | 69 | Straw berries (53 trucks/ 172.1 tons) | Europe |
| | | Carnations (9 trucks/ 1,205,550 stems) | |
| | | Cherry tomatoes (4 trucks 29.30 tons) | |
| | | Sw eet peppers (3 trucks/12 tons) | |
| February 2012 | 29 | Straw berries (1 trucks/ 3 tons) | Europe |
| | | Carnations (16 trucks/ 2,384,300 stems) | |
| | | Cherry tomatoes (5 trucks 35.20 tons) | |
| | | Sw eet peppers (2 trucks/3.4 tons) | |
| March 2012 | 22 | Tomatoes (5 trucks/ 55 tons) | Saudi Arabia |
| | | Carnations (18 trucks/ 2,718,000 stems) | Europe |
| | | Cherry tomatoes (1 trucks 7 tons) | |
| | | Tomatoes (3 trucks/ 54 tons) | Jordan |
| Apr-12 | 18 | Carnations (18 trucks/ 2,490,000 stems) | Europe |

Source: Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees.

In April 2012 a total 18 truckloads of carnations (2,490,000 stems) were exported through the Kerem Shalom commercial crossing.

ANNEX A: Statistical reference tables

Table A1.
Consumer price index (2004=100) by major expenditure group

| | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| oPt (including occupied East Jerusalem) | | | | | | |
| Food and soft drinks | 151.0 | 151.5 | 152.2 | 152.0 | 151.9 | 150.7 |
| Alcoholic beverages and tobacco | 161.9 | 163.2 | 165.8 | 168.7 | 168.6 | 168.6 |
| Textiles, clothing and footwear | 114.9 | 116.2 | 116.0 | 115.2 | 116.2 | 116.3 |
| Housing | 133.5 | 133.6 | 134.7 | 134.7 | 135.4 | 136.0 |
| Furniture, household goods | 114.6 | 114.4 | 115.0 | 115.6 | 115.7 | 115.3 |
| Medical care | 117.0 | 117.8 | 117.8 | 117.7 | 118.5 | 118.4 |
| Transportation | 126.7 | 126.8 | 127.4 | 128.2 | 129.0 | 129.5 |
| Communications | 107.6 | 107.9 | 107.9 | 107.8 | 107.8 | 107.9 |
| Recreational, cultural goods & services | 104.0 | 104.0 | 104.8 | 104.5 | 105.0 | 105.3 |
| Education | 114.4 | 116.9 | 116.9 | 116.9 | 119.4 | 119.4 |
| Restaurants, cafes and hotels | 147.1 | 147.7 | 149.7 | 150.2 | 150.3 | 150.0 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 127.8 | 128.7 | 129.1 | 129.6 | 129.8 | 130.2 |
| All items of consumer price index | 134.4 | 135.0 | 135.6 | 135.8 | 136.1 | 135.8 |
| East Jerusalem | | | | | | |
| Food and soft drinks | 154.7 | 154.2 | 156.8 | 157.1 | 157.2 | 155.1 |
| Alcoholic beverages and tobacco | 160.8 | 162.3 | 164.8 | 170.2 | 170.1 | 170.3 |
| Textiles, clothing and footwear | 128.1 | 129.7 | 129.2 | 127.9 | 127.6 | 128.0 |
| Housing | 123.9 | 124.6 | 125.0 | 124.9 | 125.2 | 125.2 |
| Furniture, household goods | 114.0 | 113.4 | 113.7 | 114.7 | 114.3 | 114.1 |
| Medical care | 122.3 | 121.9 | 122.3 | 122.3 | 122.6 | 122.4 |
| Transportation | 138.3 | 138.7 | 140.1 | 140.8 | 141.1 | 143.5 |
| Communications | 103.3 | 103.4 | 103.4 | 103.4 | 103.3 | 103.4 |
| Recreational, cultural goods & services | 111.0 | 111.3 | 112.1 | 112.0 | 113.5 | 114.2 |
| Education | 117.1 | 117.1 | 117.1 | 117.1 | 119.6 | 119.6 |
| Restaurants, cafes and hotels | 151.5 | 150.3 | 153.2 | 154.1 | 153.5 | 152.0 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 118.0 | 118.7 | 119.4 | 119.3 | 120.9 | 121.0 |
| All items of consumer price index | 135.5 | 135.7 | 137.0 | 137.4 | 137.7 | 137.3 |
| West Bank | | | | | | |
| Food and soft drinks | 148.0 | 149.6 | 148.6 | 148.4 | 147.8 | 147.8 |
| Alcoholic beverages and tobacco | 164.2 | 166.3 | 170.7 | 172.6 | 172.3 | 172.3 |
| Textiles, clothing and footwear | 104.4 | 106.0 | 106.5 | 105.6 | 108.1 | 107.9 |
| Housing | 143.0 | 143.2 | 145.3 | 145.5 | 146.2 | 147.0 |
| Furniture, household goods | 101.1 | 101.8 | 103.3 | 103.9 | 105.2 | 104.6 |
| Medical care | 116.7 | 119.2 | 119.1 | 119.7 | 121.1 | 121.3 |
| Transportation | 124.7 | 124.6 | 124.9 | 125.8 | 127.0 | 127.5 |
| Communications | 108.9 | 109.0 | 109.0 | 108.8 | 108.8 | 109.1 |
| Recreational, cultural goods & services | 93.0 | 92.9 | 93.7 | 93.4 | 93.7 | 93.9 |
| Education | 112.6 | 115.1 | 115.1 | 115.1 | 116.3 | 116.3 |
| Restaurants, cafes and hotels | 145.8 | 146.8 | 149.5 | 149.1 | 150.2 | 149.8 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 138.5 | 139.0 | 139.1 | 140.4 | 139.8 | 141.4 |
| All items of consumer price index | 133.2 | 134.3 | 134.6 | 134.8 | 135.1 | 135.3 |
| Gaza Strip | | | | | | |
| Food and soft drinks | 149.6 | 150.6 | 151.2 | 151.9 | 151.9 | 151.6 |
| Alcoholic beverages and tobacco | 157.3 | 157.3 | 157.3 | 157.3 | 157.3 | 157.2 |
| Textiles, clothing and footwear | 109.4 | 108.2 | 107.7 | 107.3 | 107.7 | 108.3 |
| Housing | 128.8 | 127.8 | 129.0 | 129.1 | 129.9 | 131.4 |
| Furniture, household goods | 131.0 | 131.7 | 131.9 | 131.9 | 131.1 | 129.8 |
| Medical care | 100.6 | 101.5 | 101.3 | 100.3 | 101.0 | 100.9 |
| Transportation | 126.5 | 126.5 | 126.7 | 127.2 | 128.5 | 128.7 |
| Communications | 106.3 | 107.0 | 107.0 | 107.0 | 107.0 | 107.0 |
| Recreational, cultural goods & services | 99.6 | 98.9 | 99.0 | 98.6 | 97.8 | 97.9 |
| Education | 108.3 | 111.1 | 111.1 | 111.1 | 115.7 | 115.7 |
| Restaurants, cafes and hotels | 160.4 | 155.5 | 155.5 | 155.5 | 156.6 | 156.6 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 128.6 | 131.0 | 131.0 | 131.5 | 132.4 | 132.0 |
| All items of consumer price index | 132.9 | 133.3 | 133.6 | 133.9 | 134.3 | 134.3 |

Source: PCBS.

Table A2.
Rate of unemployment and adjusted unemployment (%)

| | Q2/2000 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| oPt | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment | 8.8 | 23.4 | 21.7 | 18.7 | 22.4 | 21.0 | 23.9 |
| Adjusted unemployment | 18.5 | 29.9 | 27.7 | 24.0 | 26.8 | 24.8 | 27.4 |
| West Bank | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment | 6.5 | 16.9 | 17.4 | 15.4 | 19.7 | 16.6 | 20.1 |
| Adjusted unemployment | 15.8 | 23.5 | 23.8 | 21.2 | 23.9 | 20.5 | 24.1 |
| Gaza Strip | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment | 13.8 | 37.4 | 30.8 | 25.6 | 28.0 | 30.3 | 31.5 |
| Adjusted unemployment | 24.2 | 43.5 | 35.9 | 30.0 | 32.8 | 33.8 | 34.1 |

Source: PCBS, Labor Force Surveys.

Table A3.
Fiscal indicators (NIS million)

| | Jan 2011 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Government revenue | 605.9 | 310.7 | 934.8 | 624.7 | 795.2 | 680.1 | 574.8 |
| Government w age expenditure | 499.6 | 471.8 | 492.9 | 498.9 | 508.5 | 507.4 | 572.4 |
| Government non-w age expenditure | 223.0 | 252.5 | 406.5 | 394.5 | 260.3 | 234.8 | 390.7 |
| Government net lending | 42.4 | 67.3 | 61.3 | 55.9 | 44.0 | 48.0 | 40.2 |
| Government balance | -171.3 | -528.6 | -87.7 | -359.5 | -52.8 | -199.8 | -467.4 |
| External budget support | 113.3 | 12.6 | 297.2 | 8.3 | 220.9 | 510.1 | 526.1 |

Source: Ministry of Finance.

Note: This table updates the information of tables from previous months and should be assumed to be the most accurate available on 15 May 2012.

Table A4.
Bank credit by economic activity

| | Q3/2010 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total (in million US\$) | | | | | | |
| Total public sector | 885 | 837 | 917 | 1,118 | 856 | 1,101 |
| Total private sector | 1,966 | 2,050 | 2,238 | 2,382 | 2,428 | 2,452 |
| <i>Agriculture and food processing</i> | 57 | 66 | 50 | 33 | 32 | 35 |
| <i>Manufacturing and mining</i> | 235 | 240 | 288 | 291 | 293 | 302 |
| <i>Real estate, construction and land</i> | 319 | 335 | 451 | 396 | 423 | 429 |
| <i>Local and foreign trade</i> | 470 | 487 | 428 | 501 | 498 | 491 |
| <i>Transportation</i> | 23 | 27 | 22 | 25 | 26 | 23 |
| <i>Tourism, hotels, restaurants and others</i> | 53 | 67 | 53 | 50 | 51 | 50 |
| <i>Financial services</i> | 66 | 55 | 92 | 65 | 68 | 27 |
| <i>Public services</i> | 363 | 369 | 367 | 316 | 310 | 268 |
| <i>Investment in securities and financial tools</i> | 53 | 52 | 55 | 70 | 68 | 66 |
| <i>Cars and vehicles</i> | 92 | 102 | 93 | 109 | 114 | 119 |
| <i>Consumption</i> | 107 | 118 | 172 | 319 | 366 | 417 |
| <i>Other private sector</i> | 128 | 132 | 169 | 207 | 180 | 225 |
| Total | 2,852 | 2,887 | 3,155 | 3,500 | 3,285 | 3,553 |
| Total excluding total public sector and public | 1,604 | 1,681 | 1,871 | 2,066 | 2,118 | 2,183 |
| Relative distribution (% of total) | | | | | | |
| Total public sector | 31.0 | 29.0 | 29.1 | 31.9 | 26.1 | 31.0 |
| Total private sector | 69.0 | 6.3 | 70.9 | 68.1 | 73.9 | 69.0 |
| <i>Agriculture and food processing</i> | 2.0 | 15.5 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| <i>Manufacturing and mining</i> | 8.2 | 0.5 | 9.1 | 8.3 | 8.9 | 8.5 |
| <i>Real estate, construction and land</i> | 11.2 | 1.8 | 14.3 | 11.3 | 12.9 | 12.1 |
| <i>Local and foreign trade</i> | 16.5 | 2.5 | 13.6 | 14.3 | 15.2 | 13.8 |
| <i>Transportation</i> | 0.8 | 3.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| <i>Tourism, hotels, restaurants and others</i> | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.4 |
| <i>Financial services</i> | 2.3 | 0.5 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 0.8 |
| <i>Public services</i> | 12.7 | 0.4 | 11.6 | 9.0 | 9.4 | 7.6 |
| <i>Investment in securities and financial tools</i> | 1.9 | 2.8 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 1.9 |
| <i>Cars and vehicles</i> | 3.2 | 0.4 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| <i>Consumption</i> | 3.8 | 0.8 | 5.5 | 9.1 | 11.1 | 11.7 |
| <i>Other private sector</i> | 4.5 | 4.6 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 6.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Relative distribution excluding total public sector and public services (% of total) | | | | | | |
| Agriculture and food processing | 3.5 | 3.9 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.6 |
| Manufacturing and mining | 14.6 | 14.2 | 15.4 | 14.1 | 13.8 | 13.8 |
| Real estate, construction and land | 19.9 | 19.9 | 24.1 | 19.2 | 20.0 | 19.7 |
| Local and foreign trade | 29.3 | 29.0 | 22.8 | 24.2 | 23.5 | 22.5 |
| Transportation | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.0 |
| Tourism, hotels, restaurants and others | 3.3 | 4.0 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| Financial services | 4.1 | 3.3 | 4.9 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 1.2 |
| Investment in securities and financial tools | 3.3 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 |
| Cars and vehicles | 5.7 | 6.1 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.4 |
| Consumption | 6.7 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 15.4 | 17.3 | 19.1 |
| Other private sector | 8.0 | 7.9 | 9.0 | 10.0 | 8.5 | 10.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Source: PMA.

Note: The totals may not be exactly equal to the sum of percentages due to rounding.

Table A5.
Bank deposits by sector and type (US\$ million)

| | Q2/2000 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Public sector deposits | | | | | | | |
| Public institutions and local authorities | | | | | | | |
| Current accounts | 17.3 | 82.6 | 89.3 | 82.2 | 81.9 | 81.3 | 79.1 |
| Time deposits | 39.2 | 76.6 | 71.3 | 74.3 | 70.9 | 66.1 | 67.4 |
| <i>Sub-total public institutions and local authorities</i> | <i>56.5</i> | <i>159.2</i> | <i>160.7</i> | <i>156.5</i> | <i>152.7</i> | <i>147.4</i> | <i>146.5</i> |
| Government | | | | | | | |
| Current accounts | 37.6 | 340.9 | 287.9 | 217.3 | 216.2 | 282.4 | 233.6 |
| Time deposits | 77.5 | 193.2 | 246.4 | 182.5 | 153.9 | 154.7 | 186.0 |
| <i>Sub-total government</i> | <i>115.1</i> | <i>534.1</i> | <i>534.3</i> | <i>399.8</i> | <i>370.1</i> | <i>437.1</i> | <i>419.6</i> |
| Total public sector deposits | 171.6 | 693.3 | 695.0 | 556.3 | 522.9 | 584.5 | 566.1 |
| Private sector deposits | | | | | | | |
| Residents | | | | | | | |
| Current accounts | 746.5 | 2,198.6 | 2,321.0 | 2,392.9 | 2,369.6 | 2,354.0 | 2,376.7 |
| Savings accounts | 440.4 | 1,802.1 | 1,848.7 | 1,925.9 | 1,900.0 | 1,977.9 | 2,048.5 |
| Time deposits | 1,895.7 | 1,947.0 | 1,883.2 | 1,885.5 | 1,826.0 | 1,860.5 | 1,851.0 |
| <i>Sub-total residents</i> | <i>3,082.6</i> | <i>5,947.6</i> | <i>6,053.0</i> | <i>62,043.0</i> | <i>6,095.6</i> | <i>6,192.3</i> | <i>6,276.1</i> |
| Non-residents | | | | | | | |
| Current accounts | 3.3 | 59.2 | 64.0 | 63.4 | 69.1 | 55.3 | 56.7 |
| Savings accounts | 2.4 | 42.1 | 44.4 | 49.1 | 49.2 | 49.2 | 50.0 |
| Time deposits | 8.9 | 70.6 | 72.2 | 77.3 | 83.8 | 91.2 | 96.5 |
| <i>Sub-total non-residents</i> | <i>14.6</i> | <i>171.9</i> | <i>180.6</i> | <i>189.7</i> | <i>202.1</i> | <i>195.7</i> | <i>203.2</i> |
| Total private sector deposits | 3,097.2 | 6,119.5 | 6,233.7 | 6,394.0 | 6,297.7 | 6,388.0 | 6,479.3 |
| Total deposits (public and private sectors) | 3,268.8 | 6,812.9 | 6,928.7 | 6,950.4 | 6,820.5 | 6,972.5 | 7,045.4 |

Source: PMA

Note: Data do not include deposits of the PMA and commercial banks.

Table A6.
Total loans, total deposits and loan-to-deposit ratio

| | Q2/2000 | Q4/2010 | Q1/2011 | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total loans (US\$ million) | 1,234 | 2,887 | 3,155 | 3,500 | 3,285 | 3,553 | 3,658 |
| Total deposits (US\$ million) | 3,328 | 6,813 | 6,929 | 6,950 | 6,821 | 6,972 | 7,045 |
| Loan-to-deposit ratio (%) | 37.1 | 42.4 | 45.5 | 50.4 | 48.2 | 51.0 | 51.9 |

Source: PMA.

Table A7.
Number of new company registrations by legal status

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| West Bank | | | | | | | |
| Private | 42 | 36 | 55 | 40 | 47 | 46 | 42 |
| Private limited | 95 | 51 | 77 | 64 | 55 | 58 | 49 |
| Public limited | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Foreign | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Non-profit | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 137 | 90 | 137 | 108 | 103 | 108 | 96 |
| Gaza Strip | | | | | | | |
| Private | 81 | 20 | 26 | 19 | 16 | 20 | 16 |
| Private limited | 12 | 18 | 16 | 10 | 21 | 15 | 11 |
| Public limited | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Foreign | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 94 | 38 | 42 | 29 | 37 | 35 | 27 |

Source: Ministry of National Economy.

Table A8.
Area licensed for new construction (square meters)

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| West Bank | | | | | | | |
| Ramallah, Al-Bireh and Jerusalem | | 65,233 | 260,506 | 71,377 | 54,141 | 107,812 | 159,213 |
| Nablus | | 57,149 | 194,016 | 55,014 | 68,725 | 63,548 | 61,031 |
| Tulkarm | | 17,584 | 59,685 | 7,308 | 17,873 | 14,502 | 19,456 |
| Hebron | | 24,233 | 416,585 | 28,251 | 30,996 | 40,673 | 55,846 |
| Bethlehem | | 15,588 | 56,070 | 19,322 | 19,094 | 27,592 | 30,193 |
| Jenin | | 15,092 | 28,585 | 48,891 | 32,646 | 30,210 | 26,534 |
| Qalqilya | | 4,649 | 4,332 | 7,942 | 1,316 | 2,126 | 4,785 |
| Salfit | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 345,685 | 199,528 | 1,019,779 | 238,105 | 224,791 | 286,463 | 357,058 |
| Gaza Strip | | | | | | | |
| Northern District | 27,902 | 105,600 | 124,500 | 110,720 | 103,350 | a/ | a/ |
| Gaza | 50,116 | 142,540 | 182,650 | 168,500 | 156,690 | a/ | a/ |
| Al Wastah | 15,984 | 89,650 | 102,450 | 102,540 | 88,540 | a/ | a/ |
| Khan Younis | 51,146 | 107,800 | 118,550 | 133,670 | 114,650 | a/ | a/ |
| Rafah | 39,429 | 102,050 | 123,470 | 104,720 | 98,550 | a/ | a/ |
| Gaza Strip Total | 184,577 | 547,640 | 651,620 | 620,150 | 561,780 | a/ | a/ |

Source: Engineering Offices and Consulting Firms.

a/ Data not available.

Table A9.
Gaza truckload movement

| | Aug 2000 | Nov 2011 | Dec 2011 | Jan 2012 | Feb 2012 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Al Montar / Karni commercial crossing | | | | | | | |
| Truckloads exports | 992 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Truckloads imports | 2,923 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karem Abu Salem / Kerem Shalom commercial crossing | | | | | | | |
| Truckloads exports | 0 | 4 | 110 | 69 | 29 | 22 | 18 |
| Truckloads imports | 0 | 4,569 | 4,546 | 4,967 | 4,003 | 3,653 | 4,123 |
| Sufa commercial crossing | | | | | | | |
| Truckloads exports | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Truckloads imports | 4,384 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nahel Oz commercial crossing (fuel) | | | | | | | |
| Truckloads imports | 904 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Karem Abu Salem / Kerem Shalom commercial crossing (fuel) | | | | | | | |
| Truckloads imports | 0 | 129 | 155 | 134 | 152 | 97 | 203 |

Source: Ministry of National Economy (Aug 2000); General Petroleum Corporation (other periods).

Note: Truckload imports exclude industrial diesel supplies to powerplant.

ANNEX B: Terms and definitions

Adjusted unemployment rate

The adjusted unemployment rate presents the number of unemployed according to the relaxed definition as a percentage of the labor force. The relaxed definition of unemployment includes all persons aged 15 or over who are unemployed plus those who, during the reference period, are without work, are available for work but did not seek work (and therefore could not be classified as unemployed) because they felt that no work would be available to them.

The adjusted unemployment rate gives a broader measure of the unutilized supply of labor. The relaxation of the standard definition of unemployment makes sense in circumstances where the conventional means of seeking work are of limited relevance, where the labor market is largely unorganized, where labor absorption is inadequate or where the labor force is largely self-employed.

AI-Quds index

This is the primary stock index of the Palestine Securities Exchange (PSE).

Area licensed for new construction

This is the area licensed for construction in new and existing buildings.

Average daily net wage

This average is calculated as the total net wages paid to all employees divided by total workdays. Wages received in different currencies are converted into New Israeli Shekels according to the exchange rate in the survey month.

Bank credit

It measures the borrowing capacity provided to individuals, firms and organizations by the banking system in the form of loans or other types of credit. Credit is generally believed to contribute to economic growth.

Bank deposits

Deposits are accounts maintained by a bank on behalf of customers. This indicator is often used to measure the safety of and people's trust in the banking system.

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The CPI is a statistical tool used to measure changes over time in the prices paid by households for a basket of goods and services that they customarily purchase for consumption. The CPI is used to measure inflation over time.

The main categories of goods and services included in the basket of goods are: fruits, vegetables and other food items, beverages, tobacco, textiles, clothing, footwear, furniture, household appliances, household utensils, fuel, power, transportation, communications, medical and pharmaceutical products, goods for personal care, services charges for public transport, communication, hospital care, and others, and school fees. Data on prices for consumers are collected through visits conducted by trained staff to selected markets including groceries, supermarkets, markets, restaurants, general services offices, hospitals, private schools, etc.

Effective/partial closure days

Effective closure days are calculated by adding all days when a crossing is fully or partially closed, excluding weekends and holidays. Partial closure means that the crossing is closed for more than one hour but not for a full day, in which case it would be considered fully closed.

Weekends and holidays include all Saturdays, half the Fridays (since labor and commercial flows are about half their normal workday level on Fridays) and universally celebrated Jewish and Muslim holidays. Jewish and Muslim holidays which fall on Saturday or Friday are not counted as a holiday but as a Saturday (full day closure) or Friday (half day closure), respectively.

Employed

The “employed” comprise all persons are 15 years or over who were working at a paid job or business for at least one hour during the week prior to the survey, or who did not work but held a job or owned business from which they were temporarily absent (because of illness, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason) during the reference week.

Exchange rate

The price of one currency stated in terms of another currency is the exchange rate.

Exports

Exports are any good or commodity, shipped or otherwise transported out of the territory to another part of the world, typically for use in trade or sale. Export products or services are provided to foreign consumers by domestic producers.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

GDP is the total value of all goods and services produced within a Pt in a given period of time.

When GDP is expressed in constant terms (real GDP), a deflator is used to adjust for changes in money-value.

Quarterly data are annualized by multiplying by 4.

GDP per capita

This is the result of the division of GDP by total population.

$$\text{GDP per capita} = \frac{\text{GDP}}{\text{population}}$$

GDP rate of change

The rate of change is the percentage change (increase or decrease) of GDP from the previous measurement cycle.

$$\text{GDP rate of change in period (t)} = \frac{\text{GDP in period (t)} - \text{GDP in period (t - 1)}}{\text{GDP in period (t - 1)}} \cdot 100\%$$

Inflation rate

The inflation rate is the percentage change in the price index over time.

$$\text{Inflation rate in period (t)} = \frac{\text{Price index in period (t)} - \text{Price index in period (t - 1)}}{\text{Price index in period (t - 1)}} \cdot 100\%$$

Government total net revenue

It measures the net inflows received by the government, including clearance revenue, tax refunds, and tax and non-tax revenue collected by the Ministry of Finance and other ministries for the consolidated Single Treasury Account (STA).

Government wage expenditure

This is the government’s outlay on the wages and salaries of permanent civilian and security employees.

Government non-wage expenditure

This is the part of government expenditure absorbed by operational expenditures, transfers and minor development and capital expenditures.

Government net lending

This term includes transfers to local government to cover clearance revenue, deductions by the Government of Israel for water and electricity, and services by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Government balance

The government balance is the difference between the government’s total net revenue and its expenditures, including wage and non-wage expenditures, net lending and development expenditures.

External budget support

It consists of transfers of resources by donor countries to the Palestinian National Authority to help finance its budget.

Imports

Imports are the goods and services that are produced by the foreign sector and are purchased by the domestic economy.

Industrial Production Index (IPI)

This index is a statistical tool used for measuring changes in the volume of industrial production during a certain period of time. The index uses the change in volume of production for the largest establishment in each industry. The relative share for the main industrial activities represents the percent share of value added of the industrial institutions in 2009 in addition to the value added of olive presses.

Labor force

The labor force consists of all persons of working age (15 years or over) who are either employed or unemployed during a specified reference period.

$$\text{labor force} = \text{employed} + \text{unemployed}$$

Excluded from the labor force are those of working age who are neither working nor searching for work. These could be students, retired persons, those in prison, and homemakers.

Loan-to-deposit ratio

This ratio gives the amount of banks' loans divided by the amount of their deposits. The statistic is often used to assess the banking system's liquidity. If the ratio is too high it may imply that banks could not have enough liquidity to cover any unforeseen fund requirements. Conversely, if the ratio is too low banks may not be lending and earning as much as they could be.

$$\text{loan-to-deposit ratio} = \frac{\text{bank loans}}{\text{bank deposits}} \cdot 100\%$$

Number of new company registrations

This is the number of new companies that register with the Ministry of National Economy to conduct business operations in oPt.

Number of shares traded

It is the amount of shares that trade hands from sellers to buyers in the market over a given period.

Underemployment

Underemployment exists when a person's employment is inadequate in relation to specified norms or alternative employment. Time-related underemployment applies to those who involuntarily work less than the normal duration of work determined for the activity and who seek or are available for additional work during the reference week.

Unemployment rate

The "unemployed" comprise all persons aged 15 or over who, during the week before the survey, were without work, available for work and seeking work. The unemployment rate expresses the number of unemployed as a percentage of the total labor force.

The indicator is widely used as a measure of unutilized labor supply.

$$\text{unemployment rate} = \frac{\text{unemployed}}{\text{labor force}} \cdot 100\%$$

Value of shares traded

The value of shares traded is the sum of the shares traded multiplied by their respective matching price.

ANNEX C: Abbreviations and acronyms

| | |
|--------------|--|
| CPI | Consumer Price Index |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| IPI | Industrial Production Index |
| JOD | Jordanian Dinar |
| MoF | Palestinian Ministry of Finance |
| MoNE | Palestinian Ministry of National Economy |
| NIS | New Israeli Shekel |
| oPt | occupied Palestinian territory |
| PCBS | Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics |
| PMA | Palestine Monetary Authority |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNRWA | United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees |
| UNSCO | Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| US\$ | United States Dollar |