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<sup>9</sup> UNRWA, 2011. UNRWA STATISTICS -2010- First issue , selected indicators 10

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Country	Palestinians		
Country	Percent	Number	
Palestinian Territory	37.7	4,231,084	
Israel	12.2	1,367,293	
Arab Countries	44.4	4,989,969	
Foreign Countries	5.7	636,226	
Total	100.0	11,224,572	

2011 :2 Table 2: Projected Population in the Palestinian Territory by Refugee Status and Region, End Year 2011

			Refugee Status				
Region	Т	otal	Non-Refugee		Refugee		
Kegion							
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	
Palestinian Territory	100.0	4,231,084	55.9	2,365,320	44.1	1,865,764	
West Bank	100.0	2,614,594	70.3	1,837,740	29.7	776,854	
Gaza Strip	100.0	1,616,490	32.6	527,580	67.4	1,088,910	

2011 :3 Table 3: Projected Population in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate, End Year 2011

Governorate		
	Percent	Number of Population
Palestinian Territory	100.0	4,231,084
West Bank	61.8	2,614,594
Jenin	6.7	284,834
Tubas	1.4	57,614
Tulkarm	4.0	170,598
Nablus	8.3	352,076
Qalqiliya	2.4	101,331
Salfit	1.6	65,366
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	7.4	314,818
Jericho and Al Aghwar	1.1	47,380
Jerusalem	9.3	393,004
Bethlehem	4.7	196,779
Hebron	14.9	630,794
Gaza Strip	38.2	1,616,490
North Gaza	7.5	315,779
Gaza	13.3	560,773
Deir El-Balah	5.5	234,748
Khan Yunis	7.2	306,003
Rafah	4.7	199,187

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Table 4: Projected Population in the Palestinian Territory by Age, Region and Sex, EndYear 2011

Age		Gaza Strip			West Bank		Pale	stinian Teri	itory	
	Females	Males	Both Sexes	Females	Males	Both Sexes	Females	Males	Both Sexes	
0-4	129,217	134,995	264,212	174,874	181,901	356,775	304,091	316,896	620,987	4-0
5-9	113,902	119,308	233,210	162,673	169,257	331,929	276,575	288,565	565,140	9-5
10-14	103,872	108,186	212,058	157,077	164,250	321,327	260,949	272,436	533,385	14-10
15-19	95,251	98,276	193,527	150,338	157,590	307,928	245,589	255,866	501,455	19-15
20-24	79,554	82,163	161,717	128,755	134,903	263,658	208,309	217,066	425,375	24-20
25-29	61,026	63,772	124,798	100,444	105,109	205,553	161,470	168,881	330,351	29-25
30-34	48,361	50,331	98,692	84,526	87,949	172,475	132,887	138,280	271,167	34-30
35-39	38,921	39,610	78,531	74,825	77,025	151,850	113,746	116,635	230,381	39-35
40-44	31,504	32,714	64,218	63,512	66,027	129,539	95,016	98,741	193,757	44-40
45-49	25,670	28,208	53,878	52,340	55,839	108,179	78,010	84,047	162,057	49-45
50-54	20,044	21,904	41,948	40,083	42,751	82,834	60,127	64,655	124,782	54-50
55-59	14,813	15,110	29,923	27,667	28,713	56,380	42,480	43,823	86,303	59-55
60-64	11,082	10,125	21,207	20,871	19,814	40,685	31,953	29,939	61,892	64-60
65-69	8,232	6,295	14,527	17,030	13,861	30,891	25,262	20,156	45,418	69-65
70-74	6,046	4,075	10,121	13,068	9,578	22,646	19,114	13,653	32,767	74-70
75-79	4,294	2,844	7,138	9,228	6,466	15,695	13,522	9,310	22,832	79-75
80+	3,944	2,841	6,785	9,462	6,788	16,250	13,406	9,629	23,035	+80
Total	795,733	820,757	1,616,490	1,286,773	1,327,821	2,614,594	2,082,506	2,148,578	4,231,084	

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Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Population in the Palestinian Terr	itory by Age,
Region and Sex, End Year 2006	

		Gaza Strip			West Bank		Pales	stinian Terr	itory	
Age									,	
	Females	Males	Both Sexes	Females	Males	Both Sexes	Females	Males	Both Sexes	
0-4	16.4	16.2	16.3	13.7	13.6	13.6	14.7	14.6	14.7	4-0
5-9	14.5	14.3	14.4	12.7	12.6	12.7	13.4	13.3	13.4	9-5
10-14	13.2	13.1	13.1	12.4	12.2	12.3	12.7	12.5	12.6	14-10
15-19	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.9	11.7	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.9	19-15
20-24	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.2	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.0	10.1	24-20
25-29	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	29-25
30-34	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4	34-30
35-39	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.4	39-35
40-44	4.1	4.0	4.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.6	44-40
45-49	3.4	3.1	3.4	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.8	49-45
50-54	2.7	2.5	2.6	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	54-50
55-59	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.0	59-55
60-64	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	64-60
65-69	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.1	69-65
70-74	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.8	74-70
75-79	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	79-75
80+	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	+80
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

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Table 6: Registered Marriages at the Shari'a Courts	and Churches in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate, 1998-2010
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Covernerete	Year													
Governorate	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	
Palestinian Territory			33,774	32,685	28,233	28,876	27,634	26,267	22,611	24,635	23,890	24,874	24,400	
West Bank														
Jenin	2,766	2,510	2,326	2,430	1,871	2,010	1,861	1,789	1,323	1,693	1,830	1,916	1,856	
Tubas	508	446	417	280	424	448	353	374	360	334	375	416	422	
Tulkarm	1,575	1,552	1,540	1,548	1,280	1,351	1,164	1,204	718	1,026	1,078	1,231	1,172	
Nablus	3,015	2,714	2,822	2,707	2,194	2,365	2,307	2,060	1,241	1,919	2,164	2,342	2,352	
Qalqiliya	892	823	840	798	692	729	592	374	315	441	543	563	551	
Salfit	758	626	609	514	431	447	479	487	515	471	452	522	513	
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	2,052	1,609	1,804	1,722	1,575	1,947	1,735	1,649	1,169	1,653	1,727	2,008	1,982	
Jericho and Al Aghwar	293	314	306	259	307	271	242	268	234	221	245	241	235	
Jerusalem	1,785	2,907	2,927	2,945	2,554	2,511	2,435	2,502	2,506	2,525	2,330	2,482	2,420	1
Bethlehem	969	1,341	494	567	832	605	531	617	651	956	1,042	933	990	2
Hebron	5,489	4,979	4,921	4,806	4,220	4,022	3,852	3,458	3,287	3,244	3,081	3,445	3,792	
Total	20,102	19,821	19,006	18,576	16,380	16,706	15,551	14,782	12,319	14,483	14,867	16,099	16,285	
Gaza Strip														
North Gaza			2,754	2,631	2,071	2,211	2,064	2,020	1,800	1,748	1,783	1,525	1,309	
Gaza			5,335	5,097	4,445	4,592	4,582	4,324	3,814	3,662	2,756	3,055	3,076	
Deir El-Balah			1,838	1,756	1,649	1,605	1,632	1,537	1,363	1,323	1,219	1,250	1,049	
Khan Yunis			2,984	2,851	2,348	2,352	2,421	2,293	2,062	2,218	2,104	1,876	1,729	
Rafah			1,857	1,774	1,340	1,410	1,384	1,311	1,253	1,201	1,161	1,069	952	
Total			14,768	14,109	11,853	12,170	12,083	11,485	10,292	10,152	9,023	8,775	8,115	
					2010/0	5				2010				(1)

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### Table 7: Registered Divorces in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate, 1998-2010 Year Governorate Palestinian Territory 4,399 4,043 3,756 4,211 3,961 3,909 3,045 3,687 3,546 3,761 3,465 ... ... West Bank Ramallah & Al-Bireh Jericho and Al Aghwar Jerusalem Bethlehem 3.273 3.244 2.803 2,398 2.232 2.466 2.304 2.360 1.775 2.207 2.120 2.388 2,213 Gaza Strip North Gaza . . . ... ... . . . Deir El-Balah . . . ...

1,657

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Jenin

Tubas

Tulkarm

Nablus

Qalqiliya

Salfit

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Gaza

Rafah

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Covernante	Year													
Governorate	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1
Palestinian Territory			8.8	8.8	7.8	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.0	7.8	7.8	8.4	8.5	
West Bank														I
Jenin	10.1	9.4	8.9	9.6	7.6	8.4	8.0	7.9	6.0	7.8	8.7	9.4	9.3	L
Tubas	9.3	8.4	8.1	5.7	8.9	9.7	7.9	8.7	8.6	8.3	9.6	11.1	11.7	1
Tulkarm	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.9	8.3	9.0	7.9	8.3	5.1	7.4	7.9	9.2	9.0	L
Nablus	8.9	8.2	8.7	8.5	7.1	7.8	7.8	7.2	4.4	7.0	8.1	8.9	9.2	l.
Qalqiliya	9.2	8.7	9.1	8.9	7.9	8.5	7.1	4.6	4.0	5.7	7.3	7.8	7.8	l.
Salfit	12.0	10.1	10.1	8.7	7.5	8.0	8.8	9.1	9.9	9.2	9.1	10.7	10.8	l.
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	6.8	5.5	6.3	6.2	5.9	7.5	6.9	6.7	4.9	7.2	7.7	9.3	9.5	l.
Jericho and Al Aghwar	6.4	7.1	7.1	6.2	7.6	6.9	6.3	7.2	6.5	6.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	l.
Jerusalem		7.7	7.9	8.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.0	7.5	7.4	l.
Bethlehem	5.1	7.3	2.8	3.3	4.9	3.7	3.3	4.0	4.3	6.5	7.3	6.7	7.4	l.
Hebron	9.1	8.6	8.8	8.8	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.2	8.3	9.5	l.
Total	8.0	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.2	7.6	7.2	7.1	6.0	7.3	7.6	8.5	8.9	l.
Gaza Strip														I
North Gaza			10.0	9.9	8.1	9.0	8.8	8.9	8.2	8.3	8.8	7.8	7.0	l.
Gaza			10.6	10.4	9.4	10.0	10.3	10.0	9.1	9.0	7.0	8.0	8.3	l.
Deir El-Balah			8.8	8.7	8.4	8.5	8.9	8.7	8.0	8.0	7.6	8.1	7.0	l.
Khan Yunis			10.8	10.7	9.1	9.4	9.9	9.7	9.0	10.0	9.7	9.0	8.5	I
Rafah			10.5	10.4	8.1	8.9	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.3	7.7	

2010 -1998	:8
Table 8: Crude Marriage Rate in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate, 1998-2010	

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2010 - 1998 :9 Table 9: Crude Divorce Rate in the Palestinian Territory by Governorate, 1998-2010

Governorate	Year													
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	
Palestinian Territory			1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	
West Bank														
Jenin	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.9	
Tubas	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	
Tulkarm	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.7	
Nablus	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.3	
Qalqiliya	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.6	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.2	
Salfit	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.3	
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	1.2	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.9	1.7	2.1	2.1	
Jericho and Al Aghwar	2.0	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.7	
Jerusalem		1.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1
Bethlehem	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.2	
Hebron	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	
Total	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	
Gaza Strip														
North Gaza			1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	
Gaza			1.2	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	
Deir El-Balah			0.9	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.2	
Khan Yunis			1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.1	
Rafah			1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	
Total			1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	

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## Table 10: Demographic Indicators in the Palestinian Territory by Region, Selected Years

							1
Indicator	Year						-
	2011	2010	2009	2005	2000	1997	
Palestinian Territory							
Sex Ratio	103.2	103.1	103.1	102.7	102.2	101.9	
Dependency Ratio	75.0	78.7	80.5	96.3	100.6	101.3	
Median Age	18.0	18.5	18.3	16.7	16.4	16.4	
Crude Birth Rate	32.8	32.8	32.7	37.3	40.9	42.7	
Crude Death Rate	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.9	
Natural Increase Rate	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.8	
Total Fertility Rate		4.2			* 5.9	6.0	
Life Expectancy at Birth (Males)	71.0	70.8	70.5	71.7	70.7	70.2	( )
Life Expectancy at Birt (Females)	73.9	73.6	73.2	73.0	72.2	71.7	( )
Marriages Registered				28,876	23,890	23,492	
Crude Marriage Rate				8.2	7.8	8.4	
Divorces Registered				4,211	3,546	3,449	
Crude Divorce Rate				1.2	1.2	1.2	
Average Household Size	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.1	6.4	
West Bank							
Sex Ratio	103.2	103.1	103.1	102.7	102.2	102.1	
Dependency Ratio	73.0	73.7	75.6	90.6	94.3	94.7	
Median Age	20.0	19.4	19.1	17.7	17.4	17.4	
Crude Birth Rate	30.1	30.1	30.1	34.5	38.8	41.2	
Crude Death Rate	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.6	5.1	
Natural Increase Rate	2.6	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.6	
Total Fertility Rate		3.8			* 5.5	5.6	
Life Expectancy at Birth (Males)	71.4	71.2	70.9	71.7	71.0	70.4	( )
Life Expectancy at Birt (Females)	74.3	74.0	73.7	73.4	72.6	72.2	( )
Marriages Registered		20,102	19,821	16,706	14,867	15,883	
Crude Marriage Rate		8.0	8.1	7.6	7.6	8.9	
Divorces Registered		3,272	3,244	2,456	2,120	2,143	
Crude Divorce Rate		1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.2	
Average Household Size	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.7	6.1	

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	Year						
Indicator	2011	2010	2009	2005	2000	1997	
Gaza Strip		••		•	•		
Sex Ratio	103.1	103.1	103.1	102.5	101.7	101.5	
Dependency Ratio	87.0	87.4	89.1	107.0	112.8	114.5	
Median Age	17.0	17.2	17.0	15.4	14.9	14.8	
Crude Birth Rate	37.2	37.1	36.9	42.2	44.5	45.4	
Crude Death Rate	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.7	
Natural Increase Rate	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.8	4.0	4.1	
Total Fertility Rate		4.9			* 6.8	6.9	
Life Expectancy at Birth (Males)	70.5	70.2	69.9	71.2	70.4	69.9	( )
Life Expectancy at Birt (Females)	73.2	72.9	72.5	72.3	71.5	71.0	( )
Marriages Registered				12,170	9,023	7,609	
Crude Marriage Rate				9.3	8.1	7.6	
Divorces Registered				1,745	1,426	1,306	
Crude Divorce Rate				1.2	1.2	1.2	
Average Household Size	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.9	6.9	

## Table 10 (Cont.): Demographic Indicators in the Palestinian Territory by Region, Selected Years

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1999



# Palestinian National Authority Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

## Palestinians at the End of Year, 2011

December , 2011

#### PAGE NUMBERS OF ENGLISH TEXT ARE PRINTED IN SQUARE BRACKETS. TABLE ARE PRINTED IN THE ARABIC ORDER (FROM RIGHT TO LEFT).

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All correspondence should be directed to: **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics P.O.Box 1647,** Ramallah - Palestine

Tel: (970/972) 2 2982700 Fax: (970/972) 2 2982710 Toll Free:1800300300 E-Mail :diwan@pcbs.gov.ps Web-Site: http://www.pcbs.gov.ps

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## **Team Work**

- **Report Preparation** Hatem Qarareyeh Hana Bukhari
- Dissemination Standard Hanan Janajreh
- Preliminary Review
  Mohammed Duraidi
  Jawad Al- Saleh
  Mohmoud Al-Qayya
- Final Review Mahmoud Jaradat
- Overall Supervision Ola Awad

**President of PCBS** 

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## Introduction

Demographics occupy an important place in development and planning for all nations and societies on a political, social and economic level. In the Palestinian case, demographics have a special status since the population is one of the fundamental factors in the Palestinian people's options of comprehensive development and economic progress, especially in light of limited natural resources and political options. It is within this context that the PCBS has prepared this report, which provides a database to be used as a basic starting point for the establishment of a Palestinian population policy.

This report contains the results of the latest official censuses with the most significant statistical indicators on the number of Palestinians living all over the world, including demographic features.

This report was based on the data available to the PCBS from different sources, including the population, housing and establishments census of 2007, surveys conducted by the PCBS, and the administrative records of the relevant Palestinian ministries and institutions.

This report contains the most updated estimates of the number of Palestinians in Diaspora and those living in Israel with their most significant demographic features. The report also supplies updated estimates of the number of Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip based on the latest available data.

The formulation of comprehensive data on the Palestinian population and its features is a thorny and complex issue due to objective reasons related to the sources of data and the fact that some Palestinians who live abroad integrate into the host countries, which makes it difficult to obtain data on the Palestinians residing in these countries.

Despite the fact that the PCBS used the database provided by UNRWA on the number of Palestinians in the areas where it operates outside Palestine, including Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, this data remains incomplete due to difficulties and errors in the registration of Palestinian refugees, added to the fact that not all Palestinians living abroad are refugees.

This report comes after four decades of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and six decades after the catastrophe that scattered the Palestinians all over the world. This report is a serious attempt by the PCBS to put the reader, the planner and the decision maker in the overall picture of the number of Palestinians and their most significant demographic features.

We hope that those who seek information from this report will find what they need for planning and development towards an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and the return of Palestinian refugees to their homes.

December, 2011

Ola Awad President of PCBS

## **Executive Summary**

- The world population of Palestinians at the end of 2011 is estimated at 11.22 million, of which 4.23 million live in the Palestinian Territory. This constitutes about 37.7% of all Palestinians in the world.
- In the Palestinian Territory, 2.6 million Palestinians live in the West Bank (61.8%), and 1.6 million Palestinians live in Gaza Strip (38.2%).
- It is anticipated that the Palestinian population and the Jews population in historical Palestine will be equal by the end of 2015. By the end of 2020, Jews will make up 48.7% of the total population: there will be 6.8 million Jews compared to 7.2 million Palestinians.
- Data available on Palestinians living in Jordan shows that the total fertility rate among Palestinians was 3.3 births per woman in 2010. The average household size was 4.8 persons during 2010.
- Data available on Palestinians living in Syria in 2009 indicated that the percentage of individuals below 15 years of age was 33.1% and the percentage of individuals over 65 years of age was 4.4%. The overall fertility rate for Palestinians living in Syria was 2.5 births per woman and the average Palestinian household size was 4.1 persons in 2010.
- The available data on Palestinians living in Lebanon in 2010 indicated that the percentage of individuals under 15 years of age was 30.4% while those over 65 years of age made up 5.0%. The total fertility rate for Palestinians living in Lebanon was 3.2 births per woman and the average Palestinian household size was 3.9 persons in 2010.
- Data available on Palestinians living in Israel in 2010 indicated that the percentage of individuals under 15 years of age was 37.5%, while the percentage of individuals over 65 years of age was 3.9%. The overall fertility rate was 3.5 births per woman and the average Palestinian household size was 4.4 persons in 2010.
- Data for 2011 indicate that 44.1% of Palestinians living in the Palestinian Territory are refugees, which makes 29.7% of the total population of the West Bank. Refugees make up 67.4% of the total population of Gaza Strip.
- Data indicated that the dependency ratio in the Palestinian Territory has fallen from 101.3 in 1997 to 75.0 in 2011.
- Data indicate that there was a slight increase in the median age in the Palestinian Territory in the period 1997-2011, from 16.4 years in 1997 to 18 years in 2011.
- The crude birth rate in the Palestinian Territory has fallen from 42.7 births per 1000 population in 1997 to 32.8 births per 1000 population in 2011. The rate is expected to reach 31.9 births in 2015. Meanwhile, the crude death rate has fallen from 4.9 deaths per 1000 population in 1997 to 4.0 deaths per 1000 population in 2011. The rate is expected to become 3.6 by 2015.
- In mid-2011, the natural population increase in the Palestinian Territory was 2.9%: 2.6% in the West Bank and 3.3% in Gaza Strip.
- The average household size has decreased to 5.8 persons for 2007 and 2011 compared to 6.4 persons in 1997.
- Life expectancy in the Palestinian Territory in 2011 was 72.4 years: 71.0 years for men and 73.9 years for women.

#### Chapter One

## **Reporting Methodology**

The formulation of development plans and social development in the Palestinian Territory requires the availability of several indicators relating to demographic characteristics and population. The main indicators are those on population and population distribution. As a commitment to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) policy on periodically updating population estimates and demographic indicators, this report was prepared to provide recent and reliable data on these fields for users, researchers, scholars, and planners.

The process of collecting statistical data on the Palestinian people all over the world faces many professional, financial, and political difficulties. Surveys and direct field studies cannot be conducted in many of the countries hosting Palestinians. There is a lack of technical framework necessary for the selection of statistical samples or studied theory surveys and field studies. In addition, the integration of the Palestinian people into the communities in which they reside makes the counting process very difficult, in addition to the financial cost.

There are also political obstacles to studies and field surveys in other countries since these may contradict their principles of sovereignty. For all these reasons, the PCBS attempts to conduct several activities in conjunction with the current conditions so that, in terms of professionalism, they can produce the best estimates within the available resources.

#### **1.1 Data Sources and Methodology**

Data in this report are based on a number of field surveys and censuses carried out by PCBS in the Palestinian Territory and a number of field surveys conducted in host countries. In addition, other sources were used, including administrative records available to international organizations, a number of studies conducted by establishments and individuals to estimate the number of Palestinians and their demographic and social characteristics, including the report of the Commissioner General of UNRWA, and pages on the Internet belonging to centers dealing with the Palestinian issue around the world.

Data related to the Palestinian population inside Israel are based on the Statistical Abstract of Israel (various years) and data from the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (Statistical Abstract) No. 62 for 2011. The information bank of the Palestinian minority in Israel (Rakaz) is related to the National Arab Association for Research and Health Services (Jaleel Association).

Providing data about Palestinians residing in Israel is very complicated since the data resources are limited to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics. Their methodology is based on calculating all the Arabs and Palestinians within the state of Israel, including the Syrian Golan Heights and the J1 province of Jerusalem,<sup>1</sup> in addition to the Palestinian Territory occupied in 1948. Therefore, in calculating the Palestinian population in Israel, the J1<sup>1</sup> population were excluded from the number of people in the Jerusalem governorate.

In regard to Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory (West Bank, Gaza Strip), figures are taken from revised estimates based on the latest data. The data were prepared by the PCBS from the results of the population, housing and establishments survey of 2007, based on a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> J1 Includes those parts of Jerusalem governorate annexed by Israel in 1967.

developed hypothesis on anticipated trends in fertility, death rates, and international immigration of Palestinians into the Palestinian Territory in future years.

With regard to Palestinians in Jordan, data are taken from estimates of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), in addition to surveys conducted in collaboration with a number of international organizations in Jordan. The UNRWA records indicate that the registered number of Palestinian refugees in Jordan was estimated at 1,999,466 million at the end of 2010.<sup>2</sup> There are 282 thousand Palestinian refugees who live in Jordan but are not registered with UNRWA, according to the National Center for Studies and Documentation in 2000.<sup>3</sup> The majority of Palestinians living in Jordan have Jordanian citizenship.

Data for the Palestinian population in Syria are based on surveys conducted in cooperation with international organizations and reports of the Commissioner General of UNRWA and derived from the records of the agency. The UNRWA records indicate that the number of registered refugees in Syria was 495,970 at the end of 2010.<sup>2</sup>

Data for the Palestinian population in Lebanon are based on surveys conducted there in cooperation with international organizations and reports of the Commissioner General of UNRWA and the records of the agency. The UNRWA records show that the number of Palestinian refugees registered in Lebanon was 455,373 at the end of 2010.<sup>2</sup>

Data on the Palestinian population in other Arab states and foreign countries are derived from the estimates of researchers, associations and Palestinian centers.

#### **1.2 Population Projection Assumptions**

- 1. Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory: The projections of the number of Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory are based on the following assumptions:
  - The decline of the total fertility rate by 30% during 2007-2025 in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
  - Decline of infant mortality rates by 50% during 2007-2025 in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
  - The presumption of net international immigration is equal to zero from 2007 to the end of the projection period in 2025.
- 2. Palestinians in Israel: The current annual growth rate is adopted, which is 2.5% according to data from the Israeli Bureau of Statistics.
- 3. Palestinians in Arab states: It has been assumed as a steady growth rate of 2.5%.
- 4. Palestinians in foreign countries: It has been assumed as a fixed growth rate of 1.5%.

## **1.3 Report Structure**

The report constitutes a preface and four chapters. Chapter one comprises the methodology. Chapter two presents a report on Palestinians in Diaspora and in historical Palestine (estimating the number of Palestinians in the world and the demographic characteristics of Palestinians living in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Israel). Chapter three focuses on end of year estimates of the Palestinian population in the Palestinian Territory, the percentage distribution of population by selected age groups, sex ratio, refugee status, and other specific demographic characteristics. Finally, chapter four presents the concepts and definitions.

<sup>2</sup> UNRWA, 2011. UNRWA STATISTICS-2010-First issue, selected indicators.

<sup>3</sup> National Center for Studies and Documentation, 2000. The Memory of Palestine.

#### Chapter Two

## **Palestinians in Diaspora and in Historical Palestine**

This chapter presents a summary of the most important demographic and population indicators in the Diaspora and in historical Palestine.

#### **2.1 Estimated World Population of Palestinians**

#### 11.22 Million Palestinians in the World at the End of 2011

There are estimated to be 11.22 million Palestinians in the world at the end of 2011, distributed according to location as follows: 4.23 million in the Palestinian Territory, which is 37.7% of the Palestinian world population; 1.37 million in Israel (12.2%); 4.99 million in Arab countries (44.4%); and 636 thousand in foreign countries (5.7%).

#### Percentage Distribution Population of Palestinian by Country of Residence, End year 2011



#### 2.2 Estimated Number of Palestinians and Jews in historical Palestine

#### 7.2 Million Palestinians compared to 6.8 million Jews in 2020 in Historical Palestine

PCBS estimates indicate that there were around 5.6 million Palestinians living in historical Palestine at the end of 2011, while there were 5.8 million Jews according to estimates by the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics for 2010 The number of Palestinians and Jews will be equal at the end of 2015 with 6.3 million each, if growth rates remain as they are, while the percentage of Jews will be around 48.7% of the total population by the end of 2020 with 6.8 million compared to 7.2 million Palestinians.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Data on Palestinian populations is based on estimates by PCBS, while estimates of the Jewish population are based on figures in the annual Israeli Statistical Abstract 2011, Issue no. 62.



Projected Population for Palestinian and Jews Population in Historic Palestine, Selected Years

#### 2.3 Demographic Aspects of Palestinians in Diaspora and Israel

#### • Palestinians in Jordan

Data indicate that the Palestinian household size is 4.8 persons and the annual growth rate is 2.4%. The average fertility of Palestinian women in Jordan is around 3.3 births per woman with a crude birth rate of 29.2 births per thousand. The infant mortality rate in Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan is 22.6 deaths per thousand live births, while the mortality rate of children up to five years of age is 25.7 deaths per thousand live births in 2010.<sup>5</sup>

#### • Palestinians in Syria

The available data on Palestinians living in Syria showed that in 2009, 33.1% of the population were below the age of fifteen while 4.4% were aged 65 years and above.<sup>6</sup> Data also indicate that the Palestinian household size was 4.1 individuals in 2010 and population growth was 1.6 for the same year. The total fertility in 2010 of Palestinians in Syria was 2.5 births for each woman and the crude birth rate was 29.2 per thousand of the total population. The infant mortality in 2010 was 28.2 deaths per thousand live births and the mortality rate among children below five years of age was 31.5 deaths per thousand births.<sup>7</sup>

In 2006, in the Palestinian population aged 15 years and above in Syria, 48.3% of males were unmarried and 40.8% of females. The highest percentage of unmarried individuals was in the 15-19 age group: 100% of males and 92.7% of females. Female widows in the Palestinian population living in Syria were 4.2% compared to 0.5% for males. <sup>8</sup>

#### • Palestinians in Lebanon

The available data on Palestinians living in Lebanon in 2010 showed that 30.4% of the population were below the age of fifteen while 5.0% were aged 65 and above. The gender ratio was 102.5 males per hundred females in 2010. Data also indicated that 45.8% of Palestinians living in Lebanon aged 12 years and above were unmarried: 49.4% of males and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>UNRWA, 2011. UNRWA STATISTICS -2010- First issue, selected indicators

<sup>6</sup> PCBS, 2011. Palestinian Statistical Yearbook No. 11. Ramallah- Palestine.

<sup>7</sup> UNRWA, 2011. UNRWA STATISTICS -2010- First issue, selected indicators

<sup>8</sup>PCBS, 2011. Palestinian Statistical Yearbook, No. 11. Ramallah - Palestine.

42.0% of females, while 48.2% were married: 48.4% of males and 47.9% of females. The divorce rate was 1.3%: 0.8% of males and 1.8% of females. The percentage of widowed Palestinians was 4.5%: 1.3% males and 7.9% females in 2010. The number of Palestinians living in Lebanon aged 15 years and above who are not enrolled in school is 28.3%: 27.4% males and 29.3% females. The percentage of those who completed elementary and primary schools was 51.8%: 51.1% males and 52.5% females, while 19.9% held a high school and post high school certificate of education: 21.6% of males and 18.3% of females in 2010.<sup>9</sup>

The available data for 2010 indicate that the average Palestinian household size was 3.9 persons, the total fertility rate was 3.2 births per woman and the crude birth rate was 25.8 births per thousand. The infant mortality rate was 19.0 per thousand live births and the mortality rate for children below the age of five was 21.7 per thousand live births in the same year. <sup>10</sup>

#### • Palestinians in Israel

The estimated number of Palestinians living in Israel at the end of 2011 was 1.37 million. Available data on Palestinians living in Israel in 2010 show that 37.5% of the population were below the age of fifteen while 3.9% were aged 65 years old and above.

The total fertility rate for Palestinians living in Israel was 3.5 births per woman in 2010. This rate is higher than the Israeli fertility rate of 3.0 births per woman for the same year. The Palestinian household size was 4.4 persons in 2010.<sup>11</sup> The crude birth rate was 26.2 births per thousand out of the total population and the crude mortality rate was 2.7 per thousand. The infant mortality rate in 2010 was 7.0 per thousand live births and the gender ratio was 102.2 males per hundred females.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Analytical study on restrictions on housing and households in Palestinian refugee camps and localities in Lebanon, 2010. 10 UNRWA, 2011. UNRWA STATISTICS -2010- First issue, selected indicators.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Galil Society, Palestinians in Israel, Third social and economic survey 2010, basic results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Israeli Statistical Yearbook, 2011: Issue 62.

#### Chapter Three

## **Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory**

This chapter summarises the most important population and demographic indicators in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2011, based on different sources.

#### 4.2 Million of Population in Palestinian Territory at the End of 2011

The estimated population of Palestinians in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2011 was 4.2 million: 2.6 million in the West Bank (61.8%) and 1.6 million (38.2%) in Gaza Strip. The highest population was in Hebron with 14.9% of the total population, followed by Gaza governorate with 13.3% and the Jerusalem population with 9.3%. Jericho and Al Aghwar had the lowest population rate of 1.1%.

#### Percentage Distribution of Population in The Palestinian Territory by Governorate, End year 2011



#### 44.1% of Palestinian Population in Palestinian Territory are refugees

Estimates for 2011 indicate that 44.1% of the total Palestinian population in the Palestinian Territory were refugees, estimated in number at 1.9 million: 777 thousand in the West Bank (29.7% of the total West Bank population) and 1.1 million in Gaza Strip (67.4% of the total population in Gaza Strip).

#### 40.7% of Population in Palestinian Territory below age of 15 years

Palestinian society in the Palestinian Territory is a young society with 40.7% of the population aged less than 15 at the end of 2011. There was a distinct regional difference with a rate of 38.6% in the West Bank compared to 43.8% in Gaza Strip. The percentage of those aged 65 years old and above was 2.9%: 3.3% in the West Bank and 2.3% in Gaza Strip.

#### Sex Ratio in Palestinian Territory is 103.2 Males per 100 Females

At the end of 2011, there were 2.15 million males in the Palestinian Territory compared to 2.08 females, a sex ratio of 103.2. In the West Bank, there were 1.33 million males and 1.29 million females, a sex ratio of 103.2. In Gaza Strip, there were 821 thousand males and 796 thousand females, a sex ratio of 103.1.

#### High Dependency Ratio in Palestinian Territory

Data indicate that the dependency rate fell in the Palestinian Territory from 101.3 in 1997 to 75.0 in 2011, but there was a distinct difference between the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In 2011, the rate decreased in the West Bank from 94.7 in 1997 to 73.0 in 2011 while in Gaza Strip the rate decreased from 114.5 in 1997 to 87.0 in 2011.

#### 18.0 Years is the Median Age in the Palestinian Territory

There has been a slight increase in the median age in the Palestinian Territory during 1997-2011: the median age rose from 16.4 years in 1997 to 18.0 years in 2011. In the West Bank, the median age rose from 17.4 years in 1997 to 20.0 years in 2011, while in Gaza Strip it increased from 14.8 in 1997 to 17.0 years in 2011.

#### Decline in Crude Birth Rates in Palestinian Territory

Population projections indicate that the crude birth rate in the Palestinian Territory will decline from 32.8 crude births per thousand of population in 2011 to 31.9 crude births in 2015. The crude birth rate varies between 30.1 births in the West Bank and 37.1 births in Gaza Strip in 2011.

## **Decline in Crude Mortality Rates in Palestinian Territory**

The crude mortality rates are relatively low compared to those prevailing in Arab countries. Crude mortality rates are expected to decline from 4.0 deaths per 1000 population in 2011 to 3.6 deaths per 1000 population by 2015. The crude mortality rate should fall from 4.1 deaths per thousand population in 2011 in the West Bank to 3.8 deaths per thousand population by 2015. This indicates the improvements in the quality of life and public access to medical services.

#### 2.9% Population Increase in Palestinian Territory mid 2011

The rate of population increase in the Palestinian Territory in mid 2011 was 2.9%: 2.6% in the West Bank and 3.3% in Gaza Strip. It is anticipated that this growth rate will remain stable over the coming five years since the mortality rate is declining and fertility rates remain high, despite a tendency to slow. This will therefore require appropriate economic and social policies to deal with the population increase in coming years.

#### Decline in Household Size in the Palestinian Territory

The average household size in the Palestinian Territory has fallen from 5.8 persons in 2007-2011 compared to 6.4 persons in 1997. In the West Bank, the average household size fell to 5.6 persons in 2011 compared to 6.1 in 1997. In Gaza Strip, the average size fell to 6.3 persons in 2011 compared to 6.9 in 1997.

#### High Fertility Rates in the Palestinian Territory

The fertility rate in the Palestinian Territory is high compared to other countries due to early marriage, especially for females, and the desire to have children, in addition to the customs and traditions prevailing in Palestinian society, but there are indicators that the fertility rate has begun to decline over the past decade. According to the preliminary results of the Palestinian household survey in 2010, the total fertility rate had fallen to 4.2 births in 2010 compared to 6.0 births in 1997. The fertility rate continued to be high in Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank during 1997-2010, with 3.8 births in 2010 in the West Bank compared to 5.6 births in 1997. In Gaza Strip, the fertility rate was 4.9 in 2010 compared to 6.9 in 1997.

The average number of children born to married women in the Palestinian Territory in 2010 was 4.3 children: 4.2 children in the West Bank and 4.5 children in Gaza Strip.

The total fertility rate in the Palestinian Territory is high compared to Arab countries: <sup>13</sup> 3.8 births in Jordan, 2.9 births in Egypt and 2.1 births in Tunisia in 2010.

#### **Increased Life Expectancy in 2011**

As a result of the decrease in the mortality rate in the Palestinian Territory, the life expectancy for individuals has increased to 72.4 years: 71.0 for males and 73.9 for females in 2011. This varied by region with life expectancy of 72.8 years in the West Bank: 71.4 years for males and 74.3 for females, while in Gaza Strip live expectancy was 71.8 years: 70.5 years for males and 73.2 for females. Reasons for the increase in life expectancy include improvements in health care and the gradual decrease of mortality rates among infants and children.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Population Reference Bureau. World Population Data Sheet, 2011.

#### Chapter Four

## **Concepts and Definitions**

#### Average household size:

It refer to the average number of privet household member calculated through dividing the total number of member for a certain category by number of household for that particular category.

#### **Crude Birth Rate:**

The number of births per 1,000 persons in a given year.

#### **Crude Death Rate:**

The number of deaths per 1,000 persons in a given year.

#### **Crude Marriage Rate (CMR):**

The number of marriages per 1000 population in mid year.

#### **Crude Divorce Rate (CDR):**

The number of divorces per 1000 population in mid year.

#### **Dependency Ratio:**

The ratio of the persons defined as economically dependent to those in the ages defined as economically productive; arbitrary defined as the ratio of the elderly (those 65 years and over) plus the young (those under 15 years of age) to the population in the "working ages" (those 15-64 years of age).

#### **Infant Mortality Rate**

The number of infant deaths under one year of age in a given year per 1,000 live births during the year.

#### Life Expectancy:

The average number of additional years a person would live if current mortality trends were to continue. Most commonly cited as life expectancy at birth.

#### Median Age:

The age which divides a population into two numerically, equal groups; that is, half of the people are younger than this age and the second half are older.

#### **Rate of Natural Increase:**

The rate at which a population is increasing (or decreasing) in a given year due to an increase (or decrease) of births against deaths expressed as a percentage of the base population.

#### **Refugee Status:**

This status relates to the Palestinians who were forced to leave their land in the Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel in 1948. It applies to their male sons and grandchildren.

**Registered Refugees**: It applies to registered refugees holding refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

**Non-Registered Refugees**: It applies to unregistered refugees who do not hold refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.

**Non-Refugee**: It applies to any Palestinian not categorized under any of the two aforementioned status types.

#### Sex Ratio:

The number of males per 100 females in a population.

#### **Total Fertility Rate:**

The average number of children that would be born alive to a woman (or group of women) during her life time if she were to pass through her childbearing (15-49) years conforming to the age specific fertility rates of a given years. The sum of age specific fertility rates is multiplied by 5.