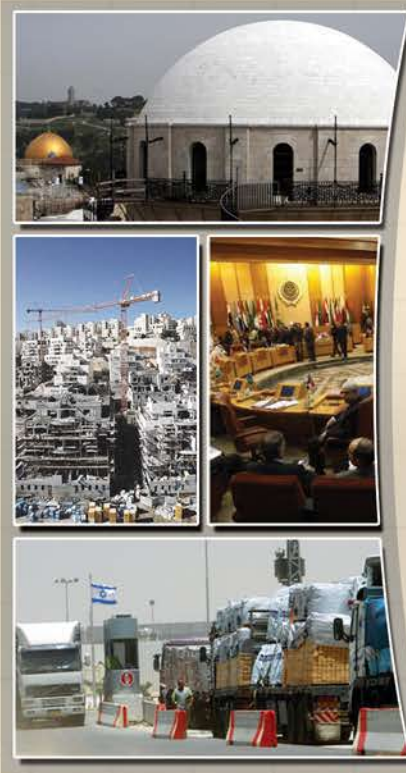


# The Palestinian Strategic Report 2010/11



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# **Chapter Seven**

## ***The Palestinian Demographic Indicators***

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# The Palestinian Demographic Indicators

## *Introduction*

The Palestinian people continue to suffer from the bitterness of displacement and dispossession, and from a torn social fabric as a result of the Israeli occupation, and the massacres and deliberate expulsions of the Palestinians. Around 5.75 million Palestinians abroad and 1.8 million Palestinian refugees in the WB and the GS continue to be denied their right of return to their lands, as a result of Israeli intransigence and the negligence of the international community, and also because of the failure of the peace process to secure their rights

Nevertheless, the Palestinians are a youthful population, and enjoy a high natural population growth rate. In a few years, the Palestinian population will exceed the Jewish population in historic Palestine. Furthermore, the Palestinians in the Diaspora grow more determined every day to secure their right of return. Their activities, events, and campaigns in support of this right are increasing day by day.

## *First: The Palestinian Population Worldwide*

The estimated number of Palestinians around the world, at the end of 2010, was around 11.14 million, compared to around 10.88 million at the end of 2009, i.e., an annual growth rate of about 2.4%. Table 1/7 presents the estimates of the worldwide Palestinian population according to their place of residence, at the end of 2010.

The Palestinians are divided, according to their place of residence. There are Palestinians living in historic Palestine, which comprises the territories occupied in 1948 and 1967. They are estimated at 5.39 million, i.e., 48.4% of the total Palestinian population, of which 4.11 million are in the 1967 occupied Palestinian territories, i.e., 36.9% of the worldwide Palestinian population, while 1.28 million are in the 1948 occupied Palestinian territories (Israel), i.e., 11.5% of the worldwide Palestinian population.

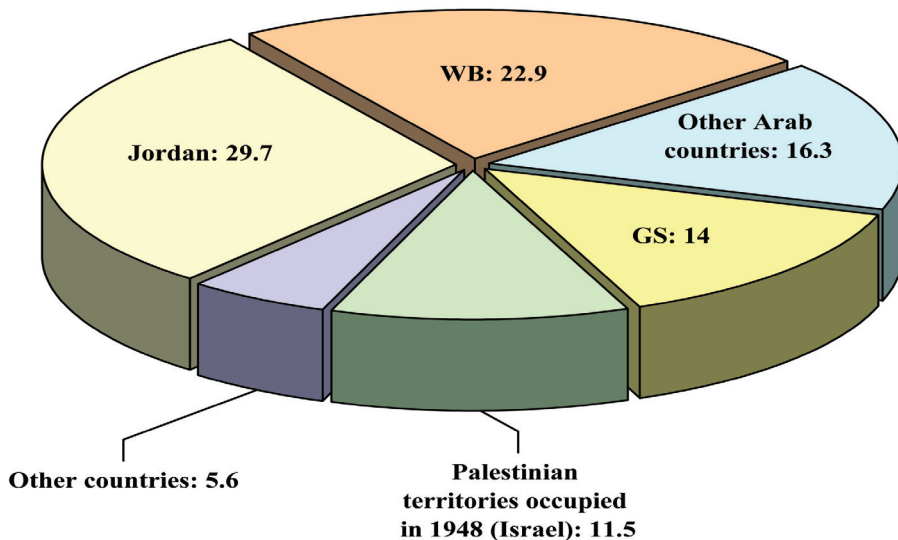


**Table 1/7: Palestinian Population Worldwide Estimate According to Their Place of Residence at the End of 2010<sup>1</sup>**

Place of residence		Population estimate (thousands)	Percentage (%)
Palestinian territories occupied in 1967	WB	2,547	22.9
	GS	1,562	14
Palestinian territories occupied in 1948 (Israel)*		1,277	11.5
Jordan		3,311	29.7
Other Arab countries		1,812	16.3
Other countries		626	5.6
Total		11,135	100

\* For the Palestinian population in the territories occupied in 1948, the number does not include the population in the territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem Governorate, and does not include also the Arab Syrians, Lebanese, non-Arab Christians, or the “Others” category. It is calculated on the basis of the annual growth rate cited in the Israeli census of Arabs, which is equal to 2.4%.<sup>2</sup>

**Palestinian Population Worldwide Estimate According to Their Place of Residence at the End of 2010 (%)**



The Palestinians in the Diaspora meanwhile, are estimated at 5.75 million, i.e., 51.6% of the Palestinians in the world. The majority of these are mostly concentrated in the neighboring Arab countries, especially Jordan. The number of Palestinians at the end of 2010 in Jordan was approximately 3.31 million, i.e., 29.7% of the worldwide Palestinian population. As for the Palestinians living in other Arab countries, they are estimated at 1.81 million, i.e., 16.3% of the total Palestinian population. They are concentrated mostly in the neighboring Arab countries; Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and the Arab Gulf states. In the foreign countries, there are around 626 thousand Palestinians, i.e., 5.6% of the worldwide Palestinian population.

It should be noted that the Palestinian refugees are not exclusively defined as those who are residing outside of Palestine. There are about 1.8 million Palestinian refugees residing in the 1967 Palestinian territories, in addition to 150 thousand refugees who were expelled from their lands, but who continue to reside in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1948 (Israel). Subsequently, the total number of Palestinian refugees amounts to about 7.71 million, representing 69.2% of the Palestinian people.

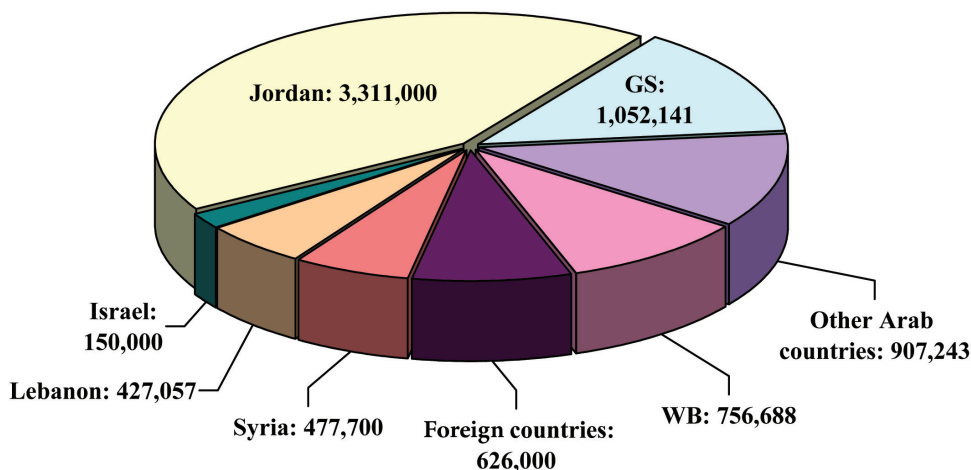
There may be some redundancy in the calculation of certain numbers, due to the relocation of the refugee from the place where he/she is registered or from the country he/she is a citizen, to a different place of work or residence. However, this has only slight effect due to the large number of refugees.

**Table 2/7: Palestinian Refugees Worldwide Population Estimates of 2010**

Country	WB	GS	Palestinian territories occupied in 1948 (Israel)	Jordan	Lebanon	Syria	Other Arab countries	Foreign countries	Total
<b>Population estimate (thousands)</b>	756,688	1,052,141	150,000	3,311,000	427,057	477,700	907,243	626,000	<b>7,707,829</b>



## Palestinian Refugees Worldwide Population Estimates of 2010



## *Second: The Demographic Characteristics of Palestinians*

### 1. The WB and GS

The population in the WB and GS was estimated at around 4.109 million, at the end of 2010, of which around 2.547 million people in the WB, i.e., 62%, and 1.562 million people in GS, i.e., 38%. As for the distribution of the Palestinian population in the governorates, data indicate that Hebron is the governorate with the largest population, which reached 14.9% of the total population in the WB and GS. The next largest governorate is Gaza where it reached 13.2% of the total population in the WB and GS, whereas the population in Jerusalem governorate reached 9.4%. Data indicate also that Jericho and al-Aghwar governorates registered the smallest population, at the end of 2010, where it was approximately 1.1% of the population in the WB and GS.

The 2010 estimates indicate that 44% of the Palestinians of the WB and GS population are refugees, numbering approximately 1.809 million refugees at the end of 2010. They reached approximately 757 thousand in the WB, i.e., 29.7% of the total WB population, and 1.052 million refugees in GS, i.e., 67.4% of the total GS population.

**Table 3/7: Comparing the Palestinian Total and Refugee Population in the WB and GS 2010**

Place of residence	Total population		Refugee population	
	Estimate	Percentage (%)	Estimate	Percentage (%)
<b>WB</b>	2,546,725	62	756,688	29.7
<b>GS</b>	1,561,906	38	1,052,141	67.4
<b>WB &amp; GS</b>	<b>4,108,631</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,808,829</b>	<b>44</b>

The Palestinian population in the WB and GS is predominantly a young one, where the percentage of individuals under 15 years of age, at the end of 2010, was estimated at 41.1% with a significant difference between the WB and GS, as the percentage in the WB was 39.2% compared to 44.2% in GS. This is while the segment of the elderly population constituted only a minor fraction of the Palestinian population. In mid 2010, the elderly population (above 60 years of age) was estimated at 4.4% of the total population, with 4.9% in the WB and 3.7% in GS. This is while bearing in mind that the percentage of elderly in the developed countries as a whole amounts to 16% of the total population of those countries, while the percentage of elderly in developing countries as a whole amounts to 6% only of the population at large.

Despite the absolute increase in the number of elderly in the WB and GS in the coming years, their percentage of the total population is expected to remain steady and would not exceed 4.5% in the next 10 years. This is while it is possible for this percentage to begin increasing further after 2020. The unaltered percentage of elderly among the general population in the coming years is due to the high fertility rates in the Palestinian society, especially in GS.

The percentage of males aged 60 years or above in the WB and GS in 2010 amounted to 3.8%, compared to 5% of females, with a sex ratio of 79 males per 100 females. The higher proportion of females as compared to males in the elderly population is basically due to biological and health reasons which increase the life expectancy for females compared to males in most countries of the world.





The age distribution of the population reveals a wide-based population pyramid with a pointed narrow tip. Hence, in the upcoming years the Palestinians will remain influenced by the relatively high natural population growth despite the decrease in the natural population growth rate and the fertility rate in the past years.

The estimated number of males at the end of 2010 in the WB and GS was approximately 2.086 million, compared to 2.023 million females, with a sex ratio of 103.1 males per 100 females. As for the WB, the number of males was 1.293 million compared to 1.254 million females, while in GS, the number of males was 793 thousand compared to 769 thousand females, meaning that both the WB and GS kept the same sex ratio of 103.1 males per 100 females.

Data indicate that the dependency ratio in the WB and GS had dropped from 101.3 in 1997 to 78.7 in 2010. At the regional level, it is noted that there is a significant difference in the dependency ratio for both the WB and GS. In the former, this ratio dropped from 94.7 in 1997 to 73.7 in 2010, while in GS it dropped from 114.5 in 1997 to 87.4 in 2010.

The WB and GS have witnessed a clear improvement in life expectancy rates at birth during the last two decades, averaging 70.8 years for males and 73.6 years for females in 2010. These rates are expected to further increase in the coming years, reaching about 72.2 years for males and 75 years for females in 2015. In fact, these rates differ between the WB and GS. In the former, the life expectancy rate at birth in 2010 was 72.6; 71.2 for males and 74 for females, while in GS it was 71.6; 70.2 for males and 72.9 for females. These increases are the result of the improvement of healthcare and gradual decrease in infant mortality rates.

The available data show a slight increase in the median age in the WB and GS, from 16.4 years in 1997 to 18.5 years in 2010. When comparing the data of the WB and GS separately, for the period of 1997–2010, a difference in the median age can be noticed. It increased in the WB from 17.4 years in 1997 to 19.4 in 2010, whereas it increased in GS from 14.8 years in 1997 to 17.2 in 2010.

Meanwhile, population projections indicate that the Crude Birth Rate (CBR) in the WB and GS will drop from 32.8 births per one thousand inhabitants in 2010 to 31.9 in 2015. At the regional level, we note that there is a difference in the CBR between the WB and GS. In the WB, the CBR in 2010 was 30.1, while it was estimated at 37.1 in GS.

The data available also indicates that the Crude Death Rates (CDR) are relatively low, compared to the rates prevailing in other Arab countries. The estimated CDR expected to drop slightly in the WB and GS from 4.1 deaths per one thousand inhabitants in 2010 to 3.6 in 2015. At the regional level, we notice that there is a slight difference in the CDR between the WB and GS. In WB, the CDR is expected to drop from 4.2 deaths per one thousand inhabitants in 2010, to 3.8 in 2015. Whereas in GS, the CDR is expected to drop from 4 per one thousand inhabitants in 2010 to 3.5 in 2015. This indicates an improving quality of life, better access to medical services, as well as improved health awareness among the population.

The natural population growth rate in the WB and GS has reached 2.9% in the mid of 2010, with 2.7% in the WB and 3.3% in GS. The growth rates are expected to remain unchanged for the next five years, as the low level of death rates and high level of fertility rates, despite their relative decline, will result in an increase in the natural population growth rates. In truth, this is the only option available to the Palestinian people to maintain balance in the demographic struggle with Israel, which relies on attracting Jewish immigrants from abroad, and encouraging the Jewish people to procreate. This is while Israel pursues a state policy of forced displacement of the Palestinians, in addition to the killings, arrests and the construction of the Separation Wall, while imposing blockades and closures in addition to myriad restrictions on the Palestinian economy.

Fertility rates in the WB and GS are considered high relative to current fertility rates in other countries. High fertility rates are mainly due to early marriage especially among females, and the desire to procreate as well as customs and traditions prevailing in the Palestinian society, but there are indications which confirm that fertility has started to decline during the last decade of the last century. Based on the final results of the Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007 (PHC-2007), total fertility rate in the WB and GS has fallen, from 6 in 1997 to 4.6 in 2007. When considering each area separately, one can notice that the total fertility rate in GS was higher than in the WB during the period 1997–2007, reaching 4.1 births in the WB in 2007 compared to 5.6 births in 1997, whereas in GS, it was 5.3 births in 2007 compared to 6.9 births in 1997. Also, the average number of children born to married women in the WB and GS in 2006 was about 4.7 children; where in the WB it was 4.6 children and in the GS it was 5 children.



In terms of household size, data point out that there was a decline in the average household size in the WB and GS, where the average household size declined from 6.4 persons according to 1997 population census to 5.8 persons according to 2007 population census then it declined to 5.5 in 2010. The average declined in the WB from 6.1 persons in 1997 to 5.8 in 2007 then it declined to 5.3 in 2010, while it declined in GS from 6.9 persons to 6.5 in 2007 then it declined to 5.8 in 2010.<sup>3</sup>

With regard to the prevalence of illiteracy, results show that illiteracy rates among adults in the WB and GS are among the lowest rates in the world, where the illiteracy rate among individuals aged 15 years and above, was 5.4% in 2009 with 2.6% males and 8.3% females, compared to 5.9% in 2008 with 2.9% males and 9.1% females, noting that an illiterate person is defined as a person who cannot read or write a simple sentence about his daily life.

Previous results indicate a significant drop in the illiteracy rate since 1997. The worldwide illiteracy rate among individuals aged 15 and above is 16.6%, and the number of the illiterate population worldwide in the years 2005–2008 amounted to approximately 796.2 million, including 510.6 million females. Illiteracy among males worldwide stood at 11.8% in the same period, and 21.1% among females. In the Arab world, around 60.2 million are illiterate, including 39.3 million females, at a ratio of 36.9% for females compared to 18.8% among males.<sup>4</sup>

In addition, the average housing density (number of individuals per room) in the WB and GS amounted to 1.6 persons per room in 2010. The average for the WB is 1.5 compared to an average of 1.8 persons per room in GS. Around 10% of households in the WB and GS live in housing units with three persons or more per room. The average number of rooms in the housing unit in the WB and GS was 3.6 in 2010. About 15% of the households in the WB and GS live in housing units with 1–2 rooms.<sup>5</sup>

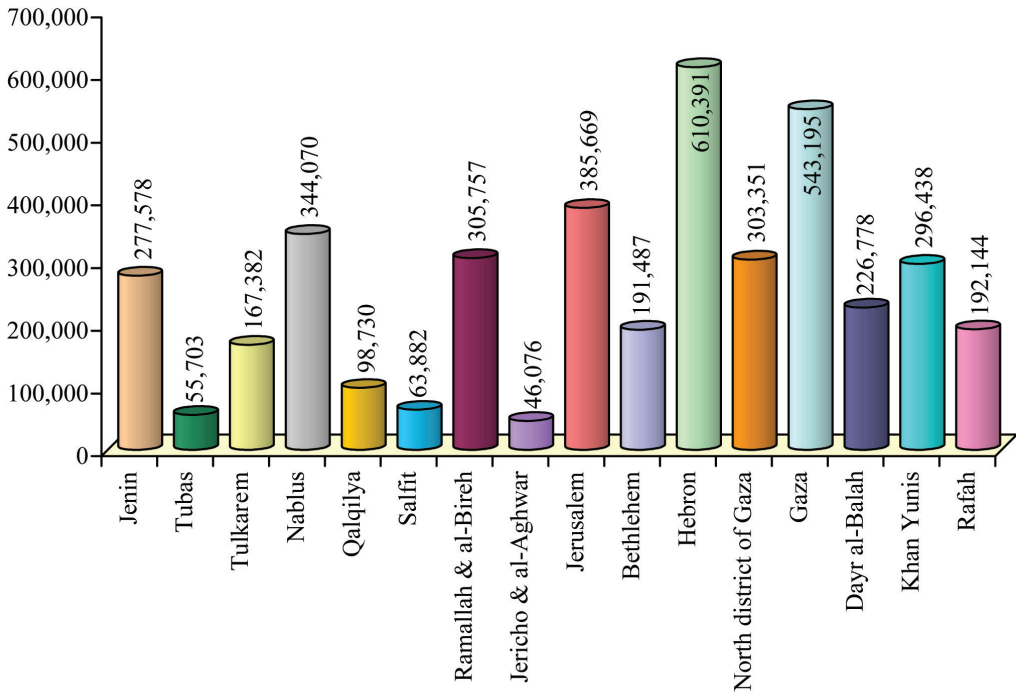
The following table is the distribution of the population according to the estimates of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), in the governorates of the WB and the GS.

**Table 4/7: Estimated Population Count by Governorate, 2007 & 2010<sup>6</sup>**

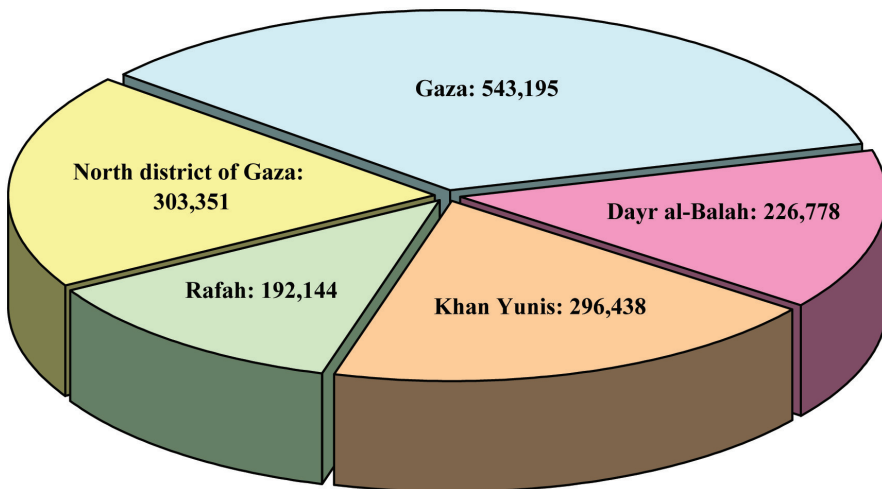
Governorate	2007	2010	Annual growth rate 2007–2010
<b>WB</b>	<b>2,345,107</b>	<b>2,546,725</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Jenin	256,212	277,578	2.7
Tubas	48,771	55,703	4.4
Tulkarem	158,213	167,382	1.9
Nablus	321,493	344,070	2.3
Qalqilya	91,046	98,730	2.7
Salfit	59,464	63,882	2.4
Ramallah & al-Bireh	278,018	305,757	3.2
Jericho & al-Aghwar	41,724	46,076	3.3
Jerusalem	362,521	385,669	2.1
Bethlehem	176,515	191,487	2.7
Hebron	551,130	610,391	3.4
<b>GS</b>	<b>1,416,539</b>	<b>1,561,906</b>	<b>3.3</b>
North district of Gaza	270,245	303,351	3.9
Gaza	496,410	543,195	3
Dayr al-Balah	205,534	226,778	3.3
Khan Yunis	270,979	296,438	3
Rafah	173,371	192,144	3.4
<b>Total (WB &amp; GS)</b>	<b>3,761,646</b>	<b>4,108,631</b>	<b>2.9</b>



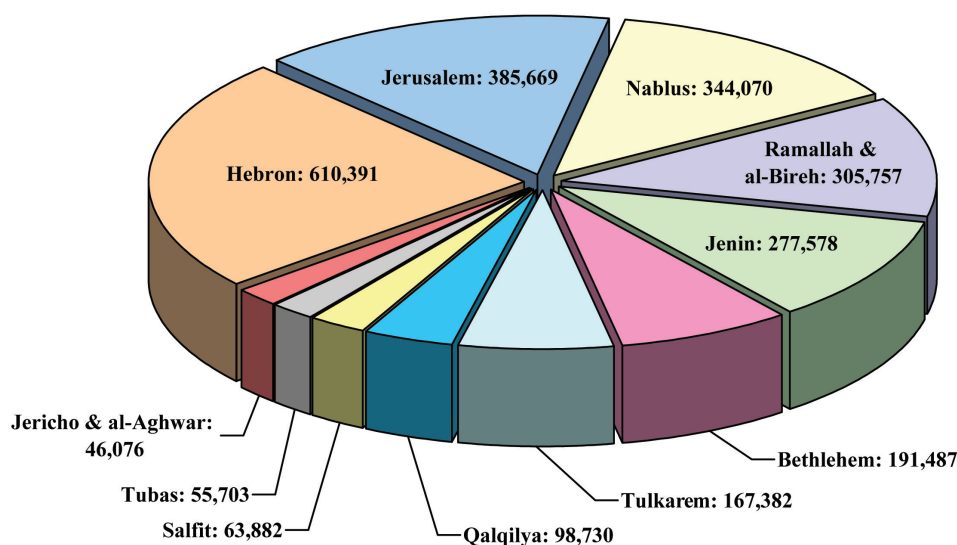
### Estimated Population Count by Governorate 2010



### Estimated Population Count in GS Governorates 2010



### Estimated Population Count in WB Governorates 2010



The population is distributed into 16 governorates, including 5 in GS and 11 in the WB, where Hebron is the largest governorate in terms of population, with an estimated population of 610 thousand, at the end of 2010. Hebron is followed by the Gaza governorate with 543 thousand, and then the Jerusalem governorate with 386 thousand.

The least populated governorates are Jericho, Tubas, Salfit, and Qalqilya, where the population is estimated to be 46 thousand, 56 thousand, 64 thousand, and 99 thousand people respectively.

The annual population growth rate, meanwhile, stood at 2.9% over the past three years, broken into 2.7% in the WB, and 3.3% in the GS.

In terms of the annual population growth rates in the governorates, it is noted that the highest of such rates were recorded in the governorates of the GS, where the rates were 3% and above. The North Gaza governorate was the highest, i.e., 3.9%. In the WB, all growth rates were below 3% with the exception of Tubas, Hebron, Jericho and Ramallah governorates, they were 4.4%, 3.4%, 3.3%, and 3.2% respectively. The governorates with the least growth rates in the WB and GS were Tulkarem and Jerusalem, i.e., 1.9% and 2.1% respectively.

## Internal Migration in the WB and GS

Internal migration is the movement of a person or a household from one locality to another or from one governorate to another, provided that he/she crosses the boundaries of that locality or governorate for the purpose of establishing a new residence for one year or more. The results of the Migration's Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010, conducted by the PCBS for the first time in December 2010, showed the extent of internal migrations whether within the same governorate or from one governorate to another.

The results clearly show that the internal movement of Palestinians between the WB and GS is extremely limited. A very limited percentage of Palestinians living now in GS had previous place of residence in the WB and vice versa. This is largely due to the geographical separation and the policies of Israeli occupation. The results also show that the majority of internal migration takes place within the same governorate, and to nearby ones. In the Tubas governorate, 23.9% of persons were previously residing in Jenin. Similarly in the province of Salfit, 37.8% of persons were previously residing in Ramallah and al-Bireh. In addition, 20% of persons moved to Jericho and Al-Aghwar governorate were previously residing in Jerusalem and 22% came from Bethlehem.

About 50% of internal migration between and within governorates had occurred 10 years ago or more. Further, there is also a noticeable movement during the past five years towards and within a number of Palestinian governorates, specifically Jerusalem, Ramallah, al-Bireh and Nablus.

In addition, the results have shown that 36.4% of persons changed their place of residence in the WB and GS for marriage purposes compared to 32.9% for accompanying. It is natural that a wife would accompany her husband or the children would accompany their parents. This is while other causes of internal migration, such as work, studying, etc., account for a notably low number of cases.

Furthermore, regarding the age distribution of persons who changed their place of residence within the WB and GS, 33.4% of them fall in the age group 15–29 years and 30% in the age group 30–44 years. This is due to the fact that these groups have the most mobility, given that the primary causes of migration are marriage and accompanying, in addition to the fact that some internal migrations may have occurred years before the survey was conducted.<sup>7</sup>

## 2. The Palestinian Territories Occupied in 1948 (Israel)

At the end of 2010, the estimated number of Palestinians in Israel was around 1.28 million, compared to 1.25 million at the end of 2009. The data available on the number of Palestinians residing in Israel in 2009 indicate the Palestinian population there is predominantly a young one. The percentage of males aged under 15 was 38% and of females 37.2%, while the percentage of males aged 65 and over was 3.6% and of females 4%.

The total fertility rate of the Palestinians in Israel has reached 3.5 births per woman in 2009, compared to 3.62 births per woman in 2007. This is a relatively high rate compared to the fertility rate in Israel. Moreover, the data indicate that the average Palestinian household size has reached 4.8 members per family in 2009 compared to 5 in 2007. The CBR for the year 2009 has reached approximately 26.2 births per one thousand inhabitants, while the infant mortality rate for the same period was 6.8 deaths per one thousand live births. This is while bearing in mind that the sex ratio in 2009 was 102.2 males per 100 females, while the illiteracy rate among Palestinians aged 15 and over was 6.1%. In addition, 26.2% of Palestinian families in Israel live in housing units with a housing density between two individuals and more. These data do not include the Arab population in the Syrian Golan Heights nor does it include the population in J1 of Jerusalem as well as the Lebanese who have moved for a temporary residence in Israel. While Israel takes into consideration all of these groups within its population and within Arab population as a whole.<sup>8</sup>

## 3. Jordan

The number of Palestinians in Jordan at the end of 2010 was estimated at about 3.31 million, compared to 3.24 million at the end of 2009, as per the estimates of the researcher (see table 1/7). There is no up-to-date information on the characteristics of the Palestinian population in Jordan, where the 2007 data show that the Palestinian population in Jordan is predominantly a young one, where 35.9% are aged below 15 years and 5.2% are elderly.

In 2000, the Palestinians aged 15 years and over in Jordan were distributed according to their marital status with a proportion of 50.2% males classified as never married as opposed to 37.4% females. It can be noticed that the highest percentage of those who never married is in the age group 15–19 years with 99.2% males





and 87.9% females. A high proportion of Palestinian female widows can be noticed in Jordan as it has reached 2.6% for females compared to 0.6% male widowers.

The total fertility rate among Palestinian women in Jordan in 2007 was around 3.3 births per woman, with women in the age group 25–29 years contributing most to this rate, which reached 173.6 births per one thousand women. The fertility rate for women in the age group 30–34 years was 149.2 births per one thousand women in 2007. The average household size was 5.1 members in 2007.

The infant mortality rate in Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan was 22.5 per one thousand live births in 2004, while the infant mortality rate of children under five was 25.1 deaths per one thousand live births for the same year.<sup>9</sup>

According to the statistics of the UNRWA, there are about 2,004,795 Registered Palestinian Refugees (RPRs), as of 30/6/2010, compared to 1,570,192 RPR as of 30/6/2000. This means that the annual population growth rate of the RPR in Jordan alone is around 2.5% (see table 6/7).

#### 4. Syria

The number of UNRWA-RPRs in Syria, as of 30/6/2010, was about 477,700 people, compared to 383,199 as of 30/6/2000, i.e., an estimated annual population growth rate of 2.2%. The estimated sex ratio was 100.4 males per 100 females in 2009 (see table 6/7).

Palestinian refugees in Syria constitute around 117,806 families of whom around 27.1% live in refugee camps; noting that the aforementioned refugee number does not include the Palestinians who were displaced to Syria in 1967 and 1970, since the majority of them are not registered in UNRWA's records (see table 7/7).

There is no updated data available on the Palestinians in Syria. The available data on the Palestinians residing in Syria in 2007 indicate that 33.1% of the population was aged below 15 years, and that the average Palestinian household size was 4.9 members. On the other hand, the total fertility rate in 2007 among Palestinians in Syria was 3.6 births per woman with women in the age group 25–29 years contributing mostly in this rate which reached 216.1 births per one thousand women in the same age group. The total fertility rate for women in the age group 30–34 years was 184 births per one thousand women. As for the CBR, it has reached 29.3 births per one thousand of the population. The infant mortality rate in 2006 among Palestinians in Syria was 25 deaths per one thousand

live births, whereas the average mortality rate among children below five years of age was 30 deaths per one thousand live births for the same period.

Palestinians aged 15 years and over residing in Syria in 2007 were distributed according to their marital status with a proportion of 48.3% males classified as never married and 40.8% females. It can be noticed that the highest percentage of those who never married is in the age group 15–19 years with 100% males and 92.7% females. Also noteworthy is the high proportion of Palestinian female widows in Syria as it has reached 4.2% females compared to 0.5% male widowers.<sup>10</sup>

## 5. Lebanon

The number of UNRWA-RPRs in Lebanon, as of 30/6/2010, was about 427,057 people, compared to 376,472 people as of 30/6/2000, i.e., an estimated annual population growth rate of 1.3%. The refugees in Lebanon constitute 113,594 families, 53.1% of which live in refugee camps (see tables 6/7 and 7/7).

The available data on the Palestinians residing in Lebanon in 2010 indicate that 30.4% of the population was aged below 15 years, whereas the percentage aged 65 years and over was 5%. The sex ratio was 102.5 males per 100 females in 2010. The proportion of Palestinian population in Lebanon who are above 12 years of age and who have never married was 45.8% with 49.4% males and 42% females. The proportion of those who have been married was 48.2% with 48.4% males and 47.9% females. The proportion of divorced was 1.3% with 0.8% males and 1.8% females and the proportion of widows among Palestinians residing in Lebanon was around 4.5% with 1.3% male widowers and 7.9% female widows, those figures being for the year 2010.

The proportion of Palestinian population in Lebanon who are above 15 years of age and who are uneducated was 28.3%, with 27.4% males and 29.3% females. On the other hand, 51.8% have completed elementary or preparatory school, with 51.1% males and 52.5 females, while 19.9% have high school diplomas or higher, with 21.6% males and 18.3% females in 2010.

Data also indicate that the average Palestinian household size was 4.4 persons in 2007. On the other hand, the total fertility rate was 3 births per woman in 2007, and the CBR was 21.8 births per one thousand of the population in the same year. The infant mortality rate in 2004 among Palestinian living in Lebanon was 19.2 deaths per one thousand live births, Whereas the mortality rate of children below 5 years of age was 20.2 deaths per one thousand live births in 2004.<sup>11</sup>



The Palestinians in Lebanon continue to be denied several civil rights, including the right to own property and to work in many professions. In addition, the Lebanese political and legal environment is repelling when it comes to the Palestinians under the guise of preventing their naturalization in Lebanon.

With regard to the conditions of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, UNRWA, in collaboration with the American University of Beirut (AUB), has conducted a socio-economic survey on a representative sample of 2,600 Palestine refugee households in Lebanon, in the summer of 2010. The goal of the survey, which was funded by the European Union, describes the living conditions and welfare status of Palestine refugees in Lebanon.

The results of the survey indicated that the number of Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon ranges between 260 and 280 thousand people, and that half of the population is under the age of 25. The results showed that the average household size was 4.5, and that 53% of the refugees are women. Two-thirds of the Palestinians live in refugee camps, while a third of them live in gatherings (mainly in camps vicinity). Half of the Palestinians live in South Lebanon (Tyre and Sidon), while a fifth live in Beirut, another fifth lives in the North, and 4% of the Palestinian population lives in the Beqa' Valley.

In terms of living standards, the results of the survey indicated that 6.6% of the Palestinians suffer from extreme poverty, i.e., they cannot meet their essential daily food needs, compared to 1.7% among Lebanese; 66.4% of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon were also found poor, i.e., they cannot meet their basic food and non-food needs, compared to 35% among Lebanese. The results showed that poverty is higher among refugees living inside camps than those in gatherings, and that more than 81% of all extremely poor refugees are in Sidon and Tyre, where one-third of all poor live in Tyre area.

In terms of employment, the results of the survey show that 56% of the Palestinians are jobless, and that 38% of the working age population are employed, while two thirds of Palestinians employed in elementary occupations (like street vendors, work in construction, agriculture) are poor. Employment has a small impact on reducing poverty but a large impact on reducing extreme poverty.

As regards education, the results of the survey show that half of young people of secondary school age (16–18 years old) are enrolled in schools or vocational training centers. The survey also shows that the high dropout rates and insufficient skills combined with significant labor market restrictions hamper refugees' ability

to find adequate jobs. Further, educational attainment is a good predictor for household socio-economic status and food security. Poverty incidence drops to 60.5% when the household head has an above primary educational attainment, and extreme poverty is almost divided by two. Moreover, it was found that 6% of the Palestinians hold a university degree, compared to 20% for the Lebanese.

In terms of housing and living conditions, the survey results indicate that 66% of houses suffer from dampness and leakage thus resulting in psychological and chronic illnesses. Bad housing is concentrated in the south of Lebanon. Furthermore, 8% of households live in shelters where the roof and/or walls are made of corrugated iron, wood or asbestos, while another 8% of families live in overcrowded conditions (more than three people in one room).<sup>12</sup>

## 6. General Comparisons Among Palestinians

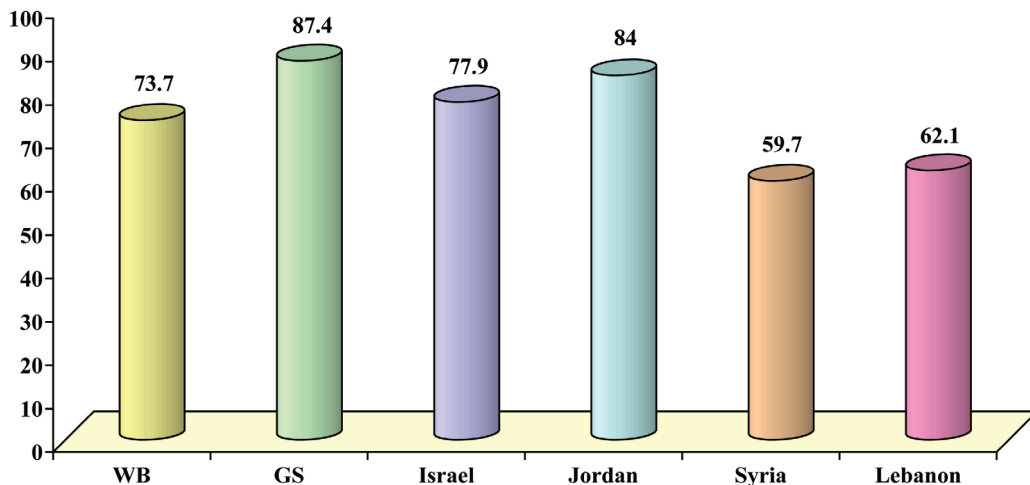
The following comparative table represents a summary of the most important comparisons of some demographic indicators of the Palestinian population, in 2007 and 2010 (unless otherwise indicated between parentheses).

**Table 5/7: Selected Demographic Indicators of Palestinians by Residence<sup>13</sup>**

Indicator	WB 2010	GS 2010	WB & GS 2010	Israel 2009	Jordan 2007	Syria 2007	Lebanon 2010
% of individuals 15 years or less	39.2	44.2	41.1	40 (2008)	35.9	33.1	30.4
% of individuals 65 years or over	3.2	2.4	2.9	3.1 (2008)	5.2	4.3	5
Dependency rate (per 100 individuals 15–64 years)	73.7	87.4	78.7	77.9 (2007)	84	59.7	62.1 (2007)
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	103.1	103.1	103.1	102.2	(...)	100.4 (2009)	102.5
CBR (births per 1,000 inhabitants)	30.1	37.1	32.8	26.2	(...)	29.3	21.8 (2007)
CDR (deaths per 1,000 inhabitants)	4.2	4	4.1	2.7	(...)	2.8 (2006)	(...)
Total fertility rate (births per woman)	4.1 (2007)	5.3 (2007)	4.6 (2007)	3.5	3.3	3.6	3 (2007)
Natural population growth rate	2.7	3.3	2.9	2.4	(...)	2.65	(...)
Average household size (individuals per house)	5.3	5.8	5.5	4.8	5.1	4.9	4.5

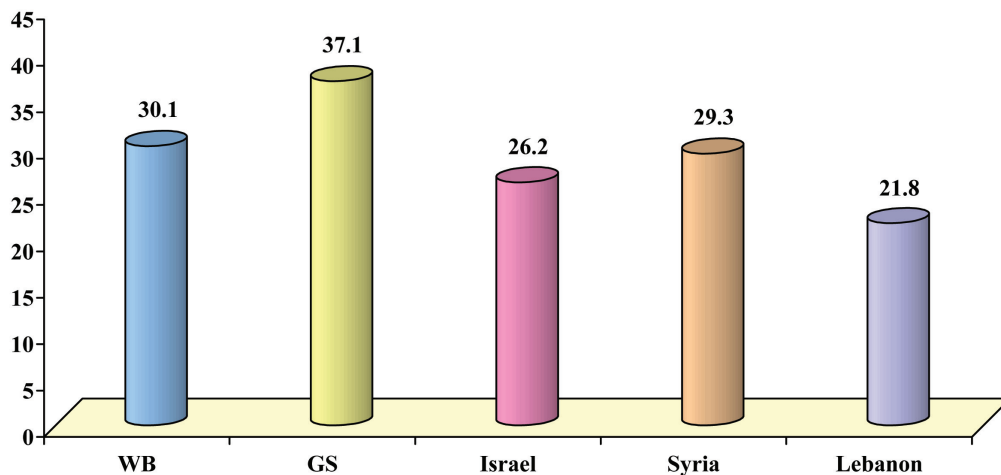
Note: (...) means data is not available.

### Dependency Rates of Palestinians by Residence (%)



Note: The dependency rates in the WB and GS are those of 2010, while those in Israel, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon are those of 2007.

### CBR of Palestinians by Residence



Note: The CBRs in the WB and GS are in 2010, in Israel 2009, and in Syria and Lebanon 2007.

From the previous table, we note the following:

- The percentage of Palestinians aged less than 15 years is highest in GS and lowest in Lebanon.
- The dependency rate in GS is highest, followed by that of the Palestinian population in Jordan, then Israel and then the WB. This is while the dependency rates in Syria and Lebanon are the lowest. This goes hand in hand with the fact that the highest percentage of elderly, i.e., 65 years and over, was recorded in Jordan, followed by Lebanon, while the lowest is in GS.
- The CBRs are highest in GS and the WB, and the lowest are in Lebanon and Israel. Thus, there are demographic pressures, particularly in the GS.
- It is noted that the CDRs remain high in the WB and GS, reaching 4.1 in 2010, thus it increased more than the 3.9 of 2006. This is mainly due to the Israeli measures and policies over the decades, especially the killings it has carried out.
- It is noted that the natural population growth rate (the difference between the birth rate and the death rate) has remained unchanged throughout the areas controlled by the PA, while remaining high in GS compared to the WB.
- There is a constant decrease of the average household size in the WB and GS compared with the previous years, but this average remains the highest in the GS, with 5.8 members per house compared to only 5.3 in the WB. The lowest average household size is in Lebanon.

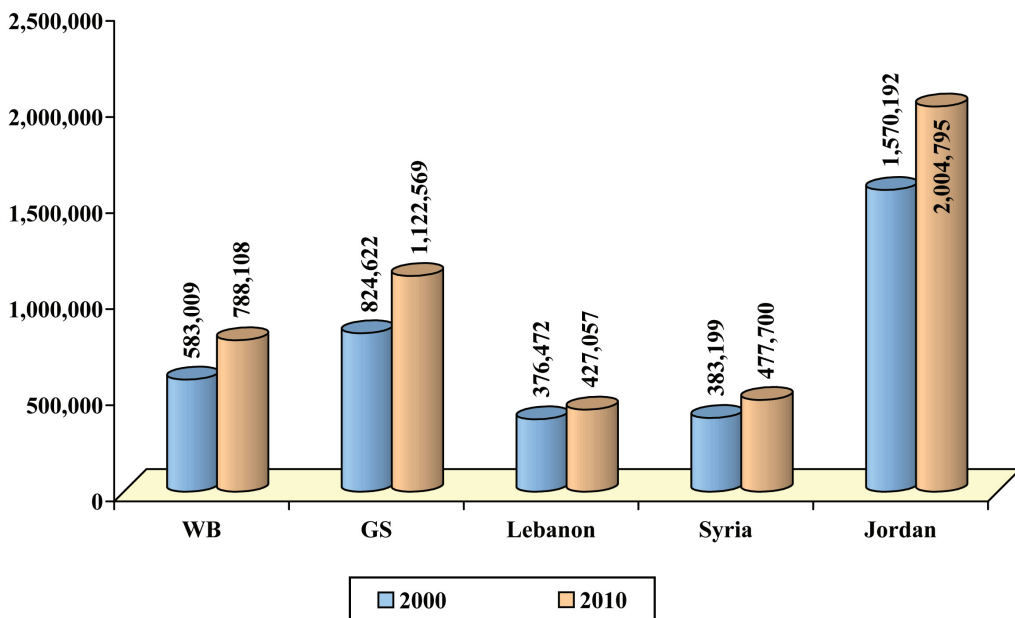
### ***Third: The Palestinian Refugees***

According to UNRWA records, the number of refugees registered as of 30/6/2010 is as per the following table. UNRWA notes that these figures “are based on UNRWA records, which are regularly updated; however, registration with the Agency is voluntary and these figures do not represent an accurate population record.” Until the preparation of the Arabic report, there was no updating of the numbers of Palestinian refugees after 30/9/2009, except for those registered (see tables 6/7 and 7/7).



**Table 6/7: UNRWA-RPRs, 2000 & 2010<sup>14</sup>**

Region	RPRs as of 30/6/2000	RPRs as of 30/6/2010	Annual increase in RPRs (%)
<b>WB</b>	583,009	788,108	3.1
<b>GS</b>	824,622	1,122,569	3.1
<b>Lebanon</b>	376,472	427,057	1.3
<b>Syria</b>	383,199	477,700	2.2
<b>Jordan</b>	1,570,192	2,004,795	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,737,494</b>	<b>4,820,229</b>	<b>2.6</b>

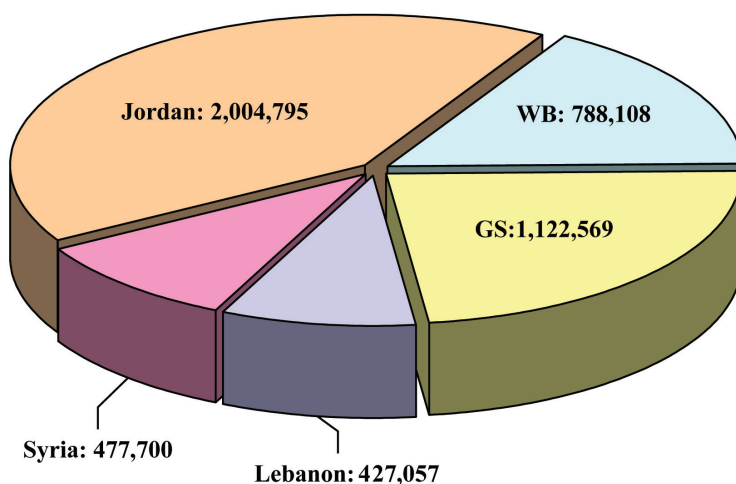
**UNRWA-RPRs, 2000 & 2010**


From the previous table, we note that during the period 2000–2010, the RPRs increased by about 1.1 million, at an annual growth rate of 2.6%. We also note that the highest annual growth rate of RPRs was in the WB and GS (3.1% annually), while the lowest was in Lebanon (1.3%).

The following table summarizes the most important other characteristics of RPRs in Palestine and the Diaspora.

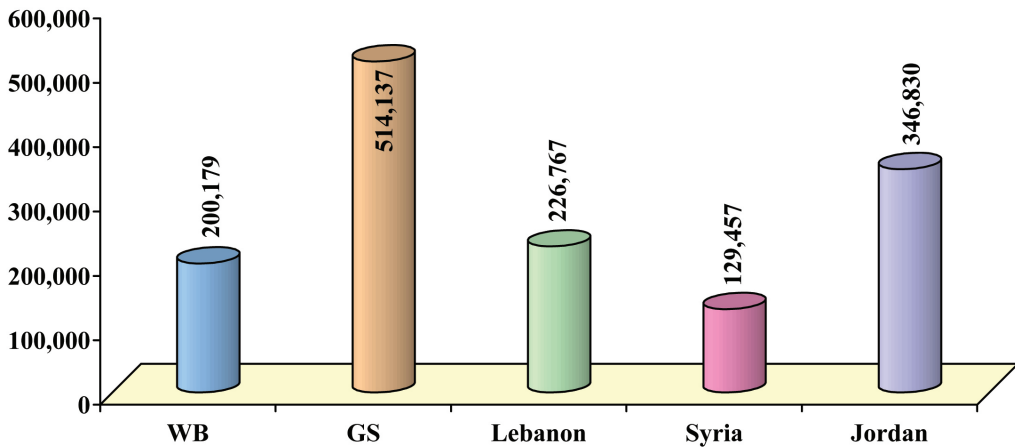
**Table 7/7: UNRWA-RPRs, Their Births and Families by Region<sup>15</sup>**

Region	WB	GS	Lebanon	Syria	Jordan	Total
<b>RPRs (30/6/2010)</b>	788,108	1,122,569	427,057	477,700	2,004,795	<b>4,820,229</b>
<b>Births (30/9/2009)</b>	7,309	23,710	3,539	7,892	18,744	<b>61,149</b>
<b>Average family size 2006</b>	4	4.6	3.9	4.2	5.1	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Average family size (30/9/2009)</b>	3.79	4.43	3.73	3.99	4.87	<b>4.35</b>
<b>Families (30/9/2009)</b>	204,674	248,057	113,594	117,806	405,666	<b>1,089,797</b>
<b>Refugee camps (30/6/2010)</b>	19	8	12	9	10	<b>58</b>
<b>RPRs in Registered Refugee Camps (RRCs) (30/6/2010)</b>	200,179	514,137	226,767	129,457	346,830	<b>1,417,370</b>
<b>RRCs as % of RPRs 2006</b>	25.8	47	52.9	26.6	17.7	<b>29.8</b>
<b>RRCs as % of RPRs 2010</b>	25.4	45.8	53.1	27.1	17.3	<b>29.4</b>

**UNRWA-RPRs by Region as of 30/6/2010**




## UNRWA-RRCs by Region as of 30/6/2010



We can note from the previous table that the number of RPRs in UNRWA's five fields of operation as of 30/6/2010 is about 4.82 million; 41.6% live in Jordan, 39.6% in the 1967 occupied Palestinian territories (23.3% in GS and 16.4% in the WB), and the rest 18.8% live in Syria and Lebanon.

The RRCs as percentage of RPRs in 2010 amounted to 29.4% compared to 29.3% in 2009. Moreover, the RRCs as percentage of RPRs in Lebanon and GS is highest relative to the other regions.

The average family size here does not actually represent the reality of households (the extended family which lives together in one place), but rather the nuclear family which obtains an independent family card. Hence, it is not unusual that the average size of the nuclear family is less than the average household size. This average decreases with time, for it is noted that in all the regions where refugees are found that the average family size slightly decreased. The general average decreased from 4.6 members per family in 2006 to 4.35 members in 2009.

If we look at the number of RPRs in 40 years (1970–2010), we find that their number was 1,425,219 in the middle of 1970, and reached 4,820,229 as of 30/6/2010. The average annual growth rate of RPRs in the aforementioned period was thus found to be 3.1%. Based on this rate, and assuming it is stable in the future as it is calculated over a long period, the number of RPRs will double in about 22.7 years. And since the annual growth rate is constant, the annual average of 3.1% can be relied upon as a measure of the growth of the Palestinian refugee population worldwide.

### ***Fourth: Demographic Growth Trends***

Despite the relative decrease of the natural growth rate of the Palestinian people, it remains high compared to other populations, and compared to Israelis, too.

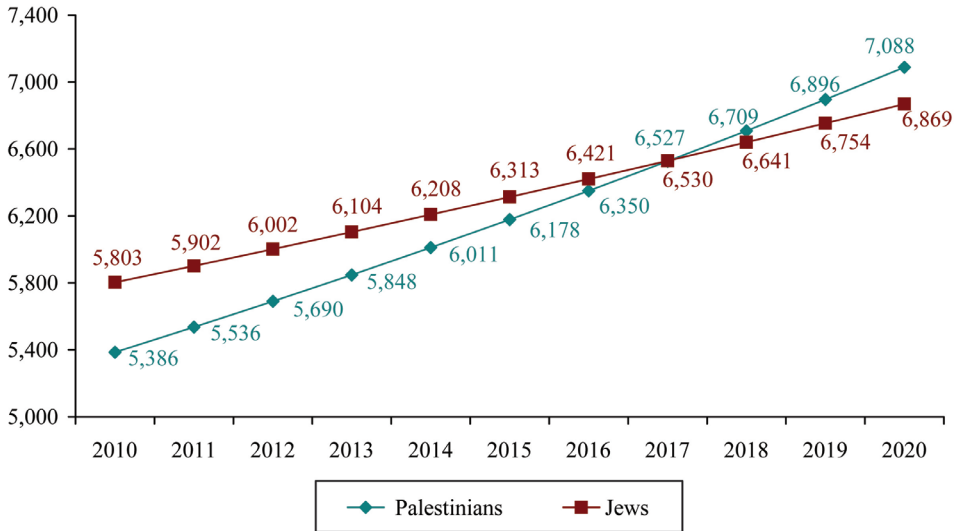
With reference to the number of Palestinians in historic Palestine, according to the estimates of the PCBS, there were about 5.39 million people at the end of 2010, while the number of Jews amounted to 5.8 million according to the estimates of the CBS. Based on current annual growth rates (2010), which are 2.9% for the Palestinians living in the WB and GS, 2.4% for the Palestinians living in the territories occupied in 1948 (Israel) and 1.7% for the Jews there, the number of Palestinians and Jews in historic Palestine will become on par during 2017, when each population will be around 6.53 million. This is assuming that growth rates will remain the same. By the end of 2020, only 49.2% of the population will be Jews, as their number will reach 6.87 million as opposed to 7.09 million Palestinians.

**Table 8/7: Estimated Population Count of Palestinians and Jews in Historic Palestine 2010–2020 (thousands)<sup>16</sup>**

Year	Palestinians			Jews
	WB & GS	Palestinian territories occupied in 1948 (Israel)	Historic Palestine	
<b>2010</b>	4,109	1,277	5,386	5,803
<b>2011</b>	4,228	1,308	5,536	5,902
<b>2012</b>	4,351	1,339	5,690	6,002
<b>2013</b>	4,477	1,371	5,848	6,104
<b>2014</b>	4,607	1,404	6,011	6,208
<b>2015</b>	4,740	1,438	6,178	6,313
<b>2016</b>	4,878	1,472	6,350	6,421
<b>2017</b>	5,019	1,508	6,527	6,530
<b>2018</b>	5,165	1,544	6,709	6,641
<b>2019</b>	5,315	1,581	6,896	6,754
<b>2020</b>	5,469	1,619	7,088	6,869



### Estimated Population Count of Palestinians and Jews in Historic Palestine 2010–2020 (thousands)



### *Fifth: Israeli Measures to Influence the Palestinian Demographics*

The year 2010 witnessed an unprecedented frenzied campaign in the demographic conflict in the Palestinian land, especially in Jerusalem and its suburbs. The number of Palestinian inhabitants represents what is known as the demographic threat, and is used as a double pretext by Israel; one to confirm that the Palestinians are a minority, and hence they either accept the majority or face exile (transfer) or genocide, and the second to claim that the Palestinians are a demographic time bomb whose explosion cannot be awaited. Hence, all the means are used to displace, imprison, and kill the Palestinians and tighten their economic and social life conditions. Therefore, both trends have the same objective.

There is an outcry in Israel and the world regarding what is known as “the Jewishness of Israel.” It has become customary to raise issues concerning the final status and the role of the Arab minority in Israel, and the insinuations by some Israeli leaders that the Palestinians may be expelled to PA territories.

This is in addition to persistent attempts to expel the Palestinians, confiscate their lands, and prevent them from building over their lands. Israel also pursues a policy of systemic house demolition under the pretext that they are unlicensed, in addition to marginalizing the Palestinians and isolating them from their brethren and their Arab and Islamic nation, while putting all kinds of pressure and measures to influence the demographic reality of the Palestinians living within the Green Line.

Jerusalem and the Triangle region in Palestinian territories occupied in 1948 represent a real and serious demographic battlefield. Specialists expect a continued increase in the number of Palestinians for the coming years. Therefore Israel will continue taking measures to curb this growth by expelling Palestinians and bringing in more Jews. It will continue to encourage higher fertility rate among Jewish women, while supporting family planning programs for Palestinian women.

According to the JIIS, the most important Israeli think tank on the issue of Jerusalem, “there has been an evident decline in the proportionate size of Jerusalem’s Jewish population,” over the years, with a concomitant increase in the proportion of the Palestinian population. The proportion of the Jewish population fell from 74% in 1967 to 72% in 1980, and 65% in 2008. Conversely, the Palestinian population rose from 26% in 1967 to 28% in 1980, and 35% in 2008. This is attributable to the fact that the Palestinian population increase in 2008 was twice the Jewish population increase, with the Palestinian growth rate amounting to 3.1%.

According to the study, at the end of 2008 there were about 191 thousand residential apartments in Jerusalem; 150,700 apartments in Jewish neighborhoods (including the settlements established in East Jerusalem) and 40,100 apartments in the Arab neighborhoods. This is while the average housing density (square meters per person) in the Jewish neighborhoods is significantly lower than in Arab neighborhoods. Among the Jewish population, this was 24 square meters per person, where in the neighborhoods with a majority Haredi population, the figure was 16 square meters per person, while in neighborhoods with a majority “general” population (secular, traditional, and religious) it was 29 square meters. In Arab neighborhoods, housing density was 12 square meters per person. Average housing density in Jerusalem was 19 square meters per person.<sup>17</sup>

## *Sixth: The Palestinian Emigration and Brain Drain*

### **1. Emigration<sup>18</sup>**

The results of the Migration's Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010, indicate that more than seven thousand people emigrate every year, and that 32,848 persons emigrated from WB and GS during 2005–2009, excluding the families who had emigrated in their entirety.

The results have also shown that around 60% of emigrants were males, while the percentage of female emigrants was 40%. It was also shown that 33% of the emigrants are youths (15–29 years), and that 25.6% are of the age group (30–44 years). In addition, the findings of the survey showed similarities in the age structure of emigrants by sex, while the percentage of male emigrants is higher than female ones with sex ratio 152.2 males per 100 female.

The survey also showed that Jordan, the Gulf States, and the United States are the primary destination for the emigrants, where 23.5% of emigrants left to Jordan, 20.4% to the Gulf States, and 21.6% to the US. Regarding reasons or motives behind emigration, the findings indicated that 34.4% of total emigrants left for education, 14.6% for improving living conditions, while 13.7% left because of the lack of job opportunities.

The survey shows that the desire to emigrate in 2010 was lower than in 2009, where the results showed that 13.3% of persons aged 15–59 years desire to emigrate, with 13.4% in WB and 12.4% in GS, despite the difficult conditions in the latter. This is while a survey of the Palestinian public opinion conducted by the Near East Consulting team showed that 23% of Palestinians are considering emigration, with 17% in WB and 30% in GS.

The results also show that of the persons aged 15–59 years who desire to emigrate 23.1% favored the Gulf countries as a destination, 15.1% preferred America, and 27.8% other foreign countries. This is while 17.5% were undecided regarding the country of destination.

The results indicated that 39.3% wish to emigrate to improve their living conditions, 15.2% due to the lack of job opportunities, and 18.7% for education. The significant difference in the distribution of main reasons behind the desire to emigrate between persons in the WB and GS is the lack of security (13.8% in the GS compared to 5.6% in the WB).

However, 75% of the age group 15–59 years who do not wish to emigrate have said that the reason behind their decision is the fact that Palestine is a holy land and that they feel comfortable only at home.

## 2. Return Migration<sup>19</sup>

The results of the Migration's Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010, showed that more than a quarter of the returnees returned prior to 1990, while a third returned during the period 1995–1999; a period that witnessed the return of a large number of Palestinians from abroad as a result of the peace agreements and the establishment of the PA. The number of returnees then declined during the period 2000–2009, as a result of the second Palestinian *Intifadah* (*al-Aqsa Intifadah*) and the large scale Israeli incursions. Meanwhile, for the past five years (2005–2009), around 5–7 thousand people returned to the WB and GS, with an annual average of 6,100 people.

According to the survey's results, 36.7% of the returnees were youths from the age group 15–29 years, while the percentage of the returnees aged 60 years and above was 8.9%. The percentage of the returnees below 15 years of age was 6% of the total number of returnees, and these percentages are roughly equal between the WB and the GS.

The results showed that 36.1% of the returnees came from Jordan. This group represented 42.7% of the total number of returnees to the WB and 6.5% of the total number of returnees to GS. The returnees from the Gulf States constituted 29% of the total number of returnees, and represented 28.1% of the total number of returnees to the WB and 33.2% of the total number of returnees to GS.

## *Seventh: The Palestinians Outside Palestine and the Right of Return*

Throughout the year, there were a number of activities and events calling for the implementation of the right of return and for the promotion of public education on this right whether among the Palestinians in the Diaspora or in refugee camps. As usual in the month of *Nakba* anniversary, the Eights Palestinians in Europe Conference convened in the German capital, Berlin. Thousands from across Europe participated in the event, and prominent



Palestinians including leaders such as Sheikh Ra'id Salah, head of the Islamic Movement in the Green Line, took part in the conference, as well.

The conference was attended by three generations of Palestinians in Europe, who proclaimed during the conference that they “hold fast to their rights to resist Israeli occupation by all means guaranteed by all humanitarian laws and charters.” They announced that their right of return to their land and home “is an inalienable human right guaranteed under international law,” and vowed that they “will never stop until Palestine is liberated.” The conference’s theme was “Return is Inevitable & Freedom for our Prisoners.” During the event, a number of speakers gave accounts of their participation in the Freedom Flotilla. Those speakers included ‘Adel ‘Abdullah, secretary general of Palestinians in Europe Conference, Majed al-Zeer, the conference’s president, and Munir Shafiq, representing the Arab National Congress, the National Islamic Congress and the Arab Parties Congress, in addition to ‘Abdul Ghani al-Tamimi, the head of Palestinian Scholars Abroad. The speakers at the conference also included Bilal al-Hassan, the spokesperson for the National Committee for the Protection of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Shakib Bin Makhlof, head of the Union of Islamic Organizations in Europe, and Fadwa Barghouti, wife of the imprisoned Palestinian leader Marwan Barghouti, in addition to many Palestinian personalities, politicians, writers, thinkers, journalists, academics and others.<sup>20</sup>

On 13–19/1/2010, the Palestinian Return Centre (PRC) in London held its Palestine Memorial Week for the purpose of marking the first anniversary of Israeli onslaught on GS. The event included seminars, speeches, the launch of the biggest parliamentary delegation to GS, film screening and visual protests, where some hundred activists played dead for a few minutes in remembrance of civilians killed in GS by Israel.<sup>21</sup> In addition, PRC led and participated in a number of European delegations that visited GS in solidarity with the blockaded people there. It visited the Palestinians stranded in refugee camps on the Iraqi borders, and also followed up the conditions of refugees in Cyprus, Brazil, India and Europe. The European delegations also visited the Palestinian refugee camps in Syria and Lebanon, in particular the Nahr al-Bared refugee camp and the mass graves of the victims of the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

In Syria, the Palestinian Return Community (Wajeb), based in Damascus, continued to hold the Palestinian Village Day events, which exceeded twenty. In January 2010, Wajeb organized the Tira Village Festival in Ein el-Tal (Hindrat) refugee camp in Aleppo, which was attended by the camp's refugees and refugees from Tira itself.<sup>22</sup> Then, the Jish Village Festival was held in March 2010 in the Neirab refugee camp east of Aleppo.<sup>23</sup>

In Lebanon, on 30/6/2010, Thabit Organization For The Right of Return launched the first part of its project A Story of a Village in Palestine in the Burj Barajneh refugee camp, which focused on the village of Kuwaykat.<sup>24</sup> In November 2010, Thabit held the Festival of al-Hula Plain Villages.

Regarding panel discussions and seminars, Wajeb held a panel discussion on the conditions of Palestinian refugees in Syria, on 29/4/2010, at the Damascene Hall in The National Museum of Damascus.<sup>25</sup> While on 16/9/2010, Thabit Organization For The Right of Return held in Beirut a law and media seminar on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the massacre of Sabra and Shatila. The seminar was entitled Where has the Legal Proceedings for the Sabra and Shatila Massacre Reached?, and was attended by researchers, legal experts, journalists and academicians.<sup>26</sup> On 22/12/2010, a panel discussion entitled Palestinian NGOs in Lebanon and Their Role in Supporting the Civil Cases Filed by Refugees and the Right of Return, was held in the Lebanese capital Beirut.<sup>27</sup>

Another significant addition to the events of 2010 is the official launching of the National Project for the Preservation of Palestinian Family Roots—Howiyya. It is a specialized project aimed at documenting the history of Palestinian families and their genealogy, complete with photographs, news and narrations pertaining to all Palestinian families. The project also launched its website ([www.howiyya.com](http://www.howiyya.com)) which provides an opportunity for Palestinian generations to trace the history of their families and participate in documenting it. It makes it easy for them to build their family tree by using the latest programs. The website collects hundreds of family trees, and hosts a large number of photos and documents in the families' pages. Moreover, the website covers and documents all Palestinian cities and villages.

On 5–11/12/2010, and under the motto “our right to return to our homeland is inalienable and cannot to be nullified by a statute of limitations,” the Global Palestine Right of Return Coalition conducted its 10th meeting in Beirut. It was





hosted by the Center for the Rights of Refugees (Aidoun) and the Coordination Forum of NGOs Working in the Palestinian Refugee Communities in Lebanon, with the participation of a number of guests, observers and experts interested in the issue of refugees and their right of return. On 6/12/2010, the official meeting commenced at the UNESCO Palace under the auspices of Lebanese Minister of Information Dr. Tarek Mitri and in the presence of representatives of the Embassy of Palestine as well as of the various Palestinian factions and a number of Lebanese parties. In a speech on behalf of the Coalition, Jaber Suleiman, stressed that it will uphold the refugees right of return. He also reviewed the Coalition's activities and efforts during the previous year, as well as the challenges facing the refugee issue. Furthermore, he said that granting Palestinian refugees in Lebanon basic human rights does not conflict with or negate their right of return. Dr. Salman Abu Sitta also gave a historic overview of the Zionist settlement, occupation and usurpation of Palestinian territories.

The participants then made a final statement which said that the Palestinian people have the right to return to their homes from which they were expelled in 1948 and to gain restitution of their property; they also have the right to material and moral compensation for their losses. The participants then called for unifying the refugee issue within the context of the unity of the land and the people in Mandatory Palestine and in exile, and stressed the need to consolidate the discourse on the right of return and elevate it to a level which harnesses and unifies the energies of the Palestinian people and all its committees. The participants also called for the rejection of any settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict which is not anchored on the basis of national inalienable rights, international law and the resolutions of the international community. They also called upon all Palestinian parties of different persuasions to work hard to ensure immediate reconciliation between the warring Palestinian factions, in order to restore national unity. They proclaimed that the return of the Palestinian people to their original homes is a right not to be nullified by a statute of limitations, and is not up for a referendum vote, as it is an inalienable individual and collective right which cannot be bartered with any other right.<sup>28</sup>

## *Conclusion*

The indicators show that the Palestinian people are young, vibrant and enjoy high natural growth rates compared to other peoples around the world, despite the gradual decrease of this rate in recent years. This growth rate will enable the Palestinian people, by the end of 2017, to exceed the Jewish population in historic Palestine. This is in addition to the 5.75 million Palestinians or so in the Diaspora, who grow more determined every day to secure their right of return.

On the other hand, Israeli efforts to affirm the “Jewishness” of the state are growing more sinister, in conjunction with denying the Palestinians their rights in their own homeland, and enforcing expulsion and “transfer” programs. This happens while placing the Palestinians under cruel economic, social, and security conditions that force them to emigrate, not to mention the risks of reaching a peaceful settlement that leads to the forfeiture of their right of return.

The Palestinian people are thus required to thwart the Israeli schemes, and to uphold their right of return and all their rights to their lands, freedom and independence. The Palestinian people must reaffirm their commitment to their inalienable rights, which are their common denominator, on the basis of which national unity projects are established, and the Palestinian political house is put in order.



## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Concerning the number of Palestinians in WB and GS and foreign countries, see PCBS, *al-Filastiniyyun fi Nihayat 'Am 2010* (Palestinians at the End of 2010) (Ramallah: PCBS, December 2010), [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/palpeople2010\\_A.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/palpeople2010_A.pdf). See also PCBS, At the End of 2010: The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) Issued a Press Release on the Palestinians in the World, [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/palpeople2010\\_E.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/palpeople2010_E.pdf). As for the Palestinian population in Jordan and other Arab countries, they were estimated according to the numbers at the end of 2009 and the estimates of the researcher. His estimates were based on the annual growth rates that are issued by the Jordanian Department of Statistics (DoS) and on the projected annual growth rate of 2% in the other Arab countries.
- <sup>2</sup> See CBS, *Statistical Abstract of Israel 2010*, no. 61, table 2.4.
- <sup>3</sup> PCBS, *al-Filastiniyyun fi Nihayat 'Am 2010*. See also PCBS, On the Eve of International Population Day 11/7/2009, [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/population\\_dE.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/population_dE.pdf)
- <sup>4</sup> [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/Illiteracy\\_2010A.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Illiteracy_2010A.pdf); and [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/Illiteracy\\_2010E.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Illiteracy_2010E.pdf). See also Adult and Youth Literacy: Global Trends in Gender Parity, site of UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), UIS Fact Sheet, no. 3, September 2010, [http://www.uis.unesco.org/FactSheets/Documents/Fact\\_Sheet\\_2010\\_Lit\\_EN.pdf](http://www.uis.unesco.org/FactSheets/Documents/Fact_Sheet_2010_Lit_EN.pdf)
- <sup>5</sup> PCBS, Press Release by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) on the Occasion of Arab Housing Day, 2/10/2011, [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/HousingDy\\_2011E.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/HousingDy_2011E.pdf)
- <sup>6</sup> PCBS, *al-Filastiniyyun fi Nihayat 'Am 2010*; PCBS, *Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007, Press Conference on the Preliminary Findings (Population, Buildings, Housing Units and Establishments)* (Ramallah: PCBS, February 2008), [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/census2007\\_e.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/census2007_e.pdf); and PCBS, *al-Musta'marat al-Israeliyyah fi al-Arabi al-Filastiniyyah: al-Taqrir al-Ihsa'i al-Sanawi 2010* (Israeli Settlements in the Palestinian Territory: Annual Statistical Report 2010) (Ramallah: PCBS, August 2011), [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_PCBS/Downloads/book1776.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Downloads/book1776.pdf)
- <sup>7</sup> PCBS, *Migration's Survey in the Palestinian Territory 2010: Press Release* (Ramallah: PCBS, December 2010), [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_pcbs/PressRelease/Migration\\_e.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_pcbs/PressRelease/Migration_e.pdf)
- <sup>8</sup> See PCBS, *al-Filastiniyyun fi Nihayat 'Am 2010*; and PCBS, *Kitab Filastin al-Ihsa'i al-Sanawi Raqm "11"* (Statistical Abstract of Palestine No. (11)) (Ramallah: PCBS, December 2010), [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_PCBS/Downloads/book1724.pdf](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Downloads/book1724.pdf)
- <sup>9</sup> PCBS, *al-Filastiniyyun fi Nihayat 'Am 2010*.
- <sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>12</sup> See UNRWA-AUB Socio-Economic Survey of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon, 15/12/2010, <http://www.unrwa.org/etemplate.php?id=865>
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## This Report

The Palestinian Strategic Report 2010/11 is the sixth in a series of annual resourceful scientific studies. The Report discusses the developments of the Palestinian issue of this period, in an objective and comprehensive manner. The meticulous analytical reading of events tries also to foresee the future. This Report has become a basic reference in Palestinian studies, it is a must read for all those concerned.

An outstanding team of 14 academics and experts contributed to this Report. It is divided into eight chapters, that cover the internal Palestinian situation, the Israeli scene and the Israeli-Palestinian relations, the Arab, Muslim and international stances toward the Palestinian issue. This Report focuses also on the issue of Jerusalem and the holy sites; whereas, the demographic and economic indicators are studied and analyzed in two separate chapters.

As a serious addition to Palestinian studies, those interested in this field, including specialists, experts, libraries of universities and research centers, should have their copies of this Report.

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