



# The Humanitarian Monitor

## occupied Palestinian territory

CAP  
occupied Palestinian  
territory 2006

Number 1

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The humanitarian situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has deteriorated rapidly in 2006, a result of the fiscal crisis facing the Palestinian Authority following the election of the Hamas party in the PLC elections and Israeli security and access restrictions.

It has led UN agencies and NGOs participating in the 2006 emergency Appeal to produce a monthly report to monitor changes according to key humanitarian indicators in the following sectors: health, child protection and psychosocial support, education, food security, agriculture, water and sanitation and job creation and cash assistance.

This report uses a combination of measurable humanitarian indicators and verified field observations. These two data collection methods can provide different accounts of the situation. The humanitarian indicators reveal longer-term changes and trends from one month to another. Field observations show early signs of strain that may indicate future changes in the situation more generally.

The following UN Agencies and NGOs provide information to the Humanitarian Monitor: OCHA, UNRWA, WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, UNDP, UNSCO, UNESCO, Oxfam GB and PHG.

## Situation Analysis

### Delivery of services / capacity of service-providers

#### Field observations

- Most of the more than 152,000 employees in PA institutions (as of December 2005) have not received their salaries for three months. According to the Ministry of Finance, 35,000 Palestinians received a payment on 4 June from the PA, averaging NIS 686.
- The vast majority of PA employees are continuing to work despite not receiving regular salaries.
- Temporary fuel shortages are reported in the West Bank, including fuel supplied to hospitals to power generators and Ministry of Health vehicles, including ambulances and the vehicles required for rural vaccination programmes.
- In the education sector, the full extent of the PA fiscal crisis will be felt at the beginning of the new school year. In May, the Ministry of Education experienced shortages in funds to cover operating expenditures, such as teacher training, stationery and office equipment. UNRWA also reports an increase in the number of applications received for teaching posts in the West Bank for the 2006/07 school year (5,000) compared to the previous school year (3,328), suggesting that teachers are looking for new options outside the PA.

#### Humanitarian indicators

- Funding shortfalls in the Ministry of Health have resulted in reported shortages in stocks of medical supplies, essential drugs (23% out of stock in the West Bank and 10% in the Gaza Strip), including anesthetics and for chronic patients. Shortages have also resulted in the non-maintenance of medical equipment, a reduced number of elective surgical operations performed and fewer referrals for treatment outside the oPt. The number of in-patients and out-patients attending MOH facilities has increased in the last three months compared with the same period last year as patients can no longer afford private service provision.
- Social hardship case families have not received their monthly cash assistance from Ministry of Social Affairs since January 2006.

### Socio-economic conditions

#### Field observations

- Municipalities are reducing spending on street lighting, road infrastructure and solid waste disposal due to non-receipt of taxes from residents unable to make payments. In the Gaza Strip, solid waste removal services have already slowed and UNRWA is receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance from municipalities to maintain basic services, including vermin and pest control.
- Banks are applying new restrictions on loans and credit is being cut in shops due to the reduced capacity of borrowers to repay.
- Businesses report increased difficulties in purchasing raw materials and reaching markets, as well as making loan repayments and accessing credit.
- WFP field staff report an increase in pressure from people wanting food at the distribution point.
- Women constitute one third of PA employees. That they are reporting difficulties affording childcare raises the concern that they may be among the first to find themselves unable to continue turning up to their workplaces.

#### Humanitarian indicators

- Poverty (70%) and unemployment (31%) have increased since 2005 due to the non-payment of PA salaries and lack of access to employment in Israel. Poverty among PA employees has risen at a sharper rate than among the population more generally (from 37% in July 2005 to 46% in April 2006).
- Applications to UNRWA job creation programmes have doubled since December 2005.
- Food prices have fallen in the oPt due to reduced purchasing power among Palestinians and the relaxation of closures at Karni crossing.



## Situation Analysis (continued)

### Coping mechanisms

#### Field observations

- To reduce transportation costs, some PA employees are working in facilities closer to their homes and are folding two shifts into one to cut the number of journeys made.
- PA employees are selling assets, including productive assets such as livestock, so as to continue supporting dependents that increased in number since the intifada, according to FAO.
- WFP field observations suggest increasing household reliance on more extreme coping mechanisms, including begging, scavenging, reduction of the quality and quantity of food consumed and reduction of expenditure on medicines and education.

#### Humanitarian indicators

- Patients are relying on PA and UNRWA health services (including mental health) in larger numbers during the past three months because less people can afford private services.

### Protection of civilians and access

#### Field observations

- Lawlessness and internal strife have intensified in the Gaza Strip. Between January and 24 May 2006, there have been 85 family or factional feuding incidents, killing 35 adults and one child and injuring 169 adults and 24 children. There were 64 attacks against public institutions in the Gaza Strip which left 100 people injured, including six children.
- A rise in factionalism has occurred, prompted in part by the deployment on 17 May of a 3000-strong Executive Support Force (ESF) in the Gaza Strip, created by the PA Minister of the Interior but declared illegal by the President. Clashes between the ESF and Fatah loyalists, particularly in the Preventative Security Forces, led to 10 deaths and 72 injuries from 8 May until the end of the month.
- Students, teachers, medical staff and traders of agricultural produce have faced difficulties crossing checkpoints since the beginning of the year, particularly in Nablus, Tulkarm and the Jordan Valley.

#### Humanitarian indicators

- Palestinian deaths resulting from the conflict with Israel have increased in May (41) compared with April (31) and the end of 2005; while Israeli deaths from the conflict have decreased (from 6 to 1).
- Palestinians fired 134 homemade rockets towards Israel in May compared with 156 in April. The number of artillery shells fired by the IDF into the Gaza Strip totaled 954 in May compared with 3,005 in April. IAF air strikes have decreased from 63 in April (29 March – 2 May) to 14 in May (3 – 30 May).
- According to UNRWA, the number of search and arrest operations in the West Bank has risen in May to 366 and is the highest since September 2004.
- Humanitarian organisations report an increase in incidents (from 92 in April to 150 in May), particularly into East Jerusalem. UN personnel have experienced increasing movement restrictions into the Gaza Strip due to changes in Gol operating procedures.
- The movement of goods through Kami crossing improved in May compared with April but was still lower than at the end of 2005 and below the volume of traffic stipulated in the Agreement on Movement and Access.
- The number of Palestinian children detained has increased slightly in May (377) compared with the previous month (371).
- There has been a rise in the number of physical obstacles in the West Bank from 504 in April to 519 in May, and Palestinian workers and traders from the Gaza Strip continued to be prevented from accessing Israel while closure was eased on Palestinians entering Israel from the West Bank.



## Protection of civilians and access

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
Number of Palestinians killed and injured <sup>1</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	<p>The number of Palestinians killed in May (41) during the continuing conflict with Israel is higher than in the previous month (April 2006) and than in December 2005. (The number killed is the highest since January 2005). Approximately the same numbers of Palestinians were killed in the Gaza Strip and West Bank during May.</p> <p>Palestinian injuries decreased slightly in May 2006 compared to April (251 compared to 258) but remain significantly higher than injuries reported in December 2005 (158). The majority of the Palestinian injuries occurred in the West Bank.</p>
	Dec 05	12 deaths 124 injuries	14 deaths 33 injuries	
	Apr 06	8 deaths 183 injuries	23 deaths 75 injuries	
	May 06	21 deaths 223 injuries	20 deaths 28 injuries	
Number of Israelis killed and injured <sup>2</sup>		West Bank	Israel	<p>One Israeli man died of wounds he had sustained during a suicide bombing in Israel on 17 April 2006.</p> <p>The number of Israeli injuries is lower than in April and December 2005. (In these previous months there had been two Palestinian suicide bombings in Israel and one at a flying checkpoint in the West Bank).</p>
	Dec 05	3 deaths 23 injuries	5 deaths 64 injuries	
	Apr 06	0 deaths 17 injuries	6 deaths 61 injuries	
	May 06	0 deaths 14 injuries	1 deaths 0 injuries	
Number of external closure days <sup>3</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	<p>External closure for Palestinian workers and traders since 11 March 2006 remains in place in the Gaza Strip.</p> <p>Workers and traders with valid permits were once again allowed to access Israel in the West Bank from 7 May following nearly two months of closure.</p>
	Dec 05	25	18	
	Apr 06	30	30	
	May 06	5	31	
Number of IDF physical obstacles in the West Bank <sup>4</sup>		West Bank		<p>The number of physical obstacles throughout the West Bank has increased in 2006 to a peak of 519 at the end of May (an increase of 117 obstacles since December 2005).</p> <p>In May 2006 the number of physical obstacles increased by 15 – the majority of the additional obstacles were in the northern West Bank (earth mounds in Jenin, Nablus and Tulkarm governorate). Access in and to East Jerusalem was also tightened in May with an additional four checkpoints in operation.</p>
	end Dec 05	402		
	end Apr 06	504		
	end May 06	519		
Number of access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations in the West Bank <sup>5</sup>		West Bank		<p>The number of access incidents reported by humanitarian organisations continues to increase in 2006. In particular, the number of access incidents reported in the West Bank increased significantly in May 2006. Ninety-nine of the incidents occurred at entrances to and around East Jerusalem.</p>
	Dec 05	77		
	Apr 06	92		
	May 06	150		

For more information please contact OCHA, (02) 582 9962 (Francine Pickup or Catherine Osborn)

<sup>1</sup> Source: OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes

<sup>2</sup> Source: OCHA, Weekly Briefing Notes

<sup>3</sup> Source: Ministry of Labour, closure reports. These figures include weekends i.e. Saturdays, when they fall within a comprehensive closure period.

<sup>4</sup> Source: UN, Implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access Biweekly report. OCHA compiles several times a year a comprehensive count of physical obstacles to Palestinian movement in the West Bank. The figures reported in this document are based on OCHA field observations only.

<sup>5</sup> Source: UNRWA, West Bank Monthly Reports and OCHA, ACIS forms



## Job creation and cash assistance

Indicator	Data				Summary trends
Unemployment rate (relaxed definition) <sup>6</sup>		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	The unemployment rate in the oPt has risen by 11 percentage points since the start of the <i>intifada</i> .
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2000	20.2%	16.9%	21.8%	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Q 2005	29.4%	27.7%	33.1%	There has been a significant increase in unemployment in the Gaza Strip since 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2005.
	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2006	31.1%	27.2%	39.6%	
Number of Palestinians employed in Israel and the settlements <sup>7</sup>		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	85,000 Palestinians originally employed in Israel and settlements lost their job since the start of the <i>intifada</i>
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2000	146,000	116,000	30,000	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Q 2005	60,000	60,000	NA <sup>8</sup>	Employment in Israel remained at very low levels in 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2006, especially in the Gaza Strip.
	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2006	61,000	60,000	1,000	
Erez crossing (Gaza Strip): average daily labour movement <sup>9</sup>		Workers to Israel		Traders to Israel	
	2000	22,795		NA	
	Apr 06	0		0	
	May 06	0		0	
Percentage of households in poverty <sup>10</sup>		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Poverty in the oPt increased by 16 percentage points since November 2001.
	Nov 01	54%	44%	75%	
	Jul 05	68%	62%	77%	
	Apr 06	70%	66%	79%	
Percentage of PA households in poverty <sup>11</sup>		oPt	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Although poverty among PA employees is lower than average across the Palestinian population, the increase in poverty is much sharper than the general population and points to a worsening trend.
	Nov 01	31%	23%	42%	
	Jul 05	37%	33%	42%	
	Apr 06	46%	43%	49%	
Number of applicants to UNRWA job creation programme in the West Bank <sup>12</sup>		West Bank			The total number of applications to UNRWA job creation programme increased by eight times from April 2004 to April 2006, particularly since December 2005.
	Apr 04	500			
	Dec 05	2,000			
	Apr 06	4,000			

For more information please contact UNRWA, (02) 589 0500 (Elena Mancusi) or UNDP, (02) 6268200 (Rohini Kohli)

<sup>6</sup> Source: PCBS, *Quarterly Labour Force Survey*. In the context of protracted crisis, the standard unemployment definition can be deficient as a considerable number of people are no longer seeking employment. A 'relaxed definition' of unemployment is calculated by adding the total number of unemployed people according to ILO standards and the number of people no longer engaged in active job search.

<sup>7</sup> Source: PCBS, *Labour Force Survey*. include both West Bank ID holders and Palestinians with Israeli ID. The indicator was designed according to ILO standards and refers to all persons aged 15 and above who during the reference week (i) were in paid employment or self-employment for at least one hour; or (ii) did not work, but held a job from which they were temporarily absent. Numbers include both West Bank ID holders and Palestinians with Israeli ID.

<sup>8</sup> According to PCBS, less than 1,000 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip were employed in Israel and settlements during the last quarter of 2005. The exact number is not available for the reporting period.

<sup>9</sup> Source: *Palestinian National Security Forces*. 2000 data obtained from UNSCO. The average daily labour movement is calculated excluding weekends i.e. Fridays and Saturdays except when they fall over a comprehensive closure period.

<sup>10</sup> Source: IUED, *Palestinian Public Perceptions Reports No. 3, 9 and 10*. IUED objective poverty measure is based on the reported household income, taking into account the number of adults and children in the household. Poverty rates for the West Bank include East Jerusalem. The poverty line is calculated using the PCBS poverty line of 2,216 NIS for 2006 for a family of six (two adults and four children) per month. Since 2001, UN agencies in the oPt have funded the IUED to conduct a poll on Palestinian perceptions of their living conditions. This data can be used to analyse changes in the situation over time and is one of the few sources of currently available information on the situation in 2006. PCBS projections estimate that in Q2 2006, 67% of households would be in poverty, according to income based definitions (Poverty in the Palestinian Territories, 2005).

<sup>11</sup> Source: IUED, *Palestinian Public Perceptions Reports No. 3, 9 and 10*.

<sup>12</sup> Source: UNRWA, *West Bank Job Creation Programme*.



## Health

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
% of drugs from the essential drugs list that are out of stock at the Central Drug store <sup>13</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	In May 2006, a significant number of essential drugs are out of stock in both the Gaza Strip and West Bank due to the current PA fiscal crisis.
	Dec 05	0% of items are out of stock	0% of items are out of stock	
	Apr 06	23% of items are out of stock	18% of items are out of stock	
	May 06	23% of items are out of stock	10% of items are out of stock	
Underweight: Number of children aged less than 2 years whose weight for age is less than 5 <sup>th</sup> percentile per number of children measured <sup>14</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	Underweight among children remains low in the West Bank in 2006.  Baseline data and data for the Gaza Strip is currently not available and will be reported in the next Humanitarian Monitor.
	Dec 05	NA	NA	
	Mar 06	3.6%	NA	
	Apr 06	3.3%	NA	
Anemia: Number of pregnant woman (at first pre-natal visit) measured with hemoglobin less than 11 g/l per total number of woman measured <sup>15</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	Iron deficiency anemia in pregnant woman remains high in the Gaza Strip. <sup>16</sup>  2005 data is currently not available for the West Bank but will be reported in the next Humanitarian Monitor.
	Dec 05	NA	18.5%	
	Apr 06	25.8%	20.1%	
	May 06	NA	18.9%	
Number of consultations for diarrhea per total number of consultations among refugees (children 0 – 3 years) <sup>17</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	The incidence of watery and bloody diarrhea for children between the ages of 0-3 years who attended UNRWA health facilities has been stable with only a minor increase in the Gaza Strip. <sup>18</sup>
	Dec 05	6.8/ per 100 consultations	NA	
	Mar 06	5.7/ per 100 consultations	9.9/ per 100 consultations	
	Apr 06 <sup>19</sup>	5.9/ per 100 consultations	15.1/per 100 consultations	
Number of cesarean births <sup>20</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	This data is currently not available and will be reported in the next Humanitarian Monitor.
	Dec 05	NA	NA	
	Mar 06	NA	NA	
	Apr 06	NA	NA	

For more information please contact WHO, Dr. Silvia Pivetta (WHO office in the Gaza Strip, (08) 282 2033) and/or Dr. Mohammad Shajahan (WHO office in Jerusalem, (02) 540 0595).

<sup>13</sup> Source: *Central Drug Store, Ministry of Health*

<sup>14</sup> Source: *Primary Health Care Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Ministry of Health Nutrition Department*. The percentage of children underweight can be indicative of a change in the health status of children as a result of low food intake, increased illnesses and/or lack of caring practices. This could be the result of increased closures (lack of access to food, to health services and/or to work) and/or the current fiscal crisis of the PA (lack of salary payments leading to lack of food, lack of health services, increased distress). The 5<sup>th</sup> percentile has been used as a cut off point instead of -2 standard deviations and this data is from clinics and may not give a representative picture for all children 0 -3 years old.

<sup>15</sup> Source: *Primary Health Care Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Ministry of Health Mother and Child Health Department*. This indicator can be interpreted the same way as the percentage of children underweight.

<sup>16</sup> WHO analysis based on data collected by the Ministry of Health, PHIC in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Even in the presence of a crisis, trends in anemia levels are expected to only be seen in the longer term (e.g. at least 4 - 6 months).

<sup>17</sup> Source: *UNRWA Epidemiology Department, West Bank and Gaza Strip Field Offices*. An increase in consultations for diarrhea is related to increased poor quality of water, which suggests that environmental health programmes run by the Ministry of Health and Municipalities are not coping with the need, specifically in water and sanitation programmes.

<sup>18</sup> WHO calculations based on data collected from UNRWA field office in the Gaza Strip.

<sup>19</sup> There is currently no data available for May 2006.

<sup>20</sup> Source: *Hospital Directorate, West Bank and Gaza Strip*



## Child protection and psychosocial support

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
		West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Number of Palestinians children killed <sup>21</sup>	Jan 06	1	3	Palestinian children continue to be killed in the conflict. During the first five months of the year, eight of the 10 children killed were in the Gaza Strip.
	Apr 06	1	3	
	May 06	0	2	
Number of Palestinians children injured <sup>22</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	Palestinian children continue to be injured in the conflict. Out of the 150 children injured in the first five months of the year, 75% were injured in Hebron, Jenin and Nablus (112 children).
	Jan 06	11	1	
	Apr 06	29 <sup>23</sup>	5	
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by the Israeli authorities <sup>24</sup>		oPt		The number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention has steadily risen since January 2006. The majority of children detained in the last few months have been from Nablus and Ramallah governorates.
	Jan 06	319		
	Apr 06	371		
Number of adults who have received mental health treatments through Ministry of Health <sup>25</sup>		oPt		The number of adults who have received mental health treatment per month has increased since January 2006 due to increased case load.
	Feb 06	2,098		
	Apr 06	2,324		
	May 06	2,356		

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Anne Grandjean).

<sup>21</sup> Source: OCHA, *Weekly Briefing Notes*

<sup>22</sup> Source: OCHA, *Weekly Briefing Notes*

<sup>23</sup> To be confirmed.

<sup>24</sup> Source: *Ministry of Detainee's Affairs*

<sup>25</sup> Source: *Ministry of Health, collected by WHO*. Based on four sample community mental health centres (in Ramallah, Hebron, Tulkarm, Gaza)



## Education

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
		West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Number of schools where there was a least one day of disruption <sup>26</sup>	Feb 06	<b>16:</b> - Nablus (13) - Jenin (2) - Tulkarm (1)	No full schools days disrupted.	Schools continue to be interrupted during Israeli military operation and times of curfew in the West Bank.  In May 21 schools were disrupted in the West Bank affecting the attendance of 7,543 students and 327 teachers. The number of schools disrupted is lower than the previous month (April) when 35 schools were interrupted (affecting 17,986 students and 723 teachers).
	Mar 06	<b>40:</b> - Nablus (10) - Hebron (9) - Jericho (7) - Jenin (6) - Jerusalem (6) - Qalqiliya (2)	<b>9</b> (Khan Younis <sup>27</sup> )	
	Apr 06	<b>31:</b> - Nablus (29) - Jenin (2)	<b>4</b> (Khan Younis <sup>28</sup> )	
	May 06	<b>21:</b> - Jenin (12) - Hebron (3) - Jericho (2) - Nablus (1) - Tulkarm (3).	No full schools days disrupted.	

For more information please contact UNICEF, (02) 583 0013 (Shao Potung).

<sup>26</sup> Source: Ministry of Education

<sup>27</sup> Schools were disrupted in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) during demonstrations etc following the incident at the Jericho prison on 14 March.

<sup>28</sup> Schools were disrupted in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) during Palestinian funerals.



## Food security

Indicator	Data						Summary trends	
	May 05		Apr 06		May 06			
Price of basic commodities (NIS) <sup>29</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	West Bank	Gaza Strip	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
	Wheat flour (50 kg)	NA	77.7	92.6	89.2	90.0	81.1	
	Olive oil (1 kg)	NA	18.5	20.6	22.7	18.0	21.6	
	Rice (1 kg)	NA	NA	4.2	3.6	3.1	3.3	
	Vegetable Oil (1 kg)	NA	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.2	
	Chickpeas (1 kg)	NA	4.1	5.6	6.0	5.4	5.6	
	Refined sugar (1 kg)	NA	2.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	5.5	
	Milk Powder (1 kg)	NA	NA	24.0	27.0	23.0	30.1	
Availability of basic commodities <sup>30</sup>	Gaza Strip						Compared to the previous year in the Gaza Strip, the majority of basic food commodities prices have increased (for example wheat flour increased by 4.3 %). This can be attributed to inflation and the impact of increased closures at Kami crossing.	
	Early May 06 <sup>31</sup>			End of May 06 <sup>32</sup>				
		Available storage (tonnes)	No. of days of coverage	Available storage (tonnes)	No. of days of coverage			
	Wheat flour	5,379	12	9,320	21			
	Sugar	1,287	12	1,415	13			
	Rice	1,265	18	1,470	20			
Vegetable Oil	766	18	780	18				
Number of tonnes of food per month imported into the Gaza Strip <sup>33</sup>	Gaza Strip						In the past year there were approximately 60 days of available storage for wheat flour in the local Palestinian mills in the Gaza Strip. At the end of May 2006, this has been depleted to just 21 days due to the frequent closure of Kami crossing.	
	April 06			May 06				
	Wheat flour	9,553		8,321				
	Rice	762		1,521				
	Vegetable Oil	857		1,137				
	Sugar	962		1,184				
	Vegetables and fruit	2,230		2,663				
	Other food commodities	311		390				
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,675</b>		<b>15,216</b>					
Number of social hardship case families receiving their monthly subsidies from Ministry of Social Affairs <sup>34</sup>	West Bank			Gaza Strip			The amount of food imported into the Gaza Strip increased in May 2006 compared to the previous month (by 3.7%). However, food imports are still not enough to meet the daily needs of the Gaza Strip population.	
	Jan 06	19,406		17,779				
	Apr 06	0		0				
	May 06	0		0				
Fishing catch in the Gaza Strip (in tons) <sup>35</sup>	Gaza Strip						Since February 2006, social hardship cases families have not received their monthly cash assistance.	
	May 05	243						
	April 06	226.5						
	May 06	880					There was a significant increase in the fishing catch in May 2006 compared to last year. This is due to seasonal factors, a slight improvement in fishing boat technologies, the IDF allowing the use of lights for fishing in the nighttime and the Ministry of Agriculture not enforcing the restrictions on the size of fish. There is concern about over-fishing and the use of unsustainable fishing patterns.	

For more information please contact WFP, (02) 540 1340 (Genieve Wills or Salah Laham).

<sup>29</sup> Source: *WFP, Market Monitoring*. The VAM Market Price Survey is the primary means by which WFP collects commodity prices in the local markets. The market price data is collected in the first week of each month from shops in all governorates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

<sup>30</sup> Source: *Ministry of National Economy*.

<sup>31</sup> Data relates to availability of basic commodities as of 6 May 2006.

<sup>32</sup> Data relates to availability of basic commodities as of 1 June 2006.

<sup>33</sup> Source: *PalTrade*.

<sup>34</sup> Source: *Ministry of Social Affairs*.

<sup>35</sup> Source: *Ministry of Agriculture*. The seasonal fishing catch is an important indicator in the Gaza Strip as it gives an overview about the availability of the cheapest animal protein in the Gaza Strip. The availability of fish in the market affects the poorest Gazan families and increases vulnerability amongst children and pregnant women.



## Agriculture

Indicator	Data			Summary trends
Number of tonnes of agricultural product imports into the oPt <sup>1</sup>		West Bank <sup>2</sup>	Gaza Strip	Agricultural imports into the Gaza Strip have increased by 19% in May compared to April. The number imported in May 2006 remains 8% lower than the September-December 2005 average.
	Sep-Dec 05	NA	2,663	
	Apr 06	NA	2,231	
	May 06	NA	2,884	
Number of tonnes of agricultural product exports from the oPt <sup>3</sup>		West Bank <sup>4</sup>	Gaza Strip	The frequent closure of Karni crossing has dramatically affected the Gaza Strip agricultural sector.  The daily average number of truckloads of goods exiting the Gaza Strip doubled in May 2006 compared to April to nine truckloads. With the exception of 17 May, Karni crossing did not open for exports until 22 May.
	May 05	NA	5,165	
	Apr 06	NA	591	
	May 06	NA	509	
Number of dunums of agricultural land requisitioned/destroyed <sup>5</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	This data is currently not available and will be reported in the next Humanitarian Monitor.
	May 05	NA		
	Apr 06	NA		
	May 06	NA		
Number of greenhouses destroyed in the Gaza Strip <sup>6</sup>		Gaza Strip		This data is currently unavailable but will be reported in the next Humanitarian Monitor.
	May 05	NA		
	Apr 06	NA		
	May 06	NA		
Number of confirmed avian influenza outbreaks <sup>7</sup>		West Bank	Gaza Strip	As of the end of April, 345,986 birds have been culled in 38 commercial farms in the Gaza Strip and in the backyard holdings in the West Bank (an additional 5,861 birds were culled in an Israeli settlement in the West Bank). No new outbreaks of avian influenza have been reported or detected since April 2006.  According to the Ministry of Agriculture, as of 8 June 2006, the PA has compensated at least 95% of the farmers whose poultry was culled during the March/April outbreaks.
	Jan 06	0	0	
	Feb 06	0	0	
	Mar/Apr 06	1 (in an Israeli settlement)	7	
	May 06	0	0	

For more information please contact FAO, (02) 532 1950 (Rana Hannoun or Celine Francois).

<sup>1</sup> Source: *PaTrade*

<sup>2</sup> Data for the West Bank is currently unavailable (it is currently only available from PCBS on an annual basis. *PaTrade* will shortly begin collecting information in relation to agricultural products imports from five major checkpoints in the West Bank and Israel.

<sup>3</sup> Source: *PaTrade*

<sup>4</sup> Data for the West Bank is currently unavailable (it is currently only available from PCBS on an annual basis. *PaTrade* will shortly begin collecting information in relation to agricultural products imports from five major checkpoints in the West Bank and Israel.

<sup>5</sup> Source: *Ministry of Agriculture* and *Al Mezan Center for Human Rights* (Gaza Strip)

<sup>6</sup> Source: *Ministry of Agriculture* and *Al Mezan Center for Human Rights* (Gaza Strip)

<sup>7</sup> Source: *Ministry of Agriculture*



## Water and sanitation

Indicator	Data	Summary trends
Per capita water availability (estimated quantity of water supplied per person per day) <sup>8</sup>	Data is currently being collected and will be available for the next Humanitarian Monitor.	
Number of tests conducted by PWA <sup>9</sup>		
Number of negative quality tests recorded <sup>10</sup>		
Price of tankered water (price of one cubic meter transported through Israel in New Israeli shekels) <sup>11</sup>		
Recovery rates of water bills by Village Councils and Municipalities (collection of cost of water supply through payment of water bills by the households) <sup>12</sup>		

For more information please contact Oxfam GB, (02) 656 6234 (Alyssa Boulares).

<sup>8</sup> Source: *Palestine Hydrology Group, Water and Sanitation, Hygiene (WaSH) Monitoring Program.*

<sup>9</sup> Source: *Palestinian Water Authority.*

<sup>10</sup> Source: *Palestinian Water Authority.*

<sup>11</sup> Source: *Palestine Hydrology Group, Water and Sanitation, Hygiene (WaSH) Monitoring Program.*

<sup>12</sup> Source: *Palestine Hydrology Group, Water and Sanitation, Hygiene (WaSH) Monitoring Program.*