



**State of Palestine
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**

Socio-Economic Conditions Survey, 2018

"User Manual"

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Definitions and Explanations

Housing Unit:

A housing unit is a separate and independent place (a building or part of a building) intended for habitation by a single household, or one not intended for habitation but occupied as housing unit by a household at the time of the census. The housing unit may be an occupied or vacant, an occupied non-conventional housing unit or any other place occupied as housing unit by a household at the time of the census. This category includes housing unit of various levels of permanency and acceptability for habitation.

Household:

One person or a group of persons with or without a household relationship, who live in the same housing unit, share meals and make joint provision of food and other essentials of living.

Head of Household:

The person who usually lives with the household and is recognized as head of household by its other members. Often he/she is the main decision maker and is responsible for financial support and welfare of the household.

Household Membership:

Persons staying in the dwelling unit are considered members of the household if the dwelling unit is their usual or only place of residence.

Sex:

It is classified into male and female.

Refugee Status:

This status relates to the Palestinians who were forced to leave their land in Palestine, which was occupied by Israel in 1948. It applies to their male children and grandchildren.

1. **Registered Refugees:** It applies to registered refugees holding refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.
2. **Non-Registered Refugees:** It applies to unregistered refugees who do not hold refugee registration cards issued by UNRWA.
3. **Non-Refugees:** It applies to any Palestinian not categorized under any of the two aforementioned statuses.

Illiterate: It applies to persons unable to read or write in any language and who were never awarded a certificate from any formal education system.

Can Read and Write: It applies to persons who are able to read and write without completing any of the educational stages. Such persons are generally able to read and write simple sentences.

Employed:

Persons aged 7 years and over who were work at least one hour during the reference period, or who were not at work during the reference period, but held a job or owned business from which they were temporarily absent (because of illness, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason). The employed person is normally classified in one of two categories according to the number of weekly work hours, i.e. 1–14 work hours and 15 work hours and

above. Also the absence due to sick leave, vacation, temporarily stoppage, or any other reason.

Spending:

Is defined as the values of the amounts that buyers pay, or agree to pay, to sellers in exchange for goods and services that sellers provide to them or to other institutional units designated by the buyers. The buyer incurring the liability to pay need not be the same unit that takes possession of the good or service. In health accounting, expenditure for goods and services provided by market producers is measured in terms of the payments they receive for their sales; expenditures in the non-market part of the health system are measured in terms of the goods and services used to produce the health care or related activity.

Household Consumption:

It refers to the amount of Cash spent on purchase of goods and services for living purposes, and the value of goods and service payments or part of payments received from the employer, and own-produced goods and food, including consumed quantities during the recording period, and Imputed rent for owned houses.

Income:

Cash or in kind revenues for individual or household within a period of time; could be a week or a month or a year.

Smoke:

Particles suspended in air after incomplete combustion of materials.

Noise:

Audible sound from traffic, construction, and so on that may generate unpleasant and harmful effects (hearing loss). It is measured in decibels.

Dust:

Particles light enough to be suspended in the air.

Transportation (Travel):

This concept refers to the movements of the individual (male or female) from one place to another for purposes related to carrying out different activities and using various means of transportation.

Classifications

Classifications used in the process of collection and processing of statistical data adopted by PCBS, According to international standards and with the Palestinian privacy.

1. Palestinian Localities Guidance, 2017.
2. Palestinian Occupation Classification (ISCO-8).
3. Palestinian Industrial Classification of All Economical Activities According to International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC-4).

Survey Questionnaire

The questionnaire is the key tool for data collection. It must be conforming to the technical characteristics of fieldwork to allow for data processing and analysis. The survey questionnaire comprised the following parts:

- Part one: Identification data.

- Part two: Quality control
- Part three: Data of households' members and social data.
- Part four: Housing unit data
- Part five: Assistance and Coping Strategies Information
- Part six: Expenditure and Consumption
- Part seven: Food Variation and Facing Food Shortage
- Part eight: Income
- Part nine: Agricultural and economic activities.
- Part ten: Freedom of mobility
- In addition to a questionnaire for individuals (18 years old and above): Questions on suffering and life quality, assessment of health, education, administration (Ministry of the Interior) services and information technology.

Data Set Linkage

There are 3 data files in this CD-ROM, with one key variable in each file to allow the linkage between these files, namely: ID00 variable (household number in sample). The following table describes the files names, content and identification variables.

File Name	Content	Key variable
sefsec 2018 - IND - E	is an individual's data file (Roster).	Household serial number in sample (ID00).
sefsec 2018 - HH - E	is a household data file.	Household serial number in sample (ID00).
sefsec 2018 18+ - E	is an individual's (18+) data file	Household serial number in sample (ID00).

Target Population

The target population includes all Palestinian households and individuals with regular residency in Palestine during the survey's period (2018). Focus was given to individuals aged 18 years and above to complete an annex to the questionnaire, designed for this age group.

Sampling and Frame

The Sample of the survey is a three-stage stratified cluster systematic random sample of households residing in Palestine

Sampling Framework

In previous survey rounds, sampling was based on census 2007, which includes a list of enumeration areas. An enumeration area is a geographic region with buildings and housing units averaging 124 housing units. In the survey design, they are considered as Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) at the first stage of selecting the sample. Enumeration areas of 2007 were adapted to the enumeration areas of 2017 to be used in future survey rounds.

Target sample buildings were set up in 2015 electronically by using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), where the geospatial join tool was used within Arc Map 10.6 to identify the buildings selected in the first stage of the sample design of 8,225 households taken from the general frame buildings for enumeration areas of 2007 which falls within the boundaries of enumeration areas that were updated during the population, housing and establishments census 2017. Only the buildings for the year 2017 were used to link the sites of the sample

buildings to the targeted enumeration areas, to ensure tracking households that moved after 2015.

Sample Size

The survey sample comprised 11,008 households at the total level, where 9,926 households responded, they are divided as follows:

1. Fixing the sample of the survey on the Impact of Israeli Aggression on Gaza Strip in 2014 and Socio-Economic Conditions of the Palestinian Households - Main Findings, which was conducted in 2015, with a sample of 8,225 households in the previous round (household-panel), where 7,587 households responded.
2. Sample of new households that consisted of separated individuals (split households) totaled 2,783 households, where 2,339 households responded.

Sample Design

Three-stage stratified cluster systematic random sample:

Stage I: Selection of enumeration areas represented in the previous round of the survey on the socioeconomic conditions 2015 including 337 enumeration areas, in addition to enumeration areas in which individuals separated from their households and formed new households and households that changed their place of residence and address to other enumeration areas.

Stage II: Visit the same households from previous round of survey on socioeconomic conditions 2015 (25 households in each enumeration area). Households that changed their place of residence or registered address will be tracked in the existing database to search for the updated data registered in questionnaire. Individuals separated from their households from the previous round and formed new households or joined new households were tracked.

Stage III: A male and female member of each household in the sample (old and new) were selected for stage III among members aged 18 years and above, using Kish (multivariate) tables to fill in the questionnaire for household members aged 18 years and above. Taking into account that the household whose number is an even number in the sample of the enumeration area, we choose a female and the family whose number is an odd number we choose a male.

Sample Strata

The population was divided into the following strata:

1. Governorate (16 Governorates in the West Bank including those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967 (J1) as a separated stratum, and the Gaza Strip).
2. Locality type (urban, rural, camp).
3. Area C (class C, non-C) as an implicit stratum.

Domains

1. National level: State of Palestine.
2. Region level: (West Bank, and Gaza Strip).
3. Governorate (16 Governorates in the West Bank including those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967, and Gaza Strip).
4. The location of the Annexation wall and Isolation (inside the wall, outside the wall).

5. Locality type (urban, rural, camp).
6. Refugee status (refugee, non-refugee).
7. Sex (male, female).
8. Area C (class C, non-C).

Weighting Calculation

The weight of statistical units (sampling unit) in the sample is defined as the mathematical inverse of the selection probability where the sample of the survey is a three-stage stratified cluster systematic random sample. In the first stage, we calculate the weight of enumeration areas based on the probability of each enumeration area. In the second stage, we calculate the weight of households in each enumeration area. Initial household weights resulted from the product of the weight of the first stage and the weight of the second stage. Then we adjusted the initial weight by producing the initial weight and the attrition factor (attrition from the sample). The final household weights were obtained after adjustment of the initial weights with the household estimates for mid-2018 according to design strata (governorate, locality type).

Weights of households members' portfolio are calculated by giving every member the final weight of his/her household, which is the primary individual/member weight. Primary Individual/Member's Weight is then adjusted according to area, gender and age groups (17 groups) representing the age of individual/member by mid-October 2018. This enabled us to obtain the individual/member's final weight in his/her category. The weights are then merged in the individual/member's portfolio for individuals aged 18 and above.

Variance Calculation

Those errors result from studying part (sample) of the society and not all society units. Since the socio-economic conditions survey 2018 was conducted on a sample, sampling errors are expected to occur. To minimize sampling errors, a properly designed probability sample was used to calculate errors throughout the process. This means that for every unit of the society there is a probability to be selected in the sample. The variance was calculated to measure the impact on sample design for Palestine.

Summary of Variance Calculation for Core Survey Indicators

Indicator	Estimate %	Standard Error %	95% Confidence Interval		Coefficient of Variation %	Un weighted Count %
			Lower %	Upper %		
Percentage of households that make water safer for drinking	4.6	0.4	3.7	5.4	9.5	411
Percentage of households that agriculture, animal breeding, fishing is the main source of income	1.8	0.3	1.3	2.4	15.7	199
Percentage of households that family business (other than agriculture) is the main source of income	8.9	0.5	8.0	9.9	5.7	845
Percentage of households that government wage and salary	17.4	0.7	16.2	18.8	3.8	1,711

Indicator	Estimate %	Standard Error %	95% Confidence Interval		Coefficient of Variation %	Un weighted Count %
			Lower %	Upper %		
is the main source of income						
Percentage of households that private sector wage and salary is the main source of income	31.5	0.9	29.8	33.4	2.9	3,397
Percentage of households that wages from Israeli labor sectors is the main source of income.	14.0	0.9	12.4	15.9	6.3	1,253
Percentage of households in Palestine that receive assistance	31.1	1.3	28.6	33.7	4.2	3,260
Percentage of households in which noise is a serious problem in the housing units environment	28.6	1.3	26.2	31.2	4.4	2,,693
Percentage of households in which smells is a serious problem in the housing units environment	20.5	1.1	18.4	22.8	5.5	1,949
Percentage of households in which dust is a serious problem in the housing units environment	13.5	1.0	11.8	15.5	7.0	1,271
Percentage of households in which smoke is a serious problem in the housing units environment	8.4	0.8	6.9	10.2	10.1	731

Reference Date

Reference Date The reference time differed by the nature of the question, for example, the time reference for some of the questions a week, and other questions during the past month, as well as there was a time reference for some questions a years and six months.

Data collection

Field Operations

Field operations are the actual survey work conducted to collect data required from primary sources. Careful attention must be paid to details in this stage to provide all technical and administrative needs including recruitment and training, provision of material needs for the best performance possible of work.

Training and Appointment

In preparation to implement the survey according to the plan, training session was organized at the headquarters of PCBS in the West Bank and in Gaza Strip office. The training lasted for 5 days during the period 06-12/08/2018, where it included theoretical lectures in which fieldworkers and field supervisors were trained on various field operations in general before the start of the survey, in order to provide them with the basic skills needed to collect

information and to consolidate the concepts and definitions contained in the questionnaire, the mechanism of completing the questionnaire, in addition to the mechanism and technique of conducting interviews in the field and ways of dealing with developments faced by the team at fieldwork.

Training on the practical side also was included in the training program, where the work was to train fieldworkers and field supervisors to fill the questionnaire using tablet devices, in addition to holding a training day for supervisors on 26/08/2018, in order to train them on the fieldwork management system for the survey, and to train them on the system and screens and reports on it, in addition to working on training field supervisors on the mechanism of assigning enumeration areas and households to fieldworkers on the system.

The fieldwork team (supervisors and fieldworkers) was appointed based on the highest marks in the results of the daily exams, the final exam and the commitment to attend at the end of the training course.

The personal interview technique was used to collect the survey's data for households and individuals 18 years and above. Tablets were used to collect data in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with the exception of Jerusalem J1. Special applications were designed to collect data and upload maps for enumeration areas in the Palestinian localities. The applications were designed to match the questionnaire of the survey and were supported with logical checks and warning messages for logical data and consistency of the data. While the data were collected in Jerusalem J1 through the traditional paper questionnaire, the data were entered on the computers at PCBS. The same application was used for the tablets, but some features were modified to suit the computers.

Data collection began in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on 27/08/2018 with the exception of Jerusalem J1, which started on 22/08/2018. Data collection was completed according to the following table:

NO.	Governorate	Completion date
1.	Jerusalem J1+ Jericho & Al Aghwar+ Bethlehem	27/09/2018
2.	Salfit + Hebron	30/09/2018
3.	Qalqiliya + Tubas & Northern Valleys	02/10/2018
4.	Jenin	03/10/2018
5.	Jerusalem J2 + Ramallah & Al-Bireh	04/10/2018
6.	Tulkarm	07/10/2018
7.	Rafah+ Khan Younis +Dier Al-Balah+ Gaza +Nablus +North Gaza	09/10/2018

Field Editing and Supervising

- Various levels of supervision and monitoring took place according to the following hierarchy:
 - Fieldworkers: They collect data directly from households, edit and check them
 - Fieldwork supervisors: They carry out administrative and technical follow up on the fieldworkers team, where they accompany the fieldworkers during data collection from the field to ensure their ability to ask questions and use the tablets

- Fieldwork coordinator: He/ She carries out administrative and technical follow up on the supervisors team in addition to implementing field visits to ensure the progress of work on data collection as planned
- Programs were designed to check and extract data through the web by project management.
- Because of the particular situation of the Jerusalem Governorate , especially Area J1, those parts of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israeli occupation in 1967, a different methodology for data collection was adopted, where paper questionnaire was used, and the editors edited the questionnaire in a formal and technical manner according to the pre-prepared edit rules.
- Due to the use of tablets in the collection of data, automated databases direct editing was adopted during data collection in all stages to minimize errors since the system sends warning messages and error messages to fieldworkers requesting either amendment or verification of data.
- A program for field visits was prepared for on-site follow-up of fieldwork and assesses the key problems to solve them. The visits also reviewed how data were entered on the applications and teams' compliance with the instructions they received during the training to ensure good progress.

Office Editing and Coding

The office editing was only checked for the Jerusalem Governorate (J1) questionnaire due to the use of paper questionnaire, and for coding special screens that were designed for this purpose, to cover the codification questions in the questionnaire together with other questions about the characteristics of individuals to assist in coding. The coding questions in the survey questionnaire that are encoded are the occupation and economic activity according to the Coding Guide.

Response Rates

11,008 representative households was reached. Number of responded households (9,926) including (5,898) in the West Bank and (4,028) in Gaza Strip. Weights were adjusted with the design strata to compensate for the rate of refusal and non-response.

Household Responses and Non-Responses

Responses and Non-Responses Cases	Number of Cases
Completed households	9,902
Partially completed	24
Households traveling	96
Nobody at home	173
Refused	190
No data available	86
The address is not indicated	221
Other	316
Total (total size of sample)	11,008

Response and Non-Response Rates Formulae:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Increased inclusion error rate} &= \frac{\text{Total cases of over coverage}}{\text{Number of cases in original sample}} \times 100\% = 0\% \\ \text{Non-Response Rate} &= \frac{\text{Total cases of Non-responses}}{\text{Net sample}} \times 100\% = 9.8\% \\ \text{Net sample} &= \text{Original sample} - (\text{over coverage cases}) = 11,008 \\ \text{Response Rate} &= 100\% - \text{Non-Response Rate} = 90.2\% \end{aligned}$$

Individuals' (18 Years and above) Response and Non-Response Cases

Interview Result	Number of cases
Completed	9,615
Partially completed	60
Unable to meet individuals	163
Refused	55
Other	33
Total	9,926

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Non-response rate} &= \frac{\text{Total non-response cases}}{\text{Net sample}} \times 100\% = 2.5\% \\ \text{Response Rate} &= 100\% - \text{Non-Response Rate} = 97.5\% \end{aligned}$$

Data Quality

Accuracy

The data accuracy test includes multiple aspects of the survey, the most notably is sampling errors and non-sampling errors which refers to the staff and survey tools, as well as survey response rates and their most important impact on estimates. This section includes the following:

Sampling Errors

Those errors result from studying part (sample) of the society and not all society units. Since the socio-economic conditions survey 2018 was conducted on a sample, sampling errors are expected to occur. To minimize sampling errors, a properly designed probability sample was used to calculate errors throughout the process. This means that for every unit of the society there is a probability to be selected in the sample. The variance was calculated to measure the impact on sample design for Palestine.

Non-Sampling Errors

Non-Sampling errors are possible at all stages of the project, during data collection or processing. Those are referred to as non-response errors, response errors, interviewing errors and data entry errors. To avoid errors and reduce their effects, strenuous efforts were made to train the fieldworkers intensively. They were trained on how to carry out the interview, what to discuss and what to avoid, as well as practical and theoretical training during the training course. Non-sampling errors in the survey resulted from the private data it collected and that some households considered this as interference in the very details of their

private life. They refused to cooperate with data. Several methods were used to convince households provide answers and minimize non-response.

Data Comparison and Examination

This standard is linked to the statistical product, since statistics must have comparative advantage with other sources and with other time periods. Many analyses are based on comparison. The data of the survey of 2018 were compared to the previous surveys data. Moreover, inconsistency between questions and the internal inconsistency of the data were examined as part of the review of logic and completion of the data.

Derived Variables

From the Derived variables:

Region: It has been divided to a West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Locality type: It has been divided to a Urban, Rural and Camps.

Area C: It has been divided to Area C and Not Area C.

Data Processing

Data processing was done in different ways including:

Programming Consistency Check

1. Tablet applications were developed in accordance with the questionnaire's design to facilitate collection of data in the field. The application interfaces were made user-friendly to enable fieldworkers collect data quickly with minimal errors. Proper data entry tools were also used to concord with the question including drop down menus/lists.
2. Develop automated data editing mechanism consistent with the use of technology in the survey and uploading the tools for use to clean the data entered into the database and ensure they are logic and error free as much as possible. The tool also accelerated conclusion of preliminary results prior to finalization of results.
3. GPS and GIS were used to avoid duplication and omission of counting units (buildings, and households).
4. In order to work in parallel with Jerusalem (J1) in which the data was collected in paper, the same application that was designed on the tablets was used and some of its properties were modified, there was no need for maps to enter their data as the software was downloaded on the devices after the completion of the editing of the questionnaires.

Data Cleaning

1. Concurrently with the data collection process, a weekly check of the data entered was carried out centrally and returned to the field for modification during the data collection phase and follow-up. The work was carried out thorough examination of the questions and variables to ensure that all required items are included, and the check of shifts, stops and range was done too.
2. Data processing was conducted after the fieldwork stage, where it was limited to conducting the final inspection and cleaning of the survey databases. Data cleaning and editing stage focused on:
 - Editing skips and values allowed.
 - Checking the consistency between different the questions of questionnaire based on logical relationships.

- Checking on the basis of relations between certain questions so that a list of non-identical cases was extracted, and reviewed toward identifying the source of the error case by case, where such errors were immediately modified and corrected based on the source of the error with the documentation process for the checks occurred on the questionnaire.
- The SPSS program was used to extract and modify errors and discrepancies, to prepare clean and accurate data ready for scheduling and publishing.

Tabulation

After finishing from checking and cleaning any errors of data, tabulation was prepared for this purpose and extracted accordingly.

Classifications

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1. Palestinian Localities Guidance, 2017.
2. Palestinian Occupation Classification (ISCO-8).
3. Palestinian Industrial Classification of All Economical Activities According to International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC-4).