

## BACKGROUND

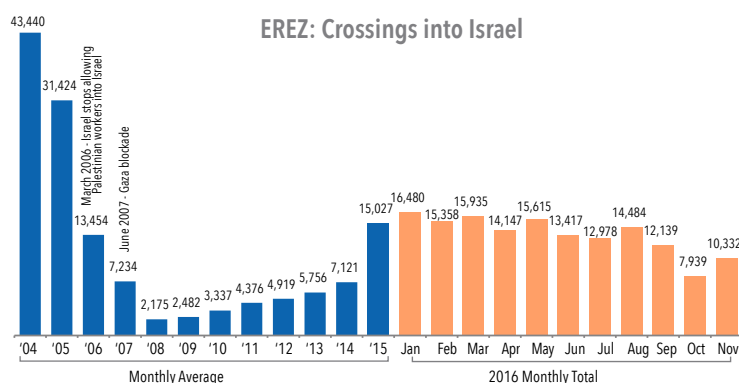
Longstanding restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from Gaza have undermined the living conditions of 1.8 million Palestinians in that area. Many of the current restrictions, originally imposed by Israel in the early 1990s, were intensified after June 2007, following the Hamas takeover of Gaza and the imposition of a blockade. These restrictions continue to reduce access to livelihoods, essential services and housing, disrupt family life, and undermine people's hopes for a secure and prosperous future. The situation has been compounded by the restrictions imposed since June 2013 by the Egyptian authorities at Rafah Crossing, which had become the main crossing point used by Palestinian passengers in the Gaza Strip, given the above restrictions on the Israeli-controlled crossings.



## MOVEMENT AND ACCESS OF PEOPLE\*

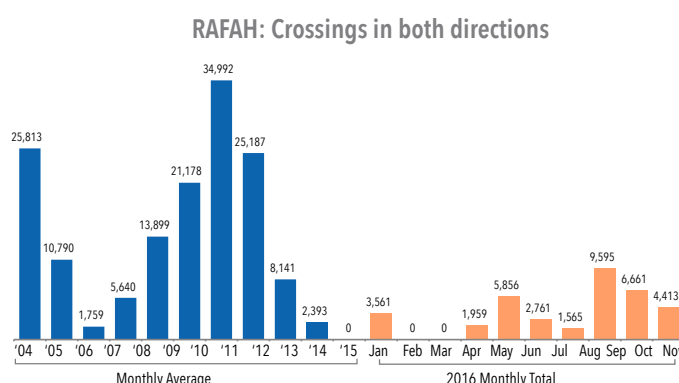
### EREZ CROSSING

- Opened on all 26 scheduled days.
- The overall number of crossings into Israel was 25% below the monthly average of 13,849 crossings recorded since the beginning of 2016.
- The decline can be attributed to a possible tightening of Israeli restrictions on the access of people into Israel.
- The crossing is accessible only to Israeli-issued permit holders, primarily medical and other humanitarian cases, merchants, and aid workers.
- 857 out of 2,210 permits for business people were approved, including the renewal of permits.
- The denial rate for exit permits for national UN staff from Gaza stood at 53% in November.
- According to WHO, 49.8% of permit applications for medical referrals were denied or remained pending, and the approval rate for medical referrals in November stood at 50.2%.



### RAFAH CROSSING

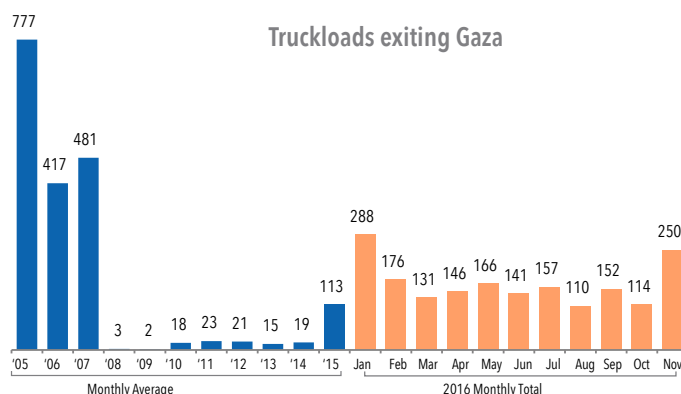
- Exceptionally opened for 5 days in both directions.
- Since October 2014, the crossing has been closed on all but 77 days. It has been partially open for only 38 days since the beginning of this year.
- At least 20,000 Palestinians are pre-registered and waiting to travel to Egypt, according to the local authorities.
- Prior to the closure of the crossing in 2014, a monthly average of 4,000 people crossed Rafah for health-related reasons.



## MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

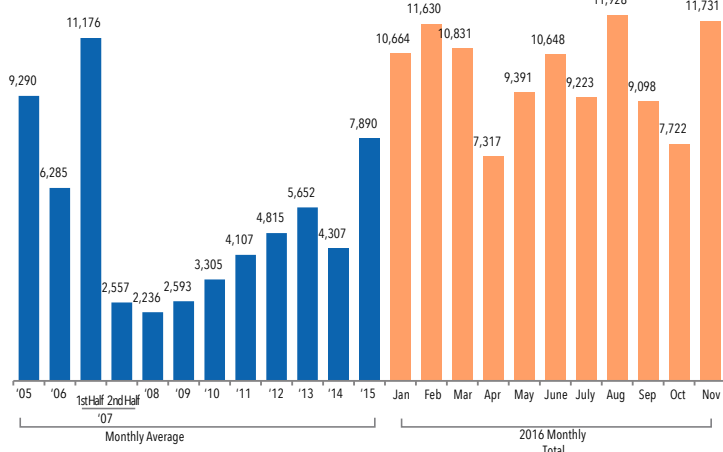
### EXIT OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom crossing between Gaza and Israel operated for exiting goods on 19 out of 26 scheduled days, but during daytime hours only.
- 250 truckloads of goods exited Gaza, a 58% increase compared to the monthly average since the beginning of 2016; trucks exited to the following destinations:
  - 124 truckloads of agricultural products, furniture and clothing to the West Bank;
  - 81 truckloads of agricultural products and scrap metal/aluminum to Israel;
  - 45 truckloads of agricultural products to international markets.



\* The figures reflect number of times people crossed, but not the actual number of people crossing.

### Truckloads entering Gaza

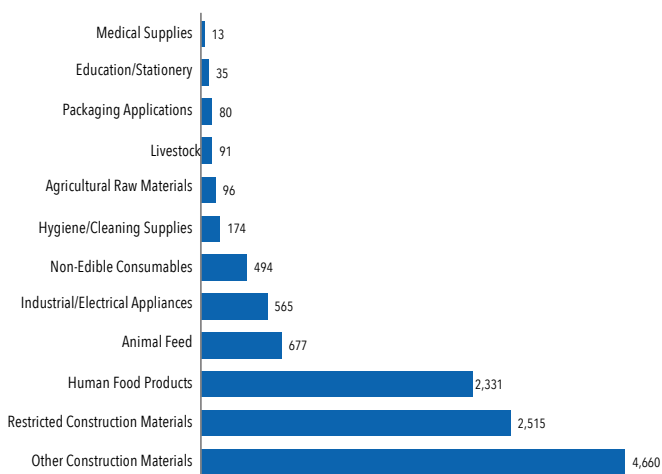


### ENTRY OF GOODS

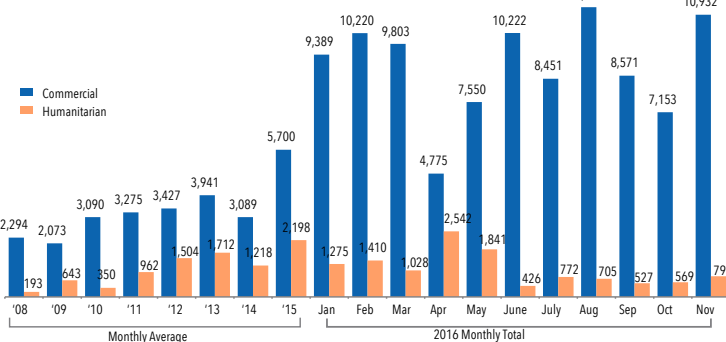
- Kerem Shalom, which is the only functional commercial route between Gaza and the external world, operated on 22 out of 26\* scheduled days.
- The volume of imports this month increased for all categories of items by 19%, compared to the monthly average since the beginning of 2016.
- Rafah commercial crossing opened on five days, allowing 172 truckloads of construction materials to enter Gaza.
- 6% of the truckloads that entered in November were designated for humanitarian aid agencies.
- Out of 12,664 truckloads (including 933 truckloads of fuel), 7,175 truckloads carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (57%). These include 2,236 truckloads of materials defined by Israel as 'dual use' items, which entered via the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM).
- Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz crossings with Israel remained closed.

\* Kerem Shalom crossing is open Sunday - Friday.

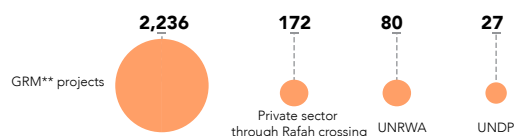
### Goods imported in November 2016 (in truckloads)



### Humanitarian vs. commercial imports (in truckloads)



### Entry of restricted basic construction materials in November per sector (in truckloads)\*

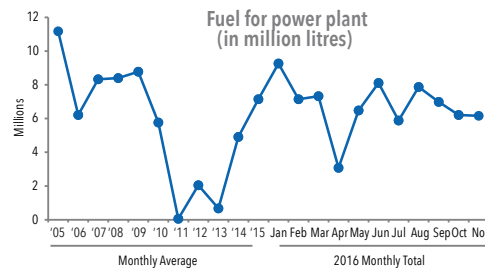
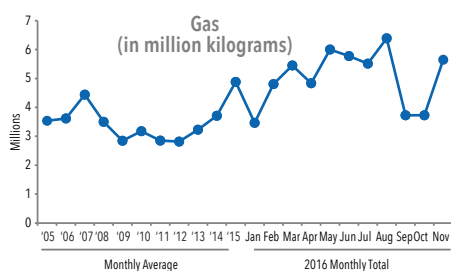
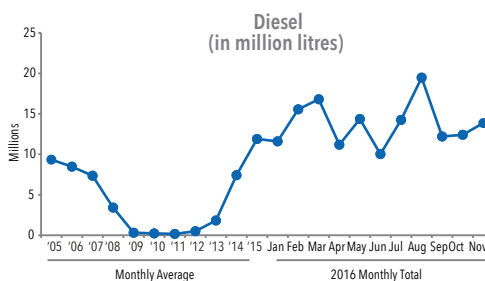
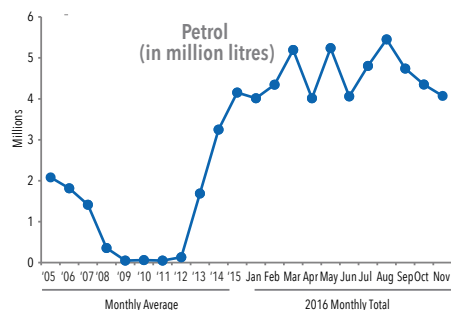


\* Primarily includes cement and steel bars; aggregates were removed from the "dual use" list in 2015.

\*\* The GRM is a temporary agreement between the Government of Palestine and the Government of Israel, brokered by the United Nations in September 2014, to allow the entry of items defined by Israel as having a "dual" civilian/military use. These include building materials for repairs and reconstruction of private housing and infrastructure damaged or destroyed during hostilities, as well as new projects not related to hostilities.



### FUEL IMPORTS INTO GAZA



### FUEL IMPORTS

Kerem Shalom remained the only crossing available for the import of fuel, allowing the entry of:

- 17.9 million litres of petrol and diesel;
- 6.1 million litres of industrial fuel for the Gaza Power Plant; and
- 5,648 tons of cooking gas, which represents around 75% of the estimated needs of around 7,500 tons, according to the Gas Station Owners' Association (June 2016 estimate).