

## 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 Gaza. 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 have reduced access to livelihoods, essential services and housing, disrupted family life, and undermined 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.



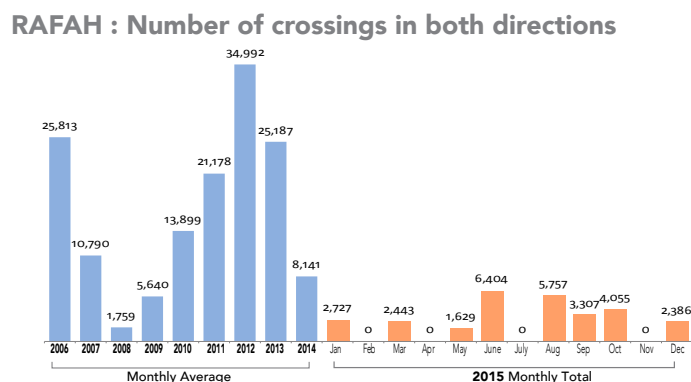
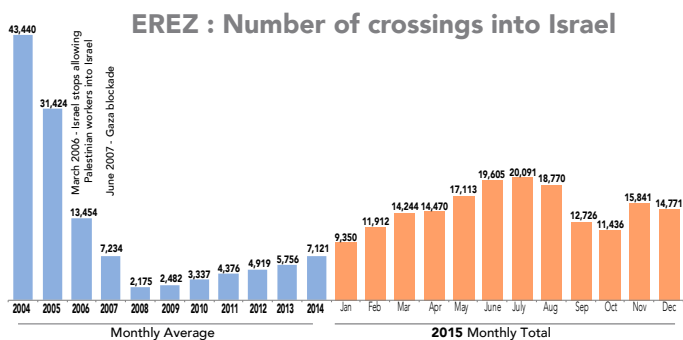
## MOVEMENT AND ACCESS OF PEOPLE\*

### EREZ CROSSING

- In December, Erez crossing was open for 27 days.
- The number of crossings during December increased by 6% compared to the monthly average in the previous 11 months.
- Accessible only to Israeli issued permit holders, primarily medical and other humanitarian cases, merchants, and aid workers.

### RAFAH CROSSING

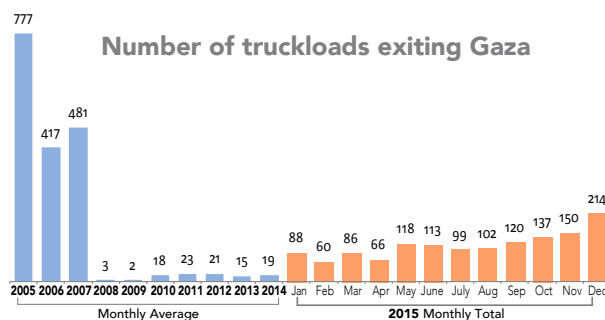
- Rafah was open on two out of 31 scheduled days during December 2015.
- The crossing has been closed since 24 October 2014, except for 39 days.
- There are at least 30,000 Palestinians registered as humanitarian cases waiting to leave Gaza via Rafah.



## MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

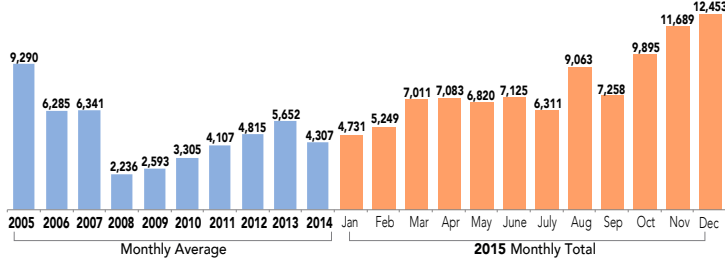
### EXIT OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom operated on 21 out of 26 scheduled days during daytime (08:00 - 19:00).
- 214 truckloads of goods exited Gaza, the largest such figure in a single month since the imposition of the blockade in June 2007, to the following destinations:
  - 121 truckloads of agricultural products, furniture and clothing to West Bank;
  - 55 truckloads of agricultural products and scrap metal to Israel;
  - 38 truckloads of agricultural products to international markets.



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

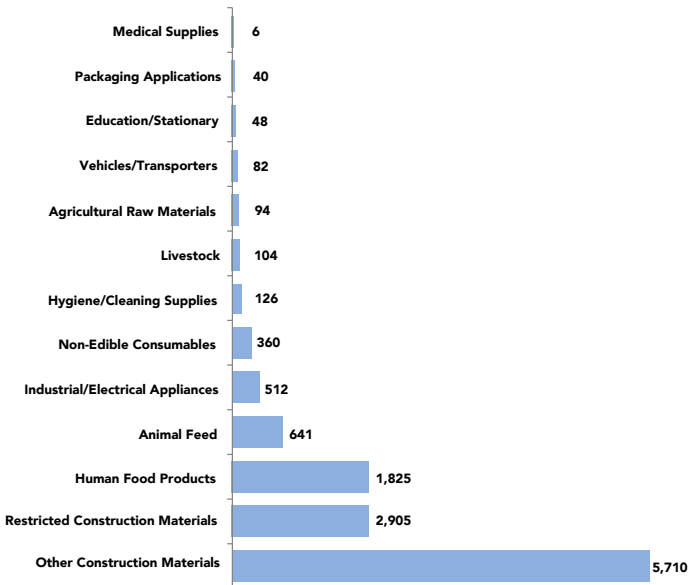
### Humanitarian vs commercial imports (in truckloads)



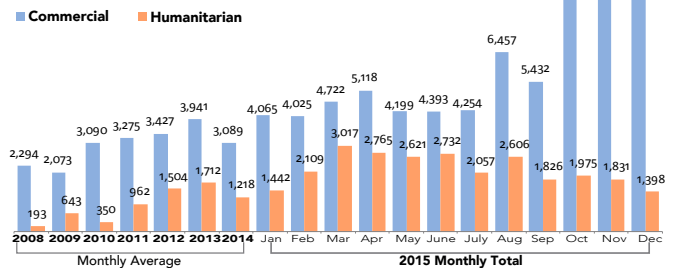
### ENTRY OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom operated on 23 out of 27 scheduled days, allowing the entry of 12,418 truckloads of goods, the largest such figure in a single month since the imposition of the blockade.
- Rafah commercial crossing opened on two days, 35 truckloads of construction materials entered Gaza through.
- The volume of imports this month increased by 68% compared to the monthly average since the beginning of 2015 and was the highest since 2005.
- 11% of the truckloads that entered in December were designated for aid agencies.
- 8,615 of the truckloads carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (70%). These included 2,905 truckloads of materials defined by Israel as dual use items.
- Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz crossings with Israel remained closed.

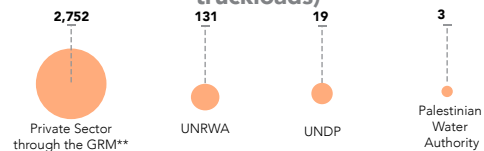
### Breakdown of goods imported in December 2015 (in truckloads)



### Humanitarian vs commercial imports (in truckloads)

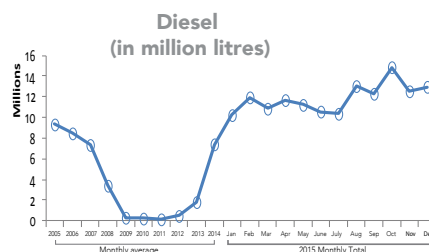
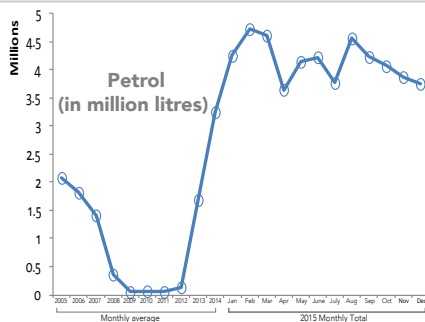


### Entry of restricted basic construction materials in December 2015 per sector (in truckloads)\*



\* Primarily includes cement and steel bars, aggregates removed from dual use materials list.  
 \*\* 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 dual use items, including building materials for repairs and reconstruction of private housing and infrastructure damaged or destroyed during the hostilities, as well as new projects not related to damages during hostilities. Prior to the GRM the import of construction material was limited to international organizations following a lengthy approval procedure, but not for the private sector or shelter self-help programs.

### FUEL IMPORTS INTO GAZA



### FUEL IMPORTS

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

- 16.7 million liters of petrol & diesel.
- 8.8 million liters of industrial fuel for the Gaza power plant.
- 4,989 tons of cooking gas.
- Severe cooking gas shortages are being reported throughout the Strip. Cooking gas is used for heating and stovetops. Demand is estimated at 350 tons per day, while this month equivalent of about 160 tons/day has entered.

