

## BACKGROUND

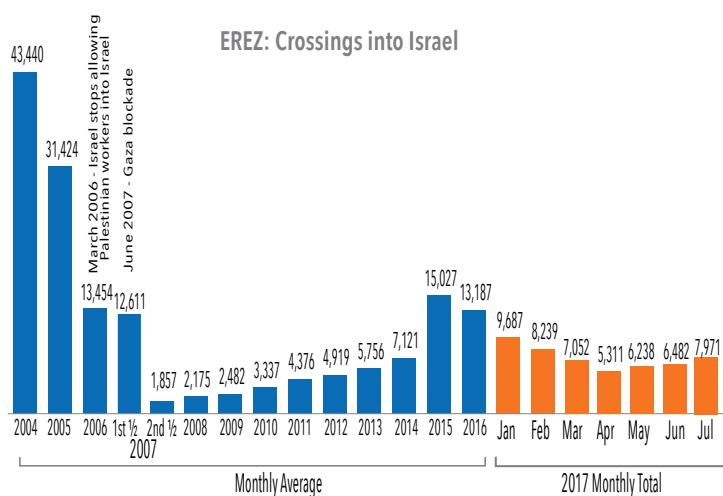
Longstanding restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from Gaza have undermined the living conditions of approximately two million Palestinians in that area. Many of the current restrictions, originally imposed by Israel in the early 1990s, were intensified after June 2007, following the 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\*

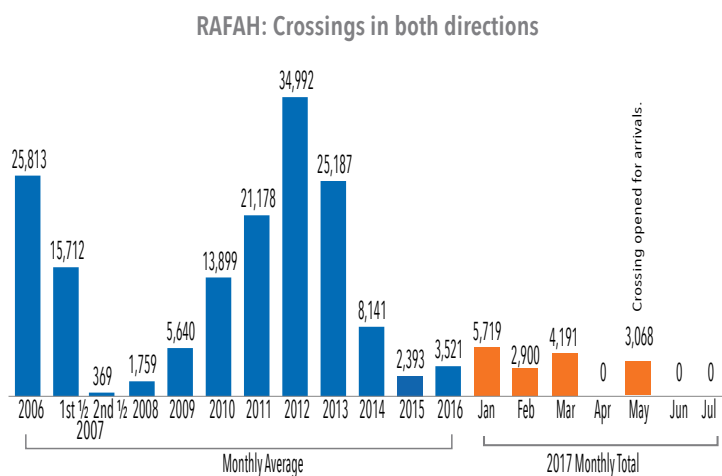
### EREZ CROSSING

- Opened on 26 days (closed on five Saturdays).
- The volume of crossings during July increased by 11% compared to the monthly average in the first half of 2017, however it remained 47% below the 2016 average.
- 59% of the 1,848 applications for exit permits for patients referred to medical treatment outside Gaza were approved by Israel and the rest were either rejected or had not been answered at the time of the scheduled medical appointments (WHO).
- Erez Crossing is open during daytime hours from Sunday to Thursday for all permit holders (primarily medical cases, merchants, internationals and aid workers), and on Fridays for exceptional humanitarian cases and internationals.



### RAFAH CROSSING

- Closed in both directions during the entire month, except for the entry of fuel.
- Since the beginning of 2017, the crossing opened on 16 out of 212 days.
- At least 20,000 Palestinians with urgent needs are pre-registered and waiting to cross into Egypt, according to the local authorities in Gaza.
- Prior to the closure of the crossing in 2014, a monthly average of 4,000 people crossed Rafah for health-related reasons (WHO).



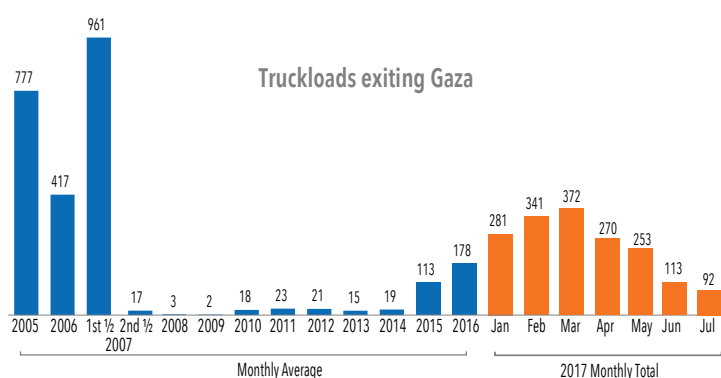
\* The figures reflect number of times people crossed, but not the actual number of people crossing.



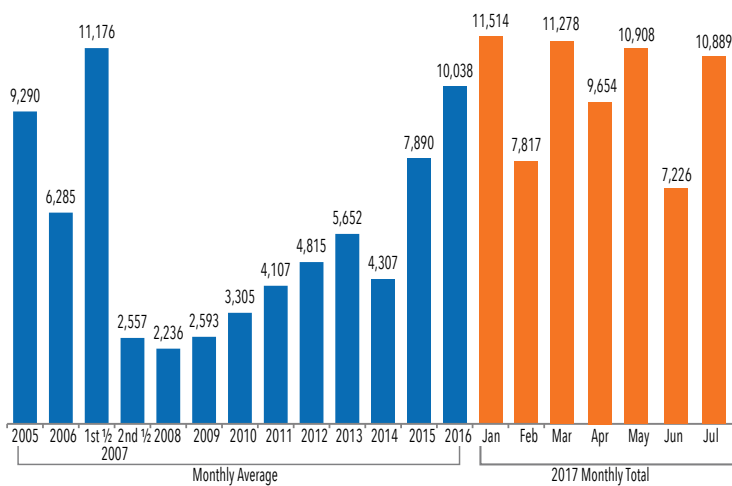
## MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

### EXIT OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom crossing is currently the only regular commercial route between Gaza and the external world.
- Exit of goods took place on 19 days.
- The volume of truckloads that exited was 41% below the equivalent figure in July 2016, and 90% below the monthly average in the first half of 2007, before the imposition of the blockade.
- Goods exited to the following destinations:
  - 56 truckloads of agricultural products, 4 of non-edible consumables, 5 of clothing and 2 of furniture, to the West Bank;
  - 16 truckloads of agricultural products and scrap aluminum to Israel; and
  - 9 truckloads of agricultural products to international markets.



## Truckloads entering Gaza\*\*

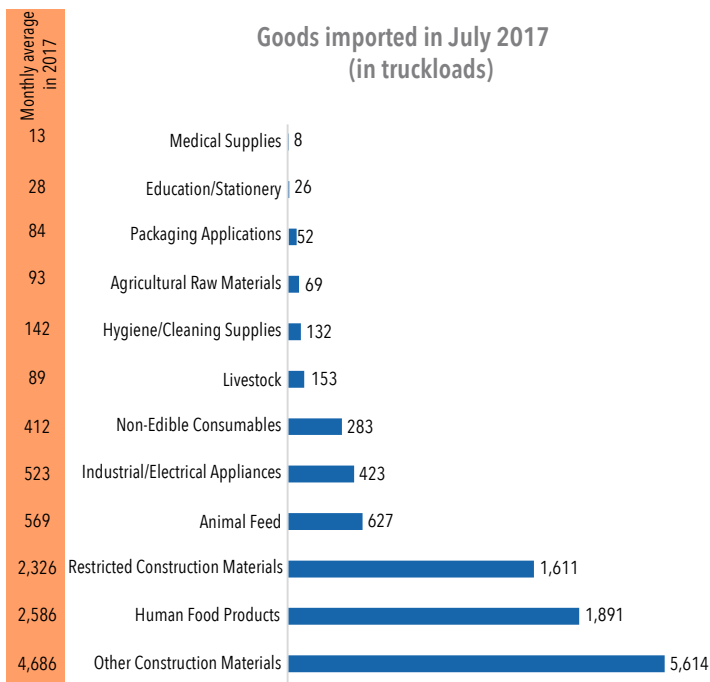
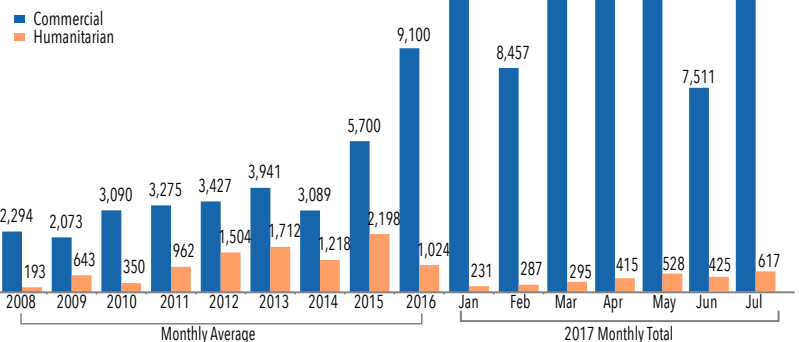
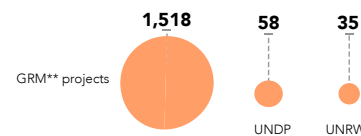


## ENTRY OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom Crossing operated for the entry of goods on 22 days\*.
- The volume of goods that entered this month was 12% above the monthly average recorded since the beginning of 2017.
- 5% of the imported truckloads were designated for humanitarian aid agencies.
- 7,225 truckloads carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (61%).
- 22% of truckloads with construction materials carried items defined by Israel as 'dual use' items, approved via the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM).
- Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz crossings with Israel remained closed.

\* Closed on four Saturdays and four Fridays.

\*\* Figures exclude truckloads carrying fuel.

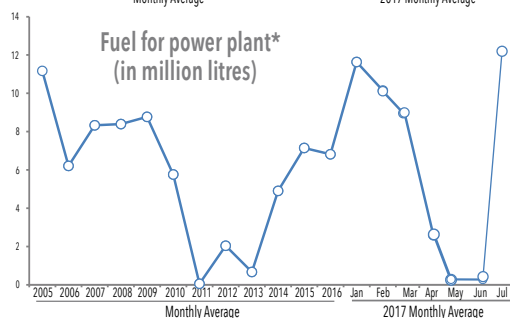
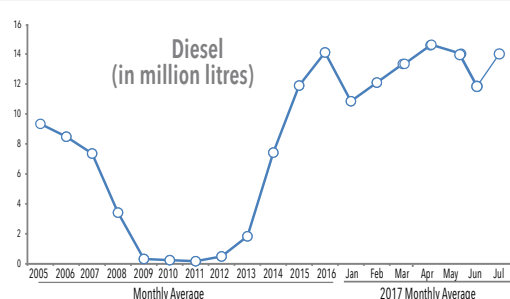
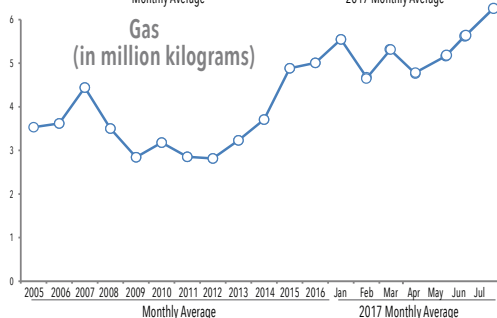
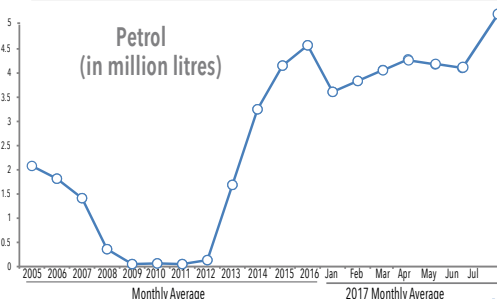
Goods imported in July 2017  
(in truckloads)Humanitarian vs. commercial imports  
(in truckloads)Entry of restricted basic construction materials in July  
per sector (in truckloads)\*

\* 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, the Government of Israel and the United Nations, reached 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 opened on 22 days for the import of fuel, allowing the entry of:

- 18.2 million litres of petrol and diesel; and
- 6,456 tons of cooking gas.
- Rafah crossing opened for 15 days during July for the entry of fuel, mostly destined to the Gaza Power Plant (GPP), this includes;
  - 12.7 million litres of diesel for GPP; and
  - 1 million litres of petrol.