



# THE MONTHLY HUMANITARIAN MONITOR

MAY 2012



Palestinian-owned olive trees cut down by Israel settlers, Madama village, June 2012.

Photo by Muayad Kindeari, OCHA

## May Overview

The results of the 2012 Socio-Economic and Food Security survey, released this month, indicate that 27 percent of the population in the oPt (about 1.3 million people) were food insecure in 2011. Albeit high, this represents a six and nine percentage points decrease compared with the equivalent figures for 2010 and 2009, respectively. To a large extent, this can be attributed to the increased levels of economic activity recorded in 2011, as well as improved targeting of food assistance interventions.

Although encouraging, the general context in which this positive trend took place underscores the fragility of this progress. The deadlock of negotiations between the PLO and Israel and the related lack of political horizon, along with the ongoing fragmentation of the oPt as a result of settlement activities and the entrenchment

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Sharp increase in number of Palestinians injured by Israeli forces during demonstrations.....3
- Settler violence on the rise .....4
- Rise in child arrests by Israeli authorities.....7
- Highest levels of drug shortages in five years.....9
- Improvement in food security levels in the oPt.. 10
- The cash crop export season ends with mixed results..... 11



of the separation between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, are key elements within that context. Compounded by the financial crisis affecting the Palestinian Authority (PA), these elements may result in an outbreak of violence and render the abovementioned positive trend unsustainable.

In the West Bank, increasing casualties from clashes with Israeli forces during demonstrations is a worrying indication of the potential for escalation. In the first five months of 2012, over 1,200 Palestinians were injured in this context, nearly half of them in May. On average, the number of injuries has almost doubled in comparison with 2011 and is more than 250 percent higher than that of 2009. Over 40 percent of this year's injuries occurred during demonstrations held to protest settlement-related activities. Settlement activities are a particular source of tension and protection concerns in East Jerusalem.

This month also witnessed a marked rise in Israeli settler attacks resulting in Palestinian injuries or damages to their property, the most severe of which affected villages around Yitzhar settlement (Nablus). Although Israeli soldiers were present at the scene of some of these incidents, they failed to intervene and stop attacks. The lack of adequate law enforcement on violent Israeli settlers is particularly worrying given the potential of "price tag" settler attacks in response to the Israeli Supreme Court-ordered evacuation of two settlement outposts in the Ramallah area (Migron and Ulpana) in the coming weeks.

In the Gaza Strip, the decrease in food insecurity is directly linked to the substantive increase in economic activity during 2011, reflected in a double-digit growth rate compared to 2010. The increase was largely concentrated in the service and construction sectors, and fueled by the influx of funds from abroad. At the same time, the productive capacity of Gaza has seen almost no reactivation, rendering recent economic growth highly volatile and unsustainable: the fact that Gaza's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by over 26 percent in

the first three quarters of 2011, but only 0.5 percent in the last quarter of the year, is a clear indication of that.

One of the primary reasons for the stagnation in the productive capacity (the industrial and agricultural sectors) is the ongoing ban on the transfer of goods from Gaza to its traditional markets in the West Bank and exports to Israel. In May, the 2011/2012 export season for agricultural cash crops destined for overseas markets came to a close. While the volume of exported fruit and vegetables increased in comparison with the previous season (along with a decrease in the volume of flowers), it constituted less than 20 percent of the equivalent figure (for these commodities) during the 2006/2007 season, prior to the blockade. In 2011 less than one truckload of goods per day exited Gaza, less than three per cent of the average amount of exports (for all commodities) during the first half of 2007.

The fragile situation is worsened by the financial crisis affecting the PA. This has resulted in the highest number of essential medications out of stock in public hospitals in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank since 2007, with 42 percent of these items at zero stock in Gaza. The increase exacerbates the already chronic shortages of drugs due to poor coordination between the PA and the local authorities in Gaza. The poor, whose access to private medical treatment and pharmacies is the most limited, bear the brunt of this crisis.

The root of instability affecting the oPt will likely only be resolved at the political level, through an agreement. However, even under the current occupation, there are significant measures that could be taken to reduce humanitarian vulnerability. This should include ensuring accountability for settler violence, improving Palestinian access to land and resources in the West Bank, lifting the ban on the movement of goods and people between Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and improving the coordination between the PA and Hamas with regard to the provision of services, among others.

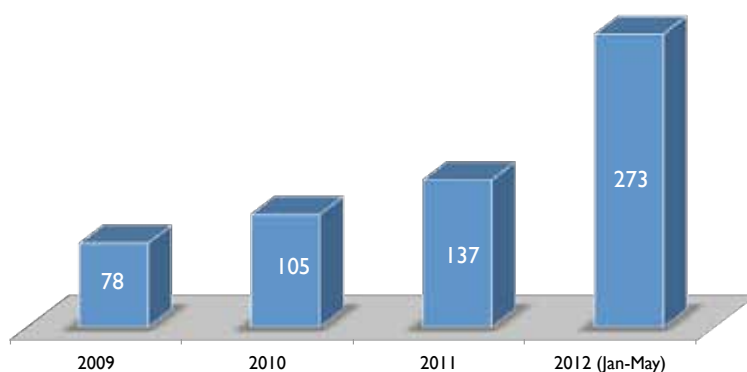
## SHARP INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PALESTINIANS INJURED BY ISRAELI FORCES DURING DEMONSTRATIONS

In the first five months of 2012, a total of 1,204 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces during demonstrations that occurred in the West Bank, 584 of them in May alone, including 12 women and 37 children. The monthly average of Palestinian injuries by Israeli forces in the West Bank in 2012 has almost doubled in comparison to the monthly average in 2011, and it is over 250 percent greater than in 2009.

More than half of this year's injuries were in ad hoc demonstrations, including those in solidarity with prisoners holding a hunger strike in protest against the Israeli practise of administrative detention, as well as demonstrations held on 15 May ("An Nakba" day). Roughly 43 percent of injuries occurred during demonstrations held in protest against settlement-related activity, either access restrictions implemented to protect Israeli settlements and secure space for their development (39 percent) or other measures allowing for their expansion.

Despite the high number of injuries, so far in 2012 there have been no reports of such injuries resulting in the opening of investigations by the IDF's Military Police Investigation Unit (MPIU)—the only mechanism that can lead to the prosecution of a soldier. This in spite of the increasing number of injuries that have occurred as a result of demonstrators being hit with tear-gas canisters, the third highest contributor to injuries this year (92 injuries in 2012). Because high-velocity tear gas canisters are made of aluminum and are imprecise in nature, when fired directly into a crowd or at specific persons they can cause serious harm,

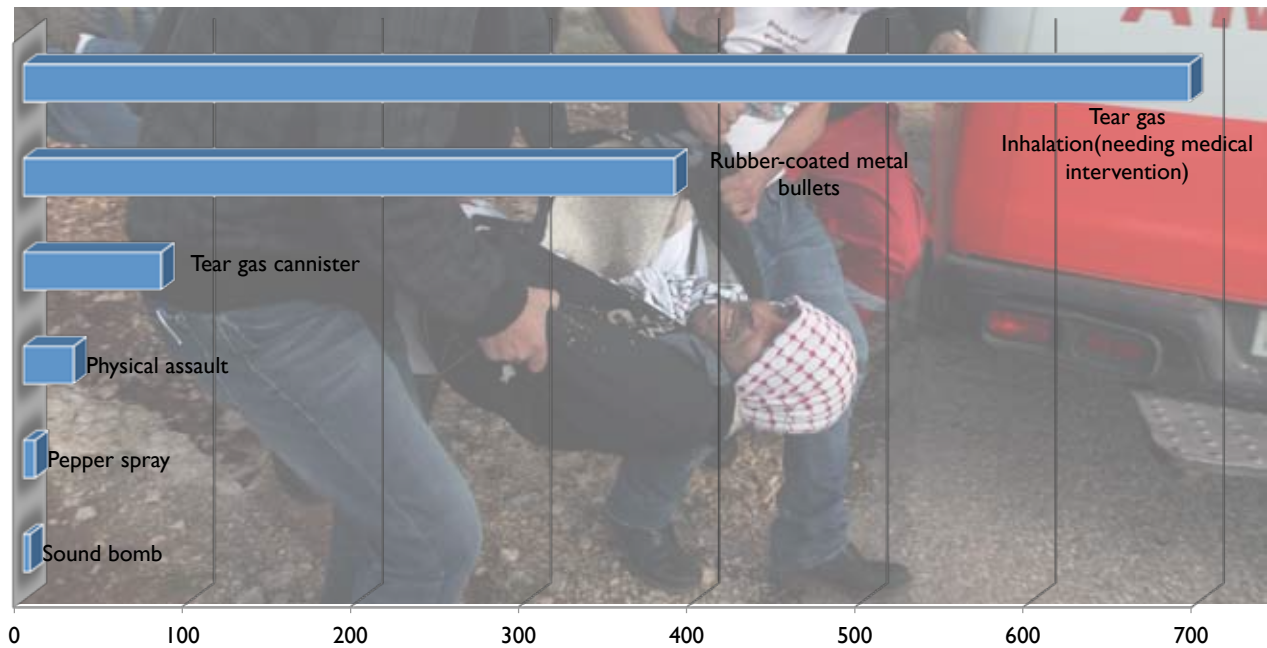
### Sharp increase in number of Palestinians injured by Israeli forces during demonstrations



### Palestinian villages with 30 or more injuries during demonstrations

2012	Description	Frequency	Injured
An Nabi Salih	Weekly demonstrations protesting against the takeover of the village's lands by the nearby Israeli settlement, Halamish.	Weekly	30
Beituniya	Held at Ofer Prison in protest against Israeli policies regarding administrative detention and other prisoner-related issues.	Ad Hoc	364
Hebron City/H2	Against access restrictions in the Israeli-administered H2 section of Hebron City. Ash Shuhada Street, Hebron's once thriving commercial artery, is off-limits to Palestinian pedestrians.	Ad Hoc	87
Kafr Qaddum	Against access restrictions to village property in the vicinity of Qedumim settlement. This includes the closure of the main road connecting the village to Nablus.	Weekly	329
Qalandiya	"An Nakba" day and during other Ad Hoc demonstrations	Ad Hoc	263
Bil'in	Against the route of the Barrier, which cuts the village off from approximately 60% of its land	Weekly	30
Ni'lin	Against the route of the Barrier, which cuts the village off from approximately one third of its land	Weekly	19
Beit Ummar	Weekly demonstrations protesting against the access restrictions to agricultural land near the Israeli settlement of Karmeit Zur	Weekly	11

## Demonstrations injuries by weapon, 2012



or even kill.. While the Israeli military officially prohibits the targeting of people's bodies, since 2009 two protestors have been killed in this manner.

Since April 2011, Israeli military procedures require that an MPIU investigation will be automatically opened for incidents in which Palestinian civilians are killed by Israeli forces in the West Bank. However, this requirement does not apply to incidents resulting in injuries, creating a significant concern about lack of accountability.

### SETTLER VIOLENCE ON THE RISE

*Concern over increased vulnerability of villages around Yitzhar settlement (Nablus)*

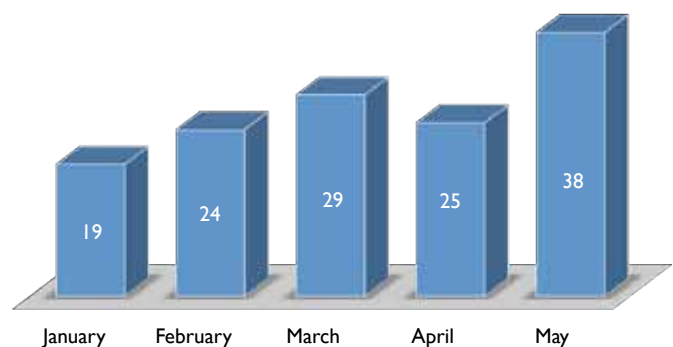
The number of settler-related incidents in the West Bank was roughly 57 percent higher in May 2012 than the monthly average of the previous four months (24 incidents), and 12 percent higher than the monthly average in 2011 (34 incidents).

Of particular concern is the situation of six Palestinian villages in the Nablus governorate, located around the Israeli settlement of Yitzhar: 'Asira Al Qibliya, Burin, 'Einabus, Huwwara, Madama, and 'Urif. Ten of the 38 attacks recorded in May occurred in this

area, resulting in the injury of nine Palestinians (two with live ammunition) and damage to roughly 200 olive trees and 20 dunums of land, among others. This represents a significant escalation compared to previous months. Furthermore, these attacks have involved larger groups of settlers, and were more coordinated than in previous months.

In one incident of note, on 26 May, 150 olive trees in 'Urif village were burnt and a Palestinian sustained serious injury with live ammunition when a large group of settlers raided the village. In another, on 19 May, a Palestinian was directly shot by a group of settlers and two others were wounded by stones

### Settler-related incidents resulting in Palestinian casualties or property damage



when a large group of settlers raided the Palestinian village of 'Asira Al Qibliya.

The increased violence originating from Yitzhar settlement occurs against a background of pervasive lawlessness and lack of accountability vis-à-vis settler violence in the West Bank. One of the key dimensions of this phenomenon is related to the inadequate response provided by Israeli troops, when present during a settler attack. Although Israeli soldiers were present in the two above-mentioned incidents in "Urif and 'Asira Al Qibliya villages, eye witnesses, as well as video footage, suggest that little to no effort was made to protect Palestinians present, nor was there any attempt to disarm settlers of their weapons or arrest them.<sup>1</sup> According to Israeli media sources, the Israeli authorities have opened investigations into the incidents.

Inadequate law enforcement and lack of accountability are key features underpinning the phenomenon of settler violence. Under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as the occupying force in the West Bank, Israel is obliged to ensure public order and safety and protect the civilian population in the occupied territory, and the responsibility for implementing this obligation falls on the Israeli military. Without effective Israeli law enforcement, and in view of increasingly aggressive settler activity, there is concern that the situation may further deteriorate, resulting in increasing numbers of civilian casualties and property damage, along with the displacement of the most vulnerable from their places of residence.

#### FAMILY DISPLACED DUE TO SETTLER VIOLENCE

The Daraghmah family lived in the remains of an Ottoman house located in a secluded area on the outskirts of Al Luban Ash Sharqiya village, very close to the Israeli settlement of Ma'ale Levona. In the past month, increased violence and harassment by both settlers and soldiers has resulted in the family being forced to leave their home and seek refuge in a small structure, previously used for cattle.

Khalid Daraghmeh, father of seven children, described how the hardship he and his family have faced in recent weeks has increased in intensity and frequency. The family has suffered theft of personal belongings, the burning of clothing and fabrics, destruction of agricultural fields and irrigation system, and the cutting off of their electricity.

*"We desperately need water pipes and a fence to irrigate our plants and protect our fields. We need a water pump, like the one that the settlers stole. They took all of our plants, our grapes, lemons, oranges, figs and cucumbers. Last year they uprooted and stole more than 250 olive trees. Now, I have nothing left to work with, and have to start all over again, yet again!"*

Because of the increased frequency of attacks, Khalid is no longer able to restore damaged structures and materials. *"Before, I was able to fix what they had destroyed, but now they have done it a thousand times, and I simply cannot buy more."*

On May 25, settlers bathed in a well on the family's property and attempted to pray inside their home. According to volunteers from the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), who were present at the scene, when Israeli forces arrived, they physically assaulted and arrested Khalid and his eldest son, Jammal. Although Khalid and Jammal were charged with resisting arrest with physical violence, this account was not supported by eye witnesses at the scene.

Since then, the family has been forced to move into the village and to abandon their groves and water well. Mohammad, 14, occasionally tends to the land, but is harassed by settlers: *"They get out of their cars and beat us, tear our backpacks, and throw them to the ground. I am worried that my father or brothers will be hurt... that someone will die. I wish the settlers did not come to our land and home."*

# Yizhar Settler Violence

## FORTH ATTACK:

On May 24, a group of settlers set fire to 20 dunums of agricultural lands burning 3 dunums of wheat and other crops in the process. IDF arrested two Palestinians who were extinguishing the fire.

## FIRST ATTACK:

On May 9 and 17, settlers cut down 40 olive trees.

## THIRD ATTACK:

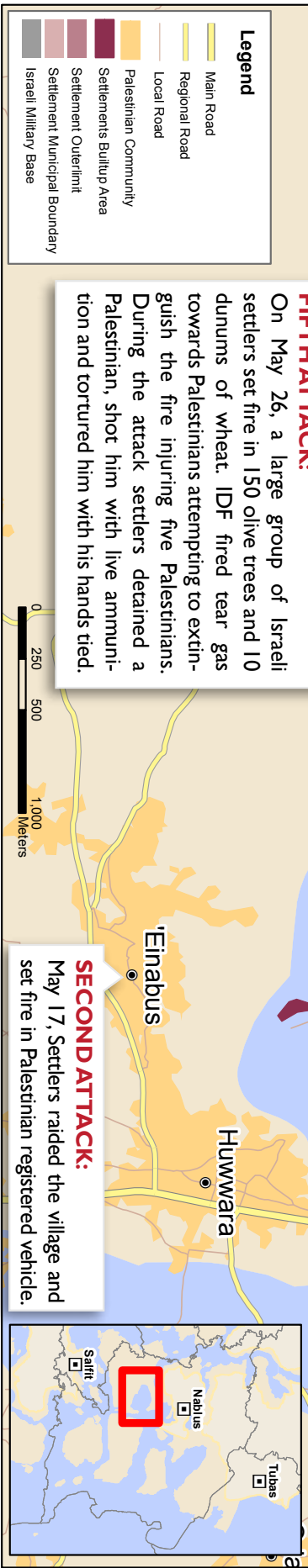
On May 19, armed settlers descended from Yizhar and attacked the eastern houses of the village. Clashes erupted between settler and Palestinians during which settlers used their private weapons to shoot a Palestinian in the head in the presence of the Israeli Army.

## FIFTH ATTACK:

On May 26, a large group of Israeli settlers set fire in 150 olive trees and 10 dunums of wheat. IDF fired tear gas towards Palestinians attempting to extinguish the fire injuring five Palestinians. During the attack settlers detained a Palestinian, shot him with live ammunition and tortured him with his hands tied.

## SECOND ATTACK:

May 17 Settlers raided the village and set fire in Palestinian registered vehicle.



## RISE IN CHILD ARRESTS BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES

*Palestinian children targeted for arrest in the East Jerusalem Silwan neighborhood*

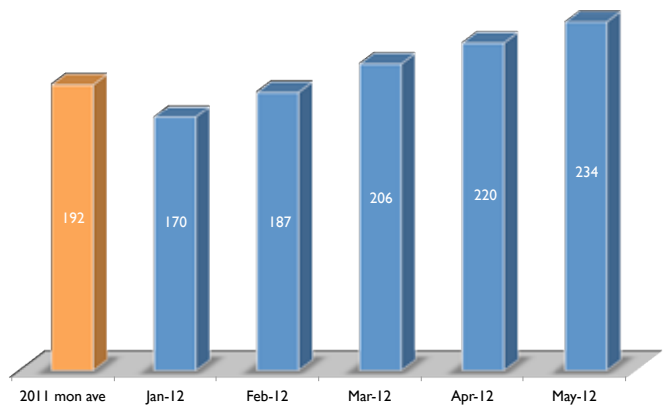
According to Defence for Children International (DCI-Pal), there was a six percent increase in the number of children prosecuted in the Israeli military courts and imprisoned. This is the sixth consecutive month where the number of children in detention has increased. There has been a 73 percent increase in the number of children held in military detention since December 2011.

One area of concern is the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem. Although the monthly average in 2012 is less than half that of 2011 (roughly 13 vs. 28 children arrested per month), almost 60 percent of those arrested between January and May this year were children (56 of 94), and many of the arrested children reported being mistreated while in the custody of Israeli authorities.<sup>2</sup>

The arrests come in the context of ongoing Israeli-Palestinian friction in the Silwan neighborhood (pop 50,000), that has resulted from the continued presence of Israeli settlements, and the high risk of displacement of hundreds of its Palestinian residents, due to the Jerusalem municipality's plans to demolish existing homes to make way for a 'biblical park'.<sup>3</sup> Tensions in the neighborhood have continued over the past three years, and intensified in recent months, with stone throwing from the Palestinians towards the settlers and police, and harsh responses from the Israeli authorities.

The Israeli civil legal statute, "the Youth Law",<sup>4</sup> applied by the Israeli authorities to East Jerusalem, requires that a child's parents be present when they are interrogated and forbids nighttime child arrests as well as violent interrogation methods during detention. In practice, for years, there have been allegations of Palestinian children being questioned alone without being informed of their rights, subjected to harsh interrogation methods including physical violence or threats of physical violence,

### Palestinian children held in military detention, Jan-May 2012



including several accounts by previously detained children given to OCHA oPt. A study by Defence for Children International - Palestine Section (DCI/PS) based on the testimonies of 36 Palestinian children detained in the second half of 2011, and submitted to the UN Rapporteur on Torture in January 2012, found that the majority of Palestinian children detained in the West Bank suffer from ill-treatment, including 67 percent who reported being subjected to physical violence during their arrest, transfer or subsequent interrogation. The study also indicates that 64 percent of Palestinian children were arrested in the hours between midnight and 5:00 am. Since the year 2000, the Israeli authorities have detained and prosecuted between 500-700 Palestinian children each year, and 7,000 Palestinian children, some as young as 12 years of age, are estimated to have been detained and prosecuted since then. The most common charge is for throwing stones at Israeli military forces or settlers in the West Bank.<sup>5</sup>

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Israel is a State Party, stipulates that "State Parties recognize the right of every child alleged as, accused of, or recognized as having infringed the penal law to be treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child's sense of dignity and worth, which reinforces the child's respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and which takes into account the child's age and the desirability of promoting the child's reintegration and the child's assuming a constructive role in society."

## ARRESTED, SUBJECTED TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, AND BARRED FROM SCHOOL: THE CASE OF SUHAIB ALAWAR

On 5 March, at approximately 4:00 am, Israeli border police arrested 14-year-old Suhaib Alawar from his home in Silwan, along with three other boys. Suhaib, who is in the ninth grade, was charged with incitement, throwing stones, and throwing a Molotov cocktail. He was released on 4 April, but was not allowed to return home to his immediate family. He remains under house arrest in the custody of his 57-year-old grandmother, who is required to stay with him at all times; she cannot leave her home unless Suhaib's mother, grandfather, or uncle are present. The family had to pay a fine of NIS 5,000 (US\$ 1,300), and bail of NIS 50,000 (US\$ 13,000) against violating conditions of his house arrest. Since the time of his arrest, Suhaib has not been allowed to attend classes at school, and was only allowed to go to school to take final examinations.



*“They came to our home and arrested me in the middle of the night. I waited in the police vehicle for about two hours with my hands tied while they arrested three other kids, including my cousin, from the neighborhood.*

*They took us to the Maskubiyya Detention Center, and we were interrogated in Room Number 4. The only time my father was with me during the interrogation procedure was at the beginning: on the first day, at about 11 am, they interrogated me for one to two hours with my father present, and wrote down my statement during the session. Then, when my father left, the interrogator tore the report, and said that whole session had only been a formality, and didn't really mean anything. The real interrogation was about to begin.*

*They kept me isolated for eleven days, seven of them with my cousin, and five I was alone. The room was very dirty, and sewage often flooded the floors from the pipes. During those days, they interrogated me for 4-7 hours per day, during which my hands were handcuffed, and feet tied to a chair. I was often beaten, and in one instance, the interrogator placed a chair on my legs and leaned on it, and then threatened me with a knife. Sometimes they would not give us our food, but would taunt us with it instead. At one point, after being beaten, I pleaded with the interrogator to let me call my parents, but he just laughed, and hit me again.”*

*At night, they wouldn't let us sleep, often turning on the light and yelling at us to wake up after we had dozed off. After those first few days, they moved me from solitary confinement to a room with other prisoners, mostly adults. I was held there for 19 days.”*

*Suhaib's mother: “When I first saw him at the court hearing on 27 March, they wouldn't let me go near my son, not even to greet him. He had bruises on his face, and there were cuts on the back of his head.*

*My child is living away from me, from his family, and his home. To this day, he often cries out in his sleep, sometimes saying things that no one can understand. There is no law in the world that allows for children to be prevented from going to school. We want to be able to live in security and peace, and freedom for our children, but the actions of the Israeli authorities only encourage our children to become violent. We are human beings, but we do not feel that we have human rights.”*

Suhaib's attorney indicated to OCHA that he has filed official complaints about the mistreatment of his client during his detention and interrogation to the Israeli internal police investigation department of the Ministry of Justice, which has launched an investigation on the case.

Suhaib Alawar, 14-year-old boy currently under house arrest in Silwan, East Jerusalem June 2012.  
Photo by Georgiana Turculeț, OCHA



## HIGHEST LEVELS OF DRUG SHORTAGES IN FIVE YEARS

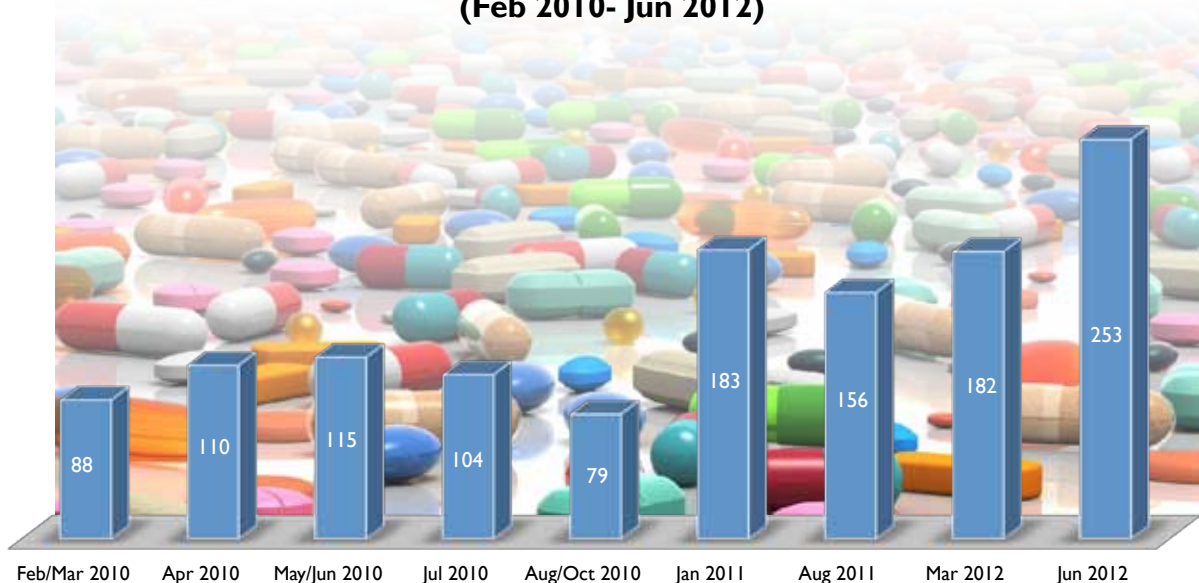
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), out of stock essential medications at the Ministry of Health (MoH) Central Drug Store (CDS), in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, are at the highest levels seen since 2007. The MoH in Gaza reported that 58 percent (253 of 480) of essential medications were at zero stock, with an additional 13 percent at levels sufficient for less than three months, while the MoH Central Drug Store in Ramallah reported a shortage of 28 percent (149 of 523).

The most recent increase is a direct result of the financial crisis affecting the Palestinian Authority (PA), which deteriorated sharply in 2011 and 2012.<sup>6</sup> The PA is responsible for the purchase and funding of drugs for government hospitals and clinics, both in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and in April, its outstanding debt to suppliers was estimated at over \$100 million. The financial crisis has deepened the already chronic shortages in essential medications at MoH hospitals in the Gaza Strip during the past five years due to the disputes and poor of

coordination between the MoH in Ramallah and the MoH in the Gaza Strip.

According to WHO,<sup>7</sup> the shortages have created a greater need for referrals, as some patients who normally would be treated in MoH hospitals must be now be referred to private health facilities at higher cost. In addition, the health system has coped with shortages by, for example, using alternative drugs, accepting items donated from the community businesses, or using petty cash reserves to purchase critical items on the private market. Patients may purchase their medication from private pharmacies or seek donations from charities. However, the shortages experienced this year have surpassed the coping abilities; in May some patient care procedures (e.g., elective surgeries) were postponed or suspended. Patients with life-threatening diseases or chronic illnesses who need maintenance medications, and poor and elderly patients, are especially affected by the shortages. Importantly, these patients face a high risk of complications from medical conditions that may deteriorate while they wait for drugs to be supplied, or for referrals and access permits to be approved. Patients who cannot

**Drugs at zero stock in Gaza  
(Feb 2010- Jun 2012)**



afford private healthcare, within Gaza or the West Bank, and who are denied Israeli-issued access permits to East Jerusalem hospitals, have no other health care options.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FOOD SECURITY LEVELS IN THE OPT

Food security exists within a society when people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The 2011 Socio-Economic and Food Security (SEFSec) survey, jointly conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Refugee and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the UN World Food Programme (WFP), found that 27 percent of Palestinian households (1.3 million people) were food insecure and unable to meet their basic food and household expenses. While high, this represents a nine percent improvement from 2009 (36 percent of the population) and six percentage points compared to 2010. A further 14 percent of Palestinians, although able to cover their basic food and household expenses, remained vulnerable and at-risk of falling into food insecurity.

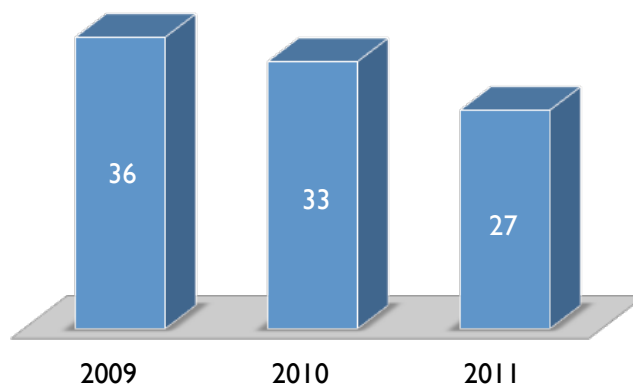
Food security levels are primarily estimated based on economic access to food and essential non-food items, hence food prices and household income (i.e. employment, own production and external assistance) are key determinants of food security. Other dimensions of food security, including food availability and food consumption, are generally less problematic in the oPt, although, given the high dependence on staple food imports and the small size of the local food productive sector, these remain vulnerable to ongoing Israeli access restrictions to international markets and volatile global food prices.

In the West Bank, post-assistance food insecurity stood at 17 percent in 2011, five percent lower than 2009. Food security levels also improved steadily

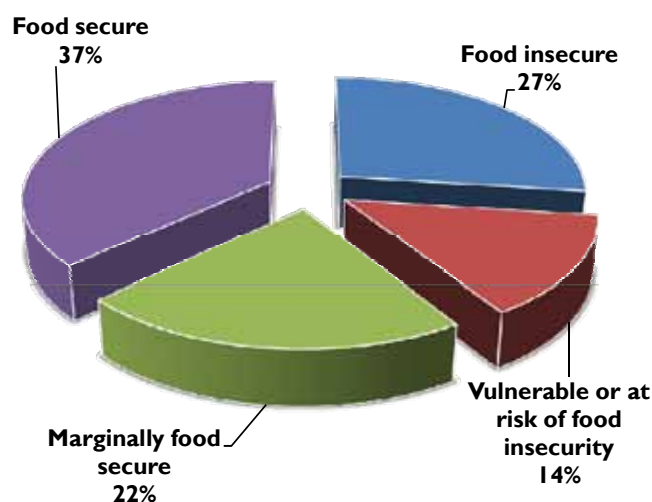
between 2009 and 2011, to reach 45 percent of West Bank households. Food security gains are most apparent in the northern and southern West Bank, where food insecurity levels have dropped by five percent. The central West Bank continues to show the lowest levels of food insecurity (12 percent), with a lower rate of improvement, as the private sector remains stifled due to movement and access restrictions within and outside the West Bank.

Food insecurity in Area C was estimated at 24 percent, as compared to 17 percent in Areas A and B. Vulnerability is higher in Area C, with only a third of the population classified as food secure, compared to 46 percent in Areas A and B. As well,

**Percentage of food insecure Households in the oPt**



**food security levels in oPt, 2011**



segments of the population face higher risks, with refugee population living in camps witnessing a deterioration in food insecurity levels, from 25 percent in 2009 to 29 percent in 2011.

Food insecurity rates in the Gaza Strip also improved, although they remain significantly higher than in the West Bank. Post-assistance food insecurity decreased from 60 percent in 2009 – when the Gaza population faced the highest peak in food insecurity following the war in Gaza, ‘Cast Lead’ – to 44 percent in 2011. Still, Gaza population remains highly vulnerable to food insecurity or marginal food security. Over the last three years, the level of those classified as food secure has been more or less stable and remains at 23 percent. The Southern Gaza Strip has experienced the fastest rate of improvement, most likely due to the tunnel trade economy.

These improvements are partially the result of the recovery of the employment market (especially in the previously dormant construction sector), and the continuation of external assistance ensuring access to food, combined with the easing of some restrictions on entry of goods from Israel from mid-June 2010 onwards, and continuing imports from Egypt through tunnels – especially construction material.

While improving across the oPt, food insecurity levels still remain high, and are impacted by the Gaza blockade, movement and access restrictions in the West Bank, and recent and projected reductions of external assistance and extra-budgetary support to the PA. Because the current economic growth is led by the PA public sector, foreign assistance and the tunnel trade economy in the Gaza Strip, any reduction in these activities would likely have a negative impact on food security levels in the oPt. Further improvements depend on the growth of the productive private sector in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which would require the lifting of movement and access restrictions in the West Bank, and the complete lifting of Israel’s strict blockade in the Gaza Strip.

## THE CASH CROP EXPORT SEASON ENDS WITH MIXED RESULTS

*The ban on the transfer of goods to the West Bank and Israel continues*

The 2011/2012 Gaza export season for agricultural cash crops (strawberries, cut flowers, sweet peppers and cherry tomatoes) came to a close this month with mixed results. Despite a 37 percent increase in the volume of fruit and vegetable exported compared to the previous season, flower exports decreased by 18 percent. While no reliable figures exist regarding the tonnage of pre-blockade cash crop exports, a comparison between the number of truckloads of strawberries and cut flowers shows an 81 percent decrease in these commodities between this season and the 2006/2007 season, prior to the blockade.

The season harvest of strawberry, cherry tomato, and sweet pepper benefited from an unusually cold winter, which improved both yield and quality. Conversely, cold weather conditions combined with the fuel/electricity crisis adversely affected flower production; farmers were unable to regularly operate irrigation systems and cold storage facilities, which are critical for flower production.

Also this month, on May 14 the second non-agricultural export since the imposition of the blockade, consisting of one truckload carrying 2,000 sweaters, left Gaza to the UK.<sup>8</sup> This follows Israel’s December 2010 commitment to allow exports of textiles, furniture and agricultural goods from Gaza to markets abroad.<sup>9</sup> Efforts to organize this shipment began in late 2011. Implementation was delayed by the extended negotiations over product pricing, as well as discussions with Israeli authorities over verification of the input’s place of origin (i.e. via legitimate crossings or the Tunnel network). Textile exports have traditionally been an important part of the Gazan industrial and export sectors, and have been badly hurt since the imposition of the blockade. Out of a monthly

average of 950 truckloads of exports in the first half of 2007, 45 consisted of textiles. The monthly average of exports in 2011 was just 23 truckloads—only 2.5 percent of the early 2007 volumes.

While this month's exports are a positive step forward that may facilitate further textile and other exports, this single garment sale does little to reinvigorate the debilitated Gazan export sector, the foundation of the local economy. A real and sustained improvement of the Gazan economy requires the lifting of restrictions on the import of construction materials and other inputs, currently defined by Israel as 'restricted' items, improved packing and processing procedures at Kerem Shalom, and market access to Israel and the West Bank, Gaza's historical export markets.

## NEW CARGO SCANNER AT KEREM SHALOM CROSSING

To further facilitate exports from Gaza, Israeli authorities began the installation of a gantry cargo scanner at Kerem Shalom, dedicated to inspection of exports through the crossing. A gantry scanner is a high-intensity fixed cargo scanner with a higher capacity than the existing scanners currently in use at Kerem Shalom crossing and in the West Bank. According to the Israeli authorities, once the scanner is operational, the crossing will be authorized to process 50 daily exports, rather than the current 10, without disrupting import activities. The scanner is expected to be operational in June 2012.

## END NOTES

1. Btselem, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHr2xKNTIE8&list=PL0D9B89A9A5541E98&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHr2xKNTIE8&list=PL0D9B89A9A5541E98&feature=player_embedded)
2. Information provided by Wadi Hilweh Information Centre in Silwan of East Jerusalem.
3. Hundreds of other residents are at-risk of displacement if the Israeli authorities execute outstanding demolition orders in the area. See June 2010 and September 2010 issues of the Humanitarian Monitor for additional details on the current situation in Silwan.
4. Legal statute 5731, Youth (Trial, Punishment and Modes of Treatment) Law, 1971, with amendment No. 14, 2008. No Minor Matter, Violation of the Rights of Palestinian Minors Arrested by Israel on Suspicion of Stone Throwing, B'Tselem
5. On 21 January 2012, DCI-PS submitted 36 cases to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture (and others) for further investigation. Percentages quoted herein are based on the report, which covers a six month period between July and December 2011. DCI/PS, "In their own Words: A report on the situation facing Palestinian children detained in the Israeli military court system," January 2012. Available at: <http://www.dci-pal.org>.
6. UN report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, UNSCO, April 2012. In 2011, largely due to lower-than-expected external budget support, the PA accumulated approximately US \$540 million in arrears, including to the pension fund, private sector suppliers and development projects, and close to US\$140 million in net financing from domestic banks.
7. WHO Update, Shortages of Essential Medicines and Disposables in Palestinian Ministry of Health Facilities, West Bank and Gaza, June 6, 2012. [www.emro.who.int/countries/pse](http://www.emro.who.int/countries/pse)
8. This was made possible only after several months of negotiations between Israeli authorities and a range of international actors, including the British Government and its development office, and Office of the Quartet Representative
9. In January the first furniture shipment since 2007 and the 2010 GoI decision was exported from Gaza to Jordan.

## CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations

Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG), Campaign for the Right to Enter, Action Against Hunger (ACF),

**MORE INFORMATION:** Omar Abulhaj, [abulhaj@un.org](mailto:abulhaj@un.org), +972 (0)2 5829962

# Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

## Conflict-related casualties and violence<sup>1</sup>

Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
<b>Palestinian deaths</b>														
Gaza	72	108	2	3	29	3	12	3	7	3	1	25	0	0
West Bank	15	13	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Total	87	121	2	4	31	4	12	3	8	3	2	26	1	0
Of whom are civilians <sup>2</sup>	35	59	2	2	19	2	0	2	3	1	2	6	1	0
Of whom are female	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Palestinian injuries</b>														
Gaza	286	467	1	18	99	6	14	9	38	2	23	116	5	19
West Bank	1261	1643	158	138	92	143	96	54	172	58	234	288	164	684
Total	1547	2110	159	156	191	149	110	63	210	60	256	404	169	703
Of whom are civilians	1510	2059	159	152	185	149	100	60	198	59	267	391	167	703
Of whom are female	126	148	3	16	12	5	14	5	13	0	15	12	4	15
<b>Israeli deaths</b>														
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	9	12	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Of whom are civilians	4	12	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Of whom are female	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Israeli injuries</b>														
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	195	124	9	3	22	5	9	3	6	3	14	16	9	15
Of whom are civilians	45	58	6	2	16	3	8	3	0	2	3	13	9	4
Of whom are female	15	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0
<b>Tunnel-related casualties<sup>3</sup></b>														
	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Deaths	46	36	2	3	4	7	3	3	0	2	0	1	1	3
Injuries	89	54	1	5	7	11	0	0	4	2	1	4	3	4
<b>Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage</b>														
	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties <sup>4</sup>	79	120	9	8	3	16	19	4	7	7	9	6	12	10
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	219	291	23	10	19	48	31	12	18	12	15	22	12	28
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	32	23	3	1	1	4	2	4	0	1	2	2	6	1
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages <sup>5</sup>	83	13	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	3	2	0	1
<b>Civilian Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance in Gaza</b>														
	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Palestinians killed	Adults	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Children	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Palestinians injured	Adults	6	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	3	4
	Children	8	5	1	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	0	6	3

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

## Search and Arrest

	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	397	349	302	464	243	221	315	307	369	349	417	334	399	286
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	275	262	276	269	228	174	179	210	290	272	309	244	338	231

Source: OCHA


### Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)<sup>6</sup>

	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total as of the end of the month	6219	5326	na	5398	5204	na	na	4803	na	4803	na	4386	4424	
of whom are women	31	26	na	29	29	na	na	6	na	3	na	5	5	
of whom are administrative detainees <sup>7</sup>	218	240	na	243	272	na	na	283	na	309	na	320	320	
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	940	633	na	621	642	na	na	630	na	676	na	795	853	

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)

## Demolition of Structures


### Structures demolished<sup>8</sup>



	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total West Bank	439	622*	132	28	2	12	64	44	98	44	76	56	84	32
of which in Area C	357	560	131	25	0	10	63	41	87	39	50	56	84	28
of which in East Jerusalem	82	42	1	3	2	2	1	3	11	5	26	0	0	4

\*20 are in Area B

### People Displaced due to demolitions or evictions<sup>9</sup>



	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total West Bank	606	1094	219	66	0	49	83	103	100	66	163	126	116	36
of whom were displaced in Area C	478	1006	219	42	0	39	83	103	83	60	161	126	116	34
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	128	88	0	24	0	10	0	0	17	6	2	0	0	2

Source: Displacement Working Group

## Child Protection

### Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict

	2010	2011	2011							2012				
	Total	Total	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
West Bank	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Gaza Strip	5	11	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

### Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict

West Bank	282	308	19	17	17	13	14	7	21	4	16	12	27	52
Gaza Strip	50	125	0	6	24	3	1	0	8	0	5	39	0	0

### Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict

oPt	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Israel	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict

oPt	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities

In Israel and oPt	289 (mon ave)	1,781	209	202	180	164	150	161	135	170	187	206	220	234
-------------------	---------------------	-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

### Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions

West Bank	297	618	122	42	0	32	52	50	68	36	89	42	55	19
-----------	-----	-----	-----	----	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

### Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools<sup>19</sup>

oPt	24	47	1	1	6	3	6	3	3	1	3	6	1	11
-----	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

Source: OCHA, DWG, Defence for Children International, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violations affecting children in armed conflict

## Access

### Internal West Bank movement obstacles

	2010	2011									2012			
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Permanently staffed checkpoints (not including Barrier Checkpoints)	71	63	63	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	59	59	59	59
Barrier checkpoint	na	35	35	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
Partially staffed checkpoints <sup>12</sup>	21	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	26	26	26	26
Unstaffed obstacles <sup>13</sup>	519	429	429	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	455	455	455	455
Total excluding Barrier checkpoints	611	517	517	523	523	523	523	523	523	523	540	540	540	540
Flying Checkpoints <sup>14</sup>	414	523	477	469	488	406	540	na	na	401	385	340	na	256

Source: OCHA

### Access to healthcare - Gaza

	2010	2011									2012			
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing <sup>15</sup>	970	1076	951	978	668	822	864	711	760	902	766	768	764	883
of which approved	757	982	843	886	601	746	790	62	722	847	701	725	724	849
of which denied	54	22	26	33	14	20	18	12	4	6	10	9	8	5
of which delayed <sup>16</sup>	158	68	82	59	53	56	56	37	34	49	55	34	32	29

Source: WHO

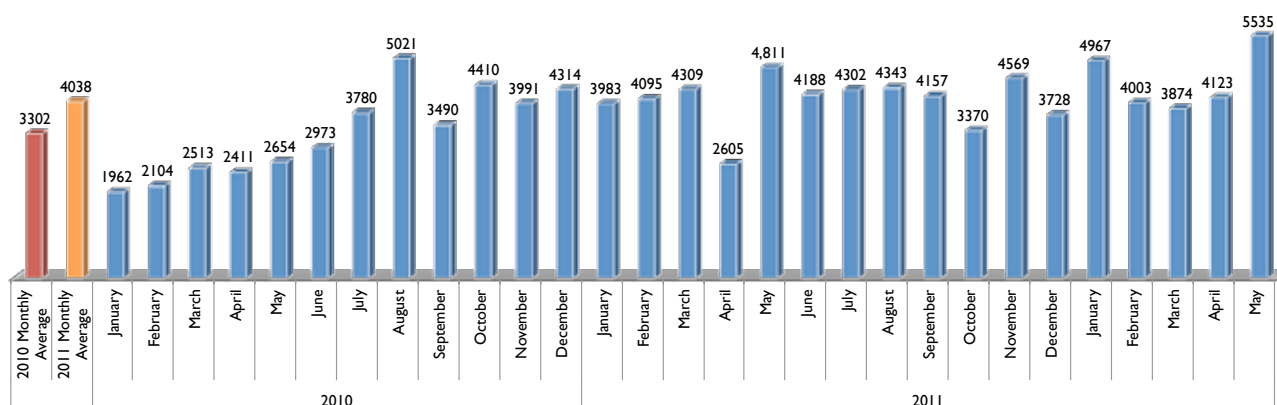
### Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank

	2010	2011									2012			
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint <sup>17</sup>	44	52	53	38	26	44	29	na	32	34	27	28	28	34
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	32	36	38	na	10	7	18	na	7	7	7	11	10	19
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	29	29	23	na	40	14	13	na	11	10	16	11	6.5	14

Source: OCHA



## Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel



Source: Palestinian Ministry of National Economy, Gaza

## Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP): CAP 2011 and 2012 funding status as of 14 April 2012

Cluster	CAP 2011		CAP 2012	
	Total request in million \$	% of funds received	Total request in million \$	% of funds received
Agriculture	46.6	24%	25,397,497	24%
Cash for Work and Cash Assistance	193	35%	100,118,905	30%
Coordination and Support Services	23.3	95%	21,178,626	37%
Education	24	17%	16,203,471	37%
Food Security	183.2	65%	170,513,876	58%
Health and Nutrition	22.4	83%	19,179,604	38%
Protection	55.4	55%	41,957,590	49%
Shelter and Non-food items	17	62%	22,152,034	12%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	38.6	40%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>603.4</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>416,701,603</b>	<b>43%*</b>

Source: Financial Tracking System (FTS)

\*An additional US \$ 16,992,744 are available but still not specified to which cluster

# Monthly Indicator Notes and Clarifications

## Casualties

1. **Conflict-related casualties:** includes all casualties that occurred in violent incidents immediately related to the Israeli occupation and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, such as military operations, search and arrest campaigns, clashes during demonstrations, attacks involving Israeli settlers, etc. These figures exclude other related casualties such as those in the context of access delays, the explosion of unexploded ordnance, reckless handling of weapons, collapse of tunnels, and internal Palestinian violence.
2. **Civilians:** includes people who, according to the information available at the time of publication, did not fulfill a “continuous combatant function” as part of an organized armed group, regardless of the circumstances of their injury or killing. Figures in this category should not be considered comprehensive, as unconfirmed or disputed cases are excluded.
3. **Tunnel related casualties:** figures in this category may overlap with those under conflict-related casualties, as it includes casualties in the context of Israeli attacks targeting tunnels, as well as those resulting from tunnel collapses and other accidents.

## Israeli settler-related violence

4. **Incidents resulting in casualties:** includes all violent incidents involving Israeli settlers and Palestinians, including those in which the injury was caused by a member of the Israeli security forces during an intervention in such an incident.
5. **Incidents resulting in property damage/losses:** *ibid.*

## Search and Arrest

6. **Palestinians in Israeli custody:** includes all Palestinians from the oPt held by the Israeli authorities at the end of each month, whether in Israel or in the West Bank, in connection to an offense related to the Israeli occupation and classified by the Israeli authorities as a “security detainee/prisoner”. Therefore it excludes Palestinians held in connection to a “regular” criminal offense.
7. **Administrative detainees:** Palestinians held by the Israeli authorities without charge or trial, allegedly for preventive purposes.

## Demolitions

8. **Structures demolished:** includes all Palestinian-owned structures in the oPt demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of their specific use (residential or non-residential) or the grounds on which the demolition was carried out (lack of building permit, military operation or punishment).
9. **People displaced due to demolitions:** includes all persons that were living in structures demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of the place in which they relocated following the demolition.
10. **People affected by demolitions:** includes all people that benefited from a demolished structure (as a source of income, to receive a service, etc), excluding those displaced.

## Access West Bank

11. **Permanently staffed checkpoints:** staffed by Israeli security personnel, excluding checkpoints located on the Green Line and ‘agricultural gates’ along the Barrier.
12. **Partially staffed checkpoints:** checkpoint infrastructure staffed on an ad-hoc basis.
13. **Unstaffed obstacles:** includes roadblocks, earthmounds, earth walls, road gates, road barriers, and trenches. For historical reasons, this figure excludes obstacles located within the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron City (H2).
14. **‘Flying’ or random checkpoints:** checkpoints deployed on an ad hoc basis in places without pre-existing infrastructure.

## Access to health

15. **Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez:** includes only the applications submitted for travel scheduled within the reporting period.
16. **Delayed applications:** includes applications regarding which no answer was received by the date of the medical appointment, thus forcing the patient to restart the application process.

## Movement of humanitarian staff

17. **Incidents of delayed or denied access at a WB checkpoint:** includes incidents affecting local or international staff of humanitarian organizations, both UN and international NGOs.

## Imports to Gaza

18. **Truckloads by type:** for historical reasons this figure excludes truckloads carrying all types of fuel.

## Child Protection

19. Attacks include the targeting of schools that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to school facilities or its personnel.