



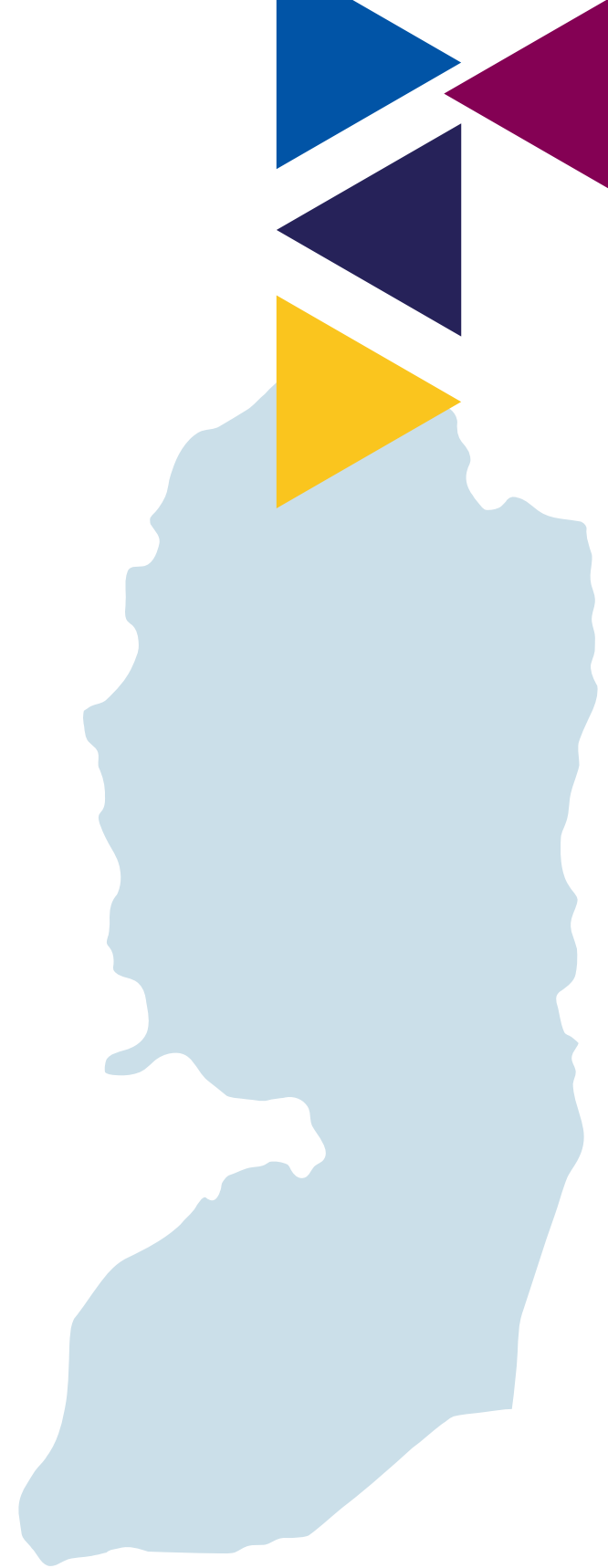
International
Labour
Organization

► ASSESSMENT OF LABOUR MIGRATION STATISTICS

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Country Profile

To be read with Tables 1, 2a, 2b and 3
14 March 2022



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“Migration from, to and through the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) raises issues different from those in the other countries of the Southern and the Eastern Mediterranean”.¹ These issues are the following: the disconnection between the Palestinian population and a clearly bordered territory and citizenship; the geographic discontinuity and lack of political unity of the OPT;² Israel’s control over migration and circulation to and from Palestine and the presence of Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem and the West Bank. These issues point out the Palestinian Authority (PA)’s lack of sovereignty over its territory; the history of Palestinian forced migration, and Israel’s non-abidance to the terms of UN General Assembly Resolution 194 on the right of Palestinian refugees to return and compensation. This context underlines the PA’s inability to implement migration policies, and the many obstacles faced by the PA’s statistical apparatus to function.³ This context also explains the PA’s policy focus on Palestinian international migrants and refugees⁴ abroad, which responds to the needs of documenting the socio-demographic effects, among others, of Israel’s policies. Expatriates are also of particular interest to policymakers, as a resource to tap, for investment in the country’s development project. Additionally, remittances sent from abroad provide a private income for Palestinian households that helps to alleviate poverty. The PA’s priority in terms of migration statistics is, therefore, largely beyond the focus of this project and sources on international work migration to Palestine are almost non-existent.

I. Palestine’s statistical apparatus

The **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)** was established in 1993 as one of the PA’s civil and formal organizations. The PCBS develops the Palestinian official statistical system, and organizes the process of data collection and utilization for statistical purposes. It conducts censuses, sample surveys, compiles and analyses statistics from other domestic and international sources, and contributes to building the different administrative records and central registers, including the voting register based on the population register. PCBS releases figures of the population inside Palestine, as well as in the diaspora. The PCBS has a very large catalogue of productions,⁵ which comprises an annual publication on the Palestinian diaspora.⁶ However, since Palestine is not a country of labour immigration and immigration is not the focus of Palestinian policymakers, as noted in introduction, the data available on international migration to Palestine from PCBS is very limited.

The PCBS conducted three population censuses, in 1997, 2007 and 2017. The third census, implemented in 2017, adopted modern methods by using tablets in data collection and for the first time linking the data to geographic information systems (GIS). Census 2017 did not have a dedicated module on migration. International immigration was addressed through one single question (Table 1, cell O6), which only singled out Jordanian nationals among non-Palestinian Arabs and foreigners in the census publication.⁷ The definition of Palestine as the West Bank and Gaza, excluding the parts of Jerusalem annexed by Israel

1 MPC Team. Migration Profile: Palestine, San Domenico di Fiesole: EUI RSCAS/ Migration Policy Center, June 2013, p. 10.

2 The 1995 Oslo II Israeli-Palestinian agreements created three zones: Area A is the territory under full Palestinian civil and security control; Area B is under full Palestinian civil control and joint Israeli-Palestinian security control. Area A and B do not form a contiguous territory, however. Gaza is separated from the West Bank, while in the West Bank, Areas A and B are dotted throughout the territory in 165 disconnected ‘islands’. The remaining 61per cent of the West Bank were designated Area C, where Israel retains full control over security and civil affairs. Area C is home to an estimated 180,000-300,000 Palestinians and to a settler population of at least 325,500 (2016-2017 data) (<https://www.prb.org/resources/the-west-bank-and-gaza-a-population-profile/>; https://www.btselem.org/topic/area_c; https://www.btselem.org/planning_and_building). Moreover, following the Palestinian legislative elections of January 2006 and the Gaza battle of June 2007, the PA lost control over the Gaza territory, which has been administered by the Hamas party since then.

3 <https://paris21.org/sites/default/files/187.doc>.

4 Palestine refugees are defined as “persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948, and who lost both home and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict”, and their male descendants, including adopted children. Palestinian refugees were placed under the protection of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which began operations in 1950. The 1951 convention on the status of refugees was not supposed to apply to Palestinians, insofar as a collective repatriation right had been recognized for them. However, “UNRWA services are available to all those living in its area of operations [i.e.; Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem], who meet this definition [of a refugee], who are registered with the Agency and who need assistance” (<https://www.unrwa.org/palestine-refugees>; MPC Team. Migration Profile: Palestine, San Domenico di Fiesole: EUI RSCAS/ Migration Policy Center, June 2013, p. 6). We adopted here an administrative definition of the Palestinian refugees. Some Palestinians de facto refugees or their descendants did not register with UNRWA, or are out of the geographic, administrative, and economic boundaries defined by UNRWA. Moreover, some Palestinians reside in countries which host them as foreign workers, not refugees, such as the Gulf states (even if these countries have their own definition of a refugee and subsequent protection regime).

5 https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/pcbs_2012/Publications.aspx.

6 <https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book2546.pdf>.

7 <https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book2425.pdf>.

after 1967, and the non-inclusion of Israeli settlers in the counting⁸ underscore the political stakes of the census in the Palestinian context. Return migration of persons of Palestinian nationality tackles separately those born abroad, and those born in Palestine (Table 1, O23 and O24).

External Employment Unit, Ministry of Labour. The Ministry centralises permissions issued by Israeli authorities to Palestinian workers leaving for employment abroad and in Israel (referred to as: inside the Green Line). However, no data is available to the public from the Ministry of Labour.

General Directorate for Employment, Ministry of Labour. Permission to work for foreign employees is issued by the Directorate, after the expatriate obtains a residency permit from the Interior Ministry.

Since the political separation between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the two entities produce separate estimates of entries and exits pertaining to the two territories, recorded by the Gaza and West Bank representations of the **General Authority for Crossings and Borders** at the **Ministry of Interior and National Security**.

General Bureau for Residency and Expatriates Affairs, Ministry of Interior. Residency permits are issued by the Bureau to expatriates, after a clearance is given by Israeli authorities.⁹

This procedure highlights the fact that the Palestinian Authority has no power over the OPT’s external borders, and over visas, Palestinian ID cards and passports issuances. Israel monitors the entries and exits, as well as the circulation of residents and non-residents between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Israel also has a say over the Palestinian civil registration, and over family reunification and naturalisation issues, as the Palestinian population registry has remained at the Israeli Ministry of Interior since the Israeli census of 1967.¹⁰ Any change made in these records requires Israel’s approval, including the registration of births, marriages, divorces, deaths, or address changes.¹¹ Israel’s control over the Palestinian population registry prevents foreigners from receiving legal status in the PA-administered territories.¹² Israel, therefore, controls who can and who cannot reside in the OPT.¹³ In October 2021, for instance, 4,000 “undocumented” Palestinians living in the West Bank, which included spouses and children of West Bank residents originally from the Gaza Strip or from other countries, were officially granted residency status in the West Bank by Israeli authorities.¹⁴ The **General Authority for Civil Affairs under the Ministry of Interior** manages the Palestinian population registry, in coordination with the COGAT (Coordination of Government Affairs in the OPT), the Israeli military’s liaison to the PA institutions. The General Authority may be a source to assess pending demands for family reunions between West Bank residents and foreign spouses, which make up a subset of “undocumented” foreign residents in the area, or registration of children born abroad from registered Palestinian parents (return migration).

Table 1 indicates that a set of potential sources for capturing migration to Palestine exists. However, as stated earlier, the focus of Palestinian policymakers’ interest is more on Palestinian expatriates abroad, who can be mobilised to send remittances and invest in the country’s development process, than on the few non-nationals (8,569 only, making up 0.2 per cent of the population counted during census 2017). Data on interviewees’ usual place of residence is most likely aiming to measure the number of Palestinians working in Israel, on a project or seasonal basis, and does not tackle non-resident work migrants, who are non-existent. More data is available on residents’ refugee status, which does not imply a change of country of residence.

Labour issues are also examined in detail in PCBS’s statistical operations, but not in relation to migration.

Table 2a, nonetheless, suggests that most items of data collection on migrants’ stocks, defined as minimal by the ICLS 2018 Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration,¹⁵ including interviewees’ place of birth, are collected in the census. The residents’ type of migration-related document, as well as data related to labour, are missing. However, most of the data collected is not published. As stated earlier, immigration is not an issue of concern for Palestinian authorities; and labour immigration does not exist. Some data is available on Palestinian return migrants, but not on their labour characteristics

8 The PCBS has been publishing an annual report on Israeli Settlements in the OPT since 2003. Since settlers are not considered migrants by the PCBS, these reports were not included in Table 1.

9 <https://lawoffice.org.il/en/foreign-spouses-of-palestinian-residents/>.

10 In 1967, Israel conducted a census of the Palestinian population in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. The census became the basis for an Israeli registry of the Palestinian population, distinguishing between Palestinians registered in East Jerusalem, the rest of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Palestinians absent during the time of the census lost their resident status, and subsequently were not able to register. Ministry of Immigration and Integration, Danish Immigration Service. Access and Residency for Palestinians in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, Country of Origin Information (COI), May 2019.

11 <https://gisha.org/en/the-population-registry/>.

12 <https://hamoked.org/document.php?dID=Updates2269>.

13 MPC Team, op. cit., p. 10.

14 <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-approves-west-bank-residency-4000-undocumented-palestinians-2021-10-19/>.

15 ILO. Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration, 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, Geneva, 10-19 October 2018, ICLS/20/2018/Guidelines, §46.

(Table 2b). Beyond the number of non-nationals and the number of working-age non-nationals, migration-related core indicators¹⁶ on stocks and flows are not available (Table 3).

II. Methodologies, classifications, and definitions: compliance with ICLS Guidelines, and limitations

Methodologies

Survey-based Palestinian statistics do not allow capturing the number of international migrants accurately: no data is available on recorded foreign nationals’ place of birth. Census 2017 published the number of non-nationals and the number of Palestinian nationals who were born outside Palestine. This is in line with Palestinian policymakers’ concerns, which focus on return migrants and, more generally, on Palestinian nationals, in the country or abroad. However, a cross-tabulation of surveyed populations’ nationality (citizenship) and place of birth may be useful to document the real numbers of international migrants, and the difficulties to acquire Palestinian citizenship, due to Israel’s policies, for example.

ICLS 2018 Guidelines in terms of methodologies to be developed to deal with the particular measurement issues concerning international labour migration,¹⁷ for example in measuring category 14(a) (usual residents) of international migrant workers, are partially met. Information on usual residents’ migrant status and work status is collected and matched at the level of individuals (cell E 6-7). Similarly, data are collected, which would permit a linkage between data on past or last migrant status and corresponding past or last work status in the country of labour attachment for return migrants. Information concerning category 14(b) (not usual residents) of international migrants is collected in Palestine, unlike in other countries in the region, but concerns Palestinian workers abroad, not migrants working in Palestine. Data pertaining to surveyed individuals’ relationship to the labour force and migration history between previous and current places of residence is also collected in census 2017. If surveyed non-usual resident workers usually work in Israel,¹⁸ these census results may be compared to 1. Records of the External Employment Unit of the Ministry of Labour, and 2. Records of Palestinian workers admitted to Israel. Such data is not available from publications but may be cross-tabulated from Census 2017’ microdata.

Classifications

The PCBS uses international classifications of education levels, branch of activity and occupations (ISCED; ISIC, and ISCO). Census 2017 used the Palestinian Industrial Classification for Economical Activities (five digits), based on the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC-4) issued by the United Nations, along with the Palestinian occupation classification (based on ISCO-08). Classifications used by the Ministry of Labour are not available.

Definitions

As indicated in the “Methodology” section, the results of census 2017 do not indicate the numbers of “real” international migrants, i.e., those born abroad within the total surveyed population (Palestinians and non-Palestinians). Available data record 1. Foreign residents; and 2. Born-abroad Palestinian nationals only. However, the collection and dissemination of data disaggregated by place of birth suggests that the perception of migrants in Palestine differs from that encountered in the Gulf states, Jordan, and Lebanon, for instance.

The census, indeed, counted the de facto population of Palestine on the census’ reference day but collected the information pertaining to surveyed population’s usual place of residence. The census defines the usual place of residence as follows: “It refers to the name of the locality or country in which the person spends most of his time during the year (lived there six months and above), irrespective of whether it is the person’s same place of existence [sic] during the Census, or the place in which he works and performs related activities or the place in which his original household is based or not”.¹⁹ This means that Palestinian statistics allow to capture resident populations, as well as circular and other short-term migrants.²⁰ Unfortunately, the distribution of the surveyed population by usual place of residence is not disclosed in the census’ publication (except for Palestinian nationals).

16 ILO, 2018, §40 and 41.

17 ILO, 2018, §55 a, b, c.

18 125,658 Palestinians were working in Israel at the time of census 2017, making up 96 per cent of those working abroad (no mention of the “place of usual residence” of these workers).

19 PCBS. Population Final Results - Detailed Report Palestine - Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2017, <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Downloads/book2425.pdf>, p. 22.

20 Assuming that tourists and visitors were only a few, due to the difficulty to obtain visas.

III. Coherence/ discrepancies between sources of data

As indicated in Table 3, published migration-related data and sources are too few to allow for comparison and evaluation of the quality of estimates.

IV. Suggestions for improvement of the data and indicators

This report has explained why international migration, and especially labour migration, are neither a concern nor a reality for Palestinian policymakers and, consequently, statistics. Nonetheless, the set of data collected during census 2017, which could potentially serve to describe migrants and migration dynamics, is rich. Census 2017 data were used in the “Migration Atlas” of Palestine (cell N23-24), to describe migration dynamics over the decade preceding the census. It would be useful for researchers to have access to more detailed data on migrants’ stocks, flows and dynamics, broken down by country of citizenship; as well as data on migrants’ employment patterns, which are missing.

It is also hoped that administrative data on entries and exits to and from the West Bank and Gaza, on work permits and residence permits issued could be made available to users, in coordination with Israeli records.

▶ Table 1: OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY (OPT). Sources of statistical data on migration and work migration to the OPT and their characteristics (as of 30/09/2021)

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE EXCEL SHEET](#)

Data collection							
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
Stocks	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2017	survey	Household Members Data: relation to HH, age, sex, Original nationality; Identification Card; Residency of mother at date of Birth; Current place of usual residence; Duration of usual residence in complete years; Previous place of usual residence (if any); Reasons for changing previous place of residence; (3 years and above): enrollment in education; (10 years and above): educational attainment; place of obstenction of highest degree; technical degrees; (7 years and above): labour force status; Main occupation (Current\ Previous); Main economic activity (Current\ Previous); Sector; Place of work; Main Employment Status; Nature of contract; allowances, social benefits (yes/no); 14years and above: marital status; number of children during marriage/ during last 12 months	10 years (1997; 2007; 2017)	interviews	
		Migration Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010	Sample survey	1. Household Questionnaire: The questionnaire includes detailed questions about the demographic, social, educational, and marital status characteristics of persons, including of current emigrants and return migrants who are part of the household; includes nationalities and places of births of interviewed households' members+labour (HH members aged 10 and above): relation to labour force (detailed); occupation. 2. This questionnaire includes questions regarding short-term migration and citizenship of emigrants who are 15 years old and above at the time of the survey. In addition, there are sections on the background characteristics of emigrants, motives for emigration, emigrants' social relations abroad, the date on which emigrant started to work abroad, the desire to return, impressions of emigrant's experience abroad, as well as emigrant's money trasnfers 3. Returned Emigrant's Questionnaire asks similar questions to emigrants aged 15 and above, who returned since 1990. 4. The last questionnaire explores past mobility and the perception of emigration (household members aged 15-59). (https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/436/download/2011)	no periodicity	interviews	

Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Survey unit	statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
Stocks	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2017	Households, individuals	The 2017 Census covered all members present in the OPT on the morning of 1st December 2017 regardless of their citizenship, nationality or reasons of presence in opt. It also covered the Palestinians temporarily outside of the OPT for a period of less than a year for purposes of visit, tourism, treatment or any other reason and who have families inside the OPT. It also covered the detainees and prisoners in Israeli jails regardless of the period of their detention. It did not cover the Palestinians with ID cards and families in the OPT who have been absent for a year or more, with the exception of students studying abroad.Israeli settlers are not included in the counting. "Abroad" means outside the OPT and Israel.	ISIC-4; ISCED 2013; ISCO-08	No definition of international migrant. De facto: non-Palestinian resident AND/OR Born-abroad foreign person or Palestinian who came to settle in the OPT OR Palestinian returnee to the OPT having spent more than 6 months abroad ("Previous place of residence" is the place where the person stayed for a minimum of six months before he/she moved to the current usual place of residence). Employment: compliance with ILO definitions
		Migration Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010	individuals; Households	all persons in the OPT (West Bank and Gaza Strip). The sampling frame consists of enumeration areas that were used in the Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007. Sample Size: 15,050 households (9,900 household in the West Bank and 5,150 in the Gaza Strip)		No definition of international migrant. De facto: Palestinian who left the OPT and settled abroad for more than 6 months ("Previous place of residence" is the place where the person stayed for a minimum of six months before he/she moved to the current usual place of residence). Employment: compliance with ILO definitions

Data collection							
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
Stocks	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Labor Force Survey 2019	sample survey	labour force key indicators, main characteristics (including type of identity document (Israeli, foreign)) and refugee status of the employed, unemployed, underemployed and persons outside labour force, labour force according to level of education, distribution of the employed population by occupation, economic activity, place of work, employment status, hours and days worked and average daily wage in NIS for the employees. (https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/654/download/2936)	quarterly (1995-2019)	Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]	
		Household Expenditure and Consumption Survey 2016-2017	sample survey	First part: (cover page) this part records the necessary information of the household, date of visit, data on field and office staff, and number of family members by gender. - Second part: contains demographic and social questions about household, including refugee status; education enrollment (HH members aged 5+). - Third part: (household members aged 10 and above): contains questions on the characteristics of the labor force, including question on place of work during current\ previous job: OPT (home, same locality, same/other governorate, settlement, Israel, abroad); relation to labour force, number of hours worked during past week, employment status, type of contract, type of job (full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal; sector; occupation; economic activity. - Forth part: covers housing characteristics that cover many topics such as type of housing, number of rooms, house ownership, rental value, housing, electricity, water and sanitation. The main source of cooking fuel and heating. After housing for transportation, education and health centers. - Fifth part: contains data on social assistance and adaptation strategies, which include the value of assistance received by the household or individuals, and the circumstances and trauma experienced by the household or a member. - Sixth part: contains questions of income and means of income generation as well as data on monthly and annual income, where data on household income are collected from different sources at the household level at the end of the registration period.	Annual (since 2004)	face to face interviews	
		Socio-Economic Conditions Survey 2018	sample survey	Part three: Data of households' members and social data, include name, relation with head of household, sex, age, refugee status, place of residence and reasons of changing place of residence if happened, health insurance, difficulties, educational enrolment (HH members aged 3 and above), labor (HH members aged 7 and above) and marital status. Includes place of work outside the OPT.	no periodicity (2009-2014; 2018)	face to face interviews	

Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Survey unit	statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts)
Stocks	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Labor Force Survey 2019	Households, Individuals.	Individuals aged 10 years and above whose normal residence with their households is in the OPT during 2019. Labour Force: 15 years and above. The data are representative at region level (West Bank, Gaza Strip), locality type (urban, rural, camp). The estimated sample size in the first quarter is 7,664 households, 7,838 households in the second quarter, 8,040 households in the third quarter and 8,040 households in the fourth quarter.	The Palestinian Standard Classification of Scientific Specialty (ISCED 2011) in accordance with the Palestinian privacy. 2. Palestinian Occupational Classification (ISCO-08) in accordance with the Palestinian privacy. 3. International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities(ISIC-4) in accordance with the Palestinian privacy. 4. International Classification of Time Use Activities (ICATUS) in accordance with the Palestinian privacy.	No definition of international migrant. De facto: non-Palestinian resident AND/ OR Born-abroad foreign person or Palestinian. Employment: compliance with ILO definitions
		Household Expenditure and Consumption Survey 2016-2017	Households, Individuals.	All households and individuals whose normal residence was in the OPT in 2016-2017. Sample size: 4,692 households and additional sample from 920 households to compensate for non- response cases. Total sample: 5,612 households. Respondents: 3,739. Sampling based on master sample selected from 2007 census which was update in mid of 2013 for MICS Survey. HECS 2017 is representative 1. at the regional level (West Bank and Gaza Strip); 2. at the level of the type of community (urban, rural, camp); 3. at the Governorate level (17 governorates, where Jerusalem was considered as two statistical areas).	n.a.	Employment: compliance with ILO definitions
		Socio-Economic Conditions Survey 2018	Households, Individuals.	All Palestinian households and individuals who are staying normally in the OPT during 2018. Focus was given to individuals aged 18 years and above to complete an annex to the questionnaire, designed for this age group. 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.		Employment: compliance with ILO definitions

	Data dissemination									
	Name of publica- tion/ dataset		Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemina- tion/update	Last issue(s) published as of 30/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path	Remarks
Stocks	1	Population Final Results - Detailed Report OPT - Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2017	Population in the OPT	Age Group, Sex and Nationality	After census	2017	English/ Arabic	PCBS	https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/663	Does not take into account the Israeli settlers in the OPT
			Employed Palestinian Population (15 Years and over) in the OPT	Economic Activity, Sex and Place of Work						
	1	Report: Migration Survey in the Palestinian Territory, 2010	Number of Emigrants and Returnees, 2005 - 2009		no periodicity	2011	English/ Arabic	PCBS	http://www.mol.pna.ps/ ; http://www.mol.pna.ps/uploads/REPORTS/15625809900.pdf .	tthe emigrants' questionnaire was obviously submitted to household members in the OPT (no mention of other methodology). The accuracy of responses is thus not guaranteed.
			Percentage Distribution of Households	by Number of Emigrants						
			Percentage Distribution of Emigrants	Year of Emigration and Sex						
			Percentage Distribution of Emigrants Since Year 2000	by Relation to Head of the Household and Sex; Country of Residence; Religion; Selected Indicators and Sex; Educational Attainment at Emigration to the First Country Abroad; Marital Status at Emigration to the First Country Abroad and sex; Current Educational Attainment and Sex; Current Marital Status and Sex; Main Reason of Emigration and Sex; Decision Maker to Emigrate and Sex; Availability of Specific Information About the Emigration and Sex; Availability of Visa/ Documents Allowing Entry to the Country Abroad and Sex; How well do the Emigrant Speak the Language of Country Abroad where Emigrated and Sex; How well do the Emigrant Speak the Language of Country Abroad Now and Sex; Who Funded the Cost of Emigration and Sex; Current Work Status and Sex; Desire to Migrate from the Residence country and Sex; Reason of Desire to Stay on the Currently Residence Country and Sex; Reason of Desire to Migrate from the Currently Residence Country and Sex; Selected Indicators of the Perceived Experience of Migration and Sex; Number of Visits to the OPT During the Last Two Years and Sex; Source of Money Taken by Emigrant and Sex; Sending Money or Goods to their Household and Sex; Methods Used to Send Money and Sex.						
		no publication of data disaggregated by nationality							https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog	
		no publication of data disaggregated by nationality/ place of work (inside/outside the OPT)							https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/685	
		no publication of data disaggregated by nationality/ place of work (inside/outside the OPT)							https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/629	

	Data collection										
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)	Survey unit	Statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts) Classifications used
FLOWS	External Employment Unit, Ministry of Labour (PNA)	outflows of Palestinian workers	administrative recording	The Unit records permissions issued by Israeli authorities to Palestinian workers leaving for employment abroad and in Israel (referred to as: inside the Green Line)	continuous	administrative data	MoL records	individuals	Palestinian workers working in Israel		
	General Directorate for Employment, Ministry of Labour (PNA)	Inflows of foreign workers	administrative recording	Permission to work for foreign employees is issued by the Directorate, after the expatriate obtains a residency permit from the Interior Ministry.	continuous	administrative data	MoL records	individuals	Foreign workers working in the OPT		
	General Directorate of Residency, Foreigners and Expatriates Affairs, Ministry of Interior and National Security (PNA)	residency permits statistics	administrative recording	Residency permits are issued by the Directorate to expatriates, after a clearance is given by Israeli authorities	continuous	administrative data	MoI records (PNA)	individuals	Foreign residents in PNA-administered region		
	General Authority for Crossings and Borders, Ministry of Interior and National Security (PNA)	Border crossing statistics	administrative recording	number and characteristics of border crossers	continuous	administrative data	MoI records (PNA)	individuals	Border crossings from Allenby Bridge and checkpoints		
	General Authority for Crossings and Borders, Ministry of Interior (Gaza)	Border crossing statistics	administrative recording	number and characteristics of border crossers	continuous	administrative data	MoI records (Gaza)	individuals	Border crossings from Rafah and checkpoints		
	General Authority for Civil Affairs, Ministry of Interior	Inclusions and exclusions in the Palestinian population registry	administrative recording	Registration of births, marriages, divorces, deaths, family reunion, address changes	continuous	administrative data	Population registry	individuals	any demographic event affecting the size and structure of the Palestinian population		

	Data dissemination								Remarks
	Name of publication/ dataset	Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemination/ update	Last issue(s) published as of 30/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path	
FLOWS		No data available						http://www.mol.pna.ps/	
		No data available							
		No data available							
		No data available							
		No data available						https://moi.gov.ps/Home/ Post/139180	
		No data available							

	Data collection						
	Data-producing body	Source	Type of data collection operation	Data collected	Periodicity of data collection	Data collection method	Primary source of information (if administrative records)
RETURNS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Population and Housing and Establishments Census 2017	survey	Household Members Data: includes Current place of usual residence; Duration of usual residence in complete years; Previous place of usual residence (if any); Reasons for changing previous place of residence (returnees)	10 years (1997; 2007; 2017)	interviews	
		Migration Survey in the OPT, 2010	sample survey	1.Household Questionnaire: The questionnaire includes detailed questions about the demographic, social, educational, and marital status characteristics of persons, including of current emigrants and return migrants who are part of the household; includes nationalities and places of births of interviewed households' members+labour (HH members aged 10 and above): relation to labour force (detailed); occupation. 2.This questionnaire includes questions regarding short-term migration and citizenship of emigrants who are now 15 years old and above. In addition, there are sections on the background characteristics of emigrants, motives for emigration, emigrants' social relations abroad, the date on which emigrant started to work abroad, the desire to return, impressions of emigrant's experience abroad, as well as emigrant's money trasnfers 3.Returned Emigrant's Questionnaire asks similar questions to emigrants aged 15 and above, who returned since 1990. 4.The last questionnaire explores past mobility and the perception of emigration (household members aged 15-59). (https://www.pcbs.gov.ps/PCBS-Metadata-en-v4.3/index.php/catalog/436/download/2011)	no periodicity	interviews	

	Data collection					
	Data-producing body	Source	Survey unit	Statistical population/ data coverage	Classifications used	Definitions (compliance with ILO concepts) Classifications used
RETURNS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)	Population and Housing and Establishments Census 2017	Households, individuals	The 2017 Census covered all members present in the OPT on the morning of 1st December 2017 regardless of their citizenship, nationality or reasons of presence in the OPT. It also covered the Palestinians temporarily outside of the OPT for a period of less than a year for purposes of visit, tourism, treatment or any other reason and who have families inside the OPT. It also covered the detainees and prisoners in Israeli jails regardless of the period of their detention. It did not cover the Palestinians with ID cards and families in the OPT who have been absent for a year or more, with the exception of students studying abroad. Israeli settlers are not included in the counting. "Abroad" means outside the OPT and Israel. Place of birth: data exclude those parts of Jerusalem which were annexed by Israeli Occupation in 1967.	ISIC-4; ISCED 2013; ISCO-08	No definition of international migrant. De facto: Born-abroad foreign person or Palestinian who came to settle in the OPT OR Palestinian returnee to the OPT. "Previous place of residence" is the place where the person stayed for a minimum of six months before he/she moved to the current usual place of residence. Employment: compliance with ILO definitions
		Migration Survey in the OPT, 2010	individuals; Households	all persons in the OPT (West Bank and Gaza Strip). The sampling frame consists of enumeration areas that were used in the Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007. Sample Size: 15,050 households (9,900 household in the West Bank and 5,150 in the Gaza Strip)		Returned Immigrant: The person who was residing abroad and returned to the OPT for residency (no mention of citizenship/ID documents)

	Data dissemination															
	Name of publica- tion/ dataset		Available data	disaggregation variables	Frequency of dissemination/ update	Last issue(s) published as of 30/09/2021	Language	Publisher	url/ path	Remarks						
RETURNS	1	Population Final Results - Detailed Report OPT - Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2017	Foreign Born Palestinian Population in the OPT	Age Group, Place of Birth and Sex	After census	2017	English/ Arabic	PCBS	https://www.pcbs.gov. ps/PCBS-Metadata- en-v4.3/index.php/ catalog/663							
			Palestinian Population in the OPT who have a Previous Place of Residence	sex, Current and Previous Place of Residence												
	2	Migration Atlas, Chapter 5 "International Migration"	Immigrants (all) by governorate in 2017	governorate, % population of governorate							no periodicity	2011	English/ Arabic	PCBS	http://www.mol.pna. ps/; http://www.mol. pna.ps/uploads/ REPORTS/15625809900. pdf.	
			Last decade (2007-2017) immigrants	sex, age group, country of origin, governorate of residence, % population of governorate, % immigrant population of gover- norate												
	1	Report: Migration Survey in the OPT, 2010	Percentage Distribution of Returnees	Age, Sex and Region, Year of Return	no periodicity	2011	English/ Arabic	PCBS	http://www.mol.pna. ps/; http://www.mol. pna.ps/uploads/ REPORTS/15625809900. pdf.							
			Percentage Distribution of Returnees Since 1990	First Country of Residence Abroad and Region, Last Country of Residence Abroad and Region; Financial Situation before Emigration; Main Reason of Emigration; Relation to the Head of the Household ; Decision Maker to Emigrate; How Well does the Immigrant Speaks the Language of Country Abroad Now; Educational Attainment of emigrant abroad; Current Work Situation; Current Work Status; Reasons of Return; who took the Decision to Return and Region; Perceived Experience of Migration; Financial Situation Before and After Return; Difficulties Faced at Return; Methods Used to Send Money and Region; Methods Money Spent												

► Table 2a: OPT. International migrants' characteristics by source and availability (last available date for each source)

Source	STOCKS		FLOWS	
	Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2017		Labour permits statistics, General Directorate for Employment, Ministry of Labour (PNA)	Labour permits statistics, General Directorate for Employment, Ministry of Labour (PNA)
	collected	published	collected	collected
(a) main socio-demographic characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	IM		IM	IM
sex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
age in single years or date of birth	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
age group	Yes	Yes	-	-
relation to head of household	Yes	-	-	-
marital status (15 and above)	Yes (14 years and above)	-	Yes	Yes
level of education attained (10 years and above) (ISCED or other classification specified)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
place of residence (administrative region, municipality, ..)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
type of living quarters (private household, collective or institutional reason household, other type of living quarters, non-residential accommodation)	Yes	-	-	-
nationality (national/ non-national)	Yes		Yes	Yes
group of countries of origin (Arab states, non-Arab Asian countries, etc...)	Yes (inferred from interviewees' country of citizenship)	-	-	-
country of birth and country of birth of parent(s)	Yes	Yes (only Jordanians)	?	?
country of citizenship	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
country of usual residence	Yes	-	OPT	OPT
(b) main migration characteristics (international migrants (IM), international migrant workers (IMW))	IM		IMW	IMW
purpose of migration (declared or documented reason for first entry into the country, specifically the country of actual or intended labour attachment)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
type of visa, residence permit, work permit	-	-	Yes	Yes
permanent, temporary or circular nature of migration	-	-	Yes	Yes
duration of stay: date of first entry into the country of labour attachment	Yes	-	Inferred from duration of permit granted	Inferred from duration of permit granted
(c) main work characteristics (resident and non-resident international migrant workers - IMW) (15 years and above)	IM aged 7 and above		IMW	IMW
labour force status (employed, unemployed, outside the labour force)	Yes	-	Workers	Workers
sector of activity (governmental, private, domestic, other)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
branch of economic activity	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
current occupation	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
previous occupation	Yes	-	-	-
reasons for leaving previous employment	-	-	-	-
reasons for unemployment	-	-	-	-
status in employment	Yes	-	Yes	Yes
stability of employment (permanent/ temporary)	-	-	?	?
working time, including hours usually worked, contractual hours of work	-	-	Yes	Yes
duration of employment in months or years	-	-	inferred from records of previous employment	inferred from records of previous employment
duration of unemployment/ job search	-	-	-	-
employment-related income	Yes (whether receives allowances and social benefits)	-		

Yes: collected/ published - : Not collected/Not published Suggested additions to list of items in ICLS 2018

► Table 2b: OPT. International return migrants' characteristics by source and availability (last available date for each source)

Source	STOCKS	
	Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2017	Census of Population, Housing and Establishments 2017
	collected	published (population of Palestinian returnees only)
(a) main socio-demographic characteristics (return international migrants (IM), return international migrant workers (IMW))*	Returned IM	
sex	Yes	-
age or date of birth	Yes	-
age group	-	Yes
relation to head of household	Yes	-
marital status (15 and above)	Yes (14 years and above)	-
level of education attained (10 years and above) (ISCED or other classification specified)	Yes	-
detailed specialisation, if any (10 years and above)	Yes	-
type of living quarters (private household, collective or institutional reason household, other type of living quarters, non-residential accommodation)	Yes	-
nationality (national/ non-national)	Palestinians	
country of birth and country of birth of parent(s)	Yes	Yes
country of citizenship	Palestinian returnees	
current place of residence (administrative region, municipality, ..)	Yes	Yes
current country of usual residence	Yes	Yes
country of last usual residence (or country of previous labour attachment for return international migrant workers)	Yes	Yes
(b) main migration characteristics (return international migrants (IM), return international migrant workers (IMW))	return IM	
for return international migrant workers, the main reason for last departure from the country of previous labour attachment	Yes	-
permanent, temporary or circular nature of return migration	-	-
duration of stay: for return international migrant workers, date of last departure from the country	Duration of stay in country of usual residence	-
(c) main work characteristics (return international migrant workers - IMW) (15 years and above)	return IM and IMW aged 7 and above	
current labour force status (employed, unemployed, outside the labour force)	Yes	-
sector of activity (governmental, private, domestic, other)	Yes	-
branch of economic activity	Yes	-
occupation	Yes	-
status in employment	Yes	-
stability of employment (permanent/ temporary/part-time/seasonal)	-	-
working time, including hours usually worked, contractual hours of work	-	-
employment-related income	Yes	-
duration of employment in months or years	-	-
duration of unemployment/ job search	-	-
reasons for unemployment	-	-
previous labour force status (before last departure from the OPT)	-	-
previous occupation (before last departure from the OPT)	-	-
reasons for leaving last employment in the OPT before departure	-	-
previous labour force status (before departure from previous country of labour attachment	-	-
previous occupation (before departure from previous country of labour attachment	-	-
reasons for leaving employment in previous country of labour attachment	-	-

► Table 3. OPT. Core statistics of stocks and flows and indicators pertaining to international migrant workers available in the OPT published sources (most recent relevant/comparable source as of 15/10/2021)

	statistics and indicators	indicator items and calculation	Remarks	Number/ rate by source
				Census of Population, Housing and Establishments
				2017
A	stock of international migrants at mid point of the reference period (13b)	Observed (survey), or stock of residency permit holders		8 569
A'	Stock of international migrants of working age (16a)	Observed (survey), or stock of residency permit holders		7 127
B	stock of international migrant workers (labour force) (14) (16b)	Observed (survey), or stock of holders of residency permits for the purpose of working; or stocks of work permits holders	No data on foreign residents. Palestinian policymakers' interest is focussing on Palestinian expatriates, and on Palestinian workers in the OPT.	
	usual residents (14a)			
	non-residents (14b)	observed (survey), or holders of temporary work permits for non-residents		
C	inflow of international migrants	Observed (survey), or new residency permits issued to newcomers		
D	inflow of for-work international migrants	new residency permits issued to newcomers for the purpose of working		
E	inflow of international migrant workers	(a) number of international migrants already present in the country of measurement before the beginning of the specified reference period, who were outside the labour force at the beginning of the reference period but entered the labour force of the country of measurement during the reference period;		
		(b) inflow of international migrants who entered the country of measurement during the reference period – whether as for-work international migrants or for whatever other reason – and entered the labour force of the country of measurement during the reference period;		
		(c) non-residents of the country of measurement who became non-resident international migrant workers in the country during the reference period.		
		(a+b+c)		

	statistics and indicators	indicator items and calculation	Remarks	Number/ rate by source
				Census of Population, Housing and Establishments
				2017
F	outflow of international migrant workers	(a) number of international migrant workers who left the country of measurement (or died) during the specified reference period; and non-resident international migrant workers in the country of measurement whose labour attachment in that country terminated during the reference period, for whatever reason	No data on foreign residents. Palestinian policymakers' interest is focussing on Palestinian expatriates, and on Palestinian workers in the OPT.	
		(b) number of international migrant workers who remained in the country of measurement but left the labour force of the country during the reference period		
		(c) non-resident international migrant workers in the country of measurement whose labour attachment in that country terminated during the reference period, for whatever reason		
		(a+b+c)		
G	change in the stock of international migrant workers	(E-F)		
H	labour force participation (activity) rate	(a) IMW 14a, 16b		
		(b) IM of working age 16a		
		a/b*100 (%)		
I	employment-to-population ratio	(a) Employed IMW 14a, 16c		
		(b) IM of working age 16a		
		a/b*100 (%)		
J	Unemployment rate of international migrants	(a) Unemployed IMW 14a, 16d		
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b		
		a/b*100 (%)		
K	share of inflow of for-work international migrants in the total inflow of international migrants during the reference period	D/C		
L	Share of women in migrant labour force	(a) females IMW 14a, 16b		
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b		
		a/b*100 (%)		
M	Migrant youth participation rate (15-29)	(a) IMW aged 15-29 14a, 16b		
		(b) IM aged 15-29 16a		
		a/b*100 (%)		
N	Share of highly-skilled workers in foreign labour force	(a) IMW in the 3 upper categories of occupation (ISCO 88 and 08 classification)		
		(b) IMW 14a, 16b		
		a/b*100 (%)		

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