# Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

## Press Release by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) on the occasion of Arab Housing Day Titled: Social Coherence for Adequate Housing

The Council of Arab Ministers of Housing and Reconstruction, within the framework of the League of Arab States, declared the first Monday of October every year as the Arab Housing Day.

The Council of Arab Ministers of Housing and Reconstruction at its Eighty-second meeting in Morocco decided the subject of the Arab Housing Day for the year 2018 to be "Social Coherence for Adequate Housing".

According to the UN-Habitat III, the adequate housing should have some characteristics and conditions of which: tenure of housing, type of housing, housing density and connection to public and environmental services. On this occasion, PCBS presents the most important indicators of housing and housing conditions in Palestine based on the data of the Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2017.

### 77% of the Palestinians are in Urban Areas in 2017

Population of Palestine reached 4.781 million people in 2017, 77% in urban areas while 15% in rural areas and 8% in refugee camps. Population density was estimated at 794 capita/km$^2$ in Palestine in 2017.

### Increasing of Households which are Living in Owned Housing Units During the Last Two Decades

The data of the census 2017 indicated that 86% of households in Palestine live in housing units owned to one of its members, according with 78% of households in census 1997, and 81% in census 2007. On the type of localities in 2017 (84% in urban areas, 93% in rural areas and 89% in refugee camps). While results of the census 2017 showed that 87% households in the West Bank live in housing units owned to one of its members obverse 83% in Gaza strip

In addition, 8% of households lived in rented housing units (10% in urban, 3% in rural and 7% of households in refugee camps). According to region (10% in the West Bank, 7% in Gaza Strip)

### 130 (m$^2$) the Average Area of the Housing Unit in Palestine

The results of the census 2017 showed that 130 m$^2$ the average area of the occupied housing unit in Palestine, 16% of households lived in housing units area less than 80 m$^2$, and 9% of households lived in housing units area 200 m$^2$and more. And the average area of the occupied housing unit reached 132 m$^2$ in urban, 133 m$^2$ in rural and 106 m$^2$ in refugee camps.

### More than half of the Palestinian Households Live in Apartment Housing Units

The results of the census 2017 showed that 62% of occupied housing units were apartments, 36% of occupied housing units were classified as houses, 1.1% were classified as villas. The percentage of households in rural living in a house was 58% while 32% of households in urban live in a house and 31% of households in refugee camps live in a house.

**Percentage Distribution of Households in Palestine by Type of Housing Unit And Region, 2017**

| Region | Type of Housing Unit | | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Villa | House | Apartment | Other* | |
| **Palestine** | **1.1** | **35.7** | **62.3** | **0.9** | **100** |
| West Bank | 1.4 | 43.8 | 54.0 | 0.8 | **100** |
| Gaza Strip | 0.5 | 21.5 | 76.7 | 1.3 | **100** |
| *Other includes (Tent, Marginal and Other) | | | | | |

## 5% of Household in the West Bank Live in Overcrowded Housing Units while 12% in Gaza Strip

The results of 2017 showed that: 7% of households in Palestine live in housing units with three persons or more per room:
5% in the West Bank, 12% in Gaza Strip, and by type of localities: 7% of households in the urban and rural areas, and 13% in refugee camps. the average housing density 1.3 persons per room the West Bank, 1.6 persons per room in Gaza Strip.

In 2017 the average number of rooms per housing unit in Palestine was 3.6

## Gap between the West Bank and Gaza Strip of Households that Use an Improved Water Source

The results of 2017 showed that 62% of households in Palestine lived in housing units that use an improved water source which includes water network, public tap, protected dug well, protected spring, rainwater and bottled water (95% in the West Bank and 11% in Gaza Strip).

## Most of Palestinian Households Connected to the Public Electricity Network

The results of 2017 showed that around 100% of households in Palestine as well in type of localities( urban, rural and camps) and region (the West Bank and Gaza strip) are connected to the public electricity network.

## The Sanitation in Palestine is Safe Sanitation

Data of Census 2017 showed that 99.7% of households in Palestine use safe sanitation which includes piped sewer system, cesspit and pit and around 100% of households in urban and camps while 99% in rural, and around 100% of households in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

## Disposing of Household Waste in the Nearest Container is the Method Used by the Most of Palestinian Households

Data of Census 2017 showed that 98% of Palestinian households dispose household waste by throwing it in the nearest container (99% in urban, 92% in rural, and 98% in refugee camps), while 3% of households burn it or throw it randomly,
While it was 97% in the West Bank, 99% in Gaza Strp.