Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) During February 2021

The overall CPI for Palestine during February 2021 **Recorded an Increase by 0.33%** compared with January 2021 (by 0.51% in Jerusalem J1*, by 0.46% in the West Bank**, while it decreased by 0.20% in Gaza Strip).

The changes in Palestinian CPI for February 2021 were traced back to changes in prices of the following expenditure sub groups compared with previous month:

Sub Groups	Percent Change
Fresh Chicken	+ 5.32%
Liquid Fuel for Car "Petrol"	+ 3.51%
Fish, Live, Fresh, Chilled, or Frozen	+ 2.50%
Fresh Fruit	+ 1.77%
Fresh Meat	+ 1.33%
Vegetable Oil	+ 1.28%
Eggs	+ 0.83%
Potatoes and other Tubers	- 8.09%
Fresh Vegetables	- 1.76%

Notice for Users:

1. Due to COVID-19 pandemic and inability to conduct face-to-face interview, data for Consumer Price Index has been collected using mobile phones, in all of the Palestinian Governorates interview.
2. The number of outlets, from which Consumer Prices are collected in Palestine, reached 2,696 outlets in February 2021. The percentage for the completion of data collection process is as follows:

Region	Number of Collected Outlets	Number of Non-Collected Outlets	Percentage of Collected Outlets
West Bank**	1,713	79	96%
Gaza Strip	709	20	97%
Jerusalem J1*	174	1	99%
Total	2,596	100	96%

3. All services outlets are excluded from collecting their data for February 2021, because of quarterly collection frequency.
4. The number of price observations collected to compile the Palestinian Consumer Price index is 38,395 price observations; where 97% was collected in February 2021. Hence, the percentages are distributed as follows within the Palestinian regions:

Region	Number of Actual Collected Observations	Estimated Number of Observations	Percentage of Actual Collected Observations
West Bank**	26,252	575	98%
Gaza Strip	9,257	100	99%
Jerusalem J1*	1,831	380	83%
Palestine	**37,340**	**1,055**	**97%**

5. International recommendations are followed in estimating the missing data, which are mentioned in the Consumer Price Index guide. Moreover, the **(Group Relative Method)** is one of the best methods used to estimate the missing data, which is the process of estimating the prices based on the change in the prices of the remaining sources for the same category. Accordingly, in case of the closure of an entire source on a temporary basis, all the prices of that source have been estimated based on the change in the prices of the sources that share the same items, which are collected from that source.
6. The estimate also used at the **(Next Level Up in Aggregation)** in case of the disappearance of the index for a whole sub-group or a higher group reaching up to the major groups that constitute the index.

Notes:

*Data represent those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli Occupation in 1967.

**Data exclude those parts of Jerusalem, which were annexed by Israeli Occupation in 1967.

Please note that the press release in English is brief compared to the Arabic version