

# WFP Palestine Monthly Market Dashboard

November 2022

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

November 2022



Number of people assisted by WFP <u>371,812</u>



Food Consumer Price Index

**Price of Wheat Flour** 

33.7%

(Nov 2022/Nov 2021)

(Nov 2022/Nov 2021)



Number of food-insecure people

1.84 million people (HRP 2022)

## Highlights

- The Food Consumer Price Index (Food CPI) decreased in November 2022 by 1.6 percent compared to October 2022.(*Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, PCBS*)
- In November, the average value of WFP food ration prices in local currency has increased by 16.7 percent since the beginning of the Ukraine crisis (February 2022), and by 19.7 percent compared to the previous year.
- In November, around 300,000 people in Palestine received WFP's monthly e-voucher, injecting \$3.1 million into the local economy. Wheat flour topped the redeemed items, followed by vegetable oil and rice.
- The trade deficit has reached \$584 million in September 2022 (latest available data). This represents a 2 percent increase compared to August, and an overall 46 percent increase compared to September of 2021. (*PCBS*)
- The importation cost during the third quarter of 2022 has increased by 9.6 percent compared to the previous year. (Palestine Monetary Authority, PMA).
- The Producer Price Index (PPI) in Palestine during October continued to increase for the forth consecutive month and increased by 7.5 percent compared with last year, and by 0.7 percent compared to the previous month.
- As a result of the high inflation rate during the first three quarters of 2022, the real wages of workers in Gaza and the West Bank declined by about 13.7 percent and 1.3 percent respectively, while the wages of Palestinian workers in Israel and settlements increased by around 2.5 percent since the previous year. (*PMA*)

### **Situation Monitoring:**

#### BETTER QUALITY, BETTER ASSISTANCE—SENSITIZATION OF LOCAL SHOPS

Through cash-based transfers, WFP supports both individuals receiving assistance and local shop owners where the assistance can be redeemed. As over US \$3 millions gets injected into the Palestinian economy through this assistance every month, this presents shop owners with opportunities for expansion, hiring more labor, and improving their quality of service . Through monitoring the shops, WFP gains insight on market needs that allow for the continuous enhancement of planned assistance.

All shops contracted by WFP go through a vetting process to ensure quality standards are met. In many instances, this has served as guidance and a path for expansion. To ensure their continued efficiency and timeliness, WFP ran a sensitization session with over 300 local shop owners in Gaza and the West Bank. Upon signing a code of conduct, shop owners are reminded of the clauses and compliances, quality standards, and briefed on gender awareness and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Being part of this assistance network also expands shopsowner's financial inclusion by ensuring they have access to bank accounts and other digital financial systems. In 2021, the shops participating witnessed a 23 percent increase in their sales and hired 101 extra laborers. You can read more about the secondary impact of WFP's e-voucher modality <u>here.</u>

## **WFP** Activities

### Value of WFP Food Rations

Monthly average value of WFP food rations per capita (\$)



#### %CHANGE (\$): NOV 2022/2021 = 7.3% %CHANGE (\$): NOV/OCT 2022 = 2.2%

In November 2022, the monthly average value of WFP food rations per capita in local currency (NIS) increased by 16.7 percent since the beginning of the Ukraine crisis (February 2022), and by 19.7 percent compared to the corresponding month in 2021. The ration value has increased slightly by 0.2 percent compared to October. The increase is mainly driven by the slight increase in wheat flour, vegetable oil, and lentils prices.

Rice

Oil

## Food Accessibility & Availability

- In November, only 7 percent of WFP beneficiaries reported witnessing an increase in prices of some commodities such as vegetable oil, eggs, and vegetables. This figure reflects the decrease in CPI and Food CPI during November compared to the previous month by 0.4 and 1.6 percent respectively.
- Around 38 percent of interviewed WFP beneficiaries reported not being able to buy the same amount of food as they did during the previous month and relied on some coping strategies such as consuming less quality food or less preferred food, reducing quantities of food consumed, and purchasing food on credit.
- According to WFP Palestine's monitoring of WFP contracted shops, 41 percent of shops have . enough product stock to last for only one month or less, a decrease by 9 percent compared to the previous month. The remaining 59 percent reported having sufficient stock to meet demands for two months up to 6 months.
- 52 percent of WFP's contracted shops reported that the increase in prices had a negative impact on their sales volume in the previous months.



## **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

#### **Overall Consumer Price Index**



In November, **the overall consumer price index (CPI) decreased slightly by 0.4 percent compared to the previous month. Also, the Food CPI decreased by 1.6 percent compared to the previous month**. The decrease in the consumer price index in Palestine during November compared to October could be attributed to the decrease in the prices of fresh chicken by 6.5 percent, fresh fruit by 6.3 percent, and fresh vegetable by 4.7 percent. potatoes by 6.2 percent, and fresh by 1.6 percent. (*PCBS*)

#### Food & Soft Drinks CPI



## **FAO Food Price Index**



#### %CHANGE: NOV/OCT 2022 (FOOD INFLATION RATE)

- PALESTINE = -1.6%
- WEST BANK = -1.7%
- GAZA STRIP = -1.6%

#### %CHANGE: NOV 2022/2021 (FOOD INFLATION RATE)

- PALESTINE = 6.2%
- WEST BANK = 5.9%
- GAZA STRIP = 5.7%

#### %CHANGE: NOV/OCT 2022 = -0.1% %CHANGE: NOV 2022/2021 = 0.3%

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) averaged 135.7 points in November, a slight decrease of 0.1 percent compared to October, marking the eighth consecutive monthly decline, reaching pre-Ukraine crisis levels. The FFPI stood only 0.3 percent higher than its value in November 2021. The decrease in the FFPI in November was led by a decrease in the price indices for cereals, dairy, and meat, offsetting the increases in price indices of vegetable oils and sugar.

The fall in FFPI in November was driven by the decrease in the cereal prices, mainly wheat, as a result of the extension of the Black Sea grain initiative agreement and the competitiveness of global market prices that have reduced since the continuation of shipments from Russia and Ukraine. (*FAO*)

## Tracking Trends

Oct-Nov 2022 % change	Feb-Nov 2022 % change (Since the Beginning of the Ukraine Crisis)
Gaza 4.5 Flour West Bank 1.5	Gaza 27.2 🕇 West Bank 36.9
Gaza 0.0 Bread West Bank -0.6	Gaza 6.8 West Bank 15.6
Gaza -6.5 Gaza -6.5 West Bank -0.3	Gaza -3.4 West Bank -0.4
Gaza 2.0 Caza Lentils West Bank -1.1	Gaza 8.7 West Bank 1.2
Gaza 0.0 SALT Gaza 0.0 Table Salt West Bank -1.4	Gaza 15.4 🕇 West Bank -1.4
Gaza 6.4 Gaza Eggs West Bank -0.3	Gaza 17.9 West Bank 39.0
Gaza -0.4 Gaza -0.4 Corn Oil West Bank 0.4	Gaza 19.9 West Bank 23.1
Gaza -10.5 Gaza -10.5 Chicken West Bank -6.7	Gaza -5.5 West Bank -10.1
Gaza 21.6 Gaza 21.6 Potatoes West Bank 0.4	Gaza 87.7 T West Bank -11.8
Gaza 10.6 Control of the second secon	Gaza 39.1 West Bank 10.6

## Exchange Rate (NIS/\$)



Fuel - (NIS/L)



## **Producer Price Index (PPI)**



#### %CHANGE: NOV 2022/2021 = 11.5% %CHANGE: NOV/0CT 2022 = -1.9%

The exchange rate of the USD against the local currency (NIS) has fluctuated since the beginning of the year. In November the exchange rate averaged 3.5 NIS for 1 USD, appreciating by 1.9 percent compared to the previous month. However, the NIS has depreciated by 11.5 percent since November 2021. The appreciation of the USD and higher commodities prices have led to an increase in the importation cost during the third quarter of 2022 by 9.6 percent compared to last year. (*PMA*)

#### GASOLINE %CHANGE: NOV 2022/2021 = 1.3% DIESEL %CHANGE: NOV 2022/2021 = 12.9%

The price of Excellent gasoline 95 has **increased by 1.4 percent in November compared with October**, and by 1.3 percent compared with November 2021. The price of diesel, used for heating and public transportation fuel, has also **increased in November by 3.7 percent compared with October**, and by 12.9 percent **compared with November 2021**.

Despite the global decrease in fuel prices, as a result of declining demand amid fears of a recession, prices in Palestine continue to rise. Palestine imports fuel exclusively from Israel, at a monthly determined price, with a limited margin of change by the Palestinian Authority. **Israel determines the price according to many considerations, including the global price, the exchange rate of the NIS against the dollar, and the Israeli tax policy. (PCBS, PMA)** 

#### %CHANGE: OCT 2022/2021 = 7.5% %CHANGE: OCT/SEP 2022 = 0.7%

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) in Palestine during October 2022 (latest available data) continued to increase for the forth consecutive month and **increased by 0.7 percent compared with September (0.7 percent increase for locally consumed products, and 0.1 decrease percent for locally exported products).** Also, the overall PPI in Palestine during October **recorded a sharp increase of 7.5 percent compared with October 2021 (8.2 percent for locally consumed products, and 1.8 percent for locally exported products).** The increase in the overall PPI was driven by the increase in the prices of activities in the agriculture sector, despite the decrease in manufacturing, electricity, and mining and quarrying activities. (*PCBS*)

### Food Basket Cost

% increase in the cost of food basket in the region since the begining of the Ukraine crisis (Feb 2022)



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