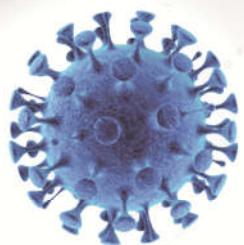




**State of Palestine  
Ministry of Health**

# **Health Annual Report Palestine 2021**



*PHIC*

**June 2022**



## **Forward**

It's my pleasure to present the 2021 Annual Health Report, with confidence that it will benefit all stakeholders, including decision-makers, health planners, researchers, and analyzers of the Palestinian health system. The Palestinian Health Information Center has been working hard to be, at all times, an important and reliable source of information on health indicators and health care development in addition to issuing the Annual Health Report.

The statistics in this report showed that the Ministry of Health persists in implementing and providing high quality health services to all the Palestinians within available resources, despite the hard conditions and obstacles we suffer from, especially the Israeli occupation and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We hope that all those interested in this report will find the complete and accurate data they need, and find the national health indicators which are considered among the best indicators at the Eastern Mediterranean Region level. We also hope to get feedback from all interested parties that it will constitute an additional opportunity for dialogue about the reality of health services in Palestine.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to all who contributed to the completion of this report; health workers in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem our eternal capital of Palestine forever.



**Dr. Mai Salem Al-Kila**

**Minister of Health**

The Annual Health Report for 2021 can be obtained from the Ministry of Health's website  
[www.moh.ps](http://www.moh.ps)

**June 2022**

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# Section One

## Demographic Situation in Palestine 2021

### Population and Demography

#### 1.1 Palestinian Population in the world

The estimated number of the Palestinians at the end of 2021 was about 14 million: 5,290,925 million in the State of Palestine (3,154,418 million in the West Bank WB 2,136,507 million in the Gaza Strip GS), 1.7 million in the 1948 occupied territories, and nearly 7 million in the Diaspora (6.3 million live in Arab countries and 750,000 in foreign countries). This is based on population estimates prepared by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics PCBS.

#### 1.2 Palestinians living in state of Palestine

There are 5,290,925 Palestinians living in the State of Palestine by the end of 2021, of whom 2,689,117 are males and 2,601,808 are females. The estimated population of the WB was 3,154,418 presenting 59.6% of the state of Palestine population, of whom 1,606,571 males and 1,547,847 females, while the population estimation of GS was 2,136,507 in the same year, which is 40.4% of the total population, of whom 1,082,546 males and 1,053,961 females.

#### 1.3 Palestinian Refugees in State of Palestine

Table (1) Distribution of Population by Refugee Status & Region, Palestine

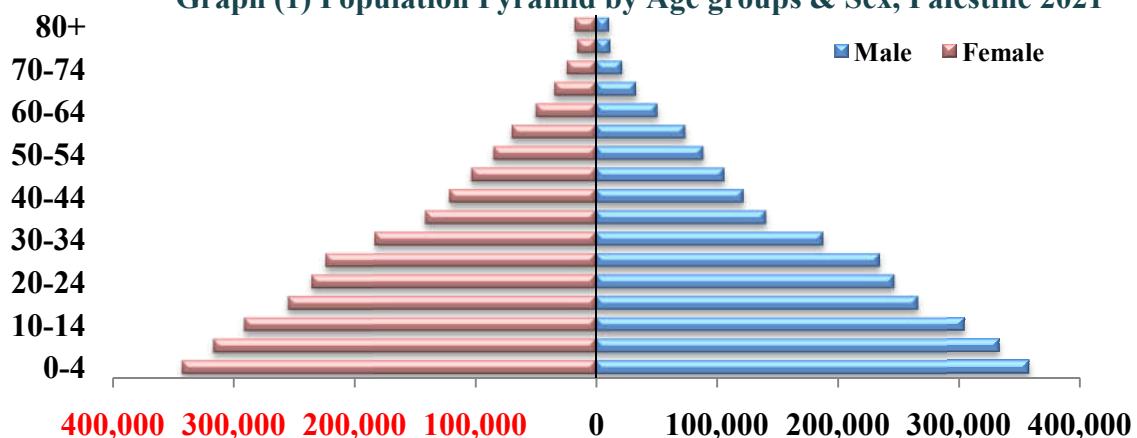
Region	Refugee	Non-Refugee
West Bank	23.9%	76.1%
Gaza Strip	64.8%	35.2%
Palestine	40.5%	59.5%

Source PCBS, 2020

#### 1.4 Age Structure

The population pyramid below shows that the Palestinian population is young; more than one-third of the Palestinians are less than 15 years (35.8% in the WB and 40.9% in GS). The individuals aged 65 years and above were 3.4%, with a difference between West Bank and Gaza Strip, 3.7% in the WB and 2.9% in GS, more details about projected population by mid-year in Table 2.

Graph (1) Population Pyramid by Age groups & Sex, Palestine 2021



**Table (2) Distribution of projected mid-year Population by Age Group & Sex, Palestine 2021**

Age Group (Years)	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0 - 14	1,013,298	19.4%	968,163	18.5%	1,981,461	37.9%
15 - 49	1,339,738	25.6%	1,296,269	24.8%	2,636,007	50.4%
50 - 64	222,477	4.2%	212,012	4.1%	434,489	8.3%
65+	81,556	1.6%	93,680	1.8%	175,236	3.4%
Total	2,657,069	50.8%	2,570,124	49.2%	5,227,193	100%

## 1.5 Population Natural Growth Rate

In 2021, the rate of population natural increase in Palestine was 2.4%; the rate was 2.2% in the West Bank and 2.8% in Gaza Strip.

## 1.6 Ratio of Males to Females

The sex ratio in Palestine was 103.4 males per 100 females, where the ratio in the WB was 103.8 males per 100 females, and in GS was 102.7 males per 100 females.

## 1.7 Percentage of Females of Reproductive Age (15-49) Years

The number of females of reproductive age (15 - 49 years) was 1,296,269, which are 24.8% of the total population in Palestine in 2021. In the West Bank, they are 784,277 females representing 25.1% of the total population, and they are 24.3% of the total population in Gaza Strip.

## 1.8 Total Fertility Rate

According to PCBS, the total fertility rate during (2017– 2019) has declined to reach 3.8 births (3.9 in GS, and 3.8 in the WB, compared to 4.6 births in 1999-2003.

## 1.9 Life Expectancy

The life expectancy at birth has increased in Palestine due to improvement in the health conditions, and gradual decline of infant, child, and maternal mortality rates. In 2021, the life expectancy rate at Birth was 74.2 years, for males and females were 73.1 years, 75.3 years, respectively.

## 1.10 Reported Live Births 2021

### 1.10.1 Reported Live Births by Region

In 2021, the total number of reported live births in Palestine was 138,436 live births, of whom 81,778 in the WB, and 56,658 in the GS.

### 1.10.2 Reported Live Births by Sex

In 2021, the number of reported live male births in Palestine was 71,610 live births, representing 51.7% of reported live births in Palestine, and the number of reported live female births was 66,826 live births, which is 48.3% of reported live births in Palestine.

**Table (3) Distribution live births by sex and district, Palestine, 2021**

Sex District	Male	Female	Total	%
West Bank	42,401	39,377	81,778	59.1%
Gaza Strip	29,209	27,449	56,658	40.9%
Palestine	71,610	66,826	138,436	100%

#### **1.10.3 Reported Live Births by Place of Birth**

In Palestine, the vast majority (99.9%) of women gave birth in hospitals and birth centers, with only less than 0.1 percent gave birth at home in 2021.

#### **1.10.4 Reported Crude birth rate**

Data from the Palestinian Health Information Center PHIC revealed that crude birth rate in Palestine was 28.1 births/1000 of the population in 2021. The results showed that this rate was 29.0 births in the WB compared to 26.9 births/1000 of the population in GS.

#### **1.10.5 Reported Birth Weights**

Birth weight not only predicts the health and nutritional status of the mother, but also gives future information about the survival, development, and long-term health of the baby.

The percentage of Low Birth Weight LBW (less than 2,500 gm) in the WB was 6.7% of total newborns. For females, the percentage was 7.1% of reported female live births and was 6.3% of reported male live births, while the percentage of LBW in GS was 7.9% among reported live births.

**Table (4) Percentage distribution of birth weights by sex, West Bank, 2021**

Less than 2,500gm			2,500-4,000 gm			Above 4,000gm		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
6.3%	7.1%	6.7%	87.7%	91.1%	90.8%	3.1%	1.8%	2.5%

## Section Two

### Health System in Palestine

#### 2. Health System in Palestine

The Palestinian health system consists of four main sectors: the government health sector (the Palestinian Ministry of Health and Military Medical Services), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. These different sectors are involved in providing health care services to citizens in all levels: primary health care, secondary and tertiary health care. The Palestinian Ministry of Health pays special and great attention in maintaining the continuity of the Palestinian health system and providing comprehensive health services of high quality to all citizens.

##### 2.1 Primary Health Care in Palestine

According to World Health Organization, Primary Health Care (PHC) is comprehensive physical, psychological and social aspects, the essence of which is to provide care as a whole and the health needs of the citizen throughout his life, and not limited to a set of specific diseases. Primary health care ensures that people receive comprehensive health care, ranging from counseling and prevention to treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care, and as close as feasible to people's everyday environment

###### 2.1.1 Primary Health care centers in Palestine

###### 1. Primary Health care centers in Palestine by Health Provider Sector

The total number of primary health care centers is 765 centers in Palestine, of which 606 centers in the West Bank and 159 centers in Gaza Strip. The number of population per center was 6,435 persons.

**Table (5) Distribution of Number & Percentage of PHC Center by Provider, Palestine 2021**

Palestine	MoH	UNRWA	NGOs	PMMS	Total
No.	491	65	192	17	765
%	64.2%	8.5%	25.1%	2.2%	100%

###### 2. Primary Health care centers in Palestine by the Level

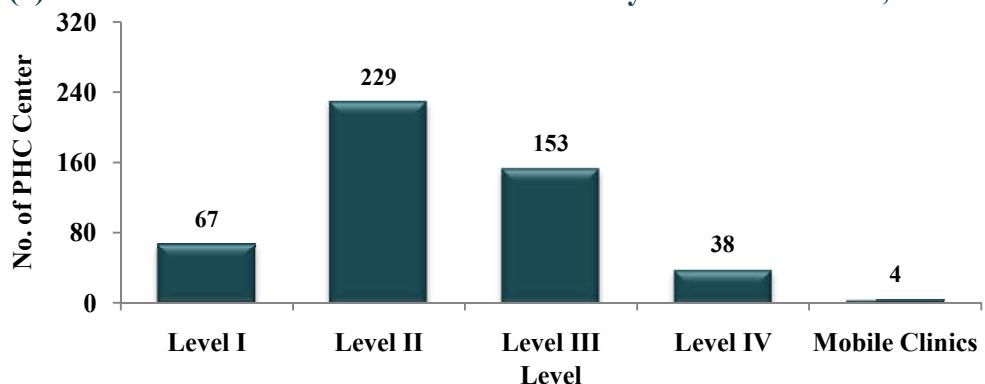
The number of MoH primary health care centers in Palestine increased from 203 at the end of 1994 to 491 in 2021, with an increase of 142%.

The Ministry of Health classifies primary health care centers in four levels in addition to mobile clinics, and the levels are:

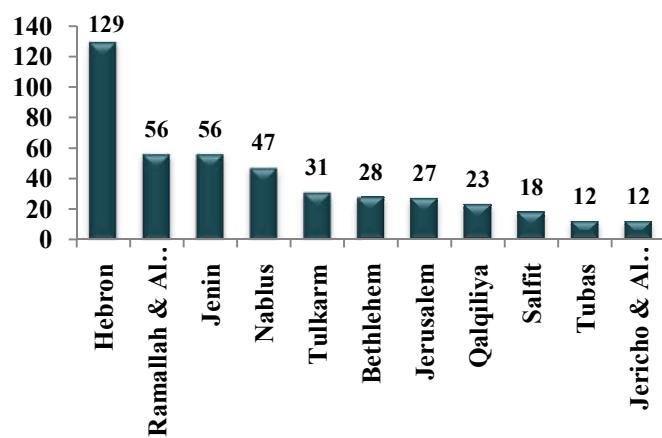
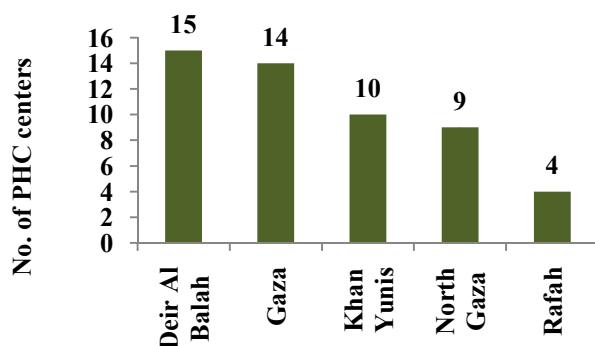
- **Level I:** Provides:
  - Preventive services: mother and child health care, immunization and health education.
  - Curative services: First aid.
- **Level II:** Provides:
  - Preventive services: Mother and child health care, immunization and health education.
  - Curative services: General Practice GP medical care, Laboratory (in some clinics).

- **Level III:** Provides:
  - Preventive services: Mother and child health care, immunization, family planning and health education.
  - Curative services: GP medical care, dental health care, medical specialist Laboratory and some specialized clinics.
- **Level IV:** provides:
  - Preventive services: Mother and child health care, immunization, family planning and health education.
  - Curative services: GP medical care, medical specialist care and dental health care, Gynecology and obstetrics, laboratory, radiology, emergency medical services (EMS) and other specialized clinic.

**Graph (2) Distribution of Number of PHC Centers by Level of Services, Palestine 2021**



**Graph (3) Distribution of Governmental PHC Centers by Governorates, Palestine 2021**  
**Gaza Strip**  
**West Bank**



In addition to general practice medical care provided by MoH primary health centers in the WB, MoH provides family planning services in 263 centers, specialized services in 219 centers, oral and dental health services in 36 centers, and laboratory services in 209 centers. In addition, high risk services are provided in 75 clinics, while mammography is provided at 13 clinics and X-ray service in 17 centers in the WB.

### **3. Primary Health Care Services in MoH centers**

In the West Bank, there were 1,952,546 visitors to physicians in MoH primary health care centers either for general or specialized clinics in 2021. While the number of visitors who received nurse care was 1,909,483.

In Gaza Strip, the total number of visitors to physicians in MoH primary health care centers was 1,798,628 visits in addition to 881,273 visitors who received nurse care.

#### **3.1 Visitors to General Clinics**

There is an increase in the average number of visitors per medical staff visit to MoH clinics; this is due to increase in the number of visitors (patients) and decrease of medical staff visits to these clinics. The table below shows the number of visitors to physicians and nurses in the WB. In Gaza Strip, the number of visitors to general physicians was 1,234,243 visitors in 2021.

**Table (6) Distribution of Visitors to General Clinics of PHC, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Staff	No. of Visitors	No. of staff visits to clinics	Average No. of visitors / Visit
Physician	1,593,723	39,854	40.0
Nurse	1,635,835	44,730	36.6

#### **3.2 Visitors to Specialized Clinics**

MoH provides a variety of specialized medical services through 219 PHC clinics (the number of clinics was 234 clinics in 2020). During 2021, specialized services were provided through clinics of dermatology, paediatrics, diabetic, psychiatry, pulmonology, gynecology, orthopedic, ENT, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and endocrinology. The table below shows that the total visitors to specialized clinics were 632,471 visitors in the WB. In the GS, the total number of visits was 559,404 to specialized clinics in 2021.

**Table (7) Distribution of Visitors to Specialized Clinics of PHC, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Staff	No. of Visitors	No. of Staff Visits to the Clinics	Average No. of visitors \ visit
Physician	358,823	13,962	25.7
Nurse	273,648	12,858	21.3

### **2.1.2 Women Health Care**

#### **1. Care for Pregnant Women**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently recommended that for effective antenatal care ANC services, specific to low-income countries, is four or eight ANC visits, in order to reduce neonatal mortality and complications during pregnancy.

In the WB, the total number of pregnant visits to PHC centers was 82,990 in 2021. The average number of visits for pregnant women was three. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendation for effective antenatal care ANC services, specific to low-income countries, is four or eight ANC visits, in order to reduce neonatal mortality and complications during pregnancy.

The total number of pregnant women registered (first visit) in the PHC centers/MoH was 27,316 with coverage of 33.4% of all pregnant women, which is calculated as a percentage of all live births in the WB which was 81,788 live births in 2021.

In Gaza Strip, the number of pregnant women registered in the PHC/MoH centers was 16,901, and their total visits to PHC clinics were 98,507 visits. Therefore, the average number of visits for pregnant women was 5.8 visits.

## 2. High Risk Pregnancy (HRP)

High risk pregnancy clinics provide care to any health problem and risk that could affect mother, fetus, and pregnancy.

In Palestine, the number of referred pregnant women to high risk pregnancy clinics was 10,932 pregnant, which is 25% of total pregnant women registered in different MCH clinics/ MoH in 2021.

In the West Bank, the number of referred pregnant women to high risk pregnancy clinics is 5,577, which is 20.4% of total pregnant women registered in different MCH clinics/ MoH in the WB, while the total visits to high risk pregnancy centers amounted to 22,564 during the same period with average number of visits of 4 visits.

In the Gaza Strip, there were 5,355 high risk pregnant in 2021; they were 32% of all pregnant women registered in MoH/PHC. The average number of visits of high risk pregnant was 6 visits.

## 3. Postnatal Care

In the West Bank, the total number of mothers (postnatal) examined by physicians in MCH centers/MoH was 9,382 mother, representing 11.5% of the total living births in the WB in 2021. In addition, 53,848 mother received nursing care, representing 65.8% of the total living births.

In Gaza Strip, the number of women who received postnatal care in MoH/PHC was 12,044 women, representing 21.1% of the total live births in GS.

## 4. Anaemia among Pregnant Women

The table below shows the percentages of anaemia among pregnant, high risk pregnant and postpartum mothers. Anaemia is highest among high risk pregnant women, which most of it is moderate to mild anaemia.

**Table (8) Distribution of percentage of anaemia among pregnant women in week 36 and postpartum mothers, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Category	% of Anaemia (haemoglobin less than 11 g / dl)
Normal Pregnancy	26.9%
High Risk Pregnancy	30.9%
Postpartum Mothers	24.1%

## 5. Family Planning Services

The total number of new registered family planning beneficiaries in MoH health centers was 16,759 women in 2021, of which 12,129 women in the WB and 4,630 women in the GS. Contraceptive pills were the most common used method in Gaza Strip, which was 47.3% of all used methods in Gaza Strip, even though there was an increase of using IUDs in 2021.

In the West Bank, the highest percentage of used methods was contraceptive pills, which was 55.9% of the total used methods. Condoms were the second in consumption reaching 22.8%, while the IUDs recorded 19.7% of the total number of methods obtained by the new beneficiaries.

PHC provides family planning services in 263 centers in the West Bank. In 2021, the total number of visits for the purpose of benefiting from family planning services was 43,770 visits.

## 6. Pap Smear Test

PHC services provided the Pap smear examination in the West Bank governorates through the laboratories in the primary health directorates of Jenin, Ramallah & Al Bireh, and Hebron. In 2021, all 179 tested samples were negative. Moreover, the Pap smear test results have been negative in PHC/MoH since 2019; this reflects the small number of diagnosed cases of cervical cancer in Palestine.

## 7. Mammography and Ultrasound Mammography

Primary health care clinics/MoH provide mammography services in 13 health directorates in the West Bank. The total number of cases examined in the various governorates was 5,864, of which 2,322 were abnormal and accounted for about 39.6% of all examined cases. Furthermore, the examined women represent only 2.04% of the target women for screening (women aged 40-64). This low percentage of examined women will affect the MoH efforts for early detection of breast cancer and decreasing breast cancer mortality.

The number of cases examined by ultrasound in the various West Bank governorates (17 centers) was 1,944, of which 1,339 cases were abnormal and accounted for 68.9% of the examined cases.

### 2.1.3 Child Health Care

Since 2016, MoH has increased the age of children receiving free health services at MoH centers from 3 to 6 year olds. During 2021, the total number of children' visits to PHC centers was 422,901 visits, and the number of children aged 1 to 3 years examined by physicians was 54,851.

#### 1. Vaccinations

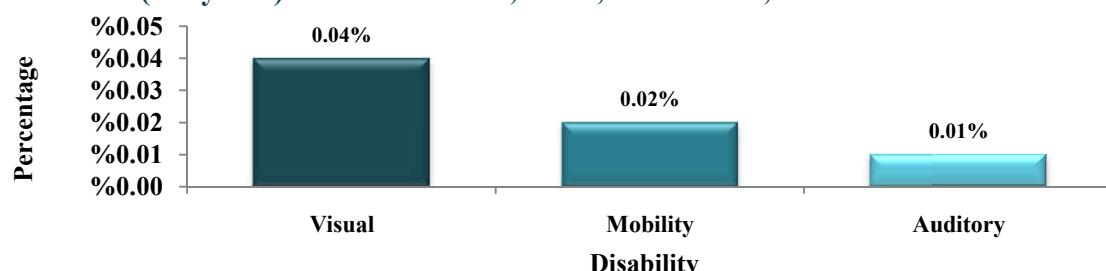
The Palestinian MoH pays a great attention to have healthy Palestinian children and protecting them from diseases. Therefore, the MoH has developed an Expanded National Program for Immunization (EPI) according to the recommendations of the World Health Organization.

In 2021, coverage of all vaccines for children under two years of age in Palestine was above 95%, except for the third dose of Pentavalent vaccine which provides protection to a child from 5 life-threatening diseases – Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Hib, and the third dose of Oral Poliovirus Vaccine OPV, which were 94.6% and 94.7%, respectively, in addition to all doses of Rotavirus vaccine , which protects against rotavirus infections the leading cause of severe diarrhea among young children, were less than 90% coverage.

#### 2. Disabilities and Congenital Diseases

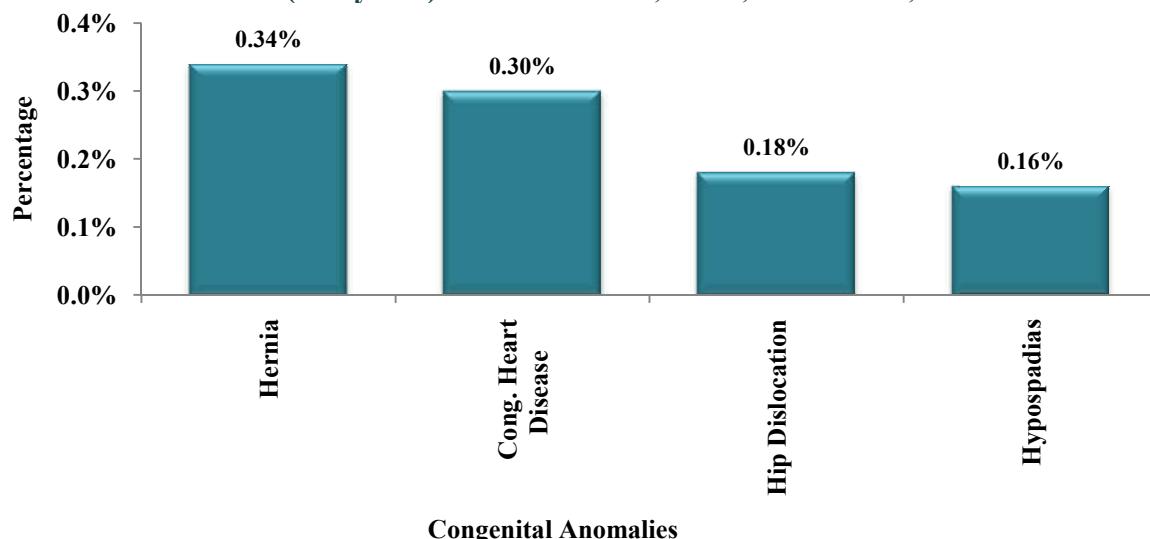
In 2021, it is found that there are 41 cases of disability among children between 1 to 3 years old who were examined by physicians in PHC centers/MoH. These disability cases representing 0.07% of all examined children who were 54,851 children. These disabilities as in the graph below were visual, mobility, and auditory.

**Graph (4) Proportional Distribution of Reported Disability of Total Examined Children (1-3 years) at PHC Centers, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



In 2021, the number of reported congenital anomalies was 895 cases, which represents 1.6% of the total examined children in PHC centers/MoH in the West Bank.

**Graph (5) Proportional distribution of the most reported congenital anomalies of the total examined babies (1- 3 years) in PHC centers, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



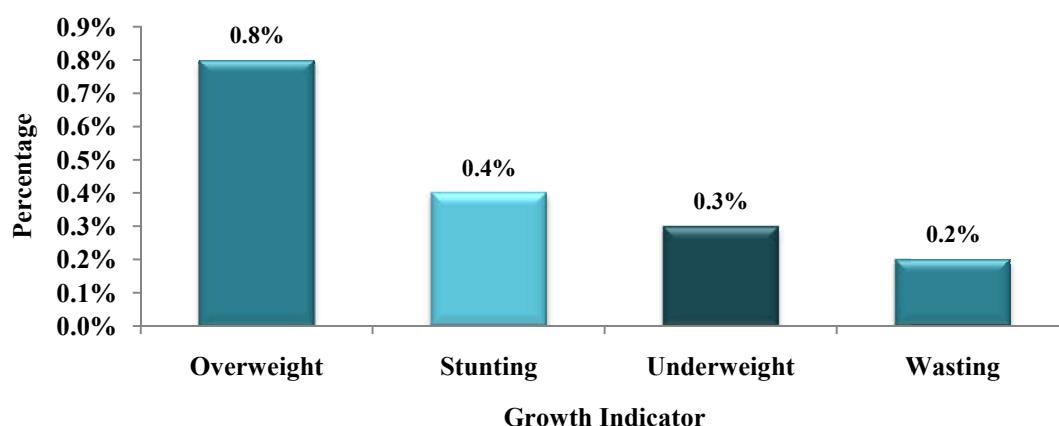
### 3. Anaemia in Children at Age of 12 Months

Iron deficiency anemia most commonly affects babies 9 months through 24 months old. In 2021, it is found that 30.4% of the examined children at age of 12 months have anemia in the West Bank, which is considered a high percentage, taking into account that the total number of examined children was 60,162 children.

### 4. Basic Growth Indicators

From the graph below, overweight was the highest among all growth indicators, which was 0.8% of all examined children at age of 12 month.

**Graph (6) Distribution of Registered Child Growth Indicators at 12 Months of Age in PHC Centers, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



## **5. PKU and TSH Tests**

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) centers offer the 'heel prick' screen to all newborn babies. This screening is to check Phenylketonuria PKU to diagnose its rare genetic disorder, and Thyroid Stimulating Hormone TSH test to diagnose thyroid insufficiency to all newborns.

In the West Bank, the number of recorded drawing samples was 73,002. The total positive cases were 10 cases for PKU tests, and 45 positive cases for TSH screening in 2021.

In Gaza Strip, the number of recorded drawing samples was 70,555. The total new positive cases of PKU were 7, and 13 new positive cases for TSH screening in 2021. All these children are treated and followed up at MoH PHC centers.

## **6. Maternal and Child Health Handbook**

Maternal and child health handbook is usually distributed by MoH primary health centers and hospitals as well as health providers from NGOs and UNRWA.

In 2021, the total number of distributed handbooks at MoH centers was 42,059 handbooks, of which 36,511 were distributed to mothers and 4,068 were distributed to children, representing 49.6% of living births. In addition, 1,480 handbooks were distributed to replace lost handbooks.

The total number of distributed handbooks at PHC/MoH was 30,918 handbooks, of which 26,954 handbooks were distributed to mothers and 3,207 to children, in addition to 757 handbooks for replacing lost ones. Moreover, 10,418 handbooks were distributed at MoH hospitals, of which 9,557 handbooks were distributed to mothers and 861 to children, in addition to 723 handbooks for replacing lost ones were distributed at hospitals.

**Table (9) Distribution of MCH Handbook by Place of Distribution, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Place of Distribution	PHC	Hospitals	Total
No.	30,918	11,141	42,059

### **2.1.4 School Health**

The School Health Program aims to provide medical services, especially preventive ones, to all Palestinian students through the Government School Health Program, which provides services to public and private schools and government schools affiliated to the Ministries of Social Affairs, Labor and the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs, as well as in some kindergartens. Another School Health Program is the UNRWA School Health Program, which provides services to refugee students in its schools.

The total number of school visited by school health staff was 1,469 governmental and private schools, which is 41% of total number of schools in the West Bank. Covid- 19 pandemic was the only cause of decreasing number of school health staff visits to schools in the last two years. Several tests were done for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, including ophthalmology, weight, auditory, dermal, etc. In addition, dental check was done for 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and vaccination for 1<sup>st</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

In Gaza Strip, school health staff also conducted the above tests and complete needed vaccination for 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> grade at the governmental schools in addition to students in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7th grade at UNRWA schools.

## 1. Services Provided for First Grade

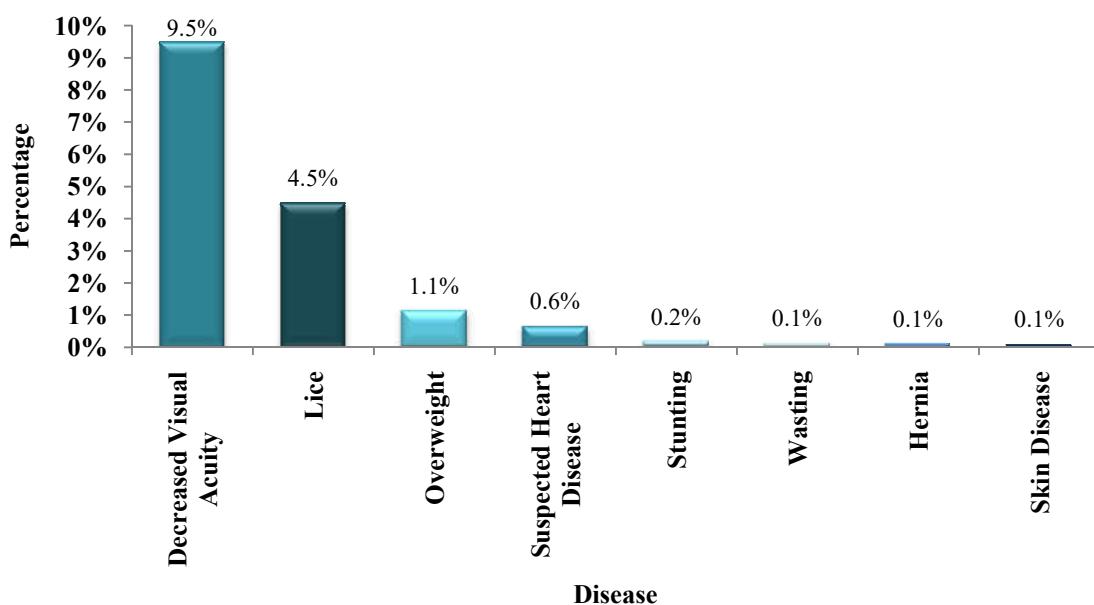
The school health staff conducted several tests for the first grade students through their staff in all districts.

In the West Bank, during the Scholastic Year 2020/2021, the total number of examined students was 20,544 with coverage of 42% of the total number of students; of which 3,497 cases were diagnosed with health problems with a percentage of 17% of the total examined students.

School health program staff provided several tests for students in the first grade, including ophthalmology, weight, auditory, dermal, etc. Decreased visual acuity was the most common problem in 9.5% of the examined students as in the graph below.

In Gaza Strip, decreased visual acuity was also the most common problem in first grade with a percentage of 6.0% of all examined students, followed by an undescended testicle problem in 1.4% of students.

**Graph (7) Proportional distribution of the most common diseases among first grade examined students, West Bank, Palestine Scholastic Year 2020- 2021**



## 2. Preventive Optometry Test for Fifth and Eighth Grades

MoH school health teams are implementing a preventive program for optometry (eye test) in the West Bank through screening services for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in addition to first grade.

The number of examined students in the fifth grade was 20,038, and a visual impairment was found in 2,563 students with a percentage of 12.8% of the total examined students.

In the eighth grade, 22,726 students were examined; 3,397 of them diagnosed with a visual impairment with a percentage of 14.9% of the total examined students.

## 3. Dental Health check for students

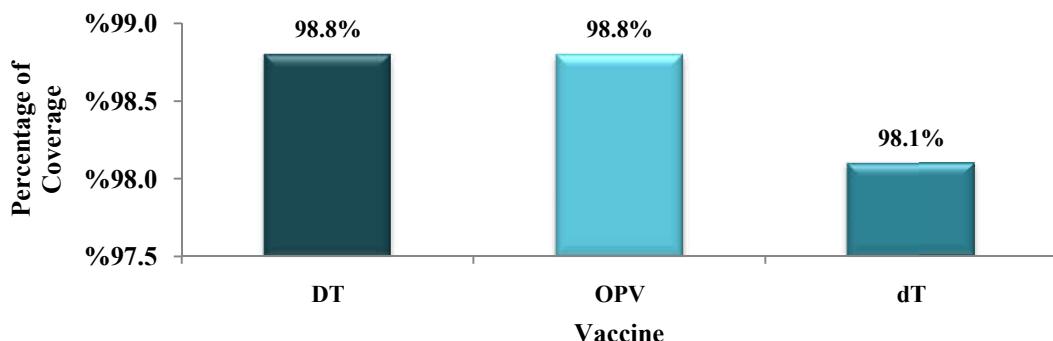
School health staff conducted a dental check for first, seventh and tenth graders. During the Scholastic Year 2020/2021, the number of screened pupils in the first grade was 15,399, of which 10,022 were diagnosed with different dental problems. In the seventh grade, 16,108 students were screened, of which 8,009 were diagnosed with different dental problems. The number of screened pupils in the 10th grade was 14,732, of which 8,030 were diagnosed with different dental problems.

The reported cases indicate that dental decay recorded the highest cases of dental problems in those grades, 63% of 1<sup>st</sup> grade examined pupils, 43% of 7<sup>th</sup> grade examined pupils, and 46% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade examined pupils.

#### 4. Vaccinations for school students

The school health program teams/ MoH vaccinated 216,493 pupils in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade in Palestine as per the National Immunization schedule in 2021. The percentage of vaccinated 1<sup>st</sup> grade pupils with Diphtheria and Tetanus vaccine (DT) and Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) was 98.8%, while the percentage of 9<sup>th</sup> grade pupils vaccinated with diphtheria and Tetanus (dT) was 98.1%

**Graph (8) Distribution of Pupils Vaccine Coverage by Vaccine Type, Palestine Scholastic Year 2020- 2021**



#### 2.1.5 Mental Health

##### 1. Activities of Community Mental Health Clinics

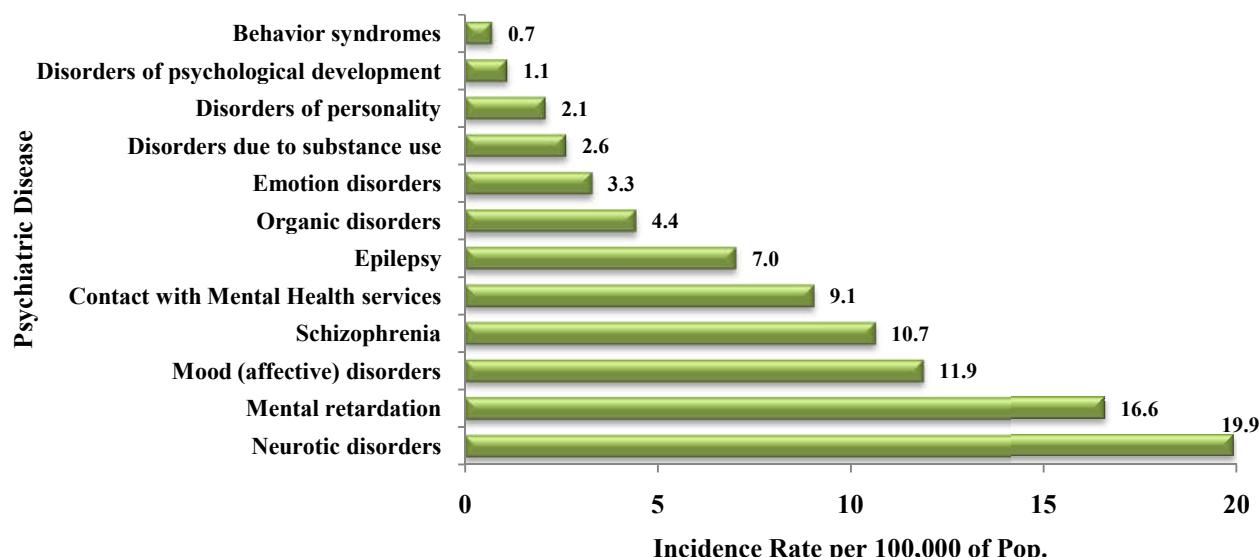
Mental health services are provided through 22 specialized psychiatric and community health clinics in Palestine, of which 15 clinics in the West Bank in addition to one center of mental health for children and adolescents in the North Hebron Health Directorate, and 6 clinics in Gaza Strip.

Moreover, there were 3,607 new patients registered at different mental health centers in Palestine with incidence rate of 73 per 100,000 population.

In Gaza Strip, the number of new registered patients was 1,043 patients, with an incidence rate of 49.5 cases per 100,000 population. Schizophrenia had the highest incidence rate with 10.9 cases per 100,000 population.

In the West Bank, there were 2,564 new patients registered at different mental health centers in the West Bank, with an incidence rate of 91.1 per 100,000 population. As shown on the graph below, neurotic disorder is still the most common psychiatric disease with an incidence of 19.9 cases per 100,000 population.

**Graph (9) Distribution of New Reported Incidence Rate of Psychiatric Diseases by Diagnosis per 100,000 of Pop., West Bank, Palestine 2021**



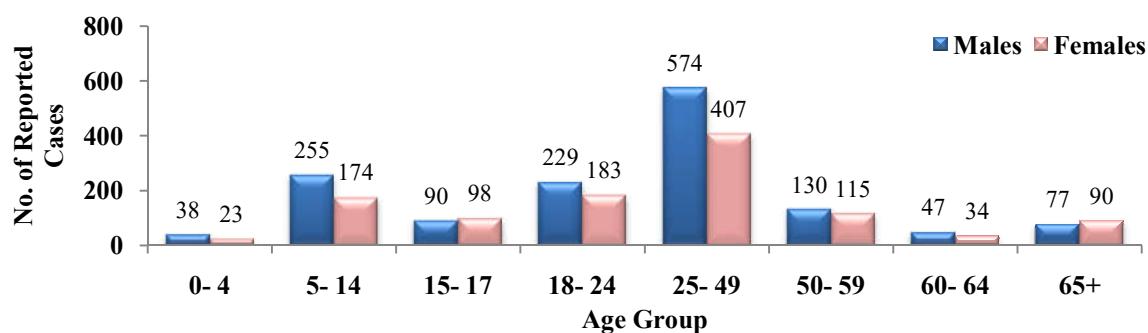
## 2. New Reported Cases of Psychiatric Diseases by Sex & Age Groups

In the West Bank, distribution by sex of new registered psychiatric cases in mental and community health centers showed that 1,440 cases were males (56.2% of the total new cases), and 1,124 were females (43.8% out of the total new cases).

Moreover, it is found that the highest percentage of cases was among age group 5-24 with 1,029 cases, which is high (40.1%) compared with previous years for this age group. The age group 25-49 was ranked second with 981 cases, which is 38.3% of cases. This requires an increase in specialized psychiatric clinics for children and adolescents.

In Gaza Strip, the registered psychiatric diseases cases were also more among males than females, of which 56.6% of cases were among males. However, the cases were more among age group 20-29, which was 31% of all cases.

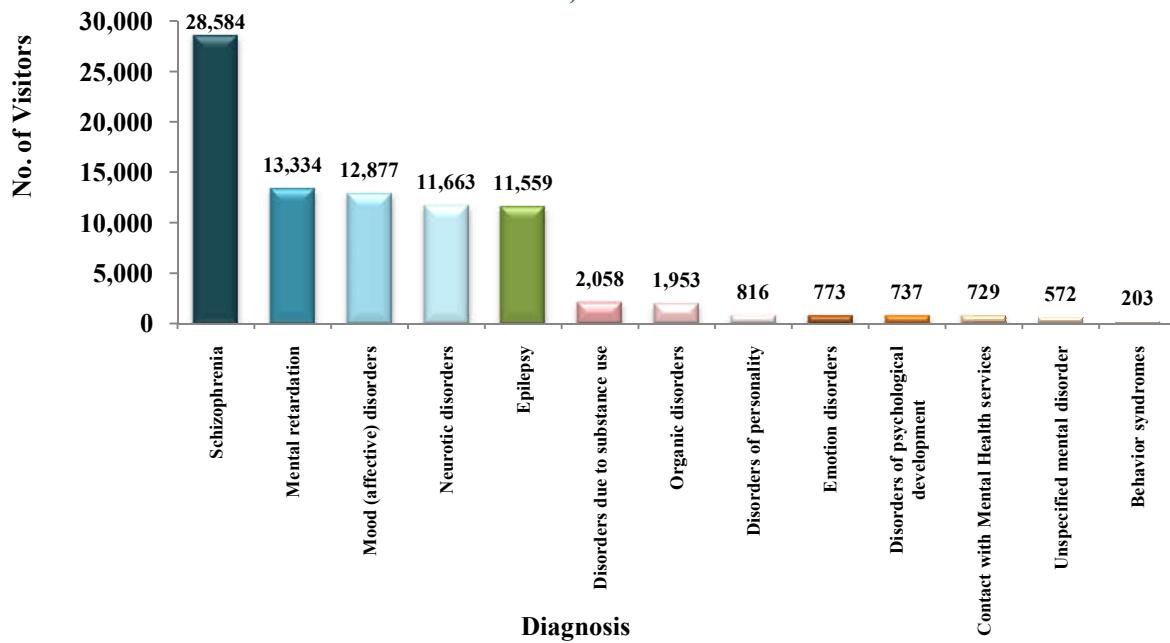
**Graph (10) Distribution of New Reported Psychiatric Cases by Sex & Age Groups, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



## 4. Visitors of Community Mental Health Centers by Diagnosis

In 2021, the total number of visitors to community mental health centers was 177,788 visitors in Palestine, of which were 85,858 in the West Bank and 91,930 were in Gaza Strip.

**Graph (11) Distribution of Number of Community Mental Health Centers Visitors by Diagnosis, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



## 2.1.6 Addiction Treatment

There is an obvious increase in the number of new cases registered in opiate addiction treatment centers (Methadone) compared with the previous year 2020, with an increase of about 128%. In addition, there was an increase of the total number of patients and patients' visits at all those centers.

**Table (10) Distribution of Patients in Addiction Treatment Centers, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Cases	In alternative treatment centers	In the Palestinian National Rehabilitation Center	Total No.
<b>Total No. of Patients</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>889</b>
<b>No. of Patient Visits</b>	<b>10,124</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>12,426</b>
<b>No. of New Reported Cases</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>233</b>

## 2.1.7 Suicide and suicide attempts

In 2021, the MoH set up a surveillance to monitor the suicide and suicide attempts in all the West Bank hospitals (Governmental, and non-governmental). The main objective is to identify people at risk of suicide in order to prevent and combat suicide. Given the familial denial and stigma attached to suicide, it is likely that suicide is underreported as a cause of death in some cases.

### Suicide cases

In 2021, 10 mortality suicide cases were reported in the West Bank, with incidence rate 0.4 per 100,000 population, which was less than the rates in neighboring countries, like Jordan and Syria that were 1.6 and 2.0, respectively. Although the incidence of suicide is vastly higher among males than females among all age groups in most of the world, the number of cases was the same in males (5 cases) and females (5 cases) in the West Bank. Moreover, most of the cases were among the age groups from 25 to 55 years old, and hanging was the most common used method. And according to PHIC, it is found that there were 21 suicide attempts for every death by suicide in the West Bank.

**Table (11) Distribution of reported suicide cases by age groups and suicide methods, West Bank, Palestine, 2021**

Age group Suicide Method	<15	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-55	>55	Total
Hanging	0	3	1	1	3	0	8
Drugs	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>

### Suicide Attempts

In 2021, there were 209 reported cases of suicide attempts, with incidence rate 7.4 per 100,000 population. 140 cases of suicide attempts were among females and 69 cases were among males. Most cases were among the two age groups 19-27 and 28-37. Finally, drug poisoning was the most frequent used method by suicide attempts.

## 2.1.8 Surveillance of Gender-based Violence

The United Nations Population Fund UNFPA defines gender-based violence as "any act of physical, psychological or social violence, including sexual violence, which is practiced or threatened to be practiced".

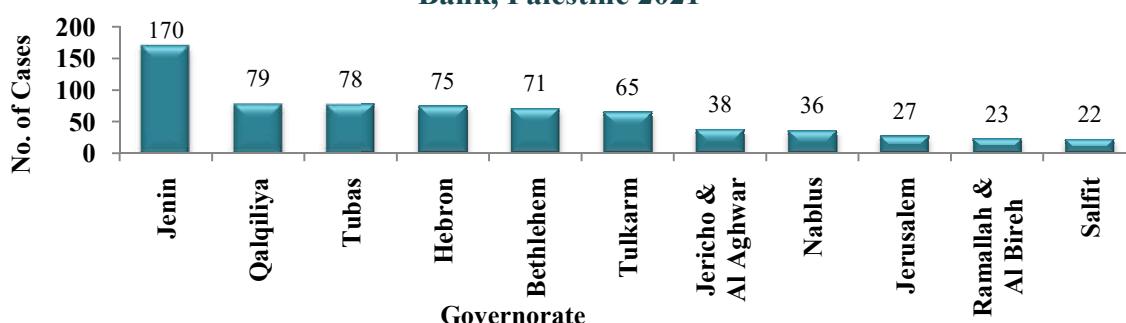
Gender-based violence derives its origins from social imbalance in roles between men and women and is supported by patriarchal and authoritarian social concepts in any society and is exacerbated in times of conflict, armed conflict and natural disasters.

The biggest challenge is the lack of notifications and data on cases of gender-based violence. The Ministry of Health paid a great attention to this issue and launched an ambitious program to observe this phenomenon in the Palestinian society.

### 1. Reported Cases of Gender-based violence

In 2021, the number of reported cases of gender-based violence was 684 cases, which is less than the number of cases reported in 2020, which were 1,136 cases. This is due to underreporting of some cases, which is partially attributed to changing reporting and surveillance system.

**Graph (12) Distribution of Reported Cases of Gender-based Violence by Governorate, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



### 2. Reported Cases of Gender-based Violence by age group and marital status

85.2% of reported gender-based violence cases were in the age groups between 19 to 49 years old. In addition, it is found that 82.7% of reported gender-based violence cases were married women.

### 3. Reported Cases of Gender-based Violence by violator and type of violence

According to data from Gender-based Violence surveillance, the violator was the husband in 65.1% of cases, father in 5.2% of cases, brother in 3.8% of cases, and the son in 1.5% of cases. Moreover, psychological violence was reported in 47.4% of cases, which is the highest type of violence, followed by the composite violence in 25.9% of cases.

**Table (12) Number and percentages of type violence, 2021**

Type of violence	Psychological	Composite	Physical	Sexual	Total
Number	324	177	174	9	684
%	47.4%	25.9%	25.4%	1.3%	100%

## 2.1.9 Oral & Dental Health

### 1. Dental Clinics

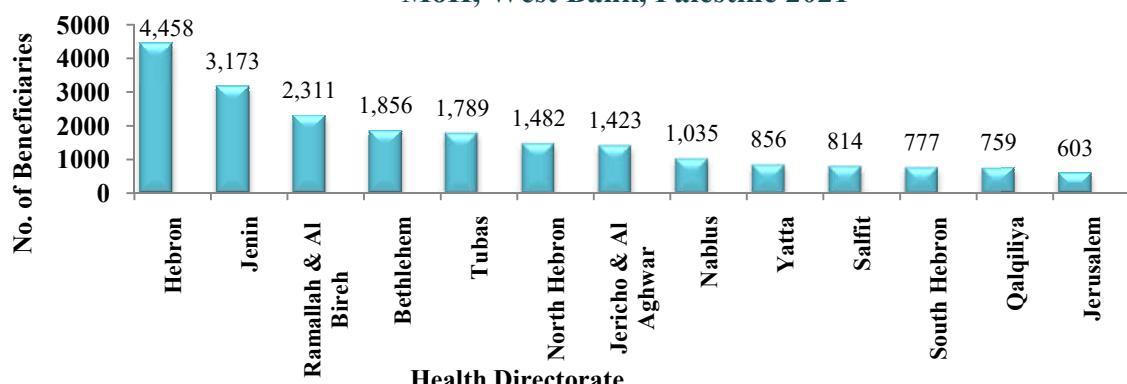
MOH owns 67 dental clinics in Palestine, which are all available in PHC centers. Of these clinics, 27 dental clinics are in Gaza Strip and 40 clinics are in the West Bank. However, due to COVID-19 pandemic, MoH provide dental services only in 36 clinics in the West Bank.

### 2. Oral and Dental Health Services in MoH Facilities

**Table (13) Distribution of MoH PHC Dental Clinics Visits by Service provided, West Bank, 2021**

Service Provided	Medical Examination	Fillings	Teeth Extraction	Pulpotomy	Dental Scaling	Fluoridation	Treatment of Abscess	Other Treatments	Total
No.	8,421	5,709	6,358	822	765	686	64	431	23,256

**Graph (13) Distribution of Beneficiaries from Dental Clinics Services by Health Directorate, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



In Gaza Strip, the total number of visits to MoH dental clinics was 120,994 visits, of which gingivitis, teeth extraction, and filling are the most common cause of dental visits, which represent 55.1%, 22%, 13.8% of all causes, respectively.

## 2.1.10 Road Traffic Accidents (RTA)

Traffic accidents are reported by governmental, non-governmental and private hospitals in the West Bank. In 2021, the total number of RTA was 13,000 cases, of which 12,801 were injured cases and 199 were dead cases. Accordingly, the RTA related injuries and fatalities per 100,000 population were 260 and 4.0, respectively.

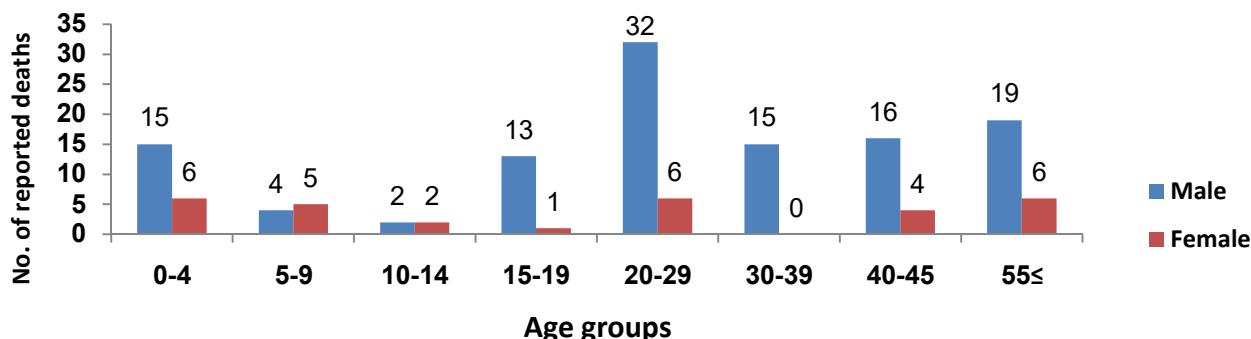
In the West Bank, the number of RTA was 10,486 cases, of which 10,340 were injured and 146 were dead. The incidence of the RTA related injuries and fatalities per 100,000 population were 367 and 5.2, respectively.

In Gaza Strip, the number of RTA was 2,514 cases, of which 2,461 were injured and 53 were dead. The incidence of the RTA related injuries and fatalities per 100,000 population were 117 and 2.5, respectively.

### Distribution of Road Traffic Deaths by Age Group

About 38% of deaths of RTA were for persons below the age of 20 years old in Palestine in 2021. However, this age group represents 60% of RTA deaths in Gaza Strip, and 33% of RTA deaths in the West Bank.

**Graph (14) Distribution of number of Road Traffic Deaths by sex, age groups, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



## 2.1.11 Work Accidents

### 1. Distribution of Reported Work Accident Injuries, 2021

In 2021, the total number of reported workplace injuries was 1,527, increased by 33.6% of cases reported in 2020, which were 1,143 cases. In 2021, the incidence rate of work injuries in the West Bank was 54.2 per 100,000 population, while it was 41.5 per 100,000 population in 2020.

### 2. Distribution of Reported Work Accident Deaths

In 2021, 54 deaths were reported due to work accidents, all were males, with a huge increase of the number of work accidents reported death in 2020. This is due to the fact that works in 2020 were affected by the measures taken to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic.

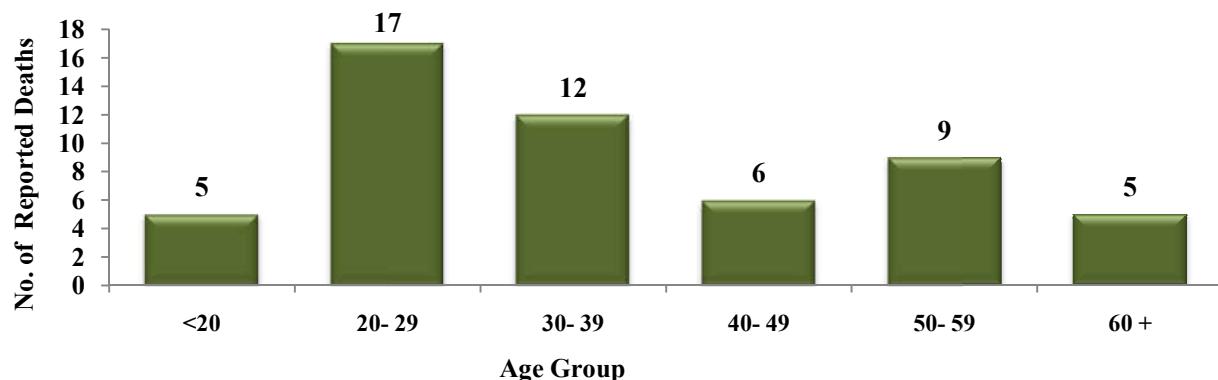
**Table (14) Distribution of Reported Work Accident Deaths, West Bank, Palestine 2019- 2021**

Year	West Bank	Jenin	Tubas	Tulkarem	Nablus	Qalqiliya	Salfit	Ramallah & Al Bireh	Jericho & Al Aghwar	Jerusalem	Bethlehem	Hebron
2019	24	2	0	3	4	1	0	1	0	1	1	11
2020	15	2	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	7
2021	54	10	2	1	9	1	0	4	0	8	4	15

26 cases of fetal work accidents were in the occupied Palestine 1948, which is about half of the reported work accident deaths, and the rest were in the West Bank, 2021.

This suggests the need of more focus on occupational safety. The increase in the above indicators will decrease productivity that will affect the national economy (directly and indirectly), in addition to its negative psychological effects on workers and workplace.

**Graph (15) Distribution of Reported Work Accident Deaths by Age Group, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



### 2.1.12 Environmental Health

**Table (15) Distribution of Number of Health Environmental Tested Samples & Percentage of Contamination, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Sample Type	Food	Water
No. of Tested Sample	7,916	9,959
% Contamination	7.1 %	15.9%

#### -Crafts and Industries

Only 18,432 of trades and industries were licensed in the WB, and the numbers of irregularities was 183.

#### - Environmental Detection of Factory Applications

In 2021, MoH received 244 applications from the factories for environmental detection, of which 167 applications of these requests were accepted, while the rest were rejected.

#### - Combating Insects

Environmental Health Department is keen to fight insect. In 2021, this department distributed 5,282 liters of insecticides and 300 liters of herbicides.

### 2.1.13 Health Education Activities

20,345 health educational activities were carried out in 2021. And these activities focused on healthy lifestyle, childhood diseases, and communicable diseases. Moreover, these activities focused on education about covid-19 using different educational methods.

## 2.2 Secondary and Tertiary care in Palestine

### 2.2.1 Hospitals in Palestine

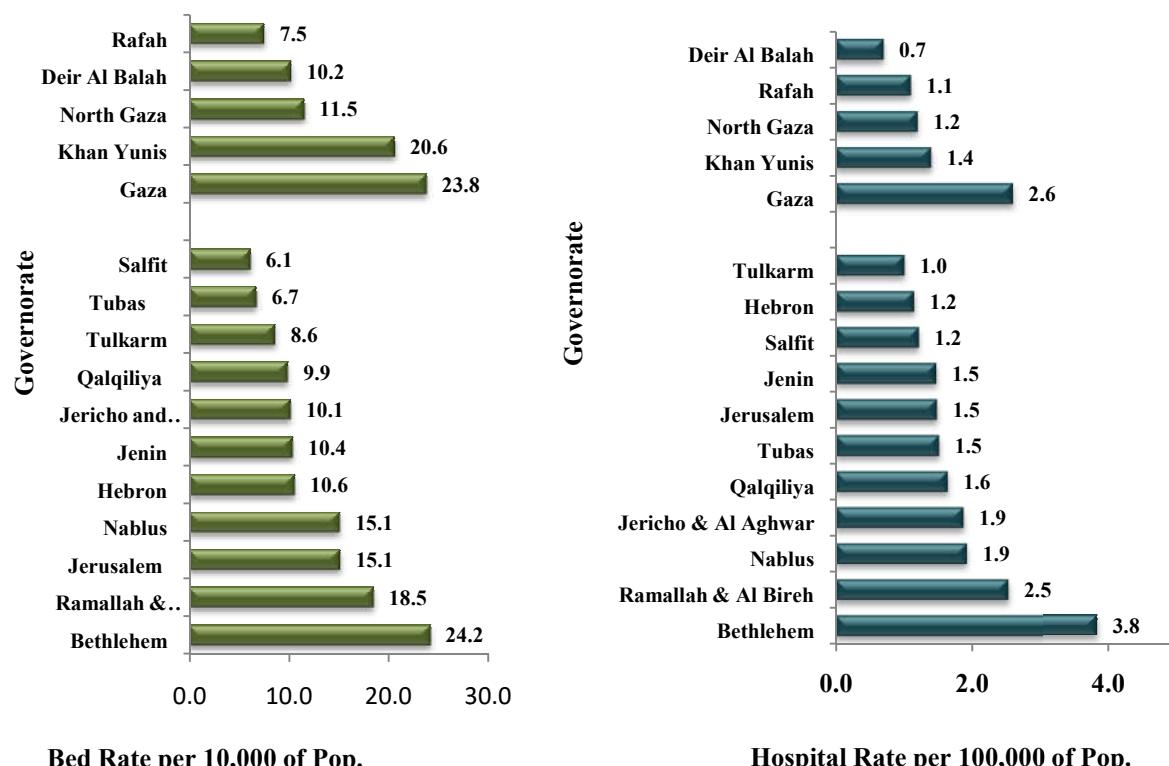
In 2021, the total number of hospitals in Palestine was 89 hospitals. The total number of hospital beds (including psychiatric and neurological hospitals) was 7,769 beds in Palestine, with rates of 14.9 beds per 10,000 population and 1.7 hospital per 100,000 population. As shown in the graph below, the highest rates of hospital per population and beds per population were in Bethlehem in the West Bank, and Gaza city in the Gaza Strip.

In the West Bank, there are 54 hospitals with a total number of hospital beds (including psychiatric and neurological hospitals) was 4,182 beds, with rates of 13.4 beds for 10,000 of population and 1.7 hospitals for 100,000 population.

In Gaza Strip, there are 35 hospitals, with a total number of hospital beds (including psychiatric and neurological hospitals) was 3,587 beds, with rates of 16.8 beds for 10,000 of population and 1.6 hospitals for 100,000 population.

According to WHO, number of hospital beds is used to indicate the availability of inpatient services, although there is no global norm for the density of hospital beds in relation to total population. Moreover, some hospitals provide specialized services to which patients are referred from other governorates.

**Graph (16) Distribution of Hospital Rates per 100,000 Populations & Bed Rates per 10,000 Populations by Governorate, Palestine 2021**



## 2.2.2 Classification of Hospitals by Specialty

### 1. General Hospitals

These hospitals provide secondary health care services to their geographical area. Some of these hospitals have sufficient capacity to provide secondary health care and some tertiary health care. In 2021, the total number of beds in these hospitals was 5,521 beds, which was 71.1% of all beds in Palestine.

### 2. Specialized Hospitals

These hospitals provide specialized, advanced, and comprehensive services in secondary and tertiary care. In 2021, their beds were 22.7% of all beds in the hospitals of Palestine. However, this percentage was 21.0% in the West Bank and 24.8% in Gaza Strip.

### 3. Maternity Hospitals

These hospitals provide services in the field of obstetrics and gynecology. In 2021, their beds were 3.4% of all beds in the hospitals of Palestine, while it was 4.6% in the West Bank and 2.0% in Gaza Strip.

### 4. Rehabilitation & Physiotherapy Centers

Medical centers offering rehabilitation and physiotherapy services. In 2021, their beds were 2.8% of all beds in the hospitals of Palestine. The percentage of these beds in the West Bank was 3.0%, while it was 2.5% in the Gaza Strip.

All the Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy centers in Palestine are all owned and managed by non-governmental organizations.

#### 2.2.3 Ministry of Health Hospitals

The total number of MoH hospitals is 29 hospitals, with a capacity of 4,693 beds, which represents 60.4% of the total number of beds in Palestine.

In the West Bank, the number of MoH hospitals is 16 hospitals with 1,869 beds, while in Gaza Strip; the number of MoH hospitals is 13 hospitals with 2,824 beds.

#### 1. Distribution of Hospital Beds of MoH by Specialty

**Table (16) Distribution of MoH Hospital Beds by Specialty, Palestine, 2021**

Specialty Region	Internal Medicine	Surgery	Paediatrics	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	ICU	Others	Total	
West Bank	No.	519	476	313	270	291	0	1869
	%	27.8 %	25.5 %	16.7 %	14.4 %	15.6 %	0	100%
Gaza Strip	No.	711	543	362	212	280	716	2,824
	%	25.2 %	19.2 %	12.8 %	7.5%	9.9%	25.4 %	100 %
Palestine	No.	1,230	1,019	675	482	571	716	4,693
	%	26.2%	21.7%	14.4%	10.3%	12.2%	15.2%	100%

#### 2. Indicators of MoH Hospitals, Palestine, Psychiatric Hospitals are excluded.

**Table (17) Some of MoH Hospital Indicators, Palestine, 2017-2021**

Indicators*	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
No. of Beds	3,384	3,462	3,310	3,369	4,693
% of Occupancy Rate	97.0%	101.5%	103.0%	95.0%	82.4%
Length of Stay	2.2	2.2	3.0	2.6	2.9

\* Not include mental & Psychiatric hospitals except their hospital beds.

#### **- Days of Treatment**

In 2021, the total number of treatment days in Palestine was 1,137,125 days, with 231 days per 1,000 population. These treatment days were 554,194 days in the West Bank, with 196 days of treatment per 1,000 population. And the days of treatment in Gaza Strip were 582,931 days in Gaza Strip, with 277 days per 1,000 population.

#### **- Beds Occupancy Rate BOR**

In 2021, the BOR of MoH hospitals in Palestine was 82.4% in 2021; this rate was 77.3% in Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, the BOR was 90.3%. This decrease in BOR compared to 2020 is expected even though there is an increase in the days of treatment in 2021; this is due to increase in the hospital beds by 6.2% in the WB in 2021.

#### **- Length of Stay LOS**

The rate of LOS of the patient in MoH hospitals in Palestine was 2.9 days in 2021. The rate was 2.5 in the West Bank and 3.4 days in Gaza Strip. However, the rate of LOS of mental and psychiatric hospitals was 54.3 days in the West Bank and 11.4 days in Gaza Strip.

#### **- Surgeries**

In 2021, the total number of surgical operations conducted in hospitals of MoH in Palestine was 131,191 operations, of which 66,592 operations were in Gaza Strip and 64,599 operations were in the West Bank. Furthermore, major surgeries accounted for the largest proportion of these surgeries in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

#### **- Deliveries**

In 2021, the total number of births registered in MoH hospitals in Palestine was 72,888 births, of which 36,601 was in the West Bank and 36,287 births in Gaza Strip.

#### **- Caesarean Sections**

In 2021, the Caesarean Sections (CS) performed in MoH hospitals in Palestine were 20,704 operations accounting for 28.4% of all deliveries in MoH hospitals, even though the World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended a maximum CS rate of 15% to avoid unnecessary procedures. In Palestine, CS rates have steadily increased in the last two years compared with the rate in 2015, which was 23.0%. In the West Bank, the CS operations in MoH hospitals were 11,485 operations, which is 31.4% of all deliveries. And the total number of CS in MoH hospitals in Gaza Strip was 9,219 operations, which is 25.4% of all deliveries.

### **3. Hospital Outpatients Indicators**

#### **- Outpatient Clinics**

In 2021, there was an increase of the total number of follow up visits to outpatient clinics in MoH hospitals compared with number of visits in 2020. However, the number of visits is still low compared with the pre-pandemic period, this due to continuing impact of Covid-19 pandemic on hospital utilization.

The total number of visits to MoH outpatient clinics was 963,261 visits in 2021, of which 458,102 visits were at MoH hospitals in Gaza Strip, and 505,159 visits at MoH hospitals in the West Bank with an increase of 24.6 % of visits in 2020.

### -Emergency Services

In 2021, the number of visits to the emergency services in MoH hospitals in Palestine was 2,288,013 visits, of which 853,806 visits in the MoH hospitals in the West Bank, and 1,434,207 visits in the MoH hospitals in Gaza Strip.

### - Haemodialysis Services

The total number of haemodialysis units in the Palestine was 20 units in 2021, with 483 haemodialysis machines, of which 18 units belong to MoH, one unit at Al-Najah Hospital in the West bank, and one unit at Al-Quds hospital in Gaza Strip

In the West Bank, the number of haemodialysis units were 12 unites; 11 units in MoH hospitals, with 255 haemodialysis machines, and one unit at An-Najah National University Hospital/ Nablus with 45 haemodialysis machines. In 2021, there were a total of 214,779 haemodialysis in the West Bank. Moreover, the number of patients receiving haemodialysis services in the hospitals on a regular basis in the West Bank was 1,567 in addition to 44 patients received haemodialysis in the ICU/Al -Watani hospital.

In Gaza Strip, the number of haemodialysis units were 8 unites; with 183 haemodialysis machines, of which two machines were at the European hospital for patients with COVID-19. There was a total of 132,813 haemodialysis in Gaza Strip in 2021. Moreover, the number of patients receiving haemodialysis services in the hospitals on a regular basis in Gaza Strip was 1,005 patients in addition to 8 COVID -19 patients who received haemodialysis in the European Hospital.

### - Physiotherapy Services

In 2021, the total visits to physiotherapy departments in the outpatient clinics of MoH hospitals in the West Bank amounted to 9,174 visits; while the total number of cases in Gaza Strip was 34,462 visits.

### - Diagnostic Radiology

**Table (18) Distribution of Number of Diagnostic Radiographs by Types, MoH Hospitals, Palestine, 2021**

Type	X-Ray	US	CT scan	MRI	Total
No.	1,057,919	163,373	153,340	37,326	1,411,958

## 4. Psychiatric Hospitals

In Palestine, there are two MoH psychiatric hospitals (Bethlehem psychiatric hospital and Gaza psychiatric hospital); with 181 beds and LOS rate was 39.1 days. The total days of treatment were 51,004 days in 2021.

In 2021, the number of beds at Bethlehem psychiatric hospital was 140 beds, the BOR was 89.6%, LOS rate was 54.3 days, and the days of treatment were 45,766 days. For Gaza psychiatric hospital, the number of beds were 41 beds, with BOR was 35%, rate of LOS was 11.4 days, and total days of treatment were 5,238 days.

## 5. Palestine Medical Complex (PMC)

The increase in the number of PMC beds in 2021 led to decrease its occupancy rate compared to its rate in 2020, despite the increase of hospitalization days in 2021.

**Table (19) Palestine Medical Complex Wings, Number of Beds & Occupancy Rate, MoH, West Bank, 2021**

Wing	Ramallah's Sons	Paediatrics	Cardiac & Specialized Surgeries	Total
No. of Beds	196	72	44	312
Occupancy Rate	85.7%	92.3%	63.4%	84.1%

#### **Emergency Wing**

The total number of patients received emergency services was 113,632 patients, of which 85,865 patients were treated in the emergency wing and 27,767 in the pediatric emergency wing.

#### **2.2.4 Non-Ministry of Health Hospitals**

**Table (20) Distribution of Non MoH Hospitals by Sector, Palestine 2021**

Sector	Private	NGOs	UNRWA	PMMS	Total
No.	19	38	1	2	60
%	32%	63%	2%	3%	100%

#### **- Jerusalem Hospitals**

There are 7 hospitals operating in East Jerusalem with a bed capacity of 714 beds.

#### **- Rehabilitation Centers**

There are 5 rehabilitation centers in Palestine, all of which are non-governmental, with a capacity of 217 beds, which represents 2.8% of the total hospital beds in Palestine. In the West Bank, there are 3 rehabilitation centers with 127 beds, while there are two rehabilitation centers in Gaza Strip with 90 beds.

#### **- Reported Snake and Scorpion Bite, 2021**

The table below shows two-fold increase of scorpion and snake bites in 2021 compared to previous years. For example, the bites of scorpions and snakes in 2020 reached 500 cases and 106 cases, respectively. This requires increase awareness of how to avoid bites and take all measures to reduce the risk of bites. This increase in the number of bites costs MoH large amount of fund due to the high price of antitoxins, in addition to the difficulty of providing this antidote not only in Palestine but also in many countries of the world.

**Table (21) Reported Cases of Scorpion & Snake Stings in MoH Hospitals, West Bank, 2021**

Hospital	Jenin	Tubas	Tulkarem	Nablus	Qalqilya	Salfit	Jericho	Ramallah	Bethlehem	Hebron	Total
Scorpion Bite	136	108	97	216	13	46	146	72	150	387	1,371
Snake Bite	36	17	36	38	4	8	12	17	19	37	224

## 2.3 Laboratories & Blood Banks

### 2.3.1 Laboratories Classification

General Directorate of Medical Support Services is the official body responsible for regulating laboratories and blood bank in Palestine, where the laboratories are equipped with the latest laboratory equipments and the necessary manpower.

#### Laboratories in the Ministry of Health

Ministry of Health laboratories are classified into three categories: central, medium and peripheral.

##### - Central Laboratories

It is an advanced laboratory to which samples are transferred to it from different governorates of the West Bank for examination; there are two central labs in the West Bank:

##### 1. Central Public Health Lab in Ramallah

In this laboratory, food, medicine and drinking water are tested for safe human consumption. Neonatal screening samples are also screened for phenylketonuria (PKU) and thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH). In addition, microbiology, chemical, serological tests are also carried out for some viral diseases, and DNA including Corona viruses testing.

##### 2. The National Center for Diagnosing Cancer and Genetic Diseases

The center was inaugurated to conduct tests for common genetic diseases and identify genes linked to cancer in order to determine the genetic origin of these tumors, using the DNA sequencing technique, in addition to HLA typing for organ transplantation to confirm tissue compatibility between donor and recipient (patient). About 19,910 tests for different Genetic diseases were carried out by this center in 2021.

##### - Hospital Labs (Intermediate)

The number of the hospital labs in the West Bank was 16 with 307 technicians and specialists. In 2021, the total number of tests that carried out in these labs was 7,910,957 tests, of which 7,437,418 lab tests and 473,539 blood bank activities. The average number of annual examinations per lab technician was 25,769, and the average direct cost per examination was 3.7 NIS.

Histopathology Laboratories are introduced to intermediate laboratories, which are available in four hospitals: Rafidia, Beit Jala, Palestine Medical Complex, and Alia hospital.

There were 6 histopathologists and 12 lab technicians working in this field. A total of 18,181 samples have been examined in 2021, the average cost of the sample examination was 13.4 NIS.

**Table (22) Distribution of Hospital Labs Tests, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Item	No. of Tests	%
Hematology	1,082,905	14.5%
Coagulation	347,335	4.6%
Clinical Chemistry	4,705,170	63.3%
Serology, Immunology	450,423	6.1%
Auto-Immune	19,813	0.3%
Microbiology	124,307	1.7%
Endocrinology and vitamins	245,539	3.3%
Therapeutic drug monitoring	17,191	0.2%
Tumor Markers	65,476	0.9%
Urinalysis	363,039	4.9%
Parasitology	16,220	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,437,418</b>	<b>100%</b>

## - Primary Health Care Labs

There are 209 laboratories in Primary health Care (PHC) centers and clinics in all governorates in the West Bank, of which 5 non-governmental laboratories have been contracted. And there are 294 technicians working in these laboratories. In 2021, a total of 2,734,987 laboratory tests were carried out. The average number of annual examinations was 9,303 for each technician; and the average test cost was 4.6 NIS.

**Table (23) Distribution of PHC Labs Tests, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Item	No. of Tests	%
Hematology	666,826	24.38%
Coagulation	4,191	0.15%
Clinical Chemistry	1,482,855	54.22%
Serology, Immunology	85,610	3.13%
Microbiology	4,128	0.15%
Endocrinology and vitamins	118,039	4.32%
Therapeutic drug monitoring	1,188	0.04%
Tumor Markers	9,936	0.36%
Urinalysis	353,782	12.94%
Parasitology & Pap smear	8,432	0.31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,734,987</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Blood Bank

In 2021, there were about 100 million blood donations in 170 countries worldwide. For this year, the World Blood Donor Day slogan was “Give blood and keep the world beating”. In our current situation, it should be focused on the importance and need of year-round blood donation, in order to ensure timely and safe blood supply.

### 1. Blood Banks in Hospitals

Most blood transfusion services are concentrated in hospitals. MoH is the main provider of blood transfusion services in Palestine. Moreover, MoH supervises the other institutions that provide this service.

In 2021, the number of blood donors in MoH hospitals in the West Bank was 30,730. From them, 46.2% were voluntary donors, 47.2% were relatives or acquaintances, and 6.6% were therapeutic donors.

All donated blood units were screened for transfusion transmitted diseases. These include: Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, and for HIV (AIDS), also the syphilis test was done for the fresh transfusion units and for platelets units.

The total number of transfused blood units and its components was 57,436 units in MoH hospitals in West Bank in 2021.

**Table (24) Distribution of Transfused Blood units and components, MoH Hospitals, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Units Given	No. of Units	%
Packed RBCs	31,825	55.4%
Fresh Frozen Plasma	14,250	24.8%
Platelets Concentrate	10,576	18.4%
Cryoprecipitate	785	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,436</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2. The National Blood Bank

The number of blood donors in the National Blood Bank in the West Bank was 10,906 donors, of which 36.2% were voluntary donors, 50.6 % were relatives or acquaintances, and 13.2% were therapeutic donors.

All donated blood units were screened for transfusion Transmitted diseases. These include: Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, and for HIV (AIDS) Syphilis was tested.

In 2021, the total number of transfused blood units and its components was 19,175 units.

**Table (25) Distribution of Transfused Blood units and components, Central Blood Bank, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Units Given	No. of Units	%
Packed RBCs	8,809	46.0 %
Fresh Frozen Plasma	4,869	25.4 %
Platelets Concentrate	3,802	19.8 %
Cryoprecipitate	1,695	8.8 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,175</b>	<b>100 %</b>

## Laboratories & Blood Banks Staff

The total number of staff working in MoH, with medical laboratory sciences certificate, is 790 cadres including technicians, specialists and administrators in the West Bank.

There is no complete separation between laboratories and blood banks. The scientific qualifications of these cadres range from diploma to doctorate, the vast majority of them having a bachelor's degree.

## 2.4 MoH Laboratories and blood banks in Gaza Strip, 2021

There are 55 MoH laboratories in the Gaza Strip in addition to supervising 3 blood bank associations. These labs are classified according to the directorate they worked with.

**Table (26) Distribution of MoH laboratories according to responsible directorate, Gaza strip, 2021**

Lab	The Primary Care	Hospitals		Lab units and blood banks		Total
	Primary care centers	Labs and blood banks	Pathology	Public health	Central	
Number	37	13	3	1	1	55

## 2.5 Health Human Resources, Palestine 2021

**Table (27) Distribution of Medical Human Resources by Specialty & Region, Palestine 2021\***

Specialty & Region	Physician	Dentist	Pharmacist	Nurse	Midwife
West Bank	8,106	4,126	5,510	10,557	937
Gaza Strip	3,207	228**	3,487	4,036	591
Palestine	11,313	4,354	8,997	14,593	1,528

\*Source: syndicates

\*\*Health Annual Report 2021, Gaza

### 2.5.1 Distribution of Human Resources Working in MoH

MoH is the largest employer of human resources working in the health sector in Palestine. In 2021, the total number of employees in the Palestinian MoH was 19,342 employees.

**Table (28) Distribution of Medical Human Resources by Specialty & Region, MoH, Palestine 2021**

Speciality Region	General Physician	Specialized Physician	Dentist	Pharmacist	Nurse	Midwife	Paramedical	Administration & Services	Grand Total
West Bank	802	477	80	287	2,652	380	1,507	2,029	8,214
Gaza Strip*	1,490	514	97	312	3,071	334	1433	3,877	11,128
Palestine	2,292	991	177	599	5,723	714	2,940	5,906	19,342

\* Health Annual Report 2021, Gaza

## 2.6 Purchase of Health Services from outside MoH

Referral for Specialized Treatment outside MoH Facilities

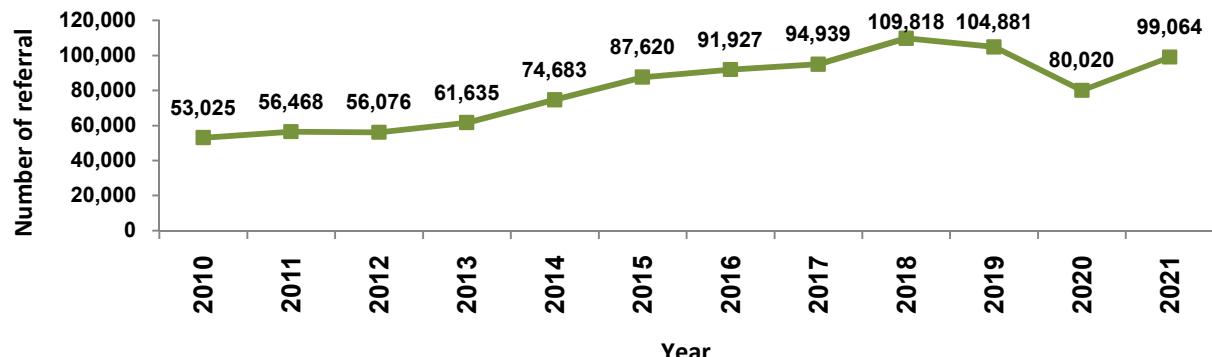
### 2.6.1 Number of Service Purchase Referrals outside MoH Facilities

In 2021, the total number of referrals outside MoH was 99,064; with an increase of 23.8% compared to 2020 which were 80,020 referrals.

As in previous years, oncology management ranked first with the highest number of referrals, which was 27% of all referrals in 2021. Moreover, it constituted the highest percentage of spending on purchasing services from outside the MoH.

According to the financial department/MoH, the MoH expenditure on purchasing services was about 974,782,080 NIS in 2021, which accounted for the largest percentage (37.5%) of all health expenditure in the same year.

**Graph (17) Number of Service Purchase Referrals for Treatment Outside of MoH Facilities, Palestine 2010- 2021**



## 2.6.2 Distribution of Service Purchase by Sex

The total number of referred patients was 51,057, of which 28,132 were male patients (55.1% of all referred patients), and 22,925 were female patients (44.9% of all referred patients). It is found that the average number of referrals for treatment outside MoH facilities for one patient was approximately two referrals.

## 2.6.3 Distribution of Service Purchase Referrals by type of Service

In 2021, it is found that there is an increase in the number of referrals outside Palestine compared with outside Palestine referrals in 2020; this increase is about 80%. So this will affect MoH efforts to achieve one of its important goals for localization of health services.

**Table (29) Distribution of referrals for treatment outside MoH by place of referral, Palestine 2020 - 2021**

Referred to	2020		2021	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Inside Palestine	74,383	93.0%	88,926	%89.8
Gaza Strip	5,903	7.4%	4,475	4.5%
West bank	38,553	48.2%	47,227	47.7%
East Jerusalem	29,927	37.4%	37,224	37.6%
Outside Palestine	5,637	7.0%	10,138	%10.2
Egypt	2,264	2.8%	3,708	3.7%
Jordan	240	0.3%	1,249	1.3%
Occupied Palestine 1948	3,133	3.9%	5,181	5.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,020</b>	<b>%100.0</b>	<b>99,064</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 2.7 Governmental Health Insurance

The table below shows distribution of health insurance types, number of benefit families, and annual revenues.

**Table (30) Distribution of Health Insurance by Type, Number of Benefit Families, and Annual Revenues, Palestine 2021**

Insurance Type	Number of Benefits Families	Annual Revenues (NIS)
Compulsory	76,186	105,189,837
Workers in Israel	50,363	98,462,076
*Commission of Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs (CDA)	19,145	11,420,000
*Ministry of Social Developments	49,731	30,535,600
*Families of Martyrs	5,646	3,501,400
Others (voluntary, Group Contracts, Syndicates, Unemployed)	100,231	68,819,253
**Free	20,831	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>322,133</b>	<b>317,928,166</b>

\* Not collected revenues, and considered debts to authorities responsible for these categories

\*\* Free insurance also includes most of the population of GS

## 2.8 Pharmacy in Palestine

The General Directorate of Pharmacy (GDP) is one of the important and effective directorates in the Ministry of Health (MoH). It is considered the official body responsible for regulating, and controlling the pharmaceutical sector in Palestine, in coordination and cooperation with relevant departments and institutions inside and outside the MoH. It is also committed to scientific advances and development.

The General Directorate of Pharmacy is working hard to update and develop the pharmaceutical legislations including laws, regulations, and instructions to achieve the objectives of the strategic plan of the MOH, and in line with the directions of the government and MoH in order to achieve the universal health coverage.

### 2.8.1 Essential Medicine, Complementary and Basic Medical Tasks List

In 2021, the used list of essential medicine includes 458 active pharmaceutical ingredients, represented in 647 essential items that are available in different pharmaceutical forms, and classified according to the list of essential medicines of the World Health Organization. Moreover, this list was developed and updated according to the needs of the Palestinian population and according to the services provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, while the list of basic medical tasks consists of 1,750 items.

### Central Medical Store/MoH expenditure on medicine and medical consumables

In 2021, there is a noticeable increase of expenditure on medicines, vaccines, and medical gases when compared with previous years. For example, the increase was about 24% compared to 2020. This increase is mainly due to purchasing vaccines for corona virus, which price was about 99,695,495 NIS during 2021.

**Table (31) Distribution of Expenditure on Medicines & Medical Consumables from Central Medical Stores (in NIS), MoH, Palestine 2019-2021**

Year	Medicines, Vaccines & Lab Materials		Medical Consumables	Total
2019	318,855,745		37,542,917	356,398,662
Year	Medicines, med. gases & Vaccines	Lab Materials	Medical Consumables	Total
2020	293,776,534	70,454,530	45,974,961	410,206,025
2021	399,650,186	69,557,482	37,626,355	506,834,023

**Table (32) Distribution of Expenditure on Medicines & Medical Consumables from Drug Stores (in NIS) by Consumer Site, MoH, Palestine 2021**

Site	Hospitals	PHC	Others	Total
Medicines, med. gases & Vaccines	182,397,795	154,133,358	63,119,033	399,650,186
Lab Materials	30,681,941	38,759,025	116,516	69,557,482
Medical Consumables	30,520,308	6,828,252	277,795	37,626,355

### 2.8.2 Registration and re-Registration of pharmaceutical products, 2021

Registration certificates have been issued for 172 human medicines, 18 veterinary medicines, 897 cosmetic preparations, 42 food supplements, and 116 medical instruments and materials.

Furthermore, re-registration certificates were issued for 163 human medicines, 65 veterinary medications, 178 cosmetic preparations, 14 medical instruments and materials, and 9 food supplements.

GDP issued 52 free sales certificates for human medicines and 138 certificates of pharmaceutical products (CPP) in 2021.

### 2.8.3 Medicine Pricing and Re-pricing, 2021

The number of local medicines which were priced was 81, while the number of priced imported medicines was 160; the number of local and imported medicines whose price has been updated was 2248 medical items categorized in 80 pharmaceutical lists. In addition, the price of 103 local and imported medications has been reduced and 9 imported and local items were raised. For exportation, additional 30 local medical items were priced.

#### **2.8.4 Medications and Cosmetics test, 2021**

The number of medication samples tested was 1,231, of which 1,179 samples passed and 52 samples failed. On the other hand, the number of cosmetic samples tested was 1,232, of which 1,151 samples passed and 81 samples failed the test.

#### **2.8.5 Import and Local Purchase Permissions, 2021**

The number of dangerous drug purchase permits was 358 permissions for dangerous drug purchase for 688 pharmaceutical medications, while the number of import licenses for raw materials was 1,068 permissions and 1,266 import licenses for cosmetics.

Moreover, 163 import permits for unregistered medicines for hospitals were approved, 1,101 marketing permits for unregistered medicines, 4 release by mail & gates, and 235 miscellaneous permits.

#### **2.8.6 Proceedings against Violators**

In 2021, the number of pharmacists who were transferred to the Disciplinary Council was 84 pharmacists.

The number of detecting and confiscation procedures was 18, while the number of detecting and reservations procedures was 27 procedures.

#### **2.8.7 Pharmacovigilance**

In 2021, the number of side effects reports of medicines submitted by pharmaceutical companies and warehouses as well as health professionals reached 435 reports. The number of Pharmacovigilance files for pharmaceutical products received from pharmaceutical companies and warehouses reached 320 files, while the number of medicines circulars and alerts issued by the pharmaceutical information department reached 20 circulars.

#### **2.8.8 Medicines promotion:**

In 2021, the 'Guide to regulations and procedures for approval of advertising and promotion of non-prescription products' was approved and adopted by her Excellency the Minister of Health.

51 requests were received from pharmaceutical companies and warehouses for approval for pharmaceutical promotion for non-prescription products

## 2.8.9 Human Resources of Pharmaceutical Sector

### 1. Pharmacists who Practicing Profession

In 2021, the number of pharmacists who are Practicing Pharmacy profession in Palestine was 8,997 pharmacists, with a rate of 17.2 pharmacists per 10,000 populations.

**Table (33) Pharmacists Rate per 10,000 Populations by Governorate, Palestine 2021**

Governorate	**Pharmacists	*Population	Pharmacists/ 10,000 Of Pop.
West Bank	5,510	3,120,448	17.7
Jenin & Tubas	536	404,834	13.20
Tulkarem	488	198,856	24.5
Nablus & Salfit	1,292	497,705	26.0
Qalqiliya	199	121,671	16.4
Ramallah & Al Bireh	861	355,202	24.2
Jericho & Al Aghwar	53	53,317	9.9
Jerusalem	632	471,834	13.4
Bethlehem	432	234,802	18.4
Hebron	1,017	782,227	13.0
Gaza Strip	3,487	2,106,745	16.5
Palestine	8,997	5,227,193	17.2

\* PCBS \*\* Pharmacists Syndicate

### 2. Pharmaceutical Human Resources in MoH

In 2021, there were 599 pharmacists working in the Ministry of Health in Palestine, of which 287 pharmacists in the West Bank and 312 pharmacists in Gaza Strip. While the number of assistant pharmacist was 380 assistants, of which 207 in the West Bank and 173 in Gaza Strip

**Table (34) Distribution of pharmaceutical human resources by workplace & job title, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Workplace	Pharmacist	Assistant Pharmacist	Total	%
General Directorate of Pharmacy	40	0	40	8.1 %
PHC	138	166	304	61.5%
Hospitals	77	36	113	22.9%
Other Places	32	5	37	7.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2.8.10 Pharmaceutical Institutions

### 1. Pharmacies

In 1924, Kamal Pharmacy was established in Jaffa as the first pharmacy in Palestine. At the end of 2021, there were 1,909 pharmacies with renewed licenses in Palestine, with rate of one pharmacy per 2,738 population.

### 2. Population size average per pharmacy by Governorate

**Table (35) Distribution of population size average per pharmacy by Governorate, Palestine 2021**

Governorate	** No. of Pharmacy	* Population	Pop./ Pharmacy
West Bank	1,117	3,120,448	2,794
Jenin & Tubas	151	404,834	2,681
Tulkarem	88	198,856	2,260
Nablus & Salfit	202	497,705	2,464
Qalqiliya	50	121,671	2,433
Ramallah & Al Bireh	171	355,202	2,077
Jericho & Al Aghwar	18	53,317	2,962
Jerusalem	92	471,834	5,129
Bethlehem	97	234,802	2,421
Hebron	248	782,227	3,154
Gaza strip	792	2,106,745	2,660
Palestine	1,909	5,227,193	2,738

\* PCBS \*\* Pharmacists Syndicate

## 2.9 Financial Status of Ministry of Health, Palestine 2021

### 2.9.1 Budget of the Palestinian Ministry of Health

**Table (36) Ministry of Health Budget in NIS by Item, Palestine 2021**

Item	Budget (NIS)	% from Total Budget
Salaries	966,470,279	39.7%
Operational budget	1,208,859,919	49.6%
Capital budget	29,319,599	1.2%
Development budget	231,645,712	9.5%
Total	2,436,295,509	100%

## 2.9.2 Actual Expenditures of the Palestinian Ministry of Health

**Table (37) Ministry of Health expenditures in NIS by Item, Palestine 2021**

Item	Expenditure (NIS)	%of Total expenditure
Salaries	966,470,279	37.2%
*Purchasing Service from outside of MoH	974,782,080	37.5%
Medicines, vaccines & medical supplies	503,710,600	19.4%
Capital & other running expenditures	152,748,201	5.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,597,711,160</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Estimated Cost

## 2.9.3 General Revenues of the Palestinian Ministry of Health

**Table (38) Ministry of Health general revenues in NIS by Item, Palestine 2021**

Center	Insurance fee revenues	% of total insurance revenues	General revenues	% of total general revenues
General revenues of PHC	56,855,885	17.9%	104,792,988	73.7%
General revenues of Hospitals	0	0	35,634,447	25.0%
General revenues of administrative centers	11,963,368	3.8%	1,812,798	1.3%
Revenues of health insurance	249,108,913	78.3%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>317,928,166</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>142,240,233</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Section Three

### Trends in Health Status

#### 3. Health Status in Palestine

Despite of all challenges and obstacles and continuation of the Israeli occupation of State of Palestine, the Palestinian Ministry of Health, in cooperation and support of the international community and United Nations organizations, especially the World Health Organization, managed to keep the Palestinian health system from collapse and to achieve good health indicators at the level of the Eastern Mediterranean Region, which Palestine is part of it.

##### 3.1 Morbidity

###### 3.1.1 Communicable Diseases

Vaccination coverage levels are one of the best indicators of the health system performance. Therefore, MoH provides all the needed services to ensure immunizations for every child according to the national immunization schedule.

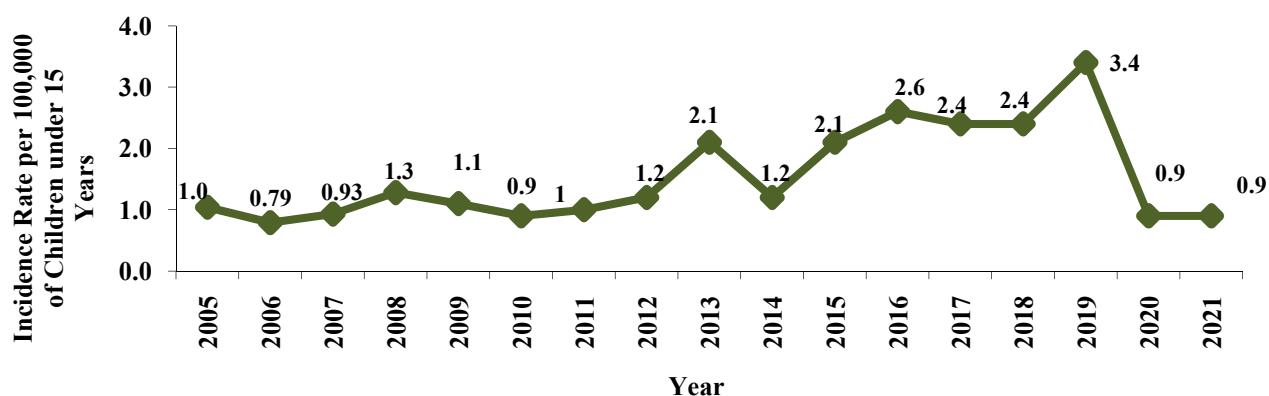
###### 1. Poliomyelitis & Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)

No cases of poliomyelitis have been recorded in Palestine since 1988. Based on WHO recommendations, MoH monitors cases of acute flaccid paralysis AFP in children under the age of 15 years, and takes two stool samples from each recorded case in order to ensure that Palestine is free from poliomyelitis.

In 2021, the number of reported cases of acute flaccid paralysis was 16, with an incidence rate of 0.9 per 100,000 of children under the age of 15 years, of which 11 cases were reported in West Bank and 5 reported cases in Gaza Strip, all of which were polio-free.

MoH follows the World Health Organization (WHO) standards for poliomyelitis eradication through high immunization coverage, national vaccination days, vaccination of children at risk places where needed in addition to epidemiological surveillance of acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP).

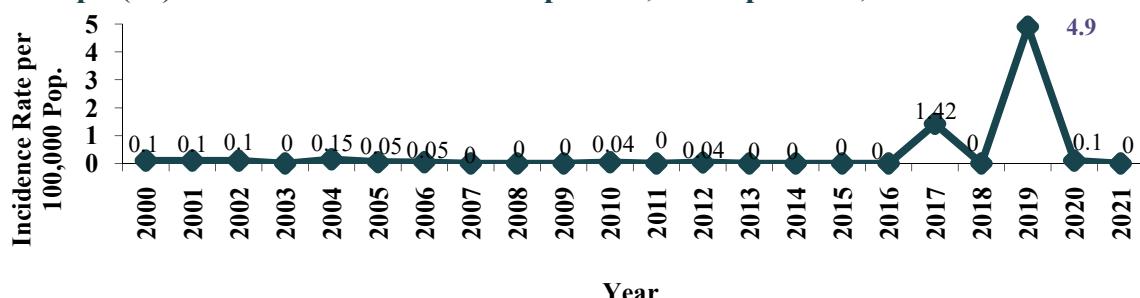
**Graph (18) Incidence Rate of AFP per 100,000 Children under 15 years of Age, Palestine 2005-2021**



## 2. Measles

In 2021, no cases are recorded in Palestine.

**Graph (19) Incidence Rate of Measles per 100,000 Population, Palestine 2000- 2021**



## 3. Tuberculosis

### 3.1 Pulmonary Tuberculosis

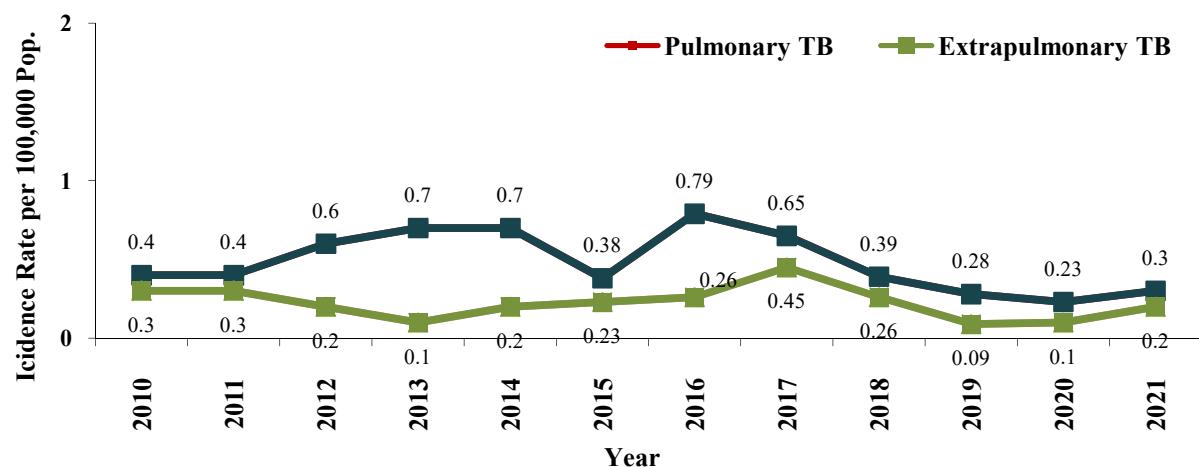
In 2021, 15 cases of tuberculosis were reported in Palestine with an incidence rate of 0.3 per 100,000 population, of which 2 cases were reported in the West Bank with an incidence rate of 0.1 per 100,000 population and 13 cases were reported in Gaza Strip with incidence rate of 0.6 per 100,000 population.

### 3.2 Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis EPTB

In 2021, 10 extrapulmonary tuberculosis cases were reported with incidence rate of 0.2 per 100,000 population, of which 9 cases was in Gaza Strip and 1 cases in the West Bank.

Since 1996, MOH has implemented the DOTS system for the treatment of TB patients, which is based on direct surveillance and treatment of TB patients.

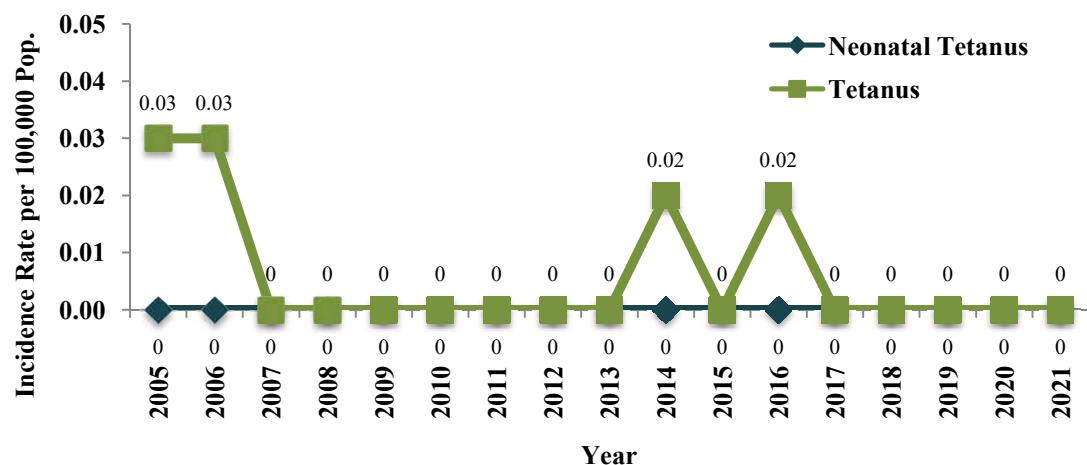
**Graph (20) Incidence Rate of Tuberculosis per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2010- 2021**



## 4. Tetanus

Tetanus and especially neonatal tetanus, remains a public health problem worldwide. However, in Palestine, no cases have been reported among newborns in the last years. This reflects MoH success in controlling and eradicating neonatal tetanus, which is achieved by the high coverage of TT vaccination among pregnant women and the good medical practices. In addition, no cases of tetanus have been reported in Palestine since 2017.

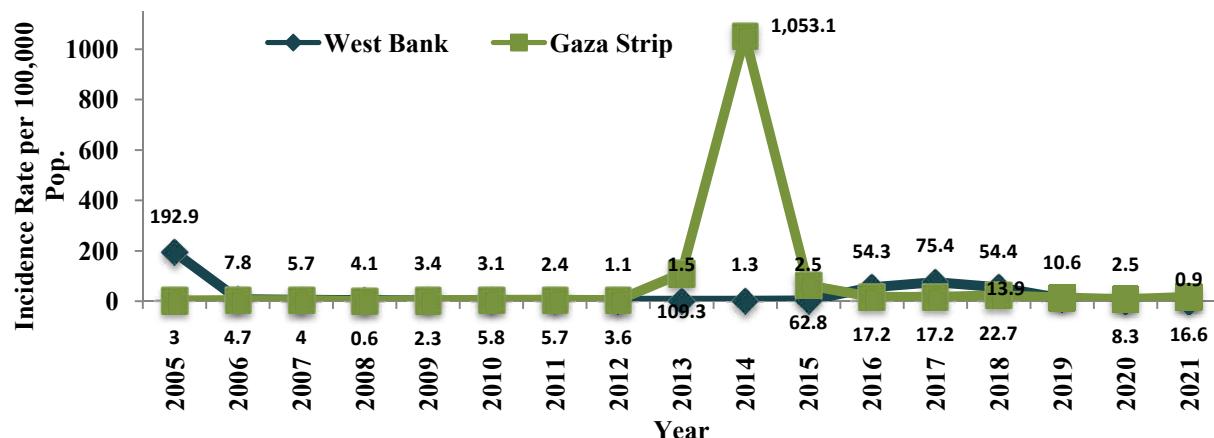
**Graph (21) Incidence Rate of Tetanus per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



## 5. Mumps

In 2021, there were 374 cases of mumps reported in Palestine, with incidence rate 7.6 per 100,000 population. In the WB, the number of cases was 25, with an incidence rate 0.9 per 100,000 population, while in GS, the number of cases was 349 cases with an incidence rate 16.6 per 100,000 population.

**Graph (22) Incidence Rate of Mumps per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



## 6. Meningitis

Meningitis can be caused by different types of viruses, bacteria, and even fungus.

### 6.1 Viral (Aseptic) Meningitis

Viral meningitis is rarely serious, but patients need support and care, and are caused by many viruses; such as Coxsackie's or intestinal virus.

Viral meningitis is one of the endemic diseases in Palestine with some seasonal variation, with the majority of cases, more than 72% in spring and summer seasons.

In 2021, there were 281 cases of Viral Meningitis reported in Palestine, of which 90 cases in the West Bank and 191 cases in Gaza Strip. In Palestine, the incidence rate was 5.7 per 100,000 populations, in the West Bank it was 3.2 per 100,000 populations, in Gaza Strip 9.1 per 100,000 populations.

**Graph (23) Incidence Rate of Viral Meningitis per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



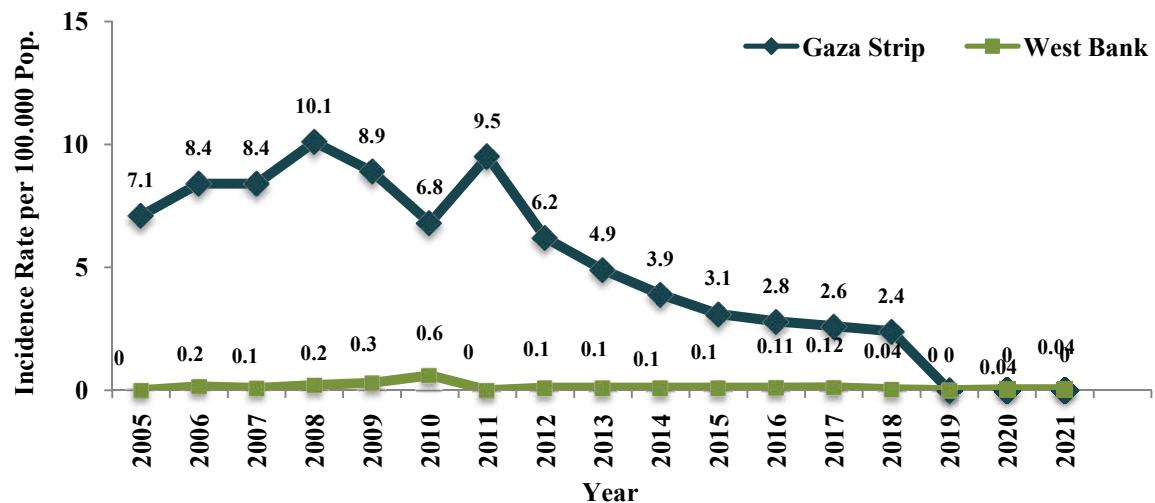
## 6.2 Bacterial Meningitis

Bacterial meningitis is caused by different types of bacteria (Haemophilus Influenza type B, Neiseria meningitidis, Streptococcus pneumonia, and other types of bacteria)

### 6.2.1 Meningococcal Meningitis

Meningococcal meningitis is caused by a bacterium known as Neisseria meningitidis. In 2021, one case is reported in Hebron governorate.

**Graph (24) Incidence Rate of Meningococcal Meningitis per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



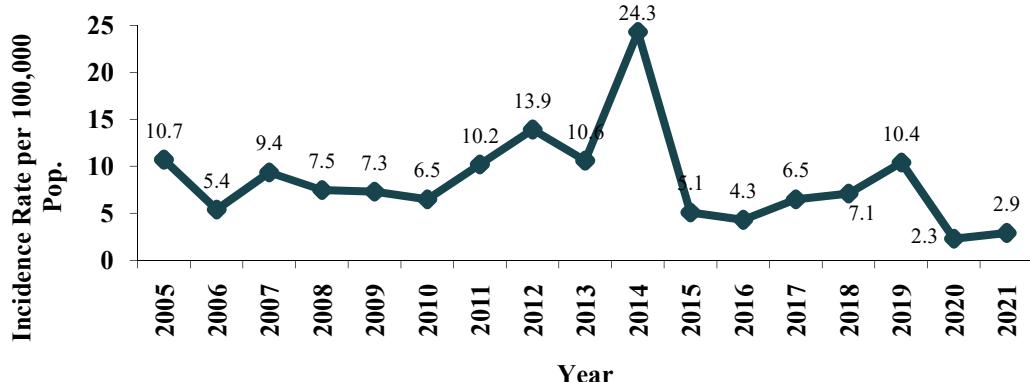
### 6.2.2 Haemophilus Influenza type b (Hib) Meningitis

Hib can cause severe infections of both the lining of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis) and the bloodstream. Meningitis is responsible for high rates of morbidity and mortality among children worldwide. As a result of MoH immunization policy, no cases were recorded in from 2017 to 2019 of Haemophilus influenza meningitis. However, one case was recorded in Tulkarem in 2020 and three cases were recorded in Jerusalem in 2021.

### 6.2.3 Other types of Bacterial Meningitis

Various types of bacteria, especially Streptococcus pneumonia, cause meningitis in Palestine. In 2021, 141cases were reported with an incidence rate of 2.9 per 100,000 population. The reported cases in the West Bank were 31 cases with an incidence rate of 1.1 per 100,000 population, and in Gaza Strip 110 cases with an incidence rate of 5.2 per 100,000 population.

**Graph (25) Incidence Rate of Other Bacterial Meningitis per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2020**



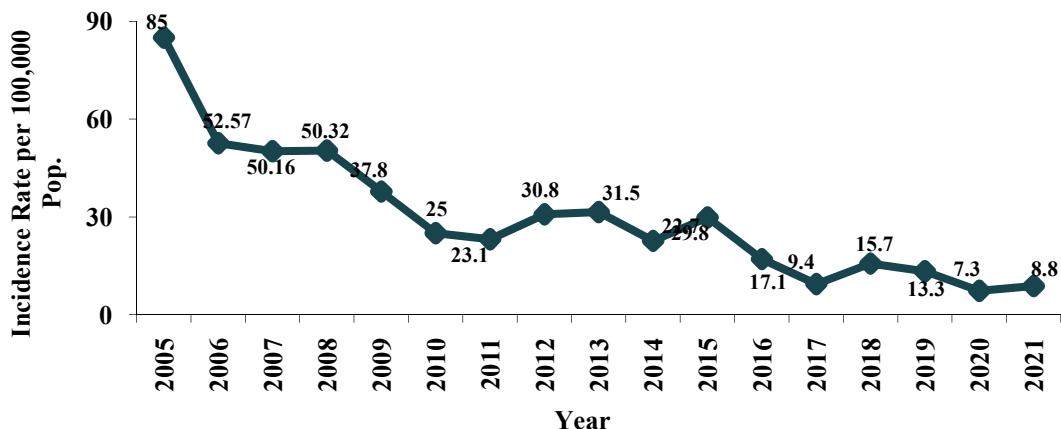
## 7. Viral hepatitis infections

Viral hepatitis A, B, C is one of the major public health problems in the world and in Palestine.

### 7.1 Viral Hepatitis A

In 2021, 431 cases of hepatitis A were reported with an incidence rate of 8.8 per 100,000 population, of which 78 cases in the West Bank with an incidence rate of 2.8 per 100,000 population, and 353 cases in Gaza Strip with an incidence rate of 16.8 per 100,000.

**Graph (26) Incidence Rate of Viral hepatitis A per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 202**

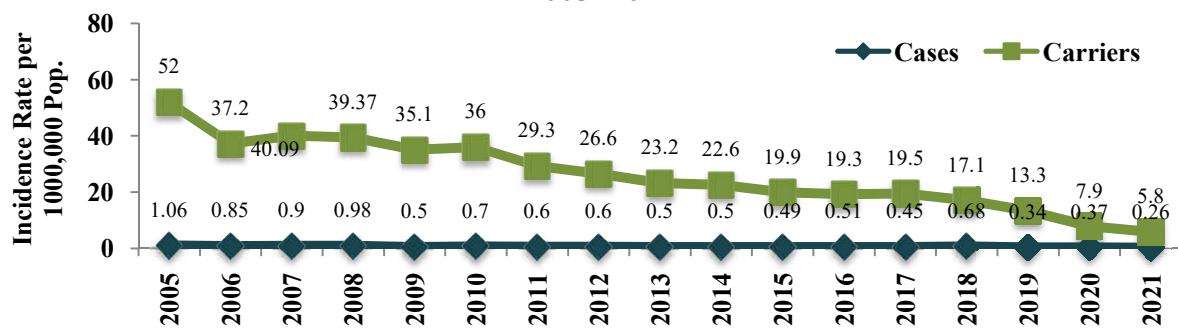


### 7.2 Viral Hepatitis B

In 2021, 13 cases were reported with an incidence rate of 0.26 per 100,000 populations. All cases in the West Bank with incidence rate 0.46 per 100,000 population.

The number of carriers reported with the hepatitis B virus was 284 cases with an incidence rate of 5.8 per 100,000 population, of which 210 carriers in the West Bank with an incidence rate of 7.5 per 100,000 population, and 74 carriers in Gaza Strip with a rate of 3.5 per 100,000 population.

**Graph (27) Incidence Rate of Cases & Carriers of Viral Hepatitis B per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**

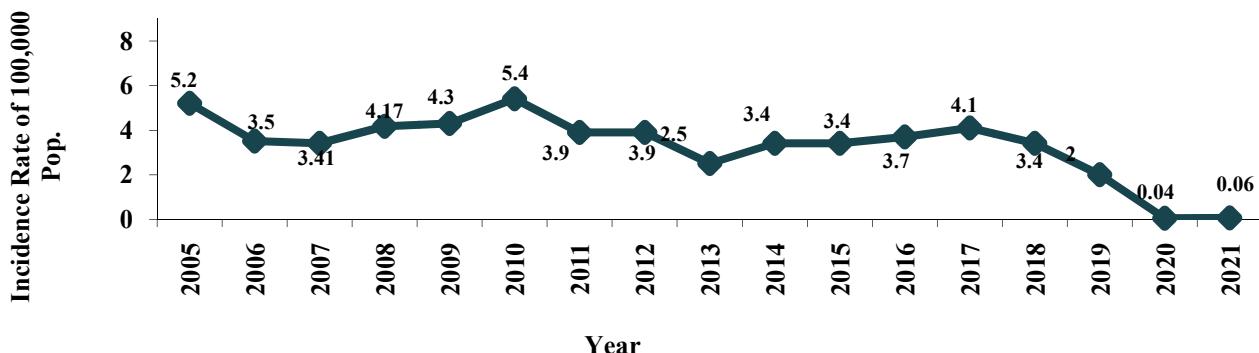


### 7.3 Viral Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C has emerged as a serious public health problem in the world since 1990. WHO estimates that 3% of the world population is infected with hepatitis C, and 80% of these cases develop into chronic inflammation that can lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer. In Palestine, epidemiological surveillance of viral hepatitis C began in 1994.

In 2021, 3 cases were reported with an incidence rate of 0.06 per 100,000 population, all cases were in the West Bank. The number of carriers reported with the hepatitis C virus was 70 cases with an incidence rate of 1.4 per 100,000 populations, of which 64 carriers in the West Bank with an incidence rate of 2.3 per 100,000 population and 6 carriers in Gaza Strip with a rate of 0.3 per 100,000 population.

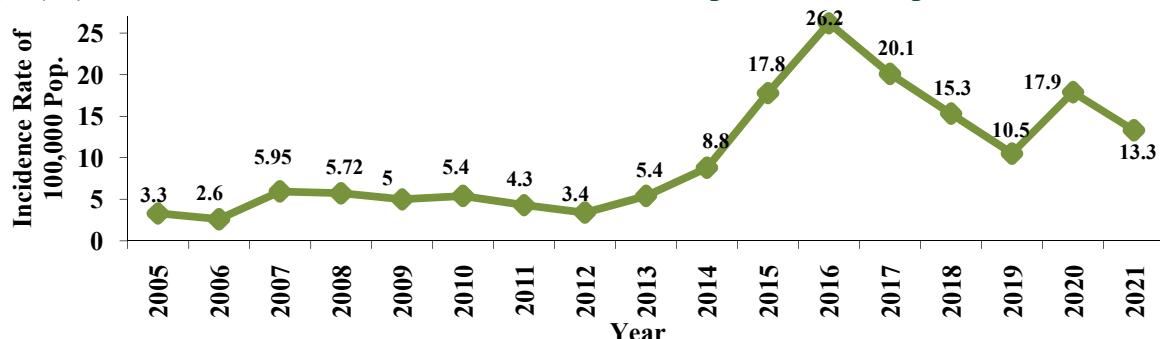
**Graph (28) Incidence Rate of Viral Hepatitis C per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



### 8. Brucellosis

Brucellosis is one of the major endemic diseases in Palestine. In 2021, 654 cases of Brucellosis were reported with an incidence rate of 13.3 per 100,000 populations, all cases in the West Bank.

**Graph (29) Distribution of Incidence Rate of Brucellosis per 100,000 Pop., Palestine 2005- 2021**



## 9. AIDS / HIV

Although the spread of AIDS is increasing in most countries of the world, Palestine, like other Arab and Mediterranean countries, has low HIV/ AIDS infection rate. HIV/ AIDS cases have been reported in Palestine since 1988. The cumulative number of HIV/ AIDS reported cases up to 2021 was 125 cases, of which 95 were AIDS cases and 30 cases were HIV positive.

**Table (39) Cumulative Number of HIV/ ADIS Cases, Palestine 1988- 2021**

HIV/ AIDS	No.	%
HIV	30	24%
AIDS	95	76%
<b>*Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Two cases were reported from Gaza, diagnosed in previous years

Most of the reported cases were among males; 103 cases out of 125 registered cases, which accounted to 82.4% of the total recorded cases. Furthermore, it is obvious that 83% of cases in the age groups 20-49.

**Table (40) Cumulative Number & Proportion of Reported HIV/AIDS Cases by Age Group, Palestine 1988- 2021**

Age Group	No.	%
0 - 4	3	2.4%
5 - 9	2	1.6%
10 - 19	2	1.6%
20 - 29	35	28.0%
30 - 39	42	33.6%
40 - 49	27	21.6%
≥ 50	13	10.4%
Unknown	1	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table (41) Distribution of Cumulative Number & Proportion of Reported HIV/ AIDS Cases by Mood of Transmission, Palestine 1988- 2021**

Mood of Transmission	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total	%
Heterosexual	44	34	78	62.4%
Homosexual	3	2	5	4.0%
Blood and/ or Blood products	8	8	16	12.8%
Injecting Drug use	2	2	4	3.2%
Mother to Child Transmission	1	2	3	2.4%
Bisexual	4	1	5	4.0%
Post surgical Operation	0	1	1	0.8%
Contact with HIV Positive case	2	0	2	1.6%
Unknown	11	0	11	8.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**Table (42) Cumulative Number of Reported HIV/ AIDS Cases by Life Status, Palestine 1988-2021**

Status	No.	%
Live	54	43.2%
Dead	61	48.8%
Unknown	10	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 10. Epidemiology of Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STDs) in Palestine

Similar to other neighboring Arab countries, MoH faces several challenges to combat sexual transmitted diseases (STDs). These challenges include behavioral changes and privacy aspects, social stigma, difficulty to follow-up cases, treatment, and reluctance of people to access clinics and centers to seek services for such diseases.

These diseases are diagnosed and recorded according to etiology and syndromic approach, according to WHO recommendations.

### 1. Etiological Diagnosis

In 2021, the total number of reported cases among females in the West Bank was 4,236 cases; with an incidence rate was 307 per 100,000 female population, diagnosed according to the causes. The number of registered cases among males was 2 cases with an incidence rate of 0.1 per 100, 000 of male population.

### 2. Syndromic Diagnosis

In 2021, the number of new female cases of sexually transmitted diseases was 14,324 cases in the West Bank, which were diagnosed using syndromic approach. The incidence rate of infection was 1,038 per 100,000 of female population in the West Bank. On the other hand, the number of cases among males was 14 cases with an incidence rate of 1 per 100,000 males.

Epidemiological surveillance system of sexual transmitted diseases in Palestine is still in need of further improvement. In this regard, there is also a need for more community awareness and the development of the capacities of the human resources working in this field.

## 3.1.2 Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

### 3.1.2.1 Cancer

In 2021, the total number of new reported cancer cases in Palestine was 5,320 cases, with incidence rate 108.1 per 100,000 population.

In the West Bank, 3,368 new cancer cases were reported in the West Bank. Comparing cancer cases diagnosed in 2021 with cases diagnosed in 2020 (3,191 cases), it turns out that there is a 5.5% increase of cancer cases in 2021. The increase of cancer cases in 2021 could be cancer cases from 2020 and diagnosed in 2021, as people were terrified to enter diagnosing centers because of COVID-19 pandemic. For all cancer sites combined, the crude incidence rate is 119.6 per 100,000 populations in the West Bank.

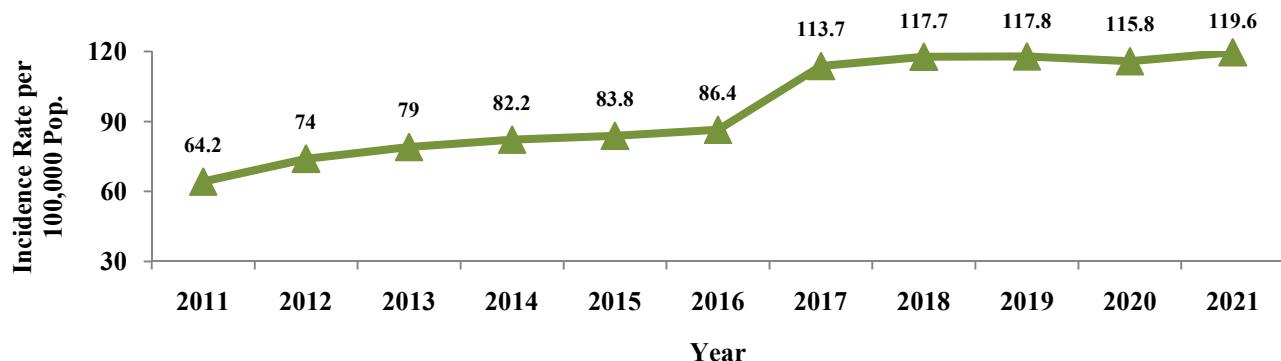
In Gaza Strip, the total number of new reported cancer cases was 1,952, with incidence rate 92.6 cases per 100,000 population in 2021.

The table below shows that the cancer incidence rates were higher in the West Bank than the cancer incidence rate in Gaza Strip in the last years 2017-2021.

**Table (43) Distribution of cancer cases and incidence rate by region, Palestine, 2017-2021**

Region Year	West Bank		Gaza Strip		Palestine	
	Number	Incidence rate per 100,000 pop.	Number	Incidence rate per 100,000 pop.	Number	Incidence rate per 100,000 pop.
2021	3,368	119.6	1,952	92.6	5,320	108.1
2020	3,191	115.8	1,887	90.8	5,078	105.7
2019	3,174	117.8	1,820	90.1	4,994	106.6
2018	3,102	117.7	1,750	90.0	4,852	106.2
2017	2,923	113.7	1,744	91.0	4,667	104.6

**Graph (30) Reported cancer incidence rate per 100,000 population for all cancer types, West Bank, Palestine 2011- 2021**

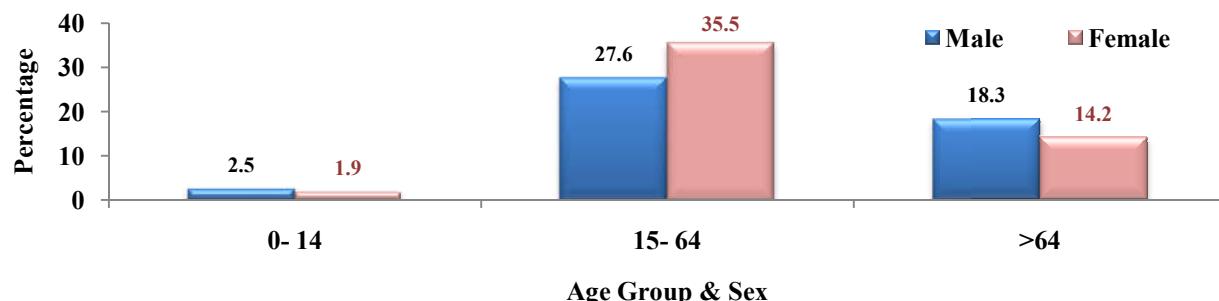


#### Distribution of reported cancer cases by sex and age groups

In 2021, the total number of reported cancer cases among females was 2,796, which were 52.6% of all reported cancer cases. While in males, 2,524 cancer cases were reported, representing 47.4% of all reported cancer cases in Palestine.

The incidence of cancer increases with age. For patients above 64 years old in the West Bank, 1,094 cancer cases were reported, which are 32.5% of all reported cancer cases. Taking into consideration that this age group proportion of total population is only 3.7%. While for age groups 15-64, the number of reported cases is 2,124 cases. Moreover, it is found that 150 cases were reported among population below 15 year old group; which are 4.4% of all reported cancer cases. This age group is 35.8% of total population.

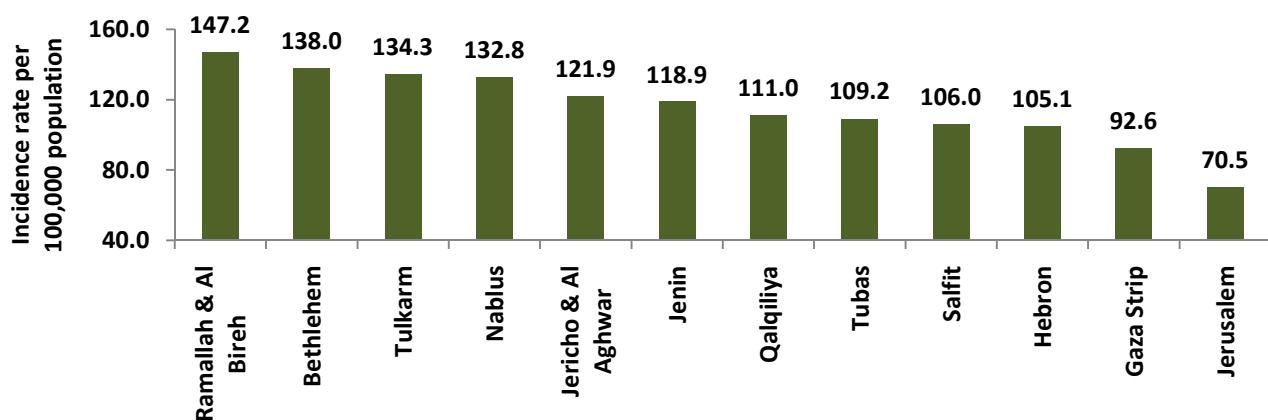
**Graph (31) Percentage of Reported Cancer Cases by Sex and Age Groups, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



### **Reported cancer cases by governorate**

The geographical distribution of reported cancer cases shows that Ramallah & Al Bireh governorate reported the highest figure with an incidence rate 147.2 per 100,000 population, while Bethlehem governorate ranked second with incidence rate 138.0 per 100,000 population. Tulkarem ranked third with incidence rate 134.3 per 100,000 population. For Jerusalem, the complete number of cancer cases is most likely underreported.

**Graph (32) Cancer Incidence Rate per 100,000 of Population by Governorate, Palestine 2021**



### **Most Common Cancer Cases**

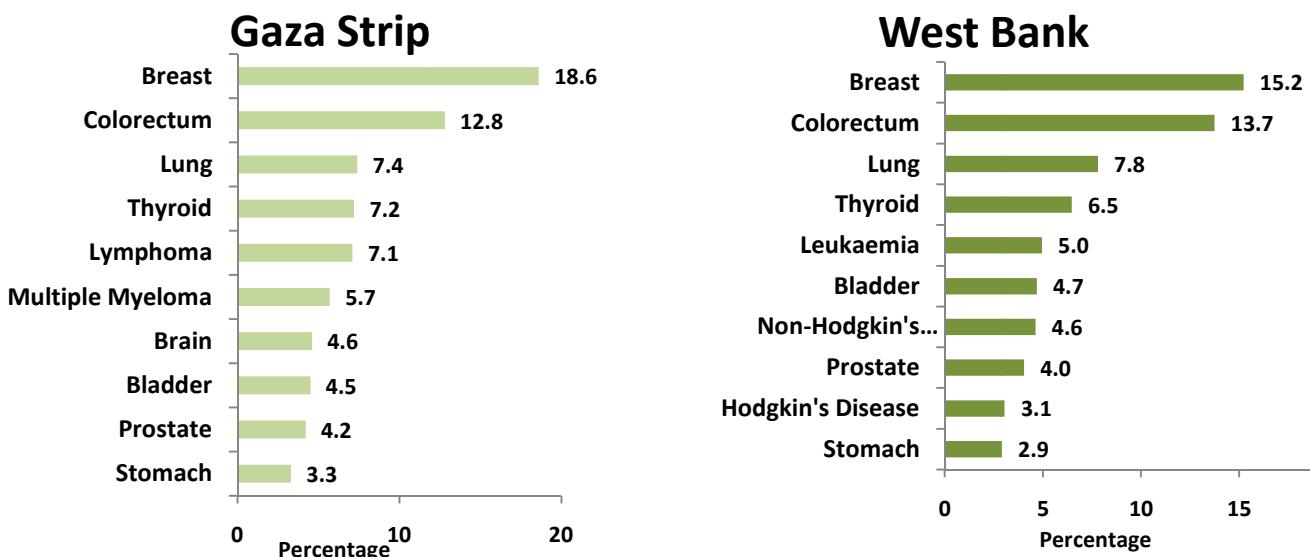
Breast cancer is always the most common cancer in Palestine. In 2021, the number of new breast cancer cases were 876 cases, with incidence rate was 17.8 case per 100,000 of total population, while the incidence rate was 36.2 case per 100,000 female population. Colorectal cancer ranked second followed by lung cancer.

In the West Bank, 513 new breast cancer cases were registered in 2021, which were 15.2% of all new registered cancer cases, with incidence rate 18.2 cases per 100,000 population. Colorectal cancer ranked second with 463 new cases, with incidence rate 16.4 per 100,000 population, and lung cancer in the third place with 263 cases and incidence rate 9.3 cases per 100,000 population.

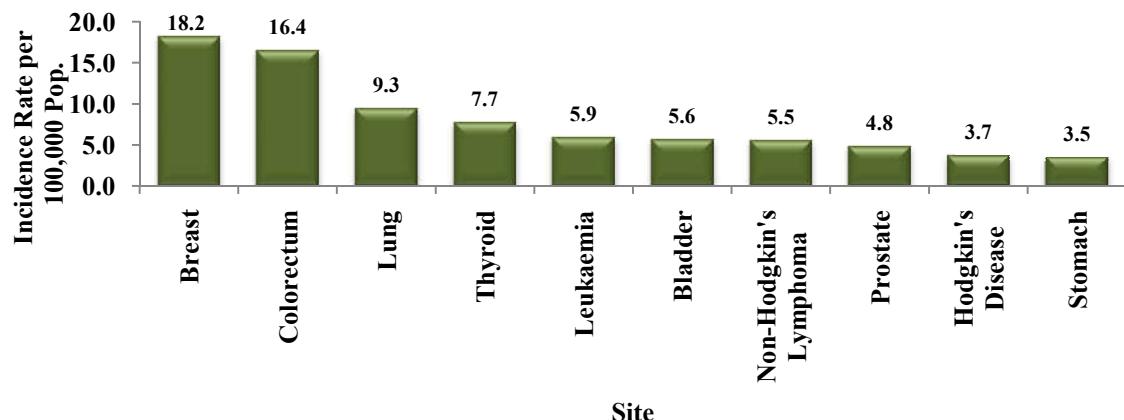
In Gaza Strip, breast cancer was also the most common cancer with 363 new registered breast cancer in 2021, which is 18.6% of all new cancer cases and with incidence rate of 17.2 cases per 100,000 population.

In Palestine, breast cancer is always the most common cancer among females, while colorectal cancer was the most common among males, and leukaemia is the most common among children.

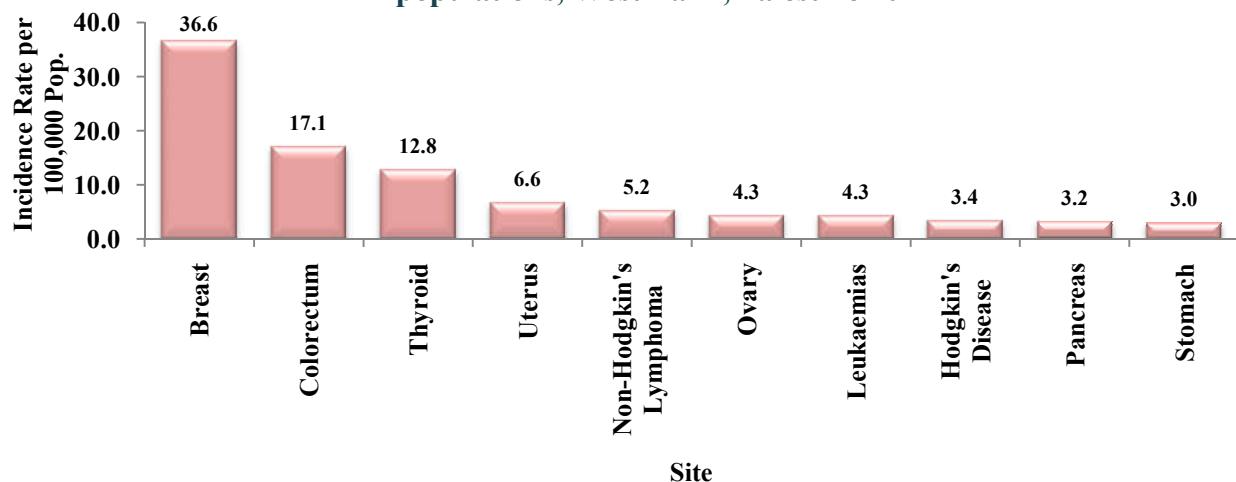
**Graph (33) Distribution of Percentage of Top Ten Reported Cancers in all population, Palestine 2021**



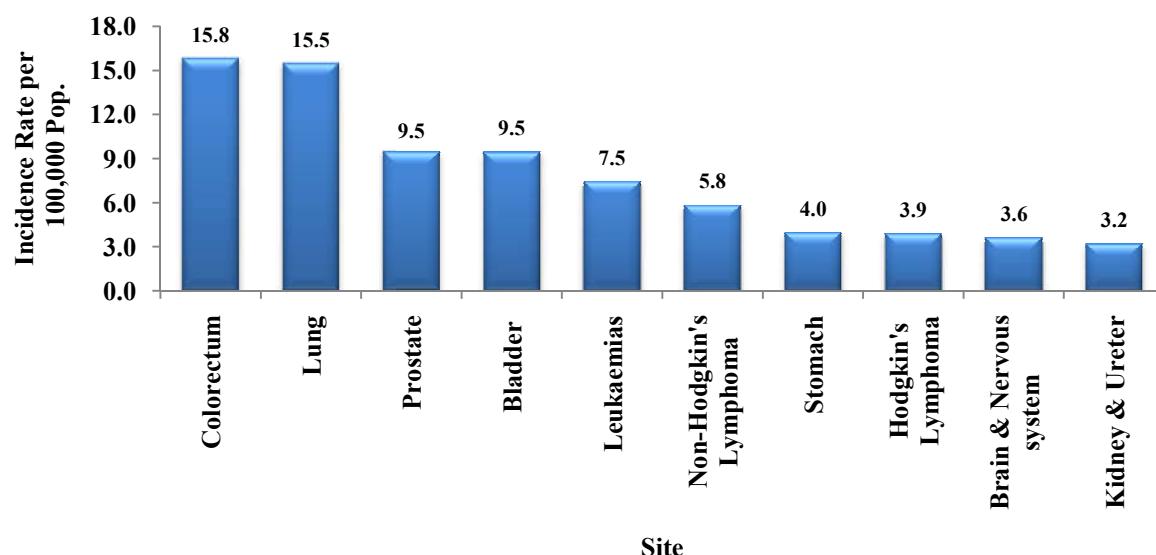
**Graph (34) Incidence Rate of Top Ten Reported Cancers per 100,000 of population, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



**Graph (35) Incidence Rate of Top Ten Reported Cancers among Females per 100,000 Female populations, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



**Graph (36) Incidence Rate of Top Ten Reported Cancers among Males per 100,000 Male populations, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



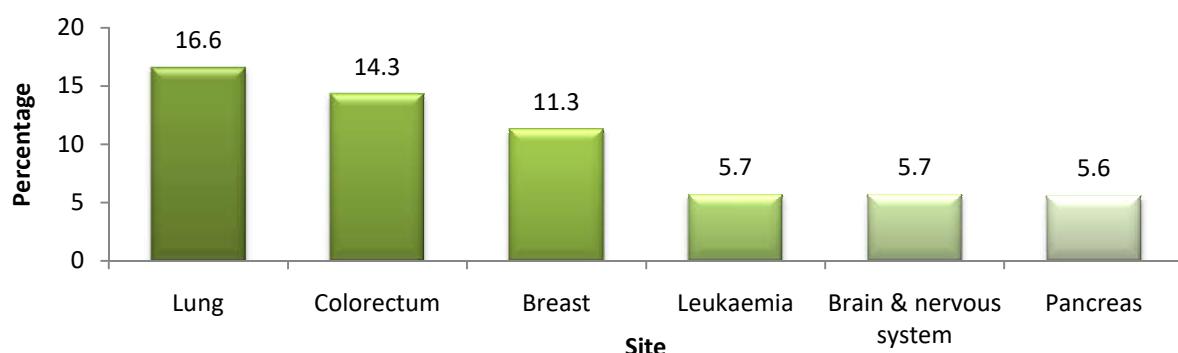
### Cancer Mortality in Palestine

Cancer is the third cause of death in Palestine in 2021, the total number of reported cancer deaths were 2,048, with mortality rate 41.6 per 100,000 population.

In Gaza Strip, the total reported cancer deaths were 810 deaths, with mortality rate 38.4 per 100,000 population.

The total number of cancer deaths in the West Bank was 1,238 cases, which was 12.2% of all deaths in the West Bank, with cancer mortality rate 44.0 per 100,000 population. Cancer deaths were more among males (56.4% of cancer deaths) than female cancer deaths (43.6% of cancer deaths). The high percentage of deaths among males is due to the fact that lung cancer is more prevalent among males 82.5% than female 17.5%, and lung cancer is the most common cause of death among cancer patients.

**Graph (37) Proportional Distribution of the most Reported Cancer Deaths of all Reported Cancer Deaths, West Bank, 2021**



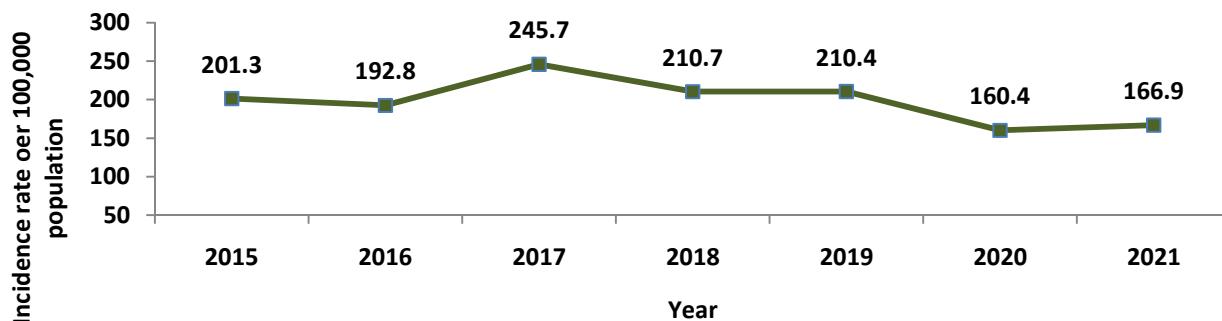
### 3.1.2.2 Diabetes Mellitus

#### 1. New Diabetic Cases Reported in PHC/MoH Clinics

In 2021, the new reported diabetes Mellitus cases in PHC/MoH diabetic clinics in the West Bank were 4,700 cases with an incidence rate of 166.9 per 100,000 population, distributed to 2,079 cases among males with an incidence rate of 144.8 per 100,000 male population, and 2,621 among females with an incidence rate of 189.9 per 100,000 female population.

In Gaza Strip, the diabetes mellitus incidence rate was 149.4 per 100,000 population.

**Graph (38) Incidence rate of diabetes per 100,000 population, MoH, West Bank, Palestine 2015-2021**



#### 2. Treatment of Diabetes in MoH/ PHC Clinics

**Table (44) Distribution of Reported Visits to MOH/ PHC Diabetic Clinics by Type of Diabetes, Treatment & Sex, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Type of Management	Male	Female	Total	%
Type I	7,528	6,967	14,495	5.2%
Type II	561	768	1,329	0.48%
	75,378	108,297	183,675	66.5%
	20,812	26,822	47,634	17.2%
	13,517	14,713	28,230	10.2%
Diabetes & Pregnancy	0	469	469	0.2%
	0	484	484	0.2%
Impaired Glucose Tolerance (IGT)	24	38	62	0.02%
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,820</b>	<b>158,558</b>	<b>276,378</b>	<b>100%</b>

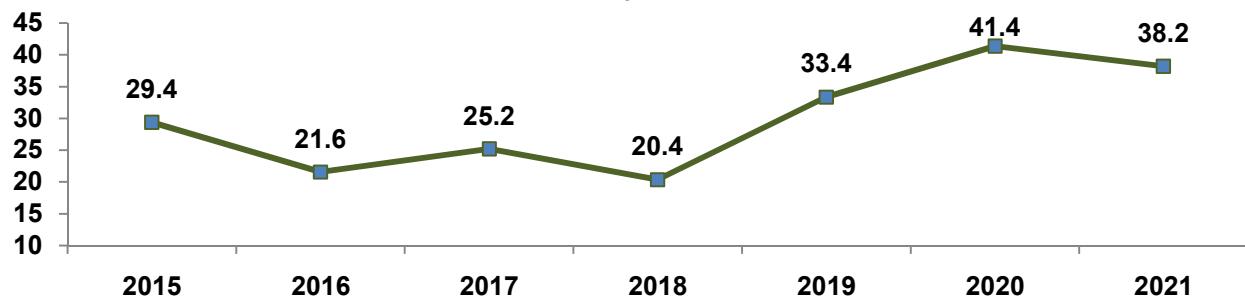
#### 3. Reported Diabetes Mellitus Deaths

The total number of reported deaths of diabetes complications was 1,231 cases in Palestine in 2021, of which 1,077 cases in the West Bank and 154 deaths in Gaza Strip. In Palestine, the mortality rate of diabetes complications was 25.0 deaths per 100,000 population.

In the west Bank, diabetes was the 4<sup>th</sup> cause of death with mortality rate of 38.2 deaths per 100,000 population. Diabetic patients above 60 years old are representing 86% of deaths due to diabetic complications. The graph below shows that crude death rates in diabetic patients have been rising in the last three years. This requires introducing and implementing policies for reducing sugar consumption at the national level. For example, adopting the necessary policies to modify food products components and reduce sugar levels in these products. Such policies will reduce the incidence and complications of diabetes and obesity.

In Gaza Strip, the mortality rate of diabetes complications was 7.3 per 100,000 population, and it was the 10<sup>th</sup> cause of death in Gaza Strip in 2021.

**Graph (39) Crude Mortality Rate of diabetic patients per 100,000 Populations, West Bank, 2015-2021**



**Table (45) Distribution of Diabetes Mortality Rate per 100,000 Populations by Sex & Age Group, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Item	Age Group			Sex		Total
	0 - 19	20- 59	60+	Male	Female	
No. of Reported Deaths	0	151	926	532	545	1,077
IR \ 100,000 Pop.In the same interval	0.0	11.2	549.4	37.0	39.5	38.2

### 3.1.2.3 Multiple Sclerosis

The Palestinian MoH pays a great attention to Multiple sclerosis (MS), which is a chronic, autoimmune disease that attacks the central nervous system (the brain, spinal cord and optic nerves).

Everyone experiences MS differently, depending on where attacks on the central nervous system occur and the type of MS they have. Patients with MS may have vision problems, abnormal sensations, and weak and clumsy movements.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health is exerting a lot of effort to provide the best services to MS patients in Palestine. Although there is no cure for MS so far, MoH provides patients with medicines that help alleviate the symptoms associated with MS, treat relapses or attacks, and modify the course of the disease, in addition to provide physiotherapy and occupational therapy that help the patients cope with disease and improve their quality of life.

In this context, the Health Information Center has launched surveillance of MS cases in the West Bank (patients who visited MoH clinics and hospitals in 2021), to estimate the MS prevalence rate in Palestine and later the incidence rate. These numbers are necessary in health planning and to provide the needed health services for these patients.

In 2021, 810 cases of multiple sclerosis were registered in MoH health centers (PHC, and hospitals). Accordingly, the prevalence rate was 28.8 per 100,000 population, and females are affected two times more often than males (67% females, 33% males). Moreover, the highest prevalence of multiple sclerosis was in Ramallah governorate with prevalence rate of 45.9 cases per 100,000 population.

#### **Annex (46) Distribution of Multiple Sclerosis cases, percentage, prevalence rate by governorate and sex, MoH, West Bank, Palestine, 2021**

Governorate	Male		Female		Total	Percentage of total	Prevalence Rate per 100,000 pop.
	Number	%	Number	%			
Jenin	43	29%	105	71%	148	18.3%	43.7
Tubas	8	50%	8	50%	16	2.0%	24.3
Tulkarm	34	38%	56	62%	90	11.1%	45.3
Nablus	55	34%	108	66%	163	20.1%	39.2
Qalqiliya	12	39%	19	61%	31	3.8%	25.5
Salfit	5	31%	11	69%	16	2.0%	19.5
Ramallah & Al Bireh	54	33%	109	67%	163	20.1%	45.9
Jericho & Al Aghwar	2	33%	4	67%	6	0.7%	11.3
Jerusalem*	5	38%	8	62%	13	1.6%	7.8
Bethlehem	16	27%	43	73%	59	7.3%	25.1
Hebron	33	31%	72	69%	105	13.0%	13.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>28.8</b>

\* Population of Jerusalem (J2) Palestinian Services Area

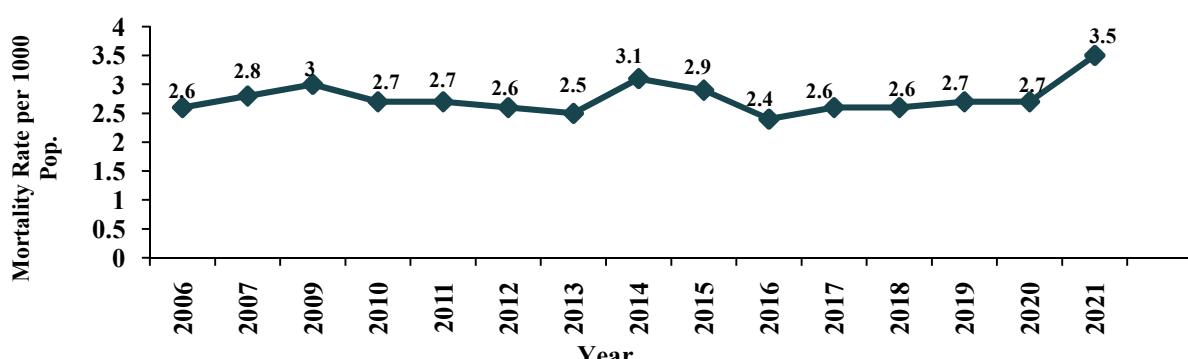
## **3.2 Mortality**

### **3.2.1 Crude Death Rate in Palestine**

The crude rate increased in most of the countries in 2021. This excess mortality includes deaths associated with COVID-19 directly (due to the disease) or indirectly (due to the pandemic's impact on health systems and society).

In Palestine, similarly, the reported crude death rate increased compared to previous years. The crude death rate was 3.5 per 1,000 population in 2021, which was 3.6 per 1,000 population in the West Bank, and 3.4 per 1,000 in Gaza Strip.

**Graph (graph 40) Crude Mortality Rate per 1,000 Populations, Palestine 2006- 2021**



### 3.2.2 Number of Deaths in Palestine 2021

In 2021, the total number of reported deaths in Palestine was 17,273, of which 10,133 deaths were in the West Bank (58.7% of all deaths) and 7,140 deaths in Gaza Strip (41.3% of all deaths).

### 3.2.3 Major Causes of Death in Palestine 2021

COVID-19 was the main cause of death in the West Bank, with 25.2% of all deaths; this justifies the increase of crude mortality rate, followed by cardiovascular diseases and cancer. While in Gaza Strip, cardiovascular disease was the main cause of death with 29.3% of all deaths, followed by COVID-19 and cancer on the second and the third rank, respectively.

**Table (47) Major 10<sup>th</sup> Causes of Death, Palestine 2021**

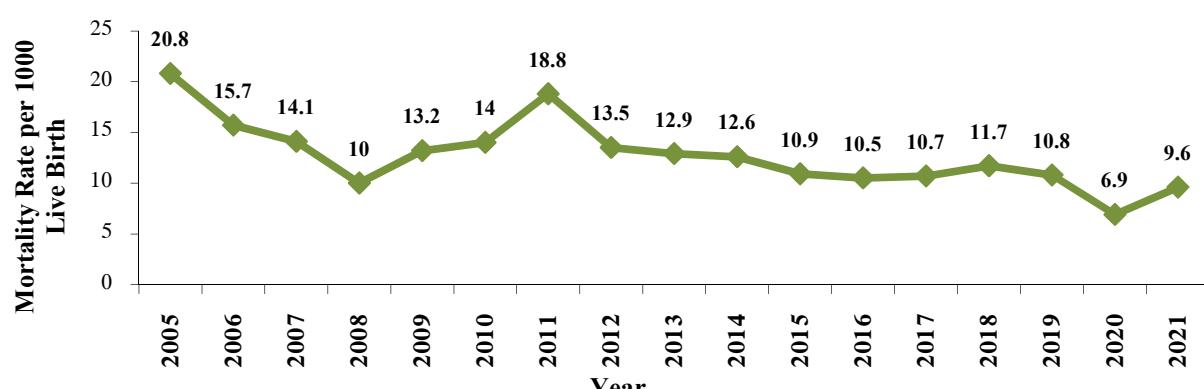
West Bank			Gaza Strip		
#	Cause of Death	%	#	Cause of Death	%
1	COVID-19, virus identified	25.2%	1	Cardiovascular diseases	29.3%
2	Cardiovascular diseases	23.7%	2	COVID-19, virus identified	24.0%
3	Malignant Neoplasm	12.2%	3	Malignant Neoplasm	11.3%
4	Diabetes Mellitus	10.6%	4	Other injuries	6.1%
5	Cerebrovascular disease	7.9%	5	Unknown causes	5.4%
6	Injuries	4.4%	6	Disease of respiratory system	4.3%
7	Congenital Malformations	4.2%	7	Diseases in the perinatal period	3.6%
8	Diseases in the perinatal period	4.1%	8	Congenital Malformations	3.0%
9	Disease of respiratory system	2.7%	9	Kidney failure	2.8%
10	Disease of the nervous system	1.2%	10	Diabetes Mellitus	2.2%

### 3.2.4 Reported Infant Mortality in Palestine

The total number of reported cases of infant mortality was 1,323 cases in Palestine in 2021; with increased infant mortality rate 9.6 per 1,000 live births compared to rate in 2020. However, it is still lower than rates in previous years. This is completely due to improvement in health services provided in Palestine in addition to increase awareness among pregnant women. Moreover, about half infant deaths were from conditions originating in the perinatal period, which were short gestation and low birth weight the most common causes.

In the West bank, the infant mortality rate was 8.8 deaths per 1,000 live births, while it was 10.6 deaths per 1,000 live births in Gaza Strip.

**Graph (41) Reported Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births, Palestine 2005- 2021**

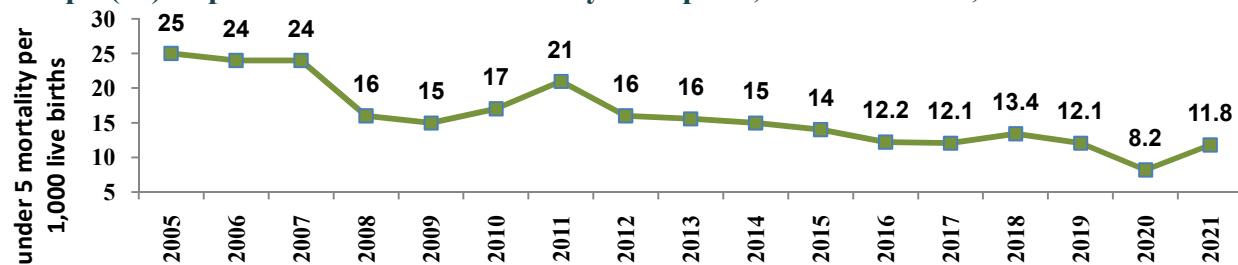


### 3.2.5 Under Five Children Reported Mortality Rate

The total number of reported cases of under-5 mortality was 1,630 deaths, with death rate 11.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in Palestine in 2021, which is higher than the rate in 2020, but still lower than the rates in previous years.

In Gaza Strip, the under-5 children mortality rate was 13.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, while the rate in the West Bank was 10.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. Conditions originating in the perinatal period and congenital anomalies are the most common causes of death with percentages of all under-5 deaths 48.6%, 34.2%, respectively.

**Graph (42) Reported Under-Five Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births, Palestine 2005- 2021**



### 3.2.6 Maternal Mortality

These are the deaths of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy. This indicator is linked to the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs to reduce maternal mortality.

In 2021, the total number of maternal deaths in Palestine was 66 cases (32 deaths in the West Bank and 34 deaths in Gaza Strip), with maternal mortality rate (MMR) 47.7 per 100,000 live births.

In the West Bank, the MMR was 39.1 per 100,000 live births; this increase in MMR was due to COVID-19. From the total 32 maternal mortality cases in 2021, there were 25 deaths due to COVID-19, compared with only 10 maternal deaths were due to COVID-19 complication in 2020.

In Gaza Strip, the MMR was 60 deaths per 100,000 live births, in which 68% of maternal mortality was due to COVID-19 in 2021.

**Table (48) Distribution of Number of Reported Maternal Mortality by Governorate, West Bank, 2021**

West Bank	Jenin	Tubas	Tulkarem	Nablus	Qalqilya	Salfit	Ramallah & Al Bireh	Jericho & Al Aghwar	Jerusalem	Bethlehem	Hebron	Gaza Strip	Palestine
32	3	1	2	5	6	0	2	1	2	3	7	34	66

**Graph (43) Reported Maternal Mortality Rate per 100,000 Live Births, Palestine 2010- 2021**



### 3.2.7 Deaths in Reproductive Age Women

The percentage of reproductive age women mortality was 3.9% of all reported deaths in 2021. COVID-19 was also the first cause of death among these women, representing 30.1% of deaths among them. Cancer ranked second with 25.8 % of deaths (Breast Cancer represents 30% of cancer deaths among this group of women).

**Table (49) Number & Percentage of Reported Deaths in Reproductive Age Women by Age Group, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Age Group & No.	15- 19 Years	20- 29 Years	30- 39 Years	40- 49 Years	Total
No.	26	80	110	179	395
%	6.6%	20.3%	27.8%	45.3%	100%

## Section Four COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic takes variable shapes and forms, in terms of cases and deaths, in different regions and countries of the world. In Palestine, the disease has started at the beginning of March, 2020, and the overall pattern of the corona virus pandemic so far has been a series of COVID-19 waves: surges in new cases followed by declines.

### - Corona virus (COVID-19) Reported Cases in Palestine

In 2021, according to the National COVID-19 Electronic Surveillance system, a total of 314,475 cases were reported in Palestine, of which 164,680 cases were reported in the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem, and 149,795 cases were reported in Gaza strip.

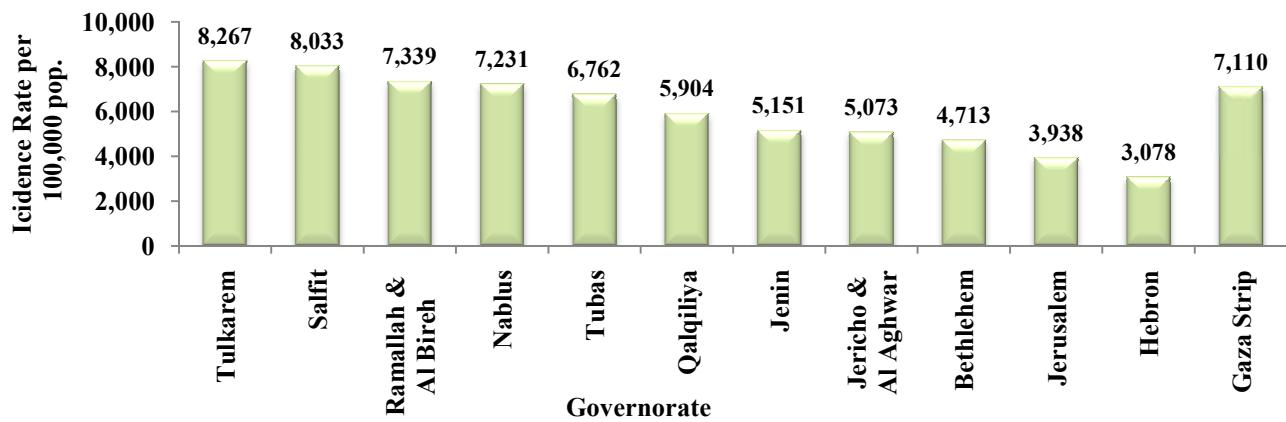
### - Incidence rate of Corona virus (COVID-19) by region, governorate, and sex

The incidence rate was 6,016 per 100,000 of the population in Palestine. The incidence rate in the West Bank was 5,277 per 100,000 of population, while in Gaza strip was 7,110 per 100,000 of the population.

The highest incidence rate was reported in Tulkarem governorate, with an incidence rate 8,267 per 100,000 population, followed by Salfit governorate, with an incidence rate of 8,033 per 100,000 population.

The incidence rate was higher among females compared to males. Cases among females was 51.2% of all cases with incidence rate 5,510 per 100,000 female population. While the incidence rate among males was 5,054 per 100,000 male population. However, in Gaza Strip, COVID-19 cases were higher among males than female, with 52.1 % of cases among males.

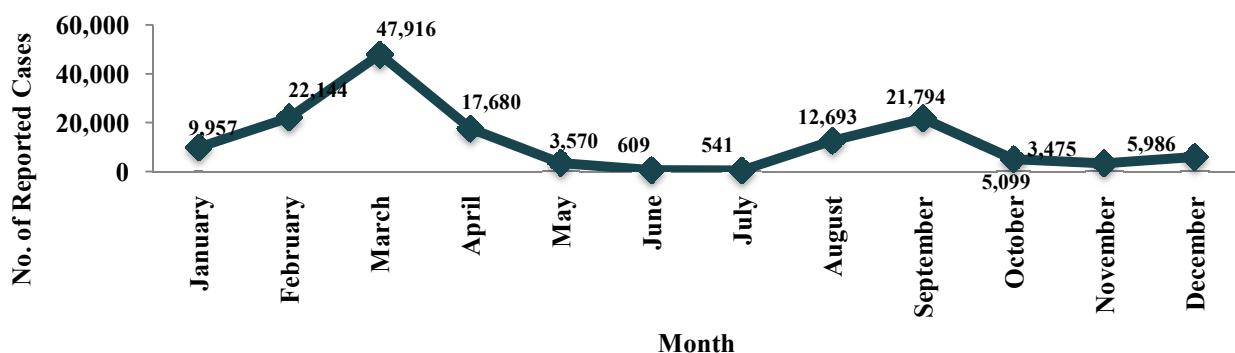
**Graph (44) Incidence rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population by governorate, Palestine 2021**



### -Distribution of Corona Virus (COVID-19) Reported Cases by Month, 2021

As seen in the graph below, an increase of COVID-19 cases started in the beginning of 2021, and the cases peaked in March with the highest number of cases registered in 2021, which were 47,916 cases. Furthermore, it is noticed that the cases also peaked in September with 21,794 cases.

**Graph (45) Distribution of Corona Virus (COVID- 19) Reported Cases by Month, West Bank, Palestine 2021**



#### - Mortality Rate of Corona Virus (COVID- 19), Palestine, 2021

In 2021, COVID- 19 was the first cause of death among the Palestinian in 2021, with a percentage of 22.7% of all deaths; the total number of death caused by COVID-19 was 3,920 cases, with mortality rate 75 per 100,000 population. In the West Bank, the mortality rate was 83 per 100, 000 population, while in Gaza Strip it was 63.2 per 100, 000 population. Moreover, the fatality rate was 1.25% from all total reported cases in Palestine.

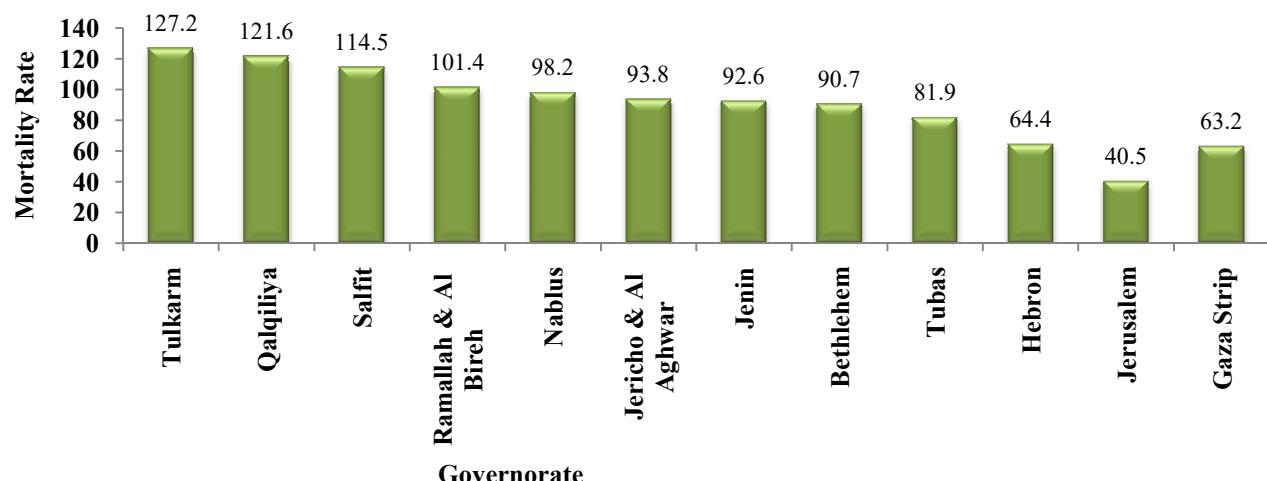
#### - Mortality Rate of Corona Virus (COVID- 19) by governorate, age, and sex, Palestine, 2021

Tulkarem Governorate reported the highest mortality rate of COVID-19 with 127.2 deaths per 100,000 population, followed by Qalqiliya Governorate, with a rate of 121.6 per 100,000 population. Jerusalem recorded the lowest rate of COVID-19 deaths with 40.5 per 100,000 population.

COVID-19 deaths increase by age, the highest mortality rate was for patients above 79 with rate of 3,805 deaths per 100, 000 population, followed by the age group 70-79 with mortality rate 1,732 per 100,000 population. Moreover, death rate was higher among males than females. The death rate among males was 95 deaths per 100,000 male population, and death rate among females was 83 deaths per 100,000 female population.

In Gaza Strip, the total number of COVID-19 deaths was 1,331 deaths, of which 55% of these cases were males with mortality rate 68.6 per 100, 000 of male population, while the rate among females was 57.5 per 100,000 female population. Moreover, 74% of COVID-19 deaths were among persons above 60 years old.

**Graph (46) Distribution of Mortality Rates from Corona Virus (COVID-19) per 100,000 population, by Governorate, Palestine 2021**



### - COVID-19 Testing Labs

1,736,287 Polymerase Chain Reaction PCR tests were done in 8 labs/ MoH in 2021, of which 300,675 were tested positive. In addition, COVID-19 antibodies tests were done in almost all MoH labs.

**Table (50) Number of COVID-19 Virus PCR, West Bank, Palestine 2021**

Test / Lab	Central Lab	Bethlehem	Jenin	Nablus	Hebron	Jericho	Tulkarem	Gaza	Total
No. of Lab Test	230,789	90,514	106,434	257,076	161,360	164,514	67,888	657,712	1,736,287
No. of Positive Tests	31,431	11,066	21,916	43,830	24,076	2,705	16,440	149,211	300,675
%*	13.6%	12.2%	20.6%	17.0%	14.9%	1.6%	24.2%	22.7%	17.3%

\*Percentage of positive cases of tested samples

### Vaccination against COVID-19

Vaccination against COVID-19 started in Palestine in February 2021. This vaccination campaigns were in the Gaza Strip and West Bank except Jerusalem. Below the number of vaccinated persons by dose number who were 3,246,809 persons in 2021.

**Table (51) Distribution of vaccinated persons by COVID-19 vaccination doses, Palestine, 2021**

First dose	Second dose	Third dose	Total doses
1,443,644	1,593,463	209,702	3,246,809

**المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021**  
**National Health Indicators 2021**

	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	المؤشرات الديموغرافية
<b>Demographic Indicators</b>				
Total Population mid-year	5,227,193	3,120,448	2,106,745	اجمالي عدد السكان منتصف العام
% of male	50.8	50.9	50.7	نسبة الذكور من اجمالي السكان (%)
% of female	49.2	49.1	49.3	نسبة الاناث من اجمالي السكان (%)
Male / female ratio	103.4	103.8	102.7	نسبة الذكور الى الاناث (%)
Proportion of pop. aged under 5 years	13.8	12.9	15.1	نسبة الاطفال اقل من 5 سنوات (%)
Proportion of pop. aged under 15 years	37.9	35.8	40.9	نسبة السكان الذين نقل اعمارهم عن 15 سنة
Proportion of pop. aged 65 years and above	3.4	3.7	2.9	نسبة السكان الذين تبلغ اعمارهم 65 سنة واكثر
Population natural increase rate	2.4	2.2	2.8	معدل الزيادة الطبيعية للسكان
Total fertility rate	3.8	3.8	3.9	معدل الخصوبة الكلي
Life Expectancy at birth	74.2	74.5	73.8	متوسط العمر المتوقع عند الولادة (بالاعوام)
Life Expectancy at birth Male	73.1	73.4	72.7	متوسط العمر المتوقع عند الولادة للذكور
Life Expectancy at birth Female	75.3	75.7	74.9	متوسط العمر المتوقع عند الولادة للإناث
Percentage of refugees of total population	40.5	23.9	64.8	نسبة اللاجئين من جميع السكان
Number of reported live births	138,436	81,778	56,658	عدد المواليد الأحياء المبلغ عنهم
Number of reported deaths	17,273	10,133	7,140	عدد الوفيات المبلغ عنهم
Reported Crude Birth Rate (CBR) per 1,000 pop.	28.1	29	26.9	معدل المواليد الخام المبلغ عنها لكل 1,000 من السكان
Reported Crude Death Rate (CDR) per 1,000 pop.	3.5	3.6	3.4	معدل الوفيات الخام المبلغ عنها لكل 1,000 من السكان
Reported Under-5 mortality rate per 1,000 live birth	11.8	10.6	13.5	معدل وفيات الأطفال دون خمس سنوات المبلغ عنها لكل 1,000 مولود حي
Reported Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live birth	9.6	8.8	10.6	معدل وفيات الرضيع المبلغ عنها لكل 1,000 مولود حي
Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births	47.7	39.1	60	معدل وفيات الامهات لكل 100,000 مولود حي
% of Reproductive age women deaths of total deaths	/	3.9	/	نسبة وفيات النساء في سن الانجاب من مجموع الوفيات
Percentage of reported low birth weight <2500gm	7.2	6.7	7.9	نسبة المواليد الأحياء الذين يزنون تحت 2,500 غم

المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021

National Health Indicators 2021

	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	صحة المرأة	
<b>Women Health</b>					
Proportion of women of childbearing age of total population	24.8	25.1	24.3	نسبة النساء في سن الإنجاب من إجمالي السكان نسبة الولادات في المراكز الصحية نسبة وفيات الامهات لكل 100,000 مولود حي نسبة فقر الدم بين النساء الحوامل نسبة فقر الدم بين النساء الحوامل- الحمل الخطر نسبة وفيات النساء في سن الإنجاب من إجمالي الوفيات	
% of deliveries in health institutions	99.9	99.9	100		
Maternal mortality ratio /100,000 live births	47.7	39.1	60		
% of Reported anemia among pregnant women	/	26.9	/		
% of Reported anemia among high risk pregnant women	/	30.9	/		
% of Reproductive age women deaths of total deaths	/	3.9	/		
<b>الرعاية الصحية الأولية</b>					
No. of PHC centers	765	606	159	عدد مراكز الرعاية الأولية	
Population per PHC center	6,435	4,647	13,250	معدل السكان لكل مركز رعاية أولية	
No. of MOH PHC Centers	491	439	52	عدد مراكز الرعاية الأولية التابعة لوزارة الصحة	
Percent of MOH PHC centers of total PHC centers	64	72	33	نسبة مراكز الرعاية التابعة لوزارة الصحة من المجموع الكلي	
No. of NGOs PHC centers	192	112	80	عدد مراكز الرعاية الأولية التابعة لمنظمات أهلية	
No. of UNRWA PHC centers	65	43	22	عدد مراكز الرعاية الأولية التابعة لوكالة الغوث الدولية	
No. of PMMS PHC centers	17	12	5	عدد مراكز الرعاية الأولية التابعة للخدمات الطبية	
<b>الموارد البشرية الصحية</b>					
No. of general physicians per 10,000 pop.	14.9	19.0	8.9	عدد الأطباء العاملين لكل 10,000 من السكان	
No. of specialized physicians per 10,000 pop.	6.7	6.9	6.3	عدد الأطباء الأخصائيين لكل 10,000 من السكان	
No. of dentists per 10,000 pop.	8.3	13.2	1.1	عدد أطباء الأسنان لكل 10,000 من السكان	
No. of pharmacists per 10,000 pop.	17.2	17.7	16.5	عدد الصيادلة لكل 10,000 من السكان	
No. of nurses per 10,000 pop.	27.9	33.8	19.2	عدد التمريض لكل 10,000 من السكان	
No. of midwives per 10,000 pop.	2.9	3.0	2.8	عدد القابلات لكل 10,000 من السكان	
Nurse to physician ratio	1.3	1.3	1.3	نسبة التمريض لكل طبيب	

المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021

National Health Indicators 2021

	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
No. of MoH general physicians per 10,000 pop.	4.4	2.6	7.0	عدد الأطباء العامين في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
No. of MoH specialized physicians per 10,000 pop.	1.9	1.5	2.4	عدد الأطباء الأخصائيين في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
No. of MoH dentists per 10,000 pop.	0.3	0.25	0.5	عدد أطباء الأسنان في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
No. of MoH pharmacists per 10,000 pop.	1.1	0.9	1.5	عدد الصيادلة في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
No. of MoH nurses per 10,000 pop.	11.0	8.5	14.6	عدد التمريض في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
No. of MoH midwives per 10,000 pop.	1.4	1.2	1.6	عدد القابلات في وزارة الصحة لكل 10,000 من السكان
<b>مختبرات وزارة الصحة</b>				
Lab tests per Person in the population.	3.2	3.4	3.0	متوسط عدد الفحوص المخبرية لكل فرد في المجتمع
Total transfused blood units	129,140	76,611	52,529	العدد الكلي لوحدات الدم المصرفوفة
Transfused blood and its components units per 100 person /year	2.6	2.7	2.5	عدد وحدات الدم ومشتقاته المصرفوفة لكل 100 فرد سنوياً
Total number of blood donors	80,840	41,636	39,204	العدد الكلي للمتبرعين في الدم (الضفة الغربية) عدد وحدات الدم التي تم توفيرها (قطاع غزة)
No. of MOH hospital lab tests	13,011,827	7,910,957	5,100,870	عدد الفحوص المخبرية المنجزة في المستشفيات التابعة لوزارة الصحة بما فيها فحوصات بنوك دم المستشفيات وجمعيات الدم
No. of MOH PHC lab tests	3,451,709	2,734,987	716,722	عدد الفحوص المخبرية المنجزة في مديريات الصحة التابعة لوزارة الصحة
No. of examined histopathology samples at MoH Labs	33,780	18,810	14,978	عدد عينات الأنسجة المرضية المنجزة في مختبرات وزارة الصحة
<b>حوادث السير على الطرق</b>				
No. of RTA injuries	12,801	10,340	2,461	عدد إصابات حوادث الطرق
No. of deaths of RTA	199	146	53	عدد وفيات حوادث الطرق
Incidence rate of RTA injuries per 100,000 pop.	260	367	117	معدل حدوث إصابات حوادث الطرق لكل 100,000 من السكان
RTA mortality rate per 100,000 pop.	4.0	5.2	2.5	معدل وفيات حوادث السير لكل 100,000 من السكان
<b>الصيدلية</b>				
Average population per pharmacy	2,738	2,794	2,660	معدل عدد السكان لكل صيدلية

المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021

National Health Indicators 2021

	Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Percentage of medicine availability at MoH central medical stores	/	87%	/	نسبة توفر الأدوية في مستودعات وزارة الصحة المركزية
<b>Hospitals</b>				<b>المستشفيات</b>
No. of Hospital	89	54	35	عدد المستشفيات
Population/ hospital ratio	58,733	57,786	60,192	عدد السكان لكل مستشفى
Total number of beds	7,769	4,182	3,587	العدد الإجمالي لأسرة المستشفيات
Population bed ratio	673	746	587	عدد السكان لكل سرير
Hospital Beds Per 10,000 Pop.	14.9	13.4	16.8	عدد أسرة المستشفيات لكل 10,000 من السكان
<b>MoH hospitals*</b>				<b>مستشفيات وزارة الصحة *</b>
No. of Hosp	29	16	13	عدد المستشفيات
Population/ hospital ratio	169,750	176,000	162,057	عدد السكان لكل مستشفى
No. of beds	4,693	1,869	2,824	عدد الأسرة الكلي لمستشفيات وزارة الصحة
Population bed ratio	1,049	1,507	746	عدد السكان لكل سرير
Beds Per 10,000 Pop.	9.5	6.6	13.4	الأسرة لكل 10,000 من السكان
Average length of stay (days)**	2.9	2.5	3.4	معدل مكوث **
Bed occupancy rate (%) ***	82.4	90.3	77.3	نسبة إشغال الأسرة ***
No. of Admissions	393,850	221,280	172,570	عدد الإدخالات
No. of Hospitalization days	1,188,129	599,960	588,169	عدد الأيام التمريضية
No. of Live Births	74,494	36,601	37,893	عدد المواليد الاحياء
% of Caesarean Sections	28.4%	31.4%	25.4%	نسبة العمليات الفيصرية
No. of Operations (minor and major)	131,191	64,599	66,592	عدد العمليات (الصغرى والكبرى)
No. of Deaths	7,411	3,726	3,685	عدد الوفيات
Treatment without hospitalization	3,251,274	1,358,965	1,892,309	المعالجون بدون إقامة
<b>Non- Communicable diseases</b>				<b>الأمراض غير المعدية</b>
Incidence rate for all cancer types per 100,000 pop.	108.1	119.6	92.6	معدل حدوث السرطان لكل 100,000 من السكان
Breast cancer incidence rate per 100,000 pop.	17.8	18.2	17.2	معدل حدوث سرطان الثدي لكل 100,000 من السكان
Breast cancer incidence rate per 100,000 female pop.	36.2	36.6	34.5	معدل حدوث سرطان الثدي لكل 100,000 من الإناث

**المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021**  
**National Health Indicators 2021**

		Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Colorectal cancer incidence rate per 100,000 pop.	14.5	16.4	11.8	Mعدل حدوث سرطان القولون والمستقيم لكل 100,000 من السكان	
Reported diabetes mellitus incidence rate per 100,000 pop	/	166.9	149.4	معدل حدوث حالات السكري المبلغ عنها في مرافق وزارة الصحة لكل 100,000 من السكان	
<b>الأمراض المعدية</b>					IR: Per 100,000 population
Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19)	<b>6016</b>	<b>5,277</b>	<b>7,110</b>		كورونا - 19
Acute Flaccid Paralysis	<b>0.85</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>0.6</b>		الشلل الرخوي الحاد
Poliomyelitis	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		شلل الأطفال
AIDS	<b>0.08</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.09</b>		مرض نقص المناعة المكتسبة
HIV Infection	<b>0.08</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.09</b>		عدوى فيروس نقص المناعة البشرية
Cholera	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الكوليرا
Diphtheria	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الخناق
Measles	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		مرض الحصبة
Meningococcal Meningitis	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0</b>		التهاب السحايا بالمكورات السحائية
Hemophilus Influenza Meningitis	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0</b>		التهاب السحايا المستدمية النزلية
Other Bacterial Meningitis	<b>2.86</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>		التهاب السحايا البكتيري
Plague	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		طاعون
Hemorrhagic Fever	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الحمى التزفية
Rabies	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		داء الكلب
Neonatal Tetanus	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الكراز الوليدي
Adult Tetanus	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		كراز الكبار
Yellow Fever	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الحمى الصفراء
West Nile Fever	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		حمى غرب النيل
Brucellosis	<b>13.29</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>0</b>		الحمى المالطية
Chemical Poisoning	<b>0.24</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0</b>		التسمم الكيميائي
Encephalitis	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		التهاب الدماغ
Viral Meningitis	<b>5.71</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>		التهاب السحايا الفيروسي
Hepatitis A	<b>8.76</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>16.8</b>		إلتهاب الكبد أ
Hepatitis B Case	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0</b>		التهاب الكبد ب
Hepatitis B Carrier	<b>5.77</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>		التهاب الكبد ب - حامل المرض

# المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021

## National Health Indicators 2021

		Palestine	West Bank	Gaza Strip	
Hepatitis C Case	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0</b>		التهاب الكبد ج
Hepatitis C Carrier	<b>1.42</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>		التهاب الكبد ج - حامل المرض
Leprosy	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الجذام
Cutaneous Leishmaniasis	<b>1.16</b>	<b>2.02</b>	<b>0</b>		اللشمانيا الجلدية
Visceral (Kalaazar) Leishmaniasis	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0</b>		اللشمانيا الحشوية
Malaria	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		المalaria
Pertusis	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0</b>		السعال الديكي
Rubella	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		الحصبة الألمانية
Mumps	<b>7.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>16.6</b>		الكاف
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>		سل الرئوي
Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.4</b>		سل الغيررئوي
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.14</b>		التيفوئيد
Salmonella	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		السامونيلا

Deaths		الوفيات	
<b>Deaths- West Bank</b>		<b>%</b>	<b>الوفيات – الضفة الغربية</b>
% of COVID-19 deaths from all deaths	<b>25.2</b>		نسبة الوفيات الناتجة عن كovid من جميع الوفيات
% of cardiovascular deaths from all deaths	<b>23.7</b>		نسبة وفيات أمراض القلب الوعائية من جميع الوفيات
% of cancer deaths from all deaths	<b>12.2</b>		نسبة وفيات أمراض السرطان من جميع الوفيات
% of diabetes complication deaths from all deaths	<b>10.6</b>		نسبة وفيات مضاعفات السكري من جميع الوفيات
% of cerebrovascular deaths from all deaths	<b>7.9</b>		نسبة وفيات الجلطات الدماغية من جميع الوفيات
% of injuries death from all deaths	<b>4.4</b>		نسبة وفيات حوادث من جميع الوفيات
% of congenital anomalies from all deaths	<b>4.2</b>		نسبة وفيات التشوهات الخلقية من جميع الوفيات
<b>Deaths – Gaza Strip</b>			<b>الوفيات قطاع غزة</b>
% of cardiovascular deaths from all deaths	<b>29.3</b>		نسبة وفيات أمراض القلب الوعائية من جميع الوفيات
% of COVID-19 deaths from all deaths	<b>24.0</b>		نسبة الوفيات الناتجة عن كovid من جميع الوفيات
% of cancer deaths from all deaths	<b>11.3</b>		نسبة وفيات أمراض السرطان من جميع الوفيات
% of injuries death from all deaths	<b>6.1</b>		نسبة وفيات حوادث من جميع الوفيات
% of unknown cause deaths from all deaths	<b>5.4</b>		نسبة الوفيات غير معروفة السبب من جميع الوفيات

% respiratory disease deaths from all deaths	4.3	نسبة وفيات أمراض الجهاز التنفسى من جميع الوفيات
% of deaths of conditions in the perinatal period	3.6	نسبة وفيات أمراض ما حول الولادة من جميع الوفيات

**المؤشرات الصحية الوطنية 2021**  
**National Health Indicators 2021**

شراء الخدمة الصحية من خارج وزارة الصحة - فلسطين

**Purchasing Health services - Palestine**

Total number of referrals for treatment outside MOH facilities	99,064	العدد الإجمالي للتحويلات خارج مرافق وزارة الصحة
Estimated cost (NIS) of referrals for treatment outside MOH facilities	974 M	المبلغ المقدر للإنفاق على التحويلات خارج وزارة الصحة
Total number of referrals for treatment outside MOH facilities inside Palestine	88,926	عدد التحويلات خارج مرافق وزارة الصحة لمرافق داخل فلسطين
Total number of referrals for treatment outside MOH facilities outside Palestine	10,138	عدد التحويلات خارج مرافق وزارة الصحة لمرافق خارج فلسطين
Total number of referrals for treatment outside MOH facilities in Green line (Israel)	5,181	عدد التحويلات خارج وزارة الصحة لمرافق في فلسطين المحتلة 1948

\* Only population of Jerusalem J2 included, Palestinian services area

\* عدد سكان القدس ج 2، منطقة الخدمات الفلسطينية

\*\* Psychiatric hospitals are excluded

\*\* تم إستثناء مستشفيات الأمراض النفسية

\*\*\* Dora and psychiatric hospitals are excluded

\*\*\* تم إستثناء مستشفيات الأمراض النفسية ومستشفى دورا