

State of Palestine

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

**Survey on Measuring the Utilization of Statistics in Policy Making in Public and Private Sectors in** **Palestine, 2019**

**Main Results**

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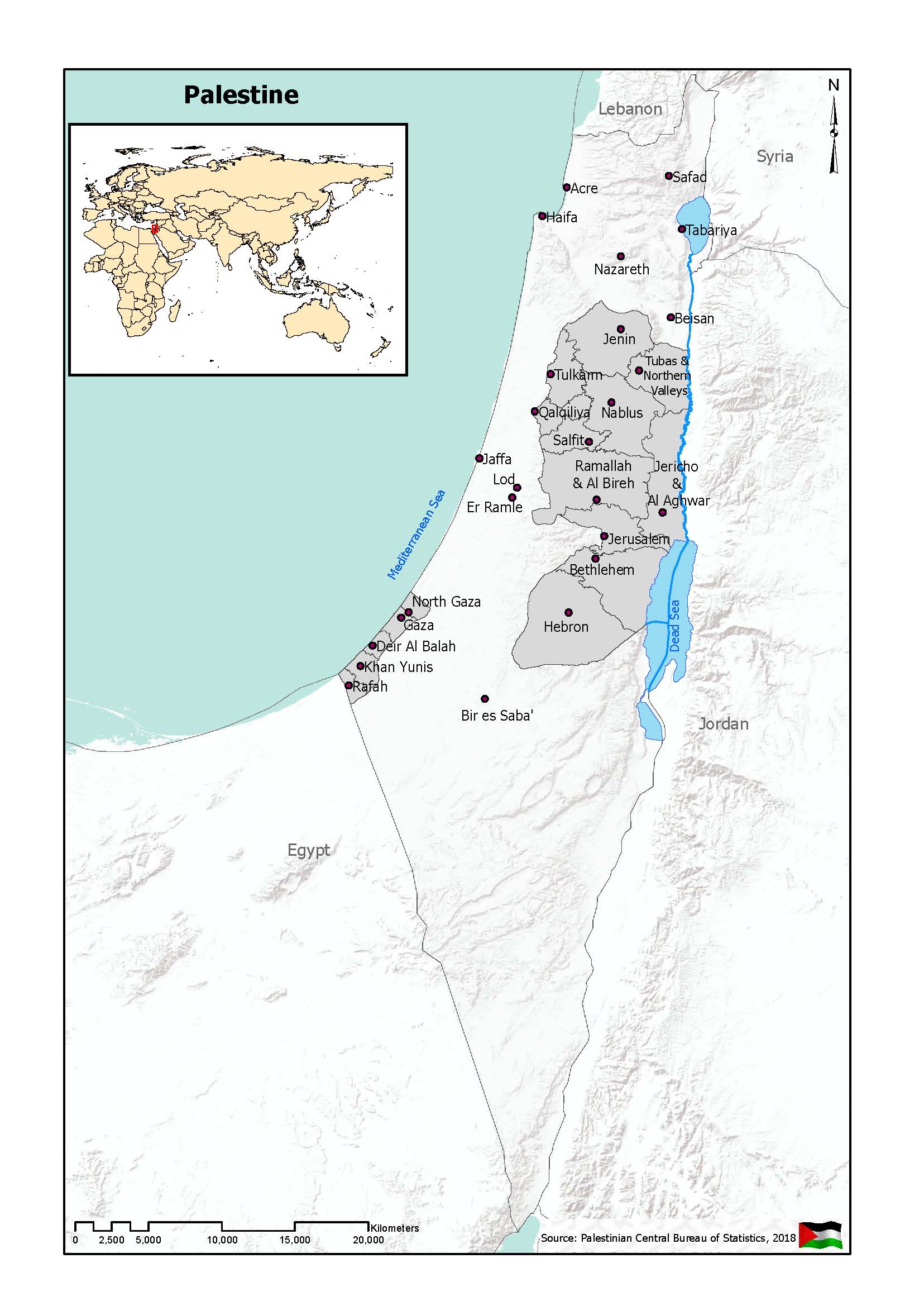
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**Introduction**

Statistical work brings significant benefits to the users from both public and private sectors; it gives a clear picture on the status of the economic, demographic, social and geographic aspects of society. It also guarantees having the possibility of holding comparisons over the time to improve the different aspects of life in the Palestinian society toward serving the decision-making process and developing the necessary strategies in both the public and private sectors using data as a key tool in formulating policies and interventions.

The main objective of the survey is to secure a database on the utilization of PCBS statistical data by institutions from public and private sectors, in addition to the extent to which the users benefited from the statistical data in their planning and other aspects.

The Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in public and private sectors 2019, focuses on the indicators that cover the extent to which PCBS statistical data are utilized by institutions in the public and private sectors, the type of such statistical data, the periodicity of utilization and the means of obtaining data as well as the level of satisfaction.

PCBS hopes that the results of the survey will contribute to monitoring and characterizing the utilization of statistics in public and private sector institutions in Palestine, as well as furnishing the policy and decision makers with statistical data towards enhancing the comprehensive development in Palestine.

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| Ola Awad | **2019 September,** |
| President of PCBS |  |

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Chapter One

**Main Findings**

This chapter presents the main findings of the Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in the public and private sectors, 2019, as follows:

**1.1 Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in the public sector 2019**

The percentage of ministries and government institutions operating in the public sector that utilize statistical data in policy making, planning and making decisions increased from around 71% in the year 2012 to around 80% in the year 2018.

**Percentage of the public sector institutions that utilize statistical data in policy and decision making, and planning, for selected years**

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The survey results indicated that around 73% of ministries and government institutions in Palestine utilize statistical data of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) for preparing their annual and strategic plans. The results also showed that around 76% of ministries and government institutions prepared statistical reports during 2018.

**Percentage of the public sector institutions that utilize PCBS statistical data by aspect of utilization, 2018**

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Meanwhile, the survey results indicated that within the public sector there was an increase in the level of satisfaction among ministries and government institutions towards the provided data by (PCBS) as all ministries and government institutions were satisfied or completely satisfied with the utilized data during 2018, where around 86% of them were satisfied or completely satisfied in 2016.

**Table 1: Percentage distribution of the public sector institutions by their level of satisfaction towards PCBS statistical data, 2016, 2018**

| **Level of Satisfaction** | 2016 | 2018 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Completely satisfied | 20.0 | 39.4 |
| Satisfied | 65.7 | 60.6 |
| Neutral | 11.4 | 0.0 |
| Unsatisfied | 2.9 | 0.0 |
| Completely unsatisfied | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **Total** | 100 | **100** |

The 2019 survey results also revealed that around 65% of ministries and government institutions During the two years preceding the Survey have a statistical unit, around 57% using statistical classifications, around 72% has a statistical plan/ program and around 39% conducted studies/field surveys, and around 22% of ministries and government institutions implemented specialized workshops.

**Percentage of the public sector institutions for selected**

**Indicators** **During the two years preceding the survey, 2019**

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The survey results indicated that around 88% of ministries and government institutions confirmed that data quality assurance is among the most important training requirements needed to enhance their statistical data production operations, around 84% of ministries and government institutions stated that administrative records and central registers management comes in second place, around 81% of ministries and government institutions stress that statistical concepts and indicators, terms and indicators are among the most important training requirements to enhance their statistical data production operations, around 78% stated that questionnaire and statistical framework design is among the most important requirements to enhance their statistical data production, 75% believed that knowledge of statistical principles is among the most important training requirements to enhance their statistical data production operations, and around 72% stressed that data collection is among the most important requirements to enhance their statistical data production operations.

**Percentage of the public sector institutions that produce statistical data by the most important training requirements to enhance their statistical operations, 2019**

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**Table 2: Selected indicators for the public sector institutions, 2016, 2019**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **2019** | **2016** | **Indicator** |
| 53.1 | 42.5 | Percentage of institutions that carry out specialized surveys |
| 78.1 | 72.5 | Percentage of institutions that issue statistical reports and publications |
| 92.0 | 90.0 | Percentage of institutions obtaining PCBS publications via Official request |
| 80.0 | 67.7 | Percentage of institutions obtaining PCBS publications via Website |
| 93.8 | 90.0 | Percentage of institutions using Excel in data processing |
| 43.8 | 42.5 | Percentage of institutions using Access in data processing |
| 50.0 | 45.0 | Percentage of institutions using SPSS in data processing |
| 68.8 | 67.5 | Percentage of institutions have their own database |
| 57.1 | 50.0 | Percentage of institutions using statistical Classifications |
| 71.9 | 57.5 | Percentage of institutions that have a statistical plan |
| 46.9 | 65.0 | Percentage of institutions that need computers |
| 75.0 | 85.0 | Percentage of institutions that need data processing packages |
|  | | **Percentage of institutions according to their training needs to enhance their operations:** |
| 68.8 | 80.0 | Statistical data analysis principles using SPSS |
| 71.9 | 81.5 | Publishing data and preparing statistical reports |
| 71.9 | 80.0 | Reading and understanding numbers and tables |
| 84.4 | 87.5 | Managing administrative and central records |
| 71.9 | 75.0 | Sampling |
| 87.5 | 90.0 | Data quality control |
| 71.9 | 82.5 | Data collection, entry processing |

**1.2 Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in the private sector, 2019**

The percentage of the private institutions that utilize Statistical data in decision makingand set plans has increased from around 21% in the year 2014 to around 42% in the year 2018.

**Percentage of institutions in the private sector that use Statistical data in planning and decision making by region, for selected years**

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The results revealed that the highest percentage of the private institutions that use statistical data in 2018 was for the institutions working in the Financial and Insurance activities at around 67%, followed by Information & Communications at a percentage of 60%.

**Table 3: Percentage of institutions in the private sector that use statistical data in planning and decisions making by economic activity** **for institutions, for selected years**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Economic Activity** |  | **year** | |
| **2012** | **2014** | **2018** |
| Industry | 11.3 | 18.7 | 25.5 |
| Construction | 23.4 | 9.6 | 31.1 |
| Internal Trade | 10.7 | 15.2 | 57.9 |
| Services | 35.8 | 35.3 | 34.5 |
| Transport and Storage | 3.8 | 9.3 | 7.0 |
| Information & Communications | 53.3 | 45.6 | 60.0 |
| Finance and insurance | 27.3 | - | 66.5 |
| **Total** | **19.5** | **21.4** | **41.8** |

\* Remark: (-) means that this option wasn't listed in 2014.

The results indicate that around 83% of the private institutions use PCBS data for preparing their annual and strategic plans, while around 83% of them use the data for making their internal decisions within their institutions, whereas 76% of them use it in preparing their projects feasibility studies and around 76% use this data for preparing their statistical reports and action policy papers.

**Table 4: Percentage of institutions in the private sector that use statistical data by the scope of use, for selected years**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scopes of Use** | **year** | | |
|
| **2014** |  | **2018** |
| Preparing the annual plans and strategies | 52.0 |  | 82.7 |
| Preparing their project feasibility studies | 51.5 |  | 76.0 |
| Taking internal decisions within the institution | 57.5 |  | 82.5 |
| Preparing statistical reports and action papers | 46.0 |  | 75.6 |
| Preparing training courses for the institution’s employees | 25.9 |  | 41.3 |
| \* Other fields | 4.6 |  | 7.2 |

\* Other fields: Such as journalistic investigations, marketing and competition.

The results also indicate that around 89% of private institutions in Palestine that use PCBS data obtain it from PCBS website, whereas, around 6% of them obtained PCBS data from publications.

**Table 5: Percentage distribution in the private sector that use PCBS statistics by method of obtaining data and region, 2018**

| **Method of Obtaining Data** | **Palestine** | **West Bank** | **Gaza Strip** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Website | 88.9 | 88.6 | 89.7 |
| Department of users services | 4.6 | 4.1 | 5.7 |
| Printed publications | 5.5 | 5.9 | 4.6 |
| \* Other | 1.0 | 1.4 | 0.0 |

\* Other: includes through contact with friends or the media.

Chapter Two

**Methodology**

This chapter presents the used scientific methodology in the planning and implementation of the survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in public and private sectors 2019, including the design of the survey tools and data collection, processing and analyzing the survey’s data.

**2.1 Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in the public sector 2019**

**2.1.1 Survey Objectives**

**The objective of this survey is to assess the status of the government institutions as a source of statistical data, the objectives of the survey is as follow:**

* Measuring of utilization of the official statistics in policy and decision making the public sector.
* Identifying the statistical data that utilized by the public sector.
* Defining the advantages that achieved by statistical data users in policy making and decision taking.

**2.1.2 Survey Questionnaire**

The questionnaire was designed based on PCBS technical standards including the existing experiences and the available expertise as well as the the international recommendations. The survey questionnaire comprises the identification data for each institution, some indicators related to the statistical production units in ministries/institutions, in addition to a set of indicators on the impact of using statistics on the policy & decision making.

**2.1.3 Sampling Framework**

The survey covers all ministries and public institutions that considered as an administrative data sources for PCBS, the data were collected from 49 institutions as a framework for this survey.

**2.1.4 Fieldwork Operations**

the public sector survey data were collected during the period from 20/06/2019 to 25/07/2019.

The data collection was directly coordinated with the ministries and government institutions using the web services; a link for the questionnaire survey and the manual guide for completing the survey properly had been provided.

**2.1.5 Data Processing**

Following the data entry that has been completed by the ministries and government institutions, double check and edit for the data took part by the statistical team. The survey results on the format of tables using SPSS had been produced according to the tabulation plan.

**2.2 Survey on measuring the utilization of statistics in policy making in the private sector 2019**

**2.2.1 Survey Objectives**

* Identifying the statistical data that utilized by the private sector.
* Strengthening the relations between PCBS and statistical data producers/users.
* Defining the advantages that achieved by statistical data users in policy and decision making.
* Enhancing the Palestinian statistical system through the improvement of data quality.
* Enabling PCBS to develop and improve the data collection tools according to the national needs.

**2.2.2 Survey Questionnaire**

The questionnaire was designed to include the identification data for each institution, extent of utilization of PCBS data in the private sector, types of the used data, level of satisfaction and reasons beyond not using PCBS data, as well as the future needs of the data for these institutions.

**2.2.3 Sampling Framework**

The survey covers all operating establishments with 20 employees and more for the year 2019 in the sectors of: industry, construction, internal trade, services, transportation, IT and communication and finance & insurance. Data were collected from 1,043 institutions out of 1,200 with response rate of 86.9%.

**2.2.4 Fieldwork Operations**

The data of the private sector survey were collected during the period from 17/03/2019 to 11/04/2019.

The data collection for the survey in West Bank and Gaza Strip was collected by using the PC-tablets.

**2.2.5 Data Processing**

Following the data entry completion, double check and edit for the data took part by the statistical team. The survey results on the format of tables using SPSS had been produced according to the tabulation plan.