



إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية

Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 15: November 05 –11, 2024.

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

In this Report:

- The Israeli occupation continues to prevent private sector merchants from importing commodities into the Gaza Strip.
- The occupation continues to prevent the entry of raw materials necessary for industrial and agricultural production, which thwarts any attempts of economic recovery.
- Shortages in flour lead its price to reach 125 NIS per 25 kg sack, (260% of its normal price), bread is being sold in black market.
- Success Story of "Mqat Agricultural Nurseries Co- North Gaza": page 23
- The case of the week: "Cash shortages and electronic payments in achieving financial and economic sustainability in Gaza"..... page 24

November 25, 2024.

1 Executive Summary:

- This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 05/11/2024 to 11/11/2024.
- All crossings were closed on, Saturday 09/11/2024. Rafah crossing remained completely closed.
- This week witnessed 20% increase in the number of trucks passing into Gaza Strip compared to the previous week.
- During the reporting period, **787** trucks with a total of **9,445¹** tons of commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from three main² crossings, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) 564 trucks, Erez 172 trucks and Gate 96 rout 51 trucks. No trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing.
- The Israeli coordination platform, **for the Private Sector**, has been closed since 2nd of October 2024, no coordination requests have been placed or approved since then.
- This week, the flow of trucks through Gate 96 rout continued for the fourth week successively, but this week the pace has slowed compared to the previous week, both in the number of trucks and in the number of working days.
- Karm Abu Salem (KAS) operates mainly for the southern part, Erez crossing operates for the Northern part, and Gate 96 rout serves both sides.
- All trucks that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period are humanitarian aid, and no commodities entered for the private sector except for 30 trucks of cooking gas.
- The Humanitarian Assistance entering Gaza Strip does not meet the minimum needs of the population with limited quantities of some food items, hygiene materials, shelter equipment, fuel, medicines and medical supplies only.
- There is no prioritization or stability in the flow of these goods, leading to extremely high local market prices, there is an increase in food items prices by more than 1700% compared to what it was before the war.
- Lack of storage and cold storage prevent wholesalers and retailers from storing reasonable quantities of goods to help stabilize the markets.
- The private sector should be allowed to import food items again, and expand the types and quantities of goods, cover all areas in distribution, to stabilize prices and make essential goods available to people. Also, the number of importers should be Increased.
- The private sector Importers should be allowed to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.

¹ This number does not include the load of 5 trucks, there is no information about their contents in tons, these trucks were loaded by UN & NGO equipment, 3 Trucks passed on 05/11/2024, and one truck on 7/11/2024 and 11/11/2024.

² West Eriz (Zikim) and Gate 96 are also being used to enter humanitarian aid to the north.

2 Distribution of the Population in Gaza Strip:

The continuation of the extensive military operations of the Israeli occupation army in the north of Gaza Strip, the lack of food and the sharp rise in food items prices, have forced additional numbers of Palestinian families to be displaced towards the southern part of Gaza Strip. Reports issued by organizations working in the field of distributing humanitarian aid in the northern part of Gaza Strip indicate that about 400-450 thousand people are still in the northern part, which constitutes 19% of the total population of Gaza Strip before the war, and there are approximately 1,625,000 people in the southern part of Gaza Strip, which constitutes 72% of the total population, and the remaining 200,000 people (9%) are currently outside Gaza strip.



Figure (1): Map of dividing Gaza Strip into North and South of Gaza Valley

The data in Table No. (1), shows that about 72% of the commodities entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period were through KAS crossing, Israeli occupation still restricts these commodities from passing into the Northern part of Gaza Strip. Therefore, the vast majority of commodities entered through KAS remain in the southern part of Gaza Strip. The commodities entered through Erez crossing constitutes about 22%, remain in the Northern part. While there is no accurate information about the destination of the commodities that entered through Gate 96, whether to the northern or to the southern part of Gaza Strip, which represents the remaining 6% of the total commodities that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period.

It is worth noting that the food shortage is no longer limited to the northern part of Gaza Strip, as was the case in previous weeks, but has also expanded to the southern part, which is also suffering from a severe shortage of basic food commodities, vegetables, meat and flour. While the northern part of Gaza Strip suffers greatly from a shortage of food, vegetables, meat and eggs, however there are some other items available there, such as clothes, shoes and hygiene, which are not available in the southern part.

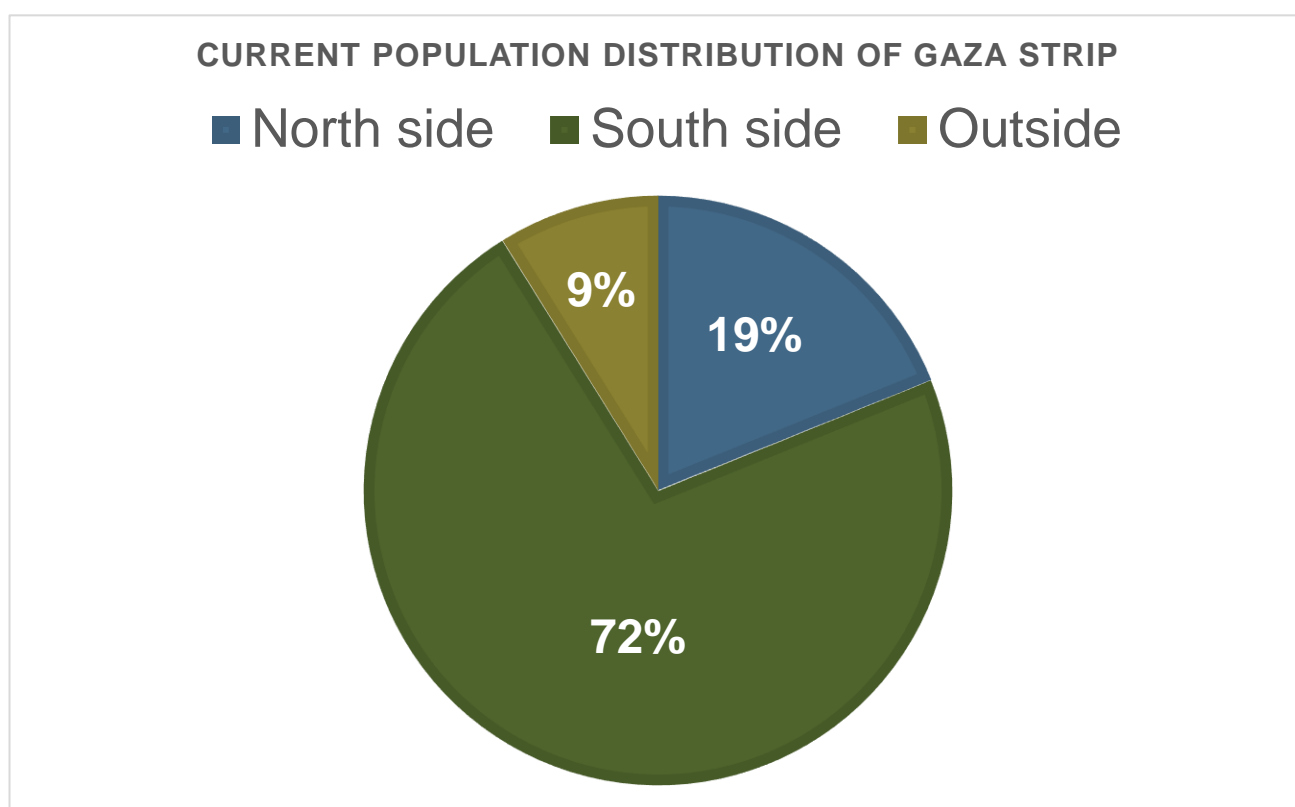


Figure (2): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip.

The following figure shows the distribution of commodities between the North and the South based on the number of trucks. The numbers in this figure are based on the quantity of commodities entering through KAS and Erez crossings including Gate 96, and do not include trucks passing from the south of Gaza Strip to the north, because they are in very small portion and there are no accurate statistics regarding them.

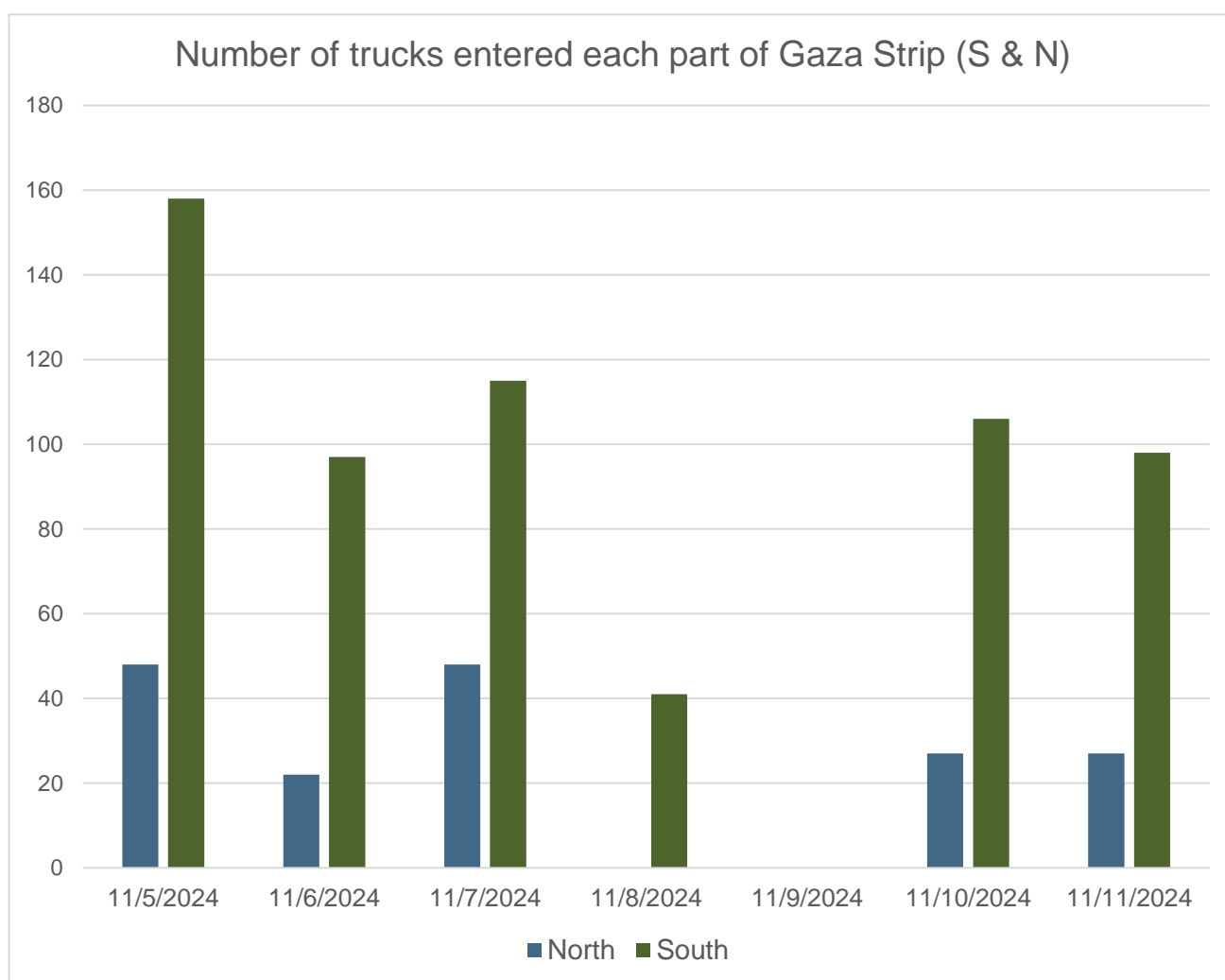


Figure (3): Number of trucks entered each part of Gaza Strip (South, North)

3 Daily Crossing Points Status:

Rafah crossing remains closed all the time. In the previous week. This week, (KAS) crossing once again attained the largest number of trucks passing into Gaza Strip during the reporting period. Tuesday 05/11/2024 has the largest number of trucks on one day during the reporting period, 206 trucks passed into Gaza Strip, 135 trucks through (KAS), 48 trucks through Erez, and 23 trucks through Rout 96 Gate. On Wednesday 06/11/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 119 trucks only, 97 trucks of them entered from (KAS) and the remain 22 trucks entered from Erez, and no trucks entered from gate 96. On Thursday 07/10/2024, the number increased to 163 trucks, 115 trucks from (KAS), 48 trucks from Erez, and no trucks entered from gate 96. On Friday 08/11/2024, no trucks entered either from Erez or from Gate 96 crossing, and only 41 trucks passed through (KAS) crossing. On Saturday 09/11/2024 no trucks entered from any crossing at all. On Sunday 10/11/2024, 133 trucks entered into Gaza Strip, 78 from (KAS), 27 from Erez and 47, and the remain 28 trucks entered from Gate 96. On the last day, Monday 11/11/2024, 125 trucks passed through two crossings, 98 trucks passed through (KAS) and 27 through Erez, while no trucks passed through Gate 96 or any other crossings.

Table (1): Number of trucks entered through each corossing in the reporting period.

Day	Date	Number of Trucks				Total
		Rafah	Erez	Route 96	Karm Abu Salem (KAS)	
Tuesday	05/11/2024	0	48	23	135	206
Wednesday	06/11/2024	0	22	0	97	119
Thursday	07/11/2024	0	48	0	115	163
Friday	08/11/2024	0	0	0	41	41
Saturday	09/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0
Sunday	10/11/2024	0	27	28	78	133
Monday	11/11/2024	0	27	0	98	125
Total		0	172	51	564	787

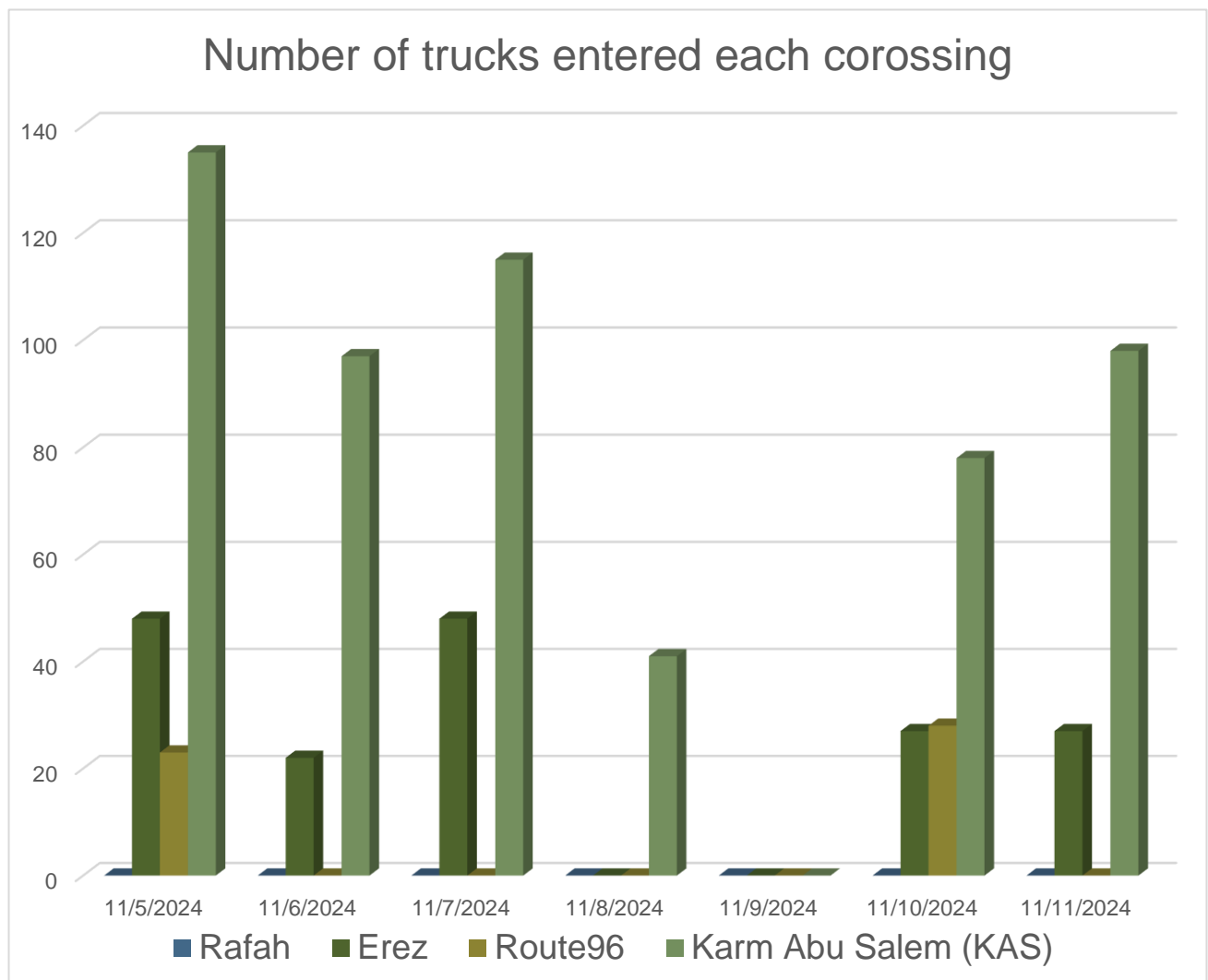


Figure (4): Number of trucks entered from each corossing

Despite of the increase in the average daily number of entering trucks during the reporting period which is 112 trucks, compared to the average in the previous week of 93 trucks, commodity prices were still very high compared to previous weeks.

4 Entering Commodities:

4.1 Commodities Classification:

This week, the types of commodities entering Gaza Strip, in the north and south, are divided into 7 main categories: food items – shelter equipment – medical supplies – combined aid – fuel – cooking gas – UN & NGOs equipment. This week, no truck loaded of UN and NGO equipment have entered. There is no prioritization or stability in the importation of these goods. This lack of prioritization and stability has affected local market prices, as will be explained later, in the market analysis section. There is no proper geographic distribution to the entering commodities, neither in quantities nor in varieties. The following tables show the categories of entering commodities and their amount in tons and trucks, on daily basis:

Table (2): Types and ammount of commodities in Tons.

Date	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Tons)						
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Mixed Aid	UN & NGOS equipment	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items
05/11/2024	145	330	1,267	NA	295	132	2,090
06/11/2024	30	450	15	0	0	134	1,625
07/11/2024	40	465	435	NA	0	132	1,485
08/11/2024	0	30	0	0	0	0	830
09/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/11/2024	74	432	355	0	265	132	1,480
11/11/2024	10	480	60	NA	0	132	1,935
Total	299	2,187	2,132	NA	560	662	9,445

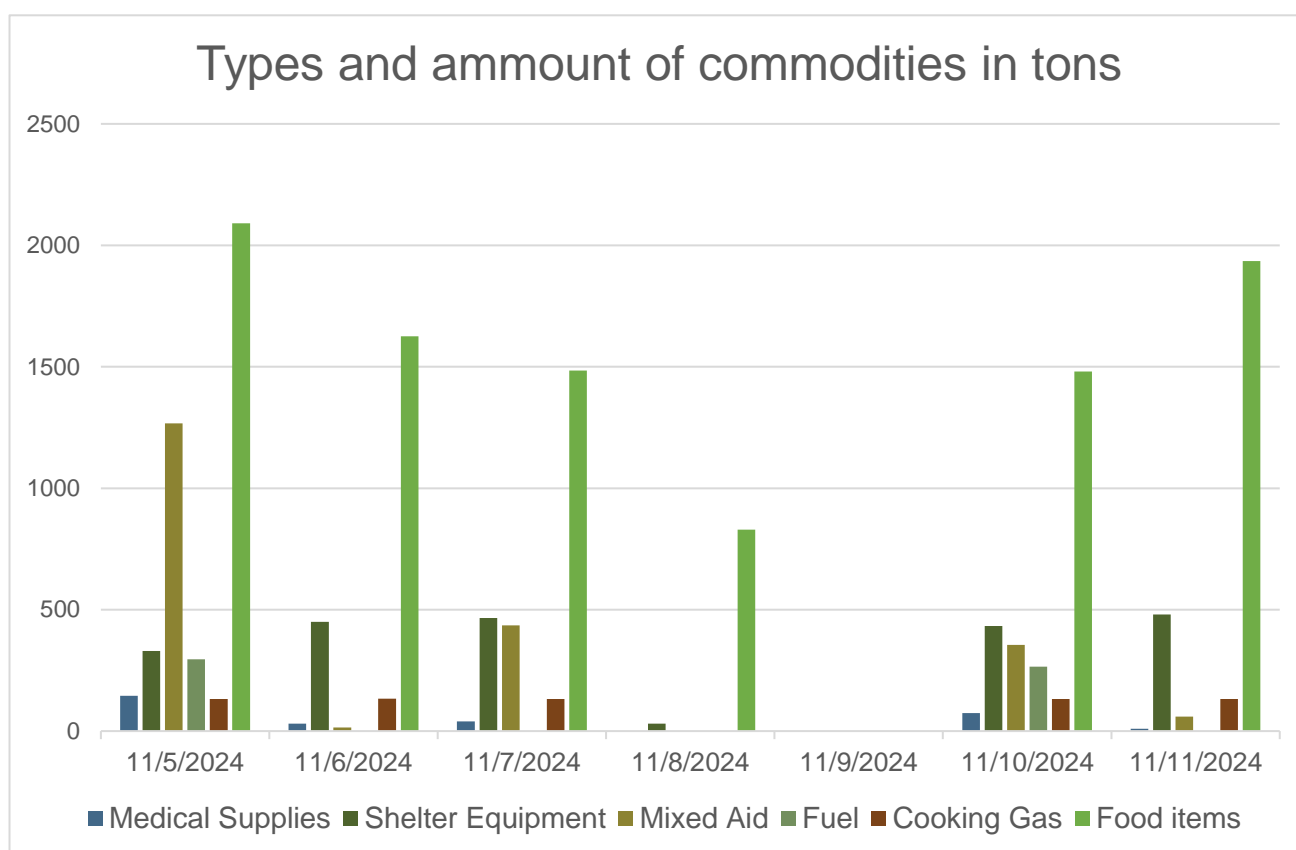


Figure (5): Types and ammount of commodities in tons.

Table (3): Types and ammount of commodities by Trucks.

Date	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Trucks)							Total
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Mixed Aid	UN & NGOS equipment	Cooking Gas	Fuel	Food items	
05/11/2024	13	23	62	3	6	7	92	206
06/11/2024	3	30	1	0	6	0	79	119
07/11/2024	3	32	29	1	6	0	92	163
08/11/2024	0	2	0	0	0	0	39	41
09/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/11/2024	4	28	18	0	6	7	70	133
11/11/2024	1	32	4	1	6	0	81	125
Total	24	147	114	5	30	14	453	787

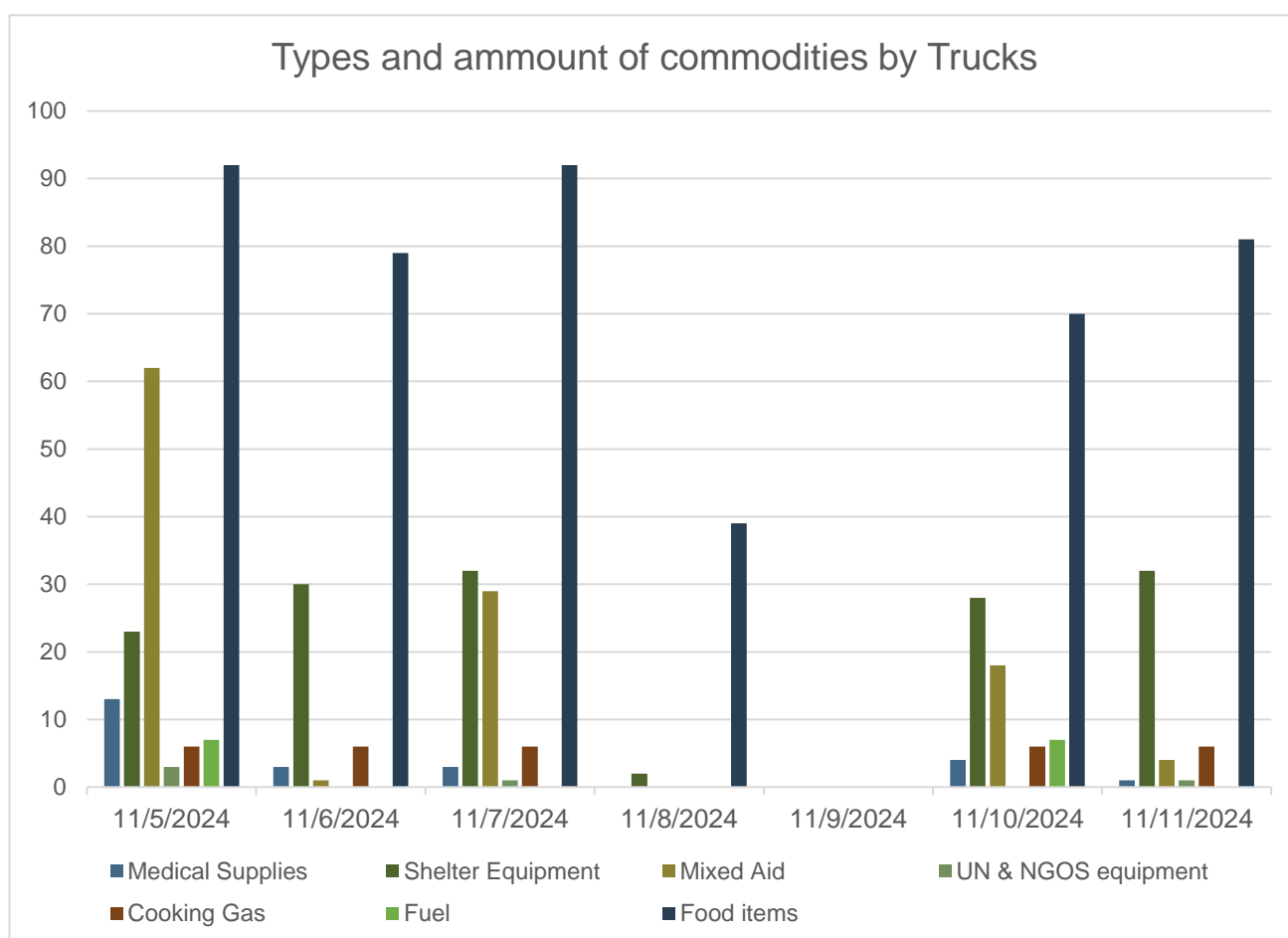


Figure (6): Types and ammount of commodities by Trucks.

4.2 Food items details:

In the previous week, we noticed that the percentage of food had raised to 77% from the total amount of commodities, this week the ratio had dropped to less than 58% of the total commodities that entered into Gaza Strip.

Although the number of trucks increased by 20% compared to the previous week, the quantity of food items in tons decreased by more than 8%, from 10,295 tons in the previous to 9,445 tons in this week. The details of these food items and its components include (7) sub-categories, as follows:

1. Basic items such as (oil - sugar - flour - rice - legumes - ...).
2. Vegetables and fruits.
3. Frozen meat including (red meat - chicken - fish).
4. Food parcels.
5. Eggs and dairy products.
6. Other items such as (spices and seasonings - biscuits - noodles).
7. Water.

The following table shows the quantities of each of the sub-categories in tons:

Table (4): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

Date	Food items categories amount (Tons)							Total
	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	
05/11/2024	0	0	0	0	140	750	1,200	2,090
06/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	690	935	1,625
07/11/2024	0	0	210	0	60	0	1,215	1,485
08/11/2024	0	0	225	0	180	390	35	830
09/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/11/2024	0	0	0	0	80	750	650	1,480
11/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	1,020	915	1,935
Total	0	0	435	0	460	3,600	4,950	9,445

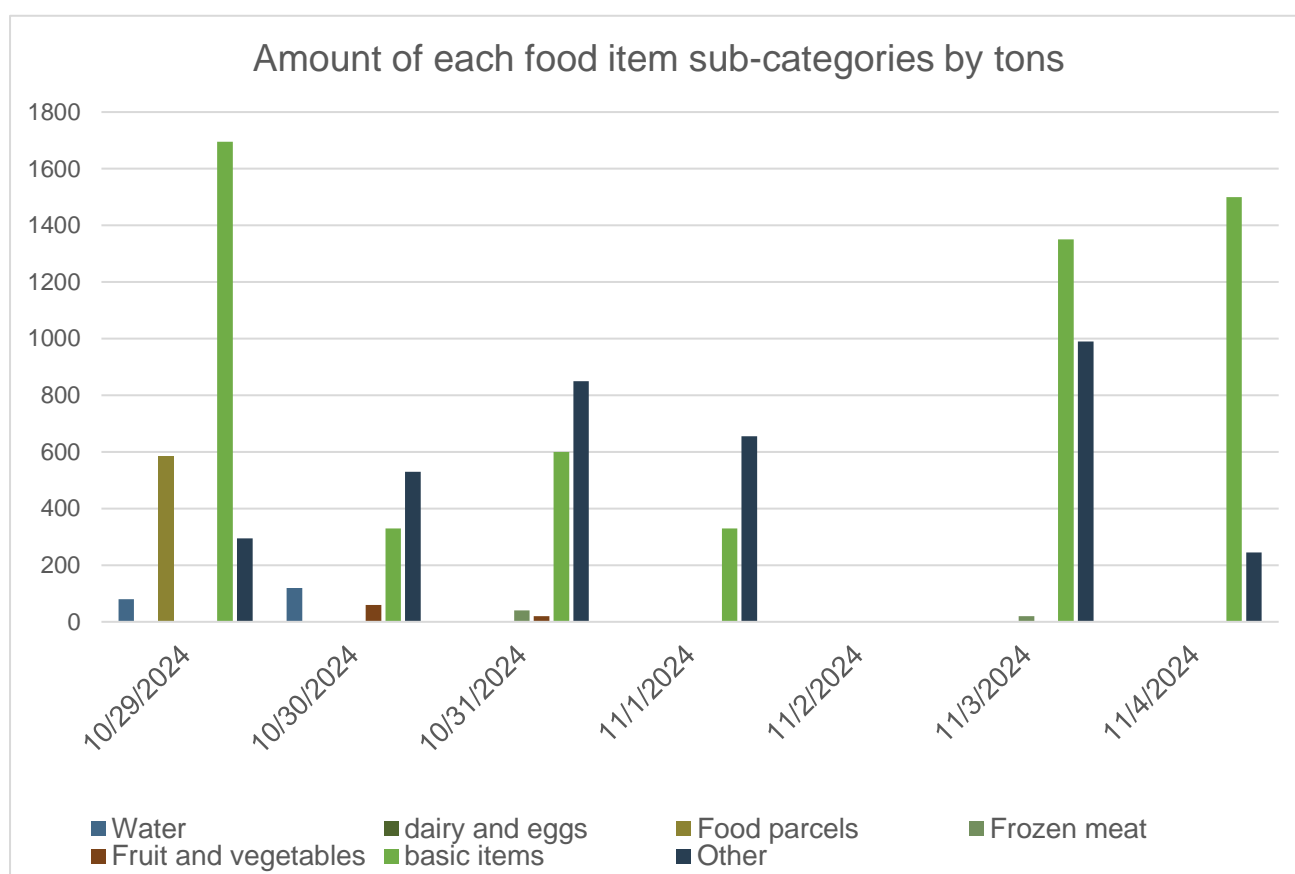


Figure (7): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

Table (5): Amount of each food item sub-categories by trucks.

Date	Food items categories amount (Truck)							Total
	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	
05/11/2024	0	0	0	0	6	34	52	92
06/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	34	45	79
07/11/2024	0	0	13	0	3	0	76	92
08/11/2024	0	0	10	0	8	19	2	39
09/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/11/2024	0	0	0	0	4	35	31	70
11/11/2024	0	0	0	0	0	43	38	81
Total	0	0	23	0	21	165	244	453

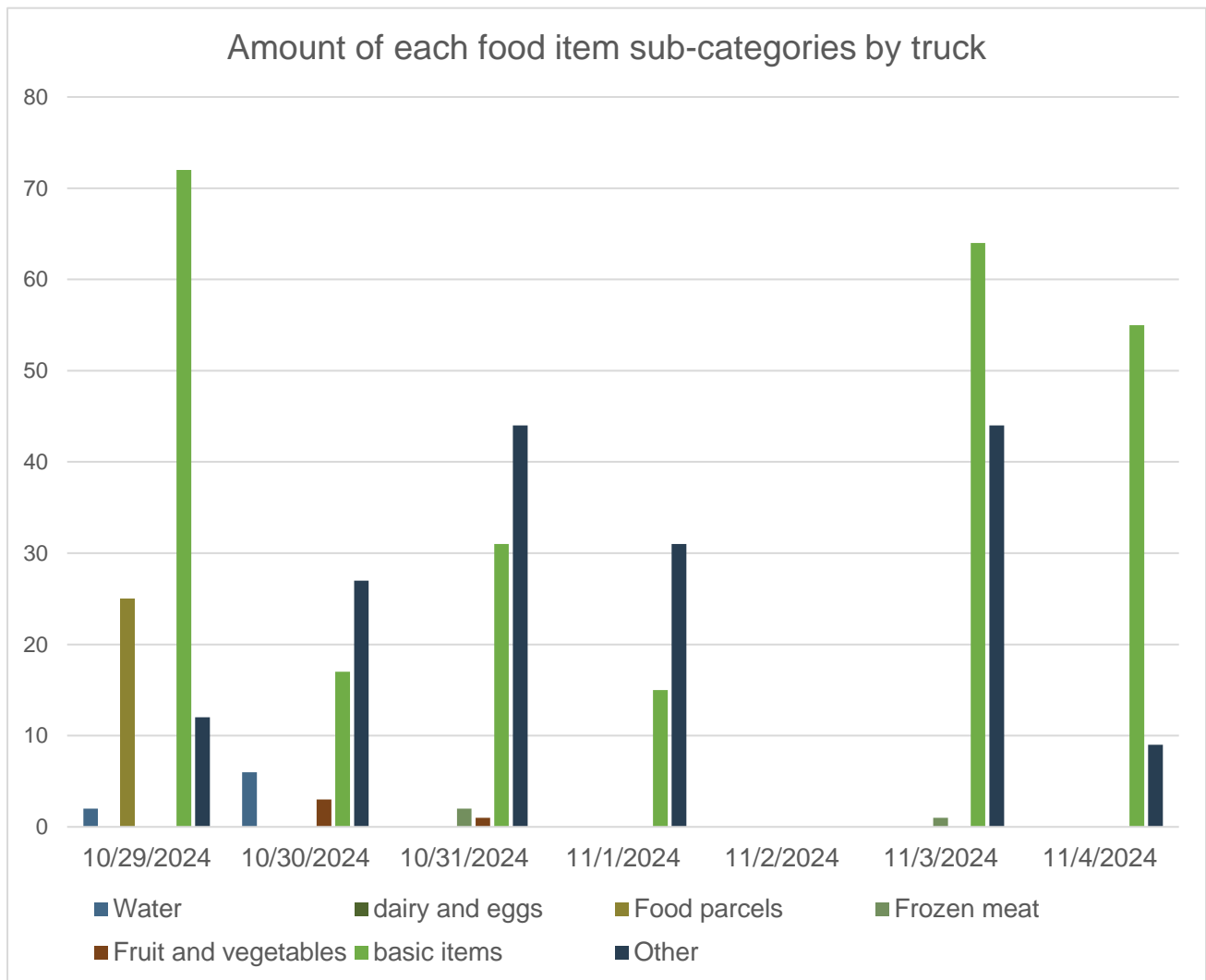


Figure (8): Amount of food item sub-categories by trucks.

4.3 Commodities Providers:

The commodities entered Gaza Strip during the report period vary between the private sector and humanitarian sector. While the private sector is limited to cooking gas, the humanitarian sector aid extends to food items, medical supplies, shelter equipment, UN & NGOs equipment and combined aid. The private sector entered only 4.6% of the total number of trucks for this period. The following table shows the commodities entering according to the source (private sector – humanitarian aid):

Table (6): commodities entering according to the provider (private sector - humanitarian aid)

Date	Items	Private Sector		Humanitarian Aids		Total Number of trucks	Total amount by tons
		Trucks	Tons	Trucks	Tons		
05/11/2024	Food items	0	0	92	2,090	92	2,090
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	7	295	7	295
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	3	NA	3	NA
	Mixed Aid	0	0	62	1,267	62	1,267
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	23	330	23	330
	Medical Supplies	0	0	13	145	13	145
Subtotal 1		6	132	200	4,127	206	4,259
06/11/2024	Food items	0	0	79	1,625	79	1,625
	Cooking Gas	6	134	0	0	6	134
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	1	15	1	15
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	30	450	30	450
	Medical Supplies	0	0	3	30	3	30
Subtotal 2		6	134	113	2,120	119	2,254
07/11/2024	Food items	0	0	92	1,485	92	1,485
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	NA
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	29	435	29	435
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	32	465	32	465
	Medical Supplies	0	0	3	40	3	40
Subtotal 3		6	132	157	2,425	163	2,557
08/11/2024	Food items	0	0	39	830	39	830
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0

Date	Items	Private Sector		Humanitarian Aids		Total Number of trucks	Total amount by tons
		Trucks	Tons	Trucks	Tons		
	Mixed Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	2	30	2	30
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal 4		0	0	41	860	41	860
09/11/2024	Food items	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal 5		0	0	0	0	0	0
10/11/2024	Food items	0	0	70	1,480	70	1,480
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	7	265	7	265
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	18	355	18	355
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	28	432	28	432
	Medical Supplies	0	0	4	74	4	74
Subtotal 6		6	132	127	2,606	133	2,738
11/11/2024	Food items	0	0	81	1,935	81	1,935
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	1	NA	1	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	4	60	4	60
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	32	480	32	480
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	10	1	10
Subtotal 7		6	132	119	2,485	125	2,617
Total		30	662	757	14,623	787	15,285

5 Daily market prices for essential items:

Data about market prices are collected from the markets in the southern part of Gaza Strip. Prices were collected in the “humanitarian area” (South of Wadi Gaza), specifically in Nuseirat, Deir al-Balah, and Khan Younis markets.

This week, a commercial strike took place in the southern part of Gaza Strip, for a several days, where markets and shops closed their doors in response to public calls to protest the

sharp increases in the goods prices and their insufficient quantities in the markets, especially food items. Therefore, data on prices was not available during the days in which the commercial strikes prevailed.

It was noted that there was an increase in some items prices by more than 1000% compared to what it was before the war. This increase is attributed to several factors, the most important of them are the availability of the item and the volume of demand on it (supply and demand, and lack of prioritization). Prices of many goods have a sharp fluctuation from day to day, in direct correlation with changes in the status of the crossings and the types and quantities of imported goods (instability of supplies flow). The prices for the reporting period, from 05/11/2024 to 11/11/2024 are as follows:

Table (7): Daily market prices ILS/Kg for essential items (South of Gaza Strip)

#	Item	05/11	06/11	07/11	08/11	09/11	10/11	11/11	Average	St. Dev
1	Flour	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100	150	125.00	35.36
2	Tomato	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	35	32.50	3.54
3	Pepper	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	45	42.50	3.54
4	Oil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	35	37.50	3.54
5	Garlic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	32	36	34.00	2.83
6	Potato	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25	22	23.50	2.12
7	Lemon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25	22	23.50	2.12
8	Sugar	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	35	32	33.50	2.12
9	Orange	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17	15	16.00	1.41
10	Eggplant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16	17	16.50	0.71
11	Cucumber	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17	17	17.00	0.00
12	Onion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20	20	20.00	0.00
13	Rice	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	18	18	18.00	0.00
14	Kidney beans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	10	10.00	0.00
15	Macaroni	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	6	6.00	0.00
16	Bottled water box	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	28	28	28.00	0.00

From the previous table, goods can be grouped according to the severity of price fluctuations based on the standard deviation value into three categories:

5.1 Fixed-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation is (0), meaning that their prices were stable and did not change throughout the reporting period, these goods are (cucumber – onion – rice – kidney beans – macaroni – bottled water box).

5.2 Stable-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation ranges between (0-1), meaning that their prices changed at slight rates during the reporting period, these goods are (eggplant).

5.3 Volatile-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation is greater than (1), meaning that they witnessed sharp fluctuations in prices during the reporting period, these goods are (flour – tomato – pepper – oil – garlic – potato – lemon – sugar - orange).

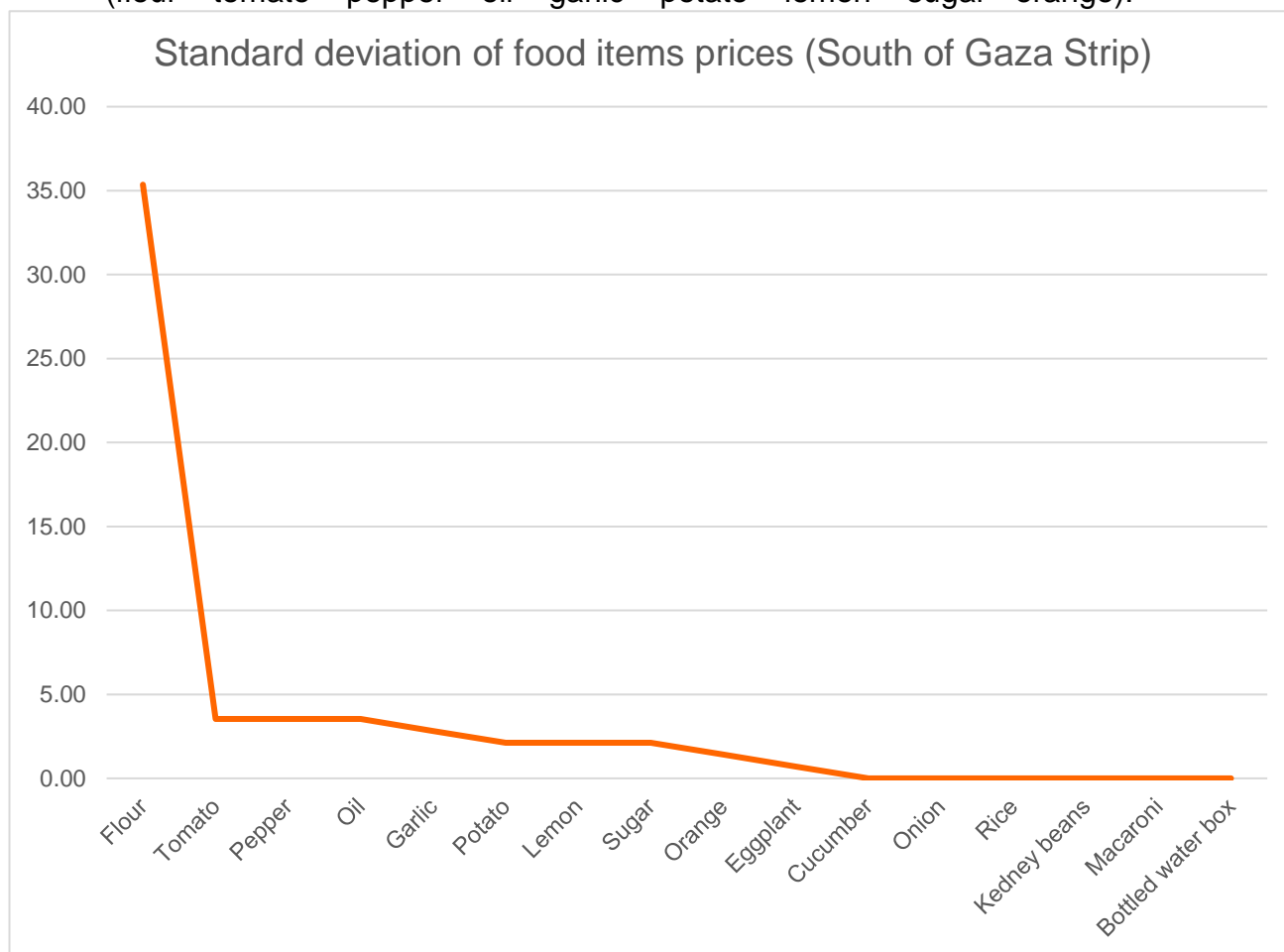


Figure (9): Standard deviation of food items prices (South of Gaza Strip)

Here we notice that, this week, because data on commodity prices were collected only on two days due to the commercial strikes, as previously noted, the standard deviation does not accurately reflect the fluctuations in commodity prices during the reporting period.

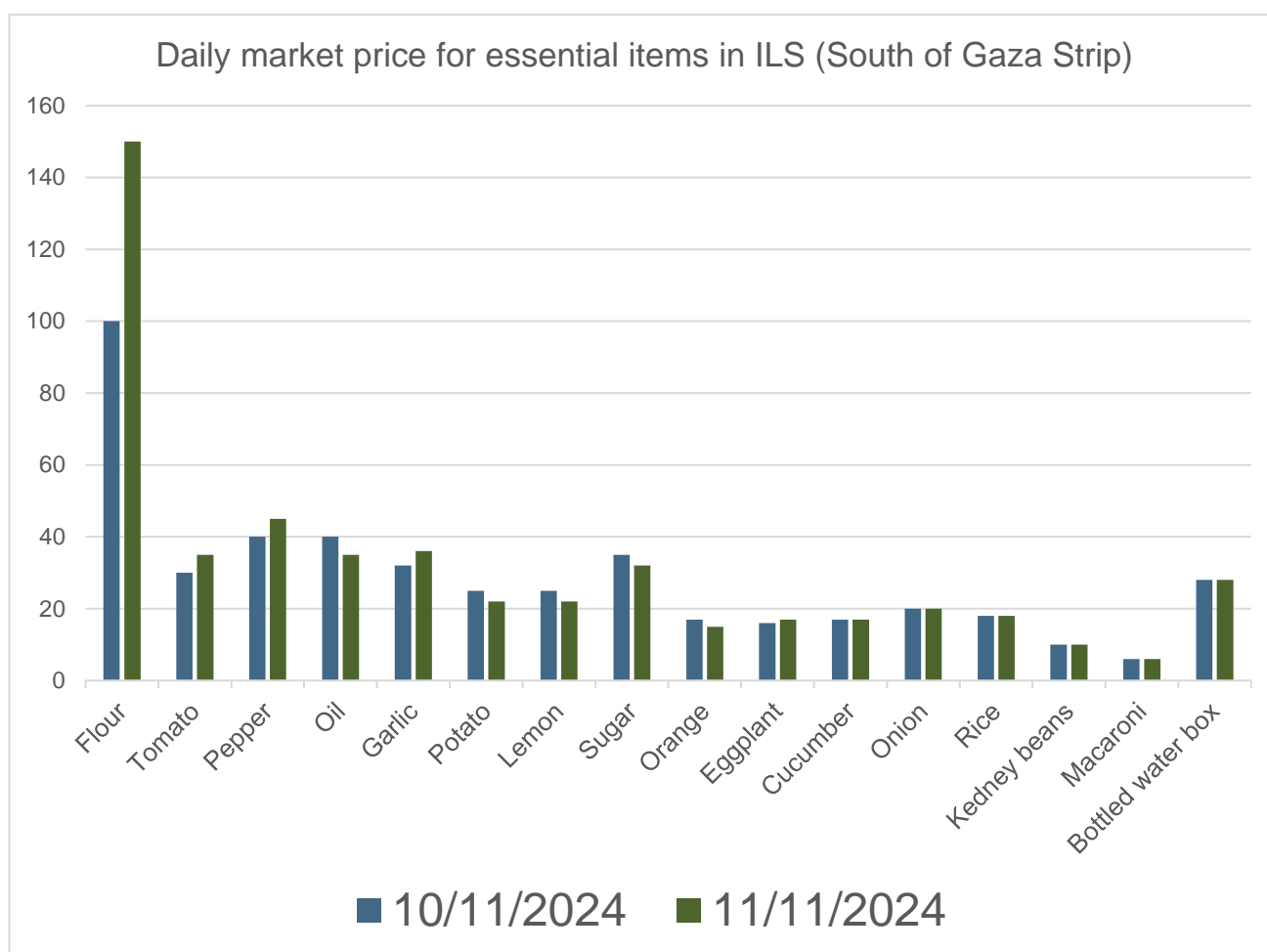


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS (South of Gaza Strip)

5.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 05/11/2024 – 11/11/2024:

As an example:

- Product 1: **Flour.**
 - Opening Price: 100.
 - Closing Price: 150.
 - Percentage Change: 50%.
- Product 2: **Tomato.**
 - Opening Price: 30.
 - Closing Price: 35.
 - Percentage Change: 17%
- Product 3: **Oil.**
 - Opening Price: 40.
 - Closing Price: 35.
 - Percentage Change: -13%
- Product e: **Sugar.**
 - Opening Price: 35.
 - Closing Price: 32.
 - Percentage Change: -9%

5.4.1 Importers prices:

By comparing commodity prices between importers and retailers, we find that retailer prices to consumers are approximately 30% higher than importers (wholesalers) for basic materials, vegetables and fruits, and 40% for frozen meat. This is considered, to some extent high percentage, and is attributed to the high costs of sales services such as: transportation, security escort, storage, refrigeration and energy.

5.4.2 Market Conditions in Gaza:

- **Truck Movement Variations:**
 - During this report, there was stability of the commodities flow rate comparing to the previous week, the total is 787 trucks, distributed between Karm Abu Salem, Erez and Gate 96. Erez crossing witnessed an improvement in commodities flow rate comparing to the previous week.
 - Completely shut of all crossings were observed on 09/11/2024, impacting the availability of goods on the following days.
- **Variety and Quantity of Goods:**
 - During this week, despite the increase in the flow rate of commodities, the supply is still far from meeting the demand, especially in food items, this affected market prices. The quantities entered Gaza Strip are very small compared to the required level, and are not sufficient for the population daily needs.

5.5 Market price in the Northern part of Gaza Strip:

During the reporting period, no data was collected on commodity prices in the northern part of Gaza Strip, due to the unavailability of many goods and the closure of markets, as well as the difficult security conditions.

5.6 Market price in the Northern part of Gaza Strip:

This week, 11 food items price were obtained from the northern part of Gaza Strip. The prices still indicate unprecedented levels of increase. When comparing the average prices of these items with the average prices of the same items in the south of Gaza Strip, where prices of goods are already 5-10 times higher than they were before the war, we note the following: The price of garlic in the north is 18 times higher than its price in the south, and in the south, its price is more than 3 times its original price before the war. The price of onion in the North is 16 times higher than its price in the south, and in the South, its price is about 10 times its original price before the war. The prices of some items in the north are 4-6 times higher than the south (potato, eggplant, cucumber, sugar). Other items prices are 2-3 times higher (lemon, rice, oil). The flour is the only item which price is lower in the north than in the south, the flour price in the north is about 85% below of its price in the south during the reporting period. This decrease in flour prices in the North is attributed to the entry of more than sufficient quantities of flour into the north as humanitarian aid, as well as the operating of number of bakeries there.

Table (8): Price of food items in the northern part of Gaza Strip (ILS/Kg).

#	Item	05/11	06/11	07/11	08/11	09/11	10/11	11/11	Ave.	St. Dev.
1	Garlic	800	600	600	NA	500	NA	NA	625.00	125.83
2	Potato	160	160	120	NA	140	NA	NA	145.00	19.15
3	Egg	NA	450	420	NA	450	NA	NA	440.00	17.32
4	Cucumber	80	NA	70	NA	100	NA	NA	83.33	15.28
5	Onion	NA	320	320	NA	300	NA	NA	313.33	11.55
6	Lemon	60	80	60	NA	60	NA	NA	65.00	10.00
7	Eggplant	80	85	80	NA	85	NA	NA	82.50	2.89
8	Oil	85	85	80	NA	80	NA	NA	82.50	2.89
9	Flour	15	20	NA	NA	20	NA	NA	18.33	2.89
10	Rice	45	40	40	NA	40	NA	NA	41.25	2.50
11	Sugar	NA	130	130	NA	130	NA	NA	130.00	0.00

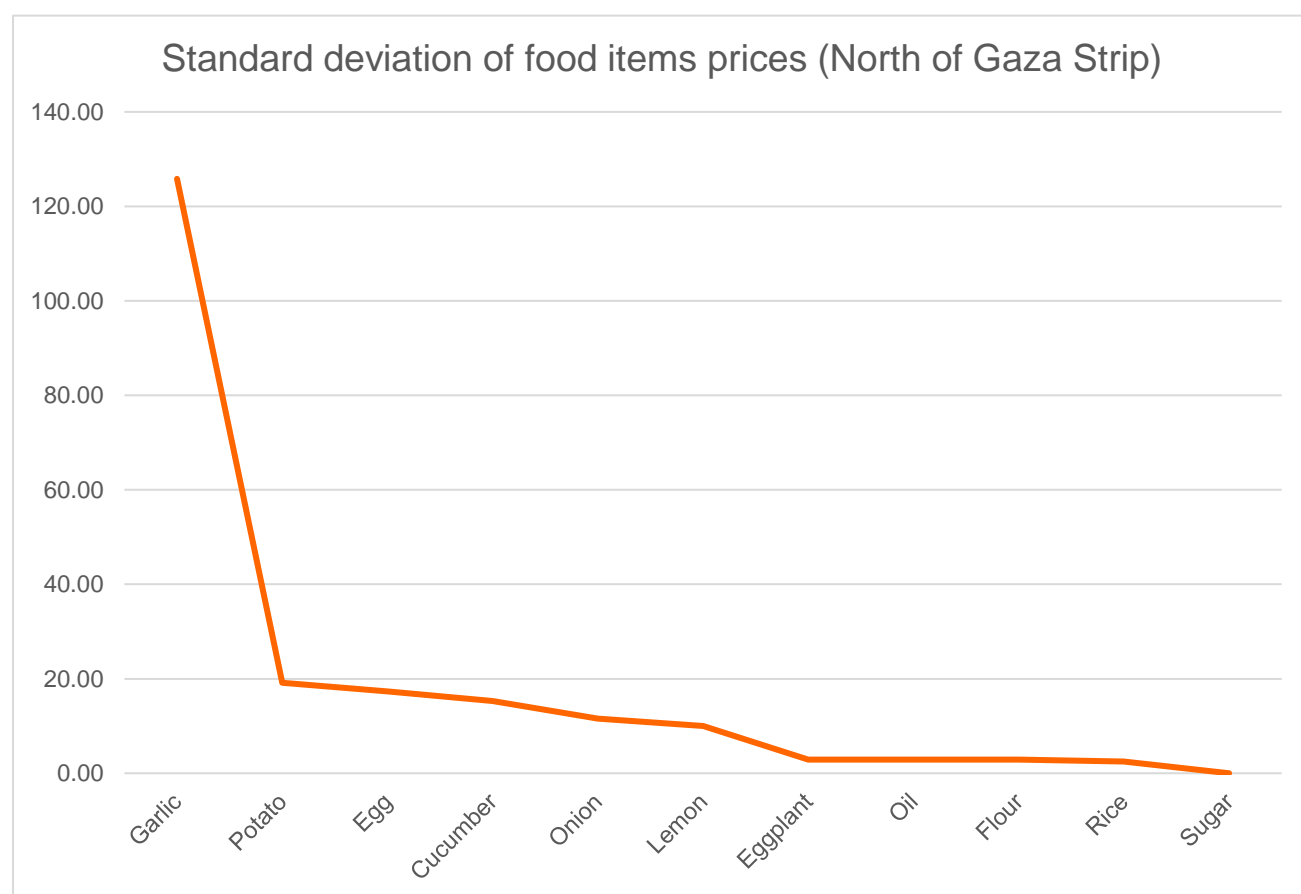


Figure (11): Standard deviation of food items prices (North Gaza).

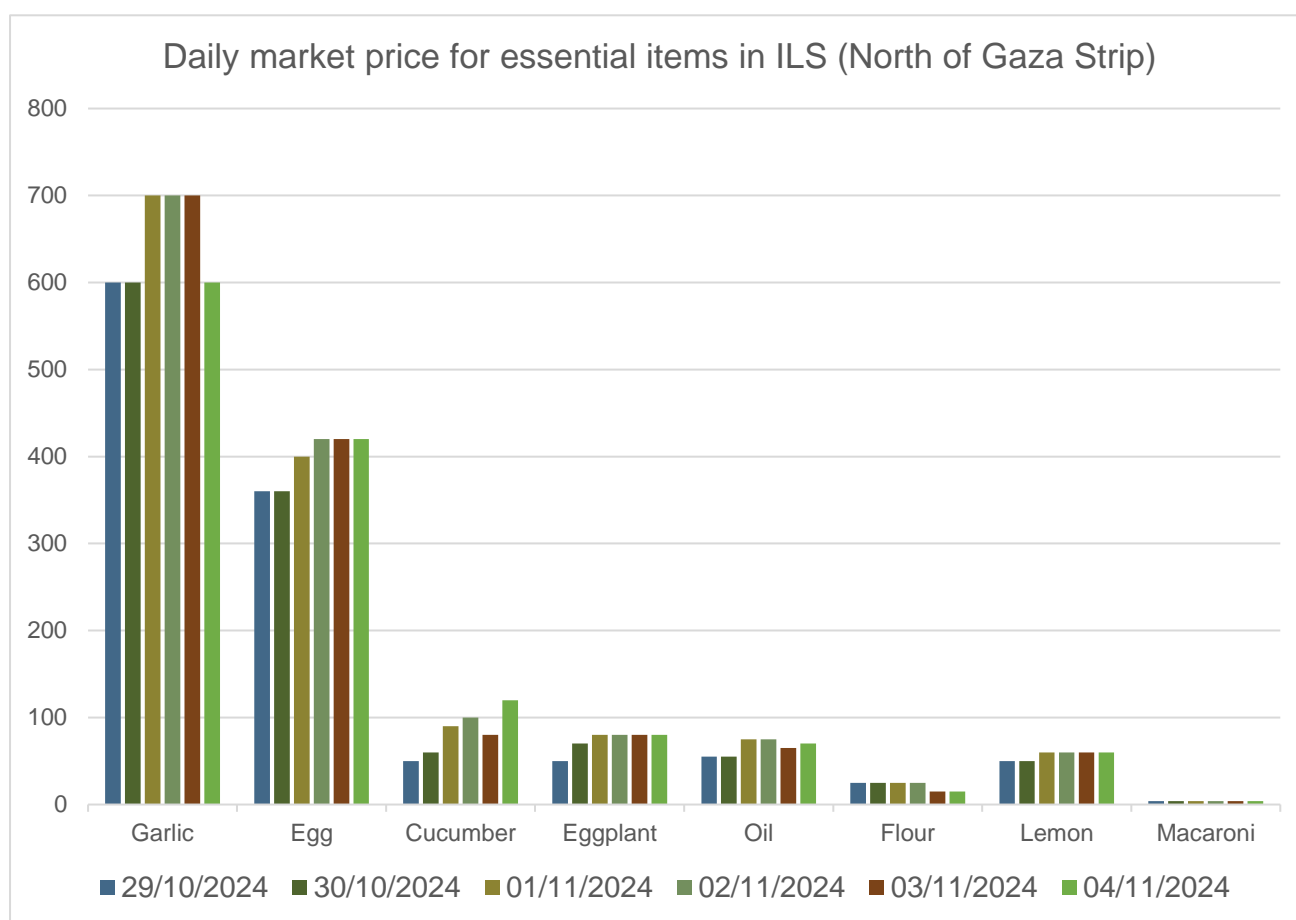


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS (North of Gaza Strip)

5.7 Comparison of Prices:

The data indicates that the average of prices in the Southern area of Gaza Strip during the reporting period are significantly higher than they were before the war, and the amount of increase varies from one item to another. For example, the prices of potato and sugar are more than 10 times higher, the price of onion is about 9 times higher. Eggplants and cucumbers reached more than 7 times higher. Some items reached 2.5 times higher (lemon, oil, flour, garlic). The price of rice was increased the least by 100% only. The price of flour in the south, increased to about 257% above what it was before the war. This is due to the delay in the of delivery of flour to citizens by humanitarian organizations. This delay is attributed to the obstacles facing the entry of humanitarian aid trucks through the crossings.

In the North part of Gaza Strip, the price increase was unprecedentedly sharp, the price of onions reached about 167 times higher than what was before the war. The prices of potatoes and garlic are 73 and 63 times higher respectively. Some items price ranged between 30-60 times higher (pepper, sugar). Lemons, oil and rice prices ranged between 5-16 times higher. However, flour price had decreased from what it was before the war by about 48%. This sharp decrease is attributed to the entry of large quantities of flour by humanitarian organizations, the operating of many bakeries as well, and the availability of sufficient quantities of flour in the north.

Table (9): comparison between prices before and after the war

#	Item	Prices before the war	Average of price (South)	% Of Change	Average of price (North)	% Of Change
1	Onion	2	20	900%	313.33	15567%
2	Potato	2	23.5	1075%	145	7150%
3	Garlic	10	34	240%	625	6150%
4	Sugar	3	33.5	1017%	130	4233%
5	Cucumber	2	17	750%	83.33	4067%
6	Eggplant	2	16.5	725%	82.5	4025%
7	Lemon	4	23.5	488%	65	1525%
8	Oil	8	37.5	369%	82.5	931%
9	Rice	9	18	100%	41.25	358%
10	Flour	35	125	257%	18.33	-48%

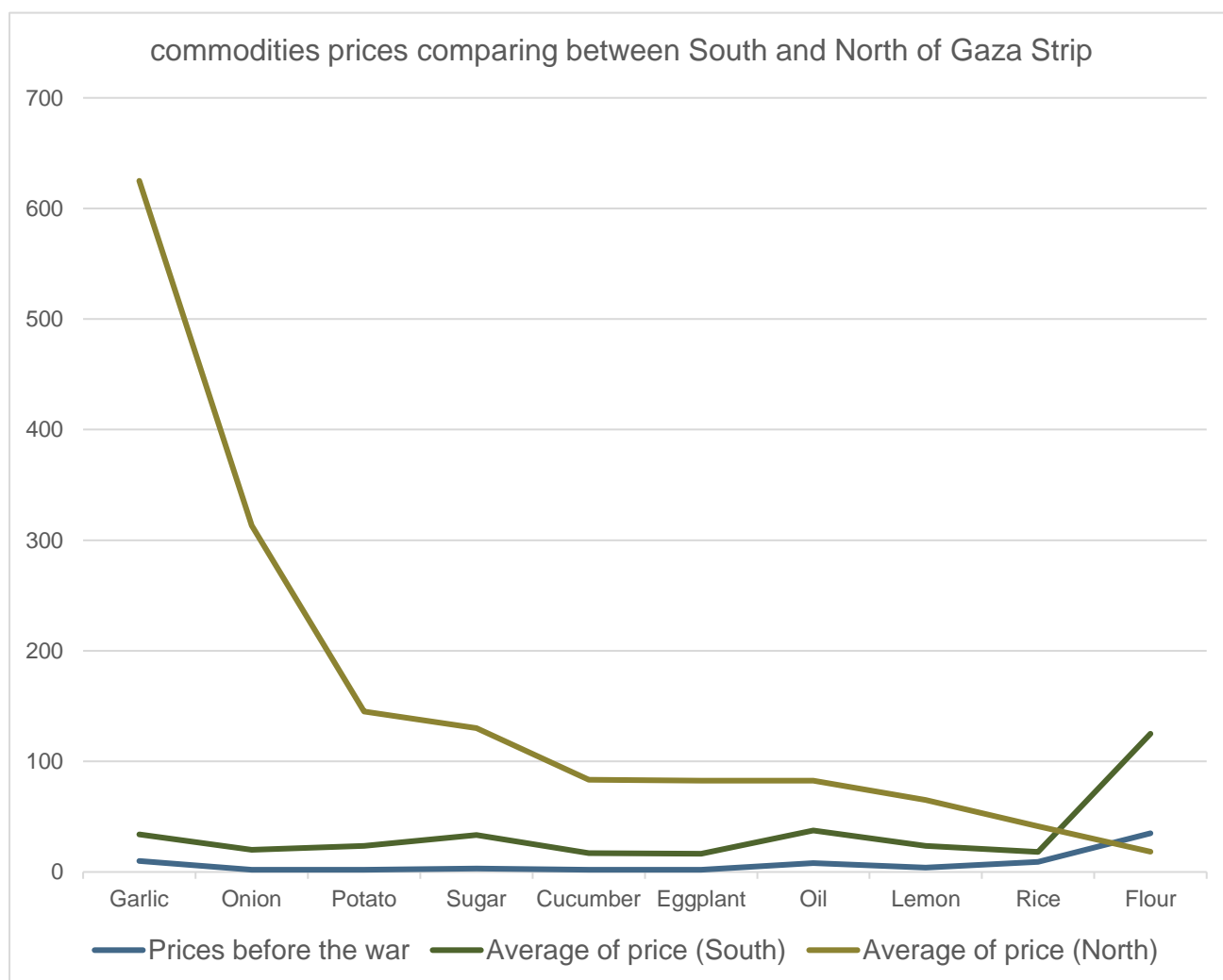


Figure (11): commodities prices comparing between South and North of Gaza Strip.

6 Coordination Mechanism:

- The Israeli coordination platform has been closed since 2nd of October 2024, no coordination requests has been placed or approved since then.

6.1 Difficulties:

- Israeli Authorities have implemented their trade policy and completely stopped the entry of private sector goods into Gaza.
- The allowed basic commodities to enter Gaza Strip, through humanitarian sector, is much limited and does not respond to residents' basic needs.
- The delivery of aid into Gaza remains unreliable due to crossings and routes access restrictions and ongoing security issues.
- High transportation costs within Gaza due to high fuel and spare parts prices.
- Lack of cash liquidity and closure of all Bank branches except one or two ATM is magnifying the malnutrition and hunger crisis.
- Lack of storage and cold storage which prevents wholesalers and retailers from storing reasonable quantities of goods to help stabilize the markets.
- Lack of power to maintain goods cold chain and enable e-payments over the internet.
- Lack of clothing and sheltering material such as tarpaulin and nylon sheets has caused a sharp increase in its prices in the market.

7 Recommendations:

1. Immediate increase (in quantity and variety) of humanitarian aid entering Gaza Strip to include variant nutritious needs, with focus on areas suffering from malnutrition and famine in the Northern part of Gaza Strip, through coordination with International Organizations.
2. Allow the private sector to import food items again, and expand the types and quantities of goods, cover all areas in distribution, and stocking in the Southern and Northern parts of Gaza to stabilize prices and make essential goods available to people.
3. Increase the number of importers who are allowed to bring basic commodities into Gaza Strip.
4. Allow access to power through solar energy to enable maintain the cold chain for dairy products and frozen meats and vegetables.
5. Allow cooking Gas to enter Northern part of Gaza Strip.
6. Increase cooking gas entering Gaza to enable people cook their food properly.
7. Increase the amount of commodities entering the Northern part of Gaza Strip to ensure that aid reaches those in need without delay.
8. Allow private sector Importers to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.
9. Allow access to hygiene products since it is causing a major concern of disease spreading among population such as hepatitis A, scabies, etc.
10. Allow humanitarian and commercial trucks access the different crossings and all routes to shorten travel distances and avoid routes controlled by looters, in order to avoid paying high sums of money for security escorts.
11. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions

12. Partner between Chambers of Commerce, as the umbrella for the private sector, with donor projects such as Tasdeer's, Anera and WFP to support the back to business for trade, industry and agriculture.
13. Promote electronic Wallets and other means of e-payments among consumers and retailers' network. Enable retailers receive e-payments and electronic cash vouchers of the humanitarian organizations, by restoring power and internet to their shops.
14. Allow private sector to import other basic commodities such as hygiene material, medicines, sheltering material, clothes and footwear, etc.
15. Urgently allow to bring agricultural and livestock production supplies into Gaza Strip, and support small farmers with seeds, tools and fertilizers to reduce dependence on external supplies and provide local food sources.
16. Provide sufficient quantities of fuel and truck spare parts to transportation companies at normal prices to reduce commercial transportation costs and limit the unjustified rise in commodity prices in the markets.
17. Provide the necessary funding to rehabilitate commercial facilities including storage and cold storage facilities that can easily return to work to contribute to early recovery and market stability.
18. Find effective, accountable and transparent mechanisms to coordinate the entry of commodities from the crossings and strengthening the role of chambers of commerce in managing this situation, to ensure proper prioritization and distribution.
19. Lift all imposed restrictions on the Private Sector to import all humanitarian needs and commodities such as school stationary, sheltering material, etc.
20. Find and promote mechanisms to control markets, prevent monopoly and control prices as much as possible.

The Success Story of Mqat Agricultural Nurseries Co., North Gaza



The success story of Mqat Agricultural Nurseries Co., in North Gaza showcases resilience and adaptability. Founded by Ahmed Hamza Mqat in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood in Gaza, the company initially specialized in growing fruit and ornamental trees, with high production rates and excellent quality.

The company has suffered severe damage during the war and incurred huge losses. The new Nursery near "Netzarim Axis" has been completely destroyed, incurring over half a million dollars in losses, and the Sheikh Radwan nursery suffering 20% damage, valued at around \$30,000. Despite of all damages and losses the company continued its operations with a shift in specialization.

The company shifted from fruit tree production to vegetable seedlings production, successfully producing 50,000 seedlings per month. Despite challenges such as shortages of essential materials like seeds, germination soil, fertilizers, and pesticides, the company's determination enabled it to meet local market demands in vegetable seedlings production.

This story highlights the ability of local projects to withstand and adapt even in the most difficult circumstances, with Maqat Nurseries serving as a model of persistence and resilience in the face of crises.



8 The case of the week: "Cash shortages and electronic payments in achieving financial and economic sustainability in Gaza"

8.1 Situation before the war:

Before the war, Gaza was witnessing a remarkable growth in the use of electronic payments, despite the challenges imposed by the blockade and weak infrastructure. Financial Business Providers such as "PalPay" and "JawwalPay" contributed to facilitating financial transactions and reducing reliance on paper money, which enhanced the efficiency of the financial system. However, there were some technological constraints, such as weak internet networks, that prevented the further spread of these systems.

8.2 The impact of the war on the financial system:

With the outbreak of the war on Gaza, the digital infrastructure was destroyed, which greatly affected the ability to use electronic payment applications. The destruction of electricity and communications networks led to internet outages and inaccessibility of banking services. Moreover, the cash liquidity crisis was exacerbated by the inability to access paper money due to the occupation's refusal to allow entry of new currency into Gaza, as well as the wear and tear of the existing currency in the market, which added additional financial challenges to the population.

8.3 The current context and challenges of using cash:

Gaza is suffering from a severe financial crisis due to the blockade and restrictions on the flow of money, and most of the population relies on paper money to complete daily transactions. This situation causes several problems:

- A shortage in the flow of paper money, which makes it difficult to conduct transactions, including access to food and other life necessities.
- Financial institutions are being damaged, which restricts access to banking services.
- Some merchants are taking advantage of the crisis by selling cash for high commissions.

8.4 The need for innovative solutions:

Promoting the use of electronic payment in the Gaza Strip as an innovative means to stimulate the local economy, and achieving financial and social sustainability that contributes to improving the quality of life and increasing economic efficiency for both merchants and consumers through the following:

- Raising community awareness of the benefits of electronic payment:
 - **Community education:** Publishing simplified awareness materials through traditional and digital media that explain the benefits of electronic payment compared to cash.
 - **Clarifying the added value:** Highlighting the advantages of security, speed, and cost savings through local success stories and realistic comparisons.
 - **Direct communication:** Organizing awareness campaigns through various media outlets and field events to inform the public about the advantages of electronic payment.

- Increasing merchants' and consumers' reliance on digital payment tools:
 - **Motivating merchants:** Providing financial incentives and facilitate adopting electronic payment technologies, such as reducing transaction fees or providing point-of-sale (POS) equipment at reduced prices.
 - **Technical training:** Organizing workshops for merchants to teach them how to use electronic payment systems efficiently.
 - **User experience:** Ensuring that digital solutions are easy to use and adapt to the daily needs of merchants and consumers.
- Supporting financial inclusion and stimulating financial innovation:
 - **Integrating unbanked segments:** Developing simple and affordable electronic payment solutions such as digital wallets and prepaid cards, while providing charging points in remote areas.
 - **Promoting innovation:** Encouraging local technology companies to develop electronic payment solutions that are compatible with the Gaza environment, such as offline applications.
 - **Collaboration with financial institutions:** Coordination of efforts with leading institutions such as Jawwal Pay and PalPay to expand the scope of services, and ensure continuous technical support for retailers.

8.5 Recommendation:

- **Strengthening digital infrastructure:** Rebuilding and improving the basic networks to activate electronic payment services.
- **Supporting cash liquidity:** Providing mechanisms to easily pump paper currencies.
- **Rebuilding local banks:** Resuming the work of local banks to ensure the stability of the financial system.
- **Awareness and education:** Raising awareness among citizens and merchants about the importance and security of electronic payment.
- **Cooperation between the public and private sectors:** To ensure the activation of digital financial systems and the continuation of trade in a stable economic environment.

8.6 Conclusion:

Effective implementation of these recommendations will contribute to improving the electronic payment system in Gaza and enhance financial and economic sustainability in the post-war period, helping to overcome current challenges and enhance financial stability in the future.

9 Conclusion

This week witnessed a significant increase in the flow rate of commodities into Gaza Strip compared with last week. The number of trucks jumped from 653 in the previous week to 787 this week. Despite of this increase, the goods flow rate is still far from meeting the needs of the population, and commodities are still limited to a specific group of items. Furthermore, the private sector is still banned from importing commodities since 02/10/2024. Despite that the role of the private sector is the largest in meeting the needs of the population, all goods currently enter Gaza is humanitarian aid only. For the fourth week respectively, trucks entered through Rout 96 Gate located on the dividing line between the north and south of Gaza Strip;

(KAS) crossing also returned to dominate the largest share of the number of trucks that passed into Gaza Strip during the reporting period. The occupation continues to prevent the entry of raw materials necessary for industrial and agricultural production, which thwarts any attempts at economic recovery.

The data during the current reporting period indicates that the Israeli occupation continues to practice a policy of collective punishment against the residents of Gaza Strip, as the private sector is denied from entering any goods into Gaza, except for limited quantities of cooking gas. The residents of the northern part of Gaza Strip also continue to suffer from famine, due to the severe restrictions on the entry of goods in general and the total blocking of private sector goods to enter the Northern part, in particular. Prices of basic commodities has reach unprecedented increase in both parts of Gaza Strip.

**All photos in this report are used with consent.*