



إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية

Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 31: 04-10 March, 2025.

In this Report:

- This week witnessed continuation of the comprehensive closure imposed by the Israeli side on Gaza Strip since 02/03/2025.
- According to local sources, the amount of food available inside Gaza Strip is sufficient for the population for a period ranging from 10 days to 2 weeks at most.
- This week, there is no coordination mechanism in action, because there is no truck entered Gaza Strip. Its unknown yet whether the previous mechanism will be valid if the crossings are reopened and the entry of aid, supplies, and commodities into Gaza Strip resumes, or whether a new mechanism will be established.
- According to the latest statistics and surveys conducted by the Chamber of Commerce, (332,437,000 USD) were paid by private sector merchants to coordinate the entry of trucks into Gaza Strip.

March 20, 2025

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1. Executive Summary:

- This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 04/03/2025 to 10/03/2025.
- This week witnessed continuation of the comprehensive closure imposed by the Israeli side on Gaza Strip last week.
- This closure cuts off the lifeline for more than 2 million Palestinians who have been experiencing unimaginable conditions for many months. Ensuring a continuous supply of aid is essential for their survival.
- According to local sources, the amount of food available inside Gaza Strip is sufficient for the population for a period ranging from 10 days to 2 weeks at most.
- According to the World Food Program (WFP), which has been supporting the operation of 25 bakeries around Gaza Strip, on 08/03/2025, 6 bakeries of them were forced to close due to a shortage of cooking gas, and the remaining bakeries are at risk of closing within a few days unless the entry of flour and fuel is resumed.
- (WFP) also reported that it has approximately 63,000 metric tons of food destined for Gaza, equivalent to 2-3 months' worth of food distributions for 1.1 million people, awaiting entry permits.
- The Israeli decision to close all the crossings and halt the entry of all goods, aid, and supplies into Gaza Strip has been a major shock to the markets, leading to sharp escalation in most items prices.
- It is clearly noticeable that prices have started to rise again, some items jumped quickly until they reached pre-ceasefire levels and more, while others moved up slowly.
- This week, there is no coordination mechanism in action, because there is no truck entered Gaza Strip.
- It is not yet known whether the previous mechanism will be valid if the crossings are reopened and the entry of aid, supplies, and commodities into Gaza Strip resumes, or whether a new mechanism will be established.
- According to the latest statistics and surveys conducted by the Gaza Chamber of Commerce, (332,437,000 USD) were paid by private sector merchants to coordinate the entry of trucks into Gaza Strip.

2. Distribution of the Population in Gaza Strip:

The population map began to change drastically since Monday 27/01/2025, which was the first day that the Israeli occupation forces allowed the residents of Gaza Strip to move from south to north via Rashid and Salahudeen streets. Residents were allowed to move on foot through Al-Rashid St, or in vehicles through Salahudeen Street. Vehicles have to pass-through inspection machine as well as manual check, as stipulated in the ceasefire agreement. Starting Saturday 01/02/2025, movement in both directions was allowed with the same previous restrictions. Many reports confirmed that, as of 10 February, more than 650,000 people have been observed crossing from southern to northern Gaza Strip, the majority of whom were observed crossing on 27 and 28 January. As shown in the map below, all crossings which goods enter Gaza have been closed as of 01/03/2025.



Figure (1): Map of crossings and divisions of Gaza Strip into North and South

3. Daily Crossing Points Status:

This week witnessed continuation of the comprehensive closure imposed by the Israeli side on Gaza Strip, starting on the morning of Sunday 02/03/2025. All crossings were completely closed, and absolutely nothing passed into Gaza Strip throughout the week. This cuts off the lifeline for more than 2 million Palestinians who have been experiencing unimaginable conditions for many months. Ensuring a continuous supply of aid is essential for their survival. According to local sources, the amount of food available inside Gaza Strip is sufficient for the population for a period ranging from 10 days to 2 weeks at most. According to the World Food Program (WFP), which has been supporting the operation of 25 bakeries around Gaza Strip, on 08/03/2025, 6 bakeries of them were forced to close due to a shortage of cooking gas, and the remaining bakeries are at risk of closing within a few days unless the entry of flour and fuel is resumed. (WFP) also reported that it has approximately 63,000 metric tons of food destined for Gaza, equivalent to 2-3 months' worth of food distributions for 1.1 million people, awaiting entry permits.

4. Daily market prices for essential items:

The Israeli decision to close all the crossings and halt the entry of all goods, aid, and supplies into Gaza Strip has been a major shock to the markets, leading to sharp escalation in most prices. It is clearly noticeable that prices have started to rise again, some items jumped quickly until they reached pre-ceasefire levels and more, while others moved up slowly. Through the following analyses, we highlight the changes in the prices of basic commodities and compare the current week's prices with the prices of (pre-war, previous week, and the average of the previous 3 weeks).

4.1. Comparing Current Prices with normal prices before the war

When we compare the average prices of essential goods during this week with the normal prices of the same goods before the war, we find that:

- 17 out of 19 items have current prices higher than their normal prices before the war, by varying percentages depending on the availability of goods in the markets, while the other 2 items were lower than their normal prices before the war.
- Potato was the most increasing items, its average price this week reached more than 11 times higher than its pre-war price, followed by eggplant by more than 9 times higher.
- Many vegetable and fruit items (tomato, lemon, onion, banana) in addition to frozen meat (frozen veal, frozen chicken), had average prices ranged between 4-7 times higher than their pre-war prices.
- The current prices of (orange, apple, pepper, garlic, sugar, macaroni) ranged between 2-3 times higher than their pre-war prices.
- Rice and cooking oil were the least increasing items; their current prices were above the normal price before the war by 46% and 13% respectively.
- Flour price remained stable without any change, while kidney bean is the only item whose current price came below its pre-war price by 20%.

Table (1): comparing current prices with the normal prices before the war.

#	Item	Pre-war Prices	Price Average (current week)	% Of change in current week prices compared to the Pre-war prices
1	Potato	2	22.43	1,022%
2	Eggplant	2	18.71	836%
3	Cucumber	2	14.5	625%
4	Frozen chicken	8	55	588%
5	Banana	2.5	14.5	480%
6	Onion	2	10.71	436%
7	Tomato	2	10.29	415%
8	Lemon	4	20.5	413%
9	Frozen veal	20	81.67	308%
10	Orange	4	13.6	240%
11	Apple	5	14.86	197%
12	Pepper	10	26.71	167%
13	Garlic	10	24.86	149%
14	Sugar	3	7.43	148%
15	Macaroni	2.5	5.43	117%
16	Rice	8	11.71	46%
17	Oil	9	10.14	13%
18	Flour	35	35	0%
19	Kidney beans	7	5.57	-20%

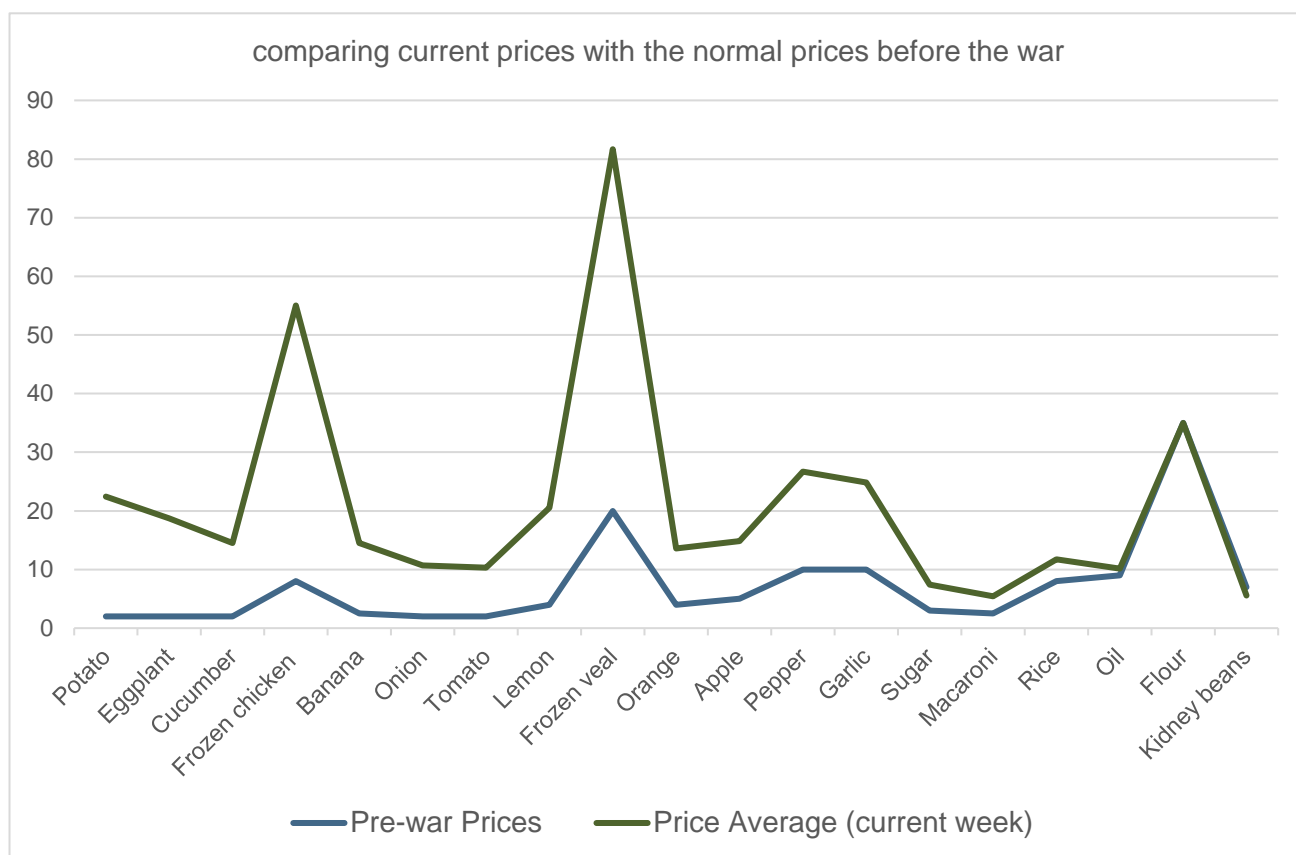


Figure (2): comparing current prices with the normal prices before the war.

4.2. Comparing Current Prices with the Previous week prices

When we compare the average prices of essential goods during this week with the prices of the same goods in the previous week, we find that:

- 17 out of 19 items have current prices higher than their prices in the previous week, one item has no changed, and one item decreased below the previous week price.
- Potato was the most increasing item by more than 154%, followed by frozen chicken by more than 123%, and then lemon by about 113%.
- The least increasing items were flour and banana by about 2% and 3% respectively.
- The remaining 12 items (frozen veal, eggplant, onion, garlic, rice, apple, tomato, sugar, oil, cucumber, kidney bean, macaroni) increased by varying percentages ranging between 9-90%.
- Orange price remained stable without any change, while pepper is the only item whose current price came below the previous week by about 11%.

Table (2): comparing current prices with the previous week prices.

#	Item	Price Average (previous week)	Price Average (current week)	% Of change in current prices compared to the previous week
1	Potato	8.83	22.43	154%
2	Frozen chicken	24.64	55	123%
3	Lemon	9.64	20.5	113%
4	Frozen veal	43.00	81.67	90%
5	Eggplant	11.57	18.71	62%
6	Onion	7.50	10.71	43%
7	Garlic	17.57	24.86	41%
8	Rice	9.00	11.71	30%
9	Apple	11.43	14.86	30%
10	Tomato	8.14	10.29	26%
11	Sugar	6.00	7.43	24%
12	Oil	8.79	10.14	15%
13	Cucumber	12.86	14.5	13%
14	Kidney beans	5.00	5.57	11%
15	Macaroni	5.00	5.43	9%
16	Banana	14.07	14.5	3%
17	Flour	34.29	35	2%
18	Orange	13.60	13.6	0%
19	Pepper	30.00	26.71	-11%

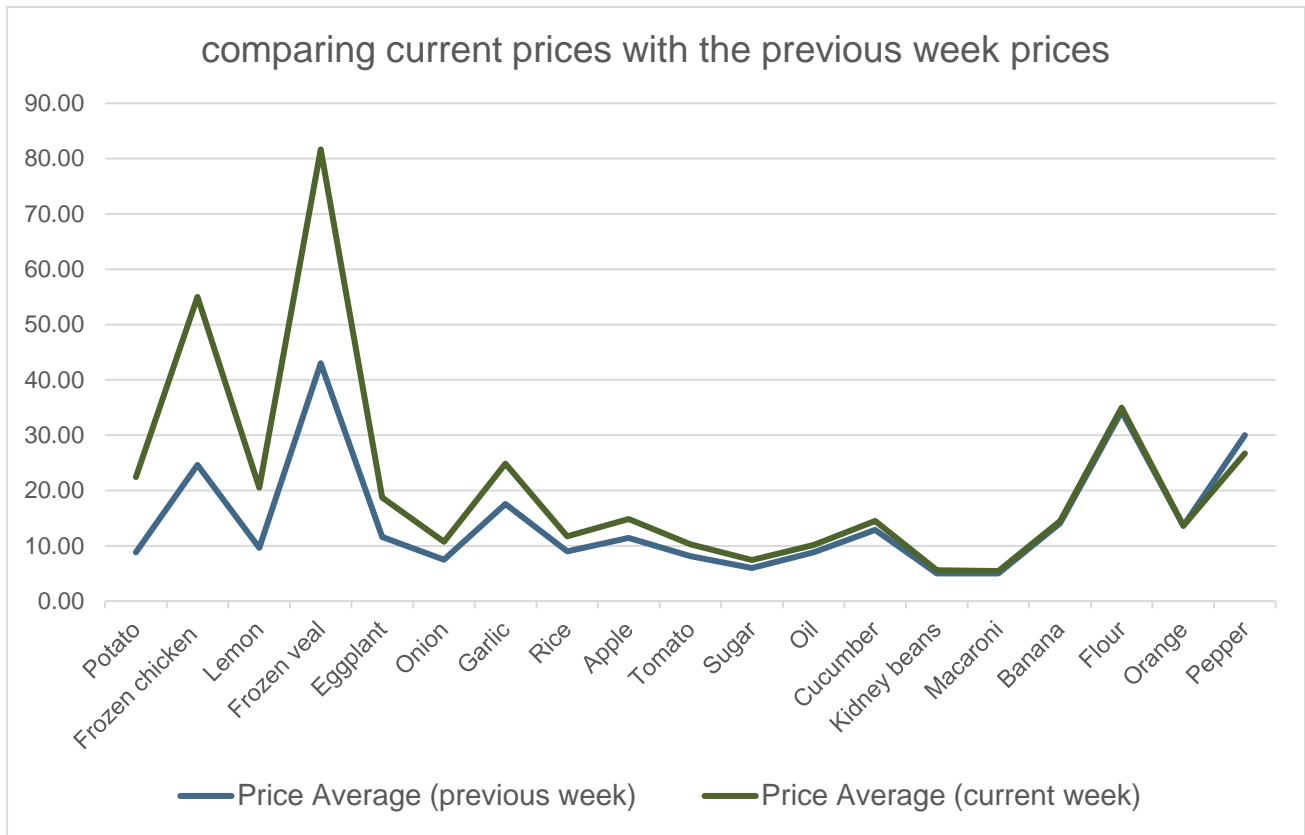


Figure (3): comparing current prices with the previous week prices.

4.3. Comparing Current Prices with the Price Average of the Previous 3 Weeks

When we compare the average prices of essential goods during this week with the price average of the same goods in the previous 3 week, we find that:

- All items have current prices higher than their prices average in the previous 3 weeks.
- Potato was the most increasing item by more than 259%, followed by lemon by more than 163%, and then frozen chicken by about 148%.
- macaroni was the least increasing item by more than 6%, and then flour by about 10%.

Table (3): comparing current prices with the price average of 3 previous weeks.

#	Item	Price Average (previous 3 weeks)	Price Average (current week)	% Of change in current prices compared to the previous 3 weeks
1	Potato	6.24	22.43	259%
2	Lemon	7.79	20.5	163%
3	Frozen chicken	22.19	55	148%
4	Eggplant	9.05	18.71	107%
5	Onion	5.67	10.71	89%
6	Frozen veal	45.76	81.67	78%
7	Rice	7.57	11.71	55%
8	Tomato	6.76	10.29	52%
9	Cucumber	9.88	14.5	47%
10	Garlic	18.05	24.86	38%
11	Apple	11.24	14.86	32%
12	Orange	10.79	13.6	26%
13	Pepper	22	26.71	21%
14	Sugar	6.21	7.43	20%
15	Kidney beans	5	5.57	11%
16	Banana	13.02	14.5	11%
17	Oil	9.14	10.14	11%
18	Flour	31.95	35	10%
19	Macaroni	5.1	5.43	6%

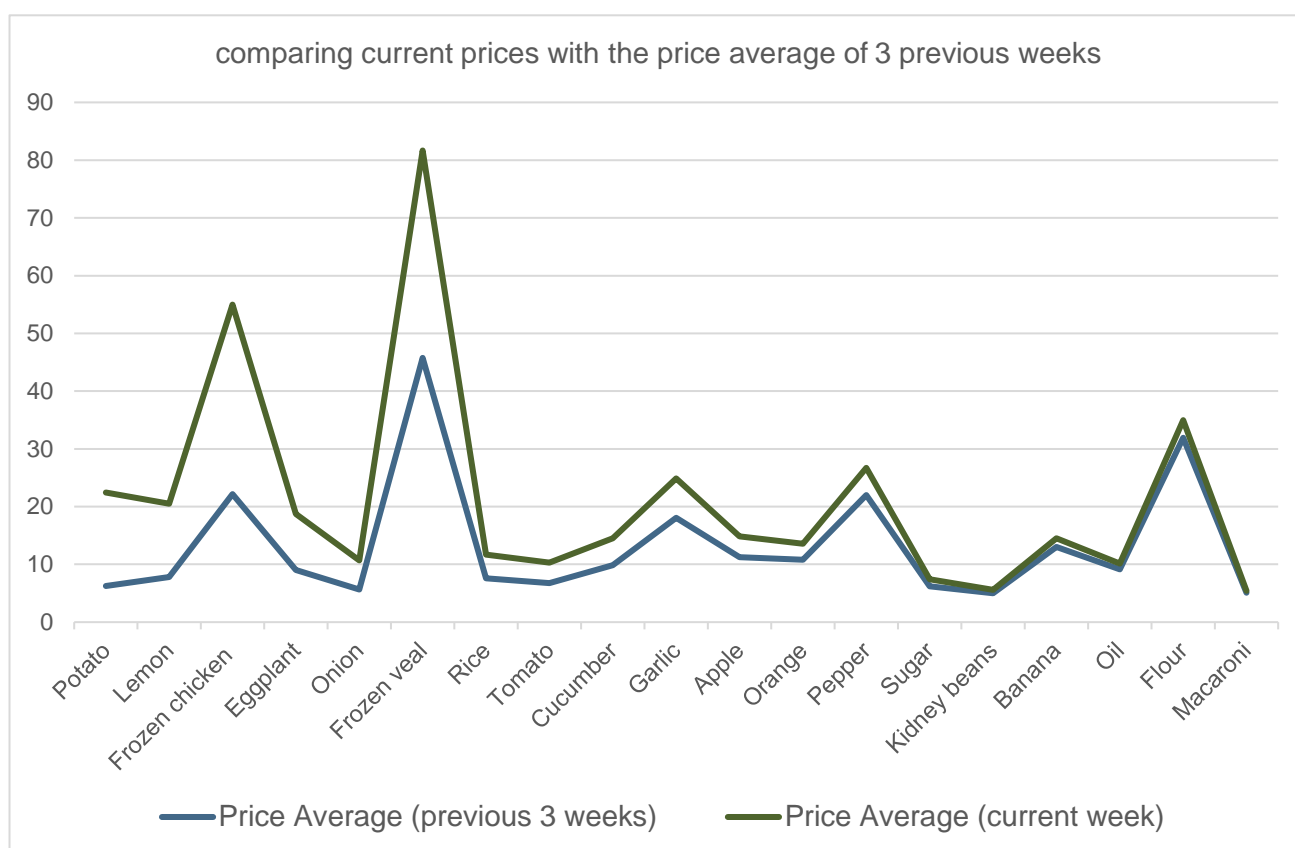


Figure (4): comparing current prices with the price average of 3 previous weeks.

5. Coordination Mechanism:

This week, there is no coordination mechanism in action, because there is no trucks entry to Gaza Strip. It is not yet known whether the previous mechanism will be valid if the crossings are reopened and the entry of aid, supplies, and commodities into Gaza Strip resumes, or whether a new mechanism will be established.

The Gaza Chamber of Commerce has prepared a report to orient decision makers towards the catastrophic effects of the coordination mechanism that was previously followed. The report illustrates the severe damage caused to the national economy, and the heavy burdens it placed on the shoulders of people in Gaza Strip. The report numerically quantifies the exploitation of some merchants and influential persons in the process of bringing commodities into Gaza Strip. The report was based on statistics and surveys conducted by the Gaza Chamber of Commerce. The period covered by this report extends from the beginning of the ceasefire agreement on 19/01/2025 to 28/02/2025, the last day of trucks entry into Gaza Strip before the closure decision was imposed on 02/03/2025. The report's methodology relied on collecting data and information from the following sources:

- Direct communication with merchants who brought in goods during the reporting period, and obtaining numerous testimonies in this regard.
- Communication with humanitarian organizations operating in Gaza Strip and brought in trucks of humanitarian aid during the reporting period, and obtaining their testimonies.

- Field visits by the Chamber's team to Gaza Strip markets, monitoring the availability of basic commodities, price fluctuations, liquidity, and other phenomena.

The total number of trucks that passed into Gaza Strip during the period covered by the report was (24,648), classified into (6) main categories: food items, shelter equipment, medicines and medical supplies, mixed aid, fuel (diesel, gasoline, cooking gas), and infrastructure equipment for international organizations. Although all of these trucks passed under the name of humanitarian aid, approximately (60%) of them belonged to the private sector (14,789 trucks), while the remaining (40%) belonged to humanitarian organizations. Trucks came from Egypt and entered through (KAS) crossing (8,873 trucks), the coordination fees were fixed at (USD 20,000), regardless of the type of cargo. This amount does not include additional variable costs that may be incurred by the merchant sometimes under various names, such as (obstruction insurance, anti-smuggling insurance) amounting to (USD 5,000). Trucks that entered through Erez crossing (5,916 trucks), the coordination fees per truck varied depending on the type of cargo, according to the following details:

Table (4): Coordination fees according to the type of commodities (Erez).

#	Type of goods	coordination fees (USD/ Truck)
1	Hygiene materials	33,000
2	Basic food items (Rice Sugar, oil, etc.)	19,500
3	Meat and frozen foods	27,500
4	Candy, chocolate, coffee, juices and Soda Drinks	27,500
5	Clothing	33,000
6	Nuts	33,000
7	Fruits, Vegetables and Eggs	16,500
8	Cosmetics	97,000

5.1. Coordination fees paid by merchants for goods entered through KAS crossing:

Table (5): Coordination fees (KAS).

#	Item	Number of trucks that entered during the reporting period	Coordination fees per truck (USD)	Total cost paid (USD)
1	truck coordination fees	8,873	20,000	177,460,000
Total coordination fees paid by private sector (KAS crossing)				177,460,000

5.2. Coordination fees paid by merchants for goods entered through Erez crossing:

Table (6): Coordination fees (Erez).

#	Type of cargo	Number of trucks that entered during the reporting period	Coordination fees per truck (USD)	Total cost paid (USD)
1	Hygiene materials	1,242	33,000	40,986,000
2	Food items	2,555	19,500	49,822,500
3	Meat and frozen foods	412	27,500	11,330,000
4	Candy, chocolate, coffee, juices and Soda Drinks	635	27,500	17,462,500
5	Clothing	828	33,000	27,324,000
6	Nuts	244	33,000	8,052,000
Total coordination fees paid by private sector (KAS crossing)				154,977,000

5.3. Conclusion:

Table (7): Coordination fees conclusion.

#	Item	Total (USD)
1	Total coordination fees incurred by the private sector (KAS)	177,460,000
2	Total coordination fees incurred by the private sector (Erez)	154,977,000
Toral (USD)		<u>332,437,000</u>

5.4. Difficulties:

- Israeli Authorities have implemented a closure and completely stopped the entry of humanitarian aid or private sector goods into Gaza.
- Lack of cash liquidity 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 and respond to emergencies.
- 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.
- The deterioration of basic living conditions of people in all aspects.

Recommendations:

1. Immediate resumption and increase (in quantity and variety) of humanitarian aid entering Gaza Strip to include variant nutritious needs.

2. Allow the private sector to import basic commodities items, 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. Allow access to power through solar energy to enable maintain the cold chain for dairy products and frozen meats and vegetables.
4. Allow private sector Importers to import and enter goods for all parts of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.
5. Allow humanitarian and commercial trucks access the different crossings and all routes to shorten travel distances, in order to avoid paying high sums of money for transportation.
6. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. Urgently allow to bring agricultural and livestock production inputs into Gaza Strip, and support small farmers with seeds, tools and fertilizers to reduce dependence on external supplies and provide local food sources.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Lift all imposed restrictions on the Private Sector to import all humanitarian needs and commodities such as school stationary, sheltering material, etc.
14. Find and promote mechanisms to control markets, prevent monopoly and control prices as much as possible.

Conclusion

The Israeli side continued to close all crossings and prevent any commodities from entering into Gaza Strip, which portends an imminent famine. Many items disappeared from the markets immediately, which were only entering in daily consumption quantities, such as cooking gas, or cannot be stored for long periods, such as frozen meat. The prices of many other items have risen significantly. Many humanitarian organizations have warned of the repercussions of the continued Israeli closure of the crossings, and called on the international community to intervene immediately to pressure the Israeli side to reopen the crossings and resume the entry of humanitarian aid. This closure may also affect, in addition to food security, the continuation of humanitarian services, such as medical services, water, and others.

Annex

Daily price in Gaza:

Table (8): Standard deviation of daily prices

#	Item	25/02	26/02	27/02	28/02	01/03	02/03	03/03	Aver.	St. Dev
1	Frozen chicken thigh	17	15	17	15	23	40	NA	21.17	9.68
2	Pepper	28	25	28	25	36	20	48	30.00	9.29
3	Frozen chicken	20	18	20	18	23.5	33	40	24.64	8.55
4	Cucumber	7	7	8	7	16	20	25	12.86	7.47
5	Eggplant	10	8	8	8	10	12	25	11.57	6.11
6	Flour	35	30	30	30	35	45	35	34.29	5.35
7	Onion	5	6	5	6	8.5	7	15	7.50	3.52
8	Potato	6	9	6	9	9	8	15	8.86	3.02
9	Lemon	8	8	8	8	8.5	12	15	9.64	2.78
10	Frozen veal	40	45	40	45	43	45	NA	43.00	2.45
11	Rice	7	8	7	8	11	12	10	9.00	2.00
12	Garlic	16	16	16	16	19	20	20	17.57	1.99
13	Tomato	6	8	6	8	9	10	10	8.14	1.68
14	Frozen chicken wing	12	13	12	13	14	16	NA	13.33	1.51
15	Apple	10	12	11	12	11	10	14	11.43	1.40
16	Egg	26	28	28	28	26	25	26	26.71	1.25
17	Banana	15	15	13	15	13.5	14	13	14.07	0.93
18	Oil	9	9	9	9	8.5	8	9	8.79	0.39
19	Sugar	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
20	Kidney beans	5	5	5	5	NA	NA	NA	5.00	0.00
21	Macaroni	5	5	5	5	NA	NA	NA	5.00	0.00

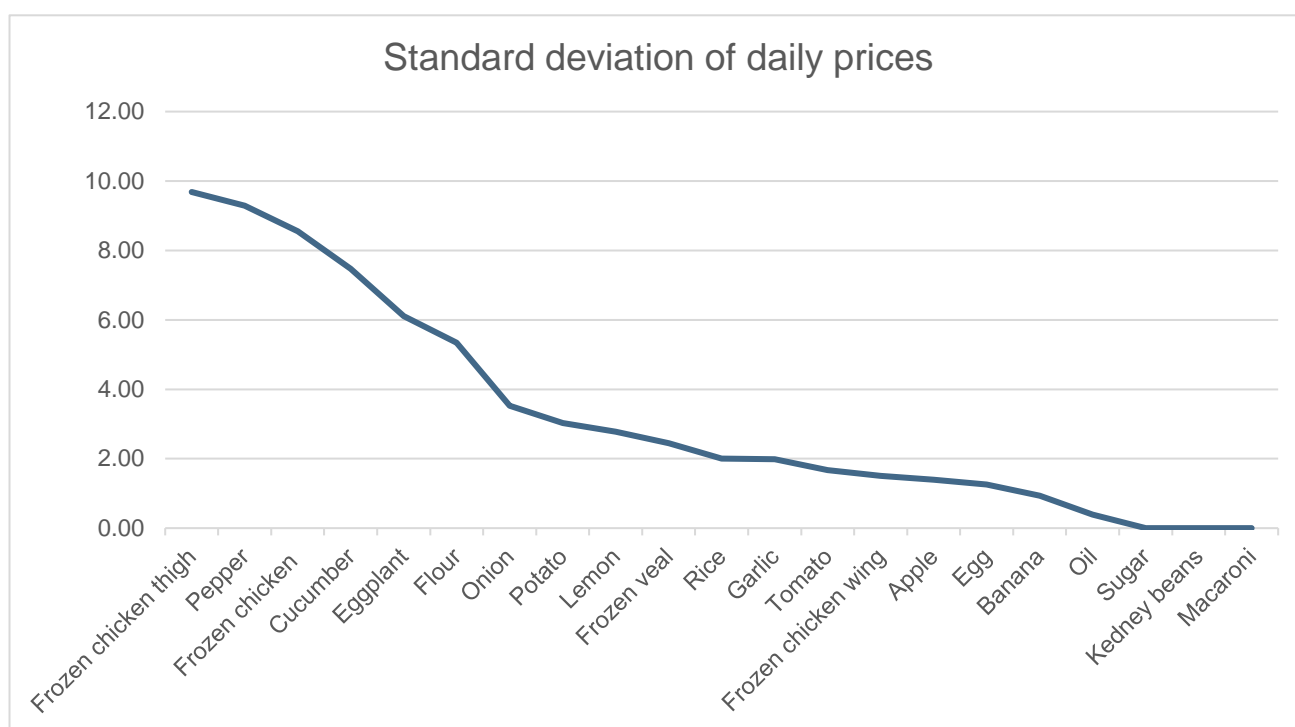


Figure (5): Standard deviation of daily prices

Price volatility:

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

Fixed-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation is (0), meaning that their prices remained completely stable throughout the reporting period. These goods are (Sugar, Kidney beans, Macaron)

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 (Banana, Oil).

Volatile-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation is greater than (1), meaning that they experienced sharp fluctuations in prices during the reporting period. These goods are All goods except (Sugar, Kidney beans, Macaron, Banana, Oil).