



إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية

Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 12: October 15-21, 2024

9 November 2024

Israel has prohibited private sector imports since October 2, 2024

- Success story " Al-Louh Cooking Stove Workshop – Gaza City " page 16
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Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1 Exacutive Summary:

- This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 15/10/2024 to 21/10/2024.
- The crossings were completely closed on two days, 17/10/2024 and 19/10/2024. Rafah crossing remained completely closed.
- The Israeli coordination platform has been closed since 2nd of October 2024, no coordination requests has been placed or approved since then.
- This week, a number of trucks entered Gaza Strip through a new gate, Gate 96, located on the dividing line between the north and south sides of Gaza Strip.
- During the reporting period, **461** trucks with a total of **9,246**¹ tons of commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from three main² crossings, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) 201 trucks, Erez 188 trucks and Route 96 gate 72 trucks. No trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing.
- Karm Abu Salem (KAS) and Rafah crossings operate mainly for the southern part, Erez crossing operates for the Northern part, and Gate 96 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 17 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, some shelter equipment, fuel, medicines and medical supplies only.
- There is no prioritization or stability in the flow of these goods leading to exteremy high local market prices, There is an increase in some food items prices by more than 1700% compared to what it was before the war.
- The delivery of aid into Gaza remains unreliable due to crossings and routs access restrictions and ongoing security issues.
- 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 to the Northern part of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.

¹ This number does not include the load of 8 trucks, as there is no information about their contents in tons, these trucks was loaded by Medical Supplies and passed on 18/10/2024.

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:

Population statistics indicate that there are approximately 650,000 people in the northern part of Gaza Strip, which constitutes 29% of the total population of Gaza Strip before the war, and that there are approximately 1,400,000 people in the southern part of Gaza Strip, which constitutes 62% 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 44% 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 remained in the southern part of Gaza Strip. The commodities entered through Erez crossing constitutes about 40%, remained in the Northern part. While there is no accurate information about the destination of the commodities that entered through gate 96, whether to the north or to the south side of Gaza Strip, which represents the remaining 16% of the total commodities that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period.

It is worth noting that despite of the basic commodities entry, in limited quantities, to the North and South parts of the Gaza Strip, there is no proper distribution of these commodities, as there is a severe lack of some items based on the geographic location. While the north part of Gaza Strip suffers greatly from a shortage of food, vegetables, meat and eggs, there are some items somewhat available there, such as clothes, shoes and hygiene, while in the south these items are not available. However, food is better available than in the north, although during the reporting period it has significantly decreased due to the noticeable decrease in the number of entering trucks since the beginning of current month.

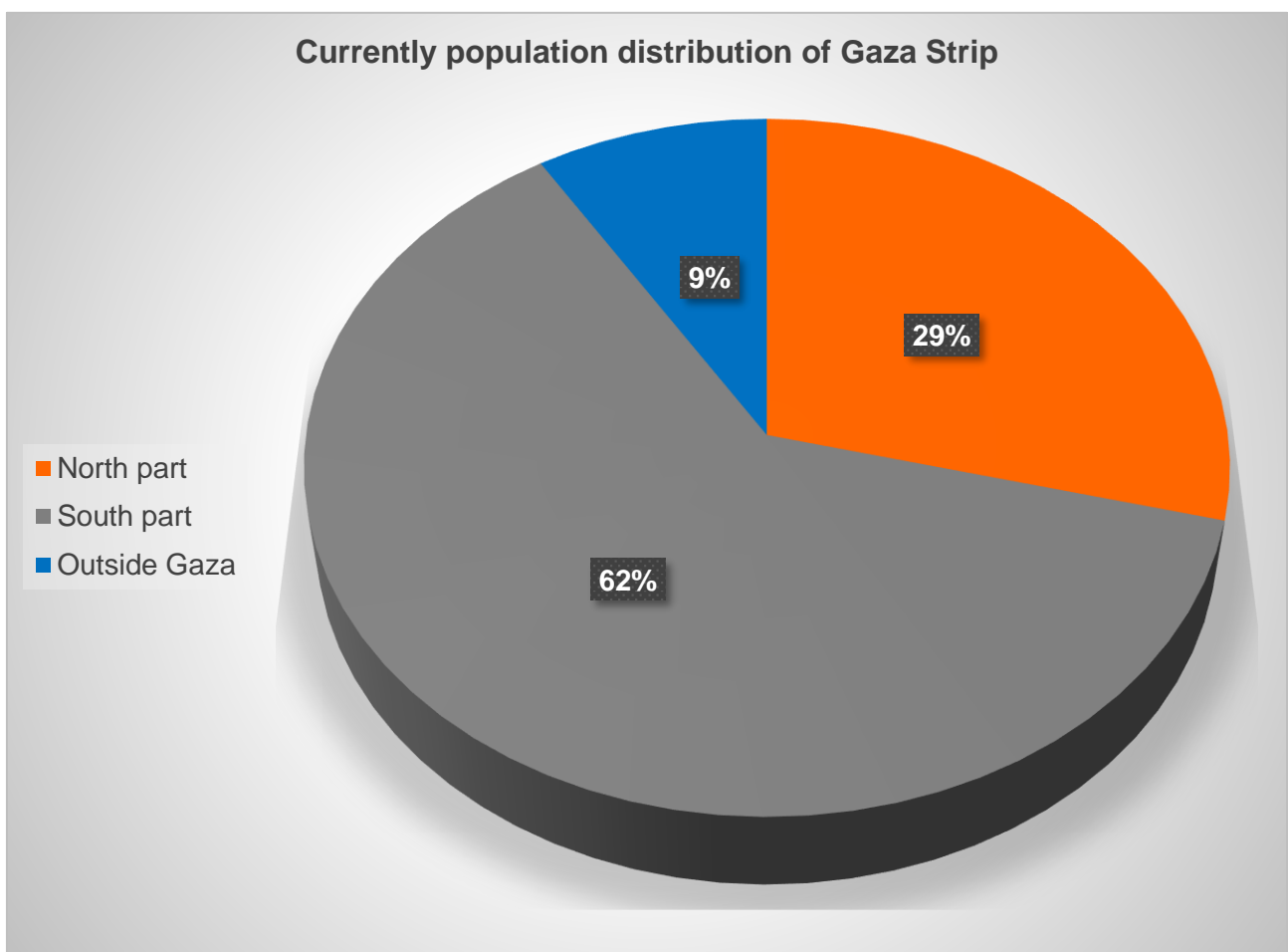


Figure (2): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip.

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.

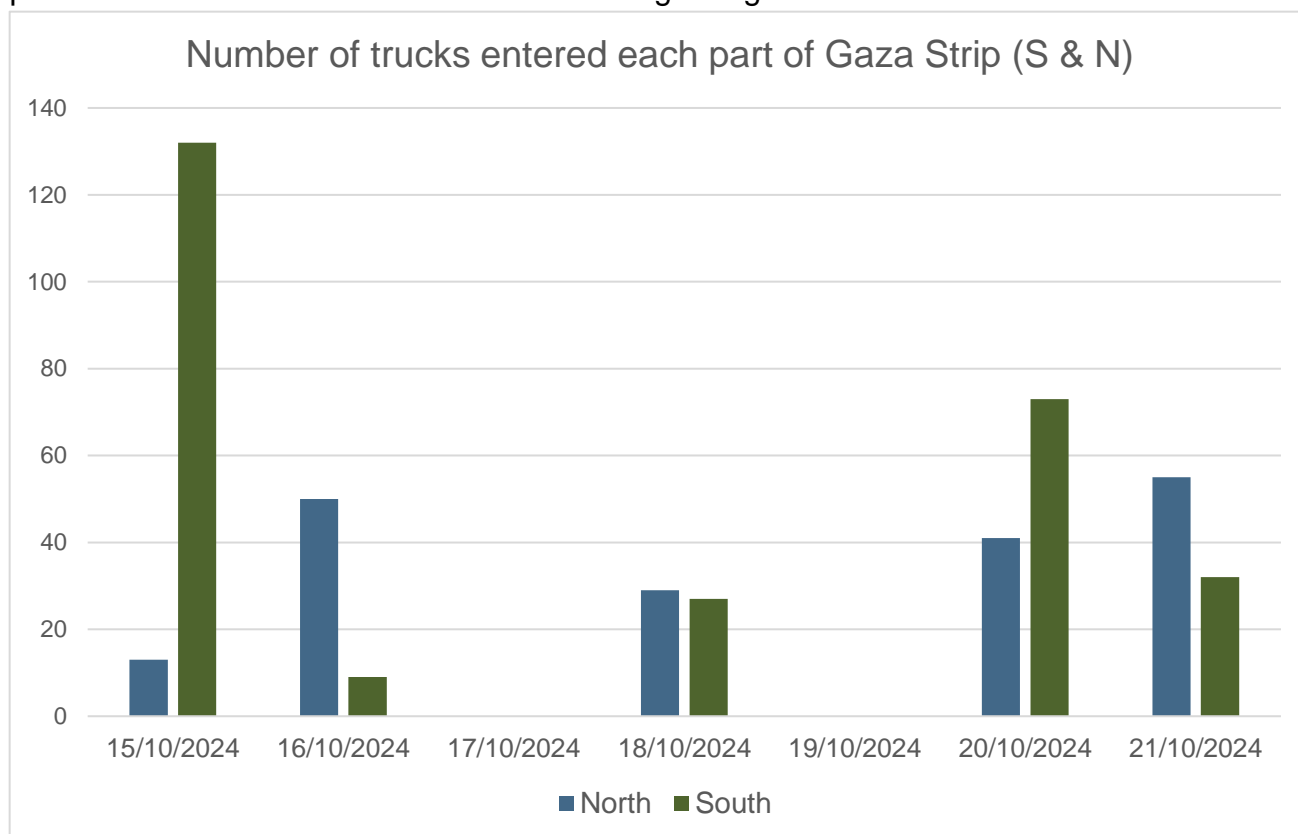


Figure (3): Number of trucks entered each part of Gaza Strip (South, North)

3 Daily Crossing Points Status:

Rafah crossing remains closed all the time. Although Karm Abu Salem (KAS) crossing continues to have the largest share of trucks entering Gaza Strip. However, this week, there was three days that number of trucks passed through Erez exceeded the number of trucks that passed through KAS crossing, which were on 16/10/2024, 18/10/2024 and 21/10/2024. Tuesday 15/10/2024 has the largest number of trucks on one day during the reporting period, 145 trucks passed into Gaza Strip, 104 trucks through (KAS), 13 trucks through Erez, and 28 trucks through gate 96. On Wednesday 16/10/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 59 trucks only, 9 trucks of them entered from (KAS) and the remain 50 trucks entered from Erez, and no trucks entered from gate 96. On Thursday 17/10/2024 no trucks entered from any crossing at all. On Friday 18/10/2024 56 trucks entered into Gaza Strip, 27 from (KAS) and 29 from Erez, and no trucks entered from gate 96. On Saturday 19/10/2024 no trucks entered from any crossing at all. On Sunday 20/10/2024 the number of trucks reached 114, 49 passed through (KAS), 41 through Erez, and 24 trucks through gate 96. On the last day, Monday 21/10/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 87, 12 trucks passed through (KAS), 55 through Erez, and 20 trucks through gate 96.

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	15/10/2024	0	13	28	104	145
Wednesday	16/10/2024	0	50	0	9	59
Thursday	17/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0
Friday	18/10/2024	0	29	0	27	56
Saturday	19/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0
Sunday	20/10/2024	0	41	24	49	114
Monday	21/10/2024	0	55	20	12	87
Total		0	188	72	201	461

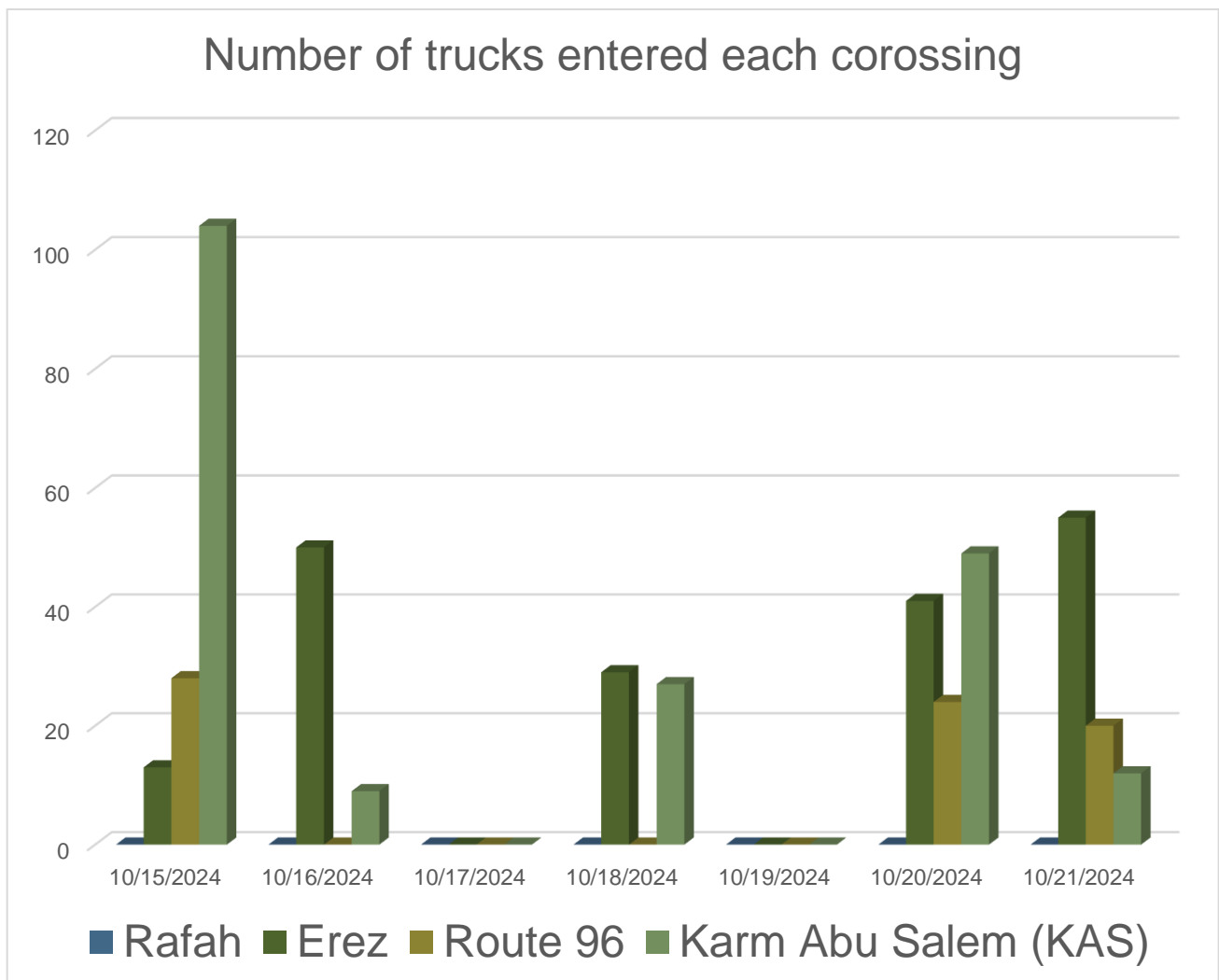


Figure (4): Number of trucks entered each corossing

The average daily number of entering trucks during the reporting period is about 66 trucks, while the average in the previous week was about 69 trucks. Commodity prices are 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. 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)							Total
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Mixed Aid	UN and NGOS equipment	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items	
15/10/2024	140	430	95	60	332	130	1,510	2,697
16/10/2024	20	350	0	0	0	0	420	790
17/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18/10/2024	N/A	210	0	20	0	0	950	1,180
19/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20/10/2024	40	240	0	0	329	92	2,240	2,941
21/10/2024	20	525	60	0	5	128	900	1,638
Total	220	1,755	155	80	666	350	6,020	9,246³

Note:

- The quantities of Medical Supplies are not available in tons on 18/10/2024, the available data indicates that 8 trucks of Medical Supplies entered on that day.

³ This number does not include the load of the 7 medical supplies trucks which passed on 18/10/2024.

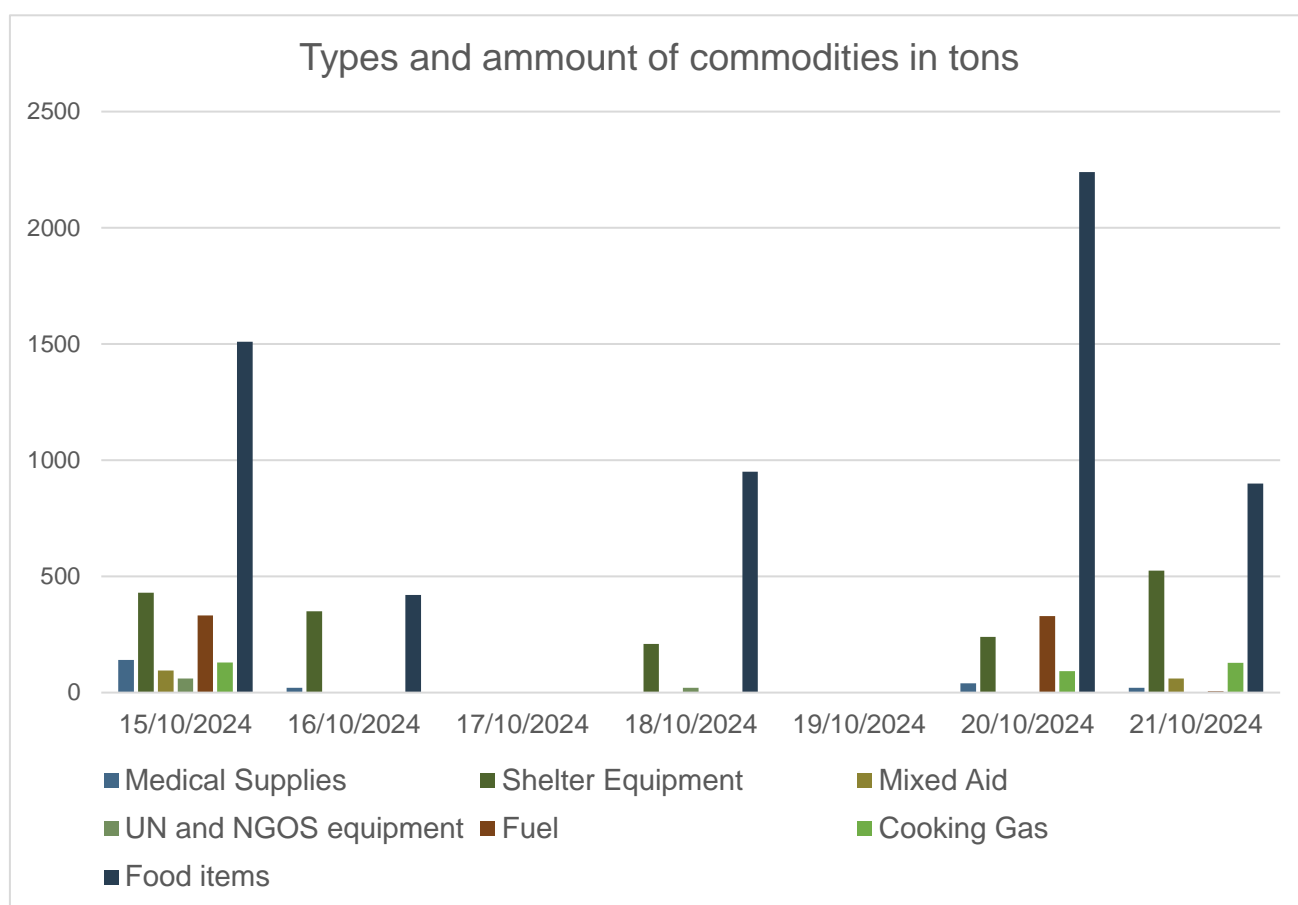


Figure (5): Types and ammount of commodities in tons.

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 Equip.	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items	
15/10/2024	14	32	6	4	9	6	74	145
16/10/2024	1	33	25	0	0	0	0	59
17/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18/10/2024	8	14	0	1	0	0	33	56
19/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20/10/2024	4	16	0	0	8	4	82	114
21/10/2024	1	35	4	0	1	6	40	87
Total	28	130	35	5	18	16	229	461

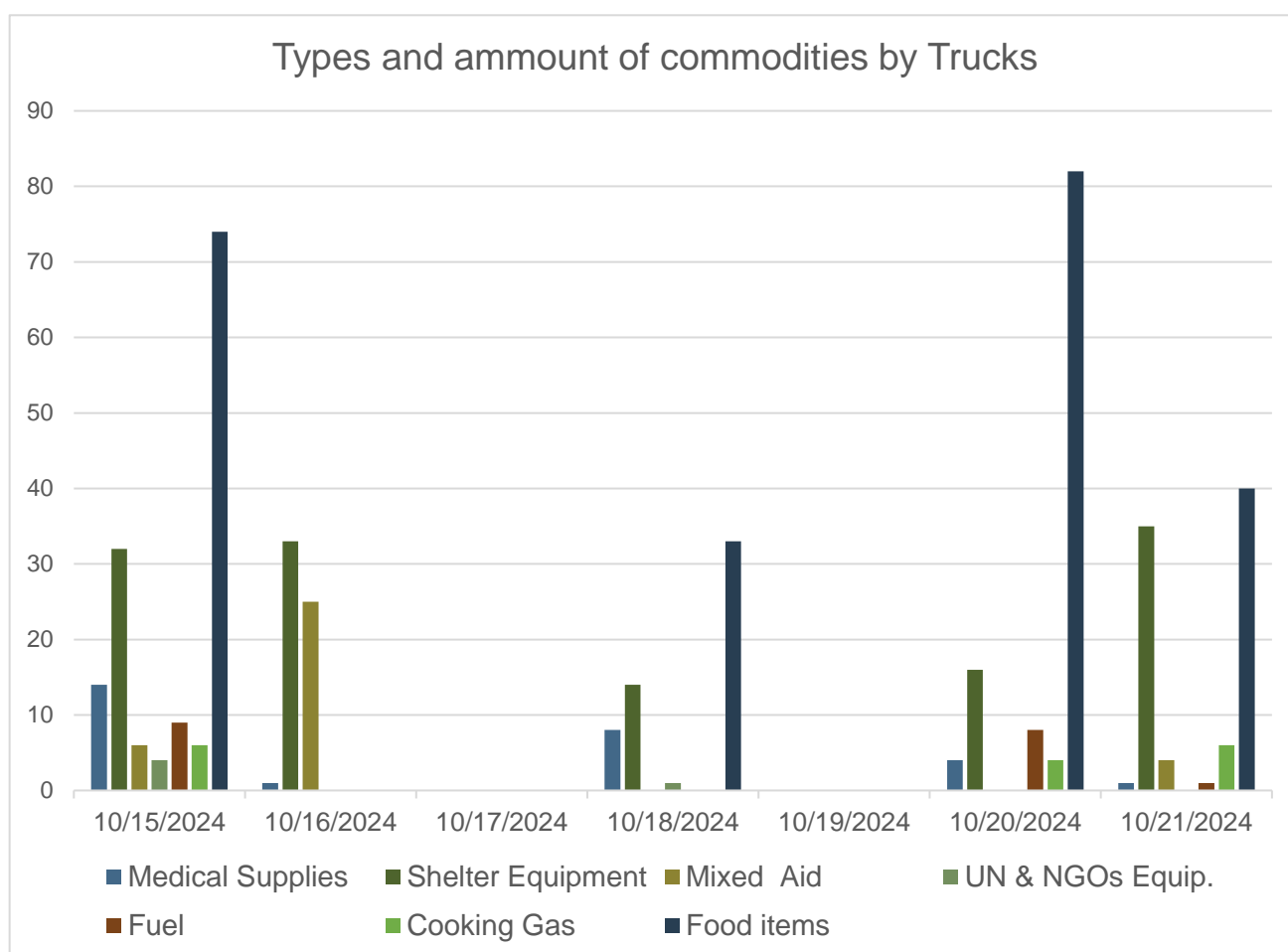


Figure (6): Types and ammount of commodities by Trucks.

4.2 Food items details:

During this week, food items constituted the lowest percentage of the total commodities entering Gaza Strip since 01/08/2024, the food items percentage reached less than 50% in the number of trucks and about 65% in the quantity by tons. These percentages reached more than 70% in previous weeks.

As shown in table (2), food items constitute 65% of the total commodities entered to Gaza Strip within the report period, with a total of 6,020 tons. 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	
15/10/2024	0	0	60	0	0	770	680	1,510
16/10/2024	0	0	0	0	90	15	315	420
17/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	870	80	950
19/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20/10/2024	0	0	100	0	0	1,830	310	2,240
21/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	660	240	900
Total	0	0	160	0	90	4,145	1,625	6,020

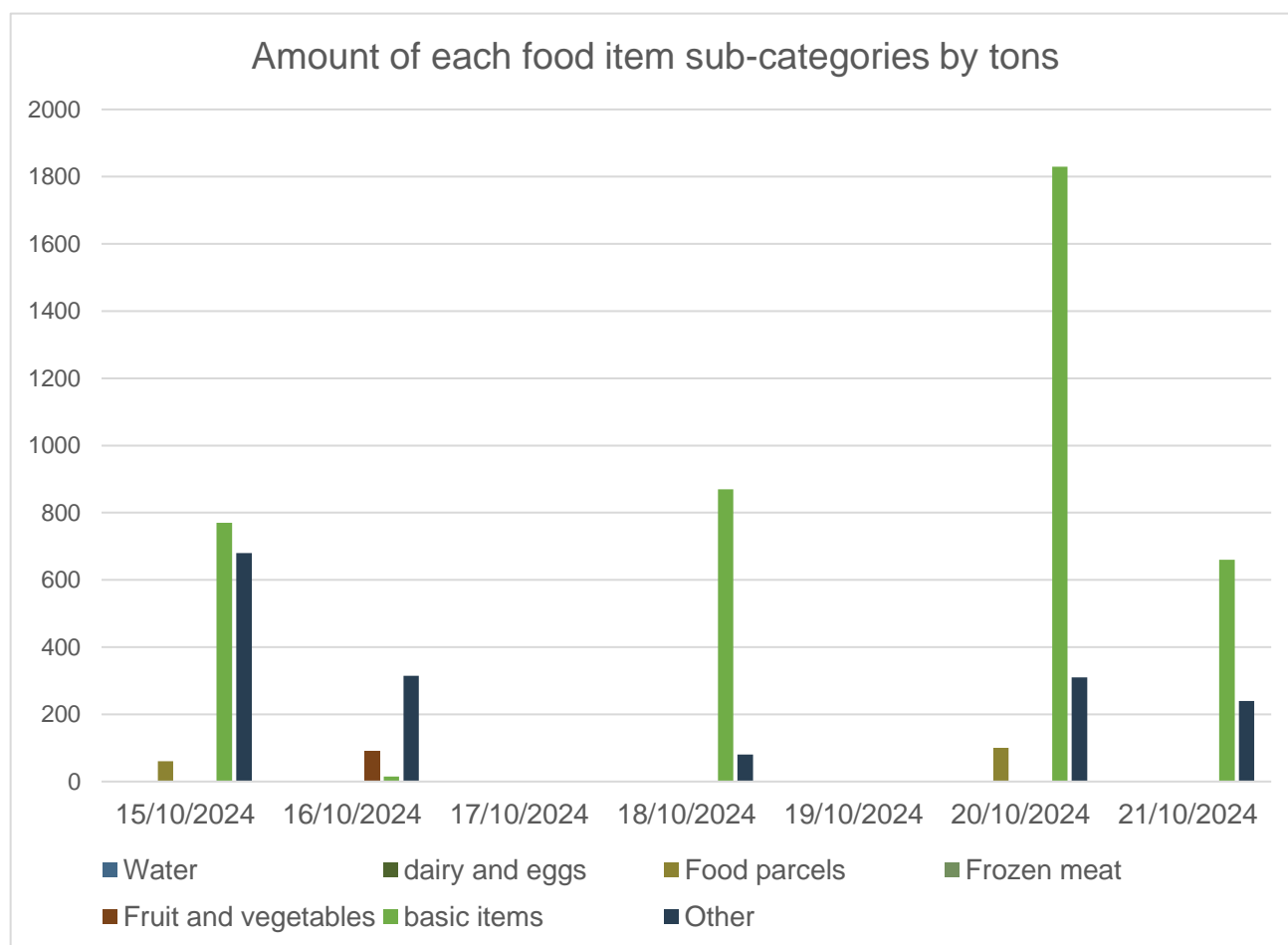


Figure (7): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

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	
15/10/2024	0	0	3	0	0	38	33	74
16/10/2024	0	0	0	0	6	1	18	25
17/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	30	3	33
19/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20/10/2024	0	0	4	0	0	68	10	82
21/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	30	10	40
Total	0	0	7	0	6	167	74	254

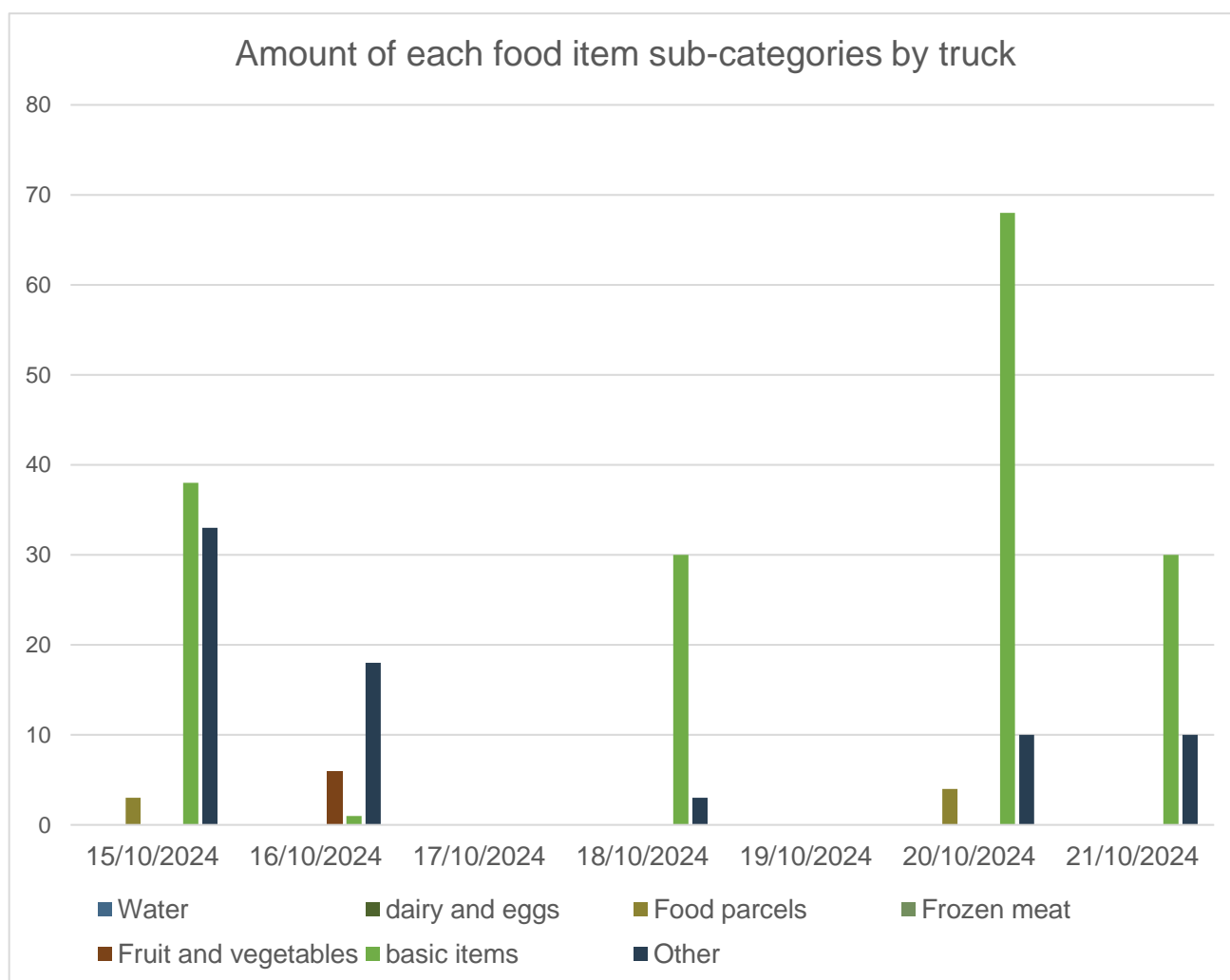


Figure (8): Amount of food item sub-categories by trucks.

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 4% 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		
15/10/2024	Food items	0	0	74	1510	74	1510
	Cooking Gas	6	130	0	0	6	130
	Fuel	0	0	9	332	9	332
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	4	60	4	60
	Mixed Aid	0	0	6	95	6	95
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	32	430	32	430
	Medical Supplies	0	0	14	140	14	140
Subtotal 1		6	130	139	2567	145	2697
16/10/2024	Food items	0	0	25	420	25	420
	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	33	350	33	350
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	20	1	20
Subtotal 2		0	0	59	790	59	790
17/10/2024	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 3		0	0	0	0	0	0
18/10/2024	Food items	0	0	33	950	33	950
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0

Date	Items	Private Sector		Humanitarian Aids		Total Number of trucks	Total amount by tons
		Trucks	Tons	Trucks	Tons		
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	1	20	1	20
	Mixed Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	14	210	14	210
	Medical Supplies	0	0	8	0	8	0
Subtotal 4		0	0	56	1180	56	1180
19/10/2024	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
20/10/2024	Food items	0	0	82	2240	82	2240
	Cooking Gas	4	92	0	0	4	92
	Fuel	0	0	8	329	8	329
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	16	240	16	240
	Medical Supplies	0	0	4	40	4	40
Subtotal 6		4	92	110	2849	114	2941
21/10/2024	Food items	0	0	40	900	40	900
	Cooking Gas	6	128	0	0	6	128
	Fuel	0	0	1	5	1	5
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mixed Aid	0	0	4	60	4	60
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	35	525	35	525
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	20	1	20
Subtotal 6		6	128	81	1510	87	1638
Total		16	350	445	8,896	461	9,246

5 Daily market prices for essential items:

Data about market prices are collected from the markets in the south side of Gaza Strip. Prices were collected in the “humanitarian area” (South of Wadi Gaza), specifically in Nuseirat, Deir al-Balah, and Khan Younis markets. It was noted that there was an increase

in some items prices by more than 1700% 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 15/10/2024 to 21/10/2024 were as follows:

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

#	Item	15/10	16/10	17/10	18/10	19/10	20/10	21/10	Average	St. Dev
1	Flour	55	55	80	110	110	110	110	90.00	26.30
2	Potato	35	35	50	60	20	20	25	35.00	15.28
3	Tomato	N/A	40	60	50	43	42	45	46.67	7.37
4	Onion	40	40	40	N/A	25	25	35	34.17	7.36
5	Oil	27	27	30	36	33	33	35	31.57	3.64
6	Lemon	17	20	20	20	15	15	20	18.14	2.41
9	Eggplant	14	12	16	17	12	12	13	13.71	2.06
11	Cucumber	10	10	10	13	12	13	12	11.43	1.40
12	Sugar	16	15	14	17	17	17	18	16.29	1.38
17	Rice	13	13	13	13	15	15	15	13.86	1.07
18	Bottled water box	23	23	25	25	25	25	25	24.43	0.98
19	Garlic	N/A	N/A	120	120	120	120	N/A	120.00	0.00
20	Kidney beans	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10.00	0.00
21	Macaroni	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
22	Orange	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
24	Pepper	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40.00	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 (garlic – kidney beans – Macaroni – orange – pepper). It should be noted that although the standard deviation value of some items is zero, this does not reflect the stability and consistency of their prices in the market, but rather is due to their unavailability in the market except for few days during the reporting period.

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 (bottled water box).

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 – potato – tomato – onion – oil – lemon – eggplant – cucumber – sugar – rice).

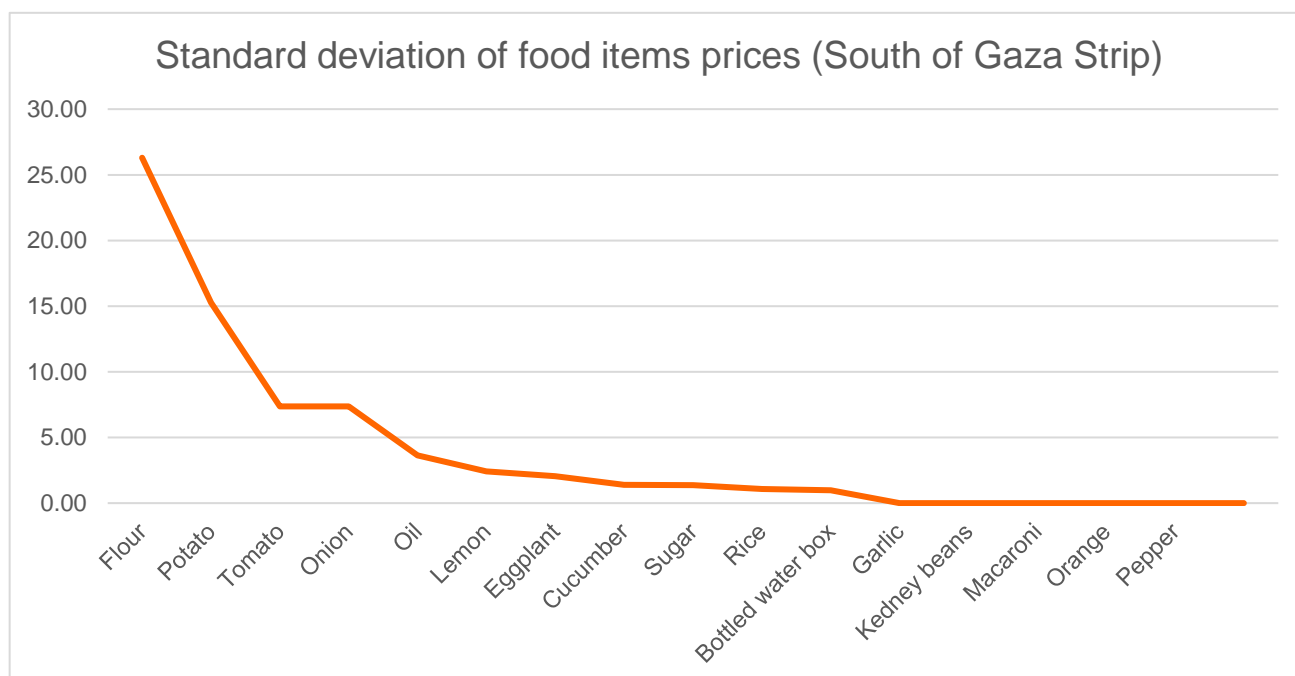


Figure (9): Standard deviation of food items prices (South of Gaza Strip)

We note here that some items that were previously classified as a fixed price items, such as (flour, oil and rice), became highly volatile items, while some other items that were classified as a volatile price items, such as (onions and garlic), became stable.

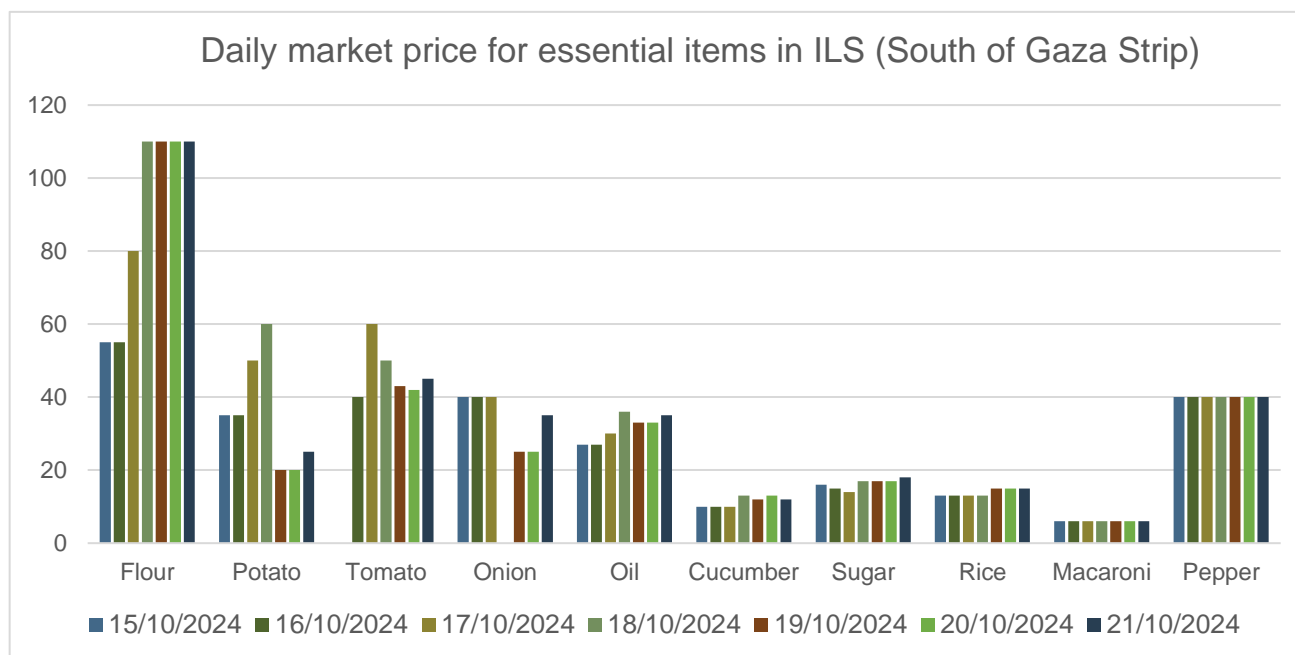


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS (South of Gaza Strip)

5.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 15/10/2024 – 21/10/2024:

As an example:

- Product 1: **Flour.**
 - Opening Price: 55.
 - Closing Price: 110.
 - Percentage Change: 100%.
- Product 2: **Oil.**
 - Opening Price: 27.
 - Closing Price: 35.
 - Percentage Change: 30%
- Product 3: **Sugar.**
 - Opening Price: 16.
 - Closing Price: 18.
 - Percentage Change: 13%
- Product e: **Potato.**
 - Opening Price: 35.
 - Closing Price: 25.
 - Percentage Change: -29%

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 461 trucks, distributed between Karm Abu Salem crossing and Erez crossing. Erez crossing witnessed an improvement in commodities flow rate comparing to the previous week.
 - Completely shut of all crossings were observed on 17/10/2024 and 19/10/2024, impacting the availability of goods on the following days.
- Variety and Quantity of Goods:
 - In this week, the supply was at its minimum, which affected market prices to escalate, especially, since 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 side of Gaza Strip, due to the unavailability of many goods and the closure of markets, as well as the difficult field conditions that the region is experiencing.

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.

Success Story:

Al-Louh Cooking Stove Workshop Gaza City



Al-Louh Cooking Stove Workshop – Gaza City

For over a year now, the Israeli occupation prevented the entry of cooking gas for North Gaza Area households. This situation forced the residents of the area to cook food using any combustible material such as paper, fabric, wood and even furniture. The absence of the cooking gas and the scarcity of combustible material inspired Mr. Mohammed Al-Louh to fabricate cooking stove using recycled material. In his small and modest workshop that has 4 workers only, Mr. Al-Louh produces about 15 stoves a day, made from recycled metal sheets, cement, and a small fan. The stove works on any combustible material like paper, nylon, plastic and liquids, and is sold at about 100 NIS. Al-Louh hopes to expand production to serve more residents and develop alternative energy options. The project demonstrates adaptability, resourcefulness and resilience in the face of significant hardship.

In order to expand his production Mr. Al-Louh would need a source of electricity and some raw material.



8 The case of the week: "The Crisis of Cash Liquidity and Worn Currency, and Its Impact during the Israeli War on Gaza"

8.1 Situation before the war:

- **No cash liquidity problems:** Before the outbreak of the war, there was no shortage of cash liquidity, and cash was reasonably available to meet the needs of the local market.
- **Currency in circulation was in good condition:** Paper and metal currencies were in a suitable condition for circulation and were not noticeably worn, which facilitated daily cash transactions in Gaza Strip.
- **Relative stability in the local economy:** Despite the general economic difficulties and the blockade, the commercial activities relied mainly on traditional cash transactions, and there were no cash liquidity obstacles.
- **Continuous external support:** Cash flows from foreign transfers and some humanitarian organizations helped provide the needs of the market and supported families, which contributed to relative economic stability before the war.

8.2 The impact of the war:

The recent war on Gaza exacerbated the cash liquidity crisis and worn currency, and its effects were as follows:

- **A near-complete halt to exchange operations:** Due to restrictions imposed on border crossings and the prevention of the entry of currency from abroad, which led to a significant shortage of cash.
- **Military attacks on banks and exchange offices:** Approximately 90% of banks and exchange offices in Gaza City were destroyed, and only two Bank branches in Deir al-Balah and Nuseirat are operational, and they rarely operate.
- **Decrease in the value of the currency in circulation:** The available currency has lost a large part of its value due to inflation and the sharp rise in the prices of basic commodities, with prices increasing by 600-5000%.



- **Spread of the black market for currency exchange:** Current commissions reach 25% on amounts withdrawn through bank electronic applications due to restrictions on banks and exchange offices, which has led to a further deterioration in the value of the available currency.
- **Increase in the economic suffering of families:** The monthly income of families has decreased to very low levels, making providing basic needs a major challenge.

8.3 The current gap:

When comparing the current situation of cash liquidity with the actual need, we find that there is a large gap estimated at about 95%, as a result of the cessation of cash supply and the increased pressure on the local economy. This shortage has negatively affected families meeting basic needs from the markets .

8.4 Recommendations:

- Allow entry of cash money to improve cash liquidity and exchange the worn banknotes.
- Expand and activate digital payment channels as a support to cash transactions.
- Raise community awareness and launch awareness campaigns to improve currency management and mitigate the effects of its deterioration.

9 Conclusion

There was consistency of the commodities flow rate comparing to the previous week, however the volume of commodities flowing into Gaza Strip during October is still below the average for previous months, and far below the required level that meets the needs of the population. Two important comments were observed during this week, occurring for the first time since 8/1/2024. The first is a relative convergence in the number of trucks that entered through KAS and Erez crossing, with three days in which the number of trucks that entered through Erez exceeded the number of trucks that entered through KAS. The second is preventing private Sector for the second week from entering goods into the Strip. This prevention caused a big decrease in the percentage of food items compared to the total volume of goods that entered into Gaza Strip during the reporting period. The shortage of food items entry explains the disappearance of food items from the markets and the sharp rise in their prices.

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. 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. The Israeli Authorities have totally banned the private sector from entering goods into Gaza Strip, except for limited quantities of cooking gas.

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