Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 2: August 8-14, 2024

02 September 2024

Disclaimer:

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Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1 Introduction:

This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 08/08/2024 to 14/08/2024. The collected data indicates that, in this week there was a decrease in the number of trucks entering the basic commodities into Gaza Strip as well as in the tonage of about 9% and 8.5% respectively compared to the previous week. During the reporting period, 1,065 trucks with a total of 21,260 tons of basic commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from two crossings only, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) and Eriz Crossing, 829 trucks and 236 trucks respectively, while no trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing.

Since the Israeli army has divided the Gaza Strip into two main parts, North Gaza and South Gaza with Wadi Gaza being the division line, Karm Abu Salem (KAS) and Rafah crossings operate mainly for the southern part of Gaza Strip, while Erez crossing operates for the Northern part of Gaza Strip. It should be noted that the trucks entering the north are part of the humanitarian sector and not of the private sector, as the Israeli occupation still prevents the private sector from importing and delivering commodities to the Northern part of Gaza Strip, the Occupation is not allowing Private Sector to send Goods from the south to the north either. The Humanitarian Assistance entering the northern part of Gaza Strip does not meet the minimum needs of the remaining population there.

While the Israeli Occupation allows the private sector to import limited food items, for the Southern part, it prevents the private sector from importing any other non-food basic commodities. These prevented basic non-food commodities include, but not limited to: hygiene materials, clothing & footwear, medicines & medical supplies, fuel, etc. Some humanitarian organizations are allowed to bring such non-food commodities in limited to a very small extent.

2 Daily Crossing Points Status:

As in the previous week, Rafah crossing remains closed and no trucks have entered through it. Karm Abu Salem (KAS) crossing also continues to constitutes the largest share of trucks entering Gaza Strip, but this percentage has slightly decreased from 79.5% in the previous week to 78% this week, while Erez crossing's share of trucks has increased from 20.5% in the previous week to 22% this week.

It is also noteworthy that the number of trucks entering Gaza Strip on Fridays and Saturdays continues to decline compared to other week days, as was the case in the previous week.

On 08/08/2024, 256 trucks entered Gaza Strip through the active crossings, 216 trucks from Karm Abu Salem (KAS) in the south and 40 trucks from Erez in the north. On Friday 09/08/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 58 through (KAS), with no goods entering form Erez crossing. On Saturday 10/08/2024, only 41 trucks entered through Erez in the northern part and nothing form (KAS) crossing. The number of entering trucks rose on 11/08/2024 to a total of 194 trucks, 166 from (KAS) and 28 from Erez. On 12/08/2024, 144 trucks entered to Gaza strip, 113 trucks through (KAS) and 31 trucks through Erez crossing. On 13/08/2024, 169 truck entered Gaza Strip, 129 trucks through (KAS) and 40 trucks through Erez crossing. On the seventh day 14/08/2024, 203 trucks entered Gaza Strip, 147 through (KAS), and 56 through Erez crossing.

Table (1): Number of trucks for each corossing and the total number of trucks in the period.

			Number of Trucks					
Date	Date	Rafah	Erez	Karm Abu Salem (KAS)	Total			
Thursday	08/08/2024	0	40	216	256			
Friday	09/08/2024	0	0	58	58			
Saturday	10/08/2024	0	41	0	41			
Sunday	11/08/2024	0	28	166	194			
Monday	12/08/2024	0	31	113	144			
Tuesday	13/08/2024	0	40	129	169			
Wednesday	14/08/2024	0	56	147	203			
Total		0	236	829	1,065			

It is worth noting that on Friday 09/08 and Saturday 10/08 there was a big decrease of 77% and 84% respectively in the total number of trucks entering compared with Thursday 08/08/2024 (Due to the weekend on the Israeli side) had a clear impact on the prices of goods in the markets on 11/08. It is worth mentioning that no Private Sector Goods were allowed into Northern part of Gaza Strip.

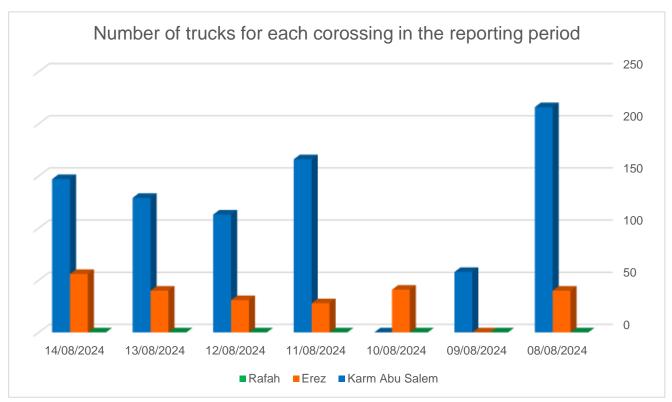


Figure (1): Number of trucks for each corossing in the reporting period.

3 Entering commodities:

3.1 Commodities classification:

The types of goods entering Gaza Strip in the north and south are divided into 4 main categories: food items, shelter equipment, medical supplies and combined aid. 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 table shows the categories of entering commodities and their amount in tons, on daily basis:

Table (2): Types and ammount of commodities by tons.

		Types	and Amounts	of Comm	odities (To	ns)	
Date	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	Food items	Cooking Gas	Fuel	UN & NGOs Equip.
08/08/2024	NA	195	90	4,250	132	250	NA
09/08/2024	0	0	0	1,160	0	0	0
10/08/2024	NA	100	0	415	0	0	0
11/08/2024	10	0	0	3,810	138	220	0
12/08/2024	20	15	0	3,000	124	0	0
13/08/2024	45	155	15	2,610	132	219	0
14/08/2024	60	25	15	3,905	132	18	0

Note:

- the quantities of Meical supplies are not avilabel by tons for both 08/08/2024 and 10/08/2024, and the avilabe data indicates that 1 truck and 2 trucks of medical supplies entered on 08/08/2024 and 10/08/2024 resperctivley.
- the quantity of UN & NGOs equipment is not avilabel by tons for 08/08/2024, and the avilabe data indicates that 2 trucks of UN & NGOs equipment entered on that day.

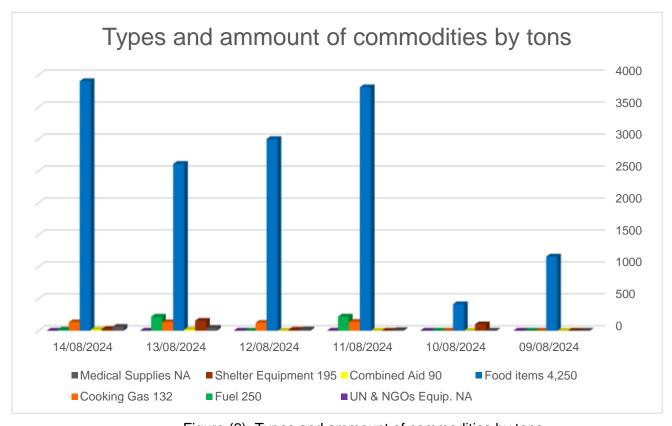


Figure (2): Types and ammount of commodities by tons

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

	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Trucks)								
Date	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	Food items	Cooking Gas	Fuel	UN & NGOs Equip.	Total	
08/08/2024	1	15	6	220	6	6	2	256	
09/08/2024	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	58	
10/08/2024	2	13	0	26	0	0	0	41	
11/08/2024	1	0	0	181	6	6	0	194	
12/08/2024	1	1	0	136	6	0	0	144	
13/08/2024	3	22	1	132	6	5	0	169	
14/08/2024	7	2	1	185	6	2	0	203	
Total	15	53	8	938	30	19	2	1,065	

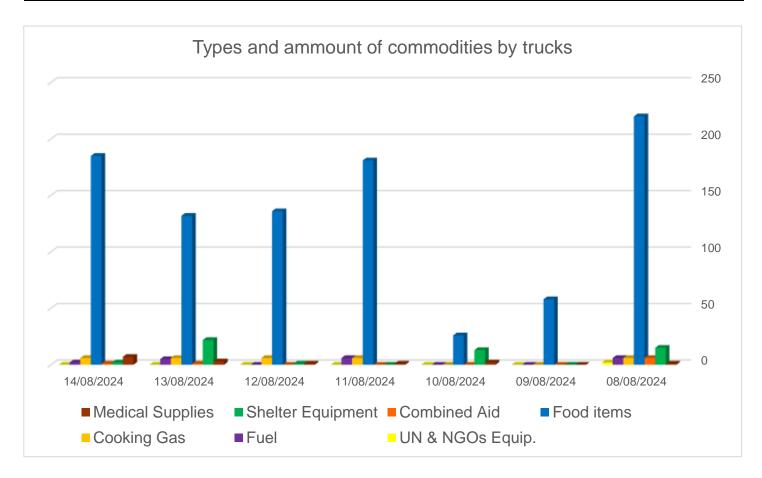


Figure (3): Types and ammount of commodities by trucks

3.2 Food items details:

As shown in the previous table (Table No. 2), food items constitute more than (90%) of the total commodities entered to Gaza Strip within the report period, with a total of (19,150) tons. The details of these food items and its components include (6) 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).

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)							
	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	Total
08/08/2024	40	200	605	460	770	1,005	1,170	4,250
09/08/2024	0	40	40	120	560	80	320	1,160
10/08/2024	0	0	415	0	0	0	0	415
11/08/2024	100	240	80	360	660	1,325	1,045	3,810
12/08/2024	0	220	0	480	540	1,000	760	3,000
13/08/2024	0	40	345	600	720	105	800	2,610
14/08/2024	120	160	0	0 820		1,160	1,010	3,905
Total	260	900	1,485	2,840	3,885	4,675	5,105	19,150

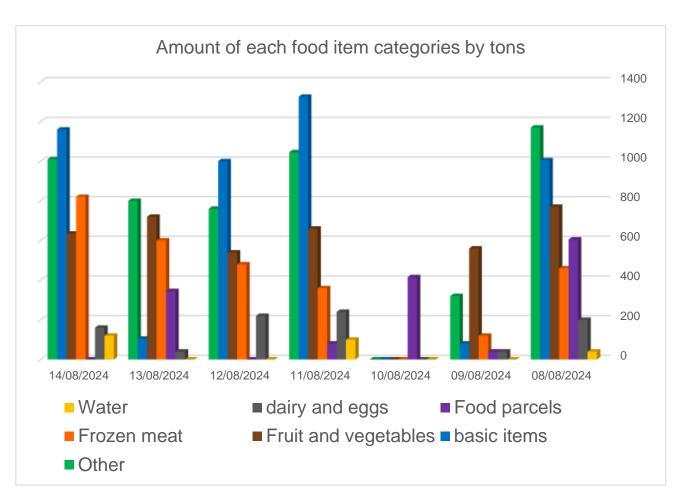


Figure (4): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

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

	Food items categories amount (Truck)							
Date	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	Total
08/08/2024	2	10	31	24	39	53	61	220
09/08/2024	0	2	2	6	28	4	16	58
10/08/2024	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	26
11/08/2024	5	12	4	17	31	62	50	181
12/08/2024	0	10	0	22	25	45	34	136
13/08/2024	0	2	18	30	36	5	41	132
14/08/2024	6	8	0	39	30	55	47	185
Total	13	44	81	138	189	224	249	938

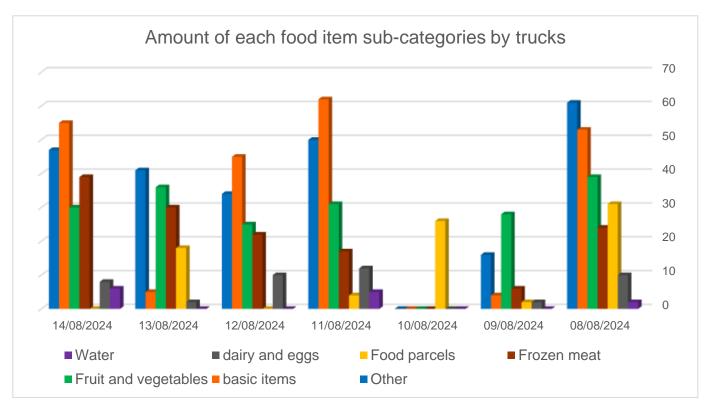


Figure (5): Amount of each food item sub-categories by trucks.

3.3 Commodities providors:

The commodities entered Gaza Strip during the report period vary between the private sector and humanitarian sector. While the private sector is limited to some food items, the humanitarian sector aid extends to food items, medical supplies, shelter equipment, and combined aid. The following table shows the commodities entering according to the source (private sector - humanitarian aid):

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

		Private	Sector		nitarian ctor	Total Number	Total	
Date	Items	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	of trucks	amount by tons	
	Food items	128	2,475	92	1,775	220	4,250	
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132	
	Fule	0	0	6	250	6	250	
08/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	2	0	2	0	
	Combined Aid	0	0	6	90	6	90	
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	15	195	15	195	
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	0	1	0	
	Subtotal 1	134	2,607	122	2,310	256	4,917	

		Private	Sector		nitarian etor	Total	Total
Date	Items	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	Number of trucks	amount by tons
	Food items	40	800	18	360	58	1,160
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fule	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal 2	40	800	18	360	58	1,160
	Food items	0	0	26	415	26	415
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fule	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	13	100	13	100
	Medical Supplies	0	0	2	0	2	0
	Subtotal 3	0	0	41	515	41	515
	Food items	127	2,685	54	1,125	181	3,810
	Cooking Gas	6	138	0	0	6	138
	Fule	0	0	6	220	6	220
11/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	10	1	10
	Subtotal 4	133	2,823	61	1,355	194	4,178
	Food items	102	2,240	34	760	136	3,000
	Cooking Gas	6	124	0	0	6	124
	Fule	0	0	0	0	0	0
12/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	1	15	1	15
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	20	1	20
	Subtotal 5	108	2,364	36	795	144	3,159

		Private	Sector		nitarian ctor	Total	Total
Date	Items	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	Number of trucks	Amount by tons	Number of trucks	amount by tons
	Food items	73	1,465	59	1,145	132	2,610
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fule	0	0	5	219	5	219
13/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	1	15	1	15
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	22	155	22	155
	Medical Supplies	0	0	3	45	3	45
	Subtotal 6	79	1,597	90	1,579	169	3,176
	Food items	138	2,895	47	1,010	185	3,905
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fule	0	0	2	18	2	18
14/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	1	15	1	15
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	2	25	2	25
	Medical Supplies	0	0	7	60	7	60
	Subtotal 7	144	3,027	59	1,128	203	4,155
	Total	638	13,218	427	8,042	1,065	21,260

3.4 Distribution of the Population in Gaza Strip:

According to the data in Table No. (1), about (78%) of the commodities that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period were through the Karm Abu Salem crossing, Israeli occupation did not allow any of these commodities to go to the Northern part of Gaza Strip. Therefore, all commodities entered through KAS remained in the southern part of Gaza Strip. The commodities entered through Erez crossing constitutes (22%), remained in the northern part. Population statistics indicate that there are approximately 650,000 people in the northern region 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 region of Gaza Strip, which constitutes 62% of the total population, and the remaining 200,000 people 9% are currently outside Gaza Strip.



Figure (6): Map of dividing Gaza Strip into North and South of Gaza Valley

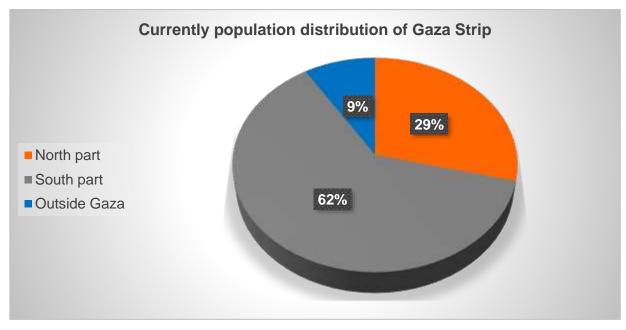


Figure (7): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip

The following figure shows the distribution of materials between the north and the south based on the number of trucks.

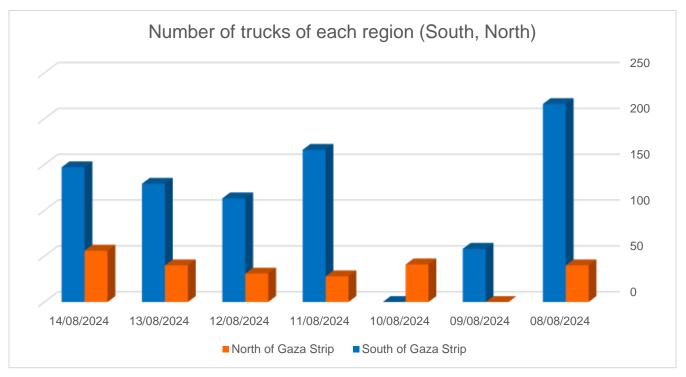


Figure (8): Number of trucks of each region (South, North)

It is worth noting that despite of the basic commodities entry, in limited quantities, to the North and South areas of the Gaza Strip, there is no proper distribution as there is a severe lack of some items based on the geographic location. For instance, no food items enter the North except for flour, while in the South there is a scarcity of Hygiene material.

4 Daily market price for essential items:

Data about market prices were collected from the markets in the humanitarian region in the southern part of Gaza Strip (South of Wadi Gaza), specifically in 'Nuseirat, Deir al-Balah, and Khan Younis' markets. It was noted that there are prices increase between 40% and 500% 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 08/08/2024 to 14/08/2024 were as follows:

Table (7): Daily market prices ILS/Kg for essential items

#	Item	08/08	09/08	10/08	11/08	12/08	13/08	14/08	Average	St. Dev
1	Pepper	32	32	32	32	32	32	60	36.00	9.80
2	Lemon	9	9	9	9	15	15	15	11.57	2.97
3	Banana	16	16	16	16	10	10	15	14.14	2.64
4	Egg	40	42	43	43	47	46	46	43.86	2.36
5	Frozen veal	60	60	60	60	60	60	66	60.86	2.10
6	Frozen chicken thigh	25	25	25	25	28	28	28	26.29	1.48
7	Tomato	16	17	20	18	17	18	20	18.00	1.41
8	Cucumber	15	12	15	12	15	13	15	13.86	1.36
9	Potato	10	9	12	12	12	12	12	11.29	1.16
10	Apple	17	17	17	17	15	15	15	16.14	0.99
11	Frozen chicken	26	26	26	26	25	25	28	26.00	0.93
12	Watermelon	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6.14	0.35
13	Onion	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7.00	0.00
14	Garlic	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25.00	0.00
15	Orange	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
16	Eggplant	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7.00	0.00
17	Frozen chicken wing	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
18	Flour (25 Kg Sack)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
19	Oil (Liter)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8.00	0.00
20	Sugar	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
21	Rice	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11.00	0.00
22	Kedney beans	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10.00	0.00
23	Macaroni	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
24	Bottled water (Box)	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17.00	0.00

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

4.1 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 (onions - watermelons - flour - cooking oil - rice - beans – pasta - Garlic – Orange - Eggplant Frozen chicken wing).

4.2 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 (frozen chicken - apples - Watermelon).

4.3 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 (Pepper – Lemon - Banana – Egg – Frozen - veal - Frozen chicken thigh - Tomato - Cucumber - Potato).

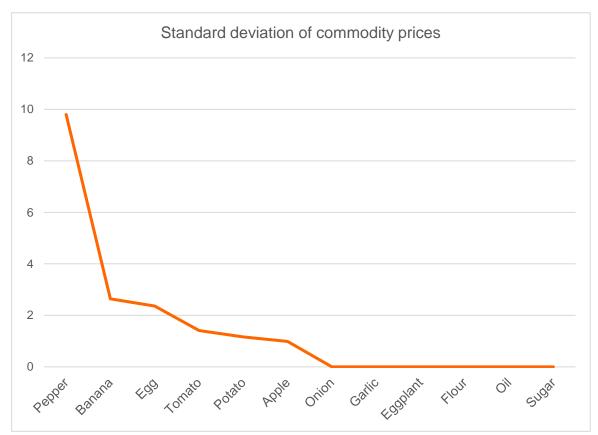


Figure 9(): Standard deviation of food items prices

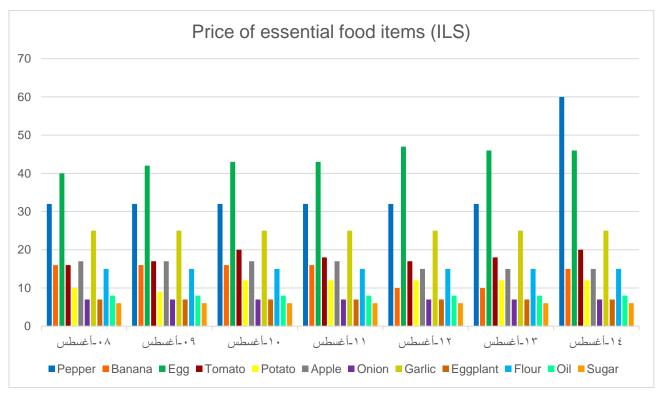


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS

4.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 01/08/2024 – 07/08/2024:

As an example:

- Product 1: Tomato.
 - o Opening Price: 16.
 - o Closing Price: 20.
 - o Percentage Change: 25%.
- Product 2: Lemon.
 - o Opening Price: 9.
 - o Closing Price: 15.
 - o Percentage Change: 66.6%
- Product 3: Pepper.
 - o Opening Price: 32.
 - o Closing Price: 60.
 - o Percentage Change: 87.5%

4.4.1 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.

4.4.2 Market Conditions in Gaza:

- Truck Movement Variations:
 - During this period, there was a notable increase in the number of trucks entering Gaza, the total is about 1,065 trucks, distributed between Karm Abu Salem crossing in the south and Erez crossing in the north.
 - Significant fluctuations were observed in the number of trucks from day to day, with a major decrease of 72% in the number of trucks for 09/08/2024 through 10/08/2024, impacting the availability of goods in the markets that caused increase in prices by 10% in local markets on the next day 011/08/2024.
- Variety and Quantity of Goods:
 - Quantities varied greatly on certain days, particularly on 09/08/2024 and 10/08/2024, in these days the supply was at its minimum, which affected market prices to escalate. It was noted also that some retailers offered discounts on some short shelf life items due to the availability of huge quantities of these items. Many basic commodities were scarce in the markets, especially hygiene material and footwear.

5 Coordination Mechanism:

The Israeli Occupation Coordination and Liaison Directorate (CLA) has implemented a system to issue permits for coordinating goods entry. The allowed coordination is for the Southern part of Gaza Strip and is not allowed for the Northern part of the Strip. This coordination system lacks accountability and transparency and rather has a great deal of ambiguity. The system does not allow information on who gets coordination, how many coordination they get and why. Below is the mechanism of the Coordination System, as follows:

- A WhatsApp number is designated by the Israeli Occupation Coordination & Liaison Directorate (CLA) to receive importers application for coordination.
- Importers would send their application to the designated WhatsApp number including the importer's and Israeli driver details as well as the requested goods details.
- CLA would reply from the WhatsApp number as follows: Approved, Rejected, or resubmit after one month (or any other period).
- In many cases the Importer will receive no answer.
- In many cases only the Israeli Driver is informed of the status of the application, which enables the driver to sell the approved coordination to a different Importer.
- Once the coordination application is approved, the Importer can coordinate with traders from the West Bank or Israel to ship goods from their sources.
- If goods are coming from West Bank, it has to go to Tarqoumya or Tulkarm Crossing
 first by the Palestinian trucks (may have a waiting period on the crossing from several
 hours to several days) then it will be loaded back to back on an Israeli truck to head to
 KAS crossing (may also have a waiting time).
- If goods are coming from Israel the Israeli drivers will simply transport it to KAS crossing directly upon the request of the importer. (may also have a waiting time).
- If the Importer receives a rejection or no answer from the WhatsApp number, he will then contact an Israeli driver to purchase a coordination through/from him.
- For agricultural products such as vegetables, fruits and meat, coordination is managed through the Israeli Agricultural Coordinator, Mr. Rabit. This coordination is carried out with the Agricultural Coordinator, outside the described mechanism above.

5.1 Coordination Charges:

- Agricultural coordination is for free.
- Coordination charges for other food items range from 10,000 to 15,000 shekels per truck load.
- Charges could reach up to 60,000 in some Israeli prohibited items like Chocolates, nuts, juices and sweets.

5.2 Difficulties:

- Commercial goods are still significantly lower than pre-conflict levels and do not meet essential needs.
- The delivery of aid and commercial supplies into Gaza remains unreliable due to crossings and routs access restrictions and ongoing security issues.
- Challenges in importing from the West Bank due to double crossings and long waiting time on both crossings.
- Increased transportation costs within the West Bank to 300% due to sudden unplanned transportation requests, and long delays on the crossings.
- High transportation costs within Gaza due to high fuel and spare parts prices.
- Price increase of goods ranging from 5% to 10% from the source in the West Bank due to unplanned demand.
- 80% of Importers experienced damages to Goods during transportation.
- 53% of Importers experienced Goods detention for different periods by the Israeli's.
- 47% of Importers experienced extortion from Israeli drivers regarding cost of transportation and its entry prioritization.
- Cost of security escorts and transportation of goods within Gaza Strip, averaging 10,000 shekels per a truck or a convoy of several trucks.
- Lack of cash liquidity and closure of all Bank branches except one branch in the middle area with one 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 stabelize the markets.
- Lack of power to maintain goods cold chain and enable e-payments over the internet.
- Lack of hygiene products has caused a sharp increase in diseases such as Hepatitis A, impetigo, Scabies, and other fast spreading and contagious diseases.

6 Recommendations:

- 1. Immediate increase (in quantity and variety) of the amount of humanitarian aid entering Gaza Strip to include variant nutritious needs, with focus on areas suffering from malnutrition and famine in the northern Gaza Strip, through coordination with international organizations.
- 2. increase the number of commercial trucks, and expand the types and quantities of goods, cover all areas in distribution, and stocking in the southern and northern parts of Gaza to stabelize 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. Increase cooking gas entering Gaza to enable people cook their food properly.
- 5. increase the amount of commodities entering the northern Gaza Strip to ensure that aid reaches those in need without delay, as well as allowing private sector companies to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip.
- 6. Allow access to hygiene products since it is causing a major concern of disease spreading among population such as hepatitis A, scabies, etc.

- 7. Allow humanitarian and commercial trucks access the different crossings and all routs to shorten travel distances and avoid routs controlled by looters, in order to avoid paying high sums of money for security escorts.
- 8. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions
- 9. Partner between Chamber of Commerce as the umbrella for the private sector and Industry with donor projects such as Tasdeer's, Anera and WFP to support the back to business for retail recovery, agriculture etc to reduce reliance on street vendors.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Allow private sector to import other basic commodities such as hygiene material, medicines, clothes and footwear, etc.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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.
- 14. 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.
- 15. Find a more 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.
- 16. Find and promote mechanisms to control markets, prevent monopoly and control prices as much as possible.

7 Conclusion

The data during the current reporting period are similar to the previous report in many aspects. This similarity means that the Israeli occupation continues to practice a policy of collective punishment against the residents of Gaza Strip, as many essential commodities are still not allowed to enter Gaza Strip. The private sector companies continue to be restricted in the import process, and is limited to only some food items. The lack of transparency in the followed coordination mechanism, and the continued closure of Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, has serious repercussions on the Palestinian economy as a whole, as well as on the lives and souls of the residents. The residents of the northern Gaza Strip also continue to suffer from famine, due to the severe restrictions on the entry of goods, and the lack of International Community pressure or institutional action on the occupation to solve this problem.