



إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية
Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 10: October 01-07, 2024

15 October 2024

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- Israel started to implement a policy to reduce entry of goods by private sector
- This week witnessed the longest continuous closure of all crossings since 01/08/2024

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1 Introduction:

This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 01/10/2024 to 07/10/2024. There was a complete closure of all crossings during the reporting period, except one day, in which, a limited amount of commodities entered Gaza Strip. In the reporting period, there were a significant decrease in the number of trucks and tonnage of the basic commodities entering Gaza Strip in comparison with the previous weeks. During the reporting period, only **151** trucks with a total of **3,389¹** tons of commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from two crossings only, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) and Erez Crossing, 120 trucks and 31 trucks respectively, while no trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing. The share of trucks passed through each crossing during this week remained stable at about 79% from (KAS) and 21% from Erez crossing.

Since the Israeli occupation has divided 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 or vice versa. 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 non-food basic 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.

¹ This number does not include the load of one truck, as there is no information on its contents in tons, this truck was loaded by UN & NGOs equipment entered on 01/10/2024.

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 79% 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 21%, remained in the Northern part.

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. For instance, no food items enter the North except for flour, egg and frozen chickens, while in the South there is a scarcity of Hygiene material.

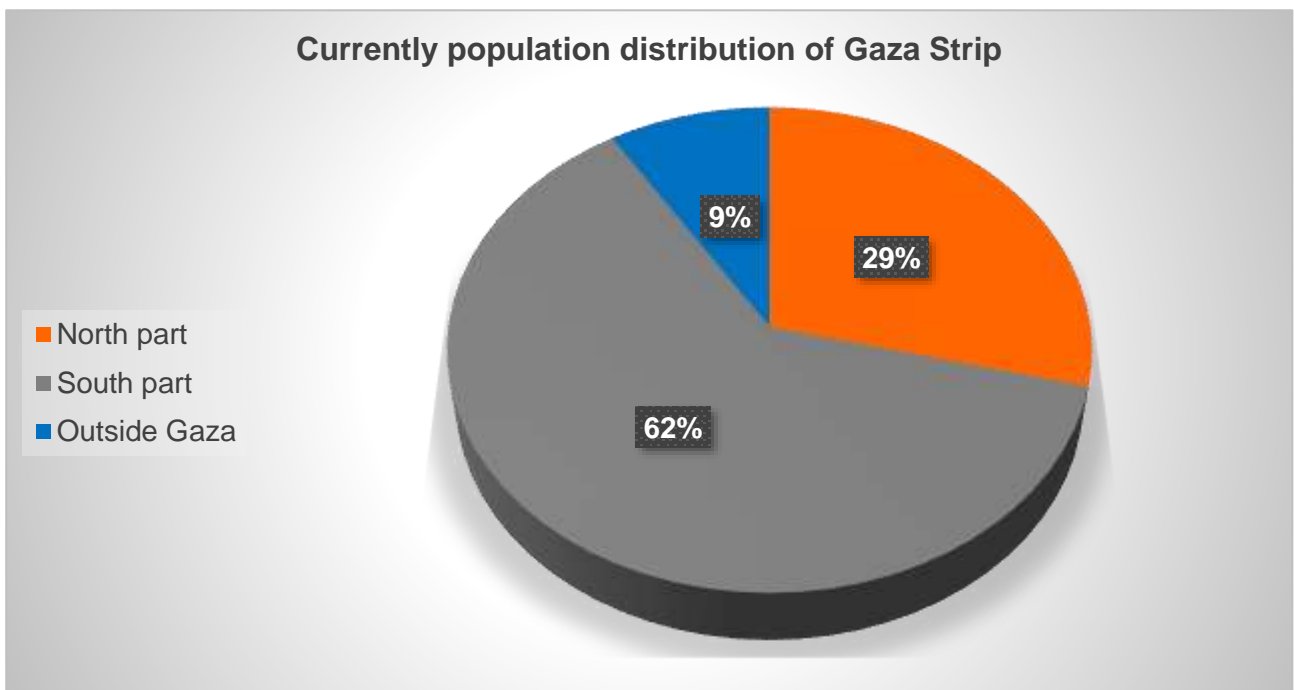


Figure (2): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip.

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, 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.

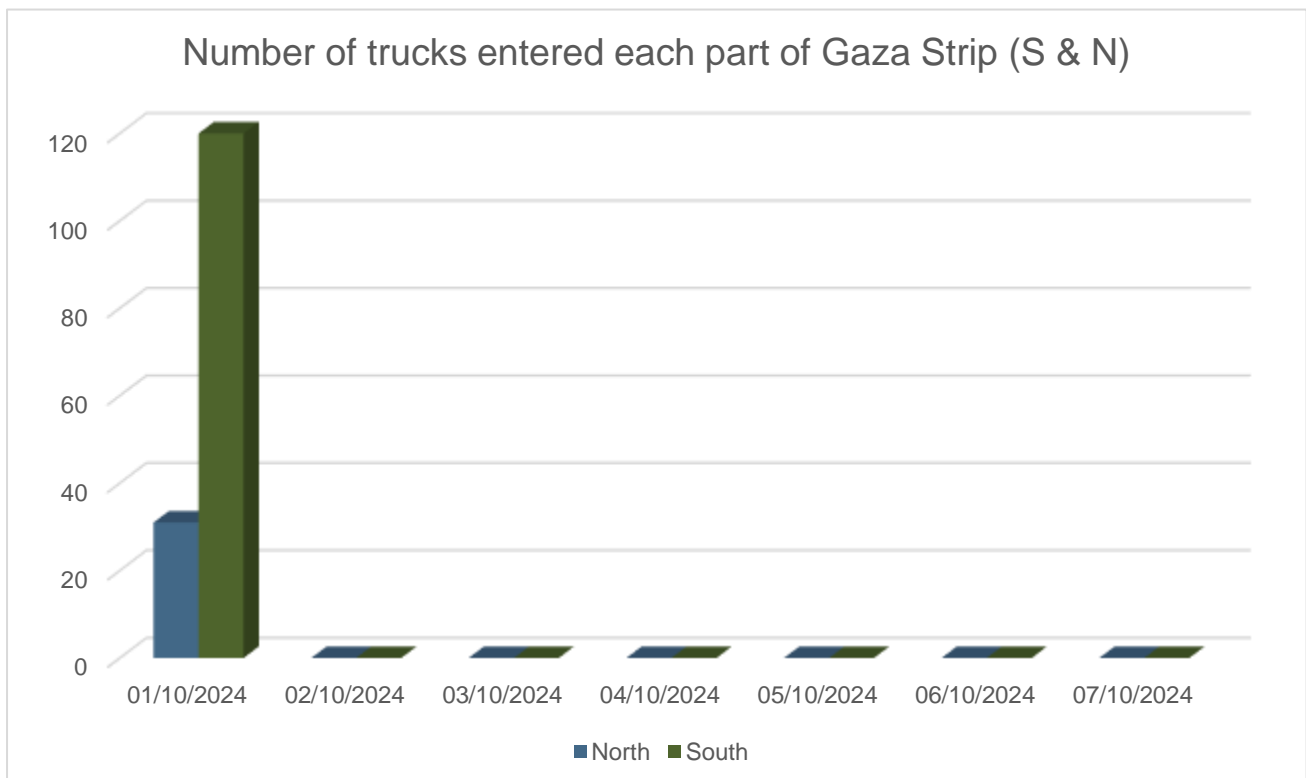


Figure (3): Number of trucks entered each part of Gaza Strip (South, North)

3 Daily Crossing Points Status:

Rafah crossing remains closed. Karm Abu Salem (KAS) crossing also continues to constitutes the largest share of trucks entering Gaza Strip. This week witnessed the longest continuous closure of all crossings since 01/08/2024, all crossings were closed for 6 consecutive days, from 02/10/2024 to 07/10/2024, the commodities entered only on one day. 151 trucks entered into Gaza Strip on 01/10/2024, 120 passed through (KAS) crossing, while the remaining 31 trucks passed through Erez crossing.

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

Day	Date	Number of Trucks			Total
		Rafah	Erez	Karm Abu Salem (KAS)	
Tuesday	01/10/2024	0	31	120	151
Wednesday	02/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Thursday	03/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Friday	04/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Saturday	05/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Sunday	06/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Monday	07/10/2024	0	0	0	0
Total		0	31	120	151

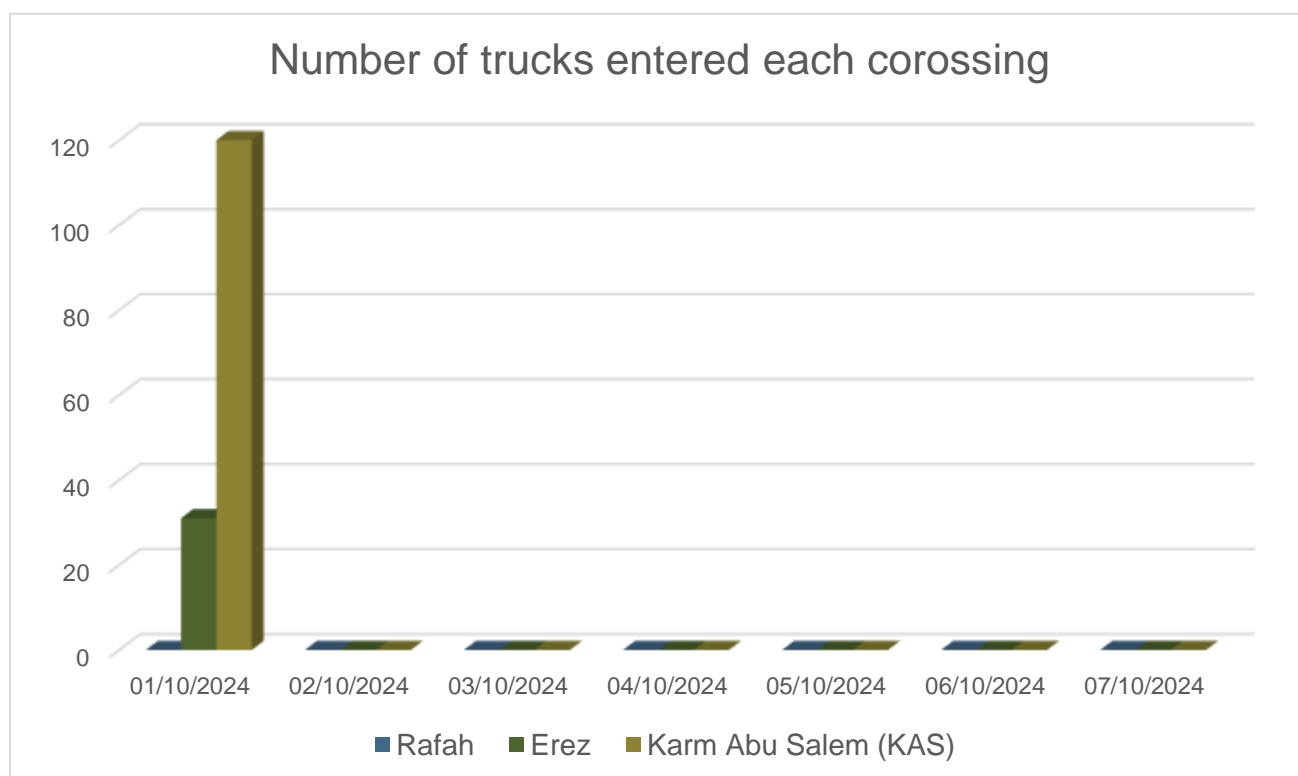


Figure (4): Number of trucks entered each corossing in the reporting period.

The average daily number of entering trucks during the reporting period is about 22 trucks, while the average in the previous week was 106 trucks. This significant decrease is due to the closure of all crossings for 6 days during the reporting period. This decrease had a clear impact on the availability and prices of goods in the markets on the next days.

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)						
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Mixed Aid	UN and NGOS equipment	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items
01/10/2024	100	155	45	N/A	327	132	2,630
02/10/2024	60	0	0	0	0	0	0
03/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
04/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note:

- the quantities of UN & NGOs equipment are not available in tons, the available data indicates that one truck of UN & NGOs equipment entered on 01/10/2024.

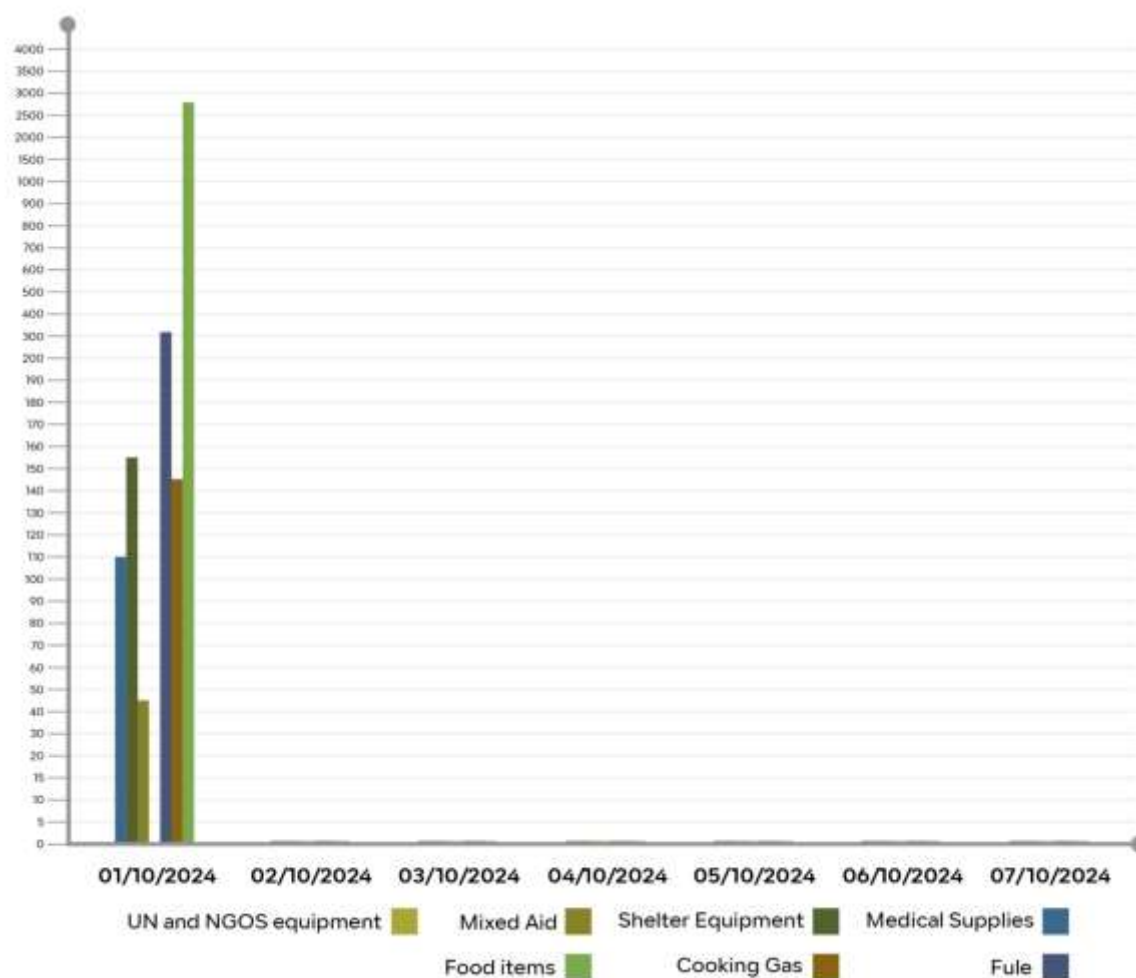
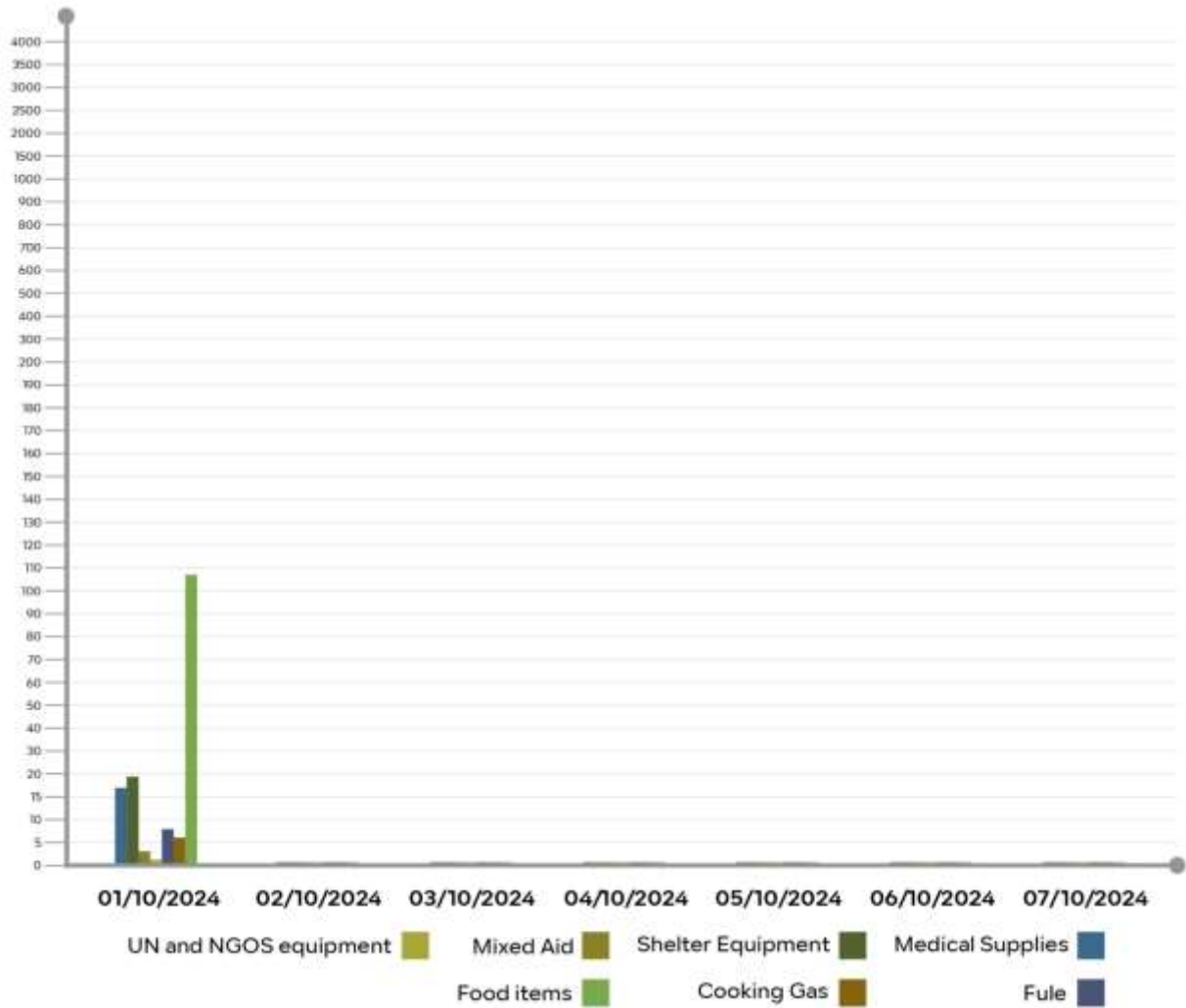


Figure (5): Types and ammount of commodities in tons.

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	
01/10/2024	7	19	3	1	8	6	107	151
02/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
03/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
04/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	19	3	1	8	6	107	151

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



4.2 Food items details:

As shown in table (2), food items constitute about 78% of the total commodities entered to Gaza Strip within the report period, with a total of 2,630 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	
01/10/2024	0	40	20	380	220	1,580	390	2,630
02/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
03/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
04/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	40	20	380	220	1,580	390	2,630

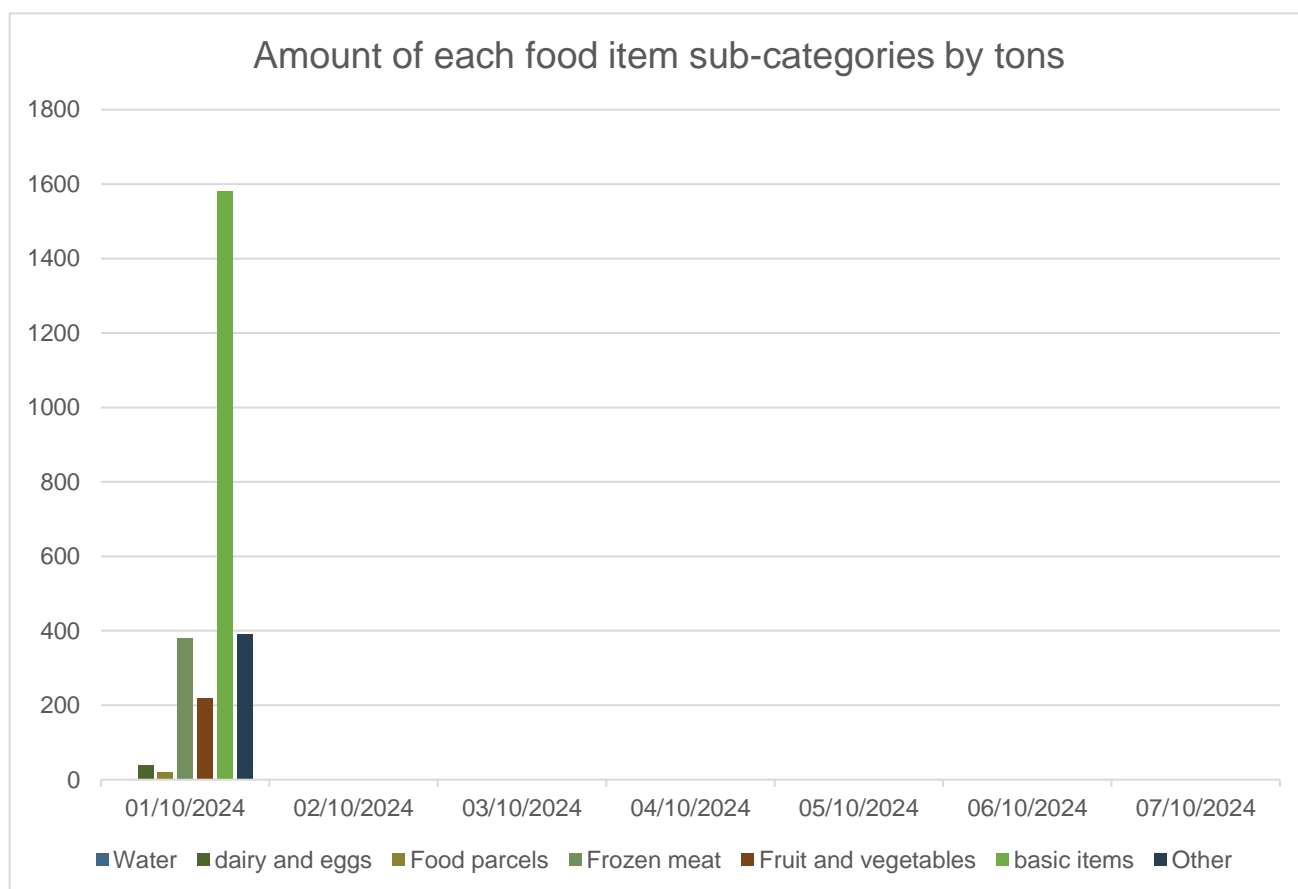


Figure (7): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

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	
01/10/2024	0	2	1	15	9	64	16	107
02/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
03/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
04/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
05/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
06/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
07/10/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	1	15	9	64	16	107

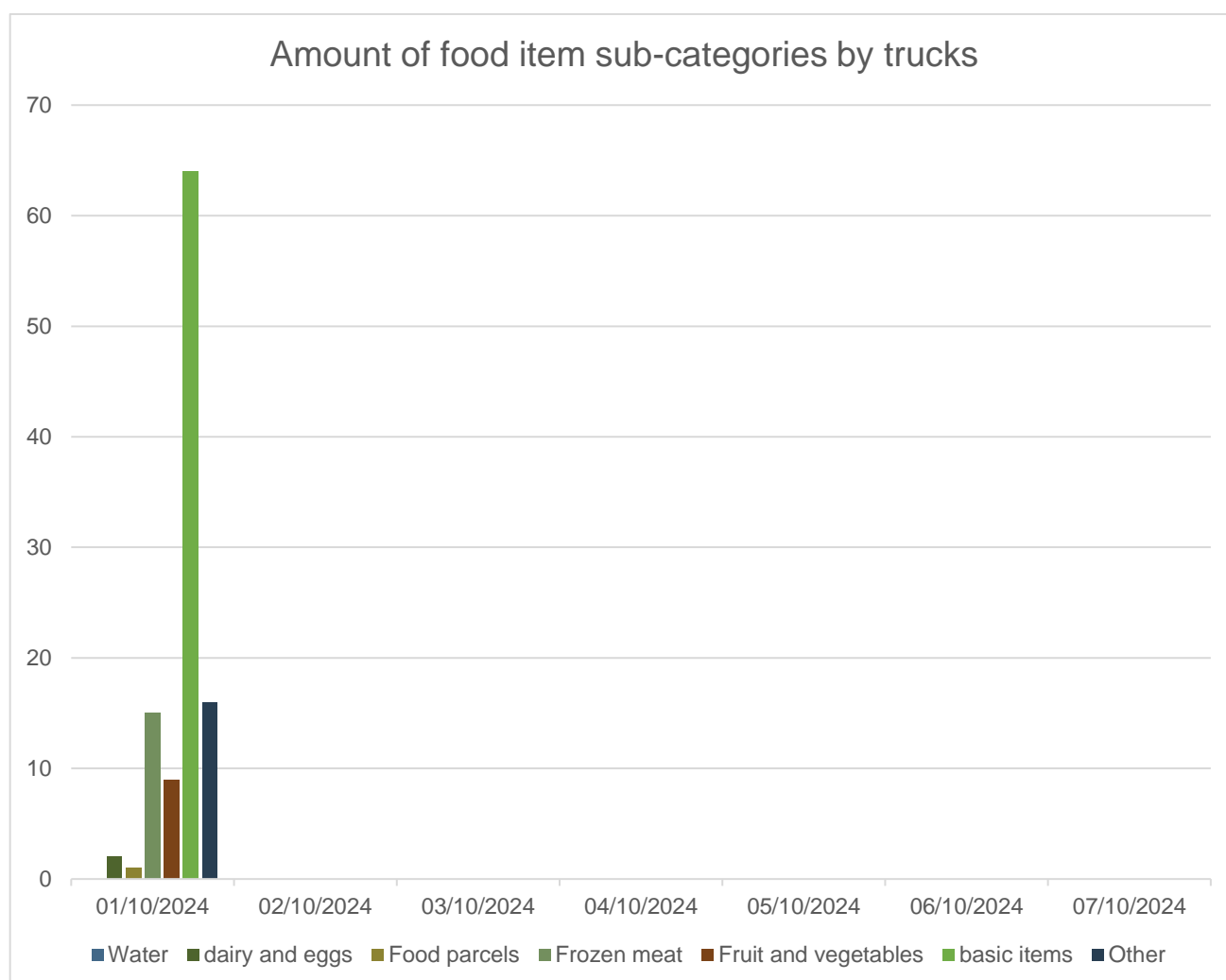


Figure (8): Amount of food item sub-categories by trucks.

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 some food items, the humanitarian sector aid extends to food items, medical supplies, shelter equipment, UN & NGOs equipment, infrastructure equipment and combined aid. The ratio between the amount of commodities entering to the private sector and humanitarian sector has changed compared to the previous week, humanitarian aid decreased to 31% from 41% in the previous week, and private sector increased to 69% from 59% in the previous week. 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		
01/10/2024	Food items	90	2,220	17	410	107	2,630
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	8	327	8	327
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	1	NA	1	NA
	Mixed Aid	0	0	3	45	3	45
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	19	155	19	155
	Medical Supplies	0	0	7	100	7	100
Subtotal 1		96	2,352	55	1,037	151	3,389
02/10/2024	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 2		0	0	0	0	0	0
03/10/2024	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
04/10/2024	Food items	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0

Date	Items	Private Sector		Humanitarian Aids		Total Number of trucks	Total amount by tons
		Trucks	Tons	Trucks	Tons		
	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 4		0	0	0	0	0	0
05/10/2024	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
06/10/2024	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 6		0	0	0	0	0	0
07/10/2024	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
		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		96	2,352	55	1,037	151	3,389

5 Daily market prices 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 some items price increased by more than 1400% 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 01/10/2024 to 07/10/2024 were as follows:

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

#	Item	01/10	02/10	03/10	04/10	05/10	06/10	07/10	Average	St. Dev
1	Eggs	NA	NA	110	110	120	120	NA	115.00	5.77
2	Garlic	20	20	30	32	32	32	32	28.29	5.28
3	Pepper	32	36	40	40	40	40	48	39.43	4.50
4	Frozen chicken thigh	30	43	40	42	42	42	40	39.86	4.16
5	Tomato	30	33	35	35	35	40	37	35.00	2.88
6	Frozen veal	60	65	65	60	60	65	65	62.86	2.47
7	Frozen chicken wing	20	22	22	26	26	26	25	23.856	2.29
8	Frozen chicken	37	43	40	40	40	40	40	40.00	1.60
9	Lemon	18	22	18	18	20	20	18	19.14	1.46
10	Oil	10	10	10	10	10	10	14	10.57	1.40
11	Flour	38	38	38	38	40	40	40	38.86	0.99
12	Rice	11	11	11	13	13	13	13	12.14	0.99
13	Potato	18	17	17	17	16	16	18	17.00	0.76
14	Cucumber	7	8	8	8	7	8	8	7.71	0.45
15	Onion	14	15	15	15	15	15	14	14.71	0.45
16	Eggplant	9	9	9	10	9	9	9	9.14	0.35
17	Sugar	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
18	Kidney beans	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10.00	0.00
19	Macaroni	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
20	Bottled water box	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24.00	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 (sugar – 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 (flour – rice – potato – cucumber – onion - 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 (egg – garlic – pepper – frozen chicken thigh – tomato – frozen veal – frozen chicken wings – frozen chicken – lemon – cooking oil).

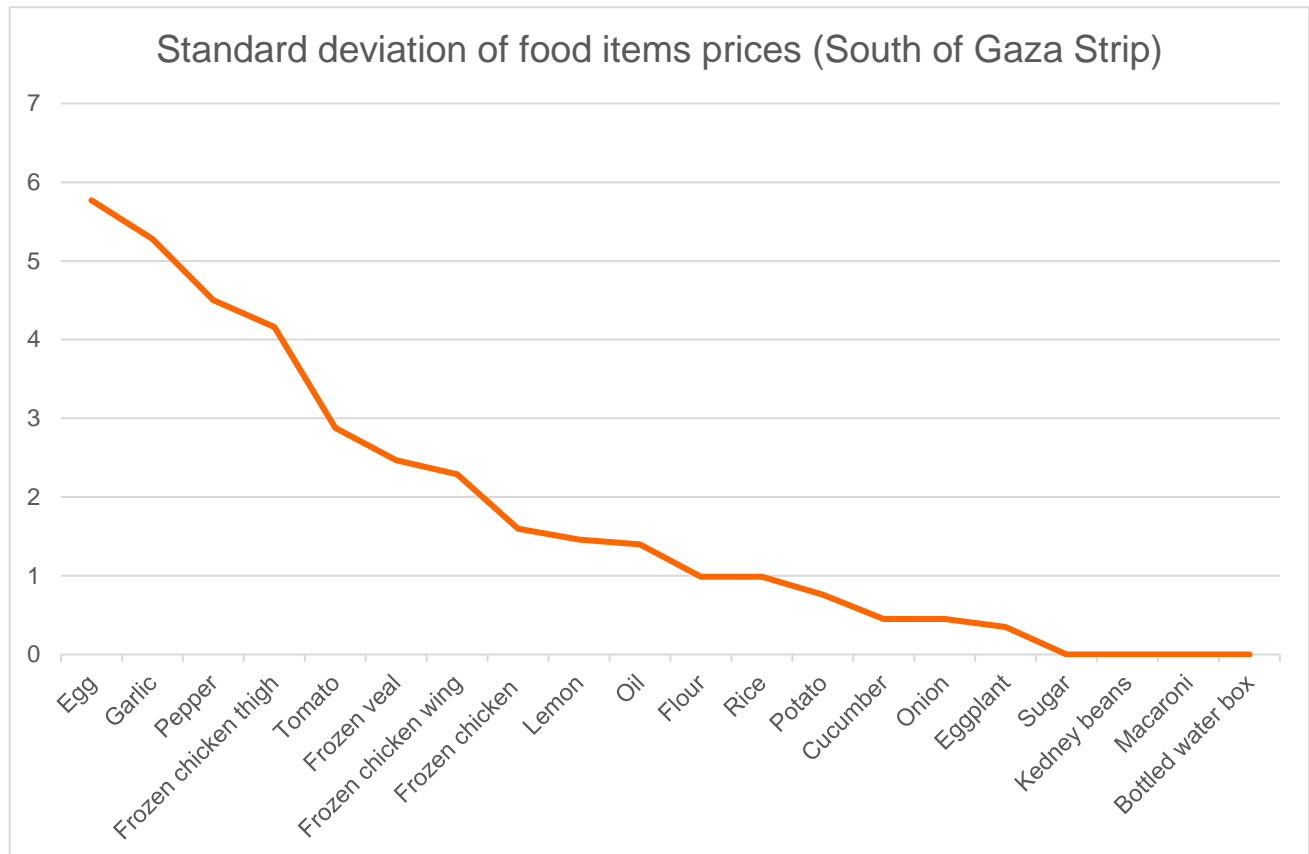


Figure (9): Standard deviation of food items prices (South of Gaza Strip)

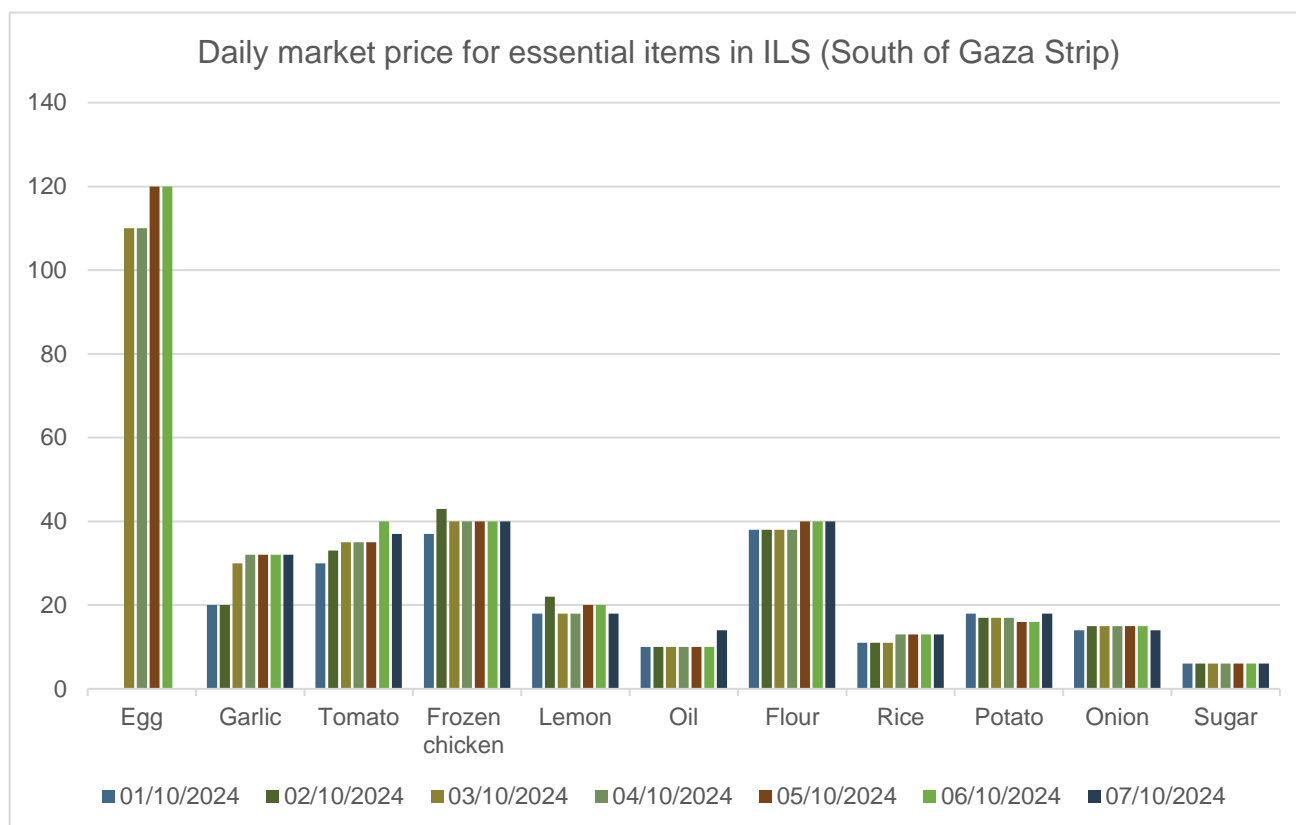


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS (South of Gaza Strip)

5.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 01/10/2024 – 07/10/2024:

As an example:

- Product 1: **Garlic.**
 - Opening Price: 20.
 - Closing Price: 32.
 - Percentage Change: 60%.
- Product 2: **Tomato.**
 - Opening Price: 30.
 - Closing Price: 37.
 - Percentage Change: 23.33%
- Product 3: **Oil.**
 - Opening Price: 10.
 - Closing Price: 14.
 - Percentage Change: 40%
- Product e: **Frozen Chickens.**
 - Opening Price: 37.
 - Closing Price: 40.
 - Percentage Change: 8.11%

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 period, there was a significant decrease in the number of trucks entering Gaza, compared to the previous week, the total is about **151** trucks, distributed between Karm Abu Salem crossing and Erez crossing.
 - Completely shut of all crossings were observed from 02/10/2024 to 07/10/2024, 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:

This week, 15 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 17 times higher than its price in the south. The prices of some items in the north are 10-15 times higher than the south (sugar, onion). Other items prices are 2-8 times higher (potato, pepper, oil, cucumber, frozen veal, rice, egg, eggplant, lemon). The only two items which prices are lower in the north than in the south are the flour and macaroni, the flour price in the north is about 64% 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. While the price of macaroni is about 33% lower than its price in the south, this is due to the availability of sufficient quantities of macaroni in the north.

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

#	Item	01/10	02/10	03/10	04/10	05/10	06/10	07/10	Average	St. Dev
1	Garlic	360	400	400	440	600	600	500	471.43	97.88
2	Pepper	80	320	320	280	240	240	300	254.29	83.84
3	Onion	160	140	140	120	140	140	200	148.57	25.45
4	Apple	200	200	200	160	160	160	0	154.29	21.91
5	Sugar	75	75	75	75	110	110	110	90.00	18.71
6	Cucumber	40	40	0	35	40	40	40	33.57	14.92
7	Egg	360	390	390	390	390	390	360	381.43	14.64
8	Flour	9	9	9	9	9	9	45	14.14	13.61
9	Potato	120	120	120	120	140	140	152	130.29	13.44
10	Lemon	40	30	30	30	50	50	35	37.86	9.06
11	Oil	45	45	45	45	45	45	60	47.14	5.67
12	Eggplant	30	26	26	26	27	27	28	27.14	1.46
13	Frozen veal	300	300	300	300	300	300	0	257.14	0.00
14	Rice	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45.00	0.00
15	Macaroni	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4.00	0.00

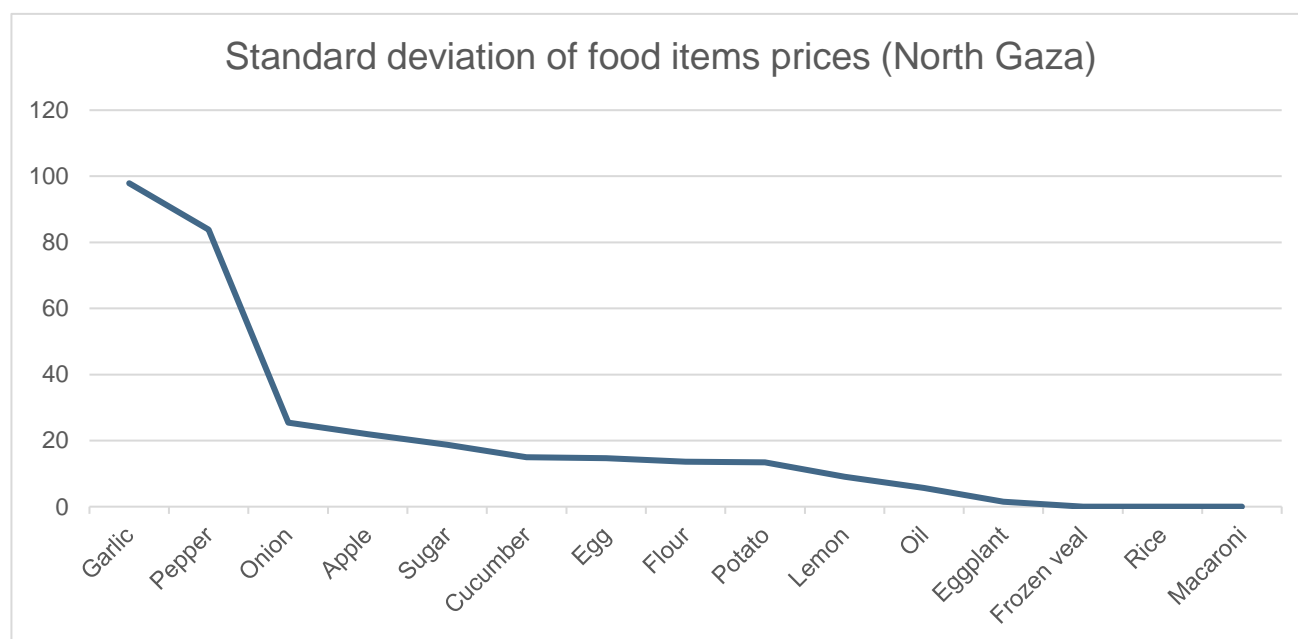


Figure (11): Standard deviation of food items prices (North Gaza).

5.6 Comparison of Prices:

The data indicates that the average of prices in the South 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 price of egg is about 10 times higher, while some items reached 5-9 times higher (potato, onion, lemon, eggplant,). Some items reached 2-4 times higher (pepper, cucumber, frozen veal, garlic, sugar). Some items remained stable and its prices ranged between 11-35% above what it was before the war (oil, macaroni, flour,

oil), we notice a significant increase in the price of flour in the south, as it returned to about 11% 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 on onion reached about 74 times higher, some items price ranged between 25-65 times higher (potato, garlic, egg, sugar, pepper). Some items price ranged between 5-17 times higher (cucumber, eggplant, frozen veal, lemon, oil, rice). However, flour and macaroni prices have decreased from what they were before the war. This sharp decrease is attributed to the entry of large quantities of flour by humanitarian organizations and the operating of many bakeries as well, and the availability of sufficient quantities of macaroni in the north

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

#	Item	Price before the war	Average of price (South)	% Of change	Average of price (North)	% Of change
1	Onion	2	14.71	636%	148.57	7,329%
2	Potato	2	17.00	750%	130.29	6,415%
3	Garlic	10	28.29	183%	471.43	4,614%
4	Egg	12	115.00	858%	381.43	3,079%
5	Sugar	3	6.00	100%	90.00	2,900%
6	Pepper	10	39.43	294%	254.29	2,443%
7	Cucumber	2	7.71	286%	33.57	1,579%
8	Eggplant	2	9.14	357%	27.14	1,257%
9	Frozen veal	20	62.86	214%	257.14	1,186%
10	Lemon	4	19.14	379%	37.86	847%
11	Oil	8	10.57	32%	47.14	489%
12	Rice	9	12.14	35%	45.00	400%
13	Macaroni	5	6.00	20%	4.00	-20%
14	Flour	35	38.86	11%	14.14	-60%

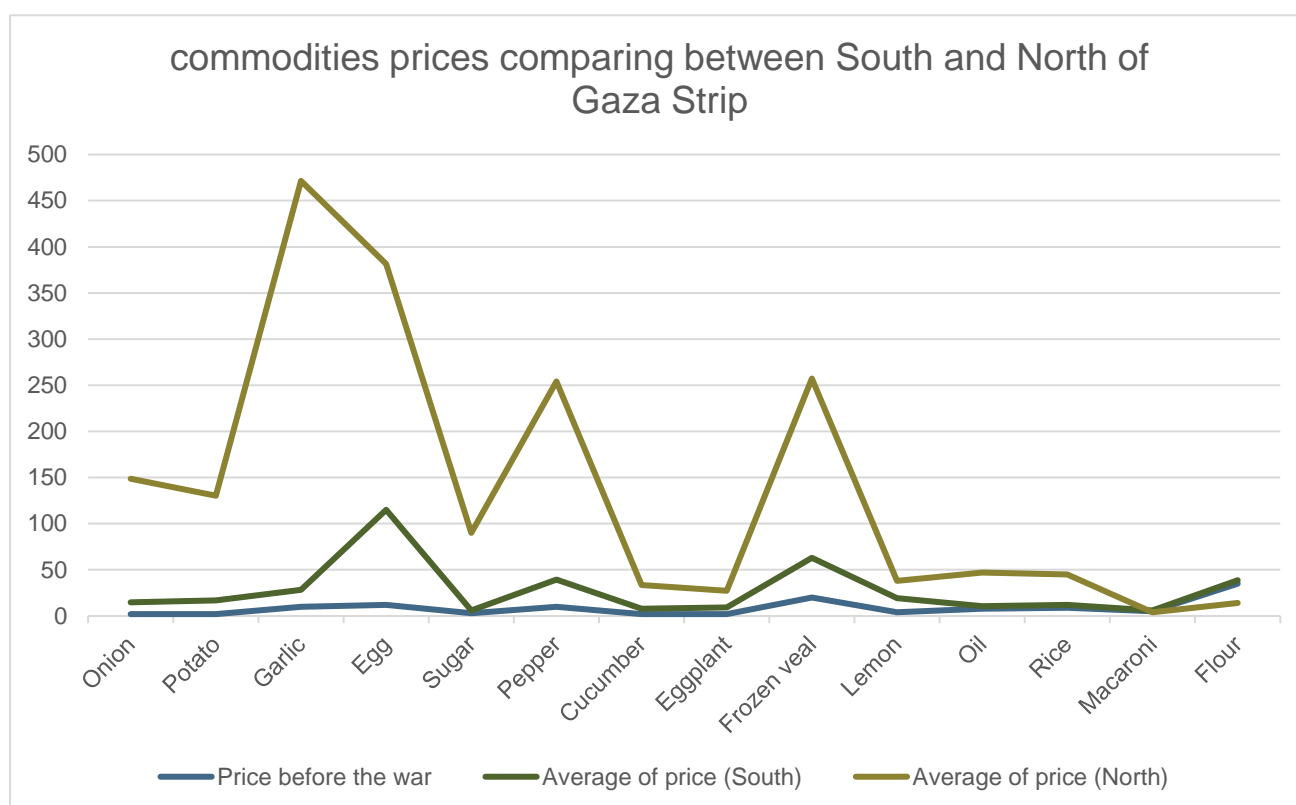


Figure (): commodities prices comparing between South and North of Gaza Strip.

6 Coordination Mechanism:

The Israeli Occupation Coordination and Liaison Directorate (CLA) has introduced and implemented a new system to issue permits for coordinating goods entry. The CLA issued new instructions / Clarifications to use the new coordination system for the Private Sector goods entry to Gaza Strip, the instruction was published and sent to the importers directly, without any consultation or coordination with the PNA or any other regulatory Palestinian body. The new instructions / clarifications, are as follows:

- The CLA disseminated the link <https://Matak.co.il> to access the new coordination system, to be used by the approved / vetted importers to submit their coordination applications.
- Only approved importers are allowed to access the new coordination system, otherwise the system will direct the non-approved importers to the General Inquiry Center, phone No.: 0747642929.
- The system can be accessed using the computer or mobile telephone device from 07:00 to 14:00 hours.
- The Importer has to enter his details such as Importer No., ID number and mobile number.
- The system gives the importer a detailed commodities list (Categories and Subcategories) to select from and submit his detailed application. Only limited food items are listed in the system to select from.

- Categories include “Dried Food, Cold / Frozen Food, etc.” Subcategories include “Wheat, sugar, salt, tea, coffee, catchup, semolina, etc. for the Dried Food Category, and milk powder, coco powder, butter cheese, whole chicken, chicken breast, etc. For the Cold / Frozen Food Category”
- The Importer has to select the goods details and submit the source of goods contact details as well as the driver’s details and the truck registration number. If the truck details are used by another applicant on the system, the importer will have to use an alternative truck and enter its details.
- The Importer will have to submit his application several times as the system keeps on giving error messages, apparently due to the load of users. Once the system gives the message “Registration is accepted” then the Imported application for coordination is approved.
- The number of granted coordination to each Importer will have weekly limit, depending on the situation.
- The number of granted coordination to each Importer will vary from for each crossing (Tarqoumya, Tulkarm or directly from Israel).
- New Importers who are not yet approved / vetted, should send the following documents to this email mnz@mgar.co.il :
 - The registration certificate from the Palestinian Ministry of National Economy.
 - **Bank statement starting from 2022 showing the importers commercial transactions.**

6.1 Coordination Charges:

- There is evidence that Importers buy coordinations from Israeli vetted importers, the cost of buying a coordination reached 100,000 ILS.

6.2 Difficulties:

- Israeli Authorities have implemented their trade policy and reduced the number of truckloads to Gaza to more than 50%, as well as fears to reduce it gradually till it is stopped completely.
- Israeli occupation still limits the importers who can get coordination to about 18 importers only.
- Commercial goods entering Gaza Strip are still significantly lower than pre-conflict levels and do not meet essential needs.
- The number of vetted Importers is too small and need to be increased.
- The vetting procedure is exhaustive as it requires documentations and lots of information from Importers
- The allowed basic commodities to enter Gaza Strip is much limited and does not respond to residents basic needs.
- The Private Sector is still not allowed to use Eriz crossing, or any other crossing, to provide supplies to Northern part of Gaza Strip. No goods are allowed from North to South or vice versa.
- 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.
- Cost of security escorts and transportation of goods within Gaza Strip, averaging 10,000 shekels per a truck or a convoy of several trucks.
- Cost of coordination could reach to 100,000 ILS.
- 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 hygiene products has caused a sharp increase in diseases such as Hepatitis A, impetigo, Scabies, and other fast spreading and contagious diseases.
- Many humanitarian organizations resort to purchase vegetables and fruits from the local market, at any price, and distribute them as humanitarian aid. This purchase caused demand increase while supply is limited. Traders also elevated prices for humanitarian organizations as these organizations pay whatever prices Traders ask for. This price elevation was applied to consumers as well.
- Lack of 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. 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 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. Increase cooking gas entering Gaza to enable people cook their food properly.
6. increase the amount of commodities entering the Northern part of Gaza Strip to ensure that aid reaches those in need without delay.
7. Allow private sector Importers to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.

8. Allow access to hygiene products since it is causing a major concern of disease spreading among population such as hepatitis A, scabies, etc.
9. 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.
10. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Allow private sector to import other basic commodities such as hygiene material, medicines, sheltering material, clothes and footwear, etc.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. 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, to ensure proper prioritization and distribution.
18. Lift all imposed restrictions on the Private Sector to import all humanitarian needs and commodities such as school stationary, sheltering material, etc.
19. Find and promote mechanisms to control markets, prevent monopoly and control prices as much as possible.
20. Directing humanitarian organizations to coordinate with the Chambers of Commerce when there is a need to buy basic commodities from the local market to avoid the elevation in prices for the consumer as much as possible.

Success Story: Magic Touch Company



"**Magic Touch**" furniture factory is one of the leading industrial firms in Gaza. The factory was located in Gaza City, and was one of the largest and most important factories in town. About 90 workers were employed by the factory, operating 45 advanced manufacturing and finishing machines. This capacity enabled the factory to meet local demand, and supply furniture to a large number of institutions and homes throughout Gaza Strip. The factory, which is owned by Mr. Ahmad Al-Issi, has faced exceptional challenges due to the ongoing war on Gaza Strip, as it led to the total destruction of his factory. This loss has forced Mr. Al-Issi to move to Deir al-Balah, in the middle area of Gaza Strip. Being a resilient Palestinian, Mr. Al-Issi started a small carpentry workshop and started producing the badly-needed home and office furniture. The workshop is now employing 9 workers working on 8 machines.

Despite the major challenges, such as high rent and wages costs, scarcity of raw material, and scarcity of power resources, the factory continued to produce. Through effective management, resilience and strong determination to overcome difficulties, Magic Touch Factory was able to maintain furniture production and continued to supply many homes and institutions in Gaza, contributing to the recovery of the local economy.



Palestine

8 The case of the week: "Lack of Clothing and Footwear"

As a result of the ongoing aggression on the Gaza Strip for more than a year, the humanitarian situation in Gaza has worsened, especially in terms of lack of basic necessities like clothing. Gaza, home to about 2.4 million people, is struggling to provide suitable clothing and footwear. Residents are forced to wear the same worn-out clothes for months and share them among family members, which poses significant health risks.

8.1 The Previous Situation and Current Clothing Needs:

Before the aggression, Gaza's textile industry was thriving, with approximately 900 factories employing 35,000 people, producing four million pieces per month, mostly exported to Israel and the West Bank. However, since 2007, the industry has significantly declined, reducing the number of operational factories to only 100. By January 2024, the World Bank estimated that around 79% of Gaza's industrial sector had been partially or completely destroyed, including clothing workshops.

Currently, the need for clothing is very urgent. The report notes that many people have been unable to obtain new clothes since the war began. Children are forced to wear the same clothes for months, and they are now torn and worn out.

8.2 Impact of the War on Clothing Availability:

The Occupation prevents the supply of clothing and footwear to Gaza, including from northern part of Gaza Strip, where clothes and raw materials are stored, to the southern part of the Strip, which faces severe shortages. Northern part of Gaza faces challenges including 1) electricity shortages, and 2) poor purchasing power of the people. Southern Gaza, on the other hand, suffers from 1) shortages in raw materials, 2) electricity shortages, and 3) declining purchasing power. The scarcity of clothing in southern Gaza has led to a sharp increase in prices, while prices in northern Gaza remain lower due to availability of reasonable stock of clothing and limited purchasing power.

8.3 Statistics and Reports:

According to a UN report, before the latest aggression, nearly two-thirds of Gaza's population lived in poverty. However, due to the ongoing blockade and the worsening of the economic situation, many people were forced to sell their assets, including clothing, the situation has worsened. About 79% of the private sector facilities were destroyed, and local clothing production has nearly stopped due to the aforementioned challenges, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.

8.4 Average Winter Clothing Cost for a 6-Year-Old:

Despite the decline in purchasing power, residents face a severe shortage in clothing, along with increased prices. The following table provides an estimated cost of basic clothing items for a 6-year-old child, both before and after the war:

#	Item	Price before war (NIS)	Price after war (NIS)
1	Blouse	30	60
2	Pants	30	60
3	Underwear	2	10
4	Tank Top	3	10
5	Socks	5	5
6	Shoes	25	100
7	Jacket	50	120
8	Tracksuit / Pyjamas	35	120
9	ThermalUnderwear	20	80
Total		200	565

As per the above comparison, there has been a 183% increase in prices, nearly doubling the cost of basic clothing, adding more financial pressure to providing sufficient clothing.

8.5 Current Needs:

- Children's Clothing: As children grow, the demand for new clothing increases, however, the private sector is not allowed to import clothing into Gaza.
- Winter Clothing: With the winter season approaching, there is an urgent need for winter clothing. It is estimated that more than 1,000,000 displaced people require immediate winter aid.
- Footwear: The shortage of shoes has forced residents to repeatedly repair their shoes. In one case, a citizen informed that he had to repair his shoes 30 times. Children, in particular, are often forced to walk barefoot.

8.6 Recommendations:

- Allowing Goods entry: The current situation requires opening the crossings and allowing the entry of shipments containing clothing and footwear, by the private sector.
- Providing Cash Assistance: Providing cash assistance could be considered, allowing people to purchase clothing from the local markets, especially in northern Gaza, where clothing options are available, and in the south if supplies become available.
- Supporting the Rehabilitation of Local Industry: Supporting local garment workshops so they can return to work by:
 - Providing raw materials, either from outside or from northern Gaza, as a temporary solution.
 - Providing necessary energy sources through renewable energy systems.

- Contracting with garment factories in the north (where raw materials are available) and transporting their products to the south.

9 Conclusion

This week was the worst of all previous weeks in terms of the amount of commodities that entered Gaza Strip. The Israeli occupation allowed the entry of commodities on only one day of the week, under the pretext of Jewish holidays and field conditions. This affected the availability of goods in the markets, the scarcity of many items and the increase of its prices. It is expected that the impact on prices of this closure will extend over the coming weeks as well. The private sector remains constituting the largest share of entered commodities, the ratio of humanitarian aid sector and private sector is at about 31% and 69% respectively.

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 many essential commodities are still not allowed to enter Gaza Strip. Despite recent relative ease of coordination process due to the new digital coordination system introduced recently by the CLA, 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 of the residents. 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. There is news about the intentions of the Israeli occupation to decrease the entry of private sector goods by 50% beginning October 1st, 2024, but it is not yet clear due to the closure of crossings since then.

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