



إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية

Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 5: August 29-September 04, 2024

12 September 2024

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1 Introduction:

This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 29/08/2024 to 04/09/2024. The collected data indicate that, in this week the number of trucks entering the basic commodities into Gaza Strip as well as in the tonnage increased compared to the average of previous weeks by 3% and 12% respectively. During the reporting period, **1,102** trucks with a total of **22,807¹** tons of basic commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from two crossings only, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) and Erez Crossing, 825 trucks and 277 trucks respectively, while no trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing. It is noteworthy that the number of trucks that passed from Karm Abu Salem (KAS) this week is exactly equal to the number that passed in the previous week, the increase in the number of trucks was from Erez crossing only, as the number rose from 189 trucks in the previous week to 277 trucks this week.

Since the Israeli army 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. 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.

¹ This number does not include the load of 8 trucks, which we did not have information about their contents in tons, these trucks consisted of 3 trucks of medical supplies and 5 trucks of UN & NGOs equipment.

2 Distribution of the Population in Gaza Strip:

According to the data in Table No. (1), about 75% of the commodities that 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 major part of commodities entered through KAS remained in the southern part of Gaza Strip. The commodities entered through Erez crossing constitutes 25%, 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 (1): Map of dividing Gaza Strip into North and South of Gaza Valley

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, while in the South there is a scarcity of Hygiene material.

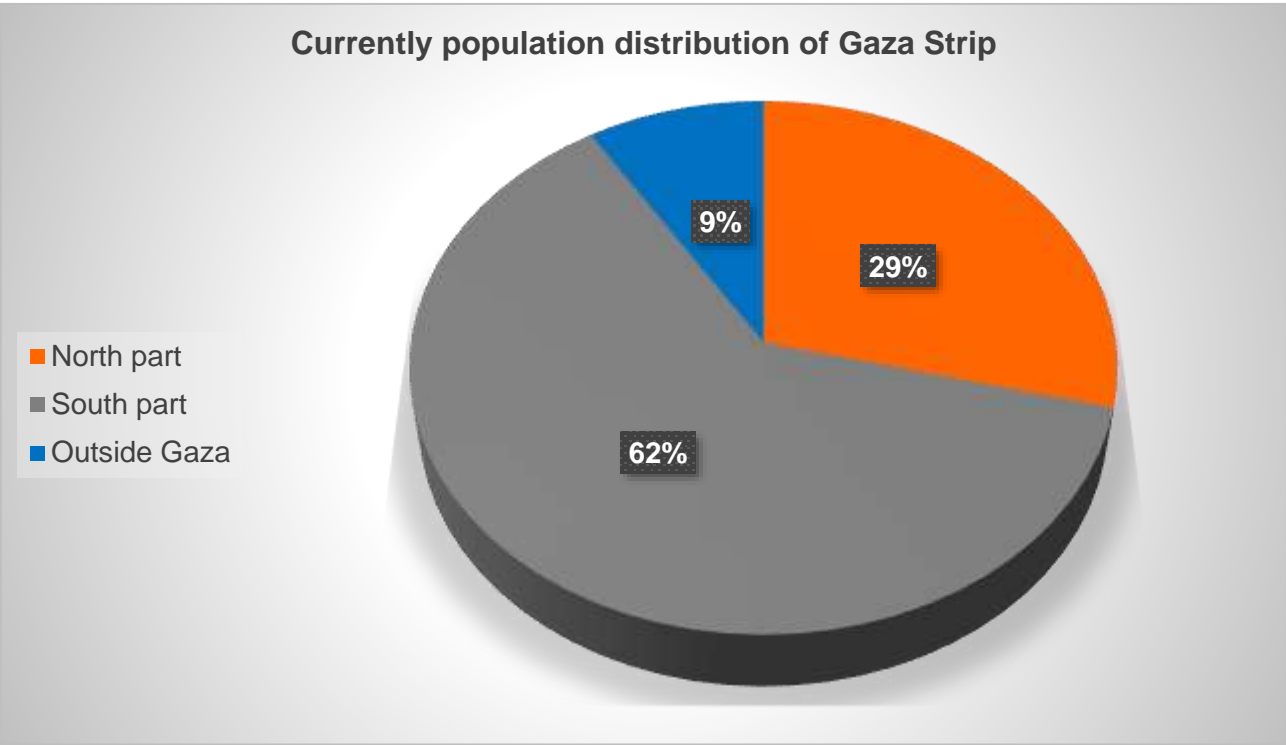


Figure (2): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip.

The following figure shows the distribution of materials 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.

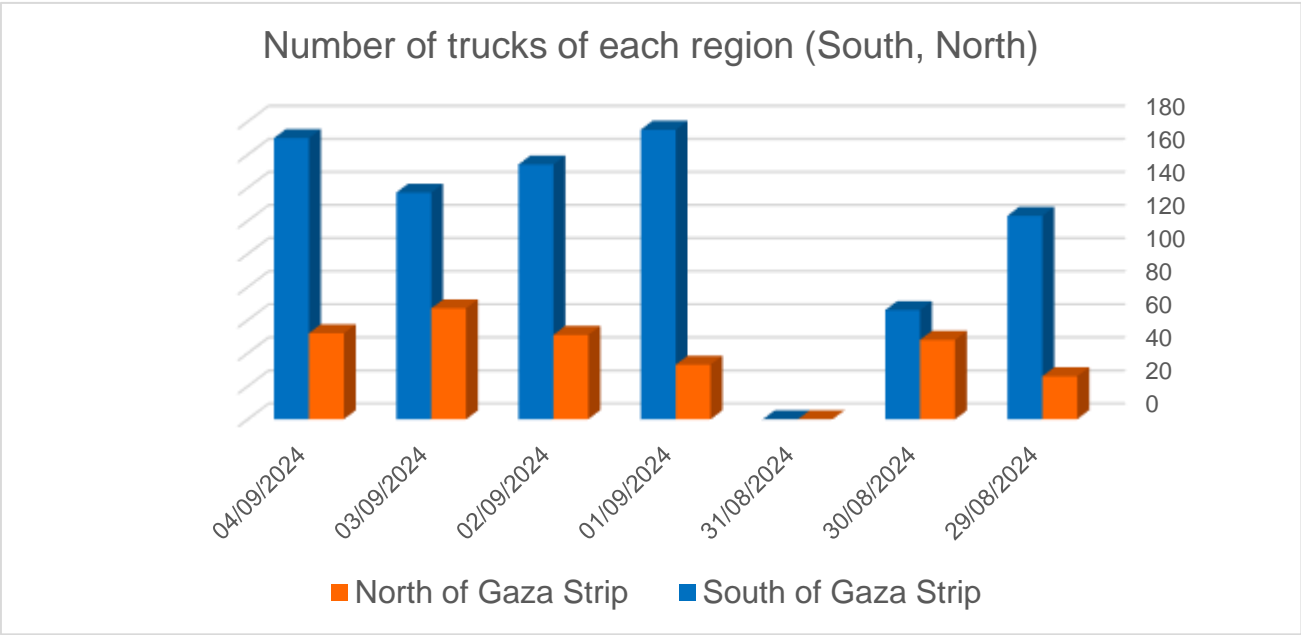


Figure (3): Number of trucks of each part of the Gaza Strip (South, North)

3 Daily Crossing Points Status:

As in the four previous weeks, Rafah crossing remains closed and no trucks have entered through it. Karm Abu Salem (KAS) crossing also continues to constitute the largest share of trucks entering Gaza Strip. But this week, the share of Karm Abu Salem crossing decreased to 75% instead of 81% in the previous week, while the share of Erez crossing increased to 28% instead of 19% in the previous week.

It is noteworthy that the number of trucks entering Gaza Strip on Friday 30/08/2024 continues to decline compared to other week days, as was the case in the previous weeks. While no commodities entered at all from any crossing on Saturday 31/08/2024.

On Thursday 29/08/2024, 149 trucks entered Gaza Strip through the active crossings, 123 trucks from KAS in the south and 26 trucks from Erez in the north. On Friday 30/08/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 114 trucks, 66 trucks through KAS and 48 trucks through Erez crossing. On Saturday 31/08/2024, no commodities entered at all from any crossing. The number of entering trucks on Sunday 01/09/2024 increased to reach a total of 208 trucks, 175 from KAS and 33 from Erez. On Monday 02/09/2024, 205 trucks entered to Gaza strip, 154 trucks through KAS and 51 trucks through Erez crossing. On Tuesday 03/09/2024, 204 truck entered Gaza Strip, 137 trucks through KAS and 67 trucks entered through Erez crossing. On the seventh day, Wednesday 04/09/2024, it was the largest number of trucks entered in one day during the reporting period, 222 trucks entered to Gaza strip, 170 through KAS, and 52 through Erez crossing.

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

Day	Date	Number of Trucks			Total
		Rafah	Erez	Karm Abu Salem (KAS)	
Thursday	29/08/2024	0	26	123	149
Friday	30/08/2024	0	48	66	114
Saturday	31/08/2024	0	0	0	0
Sunday	01/09/2024	0	33	175	208
Monday	02/09/2024	0	51	154	205
Tuesday	03/09/2024	0	67	137	204
Wednesday	04/09/2024	0	52	170	222
Total		0	277	825	1,102

It is worth noting that on Friday 23/08 and Saturday 24/08 there was a big decrease of 51% and 100% respectively in the total number of trucks entering compared with Thursday 22/08/2024 (Due to the weekend on the Israeli side). This decrease had a clear impact on the prices of goods in the markets on the next days. It is worth mentioning that no Private Sector Goods were allowed into Northern part of Gaza Strip.

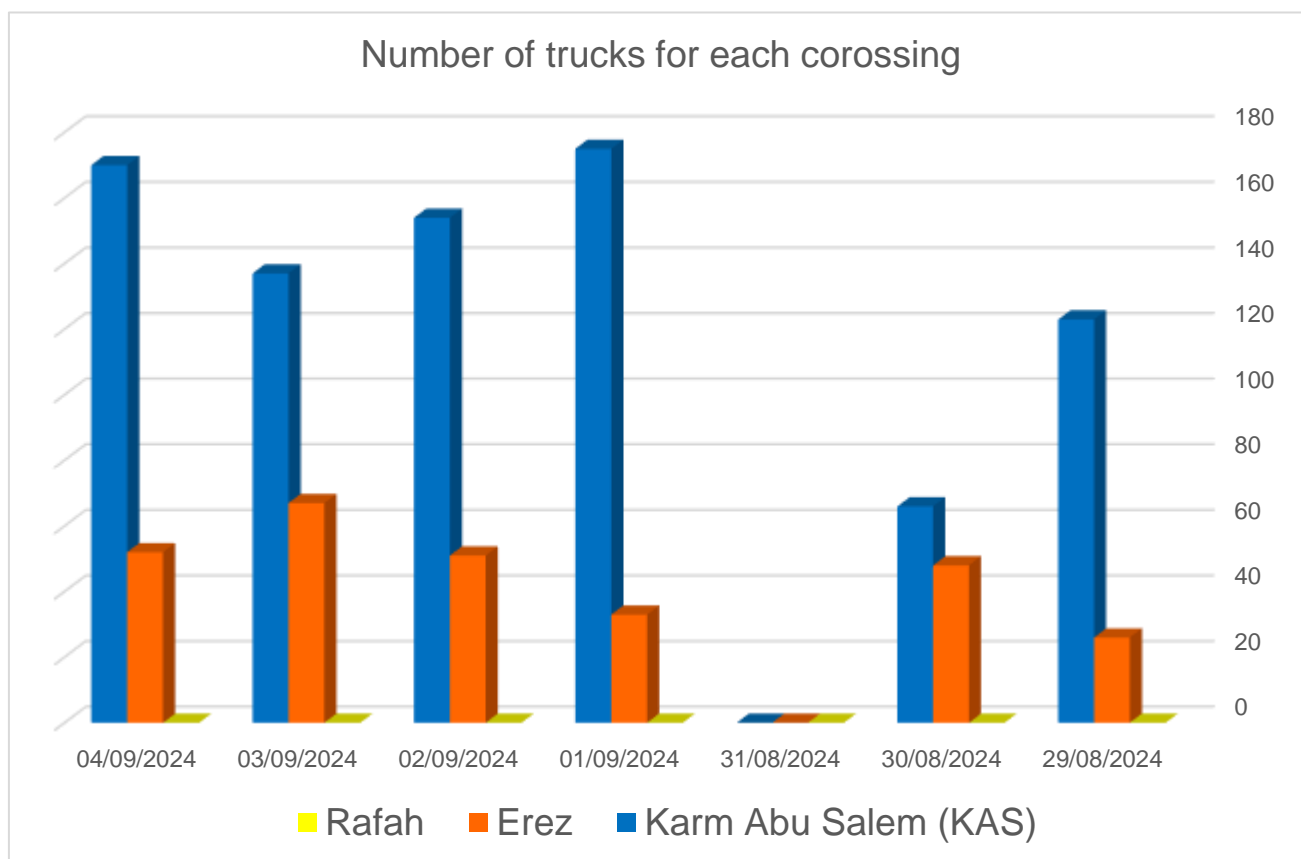


Figure (4): Number of trucks for each corrossing in the reporting period.

4 Entering commodities:

4.1 Commodities classification:

This week, no trucks loaded with infrastructure equipment passed as happened in the previous week. Therefore, 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 table shows the categories of entering commodities and their amount in tons, on daily basis:

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

Date	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Tons)							Total
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	UN and NGOS equipment	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items	
29/08/2024	N/A	20	30	0	204	107	2600	2,961
30/08/2024	10	90	40	0	0	0	1925	2,065
31/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
01/09/2024	20	60	60	N/A	218	132	4200	4,690
02/09/2024	0	45	0	0	0	132	3825	4,002
03/09/2024	40	205	0	N/A	0	132	3945	4,322
04/09/2024	0	435	0	0	5	132	4195	4,767
	70	855	130	0	427	635	20,690	22,807

Note:

- The quantities of Medical supplies are not available in tons for 29/08/2024, and the available data indicates that 3 trucks of medical supplies entered on that day.
- the quantities of UN & NGOs equipment are not available by tons for both 01/09/2024 and 03/09/2024, and the available data indicates that 3 trucks and 2 trucks of UN & NGOs equipment entered on 01/09/2024 and 03/09/2024 respectively.

Figure (5): Types and ammount of commodities by tons

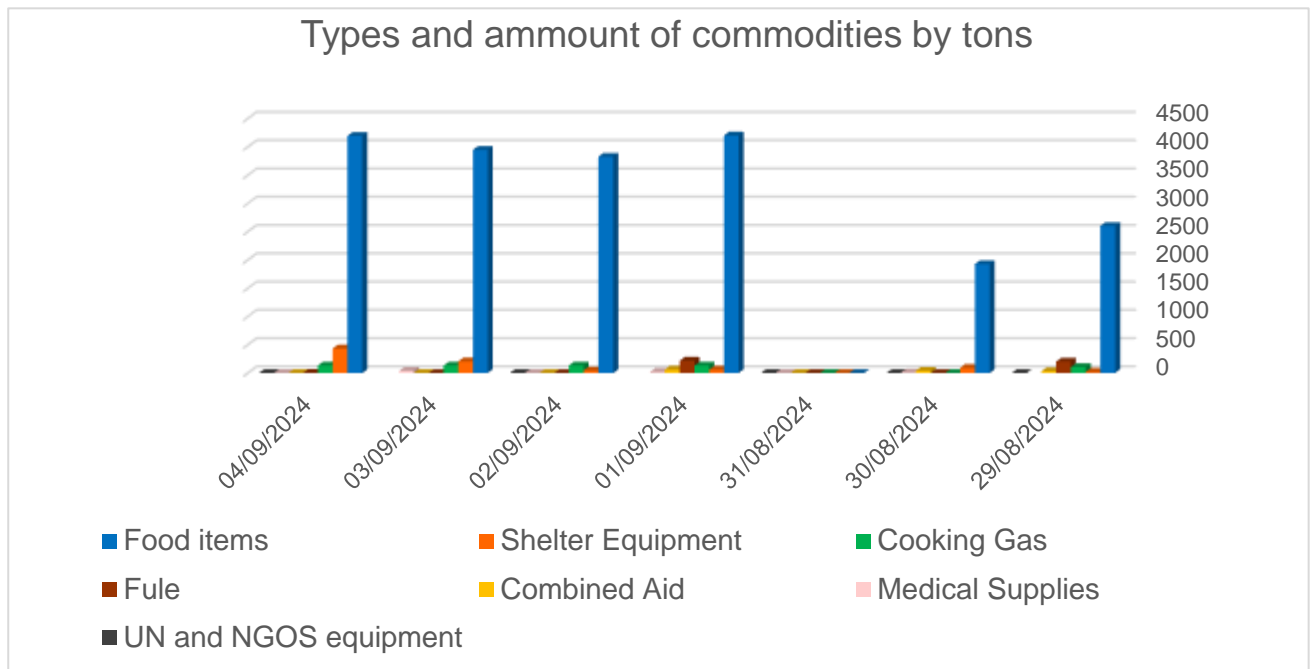


Table (3): Types and ammount of commodities by trucks.

Date	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Trucks)							Total
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	Food items	Cooking Gas	Fuel	UN & NGOs Equip.	
29/08/2024	3	2	2	130	5	7	0	149
30/08/2024	1	9	2	102	0	0	0	114
31/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
01/09/2024	2	6	4	182	6	5	3	208
02/09/2024	0	3	0	196	6	0	0	205
03/09/2024	4	15	0	177	6	0	2	204
04/09/2024	0	29	0	186	6	1	0	222
Total	10	64	8	973	29	13	5	1,102

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

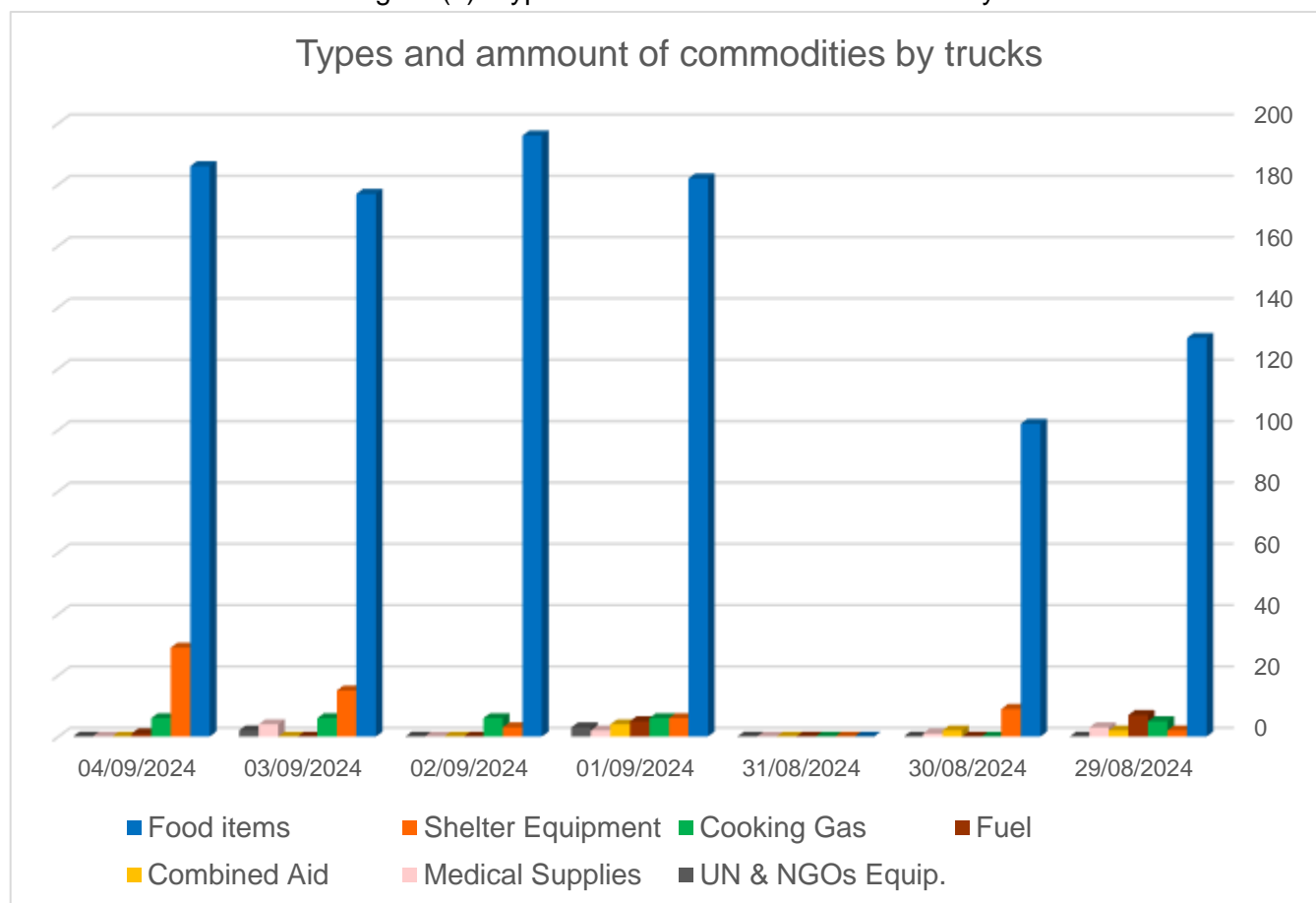


Figure (6): Types and ammount of commodities by trucks.

4.2 Food items details:

As shown in table (2), food items constitute more than 88% of the total commodities entered to Gaza Strip within the report period, with a total of 20,690 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	
29/08/2024	0	240	160	400	360	680	760	2,600
30/08/2024	0	40	570	160	520	300	335	1,925
31/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
01/09/2024	40	80	100	320	400	2410	850	4,200
02/09/2024	80	80	120	600	400	790	1755	3,825
03/09/2024	40	120	110	400	560	1785	930	3,945
04/09/2024	40	280	120	600	400	1705	1050	4,195
Total	200	840	1,180	2,480	2,640	7,670	5,680	20,690

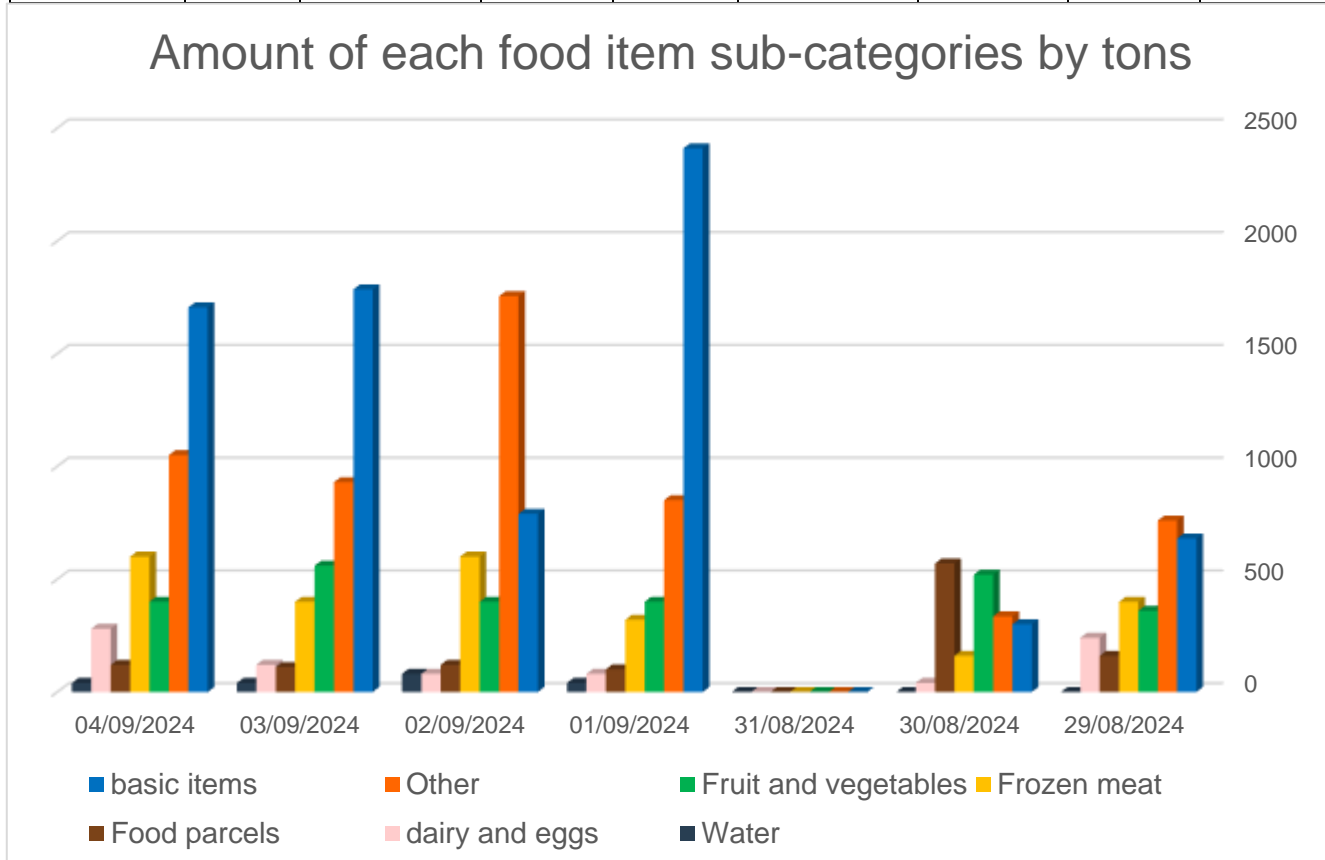


Figure (7): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

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	
29/08/2024	0	12	8	20	18	34	38	130
30/08/2024	0	2	30	8	27	16	19	102
31/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
01/09/2024	2	3	4	13	17	106	37	182
02/09/2024	4	4	6	32	20	41	89	196
03/09/2024	2	5	5	18	25	81	41	177
04/09/2024	2	11	5	24	19	81	44	186
Total	10	37	58	115	126	359	268	973

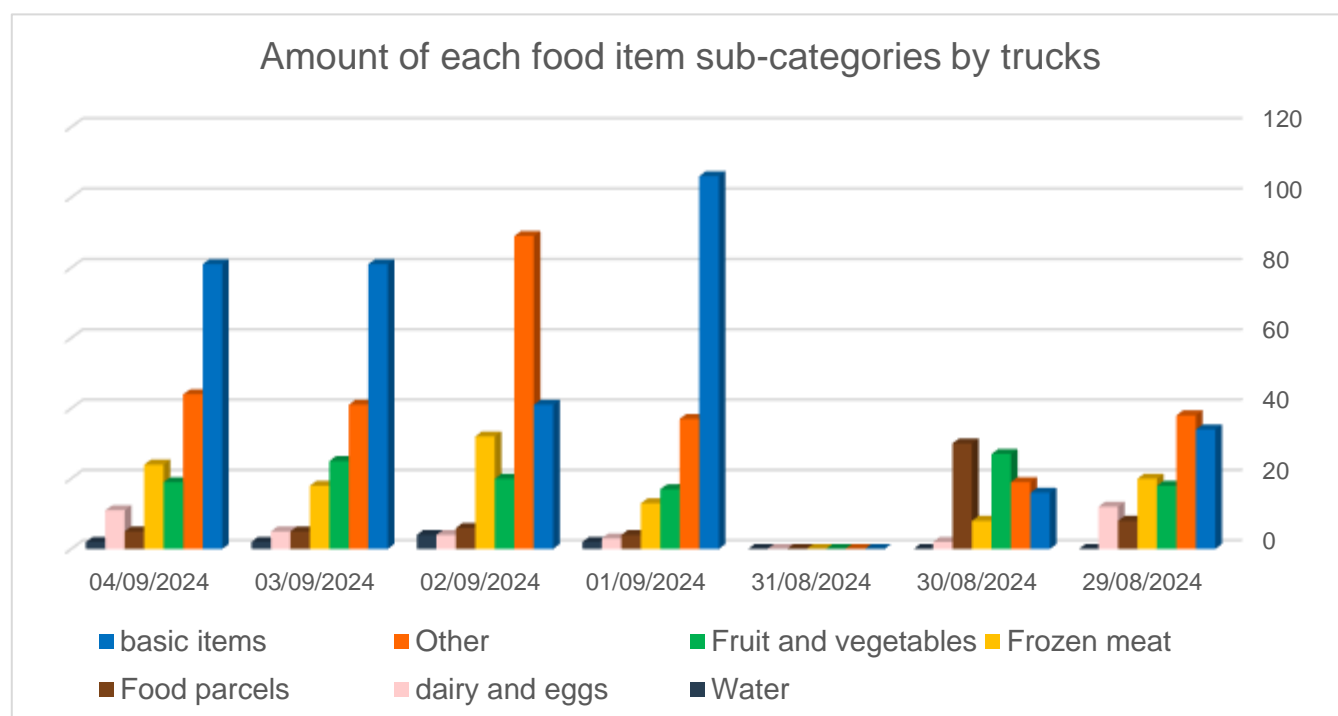


Figure (8): Amount of each food item sub-categories by trucks.

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 and combined aid. The ratio between the number of commodities entering to the private sector and to the humanitarian aid remains stable as in the previous weeks, at 62% and 38% respectively. 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		
29/08/2024	Food items	84	1680	46	920	130	2600
	Cooking Gas	5	107	0	0	5	107
	Fuel	0	0	7	204	7	204
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	2	30	2	30
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	2	20	2	20
	Medical Supplies	0	0	3	0	3	0
Subtotal 1		89	1787	60	1174	149	2961
30/08/2024	Food items	53	1020	49	905	102	1925
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	2	40	2	40
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	9	90	9	90
	Medical Supplies	0	0	1	10	1	10
Subtotal 2		53	1020	61	1045	114	2065
31/08/2024	Food items	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Cooking Gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	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 3		0	0	0	0	0	0
01/09/2024	Food items	141	3250	41	950	182	4200
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	5	218	5	218
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	3	0	3	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	4	60	4	60
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	6	60	6	60
	Medical Supplies	0	0	2	20	2	20
Subtotal 4		147	3382	61	1308	208	4690
02/09/2024	Food items	101	1950	95	1875	196	3825
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	3	45	3	45
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal 5		107	2082	98	1920	205	4002
03/09/2024	Food items	131	2905	46	1040	177	3945
	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	2	0	2	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	15	205	15	205
	Medical Supplies	0	0	4	40	4	40
Subtotal 6		137	3037	67	1285	204	4322
04/09/2024	Food items	137	3025	49	1170	186	4195

	Cooking Gas	6	132	0	0	6	132
	Fuel	0	0	1	5	1	5
	Infrastructure equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	29	435	26	435
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal 7		143	3157	79	1610	219	4767
Total		676	14,465	426	8,342	1,099	22,807

5 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). this week we have removed two food items, oranges and watermelons, due to their current unavailability in the markets. New items will be added in upcoming reports if necessary. The prices for the reporting period, from 29/08/2024 to 04/09/2024 were as follows:

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

#	Item	29/08	30/08	31/08	01/09	02/09	03/09	04/09	Average	St. Dev
1	Garlic	28	28	14	32	32	32	32	28.29	6.58
2	Egg	35	30	28	33	28	38	42	33.43	5.29
3	Pepper	40	40	30	40	32	32	36	35.71	4.39
4	Tomato	28	27	30	30	27	22	20	26.29	3.86
5	Cucumber	15	15	10	12	10	10	13	12.14	2.27
6	Onion	17	15	15	14	12	12	13	14.00	1.83
7	Potato	15	15	12	17	17	17	15	15.43	1.81
8	Eggplant	9	9	5	8	7	7	9	7.71	1.50
9	Apple	15	15	18	16	15	18	17	16.29	1.38
10	Frozen chicken	25	25	25	24	26	26	25	25.14	0.69
11	Lemon	15	15	14	15	14	14	14	14.43	0.53
12	Frozen chicken thigh	25	25	25	25	24	24	25	24.71	0.49
13	Frozen chicken wing	16	16	16	15	16	16	15	15.71	0.49
14	Banana	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
15	Frozen veal	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60.00	0.00
16	Flour	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
17	Oil	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8.00	0.00
18	Sugar	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
19	Rice	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11.00	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	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 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 (banana – frozen veal – flour – cooking oil – sugar - rice – kidney beans – pasta - 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 (frozen chicken – lemon – frozen chicken thigh – frozen chicken wing).

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 (garlic – egg – pepper – tomato – cucumber – onion – potato – eggplant – apple).

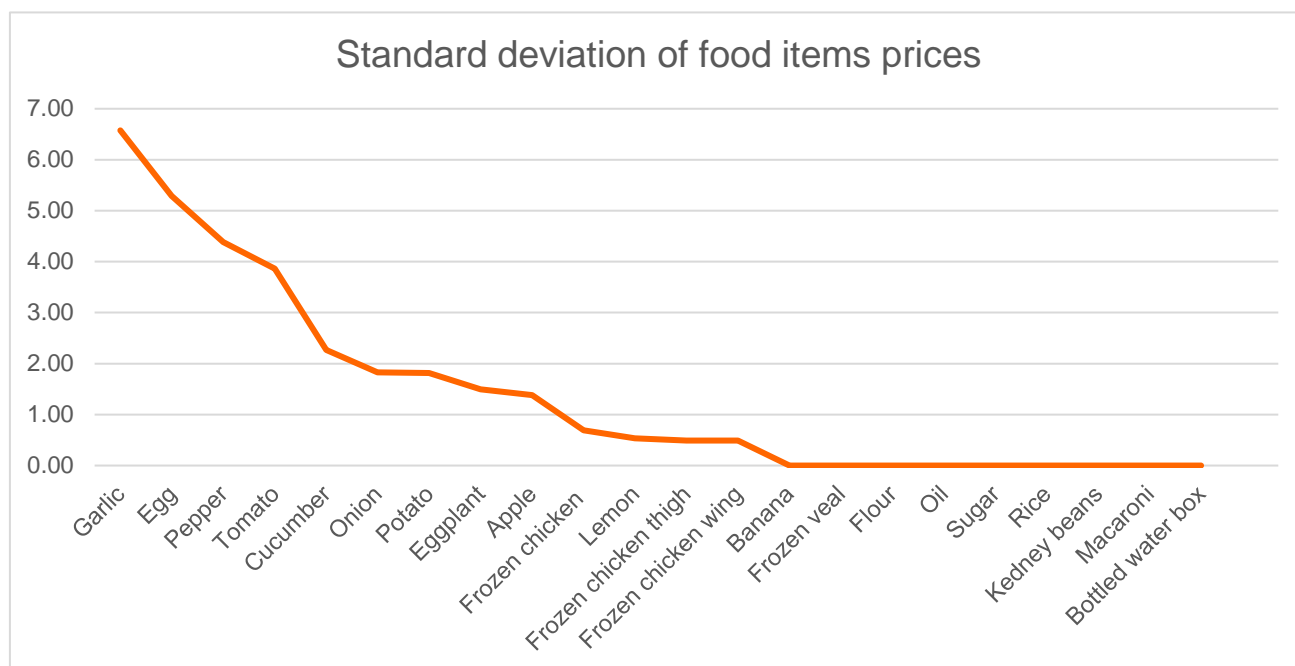


Figure (9): Standard deviation of food items prices

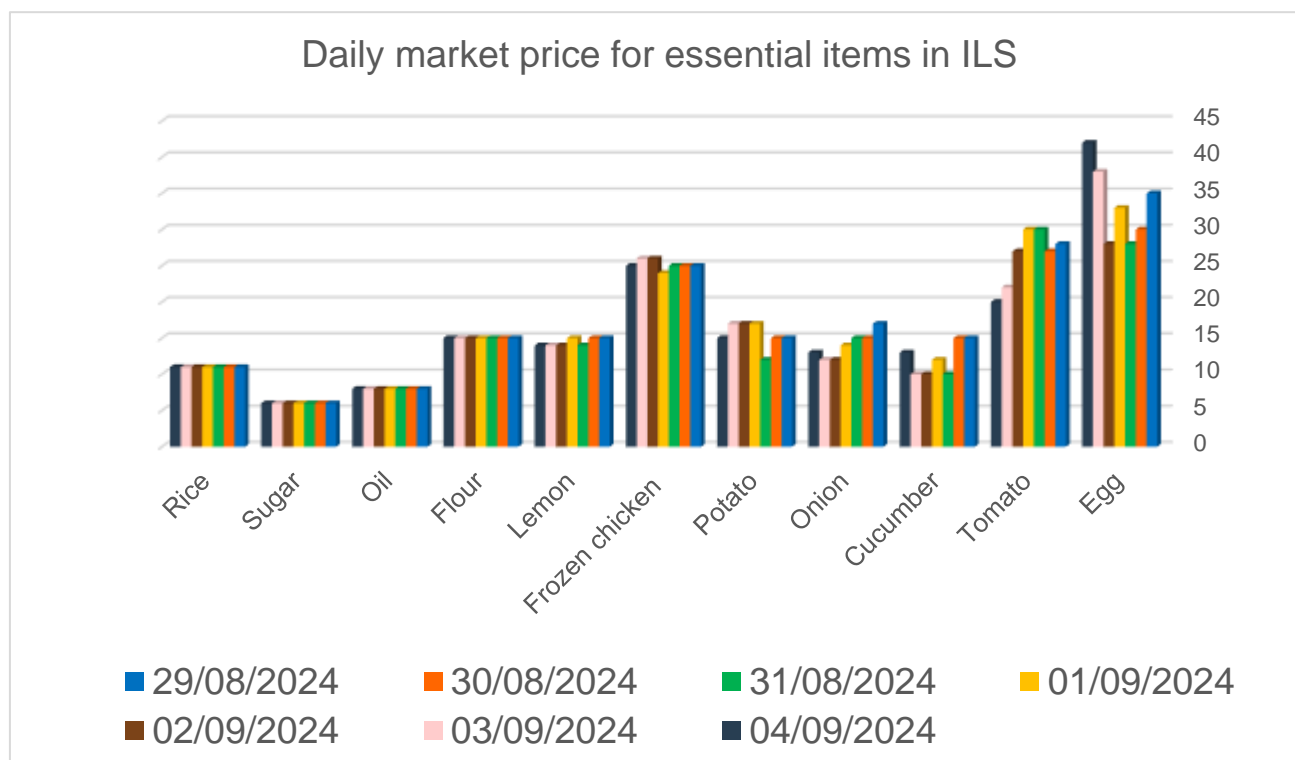


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS

5.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 29/08/2024 – 04/09/2024:

As an example:

- Product 1: **Egg.**
 - Opening Price: 35.
 - Closing Price: 42.
 - Percentage Change: 20%.
- Product 2: **Garlic.**
 - Opening Price: 28.
 - Closing Price: 32.
 - Percentage Change: 14.29%
- Product 3: **Tomato.**
 - Opening Price: 28.
 - Closing Price: 20.
 - Percentage Change: -28.57%
- Product e: **onion**
 - Opening Price: 17.
 - Closing Price: 13.
 - Percentage Change: -23.53%

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 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 24% in the number of trucks for 30/08/2024 and closing all crossing on 31/08/2024, impacting the availability of goods in the markets that caused increase in prices of many goods on the next day 01/09/2024, (potato, egg, pepper and garlic).
- Variety and Quantity of Goods:
 - Quantities varied greatly on certain days, particularly on 30/08/2024 and 31/08/2024, 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.

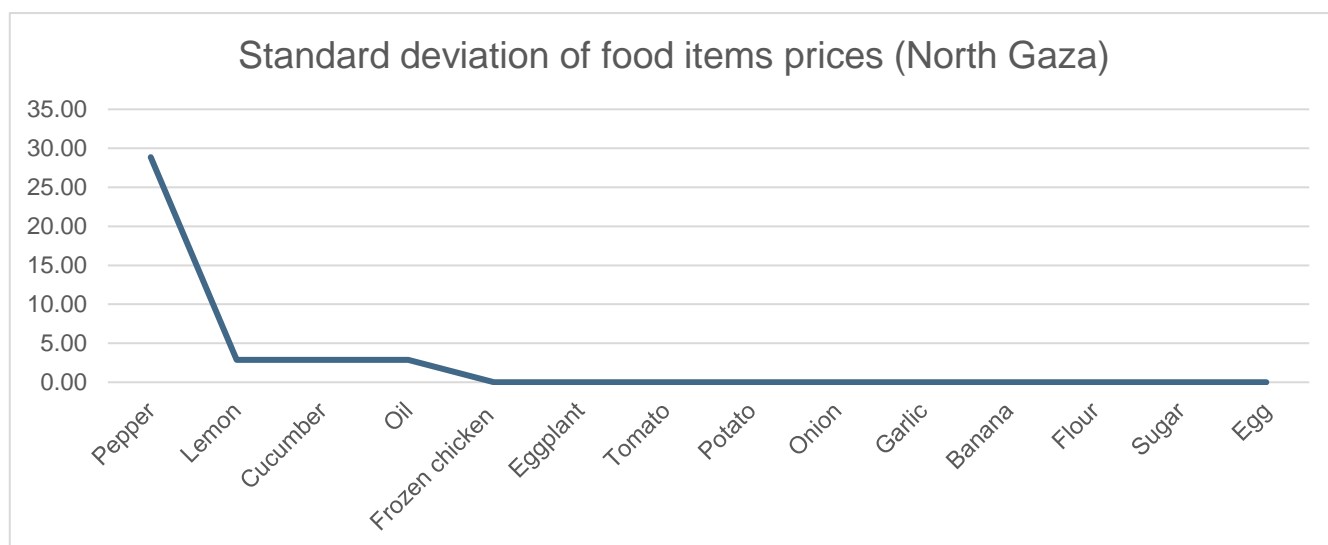
5.5 Market price in the Northern part of Gaza Strip:

This week, starting from 02/09, we obtained prices for 14 food items in the north part of Gaza Strip. The prices coming from there 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, it appears that the price of some items in the north is 19 times higher than the south, such as onions and garlic, and some are 10 times higher, such as tomatoes, potatoes and eggs. Meanwhile, the only item whose price is lower in the north than in the south is the flour, as its price in the north is almost half its price in the south during the reporting period. This decrease in flour prices in the North is attributed to the entry of more than sufficient quantities of flour into the north as humanitarian aid, as well as the operating of number of bakeries there.

Table (8): Price of food items in the northern part of Gaza Strip

#	Item	02/09/2024	03/09/2024	04/09/2024	Average	St. Dev
1	Pepper	270	320	320	303.33	28.87
2	Lemon	35	30	30	31.67	2.89
3	Cucumber	55	60	60	58.33	2.89
4	Oil	30	35	35	33.33	2.89
5	Frozen chicken	166	166	166	166.00	0.00
6	Eggplant	29	29	29	29.00	0.00
7	Tomato	250	250	250	250.00	0.00
8	Potato	160	160	160	160.00	0.00
9	Onion	260	260	260	260.00	0.00
10	Garlic	550	550	550	550.00	0.00
11	Banana	120	120	120	120.00	0.00
12	Flour	8	8	8	8.00	0.00
13	Sugar	45	45	45	45.00	0.00
14	Egg	390	390	390	390.00	0.00

Figure (9): 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. In some items, they reached seven times higher (potatoes), while some items remained stable (oil), and some had a slight increase (rice and pasta), while flour was the only commodity which price decreased by 57% compared to its price before the war. In the North, the price increase was unprecedentedly sharp, as some items price reached more than 120 times higher (onions and tomatoes), and most of them ranged between 20-100 times higher (eggs, potatoes, cucumbers and bananas). The least increase was in oil, with 317% increase. As for flour, its situation in the north is the same as in the south, it is the only commodity whose price decreased compared to what it was before the war, but in the north, its price decrease was greater as it reached to 77%. This sharp decrease is attributed to the entry of large quantities of flour by humanitarian organizations and the operating of many bakeries as well.

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	Garlic	10	28.29	183%	550	5400%
2	Egg	12	33.43	179%	390	3150%
3	Pepper	10	35.71	257%	303.33	2933%
4	Tomato	2	26.29	1215%	250	12400%
5	Cucumber	2	12.14	507%	58.33	2817%
6	Onion	2	14	600%	260	12900%
7	Potato	2	15.43	672%	160	7900%
8	Eggplant	2	7.71	286%	29	1350%
9	Apple	5	16.29	226%	NA	NA
10	Frozen chicken	8	25.14	214%	166	1975%
11	Lemon	4	14.43	261%	31.67	692%
12	Frozen chicken thigh	8	24.71	209%	NA	NA
13	Frozen chicken wing	6	15.71	162%	NA	NA
14	Banana	3	15	400%	120	3900%
15	Frozen veal	20	60	200%	NA	NA
16	Flour	35	15	-57%	8	-77%
17	Oil	8	8	0%	33.33	317%
18	Sugar	3	6	100%	45	1400%
19	Rice	9	11	22%	NA	NA
20	Kidney beans	7	10	43%	NA	NA
21	Macaroni	5	6	20%	NA	NA
22	Bottled water box	7	17	143%	NA	NA
average		7.73	18.97		171.76	

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:

- No evidence of any Importer has been charged to get a coordination, yet.

6.2 Difficulties:

- 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.
- The delivery of aid and commercial supplies into Gaza remains unreliable due to crossings and routes 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.
- 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 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.

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. 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 part of Gaza Strip to ensure that aid reaches those in need without delay.
6. Allow private sector Importers to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip using all available crossings.
7. Allow access to hygiene products since it is causing a major concern of disease spreading among population such as hepatitis A, scabies, etc.
8. 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.
9. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. Allow private sector to import other basic commodities such as hygiene material, medicines, clothes and footwear, etc.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. Increase the number of approved Importers.
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.

8 Conclusion

This week witnessed an increase in the number of trucks that passed into Gaza Strip compared to the previous week by 88 trucks. This number of trucks was allocated to Erez crossing and was entered into the north of Gaza Strip. There is a continuation of similarity in some patterns, such as a) the significant entry decrease that reached more than 24% on Fridays, and the complete cessation of the entry of commodities on Saturdays for the fifth week successively, b) the continued closure of the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing throughout the period of this report and previous reports, c) the share of humanitarian aid of the total number of trucks and quantities of commodities entering through the crossings has decreased in contrast to the increase in the share of the private sector. The share decrease is about 38% compared to 45% in the previous week, while the share of the private sector increases to reach about 62% compared to 55% in the previous week. It was also noted that the prices of vegetables and fruits continued to rise despite the relative stability in the quantities entering through the crossings. This is attributed to the fact that many humanitarian organizations resorted to purchasing vegetables and fruits from the local market and distributing them as humanitarian aid, which increases demand for them while supply remains limited.

The data during the current reporting period is 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. 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 and souls 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.