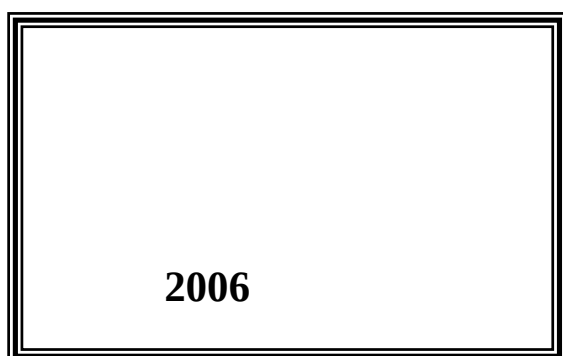


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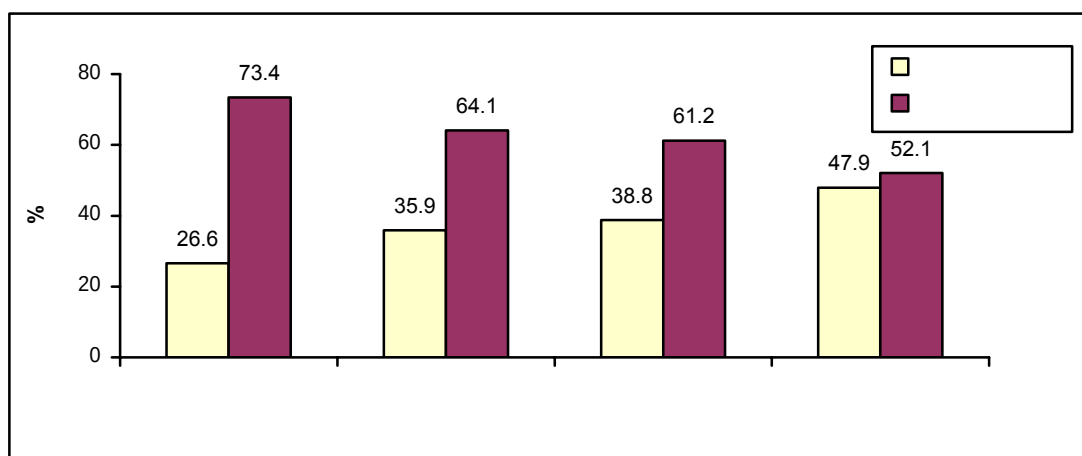
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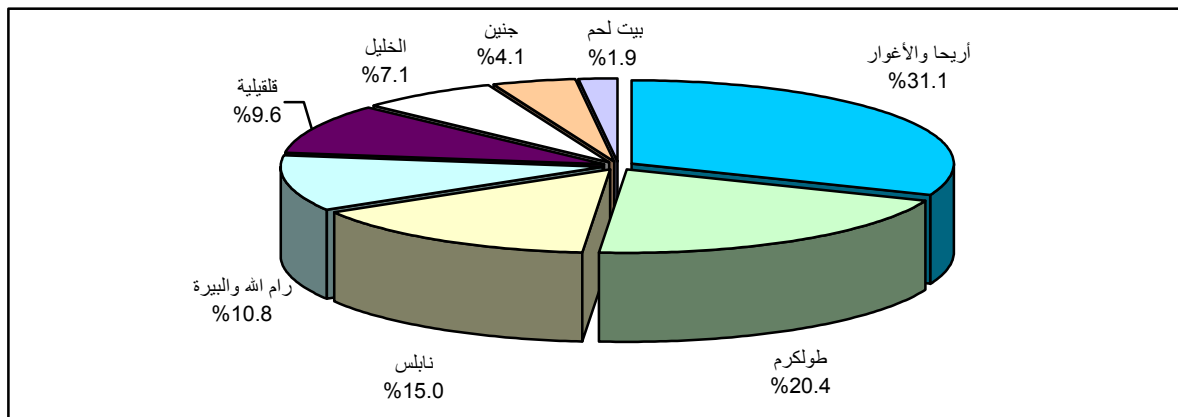
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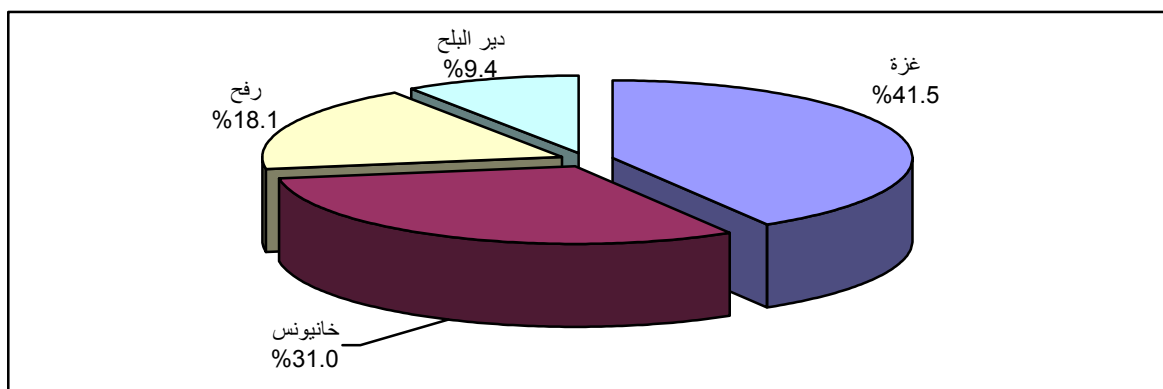


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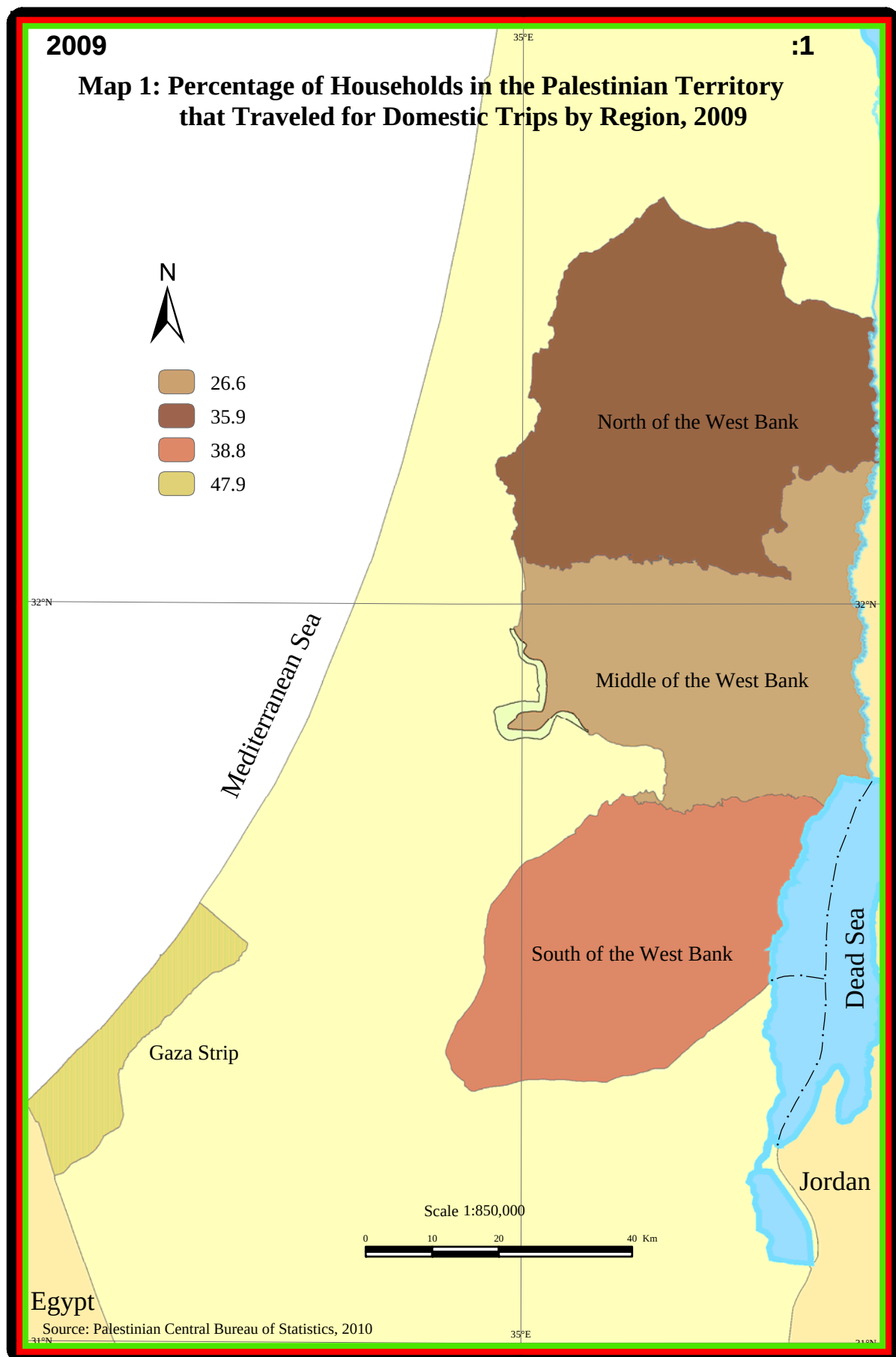
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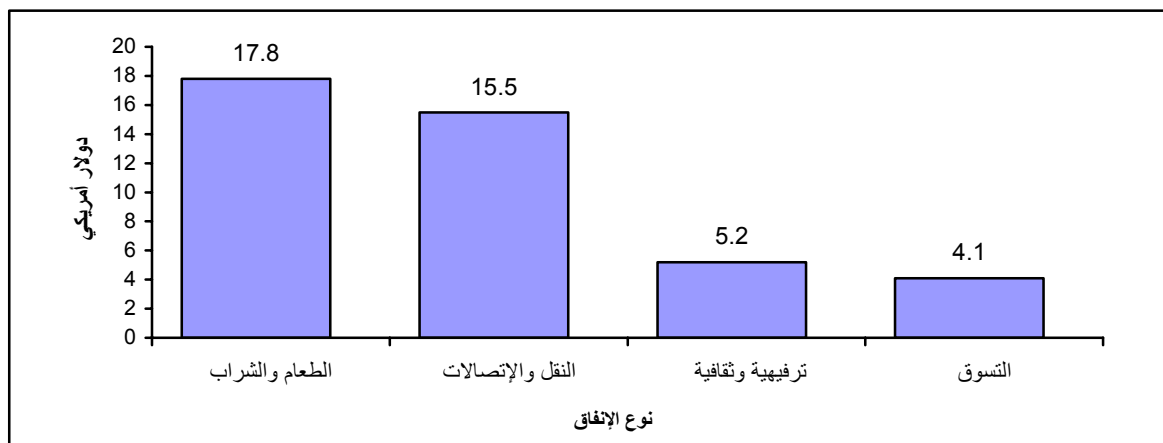
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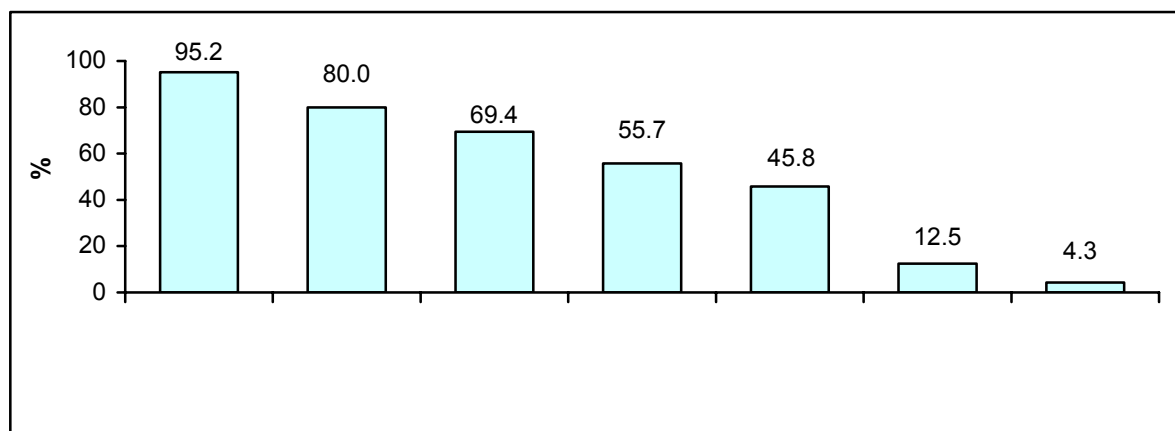
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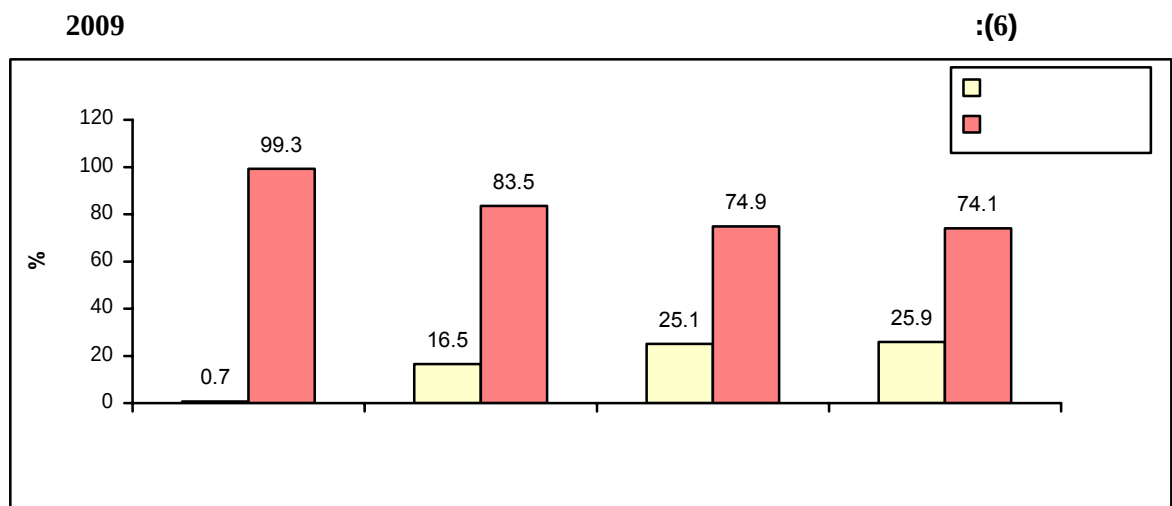
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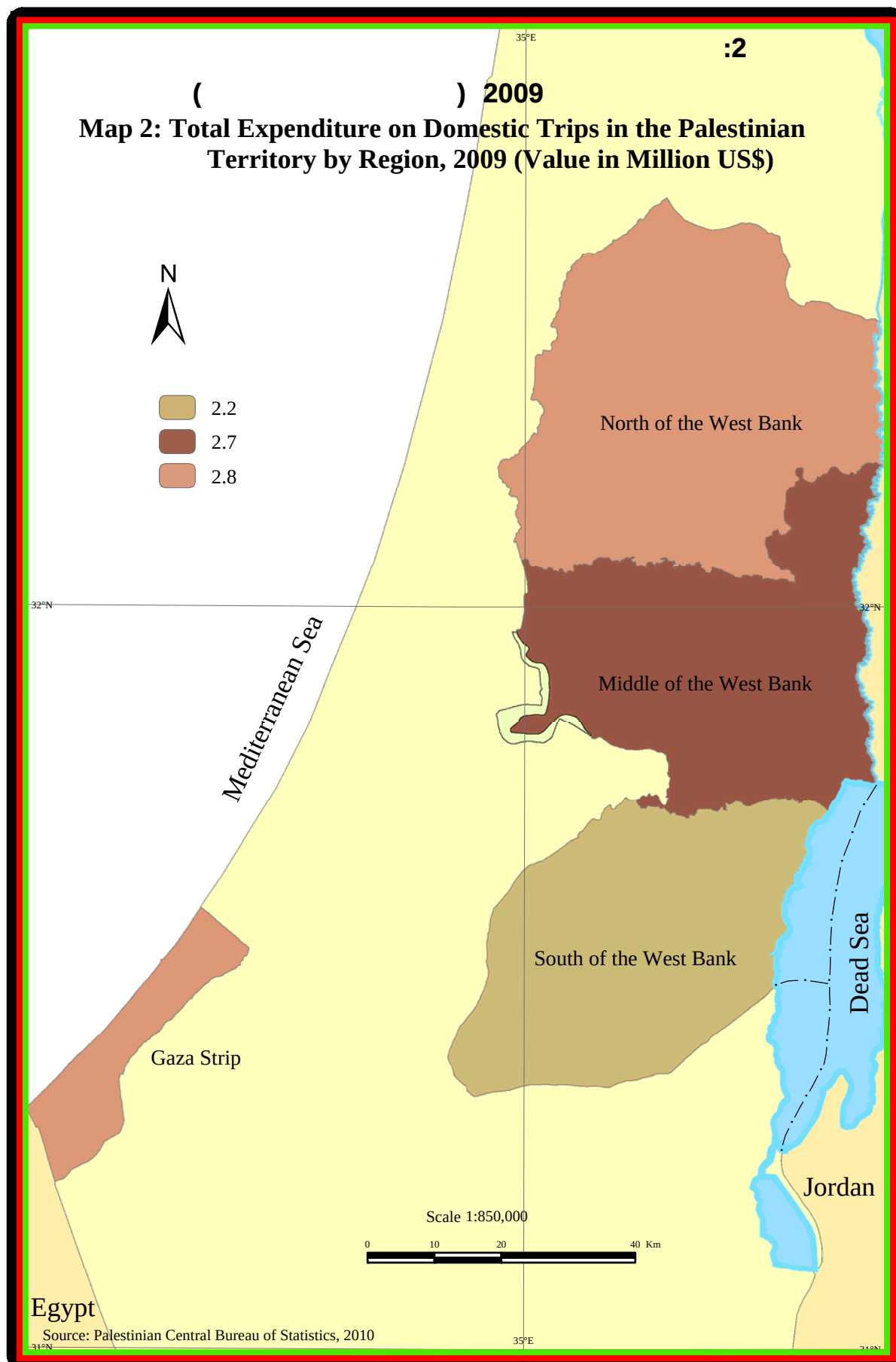
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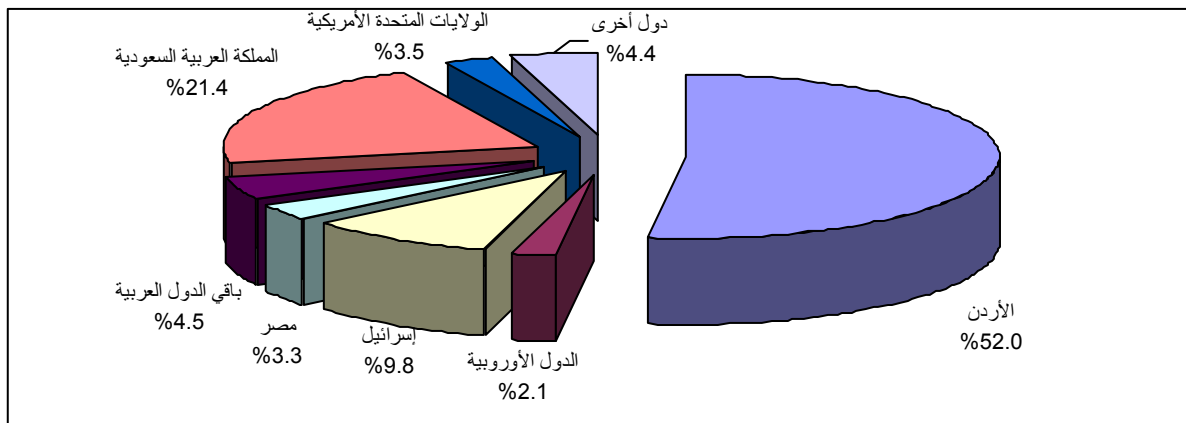


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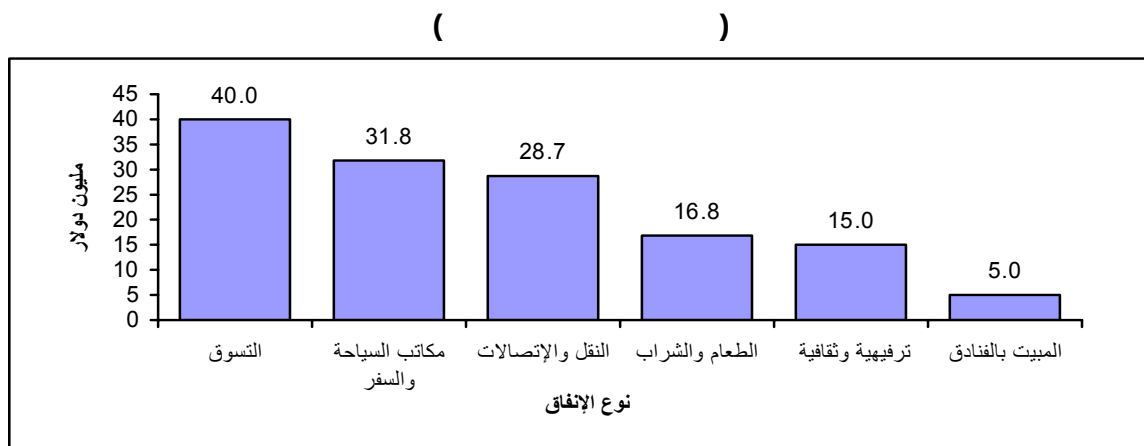
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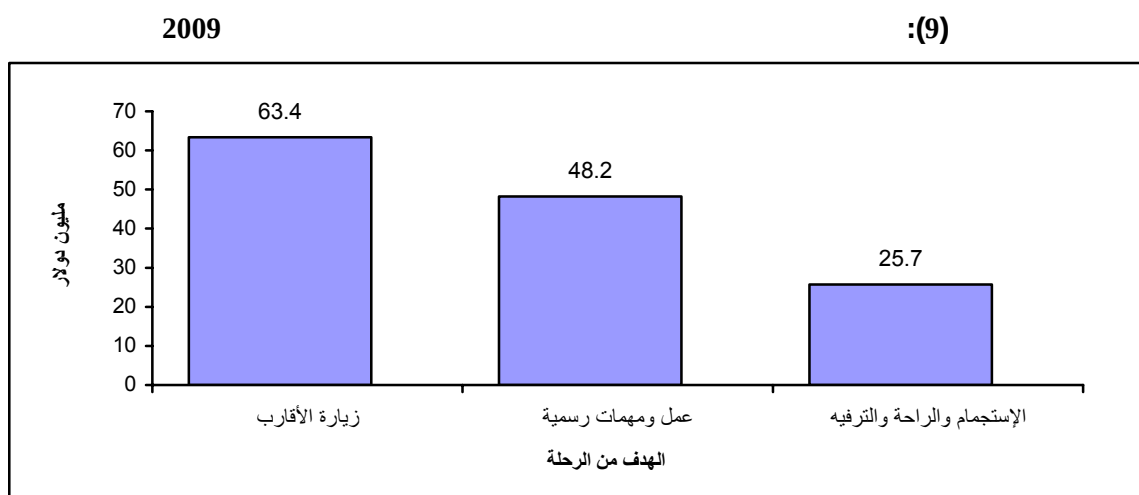
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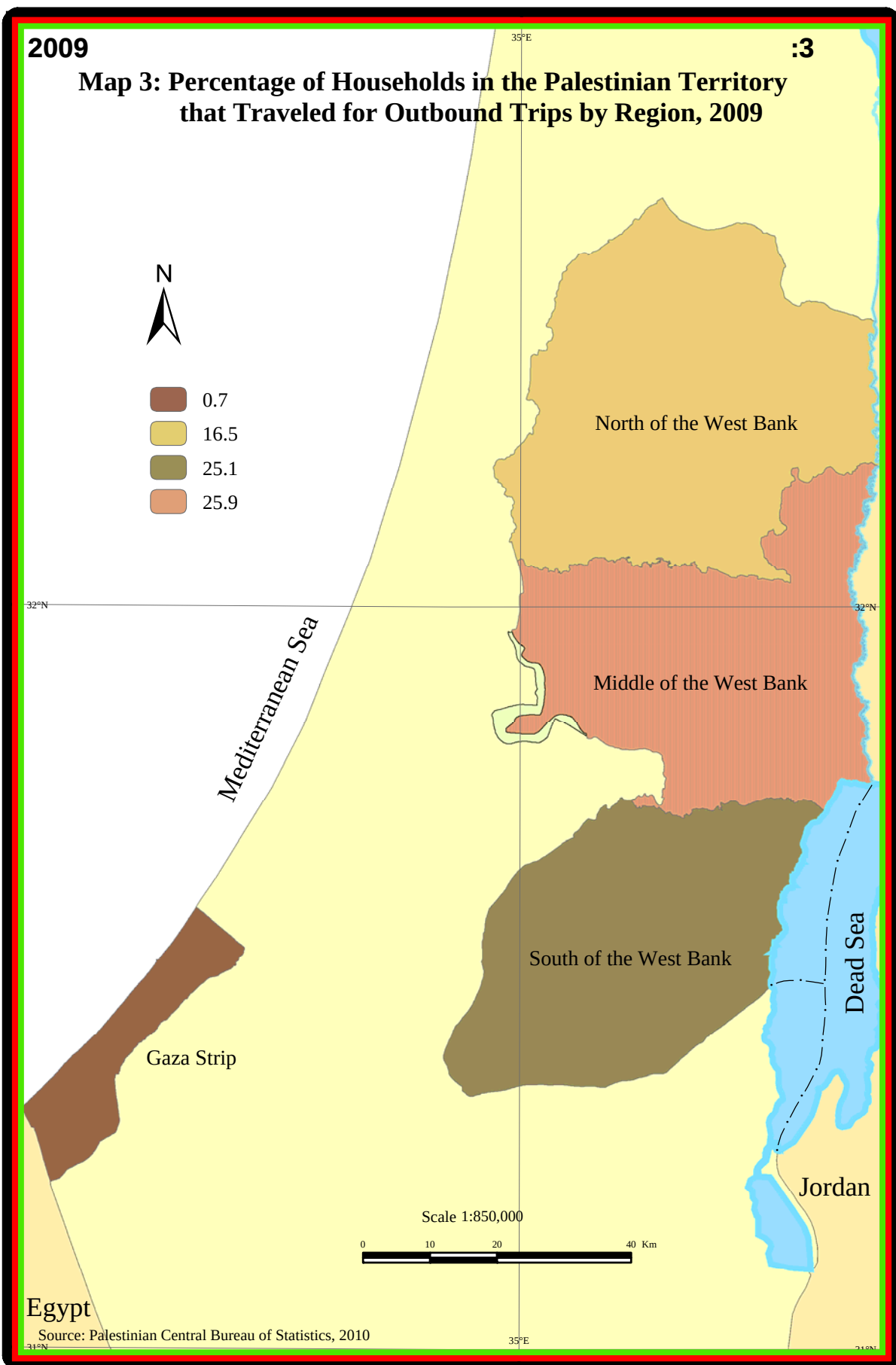
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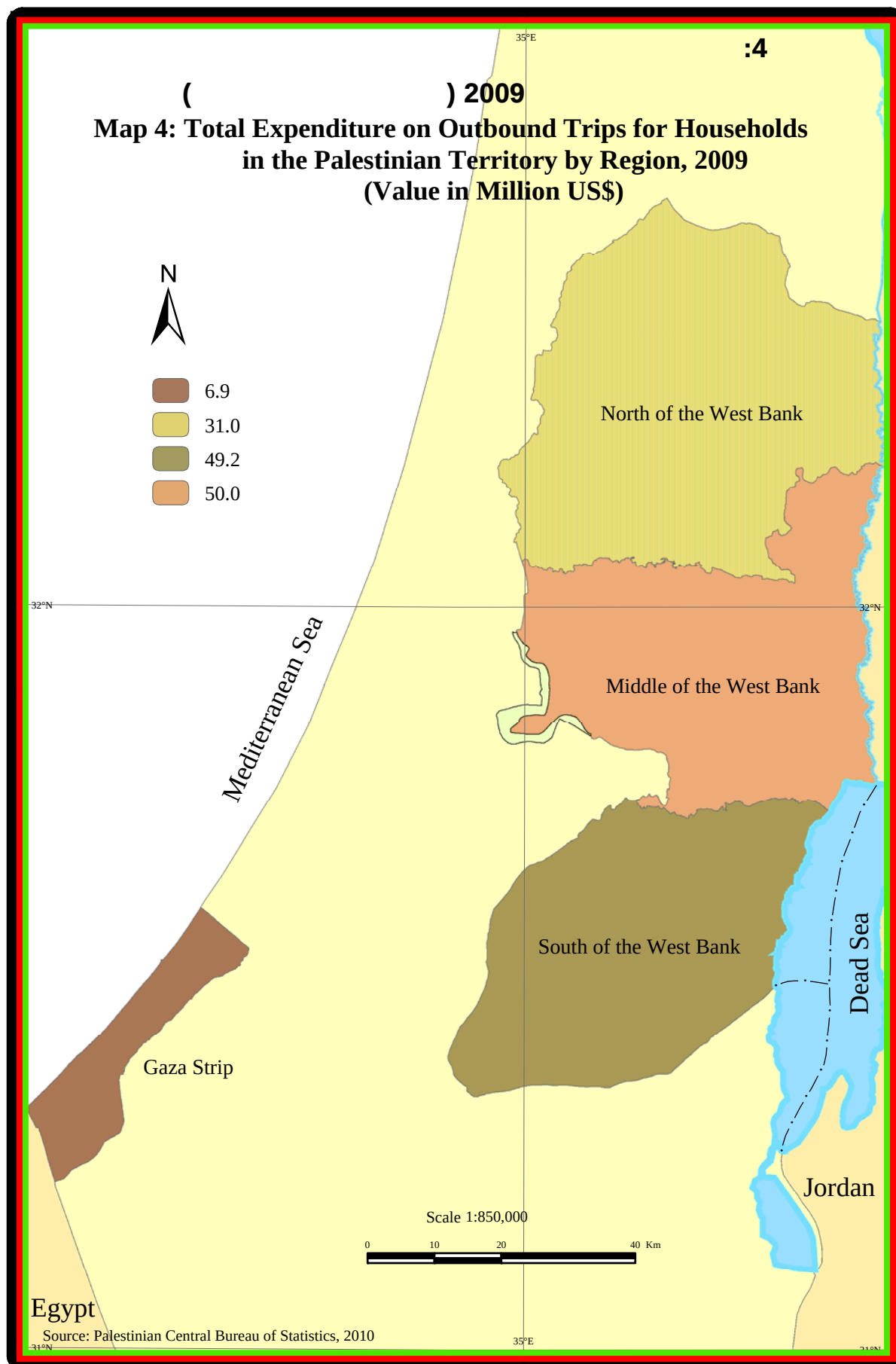
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Tables

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Table 1: Percentage Distribution of the Households in the Palestinian Territory by Number of Domestic Trips and Region, 2009

Number of Domestic Trips	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
0	52.1	61.2	73.4	64.1	66.1	61.9	0
1	11.8	19.8	18.8	17.5	18.7	16.7	1
2	13.4	8.7	4.7	11.0	8.4	9.8	2
3+	22.7	10.3	3.1	7.4	6.8	11.6	+3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

:2

Table 2: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Traveled for Domestic Trips in the Palestinian Territory by Number of Days and Region, 2009

Number of Days	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
One Day	99.3	98.9	96.2	99.1	98.3	98.7	يوم واحد
More Than One Day	1.8	1.1	3.8	0.9	1.7	1.3	أكثر من يوم
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 3: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Traveled for Domestic Trips in the Palestinian Territory by Destination of the Trip and Region, 2009

Destination of the Trip	Region					
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	
Jenin	0.0	1.3	5.7	5.3	4.1	
Tulkarm	0.0	4.4	12.6	37.3	20.4	
Nablus	0.0	8.4	8.1	24.1	15.0	
Qalqilya	0.0	1.4	12.0	14.6	9.6	
Ramallah and Al-Bireh	0.0	18.9	6.4	7.0	10.8	
Jericho and Al-Aghwar	0.0	41.9	51.6	11.1	31.1	
Bethlehem	0.0	4.7	0.7	0.5	1.9	
Hebron	0.0	19.0	2.9	0.1	7.1	
Gaza	41.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Deir El-Balah	9.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Khan Yunis	31.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Rafah	18.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 4: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Traveled for Domestic Trips in the Palestinian Territory by the Way of Trip Organization and Region, 2009

Way of Trip Organization	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Self Arrangement	100.0	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.9	
Travel Agency	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 5: Total Expenditure on Domestic Trips in the Palestinian Territory by Type of Expenditure and Region, 2009

(Value in 1,000 US\$)

()

Type of Expenditure	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Food and Drinks	1,499.5	924.2	954.9	987.3	2,866.4	4,365.9	
Shopping*	247.1	54.4	332.8	363.0	750.2	997.3	*
Transportation & Telecommunications	719.1	964.2	992.0	1,137.3	3,093.5	3,812.6	
Entertainments	299.6	210.8	432.0	337.2	980.0	1,279.6	
Total	2,765.3	2,153.6	2,711.7	2,824.8	7,690.1	10,455.4	

*: Coefficient of Variation is high

:*

2009

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Table 6: Average Expenditure of the Households on the One Domestic Trip in the Palestinian Territory by Type of Expenditure and Region, 2009

(Value in US\$)

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Type of Expenditure	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Food and Drinks	16.4	18.1	25.8	15.1	18.7	17.8	*
Shopping*	2.7	1.2	8.9	5.6	4.9	4.1	
Transp. & Telecom.	7.8	18.9	26.8	17.3	20.1	15.5	
Entertainments	3.3	4.1	11.7	5.1	6.4	5.2	
Total	30.2	42.3	73.2	43.1	50.1	42.6	

*: Coefficient of Variation is high

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2009

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Table 7: Percentage Distribution of the Households Answers about the Availability of Services in the Visited Places in the Palestinian Territory by Type of Service, 2009

Type of Service	Available Services			
	Total	Not Available	Available	
Restaurants & Parks	100	20.0	80.0	
Basic health facilities	100	4.8	95.2	
Swimming Pools	100	54.2	45.8	
Hotels	100	95.7	4.3	
Commercial Shops	100	44.3	55.7	
Coffee Shops	100	30.6	69.4	
Tourism Guides	100	87.5	12.5	

2009

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Table 8: Percentage Distribution of the Households Answers about the level of Satisfaction of the Services Available in the Visited Places in the Palestinian Territory by Type of Service, 2009

Satisfaction Level of Service	Service						
	Tourism Guides	Health Facilities	Shops	Swimming Pools	Coffee Shops	Restaurants & Parks	
Good	12.1	66.5	53.7	44.3	51.8	69.9	المجموع
Bad	0.2	11.2	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	
Don't know	87.7	22.3	45.5	54.9	47.6	29.5	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 9: Percentage Distribution of the Households by Number of Outbound Trips and Region, 2009

Number of Outbound Trips	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
0	99.3	74.9	74.1	83.5	78.1	84.4	0
1	0.6	20.2	20.1	14.0	17.6	12.6	1
2	0.1	3.4	3.5	1.6	2.8	2.0	2
3+	0.0	1.5	2.3	0.9	1.5	1.0	+3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 10: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Conducted Outbound Trips by the Destination Country and Region, 2009

Destination Country	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Jordan	0.0	51.9	43.8	64.5	52.8	52.0	
Saudi Arabia	0.0	29.9	14.4	21.5	21.7	21.4	
Egypt*	23.3	3.3	4.9	1.3	3.6	3.3	*
Other Arab countries	19.6	5.1	5.8	4.5	5.1	4.5	
Israel*	0.0	3.5	21.8	2.9	10.0	9.8	*
European countries	22.6	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.7	2.1	
United States of America *	11.3	2.3	3.9	0.5	2.3	2.5	*
Other countries	23.2	2.3	3.4	3.1	2.8	4.4	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

*: Coefficient of Variation is high

:*

2009

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Table 11: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Conducted Outbound Trips by Length of Stay and Region, 2009

Length of Stay/Night	Region						I
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
1 - 5	0.0	19.4	35.5	15.8	24.2	23.8	5 - 1
6 - 10	15.0	22.2	24.7	23.1	23.4	23.3	10 - 6
11 - 15	7.2	30.3	18.7	31.0	26.3	26.0	15 - 11
16 and above	77.8	28.1	21.1	30.1	26.1	26.9	16 فأعلى
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 12 : Percentage Distribution of the Households that Conducted Outbound Trips by Number of Accompanying and Region, 2009

Number of Accompanying*	Region						*
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
0	49.4	51.4	51.0	57.3	53.0	53.0	0
1	26.9	26.9	22.5	24.8	24.7	24.7	1
2	0.0	7.4	8.1	4.0	6.7	6.6	2
3	9.6	7.1	5.3	4.7	5.7	5.8	3
4+	14.2	7.2	13.1	9.1	9.9	10.0	+4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

* With non-family members

*

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Table 13: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Conducted Outbound Trips by Purpose of Trip and Region, 2009

Purpose of Trip	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Entertainments	20.2	11.7	33.3	6.1	17.8	17.9	
Visit Relatives & Friends	68.4	42.8	40.1	56.3	46.0	46.3	
Work and Official Missions	11.4	45.5	26.6	37.6	36.2	35.8	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 14: Percentage Distribution of the Households that Conducted Outbound Trips by the Way of Trip Organization and Region, 2009

Way of Trip Organization	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Self Arrangement	74.5	62.2	66.4	73.5	67.1	67.2	
Tourist Agency	25.5	37.8	33.6	26.5	32.9	32.8	
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	

2009

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Table 15: Total Expenditure of the Households on the Outbound Trips by Type of Expenditure and Region, 2009

(Value in 1,000 US\$)

()

Type of Expenditure	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Food and Drinks	1,520.5	5,516.2	7,159.4	2,590.2	15,265.8	16,786.3	
Shopping	1,519.6	13,229.7	15,944.0	9,332.2	38,505.9	40,025.5	
Transp. & Telecom.	1,150.1	12,015.2	8,399.8	7,161.1	27,576.1	28,726.2	
Tourism Agencies	1,297.2	10,680.2	11,726.4	8,062.5	30,469.1	31,766.3	
Entertainments	1,029.8	6,503.6	4,344.2	3,106.5	13,954.3	14,984.1	
Accommodations	426.8	1,307.2	2,435.4	825.3	4,567.9	4,994.7	
Total	6,944.0	49,252.1	50,009.2	31,077.8	130,339.1	137,283.1	

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Table 16: Average Expenditure on Outbound Tourism Trip for the Households by Type of Expenditure and Region, 2009

(Value in US\$)

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Type of Expenditure	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Food and Drinks	838.2	119	141.4	61.2	109.6	119.6	
Shopping	837.7	285.4	314.9	220.5	276.4	284.1	
Transp. & Telecom.	634	259.2	165.9	169.2	197.9	203.9	
Tourism Agencies	715.2	230.4	231.7	190.5	218.8	225.5	
Entertainments	567.7	140.3	85.8	73.4	100.1	106.5	
Accommodations	235.3	28.2	48.1	19.5	32.8	35.6	
Total	3,828.1	1,062.5	987.8	734.3	935.6	975.2	

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Table 17: Distribution of Total Expenditure on the Outbound Trips for the Households by Purpose of Trip and Region, 2009

(Value in 1,000 US\$)

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Purpose of Trip	Region						
	Gaza Strip	South of the West Bank	Middle of the West Bank	North of the West Bank	West Bank	Palestinian Territory	
Entertainments	1,402.7	5,762.5	16,654.8	1,895.7	24,313.0	25,715.7	
Visit Relatives & Friends	4,749.8	21,079.9	20,055.7	17,496.8	58,632.5	63,382.3	
Work and Official Missions	791.5	22,409.7	13,298.7	11,685.3	47,393.6	48,185.1	
Total	6,944.0	49,252.1	50,009.2	31,077.8	130,339.1	137,283.1	



Palestinian National Authority
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

Domestic & Outbound Tourism Survey 2009
Main Results

July, 2010

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All correspondence should be directed to:
**Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
P.O.Box 1647, Ramallah, Palestine.**

Tel: (+972/970) 2 2982700
Fax: (+972/970) 2 2982710
E-Mail :diwan@pcbs.gov.ps
Web-Site: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps>

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Project Team

- **Report Preparation**

Adel Qarereya

- **Maps Design**

Amal Jabr

- **Dissemination Standard**

Ahmad Sawalmeh

- **Preliminary Review**

Fathi Farasin

Mustafa Khawaja

Mahmoud Abdalrahman

Mahmoud Al qayya

- **Final Review**

Mahmoud Jaradat

- **Overall Supervision**

Ola Awad

Acting President

Preface

Tourism statistics has been considered traditionally as one of the important fields of official statistics, serving as an important input into the economic and market analysis of the tourism sector in Palestine.

The Palestinian Territory is an attractive area for tourists due to the presence of many religious and historical sites valued by many nations. The tourism sector is considered one of the leading sectors in the Palestinian economy as it makes a significant contribution to the GDP. For this reason, PCBS established a statistical programme to supervise and implement the production of reliable and timely statistics on the main indicators of tourism activity. This programme began in 1995 with the implementation of the hotel survey in order to provide periodic data on accommodation statistics.

PCBS is pleased to introduce this report on the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey 2009 as an additional component of tourism statistics on inbound tourism. The main objective of this survey is to provide basic information about the demand side of tourism, to be used in the system of Tourism Satellite Accounts in the Palestinian Territory.

This report provides statistical data on domestic and outbound tourism, including expenditure during trips to tourist resorts, trips conducted by households, destinations countries and the available facilities and services in the resorts visited by the resident households in the Palestinian Territory.

PCBS hopes that this report will provide national governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions in the Palestinian Territory with statistical data needed for planning and developing the tourism sector in Palestine.

July, 2010

Ola Awad
Acting President of PCBS

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Executive Summary

PCBS conducted specialized survey of domestic and outbound tourism 2009, with a sample of 7,772 households in the Palestinian Territory. The survey covered all of the Palestinian Territory, and the main results were as follows:

- The results of the survey indicate that 38.1% of the households in the Palestinian Territory took domestic trips during the year 2009, of which 33.9% in the West Bank, and 47.9% in Gaza Strip.
- In the West Bank 31.1% of the households that took trips visited Jericho and Al-Aghwar governorate, while 20.4% visited Tulkarm governorate, and 15.0% visited Nablus governorate.
- In Gaza Strip 41.5% of the households that took trips visited Gaza governorate, while 31.0% visited Khan Yunis governorate.
- The total expenditure of the households on domestic trips during the year 2009 was about US\$ 10.5 million, with US\$ 7.7 million in the West Bank and US\$ 2.8 million in Gaza Strip.
- The average expenditure on domestic trip by the households was US\$ 42.6 with US\$ 50.1 in the West Bank and US\$ 30.2 in Gaza Strip.
- The results indicate that 95.2% of visited areas in the Palestinian Territory have a basic health facilities, while 80.0% have restaurants and parks.
- The results of the survey indicate that 15.6% of the households in the Palestinian Territory took outbound trips during the year 2009, of which 21.9% in the West Bank, and 0.7% in Gaza Strip.
- 52.0% of the households that took trips visited Jordan, while 21.4% visited the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia.
- 53.0% of the outbound trips were conducted by the traveling person alone without other attendants., while 24.7% of outbound trips were conducted along with one attendant.
- Survey results show that 17.9% of households that conducted trips were aimed at leisure and recreation, and 46.3% were to visit relatives and friends, and 35.8% were for work and official missions.
- 67.2% of the trips taken by the households were self organized, and 32.8% were organized by travel agencies.
- The total expenditures of the households on the outbound trips was about US\$ 137 million, of which US\$ 26 million expend on entertainments tourism trips.
- The average expenditures on the outbound tourism trip by the household was US\$ 975.2 during the year of 2009.

Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

PCBS conducted a Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey, which aimed to produce a comprehensive data base on all domestic and outbound tourism activities in Palestine. The ultimate goal is to compile and maintain data on domestic and outbound tourism activities. Through this survey, PCBS hopes to be able eventually, to produce regular statistics on the basic indicators recommended and adopted by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the European Union (EU). In the meantime, this initiative in the present format aims to fill the existing gaps on basic statistics of domestic and outbound tourism, and may help to provide the data necessary for policy making to promote this important sector in Palestine.

This survey reflects data for the year 2009; it provides the main data about domestic and outbound tourism expenditure which is related to the tourists.

1.2 Objectives of the Survey

The aim of this survey is to provide data for important indicators on the activity of the domestic and outbound tourism and the pattern of movement of the households that resident in the Palestinian Territory and out of the Palestinian Territory, where the survey data will be an important reference for decision-makers in the development of tourism Sector

The survey provided data on:

- Percentage of the households that traveled for domestic or outbound tourism.
- Methods of trip organization and destinations.
- Expenditure during the trip.
- Type and level of services provided in the visited areas.

1.3 Report Structure

This report consists of five chapters:

- The first chapter presents the background of the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey 2009 and the objectives of the survey
- The second chapter presents the main definitions used in the report.
- The third chapter exhibits the main findings of the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey.
- The fourth chapter discusses the methodology used in this survey.
- The fifth chapter presents the quality of the data of the survey.

Chapter Two

Concepts and Definitions

The following concepts and their definitions are based on international recommendations in the fields of tourism and economic statistics, while taking into account the particular aspects of the Palestinian Territory:

Domestic Tourism:

This is defined as comprising the activities of residents of a given area regarding travel within that area only, but outside their usual environment, for entertainments or recreation purposes.

Outbound Tourism:

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual permanent places of residence for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes. In this sense, the term outbound tourism is the reverse, with the residents of a certain country travelling across its border to other countries.

Tourism Trip:

The activities of person(s) traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment.

Purpose of Visit:

The purpose of the trip without which the trip would not have taken place. For many trips, the secondary purpose is also important and worth including in a survey, for example, leisure and business, combined visiting friends and relatives and recreation.

Duration of Visit:

The number of hours for same-day visits, and nights for longer visits

Tourism Expenditure:

The total consumption expenditure made by a visitor or on behalf of a visitor for and during his/her trip and stay at the destination.

Tourism Agency:

Establishment engaged in doing business for tourist travel services and related activities (e.g., transport, accommodation, catering, entertainment, sightseeing) and sales to them through travel agencies or directly to final consumers as a single product (called a package tour).

Tourism Guide:

A person who guides the tourists to the tourism sites and regions, and has an ability to speak many languages.

Work and Official Missions:

The work carried out by any traveler, so it does not generate income, such as official business that may be assigned to the person from his or his government, with the exception of the work of a commercial nature or profit. (activities of business)

North of the West Bank:

Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Tubas governorates

Middle of the West Bank:

Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Jericho and Al-Aghwar, and Jerusalem governorates

South of the West Bank:

Bethlehem and Hebron governorates

Gaza Strip:

North Gaza, Gaza, Deir El-Balah, Khan Yunis and Rafah governorates

Main Findings

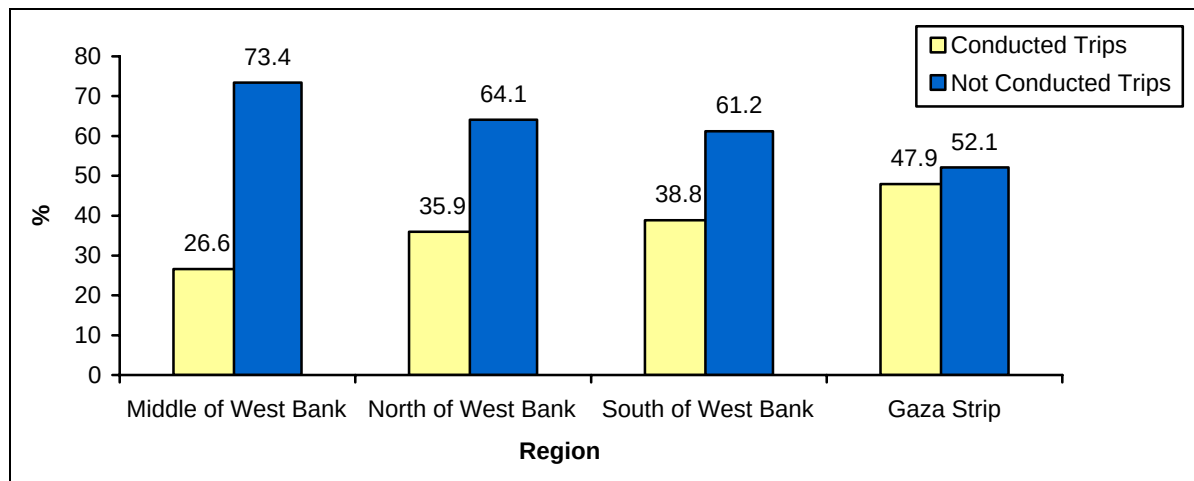
This section presents the main findings of the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey for the resident households during the year 2009, which demonstrate the nature of trips and activities of those households inside and outside of the Palestinian Territory.

The aim of the survey is to identify some indicators related to the behavior of households in the Palestinian Territory during the trip, such as expenditures, mode of consumption, destination, average length of stay, the activities of those households during domestic trips, in addition to the reasons for other households not conducting domestic trips.

3.1 Conducting the Domestic Trips

The results of the survey indicate that 38.1% of the households (one member at least) conducted domestic trips during the year 2009, while 61.9% did not. The traveling households are distributed by region as follows: 35.9% from the North of West Bank, and 26.6% from the Middle of West Bank, and 38.8% in the South of West Bank while in Gaza Strip 47.9% traveled for tourism.

Figure (1): Percentage Distribution of the Households that Traveled for Domestic Trips by Region, 2009



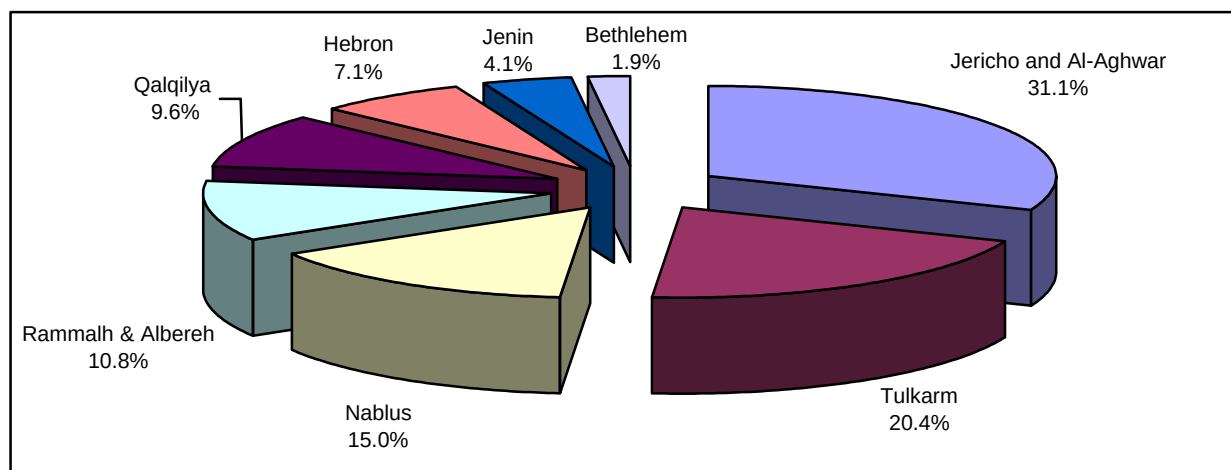
3.2 Frequency of the Domestic Trips

Survey results show that 16.7% of households that have implemented one domestic trip in the Palestinian Territory during the year 2009, compared to 9.8% of which are carried out twice, while the rate of 11.6% of households carried out three times or more.

3.3 Destinations of the Domestic Trips in the West Bank

The results indicate that the main destination governorate was Jericho and Al-Aghwar in the West Bank with 31.1% of the visitors, while 20.4% of the households traveled to Tulkarm governorate, and 15.0% of the households traveled to Nablus governorate.

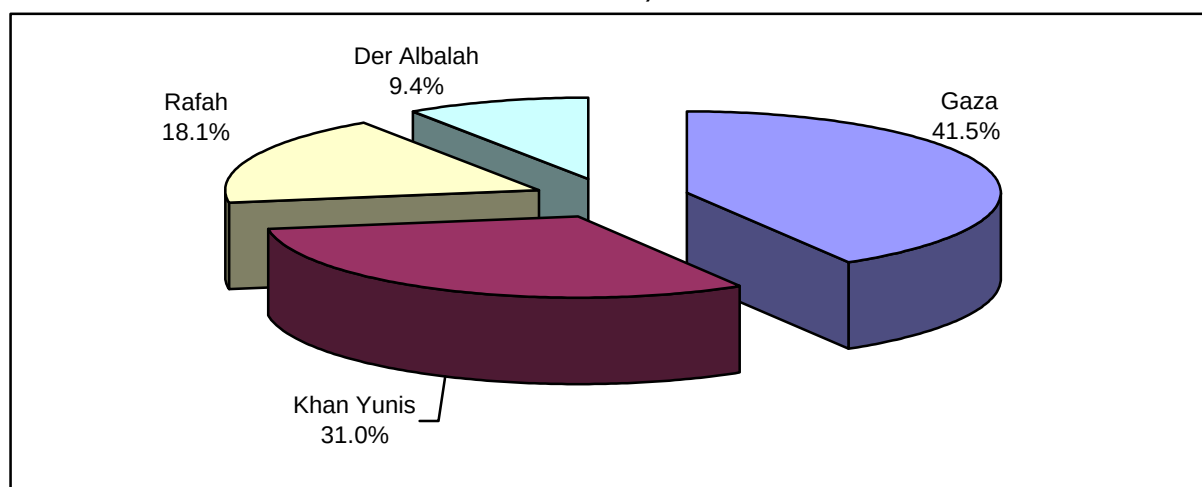
Figure (2): Percentage Distribution of the Domestic Trips in the West Bank by Main Destination, 2009



3.4 Destinations of the Domestic Trips in Gaza Strip

For Gaza Strip, 40.6% of all traveled households visited Gaza governorate in 2009. The percentage of households that traveled to Khan Yunis governorate was 31.0% and to Rafah governorate was 18.1%.

Figure (3): Percentage Distribution of the Domestic Trips in Gaza Strip by Main Destination, 2009



3.5 Organizing the Domestic Trip

The results indicate that 99.9% of the domestic trips taken by households in the Palestinian Territory were self organized, and 0.1% depended on travel agencies to organize their trips.

3.6 Total Expenditures on the Domestic Trips

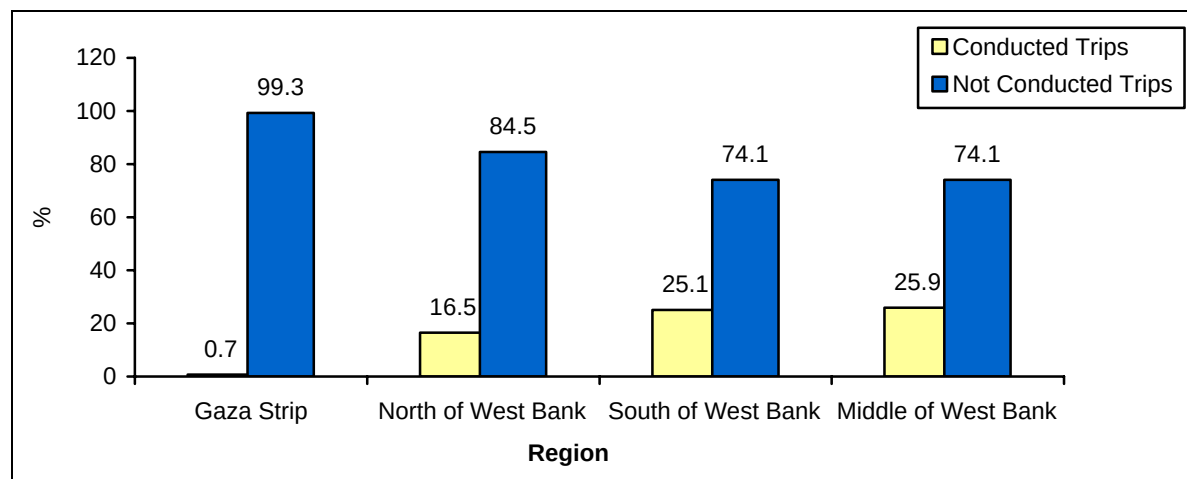
The expenditure of domestic tourism by the household was US\$ 10.5 million of which the expenditure of the households in the West Bank was US\$ 7.7 million compared to US\$ 2.8 million for households of Gaza Strip.

3.7 Conducting the Outbound Trips

The results of the survey indicate that 15.6% of the households (one member at least) traveled for outbound trips in the Palestinian Territory during the year 2009, while 84.4% did not. They are distributed by 21.9% in the West Bank and 0.7% in Gaza.

The traveling households are distributed by region as follows: 16.5% from the North of West Bank, and 25.9% from the Middle of West Bank, and 25.1% in the South of West Bank while in Gaza Strip 0.7% only traveled for outbound tourism.

Figure (4): Percentage Distribution of the Households that Traveled for Outbound Trips by Region, 2009



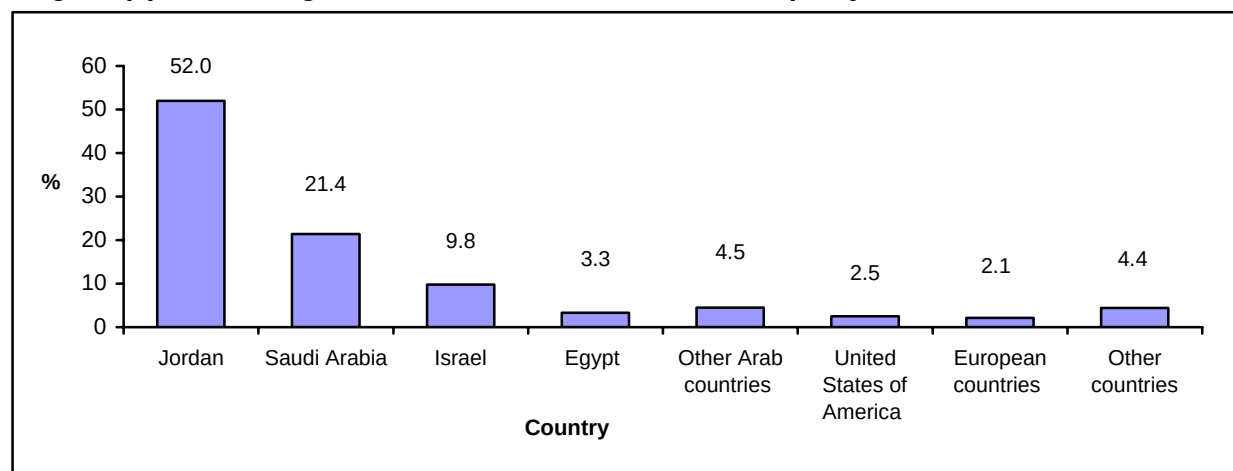
3.8 Frequency of the Outbound Trips.

Survey results show that 12.6% of households in the Palestinian Territory carried out a single outbound trip during the year 2009, compared to 2.0% carried two trips, while the proportion of households that have been implemented three times or more amounted to 1.0%.

3.9 Destinations of the Outbound Trips

The results indicate that 52.0% of the households that took trips visited Jordan, while 21.4% visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and 3.3% visited Egypt.

Figure (5): Percentage Distribution of the Outbound Trips by Main Destination, 2009



3.10 Organizing the Outbound Trip

The results indicate that 67.2% of the outbound trips taken by the households in the Palestinian Territory were self organized, and 32.8% depended on travel agencies to organize their trips.

3.11 Total Expenditures on the Outbound Trips

The Total expenditure for outbound tourism by the household was US\$ 137.3 million.

The expenditure of the household's according to the mode during the last trip was as follows: US\$ 40.0 million was consumed on shopping, US\$ 28.7 million was consumed on Transportations and Telecommunications.

Chapter Four

Methodology

4.1 Survey's Questionnaire

The Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey questionnaire was designed in accordance with similar country experience and with international standards and recommendations for the most important indicators, taking into account the special situation of the Palestinian Territory.

4.2 Sample and Frame

The sample is a two-stage stratified cluster random sample.

Target Population

All the households living within the Palestinian Territory.

Sampling Frame

Sampling frame is a master sample from the Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007. It consists of a list of enumeration areas, which were used as PSU's in the first stage of selection.

Sampling Design

The sample of this survey is a sub-sample of Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample. The total sample of LFS is about 7,552 households distributed over 13 weeks. The sample of the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey lasted 13 weeks of the first quarter 2009 of LFS.

Sample Strata:

The population was divided by:

1. Governorate (16 governorates)
2. Type of Locality (urban, rural, refugee camp)

Sample Unit:

In the first stage, the sampling units are the enumerator areas (clusters) in the master sample. In the second stage, the sampling units are the households.

4.3 Fieldwork

1. Training Fieldworkers

Fieldworkers were trained on basic skills before the start of data collection. The interviewers were trained on the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey by implementing the training course in Ramallah for the West Bank trainees, and in Gaza for Gaza Strip trainees. Instructions for filling the questionnaire were made available for the interviewers. The training provided the participant with aims and definitions of the different indicators and expressions of the survey and how to fill in the questionnaire.

2. Data Collection

Field work started on 03/01/2010 and lasted until 15/04/2010. Field work teams were distributed to all districts proportional to the sample size of each governorate. The field work team consisted of 24 members including one field work coordinator, 4 supervisors, 4 editors and 15 interviewers.

During field work, 7,772 households were visited in the Palestinian Territory; the end results of the interviews were as follows:

6,941 Complete questionnaire
831 Incomplete questionnaire

4.4 Data Processing

The data processing stage consisted of the following operations:

1. Editing and coding before data entry: All questionnaires were edited and coded in the office using the same instructions adopted for editing in the field.
2. Data entry: At this stage, data was entered into the computer using a data entry template designed in Access. The data entry program was prepared to satisfy a number of requirements such as:
 - Duplication of the questionnaires on the computer screen.
 - Logical and consistency check of data entered.
 - Possibility for internal editing of question answers.
 - Maintaining a minimum of digital data entry and fieldwork errors.
 - User friendly handling.
 - Possibility of transferring data into another format to be used and analyzed using other statistical analytic systems such as SPSS.

Weight Calculation and the Estimation

Since the sampling weight is inversely related to the sample percentage, and since this ratio is different from the sample percentage in the society in the reference period, the weight was adjusted to show the number of population in 2009. The weight was adjusted to make the distribution of people in the sample by region, kind, and age structure become identical to the distribution in the 2007 census. Finally, weights were adjusted to compensate for incomplete cases that occurred during data collection.

Data Quality

5.1 Accuracy of the Data

5.1.1. Statistical Errors

Data of the Domestic and Outbound Tourism Survey was affected by statistical errors due to the use of the sample, therefore, certain differences emerge from the real values obtained through surveys. The variation had been calculated from the most important indicators and their use in the report. The dissemination levels of the data were particularized at the regional level in the West Bank (North, Middle, South) and the Gaza Strip, due to the sample design and the variance calculations for the different indicators.

5.1.2. Non-Statistical Errors

Non-statistical errors are probable in all stages of the project, during data collection or processing. This is referred to as non-response errors, response errors, interviewing errors, and data entry errors. To avoid errors and reduce their effects, great efforts were made to train the fieldworkers intensively. They were trained in how to carry out the interview, what to discuss and what to avoid, carrying out a pilot survey and practical and theoretical training during the training course.

Also data entry staff was trained on the entry program that was examined before starting the data entry process. Continuous contacts with the fieldwork team were maintained through regular visits to the field and regular meetings during the different field visits. Problems faced by fieldworkers were discussed to clarify issues and provide relevant instructions.

5.2 Technical Notes

These errors are due to non-response cases as well as the implementation of surveys. In this survey, these errors emerged because of (a) the special situation of the questionnaire itself which depends on a type of estimation (b) diversity of sources (e.g., the interviewers, respondents, editors, coders, data entry operator ...etc).

The sources of these errors can be summarized in:

- Some of the households were not in their houses and the interviewers couldn't meet them.
- Some of the households did not show attention toward the questionnaire.
- Some errors occurred due to the way the questions were asked by interviewers.
- Misunderstanding of the questions by the respondents.
- Answering the questions related to consumption by estimations.

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