



# PALTRADE

مركز التجارة الفلسطيني - بال توريد  
PALESTINE TRADE CENTER

## Gaza Strip

Crossings Bi- Monthly Monitoring Report

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**GLOSSARY:**

**Gaza Crossings:** For the names and brief overviews of the Gaza crossings referred to in this report, see Annex 3.

**Time Periods:** The report refers to time periods associated with policy changes and periods of relative calm or unrest. In some instances, actual time periods are denoted, such as June 2007. In other cases, they are referred to by names associated with major events or conditions, such as Closure or Truce. For a description of these, see Annex 4.

<b>AMA</b>	Agreement on Movement and Access, signed on November 15, 2005 <a href="http://www.eubam-rafah.eu/portal/node/11">http://www.eubam-rafah.eu/portal/node/11</a>
<b>Basic Commodities</b>	Wheat, flour, rice, sugar, cooking oil, and other non-luxury food supplies.
<b>Closure days , Scheduled</b>	Days during which a crossing is normally scheduled to be closed. This includes official holidays and, in most cases, Saturdays.
<b>Closure days, Unscheduled</b>	Days in which a facility is closed for unusual or unexplained reasons. This includes closures for security reasons.
<b>Conveyer Belt</b>	This refers to a conveyor belt at the Al Montar Crossing which was used before the closure on June 2007 exclusively for transferring aggregates from the Israeli to the Palestinian side. Currently, the conveyer belt is the only facility functioning at Al Montar and is used for transferring grains including wheat, pulses, seeds, and animals feed into Gaza.
<b>Commercial Goods</b>	Goods that are imported by commercial establishments in the private sector, and are distributed through commercial outlets in the open market.
<b>Exports</b>	Truckload movements outbound from the Gaza Strip, regardless of destination.
<b>Humanitarian Goods</b>	Basic foods (e.g. rice, cooking oil, etc.), medicines, and other goods brought in by humanitarian agencies.
<b>Imports</b>	Truckload movements inbound to the Gaza Strip, regardless of origin. Includes both commercial and humanitarian goods.
<b>Scheduled days for operations</b>	Total days in a month less Scheduled Closure days
<b>Tunnels</b>	Underground passages between the Gaza Strip and Egypt used for the informal transfer of goods. Use of tunnels increased after the June 2007 closure.

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

### CROSSINGS SUMMARY

In terms of **imports**, during this period (Dec 2009-Jan. 2010) a total of 4,386 truckloads of commercial and humanitarian freight entered into Gaza which is 21% of pre-closure average import levels. The large majority of these movements were food and animal feed (67%) and (14 %) were designated for humanitarian aid agencies. Despite the ongoing prohibition of **exports** from Gaza, Israel agreed to allow four daily truckloads of cut flowers and daily two truckloads of strawberries to be exported via Karem Abu Salem during this period. Since 10 December 2009, 50 truckloads exited Gaza, including 21 truckloads of cut flowers (2.6 million stems) and 29 truckloads of strawberries (47 tonnes)

**Al Montar Crossing Conveyer Belt** was open for 18 days (about 33% of the scheduled days of operation) and processed imports of 1,182 commercial truckloads of wheat and animal feed (27 % of total imports).

**Karem Abu Salem Crossing** was open for 45 days (about 83% of scheduled days of operation) and processed imports of 3,204 truckloads, primarily of food items and export of 50 truckloads of cash crops

**Sufa Crossing** was closed during this period, as it has been closed since September 12 ,2008. There are indications that the Israelis intend to entirely stop using this facility. <sup>1</sup>

**Fuel Movement:** during this period there was a reduction in imports through Nahal Oz (nearly total shut down Of Nahal Oz) and a shift to importing through Karem Abu Salem. A total of 76,500 liters of petrol allocated for UNRWA were processed into Gaza Strip. In addition, 16 million liters of industrial gasoline and 5.1 million kg of cooking gas were processed into Gaza Strip. These imports are markedly below estimated needs, particularly regarding imports of cooking gas, see Fuel Import Performance page 6 of this report.

### GAZA PRIVATE SECTOR

Gaza's private sector has suffered greatly from the strict limitations on imports and near total banning of exports since June 2007. This has contributed to the closure of 70%-90% of working establishments and laying off 92%-96% of laborers. With the continuation of the closure and the availability of using underground tunnels some very few enterprises restarted operations. See page 7 of the report for details.

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<sup>1</sup> OCHA Field Update on Gaza from the Humanitarian Coordinator, Jerusalem, 10 - 16 March 2009.

## SECTION 1: PERFORMANCE of the CROSSINGS

## A OPERATIONS at the CROSSINGS

## A-1 Al Montar Crossing (Conveyer belt)

Out of 27 Scheduled Days of Operation for the months of December 2009 and January 2010, Al Montar Crossing was open for 9 days in December 2009 and 9 days in January 2010. Table 1 below presents the operating days and cargo movements during December 2009 and January 2010.

Table (1): Summary of the performance at Al Montar Crossing during December 09 – January 10

	Dec -09	Jan-10
Scheduled days for operations	27	27
Scheduled closure days	4	4
Unscheduled closure days <sup>2</sup>	18	18
Actual days for operation	9	9
Total exports (truckloads)	0	0
Total imports (truckloads)	631	551
Humanitarian imports (%)	0%	0%
Commercial imports (%)	100%	100%
Average daily import volume (truckloads) when open	70	61
Average daily import volume (truckloads) for all days scheduled for operations	23	20

## A-2 Karem Abu Salem Crossing

Out of 27 Scheduled Days of Operation for the months of December 2009 and January 2010, Karem Abu Salem Crossing was open for 23 days in December 2009 and 22 days in January 2010. Table 1 below presents the operating days and cargo movements during December 2009 and January 2010.

Table (2): Summary of the performance at Karem Abu Salem Crossing during December 09 – January 10

	Dec -09	Jan-10
Scheduled days for operations	27	27
Scheduled closure days	4	4
Unscheduled closure days <sup>2</sup>	4	5
Actual days for operation	23	22
Total exports (truckloads)	6	44
Total imports (truckloads)	1,822	1,382
Humanitarian imports (%)	16%	15%
Commercial imports (%)	84%	85%
Average daily import volume (truckloads) when open	79	63
Average daily import volume (truckloads) for all days scheduled for operations	67	51

<sup>1</sup> Crossings were closed on Saturdays .

<sup>2</sup> Karem Abu Salem was closed for security reasons and Al Montar was closed for unknown reasons

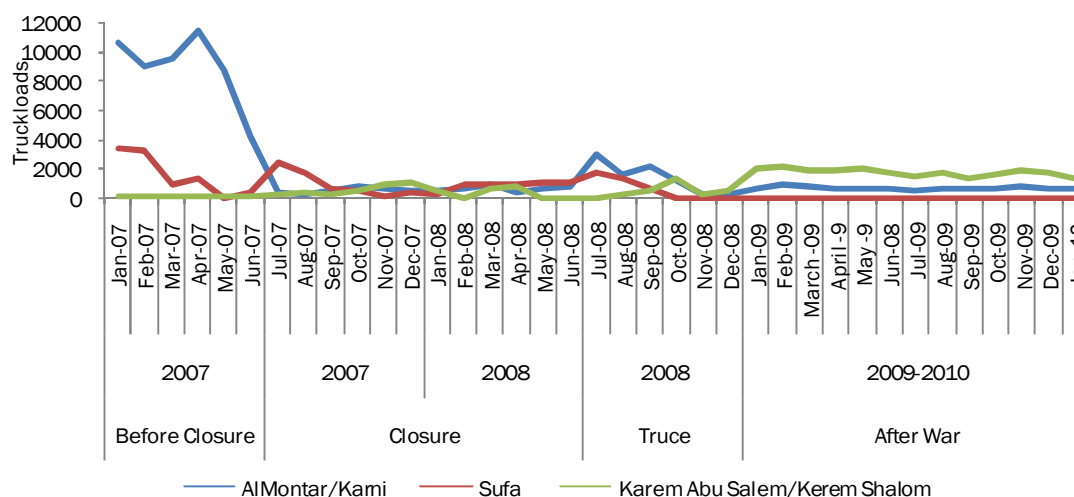
## SECTION 1: PERFORMANCE at the CROSSINGS continued

## A OPERATIONS at the CROSSINGS continued

## A.3- Crossings Operations Trends

Figure 1 below presents the trend of import volumes for each crossing. The figure clearly shows the drop in volume of imports, and the major shift in operations from AlMontar to Karem Abu Salem crossing.

Figure (1) : Operation Trends



## B CARGO ACTIVITY

## B.1- Export Activity

Despite the ongoing prohibition of exports from Gaza Strip, Israel agreed to allow four truckloads of cut flowers and two truckloads of strawberries to be exported via Karem Abu Salem on a daily basis. Since 10 December 2009, 50 truckloads exited Gaza, including 21 truckloads of cut flowers (2.6 million stems) and 29 truckloads of strawberries (47 tonnes). Prior to this, there had not been any exports from Gaza for around seven months (since 27 April 2009). These shipments took place after the intervention of the Dutch government and are limited to the two types of goods. The Agricultural Development Association (PARC) indicated that 300 tonnes of strawberries and 30 million cut flowers are slated for export during this season (ending on 15 February for strawberries and 20 May 2010 for cut flowers).

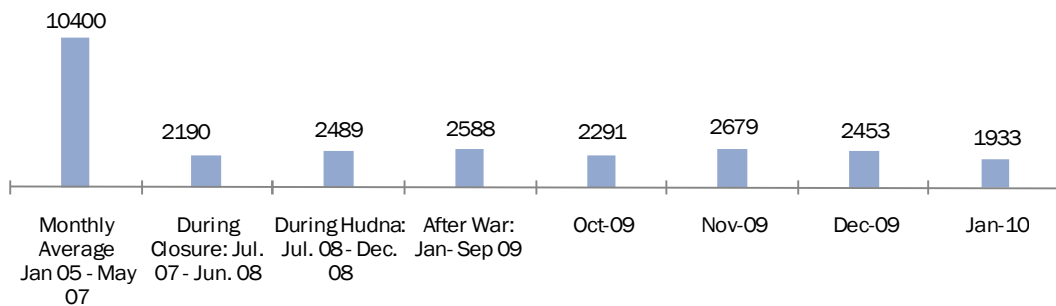
**SECTION 1: PERFORMANCE at the CROSSINGS continued**

**B CARGO ACTIVITY continued**

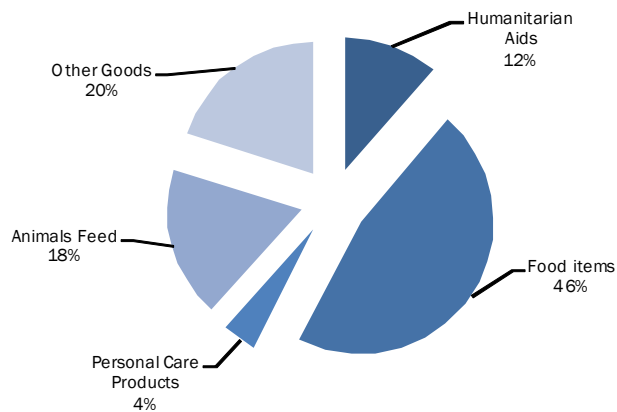
**B.2- Import Activity**

A total of 4,386 truckloads entered into the Gaza Strip during this period (2,453 truckloads in December and 1,933 in January). Since June 2007, import volumes have been between 19% and 26% of pre-closure levels, see Figure 2. The dire economic and humanitarian implications of this are obvious. Only 72 items (see Annex 1 for additional information) had been allowed into Gaza through December 2009 and January 2010. The distributions of imports across crossings and by cargo type are presented in Figure 3.

**Figure (2): Imports into Gaza in Dec 09 – Jan 10 versus monthly averages of different periods (truckloads)**



**Figure (3): Types of imported goods in Dec 09-Jan 10 through all crossings**



**Other Goods include:**

Nylon, Agricultural Fertilizer , Veterinary Medicine, Egg’s Carton, Medical supplies, Chlorine and Agricultural Materials , Glass and others.

**For more details of allowed imported goods into Gaza through period report see Annex 1**

## SECTION 1: PERFORMANCE at the CROSSINGS continued

## C FUEL IMPORTS PERFORMANCE

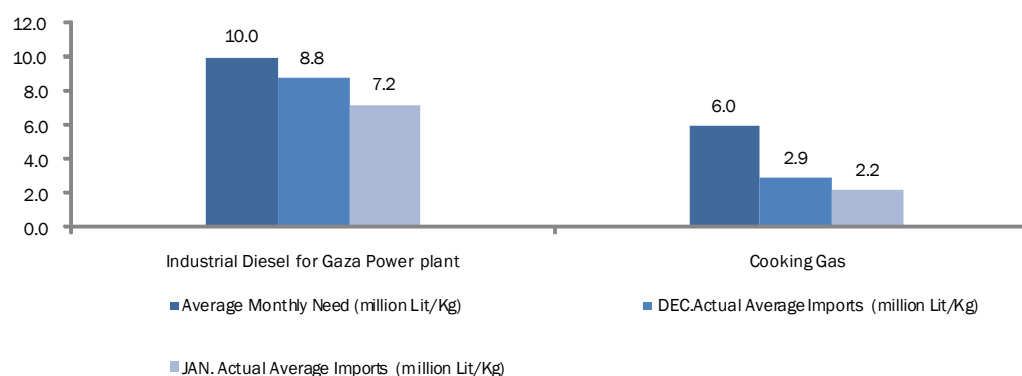
No Israeli petrol or diesel entered Gaza during this period, with the exception of 76,500 litres of petrol for UNRWA . There was also a shift to importing fuel through Karem Abu Salem, and reduction of imports from Nahal Oz ( nearly total shut down ).

Nevertheless, the Gaza marketplace is still mostly reliant on the fuel being transferred from Egypt through the tunnels under the Gazan-Egyptian border (due to its availability and cheap prices). As per the UN-OCHA reports, the rate of these movements through the tunnels is nearly 100,000 liters of diesel and 100,000 liters of petrol per day <sup>(1)</sup> .

Moreover, Cooking gas imports were only around 42% of average needs during this period.. (see figure 4 below)

Table (3): Summary of fuel and gas imports in December 09 – January 10

Type	Dec 2009		Jan 2010	
	Nahal OZ	Karem abu Salem	Nahal OZ	Karem abu Salem
Petrol (liter)	36,500	0	40,000	0
Diesel (liter)	0	0	0	0
Industrial Gasoline (liter)	3,667,370	5,098,520	752,079	6,511,564
Cooking Gas (kg)	1,446,250	1,449,100	259,210	1,976,855

Figure (4): Illustration of average fuel needs<sup>(2)</sup> vs. actual fuel imports

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Protection of Civilians: 12-18 September 2009 UN OCHA oPt

<sup>(2)</sup> Based on estimates by the Petroleum & Gas Station Owners Association-Gaza.

## SECTION 2: PRIVATE SECTOR PERFORMANCE

## A PERFORMANCE OF KEY SECTORS

Gaza's private sector has suffered greatly from the strict limitations on imports and near total banning of exports since June 2007. During this period, around 10% of the industrial sector were operating with 20-50% capacity and around 20% were operating with around 10% capacity, the rest were believed to be totally shut down. In the construction sector more than 60% of establishments are now closed and 97% of workers are laid off, current scope is limited to small maintenance works. See Table (4).

In Table (5) are presented data on employment, firm numbers, and exports for the furniture, garment, and processed food sectors before the closure, during the closure, and currently. The increase in number of working establishments is due to the coping mechanisms used (see section B below), noting that establishments are only working with 10%-50% of total capacity.

Table (4): Key Industrial sectors status during three distinguished periods

Sector	Indicator	Before Closure (14 June 2007)	During the Closure 2008	Currently Dec 09-Jan 010	Notes
Industry	No. of Working Est.	3,900	117	1170 <i>See notes</i>	- 10% of establishments are working with 20%-50% capacity
	No. of Workers	35,000	2000	5,000	- 20% operating with around 10% capacity - 70% of industrial establishments are closed
Construction	No. of Working Est.	125	8	50	(current scope include small maintenance works)
	No. of Workers	50,000	100	1,500	

Source: Palestinian Federation of Industries "PFI", Palestinian Contractors Union "PCU"

Table (5): Key Industrial sectors status during three distinguished periods

Industry	Normal Situation 2005			During the closure 2008			Currently Dec-Jan 2009		
	Employment	Establishment	Monthly exports	Employment	Establishment	Monthly exports	Employment	Establishment	Monthly exports
Furniture	6,500	600	168	75	25	0	270	90	0
Garment	25,000	660	172	100	30	0	230	60	0
Processed Food	2,500	100	140	120	20	0	300	50	0

Source: Palestinian Federation of Industries "PFI".

## **B** COPING STRATEGIES

In response to the closure, most operating businesses started using the underground tunnels to import raw materials, equipment, and other inputs for production. Yet, using the tunnels is not feasible since their use imply higher cost, lower quality, and/or limitations on size and type of entered goods/raw materials. In addition, a few businesses have shifted the scope of their businesses to reduce and/or eliminate their productive activities in favor of trade. Also, some businesses have resorted to recycling rubble and other debris resulted from wrecked buildings during the war to make gravel for roadways.

The challenging business environment that Palestinian businesses encounter in Gaza has caused businesses to adopt temporary innovative solutions that would enable them to survive with the hope of resumption of movement and access of goods and people in the near future.

Source: Palestinian Federation of Industries "PFI".

### **CASE STUDY**

A leading furniture manufacturers working in Gaza Strip with a capital of around US\$1,000,000. Before the closure, the company used to employ 40 skilled employees and produce approximately 7 truckloads on a monthly basis, where 70 % of the company products was exported to Israel and worldwide markets.

After the closure (imposed on Gaza since June 2007), the company owner was forced to reduce the production capacity gradually, until it reached to a full shutdown on December 2008. Moreover, the factory was partially damaged during the last war on Gaza on January 2009, losses were estimated at US\$560,000.

Recently, and after the prosperity of trade through tunnels, the company started importing its raw materials through the tunnels in order to re-start its production lines and maintain its skilled workers, despite the double costs of the imported raw materials. Currently, the company witnessed a slight gradual recovery, it is employing 12 employees and producing approximately one truckload on a monthly basis for the local market.

## SECTION 3: HIGHLIGHTS ON YEAR 2009 BY NUMBERS

## Crossings Operations

Table (6): % Operations day per Crossing after the War (during Jan. -Dec. 2009)

Crossing	Scheduled Days of Operation	Actual Days of Operations	% operations	Total Truckloads
AlMontar	312	115	37%	7882
Karem Abu Salem	312	246	79%	22034
Sufa*	312	0	0%	0
Nahal OZ	312	161	52%	2300

## Cargo Exports

Table (7): Exported truckloads from Gaza Strip in 2009

Exports			
year	Truckload		
Total 2009	20	Feb -09	5
		Mar-09	9
		Dec-09	6
Total 2008		33	
Total 2007		5756	
Total 2006		5005	

Before the closure, monthly average of exported goods in 2005 were approximately 1,380 truckloads (70 truckloads per day), composed of furniture, garment, cash crops, vegetables, processed food, metal products, handicrafts, and other types

## SECTION 3: HIGHLIGHTS ON YEAR 2009 BY NUMBERS

## Cargo Imports

Table (8): Imported truckloads into Gaza in 2009 through Gaza crossings .

Month	AlMontar	Sufa *	Karem Abu Salem	Total
Jan-09	656	0	2052	2708
Feb-09	882	0	2186	3068
Mar -09	751	0	1889	2640
Apr -09	565	0	1891	2456
May -09	642	0	2023	2665
Jun-08	643	0	1807	2450
Jul-09	486	0	1526	2012
Aug-09	632	0	1816	2448
Sep-09	616	0	1430	2046
Oct-09	597	0	1694	2291
Nov-09	781	0	1898	2679
Dec-09	631	0	1822	2453
<b>Total 2009</b>	<b>7882</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22034</b>	<b>29916</b>
<b>Total 2008</b>	<b>11836</b>	<b>9036</b>	<b>5105</b>	<b>26004</b>
<b>Total 2007</b>	<b>56085</b>	<b>15579</b>	<b>4183</b>	<b>75847</b>

Before the closure Al Montar /Karni crossing was the main crossing for imports, where the average monthly imports was 450 truckloads

Figure (5): Humanitarian aids vs. commercial goods during 2009.

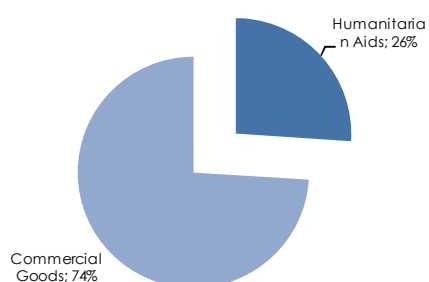


Figure (6): Imported types during 2009.

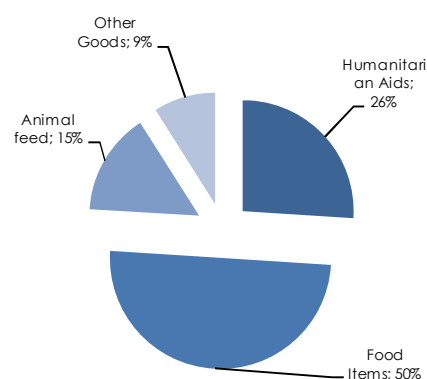


Table (9): Imported truckloads of agriculture and grains Vs others into Gaza in 2009 through Gaza crossings during 2009.

Month -Type	Fruits	Vegetables	Animal feed	Wheat	Fertilizer eggs	Cows	Agar Materials	Others
Jan-09	92	31	379	317	0	0	0	1889
Feb-09	185	0	306	455	15	0	0	2107
Mar -09	266	7	449	251	18	0	0	1649
Apr -09	200	64	330	222	24	0	0	1616
May -09	236	15	397	242	17	0	0	1758
Jun-08	188	12	430	203	22	30	26	1539
Jul-09	227	90	375	103	23	9	53	1132
Aug-09	263	14	406	216	25	80	39	1405
Sep-09	291	12	378	237	21	30	22	1055
Oct-09	355	3	347	249	20	0	33	1284
Nov-09	333	3	489	285	25	240	42	1262
Dec-09	282	27	350	268	15	0	28	1483
<b>Total</b>	<b>2918</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>4636</b>	<b>3048</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>18179</b>

\* Sufa Crossing has been closed since September 12 ,2008

## SECTION 3: HIGHLIGHTS ON YEAR 2009 BY NUMBERS continued

## Fuel Imports

Table (10): Monthly imports of cooking gas through Nahal oz and Keram Shalom crossings during 2009.

Crossing –Month	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
Nahal Oz "Ton"	915	1,665	3,926	3,543	5,419	2,631	4,652	3,443	2,554	1,526	717	1,204
Karem Abu Salem "Ton"	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	213	479	1,449
Total Cooking Gas	915	1,665	3,926	3,543	5,419	2,631	4,652	3,443	2,554	1,739	1,196	2,653

Table (11): Monthly imports of Power Plant Oil through Nahal oz and Keram Shalom crossings during 2009.

Crossing –Month	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
Nahal Oz "Thousand Lit "	3075	8348	3926	9229	9226	9502	9697	9691	11750	5555	1037	3667
Karem Abu Salem "Thousand Lit "	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90	2434	6952	5099
Total Power Plant Oil	3,075	8,348	3,926	9,229	9,226	9,502	9,697	9,691	11,840	7,989	7,989	8,766

Table (12): Monthly imports of Petrol &amp; Diesel Imports since during 2009 .

Type –Month	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
Petrol "Lit"	0	0	39,950	30,010	30,000	30,000	90,500	150,040	70,010	36,500	89,850	36,500
Diesel "Lit"	92,000	391,300	300,000	298,400	100,000	300,400	572,410	499,420	601,030	0	702,480	0

Table (13): imports of fuel during the years 2009,2008 and 2007 .

	Total 2009	Total 2008	Total 2007	Annual Needs
Cooking Gas "Tons"	34,336	41,999	55,671	72,000
Power Plant Oil "Thousand Lit "	99,278	100,762	100,472	132,000
Petrol "Thousand Lit "	603	4,323	88,056	20,400
Diesel "Thousand Lit "	3,857	40,890	20,254	120,000

Note: the Gaza marketplace is still mostly reliant on the fuel being transferred from Egypt through the tunnels under the Rafah-Egypt border

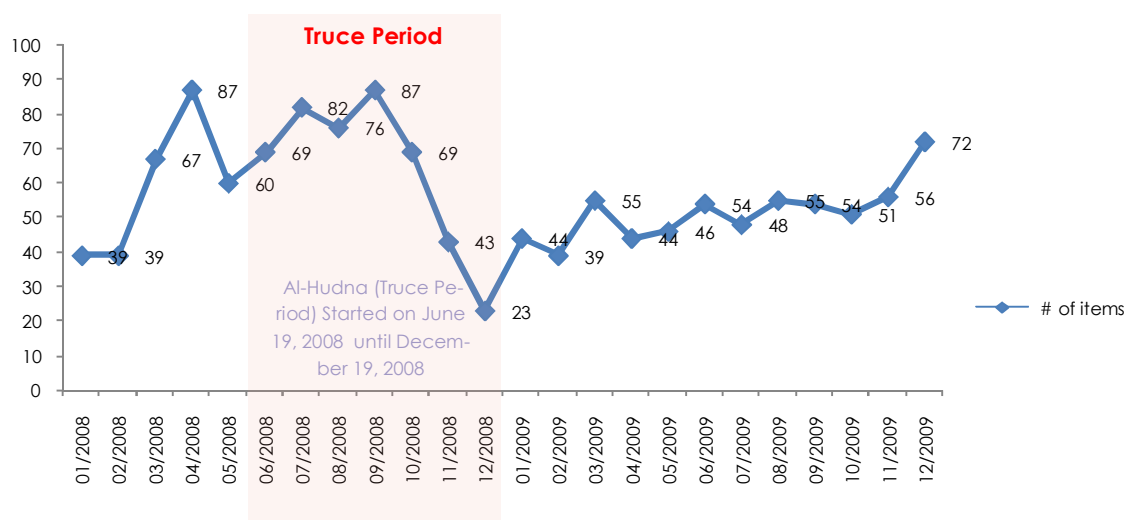
## ANNEX 1 : LIST OF COMMERCIAL GOODS ALLOWED TO BE IMPORTED THROUGH GAZA

List of imported goods allowed into Gaza Jan—Dec 2009

1 Wheat	25 Feminine hygiene	49 Sponge for washing dishes	Nov-09
2 Animals Feed	26 Diapers	50 Sponge for cleaning body	Nov-09
3 Flour	27 Toilet paper	51 Cloth for moping the floor	Nov-09
4 Cooking oil	28 Detergent	52 baby wipes	Nov-09
5 Cooking Fat	29 Washing liquid	Other canned goods (except	
6 Sugar	30 Shampoo	53 fruit)	Nov-09
7 Salt	31 Soap	54 Zaatar	Nov-09
8 Pasta	32 Tooth paste	55 Sesame	Nov-09
9 Date	33 Toothbrush	56 Black Pepper	Nov-09
10 Garlic	34 Tiles cleaning products	57 Chicken stock powder	Nov-09
11 Chick peas	35 Glass cleaner	58 Blankets	Nov-09
	Washroom cleaning	59 Olive	Dec -09
12 Rice	36 products	60 Matchboxes	Dec -09
13 Beans	37 Yeast	61 Candles	Dec -09
14 Lintels	38 Fertilize eggs	62 Broom sticks	Dec -09
15 Kidney beans	39 Fruit	63 Garbage bins	Dec -09
16 Margarine	40 Semolina	64 Mops	Dec -09
17 Dairy	41 Nylon for greenhouses	65 Hand cleansing gel	Dec -09
18 Powder milk	42 Agriculture Materials	66 Anise	Dec -09
19 Frozen meat & fish	43 Tea	67 Cinnamon	Dec -09
20 Frozen vegetables	44 Coffee	68 Chamomile	Dec -09
21 Animal medicines	45 Nescafe	69 Chicken eggs for eating	Dec -09
22 Gas for medical	46 Tuna cans	70 Glass (max 100 trucks)	Dec -09
23 Empty bags for flour	47 Salami	71 Water Coolers	Dec -09
Medicines & medical			
24 tools	48 Meet cans	72 Potatoes	Dec -09

Note: The dates indicated refer to when the product type was allowed entry (products 1-40 were allowed into Gaza Strip in the first half of 2009).

Trend of Number imported goods through Gaza crossings during 2008- 2009.



**ANNEX 2: PROJECT OVERVIEW****Commercial Crossings Monitoring Program—Cargo Movement and Access Monitoring and Reporting Program**

Because of its designation as the National Trade Development Organization, PalTrade is the private sector institution with a mandate to promote trade development. PalTrade is a founder and member of the Private Sector Coordinating Council (PSCC), a consortium of all major private sector institutions, and an important partner of industry and service associations. As such, PalTrade has been a member of the Gaza withdrawal technical committees and negotiations team; especially providing the private sector perspectives of the Access and Movement Agreement (AMA) for the cargo movement at the crossings. PalTrade is also a private sector representative in the Crossings' Steering Committee which was formed by the President of the Palestinian Authority to act as the coordination body for the reform and development of the border crossings.

As part of the World Bank project "Facilitating Trade Flows between WBGs and Israel" and the previous "Private Sector Participation in Gaza Withdrawal Coordination Process" project, PalTrade has maintained a physical presence at Al Montar/Karni since August 24th, 2005. As such, PalTrade is the only independent source of crossings information which is used by the Quartet, the World Bank, the US Security Coordinator, UN OCHA and others.

PalTrade's work regarding the Crossings includes monitoring, collection and data analysis.

Financing for the border monitoring activities in the:

- First year; was through a World Bank grant to the PA in association with emergency support during the Gazan disengagement.
- Second year; was through a Post Conflict Fund grant which was closed in September 2007.
- Third, Fourth and Fifth years; is being provided by the Norwegian Consultant Trust Fund under the supervision of the World Bank (MNSSED Finance and Private Sector Unit).

**Financed by:**

Norwegian Consultant Trust  
Fund

**Under the supervision of:**

The World Bank  
(MNSSED) Finance and Private Sector

## ANNEX 3: GAZA CROSSINGS OVERVIEW

There are six crossings at the Gaza strip boundaries to facilitate imports and exports. Four of the crossings are controlled by the Israeli government. The Rafah crossing is under the joint control of the Palestinian Authority and the European Union. The recently constructed Karem Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom crossing is temporarily being employed for movements between Israel and Gaza, but is intended for trade between, on the one hand, Egypt and, on the other hand, Gaza and Israel.

### AlMontar/Karni

Al Montar/Karni crossing is considered to be the primary portal for Gaza's imports and exports. Unfortunately, in recent years its operations have been marred by inefficiency and security threats. As a result, its performance through early 2007 was only a small fraction of that projected by the Access and Movement Agreement (AMA). AMA projected that the crossing should have been able to handle 400 exports per day by the end of 2006, but never averaged more than 70 per day.

### Sufa

Sufa, located in the south of the Gaza Strip (east of Rafah City), was used for the imports of construction materials and as a standby for other imports in case of the closure of the Al Montar/Karni crossing. The future of this crossing is uncertain given recent indications from Israel that they intend to abandon the facility.

### Karem Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom

The Karem Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom crossing is located in the southeast of the Gaza Strip, 3.6 Km from the Rafah Crossing. Karem Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom is a temporarily being used for movements between Israel and Gaza. The facility is intended for trade between, on the one hand, Egypt, and, on the other hand, Gaza and Israel.

### Nahal Oz

Nahal Oz is located east of Gaza City and is used exclusively to facilitate imports of Liquid Fuels and Gas from Israel. The facility consists of storage tanks for petrol and gas on the Palestinian side linked to pipelines from Israel.



### Beit Hanoun/Erez

The Beit Hanoun/Erez crossing is located in the north of the Gaza Strip. It is employed, primarily, for processing movements between Gaza and the West Bank. In addition to cargos, the crossing processes civilians, diplomats, businessmen, international organization staff, laborers, and others in and out of Gaza Strip. The crossing is also used for the imports of cars.

### Rafah

The Rafah Crossing is located south of Rafah City). It is the only operating border crossing between the Gaza Strip and Egypt. It processes both travelers and cargos. The cargos consist, primarily, of aggregates and food items. Jurisdiction over the border crossing was transferred to the Palestinian Authority in November 2005, after Israel's disengagement from the Gaza Strip.

## ANNEX 4: GAZA CROSSINGS TIMELINE

Dec. 2005- May. 2007

**Before The Closure**

The **Al Montar / Karni** crossing was the main crossing of the Gaza Strip for both imports and exports. An average of 450 truckloads a day used to be imported, and an average of 70 truckloads a day were exported. **Sufa** was used exclusively for the imports of construction materials, with an average of about 160 truckloads, and the **Karem Abu Salem / Kerem Shalom** crossing was used for the crossing of humanitarian aid that comes from or through Egypt with an average of 20 truckloads. The **Beit Hanoun/Erez** crossing was used occasionally for imports of medical supplies.

June 14, 2007- June 18, 2008

**Closure Period**

Beginning June 14, 2007: the **Al Montar/Karni** crossing was officially closed for both imports and exports. The crossing reopened on June 28, 2007 for limited imports of goods such as wheat and animal feed. Since then, **Sufa** and **Karem Abu Salem /Kerem Shalom** crossings have also been used, primarily for imports of humanitarian goods, including basic food commodities (e.g. wheat flour, rice, pulses, cooking oil), animal feed and medical equipment. The **Beit Hanoun/ Erez** crossing was used on rare occasions for imports of medical supplies.

**Truce or Hudna Period**

June 19, 2007- Dec.19, 2008

During the truce or "hudna" period, that started on June 19, 2008 and ended on December 19, 2008, commercial goods were allowed to enter Gaza Strip including aggregates, cement, construction metal, wood, car tires, clothes, shoes, and fruit juice. The quantities of imported goods were very limited. For example during this six month period, only three truckloads of construction metal were imported. As a result, supplies in Gaza continued to dwindle and industrial production to slow. Many firms ceased operations entirely. Many of the others operated sporadically, dependent upon unreliable deliveries of inputs via the tunnels between Gaza and Egypt. Even basic humanitarian goods were in short supply, despite some legal imports and other movements via the tunnels.

Dec. 27, 2008 - Jan. 18, 2009

**War Period**

The restrictions on trade activities did not change during the 23-day war in Gaza. An average of 90 truckloads a day were imported, about 70% of the imports were humanitarian goods, and 30% were commercial cargos deemed essential to avoid a humanitarian crisis. The Rafah crossing was also used during the war for the import of humanitarian supplies.

Jan. 19, 2009 - Jan. 31, 2010

**Post War Period**

No improvements were witnessed on the crossings performance, where statistics illustrate that only 32,6721 truckloads of commercial goods (mostly food) and humanitarian aid entered into Gaza, as well as the minimal exports of 64 truckloads of cash crops.

## ANNEX 9: REFERENCES AND SOURCES

- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- United Nation Special Coordinator Office (UNSCO)
- The Borders and Passages General Department
- Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives/Associations
- Wood Industries Union (WIU)
- The Sewing Factory Owners Union (SFOU)
- Informal sources
- The Palestinian General Petroleum Company (PGPC)
- Petroleum & Gas Station Owners Association-Gaza
- Joint Humanitarian Coordination
- Private Sector Coordination Council-Gaza Governorates.
- Palestinian Federation of Industries (PFI)
- The Agricultural Development Association (PARC)