



# المركز الفلسطيني لحقوق الإنسان PALESTINIAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

## State of the Gaza Strip Border Crossings 01 – 31 July 2022

The Israeli occupation authorities continue to impose an illegal and inhuman closure on the Gaza Strip for 16 years in a row, affecting the lives of more than 2 million Palestinians besieged in the Gaza Strip and denying most of them their freedom of movement and travel to the rest of the occupied Palestinian territory and outside world. At the end of the reporting period, Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) completely closed all the Gaza Strip crossings; thus, the humanitarian conditions of the Gaza Strip's population deteriorated and affected all service sectors, including health, water, and power services\*.

The ongoing closure has undermined the health, education, water, and sanitation services available in the Gaza Strip as the restrictions imposed on the movement of individuals hinder thousands of patients from receiving the medical treatment that is not available in the Gaza Strip. These restrictions also aggravated the economic and social conditions in Gaza, where more than half of the population lives in poverty as the poverty rate reached %53 while more than 64.4% of the Gaza population suffer from food insecurity<sup>1</sup>.

Moreover, IOF prevent entry of hundreds of essential materials and goods considering them as "dual-use items"; thus, economic, health and education conditions of the Gaza Strip population deteriorate.

### Restrictions on Individuals' Movement:

The Israeli occupation authorities continue to impose tight restrictions on limited groups that were allowed passage through Beit Hanoun "Erez" Crossing after a thorough security check. Similarly, the Israeli restrictions on items that can be carried by travelers via Erez remained in place; primarily no electronic and electric devices, food, and cosmetics are allowed, as well as wheeled luggage.

According to the General Authority for Civil Affairs' (GACA) July data, Israeli authorities allowed 35,111 Palestinians to exit the Gaza Strip via "Erez" Crossing, while 38,025 were allowed reentry.

\*IOF closed the Gaza Strip crossings and launched a military aggression in the first week of August 2022.

<sup>1</sup> (WFP) Palestine Country Brief, June 2022: [https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000141238/download/?\\_ga=2.83881430.1762346914.1661075359-1455307423.1643703786](https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000141238/download/?_ga=2.83881430.1762346914.1661075359-1455307423.1643703786)



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## PALESTINIAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

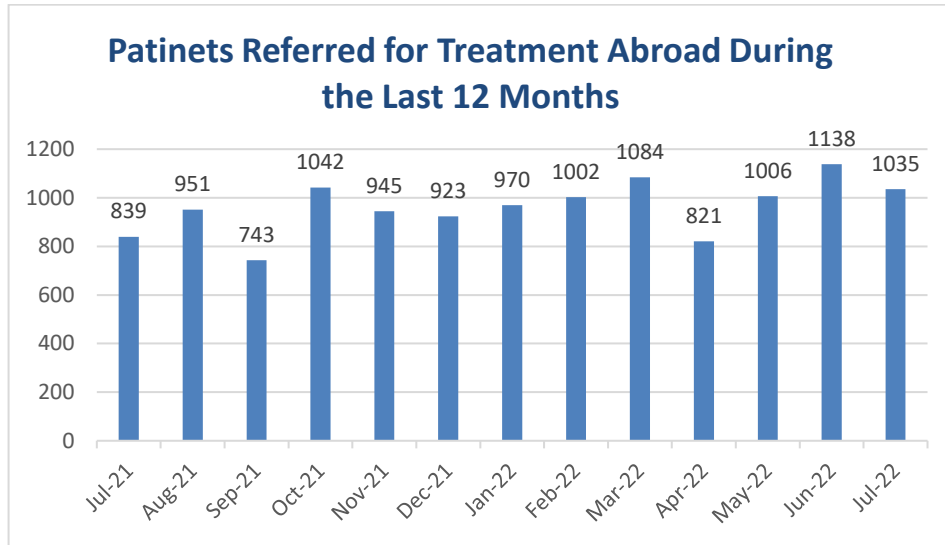
Group	Exit	Entry
Merchants	35196	32426
Businesspersons	123	98
Personal needs	1400	1357
Patients	1035	1216
International organizations	405	417
Arab 1948	217	288
King Hussain Bridge Travel	499	639
Palestinians perform prayers at al-Aqsa Mosque	367	367
Prisoners' visits	9	9
Palestinians arrested at borders or sea	0	5

**Prisoners' Visits:** In July, the Israeli authorities allowed 9 members of Palestinian prisoners' families to visit 6 prisoners out of 200 in the Israeli jails while the Israeli authorities continue to prevent tens of prisoners' families from visiting. This violates the right of detainees to be in contact with their families through family visits, which is a fundamental right under international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, under which Article 116 says that every internee shall be allowed to receive visitors, especially near relatives, at regular intervals and as frequently as possible, particularly in cases of death or serious illness of relatives.

**Restrictions on patients' travel:** in July, the Israeli authorities obstructed the travel of 584 out of 1,619 patients (i.e., 36% of the total permit applications), who were referred for treatment in hospitals in Israel or the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem, and allowed the travel of 1,035 patients. In July, the Israeli authorities rejected 6 applications for security reasons; did not reply to 54 applications; delayed replies (under review) to 476 permits and asked 8 patients to change accompaniers. Additionally, one patient was required to present a new medical report.

Table (2): Statistics of the results of travel requests for treatment in July 2022, GACA

Result	Number	Percentage
No reply	54	%3.34
Under study	476	%29.40
Approved	1035	%63.93
Rejected	6	%0.37
Change the companion	8	%0.37
Treatment available locally	7	%1.32
New application	4	%0.11
Relatives in breach of permit	1	%0.05
Hospital cancellation	28	%1.45
New medical report	1	%0.38
Total	1619	%100



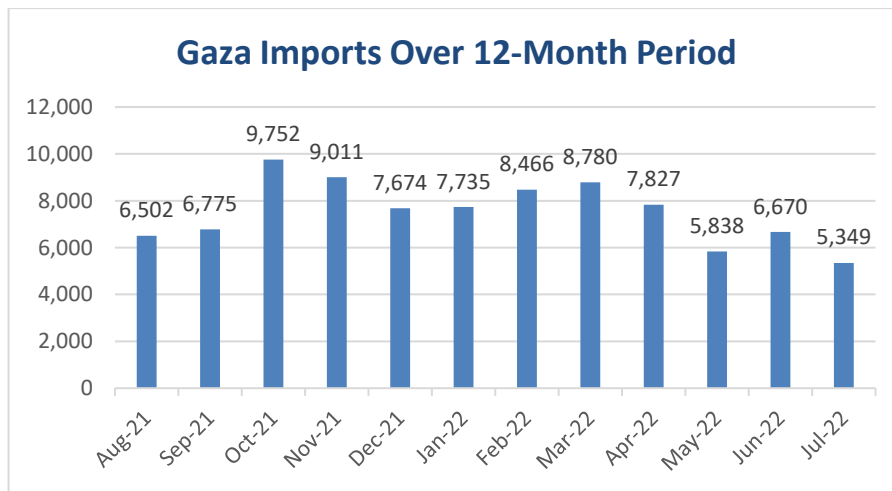


## Restrictions on Movement of Goods

The Israeli authorities continued to impose tightened restrictions on the list of items classified as “dual-use.”<sup>2</sup> The dual-use items include 62 types and hundreds of goods and commodities that are essential to the life of the population. Imposing these restrictions caused infrastructure, economy, healthcare, and education to deteriorate severely. These items include communications equipment, pumps, big generators iron bars, iron pipes in all diameters, welding equipment and welding rods, various types of wood, UPS devices that protect the electric devices from breaking down when the electricity suddenly cuts off, X-ray machines, cranes and heavy vehicles, elevators, types of batteries and several types of fertilizers

### Gaza Strip Imports:

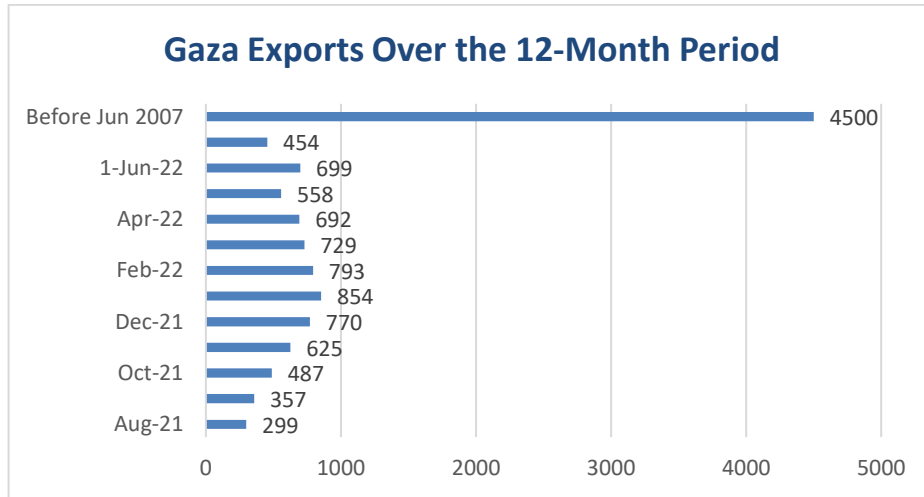
Although Israeli authorities maintained tightened restrictions on the entry of goods into the Gaza Strip, in July, they allowed the entry of 5349 truckloads via "Karem Shalom" border crossing, including 242 humanitarian aid truckloads, 534 fuel trucks and 4573 truckloads of goods for the private sector as reported by the Ministry of National Economy in Gaza. During the reporting period, 2536 truckloads entered via Rafah Crossing, including 276 fuel truckloads and 2260 truckloads of goods for the private sector.





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**Gaza Strip exports:** in July, the Israeli authorities allowed the export of 454 truckloads (206 to the West Bank, 263 to Israel, 2 truckloads abroad, and 193 to Egypt) according to the Ministry of National Economy. Those truckloads included agricultural products, fish, furniture, animal skin, aluminum scrap, clothes, and furniture. The exports during the reporting period constitute only 10% of Gaza's total monthly exports before closure was imposed in June 2007 (4500 truckloads/month).





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**Movement at Rafah Border Crossing:** According to the Crossing and Borders Authority in Gaza, in July, 11,917 persons traveled from the Gaza Strip while 16,695 persons returned to the Strip. Moreover, the Egyptian authorities denied travel of 251 persons. Travelers returning to the Gaza Strip via Rafah Crossing suffer from prolonged, recurrent, and unjustified searches.

**Table No. (3): individuals' movement at Rafah Crossing in July 2022, the Crossing and Borders Authority**

Type	Departures	Arrivals	Denied Travel
Egyptian nationals	430	289	177
Visas	641	487	
Residence permits	1669	4076	
Students	309	600	
Patients	3077	2519	
Visitors	2432	5845	
Foreigners	137	393	
Hajj and Umrah	0	1144	
Palestinian paid VIP travel service	5448	63	85
Total	11917	63	251

This Project is Funded by



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