

# **Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report**

Week 3: August 15-21, 2024 05 September 2024

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## **1** Introduction:

This report, of weekly market analysis in Gaza Strip, covers the period from 15/08/2024 to 21/08/2024. The collected data indicates that, in this week there was a decrease in the number of trucks entering the basic commodities into Gaza Strip as well as in the tonage of about 4.5% and 4.46% respectively compared to the previous week. During the reporting period, **1,017** trucks with a total of **20,310**<sup>1</sup> tons of basic commodities entered Gaza Strip. These trucks entered from two crossings only, Karm Abu Salem crossing (KAS) and Erez Crossing, 743 trucks and 263 trucks respectively, while no trucks entered through the Palestinian/Egyptian Rafah crossing, or any other crossing.

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.

# 2 Daily Crossing Points Status:

As in the two previous weeks, Rafah crossing remains closed and no trucks have entered through it. Karm Abu Salem (KAS) crossing also continues to constitutes the largest share of trucks entering Gaza Strip. However KAS share continued to decline for the second successive week, it reached 73% of the total instead of 78% as was in the previos week. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This number does not include the load of 11 trucks, which we did not have information about their contents in tons, these trucks consisted of 3 trucks of medical supplies and 8 trucks of UN & NGOs equipment.

share of Erez crossing continued to rise for the second successive week, it reached 27% of the total instead of 22% as was in the previos week.

It is noteworthy that the number of trucks entering Gaza Strip on Fridays 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 17/08/2024.

On 15/08/2024, 196 trucks entered Gaza Strip through the active crossings, 156 trucks from Karm Abu Salem (KAS) in the south and 40 trucks from Erez in the north. On Friday 16/08/2024, the number of trucks decreased to 92 trucks, 50 trucks through KAS and 42 trucks through Erez crossing. On Saturday 17/08/2024, no commodities entered at all from any crossing. The number of entering trucks on 18/08/2024 reach to a total of 185 trucks, 145 from KAS and 40 from Erez. On 19/08/2024, 163 trucks entered to Gaza strip, 116 trucks through KAS and 47 trucks through Erez crossing. On 20/08/2024, 175 truck entered Gaza Strip, 121 trucks through KAS and 54 trucks through Erez crossing. On the seventh day, 21/08/2024, it was the largest number of trucks entered in one day during the reporting period, reaching 206 trucks., 155 through KAS, and 51 through Erez crossing.

Day	Date	Rafah	Erez	Karm Abu Salem (KAS)	Total
Thursday	15/08/2024	0	40	156	196
Friday	16/08/2024	0	42	50	92
Saturday	17/08/2024	0	0	0	0
Sunday	18/08/2024	0	40	145	185
Monday	19/08/2024	0	47	116	163
Tuesday	20/08/2024	0	54	121	175
Wednesday	21/08/2024	0	51	155	206
Total		0	274	743	1,017

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

It is worth noting that on Friday 16/08 and Saturday 17/08 there was a big decrease of 54% and 100% respectively in the total number of trucks entering compared with Thursday 15/08/2024 (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.

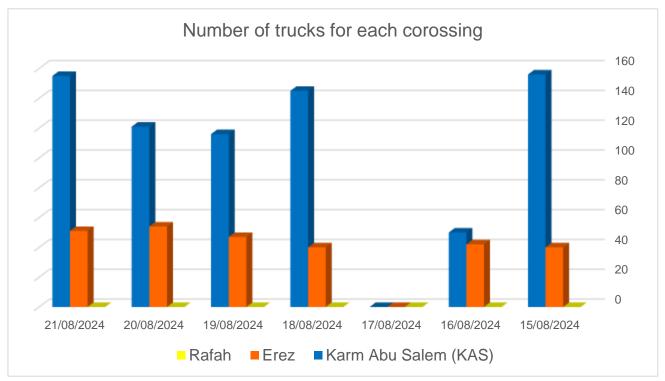


Figure (1): Number of trucks for each corossing in the reporting period.

# 3 Entering commodities:

## 3.1 Commodities classification:

The types of goods 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:

	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Tons)										
Date	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	UN and NGOS equipment	Fuel	Cooking Gas	Food items				
15/08/2024	10	215	135	0	291	132	2,980				
16/08/2024	0	40	0	0	0	0	1,600				
17/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
18/08/2024	NA	0	0	0	122	136	3,750				
19/08/2024	0	90	0	0	0	136	3,250				
20/08/2024	30	98	5	0	210	130	2,827				
21/08/2024	NA	210	0	NA	5	128	3,780				

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

### Note:

- the quantities of Medical supplies are not avilabel by tons for both 18/08/2024 and 21/08/2024, and the avilabe data indicates that 1 truck and 2 trucks of medical supplies entered on 18/08/2024 and 21/08/2024 resperctivley.
- the quantity of UN & NGOs equipment is not avilabel by tons for 21/08/2024, and the avilabe data indicates that 8 trucks of UN & NGOs equipment entered on that day.

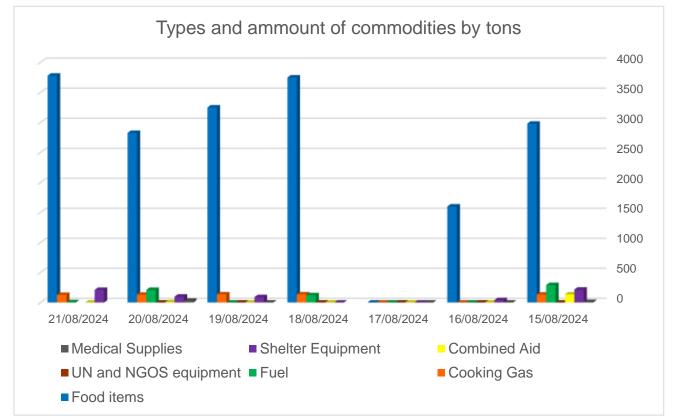


Figure (2): Types and ammount of commodities by tons

Date	Types and Amounts of Commodities (Trucks)								
	Medical Supplies	Shelter Equipment	Combined Aid	Food items	Cooking Gas	Fuel	UN & NGOs Equip.	Total	
15/08/2024	1	18	9	155	6	7	0	196	
16/08/2024	0	4	0	88	0	0	0	92	
17/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18/08/2024	1	0	0	173	6	5	0	185	
19/08/2024	0	6	0	151	6	0	0	163	
20/08/2024	10	10	1	143	6	5	0	175	
21/08/2024	2	19	0	170	6	1	8	206	
Total	14	57	10	880	30	18	8	1,017	

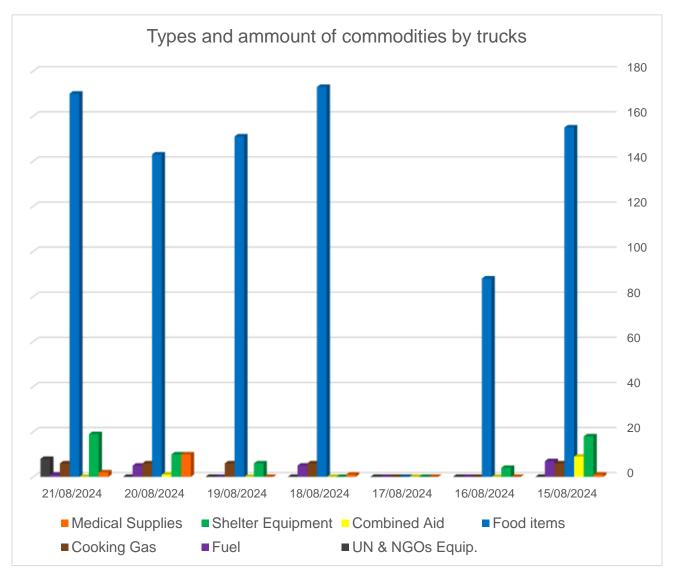


Figure (3): Types and ammount of commodities by trucks.

## 3.2 Food items details:

As shown in table (2), food items constitute more than (89.55%) of the total commodities entered to Gaza Strip within the report period, with a total of (18,187) 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:

-	Food items categories amount (Tons)								
Date	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	Total	
15/08/2024	0	240	415	760	600	160	805	2,980	
16/08/2024	0	80	585	175	240	80	440	1,600	
17/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18/08/2024	0	320	40	320	720	1480	870	3,750	
19/08/2024	80	240	80	400	560	930	960	3,250	
20/08/2024	80	140	539	388	453	527	700	2,827	
21/08/2024	75	400	135	500	495	1580	595	3,780	
Total	235	1,420	1,794	2,543	3,068	4,757	4,370	18,187	

Table (4): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

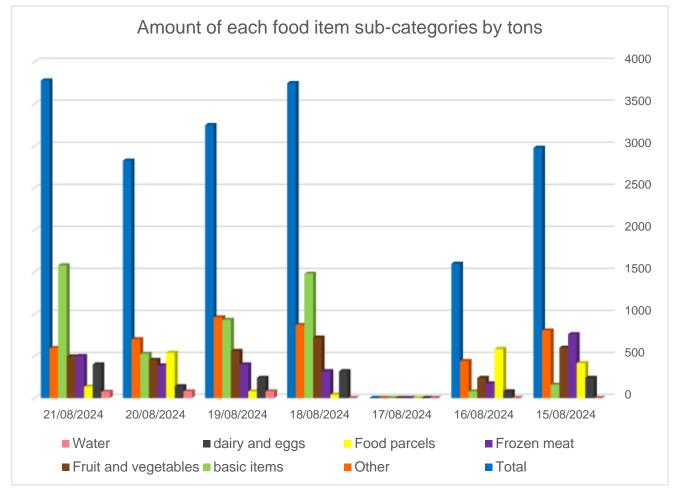


Figure (4): Amount of each food item sub-categories by tons.

Date								
	Water	dairy and eggs	Food parcels	Frozen meat	Fruit and vegetables	basic items	Other	Total
15/08/2024	0	13	22	39	32	8	41	155
16/08/2024	0	4	32	10	13	4	25	88
17/08/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18/08/2024	0	15	2	15	34	66	41	173
19/08/2024	4	11	4	18	26	43	45	151
20/08/2024	4	7	27	19	24	26	36	143
21/08/2024	4	17	6	23	22	71	27	170
Total	12	67	93	124	151	218	215	880

Table (5): Amount of each food item sub-categories by trucks.

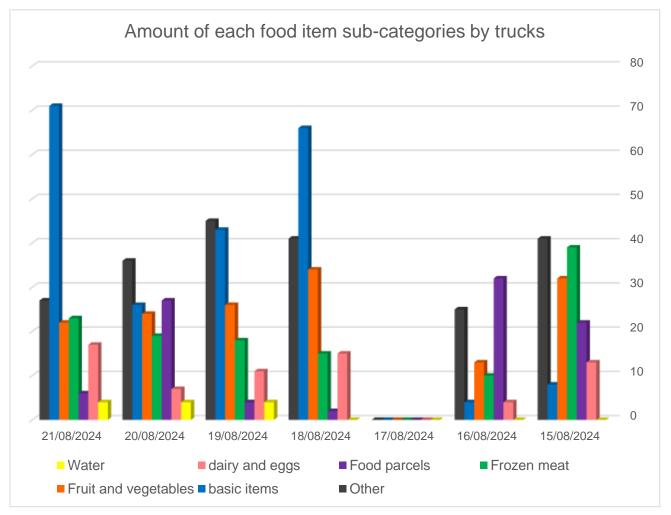


Figure (5): Amount of each food item sub-categories by trucks.

## 3.3 Commodities providors:

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 following table shows the commodities entering according to the source (private sector - humanitarian aid):

**Private Sector Humanitarian Aids Total of** Total Date Items trucks of tons Trucks Tons Trucks Tons Food items 1.760 1.220 2.980 Cooking Gas Fuel UN and NGOS equipment 15/08/2024 **Combined Aid** Shelter Equipment **Medical Supplies** Subtotal 1 1,892 1,871 3,763 Food items 1.600 1,025 **Cooking Gas** Fuel 16/08/2024 UN and NGOS equipment **Combined Aid** Shelter Equipment **Medical Supplies** Subtotal 2 1,065 1.640 Food items **Cooking Gas** Fuel 17/08/2024 UN and NGOS equipment Combined Aid Shelter Equipment **Medical Supplies** Subtotal 3 Food items 2,840 3,750 **Cooking Gas** Fule 18/08/2024 UN and NGOS equipment **Combined Aid** Shelter Equipment **Medical Supplies** Subtotal 3 2,976 1.032 4,008

Table (6): commodities entering according to the providor (private sector - humanitarian aid)

Dete	lterree	Private	Sector	Humanita	rian Aids	Total of	Total
Date	Items	Trucks	Tons	Trucks	Tons	trucks	of tons
	Food items	102	2,210	49	1,040	151	3,250
	Cooking Gas	6	136	0	0	6	136
	Fuel	0	0	0	0	0	0
19/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	6	90	6	90
	Medical Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal 3	108	2,346	55	1,130	163	3,476
	Food items	80	1,588	63	1,239	143	2,827
	Cooking Gas	6	130	0	0	6	130
20/08/2024	Fuel	0	0	5	210	5	210
	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Combined Aid	0	0	1	5	1	5
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	10	98	10	98
	Medical Supplies	0	0	10	30	10	30
Subtotal 3		86	1,718	89	1,582	175	3,300
	Food items	137	3,050	33	730	170	3,780
	Cooking Gas	6	128	0	0	6	128
	Fuel	0	0	1	5	1	5
21/08/2024	UN and NGOS equipment	0	0	8	0	8	0
21/00/2024	Combined Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shelter Equipment	0	0	19	210	19	210
	Medical Supplies	0	0	2	0	2	0
	Subtotal 3	143	3,178	63	945	206	4,123
	Total	602	12,685	415	7,625	1,017	20,310

## 3.4 Distribution of the Population in Gaza Strip:

According to the data in Table No. (1), about 78% of the commodities that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period were through the Karm Abu Salem crossing, Israeli occupation did not allow any of these commodities to go to the Northern part of Gaza Strip. Therefore, all commodities entered through KAS remained in the southern part of Gaza Strip. The commodities entered through Erez crossing constitutes 22%, 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 (6): Map of dividing Gaza Strip into North and South of Gaza Valley

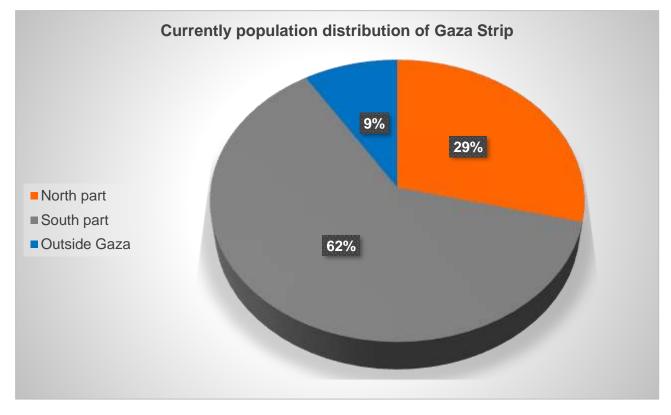
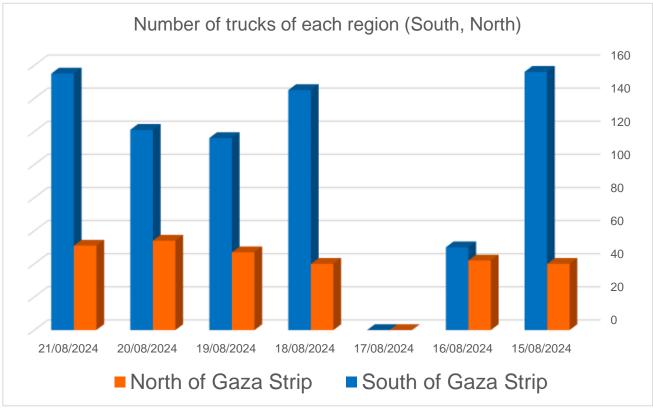


Figure (7): Currently population distribution of Gaza Strip



The following figure shows the distribution of materials between the north and the south based on the number of trucks.

Figure (8): Number of trucks of each region (South, North)

It is worth noting that despite of the basic commodities entry, in limited quantities, to the North and South areas of the Gaza Strip, there is no proper distribution 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.

# 4 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). The prices for the reporting period, from 15/08/2024 to 21/08/2024 were as follows:

#	Item	15/8	16/8	17/8	18/8	19/8	20/8	21/8	Average	St. Dev
1	Pepper	60	60	52	36	36	36	36	45.14	11.71
2	Tomato	11	12	10	17	15	17	25	15.29	5.12
3	Frozen veal	70	70	66	66	60	60	60	64.57	4.58
4	Egg	43	38	34	34	34	37	37	36.71	3.25
5	Cucumber	11	10	10	15	15	15	14	12.86	2.41
6	Lemon	15	15	11	15	15	15	13	14.14	1.57
7	Eggplant	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	7.57	0.98
8	Frozen chicken	26	26	25	24	24	24	24	24.71	0.95
9	Frozen chicken thigh	26	26	25	24	24	24	24	24.71	0.95
10	Potato	12	12	10	11	11	10	12	11.14	0.90
11	Banana	10	10	8	10	10	10	10	9.71	0.76
12	Apple	17	17	16	17	16	16	16	16.43	0.53
13	Onion	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	7.14	0.38
14	Garlic	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25.00	0.00
15	Watermelon	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7.00	0.00
16	Orange	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
17	Frozen chicken wing	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
18	Flour	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15.00	0.00
19	Oil	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8.00	0.00
20	Sugar	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
21	Rice	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11.00	0.00
22	Kidney beans	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10.00	0.00
23	Macaroni	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6.00	0.00
24	Bottled water box	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17.00	0.00

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

From the previous table, goods can be grouped according to the severity of price fluctuations based on the standard deviation value into three categories:

#### 4.1 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 (garlic watermelons – orange - frozen chicken wing - flour - cooking oil – sugar - rice – kidney beans – pasta - bottled water box).

#### 4.2 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 (eggplant - frozen chicken - frozen chicken thigh – potato - banana - apples - Onion).

### 4.3 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 (pepper – tomato – frozen veal – egg – cucumber - lemon).

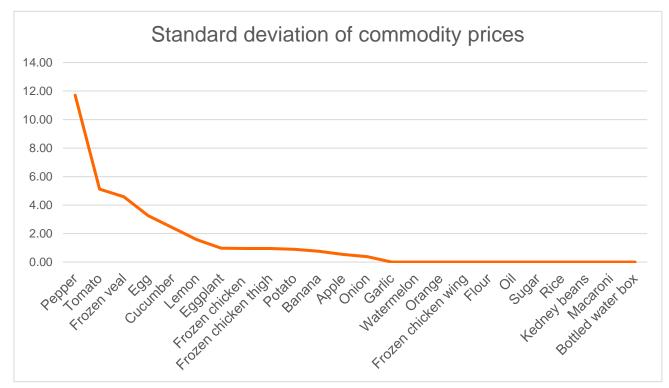


Figure (9): Standard deviation of food items prices

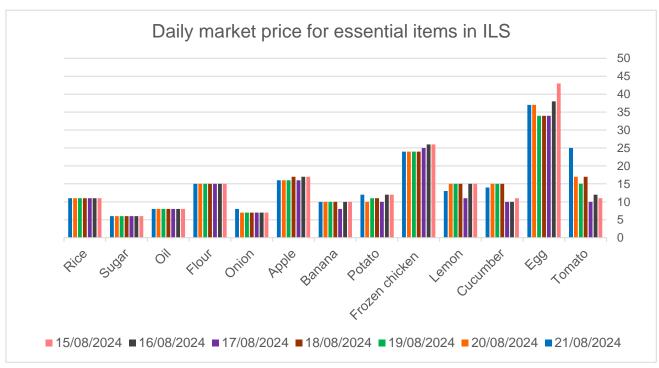


Figure (10): Daily market price for essential items in ILS

#### 4.4 Retailers Price Analysis from 15/08/2024 – 21/08/2024: As an example:

- Product 1: Tomato.
  - o Opening Price: 11.
  - o Closing Price: 25.
  - o Percentage Change: 127%.
- Product 2: Lemon.
  - Opening Price: 15.
  - o Closing Price: 13.
  - Percentage Change: -13.3%
- Product 3: Cucumber
  - Opening Price: 11.
  - Closing Price: 14.
  - Percentage Change: 27.3%
- Product e: Egg
  - o Opening Price: 43.
  - o Closing Price: 37.
  - Percentage Change: -13.95%

#### 4.4.1 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.

#### 4.4.2 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 54% in the number of trucks for 16/08/2024 and closing all crossing on 17/08/2024, impacting the availability of goods in the markets that caused increase in prices of many goods on the next day 18/08/2024, (especially tomatoes and cucumbers).
- Variety and Quantity of Goods:
  - Quantities varied greatly on certain days, particularly on 16/08/2024 and 17/08/2024, 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** Coordination Mechanism:

The Israeli Occupation Coordination and Liaison Directorate (CLA) has implemented a system to issue permits for coordinating goods entry. The allowed coordination is for the Southern part of Gaza Strip and is not allowed for the Northern part of the Strip. This coordination system lacks accountability and transparency and rather has a great deal of ambiguity. The system does not allow information on who gets coordination, how many coordination they get and why. Below is the mechanism of the Coordination System, as follows:

- A WhatsApp number is designated by the Israeli Occupation Coordination & Liaison Directorate (CLA) to receive importers application for coordination.
- Importers would send their application to the designated WhatsApp number including the importer's and Israeli driver details as well as the requested goods details.
- CLA would reply from the WhatsApp number as follows: Approved, Rejected, or resubmit after one month (or any other period).
- In many cases the Importer will receive no answer.
- In many cases only the Israeli Driver is informed of the status of the application, which enables the driver to sell the approved coordination to a different Importer.
- Once the coordination application is approved, the Importer can coordinate with traders from the West Bank or Israel to ship goods from their sources.
- If goods are coming from West Bank, it has to go to Tarqoumya or Tulkarm Crossing first by the Palestinian trucks (may have a waiting period on the crossing from several hours to several days) then it will be loaded back to back on an Israeli truck to head to KAS crossing (may also have a waiting time).
- If goods are coming from Israel the Israeli drivers will simply transport it to KAS crossing directly upon the request of the importer. (may also have a waiting time).
- If the Importer receives a rejection or no answer from the WhatsApp number, he will then contact an Israeli driver to purchase a coordination through/from him.
- For agricultural products such as vegetables, fruits and meat, coordination is managed through the Israeli Agricultural Coordinator, Mr. Rabit. This coordination is carried out with the Agricultural Coordinator, outside the described mechanism above.

## 5.1 Coordination Charges:

- Agricultural coordination is for free.
- Coordination charges for other food items range from 10,000 to 15,000 shekels per truck load.
- Charges could reach up to 60,000 in some Israeli prohibited items like Chocolates, nuts, juices and sweets.

#### 5.2 Difficulties:

 Commercial goods are still significantly lower than pre-conflict levels and do not meet essential needs.

- The delivery of aid and commercial supplies into Gaza remains unreliable due to crossings and routs access restrictions and ongoing security issues.
- Challenges in importing from the West Bank due to double crossings and long waiting time on both crossings.
- Increased transportation costs within the West Bank to 300% due to sudden unplanned transportation requests, and long delays on the crossings.
- High transportation costs within Gaza due to high fuel and spare parts prices.
- Price increase of goods ranging from 5% to 10% from the source in the West Bank due to unplanned demand.
- 80% of Importers experienced damages to Goods during transportation.
- 53% of Importers experienced Goods detention for different periods by the Israeli's.
- 47% of Importers experienced extortion from Israeli drivers regarding cost of transportation and its entry prioritization.
- 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 stabelize 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.

## 6 Recommendations:

- 1. Immediate increase (in quantity and variety) of the amount of humanitarian aid entering Gaza Strip to include variant nutritious needs, with focus on areas suffering from malnutrition and famine in the northern 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 stabelize 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 Gaza Strip to ensure that aid reaches those in need without delay, as well as allowing private sector companies to import and enter goods for Northern part of Gaza Strip.
- 6. Allow access to hygiene products since it is causing a major concern of disease spreading among population such as hepatitis A, scabies, etc.
- 7. Allow humanitarian and commercial trucks access the different crossings and all routs to shorten travel distances and avoid routs controlled by looters, in order to avoid paying high sums of money for security escorts.

- 8. Allow Gaza traders to import directly through international ports to avoid paying high prices and commissions
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Allow private sector to import other basic commodities such as hygiene material, medicines, clothes and footwear, etc.
- 12. 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.
- 13. Provide sufficient quantities of fuel and truck spare parts to transportation companies at normalr prices to reduce commercial transportation costs and limit the unjustified rise in commodity prices in the markets.
- 14. 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.
- 15. 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.
- 16. Find and promote mechanisms to control markets, prevent monopoly and control prices as much as possible.

# 7 Conclusion

This week witnessed a decrease of about 4.5% in the total number of trucks and almost the same percentage in the quantity of commodities. On Saturday all crossings were closed and no commodities entered. It was also noted that the private sector's share of the total commodities that entered Gaza Strip during the reporting period remained largely stable compared to the previous week, the private sector constituted about 62.5%, while humanitarian aid constituted 37.5% of the total commodities.

The data during the current reporting period are 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. 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 Gaza Strip also continue to suffer from famine, due to the severe restrictions on the entry of goods, and the lack of International Community pressure or institutional action on the occupation to solve this problem.