

BACKGROUND

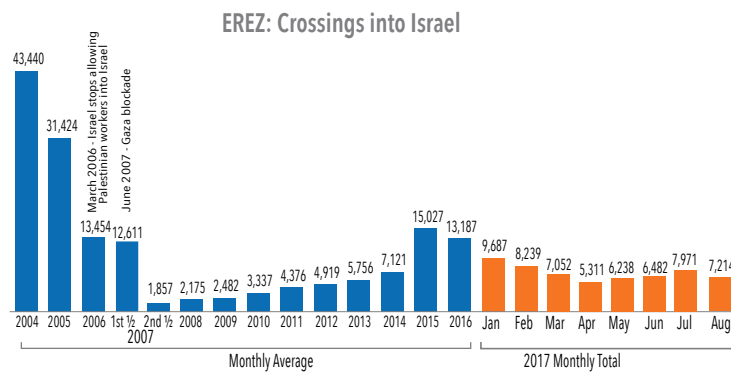
Longstanding restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from Gaza have undermined the living conditions of approximately two million Palestinians in that area. Many of the current restrictions, originally imposed by Israel in the early 1990s, were intensified after June 2007, following the Hamas takeover of Gaza and the imposition of a blockade. These restrictions continue to reduce access to livelihoods, essential services and housing, disrupt family life, and undermine people's hopes for a secure and prosperous future. The situation has been compounded by the restrictions imposed since June 2013 by the Egyptian authorities at Rafah Crossing, which had become the main crossing point used by Palestinian passengers in the Gaza Strip, given the restrictions on the Israeli-controlled crossings.



MOVEMENT AND ACCESS OF PEOPLE*

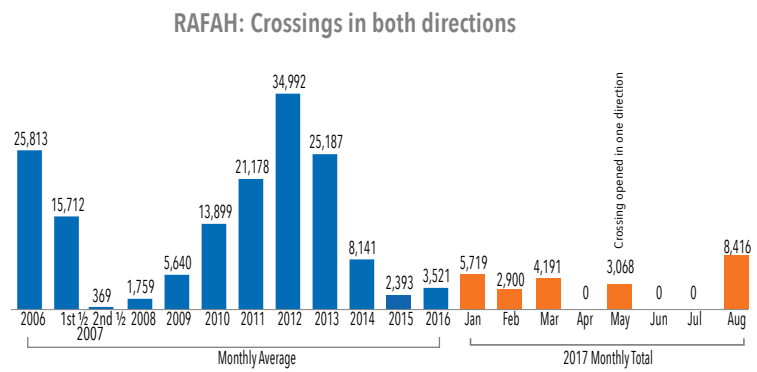
EREZ CROSSING

- Opened on 27 days (closed on four Saturdays).
- The volume of crossings during August was almost the same as the monthly average since the beginning of 2017. However, it remained 45% below the 2016 average.
- As of 1 August, Israel imposed a new restriction on those Palestinians who are allowed to exit Gaza through Erez Crossing, prohibiting the passage of any electronic devices other than cellular phones.
- 54% of the 1,884 applications for exit permits for patients referred for medical treatment outside Gaza were approved by Israel and the rest were either rejected or not answered at the time of the scheduled medical appointments (WHO).
- Erez Crossing was open during daytime hours from Sunday to Thursday for all permit holders (primarily medical cases, merchants, foreign nationals and aid workers), and on Fridays for exceptional humanitarian cases and foreign nationals.



RAFAH CROSSING

- Exceptionally opened for 4 days in both directions, and 3 days in one direction.
- A total of 8,416 crossings were registered (6,019 exits and 2,397 entries).
- A total of 3,342 pilgrims going to Mecca for the Hajj account for most of these exits, compared to a monthly average of 3,521 in both direction in 2016.
- Since the beginning of 2017, the crossing opened on 23 out of 243 days.
- At least 20,000 people with urgent needs are pre-registered and waiting to cross into Egypt, according to the local authorities in Gaza.
- Prior to the closure of the crossing in 2014, a monthly average of 4,000 people crossed Rafah for health-related reasons (WHO).

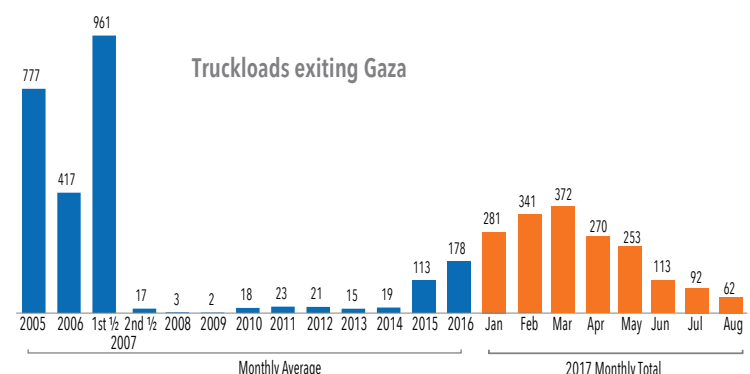


* The figures reflect number of times people crossed, but not the actual number of people crossing.

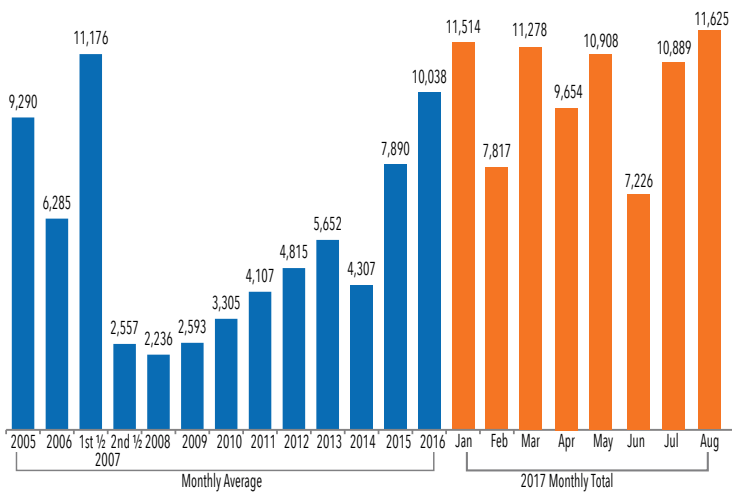
MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

EXIT OF GOODS

- Kerem Shalom Crossing is currently the only regular commercial route between Gaza and the external world.
- Exit of goods took place on 18 days.
- The volume of truckloads that exited was 44% below the equivalent figure in August 2016, and 93% below the monthly average in the first half of 2007, before the imposition of the blockade.
- For the first time since 2007, Israel has allowed one shipment of garments to exit Gaza to the Israeli market.
- Goods exited to the following destinations:
 - To the West Bank: 39 truckloads of agricultural products, 2 of non-edible consumables, 5 of clothing and 4 of furniture;
 - To Israel: 12 truckloads of agricultural products, scrap aluminum and garments.



Truckloads entering Gaza**

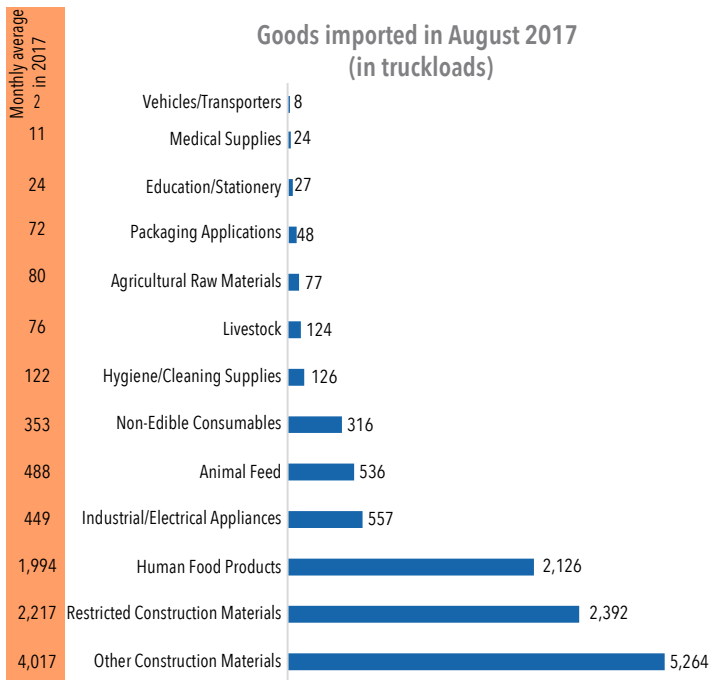


ENTRY OF GOODS

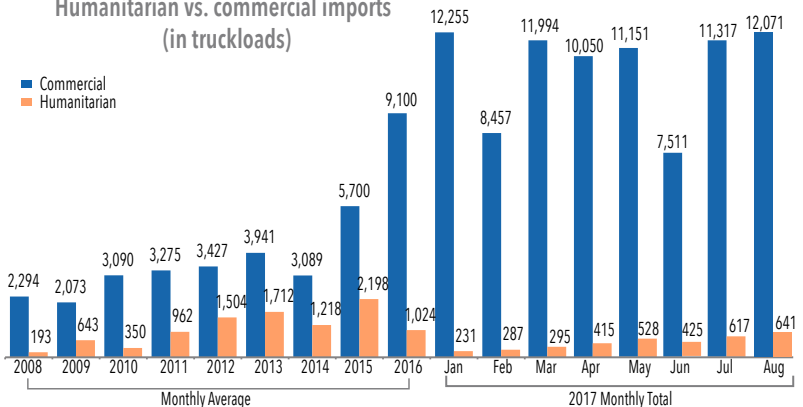
- Kerem Shalom crossing operated for the entry of goods on 23 days.*
- The volume of goods that entered this month was 17% above the monthly average recorded since the beginning of 2017.
- 5% of the imported truckloads were designated for humanitarian aid agencies.
- 7,656 truckloads carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (60%).
- 31% of construction material truckloads contained items defined by Israel as having 'dual use', approved via the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM).
- Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz crossings with Israel remained closed.

* Closed on four Saturdays and four Fridays.
 ** Figures exclude truckloads carrying fuel.

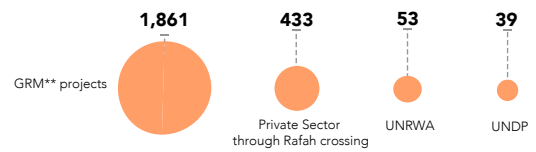
Goods imported in August 2017 (in truckloads)



Humanitarian vs. commercial imports (in truckloads)



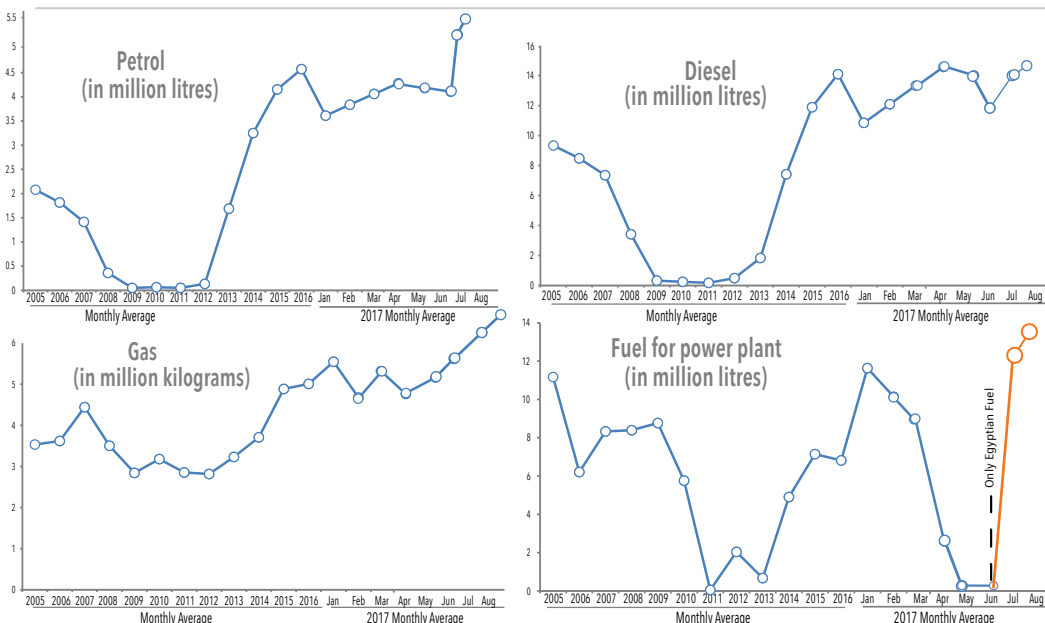
Entry of restricted basic construction materials in August per sector (in truckloads)*



* Primarily includes cement and steel bars; aggregates were removed from the "dual use" list in 2015.

** The GRM is a temporary agreement between the Government of Palestine, the Government of Israel and the United Nations, reached in September 2014, to allow the entry of items defined by Israel as having a "dual" civilian/military use. These include building materials for repairs and reconstruction of private housing and infrastructure damaged or destroyed during hostilities, as well as new projects not related to hostilities.

FUEL IMPORTS INTO GAZA



FUEL IMPORTS

Kerem Shalom opened on 23 days for the import of fuel, allowing the entry of:

- 18.2 million litres of petrol and diesel, including 1.3 million litres for aid organizations; and
- 6,688 tons of cooking gas, which represents about 89% of the estimated needs of about 7,500 tons, according to the Gas Station Owners' Association.

Rafah Crossing opened for 19 days during August for the entry of fuel, mostly destined for the Gaza Power Plant (GPP), which includes;

- 14.1 million litres of diesel for the GPP; and
- 1.7 million litres of petrol.