

## BACKGROUND

Longstanding restrictions on the movement of people and goods to and from the Gaza Strip have undermined the living conditions of about two million Palestinians. Many of the restrictions, originally imposed by Israel in the early 1990s, were intensified after June 2007, following the Hamas takeover of Gaza, the imposition of a blockade and the closure of the Rafah Crossing with Egypt. These restrictions limit access to livelihoods, essential basic services and housing, disrupt family life, and undermine people's hopes for a secure and prosperous future. In recent months, OCHA has witnessed some easing of restrictions such as opening Kerem Shalom crossing on Friday for the entry of Qatari-funded fuel for the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) and an increase in the number of permits issued to business people.

Interactive versions of the following charts are available at [www.ochaopt.org/gaza-crossings/](http://www.ochaopt.org/gaza-crossings/)

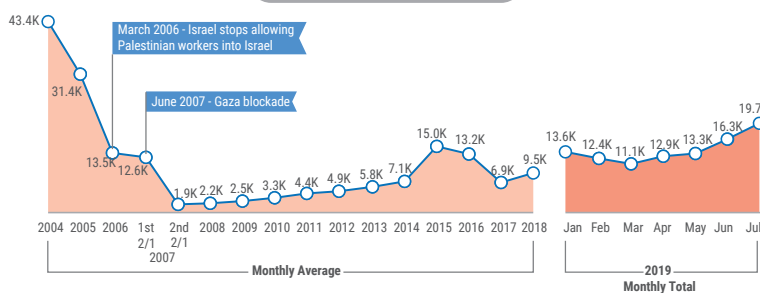


## MOVEMENT AND ACCESS OF PEOPLE\*

### EREZ CROSSING

- Opened on 27 days during daytime: from Sunday to Thursday, for the passage of permit holders of all permitted groups (primarily business people, patients and companions, foreign nationals and aid workers); and, on Fridays, for urgent cases and foreign nationals.
- The number of exits in July (19,705) was 46 per cent higher than the monthly average in the first half of 13,267 2019).
- In July 2019, Israel approved 1,741 permits for Gaza citizens, in addition, 1,614 permits were approved for business people.
- The number of exits by business people, which constitute the largest category, increased by 63 per cent, compared to the monthly average between January and June (13,093 vs 8,161). The total number of business people with valid permits has increased from 1,975 in December 2018 to more than 3,300 in July 2019 but is still below the agreed quota between PA and Israel of 5,000 (General Authority for Civil Affairs - GACA).
- The number of exits by patients and their companions (3,747) increased by 27 per cent, compared to the monthly average in the first half of the year (2,944).
- Israel approved 71 per cent of the 2,295 applications submitted for patient exit permits; the rest were either rejected or no answer was received by the time of the medical appointments (WHO).

Crossings into Israel

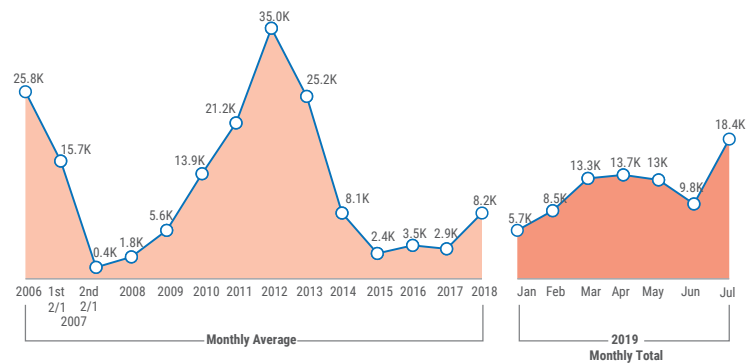


\* The figures reflect number of times people crossed, but not the actual number of people crossing.

### RAFAH CROSSING

- Opened in both directions during daytime on 19 days, and in one direction on four days for the exit of pilgrims. Since July 2018, it has been operating five days a week (from Sunday to Thursday).
- A total of 18,378 crossings (7,614 entries into Gaza and 10,764 exits) were recorded in July, 72 per cent above the monthly average between January and June 10,677) 2019); pilgrims accounted for 15 per cent of the crossings.
- Since the beginning of 2019, Rafah Crossing has opened on 141 days, compared with 88 and 16 days respectively, during the same periods in 2018 and 2017.

Crossings in both directions

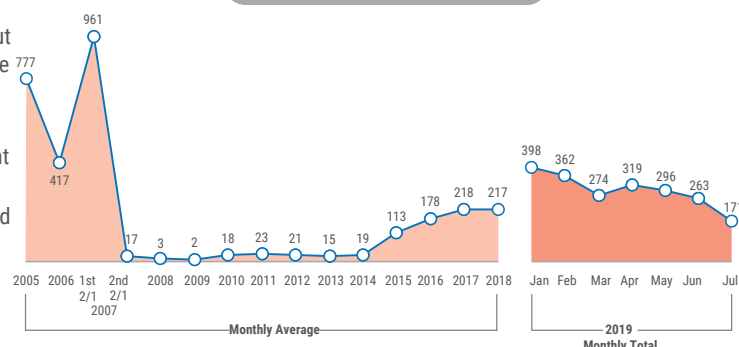


## MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

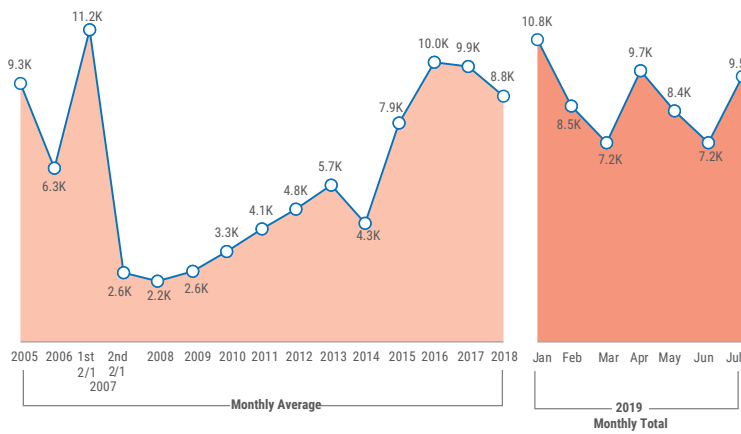
### EXIT OF GOODS

- Authorized goods exited through the Kerem Shalom Crossing on 23 days.
- A total of 171 truckloads exited, which is 260 per cent more than in July 2018, but 82 per cent less than the monthly average in the first half of 2007, before the imposition of the blockade.
- Goods exited to:
  - West Bank: 83 truckloads of agricultural produce; 15 of fish; 10 of furniture; eight of clothing and eight of non-edible consumables;
  - Israel: 37 truckloads of agricultural produce, scrap metal, plastic pipes and garments;
  - International markets: 10 truckloads of agricultural produce.
- Kerem Shalom is the only crossing allowing for the regular exit of goods.

Truckloads exiting Gaza



**Truckloads entering Gaza\***

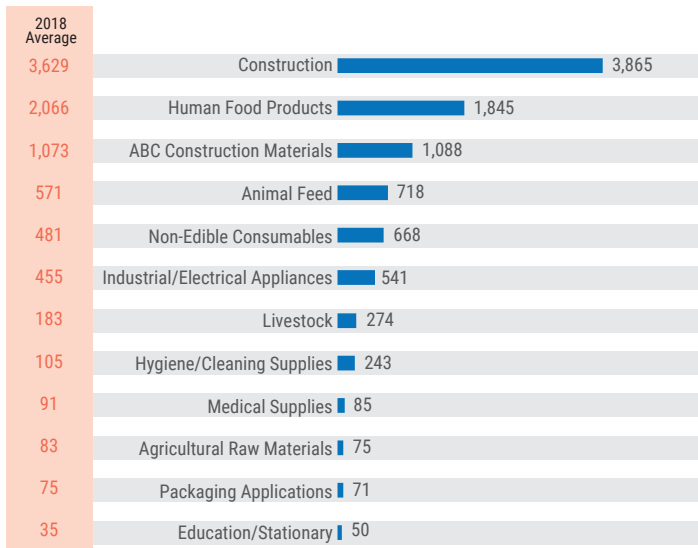


**ENTRY OF GOODS**

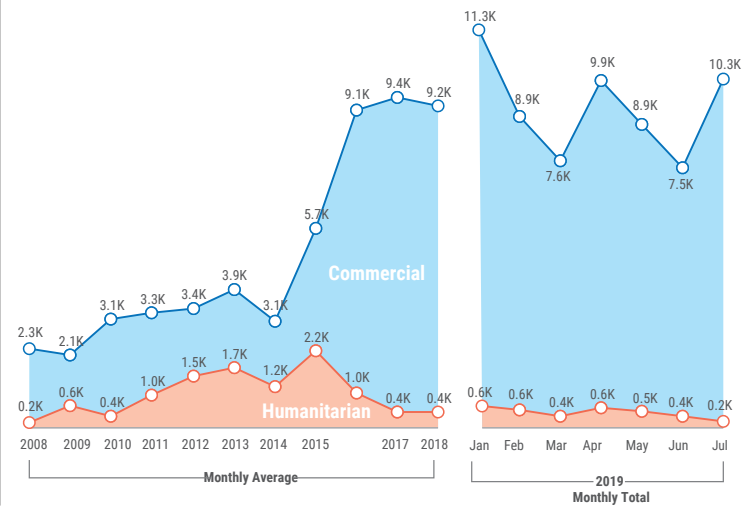
- Opened for imports on 23 days (Sunday to Thursday), allowing the entry of 8,757 truckloads of goods, an eight per cent increase compared to the monthly average between January and June 8,137) 2019).
- Some two per cent of the goods entered were for humanitarian agencies.
- An additional 766 truckloads of goods entered from Egypt through the Salah ad Din Gate, 54 per cent more than the monthly average between January and June 497) 2019).
- 4,639 truckloads entering through Kerem Shalom carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (53 per cent).
- Karni, Sufa and Nahal Oz crossings remained closed by Israel.

\* Figures exclude truckloads carrying fuel.

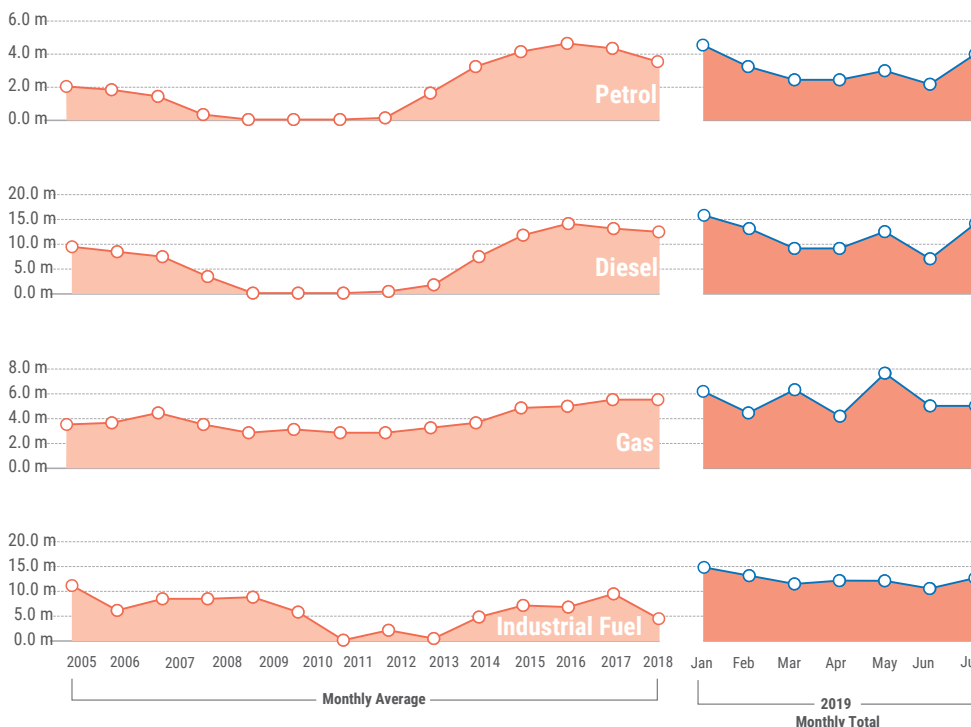
**Goods imported in July 2019 (in truckloads)**



**Humanitarian vs. commercial imports (in truckloads)\***



\*Figures include truckloads carrying fuel.



**FUEL IMPORTS**

Kerem Shalom operated on 27 days for the import of fuel, including on Fridays, for the entry of Qatari-funded fuel for the Gaza Power Plant (GPP); the Friday openings are ongoing since October 2018.

In total, this allowed the entry of:

- 6.4 million litres of diesel;
- 2.5 million litres of petrol;
- 304 tons of cooking gas; and
- 12.4 million litres of Qatari-funded fuel for the GPP.

Salah ad Din Gate operated on 13 days for the entry of fuel, allowing the entry of:

- 7.8 million litres of diesel;
- 1.4 million litres of petrol; and
- 4,808 tons of cooking gas.

The volume of petrol and diesel that entered in July was 30 per cent above the monthly average between January and June 2019.