

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 and also in 2000s, when Israel shut down the Gaza airport and safe passage between Gaza and West Bank, 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 (Rafah reopened in 2018). 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 the opening Kerem Shalom crossing on Fridays for the entry of Qatari-funded fuel for the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) and an increase in the number of permits issued to Palestinians classified as business people.

Interactive versions of the following charts are available at www.ochaopt.org/gaza-crossings/

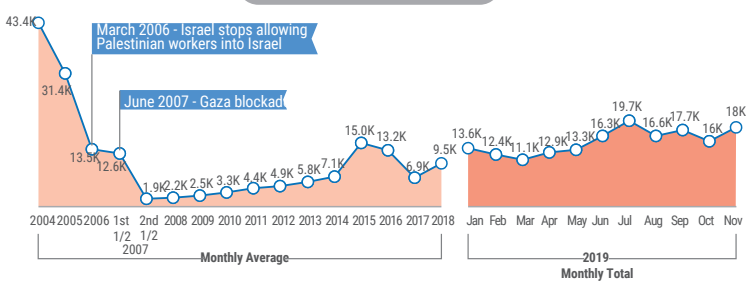


MOVEMENT AND ACCESS OF PEOPLE*

EREZ CROSSING

- Opened on 25 days during daytime: from Sunday to Thursday, for the passage of Israeli-issued permit holders of all authorized groups (primarily business people, patients and companions, foreign nationals and aid workers); and, on Fridays, for urgent cases and foreign nationals.
- The crossing was almost totally shut down between 12 to 14 November, during the escalation between Israel and Palestinian armed groups, with a few exceptional cases allowed through on the last two days.
- The number of exits in November (18,404) was 23 per cent above the monthly average between January and October 2019 (14,962).
- The number of exits of patients and their companions (2,662) decreased by 11 per cent, compared with the monthly average between January and October 2019 (2,977).
- Israel approved 59 per cent of the 1,907 applications submitted during November for the exit of patients referred to medical treatment in the West Bank and Israel; the rest were either rejected or not answered by the time of the medical appointments (WHO).
- The number of exits by "business people" increased by 40 per cent, compared with the monthly average between January and October (13,493 vs 9,651) and constitutes the largest category; some of the people included in this category are believed to be day labourers.
- In October 2019, Israel approved 1,925 permits for Gaza residents to enter Israel and West Bank, over half of them for persons classified as business people.
- The current number of "business people" (including reported labourers) with valid permits is nearly 5,000, up from less than 2,000 in December 2018 (PA General Authority for Civil Affairs).

Crossings into Israel

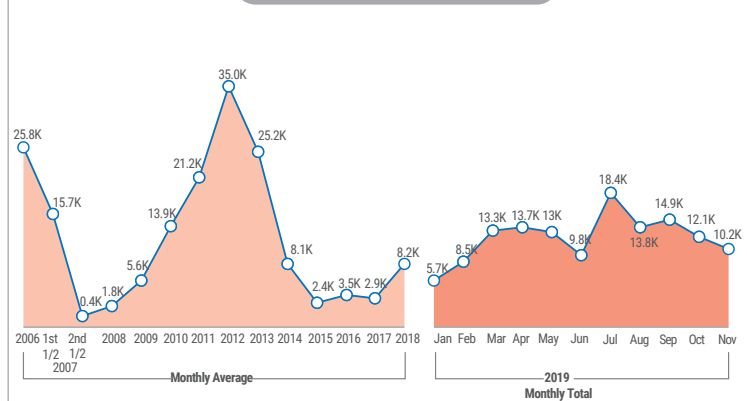


* The figures reflect number of times people crossed, but not the actual number of people crossing.

RAFAH CROSSING

- Opened in both directions during daytime on 19 days.
- A total of 10,249 crossings (4,324 entries into Gaza and 5,925 exits) were recorded in November, 17 per cent below the monthly average between January and October 2019 (12,326).
- Since July 2018, Rafah crossing has been operating five days a week (from Sunday to Thursday) on a regular basis, following some four years of irregular and intermittent opening.

Crossings in both directions



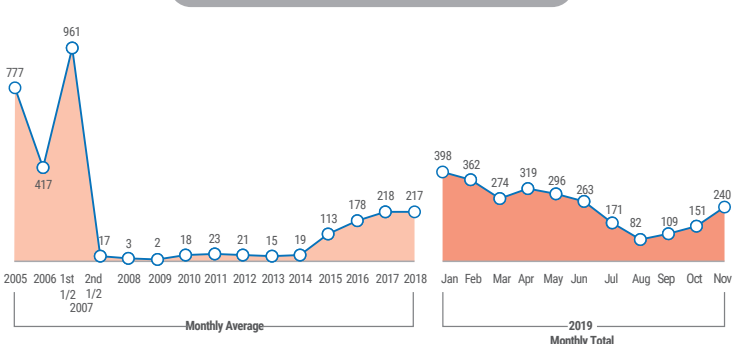
* Since July 2018, it has been operating five days a week (from Sunday to Thursday).

MOVEMENT OF GOODS FROM AND INTO GAZA

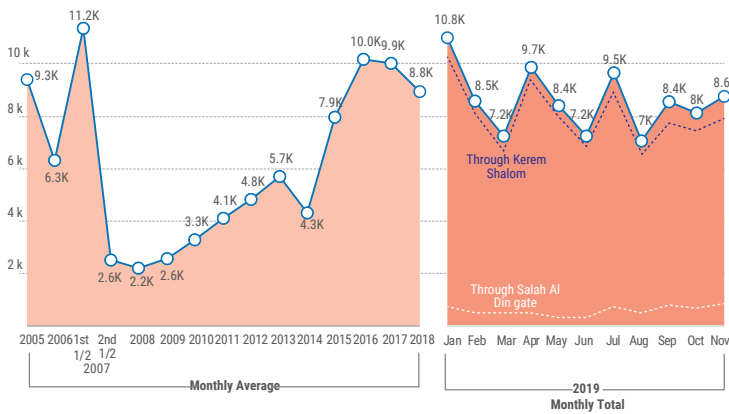
EXIT OF GOODS

- Authorized goods exited through the Kerem Shalom crossing on 17 days.
- A total of 240 truckloads exited, which is similar to the figure recorded in November 2018, but 75 per cent less than the monthly average in the first half of 2007, before the imposition of the blockade.
- Goods exited to:
 - The West Bank:** 163 truckloads of agricultural produce; 10 of fish; 9 of clothing; 4 of non-edible consumables and 1 of furniture;
 - Israel:** 33 truckloads of agricultural produce, palm fronds, scrap metal, furniture and garments;
 - Other destinations:** 20 truckloads of agricultural produce.
- Kerem Shalom is the only crossing allowing for the regular exit of goods.

Truckloads of goods exiting Gaza



Truckloads entering Gaza*

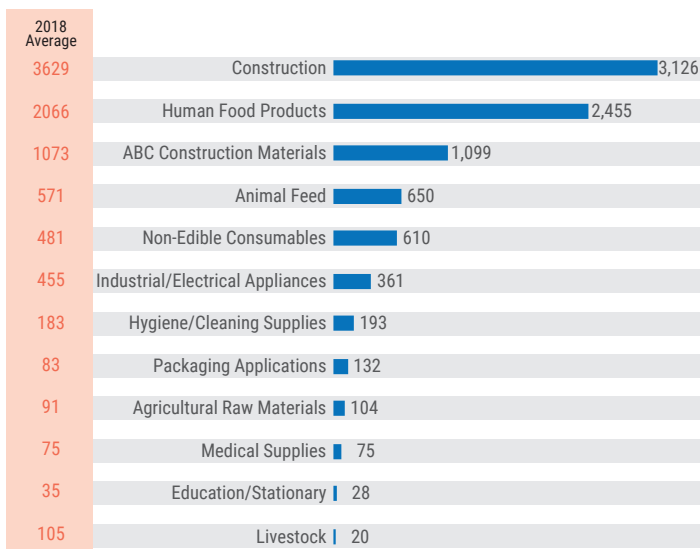


ENTRY OF GOODS

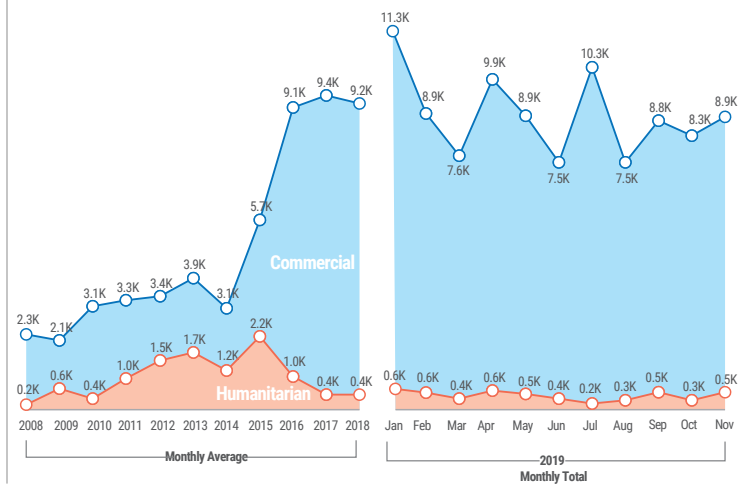
- The Kerem Shalom crossing opened for imports on 17 days (Sunday to Thursday), allowing the entry of 7,765 truckloads of goods, nearly the same as the monthly average since the start of 2019 (7,901). The crossing was totally closed during the three days of the escalation in hostilities (12-14 November).
- Some six per cent of the goods entered were for humanitarian agencies.
- 3,650 of the truckloads that entered through Kerem Shalom carried construction materials, constituting the largest category of imports (47 per cent).
- An additional 848 truckloads of goods (excluding fuel) entered from Egypt through the Salah ad Din Gate, 48 per cent above the monthly average between January and October 2019 (572).

* Figures exclude truckloads carrying fuel.

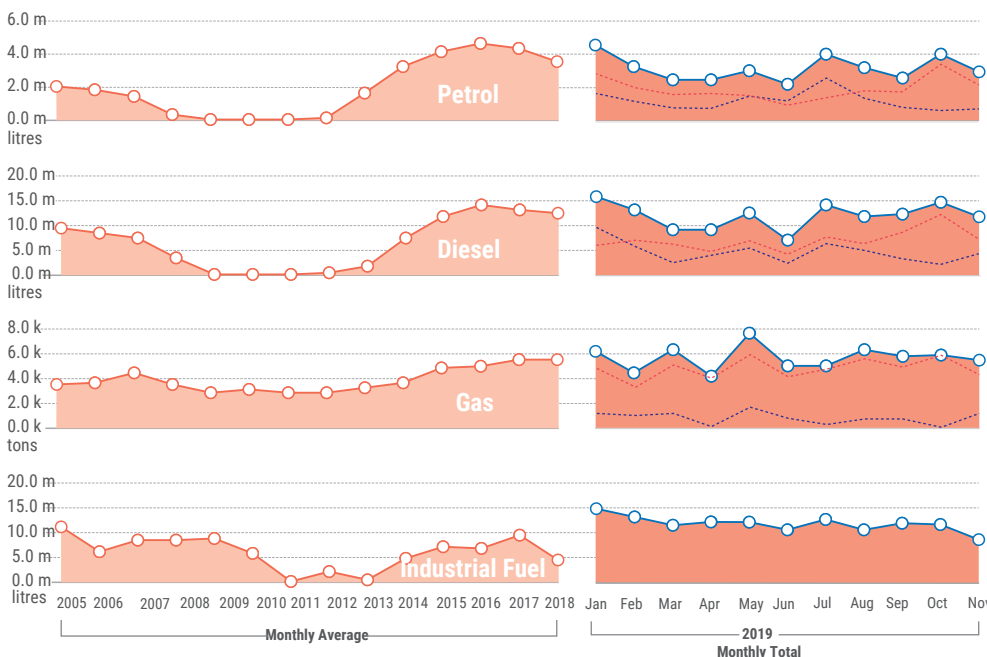
Goods imported in November 2019 (in truckloads)



Humanitarian vs. commercial imports (in truckloads)*



*Figures include truckloads carrying fuel.



.....Through Kerem Shalom Through Salah Al Din gate

FUEL IMPORTS

Kerem Shalom operated on 19 days for the import of fuel.

In total, this allowed the entry of:

- 4.5 million litres of diesel;
- 0.7 million litres of petrol;
- 1,214 tons of cooking gas; and
- 8.5 million litres of Qatari-funded fuel for the GPP.

Salah ad Din Gate operated on 9 days for the entry of fuel, allowing the entry of:

- 7.3 million litres of diesel;
- 2.1 million litres of petrol; and
- 4,335 tons of cooking gas.

The volume of petrol and diesel that entered in November was two per cent below the monthly average between January and October 2019.

* The Friday openings are ongoing since October 2018.