

Introduction

-) NEC monitors the poverty situation on a monthly basis;
-) The Poverty Monitor is based on phone surveys with Palestinian over the age of 18;
-) NEC's poverty profile is based according to a number of independent variables;
-) The results are examined over time to see how the poverty level is changing and whether it is becoming prolonged;
-) The monthly monitor of the poverty situation may help in projecting how the situation will evolve in the short near future;
-) Hopefully, the changes and the trends in the poverty level will help address and evaluate the various policy interventions carried out by policy makers and various assistance providers and other stakeholders in addition to the impact of the Israeli measures and other political developments on the evolution and/or management of the poverty conditions;
-) The poverty monitor, in addition to the other issues that NEC is also monitoring (political, security, social, economic, peace, PLC, party, international organziations, and media issues) will also help in providing indicators as to how the situation is evolving and what types of interventions need to be examined, what are the priorities of the various sectors of society, and how to deal with the limited resources that Palestinians have;
- The results will be posted on-line to enable users tailor there own analysis according to a number of explanatory (independent) variables;
-) The monthly surveys, polls, and analysis of NEC are INDEPENDENT and are not sponsored or funded by any internal or external source but from the private funds of the company.



Methodology

- The poverty is constructed according to the household income and household structure as reported by the respondents.
- Below poverty is based on around 2000NIS per month for a family of 2 adults and 4 children; and the hardship cases is based on approximately 1000 NIS for a similar household;
-) NEC also examines subjective poverty and coping strategies once every three months to provide more explanations as to how the trend is moving.
- In addition, NEC is in the process of monitoring household health (already started monitoring the stress and depression prevalence among Palestinian adults) so will be the impact of the role of women as heads of the household, impact of education, and other issues of pertinence to Palestinian developmental efforts.
- The information on poverty will be analysed according to a number of explaining variables: Region and place of residence, education, age, gender, political affiliation, employment, refuggee status, assistance, etc.



The independent variables

The explaining variables

It is the hope of Near East Consulting to explain the evolution of poverty according to a number of variables, including some of the following:

-) Gender
-) Age
-) Education
-) Employment
-) Type of employment
-) Sector of employment
-) Refugee status
-) Factional trust
- Assistance received
-) Area of residence
-) Place of residence
-) Number of dependents
-) Number of breadwinners
- Household health/disabilities
-) Income sources



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