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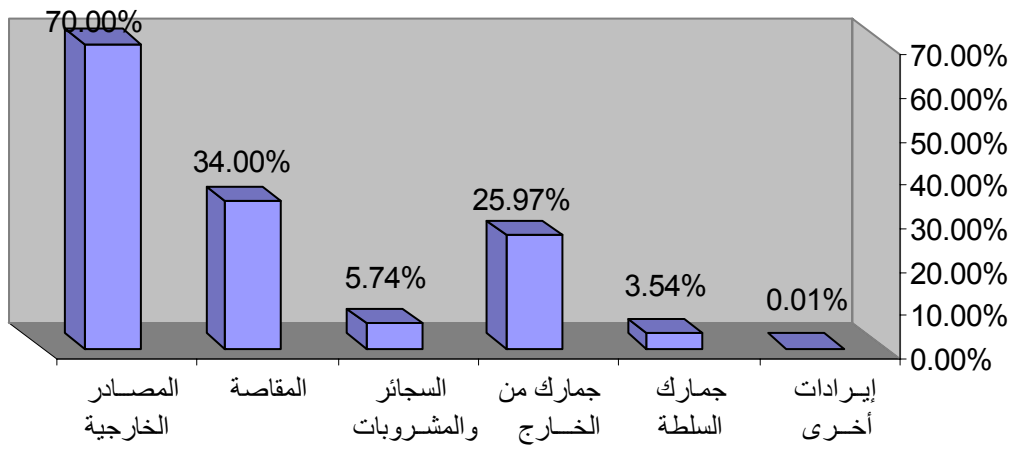
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1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	
1136.3	1083.9	928.8	900.9	750	
901.3	753.8	683.8	740.9	560	
901.3	753.8	647.5	657.2	425	-
782.2	615.8	502.3	598.4	357.7	-
86.3	75.8	86	56.3	49.5	- -
301.8	247	148.4	109.5	59.7	- -
200.2	133.8	126.3	201.3	121.4	- -
192.5	157	141.6	218.2	126.4	- -
1.4	2.2	0	13.1	0.7	- -
119.1	138	145.2	58.8	67.3	-
0	0	36.3	83.7	135	-
235	330.1	245	160	190	-

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2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	
1705.2	1031.63	750.14	1053	1363.7	
1455.2	784.27	750.14	838	963.7	
805.2	749.69	338.24	287.1	963.7	-
656.4	615.99	278.64	199.5	847.7	-
36.1	39.87	26.78	46.1	80.2	- -
212.9	196.04	75.4	8.1	325.8	- -
171	205.27	38.9	0.7	218.8	- -
236.4	173.8	136.8	143.4	221.5	- -
0	1.01	0.76	1.2	1.4	- -
148.8	133.7	59.6	87.6	116	-
650	34.58	411.9	550.9	0	-
250	247.36	0	215	400	-

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%	1997	1996	%	1996	1995	
3	928.8	900.9	20	900.9	750	
8-	683.8	740.9	32	740.9	560	
1-	647.5	657.2	55	657.2	425	
16-	502.3	598.4	67	598.4	357.7	
53	86	56.3	14	56.3	49.5	
36	148.4	109.5	83	109.5	59.7	
37-	126.3	201.3	66	201.3	121.4	
35-	141.6	218.2	73	218.2	126.4	
100-	0	13.1	1771	13.1	0.7	
147	145.2	58.8	13-	58.8	67.3	
57-	36.3	83.7	38-	83.7	135	
53	245	160	16-	160	190	

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التغير النسبي %	1999	1998	التغير النسبي %	1998	1997	
5	1136.3	1083.9	17	1083.9	928.8	
20	901.3	753.8	10	753.8	683.8	
20	901.3	753.8	16	753.8	647.5	
27	782.2	615.8	23	615.8	502.3	
14	86.3	75.8	12-	75.8	86	
22	301.8	247	66	247	148.4	
50	200.2	133.8	6	133.8	126.3	
23	192.5	157	11	157	141.6	
36-	1.4	2.2		2.2	0	
14-	119.1	138	5-	138	145.2	
	0	0	100-	0	36.3	
29-	235	330.1	35	330.1	245	

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%	2001	2000	%	2000	1999	
23-	1053	1363.7	20	1363.7	1136.3	
13-	838	963.7	7	963.7	901.3	
70-	287.1	963.7	7	963.7	901.3	
76-	199.5	847.7	8	847.7	782.2	
43-	46.1	80.2	7-	80.2	86.3	
98-	8.1	325.8	8	325.8	301.8	
99.8	0.7	218.8	9	218.8	200.2	
35-	143.4	221.5	15	221.5	192.5	
14-	1.2	1.4	0	1.4	1.4	
24-	87.6	116	3-	116	119.1	

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46-	215	400	70	400	235	

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%	2003	2002	%	2002	2001	
38	1031.63	750.14	29	750.14	1053	
5	784.27	750.14	10-	750.14	838	
122	749.69	338.24	18	338.24	287.1	
121	615.99	278.64	40	278.64	199.5	
49	39.87	26.78	42-	26.78	46.1	
160	196.04	75.4	831	75.4	8.1	
428	205.27	38.9	5457	38.9	0.7	
27	173.8	136.8	5-	136.8	143.4	
33	1.01	0.76	37-	0.76	1.2	
124	133.7	59.6	32-	59.6	87.6	
92-	34.58	411.9	25-	411.9	550.9	
	247.36	0	100-	0	215	

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%	2004	2003	
65	1705.2	1031.63	
86	1455.2	784.27	
7	805.2	749.69	
7	656.4	615.99	
-	36.1	39.87	
9	212.9	196.04	
-	171	205.27	
36	236.4	173.8	
100-	0	1.01	
11%	148.8	133.7	
1780	650	34.58	
1	250	247.36	

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%	%	%	1995		
		100	750		
		75	560		
100		57	425		
84	100	48	357.7		
12	14	7	49.5		
14	17	8	59.7		
29	34	16	121.4		
30	35	17	126.4		
0.2	0.2	0.09	0.7		
16		9	67.3		
		18	135		
		25	190		

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%	%	%	1996		
		100	900.9		
		82	740.9		
100		73	657.2		
91	100	66	598.4		
9	9	6	56.3		
17	18	12	109.5		
31	34	22	201.3		
33	36	24	218.2		
2	2	1	13.1		
9		7	58.8		
		9	83.7		
		18	160		

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جدول رقم: (١٠) نسبة الإيرادات الضريبية من الإيرادات المحلية (١٩٩٧)

		%	1997		
%	%	%			
		100	928.8		
		74	683.8		
100		70	647.5		
78	100	54	502.3		
13	17	9	86		
23	30	16	148.4		
20	25	14	126.3		
22	28	15	141.6		
0	0	0	0		
22		16	145.2		
		4	36.3		
		26	245		

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%	%	%	1998		
		100	1083.9		
		70	753.8		
100		70	753.8		
82	100	57	615.8		
10	12	7	75.8		
33	40	23	247		
18	22	12	133.8		
21	25	14	157		
0.3	0.36	0.20	2.2		
18		13	138		
		0	0		
		30	330.1		

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جدول رقم (١٢) نسبة الايرادات الضريبية من الايرادات المحلية (١٩٩٩)

			1999		
%	%	%			
		100	1136.3		
		79	901.3		
100		79	901.3		
87	100	69	782.2		
10	11	8	86.3		
33	39	27	301.8		
22	26	18	200.2		
21	25	17	192.5		
0.2	0.18	0.12	1.4		
13		10	119.1		
		0	0		
		21	235		

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%	%	%	2000		
		100	1363.7		
		71	963.7		
100		71	963.7		
88	100	62	847.7		
8	9	6	80.2		
34	38	24	325.8		
23	26	16	218.8		
23	26	16	221.5		
0.1	0.2	0.10	1.4		
12		9	116		
		0	0		
		29	400		

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		النسبة %	2001		
%	%				
		100	1053		
		80	838		
100		27	287.1		
69	100	19	199.5		
16	23	4	46.1		
3	4	1	8.1		
0.2	0.4	0.07	0.7		
50	72	14	143.4		
0	1	0.11	1.2		
31		8	87.6		
		52	550.9		
		20	215		

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%	%	%	2002		
		100	750.14		
		100	750.14		
100		45	338.24		
82	100	37	278.64		
8	10	4	26.78		
22	27	10	75.4		
12	14	5	38.9		
40	49	18	136.8		
0.2	0.3	0.10	0.76		
18		8	59.6		
		55	411.9		
		0	0		

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			2003		
%	%	%			
		100	1031.63		
		76	784.27		
100		73	749.69		
82	100	60	615.99		
5	6	4	39.87		
26	32	19	196.04		
27	33	20	205.27		
23	28	17	173.8		
0.1	0.2	0.10	1.01		
18		13	133.7		
		3	34.58		
		24	247.36		

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%	%	%	2004		
		100	1705.2		
		85	1455.2		
100		47	805.2		
82	100	38	656.4		
4	5	2	36.1		
26	32	12	212.9		
21	26	10	171		
29	36	14	236.4		
0	0	0	0		
18		9	148.8		
		38	650		
		15	250		

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An-Najah National University
Faculty of Graduate Students

**Customs Evasion and its Impact on
Palestinian Customs Revenues**

By
Assad Kamel Mustafa Musa

Supervised by
Dr. Mohammed A. Sharaqa

***Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master in Taxation Disputes, Faculty of Graduate Studies, at An-Najah
National University, Nablus, Palestine.
2005***

Customs Evasion and its Impact on Palestinian Customs Revenues

By

Assad Kamel Mustafa Musa

Supervised by

Dr: Mohammed A.Sharaqa

Abstract

Customs evasion is one of the problems and obstacles precluding the government's performance of its job: securing welfare and providing basic services to its citizens. To these two end, governments largely depend on customs given their significant contribution to the treasury coffers with the badly needed funds. Customs proceeds are considered one major resource for the treasury which governments cannot survive without. Customs evasion, in the Palestinian Territories, is one of the important factors behind the severe shortage which the Palestinian treasury suffers from. Customs revenues mainly come from trade with or through the Israeli side. It was found that 77% of Palestinian total foreign trade was with Israel. This high percentage is due to the extraordinary circumstances in the region. The difficult political conditions have made Palestinian foreign trade different from those of other countries. Palestinian economy and people are held hostage to the Israeli military occupation measures on the ground: prolonged closures, roadblocks, curfews, restriction on travel and control of border crossings. All these measures combined have led to an increase in customs evasion. In addition, the customs laws, effective in the Palestinian Territories, have some gaps or shortcomings and as a result, customs payers evade paying customs duties. The unfair economic agreements signed between Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel have also had their heavy toll on the Palestinian treasury.

This study aimed at identifying the Palestinian National Authority's revenues, percentage of customs' contribution to the public budget, sources of public revenues. By learning about the nature of the Palestinian customs and its evasion, in terms of organization, specializations and procedures, the researcher sought to examine the customs evasion phenomenon in terms of its types, pillars and penalties applied on customs evaders. This was in addition to the reasons behind customs evasion. The researcher also examined the international economic agreements, including GATT and Paris Economic Protocols (between the PNA and Israel), to find out their impact on customs revenues. He also focused, in his study, on how to check on the customs evasion phenomenon. To these ends, he depended on references, sources, documents and other primary materials such as the texts of the agreements signed between the PLO and other countries. In addition, the researcher managed to have access to directives, and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance.

After data collection and analysis, it was found that the economic reasons played an important and effective role in increasing customs evasion. In addition, it was found that a number of moral, social and political factors were responsible for the rise in customs evasion cases. Further, the penalties, enforced by the Palestinian National Authority, played a leading role in increasing customs evasion. Besides, the laws enforced played a significant and effective role in increasing this phenomenon. Also the absence of a modern and updated Palestinian Customs Law is contributing to the spread of evasion from paying customs.

To check on customs evasion, in the Palestinian Territories, the researcher recommends the following:

- Enacting a new Palestinian customs law.
- Training customs cadres to check on the customs evasion.
- Setting up customs courts, in the Palestinian Territories, to settle customs disputes. This is in addition to developing the customs judicial apparatus.
- Enhancing the role of both internal and external control of offices' performance and evaluating/ assessing their effectiveness.
- Toughening penalties on customs evaders.
- Reformulating and renegotiating the agreements, including Paris Economic Protocols, signed by the PLO and Israel.

