

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 April 2005 – 30 April 2005

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 April 2005 to 30 April 2005. The report includes a summary table of violations by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department, Palestine Liberation Organization. The PMG monitors all aspects of ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli violations, Palestinian violations, and Palestinian achievements. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by Palestinian Authority civilian ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process only represents data available at the time of distribution.

SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – APRIL 2005

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Assassination	1	—	1	1 Palestinian individual wanted by the Israeli army extra-judicially killed in the city of Nablus, despite an understanding reached at the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit to halt extra-judicial killings of wanted individuals.
Deaths	2	5	7	Incl. 3 children in Rafah refugee camp; 1 elderly female civilian suffering from heart disease after being exposed to radiation equipment while being searched at the Rafah Crossing; 1 miscarriage as Israeli troops impeded 1 ambulance from crossing At Tuffah checkpoint in the district of Khan Yunis; 1 taxi driver at a checkpoint set up on Halhul overpass in the district of Hebron, claiming that he did not stop at a checkpoint and ran over an Israeli soldier; and 1 civilian of injuries sustained in the district of Central Gaza.
Injuries	92	4	96	Incl. 23 children, (incl. a 1-year-old infant; 1 child as result of an Israeli army UXO explosion, and a 6-year-old child as a herd of pigs released by Israeli settlers attacked him, his mother and his sister). The Israeli army also injured 1 female civilian; 1 Israeli peace activist; 1 foreign national, and 1 Arab member of the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) as they were protesting Wall construction in the village of Bil'in. Additionally, the Israeli army injured 1 journalist. An Israeli settler opened fire towards, and injured, 1 civilian in the city of Hebron. Additionally, 1 Palestinian shepherd was injured as a result of an Israeli army UXO explosion in the village of 'Azmut in the district of Nablus.
Attacks	100	245	345	44 during raids; 47 during confrontations with the Israeli army; 252 from Israeli army military posts; and 2 by Israeli settlers.
Raids	541	60	601	4 in Jerusalem, 114 in Ramallah; 35 in Jenin; 75 in Tulkarem; 15 in Qalqiliya; 54 in Nablus; 26 in Salfit; 135 in Bethlehem; 83 in Hebron; 7 in Northern Gaza; 8 in Gaza; 4 in Central Gaza; 20 in Khan Yunis; and 21 in Rafah.
Arrests (per person)	234	54	288	The Israeli army arrested civilians during raids on residential compounds and at checkpoints and crossing points, incl. 52 children (incl. 1 physically disabled child), 15 Palestinian officers, 1 ambulance driver, 7 university students, and 1 former political prisoner.
House Demolitions	6	—	6	The Israeli army demolished 5 houses in the district of Jerusalem, incl. 2 houses in the town of Beit Hanina, 1 house in the village of Bir Nabala, 1 house in the village of 'Anata, and 1 house in the town of Al 'Eizariya. The Israeli army also demolished 1 house in 'Askar refugee camp in the city of Nablus. Additionally, the Israeli army distributed notifications to demolish 131 houses in Silwan and Baydahun neighbourhoods in the city of Jerusalem; 30 makeshift houses in close proximity to 'Anatot military base and the Wall in the eastern Jerusalem district; 10 houses in the village of Far'un in the district of Tulkarem; and 3 houses in the village of Tha'laba east of the town of Yatta in the district of Hebron, in addition to a number of houses in the town of As Samoa'.
Destruction of Property	38	1	39	Destruction of Property: <i>Agricultural Property:</i> Ramallah: Olive and lemon trees cut down by Israeli settlers from the settlement of Halamish. Jenin: Olive trees cut down near the village of Sanur. Qalqiliya: Olive trees damaged due to land levelling in the village of Kafr Qaddum. Salfit: 29 olive trees cut down in the village of Marda and a 500-m ² green house destroyed in the town of Deir Ballut. Bethlehem: Hundreds of olive trees uprooted in the village of Al Walaja due to land levelling for Wall construction. Additionally, Israeli settlers uprooted 50 grape vines and over 200 fruit bearing trees near the town of Al Khadr. Hebron: Israeli settlers from the settlement of Kiryat Arba' cut down olive trees and grape vines east of the settlement. Israeli settlers from the settlement of Sussia, under the protection of the Israeli army, also uprooted olive trees on civilian land belonging to the village of At Tuwani. Gaza: Malt crops levelled south of the settlement of Nitsareem. <i>Civilian Property:</i> Jerusalem: A number of sheep pens demolished in the village of Bir Nabala. Ramallah: 1 civilian vehicle destroyed. Jenin: furniture of 1 house damaged in the village of Kufeirit. Tulkarem: 1 civilian vehicle damaged as an Israeli army jeep collided with it near the settlement of 'Einav. Nablus: 1 student's school bag destroyed at Huwwara checkpoint and windshields of 5 civilian vehicles broken near the village of Burin. Bethlehem: Workers prevented from maintaining the Islamic cemetery near 'Ayda refugee camp. Hebron: Vendor stalls removed along Ash Shallallah Street; window glass of 1 house broken; furniture of 1 house in Tall Rumeida neighbourhood in the old city of Hebron damaged as Israeli settlers threw stones at civilian houses; and 1 commercial shop selling vehicle spare parts burned in the town of Adh Dhahiriya. Confiscation of Property: Ramallah: 1 civilian vehicle confiscated in the village of 'Arura; Tulkarem: A sum of NIS 30,000 stolen by Israeli troops while searching 1 house in the town of 'Attil and 1 civilian vehicle confiscated in the town of Beit Lid. Nablus: A sum of NIS 100 stolen from 1 civilian at a checkpoint near the village of Deir Sharaf. Salfit: A pupil's school bag confiscated, after severely beating him, in the village of Marda. Bethlehem:

				Military uniforms confiscated while detaining 6 Palestinian officers at Gush 'Eztion checkpoint. Hebron: Military uniform confiscated from 1 Palestinian Police officer, after detaining and severely beating him at the entrance to the town of Adh Dhahiriya.
House Occupations	16	—	16	Ramallah: In the villages of Um Safa, An Nabi Salih, and Beit 'Ur at Tahta. Tulkarem: The town of 'Illar and the village of Ar Ras. Nablus: The city of Nablus and the town of Huwwara. Bethlehem: A number of house roofs in the city of Beit Jala. Hebron: 5 houses in several neighbourhoods in the city of Hebron.
Curfews	11	—	11	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential areas in the following districts: Ramallah: The villages of Turmus'ayya and 'Abud. Jenin: The villages of Al 'Asa'asa and Deir Abu Da'if. Hebron: The old city of Hebron and the town of Idhna. Nablus: The town of Huwwara and the villages of Sarra and Burqa.
Closure of Crossing Points	—	113	113	Incl. 53 complete closures (incl. Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing for 1 day; Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing for 9 days; Nahal 'Oz for 6 days; Sufa Crossing for 7 days; and the continued closure of Yaser Arafat International Airport). The Israeli army partially closed crossing points on 60 occasions for unspecified reasons. Additionally, the Israeli army closed crossing points from 21 – 24 April during the Passover holiday; however, the closure was extended until 30 April.
Flying Checkpoints	374	1	375	58 in Ramallah, 21 in Jenin, 76 in Tulkarem, 29 in Qalqiliya, 25 in Nablus, 32 in Salfit, 30 in Jericho, 61 in Bethlehem, 42 in Hebron, and 1 in Khan Yunis.
Medical Obstruction	2	1	3	Jenin: 1 medical centre raided and closed in the town of Silat adh Dhahr, after forcing 1 doctor to suspend treatment of an ill civilian. Ramallah: 1 ambulance forced to stop at a checkpoint set up on the junction to the settlement of Halamish and its driver arrested. Rafah: 1 ambulance prevented from crossing checkpoint to transport a pregnant female civilian, resulting in a miscarriage.
Attacks on Religious Sites	5	—	5	Jerusalem: The Israeli army raided the yard of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and beat with clubs civilians protesting the selling of Christian-owned property to Israelis. Israeli settlers also raided Al Aqsa Mosque compound. Ramallah: The Israeli army detained several worshippers inside 1 mosque in the village of Turmus'ayya, surrounded 1 mosque, & opened fire towards worshippers inside; Jericho: The Israeli army raided the Shrine of the Prophet Moses. Bethlehem: The Israeli army surrounded 1 mosque in the village of Beit Ta'mir. Hebron: The Israeli army raided 1 mosque & took position atop its roof in the town of Surif; prohibited the call to prayers from the Ibrahim Mosque and closed the mosque for 2 days, allegedly for celebrations of Jewish holidays; and raided and searched 1 mosque in the town of Dura.
School Disruption	5	—	5	Jerusalem: The Israeli army prevented students from Silwan and Ath Thuri neighbourhoods in the city of Jerusalem from accessing their schools. Ramallah: The Israeli army raided 1 girl's school in the village of An Nabi Salih. Qalqiliya: Israeli troops positioned at 'Azzun 'Atma Wall gate delayed students and teachers from reaching their school on time, allegedly to conduct thorough searches. Hebron: The Israeli army raided and searched 1 kindergarten affiliated with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and detained 60 children inside, set up a checkpoint at the entrance to Hebron University, and detained a number of university students, allegedly to conduct thorough searches.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	31	14	45	Ramallah: Position near 2 Palestinian Police vehicles; 1 governmental vehicle halted and 1 Palestinian security officer arrested in the city of Ramallah; 1 Palestinian security patrol detained near the house of the Palestinian President; taking position in front of Al Muqata'a; Al Muqata'a gate photographed; and the area surrounding 1 Palestinian National Security location in the village of Kafr 'Ein combed. Tulkarem: Taking position near 7 Palestinian National Security checkpoints in the city of Tulkarem and at the entrance to the town of 'Illar and provoking Palestinian National Security officers. Nablus: 1 Palestinian National Security vehicle detained at a checkpoint set up in the city of Nablus. Salfit: Position near Palestinian National Security location. Bethlehem: Position near 3 Palestinian National Security checkpoints in Beit Sahur and the town of Al Khadr; 1 Palestinian Police patrol impeded in the town of Al Khadr; and position near 1 Palestinian Police station in the town of Al 'Ubeidiya. Hebron: Position at the entrance to Al Muqata'a in the city of Hebron; 4 Palestinian National Security vehicles detained; 1 sound grenade fired and weapons aimed at 1 Palestinian Police vehicle in the city of Hebron; 1 Police vehicle pursued and 2 officers arrested along Ash Shallalah Street in the city of Hebron; 4 Police officers detained and beaten in the city of Hebron; a number of Police officers assaulted; 1 Police vehicle detained and searched while transporting prisoners to Adh Dhahiriya Police prison; position near 3 Police stations and 1 National Security location in the city of Hebron and the town of Yatta; and Palestinian military medical services centre in the city of Hebron raided. Northern Gaza: Open fire towards 1 Palestinian security patrol; 1 Palestinian National Security location north of the area of As Sudaniya demolished; and weapons aimed at officers at 2 Palestinian National Security locations after raiding the Industrial Zone (Beit Hanun). Gaza: Open fire towards 5 Palestinian National Security

				locations south of Gaza city. Central Gaza: Open fire from the area surrounding the settlement of Kfar Darom towards Palestinian security patrols while performing security duties. Rafah: Open fire towards 1 Palestinian security patrol and towards 2 Palestinian National Security locations in Rafah refugee camp.
Settlement Activity	21	3	24	Jerusalem: 1 overpass extending from Bab al Maghribah to Al Aqsa Mosque compound constructed and 180 <i>dunums</i> of land belonging to the village of Beit Surik confiscated for Wall construction. Ramallah: Confiscation of land belonging to the village of ‘Abud for Wall construction; land belonging to 8 villages in western Ramallah confiscated for construction of a settler bypass road parallel to Road #443; and 1 settler bypass road, measuring 100 meters in width, constructed. Tulkarem: 280 <i>dunums</i> of land belonging to the town of Beit Lid and the villages of Ramin, Shufa, and Kafr al Labad confiscated for construction of a wall around the settlements of ‘Einav and Avnei Hefetz. Qalqiliya: 40 <i>dunums</i> of land levelled for expansion of the settlement of Kedumim and land between the town of Jayyus and the village of Falamyia near the Wall confiscated for military purposes. Salfit: Tenders offered for construction of 50 settler housing units in the settlement of Elkana. Nablus: 1 settler bypass road constructed along the village of Burqa leading to the settlement of Homesh; 1 settlement outpost constructed near the settlement of Alon Moreh; and civilian land converted into a garbage dump near the city of Nablus. Bethlehem: land belonging to the city of Beit Jala and the villages of Al Walaja and Al Jab’a confiscated for Wall construction. Hebron: Confiscation of land belonging to the towns of Yatta and As Samoa’ and the village of ‘Arab ar Ramadin confiscated for Wall construction; 1 area of land confiscated for military purposes; land in the town of Beit Ummar confiscated for construction of a settler bypass road leading to the settlement of Karmeit Tzur; 1 settler bypass road constructed along the settlement of Kiryat Arba’; 1 settlement outpost constructed along the road to the Ibrahim Mosque in the old city of Hebron; and 1 building inaugurated in the settlement outpost of Tall Rumeida in the old city of Hebron in the presence of the Israeli Knesset Chairman. Northern Gaza: Barbed wire erected opposite Points 23 and 64 on the Green Line east of the town of Jabalya and along Points 25 and 30 on the Green Line east of the town of Beit Hanun. Rafah: 1 settler bypass road, extending from Rafah Crossing to Point 6 along the Egyptian border, constructed.
Settler Violence	53	1	54	Attacks on Civilians: 1 civilian injured from bullet wounds inflicted by an Israeli settler; 1 female child run over in the town of Tuq’u, 1 elderly female civilian near the village of Husan in the district of Bethlehem, and 1 child along the road to the town of Yatta in the district of Hebron; open fire towards civilians in the village of Al ‘Auja in the district of Jericho; 16 civilians, including 3 female civilians and 6 children, beaten in Hebron; and the village of Al Fureidis south of the city of Bethlehem raided. Attacks on Civilian Property: Windshields of 5 civilian vehicles broken in Jenin and Nablus; 1 horse stolen in Jericho and 2 sheep in Bethlehem; furniture of 3 houses damaged; olive and lemon trees and grape vines damaged in Ramallah, Qalqiliya, Bethlehem, and Hebron on 5 occasions; 2 civilian houses confiscated in the neighbourhood of Tall Rumeida in the old city of Hebron; civilians denied access to their agricultural land near the settlements of Kedumim and Shomron in eastern Qalqiliya, Homesh in southern Jenin, and Sussia in southern Hebron on 7 occasions; crops poisoned for the 3 rd consecutive time by settlers from the settlement of Ma’on south of Hebron; land levelled in the village of Qusra in the district of Nablus; rest shelters on the sea shore opposite the area of Al Mawasi/Khan Yunis demolished; 1 settlement outpost constructed in the old city of Hebron; and 1 caravan placed west of the town of Al Khadr in the district of Bethlehem. Attack on Religious Sites: Israeli settlers raided Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem.
Palestinian Security Measures	18	68	86	West Bank Districts: Palestinian security forces handed over 90 illegal vehicles, confiscated by Palestinian Police forces in the cities of Jericho, Qalqiliya, Hebron, and Ramallah, to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO); accompanied and provided protection to Israeli settlers while visiting a synagogue on 2 occasions; handed over a 2-kg. explosive device to the Israeli authorities; handed over 2 Israeli citizens, including 1 female citizen, located in the city of Tulkarem, in addition to an Israeli soldier, in his military uniform and carrying his weapon, who lost his way in the city of Jenin. Gaza Strip Districts: Palestinian security forces detained 15 civilians and interrogated them after discovering them near the Green Line; arrested 2 civilians possessing grenades and weapons; blocked 8 attempts by armed Palestinian individuals to fire mortars towards Israeli targets inside the Green Line and Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip; and confiscated a number of mortars. Palestinian security forces also carried out 3 search missions to uncover suspected tunnels near the Egyptian border; demolished 3 tunnels; dismantled explosive devices on 6 occasions near the security line; and evacuated civilians near the Green Line and along the Egyptian border on 44 occasions.
TOTAL	1550	570	2120	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT TYPE	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	COMMENTS
Assassination	—	—	1	Despite the Israeli Government's commitment at the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit, the Israeli army extra-judicially killed 1 individual.
Deaths	15	4	7	The death toll has risen by 75%. The number of children killed increased from 1 during the month of March to 3 in April.
Injuries	48	78	96	A rise of 23.1% compared to March. The Israeli army injured 23 children in April, compared to 21 in March.
Attacks	219	338	345	An increase in the number of attacks by 2.1% compared to March and 57.5% compared to February.
Raids	369	618	601	Raids decreased by 2.8% compared to March and increased by 62.9% compared to February. Raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Area A) dropped to 323 compared to 415 in March. The Israeli army raided areas in which security responsibility was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority (Area A) in the city of Tulkarem and its eastern areas on 24 occasions.
Arrests (per person)	141	296	288	Arrests decreased by 2.7% compared to March. However, the number of children arrested rose to 52 compared to 46 during the month of March; an increase of 13%.
House Demolitions	3	9	6	The majority of houses demolished by the Israeli army were in Jerusalem for Wall construction and lack of required permits.
Destruction of Property	22	39	39	Incidents of destruction of property remained constant. The Israeli army and settlers continued to damage crops, uproot trees, and damage civilian vehicles.
House Occupations	12	59	16	The Israeli army continued to occupy civilian houses and to convert them into military posts during raids on residential locales.
Curfews	15	51	11	A sharp decrease of 78.4% compared to March and 26.7% compared to February.
Flying Checkpoints	248	449	375	A decrease of 16.5% compared to March and an increase of 51.2% compared to February.
Closures (per District)	Un-known	Un-known	Un-known	The Israeli imposed closure continued over the past 3 months between all districts, incl. Jerusalem, and the Green Line. Civilian movement between districts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip continued to be prohibited. However, the Israeli army eased the closure in the Gaza Strip districts, allowing civilians some freedom to move and a number of workers and VIPs to cross the Green Line.
Closure of Crossing Points	121	98	113	Crossing points were closed for 22 days in April, compared to 13 days in March and 14 days in February. Yaser Arafat International Airport remains closed.
Medical Obstruction	7	4	3	The Israeli army continued to closed medical centres, arrest ambulance drivers, and impede ambulances from crossing checkpoints, in some cases resulting in civilian deaths and miscarriages.
Attacks on Religious Sites	—	15	5	Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints set up throughout Jerusalem and Hebron continued to obstruct worshippers' access to mosques. The Israeli army also raided Islamic and Christian sites in Jerusalem, raided mosques, and opened fire towards worshippers.
School Disruption	14	18	5	The Israeli army continued to disrupt classes in schools as a result of raids on schools and kindergartens and delayed teachers and students from reaching their schools as a result of intensified search measures at Wall gates.
Provocation of Pal. Forces	48	55	45	Over the 3 months following the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit, incidents of provocation of Palestinian forces remained relatively constant. Additionally, the Israeli army repeatedly raided areas returned to Palestinian Authority control (Areas A) in Tulkarem.
Settlement Activity	23	34	24	Compared to March, incidents of settlement activity dropped by 29.4% throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip. However, construction of the Wall continued in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Hebron, in addition to settler bypass roads.
Settler Violence	33	81	54	A decrease of 33.3% from the previous month in the number of attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinian civilians, their property and land. Additionally, Israeli settlers continued to carry out incidents of running over civilians, particularly children.
Palestinian Security Measures	17	59	86	Palestinian security measures in the Gaza Strip, Palestinian cities returned to Palestinian Authority control (Areas A), and Israeli occupied cities in the West Bank increased sharply. Compared to March, Palestinian security forces handed over 90 illegal vehicles compared to 18; handed over 1 mortar and 1 explosive belt compared to 1 explosive device; located 3 Israeli citizens, including 1 soldier with his weapon, compared to 5 Israeli settlers; arrested 17 suspected civilians compared to 15; blocked attempts to fire mortars towards Israeli targets and Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip and confiscated mortars on 8 occasions; demolished 3 tunnels, compared to 4; dismantled explosive devices on 6 occasions; and evacuated civilians near the Green Line and along the Egyptian border on 44 occasions. In February, Palestinian forces demolished 7 tunnels, blocked 8 attempts to fire mortars and attack Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing, dismantled 2 explosive devices near Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing, and arrested 4 armed Palestinian individuals.
TOTAL	1355	2305	2120	Total incidents dropped by 8% compared to March, but rose by 56.5% compared to February.

ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Assassination

On 14 April 2005, the Israeli army extra-judicially killed *Ibrahim Mohammed al Hashash*, a member of Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, in the city of Nablus, violating the Palestinian-Israeli understandings reached after the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit prohibiting the arrest or assassination of wanted Palestinian individuals. The assassination of Hashash threatened to disrupt the relative calm reached following agreements with Palestinian President Mahmoud 'Abbas and Palestinian factions. The Israeli army, however, did not carry out any assassination attempts during the months of February and March.

2. Killings

Compared to 4 Palestinians killed in March and 15 in February, the **Israeli army killed 7 Palestinians in April**, including 2 in the West Bank and 5 in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli army denied access to an ambulance to transport 1 pregnant female civilian across a checkpoint, causing her to miscarry, and subjected another elderly female civilian to searches and radiation equipment at the Rafah Crossing while travelling to Egypt for medical treatment. Additionally, 1 civilian died of previous injuries sustained during an Israeli army raid. The number of children killed by the Israeli army rose from 1 in March to **3 children in April**, all killed in Rafah refugee camp.

3. Injuries

Compared to 78 Palestinians injured by the Israeli army in March and 48 in February, the total number of injuries reported during the month of March was **96** (an increase of 23.1% compared to March and 100% compared to February). The number of civilian injuries rose in April as a result Israeli army **attacks during raids** (44) on residential locales. The Israeli army also **opened fire and fired tear gas grenades on 47 occasions** during demonstrations against Wall construction, injuring 23 children, including a 1-year-old infant as a result of tear gas inhalation. Additionally, the Israeli army opened machinegun fire from its military posts on 252 separate occasions.

Compared to 68 Palestinians injured by the Israeli army in the **West Bank** last month, **92** Palestinians were injured in April, including 2 in Jerusalem, 39 in Ramallah, 1 in Jenin, 7 in Tulkarem, 17 in Nablus, 9 in Salfit, 6 in Bethlehem, and 11 in Hebron. In the **Gaza Strip**, the Israeli army injured **4 civilians**, compared to 10 in March, including 3 in Khan Yunis and 1 in Rafah. Compared to 21 children injured last month, the **Israeli army injured 23 children** during the month of April (an increase of 9.5%), including 21 children during demonstrations protesting Wall construction, 1 child as a result of an Israeli army UXO explosion, and 1 child attacked by a herd of pigs released by Israeli settlers near his village.

Additionally, the Israeli army injured 1 Arab member of the Israeli Parliament, the *Knesset*, 1 Israeli peace activist, 1 foreign national, and 1 civilian as a result of an Israeli army UXO explosion near his village east of the city of Nablus.

4. Closure

Since the death of Palestinian President Yaser Arafat on 11 November 2004, the Israeli army continues to prevent civilians from crossing the Green Line. However, the Israeli army continued to partially ease the closure during the month of April in the Gaza Districts, including allowing access to a restricted number of workers. The Israeli army permitted between 3,924 workers to cross the Green Line at the beginning of April and 4,600 at the end of the month. The Israeli army also opened Abu Holi and Al Matahin checkpoints along Salah ad Din road, connecting areas north and south of the Gaza Strip, allowing access to civilian vehicles. After 26 April, however, the Israeli army closed the 2 checkpoints.

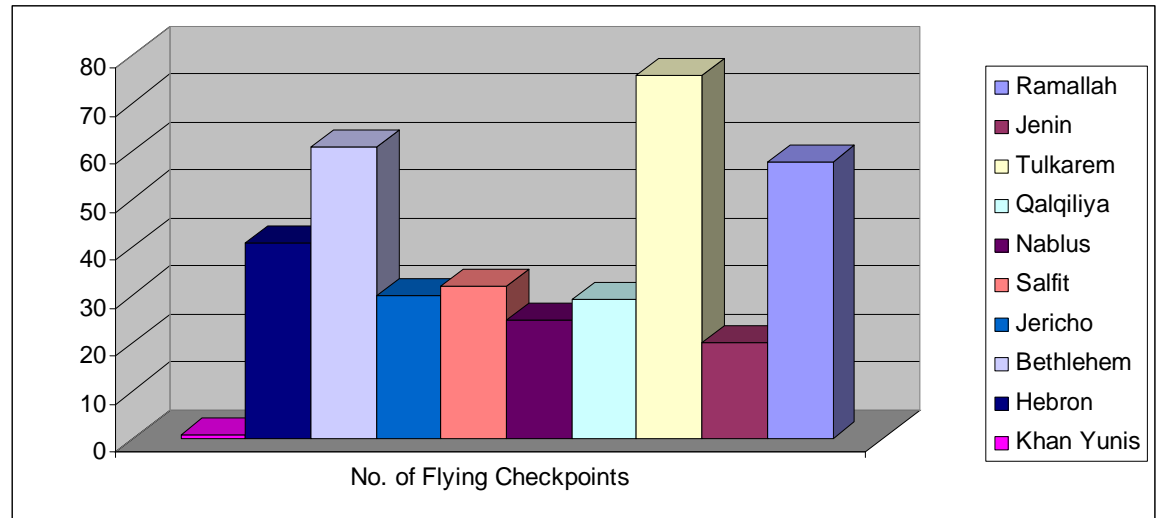
In the **Gaza Strip**, the Israeli army continues to close Nitsareem (*Ash Shuhada'*) junction, Abu al 'Ajin road (*Khan Yunis ash Sharqiya*), and the Western

road (*Khan Yunis*) since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising). The Israeli army also impeded civilians attempting to reach their houses in the area of Al Mawasi (At Tuffah/Khan Yunis checkpoint closed for 8 days and the area of Al Mawasi/Rafah for 6 days).

In the **West Bank**, the Israeli army continued to intensify its restrictions, impeded civilian access, and prevented vehicles from crossing permanent checkpoints set up at entrances to Palestinian cities, including *An Nabi Samwil* and *Qalandiya checkpoints* set up at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem; *Huwwara* and *Beit Iba checkpoints* at the entrances to the city of Nablus; *Al Kafriyyat checkpoint*, the only checkpoint by which access to the city of Tulkarem is possible, where Israeli troops detained hundreds of civilians for an extended period of time; and *Al Fahs* and *Hagai checkpoints* at the entrances to the city of Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army continued to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints set up on main junctions between Palestinian districts, including *Tayasir checkpoint* between the districts of Jenin and Jericho, where Israeli troops intensified restrictions for 4 days, provoked civilians, and detained a number of civilians for several hours in a hole under the sun; *Za'tara checkpoint* between the northern and central areas of the West Bank, which the Israeli army closed for 3 days; *Deir Ballut checkpoint* between the districts of Salfit and Ramallah; *Al Hamra checkpoint* between districts in the central West Bank and the Jordan Valley, *As Sawahira ash Sharqiya checkpoint* between Jerusalem and districts in the central West Bank; and *Abu Holi checkpoint* between the central and southern areas of the Gaza Strip, which the Israeli army closed for 3 days.

Special permits are required for civilian vehicles to cross *Huwwara checkpoint* between the city of Nablus and the districts of Ramallah and Salfit, *Beit Iba checkpoint* between the city of Nablus and the districts of Tulkarem and Jenin, the checkpoint set up at the southern entrance to the city of Jericho, and *As Sawahira ash Sharqiya checkpoint* (the 'Container') between the districts of Ramallah and Bethlehem to Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army completely prohibited civilian vehicles from crossing *'Einav gate* between the districts of Tulkarem and Nablus.

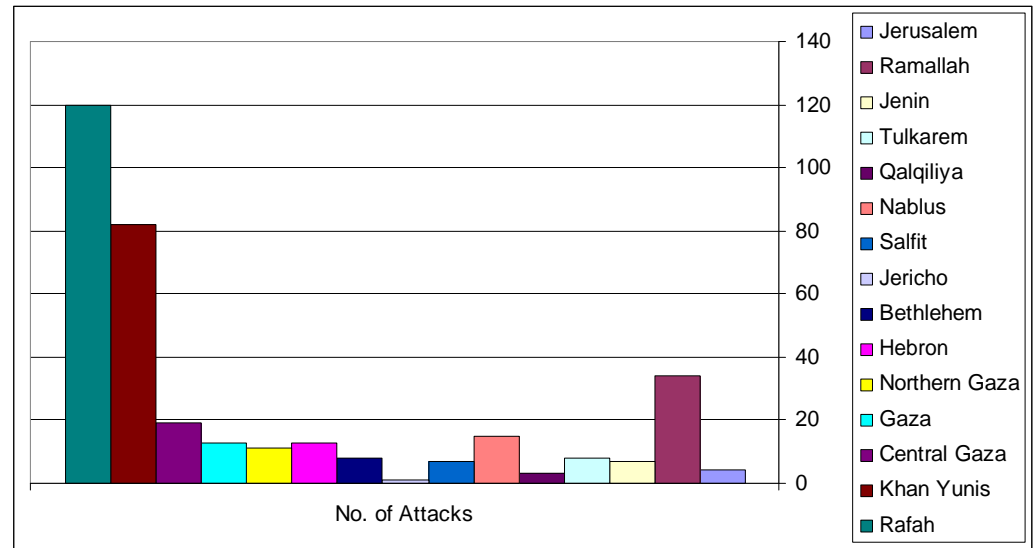
The Israeli army also set up **375 flying checkpoints** in and around residential locales throughout the West Bank, compared to 449 flying checkpoints in March (a decrease of 16.5%) and 248 in February (an increase of 51.2%). Additionally, the Israeli army continues to close the commercial centre in the old city of Hebron with barbed wire and cement blocks. Beginning on 20 April, the Israeli army continues to close Ash Shallalah Street (new) with cement blocks. The Israeli army also continues to completely isolate the village of Al Nu'man east of the city of Bethlehem for several months and close Ar Ram junction leading to the town of Bir Nabala in northern Jerusalem. On 10 April, the Israeli army set up an iron gate at the entrance to the village of Yasuf in the eastern Salfit district and opens the gate from morning until 18:00 only. On 26 April, the Israeli army closed Ath Thuri and Silwan neighbourhoods in the city of Jerusalem and denied access to civilians and students, allegedly to allow Israeli settlers to travel to the Western Wall. In addition, the Israeli army closed the district of Qalqiliya and the neighbouring town of 'Azzun on 11 April and the villages of Deir Abu Da'if and 'Aba in the eastern Jenin district on 23 April.



5. Attacks

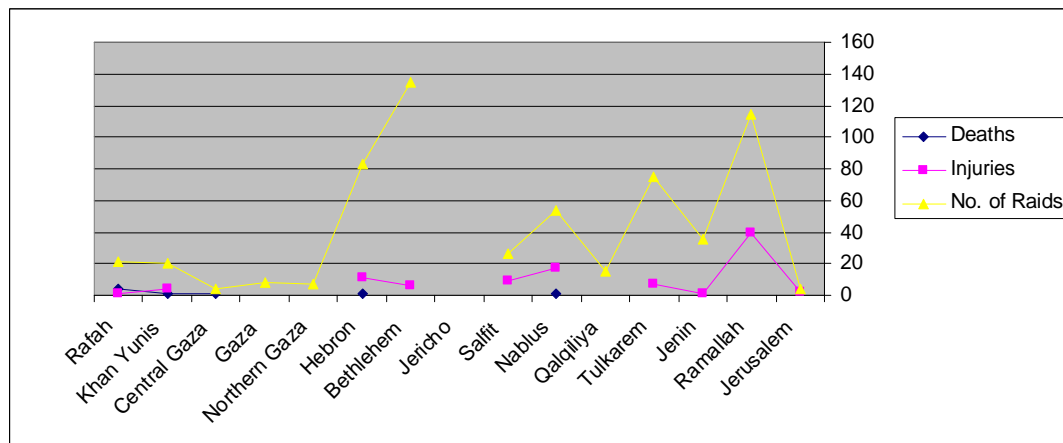
Compared to 338 attacks during the month of March, the Israeli army carried out **345 attacks in April**, (an increase of 2.1%), utilizing various forms of weaponry, including **100 attacks in the West Bank** and **245 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army attacks took place in Rafah, (120), Khan Yunis (82), Ramallah (34), Central Gaza (19), Nablus (15), Hebron (13), and Gaza (13).

The Israeli army carried out **44 attacks during raids** on residential areas, **252 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property, and **47 attacks on peaceful demonstrations** against construction of the Wall or during confrontations between the Israeli army and civilians. Additionally, Israeli settlers opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on 2 occasions.



6. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **601 raids** on residential locales during the month of April (compared to 618 raids during March – a decrease of 2.8%), including **541 in the West Bank** (4 in Jerusalem, 114 in Ramallah, 35 in Jenin, 75 in Tulkarem, 15 in Qalqiliya, 54 in Nablus, 26 in Salfit, 135 in Bethlehem, and 83 in Hebron). The Israeli army also conducted **60 raids in the Gaza Strip** (7 in Northern Gaza, 8 in Gaza, 4 in Central Gaza, 20 in Khan Yunis, and 21 in Rafah). The Israeli army **opened fire during 44 of the 601 raids**, approximately 7.3% of the total number of raids on residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfew over 11 residential locales** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 51 in March).



The Israeli army continued to intensify its raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (**Areas “A”** under the Oslo Agreement which the Israeli army reoccupied in 2002). The Israeli army conducted **323** of the 601 raids, approximately 53.7% of the total number of raids, in Palestinian Authority controlled territory.

The graph to the left shows the correlation between the number of raids and resulting human losses.

Following the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit (08 February 2005), security control of the city of Jericho and the village of Al ‘Auja was transferred to the Palestinian Authority on 16 March 2005. On 21 March 2005, security control of the city

of Tulkarem and its eastern areas was also transferred to the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian and Israeli commanders agreed that the Israeli army would not enter these areas. However, the Israeli army violated the agreement as it raided the city of Tulkarem on 1 occasion and eastern Tulkarem on 6 occasions, including the towns of ‘Anabta (2) and Bal’a (3) and the village of Kafr al Labad (1). Palestinian authorities have disagreed with Israeli authorities about the interpretation of the agreement regarding the area of the town of ‘Illar and the village of Seida, along with the village of Ramin; Palestinian authorities consider these areas to be under Palestinian security control, but the Israelis say that they would accept a limited Palestinian presence only in these areas. The Israeli army entered this area on 14 occasions and the village of Ramin on 2 occasions.

7. Attacks against Palestinian Governmental Institutions and Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out **45** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security and military forces and locations during the month of April (compared to 55 in March), including **31** in the West Bank and **14** in the Gaza Strip. **These figures do not include the arrest of 15 Palestinian security officers.**

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces

Type of Provocation	No.	Notes
Raid on Palestinian security offices and locations	1	Raid and search of 1 Palestinian military medical services centre in Hebron
Surrounding Palestinian security offices and locations	2	2 Palestinian National Security locations surrounded and weapons aimed at Palestinian National Security officers near the town of Beit Hanun north of Gaza, in addition to 1 Palestinian Police patrol in the town of Al Khadr west of the city of Bethlehem.
Attacks	11	7 attacks on Palestinian National Security locations (including 5 in Gaza and 2 in Rafah); 4 on Palestinian security patrols (including 3 in the Gaza districts), despite the Palestinian-Israeli agreement to dispatch Palestinian security patrols along flashpoints; and 1 on a Palestinian Police patrol in the city of Hebron.
Taking position / setting up flying checkpoints near Palestinian security locations	20	Near Palestinian National Security checkpoints, provoking Palestinian National Security officers. The Israeli army also set up flying checkpoints near Al Muqata’a in the city of Ramallah and took photographs of its gate.
Detaining Palestinian security officers and patrols	9	4 Palestinian Police vehicles, including 1 transporting prisoners; 4 Palestinian Police officers; 6 Palestinian National Security vehicles, including 1 near the house of the Palestinian President.
Physical Assaults	2	The Israeli army beat a number of Palestinian Police officers in Hebron.

8. House Demolitions

The Israeli army **demolished 6 houses** during the month of April (compared to **9** in March), including **5** in Jerusalem (4 under the claim that they were built without the required license and 2 for being located on the projected Wall route and in close proximity to 1 Israeli army military base) and 1 house in ‘Askar refugee camp belonging a political prisoner held in Israeli prisons.

The Israeli army also **distributed notifications to demolish** 131 houses in Silwan and Baydhun neighbourhoods in the city of Jerusalem; 30 makeshift houses in close proximity to ‘Ananot military base and the Wall in the district of Jerusalem; 10 houses in the village of Far’un in the district of Tulkarem; 3 houses in the village of Tha’laba east of the town of Yatta; a number of houses in the town of As Samoa’, and a number of barracks in the village of Ibziq in the eastern Jenin district, claiming that they were built in a military zone.

9. Destruction of Public and Private Property

As in March, **39 incidents of destruction and confiscation of public and private property** were reported during the month of April, including 38 in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli army uprooted olive trees in Hebron and lemon trees and grape vines in the districts of Ramallah, Jenin, Bethlehem, Qalqiliya, and Gaza; destroyed vendor stalls in Hebron; damaged windshields of 5 civilian vehicles in Nablus and windows of 1 house in Hebron; damaged 4 civilian vehicles in the districts of Tulkarem and Ramallah; destroyed 1 green house in the district of Salfit; set fire to 1 commercial shop in the district of Hebron; damaged furniture of 1 house in the district of Jenin, destroyed the gates of 1 school in the district of Ramallah; and demolished sheep pens in the district of Jerusalem.

The Israeli army confiscated 1 school bag belonging to a pupil, after severely beating him, in the district of Salfit and 2 military uniforms while detaining Palestinian security officers in the districts of Bethlehem and Hebron. Israeli troops also stole a sum of NIS 30,000 as they were searching 1 house in the district of Tulkarem, and NIS 100 from 1 civilian at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus.

10. Settlement Activity

A total of **24 incidents of settlement activity** were reported in April (compared to 34 during the month of March), including 21 in the West Bank and 3 in Gaza Strip.

Types and Sites of Settlement Activity

Type of Activity	Land levelling/ confiscation for settlement expansion	Land confiscation for Wall construction	Land confiscation for construction/ expansion of settler bypass roads	Erection of fences protecting settler bypass roads	Land confiscation for military purposes	Other	Total
District							
Jerusalem		1				1 (overpass connecting Al Aqsa Mosque compound to Bab al Maghariba)	2
Ramallah		1	2				3
Tulkarem		3					3
Qalqiliya	1				1		2
Nablus			1			1 (garbage dump)	2
Salfit						1 (tender to expand settlement)	1
Bethlehem		3					3
Hebron		1	2		1	1 (settlement outpost in Tall Rumeida expanded)	5
Northern Gaza				2			2
Rafah			1				1
Total	1	9	6	2	2	4	24

As shown in the table above and from data extracted from PMG Daily Situation Reports, the Israeli army continued to confiscate and level civilian land in the West Bank districts (particularly in Ramallah and Hebron) in order to construct settler bypass roads leading to Israeli settlements. Along with the acceleration of Wall construction, the Israeli army confiscated civilian land for completion of the portion of the Wall north of the city of Jerusalem, west of Ramallah, and southwest of Hebron. Additionally, Israeli authorities continue to expand Israeli settlements.

11. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out **54 attacks** in April (compared to 81 during the month of March). 53 Israeli settler attacks were reported to have taken place in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip, including 22 in Hebron, 9 in Bethlehem, 6 in Qalqiliya, 5 in Jericho, 5 in Nablus, 1 in Jerusalem, 3 in Jenin, 1 in Khan Yunis, 1 in Ramallah, and 1 in Tulkarem.

An Israeli settler **opened fire** towards, and injured, 1 civilian. Additionally, **Israeli settlers ran over 3 Palestinian civilians, including 1 male and 1 female child, 8 year olds, and a 63-year-old female civilian**, during the month of April, compared to 3 civilians (including 1 female child) in March and 3 civilians (2 children and 1 female civilian) run over in February. Israeli settlers have repeatedly run over children and fled the scene, as Israeli police are seldom in the area.

Additionally, Israeli settlers severely beat at least 16 Palestinian civilians, including 6 children, 3 female civilians (including 1 elderly civilian), and a 70-year-old civilian. Israeli settlers also raided 1 Palestinian village; levelled land belonging to 1 Palestinian civilian; stole horses belonging to civilians; destroyed vineyards; damaged crops, and uprooted trees. Additionally, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Ma'on poisoned crops in southern Hebron for the 3rd consecutive time. Israeli settlers also prevented civilians from accessing their agricultural land; closed main roads; constructed 2 settlement outposts; and confiscated 2 houses. Israeli settlers from the settlements of Kiryat Arba' and Kedumim carried out the largest number of acts of violence against Palestinian civilians.

12. Medical Obstruction

The Israeli army carried out **3 incidents of medical obstruction** during the month of April (compared to 4 in March), including 2 in the West Bank (1 in Ramallah and 1 in Jenin) and 1 in Rafah in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army raided and closed 1 medical centre in the town of Silat adh Dhahr in the district of Jenin, after forcing 1 doctor to suspend treatment of an ill civilian. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Rafah prevented an ambulance from crossing, causing 1 pregnant female civilian to miscarry, and troops positioned at a checkpoint set up on the junction to the settlement of Halamish forced 1 ambulance to stop and arrested its driver.

13. School Disruption

The Israeli army carried out **5 incidents of school disruption** in April (compared to 18 in March). All incidents of school disruption were reported to have taken place in the West Bank, including 1 in Jerusalem, 1 in Ramallah, 1 in Qalqiliya, and 2 in Hebron. The Israeli army prevented students from 2 neighbourhoods in the city of Jerusalem from accessing their schools. Israeli troops positioned at a Wall gate in the district of Qalqiliya delayed teachers and students from reaching their school on time due to searches. Additionally, the Israeli army raided 1 girl's school in the district of Ramallah; raided and searched 1 kindergarten affiliated with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in the city of Hebron and detained 60 children inside, set up a checkpoint at the entrance to Hebron University and detained a number of university students, allegedly to conduct thorough searches.

14. Attacks on Religious Sites

The Israeli army continues to assault Christian and Islamic sacred sites, with a total of **5 attacks on religious sites** reported during the month of April. The Israeli army raided the yard of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and beat with clubs civilians protesting the sale of Christian-owned properties to Israelis. Israeli settlers also raided Al Aqsa Mosque compound. Additionally, the Israeli army detained a number of worshippers inside 2 mosques in villages in the district of Ramallah; opened fire towards worshippers; surrounded 1 mosque south of the city of Bethlehem; and raided 1 mosque and took position atop its roof. The Israeli army also raided and searched 1 mosque in a village in the district of Hebron; prevented the call to prayers from being broadcast in the Ibrahimi Mosque, and closed the Ibrahimi Mosque for 2 days for celebrations on Jewish holidays.

15. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including crossing points into the Green Line and Egypt, on 113 occasions, including 53 times completely and 60 partially. On 24 April, the Israeli army closed ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** completely and opened it partially for the remainder of the month only to ill civilians and construction workers (whose number rose from 1,100 to 3,521 by the end of April), and allowed VIPs to cross after 26 April. Additionally, the Israeli army closed ***Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing*** for 9 days completely, ***Nahal 'Oz Crossing*** for 6 days completely, and ***Sufa Crossing*** completely for 7 days and partially for the remainder of the month (allowing only construction cargo and prohibiting merchants and workers from crossing). The Israeli army partially opened the ***Rafah Crossing*** to Egypt (for 4 hours to arrivals only) and restarted operation of a radioactive device to search civilians. As a result, one female civilian suffering from heart disease died after being subjected to searches with the radioactive device while travelling to Egypt. Following the incident, Palestinian security forces closed the crossing for 1 day in protest against the use of the device. ***Yaser Arafat International Airport*** remains closed since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising).