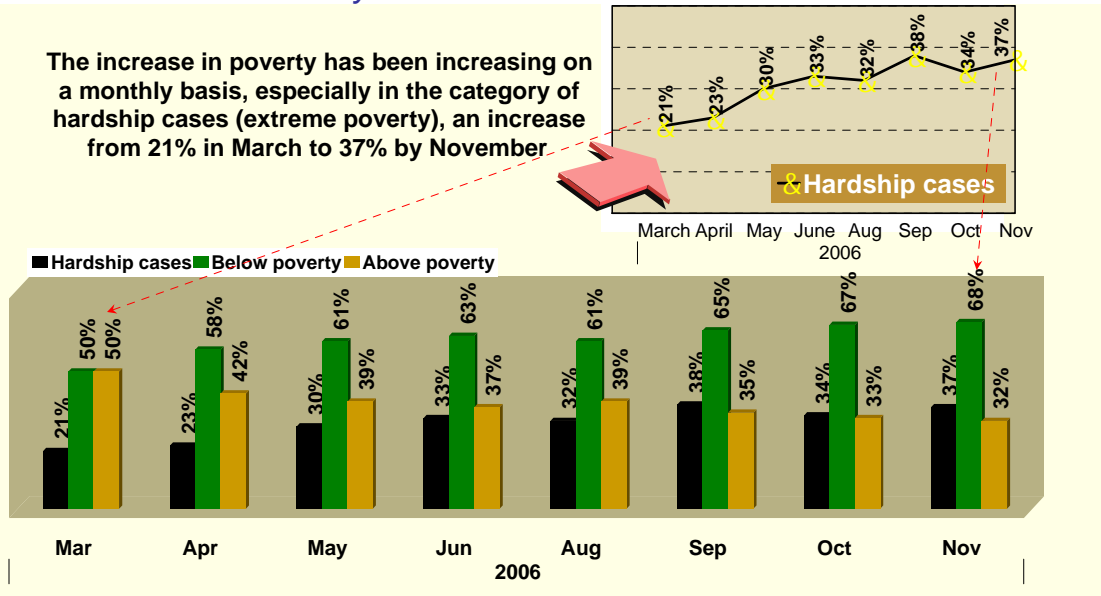




### November Poverty Monitor

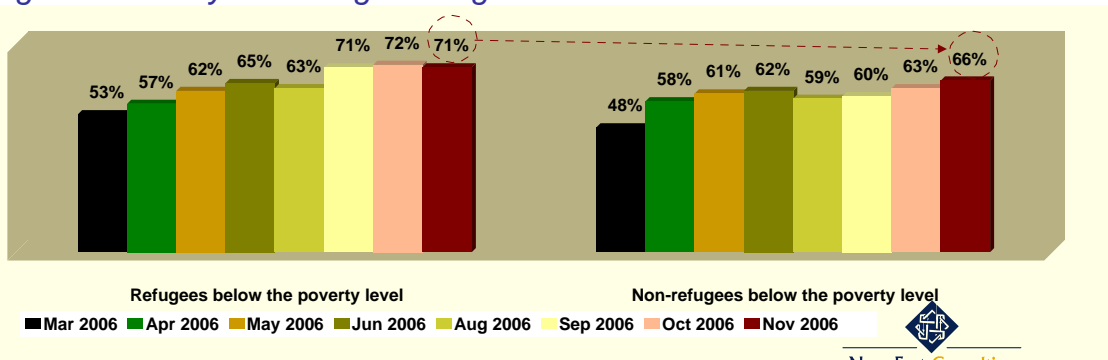
Near East Consulting's monthly poverty monitor which is aimed at closely monitoring the developing economic situation in the oPt clearly reveals this month that the Palestinian population more than ever before is living below the poverty line at a increasing percentage than compared to the past 8 months (68%) whilst also half of the Palestinians live at the extreme poverty level. There has been a 16% increase in the percentage of Palestinians living at the hardship case level in just the last 7 months. This rapid increase in poverty is a direct result of the collective sanctions that the Palestinian public faces since the PLC elections in which Hamas won a majority of the parliamentary seats, the consistent deterioration and attacks on the Gaza Strip and throughout the West Bank by Israeli forces, and the employees' strikes.

Figure 1: Evolution of Poverty



Poverty levels do not seem to discriminate between refugees and non-refugees. Although the poverty level is higher among refugees (71%), the situation among the non-refugee population is equally dire (66%).

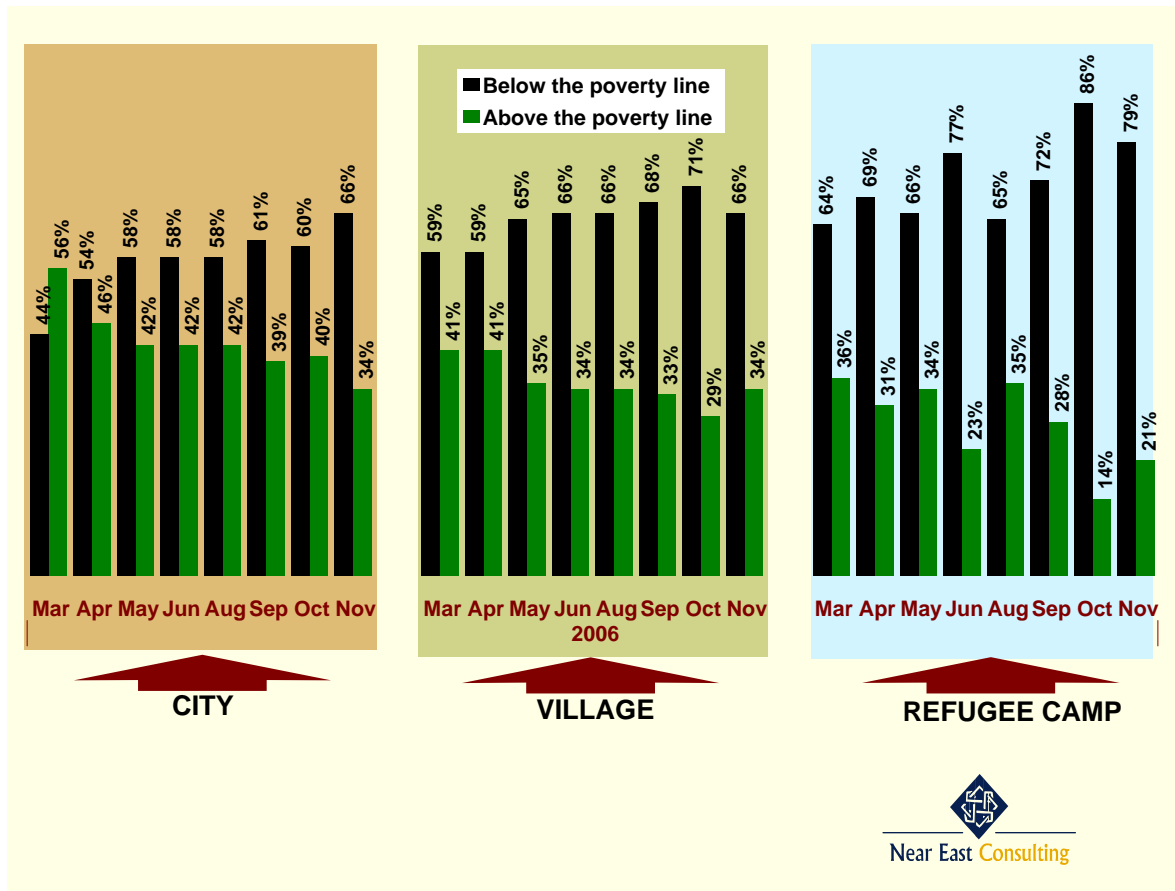
Figure 2 Poverty according to refugee status:





The percentage of Palestinians living below the poverty line is progressing and does not discriminate also between Palestinians and whether they reside in a city, village or a refugee camp as more than half of the Palestinian population is living below the poverty line. Having said that, and despite the efforts of UNRWA and other agencies, more than 75% of Refugee camp residents live below the poverty line as compared to 66% of village and city residents that live at this same level.

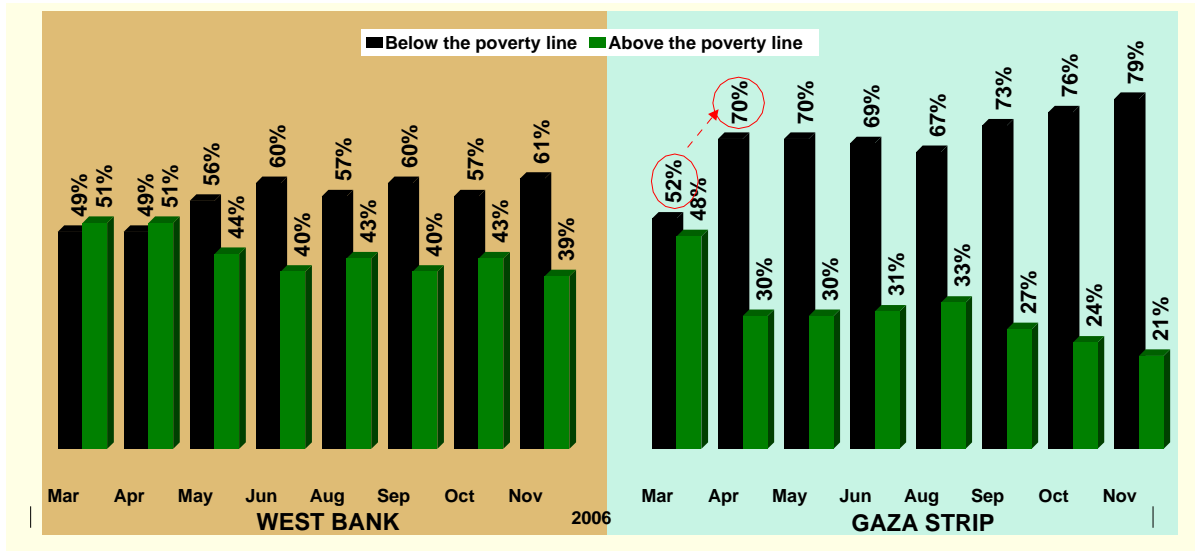
Figure 3: Evolution of poverty according to place of residence



The high poverty rate among refugee camp residents, the strict closure on the Gaza Strip, and the constant attacks there by Israel explain why Gaza Strip residents continue to undergo massive deterioration to their economic lives. The percentage of Palestinians living below the poverty line in the Gaza Strip reaches 79% this month compared to where it stood at 52% in March as shown in the figure below. The percentage of West Bankers living below the poverty line has also increased by 4% this month from October (57%) although it cannot be compared to the rapid increasing level of Palestinians living below the poverty line in the Gaza Strip. Also worth noting is that the rate of extreme poverty rate in the Gaza Strip has surpassed 50% (as compared to 27% in the West Bank)

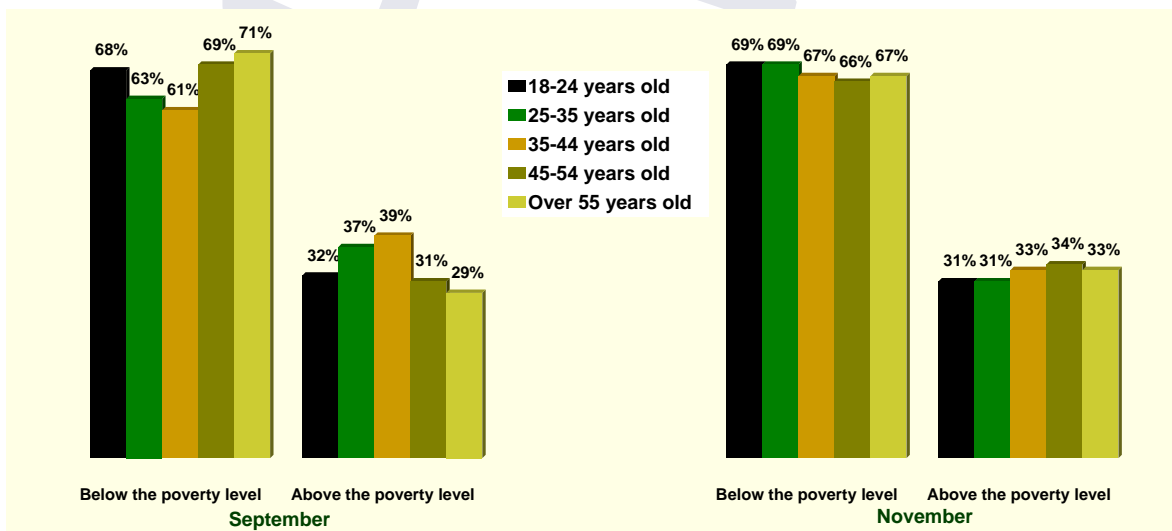


Figure 4: Evolution of poverty according to region or residence



In comparison to September's poverty monitor in which 71% of respondents aged over 55 lived below the poverty line, a slightly lesser amount live at this level of poverty this month (67%). Meanwhile, younger Palestinians aged 18-24 years old consistently continue to live below the poverty line compared to two months ago. However, it is important to note that while the poverty level of the young and the old remained relatively stable over the past two months, the situation is not the same for the normally productive age groups (25 to 55 years old) whose poverty level has intensified to become almost on the same level as the age groups that are less involved in productive activities.

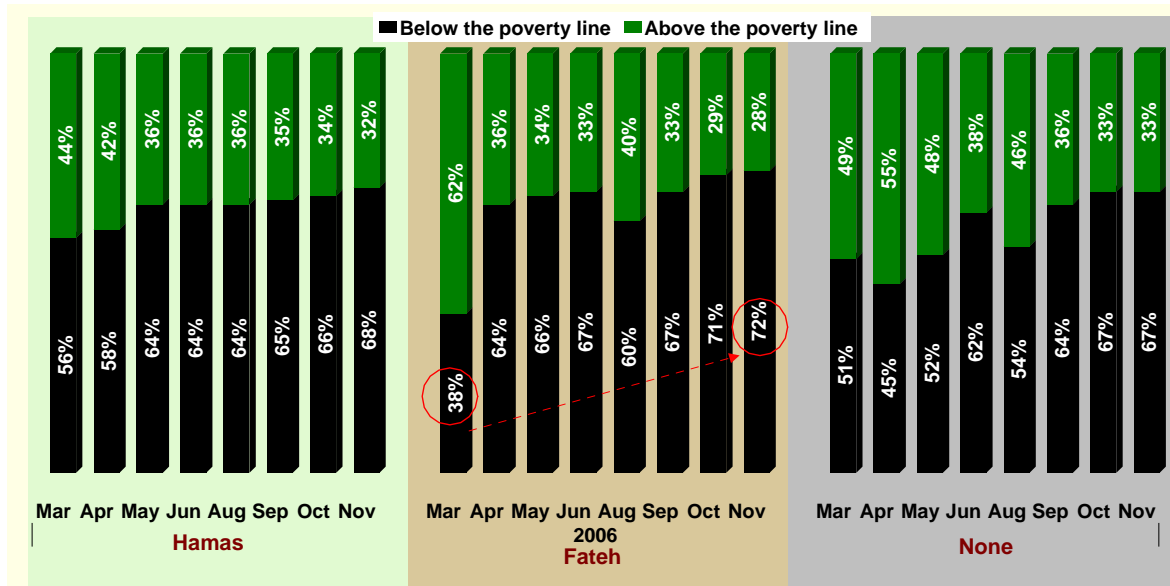
Figure 5: Evolution of poverty according to age





When it comes to factional trust, the largest increase in respondents that live below the poverty line from among those that trust Hamas, Fateh or that trust no faction can be witnessed among those that trust Fateh most. As illustrated below, 71% of the respondents that trust Fateh most live below the poverty line (compared to 38% in March). A slightly smaller percentage of Hamas (68%) and those Palestinians that do not trust any faction (67%) live below the poverty line.

Figure 6: Evolution of poverty according to factional trust



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