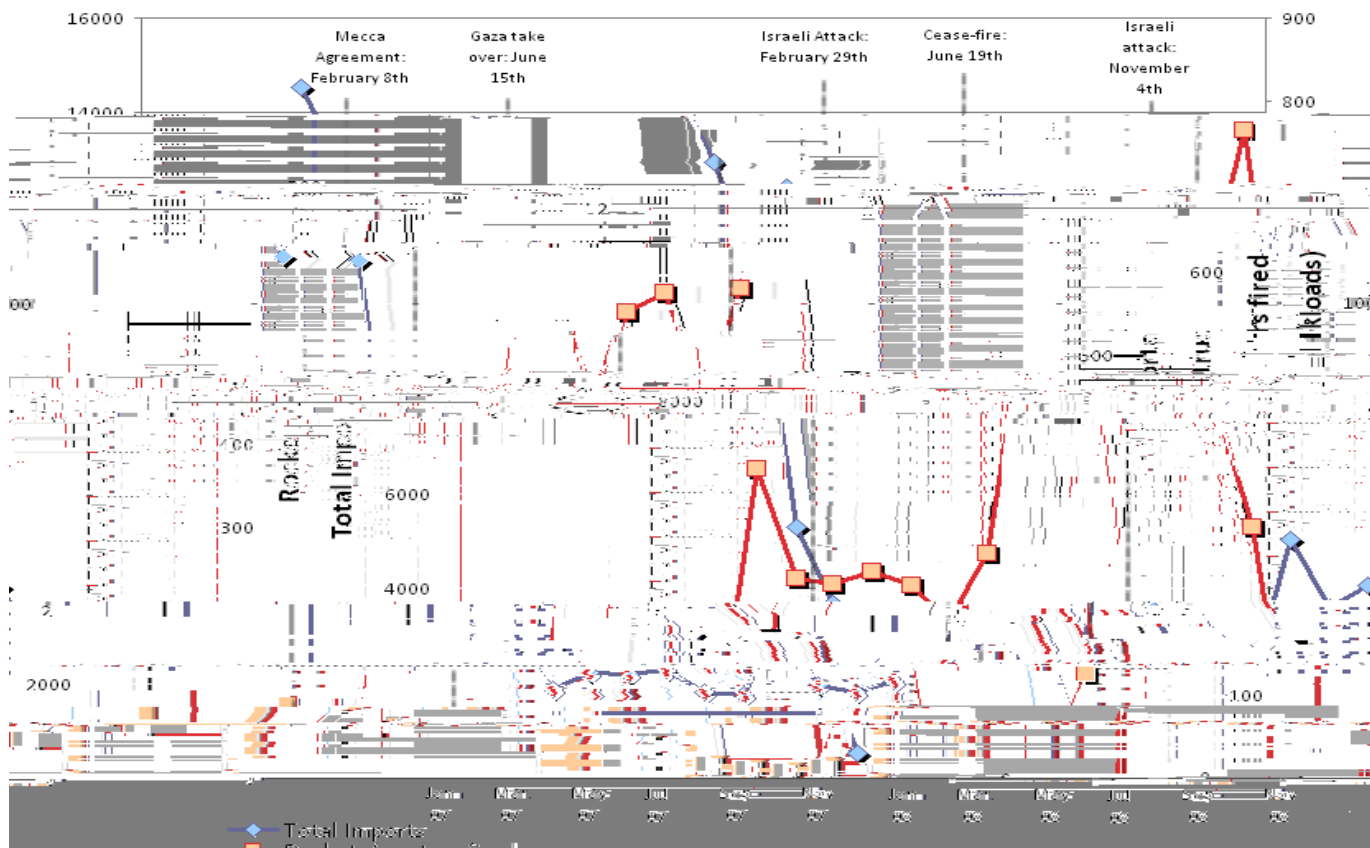# The June 2008 Gaza Ceasefire

In an indirect ceasefire agreement signed on June 19, 2008, Israel and Hamas agreed to cease all military activities in and around Gaza and to end the Gaza siege. This report briefly outlines the implementation of that agreement in the lead up to the recent war. Our analysis is based on publicly available data from UN sources.

Import of goods into Gaza – Rockets and mortars fired from Gaza

1 – Cessation of military activities and the siege

In the first half of 2007 (prior to the Hamas takeover of Gaza), an average of 17 Palestinians were killed per month in Gaza.[1] During the entire period, a total of two Israelis were killed in southern Israel[2]. In June 2007, Hamas took complete control of the Strip, routing Fatah's security forces. Soon after, Israel initiated a tight siege of the territory and three months later, designated the Gaza Strip a "hostile entity." Rockets into Israel intensified as well as Israel's attacks on the Strip. From July 2007 to June 2008,

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average monthly conflict-related fatalities in Gaza and its vicinity rose to 49 Palestinians,

people leaving in August 2008, but this number decreased soon after to only one in October 2008[8] (see the table below for more info).

	Jun-08	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	Oct-08
Rafah - daily crossings out	7	14	108	89	1
Rafah - daily crossings in	13	18	35	26	37
Erez - daily crossings in/out of Israel	2	10	11	11	10

Israel also banned the movement of Palestinians through Erez, the sole passenger crossing to/from Israel and the West Bank, save for very rare medical cases. In the first half of 2007, an average of 270 Palestinians moved in and out of Israel daily through Erez[9]. Following Hamas' take over of the Strip, this figure reduced to less than 10^{10}. After the June 2008 ceasefire, the numbers continued low, at around 10 crossings a day[11].

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[8] Source: http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_humanitarian_monitor_table_2008_10_english.pdf
[9] Source: http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/Humanitarian_Monitor_Dec_07.pdf
[10] Source: http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_humanitarian_monitor_table_2008_10_english.pdf
[11] Source: http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_humanitarian_monitor_table_2008_10_english.pdf