Making Do with What You Have: Conflict, Firm Performance and Input Misallocation in Palestine*

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Abstract

This paper investigates the effect of conflict on firms' output value and input misallocation in the context of Palestine during the Second Intifada. Using a unique establishment-level dataset, we compare firms' outcomes and input usage over time across districts experiencing differential changes in conflict intensity. We show how conflict diminishes the total and per-worker value of firms' output through the distortions it generates in firms' access to input markets. In particular, lack of access to the market for imported material inputs leads firms to adjust input usage accordingly, substituting domestically produced materials for imported ones. We also empirically identify the relative amount of conflict-induced input distortions. Furthermore, we find that conflict affects disproportionally more those sectors which were more intensive in imported materials and had higher average output value in pre-conflict years. Conflict is thus shown to be particularly harmful for the most productive sectors of the economy.

Keywords: conflict, firms, misallocation, Palestine, Second Intifada.

JEL Codes: D22, D24, N45, O12.

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1 Introduction

Old and new violent conflicts hinder the economic development of countries and affect the life of millions of people in every region of the world. Half of world nations suffered from civil conflict after 1960, with dramatic negative effects for their populations on a number of outcomes, including health, education, and psychological well-being (Blattman and Miguel 2010). There is also robust evidence of a negative relationship between conflict and aggregate economic activity (Alesina, Özler, Roubini, and Swagel 1996; Collier, Elliott, Hegre, Hoeffler, Reynal-Querol, and Sambanis 2003). Yet, our understanding of the microeconomic mechanisms behind such aggregate effects is still scarce. Specifically, there is a lack of empirical evidence on how conflict affects the backbone of the economy, namely the firm. Which firm-level outcomes are impacted by violent conflicts? What are the actual mechanisms behind these effects?

Providing the answers to these questions is challenging for three main reasons. First, violent conflicts usually take place in developing countries, where micro-level data on firms' activities are often unavailable, with the conflict itself making firm-level data collection even harder. Second, the identification of the effect of conflict on firms' performance crucially relies on the (often low) accuracy of the data used to measure conflict intensity. Finally, conflicts are often short-run and geographically localized. As a result, identification lacks of credible sources of variation in conflict intensity.

In this paper, we study the impact of a violent conflict on firms' operations and outcomes in the context of the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) during the Second Intifada.[1] The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has some unique features that make it particularly suitable for the analysis of the effects of a violent conflict on firm performance. First, establishment-level data for a representative sample of firms in the OPT are available for the entire period. Second, the conflict has been characterized by meaningful time and geographical variation in violence, with detailed information being available since its very beginning. Third, it is a conflict that - with different ups and downs - can be considered as long term and low-intensity when compared to other conflicts. This implies that - differently from what happens in countries affected by extremely violent conflicts and genocide episodes - the economy never collapsed in either the West Bank or the Gaza Strip during the Second Intifada, even if its functions were severely affected.

We begin by providing the conceptual framework for our analysis. Our formalization of the economy is based upon the theoretical setup proposed by Hsieh and Klenow (2009). In absence of distortions, firms adopting the same production technology use inputs in the same proportion, and differences in total factor productivity determine the size of the firm. We think about conflict as possibly affecting the functioning and accessibility of the markets for final goods and production inputs. As a result, conflict distorts the marginal product of inputs and affects the allocation of production factors across firms. In the presence of firm-level distortions, a firm

[1] The Occupied Palestinian Territories include the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Second Intifada is a period of intensified violence which took place between 2000 and 2006. Section 2 provides extensive background information on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Second Intifada in particular.

facing disproportionally higher distortions in a given input would use it less intensively. This implies that the ratios between the value of the inputs used in production would systematically differ from those of other firms in the same sector. Hence, differences in input value ratios across firms which are differentially exposed to conflict are informative of the relative extent of conflict-induced input distortions.

We investigate these issues empirically combining establishment-level data from the OPT for the years 1999 to 2006 with information on conflict-related Palestinian fatalities. Taking the latter as a proxy for conflict intensity, we compare the outcomes and behavior of firms in the same sector over time across districts experiencing differential changes in conflict intensity. We are thus able to net out both overall time trends and unobserved time-invariant sources of heterogeneity at the district level, possibly correlated with conflict intensity. Comparing establishments operating in the same 2-digit sector, we find that a one standard deviation increase in the yearly number of Palestinian fatalities in the establishment's district of location in the year reduces the firm's output value by 6 to 9%. The conceptual framework guides us in the empirical exploration of the mechanism responsible for the effect we find. While the total value of materials as relative to other production inputs does not vary systematically with conflict exposure, firms operating in high conflict environments are found to employ a lower value of imported materials with respect to that of domestically produced materials. In other words, evidence shows that firms which are differentially exposed to conflict tend to substitute domestically produced materials for imported ones. Aggregate foreign trade figures further validate this finding. Furthermore, distortions are found to be bigger for firms operating in those sectors which were more intensive in imported materials and had higher average output value in the years prior to the Second Intifada, i.e. in the absence of conflict. Evidence thus shows how conflict affected disproportionally more the most productive sectors of the economy.

Our findings are robust to a number of robustness checks. First, we check that our results are not driven by systematic differences in firm-level prices. Second, we check the extent to which our results can be explained by the effect of closures of the Israeli-Palestinian border, possibly correlated with conflict intensity. This is because firms located close to the border with Israel may be at same time more intensive in imported material inputs, and more exposed to changes in conflict intensity. Our results show that the explanatory power of our measure of conflict intensity is only partially affected when we control for differential trends according to distance from the border. Moreover, we find that conflict intensity is positively correlated with the monthly number of days of closure of the Israeli-Palestinian border, but not significantly so. It follows that the relevant distortions in the accessibility of the market for imported material inputs within the OPT do not materialize as foreign trade restrictions only. Finally, we further validate the mechanism we posit by investigating the saliency of one specific model assumption, namely the homotheticity of production functions. Using data from the no-conflict period, we identify those sectors for which the assumption of homothetic production functions does not find full support in the data. We then show that our results are unchanged if we focus on the remaining sample. Evidence is thus in favor of the hypothesis that the observed changes in production technology are due to distortions within the supply side of the economy rather than

endogenous to a fall in demand.

Our paper builds upon and contributes to several strands of the literature. The first refers to those studies which investigate the effects of violent conflict on economic performance. The literature on the economics of conflict has mostly focused on household consumption, education, gender inequality, health and individual psychology.[2] The economic consequences of conflict and terrorism have been investigated at the macroeconomic level by estimating its impact on aggregate investment and output. Evidence robustly shows that violent conflict is associated with output fall (Cerra and Saxena 2008; Chen, Loayza, and Reynal-Querol 2008), lower investment (Fielding 2003; Eckstein and Tsiddon 2004) and lower growth (Alesina, Özler, Roubini, and Swagel 1996; Alesina and Perotti 1996; Ades and Chua 1997; Collier 1999). A few studies investigate the effect of a violent conflict at the micro level. Abadie and Gardeazabal (2003) and Guidolin and La Ferrara (2007) look at the effect of conflict ceasefire and termination on firm stocks in the Basque country and Angola respectively. In contrast, a subset of contributions focus on firms' behavior, looking at outcomes such as: investment (Deininger 2003; Pshisva and Suarez 2010; Singh 2013), firm exit (Camacho and Rodriguez 2013), and entrepreneurship (Ciarli, Parto, and Savona 2010). In particular, Collier and Duponchel (2013) use data from a 2006 firm survey in four districts in Sierra Leone to study the effect of conflict intensity on firm size and revenues. They find that conflict reduces firm-level number of employees and their income. They suggest two channels through which civil war may negatively affect the demand for firms' output: an increase in unit cost due to the technical regress caused by the war-related physical destruction, and a decline in demand driven by the reduction in household income. Due to data limitations, they cannot directly test these predictions and only provide indirect evidence to support their view. Ksoll, Macchiavello, and Morjaria (2010) use detailed firm-level export data to investigate the impact of ethnic violence in Kenya - which escalated after the 2007 presidential elections - on exporting firms operating in the floriculture sector. They find that violence negatively affected export volumes and revenues through an increase in workers' absence. Etkes and Zimring (2013) study the effect of the Israeli-imposed blockade of Gaza in 2007-2010 on the welfare of Palestinian households in Gaza. They suggest that welfare reduction can be explained by the blockade-induced reduction in firm productivity but their analysis does not allow for any causal interpretation. They also find that the trade exposure of firms matters: reliance on imported inputs before the blockade is correlated with a larger decline in productivity during the blockade, while export is not. Finally, Klapper, Richmond, and Tran (2013) focus on civil unrest in Côte d'Ivoire following the coup d'etat in 1999, and investigate its impact on firm performance. Using census data for the period 1998-2003, they find that the conflict led to an average 16-23 percent drop in firm productivity, with the decrease being significantly larger for firms in import oriented industries. This is consistent with the hypothesis of an increase in the cost of imported inputs. In contrast, demand-side effects do not appear to be important.

Our paper improves over the existing literature on the microeconomics of conflict along three dimensions. First, while the majority of previous studies have considered only one sector or

[2]See Blattman and Miguel 2010 for a survey of the literature.

some specific group of firms, we build our study sample starting from a representative sample of the whole population of manufacturing establishments. Second, our detailed establishment-level data allow us to look at a wide range of firm-level figures, including total and per-worker output value and input usage. Third, our dataset also allows us to provide direct evidence on one possible mechanism behind our main result on output value, namely conflict-induced distortions in the accessibility of market for imported material inputs.

We also contribute to the empirical literature on factor misallocation. Starting with the seminal work of Wasmer and Weil (2004), several contributions have investigated how market frictions and distortions can affect aggregate output and productivity. A number of studies focus on capital market distortions (Buera, Kaboski, and Shin 2011; Banerjee and Duflo 2012; Midrigan and Xu 2014), while others address the specific impact of labor and size-dependent policies (Hopenhayn and Rogerson 1993; Guner, Ventura, and Yi 2008). More generally, Restuccia and Rogerson (2008) show how differences in the prices faced by individual producers in the United States can result in sizeable decreases in aggregate output and total factor productivity. Hsieh and Klenow (2009) compare the relative extent of aggregate factor misallocation across India, China and the United States, and investigate its negative effect on aggregate output. We contribute to this literature by identifying conflict as a source of factor misallocation. In the case of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we find evidence of conflict-induced distortions in the access to the market for imported materials, suggesting them to be responsible to some extent for the aggregate output value losses in the OPT.

Given the salience of our results on imported inputs, our paper relates to the literature which links international trade and firms' performance. Several theoretical papers have emphasized the importance of trade in intermediate inputs in generating productivity gains resulting from better access to superior inputs and technology (Ethier 1982; Melitz 2003; Kugler and Verhoogen 2008, 2009; Kasahara and Lapham 2013; Novy and Taylor 2014). These predictions are confirmed by robust empirical evidence. Schor (2004), Amiti and Konings (2007), Kasahara and Rodrigue (2008) and Topalova and Khandelwal (2011) use establishment-level data and find that trade liberalization episodes in Brazil, Chile, India and Indonesia led to productivity increases in domestic firms through access to (cheaper and better) imported inputs. Our results corroborate this view, as conflict is found to negatively affect output value through its distortionary effect on imported inputs market access, forcing establishments to substitute imported inputs with domestically produced ones.

Finally, our paper contributes to the literature on the effect of the Second Intifada on the Palestinian economy. Previous contributions have analyzed the impact of the conflict on a number of different outcomes: child labor (Di Maio and Nandi 2013), child health (Mansour and Rees 2012), labor market (Miaari and Sauer 2011; Cali and Miaari 2013), politics (Jaeger, Klor, Miaari, and Paserman 2012), asset prices (Zussman, Zussman, and Morten Orregaard 2008) and psychological disorders in non-combatants living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (Mataria, Giacaman, Stefanini, Naidoo, Kowal, and Chatterji 2009). While several reports have discussed the aggregate economic impact of the Second Intifada on the Palestinian economy (see for instance World Bank 2004), there are no empirical estimates of such effect at the micro level.

To the best of our knowledge, ours is the first contribution to provide evidence of the effect of the Second Intifada on the behavior of Palestinian firms in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we provide an overview of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, focusing in particular on the period of the Second Intifada. We present our conceptual framework and derive testable empirical implications in Section 3. In Section 4, we describe the dataset and the main variables of interest. In Section 5, we present the empirical strategy, our results and the evidence on the main mechanism. Robustness checks are discussed in Section 6. Section 7 concludes.

2 Background: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and the Second Intifada

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been for a long time one of the most politically relevant violent conflict in the world. The conflict dates back to 1948, when the creation of the State of Israel led to the first Arab-Israeli war. During the Six-Day War of 1967, Israel captured the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from Jordan and Egypt respectively. In the following years, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict went through different phases, each characterized by different levels of violence between the two parties. Between 1967 and 1993, Israel held the West Bank and the Gaza Strip under military rule. The continuous Israeli occupation led in 1987 to an unarmed but violent and widespread Palestinian uprising. The so-called First Intifada came to an end in 1993, when the Oslo Accord created the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), and gave it limited control over some civilian matters (e.g. education, health and taxation) in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Israeli authorities maintained control over some strategic issues such as security, foreign trade, and border controls between the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) and Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

The years immediately after the Oslo Accord were characterized by a reduction in violent episodes from both parties. This relatively peaceful period came to an end in September 2000, with the beginning of the so-called Second Intifada.[3] The Second Intifada (also called the Al-Aqsa Intifada) has been a period of intensified violence between the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) and the Palestinians.[4] This phase of the conflict has been characterized by numerous violent events on both sides, including Palestinian attacks in Israel, assassination of Palestinians leaders in Palestine and demolitions of Palestinian houses by the IDF. Since the beginning of the Second Intifada, there have been frequent and ongoing clashes in the OPT between Palestinians and the IDF that have often culminated with some killings. The causes of these clashes were the most varied, ranging from communication misunderstandings between Palestinian civilians and IDF at the checkpoints, to skirmishes between young Palestinians throwing stones and the

[3] For a thoughtful discussion about the causes of the Second Intifada see Pressman (2003).

[4] For a detailed description of the different periods of violence during the Second Intifada see Jaeger and Paserman (2008).

IDF, up to actual armed fighting between Palestinian militants and the Israeli Army (Sletten and Pedersen 2003). Given that the Second Intifada has been essentially a period of violent resistance of different sectors of the Palestinian population against the Israeli occupying force, it not surprising that violence between the two parties has been highly asymmetrical. Between 2000 and 2006, Palestinians killed 234 Israeli civilians and 226 IDF personnel in the OPT while the IDF caused more than four thousand Palestinian fatalities, with the majority of the killed being non-combatants (B'TSELEM 2007, Ajluni 2003). While the intensity of violence varied over time and localities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with also periods of relative calm in different areas, the conflict situation has persisted during the whole period. Even if long-term, the low-intensity of the conflict implied that the Palestinian economy never completely collapsed, as opposed to what often happens to countries experiencing genocide episodes or interstate wars. Nonetheless, continuous exposure to conflict-related violence have been shown to have negative consequences on health (Mansour and Rees 2012), education (Brück, Di Maio, and Miaari 2014), and psychological well-being (Mataria, Giacaman, Stefanini, Naidoo, Kowal, and Chatterji 2009) of the Palestinians.

Since the outbreak of the Second Intifada, the IDF also severely scaled up the restrictions on the mobility of goods and people within the OPT as well as across the borders with Israel, Jordan and Egypt.[5] In particular, the IDF has increased the imposition of the closures of borders between Israel and the OPT and the use of check-points to restrict the movement of goods and people between areas within the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (Cali and Miaari 2013). Internal and external movement and access restrictions have been a key constraint to Palestinian economic development (e.g. World Bank 2010 and UNCTAD 2011). On the one hand, World Bank (2007) argues that internal movement restrictions imposed by Israeli authorities stifle economic activity by raising transaction costs, the cost of doing business and increasing uncertainty.[6] On the other hand, the effects of external closures have been quite dramatic for the Palestinian economy (PCBS 2001, United Nations 2002, World Bank 2004, B'TSELEM 2007, World Bank 2007). While closures were intended to be a security measure, they had negative impact on the labor market, child labor and school attendance (Miaari and Sauer 2011; Di Maio and Nandi 2013). Closures also severely affected Palestinian foreign trade. Since there are no ports or airports in the OPT, import and export goods need to travel through Israel, Jordan or Egypt. Israel currently controls all checkpoints and trade access routes, so that Palestinian trade flows heavily depend on the state of the conflict with Israel, which decides the imposition of closures and other restrictions. World Bank (2008) points at closures as a key obstacle for the Palestinian economy: they limit producers access to imported inputs required for production and the maintenance of the capital stock and - by increasing uncertainty - inflate the cost of imported inputs and reduce output.[7] As a result, Israeli security measures and

[5]According to the Israeli Army, this system has been devised as a security measure to protect its citizens (both in Israel and inside Israeli settlements in the West Bank) from surges, or expected surges, in the Israeli - Palestinian conflict (Miaari and Sauer 2011; IDF Military Advocate General 2012.)

[6]In 2000, nearly 60 percent of firms made a relevant share of their sales outside of their home city; by 2006, this had fallen to around 40 percent (World Bank 2007).

[7]The procedure for clearing Palestinian goods through Israeli ports and controlled border crossings is long and extremely complicated. Israel requires that Palestinian trucks use the back-to-back system according to which all goods need to be unloaded from and re-loaded again onto trucks at checkpoints after the security check. Mikuriya

cumbersome custom procedures have imposed extremely high transaction costs on Palestinian exporters and importers. The negative impact of this situation is likely to be very sizable considering that the Palestinian economy is highly dependent on foreign trade, which constitutes about 80% of its gross domestic product, and in particular on trade with Israel which represents more than 80% of the total value of trade (UNCTAD 2006).

The Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip continued until September 2005 when the Israeli Army unilaterally withdrew from the Gaza Strip. The results of the 2006 elections caused a *de facto* division of OPT into a Fatah-controlled West Bank and a Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. In retaliation to Hamas, Israel imposed a complete blockade on the Gaza Strip in 2007. The West Bank and the Gaza Strip - which until then had similar economic and political institutions and very similar trends in prices and consumption - started to diverge in both economic and political terms (Etkes and Zimring 2013).

3 Conceptual Framework

Conflict is likely to affect firms' behavior through different channels. In particular, it can affect firm's operations and outcomes by generating or exacerbating existing firm-level distortions in the marginal product of inputs. There is a theoretical link between input distortions and input usage. Measuring the impact of the conflict on the latter, we can thus quantify the amount of distortions induced by the conflict.

Our conceptual framework shows how different types of distortions can affect the ratio between the value of inputs used in production. If conflict makes it more difficult to access the market for final goods, such distortion acts like a tax on the value of the final product, thus reducing firm size: the demand for all inputs will decrease accordingly, and their marginal product will increase. However, the distortions the conflict generates (or exacerbates) may be heterogeneous across inputs. Indeed, the conflict can affect access conditions to some input markets disproportionally more. In this case, differential distortions across inputs will differentially affect their marginal product: for each pair of inputs, a larger distortion for one input will lead to a decrease in its demand and an increase in its marginal product relative to the other. Input value ratios will change accordingly. If conflict has a differential impact on input distortions, input value ratios will be systematically different for firms operating in a conflict environment. The way we think about firm-level distortions and factor misallocation is thus close to Hsieh and Klenow (2009). We build upon their formalization of the economy to provide the conceptual framework for our analysis.

The aggregate final output in the economy is produced by a single representative firm which produces a single final good Y with price P. The final good Y is produced by using as inputs the output Y_s from all S sectors in the economy using a Cobb-Douglas production technology,

(2009) notes that: *"The reality at the border of the Palestine Authority is very different from the normal customs landscape."*

i.e.

$$Y = \Pi_{s=1}^{S} Y_s^{\theta_s} \tag{1}$$

with $\sum_{s=1}^{S} \theta_s = 1$. Taking the price P of the final good as given, cost minimization implies $P_s Y_s = \theta_s PY$ for all s. This set of S first order conditions determines the allocation of demand across sectors.

Production in each sector s is carried out by a single representative firm which aggregates M_s differentiated input products by means of a CES (Constant Elasticity of Substitution) production function. Each input for sector s is supplied by a firm i producing output Y_{si} and operating under monopolistic competition. Production in each sector s is thus given by

$$Y_s = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{M_s} Y_{si}^{\frac{\sigma-1}{\sigma}} \right)^{\frac{\sigma}{\sigma-1}} \tag{2}$$

with $\sigma > 1$. Each input-supplier firm i operating in sector s produces by means of a Cobb-Douglas production function using as inputs capital, labor and materials. The production function of firm i is given by

$$Y_{si} = A_{si} K_{si}^{\alpha_s} L_{si}^{\beta_s} M_{si}^{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s} \tag{3}$$

so that the output value of the firm is given by

$$P_{si} Y_{si} = P_{si} A_{si} K_{si}^{\alpha_s} L_{si}^{\beta_s} M_{si}^{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s} \tag{4}$$

Note that, with respect to Hsieh and Klenow (2009), we include materials as an additional input to be considered in the analysis. This implies that production depends on sector-specific capital, labor and materials' factor shares.[8]

We measure output and input distortions faced by firm i using τ_{Yi} and τ_{Xi} respectively, where Y is firms' output and X is one of the different production inputs (capital, labor and materials). Inputs are traded in a centralized market, with firms taking prices as given and equal to w for labor, R for capital, and z for materials. The firm maximizes profits as given by

$$(1-\tau_{Yi}) P_{si} Y_{si} - w(1+\tau_{Li}) L_{si} - R(1+\tau_{Ki}) K_{si} - z(1+\tau_{Mi}) M_{si} \tag{5}$$

The single representative firm for sector s takes the price P_s a given. Cost minimization determines the allocation of sector-level demand Y_s across the firms operating in the sector. The first order conditions imply

$$Y_{si} = Y_s \left(\frac{P_{si}}{P_s} \right)^{-\sigma} \Leftrightarrow P_{si} = P_s \left(\frac{Y_s}{Y_{si}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} \tag{6}$$

[8] In the empirical analysis, we will also further differentiate between imported and domestically produced materials. The proposed Cobb-Douglas production function and the input value ratio expressions we derive can be extended accordingly to accommodate for the two material inputs, each one having its own factor share parameter.

for each firm i in sector s. Given product differentiation, in monopolistic competition each firm enjoys a certain degree of market power, so that P_{si} is endogenous to Y_{si}. Since P_s and Y_s are exogenous to firm i and determined by the sector-level allocation, we can substitute $P_{si} = P_s \left(Y_s/Y_{si}\right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}}$ in the firm's profits expression in equation 5 and maximize with respect to each input. From the corresponding first order conditions we get

$$K_{si} = \frac{\sigma - 1}{\sigma} \alpha_s \frac{P_{si} Y_{si}}{R(1 + \tau_{Ki})} (1 - \tau_{Yi})$$

$$L_{si} = \frac{\sigma - 1}{\sigma} \beta_s \frac{P_{si} Y_{si}}{w(1 + \tau_{Li})} (1 - \tau_{Yi}) \tag{7}$$

$$M_{si} = \frac{\sigma - 1}{\sigma} (1 - \alpha_s - \beta_s) \frac{P_{si} Y_{si}}{z(1 + \tau_{Mi})} (1 - \tau_{Yi})$$

Equation 7 clearly shows that output and input distortions have a different impact on the demand for each input and their marginal product. An increase in output distortion τ_{Yi}, such as lack of access to the market for final products, proportionally decreases the demand for *all* inputs and increases their marginal product. While the firm becomes smaller, input relative marginal products and demand do not change. On the contrary, an increase in the distortion faced by input X (τ_{Xi}), such as lack of access to the input X market, reduces the demand for that input *disproportionally more* and increases its marginal product.

Rearranging 7, we obtain the following expressions for the ratios of input values

$$\frac{RK_{si}}{zM_{si}} = \frac{\alpha_s}{1 - \alpha_s - \beta_s} \frac{1 + \tau_{Mi}}{1 + \tau_{Ki}}$$

$$\frac{wL_{si}}{zM_{si}} = \frac{\beta_s}{1 - \alpha_s - \beta_s} \frac{1 + \tau_{Mi}}{1 + \tau_{Li}} \tag{8}$$

$$\frac{RK_{si}}{wL_{si}} = \frac{\alpha_s}{\beta_s} \frac{1 + \tau_{Li}}{1 + \tau_{Ki}}$$

These equations provide a number of useful results for our analysis. First, they show that input value ratios are invariant with respect to output distortion τ_{Yi}, but not to input distortions τ_{Xi}. Moreover, they are also invariant with respect to the firm-level price P_{si}. This implies that they do not depend on the competition environment faced by the firm. As a result, we can use these equations - without needing to know the exact market structure of each sector s - to infer firm-level conflict-induced distortions through comparing input value ratios across firms which are differentially exposed to conflict. Indeed, any systematic relationship between conflict intensity and input value ratios across firms in the same sector would provide evidence of conflict-induced relative input distortions. For example, if the input value ratio between capital and materials $\left(\frac{RK_{si}}{zM_{si}}\right)$ was systematically higher for firms in conflict areas, this would

indicate that conflict increases relatively more firm-level distortions in materials with respect to capital as measured by $\left(\frac{1+\tau_{Mi}}{1+\tau_{Ki}}\right)$.

As a final step, we derive firm i's output value. As in Hsieh and Klenow (2009), the optimal firm-level output price under monopolistic competition is a constant mark-up over the marginal cost of production. The price is given by

$$P_{si} = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - 1} \frac{1}{A_{si}(1 - \tau_{Yi})} \left[\frac{R(1+\tau_{Ki})}{\alpha_s}\right]^{\alpha_s} \left[\frac{w(1+\tau_{Li})}{\beta_s}\right]^{\beta_s} \left[\frac{z(1+\tau_{Mi})}{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s}\right]^{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s} \tag{9}$$

An increase in any firm-level distortion increases the optimal firm-level price. Using the within-sector demand allocation condition in equation 6, we can rewrite input levels as a function of P_{si} only and derive the firm-level demand of inputs given sector-level production and prices. Substituting into equation 4, we have that output value for firm i in sector s can be finally be written as

$$P_{si}Y_{si} = \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - 1} \frac{1}{1 - \tau_{Yi}} \left[\frac{1+\tau_{Ki}}{\alpha_s}\right]^{\alpha_s} \left[\frac{1+\tau_{Li}}{\beta_s}\right]^{\beta_s} \left[\frac{1+\tau_{Mi}}{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s}\right]^{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s} (RK_{si})^{\alpha_s}(wL_{si})^{\beta_s}(zM_{si})^{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s} \tag{10}$$

4 Data

For the purpose of this paper, we combine several different data sources.[9] Throughout the empirical analysis, we measure conflict intensity using the yearly number of Palestinians fatalities caused by the IDF at the district level. While several different measures have been used in previous studies, the number of conflict-related Palestinian fatalities provides the most accurate description of conflict intensity in the OPT during the Second Intifada.[10] These data are collected and distributed by the Israeli NGO B'TSELEM. Data are based on a number of sources and validated by several cross-checks. Indeed, these data are considered to be accurate and reliable by both the Israelis and the Palestinians and have been previously used by other scholars studying the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (see for instance Jaeger and Paserman 2008 and Mansour and Rees 2012). The dataset provides a rich set of information, such as age, gender and place of residence of the killed, the date and place of death, together with a description of the circumstances of the event. This allows us to count in each year the number of fatalities in each of the 16 Palestinian districts (i.e. governorates).[11] In our empirical analysis, we also

[9] For more details on the study sample and variables definition please refer to the Data Appendix B.

[10] Other measures used in the literature are: number of Israeli victims of Palestinian attacks in Israel (Eckstein and Tsiddon 2004); number of Palestinian suicide bombings in Israel (Benmelech, Berrebi, and Klor 2012); number of Palestinian houses demolished (Benmelech, Berrebi, and Klor 2010); the number of rockets launched from Gaza toward Israel (Haushofer, Biletzki, and Kanwisher 2010); the number of closure days (Di Maio and Nandi 2013); the number of IDF check points in the OPT (Cali and Miaari 2013).

[11] These were established after the signing of the Oslo Accords, together with the division of the Israeli-occupied territories into the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Governorates in the West Bank are: Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarm, Nablus, Qalqilya, Salfit, Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Jericho, Jerusalem (including Israeli annexed East Jerusalem), Bethlehem and Hebron. Governorates in Gaza Strip are: North Gaza, Gaza, Deir al Balah, Khan Yunis and Rafah.

use the number of closure days, i.e. days in which the movements of labor and goods between the OPT (the West Bank and the Gaza Strip) and Israel as well as between the West Bank and Gaza Strip are completely banned. During closure days, all permits previously issued to residents of the OPT for purposes of work, trade, or medical treatment are invalid. Our data on closure days of the border between Israel and the OPT are also provided by B'TSELEM.

The establishment-level data we use belong to the Palestinian Industry Survey (IS), a yearly representative survey of Palestinian establishments in the manufacturing sector designed and administered by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS). In addition to the information contained in the publicly available version of the dataset, we were confidentially given the district of location of each establishment. Moreover, we have information on the ISIC 2-digit sector the establishment belongs to. We are thus able to map each of the surveyed establishments in each of the 16 Palestinian districts and explore the relationship between our firm-level variables of interest within and between both sectors and districts over time for the years 2000 to 2006. In our analysis, we also consider establishment-level data from 1999, i.e. before the Second Intifada started, which we use for comparison between the no-conflict and the conflict period. Our final sample comprises 14,287 establishment observations spanning 8 years (out of an initial sample of 16418).[12] The main variables we use in the empirical analysis are output value, the value of capital and labor, and the value of materials used during the year. We also have data on the value of imported and domestically produced materials, respectively. Furthermore, we use the total amount of labor to compute output value per worker and average wage at the establishment level. Finally, we use the number of family workers and proprietors as a fraction of total amount of labor as additional controls.

Table 1 shows the summary statistics of the variables used in the empirical analysis. An average number of 35 Palestinians fatalities per district per year are recorded in the period 2000-2006. The standard deviation is equal to 42, meaning that we have considerable variation across the 112 district-year observations. As for the establishment-level data, we observe meaningful variation across establishments in the variables of interest and, in particular, in output value and input value ratios. Figure 1 provides some additional information on Palestinian firms. The data shows that more than 80% of establishments have less than 6 employees and an output value of less than 400,000 NIS (approximately 50,000 USD). This indicates that - as in most of the countries in the region - the largest part of Palestinian manufacturing production is carried out by small and medium enterprises (SMEs). As for the sector of activity, these appear to be in general evenly distributed across districts, even if some of the smallest sectors are clustered in specific districts. 75% of the establishments in the sample operate in the following five sectors: *Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment* (22%); *Furniture* (15%); *Food products and beverages* (14%); *Other non-metallic mineral products* (14%); *Wearing apparel and dressing, and dyeing of fur* (12%).

[12] Data issues and sample derivation are described in detail in the Data Appendix B.

5 Empirical Strategy and Results

5.1 Preliminary Evidence

We begin by investigating the relationship between conflict intensity and economic outcomes at the aggregate level. Figure 2 plots the value of Palestine GDP over time between 2000 and 2006, together with the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF. Both nominal and real GDP values reach their minimum over the period in the year 2002, when conflict intensity is the highest. Real GDP falls by 20% between 2000 and 2002, mirroring the steep increase in the number of Palestinian fatalities over the period. A downward trend in the number of fatalities in the period thereafter is instead associated with an increase in GDP, with the latter reaching its 2000 values in 2004. Figure 3 shows that similar inversely related trends can be observed between conflict intensity and aggregate output value and real aggregate output value as computed using the data from the Industry Survey. The Figure plots the weighted sum of establishments' output value over time together with Palestinians killed by IDF in the same period. In the bottom graph of Figure 3, establishments' output value is aggregated after adjusting its value using yearly 2-digit sector-level deflators. The evolution of total output value is close to the one previously observed for GDP, and still inversely related to conflict intensity as measured by the total number of Palestinian fatalities.

Establishment-level data allow to investigate further the negative aggregate relationship between conflict intensity and economic outcomes. As a first step, we compute the median of the distribution of the number of fatalities in the 112 district-year pairs. We then split the sample of surveyed establishments into a *high conflict* and a *low conflict* subsample according to the year of interview and district of location. The top graph in Figure 4 shows the distribution of output value for all establishments in the two subsamples, averaging out the overall sample mean. The entire distribution for establishments exposed to high conflict is shifted leftwards with respect to the one for the low conflict ones. Perhaps more importantly, the same pattern holds when we average out 2-digit sector means and focus on within-sector variability, as shown in the bottom graph of Figure 4. When we consider output value per worker, we observe even bigger differences, as shown in Figure 5. This suggests the amount of input labor to differ systematically across establishments in the two subsamples. While clear and intriguing, evidence from the previous figures needs to be interpreted with caution. Firms surveyed in high conflict years can be systematically different from those surveyed in low conflict years. Additionally, surveyed firms located in districts where conflict intensity is systematically higher may not be comparable to those located in other districts.

We address these identification issues in a systematic way by combining together cross-district and time variation in the number of fatalities and looking at establishment-level figures across districts experiencing differential changes in conflict intensity. Exploiting both sources of variability at the same time, we can net out a large fraction of unobservable determinants of establishment-level outcomes, possibly correlated with conflict intensity. For this purpose, it is necessary to rely on meaningful variation in the number of fatalities both across and within

districts over time. Figure 6 provides a graphical representation of our identifying source of variation. In each map, districts are classified according to the quintile they belong to in the distribution of fatalities in a given year, and of the change in the number of fatalities over two-year time spans. Looking at the top maps, we see that there is large cross-district variation in the number of fatalities. At the same time, the three bottom maps show that there is also meaningful variation in the number of fatalities within each district over time. In particular, differential changes in conflict intensity across districts constitute a source of variability which does not seem to overlap with the cross-sectional one. This is confirmed by Figure 7 which plots the average number of Palestinians killed by IDF over time across two subsamples of districts. The continuous line refers to those 25% of districts which recorded the highest number of fatalities in the 2002 peak fatalities year, while the dash line shows the same figure for all other districts. Once again, conflict intensity is shown to exhibit meaningful variation over time, with changes being different across the two groups of district. We are thus confident that the combination of cross- and within-district variation allows for credible identification of the effect of conflict on firms' figures.

As a preliminary analysis of the relationship between conflict intensity and output value, we compare average output value figures across high and low conflict districts over time for the same subgroups as identified in Figure 7. Table 2 shows estimates of establishment-level means of log of output value across the two subsamples for the years 1999 and 2002. As shown in the first row, prior to the Second Intifada average output value was already significantly 28% lower in high conflict districts. Conflict is associated with a decrease of output value in both areas, but significantly so only for high conflict districts. As a result, the output value gap across areas widens in 2002, reaching 73%. Difference-in-difference estimates reveal such widening to be significant at the 5% level. Table 3 provides the corresponding figures for output value per worker. Similarly to output value, the latter is found to be already significantly 29% lower in high conflict districts in 1999, with such difference increasing significantly to 67% in 2002.

5.2 Conflict and Output Value

The previous results on output value can be investigated more systematically by implementing the following regression specification

$$\ln\left(P_{si}Y_{si}\right)_{gt} \;=\; \delta_t + \gamma_g + \varphi_s + \beta\; fatalities_{gt} + \mathbf{Z}'_{isgt}\;\boldsymbol{\rho} + u_{isgt} \tag{11}$$

where $\ln(P_{si}Y_{si})_{gt}$ is the log of output value of firm i in sector s surveyed in year t and located in district g. The variable $fatalities_{gt}$ is the number of Palestinians killed by IDF in year t in district g, measured in standard deviation units from the district-year distribution. This allows to make coefficient estimates directly interpretable as the increase in the dependent variable associated with a one standard deviation increase in $fatalities_{gt}$. Year and district fixed effects are captured by δ_t and γ_g respectively. The former allow us to net out systematic differences across establishments surveyed in different years, while the latter controls for time-

invariant differences across firms located in different districts. We also include 2-digits sector fixed effects φ_s, which allows us to investigate within-sector variability in the dependent variable of interest. $\mathbf{Z}_{isgt}$ is a vector of establishment-specific controls, such as the fraction of family workers and that of proprietors over the total number of employees. Finally, u_{isgt} captures any residual idiosyncratic determinant of (log of) output value. The coefficient of interest β captures systematic differences in output value across establishments which are differentially exposed to conflict.

Table 4 shows coefficient estimates from the above regression specification. Standard errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. This allows the residuals u_{isgt} belonging to establishment observations located in the same district and year to be correlated, and the same for the residuals belonging to establishment surveyed in the same year and operating in the same sector.[13] Column 1 shows the estimate for the coefficient of the *fatalities* variable from a simple regression specification where that is the only included regressor, thus mirroring the distribution results in the top graph of Figure 4. A one standard deviation increase in the number of fatalities in the district is associated with a 12.6% decrease in establishment's output value, significant at the 5% level. When district and year averages are netted out (column 2), the value of the coefficient falls to 7.3%, but significant at the 1% level. Sector fixed effects are included in column 3, with the point estimate now being equal to 6.3% and significant at the 10% level. Next, we include as controls the fraction of family workers and that of proprietors over the total number of employees. Indeed, small family businesses are expected to be different from other establishment, and may also be differentially represented across districts experiencing differential changes in conflict intensity. Results from column 4 show that an increase in the number of fatalities in the district of one standard deviation is now associated with a 9% drop in output value, significant at the 1% level. As expected, both control variables are negatively associated with output value. In the last column, we allow for sector-specific trends and include the full set of sector-year fixed effects ϕ_{st}. Estimates turn out to be unchanged in terms of both magnitude and significance. Table 5 shows corresponding results from the same regression specification, but replacing output value per worker as outcome. Coefficient estimates are highly significant and slightly larger in size than in the previous case.

These results show that conflict exposure is negatively associated with both total and per-worker output value. Our data do not allow us to separately look at establishment-level output level and price. Still, we posit that our estimates are only a lower bound of the effect on total and per-worker output level. Indeed, we have shown in equation 9 in Section 3 that, when firms enjoy a certain degree of market power, any increase in output or input distortion will result in higher firm-level output prices. It follows that, if conflict increases distortions, only a more than proportional decrease in output quantity would generate the negative effect we find on output value. While this argument provides the theoretical support for our interpretation of the results, we provide a more detailed empirical discussion on the role of output price in Section 6.1, where we also address similar concerns related to input prices.

[13]The number of clusters is above 50 in both dimensions, so that the cluster-robust estimates of the variance-covariance matrix of residuals are reliable.

In the next section, we explore one of the mechanisms responsible for our findings. Guided by the predictions of the conceptual framework, we focus on the supply side of the economy and look for systematic differences in input usage across establishments which are differentially exposed to conflict.

5.3 The Mechanism: Changes in Input Usage

Our conceptual framework indicates that within-sector differences in input value ratios are informative of the relative amount of input distortions faced by the firms. We now exploit this result in the investigation of our establishment-level data. Taking logs of equation 8, we get

$$\ln\left(\frac{RK_{si}}{zM_{si}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\alpha_s}{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1+\tau_{Mi}}{1+\tau_{Ki}}\right)$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{wL_{si}}{zM_{si}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\beta_s}{1-\alpha_s-\beta_s}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1+\tau_{Mi}}{1+\tau_{Li}}\right) \tag{12}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{RK_{si}}{wL_{si}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\beta_s}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1+\tau_{Li}}{1+\tau_{Ki}}\right)$$

For every pair of inputs (X^1_{si}, X^2_{si}) with corresponding prices (p_1, p_2), we can thus investigate conflict-induced relative input distortions by implementing the following regression specification

$$\ln\left(\frac{p_1 X^1_{si}}{p_2 X^2_{si}}\right)_{gt} = \delta_t + \gamma_g + \varphi_s + \lambda_{12}\, fatalities_{gt} + \mathbf{Z}'_{isgt}\,\boldsymbol{\rho} + \varepsilon_{isgt} \tag{13}$$

where $p_1 X^1_{si}$ and $p_2 X^2_{si}$ are the value of input X^1 and X^2 respectively for firm i operating in sector s surveyed in time t and located in district g, while $fatalities_{gt}$ is the number of Palestinians killed by IDF in year t in the same district. The set of parameters φ_s captures 2-digit sector-specific differences in production technologies, matching the sector-specific factor shares in the conceptual framework. We again exploit cross-district and time variation in conflict intensity by including the full set of year and district fixed effects, δ_t and γ_g, thus allowing for overall time trends and netting out time-invariant differences across districts. Notice that these fixed effects would also average out systematic differences in factor prices across establishments in different years, districts or sectors.[14] Finally, $\mathbf{Z}_{isgt}$ is a vector of establishment-specific controls such as the fraction of family workers and fraction of proprietors over the total number of employees and ϵ_{isgt} is the error term. The coefficient of interest λ_{12} captures systematic differences in the corresponding input value ratio across firms which are differentially exposed to conflict.

Each row of Table 6 reports the corresponding estimates of λ from the above specification

[14]This implies that results would be robust to deviations from our conceptual framework where prices are assumed to be the same for all firms. We discuss the role of prices more in detail in Section 6.1.

separately for each of the input value ratios. Column 1 reports estimates from a specification where only year, district and sector fixed effects are included, together with our main variable of interest $fatalities_{gt}$. Rows (a) to (c) consider the values of capital, labor and materials. Input value ratios between the three inputs are found not to differ systematically for firms facing high conflict environments, with estimates of the λ coefficient being close to zero and insignificant. Conflict seems instead to affect the use of material inputs. In rows (d) to (h), we consider separately imported materials M^f and domestically produced materials M^d. As shown in row (d), a one standard deviation increase in the number of fatalities is found to be associated with a 1.2 increase in the value of domestically produced materials used in production relative to imported ones, with the estimate being significant at the 1% level. By the same token, the value of capital and labor with respect to imported materials increases significantly with conflict intensity (rows (e) and (f)), while the ratio of capital and labor value over the value of domestically produced materials decreases significantly (rows (g) and (h)). All estimates are significant at the 1% level. In column 2, the fraction of family workers and that of proprietors are added as controls. In column 3, the full set of district-year fixed effects ϕ_{st} is included to allow for sector-specific trends. Finally, column 4 reports estimates from the same sample used in Table 4 so to investigate robustness of results and consistency with those derived for output value. Estimates for all input value ratios are stable across all specifications.

The above results show that the within-district and within-sector variation over time in the input value ratios used by Palestinian establishments is systematically correlated to conflict intensity. We interpret this as evidence that conflict induces distortions which are differential across inputs: the relative value of imported materials is systematically lower for firms exposed to high conflict environments indicating that firms suffer disproportionally higher distortions in such input with respect to the others. Moreover, since the relative value of domestically produced materials is systematically higher for these same firms - while total amount of consumed materials is not - we infer that conflict distortions lead firms to substitute domestically produced materials for imported ones.

As we have seen, our conceptual framework provides a theoretical link between input value ratios and the relative amount of distortions (see equation 8). We use this result and the coefficient estimates of λ in Table 6 to derive the relative sizes of input distortions τ associated with a one standard deviation increase in the number of Palestinians killed by IDF. Following equation 12, we have that, for every pair of inputs (X^1, X^2), the relative amount of distortions induced by a one-standard deviation increase in conflict intensity is given by

$$\exp\left(\hat{\lambda}_{12}\right) = \frac{1+\tau_{X_i^2}}{1+\tau_{X_i^1}} \tag{14}$$

Corresponding estimated relative input distortion values are reported in Table 7, together with 95% confidence intervals.[15] We can thus compare the relative size of distortions across inputs. Notice that, as shown in equation 14, a zero estimate of the coefficient λ of the *fatalities* variable

[15]Consistent estimates of standard errors are derived accordingly from the standard error coefficient estimates in Table 6.

from equation 13 is associated with an implied relative input distortions ratio of one, indicating no differential conflict-induced input distortions for the corresponding inputs. If instead λ is estimated to be negative (positive), the corresponding relative input distortions would be lower (higher) than one. This means that conflict induces more distortions in the input at the denominator (numerator) with respect to the one at the numerator (denominator). Results in rows (a) to (c) show that conflict does not induce differential distortions in capital with respect to labor, or in the two with respect to materials overall. However, as shown in row (d), the relative distortions faced by firm in accessing imported materials with respect to domestically produced ones are estimated to be 3.5 significantly higher following a one standard deviation increase in conflict intensity. As shown in rows (e) and (f), conflict-induced distortions in imported materials are 1.7 and 1.6 significantly higher when compared to those in capital and labor. Conversely, rows (g) and (h) indicate that distortions in domestically produced materials are significantly lower with respect to those for capital and labor.

These results show that, during the Second Intifada, the conflict significantly distorted input usage of Palestinian establishments. In particular, those firms which were differentially more exposed to conflict substituted imported material inputs with domestically produced ones. The two are likely to be different in their productivity, and thus to have different factor share parameters in the production function. Indeed, evidence from the trade literature shows how access to imported inputs increases firm productivity (Schor 2004; Amiti and Konings 2007; Kasahara and Rodrigue 2008; Topalova and Khandelwal 2011). The substitution of imported material inputs with domestically produced ones can thus be identified as one of the mechanisms responsible for the larger fall in output value of firms operating in high conflict environments.

5.3.1 Evidence Supporting the Mechanism: Conflict and Foreign Trade

One possible explanation for conflict-induced distortions in the use of imported inputs is that the conflict affects the access to foreign markets for Palestinian firms. Our suggested mechanism would thus find empirical support in the evidence that the conflict negatively affects aggregate Palestinian foreign trade, and imports in particular.

Foreign trade is an important determinant of the Palestinian economy, as the latter is highly dependent upon imported goods and services. During the Second Intifada, the total value of Palestinian imports is recorded to be 6 to 8 times the total value of its export, with the negative balance of trade being equal to 40 to 50% of GDP at its current value. Moreover, while Palestinian imports from Israel represent around 70% of the total value of imports in the period, Palestinian exports to Israel represent instead the 90% of total value of exports.[16] Still, volumes are such that trade with the rest of the world appears to be more balanced with respect to trade with Israel, as shown in Figure 8.

The empirical evidence suggests that the evolution of Palestinian foreign trade during the Second Intifada is correlated with conflict intensity. Figures 9 and 10 shows aggregate current and

[16]Note that instead trade with the OPT represents for Israel only a small share of its foreign trade.

real trade figures for Palestine for the years 2000 to 2006, together with the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF. Both imports and exports decrease with the rise of conflict intensity between 2000 and 2002, reaching their minimum in 2002, which is the conflict peak year. Both values rise in the period thereafter. Perhaps more importantly, the net balance of trade reaches its maximum in 2002, tracking the evolution of fatalities over the period. This shows that, while total Palestinian foreign trade decreases during the Second Intifada, the value of imports decreased disproportionally more with the rise of conflict intensity with respect to the value of exports. We interpret these figures altogether as evidence that the Second Intifada had a disproportional effect on imports with respect to exports. Indeed, preliminary evidence from the Industry Survey shows that firms' external sales do not change significantly for firms being differentially exposed to conflict during the period of interest.

Not only the aggregate value of exports and imports changed with the conflict, but possibly also their composition. Figure 11 and 12 show export and import trade composition in 1999 and 2002 respectively. The figures show that export composition does not experience any meaningful change in conflict years. On the contrary, import share are shown to change substantially. In particular, the data show that - in line with our story - the sectors that suffer a larger reduction are: *Miscellaneous manufacturing articles*, *Manufactures goods (classified by materials)* and *Machinery and transportation equipments*. As expected, given the overall import reduction and their more inelastic demand, the sectors that increase instead their share of total imports are *Mineral fuel and lubricants* and *Food and live animals*. These results suggest that the conflict had a differential effect across sectors. We explore this possibility more in detail in the next section.

5.4 Sector-level Analysis

We now focus on the analysis of the differential impact of the conflict on the different sectors. We start by ranking 2-digit sectors according to the size of conflict-induced relative distortions in imported and domestically produced materials. We run the following regression specification:

$$\ln\left(\frac{z^d M^d_{si}}{z^f M^f_{si}}\right)_{gt} = \delta_t + \gamma_g + \varphi_s + \lambda^s_{M^d M^f}\, fatalities_{gt} \times \varphi_s + \mathbf{Z}'_{isgt}\, \boldsymbol{\lambda} + \varepsilon_{isgt} \tag{15}$$

where $z^d M^d$ is the value of domestically produced materials consumed during the year t by firm i operating in sector s and located in district g, and $z^f M^f$ is the corresponding value for imported materials. The only difference with respect to the previously adopted specification is that we now interact 2-digit sector fixed effects with the $fatalities_{gt}$ variable. This allows us to investigate the effect of conflict intensity on the relative distortions for imported vs. domestically produced material inputs separately for each sector, as captured by the set of parameters $\lambda^s_{M^f M^d}$. As before, we can derive the sector-specific implied relative input distortions as

$$\exp\left(\hat{\lambda}^s_{M^d M^f}\right) = \frac{1+\tau^s_{M^f_i}}{1+\tau^s_{M^d_i}} \tag{16}$$

Table 8 shows the top and bottom 2-digit sectors as ranked in terms of the conflict-induced distortions they suffer. Most affected sectors are: *Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers*, *Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel* as well as *Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products*. At the opposite side of the spectrum, the least affected sector is *Other mining and quarrying*.

One possible explanation for the sectoral differences in the effect of the conflict is that sectors are different in terms of their technology of production and, in particular, their intensity in imported material usage. To explore this possibility, Figure 13 plots the estimated coefficient for the implied input distortions from the previous regression against the average imported materials value intensity in each sector in 1999, i.e. before the outbreak of the Second Intifada.[17] The results show a positive relationship between the extent of conflict-induced distortion and imported materials value intensity in 1999, as confirmed by the line fitting the relationship between the two. This suggests that sectors which are more intensive in imported materials are also those which have been more affected in terms of relative input distortions, making them substitute imported materials with domestically produced ones relatively more. Additionally, we look at pre-conflict sectoral output value. Figure 14 plots the implied material distortions against the average output value in each sector in 1999. The results show that those sectors which are more vulnerable to the negative impact of the conflict are those which had higher output value before the conflict started. This means that the conflict impacts the most those sectors with the highest productivity as measured by average output value.

6 Robustness Checks

6.1 Output and Input Prices

As we noted before, our analysis of the relationship between output value and conflict intensity does not take establishment-level prices explicitly into account. Still, we argued that - as suggested in our conceptual framework - prices should increase following an increase in any output or input distortions. This implies that the negative effect we find on output value would be in fact only a lower bound for the effect on output level. Furthermore, from an empirical point of view, notice that time, sector and district fixed effect in our regression specification already control for overall price trends and differences in average prices across establishment operating in different sectors or located in different districts. When sector-year fixed effects are included, even sector-specific trend in prices are controlled for.

Still, it is possible that establishment-level output prices may differentially change with conflict intensity at the district-year level. We inspect this issue further by taking advantage of the fact that some sectors appear to be clustered in specific districts. For instance, 70% of establishments operating in manufacture of tobacco products surveyed in the Industry Survey are located in the district of Jenin, while 70% of establishments operating in manufacture of leather products

[17] We compute the average imported materials value intensity in each sector by dividing the total value of imported materials employed in production over total output value at the establishment level (and taking logs).

are located in Hebron. In Hebron are also located 43% of establishment manufacturing basic metals. We check for the possibility that establishment-level output prices vary at the district-year level by asking - for these district-clustered sectors - whether the Producer Price Index (PPI) tracks the evolution of Palestinian fatalities in the same district. Figure 15 shows the evolution of PPI in these three sectors over time, together with the evolution of fatalities in the corresponding district. We do not find evidence of a negative relationship between prices and conflict intensity over time in any of these cases. We can thus likely rule out the possibility that the decrease in output value we observe for firms operating in high conflict environments is due to a decrease in prices. If anything, and in accordance with our conceptual framework, evidence suggests that the decrease in firms' output value is due to a decrease in output which more than offsets any increase in output price.

Similarly, our interpretation of the results on relative input distortions rests on the assumption of no differences in relative factor prices faced by firms which are differentially exposed to conflict. Again, despite the fact that part of the across-establishments variation in factor prices is already controlled for by the included sets of fixed effects, we cannot completely rule out the possibility that there are still differences in relative factor prices associated to conflict intensity. For instance, consider the case in which the price of imported materials is constant. If the price of domestically produced materials were to increase more than proportionally in those districts which experienced the highest rise in the number of fatalities, we would be mistakenly attribute the relative price effect to conflict-induced distortions.

We could use our conceptual framework to study the effects of distortions on imported and domestically produced inputs respectively. On the one hand, the conflict could lead to an increase in the price of imported input materials by making access the corresponding market more difficult to achieve. However, given the demand for imported materials, this effect would go against the relative distortionary effect we found (i.e. the reduction in the imported vs domestic inputs value ratio), as the value of imported materials used in production would increase. On the other hand, conflict could have an ambiguous effect on the price of domestically produced inputs. Under perfect competition, the latter are rewarded according to their marginal revenues. Conflict increases output price and increases the demand for domestically produced material inputs, thus reducing their marginal product. The price of domestically produced input materials would then go up only if the increase in output price were to more than offset the decrease in the input marginal product.

In order to shed light on this last issue, we can investigate the only domestic input for which we have establishment-level factor prices, namely labor. We divide the total value of labor $w_{si}L_{si}$ by the total amount of labor L_{si}, and replace the log of the resulting average wage at the establishment level as outcome in equation 11. Table 9 reports parameter estimates from the corresponding regression specification. Controlling for year, district and sector fixed effects, an increase in one standard deviation in the number of fatalities is found to be associated with a 7% decrease in average wages, significant at the 5% level. Parameter estimates are robust to the inclusion of the fraction of family workers and that of proprietors as controls in column 2, which are, as reasonable to expect, negatively associated with average wage. The

full set of sector-year fixed effects is included in column 3, while the sample is restricted to only observations for which we have data on output value in column 4. Estimates are stable and equally significant across specifications. Our results are consistent with Aranki (2004), Mansour (2010), Miaari and Sauer (2011) and Di Maio and Nandi (2013), who show that conflict during the Second Intifada negatively affected the monthly earnings of Palestinian workers. This is because border closures created an excess supply of labor within the OPT. To conclude, the negative relationship we find between average wage and conflict intensity is reassuring: relative factor prices for establishments facing high conflict environments seem to move in the opposite direction with respect to what happens to input value ratios. Our estimates of the effect of conflict on relative input distortions are thus likely to be only a lower bound for their true values.

6.2 Differential Effect of Border Closures

The mechanism we describe implies that conflict affects disproportionally more firms using imported material inputs. At the same time, establishments located next to the Israeli border are likely to be more intensive in imported material inputs with respect to other establishments in the same sector. As we discussed in Section 2, one of the most distinctive features of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the adoption of border closures as a mean of retaliation against the Palestinian uprisings. Indeed, Israel retains control of entry gates and passages between Israel and the OPT. The evidence supporting our mechanism could thus be confounded by the differential effect of border closure, with no role played by conflict-induced distortions within the OPT. Notice that, for this to be the case, two conditions must be met. First, localities closer to the border should experience the most relevant changes in conflict intensity. Second, Palestinian killings need to be systematically correlated with border closures.

In order to shed light on the issue, we saturate our input value ratio regression specifications with the full set of year fixed effects interacted with a measure of distance of the district centroids from the border.[18] Corresponding estimated relative input distortions are reported in Table 10. Point estimates are smaller in magnitude with respect to those reported in Table 7, even if not significantly so. This evidence suggests that our results on the mechanism are not confounded by whether the firm is located in a district close to the border or not.

As an additional check, we explore the relationship between days of border closure and the overall number of Palestinians fatalities caused by IDF between 2000 and 2006. This is because we want to test the extent to which our conflict intensity measure captures the same variation of border closures. The first column of Table 11 reports estimates from a simple regression of monthly days of border closure over the number of killings in the same month. We also include both year and month fixed effects in column 2 and 3. Evidence shows a positive relationship between closure days and fatalities. However, estimates are not always statistically significant, even when implementing alternative specifications which take the time series nature of the data

[18] We also use as an additional robustness check distance of the district centroids from Jerusalem and from the closest entry/exit passages listed by PCBS. Results are not affected.

into account. Column 4 shows parameter estimates from an autoregressive model with one lag, while a one-lag moving average component is added in column 5, allowing to take into account serial correlation of residual determinants of border closure. The relationship between closures and fatalities remains non-significant. We interpret this as evidence that our conflict intensity measure is capturing conflict-induced distortions beyond those mechanically driven by the closure of the Israeli-Palestinian border. While there are other possibilities, we speculate that internal mobility restrictions within the OPT, possibly correlated with conflict intensity, are likely to play a role in generating distortions in imported inputs market access which reduce firms' output value.

6.3 Non-homothetic Production Functions and Demand-side Effects

The validity of our empirical exercise rests on the assumptions of Hsieh and Klenow (2009). In particular, the model assumes homothetic production functions. While firms in the same sector can be heterogeneous in terms of total factor productivity, this assumption ensures that - in absence of distortions - they will all use inputs in the same proportion. We can thus interpret within-sector differences in input value ratios which relate systematically to conflict exposure as evidence of the relative amount of distortions induced by the conflict in the accessibility of markets for inputs. This allows us to identify a precise supply-side mechanism for the observed fall in output value in high conflict areas.

Under homothetic technology, demand-side effects play no role in explaining the changes in input value ratios. This is not the case if we allow for non-homothetic production functions. Indeed, when differences in factor shares are systematically correlated with firm's output, changes in demand lead to changes in input usage. A conflict-induced reduction in demand may thus lead to changes in technology. Furthermore, if firms with lower output were to employ relatively more domestically produced materials with respect to foreign produced ones, our findings could no longer be interpreted only in light of the supply-side mechanism outlined before. If conflict has any direct effect on firms' demand, an increase in the relative amount of domestically produced materials in production could entirely be driven by output fall, with possibly no role played by conflict-induced distortions in the accessibility of market for inputs.

In the presence of non-homothetic production functions, we should observe a significant relationship between imported vs domestic materials input value ratio in absence of the distortions induced by the conflict. We thus investigate within-sector heterogeneity in input value ratios in the year 1999, prior to the start of the Second Intifada. Figure 16 panel (a) plots the relationship between the log of the ratio between the value of domestically produced materials and foreign produced ones over the log of output value in the year 1999, averaging out sector-level means. Substantial heterogeneity is observed across firms for any given level of output value. Furthermore, the line fitting the scatterplot is downward sloping, with the corresponding coefficient being significant at the 5% level. This means that, prior to the start of the conflict and within sectors, firms with higher output value employed relatively less domestically produced materials with respect to foreign produced ones. As specified above, such result can threaten

the validity of our reasoning, and suggest that demand-driven mechanisms may be at work. However, the relationship appears to be not economically significant: one standard deviation increase in the log of imported vs domestic materials input value ratio is associated with a decrease in the log of output value of less than 10% of a standard deviation. Still, we take this point seriously. Further analysis of the data reveals that in 1999 the relationship between input value ratio and output value is non-significant for 15 out of the 25 sectors (to which 903 out of the 1336 surveyed establishments belong to). Figure 16 panel (b) confirms that for these sectors the two variables are orthogonal one to the other, indicating that the homothetic assumption holds in this restricted sample. It is worth noticing that the sample includes the three most conflict-affected sectors and the two largest sectors in the Palestinian economy. Finally, we estimate relative input distortion values using observations belonging to the restricted sample only, where the homotheticity assumption finds support in the data. Point estimates and 95% confidence intervals are reported in Table 12. Results are almost exactly the same as the ones we found previously in Table 7. Under the assumption that the within-sector relationship between factor shares and output value remained constant over time, this suggest that our findings are not driven by the fact that in some sectors production functions could be non-homothetic. Evidence is thus supportive of the mechanism we posit: the effect on input value ratios operates through conflict-induced distortions within the supply side rather than through the demand side of the economy.

7 Concluding Remarks

Firms are the main engine of economic development. The analysis of their behavior during conflict times is essential to explain the response of aggregate economic outcomes to events such as uprisings, violent conflicts and wars. Moreover, learning about the microeconomic effects of conflicts is crucial for the design and implementation of successful economic recovery policies.

In this paper, we have documented the negative effect of the Second Intifada on total and per-worker output value of Palestinian establishments. Furthermore, the conceptual framework adopted here has made it possible to explore one specific mechanism responsible for the effect we have found on output value. We have shown that conflict distorts input usage of Palestinian establishments, inducing them to substitute domestically produced materials for imported ones. Distortions within the supply side of the economy thus contribute to explain the larger fall in output value of firms operating in high conflict environments.

Even though this is not the first paper to explore the effect of the conflict on firms' activity, our study contributes to the literature along several dimensions. First, and differently from most of previous contributions, we investigated the effects of conflict using a representative sample of manufacturing firms. Second, this is first paper to focus on the effect of conflict on individual firm's output value, highlighting the role of input distortions in affecting the choice of inputs in production as the relevant mechanism. In this respect, this is the first paper to provide a

detailed description and evidence on how firms adapt their production activity to a conflict environment, and thus to identify conflict as a possible additional source of distortion and input misallocation.

The evidence we have discussed and the results we obtained in this paper suggest several other potentially important questions to be explored. How do international trade and development interact during a violent conflict? Does conflict have a differential effect depending on the firm's trade status? Are the most productive firms within sectors also those who suffer the most from conflict? What are the short and long term aggregate consequences of such differential losses on economic development? Answering these questions will motivate our future research.

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Tables and Figures

Table 1: Summary Statistics

	Obs.	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max
Palestinians Killed by IDF (District × Year)	112	35.044	42.010	0	210
Log of Output Value	11397	11.741	1.511	0	19.656
Log of Output Value per Worker	11397	10.297	1.165	-2.303	18.023
Log of Value of Capital	14221	10.138	1.942	0.693	18.531
Log of Value of Labor	10243	10.492	1.24	5.994	16.746
Log of Value of Materials	14160	11.308	2.045	3.932	18.769
Log of Value of Local Materials	14160	8.826	3.138	0	18.785
Log of Value of Imported Materials	14160	6.456	4.801	0	18.688
Fraction of Family Workers	14284	0.167	0.247	0	1
Fraction of Proprietors	14284	0.444	0.324	0	1
Log of Value of Capital/Materials	14100	-0.553	1.816	-13.169	6.828
Log of Value of Labor/Materials	10183	-0.856	1.361	-8.593	4.185
Log of Value of Capital/labor	10197	0.223	1.67	-10.786	6.161
Log of Value of Imported/Local Materials	14160	-2.37	6.345	-18.112	18.405
Log of Value of Capital/Imported Materials	14100	3.687	4.645	-12.855	17.751
Log of Value of Capital/Local Materials	14100	1.322	3.198	-13.155	17.231
Log of Value of Labor/Imported Materials	10183	3.117	4.69	-6.367	16.544
Log of Value of Labor/Local Materials	10183	1.046	2.96	-8.699	15.451
Log of Average Wage	10243	8.955	0.779	3.932	12.145

Notes. The table shows summary statistics for the variables used in the empirical analysis. Establishment-level value variables are in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 2: Log of Output Value 1999-2002

	High Conflict Districts	Other Districts	*Column Difference*
1999	11.496	11.777	-0.281*
	(0.125)	(0.073)	(0.145)
2002	10.994	11.723	-0.728***
	(0.155)	(0.067)	(0.169)
Row Difference	-0.502**	-0.055	-0.447**
	(0.200)	(0.099)	(0.223)

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) The table reports average Log of Output Value in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) for surveyed establishments in years 1999 and 2002, dividend into subgroups according to their location district. High conflict districts are those 25% of districts with the highest numbers of Palestinians killed by IDF in 2002. Row and column differences between averages and standard errors are reported, with results from a *t-test* of difference in means across subgroups. *Difference-in-difference* estimate with standard errors is reported as well (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 3: Log of Output Value per Worker 1999-2002

	High Conflict Districts	Other Districts	*Column Difference*
1999	10.038	10.323	-0.292**
	(0.105)	(0.060)	(0.121)
2002	9.596	10.270	-0.674***
	(0.140)	(0.057)	(0.150)
Row Difference	-0.442**	-0.059	-0.382**
	(0.175)	(0.082)	(0.193)

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) The table reports average Log of Output Value per Worker in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) for surveyed establishments in years 1999 and 2002, dividend into subgroups according to their location district. High conflict districts are those 25% of districts with the highest numbers of Palestinians killed by IDF in 2002. Row and column differences between averages and standard errors are reported, with results from a *t-test* of difference in means across subgroups. *Difference-in-difference* estimate with standard errors is reported as well (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 4: Conflict and Output Value

	Log of Output Value, $\ln(PY)$				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
fatalities	-0.126**	-0.073***	-0.063*	-0.089***	-0.086***
	(0.049)	(0.024)	(0.036)	(0.033)	(0.033)
$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$				-1.522***	-1.533***
				(0.100)	(0.097)
$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$				-2.713***	-2.717***
				(0.112)	(0.112)
District FE	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	N	Y	Y	Y	n.a.
Sector FE	N	N	Y	Y	n.a.
Sector × Year FE	N	N	N	N	Y
Observations	10042	10042	10042	10039	10039
R^2	0.007	0.035	0.156	0.434	0.443

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. Dependent variable is log of Output Value in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS). Main independent variable is number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the year and district where surveyed establishment is located (measured in standard deviation units) (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 5: Conflict and Output Value per Worker

	Log of Output Value per Worker, $\ln(PY/L)$				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
fatalities	-0.135***	-0.080**	-0.078**	-0.089***	-0.089***
	(0.043)	(0.032)	(0.036)	(0.034)	(0.034)
$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$				-1.109***	-1.119***
				(0.088)	(0.086)
$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$				-1.355***	-1.359***
				(0.086)	(0.088)
District FE	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Year FE	N	Y	Y	Y	n.a.
Sector FE	N	N	Y	Y	n.a.
Sector × Year FE	N	N	N	N	Y
Observations	10042	10042	10042	10039	10039
R^2	0.014	0.047	0.118	0.251	0.262

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. Dependent variable is log of Output Value per Worker in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS). Main independent variable is number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the year and district where surveyed establishment is located (measured in standard deviation units) (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 6: Input Distortions - Regression Coefficients

		Coefficient of *fatalities* variable			
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a)	$\ln RK_{si}/zM_{si}$	0.005	0.008	0.006	0.008
		(0.043)	(0.044)	(0.046)	(0.043)
(b)	$\ln wL_{si}/zM_{si}$	0.025	0.024	0.010	0.016
		(0.039)	(0.037)	(0.040)	(0.031)
(c)	$\ln RK_{si}/wL_{si}$	-0.018	-0.015	-0.000	0.003
		(0.040)	(0.039)	(0.041)	(0.034)
(d)	$\ln z^d M^d_{si}/z^f M^f_{si}$	1.216***	1.234***	1.243***	1.296***
		(0.272)	(0.270)	(0.270)	(0.307)
(e)	$\ln RK_{si}/z^f M^f_{si}$	0.523***	0.538***	0.551***	0.570***
		(0.122)	(0.119)	(0.127)	(0.141)
(f)	$\ln wL_{si}/z^f M^f_{si}$	0.471***	0.466***	0.484***	0.507***
		(0.138)	(0.140)	(0.150)	(0.179)
(g)	$\ln RK_{si}/z^d M^d_{si}$	-0.690***	-0.692***	-0.690***	-0.727***
		(0.171)	(0.171)	(0.164)	(0.181)
(h)	$\ln wL_{si}/z^d M^d_{si}$	-0.668***	-0.668***	-0.662***	-0.672***
		(0.184)	(0.182)	(0.182)	(0.199)
	$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	Sector FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	Year FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	District FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Sector × Year FE	N	N	Y	Y

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) The table reports estimates of the coefficient of the *fatalities* variable. Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. Dependent variable is log of ratio of Input Values in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS). Main independent variable is number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the year and district where surveyed establishment is located (measured in standard deviation units). RK_{si} is value of capital; zM_{si} is value of materials; wL_{si} is value of labor; $z^f M^f_{si}$ is value of imported materials; $z^d M^d_{si}$ is value of domestically produced materials; . Estimates in column (4) are derived after excluding observations with no data on output value (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 7: Input Distortions - Implied Relative Values

		Implied Relative Distortion			
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_K)$	1.005 [0.919;1.090]	1.008 [0.920;1.095]	1.006 [0.916;1.096]	1.008 [0.923;1.093]
(b)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_L)$	1.025 [0.948;1.103]	1.024 [0.950;1.098]	1.010 [0.931;1.089]	1.016 [0.955;1.078]
(c)	$(1+\tau_L)/(1+\tau_K)$	0.982 [0.905;1.059]	0.985 [0.910;1.060]	1.000 [0.919;1.080]	1.003 [0.936;1.071]
(d)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_{M^d})$	3.375 [1.578;5.172]	3.434 [1.616;5.252]	3.465 [1.634;5.295]	3.655 [1.459;5.852]
(e)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_K)$	1.687 [1.283;2.090]	1.713 [1.314;2.112]	1.736 [1.302;2.169]	1.768 [1.279;2.256]
(f)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_L)$	1.602 [1.168;2.036]	1.593 [1.156;2.030]	1.623 [1.147;2.099]	1.660 [1.079;2.241]
(g)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_K)$	0.501 [0.334;0.669]	0.501 [0.333;0.668]	0.502 [0.340;0.663]	0.484 [0.312;0.655]
(h)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_L)$	0.513 [0.328;0.698]	0.513 [0.330;0.696]	0.516 [0.332;0.700]	0.511 [0.312;0.710]
	$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	Sector FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	Year FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	District FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Sector × Year FE	N	N	Y	Y

Notes. The table reports implied relative distortion values as derived using coefficient estimates from Table 4, together with 95% Confidence Intervals. Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. τ_K is average distortion level for capital; τ_M is average distortion level for materials; τ_L is average distortion value for labor; τ_{M^f} is average distortion value for imported materials; τ_{M^d} is average distortion value for domestically produced materials. Estimates in column (4) are derived after excluding observations with no data on output value (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 8: Sector Ranking by Distortion in Materials

Most Affected		
Rank	*ISIC code*	*Sector name*
1	(34)	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers
2	(23)	Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel
3	(21)	Manufacture of paper and paper products
4	(37)	Recycling
5	(24)	Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products
Least Affected		
Rank	*ISIC code*	*Sector name*
25	(20)	Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; articles of straw and plaiting materials
24	(36)	Manufacture of furniture; manufacturing n.e.c.
23	(35)	Manufacture of other transport equipment
22	(32)	Manufacture of radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus
21	(14)	Other mining and quarrying

Notes. The table reports most and least affected 2-digits sectors as defined by deriving sector-level average distortions for domestically produced materials vs. imported materials (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 9: Conflict and Wages

	Log of Wages, $\ln(W/L)$			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
fatalities	-0.070**	-0.072**	-0.079**	-0.076**
	(0.035)	(0.035)	(0.035)	(0.034)
$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$		-2.014***	-2.015***	-2.032***
		(0.071)	(0.071)	(0.084)
$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$		-2.250***	-2.242***	-2.224***
		(0.081)	(0.081)	(0.075)
Sector FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
Year FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
District FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sector × Year FE	N	N	Y	Y
Observations	8891	8891	8891	7302
R^2	0.156	0.443	0.459	0.476

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. Dependent variable is log of average wage in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) as derived by dividing the total wage bill by the total number of employees. Main independent variable is number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the year and district where surveyed establishment is located (measured in standard deviation units). Estimates in column (4) are derived after excluding observations with no data on output value (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

TABLE 10: INPUT DISTORTIONS - IMPLIED RELATIVE VALUES: ROBUSTNESS

		Implied Relative Distortion			
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_K)$	0.942 [0.872;1.012]	0.943 [0.870;1.015]	0.953 [0.868;1.038]	0.945 [0.878;1.010]
(b)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_L)$	1.000 [0.887;1.114]	0.991 [0.881;1.100]	0.981 [0.862;1.100]	0.971 [0.876;1.066]
(c)	$(1+\tau_L)/(1+\tau_K)$	0.930 [0.872;0.988]	0.944 [0.887;1.001]	0.968 [0.899;1.038]	0.981 [0.916;1.047]
(d)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_{M^d})$	2.870 [1.312;4.429]	2.926 [1.338;4.514]	2.976 [1.374;4.577]	2.756 [0.977;4.535]
(e)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_K)$	1.470 [1.051;1.888]	1.492 [1.069;1.916]	1.544 [1.102;1.986]	1.454 [0.970;1.939]
(f)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_L)$	1.560 [1.142;1.977]	1.555 [1.141;1.968]	1.596 [1.155;2.038]	1.550 [1.022;2.078]
(g)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_K)$	0.513 [0.346;0.681]	0.511 [0.344;0.679]	0.519 [0.351;0.686]	0.528 [0.334;0.721]
(h)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_L)$	0.532 [0.336;0.729]	0.526 [0.334;0.717]	0.529 [0.334;0.723]	0.552 [0.330;0.773]
	dt_{border} × Year FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
	$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	Sector FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	Year FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	District FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Sector × Year FE	N	N	Y	Y

Notes. The table reports implied relative distortion values (together with 95% Confidence Intervals) as derived from estimating the input value ratio regression over the restricted sample of observations belonging to sectors where no significant relationship between material value ratio and output value is found in 1999. Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. τ_K is average distortion level for capital; τ_M is average distortion level for materials; τ_L is average distortion value for labor; τ_{M^f} is average distortion value for imported materials; τ_{M^d} is average distortion value for domestically produced materials; τ_{O^e} is average distortion value for imported oil and fuel; τ_{O^l} is average distortion value for domestically produced oil and fuel. Estimates in column (4) are derived after excluding observations with no data on output value (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Table 11: Border Closures and Fatalities: 2000-2006

	Monthly Days of Border Closure				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
$fatalities_t$	0.069	0.123**	0.082	0.065	0.052
	(0.046)	(0.051)	(0.054)	(0.045)	(0.043)
$closures_{t-1}$				0.389***	0.113
				(0.124)	(0.268)
u_{t-1}					0.341
					(0.250)
Year FE	N	Y	Y	N	N
Month FE	N	N	Y	N	N
Observations	75	75	75	75	75
R^2	0.031	0.210	0.364		

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) The table reports coefficient estimates from a regression of monthly days of border closures over the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the same month. Estimates in column (4) are from an AR(1) model while estimates in column (5) belong to an ARMA(1,1) model in order to allow for serially correlated residuals (Sources: B'TSELEM).

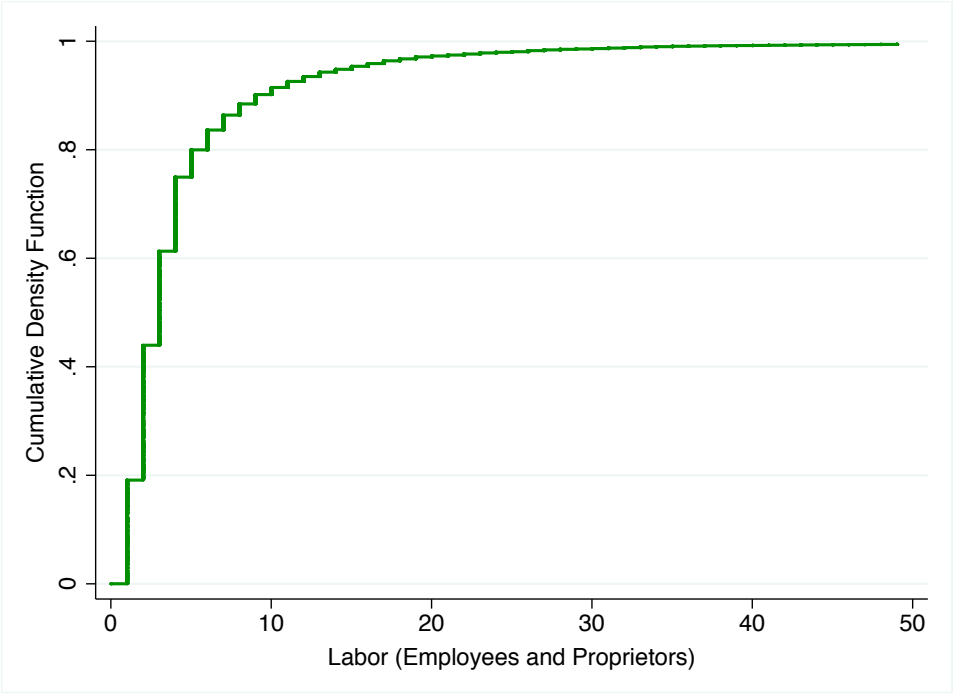
TABLE 12: INPUT DISTORTIONS - IMPLIED RELATIVE VALUES: RESTRICTED SAMPLE

		Implied Relative Distortion			
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_K)$	1.027 [0.930;1.124]	1.030 [0.931;1.129]	1.022 [0.918;1.126]	1.013 [0.917;1.109]
(b)	$(1+\tau_M)/(1+\tau_L)$	1.060 [0.964;1.156]	1.059 [0.966;1.152]	1.046 [0.946;1.147]	1.038 [0.963;1.112]
(c)	$(1+\tau_L)/(1+\tau_K)$	0.988 [0.887;1.088]	0.990 [0.896;1.084]	0.995 [0.897;1.093]	1.000 [0.921;1.078]
(d)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_{M^d})$	3.480 [1.435;5.524]	3.545 [1.491;5.599]	3.536 [1.498;5.574]	3.627 [1.356;5.898]
(e)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_K)$	1.719 [1.256;2.182]	1.750 [1.299;2.200]	1.744 [1.265;2.223]	1.760 [1.273;2.247]
(f)	$(1+\tau_{M^f})/(1+\tau_L)$	1.645 [1.079;2.212]	1.648 [1.077;2.219]	1.659 [1.061;2.256]	1.680 [1.038;2.321]
(g)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_K)$	0.493 [0.315;0.672]	0.493 [0.314;0.671]	0.492 [0.321;0.664]	0.485 [0.301;0.670]
(h)	$(1+\tau_{M^d})/(1+\tau_L)$	0.507 [0.298;0.716]	0.506 [0.301;0.711]	0.513 [0.307;0.719]	0.515 [0.301;0.729]
	$\frac{\text{Family Workers}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	$\frac{\text{Proprietors}}{\text{Total}}$	N	Y	Y	Y
	Sector FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	Year FE	Y	Y	n.a.	n.a.
	District FE	Y	Y	Y	Y
	Sector × Year FE	N	N	Y	Y

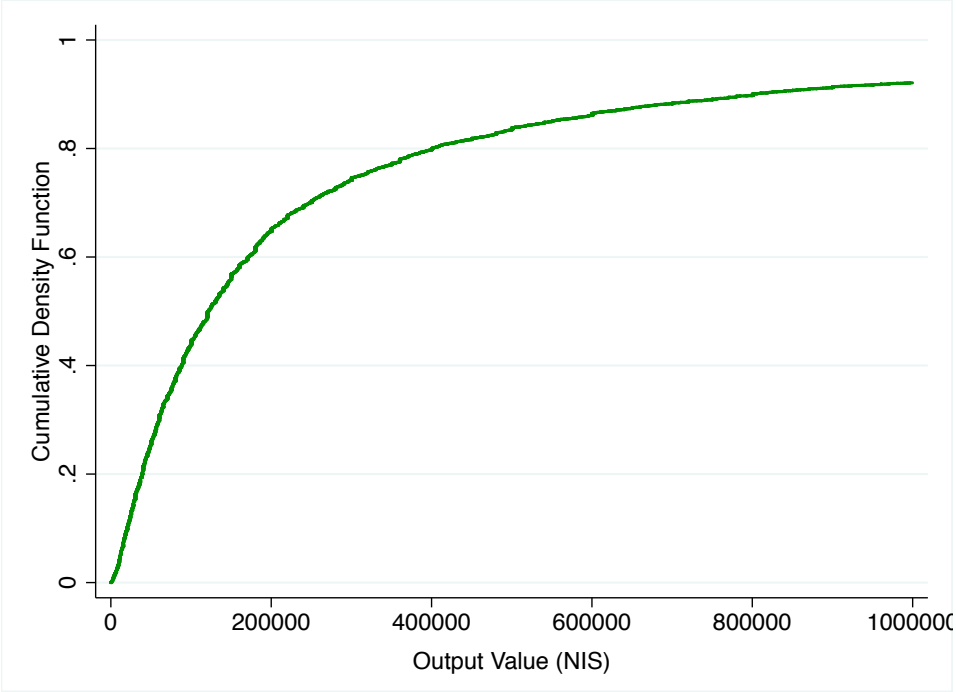
Notes. The table reports implied relative distortion values (together with 95% Confidence Intervals) as derived from estimating the input value ratio regression over the restricted sample of observations belonging to sectors where no significant relationship between material value ratio and output value is found in 1999. Standard Errors are clustered along both sector-year and district-year categories. τ_K is average distortion level for capital; τ_M is average distortion level for materials; τ_L is average distortion value for labor; τ_{M^f} is average distortion value for imported materials; τ_{M^d} is average distortion value for domestically produced materials; τ_{O^e} is average distortion value for imported oil and fuel; τ_{O^l} is average distortion value for domestically produced oil and fuel. Estimates in column (4) are derived after excluding observations with no data on output value (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics, B'TSELEM).

Figure 1: labor and Output

a) Distribution of Employment



b) Distribution of Output Value

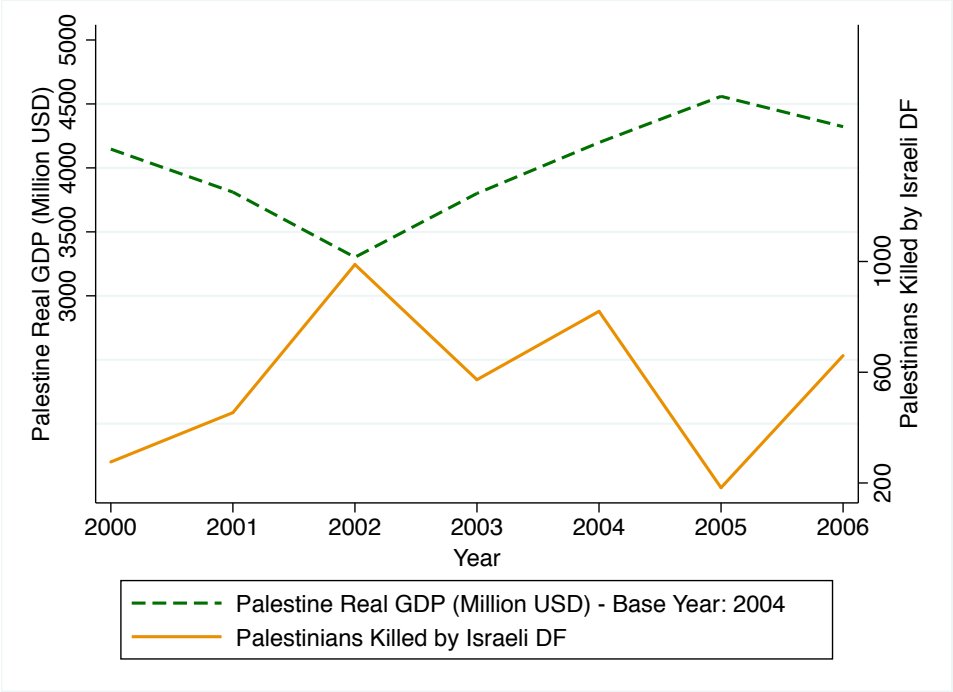


Notes. The top and bottom figures show distribution of number of workers and value of output for Palestinian firms (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 2: CONFLICT AND PALESTINIAN GDP

a) Conflict and Nominal GDP

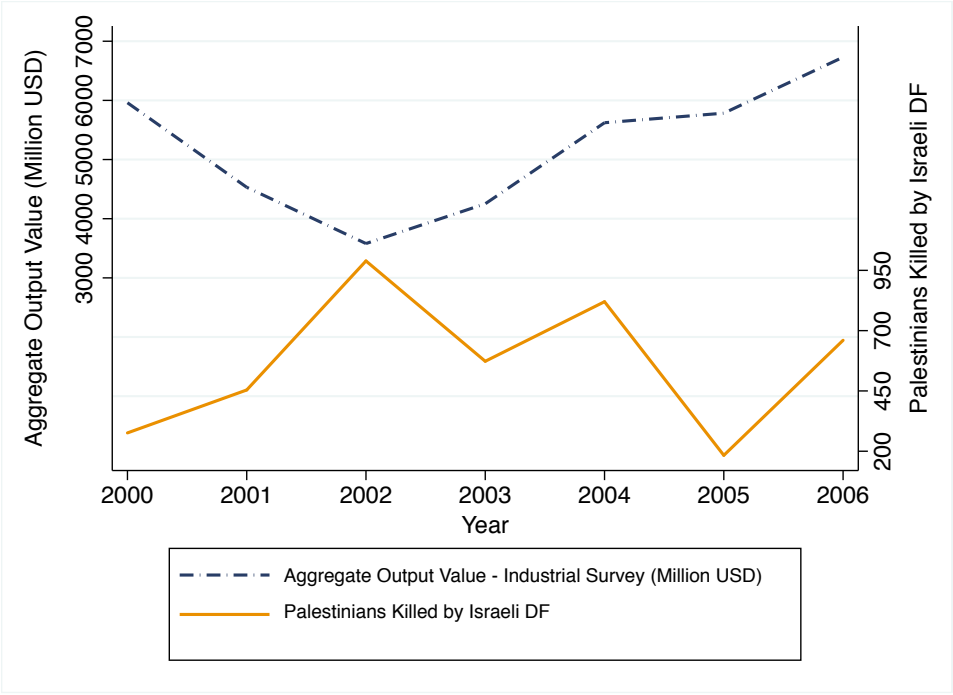
b) Conflict and Real GDP



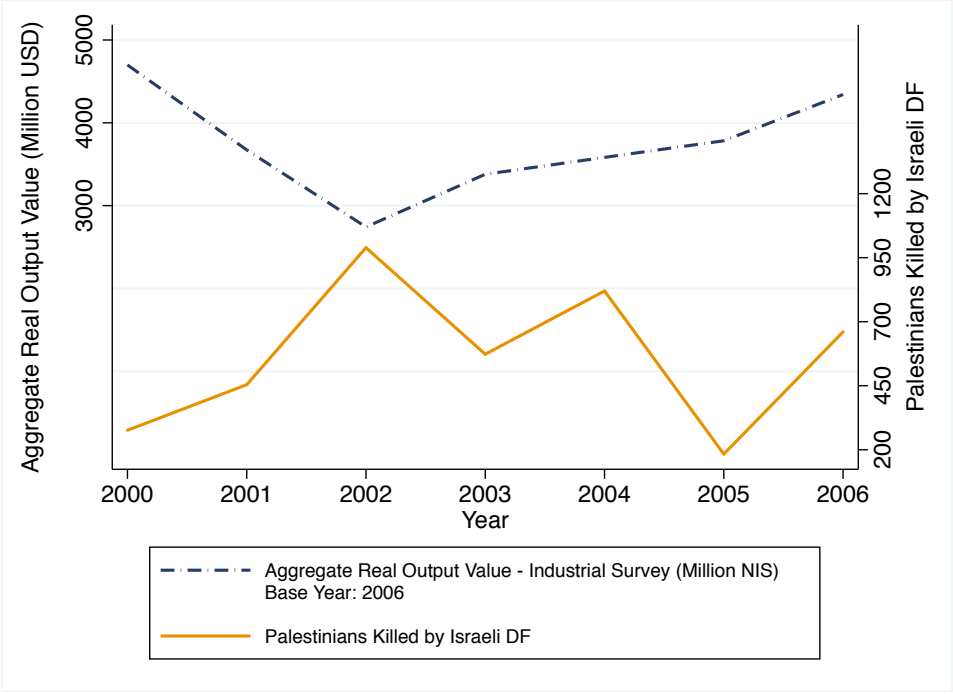
Notes. The top and bottom figures show the evolution of current and real Palestine GDP (Million USD) respectively over time, together with the evolution of the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 3: CONFLICT AND AGGREGATE OUTPUT VALUE

a) Conflict and Aggregate Nominal Output Value



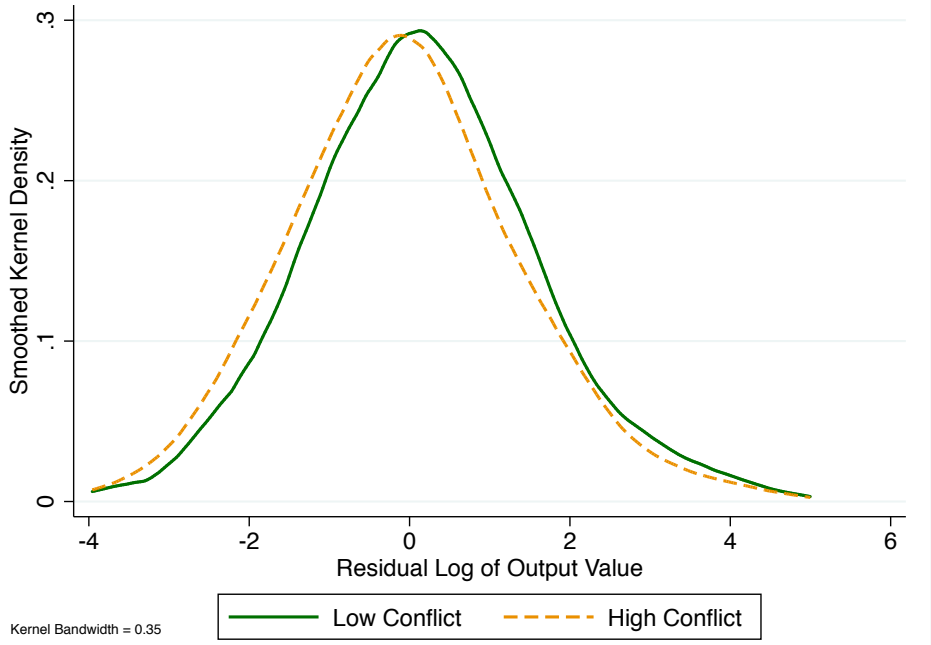
b) Conflict and Aggregate Real Output Value



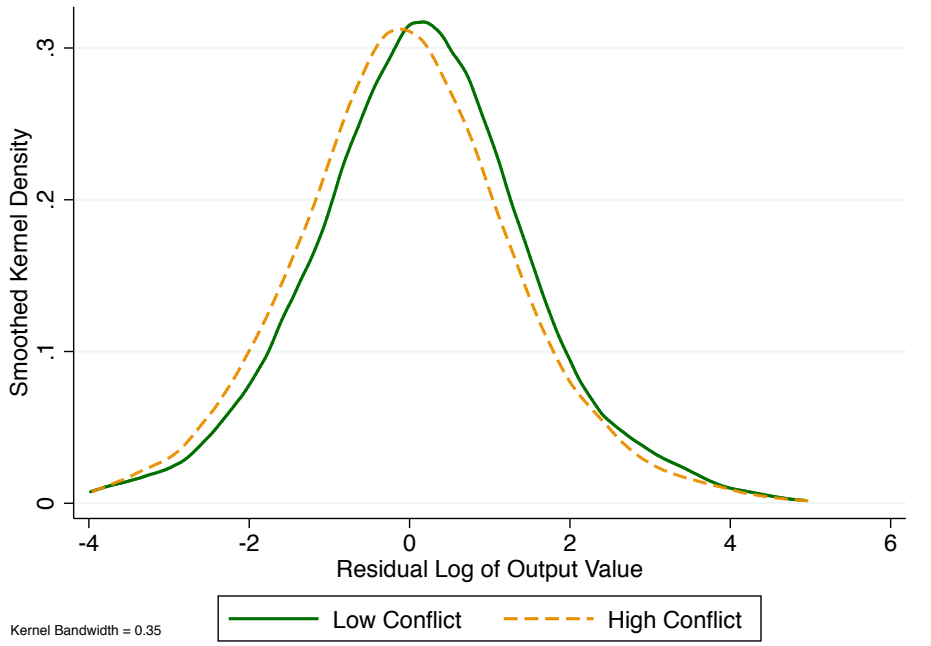
Notes. The top and bottom figures show the evolution of the total current and real value of production in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) respectively over time, as derived from the Industry Survey. The figures also plot the evolution of the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the same years (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

Figure 4: Conflict and Output Value

a) Output Value (Log of)



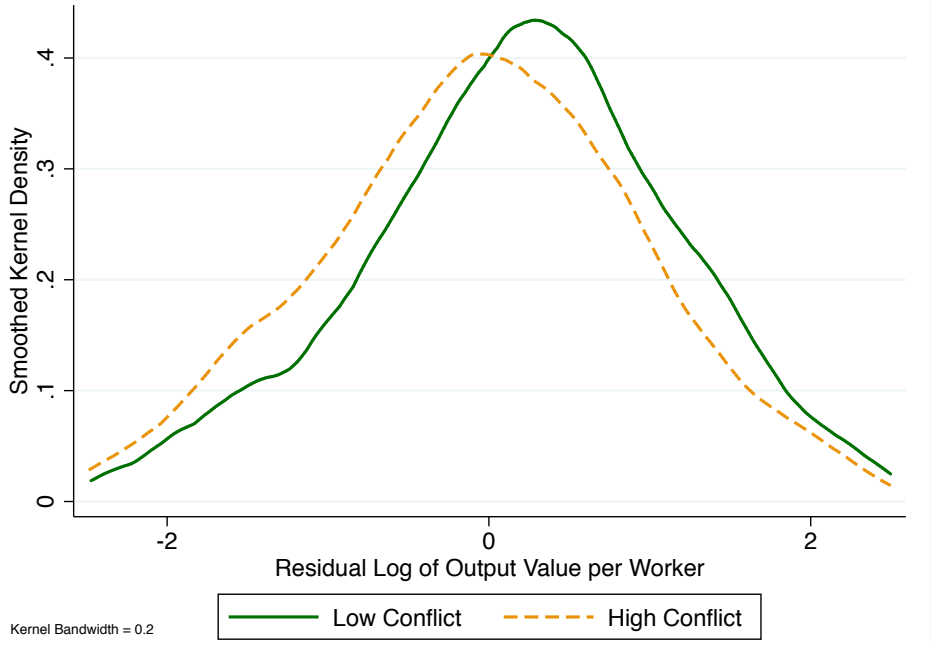
b) Output Value (Log of, within sector)



Notes. The top figure shows the distribution of residual Log of Output Value in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) for firms located in high and low conflict areas respectively. High conflict area comprises those districts and years with a total number of Palestinians killed by IDF higher than the median. Low conflict area comprises all other districts-years. The bottom figure shows the distribution of within-sector residual Log of Output Value in the two areas (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 5: CONFLICT AND OUTPUT VALUE PER WORKER

a) Output Value per Worker (Log of)

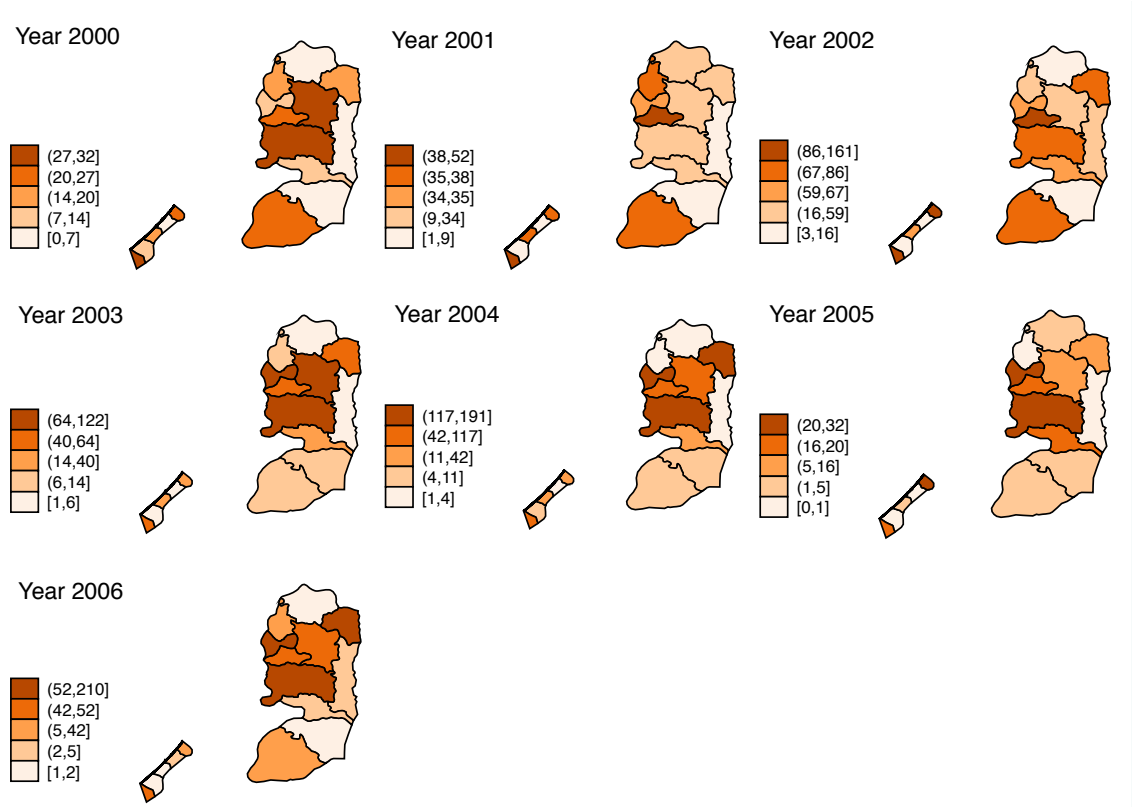


b) Output Value per Worker (Log of, within sector)

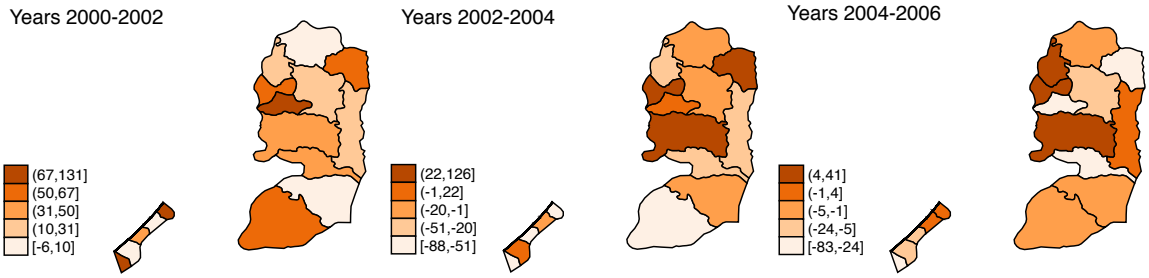
Notes. Figure (a) shows the distribution of residual Log of Output Value per Worker in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS) for firms located in high and low conflict areas respectively. High conflict area comprises those districts and years with a total number of Palestinians killed by IDF higher than the median. Low conflict area comprises all other districts-years. Figure (b) shows the distribution of within-sector residual Log of Output Value per Worker in the two areas (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 6: CROSS-DISTRICT AND TIME CONFLICT VARIABILITY - MAPS

a) Cross-district Variability

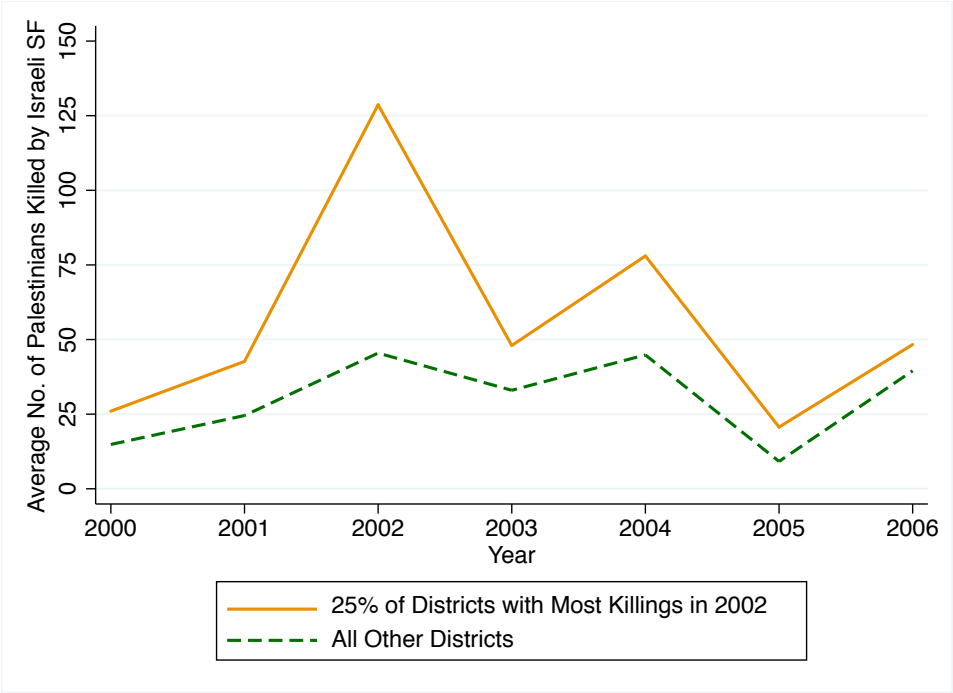


b) Within-district Variability



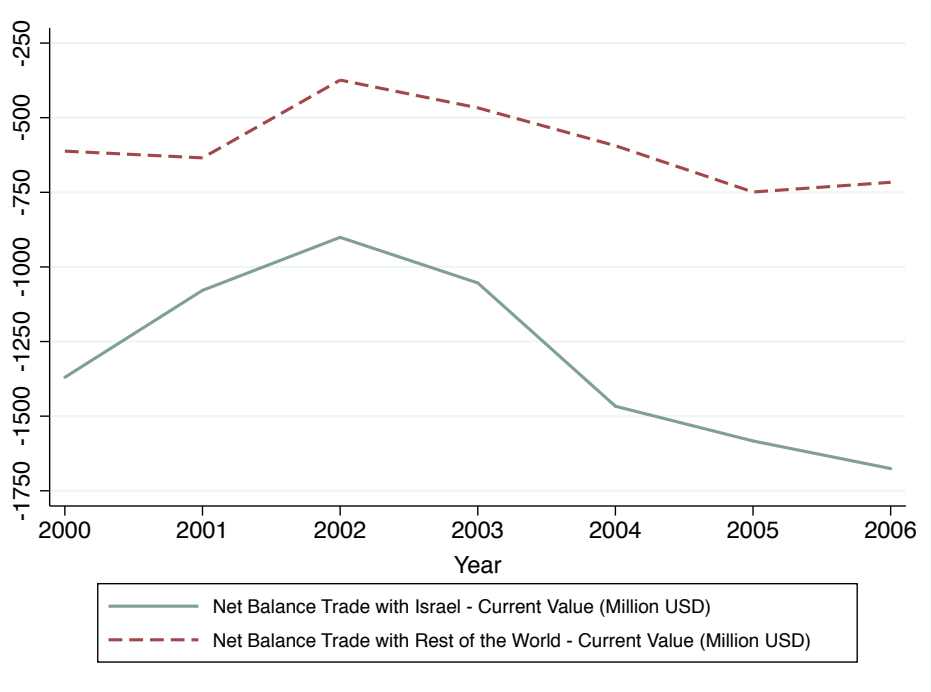
Notes. The maps show the distribution of the number of Palestinians killed by IDF across districts in given years and its changes over given time spans. In each map, districts are colored according to the quintiles they belong to in the distribution of levels and changes respectively (Sources: B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 7: CROSS-DISTRICT AND TIME CONFLICT VARIABILITY



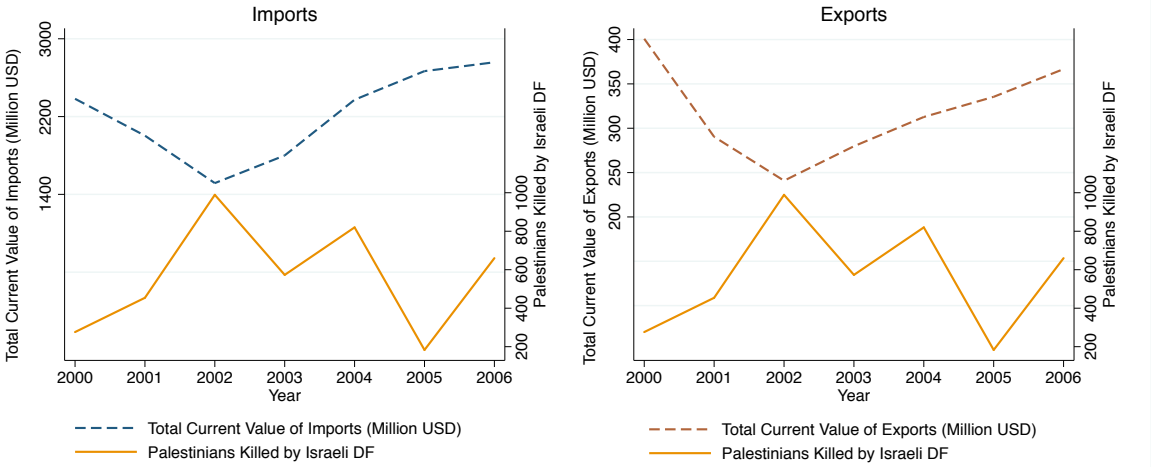
Notes. The figure plots the average number of Palestinians killed by IDF over time in districts as divided according to the number of fatalities in 2002 (Sources: B'TSELEM).

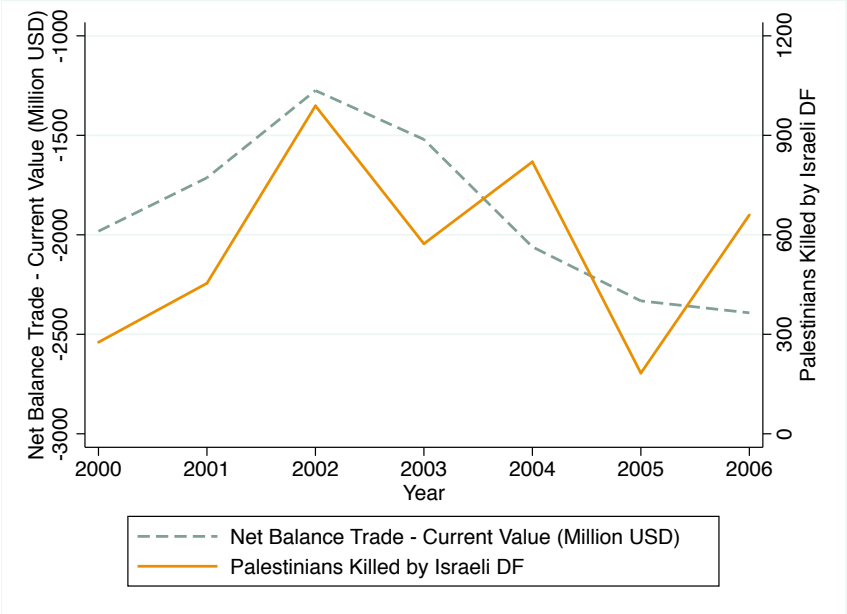
FIGURE 8: NET BALANCE OF TRADE PER GROUP OF COUNTRIES



Notes. The figure plots the evolution of the Net Balance of Trade with Israel and Rest of the World separately over time (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics).

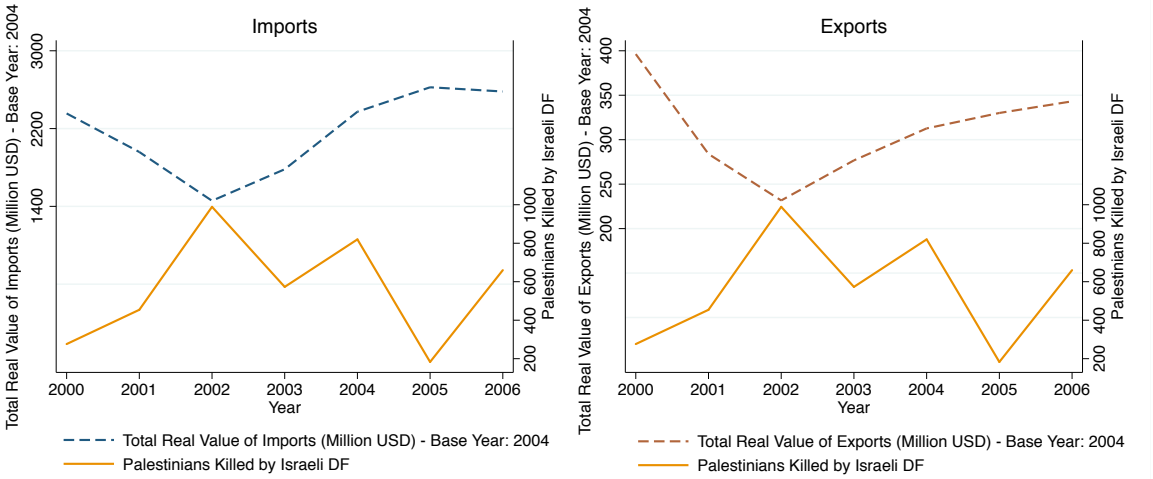
Figure 9: Conflict and Current Value of Trade

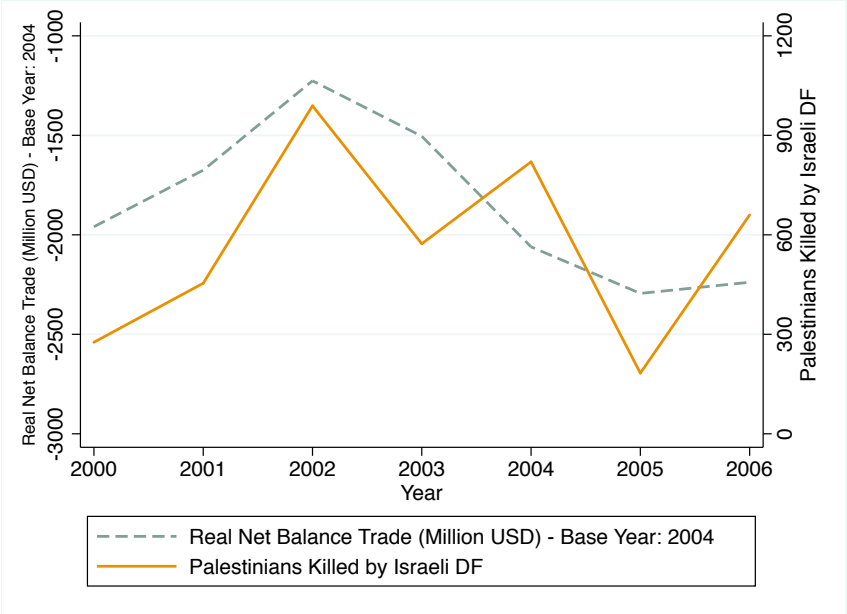




Notes. The figures plot the evolution of the total current value of Imports, Exports and Net Balance Trade over time, together with the evolution of total number of Palestinians killed by IDF (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

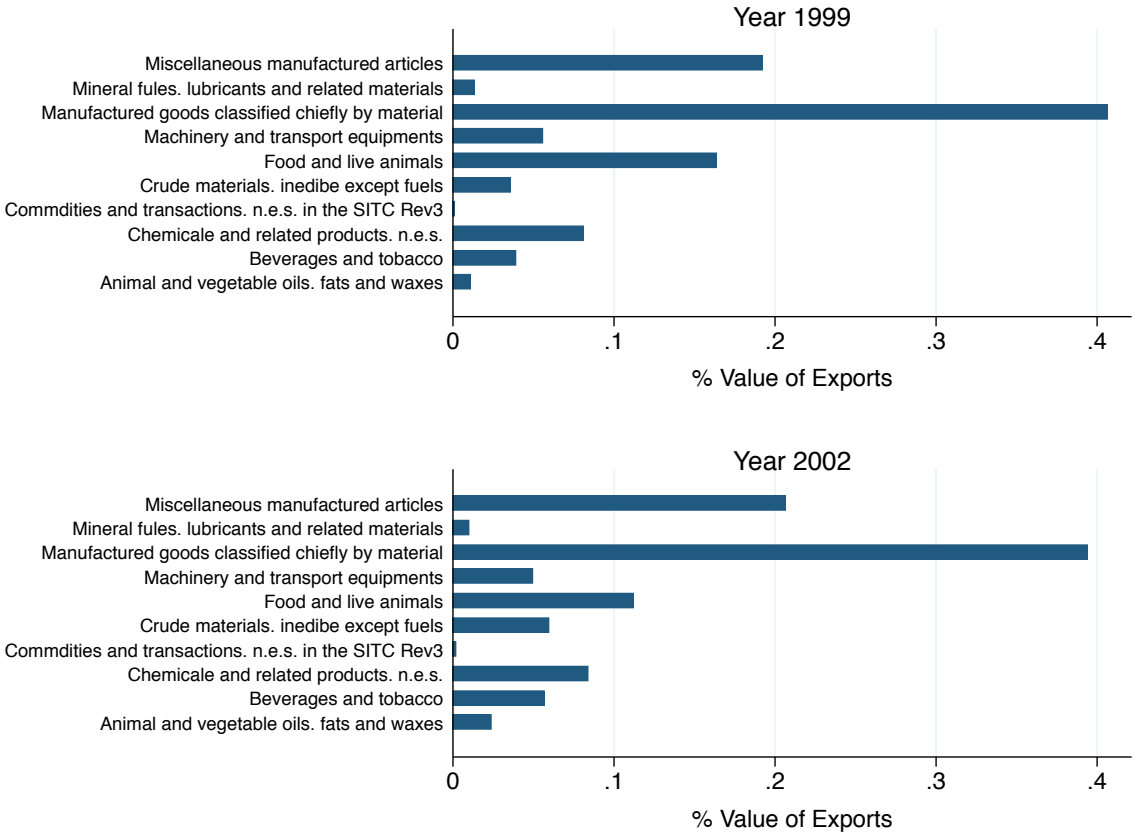
Figure 10: Conflict and Real Value of Trade





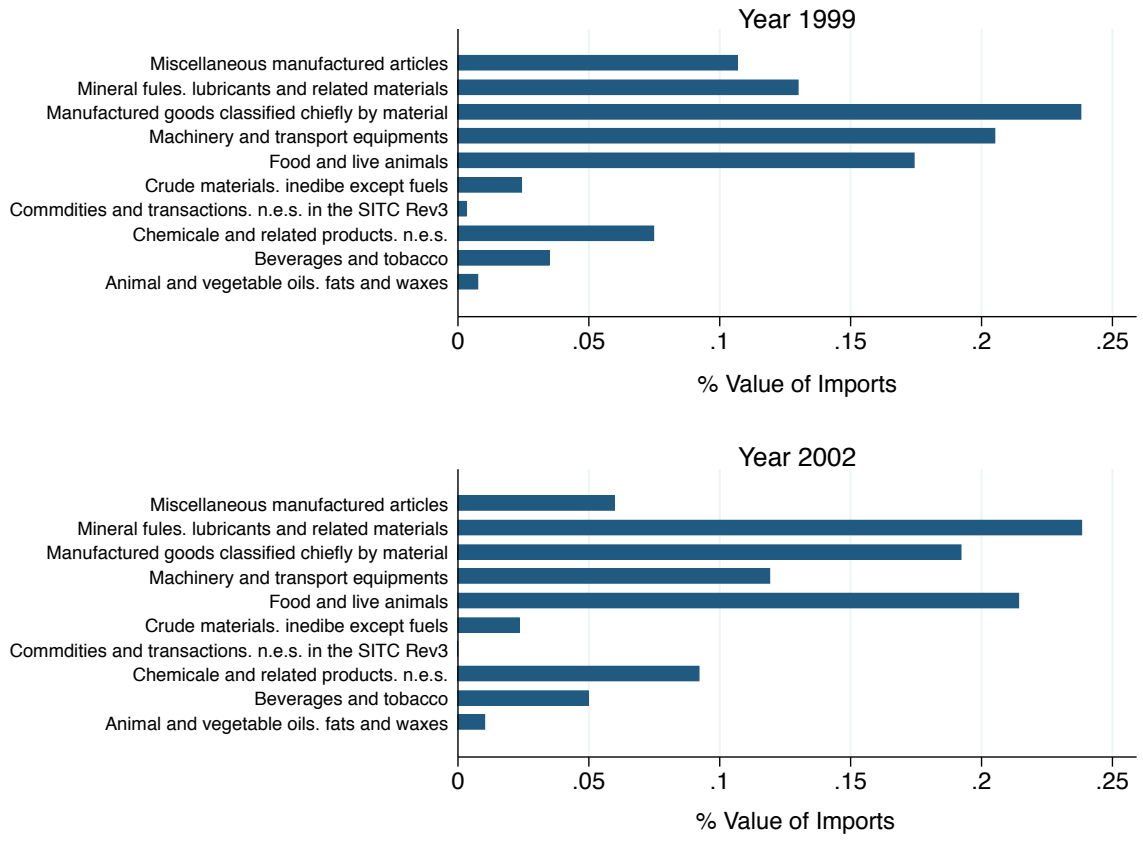
Notes. The figures plot the evolution of the total real value of Imports, Exports and Net Balance Trade over time, together with the evolution of total number of Palestinians killed by IDF (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 11: TRADE COMPOSITION: EXPORTS



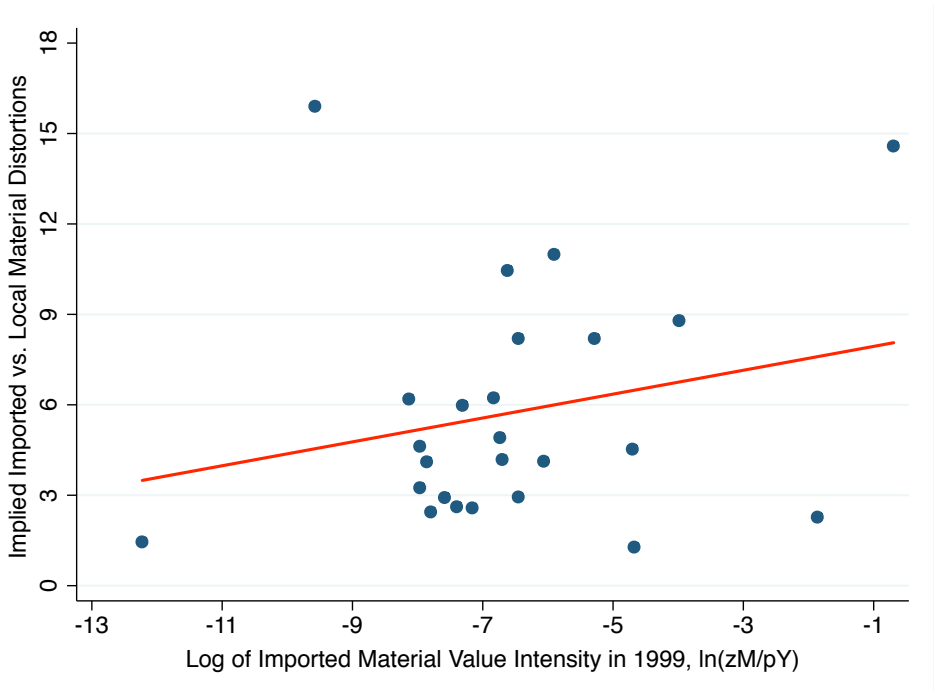
Notes. The figures plot the export composition (sector share over total export) in 1999 and 2002 (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 12: TRADE COMPOSITION: IMPORTS



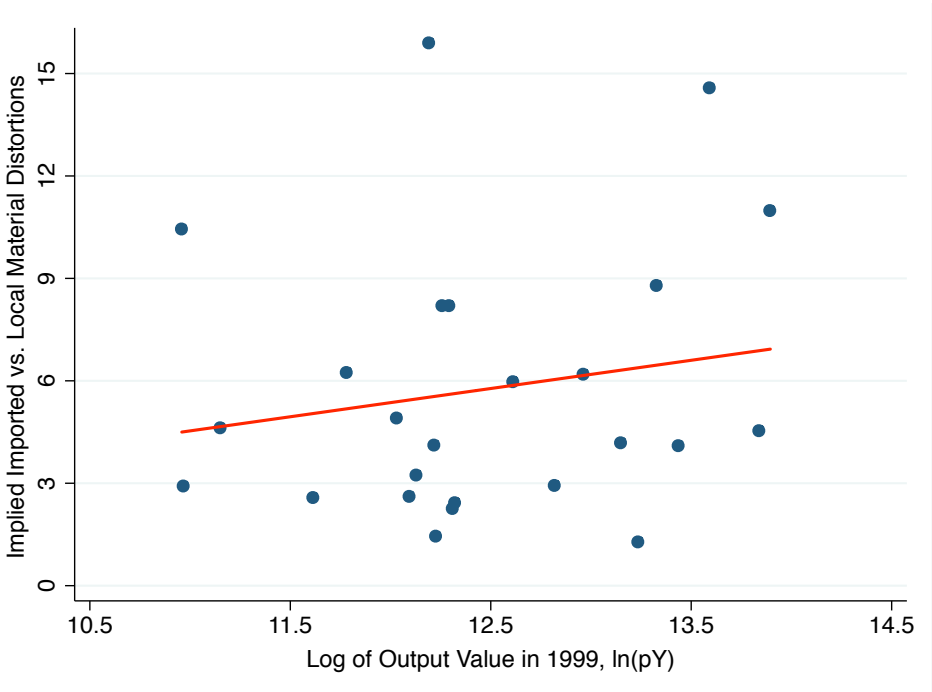
Notes. The figures plot import composition (sector share over total import) in 1999 and 2002 (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 13: SECTOR-LEVEL DISTORTIONS AND IMPORTED MATERIAL INTENSITY



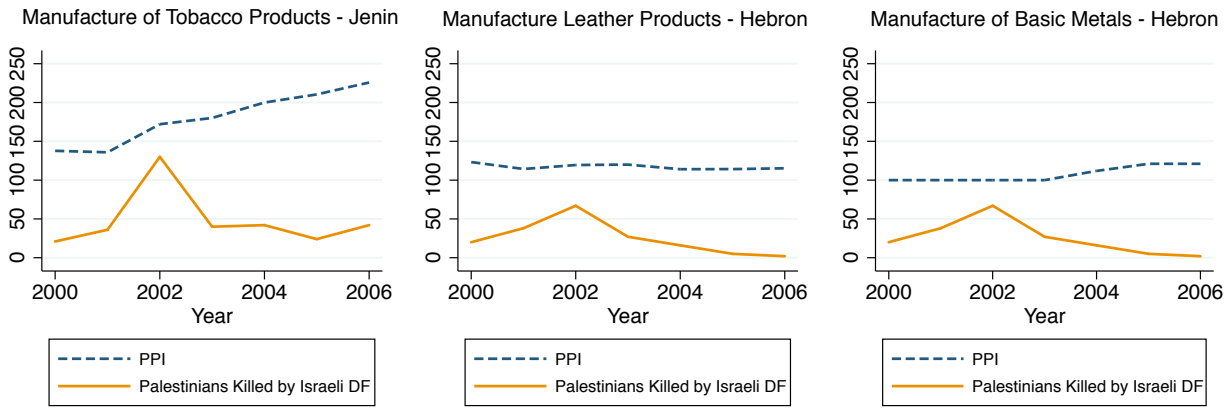
Notes. The figure plots 2-digits sector-level average distortions for domestically produced materials vs. imported materials against average imported material intensity as measured in 1999. Sectors for which conflict distorted the domestically vs. imported materials input ratio the most are those with the higher imported material intensity in 1999 (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 14: SECTOR-LEVEL DISTORTIONS AND OUTPUT VALUE



Notes. The figure plots 2-digits sector-level average distortions for domestically produced materials vs. imported materials against average output value as measured in 1999. Sectors for which conflict distorted the domestically vs. imported materials input ratio the most are those with the higher output value in 1999 (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

Figure 15: Producer Price Index and Conflict

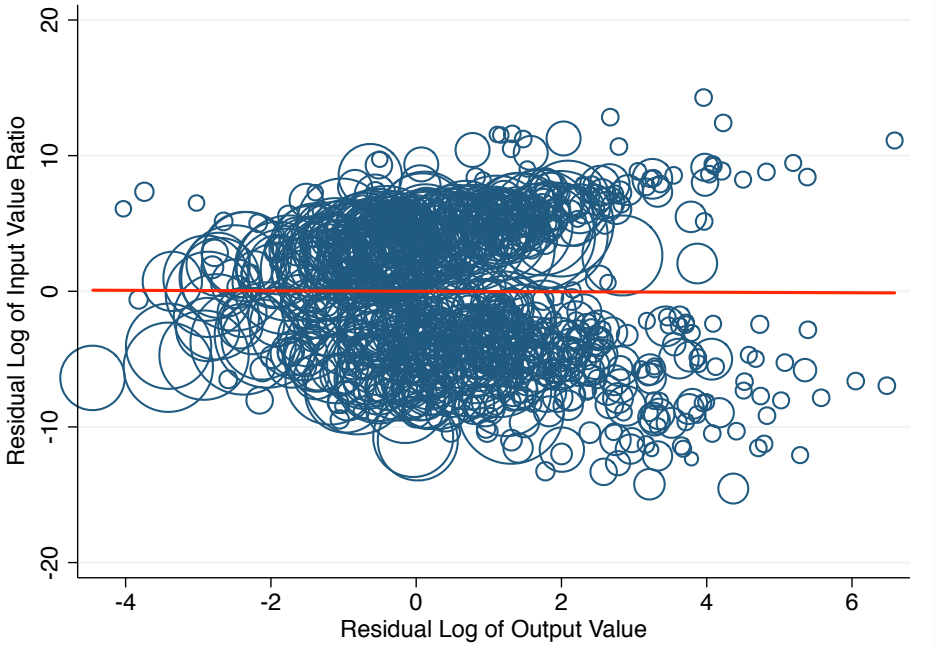


Notes. The figures plot the evolution of Producer Price Indexes for selected 2-digit sectors clustered in one particular district over time, together with the total number of Palestinians killed by IDF in the same district (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics; B'TSELEM).

FIGURE 16: WITHIN-SECTOR HETEROGENEITY IN TECHNOLOGY AND OUTPUT VALUE

a) All Sectors

b) Restricted Sample



Notes. The top and bottom figures plot the within-sector residual log of the ratio between the value of domestically produced materials and imported materials used over the residual log of output value for firms in 1999. Circle size correspond to the observation's weight in the sample. The top figure shows the relationship of interest using all available observations, while the bottom figure considers only those sectors for which the relationship between the two variables is non-significant (Sources: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics).

A Appendix

Table A.1: Establishments' Characteristics and Imported Materials

	Not Using Imported Materials	Using Imported Materials	*Difference*
Log of Output Value	11.416	11.896	0.479***
	(0.042)	(0.026)	(0.050)
Log of Output Value per Worker	10.135	10.379	0.244***
	(0.037)	(0.021)	(0.043)
Log of Value of Capital	9.665	10.357	0.692***
	(0.048)	(0.029)	(0.056)
Log of Value of labor	10.296	10.561	0.266***
	(0.034)	(0.023)	(0.041)
Log of Value of Materials	10.284	10.882	0.598***
	(0.042)	(0.026)	(0.050)
Fraction of Family Workers	0.164	0.168	0.005
	(0.007)	(0.004)	(0.008)
Fraction of Proprietors	0.516	0.409	-0.106***
	(0.009)	(0.005)	(0.010)

Notes. (* p-value< 0.1; ** p-value<0.05; *** p-value<0.01) The table reports subsample means and difference in means for non-importing and importing establishments. Non-importing establishments are defined as those not reporting any positive value of eternally produced materials consumed during the year, while importing establishments are those reporting positive values for the same variable. Figures are computed using all Industry Survey observations from year 1999 to 2006 (Sources: Industry Survey, Palestinian Bureau of Statistics).

B Data Appendix

This appendix contains a detailed description of the study sample and the variables used in the empirical section.

B.1 Industry Survey 1999-2006

Establishment-level variables are derived using micro data from the Industry Survey (IS) for the years 1999 to 2006, provided by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. Implemented since 1994, together with other economic surveys, it aims at providing a detailed description of the Palestinian economy. The sample of the IS in each year is a single-stage stratified random sample, meaning a systematic sample in which the establishment constitutes the primary sampling unit (PSU). Three levels of strata are used to arrive at an efficient representative sample (i.e. economic activity, size of employment and geographical levels). Survey responses are typically higher than 90%. The sampling weight of the establishment is the reciprocal of the sampling probability of that establishment. Weights are adjusted to compensate for non-responses. In the released version of the IS dataset we employ, we also have information on the district of location of each surveyed establishment.

We build our final dataset by combining IS data from each of the considered years. We end up with a final sample of 16418 observations, with sum of sampling weights equal to 113912. Inspecting the distribution of each one of the variables of interest, we notice the variables referring to fixed assets to have implausible peaks corresponding to values lower than 5. Fixed assets variables are: book value of assets at the beginning of the year; value of imported, new and second-hand assets purchased during the year; value of internally produced assets; value of capital additions and improvements; value of written-off and losses; value of assets sold during the year; capital depreciation during the year; book value of assets at the end of the year. We thus group together those 1788 observations (10.89% of the final sample) for which *all* of the capital information variables assume values lower than 5. Establishments in this subsample do not appear to be systematically different from others in terms of year of the survey or district of location. However, they are found to employ a significantly lower amount of labor and being attributed lower sampling weights. We exclude these observations from our analysis, trading off the national representativity of the employed restricted sample for the reliability of information on capital. Furthermore, surveyed establishments are given the option to choose the currency to use in reporting value information. While the vast majority of establishments (13903 of the remaining sample) choose to report information in Israeli New Sheqel (NIS), 275 establishments report information in Jordanian Dinnar and 109 establishments in US Dollars. We do not have information on currency used for 343 establishments. Using yearly information on exchange rates, we thus convert Jordanina Dinnars and US Dollars values to NIS, while eliminating observations belonging to establishments with no currency information. Again, these are not systematically differentially represented in given years or districts. Our final sample of analysis thus contains 14287 observations, divided by year as follows: 1778 (1999), 1530 (2000), 1439 (2001), 1497 (2002), 1689 (2003), 2251 (2004), 2155 (2005), 1948 (2006).

Output Value. We consider the reported total value of output produced during the year. A total number of 2890 establishments (20.23% of the study sample) do not provide this information. These are not systematically differentially represented in given years or districts. Nonetheless, when studying input values and distortions, we thus show the robustness of results when restricting the sample to those observations for which we have information on the value of output. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

Aggregate Output Value. The current aggregate output value is computed by calculating the weighted sum of establishment-level output value separately in each year, using the provided sampling weights. The real value is computed by first deflating establishment-level output values using 2-digit sector Producer Price Index values for each year (base year 1996), and then calculating the weighted sum of deflated establishment-level output value.

Output Value per Worker. We divide the reported total value of output produced during the year by the total amount of labor as defined by the total number of employees plus proprietors. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

Value of Capital. Similarly to Hsieh and Klenow (2009), we take the average of the book value of fixed assets at the beginning and end of the year. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

Value of labor. We derive the total value of labor by adding up the total value of salaries for administrative, operative, other, and home employees. We also add the value of other benefits and payments in kind. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

Value of Materials. When considering total value, we take the reported value of materials consumed during the year. We also consider separately the value of domestically and foreign produced materials consumed during the year, and, within those, the reported value of oil and fuel. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

Fraction of Family Workers and Proprietors. We divide the number of family workers and the number of proprietors by the total amount of labor as defined by the total number of employees plus proprietors.

Input Value Ratios. For each one of the ratio, we divide the total value of one input by the other, with both values augmented by 1. We then take the natural logarithm of the resulting value.

Imported Materials Value Intensity. We divide the total value of foreign produced materials consumed during the year by the value of output produced during the year, with both values augmented by 1. We then take the natural logarithm of the resulting value.

Average Wage. We divide the total value of labor by the total amount of labor as defined by the total number of employees plus proprietors. When taking logs, we take the natural logarithm after augmenting all variable values by 1.

B.2 Conflict Variables

Fatalities. Data on fatalities contains all Palestinian fatalities caused by the IDFs during the Second Intifada. These data are collected by the Israeli NGO B'TSELEM and are considered accurate and reliable by both the Israelis and the Palestinians (Mansour and Rees 2012). Data on all (Israeli and Palestinian) fatalities related to the Second Intifada are available at `http://www.btselem.org`, accessed on March 1, 2014. The B'TSELEM website lists the name of the fatality, the person's age and gender, place of residence, the date and place of death, and a description of the circumstances of the event. The website reports all the fatalities occurred in relation to the conflict, namely: 1) Palestinians killed by IDF; 2) Palestinians killed by Israeli civilians; 3) Israeli civilians killed by Palestinians; 4) Israeli security force personnel killed by Palestinians; 5) Foreign citizens killed by Palestinians; 6) Foreign citizens killed by IDF and 7) Palestinians killed by Palestinian. Using the available information for each fatality, we construct our main conflict variable as the total number of all Palestinians killed by IDFs (IDF) in each district throughout each year. As it clearly emerges from the descriptions of the events, the situations in which Palestinian fatalities happened are the most varied. For this reason, Palestinians killed by IDF are categorized in three groups, as follows: 1) *took part in the hostilities* - these are persons who were participating directly in hostilities at the time they were killed (for example, a person on the way to fire a rocket, to shoot soldiers, or detonate an explosive belt in the midst of civilians, during the action itself, and on returning from the action); 2) *did not take part in the hostilities* - these are persons who were not participating directly in hostilities at the time they were killed; 3) *unknown if took part in the hostilities* - in some cases, B'TSELEM was unable to collect sufficient information, or the existing information was insufficient to determine whether the person participated directly in the hostilities, and if so, what was the nature of the person's involvement. Palestinian subject of targeted killing, i.e. persons whom the Defense Force deliberately killed in the framework of a targeted-killing operation, were recorded in a separate list. The decision to kill them was based on confidential intelligence that B'TSELEM is unable to examine, making it impossible for the organization to determine with certainty whether the person took part in the hostilities. The classification of the different Palestinian fatalities is based on the principles of international humanitarian law, which distinguishes between combatants and civilians and between an attack carried out by state agents and attacks carried out by independent organizations or private individuals. As a rule, Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are

classified as civilians, in part because Palestinian combat there is not carried out by an organized army of a sovereign state. However, the lists distinguish between civilians who took part in hostilities, and thus lost the protection given to civilians not involved in the hostilities, and civilians who were completely uninvolved in the hostilities. The information on Palestinian fatalities is based on B'TSELEM's investigation into the circumstances of the death in each case. As part of the investigation, B'TSELEM collects eyewitness testimony; gathers medical documents and photographs; and cross-checks its information with IDF Spokesperson announcements, information appearing on websites and blogs of armed Palestinian organizations, information gathered by Palestinian and international human rights organizations, and media reports. B'TSELEM emphasizes that publication of the name of a person among the list of fatalities or mention that the person was a civilian or, alternatively, was killed while taking part in hostilities does not indicate that the agent causing the death violated the law and does not prove this person's innocence (`http://www.btselem.org/statistics/casualties_clarifications`). We create our $fatalities_{gt}$ variable by counting the total number of fatalities recorded in the B'TSELEM database as Palestinians killed by IDF in year t and district t. In most specification, we rescale the variable and divide it by its standard deviation in the distribution of fatalities per district-year.

Border Closures. Data are provided by B'TSELEM at `http://www.btselem.org`, accessed on March 1, 2014. Figures were provided by the IDF Spokesperson's Office on August 7, 2011 and by the Israeli Ministry of Defense on December 6, 2009. We use these data to construct or variable *closures* as the monthly number of closure days, i.e. the number of days during which the IDF imposed comprehensive closure of the borders between the OPT and Israel and between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in each year.

B.3 Other Variables

Gross Domestic Product. Data on real and current value of Palestine GDP over the years 2000 to 2006 are provided by the PCBS in the *National Accounts* subsection of the *Statistics* section of their website (`http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/`), accessed on March 1, 2014.

Producer Price Index. Yearly Producer Price Index numbers by classes in Palestine for years 1999 to 2006 (base year 1996) are elaborated by the PCBS using Producer Price Index Survey, 1999 - 2006.

Aggregate Value of Trade. Data on total value of Palestian Imports and Exports over the years 2000 to 2006 are provided by the PCBS in the *Foreign Trade* subsection of the *Statistics* section of their website (`http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/`), accessed on March 1, 2014. We derive real figures by using price deflators as derived by combining information on real and current GDP from the same source. Yearly information on the value of Palestinian Net Trade Balance are derived by subtracting the value of Imports from the value of Exports in each year.