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A family gathers in a plastic tent amid a rainstorm in Gaza. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- **In the last 24 hours, one UNRWA colleague was killed due to a strike in the Gaza City area.** In total, 103 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of hostilities on 7 October. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations.
- Two UNRWA schools in the Middle area were directly hit by strikes, resulting in damage to buildings and injuries among the internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering in one of the schools.
- One UNRWA school in Rafah sustained collateral damage and three IDPs in the school were injured after a strike hit a building nearby.
- Two internally displaced persons were injured due to shrapnel that fell inside an UNRWA school after a building near the school was hit in the Middle area.
- Almost 1.6 million people have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.

- **Nearly 813,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 154 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **About 653,000 IDPs are sheltering in 97 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the northern and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before the evacuation order was issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- Obtaining updated figures and information is becoming increasingly challenging, especially in the Middle area, due to serious communication breakdowns. In some areas, the telecommunications companies have stopped operating. **It is expected that communications will start to fail as of Thursday 16 November, when telecommunications companies run out of fuel to operate their data centres and major connection sites.**
- On 14 November, UNRWA was not able to receive aid coming through the Rafah crossing due to lack of fuel. As of 14 November, UNRWA has distributed over 870,000 litres of water, 820,000 units of high-energy biscuits, 329,000 tons of canned meats and fish, 300,000 blankets, 218,000 diapers, and crucial medical supplies such as medical supplies and equipment.



Palestinians taking shelter in a UNRWA school in Rafah struggle with downpour, strong winds and flooding, 14 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

["The situation for many people has become more desperate."](#) – Thomas White, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Gaza.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- The Israeli Security Forces (ISFs) conducted a large scale ISF operation in Tulkarem refugee camp, in northern West Bank, with a large number of troops and vehicles deployed. An

exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF. The operation resulted in the killing of seven Palestinians from the camp and injuring of twelve.

- ISF bulldozers bulldozed the roads in the camp, as well as in Tulkarem city. As a result, extensive damages were reported to public and private infrastructure in the camp, such as private buildings and roads, including the main road in Tulkarem.
- Ambulances reportedly faced difficulties entering Tulkarem refugee camp.
- Armed clashes were also reported in the nearby Nur Shams refugee camp.
- In the evening of 13 November, ISF conducted an operation in Shu'fat refugee camp in East Jerusalem, where ISF blew open the gate of the UNRWA Health Centre and briefly entered the courtyard.
- In the morning of 14 November, another ISF operation took place in Shu'fat refugee camp, and three UNRWA schools were evacuated before the end of the school day, this impacted more than 600 boys and girls.
- Overnight search and arrest operations were also reported in Qalandia, Jalazone and Aida refugee camps.



Tulkarem refugee camp after the ISF operations that took place in the camp on 14 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, as of 10 November **over 11,078 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; two thirds of them are reportedly children and women.** Due to the collapse in MoH services and communications in the North, casualty data has not been updated for the last four days.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 182 Palestinians, including 46 children, have been killed by IISF and eight, including one child, by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- In the last 24 hours, one UNRWA colleague was killed due to a strike in Gaza City. In total, **103 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities.**
- Two UNRWA schools in Nuseirat camp in the Middle area were directly hit by strikes. In one school, a classroom was hit and as a result, five IDPs were injured, three of whom are in critical condition. The school is sheltering 11,300 IDPs. In the other school, a strike hit the building's roof causing damage to the solar system and creating a hole in the roof. Over 6,600 IDPs are sheltering in the school, but no injuries were reported.
- One UNRWA school in Rafah sustained collateral damages and three IDPs sheltering in the school were injured after a strike hit a building nearby. Over 8,500 IDPs are sheltering in the school.
- At least 571 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 71 killed since 7 October. The number of killed and injured IDPs is likely to be higher as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties of incidents impacting its installations in the North and in Gaza areas.
- 79 incidents¹ impacting 67 UNRWA installations have been recorded by UNRWA since the beginning of the war.
- **UNRWA received confirmation that 206 trucks crossed to the Gaza side of Rafah crossing but could not pick up the supplies on these trucks as UNRWA did not have fuel.**

¹ Number of incidents impacting UNRWA installations, which includes counting multiple incidents involving the same installation as individual events.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 14 November, all UNRWA operations in both Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps were suspended. This included at six schools, i.e. four in Tulkarem and two in Nur Shams, impacting respectively over 1,300 and over 1,500 students respectively, and two health centres.
- Further to the ISF operation in Jenin refugee camp on 9 November, due to the destruction of the roads around the UNRWA school compounds, four UNRWA schools continued with remote learning. Since the beginning of October, the UNRWA Boys' School in Hebron H2 has been closed and continues to operate through remote learning.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- **The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. **The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.**
- People inside shelters do not have enough **food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor as mental health issues increase.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **700 people in UNRWA shelters.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets in a school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, 150 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**

Health

- Due the continued communication breakdowns in some areas in the South and especially in the Middle areas, at the time of reporting data is only available for services provided on 13 November.
- On 13 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording **7,972 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.

- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 292 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases have been attended to at the health centres and a total of 770 post-natal mothers have been attended to in the shelters since the beginning of October.**
- On 13 November, 994 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding- swellings- trauma and extraction) were provided to 242 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams deployed to the shelters. 281 health workers attended a total of 10,435 cases on 13 November.**
- **As of 14 November, fuel reserves at health centres were depleted.** UNRWA operations will entirely depend on solar energy which is designed to cater for minimal operations. Functionality of the solar energy is not guaranteed as any malfunction and/or battery failure will cause the complete stop of all operations.

Relief and Social Services/Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. **Since 7 October, over 39,600 individuals (over 62 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.**

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA was able to continue the provision of water and sanitation services on 14 November. However, if no fuel is received, these services will start shutting down on Friday 17.
- In particular, **public WASH facilities will start shutting down**, including:
 - 60 water wells in the south of Wadi Gaza. This will cut domestic water off at 44 UNRWA IDP shelters in the south of Wadi Gaza, which are currently hosting over 290,000 IDPs. It will also cut domestic water supply to most housing units in the South of Wadi Gaza.
 - Two main desalination plants in Rafah and Middle areas which are the major source of potable water for the population South of Wadi Gaza, providing water to 44 UNRWA managed IDP shelters hosting over 290,000 IDPs.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills also continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- **As of 17 November, UNRWA sanitation work will start shutting down, causing environmental hazards with around 400 tons of solid waste per day accumulated in all camps and UNRWA managed and overcrowded IDP shelters.** Combined with stopping public sewage pumping stations, and the shutdown of municipality sanitation operations, this will impose serious threats to public health, with a high risk of water contamination and disease outbreak.

Funding

- UNRWA has updated its appeal for the emergency response in the occupied Palestinian territory. The Agency requires US\$ 481 million until the end of the year. So far, confirmed funding – comprising received funds and confirmed pledges – stands at approximately US\$ 155 million, representing about 32 per cent of total requirements. Out of the confirmed funding, UNRWA has already received US\$ 63.2 million.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General

"It is very simple. Without fuel, the humanitarian operation in Gaza is coming to an end. Many more people will suffer and will likely die."

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations



sheltering in



813,000
IDPs*

154
UNRWA
installations



150 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.

On average, there is one shower unit for every 700 people in UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



103 UNRWA colleagues killed



67 UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



39,600 people (62 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

UNRWA response – Food security



Since the beginning of the crisis, UNRWA distributed:

- over 870,000 liters of water
- 820,000 units of high-energy biscuits
- 329,000 tons of canned meat and fish
- over 1.2 million kilograms of flour

UNRWA response – Health



10,435 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 13 Nov.

7,972 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 13 November.

292 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases attended to at the health centres and 770 post-natal mothers attended to in the shelters since the war has started.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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Day 40 of Hostilities

Published 17 November 2023



Children taking shelter from heavy rain in a tent set up around a hospital in Deir Al-Balah, 14 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Almost 1.6 million people have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- **Nearly 830,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 154 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **Nearly 670,000 IDPs are sheltering in 97 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the northern and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before the evacuation order was issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- On 15 November, **UNRWA received just over 23,000 litres of fuel – the equivalent of half a tanker.** Israeli Authorities have restricted the use of this fuel only to transport the small quantities of aid entering from Egypt. **The use of this fuel was not allowed for the overall humanitarian response, including for medical and water facilities or the work of UNRWA.** Read the full [statement](#).
- Much more fuel is needed. **UNRWA needs 160,000 litres of fuel every day for basic humanitarian operations.**

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, as of 10 November **over 11,078 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; two thirds of them are reportedly children and women**. Due to the collapse in MoH services and communications in the North, casualty data has not been updated for the last five days.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 183 Palestinians, including 47 children, have been killed by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) and eight, including one child, by Israeli settlers**.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- Due to strikes near an UNRWA school in Khan Younis, shrapnel fell inside the school injuring two people, including a child. 3,400 IDPs are sheltering in the school.
- At least 573 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 71 killed since 7 October. The number of killed and injured IDPs is likely to be higher as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties from incidents impacting its installations in the North and in Gaza areas.
- The lack of reliable communication within and with the Gaza Strip has caused delays and inaccuracy in the reporting on the number of impacted installations. As of 15 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 80 incidents¹ have impacted 64 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war. Of these, 15 were directly hit and 45 were impacted by collateral damage. Based on information available at the time of reporting, there have been four incursions into UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.
- Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.
- In total, **103 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities**. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. At least half have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.

¹ Number of incidents impacting UNRWA installations, which includes counting multiple incidents involving the same installation as individual events.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- **The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. **The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.**
- People inside shelters do not have enough **food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor as mental health issues increase.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **700 people in UNRWA shelters.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets in a school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, 150 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**

Health

- Due the continued communication breakdowns in some areas in the South and especially in the Middle areas, at the time of reporting data is only available for services provided on 14 November.
- On 14 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording **7,241 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 256 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 14 November. In the shelters, a total of 778 post-natal mothers have been attended to since the beginning of October.**
- On 14 November, 731 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding- swellings- trauma and extraction) were provided to 224 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams deployed to the shelters. 281 health workers attended a total of 10,222 cases on 14 November.**
- Only through further rationing of fuel reserves and through solar energy has UNRWA been able to operate the health centres. Soon UNRWA operations will entirely depend on solar energy which is designed to cater for minimal operations. Functionality of the solar energy is not guaranteed as any malfunction and/or battery failure will bring all operations to a halt.

Relief and Social Services/Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. **Since 7 October, over 41,700 individuals (nearly 62 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.**
- In coordination with Humanity & Inclusion, UNRWA provided specialized support, including dignity kits and assistive devices, to 3,830 persons with disabilities, injured, children and elderly.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA was able to continue the provision of water and sanitation services on 15 November. However, if no fuel is received, these services will start shutting down on Friday 17.
- In particular, **public WASH facilities will start shutting down**, including:
 - 60 water wells in the south of Wadi Gaza. This will cut off domestic water at 44 UNRWA IDP shelters south of Wadi Gaza, which are currently hosting over 290,000 IDPs. It will also cut domestic water supply to most housing units in the South of Wadi Gaza.
 - Two main desalination plants in Rafah and Middle areas, which are the major source of potable water for the population South of Wadi Gaza, providing water to 44 UNRWA managed IDP shelters hosting over 290,000 IDPs.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills also continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- **As of 17 November, UNRWA sanitation work will start shutting down, causing environmental hazards with around 400 tons of solid waste per day accumulated in all camps and UNRWA managed and overcrowded IDP shelters.** Combined with stopping public sewage pumping stations, and the shutdown of municipality sanitation operations, this will impose serious threats to public health, with a high risk of water contamination and disease outbreaks.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General

" We have just witnessed, over the last few weeks, the largest displacement of Palestinians since 1948."

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations



At least 573 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 71 killed since 7 October.

IDPs in shelters lack food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor as mental health issues increase.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



103 UNRWA colleagues killed



64 UNRWA installations damaged - over 50 per cent are south of Wadi Gaza

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



41,700 people (62 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

3,830 persons with disabilities, injured, children and elderly were provided with specialized support, including dignity kits and assistive devices, in partnership with HI.

UNRWA response – Health



10,222 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 14 November.

7,241 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 14 November.

731 children were vaccinated at seven health centres

UNRWA response – Fuel



UNRWA needs 160,000 litres of fuel every day for basic humanitarian operations.

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Woman taking shelter in an UNRWA school in Rafah after heavy rain and flooding, 14 November 2023. © UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- On 18 November, one UNRWA colleague was killed in the North area due to strikes. **In total, 104 colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.** This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations.
- Several incidents impacting UNRWA installations and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) have been recorded by UNRWA in the last 24 hours resulting in the killing and injuring of many IDPs sheltering in the installations. UNRWA is still trying to verify the correct number of casualties.
- Almost 1.7 million people have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- **As of 18 November, nearly 884,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 154 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **Nearly 724,000 IDPs are sheltering in 97 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the northern and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before the evacuation order was issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- The entry of fuel critical for the overall humanitarian operations across the Gaza Strip has been largely banned since 7 October when the war began.

- On Wednesday, 15 November, the Israeli Authorities allowed the entry of just less than 23,000 litres (half a truck) of fuel for UNRWA to transport trucks of aid arriving via Rafah. This fuel could not to be used for any other humanitarian purposes.
- On 18 November, the Israeli Authorities authorized the entry of 120,000 litres of fuel that will be used over two days and will only cover half of the daily critical needs. UNRWA has been informed that 120,000 litres of fuel will be delivered every two days.
- Fuel is also critical for telecommunications networks. Gaza endured a fourth communications blackout on Friday 17 November. As a result, UNRWA was not able to transport trucks of humanitarian assistance arriving via Egypt.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 16 November, an ISF operation was reported in Fara'a refugee camp, north-east of Nablus. There was an exchange of fire between Palestinian and ISF and two Palestinians were reportedly injured, including one with live ammunition. One Palestinian was detained.
- **An UNRWA sanitation labourer was held by ISF while working in the camp and wearing a UN vest, and then released. The UNRWA health centre and schools in the camp opened later.**
- In the evening, an ISF operation was reported in Jenin city and refugee camp. An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF in the city and in the vicinity of the camp. ISF snipers were reportedly stationed on the top of Palestinian houses, in the city and in the vicinity of the camp, and ISF drones reportedly fired missiles at Palestinian houses.
- **Over 1,600 students in UNRWA four schools in Jenin refugee camp are still unable to safely access school premises due to the bad condition of the roads. Schools continue to operate through blended learning.**
- On 17 November, a Palestinian died from injuries sustained in clashes with ISF during the ISF operation in Jenin refugee camp on 9 November.
- On 18 November, an ISF drone fired missiles towards the Fatah office in Balata refugee camp, Nablus. Five Palestinians were reported killed and two others were injured. Damages were also reported to infrastructure and other buildings in the camp, including the house behind the targeted building, which housed eight people in two apartments. It has been reported as uninhabitable.
- On the same morning, ISF launched an operation in the Balata refugee camp, and entered the camp with an armoured bulldozer. ISF further damaged the area where the drone strike occurred earlier in the night, including a house in the market area and a number of neighbouring homes, as well as some shops.
- On the same day, ISF launched a search and arrest operation in Ein Sultan refugee camp, Jericho. Clashes took place between ISF and Palestinians and several cases of tear gas inhalation were reported.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, as of 10 November **over 11,078 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; two thirds of them are reportedly children and women.** Due to the collapse in MoH services and communications in the North, casualty data has not been updated for the last five days.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 198 Palestinians, including 52 children, have been killed by ISF and eight, including one child, by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- On 18 November, one UNRWA colleague was killed in the North area due to strikes. **In total, 104 colleagues were killed since the beginning of the war.**
- Due to strikes nearby, two UNRWA schools were impacted in Khan Younis. In one school, which is sheltering over 7,600 IDPs, one person was killed and four people, including one child, were injured. In another school, which is sheltering over 5,100 IDPs, one person was injured.
- UNRWA received reports that one UNRWA school in Gaza City was directly struck. Initial media reports and witness statements suggest that many people were killed and injured. According to witnesses, between 3,000-4,000 IDPs were sheltering at the school at the time.
- UNRWA received reports that one UNRWA school in Jabalia, in the North Area, was also directly impacted when classrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floors were hit. At least 24 individuals were reported killed in the strike, and it is possible that the number killed may be far higher. It is not possible to estimate the number injured at this time.
- According to witnesses, up to 7,000 IDPs were sheltering at the school at the time. This is the second time this school has been hit, as on 4 November, it was already hit resulting in 12 reportedly killed and 54 injured (according to Ministry of Health figures).
- UNRWA also received reports that ISF tanks entered another school in Gaza and used it for their military operations.
- **At least 778 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have reportedly been injured and at least 176 have are reported killed since 7 October.** The number of killed and injured IDPs is an estimate and it is likely to be higher as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties from incidents impacting its installations in the North Gaza and Gaza governorates.
- As of 18 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 85 incidents¹ have impacted 67 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war. Of these, 17 installations were directly hit and 45 were impacted by collateral damage. Based on information available at the time of reporting, there have been five incursions into UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.
- Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.
- In total, **104 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities.** This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. **At least half have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.**

¹ Number of incidents impacting UNRWA installations, which includes counting multiple incidents involving the same installation as individual events.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- **The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. **The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.**
- People inside shelters do not have enough **food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor and mental health issues increase.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **700 people in UNRWA shelters.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets in a school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, 150 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**

Health

- Due the continued communication breakdowns in some areas in the South and especially in the Middle On 15 and 16 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording **15,974 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 483 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 15 and 16 November.**
- On 15 and 16 November, 1,289 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding- swellings- trauma and extraction) were provided to 533 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams deployed to the shelters. 331 health workers attended a total of 20,082 cases on 15 and 16 November.**
- Only through further rationing of fuel reserves and through solar energy has UNRWA been able to operate the health centres. Soon UNRWA operations will entirely depend on solar energy which is designed to cater for minimal operations. Functionality of the solar energy is not guaranteed as any malfunction and/or battery failure will bring all operations to a halt.

Relief and Social Services/Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. **Since 7 October, over 44,830 individuals (nearly 61 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.**
- In coordination with the organization “Humanity & Inclusion”, UNRWA provided specialized support, including dignity kits and assistive devices, to 3,830 persons with disabilities, injured, children and elderly.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA was able to continue the provision of reduced water and sanitation services. The production of water wells decreased to 7,000 cubic metres (from an average of 10,000 cubic metres).
- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle areas thanks to the desalination plant which remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimum level.
- A number of public water wells in the south of Wadi Gaza stopped working. However, UNRWA is unable to confirm precise figures due to the communication breakdowns.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

Quote from UNRWA Staff

“Just getting into one of the shelters makes you burst into tears. Children looking for food and water & standing in queues for over six hours just to get a piece of bread or a bottle of water. People are literally sleeping on streets here in Khan Younis as thousands keep escaping from the North. Markets are totally empty except for a few vegetables. This misery has to stop, or people are going to die of hunger and diseases.”

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations



At least 778 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 176 killed since 7 October.

IDPs in shelters lack food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor and mental health issues increase.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



104 UNRWA colleagues killed



85 incidents



67 UNRWA installations damaged

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



44,830 people (61% women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

3,830 persons with disabilities, injured, children and elderly were provided with specialized support, including dignity kits and assistive devices, in partnership with HI.

UNRWA response – Health



20,082 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 15-16 Nov.

15,974 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 15-16 Nov.

483 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 15-16 Nov.

1,289 children were vaccinated at seven health centres on 15-16 Nov.

UNRWA response – WASH



Distribution of potable water continued in Khan Younis and Middle areas as the desalination plant remained operational.

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Day 43 of Hostilities

Published 19 November 2023



Palestinians fleeing Gaza City and other parts of northern Gaza, 18 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Almost 1.7 million people have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 19 November, nearly 930,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.
- Nearly 770,000 IDPs are sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the northern and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- On 18 November, Israeli Authorities authorized the entry of 120,000 litres of fuel that will be used over two days and will only cover half of the daily critical needs. UNRWA has been informed that 120,000 litres of fuel will be delivered every two days.
- Without the amount of fuel needed to implement all the necessary humanitarian operations,
 - UNRWA is forced to handle a reduced number of aid trucks carrying humanitarian aid crossing daily into Rafah;
 - people will only have two thirds of their daily needs of clean drinking water;

- large parts of Gaza will continue to be flooded with sewage, further increasing risks of disease;
 - 70 per cent of solid waste will not be removed, posing a major health hazard.
- According to the logistics cluster, on 18 November, 30 aid trucks entered Gaza, followed by another 69 trucks the following day. As of 19 November, a total of 1,268 aid trucks had entered Gaza through the Rafah crossing. Of these, 200 were UNRWA trucks, carrying food, water, medical supplies and other essential non-food items.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 19 November, several overnight Israeli Security Forces (ISF) operations were reported across refugee camps in the West Bank.
- The ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Jenin refugee camp. An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF. One Palestinian with special needs was killed at the entrance of the camp and around five Palestinians were injured. Damage to infrastructure by ISF bulldozers was once again reported. The operations in Jenin City and refugee camp lasted for over 12 hours, impacting UNRWA operations and service delivery in the camp. Four UNRWA schools remained closed and provided remote learning, impacting over 1,600 students.
- On the same night, ISF conducted an operation in Balata refugee camp, Nablus, for the second night in a row. An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF. Six Palestinians, including one minor were reportedly injured with live ammunition. Several camp residents were detained. Damage to public infrastructure and private property was also reported. The operation lasted until the morning, impacting UNRWA operations and service delivery in the camp, including disrupting the school day for over 2,500 students at four UNRWA schools in the camp.
- On the same day, the ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in and around Qalandia refugee camp, located close to Qalandia checkpoint. An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF. Two Palestinians were reported injured and one was detained.
- Another ISF operation was carried out in Dheisheh refugee camp, Bethlehem. An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF, resulting in the killing of one Palestinian.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), as of 18 November around 13,000 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; almost 75 per cent of them are reportedly children, women and elderly persons. Due to the collapse in Ministry of Health (MoH) services and communications in the North, MoH casualty data has not been updated for the last eight days.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, since 7 October, **200 Palestinians, including 52 children, have been killed by ISF and eight, including one child, by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- At least 778 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and at least 176 killed since 7 October. The number of killed and injured IDPs is an estimate and it is likely to be higher as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties from incidents impacting its installations in the North Gaza and Gaza governorates.
- As of 19 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 85 incidents¹ have impacted 67 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war. Of these, 17 installations were directly hit and 45 were impacted by collateral damage. Based on information available at the time of reporting, there have been five incursions into UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.
- Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.
- As of 19 November, 104 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. At least half have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- The number of displaced people continues to increase. UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity. They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues, and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.
- People inside shelters do not have enough food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor and mental health issues are prevalent.
- On average, there is one shower unit for every 700 people in UNRWA shelters.
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets in a school (including those for persons with disabilities). On average, 160 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.
- In the Rafah Logistics base where more than 8,000 people have sought shelter, 400 people are sharing one toilet.
- Due to the poor sanitary conditions, in the last two weeks there has been a 35 per cent increase in skin diseases and a 40 per cent increase in cases of diarrhea.

¹ Number of incidents impacting UNRWA installations, which includes counting multiple incidents involving the same installation as individual events.

- As part of its humanitarian operations, UNRWA distributes food and non-food items to IDPs at the shelters. These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulin, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses and other humanitarian supplies.

Health

- On 18 and 19 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording 19,162 patient visits, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. A total of 597 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 18 and 19 November.
- On 18 and 19 November, 1,773 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding- swellings- trauma and extraction) were provided to 618 cases at seven health centres.
- UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams. 351 health workers attended a total of 16,862 cases on 18 and 19 November (no data was available for the middle area on 18 November).
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas with a team of psychiatrists and counsellors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters.
- Only through further rationing of fuel reserves and through solar energy has UNRWA been able to operate the health centres.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. Since 7 October, over 55,590 individuals (over 61 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate water wells for the provision of potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue. Due to the reduced availability of fuel, the production of water wells decreased from an average of 10,000 cubic metres to 7,000.
- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to a lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle areas thanks to the desalination plant which remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimum level.
- A number of public water wells in the south of Wadi Gaza stopped working. However, UNRWA is unable to confirm precise figures due to the communication breakdowns.

- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters including electrical works to fix breakdowns, repair solar systems, plumbing works to repair water networks and desalination plants, security repairs, etc.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General

“The large number of UNRWA facilities hit and the number of civilians killed cannot just be ‘collateral damage’. [...] This vicious war is reaching a point of no return when all rules are disrespected, in overt disregard for civilian lives. I call and appeal once again for humanity to prevail and for a humanitarian ceasefire right now.”

[Read the full statement.](#)

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



sheltering in



930,000
IDPs*

156
UNRWA
installations



At least 778 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 176 killed since 7 October.



+40 per cent diarrhea cases and +35 percent skin diseases in the past two weeks. due to poor sanitary conditions in shelters.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



104 UNRWA colleagues killed



85
incidents



67
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



55,590 people (61 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

UNRWA response – Health



19,162 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 18-19 November.

16,862 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 18-19 November.

597 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 18-19 November.

1,773 children were vaccinated at seven health centres on 18-19 November.

UNRWA response – Shelter and NFIs



Food and NFIs are distributed to IDPs in shelters. These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulin, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses, and other humanitarian supplies.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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Displaced Palestinians taking shelter in an UNRWA school in Deir al-Balah, 20 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Four UNRWA colleagues were killed due to strikes in the North, Gaza and Khan Younis areas. In total, 108 colleagues have been killed since the beginning of hostilities. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. **At least half have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.**
- Two schools in the Middle Area were directly hit by strikes and sustained severe damages. In one school, 15 internally displaced persons were killed, of whom nine were children and four were women. 20 people were injured. The school was hosting about 1,000 internally displaced people who were subsequently evacuated.
- Since the beginning of the conflict, **at least 798 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have been injured and at least 191 were reportedly killed.** The number of killed and injured IDPs is an estimate as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties from incidents impacting its installations.
- UNRWA received confirmed reports that **two schools, one in the North and one in the Middle Area, were completely demolished by explosions.**
- As of 20 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 89 incidents¹ have impacted 69 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the hostilities.

- **Among the installations impacted, 23 have sustained direct hits.** In addition, UNRWA received reports of unauthorized entry and military use of its facilities on at least five occasions including entry of tanks onto the premises, use by snipers, and interrogations and arrests within the facilities.
- Almost 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- **As of 20 November, nearly 945,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **Nearly 785,000 IDPs are sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- UNRWA has been informed that 120,000 litres of fuel will be delivered every two days. This amount of fuel **only covers half of the daily critical needs.** On 20 November, UNRWA received two trucks of fuel (around 64,000 liters).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 20 November, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) operations were reported in a number of refugee camps across the West Bank, including Jalazone (Ramallah) and Dheisheh camp (Bethlehem), Fara'a (north-east of Nablus) and Aqbat Jabr (Jericho) refugee camps, where an exchange of fire took place between Palestinian and ISF.
- ISF opened fire on a Palestinian vehicle near the entrance of Arroub refugee camp (between Bethlehem and Hebron), and one Palestinian from a nearby village was killed.
- In the early morning, an ISF operation took place in Balata refugee camp (Nablus), on the third day in a row. An exchange of fire was reported between Palestinians and ISF, and Palestinian injuries and detentions were recorded. Infrastructure in the camp sustained further damage.
- UNRWA continues to provide services in the West Bank, with health clinics and schools open, except for the Hebron Boys' School that has remained closed since the beginning of the escalation on 7 October. Four UNRWA schools in Jenin are still running in remote learning modality.
- About 470 UNRWA staff with West Bank Identity Cards working in UNRWA East Jerusalem installations and at the UNRWA West Bank Field Office are still unable to reach their duty stations, due to Israeli access restrictions from the West Bank into East Jerusalem and Israel.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to Palestinian Bureau Center for Statistics (PBCS), as of 22 November over 14,128 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; two thirds of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 201 Palestinians, including 52 children, have been killed by ISF. In addition, eight people, including one child have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 20 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 89 incidents¹ have impacted 69 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the hostilities.
- In addition, UNRWA received reports of unauthorized entry and military use of its facilities on at least five occasions including entry of tanks onto the premises, use by snipers, and interrogations and arrests within the facilities.
- Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.
- As of 19 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities.**

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- **The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. **The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues, and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.**
- People in shelters do not have enough **food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor and mental health issues are prevalent.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **700 people in UNRWA shelters.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets per school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, 160 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**
- In the Rafah Logistics Base where more than 8,000 people have sought shelter, 400 people are sharing one toilet.
- Due to the poor sanitary conditions, data indicates significant increases in some communicable diseases and conditions such as diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, skin infections and hygiene-related conditions like lice. In the past weeks, diarrhea increased by 45 times, and bloody diarrhea by 14 times in comparison to 2022.

- As part of its humanitarian operations, [UNRWA distributes food and non-food items to IDPs at the shelters](#). These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulins, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses and other humanitarian supplies.

Health

- On 20 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and south areas, recording **7,522 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 231 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 20 November.**
- On 20 November, 435 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to 257 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams. 351 health workers attended a total of 9,748 on 20 November.**
- Only through further rationing of fuel reserves and through solar energy has UNRWA been able to operate the health centres.
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas with a team of psychiatrists and counsellors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. **Since 7 October, over 57,898 individuals (over 61 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.**

Food security

- UNRWA is preparing for a distribution of flour to people Middle and Southern governorates with quantities based on family size. The distribution will start on 21 November in Rafah area for the largest families.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate water wells for the provision of potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue. Due to the reduced availability of fuel, daily water production of water wells decreased from an average of 10,000 cubic metres to 8,000.

- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to a lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle Areas thanks to the desalination plant which remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimum level.
- A number of public water wells in the south of Wadi Gaza stopped working. However, UNRWA is unable to confirm precise figures due to communications breakdowns.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters including electrical works to fix breakdowns and repair solar systems, plumbing works to repair water networks and desalination plants, security repairs, etc.

Quote from Inas, UNRWA staff member in southern Gaza

“My children cannot take it anymore – bombardments are getting closer by day. Yesterday an air strike was so close that my ten-year-old kept shivering and panicking.”

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



945,000
IDPs*

sheltering in



156
UNRWA
installations



At least 798 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 191 killed since 7 October.



On average, 160 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



108 UNRWA colleagues killed



89
incidents



69 UNRWA installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



57,898 people (61 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

UNRWA response – Health



9,748 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 20 November.

7,522 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 20 November.

231 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 20 November.

435 children were vaccinated at seven health centres on 20 November.

UNRWA response – WASH



UNRWA continues to operate water wells for the provision of potable and domestic water supply.

UNRWA response – WASH



64,000 liters of fuel were received on 20 November.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA’s ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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Day 46 of Hostilities

Published 22 November 2023



A displaced Palestinian child walking through rubble in Nuseirat Refugee Camp, 17 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- 108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of hostilities. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. **At least the 40 per cent have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.**
- Almost 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- **As of 21 November, nearly 1,037,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **Nearly 877,000 IDPs are sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by the Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- **On average, around 220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **4,500 people in UNRWA shelters**. The increase in the number of IDPs per shower compared to previous reports is **in line with the increase of IDPs in UNRWA**

shelters and is due to the lack of shower units in UNRWA installations not designated as shelters but currently hosting IDPs. UNRWA was not able to bring any additional mobile shower units to its shelters due to a lack of space and/or the lack of fuel for transportation.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 21 November, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) operations were reported **in a number of refugee camps across the West Bank**, including Jalazone (Ramallah) and Dheisheh camp (Bethlehem).
- In the early morning, an ISF operation was conducted in Balata refugee camp (Nablus), for the third day in a row. An exchange of fire was reported between Palestinians and ISF, and there were a number of Palestinian injuries and detentions. Further damage to camp infrastructure by an ISF bulldozer was recorded.
- Later in the morning, the ISF entered Balata refugee camp for a second time, and another exchange of fire reportedly took place between Palestinians and ISF during clashes, after ISF surrounded a house in the camp. Five Palestinians, including three minors, were injured with live ammunition and several cases of tear gas inhalation were reported.
- UNRWA operations were running in the camp at the time of the ISF operations, with UNRWA social workers visiting families to undertake an assessment of the impact of recent operations, and over 2,000 students from four UNRWA schools in the camp sheltered in place. Later during the day, a Palestinian refugee from the camp died from injuries sustained during the operation.
- On the same day, the ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in several locations in Jericho, reportedly firing live ammunition in an area of the city. An exchange of fire between Palestinians and ISF was reported at the entrance of the nearby Aqbat Jabr refugee camp; UNRWA operations were not impacted.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), **as of 22 November over 14,128 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October**; 74 per cent of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 201 Palestinians, including 52 children, have been killed by the ISF. In addition, eight people, including one child have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 21 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities.**
- As of 21 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 89 incidents¹ have occurred at 69 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the hostilities. **Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.**
- **Among the installations impacted, 23 have sustained direct hits.** In addition, UNRWA received reports of unauthorized entry and military use of its facilities on at least five occasions including entry of Israeli Forces' tanks onto the premises, use by snipers, and interrogations and arrests within the facilities.

- Since the beginning of the conflict, **at least 798 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have been injured and at least 191 were reportedly killed.** The number of killed and injured IDPs is an estimate as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties from incidents impacting its installations.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- **The installations accommodate far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. **The over-crowding is leading to significant spread of disease, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues, and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.**
- People in shelters do not have enough **food and basic survival items. Hygiene levels are poor and mental health issues are prevalent.**
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **4,500 people in UNRWA shelters.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets per school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, around 220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**
- Due to the poor sanitary conditions, **data indicates significant increases in some communicable diseases and conditions such as diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, skin infections and hygiene-related conditions like lice.** In the past weeks, diarrhea increased by 45 times, and bloody diarrhea by 14 times in comparison to the same periods in 2022.
- As part of its humanitarian operations, **UNRWA distributes food and non-food items to IDPs at the shelters.** These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulins, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses and other humanitarian supplies.

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over half a million patients.**
- On 21 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and south areas, recording **9,601 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 283 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 21 November.**
- On 21 November, 770 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme bringing the total number to 10,926 since 4 November.

- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to 317 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams. 351 health workers attended a total of 11,003 on 21 November. Each team is composed of 1 to 2 doctors and a nurse.**
- **Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) initiatives were resumed** in the Middle and Khan Younis areas with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisor to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. The team responded to **664 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions, and support to GBV cases.**
- **Overall, 20,604** patients received health care from UNRWA on 21 November at shelters and the nine operational Agency health centres. This compares to 17,513 on 5 October, the last day of services before the start of the hostilities.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **Since 7 October, 59,775 individuals (over 61 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.**
- **In addition, 110 school counsellors and 152 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support reaching 180,068 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South governorates through individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the hostilities.**
- **Recreational activities were also organized in UNRWA shelters reaching 159,870 children.** UNRWA counsellors have also provided staff care and support to 812 UNRWA staff since the beginning of the hostilities.
- In coordination with the organization “Humanity & Inclusion”, UNRWA provided specialized support, including dignity kits and assistive devices, to 4,106 persons with disabilities, injured, children and elderly.
- As much as possible and available, UNRWA distributes food and non-food items to IDPs at the shelters. These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulin, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses, etc.

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour to families started on 21 November in Rafah area. Around 1,000 families composed of at least 11 family members received flour, with a total of 100 metric tons distributed. The Agency has prioritized large families first.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- **UNRWA continues to operate water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply.** Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue. Due to the reduced availability of fuel, daily water production of water wells decreased from an average of 10,000 cubic metres to 8,000.
- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to a lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle Areas thanks to the desalination plant which remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimum level.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters. This includes electrical works to fix breakdowns (connecting spots with solar system energy, changing burned wires etc.), repair of solar systems, plumbing works to repair water networks and desalination plants (repair of water connections, wastewater leakage, water pump, repair clogged sewage line, etc.), security repairs (replacing damaged locks, switches, repair of security screens, etc.), metal works, tiling etc.

Quote from an UNRWA staff member who asked that their name not be shared:

“Thousands of people are sleeping in the streets and on the sidewalks. Hundreds of these people come every day to our operating room [...] in their great affliction, they ask for simple things –shelter, or a tent. There is little food and I have no choice but to say that all the shelter centers are full to capacity.”

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



At least 798 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 191 killed since 7 October.



On average, 4,500 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA schools share one shower.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



108 UNRWA colleagues killed



89 incidents



69 UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



59,775 people (61 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis.

UNRWA response – Health



11,003 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 21 November.

9,601 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 21 November.

283 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres on 21 November.

770 children were vaccinated at seven health centres on 21 November.

UNRWA response – Food security



~1,000 families composed of at least 11 family members received flour in Rafah area, with a total of 100 metric tons distributed on 21 November.

UNRWA response – WASH



Solid waste collection from camps and emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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Child sheltering in Deir el-Balah area struggling with rain and cold weather, 19 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Over 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 22 November, more than one million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.
- Nearly 896,000 IDPs are sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. This is an increase of around 19,000 individuals over the past 24 hours.
- Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- The average number of IDPs per shelter has surpassed 9,000, indicating a significant level of overcrowding considering that the standard shelter capacity is up to 2,000 people. On average UNRWA shelters are hosting four and a half times more IDPs than their intended capacity.

- Notably, one of the schools in Maghazi, Middle Governorate, has reported an overcrowding rate reaching 18.95 times its capacity, with 37,900 IDPs accommodated in a facility intended for 2,000 individuals.
- 108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations. At least 40 per cent of them have been killed south of Wadi Gaza.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 22 November, a large-scale Israeli Security Forces' (ISF) operation was conducted in Tulkarem refugee camp, lasting around 10 hours. Six Palestinians were killed. The road networks in the camp sustained substantial damages, including locations directly adjacent to the UNRWA Health Centre. UNRWA operations were impacted, particularly education, as around 1,200 students from four UNRWA schools could not attend school.
- In the early morning of the same day, the ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Dheisheh refugee camp, Bethlehem. ISF reportedly opened fire in clashes with Palestinians, and three Palestinians were reportedly injured with live ammunition. Twenty-six Palestinians, including a female, were detained. Student attendance at UNRWA schools in the camp was recorded at 55 per cent, due to the security situation.
- UNRWA schools in Jenin refugee camp resumed in person learning today, after some days in which remote education was used. About 35 per cent of students attended, and several recreational and psychosocial activities were organized.



Children attending recreational and psychosocial support activities at an UNRWA school in Jenin refugee camp, West Bank, 22 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photos

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), as of 23 November over 14,532 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; 74 per cent of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, since 7 October, 209 Palestinians, including 52 children, have been killed by the ISF. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 22 November, 108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the hostilities.
- As of 22 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 89 incidents have occurred at 69 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the hostilities. Over 50 per cent of the impacted installations are south of Wadi Gaza.
- Among the installations impacted, 23 have sustained direct hits.
- In addition, UNRWA received reports of unauthorized entry and military use of its facilities on at least five occasions, including entry of ISF tanks onto the premises, use by snipers, and interrogations and arrests within the facilities.
- Since the beginning of the conflict, at least 798 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have been injured and at least 191 were reportedly killed.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- The number of displaced people continues to increase.
- UNRWA installations that are serving as shelters are accommodating over four times more than their intended capacity. The overcrowding is leading to significant spread of disease, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues, and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.
- Due to the poor sanitary conditions, data indicates significant increases in some communicable diseases and conditions such as diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, skin infections and hygiene-related conditions like lice. In the past weeks, diarrhea increased by 45 times, and bloody diarrhea by 14 times in comparison to the same periods in 2022.
- On average, there is one shower unit for every 4,500 people in UNRWA shelters.
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets per school (including those for persons with disabilities). On average, around 220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.
- As part of its humanitarian operations, UNRWA distributes food and non-food items to IDPs at the shelters. These include flour, canned food, cheese, dates, and tarpaulins, nylon sheets, mats, mattresses and other humanitarian supplies.
- Since 7 October, UNRWA has distributed the following non-food items:
 - over 66,000 mats and mattresses;
 - nearly 500,000 blankets;
 - around 20,000 baby, family and dignity kits;

- almost 275,000 baby diapers and over 70,000 adult diapers.

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over half a million patients.
- On 22 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and south areas, recording 9,786 patient visits, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. A total of 281 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 21 November.
- On 21 November, 696 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to 262 cases at seven health centres.
- UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams. 351 health workers attended to a total of 11,667 patients on 22 November. Each team is composed of one to two doctors and a nurse.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. Since 7 October, 60,776 individuals (over 61 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.
- In addition, 110 school counsellors and 152 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support. They have reached 227,969 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South governorates through individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the hostilities.
- Recreational activities have also been organized in UNRWA shelters reaching 205,025 children since the beginning of the hostilities.

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour continued on 22 November in southern governorates, where over 2,000 families received flour. The Agency has prioritized large families first, and has reached more than 3,100 families so far.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue. Due to the reduced availability of fuel, daily water production of water wells decreased from an average of 10,000 cubic metres to 7,000.
- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to a lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle Areas thanks to the desalination plant which remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimal level.

- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters. This includes electrical works to fix breakdowns (connecting spots with solar system energy, changing burned wires etc.), repair of solar systems, plumbing works to repair water networks and desalination plants (repair of water connections, wastewater leakage, water pump, repair of clogged sewage lines etc.), security repairs (replacing damaged locks, switches, repair of security screens etc.), metal works, tiling etc.

Quote from UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini during his trip to Gaza, the second since the start of hostilities:

“South of Gaza: At an overcrowded UNRWA shelter, it’s cold, sewage is flooding. A father burst into tears. He wore the same clothes for 45 days. Sleeps on the floor, asked for food. Stripped of dignity.”

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



At least 798 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been injured and 191 killed since 7 October. On average, there are 9,000+ IDPs per shelter designed for up to 2,000 people..

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support

60,776 people (61% women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since the beginning of the crisis. 205,025 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities

UNRWA response – Health

11,667 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 124 mobile medical points on 22 Nov. 9,786 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 22 Nov.

UNRWA response – Food security

3,100 families benefitted from flour distribution since 7 Oct.

UNRWA response – NFIs

Since 7 Oct. UNRWA distributed:
~66,000 mats and mattresses
~500,000 blankets
~20,000 baby, family and dignity kits
~275,000 baby diapers and 70,000 adult diapers

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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UNRWA Situation Report #38 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem



Information is valid as of 23 & 24 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 47-48 of Hostilities

Published 25 November 2023



Displaced Palestinians at an UNRWA school in Deir al-Balah, 21 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- A humanitarian pause entered into force on 24 November at 7.00 am.
- On the first day of the humanitarian pause, UNRWA received 137 trucks of humanitarian aid at its reception point in Gaza.
- Between 23 and 24 November, UNRWA received 197,000 litres. Fuel is being distributed by UNRWA to support food distribution, and the operation of generators at hospitals, water and sanitation facilities, shelters, and other critical services.
- On the same day, a UN convoy delivered critical humanitarian aid (composed mainly of water, flour and other food items) to two UNRWA shelters in the north. This is the first aid delivery to a shelter in the north in over one month.
- Over 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 24 November, more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.

- **Nearly 920,000 IDPs are sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.**
- Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.
- During the reporting period, UNRWA verified at least seven additional incidents impacting displaced people hosted in UNRWA installations and/or UNRWA installations only.
- **In total, 77 UNRWA installations have been damaged since the beginning of the hostilities as a result of 99 separate incidents.**
- 108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war. This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- In the early morning of 23 November, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) entered Balata refugee camp, Nablus, and conducted a search and arrest operation. An exchange of fire between Palestinians and ISF was reported, and one Palestinian fatality was recorded.
- Damage was sustained once again to roads and infrastructure in the camp. The large-scale operation continued throughout the day, for over 12 hours.
- UNRWA operations were severely impacted in Balata refugee camp, as well as in other refugee camps in Nablus, such as Askar and Camp no. 1, as well as in Nablus city itself.
- **Twelve UNRWA schools in Nablus area - four in Balata Refugee Camp, six in Askar Refugee Camp and two in Nablus city - were closed, affecting some 4,000 students.** Four UNRWA health centres - one in Balata RC, two in Askar RC and one in Camp No. 1 - were also closed, as many staff members could not reach their place of work.
- On the same day, an ISF operation was reported in Arroub refugee camp in the Hebron governorate. Clashes were reported between ISF and Palestinians. Several camp residents were detained. An ISF operation was also reported in Kalandiya refugee camp.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- No new fatality figures have been issued in the past 24 hours. According to the Government Media Office (GMO), as of 18:00 on 23 November, **over 14,800 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October**; 73 per cent of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 213 Palestinians, including 55 children, have been killed by the ISF in the West Bank. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 24 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.**
- During the reporting period, UNRWA received initial reports through the media that one school in Jabalia camp, in the north, was hit by a strike resulting in reports of 27 people killed and 93 injuries among the IDPs sheltering in the school.
- UNRWA also received reports that two schools in Gaza City were directly hit by strikes. However, it has not been possible for UNRWA to verify whether there were any casualties.
- One health centre in the Middle Areas was directly struck resulting in severe damage to the building.
- Three schools located in Rafah (south of the Gaza Strip) were impacted due to strikes on adjacent buildings, and two of them sustained collateral damage. Three displaced women were injured and transferred to the hospital for treatment. The three schools host a total of 30,800 IDPs.
- During the ongoing humanitarian pause, UNRWA conducted assessments in three schools in the Middle area. Munition shrapnel was found inside the schools, and it was confirmed that the buildings had sustained moderate to severe damage.
- **As of 24 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 99 incidents have occurred at 77 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.**
- **Among the installations impacted, 27 have sustained direct hits and 50 have sustained collateral damage.**
- In addition, UNRWA received reports of unauthorized entry and military use of its facilities on at least five occasions, including entry of ISF tanks onto the premises, use by snipers, and interrogations and arrests within the facilities.
- Since the beginning of the conflict, **at least 218 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have reportedly been killed** and at least **894 have been injured.**

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** On 23 and 24 November, at least 24,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in middle and southern areas.
- **In total, more than 1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.**
- The average number of IDPs per shelter has surpassed 9,000, indicating a significant level of overcrowding considering that the standard shelter capacity is up to 2,000 people. **On average UNRWA shelters host four and a half times more IDPs than their intended capacity.** The overcrowding is leading to significant spread of disease, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues, and limits the Agency's ability to provide services.

- One of the UNRWA schools in Maghazi, (middle areas), has reported an overcrowding rate reaching almost 20 times its capacity, with 37,900 IDPs accommodated in a facility intended for 2,000 people.
- On average, there is one shower unit for every **4,500 people in UNRWA shelters**.
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets per school (including those for persons with disabilities). **On average, around 220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.**

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over half a million patients.**
- On 23 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording **9,116 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees. The health centres were closed on Friday 24 November.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 23 November.**
- On 23 November, **642 children were vaccinated** at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to **293 cases** at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 125 medical teams on 23 and 24 November. 351 health workers attended to a total of 17,975 patients. Each team is composed of one to two doctors and a nurse.**
- Mental health and psychosocial support initiatives were resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. On 23 November, **the team responded to 806 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support to gender-based violence cases.**

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **Since 7 October, 64,006 individuals (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.**
- **Since the beginning of the war, UNRWA counsellors conducted 591 Explosive Ordinance Risk education sessions benefiting 9,633 individuals and 485 sessions engaging a total of 8,484 children.** These counsellors were trained by UNMAS earlier this year as part of UNRWA-UNMAS collaboration on reducing the risks of Explosive remnants of war (ERW) for children.

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 23 and 24 November in southern governorates. **The Agency has prioritized large families first and has reached more than 15,234 families so far.**
- On 24 November, UNRWA managed to distribute flour to two IDP shelters in the north.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- **UNRWA continues to operate water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply.** Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue.
- Water production from UNRWA water wells has been affected by several factors. In the period before the current emergency, the production of water was about 7,000 cubic metres per day. As soon as the crisis began and the number of displaced persons increased significantly, the wells were operated at double capacity to meet the growing needs of the camp refugees and the displaced people.
- However, **due to the reduced availability of fuel, daily water production of water wells decreased from an average of 10,000 cubic metres to 7,000 which is not enough to meet the needs of the growing population of IDPs.**
- The distribution of potable water stopped in Rafah due to a lack of fuel for the water tankers but continued in Khan Younis and Middle Areas as the desalination plant remained operational. Distribution of domestic water to the shelters continued at a minimal level.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters. This includes electrical works to fix breakdowns (connecting spots with solar system energy, changing burned wires etc.), repair of solar systems, plumbing works to repair water networks and desalination plants (repair of water connections, wastewater leakage, water pump, repair of clogged sewage lines etc.), security repairs (replacing damaged locks, switches, repair of security screens etc.), metal works, tiling etc.

Quote from UNRWA Commissioner-General during an UNRWA press conference at UNRWA HQ in East Jerusalem, 24 November 2023:

“Since my first visit two weeks ago, it was evident the humanitarian situation in Gaza has become much, much worse.

People are going to sleep holding their children tight while not knowing if they will wake up alive the following morning”.

“I reiterate my call that this pause becomes a long-standing humanitarian ceasefire. The pause is also an opportunity to reach people in need, including in the north and start repairing civilian infrastructure.”

The video of the press conference is available [here](#).

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

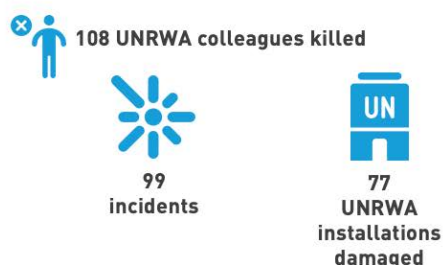
Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



At least 218 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and 894 injured since 7 October.

On average, ~220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support

64,006 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

205,025 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response – Health

17,975 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 125 mobile medical points on 23-24 November.

9,116 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 23 November.

304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 23 November.

UNRWA response – Food security

15,234 families benefitted from flour distribution since 7 October.

Humanitarian access

137 trucks of humanitarian aid were received by UNRWA at its reception point in Gaza on 24 November.

197,000 litres of fuel were received by UNRWA on 23-24 November.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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Information is valid as of 25 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 49 of Hostilities

Published 26 November 2023



UNRWA distributes flour to displaced Palestinian families, 21 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- A humanitarian pause entered into force in the morning of 24 November and has held on 25 November.
- On 25 November, UNRWA received 187 trucks of humanitarian aid at its reception point in Gaza.
- For the second consecutive day, 129,000 litres of fuel entered Gaza from Egypt. UNRWA distributed fuel to support food distribution, the operations of generators at hospitals, water and sanitation facilities, shelters and other critical services south of Wadi Gaza.
- As of 25 November, Israeli Authorities have not allowed fuel to reach the areas north of Wadi Gaza.
- Over 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 24 November, more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.
- **Nearly 927,000 IDPs were sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.**

- Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- No new fatality figures have been issued in the past 48 hours. According to the Government Media Office (GMO), as of 18:00 on 23 November, **over 14,800 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October**; 73 per cent of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 215 Palestinians, including 55 children, have been killed by the ISF in the West Bank. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 25 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.**
- **As of 25 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 99 incidents have occurred at 77 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.**
- **Among the installations impacted, 27 have sustained direct hits and 50 have sustained collateral damage.**
- Since the beginning of the conflict, **at least 218 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have reportedly been killed** and at least **894 have been injured.**

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** On 25 November, at least 7,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in middle and southern areas.
- **In total, more than 1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.**

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over half a million patients.**
- On 25 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and Southern areas, recording **10,802 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.

- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 25 November. In addition, post-natal care continued to be provided in the shelters and as of 25 November, 1,068 cases have been attended to since the beginning of October.**
- On 25 November, **1,205 children were vaccinated** at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to **336 cases** at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 125 medical teams on 25 November. 282 health workers attended to a total of 10,531 patients. Each team is composed of one to two doctors and a nurse.**
- Mental health and psychosocial support initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. On 25 November, **the team responded to 776 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support to gender-based violence cases.**
- UNRWA received essential medicines through the humanitarian convoys coming via Egypt; however, there is still a shortage of both specialised and essential medicines, including for non-communicable diseases.
- Since 14 October, an UNRWA doctor has been working to provide medical services (which include outpatient services, non-communicable disease services and maternal services) at Jabalia health centres in the North area.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **Since 7 October, 64,356 people (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.**
- 115 school counsellors and 154 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support. They have reached 250,565 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern governorates through individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the war.
- UNRWA organized recreational activities in its shelters reaching 222,482 children.
- Several NGOs, including Humanity Inclusion, Sharek, Tamer, Mind-Body, and the Red Crescent, are working with UNRWA staff to recreational activities in UNRWA shelters

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 25 November in the southern governorates. The Agency is currently reconciling the data for the distribution that took place on 25 November.
- Flour will continue to be prioritized for distribution in the North and in Gaza City as part of the humanitarian convoys reaching the North of Wadi Gaza during the ongoing humanitarian pause.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- **UNRWA continues to operate water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply.** Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters.

Quote from Hussein Owda, UNRWA staff member in Gaza

“There is no space to grieve. Very few signs show we are alive. We breathe, but other than that we have lost all other signs of life.”

ENDs –



Numbering

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



sheltering in



1,080,000
IDPs*

156
UNRWA
installations



At least 218 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and 894 injured since 7 October.

On average, ~220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



108 UNRWA colleagues killed



99
incidents



77
UNRWA installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



64,006 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

205,025 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response – Health



17,975 IDPs in shelters received health care through 125 mobile medical points on 23-24 November.

9,116 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 23 November.

304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 23 November.

UNRWA response – Food security



15,234 families benefitted from flour distribution since 7 October.

Humanitarian access



137 trucks of humanitarian aid were received by UNRWA at its reception point in Gaza on 24 November.



197,000 litres of fuel were received by UNRWA on 23-24 November.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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UNRWA Situation Report #40 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is valid as of 26 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 50 of Hostilities

Published 27 November 2023



A Palestinian child sitting on UNRWA bags of flour in the Rafah Governorate, 21 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- A humanitarian pause entered into force in the morning of 24 November and was maintained for the third consecutive day on 26 November.
- On 26 November, aid convoys reached areas north of Wadi Gaza. UN agencies and the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) distributed 1,062 metric tonnes of ready-to-eat food to four UNRWA shelters in Jabalia camp, 185 metric tonnes of tents and blankets and 890 metric tonnes of bottled water to various sites.
- Over the past three days, small amounts of cooking gas have entered Gaza for the first time since the start of the conflict. However, the amounts fall well short of the needs.
- Around 1.8 million people (or over 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 24 November, almost 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Government Media Office (GMO), as of 18:00 on 23 November, **over 14,800 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October**; 73 per cent of them are reportedly children and women (about 6,000 children and 4,000 women).
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 222 Palestinians, including 55 children, have been killed by the ISF in the West Bank. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 26 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.**
- **As of 26 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 99 incidents have occurred at 77 UNRWA installations since 7 October.**
- Since the beginning of the conflict, **at least 218 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have reportedly been killed** and at least **894 have been injured.**

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** On 26 November, at least 13,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in Middle and South areas.
- **In total, almost 1.1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.**

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over 600,000 patients.**
- On 26 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and South areas, recording **10,697 patient visits**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.

- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. **A total of 408 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 26 November. In addition, post-natal care continued to be provided in the shelters, with 1,075 cases attended to 7 October.**
- On 26 November, **1,265 children were vaccinated** at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to **369 cases** at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 126 medical teams on 26 November. 283 health workers attended to a total of 9,967 patients. Each team is composed of one to two doctors and a nurse.**
- Mental health and psychosocial support initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. On 26 November, **the team responded to 955 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support to gender-based violence cases.**

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **Since 7 October, 71,636 people (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.**
- 115 school counsellors and 154 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support. They have reached 254,551 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern governorates through individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the war.
- UNRWA organized recreational activities in its shelters reaching 303,364 children.
- Counselors have extended psychosocial support to 1,275 UNRWA colleagues, using different communication channels like phone calls, text messages and other available media. During the humanitarian pause, focal points are actively facilitating group support sessions for counselors.

Food security

- **UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 26 November in the southern governorates. A total of 20,720 families has been reached so far.**
- Flour continued to be prioritized for distribution in the North and in Gaza City as part of the humanitarian convoys reaching the North of Wadi Gaza during the ongoing humanitarian pause.

- The ready-to-eat food distributed at UNRWA shelters in Jabalia, in the north, on 26 November, included about 7.6 metric tons of high-energy biscuits provided by the World Food Programme (WFP). This covers the minimal daily food intake for 23,616 people for one day.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate eight water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue.
- Solid waste collection from the camps, and emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. About 50 loadings were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 26 November. UNRWA colleagues in Gaza have highlighted there is an urgent need for sanitation trucks and vehicles.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters.

Quote from Juliette Touma, UNRWA Director of Communications

[“People have lost everything and they need everything.”](#)

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

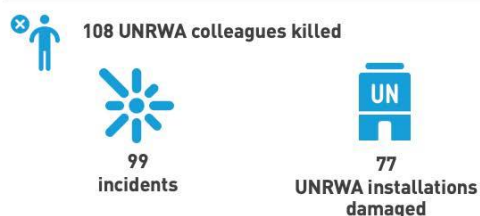
IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



13,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in middle and southern areas on 26 November.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support

71,636 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

303,364 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response – Health

9,967 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 126 mobile medical points on 26 November.

10,697 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 26 November.

408 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 26 November.

600,000+ patients treated by UNRWA staff since 7 October.

UNRWA response – Food and NFIs assistance

20,720 families outside of shelters has received flour in southern governorates since 21 November.

UN agencies and the PRCS distributed 1,062 metric tonnes of ready-to-eat food to 4 UNRWA shelters, 185 metric tonnes of tents and blankets and 890 metric tonnes of bottled water to various sites, on 26 November.

• IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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