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UNRWA Situation Report #137 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 13-16 September 2024, is valid as of 16 September 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 344-347 of Hostilities

Published 18 September 2024



UNRWA teams distribute food aid to forcibly displaced families in an UNRWA school-turned-shelter in Deir al-Balah, middle area, Gaza Strip. September 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Ongoing strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- Humanitarian pauses across specific areas of the Gaza Strip have enabled the first round of the emergency polio vaccination campaign. The Polio vaccination campaign was rolled out in phases, focusing on one zone at a time - starting in the Middle Areas, shifting to the south, and finally to the northern governorates. Between 1-13 September, nearly 560,000 children were reached in the middle, southern and northern areas of the Gaza Strip according to WHO.
- As winter approaches, [WFP](#) as the logistics cluster lead agency warns that worsening conditions and damaged roads in Gaza will complicate the delivery of food, water, medicine, and hygiene supplies to areas where they are critical for the survival of communities.

- According to the [Health and WASH Clusters](#), there remains a critical shortage of essential hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, and detergents. Families are struggling to maintain basic hygiene in overcrowded shelters, which increases the risk of health conditions like infectious diarrhea. Handwashing with soap can reduce diarrheal diseases by 40 per cent and respiratory infections by 20 per cent, yet soap and detergents are now either unavailable or priced beyond what families can afford. For example, a 75 gram piece of soap costs up to US\$ 10, forcing families to make the hard choice between essential food or hygiene.
- On 14 September, the Israeli military issued yet another evacuation order affecting three neighbourhoods in central Beit Lahia, in northern Gaza. According to the Site Management Working Group, this order affects two internally displaced collective centres and one makeshift site, hosting a total of 850 people. The ongoing issuance of mass evacuation orders without ensuring that those displaced have safe and adequate places to stay, is worsening the humanitarian crisis for hundreds of thousands of people, especially those who are repeatedly and forcibly displaced. As of 16 September, according to [OCHA](#), more than 55 evacuation orders remain in effect, covering about 86 per cent of Gaza.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people (or nine in ten people) across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced, including people who have been repeatedly displaced (some, up to 10 times or more).
- As of 17 September, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October is **220**.
- Several challenges stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 9 September 2024, an average of only 62 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the below link:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 9 September 2024, 674 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Separately, UNICEF confirmed that over 150 children have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, during the period, 7 October 2023 to July 2024.
- On 10 September, ISF resumed operations in northern West Bank (following their last withdrawal on 6 September), targeting Tulkarm, Nur Shams, and El Far'a camps. On 12 September, the ISF withdrew from Tulkarm Camp, and on 13 September from El Far'a Camp. The operation left extensive destruction, including damage to roads, residential and commercial buildings, and led to the interruption of basic services including water supply, electricity and sewerage networks.

- As a result of the resumed operations, 12 Palestinians were killed, including one UNRWA staff member shot and killed by live ammunition fire while on the roof of his house in El Far'a Camp early on 12 September. Two drone strikes were reported during the operations, both on 11 September: one targeting a vehicle in Iktaba, killing three Palestinians; and one in the vicinity of a mosque in Tubas, resulting in six Palestinians killed.
- Furthermore, on 15 September, a Palestinian assailant was shot dead after allegedly stabbing and injuring an ISF personnel in Jerusalem's Old City.
- Movement restrictions remained in place across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. On 15 September, at least 23 Palestinians were detained at a checkpoint near Ramallah while attempting to reach their workplaces inside Israel.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Ministry of Health](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 16 September 2024, at least 41,226 Palestinians were reported killed and 95,413 injured.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, no new incidents impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there were reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- Between 24 – 29 August, UNRWA, as part of the national polio campaign, has provided health training to 440 nurses and 440 registrars. In addition, disseminating health messages about the vaccines has started at health facilities and medical points.
- As of 14 September, 82 medical points and 10 (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities fluctuates constantly based on demand, access and security.
- On 14 September, 1,051 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,260 medical consultations on that day.
- On 14 September, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 310 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 14 September, medical teams provided medical care for 426 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 9 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.47 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition, the Agency (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 130,000 children vaccinated against different childhood diseases since the start of 2024 through mid-July.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of 'Back to Learning' with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools now turned shelters² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, 'back to learning' will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support (PSS) services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict in 2023, as of 15 September 2024 around 700,000 IDPs, including over 470,000 children, have benefited from a total of 253,648 PSS sessions/activities. Between 5-11 September, a total of 11,320 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 8,500 children, including 60 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 5 - 11 September, 8,320 children (3,317 boys, 5,003 girls, including 168 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music, and sports.
- Since the onset of the war, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 172,369⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships. Protection services were provided to 1,388 GBV survivors and 2,125 children, including 1,150 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 18,833 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,637 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 113,367 IDPs.

Food security

- To date, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 358,762 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and the direct provision of water through water trucking and the distribution of bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 – 15 September 2024.

⁵ Note the composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

shelters and sites through the provision of cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.

- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. Between June and August, UNRWA reached 50,000 IDPs with hygiene kits.
- Between 15 August-9 September, UNRWA distributed over 80 cubic metres of water across 105 emergency shelters, reaching an estimated of 480,000 people. During the first week of September, UNRWA distributed chlorine tablets to over 16 emergency shelters to prevent water contamination and improve water quality. Cleaning campaigns and hygiene promotion awareness sessions were held inside to coincide with the Polio vaccination campaigns. It is estimated that over 200,000 IDPs benefited from cleaning campaigns. Outside the emergency shelters, UNRWA continues to provide services, including water well services to over 700,000 people scattered in informal settlements in Mawasi Khan Younis.
- Throughout the Gaza Strip, hundreds of thousands of tons of solid waste are piling up on the streets, between tents of displaced civilians and next to the rubble in back alleys. The collapse of solid waste management since 7 October 2023, is worsening the public health crisis. Between 23 August and 5 of September 2024, UNRWA collected a total of 2,000 tons of solid waste and transferred that to temporary dumping sites, in the middle and southern areas.

Quote from Tamara Alrifai, UNRWA Director of External Relations and Communications:

“It’s almost been a year of relentless fighting and non-stop forced displacement. People have lost everything: from family members, to homes, to education.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000*
IDPs**



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



220 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 14 September due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

16,260 patients received healthcare in 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 450,000 children have benefited from 246,188 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 5 – 11 September a total of 11,320 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #138 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 17-19 September 2024, is valid as of 19 September 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 348-350 of Hostilities

Published 20 September 2024



Women living in an UNRWA school-turned-shelter in Nuseirat (middle area), Gaza Strip. September 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Ongoing strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- Humanitarian pauses across specific areas of the Gaza Strip have enabled the first round of the emergency polio vaccination campaign. The Polio vaccination campaign was rolled out in phases, focusing on one zone at a time - starting in the middle area, shifting to the south, and finally to the northern governorates. Between 1-12 September, nearly 560,000 children were reached in the middle, southern and northern areas of the Gaza Strip according to WHO.
- [15 Aid Organisations](#) highlighted that there remains significant obstruction in humanitarian aid entering the Gaza Strip. Findings found: i) 83 per cent of required food aid does not make it into Gaza, up from 34 per cent in 2023. This reduction means people in Gaza have gone from

having an average of two meals a day to just one meal every other day; ii) Availability of hygiene items has dropped to 15 per cent of the amount available in September 2023. One million women are now going without the hygiene supplies they need; iii) 65 per cent of the insulin required and half of the required blood supply are not available in Gaza.

- [Humanitarian Clusters](#) provided an update on current operations and challenges inside Gaza. Several clusters reported ongoing access challenges preventing clusters from delivering humanitarian aid; critical sectors including food, nutrition, WASH, shelter and health urgently require an increase in the volume of humanitarian supplies to maintain operations. For example, for shelter with the rainy season approaching, Shelter Cluster partners are unable to import enough materials to provide sufficient protection from wind, rain, or flooding. With logistical constraints and depleted stocks, few partners have any items to support households with emergency shelter and other essential items.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people (or nine in ten people) across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced, including people who have been repeatedly displaced (some, up to 10 times or more).
- As of 19 September, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October is **220**.
- Several challenges stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 15 September 2024, an average of only 67 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the below link:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 16 September 2024, 689 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Separately, UNICEF confirmed that over 150 children have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, during the period, 7 October 2023 to July 2024.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Ministry of Health](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 18 September 2024, at least 41,272 Palestinians were reported killed and 95,551 injured.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, no new incidents impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there were reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 17 September, 80 medical points and 10 (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities fluctuates constantly based on demand, access and security.
- On 17 September, 1,133 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 15,532 medical consultations on that day.
- On 17 September, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 505 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

- On 17 September, medical teams provided medical care for 387 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 9 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.47 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition, the Agency (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 130,000 children vaccinated against different childhood diseases since the start of 2024 through mid-July.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of 'Back to Learning' with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools now turned shelters² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict in 2023, as of 15 September 2024 around 700,000 IDPs, including over 470,000 children, have benefited from a total of 253,648 PSS sessions/activities. Between 5-11 September, a total of 11,320 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of UNRWA "Back to Learning" programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 8,500 children, including 60 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 5 - 11 September, 8,320 children (3,317 boys, 5,003 girls, including 168 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of "Back to Learning" activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music, and sports.
- Since the onset of the war, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 172,369⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships. Protection services were provided to 1,388 GBV survivors and 2,125 children, including 1,150 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 18,833 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,637 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, 'back to learning' will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 – 15 September 2024.

sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 113,367 IDPs.

Food security

- To date, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 358,762 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and the direct provision of water through water trucking and the distribution of bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through the provision of cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. Between June and August, UNRWA reached 50,000 IDPs with hygiene kits.
- Between 15 August-9 September, UNRWA distributed over 80 cubic metres of water across 105 emergency shelters, reaching an estimated of 480,000 people. During the first week of September, UNRWA distributed chlorine tablets to over 16 emergency shelters to prevent water contamination and improve water quality. Cleaning campaigns and hygiene promotion awareness sessions were held inside to coincide with the Polio vaccination campaigns. It is estimated that over 200,000 IDPs benefited from cleaning campaigns. Outside the emergency shelters, UNRWA continues to provide services, including water well services to over 700,000 people scattered in informal settlements in Mawasi Khan Younis.
- Throughout the Gaza Strip, hundreds of thousands of tons of solid waste are piling up on the streets, between tents of displaced civilians and next to the rubble in back alleys. The collapse of solid waste management since 7 October 2023, is worsening the public health crisis. Between 23 August and 5 September 2024, UNRWA collected a total of 2,000 tons of solid waste and transferred that to temporary dumping sites, in the middle and southern areas.

⁵ Note the composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

Quote from Umm Ibrahim, displaced in Gaza:

- “Soon it will be our second winter enduring war in makeshift tents. We never imagined it would last this long.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000*
IDPs**



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



220 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 17 September due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

15,532 patients received healthcare in 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 450,000 children have benefited from 246,188 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 5 – 11 September a total of 11,320 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #139 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 20-23 September 2024, is valid as of 23 September 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 351-354 of Hostilities

Published 23 September 2024



Child running as heavy rain falls in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip. September 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Ongoing strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- [UNRWA's Commissioner-General](#) (CG) posted on his official X account that the Israeli Authorities "are phasing out representation from humanitarian organisations or those engaged in reporting on the atrocities of the war in Gaza". The CG stated that as humanitarian needs continue to increase, more humanitarian workers are needed, not less. The opposite is increasingly taking place.
- According to the [World Health Organisation](#) (WHO) and the Health Cluster, the three phases of the first round of the polio vaccination campaign, aimed at reaching children under ten years of age, were concluded on 12 September. Nearly 560,000 children were vaccinated

across the Gaza Strip, including 195,830 in the first phase in Deir Al-Balah, 250,737 in the second phase in Khan Younis and Rafah, and 112,509 children in the third phase in Gaza City and North Gaza. The second round of vaccination is planned to take place in four weeks.

- According to the latest [OCHA](#) Humanitarian Access Snapshot covering August 2024, 46 per cent of humanitarian movements have been either denied or impeded in August, making it the most challenging month for humanitarian access since January 2024. During this period, there have been multiple incidents of shots towards, near, or around humanitarian convoys as they approach Israeli-controlled checkpoints, despite the vehicles being clearly marked and having received prior confirmation from the Israeli Forces
- According to [WHO](#) and the Health Cluster, the health system remains barely functional with 94 hospitals and primary health care centres (PHCCs) not functioning. Fuel shortages continue to threaten humanitarian work, including health care provision, impacting the functionality of hospitals, PHCCs and ambulance services. UNRWA remains a major actor in the health sector, providing health services across ten primary health centres and up to 100 mobile medical points across the Gaza Strip.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people (or nine in ten people) across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced, including people who have been repeatedly displaced (some, up to 10 times or more).
- As of 23 September, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October is **220**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 15 September 2024, an average of only 67 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the below link:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 16 September 2024, 689 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Separately, UNICEF confirmed that over 150 children have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, during the period, 7 October 2023 to July 2024.
- Between 16 and 22 September, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) conducted a number of search and arrest operations in the West Bank. On 18 of September, a large operation took place in Fawwar Camp in Southern West Bank, lasting for more than 12 hours. The operation involved wide-scale house searches and detentions. On September 18, ISF conducted a search and

arrest operation in Shu'fat Camp, in the outskirts of East Jerusalem. One Palestinian child was killed, another child was injured with live ammunition and five Palestinians were detained.

- On 18 and 19 September, ISF conducted search and arrest operations in Qabatiya, northern West Bank. On 19 September, missiles were reportedly fired towards a house and a drone strike hit a vehicle. Throughout the operation, seven Palestinians were killed and at least 20 were injured, the majority with live ammunition. One ISF soldier was injured. Six Palestinians were detained. ISF bulldozers damaged and destroyed civilian infrastructure.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Ministry of Health](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 22 September 2024, at least 41,431 Palestinians were reported killed and 95,818 injured.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, three new incidents impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there were reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
 - On 21 September, ISF directly struck an UNRWA school in the Zaitoun neighborhood, in Gaza City. Based on initial information, twenty-two persons have been killed, including fourteen children, and at least thirty others have been injured. Significant damage has been reported, in particular impacting the southwest side of the school.
 - On 22 September, an UNRWA Health Center in Nuseirat was reportedly hit by a tank shell as a result of ISF military activity towards the north of Al-Nuseirat Camp. No injuries were reported.
 - On 22 September, two UNRWA schools in North Gaza were forced to evacuate. Both schools serve as Designated Emergency Shelters. The IDPs were able to later return to the shelters.
-
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures*

will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 19 September, 77 medical points and 10 (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- On 19 September, 1,129 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 14,624 medical consultations on that day.
- On 19 September, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 549 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 19 September, medical teams provided care for 427 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 15 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.54 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of 'Back to Learning' with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools now turned shelters² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid,

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, 'back to learning' will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict up to 15 September, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 470,000 children, have benefited from 253,648 PSS sessions/activities. Between 5-11 September, a total of 11,320 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 8,500 children, 60 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 5 - 11 September, 8,320 children (3,317 boys, 5,003 girls, including 168 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music, and sports.
- Since the onset of the war, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 177,293⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships. Protection services were provided to 1,413 GBV survivors and 2,241 children, including 1,261 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 19,068 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,748 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 114,440 IDPs.

Food security

- Since 7 October to date, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 358,762 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 – 22 September 2024.

⁵ Note the composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.

- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. Between June and August, UNRWA reached 50,000 IDPs with hygiene kits.
- Between 15 August and 9 September, UNRWA distributed over 80 cubic metres of water across 105 emergency shelters, reaching an estimated of 480,000 people. During the first week of September, UNRWA distributed chlorine tablets to over 16 emergency shelters to prevent water contamination and improve water quality. Cleaning campaigns and hygiene promotion awareness sessions were held inside to coincide with the Polio vaccination campaigns. Over 200,000 IDPs have benefited from cleaning campaigns. Outside the emergency shelters, UNRWA continues to provide services, including water well services to over 700,000 people scattered in informal settlements in Mawasi Khan Younis.
- Throughout the Gaza Strip, hundreds of thousands of tons of solid waste are piling up on the streets, between tents of displaced people and next to the rubble in back alleys. The collapse of solid waste management since 7 October 2023, is worsening the public health crisis. Between 23 August and 5 September 2024, UNRWA collected a total of 2,000 tons of solid waste and transferred that to temporary dumping sites, in the middle and southern areas.

Quote from Seleem, a father currently displaced in Gaza:

“Each raindrop reminds me of the harsh winter to come, the biting cold, and the constant fear that I may not be able to protect my children from both the weather and the war.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000*
IDPs**



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



224 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 19 September due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

14,624 patients received healthcare in 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 450,000 children have benefited from 246,188 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 5 – 11 September a total of 11,320 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #140 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 24-26 September 2024, is valid as of 26 September 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 355-357 of Hostilities

Published 27 September 2024



Children and families amid tents after heavy rain in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip. September 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Ongoing strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- The ongoing war in Gaza will set children and young people's education back by up to five years and risks creating a lost generation of permanently traumatised Palestinian youth, a new study warns. [The report](#), by a team of academics working in partnership with UNRWA, is the first to comprehensively quantify the war's toll on learning since it began in October 2023. It also details the devastating impact on children, young people and teachers, supported by new accounts from frontline staff and aid workers. The study was a joint undertaking involving UNRWA and researchers at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge and the Centre for Lebanese Studies.

- According to the [Norwegian Refugee Council](#), with the amount of aid Israel is currently allowing into Gaza, it would take humanitarian agencies more than two years to deliver the kits needed to prepare tents, makeshift shelters and damaged homes south of Wadi Gaza for this coming winter. At least 25,000 sealing-off kits which include essential items to seal and upgrade short-term shelters, such as abandoned/damaged buildings to protect families from weather conditions and improve privacy and dignity, must be delivered per week to southern Gaza before the end of November, to meet the vast needs, this would be the equivalent of 25 truckloads per week. In August, an average of just two trucks per week crossed into the south with shelter items, just eight per cent of what is needed weekly.
- According to the [Health Cluster](#), between 7 October 2023 and 19 September 2024, there have been 492 attacks on healthcare facilities in Gaza, with 747 individuals killed. Every hospital in Gaza has been affected and no hospital remains fully functional. As of 11 September 2024, there are 17 hospitals partially functional (three in North Gaza, seven in Gaza, three in Deir al Balah, four in Khan Younis) and 19 out of 36 hospitals are out of service. According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people (or nine in ten people) across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced, including people who have been repeatedly displaced (some, up to 10 times or more).
- As of 26 September, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October is **222**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 15 September 2024, an average of only 67 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the below link:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 23 September 2024, 693 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Separately, UNICEF confirmed that over 150 children have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, during the period, 7 October 2023 to July 2024.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Ministry of Health](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 25 September 2024, at least 41,495 Palestinians were reported killed and 96,006 injured.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, one new incident impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there were reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
- On 26 September 2024, an UNRWA school in Nuseirat was reportedly indirectly hit by a tank shell due to ISF military activity nearby. Three IDPs were reportedly injured, including one who was transferred to the hospital.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 21 September, 78 medical points and 10 (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.

- On 21 September, 1,118 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,770 medical consultations on that day.
- On 21 September, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 547 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).

On 21 September, medical teams provided care for 435 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.

According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 22 September.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of 'Back to Learning' with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools now turned shelters² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict up to 15 September, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 470,000 children, have benefited from 253,648 PSS sessions/activities. Between 5-11 September, a total of 11,320 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA "Back to Learning" programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 8,500 children, 60 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 5 and 11 September, 8,320 children (3,317 boys, 5,003 girls, including 168 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of "Back to Learning" activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music, and sports.
- Since the onset of the war, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 177,293⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, 'back to learning' will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 – 22 September 2024.

- Protection services were provided to 1,413 GBV survivors and 2,241 children, including 1,261 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 19,068 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,748 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 114,440 IDPs.

Food security

- Since 7 October 2023 to date, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 358,762 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. Between June and August, UNRWA reached 50,000 IDPs with hygiene kits.
- Between 15 August and 9 September, UNRWA distributed over 80 cubic metres of water across 105 emergency shelters, reaching an estimated of 480,000 people. During the first week of September, UNRWA distributed chlorine tablets to over 16 emergency shelters to prevent water contamination and improve water quality. Cleaning campaigns and hygiene promotion awareness sessions were held inside to coincide with the Polio vaccination campaigns. Over 200,000 IDPs have benefited from cleaning campaigns. Outside the emergency shelters, UNRWA continues to provide services, including water well services to over 700,000 people scattered in informal settlements in Mawasi, Khan Younis.
- Throughout the Gaza Strip, hundreds of thousands of tons of solid waste are piling up on the streets, between tents of displaced people and next to the rubble in back alleys. The collapse of solid waste management since 7 October 2023, is worsening the public health crisis. Between 23 August and 5 September 2024, UNRWA collected a total of 2,000 tons of solid waste and transferred that to temporary dumping sites, in the middle and southern areas.

⁵ Note the composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“For 75 years, UNRWA has provided free basic education to millions of children. This has positive value and a multiplying effect on children’s rights. Today, all of this is in jeopardy in the occupied Palestinian territory. We cannot afford to lose an entire generation and sow the seeds for future hatred and extremism.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000*
IDPs**



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



222 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 21 September due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

16,770 patients received healthcare in 10 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 450,000 children have benefited from 246,188 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 5 – 11 September a total of 11,320 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #141 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 27 September – 3 October 2024, is valid as of 3 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 358-364 of Hostilities

Published 4 October 2024



Displaced people in Gaza receive flour distributed by UNRWA in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, September 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- [UNRWA's Commissioner-General](#) posted on his official X account: "In Gaza, over 1 million people did not receive food rations in August. In September, the number climbed to more than 1.4 million. Meanwhile, over 100,000 metric tons of food supplies, are stranded outside Gaza due to access restrictions, insecurity, damaged roads + the breakdown of law & order. Again & again hunger is spreading in Gaza. It is entirely man-made. Nearly 70 per cent of crop fields have been destroyed. An entire population is forced to exclusively rely on humanitarian aid. Restrictions and delays in aid deliveries only worsen an already dire situation for displaced families. With winter approaching and weather conditions deteriorating, lack of adequate humanitarian supplies will only generate more suffering. What is needed urgently is a

ceasefire to end the suffering of people in Gaza + across the region. The way forward through political will & leadership is to: release all hostages, open additional crossings, safe and unrestricted humanitarian access to reach people in need of assistance. Choosing peace as a way forward is a choice of the courageous, it's time."

- According to [WFP](#), the number of people reached with food aid in September was significantly below the usual number of people reached by WFP, because of Israeli-imposed bureaucratic hurdles, lack of security guarantees within Gaza, insufficient border crossing points and risk of criminal gangs looting humanitarian convoys in southern Gaza. Forced population movement has also disrupted the capacity of partners to maintain operations and distribute to those in need.
- Since the onset of the war, the [Education Cluster](#) has been monitoring and reporting on damages to schools through initial reports from Cluster partners in the field, UNOCHA and UNRWA, as well as via remote satellite data. Satellite-derived analysis from 6 September found that at least 71 schools were destroyed, with another 48 schools lost at least half of their structures. Some 161 UNRWA school buildings have either suffered a direct hit or were damaged from 7 October 2023 until 6 September 2024; this represents 86.1 per cent of all UNRWA school buildings in Gaza. UNRWA school buildings have been used as emergency shelters to host a significant number of displaced people.
- Preparations are ongoing to implement the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, expected to take place in mid-October.

The [Humanitarian Clusters and Technical Working Groups](#) provided an update on current operations and challenges inside Gaza. Several clusters reported ongoing access challenges preventing clusters from delivering humanitarian aid; critical sectors including Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Protection, Food, Shelter and Health urgently require an increase in the volume of humanitarian supplies to maintain operations. For example, the Food Cluster notes that humanitarian food supplies are incredibly limited across the Gaza Strip. In southern and central Gaza, food security sector partners lack sufficient food stocks to meet requirements and have scaled down distribution significantly for the third consecutive month since July, with food supply shortages expected to continue in October. In northern Gaza, cargo movement was suspended temporarily via the Jordan corridor, following a security incident at Allenby Bridge on 8 September, affecting partners' supply flows.

- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people - or about 90 percent of the population - across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some, 10 times or more).
- As of 3 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **225**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), in September 2024, an average of only

52 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.

- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 30 September 2024, 695 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Separately, UNICEF confirmed that over 150 children were killed there from 7 October 2023 to 22 July 2024.
- Between 23-29 September, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) conducted several operations in the West Bank resulting in casualties, detentions and damage to civilian objects:
 - On 23 September, two Palestinians were injured with live ammunition during an ISF search and arrest operation in Kalandia camp, central West Bank.
 - On 24 September: the ISF detained seven Palestinians during a search and arrest operation in Madama, northern West Bank. Six Palestinians were detained during an ISF search and arrest operation in Deir Abu Marsh'al, central West Bank. One Palestinian was killed and three others were injured with live ammunition during a search and arrest operation in Al Fawwar camp, southern West Bank.
 - On 25 September: ten Palestinians were detained during an ISF search and arrest operation in Ad Duheisha camp, southern West Bank. The ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Anza, northern West Bank, detaining one Palestinian and killing a Palestinian woman; four Palestinians were injured.
 - On 25 and 26 September, in Jenin camp and Jenin city, northern West Bank, the ISF conducted a search and arrest operations. The ISF allegedly surrounded two main hospitals and bulldozed several roads, causing damage to civilian infrastructure in the Al-Hadaf neighborhood, west of Jenin camp.
 - On 26 September, ISF reportedly bulldozed 20 dunums of Palestinian agricultural land, uprooted 600 trees, demolished five agricultural rooms, five water wells and several retaining walls belonging to Palestinians in Beit Ula, southern West Bank.
 - On 28 September, the ISF detained five Palestinians during a search and arrest operation in Jabba, northern West Bank.
 - On 29 September: five Palestinians were detained during a search and arrest operation in Azzun, northern West Bank. Four Palestinians were detained during a search and arrest operation in Hebron, southern West Bank. The ISF allegedly surrounded a house, injured three Palestinians with live ammunition and detained one Palestinian during a search and arrest in Aqqaba, northern West Bank.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Ministry of Health](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 30 September 2024, at least 41,615 Palestinians were killed and 96,359 injured.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, six new incident impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there was reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
- On 28 September, an UNRWA administrative building was impacted when the ISF reportedly opened fire west of Nuseirat camp. Bullets hit the guards' room adjacent to the main gate, causing minor damage. No injuries among the staff members were reported.
- On 1 October 2024, the ISF conducted a strike targeting an UNRWA school in Shaja'iya neighborhood, east of Gaza City. Nine Palestinians were reportedly killed, and thirty others were injured.
- On 1 October 2024, an ISF drone missile reportedly hit a tent used by IDPs inside an UNRWA school in Nuseirat, west of Nuseirat Camp. Initial reports indicate that six Palestinians were killed including one child, and seven others were injured, one of whom is a seriously injured child.
- On 2 October 2024, the ISF directly struck an UNRWA school in Nuseirat Camp. Initial reports indicate that there are multiple fatalities and casualties, including six persons killed and twenty-seven injured, inside the UN premises which is hosting IDPs and UN staff as a Designated Emergency Shelter for civilians.
- On 3 October 2024, an ISF tank shell reportedly hit the eastern building of an UNRWA school in Maghazi in the Middle Area which serves as a Designated Emergency Shelter. Two IDPs were moderately injured. The building of the school sustained damage.
- On 3 October 2024, ISF reportedly opened fire in the direction of the Zuwayda UNRWA guesthouse/office. Four bullets hit the external wall of the northern perimeter. One IDP outside the guesthouse was reportedly injured. No injuries to UNRWA personnel inside the guesthouse were reported. Additionally, an ISF drone hovered around the guesthouse.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs

sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 30 September, 80 medical points and 8 (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- On 30 September, 1,061 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 15,952 medical consultations on that day.
- On 30 September, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 538 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 30 September, medical teams provided care for 384 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 22 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.62 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 193,000 children vaccinated between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

UNRWA schools-turned-shelters ² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 3 October, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 500,000 children, have benefited from 258,777 PSS sessions/activities. Between 26 September to 2 October, a total of 14,422 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 11,000 children, 60 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 26 September to 2 October, 10,987 children (4,686 boys, 6,301 girls, including 340 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports.
- Since the war began, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 181,535⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- Protection services were provided to 1,455 GBV survivors and 2,344 children, including 1,314 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 19,392 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,751 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 115,240 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 October 2024, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, ‘back to learning’ will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 to 22 September 2024.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In September, UNRWA was able to provide over 70,000 m3 of domestic water. In Jabalia, UNRWA rehabilitated a well which supports over 20,000 IDPs. With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the areas of Khan Younis, Middle Area and Gaza. In September more than 6,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters. In addition to waste management and collection, over 400 manholes have been cleaned in preparation for winter along with other winterization activities including the removal of debris in the streets and support flood-prone areas.
- **Quote from Sam Rose, Senior Deputy Director of UNRWA Affairs in Gaza:**
- **"People feel trapped, they feel a desperate sense of loss, destruction, and emptiness. [...] People desperately want it to come to an end, but they are losing hope."**

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000
IDPs



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



225 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 30 September due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 8 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

15,952 patients received healthcare in 8 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 450,000 children have benefited from 246,188 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 26 September – 2 October a total of 14,422 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #142 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 4-10 October 2024, is valid as of 10 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 365-371 of Hostilities

Published 11 October 2024



Displaced child amid tents in Deir al-Balah (Middle Areas), Gaza Strip, October 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure. The issuance of new ISF evacuations orders have resulted in new waves of displacements across the Gaza Strip.
- ISF issued evacuation orders on 5 and 6 October affecting five neighbourhoods in the Middle Area, and a mass evacuation order covering the entirety of northern Gaza. It is estimated that these recent evacuation orders are affecting an estimated 400,000 people, some 20 percent of the entire population in Gaza. Concurrently, the ISF announced the expansion of the so-called “humanitarian zone” in Al Mawasi and west Khan Younis. According to [OCHA](#), the so-called “humanitarian zone” continues to lack critical infrastructure and services, remains overcrowded and has been targeted multiples times by ISF. In response to the new wave of displacement from the evacuation orders, UNRWA has opened four emergency shelters in

Gaza City and Beach camp and is coordinating with other humanitarian actors for the provision of assistance, including food and tarpaulins. Existing emergency shelters also receiving some internally displaced persons (IDPs), with UNRWA estimating an increase of 20 per cent of people displaced arriving in its shelters.

- [UNRWA's Commissioner General](#) posted on his official X account: “One year on the horrendous massacre carried out by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups on southern Israel, killing more than 1,250 people and taking 250 hostages. Since that day, the Middle East is sinking deeper into conflict, killing and sheer horrors. Twelve months of unspeakable suffering for the hostages in Gaza, their families left in limbo and a society deeply traumatized. Twelve months of brutal war have transformed the Gaza Strip into an unrecognizable sea of rubble, and a graveyard for tens of thousands of people, among them far too many children. One year has passed and not a day goes by without families in Gaza being subjected to unspeakable suffering, as forced displacement, disease, hunger, and death have become the daily norm for 2 million people trapped in a bombed-out and besieged enclave. A year of profound loss, grief and suffering. A year of dehumanization and disregard of international law; a free fall descent into barbarism. In Gaza, civilians continue to bear the brunt of the war. More than 220 UNRWA team members have been killed: the highest death toll in the history of the United Nations. Children have been the first and most to suffer. Beyond the killing and injury, every child in Gaza is traumatized many with life-long invisible scars. More than 650,000 children are losing another year of learning. Instead of being in classrooms, they are sifting through the rubble in despair and fear. The destruction of essential infrastructure has reached catastrophic levels. More than two thirds of UNRWA buildings have been hit and deemed unusable, the vast majority while sheltering displaced people under the UN flag. In the West Bank, civilians continued to endure destruction, fear and anxiety amid an escalation and increase in operations by the Israeli military and clashes with Palestinian armed groups. Poverty is deepening as people lose income and as movement restrictions are reinforced. The expansion of the war into Lebanon is wreaking havoc on civilians, many forced to relive traumas of the past. It is time for courage: a deal that would finally bring a ceasefire and respite to people in Gaza, Lebanon, Israel and the wider region. It is time to put the guns down after decades of killing and immense pain. It is time to release all hostages safely to their families, who are living through unbearable uncertainty. It is time to bring a standard flow of basic humanitarian supplies including to the hungry and sick in Gaza. There are no winners in wars. The only way out is through a diplomatic and peaceful solution. It’s time to heal the wounds. It’s time to choose peace!”
- According to [Christian Aid](#) analysis, the price of vegetables in northern Gaza has reached exorbitant levels, for example onions are on sale for up to 400 times their pre-war price at US\$ 107 per kilogram, equivalent to eight times the average daily wage in Gaza before the conflict, while a kilogram of tomatoes is now almost US\$ 65.
- The latest satellite-based agricultural damage assessment conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNOSAT shows that 67.6 per cent of Gaza’s cropland had been damaged, as of 1 September. Additionally, over 71 per cent of orchards and other trees, 67 per cent of field crops, and 58.5 per cent of vegetables have been damaged. Furthermore, most of the Gaza city port infrastructure and vessels were destroyed in October 2023 and remain non-functional, with severe repercussions on trade and livelihoods.

- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people - or about 90 percent of the population - across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some, 10 times or more.
- As of 10 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **226**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), in September 2024, an average of only 52 humanitarian trucks entered the Gaza Strip per day. According to a group of [NGOs](#) thousands of food and hygiene kits have been delayed at various procurement points across Egypt and Jordan due to prioritization requirements, security concerns, and logistical constraints. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 30 September 2024, 695 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, this includes 160 children according to UNICEF.
- Between 30 September and 6 October, 24 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Late on 3 October, a massive ISF airstrike in Tulkarm camp in northern West Bank hit a multi-story building including a coffee shop, killing 18 Palestinians, among them three children. The airstrike purportedly targeted Palestinian armed actors. The airstrike was the deadliest airstrike recorded in the West Bank since 7 October.
- In the week preceding 6 October, there were at least 148 recorded ISF search and arrest operations across the West Bank. Movement restrictions were tightened at checkpoints and roads within the West Bank, both linked to the Iranian airstrikes on 1 October as well the lead-up to the anniversary of the onset of the Gaza conflict on 7 October 2023.
- Harassment of Palestinian farmers participating in the olive harvest was reported in numerous locations across the West Bank, perpetrated both by Israeli settlers and by the ISF. At least 15 Palestinian farmers picking olives were reportedly injured between 30 September and 6 October: two in Huwarra and two in Haris, in northern West Bank, and 11 in Al Lubban al Gharbi in central West Bank.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the [Humanitarian Situation Update #227 | Gaza Strip | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - occupied Palestinian territory \(ochaopt.org\)](#) in Gaza, and as reported by OCHA, between 7 October 2023 and 7 October 2024, at least 41,965 Palestinians were reportedly killed and 97,590 injured. This is based on the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, five new incidents impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there were reported. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing.
 - On 3 October, the ISF reportedly dropped a bomb in the proximity of the western side of the main gate of an UNRWA school in Gaza City. Two IDPs were injured outside the school. No damage to the school was reported.
 - On 5 October, the ISF reportedly conducted a strike at a location in close proximity to the western gate of UNRWA's Gaza Field Office (GFO). As a result, an UNRWA contractor was reportedly injured while he was working on maintenance of a wall.
 - On 6 October, an ISF airstrike reportedly hit an UNRWA school in Beit Lahiya, in northern Gaza. It was reported that one missile hit the ground floor of the school's southwestern side. Three IDPs were reportedly injured.
 - On 8 October 2024, ISF reportedly requested to evacuate an UNRWA school in Jabalia in preparation for bombing. Reports from UNRWA teams on the ground indicate that IDPs sheltering inside the school have been forced to evacuate, further UNRWA designated emergency shelters in Jabalia were reportedly forced to evacuate. Some IDPs returned to the school due to there being no other shelter options available to them.
 - On 9 October, ISF strike reportedly hit a location approximately 10 meters away from an UNRWA water well in Jabalia, resulting in multiple fatalities and casualties among the IDPs living in tents.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are conducted.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 6 October, 79 medical points and six (out of 27¹) UNRWA health centres were operational. The health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- While health services continued, medical points in Gaza and northern Gaza were closed due to insecurity and evacuation orders and two health centres in Gaza City and northern Gaza were also closed due to heavy and continuous airstrikes in or near Jabalia camp.
- As of 6 October, 1,123 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,242 medical consultations on that day.
- On 6 October, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 401 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 6 October, medical teams provided care for 348 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 29 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.87 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 193,000 children vaccinated between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45

¹Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established.

UNRWA schools-turned-shelters² by expanding ongoing psychosocial support activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving psychosocial support PSS services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 3 October, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 500,000 children, have benefited from 262,385 PSS sessions/activities. Between 3 and 8 October, a total of 11,565 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 11,000 children, 57 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this response. Between 3 and 8 October, 10,987 children (4,832 boys, 6,115 girls, including 327 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports.
- Since the war began, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 182,692⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These efforts aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- Protection services were provided to 1,480 GBV survivors and 2,349 children, including 1,315 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 19,542 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 115,452 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 October 2024, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom, nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organizations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

²Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, ‘back to learning’ will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 to 8 October 2024.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through cleaning supplies, community based solid waste management, and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In September, UNRWA was able to provide over 70,000 m3 of domestic water. In Jabalia, UNRWA rehabilitated a well which supports over 20,000 IDPs. With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the areas of Khan Younis, Middle Area and Gaza. In September, more than 6,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters. In addition to waste management and collection, over 400 manholes have been cleaned in preparation for winter along with other winterization activities including the removal of debris in the streets and support flood-prone areas.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

"It is time for courage: a deal that would finally bring a ceasefire and respite to people in Gaza, Lebanon, Israel and the wider region. It is time to put the guns down after decades of killing and immense pain. It is time to release all hostages safely to their families, who are living through unbearable uncertainty. It is time to bring a standard flow of basic humanitarian supplies, including to the hungry and sick in Gaza. There are no winners in wars. The only way out is through a diplomatic and peaceful solution. It's time to heal the wounds. It's time to choose peace!"

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,900,000*
IDPs**



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



226 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



c.215,000 families have received an UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 6 October due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 6 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres operational.

16,242 patients received healthcare in 6 (out of 27) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 500,000 children have benefited from 262,385 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 3 - 8 October a total of 11,565 IDPs benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.



UNRWA Situation Report #13 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 11-13 October 2024, is valid as of 13 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 372-374 of Hostilities

Published 16 October 2024



Tents set on fire by an ISF airstrike on the courtyard of Al Aqsa Hospital, Deir al-Balah, middle area, October 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- On 13 October, Muhannad Hadi, Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory made a [statement](#) highlighting the critical situation in northern Gaza, where since 1 October 2024, Israeli authorities have increasingly restricted access to essential humanitarian supplies. Since 7 October 2024, Israeli military operations have intensified in northern Gaza, with evacuation orders reissued on 7, 9, and 12 October to around 400,000 people. In the two weeks preceding 13 October, over 50,000 people have been displaced from the Jabalia area which is now cut off, due to a "military siege that deprives civilians of essential means of survival".
- According to [UNICEF](#), these latest evacuation orders threaten the lives of premature babies in incubators and critically ill children in intensive care units in the Kamal Adwan Hospital, the

only hospital with a paediatric unit in northern Gaza. The evacuation orders also threaten the survival of patients in the other two major hospitals in the north.

- [UNICEF](#) announced on 11 October that localised humanitarian pauses and the halting of evacuation orders are essential for the roll out of the second polio vaccination campaign, which will focus on north Gaza. UNICEF aims to vaccinate at least 90 per cent of children under the age of ten and administer Vitamin A to help reinforce the children's immune system.
- The latest satellite-based agricultural damage assessment (covering the period 7 October 2023 to 1 September 2024) conducted by the [FAO](#) and the United Nations Satellite Centre shows that 67.6 per cent of Gaza's cropland had been damaged. Additionally, over 71 per cent of orchards and other trees, 67 per cent of field crops and 58.5 per cent of vegetables had been damaged. Furthermore, most of the Gaza City port infrastructure and vessels were destroyed in October 2023 and remain non-functional, with severe repercussions on trade and livelihoods.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) Gaza, as reported by [OCHA](#), more than **42,010** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **97,720** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 to 9 October 2024).
- As of 13 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **228**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), only 93 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing from 1 to 7 October 2024. This represents a daily average of only 13 humanitarian trucks, the third lowest number since October 2023. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:
[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 7 October 2024, 719 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Between 7 and 13 October 2024, eight Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Among these were four Palestinian alleged armed actors who were killed by an ISF undercover unit on 9 October, while travelling in a vehicle in Nablus. On 7 October, a Palestinian child was killed and a further 14 Palestinians were injured during an exchange of fire between the ISF and Palestinians in Qalandiya camp in East Jerusalem. One Palestinian was killed during an exchange of fire between Palestinians and the ISF during a search operation on 8 October in Aqqaba, in northern West Bank. On 10 October, two Palestinians

were killed in Tulkarm in northern West Bank when an ISF drone strike targeted the vehicle they were travelling in. Their bodies were withheld by the ISF.

- Between 7 and 13 October, 197 ISF search and arrest operations were recorded across the West Bank. Twenty-six Palestinians were detained in Qalandiya camp on 7 October and 14 Palestinians were detained in Beit Ummar in Hebron Governorate on 8 October.
- During the same period, harassment and violence towards Palestinian farmers participating in the annual olive harvest continued across the West Bank, reportedly perpetrated by both Israeli settlers and the ISF. At least eight Palestinian farmers harvesting olives were injured by Israeli settlers in Jamma'in, in the northern West Bank. In several locations in Nablus Governorate, including Yatma, Beit Furik, Duma and Madama, the ISF forced Palestinian farmers who were harvesting their olives to vacate their land. Settler attacks directed at uprooting or damaging olive trees were reported in Jaba', Yasuf and Qusra in northern West Bank and Bethlehem in the southern area.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) Gaza, as reported by [OCHA](#), more than 42,010 Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and 97,720 have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 to 9 October 2024).

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, information on one incident impacting an area close to an UNRWA installation and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering nearby was recorded:
 - On 9 October, an ISF strike reportedly hit a location approximately ten metres away from an UNRWA water well in Jabalia camp, resulting in casualties, including fatalities, among the IDPs living in nearby tents.
- **464*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 29 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.87 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 193,000 children vaccinated between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024.
- As of 12 October, seven out of 27¹ UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 80 mobile medical teams working in 43 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 12 October, 1,156 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 17,960 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 12 October, UNRWA teams responded to 545 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 12 October, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 453 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 56 items will run out by November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to four tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to zero stock of most laboratory supplies. All laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. More than 659,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of "Back to Learning" with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters² by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of

¹ Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

² Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, "Back to Learning" will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 3 October, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 500,000 children, have benefited from 262,385 PSS sessions/activities. Between 3 and 8 October, a total of 11,565 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 11,000 children, 57 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this initiative. Between 3 and 8 October, 10,987 children (4,832 boys, 6,115 girls, including 327 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports.
- Since the war began, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 184,012⁴ IDPs, including PFA, PSS, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These interventions aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- Protection services were provided to 1,500 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 2,408 children, including 1,335 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 19,632 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 115,791 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 October 2024, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 to 8 October 2024.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In September 2024, UNRWA was able to provide over 70,000 m3 of domestic water. In Jabalia, UNRWA rehabilitated a well which supports over 20,000 IDPs. With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, middle area and Gaza areas. In September, more than 6,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters. In addition to waste management and collection, over 400 manholes have been cleaned in preparation for winter along with other winterization activities including the removal of debris in the streets and support for flood-prone areas.

[Tweet](#) from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“Northern Gaza. Two long weeks of intense Israeli Forces' airstrikes and ground operations. Hundreds of Palestinians are reported killed, among them children. More than 400,000 people continue to be trapped in the area. [...] Civilians are given no choice but to either leave or starve.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



228 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged



464 incidents

UNRWA response – Food assistance



215,000 families have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov 2023.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 12 Oct 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
17,960 patients received medical consultations in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **43** medical points inside and outside IDP shelters.

80 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **184,012** IDPs have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

115,791 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #144 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 14-6 October 2024, is valid as of 16 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 375-377 of Hostilities

Published 20 October 2024



UNRWA teams providing polio vaccines and psychosocial support activities to children in Deir al-Balah, Gaza middle area, October 2024. © 2024 UNRWA
Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- Continuous shelling, airstrikes and armed clashes have severely intensified over the past weeks in northern Gaza, where over 400,000 people remain sheltering. During a [briefing to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Gaza](#) on 16 October, Joyce Msuya, Acting Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, highlighted that since the beginning of October, over 55,000 people are estimated to have been displaced from the Jabalia area, while others remain stranded in their homes with water and food running out.

- [Only three of the ten hospitals](#) in the north are operational – and those only at minimum capacity. The facilities are facing dire shortages of fuel, blood, trauma treatment and medications, and women are giving birth under heavy bombardment.
- On 15 October, the [UN Secretary-General Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric](#) stated that, despite the recent evacuation of some patients from Kamal Adwan hospital in the north, the World Health Organization (WHO) warns that the facility remains overwhelmed, receiving between 50 and 70 new injured patients each day. Dujarric added that humanitarian partners in northern Gaza report that there is barely any food left to distribute and most bakeries will be forced to shut down again in just days without any additional fuel.
- The first phase of the second round of the polio vaccination campaign took place between 14-16 October in the Gaza middle area. UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated over 181,000 children and provided over 148,000 children with Vitamin A doses. With over 600 staff involved, UNRWA teams have administered 40 per cent of the vaccines and 41 per cent of the Vitamin A supplement.
- According to the [WASH Cluster](#), coordination for the winterization strategy, which involves preparations for the rainy season, is ongoing despite significant operational challenges. The Palestinian Water Authority reports that up to 85 per cent of water and sanitation facilities are currently out of service, which has resulted in a drastic reduction in water supply, the discharge of untreated wastewater into the sea, and sewage leakage into populated areas. In an assessment covering September 2024, the WASH cluster highlighted that about two thirds of families in the Gaza Strip are reported to have access to less than 6 litres of water per person per day, with only a quarter of families having access to soap.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 15 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **42,344** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **99,013** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 15 October 2024).
- As of 16 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **231**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), only 93 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing from 1 to 7 October 2024. This represents a daily average of only 13 humanitarian trucks, the third lowest number since October 2023. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- Acting Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator [Joyce Msuya pointed out](#) that, throughout Gaza, less than a third of the 286 humanitarian missions coordinated with Israeli authorities in the first two weeks of October were facilitated without major incidents or delays. During the same period, just one out of 54 coordinated movements to the north via the Al Rashid checkpoint was facilitated by Israeli authorities, while another four were impeded but eventually accomplished. Eighty-five per cent of the

movements were denied and the rest were impeded or canceled, due to security or logistical issues.

- According to [OCHA](#), as of 13 October, 1,033 UN and International NGO trucks were in Al Arish ready to be dispatched to Gaza.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:
[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 7 October 2024, 719 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- As of 15 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **42,344** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **99,013** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 15 October 2024).

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, five new incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel. During the same period, one new incident has been reported impacting an UNRWA installation:
 - On 14 October 2024, three children were reportedly injured in an UNRWA school in Jabalia camp, northern Gaza, due to an Israeli Army airstrike in the vicinity of the school. They were transferred to hospital.
 - On 14 October 2024, the Israeli Army reportedly fired shells inside and outside an UNRWA distribution centre in Jabalia, resulting in ten fatalities and over 40 people injured. This occurred when civilians were trying to get food from the centre. Reports indicate that ambulances could not reach several injured people.
 - On 14 October 2024, 13 IDPs were reportedly injured in an UNRWA school in Jabalia due to Israeli Army unmanned aerial vehicles fire. The injuries were transferred to hospital in Jabalia camp, northern Gaza Strip.
 - On 14 October 2024, initial reports indicate that a number of IDPs were injured inside an UNRWA school in Jabalia camp due to Israeli Army tank shelling. Further verification of the details of the incident is ongoing.

- On 16 October 2024, an UNRWA distribution centre was reportedly / damaged by Israeli Army troops during the ongoing military operation in Jabalia.
- On 16 October 2024, the Israeli Army ordered the evacuation of an UNRWA school in Jabalia in preparation for striking a location nearby. IDPs sheltering inside the school and in two other UNRWA shelters located in close proximity reportedly evacuated the area and moved towards Beit Lahiya.

464* incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 29 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.87 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 193,000 children vaccinated between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024.
- As of 14 October, seven out of 27¹ UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 84 mobile medical teams working in 43 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- The first phase of the second round of the polio vaccination campaign took place between 14-16 October in the Gaza middle area. Over 181,000 children received the vaccine and over 148,000 children received Vitamin A doses.
- As of 14 October, 1,161 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,121 medical consultations on that day.

¹ Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 14 October, UNRWA teams responded to 472 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 14 October, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 403 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 14 October, UNRWA teams provided oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 770 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 14 October, 280 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 56 items will run out by November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to four tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to zero stock of most laboratory supplies. All laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters² by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750³ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 16 October, around 720,000 IDPs, including over 510,000 children, have benefited from 263,839 PSS sessions/activities. Between 9 and 16 October, a total of 15,331 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 11,500 children, 56 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this initiative. Between 9 and 16 October, 11,310 children (5,006 boys, 6,304 girls, including 368 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 74 temporary learning spaces in 36 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day.
- Since the war began, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 184,012⁴ IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual

² Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁴ Results from 7 October 2023 to 8 October 2024.

activities, as well as case management. These interventions aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.

- Since the war began, protection services were provided to 1,500 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 2,408 children, including 1,335 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 19,632 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,751 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 115,791 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 October 2024, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In September 2024, UNRWA was able to provide over 70,000 m³ of domestic water. In Jabalia, UNRWA rehabilitated a well which supports over 20,000 IDPs. With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, middle area and Gaza areas. In September, more than 6,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters. In addition to waste management and collection, over 400 manholes have been cleaned in preparation for winter along with other winterization activities including the removal of debris in the streets and support for flood-prone areas.

Quote from Sam Rose, Senior Deputy Director of UNRWA Affairs in Gaza:

"This polio campaign is critical, but while we protect children with vaccines, they will continue to die and suffer each day until there is a comprehensive and lasting ceasefire, which is needed more urgently than ever."

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



At least 563 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and 1,790 injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



231 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged



464 incidents

UNRWA response – Food assistance



215,000 families have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov 2023.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 14 Oct 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
16,121 patients received medical consultations in 3 UNRWA health centres, 4 temporary health centres and 43 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters.
84 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, 184,012 IDPs have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.
115,791 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.
7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #145 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information updated for 17-24 October 2024*, valid as of 24 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 376-383 of Hostilities

Published 25 October 2024



UNRWA teams providing polio vaccines in an UNRWA school in Khan Younis, Gaza southern area, October 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- On 17 October, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) published its [IPC Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Special Snapshot on the Gaza Strip](#), covering the period between September 2024 and April 2025. According to IPC findings, one year into the war, the risk of famine persists across the whole Gaza Strip. Given the recent surge in hostilities, there are growing concerns that this worst-case scenario may materialize. Over 1.8 million people across the Strip are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, classified in IPC Phase 3 – crisis or above, including nearly 133,000 people facing catastrophic food insecurity, classified in IPC Phase 5. Acute malnutrition is ten times higher than before the war.
- In a [statement](#) issued on 20 October, the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) highlighted its increasing concern "that the manner in which the Israeli military is conducting hostilities in north Gaza, along with unlawful interference with humanitarian assistance and orders that are leading to forced displacement, may be causing the destruction of the Palestinian population in Gaza's northernmost governorate."
- On 22 October, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini [posted on X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) that, after nearly three weeks of non-stop bombardments from the Israeli Forces in northern Gaza, the death toll increases, and our staff there report they cannot find food, water or medical care.
- UNRWA Jabalia health centre has been closed since 6 October 2024 due to heavy and continuous Israeli military operations in Jabalia Camp.
- On 22 October, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) launched a new [assessment](#) estimating that poverty in the State of Palestine will rise to 74.3 per cent in 2024, affecting 4.1 million people, including 2.61 million people who are newly impoverished. According to the report, impacts of the war have set development in Gaza back to the 1950s. Without lifting economic restrictions, enabling recovery, and investing in development, the Palestinian economy may not be able to restore pre-war levels and advance forward by relying on humanitarian aid alone.
- According to the [Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics](#), the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the Gaza Strip has sharply increased by 283 per cent since October 2023 up to the end of September 2024 as a result of the ongoing war. On 24 October, FAO [posted on X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) that, compared to last year, potatoes in southern Gaza can cost up to 5.7 times more, while in northern Gaza up to 66.7 times more: "hostilities in Gaza have severely damaged cropland and agricultural infrastructure, making it increasingly difficult for families to access nutritious foods. Rising food inflation is impacting everyone there."
- The second round of the polio vaccination campaign took place in southern Gaza between 19-22 October. Since 14 October 2024, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF, and partners [vaccinated](#) over 440,000 children and provided nearly 358,000 children with Vitamin A doses in Gaza middle and southern areas.
- UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF, and partners [announced](#) on 23 October that escalating violence, intense bombardment, mass displacement and lack of assured humanitarian pauses forced the postponement of the third phase of the polio vaccination campaign's second round, set

to start on the same day in northern Gaza. This final phase of the campaign is aimed at vaccinating 119,279 children across northern Gaza.

- According to the latest data published on 16 October by the [Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System \(HeRAMS\)](#), covering the period up to 30 September, only 17 out of 35 hospitals evaluated (or 49 per cent) are partially functioning. The report highlights that 76 per cent of still partially functioning hospitals across the Strip have insufficient water supply, 94 per cent struggle with insufficient sanitation facilities, 71 per cent are unable to follow proper hand hygiene practices, 82 per cent have insufficient personal protective equipment (PPE), and all hospitals lack sufficient means to maintain adequate environmental cleaning standards. Moreover, all hospitals have insufficient or unreliable power available.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- According to [OCHA](#), approximately 84 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under Israeli-issued evacuation orders as at 22 October, excluding those that have been revoked as of 15 October.
- As of 22 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **42,718** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **100,282** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 22 October 2024).
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 20 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **233**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions. According to [OCHA](#), only 552 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing from 1 to 20 October 2024. This represents a daily average of only 28 humanitarian trucks, among the lowest since October 2023. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 448 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli Authorities across Gaza from 1 to 21 October 2024, 201 were denied access, 67 impeded, 18 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 162 facilitated. Moreover, [requests to facilitate OCHA access to northern Gaza](#) to support rescuing people trapped under rubble have been repeatedly denied by Israeli Authorities.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 21 October, only six per cent (four out of 70) of coordinated aid movements that aimed to provide humanitarian assistance in north Gaza and

Gaza governorates via Al Rashid checkpoint were facilitated by Israeli Authorities. Access conditions have especially worsened following the onset of the Israeli military operation in Jabalia on 6 October: [between 6 and 21 October](#), 29 coordination requests requiring coordination with the Israeli military for critical aid missions to Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahya were denied, six were impeded and 13 were facilitated. Denied movements included a critical mission to rescue about 40 people trapped under rubble in the Falouja area of Jabalia, which has been repeatedly denied since 18 October, underscoring the severe limitations on lifesaving, humanitarian efforts. Similarly, a mission to transport critical life-saving supplies including blood, medical supplies such as anaesthesia, food parcels and fuel to Kamal Adwan Hospital was denied on 20 October.

- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 21 October 2024, 732 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Between 14 and 20 October, eight Palestinians were reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. During this period, there were at least 147 Israeli Forces operations recorded inside the West Bank, including inside refugee camps.
- On 14 October, the Israeli Forces carried out a nine-hour operation in Jenin camp, in northern West Bank, with exchange of fire and detonation of improvised explosive devices in clashes with Palestinian armed groups. During the course of this operation, two Palestinians, including one child, were killed, and at least eight Palestinians were injured. The operation started while all UNRWA services were ongoing and students and patients had to be evacuated from UNRWA's schools and health centre inside the camp. No damage to UNRWA installations was recorded. During the operation, armoured bulldozers damaged the roads and caused electricity outages. On 15 October, another Israeli Forces operation in Jenin camp saw one Palestinian killed and six Palestinians injured after the Israeli Forces deployed anti-tank missiles against a house inside the camp. During this operation, two windows of an UNRWA school in the camp were damaged. On 15 October, another Palestinian from Jenin camp died of injuries incurred during a previous Israeli Forces operation in July.
- Two Palestinians were killed after allegedly attacking Israeli Forces personnel: one who was involved in a shooting incident near Ashdod on 15 October and one who purportedly attempted a ramming attack near Ofra Israeli settlement on 19 October. A Palestinian died of his injuries following a vehicle chase with Israeli Forces in Anabta on 19 October.
- Harassment and violence directed at Palestinians participating in the annual olive harvest continued during the period of 14 to 20 October. On 17 October a Palestinian woman picking olives was shot and killed by the Israeli Forces in Faqu'a, near the West Bank Barrier. Throughout the week at least six Palestinians were injured by the Israeli Forces and/or Israeli

settlers while harvesting olives, and on 19 October six Palestinian farmers were detained by the Israeli Forces while picking olives in Husan, near Bethlehem.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- As of 22 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **42,718** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **100,282** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 22 October 2024).

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, numerous incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations, including cases where internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there and/or UNRWA staff have been affected. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing:
 - On 17 October 2024, the Israeli Forces conducted an airstrike hitting a tent inside an UNRWA school in Jabalia. Twenty-five IDPs were reportedly killed, and initial estimates indicate that 150 others were injured. Further verification of the number of casualties is ongoing.
 - On 18 October 2024, Israeli tanks reportedly surrounded three UNRWA schools-turned-shelters with IDPs inside, in north Jabalia camp.
 - On 19 October 2024, an UNRWA school west of Gaza City was hit by an Israeli Forces airstrike. Eleven people were reportedly killed, and several others injured. Three classrooms on the southern side of the school were destroyed.
 - On 19 October 2024, an Israeli tank shell reportedly hit an UNRWA school in Jabalia camp. A fire broke out and damage was reported to the tents inside the school. Casualties among the IDPs and damage to the school are being verified.
 - On 19 October 2024, bombing and heavy shooting were reported in the northern area opposite an UNRWA administrative office in Nuseirat. UNRWA personnel evacuated the building due to the intense military activity nearby. No injuries or damages were reported.
 - On 19 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly entered two UNRWA schools in north Jabalia camp and forcefully evacuated the IDPs sheltering inside. Initial reports indicate that the Israeli Forces arrested men and ordered women to head west of Gaza City. Mass detentions of civilians potentially at an UNRWA school in Jabalia camp were reported.
 - On 20 October 2024, two bullets were found in the UNRWA area office in Nuseirat. They had reportedly been fired from an Israeli Forces quadcopter. No injuries among the staff and minor damages to the building were reported.
 - On 20 October 2024, Israeli Forces reportedly fired tank shells at two UNRWA schools in Jabalia camp. Damage was reported, further verification is ongoing.

- On 21 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly besieged and forcefully evacuated seven UNRWA schools in Jabalia Camp serving as designated emergency shelters. Israeli artillery shells directly struck one of the UNRWA schools while IDPs were evacuating. Seven people were reportedly killed, and several others were injured.
- On 21 October 2024, Israeli Forces artillery reportedly hit a classroom located in the northern building of an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun. Initial reports indicate three fatalities and several injuries. Verifications are ongoing.
- On 22 October 2024, a UNRWA school-turned-shelter in Beit Lahiya was reportedly forcefully evacuated and then set ablaze by Israeli troops on the ground. Further verification of the incident and of potential casualties are ongoing, noting the lack of access to installations in north Gaza at this time.
- On 23 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly forcefully evacuated IDPs sheltering inside an UNRWA health centre and an UNRWA school in Jabalia towards West Gaza City and the south of the Gaza Strip.
- On 23 October 2024, Israeli Forces Unmanned Aerial Vehicles reportedly opened fire inside an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun, in an attempt to forcefully evacuate the IDPs. No casualties were reported, only minor damage to the school.
- On 23 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly struck a vehicle in close proximity to an UNRWA school east of Gaza City, resulting in three IDPs injured inside the school. Minor damages to the school were reported. The incident reportedly caused IDPs to further leave the shelter. Casualties outside the school were reported.
- On 23 October 2024, Israeli Forces tanks were reportedly surrounding an UNRWA school in Beit Lahiya, while gunfire and artillery shells were also being fired in the vicinity of the school. Some IDPs were forcibly evacuated in a reportedly panicked manner. An Israeli Forces drone reportedly struck the upper floors of the school, causing several injuries.
- On 24 October 2024, seven IDPs inside a UNRWA school in Al Maghazi Camp reportedly sustained slight injuries as a result of an Israeli Forces strike nearby.
- On 24 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school in Jabalia, hitting tents used by IDPs. This resulted in the tents being set ablaze. Injuries among the IDPs inside the school were reported.

464* incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563* IDPs** sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 29 September 2024, UNRWA provided over 5.87 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines. Over 193,000 children have been provided routine immunisation vaccines between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024. In addition to that, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September.
- The second round of the polio vaccination campaign took place in southern Gaza between 19-22 October. Since 14 October, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF, and partners vaccinated over 440,000 children against polio and provided nearly 358,000 children with Vitamin A doses in Gaza middle and southern areas.
- However, the third phase of the polio vaccination campaign, set to begin on 23 October in northern Gaza, [had to be postponed](#) due to escalating violence, intense bombardment, mass displacement orders and lack of assured humanitarian pauses. This final phase of the campaign aimed to vaccinate 119,279 children across northern Gaza.
- As of 21 October, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 81 mobile medical teams working in 46 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 21 October, 1,078 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 15,710 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 21 October, UNRWA teams responded to 451 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 21 October, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 400 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

- On 21 October, UNRWA teams provided oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 690 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 21 October, 288 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 56 items will run out by November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to four tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to zero stock of most laboratory supplies. All laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 24 October, around 720,000 IDPs, including over 510,000 children, have benefited from 265,302 PSS sessions/activities. Between 17 and 24 October, a total of 15,383 IDPs have accessed these services.
- Following the roll out of the UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme in UNRWA shelters, more than 11,500 children, 56 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from this initiative. Between 17 and 24 October, 12,604 children (5,689 boys, 6,915 girls, including 364 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 77 temporary learning spaces in 38 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 20 October 2024, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 187,644 IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These interventions aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,537 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 2,671 children, including 1,499 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs)

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

through referrals. The team also supported 20,046 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 118,916 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 October 2024, a total of 380,236 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In September 2024, UNRWA was able to provide over 70,000 m3 of domestic water. In Jabalia, UNRWA rehabilitated a well which supports over 20,000 IDPs. With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, middle area and Gaza areas. In September, more than 6,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters. In addition to waste management and collection, over 400 manholes have been cleaned in preparation for winter along with other winterization activities including the removal of debris in the streets and support for flood-prone areas.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“In northern Gaza, people are just waiting to die. They feel deserted, hopeless and alone. They live from one hour to the next, fearing death at every second. [...] On behalf of our staff in northern Gaza, I am calling for an immediate truce, even if for few hours, to enable safe humanitarian passage for families who wish to leave the area and reach safer places. This is the bare minimum to save the lives of civilians who have nothing to do with this conflict.”

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



233 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged



464 incidents

UNRWA response – Food assistance



215,000 families have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov 2023.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 21 Oct 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
15,710 patients received medical consultations in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **46** medical points inside and outside IDP shelters.
81 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **187,644** IDPs have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.
118,916 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.
7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #146 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 25-31 October 2024*, is valid as of 31 October 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 384-391 of Hostilities

Published 3 November 2024

1



UNRWA health staff provides primary healthcare to a child in and UNRWA health centre in Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip, October 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- Strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and imposed a tightened siege, particularly around the area of Jabalia. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering, as well as severe communications and internet disruptions.
- On 28 October, the UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini [posted on X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) on the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) passing legislation against UNRWA. He said the vote "is unprecedented and sets a dangerous precedent. It opposes the UN Charter and violates the State of Israel's obligations under international law." He added that this is the latest in the ongoing campaign to discredit UNRWA and delegitimize its role towards providing human-development assistance and services to Palestine Refugees, whose status would remain unchanged even if UNRWA were to stop operating. UNRWA Commissioner-General stated that failing to push back against these bills would weaken the multilateral mechanism established after World War II.
- On 27 October, the [UN Secretary-General Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric](#) stated that the plight of Palestinian civilians trapped in North Gaza is unbearable and added: "the Secretary-General is shocked by the harrowing levels of death, injury and destruction in the north, with civilians trapped under rubble, the sick and wounded going without life-saving health care, and families lacking food and shelter, amid reports of families being separated and many people detained." He highlighted that repeated efforts to deliver humanitarian supplies essential to survive continue to be denied by the Israeli authorities, with few exceptions, and stated that "this conflict continues to be waged with little regards for the requirements of international humanitarian law."
- According to [OCHA](#), on 26 October, the Israeli Forces announced the expansion of the zone in Al Mawasi to which it has been ordering Palestinians to move; the order revokes previous evacuation notices affecting 11 square kilometres in Khan Younis and Deir Al Balah, therefore expanding the zone to 68 square kilometres or about 19 per cent of Gaza's total area. In total, since October 2023 and as of 29 October, the Israeli Forces have issued over 65 evacuation orders, including four that were subsequently revoked. Currently, about 80 per cent of Gaza is under active evacuation orders.
- [OCHA](#) reports that, between 13 and 26 October, 31 incidents affecting 22 school premises run by UNRWA and eight managed by the Palestinian Authority were reported, with some schools impacted multiple times. Of these incidents, 20 occurred in the North Gaza governorate. In total, 57 incidents affecting schools were recorded between 1 and 26 October, including airstrikes, forced evacuations, shelling and arson.
- According to [OCHA](#), recent attacks on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) personnel and facilities, intermittent access to fuel, and military operations have significantly undermined access to clean water. A recent [WASH cluster assessment](#) found that about two thirds of families in the Gaza Strip are reported to have access to less than six litres of water per person per day, with only a quarter of families having access to soap. Nearly half the population lacks

the minimum 15 litres per person per day for drinking, cooking, and hygiene. People live in inhumane conditions, often surrounded by rodents, pests, trash, solid waste, sewage, and human waste. Increasingly deteriorating water and sanitation conditions are leading to the further spread of diseases, with acute diarrhea and skin infection particularly common among children under the age of five.

- After the second round of polio vaccination campaign in northern Gaza was forcibly delayed due to escalating violence, intense bombardment, mass displacement, and lack of assured humanitarian pauses, an agreement has now been reached to undertake the vaccination drive between 2 and 4 November in the Gaza governorate.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 29 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **43,061** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **101,223** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 29 October 2024).
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 27 October, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **237**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), only 971 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing from 1 to 27 October 2024. This represents a daily average of only 36 humanitarian trucks. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day. [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 580 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli Authorities across Gaza from 1 to 28 October 2024, 254 were denied access, 92 impeded, 22 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 212 facilitated. This includes 93 coordinated aid movements aimed at providing humanitarian assistance in the North Gaza and Gaza governorates via Al Rashid checkpoint, of which only eight per cent (seven) were facilitated by Israeli authorities.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 6 and 28 October, 36 coordination requests submitted to the Israeli Authorities for critical aid missions to Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahya (all in North Gaza governorate) were denied access, 14 faced impediments, and 23 were facilitated.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem - updated on a weekly basis.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of whom 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 21 and 27 October, four Palestinians, including one child, were reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. On 22 October, a Palestinian child was killed in Nablus in an exchange of fire with the Israeli Forces during a search operation. Two Palestinians were killed on 26 October: a Palestinian was killed in an exchange of fire with the Israeli Forces in Tulkarm, and a Palestinian was shot and killed by the Israeli Forces in the vicinity of the West Bank Barrier. A Palestinian attempted to attack ISF personnel near Hizma (outside Jerusalem) on 27 October, resulting in the alleged assailant being shot and killed.
- On 23 October, two missiles fired from Lebanon and intercepted by the Iron Dome landed near Ras 'Atiya village near Qalqiliya, injuring two Palestinians and damaging several vehicles.
- On 27 October, an Arab citizen of Israel allegedly rammed a truck into a bus stop in Herzliya, north of Tel Aviv. At least 32 Israelis were injured, and one Israeli killed. The truck driver was shot and killed at the scene.
- Attacks on Palestinians participating in the olive harvest continued, with at least two Palestinians injured by Israeli settlers. Late on 22 October, a group of Israeli settlers reportedly kidnapped and physically assaulted a Palestinian child in Masafer Yatta in the South Hebron Hills, later releasing him. On 26 October, Israeli settlers attacked Palestinians picking olives in Qaryut in the northern West Bank, with an elderly woman injured.

1. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- As of 29 October 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **43,061** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **101,223** have been reported injured (between 7 October 2023 and 29 October 2024).

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, numerous incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations, including cases where internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there and/or

UNRWA staff have been affected. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing:

- On 25 October 2024, Israeli Forces artillery shells reportedly struck two UNRWA schools in Jabalia. Subsequently, the Israeli Forces ordered the IDPs sheltering in the two schools to evacuate the premises. Damage to the schools was reported, and one IDP was reportedly seriously injured. The IDPs were able to later return to the shelters.
- On 27 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly hit an UNRWA school in Gaza City with one missile hitting the third floor on the east side of the school, resulting in damage to a classroom. One person was reported killed and another was injured. Due to the Israeli Forces' strike, IDPs sheltering in the school reportedly had to leave and find alternative shelters.
- On 27 October 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school in Gaza City. At least four classrooms in the northern building were destroyed. Eleven fatalities and several injuries were reported, including an UNRWA Job Creation Programme (JCP) counsellor. People are reported to be still trapped under the rubble.

464* incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563* IDPs** sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

2. UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 20 October 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.14 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 193,000 children have been provided with routine immunisation vaccines between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in

September. The second round of the polio vaccination campaign took place in southern Gaza between 19-22 October. Since 14 October, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF, and partners vaccinated over 440,000 children against polio and provided nearly 358,000 children with Vitamin A doses in Gaza middle and southern areas.

- The third phase of the polio vaccination campaign, set to begin on 23 October in northern Gaza, [had to be postponed](#) due to escalating violence, intense bombardment, mass displacement orders and lack of assured humanitarian pauses. This final phase of the campaign aimed to vaccinate 119,279 children across northern Gaza.
- As of 29 October, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 85 mobile medical teams working in 52 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 29 October, 1,160 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 15,815 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 29 October, UNRWA teams responded to 583 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 29 October, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 501 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 29 October, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 662 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 29 October, 284 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 56 items will run out by November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to four tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. All laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

“Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and up to 500 teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 31 October, around 720,000 IDPs, including over 510,000 children, have benefited from 266,872 PSS sessions/activities. Between 25 and 31 October, a total of 15,621 IDPs have accessed these services.
- More than 13,500 children, 56 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 25 and 31 October, 13,061 children (5,787 boys, 7,274 girls, including 377 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 78 temporary learning spaces in 38 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 28 October 2024, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 187,925 IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These interventions aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,540 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 2,671 children, including 1,499 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 20,104 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 122,679 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 30 October 2024, a total of 383,858 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 366,944 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels in the southern governorates. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, nearly 1.15 million people have been reached, of whom nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In October 2024, UNRWA was able to provide over 75,000 m3 of domestic water. Over 9,000 m3 of drinking water were distributed in Jabalia, middle area, and Khan Younis. However, many water wells in the north have been destroyed during the intensified military operations in October 2024.
- With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, middle area and Gaza areas. In October, around 10,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters and moved to temporary dumping sites. In addition to waste management and collection, over 250 manholes have been cleaned, and 60 cleaning campaigns have been conducted around Gaza City, middle area, and Khan Younis. Environmental awareness workers and WASH staff have worked together to raise awareness on the importance of hygiene, water disinfection, and recycling of available materials.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“Following the adoption of bills by the Knesset against UNRWA aimed at preventing it to operate in the occupied Palestinian territory, I wrote to the President of the General Assembly. These bills will not terminate the refugee status of the Palestinians, which exists independently of UNRWA’s service provision. They will severely harm their lives and future. Today, even as we look into the faces of children in Gaza, some of whom we know will die tomorrow, the rules-based international order is crumbling in a repetition of the horrors that led to the establishment of the United Nations, and in violation of commitments to prevent their recurrence. I urge Member States to take action to support UNRWA commensurate with the gravity of the situation and risks.”

ENDs –

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



237 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged



464 incidents

UNRWA response – Food assistance



215,000 families have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov 2023.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 29 Oct 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
15,815 patients received medical consultations in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **52** medical points inside and outside IDP shelters.
85 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **187,925** IDPs have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

122,679 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #147 on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information updated for 1-11 November 2024*, valid as of 11 November 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 392-402 of Hostilities

Published 12 November 2024



Displaced people receive UNRWA food parcels in an UNRWA shelter in Deir al-Balah, Gaza middle area, November 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

Highlights

- An Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Famine Review Committee Alert on the Gaza Strip published on 8 November 2024 says there is a likelihood that famine is imminent in areas within northern Gaza.
- In October, an average of only 37 humanitarian trucks per day entered the Gaza Strip. This is the lowest daily average since the third week of October 2023 when the Israeli Authorities allowed the first aid trucks to come in after the war started.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- Even when humanitarian aid is allowed in, movement within the Gaza Strip is severely restricted, with bombardment and intense fighting constantly ongoing and missions frequently denied or not facilitated by the Israeli Authorities.
- OCHA reports that, in comparison with September, denials of movements across Gaza have increased by over 100 per cent in October, while facilitation of movements has decreased by 21 per cent.
- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights published a [report](#) highlighting that, based on the number of killings verified by OHCHR by 2 September 2024, close to 70 per cent of people killed in Gaza by strikes, shelling and other conduct of hostilities are children and women.
- Over 556,000 children were vaccinated against polio by UNRWA and partners during the second round of the polio vaccination campaign which took place between October and November 2024.

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and imposed a tightened siege, particularly around the area of Jabalia. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering, as well as severe communications and internet disruptions. As of 4 November, the [UN and its partners](#) estimated that about 100,000 people had been displaced over four weeks from North Gaza governorate to Gaza City and between 75,000 and 95,000 people were estimated to remain in North Gaza.
- On 1 November 2024, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order for IDPs sheltering inside shelters in Jabalia camp. Approximately 19 UNRWA installations are located within the remit of the area affected by the evacuation order.
- On 1 November, the Principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) [issued a statement](#) co-signed by 15 UN and humanitarian organisations describing the situation in northern Gaza Strip as “apocalyptic”. The joint statement calls on all parties to the conflict to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, facilitate humanitarian operations, and respect international humanitarian law, and it calls for a sustained, unconditional ceasefire and the release of all hostages. The statement also mentions that, if implemented, the legislation adopted by the Israeli Parliament against UNRWA would be “a catastrophe for the humanitarian response in Gaza”, where “there is no alternative to UNRWA”.

- On 2 November, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners resumed the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place in October in the middle and southern areas. Between 2 and 4 November, over 105,000 children received the vaccine and nearly 84,000 received Vitamin A supplements in northern Gaza. However, the area of the humanitarian pause was limited to Gaza City, being therefore [substantially reduced](#) compared to the first round of vaccination conducted in northern Gaza in September 2024. Despite the agreed-upon pause, [WHO](#) reported that the Sheikh Radwan primary health-care centre was hit on 2 November 2024 while parents were bringing their children to be vaccinated, resulting in six people, including four children, injured.
- During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which reached 94 per cent of the intended population, a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip were vaccinated against polio, and 448,425 children between 2 and 10 received Vitamin A.
- On 5 November, the Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), [Muhannad Hadi](#), visited an UNRWA school sheltering hundreds of families in Gaza City and described conditions there as “unbearable”, amid the lack of food, water and functioning toilets. He explained that, with sewage running everywhere and waste accumulating, “this is not a place for humans to survive,” adding it is “beyond imagination.”
- On 6 November, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini [addressed the UN General Assembly](#) highlighting the consequences Palestine Refugees would have to face, should the legislation adopted by the Israeli Parliament against UNRWA be implemented. The Commissioner-General warned that “in Gaza, dismantling UNRWA will collapse the United Nations humanitarian response, which relies heavily on the Agency’s infrastructure,” and added that “in the West Bank, UNRWA’s collapse would deprive at least 50,00 children of education, and hundreds of thousands of Palestine Refugees of healthcare.” He called on the Member States to act to prevent the implementation of the legislation, to ensure that any plan for a political transition delineates UNRWA’s role, and to maintain funding to UNRWA without withholding or diverting funds on the assumption that the Agency can no longer operate.
- On 8 November, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) published a [Famine Review Committee Alert](#) on the Gaza Strip, according to which that there is a likelihood that famine is imminent in areas within northern Gaza. The Alert warns that, since the latest IPC analysis published on 17 October 2024, the situation in the Gaza Strip has further deteriorated due to several factors, including the intensification of Israeli military operations – particularly in northern Gaza – new evacuation orders, decreasing levels of supplies entering the Strip, attacks on health and nutrition care facilities. Moreover, the IPC highlights that, if the legislation against UNRWA adopted by the Israeli Parliament is implemented, “it will have extremely serious consequences for humanitarian operations.”
- On 8 November, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights published [a six-month update report on the human rights situation in Gaza](#), covering the period between 1 November 2023 and 30 April 2024. The [report](#) broadly examines the killing of civilians and breaches of international law that in many instances could amount to war crimes. Based on the number of killings verified by OHCHR by 2 September 2024, close to 70 per cent of people killed in Gaza by strikes, shelling and other conduct of hostilities are children and women,

indicating a systematic violation of the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law, including distinction and proportionality. Of the verified fatalities, about 80 per cent were killed in residential buildings or similar housing, out of which 44 per cent were children and 26 per cent were women. UN Human Rights Chief Volker Türk stressed the imperative for Israel to fully and immediately comply with obligations to prevent, protect against and punish acts of genocide and associated prohibited conduct underscored by the International Court of Justice.

- [OCHA](#) reports that over 42 million tons of rubble and a large concentration of explosive hazards pose an imminent threat to civilians in the Gaza Strip, while the entry of specialized personnel and equipment and the conduct of explosive ordnance disposal activities are restricted.
- According to [FAO](#)'s recent rapid assessments, nearly 15,000 cattle, 95 per cent of the total, have died and almost all calves have been slaughtered, while fewer than 25,000 sheep (about 43 per cent), some 3,000 goats (approximately 37 per cent) and 34,000 birds (1 per cent of poultry sector) remain alive. [OCHA](#) highlights that this dramatic loss is coupled with large-scale damage of agricultural infrastructure and ongoing restrictions that hamper the entry of essential agricultural inputs, fodder and veterinary kits into Gaza. All this represents critical impediments to rehabilitating local food systems, perpetuating people's reliance on increasingly shrinking humanitarian aid.
- In the [Hunger Hotspot](#) issued on 31 October 2024, FAO and WFP placed the Gaza Strip among the five "highest alert" territories in terms of catastrophic food insecurity conditions. WFP Chief Economist, [Arif Husain](#), highlighted that the situation in Gaza is "the most intense", with 91 per cent of the population facing crisis or worse levels of food insecurity and the economy shrinking to approximately one sixth in the space of a year.
- [OCHA](#) reports that, while over 209 explosive hazard assessments have been conducted in Gaza to-date, these are insufficient to allow a comprehensive understanding of the extent of explosive ordnance contamination in the Strip. However, available information indicates that, across all five Gaza governorates, explosive remnants of war (ERW) contamination are likely to be both on the surface and sub-surface, involving not only land service ammunition (projectiles, mortars, rockets, missiles, grenades and landmines), but also deep-buried bombs, as well as weapons and ammunition caches. Despite the critical need to immediately scale up the Mine Action response, restrictions imposed by the Israeli Authorities on the entry of specialised personnel and equipment, coupled with access constraints, hamper mine action activities and curtail efforts to protect people from ERW and the safe and sustainable delivery of humanitarian aid.
- According to OCHA, the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate reported that 174 journalists – representing 10 per cent of those working in Gaza – have been killed, 101 injured and 30 detained since October 2023. The same source stated that 514 family members of journalists were killed in airstrikes on their homes and areas of displacement, with approximately 115 homes belonging to journalists hit.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 26 October, around 80 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.

- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 5 November 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **43,391** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **102,347** have been reported injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 11 November, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **243**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), only 1,160 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip crossing from 1 to 31 October 2024. This represents a daily average of only 37 humanitarian trucks, the lowest since October 2023. This is well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day. [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 644 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli Authorities across Gaza from 1 to 31 October 2024, 278 were denied access, 99 impeded, 26 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 241 facilitated. Out of 183 coordinated movements to and within northern Gaza, 81 were denied, 39 were impeded, 10 had to be cancelled, and 53 were facilitated.
- In comparison with September, denials of movements across Gaza have risen by over 100 per cent, increasing from 138 to 278, while facilitation of movements has decreased by 21 per cent, dropping from 305 to 241. Furthermore, denials of movements to northern Gaza via Al Rashid checkpoint have increased by 115 per cent, rising from 26 to 56 denied movements.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of whom 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 28 October and 10 November, 18 Palestinians, including one child, were reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of these, 15 were killed during Israeli Forces activity, one was shot dead following an alleged ramming attack, and one died from injuries sustained during a settler attack. There were several large-scale ISF operations during this period.
- Overnight on 30-31 October, an Israeli Forces operation took place in Tulkarm in the northern West Bank, including Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps. Four Palestinians were killed, including two in a drone strike inside Nur Shams camp. During the course of the same operation, the UNRWA Camp Services Office in Nur Shams camp was severely damaged, with water, sewerage, and road networks also affected.
- On 3 November, a Palestinian child was shot and killed by the Israeli Forces in Halhul, southern West Bank.
- On 4 November, four Palestinians were killed by Israeli Forces drone strikes: two in the context of a search operation in Tammun, and two when a drone strike hit a Palestinian vehicle in Muthalath Ash Shuhada, near Jenin.
- On 5 November, the Israeli Forces launched a 22-hour operation in Qabatiya, in the northern West Bank, which resulted in four Palestinians killed and four others injured. Of those killed, two were a result of an Israeli Forces drone strike.
- On 6 November, a Palestinian man was shot dead by Israeli settlers after allegedly ramming into a group of Israeli settlers near the entrance of Shilo settlement, north of Ramallah.
- On 6 November, a Palestinian was killed during an exchange of fire with Israeli Forces during a search operation in Jenin city.
- Early on 7 November, a 14-hour ISF operation began in Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps and surrounding areas, involving exchanges of fire, detonation of improvised explosive devices, and significant destruction of infrastructure by bulldozers. One Palestinian was shot and killed during the operation, which also included the use of airstrikes by the Israeli Forces.
- On 8 November, a Palestinian was killed during an Israeli Forces search operation in Aqqaba, in the northern West Bank, after the house they were in was surrounded. Two other Palestinians were injured in the same operation.
- Attacks on Palestinians participating in the annual olive harvest continued, with at least four Palestinians injured while harvesting olives during this period: two by armed Israeli settlers in Immatin on 29 October, one by the Israeli Forces in Qusra on 29 October, and one by armed Israeli settlers in Shufa on 7 November. In Deir Istiya, more than 100 olive trees were reportedly uprooted by Israeli settlers on 2 November, with settlers reportedly cutting down more than 500 olive trees belonging to Palestinians in Qaryut on 6 November. A Palestinian from Sabastiya died on 10 November after reportedly being tear gassed by settlers while collecting

olives earlier in the week. Attacks by armed settlers on Palestinians participating in the olive harvest were also recorded in Deir Istiya, Sa'ir, Salfit, Shufa, and Burka.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 5 **November** 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **43,391** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **102,347** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access, protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, numerous incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations, including cases where internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there and/or UNRWA staff have been affected. The verification of details and any casualty figures are ongoing:
 - On 5 November 2024, an image was published online displaying Israeli Forces tanks and a soldier inside the grounds of UNRWA Rafah Health Centre in Rafah. The image shows damage to this UN installation.
 - On 7 November 2024, the Israeli Forces conducted an airstrike targeting an UNRWA school in Gaza City, resulting in at least 12 IDPs being killed and several people injured. The eastern side of the school was reportedly struck, with the second floor being totally destroyed and the first floor sustaining severe damage.
 - On 7 November 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school in Gaza City with one missile from an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), resulting in at least four people killed and 10 IDPs sustaining injuries. Further verification of the casualties is ongoing.
 - On 7 November 2024, UNRWA received reports of severe destruction of the Jabalia Health Centre that reportedly occurred in the context of the Israeli Forces military operation in Jabalia which started on 6 October 2024. A video posted online shows this UN installation burnt and severely damaged.
 - On 8 November 2024, a video was circulated publicly displaying Israeli soldiers on the roof of the Rafah Health Centre, in Rafah Camp.
 - On 11 November 2024, an Israeli Forces tank shell struck an UNRWA maintenance office in Nuseirat. Staff and IDPs were evacuated from the installation. One Job Creation Programme worker was moderately injured, and damage to the installation was reported.

- On 11 November 2024, shrapnel impacted the internal perimeter of the Zuwayda UNRWA guesthouse/office. No injuries were reported.
- On 11 November 2024, the Zuwayda UNRWA guesthouse/office was impacted from the overpressure of an Israeli Forces airstrike approximately one kilometer north of the guesthouse location, resulting in glazing damage on the third floor of the building. No injuries were reported.

464* incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563* IDPs** sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 3 November 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.3 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 193,000 children have been provided with routine immunisation vaccines between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September. During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place between October and November reaching 94 per cent of the intended population, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip, and provided 448,425 children between 2 and 10 with Vitamin A.

- As of 9 November, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 85 mobile medical teams working in 50 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 9 November, 1,189 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 17,497 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 9 November, UNRWA teams responded to 632 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 9 November, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 620 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 9 November, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 1,027 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 9 November, 275 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 59 items will run out by November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. All laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began to roll out its first phase response of "Back to Learning" with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, "Back to Learning" will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 10 November, around 720,000 IDPs, including over 510,000 children, have benefited from 268,650 PSS sessions/activities. Between 1 and 10 November, a total of 20,459 IDPs have accessed these services.
- More than 15,000 children, 55 per cent of whom are girls, have benefited from UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 1 and 10 November, 14,870 children (6,715 boys, 8,115 girls, including 427 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 79 temporary learning spaces in 39 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. These efforts were facilitated by 820 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial, protective, and developmental needs of children and adolescents.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 10 November 2024, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 191,186 IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. These interventions aim to address family issues and strengthen relationships.
- During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,557 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 3,975 children, including 2,784 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 20,564 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 127,065 IDPs.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 3 November 2024, a total of 383,858 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,161 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.16 million people have been reached, of whom nearly 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In October 2024, UNRWA was able to provide over 75,000 m3 of domestic water. Over 9,000 m3 of drinking water were distributed in Jabalia, middle area, and Khan Younis. However, many water wells in the north have been destroyed during the intensified military operations in October 2024.
- With the available fleet for sanitation, UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, middle area and Gaza areas. In October, around 10,000 tons of waste were collected from camps and emergency shelters and moved to temporary dumping sites. In addition to waste management and collection, over 250 manholes have been cleaned, and 60 cleaning campaigns have been conducted around Gaza City, middle area, and Khan Younis. Environmental awareness workers and WASH staff have worked together to raise awareness on the importance of hygiene, water disinfection, and recycling of available materials.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“Sadly, this is not a surprise. Famine is likely happening in northern Gaza. This is man-made. Hunger has been weaponized by the State of Israel. This deprives people in Gaza of the basics including food to survive.”

ENDs –

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



At least **563** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,790** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



243 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged



464 incidents

UNRWA response – Food assistance



383,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.16 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 9 Nov 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
17,497 medical consultations were provided in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **50** medical points inside and outside IDP shelters.

85 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **191,186 IDPs** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

127,065 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #148 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 12-18 November 2024*, is valid as of 18 November 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 403-409 of Hostilities

Published 20 November 2024



Displaced people queue for bread outside of a bakery in Khan Younis, southern Gaza, November 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- Between 6 October 2024 and 17 November 2024, Israeli military operations have impacted six UNRWA installations in Gaza City and 17 in North Gaza.
- On 16 November, a joint 109-truck UN convoy carrying food supplies to people in Gaza was subjected to organised crime activity. The vast majority of the trucks, 97 in total, were stolen and drivers were forced at gunpoint to unload the critical aid the convoy was carrying.
- As of 17 November 2024, over 100 UNRWA school buildings in the Gaza Strip are being used to shelter over 415,000 displaced people.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- As of 18 November, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is 247.

2. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In Northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. As of 18 November, the UN and its partners estimated that between 100,000 and 131,000 people had been displaced since 6 October 2024 from North Gaza governorate to Gaza City. The influx has raised the population in the Gaza City governorate from around 250,000 estimated to have been present as of the end of September 2024 to approximately 375,000 people. Between 65,000 and 75,000 people are estimated to remain in North Gaza governorate, accounting for less than 20 per cent of the population there before the intensification of military operations and the siege.
- On 13 November, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini addressed the United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee, highlighting that “unique among United Nations agencies, UNRWA is mandated to directly provide public-like services, including education for more than half a million children and primary healthcare. The Agency provides human development services for Palestine Refugees in the absence of a Palestinian state.”
- UNICEF reported that 64 attacks against schools have been recorded last October (2024). Between 6 October 2024 and 17 November 2024, Israeli military operations have impacted six UNRWA installations in Gaza City and 17 in North Gaza.
- On 16 November, a joint 109-truck UN convoy carrying food supplies to people in Gaza was subjected to organised crime. The vast majority of the trucks, 97 in total, were stolen and drivers were forced at gunpoint to unload the humanitarian aid on the convoy. The UN Secretary-General Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric stated that, as this incident underscores, the UN continues to face severe access challenges in bringing aid into southern and central Gaza: “whether it’s Kissufim, Kerem Shalom, and surrounding routes have proved unworkable due to continuing security issues. They are entirely insufficient to ensure the sustained flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza.”
- OCHA reported that many community kitchens have already closed, none are operational in North Gaza governorate, only 18 in the Gaza governorate, and approximately 120 remain open throughout the central and southern areas of the Gaza Strip. Of these, 100 are producing about 330,000 meals per day but face the constant threat of shutdown amid persistent and increasing shortages of supplies.

- Food security conditions are alarmingly deteriorating also in the central and southern governorates of the Gaza Strip. As of mid-November, only some 270,000 people - 16 per cent of the estimated 1.7 million people in Deir al-Balah, Khan Younis and Rafah - had received their reduced monthly food rations. Dire shortages of wheat flour have forced the closure of four bakeries in Deir al-Balah in the space of one week, with only three bakeries in the governorate and one in Khan Younis remaining operational as of 18 November. Many community-led baking initiatives have also been forced to suspend their activities since early October. The four still functional bakeries are operating at full capacity, but risk shutting down if no additional flour is received soon.
- According to the WASH Cluster, since the intensification of the Israeli Forces operations in North Gaza on 6 October 2024, all requests submitted by aid partners for the delivery of supplies and fuel to operate WASH facilities have been denied, heightening the risks of dehydration and disease outbreaks while about half of Gaza City wells have not operated.
- According to OCHA, as of 19 November, around 79 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people – or about 90 per cent of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 17 November 2024, over 100 UNRWA school buildings in the Gaza Strip are being used to shelter over 415,000 displaced people*.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 19 November 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by OCHA, at least 43,972 Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and 104,008 have been reported injured.
- OCHA reports that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 18 November, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is 247.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to OCHA, between 1 and 16 November, 1,140 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip. This represents a daily average of only 71 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day. OCHA reported that, of the 319 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli Authorities across Gaza from 1 to 18

November 2024, 105 were denied access, 51 impeded, 31 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 132 facilitated.

- This includes 120 coordinated aid movements intended to provide humanitarian assistance in governorates north of Wadi Gaza, of which 65 needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints. Out of the 65 movements to northern Gaza requiring the use of checkpoints, 22 were denied, 21 were impeded, six had to be cancelled, and 16 were facilitated.
- Between 1 and 18 November, 85 per cent of 41 coordination requests for humanitarian missions in North Gaza governorate were either denied (17) or impeded (18), while seven per cent (3) were facilitated. Thirty-one of these 41 requests were made for the besieged areas of Jabalia, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahya, with all but four attempts being denied during this period. These four attempts were severely impeded and could only accomplish limited objectives.
- Coordinated aid missions to areas in the southern, western, and central Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since early May, have faced similar challenges, with 26 of the 63 coordinated missions (41 per cent) either denied or impeded between 1 and 18 November.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

**Figures keep changing owing to the unpredictable population movement and the security environment.*

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 11 and 17 November, three Palestinians were reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. A Palestinian was shot and killed on 12 November at Deir Sharaf checkpoint near Nablus, after allegedly attempting to stab Israeli Forces personnel. Two were killed on 13 November during an exchange of fire involving anti-tank missiles between Israeli Forces and Palestinians in Tulkarm, in the northern West Bank, which injured two further Palestinians.
- On 13 November, the Israeli municipality of Jerusalem accompanied by Israeli Forces demolished a community centre serving Palestinians in Silwan, in occupied East Jerusalem. The demolition followed accelerated demolition orders affecting Silwan since mid-2024.
- As the annual olive harvesting season draws to a close, attacks on and harassment of Palestinians participating in the olive harvest continued. Palestinians harvesting olives in Kafr Qaddum, Tell, and Madama were physically assaulted by Israeli Forces and forced to leave

their land. In Jalud, Shufa and Khirbet Salama, armed Israeli settlers prevented Palestinians from picking olives.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 19 November 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **43,972** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **104,008** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- During the reporting period, numerous incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations, including cases where internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there and/or UNRWA staff have been affected. The verification of details and casualty figures are ongoing:
 - On 17 November 2024, an UNRWA staff member was reportedly injured due to an Israeli Forces quadcopter shooting in the vicinity of an UNRWA distribution centre in Nuseirat. He was injured in his hand and transferred to the hospital. Two bullets reportedly penetrated a metal roof of the UNRWA distribution centre, causing minor damage.
 - On 16 November 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school north of Beach Camp, west of Gaza City. At least 15 people were reportedly killed, and more than 25 injured. Further verification of the casualties is ongoing.
 - On 14 November 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school in Gaza City and the medical point caught fire as a result of the strike in the southern building of the school. While further verification of the casualties is ongoing, two children were reportedly killed and at least 10 people were injured.
 - On 12 November 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly besieged an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun (North Gaza) with tanks and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and forcefully evacuated IDPs sheltering inside the school, ordering them to move south. IDPs were forced to undergo head scanning at an Israeli Forces checkpoint, where several men were detained. .
 - On 11 November 2024, an Israeli Forces artillery shelling struck the UNRWA Maintenance Office in Nuseirat, leading all UNRWA personnel, supported by the Security and Risk Management team, to evacuate the three UNRWA installations located in close proximity. No injuries or damages were reported to these three installations.
 - [Late report] On 21 October 2024, Israeli Forces drones reportedly opened fire and surrounded an UNRWA school in Beit Lahiya (North Gaza), ordering the IDPs sheltering inside to evacuate and threatening that they would be killed if they did not evacuate.

464* incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location), including at least **74*** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **190*** Agency installations have been impacted by munitions or subjected to armed actor interference through these incidents. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least **563* IDPs** sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least **1,790*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

** Since the start of the war in October 2023, the latest casualty figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gets access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. The summary figures will be published/updated as information becomes available, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 10 November 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.4 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 193,000 children received routine immunisation vaccines between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September. During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place between October and November reaching 94 per cent of the intended population, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip, and provided 448,425 children between 2 and 10 with Vitamin A.
- As of 17 November, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 87 mobile medical teams working in 52 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

- As of 17 November, 1,144 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 17,814 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 17 November, UNRWA teams responded to 527 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 17 November, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 618 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 17 November, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 805 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 17 November, 292 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 59 items will run out by the end of November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were provided before 7 October 2023 due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children continue to be out of school since the beginning of the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 18 November, around 720,000 IDPs, including over 510,000 children, have benefited from 268,650 PSS sessions/activities. Between 11 and 18 November, a total of 17,379 IDPs have accessed these services.
- More than 16,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 11 and 18 November, 15,955 children (7,118 boys, 8,837 girls, including 427 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 80 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 820 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 18 November 2024, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 191,963 IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,565 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 3,731* children, including 2,528* unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 20,566 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 127,517 IDPs.

**Due to further verification, figures have slightly decreased compared to those reported in the previous situation report (#147).*

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 18 November 2024, a total of 388,054 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,909 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.16 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In the first two weeks of November, around 35,000 cubic meters of water were distributed across the Gaza Strip. However, UNRWA water wells in Jabalia are still

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

not operational due to damage caused by the intense military operations in the area and the Israeli-imposed siege.

- Winterization efforts are ongoing in Khan Younis, The Middle Area, and Gaza City, with over 350 manholes cleaned, and 60 cleaning campaigns completed. Pest and rodent control measures are being implemented.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, the Middle Areas and Gaza City areas. Since the beginning of November 2024, 3,299 tons of solid waste have been collected. However, no solid waste activities could take place in the northern areas due to ongoing military operations.

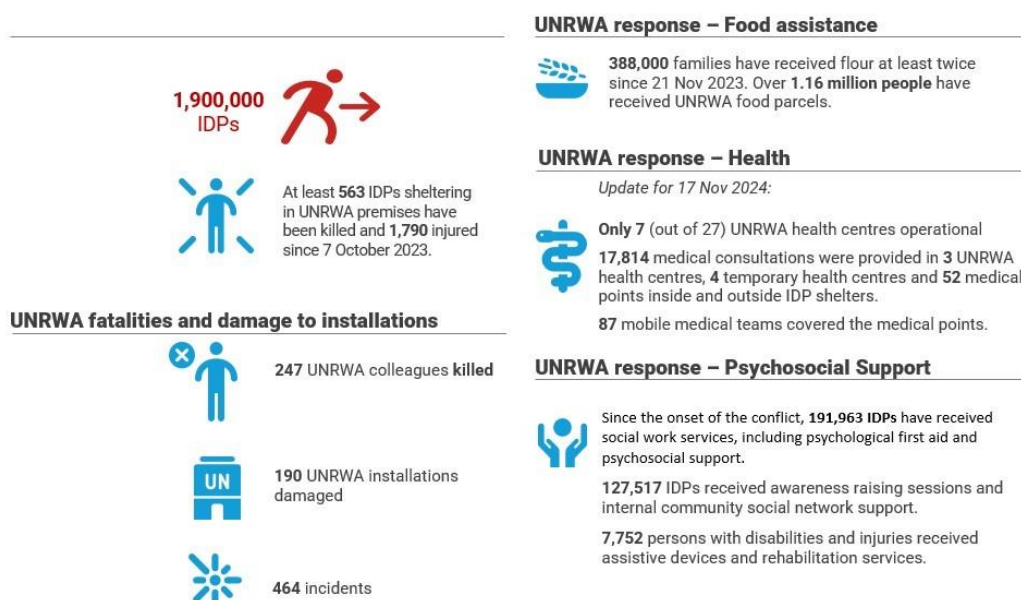
Press remarks by Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“There is no Plan B within the United Nations family, because there is no other agency geared to provide the same activities and, in reality, UNRWA is the response of the international community to the plight of the Palestinian refugees through the mandate provided by the General Assembly resolution. So, if there is no United Nations or international community response, the responsibility will come back to the occupying power, being Israel, and that's where we have to ask, ‘Where does a Plan B sit today?’”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip





UNRWA Situation Report #149 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 19-25 November 2024*, is valid as of 18 November 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 410-416 of Hostilities

Published 27 November 2024



A woman and children sit outside a makeshift tent by the shore in Khan Younis, southern Gaza, as heavy rain and rising sea levels flood tents in the Gaza Strip, November 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- Heavy rains hit the Gaza Strip on 25 November, further worsening living conditions for displaced people amid limited humanitarian response capacities.
- UNFPA reports that there are around 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with 4,000 deliveries expected in the next month alone. Approximately 15,000 of them are likely to be on the verge of famine.
- WHO reports that, between 1 and 11 November 2024, out of eight WHO missions to health facilities across the Gaza Strip, all three planned for North Gaza were impeded or denied.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- On 25 November 2024, the Israeli authorities issued an evacuation order for the areas of Beit Lahiya and Jabalia. Forty-three UNRWA installations are located within the area affected by the Israeli Forces evacuation zone.
- According to a report by the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, the Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, families in the Gaza Strip are having to resort to harmful and unsustainable coping mechanisms including reducing food intake, consuming contaminated water, selling personal items, and managing menstruation needs in a way that puts women's health at risk.
- According to OCHA, as of 22 November 2024 has become the deadliest year on record for humanitarian personnel, with 281 personnel killed globally. Most of them were UNRWA staff killed in the Gaza Strip (249 to date since the start of the war).

2. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for 50 days. Access remains extremely challenging, and partners' ongoing attempts to deliver aid into these besieged areas continues to be largely prevented.
- As of 18 November, the [UN and its partners](#) estimated that between 100,000 and 131,000 people had been displaced since 6 October 2024 from North Gaza governorate to Gaza City. The influx has raised the population in the Gaza City governorate from around 250,000, estimated to have been present as of the end of September 2024, to approximately 375,000 people. Between 65,000 and 75,000 people are estimated to remain in North Gaza governorate, accounting for less than 20 per cent of the population there before the intensification of military operations and the siege.
- [Heavy rains](#) hit the Gaza Strip on 25 November, further worsening living conditions for displaced people amid limited humanitarian response capacities. The heavy rains are estimated to affect over 1.6 million people living in makeshift shelters across the Gaza Strip, with thousands of displaced families living in tents along the coast in southwest Gaza being particularly affected by flooding and rising seawater. According to preliminary assessments, about 7,000 families residing along the shoreline were affected by recent rains, with thousands of tents flooded, belongings destroyed and shelters damaged. Harsh winter temperatures compounded by heavy rains and rising sea tides are further exacerbating sewage accumulation, the spread of disease, and risk of collapse of damaged buildings where many families have sought refuge.
- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) [reported](#) that, with up to [130,000 people](#) forcibly displaced from North Gaza to Gaza City since 6 October 2024, [up to 70 per cent](#) of

people sheltering in some displacement sites are children and women. UNFPA highlighted that many women and girls are seeking shelter in abandoned homes and destroyed clinics, or sleeping out in the open, exposing them to gender-based violence, abuse, disease and infections. Amid all this, according to UNFPA, there are around 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with 4,000 deliveries expected in the next month alone. In the Gaza Strip, over 550,000 women are reported to be facing acute hunger and more than 15,000 pregnant women are estimated to be on the verge of famine.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) [warned](#) that denial and impeding of humanitarian missions to North Gaza continue to affect the health response. Between 1 and 11 November 2024, out of eight WHO missions to health facilities across the Gaza Strip, all three planned for North Gaza were impeded or denied. On 17 November, after four unsuccessful attempts, a [WHO-led mission](#) managed to reach the Kamal Adwan Hospital in North Gaza and delivered 10,000 litres of fuel and medical supplies sufficient for 1,500 trauma patients, in addition to some food and water supplies.
- Between 6-12 November 2024, [WHO](#) documented five attacks on healthcare, including three in North Gaza, one in Deir al-Balah and one in Rafah.
- Between October 2023 and 13 November 2024, out of 15,600 cases requested for medical evacuation, 5,238 (34 per cent) have been evacuated, with only 336 patients evacuated since the closure of Rafah crossing in May 2024.
- On 22 November, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) [reported](#) that skin and respiratory infections, acute diarrheal illnesses and other viral diseases continue to rise across Gaza, with over 300 children treated daily at the Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis. According to [OCHA](#), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) also reported that, in the six months between 9 May and 9 November, 31 per cent of all patients seen in the outpatient department of the Red Cross Field Hospital in southern Gaza were children under the age of 14, with respiratory infections, injuries and burns constituting the bulk of all cases treated.
- According to a [report](#) published by the Danish Refugee Council on 25 November, 95 per cent of people involved in the study reported knowing someone killed or injured by active warfare, 90 per cent of them reported destruction or damage to their home, and 70 per cent returned to areas affected by active fighting. Over half of the people interviewed reported encountering explosive ordnance (EO) at least once, with some up to 10 times, and 58 per cent of them reported looking under rubble for essential items, despite knowing the risk of encountering EO. Moreover, 23 per cent knew someone injured or killed by EO, with only 19 per cent of victims receiving emergency aid, only 6 per cent had access to physical therapy, and just one per cent had access to mental health services.
- On 25 November, the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, the Gender Based Violence Area of Responsibility, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights published a [report](#) on the impact of aid shortage on the protection situation in the Gaza Strip.
- According to [OCHA](#), the near halt to commercial trucks entering the Gaza Strip has not only driven commodity prices up and threatened market stability, but also worsened the

nutritional status of vulnerable children and women, who for months have faced severely limited access to adequate food, water and hygiene products.

- On 21 November, the Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory Muhannad Hadi [stated](#) that the delivery of critical aid across Gaza is grinding to a halt. According to [OCHA](#), between 10 and 22 November, WASH Cluster partners received only 12 per cent of the daily minimum requirement of 70,000 litres of fuel to meet critical WASH and public health needs, including water production and distribution, sewage management, repair works and solid waste management.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 19 November, around 79 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 17 November 2024, over 100 UNRWA school buildings in the Gaza Strip are being used to shelter over 415,000 displaced people*.
- On 25 November 2024, the Israeli authorities issued an evacuation order for the areas of Beit Lahiya and Jabalia. Forty-three UNRWA installations are located within the area affected by the Israeli Forces evacuation zone. Overall, since the start of the Israeli Forces ongoing operation in the North of the Gaza Strip, the Israeli authorities have issued evacuation orders impacting 54 UNRWA installations critical to providing humanitarian assistance to displaced people in the North. Some of these facilities serve as emergency shelters.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 26 November 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **44,249** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **104,746** have been reported injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 25 November, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **249**.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 22 November, 2024 has become the deadliest year on record for humanitarian personnel with 281 personnel killed globally. The war in Gaza is driving up the numbers. Many humanitarian personnel were killed in the line of duty while providing humanitarian assistance. Most of them were UNRWA staff members.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing point in southern Gaza. These

include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 23 November, 1,489 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip. This represents a daily average of only 65 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-crisis average of 500 trucks per working day. [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 456 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 25 November 2024, 158 were denied access, 73 impeded, 41 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 184 facilitated.
- Out of the 99 aid movements needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza between 1 and 25 November, 40 were denied, 25 were impeded, nine had to be cancelled, and 25 were facilitated.
- Between 1 and 25 November, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 41 times, 37 of which were outright denied. Four were initially approved, but then severely impeded on the ground such that the assistance could not be delivered to people trapped in the besieged area. Since the tightened siege started in early October, none of UN's attempts to support besieged people in that area has been fully facilitated.
- [OCHA](#) reported that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since early May, have faced similar challenges, with 24 out of 28 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities denied, one impeded, one cancelled, and only two facilitated. This excludes 63 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom crossing, of which 11 were impeded, 10 cancelled, and 42 facilitated.
- On 18 November, the [Logistics Cluster](#) conducted a general assessment of the Karem Abu Salem/Kerem Shalom platform. Preliminary findings indicate that the platform holds approximately 12,000 pallets, including about 1,000 pallets of damaged and/or expired goods. Clearing the platform would require an estimated 550 trucks. As of 21 November, 933 UN and International NGO trucks (60 per cent of which loaded with food supplies) were on standby in Al Arish, ready to be dispatched into Gaza.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

**Figures keep changing owing to the unpredictable population movement and the security environment.*

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.

- According to [UNICEF](#), around 170 Palestinian children have been killed by the Israeli Forces and settlers in the West Bank since the war started. This corresponds to a child killed almost every other day.
- Between 18 and 24 November, 11 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of these, seven were killed during a two-day Israeli Forces operation in Jenin governorate starting overnight on 18-19 November, which extended to Jenin camp, Ash Shuhada, and Kafr Dan. Drone-deployed missiles were purportedly used by Israeli Forces during the course of the operation, which resulted in extensive infrastructure damage to Jenin camp and the temporary suspension of UNRWA services.
- A Palestinian child was killed on 18 November during a search operation by Israeli Forces in Nablus, and another Palestinian was killed on 21 November in [Camp No. 1](#) during a search operation. Two Palestinians, including one child, were killed in a search operation in Ya'bad, west of Jenin, late on 24 November.
- An estimated 15 Palestinians were reported injured in Tulkarm camp late on 24 November, when rocket fire from Lebanon was intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome, with debris landing inside the camp.
- The Israeli National Security Minister visited Hebron's Ibrahimi Mosque on 22 November as part of an Israeli settlers' gathering associated with the Jewish commemoration of Shabbat Chayei Sarah. Across 22-23 November Israeli settlers in Hebron Old City reportedly harassed Palestinian residents.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 26 November 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as reported by [OCHA](#), at least **44,249** Palestinians have been reportedly killed in the Gaza Strip while **104,746** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, one new incident has been reported impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:
 - [Late report] On 19 October 2024, Israeli Forces reportedly entered three UNRWA schools in Jabalia, and forcefully evacuated the IDPs sheltering inside.

** Since the start of the war in October 2023, the latest casualty figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gets access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. The*

summary figures will be published/updated as information becomes available, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 17 November 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.5 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 193,000 children received routine immunisation vaccines between the start of 2024 until 22 September 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September. During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place between October and November, reaching 94 per cent of the intended population, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip, and provided 448,425 children between the ages of two and 10 with Vitamin A supplements.
- As of 23 November, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 90 mobile medical teams working in 54 medical points inside and outside IDP shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease (NCD) care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 23 November, 1,200 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,544 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 23 November, UNRWA teams responded to 663 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 23 November, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 534 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

- On 23 November, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 777 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 23 November, 269 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 59 items will run out by the end of November. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid (PFA), individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 25 November, around 730,000 IDPs, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 271,650 PSS sessions/activities. Between 19 and 25 November, a total of 16,334 IDPs have accessed these services.
- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 19 and 25 November, 17,156 children (7,754 boys, 9,402 girls, including 427 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 80 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 944 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 25 November 2024, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 201,102 IDPs, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,589 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 3,754 children, including 2,528 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items (NFIs) through referrals. The team also supported 20,713 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors were conducted for 127,594 IDPs.

- Between 10 and 23 November 2024, UNRWA's protection teams conducted seven observation missions in shelters and IDP sites across Khan Younis and Deir al-Balah, including Al Mawasi, undertook seven focus group discussions, and seven key informant interviews. They also continued to monitor aid distribution and follow up on vulnerable cases. The teams monitored learning activities in UNRWA shelters and delivered BBC Lifeline podcast activities to 1,233 children. They also followed up on urgent WASH interventions in UNRWA shelters and conducted awareness raising sessions on explosive ordnance, gender-based violence (GBV) and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 18 November 2024, a total of 388,054 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,909 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.16 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. Main activities include the operation and continued maintenance of water wells, desalination systems and water through water trucking and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites through providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, reaching over 600,000 IDPs with access to water. In the first two weeks of November, around 35,000 cubic meters of water were distributed across the Gaza Strip. However, UNRWA water wells in Jabalia are still not operational due to damage caused by the intense military operations in the area and the Israeli-imposed siege.
- Winterization efforts are ongoing in Khan Younis, The Middle Area, and Gaza City, with over 350 manholes cleaned, and 60 cleaning campaigns completed. Pest and rodent control measures are being implemented.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, the Middle Areas and Gaza City areas. Since the beginning of November 2024, 3,299 tons of solid waste have been collected. However, no solid waste activities could take place in the northern areas due to ongoing military operations.

Quote from Louise Wateridge, UNRWA Senior Emergency Officer in the Gaza Strip:

“The suffering is unbearable. It doesn’t stop, it doesn’t cease, all day and all night. Children are shaking, their teeth are chattering, there are drones all around us all the time. It is relentless.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
IDPs



Around **415,000 IDPs** sheltering in **over 100 UNRWA school buildings** across the Gaza Strip

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



249 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.16 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 23 Nov 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
16,544 medical consultations were provided in **3 UNRWA health centres**, **4 temporary health centres** and **54 medical points** inside and outside IDP shelters.
90 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **201,102 IDPs** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

127,594 IDPs received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #150 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 26 November– 3 December 2024*, is valid as of 3 December 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 417–424 of Hostilities

Published 4 December 2024



Families sheltering amid dire living conditions in an UNRWA school-turned-shelter in Deir al-Balah, Gaza middle area, December 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- Food security in Gaza is collapsing, leaving people in a state of sheer desperation. On 29 November, two young girls and a woman were tragically killed in Deir al-Balah as crowds overwhelmed a bakery providing food assistance in a frantic struggle for scarce food supplies.
- As of 1 December, UNRWA paused the delivery of aid through Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem, the main crossing point for humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip, due to a total breakdown of law and order.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- Last month, [90 per cent of aid trucks](#) – 98 of 109 – were looted at Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem.
- Gaza now has the highest number of child amputees per capita anywhere in the world.
- So far, only 23 per cent of the needs to protect displaced people in the Gaza Strip from rain and cold weather have been met, leaving 945,000 people at risk of exposure this winter.

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for 60 days. Access remains extremely challenging, and partners' ongoing attempts to deliver aid into these besieged areas continues to be largely prevented, leaving between 65,000 and 75,000 people without access to food, water, electricity or reliable healthcare, as mass casualty incidents continue.
- As of 18 November, the [UN and its partners](#) estimated that between 100,000 and 131,000 people had been displaced since 6 October 2024 from North Gaza governorate to Gaza City. The influx has raised the population in the Gaza City governorate from around 250,000, estimated to have been present as of the end of September 2024, to approximately 375,000 people. Between 65,000 and 75,000 people are estimated to remain in North Gaza governorate, accounting for less than 20 per cent of the population there before the intensification of military operations and the siege.
- On 29 November, two young girls and one woman died while queuing among large crowds to get bread at a bakery supported by the [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#) in Deir al-Balah. WFP highlighted that "the incident unfolded in a moment of desperation as people anxiously tried to get access to scarce food supplies in Gaza."
- On 1 December, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini [posted on X](#) (previously known as Twitter) that UNRWA was pausing the delivery of aid through Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem, the main crossing point for humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip, explaining that "the road out of this crossing has not been safe for months." The UNRWA Commissioner-General added that the humanitarian operation in Gaza has become "unnecessarily impossible" due to several factors – namely, the ongoing siege, hurdles from Israeli authorities, political decisions to restrict the amount of aid, the lack of safety on aid routes and targeting of local police, which all combined led to a breakdown in law and order.
- The Emergency Telecommunication Cluster led by the WFP [highlighted](#) that communications infrastructure in Gaza is heavily impacted by the war, with congested networks, service outages, and damaged towers, adding that limited access to connectivity and secure radio

communications is severely hampering the humanitarian response and the safety of humanitarian workers in the field.

- [According to the Shelter Cluster](#), so far only 23 per cent of the needs to protect displaced people in the Gaza Strip from rain and cold weather have been met, leaving 945,000 people at risk of exposure this winter.
- The United Nations Population Fund published a [report](#) (“Shattered Lives and Dreams: the toll of the war on Gaza on young people”) highlighting that young people in the Gaza Strip have endured unprecedented trauma, losing family, friends, homes, and access to education. In addition to the physical destruction, the mental health of Gaza’s youth has sharply deteriorated, with many grappling with PTSD, anxiety, and depression.
- Gaza now has the [highest number](#) of child amputees per capita anywhere in the world — many losing limbs and undergoing surgeries without even anesthesia.
- According to UNICEF as reported by [OCHA](#), “at the current rate of medical evacuations, it would take seven years to rescue 2,500 children in urgent need of medical evacuation,” and some children have died while waiting for approvals.
- [OCHA](#) reported that water supply in the Gaza Strip continues to be limited and dependent on fuel supplies. Overall, gross water production reported by the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) and the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) has dropped by nine per cent in November, from an average of 96,394 to 87,358 cubic metres per day, and there is a high percentage of losses through the network due to damaged networks. Over the course of November, critical fuel shortages have resulted in a 43 per cent decrease in water production by groundwater wells, from 61,000 to about 35,000 cubic metres per day, while fuel deliveries to operate water and sanitation facilities in North Gaza governorate have remained blocked since 1 October 2024.
- According to [OCHA](#), on 3 December, the Palestinian Water Authority stated that damage to Gaza's water sector has exceeded 80 per cent, affecting wells, pumping stations, desalination plants, distribution networks and sewage treatment plants.
- On 2 December, the Israeli military [issued](#) an evacuation order affecting about three square kilometres in northern Khan Younis governorate and parts of Deir al-Balah, which were previously placed under evacuation on four occasions between December 2023 and August 2024.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 3 December, around 80 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 3 December 2024, around 380,000 displaced people are registered sheltering across over 100 UNRWA school buildings in the Gaza Strip*.

- On 25 November 2024, the Israeli authorities issued an evacuation order for the areas of Beit Lahiya and Jabalia. Forty-three UNRWA installations are located within the area affected by the Israeli Forces' evacuation zone. Overall, since the start of the Israeli Forces' ongoing operation in the North of the Gaza Strip, the Israeli authorities have issued evacuation orders impacting 54 UNRWA installations critical to providing humanitarian assistance to displaced people in the North. Some of these facilities serve as emergency shelters.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 3 December 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **44,502** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **105,454** have been injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, the MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, the MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 2 December, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **251**.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 22 November, 2024 has become the deadliest year on record for humanitarian personnel with 281 personnel killed globally. The war in Gaza is driving up the numbers. Many humanitarian personnel were killed in the line of duty while providing humanitarian assistance. Most of them were UNRWA staff members.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 30 November, 1,935 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip. This represents a daily average of only 65 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-war average of 500 trucks per working day.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 578 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 30 November 2024, 204 were denied access, 93 impeded, 44 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 237 facilitated.
- Out of the 132 aid movements needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza between 1 and 30 November, 56 were denied, 32 were impeded, ten had to be cancelled and 34 were facilitated.
- Between 1 and 30 November, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 53 times, 48 of which were outright denied. Five were initially approved, but then severely impeded on the ground. On 1 December, WFP was able to send 200 food parcels with a humanitarian mission – led by the World Health Organization (WHO) – to Kamal Adwan hospital in Beit Lahiya.

- [OCHA](#) reported that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since early May, have faced similar challenges, with 30 out of 36 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities denied, one impeded, one cancelled, and only four facilitated. This excludes 81 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing, of which two were denied, 14 impeded, 11 cancelled and 53 facilitated.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

**Figures change frequently owing to unpredictable population movements, evacuation orders, and the security environment. Numbers are under verification and subject to change.*

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 25 November and 1 December, six Palestinians were killed and at least nine were injured in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of these, four were killed during an exchange of fire during a search operation by Israeli Forces in Sir, south of Jenin, in the morning of 1 December. A Palestinian involved in an alleged attack on Israeli settlers and Israeli Forces near Ariel settlement on 29 November was shot dead at the scene. On 30 November, a Palestinian reportedly died in Sur Bahir during a pursuit by Israeli Forces.
- On 27 November, a large-scale operation by Israeli Forces started in El Far'a camp and Tubas city in the northern West Bank, lasting nearly 11 hours and resulting in extensive destruction of infrastructure including roads and sewerage networks. At least three Palestinians were injured and four detained during the operation.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 3 December 2024, according to the MoH in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **44,502** Palestinians reportedly have been killed in the Gaza Strip while **105,454** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, four new incidents has been reported impacting UNRWA installations and displaced people sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:

- On 1 December, two stray bullets, reportedly fired by the Israeli Forces, struck the second floor of an UNRWA area operations office, west of Rafah. No injuries were reported.
- On 28 November, a displaced person sustained a moderate injury to her jaw while she was inside a classroom of an UNRWA school in Nuseirat, reportedly due to the impact of Israeli Forces' shelling nearby.
- On 28 November, shrapnel reportedly penetrated an educational tent at an UNRWA school in Nuseirat due to shelling close to the location. No injuries or damage were reported.
- On 26 November, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck with one missile the yard of an UNRWA school in Nuseirat. Damage was reported.

** Since the start of the war in October 2023, the latest casualty figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gets access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. The summary figures will be published/updated as information becomes available, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 24 November 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.6 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 218,000 children received routine immunisation vaccines from the start of 2024 until 24 November 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September. During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place between October and November, reaching 94 per cent of the intended population, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip, and provided 448,425 children between the ages of two and 10 with Vitamin A supplements.
- As of 1 December, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 94 mobile medical teams working in 55 medical points inside and outside shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.

- As of 1 December, 1,163 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,648 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 1 December, UNRWA teams responded to 559 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 1 December, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 490 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 1 December, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 781 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 1 December, 284 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 59 items will run out within a month. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of "Back to Learning" with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 2 December, around 730,000 displaced people, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 272,779 PSS sessions and activities. Between 26 November and 2 December, a total of 17,816 displaced people accessed these services.

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, "Back to Learning" will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA's "Back to Learning" programme so far. Between 26 November and 2 December, 17,604 children (8,069 boys, 9,535 girls, including 427 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of "Back to Learning" activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 86 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 953 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 2 December 2024, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 192,560* displaced people, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,621 survivors of GBV and 3,639* children, including 2,385 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 20,786 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors, were conducted for 128,320 displaced people.
- Between 10 and 23 November 2024, UNRWA's protection teams conducted seven observation missions in shelters and sites for displaced people across Khan Younis and Deir al-Balah, including Al Mawasi, undertook seven focus group discussions, and seven key informant interviews. They also continued to monitor aid distribution and follow up on vulnerable cases. The teams monitored learning activities in UNRWA shelters and delivered British Broadcasting Corporation Lifeline podcast activities to 1,233 children. They also followed up on urgent water, sanitation and hygiene interventions in UNRWA shelters, and conducted awareness raising sessions on explosive ordnance, GBV and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

** Due to further verification, figures have decreased compared to those reported in the previous situation report (#149).*

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 2 December 2024, a total of 388,054 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,909 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ rice, chickpeas, lentils, oil, salt, sugar, milk powder, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.46 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. The main activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water with water trucks and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites by providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, providing over 600,000 displaced people with access to water. Over the past two weeks, around 28,000 cubic metres of water were distributed across the Gaza Strip. However, UNRWA water wells in Jabalia are still not operational due to damage caused by the intense military operations in the area and the Israeli-imposed siege.
- Winterization efforts are ongoing in Khan Younis, the middle area, and Gaza City, with over 353 manholes cleaned, and 40 cleaning campaigns completed during the reporting period. Pest and rodent control measures were completed. UNRWA distributed over 3000 litres of cleaning liquids for shelters across the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, the middle area and Gaza City areas. Over the past two weeks, more than 2,100 tons of solid waste have been collected and transported to the temporary dumping sites. However, no solid waste activities could take place in the northern areas due to ongoing military operations.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“The responsibility of protection of aid workers and supplies is with the State of Israel as the occupying power. They must ensure aid flows into Gaza safely and must refrain from attacks on humanitarian workers. I call once again for a ceasefire that would also secure the delivery of safe and uninterrupted aid to people in need.”

ENDs –

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
Displaced people



Around **415,000 displaced people** sheltering in **over 100 UNRWA school** buildings across the Gaza Strip

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



251 UNRWA colleagues killed



190 UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.46 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 1 Dec 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
16,648 medical consultations were provided in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **55** medical points inside and outside shelters.
94 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **192,560 displaced people** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

128,320 displaced people received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #151 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information updated for 4 - 10 December 2024*, is valid as of 10 December 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 425-431 of Hostilities

Published 12 December 2024



Displaced people amid makeshift shelters in Deir al-Balah, Gaza middle area, December 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- On 10 December, a joint United Nations (UN) convoy delivered urgently needed food to communities in southern and central Gaza along the Philadelphi corridor.
- An analysis from the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Cluster showed that, between October 2023 and September 2024, 96 per cent of women surveyed experienced some form

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

of GBV, with 94 per cent of women surveyed living in tents or camps and 64 per cent sharing spaces with eight or more people.

- On 4 December, 5,500 people were forcibly displaced from Beit Lahiya to Gaza City.
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reported that women and girls in Gaza, including 50,000 pregnant women, have been left without the essentials to survive.
- According to World Food Programme (WFP), interrupted food assistance in the Gaza Strip has led to a severe decline in food access, a tripling of households experiencing poor or severe food consumption, and a doubling of those facing food shortages since July.

2. Key Points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for over 60 days. Access remains extremely challenging and partners' ongoing attempts to deliver aid into these besieged areas continues to be largely prevented, leaving between 65,000 and 75,000 people without access to food, water, electricity or reliable healthcare, as mass casualty incidents continue.
- On 10 December, a [joint UN](#) convoy delivered urgently needed food to communities in southern and central Gaza. A total of 105 trucks successfully completed their journeys along the Philadelphi corridor and adjacent routes, and the convey was able to provide food for nearly 200,000 people.
- According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)), attacks on health facilities continue to be reported across the Gaza Strip, particularly in North Gaza governorate. There, hospitals are barely functioning amid severe supply shortages and ongoing hostilities.
- On 4 December, 5,500 people were forcibly displaced from Beit Lahiya to Gaza City.
- [OCHA](#) reported that on 3 December, the World Health Organization (WHO) completed a three-day mission during which it delivered to Kamal Adwan Hospital 10,000 litres of fuel, 200 food parcels from the World Food Programme (WFP), blood units and medical supplies, and evacuated 23 patients to Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. WHO also delivered 24,000 litres of fuel and medical supplies to Al Shifa hospital for further distribution.
- WFP [reported](#) that interrupted food assistance in the Gaza Strip has led to a severe decline in food access, a tripling of households experiencing poor or severe food consumption, and a

doubling of those facing food shortages since July. Moreover, in the north, people increasingly resort to burning waste for cooking purposes due to a critical shortage of cooking gas, which has not entered in the north for more than 13 months. WFP also highlighted that in southern and central Gaza, women and children face increased insecurity when they go searching for firewood, which has mostly been depleted in the highly populated areas along the coast during the past year.

- According to [OCHA](#), as of 9 December, only four out of 19 bakeries supported by WFP remained operational across the Gaza Strip, all of them in Gaza governorate. There, the price of a 25-kilogramme bag of flour is about NIS 20-30 (US\$ 5.6-8.4), whereas in central and southern Gaza anecdotal market observations indicated that the price of a bag of flour was at least NIS 1,000 (US\$ 280) on 1 December in Deir al-Balah and NIS 875 (US\$ 245) in Khan Younis.
- [OCHA](#) reported that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) conducted a monitoring survey between 26 November and 6 December which showed that nearly 100 per cent of children between six and 23 months of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis are not meeting minimum dietary diversity.
- UNFPA [stated](#) that women and girls in Gaza, including 50,000 pregnant women, have been left without the essentials to survive. UNFPA also reported that a GBV analysis conducted by the GBV Sub-Cluster highlighted that from October 2023 to September 2024, 96 per cent of women surveyed experienced some form of GBV. Types of violence included verbal (97 per cent), psychological (90 per cent), economic (52 per cent), physical (39 per cent), and sexual (11 per cent). The analysis also showed that 94 per cent of women live in tents or camps and 64 per cent share spaces with eight or more people.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 10 December, around 80 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- As of 3 December 2024, around 380,000 displaced people are registered sheltering across over 100 UNRWA school buildings in the Gaza Strip*.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 10 December 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **44,786** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **106,188** have been injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, the MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, the MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 8 December, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **254**.

- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 7 December, 76 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip. This represents a daily average of only 76 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-war average of 500 trucks per working day.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 197 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 9 December 2024, 84 were denied access, 32 impeded, 21 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 60 facilitated.
- Out of the 56 aid movements needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza between 1 and 9 December, 26 were denied, 13 were impeded, eight had to be cancelled and 9 were facilitated.
- Aid missions to the North Gaza governorate were particularly disrupted, especially those seeking to reach Jabalia, Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun. Between 1 and 9 December, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 17 times, 16 of which were outright denied, and one was impeded.
- [OCHA](#) reported that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since early May, have faced similar challenges, with all the 11 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities between 1 and 9 December denied. This excludes 30 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing, of which two were denied, five impeded, two cancelled and 21 facilitated.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

**Figures change frequently owing to unpredictable population movements, evacuation orders, and the security environment. Numbers are under verification and subject to change.*

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem – updated on a weekly basis

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 2 and 8 December, seven Palestinians were reportedly killed and 46 reportedly injured in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. During the same period, more than 150 Palestinians were detained by the Israeli Forces.
- Two Palestinians were reportedly killed and one injured in an Israeli Forces' airstrike on the vehicle they were travelling in near Aqqaba village, in the northern Jordan Valley, on 3 December. On the same day, a Palestinian child was shot and killed by an Israeli settler guard

in Silwan neighbourhood of East Jerusalem after allegedly throwing stones at Israeli settlers' vehicles. On 4 December, an elderly Palestinian died after being physically assaulted by Israeli Forces at the entrance of Aqraba, in northern West Bank. A Palestinian resident of Nur Shams Palestine Refugee camp died in Israeli detention on 4 December. On 6 December, a Palestinian was shot and killed at Qalandiya Checkpoint, at the entrance to East Jerusalem, following which the Israeli Forces temporarily closed the checkpoint. On the same day, a Palestinian was killed in Balata Palestine Refugee camp during an exchange of fire between Palestinian armed actors and Israeli Forces.

- Between 5 and 8 December there was unrest in northern West Bank, particularly Jenin Palestine Refugee camp and city, wherein the Palestinian Security Forces (PSF) clashed with Palestinian armed actors. Exchanges of fire were recorded near the PSF compound in Jenin, as well as Ibn Sina Hospital and Jenin Governmental Hospital.

3. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 10 December 2024, according to the MoH in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **44,786** Palestinians reportedly have been killed in the Gaza Strip while **106,188** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, five new incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and displaced people sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:
 - On 9 December, the Israeli Forces directly struck an UNRWA school in Jabalia Palestine Refugee camp, north of the Gaza Strip. Several casualties among the displaced people sheltering at the school were reported. Further verification of the casualties is ongoing.
 - On 5 December, stray bullet fragments fell inside the upper courtyard of an UNRWA office in Zawayda.
 - On 4 December, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck a tent housing displaced persons inside an UNRWA school in Bureij, in the Gaza middle area. Two displaced people were reportedly killed, and ten others were injured. As a result of the strike, 25 IDP tents were burnt and damage to the schoolyard was reported.
 - On 3 December, an unmanned aerial vehicle reportedly exploded upon impact on the roof of a store in the UNRWA Gaza Field Office while aid supplies were being offloaded. The explosion caused minor damage. No injuries were reported.
 - On 3 December, the Israeli Forces reportedly conducted an airstrike, hitting the third floor of an UNRWA school in Gaza City. There were reportedly five fatalities, and several persons injured as a result of the attack.

** Since the start of the war in October 2023, the latest casualty figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gets access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. The summary figures will be published/updated as information becomes available, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 1 December 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.7 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 221,000 children received routine immunisation vaccines from the start of 2024 until 1 December 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio during the first round of the vaccination campaign in September. During the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, which took place between October and November, reaching 94 per cent of the intended population, UNRWA, WHO, UNICEF and partners vaccinated a total of 556,774 children under 10 across the Gaza Strip, and provided 448,425 children between the ages of two and 10 with Vitamin A supplements.
- As of 8 December, seven out of 27² UNRWA health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 94 mobile medical teams working in 54 medical points inside and outside shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Al Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 8 December, 1,273 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 16,205 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (PSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 8 December, UNRWA teams responded to 512 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).

- On 8 December, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 581 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 8 December, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 574 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 8 December, 276 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 60 items will run out within a month. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 9 December, around 730,000 displaced people, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 275,609 PSS sessions and activities. Between 26 November and 9 December, a total of 22,795 displaced people accessed these services.
- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA’s “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 26 November and 9 December, 16,474 children (7,222 boys, 9,252 girls, including 379 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 86 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

is thanks to 963 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 9 December 2024, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 193,722* displaced people, including psychological first aid, psychosocial support services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,633 survivors of GBV and 3,671* children, including 2,385 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 21,043 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,752 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors, were conducted for 128,708 displaced people.

** Due to further verification, figures have decreased compared to those reported in the previous situation report (#149).*

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 9 December 2024, a total of 388,054 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,909 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ rice, chickpeas, lentils, oil, salt, sugar, milk powder, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.46 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. The main activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water with water trucks and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites by providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, providing over 600,000 displaced people with access to water. In the last two weeks of November, around 28,000 cubic metres of water were distributed across the Gaza Strip. However, UNRWA water wells in Jabalia are still not operational due to damage caused by the intense military operations in the area and the Israeli-imposed siege.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- Winterization efforts are ongoing in Khan Younis, the middle area, and Gaza City, with over 353 manholes cleaned, and 40 cleaning campaigns completed in the last two weeks of November. Pest and rodent control measures were completed. UNRWA distributed over 3000 litres of cleaning liquids for shelters across the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in the Khan Younis, the middle area and Gaza City areas. Over the last two weeks of November, more than 2,100 tons of solid waste have been collected and transported to the temporary dumping sites. However, no solid waste activities could take place in the northern areas due to ongoing military operations.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“On all counts, the humanitarian disaster in #Gaza is worsening by the day, if not by the hour. We are running out of words. Hunger and disease are rampant.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
Displaced people



Around **380,000 displaced people** registered sheltering in **over 100 UNRWA** school buildings across the Gaza Strip

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



254 UNRWA team members killed



190* UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.46 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 8 Dec 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
16,205 medical consultations were provided in **3 UNRWA** health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **54** medical points inside and outside shelters.
94 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **193,722 displaced people** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.
128,708 displaced people received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.
7,752 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.

**Numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*



UNRWA Situation Report #152 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 11-17 December 2024*, valid as of 17 December 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 432-438 of Hostilities

Published 22 December 2024



Displaced girl in an UNRWA school-turned-shelter hit by an Israeli Forces strike in Khan Younis, Gaza Strip, December 2024. © 2024 UNRWA
Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- Several UNRWA schools have been impacted by conflict-related incidents over the reporting period. In an Israeli Forces strike on an [UNRWA](#) school-turned-shelter in Khan Younis, at least 13 people have been reportedly killed and 48 injured.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), more than 160 children have been reportedly killed in Gaza in a little over a month, for an average of four children killed every day since the beginning of November.
- A United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) preliminary analysis based on images collected on 1 December 2024 shows that nearly 70 per cent of structures across the Gaza Strip have been damaged or destroyed.

2. Key Points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for more than ten weeks. Access remains extremely challenging and partners' ongoing attempts to deliver aid into these besieged areas continues to be largely prevented, leaving 10,000-15,000 people without access to food, water, electricity or healthcare, as mass casualty incidents continue.
- On 12 December, the World Health Organization (WHO) [reported](#) that as of 4 December, a total of 5,325 patients have been evacuated from the Gaza Strip since October 2023, 80 per cent of whom are children, with only 378 patients, including 217 children, evacuated since the Rafah crossing closed in May 2024.
- According to [OCHA](#), the Director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in North Gaza reported nearly daily attacks on or very close to the facility between 11 and 17 December. On 12 December, the Ministry of Health as reported by OCHA announced that the last orthopaedic doctor in North Gaza, was killed while on his way from Kamal Adwan to the nearby Al Awda Hospital to treat patients.
- On 13 December, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights published a [statement](#) on the repeated Israeli Forces attacks impacting residential buildings and displacement shelters in the Gaza Strip.
- UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russel [stated](#) that more than 160 children have been reportedly killed in Gaza in a little over a month, for an average of four children killed every day since the beginning of November.

- OCHA reported that a [study](#) published by War Child Alliance and based on data collected in June 2024, 96 per cent of children in the surveyed households (where at least one child is injured, disabled, unaccompanied or separated from parents) felt that their death was imminent.
- A [preliminary analysis](#) from UNOSAT based on images collected on 1 December 2024 showed that around 69 per cent of the total structures in the Gaza Strip and a total of over 245,000 estimated damaged housing units.
- OCHA [reported](#) that an Education Cluster assessment highlighted that nearly 88 per cent of school buildings in the Gaza Strip (496 out of 564) have been directly hit or damaged. Fifty-five per cent of these schools (275) are government schools, a third (161) are UNRWA schools, and 12 per cent (57) are private schools.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 11 and 14 December, the Israeli Forces issued four evacuation orders , affecting at least 69,000 people in parts of Gaza City, North Gaza, Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis.
 - On 11 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order of for the area of Maghazi. Two UNRWA installations are located in the area while an additional eight UNRWA installations are located in close proximity to the Israeli Forces' evacuation zone.
 - On 12 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order for areas of Gaza City. Eight UNRWA installations are located in the area while an additional two UNRWA installations are located in close proximity to the Israeli Forces evacuation zone.
 - On 13 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order impacting Jabalia. Five UNRWA installations are located in the Israeli Forces' evacuation zone.
 - On 15 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order for areas of Beit Hanoun. Twelve UNRWA installations are located there.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 17 December, around 80.5 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active Israeli-issued evacuation orders.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 17 December 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **45,059** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **107,041** have been injured.

- OCHA [reports](#) that, on 20 October, the MoH published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, the MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, the MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 18 December, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **258**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- On 11 December, a 70-truck [convoy](#) entering through the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing was violently attacked by looters, leading to the loss of nearly all food and aid supplies.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 15 December, 1,213 humanitarian trucks were permitted to enter the Gaza Strip. This represents a daily average of only 81 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-war average of 500 trucks per working day.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 339 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 16 December 2024, 141 were denied access, 62 impeded, 34 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 102 facilitated.
- Out of the 96 aid movements needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza between 1 and 16 December, 41 were denied, 25 were impeded, 14 had to be cancelled and 16 were facilitated.
- Aid missions to the North Gaza governorate were particularly disrupted, especially those seeking to reach Jabalia, Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun. Between 1 and 16 December, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 40 times, 38 of which were outright denied, and two were impeded.
- [OCHA](#) reported that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since early May, have faced similar challenges, with all the 20 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities between 1 and 16 December denied. This excludes 47 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing, of which two were denied, nine impeded, three cancelled and 33 facilitated.

- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- On 14 December, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini [posted](#) on X (previously know as Twitter) that UNRWA had been forced to suspend services in Jenin Camp “for yet another day, as violent clashes between Palestinian Security Forces & Palestinian armed actors continue”, highlighting that tensions are on the rise across northern West Bank refugee camps.
- Between 9 and 15 December eight Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of these, five were killed by Israeli Forces, and three were killed by Palestinian Security Forces (PSF). During this period, an estimated 158 Palestinians were detained by Israeli Forces, and 14 Palestinians detained by the PSF.
- Two Palestinians were killed in an Israeli Forces drone strike in Tubas on 9 December. One Palestinian was killed by the Israeli Forces in an exchange of fire between Israeli Forces and Palestinians during a search operation in Qalqiliya on 12 December. On the same day, a Palestinian was killed by the Israeli Forces and three others injured during an exchange of fire while an Israeli Forces search operation was underway in Balata camp. On 13 December Israeli Forces opened fire in clashes with Palestinians during a search operation in Beit 'Awwa, west of Hebron, killing one Palestinian.
- This period saw continued violent clashes between the PSF and Palestinian armed actors in and around Jenin camp, in the northern West Bank. A major PSF operation commenced early on 14 December, with at least two Palestinians reportedly killed by the PSF in the early morning. This followed another Palestinian killed in the camp by the PSF on 9 December. All UNRWA services in the camp have been forced to suspend, and basic services including electricity and water supply have been interrupted.
- On 11 December a Palestinian allegedly killed an Israeli child and injured three other Israelis near Bethlehem, after opening fire at a bus travelling from an Israeli settlement to Jerusalem. The alleged perpetrator reportedly surrendered himself to the Israeli Forces the following day.

3. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 17 December 2024, according to the MoH in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **45,059** Palestinians reportedly have been killed in the Gaza Strip while **107,041** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, four new armed conflict-related incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and displaced people sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:
 - On 15 December, the Israeli Forces hit an UNRWA school in Khan Younis. Initial reports indicate that at least 13 people were killed and 48 injured. Further verification of the number of casualties is ongoing.
 - On 15 December, an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun was reportedly severely damaged due to Israeli Forces strikes, including tank fire. In addition, the Israeli Forces tanks reportedly surrounded the school, and people were detained inside the school. The number of people killed and injured is being verified, while initial public and other reporting references a high number of fatalities (ten to forty persons being killed).
 - On 15 December, shrapnel hit an UNRWA school in Nuseirat reportedly due to three Israeli Forces strikes towards New camp, north of Al-Nuseirat camp. No injuries were reported.
 - On 10 December, two displaced people were reportedly injured inside an UNRWA school in Maghazi due to Israeli Forces tank shelling towards east of Al-Maghazi Camp. No damage to the school was reported.

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

4. UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 8 December 2024, UNRWA provided over 6.8 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 225,000 routine immunisation vaccines have been administered to children from the start of 2024 until 8 December 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio.
- As of 16 December, three out of 22 UNRWA health centres² and four additional rented facilities used as temporary health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 97 mobile medical teams working in 54 medical points inside and outside shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Al Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory services, dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.
- As of 16 December, 1,281 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 15,173 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 16 December, UNRWA teams responded to 431 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 16 December, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 470 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 16 December, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 501 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 16 December, 289 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- If not replenished, stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are low and at least 60 items are likely to run out within a month. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to

² Pre-conflict, UNRWA had 22 health centres. Following the onset of the conflict, an additional five temporary health centres were established for a total of 27.

limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters³ by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of nearly 750⁴ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 16 December, around 730,000 displaced people, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 277,307 PSS sessions and activities. Between 10 and 16 December, a total of 16,733 displaced people accessed these services.
- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA’s “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 10 and 16 December, 14,507 children (5,636 boys, 8,871 girls, including 382 children with disabilities) participated in a variety of “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities such as arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 86 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 963 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 16 December 2024, UNRWA’s social work team has provided services to 196,245 displaced people, including psychological first aid, PSS services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,795 survivors of GBV and 2,910 children, including 1,454 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 21,430 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,753 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors, were conducted for 129,475 displaced people.

³ Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

⁴ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

** Due to further verification, figures have decreased compared to those reported in the previous situation report (#151).*

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 17 December 2024, a total of 388,054 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; 374,909 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁵ rice, chickpeas, lentils, oil, salt, sugar, milk powder, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, over 1.46 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. The main activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water with water trucks and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites by providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, providing over 600,000 displaced people with access to water. In the first two weeks of December, around 38,000 cubic metres of water – both potable and domestic – were distributed across the Gaza Strip.
- Winterization efforts are ongoing in southern Gaza and the middle area, with over 215 manholes cleaned in the first two weeks of December. 84 cleaning and pest and rodent control measures were completed. Moreover, UNRWA conducted 45 awareness sessions and distributed over 1800 litres of cleaning liquids for shelters across the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in southern Gaza and the middle area. Over the first two weeks of December, 1,972 tons of solid waste have been collected and transported to the temporary dumping sites.

⁵ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

Quote from Louise Wateridge, UNRWA Senior Emergency Officer in Gaza

“Every single day we are waking up to a new horror.”

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
Displaced people



Tens of thousands of displaced people registered sheltering in UNRWA school buildings across the Gaza Strip

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



258 UNRWA team members killed



190* UNRWA installations damaged

*Numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over 1.46 million people have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 16 Dec 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
15,173 medical consultations were provided in 3 UNRWA health centres, 4 temporary health centres and 54 medical points inside and outside shelters.

97 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, 196,245 displaced people have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

129,475 displaced people received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,753 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #153 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information updated for 18-31 December 2024*

Day 439-452 of Hostilities

Published 4 January 2025



Displaced children amid makeshift tents face the rain and cold weather, Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, December 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- Newborns in the Gaza Strip are dying from hypothermia because of the cold winter weather and lack of shelter, as supplies which would protect them have been stuck in the region for months waiting for approval from the Israeli authorities to get into Gaza.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) denounced a raid on Kamal Adwan Hospital on 27 December which put the last major health facility in North Gaza out of service. Since

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

early October 2024, WHO has verified at least 50 attacks on health on or near the hospital.

- The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reported that around 7,700 newborns in the Gaza Strip lack access to lifesaving care.
- The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) highlighted that the war is having devastating effects on the fishing sector in the Gaza Strip, with the average daily catch between October 2023 and April 2024 dropping to just 7.3 per cent of 2022 levels.

2. Key Points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continued, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for more than three months. Access remains extremely challenging and partners’ ongoing attempts to deliver aid into these besieged areas continues to be largely prevented, leaving thousands of people without access to food, water, electricity or healthcare, as mass casualty incidents continue. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)) reported that, between 6 October and 30 December 2024, the UN attempted to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 164 times; of these, 148 attempts were denied by the Israeli authorities and 16 were impeded.
- WHO [denounced](#) a raid on Kamal Adwan Hospital on 27 December which put the last major health facility in North Gaza out of service. The Israeli authorities confirmed they detained the director of the hospital Dr. Hussam Abu Safiyah. Since early October 2024, WHO has verified at least 50 attacks on health on or near the hospital. With Kamal Adwan and Indonesian hospitals entirely out of service, and Al-Awda Hospital barely able to function, and severely damaged due to recent airstrikes, the healthcare lifeline for those in North Gaza is reaching a breaking point.
- Babies and children in the Gaza Strip are dying from hypothermia due to cold weather and lack of shelter. At least five newborns reportedly froze to death between 24 and 29 December. UNICEF [stated](#) that, with winter weather and temperatures dropping, “it is tragically foreseeable that more children’s lives will be lost to the inhumane conditions they are enduring, which offer no protection from the cold.” UNRWA Commissioner-

General Philippe Lazzarini [posted](#) on X that, meanwhile, “blankets, mattresses and other winter supplies have been stuck in the region for months waiting for approval to get into Gaza.”

- UNICEF [reported](#) that around 7,700 newborns in the Gaza Strip lack access to lifesaving care. The dramatic reduction in neonatal care bed capacity has forced many families to seek urgent care in inadequate facilities. This, coupled with shortages of essential medical equipment and supplies, led to preventable neonatal deaths.
- On 19 December, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) [reported](#) that ensuring the entry of critical medications and equipment into the Gaza Strip remains difficult, with Israel imposing strict restrictions on items deemed as having “dual use”.
- According to [OCHA](#), recent water quality surveillance conducted by the WASH cluster showed alarming rates of microbiological contamination, with nearly 73 per cent of drinking water and over 97 per cent of domestic water samples not complying with the minimum national or international standards for water chlorination.
- [FAO](#) highlighted that the war is having devastating effects on the fishing sector in the Gaza Strip, with Gaza's average daily catch between October 2023 to April 2024 dropping to just 7.3 percent of 2022 levels causing a USD 17.5 million production loss. This has further exacerbated an already dire food security situation.
- Food security continues to deteriorate. A survey conducted by [UNICEF](#) between 20 and 26 November revealed that about 80 per cent of the households surveyed across the Gaza Strip had at least one child going without food in the three days prior to the survey. Overall, more than 96 per cent of all children aged six to 23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women are not meeting their basic nutrient requirements, with a sharp deterioration in dietary diversity observed over the past four months, particularly in Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis.
- Meanwhile, [OCHA](#) reported that the energy crisis continues to worsen. Cooking gas remains completely unavailable in northern Gaza and is sold in limited quantities and at exorbitant prices in central and southern Gaza.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, since October 2023, the North Gaza governorate has been placed under five major evacuation orders. Dozens of other orders have been issued for different parts of the governorate.
- On 18 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order for the Bureij area in the Middle Area, where seven UNRWA installations are located.
- On 22 December, the Israeli Forces reportedly dropped leaflets in Beit Hanoun, north Gaza, containing the same information as the Israeli Forces evacuation order issued on

15 December. Twelve UNRWA installations are located within the area impacted by the evacuation order.

- On 28 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order impacting northern Gaza, affecting an area where 56 UNRWA installations are located.
- On 29 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order for areas of north-western Gaza, particularly Al-Nasr areas, Al-Awda City and Al-Murabidin neighbourhood. Five UNRWA installations are located in the area, and ten more UNRWA installations are located in its close proximity.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 31 December, around 80.5 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active evacuation orders from the Israeli authorities.
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people – or about 90 per cent of the population – across the Gaza Strip are displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 30 December 2024, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza as [stated](#) by OCHA, at least 45,541 Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and 108,338 have been injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that the MoH in Gaza published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about six per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, the MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, the MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 29 December, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is 263.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating law and order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 29 December, UN agencies monitored the collection of 2,205 humanitarian trucks from Gaza Strip crossings, excluding fuel. This represents a daily average of only 76 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-war average of 500 trucks (all types) per working day.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 569 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 30 December 2024, 224 were denied access, 103 faced

impediments, 53 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 189 facilitated.

- Out of the 127 aid movements needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza between 1 and 30 December, 43 were denied, 31 faced impediments, 17 had to be cancelled and 36 were facilitated.
- Aid missions to the North Gaza governorate were particularly disrupted, especially those seeking to reach Jabalia, Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun. Between 1 and 30 December, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 60 times, 55 of which were denied, and five were allowed to proceed but faced impediments.
- OCHA [reported](#) that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since May 2024, have faced similar challenges, with 36 out of the 38 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities between 1 and 30 December denied, one facing impediments, and one facilitated. This excludes 67 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing, of which two were denied, 21 impeded, five cancelled and 39 facilitated.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update is now once a week.

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 31 October 2024, 736 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, of those, 430 Palestinians were killed since the beginning of 2024.
- Between 16 and 22 December, 12 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of these, three were shot and killed by Israeli Forces in the vicinity of the West Bank Barrier in two incidents: in Qalqiliya on 17 December; and in Faqu'a on 21 December. One Palestinian was killed in an exchange of fire between Palestinians and Israeli Forces in Nablus on 16 December, and one Palestinian died of injuries incurred during clashes between Palestinians and Israeli Forces on 17 December. On 19 December, two Palestinians were killed in clashes between Israeli Forces and Palestinians in Balata Camp, which also left four Palestinians injured. On the same day, four Palestinians were killed in an Israeli Forces drone strike on a Palestinian vehicle in the

vicinity of Tulkarm Camp. A Palestinian child was killed by unexploded ordinance in Arab ar Rashayida village on 21 December.

- The large-scale Palestinian Security Forces (PSF) operation in and around Jenin Camp in the northern West Bank continued between 16 and 22 December, with UNRWA forced to completely suspend services to the camp. The Jenin Camp Health Centre was subject to unauthorised entry and use by Palestinian armed actors, with UNRWA unable to access and regain control over the installation owing to the security situation in the camp.
- Armed clashes between Palestinian armed actors and the PSF continued between 16 and 22 December, with at least one PSF personnel killed on 22 December during such clashes. At least two child bystanders were injured in Jenin Camp during this period. Reports suggest that the PSF has detained more than 50 Palestinians since 14 December.

3. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- Between 7 October 2023 and 30 December 2024, according to the MoH in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **45,541** Palestinians reportedly have been killed in the Gaza Strip while **108,338** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, several new armed conflict-related incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and displaced people sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:
 - On 27 December, after forcefully evacuating the Kamal Adwan Hospital, the Israeli Forces reportedly entered an UNRWA school and an UNRWA store facility in Jabalia and detained patients, medical staff and displaced people inside the two UNRWA installations. According to reports that UNRWA received, men were stripped of their clothes, separated from women and brought by the Israeli Forces to the UNRWA school while the women were brought to the other UNRWA installation where they were kept for hours.
 - On 22 December, 10 displaced people were moderately injured in an UNRWA school in Nuseirat, as a result of a bomb from an Israeli Forces quadcopter on the schoolyard. The injured were transferred to hospital.
 - On 22 December, Israeli Forces quadcopters reportedly opened fire at displaced people inside the same UNRWA school in the northwest of Nuseirat. Two displaced

people were reportedly killed, including a child, and 12 others were injured. Additionally, initial reports indicate that displaced people could not leave the school, and the injured could not be transferred to hospital as a result of the Israeli Forces' military activity.

- On 19 December, the Israeli Forces reportedly directly struck an UNRWA school in the Shaja'ya area in Gaza City. Fifteen displaced people were reportedly killed, and thirty others were injured.
- On 17 December, Israeli Forces troops reportedly opened fire towards the Mawasi area in Rafah, resulting in the complete destruction of an UNRWA international staff guesthouse.

**As of 23 December, 648*incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location). 201* UNRWA installations have been impacted by armed conflict-related incidents since the beginning of the war, some on multiple occasions. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least 745*persons sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least 2,202* injured since the start of the war. UNRWA continues to verify and update the number of casualties caused by these incidents.*

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

4. UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 22 December 2024, UNRWA provided over 7 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 231,000 routine immunisation vaccines have been administered to children from the start of 2024 until 22 December 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children under the age of 10 across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio.
- As of 29 December, only three out of 22 UNRWA health centres and three additional rented facilities used as temporary health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services were also provided by 97 mobile medical teams working in 53 medical points inside and outside shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Al Mawasi and Gaza. UNRWA

health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, giving out medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory and dental services, physiotherapy and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security.

- As of 29 December, 1,189 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 14,952 medical consultations on that day.
- UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 29 December, UNRWA teams responded to 479 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).
- On 29 December, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 492 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 29 December, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in dental stations and mobile dental clinics, reaching 542 patients, including referred cases from remote dental consultations.
- On 29 December, 253 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- If not replenished, at least 60 items in the stocks of medicines in UNRWA health facilities are likely to run out within a month. UNRWA laboratory services are now limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of "Back to Learning" with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters² by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of up to 750³ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid, individual and group counselling,

² Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, "Back to Learning" will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.

- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 29 December, around 730,000 displaced people, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 278,981 PSS sessions and activities. Between 16 and 29 December, a total of 14,029 displaced people accessed these services.
- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA's "Back to Learning" programme so far. Between 16 and 29 December, 13,719 children (5,507 boys, 8,212 girls, including 378 children with disabilities) participated in "Back to Learning" activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities including arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 86 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 963 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 30 December 2024, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 200,158 displaced people, including psychological first aid, PSS services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,898 survivors of GBV and 3,052 children, including 1,494 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 21,823 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,753 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors, were conducted for 144,609 displaced people.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 31 December 2024, a total of over 388,000 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; over 374,000 of those families have received three rounds.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁴ rice, chickpeas, lentils, oil, salt, sugar, milk powder, hummus and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, around 1.46 million people have been reached, of whom 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

⁴ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. The main activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water with water trucks and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites by providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Between August and mid-November, UNRWA accounted for around 44 per cent of water, sanitation and hygiene activities reported in the Gaza Strip, including access to water (56 per cent), access to sanitation and solid waste management (42 per cent), and flood mitigation and prevention (66 per cent).
- Since the beginning of the war, the Agency has maintained and rehabilitated eight wells, providing over 600,000 displaced people with access to water. In the first two weeks of December, around 38,000 cubic metres of water – both potable and domestic – were distributed across the Gaza Strip.
- Winterization efforts are ongoing in southern Gaza and the middle area, with over 215 manholes cleaned in the first two weeks of December. 84 cleaning and pest and rodent control measures were completed. Moreover, UNRWA conducted 45 awareness sessions and distributed over 1800 litres of cleaning liquids for shelters across the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in southern Gaza and the middle area. Over the first two weeks of December, 1,972 tons of solid waste have been collected and transported to the temporary dumping sites.

Tweet from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner-General:

“Fifteen months on the war in Gaza, horrors continue unabated under the world’s watch.”

ENDs –

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
Displaced people



At least **745*** people sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **2,202*** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



263 UNRWA team members killed



201* UNRWA installations damaged



648* incidents

**Numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.46 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 29 Dec 2024:



Only 6 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
14,952 medical consultations were provided in **3** UNRWA health centres, **3** temporary health centres and **53** medical points inside and outside shelters.

97 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **200,158 IDPs** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

144,609 displaced people received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,753 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.



UNRWA Situation Report #154 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information updated for 1-8 January 2025*

Day 453-460 of Hostilities

Published 12 January 2025



Children shelter in an UNRWA school in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, January 2025. © 2025 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Highlights

- In less than three weeks, eight newborns reportedly died in the Gaza Strip from hypothermia because of the cold winter weather, lack of shelter and winter supplies.

* Some of the information is reported during the reporting period but does not necessarily correspond to the reporting period.

- According to the [United Nations Children's Fund](#) (UNICEF), at least 74 children have been killed in the Gaza Strip in the first seven days of 2025.
- In December 2024, UNRWA planned 190 coordinated missions to deliver humanitarian assistance in the Gaza Strip. The denial rate has reached 70 per cent, marking the highest denial rate in the past six months.
- The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) published a [report](#) on attacks on hospitals in the Gaza Strip. Between 7 October 2023 and 30 June 2024, OHCHR documented a total of 136 strikes impacting hospitals and other health facilities.
- According to OCHA, in 2024, the UN and partners planned 5,321 humanitarian movements across the Gaza Strip, including 3,707 in the south and 1,614 in the north. Of those, 24 per cent were denied, 19 per cent faced impediments, 48 per cent were facilitated, and 9 per cent were cancelled.

2. Key Points

The Gaza Strip

- Strikes by the Israeli Forces continued, with aerial, land and maritime bombardments across the Gaza Strip, resulting in civilian casualties and the destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure. Rocket fire by Palestinian armed groups towards Israel has taken place.
- In northern Gaza, since 6 October 2024, the Israeli Forces have been carrying out a ground offensive and continue to impose a tight siege. Intense military operations are ongoing amid a near total lack of humanitarian aid entering the area, in addition to severe communications and internet disruptions. Some parts of the North Gaza governorate have been under a tightened siege for more than three months. Access remains extremely challenging and humanitarian actors' ongoing attempts to deliver aid to the area continues to be largely prevented by the Israeli Forces. This is leaving thousands of people without access to food, on the brink of [famine](#), water, electricity or healthcare, as mass casualty incidents continue.
- Babies in the Gaza Strip continue to die from hypothermia due to cold weather and lack of winter supplies, as a result of humanitarian access restrictions. UNICEF [reported](#) that eight newborns died of the cold in less than three weeks.
- On 3 January, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) stated that it is "deeply alarmed" by the impact of rains and cold weather affecting the Gaza Strip, where the vast majority of people have been displaced and families are left exposed.

- On 8 January, UNICEF published a [press release](#) according to which at least 74 children had been killed in the Gaza Strip only in the first seven days of 2025. UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell stated that “for the children of Gaza, the new year has brought more death and suffering from attacks, deprivation and increasing exposure to the cold.”
- The World Food Programme (WFP) [reported](#) that, in the second half of November and the first half of December 2024, people in the Gaza Strip have heavily relied on bread and pulses for the third consecutive month. Access to other food items including fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products and meat is almost non-existent. Overall, the cost of many basic food products increased by more than 1,000 per cent compared to pre-war prices. Market access across the Gaza Strip continues to be a major challenge, with market activity concentrated in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah, and Khan Younis – and none in North Gaza and Rafah.
- On 31 December, OHCHR published a [report](#) on attacks on hospitals . According to the report, the impact of Israeli military’s operations in and around hospitals has extended beyond physical structures, resulting in the loss of access to critical medical treatment, safe-space and shelters, and care for chronic illnesses. Overall, during the reporting period, OHCHR documented a total of 136 strikes impacting at least 27 of the 38 hospitals in the Gaza Strip and 12 other medical facilities.
- [OCHA](#) reported that the lack of fuel to operate electricity generators continues to severely affect the already decimated health system across the Gaza Strip.
- In December 2024, UNRWA planned a total of 190 coordinated missions, which accounted for 33 per cent of all humanitarian movements in Gaza. Seventy per cent of the Agency’s missions were denied by the Israeli authorities, marking the highest denial rate in the past six months.
- On 31 December, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order impacting the Al Bureij area (Middle Areas), where seven UNRWA installations are located. Another evacuation order in the same area was issued on 3 January which impacted seven UNRWA installations.
- On 1 January, the Israeli Forces issued an evacuation order impacting an area of Gaza City, where two UNRWA installations are located.
- According to [OCHA](#), as of 8 January, around 80.5 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under active evacuation orders from the Israeli authorities.
- According to the UN, at least **1.9 million people** – or about **90 per cent** of the population – across the Gaza Strip are displaced. Many have been displaced repeatedly, some 10 times or more.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 8 January 2025, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **45,936** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in Gaza and **109,274** have been injured.
- OCHA [reports](#) that, the MoH in Gaza published the breakdown of 40,717 out of 42,010 fatalities as of 7 October 2024. These reportedly include 13,319 children, 7,216 women, 3,447 elderly, and 16,735 men. Among the child fatalities, 786 children are under one year of age, representing about 6 per cent of killed children whose full identification details have been documented, the MoH further reported. Additionally, as of 7 October 2024, the MoH noted that 35,055 children had lost one or both parents over the past year.
- As of 8 January, the total number of UNRWA team members killed since 7 October 2023 is **265**.
- Several challenges continue to stand in the way of collecting much needed humanitarian supplies from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing point in southern Gaza. These include deteriorating public order, war and insecurity, damaged infrastructure, fuel shortages and access restrictions.
- According to [OCHA](#), between 1 and 5 January, UN agencies monitored the collection of 255 humanitarian trucks from Gaza Strip crossings, excluding fuel. This represents a daily average of only 51 humanitarian trucks, well below the pre-war average of 500 trucks (all types of supplies), per working day.
- According to [OCHA](#), in 2024, the UN and partners planned 5,321 humanitarian movements across the Gaza Strip, including 3,707 in the south and 1,614 in the north. Of those, 24 per cent were denied, 19 per cent faced impediments, 48 per cent were facilitated, and 9 per cent were cancelled.
- [OCHA](#) reported that, of the 569 humanitarian movements coordinated with Israeli authorities across Gaza from 1 to 30 December 2024, 224 were denied access, 103 faced impediments, 53 cancelled due to logistical and security challenges and only 189 facilitated.
- Out of the 127 aid movements which needed to pass through the Israeli military-controlled Al Rashid or Salah Ad Din checkpoints to reach areas north of Wadi Gaza, between 1 and 30 December, 43 were denied, 31 faced impediments, 17 had to be cancelled and 36 were facilitated.
- Aid missions to the North Gaza governorate were particularly disrupted, especially those seeking to reach Jabalia, Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun. Between 1 and 30 December, the UN [attempted](#) to reach besieged areas in North Gaza 60 times, 55 of which were denied, and five were allowed to proceed but faced impediments.

- [OCHA](#) reported that coordinated aid missions to areas in Rafah governorate, which has been under an ongoing Israeli military operation since May 2024, have faced similar challenges, with 36 out of the 38 coordinated requests submitted to Israeli authorities between 1 and 30 December denied, one facing impediments, and one facilitated. This excludes 67 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing, of which two were denied, 21 impeded, five cancelled and 39 facilitated.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be accessed through the link below:

[Gaza Supplies and Dispatch Tracking | UNRWA](#)

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to [OCHA](#), between 7 October 2023 and 8 January 2024, 813 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Of those, 498 Palestinians were killed in 2024.
- Between 1 and 8 January 2025, there were 11 Palestinians reported killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem: nine killed by the Israeli Forces, and two in the ongoing Palestinian Security Forces operation in Jenin Camp and surrounding areas. During the same period, two Israeli settlers and an Israeli police officer were killed by Palestinian armed actors.
- The Palestinian Security Forces operation in and around Jenin Camp against Palestinian armed actors has been ongoing since early December, with two fatalities recorded since 1 January. On 1 January, the UNRWA Jenin Camp Health Centre was directly hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, causing significant damage. This followed several weeks of occupation of the Health Centre by Palestinian armed actors, who vacated the premises on 31 December 2024. On 3 January, an exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and Israeli Forces during an operation in Balata Camp, killing one Palestinian and injuring nine. On 5 January, the Israeli Forces forced a Palestinian family to demolish their building containing six apartments in Silwan, East Jerusalem, displacing around 39 Palestinians from their homes. On 7 and 8 January, the Israeli Forces deployed drone-fired missiles in Tammun, in northern West Bank. The first of these incidents resulted in two Palestinians killed, with the second missile killing three Palestinians including two children.
- On 6 January, two Israeli settlers and an Israeli police officer were shot and killed, and eight others injured, when a group of Palestinian armed groups allegedly opened fire at Israeli vehicles in the vicinity of Al Funduq, in northern West Bank. Following the incident, extensive access restrictions were imposed by the Israeli authorities across the northern West Bank, including the temporary closure of all checkpoints in the Nablus area.

- Three additional Palestinians were killed in exchanges of fire with the Israeli Forces during this period, in Meithalun, Askar Camp, and Al Badhan.

3. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

Between 7 October 2023 and 8 January 2025, according to the MoH in Gaza as stated by [OCHA](#), at least **45,936** Palestinians have reportedly been killed in the Gaza Strip while **109,274** have been reported injured.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents that reportedly impact UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available*.
- During the reporting period, six new armed conflict-related incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and displaced people sheltering there, including UNRWA personnel:
 - On 6 January, 20 people were reportedly injured, including an UNRWA staff member, in an UNRWA school north-west of Nuseirat (Middle Areas), due to an air munition from an Israeli Forces quadcopter hitting the schoolyard.
 - On 4 January, Israeli Forces artillery fire directly struck an UNRWA school in Gaza City in Al Sabra area (Gaza City), causing damages to the northern building. Five displaced people were reportedly injured and transferred to hospital.
 - On 3 January, Israeli Forces artillery shells reportedly struck a classroom of an UNRWA school in Gaza City in the Al Sabra area, causing a fire to break out. Several people were reported injured.
 - On 2 January, a stray bullet reportedly hit the guards' room of an UNRWA store in Gaza City. No injuries were reported, while the room sustained minor damage.
 - On 2 January, an Israeli Forces quadcopter reportedly dropped an air munition in the vicinity of an UNRWA school in Nuseirat (Middle Areas), causing a minor injury to a child inside the school. No damage to the school was reported.
 - On 31 December 2024, the Israeli Forces reportedly conducted a number of strikes near a UN international staff guesthouse west of Gaza City. Shrapnel inside the installation and damages were reported.
 - [Late report] On 15 December 2024 (estimate), three UNRWA schools in Beit Hanoun were reportedly damaged during the Israeli Forces military operation in the Al-Izba area in Beit Hanoun (Northern Gaza).

**As of 23 December, 648*incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported since the beginning of the war (some with multiple incidents impacting the same location). 201* UNRWA installations have been impacted by armed conflict-related incidents since the beginning of the war, some on multiple occasions. UNRWA estimates that, in total, at least 745*persons sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and at least 2,202* injured since the start of the war. UNRWA continues to verify and update the number of casualties caused by these incidents.*

** Since the start of the war, the latest figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. Total summary figures will be published as information becomes known, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

4. UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. Between 7 October 2023 and 29 December 2024, UNRWA provided over 7 million medical consultations across the Gaza Strip.
- In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership with and support from other UN agencies, including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines to children. Over 234,000 routine immunisation vaccines have been administered to children from in 2024. In addition, around 560,000 children under the age of 10 across the Gaza Strip have been vaccinated against polio.
- As of 4 January, only three out of 22 UNRWA health centres and four additional UNRWA-rented facilities used as temporary health centres were operational in Gaza. Health services are also provided through 92 mobile medical teams working in 53 medical points inside and outside shelters in the middle area, Khan Younis, Al Mawasi and Gaza City. UNRWA health facilities provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, giving out medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care, laboratory and dental services, physiotherapy, and dressings for the injured. The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access, and security.
- To date, 1,208 UNRWA health staff continued to work in health centres, temporary clinics, and medical points across the Gaza Strip. UNRWA continued to provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the middle and Khan Younis areas, with teams of psychiatrists, psychosocial counsellors, and supervisors to assist special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and shelters. On 4 January, UNRWA teams

responded to 529 cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and to address cases of gender-based violence (GBV).

- On 4 January, UNRWA medical teams provided care for 666 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.
- On 4 January, UNRWA teams provided dental and oral health services in fixed and mobile clinics, reaching 504 patients. On 4 January, 263 patients received physiotherapy rehabilitation services in health centres and medical points.
- Different UNRWA laboratory services are limited to three tests out of nearly 35 that were available before 7 October 2023. This is due to limited availability of stocks of most laboratory supplies. Laboratory equipment requires maintenance or replacement.

Psychosocial support and Learning

- UNRWA remains the largest provider of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) across the Gaza Strip. Around 660,000 children are out of school due to the war. On 1 August 2024, UNRWA began its first phase response of “Back to Learning” with a focus on mental health activities. This is taking place in up to 45 UNRWA schools-turned-shelters² by expanding ongoing PSS activities, focusing on arts, music and sports, and raising awareness on the risks of explosive ordnance, with the support of up to 750³ school counsellors and hundreds of teachers. UNRWA continues to provide lifesaving PSS services in Gaza, including psychological first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and protection cash assistance, reaching children, youth and adults.
- Since the onset of the conflict and up to 5 January, around 730,000 displaced people, including over 520,000 children, have benefited from 280,115 PSS sessions and activities. Between 30 December and 5 January, a total of 11,629 displaced people accessed these services.
- More than 18,000 children, over half of them girls, have benefited from UNRWA’s “Back to Learning” programme so far. Between 30 December 2024 and 5 January 2025, 10,645 children (4,151 boys, 6,494 girls, including 355 children with disabilities) participated in “Back to Learning” activities, including basic literacy and numeracy sessions, PSS sessions, and recreational activities including arts, music and sports. The activities were conducted daily across 86 temporary learning spaces in 40 shelters, for an average of seven hours per day. This is thanks to 975 UNRWA teachers, with support from counsellors, aiming to address the psychosocial needs of children and adolescents.

² Initially reaching 45 UNRWA schools/shelters, “Back to Learning” will gradually expand to 94 schools in future phases.

³ 176 school counsellors and 566 assistant counsellors.

- Between 7 October 2023 and 6 January 2025, UNRWA's social work team has provided services to 202,265 displaced people, including psychological first aid, PSS services, family and individual activities, as well as case management. During the same reporting period, protection services were provided to 1,898 survivors of GBV and 3,052 children, including 1,494 unaccompanied children, covering reunification, cash assistance, safe sheltering, medication, dignity kits and non-food items through referrals. The team also supported 22,017 persons with disabilities with PSS; 7,753 of these individuals received assistive devices and rehabilitation services. Awareness sessions on GBV, child protection, disability and special needs, as well as managing social and psychological stressors, were conducted for 149,446 displaced people.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 to 31 December 2024, a total of over 388,000 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached with two rounds of flour; over 374,000 of those families have received three rounds.
- In December 2024, UNRWA reached nearly 135,000 families (or nearly 1 million people) with flour, distributing around 3.4 million kilos of flour in southern and central Gaza.
- UNRWA continues to distribute food parcels wherever possible. These include⁴ rice, chickpeas, lentils, beans, oil, salt, sugar, milk powder, hummus, canned meat and canned fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs per quarter. To date, around 1.69 million people have been reached, of whom at least 215,000 people have received two rounds of food parcels since the war started.
- In December 2024, UNRWA teams distributed over 52,000 food parcels.
- In addition to the distribution of UNRWA food parcels, the Agency distributes food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching over 1.4 million people.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip. The main activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water with water trucks and bottled water. In addition, UNRWA continues to distribute hygiene kits and maintain hygiene in UNRWA shelters and sites by providing cleaning supplies, community-based solid waste management and pest control.
- UNRWA continues to be one of the largest WASH actors in the Gaza Strip. Between August and mid-November, UNRWA accounted for around 44 per cent of water, sanitation and hygiene activities reported in the Gaza Strip, including access to water (56

⁴ The composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.

per cent), access to sanitation and solid waste management (42 per cent), and flood mitigation and prevention (66 per cent).

- In the second half of December, around 50,000 cubic metres of water – both potable and domestic – were distributed by UNRWA across the Gaza Strip. Moreover, an UNRWA water well in Gaza city was rehabilitated.
- Winterization efforts are ongoing in southern Gaza and the middle area, with around 250 manholes cleaned in the second half of December. Sixty-six cleaning and pest and rodent control measures were completed. Moreover, during the same period, UNRWA conducted 90 hygiene promotion sessions and distributed over 500 litres of cleaning liquids for shelters across the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA continues to provide a solid waste collection and transfer service in southern Gaza and the middle area. Over the second half of December, around 4,000 tons of solid waste have been collected and transported to temporary dumping sites.

Quote from Louise Wateridge, UNRWA Senior Emergency Officer:

“It’s like a fishbowl, and you’re just having to dodge being killed. And meanwhile, you have to get water and food for your family, and now you have to keep warm.”

ENDs –

UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

1,900,000
Displaced people



At least **745*** people sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **2,202*** injured since 7 October 2023.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



265 UNRWA team members killed



201* UNRWA installations damaged



648* incidents

**Numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

UNRWA response – Food assistance



388,000 families have received flour at least twice since 21 Nov 2023. Over **1.69 million people** have received UNRWA food parcels.

UNRWA response – Health

Update for 4 Jan 2024:



Only 7 (out of 27) UNRWA health centres operational
16,731 medical consultations were provided in **3** UNRWA health centres, **4** temporary health centres and **53** medical points inside and outside shelters.

92 mobile medical teams covered the medical points.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial Support



Since the onset of the conflict, **202,265 IDPs** have received social work services, including psychological first aid and psychosocial support.

149,446 displaced people received awareness raising sessions and internal community social network support.

7,753 persons with disabilities and injuries received assistive devices and rehabilitation services.