

# Potential Flood Impact on Public Health in Gaza Strip

Infographic mapping HSPs, their proximity to potential flood locations and related issues

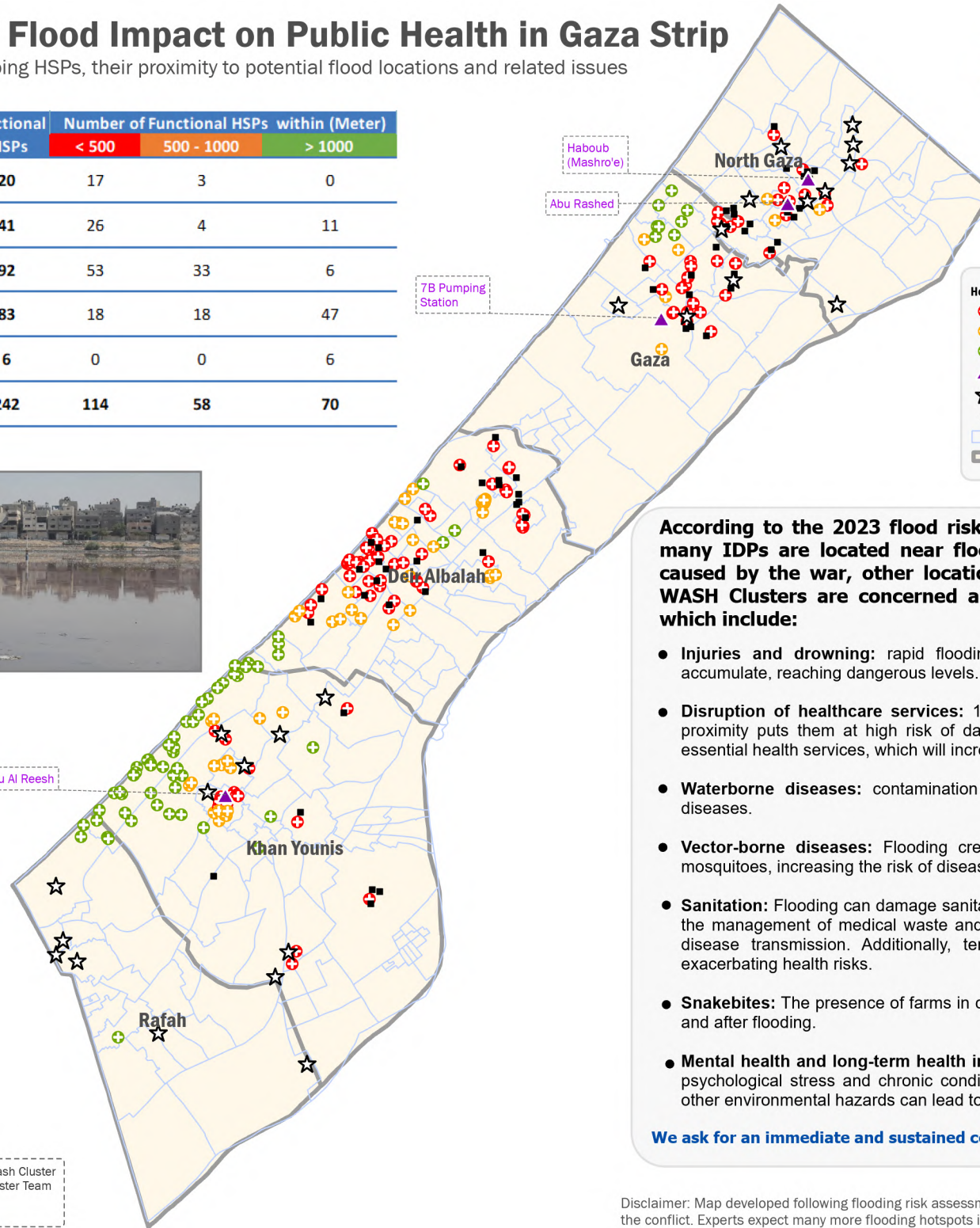
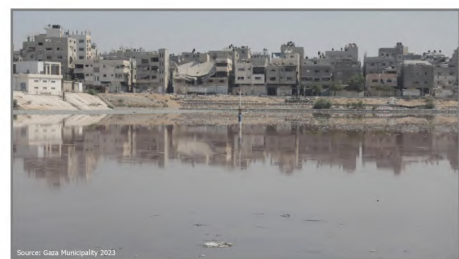


**HEALTH CLUSTER**  
OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY



**WASH Cluster**  
State of Palestine

Governorate	Functional HSPs	Number of Functional HSPs within (Meter)		
		< 500	500 - 1000	> 1000
North Gaza	20	17	3	0
Gaza	41	26	4	11
Deir Al-Balah	92	53	33	6
Khan Younis	83	18	18	47
Rafah	6	0	0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>70</b>



**Health Service Points (HSP) Situated at a Distance From Flooding Hotspots and/or High-risk Stormwater Basins**

- + < 500 meters
- + 501 - 1000 meters
- + > 1000 meters
- ▲ High-risk Stormwater Basin with Sewage Contamination
- ★ High-risk Stormwater Basins
- Flood risk hotspots\*
- Neighbourhood Boundaries
- Governorate Boundaries

**According to the 2023 flood risk assessment and the current population distribution, many IDPs are located near flooding hotspots. Considering the level of devastation caused by the war, other locations may now be at risk of flooding. The Health and WASH Clusters are concerned about the potential public health related to flooding, which include:**

- **Injuries and drowning:** rapid flooding, especially in dip areas where water can easily and quickly accumulate, reaching dangerous levels.
- **Disruption of healthcare services:** 114/242(47%) health service points are near flooding hotspot. Their proximity puts them at high risk of damage during flooding and leaves the population without access to essential health services, which will increase health needs in the event of flooding.
- **Waterborne diseases:** contamination of water supplies by sewage increasing the risk of waterborne diseases.
- **Vector-borne diseases:** Flooding creates stagnant water pools which can become breeding sites for mosquitoes, increasing the risk of diseases such as West Nile Fever.
- **Sanitation:** Flooding can damage sanitation infrastructure and disrupt waste management systems, including the management of medical waste and general waste. The breakdown of these systems raises the risk of disease transmission. Additionally, temporary structures and tents are vulnerable to damage, further exacerbating health risks.
- **Snakebites:** The presence of farms in certain areas like Deir Al-Balah increases the risk of snakebites during and after flooding.
- **Mental health and long-term health impact:** The stress and disruption caused by flooding can exacerbate psychological stress and chronic conditions. In addition, the effects of exposure to mould, chemicals, and other environmental hazards can lead to respiratory issues and other health problems.

**We ask for an immediate and sustained ceasefire in order to start the reconstruction process before winter.**



Data Source: Health Cluster, Wash Cluster  
Map Production: oPt Health Cluster Team  
Map Date: 25/09/2024  
<https://opt.healthcluster.org>

Disclaimer: Map developed following flooding risk assessment (August 2023). This data does not account for the significant bomb damage during the conflict. Experts expect many more flooding hotspots in 2024. HSPs Based On Partners Report. \*August 2023 Flood risk mapping