

## Gaza Strip

### Overview As of 22 July 2024

Source: Ministry of Health.



**39,090**  
Fatalities



**90,147**  
Injuries



**+10,000**  
Reported missing  
under the rubble

Source: Palestinian Civil Defense

## Health Facility functionality and access



**16/36 (44%)**  
Hospitals **partially functional (HPF)**\*  
Bed capacity 1,400, including inpatient, maternity and ICU beds.†



**48/107§ (45%)**  
Primary health care facilities are **functional**

§ The number of PHCCs includes active NGOs.



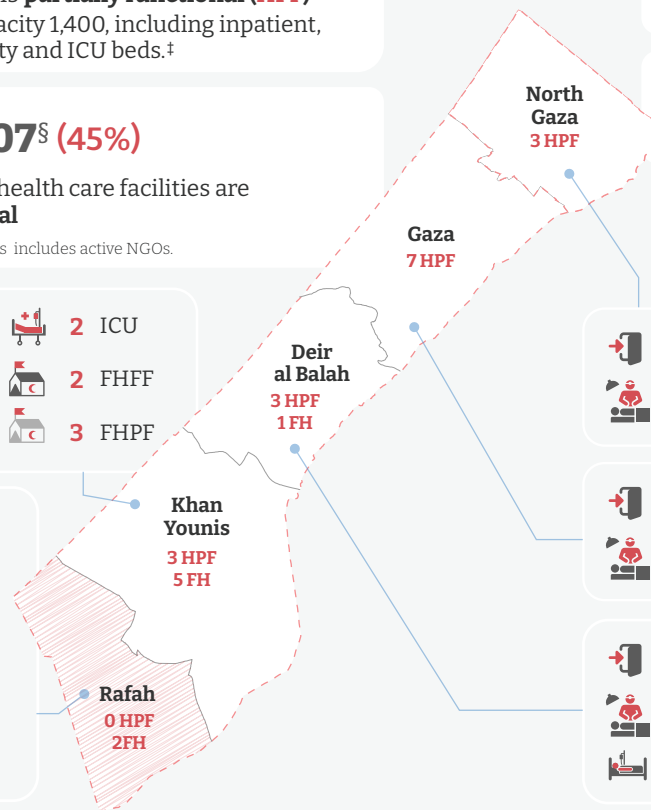
**4** Field hospitals **partially functional (FHFP)**



**4** Field hospitals **fully functional (FHFF)**

**3** Accessible  
**2** Surgeries  
**2** Inpatient  
**2** ICU  
**2** FHFF  
**3** FHFP

**0** Accessible  
**0** Surgeries  
**0** Inpatient  
**0** ICU  
**1** FHFF  
**1** FHFP



**3** Accessible  
**2** Surgeries  
**3** Inpatient  
**1** ICU

**7** Accessible  
**5** Surgeries  
**6** Inpatient  
**2** ICU

**3** Accessible  
**3** Surgeries  
**3** Inpatient  
**1** ICU  
**1** FHFF  
**0** FHFP

\* Partially functional facility: when a health facility is unable to fully provide some or all of the services as normal, or there is an interruption in any of the services provided at the facility, due to various reasons.

- Of the 16 partially functional hospitals, 11 are partially accessible due to insecurity or physical barriers, such as damage to both patient and ambulance entrances, and surrounding roads.
- Evacuation orders continue to disrupt the functionality of health facilities:
  - Four PHCs and two medical points are affected by the evacuation order announced on 22 July 2024.
  - Patient Friends Benevolent Society (PFBS) Hospital (28 beds) resumed basic emergency care on 13 July, followed by partial provision of health services on 17 July, including inpatient and maternity services, and management of severe acute malnutrition.
  - European Gaza Hospital (EGH) (650 inpatient beds) remains out of service, since 1 July. Efforts are ongoing to restore functionality.
  - No functioning hospitals in Rafah for over seven weeks, jeopardizing access to health for, approximately, 20,000 Gazans residing in the governorate.
- A total of eight operational field hospitals (FH) in the Gaza Strip:
  - Rafah: the ICRC FH is fully functional, while the UAE FH operates at partial functionality with access restrictions due to ongoing siege and hostilities.
  - Khan Younis: the UK-Med and Jordanian FHs are fully functional, while Al-Quds, Kuwait 'Heal Palestine', and PRCS Kuwaiti FHs are partially functional.
  - Deir Al-Balah: the IMC FH is fully functional.

† Source: The Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS)



## Variant type 2 poliovirus isolated from sewage samples in Gaza

- On 16 July 2024, the Global Polio Laboratory Network (GPLN) notified the detection of six circulating variant poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) isolates in environmental samples from Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis in Gaza. Seven samples were collected and six of these have tested positive for VDPV2.
- Further genomic sequencing of poliovirus isolates has identified that these strains have close genetic links with each other and are also closely related to the poliovirus variant that was circulating in Egypt during the second half of 2023. The last detection of the related variant polioviruses in Egypt was in samples collected in December 2023.
- It is important to note that virus has been isolated from the environment only at this time; no associated paralytic cases have been detected.
- A risk assessment is being implemented, led by the Ministry of Health, including to assess surveillance sensitivity for the detection of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) and environmental surveillance, and subnational immunity levels are being more clearly assessed.
- These crucial activities are being organized and conducted in close coordination with WHO, UNICEF, UNRWA and other partners. The results of the risk assessment will guide context-specific cVDPV2 outbreak response in Gaza
- WHO considers there to be a high risk of spread of this strain within Gaza, and internationally, particularly given the impact the current situation continues to have on public health services.

### Malnutrition



**113 Patients** admitted due to severe acute malnutrition

Source: Ministry of Health

### Medical evacuation through Rafah



**4,916 Patients\***  
(35% of 13,880 requested cases)  
have been evacuated since October

\* Medical evacuation is halted.



## Communicable Diseases\* (as of 30 June 2024)



**974,253** Cases of acute respiratory infections



**562,753** Cases of diarrhea <5 years: **122,338**



**103,385** Cases of scabies and lice



**65,368** Cases of skin rashes



**11,214** Cases of chickenpox

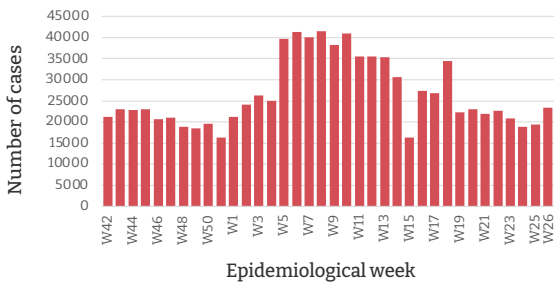


**104,766** Cases of acute jaundice syndrome

\* Listed figures to be interpreted with caution, due to delayed and incomplete data reporting.

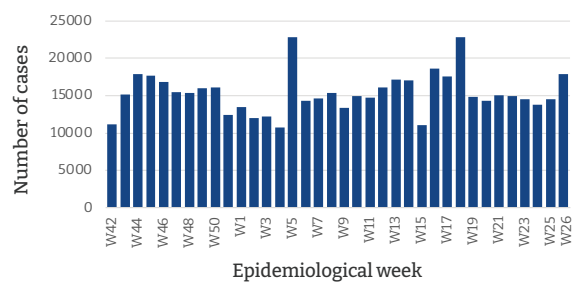
## Trend analysis of communicable diseases (Data as of 30 June 2024)

**Weekly trend of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in Gaza Strip\*** (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 30 June 2024)



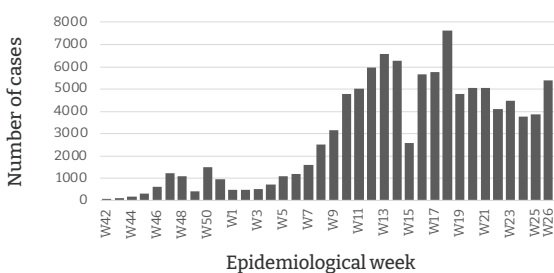
Following decreasing trends in **ARI**, there has been an **increase in cases** reported from Week 25 to Week 26 by about **3,500 cases**.

**Weekly trend of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in Gaza Strip\*** (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 30 June 2024)



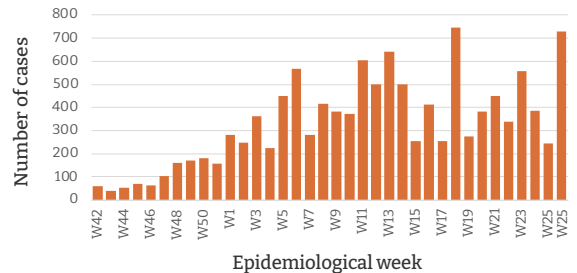
The weekly trends of **AWD** have remained stable over the last four weeks (**14,000 -15,000 cases**), with an **increase of 18,000 cases** reported in Week 26.

**Weekly trend of acute jaundice syndrome (AJS) in Gaza Strip\*** (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 30 June 2024)



Weekly trends of **AJS** have remained somewhat stable over the last four weeks and have **increased by 1,500 cases** from Week 25 to Week 26.

**Weekly trend of bloody diarrhea in Gaza Strip\*** (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 30 June 2024)



After weeks of decreasing trends in **Bloody Diarrhea**, the number of reported cases **increased by almost 500 cases** from Week 25 to Week 26.

Current epidemiological trends should be interpreted with caution due to reporting delays, retrospective data and adjustments, limited geographical coverage of surveillance activities and constant population movements.

Source: MoH, UNRWA, EMT

\*Note: Weeks with incomplete data were not included

## Long term conditions



**>2,000** People diagnosed with cancer each year, including 122 children



**>1,500** Patients in need of kidney dialysis to maintain life<sup>§</sup>



**>60,000** People with raised blood glucose\*



**45,000** Patients living with cardiovascular disease



**>650,000** People with raised blood pressure\*



**+ 485,000** People with mental health disorders\*

§ Source: Ministry of Health

\* Source: STEPS Survey 2022

- Limited access to essential and specialized healthcare services, very limited medical evacuation, compounded by the degradation in social determinants of health during the ongoing emergency acutely affects patients with non-communicable diseases.
- According to MoH reports, there are 60 hemodialysis machines currently available across the Gaza Strip (compared to 182 prior to the war): 16 in Gaza and North Gaza, and 44 in the Middle Area and Khan Younis. Therefore, the provided services are severely decreased to two dialysis sessions of two hours per week, instead of three weekly sessions of three to four hours. This has a detrimental impact on the quality of life of these patients and could lead to fatal consequences.
- Only one out of originally six MoH Community Mental Health Centers is operational- albeit at minimum capacity-, while the only existing Psychiatric Hospital went out of service in November 2023 after an attack. Medication shortages, continued hostilities, recurrent displacement and lack of proper shelters are negatively affecting the mental health of the vulnerable population, particularly those with pre-existing mental health disorders.

## Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health



**~ 50,000** Women are pregnant



**~ 5,500** Women are due to give birth within the next month including

**~ 1,400** Requires Cesarean section  
**~ 180** Deliveries / day

- More than 500,000 women in the reproductive age are lacking access to essential services including antenatal care, postnatal care, family planning and management of sexual transmitted infections.
- Maternity services are provided at eight out of 16 partially functioning hospitals, and at four field hospitals (ICRC, IMC, UKMED, and Kuwait FHs).



## 492 Health Attacks As of 22 July 2024



**747** People killed in attacks



**969** People injured in attacks



**128** Health workers remain detained/arrested



**109** Health facilities affected



**32** Hospitals damaged

Including



**114** Ambulances affected



**62** Sustained damage

Including



**578 Fatalities**



**5,537 Injuries**



**512 Health Attacks** As of 22 July 2024



**23** People killed in attacks



**98** People injured in attacks



**54** Health facilities affected

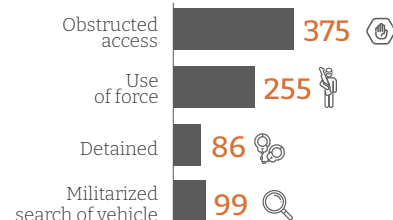


**20** Mobile clinics

Including



**350** Ambulances affected



## Situational update

- Continued dismantling of the health system, reducing health service availability, and threatening the right to health of over 2.1 million people in the Gaza Strip.
- Evacuation orders continue to exacerbate the vulnerability of Gazans, many of who were forced to go through multiple waves of displacement. OCHA reported that, as of 22 July, nearly 83 per cent of the Gaza Strip has been placed under evacuation orders or designated as “no-go zones” by the Israeli military.
- The latest evacuation order, on 22 July, decreased the so-called “humanitarian zone” in Al-Mawasi by 14.8%, according to OCHA reports. Four PHCs and two medical points were affected by this order, going out of service, according to the Health Cluster.
- Mass casualty incidents continue to overwhelm the already limited trauma and emergency response capacity. The military operations in Khan Younis on 22 July resulted in a total of 73 fatalities (including 24 children and 5 elderly) and 265 injuries (including 65 children, 51 females between 18 and 59 years old, and 9 elderly), according to MOH reports. Nasser Medical Complex, which reported receiving 70 fatalities and over 200 casualties, issued an urgent call for blood donations, in response to the acute shortages in blood units at the blood bank. Sixteen cases were reportedly received at UK-Med FH, and 15 were managed at the IMC FH.
- Medical evacuation of patients outside of Gaza remains halted since 7 May, apart from the successful evacuation of 23 patients. Out of 13,880 cases requested for medical evacuation, only 4,916 (35%) have been evacuated, since October 2023. The number of patients requiring medical evacuation is expected to increase considering the diminishing capacity of the health system compounded by the ongoing escalation. WHO appeals for the establishment of multiple medical evacuation corridors to ensure sustained, organized, safe and timely passage of patients via all possible routes, including Rafah and Kerem Shalom. Of utmost urgency is the restoration of medical evacuations from Gaza to the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, where hospitals are ready to receive patients. Patients must also be facilitated to be transferred to Egypt and Jordan, and from there to other countries when needed.
- Persistent fuel shortages continue to threaten humanitarian interventions, including health care provision, impacting the functionality of hospitals, PHCCs and ambulance services.
- The IPC Famine Review Committee Report, published on 25 June 2024, stated that a high risk of Famine persists across the whole Gaza Strip, as long as conflict continues and humanitarian access is restricted. About 96% of the population in the Gaza Strip face high levels of acute food insecurity through September 2024. The report highlighted that while the whole territory is classified in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), over 495,000 people (22% of the population) are still facing catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 5). In this phase, households experience an extreme lack of food, starvation, and exhaustion of coping capacities.
- Four severe acute malnutrition stabilization centers (SAM SC) are currently functional, across the Gaza Strip: two supported by MedGlobal, one at the Kamal Adwan Hospital (10 beds) in the North Gaza governorate, and the other at PFBS Hospital (10 beds) in Gaza City; one SC (six beds) at the IMC FH in the Middle Area; and one SC supported by MSF-Spain at Nasser Medical Complex (six beds) in Khan Younis.
- Increasing insecurity, destroyed roads and infrastructure, and lack of proper facilitation of humanitarian missions continue to hinder access to health. During 16 to 22 July, out of five planned WHO missions, one was denied and four were impeded. Out of the four impeded, the objectives of only one mission were fully achieved (18 July), while two missions were partially accomplished (20 and 22 July), and one was impeded with none of its objectives accomplished (17 July). A sustained and functional deconfliction mechanism is needed to facilitate safe delivery of humanitarian aid across the Gaza Strip, as per international humanitarian law.

- Limited access to proper WASH facilities, compounded by overcrowding, continue to contribute to the rise in infectious diseases, including diarrhoeal illness and hepatitis A. The WASH Cluster estimates that approximately 67% of water and sanitation facilities and infrastructure have been destroyed or damaged due to conflict-related activities, over the past eight months.
- Restrictions on entry of medical supplies, medications, tents and building equipment to support setting up and operating temporary health facilities, following the Rafah incursion and closure of Rafah Crossing.
- Lack of timely, sustained, and secure facilitation of UN trucks at the few remaining entry points.
- Disrupted telecommunication is negatively affecting partners operations and weakening referral mechanisms (community to facility and among facilities).
- According to Israeli authorities, over 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed inside Israel, and approximately 5,400 reported injuries. As of 22 July, there have been 326 reported fatalities and 2,147 reported injuries of Israeli soldiers since the start of the ground operation in the Gaza Strip. One hundred and twenty hostages remain in Gaza.

## Response

### WHO

- WHO has procured more than USD30.4 million worth of health commodities, 58% of which has already been delivered to the Gaza Strip. Procured items include essential trauma emergency supply kits (TESK), NCD and SAM kits, in addition to critical medications and supplies that are needed to maintain provision of essential health services.
- WHO and partners continue to carry out missions, support patient transfers, conduct needs assessment, support deployment of emergency medical teams (EMT) and field hospitals, and deliver food, water, and medical supplies to health facilities, across the Gaza Strip.
- WHO is working closely with MoH and UNICEF, and UNRWA to assess the scope of the poliovirus spread, and determine the appropriate response activities.
- A draft of the Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance strengthening strategy was shared with the steering committee. AFP case definitions and syndromic management protocols were disseminated to health partners, to enhance early detection and timely management.
- A plan to expand “EWARS in a Box” to five additional EMTs, to enhance disease surveillance, including communicable disease surveillance.
- WHO distributed four modules of nutrition kits to SAM SCs in north Gaza which will be enough to benefit 2,000 children with acute malnutrition treated at outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) and inpatient admitted with SAM with complications.
- WHO concluded the training of the first cohort on gender-based violence and clinical management of rape, which was attended by 25 health workers.
- Adaptation of the guidelines for prevention and management of wasting in infants 0-6 months was finalized which included development risk assessment for infants at risk of poor growth and development, referral criteria, and operational guidance for health care workers working in infant and young child feeding centers, medical points, SAM SCs and OTPs.
- The Health Cluster and WHO regularly update the oPt [Unified Health Dashboard](#), providing a snapshot of conflict-related casualties, communicable disease surveillance, medical evacuations, attacks on health, and overall Health Cluster response in the oPt, with emphasis on the ongoing emergency in the Gaza Strip.

### Partners

- The Health Cluster reported that 53 partners are currently operational in the Gaza Strip, reaching a weekly average of 300,800 people with various healthcare services and supplies. In total, 191 health service points, including 119 medical points, are currently operating throughout the Gaza Strip, providing essential primary health care services to the vulnerable population.
- Joint efforts by MoH and health partners to restore health service provision at the European Gaza Hospital, in Khan Younis.
- The Health Cluster is working closely with other clusters, such as Shelter, Food, Nutrition, Protection, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), to address the comprehensive healthcare needs of populations, considering the social determinants of health.
- Close collaboration between the Health, Protection and Site Management Clusters to address the congestion of hospitals by internally displaced people sheltering there.
- The Trauma Technical Working Group, led by WHO, is conducting an assessment of the trauma pathway to understand the current capacity and inform future interventions.
- The EMT Coordination Cell (EMT CC) deployed the first advanced non-communicable disease EMT, which includes a nephrologist, internal doctor and ICU doctor, to Nasser Medical Complex.
- The EMT CC reported that EMTs have cumulatively carried out 1,000,000 consultations, since the onset of the emergency.

# WHO Mission Update

16 - 22 July 2024



**Missions planned**  
(in the North and South)



**Missions facilitated**  
(including partially facilitated)



**Missions impeded**  
(ie. delays/unpassable routes)



**Missions denied**  
(or canceled)

Operations have been severely impacted due to the deteriorating security situation.

- **On 18 July**, WHO carried out a mission to Al-Ahli Arab Hospital (AAH) to deliver 24,000L of fuel to maintain service provision at AAH and PFBS Hospital. WHO teams also delivered life saving medications and medical supplies, which are estimated to benefit 24,200 patients attending to AAH, PFBS, Assahaba, and El-Helou Hospitals.
- **On 20 July**, WHO conducted a mission to Nasser Medical Complex (NMC) to assess the facility and discuss activities to expand service provision.
- **On 22 July**, WHO and partners conducted a mission to Gaza City, to assess Al-Shifa, Hospital. WHO teams reported ongoing rehabilitation at the outpatient department of Al-Shifa Hospital, to resume emergency and surgical health services. The haemodialysis unit at the hospital continue to provide services to 60 patients from Gaza and the North, at a reduced capacity.

The last objective of the mission (assessment of El-Helou and PFBS Hospitals) was not accomplished due to delays.

## WHO Recommendations

- Immediate ceasefire.
- Expand and sustain humanitarian access into Gaza for fuel, water, food, medicines and other necessary supplies.
- Expand humanitarian corridors and ensure safe passage to allow delivery of humanitarian aid within Gaza.
- Active protection of civilians and health care, preserving the function of remaining health facilities.
- Establish and strengthen a routine process for medical evacuation for all patients in need, without distinction of any kind, ensuring timely referral of the +10,000 critical patients that need to be medevaced out of Gaza.

## Funding

### WHO oPt total funding ask

**\$110M**

Operational plan  
(Oct 23 to Mar 24)

**\$222.2M**

Operational plan  
(Apr 24 to Dec 24)

**\$275.55**

Operational plan  
(Apr 24 to Dec 24)



### Funding received

**\$95.5M**

Received to date

**\$605.75M**

The total needed

- The inter-cluster Flash Appeal has been revised and the funding requirement for humanitarian health response is **\$408.5M\*** and is targeting **2.9M people in Gaza and West Bank**.



[The WHO Operational Response Plan for the occupied Palestinian territory \(oPt\) for April 2024 to December 2024](#) was published, on 29 May 2024.

Further information:

• **Dr Richard Peeperkorn**,  
WHO oPt Representative,  
peeperkornr@who.int

• **Dr Ayadil Saparbekov**,  
WHO oPt Emergencies Lead,  
asaparbekov@who.int

• **Bisma Akbar**,  
WHO oPt Communication Officer,  
akbarb@who.int