

## Gaza Strip

### Overview As of 5 Aug 2024

Source: Ministry of Health.



**39,653**  
Fatalities



**91,535**  
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 1,490, including inpatient, maternity and ICU beds.†



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

§ The number of PHCCs includes active NGOs.



**3** Accessible



**1** ICU



**2** Surgeries



**2** FHFF



**2** Inpatient



**3** FHPF



**0** Accessible



**0** Surgeries



**0** Inpatient



**0** ICU



**1** FHFF



**1** FHPF



**1** ICU



**2** FHFF



**3** FHPF



**0** Accessible



**0** Surgeries



**0** Inpatient



**0** ICU



**1** FHFF



**1** FHPF



**3** Accessible



**2** Surgeries



**2** Inpatient



**2** FHFF



**3** FHPF



**0** Accessible



**0** Surgeries



**0** Inpatient



**0** ICU



**1** FHFF



**0** FHPF



**3** Accessible



**3** Surgeries



**3** Inpatient



**1** ICU



**1** FHFF



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



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

North Gaza  
**3 HPF**

Gaza  
**7 HPF**

Deir al Balah  
**3 HPF**  
**1 FH**

Khan Younis  
**3 HPF**  
**5 FH**

Rafah  
**0 HPF**  
**2 FH**



**3** Accessible



**3** Surgeries



**3** Inpatient



**7** Accessible



**5** Surgeries



**6** Inpatient



**3** Accessible



**3** Surgeries



**3** Inpatient



**1** ICU



**1** FHFF



**0** FHPF

\* 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, 12 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:
  - Ongoing efforts to upscale service provision at Al-Shifa Hospital.
  - Expanded inpatient capacity at Indonesian and Kamal Adwan Hospitals (61 and 166 beds), and 9 ICU beds at Indonesian Hospital have been restored and are functional.
  - European Gaza Hospital (650 inpatient beds) remains out of services, since 1 July. Efforts to restore functionality are threatened by the expanding evacuation area.
  - No functioning hospitals in Rafah for over nine consecutive weeks.
- 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.
- Between 22-29 July 2024, three suspected cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) were reported to the MOH, following efforts to enhance polio surveillance by WHO in Gaza.
- The cases were promptly investigated and samples collected and sent to the laboratory in Jordan with support of WHO. The results are awaited.
- A risk assessment was conducted, led by the Ministry of Health, including to assess surveillance sensitivity for the detection of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP), environmental surveillance, and subnational immunity levels.
- MoH in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, UNRWA and partners is preparing for a polio vaccination campaign.

### Malnutrition



**134 Patients** admitted due to severe acute malnutrition with complications

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

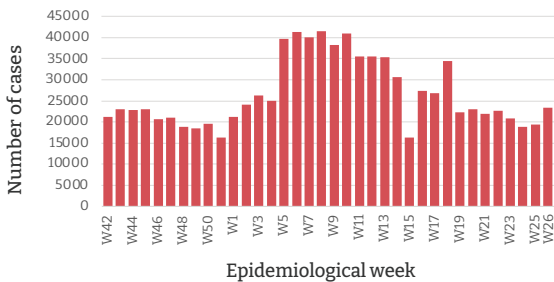


**104,766** Cases of acute jaundice syndrome

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

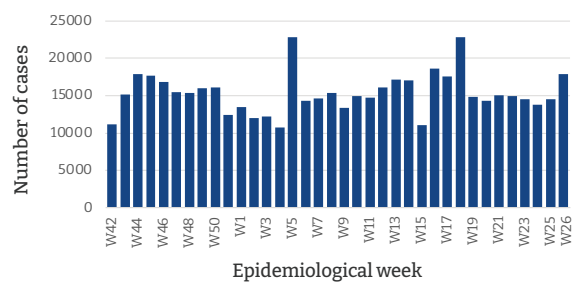
## Trend analysis of communicable diseases (Data as of 30 June 2024)

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



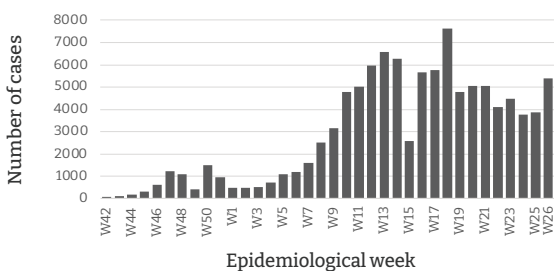
Following decreasing trends in **ARI**, there has been an **increase in cases** reported from Week 25 to Week 26 by about **3,500 cases**.

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



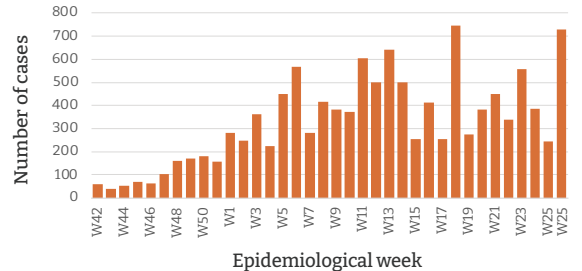
The weekly trends of **AWD** have remained stable over the last four weeks (**14,000 -15,000 cases**), with an **increase of 18,000 cases** reported in Week 26.

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\*

<sup>§</sup> 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). 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 -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 lack 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).



## 502 Health Attacks As of 5 Aug 2024



**752** People killed in attacks



**982** People injured in attacks



**128** Health workers remain detained/arrested



**110** Health facilities affected



**32** Hospitals damaged

Including



**115** Ambulances affected



**63** Sustained damage

Including





**618 Fatalities**



**5,670 Injuries**



**527 Health Attacks** As of 5 Aug 2024



**23** People killed in attacks



**100** People injured in attacks



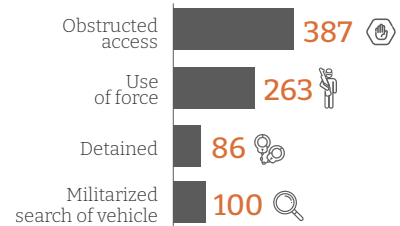
**54** Health facilities affected



**20** Mobile clinics Including



**365** Ambulances affected



## Situational update

### Gaza Strip

- Continued dismantling of the health system, reducing health service availability, and threatening the right to health of over 2.2 million people in the Gaza Strip.
- Evacuation orders continue to exacerbate the vulnerability of Gazans, many of whom have been forced to go through multiple displacement. A new evacuation directive issued on 4 August affected areas in southern Khan Younis and northern Rafah, with an estimated population of more than 11,000, according to OCHA and the Site Management Working Group (SMWG).
- The forced mass displacement of 1.7 million people, ordered to evacuate to the so-called "Humanitarian area" of 48km<sup>2</sup> (13% of the Gaza Strip area), has a grave impact on public health. Overcrowding, lack of proper shelter infrastructure, poor water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions, including limited supply and access to safe drinking water and untreated sewage and wastewater, increase the risks of communicable diseases. Overcrowding also increases the risk of mass casualties, in the event of attacks on heavily populated areas.
- Medical evacuation of patients outside of Gaza remains limited since 7 May. 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. 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. 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.
- Persistent fuel shortages continue to threaten humanitarian interventions, including health care provision, impacting the functionality of hospitals, PHCCs and ambulance services.
- 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.
- More than 215,000 children were screened for acute malnutrition between January and July 2024, out of which, 1.4% were identified with SAM, and 5.1% with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).

- Increasing insecurity, destroyed roads and infrastructure, and lack of proper facilitation of humanitarian missions continue to hinder access to health. A sustained and functional deconfliction mechanism is needed to facilitate safe delivery of humanitarian aid across the Gaza Strip, as per international humanitarian law.
- 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 5 August, there have been 329 reported fatalities and 2,176 reported injuries of Israeli soldiers since the start of the ground operation in the Gaza Strip. One hundred and fifteen hostages remain in Gaza.

### West Bank

- The West Bank is witnessing a period of worsening tensions, marked by escalation in incursions, detention, and search operations. Escalations are more notable in the northern region of the West Bank (i.e., Jenin, Qalqilya, Tulkarm, and Nablus).
- Following a period of relative decline in the number of Palestinian fatalities during the second quarter of 2024, the deaths count rebounded again beginning from the third quarter. In the week of 3rd August, the highest weekly death toll since the beginning of 2024, was reported with 23 reported fatalities.
- Service provision at MoH health facilities is impacted by the ongoing financial crisis, with facilities operating with a 33% workforce cutdown.

## Response

### WHO

- WHO has procured more than USD32.9 million worth of health commodities, 54% 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 the MoH, UNICEF and UNRWA, coordinating with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in the region, to assess the scope of the poliovirus spread, and determine appropriate response activities. Field investigation and risk assessment reports were finalized to inform action plans.
- MoH and WHO developed a plan to restore and strengthen polio surveillance, starting with sensitizing healthcare workers on Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance. Alerts for three AFP cases were reported, and samples were collected and sent to Jordan for testing on 4 August. Efforts for environmental samples collection and transportation are underway.
- Preparations are ongoing to implement a two-round novel Oral Polio Vaccine Type 2 (nOPV2) vaccination campaign.
- A risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) committee is being mobilized to support response activities.
- Ongoing efforts to expand “EWARS in a Box” to include additional EMTs, to enhance communicable disease surveillance, including for AFP.
- Close collaboration and coordination with the Health and WASH Clusters and Health Service Delivery Technical Working Group (TWG) to assess the c-VDPV2 outbreak response capacity of health and WASH partners.
- Ongoing efforts to expand the capacity of Nasser Medical Complex and Al-Aqsa Hospital to manage inpatients, including post-operative trauma patients.
- Orientation session was conducted for 6 midwives on reporting on SRMNH indicators and frequency of reporting.
- WHO finalized the standard operating procedure (SOPs) for patient referrals to SAM SCs, with standard referral criteria, package of services, pre-referral management and unified referral slip. WHO also supported three partners with six modules of SAM kits to support treatment of acute malnutrition.

- WHO supported five hospitals in the West Bank in terms of mass casualty management, including developing facilities contingency plans to activate when necessary.
- WHO established three regional prepositioned stockpiles at three warehouses in the north, middle, and south of the West Bank, to be released in case the routine supply chains are disrupted.
- WHO trained 160 community volunteers on life-saving bleeding control techniques, in Nablus and Jenin area.
- 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 Gaza Joint Operating Principles document, endorsed by the OPT Humanitarian Country Team, which articulates the ground rules for humanitarian response, was shared with partners for their commitment.
- The Health Cluster reported that 63 partners are currently operational in the Gaza Strip, reaching a weekly average of 284,400 people with various healthcare services and supplies. In total, 193 health service points, including 121 medical points, are currently operating throughout the Gaza Strip, providing essential primary health care services to the vulnerable population. Mapping of population density and health service points availability is ongoing to identify gaps in service delivery.
- Twenty-three Health Cluster partners are currently active in the West Bank, reaching an estimated 26,100 people, weekly, with essential healthcare services, through 697 service points.
- An inter-cluster WASH/IPC TWG will be set up between Health and WASH Clusters to strengthen IPC and information sharing on disease surveillance between the two clusters.
- The EMT Coordination Cell (EMT CC) supported the deployment of one specialized care team (SCT) to Al Aqsa Hospital, to increase the capacity for general surgery and sterilization.
- 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.
- Ongoing mapping out of services provided by partners in the West Bank, in the light of the recent changes and challenges, conducted by the Trauma Technical Working Group.

## WHO Mission Update

30 July - 5 Aug 2024



4

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



3

**Missions facilitated**  
(including partially facilitated)



1

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



0

**Missions denied**  
(or canceled)

### Operations have been severely impacted by the deteriorating security situation.

- **On 29 July**, four children from Gaza were evacuated from Cairo to Belgium, accompanied by 12 companions. The evacuation was supported by WHO, EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Affairs, Emergency Response Coordination Center, Palestine Children's Relief Fund, and the governments of Egypt and Belgium. Patients were medically evacuated to Egypt before the closure of Rafah Crossing.
- **On 30 July**, 85 sick and severely injured patients from Gaza, along with 63 family members and care givers, were [evacuated to the United Arab Emirates \(UAE\)](#), for specialized care- the largest medical evacuation since October 2023. The patients, who were collected from Deir Al-Balah, Khan Younis, and North Gaza, were transferred from Gaza via the Kerem Shalom Crossing to Ramon Airport in Israel, and then flown to the UAE to receive the necessary treatment.

The complex joint evacuation was facilitated by WHO, in partnership with the Government of the UAE, and with support from CADUS, International Medical Corps, Médecins Sans Frontières - Belgium, and the Palestine Red Crescent society in the Gaza Strip, and Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem.

- **On 31 July**, WHO conducted a mission to Gaza City to facilitate the rotation of one Palestinian American Bridge EMT, which was supporting Public Aid and Indonesian hospitals, to the south. During the mission, an assessment of the current breast cancer services capacity at Al-Ahli Arab Hospital was carried out, to identify current gaps and inform future plans of action to strengthen service provision. The team also facilitated the referral of an ophthalmology patient to Al-Amal Hospital in Khan Younis, for further treatment.
- **On 3 August**, WHO conducted a mission to the north and delivered 24,000L of fuel to As-Sahaba Hospital, in addition to critical supplies and 24,000L of fuel that were provided to MSF.
- **On 5 August**, WHO conducted a mission to the UAE FH in Rafah- the first visit since the start of the ground operation in Rafah in May 2024. The team assessed the hospital capacity and discussed options for further cooperation to support the emergency response. While partially accessible due to military operations, the FH remains functional, providing care to 38 admitted patients. The team also visited the European Gaza Hospital, to assess its capacity and discuss the feasibility of restoring service provision.

## 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)



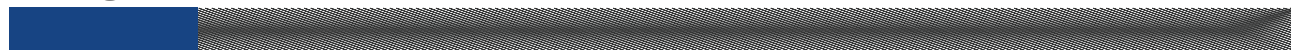
### Funding received

**\$95.5M**

Recieved 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.

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