

UNRWA Situation Report #125 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem



All information from 25-29 July 2024, is valid as of 29 July 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 293-298 of Hostilities

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Families forced to flee Khan Younis following evacuation orders from the Israeli Authorities, 27 July 2024, southern Gaza Strip.
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1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Ongoing strikes by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continue, with aerial, land and maritime bombardment across the Gaza Strip. These result in civilian casualties, displacement of people and the destruction of residential structures and public infrastructure.
- Between 22 and 27 July it is estimated that more than 200,000 people have been displaced due to the recent evacuation orders from the Israeli authorities and intensified military operations and hostilities around Khan Younis (in the southwest).

- [UNRWA's Commissioner-General](#) posted on his official X account (formerly known as Twitter) that currently only 14 per cent of the areas in Gaza are not under “evacuation orders”.
- According to the UN, up to 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).
- According to the [Education Cluster](#), latest satellite imagery assessments as of 6 July reveal that nearly 85 per cent of school buildings in the Gaza Strip (477 out of 564) have been directly hit or damaged and require either full reconstruction or major rehabilitation work to be functional as schools again.
- According to the [Nutrition Cluster](#), 93 per cent of children aged 6-23 months and 96 per cent of pregnant and lactating women are consuming two or fewer food groups within a single day, with nearly all households forced to skip meals or reduce their own food intake so that their children had food to eat. Over 500,000 children under the age of 5 as well as pregnant and lactating women urgently need lifesaving nutrition support across the Gaza Strip.
- According to [WHO](#), the health system continues to be dismantled, with reduced health service availability. Only 16 out of 36 hospitals (or 44 per cent) are partially functional and 48 out of the 107 (45 per cent) primary health care facilities are functional. UNRWA remains a major actor in the health sector, providing health services across 10 primary health centres and up to 100 medical points across the Gaza Strip.
- As of 30 July, the total number of UNRWA colleagues killed since 7 October is **202**.
- 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.
- The latest information on supplies entering Gaza can be found 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 22 July 2024, at least 563 Palestinians were killed. Separately, UNICEF¹ reported that 143 children were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since 7 October – an average of one child is killed every two days.
- Between 22 and 28 July there were 190 recorded Israeli Security forces (ISF) search and arrest operations across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. At least 125 Palestinians, including Palestine Refugees, were detained by the ISF during this period. During this period, 13 Palestinians were recorded killed, including three children.

[1] [Child casualties in the West Bank skyrocket in the past nine months – UNICEF](#)

- Several large-scale ISF operations took place in Tulkarm Camp, in the northern West Bank, during the week, with the use of armoured bulldozers by the ISF causing widespread destruction, including damage to roads and the partial suspension of electricity services. The external walls and gates of UNRWA's Health Centre and schools in Tulkarm Camp were affected. Five Palestinians were killed by an ISF drone strike on Tulkarm Camp on 22 July, purportedly targeting Palestinian armed actors.
- On 23 July, during the course of a punitive demolition in Qalandia Camp, in East Jerusalem, one Palestinian was killed and eight were injured by the ISF. On 27 July, there was an exchange of fire between the ISF and Palestinians in Balata Camp, in the northern West Bank, with drone strikes deployed by the ISF. Two Palestinians were killed and 28 were reported injured.
- Clashes between the Palestinian Security Forces (PSF) and Palestinians took place in Tulkarm, Jenin, and Tubas in the northern West Bank on 26 July, following a PSF operation in the vicinity of Thabet Governmental Hospital in Tulkarm city.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, as of 29 July, at least 39,363 Palestinians have been reportedly killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October. Another 90,923 Palestinians have been reportedly injured.

3. Humanitarian access and protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents reportedly affecting UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- No incidents have been reported impacting UNRWA installations and internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering there. While verification of details and casualty figures are ongoing, initial reports have indicated impact to two UNRWA vehicles with staff/civilians inside, as follows:
 1. On 27 July, an UNRWA vehicle was reportedly hit by ISF shooting, east of Khan Younis, and sustained damage. There were no injuries.
 2. On 28 July, ISF quadcopter reportedly fired at an UNRWA vehicle, which sustained damage from two bullets. There were no injuries.
- 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 different UNRWA 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 shelters have been killed and at least another 1,789* injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is verifying the number of casualties caused by incidents that impacted its installations. These figures do not include some reported casualties where the number of injuries could not be determined.

*The numbers continue to be subject to change once further verifications have been conducted.

4. UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

Health

- As of 25 July, 83 medical points and ten (out of 26²) UNRWA health centres were operational. These health centres provide primary health care, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medications, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressing for the injured.
- On 25 July, almost 1,100 UNRWA health staff continued to work in operational health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip, providing 18,977 medical consultations.
- As of 25 July, 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 health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 616 cases. They responded to cases in health centres and at medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support for cases of gender-based violence. The teams provided medical care for 486 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. Between 7 October – 28 July, UNRWA provided over 4.9 million medical consultations in health centres and medical points across the Gaza Strip. In addition to medical consultations, UNRWA (in partnership and support from other UN agencies including UNICEF and WHO) continues to provide vaccines, with over 130,000 children vaccinated since the start of 2024.
- Due to challenges in bringing health supplies into the Gaza Strip and challenges in retrieving health supplies and transporting them to health facilities, stock levels remain very low, with up to 60 per cent of medicines either fully depleted or available in very low quantities.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- With the support of more than 500 counsellors, 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, around 700,000 IDPs, including over 500,000 children, have benefited from a total of 242,648 PSS sessions/activities. From 8-21 July 2024, counsellors addressed 3,004 individual consultations and provided 1,461 group awareness sessions for

caregivers. Additionally, they conducted 1,538 recreational activities engaging 26,645 children. Counsellors also provided 388 EORE sessions to 6,348 adults and 591 sessions to 7,553 children.

Food Security

- UNRWA continued to distribute flour in the southern governorates. To date, a total of 380,225 families (nearly 1.9 million people) have been reached, of whom 367,768 families have received two rounds of flour and another 300,978 families have received three rounds.
- As part of its emergency response, UNRWA distributes food parcels in the southern governorates. UNRWA food parcels include³ flour, rice, chickpeas, lentils, cheese, hummus and fish, and are designed to cover approximately 90 per cent of daily calorific needs. 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 distributed other food parcels on behalf of other UN organisations, reaching around 1.4 million people.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

Due to the security situation, in combination with challenges to internet connectivity, we have been unable to provide any additional updates since Sitrep 67.

Quote from Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA Commissioner General:

[“Currently, only 14 per cent of areas in Gaza are not under the “evacuation orders”](#). Every other day, the Israeli Authorities issue these orders forcing people to flee, creating havoc and panic. Quite often, people have just a few hours to pack whatever they can and start all over again, mostly on foot or on a crowded donkey cart for those who can afford it. [...] People continue to search for safety: the most precious, the most nonexistent. This evacuation tactic only brings more misery, fear and suffering for people who have nothing to do with this war. The people of Gaza are not pinballs or chess pieces, they are people.”

ENDs –

[2] Pre-conflict UNRWA had 22 health centers, following the conflict an additional temporary health centers have been established.

[3] Note the composition of the food parcel may change based on food item availability.



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 **1,789** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



202 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



464
incidents



190
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



210,920 families have received UNRWA food parcel in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 25 July due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 10 (out of 26) UNRWA health care centres operational.

18,977 patients received healthcare in 10 (out of 26) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



Since the onset of the conflict over 500,000 children have benefited from 242,648 psychosocial and recreational activities.

Between 7 - 21 July a total of 26,645 children benefited from psychosocial and recreational activities.