



UNRWA Situation Report #43 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is valid as of 29 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 53 of Hostilities

Published 30 November 2023



Palestinians moving within the Gaza Strip during the humanitarian pause, 27 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- UNRWA confirms that one colleague was killed during strikes before the humanitarian pause. In total, 111 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the 7 October.
- The humanitarian pause, which entered into force on the morning of 24 November, was maintained for a sixth consecutive day on 29 November.
- Around 1.8 million people (or over 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 29 November, nearly 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the North and Gaza City.
- Nearly 958,000 IDPs were sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- In the evening of 28 November, the Israeli Security Forces (ISF) undertook an operation in Jenin city and Jenin refugee camp. The operation lasted for over 17 hours.
- There were several exchanges of fire in the city and the camp, resulting in the killing of four Palestinians, including two children. Six Palestinians were reportedly injured by live ammunition, including one Palestinian paramedic and two children. Dozens of Palestinians were arrested. ISF bulldozers destroyed infrastructure and houses in the camp. ISF also reportedly forced Palestinians to leave their houses in Ad Damaj neighbourhood in the camp.
- UNRWA operations in the camp, including in its four schools, were suspended. Repeated and increasingly intense operations have resulted in many residents reporting that they no longer feel safe living in the camp. A significant number have either left the camp, or are spending the night outside and returning in the morning.
- A rapid assessment conducted among the students from one of the UNRWA schools in the camp has found that 37 per cent of the students remain inside the camp, 25 per cent are not staying in the camp overnight, 30 per cent now live in the vicinity of the camp and come to school on foot, and eight per cent have transferred to remote areas.
- Overnight an ISF search and arrest operation was reported in Askar refugee camp, Nablus. ISF detained six Palestinians, including one UNRWA sanitation labourer.
- Overnight search and arrest operations were also reported in Aqbat Jaber and Ein Sultan refugee camps, in Jerico.
- Around 04:00, an ISF search and arrest operation took place in Jalazone refugee camp, Ramallah. ISF fired tear gas canisters and several cases of tear gas inhalation were reported. Six Palestinians including two children, one of whom is an UNRWA student, were detained.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- On 27 and 28 November, 160 bodies were recovered from the rubble, according to the Government Media Office (GMO) in Gaza. The office reported that, since the start of hostilities, more than 15,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, including about 6,150 children and 4,000 women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, **since 7 October, 238 Palestinians, including 63 children, have been killed by the Israeli Forces in the West Bank. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 29 November, 111 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.
- As of 29 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 104 incidents have occurred at 82 UNRWA premises since the beginning of the war. Thirty installations were hit directly and 52 sustained

collateral damage. In addition, UNRWA received reports of the military use of its facilities on at least five occasions.

- Since the beginning of the conflict, at least 218 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have reportedly been killed and at least 894 have been injured.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- The number of displaced people continues to increase. On 29 November, at least 2,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas.
- In total, almost 1.1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.
- The average number of IDPs in UNRWA shelters is 9,500, more than four times their capacity.

Health

- On average, there are 10,700 medical consultations in UNRWA health centres per day.
- On 29 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and Southern areas, recording 10,312 patients visits, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving birth every day. A total of 391 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 29 November. In addition, post-natal care continued in the shelters, with 1,117 cases attended since 7 October.
- On 29 November, 873 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to 356 cases at seven health centres.
- UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 126 medical teams on 29 November. 284 health workers attended to a total of 10,486 patients. Each team is composed of 1-2 doctors and a nurse.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. Since 7 October, 81,102 people (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.
- UNRWA school counsellors in collaboration with other organizations reached around 375,000 children with recreational activities.

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 29 November in the southern governorates. A total of 30,222 families have been reached so far.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate eight water wells pumping about 9,000 cubic metres to provide potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas continue.
- Provision of potable water through tankers of Coast Municipalities Water Utility started to have the shelters provided with potable water in Rafah.
- Solid waste collection from the camps, emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. About 45 loadings were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 29 November. There is an urgent need for additional sanitation trucks and vehicles.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at dozens of shelters.

Quote from UN Secretary-General António Guterres

"The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people is a moment to reaffirm their right to live in peace and dignity."

[#PalestineRefugees need more than just aid.](#)

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

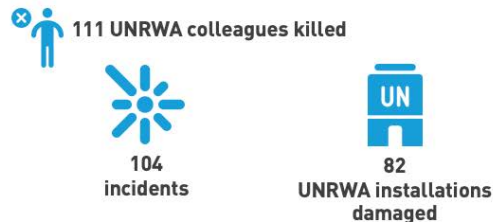
Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



At least 218 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and 894 injured since 7 October.

The average number of IDPs in UNRWA shelters is 9,500, more than four times their capacity.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support

81,102 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

UNRWA response – Health

10,486 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 126 mobile medical points on 29 November.

391 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 29 November.

10,700 medical consultations were provided in UNRWA health centres per day.

10,312 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 29 November.

UNRWA response – Food assistance

30,222 families outside of shelters have received flour in southern governorates since 21 November.

UNRWA response – WASH

8 water wells pumping about 9,000 cubic meters are operated by UNRWA to provide potable and domestic water supply.

* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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