



united nations relief and works agency for
palestine refugees in
the near east

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UNRWA SITUATION REPORT #65 ON THE SITUATION IN THE GAZA STRIP AND THE WEST BANK, INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM

Thursday, January 18, 2024

All information from 14- 15 January 2024, is valid as of 15 January 2024 at 22:30
Days 100- 101 of Hostilities



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023



1,700,000*
IDPs**



At least **331** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,157** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



151 UNRWA colleagues killed



235
incidents



135
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



277,907 families outside of shelters have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Last updated on 11 Jan due to security and internet connectivity issues

165 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres

20,952 patients received healthcare in 6 (out of 22) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Water, sanitation and hygiene



Last updated on 11 Jan due to security and internet connectivity issues

8 water wells continue to operate pumping approximately 5,000 cubic metres of water.

Solid waste management continues in Rafah and Khan Younis and partially in Middle Areas, where approximately **45** truck loadings were transferred to temporary sites

* This includes c.1 million individuals residing in or near emergency shelters or informal shelters. Notably, as of October 12 approximately 160,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were recorded in north Gaza and Gaza governorates. However, the ability of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) to provide humanitarian support and updated data in these areas has been severely restricted. The ongoing hostilities, evacuation orders issued by Israeli Forces, and the constant need for safer locations have resulted in people being displaced multiple times.

** UNRWA has reported in Situation Report 64 that up to 1.9 million IDPs are either residing in 154 UNRWA shelters or near the so-called shelters. Due to the continued escalation of fighting and evacuation orders, some households have moved away from the shelters where they were initially registered.

** It is important to note that there are instances where the same IDPs are registered in multiple shelters due to the fluid movement of populations; hereafter, estimates are used for these shelters. UNRWA plans to conduct a more accurate count of IDPs in shelters, including informal shelters, as soon as the security situation allows.

(<https://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/inpho65.jpg>)

Download UNRWA multimedia resources here

(<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k86ongs2zlsilfe/AAASDoPRSJyXDc0YPJoyZHqTa?dl=0>)

Key Points



United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (https://www.unrwa.org/en)

Gaza Strip

151 colleagues killed

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- As of 15 January 2024, the total number of UNRWA colleagues killed since the beginning of hostilities has increased by one to 151.
- As of 16 January, up to 1.7 million* people (over 75 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip, some multiple times. Families are forced to move repeatedly in search of safety. Following intense Israeli bombardments and fighting in Khan Younis and Middle Areas in recent days, a significant number of displaced people have moved again further south.

*This includes 1 million individuals residing in or near emergency shelters or informal shelters. As of October 12, approximately 160,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were recorded in north Gaza and Gaza governorates. The ability of UNRWA to provide humanitarian support and updated data in these areas has been severely restricted. The ongoing hostilities, evacuation orders issued by Israeli Forces, and the constant need for safer locations have resulted in people being displaced multiple times.

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The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

West Bank updates are provided twice weekly and cover updates from 11 -15 January.

On January 11 and 12 the following Israeli Security Forces (ISF) search and arrest operations occurred:

- Continuation of search and arrest operations in Tulkarm city, Tulkarm camp and Nur Shams refugee camp, northern West Bank on 11 January. ISF closed all entrances to Nur Shams Camp, and snipers reportedly occupied the rooftops around the camp. Early in the morning on 12 January, ISF reportedly blocked the main streets of Tulkarm refugee camp with earth mounds. Severe destruction of infrastructure was reported in the city and camps.
- ISF reportedly opened fire in the vicinity of Adora settlement, near Idhna, southern West Bank. Three Palestinians, including two children, were killed. Overnight on 13 January, ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in the houses of the three Palestinians killed. ISF reportedly assaulted their family members, detained several Palestinians and confiscated vehicles.



united nations relief (https://www.unrwa.org/en)

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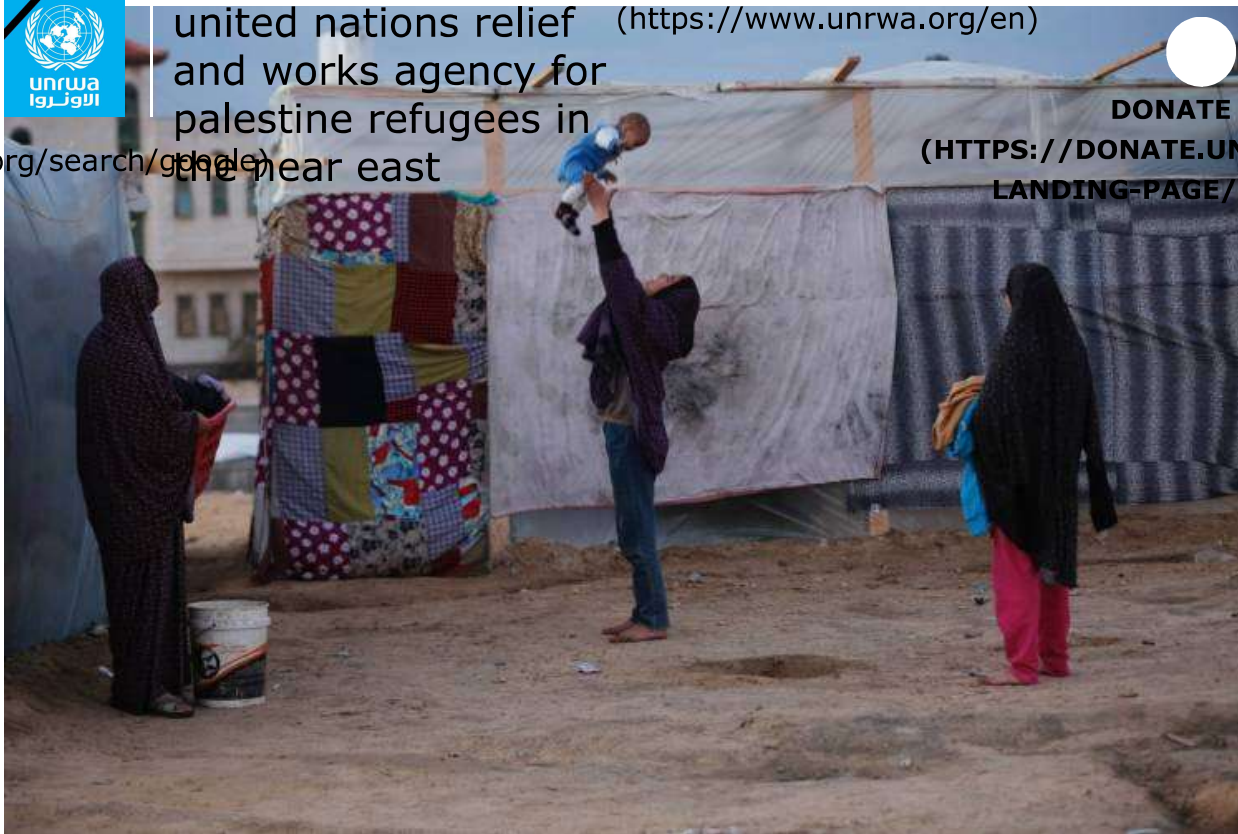
- ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Far'a Camp, northern West Bank. ISF reportedly surrounded the camp for several hours, entered multiple houses and buildings, and positioned snipers. An ISF bulldozer reportedly damaged infrastructure in the camp, including the wall opposite a health centre. Five people, including one minor, were injured during the exchange of fire. At least nine men were detained and released. ISF reportedly fired live ammunition towards an Al Jazeera journalist's vehicle. The operation ended in the late evening. UNRWA operations in the camp were severely affected.
- An exchange of fire took place between Palestinians and ISF in Jenin city and Jenin refugee camp, northern West Bank. ISF reportedly surrounded all hospitals in Jenin city and a military bulldozer destroyed infrastructure.

On 14 January the following ISF search and arrest operations occurred:

- ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Biddya, northern West Bank, and detained 15 Palestinian labourers from Gaza.
- One Palestinian child was shot dead in clashes between Palestinians and ISF, during a search and arrest operation in Ein el -Sultan Camp, central West Bank.
- Palestinian children were shot dead in clashes between Palestinians and ISF near Beit El/DCO checkpoint, north of Al Bireh city, central West Bank.

On 15 January the following ISF search and arrest operations occurred:

- An exchange of fire took place between ISF and Palestinians in the vicinity of Annab and Jbara checkpoints, south of Tulkarm, northern West Bank. One Palestinian Security Forces Officer was killed and another two were injured with live ammunition.
- ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Dura, southern West Bank. Two Palestinians, including a woman, were killed, and 10 Palestinians, including a journalist, were injured with live ammunition. A general strike was declared to mourn the deaths.
- Two Palestinians reportedly carried out a ramming attack and stabbed Israelis in Ra'anana city, Israel. One woman was killed and some 19 others were reported injured. ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in the city and detained two Palestinians.



(https://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/main65.jpg)

A Palestinian women and child displaced in Deir al-Balah, Middle Areas (the Gaza Strip), January 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

Overall Situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza as of 15 January, at least 24,100 Palestinians have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October. About 70 per cent of those killed are reported to be women and children. Another 60,834 Palestinians have been reportedly injured.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, between 7 October 2023 – 12 January 2024, 344 Palestinians, including 88 children, have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Last year (2023), was the deadliest year for Palestinians in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem since the UN began recording casualties in 2005.

Humanitarian Access, Protection of Civilians



United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (https://www.unrwa.org/en)

Gaza Strip

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Please see below the inputs for the period 14-15 January 2024. (https://donate.unrwa.org/-/search/gaza-strip) (https://donate.unrwa.org/-/search/gaza-strip)

Please note that the first incident occurred on 13 Jan but was reported later hence it was not included in the previous sitrep.

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents reportedly affecting UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
 - On 13 January 2024, one IDP sheltering in a school in Khan Younis was killed and many IDPs were injured as a result of shrapnel falling into the school along with a smoke bomb. Further verification is ongoing to determine the number of injured IDPs. About 7,000 IDPs were sheltering in the school at the time of the incident.
 - On 14 January 2024, seven IDPs sheltering in the same school in Khan Younis were injured as a result of a nearby home being struck. Four of the IDPs were transferred to the hospital. IDP tents were damaged from shrapnel and a smoke bomb also fell into the school.
 - On 15 January 2024, an UNRWA staff member was injured while he was inside the Sanitation Office in Khan Younis due to a strike near the office. He was transferred to the hospital, where he received the necessary treatment, and was later discharged. No damages were reported to the Sanitation Office.
- **235** 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 23 incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. 66 different UNRWA installations were directly hit, and 69 different installations sustained collateral damage.
- UNRWA estimates that in total at least **331** internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering in UNRWA shelters have been killed and at least a further **1,157*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is still verifying the number of casualties caused by incidents that impacted its installations, and notes that these figures do not include some reported casualties where the number of injuries could not be determined.

* Numbers are subject to change once further verifications have been conducted.

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- As of 15 January, in total, nearly **1.7 million displaced people are now sheltering across emergency shelters (UNRWA and public shelters), informal sites or in close vicinity to UNRWA shelters and distribution sites and within host communities.**



Due to the security situation and ISF evacuation orders between
United Nations relief (https://www.unrwa.org/en)
-1.55 UNRWA installations
and works agency for
IDPs. continue to shelter IDPs.

Shelters remain very congested.

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Health

Due to the security situation in combination with internet connectivity we are unable to update our results for health.

- On 11 January 2024, only six (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were operational in the middle and southern areas with **9,875 patient visits recorded.**
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at health centres. On 11 January, a total of 165 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres.
- On 11 January, UNRWA continued to provide health care at UNRWA health centres and shelters with 690 staff maintaining health services.
- On 11 January, UNRWA attended to 20,952 patients in UNRWA shelters and health centres.
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services were resumed in the middle area and Khan Younis (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 20 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. On 11 January, the team responded to 1,962 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support for gender-based violence cases.
- UNRWA received vaccines from UNICEF for its health centres. Eight different types of vaccines were received (refrigerated and freezer storage). This allowed for vaccinations to restart. On 11 January, a total of 768 children were vaccinated against diseases such as measles, mumps and rubella, and others.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams continue to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **As of 15 January, around 84,891 IDPs were reached.**
- **283 School counsellors and assistants conducted 936 individual and family consultations in Rafah and Khan Younis (south), alongside 700 group sessions.** 13,407 IDPs were reached, with the cumulative total of 72,470 PSS sessions since 7 October.
- During the same period, school counsellors provided psychological support to nearly 286 UNRWA staff, through in-person and remote consultations. **The total number of UNRWA staff who have received psychological support since the beginning of the hostilities is 8,314.**

Food Security

- UNRWA continued to **distribute flour** outside of shelters in the southern governorates. **A total of 277,907 families have been reached so far.**



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Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
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- During 11 January 2024, water wells in Jabalia (north), Khan Younis and Rafah (south) were operational. Nearly 5,000 cubic metres have been pumped. Khan Younis and Rafah water wells have operated in two shifts (12 hours) to provide potable/domestic water supply services.
 - Provision of potable water through tankers at Rafah and Middle area ensured availability of water in shelters, with some interruption in the Middle Area due to evacuation orders. Khan Younis shelters are provided with water through UNRWA water wells
 - Solid waste management services continued in Rafah, Khan Younis and Middle Area camps (partially). The service was suspended in Bureij camp due to the military operations. About 45 loadings were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 11 January.

Quote from Dima, girl displaced in Deir al-Balah:

"My hobbies are drawing and sports. I loved my school and always liked going there. I love my studies and hope to succeed. We are denied of education."

#HearTheirVoices

ENDs -

Your donations can help provide emergency humanitarian assistance. Donate today (https://bit.ly/3rXMZOP)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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A Palestinian women and child displaced in Deir al-Balah, Middle Areas (the Gaza Strip),
January 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

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(https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/photos/united-one-song-hope-and-determination)

United as One: A Song of Hope and Determination

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(<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/videos/unrwa-press-conference-emergency-gaza-strip-15-october-2023>)

UNRWA Press Conference on the Emergency in the Gaza Strip - 15 October 2023 (<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/videos/unrwa-press-conference-emergency-gaza-strip-15-october-2023>)

Luxembourg's Foreign Minister visits UNRWA camp in the West Bank (<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/news-releases/luxembourg%E2%80%99s-foreign-minister-visits-unrwa-camp-west-bank>)

The West Bank: Five children reported killed during Israeli Security Forces' operation on refugee camp in the north (<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/official-statements/west-bank-five-children-reported-killed-during-israeli-security-forces%E2%80%99-operation>)



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