



UNRWA Situation Report #40 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is valid as of 26 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 50 of Hostilities

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A Palestinian child sitting on UNRWA bags of flour in the Rafah Governorate, 21 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- A humanitarian pause entered into force in the morning of 24 November and was maintained for the third consecutive day on 26 November.
- On 26 November, aid convoys reached areas north of Wadi Gaza. UN agencies and the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) distributed 1,062 metric tonnes of ready-to-eat food to four UNRWA shelters in Jabalia camp, 185 metric tonnes of tents and blankets and 890 metric tonnes of bottled water to various sites.
- Over the past three days, small amounts of cooking gas have entered Gaza for the first time since the start of the conflict. However, the amounts fall well short of the needs.
- 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 24 November, almost 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.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Government Media Office (GMO), as of 18:00 on 23 November, **over 14,800 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October**; 73 per cent of them are reportedly children and women (about 6,000 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, 222 Palestinians, including 55 children, have been killed by the ISF 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 26 November, **108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.**
- **As of 26 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 99 incidents have occurred at 77 UNRWA installations since 7 October.**
- 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 26 November, at least 13,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in Middle and South areas.
- **In total, almost 1.1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.**

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over 600,000 patients.**
- On 26 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and South areas, recording **10,697 patient 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 408 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 26 November. In addition, post-natal care continued to be provided in the shelters, with 1,075 cases attended to 7 October.**
- On 26 November, **1,265 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 **369 cases** at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 126 medical teams on 26 November. 283 health workers attended to a total of 9,967 patients. Each team is composed of one to two doctors and a nurse.**
- Mental health and psychosocial support initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. On 26 November, **the team responded to 955 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support to gender-based violence cases.**

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, 71,636 people (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.**
- 115 school counsellors and 154 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support. They have reached 254,551 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern governorates through individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the war.
- UNRWA organized recreational activities in its shelters reaching 303,364 children.
- Counselors have extended psychosocial support to 1,275 UNRWA colleagues, using different communication channels like phone calls, text messages and other available media. During the humanitarian pause, focal points are actively facilitating group support sessions for counselors.

Food security

- **UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 26 November in the southern governorates. A total of 20,720 families has been reached so far.**
- Flour continued to be prioritized for distribution in the North and in Gaza City as part of the humanitarian convoys reaching the North of Wadi Gaza during the ongoing humanitarian pause.

- The ready-to-eat food distributed at UNRWA shelters in Jabalia, in the north, on 26 November, included about 7.6 metric tons of high-energy biscuits provided by the World Food Programme (WFP). This covers the minimal daily food intake for 23,616 people for one day.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate eight water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue.
- Solid waste collection from the camps, and emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. About 50 loadings were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 26 November. UNRWA colleagues in Gaza have highlighted there is an urgent need for sanitation trucks and vehicles.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters.

Quote from Juliette Touma, UNRWA Director of Communications

["People have lost everything and they need everything."](#)

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



13,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in middle and southern areas on 26 November.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support

71,636 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.
303,364 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response – Health

9,967 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 126 mobile medical points on 26 November.
10,697 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 26 November.
408 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 26 November.
600,000+ patients treated by UNRWA staff since 7 October.

UNRWA response – Food and NFIs assistance

20,720 families outside of shelters has received flour in southern governorates since 21 November.
UN agencies and the PRCS distributed 1,062 metric tonnes of ready-to-eat food to 4 UNRWA shelters, 185 metric tonnes of tents and blankets and 890 metric tonnes of bottled water to various sites, on 26 November.

* 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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Laurane March

Global Media Requests

Mobile: + +962-7-9130-0567 (WhatsApp preferred)

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: l.march@unrwa.org

Estefania Diaz

[English / French / Spanish language]

European Media Requests

Mobile: +32-473-82-2006

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: e.diaz@unrwa.org

Lily Esposito

[English / French language]

European Media Requests

Mobile: +972-54-240-2680 (what's app)

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: l.esposito@unrwa.org

Asako Nitta

[Japanese language]

Japanese Media Requests

Mobile: +972-54-240-2727 (what's app)

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: a.nitta@unrwa.org