



UNRWA Situation Report #28 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is for 10-11 November 2023 and is valid as of 11 November 2023 at 18:30 (local time)

Day 36 of Hostilities

Published 12 November 2023



Palestinians leaving the northern part of the Gaza Strip, 8 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Since 4 November, Israel has opened a "corridor" along the main North–South Road in the Gaza Strip from 10 am to 2 pm. On 9 November, **tens of thousands of people - mostly walking – were forced to move from north to south**. The UN and NGOs are supporting through presence and providing very basic assistance like water and some food just south of Wadi Gaza. People were forced to walk several kilometres and were exhausted and dehydrated amid unusually high temperatures.
- One UNRWA school and one health centre in the Rimal area of Gaza City were impacted by strikes. UNRWA received confirmed information about an UNRWA office in Gaza that sustained collateral damage due to strikes on 25 October.
- Almost 1.6 million people have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October. Three additional shelters were opened in Rafah. **Nearly 778,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are now sheltering in 154 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.**
- **Over 618,000 IDPs are sheltering in 97 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the northern and Gaza areas** as of 12 October 2023, before the evacuation order was issued by the Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect the IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, over **11,078 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since 7 October; two third of them are believed to be children and women.**
- Over 27,490 people have been injured. Around 2,700 others, including 1,500 children, have been reported missing and may be dead or trapped under the rubble, awaiting rescue or recovery.
- 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, **169 Palestinians, including 46 children, have been killed by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) and eight, including one child, by Israeli settlers.**

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- **101 UNRWA colleagues have been killed and at least 27 injured since the beginning of the hostilities.** This is the highest number of United Nations aid workers killed in a conflict in the history of the United Nations.
- **Nearly one third of the UNRWA colleagues who were killed were below the Wadi Gaza line,** in the southern and middle areas of the Gaza Strip.
- UNRWA received confirmation that one of the Relief and Social Services (RSS) offices in Gaza City sustained collateral damage due to strikes that occurred on 25 October.
- One UNRWA school and one health centre in the Rimal area of Gaza City were impacted by a strike. According to reports received by UNRWA between 1,000 and 2,500 IDPs were sheltering in the health centre. UNRWA was able to coordinate the safe evacuation of a group of IDPs from the health centre to the south of Wadi Gaza; however, the others still remain in the health centre.
- **At least 558 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA facilities have been injured and 66 killed since 7 October.** Of those, 23 of the IDPs killed and the majority of the IDPs injured (at least 400) were in installations south of Wadi Gaza. The number of killed and injured IDPs is likely to be higher as UNRWA is still trying to verify casualties of incidents impacting the installations in the North and in Gaza areas.
- **At least 60 UNRWA installations have been impacted since the beginning of the war. Most of these are south of Wadi Gaza, in the middle and southern areas.**
- On 10 and 11 November, **a total of 130 trucks carrying humanitarian supplies,** including medical supplies, food and drinking water, entered the Gaza Strip through Rafah, **bringing the total number of trucks to 915 since 21 October when the first convoy was allowed to enter. 51 of the trucks which entered on 10 and 11 November were UNRWA trucks, including 10 trucks carrying UNRWA flour from Ashdod port.** UNRWA teams received all trucks in the convoys inside Gaza and helped with storage and distribution, in cooperation with other UN agencies.

- **This is far below the quantities needed to meet the needs of over two million people trapped in Gaza.** Before the war, around 500 trucks, including humanitarian assistance but predominantly commercial supplies, entered Gaza every day.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- **The number of displaced people continues to increase.** UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South areas are severely overcrowded and are unable to accommodate new arrivals.
- Following the opening of three additional UNRWA installations in Rafah to host IDPs, the average number of IDPs per shelter went down to over 5,000.
- **The installations are accommodating far more people than their intended capacity.** They are not designed to host such a large number of people and do not have adequate facilities to provide safe and dignified living conditions. The **over-crowdedness is leading to significant spread of diseases, including acute respiratory illness and diarrhea, raises environmental and health issues and limits the Agency's ability to ensure effective and timely services.**
- The number of toilets differs from one shelter to another. In general, there are 30 to 50 toilets in a school (including those for persons with disabilities).
- People inside shelters continue to suffer from **lack of food, basic survival items, low hygiene levels and increased mental health issues.**

Health

- Nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres are still operational in the middle and southern areas, recording **7,908 patient visits on 11 November**, including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees. The health centres were closed on Friday 10 November.
- Most of these health centres are unable to use online registration systems for patients due to network breakdown. Patient information is therefore mostly registered on paper, making data collection and reporting more challenging.
- 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 231 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases have been attended to at the health centres and a total 763 of post-natal mothers have been attended to in the shelters since the beginning of October.**
- 942 children were vaccinated at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme.
- Emergency dental services (bleeding- swellings- trauma and extraction) were provided to 170 cases at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 124 medical teams deployed to the shelters. 281 health workers attended a total of 18,076 cases between 10 and 11 November.**
- Fuel and medicine are running severely low, making the delivery of primary health care at UNRWA health centres very challenging.

- **The number of wounded continues to increase while patients in public hospitals are experiencing immense pain as medicines and anaesthetics are running short.** In addition, tens of thousands of displaced people have sought shelter in hospital parking lots and yards.

Relief and Social Services/Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services. **Since 7 October, 34,000 individuals (over 62 per cent of whom are females) received psychosocial support including family support and recreational activities.**

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- With the little fuel it has remaining, UNRWA continues to operate water wells in Khan Younis and Rafah for the provision of potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue. However, given the high number of people in the shelters, **the water provided is not enough to meet personal water consumption needs** as per WHO standards.
- Water wells in Jabalia, Khan Younis and Rafah are functional with about 17,000 m³ pumped from nine water wells on 10-11 November.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills also continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. About 100 loads were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 10-11 November.
- Nevertheless, **these operations are challenged by the frequent breakdown of already aged vehicles, the unavailability of spare parts, risk of staff movement and scarcity of fuel.**
- On a daily basis, UNRWA teams handle maintenance and rehabilitation works at several shelters including plumbing, repair to water and sewage networks and electrical fixings, to ensure that facilities at the shelters are as operational as possible.

Food security

- Eleven bakeries have been hit and destroyed since 7 October. Only one of the WFP-contracted bakeries, along with eight others in the southern and Middle areas, are able to provide bread to shelters while working intermittently, depending on the availability of flour and fuel. People queue for long hours outside bakeries, where they are exposed to bombardments and strikes.
- UNRWA is providing shelters with wheat flour used by IDPs to make bread.

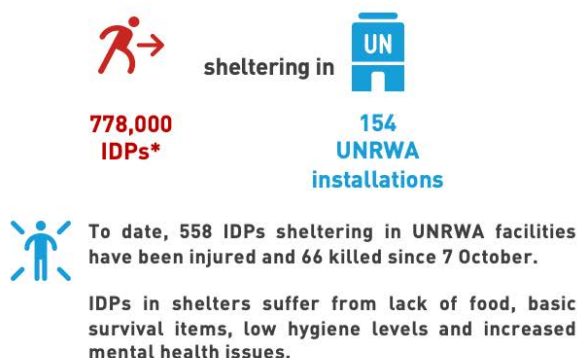
Quote from an elderly displaced man in the UNRWA Khan Younis Training Centre

“Getting a loaf of bread has become a thing of the past. [...] The situation is very tough, and it’s hard to put into words just how difficult it is.”

ENDs –

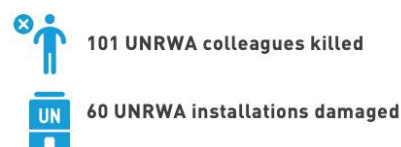
UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations



UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October

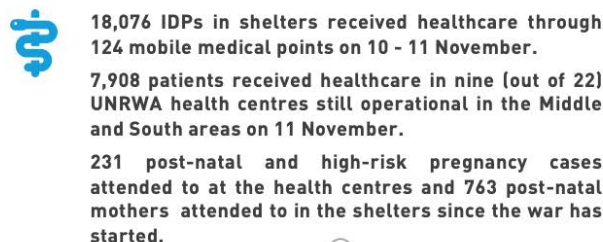


* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

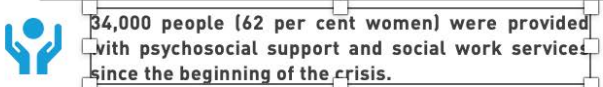
Humanitarian access



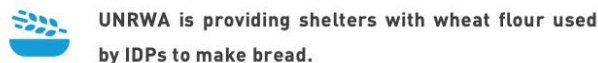
UNRWA response – Health



UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



UNRWA response – Food security



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Louise Wateridge
Global Media Requests
Mobile: +972-54-240-2716 (what's app)
On Twitter: @UNRWA
Email: l.wateridge2@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