

UNRWA Situation Report no. 21 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Day 27 of hostilities

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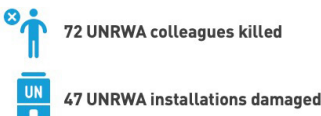
UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

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.

UNRWA response – Health



9 (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operating in Middle Area, Khan Yunis and Rafah.

5,600 patients, both refugees and non refugees, received basic medical services in the operational health centres in the South on 2 Nov.

UNRWA set up 92 mobile medical units and medical teams attending 9,566 cases at shelters on 2 Nov.

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



20,910 people were provided with psychosocial support and social work services.

UNRWA continues to coordinate with Humanity and Inclusion to support persons with disabilities in the shelters with specialized assistance and devices.

Key Points

The Gaza Strip

Seventy-two UNRWA personnel have been killed since 7 October. This is the highest number of UN aid workers killed in a conflict in such a short time. UNRWA grieves this huge loss. No words can do justice to thousands of UNRWA staff who continue to work tirelessly to support Palestinian communities in need in Gaza.

Two internally displaced persons (IDPs) were killed and 31 injured, including 15 children, due to collateral damage caused by a strike close to two UNRWA schools in the Middle area.

Some 695,000 IDPs are sheltering in 149 installations across the Gaza Strip.

The provision of humanitarian relief remains extremely challenging due to lack of essential supplies, shortage of fuel, ongoing bombardments, destruction of infrastructure, and disruptions to communication networks.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Several operations were conducted by the Israeli Security Forces (ISF) in different Palestine refugee camps across the West Bank, resulting in three Palestinian fatalities (including one 14-year-old boy) and five injuries.

Overall Situation

The Gaza Strip

According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, 9,061 people have been killed since 7 October, of whom 73 per cent are women, children and older persons. Over 22,240 people have been injured. This is in addition to the 2,000 reported missing, presumably under the rubble of destroyed buildings, including 1,100 children.

Overall, nearly 1,400 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to the Israeli authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

Over 535,000 persons are sheltering in 92 UNRWA facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. Shelters have reached their limit and are unable to accommodate new arrivals, and many IDPs are sleeping on the streets in the vicinity of UNRWA premises. More than one million people, almost half the population of Gaza, have been pushed from the north of Gaza southward. Many – including pregnant women, people with disabilities, the sick and the wounded – are not able to move.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Overnight between 1 and 2 November, the ISF conducted several search and arrest operations with clashes erupting in different locations across the West Bank, including Jalazone, Ein Sultan, Aqbat Jaber, Dheisheh and Arroub refugee camps.

On 2 November, the IF conducted an operation in Qalqilya, in the northern West Bank, involving an exchange of fire with Palestinian armed groups. One 19-year-old Palestinian was killed and two others (including one minor) were injured with live ammunition. Several cases of tear gas inhalation were also reported.

Palestinians opened fire on a settler's vehicle on Road 60, Beit Leed, Tulkarem governorate, and one Israeli soldier was killed. Following the incident, Israeli settlers gathered, protested, attacked and threw stones at Palestinian vehicles. In addition, a group of settlers attacked the village of Deir Sharaf and set fire to Palestinian property.

During an IF search operation in Al Bireh, close to Ramallah, the IF opened fire during clashes with Palestinians, killing two persons, including one 14-year-old Palestinian refugee child. Another three Palestinians were injured with live ammunition, including a minor.

On 2 November, 12 Palestinians from Gaza were reportedly detained by the IF while getting medical services at Al Maqassed Hospital, in East Jerusalem.

Humanitarian Access, Protection of Civilians

Since 7 October, 72 UNRWA personnel have been killed and at least 23 have been injured, including one who was severely injured while traveling in a UN vehicle that was damaged by a nearby strike.

Two IDPs were killed and 31 (including 15 children) were injured due to collateral damage caused by a strike near two UNRWA schools in Bureij camp, in the Middle Area. The two schools, which are located next to each other, are sheltering a total of 15,200 IDPs.

According to reports received by UNRWA, a school in Jabalia Camp (North Gaza) was severely impacted, resulting in several people killed and injured among the IDPs sheltering in the school. UNRWA is verifying the information to establish the actual number of casualties and the impact on the school. The last reported number of IDPs sheltering in this school was 3,600 on 12 October.

Since 7 October, in total 23 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA installations have been killed and 340 injured.

In total, 47 UNRWA installations have been damaged since 7 October.

The health-care system has been severely impacted by the hostilities. According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, since 7 October, 135 health workers have been killed and 58 health-care facilities hit. In total, 16 hospitals and 51 primary health-care centres are out of service due to conflict or the lack of fuel.

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

Overcrowding conditions continue to create severe health and protection risks for IDPs, while also taking a heavy toll on their mental health. Damage to water and sanitation infrastructure and the limited availability of fuel to pump water creates additional public health risks. Several cases of acute respiratory infections, diarrhea and chicken pox have already been reported among the population taking refuge at UNRWA shelters.



[Adam was born this week in Gaza. UNRWA medical staff worked tirelessly to provide medical assistance before delivery at a nearby hospital. They continue to provide post-natal care. He is currently sheltering at the UNRWA Khan Younis Training Centre Shelter. © 2023 UNRWA Photo](#)

Health

On 2 November, the nine operational health centres in the south recorded a total of 5,600 patient visits, including refugees and non-refugees.

Health services in UNRWA shelters were maintained with the support of 92 mobile medical units and medical teams, serving 9,566 cases.

Fuel stocks for the health facilities will be completely exhausted in a few days, putting at risk the provision of essential health services.

Relief and Social Services / Psychosocial support

UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters, who provide psychological first aid and other specialized protection services. Since the beginning of the crisis, UNRWA social workers provided 20,910 people with psychosocial support and social work services.

UNRWA continues to coordinate with the organization “Humanity and Inclusion” to identify persons with disabilities in the shelters to support them with specialized assistance and devices.

Quote from UNRWA Commissioner-General Phillipe Lazzarini

"Across the Gaza Strip, these shelters should be a safe haven, under the flag of the United Nations."

ENDs –

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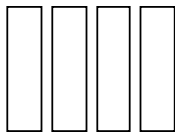
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