



UNRWA Situation Report #100 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

All information from 4-7 April 2024, is valid as of 7 April 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 181-184 of Hostilities

Published 9 April 2024



UNRWA staff carrying out psychosocial activities with children in a shelter centre in Nuseirat, Gaza Strip, April 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Mohammed Hinnawi

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip update will shift to twice a week, every Monday and Thursday.

The Gaza Strip

- Israeli Security Forces (ISF) continued military operations across the Gaza Strip, resulting in further civilian casualties, displacement and destruction of houses and other civilian infrastructure. Airstrikes and bombardment continued in north Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah where UNRWA estimates a total of 1.2 million people are now living, the vast majority in formal and informal shelters.
- OCHA released its Gaza Humanitarian Access Snapshot for March 2024¹. The report highlighted that The Gaza Strip is undergoing unparalleled humanitarian crisis marked by relentless hostilities and mounting challenges in accessing critical aid and services. Despite ongoing humanitarian efforts, the situation is exacerbated by frequent aerial bombardments

¹ [Humanitarian Access Snapshot - Gaza Strip | 1-31 March 2024 - occupied Palestinian territory | ReliefWeb](#)

in densely populated urban zones, extensive military ground operations, risks posed by unexploded ordnance (UXO), pervasive insecurity, closures of key crossing points, restrictions on movement and access by Israeli authorities, and damage to infrastructure.

- In March 2024, a total of 420 trucks food trucks were denied or impeded by Israeli authorities. Following reports of imminent famine, 40.5 per cent of all food missions have been denied in February and March. Gaza is on the brink of famine, with 1.1 million people—half of its population—experiencing catastrophic food insecurity due to the intense conflict and severe restrictions on humanitarian access. Immediate action is imperative from Israeli authorities and all involved parties to ensure safe and unhindered access for humanitarian organizations. This is crucial to address the urgent needs of Gaza's population. UNRWA continues to be disproportionate restrictions on access, with no food convoys approved since March 2024. UNRWA was last able to deliver food to the north at the end of January.
- On 5 April, a multi-agency mission led by WHO gained access to Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City for a preliminary assessment of the damage and to determine the needs. Leading up to the mission, WHO's attempts to reach the hospital for medical evacuations and assessments were repeatedly denied, delayed, or obstructed six times between 25 March and 1 April. Despite coordination with Israeli authorities, the mission experienced significant delays at the military checkpoint on the way to Al-Shifa Hospital. Simultaneously, another WHO-led mission headed for Al-Awda and Kamal Adwan hospitals in northern Gaza faced setbacks. This mission aimed to deliver medical supplies, fuel, deploy emergency medical teams, and facilitate the referral of critical patients. However, it encountered unnecessary delays, including the detention of a supply truck driver who was part of the convoy. He was detained for over an hour at a separate location, away from the mission team. Eventually, due to safety concerns, the mission had to be aborted.
- On 7 April, on World Health Day, out of the 36 primary hospitals that once catered to the needs of over 2 million Gazans, only 10 are currently operational, albeit with significant restrictions on the range of services they can provide. Similarly, only eight UNRWA health centres continue to operate out of 24, where two have been temporarily set up due to growing displaced populations.
- There has been no significant change in the volume of humanitarian supplies entering Gaza or improved access to the north. Since the beginning of April, an average of 177 aid trucks have crossed into Gaza per day via the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) and Rafah land crossings. This remains well below the operational capacity of both border crossings and the target of 500 trucks per day.
- Since 7 October, UNRWA provided over 1.8 million people, or 85 per cent of the population, with flour. In addition, nearly 600,000² people have received emergency food parcels and almost 3.6 million patient consultations have been provided at health centres and points. UNRWA continues to provide storage and distribution for other agencies' food commodities.
- As of 7 April, the total number of UNRWA colleagues killed since the beginning of hostilities is **178, an increase of one.**

² UNRWA and other UN parcels distributed by UNRWA.

- As of 1 April, up to 1.7 million* people (over 75 per cent of the population)** have been displaced across the Gaza Strip, the majority multiple times.*** Families are forced to move repeatedly in search of safety. Following intense Israeli bombardments and fighting in Khan Younis and the Middle Area in recent weeks, a significant number of displaced people have moved further south.

*This includes 1 million people living in or near emergency shelters or informal shelters. As of 12 October, approximately 160,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were recorded in UNRWA shelters in Northern Gaza and Gaza City governorates. UNRWA currently estimates that the population of Northern Gaza and Gaza City governorates is up to 300,000 people. 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 ISF, and the constant need for safer locations have resulted in people being displaced multiple times.

**UNRWA reported on 15 January in Situation Report 64 that up to 1.9 million IDPs were either residing in 154 UNRWA shelters or near these shelters. Due to the continued escalation of fighting and evacuation orders, some households have moved away from the shelters where they were initially registered.

*** 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.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem update will shift to once a week, every Monday.

- Between 4 and 7 April there were at least 94 ISF search and arrest operations recorded, and 100 Palestinians detained, including Palestine refugees. This includes 12 Palestinians who were detained in an ISF search operation in Biddu, central West Bank, on 4 April.
- Two Palestinians were killed during this period: one during an ISF operation in Nur Shams Camp on 5 April; and one during an ISF operation in Ya'bad on 4 April - both in the northern West Bank.
- The last Friday of Ramadan, 5 April, saw a number of incidents in and around Al Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem's Old City. Reports were received of Palestinians being detained while leaving the Al Aqsa Mosque compound, and of Palestinians being physically assaulted by ISF personnel.
- In the southern West Bank, settlers harassed and attacked Palestinian shepherds and farmers in Masafer Yatta and Az Zuweidin on 7 April. They prevented Palestinians from reaching their fields and began grazing their own sheep on Palestinian-owned land.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza as of 5 April, at least 33,091 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 75,750 Palestinians have been reportedly injured.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, between 7 October 2023– 1 April 2024, 440 Palestinians, including at least 110 children, have been killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents reportedly affecting UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.

Please note that no new armed conflict incident was reported between 4-7 **April 2024**.

- **352*** 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 **52** incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises. **161** different UNRWA installations have been impacted.
- UNRWA estimates that in total at least **409*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA shelters have been killed and at least a further **1,409*** 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.

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

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- As of 7 April, nearly **1.7 million** displaced people are now sheltering across emergency shelters (UNRWA and public shelters), informal sites or in the vicinity of UNRWA shelters and distribution sites and within host communities.

Health

- As of 28 March, eight (out of 24³) UNRWA health centres were operational. Of those, one is in the north, two are in the Middle Area, two are in Khan Younis and three are in Rafah. These health centres provide primary health care services, including outpatient services, non-communicable disease care, medication, vaccination, antenatal and postnatal health care and dressing for injured patients.

³ Pre-conflict UNRWA had 22 health centres, following the conflict an additional 2 temporary health centres are operational in the Mawasi area.

- On 13 March, UNRWA opened a temporary health centre to provide health services for the people in al-Mawasi, west of Khan Younis.
- Nearly 747 healthcare staff continue to work in operational health centres. On 28 March, they provided 12,352 medical consultations.
- UNRWA conducted another 8,323 medical consultations through 339 staff at shelters, including at the newly established medical points in al-Mawasi area to serve an influx of displaced persons from Khan Younis. The total registered population in al-Mawasi is currently 403,447.
- As of 28 March, UNRWA provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in the Middle and Khan Younis areas with teams of psychiatrists and supervisors to assist special cases referred from health centres and shelters. UNRWA teams responded to 1,173 cases in health centres and in medical points through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support for cases of gender-based violence. UNRWA teams provided medical care for 363 post-natal and pregnant women at high risk.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- With the support of 300 counsellors, UNRWA continues to provide live-saving psychosocial support (PSS) services in Gaza, including psychosocial first aid, individual and group counselling, fatigue management sessions, recreational activities, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) for children and youth as well as protection case assistance.
- Since the onset of the conflict, it is estimated that 590,000 IDPs including over 320,000 children have benefited from a total of 165,222 PSS sessions/activities. During the period from 1 – 8 April 2024, a total of 20,078 IDPs, including 13,108 children, benefited from these services. Specifically, counselors addressed 758 individual consultations and provided 605 group awareness sessions benefiting 5,399 adults. Additionally, they conducted 490 recreational activities engaging 11,140 children. Counsellors also provided 133 EORE sessions to 1,422 adults and 1,968 children and contributed to supporting 149 protection cases.

Food security

- As of 28 March, UNRWA continued to distribute flour outside of shelters in the southern governorates. To date, a total of 379,461 families (1,837,805 individuals) have been reached, of whom 236,505 families have received two rounds of flour and a further 34,321 families have received three rounds of flour.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

Due to the security situation, in combination with challenges to internet connectivity, we have been unable to provide any additional updates since Sitrep 67.

Quote from Malak, a 12-year-old girl displaced in Rafah:

"I was hoping to spend Ramadan with loved ones, hoping for the free and democratic world to act towards a ceasefire, allowing us to reclaim our lost homes. I dream of a joyous Eid al-Fitr celebrated in our neighborhood back at home."

ENDs -



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 **409** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,409** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



178 UNRWA colleagues **killed**



352
incidents



161
UNRWA
installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Food assistance



379,461 families outside of shelters have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates at least once since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health



Partial update on 28 March due to security and internet connectivity issues

Only 8 (out of 24) UNRWA health care centres operational.

20,675 patients received healthcare in 8 (out of 24) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Water, sanitation and hygiene



Updated on 16 Jan:

7 water wells continue to operate pumping approximately 3,000 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 UNRWA shelters in North Gaza and Gaza governorates. UNRWA currently estimates that the population of North Gaza and Gaza governorates to be up to 300,000 people. 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 se 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.