



Displaced Palestinian children sheltering in Deir al Balah, middle area of the Gaza Strip, January 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- As of 8 January 2024, the total number of UNRWA colleagues killed since the beginning of hostilities is **146**.
- Since 7 October 2023, **up to 1.9 million people** (or over 85 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.
- As of 8 January, nearly 1.4 million IDPs are sheltering in 155 UNRWA facilities across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including 160,000 in the north and Gaza City, and nearly 400,000 are in close vicinity of these installations and receiving assistance from UNRWA. A total of 1.73 million¹ IDPs are receiving assistance from UNRWA. This number has reduced by approximately

150,000 as families were forced to move away from UNRWA facilities due to Israeli Authorities' issued evacuation orders in the middle area and Khan Younis (south).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 8 January, Israeli Security Forces (ISF) conducted a search and arrest operation in Tulkarm, northern West Bank. Armed clashes took place in Tulkarm city, Tulkarm refugee camp and surrounding areas and three Palestinians were reportedly killed. ISF closed all entrances to the camp.
- Several ISF search and arrest operations leading to confrontations with Palestinians were reported across the West Bank, including operations in Nur Shams refugee camp, Qalqiliya Nablus, and other locations.
- On 7 January, the ISF search and arrest operation in Jenin city and Jenin refugee camp, northern West Bank, continued. On January 7, a Palestinian died from injuries sustained early in the morning. More than ten injuries were reported following an air strike in Jenin town's Al Shuhada square.

¹ This includes nearly 160,000 IDPs in north Gaza and Gaza City governorates as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support and update data in the above areas is severely restricted. The hostilities, Israeli Forces' evacuation orders and the constant search for safer places meant that people are displaced multiple times. UNRWA shelters often provide assistance to registered Palestine Refugees and other members of the community. There are instances where total numbers could be duplicated due to overlapping registrations, this is why we use "estimates" for these figures.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza on 7 January, at least 23,084 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 58,926 Palestinians have been reportedly injured.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, between 7 October 2023–7 January 2024, 329 Palestinians, including 84 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.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- UNRWA is working to verify details of incidents reportedly impacting UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
 - On 7 January, in Khan Younis (south) **one UNRWA staff** was reportedly injured while transporting garbage from a school to the containers in front of the school, as a result of falling shrapnel. In a separate incident, four **IDPs** sheltering at a different school in Khan Younis **were killed** and **six were injured**, as a result of two reported strikes in close vicinity of the school premises.
- **222** 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. **63** different UNRWA installations were directly hit, and **69** different installations sustained collateral damage.

UNRWA estimates that in total at least **323** internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltering in UNRWA shelters have been killed and at least a further **1,142*** injured since the start of the war. UNRWA is still verifying the number of casualties during hits that impacted our installations.

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

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- As of 2 January, in total, **nearly 1.4 million displaced people are now sheltering in 155 UNRWA installations**, with another 400,000 accessing services from UNRWA.
- The average number of IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the middle and southern areas is over **12,000 per shelter. This is more than four times their capacity.**

Health

- On 7 January 2024, only six (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were operational in the middle and southern areas with **10,158 patient visits recorded.**
- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at health centres. On 7 January, a total of 200 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at the health centres.
- On 7 January, UNRWA continued to provide health care at UNRWA health centres and shelters with 663 staff maintaining health services.

- On 7 January, UNRWA attended to 19,649 patients in UNRWA shelters and health centres.
- Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services were resumed in the Middle Areas 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 7 January, the team responded to 1,148 cases through individual consultations, awareness sessions, and support for gender-based violence cases.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 255 social workers in the shelters, continue to provide psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. **As of 6 January, around 83,576 IDPs were reached.**
- **School counsellors addressed 1,104 individual and family consultations in Rafah and Khan Younis (south), alongside 1,032 group sessions.** These efforts reached 20,957 IDPs, contributing to an accumulative total of 63,921 PSS sessions since 7 October.
- During the same period, school counsellors provided psychological support to nearly 427 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 6,630.**

Food security

- UNRWA continued to **distribute flour** outside of shelters in the southern governorates. **A total of 237,693 families have been reached so far.**

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- Between 7–8 January 2024, water wells in Jabalia (north), Khan Younis and Rafah (south) were operational. Nearly 14,000 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.
- During the same period, solid waste management services continued in Rafah, Khan Younis and the middle areas in Palestine refugee camps. The service has been forced to come to a halt in Bureij and Maghazi Palestine refugee camps due to the expansion of the Israeli Forces' operations. About 80 loadings have been transferred to temporary dumping sites.

Quote from [Randa](#), 17 young girl displaced in Rafah (south area) and sheltering in an UNRWA school:

"I lost 11 people from my family. But I don't have time to think of them...You can't just think of them because now you have to think of something more important."

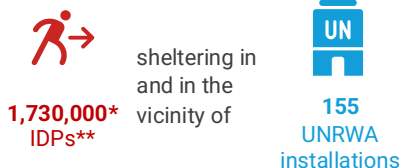
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UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

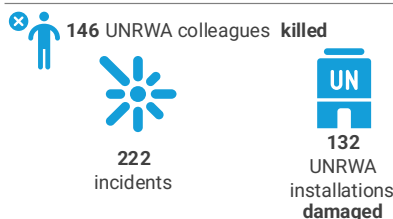
Confirmed IDP numbers, since 7 October 2023 – 8 January 2024



Overcrowding means at least **486 people per toilet** in UNRWA shelters in Rafah.

At least **323** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,142** injured since 7 October.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



* This includes nearly 160,000 IDPs in north Gaza and Gaza City governorates as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support and update data in the above areas is severely restricted.

** The war, Israeli Forces' evacuation orders and the constant search for safer places meant that people are displaced multiple times. UNRWA shelters often provide assistance to registered Palestine Refugees and other members of the community. There are instances where total numbers could be duplicated due to overlapping registrations, this is why we use "estimates" for these figures.

UNRWA response – Food assistance

237,693 families outside of shelters have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates since 21 Nov.

UNRWA response – Health

On 7 Jan:
200 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres
19,649 patients received healthcare in 6 (out of 22) UNRWA health care centres and UNRWA shelters.

UNRWA response – Water, sanitation and hygiene

Between 7 – 8 Jan:
8 water wells continue to operate pumping approximately 14,000 cubic metres of water.
Solid waste management continues in Rafah and Khan Younis, where **approximately 80 truck loadings** were transferred to temporary sites

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