

# UNRWA Situation Report #70 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem



All information from 25-27 January 2024, is valid as of 27 January 2024 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 111-113 of Hostilities

Published 29 January 2024



Children under heavy rain in Rafah City, southern Gaza Strip, January 2024. © 2024 UNRWA Photo by Mohamed Hinnawi

## 1. Key points

### The Gaza Strip

- Intense fighting in/around Khan Younis (southwest of Gaza) over the last six days is causing loss of lives and damage to civilian infrastructure, including UNRWA's largest shelter in the southern area, the Khan Younis Training Centre (KYTC).
- As of 27 January 2024, the total number of UNRWA colleagues killed since the beginning of hostilities has increased by one and is now **152**.
- As of 22 January, up to 1.7 million\* people (over 75 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. Following intense Israeli bombardments and fighting in Khan Younis and the Middle Areas in recent days, a significant number of displaced people have moved again further south.
- In the period between 21 October and 24 January, people received **21,881 metric tons (MT) of flour**, including **12,987 from UNRWA**.

- **In the same period, UNRWA delivered to Gaza:**
  - **Medicines and medical supplies** for a total value of more than US\$ 6.2 million.
  - Nearly **19 million litres of water**.
  - **2.7 million units of biscuits and high energy biscuits**.
  - **Nearly 4.7 million cans of protein-based food**, including beans, chicken, beef and canned meat.
  - **Over 6.5 million units of dairy items** (cheese).
  - **Other food items** including dates, cake and juice.
  - Non-food items (NFI) including nearly **100,000 mattresses; 80,000 family hygiene kits; over 3.1 million diapers; approximately 144,000 blankets; and over 1.9 million cleaning supply items**.
- On 25 and 26 January, Israeli protestors blocked aid trucks from accessing Gaza through the Kerem Shalom crossing.

\*This includes 1 million individuals residing in or near emergency shelters or informal shelters. As of October 12, approximately 160,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were recorded in north Gaza and Gaza governorates. 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 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 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 next West Bank update will be on 30 January 2024.

## 2. Overall situation

### The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza as of 26 January, at least 26,083 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 64,487 Palestinians have been reportedly injured.

### The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- According to OCHA, between 7 October 2023 – 26 January 2024, 361 Palestinians, including 92 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

Please see incidents for the period 25-27 January 2024. Note that the below includes a number of incidents that had occurred earlier but information became available during this reporting period.

- UNRWA is working to verify the details of incidents reportedly affecting UNRWA premises. Further information will be provided once it becomes available.
- On 16 November 2023, a health centre in Gaza town was directly struck, resulting in damage to the building and the boundary wall.
- On 16 November 2023, due to military activity and strikes in front of the gate of a school in Gaza town, the school sustained collateral damage.
- On 1 December 2023, a school in Khan Younis was directly hit, resulting in damages to the school. No casualties were reported. About 5,200 IDPs were reportedly sheltering in the school at the time of the incident.
- On 19 January 2024, due to strikes on a site close to the KYTC, fragments fell on a tent that IDPs had set up at the outside wall of the KYTC due to lack of space inside. As a result, a woman was killed and another individual sustained injuries.
- On 25 January 2024, a school in Khan Younis was directly struck. As a result, two IDPs were killed and 15 injured. Thousands of IDPs were reportedly sheltering at the school at the time of the incident. In a second incident, later on the same day, the area in front of the school was directly struck. As a result, 20 people were injured inside the school, including an UNRWA doctor in charge of the medical point.
- On 25 January 2024, during two different incidents, stray bullets and pieces of shrapnel fell inside the KYTC. As a result, ten IDPs were injured.
- On 25 January 2024, due to a strike that hit a number of cars parked in front of a school in Khan Younis, a fire broke out and many pieces of shrapnel fell inside the school. No injuries were reported. Thousands of IDPs were reportedly sheltering in the school at the time of the incident.
- On 26 January 2024, shrapnel fell inside a school in Khan Younis, resulting in one man sheltering in the school being seriously injured. The injured man was transferred to Nasser Hospital. Thousands of IDPs were reportedly sheltering in the school at the time of the incident.
- **263\*** 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 25 incidents of military use and/or interference at UNRWA premises.
- UNRWA estimates that in total at least **360\*** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA shelters have been killed and at least a further **1,302\*** 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.

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

## 4. UNRWA response

### The Gaza Strip

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

- As of 27 January, in total, nearly **1.7 million displaced people are now sheltering across emergency shelters (UNRWA and public shelters), informal sites or in close vicinity to UNRWA shelters and distribution sites and within host communities.**

**Due to the security situation and ISF evacuation orders between 150-155 UNRWA installations continue to shelter IDPs. Shelters are very congested.**

### Health

Due to the security situation in combination with internet connectivity we are unable to provide additional updates since Sitrep 68.

### Psychosocial support (PSS)

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

### Food security

Due to the security situation in combination with internet connectivity we are unable to provide updates.

### Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

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

### Quote from Abu Shadi, displaced in the Southern Gaza Strip:

“Getting a shelter from UNRWA has made a huge difference. We no longer fear the cold or the harsh weather. Our children can finally rest, knowing they are warm.”

**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 **360** IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and **1,302** injured since 7 October.

## UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



**152** UNRWA colleagues **killed**



**263**  
incidents



**145**  
UNRWA  
installations  
**damaged**

## UNRWA response – Food assistance



**323,482** families outside of shelters have received flour in middle areas and southern governorates since 21 Nov.

## UNRWA response – Health



*Partial update on 22 Jan due to security and internet connectivity issues*

**Further reduction in health services with now only 4** (out of 22) UNRWA health care centres operational.

## 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 north Gaza and Gaza governorates. 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.

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