Deir ‘Ammar camp is located 20 kilometres northwest of Ramallah. It is situated in a predominantly rural area in close proximity to Deir ‘Ammar village. Accessibility to Israeli and local job markets has brought relative economic stability to the camp. The camp is located in Area B, under joint Israeli and Palestinian control. Although there are several Israeli settlements in the area, all of which are illegal under the international law, these are situated away from the camp and are accessed by separate roads. As a result, clashes between settlers and camp residents are relatively uncommon.

Deir ‘Ammar camp is less densely populated than most of the West Bank refugee camps, with residents enjoying access to public spaces such as parks and a sports field. The camp faces an issue of unemployment, especially among the youth, which has substantially increased since 2015 due to a decrease in the number of Israeli work permits. Similarly, unemployment rates remain a challenge inside all camps with 17% recorded by PCBS’s Labour Taskforce Report, Q4 2022. Other problems in the camp include insufficient waste removal, flooding in winter, absence of sewerage network, unmaintained streets and transportation difficulty due to its geographically isolated location.

3,682 Registered population

1,223 Children 0-18 year (583 female 640 male)

education

Deir ‘Ammar camp has two UNRWA schools that serve 700 students based on 2021/2022 scholastic data. The UNRWA Deir ‘Ammar Basic Girls’ School was built in 2006, while the UNRWA Deir ‘Ammar Basic Boys’ School was renovated in 2004 and expanded in 2011 with funding from the Palestinian Authority (PA). Both schools are in good conditions and have libraries and computer and science laboratories. UNRWA psychosocial counsellors are present in both schools. Availability of recreational space, including football fields and playgrounds, contributes to the camp’s positive environment.

2 Schools
1 girls’
1 boys’

700 Students
382
318

27 Education staff: teachers, school principals, deputy school principals and school counselors

health

The health centre in Deir ‘Ammar camp was expanded in 2006 and provides primary health care including reproductive health, infant and child care, immunizations, screening and medical check-ups, and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases. A dentist is available twice per week. The centre lacks an x-ray machine, psychosocial counselling and physiotherapy are not available in the health centre either but the latter is provided at the Community Based Rehabilitation Centre.

535 Patients with non-communicable diseases provided with care

121 Pregnant women provided with Antenatal Care

492 Children 0-5 years provided with Child Health Care

*all data presented is unrwa annual data for 2022 unless stated otherwise
**infrastructure & camp improvement**

Sanitation Foreman conducts daily water examinations and manages a team of four sanitation labourers (1 temporary staff through various sources of funds), who collect solid waste. In 2013, sanitation workers distributed 80 large trash bins to be used by camp residents, a project that has improved the collection of solid waste. A further 65 containers were distributed in 2021.

A new water system was installed in 2012 that connects camp residents to potable water. However, the camp lacks a sewerage network. Residents use percolation pits instead, which are drained once every two weeks by a private company. Because residents are generally not constrained by space, the majority of percolation pits are well maintained and installed at an adequate distance away from shelters.

Although the current use of percolation pits does not present a serious health hazard to residents, population growth in the future may require an installation of a sewerage network. Deir ‘Ammar camp is situated on a high ground and is not susceptible to flooding but heavy rain can sometimes overburden the storm water network.

While the main streets of the camp are wide and well-maintained, many of the minor paths are less than two meters wide, leaving limited space for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The main entrance to the camp requires renovation due to its poor condition. Despite the camp’s relatively low population density, residents seeking to expand their shelters must often build upon existing structures, many of which were not structurally designed to support additional floors. Since 2013, UNRWA has been constructing and rehabilitating shelters in the camp yet needs continue to increase and additional funding is required.

**protection & neutrality**

The camp’s location makes ISF operations a rare occurrence. Another consequence of the camp’s location is that residents need to travel a considerable distance to access hospital services or after-hours emergency medical care. Similarly, children attending secondary school are required travel to a neighbouring village. In addition, high property prices in neighbouring areas have led to a significant overcrowding in some areas of the camp. However, the camp is generally less densely compared with other camps, for example the camp has a sports field which serves camp residents as well as the two neighbouring villages of Jamaleh and Beitillu.

**relief & social services**

Through the Social Safety Net Programme, UNRWA provides cash assistance to around 114 impoverished refugees each year, which is equivalent to 3.0 per cent of the registered population in the camp. Moreover, through the Emergency Appeal (EA), an additional 25 individuals receive emergency cash assistance (ECA).

Social workers conduct home visits to identify cases which require additional support. In addition, UNRWA Crisis Intervention Unit provides financial assistance to residents whose shelters have been damaged after incursions to repair broken doors, windows, etc. It also refers the victims to services such as mental health counselling and legal assistance.

- **162** Identified poor households* (704 individuals)
- **31** Female-headed household identified poor
- **21%** of the identified poor households benefit from the e-card (Social Safety Net Programme and Emergency Cash Assistance)
- **34** Households
- **139** Individuals
- **12** Female-headed household

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Many of the UNRWA installations in the camp are also aging and need renovation. A new health centre, camp services office (CSO) and environmental health stores have been reconstructed in 2022 with a generous fund from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) while the Girls’ school is still prioritized for rehabilitation works.

- **1,112** Tons of solid waste removed in camps
- **0%** Sewerage connection
- **4** Sanitation labourers

* Poor Households are identified using UNRWA’s standard criteria, the Proxy Means Testing Formula (PMTF).