



UNRWA Situation Report #12 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank (including East Jerusalem)

All information valid as of 22 October 2023 at 22:00 (local time)

Day 16 of Hostilities



1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- Another six UNRWA staff have been confirmed killed, bringing the total to **35 staff killed since 7 October**.
- **Across the Gaza Strip, nearly 600,000 internally displaced people are sheltering in 150 UNRWA facilities¹.**
- **Nearly 420,000 IDPs are sheltering in 93 UNRWA shelters in Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** This represents an increase of 14,000 (3.5 per cent) IDPs in the past 24 hours.
- A total of 40 UNRWA installations have been damaged since 7 October, including **two in the last 24 hours**.

¹ Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before the evacuation order. UNRWA is no longer able to provide services to the IDPs in those areas due to the ongoing hostilities and does not have accurate information on their needs and conditions.

The West Bank

- On 22 October 2023, **an Israeli Forces airstrike hit al-Ansar Mosque in Jenin Refugee Camp**. The mosque is located within the boundaries of the camp. The Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) reported that two Palestinians were killed in the airstrike, and another three injured.
- **UNRWA staff reported that many families left the Jenin camp, seeking shelter with friends and relatives.**
- UNRWA sanitation services in Jenin Camp were more limited on 22 October. The four UNRWA schools in Jenin (1,700 students) shifted to online learning modality.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, 4,651 people have been killed since 7 October of those 40 per cent are children, 22 per cent are women and 4 per cent are elderly. Another 14,245 Palestinians were injured.
- 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).
- **On average, the shelters are hosting about 2.57 times their designed capacity.** The most crowded shelter, at its most severe level of overcrowding, was hosting **11 times more people than its designed capacity.**

The West Bank

- According to OCHA 91 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank and 1,734 injured since 7 October. Of these, 31 are Palestine Refugees according to UNRWA.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- Among those killed are **35 UNRWA colleagues, while another 18 have been injured** since 7 October.
- Shrapnel was found in two UNRWA facilities, including one in the Bureij camp and another in Nuseirat in the Middle area. These fragments resulted from airstrikes on areas in close proximity to UNRWA installations on 22 October.
- In total, 40 UNRWA installations have been damaged since 7 October.

The West Bank (including East Jerusalem)

- **Movements of Palestinians in the West Bank, including Palestine Refugees and UNRWA staff, continue to be significantly limited**, due to movement restrictions imposed by the Israeli Authorities. Access routes to major cities have been obstructed for vehicles.

- **UNRWA continues to provide services**, supported by staff living in close proximity to UNRWA premises and installations.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

Shelters

- An assessment of the **specific needs of persons with disabilities** and other vulnerable people in UNRWA shelters is ongoing in cooperation with the INGO Humanity and Inclusion. Since the beginning of the hostilities, about 900 persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs have been provided with specialized support including dignity kits and assistance devices.
- To support displaced families and address the problem of bread shortages, UNRWA is supplying local bakeries with flour, to give bread to families at a subsidized rate. UNRWA continues to provide bread provided to the displaced across the UNRWA shelters.

Health

- Out of the 22 UNRWA health centres, eight are operational, offering primary healthcare services to refugees. These centres recorded a **total of 4,062 visits on 22 October**, for refugees and non-refugees. This is around one-third of average daily patient visits before 7 October.
- Telemedicine services remain unavailable due to communication network issues across the Gaza Strip.
- Healthcare services were maintained within the shelters, with the **support of 89 mobile medical units and medical teams, which attended a total of 9,068 cases at shelters.**
- According to initial health assessments that the UNRWA mobile medical teams conducted with the IDPs in UNRWA shelter, there are **over 18,000 persons with non-communicable diseases (NCDs), nearly 3,200 pregnant women and around 320 post-natal cases requiring medical attention.**
- The UNRWA stocks of medicines are critically decreasing with different medicines available for between five to fifteen days.

Sanitation services/WASH

- **Some solid waste collection from the camps and emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.** The scarcity of fuel and staff is impacting solid waste management activities.
- Water wells in Jabalia, Khan Younis and Rafah are functional, with about 11,000 cubic metres pumped from nine water wells daily.
- Water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas continue, but the availability is not enough to meet the needs of the displaced in UNRWA shelters.
- UNRWA teams are conducting maintenance and rehabilitation at dozens of shelters. These include plumbing, electrical, metal, carpentry works to repair damages and upgrades to support increasing numbers of IDPs.

ENDs -

Gaza, 22 October 2023



~600,000*
IDPs

sheltering in



150

UNRWA
installations



35

UNRWA
personnel
killed



40

UNRWA
installations
damaged

since 7 October 2023

*Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltered in 57 schools in the North and Gaza area as of 12 October 2023. After the evacuation order, UNRWA is no longer able to provide services to the IDPs in those areas due to the ongoing hostilities and does not have accurate information on their needs and conditions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Louise Wateridge

Global Media Requests

Mobile: +972-54-240-2716 (what's app)

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: L.wateridge2@unrwa.org

Estefania Diaz

[English / French / Spanish language]

European Media Requests

Mobile: +32-473-82-2006

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: e.diaz@unrwa.org

Lily Esposito

[English / French language]

European Media Requests

Mobile: +972-54-240-2680 (what's app)

On Twitter: @UNRWA

Email: l.esposito@unrwa.org