



UNRWA Situation Report #8 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank (including East Jerusalem)

17 October 2023 as of 18:30



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Area general updates

- On the afternoon of 17 October (local time), [an UNRWA school](#) in Al Maghazi refugee camp in the middle area of Gaza, sheltering some 4,000 displaced people, was hit. As a result, eight people were killed and 40 injured, including three UNRWA staff.
- A few hours later, the Al-Ahli Anglican Episcopal Hospital in Gaza City was hit. At least 500 people were reported killed. The hospital was operational, with patients, health and caregivers, and internally displaced people sheltering there.
- The UN Secretary-General condemned the strike on the hospital and the school in a [statement](#).
- The siege on the Gaza Strip has continued since 7 October. UNRWA and other humanitarian actors have not been able to bring any humanitarian supplies into the Gaza Strip since that date.

Overall situation

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, 3,000 people have been killed since 7 October and a further 12,500 injured.
- In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, at least 61 Palestinians have been killed since 7 October and at least 1,230 are injured. (OCHA).
- The number of people killed in Israel is 1,300, with at least 4,229 wounded. (Source: OCHA)
- The number of internally displaced people across the Gaza Strip is estimated at around one million, including approximately 513,507¹ internally displaced persons (IDPs) taking shelter at UNRWA facilities across the Gaza Strip.

Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

- At least 14 UNRWA staff and personnel have been killed since 7 October and nine staff have been injured. The actual number is likely to be much higher. These figures include only those that the Agency has been able to confirm.
- Since the beginning of the war, nearly 100 IDPs sheltering at UNRWA facilities have been injured and eight killed.
- There have been 32 confirmed reports of UNRWA installations across the Gaza Strip impacted by the Israeli Security Forces strikes.
- In the West Bank (including in East Jerusalem), UNRWA staff continue to face severe access and movement restrictions, due to closures, checkpoints and roadblocks by the Israeli Security Forces.

UNRWA response

In the Gaza Strip

- Many UNRWA staff have been displaced, impacting the Agency's ability to provide assistance to those who need it most in all the shelters.
- UNRWA shelters are overcrowded and have very limited supplies of food, hygiene and cleaning supplies and potable water. The dire conditions, compounded by trauma due to the war, have started to fuel tensions among the IDPs in the shelters.
- The water crisis continues due to the inability to bring in much needed fuel, which is needed to operate water pumps and desalination plants. It is further compounded by the very limited supply of water on the market. Many UNRWA shelters have no water supplies. Health-related risks due to the lack of water and poor sanitation are growing, including water-borne and other diseases.
- Only eight (out of 22) UNRWA health centres in three areas (Rafah, Khan Younis and the Middle Areas) were able to provide primary health-care services to critical outpatient cases and patients in need of treatment for non-communicable diseases.
- Today, over 3,500 patients received medical services at UNRWA health centres. 52 mobile medical teams and 60 mobile medical points have been established to provide primary health care to IDPs in shelters.
- Advocacy efforts continue at the highest levels to ensure safe humanitarian access to deliver critical supplies into the Gaza Strip including fuel, food, water, medical supplies and other basic items.
- UNRWA continues to advocate for international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians to be respected.

In the West Bank

- UNRWA suspended its operations in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, on 18 October, due to the security situation and operational constraints.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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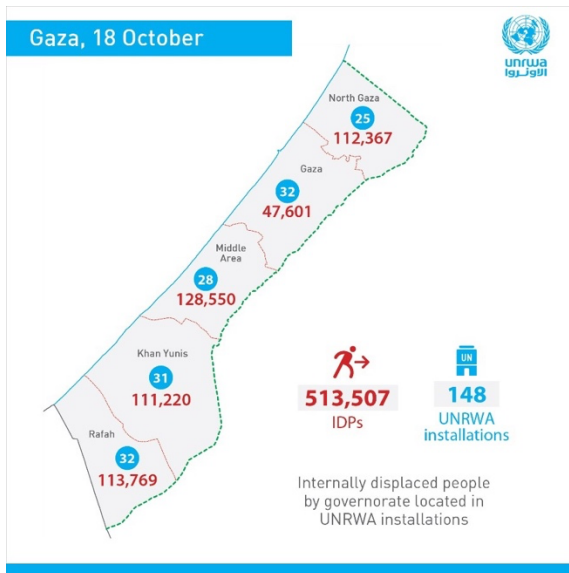
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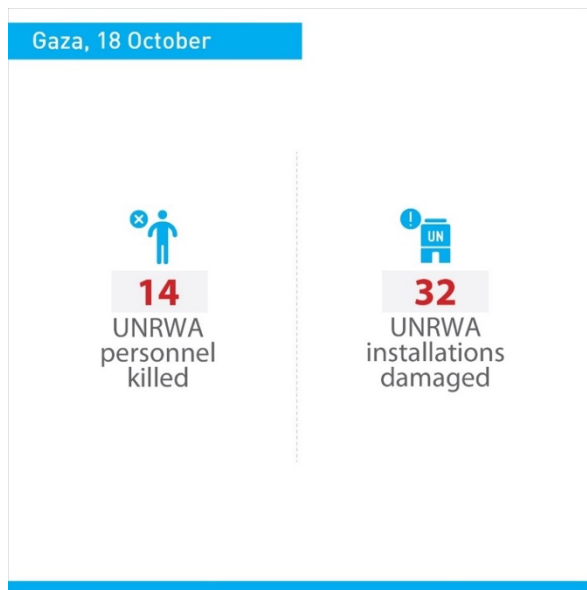
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Source: UNRWA. Data for the middle area, Khan Yunis and Rafah is as of 18 October 2023. Figures for Gaza and North Gaza governorates, i.e. above the evacuation line are from 12 October, 2023. Large numbers of IDPs remain in shelters in these areas but UNRWA has not been able to verify precise populations.

Confirmed number of UNRWA personnel killed & UNRWA installations damaged since 7 October



Source: UNRWA. Data since 7 October 2023.