



UNRWA SITUATION REPORT #18 ON THE SITUATION IN THE GAZA STRIP AND THE WEST BANK (INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM)

Tuesday, October 31, 2023

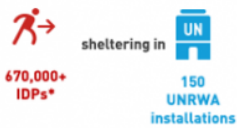
All information valid as of 30 October 2023 at 18:00 (local time)

Day 24 of hostilities



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations



Overcrowding in shelters is creating severe health and protection concerns for IDPs.

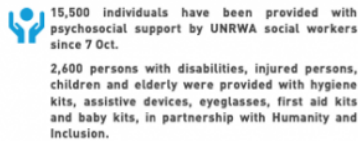
UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October

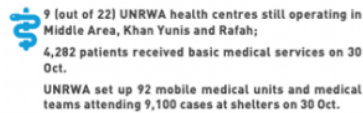


* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

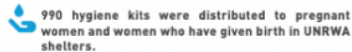
UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



UNRWA response – Health



UNRWA response – WASH



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Key Points

The Gaza Strip

- In the last 24 hours, three UNRWA staff have been killed in ongoing strikes, while in their houses with their families, bringing the total to 67 UNRWA colleagues killed since 7 October.
- The situation in shelters remains critical, with very limited assistance available and no additional space to accommodate the increasing number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs). More than 670,000 people are sheltering in nearly 150 UNRWA installations across the Gaza Strip, facing deteriorating humanitarian conditions and health and protection risks.

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- Israeli Security Forces (ISF) operations, involving Palestinian fatalities, were reported in Askar, Dheisheh, and Jenin refugee camps on 29 and 30 October. Several other Palestinians were injured during these operations, and damage to civilian infrastructure was also reported.
- According to OCHA, 121 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank since 7 October.

Overall Situation

The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, 8,306 people have been killed since 7 October, including 3,457 children, 2,136 women and 480 elderly, and a further 21,048 injured.



Overall, nearly 1,400 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to the [United Nations relief and works agency for palestine refugees in the near east](#) (en) [\(Arabic\)](#). The UNRWA's humanitarian assistance and the assistance currently available is not enough to cover the most basic needs of the affected population.

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The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- On 29 October, ISF conducted an operation in Askar refugee camp, Nablus, during which fire was exchanged with Palestinian armed actors. A Palestinian man from the neighbouring Balata refugee camp was reported killed during the clashes. Roads and civilian infrastructure were also damaged in the operation. One tear gas canister was found in the grounds of an UNRWA school in the camp.
- On the same day, the ISF launched a large-scale operation in Dheisheh refugee camp, Bethlehem. One person was killed and three injured were reported.
- On 30 October, the ISF conducted a search and arrest operation in Jenin refugee camp, involving an exchange of fire with Palestinian armed actors. Four Palestinians were reported killed and five injured. The operation resulted in substantial damage to civilian infrastructure in the camp and surrounding areas, which adds to the damage and destruction caused by previous ISF operations in the camp.
- Several other ISF operations were conducted in Jalazone (Ramallah) and Dheisheh (Bethlehem) refugee camps. Five Palestinians were injured by live ammunition and camp residents were exposed to tear gas.
- A Palestinian man was shot and killed after reportedly stabbing and severely injuring an Israeli police officer near a tram station in East Jerusalem.

Humanitarian Access, Protection of Civilians

- Since 7 October, 67 UNRWA colleagues have been killed and at least 22 injured.
- In total, 44 UNRWA installations have been damaged since 7 October.
- On 30 October, a total of 26 trucks of humanitarian supplies entered Gaza through the Rafah crossing with Egypt. UNRWA teams received those shipments on the Gaza side and help with the storage and distribution in cooperation with other UN agencies. The convoys included some medical supplies, food, and water, but none of these are UNRWA's. To date, 143 trucks entered Gaza since 21 October in total, following two weeks of tight siege (OCHA).

UNRWA Response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- Overcrowding in shelters continues to cause severe health and protection impact for IDPs and is leaving a heavy toll on their mental health. The average number of IDPs per shelter is close to four times their intended capacity.

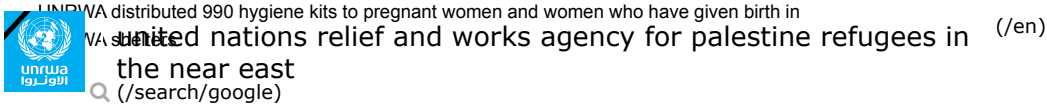
Health

- Nine UNRWA health centres are still operational in the Middle and South areas, recording 4,282 patient visits on 30 October, including refugees and non-refugees.
- Health-care services were maintained in the 92 UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern areas, with the support of mobile medical units and medical teams, serving 9,100 persons on 30 October.
- Fuel stocks for health facilities will be completely exhausted in five days, putting at risk the provision of essential health services.

Relief and Social Services / Psychosocial support

- In cooperation with Humanity and Inclusion, 2,600 persons with disabilities, injured persons, children and elderly were provided with hygiene kits, assistive devices, eyeglasses, first aid kits and baby kits.
- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters, who provide psychological first aid and other specialized protection services. Since the beginning of the crisis, UNRWA social workers provided 15,500 people with psychosocial support and social work services.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)



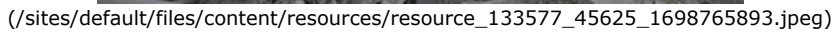
Education

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