

Gaza Strip

Overview As of 18 May 2024

Source: Ministry of Health.



35,456
Fatalities



79,476
Injuries



+10,000*
Reported missing
under the rubble

* Palestinian Civil Defense

According to Israeli authorities, over 1200 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed inside Israel, and approximately 5,400 reported injuries. As of 17 May, there have been 279 reported fatalities and 1,723 reported injuries of Israeli soldiers since the start of the ground operation in the Gaza Strip. One hundred and thirty two hostages remain in Gaza.



450 Health Attacks As of 15 May 2024



723 People killed in attacks



924 People injured in attacks



128 Health workers remain in detention



102 Health facilities affected



32 Hospitals damaged

Including



106 Ambulances affected



54 That sustained damaged

Including

Health Care Functioning and Access

Hospitals

PHCCs



42%

15 / **36** Hospitals partially* functional



0%

0 / **36** Hospitals Fully functional



78%

7 / **9** Field Hospitals Fully functional



11%

1 / **9** Field Hospitals partially functional



35%

33 / **93** Primary health care facilities are functional

* Including hospitals not providing surgical nor inpatient healthcare

Malnutrition



31 Patients Reportedly died of malnutrition

Southern Gaza: 2.5-9% of children (6-59 months) with acute malnutrition

No data was reported from the North for the same period

Medical evacuation through Rafah:



4,895 patients* (38% of 12,760 requested cases) have been evacuated since October

* Medical evacuation is halted since 7 May. The updated figure is due to delayed data reporting.

Communicable Diseases

Due to delays in data reporting, below cases are covering the period from 16 October 2023 to 5 May 2024.



799,999 Cases of acute respiratory infections



441,970 Cases of diarrhea <5 years: **111,070**



92,288 Cases of scabies and lice



55,699 Cases of skin rashes



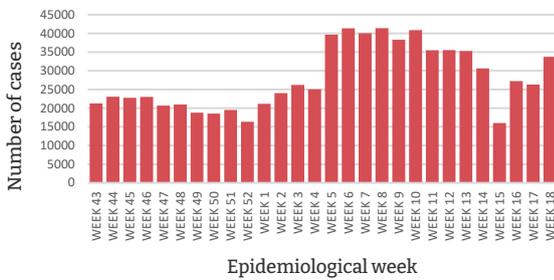
8,217 Cases of chickenpox



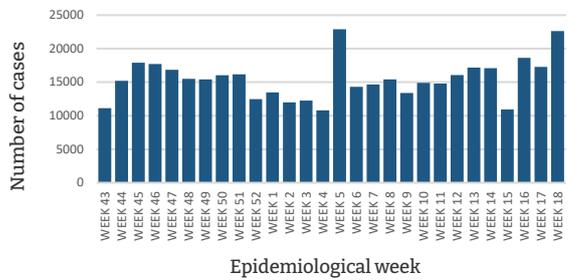
67,652 Cases of acute jaundice syndrome

Trend analysis of communicable diseases (Data as of 5 May 2024)

Weekly trend of acute respiratory infection in Gaza Strip* (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 5 May 2024)



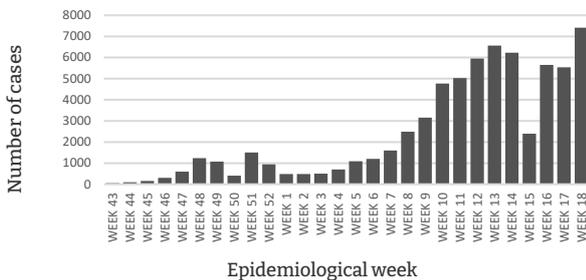
Weekly trend of acute diarrhea infection in Gaza Strip* (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 5 May 2024)



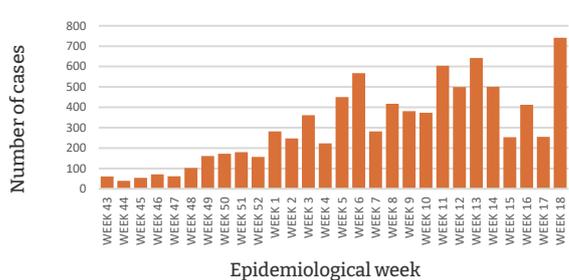
Observed fluctuations in trend of Acute Respiratory Infections in recent weeks, with over 32,000 cases reported in in week 18, representing a 47% increase compared to the previous week.

Overall increase in the number of cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea, with 24, 000 cases reported during week 18 – a weekly increase of 53% compared to week 17.

Weekly trend of acute jaundice syndrome in Gaza Strip* (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 5 May 2024)



Weekly trend of bloody diarrhea infection in Gaza Strip* (Data from 16 Oct 2023 to 5 May 2024)



Overall increase in trend of Acute Jaundice Syndrome, with over 7,000 cases reported in week 18 (an increase of 45% compared to the previous week).

A marked weekly increase in the number of cases of Bloody Diarrhoea of over 200% in week 18, with about 780 cases reported.

Current epidemiological trends should be interpreted with caution due to reporting delays, retrospective data and adjustments, limited geographical coverage of surveillance activities and constant population movements.

Source: MoH, UNRWA, EMT
*Note: weeks with incompletd data, we are not included



504 Fatalities



5,000 Injuries



463 Health Attacks As of 15 May 2024



15 People killed in attacks



95 People injured in attacks



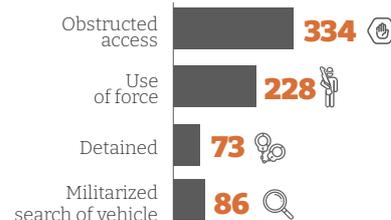
53 Health facilities affected



19 Mobile clinics Including



309 Ambulances affected



Key concerns

- Continued dismantling of the already fragile health system, exacerbated by the Rafah incursion, jeopardizing health service provision, access to health, and delivery of life-saving supplies. Despite contingency planning, an expanded incursion in Rafah will have disastrous impact on the existing humanitarian crisis
 - On 13 May 2024, MOH reported that hospital bed occupancy across the Gaza Strip has reached 439%. Fifteen out of 36 hospitals are currently partially functional across the Gaza Strip. However, several hospitals listed as partially functional, such as the Haifa and Patients Friends Benevolent Association Hospitals, are unable to provide inpatient care ..
 - Evacuation orders and fighting in proximity of health facilities are further disrupting healthcare service provision. In Rafah, the Najjar Hospital, UAE Field Hospital, four Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCCs), and 21 medical points are located within the zone ordered to be evacuated in May. The Indonesian, Kamal Adwan, and Awda Hospitals, in addition to five PHCCs, and 16 medical points are located within the evacuation order zone in Northern Gaza.
 - In Rafah, the Najjar Hospital (220 beds) remains out of service due to increased hostilities in its vicinity, with Kuwait Hospital (36 beds) serving as the main trauma care provider.
 - Out of nine established field hospitals in the south, only seven are currently fully functional. The Indonesian Field Hospital (60 beds) in Rafah was evacuated, on 14 May, becoming non-functional, while the UAE Field Hospital is operating at partial functionality, providing services to 49 admitted patients, with minimal accessibility for new patients due to military operations surrounding the facility.
- The closure of Rafah Crossing with Egypt has completely halted medical evacuation of patients since 7 May. Six hundred patients scheduled to be evacuated since the closure are currently being held up. As of 18 May, out of 12,760 cases requested for medical evacuation, 4,895 (38%) patients managed to successfully evacuate. The Gaza Strip has an estimated 14,000 patients requiring medical evacuation, with the figure expected to increase considering the diminishing capacity of the health system compounded by the ongoing escalation.
- Restrictions on rotation of humanitarian workers in and out of Gaza, following the Rafah Crossing closure, are hindering delivery of humanitarian interventions.
- Restrictions on entry of medical supplies, medications, in addition to, tents and building equipment to support setting up and operating temporary health facilities, following the Rafah incursion and closure of Rafah Crossing.
- Fuel shortages continue to threaten continuity of humanitarian interventions, including health care provision, impacting the functionality of hospitals, PHC centers and ambulance movement.
- Continued aggression, recurrent displacement and lack of proper shelters are negatively affecting the mental health of the vulnerable population. These factors, along with the collapse of pre-existing GBV response services and referral pathways, exacerbate the vulnerability women and children.
- As of 16 May, the UN estimates that around 640,000 Gazans have been displaced from Rafah, since 6 May. According to the Shelter Cluster, there are no remaining stocks of shelter materials inside Gaza. Population displacement is also affecting healthcare provision, both through staff displacement and with partners needing to restructure and to move with the population to address the severe needs.
- Limited access to proper WASH facilities, compounded by overcrowding, continue to contribute to the rise in infectious diseases, including diarrhoeal illness and hepatitis A.

- On 13 May, a UNDSS staff member was killed, and another was injured when their UN vehicle was struck while in route to the European Gaza Hospital in Khan Younis. UNOCHA reported that, since the onset of hostilities, at least 262 aid workers have been killed in Gaza, including 193 UN staff.
- Increasing insecurity, destroyed roads and infrastructure, and lack of proper facilitation of humanitarian missions continue to hinder health access. A sustained and functional deconfliction mechanism is needed to facilitate safe delivery of humanitarian aid across the Gaza Strip, as per International Humanitarian Law.
- Private trucks continue to be prioritized over UN trucks at the few remaining entry points.
- Disrupted telecommunication is negatively affecting partners operations and weakening referral mechanisms (community to facility and among facilities).

Response

WHO

- To date, WHO has procured \$28.1 million worth of health commodities, 54% of which has already been delivered to Gaza (around 682 metric tonnes), including essential trauma emergency supply kits (TESK), NCD and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) kits. Procurement also includes critical medications and supplies that are needed to maintain provision of essential health services.
 - WHO and partners continue carrying out missions supporting patient transfers, conducting needs assessment, supporting deployment of EMTs and field hospitals, and delivering food, water, and medical supplies to health facilities, across the Gaza Strip.
 - WHO and partners (MAP-UK, MSF-France, MSF-Spain, UK-Med, and Save the Children) managed to successfully restore partial functionality of the Nasser Medical Complex (NMC). Haemodialysis service for 700 patients was relocated from Najjar Hospital following its evacuation- to NMC and Aqsa Hospital.
- WHO conducted an assessment visit to MAP-UK medical point, PCRf medical point and UK-MED in Deir El Balah, to assess the communicable diseases surveillance capacities.
- WHO supported the training of 10 medical doctors on suspected case definitions of syndromic surveillance and reporting pathways in Deir El Balah.
 - WHO continues its support to the severe acute malnutrition stabilization centres (SAM SC) in the Gaza Strip. To date, a total of 63 cases with SAM with complications were admitted to the three SAM SCs. Since the onset of hostilities, MOH has reported 31 deaths due to complications of malnutrition, including 28 children under five.
 - The [oPt Health Cluster Status Dashboard](#) is updated regularly to reflect the evolving situation, Health Cluster response, and communicable diseases surveillance in the oPt, with emphasis on the ongoing emergency in the Gaza Strip.

Partners

- The Health Cluster reported that 60 partners are currently operational in the Gaza Strip, reaching a weekly average of 255,100 people with various healthcare services and supplies. A total of 188 medical points are currently operating throughout the Gaza Strip, providing essential primary health care services to the vulnerable population.
- The Health Cluster is working closely with other clusters, such as Shelter, Food, Nutrition, Protection, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), in order to address the comprehensive healthcare needs of populations, considering the social determinants of health.
- The sexual and reproductive health (SRH) Working Group mapped out functioning hospitals providing SRH services. Assessment results showed that there are currently two MoH maternity hospitals (Kamal Adwan in the North and Emirati in the South), five NGO and private maternity hospitals (Al-Awda in Northern Gaza, Assahaba and El-Helou in Gaza City, Al-Awda in Deir Al-Balah, Amal in Khan Younis, and Kuwaiti in Rafah), and two field hospitals in Khan-Younis and Rafah providing SRH services.
- A similar assessment was conducted for functioning PHCs and medical points, showing that eight UNRWA PHC centers, seven MoH PHC centers (originally 27 centers), and 17 Medical points are providing SRH services, including eight medical point will be supported to provide urgent delivery services.



WHO Mission Update

9 - 18 May 2024



1

Missions planned
(in the North and South)



0

Missions facilitated
(including partially facilitated)



1

Missions impeded
(ie. delays/unpassable routes)



0

Missions denied
(including canceled)

Operations have been severely impacted by the Rafah incursion, with only one mission planned during the reporting week, due to the deteriorating security situation.

On 13 May 2024, WHO led a mission to Kamal Adwan and Al-Awda hospitals in Northern Gaza to relocate international EMTs from Al Awda and Kamal Adwan hospitals to South Gaza, and deliver 11,000 litres of fuel to Kamal Adwan to maintain service provision. The mission was delayed 200 minutes.

WHO Recommendations

- Immediate ceasefire.
- Expand and sustain humanitarian access into Gaza for fuel, water, food, medicines and other necessary supplies.
- Expand humanitarian corridors and ensure safe passage to allow delivery of humanitarian aid within Gaza.
- Active protection of civilians and health care, preserving the function of remaining health facilities.
- Establish and strengthen a routine process for medical evacuation for all patients in need, without distinction of any kind, ensuring timely referral of the +14,000 critical patients that need to be medevaced out of Gaza.

Funding

\$320M funding required for WHO Operational Response

110M for Oct 2023 - Mar 2024

210M for Apr 2024 - Dec 2024

\$95M secured

\$36M Pledged

The inter-cluster Flash Appeal has been revised and the funding requirement for humanitarian health response is \$408.5M* and is targeting 2.9M people in Gaza and West Bank.

Further information:

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