



Children fill drinking water that was desalinated using backup generators powered by fuel, a resource in critically short supply in Gaza. Photo by PRCS

Humanitarian Situation Update #306 | Gaza Strip

16 Jul 2025

The Humanitarian Situation Updates on the Gaza Strip and on the West Bank are both Issued every Wednesday/Thursday. The Gaza Humanitarian Response Update is issued every other Tuesday. The next Humanitarian Situation Update on the Gaza Strip will be published on 23 or 24 July.

Key Highlights

- Palestinians in Gaza continue to be killed amid ongoing reports of strikes on tents, schools and people seeking food, water, nutrition supplies, or other assistance; among them are children, journalists, medical workers, and humanitarian relief personnel.
- Despite limited entries, fuel availability is still critically low, threatening to force the shutdown of hospitals and ambulances, water and sanitation systems, bakeries and kitchens, telecommunication services, aid operations, and other lifesaving services.
- Current operational challenges are unsustainable, WFP warns, as the risk of famine persists, acute water diarrhoea and other diseases spread, garbage accumulates, and people are squeezed into less than 14 per cent of the Gaza Strip.
- Children continue to face a range of risks, including due to the collapse of civil systems and insecurity, that have left many without care, family reunification, or legal identity due to disrupted birth registration.
- Persons with disabilities and older persons experience severe denial of their basic rights to safety, protection, and autonomy while their coping capacities are steadily eroding amid growing barriers.

Humanitarian Developments

- Over the past week, Israeli forces have continued to carry out heavy bombardment from the air, land and sea across the Gaza Strip, issued additional displacement orders, and further expanded ground operations. Rocket fire by Palestinian armed groups into Israel and fighting with Israeli forces have also taken place. On 12 July, the Israeli military [reinstated](#) the ban on entry to the sea across the Gaza coast, prohibiting swimming and fishing activities. Between 11 and 15 July, the Israeli military issued two displacement orders for parts of North Gaza and Gaza governorates, covering 9.6 square kilometres. Since 18 March, the Israeli military has issued 55 displacement orders for 297.6 square kilometres (81 per cent of the Gaza Strip). According to the Site Management Cluster ([SMC](#)), more than 737,000 Palestinians in Gaza were newly displaced between 18 March and 15 July. This includes over 11,600 people displaced between 8 and 15 July. With no safe place to go, many people have sought refuge in overcrowded displacement sites, makeshift shelters, damaged buildings, streets and open areas. People have been confined to ever-shrinking spaces; as of 16 July, over 86 per cent of the Gaza Strip is within Israeli-militarized zones or placed under displacement orders (they largely overlap) since 18 March.
- According to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, between 9 and 16 July, 648 Palestinians were killed, and 2,198 were injured. Between 7 October 2023 and 16 July 2025, the MoH in Gaza reported that at least 58,573 Palestinians were killed, and 139,607 Palestinians were injured. This includes 7,750 people killed and 27,566 injured since the re-escalation of hostilities on 18 March 2025, according to MoH. The Ministry said that the cumulative figure, since October 2023, includes 240 fatalities who were retroactively added on 14 July 2025 after their identification details were consolidated and approved by a ministerial committee.

The MoH further noted that the number of casualties among people trying to access food supplies has increased to 851 fatalities and more than 5,634 injuries since 27 May 2025.

- On 16 July, the MoH in Gaza published a list of its records of 58,380 Palestinian fatalities in Gaza between 7 October 2023 and 15 July 2025, out of the total number of reported fatalities (see above). According to the list, 17,921 children (31 per cent), 9,497 women (16 per cent), 26,655 men (46 per cent) and 4,307 elderly persons (seven per cent) have been killed.
- Between 9 and 16 July, five Israeli soldiers were killed in Gaza, according to the Israeli military. Between 7 October 2023 and 16 July 2025, according to Israeli forces and official Israeli sources cited in the media, more than 1,649 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed, the majority on 7 October 2023 and its immediate aftermath. This includes 449 soldiers killed, in addition to 2,803 soldiers injured, in Gaza or along the border in Israel since the beginning of the ground operation in October 2023. As of 16 July, it is estimated that 50 Israelis and foreign nationals remain captive in Gaza, including hostages who have been declared dead and whose bodies are being withheld.
- Strikes on people sheltering in schools and tents, on people seeking food, water, nutrition supplies or other assistance, on medical and humanitarian relief personnel, and on journalists continue to be reported, resulting in mass casualties, including among children. Key incidents include the following:
 - On 10 July, an airstrike [hit](#) a civilian area in Gaza in front of Project HOPE's Altagara health clinic in Deir al Balah, where patients had gathered to "receive treatment for malnutrition, infections, chronic illnesses, and more." According to the Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the incident reportedly resulted in the killing of 15 Palestinians, including nine children and four women, and the injury of 30 others, including 19 children. She described the killing of families trying to access life-saving aid as "unconscionable," adding: "This is the cruel reality confronting many in Gaza today after months of insufficient aid being allowed into the territory, and parties to the conflict failing to uphold basic responsibilities to protect civilians." Three days later, on 13 July, 17 people, including at least [seven children](#) were reportedly killed and others were injured while queuing to receive water at a distribution point in An Nuseirat, in Deir al Balah.
 - On 10 July, an airstrike [struck](#) the Orphans Department on the second floor of Human Appeal's office in North Gaza, killing three staff members who were at their desks supporting vulnerable orphan care programmes. Three additional Human Appeal team members were injured and are receiving medical care. Human Appeal condemned this attack on humanitarian workers and civilian operations. On 16 July, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) [reported](#) that one of their staff members had been killed near his home around 4 July while attempting, along with relatives, to reach and assist an injured family member. Since 7 October 2023, at least 483 aid workers, including 326 UN staff, 48 Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) staff, four ICRC staff and another 105 staff of humanitarian organizations, have been killed.
 - On 10 July, a notified and coordinated rescue mission by ICRC and PRCS to evacuate a wounded ICRC staff member and his family came under [attack](#) while travelling in illuminated and clearly marked vehicles bearing the red cross and red crescent emblems. As a result, an ICRC staff member and a PRCS [medic](#) were injured with gunshots. ICRC expressed outrage at the numerous such incidents faced by both PRCS and ICRC over the past few months, emphasizing that medical and humanitarian relief personnel must never be attacked and that all "possible steps must be taken to search for, collect, and evacuate the wounded and provide them with the medical care they require."
 - Between 8 and 10 July, at least three schools sheltering internally displaced people (IDPs) were reportedly hit, including some that had already been struck in the previous week. The attacks resulted in the reported killing of 17 people, the injury of others, and the displacement of dozens of families. However, many have returned to some of the damaged schools due to the lack of alternative shelters. For example, on 9 July, at about 11:30, a school serving as an IDP shelter was hit in eastern Khan Younis, reportedly killing seven Palestinians, including five females, and injuring others. Moreover, on 10 July, at about 22:30, another school sheltering IDPs was hit in Jabalya, in North Gaza, reportedly killing eight Palestinians, including at least two women and several children, and injuring others. According to the Education Cluster, in addition to the physical damage, these incidents continue to perpetuate trauma and fear among children, preventing them from participating in learning opportunities, mental health and psychosocial support activities, and other structured play activities delivered in such spaces.
 - On 11 July, 10 Palestinians were reportedly killed and 60 injured in the area of a militarized distribution site in northwestern Rafah, according to the UN Human Rights Office ([OHCHR](#)). On 12 July, the Red Cross Field Hospital in Rafah [received](#) 132 patients suffering from weapon-related injuries, of whom 31 were declared dead upon arrival or subsequently succumbed to their wounds and responsive patients reported that they were attempting to access food distribution sites. ICRC said that this was the largest influx of fatalities since the hospital began operations in May 2024 and that, since the establishment of the militarized distribution sites on 27 May 2025, the field hospital has treated over 3,400 weapon-wounded patients and recorded more than 250 fatalities. Between 27 May and 10 July at noon, OHCHR had recorded more than 634 Palestinians killed near militarized food distribution sites, where, amid starvation, large groups of civilians continue to seek food supplies and face lethal force, including shooting and shelling.
 - On 11 and 13 July, three journalists were reported killed across Gaza Strip. On 10 July, a Palestinian journalist was [killed](#) and others injured in an airstrike near his house in An Nuseirat, in Deir al Balah. In another incident on 13 July, a journalist was reportedly shot and killed while checking on his house in Az Zaytoun neighbourhood, southeast of Gaza city. On the same day, a journalist, his pregnant wife, their adult son, and two daughters (children) were reportedly killed when an IDP tent was hit in Al Mawasi area, in northwestern Khan Younis. In June, according to the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate ([PJS](#)), seven journalists were killed in Gaza Strip and 16 others were injured.
- Over the past week, other incidents resulting in fatalities include the following:

- On 10 July, at about 2:10, five Palestinians were reportedly killed and others injured when a residential building was hit in Al Bureij Camp, in Deir al Balah.
- On 11 July, at about 22:30, at least six Palestinian males were reportedly killed when a petroleum station, where a displaced family was sheltering, was hit in Deir al Balah.
- On 11 July, at about 23:10, nine Palestinians, including four children, were reportedly killed and others injured when an IDP tent was hit in western Khan Younis.
- On 12 July at about 15:30, at least 15 Palestinians, including at least three women, were reportedly killed, while between 20 and 40 went missing under the rubble, when two residential buildings were hit in Jabalya an Nazla, in North Gaza.
- On 12 July, at about 14:49, seven Palestinians were reportedly killed and others injured when a home was hit in Az Zaytoun neighbourhood, southeast of Gaza city.
- On 13 July, at about 12:30, 17 Palestinians, including a surgeon, were reportedly killed and others injured when a market was hit in central Gaza city.
- On 14 July, at about 16:20, many people were trapped under the rubble when a five-storey residential building was hit south of Jabalya, in North Gaza. According to the Palestinian Civil Defense (PCD), rescue workers faced challenges in rescuing survivors and retrieving the dead from under the rubble, due to intense shelling and lack of a permit to access the area, amid many appeals to intervene to save the lives of survivors. On 15 July, at about 11:45, PCD announced that they reached the area following coordination to find that 14 people had died.
- On 14 July, at about 19:00, 12 Palestinians, mostly women and children, were reportedly killed and about 30 others injured when a residential building, sheltering IDPs was hit in Tal al Hawa, south of Gaza city.
- On 16 July, MoH stated that 21 people were killed, including 15 who died from suffocation due to gas firing and stampede at a militarized distribution site in southern Khan Younis. According to the Ministry, this was the first time whereby fatalities were recorded as a result of suffocation and stampedes at these sites.
- “The Israeli military continues to kill and gravely injure hundreds of Palestinians as they desperately seek the little shelter and food available, raising further concerns that Israel is inflicting on Palestinians conditions of life increasingly incompatible with their continued existence in Gaza,” stated [OHCHR](#) on 11 July. Among 21 attacks on tents sheltering displaced Palestinians that were documented by OHCHR on 8 and 9 July, nine were in the Al Mawasi area of Khan Younis, where families shelter in close quarters such that “any strike on them often results in the killing of entire families,” the Office added. OHCHR further highlighted the unlawful limitations on the entry of food and other items essential for the survival of the civilian population, the poor modes of operation at militarized distribution sites where people, mainly young men and boys, continue to be shot and killed, and the rising violence involving Palestinian armed groups and different criminal groups within a context of largely destroyed law enforcement and judicial systems. Regarding “reported plans by Israeli authorities to concentrate much of the population in a so-called ‘humanitarian city’ in Rafah,” OHCHR called on Israel to “refrain from taking any steps aimed at, or which may result in, the forcible transfer of the Palestinian population within Gaza or its deportation outside of the strip.”

Mounting Challenges Facing Humanitarian Operations

- Since 9 July 2025, following 130 days of a full blockade on the entry of fuel, Israeli authorities have allowed the entry of two trucks of fuel per day, five days a week, through Kerem Shalom crossing. This amount is a fraction of what is required to run essential life-saving services in Gaza, where every aspect of life depends on fuel, from hospitals to water and sanitation systems, ambulances, humanitarian operations, telecommunications, bakeries and kitchens, and road transport. The Israeli authorities cut off electricity supply in October 2023 and have since only temporarily restored one electricity line that feeds the Southern Gaza Desalination Plant. In a joint [statement](#) on 12 July, OCHA, OHCHR, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNRWA, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) said that the fuel shortage has reached critical levels that threaten the continued operation of all essential lifesaving services. “Without fuel, bakeries and community kitchens cannot operate. Water production and sanitation systems will shut down, leaving families without safe drinking water, while solid waste and sewage pile up in the streets. These conditions expose families to deadly disease outbreaks and push Gaza’s most vulnerable even closer to death,” the UN agencies added, warning that – without adequate fuel – they will likely be forced to stop their operations entirely.
- In vast areas across the Gaza Strip, humanitarian teams are required to coordinate their movements with the Israeli authorities. Between 9 and 15 July, out of 66 attempts to coordinate planned aid movements across the Gaza Strip, nearly 17 per cent were denied by Israeli authorities. An additional 33 per cent were initially accepted but faced impediments, including blocks or delays on the ground potentially resulting in missions being aborted or partially accomplished. Another 45 per cent were fully facilitated, and the remaining five per cent had to be withdrawn by the organizers for logistical, operational, or security reasons. All these include 28 attempts to coordinate aid movements in or to northern Gaza, of which 54 per cent (15) were facilitated, 11 per cent (three) were denied, 32 per cent (nine) faced impediments, and three per cent (one) were withdrawn. In southern Gaza, out of 38 attempts, 40 per cent (15) were facilitated, 21 per cent (eight) were denied, 34 per cent (13) faced impediments and five per cent (two) were withdrawn.
- A retrospective mortality survey of about 2,500 Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) staff and their families in Gaza [revealed](#) that the mortality rate among them was 0.41 deaths per 10,000 per day, or five times higher than the MoH mortality rate estimates prior to 7 October 2023. More than two per cent of MSF staff and their families had died, including 74 per cent due to war injuries, of

whom 98 per cent were from blast injuries. Of the deaths caused by blast injuries, 40 per cent were among children under the age of 10 and the overall mortality rates for children under five and neonates were, respectively, 10 and six times higher than pre-war levels. Among those diagnosed with a chronic illness, approximately two thirds experienced one or more interruptions in treatment since October 2023, with the longest interruption lasting 120 days. Only two per cent of staff had a house that remained untouched, 39 per cent had damaged homes, and 59 per cent had destroyed homes. Half of MSF staff families were forced to change their residence five or more times and 41 per cent lived in tents at the time of the survey. MSF clarified that the survey, which covered the period between October 2023 and March 2025 and was carried out between 29 January and 26 March, cannot be generalized to the whole population given that “medical staff and their families, including MSF, could be considered as having better access to healthcare than the rest of the people in Gaza.”

Deteriorating Food Insecurity and Malnutrition

- According to the Food Security Sector (FSS) and the Nutrition Cluster, partners reported a continued deterioration in food security across Gaza, with persistent famine risks and serious challenges in accessing available food supplies, particularly those who are the most vulnerable, due to limited aid entry and ongoing looting and militarized distributions. Families generally survive on a single nutritiously poor meal per day, and in some cases, people go entire days without eating. To survive, people are using coping strategies ranging from fasting to reducing meal size, rationing bread for children, borrowing, begging, and scavenging for food from garbage. Despite these efforts, families are increasingly unable to protect their most vulnerable members from the impacts of food deprivation. Alarming, many households reported that family members risked their lives trying to secure food from militarized distribution sites or humanitarian convoys, often without success.
- According to FSS, while cooked meal provision at community kitchens continues at a limited scale (about 240,000 to 250,000 meals daily on average), general food distribution remains paused as most humanitarian food cargo collection continues to be paused across the Strip. Most have been suspended in southern Gaza since 4 July as operational and access constraints, looting, and incidents of shooting at people waiting for aid convoys have put communities and partners' staff, drivers and assets at risk and led to civilian casualties. In the north, after a pause on 26 June, collection of food cargo from Zikim crossing resumed on 11 and 12 July. On 11 July, according to [WFP](#), 20 trucks carrying food supplies departed from Zikim crossing, of which 11 were intercepted by desperate crowds while the remaining nine reached a WFP partner's warehouse, which were distributed to approximately 8,500 people the following day. On 12 July, hungry people offloaded the food supplies on another 20 trucks that were travelling from Zikim crossing. Cargo collection has been paused again since 13 July. Warning that current operational challenges are unsustainable, WFP called on all parties to the conflict “to respect humanitarian operations, refrain from obstructing food convoys, and avoid dangerous interferences including shooting near convoys, and the presence of armed groups near or on aid convoys, to allow aid workers to deliver assistance safely.” WFP also urged “community members to maintain a safe distance from trucks to ensure orderly transport and distribution of food supplies.” Partners are currently working with various stakeholders to promote the safe and uninterrupted delivery of aid to distribution points, including by encouraging civilians not to approach convoy routes through enhanced community engagement and messaging.*
- In a [briefing](#) to journalists about his latest visit to Gaza, WFP's Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Carl Skau, stated that starvation is spreading in Gaza, with about 500,000 people in starvation. “I met many of those families who told me that there are days that their children are not eating at all and I heard mothers telling me how they're trying to have kids not play so that they don't draw more energy than they are able to provide them with through food,” Skau said. The WFP official noted that the fact that people are now dying every day trying to get food is “the starkest illustration of how desperate this situation is.” He added that after the full blockade was lifted [on 19 May], the amount of food that WFP has been able to bring into Gaza is just a fraction of what is required to meet needs, and this has driven up the prices of basic commodities. Describing the operating environment, he said that WFP teams are often stuck spending between 15 to 20 hours straight at checkpoints, fuel supplies and spare parts for vehicles are insufficient, and while there is enough food at the borders to feed the entire population for about two months, incoming supplies are not “enough to turn the tide of hunger.”
- MSF teams are [witnessing](#) a sharp and unprecedented rise in acute malnutrition among people in Gaza at two clinics, in Al Mawasi in southern Gaza and in Gaza city. More than 700 pregnant and breastfeeding women, and nearly 500 children with severe and moderate malnutrition, are currently enrolled in outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes at both clinics. Patient enrolment in the MSF Gaza city clinic almost quadrupled in under two months, from 293 cases in May to 983 cases at the beginning of July. Of this July cohort, 326 are children between six and 23 months. “This is the first time we have witnessed such a severe scale of malnutrition cases in Gaza,” said MSF deputy medical coordinator in Gaza.

Worsening Access to Health Care

- Health facilities in Gaza continue to be overwhelmed by an escalating surge of casualties amid ongoing insecurity and critical shortages of resources, putting both patients and medical staff at grave risk. The Health Cluster reported that the comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care facilities and neonatal intensive care units are operating far beyond capacity, particularly in Gaza city. One site reported a 200 per cent overcapacity in maternity and neonatal intensive care unit beds. “Due to widespread malnutrition among pregnant women and poor water and sanitation, many babies are being born prematurely,” [said](#) an MSF doctor. “Our neonatal intensive care unit is severely overcrowded, with four to five babies sharing a single incubator [At Al Helou Hospital]. This is my third time in Gaza, and I've never seen anything like this. Mothers are asking me for food for their children, women who are six months pregnant often weigh no more than 40 kilogrammes. The situation is beyond critical.”
- Highlighting the situation of newborns in Gaza, Dr. Munir Al Borsh, General Director at the MoH, [reported](#) that 17,000 births were recorded in the first six months of 2025, a significant decline from the 29,000 births during the same period in 2022, representing a more than 41 per cent drop in the birth rate in just two years. Of the 17,000 births in 2025, there were 2,600 miscarriages (15 per

cent), 67 babies born with congenital anomalies (0.39 per cent), 2,535 infants admitted to neonatal intensive care units (15 per cent), 1,600 babies born underweight (nine per cent), and 1,460 premature births (nine per cent).

- According to the Health Cluster, there has been an increase in reported acute watery diarrhea cases, now accounting for 44 per cent of all reported illnesses – up from 39 per cent last week – with hospital visits confirming a sharp rise in admissions for severe dehydration. It was also reported that cases of acute jaundice syndrome and bloody diarrhea are on the rise due to lack of vaccination, rising malnutrition, water scarcity, accumulation of solid waste, and overburdened or damaged sewage systems. Between 1 and 9 July, 178 suspected cases of meningitis were reported, the majority of which were among children under the age of one. Most cases were of probable viral origin, though 29 per cent were bacterial, with most cases concentrated in Gaza city and Khan Younis. Hospitals are struggling to cope with the surge, with some reporting up to three patients sharing a single bed and limited diagnostic and isolation capacity. Additionally, five new cases of acute flaccid paralysis were reported last week, bringing the 2025 total to 28 cases. Field investigations are ongoing following the detection of a new Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus Type 2 variant in environmental samples collected in May.
- On 10 July, under heavy fire and smoking bombs, Israeli forces expanded their incursion into the Al Mawasi area, south of Khan Younis, and further expanded west to an area full of IDPs who have already been displaced multiple times and were squeezed into a small space close to the sea, MSF [reported](#). MSF stated that this incursion severely undermined its operations at two facilities, forcing it to suspend activities at Al Attar clinic as Israeli tanks and gunfire approached as close as 100 metres away. In addition, ambulance movements to Nasser Medical Complex were stopped. MSF Nursing Team Supervisor at Al Attar clinic said: "The quadcopter and the military vehicles stationed near the clinic were firing. Several bullets penetrated the facility. Then, we heard multiple explosions around the clinic, and shrapnel hit the building. We were stuck for over 30 hours, we continued working after a 24-hour shift." MSF added that medical teams could not refer two boys in critical condition to any nearby hospitals as the ones in the area were either too dangerous to reach or already full.

Water and Sanitation Crisis

- Limited fuel supplies that entered Gaza in recent days remain deeply insufficient to operate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, with distribution and access challenges creating further bottlenecks, according to the WASH Cluster. Sanitation and wastewater management are at critical levels, with ongoing sewage overflow reported in Gaza city and southern areas.
- On 15 July, the Municipality of Gaza [issued](#) a warning about an imminent threat of overflow of the rainwater collection pond in the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood. Infrastructure damage and fuel shortages have led to the inflow of untreated sewage into the Sheikh Radwan Lagoon, significantly increasing the risk of flooding, environmental contamination, and public health hazards. The water level in the pond has risen to approximately 6.10 metres, increasing by about 30 centimetres daily due to the continuous inflow of wastewater, which poses a significant threat to the lives of residents living near the pond. The municipality added that the operating hours of the pond's drainage pumps have been reduced due to limited fuel supplies, further hindering the discharge of incoming wastewater and contributing to the rising water level.

Risks Facing Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons

- On 15 July, the Protection Cluster [issued](#) its Protection Analysis Update, focusing on the risks and barriers faced by persons with disabilities and older persons. According to the update, persons with disabilities, older persons, their families and caregivers are experiencing severe denial of their basic rights to safety, protection and autonomy, amid steadily eroding coping capacities to meet their needs. Repeated displacement has posed growing risks and challenges for persons with disabilities and older persons to access critical information, devices, services, and essential goods for their safety, dignity, and survival. Additionally, interrupted care and separation from caregivers through displacement is heightening mental health concerns and exposure to neglect, abuse, and exploitation. The update identified five key protection risks for persons with disabilities and older persons: attacks on civilians and civilian objects; discrimination and stigmatization, denial of resources, opportunities, services and/or humanitarian access; gender-based violence; psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress; and presence of explosive ordnance.

Challenges Facing Family Unification and Birth Registration

- According to [Child Protection](#) Area of Responsibility (AoR), unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) as well as those without parental care are among the most vulnerable groups in Gaza, facing heightened risks of neglect, exploitation, abuse, emotional distress, and social isolation. Separation from parents or primary caregivers – often due to death, detention, evacuation, or forced displacement – has devastating consequences on children's mental health and development. Conflict-related events, including the loss of family members, recurrent displacement and medical evacuations, are the key drivers for separation, with alarming reports of newborns separated at birth during hospital evacuations now living with substitute caregivers who may be injured, disabled or unable to provide adequate care. These separations compound both physical vulnerability and psychological trauma. Many UASC are now in the care of adults who themselves are facing health challenges or disabilities, placing both children and caregivers in fragile situations. Family reunification is a lifesaving priority, yet movement restrictions and security risks have severely limited the ability of families to reunite independently. UNICEF remains one of the few actors with capacity to facilitate reunifications, but delays and the denial of such missions by the Israeli authorities prolong separation and retraumatize children. At the same time, temporary alternative care is critically limited, with the only functioning care centre nearing full capacity and at risk of shutting down due to the lack of food, fuel, and basic services.
- The Child Protection AoR also reported that the ongoing escalation in Gaza and the collapse of key civilian infrastructure have severely disrupted the birth registration system, leaving thousands of children without official documentation (i.e. identification numbers or birth certificates). While some functionality remains and a limited number of registrations continue, the system is under extreme pressure. Hospitals have been destroyed, government offices are largely non-functional, and widespread

displacement has made it extremely difficult for families to complete birth registration procedures. Child Protection partners estimate that about 10,000 newborns may not have been registered since 7 October 2023. This lack of official documentation strips children of their legal identity, which could limit their access to basic services, such as health care, education, and humanitarian aid. Unregistered children are also more vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking, as they effectively exist outside the protection of the law. While there is at present limited data on how the lack of birth registration has affected children's access to services, this critical issue can have profound long-term implications if it remains unaddressed; unregistered children may grow up without any formal recognition of their existence, deepening cycles of marginalization and statelessness in an already fragile society.

Funding

- As of 16 July 2025, Member States have disbursed approximately US\$782 million out of the \$4 billion (19 per cent) requested to meet the most critical humanitarian needs of three million out of 3.3 million people identified as requiring assistance in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in 2025, under the 2025 [Flash Appeal](#) for the OPT. Nearly 88 per cent of the requested funds are for humanitarian response in Gaza, with just over 12 per cent for the West Bank. Moreover, during June 2025, the [oPt Humanitarian Fund](#) managed 122 ongoing projects, totalling \$70.1 million, to address urgent needs in the Gaza Strip (87 per cent) and the West Bank (13 per cent). Of these projects, 58 are being implemented by international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), 48 by national NGOs and 16 by UN agencies. Notably, 42 out of the 74 projects implemented by INGOs or the UN are being implemented in collaboration with national NGOs. For more information, please see OCHA's Financial Tracking Service [webpage](#) and the oPt HF [webpage](#).

* Asterisks indicate that a figure, sentence, or section has been rectified, added, or retracted after the initial publication of this update.