

oPt Emergency Situation Update

Issue 14



As of 23 November 2023, 17:00



World Health Organization

occupied Palestinian territory

Gaza Strip

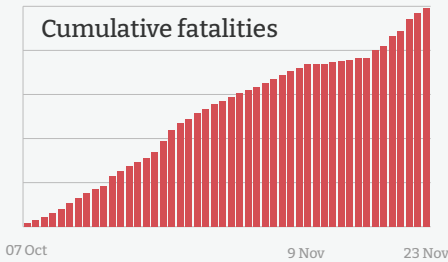
Overview

Source: Ministry of Health

14,854 Fatalities

4,704 (32%) Males
4,000 (27%) Females
6,150 (41%) Children

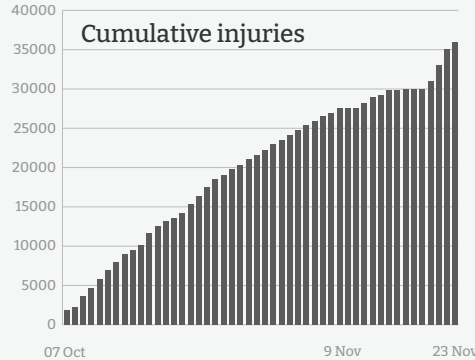
Cumulative fatalities



07 Oct 9 Nov 23 Nov

Figures from 7Oct - 9Nov As reported by MoH
Figures from 10Nov - 23Nov As reported by media

36,000 Injuries



Cumulative injuries

07 Oct 9 Nov 23 Nov

Figures from 7Oct - 9Nov As reported by MoH
Figures from 10Nov - 23Nov As reported by media



2,700 People Missing or trapped under the rubble, including 1,500 children



1.7M People displaced

Health Care Functioning and Access

A public health catastrophe is rapidly evolving in Gaza with high levels of violent deaths and injuries, mass displacement, overcrowding, major disruption and dysfunction of the health system, and damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Severe stressors for mental health are affecting the whole population, including bombardment and siege. Destruction and hostilities are gravely obstructing ambulance access to the injured and health facilities.

Hospitals functionality



72%

26 Hospitals not functioning out of **36**

Bed occupancy at the partially functional hospitals is estimated to be over **150%**



6%

2 Hospitals with extremely limited capacity out of **36**

PHCCs functionality



65%

47 Primary health care facilities are non functional out of **72**

A higher proportion not functioning in North Gaza and Gaza City

Health partners



97%

Health partners are non-functional in Gaza and the north



425 injured and medical accompaniers exited Gaza to Egypt between 2 and 20 November.



Separation of North Gaza and Gaza City
From governorates in the south, along with evacuation orders



Disease surveillance disrupted
Including early disease detection and response capacities

Acute shortage of supplies at health facilities



Fuel and Power



Water



Food



Medicines and medical supplies:

- aesthetics
- antibiotics
- saline
- pain medications
- insulin
- blood and blood products



Medical equipment

Increasingly not function at hospitals, e.g monitors, ventilators, incubators, and anesthesia Machines, which are dependent on electricity



Gaza Strip Health Needs and Risks

Water and Sanitation



1,056,000

out of the 1.7 million displaced are in 156 UNRWA shelters across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip*



160 people share each toilet



700 people share each shower unit



66-96%

Less water consumption than pre-hostilities (1-9 Nov)



400 tons

Of garbage per day accumulating in overcrowded camps and IDP shelters



Lack of WASH facilities in health care settings means increased risk of healthcare-associated infections.

* The situation might be worse in makeshift shelters

Communicable Diseases

Imminent risk of communicable disease outbreaks. Cases recorded since mid-October:



71,224 Cases of acute respiratory infections



44,202 Cases of diarrhea <5 years: **22554***



10,952 Cases of scabies and lice



14,195 Cases of skin rashes



808 Cases of chickenpox



355 Cases of jaundice

* <5 diarrhea cases registered for one month during the war is 15 fold higher than the average cases per month in 2021 and 2022.

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health



52,000 Pregnant women

~**183** Births per day

5,500 Babies have been born in the last month



130 Premature infants depend on incubators

61% Incubators are in the north, requiring electricity

Long term conditions



1,100 Patients in need of kidney dialysis



71,000 Patients living with diabetes



225,000 People with high blood pressure



+485,000 People with mental health disorders*



+2,000 People diagnosed with cancer each year, including 122 children



45,000 Patients living with cardiovascular disease

* People in Gaza facing daily intense psychological stressors, including bombardment and severe barriers to fulfilling basic needs

Data: MoH Annual Report 2022, WHO STEPS

Health Attacks

181 Health attacks



553 People killed in attacks



22 Health workers on duty



707 People injured in attacks



59 Health workers on duty



45 Health facilities affected



23 Hospitals damaged



40 Ambulances affected



32 That sustained damaged

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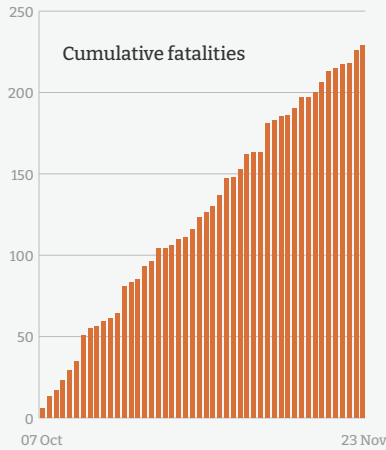
occupied Palestinian territory

West Bank, including east Jerusalem

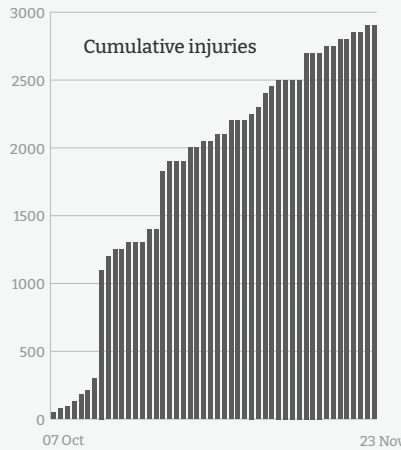
Overview

Source: Ministry of Health

229 Fatalities



2,900 Injuries



1,014 People displaced in the West Bank

Since the 7th of Oct

Forcibly displaced in the context of settler violence, discriminatory planning regulations in Area C and punitive demolitions

Increased settler and military violence



Including airstrikes and live ammunition. Complete obstruction at checkpoints between Palestinian towns and closure of several communities

Health Needs and Risks



Increased injuries

Placing a high demand for emergency medical supplies for first response at hospitals



+270 Patients/day

Need access to health care in east Jerusalem, as well as in Israeli facilities, from the rest of the West Bank



5,491 People displaced from Gaza

Are stranded in the West Bank, increasing the pressure on the health system

Health Care Functioning and Access



+270 Patients

Referred from the West Bank to East Jerusalem



Obstructed access for ambulances, health care workers, and patients

Due to checkpoint closures, insecurity, movement restrictions, and attacks on health



First response capacities overstretched

By increased casualties, with high demand for emergency medical supplies



Increased shortages of essential medicines and medical supplies

Affecting first response, primary care, and hospital care

Health Attacks

183 Health attacks



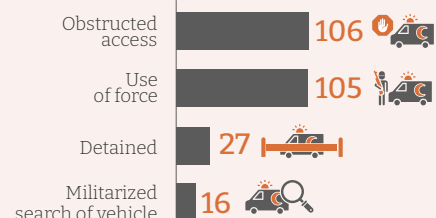
22 Health workers injured on duty



5 Health facilities affected



150 Ambulances affected





UPDATES

- **Only 8 hospitals in the south (Deir Albalah, Khan Younis and Rafah) are partially functional.**
- In addition, **2 hospitals in Gaza and the north are functioning at an extremely limited basic capacity.**
- **On November 18, a joint UN humanitarian assessment team, led by WHO** accessed Al-Shifa Hospital in northern Gaza to assess the situation on the ground.
- **At the time of the visit, there were 25 health workers and 291 patients remaining in Al-Shifa**, with several patient deaths having occurred over the previous 2 to 3 days due to the shutting down of medical services.
- **Patients included 33 babies** in extremely critical condition, **two people in intensive care without ventilation**, and **22 dialysis patients** whose access to life-saving treatment has been severely compromised.
- **A second WHO-led joint UN mission**, working in collaboration with the **Palestine Red Crescent Society**, **evacuated 31 babies** on 19 November from Al-Shifa Hospital in northern Gaza, to a hospital in southern Gaza and 28 later to Egypt.
- On 22 November, **in cooperation with the Palestine Red Crescent Society, a WHO-led joint UN mission evacuated 151 patients, relatives and health workers accompanying them from Al-Shifa hospital in northern Gaza.** The mission was undertaken following specific requests from health authorities and hospital officials in Gaza.
- **Most of the patients were ultimately transferred to the European Gaza Hospital, with the dialysis patients admitted to Al Najjar Hospital. Both facilities are in the south of Gaza.**
- On 22 November, **WHO and partners also undertook a mission to Al-Ahli Hospital** in northern Gaza to assess medical priorities.
- **For the past three days since 9 November, WHO has not received updated data on injuries and deaths** from the Ministry of Health due to intensifying hostilities and limited connectivity. This makes it harder to evaluate the functioning of the health system.
- According to Israeli authorities, **over 1200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed, 5431 injured and 239 being held hostage** since the hostilities started.

HEALTH RESPONSE

- **224 trucks** with medical supplies were sent from Al Arish to be scanned and enter Gaza until 22 November, **including 16 from WHO** and other partners.
- **Between 24-25 Oct, 30-31 Oct, 1 Nov and 9 Nov, WHO delivered medical supplies to:**
 - Seven hospitals (2 in the north, 5 in the south)
 - Palestine Red Crescent to support ambulance operations.
 - UNRWA warehouse for onward distribution to approximately 8 UNRWA primary health care centers.

WHO RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Immediate ceasefire.**
- **Establish and sustain protected humanitarian access** for the immediate entry of adequate quantities of humanitarian supplies – including fuel, water, food, medicines, and other essential supplies - and personnel into the Gaza Strip and unimpeded access for patient evacuation.
- **Prioritization of the shipment of fuel** to operate desalination plants, hospital generators, ambulances.
- **Sustained, orderly, unimpeded and safe medical evacuations** of critically injured and sick patients into Egypt.
- **Ensure safe passage** for medical supplies and civilians within the Gaza Strip. Ensure WHO medical supplies can safely reach major hospitals in Gaza City and North Gaza and hospitals in south Gaza.
- **Ensure the respect and the protection of health care as well as civilians and civilian infrastructure** against attacks.
- **Ensure the injured have immediate and unhindered access to health care.**
- **Ensure continuity of essential health services.**
- **Rapidly reinforce infectious disease surveillance and control measures.**

FUNDING

- **WHO released its Operational Response Plan October 2023 – January 2024 with a total budget of \$110M.** The operational plan supports (1) Health service delivery, including emergency medical teams and a few complementary field hospitals (2) Public health surveillance, early warning, disease prevention and control (3) Supplies and logistics support (4) Coordination.
- **So far WHO has secured approximately \$17.7M with additional \$29.6M in pledged Funds from partners.**
- The inter-cluster Flash Appeal has been revised and the funding requirement for humanitarian health response is **\$227.6M and is targeting 2.5M people** in Gaza and West Bank.

Further information:

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