



# LEBANON

## Health Emergency Response

Situation update #8

08 - 14 November 2024

**\*\*MOPH hotline for the displaced 1787\*\***

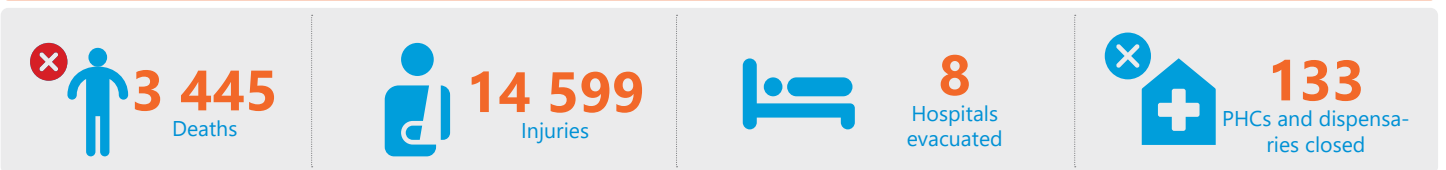
### Highlights of the week

- **694** injuries and **328** registered deaths were recorded during the reporting period 8–14 November.
- Since October 2023, **136** attacks on health care have been reported by WHO, resulting in **212** deaths and **198** injuries among health workers.
- **21** of **178** hospitals, or 13%, have ceased operations, been damaged or forced to reduce services.
- Attacks on health care are disrupting access and services, with burnout and displacement of health workers resulting in reduced services.
- Rates of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are rising, posing serious long-term risks to public health, child development, and overall human capital.
- 80% of the PHCC list of chronic/mental health medication on the Essential Medication List are available.
- Cross-border population movement, mass internal displacement and overcrowded collective shelters are compounding the risk of waterborne diseases.
- **102** large first aid supply kits were distributed on November **13** to shelters in Beirut and Aley.
- A training on cholera case management is underway in **20** facilities across North and Akkar Governorates.

### People in need 2024

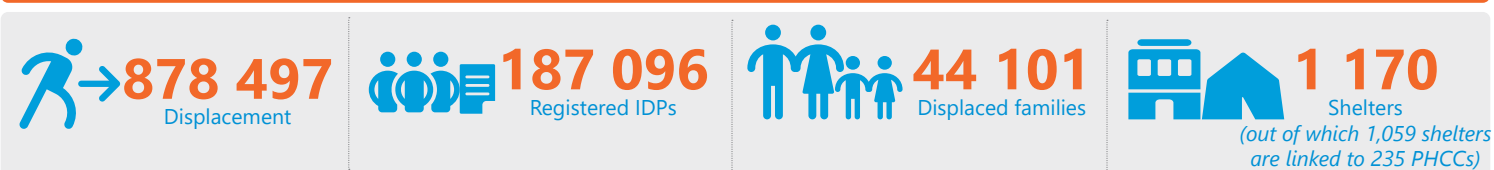


### Facts & Figures as of 31 October 2024



**Hospital functionality:** Out of hospitals in conflict areas (Baalbek, Mount Lebanon, Baabda, Marjeyoun, Bint Jbeil and Tyre district) **8** non-functional | **7** semi-functional | **6** infrastructural damage

### Displacement (Reported by IOM-DTM round 58 and National Operations Room for Disasters and Crisis Management, 14 November)



#### Cross over to Syria

- As of 14 November, **593 0279** people are thought to have crossed from Lebanon to Syria, according to the Lebanese General Security.

## Attacks on health care (Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA) as of 14 November 2024)



Chart 1: IDPs distribution by district of arrival

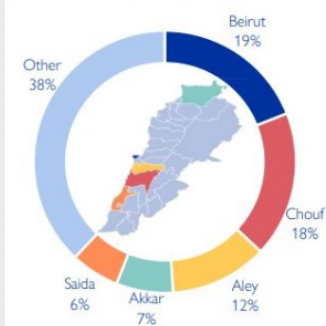
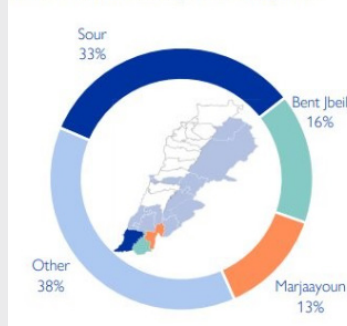


Chart 2: IDPs distribution by district of departure



Source: IOM/DTM 14 November 2024

### Continuity of health services for IDPs (Updated as of 14 November 2024)

- **133** health centers (PHCCs and dispensaries) are closed
- **245** Mobile Medical Units teams deployed
- **107 718** IDPs received consultations in PHCs/MMUs
- **239** PHCs serving displaced
- **303** centers received medications to support IDPs
- **76 333** IDPs receiving chronic medications.

## IN RESPONSE

### Supplies

- **30** TESK (Trauma and Emergency Surgical kits) are currently in stock in Zahle, Saida and Karantina.
- **50** TESK kits stock prepositioned at MOPH Central Drug Warehouse with an additional stock of **25** trauma backpacks.
- During the reporting period, **102** large First Aid kits were distributed to **102** shelters in Beirut (44) and Aley (58).

#### In the pipeline

- An additional **319** out of **1 398** remaining First Aid kits will be distributed to collective shelters in Akkar, North and Beirut on the 15th of November.
- To be received in the coming few days through ECHO humanitarian Flight:
  - **100** TESK
  - **50** Trauma Backpacks
  - **18** Fixatures
  - **30** noncommunicable diseases kit and **60** NCD-insulin kits to be received by the MOPH Chronic medications program to sustain access of essential medicines for **300 000** people.

### Coordination (health sector and PHEOC)

- **968** collective shelters are now linked to Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs) to ensure continuation of health services to internally displaced people. A total of **239** PHCCs and **260** PHC Satellite Units (PSUs) visited **734** shelters.
- Supported by health sector partners, MOPH provided Emergency Obstetric Training targeting **23** health staff at the maternity ward in Sir El Dineye Gov. Hospital. In addition, health sector partners also provided online SRH refresher training to **352** frontline health workers (at PHCCs and with NGOs as part of this response) on "Menopause" and "Case Scenarios from Shelters". Some partners reported access challenges for PSU/MMU staff in conflict-affected areas such as Aarsal, South, Nabatieh, while others reported continued difficulties in ensuring beneficiaries' access to health centers that were being targeted.



## Case Management Capacity for trauma care

- Assessment of staffing needs completed for the **6** hospitals designated by MOPH as trauma centers.
- During the weekly technical EMT coordination meetings with MPH, it was agreed to conduct a 2nd of trauma care assessments to advise on the quality monitoring indicators for the trauma centers. Accordingly, an assessment of Zahle governmental hospital was conducted.
- Currently, **15** organizations are supporting and assessing EMT deployments with different capacities and skills, all in coordination with the PHEOC at the MOPH. Additional centers are being assessed to be part of the trauma pathway, with designated organizations assessing capacity to support further deployment. Some monitoring EMTs have multiple capabilities; Type1 Fixed (T1F) Type 2 (T2), Specialized Care Team (SCT), the total shows the number of organizations.
- Working session conducted at PHEOC, introducing WHO EMT standardized coordination mechanisms and tools to build on the existing structure. First set of tools shared for implementation.
- Training for the cholera preparedness and response continues, supported by PHEOC, targeting an additional **7** health facilities, totaling so far **19** hospitals and **1** PHCC in North and Akkar governorates.

## Surveillance

- Between 4-11 November, **18** signals of infectious diseases were received among IDPs in shelters, including AWD, food poisoning, Hepatitis A, suspected TB, measles and scabies. Epidemiological Surveillance Unit (ESU) teams have verified 100% of the signals out of which 89% were verified and 11% discarded. Of the discarded were **30** measles signals and **1** food-borne disease signal.
- The reported increase in AWD cases in Koura was referred to WASH after testing negative for Cholera.
- Ongoing procurement of reagents and supplies for the **4** functional water labs previously assessed, to strengthen national lab capacity for water testing.
- Surveillance of water sources with two samples taken from Minieh-Dinieh and Chouf confirmed contamination of spring water.
- So far, **7 000** out of **8 600** doses of Influenza Vaccine have been administered in **307** Primary Health Care centers. Some **1 400** doses were lost due to the targeting of PHCCs/hospitals.
- Surveillance training continued with **4** additional lab sessions, attended by **114** participants. So far, a total of **1 297** participants have attended **43** sessions across hospitals and medical centers, schools, municipalities and NGOs.
- Continued support to the 1787 call center at ESU that provides health information and referrals to displaced and other vulnerable people, with the majority of calls being about hospital coverage. The center received over **9 335** cumulative calls since September 2024, with **642** calls received this week, cumulatively supporting **26 855** calls.

## Challenges

- Increased and recurring attacks on health care, impacting access to and availability of health services.
- Increased number of closed health facilities and health worker shortages.
- Patient referral is restricted in conflict-affected areas and the mass casualty capacity at referral hospitals is limited in some areas.
- A large increase in numbers of displaced people with sub-optimal shelter conditions may lead to a resurgence of emerging infectious disease.
- Funding shortages for health sector partners.

## Flash appeal

- WHO Lebanon launched a [Flash Appeal](#) to provide comprehensive response to the current and unprecedented health crisis, seeking support in the amount of USD 50 million to scale up trauma care, ensure continuity of essential health services, and prevent disease outbreaks. As of today, approximately 22% of the target was reached, indicating the need to urgently scale up support.

## Continuity of Essential Health Services

- In coordination with the Social Workers Syndicate in Lebanon, **70** social workers were recruited and trained to distribute first aid kits to shelters and provide orientation and flyers to the those living in shelters on correct use.
- With WHO support, **2** additional PSUs deployed in the North to **9** shelters supported by **2** PHC centres.
- The PHC department at the MoPH launched the Emergency Response Model for shelters and PHC centres.
- **Two** Psychological First Aid training sessions were conducted with **40** attendees.
- Over **107 718** displaced people received consultations by the **245** MMUs (Mobile Medical Units), linked to the PHC network.
- The use of the e-mental health application *Step-by-Step* has increased, with **17** new users joining between 4 and 10 November 2024.
- **177** new calls to the national hotline for emotional support and suicide prevention; the 1564 Lifeline managed by Embrace.
- **59** PHC centers with specialized mental health services are functioning.

### For more information please contact

- Dr Abdinasir Abubakar, WR, abubakara@who.int
- Dr Alissar Rady, Team Lead, radya@who.int
- Dr Md Shajib Hossain, Health Sector Coordinator, smd@who.int