

Healthbrief

26 June - 09 August 2025

Health emergency: Situation overview

- A total of **26** new injuries and **24** deaths related to the war have been reported from 09 till 31 July 2025.
- **163** incidents of attacks on healthcare. **46** impacted health facilities, **241** fatalities, **296** injuries, **113** impacted healthcare workers, **105** impacted medical transport.



Impact of hostilities from 8 Oct 2023 - 31 July 2025. Source: MoPH Lebanon.

Cross-borders movement

Since early March, ongoing hostilities in the Tartous, Latakia, Homs, and Hama Governorates of Syria have been causing daily displacement of people into North Lebanon, specifically the North and Akkar Governorates.

Refugees have now settled across **39** different locations, with the majority concentrated in **30** villages in Akkar, near the Syrian border.

According to Akkar's Disaster Risk Management (DRM), as of July 30, there are **15,339** displaced individuals (3,540 families) residing in the area. The largest populations are found in Massaaoudiye (4,659 individuals/802 families), Hissa (1,848 individuals/435 families), and Tall Hmayra (802 individuals/264 families).

Meanwhile, a recent enumeration conducted by the Lebanese Red Cross recorded **10,973** individuals (2,549 families) in North Lebanon. Most families are living in the Jabal Mohsen area of Tripoli (7,620 individuals/1,829 families) and Dhour el Hawa (897 individuals/224 families).

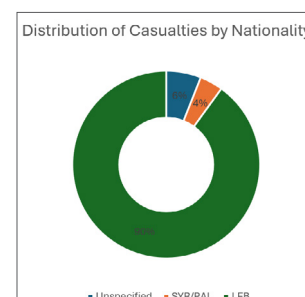
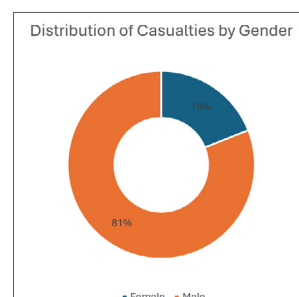
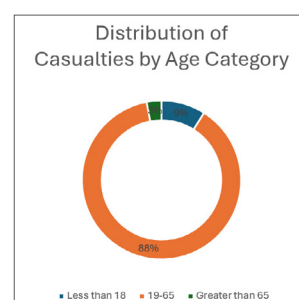
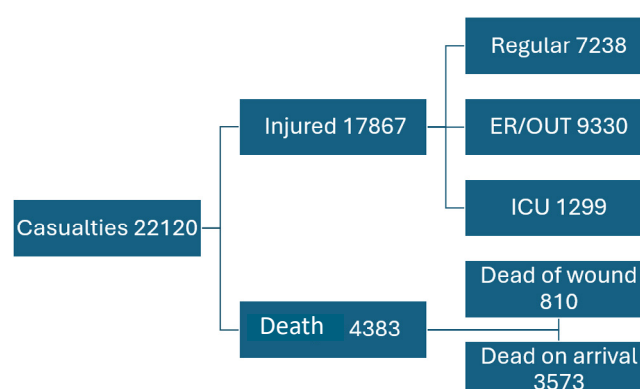
Major gaps

- Lack of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services due to funding cuts.
- Limited coverage of Secondary Health Care services (hospitalization) by UNHCR (60% lifesaving only and 50% deliveries).
- No coverage of critical non-acute health conditions such as cancer, dialysis, blood disorders and others.
- Gaps in chronic medications at PHCCs/PSUs level.
- Overcrowding resulting in increasing risk of outbreaks.

Between 09 July and 18 July 2025, a total of **463,389** movements were recorded across **12** (out of 16) official border crossing points (BCPs) and unofficial crossing areas. (Source: IOM cross-border movement published on 21 July 2025).

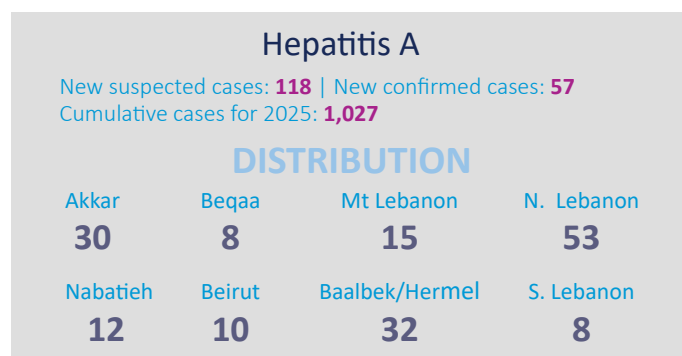
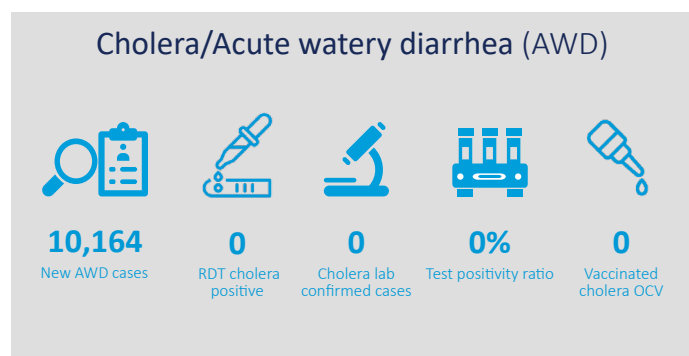
Impact of escalation of hostilities

Lebanon War 2023-2025: Tree Diagram in numbers (Deaths and Injuries) from 08 October 2023 to 31 July 2025.



Epidemiological situation

Food and waterborne diseases 26 June - 09 August 2025



Vaccine preventable diseases 26 June - 09 August 2025

Disease outbreaks	New suspected cases	Location of cases	Vaccination status of cases	Cumulative for 2025	Confirmation
AFP	13	1 Akkar, 6 Beirut, 1 Bekaa, 3 Mt Lebanon, 2 South Lebanon	12 fully vaccinated 1 partial vaccination	50	0
Measles	5	1 Ballbek/Hermel, 2 Bekaa, 2 Noth Lebanon	5 zero dose	33	0 confirmed measles
Meningitis	78	2 Akkar, 13 Beirut, 5 Bekaa, 13 Mt Lebanon, 7 Nabatieh, 8 North Lebanon, 30 South Lebanon		241	29 Bacterial 46 viral

Preparedness and response

- From weeks 26 until 32 of 2025, **39** EBS signals of infectious diseases were registered at the Epidemiological Surveillance Program (ESP) through the call center (79.5%), the ESU (15.4%), and DHIS2 (5.1%). Public (66.7%), health facilities (12.8%), NGO (5.1%), and media scanning (15.4%) were the different sources of information.
- The Epidemiological Surveillance Program (ESP) selected **33** of these signals, of which **31** (94%) were verified within 24 hours and all investigated within 48hrs. **32** signals were verified as true and included: **1** AWD signal, **7** signal of rabies exposure, **1** chemical incident, **1** signal of mumps, **17** signals of food poisoning, **2** signals of rotavirus, **1** signal of snake bite, and **2** signals of cat bites.
- WHO continues to support the MOPH 1787 call center, which has received a cumulative of 12,370 calls since September 2024. During the past two weeks, 230 new calls were received, averaging 16 calls per day.
- From weeks 26 till 32 of 2025 the MoPH 1787 call center received **696** calls, averaging **14.2** calls a day.

Health needs and response

- Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC)** is still coordinating the emergency response and referral of the injured patients. The staff are also managing the emergency stock by ensuring the availability of adequate trauma kits, medications and other medical supplies in all hospitals and PHCs.
- WHO continued to support the PHEOC operations including staffing, coordination work and technical support.

Building migrant-inclusive, climate-responsive health systems in Lebanon

Under the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MMPTF) Joint Program on “Harnessing Synergies Between Climate Change Adaptation and Risk Reduction in Migrant-Inclusive Health System Responses”, WHO—together with IOM and UNDRR—are implementing the program in Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon. In Lebanon, the program is being implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), which formally endorsed the project.



As part of this initiative, WHO and MoPH are currently conducting an assessment of all 43 health facilities in Akkar to evaluate their capacity to respond to climate-induced health risks in this vulnerable region. From July 21–24, WHO facilitated a training on the adapted WHO global assessment tool tailored to the Lebanese and regional context. The training was delivered to MoPH surveyors, and the tool was successfully piloted in two primary health care centers. Data collection across all Health care Facilities in Akkar will now begin. Climate change and health is one of the priorities under the newly signed country cooperation strategy between WHO and MoPH, and This prioritization includes building climate-resilient health systems, promoting low-carbon healthcare, and addressing the root causes of climate change. WHO will collaborate with other stakeholders to advance the climate change and health in Lebanon.

Strengthening Logistics Management Systems (LMS) at MOPH warehouses in Lebanon

As part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the digital health system across Lebanon, the WHO team provided upgraded essential equipment—including laptops, printers, and desktop computers—and successfully installed the Logistics Management System software at the Karantina medical supplies warehouse.



This initiative aims to integrate the warehouse into the Ministry of Public Health's national medical supply chain through the LMS platform.

The newly provided equipment supported through generous funds from European Union in Lebanon, will empower the MOPH staff to:

- Operate the Logistics Management System more efficiently
- Ensure timely and consistent monthly data entry
- Enhance mobility and coordination between the Karantina warehouse and the Lebanese University warehouse in Hadath

In collaboration with Ministry of Public Health, WHO is advancing digital logistics and strengthening Lebanon's health-care supply chain.

Capacity building for trauma care to Lebanon

As part of WHO ongoing efforts to strengthen the capacity among Lebanese healthcare workers in managing trauma injured patients in conflict situation, a trauma care mission is ongoing aiming at continuing strengthening the capacity among Lebanese healthcare workers in managing trauma injured patients in conflict situation and providing needed resuscitation and ensure quality all through the continuum of care. The pool of trained ToT trainer on Emergency and Critical care in conflict settings is being supervised by the trauma expert. In parallel, this training is currently being rolled out to additional hospitals aiming at covering all hospitals across the country. Those trainings are conducted in close collaboration with PHEOC/MOPH.



Lebanon launches the National Drowning Awareness Prevention campaign

Lebanon today officially launched its first National Drowning Prevention Awareness Campaign, a joint initiative by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Ministry of Public Health, during a national event held at the Marine Sciences and Technology Institute (MARSATI) in Batroun. The launch brought together government officials, public health experts, civil society representatives, and other key stakeholders committed to tackling one of the country's most preventable public health challenges.



Drowning, often referred to by WHO as a "silent epidemic," claims more than 300,000 lives globally each year, including over 35,000 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. [Read full article.](#)

New milestone for patients safety in Lebanon

On 30 June, The Pharmacovigilance Center of the MOPH, established at the Lebanese University, and supported by WHO since 2018, launched the Lebanese Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GVP) Guideline in Beirut.



This initiative marks a major step toward:

- Ensuring safe, effective & quality medicines
- Protecting patients from harmful drugs
- Promoting accountability across the entire health system
- Empowering healthcare workers & the public to report concerns

Thanks to generous funding from the European Union, together, we commit to:

- Heal, not harm
- Put PatientsFirst
- Build a safer & more resilient health system
- Let's keep working together to guarantee that every medicine in Lebanon is trusted, tracked and safe.

Strengthening capacity of Lebanon's ESU and NIC

In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and the WHO Collaborating Center at the American University of Beirut (AUB), WHO is strengthening the capacity of Lebanon's Epidemiological Surveillance Unit and the National Influenza Center (NIC).

Through specialized training hosted at AUB. This initiative was made possible by the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework, and aims to enhance detection & monitoring, improve the national response to outbreaks, & reinforce Lebanon's contribution to global influenza surveillance efforts.

*WHO works to **protect** people from health emergencies, including pandemics and other threats. WHO also works to protect against health risks and promote healthy environments. WHO provides guidance, support, and resources to help countries respond quickly and effectively, aiming to protect lives and reduce the impact of emergencies.*

WHO provides life-saving dialysis kits at RHUH

As part of the crucial contribution from Irish Aid Irish Foreign Ministry, WHO is supporting access to life-saving services at public hospitals in Lebanon.

- **12,000** dialysis session consumable supplies have been distributed across the country.
- **5,000** dialysis kits were distributed to Rafik Hariri University Hospital, to meet the needs of **130** patients with renal failure for the next **3** months.



Thanks to the generous support from Ireland, this contribution is reducing suffering, preventing complications, and saving lives among renal failure patients.

Together, we can ensure no patient is left behind.

WHO Lebanon holds 1st National Consultation on Drowning Prevention

WHO Lebanon held its first National Consultation on Drowning Prevention, presenting findings from the Global Status Report and exploring ways to adapt global strategies locally.



Despite a 38% global drop since 2000, 36 drowning deaths have been reported in Lebanon in 2025 alone.

Over 20 national stakeholders—including ministries, ISF, Civil Defense, Red Cross, AUB & NGOs—joined the meeting. Participants committed to launching a national awareness campaign and forming a multisectoral committee for coordinated #drowning prevention efforts. [Read full article.](#)

WHO and ECHO deliver life-saving pediatric support to Lebanon

WHO with funding from ECHO, delivered essential pediatric meds and medical supplies to hospitals across #Lebanon. This critical support aims to strengthen the country's strained #healthcare system and ensure that children have access to life-saving treatments and care.

By equipping hospitals with the necessary resources, this initiative will directly benefit thousands of vulnerable children, improving health outcomes and easing the burden on medical facilities during a time of ongoing economic and social challenges.



Lebanon and WHO launch the 2026–2029 Country Cooperation Strategy

The Ministry of Public Health and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the Lebanon Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2026–2029. The 4-year framework aims to guide recovery and advance towards a resilient, inclusive health system. Developed through an extensive consultation process, the CCS aligns with Lebanon's National Health Strategy (Vision 2030), WHO's 14th General Programme of Work and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSD-CF).



Lebanon's health system is under enormous pressure. Years of economic collapse and political uncertainty, combined with the latest wave of hostilities, have damaged hospitals and worsened the brain drain.

Public health indicators are declining. Maternal and child mortality and noncommunicable and mental health conditions are increasing.

There are renewed risks of disease outbreaks, particularly cholera. Fragile water, sanitation and immunization systems add to the crisis.

WHO has been a central partner in the response for the past 6 years, supporting national health institutions and emergency preparedness. [Read full article.](#)

Gavi mission visits MOPH central drug warehouse

A joint mission from Gavi, Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF Lebanon, and WHO visited the Central Drug Warehouse and the Karantina Primary Healthcare Centre, reaffirming our collective commitment to immunization.

The newly rebuilt warehouse, plays a key role in strengthening equitable access to essential medicines and vaccines. Supply chain management has been significantly enhanced through the renovation of this modern facility and the implementation of a web-based automated LMS.



WHO works to ensure access to essential health services for all, including universal health coverage. WHO provides support to countries by offering technical expertise, resources, and policy guidance to strengthen health systems. It works closely with governments to improve healthcare access and address public health challenges.

WHO Regional Director concludes a visit to Lebanon and calls for urgent investment in health

The World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Dr Hanan Balkhy has concluded a 3-day – from 23 to 25 July 2025 – official visit to Lebanon. Dr Balkhy met with national authorities, health workers, civil society actors and international partners and witnessed firsthand the profound challenges facing the Lebanese health system.

At the heart of the mission was a call for increased domestic and international investment in health as Lebanon navigates multiple overlapping crises, including economic collapse, protracted conflict and one of the highest refugee burdens per capita globally.

“The health sector has shown remarkable resilience – but the needs are vast and growing,” said Dr Balkhy. “Trauma care, mental health services, essential medicines and rehabilitation and assistive products for persons with disabilities are in urgent demand.”

Dr Balkhy held high-level meetings with the President of the Republic, the Speaker of Parliament, the First Lady, the Minister of Public Health and the Minister of Finance to discuss Lebanon’s most pressing health priorities. These include pharmaceutical security, cancer care, substance use treatment and the urgent need to reinforce health governance and sustainable financing mechanisms. [Read full article.](#)



“Media is the Heart of Health Promotion”: WHO engages media for public health advocacy

WHO Lebanon, in close coordination with the Ministry of Public Health, recently held a series of five consultative meetings under the slogan “Media is the Heart of Health Promotion”, bringing together over 50 media stakeholders.

Participants included representatives from Lebanese TV stations, radio, newspapers, digital platforms, freelance health journalists, and faculty members from journalism and communication departments representing nine universities.

The meetings aimed to raise awareness about the critical role of media in promoting health, encouraging behavior change, and combating misinformation. Discussions highlighted the need for accurate, evidence-based health and simplified messages and greater integration of public health topics into news, talk shows, and entertainment programs. These sensitization meetings also served as a platform to share best practices and explore pathways for sustainable collaboration between WHO and Lebanon’s media sector. By the end, participants were empowered to play a more active role in health advocacy and social marketing to strengthen public engagement and health literacy across the country.



“With the world plagued by large-scale conflicts, the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima is a stark reminder of why the world needs peace so urgently. Our thoughts are with the victims who lost their lives tragically, and with their families. The best medicine is peace.”

– Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General

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WHO promotes healthier populations by supporting countries in preventing diseases, improving nutrition, and encouraging healthy lifestyles. It provides guidance, tools, and partnerships to help people live longer, healthier lives. WHO focuses on promoting health through various initiatives, including health promotion activities and addressing the social determinants of health. They aim to ensure healthy lives and well-being for all at all ages.



On World Breastfeeding Week, countries urged to invest in health systems and support breastfeeding mothers

Joint statement by WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell

Breastfeeding is one of the most effective ways to ensure a baby's health, development, and survival in the earliest stages of life. It acts as their first vaccine, providing protection against diseases including diarrhoea and pneumonia.

Investing in breastfeeding is an investment in the future, yet only 48 per cent of infants under six months are exclusively breastfed – well below the World Health Assembly target of 60 per cent by 2030. This is due to the overlapping challenges for new mothers, health workers, and health systems.

Millions of mothers around the world do not receive timely and skilled support in a healthcare setting when they need it most.

Only a fifth of countries include infant and young child feeding training for the doctors and nurses who care for new mothers. This means the majority of the world's mothers leave hospitals without proper guidance on how to breastfeed their babies and when to introduce complementary feeding.

In many countries, health systems are too often under-resourced, fragmented, or poorly equipped to deliver quality, consistent, evidence-based breastfeeding support.

Investment in breastfeeding support remains critically low even though every dollar invested generates US\$35 in economic returns.

[Read full article.](#)

WHO Lebanon would like to thank the support of all partners and donors who have and are still contributing generously and directly to the WHO health response. Together health for all by all.



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