

OPT EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT

Issue 9 As of 30 October 2023, 13:00



8,005	20,242	115	2,150	200*
Number of people killed in Gaza	Number of people injured in Gaza	Number of people killed in the West Bank	Number of people injured in the West Bank	Attacks on Health Care since 7 October *WHO SSA
1.4 M	34%	74%	64%	3
Estimated number of people displaced	Hospitals not currently functioning	Ministry of Health primary health care clinics closed	UNRWA primary health care clinics closed	Litres of water available per person per day

Source for Gaza and West Bank death and injury figures: Ministry of Health

SITUATION OVERVIEW

From 7 to 30 October at least **8,005** people killed in Gaza. Approximately **41.5% are children (3325), 45% female (3610)** and **55% male (4395)**, according to MoH. **115 Palestinians** have been killed in the West Bank; **29% are children**.

According to Israeli authorities, 1400 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed, 5,431 injured and 239 taken hostage since the hostilities started.

Gaza: Largescale fatalities and casualties with mass displacement of 1.4 million people and continued siege severely restricting entry of essential supplies, as well as entry/exit of humanitarian workers and evacuation of the injured/sick.

West Bank, including east Jerusalem: Increased settler and military violence, including airstrikes and live ammunition. Complete obstruction at checkpoints between Palestinian towns and closure of several communities, restricting access for patients, health personnel and ambulances. Nearly 1,000 Palestinians have been forcibly displaced since 7 October.

HEALTH NEEDS AND RISKS

Gaza

- **Traumatic injuries:** Rapid depletion of critical supplies to manage as daily use is equal to monthly consumption before the war.
- **350,000** non communicable diseases patients (diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and others). 1000 patients in need of kidney dialysis.
- 50,000 pregnant women, with an average of 183 births per day.
- 130 premature infants are dependent on incubators of which 61% are in the north, require electricity, to keep them alive.
- An imminent public health catastrophe looms with mass displacement, overcrowding, and damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Of 1.4 million displaced, 671,000 in UNRWA shelters: >3 times their designated capacity.
- Severe stressors for mental health affecting the whole population, including bombardment and siege. Over 485,000 people with severe or moderate mental health disorders.

West Bank, including east Jerusalem

- Increased injuries placing a high demand for emergency medical supplies for first response and at hospitals.
- Over 270 patients per day need access to health care in east Jerusalem, as well as in Israeli facilities, from the rest of the West Bank.
- At least 400 patients and companions from the Gaza Strip are stranded in the West Bank, including east Jerusalem.
- **Around 5000 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip** who had been working in Israel on 7 October are also sheltering in the West Bank, where they require primary health care support and provision of medications for chronic conditions.

HEALTH CARE FUNCTIONING AND ACCESS

Gaza

- Prevention of entry/exit of humanitarian supplies and people from Gaza, affecting:
 - o Fuel, water and sanitation, food/nutrition, medicines, medical supplies and equipment for health care.
 - All drugs and medical supplies are depleting, including those needed for acute and emergency care (e.g. saline, anaesthesia), for treatment of chronic conditions (e.g. insulin) and lifesaving drugs for newborns, for patients with cancer, and people requiring intensive care.
 - o **Blood bank supplies:** Calls continue for blood donation and appeals for outside supply of blood units.
 - o Health worker resources: Critical shortage, with medical staff capacity at 30% of requirements.
 - Exit and evacuation of patients and casualties: No evacuations to date due to closure of borders. 95
 patients per day are unable to access the specialized health care they would usually receive outside the
 Gaza Strip.
- Functioning of health care facilities and ambulances is critically affected by acute shortages of fuel and lack of mains electricity, as well as depletion of medical supplies and drugs.
 - o **71% (51/72) of primary care facilities not functioning**; a higher proportion not functioning in Gaza City (74%) and North Gaza (92%).
 - 34% (12/35) of hospitals not functioning; 119% of hospital beds currently occupied in 7 major hospitals. At
 Shifa hospital alone, the bed occupancy rate has reached 165%. Fuel depletion immediately risks the lives of
 injured patients, those requiring surgery, patients in intensive care, and those on neonatal incubators.
 - Ambulance functioning has been affected with 28 ambulances out of service due to damage or fuel shortage.
 - o Medical equipment increasingly non-functional, affecting diagnostic and treatment capacities.
 - o **55% of the Health Cluster partners stopped or limited operations** because of the insecurity and mass infrastructure damage which makes it difficult to move.
- Evacuation orders affecting the north of the Gaza Strip.
 - 13 hospitals in Gaza City and North Gaza are currently functioning and facing evacuation orders. These are
 impossible to carry out, risking the lives of inpatients and IDPs particularly the most vulnerable requiring life
 support. Insufficient ambulance capacity for transfer and insufficient bed capacity to care for these patients
 in the south.

- o Most dialysis capacity (80%) located in the area ordered for evacuation.
- Destruction severely affecting infrastructure in the Gaza Strip and obstructing ambulance access to the injured.
 - 1870 people including 1020 children reported to be missing and may be trapped under the rubble, obstacles to providing first aid response.
 - Private vehicles being used for the injured putting their safety at risk.
- Telecommunications in Gaza (including mobile phone lines and internet) were shut down from evening of 27 to 29 October, affecting ability of injured persons to call ambulances and Civil Defence teams.
- Routine surveillance systems are not functioning, hampering detection, analysis, and response to public health threats. UNRWA shelters reported thousands of cases of acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, chickenpox, skin infections, including scabies and others.
- Lack of WASH facilities in health care settings and shelters means imminent risk of infectious disease outbreaks.

West Bank, including east Jerusalem

- First response capacities overstretched by increased casualties, with high demand for emergency medical supplies.
- Checkpoint closures, insecurity, movement restrictions, and attacks on health obstruct access for ambulances, health care workers, and patients including to primary and hospital care.
- Parts of Area C remain inaccessible to partners running mobile clinics, leaving the population without access to
 essential healthcare services.
- Chronic shortages of essential medicines and medical supplies continue, affecting first response, primary care, and hospital care.

HEALTH ATTACKS

WHO has documented 200 attacks on health care in the occupied Palestinian territory since 7 October.

- 82 attacks in the Gaza Strip have resulted in 491 fatalities and 372 casualties, including 16 fatalities and 30 injuries of health care workers on duty. The attacks have affected 36 health care facilities (including 21 hospitals damaged) and 28 ambulances.
- 118 attacks on health care in the West Bank affecting 99 ambulances and including 67 attacks involving obstruction to delivery of health care; 61 involving physical violence towards health teams; 19 involving detention of health staff and ambulances; and 12 involving militarised search of health assets.

HEALTH RESPONSE

WHO

- 34 trucks with medical supplies have entered Gaza, including 8 from WHO and others from Egyptian MoH, ERC, UNICEF, Qatar and Tunisia. WHO supplies will cover the health needs of more than 300,000 people including trauma care, essential health needs and treatment for chronic conditions.
- WHO delivered 51 pallets of lifesaving medicines, supplies and surgical equipment to Shifa Hospital in Gaza city. WHO medicines and health supplies have also been delivered to four key hospitals south of Wadi Gaza, as well as to the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for distribution to two of its health facilities and ambulance crews.
- WHO, with support from UNRWA, delivered the minimum amount of fuel required to six major hospitals and PRCS to sustain its ambulance services. However, this is only enough for just over 24 hours.
- Two additional flights arrived to Al Arish, Egypt, since 14 October carrying trauma and surgical supplies for 2300 people, essential medical supplies for 100,000, medicines for treatment of 150,000 people with noncommunicable diseases, medical tents, and vitally needed water tanks for hospitals.
- WHO is coordinating with MOH, UNRWA and others partners to establish **early warning systems** to support disease surveillance and control measures, especially in over-crowded shelters.

Health partners

- Partners continue to **preposition supplies and other resources** in Egypt to support the health response; delivery of supplies to Gaza is needed to re-establish operations for most partners.
- Health Cluster Logistics Support Team set up in Cairo to support health supply coordination.
- Surge staff deployed from inside Gaza are continuing to support trauma management at Gaza hospitals.
- Fourteen global EMT (Emergency Medical Team) partners are on standby ready to be deployed to support management of patients in Gaza.
- Health Cluster is **tracking partner procurement** and **Nutrition Working Group** planning response pending access. The Nutrition Cluster will now be activated.

- Inter-cluster coordination to bring in medical supplies, food, water, and fuel to hospitals and IDPs in the north.
- Health Cluster partners are providing **health and MHPSS services to workers from Gaza** sheltering in the West Bank and supporting emergency and trauma care needs across the West Bank.

WHO RECOMMENDATIONS

- Immediate end to hostilities.
- 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 and outside referral.
- **Prioritization of the shipment of fuel** to operate desalination plants, hospital generators, ambulances.
- 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 estimates \$50 million needed to support the health response efforts in the coming three months - \$30 million for essential medicines and supplies and \$20 million for other health interventions. WHO has confirmation from several partners regarding funding to support the response.

WHO has secured \$8.2 million from the WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies and \$2.5 from Central Emergency
Response Fund (CERF) (of which, \$500,000 is allocated for West Bank) for the immediate procurement of essential
medications and supplies. Additionally, it is reprogramming \$1 million to procure urgently needed medical supplies
from the local market to ensure the continuity of essential health services, including emergency obstetric care,
management of chronic diseases, and infectious disease control.

Health Cluster partners support tracker				
	Partners	\$		
Delivered prepositioned supplies	WHO, MAP, AWDA, UNICEF	800,000		
Delivered locally procured supplies	WHO, MedGlobal, IRPAL, MAP, PCRF, QRCS, PAMA	4,786,500		
Confirmed incoming funding	WHO, UNICEF, MAP, AWDA, PMRS, MdM France, MdM Suisse, MdM Spain, UNFPA, Care, MedGlobal, QRCS, HI, PCRF, PAMA	23,146,899		
Total support committed/ delivered		28,733,399		

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