



# Lebanon Situation Report

August 13, 2024

## Background

Anera's last [Situation Report \(July 2024\)](#) summarizes information about the current period of cross-border fighting.

## Overview

Lebanon is seriously impacted by ongoing hostilities, with daily exchanges of weapons across the southern demarcation with Israel. Intense bombardment is concentrated within 12 kilometers of the [Blue Line](#), while Israeli airstrikes reach up to 100 km into the country. Reports indicate significant damage to southern Lebanon's water, electricity, telecom infrastructure, and roads, with casualties among maintenance workers, medics, and first responders. Additionally, an increase of low-flying Israeli warplanes breaking the sound barrier has caused widespread panic and shattered glass in many residential buildings.<sup>1</sup> The hostilities have significantly affected the South and Nabatieh governorates, with districts such as Bint Jbeil, Marjayoun, Saida, and Sour among the most impacted.<sup>2</sup>

Between October 8, 2023 and June 25, 2024, the warring parties have launched over 6,950 attacks involving airstrikes, drone strikes, shelling, artillery, and missiles, with Israel responsible for approximately 85% of these attacks, and Hezbollah and other factions accounting for the remaining 15%.<sup>3</sup>

In July, the World Food Programme reported facing significant funding shortfalls in Lebanon, with only 25% of its 2024 funding needs met. **This shortfall will critically affect cash assistance programs for refugees starting in November 2024.**<sup>4</sup>

## Violence at the Lebanon-Israel Border

As of July 31, the Ministry of Public Health reported a total of 2,156 casualties, with 515 fatalities. The majority of the cases were male (86%) and Lebanese nationals (95%),

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<sup>1</sup> [LEBANON: Flash Update #22. Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon as of 14 July 2024. July 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>2</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities. July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>3</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities. July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>4</sup> [WFP Lebanon Situation Report - June 2024. July 2024 | Relief Web](#)

with 55% aged between 25 and 44 years. In terms of incident type, 44% were due to trauma, 32% due to explosions, and 16% due to exposure to chemical substances.<sup>5</sup>

Between October 8, 2023, and July 5, 2024, Israel and Hezbollah carried out 7,491 cross-border attacks, with Israel responsible for approximately five times as many attacks as Hezbollah, according to data from the US-based Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project analyzed by the BBC. The attacks have killed around 100 civilians. **More than 60% of Lebanon's border communities have suffered damage**, impacting over 3,200 buildings. Specific towns such as Aita Al Shaab, Kfar Kila, and Blida were heavily affected, with Aita Al Shaab experiencing at least 299 attacks.<sup>6</sup>

On July 5, the UN warned of escalating tensions on the Lebanon-Israel Blue Line, which could lead to a full-scale war. The Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General emphasized the need to avoid escalation and warned of the real danger of miscalculation. The UN highlighted the importance of a political and diplomatic solution. The UN and UNIFIL urged all parties to cease hostilities and fully implement Security Council resolution 1701.<sup>7</sup>

### Shelter and Displacement

As of July 25, the International Organization for Migration reported that Lebanon had 98,750 displaced individuals. Among them, only a small fraction — 1,341 — of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) reside in 16 collective shelters. Displaced persons are now living in 339 municipalities (cadasters) nationwide. Notably, 2,330 individuals had returned to their areas of origin. Displacement data indicated that 411 locations (villages or neighborhoods) across 23 out of Lebanon's 26 districts were hosting IDPs. Sour, El Nabatieh, Saida, Baabda, and Beirut districts hosted 76% of the IDPs. The vast majority of IDPs (96%) originated from Bint Jbeil, Marjayoun, and Sour. Currently, 82% of IDPs are living in host settings, 15% in rental housing, and 1% in collective shelters.<sup>8</sup>

Syrian refugees in southern Lebanon, comprising 78,200 registered individuals as of March 31, face significant challenges due to the growing hostilities. Many encounter difficulties at checkpoints when attempting to relocate, risking arbitrary detention or deportation without proper documentation. Reports indicate around 300 refugees were deported on May 14 alone. Even when they are able to evacuate safely, they frequently face challenges in unfamiliar and potentially unwelcoming areas such as northern Lebanon, where aid access is limited due to unfamiliarity with aid organizations' locations. Palestinian refugees in six camps across the South governorate, numbering

<sup>5</sup> [The Cumulative Health Emergency Report, July 2024 | MoPH](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Damage, destruction and fear along the Israel-Lebanon border, July 2024 | BBC](#)

<sup>7</sup> [UN warns of escalating tensions on Lebanon-Israel 'Blue Line' frontier, July 2024 | UN](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Lebanon - Mobility Snapshot - Round 40, July 2024 | IOM](#)

approximately 250,000, face disruptions in essential services, including education and healthcare, with some camps potentially relocating due to security concerns. Displacement has heightened refugees' risk of violence and exploitation and restricted access to essential services.<sup>9</sup>

Lebanon's Council of the South reports that, since October 8, 2023, 3,000 housing units have been wholly or partially demolished, 12,000 units severely damaged, and 20,000 units have sustained minor damage. The total estimated value of the damage is \$1.7 billion.<sup>10</sup>

### Food Security and Livelihoods

**Food insecurity in Lebanon has worsened due to the ongoing hostilities and is projected to affect approximately 1.26 million people — nearly one quarter of the population** — from April to September 2024, up from 19% last winter. Districts in southern Lebanon are affected, while **northern and eastern regions face the highest levels of food insecurity** (33-37%). Conflict-related disruptions in agriculture and high food prices due to delivery costs and consumer price index increases have exacerbated the situation, with some displaced families in Sour receiving only two to three food rations in over eight months since October instead of their necessary daily rations.<sup>11</sup>

Due to Lebanon's grave economic crisis, **three out of four children under five, both Lebanese and refugees, live in food poverty**, consuming diets with only four food groups. Over 85,000 children suffer from extreme food poverty, resorting to diets with at most two food groups, **leading to severe stunting and wasting** and increasing the risk of death by up to 12 times. Over 30% of children in North Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley face severe food poverty. Girls are more affected (24%) than boys (17%). Across Lebanon, 277,000 children under five face food poverty, with one-third living in extreme conditions. More than 60% of children in various regions live in food poverty: 43% in Bekaa, 39% in North Lebanon, and 30% in Beirut. **In Mount Lebanon and the North, over 60% of children face food poverty.** Among those in informal camps, 51% of Syrian children, 35% of Palestinian children, and 21% of Lebanese children suffer from severe food poverty.<sup>12</sup>

Lebanon's agricultural sector has been severely impacted by the escalating conflict with Israel. On July 8, over 800 farm animals were killed in an Israeli attack on a livestock

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<sup>9</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>10</sup> [LEBANON: Flash Update #22, Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon as of 14 July 2024, July 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>11</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Food poverty in children, June 2024 | UNICEF](#)

farm in Jabal Tora, Jezzine. Lebanon's Agriculture Ministry condemned the attack and called for international intervention to hold those responsible accountable and provide aid to affected farmers and herders amid repeated Israeli aggressions. Lebanon's Council of the South reported that the agricultural sector lost 17 million square meters of land due to Israeli shelling, primarily from white phosphorus, with long-lasting effects. Additionally, farmers were unable to harvest crops from 12 million square meters of land.<sup>13</sup>

From October 8, 2023, to June 5, 2024, Israeli white phosphorus attacks (which are internationally banned) on Lebanese lands have led to the outbreak of 812 fires. On October 26, 2023, alone, 96 fires were recorded. These attacks targeted 43 areas in Nabatieh Governorate, 12 regions in South Governorate, and 55 in other governorates, affecting more than 2,400 dunams of land and reaching 6,500 dunams, including forests and agricultural areas. More than 60,000 ancient olive trees and pine and oak trees were targeted, primarily in border areas with Palestine. The agricultural and protected areas affected included pine trees, wild trees, and grasses. The attacks resulted in the death of 340,000 poultry and more than 1,000 livestock heads, damaged 93 agricultural tents, wholly destroyed 370 beehives, and partially damaged 3,000 hives due to war and displacement. Additionally, a 600-square-meter fodder warehouse was decimated, and 13 farms were targeted.<sup>14</sup>

**This devastation has threatened the income of the 70% of families.** The use of white phosphorus has further hindered farmers from accessing their land safely, potentially causing long-term and irreversible damage estimated to require one billion dollars and years to rehabilitate.<sup>15</sup>

Lebanon's economy more broadly has also been negatively impacted by the conflict, especially the tourism sector; the once-thriving tourism industry has nearly ground to a halt due to insecurity. Decreased tourist numbers and hotel bookings have reduced income and job losses for those reliant on tourism, such as hotel and restaurant workers. The adverse effects on tourism are anticipated to persist throughout 2024, adding further strain to Lebanon's economy.<sup>16</sup>

## Health

Insecurity Insight reported 45 incidents of violence against healthcare infrastructure in Lebanon from October 8, 2023, to June 30, 2024. These incidents resulted in the deaths

<sup>13</sup> [LEBANON: Flash Update #22. Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon as of 14 July 2024. July 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>14</sup> [Statistics from the #Ministry\\_of\\_Agriculture\\_on\\_the\\_Israeli\\_attacks\\_with\\_internationally\\_banned\\_white\\_phosphorus\\_and\\_the\\_fires\\_they\\_caused\\_June\\_2024 | MoA](#)

<sup>15</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities. July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>16</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities. July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

of 39 health workers in 22 incidents, damage to 12 ambulances, and damage to health facilities on 14 occasions. Most incidents occurred in urban areas of Nabatieh and South governorates, particularly in Bint Jbeil, Marjayoun, and Tyre districts. Explosive weapons were used at least 41 times, with half involving aircraft-delivered explosives. Drones armed with explosives caused damage on eight occasions, including to Salah Ghandour Hospital in Bint Jbeil. Israeli artillery and mortar shelling damaged health facilities in Nabatieh governorate four times. Health workers were often killed while working or responding to previous attacks.<sup>17</sup>

In late June, Firas Abiad, the Minister of Public Health, unveiled an emergency public health plan to address potential escalations in Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and beyond. The plan focuses on five main areas: establishing a health emergency room to coordinate with hospitals, drug warehouses, and ambulance teams; preparing human resources through specialized training for handling war injuries and updating hospital emergency plans; ensuring logistical preparation by stockpiling essential supplies including serums and oxygen; enhancing coordination among emergency services and establishing a specialized communication center; and addressing the effects of displacement by providing treatments for chronic conditions through mobile units.<sup>18</sup>

As of June 27, six primary healthcare facilities have closed in Marjayoun and Bint Jbeil due to insecurity, affecting access to healthcare. **About 16,000 children under five lack essential services.** Displaced people in Sour have access to primary healthcare but not medications or hospitalization covered by the Ministry. Medical supply shortages and a lack of personnel persist, worsened by ongoing hostilities.<sup>19</sup>

The hostilities continue to disrupt healthcare services in southern Lebanon. The closure of primary healthcare facilities and shortages of medical supplies, doctors, and nurses have restricted access to essential healthcare, significantly impacting children under five and individuals with chronic conditions.<sup>20</sup>

## Education

During the ongoing escalations in Lebanon, students' education faces formidable challenges. Instability, including the risk of shelling, airstrikes, and sonic booms, has disrupted official exams. Students relocating to other governorate centers encounter significant commuting difficulties. These obstacles highlight the severe impact of conflict on educational continuity and student well-being. Online learners struggle with

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<sup>17</sup> [Attacks on Health Care in Lebanon 7 October 2023-30 June 2024, July 2024 | Insecurity Insight](#)

<sup>18</sup> [A detailed presentation by the Ministry of Health of the emergency plan in the event of an escalation of the Israeli aggression, June 2024 | MoH](#)

<sup>19</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>20</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

unreliable internet and power outages, further complicating their education, and the anticipated dropout rate among children attending online classes is estimated at 90%.<sup>21</sup>

**Due to insecurity and displacement, over 11,000 children in Lebanon have had their education disrupted, with schools damaged or used as shelters.**

According to UNICEF, more than 8,000 of these children are affected. Many receive online education but face challenges such as poor internet connectivity and high costs. The Ministry of Education provides some households with tablets and internet bundles, but one tablet per family is insufficient. Students remaining in southern areas without open schools also struggle with challenges associated with online learning.<sup>22</sup>

Lebanon's education system has struggled to provide consistent and inclusive learning for five years, exacerbating learning deficits and dropout risks. Challenges include financial constraints, child labor, safety concerns, technical difficulties with online learning, and barriers for students with disabilities. Despite efforts by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to implement online learning and establish emergency hub schools, these measures fall short of addressing the needs of displaced children.<sup>23</sup>

### Water and Sanitation

At least 13 water infrastructures have been damaged due to cross-border hostilities, affecting the water supply for nearly 200,000 residents in the South and Nabatieh. Water fee collection has fallen to almost zero in these governorates, placing immense strain on the South Lebanon Water Establishment.<sup>24</sup>

Israeli airstrikes damaged water supply infrastructure, affecting clean drinking water access for more than 100,000 people in South and Nabatiye governorates. A February air strike disrupted safe drinking water access for about 42 villages in southern Lebanon. Overcrowding in collective shelters leads to numerous health risks, including gynecological diseases among displaced women. Lack of clean water and sanitation in shelters contributes to the spread of waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, and skin and respiratory infections. White phosphorus fragments from airstrikes pose a long-term risk of water source contamination in southern Lebanon.<sup>25</sup>

### Anera's Response

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<sup>21</sup> [LEBANON: Flash Update #22, Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon as of 14 July 2024, July 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>22</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)

<sup>23</sup> [Lebanon's displaced children and youth from the South cannot afford further disruption to their education, July 2024 | Relief Web](#)

<sup>24</sup> [LEBANON: Flash Update #22, Escalation of hostilities in South Lebanon as of 14 July 2024, July 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>25</sup> [LEBANON - The humanitarian impact of escalating Hezbollah-Israel hostilities, July 2024 | ACAPS](#)



## Health and Medications

Anera continued implementing the Critical Access for Refugees to Medicine and Health Services (CARMAH) project for the third year, funded by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. The project achieved significant milestones, ensuring continuous access to chronic medications for refugees and vulnerable host communities in Lebanon, reaching approximately 9,800 Syrians and 19,200 beneficiaries, with 74% being over 50 years old. By the end of July, CARMAH had distributed an impressive 11.3 million defined daily doses of medications, valued at approximately \$916,700. Outside of this program, Anera contributed an additional 5.9 million defined daily doses, worth around \$6 million. These efforts have greatly supported the health and well-being of refugees and vulnerable host communities, particularly in managing non-communicable diseases and providing essential medical care. An external evaluation praised the project's substantial impact on refugee health.

## Food Security

Since October 2023, Anera has delivered a total of 2,211 food parcels to 10,540 people, including those displaced from destroyed border villages, with priority given to particularly vulnerable households that have disabled family members and female-headed households. **Each parcel was enough to serve a family for one month with diverse, nutritious, and local foods** that could be stored for an extended period, such as rice, beans, lentils, and canned vegetables.

## Cash Assistance

Since October 8, Anera distributed \$97,050 in cash assistance to support 9,705 vulnerable people (1,941 households) to help them access critical, basic needs amid the wave of displacement and a disrupted economic activity in southern Lebanon. Here too, Anera gave priority to families with one or more members living with disabilities and female-headed households. Cash was used to cover immediate needs such as fresh food items, medicine, and essential hygiene items for women and children.