



Palestine Situation Report

January 8, 2025

Background

Information about the ongoing war on Gaza and escalations in the West Bank is summarized in Anera's last [Palestine Situation Report \(November 2024\)](#).

Overview

Northern Gaza remains under near-total siege, with Israeli occupation forces blocking humanitarian access to the area. For over two months, they have prevented life-saving aid from reaching the besieged areas in North Gaza.¹

Since October 7, 2023, Israeli forces have imposed stricter movement controls in Hebron's H2 area, including setting up a barbed wire barrier in one neighborhood. This has significantly hindered Palestinians' access to work, basic services, and education, affecting thousands in the West Bank. **The year 2024 saw the highest levels of displacement and structure demolitions in the West Bank and East Jerusalem since OCHA began tracking these violations in 2009.** This increase is mainly due to the widespread destruction of Palestinian homes and infrastructure by Israeli forces, particularly in Jenin and Tulkarem, and their refugee camps.²

UNICEF reported that over 160 children were killed in Gaza in just over a month, averaging **four children every day** since early November. In the last 14 months, more than 14,500 children have been killed, and nearly all of Gaza's 1.1 million children urgently require protection and mental health support. There is no safe space for children in Gaza, and they are deprived of essential needs such as food, clean water, medical supplies, and warm clothing as winter temperatures drop. Preventable diseases, including over 800 cases of hepatitis and more than 300 cases of chickenpox, are rapidly spreading. Thousands of children are also suffering from skin rashes and acute respiratory infections, with harsh winter conditions exacerbating their suffering.³

¹ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 26th, 2024 | PMoH](#)

² [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

³ [Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell on children and the continued bloodshed in the Gaza Strip, December 2024 | UNICEF](#)

On December 27, the Palestinian Center for Human Rights reported a significant escalation in destruction across the Gaza Strip, with attacks targeting residential neighborhoods and civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, roads, and water, sewage, and electricity networks. Entire neighborhoods, particularly in Rafah and northern Gaza, have been reduced to rubble, forcing most residents to evacuate. The **Israeli forces intensified their attacks on three hospitals in northern Gaza** — Indonesian Hospital, Kamal Adwan Hospital, and Al-Awda Hospital — along with surrounding residential buildings. On December 25, explosives planted outside Kamal Adwan Hospital demolished nearby homes, causing significant damage to the facility. Drones also dropped incendiary bombs on the hospital's courtyard, targeting moving persons and its generators in order to force an evacuation.⁴

Violence in Gaza and the West Bank

Gaza

Israeli air, land, and sea attacks are ongoing across Gaza, causing increased civilian casualties, displacement, and widespread damage to infrastructure. Since October 6, 2024, a ground offensive has been underway in the North Gaza governorate, with an intensified siege on Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanoun, and sections of Jabalia.⁵ Since October 7, 2023, official estimates indicate that Israeli attacks have killed 45,854 Palestinians and injured 109,139 others.⁶ The number of missing Palestinians or those trapped under rubble has reached approximately 10,000.⁷

On December 16, the UN Human Rights Office condemned **ongoing Israeli airstrikes on schools serving as shelters** for internally displaced persons in Gaza. Four such attacks occurred on December 15-16, targeting schools in Beit Hanoun and Gaza City in the north, as well as in Mawasi, Khan Younis, the southern "humanitarian zone" designated by Israel. At least 69 Palestinians, including children and women, were killed in these attacks, with a mother and her 2-day-old newborn daughter among the fatalities. In December alone, the UN Human Rights Office documented nine similar attacks, resulting in casualties, including more children and women.⁸

On December 4, an Israeli airstrike hit a makeshift tent encampment in Mawasi, Khan Younis, sheltering 21 families. The encampment had been declared a "safe humanitarian

⁴ [Israeli Occupation Forces Perpetuates Genocide: Accelerated Destruction of Residential Neighborhoods and Hospitals amid Depopulation of Northern Gaza, December 2024 | PCHR](#)

⁵ [Humanitarian Situation Update #249 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁶ [Palestinian Ministry of Health, January 2025 | Facebook](#)

⁷ [In Gaza: Seven attacks on tent encampments in the past two weeks kill 34 Palestinians including 10 children, December 2024 | OHCHR](#)

⁸ [UN Human Rights Palestine, December 2024 | OHCHR](#)

zone" by the Israeli military. The strike, followed by secondary explosions, destroyed all 21 tents, killing at least 23 Palestinians, including four children and two women, one of whom was pregnant, and injuring others. This was the seventh attack on an internally displaced person (IDP) tent encampment in two weeks, resulting in at least 34 deaths, including 10 children and three women. Four of these attacks occurred in the Israeli-declared "humanitarian zone" in Mawasi, killing at least 11 Palestinians, including a woman and her two daughters, and four other children.⁹

The West Bank

Since October 7, 2023, Israeli forces have killed 835 Palestinians, including 172 children, and injured more than 6,700 across the West Bank and Jerusalem.¹⁰

Since the start of 2024, OCHA has documented around 1,420 incidents of Israeli settler violence, including the killing of five Palestinians, one of whom was a child, and injuring 360 others, including 35 children. Over 26,100 Palestinian-owned trees were also vandalized. **This year has seen the highest number of settler-related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage since OCHA began tracking these violations in 2006.** Additionally, attacks and intimidation of Palestinian Bedouin communities have displaced over 300 families, totaling 1,762 people, including 856 children.¹¹

On December 24, Israeli forces initiated a 40-hour operation targeting Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps in Tulkarem Governorate. The operation included two drone strikes, firefights, explosions, and widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure using military bulldozers, severely impacting both camps and their surroundings.¹²

Displacement and Shelter

Gaza

An estimated 85% of Gaza's population, approximately 1.93 million people, have been forcibly displaced. Between 100,000 and 130,000 people have been displaced from northern Gaza due to Israeli attacks. As winter sets in, over 1.6 million people are living in temporary shelters, with around half a million residing in flood-prone areas. They urgently need suitable living spaces. Humanitarian organizations are struggling to

⁹ [In Gaza: Seven attacks on tent encampments in the past two weeks kill 34 Palestinians including 10 children - OHCHR - Question of Palestine](#)

¹⁰ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 26th, 2024 | PMoH](#)

¹¹ [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

¹² [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

address the increasing shelter needs due to ongoing displacements, compounded by the limited entry of shelter supplies.¹³

The September United Nations Satellite Centre Comprehensive Damage Assessment reported that a total of 163,778 structures in the Gaza Strip have been affected by the Israeli hostilities, with 52,564 completely destroyed, 18,913 severely damaged, 56,710 moderately damaged, and 35,591 possibly damaged. This accounts for about **66% of all structures in the Gaza Strip**, equating to approximately 227,591 damaged housing units. **The governorates of Khan Yunis and Rafah saw the most significant increase in damage since the July 2024 assessment**, with Khan Yunis reporting 1,470 new damaged structures and Rafah 3,770. In Rafah, the highest concentration of new damage was found in Rafah City, with 3,289 structures impacted.¹⁴

On January 1, the Palestinian Civil Defense reported that 1,542 tents sheltering displaced people in Gaza were flooded by rainwater in the previous two days, affecting camps across the strip. Flood water rose to over 30 centimeters in some areas, damaging the belongings of displaced people and exposing them to the winter elements.¹⁵

Between December 28 and 29, the Israeli military issued two evacuation orders for all of North Gaza governorate and parts of Gaza City. The first order covered approximately 54 square kilometers in Beit Hanoun, Beit Lahiya, and Jabalia in North Gaza, as well as the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood in Gaza City. The second order affected about 5.1 square kilometers in areas of Beit Lahiya and Jabalya not covered by the first order, along with the Al Awdah neighborhood in Gaza City. While thousands of families were estimated to be impacted, 350 families were displaced from North Gaza to Gaza City between December 26 and 29. Since October 2023, North Gaza has been subjected to five major evacuation orders, along with numerous other orders for various parts of the governorate.¹⁶

Between December 18 and 23, the Israeli military issued two evacuation orders for areas in Deir al Balah and Gaza City, both targeting zones previously subject to evacuation orders. The first order impacted around 1.2 square kilometers in Al Bureij and its refugee camp, where approximately 23,100 people, including 10,300 sheltering at three IDP sites, were staying. This order halted services at five medical points and two water trucking stations. The second order affected roughly 1 square kilometer in Ash Shejaiya and Al Turkman neighborhoods, affecting at least 5,000 households. Approximately 250 to 500 families moved westward toward At Tuffah, Ad Daraj, and central Gaza City. As

¹³ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 26th, 2024 | PMoH](#)

¹⁴ [UNOSAT Gaza Strip Comprehensive Damage Assessment, September 2024 | UNOSAT](#)

¹⁵ [The Palestinian Civil Defense, January 2025 | Facebook](#)

¹⁶ [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

of December 24, 81% of Gaza Strip's territory is under active evacuation orders, with some others rescinded. On December 22, about 350 people were displaced after Israeli leaflets directed Beit Hanoun residents to move southward, primarily affecting women and children, as men were reportedly separated at an Israeli checkpoint.¹⁷

Between December 11 and 14, the Israeli military issued four evacuation orders affecting at least 69,000 people in parts of Gaza City, North Gaza, Deir Al Balah, and Khan Younis. The first order covered 3.2 square kilometers in Deir Al Balah, affecting an estimated 10,000 people, including 5,200 in nine displacement sites. The second order, affecting 1.8 square kilometers in Gaza City, displaced at least 20,000 people, including IDPs in one UNRWA shelter, and led to the temporary closure of a UN-supported bakery, as well as the suspension of water, sanitation, and nutrition services. The third order covered 5.5 square kilometers in Gaza City and North Gaza, impacting 35,000 people, including 250 families (~1,250 people) displaced southward. The fourth order covered 4.3 square kilometers in Deir Al Balah and Khan Younis, affecting 4,000 people, including 450 families (~2,250 people).¹⁸

On December 20, the UN conducted an assessment of four displacement sites in Gaza City, hosting over 1,900 families, including three makeshift camps established in December 2024 and a UNRWA school-turned-shelter that received a large influx of IDPs. Most families had fled North Gaza without belongings and were struggling to meet basic needs. The assessment findings revealed severe shortages of latrines, hygiene supplies, and water, with open defecation observed at two sites. One site lacked a water supply, and all sites faced a shortage of jerrycans for storage. Only one site had received food assistance, and hot meals from community kitchens reached only a small portion of households. Three sites had no access to medical services, and there were no educational facilities for school-aged children, although one site had a community-led initiative. The assessment identified urgent needs for dignity kits, diapers, infant formula, and mobility aids for people with disabilities.¹⁹

On December 8, OCHA assessed East Khan Younis, focusing on Ma'an (6,700 families, 36,000 people) and Bani Suhaila (9,200 families, 45,000 people), where many families returned after Israeli evacuation orders were revoked in November. Both areas face severe housing damage, with people living in makeshift shelters at risk of collapse due to winter weather conditions. Water access is limited in Ma'an, with low-pressure water from the Mekorot supply line and few private filling points. Sanitation is critical, with Ma'an relying on pit latrines and Bani Suhaila's destroyed sewage system causing pools of waste in the streets, increasing the need for rodent control. Due to infrastructure

¹⁷ [Humanitarian Situation Update #249 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁸ [Humanitarian Situation Update #247 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

¹⁹ [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

destruction, residents must travel up to 4 kilometers to access basic services, including the Nasser Medical Complex, which only offers consultations. Food assistance is scarce, with no distribution in Ma'an and minimal support in Bani Suhaila. Both communities urgently need winterization aid for shelters, as well as supplies for children, such as clothes, diapers, and baby milk.²⁰

The West Bank

In 2024, the highest displacement and destruction levels in nearly two decades were recorded since OCHA began documenting such violations. The Israeli forces destroyed or forced the demolition of 1,762 structures owned by Palestinians, resulting in the displacement of 4,253 individuals, including 1,712 children, and impacting approximately 165,000 more people. **On December 15, Israeli forces placed a barbed wire barrier in the As Salaymeh neighborhood within the restricted H2 area of Hebron, completely blocking the only pedestrian route for residents from four neighborhoods to reach essential services.** This includes access to one of four educational facilities and the sole healthcare clinic, impacting around 2,500 residents in the restricted H2 area.²¹

From January 1 to November 30, 2024, 64% of the 189 structures demolished in East Jerusalem for lacking Israeli-issued building permits were destroyed by their owners after receiving demolition orders from Israeli authorities. These self-demolitions displaced approximately 60% of the affected population, totaling 289 out of 481 people. The rate of owner-led demolitions increased, reaching about 53% in both 2022 and 2023. Israeli legislation, which limits court intervention, pressures families to demolish their own homes. In August 2024, OCHA documented an incident in Silwan where a family received a final demolition order after paying over 100,000 NIS (\$27,700) in fines since 2014 for unauthorized construction. Under pressure from municipal officials, they demolished their home within 21 days, displacing two households with nine people, including four children.²²

On December 31, OCHA, UNRWA, and humanitarian partners conducted inter-cluster needs assessments in Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps to evaluate the humanitarian impact of Israeli military operations on December 24-25. In Tulkarem camp, 12 families (61 people) were temporarily displaced due to substantial damage to their homes, while ten previously displaced families faced additional damage to their homes. At least 828 housing units were damaged, and electricity outages lasted 43 hours. Water supply disruption for 33 mobile tankers worsened the humanitarian

²⁰ [Humanitarian Situation Update #247 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

²¹ [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

²² [Humanitarian Situation Update #244 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

conditions for over 11,000 residents. Additionally, 100 livelihood shops were damaged, deepening economic instability. Nine families (33 people) were displaced in Nur Shams camp, and seven previously displaced families experienced further damage to their homes. The operation caused widespread destruction, including the bulldozing of roads, sewage flooding, and damage to 222 housing units, severely disrupting movement, restricting access to essential services, and impacting the dignity and safety of 7,000 residents.²³

Between December 12-19, Israeli authorities demolished, seized, or forced the demolition of 76 Palestinian-owned structures across the West Bank, citing the absence of Israeli-issued building permits, which are nearly impossible for Palestinians to obtain. Among these, 16 structures had been provided as humanitarian aid. The demolitions displaced 103 people, including 46 children, and affected the livelihoods or service access of over 260 others. On December 16, 78 Palestinians were displaced, marking the highest single-day displacement due to permit-related demolitions since October 7, 2023. These zones, comprising nearly 30% of Area C, are home to some of the most vulnerable Palestinian communities, who face restricted access to essential services and infrastructure. In the herding communities of Khirbet al Fakheit (Hebron) and Tell al Khashaba (Nablus), Israeli authorities demolished 32 structures, including 15 that were donor-funded as humanitarian assistance following previous demolitions, displacing 23 Palestinians and impacting approximately 160 others. Nine structures were demolished in Al Bustan, Silwan, and Beit Hanina, displacing 38 people, including 15 children. Al Bustan, home to over 1,500 Palestinians, faces an Israeli settlement plan involving the demolition of numerous Palestinian homes. Since January 2024, the Israeli Jerusalem municipality has demolished or forced the demolition of 17 structures in Al Bustan, displacing 25 households, totaling 104 people, including 34 children.²⁴ Between December 5-12, Israeli authorities demolished or seized 31 Palestinian-owned structures across the West Bank, displacing 26 people, including 13 children, and affecting the livelihoods or access to services of over 100 others.²⁵

On December 10, Israeli forces evicted a Palestinian family of ten, including six children, from their home in Batn Al Hawa, Silwan, East Jerusalem, following an Israeli Supreme Court ruling in favor of the settler organization Ateret Cohanim. The family, which had lived in the property since 1979, had been fighting eviction since 2015. This eviction is part of a broader displacement trend in East Jerusalem, following the August eviction of four households in the same area. In total, 215 Palestinian households in East Jerusalem

²³ [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

²⁴ [Humanitarian Situation Update #246 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

²⁵ [Humanitarian Situation Update #246 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

face eviction cases, mostly filed by settler organizations, putting at least 948 people, including 408 children, at risk of displacement.²⁶

Health

An Israeli raid on Kamal Adwan Hospital on December 27 put the last major health facility in North Gaza out of service. The systematic dismantling of the health system and an 80-day siege on North Gaza have further endangered the 75,000 Palestinians still in the area. The raid caused serious infrastructure damage, including to the laboratory, surgical unit, engineering and maintenance department, operations theatre, and medical store. Patients, caregivers, and staff members were evacuated to the destroyed Indonesian Hospital, which was unable to provide any care. Additionally, some individuals were reportedly stripped and forced to walk south. The area around the hospital has remained volatile, with almost daily attacks on health workers and facilities. That week, bombardments near the hospital killed 50 people, including five health workers. The raid follows escalating restrictions and repeated attacks on the hospital. **Since early October 2024, at least 50 attacks on or near the hospital have been verified.** Despite growing needs for emergency services, only 10 out of 21 aid missions to the hospital were partially facilitated from October to December.²⁷

Only 17 of Gaza's 36 hospitals are partially operational and facing critical shortages. It is estimated that 26,000 Palestinians have sustained life-altering injuries over the past 14 months. People with disabilities continue to endure significant suffering due to severe trauma, a lack of rehabilitation services, and limited access to assistive devices. **Over the past seven months, fewer than 400 patients have been permitted to leave the Gaza Strip for life-saving medical treatment, while around 14,000 others are still awaiting approval to exit.** Women are facing severe impacts from the shortage of diagnostic tests and essential medical treatments, often experiencing delays or inadequate care. UNICEF reported that Gaza City currently has only three ventilators available for infants in need of intensive care. Al Shifa Hospital housed the largest neonatal intensive care unit in the Gaza Strip, with 50 incubators and full intensive care equipment.²⁸ Since October 7, 2023, Israeli forces killed 1,057 health sector personnel, arrested more than 310 others, injured hundreds, and destroyed 130

²⁶ [Humanitarian Situation Update #246 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

²⁷ [Kamal Adwan Hospital out of service following a raid yesterday and repeated attacks since October, December 2024 | WHO](#)

²⁸ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 26th, 2024 | PMoH](#)

ambulances.²⁹ In the West Bank, the Israeli forces carried out 600 attacks on healthcare institutions and personnel.³⁰

UNICEF reported that since October 7, more than 110 health facilities, including secondary care units, have been damaged. The loss of neonatal care beds is significant, with only 64 beds currently available in MOH hospitals, a 64% reduction from the pre-war total of 178 beds across eight hospitals. Gaza sees 55,000–60,000 births annually, and 20% (11,000–12,000) of newborns require critical care. The loss of NICU capacity means that approximately 7,700 newborns are left without lifesaving care. Before the war, 60% of neonatal care was in Gaza City/North Gaza, but this has now been reduced to nearly zero in MOH hospitals. The neonatal care capacity in North Gaza has been entirely lost, overwhelming remaining facilities and forcing families to seek care in under-resourced locations, resulting in preventable neonatal deaths.³¹

Between December 24 and 29, at least five newborns aged three days to one month died of hypothermia in IDP tents in central and southern Gaza. Among them was a 20-day-old baby who died from the cold in a tent in Deir Al Balah on the night of December 28, while his twin brother remains in intensive care at Al Aqsa Hospital. Additionally, three babies died from the extreme cold between December 24 and 26 in their tents in Mawasi, Khan Younis, an area where the Israeli military had instructed Palestinians to go. On December 27, the Ministry of Health reported the death of an adult medical worker in the same area due to the cold.³²

OCHA highlighted that over 500 cases of chickenpox have been reported at a single site housing 8,000 IDPs in Deir Al Balah in recent weeks, and chickenpox can pose life-threatening risks for adults. UNFPA estimates that 42,000 pregnant women will face acute cold and hunger this winter. More than half of these women are already experiencing anemia, with rising miscarriage rates. Pre-term births and low birthweights now account for around 10% of all deliveries in Gaza, double the rate before October 2023.³³ Between January and November 17, 2024, WHO reported 1,210,306 cases of acute respiratory infections, 574,813 cases of acute watery diarrhea, and 114,367 cases of acute jaundice syndrome.³⁴

The Gaza Community Mental Health Programme qualitative analysis showed that the organization's teams provided psychological first aid services to displaced families in

²⁹ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 18th. 2024 | PMoH](#)

³⁰ [Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine Catastrophic situation in numbers: the deadliest year for Palestinians From October 7th until December 12th. 2024 | PMoH](#)

³¹ [Situation of Neonatal Intensive Care Units \(NICU\) in the Gaza Strip | UNICEF](#)

³² [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip. December 2024 | OCHA](#)

³³ [Humanitarian Situation Update #249 | Gaza Strip. December 2024 | OCHA](#)

³⁴ [Humanitarian Situation Update #247 | Gaza Strip. December 2024 | OCHA](#)

Deir Al Balah and Khan Younis, reaching 24,034 individuals and referring 1,922 people with severe symptoms to advanced mental health services in 2024. The analysis revealed that 8% of the population in the southern and middle governorates of Gaza require advanced mental health care, with potentially higher rates in the northern areas where conditions are worse. While these percentages may seem low given the trauma exposure, they serve as a baseline for future comparisons. Severe psychological symptoms are more prevalent among women and girls, due to factors such as greater exposure to displacement risks, restricted mobility, inadequate shelter conditions, and higher incidences of gender-based violence. These factors contribute to a higher prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among women compared to men.³⁵

Education

Gaza

A December damage verification by the Education Cluster confirmed significant damage to schools in Gaza, with 95% of schools affected. **Of the 564 schools in Gaza, 496 (88%) require full reconstruction or major rehabilitation.** One-third of the directly hit or damaged schools are run by UNRWA. These schools collectively served 542,959 students and employed 20,320 teachers. Over 61% of schools used as shelters for IDPs were directly hit. At least 80 schools were completely destroyed, and 66 schools lost over half their structures. North Gaza is the most affected area, with 100% of school buildings either directly hit or damaged, followed by the Gaza governorate at 93%. In Khan Younis, 78% of school buildings have been directly hit.³⁶

The West Bank

Since December 5, following the operation by Palestinian forces in the Jenin refugee camp, UNRWA has suspended its services for 19 days, including operations at four schools that serve approximately 1,700 students.³⁷ The Education Cluster reports that **59 Palestinian-run schools in the West Bank are under partial or full demolition orders or have received stop-work orders.** These schools serve around 6,600 students and employ at least 715 teachers, 53% of whom are female. By December 2024, seven schools had exhausted all legal options to prevent demolition. Between 2010 and 2024, Israeli authorities conducted 43 demolitions targeting 24 schools. In 2024, Khallet Amira School (Hebron) was demolished, affecting 49 students and nine teachers. These demolitions, along with the ongoing threats, contribute to a

³⁵ [“There, People Suffer And Die”: A Qualitative Analysis Report 2024, December 2024 | GCMHP](#)

³⁶ [Verification of damages to schools based on proximity to damaged sites - Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Update #7 \(December 2024\) | ReliefWeb](#)

³⁷ [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

coercive environment, putting pressure on residents to leave and exposing them to the risk of forcible transfer.³⁸

Food Security and Livelihoods

Gaza

The ongoing hostilities in Gaza have had a devastating impact on the fishing sector. Between October 2023 and April 2024, Gaza's average daily catch dropped to just 7% of 2022 levels, resulting in a production loss of \$17.5 million. The destruction of Gaza's two main aquaculture farms and the hatchery facility has further crippled the sector, leaving it unable to produce alternative aquatic foods. Before the war on Gaza, over 6,000 people, including 4,200 registered fishers and boat owners, relied on fishing as their primary income, with the sector supporting around 110,000 people. Even before the Israeli hostilities, fishers were restricted to operating within limited fishing zones — 6 nautical miles in the north and 15 in the south. Currently, those fishing just meters from the shore are reportedly being targeted, putting their lives at risk. The Port of Gaza City, north of Wadi Gaza, has been severely damaged, with most fishing boats destroyed.³⁹

According to Christian Aid, a pound of sugar now sells for about \$60 in Gaza, where famine is a looming threat. **More than 60,000 children in the territory are expected to need treatment for acute malnutrition in 2025.** The cost of a single frozen chicken is \$40 in southern Gaza — ten times its pre-war price — matching the cost of a Christmas dinner for four in the UK. In northern Gaza, chickens have been unavailable for months. Leafy vegetables are so scarce that many families must wait until the New Year for wild plants to grow in order to supplement their diets. Luxury goods like coffee are exorbitantly priced, with a kilogram of instant coffee priced at \$107. Additionally, more than 96% of women and children aged 6-23 months are not receiving adequate nutrition.⁴⁰

The West Bank

Between October and November 2024, OCHA reported approximately 260 settler-related incidents across 89 communities in the West Bank, marking a threefold increase from the previous three years. These incidents led to the destruction or damage of over 3,100 trees and saplings, primarily olive trees, along with significant theft of crops and harvesting tools. Nearly 60% of the incidents occurred in the northern West Bank, with over a quarter in Nablus governorate. The central West Bank, particularly

³⁸ [Humanitarian Situation Update #248 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

³⁹ [Reviving Gaza's fishing sector hinges on restoring peace and safe access to the sea, December 2024 | FAO](#)

⁴⁰ [Cost of a chicken in Gaza same as Christmas Dinner for four in UK, December 2024 | Christian Aid](#)

Ramallah governorate, experienced around 20% of the incidents, while 18% took place in Bethlehem and Hebron governorates in the south.⁴¹

Between December 5-12, OCHA documented 38 incidents involving settlers affecting Palestinians. The majority of these incidents involved the vandalism of trees, crops, and agricultural property, resulting in damage to 65 trees, saplings, and crops across 2,000 dunums of land. Other incidents included arson attacks and vandalism of Palestinian homes and vehicles, causing damage to five homes and eight vehicles. There were also several physical assaults, primarily targeting farmers and herders, and vandalism of water networks and wells, which disrupted irrigation systems and water supply for agricultural lands.⁴²

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Access to basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in northern Gaza has rapidly deteriorated. As of early October 2024, at least 75% of WASH infrastructure in areas north of Wadi Gaza, with an estimated population of 450,000 Palestinians, was damaged. Only 20% of municipal wells were partially operational, providing just 10% of the pre-war water supply. Fuel supplies for key WASH facilities across Gaza have sharply declined, reaching their lowest levels between December 14 and 20, when only 3,668 liters of fuel were received daily — just 5% of the 70,000 liters needed to meet critical WASH and public health needs. No fuel reached areas north of Wadi Gaza during this period. Since the Israeli offensive in North Gaza starting October 6, access to water production points in north and eastern Gaza has been consistently blocked by Israeli authorities, limiting the ability to pump and distribute water. Consequently, residents, particularly in Jabalia, Beit Lahiya, and Beit Hanoun, have become reliant on deteriorating private wells powered by solar panels, which provide limited and often unsafe water. Wastewater and solid waste management in northern Gaza have also collapsed due to the lack of fuel and equipment, while critical sewage treatment plants have become non-functional or inaccessible, increasing contamination and disease risks.⁴³

Water supply in the Gaza Strip remains critically limited due to Israel's shutdown of main electricity lines and the Gaza power plant in October 2023, making the enclave dependent on fuel. In November, water production dropped by nine percent, from 96,394 to 87,358 cubic meters per day, with significant losses from damaged networks. Water supply from Israel's Mekorot pipelines to southern Gaza decreased from 21,000 to 14,000 cubic meters daily. Severe fuel shortages led to a 43% reduction in

⁴¹ [Humanitarian Situation Update #244 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁴² [Humanitarian Situation Update #246 | West Bank, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁴³ [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

groundwater well output, with fuel deliveries to North Gaza blocked since October 2024.⁴⁴

The ongoing attacks in Gaza have led to severe damage across the water sector, with over 80% of facilities, including wells, desalination plants, and sewerage systems, either destroyed or partially damaged. Out of 306 water wells, 208 have stopped functioning, and 39 are partially operational. The destruction of water and sewerage networks is extensive, with 1,622 kilometers of water networks and 1,545 km of sewerage networks completely destroyed. Additionally, 80 out of 103 small desalination stations have been totally destroyed, and 58 out of 78 sewerage pumping stations are non-functional. The Palestinian Water Authority warns that 95% of water and sewerage facilities in northern Gaza are at risk of shutting down due to fuel shortages, leading to catastrophic health and environmental risks from flooding in streets and neighborhoods. Wells have drastically reduced production to 10-20% of pre-war levels due to damage and power outages.⁴⁵

On December 30, the municipality of Gaza reported that Israeli hostilities had damaged all sewage stations and pumps, 175,000 meters of sewage networks, and 15,000 meters of rainwater networks in Gaza. The municipality noted that the risk of flooding in Baraka Sheikh Radwan remains unless immediate action is taken to supply an electric generator and repair its pumps and water drainage line towards the sea.⁴⁶ **Since December 5, following the operation by Palestinian forces in Jenin refugee camp, about 12,000 residents have faced limited access to water and electricity.** The rehabilitation of water networks, severely damaged by previous Israeli military operations, remains stalled, impacting over 60% of the camp's population.⁴⁷

Humanitarian Access

Between December 1 and 30, of 569 planned aid movements in the Gaza Strip requiring Israeli coordination, 33% (189) were facilitated, 39% (224) were denied, 18% (103) faced impediments or delays, and 9% (53) were canceled due to logistical and security issues. For the 127 movements needing to cross military-controlled checkpoints in southern Gaza to reach northern areas, only 28% (36) were facilitated, 34% (43) denied, 24% (31) impeded, and 13% (17) canceled. This included 60 attempts to reach the besieged area in North Gaza, with 55 denied and five facing impediments. Similarly, of 38 planned aid movements to the Rafah governorate, 36 were denied, one was facilitated, and one faced

⁴⁴ [Humanitarian Situation Update #243 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁴⁵ [The Palestinian Water Authority | Facebook](#)

⁴⁶ [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)

⁴⁷ [Humanitarian Situation Update #252 | West Bank, January 2024](#)

impediments. Additionally, 67 coordinated movements to Kerem Shalom crossing saw 58% (39) facilitated, 31% (21) impeded, 3% (two) denied, and 7% (five) canceled.⁴⁸

Anera's Response

Anera has significantly ramped up its logistical efforts in response to the ongoing war on Gaza. As of January 2, the organization has mobilized 1,331 truckloads of aid, each carrying between 14 to 15 pallets of vital supplies.

Anera has provided a substantial amount of meals to address food insecurity among displaced families. We have distributed a total of 58,287,279 meals, comprising food parcels, fresh produce, hot meals, and bread. Anera's delivery of over 1,750,693 million gallons of water further supported the critical hydration needs of IDP communities.

Winterization efforts have been a critical component of Anera's response. The organization has distributed 53,194 blankets to help families endure the cold winter months. Shelter assistance included the provision of 7,117 tents and 25,204 tarps, offering temporary housing solutions for those who have been displaced.

Understanding the importance of education during war and displacement, Anera has established 33 learning spaces. These spaces provide children with a relatively safe environment and a semblance of normalcy, allowing for continued learning despite the ongoing hostilities.

Healthcare services have been a cornerstone of Anera's aid, with 859 health clinic days provided. These clinics offer free healthcare and treatments near shelters, ensuring that medical needs are promptly addressed. Anera has also distributed 52,511 hygiene kits to support hygiene and prevent disease spread.

Anera has facilitated 474 psychosocial sessions, focusing on guided self-expression activities for children. These sessions play a crucial role in supporting the mental well-being of children, helping them cope with the stress and trauma brought about by the ongoing war.

⁴⁸ [Humanitarian Situation Update #251 | Gaza Strip, December 2024 | OCHA](#)