

oPt Emergency Situation Update

Issue 13



As of 15 November 2023, 17:00



World Health Organization

occupied Palestinian territory

Gaza Strip

Overview

Source: Ministry of Health

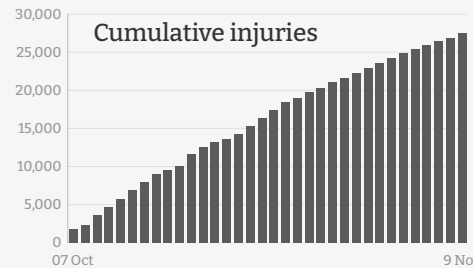
11,078 Fatalities

6,109 (55%) Males
4,969 (45%) Females
4,506 (41%) Children



27,490 Injuries

18,131 (66%) Males
9,359 (34%) Females
9,137 (33%) Children



2,700 People Missing or trapped under the rubble, including 1,500 children



1.5M People displaced

Health Care Functioning and Access

A public health catastrophe is rapidly evolving in Gaza with high levels of violent deaths and injuries, mass displacement, overcrowding, major disruption and dysfunction of the health system, and damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Severe stressors for mental health are affecting the whole population, including bombardment and siege. Destruction and hostilities are gravely obstructing ambulance access to the injured and health facilities.

69%



25/36 Hospitals not functioning

Bed occupancy at the partially functional hospitals is estimated to be over 150%

65%



47/72 Primary health care facilities are non functional

A higher proportion not functioning in North Gaza and Gaza City



Prevention of entry/exit of humanitarian supplies and personnel



Lack of safe passage
For entry or exit of health workers and patients at some hospitals in north Gaza



Medical evacuation:
133 Injured, including 102 companions crossed between 1 to 9 November



Separation of North Gaza and Gaza City
From governorates in the south, along with evacuation orders



Disease surveillance disrupted
Including early disease detection and response capacities

Acute shortage of supplies at health facilities



Fuel and Power



Water



Food



Medicines and medical supplies:

- aesthetics
- antibiotics
- saline
- pain medications
- insulin
- blood and blood products



Medical equipment

Increasingly not function at hospitals, e.g monitors, ventilators, incubators, and anesthesia Machines, which are dependent on electricity



Gaza Strip Health Needs and Risks

Water and Sanitation



795,500

Out of 1.5 million displaced are in UNRWA shelters where on average*



160 people share each toilet



700 people share each shower unit

* The situation might be worse in makeshift shelters



66-96%

Less water consumption than pre-hostilities (1-9 Nov)



400 tons

Of garbage per day accumulating in overcrowded camps and IDP shelters



Lack of WASH facilities in health care settings means increased risk of healthcare-associated infections.

Communicable Diseases

Imminent risk of communicable disease outbreaks. Cases recorded since mid-October:



71,224 Cases of acute respiratory infections



44,202 Cases of diarrhea <5 years: 22554



10,952 Cases of scabies and lice



14,195 Cases of skin rashes



808 Cases of chickenpox



355 Cases of jaundice

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health



52,000 Pregnant women

~**183** Births per day

5,500 Babies have been born in the last month



130 Premature infants depend on incubators

61% Incubators are in the north, requiring electricity

Long term conditions



1,100 Patients in need of kidney dialysis



71,000 Patients living with diabetes



225,000 People with high blood pressure



+485,000 People with mental health disorders*



+2,000 People diagnosed with cancer each year, including 122 children



45,000 Patients living with cardiovascular disease

* People in Gaza facing daily intense psychological stressors, including bombardment and severe barriers to fulfilling basic needs

Data: MoH Annual Report 2022, WHO STEPS

Health Attacks

152 Health attacks



534 People killed in attacks



16 Health workers on duty Including



686 People injured in attacks



38 Health workers on duty Including



42 Health facilities affected



23 Hospitals damaged Including



38 Ambulances affected



31 That sustained damaged Including

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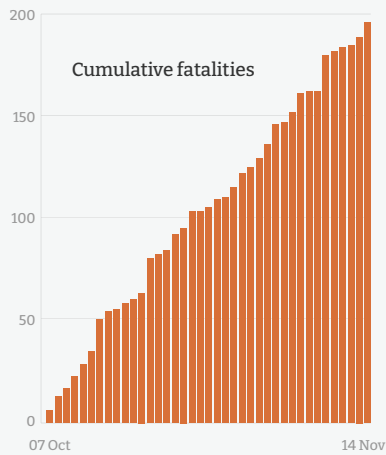
occupied Palestinian territory

West Bank, including east Jerusalem

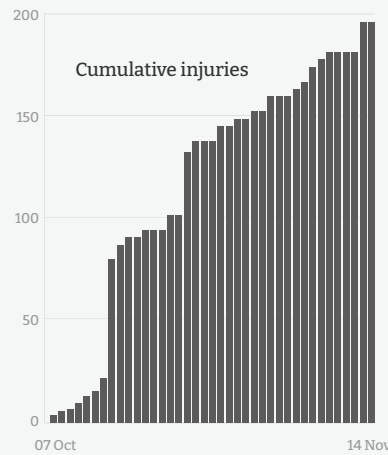
Overview

Source: Ministry of Health

197 Fatalities



2,700 Injuries



1,149 People displaced in the West Bank

Since the 7th of Oct

Forcibly displaced in the context of settler violence, discriminatory planning regulations in Area C and punitive demolitions

Increased settler and military violence



Including airstrikes and live ammunition. Complete obstruction at checkpoints between Palestinian towns and closure of several communities

Health Needs and Risks



Increased injuries

Placing a high demand for emergency medical supplies for first response at hospitals



+270 Patients/day

Need access to health care in east Jerusalem, as well as in Israeli facilities, from the rest of the West Bank



5,491 People displaced from Gaza

Are stranded in the West Bank, increasing the pressure on the health system

Health Care Functioning and Access



+270 Patients

Referred from the West Bank to East Jerusalem



Obstructed access for ambulances, health care workers, and patients

Due to checkpoint closures, insecurity, movement restrictions, and attacks on health



First response capacities overstretched

By increased casualties, with high demand for emergency medical supplies



Increased shortages of essential medicines and medical supplies

Affecting first response, primary care, and hospital care

Health Attacks

170 Health attacks



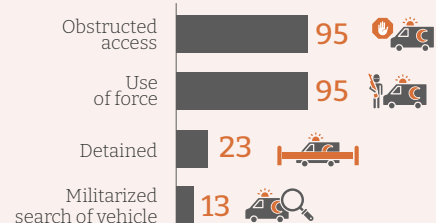
0 Health workers killed on duty



22 Health workers injured on duty



139 Ambulances affected





UPDATES

- **Military incursion ongoing at Al-Shifa Hospital.** There is no safe passage for the entry or exit of patients or health workers. The hospital is unable to support the health needs of people outside its premises.
- **According to the Ministry of Health, 34 premature babies are still alive at Al-Shifa Hospital.** There are also 633 inpatients, 116 doctors, 500 medical and administrative staff and 3000-4000 IDPs at the hospital.
- **The staff at Al-Shifa hospital have reportedly buried 82 bodies in a mass grave** on 15 November. Eighty dead bodies remain unburied.
- **WHO and partners are exploring the possibility of evacuation** of patients, health workers and IDPs besieged at Al-Shifa Hospital. Safe passage and fuel for PRCS ambulances are needed to ensure the evacuation can be carried out.
- **Intense hostilities continue around Al Quds Hospital further paralyzing delivery of health services**, which are already curtailed due to lack of power, medical supplies, food and water. Imminent risk to patients dependant on ICU, NICU and those in need for kidney dialysis.
- **Al-Shifa Hospital is only partially functional, not accessible due to military incursion. Only two hospitals remain both functional and accessible in the north** (Al Ahli and Assahaba Medical Complex).
- **Reportedly, on 15 November, UNRWA received 23,000 litres of fuel to Gaza.** The fuel can only be used for transporting aid from Rafah crossing to Gaza and not for supporting hospitals or water facilities. The fuel is only enough to sustain 9% lifesaving activities. At least 120,000 litres a day are needed to operate hospital generators, ambulances, desalination plants, sewage treatment plants and telecommunications.
- **For the past three days, WHO has not received updated data on injuries and deaths** from the Ministry of Health due to intensifying hostilities and limited connectivity. This makes it harder to evaluate the functioning of the health system.
- According to Israeli authorities, **over 1200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed, 5431 injured and 239 being held hostage** since the hostilities started.

HEALTH RESPONSE

- **202 trucks** with medical supplies were sent from Al Arish to be scanned and enter Gaza until 14 November, including **16 from WHO** and other partners.
- WHO has delivered medical supplies to **seven hospitals (2 in the north, 5 in the south)** between 24-25 Oct, 30-31Oct, 1 Nov, 7 Nov and 9 Nov, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) to support ambulance operations, and to the UNRWA warehouse for onward distribution to approximately 8 UNRWA primary health care centres.

WHO RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Immediate ceasefire.**
- **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.
- **Prioritization of the shipment of fuel** to operate desalination plants, hospital generators, ambulances.
- **Sustained, orderly, unimpeded and safe medical evacuations** of critically injured and sick patients into Egypt.
- **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 released its Operational Response Plan October 2023 – January 2024 with a total budget of \$110M.** The operational plan supports (1) Health service delivery, including emergency medical teams and a few complementary field hospitals (2) Public health surveillance, early warning, disease prevention and control (3) Supplies and logistics support (4) Coordination.
- **So far WHO has secured approximately \$17.7M with additional \$29.6M in pledged Funds from partners.**
- The inter-cluster Flash Appeal has been revised and the funding requirement for humanitarian health response is **\$227.6M and is targeting 2.5M people** in Gaza and West Bank.

Further information:

- **Dr Richard Peepkorn**, WHO oPt Representative, peepkornr@who.int
- **Dr Ayadil Saparbekov**, WHO oPt Emergencies Lead, asaparbekov@who.int
- **Bisma Akbar**, WHO oPt Communication Officer, akbarb@who.int