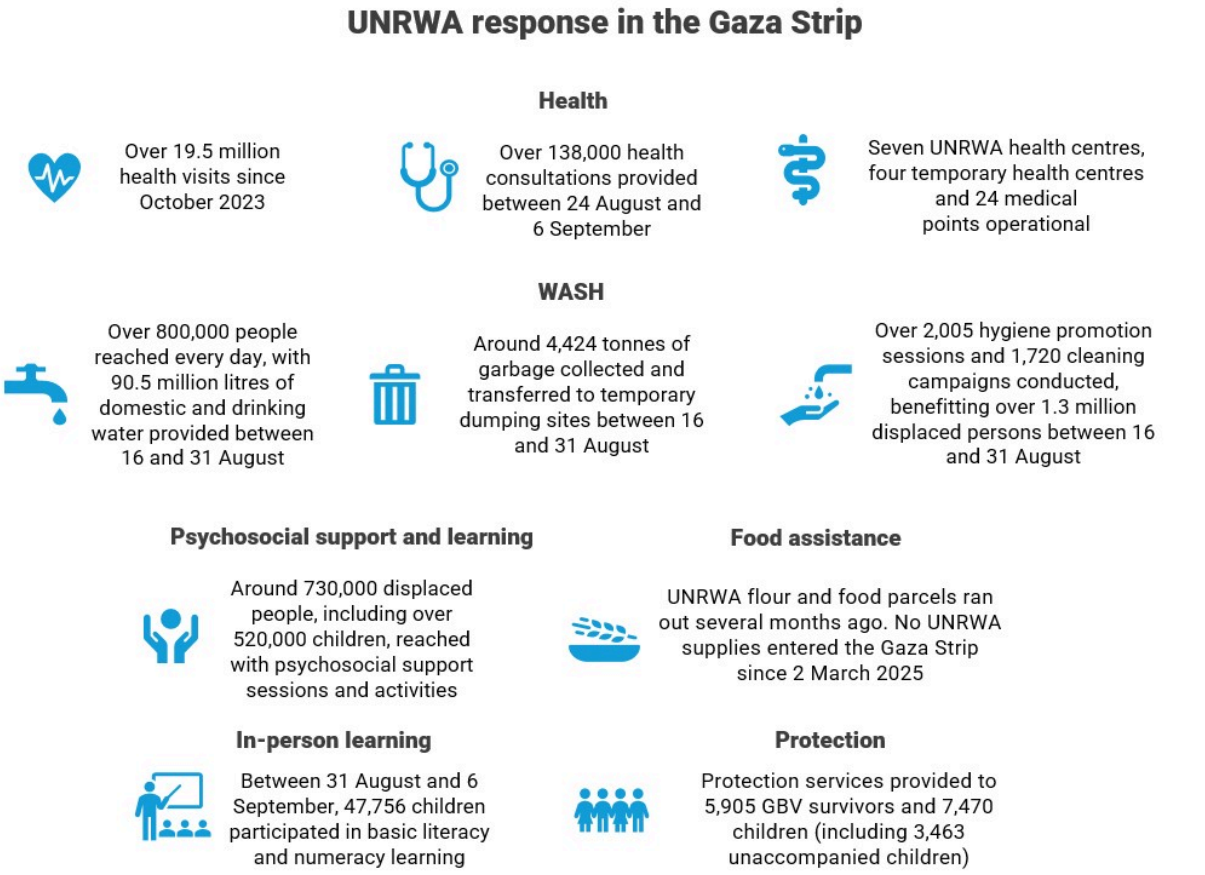
UNRWA SITUATION REPORT #234 ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE GAZA STRIP AND THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK, INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM

Thursday, September 10, 2026

All information updated for 26 August - 8 September 2026 [1]
Days 1053 - 1066 since the start of the war in the Gaza Strip



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Highlights

United nations relief and works agency for palestine refugees in the near east

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The Gaza Strip

- Humanitarian partners warned of major gaps ahead of the 2026-2027 winter preparation phase, driven by severe funding shortfalls and continued restrictions on the entry of critical supplies and equipment into the Gaza Strip. UNRWA continues to play a central role in the response, co-leading the Site Management Cluster and running the largest network of collective displacement sites – currently hosting approximately 65,000 internally displaced persons across 114 emergency shelters.
- As part of efforts to streamline and strengthen primary healthcare delivery, UNRWA integrated services previously provided through four medical points located within emergency shelters into nearby health centres. The Agency also continues piloting the Family Health Team model in three health centres across the Gaza Strip, whereby the same medical specialists are assigned to a family throughout its medical history, to improve service quality, efficiency, continuity, and patient-centred care.
- UNRWA's Summer Activities Programme concluded on 3 September 2026. Over 47,700 children participated in recreational and psychosocial support activities, as well as in remedial classes in literacy, numeracy, and foundational English and science skills. The summer learning activities were delivered in-person across 686 classrooms in 83 UNRWA collective emergency shelters, with support from over 3,000 UNRWA education staff.

The occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- Following the forced entry into Kalandia Training Centre on 25 August 2026, Israeli authorities have remained on site inside the compound. The centre was due to start classes this week for more than 340 Palestine Refugee students from across the occupied West Bank.
- Approximately 48,000 Palestine Refugee students started the new academic year at 90 UNRWA schools across the occupied West Bank on 7 September, amid challenges to their right to education, including movement and access restrictions, security operations in and around schools, and high levels of occupation-related violence.
- Three Palestinians were killed in incidents linked to Israeli settler violence, as the occupied West Bank continues to experience heightened levels of violence and harassment perpetrated by Israeli settlers. Settlement expansion – contrary to international law – also continued, with a new settlement established near Qabatiya on 31 August.

Key points

Fatalities and injuries

- Between 7 October 2023 and 6 September 2026, according to the Ministry of Health, as reported by the Health Cluster (https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiODAxNTYzMDYtMjQ3YS00OTMzLTkxMWQtOTU1NWEwMzE5NTMw (https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-13-may-2026) 73,658 Palestinians were killed in the Gaza Strip and another 174,622 were injured. This includes 1,352 fatalities and 4,661 injuries between the announcement of a ceasefire agreement on 10 October 2025 and 6 September 2026.
- UNRWA has recorded 393 colleagues killed in the Gaza Strip since the start of the war (311 UNRWA personnel and 82 persons who were supporting UNRWA[2], as of 8 September.

WASH needs

- According to the WASH Cluster's Light Touch Monitoring Survey (https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/who-attacks-health-care-gaza-strip-1-january-2026-6-august-2026), completed in early July 2026, 90 per cent of the population are experiencing frequent, unpredictable disruptions in access to safe, clean, and reliable water for daily drinking, cooking, and hygiene – an increase from 84 per cent the previous month.

Shelter needs

- According to the Shelter Cluster's classification (https://www.sheltercluster.org/palestine/documents/shelter-severity-and-household-needs-across-accessible-areas-gaza), based on surveys conducted between 14 and 28 June 2026, an estimated 1.98 million people, representing 94 per cent of the Gaza Strips' population, require shelter and non-food item assistance (NFI). The assessment also suggests that 58 per cent of the population in the Gaza Strip is facing critical or catastrophic shelter needs, meaning severe deficiencies in shelter conditions or lack of access to essential services and NFIs that expose them to serious health, safety, and dignity risks.

Operational implications and humanitarian response

- Around 10,500 Palestinian UNRWA personnel continue to provide services and assistance to people in the Gaza Strip. In the occupied West Bank, UNRWA also plays a central role with over 4,000 of the Agency's Palestinian personnel providing education, health, and other services to Palestine Refugees.

- All UNRWA international staff are prevented from entering the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. This follows the implementation of laws passed by the Israeli parliament on 28 October 2024[3] that purport to prohibit UNRWA's operations in areas that Israel considers its sovereign territory, including occupied East Jerusalem, and seek to bar any contact between Israeli officials and UNRWA. **Israeli authorities have not granted the Agency's international staff visas or permits to enter the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the Gaza Strip, since the end of January 2025.**
- Since March 2025, the Israeli authorities have been blocking UNRWA from directly bringing humanitarian personnel and aid into the Gaza Strip. Despite the huge needs on the ground, UNRWA was therefore unable to distribute the aid it had pre-positioned outside Gaza, which included enough food parcels, flour, and shelter supplies for hundreds of thousands of people.



Closing ceremony for UNRWA summer learning activities in the Gaza Strip. © September 2026 UNRWA Photo.

The occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem

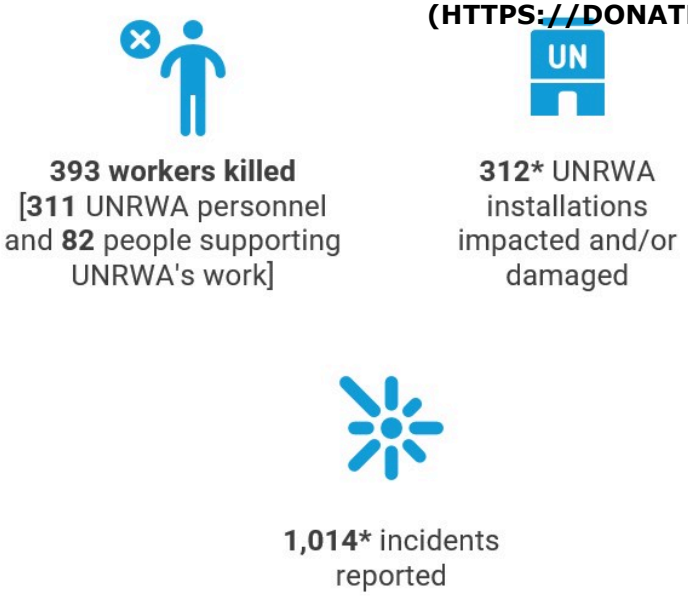
- According to OCHA (https://www.ochaopt.org/data/casualties), between 7 October 2023 and 4 September 2026, 1,132 Palestinians – at least 249

of them children – were killed in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Eight of them have been killed since the beginning of 2026.

- Following the forced entry into Kalandia Training Centre on 25 August 2026, Israeli authorities have maintained a presence inside the compound and reportedly installed surveillance cameras during this time. Prior to the seizure, more than 340 Palestine Refugee students from across the occupied West Bank were expected to start their studies there this week.
- On 28 August, Israeli forces carried out an airstrike targeting a house west of Jenin, killing three Palestinians. The use of airstrikes has subsided since the beginning of Operation 'Iron Wall' in the northern occupied West Bank in early 2025, with this being the first airstrike recorded in the West Bank in 2026.
- The Israeli military closure order affecting Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps was renewed until 30 September 2026, enforcing continued access restrictions to camps which have been emptied of residents. Some 34,000 Palestine Refugees remain forcibly displaced from Tulkarm, Nur Shams, and Jenin camps in the northern occupied West Bank.
- During this period, three Palestinians, including a child, were shot and killed in incidents involving Israeli settler violence, as the occupied West Bank continued to witness its deadliest year of settler violence on record. These occurred against the backdrop of a new Israeli settlement established near Qabatiya on 31 August.
- Approximately 48,000 Palestine Refugee students began the new school year at 90 UNRWA schools across the occupied West Bank on 7 September, amid continued displacement, insecurity, and unprecedented challenges to their right to education.

Gaza Humanitarian overview and response

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*Numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.

1.1. Humanitarian access and armed conflict-related incidents[4]

From 25 August to 8 September 2026, a significant armed incident impacted UNRWA facilities, personnel, and persons supporting UNRWA's activities:

- On 1 September 2026, an UNRWA office building was indirectly impacted by an airstrike by Israeli forces in the general area of Rimal, in western Gaza City. Minor damage was reported to the building's windows and doors. An UNRWA vehicle parked outside the building was also impacted. No casualties were reported among UNRWA personnel.

Since the beginning of the war and up to 8 September, **1,014*** incidents impacting UNRWA premises and the people inside them have been reported. **312*** (or nearly all) UNRWA installations have been impacted by armed conflict-related incidents, some of them multiple times. UNRWA continues to verify and update the number of casualties caused by these incidents.

**Since the start of the war in October 2023, the latest casualty figures are continuously under review as UNRWA gains access to locations that were previously inaccessible and as further verifications occur. The summary figures will be published/updated as information becomes available, noting that these numbers are subject to change once verifications are concluded.*

Health and nutrition

- UNRWA has provided over 19.5 million health visits, including over 13.5 million medical consultations, since the start of the war in the Gaza Strip in October 2023.
- From 16 to 31 August, UNRWA screened 6,502 children aged between six and 59 months at its health centres and medical points, identifying 174 malnourished children.
- By 6 September, seven health centres and four additional UNRWA-rented facilities, used as temporary health centres, were operational in the Gaza Strip. In addition, by that date, UNRWA was providing primary health services through 63 mobile medical teams working in 24 medical points inside and outside collective emergency shelters in the Middle Area, Khan Younis, Al Mawasi, and Gaza City[5].
- From 24 August to 6 September, an average of 1,017 UNRWA health personnel per day worked in the Agency's health facilities across the Gaza Strip, providing 138,379 medical consultations in total.
- Between 24 August and 6 September, UNRWA health teams provided 15,710 consultations for post-natal and pregnant women at high risk, 7,377 dental and oral health consultations in fixed and mobile clinics, and 4,931 physiotherapy rehabilitation services sessions in health centres and medical points. A total of 16,569 laboratory tests were conducted in UNRWA health centres and medical points.
- From 24 August to 6 September, 5,860 vaccination sessions were provided at health centres and medical points. In addition, a total of 2,632 students received routine immunisations through school health services.
- UNRWA's telemedicine initiative began in March 2024 and has gradually expanded to include other services such as teledentistry, telephysiotherapy, and telepsychosocial counselling. Currently, following the establishment of the Centralised Telemedicine Centre, the team provides teleconsultations for curative outpatient care, non-communicable diseases, as well as maternal and cardiological consultations.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

- UNRWA remains one of the largest providers of emergency learning and psychosocial support (PSS) services across the Gaza Strip.
- Between 7 October 2023 and 7 September 2026, UNRWA's social work teams provided services to 284,281 displaced persons, including psychological first aid, PSS, family and individual activities, and case management. During the same reporting period, services were provided to 5,905 survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and 7,470 children, including 3,463 unaccompanied children. The teams supported 39,174 persons with disabilities through PSS. Awareness sessions on GBV, child

protection, disability inclusion, as well as managing social and psychological stressors. Teams conducted 16,397 displaced persons.
- UNRWA health teams, including psychiatrists, psychosocial counsellors and supervisors, continued to provide Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services in Gaza City, the Middle, and Khan Younis areas, assisting special cases referred from UNRWA health centres and collective emergency shelters. From 24 August to 6 September, UNRWA teams conducted 5,565 visits in health centres and at health points providing individual consultations, awareness sessions, and support for protection cases.

Learning

- Between 31 August and 6 September, 47,756 children participated in UNRWA summer learning activities (26,303 girls, 21,453 boys, including 910 children with disabilities).
- The 2026-2027 UNRWA school cycle will start on 19 September 2026, with ongoing preparations and coordination with Education Cluster partners.

Food security

- From 7 October 2023 until the start of the previous ceasefire on 19 January 2025, UNRWA reached over 388,000 families, or nearly 1.9 million people, with two rounds of flour deliveries; at least 374,000 of those families received three rounds. During that ceasefire, which lasted until March 2025, UNRWA reached over two million people with critical food assistance.
- **UNRWA ran out of food at the end of April 2025. The Agency has been blocked by the Israeli authorities from directly bringing in any humanitarian assistance including food since 2 March 2025.**

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Since October 2023, UNRWA has carried out emergency WASH activities across the Gaza Strip, at UNRWA collective emergency shelters and informal displacement areas. Activities include operating and maintaining water wells and desalination systems and supplying water by truck. In addition, UNRWA continues to maintain hygiene in its shelters and sites by distributing cleaning supplies, running community-based solid waste management, water tank disinfection campaigns, and pest control.
- In 2025, UNRWA distributed 970 million litres of drinking and domestic use water and collected and disposed of 70,000 tonnes of solid waste. UNRWA estimates that around 1.7 million people benefitted from the Agency’s water provision and solid waste collection services in 2025.
- Between 16 and 31 August, UNRWA distributed around 90.5 million litres of domestic and drinking water in various areas and from different sources, reaching over 800,000 displaced people daily.

- Between 16 and 31 August, UNRWA teams collected around 4,424 tonnes of garbage inside the Agency's emergency shelters and surrounding areas, and conducted more than 1,720 cleaning campaigns, reaching over 1.3 million displaced persons. Activities included cleaning emergency shelters, cleaning and clearing 732 manholes, as well as water desludging. UNRWA teams also conducted over 2,005 hygiene promotion sessions over the same period.

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> **Quote from Lareen** (/newsroom/photos/paint-paper-and-pencils-help-children-gaza-strip-cope-trauma-and-loss)**, an 11-year-old participant in art activities organised by UNRWA in Gaza:**
>
> **"I want to become a world-famous artist."**

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[1] Some information reported may relate to periods outside the reporting timeframe.

[2] Including 20 people killed while on duty.

[3] The legislation came into effect on 29 January 2025.

[4] UNRWA is verifying details of incidents that reportedly impacted the Agency's premises, assets, and/or personnel. Additional information will be provided once it becomes available.

[5] The number of operational health facilities changes constantly based on demand, access and security. In particular, the number of medical points and teams in Gaza City continued to change due to heightened security risks and recurrent forced displacement orders.

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Closing ceremony for UNRWA summer learning activities in the Gaza Strip. © September 2026 UNRWA Photo.

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