



Children without parental care in Gaza: displacement, injury, and fear mark the lives of Samar, 17, and her five younger siblings. UNICEF cash aid helps them to buy food and essentials to survive.

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 43

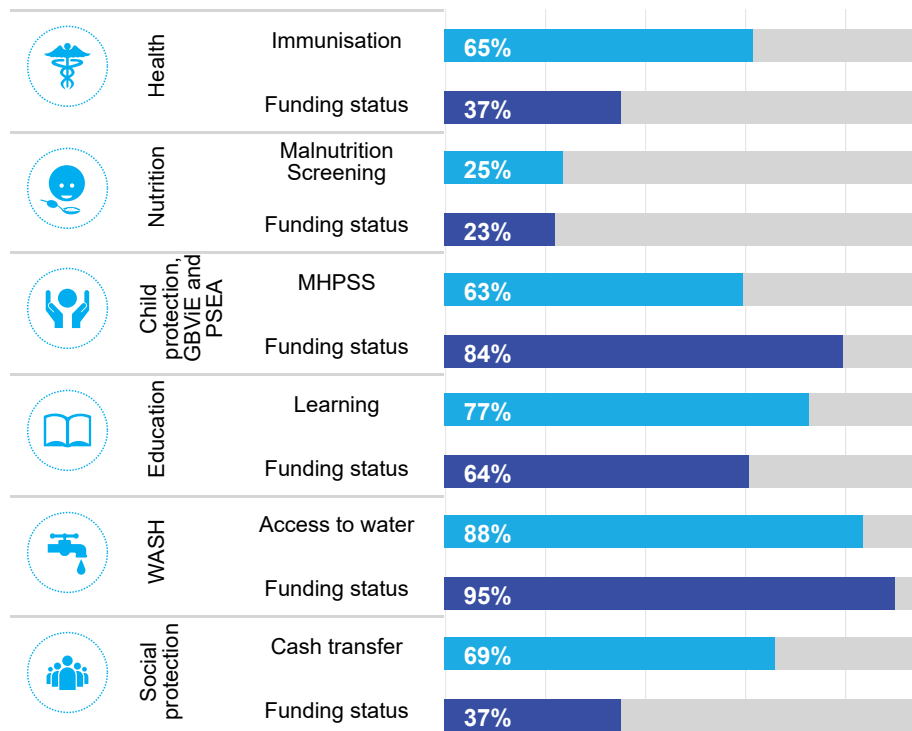
Reporting Period
1 to 30 September
2025

State of Palestine

HIGHLIGHTS^{1,2}

- Mass displacement trauma, as over 450,000 children in Gaza City face "devastating consequences" from military operations, with 70 per cent experiencing sleep disturbances and psychological distress.³
- Healthcare system collapses, as four additional hospitals forced to close in northern Gaza, leaving children with disabilities and preterm babies in incubators at extreme risk.⁴
- Drinking and domestic water was continuously provided by UNICEF to cover more than 1.6 million people in the Gaza Strip (including 600,000 children), while health care was provided to 40,000 people, and 78,000 children were screened for malnutrition.
- In the West Bank, UNICEF delivered 523,000 vaccine doses, refurbished five Primary Health Care centres, provided child protection services for over 3,000 children, and supported 6,000+ students with remedial learning.
- UNICEF requires US\$ 346.6 million to meet urgent humanitarian needs, with the funding gap for Nutrition activities remaining at 77 per cent.

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



SITUATION IN NUMBERS



1,700,000
Children in need of humanitarian assistance⁵



3,300,000
People in need of humanitarian assistance⁶

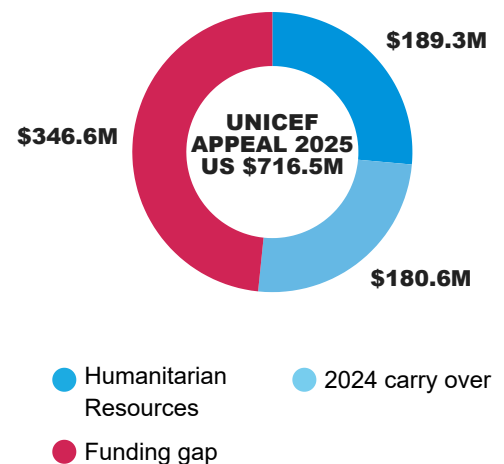


1,939,232
People displaced⁷



1,445,000
Children face setbacks in their education⁸

FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



** Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors

* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS

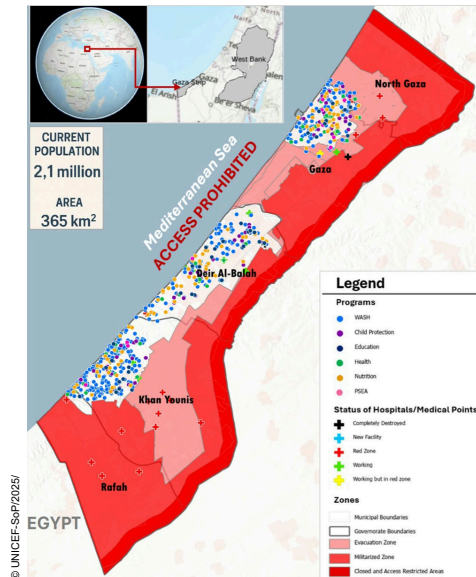
An Inter-Agency Flash Appeal⁹ was issued on 11 December 2024 and outlined the need for US\$ 4 billion¹⁰ to assist 3 million people, 2.1 million in the Gaza Strip and 900,000 in the West Bank including East Jerusalem, through December 2025.¹¹ Aligned with this appeal, UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal – [revised in August 2025 to update programme indicators and target figures](#)¹² – seeks US\$ 716.5 million to meet the urgent needs of children and their families. As of now, only 52 per cent of the appeal is funded.¹³ UNICEF urgently requires an additional US\$ 346.6 million to scale up life-saving assistance.

Flexible funding enables UNICEF to adapt to the evolving realities on the ground to respond promptly and more effectively to prioritise life-saving assistance to children and their families where it is most needed. Without adequate funding, children are at a greater risk of malnutrition, at risk of not being reunified with their families, and at risk of not being able to access essential services, including safe water and health care.

UNICEF benefited in 2025 from the Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding from Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and UNICEF national committees, which enabled UNICEF to respond with agility to the acute and fast-evolving needs of the most vulnerable children and their families.

UNICEF sincerely thanks its partners for their valuable and timely contributions, including the governments of Australia, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, France, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, United States, as well as the European Union, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Gavi – the Vaccine Alliance, Norway and the OCHA Country-based Pooled Fund. Through UNICEF National Committees, UNICEF is grateful for the assistance provided by the peoples of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, the United Kingdom and the United States. UNICEF would also like to thank private sector companies in Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Belarus, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Greece, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Tetsuko Kuroyanagi.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS¹⁴



UNICEF response across the Gaza Strip as of September 2025, in the areas of WASH (blue dots), Child Protection (purple), Education (dark blue), Health (green), Nutrition (orange), PSEA (light pink).

Gaza Strip

In September 2025, Gaza's humanitarian collapse deepened alongside an intensification of fighting, particularly in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah, and parts of Khan Younis. Gaza City was declared a dangerous combat zone by Israeli forces, with strikes impacting homes, shelters, and makeshift clinics, and explicit directives for civilians to relocate south, triggering the displacement of thousands of civilians. The health system neared total breakdown, with over 90 per cent of hospitals¹⁵ damaged or closed and severe shortages of fuel, medicine, and staff. Famine conditions worsened, and over half a million people face catastrophic food insecurity. The blockade of entry routes continued to limit relief access. Despite the prospect of a ceasefire, civilian casualties surged, including amongst children.

Since 7 October 2023 and as of 5 September 2025, over 67,139 Palestinians, including at least 19,423 children and 10,427 women, have been reported killed. As many as 13,549 fatalities, including more than 3,438 children, were reported since the ceasefire ended on 18 March 2025.¹⁶ Additionally, more than 169,583 Palestinians were reported injured, including at least 44,091 children.¹⁷ Humanitarian workers also continue to face deadly risks, with 562 reported fatalities, including 376 UN staff.¹⁸

As of 10 September 2025, at least 793 attacks on healthcare have been recorded by WHO since October 2023 (of which, 145 in 2025). Ongoing attacks and resource shortages have severely weakened the health system – damaging or destroying 94 per cent of hospitals, overwhelming remaining partially functional ones, and disrupting essential health service delivery. The Health Cluster reports that hospitals are overwhelmed by mass casualty incidents, with an average of eight incidents per day.¹⁹²⁰ Fuel shortages forced many to operate on limited shifts, severely restricting emergency and overnight care. Strikes, medical supply shortages, and staff gaps continue to push the health system toward collapse.

As of September 2025, at least 41,844 people in Gaza - including up to a quarter who are children – are living with major, potentially life-changing injuries requiring ongoing rehabilitation.²¹ The most common injuries are major extremity trauma, amputations, burns, spinal cord and brain injuries. Rehabilitation services have been decimated, with a 62 per cent decrease in facilities and no service fully operational. Children and people with disabilities face extreme barriers to accessing care, including destroyed infrastructure, lack of

assistive devices, and critical shortages of rehabilitation professionals. The urgent need for rehabilitation is compounded by widespread displacement, malnutrition, and severe mental health challenges.

The mental health and psychosocial support needs of those injured - and their families - are significant. Survivors face profound psychological challenges, including coping with physical pain, the loss of family members, displacement, and the daily struggle for survival. Women and men experience these challenges differently: women and girls often carry additional caregiving burdens and face heightened protection risks, while men and boys may encounter barriers in expressing emotional distress due to social norms around masculinity. The shortage of adequate, gender-responsive mental health services further compounds the suffering of both patients and their families. The lack of adequate mental health services further exacerbates the suffering of both patients and their families. Younger children are disproportionately affected by traumatic injury. Of all trauma health events documented by Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs), 6.7 per cent (11,291 events) occurred in children under five years old. Across nearly all injury types except extremity injuries, children under five were more likely to sustain major injuries compared to older children, reflecting their anatomical vulnerability (smaller extremities relative to head and body size). Notably, children under five accounted for 11 per cent of all amputations performed by EMTs (152 out of 1,350), highlighting the devastating impact of the conflict on the youngest and most vulnerable.

Despite UNICEF reporting that Gaza has the highest per capita rate of childhood amputation in the world,²² there are only eight trained prosthetists working in Gaza. This critical shortage means that many children and adults with amputations lack access to essential assistive devices, such as prosthetic limbs and wheelchairs, further compounding their vulnerability and limiting their ability to participate in daily life.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In September 2025, the West Bank continued to witness an intensification of settler violence incidents, significant forced displacement, and demolitions. These incidents have had severe implications for civilians, with women, men, girls, and boys affected in distinct ways. Children in particular continue to face threats to their rights and physical and mental well-being, particularly due to recurrent militarised operations, grave violations, movement restrictions, demolitions, and settler violence. Girls and boys are exposed to different protection risks, with girls facing heightened vulnerabilities to psychosocial distress and access barriers to education and health services, while boys are also at increased risk of physical harm, arrest, and exposure to violence.

From 7 October 2023 to 30 September 2025, at least 925 Palestinians were killed in conflict-related violence in the West Bank, including 223 Palestinian and 3 Israeli children in the West Bank and over 1,817 Palestinian children were injured, 43 per cent by live ammunition (slight decrease).²³ According to OCHA, nearly 7,500 raids by Israeli forces across the West Bank, mainly search and arrest operations, have taken place so far in 2025, a 37-per-cent increase compared with the same period in 2024, from January to September. Between January and September 2025, 41 Palestinian children were killed, the majority by live ammunition during militarised law enforcement operations in the Northern governorates. Child fatalities dropped by 50 per cent overall compared to the same period last year (Jan-Sept 2024 and Jan-Sept 2025), likely due to the mass forced displacement of residents of Jenin, Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps and subsequent reduction of Israeli Forces (IF) militarized law enforcement operations and airstrikes in these areas. Daytime IF patrols targeting Jenin's main commercial areas near the camp have intensified, hampering normal life. Regarding

access to health, 145 attacks on health care were reported by WHO, 893 since 7 October 2023.

Settler violence is intensifying; in one week, 27 attacks from settlers on Palestinians were reported (OCHA), killing one Palestinian in Ramallah governorate (Mughayer town), injuring 17, causing property damage, and forcing the displacement of three families including children in the northern Jordan Valley. From January 2024 to September 2025, OCHA documented more than 2,660 settler attacks against Palestinians, with nearly two-thirds of incidents in Ramallah (26 per cent), Nablus (20 per cent), and Hebron (18 per cent) governorates.²⁴ In communities affected by recurrent settler violence, children face an increased risk of psychosocial distress, physical violence, and disrupted access to their education, while their parents, particularly women who often shoulder the primary caregiving role, lose access to their land and often their sole source of livelihood further deepening family vulnerability and limiting their capacity to provide for and protect their children.

In the northern West Bank, some 32,705 Palestinians including 11,755 children continue to be displaced outside of Jenin, Nur Shams, and Tulkarem refugee camps following earlier operations. In addition, since 7 October 2023, more than 7,165 Palestinians, including nearly 3,070 children, have been displaced mainly in East Jerusalem and Area C in the West Bank due to home demolitions, and destruction of their homes during operations. According to OCHA, at least 243 Palestinian households in East Jerusalem have eviction cases filed against them in Israeli courts, the majority by settler organisations, placing more than 1,000 people, including over 460 children, at risk of forced displacement.

Movement restrictions continue to disrupt access to education, healthcare, and livelihoods. During the first two weeks of September, OCHA documented the installation by Israeli forces of at least 27 new closures across the West Bank, including 18 road gates, eight earth mounds, and concrete blocks.²⁵ More than 850 movement obstacles were established by Israeli forces in the West Bank, one-third being road gates – often closed, limiting access to health, and livelihoods. These restrictions are frequently imposed without warning and intensified following security incidents.

Nutrition, Health, and WASH conditions remained relatively stable, though access restrictions and movement limitations continued affecting children's access to basic services.²⁶

Reported Casualties and Abductions in Israel

Israeli authorities report that some 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed in the attacks of 7 October 2023, including 37 children and more than 7,500 people were reported injured. More than 250 people, including 36 children, were abducted from Israel into the Gaza Strip, of whom 202 were released or returned, including 34 children released in 2023 and two children whose remains were returned in February 2025.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health

Gaza Strip

In September, attacks on healthcare facilities resulted in the loss of 4 hospitals, 16 primary healthcare centres, and 30 medical points. The siege in Gaza City resulted in the loss of a third of the bed capacity in Gaza and 8 out of 10 centres providing vaccination. Health workers continue to bear the brunt of the conflict. Five health workers were killed, 14 were injured and 5 were detained in September. Against this backdrop, UNICEF is scaling up to ensure access to healthcare and, as such, operationalised 10 medical points and two centres to provide routine immunisation for the displaced population from Gaza City. During the reporting period, 39,908 people (15,691 girls, 14,548 boys, and 9,669 women) accessed primary healthcare services in UNICEF-supported health facilities, and 10 new medical points were operationalised to serve displaced people from Gaza City in the middle and south areas of Gaza. At the shelter and community levels, 14,936 children (7,755 girls and 7,181 boys) benefited from UNICEF-supported integrated management of childhood illnesses.

For maternal health, 5,742 pregnant women attended antenatal care, while 2,005 mothers received postnatal care. Regarding immunisation and to protect children against childhood illnesses, 3,950 newborn children were vaccinated with Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) to protect them against TB, and 3,455 received their third dose of Penta-3 (combination vaccine that protects against five diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis B, and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)), while 4,070 received their second dose of measles. To ensure increased access to routine immunisation in emergencies, 230 health workers were trained on immunisation in emergencies.

During September, Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) across Gaza provided consultations and care for approximately 434 newborns. These cases included premature infants, critically ill neonates requiring specialised interventions, and newborns in need of continuous monitoring and treatment. The high caseload reflects both the ongoing demand for neonatal care and the strain on existing NICU capacity, particularly in referral hospitals. This volume of consultations underscores the importance of sustaining NICU operations and ensuring the availability of trained staff, equipment, and medical supplies to meet the needs of the most vulnerable infants in Gaza.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In September, UNICEF continued to support the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) through the provision of emergency medical consumables – including personal protective equipment (PPE), gauze, sutures, and other essential supplies – as well as emergency medications. These interventions reached a total of 55,300 adults (including 10,980 men) and 33,300 infants (16,315 boys, 16,985 girls) over five months.

UNICEF facilitated the delivery of routine vaccines to the Ministry of Health, ensuring the continuity of essential immunisation services amid ongoing crises. Routine vaccines included 163,750 doses of Rotavirus vaccine and 360,000 doses of Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). UNICEF continues to face delays in obtaining the necessary permissions to import and move vaccines.

UNICEF's interventions remain pivotal in strengthening access to immunisation services. One important initiative includes the refurbishment of five public Primary Health Care Centres (PHCCs)

across the West Bank. These upgrades focus on improving infrastructure, ensuring accessibility for children and persons with disabilities, and equipping facilities with modern medical tools to address critical health needs. This initiative aims to mitigate the impact of restricted mobility due to closures and checkpoints, fostering resilience and better health outcomes in affected communities. These refurbished PHCCs are expected to serve some 14 communities with a total population of 209,034 people.

In the month of September, in collaboration with partners, UNICEF also reached and identified 80 children with disabilities in the West Bank, including 53 boys and 27 girls. Among them, 19 children received comprehensive rehabilitation assessments, six were provided with rehabilitation sessions, and 19 were provided with assistive devices including 11 boys and 8 girls.

Moreover, UNICEF reached a total of 302 children and 829 women through the two mobile health teams operating in 10 vulnerable communities of Nablus and Jenin governorates.

Nutrition

Gaza Strip

In September, 78,011 children aged 6–59 months were screened for acute malnutrition. Of these, 7,992 (3,375 boys, 4,617 girls) children were identified with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 2,270 (987 boys, 1,283 girls) children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM); all were enrolled in UNICEF-supported treatment programmes. Additionally, 583 infants under 6 months were assessed, of whom 36 were identified at risk of poor growth and development and admitted for inpatient care. Among 36,336 pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBWs) screened for acute malnutrition, 2,317 PBWs were reached with Small-Quantity Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements (SQ-LNS). Furthermore, 21,153 children aged 6–59 months and 1,174 PBWs received vitamin A supplementation, and 2,317 PBWs were provided with fortified biscuits. In addition, 2,009 children aged 6–59 months received Micronutrient Powders (MNP), 5,014 PBWs were provided with Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS), and 9,162 PBWs received Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation.

These interventions are critical to prevent further deterioration of nutritional status, among children and mothers facing prolonged displacement, food insecurity, and limited health service access

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In September, under the Nutrition-Friendly School Programme, two central Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions on *“Emotional and Behavioural Eating”* were conducted through UNICEF's implementing partners. The training brought together over 85 participants from the Ministry of Education's School Health Department, the Nutrition-Friendly Schools program, and health and nutrition workers from across the West Bank.

In parallel, a booklet on *“Nutritional Games”* is being finalised to help teachers and facilitators better engage school-aged children through interactive activities that promote healthy nutrition behaviours and habits.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



UNICEF restored the Bani Said water pipeline – providing 15 million litres of clean water per day to 300,000 people in Deir al Balah, Al Zuwayda and Al Bureij in the central Gaza Strip.

Gaza Strip

In September, UNICEF with partners continued to ensure the provision of drinking and domestic water to cover more than 1.6 million people, including over 600,000 children in Gaza, Middle, Khan Younis, and North governorates. The primary concern is that the potable water line from Israel to the Middle Gaza governorate has been damaged since mid-February, and that the water situation has further deteriorated, as Mekorot water lines in the Middle and South were not functional. As a result, overall potable water availability in the south and middle of Gaza decreased by 60 per cent. Through water trucking and increasing production of private desalination plants and of domestic water wells, UNICEF and partners have been able to maintain water availability within the humanitarian standards of 6 litres per person per day of potable water and 9 litres per person per day of clean water in an effort to meet the bare minimum humanitarian standards. UNICEF provided 650,000 litres of fuel for trucking and water production through desalination plants and municipal wells in September 2025 through the United Nation coordination mechanism.²⁷ It should be noted, though, that this quantity is dramatically insufficient given the amount required.²⁸

UNICEF contracted 14 private desalination plants in North and South Gaza to provide potable water at a subsidised price for trucking by UNICEF and 24 WASH Cluster partners, offered free of charge to displaced people and returnees. As a result, out of the total of 1.6 million people benefitting from water supply, around 280,000 displaced people in Western Gaza received safe water, just about meeting the bare minimum humanitarian standard.

UNICEF supports service providers (including large desalination plants and wells) and partners with chlorine and chemical suppliers to ensure the provision of safe water and the sustainable operation of desalination plants. UNICEF successfully facilitated the entry and delivery of 119,360 litres of Sodium Hypochlorite (10-11 per cent) to support the operation of brackish water desalination plants and continues distributing these chemicals to all water facilities across the Gaza Strip.

UNICEF sustained sanitation and hygiene services by repairing wastewater pumping facilities, networks, constructing mobile latrines, and providing solid waste disposal services. UNICEF, through partners, constructed 170 family latrines (40 of them for persons with functional difficulties), benefiting 2,200 people in areas of Deir Al-Balah and Khan Younis, where a high number of IDPs have been

received from Gaza. Cleaning services and hygiene promotion activities, supported by cash incentives, were provided to IDPs in 12 PA shelters in Gaza City, the Middle area, and Khan Younis, benefiting more than 11,000 internally displaced persons, including 5,600 children. In September 2025, an average of 900,000 people were reached through all sanitation and hygiene services.

A critical project for the primary collection of solid waste continues in 19 municipalities. In response to people's movement from the North to the South, the project was scaled up, including winterisation support, with 1,550 skilled and unskilled workers (a 30 per cent increase), supported by 23 community facilitators, benefiting more than 1 million people living in the southern municipalities.

After more than 4 months of crossing closures, supplies are starting to enter again. During the reporting period, UNICEF distributed 51,361 dignity kits, 54,334 jerrycans, and 33,831 hygiene kits, in addition to other non-food items, including sanitary pads and diapers, benefiting around 157,031 of the most vulnerable people, of whom 40 per cent are children and 30 per cent are women.

The WASH and Education programmes jointly conducted an integrated assessment of WASH facilities in approximately 60 schools and Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs) to support the resumption of the academic year. During September, rehabilitation and refurbishment of WASH facilities were completed at Palestinian Authority (PA) formal IDP shelters (PA schools) and one TLS, benefiting 7,748 people. Besides, assessments were completed and implementation initiated in 15 formal IDP shelters for sewage network repairs, well rehabilitation, and the installation of domestic water storage and distribution points. Assessment of WASH facilities in three health facilities in Gaza City has begun, and rehabilitation work has started, with two facilities already completed, benefiting 500 patients per day. In addition, UNICEF has initiated WASH improvements in 12 Temporary Learning Spaces. In response to the famine, detailed needs assessments for WASH facilities at health and nutrition sites have also been started at 82 facilities.

A total of 20 hygiene promoters from WASH partners were trained in ToT on hygiene promotion, Social and Behaviour Change (SBC), community communication, and PSEA in South Gaza.

WASH behaviour change activities were supported by a wide range of communication materials such as posters, flyers, radio messages, and social media cards which were designed, printed or disseminated by UNICEF and its partners during awareness campaigns, focusing on various topics including menstrual hygiene management, handwashing, water borne diseases such as AWD, food hygiene, meningitis, Polio/ GBS, safe handling and disposal of solid waste, cleaning of jerry cans, and vectors control.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

During September, UNICEF, through its partners, continued to support vulnerable communities affected by settler violence and displacement in the north Jordan Valley (Hammat Al Malaeh) and Al Mu'arajat East. A total of 2,141 m³ of water was delivered to nine communities, reaching 598 people. To complement this effort and promote more sustainable solutions, 34 household polyethylene storage tanks were also distributed, increasing families' storage capacity and reducing their reliance on expensive water trucking, benefiting 205 people.

In addition, and in response to triggers from the WASH Cluster, UNICEF supported both Jenin and Tubas municipalities with critical maintenance equipment, enabling them to better address urgent rehabilitation needs in their water and wastewater networks.

UNICEF also activated the second round of the WASH e-voucher programme, targeting 400 IDP households in Jenin and Tulkarem. So far, 385 families have successfully redeemed their e-vouchers in

the second round.

UNICEF handed over the completed water and wastewater network projects in Jenin and Tulkarem during the month to the relevant municipalities/ministries, and the projects are benefiting over 32,000 (15,000 in Jenin and 17,000 in Tulkarem) people in both locations.

Through these combined interventions, UNICEF WASH not only helped ensure continued access to safe water and sanitation but also strengthened local systems and promoted dignified, flexible assistance to families affected by emergencies.

Child Protection

Gaza Strip

In September, UNICEF and its partners worked tirelessly, and across sectors, to identify, protect and find solutions for war-affected and forcibly displaced children and caregivers across the Gaza Strip. Following intensified military operations and widespread displacement orders in Gaza City, UNICEF and its partners provided critical services to children and families on the move at protection monitoring points, in communities, and in areas of return, providing psychological first aid, information, critical NFIs, and protection services for children at risk.

UNICEF reached 1,090 at-risk children (475 girls) with individual case management, promoting access to critical and lifesaving social services and assistance, including emergency cash and non-food items (NFIs), assistive devices, shelter, civil documentation, family tracing and reunification, family-based alternative care, and nutritional support and medical care. This includes hundreds of children at serious risk of harm or death, including those who lost one or both parents, and 118 children (57 girls) experiencing acute malnutrition, and/or with life-threatening injuries and/or life-changing disabilities. For many of these children, medical evacuation is their only hope of survival. To promote children's right to safety and family unity, 66 children (34 girls) benefited from family reunification services, including those lost or separated from parents during mass displacement and displacement orders. An additional 177 children without parental care (107 girls) benefited from emergency, family and community-based alternative care arrangements.

To promote the mental health and psychosocial well-being of children and caregivers, UNICEF provided multi-layered support to include mobile family and community-based supports to help children manage stress and anxiety, build social connections and promote positive coping skills. Despite a constrained operating environment, in September, UNICEF supported 23,791 children (14,161 girls) and 10,846 caregivers (9,657 women) with activities to promote children's mental health and psychosocial well-being. Of these, 1,600 children (988 girls) received individual and/or group mental health support from trained specialists and non-specialists. To date this year, UNICEF has supported 194,384 children (112,243 girls) and 67,895 caregivers (54,119 women) with MHPSS activities.

In response to the large-scale population movement of children and families from Gaza City to the middle areas, UNICEF and its partners have prioritised awareness-raising interventions, reaching 3,842 children (2,287 girls) and 3,966 caregivers (3,411 women) with face-to-face awareness-raising activities to address emerging protection risks, including the distribution of identification bracelets to prevent family separation. An additional 39,588 children (21,624 girls) and 4,582 caregivers (4,021 women) were reached with face-to-face community engagement activities aimed at reducing the risk of child injury or death from explosive remnants of war (ERW), including unexploded ordnances (UXOs).

As part of its commitment to improve the capacities of frontline workers, in September, UNICEF trained 2,038 humanitarian staff and volunteer frontline workers (1,285 women) on child protection and

MHPSS approaches. Staff and volunteers working with children received training to improve their capacities to identify and refer children at risk, raise awareness on unexploded ordnances, and strengthen family-based care arrangements for children without parental care.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In September, UNICEF and partners in the West Bank continued efforts to protect and support children and caregivers affected by escalating violence, displacement, and protection risks. A total of 3,033 children (1,576 girls) and 3,151 adults (1,650 women) were reached with child protection services, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), legal aid, and awareness-raising activities.

To strengthen children's resilience and emotional well-being, 1,492 children (687 girls) and 2,760 caregivers (1,288 women) benefited from structured MHPSS interventions, including group and individual support sessions. UNICEF also provided case management services to four children (one girl) at heightened risk, ensuring access to essential care and referrals to specialised services.

Through community engagement and preventive programming, 405 children (256 girls) and 119 women participated in awareness sessions on positive parenting and digital safety. To reduce the risk of child injury from explosive remnants of war, 450 children (345 girls) and 70 adults (42 women) were reached with EORE awareness activities.

Despite access and security challenges, UNICEF and partners remain committed to strengthening family and community-based protection mechanisms to safeguard the rights and well-being of all children across the West Bank.

Education

Gaza Strip

In September, UNICEF continued to support access to learning and psychosocial well-being for children across the Gaza Strip, reaching 66,869 children, of whom 54 per cent were girls, through its network of learning centres. Monitoring visits confirmed that the activities were delivered to a high standard, with children actively engaged and expressing joy in participation. To strengthen inclusive education, UNICEF conducted health screening training for 20 special education specialists. The training covered key areas including nutrition, vision, hearing, speech, and physical disability screening. The team screened roughly 2,000 children in three learning centres. 50 semi-permanent high-performance tents were installed at the learning centres in southern Gaza.

UNICEF also trained 97 health, safety, and security officers at the learning centres on evacuation procedures to be reflected in and practised at the centres, as a child protection measure. UNICEF is working on the Accelerated Learning Programme, for which a contract was awarded to an international company to begin designing the ALP, and is still working on printing the learning assessment to be implemented with children in the coming months.

UNICEF is working on an E-services program to digitise all learning processes in coordination with the MoEHE to ensure the quality of data and reporting. 56 learning centres have been selected and will be totally operational in October 2025 to reach 100,000 students.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In September, UNICEF and partners continued efforts to support learning recovery and adolescent engagement as schools reopened across the West Bank. In five villages in South Nablus, the second learning phase in five community learning centres reached 800 children (422 girls and 388 boys) aged 6–15, providing catch-up

learning opportunities. A total of 9,083 stationery kits were procured and are currently under distribution to students across the Jenin, Tubas, and Qabatiya governorates. In parallel, remedial education sessions were conducted in 25 schools across the three directorates, reaching 6,134 children (4,159 girls and 1,975 boys), including 98 children with disabilities (29 boys). 104 children (30 girls and 74 boys), including two girls with disabilities, participated in remedial literacy and numeracy sessions in Jenin and Jericho governorates. Two youth-led community initiatives engaged 27 adolescents (20 females and seven males), focusing on environmental awareness, heritage preservation, and community action, while an 11-session in-depth music path reached 31 children (23 girls and eight boys) in Tulkarem Governorate, enhancing creative expression and psychosocial well-being.

A total of 1,212 adolescents (1,046 girls and 166 boys) were reached across Tulkarem, Nablus, Tubas, and Jenin governorates through life skills, resilience, and leadership training. This included 904 girls who participated in structured 9-hour sessions focused on learning, health, knowledge, and rights, and 307 girls who took part in leadership and active participation programmes implemented through 16 CBOs in the targeted governorates. In addition, 301 adolescents (139 girls and 162 boys) completed Life Skills and Resilience training sessions. In parallel, 1,067 adolescent girls received adolescent care and protection kits, including 187 girls (two with disabilities) from Tulkarem and hosting communities, and 880 girls reached through the 16 CBOs across the four governorates. The distribution was coupled with awareness sessions on menstrual hygiene management and sexual and reproductive health, supporting girls' dignity, confidence, and overall well-being.

Social Protection

Gaza Strip Humanitarian Cash Transfers

In September 2025, UNICEF further scaled up its humanitarian cash transfer response in the Gaza Strip, reaching 78,800 individuals, including 40,000 children from more than 14,100 families, through digitally delivered assistance.

Priority was given to families with malnourished children. Through referrals from nutrition partners, UNICEF identified and provided urgent digital cash assistance to families with malnourished children – 1,360 with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 6,900 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). Since the declaration of famine on 22 August, more than 9,200 cases have been assisted, representing an estimated 30 per cent of all children currently undergoing treatment for malnutrition. In addition, 250 hospitalized children with severe medical conditions, 4,500 pregnant and breastfeeding women, including those malnourished (with MUAC<23), and 2,400 children and adults with disabilities were supported with cash assistance.

These interventions not only helped families to prioritize and meet their immediate needs but also provided life-saving support to the most vulnerable groups – particularly children affected by malnutrition, women, and persons with disabilities. The assistance helped reduce protection risks, prevent harmful coping mechanisms, and strengthen household resilience amid the ongoing crisis.

Frontline volunteers for essential service provision in the Gaza Strip

In September 2025, more than 1,750 front-line volunteers were engaged and received incentive payments across several sectors: 150 in Education, 165 in Health and Nutrition, 29 community mobilizers, 11 in social protection for e-wallet promotion, and 1,411 engaged in WASH services, of whom 1,200 were in solid waste management.

Humanitarian Cash Transfers in the West Bank

In September, 2,400 individuals benefited from the WASH e-voucher program, including 400 families and 1,200 children. Overall, the e-voucher has reached 4,900 individuals – 820 families, 2,450 children, and 80 female-headed households. Since January 2025, 10,700 displaced individuals (1,850 families) have been assisted in the West Bank.

Frontline volunteers for essential service provision in the West Bank

In September 2025, a new round of incentive payments reached over 4,400 education front-line volunteers, ensuring continuity of essential learning support for children. With this round, the total number of education volunteers supported in 2025 now stands at 5,100, benefitting a total of 239,000 children since the beginning of 2025.

Accountability to Affected People (AAP) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Accountability to Affected People

UNICEF is committed to strengthening accountability to the communities it serves by providing accessible information, promoting participation, and maintaining a safe, confidential feedback mechanism for Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Regarding the community feedback mechanism, since the start of 2025, 97,419 individuals have engaged with the mechanism, with 10,814 submitting feedback and complaints nationally in September. 444 were individuals with disabilities or their caregivers, and 2,065 were pregnant or breastfeeding women. Overall, women comprised 28 per cent of callers, and Khan Younis governorate surpassed Gaza as the governorate with the highest volume of calls. The UNICEF/WFP joint Chatbot also conducted 1,491 conversations to share information about UNICEF's programmes directly with the affected population, marking an improvement from the previous month. Conversations were regarding humanitarian cash transfers and health and nutrition services. UNICEF's feedback channels were disseminated at learning centres in Gaza and during WASH activities to ensure communities are aware of their right to ask questions, submit complaints, and provide feedback.

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

In September, UNICEF and the PSEA Network continued to scale up interventions to address heightened risks of SEA amid the escalating violence in Palestine. Access to a safe and confidential PSEA reporting mechanism was facilitated for 172,499 people, including 53,253 in Gaza and 119,246 in the West Bank. PSEA messages were systematically integrated into the cash transfer programme in Gaza, and reporting channels, such as the SANAD²⁹ and UNICEF platforms, were continuously disseminated to facilitate access.

Community feedback mechanisms and referral pathways were reinforced to ensure timely, survivor-centred responses through trained partners and the 24/7 Helpline. 5,726 people in Gaza (4,553) and the West Bank (1,173) accessed essential services. These included case management, MHPSS, medical and legal assistance, and referrals to food assistance, cash transfers, and NFIs.

Awareness-raising efforts are ongoing in Gaza and the West Bank through 200 safeguarding volunteers and the SANAD social media channels, which reach over 800,000 people, including 455,700 in the Gaza Strip. Capacity-building efforts continued in September, with 60 aid actors trained in PSEA.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

Gaza Strip

In September, routine immunisation social mobilisation teams reached a total of 70,479 people, including 38,687 females across the Gaza Strip, while hygiene promotion mobilizers engaged 6,602 people, of whom 3,887 were females. Outreach was conducted through multiple channels, including community dialogue and household or tent visits, complemented by targeted engagement in crowded areas and with community and religious leaders. Routine immunisation efforts identified 23 children with no doses and 1,544 children behind on their vaccine schedule, with transportation barriers and displacement as the leading causes of missed or delayed immunisations. Hygiene promotion activities placed strong emphasis on handwashing, toilet and food hygiene, safe water storage, and the prevention of skin and water-borne diseases. These efforts were further amplified through the dissemination of messages via mass and digital media, reaching an estimated 350,000 people.

West Bank

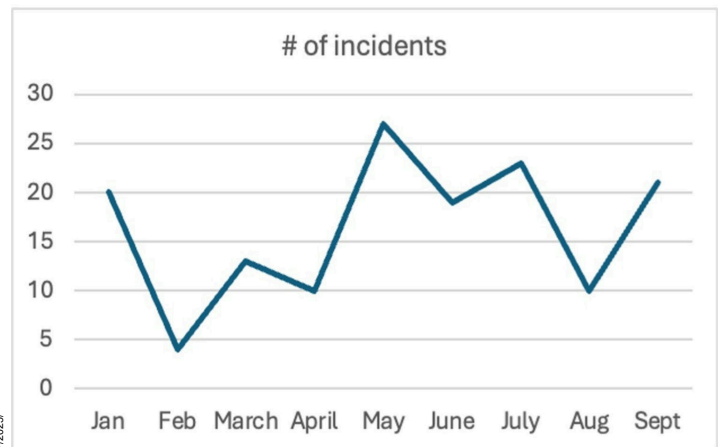
In September, UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and local partners, initiated drafting the framework for the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) strategy. The strategy aims to ensure that communities are informed, engaged, and empowered to adopt protective behaviours and access essential services. It provides a coordinated framework for communication during emergencies and recovery, focusing on delivering timely, consistent information, strengthening two-way engagement with communities, addressing behavioural and social barriers to service uptake, and ensuring effective coordination among partners. Core components include media engagement through radio, TV, print, and digital media; community mobilisation; interpersonal communication; feedback mechanisms to address concerns, misinformation, and rumours; and close collaboration with local leaders. Implementation will proceed through consultations with partners in October.

Supply and Logistics

During September 2025, UNICEF successfully facilitated the entry of 124 truckloads carrying a total of 2,564 pallets into Gaza. These were offloaded at the Karem Shalom platform on the Palestinian side. Despite significant security challenges and restricted access within Gaza, UNICEF managed to collect 161 truckloads (2,922 pallets) from the Karem Shalom platform and deliver them to warehouses inside Gaza.

In total, 5,960 pallets of essential supplies were distributed to beneficiaries across Gaza during the reporting period. The distributed items included High Energy Biscuits, Hygiene Kits, Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), Ready-to-Use Infant Formula (RUIF), Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF), medical equipment, collapsible water jerrycans (10 litres), high-performance tents, dignity kits, Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements (LNSQ), vaccines, tarpaulins, disability kits, sanitary pads, diapers, cleaning materials, Gentamicin eye drops (5ml), squatting plates, pan and P-trap for squatting plates, accessibility add-ons for emergency sanitation, handwashing devices, SATO sanitation equipment, ventilators, mattresses, blankets, collapsible water tanks (5,000 litres), water pipes and fittings, as well as sodium hypochlorite.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY



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Illustration of number of incidents impacting access to learning in the Gaza Strip, 2025. (For further information see the paragraph below that starts with "The Education Cluster...".)

UNICEF is an active member of the UN Country Team and the Humanitarian Country Team and closely coordinates with other organisations and partners, including women-led organisations. As the Cluster Lead Agency, UNICEF leads coordination and information management for three Clusters and one Area of Responsibility in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and reports on collective Cluster achievements.

The **WASH Cluster**, led by UNICEF, continues to coordinate a strategic and timely humanitarian [WASH response](#), with over 90 partner agencies and affiliates actively engaged. In September, the Cluster published the third iteration of the Gaza [Household WASH Assessment](#), conducted by 23 WASH partners in August-September 2025. Key takeaways from the assessment include: 1 million people (50 per cent of the population) are not able to access 6 litres of drinking water per day and 500,000 people (25 per cent) are not able to access 9 litres of domestic water per day; 50 per cent of households report overcrowding at water points and in 15 per cent of household's children are the primary water collectors. In sanitation and hygiene, 50 per cent of households have access to basic latrines, 500,000 women and girls lack access to menstrual hygiene products, and 63 per cent of households lack access to soap at the time of the survey.

In addition, the WASH Cluster finalised the [report from the Water Trucking Workshop](#) that provides a comprehensive reference package for the water response, confirming over 40 partners are actively engaged in trucking operations, delivering between 10 and 20,000,000 litres of water across Gaza per day to up to 1,500 delivery points from up to 2,500 trips a day. Finally, maps for WASH Facilities Impacted by displacement orders, the Accessible WASH facilities map, Accessible private-sector suppliers in Gaza City, and [latrine construction tips in Arabic](#) were shared with WASH partners.

In the West Bank, the Cluster team continued coordinating the WASH response to the IDP crisis and service disruptions resulting from the militarised operation in the north, as well as in communities affected by settler violence and demolition incidents. In September, WASH partners carried out over 50 interventions, including the provision of life-saving water through trucking, hygiene kit distribution, installation of water tanks and mobile latrines (gender- and disability-sensitive), repair of water and sanitation networks, provision of solid waste containers and collection services for IDPs,

and emergency support to service providers with toolkits and spare parts.

UNICEF leads the **Nutrition Cluster**, coordinating 28 nutrition partners to deliver a cohesive, strategic nutrition response. The latest progress on the response can be found in the [Cluster Bulletin](#). In September, the nutrition situation remained alarming. It was impacted by the high level of displacement from North to South linked to the Israeli military offensive, especially during the second half of the month. Screening and detection of malnutrition were severely disrupted during September as partners were forced to suspend or relocate their services in Gaza City due to the Israeli military offensive and forced displacement orders. While there were 44 sites in Gaza City and one in North Gaza on 1 September, only 36 were still active by 15 September, and the number has declined to only seven as of 30 September. During the same period, partners have scaled up services in the South, from 45 sites in Deir El Balah to 63, and from 40 to 56 in Khan Younis.³⁰ While access to staple foods has improved and price spikes have somewhat eased across the Gaza Strip, people continue to face imbalanced, nutrient-deficient diets, and children are consuming fewer than two food groups on average, compared with the recommended food variety.

In the West Bank, the cluster co-organized a workshop for strategic nutrition planning on the 30 September, with 15 organizations represented. The current nutrition situation was reviewed, with the August Food Security and Nutrition survey results presented and latest surveillance data, as well as on-going programmes from all partners, and this exercise led to prioritization for the 2026 Flash Appeal.

The **Education Cluster**, co-led by UNICEF and Save the Children, coordinates with 40 education partners. In September, 50 new Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) were established in Khan Younis and the Middle Area, reaching approximately 26,000 children with in-person learning opportunities, supported by over 500 teachers. While partly aligned with preparedness measures for potential incursions into Gaza City, the initiative mainly aimed to expand access to learning for displaced children and offer structured activities that foster psychosocial well-being and stability amid ongoing trauma. However, the displacement orders for Gaza City in September resulted in the closure of 105 TLS serving around 25,000 learners, with one site destroyed during military operations. Twenty-one incidents affecting schools were recorded, 19 of them in Gaza City, most involving airstrikes, further weakening an already fragile learning environment. Efforts to relocate TLS were hindered by a shortage of available land in the south, restrictions on importing essential learning materials, unpaid teacher salaries, and limited funding, which left partners unable to meet the needs of over 637,000 learners at the start of the 2025/26 academic year.

UNICEF continued to lead the **Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR)**. The latest achievements from the response can be found on the [updated interactive response dashboard](#). The [Child Protection Referral Pathways system](#) is regularly updated to support coordination, referrals, and service mapping. From January to September 2025, CP AoR partners reached 786,963 million people, including 660,920 children (53 per cent girls) and over 126,000 caregivers (73 per cent women), with critical child protection services across the Gaza Strip. This included 17,051 children who received case management services, addressing complex protection concerns including unaccompanied status, psychosocial distress, and family separation. In addition, 3,291 children were reunified with their families, and 1,322 children, including unaccompanied and/or separated children, were provided with alternative care arrangements to ensure their safety and well-being. 21,870 children and caregivers received cash assistance for child protection, helping to prevent separation and reduce exposure to harmful coping mechanisms. While 385,161 children (55 per cent

girls) participated in group-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) activities.³¹ In addition, a total of 1.3 million people, including 1 million caregivers (56 per cent women) and 326,000 children (55 per cent girls), were reached with awareness-raising activities on child protection issues, including gender-based violence and family separation: Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) risk education, child protection risk mitigation measures. In September, escalating hostilities and forced displacement from Gaza City led to the closure of 48 safe spaces and the relocation of 14 partners to the southern governorates, where severe overcrowding, especially in Deir Al Balah and Khan Younis, is now limiting access to safe spaces and community-based protection.³²

In the West Bank, 122,000 children (53 per cent girls), including 1,960 with disabilities, and 24,000 caregivers (67 per cent women) were reached with child protection services, including case management, MHPSS, and legal assistance. MHPSS activities reached 57,660 children through group sessions and individual counselling, while 14,500 caregivers attended parenting sessions to strengthen positive coping and caregiving skills.³³ Legal, cash, and rehabilitation support reached the most vulnerable, including children with disabilities. Twenty-seven community protection mechanisms and one Child Friendly Space remained active, ensuring safe access to essential services.

Large-scale displacement to southern Gaza has caused severe overcrowding in areas like Deir Al Balah and Khan Younis, limiting privacy, safety, and child-friendly spaces. Child protection services remain disrupted due to insecurity, staff displacement, and population movements, while staff face fatigue and burnout from heavy caseloads and repeated personal displacement. Risks to children are rising, including family separation, violence, and harmful coping mechanisms such as child labour and early marriage, with safe spaces increasingly scarce.

Widowed and single mothers face growing challenges in meeting basic needs for their children due to restricted access to assistance and further deteriorating living conditions.

UNICEF participates in the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), coordinated by UNFPA, and in the Legal Task Force. The Child Protection AoR and the GBV AoR have jointly established a Prevention and Care for Child Survivors Task Force, of which UNICEF is a member. UNICEF also participates in the Explosive Ordnance Risk Education – Conflict Preparedness and Protection Technical Working Group (EORE-CPP TWG) under the Mine Action (MA) AoR.

UNICEF continues to actively participate in the **Health Cluster**, including through technical working groups, mainly the Sexual Reproductive Health Working Group, the Health Services Delivery Group, the Rehabilitation Working Group, the Mobile Clinics Working Group, and the Inter-Cluster MHPSS Technical Working Group.

UNICEF also co-leads the Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) Technical Working Group, which is organised in collaboration with WHO and OCHA.

Additionally, **UNICEF supports** the Inter-Agency Network for the PSEA and participates in the AAP Working Group, which OCHA coordinates. Furthermore, UNICEF actively engages in the regional and national Gender in Humanitarian Action (GIHA) Working Group, which is coordinated by UN Women and OCHA, and contributes to gender equality, inclusive programming, and preparedness and response. UNICEF continues to participate in key recovery activities, including the Rapid Damage Needs Assessment.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA



Oday lost his family in the war. Malnourished and weak, he was barely hanging on, until urgent care helped him smile and hope again.

Farah and one million other children in the Gaza Strip remain trapped in an unimaginable nightmare

“For the past three days, we have been walking in fear and terror amid bombardment, gunfire and dead bodies. Without food and water, under the burning sun” says Farah, who is 13 years old.

She explains: “We fled, leaving our tents and everything behind. We search for a place, but until now, we haven’t found one, and we are dying of hunger in the Gaza Strip. We pray for this war to end, so everyone returns to their home, goes back to school, and live like in the old days again.”

Farah’s mother, Wafa, added that this was the tenth time they had been displaced. She questioned the injustice children facing during such war, as they were still waiting in the street, exposed to the sun, with no shelter. She reflected on how babies born during wartime may never experience a normal life – growing up without proper clothing, food, or access to clean water.

See the corresponding video clip with here:

“Farah and one million other children in Gaza remain trapped in an unimaginable nightmare”,

<https://x.com/UNICEFpalestine/status/1972938950508777553>

Much more needs to be done. To respond to the situation for children in the State of Palestine, UNICEF is calling for the following:

- All parties must fully uphold their obligations as set out in the ceasefire agreement.
- Displaced people must be allowed to move freely and voluntarily return to their homes as soon as possible.
- We need the agreed full, unfettered movement of humanitarian aid into Gaza:
 - Humanitarian aid and commercial trucks must enter at scale, with improved and faster clearance procedures.
 - All possible supply routes must be open, including Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and the West Bank.

- Supplies must have regular and unfettered access through all five entry points to the Gaza Strip (Rafah, Kerem Shalom, Netzarim, Erez East and Erez West).
- Parties and ceasefire mediators involved in implementation of the humanitarian aid delivery must allow prioritization of supplies based on the evolving population needs on the ground.
- The supplies previously denied or restricted entry, including so-called ‘dual use’ items, education supplies, fuel, high power generators, water treatment chemicals etc. must be allowed in.

- Children who require specialized urgent care not available in the Gaza Strip must, with their caregivers, be evacuated swiftly and at scale, with firm guarantees that both patients and their caregivers will be allowed to return to Gaza once treated. As a first option, the medical corridor to the West Bank including East Jerusalem should be restored so children can be treated there. We also urge Member States (MS) to accept more children for medical treatment.

- National and international humanitarian staff must have regular and unfettered access through several entry points to and from the Gaza Strip. Freedom of movement for humanitarian staff within the Gaza Strip is also a critical requirement of the provision of aid in a ceasefire context.

- The specialist supplies and staff needed to carry out UXO detection and removal must be permitted entry to the Gaza Strip and must not be impeded in their operations, including coordination. Children are particularly vulnerable to explosive remnants of war (ERW) and with approximately 10 per cent of all ammunition fired potentially failed to function, the risk of death or injury to civilians now able to move freely through contaminated areas is unacceptably high.

Media links:

- [Press Release: Devastating rate of child malnutrition \(Gaza Strip\) in August surpasses July record.](#)
- [Statement: UNICEF on the deadly risks for over 450,000 children as military attacks increase.](#)
- [Remarks: The unthinkable in Gaza City has already begun.](#)
- [Press release: UNICEF and the Republic of Korea Partner to Strengthen Resilience for Children](#)
- [Bombardments. Malnourishment. Displacement. Nowhere is safe for children. Children need a ceasefire.](#)
- [“Everyone bears some responsibility for this but there is only one victim ... Palestinian children.”](#)
- [Bombardments continue day after day, devastating children’s lives in Gaza.](#)
- [What does it mean to grow up in a conflict zone, where learning, playing and... become dangerous?](#)
- [We’re heartbroken to share that 9-year-old Jana, whose story we shared recently, has passed away.](#)
- [Yesterday, UNICEF delivered urgently needed hygiene supplies to hospitals & health centres in Gaza.](#)
- [We are witnessing the forced mass displacement of children and families from Gaza City.](#)

- [In Gaza City, amid new evacuation orders and repeated displacement, this is how UNICEF is helping...](#)
- [Any further intensification of the military offensive City would multiply children's suffering ...](#)
- [In the West Bank, children struggle to access education amid movement restrictions and violence.](#)
- [With famine and malnutrition spreading, children in Gaza urgently need more humanitarian aid ...](#)
- [Every child has the right to learn. Yet in the Gaza Strip, this right has been stripped away.](#)
- [Every child in Gaza under the age of five - over 320,000 children - is at risk of acute malnutrition](#)
- ["Gaza City, the last refuge for families in the northern Gaza Strip, is fast becoming a place ..."](#)

HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- State of Palestine Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine>
- State of Palestine Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine/situation-reports>
- All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals>
- All Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/situation-reports>

**NEXT SITREP: OCTOBER 2025
SITUATION REPORT (SCHEDULED FOR
THE SECOND HALF OF NOVEMBER
2025).**

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2025 targets	Total results	Progress*	2025 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health (including public health emergencies)								
Children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	730,389	596,929	▲ 6%	-	-	-
Children 0-11 months receiving pentavalent 3 vaccine	Total	-	106,750	69,392	▲ 3%	-	-	-
Small and sick newborns with access to inpatient Level 2 special newborn care	Total	-	5,500 ³⁴	5,184	▲ 8%	-	-	-
Nutrition								
Children 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	Total	-	13,150	10,949	▲ 17%	10,807	12,089	▲ 23%
	Girls	-	-	6,044	-	-	6,773	-
	Boys	-	-	4,905	-	-	5,418	-
Children 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	Total	-	50,962	45,153	▲ 16%	48,033	50,311	▲ 19%
	Girls	-	-	25,914	-	-	29,117	-
	Boys	-	-	19,239	-	-	21,194	-
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	313,061	78,011 ³⁵	▼ -6%	290,678	104,212	▼ -5%
	Girls	-	-	39,937	-	-	53,533	-
	Boys	-	-	38,074	-	-	50,679	-
Children 6-23 months receiving Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF)	Total	-	96,893 ³⁶	8,329 ³⁷	-0%	96,893	9,443	-0%
	Girls	-	-	4,236	-	-	4,967	-
	Boys	-	-	4,093	-	-	4,476	-
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA								
Children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	349,788	312,442	▲ 11%	884,000	626,564	▲ 11%
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	976,667	566,973	▲ 5%	-	-	-
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	10,600	8,612	▲ 10%	27,500	19,753	▲ 13%

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2025 targets	Total results	Progress*	2025 targets	Total results	Progress*
Children & caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention	Total	-	538,000	669,137	▲ 8%	900,000	897,989	▲ 10%
Children and caregivers reached by MHPSS messages and awareness activities on child protection risks	Total	-	814,400	512,468	▲ 1%	1.5 million	561,992	▲ 1%
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	300,000	230,621	▲ 9%	339,004	317,100	▲ 11%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	300,000	168,881	▲ 11%	614,507	298,182	▲ 5%
Affected school children are provided with gender-responsive recreational activities	Total	-	150,000	175,414	▲ 16%	482,756	396,542	▲ 7%
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	1.9 million ³⁸	1.6 million	▲ 18%	1.9 million	1.3 million ³⁹	▼ -11%
People reached with critical WASH supplies (NFIs)	Total	-	774,110	1.1 million	▲ 19%	1.9 million	1.5 million	▲ 5%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	1.6 million	1.2 million ⁴⁰	▲ 20%	1.8 million	1.1 million	▲ 16%
Social protection								
People reached with humanitarian cash transfers through UNICEF response	Total	-	765,000	531,399	▲ 10%	-	-	-
Households with adults and children with disabilities reached by humanitarian cash transfers UNICEF response	Total	-	21,000	4,896	0%	-	-	-
Households with Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women reached with humanitarian cash transfers through UNICEF response	Total	-	30,000	6,582	▲ 22%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)								
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	-	93,904	97,419	▲ 12%	-	-	-
People reached through messaging and engagement actions on prevention and access to services	Total	-	800,000	427,081 ⁴¹	▼ -38%	-	-	-

*Progress in the reporting period 1 to 30 September 2025

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements ⁴²	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2025	Resources available from 2024 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	123,800,000	26,798,180	18,590,424	78,411,396	63%
Nutrition	182,320,000	29,799,387	12,621,976	139,898,637	77%
Education	55,400,000	28,854,590	6,852,336	19,693,074	36%
Social protection	150,000,000	33,353,932	22,708,836	93,937,232	63%
Cluster coordination	5,220,000	4,008,624	1,025,340	186,036	4%
Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)	157,500,000	38,828,706	111,140,496 ⁴³	7,530,798	5%
Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA	37,000,000	23,870,230	7,326,145	5,803,625	16%
Cross-sectoral	5,300,000 ⁴⁴	3,779,479	368,919	1,151,602	22%
Total	716,540,000	189,293,128	180,634,472	346,612,400	48%

Funding available - funding available in the current appeal year to respond in line with the current HAC appeal.

Humanitarian resources - humanitarian funding commitments received from donors in the current appeal year.

Resources available from 2024 (carry over) - funding received in the previous appeal year that is available to respond in line with the current HAC appeal

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ENDNOTES

1. The Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) encompasses the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. References to the State of Palestine, or to specific geographic areas of the OPT within this situation report, do not imply any alternative recognition or determination as to the status of the OPT and its integral parts.
2. The reality behind the image: Seventeen-year-old Samar has to carry the responsibility of caring for her five younger brothers and sisters, after an airstrike on their shelter on 4 December 2023 injured their mother, Woroud, who was brought to a hospital but went missing since then. As of today, Woroud's fate remains unknown, while the children's father had passed away already before the war, leaving them with no parent to rely on. The attack also injured the children, who were forced to seek medical care and move from one shelter to another on their own. They are photographed here in their tent in Gaza City on 7 September 2025. Facing hunger, lack of adequate medical treatment, and the constant fear of bombardment, the six siblings were forced to flee once again due to the military incursion into Gaza City. On 13 September 2025, the six siblings moved to Khan Younis, walking for hours, completing part of the journey on a donkey cart. They are now staying with their older sister Kefah. In addition to hosting her displaced siblings from the north, Kefah herself already carries the immense burden of looking after her own two children Zayuna (3) and Malak (7), without her husband, who is imprisoned, and her 6-year-old son Mohammed, killed in an airstrike. To help restore support the siblings in their basic needs, UNICEF has provided them with emergency cash assistance – enabling them to buy food and essential items for survival.
3. UNICEF: the deadly risks for over 450000 children in Gaza City as military attacks increase, 12 September 2025, <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/unicef-statement-12sep25/> and OCHA, Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: Ongoing Military Operations and Health System Collapse, 24 September 2025, <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/ocha-press-release-24sep25/>.
4. Four additional hospitals were forced to close in northern Gaza during the month of September. Source: UN News, The world is failing Gaza's starving children, aid teams warn, 1 October 2025, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/10/1166007>.
5. The total number of children in need is estimated based on the demographic ratio of children. Nearly half of them, 49 per cent, are girls.
6. Of the 3.3 million people in need, 2.1 million are in the Gaza Strip (the entire population) and 1.2 million are in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Source: Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, issued on 11 December 2024, covering January-December 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2025>.
7. The number of 1,939,232 people displaced in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank consists of 1,900,000 people who are displaced in the Gaza Strip (United Nations estimate), and 39,232 people who are displaced in the West Bank. The figure for the West Bank includes two components: (1) 6,624 individuals displaced due to demolitions since 7 October 2023, including 2,848 children (OCHA, as of 12 June 2025); and (2) 32,608 individuals displaced because of the Israeli "Iron Wall" operation, including 14,241 children. The latter figure is based on displacement data recorded by UNRWA among the registered refugee population from Jenin, Tulkarem, and Nur Shams camps (as of 12 June 2025).
8. The total of 1,445,000 school-aged children affected in their education refers to both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. In the Gaza Strip, approximately 637,000 school-aged children currently lack access to formal education (source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/opt-education-snapshot-academic-year-2025-2026-8-september-2025>). The resumption of hostilities on 18 March 2025 disrupted all efforts to resume learning during the ceasefire that began on 19 January 2025. In the West Bank, an estimated 808,000 school-aged children are affected in their learning, including both out-of-school children (OOSC) and those at risk of dropping out. This figure will be revised following the completion of the ongoing OOSC survey, anticipated in October 2025.
9. Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, issued on 11 December 2024, covering January-December 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2025>. The previous Inter-Agency Flash Appeal was issued on 17 April 2024, covering April-December 2024, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2024>.
10. The original estimate of US\$6.6 billion, which was previously referred to in this publication, reflects the full anticipated funding required to meet the humanitarian needs of 3.3 million people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. However, due to severe operational constraints – including access restrictions, impediments to aid delivery, and increasing challenges to humanitarian space – the 2025 Flash Appeal requests an adjusted amount of US\$4.1 billion. This figure reflects what humanitarian actors anticipate they can realistically implement under the given conditions. For the full explanation, see: Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, issued on 11 December 2024 covering January-December 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2025>.
11. The numbers stated here refer to the people who are targeted to receive humanitarian aid. These numbers of "people targeted" differ from the numbers of "people in need", the latter amount to 3.3 million across the occupied Palestinian territories (Gaza Strip: the entire population of 2.1 million, West Bank: 1.2 million). "People in need" refers to those who are affected by the crisis and require humanitarian assistance. "People targeted" refers to the number of people that is planned to realistically be reached with the given capacity and expected resources.
12. The 2025 UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for the State of Palestine was updated in August 2025, replacing the initial version released on 6 December 2024. The appeal covers the period from January to December 2025, <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/state-of-palestine#download>.
13. In 2025, UNICEF has received US\$2 million from the internal Emergency Programme Fund and exceptionally US\$ 10 million from an internal capital loan both of which will need to be replenished – these loans are not reflected in the funding received.
14. Only activities with available GPS coordinates are represented on the map. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map, do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. The map does not necessarily represent features at their true scale.
15. Health Cluster, Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA), 10 September 2025, <https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/emergencies/who-phsa-opt-100925.pdf>.
16. Source: Ministry of Health (child disaggregation up to 5 September 2025).
17. As reported by the Palestinian Ministry of Health covering the period between 7 October 2023 and 05 September 2025.
18. The number of humanitarian aid workers killed is provided by OCHA as of 3 September 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-3-september-2025>.
19. Health Cluster, Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA), 10 September 2025, <https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/emergencies/who-phsa-opt-100925.pdf>.
20. WHO EMRO, Emergency Situation Update, Issue 64, 10 September 2025, https://www.emro.who.int/images/stories/palestine/Sitrep_64.pdf.
21. WHO, Estimating trauma rehabilitation needs in Gaza: September 2025 update, 2 October 2025, <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/estimating-trauma-rehabilitation-needs-in-gaza--september-2025-update>.
22. UNICEF, Driven by hunger in Gaza, amputees are part of the collateral damage, 24 August 2025, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/08/1165713>.
23. As reported by the Palestinian Ministry of Health covering the period between 7 October 2023 and 30 September 2025.
24. OCHA, Monthly snapshot: Casualties, property damage and displacement, as of 30 September 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/west-bank-monthly-snapshot-casualties-property-damage-and-displacement-september-2025>.
25. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Update #291 on the West Bank, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-291-west-bank>.
26. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Update #328 on the West Bank, 1 October 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-328-west-bank>.

27. Through a signed agreement with UNOPS, UNICEF receives fuel to support water service providers in the operation of water and wastewater systems. UNICEF refunds UNOPS for the fuel. This is a UN-wide mechanism agreed upon by all parties.
28. UN News: “No fuel, no aid, no escape: UN agencies warn of looming collapse in Gaza”, 12 July 2025, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/07/1165383>.
29. The SANAD Network is a shared public platform where Palestinian civil society organizations, UN agencies and international NGOs unite their voices and efforts towards strengthening Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). SANAD engages especially with children, women, youth, and people with disabilities. One activity are Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions to raise awareness for the prevention of violence. Community members across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip can receive mental health support or submit an official complaint of any physical or verbal abuse perpetrated by an aid worker via WhatsApp +972 59 404 021, via e-mail at optconfidential@un.org, or by calling the free hotline 164 of the partner organisation SAWA.
30. Mass displacement of people from northern to southern Gaza also puts at risk the continuity of treatment for outpatient cases, risking compromising the recovery of children under treatment. Partners responded to these challenges by increasing the number of service points in the south and using mobile phones and SMS to link individual cases to their nearest treatment sites as they arrive in the south.
31. Among adults and caregivers, 115,367 participated in positive parenting and caregiver-focused MHPSS programs.
32. Six Child Protection partners deployed staff to four reception and counting points, including North Nusairat and Al-Rashid – supporting 42,774 individuals, including over 25,000 children, with psychological first aid, child protection assessments, emergency referrals, distribution of 8,612 ID bracelets, and prevention materials on family separation.
33. In addition, 321 child protection staff benefited from staff care and wellbeing support. More than 2,000 children received case management services, and 2,880 were referred to specialised services.
34. Based on Gaza Neonatal Network (GNN) 2022 data, approximately 10% of newborns in Gaza require life-saving care and access to neonatal intensive care units (NICUs). With an estimated 55,000 annual deliveries, this translates to around 5,500 newborns in need of secondary hospital care each year.
35. The current result reflects the monthly data for Sep.
36. The number of unique children aged 6–23 months who received Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF) at least once during the year.
37. The current result reflects the monthly data for Sep.
38. The Gaza target for direct beneficiaries is set at 1.4 million, in alignment with the WASH Cluster. In the SitRep narrative, UNICEF will clarify that its overall aim is to reach 2 million people, including both direct and indirect beneficiaries, to better reflect the full scope of its response—particularly through the provision of fuel and water treatment chemicals.
39. The notable decrease in results compared to previous months is due to the calculation method for this indicator. The current figures reflect the number of people reached on a monthly basis.
40. UNICEF’s results are higher than those of the WASH Cluster, as UNICEF’s figures are cumulative since the beginning of the year, while the Cluster’s results are reported on a monthly basis.
41. This result is based on monthly achievement for this indicator.
42. While the 2025 emergency appeal shows a decrease in the number of people to be reached, the financial ask has increased. This is due to a prioritized targeting approach adopted by the clusters and UNICEF. The 2025 response is designed to balance vertical and horizontal expansion – intensifying support for those most affected (vertical expansion) while maintaining essential services across the broader affected population (horizontal expansion). This approach allows for more sustained, comprehensive assistance over an extended period, ensuring continuity of services to better address the evolving needs of vulnerable communities.
43. The carryforward under the WASH sector was increased in August 2025 to reflect the full amount of funding from the United States Government received in the previous year, which UNICEF Headquarters reallocated in full to the Country Office. The figure increased from USD 54,645,354 to USD 111,140,496.
44. The cross-sectoral budget line item covers risk communication and community engagement, accountability to affected populations, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, gender and disability. The budget for social and behaviour change, however, is mainstreamed across the various programmatic sectors, as is the budget for programme monitoring and emergency preparedness.