



Mathayel, 13, studies at home in Arab Al-Rashayida village in the West Bank. Despite limited space, economic hardship and repeated violence, Mathayel remains committed to her education.

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for every child

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 48

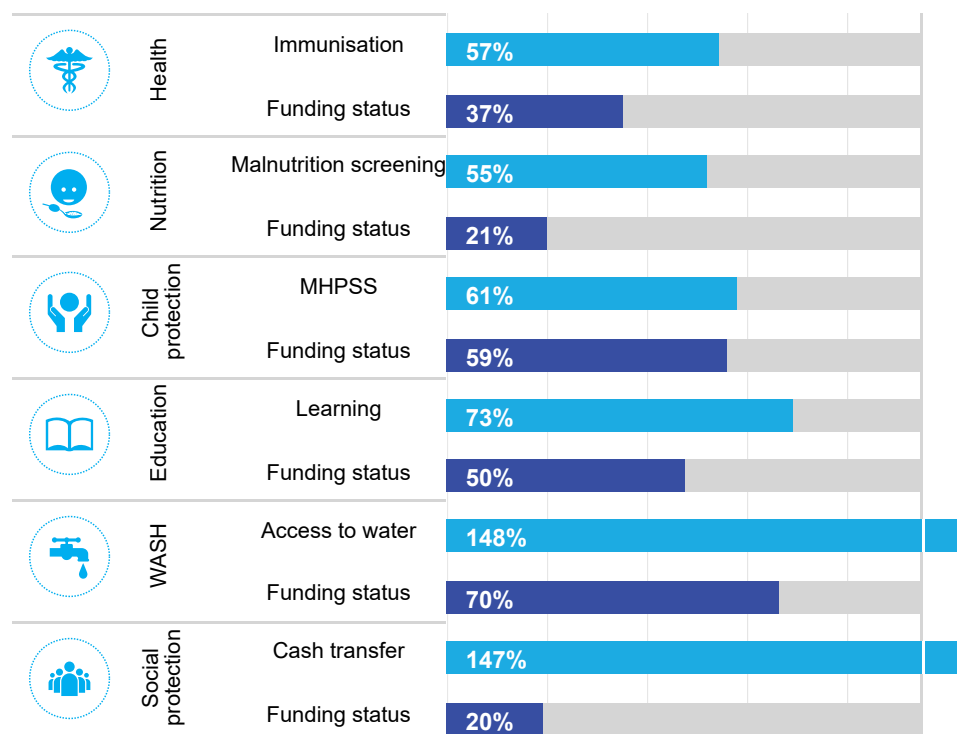
Reporting Period
1 January to 30 June
2026

State of Palestine

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- The ceasefire has not brought safety for Gaza's children. Since 10 October 2025, 277 children have been reported killed, while nearly nine in ten children consulted said they need psychosocial support.
- Despite severe access restrictions and critical supply shortages, UNICEF provided safe water to 1 million people in Gaza, including 470,000 children, while sustaining essential health, nutrition, education and protection services.
- UNICEF reached over 265,000 children through 173 Learning Centres across Gaza, supporting learning, psychosocial wellbeing and referrals to specialized services for children with disabilities.
- In the West Bank, escalating violence, demolitions and movement restrictions continued to displace families and strain essential public services. UNICEF's Rapid Response Mechanism reached 1,620 people, including 844 children. UNICEF and partners admitted 19,425 children (6-59 months) for treatment of acute malnutrition, including severe and moderate wasting.

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



SITUATION IN NUMBERS



1,700,000
Children in need of humanitarian assistance²



3,620,000
People in need of humanitarian assistance³

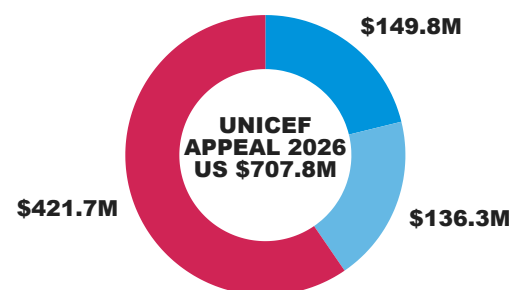


1,743,000
People displaced (Gaza and West Bank)⁴



1,466,000
Children's education affected (Gaza and West Bank)⁵

FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



- Humanitarian Resources
- 2025 carry over
- Funding gap

** 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

The [Inter-Agency Flash Appeal](#) ⁶ was issued on 16 December 2025 and outlined the need for US\$ 4.06 billion to assist 2.97 million people, 2.1 million in the Gaza Strip and 870,000 in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, through December 2026.⁷ Aligned with this appeal, UNICEF's [Humanitarian Action for Children \(HAC\) appeal](#) – revised in February 2026 to include the Back-to-Learning programme that UNICEF and partners launched in the Gaza Strip in January 2026 – requires US\$ 707.83 million to meet the urgent needs of children and their families. As of now, only 40 per cent of the appeal is funded. UNICEF urgently requires an additional US\$ 421.7 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, of not being reunified with their families, and of not being able to access essential services, including safe water and health care.

Funding gaps also pose an immediate threat to critical WASH services. Current shortfalls jeopardise the continuity of safe water production, emergency water trucking, wastewater management and solid waste collection, which millions of people depend on across the Gaza Strip. UNICEF-supported fuel operations help sustain water production, distribution and wastewater systems serving almost 2 million people, while emergency water trucking currently provides safe drinking water to 1.1 million people and solid waste services support more than 1 million people. Funding for fuel required to operate essential WASH facilities, currently costing approximately US\$ 2.7 million per month, is expected to be exhausted by the end of August, while funding for solid waste management services, which require around US\$ 1.6 million per month, is projected to run out by mid-August. Any interruption to these services would significantly reduce access to safe water and sanitation, increase environmental and public health risks, heighten the likelihood of disease outbreaks, and further undermine child health, nutrition and protection outcomes.

UNICEF benefited from Global Humanitarian Thematic Funding from Sweden, UNICEF National Committees in Canada, Germany, Korea, Sweden and the United States, as well as UNICEF China private sector fundraising (PSFR) efforts, 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, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Malta, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Spain as well as the European Union. Through UNICEF National Committees, UNICEF is grateful for the assistance provided by the peoples of Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Catalan agency for Development, China, Hong Kong, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Poland Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Singapore, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Qatar, and the United States, as well as country offices' Public Sector Fundraising and Partnerships.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Gaza Strip

The situation of children in the Gaza Strip in the first six months of 2026 remained catastrophic, with children continuing to face lethal violence, repeated displacement, severe psychological distress, overcrowding, disrupted education, heightened malnutrition risks, deteriorating health conditions and critical shortages of safe water and sanitation. Children continue to be killed after the October 2025 ceasefire announcement, while nearly nine in ten children consulted in the Gaza Strip asked for psychological support; at the same time, limited access to safe spaces increased children's exposure to child labour and other harmful coping mechanisms, underscoring the cumulative erosion of children's rights to survival, protection, health, education and dignity.

Between 7 October 2023 and 30 June 2026, over 73,000 Palestinians have been reported killed, including at least 21,700 children. Additionally, more than 173,500 Palestinians were reported injured, including at least 45,000 children. Humanitarian workers also continue to face deadly risks, with 595 reported killed, including 401 UN staff. Since the start of the ceasefire on 10 October 2025 until the end of June, more than 1,050 Palestinians were reported killed, including at least 277 children, and more than 3,400 Palestinians were reported injured. Children continue to be killed and injured on a daily basis during air strikes and incidents in proximity to the so-called "Yellow line".

As of 30 June 2026, 971 attacks on healthcare have been recorded by WHO since October 2023 (of which 222 in 2025, and 25 in 2026).⁸ Ongoing attacks and resource shortages have severely weakened the health system, damaging or destroying 95 per cent of hospitals. Health systems remain severely weakened despite some health centres now reopening. More than 18,500 patients, including some 4,000 children in the Gaza Strip, require medical evacuation for advanced care unavailable within the Strip, highlighting the catastrophic collapse of the health system.

Nearly 1.7 million people, including 800,000 children⁹ – the vast majority of Gaza's children – are still displaced in around 1,600 sites, where overcrowding is reported, as well as rodent and insect infestation, unsafe shelter conditions, limited lighting and lack of privacy, all of which exacerbate child protection risks. Nearly nine in ten children consulted by UNICEF in the Gaza Strip asked for psychological support, while 91.8 per cent said they lived in fear of bombardment, pointing to profound and sustained mental health and psychosocial support needs.

Health conditions continued to deteriorate as damaged infrastructure, overcrowding, poor sanitation and limited safe water fuelled disease risks, including skin diseases and acute watery diarrhoea.¹⁰ WASH conditions remained critical, with over 70 per cent of people in the Gaza Strip relying on trucked water,¹¹ while water shortages forced families into daily trade-offs between drinking, hygiene and disease prevention.

Education access remained severely disrupted, with UNICEF reporting that 658,000 school-age children needed access to education and that children consulted in Gaza prioritised education, with 94.2 per cent calling for permanent school buildings rather than tents.¹²

The nutrition situation in Gaza remains fragile and highly dependent on sustained humanitarian access, adequate funding, and a coordinated multisectoral response. Acute malnutrition remains significantly above pre-war levels, with more than 3,000 children admitted for treatment each month, while chronic malnutrition, poor

infant and young child feeding practices, limited dietary diversity, and widespread diarrhoeal disease continue to increase nutrition risks among children and women. Nearly one in ten women of reproductive age and 13 per cent of screened school-age children were found to be acutely malnourished, indicating a broad deterioration in nutrition status beyond children under five. Further deterioration is likely unless access to food, health, nutrition, and WASH services is sustained and expanded. The experience following the breakdown of the ceasefire in March 2025 demonstrated that acute malnutrition rises rapidly if access to humanitarian response is hindered. Priority actions include maintaining treatment services for acute malnutrition, scaling up integrated nutrition-sensitive interventions, improving access to diverse food and basic services, and ensuring regular nutrition assessments to guide response planning and resource allocation.

The 2026 Gaza SMART Survey was conducted between 2 and 16 June 2026 across the accessible areas of all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, covering approximately 83 per cent of the population. A total of 1,335 children aged 0–59 months and 3,071 women of reproductive age, including 598 pregnant and breastfeeding women, participated in the survey. Findings indicate that the prevalence of acute malnutrition among children remained low (combined Global Acute Malnutrition: 1.3 per cent), while stunting affected 12.2 per cent of children.¹³ Although the low prevalence of acute malnutrition is encouraging, the findings should not be interpreted as an indication that the nutrition crisis has ended. Rather, the survey suggests that sustained humanitarian assistance has likely prevented a more severe deterioration in nutritional status, while persistent chronic malnutrition, poor diet quality, maternal malnutrition, and high levels of childhood illness demonstrate that nutritional vulnerability remains widespread.¹⁴

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

During the first half of 2026, the situation for children in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, deteriorated significantly. Escalating violence, increased settler attacks and harassment, demolitions, displacement, and disruptions to education, alongside growing economic hardship, movement restrictions, and damage to essential civilian infrastructure, have increasingly compromised children's safety, wellbeing, and access to basic services. Children were killed, injured and displaced, while thousands remained uprooted from refugee camps and more than 150,000 children faced barriers to safe and continuous education, reflecting a significantly widening child rights and protection crisis beyond immediate physical harm.

Between 7 October 2023 and 30 June 2026, 1,079 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. During the same period, 256 Palestinian children and four Israeli children (including one in Israel) were killed in conflict-related violence, and more than 2,100 Palestinian children were injured (43 per cent by live ammunition). During the first half of 2026, most conflict-related child fatalities were in the northern West Bank (35 per cent) and the central West Bank (35 per cent), and most live ammunition injuries to children were in Hebron (26 per cent), Nablus (19 per cent) and Ramallah (19 per cent) governorates. As of 30 June 2026, 987 attacks on healthcare have been reported in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since 7 October 2023.

In the northern West Bank, some 32,000 Palestinians, including 12,000 children, remain displaced from their homes in Jenin, Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps, which have remained under military closure since January 2025, and hundreds of residences in the three camps have been demolished. In addition, since 7 October 2023, more than 8,600 Palestinians have been displaced mainly in East Jerusalem and Area C in the West Bank due to home demolitions, including over 3,700 children. Another 2,300 Palestinians, including over 1,000 children, have been

displaced by settler violence and access restrictions in the first half of 2026 – surpassing by 38 per cent in just six months the displacement in all of 2025. In the same period, more than 1,120 settler violence incidents were recorded, approximately six incidents per day, with the number of Palestinians killed and injured in such incidents also sharply increasing.

Violence and economic hardship impacted more than 800,000 people in the West Bank who require healthcare and WASH support. The right to education for children in the West Bank continued to be undermined by attacks on schools, interference with access to education, and displacement. More than 150,000 children across the West Bank, including in refugee camps, face barriers to safe and continuous education due to school closures, movement restrictions, insecurity, and damage to infrastructure.¹⁵ Movement restrictions and the revocation of work permits after 7 October 2023 have driven a severe economic downturn, forcing caregivers to take higher risk work or rely on harmful coping mechanisms that directly affect children.

Children's access to health services was increasingly constrained by attacks on healthcare and additional heavy movement restrictions introduced after 28 February.¹⁶

Nutrition and household food security concerns in the West Bank were primarily linked to economic hardship, loss of livelihoods and movement restrictions. These pressures have reduced household coping capacity and made it increasingly difficult for families to meet their basic needs.¹⁷ The deepening Palestinian Authority fiscal crisis further constrained the delivery of essential public services, including health, education, social protection and WASH-related services. Delays in public-sector salary payments and resource shortages affected the functioning of service providers and increased risks to the continuity of health and education services, compounding the impact of violence, displacement and movement restrictions on children and families.

Access to healthcare has deteriorated, with more than one-third of essential medicines out of stock and over 11,000 surgeries postponed since the beginning of 2026.¹⁸ WASH risks increased as, since January, more than 100 demolition- or settler violence-related incidents have resulted in damage to or destruction of over 190 water and sanitation-related structures across the West Bank, increasing reliance on emergency water trucking in vulnerable communities.¹⁹

Markets and livelihoods were increasingly constrained by violence, access restrictions and movement obstacles, with 925 movement obstacles across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem – the highest number recorded in 20 years.²⁰

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health

Gaza Strip

Between January and June 2026, UNICEF delivered health supplies valued at approximately USD 4.05 million, including essential medicines, medical consumables, emergency health kits, and specialised medical equipment, through the Ministry of Health (MoH) and implementing partners across Gaza. These investments helped maintain essential health services, including Level II Special Newborn Care for inpatients, during which 11,019 small and sick newborns received life-saving care.

During the first half of 2026, UNICEF also strengthened neonatal intensive care services by facilitating the entry and deployment of

three High-Frequency Oscillatory (HFO) neonatal ventilators, three neonatal incubators, and nine conventional neonatal ventilators across six neonatal intensive care units (NICUs). These lifesaving devices are expected to support the care of approximately 800 critically ill and preterm newborns annually and to expand access to advanced respiratory support. In parallel, UNICEF expanded its support to 12 NICUs across the Gaza Strip. Capacity-building efforts included training 52 frontline healthcare workers in advanced neonatal intensive care, 277 in infection prevention and control (IPC), and 91 in the National Neonatal Care Protocol. In addition, 25 healthcare workers at Al Khair Hospital received training on Accountability to Affected People (AAP) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), further strengthening the quality, safety, and continuity of neonatal services across Gaza.

Since January 2026, UNICEF has supported the rehabilitation and reopening of 12 fixed immunisation sites, bringing the total to 41 functional sites, covering approximately 90 per cent of the Gaza Strip population and 10 per cent through 12 Mobile team outreach services. In addition, in collaboration with partners, UNICEF implemented two rounds of catch-up vaccination campaigns, reaching 21,500 children under 3 years of age. Of those vaccinated, 18 per cent were identified as defaulters and received missed vaccine doses. In total, between January and June 2026, 22,435 newborns received BCG and Hepatitis B vaccines, with administrative coverage exceeding 95 per cent of reported live births. During the same period, 34,074 children received Penta-3, with administrative coverage exceeding 95 per cent of the target population for 2026, while 17,800 children completed the primary immunisation schedule, including MMR-1 and MMR-2.

During the reporting period, shipments of Rotavirus and MMR vaccines were delivered to Gaza, and 20 medical vaccine refrigerators were procured to strengthen the cold chain. In addition, a new central cold chain storage facility for vaccines has been established.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF with partners supported the delivery of essential primary health care services via mobile clinics, prioritising underserved and access-restricted communities. A total of 4,360 individuals were reached, including 1,032 children (490 girls) and 2,318 women, among whom 18 children with disabilities and 78 adults with disabilities accessed inclusive health services.

In parallel, specialised rehabilitation services were provided to children with disabilities. A total of 248 children (109 girls) were identified, of whom 213 (91 girls) received comprehensive assessments. Additionally, 32 children (13 girls) benefited from rehabilitation sessions, 10 children (4 girls) received assistive devices, and 2 children were supported with prosthetics.

UNICEF also conducted a health needs assessment across five communities, corresponding to the five Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities targeted for renovation and refurbishment, to identify key gaps and priorities. Using a participatory approach that ensured representative community participation, around 340 individuals were engaged, including 185 children aged 8-18 (94 girls) and 70 women.

UNICEF, in partnership with MoH, enhanced the resilience and sustainability of health service delivery in the West Bank by solarising 19 PHC facilities. The initiative supports the broader goals of climate adaptation, energy efficiency, and uninterrupted access to essential health services. Solar systems are being installed in 19 PHC facilities across 10 governorates in the West Bank. These facilities serve over 25,000 children and their caregivers. To date, 3 facilities have been connected to the grid, and their solar systems are functional. An additional five facilities will be connected in Q3, with the rest in Q4. In parallel, UNICEF delivered and installed 20

generators in 20 additional PHC facilities in Tulkarem and Jenin to support cold chain operations and ensure a reliable backup power source during emergencies.

UNICEF also strengthened health system resilience and emergency preparedness in the West Bank through targeted capacity-building and supply support. This included training health personnel and partners on vaccine stock management, learning through play, and preparedness for earthquakes and outbreaks; supporting MoH with emergency medical consumables; delivering vaccine shipments expected to serve around 90,000 children; and strengthening the cold chain through solar direct drive refrigerators and freezers.

Nutrition

Gaza Strip

UNICEF with partners sustained life-saving nutrition services across the Gaza Strip through 214 nutrition sites, including 99 Mother-Baby Areas (MBAs), in the first half of 2026. A total of 223,114 children (110,784 girls and 112,330 boys) aged 6–59 months were screened for wasting, and 19,425 children (11,373 girls and 8,052 boys) were admitted for treatment of acute malnutrition, including 16,397 MAM and 3,028 SAM cases. In parallel, nutrition services for children over five years continued under the pilot programme, reaching 47,621 children (23,828 girls and 23,793 boys) for wasting screening and admitting 5,995 children (2,888 girls and 3,107 boys), including 5,063 MAM and 932 SAM cases. Preventive nutrition services also continued to expand, including the provision of Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF) to 39,338 children aged 6–11 months (19,804 girls and 19,534 boys), while one-to-one IYCF counselling reached 163,564 caregivers (154,853 women), supporting optimal infant and young child feeding practices through facility- and community-based platforms.

UNICEF continued to strengthen the nutrition programme through key system-building initiatives. The Gaza SMART Nutrition Survey was successfully completed, providing updated evidence to inform programme planning, prioritisation, and resource allocation. In June, the Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) protocol for children over five years of age was finalised following a successful pilot, and 22 partner organisations, with a total of 57 participants, were trained to support its roll-out and scale-up. In addition, UNICEF delivered and began distributing anthropometric equipment including height boards and weighing scales to strengthen growth monitoring services across nutrition facilities.

Overall programme performance remained strong during the reporting period, supported by the sustained availability of nutrition commodities, the continued functioning of nutrition service delivery platforms, and the commitment of implementing partners. High screening coverage and preventive nutrition services contributed to the early identification and management of acute malnutrition, while continued investments in system strengthening enhanced programme quality and strengthened the foundation for further scale-up.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF supported nutrition programming in the West Bank by strengthening prevention, service quality and maternal and child nutrition. This included supporting the MoH vitamin A campaign for children aged 12–59 months through public information materials and refresher training for 65 healthcare providers, training 24 mobile clinic staff on appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding practices, and delivering multiple micronutrient supplements for more than 4,000 pregnant women as well as iron and folic acid supplements for 5,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Maintenance of the wastewater trunk line in the south of Gaza City.

Gaza Strip

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF provided safe water to 1 million people, including 470,000 children, in Gaza's governorates, mainly through water trucking, desalination plants, well repairs, and pipeline maintenance, meeting humanitarian needs of 15 litres/person/day. A total of 36 private desalination plants supported by UNICEF supplied around 8,630 m³/day of potable water for trucking. In addition, 5.3 M litres of fuel were supplied through the UN coordination mechanism to operate water production, trucking, and sewage pumps. Furthermore, rehabilitation and maintenance of 2 large and 3 small water wells to enhance water production capacity and ensure a more reliable supply across targeted areas are ongoing.

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. In addition, UNICEF procured and delivered three pre-used generators to CMWU to support the operation of three critical water wells in Gaza City and North Gaza, contributing to the continuity of essential water supply services.

UNICEF is working with three specialised firms to assess the urgent needs of critical WASH facilities. Furthermore, UNICEF repaired the main power line (F11) supplying the South Gaza Desalination Plant (SGDP) within two days of the damage, restoring approximately 80 per cent of the plant's production capacity and enabling the resumption of safe water services for hundreds of thousands of people across the Gaza Strip.

In parallel, UNICEF has initiated several critical interventions to strengthen WASH service delivery. These include restoring the Sheikh Ejleen Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to improve environmental and public health conditions; deploying machinery and equipment to support emergency maintenance of wastewater networks; carrying out maintenance at the Al Hawaber Sewage Pumping Station; repairing the transmission pipeline from the wastewater treatment plant to Wadi Gaza; and rehabilitating the pressure pipelines conveying wastewater to the treatment plant.

In the first half of 2026, sanitation services reached 516,059 people, including wastewater repairs, mobile latrines, and waste disposal. At the community level, a total of 2,339 family latrines were installed, including 1,497 for the elderly and disabled, benefiting 21,850 people. A total of 750 SATO household latrines were installed through a community engagement approach and Cash-for-Work (CfW) activities to improve sanitation conditions for the most

vulnerable families living in makeshift displacement sites. Solid waste collection continued in 17 municipalities in the south, with 1,300 workers and 23 facilitators, serving around 1 million people. The average daily collection is 1,000 m³ of solid waste.

Moreover, UNICEF distributed 52,500 dignity kits, 285,000 jerrycans, 182,500 hygiene kits, 4 million soap bars, 402,000 water containers, 3,400 hand-washing stations, 1,000 anti-lice kits, 2,026 movable toilet chairs for PWDs, and 16,000 packs of adult diapers, reaching more than 690,000 vulnerable people (40 per cent children, 30 per cent women; 7 per cent with disabilities). The critical supplies promote hygiene behaviours and contribute to the prevention of disease outbreaks.

WASH facilities have been installed in 85 Learning Centres (LCs), benefiting around 65,857 students. The scope of work includes the installation of 419 latrines – including those suitable for persons with disabilities – as well as 200 water storage tanks for drinking water points and domestic use, handwashing stations, and connections to water sources and sewage systems. Furthermore, WASH services have been provided in 14 health and nutrition facilities. This includes the installation of mobile toilets, toilets and handwashing points accessible for people with disabilities, sewage and water supply connections, cesspits, and water storage tanks.

Hygiene promotion activities to enhance behaviours and prevent disease outbreaks, especially in the summer season, including awareness sessions, a hygiene promotion campaign, and interactive activities with children and adolescents, were delivered through WASH partners, reaching more than 292,924 people (85,842 girls, 54,283 boys, 88,958 women, 63,841 men). Various Information, Education, and Communication materials (flyers, posters, and flipcharts) were developed and distributed to raise hygiene awareness among IDPs, alongside the distribution of hygiene items. Awareness messages covered safe disposal of solid waste, rodent, insect, and bug mitigation measures, water- and skin-related diseases such as AWD, scabies, and chickenpox, and the water safety chain. A Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) campaign was conducted in May, targeting 2,000 women, 1,500 adolescent girls, and 500 men, to promote healthy hygiene practices during menstruation by distributing WASH and dignity kits, along with awareness and interactive activities and sessions. Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and protection principles were incorporated throughout the humanitarian project phases, including the participation of women and children. 2,300 AAP posters were printed and distributed to promote the UNICEF hotline and feedback channels. 500 feedback items and requests for WASH interventions were received, treated, and closed as needed.

Winter-related WASH support complemented these efforts during the early months of 2026, including canal, drain and sewage clearance, repair of Sheikh Radwan pond, fuel for dewatering and support to critical WASH services in relocation sites. These activities helped mitigate flood-related public health risks for displaced children and families, although preventive WASH action at scale remained constrained by restrictions on the entry of essential water and sanitation supplies.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In the West Bank, UNICEF's WASH response was implemented against a backdrop of escalating displacement, demolitions, settler violence, and military operations that increasingly affected critical water and sanitation infrastructure and disrupted access to essential services. In response, UNICEF and its partners combined immediate life-saving assistance with the restoration and strengthening of WASH infrastructure, with a growing focus on sustaining access to services and reducing reliance on emergency measures.

During the first half of 2026, UNICEF and partners provided 2,535 m³

of water through emergency water trucking to displaced families and other highly vulnerable populations across Tubas and Ramallah, reaching approximately 1,000 people, including 430 children. At the same time, the provision of water pipes, tanks, and pre-positioned infrastructure materials in communities affected by military operations in Jenin, Tubas, and Ramallah strengthened preparedness and improved access to safe water for more than 21,300 people, including 9,000 children. In Khirbet Abu Falah, north of Ramallah, UNICEF installed 10 family- and disability-sensitive latrines, benefiting 66 people, including 28 children, affected by demolition incidents.

UNICEF also continued to prioritize the restoration of damaged WASH infrastructure and the continuity of essential services. In collaboration with Jenin Municipality, UNICEF completed the rehabilitation of the wastewater network in the eastern neighbourhood of Jenin following its destruction during military incursions. The works have been completed on the ground and are awaiting final site handover and are expected to restore improved wastewater services for approximately 15,000 people, including 7,050 children affected by displacement and military operations.

UNICEF also supported measures to protect public health and strengthen community-level WASH services. In Tulkarem and Tubas, 470 solid waste containers were distributed across communities and refugee camps, benefiting more than 5,000 people, including 2,488 children and 340 people with disabilities. In parallel, 1,000 hygiene kits were distributed to approximately 4,100 recently displaced people, including 1,760 children in Tulkarem and Jenin, addressing immediate hygiene needs and helping mitigate public health risks.

Overall, the response combined emergency water and hygiene assistance with investments in infrastructure rehabilitation, service continuity, and preparedness. This approach enabled UNICEF to respond to immediate WASH needs while restoring damaged systems, strengthening the resilience of local services, and progressively reducing vulnerable communities' dependence on emergency water and sanitation assistance.

Child Protection

Gaza Strip

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF and its partners continued to expand their work to identify, protect and find solutions for war-affected and forcibly displaced children and caregivers across the Gaza Strip. Despite the ceasefire, UNICEF and its partners continued to document and respond to incidents of killing and maiming of children. These incidents have increased over the past three months due to attacks in proximity to the so-called 'yellow line' and an increase in strikes with explosive weapons in populated areas, including on residences and in crowded sites hosting displaced persons.

UNICEF provided 3,680 at-risk children (43 per cent girls) with individual case management, promoting access to critical, lifesaving social services and assistance. This includes hundreds of children at serious risk of harm or death, including those who lost one or both parents, and 1,071 children (38 per cent girls) with disabilities and/or life-threatening injuries and medical conditions. To promote children's right to safety and family unity, 146 children (44 per cent girls) benefited from family reunification services, and 843 children without parental care (55 per cent 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, including mobile family and community-based support to help children manage stress and anxiety, build social connections, and promote positive coping skills. With children returning to learning,

UNICEF scaled up evidence-based small group Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities in learning centres to promote healing and learning outcomes. UNICEF supported 68,170 children (52 per cent girls) and 17,439 caregivers (82 per cent women) with community-based activities to promote children's mental health and psychosocial well-being. Of the children reached, 4,710 children (51 per cent girls) received focused individual and/or group mental health support from trained specialists and non-specialists.

UNICEF and its partners engaged communities reaching 33,803 children (56 per cent girls) and 14,673 caregivers (78 per cent women) with face-to-face MHPSS messages and awareness activities on child protection risks, and 58,315 children (68 per cent girls) and 434,065 caregivers (63 per cent women) were reached with mass media messaging on these topics. An additional 26,056 children (53 per cent girls) and 12,516 caregivers (76 per cent women) were reached with explosive ordnance risk education and 204,070 (48 per cent girls) and 592,235 (52 per cent women) were reached with mass media messaging aimed at reducing the risk of child injury and death from the high levels of weapons contamination found across the Gaza Strip.

As part of its commitment to improving the capacities of frontline workers, UNICEF trained 3,124 humanitarian staff and community volunteers (73 per cent women) to identify and refer children at risk, promote specialised care for children with disabilities, and promote evidence-based MHPSS approaches in learning centres and communities.

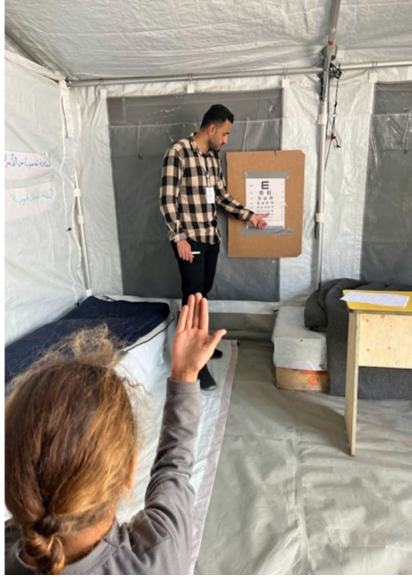
West Bank, including East Jerusalem

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF and its partners continued to deliver critical Child Protection and MHPSS services across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in response to escalating and accelerating protection risks for children and their caregivers. A total of 22,508 children (11,125 girls) and 15,237 caregivers (8,929 women) received child protection services, while 9,429 children (4,518 girls) and 12,932 caregivers (7,011 women), including 65 children and 56 adults with disabilities, benefited from MHPSS interventions.

Specialised child protection case management services were provided to 61 children (29 girls). In addition, 6,241 children (3,112 girls) and 579 caregivers (386 women) participated in child protection awareness sessions covering digital safety, legal rights, and psychosocial well-being. 1,692 children (841 girls) and 215 caregivers (118 women) were reached through Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities.

Furthermore, 447 psychosocial counsellors completed the Training of Trainers (ToT) on Tamenni Annak,²¹ strengthening local capacity to deliver high-quality psychosocial support services. Structured summer activities began at the end of June, providing safe, supportive spaces for children to build resilience, enhance well-being, develop positive coping skills, and foster social connectedness.

Education



Student health screening for visual impairments in a UNICEF-supported Learning Centre in northern Gaza.

Gaza Strip

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF reached 265,946 children (126,453 boys; 139,493 girls) through 173 Learning Centres across the Gaza Strip, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The UNICEF-supported Learning Centres (LCs) enabled children to access both learning and healing activities, with a focus on reducing learning loss and improving psychosocial wellbeing and resilience (in partnership with Child Protection implementing partners). This represented one of UNICEF's largest programme interventions in Gaza during the reporting period, providing children with a protective routine, structured learning opportunities and access to complementary services amid continued displacement and insecurity. To deliver this at scale, UNICEF supports 6,306 frontline workers in the education system, enabling children's continuous access to LCs across Gaza. Through WFP, children receive high-energy biscuits to support their learning, and WASH partners provide drinking water, hygiene kits, and gender-segregated latrines.

The screening of 28,911 children in Learning Centres helped identify children with visual, hearing, physical or other impairments, enabling referrals to specialised services and informing more inclusive learning support.

UNICEF's support to frontline education workers, learning materials, WASH services and child protection referrals helped ensure that Learning Centres functioned as integrated platforms for learning, wellbeing and protection.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

During the first half of 2026, UNICEF supported children's safe access to continued learning while prioritising their well-being, through implementing partners and the partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. 52,194 children (21,105 girls and 31,089 boys) benefited from learning support activities, including remedial and catch-up education. 25,396 children (13,718 girls and 11,678 boys) benefited from gender-responsive education-related recreational activities. Moreover, 48,956 children (20,088 girls and 28,868 boys) received individual learning materials.

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)

UNICEF's Rapid Response Mechanism in the West Bank, established in 2025, delivers first-line assistance within 48–72 hours of displacement alerts. The initial package of essential emergency assistance is deployed within 24–48 hours, ensuring timely, lifesaving support for families at the peak of vulnerability immediately

after their displacement.

The package for each household consists of a hygiene kit, dignity (female care) kit, baby kit and recreational/learning kit,²² followed within 96 hours by cash assistance in the form of an unrestricted child grant. In the first six months of 2026, the West Bank RRM was activated 11 times to respond to new displacement in seven of the 11 governorates of the West Bank (Jericho, Ramallah, Tubas, Qalqiliya, Bethlehem, Hebron and East Jerusalem governorates). The mechanism reached 309 affected households, comprising 1,620 individuals, including 844 children, through responses in Ras Ein Al-Auja, Istieh / Al-Dyouk Al-Tahta, Rumman, Khirbet Abu Falah, Burj Al-Malih–Hammam Al-Maleh, Wad Qana, Khirbet Yarza, Kisan, Jiljiliyya, Ein Fer'a and Qalandya. Compared with 2025, when the RRM was activated seven times over six months, reaching 145 households (729 individuals, including 349 children), the first six months of 2026 saw both a higher number of activations and more than double the number of households reached, reflecting the significant escalation and acceleration of frequency and intensity of displacement and related needs across the West Bank.

Social Protection

Despite operational complexities and contextual fluidity, in the first half of 2026, UNICEF reached 419,000 individuals across 71,800 families, including 220,000 children and more than 7,550 adults and children with disabilities, through a diversified package of digital cash interventions. Effective coordination is essential to ensure assistance reaches those most in need, minimise duplication of aid, and make the best use of limited resources. In Gaza, where many organisations are delivering cash-based assistance, partners have worked collectively to strengthen deduplication protocols by building an innovative, secure, and effective solution leveraging Hotpot, a collaboratively governed platform for assistance deduplication. Hotpot was selected following a multi-agency process led by the Cash Working Group (CWG).

Gaza Strip

In the Gaza Strip during the first half of 2026, UNICEF delivered digital humanitarian cash assistance to 381,000 individuals, including 200,000 children, from more than 65,200 families, through Humanitarian Cash Transfers and sectoral cash top-ups. UNICEF continued to prioritise the most vulnerable children, including those with acute malnutrition, injuries, disabilities, severe medical complications, and high protection risks, as well as those without parental care.

Through referrals from UNICEF nutrition partners providing screening and treatment services, UNICEF assisted 5,215 children with confirmed Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 8,620 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). A total of 16,100 pregnant and breastfeeding women, including those with MUAC <23, received digital cash assistance from UNICEF, of whom 8,440 also received targeted nutrition top-up assistance to support essential dietary needs. In response to acute health conditions, UNICEF provided digital cash assistance to 1,290 families of children hospitalised with severe medical conditions.

A total of 83,500 highly vulnerable individuals from 14,000 families, including unaccompanied children with injuries and other high-risk protection cases, received digital child grants, Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), and Child Protection top-ups through referrals from Child Protection partners. In addition, 8,700 children with disabilities received disability top-ups to offset health, transport, and caregiving costs.

Across these interventions, UNICEF's digital cash assistance enabled vulnerable families to meet urgent basic needs, reduce exposure to harmful coping strategies, and strengthen resilience

amid the ongoing crisis, particularly for children affected by malnutrition, women, and people with disabilities.

To inform cash assistance programming, UNICEF conducted regular market monitoring and post-distribution monitoring. Gaza markets improved after the January–February post-ceasefire period, deteriorated sharply during the March access restrictions, and began recovering once inflows resumed in mid-April. By late June, food prices had returned close to February levels for most items, although non-food and utility items, shelter materials, cooking gas and sheep meat remained constrained. Monitoring confirmed that limited household income, rather than market availability alone, remained the main barrier to access to essential goods for many families with children, while recipients continued to express a preference for cash-based assistance and strong satisfaction with UNICEF support.

Frontline Volunteers for Essential Service Provision – Gaza Strip

During the first half of 2026, more than 13,900 frontline volunteers received digitally channelled incentive payments across key sectors: 7,030 in Education, providing temporary learning services for 265,000 children; 4,360 in WASH services, including 4,200 in solid waste management, supporting 1.1 million people in the South and Middle areas of the Gaza Strip; 1,850 in Health, providing primary health care services for hundreds of thousands of children and their families; 6 in Nutrition; 425 in Social Behaviour Change; 23 supporting e-wallet promotion campaigns; and 232 in PSEA. This strategy enables the sustained provision of basic social services for hundreds of thousands of vulnerable children and their families across the Gaza Strip, despite the destructive impact of the conflict.

West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Between January and June 2026, UNICEF continued to respond to escalating displacement and protection risks across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) reached 19,500 individuals, including 11,300 children, across 3,500 families displaced or acutely affected by conflict and movement restrictions. Through UNICEF's Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), an additional 275 individuals, including 140 children from 47 families, received urgent support immediately after displacement or acute shocks. In addition, more than 3,400 people from 579 families benefited from WASH E-Vouchers to meet essential water, sanitation and hygiene needs.

Cross-sectoral (AAP, SBC, and PSEA)

Accountability to Affected People (AAP)

In the first six months of 2026, UNICEF continued to strengthen accountability to affected populations in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem by providing accessible information, promoting community participation, and maintaining a safe and confidential Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). As part of its capacity-building and localisation efforts, UNICEF conducted a session for West Bank implementing partners focused on accountability principles and on establishing trusted, effective feedback mechanisms. At the same time, UNICEF continues to operate its own CFM, where communities have safely shared concerns, requests, and feedback, and have reported misconduct. Since the beginning of 2026, 47,627 people have engaged with UNICEF's CFM. The majority of calls were requests for cash assistance, and the most frequently raised requests for in-kind assistance are tents, tarpaulins, and blankets for winterisation, followed by cleaning supplies amid the rodent infestation crisis. These requests were subsequently fed into programming to adjust information provision efforts. Women accounted for 35 per cent of callers, and 13 per cent were persons with disabilities, reflecting engagement from both groups. The highest call volume was recorded in the Khan Younis

and Gaza governorates.

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

In the first half of 2026, Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) efforts to support Routine Immunisation Catch-up Campaigns formed a strategic, multi-channel Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) response to increase caregiver awareness, build trust, and drive demand for immunisation services across Gaza – with the end goal of linking children missing vaccines to the service. In January, 261 social mobilisers were deployed to support the second round of the routine immunisation campaign, followed by the deployment of 186 social mobilisers for the third round in April. Through tent-to-tent visits, community dialogues, and engagement with religious and community leaders, mobilisers identified 9,293 defaulter children and approximately 138 zero-dose children, all referred for vaccination. Routine immunisation efforts continued beyond the campaign, reaching a total of 791,126 caregivers, including 454,650 females, in the first half of 2026. Additionally, immunisation activities were coupled with malnutrition screening (MUAC), reaching 33,435 children, including 370 children with disability. Hygiene promotion activities reached 1,605,209 people, including 617,215 women and 336,233 girls, in the same period. Hygiene promotion efforts focused on rodent and pest control at the community level.

Moreover, winterisation activities were completed in March 2026, reaching 176,000 caregivers of infants with lifesaving information on hypothermia prevention and skin-to-skin contact. This included facility- and community-based outreach for caregivers of newborns and young children, with frontline workers recording 1,633 hypothermia-prevention interactions focused on practical measures such as safe layering, dry sleeping arrangements, skin-to-skin contact and early recognition of danger signs linked to cold exposure. SBC also continued to leverage social listening and evidence-based insights to guide interventions, including a rapid assessment on barriers to education access among vulnerable out-of-school children and participatory work with adolescent girls to develop culturally appropriate menstrual hygiene messages and peer engagement materials.

In the West Bank, RCCE system strengthening was supported through regular coordination with the Ministry of Health and partners, enabling alignment of approaches, consistent messaging, and more effective, coordinated community engagement.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

In the first half of 2026, UNICEF scaled up PSEA interventions across Gaza and the West Bank while continuing to lead the Inter-Agency PSEA Network. Efforts focused on strengthening safe reporting mechanisms, expanding community engagement, reinforcing survivor-centred responses, and mainstreaming PSEA across humanitarian programming.

Access to safe and confidential PSEA reporting channels was strengthened, providing 915,410 people (77,010 girls, 103,512 boys, 236,952 men, 497,935 women) with confidential reporting mechanisms during the reporting period. Community feedback mechanisms and referral pathways remained operational, enabling 45,168 people (3,567 girls, 2,928 boys, 15,373 men, and 23,300 women) to access response services, including case management, MHPSS, medical and legal assistance, and referrals to basic services. Gaza accounted for 38,825 referrals, with 6,343 in the West Bank, reflecting sustained humanitarian needs and demand for protection services. The joint SAWA PSEA helpline remained fully operational 24/7, providing confidential reporting and referral services through trained call operators, case managers and psychosocial workers.

Community awareness and mobilisation activities reached 307,870 people (76,753 girls, 49,844 boys, 76,967 men and 104,306 women) through direct outreach across Gaza and the West Bank. An additional 396,098 people were reached through SANAD digital campaigns, of whom approximately 70 per cent were women and girls. In Gaza, 200 safeguarding volunteers supported community engagement, monitored humanitarian distributions alongside the Protection Cluster, and referred protection concerns via established pathways. In addition, UNICEF distributed 2,320 PSEA awareness posters to implementing partners in the West Bank to strengthen awareness of safeguarding principles, available reporting mechanisms and access to support services.

To strengthen the survivor-centred response, UNICEF worked with UNFPA and the GBV AoR to integrate PSEA into the national Case Management Guidance Note and Standard Operating Procedures, promoting harmonised referral pathways and improved access to quality services for SEA survivors. UNICEF also strengthened PSEA capacity by training 505 humanitarian personnel, including 86 UNICEF staff, in PSEA prevention, survivor-centred response, safe reporting and accountability.

Supply and Logistics

In the first six months of 2026, UNICEF maintained the delivery of critical humanitarian supplies into Gaza despite a highly constrained operating environment. UNICEF facilitated the entry of more than 1,600 truckloads, carrying approximately 36,000 pallets of humanitarian cargo, supporting interventions across WASH, nutrition, health, education, child protection and social services. Supplies were delivered through 56 implementing partners, including 34 national organisations and 22 international NGOs, reflecting strengthened coordination and operational capacity. For the first time since the escalation, educational and recreational supplies were approved for entry into Gaza, enabling the delivery of School-in-a-Box kits, recreational kits and Early Childhood Development materials. UNICEF also ensured the continued availability of essential WASH commodities, including hygiene and dignity kits; supported nutrition programmes by delivering Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food, Ready-to-Use Complementary Food and lipid-based nutrient supplements; and reinforced health services with medicines, vaccines, medical consumables and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machines. Significant progress was made in strengthening the humanitarian supply chain through improved coordination, planning, end-to-end pipeline visibility and operational efficiency. Corridor performance improved through enhanced clearance processes and routing, particularly through Jordan. The reporting period also saw the completion of major winterisation supply operations launched in late 2025, including the delivery of winter clothing, high-thermal blankets, tarpaulins, family tents and related shelter/NFI items for vulnerable children and families. Reported winterisation achievements for the entire 2025/26 winter season included 341,709 children's winter clothing distributions, 979,231 high-thermal blankets, 506,541 plastic tarpaulins and 16,098 family tents delivered. However, operations faced major constraints, including the return of approximately 33 per cent of trucks without offloading, limited storage and warehouse access in Gaza, shortages of lubricants affecting logistics operations in Gaza, heightened risks of contraband smuggling within humanitarian cargo, and the high cost of in-country logistics activities. Despite these challenges, coordinated efforts enabled the sustained flow of humanitarian assistance into Gaza.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY



Children in a Temporary Learning Space (TLS) in the Gaza Strip display learning materials provided by UNICEF.

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**, for which UNICEF is the Lead Agency, is a partnership of more than 128 humanitarian organizations. During the first half of 2026, UNICEF supported the WASH Cluster in coordinating a system-wide response across humanitarian partners, facilitating strategic coordination, harmonized service delivery, prioritization of limited resources, and collective action to sustain essential WASH services under highly constrained operational conditions. Most households (74 per cent) remained heavily dependent on trucked water, while damaged networks, wastewater systems, and overloaded solid waste sites increased public health risks.

More than 125 WASH partners sustained large-scale emergency operations, delivering approximately 18,000–24,000 m³ of drinking water daily through more than 2,000 collection points, expanding desalination and groundwater production, repairing key Mekorot pipelines, sewage networks and water facilities, and distributing significant quantities of hygiene kits (298,341), water containers (278,628), latrines (over 20,000 latrines of which 52 per cent for PWSN) and water tanks (525). Partners also implemented a Gaza-wide pest control campaign, supported solid waste removal from critical dump sites such as Feras Market, worked on a south dumping sites decongestion plan, and promoted water quality through chlorination training and monitoring.

Key challenges included chronic shortages of fuel, engine oil, spare parts, pipes, chemicals and water storage infrastructure, which repeatedly threatened the continuity of water production, trucking, desalination and sewage pumping operations. Solid waste management remained under severe pressure due to limited disposal capacity and growing pest infestations.

In the West Bank, the WASH Cluster coordinated 640 interventions implemented by 17 partners across 189 communities in response to displacement, settler violence, demolitions, water shortages, and other disruptions to WASH services. It also strengthened emergency

coordination by developing coordinated Emergency WASH Standard Operating Procedures. Partners delivered over 30,000 m³ of life-saving emergency trucked water, supported the installation, rehabilitation or repositioning of over 32 km of water networks, distributed 1,230 water storage tanks, installed 650 household and communal latrines, carried out 8,000 m³ of desludging at IDP sites, rehabilitated 1 km of sewerage and stormwater networks, distributed 11,600 hygiene and cleaning kits, conducted 168 hygiene promotion sessions, collected 1,350 tons of solid waste, and provided 2,686 solid waste containers, among many other interventions.

UNICEF leads the **Nutrition Cluster**, coordinating 37 partners in the Gaza Strip, 11 of which also operate in the West Bank, to deliver life-saving nutrition services to prevent and treat acute malnutrition. In the first half of 2026, nearly 90,000 children below five years screened each month translated to the screening of every child twice in the last 6 months. More than 19,000 children identified with acute malnutrition including 15 per cent with severe acute malnutrition and enrolled in treatment sites. Around 50 per cent of pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened for acute malnutrition each month, of whom 44,000 were referred for targeted supplementary feeding programme. In the first half of 2026, close to half a million pregnant and breastfeeding women were reached with life-saving nutrition services, noting that one woman may have received more than one service. This included 162,888 women reached with counselling on appropriate infant feeding and caring practices, of whom 25,537 received Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF) to support complementary feeding. In addition, around 186,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women were screened for acute malnutrition, of whom 48,000 were enrolled in treatment, while a further 218,000 were enrolled in blanket supplementary feeding to prevent malnutrition. More than 35,000 pregnant women received supplementation to prevent micronutrient deficiencies and/or anaemia, including iron, folate and multiple micronutrient supplements.

On average, at least 20,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five have been targeted by UNICEF and WFP for cash-plus interventions to prevent acute malnutrition.

The **Education Cluster**, co-led by UNICEF and Save the Children, coordinates with 81 active partners. In the first six months of 2026, it continued to support education for conflict-affected children across the State of Palestine. In the Gaza Strip, despite severe operational constraints, 432,701 pre-primary and school-aged children (53 per cent girls), including approximately 9,400 children with disabilities, accessed structured learning through 613 operational Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS). Around 344,000 children received essential learning and teaching materials, while 7,151 teachers and education personnel benefited from incentives and capacity-building on Education in Emergencies (EiE), disability-inclusive programming, quality learning, and safe learning environments. The Cluster also supported the successful administration of the 2026 General Secondary Education Examination (Tawjihi), enabling approximately 98 per cent of registered students to participate. In addition, the Cluster completed a comprehensive physical assessment of public-school infrastructure to guide the scale-up of the humanitarian response and inform recovery and reconstruction planning, while assessments of UNRWA, private schools, and kindergartens remain ongoing. However, the response continued to face major challenges, including persistent insecurity, with 26 education-related incidents recorded in 2026 alone, severe funding shortfalls with less than 10 per cent of the 2026 Flash Appeal funded, limited availability of safe learning spaces, intermittent entry of education supplies, and the continued use of repairable and operational school buildings as collective shelters, all of which constrained both access to and the quality of education services.

In the first half of 2026, Education Cluster partners in the West Bank,

including East Jerusalem, supported more than 60,000 children through catch-up and remedial learning programmes and completed emergency rehabilitation works in 30 schools. Partners also supported the successful administration of the 2026 Tawjihi examinations, including by providing transportation for candidates facing long travel distances, movement restrictions, and other access constraints. However, military operations, displacement, movement restrictions, settler violence, and the Palestinian Authority's fiscal crisis continued to disrupt education and undermine teacher availability.²³

UNICEF leads the **Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR)**, with achievements available on a [response dashboard](#). The CP AoR coordinates with more than 96 member organisations, including 47 partners operating in the Gaza Strip, 18 in the West Bank and 31 partners operating in Palestine. Between January and June 2026, Child Protection AoR reached 988,035 people with core child protection services across the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. This included 352,251 children (52 per cent girls) and 635,784 caregivers and adults (58 per cent women). A total of 25,835 children with disabilities were reached through multisectoral services and rehabilitation. Direct services included MHPSS for 331,071 children, MHPSS and parenting support for 113,382 caregivers, and 438,619 NFI/clothing-kit activity contacts. Case management and specialised support included 10,620 cases, 15,764 referrals, 12,293 cash assistance interventions and 2,372 rehabilitation or assistive device services. Prevention efforts reached 1,001,375 people with explosive ordnance risk education and 248,253 with child protection awareness. These activities were supported by 246 safe spaces, 155 community-based child protection structures, 175 mobile teams, 2,055 psychosocial support kits and 16,272 staff trained. Further details are available in the [CP AoR Mid-Year Achievements dashboard](#).

The Child Protection AoR strengthened the evidence-based, coordinated response through inter-agency assessments, analysis, guidance and [capacity-building](#). Key achievements included the [Gaza Strip and the West Bank Child Protection Needs Assessments](#), [child safety mapping exercises](#), a [child protection capacity needs assessment](#), CPIMS+ analysis, and the endorsement of the Data Protection and Information Sharing Protocol by child protection partners.²⁴

Challenges include [insufficient funding for Child Protection partners](#) and constraints on access, security, fuel, and supplies, which threaten the continuity of safe spaces, outreach, and case management.²⁵

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) within the Mine Action (MA) AoR.

UNICEF continues to participate actively 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, 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 with 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 and Needs Assessment (RDNA). The release of the final Gaza RDNA in April 2026 by the UN, EU and World Bank estimated recovery and reconstruction needs at US\$71.4 billion, reinforcing the critical importance of sustained humanitarian assistance alongside phased early recovery for children and families.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA



Displaced people carry UNICEF-provided supplies along a dusty road after shelters were demolished in Ad Dyok Al Tahta, Jericho, West Bank, in February 2026.

Violence against children in the West Bank mounts

UNICEF is rushing emergency supplies to Palestinian children driven forcefully from their homes.

For years, children in the West Bank have been subjected to various forms of violence and deprivation – routinely cut off from their schools, hospitals and other services. Now, as the world shifts its gaze to regional conflict, settler violence in the West Bank is escalating by the day.

UNICEF has received regular reports of assaults on Palestinian children, leading to a surge in displacement and humanitarian needs.

When 13 Bedouin households were forcibly displaced from their Ad Dyok Al Tahta village in the Jericho neighborhood on 10 February, attacks didn't spare children.

Adults and children were reportedly threatened and beaten as their residential shelters were demolished. The area was then sealed off, leaving 47 children and their families stranded outdoors, without adequate shelter, for two consecutive nights.

Upon receiving an alert, UNICEF rushed jerrycans for water storage, hygiene kits for women and adolescent girls, and packages of infant care supplies for mothers. Teams also brought recreational kits to support children's psychosocial health and help them cope with the distress of being torn from home.

This is all part of UNICEF's Rapid Response Mechanism, which provides immediate care to displaced communities in the West Bank. Child protection teams are deployed within 24 to 48 hours of notification. In addition to supplies for learning, clean water, safe sanitation and breastfeeding, UNICEF also delivers humanitarian cash assistance, helping Palestinian families deprived of their livelihoods provide for their children.

Since July 2025, UNICEF has responded to the needs of over 1,600 displaced families across the West Bank, including more than 800 children.

Because children are likely to have endured extreme distress while driven, often violently, from their homes, UNICEF also provides mental health and psychosocial support.

These families deserve to be protected, their rights respected. They need to be rehoused and provided support to relocate their children to community schools. They ask for safe access to drinking water, for themselves and their livestock.

Funding for this response is critical amid swiftly rising needs. We thank our donors and partners who continue to enable our work for children in the West Bank through flexible humanitarian funding, and welcome additional support to sustain and scale up these efforts.

Read the full story: <https://www.unicef.org/sop/stories/violence-against-children-west-bank-mounts>

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, and their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect children, particularly from grave violations.
- Displaced people must be allowed to move freely and voluntarily return to their homes as soon as possible.
- 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 needs of the population on the ground.
 - The supplies previously denied or subject to 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 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:

- [Deadly violence continues to claim children's lives in Gaza and the West Bank](#)
- [A demolition of homes, of schools, and of childhood, Palais Briefing by James Elder](#)
- [Statement on the killing of two water truck drivers in the Gaza Strip](#)
- [Statement by UNICEF Regional Director on the killing of Palestinian children in the West Bank](#)
- [Winter brings new threats for Gaza's children](#)
- [Gaza's Children Need Urgent International Support to Get Them Back to Learning](#)
- [The Struggle for Clean Water Continues in the Decimated Gaza Strip](#)
- [A Roadmap to Recovery, Written by Children](#)
- [UNICEF restores water access for tens of thousands of children in Gaza](#)
- [Babies evacuated out of Gaza delivered safely into parents' hands, two years later](#)
- [Special Delivery: Ventilators and Incubators to Protect Gaza's Newborns](#)
- [A destroyed home, ongoing airstrikes, fear of shrapnel - despite these realities 12-year-old ...](#)
- [UNICEF-supported temporary learning spaces are helping children return to learning, and reclaim ...](#)
- [UNICEF Palestine's Special Rep Jonathan Veitch explains how 110 temporary learning spaces ...](#)
- [In the West Bank, UNICEF supports two mobile clinics reaching more than 10 communities ...](#)
- [When children in Gaza draw the same things about their future, it is not coincidence. ...](#)
- [Children are paying an intolerable price for escalating militarised operations and settler ...](#)
- [Yesterday, UNICEF organized a virtual visit for EU Commission to highlight the reality facing ...](#)
- [On International Day of Play, children in Gaza remind us why play matters. "When I play football ...](#)
- [Today, 25 children from the UNICEF-supported #GazaWeWant Committee met with Palestine PM, ...](#)

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: 2026 Q3 SITUATION REPORT (COVERING 1 JULY–30 SEPTEMBER), EXPECTED IN EARLY NOVEMBER

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health (including public health emergencies)								
Children and women accessing primary health care service in UNICEF supported facilities	Total	-	600,000	490,907	▲ 82%	-	-	-
Children 0-11 months receiving pentavalent 3 vaccine	Total	-	51,000	29,323	▲ 57%	-	-	-
Small and sick newborns with access to inpatient Level 2 special newborn care	Total	-	11,000	11,019	▲ 100%	-	-	-
Nutrition								
Children 6-59 months screened for wasting	Total	-	405,664	223,114 ²⁶	▲ 55%	749,970	571,029 ²⁷	▲ 76%
	Girls	-	-	110,784	-	-	283,707	-
	Boys	-	-	112,330	-	-	287,322	-
Children 6-59 with SAM admitted for treatment	Total	-	32,672	3,028	▲ 9%	33,170	3,028 ²⁸	▲ 9%
	Girls	-	-	1,760	-	-	1,760	-
	Boys	-	-	1,268	-	-	1,268	-
Children 6-59 months with MAM admitted for treatment	Total	-	73,393	16,397	▲ 22%	73,994	16,402 ^{29,30}	▲ 22%
	Girls	-	-	9,613	-	-	9,674	-
	Boys	-	-	6,784	-	-	6,728	-
Children 6-11 months receiving Ready-to-Use Complementary Food (RUCF)	Total	-	25,348	39,338	▲ 155%	42,246	40,670 ³¹	▲ 96%
	Girls	-	-	19,804	-	-	20,499	-
	Boys	-	-	19,534	-	-	20,171	-
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling	Total	-	25,000	163,564	▲ 654%	147,000	168,530 ³²	▲ 115%
Child protection								
Children / caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support.	Total	-	384,767	107,970	▲ 28%	1.1 million	520,300	▲ 47%
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	11,660	3,741	▲ 32%	23,000	14,152	▲ 62%

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*
Children and caregivers provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention	Total	-	591,800	836,784	³³ ▲ 141%	316,000	1.2 million	▲ 393%
Children and caregivers reached by MHPSS messages and awareness activities on child protection risks	Total	-	895,840	547,676	▲ 61%	1.1 million	631,260	▲ 57%
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	436,000	318,095	▲ 73%	839,728	524,007	▲ 62%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	436,000	307,383	▲ 71%	839,728	394,739	▲ 47%
Affected school children are provided with gender-responsive recreational activities	Total	-	200,000	29,152	³⁴ ▲ 15%	238,167	122,568	▲ 51%
Water, sanitation and hygiene								
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	800,000	800,000	1.2 million	³⁵ ▲ 148%	1.8 million	1.7 million	³⁶ ▲ 96%
People reached with critical WASH supplies (NFIs)	Total	860,000	860,000	698,582	▲ 81%	1.5 million	783,657	³⁷ ▲ 52%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	250,000	250,000	521,088	³⁸ ▲ 208%	1.1 million	858,212	▲ 78%
Social protection								
People reached with humanitarian cash transfers through UNICEF response	Total	-	198,000 ³⁹	290,126	⁴⁰ ▲ 147%	-	-	-
Households with adults and children with disabilities reached by humanitarian cash transfers UNICEF response	Total	-	21,000	8,696	▲ 41%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (AAP, SBC, and PSEA)								
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	-	93,904	47,627	▲ 51%	-	-	-
People reached through messaging and engagement actions on prevention and access to services	Total	-	950,000	1.2 million	▲ 130%	-	-	-
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	1 million	915,410	▲ 92%	-	-	-
	Girls	-	-	77,010	-	-	-	-
	Boys	-	-	103,512	-	-	-	-
	Women	-	-	236,952	-	-	-	-

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*	2026 targets	Total results	Progress*
	Men	-	-	397,287	-	-	-	-

**Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 30 June 2026*

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

		Funding available		Funding gap	
Sector	Requirements	Humanitarian resources received in 2026	Resources available from 2025 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Nutrition	150,000,000	18,188,026	12,635,415	119,176,559	79%
Education	114,000,000 ⁴¹	32,432,517	24,253,508	57,313,975	50%
Social protection	120,510,000	6,732,712	17,663,510	96,113,778	80%
Cluster coordination	5,220,000	824,861	874,077	3,521,062	67%
Health	123,800,000	29,327,775	16,311,513	78,160,712	63%
Child protection	70,000,000	27,868,354	13,306,658	28,824,988	41%
Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)	115,000,000	31,494,258	48,643,400	34,862,342	30%
Accountability to Affected Populations / Community Feedback Mechanism (AAP / CFM)	500,000	203,749	268,469	27,782	6%
Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)	6,000,000	1,773,699	886,693	3,339,608	56%
Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)	2,800,000	973,466	1,500,623	325,911	12%
Total	707,830,000	149,819,417	136,343,866	421,666,717	60%

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 2025 (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 total number of children in need is based on the highest number of children in need across the thematic areas, which is the child protection number. In the Gaza Strip, 1,081,521 children (all children in the Gaza Strip) are in need of protection services, and 608,266 children are in need of protection in the West Bank. Therefore, the total number of children in need is 1,689,787. Nearly half of them, 49 per cent, are girls.
3. Of the 3,620,000 people in need, 2,100,000 are in the Gaza Strip (the entire population), and 1,520,000 are in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Source: Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories 2026, issued on 16 December 2025, covering January-December 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2026>.
4. The number of approximately 1,743,000 people displaced in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank is an approximate combined estimate. It consists of nearly 1.7 million people displaced in the Gaza Strip, corresponding to about 80 per cent of Gaza's population and living across nearly 1,600 displacement sites, and approximately 42,900 people displaced in the West Bank. The West Bank figure includes some 32,000 Palestinians, including 12,000 children, who remain displaced from Jenin, Tulkarem and Nur Shams refugee camps; more than 8,600 Palestinians displaced due to home demolitions since 7 October 2023, including over 3,700 children; and another 2,300 Palestinians, including over 1,000 children, displaced by settler violence and access restrictions in the first half of 2026. Due to rounding and the use of "nearly", "some" and "more than" figures in source reporting, the total should be read as an approximate estimate. Sources: OCHA Humanitarian Situation Report, 3 July 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-3-july-2026>; UN News, World News in Brief, 23 June 2026, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/06/1167793>.
5. The total of approximately 1,466,000 school-aged children affected in their education refers to both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. In the Gaza Strip, approximately 658,000 school-age children are affected in their education and require access to education and education-related psychosocial support interventions. In the West Bank, an estimated 808,000 school-aged children are affected in their learning, including both out-of-school children (OOSC) and children at risk of dropping out. This is a broader education-disruption estimate and differs from the narrower West Bank figure used in the Situation Overview, where more than 150,000 children are reported as facing barriers to safe and continuous education due to insecurity, movement restrictions and damage to infrastructure. The figures are derived from different planning and analysis frameworks and are presented together as an indicative estimate of school-aged children whose education has been disrupted across the State of Palestine.
6. Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, issued on 16 December 2025, covering January-December 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2026>. The previous Inter-Agency Flash Appeal was issued on 11 December 2024, covering January-December 2025, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-occupied-palestinian-territory-2025>.
7. The figures cited refer to the number of "people targeted" for humanitarian assistance by humanitarian organizations under the Flash Appeal 2026. "People targeted" refers to those the humanitarian organizations plan to reach, based on assessed needs, operational capacity and expected available resources. This differs from the number of "people in need", which refers to all individuals affected by the crisis who require humanitarian assistance, which is estimated at 3.62 million across the occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza Strip: 2.10 million; West Bank including East Jerusalem: 1.52 million).
8. Health Cluster Dashboard, "Health Attacks" tab, reported as of 30 June 2026, available through the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) dashboards portal, <https://www.emro.who.int/opt/information-resources/dashboards.html>.
9. According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), children under 18 constitute approximately 47 per cent of Gaza Strip's population (1.09 million out of 2.13 million) as of end-2025. With nearly 1.7 million people - around 80 per cent of Gaza's total population - reported as displaced by OCHA as of 27 March 2026, see <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-27-march-2026>; UN News, World News in Brief, 23 June 2026, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/06/1167793>. A proportional estimate suggests that approximately 800,000 children are currently displaced, representing around 73 per cent of Gaza's child population.
10. OCHA Humanitarian Situation Report, 26 June 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-26-june-2026>.
11. OCHA Humanitarian Situation Report, 12 June 2026, <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/opt-humanitarian-situation-report-12-june-2026>; OCHA oPt, Humanitarian Situation Report | 5 June 2026, 6 June 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-5-june-2026>.
12. UNICEF, The Gaza We Want: Children's voices on life, recovery and the future of the Gaza Strip, 2026, <https://www.unicef.org/sop/media/6211/file/The%20Gaza%20We%20Want%20%7C%20Report,%202026.pdf>.
13. Further, Maternal malnutrition affected 9.4 per cent of non-pregnant/non-lactating women and 7.2 per cent of pregnant and breastfeeding women. Poor infant and young child feeding practices persisted, with exclusive breastfeeding among infants under six months at 20.4 per cent, low dietary diversity, and inadequate minimum acceptable diet among young children. Childhood morbidity remained high, particularly diarrhoea and fever, while coverage of key preventive interventions, including measles vaccination and vitamin A supplementation, remained below recommended targets.
14. This means that continued food assistance, nutrition services, maternal nutrition support, WASH interventions, and routine nutrition surveillance remain essential.
15. UNICEF, Humanitarian Situation Update – The West Bank, 30 April 2026, <https://www.unicef.org/sop/reports/unicef-state-palestine-humanitarian-situation-update-west-bank>.
16. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-6-march-2026/>.
17. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report, 5 June 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-5-june-2026>, und: OCHA, Movement and Access in the West Bank, 23 April 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/movement-and-access-west-bank-april-2026>. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report, 5 June 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-5-june-2026>; as well as: OCHA, Movement and Access in the West Bank, 23 April 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/movement-and-access-west-bank-april-2026>.
18. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report, 12 June 2026, <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/opt-humanitarian-situation-report-12-june-2026>.
19. OCHA oPt, Humanitarian Situation Report, 12 June 2026, <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/opt-humanitarian-situation-report-12-june-2026>.
20. OCHA, Humanitarian Situation Report, 23 April 2026, <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-report-23-april-2026>.
21. Tammeni Annak, also known as "Talk to Me", is a UNICEF-supported mental health and psychosocial support package for frontline workers in the Middle East and North Africa. It aims to strengthen self-help, peer support and positive coping among frontline workers, contributing to more nurturing and responsive services for children and communities.
22. Within the RRM, hygiene kits and dignity (female care) kits are provided as separate components addressing household hygiene needs and gender specific dignity needs respectively.
23. Six UNRWA schools in the Jenin and Nur Shams refugee camps remained inaccessible, while six UNRWA schools in East Jerusalem remained closed, affecting approximately 800 students. Across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, 84 schools remained under threat of demolition or stop-work orders, placing around 13,000 students at continued risk of losing access to education. During the Tawjihi examination period, 61 detained students were unable to sit or complete their examinations, increasing their risk of dropping out.

24. The AoR also developed practical guidance, including the Child Labour Guidance for child protection and non-child protection actors, and advanced inter-agency training on case management, CPIMS+, safeguarding, PSEA, disability inclusion, safe referrals and child protection minimum standards. These efforts improved harmonised approaches, data quality, safe information sharing and partner capacity.
25. In addition, rising caseload complexity exceeds the availability of specialised MHPSS, disability, rehabilitation, legal, and referral services. Displacement, violence, explosive hazards, and movement restrictions heighten risks, while adolescents remain underserved.
26. This figure represents the cumulative total for the last quarter (Apr-Jun) in Gaza Strip.
27. Calculated for most recent quarter only.
28. Calculated since beginning of year.
29. Calculated since beginning of year.
30. Actual indicator is 6-23, current calculation = 40% of 6-23 (for target and result).
31. Calculated since beginning of year.
32. Calculated since beginning of year.
33. Achievement exceeded the target due to the scale-up of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) activities in response to widespread explosive contamination and heightened risks to children. In addition to community-based awareness sessions, UNICEF and partners substantially expanded outreach through mass media campaigns in the Gaza Strip, including social media messaging and radio broadcasts, enabling prevention messages to reach significantly larger numbers of children and caregivers.
34. Underachievement in Gaza is due to the Back-to-Learning initiative prioritizing learning sessions, incentive payments, and learning material distribution. Most of the reported figure (29,152) is from the West Bank.
35. Achievement exceeded the target because UNICEF scaled up and sustained several complementary water supply modalities beyond the original planning assumptions, including water trucking, support to desalination plants, well repairs, pipeline maintenance, chlorination and fuel support for water production and trucking operations. This enabled safe water access for around 1 million people while maintaining the humanitarian minimum of 15 litres/person/day. However, many water systems remained damaged, and operations continued to face significant access, energy, supply chain and funding constraints.
36. The number of people reached is reported on a monthly, non-cumulative basis. Beneficiary counts are recalculated each month, reflecting the ongoing need for daily water supply and consumption. As operational conditions and response capacities may change over time, monthly reach figures can vary accordingly. The target is to provide access to safe drinking water for 1.4 million people each month.
37. The number of people reached with WASH NFIs is reported on a quarterly, non-cumulative basis, in line with the distribution cycle. Beneficiary counts are recalculated at the beginning of each quarter as a new distribution round is initiated. As operational conditions, population movements, and response capacities may change over time, quarterly reach figures can vary accordingly. The target is to reach 1.4 million people with WASH NFIs every three months.
38. Achievement exceeded the target due to the expansion of sanitation interventions in response to deteriorating conditions in overcrowded displacement settings, including wastewater repairs, latrine installation, solid waste management and support to public institutions. The higher achievement reflects the scale-up of emergency sanitation services required to mitigate growing public health risks. However, sanitation needs continued to outpace available resources, while damaged infrastructure, access limitations and funding constraints affected the continuity and coverage of services.
39. The target figure was decreased for 2026 compared with 2025 due to a change in the programmatic approach. UNICEF has shifted to providing more frequent and regular payments to the most vulnerable families, ensuring sustained support and improved flexibility in meeting urgent needs.
40. The overachievement reflects UNICEF's scale-up of humanitarian cash assistance in response to evolving and higher-than-anticipated needs during the reporting period. This included emergency assistance to populations affected by flooding (approximately 30,000 people reached), as well as expanded nutrition-sensitive cash support reaching approximately 160,000 individuals (around 28,000 families), including children affected by severe and moderate acute malnutrition (SAM/MAM) and pregnant and lactating women. Additional caseload increases resulted from the need to respond to worsening vulnerability levels and emerging humanitarian needs beyond those anticipated during target-setting.
41. The \$34 million increase for the Education budget compared to the initial 2026 HAC appeal is due to the Back-to-Learning programme that UNICEF and partners launched in the Gaza Strip in January 2026 and aims to restore access to non-formal education for hundreds of thousands of children who have been deprived of schooling for nearly three consecutive years.