



A Palestinian family forced to demolish their home in Ras Al-Amud, East Jerusalem. Photo by OCHA, 24 August 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During the first eight months of 2022, the number of structures demolished or seized (590 structures) and people displaced (707 people) declined by 3 and 14 per cent respectively, compared with 2021.
- The number of Palestinian-owned structures demolished or seized in August 2022 (134 structures) was the highest this year, representing an over twofold increase compared with the average over the first seven months of the year (65).
- The number of donor-funded structures demolished or seized in July and August (24 structures), was 50 per cent higher than the monthly average during the first six months of 2022
- Three, including two donor-funded schools are at imminent risk of demolition.

OVERVIEW

In July and August 2022, the Israeli authorities demolished, seized or forced people to demolish 202 Palestinian-owned structures across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Twenty-nine (29) of these had been provided as donor-funded humanitarian aid. As a result, 216 people, including 105 children, were displaced, and the livelihoods or access to services of over 1,200 others were affected. All but 14 of the structures were targeted for lacking building permits, which are nearly impossible for Palestinians to obtain.

Twelve (12) of the structures demolished or seized in July and August were in herding communities in Israeli-designated 'firing zones.' Nearly 30 per cent of Area C is designated as such, and the 38 Palestinian communities in these training areas are among the most vulnerable in the West Bank, with limited access to essential services and basic infrastructure. In the herding communities of Al Jiftlik Ash Shuneh and Fasayil, both in Jericho, the Israeli authorities demolished eight structures, six of which had been provided as humanitarian assistance in response to previous demolitions. Fourteen people were displaced and seven were otherwise affected. Additionally, in Al Abaidiya and Umm Qussa, both in southern Hebron, and in Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar in Tubas, the Israeli authorities demolished a total of four structures. As a result, 23 people, including 17 children, were displaced.

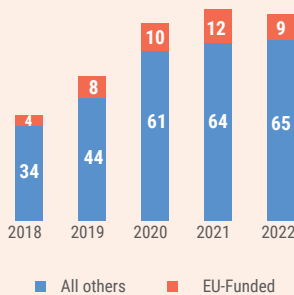
In July and August, 27 structures were seized without warning in Area C, which prevented the ability of owners to object in advance. This represents a significant decrease in the use of this procedure compared with the monthly average of seized structures (35) during all of 2021.

Additionally, in six separate incidents in the Area C communities of Al Abaidiya, Umm Qussa and Al Jwaya (all in Hebron), and in As Sawiya and Huwwara (both in Nablus), the Israeli authorities demolished a total of nine structures based on Military Order 1797, which provides only a 96-hour notice and very limited grounds for legally challenging a demolition. This resulted in the displacement of six households, comprising 26 people, including ten children. A total of 210 Palestinian-owned structures have been demolished based on this order since it came into effect in July 2019.

Serious concerns remain for the tens of thousands of Palestinians who endure fear and insecurity due to outstanding demolition orders that can be executed at any time. June 2022 marked a record month for the issuance of demolition orders against donor-funded structures, with a total of 55 such structures placed at risk of demolition. In addition to the increase in demolition and stop-work orders against Palestinian-owned structures, there have been a noted rise in the seizure of vehicles, tractors, water tanks and other essential items for communities living in Area C.

STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED/SEIZED

Monthly Averages



JULY-AUGUST FIGURES

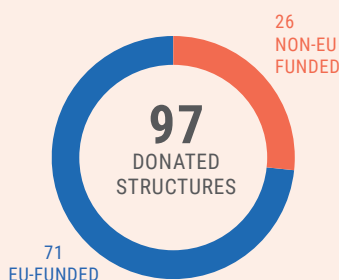
STRUCTURES DEMOLISHED/SEIZED

East Jerusalem	24
Area C	167
Area B	3
Area A	8

PEOPLE AFFECTED

Displaced	216
Otherwise affected	1,230

ASSISTANCE DEMOLISHED/SEIZED IN 2022



During the first eight months of 2022, a total of 590 structures were demolished or seized and 707 people were displaced. The monthly rate of structures demolished or seized, and people displaced has declined by 3 and 14 percent, respectively, compared to the monthly average in 2021 when 911 structures were demolished and 1,209 people were displaced.

During the reporting period, two schools were put at risk of demolition and the demolition of a third school was delayed through a court injunction. On 3 August, the Israeli Civil Administration issued a final demolition order against two rooms that are part of a school in Mantiqat Shi'b al Butum, south of Hebron. The school was built in 2015 through a donor-funded project and serves children from multiple communities. The affected rooms were funded and built by the community. On 10 August, an Israeli court sanctioned the immediate demolition of an donor-funded school in the herding community of Ein Samiya, northeast of Ramallah, affecting about 17 students, and jeopardizing the students' right to education. On 21 August, the Israeli authorities issued final demolition orders against parts of another donor-funded school in Um Qussa (Hebron) located in an area designated as a 'Firing zone' for military training, and where Palestinian communities are at risk of forcible transfer. The school is one of the nine donor-funded structures to receive stop work or demolition orders during the reporting period.

In East Jerusalem, the Israeli authorities demolished or forced people to demolish 24 structures, including 15 homes. August saw a 58 percent increase in the number of structures demolished in East Jerusalem, compared with the monthly average in the first seven months of 2022. More than half of the structures (13) were demolished by the owners following the issuance of a demolition order, and the rest (12) were demolished by the Jerusalem Municipality. The communities most heavily affected were al Isawiya, Jabal Mukabbir, and Silwan which, combined, accounted for 41 per cent of demolition incidents in East Jerusalem this year. About 60 per cent of the structures demolished in East Jerusalem were homes, while agricultural or livelihood-related structures accounted for some 38 per cent of all demolitions in East Jerusalem.

During the first eight months of 2022, 49 per cent of the structures demolished in East Jerusalem were destroyed by their owners following the issuance of demolition orders, compared with 27 per cent in the previous five years. This is attributed to new Israeli legislation which limits the authority of Israeli courts to intervene and enables the Jerusalem Municipality to exert pressure on families to demolish their properties themselves. During two self-demolition incidents in Ras Al 'Amud area in East Jerusalem, Israeli forces stationed outside the properties and reportedly threatened to jail or fine family members if they did not complete the demolition quickly.

Four homes were demolished on punitive grounds in Area B of the West Bank. On 26 July, Israeli forces raided Qarawat Bani Hassan (Salfit) and demolished two homes with multiple floors of families whose members were accused of killing a guard of an Israeli settlement in April 2022. On 8 August, Israeli forces raided Rummana (Jenin) and demolished two multistorey homes of families whose members are accused of killing three people and injuring three others in Israel in May 2022. During the former operation, three additional neighbouring homes sustained damage. Punitive demolitions are a form of collective punishment, prohibited under international law, as they target the families of a perpetrator, or alleged perpetrator and often trigger confrontations between Palestinian communities and Israeli forces, resulting in casualties.

Since the beginning of 2022, ten homes have been demolished on punitive grounds, compared with three in all of 2021 and seven in 2020.

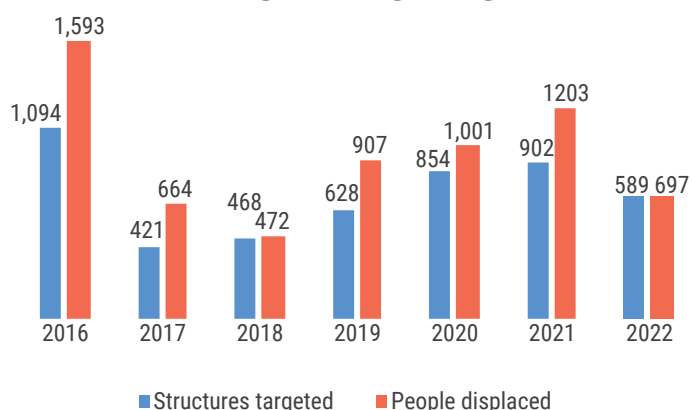
WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS / SEIZURES JULY-AUGUST 2022

	Structures demolished	People displaced*		People Affected**	
		All	Children	All	Children
East Jerusalem	24	47	20	124	61
Area C	167	129	69	1,065	559
Area B	3	17	6	6	2
Area A	8	23	10	35	17
TOTAL**	202	216	105	1,230	639

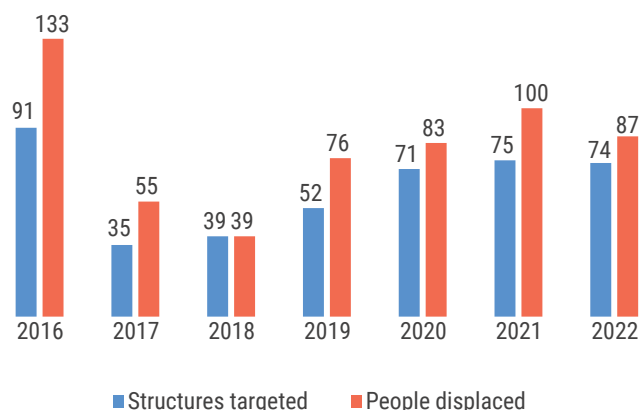
* Includes all people who had a structure demolished which was used as their habitual place of residence.

** Includes all people who had any of their property, other than their residence, demolished. Displaced and affected are mutually exclusive categories, i.e. people counted under the former are not included in the latter.

TOTAL STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED



MONTHLY AVERAGES OF STRUCTURES TARGETED AND PEOPLE DISPLACED



DEMOLITION/SEIZURE OF DONOR-FUNDED AID STRUCTURES JULY-AUGUST 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in euros
19 July	Al Jwaya	Hebron	Livelihood tent	1	Confiscation	1,616.70
27 July	Idna	Hebron	One residential caravan, one mobile latrine	2	Demolition	6,765.72
3 August	Az Za'ayyem Bedouins	Jerusalem	Four agricultural structures and one mobile latrine	5	Demolition and Confiscation	14,595.08
8 August	Abu Shushah Bedouins	Jerusalem	Two mobile latrines and one residential tent	3	Demolition	2,882.45
15 August	Al Mas'udiya	Nablus	One agricultural caravan and one mobile latrine	2	Demolition	7,594.94
15 August	Al Baqa'a	Hebron	One agricultural structure	1	Confiscation	3,521.90
16 August	Al Jiftlik Ash Shuneh	Jericho	Two residential caravans	2	Demolition	9,533.22
16 August	Al Jiftlik Ash Shuneh	Jericho	One livelihood structure	1	Demolition	4,901.52
22 August	Isteih	Jericho	One residential caravan and one mobile latrine	2	Demolition	7,043.81
24 August	Fasayil	Jericho	Two residential and three animal shelter tents	5	Demolition	5,621.32
24 August	Huwwara	Nablus	Iron gate, barbed wire.	-	Demolition	2,539
Total				24		66,615.66*

* Including metal fences, and water tanks

DEMOLITION/STOP-WORK ORDERS AFFECTING DONOR-FUNDED AID STRUCTURES JULY-AUGUST 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in euros
18 July	Khirbet Al Fakheit	Hebron	Animal shelter	1	Demolition order	4,348.00
21 July	Abu Nuwar	Jerusalem	Residential shelter	1	Stop-work order	3,398.53
2 August	Kafr Ad Dik	Salfit	Agricultural Structure	1	Stop-work order	3,521.90
3 August	At Tuwani	Hebron	40 wooden lectricity columns	-	Demolition order	19,122.79
3 August	Ar Rakeez	Hebron	One Residential Shelter	1	Demolition order	4,237.29
16 August	Mantiqat Shi'b Al Butum	Hebron	Water pump & associated power supply system	1	Stop-work order	14,352.67
21 August	Um Qussa	Hebron	School rehabilitation (wall,sunshade, ground slab, and steel gate)	1	Demolition order	14,118
21 August	Um Qussa	Hebron	Elementary school yard rehabilitation, additional two classrooms and WASH facilities	-	Demolition order	37,167.00
24 August	Haribat An Nabi	Hebron	Three residential shelters	3	Stop-work order	11,965.00
Total				9		112,231.18

OTHER AFFECTED DONOR-FUNDED ITEMS JULY-AUGUST 2022

Date	Community	Governorate	Type of structure	Number of structures	Type of incident	Estimated cost in euros
29 July	Deir Ibzi	Ramallah	One tent	1	Vandalized by people believed to be Israeli settlers	568.85
11 August	Al Jwaya	Hebron	Fifty olive saplings	-	Vandalized by people believed to be Israeli settlers	417.82
Total				-		987