

April Overview

The growing levels of tension and violence recorded during April across the West Bank highlighted ongoing concerns related to the protection of civilians, particularly children.

By the end of April, the monthly average of Palestinian civilians injured by Israeli military forces in the West Bank, since the beginning of 2013, had reached a level twice as high as the 2012 monthly average (523 vs. 252). While nearly half the injuries this year were caused by inhalation of tear-gas, the monthly average of civilians injured by rubber-coated metal bullets and live ammunition more than tripled compared to last

year (213 vs. 68). Additionally, since the start of the year, nine Palestinian civilians were killed by Israeli forces, including two youths this month, compared to three in the equivalent period in 2012.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- In the West Bank, Palestinian injuries from Israeli security forces in 2013 twice as high as in 2012.
- Children as young as seven detained by Israeli forces in Hebron, according to international monitors.
- Restrictions on entry of materials delay WASH projects in Gaza.
- Thirty per cent increase in displacement from demolitions in 2013 in the West Bank.

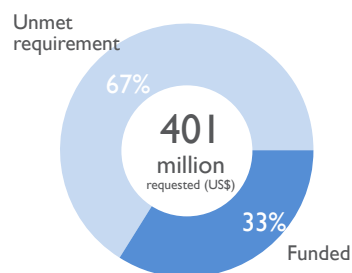
APRIL FIGURES

Palestinian civilians killed (direct conflict)	3
Palestinian civilians injured (direct conflict)	661
Palestinian children under Israeli detention	236
Structures demolished in the West Bank	46
Patients' applications to leave Gaza approved by Israel	92%

CAP 2013 FUNDING

402 million
requested (US\$)

33% funded



The majority of this year's casualties have occurred in the context of clashes that erupt during demonstrations, mostly in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons. Overall, the increase in civilian casualties has raised concerns about possible instances of excessive use of force by Israeli forces, compounded by the absence of effective investigations, particularly in cases of serious injury.

According to the Israel Security Agency, this month, there was also a rise in the number of Palestinian attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank. On 30 April, a Palestinian man stabbed and killed an Israeli settler at a checkpoint in the northern West Bank, launching a wave of settler-related violence that extended into early May.

Against the backdrop of growing tensions comes a reported rise in Israeli forces' arrest of Palestinian children in the southern West Bank. According to the Israeli authorities, an increase in stone-throwing incidents against Israeli forces and settlers triggered a series of arrest operations targeting Palestinian children in April. The Palestinian Prisoners' Club reports that 30 children, aged 12 to 17, were arrested in the Hebron governorate alone. Most of the children were taken from their homes in the middle of the night, handcuffed and blindfolded, and were interrogated without the presence of a lawyer or an accompanying adult; some of the cases also triggered complaints of ill-treatment during the course of interrogation.

Following a virtual freeze in March, April also witnessed a resumption of demolitions by the Israeli authorities in East Jerusalem and Area C, on the grounds of lack of building permits. A total of 46 structures were demolished during the month, displacing 64 Palestinian civilians, half of them children, and negatively affecting over 350 others. Overall in 2013, there has been a 30 per cent rise in the number of people displaced as a result of demolitions, raising an additional protection concern.

As the occupying power, Israel has the legal obligation to protect the civilian population under its jurisdiction, especially children. This includes taking all necessary measures to prevent incidents of excessive use of force, which involves reviewing regulations on the use of weapons and crowd-control means, and by ensuring that effective investigations are conducted into all incidents resulting in civilian casualties.

RISE IN CIVILIAN INJURIES BY ISRAELI FORCES IN THE WEST BANK

Most injuries occurred during protests related to Palestinian prisoners

Palestinian civilian casualties from Israeli security forces in the West Bank ran high in April.

On 3 April, in a fatal clash at Einav partial checkpoint (Tulkarm), Israeli forces shot and killed two Palestinian youths, allegedly after they threw Molotov cocktails at soldiers posted in the watch tower of the checkpoint. Initial evidence suggests that both boys were shot in the upper body; one of the youths was shot in the back.¹ These deaths bring the total number of Palestinian civilians killed by Israeli forces in the West Bank since the beginning of 2013 to nine.

As the occupying power, Israel has the legal obligation to protect the civilian population under its jurisdiction, especially children.

Also during the month, 627 Palestinians, including 286 children, were injured by Israeli security forces, bringing the 2013 monthly average of such injuries to 523. This is over twice the monthly average of 2012 (252) and quadruple the 2011 average (121).²

On 30 April, a Palestinian man stabbed and killed a 32-year-old Israeli settler at Za'tara/Tapuach checkpoint in the northern West Bank, triggering a wave of violence that extended into early May. A complete analysis will appear in the next issue of the Humanitarian Monitor.

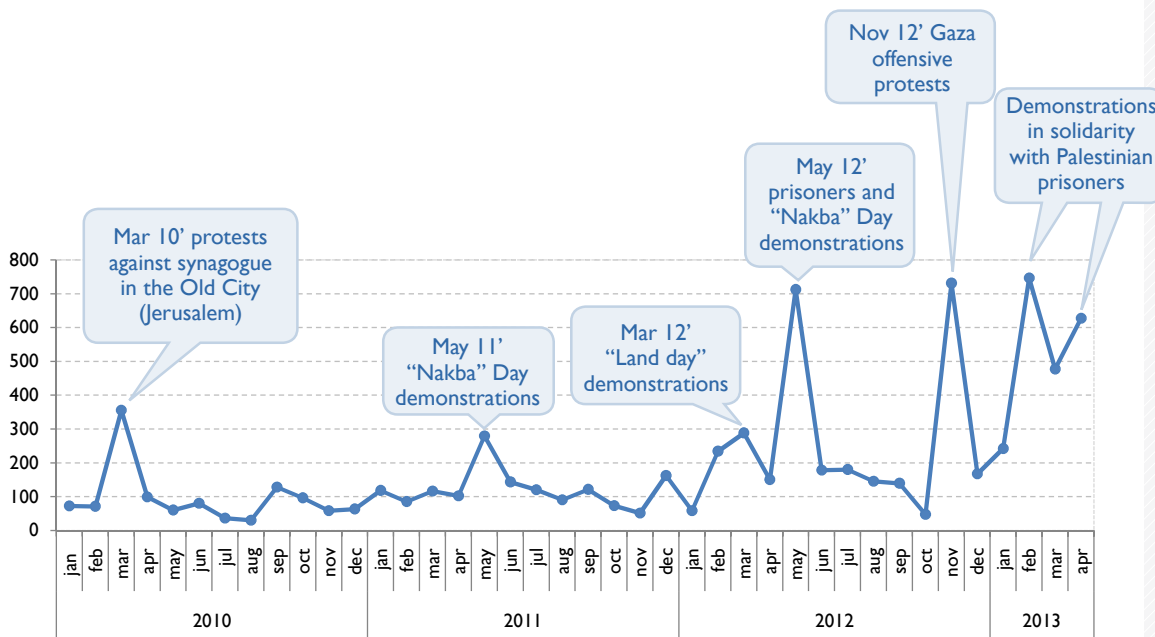
Eighty-eight (88) per cent of Palestinian injuries in April occurred during demonstrations, when clashes erupted

between Palestinians throwing stones and Israeli security forces. The majority of wounds sustained during demonstrations this month occurred following the 2 April death of a 64-year-old Palestinian prisoner, Maysara Abu Hamdiya, from cancer; following the killing of the two Palestinian youth by Israeli forces the day after Hamdiya's death; and in demonstrations marking Palestinian Prisoners Day on 17 April. Of the injuries, 50 per cent (315) either received medical treatment for tear-gas inhalation or were hit directly by tear-gas canisters and 41 per cent (261) were shot with rubber-coated metal bullets. Overall in 2013, nearly half the injuries have been caused by tear-gas inhalation, but there has been a significant increase in the monthly average of civilians injured by rubber-coated metal bullets and live ammunition (213 vs 68).

Injuries by rubber-coated metal bullets and live ammunition have more than tripled in 2013.

Palestinian injuries by Israeli security forces in the West Bank have been on the rise over the past several years, with the four highest monthly peaks of such injuries recorded by OCHA oPt since January 2005 all occurring within the last year; three of these occurred in the past six months (see graph). The overall rise in Palestinian injuries, along with the fact that the majority of these injuries, at least since January 2012, were sustained in the

Palestinian Injuries by Israeli Forces in the West Bank



course of popular protests, is indicative of rising tensions in the West Bank, particularly with respect to Israeli settlement activity, Barrier construction, movement and access restrictions, and in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners. According to the Israel Security Agency, this month there was also a rise in the number of Palestinian attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank.³

There remains a significant gap in accountability for civilian casualties caused by Israeli security forces. Under international law, all states and parties to a conflict are obliged to investigate alleged violations of the law, particularly cases involving civilian casualties, in an effective, timely, independent, impartial and transparent manner.

In April 2011, in a positive development, the Israeli authorities began opening a Military Police (MP) investigation in cases where Palestinian civilians are killed by Israeli forces. Prior to that, most killing cases were followed by an internal “operational inquiry”, on the basis of which the Military Advocate General (MAG) decided whether to open a MP investigation. Following the change in policy, MP investigations have been opened into 18 death cases, including one into the killing of the two youth this month. Of these, only one investigation has led to an indictment: in March 2013, a soldier was convicted of negligent homicide for the killing of a Palestinian civilian in the southern West Bank on 12 January 2013. Human rights organizations have raised concerns that while investigations are now opened, they are not always followed up in an effective manner, and some remain open for years without conclusion.⁴

Another concern is that a significant accountability gap remains regarding cases involving serious injury of Palestinian civilians by Israeli forces, which rarely, if ever, trigger MP investigations. While in some cases an operational inquiry is conducted, this type of investigation does not meet any of the international law standards and is inadequate to determine whether a MP investigation should be opened.⁵

CONCERNS OVER ILL-TREATMENT OF PALESTINIAN PRISONERS HELD BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES

As of the end of April, there were 4,748 Palestinian prisoners, including 236 children, being held in Israeli prisons and detention centres in the oPt and Israel for acts or allegations of acts committed in connection to Israel's occupation of the West Bank. Of these prisoners, 155 are being held without charge or trial under administrative detention orders that can be renewed indefinitely.

Local and international human rights groups and UN treaty monitoring bodies have long raised concerns over the Israeli authorities' treatment of Palestinian detainees. A key concern is the denial of due process rights during trial in the Israeli military court system.⁶ The trial of civilians in military courts is inconsistent with international human rights standards, in particular with regard to procedural guarantees pertaining to fair trial.⁷ This system only applies to Palestinian residents of the West Bank, except residents of East Jerusalem, while Israeli civil law is de facto applied to Israeli settlers.

A defendant's attorney is rarely present during interrogation and many detainees will spend weeks before they meet a lawyer. According to human rights groups, considerable pressure is placed on defendants to confess during interrogation. Forms of reported abuse include beatings and threats, sleep deprivation, position abuse, prolonged cuffing, and having family members threatened and, in cases, arrested, among others.⁸ Human rights organizations have also indicated that there is an almost complete lack of accountability for the reported mistreatment of Palestinian detainees under interrogation.⁹ Few cases receive a full evidentiary trial, with most convictions being the result of plea bargain arrangements negotiated on the basis of signed confessions.¹⁰

UNICEF oPt has objected on principle to the prosecution of children through these military courts (even the recently established juvenile-specific courts)¹¹. Upon its review of the actual treatment of children who go through the system, UNICEF oPt determined that "the ill-treatment ... appears to be widespread, systematic and institutionalized throughout the process, from the moment of arrest until the child's prosecution and eventual conviction and sentencing."¹²

According to human rights groups, once sentenced, prisoners' conditions of detention remain difficult. Among the concerns cited are lack of proper medical care, regular raids of prisoners' rooms, the punitive use of solitary confinement, restrictions on family visits, prohibition on phone calls, restrictions on education and detention of most prisoners outside the oPt.¹³

Israel's use of administrative detention, along with issues related to conditions of detention, have been the stated reason for ongoing hunger strikes among Palestinian detainees over the past couple of years¹⁴ and for demonstrations in solidarity with the prisoners, which have accounted for a significant percentage of Palestinian injuries by Israeli military forces. In February 2013, OCHA recorded the highest monthly total of Palestinian injuries by Israeli security forces since January 2005, 746, 87 per cent of which occurred in the context of prisoner-related demonstrations.

International human rights law includes a range of protections for accused persons, including the right to the presumption of innocence, to due process, to be free from torture or other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment and the right not to incriminate oneself. Children should be arrested only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time. At all times, they should be treated with humanity, dignity and worth, and in a manner that takes into account their age, needs and circumstances.

CONCERN OVER DETENTION OF PALESTINIAN CHILDREN IN HEBRON

International monitors report young children among the affected population

This month, concerns were raised over the Israeli forces arrest of Palestinian children in the Hebron governorate, particularly the Old City of Hebron, located in the Israeli-controlled portion of the city (H2).

According to the Palestinian Prisoners' Club (PPC), 30 children, from 12 – 17 years old, were arrested in different parts of Hebron during April.¹⁵ In most of these cases, children were taken from their homes by armed soldiers in the middle of the night, handcuffed and blindfolded. During the arrests, the PCC reports that the child's family members -- including small children and the elderly -- were ordered to leave their homes, while the home was searched. In some cases, contents of the home were damaged. Most, if not all, of the children were interrogated in the absence of a parent or a lawyer.

These arrests come alongside concerns raised by international groups providing protective presence for Palestinian residents, over the increased detention of children, some as young as seven years old, in the H2 section of Hebron city. A report released this month, based on incidents recorded by Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Israel and Palestine (EAPPI) and the International Solidarity Movement, indicated that international monitors have directly witnessed the detention of over 45 children under 15 years of age from the H2 area between 1 February – mid-April. According to the report, most of the incidents occurred while the children were on their way to school or walking in their neighborhoods. Some were accused of throwing stones. Over half of the children (27) were taken into custody on one day, 20 March, at the entrance of their school.¹⁶ Many of the incidents involved children who were detained for short periods and released the same day.

These reports follow similar concerns raised about Israeli forces treatment of Palestinian children in other West Bank locations, including Nabi Saleh in the Ramallah governorate, Beit Ummar in the Hebron governorate and the Silwan area of East Jerusalem.¹⁷ According to Defence for Children International/Palestine Section, each year some 700 Palestinian children from the West Bank (except East Jerusalem) are arrested by the Israeli military and tried by Israeli military courts. In East Jerusalem, in 2012, OCHA recorded the arrest of 215 Palestinian children, the largest single group of whom, 36 per cent, were arrested in the Silwan neighbourhood.

The Israeli authorities' treatment of detained Palestinian children has been a subject of concern by human rights organizations as well as UNICEF, which has expressed concern that Israel's treatment of Palestinian children is inconsistent with its commitments under international law (see box herein).

Reports indicate that children were taken from their homes in the middle of the night by armed soldiers, handcuffed and blindfolded and taken for interrogation.

CASE STUDY: AHMED NIMER, 15 YEARS OLD

Ahmed Nimer was arrested from his home in 'Arroub Refugee Camp on 7 April 2013. He was released on bail on 23 April 2013, pending trial. He relayed his experience to OCHA oPt on 3 May 2013:

“On 7 April, my older brother woke me up around 3:00 am, telling me that Israeli soldiers had come to our house in search of me. I was so terrified. I squeezed myself behind my sleeping grandmother, hoping she could hide me from them, but eventually I had to go out when they insisted. When they said that they had come to arrest me, I begged for them to wait until I finished my school exam that morning, but they refused.



Two soldiers grabbed me by my hands and took me down to the street. At that point, soldiers started coming towards us, from different alleys in the camp, dragging with them a couple of other children. The soldiers led us to an army vehicle at the entrance of the camp. Before we were placed in the vehicle, we were handcuffed and blindfolded. The moment they closed the door of the jeep, they forced us onto the vehicle's floor and started beating us.

We were taken from 'Arroub camp to Gush Etzion settlement. When we first arrived, we were asked questions about our health. We were then left outside in the cold for a few hours until we were taken for interrogation separately. When it was my turn, the officer asked me if I threw stones at the soldiers, and with whom. When I denied the accusations, more soldiers came towards me and started beating me and slapped my face. One jabbed me in my ribs with the butt of his gun, and struck me with something on my back. It hurt so bad that I told them I had thrown two stones, hoping the beating would stop, but they started again, once I said I *had* thrown stones. Later, they made me sign a paper written in Hebrew that I could not understand.

After interrogation, I was made to sit outside; at this point, the sun was out and it was hot. I stayed there for a couple of hours, with the two other boys who had been arrested at the same time as I. We were then placed into the detention centre there, which was mixed between adults and children. Later that evening, I was transferred to Ofer Prison, near Ramallah. After five postponed court appearances, I was released on 4,000 NIS bail until my next court appearance in June 2013.”

“We had to borrow the money, but we couldn't leave our child in prison,” his mother added. “At present, he is under house arrest. He is not allowed to go to school or anywhere. As a result of the experience, he has become very distressed. He doesn't eat well and is always angry. Before he was arrested, he had registered to take part in a school trip to an amusement park. With his house arrest, he couldn't join, so on the day of the trip, all he could do was imagine how his classmates were having fun playing and swimming, while he was sitting at home, staring at the walls.”

The Israeli human rights organization B'Tselem requested that the Israeli Military Police open an investigation into Ahmad's treatment while in detention. They have not yet received a response to their request.

CLOSURE OF GAZA CROSSINGS

Kerem Shalom closed for 17 out of 30 days

Twice this month, Israeli authorities placed heightened restrictions on the free movement of people and goods to and from the Gaza Strip, increasing the pre-existing vulnerability of the population. Between 8 and 11 April, and again on 28 April through the end of the month, Israeli authorities limited access through the Erez crossing to authorized emergency humanitarian cases, Gazan ID holders returning to Gaza and internationals, and also closed the Kerem Shalom crossing for both the import and export of goods. Kerem Shalom crossing serves as the only functional goods crossing linking Gaza with Israel, the West Bank and abroad.

According to Israel, these closures – a total of seven days – were in response to rockets fired by armed groups in Gaza towards towns in southern Israel. The crossings were also closed an additional three days due to Israeli holidays. As a result, combined with regular closing days, the crossings were not operating for 17 out of 30 days this month. Israel took similar measures on two previous occasions at the end of February and March. These intensified restrictions are resulting in market shortages of basic foodstuffs and essential supplies, including fresh fruit, dairy products and cooking gas, and undermining the livelihoods and rights of some of the most vulnerable families in Gaza. Due to the closures, Kerem Shalom was open exceptionally on Friday, 12 April to facilitate the entry of food and other essential goods.

The repeated closure of Kerem Shalom crossing over the past three months also poses challenges for humanitarian agencies. For example, while the World Food Programme (WFP) was able to continue its operations in April without interruption, due to its pre-positioning of supplies, logistic operations to refill their Deir al Balah warehouse and rebuild stocks for the following cycle were interrupted for a few days. Should the Israeli authorities continue to close Kerem Shalom crossing in this manner, the agency is concerned about the negative impact it could have on its ability to plan its operation effectively and efficiently and ensure sufficient food stocks in Gaza.

UPGRADES TO TEMPORARY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT COMPLETED IN GAZA

Concerns remain over restrictions on entry of critical WASH materials

This month, the Israeli authorities allowed entry of the final equipment required for completing upgrades to the temporary wastewater treatment (WWTP) plant in Khan Younis. Upgrades to the plant, which is funded by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and implemented by the Gaza Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU), will improve wastewater treatment in the Khan Younis area. The WWTP will serve some 280,000 people, until a large scale plant -- currently in the design phase -- can be built by UNDP. The materials were initially requested in June 2012, but the last items only entered this month, due to delays in obtaining the Israeli authorities' approval.

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* Information in this piece was contributed by UNICEF on behalf of the WASH Cluster.

The condition of existing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in Gaza is dangerously inadequate, the result of underdevelopment, rapid population growth, and damage caused during armed hostilities – in particular, the 2008-2009 “Cast Lead” operation. Continuing restrictions on the entry of materials have impeded their repair, upgrading and construction, while ongoing power cuts, lasting up to 12 hours per day and lack of funding for fuel for generators, have also prevented the existing facilities from operating consistently. Currently, only 25 per cent of wastewater in Gaza is being treated, while 90 million litres of raw and partially treated sewage are being released daily into the Mediterranean Sea, the majority from Wadi Gaza.

In an effort to improve the situation, this month, the CMWU began construction of another temporary WWTP, this one along Wadi Gaza, also funded by ICRC. The project’s success depends on the timely entry of required materials, but ongoing Israeli restrictions on the entrance of WASH materials and equipment risk impeding project implementation.

Since the easing of the blockade in June 2010, Israel has allowed international organizations to implement construction projects in Gaza. However, organizations working to address shortages in the WASH sector have faced several complications. First, large reconstruction projects must be approved by Israel, which entails submission of a number of project-related documents and a lengthy approval process. United Nations WASH projects in Gaza, for example, have taken on average 19 months to be approved by the Israeli authorities. Second, while smaller scale projects, such as the repair or upgrading of existing infrastructure and facilities, do not require project approval, the entry of critical materials is often subject to lengthy coordination delays. Electro-mechanical equipment in particular, such as pumps, aerators and compressors, frequently require between several months to a year to be approved for entry, and Israeli authorities have requested exceptional coordination for such items, including for projects that have already been approved.

“The condition of existing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in Gaza is dangerously inadequate.”



12 million liters of raw sewage are being discharged from Wadi Gaza into the Mediterranean Sea every day

Photo by EWASH/HAITE, March 2013

In addition to the six-month delay in receiving items for the temporary Khan Younis WWTP, CMWU has also been waiting for an air compressor to finalize the Hewabar sewage pressure line in Northern Gaza, which has been pending approval since March 2012. Further delays to this project could result in serious sewage flooding in the Swiftawi area, which experienced major flooding last year. The Northern Gaza Emergency Sewage Treatment Project has also faced delays in entering the necessary electro-mechanical equipment, pushing back project completion by 6 to 8 months.

Without sufficient wastewater treatment facilities, the sewage from Wadi Gaza and other areas are increasing the risk of the spread of water borne diseases. Samples of the seawater opposite Wadi Gaza taken by the ICRC in 2011 were found to contain high volumes of fecal coliforms, fecal streptococci and heavy metals. In 2009, the World Health Organization reported that seven different areas of the Gaza coastal waters were similarly polluted and warned against swimming in these areas to avoid the occurrence of water born disease, such as cholera, hepatitis, and meningitis. The situation is becoming increasingly critical as the summer approaches, with thousands of families likely to head to the beach for recreation and to escape the heat.

The lack of capacity in the WASH sector has also contributed to pollution of the underground water aquifer. The improper treatment of sewage has resulted in raw and partially treated sewage leaching into the aquifer, which is also becoming increasingly salinized by the infiltration of sea water due to over extraction. The UN Environmental Programme has warned that 90 per cent of the water pumped from the aquifer is unfit for human consumption and that it will take 20 years to rehabilitate the underground water system. Without immediate intervention, the aquifer could become unusable by 2016 and irreparable as early as 2020.¹⁸ A rapid and effective coordination process for the entry of WASH materials and equipment is necessary in order to address the substantial human and environmental dangers of inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure and facilities in the Gaza Strip.

SHARP INCREASE IN WEST BANK DEMOLITIONS AND DISPLACEMENT

30 per cent rise in displacement in 2013

There was a significant increase in the Israeli authorities' demolition of structures this month, with 46 structures demolished in East Jerusalem and Area C on the grounds of lack of permit. As a result, 64 Palestinians, over half of them children, were displaced and over 350 others affected due to the loss of a structure supporting livelihoods. Five of the structures demolished this month, including three residential structures, had been provided by international donors as humanitarian responses to previous demolitions. These demolitions follow a relatively calm two-month period (February - March 2013), during which 17 structures were demolished, including two self-demolitions, displacing 58 people.

April's demolitions bring the monthly average of structures demolished in the West Bank since the beginning of 2013 to 50, the same as in 2012. However, the monthly average of

people displaced has increased by 30 per cent, from 73 in 2012 to 95 in 2013. Some 85 per cent of the 2013 demolitions have occurred in Area C, with almost 60 per cent of the total demolished structures located in the Jordan Valley (Tubas and Jericho governorates) and 20 per cent in the Hebron governorate (see pie chart).

Under the planning regime applied by the Israeli authorities, it is almost impossible for Palestinians to obtain permits for construction. In Area C, virtually all public land has been placed within the jurisdictional boundaries of Israeli settlements, making it unavailable for Palestinian construction. The authorities also prevent the development of most private lands, on grounds that they were zoned in the 1940s as agricultural areas. Only 13 per cent of Area C communities have plans approved by the Israeli Civil Administration, and these cover less than one per cent of the area. Over the past two years, Palestinian village councils, in collaboration with civil society organizations, submitted to the ICA over 30 planning schemes for communities in Area C. So far, however, none of these plans was given final approval.

In East Jerusalem, Palestinians face similar difficulties, with only 13 per cent of the area zoned for Palestinian construction. However, much of this land is already built-up, the permitted construction density is limited and the application process is difficult and expensive. There are also a range of issues related to land registration that complicate the process.¹⁹ Overall, the number of permits granted per year to Palestinians does not meet the existing demand for housing, with a gap of some 1,100 housing units per year.²⁰ At least 33 per cent of all Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem lack Israeli-issued building permits, meaning that over 93,000 residents are living with the risk of the demolition of their homes and, consequently, displacement.

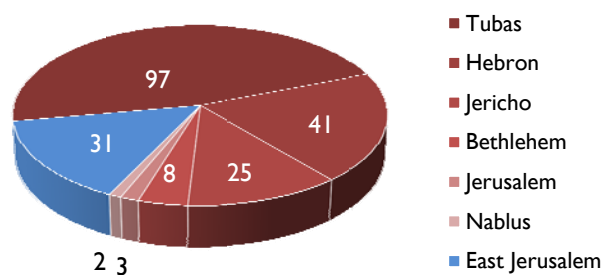
Demolitions have serious physical, socio-economic and emotional impacts on Palestinian families. They erode families' coping mechanisms, leaving those who suffer multiple waves of demolitions increasingly vulnerable. As a result, some families in the oPt are being pushed deeper into poverty and are increasingly unable to cope with the range of difficult conditions in Area C and East Jerusalem.

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Almost 60 per cent of structures demolished in 2013 have been located in the Jordan Valley (Tubas and Jericho governorates).

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Geographic Distribution of Structures Demolished in the West Bank, 2013



CASE STUDY: DEMOLITION IN AT TUR, EAST JERUSALEM

On 24 April, the Israeli Ministry of Interior, accompanied by Israeli forces, demolished a one storey structure in the At Tur neighbourhood of East Jerusalem belonging to Kayed Jaradat and his family. The structure consisted of three uninhabited apartments and two shops. As a result of the demolition, a registered-refugee family comprising six households including 25 people, 10 of whom are children, was directly affected. Four of Kayed's sons and their families were planning to move to the new apartments in early May 2013. Among those affected by the demolition are multiple family members with serious medical conditions and disabilities.



The demolition was carried out on the grounds that the structure lacked a building permit. According to Kayed, the family purchased the one dunum of land on which the building was constructed in 1990 and built their first home there in 1997. The first home was demolished in 2001, rebuilt by the family, and demolished again before the end of the 2001.

According to the family, they have spent considerable time and money trying to obtain permission to build on their land. Between 1997 and 2004, the family reports that they, along with dozens of their neighbours, hired a planner to develop a plan for 68 dunums in the area and to change its zoning from a green area, where construction is prohibited, to a residential area. After years of trying, the various land owners were unable to reach an agreement on the plan, due to complications related to re-parcellation and allocation of some land for public use.²¹ As a result, they have never been able to finalize the plan and submit it for consideration.

The family eventually rebuilt their main home in 2004 and built the recently demolished structure in August 2012, given an expanded family size and need for adequate housing. A demolition order against it was issued in September 2012. The family hired a private lawyer to carry out the necessary legal follow up, but was unaware that an actual demolition was imminent. There is also a final demolition order against the main family house, which is home to three households: Kayed's immediate family, one of his daughters and her family, and one of his sons and his family, placing some 16 people, including seven children, at risk of imminent displacement.

The April demolition has had a significant impact on the family, worsening an already difficult situation due to multiple, serious illnesses and disabilities suffered by family members, who were directly affected by the demolition: Kayed's wife has brain cancer, two of the directly affected family members are autistic, two have epilepsy, and two are blind, including one child, who is also mentally disabled. The financial losses are enormous and amount to more than US\$ 220,000, including construction and painting costs (\$189,000), legal fees (\$7,500), and failed past attempts to develop a plan (\$27,000).²²

“There isn't enough support for Palestinian families, like mine, who suffer from the Israeli policy of demolishing Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem. This policy not only destroys our homes, it destroys all aspects of our lives and well-being, pushing us to leave the city in search of stability and dignity. Life in East Jerusalem is extremely difficult and we are under constant pressure, but there is no proportionate amount of support provided to Palestinians who continue to live here.”

Kayed Jaradat

PALESTINE REFUGEE FAMILIES FLEE FROM SYRIA TO THE GAZA STRIP

*This piece was provided by UNRWA.

UNRWA providing assistance to nearly 200 families

The two-year old conflict in Syria has had devastating consequences for the civilian population. Among the over 1 million who have fled the country in search of refuge and greater safety elsewhere,²³ are approximately 190 Palestine refugee families, comprising approximately 850 individuals, who have come to the Gaza Strip since March 2011.

According to in-depth protection interviews conducted by UNRWA in January and February 2013, many of these families have never been to Gaza before. While over 90 per cent of the 30 interviewed families have parents or grandparents who were displaced to Gaza in 1948, nearly 80 per cent moved to Syria after the 1967 war. Nearly 55 years later, these families are suffering displacement and dispossession for a third time, as they flee the conflict in Syria for any location that will give them entry and at least a marginal improvement in security.

With few countries willing to take Palestine refugees in Syria (PRS), fleeing Syria for Gaza was the only resort for at least half the families, something they did after all other options had been exhausted. Even reaching Gaza has been a challenge, with the borders of Jordan virtually closed, high visa fees in Lebanon, and entry to Egypt often restricted to those with visas, persons of certain age, or persons flying directly from Damascus – all conditions that apply only to Palestine refugees.

Most PRS families live in difficult circumstances in Gaza, and many have said they wish they had stayed in Syria. These families have consistently told UNRWA that they were surprised by the high cost of living and the lack of jobs in Gaza, situations they were not fully aware of prior to arriving. Unable to find jobs, very few of the families have secure housing; over 40 per cent of interviewed families have moved multiple times since arriving in Gaza.

A high number of families mentioned experiencing distressing and traumatic events in Syria, including detention and imprisonment, torture, sexual assault, injury and witnessing attacks. These traumas were exacerbated by the eight days of hostilities between Israel and Palestinian armed actors in November 2012. Children and their parents have also frequently mentioned that adjusting to the culture of the Gaza Strip has been difficult.

UNRWA provides PRS with assistance equal to that of other Palestine refugee families in Gaza. Children are eligible to attend UNRWA schools, even if they do not have school certificates from Syria. PRS are eligible to receive health care at UNRWA's 21 health centers in Gaza, and psycho-social counselors at schools, health centers and relief offices are providing counseling and support. Many families have received emergency non-food items such as blankets, mattresses, plastic sheeting, etc. All PRS will be assessed by UNRWA's poverty survey to determine their eligibility for food assistance.

Nearly 55 years after their first displacement in 1948, these families are suffering displacement and dispossession for a third time, as they flee the conflict in Syria.

The greatest need among PRS families, however, is temporary shelter assistance. Most families have requested this instead of food assistance, as PRS were self-sufficient in Syria and are not used to depending on international aid for basic survival.

UNRWA's Syria Field Office has provided funding to UNRWA's office in Gaza to assist PRS with a one-time provision of temporary shelter cash assistance. Unfortunately, eligibility assessments and cash distribution have not yet begun due to the ongoing protests of refugees against UNRWA in Gaza over the suspension of cash assistance to poor families. Protesters are preventing UNRWA's social workers from conducting house visits or meeting existing or new beneficiaries at UNRWA offices, including PRS. Once protests stop, and social workers are allowed to resume their duties, PRS will be assessed for eligibility for both the one-time shelter assistance and food assistance.

ISRAELI COURT UPHOLDS BARRIER ROUTE IN THE CREMISAN VALLEY

Access to agricultural land at-risk

On 24 April, after seven years of legal proceedings, the Israeli Special Appeals Committee of the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court ruled on the route of the Barrier in the Cremisan Valley in the Bethlehem governorate. The ruling rejected the petition by Palestinian landowners from Beit Jala and representatives of the Salesian religious order from the nearby Cremisan Monastery and Convent, who had appealed to have a section of the Barrier re-routed. As a result, the Barrier will separate some 58 Beit Jala farmers from approximately 3,000 dunams of land, consisting of olive groves, fig and almond orchards, and from the only recreational green space in the area, the terraced hillsides surrounding the Cremisan Monastery and Convent.²⁴

The decision means the Cremisan Convent, and the primary school it operates for Beit Jala residents, will be on the 'Palestinian' side of the Barrier, separated both from its farmland and from the Monastery which will remain on the 'Israeli' side. The nuns had originally chosen to be placed on the 'Israeli' side of the Barrier to avoid being separated from their farmland, but reversed their position in order to continue to be connected to Beit Jala: in 2012, the monks announced that they also preferred to stay on the 'Palestinian' side of the Barrier.

The petitioners argued that the route would damage the fabric of their communities, cause environmental damage to historic agricultural terraces, and contravene international human rights and humanitarian law. The petitioners also claimed that the route was designed to bring Har Gilo settlement to the 'Israeli' side of the Barrier and to connect it to Gilo settlement in East Jerusalem. According to the Society of St. Yves, who represented the Cremisan Monastery and Convent, the Appeals Committee did not pay sufficient attention to the damage the route will cause to landowners.

The Appeals Committee noted that an agricultural gate that will be installed in the Barrier will allow access for the nuns and monks in either direction, in addition to allowing farmers to access their lands. In total, there are 73 gates which have been established by the Israeli authorities along the length of the completed Barrier. Farmers in approximately

The Barrier in this area will separate some 58 Beit Jala farmers from approximately 3,000 dunams of land, consisting of olive groves, fig and almond trees.

150 communities who have land isolated between the Barrier and the Green Line are obliged to use a 'prior coordination' mechanism or to obtain 'visitor' permits from the Israeli authorities to access their farming land and water resources through a designated gate. However, over 70 per cent of these gates (52) are only open during the olive harvest season and only for a limited amount of time during the day, while the rest open daily (11) or on a weekly basis following prior coordination (10). The limited allocation of access permits together with the restricted number and opening times of the Barrier gates continues to severely curtail agricultural practice and undermine rural livelihoods throughout the West Bank. Given the significant reduction in access witnessed in the northern West Bank as a result of Barrier construction, there is concern that agriculture-based livelihoods will be eroded.

The Society of St. Yves and the lawyer representing the Beit Jala farmers announced their intention of appealing the verdict to the Israeli High Court.

ERF-FUNDED PROJECT TARGETS PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN GAZA

Activities seek to mitigate impact of November 2012 violence

During the escalation in conflict between 14 and 21 November 2012, the Gaza Ministry of Health estimated that over 100 Palestinians may have sustained permanent disabilities as a result of being wounded.²⁵ These newly disabled, along with thousands of already disabled residents of the Gaza Strip, are among the most vulnerable civilians in Gaza in terms of humanitarian need.²⁶

In times of armed conflict, persons with disabilities and their families face specific challenges. Disabled adults and children are more vulnerable, generally, to anxiety and stress and more prone than others to developing mental health problems. The need for

Project seeks to mitigate the worst affects of the November violence on persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip.



GNSR/partner project staff working with children with disabilities in the Gaza Strip.

psychosocial intervention becomes critical in the context of military operations. Swiftly assessing needs and addressing them is crucial to mitigating the long term impact of escalations of violence on disabled persons. Those with hearing and speaking disabilities are particularly vulnerable: they cannot hear the military operations happening around them and cannot participate in discussions about the operations and its impacts, exacerbating feelings of isolation, disengagement, and hopelessness. Moreover, because they are unable to express themselves easily, they are also less able to debrief and release stress.

Following the end of the hostilities in November, specialized organizations working with persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip²⁷ launched a joint assessment of the specific needs of this group, stemming from the escalation in violence. Three groups of affected persons were identified as in greatest need of emergency intervention: newly disabled persons; persons with disabilities residing in close proximity to buildings heavily shelled or bombed; and high school students with hearing and speaking disabilities.

In response, the National Society for Rehabilitation in the Gaza Strip (GNSR) and its partners launched a project that targets these groups of people, in areas throughout the Gaza Strip, and seeks to mitigate the worst affects of the November violence on them as well as enhance their recovery, re-engagement and psychosocial wellbeing.²⁸ The project, which is running from February to July 2013, is made possible by the US\$ 170,000 contribution of the UN Emergency Response Fund (ERF), which is supported by the Governments of Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. The ERF enables NGOs to quickly respond to needs emanating from unforeseen, sudden emergencies, such as the November onset of hostilities.

The GNSR project targets a total of over 1,700 persons with disabilities and their families and includes a wide range of psychosocial support and relief activities, home visits and family counselling sessions, and school assessments. It also includes activities designed to develop emergency situation coping skills among persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip. Participants will also benefit from specialized activities aimed at helping community members to deal properly with the handicaps of their loved ones and with new psycho-social symptoms that may have emerged in the aftermath of the violence.

End notes

1. See B'Tselem press release, "Did soldiers fire contrary to regulations? 2 Palestinians killed near 'Anabta/ Einav checkpoint," 1 May 2013. Available at: http://www.btselem.org/firearms/20130501_killing_of_amer_nassar_and_jaji_al_balbisi.
2. Please note, these figures include only casualties caused by Israeli security forces, not Israeli settlers, which are also included in the 'direct conflict' figures featured in the tables at the end of this report.
3. According to a monthly report issued by the Israel Security Agency, Palestinians carried out 139 attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank in April, compared to 125 in March, bringing the 2013 monthly average of such attacks to 121. See Monthly Summary – April 2013, <http://www.shabak.gov.il/ENGLISH/ENTERRORDATA/REPORTS/Pages/April13report.aspx>. The report does not disaggregate between attacks on soldiers versus those on settlers. No information was included indicating injury to Israeli soldiers caused by these attacks; one Israeli settler was killed (see note herein).
4. See B'Tselem, "Military Police launch prompt but inefficient investigations when civilians killed in West Bank, 1 May 2013."
5. See for example, The Turkel Commission, Israel's Mechanisms for Examining and Investigating Complaints and Claims of Violations of the Laws of Armed Conflict According to International Law, February 2013.

6. Concerns include that military court judges, themselves Israeli military officers, lack independence; that detainees are not promptly informed of the charges against them; and that the accused and their attorneys are not provided with the facilities, sufficient time and information necessary for the preparation of an adequate defence, among others. See concerns raised in: "Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, Addendum, Communication to and from governments, Israel," Gabriela Carina Knaul de Albuquerque e Silva," (18 June 2010), A/HRC/14/26/Add.1.
7. See Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General, "Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories". A/HRC/22/35. 6 March 2013.
8. For example, see B'Tselem and Hamoked, "Kept in the Dark: Treatment of Palestinian Detainees in the Petach-Tikva Interrogation Facility of the Israel Security Agency," October 2010 and DCI/PS, "Bound, Blindfolded and Convicted: Children Held in Military Detention," May 2012.
9. For example, according to a joint report by the Israeli human rights groups B'Tselem and HaMoked, between 2001 and October 2010, 645 complaints by those interrogated were made to the Ministry of Justice concerning Israel Security Agency interrogators treatment of Palestinian detainees, yet not one led to a criminal investigation. "Kept in the Dark," October 2010.
10. Yesh Din, "Backyard Proceedings: The Implementation of Due Process Rights in Military Courts in the Occupied Territories," December 2007.
11. UNICEF oPt, "Children in Israeli Military Detention: Observations and Recommendations," February 2013, pg. 1.
12. UNICEF oPt, pg. 1.
13. See, for example, "Quarterly Updates" of Addameer Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association, available at <http://www.addameer.org>.
14. See Addameer press release outlining demands of prisoners and agreement reached with the Israeli prison authorities, "Palestinian Prisoners' Mass Hunger Strike Concludes after Agreement is Reached," May 2012, available at: <http://www.addameer.org/etemplate.php?id=481>.
15. Data provided by PPC to OCHA oPt. The arrested children came from Beit Ummar, Halhoul, Dora, 'Arroub Refugee Camp, Hebron City and Beit 'Awwa.
16. Christian Peacemaker Teams, "Occupied Childhoods: Impact of the Actions of Israeli Soldiers on Palestinian Children in H2 in February, March and April 2013," April 2013. Available at: <http://www.cptnet.org/cptnet/2013/04/11/al-khalil-hebron-new-report-documents-loss-childhood>.
17. See the November 2010 and March 2011 issues of the "Humanitarian Monitor" for concerns related to the arrest of children in Nabi Saleh, Beit Ummar and Silwan.
18. United Nations Country Team, "Gaza 2020: A Liveable Place?," August 2012, pg. 11.
19. See OCHA oPt, "East Jerusalem: Key Humanitarian Concerns," March 2011, pg. 30.
20. Ibid, pg. 30.
21. For more information, see OCHA oPt, "The Planning Crisis in East Jerusalem: Understanding the Phenomenon of "Illegal" Construction," May 2009.
22. Original figures in NIS, converted to USD using an exchange rate of 3.7 NIS for US\$ 1, and rounded.
23. Figure for refugees from Syria based on a UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) figure of 1.2 million Syrian refugees. For more information, see UNHCR's Syrian Regional Refugee Response site, at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>.
24. 1 dunam = 1000 m². In 1967, Beit Jala lost over 3,000 dunams of land, which was incorporated into the expanded Jerusalem municipal boundary.
25. The Gaza Ministry of Health has not tracked these injuries to determine if they did, in fact, sustain a permanent disability. An assessment into two Gaza governorates by the Palestinian Medical Relief Committee, identified 24 persons with a permanent disability and 98 with a short-term disability, along with a number of cases where the long-term impact is unknown.
26. Around seven percent of the oPt population, or over 279,000 people, suffer from a disability. For general information on persons with disabilities in the oPt, see 2013 Consolidated Appeal for the oPt, pg. 95.
27. Participating agencies included the National Society for Rehabilitation in the Gaza Strip (GNSR), The Future Society for Deaf Adults, Youth Empowerment Centre, Basma Society for Culture and Arts, Tamer Institute for Community Education and Diakonia.
28. Activities are being implemented by a range of GNSR partners, namely the Future Society for Deaf Adults, Youth Empowerment Centre, Basma Society for Culture and Arts, Tamer Institute for Community Education, in coordination with relevant local actors, such as the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Palestinian Civil Defense.

CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG), Campaign for the Right to Enter, Action Against Hunger (ACF).

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Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

Conflict-related casualties and violence¹

Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April

Palestinian deaths

Gaza	108	14	180	2	253	2	0	0	1
West Bank	17	0	3	2	9	4	3*	3	2
Total	125	14	177	4	262	6	3	3	3
Of whom are civilians ²	62	0	114	4	136	6	3	3	2
Of whom are female	3	0	22	0	23	1	0	0	0

Palestinian injuries

Gaza	468	29	1516**	21	1834	14	10	5	4
West Bank	1647	57	740	177	3175	254	756	492	657
Total	2115	86	2257	198	5009	268	766	497	661
Of whom are civilians	2054	59	na	179	n/a	268	766	496	660
Of whom are female	151	8	na	13	n/a	8	13	14	9

Israeli deaths

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	11	0	6	0	7	0	0	0	1
Of whom are civilians	11	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	1
Of whom are female	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

Israeli injuries

Israel, Gaza and West Bank	122	1	253***	6	345	6	24	42****	18
Of whom are civilians	56	6	na	4	60	3	11	18	4
Of whom are female	3	0	na	1	7	0	1	1	2

*The figure includes two Palestinians who died of injuries they sustained by Israeli forces during the second intifada and by Israeli settlers in 2005

** Figures include those provided by the Ministry of Health in Gaza during the recent Israeli offensive on Gaza (14-21 November)

*** Figures by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**** The number of injured Israeli soldiers is provided by COGAT

Tunnel-related casualties ³	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Deaths	36	0	0	0	11	6	2	2	0
Injuries	54	0	0	0	18	6	0	12	1

Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage

	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties ⁴	120	11	7	10	98	7	8	11	17
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	291	48	20	18	268	17	19	14	34
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	23	3	5	5	35	2	2	9	4
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages ⁵	13	0	1	1	15	2	0	0	2

Civilian Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance in Gaza

		2011	2012				2013			
		Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April
Adult	Injured	7	1	0	1	12	1	0	0	1
	Killed	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Child	Injured	17	2	0	0	19	5	5	6	0
	Killed	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Grand Total		27	3	1	1	34	7	6	6	1

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Search and Arrest

	2011	2012				2013			
	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	349	319	291	367	338	313	287	282	338
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	262	318	468	391	283	296	411	421	367

Source: OCHA

Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)⁶

	2011	2012				2013			
	Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Total as of the end of the month	5326	4298	4432	4517	4,451	4593	4713	4764	4748
of whom are women	26	11	10	10	7	10	10	11	14
of whom are administrative detainees ⁷	240	156	178	178	245	159	169	164	155
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	633	925	990	1031	897	1069	1118	1196	1216

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)

Demolition of Structures

Structures demolished⁸



	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
of which in Area C	571	81	28	19	540	120	11	1	40
of which in East Jerusalem	42	2	7	6	64	21	3	1	6
Grand Total	613	83	35	25	604	141	14	2	46

*20 are in Area B

People Displaced due to demolitions or evictions⁹



	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
of whom were displaced in Area C	1006	129	0	14	808	243	6	0	40
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	88	6	29	19	71	14	42	10	24
Grand Total	1094	135	29	33	879	257	48	10	64

Source: Displacement Working Group

Child Protection

Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict

	2011	2012				2013			
	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
West Bank	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
Gaza Strip	11	0	40	0	44	0	0	0	0

Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict

	2011	2012	2013
West Bank	308	7	222
Gaza Strip	125	10	24 - without Gaza war
			4
			105
			36
			146
			162
			291

Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict

	2011	2012	2013
oPt	1	0	0
Israel	1	0	0
			1
			0
			0
			0

Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict

	2011	2012	2013
oPt	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	2
			3
			1
			0
			4
			0

Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities

	2011	2012	2013
In Israel and oPt	192 monthly average	164	178
			195
			198 monthly average
			219
			236
			236
			NA

Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions

	2011	2012	2013
West Bank, inc EJ	618	87	14
			10
			468
			156
			23
			5
			38

Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools¹⁹

	2011	2012	2013
oPt	na	4	297
			2
			321
			1
			7
			4
			NA

Source: OCHA, DWG, Defence for Children International, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violations affecting children in armed conflict

Access

Access to healthcare - Gaza

	2011	2012				2013			
	2011 Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 Monthly Average	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing ¹⁵	872	789	725	894	777	796	907	882	1155
of which approved	721	705	629	820	719	738	836	762	957
of which denied	19	6	5	4	7	2	2	1	0
of which delayed ¹⁶	83	78	91	70	17	56	69	119	198

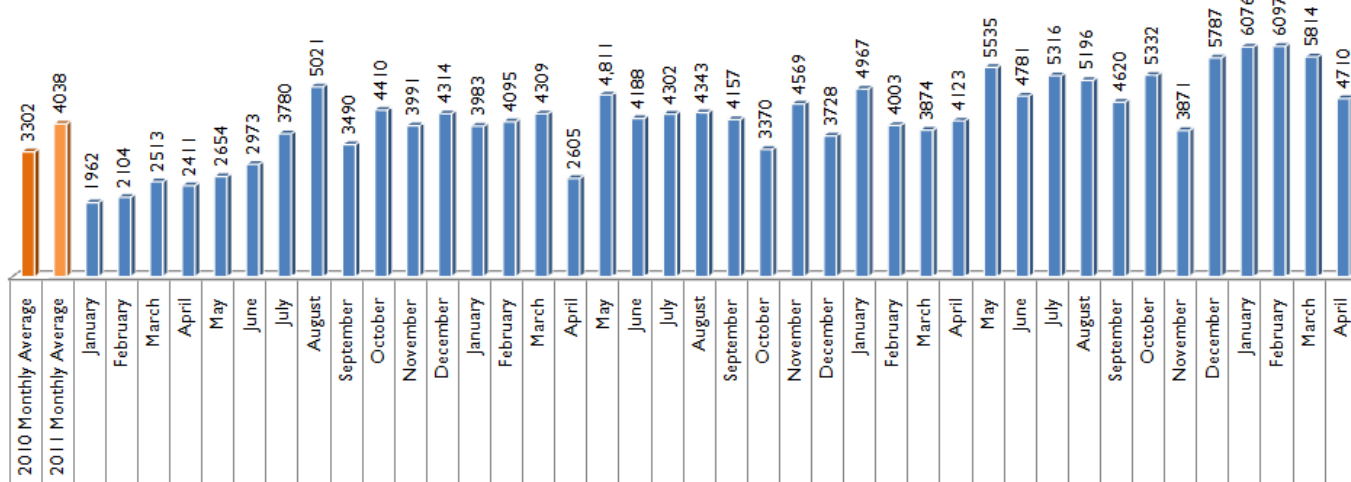
Source: WHO

Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank

	2011	2012				2013			
	2011 Monthly Average	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012 monthly ave	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint ¹⁷	38	60	40	22	37.5	34	69	51	24
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	22	28	26	15	21	18	52	33	10
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	25	36	16	6	21	8	29	17	6

Source: OCHA

Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel



Source: Palestinian Ministry of National Economy, Gaza

* Due to historical differences in the modality of transfer, to preserve the uniformity of the data, figures do not include truckloads carrying fuel.

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP): CAP 2012 and 2013

funding status as of 21 May 2013

Cluster	CAP 2012		CAP 2013	
	Total request in million \$	% of funds received	Total request in million \$	% of funds received
Agriculture	24,921,339	45.3%	30818180	21.7%
Cash for Work and Cash Assistance	95,559,928	34.9%	70481900	23.1%
Coordination and Support Services	21,167,518	95.9%	21295527	22.8%
Education	16,662,763	54.7%	21779922	16.4%
Food Security	170,513,876	83.0%	160052254	31.0%
Health and Nutrition	20,742,170	86.8%	22536007	20.7%
Protection	46,131,077	73.8%	55336641	28.7%
Shelter and Non-food items	na	na	na	na
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	24,208,531	55.8%	19307048	10.8%
Total	419,907,202	70.9%	401,607,479	33.4%

Source: Financial Tracking System (FTS)

Monthly Indicator Notes and Clarifications

Casualties

1. **Conflict-related casualties:** includes all casualties that occurred in violent incidents immediately related to the Israeli occupation and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, such as military operations, search and arrest campaigns, clashes during demonstrations, attacks involving Israeli settlers, etc. These figures exclude other related casualties such as those in the context of access delays, the explosion of unexploded ordnance, reckless handling of weapons, collapse of tunnels, and internal Palestinian violence.
2. **Civilians:** includes people who, according to the information available at the time of publication, did not fulfill a “continuous combatant function” as part of an organized armed group, regardless of the circumstances of their injury or killing. Figures in this category should not be considered comprehensive, as unconfirmed or disputed cases are excluded.
3. **Tunnel related casualties:** figures in this category may overlap with those under conflict-related casualties, as it includes casualties in the context of Israeli attacks targeting tunnels, as well as those resulting from tunnel collapses and other accidents.

Israeli settler-related violence

4. **Incidents resulting in casualties:** includes all violent incidents involving Israeli settlers and Palestinians, including those in which the injury was caused by a member of the Israeli security forces during an intervention in such an incident.
5. **Incidents resulting in property damage/losses:** *ibid.*

Search and Arrest

6. **Palestinians in Israeli custody:** includes all Palestinians from the oPt held by the Israeli authorities at the end of each month, whether in Israel or in the West Bank, in connection to an offense related to the Israeli occupation and classified by the Israeli authorities as a “security detainee/prisoner”. Therefore it excludes Palestinians held in connection to a “regular” criminal offense.
7. **Administrative detainees:** Palestinians held by the Israeli authorities without charge or trial, allegedly for preventive purposes.

Demolitions

8. **Structures demolished:** includes all Palestinian-owned structures in the oPt demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of their specific use (residential or non-residential) or the grounds on which the demolition was carried out (lack of building permit, military operation or punishment).
9. **People displaced due to demolitions:** includes all persons that were living in structures demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of the place in which they relocated following the demolition.
10. **People affected by demolitions:** includes all people that benefited from a demolished structure (as a source of income, to receive a service, etc), excluding those displaced.

Access West Bank

11. **Permanently staffed checkpoints:** staffed by Israeli security personnel, excluding checkpoints located on the Green Line and ‘agricultural gates’ along the Barrier.
12. **Partially staffed checkpoints:** checkpoint infrastructure staffed on an ad-hoc basis.
13. **Unstaffed obstacles:** includes roadblocks, earthmounds, earth walls, road gates, road barriers, and trenches. For historical reasons, this figure excludes obstacles located within the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron City (H2).
14. **‘Flying’ or random checkpoints:** checkpoints deployed on an ad hoc basis in places without pre-existing infrastructure.

Access to health

15. **Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez:** includes only the applications submitted for travel scheduled within the reporting period.
16. **Delayed applications:** includes applications regarding which no answer was received by the date of the medical appointment, thus forcing the patient to restart the application process.

Movement of humanitarian staff

17. **Incidents of delayed or denied access at a WB checkpoint:** includes incidents affecting local or international staff of humanitarian organizations, both UN and international NGOs.

Imports to Gaza

18. **Truckloads by type:** for historical reasons this figure excludes truckloads carrying all types of fuel.

Child Protection

19. Attacks include the targeting of schools that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to school facilities or its personnel.