HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN
MONTHLY REPORT
DECEMBER 2014

OCHA

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lack of financial resources impedes home reconstruction in Gaza, despite progress in the assessment and clearance of cases.
- Relaxation in eligibility criteria for exit permits from Gaza via Israel alongside ongoing closure of Gaza's crossing with Egypt.
- Over 1,200 displaced in the West Bank in the context of Israeli home demolitions during 2014, a six-year high.

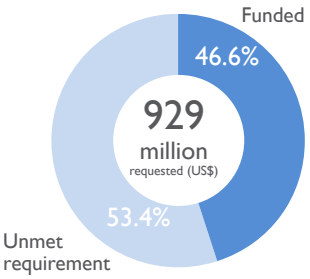
DECEMBER FIGURES

Palestinian civilians killed (direct conflict)	2
Palestinian civilians injured (direct conflict)	347
Structures demolished in the West Bank	38
People displaced in the West Bank	18

STRATEGIC RESPONSE PLAN 2014

929 million
requested (US$)

46.6% funded



Overview

Ongoing tensions may trigger new rounds of violence

This month's Bulletin highlights some of the key trends and issues of humanitarian concern throughout 2014 in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). In the Gaza Strip the overall situation remains extremely fragile, marked by slow progress in the reconstruction of homes and infrastructure destroyed during the July-August hostilities, and compounded by the ongoing energy crisis and growing internal political tensions.

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Although by early January 2015 nearly 40,000 individuals had been granted authorization to purchase construction materials restricted under the Israeli blockade, less than 40 per cent of them have actually purchased materials. The main reason is the lack of financial resources in eligible families due to the limited disbursement

Makeshift shelter in eastern Gaza City, January 2015.

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of funds pledged by member states during the October 2014 Cairo Conference for the reconstruction of Gaza. In the meantime, it is estimated that more than 100,000 people remain displaced in precarious and vulnerable conditions.

Restrictions on the movement of people in and out of the Gaza Strip have remained an important driver of vulnerability in 2014. The upward trend in the number of Palestinians allowed to exit Gaza through the Erez Crossing via Israel (mainly to the West Bank) recorded in previous years continued during 2014. This was particularly pronounced in the second half of the year, when Israel relaxed eligibility criteria for exit permits, including an increase in the number of permits granted to national UN staff. However, fewer people were allowed to leave Gaza or return via the Rafah border crossing with Egypt than in 2013.The crossing closed for a total of 207 days (or 57 per cent of the year) and movement was limited to limited categories of travelers. Overall, the majority of Palestinians in Gaza have remained 'locked in', unable to exit through either crossing.

The continuation of negative trends into 2015 is likely to increase frustration and tensions and trigger new rounds of violence, especially in the absence of a political resolution on the horizon to end the occupation and conflict.

The hostilities of summer 2014 were the deadliest events in the Gaza Strip since the start of the Israeli occupation in 1967. A total of 1,585 Palestinian civilians were killed, a third of them children, and over 11,000 people were injured, including up to 10 per cent who have suffered long term impairment. Alongside other events, the hostilities were a key factor in the increase of violent clashes between Palestinian civilians and Israeli forces in the West Bank. The number of Palestinian fatalities by Israeli forces (56) in the West Bank was the highest since 2007, while the number of injuries was the highest since 2005, when OCHA began to record conflict-related casualties; nearly 19 per cent of these injuries were from live ammunition, up from four per cent in 2013 and two percent in 2012. Excessive use of force by Israeli forces and insufficient accountability continued to raise significant concern. There was also a worrying increase in attacks on Israeli civilians (mostly settlers) and security forces by West Bank Palestinians, as well as in resulting casualties.

During the past year, 1,215 Palestinians were displaced from their homes in East Jerusalem and Area C of the West Bank following house demolitions by the Israeli authorities for lack of a building permit. This is the highest figure for the past six years, during which OCHA has systematically recorded this practice. The Israeli authorities also demolished or seized 143 structures or items provided by humanitarian organizations with international funding to vulnerable communities in Area C. The year ended with further advancement of an Israeli plan to "relocate" around 7,000 Palestinian Bedouin currently residing in 46 small residential areas in Area C to three sites, in contravention of international law.

The continuation of these negative trends into 2015 is likely to increase frustration and tensions and trigger new rounds of violence across the oPt and Israel, especially in the absence of a political resolution on the horizon to end the occupation and conflict. Preventing such deterioration requires immediate and concerted action by the major stakeholders, including Israel, Egypt, donors and Palestinian political players.

RECONSTRUCTION OF HOMES DELAYED AS PLEDGED FUNDS ARE NOT DISBURSED

Significant increase in the number of individual cases assessed and cleared

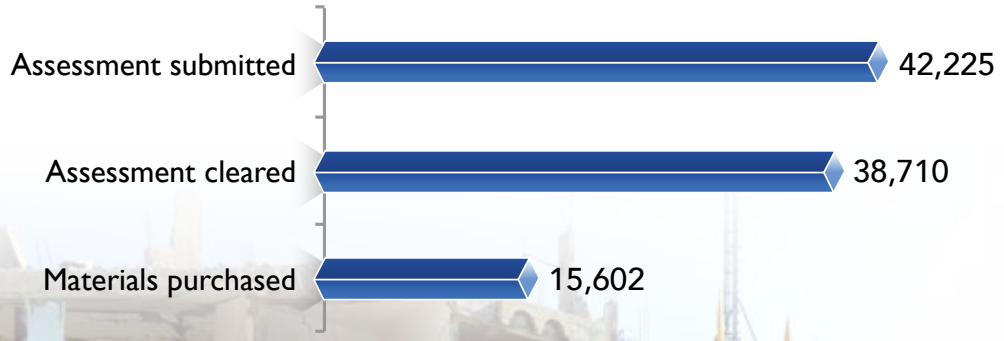
Nearly 40,000 individuals (out of approximately 100,000) whose homes were damaged or destroyed during the summer hostilities have been cleared to purchase restricted construction materials under the temporary Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), as of 5 January. This represents a fivefold increase compared with the previous month.

The total number of people actually purchasing materials also increased during December, but comprises less than 40 per cent of the individuals approved (approx. 15,500). This is mainly due to a lack of economic resources in eligible households because of limited disbursement of funds pledged by member states during the October 2014 Cairo Conference for the reconstruction of Gaza.

Despite the funding constraints, the increase in the number of approved cases led to the volume of building materials imported during December (2,259 truckloads) almost tripling compared with the previous three months (733 on average). According to estimates by the Shelter Cluster, the inflow of construction materials into Gaza should be 735 truckloads *per day*, seven days a week, to cover housing reconstruction and repair needs within three years.

The total number of people actually purchasing building materials increased during December, but comprises less than 40 per cent of the individuals approved.

Individual household repairs under the GRM as of 5 Jan 2015



Houses destroyed as a result of the Israeli offensive on Gaza in 2014 in Shajaiyeh area.

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WHAT IS THE TEMPORARY GAZA RECONSTRUCTION MECHANISM?

The Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM) enables the Government of Palestine (GoP) to lead reconstruction efforts for housing and infrastructure damaged or destroyed during the hostilities of July/August 2014, while addressing Israeli security concerns. The mechanism permits the import into Gaza of basic construction materials, severely restricted by the Israeli authorities since the imposition of the blockade in 2007 under security concerns about their use for military purposes. Construction under the GRM is carried out by the private sector in Gaza, including the import and selling of materials by vendors approved by the GoP. Vendors are vetted and must meet strict stock management and asset protection requirements. Individual home owners require a basic assessment approved by the Palestinian Ministry of Civil Affairs to be eligible to purchase the restricted materials for repairs or reconstruction. A list of the names of families cleared to access construction materials has been made available online.[1] Infrastructure projects are identified based on the GoP National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza and are included in the database after approval by the Israeli authorities.

The Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism enables the Government of Palestine to lead reconstruction efforts for housing and infrastructure damaged or destroyed during the hostilities of July/August 2014, while addressing Israeli security concerns.

Repairs of a damaged building in eastern Gaza City, January 2015.

This section was contributed by UNRWA

UNRWA continues support for shelter repairs amid severe financial constraints

As of mid-January 2015, UNRWA had disbursed over USD $77.6 million to families eligible for shelter packages. The bulk of these funds ($67 million) was distributed to over 59,000 refugee families for home repairs, and the rest as transitional shelter cash assistance (TSCA), covering up to the end of 2014 and reintegration payments to refugee families with uninhabitable or destroyed homes.

Over 96,000 homes of Palestinian refugees were damaged or destroyed during the conflict according to a technical assessment completed by UNRWA on 15 December. The Agency extended a one-week window from 21 to 25 December for any refugee families requiring assessment. It is anticipated that the number of homes affected will rise to over 100,000 once the appeal process concludes. UNRWA estimates a total funding requirement of $720 million for TSCA, reintegration payments, and repair and reconstruction of refugee homes. To date, only five per cent ($35 million) has been pledged, leaving a major funding gap.

As an innovative measure to provide shelter to more families, UNRWA has commenced a pilot building project that involves completing partially finished dwellings. The owners of unfinished buildings select families to rent their property and UNRWA contributes to the completion/renovation of the homes. The initiative serves to increase the current stock of housing units in Gaza and reduces the number of IDP families remaining inside Collective Centres and tented camps. It is also designed to reduce the financial pressure on families hosting IDPs. The initial pilot project involving ten buildings and ten families is close to completion. Based on its initial success, it is hoped that the project can be expanded, subject to additional funding.

UN projects pending for long periods of time approved by the Israeli authorities

In December, the Israeli authorities announced the approval of $37.8 million worth of UN rehabilitation and infrastructure projects in Gaza, involving the construction of schools, housing units, roads and medical centres. These projects were pending for an average of two years.

Since mid-2010, Israel has exceptionally allowed international organizations to import building materials into Gaza, on condition that the projects are approved in advance by the Israeli Ministry of Defense. The approval process has proven problematic and has resulted in significant delays that impede the ability of agencies to respond to urgent needs.

The recent approvals will probably be the last within this mechanism, which has now transitioned to the GRM. Since it started in 2010, the former mechanism resulted in the approval of UN projects worth $534.2 million and the rejection of $54.4 million of other projects.

Under the GRM, the Israeli authorities will consider comprehensive programmes of work rather than individual projects, allowing for quicker and more efficient implementation. A High Level Steering Team, consisting of representatives from the GoP, Israel and the UN, has been established to coordinate the implementation process. Ten plans of work have been already submitted by the GoP and a further four are in progress.

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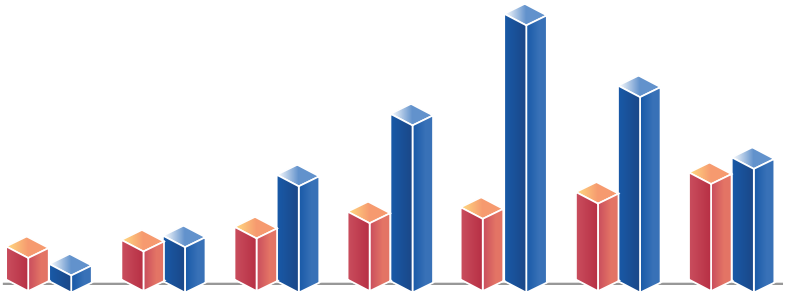
INCREASE IN VOLUME OF DEPARTURES FROM GAZA VIA ISRAEL; CROSSING WITH EGYPT REMAINS CLOSED

Relaxation in the criteria for exit permits via Erez crossing

The upward trend registered in previous years in the number of Palestinians allowed to exit Gaza through the Erez crossing with Israel (mainly to the West Bank) continued into 2014, with a 24 per cent increase compared with 2013. This was particularly pronounced in the second half of the year following the relaxation of Israeli eligibility criteria for exit permits (see box below) in the wake of the July-August hostilities. Despite this improvement, access continues to be largely restricted to medical cases and their escorts, businessmen and traders, and staff of international organizations, with movement to the West Bank denied to most Palestinians from Gaza.

Exits of Palestinians from Gaza by crossing



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Erez	26,000	29,784	40,047	52,515	59,032	69,070	85,453
Rafah	11,050	34,131	82,801	131,731	211,437	151,134	97,423

Historically, Erez has been the main crossing to and from Gaza, particularly for Palestinians working as labourers in Israel; these made up the bulk of Palestinians who crossed on a daily basis prior to the start of the second Intifada in 2000. The numbers declined significantly in subsequent years, particularly from 2006 when Israel halted the entry of day labourers, and following the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip and the imposition of the blockade in 2007. In 2008, only 26,000 people crossed via Erez in the entire year, the equivalent of one day's passage in 2000.

24 per cent increase in the number of Palestinians allowed to exit Gaza through the Erez crossing with Israel (mainly to the West Bank) in 2014 with a compared with 2013, following relaxation of Israeli eligibility criteria for exit permits.

The relaxation measures introduced this year are reflected in the higher number of

MAIN RELAXATIONS OF CRITERIA FOR EXIT PERMITS VIA ISRAEL

- Daily quota for married merchants increased from 200 to 400; the total pool of 3,000 permits, up from 2,000; age requirement lowered from 35 to 26. A quota of 200 permits per week was also introduced for businessmen's wives over the age of 30.
- Palestinians from Gaza may now apply to visit second-degree relatives, such as grandparents, in the West Bank; previously, only first degree relatives were allowed. The age of minors who can accompany permitted adults was raised from six to 15.
- A daily quota of 80 medical patients whose condition is considered 'not urgent' may now travel from Gaza to the West Bank, in addition to a daily quota of 30 people who were injured during the July-August hostilities.
- A monthly quota for up to 100 medical workers from Gaza for training in West Bank hospitals, including in East Jerusalem.
- For the first time in five years, Israel permitted 1,200 Gaza residents to travel to the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, for the feast of Eid al Adha between 5 and 7 October. A weekly quota of up to 200 individuals over the age of 60 permitted to go to East Jerusalem for Friday prayers.
- Students from Gaza are now eligible for permits to transit via the West Bank to study abroad, but remain prohibited from studying in the West Bank itself, including East Jerusalem.[2]

Corridor leading from the Erez Crossing to a Palestinian checkpoint within Gaza

patients permitted to travel through Erez to medical facilities in Israel, the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Jordan. The volume of permit applications rose by 33 per cent from 2013 to 2014, with the number of approvals increasing by 23 per cent (from 12,120 to 14,920), although the number of denied permits also rose from 40 to 522.

Record number of permits issued for national UN staff

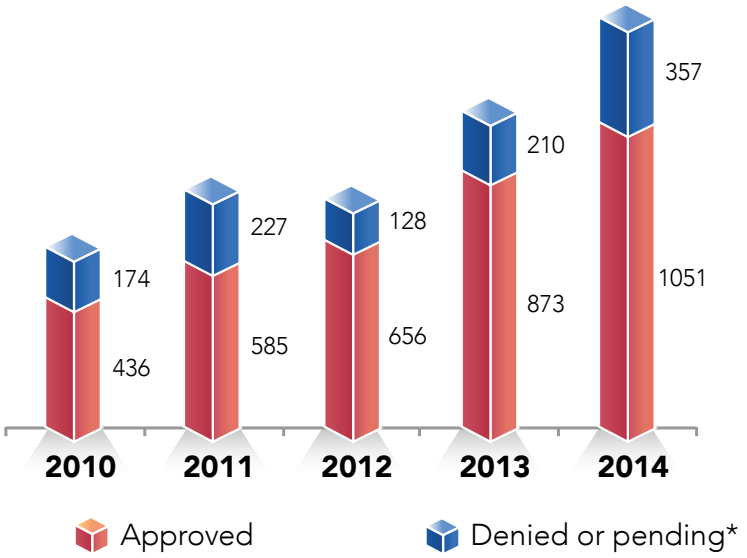
In 2014 the Israeli authorities approved the highest numbers of permits since 2010 for national UN staff traveling in and out of Gaza. In the period following the summer hostilities (September through December), the average processing time for these applications climbed from 10 to 15 day. The Israeli authorities attributed the increased delays to a significant increase in permit applications for Erez during the post-hostilities period as a result of the prolonged closure of the Egyptian-controlled Rafah crossing. In addition, traffic increased following Israel's relaxation of the criteria used for the wider population.

Palestinian access via Rafah crossing declines further in 2014

The decline in the movement of people via the Rafah border crossing with Egypt began in mid-2013 and continued into 2014; during the latter, the crossing was closed for a total of 207 days, or 57 per cent of the year. Since mid-2013, movement has been largely limited to patients, students, pilgrims, and foreign passport and residency permit holders.

In 2014 the Israeli authorities approved the highest numbers of permits since 2010 for national UN staff traveling in and out of Gaza, alongside an increase in the average processing time for applications.

Gaza entry and exit permits for national UN staff



**Pending permits consist of applications that go unanswered and whose status remains unknown.*

The restrictions imposed on the Erez crossing from 2000 turned Rafah into the primary exit and entry point to the wider world for Palestinians in Gaza and the figures rose significantly from 2009. This trend continued into the first six months of 2013, with over 55,000 people crossing Rafah in both directions in June.

Subsequent political uncertainty and military operations in northern Sinai led the Egyptian authorities to impose severe restrictions that drastically reduced the passage of pedestrians in both directions. The volume increased in August and September 2014, but declined again after 24 October following an attack in the Sinai Peninsula in which over 30 Egyptian military personnel were killed. This incident triggered Rafah's closure for the rest of the year, with a few exceptional openings.

The prolonged closure of Rafah crossing is particularly detrimental to medical patients, both those seeking to exit Gaza and those stranded in Egypt whose continued treatment in Gaza is delayed.

The prolonged closure is particularly detrimental to medical patients, both those seeking to exit Gaza for treatment for advanced cancer, renal and heart diseases, and those stranded in Egypt whose continued treatment in Gaza is delayed. There are also reports of Palestinian travelers trying to return to Gaza via Cairo airport being denied boarding, detained or returned to their county of departure due to Egyptian visa and residence permit requirements. The Palestinian Embassy in Cairo has reported having to provide financial support or rented accommodation to stranded Palestinians.[3] According to the Border and Crossing Authority, at the end of 2014 around 17,000 registered people, including medical patients, were waiting to exit Gaza, in addition to an estimated 37,000 others wishing to exit Gaza, including to Saudi Arabia for pilgrimage.

ESCAPING GAZA

In the aftermath of the devastation resulting from the July-August hostilities and the restrictions on the Rafah and Erez crossings, there are increasing reports of Palestinians attempting to smuggle themselves out of Gaza into Israel and Egypt, and to countries beyond. The Protection Cluster reported in November that at least 17 young Palestinians were arrested while attempting to cross into Israel, and cited media reports of more than 136 Palestinian youths attempting to cross to Israel since the end of the July-August hostilities. The majority, reportedly, were attempting to find work in Israel due the depressed economic situation in Gaza.

Others are reportedly smuggling themselves to Egypt through tunnels with the intention of continuing onwards clandestinely to Europe by sea in search of asylum and better economic opportunities. This phenomenon came to light when a smuggler's boat capsized in the Mediterranean on 13 September, reportedly drowning at least 15 Palestinians from Gaza. In an earlier incident on 10 September, smugglers rammed a vessel off the coast of Malta and up to 500 migrants died, among whom over 100 are reported to have been from Gaza. In October, 68 Palestinians were deported back to Gaza through Rafah after being apprehended in Alexandria by Egyptian security forces while attempting to smuggle themselves to Italy.

© Photo by OCHA

Gaza seashore

WEST BANK IN 2014: THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF INJURIES IN A DECADE

Shooting of live ammunition in crowd control situations triggers concerns of excessive use of force

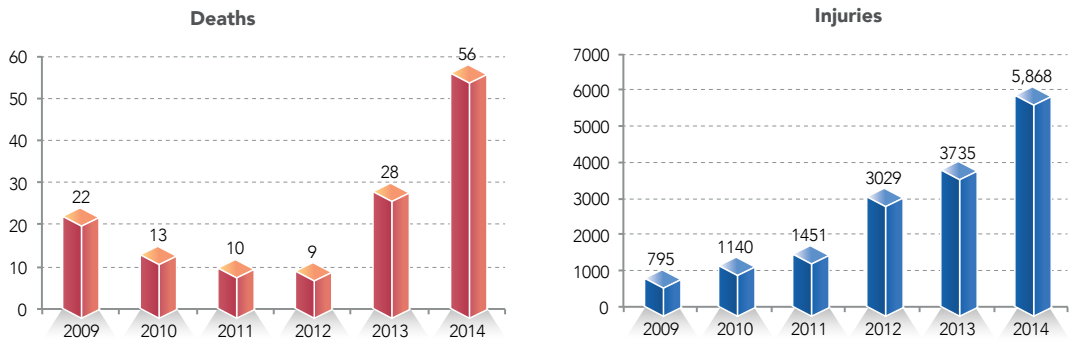
Clashes between Palestinian civilians and Israeli forces continued throughout December, making 2014 one of the most violent years of the past decade, not only in Gaza, but also in the West Bank. During 2014, Israeli forces killed 56 Palestinians and injured another 5,868 in various incidents across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, as well as in a few incidents in West Jerusalem. The number of injuries is the highest since 2005, when OCHA began recording conflict-related casualties, while the number of fatalities is the highest since 2007.

Palestinian attacks against Israeli civilians (mostly settlers) and security forces also rose in 2014, resulting in 15 fatalities and 250 injuries.[4] The Israel Security Agency (formerly known as General Security Service) recorded a total of 2,140 violent attacks by Palestinians in the West Bank and West Jerusalem (excluding stone throwing), up by 53 per cent compared with the previous year.[5]

The sharp increase in casualties underscores longstanding concerns related to the protection of civilians, including excessive use of force by Israeli forces and insufficient accountability.

The violent confrontations peaked during July and August 2014 and accounted for nearly half of all Palestinian injuries during the year and almost 40 per cent of all fatalities.

Palestinian deaths and injuries by Israeli forces



Context of clashes

The violent confrontations between Israeli forces and Palestinians throughout 2014 peaked during July and August and accounted for nearly half (2,850) of all Palestinian injuries during the year and almost 40 per cent (24) of all fatalities. These statistics reflect the clashes that erupted during demonstrations and protests against the abduction and killing of a Palestinian boy in East Jerusalem by Israeli settlers on 2 July, and subsequently against the Israeli military offensive in the Gaza Strip that began on 7 July.

This peak came in the wake of heightened tension during the previous month following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths near Hebron, on 12 June, by Palestinians reportedly affiliated with Hamas. Extensive search and arrest operations by the Israeli forces resulted in a series of clashes with Palestinians.

The second largest wave of confrontations occurred during October and November following Israeli restrictions on the access of Palestinians to the Al Aqsa Mosque compound. Combined with the frequent entry of Israeli politicians to the compound, perceived as provocative, fears were heightened about a major change to the status quo of this sensitive location.

Clashes with Israeli forces, mostly during protests or military operations, including search and arrest operations as described above, accounted for at least 37 of the 56 Palestinian fatalities during 2014; another 11 Palestinians were killed while reportedly resisting arrest or while perpetrating attacks (see below), and the remainder in unclear or disputed circumstances.[6]

Jerusalem at the centre of the storm

Jerusalem was the stage for a wave of Palestinian attacks against Israelis, accounting for 10 of Israeli fatalities during the year and 69 per cent of injuries.

Almost half of all Palestinian injuries during 2014 (2,803) were recorded in Jerusalem governorate (particularly within the Israeli-annexed municipal area of Jerusalem), followed by Hebron (19 per cent) and Ramallah (10 per cent) governorates. This corresponds to the geographical focus of two of the main drivers of tension, discussed above, compounded by pre-existing sources of frustration and tension prompted by the isolation of East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank, discriminatory planning policies and the revocation of ID cards of Palestinian Jerusalemites.

Jerusalem was also the stage for a wave of Palestinian attacks against Israelis, accounting for 10 of Israeli fatalities during the year and 69 per cent of injuries. The most serious attacks included two incidents of four passengers at light train stations being run over with vehicles and the killing of five worshippers in a synagogue, with the perpetrators being killed by Israeli forces in both cases.

Palestinian injuries by Israeli forces per governorate in 2014

Friday prayer in a street of Wadi Al Joz (East Jerusalem) due to the age restrictions on access to the Al Aqsa Mosque, September 2014.

High incidence of child casualties

Twelve of the Palestinians killed in the West Bank by Israeli forces during 2014 and 1,188 of those injured were children under the age of 18. While the number of child fatalities tripled in 2014 compared with 2013, the number of injuries to Palestinian children was almost identical as in 2013 (1,185). The percentage of children out of all those injured declined significantly from 32 per cent in 2013 to 20 per cent in 2014, possibly attributable to wider participation by members of Palestinian society in protests. The number of Israeli children injured by Palestinians also increased during 2014 and included four fatalities and 14 injuries, up from zero and eight respectively in 2013.

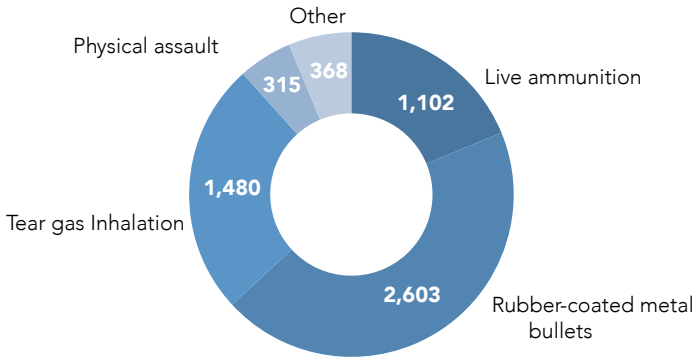
Increase in casualties caused by live ammunition

As in previous years, almost all clashes with Israeli forces involved stone throwing by Palestinians. While still a minority of cases, according to Israeli sources, there was a major increase in the throwing of Molotov cocktails, fireworks and explosive devices at Israeli forces. The latter responded with a range of measures, including the shooting of tear gas canisters, rubber-coated metal bullets, rubber bullets and live ammunition.

Of particular concern during 2014, has been the sharp increase in the Israeli forces' use of live ammunition in crowd control situations. In addition to almost all the fatalities, live ammunition accounted for 1,102, or nearly 19 per cent, of all Palestinian injuries in 2014, up from four per cent in 2013 and two percent in 2012.

Of particular concern during 2014, has been the sharp increase in the Israeli forces' use of live ammunition in crowd control situations, which accounted for nearly 19 per cent of all Palestinian injuries up from four per cent in 2013 and two percent in 2012.

Palestinian injuries by Israeli forces by type of weapon in 2014



Despite the frequency and intensity of clashes in East Jerusalem, there were no recorded Palestinian casualties (deaths or injuries) from live ammunition or rubber-coated metal bullets in areas located on the 'Jerusalem side' of the Barrier. Responsibility for law enforcement in these areas lies with the Israeli civil police which, unlike the army and the Border Police, is not allowed to use these types of ammunition for crowd control purposes.[7]

During 2014 there was a relative increase in the number of injuries from rubber-coated metal bullets, which are potentially lethal. These accounted for 45 per cent of all injuries, up from 40 per cent in 2013. Although the total number of people treated for tear gas inhalation increased, this constituted 25 per cent of all injuries, down from 41 per cent in 2013.

Excessive use of force and accountability

The rise in the number of fatalities and serious injuries highlights longstanding concerns over the use of excessive force by Israeli forces, particularly in crowd control. Investigations carried out by UN agencies and NGOs suggest that, in many cases, individuals killed or seriously injured posed little or no threat to soldiers at the time of the incident; this was noted as an issue of serious concern by the UN Secretary-General in a recent report.[8]

Criminal investigations by the Israeli authorities into the circumstances of 32 out of 56 of this year's killings have led to the indictment of only one suspect, while the results of the other cases are still pending.

In the West Bank, Israeli forces act in a law enforcement capacity and are therefore bound by Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 43 of the Hague Regulations. Under these provisions, the use of firearms is only permitted in limited circumstances, primarily in self-defence or defence of others against imminent threat of death or serious injury.

Criminal investigations by the Israeli authorities into the circumstances of 32 out of 56 of this year's killings have led to the indictment of only one suspect, while the results of the other cases are still pending.[9] While the opening of investigations is in itself positive, human rights organizations are concerned that this type of investigation is frequently not conducted in as thorough and robust manner as required by international law; some cases are subject to serious delays and remain open for years. No similar investigations have been opened into incidents that resulted in serious injuries.[10]

Contributed by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

SHOT AND KILLED DURING CLASHES

On 11 November 2014, an Israeli soldier shot and killed 21 year old Palestinian youth, Mohammad Jawabreh, in Al Arrub refugee camp, north of Hebron. The incident took place during clashes lasting for several hours that erupted following a demonstration held to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the death of former Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. The following are the initial findings of an investigation into this incident conducted by OHCHR:

Jawabreh took part in the initial clashes and was struck in the leg by a rubber-coated metal bullet. He was treated on the spot and left the scene with a friend. The two continued to Jawabreh's house and watched the clashes from a window on the second floor of the house. Shortly after, an Israeli soldier positioned on an adjacent roof ordered the two to leave the window, subsequently firing a teargas canister in their direction. Following that, the two left the window for some time, but returned later with a family member and continued watching the clashes while drinking tea.

According to OHCHR's findings, a few minutes later, Jawabreh suddenly shouted and collapsed on the floor. It later became clear that he had been shot with live ammunition on the left side of his back. The two men accompanying him carried him down, put him in a car and drove towards Beit Ummar, where he was transferred to an ambulance. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital.

The Israeli authorities indicated that the Military Police has opened an investigation into this incident, which remains open as of mid-January 2015.

PLAN PROGRESSES TO TRANSFER BEDOUIN COMMUNITIES IN CENTRAL WEST BANK

Ongoing demolitions in at-risk communities act as a "push factor"

In December, another step was taken in the Israeli plan to "relocate" around 7,000 Palestinian Bedouin currently residing in 46 small residential areas in Area C in the central West Bank.[11] The time period allocated by the Israeli Civil Administration (ICA) for the filing of objections to outline plans for the establishment of a Bedouin town in An Nuwei'ma, next to Jericho city, the largest of the three relocation sites identified by the Israeli authorities, has now expired.

In a briefing provided to a Knesset sub-committee in April 2014, a senior Israeli Minister of Defense officer reportedly justified the relocation plan on the grounds that the residents lack title over the land on which they currently reside and that their relocation will improve their living conditions and access to services. The residents, the majority of whom are registered refugees, oppose the proposed relocation and insist on their right to remain at their current site or to return to their original homes and land in southern Israel, from which they were evicted in the early 1950s.

The time period allocated for the filing of objections to outline plans for the establishment of a Bedouin town in An Nuwei'ma, next to Jericho city, the largest of the three relocation sites, has now expired.

Following the deposition of the plans for An Nuwei'ma town for public review in August 2014, dozens of objections were submitted. Arguments highlighted the unsuitability of the proposed site to the pastoral lifestyle of these communities; the negative socio-economic impact of the relocation; the feasibility of services provision in their current locations; and the failure of the plan to conform to provisions in international humanitarian law (IHL). The UN Secretary-General has stated that the implementation of the proposed plan could amount to individual and mass forcible transfers and forced evictions, prohibited under IHL and human rights law.[12]

The ICA is currently reviewing the objections submitted; the timeframe for this is not specified. Once complete, the ICA should publish the reviewed plans again for a period of 45 days, during which petitions against them could be filed with the Israeli High Court of Justice (HCJ). After this period, the outline plans will enter into force, unless the HCJ orders otherwise.

Jabal Al Baba (Jerusalem), a Bedouin community at risk of forcible transfer. In the background: Ma'ale Adummim settlement.

© Photo by OCHA

Although the formal window of opportunity to appeal the outline plans before the Israeli HCJ has not begun, some of the affected communities filed two related petitions this month. One of them requested the court to oblige the ICA to disclose all relevant details of the relocation plan, including the names of communities and their planned destinations. The other petition requested an interim injunction freezing the planning process on the grounds of inadequate consultation with the affected communities.[13]

Israeli demolitions and confiscations continue

The advancement of the "relocation" plan is taking place alongside various Israeli practices that create a coercive environment and which function as a "push factor". These practices include demolition orders against the majority of the existing structures in the affected communities on the grounds that they lack building permits, plus the demolition or seizure of donor-funded assistance, provided by the international community to support the residents in their current locations.

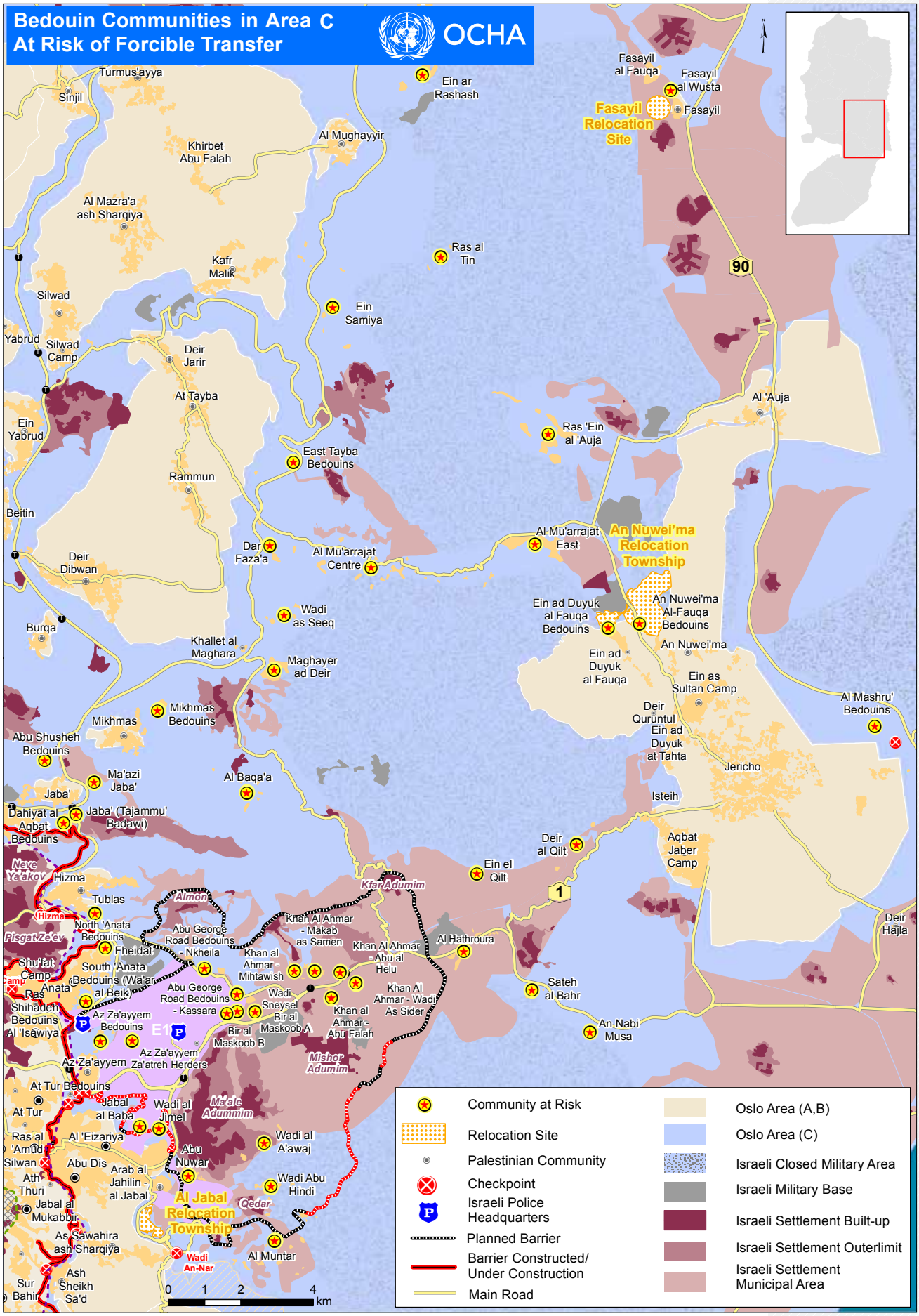
The advancement of the "relocation" plan is taking place alongside various Israeli practices that create a coercive environment and which function as a "push factor".

Although the ICA has committed not to implement orders that are the subject of a petition at the HCJ until a relocation site is made available to the people living in these structures, the demolition and requisition of structures against which no petitions have been filed has continued. In 2014, the ICA demolished, dismantled and seized approximately 70 residential and livelihood-related structures in at least ten of the communities at risk of forcible transfer.[14] Over a third of these structures were funded by international donors and provided as humanitarian assistance.

The majority of demolitions and seizures took place in communities located in the Jerusalem periphery. Much of this area has been allocated for the expansion of Israeli settlements, including the construction of thousands of settlement housing and commercial units between the Ma'ale Adumim settlement and Jerusalem as part of the E1 plan. This plan has been opposed consistently by the international community in the belief that it will undermine a two-state solution. Large areas of land are also at risk of being surrounded by the Barrier.

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES AT RISK OF FORCIBLE TRANSFER

With the aim of identifying gaps and improving the quality of their response, humanitarian organizations conducted a joint mapping of interventions targeting the Bedouin communities at risk of forcible transfer. Initial findings indicated that at present there are a total of 28 projects under implementation or planned for 2015. These projects involve the delivery of material assistance, including food, emergency shelters, winterization kits, latrines and water tanks, and essential services, such as primary health care, psychosocial support, veterinary services, awareness raising on nutrition and hygiene issues, and legal support to prevent demolitions and displacement.


Bedouin Communities in Area C
At Risk of Forcible Transfer
OCHA
Turmus'ayya
Sinjil
Ein ar Rashash
Fasayil al Fauqa
Fasayil al Wusta
Fasayil Relocation Site
Fasayil
Al Mughayyir
Khirbet Abu Falah
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya
Ras al Tin
Kafr Malik
90
Silwad
Ein Samiya
Yabrud
Silwad Camp
Deir Jarir
At Tayba
Al 'Auja
Ein Yabrud
Ras 'Ein al 'Auja
East Tayba Bedouins
Rammun
Beitin
Al Mu'arrajat East
An Nuwei'ma Relocation Township
Dar Faza'a
Al Mu'arrajat Centre
Deir Dibwan
Ein ad Duyuk al Fauqa Bedouins
An Nuwei'ma Al-Fauqa Bedouins
Wadi as Seeq
Burqa
Khallet al Maghara
An Nuwei'ma
Ein ad Duyuk al Fauqa
Maghayer ad Deir
Ein as Sultan Camp
Al Mashru' Bedouins
Mikhmas Bedouins
Mikhmas
Deir Qurntul Ein ad Duyuk at Tahta
Abu Shusheh Bedouins
Jericho
Ma'azi Jaba'
Al Baqa'a
Jaba'
Isteih
Dahiyat al Aqbat Bedouins
Jaba' (Tajammu' Badawi)
Deir al Qilt
Aqbat Jaber Camp
Neve Ya'akov
Hizma
Ein el Qilt
Kfar Adumim
1
Tublas
Almon
Hizma
North 'Anata Bedouins
Khan Al Ahmar - Makab as Samen
Deir Hajla
Pisgat Ze'ev
Abu George Road Bedouins - Nkheila
Al Hathroura
Fheidat
Khan Al Ahmar - Abu al Helu
Khan al Ahmar - Mihtawish
Shu'fat Camp
South 'Anata (Bedouins (Wa'al al Beik)
Sateh al Bahr
Ras Shihadeh Bedouins
Anata
Abu George Road Bedouins - Kassara
Wadi Sneysel
Khan Al Ahmar - Wadi As Sider
Al 'Isawiya
Az Za'ayyem Bedouins
E1
Bir al Maskoob A
Khan al Ahmar - Abu Falah
An Nabi Musa
Bir al Maskoob B
Az Za'ayyem
Az Za'ayyem Za'atreh Herders
Mishor Adumim
At Tur Bedouins
At Tur
Jabal al Baba
Wadi al Jimel
Ma'ale Adummim
Ras al 'Amud
Al 'Eizariya
Wadi al A'awaj
Silwan
Abu Dis
Abu Nuwar
Ath Thuri
Arab al Jahilin - al Jabal
Wadi Abu Hindi
Jabal al Mukabbir
Al Jabal Relocation Township
Qedar
As Sawahira ash Sharqiya
Al Muntar
Wadi An-Nar
Sur Bahir
Ash Sheikh Sa'd
0 1 2 4 km
Community at Risk
Relocation Site
Palestinian Community
Checkpoint
Israeli Police Headquarters
Planned Barrier
Barrier Constructed/ Under Construction
Main Road
Oslo Area (A,B)
Oslo Area (C)
Israeli Closed Military Area
Israeli Military Base
Israeli Settlement Built-up
Israeli Settlement Outerlimit
Israeli Settlement Municipal Area

2004 - 2014 10 YEARS
The ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Wall

NEW INTERACTIVE MAP HIGHLIGHTS THE HARDSHIP OF FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE BARRIER

"Today we find ourselves surrounded by a wall"

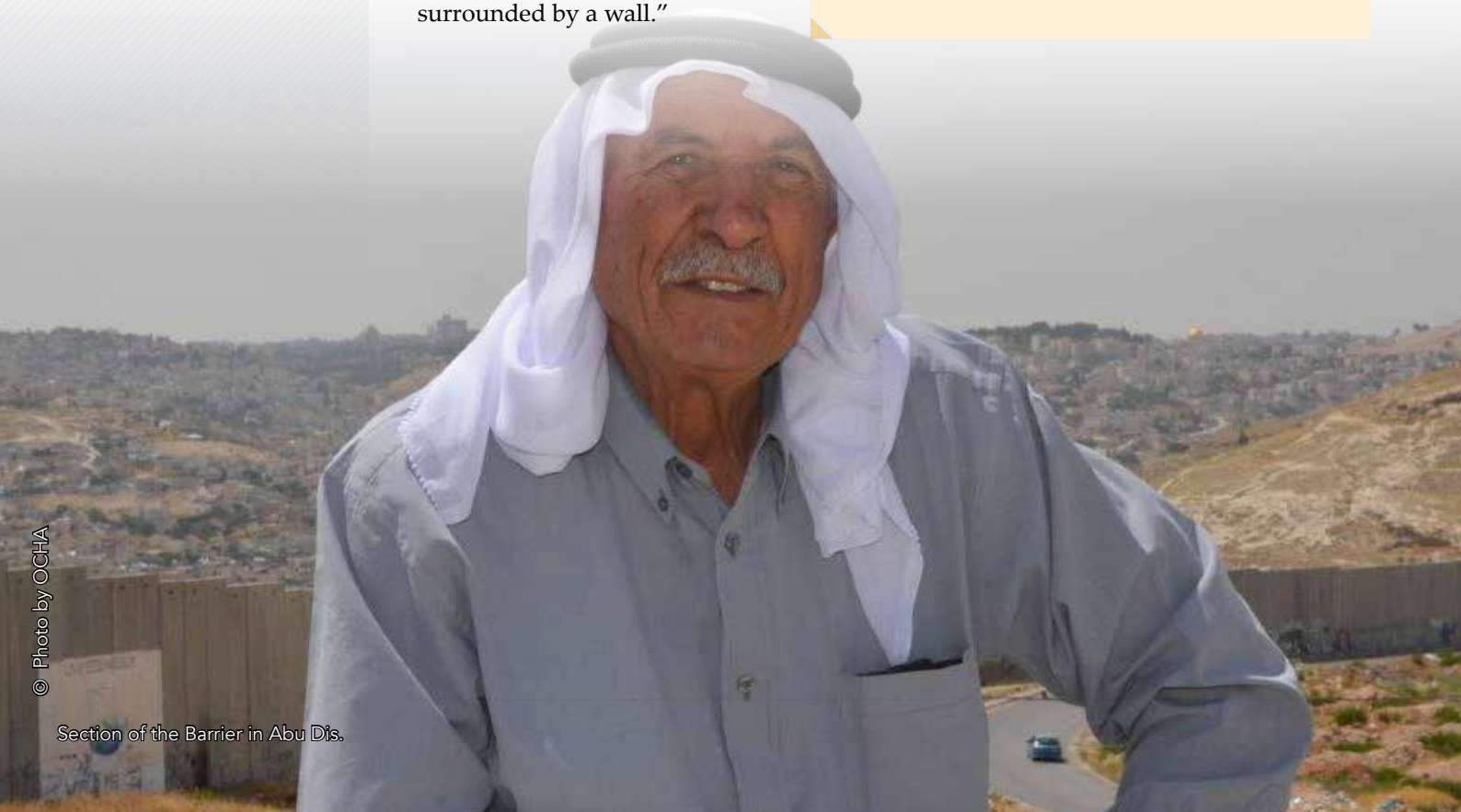
This year marked the tenth anniversary of the 2004 International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory Opinion on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Throughout the year, OCHA oPt has been active in drawing attention to the ongoing impact of the Barrier by focusing on the stories of those affected. In East Jerusalem, OCHA oPt is using an interactive map to tell the story of families from one part of the city who have been physically divided since the Barrier construction: http://www.ochaopt.org/content.aspx?id=1010271

"I have been a resident of this area for more than 60 years," says Sami As Surkhi, a retired school principal. "We had hoped that the situation would improve, but today we find ourselves surrounded by a wall."

In East Jerusalem, OCHA oPt is using an interactive map to tell the story of families from one part of the city who have been physically divided since the Barrier construction.

In its Advisory Opinion, the ICJ recognized that Israel 'has to face numerous indiscriminate and deadly acts of violence against its civilian population' and that it 'has the right, and indeed the duty, to respond in order to protect the life of its citizens. [However], the measures taken are bound nonetheless to remain in conformity with applicable international law.'

The ICJ stated that the sections of the Barrier route in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, violated Israel's obligations under international law. The ICJ called on Israel to cease construction of the Barrier 'including in and around East Jerusalem'; dismantle the sections already completed; and 'repeal or render ineffective forthwith all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto'.



© Photo by OCHA

Section of the Barrier in Abu Dis.

Sami remembers when he and his family used to gather at his home in As Sawahireh Al Sharqiya to celebrate holidays and weddings. The Barrier has largely put an end to that. The family house is located within the Israeli-defined municipal area of Jerusalem, but is now cut off from the remainder of East Jerusalem by the Barrier, leaving it on the West Bank side.

"Do you see that tree on the other side of the wall, right next to it? That's my daughter's house. We don't see each other very often anymore since the wall was built." What used to be a five-minute walk (600 metres) to her house is now an arduous and costly trip through checkpoints.

Israel began construction of the Barrier in Abu Dis, Al 'Eizariya and As Sawahireh Al Sharqiya area in 2002 following a series of deadly attacks against Israeli civilians. By 2005, the area, which used to be one of East Jerusalem's thriving business hubs, was cut off completely from its historical centre, affecting the lives and income of thousands of residents.

What used to be a five-minute walk (600 metres) to her house is now an arduous and costly trip through checkpoints.

End notes

1. See: http://www.mpwh.ps/.
2. On 28 December, the Israeli authorities agreed to allow 150 Palestinians enrolled in schools abroad, but stranded in Gaza due to the closure of the Rafah crossing with Egypt, to leave through Israel via the Erez crossing.
3. See1.8 million people 'locked in' due to the closure of Rafah crossing and Israel's blockade, OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin, November 2014. http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_the_humanitarian_monitor_2014_12_24_english.pdf
4. All figures include Israeli and Palestinian casualties that occurred during attacks perpetrated by Palestinians from the West Bank in Israel, including in West Jerusalem.
5. See ISA's monthly reports at: http://www.shabak.gov.il/english.
6. This category does not include cases in which the facts about whether the deceased was killed by Israeli forces is disputed.
7. Following the recommendations of the Orr Commission report into the conduct of the Israeli police during the events of October 2000, in which police killed 12 Israeli citizens, the use of rubber-coated bullets by police within Israel was prohibited, barring exceptional cases for which the Chief Police Commissioner's authorization must be obtained. No similar restriction was imposed on Israeli forces operating in the West Bank, (excluding East Jerusalem) and the Gaza Strip. http://www.btselem.org/download/201212_crowd_control_eng.pdf
8. United Nations Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly on Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory ,A/69/347 Paras. 44 a 51.
9. Information provided to OCHA by the Israeli NGO B'Tselem.The case lead to an indictment involved the shooting and killing of a 17 year old boy during a demonstration in Bituniya (Ramallah) on 15 May 2014, which was caught on camera.
10. For further detail see OCHA, Fragmented Lives- Humanitarian Overview 2013, pp. 7-9, at: http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_annual_review_2014.pdf. Also see A/HRC/25/40, para. 50 to 54.
11. OCHA Factsheet: Bedouin Communities at Risk of Forcible Transfer, September 2014.
12. Report by the UN Secretary General to the UN General Assembly, A/69/348, pp. 6 and 7. See also A/67/372, 14 September 2012, para. 37.
13. The petitioners were supported by members of the Protection Cluster. For further details, see Amira Hass, West Bank Bedouin fighting Israel's plan for forcible relocation, *Haaretz*, 3 Dec 2014.
14. OCHA Protection of Civilians Database.

Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

Conflict-related casualties and violence[1]

Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties	2011	2012	2013	2014												
	Total	Total	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep*	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Palestinian deaths																
Gaza	108	**264**	**11**	4	2	5	0	0	6	1550	669	12	4	1	3	**2256**
West Bank (by Israeli forces and Israeli settlers)	17	**8**	**28**	2	1	6	1	2	7	17	8	4	4	4	2	**58**
Total	125	**272**	**39**	6	3	11	1	2	13	1567	677	16	8	5	5	**2314**
Of whom are civilians[2]	62	**136**	**32**	5	3	7	1	2	8	1566	677	16	8	5	5	**1573**
Of whom are female	3	**23**	**1**	0	1	1	1	0	0	207	87	3	0	0	0	**300**
Palestinian injuries																
Gaza	468	**1485**	**83**	43	43	19	37	20	39	10,895		3	7	8	20	**11134**
West Bank (by Israeli forces and Israeli settlers)	1647	**3175**	**3881**	176	173	209	265	245	287	2210	640	206	282	1000	330	**6023**
Total	2115	**4660**	**3964**	219	216	228	302	265	326	13735		209	291	984	350	**17125**
Of whom are civilians	2054	**n/a**	**3959**	216	219	234	281	264	324	NA	NA	206	291	984	347	**NA**
Of whom are female	151	**n/a**	**158**	15	3	15	29	17	26	2142		4	24	6	5	**2286**
Israeli deaths																
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	11	**7**	**4**	0	0	0	1	0	3	71		0	2	8	0	**85**
Of whom are civilians	11	**3**	**2**	0	0	0	1	0	3	5		0	2	6	0	**17**
Of whom are female	0	**1**	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	**2**
Israeli injuries																
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	122	**345**	**151**	9	6	5	15	28	5	2437		22	32	55	15	**2629**
Of whom are civilians	56	**60**	**74**	8	5	1	6	9	4	837**		10	19	41	12	**952**
Of whom are female	3	**7**	**10**	1	2	1	3	6	0	NA	NA	3	6	2	3	**27**

*September-December fatalities in Gaza include those who sustained injuries during the Israeli offensive on Gaza (July-August)
**See Magen David Adom's report: http://www.mdais.org/h/316/&mod=download&me_id=13228

Incidents related to tunnels[3]	2011	2012	2013	2014												
	Total	Total	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Deaths	36	**11**	**17**	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	**6**
Injuries	54	**18**	**14**	1	0	10	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	**14**

Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage	2011	2012	2013	2014												
	Total	Total	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties[4]	120	**98**	**94**	5	6	10	10	8	13	25	6	3	6	14	4	**110**
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	291	**268**	**306**	18	17	24	28	22	17	24	12	5	19	17	18	**221**
Subtotal: incidents affecting Palestinians	**411**	**366**	**399**	**23**	**23**	**34**	**38**	**30**	**30**	**49**	**18**	**8**	**25**	**31**	**22**	**331**
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	23	**35**	**38**	6	3	0	3	3	1	14	14	9	10	16	10	**89**
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages[5]	13	**15**	**12**	0	1	1	4	10	11	9	7	27	27	20	23	**140**
Subtotal: incidents affecting settlers	**36**	**50**	**50**	**6**	**4**	**1**	**7**	**13**	**12**	**23**	**21**	**36**	**37**	**36**	**33**	**229**

Civilian Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance in Gaza		2011	2012	2013	2014												
		Total	Total	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Adult	Injured	7	**12**	**4**	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	15	3	0	5	11	**38**
	Killed	1	**2**	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	**7**
Child	Injured	17	**19**	**19**	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	7	**19**
	Killed	2	**1**	**3**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	**1**
Grand Total		**27**	**34**	**26**	**0**	**0**	**11**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**21**	**6**	**1**	**7**	**11**	**65**

Source: United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Child Protection

Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	Total	Total	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
West Bank	2	**2**	**4**	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	1	2	0	2	**13**
Gaza Strip	11	**44**	**1**	1	0	0	0	0	1	367	174	3	0	1	1	**548**
Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict																
West Bank	308	**427**	**1232**	39	47	67	90	65	76	283	201	74	58	113	108	1221
Gaza Strip	125	**105**	**10**	4	7	6	9	3	76	3,306		0	0	1	4	3416
Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict																
oPt	1	**1**	**0**	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	7
Israel	1	**1**	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict																
oPt	0	**3**	**8**	0	1	0	0	1	0	NA	N/A	1	0	1	3	7
Israel	0	**2**	**0**	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities																
In Israel and oPt	**192** monthly average	**198** monthly average	**197** monthly average	183	230	202	196	214	202	192	201	128	163	156	N/A	**188** monthly average
Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions																
West Bank, inc EJ	618	**474**	**558**	95	28	21	90	99	21	4	83	87	44	70	9	651
Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools[19]																
oPt	na	**321**	**47**	19	13	9	17	5	15	0	4	23	N/A	N/A	N/A	na

Souce: OCHA, Defence for Children Inernational, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violatons affecting children in armed conflict

Access

Access to healthcare - Gaza	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	2011 Monthly Average	2012 Monthly Average	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing[15]	872	**777**	**1148**	1,538	1,485	1,806	1,677	1714	1,799	1,093	946	1561	1038	1,636	1,684	1498
of which approved	721	**719**	**1010**	1350	1,289	1,553	1,308	1470	1,436	716	783	1307	76	1,292	1,379	1163
of which denied	19	**7**	**3**	37	50	33	31	14	56	70	20	41	213	44	56	55
of which delayed [16]	83	**17**	**135**	151	146	220	338	230	307	307	143	213	15	300	249	218

Source: WHO

Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	2011 Monthly Average	2012 monthly ave	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint[17]	38	**37.5**	**40.1**	11	31	20	39	21	41	12	33	38	31	39	30	29
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	22	**21**	**22.3**	1	9	4	12	6	11	3	21	14	4	6	6	8
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	25	**21**	**18.5**	2.5	26	29	35	41	52	10.5	19	26.5	9.5	32	15	26

Source: OCHA

Search and Arrest

	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	Monthly Average	Monthly Average	Mon. Ave.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Mon. Ave.
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	349	**338**	**316**	434	236	475	325	420	767	411	292	353	422	409	409	413
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	262	**283**	**491**	295	581	344	619	883	826	472	467	562	631	584	563	561

Source: OCHA

Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)[6]	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	Monthly Average	**Monthly Average**	**Mon. Ave.**	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	**Mon. Ave.**
Total as of the end of the month	5326	**4,451**	**4227**	4881	4961	4999	5021	5,053	5,318	5,383	5,505	5439	5477	5,527	NA	5233
of whom are women	26	**7**	**10**	14	17	18	18	16	15	17	17	15	14	15	NA	16
of whom are administrative detainees[7]	240	**245**	**132**	175	181	186	191	196	363	446	473	468	457	461	NA	327
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	633	**897**	**1062**	1376	1470	1471	1495	1,476	1,497	1,577	1,650	1623	1609	1,534	NA	1525

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)

Demolition of Structures

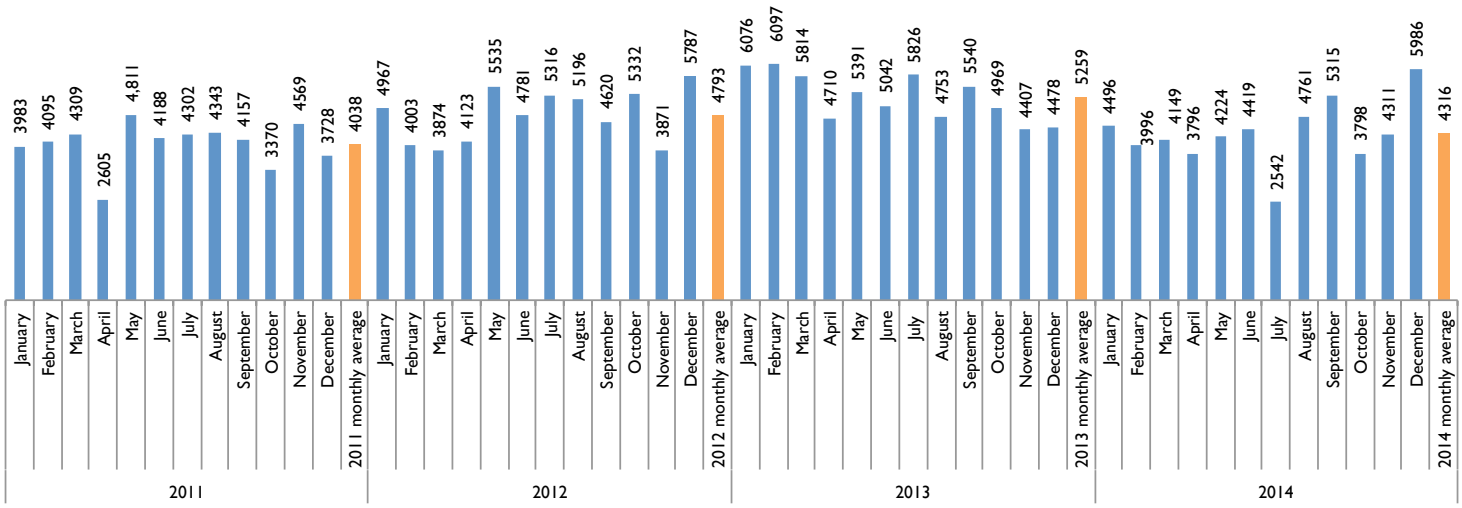
Structures demolished[8]

	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	Total	**Total**	**Total**	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	**Total**
of which in Area C	571	**540**	**565**	101	22	5	88	70	30	6	25	58	27	37	24	493
of which in East Jerusalem	42	**64**	**98**	7	9	9	4	5	6	2	5	3	23	11	14	98
Area A	**NA**	**NA**		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**
Area B	**NA**	**NA**		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5**
Grand Total	**622**	**604**	**663**	**108**	**31**	**14**	**92**	**75**	**36**	**10**	**37**	**62**	**50**	**48**	**38**	**601**

People Displaced due to demolitions[9]

	2011	2012	2013	2014											
	Total	**Total**	**Total**	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	**Total**
of whom were displaced in Area C	1006	**815**	**805**	160	24	17	171	156	42	0	98	122	67	102	10	969
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	88	**71**	**298**	23	34	28	8	8	0	0	20	15	30	34	8	208
Area A	**NA**	**NA**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**11**	**16**	**5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**32**
Area B	**NA**	**NA**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**6**
Grand Total	**1094**	**886**	**1103**	**183**	**58**	**45**	**179**	**164**	**42**	**11**	**140**	**142**	**97**	**136**	**18**	**1215**

Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel[18]



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.

Strategic Response Plan(SRP) 2014:

as of 26 January 2015.

Cluster	SRP 2014	
	Total request in USD	% of funds received
Coordination and Support Services	21,193,179	105.9%
Education	47,903,132	14.5%
Food Security	537,357,004	37.9%
Health and Nutrition	38,580,097	49.8%
Protection	57,243,771	40.7%
Shelter/Non-Food Items	163,734,700	7.3%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	62,818,396	17.7%
Total	**928,830,279**	**46.6%**

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.