



# Lebanon Situation Report

January 16, 2024

## Background

Anera's last [Situation Report \(December 2024\)](#) summarizes information about the situation in the immediate aftermath of the ceasefire announcement, amid ongoing tensions and hostilities.

## Overview

Following the ceasefire announcement on November 27, 2024, a majority of displaced people returned to their areas of origin. However, returnees are grappling with significant challenges, such as ongoing insecurity, unexploded ordnance, disrupted public services, and access restrictions in more than 70 localities in southern Lebanon. **At least 12 people have been killed in attacks since the ceasefire, with strikes continuing to affect parts of Baalbek-Hermel, Bekaa, Nabatieh, and South governorates.** Many returning families are still internally displaced, as their homes have been destroyed or damaged, though they have relocated closer to their communities. Preliminary assessments indicate significant building destruction and extensive water, power, and health infrastructure damage.<sup>1</sup>

A recent UN Women rapid assessment, primarily conducted with women from southern Lebanon, revealed that 80% of displaced women require cash assistance due to limited employment opportunities. In response to decreased household income, 23% have entered informal work, while 82% have increased unpaid care work at home. To cope with the financial strain, 74% of the women reported reducing food intake, negatively affecting their health and that of their families. Vulnerable groups, including women with disabilities, older women, and survivors of gender-based violence, are considered most at risk.<sup>2</sup>

A recent UNICEF study found that younger Palestinian adolescents living in camps complain of struggling academically and frequent school closures. Older female adolescents and young women reported a decline in ambition and motivation, primarily due to interrupted education and limited opportunities for further education, compounded by ongoing difficulties, violence, and school closures. UNICEF staff also highlighted threats to education funding and the deterioration of school environments,

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<sup>1</sup> [Situation Report #5 - UNFPA Response in Lebanon \(1-15 Dec. 2024\) | UNFPA](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Lebanon: Flash Update #54 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 09 January 2025 | OCHA](#)

which contribute to distress among both caregivers and students, including concerns regarding the quality of education offered by the main service provider in the camps.<sup>3</sup>

## Violence in Lebanon

Before September 15, 2024, Israeli attacks on Lebanon had already killed 645 people and injured 1,983 others. After September 15, 2024, the death toll surged to 3,402, and the number of injured individuals reached 14,655. The total number of people killed in Lebanon since October 2023 is now 4,047, with 16,638 people injured. The war has had a devastating impact on children. Before September 15, 2024, 26 children were killed, and 197 were injured. After this date, 290 children were killed, and 1,259 were injured. In total, 316 children have been killed, and 1,456 have been injured. Women have also been severely affected by the war. Before September 15, 2024, 40 women were killed, and 304 were injured. After this date, the number of women killed rose to 750, with 2,263 injured. The total number of women killed is now 790, and 2,567 women have been injured.<sup>4</sup>

The National Council for Scientific Research — Lebanon reported that Israeli attacks on Lebanon have totaled 14,775, employing a variety of methods. These include 13,774 airstrikes and bombardments, 284 instances of phosphorus shells, and 89 combined phosphorus shells and bombardments. Additionally, there were 286 incendiary/flare bombs, 196 shootings, 60 unexploded shells, 28 cluster bombs, 49 cases of planting and detonating explosives, and nine demolitions. This extensive range of attacks has had a devastating impact on the region, highlighting the severity and scale of the ongoing violence. From September 23 to the ceasefire on November 27, 2024, the number of attacks totaled 7,753.<sup>5</sup>

## Shelter & Displacement

As of January 8, 2025, Lebanon has recorded 115,439 internally displaced persons (IDPs). These IDPs have sought refuge across 349 cadasters in 25 districts, with 72% residing in five districts: Saida, Nabatieh, Sour, Aley, and Beirut. The great majority (89%) of IDPs originate from five districts: 38% from Bint Jbeil, 23% from Sour, 12% from Nabatieh, 9% from Marjaayoun, and 7% from Baabda, with 53% displaced outside their governorate of origin. Of those from Nabatieh, 64% have fled to other areas, while 66% of IDPs from the South and 74% from Mount Lebanon have stayed within their governorates. Lebanon has also recorded 868,947 returned IDPs, with the most

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<sup>3</sup> [Silent Struggles. Mental Health Realities In Palestinian Refugee Camps In Lebanon. December 2024 | UNICEF](#)

<sup>4</sup> [The updated total toll of the Israeli aggression: 4,047 killed and 16,638 injured. December 2024 | MoPH](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

significant districts being Nabatieh (261,009), the South (167,767 in Sour), and Baalbek (148,656). Of these returnees, 88% come from five districts: 49% from Beirut, 13% from Zahle, 12% from Chouf, 7% from Saida, and 7% from Baalbek. Currently, 40% of IDPs live in host settings, 54% rent housing, and 3% are in collective sites. Around 32% of those in host settings live in overcrowded conditions.<sup>6</sup>

In the southern suburbs of Beirut, 353 buildings were entirely destroyed, while 593 sustained severe damage. Additionally, 1,972 buildings experienced extensive damage, and 2,066 faced moderate damage. The volume of rubble from the fully destroyed buildings is estimated to be between 1.2 and 1.7 million cubic meters, with the total weight ranging from 2 to 3.9 million tons. A total of 3,989 solar panels, or 3% of those installed in the southern suburbs of Beirut, have been destroyed. Another 3% may have sustained severe damage, while 23% might have experienced minor to moderate damage.<sup>7</sup>

A new REACH report from early December highlighted the **significant barriers facing permanent resettlement in south Lebanon due to safety concerns, extensive destruction, and lack of essential services**. In Nabatieh, families returned temporarily to assess conditions, particularly in areas like Yahmur and Aaitroun, where a majority of households faced challenges such as living in schools, shelters, or with extended family. In Sour, many families were reluctant to return permanently due to damaged infrastructure, limited services, and safety concerns, with vulnerable groups struggling to access food, water, and healthcare. In Saida, many families returned temporarily due to economic pressures, but the lack of infrastructure and essential services prevented long-term resettlement. **Humanitarian priorities across all affected districts included food aid, infrastructure rebuilding, cash assistance, and addressing the needs of vulnerable groups, particularly women, children, and those at risk of gender-based violence.**<sup>8</sup>

As of January 7, three official border crossings between Lebanon and Syria remain open, with the Masnaa crossing in Bekaa only allowing vehicle traffic. Daily movement continues steadily at 1,000-1,500 crossings, primarily through Masnaa, while irregular, shorter visits occur at unofficial points. Lebanon's Disaster Risk Management reports approximately 87,000 arrivals from Syria in Baalbek Governorate, including 20,000 Lebanese, with 35,000 living in 187 informal shelters and 52,000 residing within the community. A UNHCR mission to Al Qasr and Hermel on January 3 highlighted an urgent need for heating, hygiene, and food.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> [Mobility Snapshot - Round 71 - 09-01-2025 | IOM](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Situation Overview Nabatieh, Saida and Sour districts, December 2024 | REACH](#)

<sup>9</sup> [Regional Flash Update #9 - Operational Data Portal, January 2025 | UNHCR](#)

**Over 60 villages in southern Lebanon remain under Israeli army warnings, preventing residents from returning.** On December 26, an Israeli army incursion in Wadi al-Hujair temporarily displaced several households to the nearby villages of Al-Ghandorieh and Sarifa. These restrictions worsen the already difficult conditions for those attempting to return, as the lack of safe movement hampers access to essential services, livelihoods, and support networks.<sup>10</sup> Israeli forces issued evacuation warnings to residents in 25% of Lebanese territories. Most displaced individuals originated from the South, Bekaa, and southern suburbs of Beirut, fleeing intensified and indiscriminate shelling. The systematic destruction of border villages and towns, such as Muhaybib, Aita al-Shab, and Houla, was carried out through relentless shelling and coordinated detonations in multiple homes. Strikes often followed evacuation warnings within minutes, frequently occurring at night, leaving residents little time to escape.<sup>11</sup>

### Economic Activity and Food Security

Lebanon's trade volume dropped by 20% after land crossings were disrupted, while transportation and communication activities saw a 10% decrease due to reduced airport traffic. The services sector, particularly tourism, experienced a decline of about 4%. Additionally, the reduction in agricultural harvests, combined with high demand for goods and services—especially in areas hosting displaced populations—has contributed to rising prices, exacerbating the severe inflation that has impacted Lebanon since 2019.<sup>12</sup>

A recent Food and Agriculture Organization assessment targeting 4,335 agricultural households found that **95% of agricultural households in the southern districts have been displaced**, with nearly all crop producers and 90% of livestock farmers unable to access their land. The assessment revealed that 86% of households were concerned about their ability to harvest, 47% about planting for the next season, 92% about caring for livestock, and 95% about marketing their products. Over 50% of agricultural households reported damage to land, farms, or assets. In Bekaa and Baalbek-El Hermel, nearly 40% were affected, and 97% of households in Bint Jbeil reported land damage. Over 50% of cropland and almost 67% of livestock farms in Nabatieh, Marjaayoun, and Sour were severely damaged, and 85% of households in these areas lost agricultural assets. Around 90% of agricultural households expect production losses due to the war, with 39% of crop farmers and 27% of livestock farmers

<sup>10</sup> [Lebanon: Flash Update #52 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 26 December 2024 | OCHA](#)

<sup>11</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors, December 2024 | 2024](#)

<sup>12</sup> [From Bad to Worse: The Aftermath of Israel's War on Lebanon, December 2024 | The Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies](#)

anticipating significant losses. Over 95% of farmers face significant barriers in marketing their products due to low prices, logistics, and security issues.<sup>13</sup>

## Environment & Livelihoods

Since October 8, 2023, Israeli forces have intentionally burned vast areas of forests, woodlands, and agricultural land. These actions have systematically destroyed ecosystems. The use of white phosphorus worsened the situation, sparking fires that obliterated natural habitats and farmland. Additionally, heavy bombardment with various missiles and shells contaminated the soil with harmful pollutants, greatly reducing its fertility and health. Fishermen were warned to avoid coastal areas south of the Litani River, particularly beyond Saida, impacting civilian livelihoods.<sup>14</sup>

The conflict exposed at least 130 municipalities, including Baalbek, El-Hermel, Nabatieh, and Marjaayoun, to considerable agricultural damage. Between September 23 and November 1, approximately 336 aerial strikes and shelling incidents hit cropland, with 74 affecting irrigated areas. Accordingly, agricultural activities were considered high-risk, including harvesting olives, grapes, potatoes, citrus, bananas, and avocados and sowing late summer vegetables and cereal crops. Additionally, 173 strikes hit forested land, and 221 struck grasslands, crucial for livestock grazing in Baalbek and Bekaa. The war has led to widespread displacement, disrupting agriculture in southern areas and Baalbek-El Hermel, resulting in abandoned croplands.<sup>15</sup>

## Health & Education

According to Lebanon's Minister of Health, Israeli attacks killed 222 health workers, injuring 330 others. The attacks on hospitals included 67 incidents targeting 40 hospitals, with seven forced to close and three operating partially. Ambulance associations endured 238 attacks. The attacks also led to the closure of 56 primary healthcare centers, 33 of which were completely destroyed.<sup>16</sup> In areas under Israeli offensive in the South, southern suburbs, and Bekaa, 880 pharmacies were closed, destroyed, or damaged.<sup>17</sup> In Nabatieh, access to emergency obstetric care and institutional deliveries was critically limited, as four government hospitals were either partially or fully closed, including their maternity wards.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> [Rapid needs assessment on the impact of conflict on agriculture. November 2024 | FAO](#)

<sup>14</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

<sup>15</sup> [The impact of the ongoing conflict in Lebanon. December 2024 | FAO](#)

<sup>16</sup> [The updated total toll of the Israeli aggression: 4,047 killed and 16,638 injured. December 2024 | MoPH](#)

<sup>17</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

<sup>18</sup> [The Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group \(RHSWG\) Newsletter - Issue #3 \(Sep-Nov 2024\) | UNFPA](#)

According to UNICEF, **Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon report high rates of gender-based violence, primarily driven by overcrowded living conditions and limited privacy.** Children are particularly vulnerable, with violence severely impacting their psychological well-being. The recent UNICEF study on mental health and psychosocial needs among Palestinians in Lebanon revealed the **severe impact of prolonged exposure to multiple adverse events, affecting both individual lives and the broader community.** Children and adolescents faced exposure to up to seven categories of trauma, raising their risk of psychological distress, disrupted development, and collective trauma. The research also highlighted the **prevalence of hopelessness and desensitization to violence,** along with coping mechanisms such as isolation, which perpetuated cycles of distress.<sup>19</sup>

Schools officially reopened on January 7, with the government allowing registered Syrian refugee children to attend. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to ensure children without identification are also included. Over 100,000 children have been registered for afternoon shifts, but **more than 40,000 are still in need of proper documentation.**<sup>20</sup> Since October 2023, Israeli forces directly targeted five schools and hit the surroundings of 30 others during its war on Lebanon.<sup>21</sup>

## Water and Sanitation

The Israeli attacks caused approximately \$400 million in losses to Lebanon's electricity and water sectors. These include emergency relief costs for maintaining essential services in displacement areas, infrastructure investment losses for service improvements, direct damage to infrastructure from the attacks, and revenue collection losses due to disruptions in financial processes. Across Lebanon, over 30 water facilities were damaged, including the main canal of the Litani River, which is vital for the Qasimiya irrigation project serving 6,000 hectares of farmland.<sup>22</sup>

## Anera's Response

Since the further escalation of hostilities in Lebanon on September 17, 2024, Anera has been at the forefront of providing critical humanitarian aid to those affected. Through various initiatives, the organization has made substantial contributions to the well-being of the displaced communities. Anera has significantly enhanced food security by serving **meals to 92,239 people.** This initiative has ensured that thousands of displaced

<sup>19</sup> [Silent Struggles. Mental Health Realities In Palestinian Refugee Camps In Lebanon. December 2024 | UNICEF](#)

<sup>20</sup> [Lebanon: Flash Update #54 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon. as of 09 January 2025 | OCHA](#)

<sup>21</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

<sup>22</sup> [Israeli Offensive on Lebanon 2023-2024 Overview of Attacks and Damages Across Key Sectors. December 2024 | 2024](#)

individuals received essential nourishment during a time of war and displacement, addressing immediate food security needs.

In the realm of health, Anera's response has been equally impactful. The organization has distributed **775,314 doses of medications** and **121,078 medical supplies**, providing crucial support to the strained healthcare system. These medical interventions have been vital in addressing the population's health needs and ensuring access to necessary treatments and supplies.

Recognizing the additional challenges posed by winter, Anera has also emphasized the provision of essential items to help displaced families cope with the harsh weather conditions. This includes the distribution of **27,778 bedding items**, **31,341 hygiene kits**, **2,214 feminine hygiene kits**, and **1,608 articles of clothing**. These efforts have been instrumental in ensuring displaced populations have the resources they need to stay warm and maintain personal hygiene during the colder months.