



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

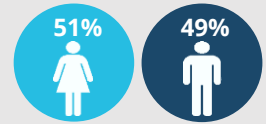
## WFP Palestine Country Brief May 2022



## In Numbers

370,914 people assisted

in May 2022



US\$ 3.1 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 9.3 m in cash-based transfers made through service provision

US\$ 16.7 m six months (June- November 2022) net funding requirements

### Operational Context

In Palestine, protracted conflict, economic stagnation, restricted trade and access to resources, coupled with high unemployment and poverty rates, continue to pose serious challenges to food security and nutrition situation. As economic conditions worsened by the impact of Ukraine crisis, the purchasing power of Palestinians, particularly the most vulnerable, is further eroding and disrupting their access to food and other essentials. WFP food assistance is currently the only standing safety net for vulnerable and food insecure Palestinian families.

In May 2021, Gaza witnessed the most intense military hostilities since 2014, against the backdrop of large-scale unrest in East Jerusalem and across the West Bank. WFP provided emergency and recovery food assistance to people affected by this conflict in Gaza. The situation in the Gaza Strip is increasingly dire after 15 years of the Israeli blockade, aggravated by having one of world's highest unemployment rates and deep poverty. The crisis is tied to prolonged occupation, internal Palestinian political divisions, recurrent escalations of hostilities between Israel and Palestinian armed groups, and an unabating COVID-19 pandemic.

One third of the Palestinian population, 1.79 million people, suffer from food insecurity. Of those 1.1 million Palestinian are severely food insecure. Most of them (90 percent) live in the Gaza. WFP regularly provides food assistance to the most vulnerable food insecure groups of the Palestinian population.

Under the 2018-22 Country Strategic Plan (CSP), WFP aims at providing food assistance to 435,170 of the most vulnerable non-refugees via in-kind food rations and cash-based transfers in the form of electronic food vouchers. In contribution to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, WFP's is supporting community resilience in the face of repeated shocks and increased hardships, contributing to maintaining peace and stability, and stimulating the local economy. WFP also works with national institutions to enhance the capacity of existing social safety nets to assist the poor and vulnerable.

Population: **5.2 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **115 out of 189**

Poverty rate: **31.1 percent**

Severe and moderate malnutrition: **7.4 %** of children between 6-59 months

### Operational Updates

- In May, WFP supported 370,914 people in need. Of those, 301,582 received cash-based transfers, reaching 99 percent of the prioritized beneficiaries in the West Bank, and 80 percent in Gaza. 69,332 people are reached through the quarterly in-kind distributions. Resilience and vocational training also continued, as did the operation's social behavior change initiative.
- WFP's platform for the provision of assistance continued to support nine humanitarian agencies. In May, 104,044 households received US\$ 9.3 million through cross-sectoral assistance.
- As part of WFP's resilience and livelihood activities, 60 participants graduated from the Carpentry and Smartphone Maintenance trainings in Gaza. Each participant received a certificate and toolkit to assist them to find jobs in the related fields.
- The WFP-led National Logistics Sector, along with NGO HELP Logistics, facilitated a workshop for 26 participants from nine partner organizations operating in the West Bank and East Jerusalem on "Pharma and Health Supply Chain Management (PSM)".
- On May 19, WFP facilitated the first inter-ministerial social protection exchange visit between ministries of social development from Jordan and Palestine, along with UNICEF and the World Bank. Discussions covered shock-responsiveness, beneficiary targeting, and related information systems.
- WFP held its Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022) external evaluation for partners and stakeholders to help designing an informed new strategic plan.
- WFP is monitoring price trends for the most consumed staple commodities and in Palestine, especially those impacted by the Ukraine crisis. In April, wheat flour prices have increased 41 percent in Gaza. Wheat flour is the most redeemed item by WFP e-voucher recipients. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

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**Photo Caption:** Aisha tends to her bees, provided by WFP as part of resilience activities.  
WFP/Nizar Khadder

## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>506 m</b>	<b>440 m</b>
2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June – November 2022)
<b>196.6 m</b>	<b>16.7 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food (SDG 2)

**Strategic Outcome #:** Non-refugees, poor and severely food-insecure people have improved dietary diversity by 2022

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities 01:

Provision of unconditional food assistance – including through cash-based transfers (CBT) and in-kind modalities- and nutrition information to poor and food-insecure households.

### Strategic Result 2: Support to the implementation of the SDGs (SDG 17)

**Strategic Outcome #:** Enhanced capacities of national institutions and systems to identify, target and assist food insecure vulnerable populations in Palestine by 2022

**Focus area:** Resilience-building

#### Activities 02, 03:

- Technical support to national ministries and institutions on food security strategy; Provision of a CBT platform to multi-sectoral partners and Government

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG target 17.16)

**Strategic Outcome #:** Palestinians benefit from the services provided to partners through WFP's delivery platform

**Focus area:** Resilience-building

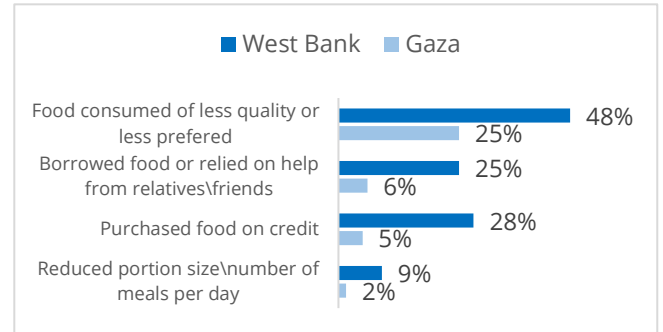
#### Activities 04:

- Service provision of WFP's delivery platform to partners

## Monitoring

- Beneficiaries can contact WFP through dedicated hotlines ready with information on available support, targeting criteria, and feedback. In May, the hotlines responded to over 10,300 calls. Around 1.3 million SMS messages were sent for sensitization about operational changes, top-ups and dates of distributions.
- WFP conducted 506 face-to-face interviews with recipients of electronic vouchers and in-kind food. 181 in the West Bank and 325 in Gaza. Households headed by women account for 31 percent in the West Bank and 12 percent in Gaza. Around 24 percent of the families interviewed had at least one member with special needs.

- Findings showed that of the sampled households, 70 percent in the West Bank and 74 percent in Gaza had acceptable food consumption, while 11 percent in the West Bank and 10 percent in Gaza did not have access to adequate food, rich with protein, vitamins, and minerals. However, many families continued the use of negative coping mechanisms to meet their food needs, as shown below (in percentage):



## Challenges

- WFP requires approximately US\$ 16.7 million to sustain food assistance through November 2022 (US\$ 23 million until the end of 2022) to 435,170 Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. WFP requires funding to avoid suspension of food assistance as of early October 2022.
- An additional US\$12 million is needed to increase the voucher of US\$ 10.3 by US\$ 5 per month, for around 304,000 people in Gaza and the West Bank for six months, as a complementary measure to offset the price increases.

## Queen Bee of Jericho

Aysha is one of only three beekeepers in Jericho. With the nine beehives she received from WFP, as part of the climate-resilient interventions, she makes honey to sell in her town. For her, beekeeping is not just an income, but a passion that enriched her life.



"I encourage every woman to find a hobby, start a project, and stay dedicated. Nothing brings more peace than being able to provide for yourself," says Aysha.

## Donors

Belgium, Canada, EU, France, Germany, Japan, the Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, UAE, UK, UN Humanitarian Fund (HF), USA, Talabat and other private donors (Strategic Outcome 1). SDG Fund, Germany (BMZ) (Strategic Outcome 2). More information [here](#).