# Population Movement Monitoring Flash Update

18 March 2025 - Update 1





The humanitarian crisis in Gaza has further deteriorated following intensive airstrikes across the region in the early hours of March 18, 2025. The escalation, coupled with military evacuation order, has led to widespread displacement, with hundreds of people forced to flee their homes in search of safety.

This update aims to outline the scale, patterns, and impact of displacement in Gaza, offering insights into the ongoing humanitarian situation. Data was collected from eyewitness accounts, social media posts, available datasets from OCHA and Site Management Cluster (SMC) partners on the ground. The information was cross-referenced and analyzed to establish the displacement patterns and the impact on local infrastructure. The methodology focused on leveraging accessible digital sources to offer the most accurate real-time insights into the ongoing situation.

According to the OCHA neighborhood level population estimation as of 25th of February, the area impacted by the recent evacuation order affects a population of approximately 81,550 individuals. This estimate is based on the current population figures for the neighborhoods located within the impacted area. The order comes amid escalating humanitarian concerns and is part of ongoing efforts to address the security and safety challenges arising from the end of the ceasefire.

<sup>1</sup>Estimated number of displaced individuals as of March 18, following widespread airstrikes and military evacuation orders



## **Displacement Movement Patterns**

The following major displacement movements have been recorded:

Northern and Eastern Gaza (North Gaza- Beit Hanoun, Gaza City - Eastern Shujaiya) to North Gaza - Sheikh Zayed City and Gaza City- Al-Rimal

- Time Reported at the Social Media: 9:04 AM
- **Source:** Social media monitoring

Gaza City - Eastern Shujaiya to Gaza City - Al-Rimal Neighborhood

• Time Reported at the Social Media: 10:23 AM

North Gaza - Beit Hanoun to North Gaza - Jabalya and Nuseirat Refugee Camp

- Time Reported at the Social Media: 10:37 AM
- Source: Various reports and witness testimonies

North Gaza - Al-Maghraqa, Al-Zahraa, and Deir Al-Balah - North of Al-Nuseirat Refugee Camp

- Multiple displacements have been reported in central Gaza due to ongoing airstrikes.
- Movements have been documented towards western Gaza City and Khan Younis.
- Time Reported at the Media: 09:13 AM
- Source: Mc-Doualiya

## **Reported Damages**

## **Reported Damage to Housing and Shelters**

#### Schools:

- Arbakan school in North Gaza Jabalia targeted (reported at 3:30 AM), At-Tabeen School in Ad-Daraj area in Gaza City
- Time Reported at the Social Media: 10:37 AM , 15:11 PM
- Source: Social Media Monitoring- Telegram, SMC Partners

#### Impact on Makeshift and Scattered Sites:

- Evacuation order in Beit Hanoun: In Beit Hanoun, which has an estimated population of 30,000<sup>2</sup> people, the Site Management Cluster (SMC) reported that 24 sites were affected by the evacuation order. This includes 14 planned makeshift sites with unknown populations as of late February. The remaining 10 sites consist of 5 makeshift sites, 4 UNRWA collective centers (2 active, 2 closed), and 1 non-UNRWA center, hosting approximately 1,096 households (5,374 individuals). Most data updates are from late February or early March, with only three sites having data from December 2024.
- Evacuation order in Khan Younis: In East Khan Younis, with an estimated population of 35,000<sup>3</sup>. 4 makeshift sites and 1 scattered site with an estimated total population of 635 households (2,895 individuals) were affected from the evacuation order as reported by the SMC.
- **Source:** SMC Partners (UNRWA, NRC, ACTED, HI, PARC/DRC, BLDA, PHC)

<sup>2</sup> OCHA - Population Estimate I 25.02.2025

<sup>3</sup> OCHA - Population Estimate I 25.02.2025

For further information or to share updates, please do not hesitate to contact the SMC Advisor, Richard Okello - rokello@iom.int and Madeline Green-Armytage - madeline.green-armytage@acted.org