

GAZA STRIP: OVERVIEW OF POPULATION AND EDUCATION SITUATION

28 JUNE 2024

Data and analyses collected by the ETF from various sources.

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Overview

~75%
of population
internally
displaced
(1,7m)*

100%
students with
no access
to education
(625k)**

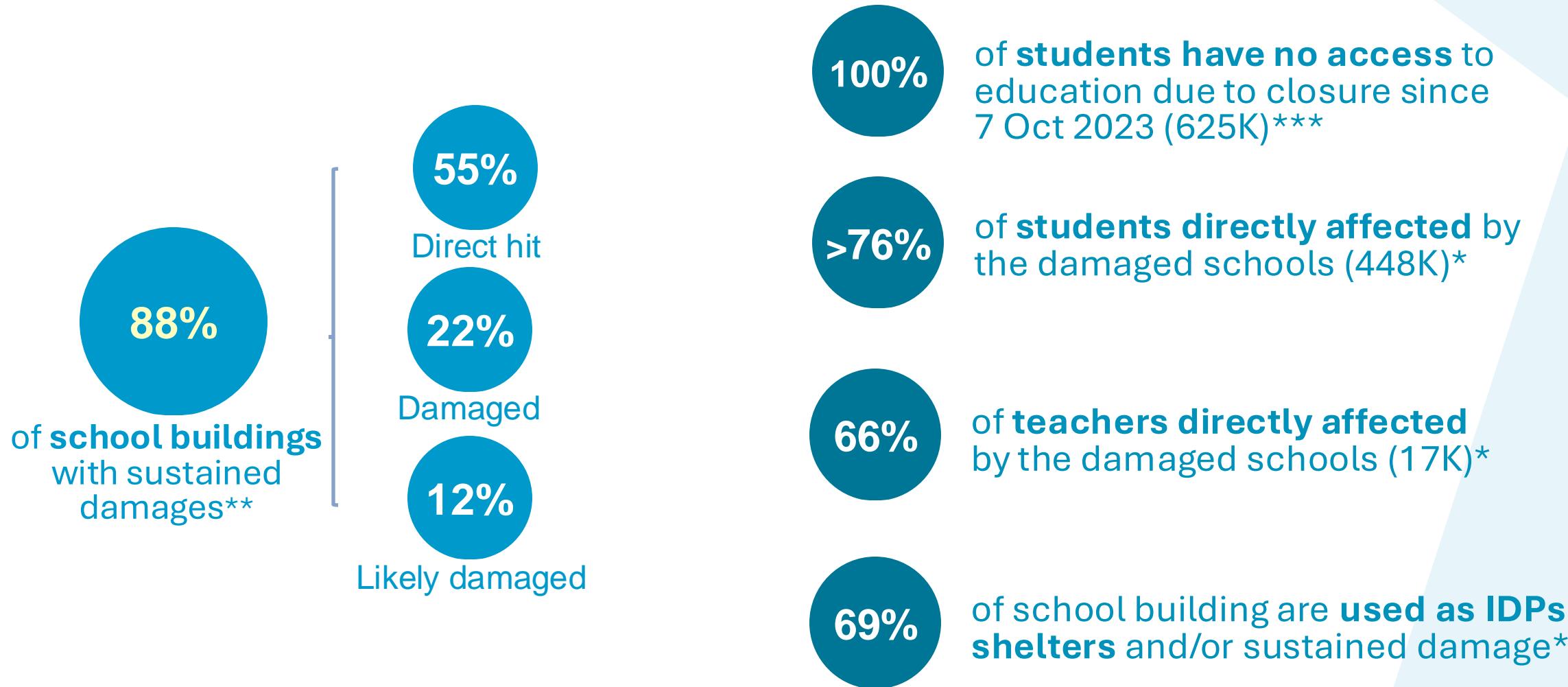
88% of
school buildings
sustained damages
(497/563 schools)**

\$341m
damages to
education
infrastructure***

1. Population & internally displaced



2. Damaged school buildings and affected students & teachers*



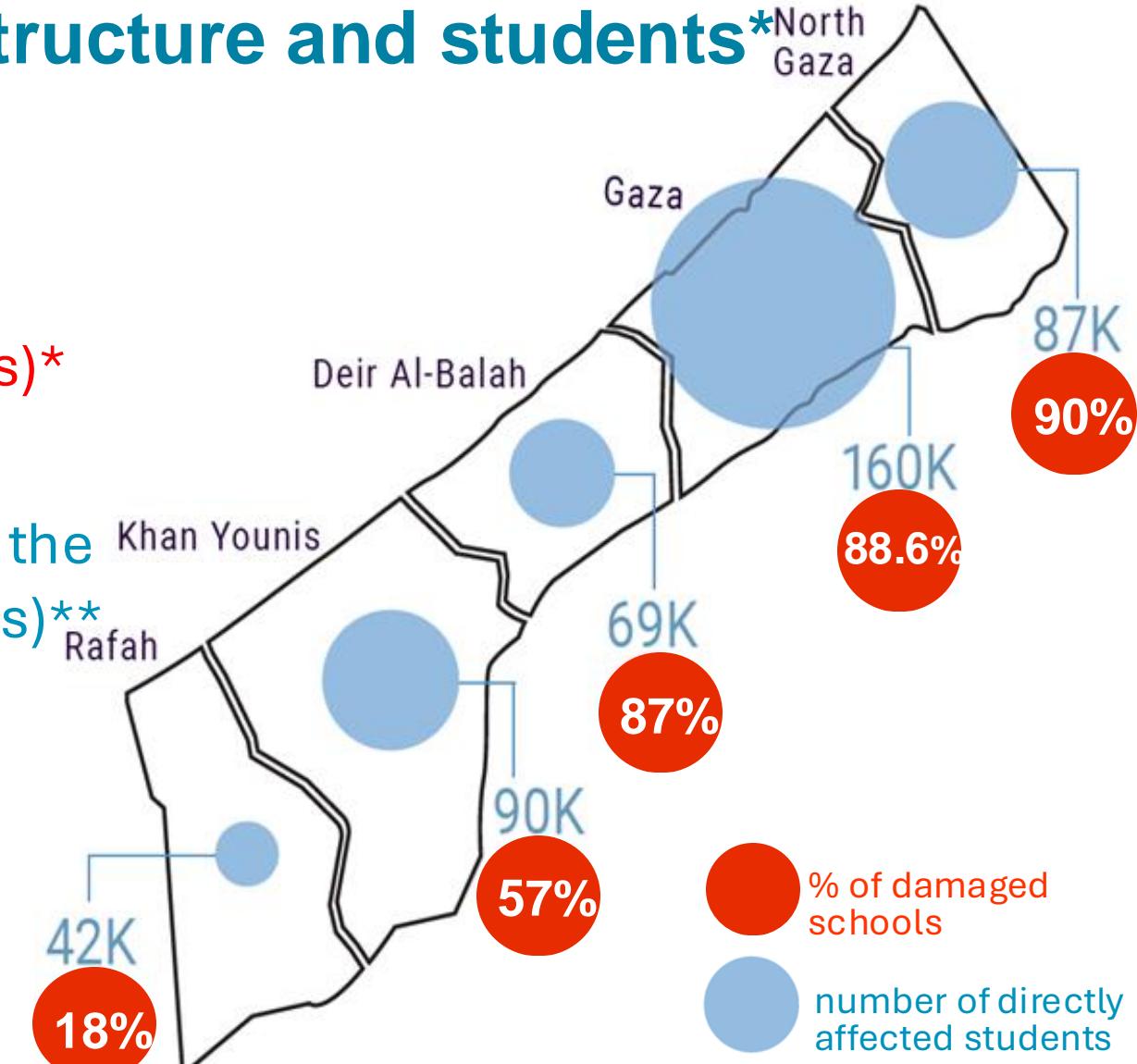
2.1: Impact on education infrastructure and students*



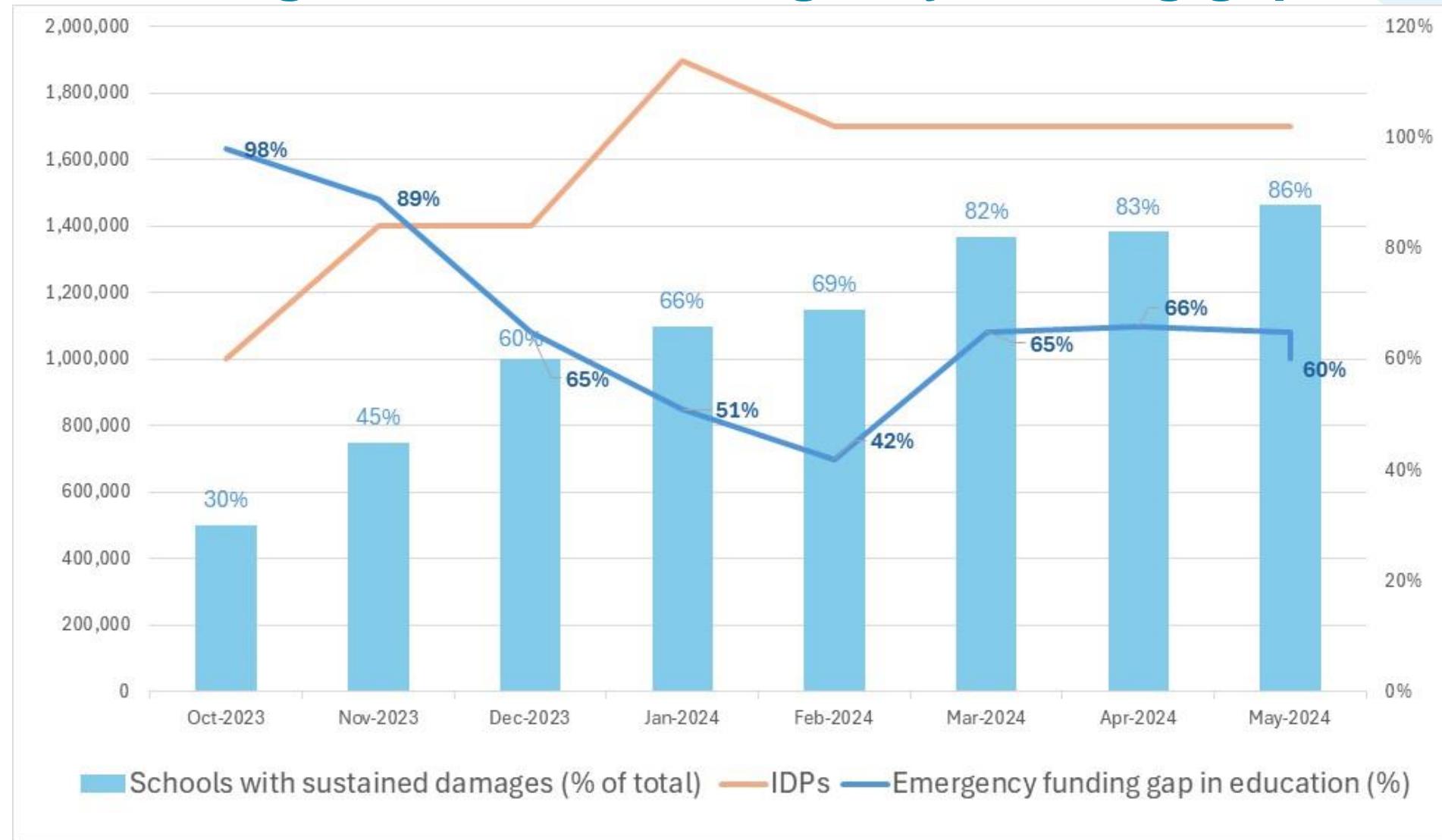
* [Education under attack in the Gaza Strip](#), Education Cluster, Save the Children, UNICEF, 31 Jan 2024. Map provided by the same source. As indicated, data sources are provided by cluster partners, UNOCHA, UNRWA and results of observation exercise conducted by the Education Cluster Assessment Team.

See [Damaged Schools Dashboard - Gaza 2023](#) (Updated 3 June 2024) and [Education Cluster](#), Verification of damages to schools (3 June 2024).

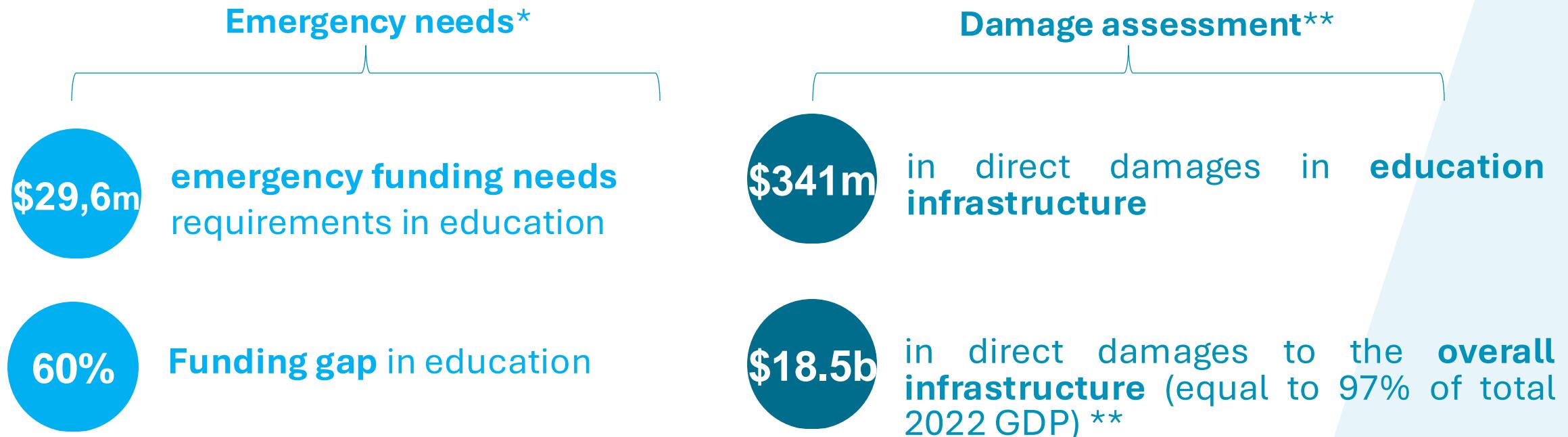
** The percentage of directly affected students is calculated by ETF using the total number of students that used to attend the schools with sustained damages in Gaza (as % of total students; the [Statistical Yearbook of Palestine \(2003\)](#), Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)).



2.2: IDPs, damaged schools, emergency funding gap in education



3: Emergency needs and infrastructure damage assessment in education



4.1: Other insights

95%

of the population are **projected to face crisis or worse level of food insecurity***

0 hours

of electricity availability – full blackout*

65%

of the road network is damaged**

80%

of the business facilities have been destroyed or damaged***

4.2: Further insights

Current situation:

- Education partners highlight the **need for the protection of schools and education facilities** from attacks, and prioritizing education as an essential programme, for the protection and well-being of children*
- Public education infrastructure **had already deteriorated significantly** before 7 October. Many schools had been damaged or destroyed in successive rounds of hostilities, further increasing pressure on education facilities due to the increased number of students. The shortage had an **impact on the quality of education.****
- According to a study by Save the Children International, after 15 years of blockade, **four out of five children** in Gaza say they are **living with depression, grief and fear** **

Gaps:

- Education response **remains significantly underfunded**, receiving only 40% of its requirements (\$29.6M)*

Impact

- The impact of the ongoing Israeli military operation in Gaza **is equivalent to the impact of a 17-year blockade and previous military operations combined** ([UNCTAD](#), 2024).
- The unprecedented level of destruction has **made most parts of Gaza uninhabitable** – as shown by satellite images of the damages, combined with nighttime lights (see p.9 [UNCTAD](#), 2024).
- Even under an optimistic scenario of 10 per cent average annual growth in Gaza, **it will take over a decade for GDP to return to its 2006 level** (see p.13, [UNCTAD](#), 2024).

Gaza: selected indicators

	2006	2022	2023	2006–2023 (% change)	2022–2023 (% change)
Population (thousands)	1 349	2 166	2 227	+65%	+3%
GDP per capita (2015\$)	2 691	2 723	2 068	-23%	-24%
Unemployed workers (%)	35%	45%	79%	+128%	+75%
Poverty (%)	39%	65%	96%	+146%	+48%
Completion rate, Secondary level*		63%			
Out of school rate, Secondary level*		17%			

Gaza: education and labour market indicators (2022)

	Gaza	Palestine (Total)
Completion rate, Basic education *	88%	86%
Completion rate, Secondary level*	62%	62%
Out of school rate, Secondary level*	25%	22%
Unemployment rate (female)**	45.3% (67.4%)	24.4% (40.4%)
Youth Employment (unemployment)**	35.9% (62.6%)	62.3% (36.1%)
Employed in Service Sector **	49.8%	34.1%

The effects of conflicts on education & labour markets:

Evidence from Palestine and Gaza

Title	Conclusions	Area	Period of analysis	Source
"Conflict exposure and labour market outcomes: Evidence from longitudinal data for the Gaza Strip"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict reduces labour income and the number of hours worked in the private sector. Conflict reduces the labour supply by worsening the workers' health conditions. Conflict reduces the labour demand by lowering the local-level economic activity. 	Labour markets	2013-2018	Michele Di Maio & Valerio Leone Scialbolazza (2023)
"Learning The Hard Way: The Effect of Violent Conflict on Student Academic Achievement"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict reduces the probability of passing the final exam, the total test score, and the probability of being admitted to university. The effect of conflict varies with the type and the timing of the violent events the student is exposed to and it is not significant for students in the upper tail of the test score distribution. 	Education	2000–2006	Tilman Brück, Michele Di Maio, Sami H Miaari (2019)
"How educational choices respond to large labor market shocks: Evidence from a natural experiment"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the effect of a negative shock to work in Israel on Palestinian youths schooling outcomes. The high school dropout rates in the West Bank declined among male but not female students following the closure of Israeli labor market. The closure reduced the opportunity cost of attending school by lowering job employment prospects for school dropouts. 	Education / Labour markets	1999 to 2006	Ayhab F. Saad, Belal Fallah