

# Global Situation Report

## Middle East Escalation of Conflict

Situation report  
**No. 8**  
28 May 2026  
Data as of 27 May



**World Health  
Organization**

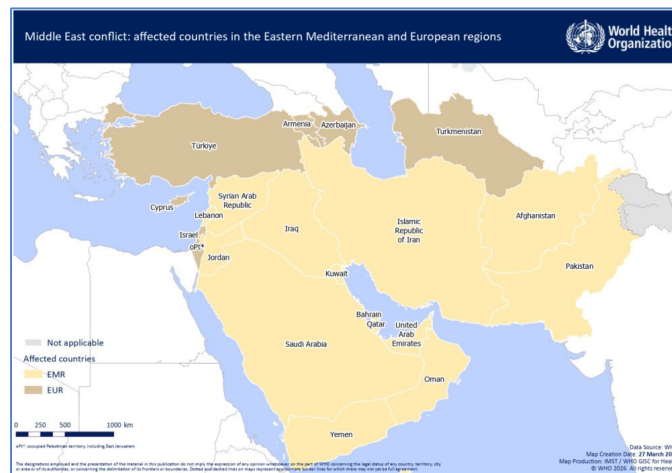
### OVERVIEW

KEY AFFECTED COUNTRIES	Displaced	Injured	Deaths
Iran	3 200 000	33 806	3 375
Lebanon	1 049 328	9571	3151
Iraq	N/A	300	109
Israel	N/A	7 834	26

All numbers are estimates and may differ from other sources due to data cutoff times. Estimates may be revised upward or downward over time.

ATTACKS ON HEALTH CARE	Attacks verified by WHO	Injured	Deaths
Iran	26	0	11
Lebanon	182	311	125
Israel	9	0	0

As reported in WHO's Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA), where active. There may be delays in verification and changes upwards or downwards due to data consolidation.



### ACUTE HEALTH THREATS

Despite the ongoing ceasefires, the situation is fragile, particularly in Lebanon. Acute health threats remain since the last reporting period. Persistent constraints in global fuel supply chains continue to challenge health services in many locations.

### WHO GLOBAL AND REGIONAL RESPONSE

Due to persistent global constraints in health commodity supply chains, WHO continues to leverage alternative modalities to ensure continued provision of essential health services.

Risk communication and community engagement materials and preparedness guidance have been developed and disseminated to support communities and health responders during the current regional escalation. The resources include public communication and food safety materials for Eid al-Adha, alongside comprehensive guidance addressing risks related to disruptions in energy, food, water, and environmental services. Tailored information has been prepared for vulnerable populations, caregivers, and frontline workers, with specific content on trauma response and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRN) preparedness.

For additional information on the global situation and response, please visit <https://www.who.int/emergencies/situations/middle-east-conflict>. For details on attacks on health care, please visit <https://extranet.who.int/ssai/index.aspx>.

### COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

#### ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

##### Situation

The ceasefire remains fragile as negotiations continue; attacks have been reported to the area in southern Iran around the Strait of Hormuz.

##### WHO response

Implementation of WHO's support to the Ministry of Health continues, including uninterruptible power supply systems for health facilities and noncommunicable disease items to ensure health services continuity.

Training of health workers on mental health and psychosocial support is ongoing.

#### LEBANON

## Situation

Despite the ongoing ceasefire in Lebanon, the security situation remains highly volatile: there have been 1774 injuries and 608 deaths since 16 April. The threat of expansion of military activities raises grave concerns for the health of the population.

Since the ceasefire took effect, a total of 27 attacks on healthcare have been reported, causing 25 deaths and 42 injuries. To date in this conflict, a total of 16 hospitals and 13 primary health care centres have been damaged in attacks on healthcare. Three hospitals remain closed. Last week, the World Health Assembly adopted a decision on protection of health care in Lebanon. The resolution called for scaled-up international and WHO support to strengthen access to health services in conflict settings.

Access to maternal health services and acute medical care remains critically constrained south of the Litani River, with patients facing delays of up to 48 hours to secure clearance for movement to referral facilities, posing serious risks to patient outcomes, including increased maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality.

Preliminary findings from a rapid health assessment conducted in May 2026 across 15 affected districts indicate that access to healthcare remains severely constrained, with 60-80% of households unable to afford services, particularly medications and hospitalization.

There are many outstanding needs. Flexible and rapid funding is urgently required to sustain emergency health operations and ensure uninterrupted lifesaving services. Enhanced access is critical to restore outreach services. Expanded shelter- and community-based surveillance is required to ensure early detection and rapid response to communicable disease threats. Expanded risk communication and community engagement are needed to improve awareness of available services, encourage early care-seeking, and reduce health risks. Replenishment of essential medicines and supplies is needed to ensure service continuity.

Through the WHO-coordinated [Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network \(GOARN\)](#), a Request for Assistance for the “Middle East Escalation of Violence, Lebanon, 2026” was issued to support the response with epidemiology and surveillance expertise. One epidemiology expert from the UK Public Health Rapid Support Team (UK-PHRST), a GOARN partner, has been deployed to Beirut for a two-month mission until mid-July 2026. GOARN continues to monitor partner capacity and readiness for rapid mobilization and additional support if required.

## WHO response

To date, WHO has distributed 120 trauma backpacks to ambulances and emergency medical services teams. WHO continues to support trauma hospitalization for non-Lebanese patients for the current escalation of hostilities that started since 2 March, with a total of 101 individuals supported to date, the majority Syrian, complementing government efforts to ensure proper coverage for all affected populations. WHO is supporting the costs for treatment of individuals with severe mental health needs. WHO is currently the only organization providing support for such cases; without this support, these individuals would likely have been unable to receive the necessary care.

WHO is assessing options to support the provision of ambulances to address critical gaps.

For additional information on the situation and response in the Eastern Mediterranean region, please visit <https://www.emro.who.int/emergencies/middle-east-conflict/>.

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## Funding updates

WHO’s US\$ 30.3 million emergency appeal to support health operations across five Middle Eastern countries remains critically underfunded, with only 13% (US\$ 4.1 million) received so far.

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