DAMAGE TO PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND PROPERTY DURING OPERATION CAST LEAD

At least 1,417 Palestinians were killed and 4,336 wounded during Operation Cast Lead. (See the detailed breakdown of Palestinian casualties in the tables in this section.) The list below provides additional details on the human and physical toll of the operation.

Homes destroyed or damaged beyond repair: 6,400

Homes moderately damaged: 46,000

Gazans left homeless: 100,000

Number of people living in UNRWA shelters on 20 January 2009: 18,035

Percentage of Gaza’s population left entirely dependent on food aid: Nearly 90

Number of children orphaned: 2,000–2,200

Number of new amputees registered at the Artificial Limb and Polio Centre in Gaza City by 15 January 2009: 100

Percentage of Gaza residents reporting feelings of depression and despair: 96

World Health Organization’s estimation of Gazans requiring psychological intervention for long-term effects of damage and losses suffered during Operation Cast Lead: 25,000–50,000

Government buildings destroyed or severely damaged: 25

Police stations destroyed or severely damaged: 60

Workshops, industrial facilities, and factories destroyed or severely damaged: 415

Hospitals and clinics destroyed or severely damaged: 34

Schools destroyed or severely damaged: 21

Mosques and churches destroyed or severely damaged: 52

Private institutions destroyed or severely damaged: 21
Charitable associations destroyed or severely damaged: 10

Media institutions and facilities destroyed or severely damaged: 5

Fishing ports destroyed or severely damaged: 3

Number of rooftop water tanks completely destroyed: 5,708

Percentage of all agricultural infrastructure and crops destroyed: 80

Dunams of agricultural land leveled: 61,930

Number of cattle, sheep, and goats killed: 35,750

Number of chickens and other birds killed: over 1 million

Number of families that depended on agriculture, fishing, or herding whose livelihoods were damaged significantly: 13,000

Tons of rubble to be removed: 600,000

Total property damage (including heavy damage to Gaza’s water, electricity, and road infrastructure): $1.6 billion–$1.9 billion

---

1 American Friends of UNRWA, “Latest Statistical Summary from UNRWA on Gaza Conditions,” June 2009; Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) press release, “IOF Offensive on the Gaza Strip Makes It Like Earthquake Zone and Claims Civilian and Property,” 22 January 2009. This total includes 4,000 refugee homes and 2,400 nonrefugee homes. PCHR estimates that at least 490 of these were deliberately targeted with air strikes.


3 This represents nearly 7% of Gaza’s population. UN estimates as reported by CARE, “Gaza Appeal Total Doubles Overnight,” 27 January 2009.


10 These include Palestinian Authority and local governorate and municipal offices, including the Gaza legislative council building, the Palestinian Authority presidential compound, and many ministry offices (both Gaza headquarter buildings in Gaza City and local district offices). PCHR, “IOF Offensive,” 22 January 2009.

Of these, 215 were completely destroyed, including one-third of Gaza’s metal workshops, Gaza’s largest food manufacturer, Gaza’s largest flour mill, 5 concrete factories, and 2 soda bottling plants (1 owned by Pepsi-Cola). PCHR, “IOF Offensive,” 22 January 2009.

This includes 8 hospitals and 26 primary care centers. ANERA Fact Sheet, “Gaza Statistics before and after the Bombardment,” 3 February 2009.


PCHR, “IOF Offensive,” 22 January 2009, includes a number of hotels.


ANERA Fact Sheet, “Gaza Statistics before and after the Bombardment,” 3 February 2009.


Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics estimated $1.9 billion on 19 January 2009. Western officials cited in Mideast Mirror (30 January 2009) put the figure at $1.6 billion.