

Survey of
Palestinian Refugees
and
Internally Displaced Persons
2019 - 2021
Volume X



Definitions and Distribution

Categories of Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):

■ 1948 Refugees

are Palestinians who became refugees during and because of the Nakba, as well as their descendants;

■ 1967 Refugees

are Palestinians who became refugees during and because of the 1967 War, as well as their descendants;

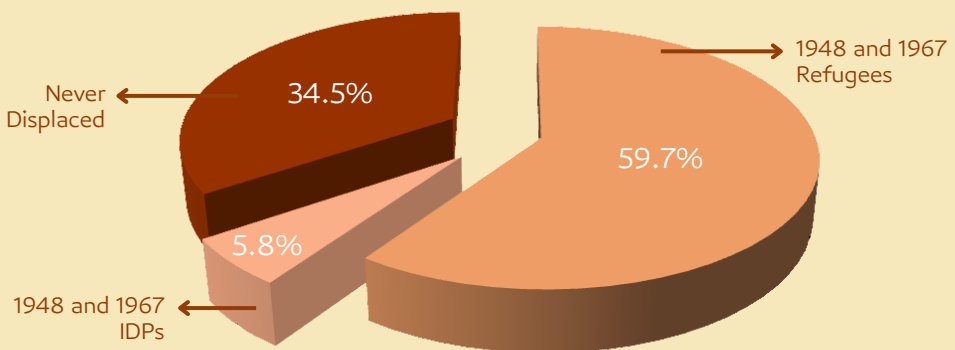
■ 1948 IDPs

are Palestinians who have been internally displaced and remained in 1948 Palestine, as well as their descendants;

■ 1967 IDPs

are Palestinians who have been internally displaced since 1967 and remained in the occupied Palestinian territory, as well as their descendants.

Distribution of the Palestinian People Worldwide by Type of Displacement, End of 2021



Demographic Characteristics by the End of 2021

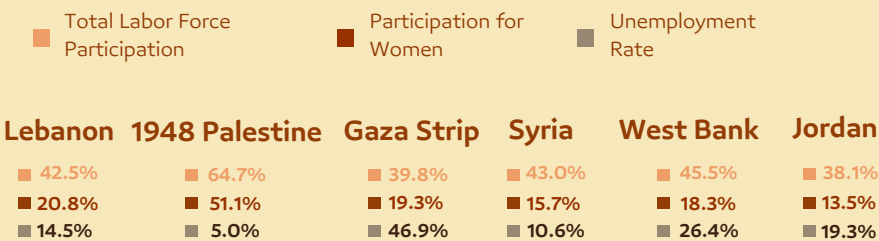


Palestinian refugees have a high fertility rate of **3.2**



Palestinian refugees and IDPs have a high, albeit declining, growth rate of **2.1**

Palestinian Refugees and IDPs' Labor Force Participation and Unemployment Rates by Region, End of 2021



Poverty Rates

■ West Bank and Gaza Strip



Poverty rate in the West Bank



Poverty rate in Gaza Strip



Poverty rate for refugees in camps in the oPt



Poverty rate for non-refugees in the oPt

■ Jordan

252,000 registered refugees are vulnerable to poverty, including;

Nearly **175,000** forcibly displaced from Gaza to Jordan in 1967;

59,000 registered refugees in the Social Safety Net Program;

19,000 Palestinian refugees from Syria.

■ Lebanon

73% of Palestinian refugees are living in poverty, including;

162,301 who are in need of emergency cash assistance;

87.3% of the **29,000** Palestinian refugees from Syria who live below the absolute poverty line, with **11.3%** existing in a state of abject poverty.

Attacks on UNRWA

UNRWA is constantly facing Israeli-led attacks and defamation campaigns aimed at both reducing or eliminating its budget, and delegitimizing and invalidating the Agency itself. As a result, UNRWA is less able to provide adequate services to all Palestinian refugees. This is apparent through:

- UNRWA's chronic budget crisis/shortage
- Donors' imposition of political and security conditions on UNRWA
- The transferring of UNRWA's responsibilities to other UN agencies, international organizations or host countries
- Attempts to revoke the legal status of millions of Palestinian refugees

In the face of these attacks and campaigns, The United Nations must:



Convert states' contributions to the UNRWA budget from voluntary to mandatory contributions



Strengthen its financial and political support for UNRWA until Palestinian refugees and IDPs have access to durable solutions, in line with the United Nations' Resolution 194(III)



Reject the transfer of UNRWA's responsibilities to other UN agencies, international organizations or host states

States and the international donor community must:



Stop conditioning humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people and UNRWA based on Zionist-Israeli allegations;



Take practical measures to enable Palestinian refugees and IDPs to practice their right to reparations (including the right to return to their homes, property restitution, and compensation).

■ Syria

According to UNRWA, as of April 2022, approximately **438,000** (out of 576,357) Palestinian refugees remain in Syria. Of these Palestinian refugees:



82% are living on less than **\$1.90** a day



420,000 are in need of cash and in-kind food assistance



Women account for **60%** of the most vulnerable refugee caseload in Syria



Up to **280,000** Palestinian refugees from Syria are currently internally displaced

Protection Gap

Features of the protection gap faced by Palestinian refugees:

- Collapse of the UNCCP which was mandated to implement UNGA Resolution 194(III)
- UNRWA's limited legal and geographic scope and the restricted needs-based definition for Palestine refugees
- Unlawful exclusion of Palestinian refugees from protection under the inclusion clause of Article 1D of the 1951 Refugee Convention
- Subjection of Palestinian refugees to ill-treatment and discrimination based on their nationality

To address the protection gap:

The United Nations and its agencies, as well as states and international organizations must put the provisions of international protection into practice. Based on relevant laws, jurisprudences, and best practices, the international protection for refugees must encompass **3 essential elements**:



Physical safety and security
(protection against physical harm)



Legal protection (ensuring and respecting fundamental human rights and freedoms, including protection of properties, and finding a just and durable solution)



Material security (ensuring refugees' well-being and guaranteeing their dignity and equal access to basic goods and services)



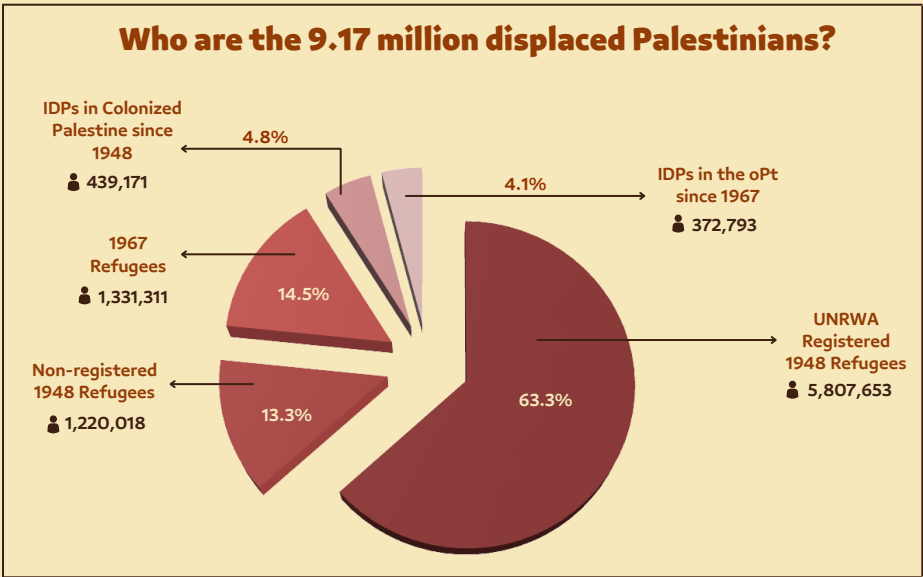
Demonstrations in front of UNRWA's office, Gaza 2021. Source: PalSawa

Refugees Distribution

By the end of **2021**, at least **9.17 million (65.5%)** of the entire Palestinian people worldwide (**14 million**) were forcibly displaced persons. Among them were at least **8.36 million** Palestinian refugees and **812,000** internally displaced persons.



Who are the 9.17 million displaced Palestinians?



For more, see: **Survey of Palestinian Refugees and IDPs, 2019-2021**, 10th Edition. Available at:

www.badil.org

