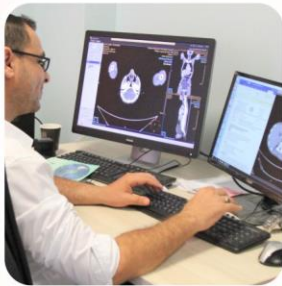




State of Palestine  
Ministry of Health



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 Ministry of Health

Southern Governorates - Gaza Strip

Health Information Unit  
Ministry of Health

| May 2023 |

## **In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful**

Praise be to Allah, good and blessed praise that fills the heavens and the earth and everything in between. Once again, we stand together Infront a panel of Palestinian creativity and excellence, represented by the healthcare system in its various sectors. It has refused to be broken despite the storm of challenges it has faced and continues to face at numerous stages.

From the oppressive blockade to the ongoing Zionist brutal attacks, to the COVID-19 pandemic, to the significant resource scarcity, and not least of these challenges, the weakening of external funding, which has become evident in recent years due to changing donor priorities. This will cast a heavy shadow over the healthcare system and its ability to fulfill its role.

Despite these challenges, we witness images of innovation and achievements that have been manifested in the continuous enhancement of various aspects of healthcare services and care at different levels. Numerous developmental projects have been implemented, expanding healthcare services, developing the healthcare workforce, and providing quality medical services by Palestinian hands, ranging from kidney transplantation to corneal transplantation. What distinguishes this year, and makes us all proud and admire our people in the Gaza Strip, is their remarkable success in the "**one who gives her life**" project, which involved cornea donations and contributed to restoring sight to dozens of eyes. We extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of this project.

We now present to you the annual health report for the southern governorates for the year 2022. This report serves as a guide for decision-makers, healthcare planners, and researchers, and it is the primary and reliable source of information on the health status, its development, as well as health indicators that are now considered the best in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

In this context, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to every dedicated effort that has left a mark of achievement. Firstly, we thank Allah Almighty for guiding us to where we are. Then, we extend our gratitude to the personnel of the Ministry of Health, in whom we constantly renew our trust as they are the axis of accomplishment and the symbol of innovation and development.

Thanks and appreciation go to our healthcare partners for their continuous presence at various stages of achievement. We take pride in our collaborative work with them. Lastly, we thank and appreciate those responsible for preparing this report, which we hope will serve as another documentation of the achievements and development of the Ministry of Health.

***Dr. Youssef Harb Abu Al-Rish***

***Deputy Minister of Health***

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## Chapter one

### Population & Health

#### 1. Demographic indicators

Indicator	Value	Indicator	Value
Total Gaza Strip population by end of 2022	2,196,407	% of children under the age of five	15.2
% of male population	50.7	% of population under the age of 15	40.5
% of female population	49.3	% of population aged 60 and above	4.8
Male / Female sex ratio	102.7	Total births	57,442
Life expectancy	72.8 for males 75.0 for females	Crude birth rate/1,000	26.5
Median age	19.3	% of twin births	3.5
Dependency ratio	76.9	% of newborns less than 2500 gm of weight	8.0
Population growth rate	2.8	Crude marriage rate	9.0
Fertility rate per each woman in reproductive age	3.32	Crude divorce rate	1.9

#### 1.1 Population

##### Palestinian population in the Palestinian territories

The population of the Palestinian territories (the governorates of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip) stands at about 5,419,053 million, of whom 3,222,646 reside in the governorates of the West Bank and constitute 59.5% of the total population of the Palestinian territories; in addition to 2,196,407 residing in the governorates of the Gaza Strip - 40.5%.

Table 1.1- Population distribution in Gaza Strip governorates

Governorate	Population	Percentage (%) out of total Gaza Strip population
North	437,479	19.9
Gaza	740,156	33.7
Middle Zone	315,014	14.3
Khan Younis	432,307	19.7
Rafah	271,451	12.4
Total	2,196,407	100

**Population density in the Gaza Strip by governorate:** the population density in the Gaza Strip governorates has reached 6,017 people per km<sup>2</sup> with the highest being in Gaza and the lowest - in Khan Younis.

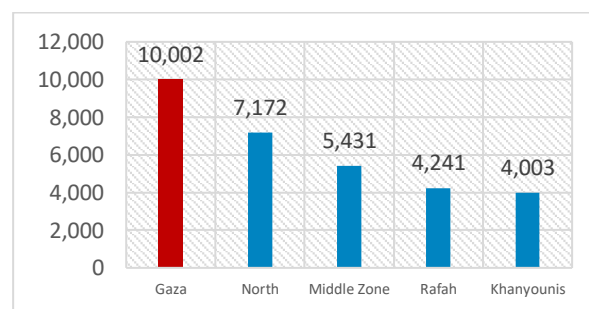


Figure 1.1- Population density distribution among the Gaza Strip governorates

### Population pyramid of the Gaza Strip governorates

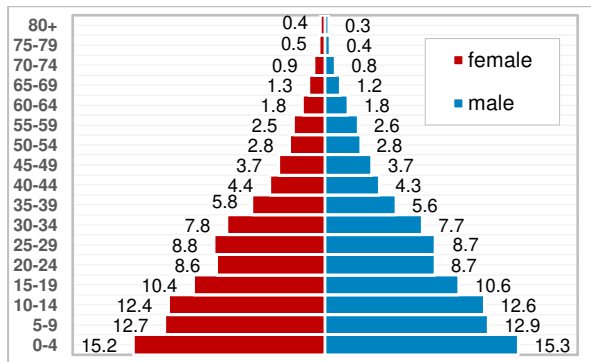


Figure 1.2- Population pyramid of the Gaza Strip governorates

### 1.1.3 Population aged under 15 years and above 60 years:

The under-15 age group constitute 40.5% of the total population, while the age group of above 60 years constituted 4.8% out of total population.

### 1.1.4 Male to female ratio

The number of males in the Gaza Strip governorates totaled 1,112,739 and the number of females – 1,083,668 with the male-to-female ratio being 102.7%.

### 1.1.5 Women in reproductive age (15 – 49) in the Gaza Strip governorates

The number of women in reproductive age (15 – 49) in the Gaza Strip governorates has reached about 536,956 (49.5) out of total female population.

### 1.1.6 Median age in the Gaza Strip governorates

The median age in the governorates of the Gaza Strip stood at 19.3 in the year 2021 and 19.3 in the year 2022 it is noted that the median age is closed between 2021 and 2022.

### 1.1.7 Population growth rate in the Gaza Strip governorates

The population growth rate in the Gaza Strip has slightly declined from 2.8 in the year 2022 to 2.8 in the year 2021.

### 1.1.8 Dependency ratio (age group 0 – 14; age group 65 and above)

There was a decreased in the dependency ratio from 76.9% in the year 2022 to 77.8% in the year 2021.

### 1.1.9 Crude death rate

The crude death rate in the Gaza Strip decreased to 2.8/1,000 in the year 2022, while in the year 2021 it stood at 3.3/1,000.

### 1.1.10 Fertility rate per woman of reproductive age

The fertility rate per each woman of reproductive age (15 – 49 years) has dropped risen from 3.32 in the year 2022 to 3.35 in the year 2021.

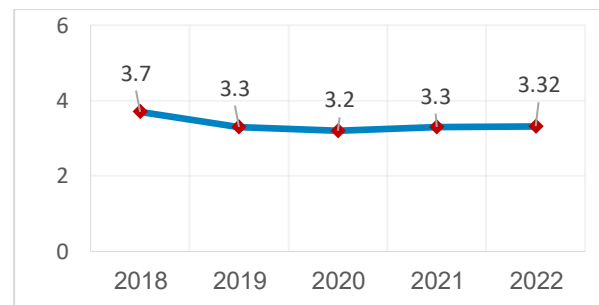


Figure 1.3- Fertility rate during the period 2018 – 2022

## 1.2 Newborns characteristics

### Number of newborns

The number of newborns raised to 57,442 in the year 2022, while it was 56,658 in the year 2021 at a rate of change +1.3.

### Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the population

The crude birth rate decreased to 26.5 in the year 2022 to 26.9 in the year 2021.

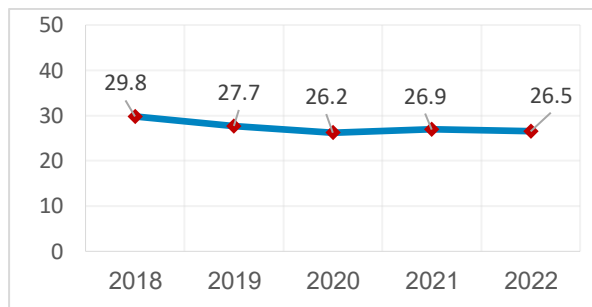


Figure 1.4- Crude birth rate during the period 2018 – 2022

### Births by place of delivery

The data reveals that the major bulk of deliveries in 2022 were in governmental hospitals (Ministry of Health & Military Medical Services) where they constituted 74.2% out of total deliveries in comparison to 71.4% in the year 2021, where this slight regression is attributed to the purchase of maternity service from NGOs.

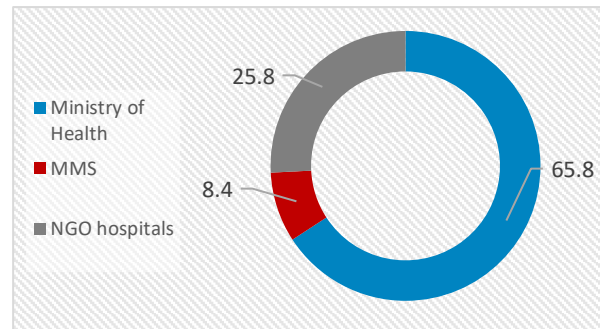


Figure 1.5- Percentage distribution of births by place of delivery

### Birth weight

There was an increase in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies (less than 2,500 gm) from 8.0% in the year 2022 to 7.9% in the year 2021.

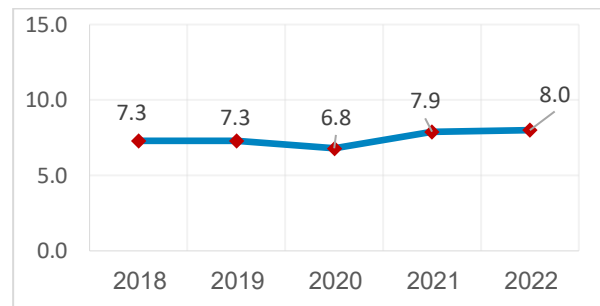


Figure 1.6- Percentage distribution of birth weights less than 2,500 gm during 2018 – 2022

## Chapter Two

### Women's health

#### 2.1 Antenatal care services

Antenatal care services are provided in the Gaza Strip through 50 maternal health clinics (28 clinics are run by the MOH and 22 clinics run by UNRWA). A total of 51,998 new cases of pregnant women were registered at PHC centers in the Gaza Strip out of whom 16,657 were registered at MOH clinics, the percentage of pregnant women aged less than 16 declined by 0.4% out of total pregnant women. The average number of ANC visits to PHC clinics accounted 6.3 visits per pregnant woman.

**Table 2.1- Number of ANC visits to PHC clinics in the Gaza Strip**

Services	MOH	UNRWA	Total
Number of pregnant women	16,657	35,341	51,998
Number of ANC visits	105,304	268,136	373,440
Average number of visits/pregnant woman	6.3	7.6	7.2

#### 2.2 High-risk pregnancy

High-risk pregnancy (HRP) cases are followed up in all Mother & Child Health (MCH) clinics; these cases constitute 34% out of total new pregnant women in the MOH; while in UNRWA clinics this percentage stands at 46.5%. (According to UNRWA criteria)

The number of HRP cases registered at the MOH centers totaled 5,585 out of whom women that had previous surgeries accounted for the highest percentage – 15.7%, while the lowest percentage - 0.5% - was for cases with premature rupture of membranes.

#### 2.3 Reproductive health

The number of women in reproductive age (15 – 49 years) has reached 536,956, constituting 24.4% out of the total population of the Gaza Strip that is estimated at 2,196,407; and represent 49.5% out of total female population of the Gaza Strip.

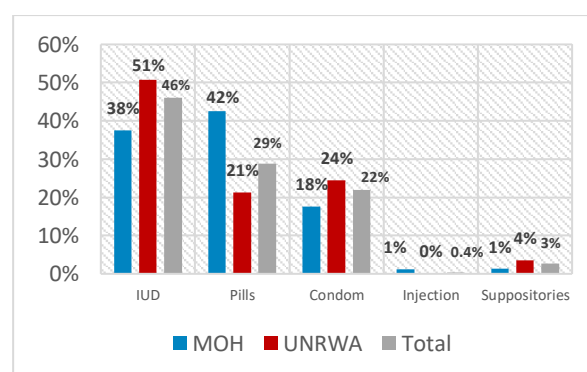
#### 2.4 Total Fertility Rate

The total fertility rate reached 3.32 births per a woman in reproductive age (15 – 49 years), while it stood at 3.35 births in the year 2021. The highest fertility rate was reported among the age group (25 – 29 years) where it reached 194.4 births per 1,000 women in 2022.

#### 2.5 Family Planning methods

The number of new beneficiaries of family planning (FP) services in the Gaza Strip reached 17,869 women (6,319 Ministry of Health and 11,550 UNRWA). The rate of IUD use increased, where IUD became the most commonly used method in the health centers of the Ministry of Health and UNRWA in the Gaza Strip, accounting for 46% out of the total number of family planning methods; while the use of pills decreased to 29%, and suppositories accounted for the lowest percentage constituting 0.4% of the total FP methods used in the Gaza Strip.

Contraceptive pills were the most used method among new beneficiaries of the FP services in the Ministry of Health clinics, with a percentage of 42%, while IUD accounted for the highest proportion in the UNRWA clinics, with a percentage of 51%.

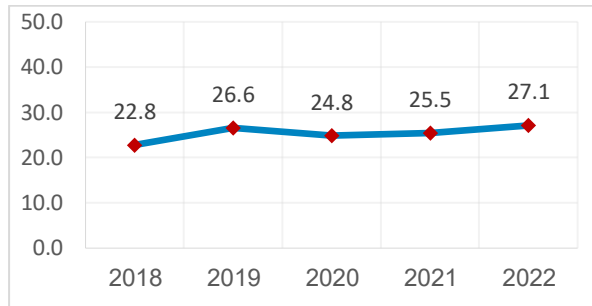


**Figure 2.1- Percentage of new beneficiaries from family planning methods, according to the provider (Ministry of Health, UNRWA) in 2022**

## 2.6 Deliveries

The percentage of births in MOH hospitals stood at 66.5%, while in non-governmental hospitals it was 24.6%, in MMS hospitals - 8.8%, and only 0.04% in private hospitals.

The percentage of normal deliveries in the hospitals of the Gaza Strip accounted for 72.9% of the total births.



**Figure 2.2-** Percentage distribution of CS deliveries in the Gaza Strip hospitals by year, 2018-2022

### 2.6.1 Cesarean Section (CS) deliveries

There was an increase in the percentage of CS in the hospitals of the Gaza Strip, where it reached 27.1% of the total deliveries in 2022, compared to 25.5% registered in 2021 with a change rate of 4.4%.

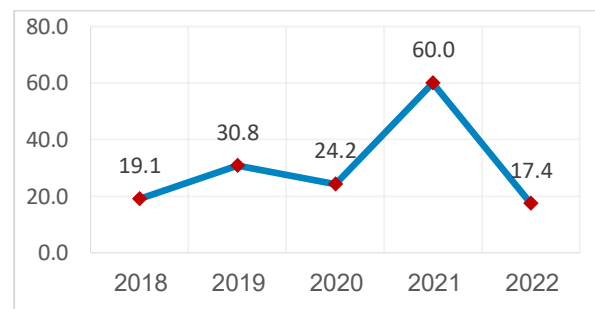
### 2.6.2 Postnatal care

The number of women who received postnatal care services in governmental PHC centers and UNRWA clinics reached 48,339 out of whom 22% received the service in

governmental PHC centers, while the percentage of home visits reached 12% out of the total number of women who benefited of the service in governmental clinics. The percentage of postnatal care beneficiaries in UNRWA clinics reached 78% out of the total pregnant women registered in UNRWA.

## 2.7 Maternal mortality

A total of 10 maternal deaths were reported in the Gaza Strip during the year 2022, at a ratio of 17.4/100,000 live births, with decrease of 68% in comparison to the year 2021. It is worth noting that 68% of maternal deaths in 2021 were due to COVID-19.



**Figure 2.3-** Distribution of maternal mortality ratios per 100,000 live births in the Gaza Strip by year, 2018-2022

## Chapter three Health System

### 3.1 Primary Health Care

#### 3.1.1 Primary Health Care centers

There are 159 PHC centers in the Gaza Strip, out of which 52 are run by the MOH (32.7%), 22 – by UNRWA (13.8%), 80 – by NGOs out of which 19 centers (12%) provide PHC services in accordance with the MOH standards and the rest provide specialized medical services. Five PHC centers (3.1%) are run by Military Medical Services.

##### 3.1.1.1 The average number of populations per PHC center run by the Ministry of Health and UNRWA in the Gaza Strip

The average population per primary care center run by the Ministry of Health and UNRWA in the Gaza Strip was 29,681; with the highest rate being in Gaza Governorate, where it reached 38,956 population per health center, followed by the North Governorate (33,652 per health center), while the Middle Zone Governorate has the lowest number of population per health center 15,751.

##### 3.1.1.2 PHC centers (Ministry of Health)

The Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip runs 52 centers, including 33 centers of the third level and 19 centers of the fourth level, in addition to a specialized clinic for mental health.

The average population per governmental health center in the Gaza Strip was 42,239, with the highest rate being in Rafah Governorate, where it reached 67,863 population per health center, followed by Gaza Governorate (52,868 per health center), while the Middle Zone Governorate had the lowest number of population per health center 21,001 per health center

##### 3.1.1.3 Services provided by the PHC centers in the Ministry of Health

The number of visits to PHC clinics in the Ministry of Health totaled 2,107,151 visits in 2022, of which 1,455,857 were visits to general practitioners; with the average annual number of visits per person being 0.7 visits in 2022.

This is in addition to 915,091 visits for nursing services in PHC centers affiliated to the Ministry of Health. The average number of visits was 0.4 visits per person. Physicians working in PHC centers run by the Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip provided a total of 1,138,271 prescriptions, at a rate of 0.5 prescriptions per person.

• *Visits to specialized clinics in the PHC centers of the Ministry of Health:*

The number of visits registered this year in specialized clinics at PHC centers reached a total of 647,432 visits. The average number of visits per person to specialized clinics was 0.3

##### 3.1.2.1 Primary care centers run by UNRWA

UNRWA runs 22 centers in the Gaza Strip. These centers provide free treatment, mother and child health care services, as well as other specialized services, in addition to playing the main role in vaccination programs in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, the vaccination rate in the Gaza Strip reached 98.7% for the year 2022

The number of visits registered at UNRWA centers totaled 3,548,557 of which 3,521,249 were to general practitioners at a rate of 2.7 visits per person; while the number of visits for specialized medical care reached 27,321 visits; and 3,915,701 visits were for nursing services at a rate of 3.02 visits per person.

### 3.1.2 Child health

#### 3.1.2.1 Child health and vaccinations

The immunization system in the Palestinian Ministry of Health is considered one of its most important successes, as this service is provided in almost all primary health care centers, meaning that it is available and easy to access.

#### 3.1.2.2 Visits to Child Health Department

The Child Health Department provides health services to children with metabolic and nutritional problems. The total number of visits recorded in 2022 was 1,875.

**Table 3.1.1- Vaccination coverage rates in Palestine for the years 2015-2022**

Year	BCG	DPT3	OPV3	HepB	MMR
2022	98.7	98.1	98.8	98.7	94.3*
2021	99.9	96.8	98.3	99.9	98.4
2020	99.0	98.4	98.6	99.0	98.3
2019	99.5	99.3	99.8	99.5	99.9
2018	98.8	98.2	98.9	98.8	98.9
2017	99.4	98.1	98.3	99.4	99.6
2016	99.8	98.8	98.4	99.8	99.0
2015	99	98.3	98.3	98.7	99.8

\*Note: The coverage rate was low for IPV and MMR vaccine due to shortages in the previous period

### 3.2 Services provided at Gaza Strip hospitals

Table 3.2.1- The most important hospitals indicators in the Gaza Strip during the year 2022

Indicator	MOH	NGOs	MMS	Private	Gaza Strip hospitals	
<b>No. of hospitals</b>	13	17	2	3	No. of hospitals	35
<b>Total No. of beds</b>	2,674	527	130	81	No. of beds	3,412
<b>Discharge cases</b>	187,750	29,566	13,356	3,758	Population/ hospital rate	62,754
<b>Admissions cases</b>	189,548	29,597	13,356	3,758	Hospitals / 100,000 population rate	1.6
<b>Admission / 1,000 population</b>	86.3	13.5	6.1	1.7	Population / bed rate	643.7
<b>Hospitalization days</b>	532,185	73,269	29,886	6,690	Beds / 10,000 population rate	15.5
<b>Beds occupancy rate</b>	74.0%	45.6%	87.1%	26.6%	Admissions/ 100 rate	10.7
<b>Average hospital stays</b>	2.8	2.5	2.2	1.8	C/S rate	27.1
<b>Bed turnover rate</b>	94.9	66.9	142.1	54.4	Number of ORs	105
<b>Bed vacancy period</b>	1.0	3.0	0.3	4.9	No. of diagnostic endoscopy cases	12,310
<b>Deliveries</b>	36,388	13,470	4,812	24	<b>MOH Hospitals</b>	
<b>% of CS</b>	27.0%	28.2%	24.2%	91.7%	Neonatal bed/ 10 maternity beds	6.5
<b>No. of surgeries</b>	88,105	34,938	3,214	2,174	Patient / renal dialysis unit	6.0
<b>E.R. visits / 1,000 population</b>	738.1	34.7	13.9	1.0	Renal dialysis session/ patient/ week	2.9
<b>Outpatient Clinic visits / 1,000 population</b>	324.8	230.5	51.9	3.6	Average No. of surgeries / O.R.	1,365

### 3.2.1 Hospitals in Gaza Strip

The number of functioning hospitals in Gaza Strip has reached 35; (13 hospitals of them are run by the Ministry of Health, 17 – NGOs, 2 – the Ministry of Interior and National Security, and 3 – private sector).

It is worth noting that in 2015 there were 30 hospitals.

### 3.2.2 Beds in Gaza Strip hospitals

The number of hospital beds in Gaza Strip reached 3,412 beds; (2,674 beds are in the Ministry of Health, 527 beds - NGOs, 130 beds - Ministry of Interior and National Security, and 81 beds are in private sector hospitals). A steady increase in the number of beds has been observed during the past six years.

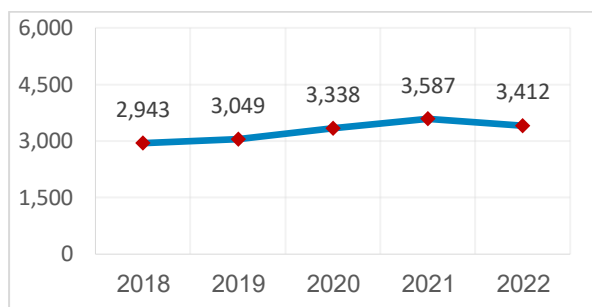


Figure 3.2.1- Beds distribution in Gaza Strip hospitals, 2018-2022 (including psychiatric hospital beds)

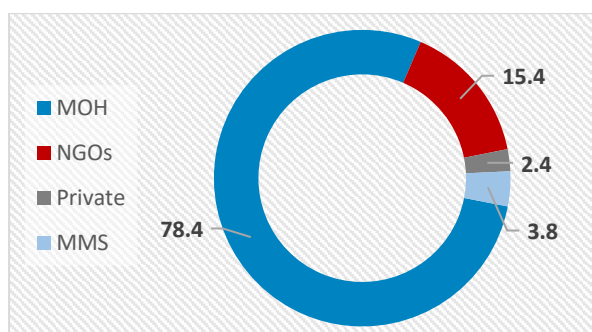


Figure 3.2.2- Percentage distribution of beds According to health care providers in 2022

### 3.2.3 Hospital service providers in Gaza Strip

Table 3.2.2- Distribution of beds in Gaza Strip by hospital service provider (2018-2022)

Service provider	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
MOH	2,240	2,343	2,616	2,824	2,674
NGOs	526	517	505	530	527
MoI	177	163	172	146	130
Private	0	26	45	87	81
Total	2,943	3,049	3,338	3,587	3,412

### 3.2.4. Distribution of hospitals and beds by population

**Hospitals:** The total number of hospitals in the Gaza Strip is 35 distributed at a rate of 1.59 hospitals / 100,000 population. The number of Ministry of Health hospitals reached 13 distributed at a rate of 0.59 hospitals per 100,000 population.

**Beds:** The total number of hospital beds in the Gaza Strip is 3,412 distributed at a rate of 15.53 beds/10,000 population. The Ministry of Health has 2,674 beds out of the total hospital beds distributed at a rate of 12.17 beds per 10,000 population.

### 3.2.5. Distribution of hospital beds

#### 3.2.5.1. Distribution of hospital beds by specialty

The total number of in-patient beds in the Ministry of Health hospitals reached 2,011, including the beds in the Turkish Friendship Hospital and the Psychiatric Hospital. It is worth mentioning that the number of in-patient beds in 2015 was 1,664.

Table 3.2.3- Distribution of in-patient beds in the Ministry of Health hospitals by specialty in 2022

Specialty	MOH	Percentage (%)
General surgery	585	29.1
Internal Medicine & Psychiatry	556	27.7
Pediatrics	377	18.7
Obstetrics & Gynecology	219	10.9
<b>Special care</b>	274	13.6
Total	2,011	100

### 3.2.6. Admission and discharge in Gaza Strip hospitals

Table 3.2.4- Admission / Discharge process (movement) in the Gaza Strip hospitals in 2022

Indicator	2022				
	MOH	NGOs	MoI	Private	Total
Admission	189,548	29,597	13,356	3,758	<b>236,259</b>
Discharge	187,750	29,566	13,356	3,758	<b>234,430</b>

**Hospital admissions:** During the year 2022, there were 236,259 admission cases to Gaza Strip hospitals; 80.2% of them were recorded in the Ministry of Health hospitals, and 719 cases were admitted to the Psychiatric Hospital during the year 2022.

**Hospital discharges:** 234,430 hospital discharge cases were recorded in 2022.

### 3.2.7. Indicators of the in-patient services utilization in the hospitals of the Gaza Strip

Table 3.2.5- Indicators of the in-patient services utilization in the hospitals of the Gaza Strip in 2022

Indicator	2022			
	MOH*	NGOs	MMS	Private
Occupancy rate	74.0	45.6	87.1	26.6
Length of stay	2.8	2.5	2.2	1.8
Bed turnover rate	94.9	66.9	142.1	54.4
Bed vacancy period	1.0	3.0	0.3	4.9

\* Excluding Psychiatric hospital

#### Bed occupancy rate:

- The bed occupancy rate in the Ministry of Health hospitals stands at 74.0%. The lowest occupancy rate was recorded in Turkish Friendship Hospital (36.4%) and the highest occupancy rate was recorded in the Indonesian Hospital (101.3%).
- While the bed occupancy rate in non-governmental hospitals reached 45.6%, in the Ministry of Interior hospitals – 87.1%, and in private hospitals – 26.6%.

### The Average Length of Stay:

- The average length of patient stays in the Ministry of Health hospitals in 2022 was 2.8 days.
- While the average length of patient stay during the same year in non-governmental hospitals was 2.5 days, in Ministry of Interior hospitals - 2.2 days, and private hospitals - 1.8 days.

### Bed Turnover Rate:

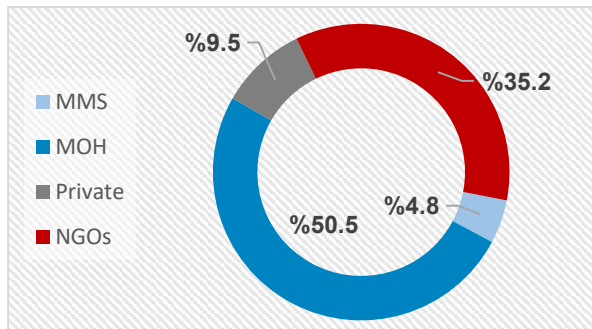
- In the year 2022, the bed turnover rate in the Ministry of Health hospitals constituted about 95 times per year, which means that the bed is occupied about 95 times during the year.
- While the bed turnover rate in non-governmental hospitals was about 67 times during the year 2022, in the Ministry of Interior hospitals – 142 times, and in private hospitals - about 54 times during the same year.

### Bed Vacancy Period:

- The bed vacancy period in the Ministry of Health hospitals reached one day (about 24 hours) during the year 2022; it is defined as the period of time (in days) between the discharge of one inpatient and the admission of the next inpatient to the same bed.
- In non-governmental hospitals, this interval constituted 3 days during the same year, while it was 0.3 day (about 8 hours) in the Ministry of Interior hospitals, and about 5 days in private hospitals.

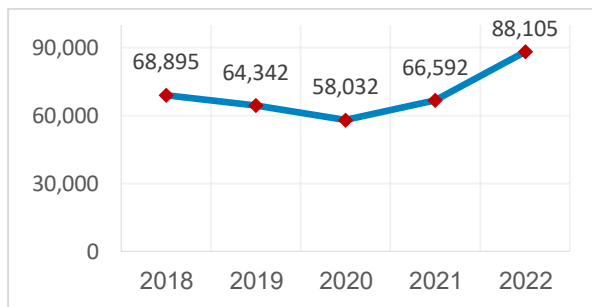
### 3.2.8. Surgical services in hospitals

- The total number of operation rooms (ORs) in Gaza Strip Hospitals reached 105 out of which 53 are in the MOH hospitals. The percentage distribution of ORs between healthcare providers is as follows:



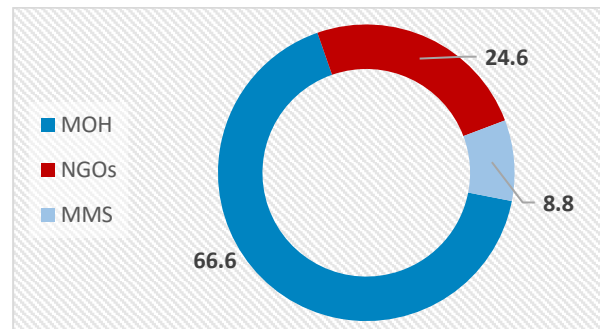
**Figure 3.2.3- The percentage distribution of Operation Rooms (ORs) in hospitals by service provider – 2022**

- The total number of surgeries that were performed in Gaza Strip Hospitals reached 128,431 surgeries, where the total number of surgeries were performed in the MOH hospitals constituted 88,105 surgeries.

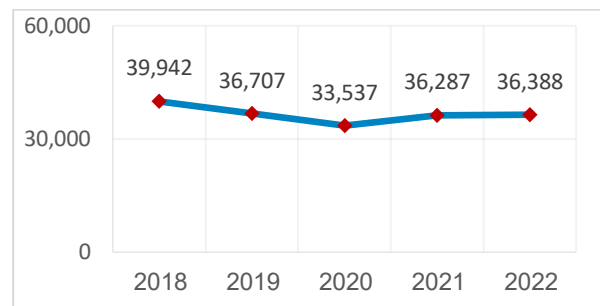


**Figure 3.2.4- Distribution of surgeries in the MOH hospitals, 2018-2022**

### 3.2.9 Maternity services in hospitals



**Figure 3.2.5- Percentage distribution of deliveries in Gaza Strip hospitals, 2022**



**Figure 3.2.6- Distribution of deliveries in MOH hospitals, 2018 – 2022**

Table 3.2.6- Distribution of deliveries in Gaza Strip hospitals, 2022

Indicator	MOH	NGOs	MMS	Private	2022
Normal delivery	26,556	9,674	3,648	2	39,880
CS delivery	9,832	3,796	1,164	22	14,814
Total delivery	36,388	13,470	4,812	24	54,694
% of CS	27.0	28.2	24.2	91.7	27.1
Gynecology & Obstetric surgeries	18,566	2,176	500	12	21,254
Still birth	302	22	3	0	327
Multiple births	852	54	35	4	945
% Multiple births out of total deliveries	2.3	0.4	0.7	16.7	1.7
Newborns less than 2500 gm	2,701	218	61	2	2,982
% of newborns less than 2500 gm	7.2	1.6	1.3	7.7	5.3
Premature births	5,806	585	0	0	6,391
% of premature births	16.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	11.7
No. of abortions	5,749	1,621	628	8	8,006
% of abortions	15.8	12.0	13.0	33.3	14.6
Congenital malformations cases	154	30	0	0	184
Malformations rate per 10,000 births	40.8	22.2	0.0	0.0	32.7
No. of neonatal deaths immediately after birth	222	4	2	0	228
No. of maternal deaths*	10	0	0	0	10

\* There were 10 Maternal deaths cases during the year 2022 out of which 8 cases were reported in Ministry of Health hospitals, 2 deaths cases at home

### 3.2.10 Cardiac catheterization, cardiac surgery, kidney and corneal transplantation

#### Cardiac Catheterization

- The MOH has been providing Cardiac Catheterization Services at the European Gaza Hospital since the end of 2006, and at Al-Shifa Hospital in mid-2014, and the service is provided in the Heart and Vascular Hospital, Al-Quds Hospital, Al-Hayat Specialized Hospital and Julies Specialized Center.
- The number of Cardiac Catheterizations in the Gaza Strip reached 6,695 Cardiac Catheterizations in 2022, including 3,360 Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterizations and 3,335 Therapeutic Cardiac Catheterizations. While the number of Cardiac Catheterization operations in the Gaza Strip reached 5,052 Cardiac Catheterizations during 2021, including 2,740 Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterizations and 2,312 Therapeutic Cardiac Catheterizations.
- 4,856 Cardiac Catheterization were performed in MOH hospitals during 2022. While in 2021, the number of Cardiac Catheterization in the MOH hospitals reached 3,366 Cardiac Catheterizations.
- The number of Cardiac Catheterization in Non-Governmental hospitals reached 491 Cardiac Catheterization during the year 2022, including 102 Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization, and 389 Therapeutic Catheterization. While there were 1,348 Cardiac Catheterization in private hospitals "Al-Hayat Hospital", including 387 Diagnostic Catheterization, and 961 Therapeutic Catheterization during the year 2022.

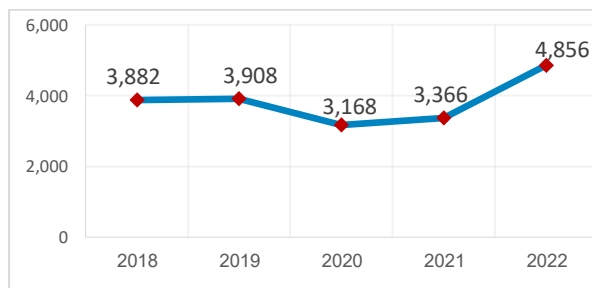


Figure 3.2.7- Distribution of Cardiac Catheterization Cases in MOH Hospitals 2018-2022

#### Open-Heart Surgery:

- Open-heart surgery began at the MOH in 2001 through an Egyptian medical delegation, where he performed 143 Open-heart surgeries at Al-Shifa hospital, then closed the center until it was restarted in 2010.
- Open-heart surgery services are provided in four cardiac surgery centers in the Gaza Strip; the first center in Al-Shifa hospital, the second center in the European Gaza Hospital, which are affiliated with MOH, the other Cardiac Surgery Centers at the Heart & Vascular Hospital and Al-Quds Hospital.
- A total of 135 Open-heart surgeries were performed in Gaza Strip hospitals during 2022.
- 134 Open-heart surgeries were performed in MOH hospitals (74 operations at the European Gaza Hospital, 60 operations at Al-Shifa Hospital), while only one Open-heart surgery was performed at Al-Quds Hospital in 2022.
- 116 Open-heart surgeries were performed in Gaza Strip hospitals During 2021, all of which were performed at MOH hospital (Al-Shifa hospital), and no Open-heart surgeries were performed in NGOs and private hospitals during 2021.

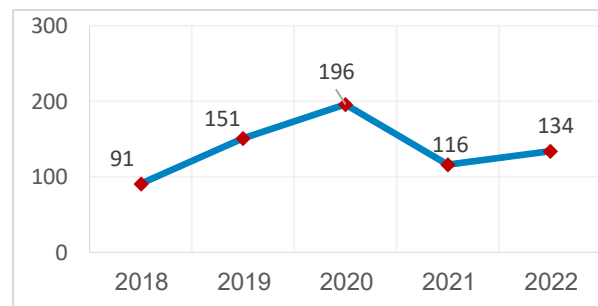


Figure 3.2.8- Distribution of Open-Heart Surgeries in MOH Hospitals 2018 – 2022

### Kidney Transplant Service:

- Work on Kidney transplantation in MOH hospitals in Gaza Strip began in 2013 at Al-Shifa Hospital by foreign delegations and the participation of doctors from the Ministry of Health in Gaza Strip.
- The number of Kidney transplants performed in Gaza Strip Hospital reached 110 Kidney transplants until the end of 2021.
- The total number of Kidney transplants during the current year reached 12 Kidney transplants, and the cumulative total number of Kidney transplants performed in Gaza Strip was 122 Kidney transplants until the end of 2022.
- The total number of Kidney transplant cases that are being followed up in MOH hospitals reached 432 cases.

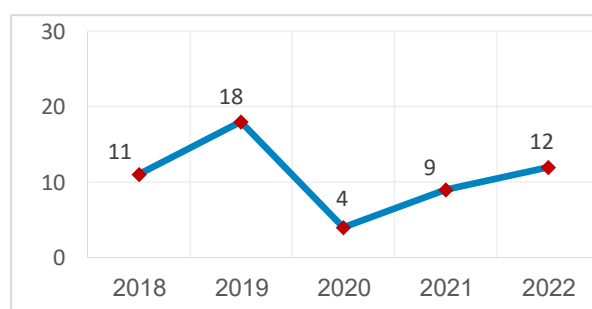


Figure 3.2.9- Distribution of kidney transplants in MOH Hospitals 2018 – 2022

### Corneal Transplant Service:

- The Corneal transplantation program was launched through self-donation from the deceased families in Gaza Strip in early 2022 at Al-Shifa Hospital through ophthalmologists at MOH hospitals.
- The number of Corneal transplantation cases in Gaza Strip reached 33 Corneal transplants until the end of 2022 in MOH hospitals.
- The Human Organ Transplant Unit at MOH follows up the two cases of corneal transplantation, which were performed in the private centers

### 3.2.11 Outpatient Indicators in Hospital:

#### 3.2.11.1. Accident & Emergency Services

Table 3.2.7- Accident & Emergency Services Distribution according to Health Provider, 2022

Indicator	Emergency & Accident	(%)
MOH	1,621,143	93.7
NGOs	76,153	4.4
MoI	30,441	1.8
Private	2,130	0.1
Total	1,729,867	100

#### 3.2.11.2. Outpatient Services

Table 3.2.8- Distribution of outpatient services in Gaza Strip hospitals – 2022

Outpatient services	MOH	NGOs	MMS	Private	Total	%
Surgeries	390,574	190,475	39,422	5,262	625,733	46.6
Internal Medicine	135,811	205,271	39,997	2,558	383,637	28.6
Obstetrics & Gynecology	55,428	88,403	26,345	0	170,176	12.7
Pediatrics	53,353	22,243	8,341	33	83,970	6.2
Hematology & oncology	77,499	0	0	0	77,499	5.8
Psychiatry	770	0	0	0	770	0.1
Total	713,435	506,392	114,105	7,853	1,341,785	100.0
%	53.2	37.7	8.5	0.6	100.0	

#### 3.2.11.3. Hemodialysis Services in Hospitals:

- Hemodialysis Services are provided in Gaza Strip through the MOH hospitals and Al Quds hospital; (7 Hemodialysis centers).
- 6 Hemodialysis centers affiliated with MOH hospitals (Al-Shifa Hospital, Nasser Hospital, Al-Najjar Hospital, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, Indonesian Hospital, and Al-Rantisi Children's Hospital), and the Seventh center is in Al-Quds Hospital affiliated with the Palestine Red Crescent Society.
- The number of Hemodialysis machines in MOH hospitals reached 178 machines.
- The ratio of Hemodialysis machines per patients (ONE Hemodialysis machines per 6 patients) while the standard indicator is ONE Hemodialysis machines for every 4 patients.
- The National Strategic Health Plan determined the efficiency of each

Hemodialysis machines with 3 Hemodialysis per day, and the Ministry of Health centers have become working with this efficiency after the opening of the Noora Al Kaabi Center at the Indonesian Hospital.

- The number of Hemodialysis patients at Al-Quds Hospital reached 12 patients during the year 2022, and the number of Hemodialysis machines was 4 machines. While the number of patients was 13 Hemodialysis patients during the year 2021, and the number of sessions during the current year reached 1,646 sessions, with an average of 2.6 weekly sessions per patient. While the number of sessions was 1,691 sessions during the year 2021, at a rate of (2.5) sessions per week per patient.

**Table 3.2.9- Hemodialysis Services Distribution in MOH Hospitals – 2022**

Indicator	No. Of Hemodialysis Pt	Hemodialysis section	section/patient per week
Al Shifa	415	57	2.8
Naser	185	29	2.6
Al Najjar	104	18	4.5
Al Aqsa	120	18	2.6
Al Rantisi	38	14	2.7
Indonesian	160	42	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1022</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>2.9</b>

### 3.2.11.4. Hematology and Oncology Services in MOH hospitals

- The MOH is the only provider of hematology and oncology care services through the day care departments in Al-Shifa Hospital (Hematology), Turkish Friendship Hospital, European Gaza Hospital, and Al-Rantisi Children's Hospital.
- The service in Al-Shifa Hospital was stopped, and adult Hematology services were transferred from Al-Rantisi Children's Hospital to Turkish Friendship Hospital.

## 3.2.12. Diagnostic Medical Services in Hospitals

### 3.2.12.1. Laboratory services in hospitals

**Table 3.2.10- Distribution of laboratory services in Gaza Strip hospitals – 2022**

	MOH	NGOs	MMS	Private	Total
lab tests	5,437,329	451,734	263,225	24,210	6,176,498
%	88.0	7.3	4.3	0.4	100.0

### 3.2.12.2. Blood Banking Services in MOH hospitals

**Table 3.2.11- Distribution of Blood Banks Services in MOH Hospitals 2018-2022**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Blood drawn	35,145	30,104	30,941	32,995	28,833
Blood Spent	75,748	59,147	65,505	67,199	62,548

### 3.2.12.3. Surgical Pathological Services: - Surgical Pathological in Hospitals:

**Table 3.2.12- Number of Pathology and Serology Examination in Hospitals-2022**

	MOH	NGOs	Private	Total
Serology	9,919	966	350	11,235
Pathology	1,887	48	4	1,939
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,806</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>13,174</b>

### - Surgical Pathological in MOH Hospitals:

Surgical pathology services in MOH hospitals are provided through Al-Shifa hospital and European Gaza Hospital, and the service was introduced at Nasser hospital during the year 2022.

**Table 3.2.13-Number of Pathology and Serology Examination Performed in Ministry of Health Hospitals 2018-2022**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Serology</b>	5,338	7,963	6,462	7,172	9,919
<b>Pathology</b>	1,562	2,057	1,225	1,506	1,887
<b>Total</b>	6,900	10,020	7,687	8,678	11,806

### 3.2.12.4. Medical Imaging Services:

**Table 3.2.14-Medical Imaging Services Distribution by Health Provider – 2022**

Service	MOH	NGOs	MMS	Private	Total
<b>X-Ray</b>	598,892	70,628	31,257	572	701,349
<b>Ultrasound</b>	141,914	67,623	36,732	804	247,073
<b>CT Scan</b>	47,446	9,299	0	1,233	57,978
<b>IVP &amp; fluoroscopy</b>	2,785	746	56	0	3,587
<b>Panorama</b>	1,707	9,435	631	0	11,773
<b>Mammogram</b>	2,729	9,551	0	0	12,280
<b>MRI</b>	16,788	7,746	0	3,001	27,535
<b>SWEL</b>	1,202	0	0	0	1,202
<b>Others</b>	5,993	5,723	33	1	11,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>819,456</b>	<b>180,751</b>	<b>68,709</b>	<b>5,611</b>	<b>1,074,527</b>
<b>%</b>	76.3	16.8	6.4	0.5	100.0

### 3.3 Laboratories

#### 3.3.1 Key laboratory indicators in the Ministry of Health in 2022

Table 3.3.1- Health indicators for laboratories in the Ministry of Health

Indicator	Value
Number of MOH laboratories	55
Blood Banks Societies supervised by the MOH	3
Total number of tests per million	6.93
Human resources	509
Total expenditures per million in NIS	17.4
Percentage of the MOH spending on laboratories	2.6
Blood units and blood products dispensed	65,476
Hypothyroidism among newborns	16
Prevalence of viral testing of blood donors	
HBV%	0.72
HCV%	0.14
HIV%	0.0
Total public health samples	12,986
Percentage of polluted drinking water samples	26.9
Percentage of contaminated food samples	20.8
Percentage of drug samples not conforming to the specifications	8.1

#### 3.3.2 Medical laboratory services in the Gaza Strip

##### 3.3.2.1 Providers of medical laboratory services in the Gaza Strip

Laboratory services are provided in the Gaza Strip through five main sectors: the Ministry of Health, UNRWA, NGO hospitals, military medical services, and the private sector.

Table 3.3.2- Number of tests per laboratory service providers in the Gaza Strip, 2021 –2022

Laboratory	2021	2022	%
Ministry of Health	6,394,141	6,934,993	66
UNRWA	1,791,646	2,449,223	23.3
NGOs*	846,025*	782,324	7.4
MMS	299,489	322,532	3.0
Specialized hospitals	-	24,210	0.23
Total	9,331,301	10,513,282	100

\* For NGOs, tests for the year 2022 were calculated for hospitals and PHC, while for the previous years calculations were made for hospitals only.

### 3.4 Labor force

#### 3.4.1 Labor force in the health sector

The labor force in the health sector totaled 16,259 (Ministry of Health, UNRWA, MMS, NGOs and private Hospitals) that were distributed as follows:

Table 3.4.1- Distribution of the labor force in the health sectors

Healthcare provider	Hospitals	PHC	Other	Total
MOH	7,334	1,748	2,083	11,165
NGOs*	2,845	1,472	0	4,317
MMS	474	204	99	777
Total	10,653	3,424	2,182	16,259
%	65.1	22.2	12.7	100

\*Includes NGOs, UNRWA & private hospitals

Table 3.4.2- Indicators of the health sector labor force

Indicator	2022
Physician per 10,000 population	15.8
Nurse per 10,000 population	21.9
Pharmacist per 10,000 population	3.1
Dentist per 10,000 population	1.1
Nurse per physician	1.3

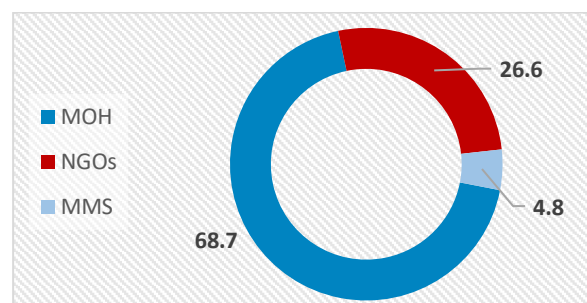


Figure 3.4.1- Distribution of the health sector labor force by health care provider

Table 3.4.3- Distribution of the labor force in MOH

Specialty	Hospitals	PHC Cs	Administrations & Units	Total	%
Group of physicians	1,716	259	39	2,014	18.0
Physician	1,230	234	33	1,497	13.4
Specialized physician	486	25	6	517	4.6
Dentist	15	79	1	95	0.9
Pharmacist	192	163	120	475	4.3
Nurse	2,544	390	193	3,127	28.0
Midwife	305	55	3	363	3.3
Medical professions	1,007	172	103	1,282	11.5
Health workers	8	62	62	132	1.2
Administrati on & Services	1,547	568	1,562	3,677	32.9
Total	7,334	1,748	2,083	11,165	100.0

### 3.5 Financial

#### 3.5.1 Cash revenues

Total cash revenues of the Ministry of Health in the year under report constituted \$7,380,980.

**Table 3.5.1- Total revenues of the Ministry of Health for the years 2021-2022**

Item	2021		2022	
	Value	%	Value	%
Hospitals	2,429,005	28	2,916,611	39.5
PHCCs	2,039,364	23.5	2,098,627	28.4
Health insurance	3,135,614	36.2	1,353,994	18.3
Other	1,061,190	12.2	1,011,749	13.7
<b>Total in USD</b>	<b>2,548,580</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,380,980</b>	<b>-</b>

#### 3.5.2 Operational expenditures

The total actual payments to the Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip constituted \$200,639,607, as shown in the following table:

**Table 3.5.2- Distribution of actual payments to the Ministry of Health according to the approved budget and financial orders for the years 2021-2022**

Item	2021		2022	
	Value	%	Value	%
Salaries & wages	73,147,609	46.4	85,400,000	42.6
Treatment abroad*	2,284,737	1.4	58,669,610	29.2
Drugs	28,897,133	18.3	21,988,661	11.0
Medical disposables	10,431,498	6.6	7,044,099	3.5
Food	2,148,725	1.4	1,269,627	0.6
Lab supplies	19,133,780	12.1	5,166,084	2.6
Cleaning company contracts	3,673,804	2.3	4,017,714	2.0
Electricity & water	12,435,449	7.9	9,840,553	4.9
Other	5,642,853	3.6	7,243,260	3.6
<b>Total in USD</b>	<b>157,795,588</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200,639,607</b>	<b>-</b>

\*Referrals inside the Gaza Strip

### 3.6 Health Insurance

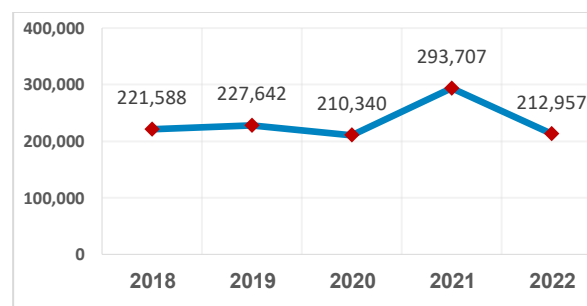
The number of families with health insurance reached 212,957 families until the end of the year 2022, including both the official system insurance (111,044 families with the percentage 55.5%), and free insurance (101,913 families with the percentage 44.5%).

The total cash revenues from health insurance in 2021 constituted 6.4 million NIS.

The total MOH exemptions for health insurance premiums in the year 2022 were calculated at 45 million NIS.

#### 3.6.1. Total health insurances until the end of 2022 (cumulative)

The number of health insurances issued until the end of the year 2022 reached 212,957 insurances, with a decrease rate of 27.4% in comparison to the year 2021 with 293,707 insurances issued; and these numbers include both the official and free system insurance.



**Figure 3.6.1- The number of health insurances issued until the end of the year 2022 compared to previous years**

#### 3.6.2. A comparison between the total health insurances issued during 2020 and 2021 and the percentage of change (according to the type of insurance)

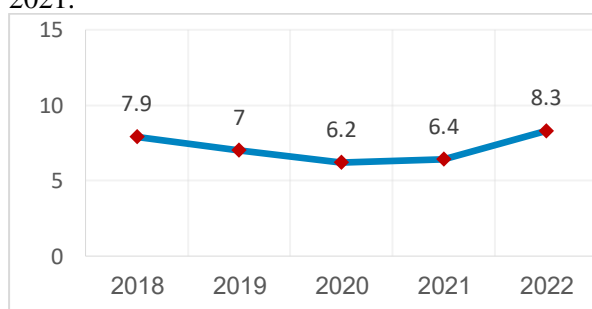
It is noticeable that the percentage of official system insurance increased by 9.6%.

**Table 3.6.2- Percentage change in the number of health insurances by type of insurance during 2021 -2022**

Type of Insurance	2021	2022	%
Mandatory	48,997	51,160	4.4
Social affairs	35,784	36,489	1.4
Organizations and societies	8,418	7,866	-1.1
Families of martyrs and the injured	7000	9,170	4.4
Voluntary	2840	3,409	1.2
Municipalities	2976	2,757	-0.4
Ministry of prisoners and released detainees	313	164	-0.3
Retired (green line territories)	32	02229	44.8-
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,360</b>	<b>111,044</b>	<b>9.6</b>

**3.6.3. Health insurance revenues**

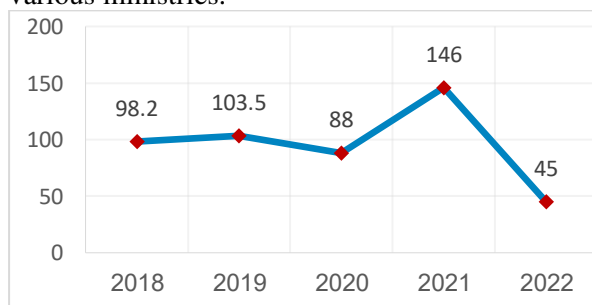
Total cash revenues from the health insurance in 2022 reached 8.3 million NIS, with an increase rate of 1.9 million NIS comparing to the year 2021.



**Figure 3.6.2- Health insurance revenues compared to previous years (in million NIS)**

**3.6.4. Ministry of Health exemptions for health insurance premiums**

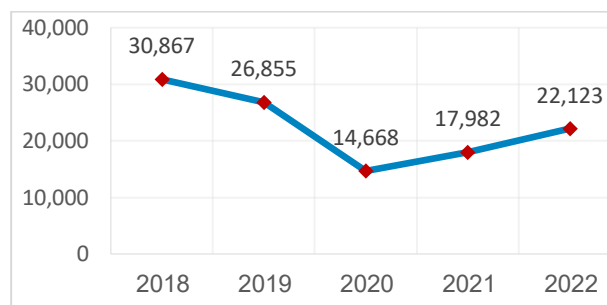
The total MOH exemptions for the health insurance premiums in 2022 reached 146 million NIS, with an increase approximately of 100 million NIS which that due to the activation of the clearing system between the MOH & the various ministries.



**Figure 3.6.3- MOH exemptions for health insurance premiums over the years (in million NIS)**

**3.7.1 The number of cases referred through the Ministry of Health for the year 2022**

The number of cases referred for specialized treatment during the year 2022 totaled 22,123 cases with an increase of 23% in comparison to the year 2021.



**Figure 3.7.1- Shows the number of cases referred for treatment abroad from 2018 - 2022**

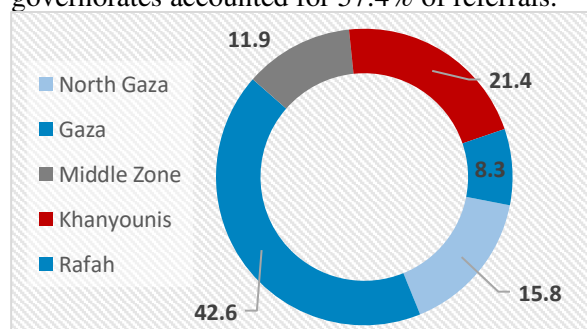
**3.7.2 Number of referred cases by age group during the year 2022**

**Table 3.7.1- Shows the number of referred cases by age group in 2022**

Age group	Number	%
Less than 3 years old	1,239	5.6
14 – 17 years old	3,190	14.4
18 – 40 years old	5,459	24.7
41 – 60 years old	6,165	27.9
More than 61 years old	6,070	27.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,123</b>	<b>100</b>

**3.7.3. Number of referred cases by governorate for the year 2022**

Gaza governorate accounted for the highest percentage of referrals issued for treatment abroad reaching 42.6%, while the rest of the governorates accounted for 57.4% of referrals.



**Figure 3.7.2- Distribution of referred cases by governorate**

**3.7 Referral (Treatment) abroad**

### 3.7.4 Referrals for treatment abroad by type of disease and place of destination for the year 2022

Table 3.7.2-Distribution of referrals for treatment abroad by type of disease and place of destination for the year 2022

Disease	Palestine	Egypt	Jordan	Green Line Territories	Total	%
Oncology	5,339	209	9	307	5,864	26.5
Cardiac catheterization	2145	25	0	0	2,170	9.8
Orthopedic surgery	611	820	0	6	1,437	6.5
Hematology	1,585	76	9	533	2,203	10.0
Pediatrics	773	44	5	180	1,002	4.5
Ophthalmology	1557	248	10	40	1,855	8.4
Nuclear screening test	946	135	2	4	1,087	4.9
Cardiology	339	37	2	1	379	1.7
Urology	266	115	0	6	387	1.7
Internal medicine	994	149	1	52	1,196	5.4
General surgery	474	139	0	5	618	2.8
Neurosurgery	339	186	4	6	535	2.4
Cardiac surgery	487	25	0	0	512	2.3
Vascular surgery	474	40	3	11	528	2.4
MRI	1	1	0	0	2	0.01
ENT	262	214	1	25	502	2.3
Renal disease	179	85	4	52	320	1.4
Rehabilitation	821	3	0	1	825	3.7
Laboratory tests	63	20	1	0	84	0.4
ICU	55	8	0	2	65	0.3
Neurology	54	16	0	4	74	0.3
Gynecology & Obstetrics	128	10	0	1	139	0.6
Endocrinology	46	7	1	18	72	0.3
Pulmonology	46	11	0	4	61	0.3
Plastic surgery	24	5	0	0	29	0.1
Pediatric surgery	56	3	0	2	61	0.3
Dermatology and Venereology	7	4	0	4	15	0.1
CT scan	12	4	0	1	17	0.1
Thoracic surgery	9	3	0	0	12	0.1
Dentistry	3	1	0	0	4	0.02
Burns & Emergency	1	0	0	1	2	0.01
Maxillo-facial surgery	49	15	0	2	66	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,145</b>	<b>2,658</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>22,123</b>	<b>100.0</b>

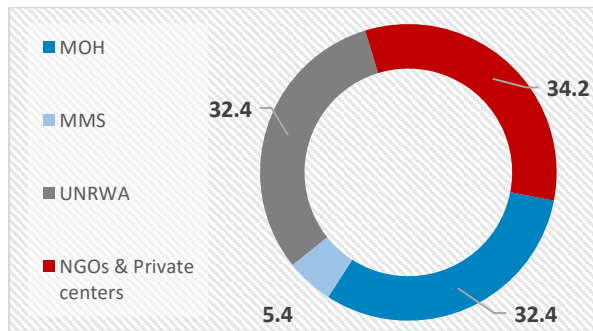
### 3.8 Physiotherapy

#### 3.8.1 Physiotherapy department in the Gaza Strip

The number of physiotherapy departments in the Gaza Strip totaled 37 out of which 12 are run by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, and 2 – by the Military Medical Services (Ministry of Interior and National Security). The governmental departments accounted for 37.8% of the total physiotherapy facilities (32.4% - Ministry of Health, 5.4% - MMS affiliated to the Ministry of Interior and National Security); while primary health care centers run by the UNRWA accounted for 32.4%, and NGOs and private centers – for 29.7%.

(This is the information we have for some NGOs that provide physiotherapy services)

It is worth mentioning that the Palestinian Ministry of Health is the only governmental institution, among those mentioned above, that provides clinical physiotherapy services; and these physiotherapy programs are linked to the length of stay of a patient in a hospital. In addition to the MOH, Al-Wafa Hospital and Al-Amal Hospital are among local NGOs that provide clinical physiotherapy services.



**Figure 3.8.1- Percentage distribution of physiotherapy departments in the Gaza Strip by service provider**

#### 3.8.2 Physiotherapy services in the Gaza Strip

The number of patients attending physiotherapy departments in the Gaza Strip reached 56,036; They received 437,208 physiotherapy sessions with an average of 6.4 sessions/patient.

The average number of sessions in UNRWA centers was 12.9 sessions/patient, while in the Ministry of Health the average number of sessions was 5.2 sessions/patient, with 3.2 sessions/patient provided in hospitals in-patient departments and 3.3 sessions/patient provided in hospitals outpatient departments. As the majority of physiotherapy services provided by the Ministry of Health are clinical, the number of sessions is linked to the patient's stay in the hospital, the average length of which is 3.5 days. Accordingly, this leads to decrease in the rate of sessions for each specialist.

### 3.9 Disabilities

#### 3.9.1 Disabilities in the Gaza Strip

The number of persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip reached 55,538 persons, including 30,739 males and 24,799 females. It was found that approximately 50,206 families out of total families in the Gaza Strip had at least one person with disabilities.

The rate of persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip was 25.3/1,000 out of total population.

The highest rate of persons with disabilities was in the Northern Governorate (30.4/1,000 of the population per governorate), while the lowest rate was in Gaza Governorate (22.0/1,000 of the population per governorate) with a percentage of 29.0%. The percentage of male persons with disabilities reached 55.3% out of total persons with disabilities at a rate of 27.6 / 1,000 of male population; while the percentage of persons with disabilities among children under 18 years was about 18.0% of total persons with disabilities.

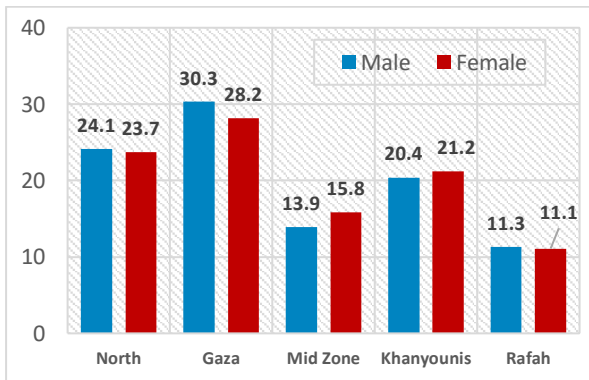


Figure 3.9.1- Shows the percentage of persons with disabilities in the Gaza Strip by gender

#### 3.9.2. Percentage distribution of persons with disabilities by type of disability in of the Gaza Strip governorates

The difficulty of movement constituted 46.7% of total cases of persons with disabilities, followed by visual imparities with a rate of 15.3%.

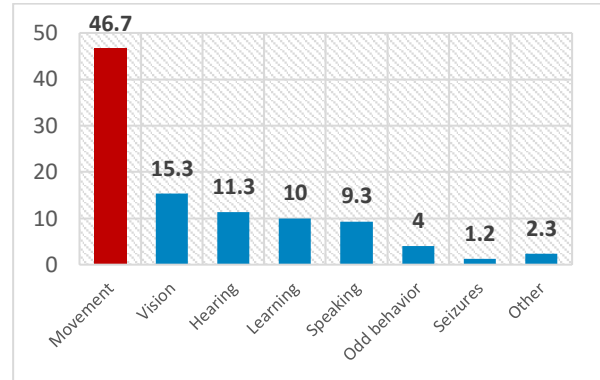


Figure 3.9.2- Percentage distribution of persons with disabilities in the governorates of the Gaza Strip by type of disability

### 3.10. Pharmacy

#### 3.10.1 Indicators

**Table 3.10.1- Shows pharmaceutical indicators for the year 2022**

Indicator	Value
Population per pharmacy rate	2,665 population / pharmacy
Proportion of pharmacists with respect to population	17.4 pharmacists / 10,000 population
MOH expenditure on drugs & medical disposables	14.5%
Gaza Strip needs in terms of drugs, medical disposables, and vaccinations in the Ministry of Health	44.3 million USD
Total delivered to the Ministry of Health	42.14 million USD
Percentage of zero stock drugs in the MOH	40.2%
Percentage of zero stock medical disposables in the MOH	18.5

#### 3.10.2 Drugs and medical disposables delivered to the Ministry of Health

**Table 3.10.2- Shows the financial value of drugs and medical disposables delivered to the Ministry of Health during the year 2022, in million \$**

Source of delivery	Drugs	Medical disposables	Total delivered
MOH financial procurement	5.36	2.4	7.76
West Bank warehouses	7.29	0.74	8.03
Donations	9.32	3.91	13.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.97</b>	<b>7.05</b>	<b>29.02</b>

#### 3.10.3 Drugs and medical disposables disbursed

The financial value of the drugs disbursed from the central drugs stores totaled 26.1 million US dollars, while the financial value of the disbursed medical disposables totaled to 7.7 million dollars in 2022.

**Table 3.10.3- Shows the disbursed drugs and medical disposables in million US dollars in 2022**

Disbursed	Drugs	Medical disposables	Total
Hospitals	20.5	6.9	27.4
PHC	4.2	0.62	4.82
psychiatry	0.59	0	0.59
*Other facilities	0.84	0.225	1.065
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>7.75</b>	<b>33.85</b>

\* Units and Departments: Engineering and Maintenance, EMS, Physiotherapy, Laboratories and Blood Banks, Mental Health.

#### 3.10.4 delivered and disbursed vaccinations

**Table 3.10.4- Shows the delivered and disbursed vaccinations in million US dollars in 2022**

vaccines	delivered	disbursed
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>

#### 3.10.5 Total number of drugs and medical disposables and number of items at zero stock

##### 3.10.5.1 The total number and estimated financial cost (in USD) of items in the essential drugs list distributed according to the essential services provided

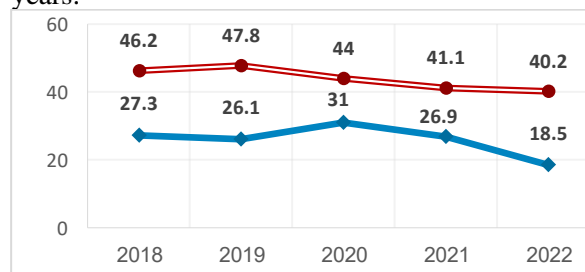
The total number of drugs circulated in the Ministry of Health (in the MOH essential drugs list) is 522 items with a total financial cost of \$2,993,877 per month. The average number of items at zero stock reached 209 with a financial cost of \$1,148,386, meaning that the zero stock items represent 38.35% of the total financial cost of the circulated drugs.

##### 3.10.5.2 The total number and estimated financial cost (in USD) of items in the essential medical disposables list distributed according to the essential services provided

The total number of medical disposables circulated in the Ministry of Health (in the MOH essential medical disposables list) is 853 items with a total financial cost of \$713,000 per month. The average number of items at zero stock reached 157 with a financial cost of \$119,205 meaning that the zero stock items represent 16.7% of the total financial cost of the circulated medical disposables.

#### 3.10.6 Zero stock items of drugs and medical disposables over the last years

The average percentage of drug items that were reported at zero stock during 2022 reached 40.2% out of the total essential list, while the average percentage of medical disposables at zero stock was 18.5% out of essential medical disposables list. The percentage of zero items of drugs and medical disposables over the past years.



**Figure 3.10.1- The percentage distribution of the average number of drugs and medical disposable over the past years**

\* Years 2015-2021 - cardiac and catheterization items are excluded

## Chapter four

### 4. Communicable diseases

Key indicators of communicable diseases in the Gaza Strip in 2022

(Rate per 100,000 population)

Disease	Rate	Disease	Rate
The incidence of acute flaccid paralysis per 100,000 children ≥15 years of age	0.56	Meningococcal disease	0.7
The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis	0.4	The incidence of COVID-19/1000 population	37.8
The incidence of non- pulmonary tuberculosis	0.2	The incidence of mumps	7.0
The incidence of viral hepatitis B *	0.7	The incidence of viral meningitis	23.7
The incidence of viral hepatitis B for carriers*	6.7	The incidence of other types of bacterial meningitis	9.4
The incidence of viral hepatitis C*	0.1	The incidence of chickenpox	47.6
The incidence of viral hepatitis A*	3.9	The incidence of brucellosis	0.5
The incidence of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	0.4	The incidence of diarrhea among children less than 3yrs	38.5

\* Among blood donors

#### 4.1 Deaths

A total of 546 deaths due to infectious diseases were recorded in 2022, representing 9% out of total deaths, and with decrease of 61% in comparison to 2021. It is worth mentioning that 75% of deaths were due to Covid-19, and the death rate for infectious diseases was 25.2 per 100,000 population.

Out of total deaths from infectious diseases 22 deaths were recorded among children under the age of five years at a rate of 4%; while the death rate among adults aged 60 years and above reached 74% out of total deaths due to infectious diseases.

Males accounted for 56% of all deaths at a rate of 27.3 per 100,000, while the female mortality rate was 22.3 per 100,000.

Khan Younis governorate had the highest death rate, with an average of 3.3/10,000 population, while the lowest death rate was reported in the Northern governorate - 1.4/10,000 population.

The percentage of deaths resulting from COVID-19 infection was the highest out of total deaths due to infectious diseases where it constituted 75% of all deaths from infectious diseases, followed by deaths resulting from meningococemia (4%).

#### 4.2 Morbidity

As a result of cooperative efforts and joint actions with various health care providers over the last years, the Ministry of Health succeeded in controlling many infectious diseases through good immunization coverage, early detection of diseases, and health education. Thus, no cases of diphtheria have been recorded since 1982, and no case of polio has been reported since 1984. Many other contagious diseases such as rabies, German measles, tetanus (neonatal and adult), whooping cough and cholera were fully controlled moreover Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip controlled the spread of COVID-19.

The incidence of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis decreased from 1.2 per 100,000 population in 2022 to 0.6 per 100,000 in 2021. The number of mumps cases decreased with an incidence rate of 7.0/100,000 population.

The incidence of viral meningitis decreased during 2021 to reach 23.7 per 100,000 population compared to 8.8 per 100,000 population in 2021.

The incidence of meningococcal meningitis decreased to 0.7 per 100,000 population.

The incidence of bacterial meningitis with other types of bacteria was 9.4/100,000 people with an increase of 86% in comparison to 2021.

The number of registered cases of viral hepatitis A totaled 84 with an incidence rate of 3.9/100,000 people with drop 76% compared to 2021.

The number of samples positive for viral hepatitis B was 307 out of 42,495 blood donors' samples with an incidence rate of 0.7%. In addition, 61 positive cases of hepatitis C were recorded among blood donors with an incidence rate of 0.1%.

#### 4.2.1 COVID-19

In 2022, the total number of new COVID-19 cases reached 81,975 cases, at a rate of 37.8/1,000 population. The total number of samples examined was 249,424, and the percentage of confirmed infections was 32.9%. Middle Zone governorate had the highest number of infections, with a rate of 44.7/1,000 population, while North Gaza governorate had the lowest incidence rate of 29.9/1,000 population.

In 2022, the number of deaths due to COVID-19 totaled 304\* deaths, 58% of which were males, and 79% of the deaths were in the age group above 60 years; Gaza governorate had the highest death rate - 28%. It is worth noting that 87% of death cases had comorbidities such as chronic diseases and cancers.

\* According to hospitals data.

## Chapter five

### 5. Non-communicable diseases

#### 5.1 Diabetes Mellitus

Diabetes Mellitus (DM) is classified as an international health crisis, where low- and middle-income countries have witnessed a clear rise in cases; What increases its danger in the world is that more than 55% of those with DM do not know that they have this disease (212 million people). Globally, about 537 million people suffered from DM in 2021, including 136 million people above the age of 65 years. During the period from 2019 to 2021, 74 million people have got the disease, where males constituted 51% of total diabetetic patients. Diabetes accounted for 6.7 million deaths in 2021, a case per every 5 seconds; this number has increased in comparison to 2019 where it totaled 4.2 million people of whom 50.7% were women. In addition, seven million people develop DM annually; and the International Diabetes Federation estimates that by 2030 the number of people with diabetes will reach 643 million, majority of them being in low- and middle-income countries. It is worth noting that the incidence rate for DM in the Arab world varies from one country to another. In the Arab Gulf countries, it might reach 20%, while it is lower in the rest of the Arab countries in varying proportions.

It was estimated that in 2021 at least \$33 billion was spent on care of DM patients in the Middle East and North Africa, or about 3.4% of global expenditures.

##### 5.1.1 New Cases of Diabetes Mellitus

The incidence of DM in the Gaza Strip was 287.1 per 100,000 population, with an increase of 98% in comparison to 2021, where it constituted 149.4/100,000 population. This may be due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health care services.

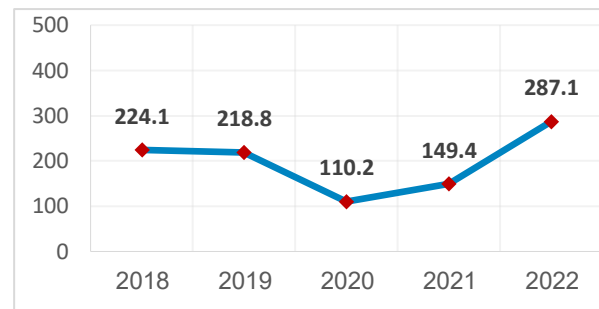


Figure 5.1- The incidence of diabetes per 100,000 population

##### 5.1.2 Prevalence of diabetes

In 2022, the total number of diabetetic patients registered in the Gaza Strip reached 71,016, with a prevalence rate of 3.2/100 people; while the prevalence rate in the age group above 18 years was 6.5/100 people. It is worth noting that 81.3% of diabetetic patients received the service in UNRWA primary health care centers.

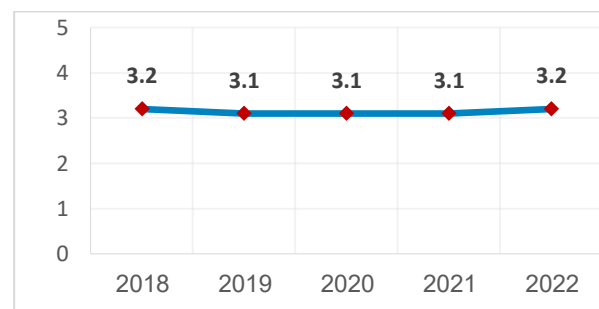


Figure 5.2- Prevalence of diabetes over the years/100 population

##### 5.1.3 Distribution of prevalence rate of diabetes by sex

Females constituted 57% of all diabetetic patients, while males accounted for 43%, with a prevalence rate of 3.7/100 females and 2.8/100 males.

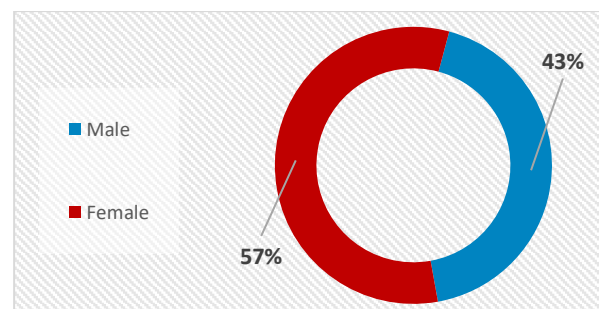


Figure 5.3- Percentage distribution of diabetetic patients by sex

### 5.1.4 Prevalence of diabetes by age group

Patients aged >60 constituted 50% of the total diabetic patients, while patients of the age group <18 accounted for 1% of the total patients.

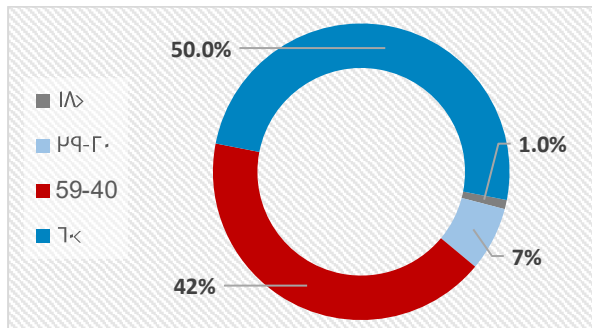


Figure 5.4- The percentage distribution of diabetic patients by age group in 2022

### 5.1.5 Prevalence of diabetes by governorate

The highest prevalence rate of diabetes - 40.9/1,000 population - was in the Middle Zone governorate, while the prevalence rate of diabetes in North governorate was 23.4/1,000 population.

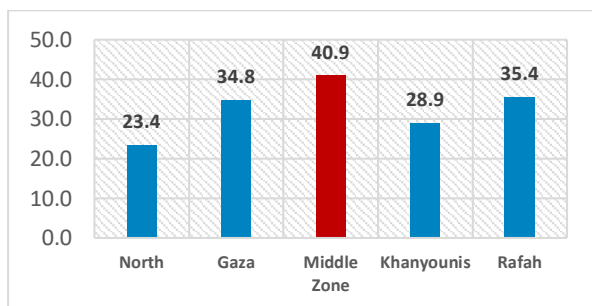


Figure 5.4- Diabetes prevalence rate by governorate/1,000 population

### 5.1.7 Mortality due to diabetes

The death rate among diabetic patients reached 2.7/1,000 patients, where females accounted for 56.2% of total deaths; and the death rate among adults aged 60 years and above constituted 80% of total deaths of diabetic patients. Gaza governorate had the highest death rate due to diabetes with an average of 1.2/1,000 population, while the North governorate accounted for the lowest rate - 0.05/1,000 population.

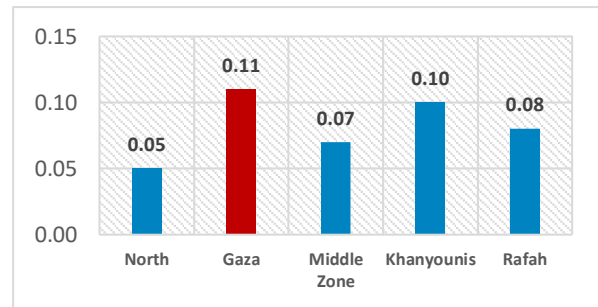


Figure 5.5- Distribution of death rate among diabetic patients by governorate

## 5.2 Hypertension

Despite the fact that hypertension is easy to diagnose and relatively easy to treat with low cost drugs, it is the most common and most dangerous disease. It is one of the main cause of premature death all over the world. It is called silent killer as in majority of cases it has no warning signs or symptoms. Hypertension kills more than 9.7 million people globally, representing 31% of all deaths in the world; more than 80% of deaths in low- and middle-income countries are due to cardiovascular diseases.

According to the WHO statistics, more than 1.28 billion people in the age group 30-79 years suffer from hypertension. It is estimated that about 46% of adults with high blood pressure do not know that they have it; less than half of adults with high blood pressure (42%) are diagnosed and treated, while about a fifth (21%) of people suffering from hypertension have their blood pressure under control.

### 5.2.1 New cases of hypertension

The incidence of hypertension increased in the Gaza Strip to 454.1 per 100,000 population, while in 2021 it was calculated at 236.5/100,000 with an increase of 97%. This may be due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the healthcare services.

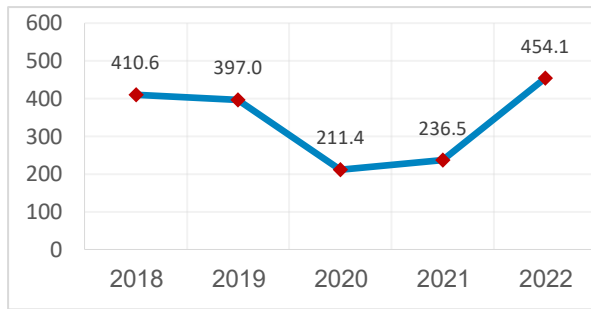


Figure 5.6- The incidence rate of hypertension in the Gaza Strip over the years / 100,000 people

### 5.2.2 Prevalence of hypertension

The total number of patients with hypertension in the Gaza Strip reached 105,588 patients, with a prevalence rate of 4.8/100 population, while the prevalence rate in the age group of above 18 years old was 9.8/100 population. It is worth noting that 85% of hypertensive patients received the health service in UNRWA primary care centers.

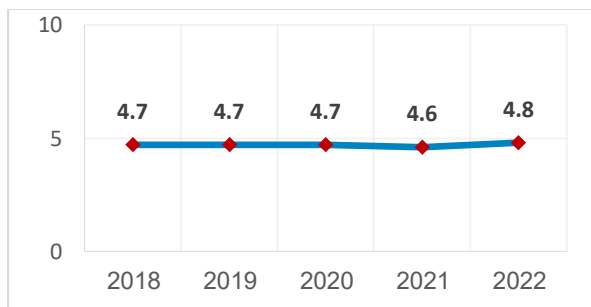


Figure 5.7- Prevalence of hypertension over the years/100 population

### 5.2.3 Distribution of hypertension by sex

The prevalence of hypertension among females reached 60% out of total hypertensive patients, with a prevalence rate of 5.9/100 females, while the prevalence rate of the disease among males was 3.8/100 males.

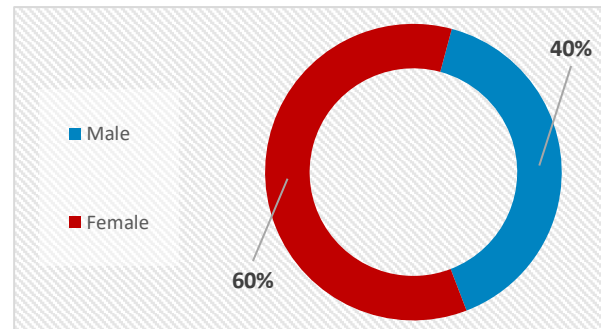


Figure 5.8- The percentage distribution of hypertensive patients by sex

### 5.2.4 Prevalence of hypertension age group

Hypertensive patients aged above 60 years old constituted 49% of the total patients suffering from hypertension, while those in the age group under 18 years old accounted for 0.1% of the total hypertensive patients.

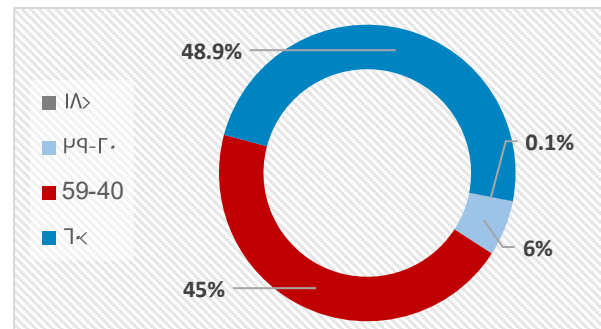


Figure 5.9- The percentage distribution of hypertensive patients by age group, 2022

### 5.2.5 Prevalence of hypertension by governorate

The highest prevalence rate of hypertension was reported in the Middle Zone governorate with a prevalence rate of 62.6/1,000 population, while in the northern Gaza governorate the prevalence rate of the disease was 34.2/1,000 population.

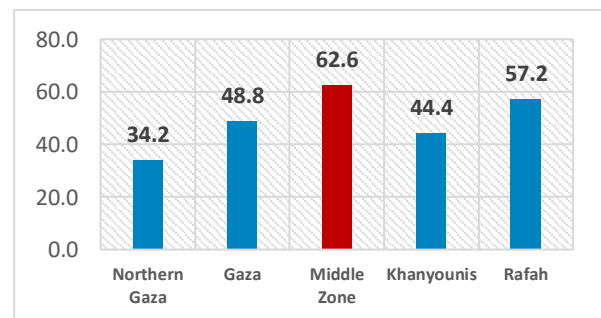


Figure 5. 10- The percentage distribution of hypertension by governorate, 2022

### 5.2.7 Mortality due to hypertension

The mortality rate among patients suffering from hypertension was 2.2/1,000 patients; females constituted 56% of the total deaths, and the death rate among adults aged 60 years and over was 88% of the total deaths. The mortality rate due to hypertension in Rafah governorate was 0.15/1,000 population, while in northern Gaza it was estimated at 0.08/1000 population.

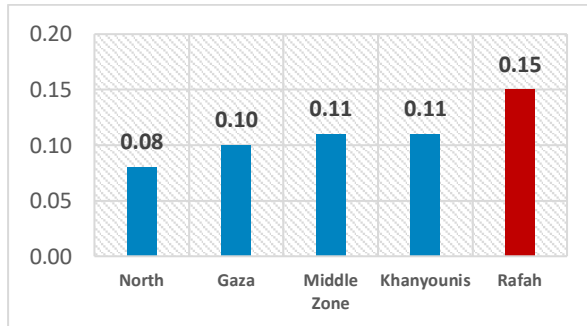


Figure 5. 11- Distribution of mortality rate due to hypertension by governorate

### 5.3 Mental health

About one billion people suffer from mental disorders, and mental disorders are a noticeable defect in a person’s thinking, feelings, and behavior. They impede his/her ability to deal with others and address the requirements of life. Mental illnesses result in a large number of disabilities and mortality, and they represent 8.8% and 16.6% of the total disease burden due to health conditions in low- and middle-income countries, respectively. Depression is one of the leading causes of illness and disability among adolescents and adults. The number of people living with depression or anxiety reached 264 million (WHO 2020) worldwide. Of those who suffer major depressive episodes, 63.8% are adults and 70.7% are adolescents. About 20% of children and adolescents globally have mental disorders or problems.

Mental and substance abuse disorders are the leading cause of disability worldwide, with suicides reaching about 700,000 people each year; 77% of suicides happen in low- and middle-income countries.

The Egyptian Ministry of Health announced the results of the National Mental Health Survey, which was conducted in 2018. It was found that

one out of every 4 people had at least one mental disorder or symptom, meaning that 25% of Egyptians suffer from some psychological disorders and symptoms. It revealed as well that mood disorders, and depression in particular, are the most prevalent among Egyptians at approximately 44%, followed by substance abuse disorders accounting for more than 30%.

Mental health services are provided in Palestine through six community mental health centers, in addition to Gaza Psychiatric Hospital.

In 2022, a total of 24,785 cases were recorded with prevalence rate 11.3/1,000 population, while total of visits were 95,428 visit in community mental health clinics with an increase of 5% compared to the year 2021, out of which new cases constituted 1,520 with an increase of 46% in comparison to the year 2021, where the incidence rate was calculated at 70.2/100,000 population. The number of home visits totaled 1,931, in addition to 7669 cases of health education, while the number of cases referred from community mental health centers to the psychological rehabilitation center reached 498 cases.

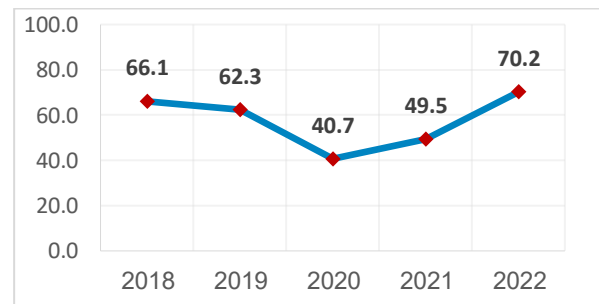


Figure 5. 12- The incidence of new cases in mental health centers per 100,000 population over the years

#### 5.3.1 Distribution of mental health services in mental health centers

Governorate	North	Gaza	Middle Zone	Khanyounis	Rafah
Visitors (follow up)	15,876	38,247	15,849	14,748	10,708
Visit rate/1000 Pop.	36.3	51.7	50.3	34.1	39.4
New cases	158	452	373	163	374

### 5.3.4 Distribution of mental illnesses for various mental disorders (new cases)

Depressive disorders accounted for the highest percentage out of the total psychological and mental illnesses at a rate of 30.9%, followed by Psychotic disorders and Schizophrenia at percentage 26.7%, 16.8% respectively, while the percentage of Attention disorders and Hyperactivity was 1.6%.

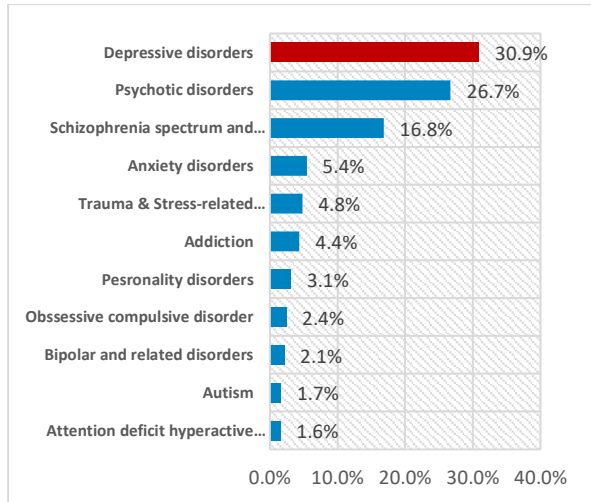


Figure 5. 13- Distribution of mental illnesses by diagnosis

## 5.4 Cancer ICD 10 (C00 - C99)

### Introduction

Cancer is considered one of the most important health problems facing developing and developed countries alike due to its high incidence, and its significant material and social impact. Cancer is one of the most important leading causes of morbidity and mortality in the world. In the year 2022, the mortality rate due to cancer in the Gaza Strip reached 15.1% of total deaths.

### Incidence rate

During the last five years, there was an increase in the incidence rate of cancer among the population of the Gaza Strip. In 2018, the incidence rate was 90/100,000 population, while in 2022 it went up to 93.1.

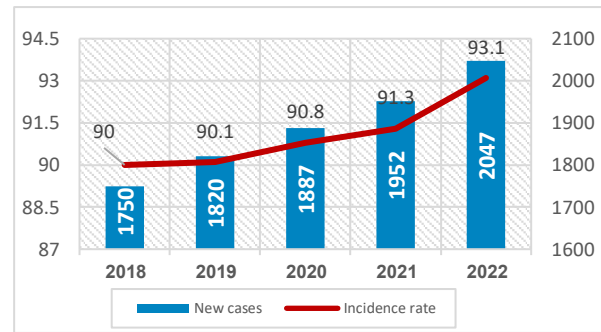


Figure 5. 14- The incidence of cancer per 100,000 population (2018-2022)

### 5.4.1 Distribution of cancer cases by sex

The number of cancer cases among males reached 918 or 44.8% of the total number of registered cases, while cancer cases among females totaled 1129 new cases or 55.2% of the total number of cases.

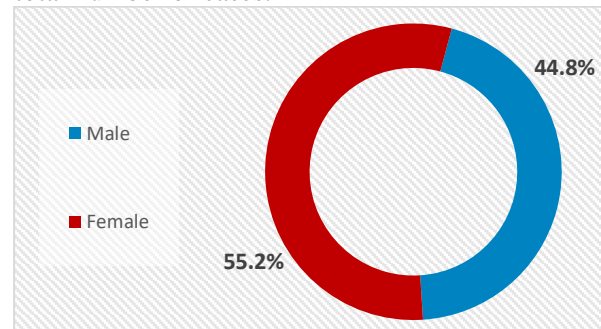


Figure 5. 15- Distribution of cancer patients by sex

### 5.4.2. The most common types of cancer in both sexes

During 2022, a total of 2047 new cancer cases were recorded from various sources. As it well known, breast cancer is one of the five most prevalent diseases in the world. According to the World Health Organization report in 2020, 2.3 million women were diagnosed with breast cancer and there were 685,000 breast cancer-related deaths worldwide. and also, the report indicated that there were 7.8 million women diagnosed with breast cancer in the last five years which makes it the most common type of cancer in the world. In the Gaza Strip, during the year 2022, the number of new breast cancer cases reached 394, which represents 19.2% of the total cancer cases. Colon cancer ranks second with 220 new colon cancer cases recorded in 2022 representing 10.8% of the total cancer cases. Stomach cancer comes last in the list of the ten most common types of cancer among the population with 57 new cases accounting for 3.0% of the total cancer cases.

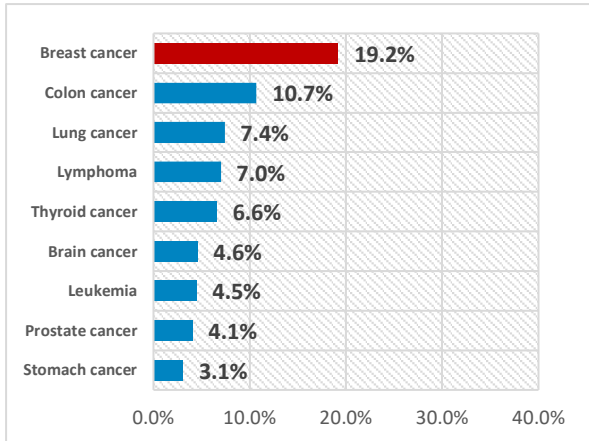


Figure 5. 16- Distribution most common types of cancer in both sexes

### 5.4.3 The most common types of cancer in males

Colon cancer is the most prevalent type in males. In 2022 a total of 129 new cases of colon cancer were recorded which representing 14.5% of the total types of cancer affecting males. Lung cancer is the second most common type of cancer where 117 cases of lung cancer were reported, constituting 12.7 % of the total number of male cancers.

Stomach cancer ranks last in the list of ten most common types of male cancers with 28 new cases, and represents 2.8 % of the total cancer cases affecting males. During 2021, it was observed that prostate cancer went up from the fifth to the third rank.

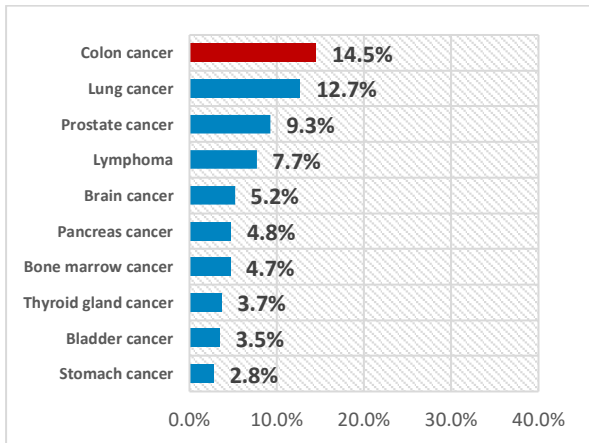


Figure 5. 17- The incidence of the most common types of cancer in males

### 5.4.4 The most common types of cancer in females

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer in females, 391 new cases of breast cancer reported in 2022 it represents 34.6% of the total of female cancers. Thyroid cancer is the second type in terms of prevalence, where 102 new cases were diagnosed, representing 9.1 % of the total types of cancer affecting females.

Stomach cancer ranks last in the list of the most common types and represents 2.7% of all cancer cases affecting females.

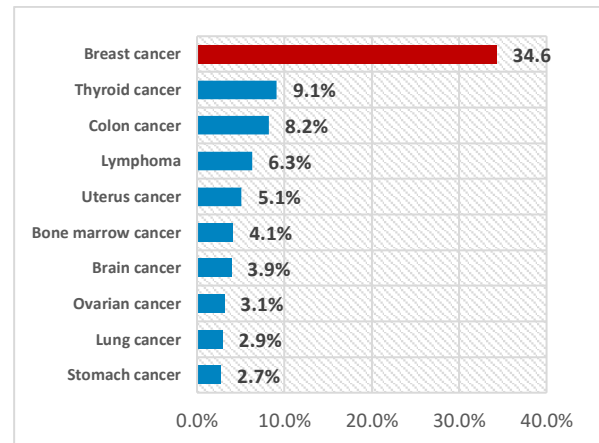


Figure 5. 18- The incidence of the most common types of cancer in females

### 5.4.5 Pediatric Cancer

The most common types of childhood cancers In the year 2022, the number of new cancer cases in children under the age of 18 reached 122, which represents 6.1% of the total registered cases. Bone marrow cancer (leukemia) is the most common type of cancer in children, while brain and nervous system cancer is the second most common type of cancer affecting children, accounting for 23.7% of pediatric cancers, followed by lymphomas with a percentage.21.3%. % of the total cancer cases.

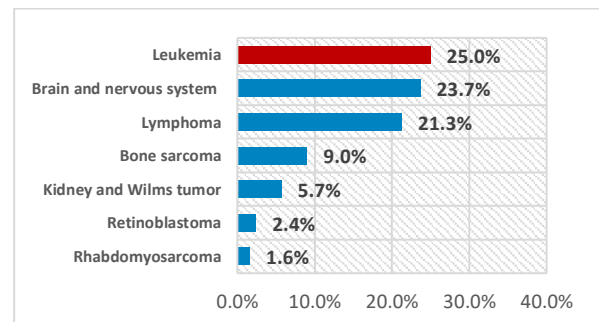


Figure 5. 19- Incidence of the most common cancers in children

## Chapter six

### 6. Mortality and real causes of death

#### Introduction

This chapter presents the leading causes of death in the Gaza Strip by age and sex. The data was obtained from death notifications issued in 5 governorates of the Gaza Strip. It is worth considering that the mortality file (death registry) is still being developed for the current and the previous two years in terms of electronic archiving of new death notifications and follow-up on editing them by doctors, writing the diagnosis and the ICD10, as well as following up entry (of the data) by patients' services in hospitals and primary health care. Much work has been done to train doctors and patient services as well as to follow-up on entry and auditing. In addition to that, training programs on international coding are being implemented for various categories of doctors given their importance towards achieving the most accurate results and scientific indicators.

Causes of death are recorded and coded in death notifications in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases (ICD10).

#### Mortality Indicators in the Gaza Strip

Table 6.1- Mortality indicators in the Gaza Strip

Indicator	Value
Crude death rate / 1,000 population	2.80
Perinatal mortality rate / 1,000 Total births	9.73
Neonatal mortality rate (under one month) / 1,000 live births	6.6
Infant mortality rate (under 1 year) / 1,000 live births	10.8
Under-five mortality rate/ 1,000 live births	13.6
Child mortality rate (1 year – under-five)/ 1,000 live births	0.6
Maternal mortality rate / 100,000 live births	17.4

In 2022 (6,061) people died in the Gaza Strip (3,202 males and 2,859 females).

#### 6.1.1 Deaths by place of death:

Out of total deaths, 81.2% occurred in hospitals, 16.7% - at home, and 2.1% - in other places.

The following figure shows distribution of deaths by governorate:

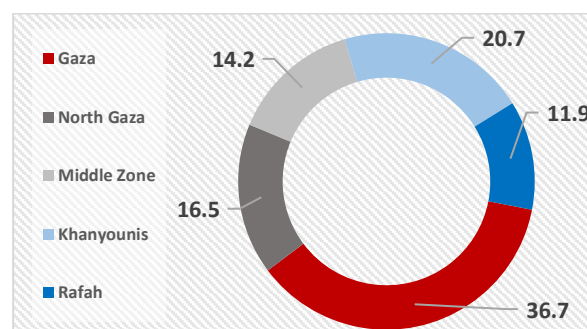


Figure 6.1- Percentage distribution of deaths by governorate

#### 6.1.2 Crude death rate

The crude death rate decreased in comparison to the previous year's reaching 2.80 per 1,000 population, which is due to the receding of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Gaza Strip at a change rate of -17.4% compared to the last year.

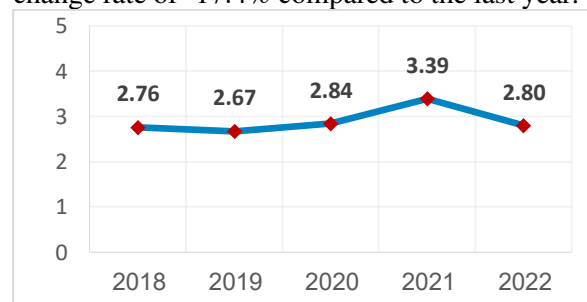


Figure 6.2- Crude death rate per 1,000 population over the years 2018-2022

#### 6.1.3 Crude death rate by governorate:

There are differences in the crude death rate between the governorates, with the highest being recorded in Gaza governorate at a rate of 3.0/1,000 population and the lowest being in the North governorate at a rate of 2.3 / 1,000 population.

Table 6.2- Crude death rate / 1,000 population by governorate

Governorate	Death rate	Gaza Strip
North	2.3	2.80
Gaza	3.0	
Middle Zone	2.8	
Khan-younis	3.0	
Rafah	2.7	

### 6.1.4 Crude death rate by age group:

The highest death rate in the age group 75 years and over was 104.5/1,000 people of the same group, while the death rate for children under one year was 10.8/1,000 people of the same group.

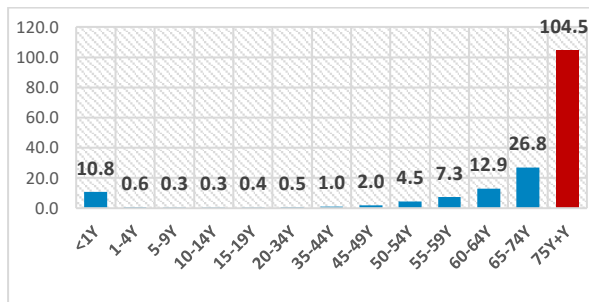


Figure 6.3- Crude death rate per 1,000 population by age group

### - Perinatal mortality rate:

The perinatal mortality rate was 9.7 per 1,000 total births.

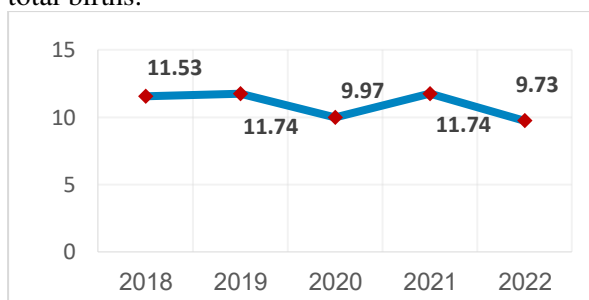


Figure 6.4- shows the perinatal mortality rate over the period 2018-2022

### - Neonatal mortality rate (0 – 28 days)

In 2022, the mortality rate for this age group was 6.6 per 1,000 live births, while in 2021 it was estimated at 7.1 per 1,000 live births.

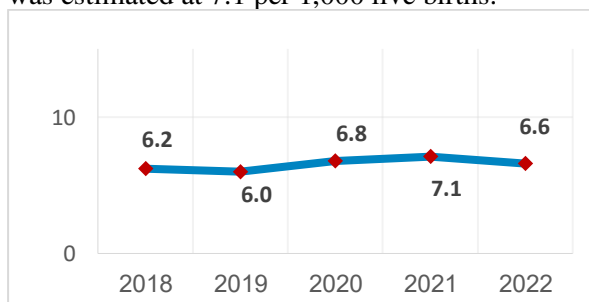


Figure 6.5- Distribution of neonatal mortality rate over the years 2018-2022

### - Post neonatal mortality rate (28 – 365 days)

The post neonatal mortality rate constituted 4.2 per 1,000 live births in 2022, compared to 3.5 per 1,000 live births in 2021.

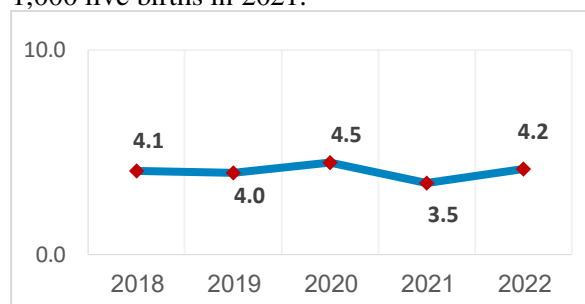


Figure 6.6- shows the post neonatal mortality rate during the period 2018-2022

### - Infant mortality rate (0 – 365 days)

The mortality rate in infants (under one year) was 10.8/1,000 live births in 2022.

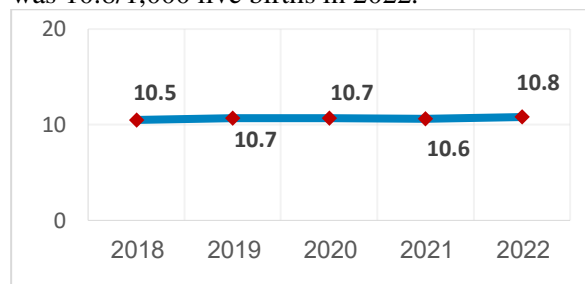


Figure 6.7- Distribution of infant mortality rate over the period 2018-2022

### - Under-five mortality rate (0 – 5 years)

The mortality rate in children under five years old in 2022 was 13.6/1,000 live births, while the highest rate of under-five mortality over the previous years was in 2019 where it constituted 14.5/1,000 live births.

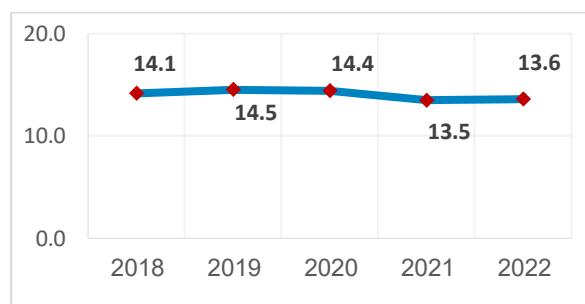


Figure 6.8- shows the under-five mortality rate during the period 2018-2022

## 6.2 Causes of death

### 6.2.1 Ten causes of death among the population of the Gaza Strip in 2022:

1. Heart diseases 17.8%.
2. Malignant neoplasm 15.1%.
3. Cerebrovascular diseases 11.6%.
4. COVID-19 6.8%.
5. Unknown causes 5.8%.
6. Respiratory diseases 4.3%.
7. Congenital anomalies 3.9%.
8. Hypertension disease 3.8%.
9. Conditions in the perinatal period 3.3%.
10. Diabetes mellitus 3.2%.

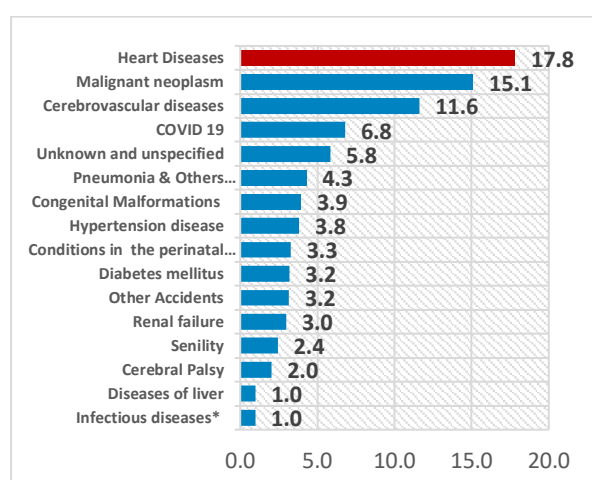


Figure 6.9- Percentage distribution of deaths among the population in 2022

- Comparison of some causes of death between males and females
- ✓ The first cause of death among males and females is heart diseases, with rates standing at 18.4% and 17.1%, respectively.
- ✓ The second cause of death among males and females is Malignant neoplasm with the rates of 14.8% and 15.4% respectively.
- ✓ The third cause of death among males and females is Cerebrovascular diseases constituting 10.5% and 12.8%, respectively.
- ✓ The fourth cause of death among males and females is COVID-19 constituting 7.6% and 5.9%, respectively.
- ✓ The fifth cause of death among males and females is Unknown causes constituting 6.7% and 4.9%, respectively.

### 6.2.3 Mortality by some diseases and causes:

1. Heart diseases: the death rate due to this cause dropped from 68.4 per 100,000 population in 2020 to 49.8 per 100,000 population in 2022.
2. Malignant neoplasm: the death rate due to this cause increased from 32.2 per 100,000 population in 2020 to 42.2 per 100,000 population in 2022.
3. Respiratory diseases: the death rate due this cause decreased from 16.6 per 100,000 population in 2020 to 12.0 per 100,000 population in 2022.
4. Congenital anomalies: the death rate due to this cause increased from 8.0 per 100,000 population in 2020 to 11.0 per 100,000 population in 2022.

Table 6.3- Comparison of mortality rates for specific diseases during the period 2020-2022 per 100,000 population

Disease	2020	2021	2022
Heart diseases	68.4	37.5	49.8
Malignant neoplasm	32.2	36.9	42.2
COVID-19	5.2	70.6	19.5
Respiratory diseases	16.6	12.6	12.0
Congenital anomalies	8	9.9	11.0
Accidents	5.5	17.9	8.9

### 6.2.4 Causes of death by age group

- **Infants (under a year):** The number of deaths among children under a year totaled 619 cases in 2022. The infant mortality rate in Gaza decreased during the past two decades from 20.5 per 1,000 births in 2006, further dropping to 17.1 per 1,000 births in 2010 and reaching 10.8 per 1,000 births in 2022.
- **Children under-five:** Cerebral palsy diseases accounted for 27.0% of the total deaths in this age group.
- **The age group 5 – under 20 years old:** the most common causes of death were all types of accidents with a percentage of 25.7%, and cerebral palsy with a percentage of 25.7% of the total deaths in the same age group.
- **The age group 20 - under 60 years old:** The death rate due to the malignant neoplasm constituted 30.3%, and it is the first real cause

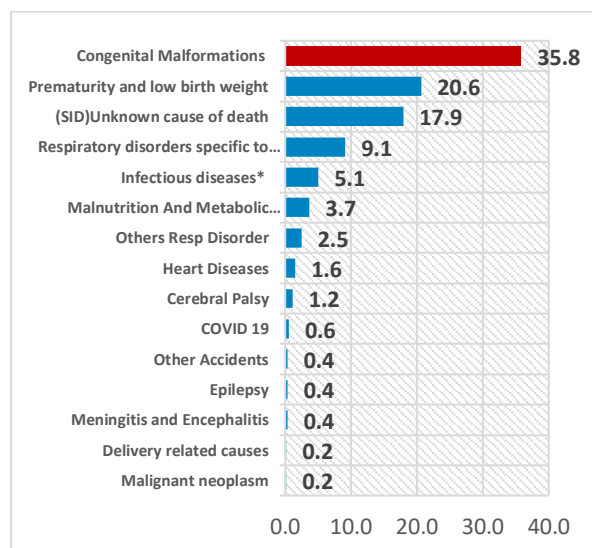
of death in this age group, which is followed by heart diseases at a rate of 21.5% of the total deaths in the same age group.

- **The age group of 60 and above:** the percentage of heart diseases reached 25.3%, followed by cerebrovascular diseases with the percentage of 18.8%, and malignant neoplasm constituting 16.5% of the total deaths in the same age group.

### 6.2.5 Causes of death among infants (under one year):

The infant mortality rate constituted 10.2% in 2022, while in 2021 it was 10.5% of the total deaths among the population in the Gaza Strip. The real causes of death among infants under one year:

1. Congenital malformations 35.8%.
2. Prematurity & low birth weight 20.6%.
3. Sudden death of unknown cause 17.9%.
4. Respiratory diseases 9.1%.
5. Infectious diseases 5.1%
6. Malnutrition and Metabolic Disorders 3.7%
7. Others Resp Disorder 2.5%
8. Heart diseases 1.6%.
9. cerebral palsy 1.2%, COVID-19 0.6% of the total deaths in infants.



**Figure 6.10- The percentage distribution of causes of death among infants (under one year old) – 2022**

\* Includes diseases: Septicemia, Diarrhea and Gastroenteritis, as well as Meningococcal Infection

### 6.2.6 Comparison of mortality rates in infants under one year old in the Gaza Strip by causes of death.

**Table 6.4- Percentage distribution of deaths among infants in the Gaza Strip over the years 2019-2022**

Cause of death	2019	2020	2021	2022
Congenital anomalies	29.1	26.9	30.9	<b>35.8</b>
Prematurity & low birth weight	14	15.3	15.6	<b>20.6</b>
Sudden neonatal death syndrome	10.8	8.7	9.4	<b>17.9</b>
Neonatal respiratory distress	12.6	20.1	17.4	<b>9.1</b>
Infectious diseases	9.8	8.7	5.8	<b>5.1</b>
Malnutrition And Metabolic Disorders	3.2	2.4	4.4	<b>3.7</b>
Other respiratory diseases	5.9	2.0	3.2	<b>2.5</b>

### 6.2.7 Child mortality (1 - less than 5 years)

The mortality rate in children aged 1 – less than 5 years was 0.6/1,000 children of the same age group, and the percentage of deaths among them constituted 2.7% of total deaths.

The real causes of death among them are:

1. Cerebral palsy 27.0%.
2. Congenital anomalies 18.0%.
3. Other Accidents 13.9%.
4. Transport accidents 12.3%.
5. Malnutrition and malabsorption 9.0%.
6. Unknown cause 5.7%.
7. Malignant neoplasm 4.9%.
8. Pneumonia & Others Resp Dis 2.5%
9. Infectious diseases 2.5%.
10. Heart diseases 1.6%.

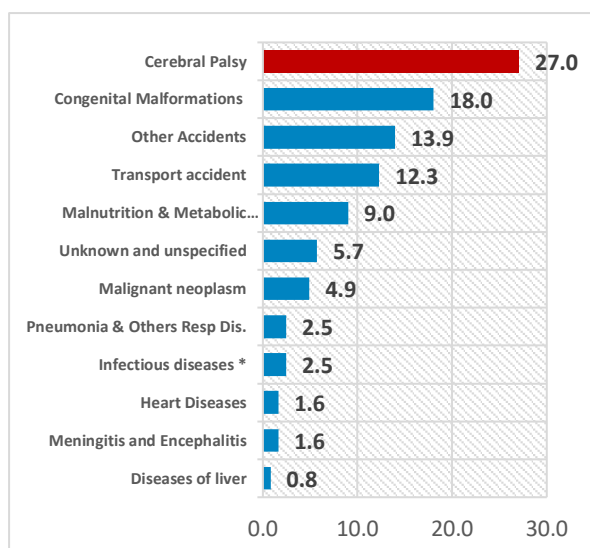


Figure 6.11- Percentage distribution of causes of death among children aged 1 – less than 5 years in 2022

### 6.2.8 Mortality in the aged group 5 - less than 20 years

The mortality rate in the age group 5 - less than 20 years was 0.34 / 1,000 people, representing 4.4% of total deaths.

The actual causes of death are:

1. Accidents 25.7%.
2. Cerebral palsy 25.7%
3. Malignant neoplasm 18.5%.
4. Congenital anomalies 7.3%.
5. Transport accidents 6.8%.
6. Malnutrition and metabolic disorders 4.9%.
7. Heart diseases 4.4%.
8. Pneumonia & Others Resp Dis 2.9%.
9. Infectious diseases 2.0%.
10. Renal failure 1.5%

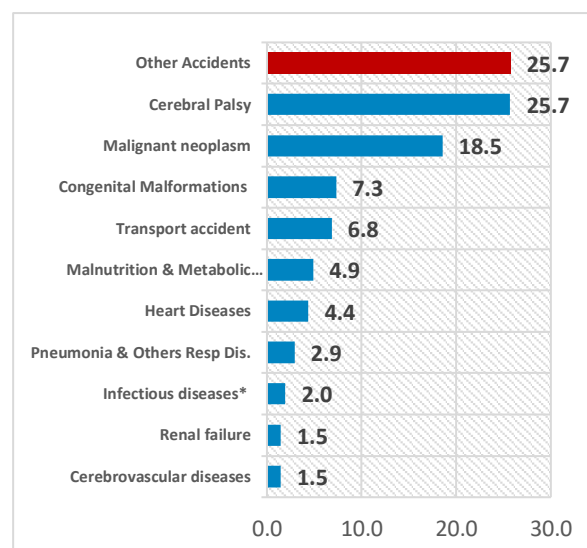


Figure 6.12- Percentage distribution of causes of death in the age group 5 - less than 20 years in 2022

### 6.2.9 Mortality in the age group 20 - less than 60 years

The mortality rate was 1.37/1000 people in the same age group (20 - less than 60) years, and deaths among them constituted 22.0% of the total deaths.

The main causes of death are:

1. Malignant neoplasm 30.3%.
2. Heart diseases 21.5%.
3. Other accidents 9.4%.
4. Cerebrovascular diseases 7.6%.
5. COVID19 6.4%.
6. Pneumonia & Others Resp Dis 5.1%.
7. Renal failure 4.0%
8. Diabetes mellitus 3.3%.
9. Cerebral palsy 2.8%.
10. Hypertension disease 2.6%.

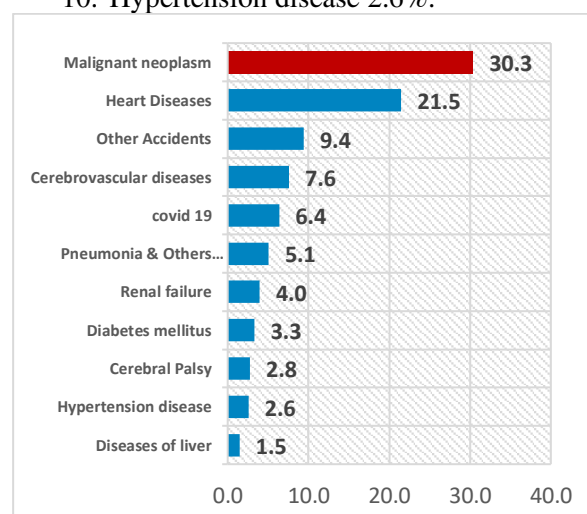


Figure 6.13- Percentage distribution of causes of death in the age group 20 - less than 60 years in 2022.

### 6.2.10 Mortality in the age group 60 and above

The mortality rate was 35.5/1000 people of the same age group, and deaths among them constituted 60.7% of total deaths.

The actual causes of death among them are:

1. Heart diseases 25.3%.
2. Cerebrovascular diseases 18.8%.
3. Malignant neoplasm 16.5%.
4. COVID19 10.2%.
5. Hypertension disease 6.2%.
6. Pneumonia & Others Resp Dis 5.6%.
7. Diabetes mellitus 4.7%.
8. Senility 4.5%.
9. Renal failure 4.1%
10. Diseases of liver 1.3%.

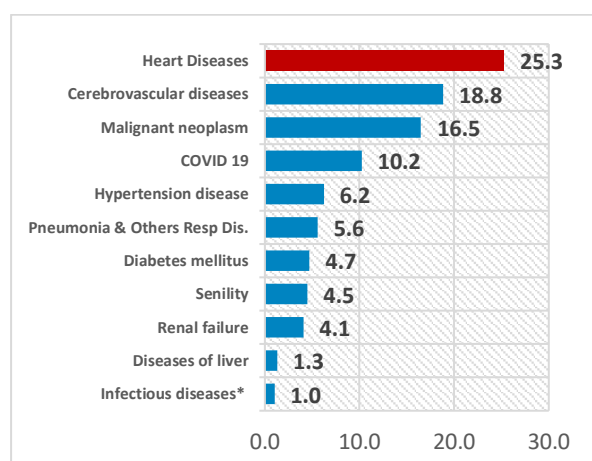


Figure 6.14- Percentage distribution of causes of death in the age group 60 and above in 2022.

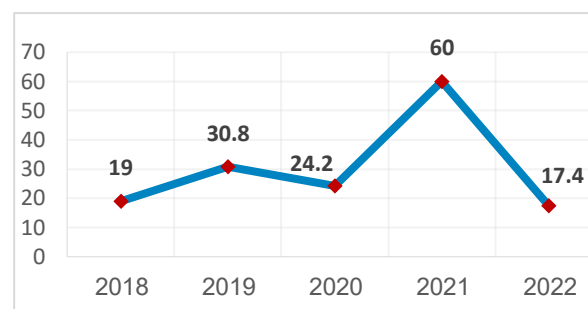


Figure 6.15- Distribution of the maternal mortality ratio over the years 2018-2022

### 6.3 Maternal mortality

- Maternal mortality is defined as the death of a woman from pregnancy-related causes during pregnancy or within 42 days of pregnancy termination, regardless of the duration of pregnancy or the place of pregnancy, provided that the cause of death is related to pregnancy and not due to other causes.
- The Women's Health Department in the Ministry of Health, in cooperation with UNRWA follows up /monitors NGOs that provide childbirth services. During 2022 a total of 10 maternal deaths were recorded in the Gaza Strip, at a ratio of 17.4 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.



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