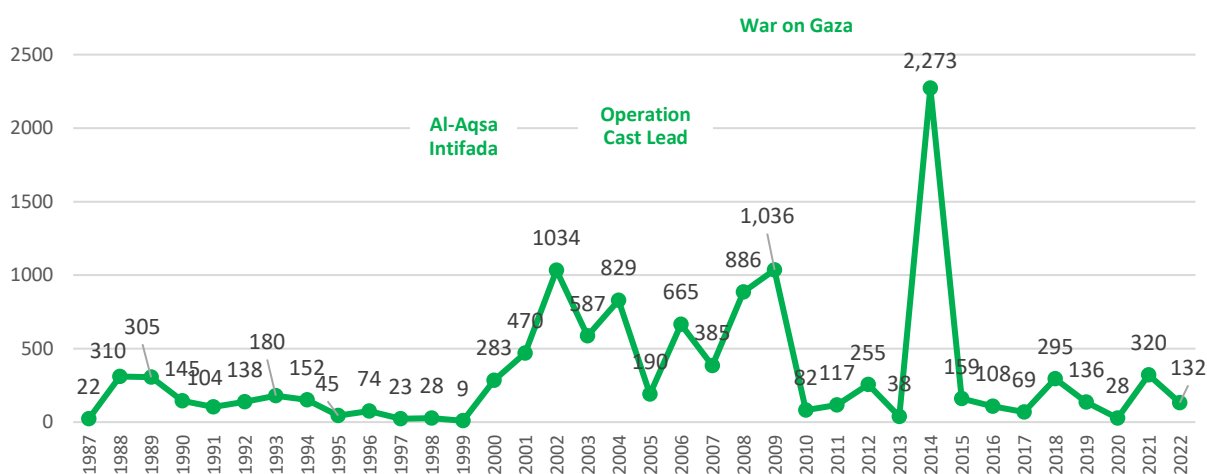


Israeli Occupation Policies

■ Killings & Injuries

- Figures for deaths and injuries differ by source. According to the PCBS, since the **1948** Nakba up to 5 May 2021, over 100,000 Palestinians and Arabs were killed (inside and outside Palestine) (PCBS, Press Release on the 73rd Annual Commemoration of the Palestinian Nakba, 10 May 2021).
- The following graph shows the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces or settlers/civilians since the outbreak of the first *Intifada* in Dec. 1987 as monitored by the Israeli human rights group **B'Tselem**.

Palestinians killed by Israeli forces and civilians - 9 December 1987-30 September 2022)



Source: B'Tselem website, <http://www.btselem.org/statistics> (Fatalities). The above numbers **do not include:**

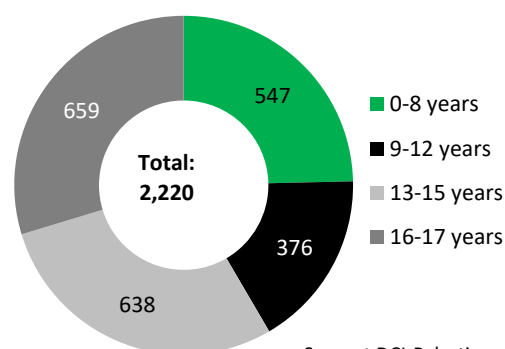
- Palestinian citizens of Israel killed by Israeli forces, incl. 13 killed in Oct. 2000.
- Palestinian suicide bombers.
- Palestinians who died due to delays in receiving medical treatment (e.g., by being stopped at checkpoints).

- According to OCHA, **136** Palestinians had been killed by Israeli forces (WB: 99, GS: 32 Israel: 4) and **3** by settlers in **2022**, as of 10 October. Of the total, 35 were **minors** under the age of 18 (2 girls and 33 boys), and **8 women**. On the **Israeli side** 13 people were killed by Palestinians (WB: 4, Israel: 9): 4 forces, 9 civilians (OCHA, Data on Casualties, 10 October 2022).

- In the same period, **8,321** Palestinians were injured (WB: 8,300, GS: 19, Israel: 2), the vast majority of them by Israeli forces. At least 826 of the total were **minors**. On the **Israeli side** 110 people were injured by Palestinians (WB: 86, Israel: 24): 30 forces, 80 settlers and civilians (*ibid.*).

- Between 2000 and September 2022, **2,220** children were killed as a result of Israeli military or settler violence, including 547 aged 0-8 years. The majority (1,709) was killed in **Gaza**. These figures do not include children involved in hostilities. In **2022**, 22 children were killed as of September (for details and updates see: https://www.dci-palestine.org/child_fatalities_statistics).

Child Fatalities by Age, 2000-2022



Source: DCI-Palestine.



■ Raids, Arrests, Imprisonment & Forced Transfer

- Israeli authorities have detained approx. **1 million Palestinians** since the state of Israel was established in **1948** and over **650,000** Palestinians since **1967** (Addameer).
- Since **1967**, almost 1 million Palestinians have been **arrested** by Israel, including 17,000 females and 50,000 children, and over 54,000 **administrative detention orders** were issued (Commission on Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs, quoted in *Anadolu Agency*, 5 June 2021), 9,500 of them since 2015 alone (Palestinian Prisoner's Society).
- As of 18 October, Israel had **detained** some 5,300 Palestinians in **2022**, including 620 **children** and 111 **women**. Of the total, 2,353 were **Jerusalemites** and 1,610 were held in **administrative detention** (Palestinian Prisoner's Society).
- In the first nine months of **2022**, Israel has issued over 1,610 **administrative detention orders** for Palestinians. (www.addameer.org/) and conducted 2,481 arrest operations in the West Bank (<https://www.ochaopt.org/poc/13-26-september-2022>).

Political Prisoners at a Glance

Total: 4,700 (13 October 2022)

- 200 from Gaza
- 400 from East Jerusalem
- 130 Palestinians from Israel
- 800 Administrative Detainees
- 6 PLC members
- 30 women
- 400 children
- 551 serving life sentence
- 499 sentenced to over 20 years
- 283 serving over 20 years
- 38 serving over 25 years
- 25 were detained before Oslo

Source: <http://www.addameer.org/statistics>.

- Palestinian political prisoners (called “security prisoners” by Israel) are held in 18 **prisons** (Damon, Hadarim, HaSharon, Rimonim, Ayalon, Nitzan, Neve Tirza, Ramleh, Ashqelon, Gilboa, Shatta, Megiddo, Ofer, Ayala, Ohalei Kedar, Eshel, Ketziot/Negev, Nafha and Ramon), 3 **detention centers** (Salem, Huwwara, and Gush Etzion), and 4 **interrogation centers** (Haifa, Petah Tikva, Ashkelon, and Al-Moskobiya in Jerusalem). In addition, there is a **military court** at Ofer (Addameer).
- **Children in detention:** While an Israeli child cannot be given a custodial sentence until reaching the age of 14 under **civilian** law, Israeli forces can send Palestinian children to prison at the age of 12 under **military** law. According to DCI, over 8,000 Palestinian children have been detained and prosecuted in an Israeli military detention system since 2000, on average 500-700 each year. As of June 2022, 137 children aged 12-17 were imprisoned, including 1 girl and 5 in administrative detention (DCI Palestine, https://www.dci-palestine.org/children_in_israeli_detention).
- Since 1967 and as of September 2022, 230 Palestinians have **died in Israeli jails**, 2 of them in 2022: former prisoner Ihab Al-Kilani from Nablus died on 16 May of cancer resulting from medical negligence at the time of his detention, and Saadia Farajallah, 68, from Idna near Hebron, who died on 2 July in Damon (Palestinian Prisoners Club).
- Although the Israeli High Court outlawed the use of arbitrary **torture** as an interrogation method on 6 September 1999, it is still practiced, including isolation, sleep deprivation, physical & sexual assault, stress positions, long interrogation, threats, prevention of family and lawyers' visits. Since 2001, over **1,300 complaints** filed by torture **victims** were submitted to the Justice Ministry, but only two were investigated and none led to an **indictment** (PCATI, *Torture in Israel 2021, Situation Report, 2021*).

■ Expropriation & Destruction of Land and Property

- In the course of the 1948 Nakba, Israel expropriated an estimated 17,178,000 dunums (1,000 dunums=1 km²) of land from Palestinians and between 1950 and 1966, another 700,000 dunums from those Palestinians who remained within the territory of the new state. After the 1967 War, Israel expropriated 849,000 dunums of Palestinian land, over 400,000 dunums of which belonged to Palestinians who had been displaced from the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the war (Badil, *Survey of Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (2010-2012)*, Vol. VII, 2012).
- Israel controls over **85% of the land of historic Palestine** (compared to 6.2% during the British Mandate) (PCBS, *Press Release, 73rd Annual Commemoration of the Palestinian Nakba*, 10 May 2021).

Palestinian Loss of Land since 1947



- During 2021, Israel has **confiscated** 25,365 dunums of Palestinian land in the West Bank, **destroyed 2,931** dunums (mostly by soaking with sewage or water, less so by bulldozing, vandalizing, spraying chemicals and arson) and **17,755 trees**, and **demolished** 93 water wells and tanks (“Israeli Violations against Some Natural Resources During 2021,” Land Research Center, February 2022).
- A **database** on all Israeli **laws and bills that promote annexation** of the occupied West Bank to Israel can be found here: <https://www.yesh-din.org/en/legislation/>.

■ Residency, Closures & Movement Restrictions

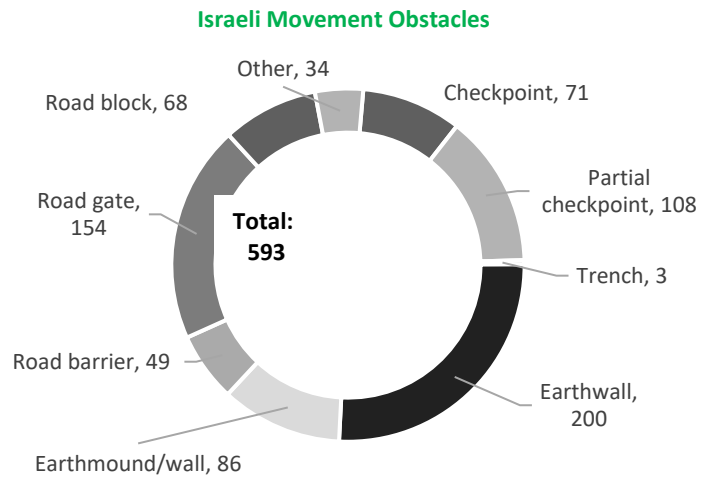
- In June 1967, right after the occupation of the Palestinian territories, Israel conducted a census in which only Palestinians who were then present in the OPT were registered as legal residents in the **population registry** and subsequently received ID cards. Ever since, Israel has retained full control of the registry despite the fact that the Oslo Accords required its transfer - along with other civil matters - to the PA for Areas A and B. Persons not listed in the registry can only legally join their families and reside in the West Bank upon Israel’s approval for **family unification**, which, however, is not a vested right but a “benevolent” act of the Israeli authorities. Since 1967, these have cancelled or refused **registration, residency, and family unification** requests for tens of thousands of Palestinians, mostly on grounds of remaining outside the country for too long (www.hamoked.org/files/2011/114221_eng.pdf).
- The **PA cannot issue valid ID cards** without coordinating with Israel, leaving thousands of Palestinians without documents, including those who brought spouses and children from abroad back to the OPT, those seeking to change their address from Gaza to the West Bank, and those who failed to register by the age of 16. During the 1990s, Israel set a yearly quota for family unification approvals, peaking at around 4,000. In the wake of the Second Intifada in 2000, the unification process was effectively shut down. In 2007, Israel opened the **family unification issue** as a goodwill gesture to the PA, examining some 50,000 requests and approving 32,000. Between 2010 and 2018, only five **applications** were approved. As of 2022, there were still hundreds of unresolved applications. Concerned foreign-national spouses of West Bank Palestinians cannot open a bank account or work legally. If they leave the country, they might not be allowed to return. In January **2022**, Israel promised to “**legalize**” the status of 9,500 undocumented Palestinians and foreigners living in the OPT.



- Since March 1993, a **general closure** is imposed on Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip (WBGs), denying them entrance to Israel and Jerusalem, free movement within the West Bank, and access to places of worship, work, and medical, educational and other services. Those who enter 'illegally' or assist others to do so risk imprisonment and penalties. Israel's **closure policy** disregards **international law**, according to which East Jerusalem is an integral part of the West Bank, and the **Oslo Accords**, which view the Palestinian territory as one territorial unit.



- In order to **move** between the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem or to **travel** abroad, most Palestinians must obtain **permits** from Israel, which are only valid for certain periods, times, purposes, and individuals and can be canceled at any moment. Especially restricted is access to settler roads, areas near or controlled by settlements, and to land and other natural resources. In some West Bank areas, Palestinians must even obtain special 'residency' permits in order to remain in their homes and/or to access their land.



Source: OCHA, *West Bank - Access Restrictions*, June 2020 (Map).

■ House Demolitions (For home demolitions in Jerusalem see Chapter 14)

- During the **1948 Nakba**, Israel destroyed some **52,000** Palestinian homes and structures and another over **56,500** since **1967** in the OPT (<https://icahd.org/>).
- Between **2009** and mid-October **2022**, Israel has **destroyed 8,867 Palestinian structures** in the West Bank (for details on demolitions in Jerusalem – see chapter 14.6), **displacing** over 13,000 people and affecting the livelihoods of 160,784 people. Of the total destroyed structures, 1,569 were **donor-funded**, 1,725 were located in Jerusalem, 6,973 were located in Area C and 169 in Areas A and B (OCHA, *Data on Demolition & Displacement in the West Bank*, 14 October 2022).

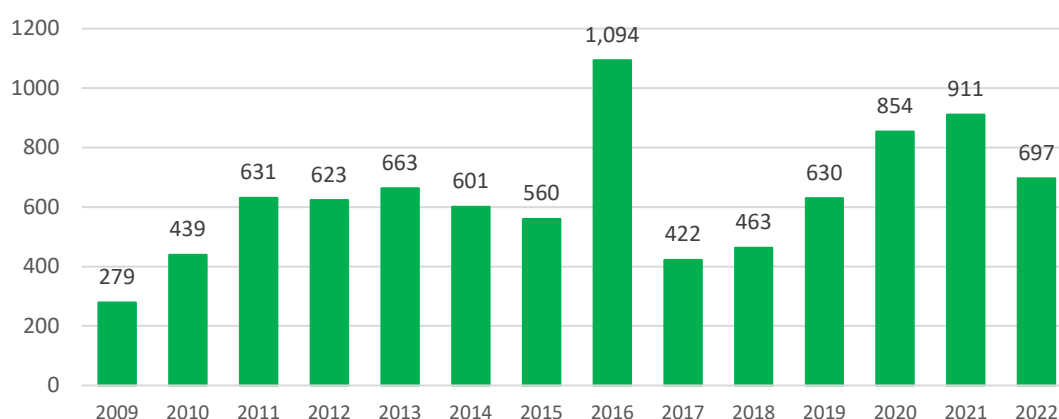


“Types” of demolitions (cases since 1967 in OPT):

- **Punitive**: collective punishment for the actions (e.g., suicide attacks) of people associated with the houses. Ceased in 2005 but resumed in 2014. **(1,540)**
- **Administrative**: for lack of building permits. Mainly in Area C and Jerusalem, where it is almost impossible to get permits, but also in Area B, if a house is close to an army base or settler road. **(12,043)**
- **Land-clearing operations/military**: in the course of military operations (arrests, raids, etc.) **(34,918)**
- **Undefined**: **(6,130)**

Source: Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) - <http://www.icahd.org/> as of August 2022.

Demolished Structures, 2009-October 2022



Source: OCHA, *Data on Demolition and Displacement in the West Bank*, 14 October 2022.

- In **2021 alone** (as of 14 October), Israel had **destroyed 697** structures in the West Bank, displacing 836 people and affecting over 25,500 others. Of the total, 105 structures were donor-funded, 558 located in Area C, 111 in Jerusalem, 241 were residential units and 229 agricultural structures (OCHA, *Data on Demolition and Displacement in the West Bank*, 14 October 2022).
- According to **B'Tselem**, from 2006 to 31 August 2022, Israel demolished at least **4,803** Palestinian **units** in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem) for **lacking permits**, leaving **8,115 people** (4,092 of them minors) homeless. Another **280** units were destroyed as **punishment**, leaving 1,358 people homeless, and 1,891 for **“military purposes”**, leaving **13,444** homeless. In the first 8 months of 2022, **487** housing units were destroyed in the West Bank, including 98 in Jerusalem and 96.5% of the total for being built **“illegally”** (<https://statistics.btselem.org/en/intro/demolitions>).

Recommended Research Sources:

<http://www.pchrgaza.org>

<http://www.acri.org.il/en>

<http://www.badil.org> (refugee/residency rights)

<http://www.dci-pal.org> (children’s rights)

<http://www.stoptorture.org.il> (PCATI)

<http://www.icahd.org> (house demolitions)

<https://conquer-and-divide.btselem.org/>

<http://www.alhaq.org>

<http://www.btselem.org>

<http://www.addameer.org> (prisoners)

<http://www.hrw.org> (Human Rights Watch)

<http://www.ichr.ps> (citizens’ rights)

<http://www.ochaopt.org>

A Life Exposed: Military invasions of Palestinian homes in the West Bank, Joint Report by Yesh Din, Breaking the Silence and Physicians for Human Rights Israel, November 2020.

Addameer, *Cell No. 26, A Study on the Use of Torture Against Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Interrogation Centres*, 2022.

BADIL, *Creeping Annexation: A Pillar of the Zionist-Israeli Colonization of Mandatory Palestine*, Working Paper No. 25, December 2020.

Breaking the Silence, *Military Rule – Testimonies of Soldiers from the Civil Administration, Gaza DCL and COGAT - 2011-2021*, July 2022.

Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, *Suffocation and Isolation – 15 Years of Israeli Blockade on Gaza*, Jan. 2021.

Al-Haq, *Engineering Community: Family Unification, Entry Restrictions and other Israeli Policies of Fragmenting Palestinians*, February 2019.

HRW, *A Threshold Crossed - Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution*, 2021.

OCHA, *Protection of Civilians Weekly Report / The Monthly Humanitarian Monitor* - various issues.

PASSIA, *International Law – Israeli Violations and Third-Party Responsibility*, July 2017.

Save the Children, *“Hope Under the Rubble” - The impact of Israel’s home demolition policy on Palestinian children and their families*, 2021.

