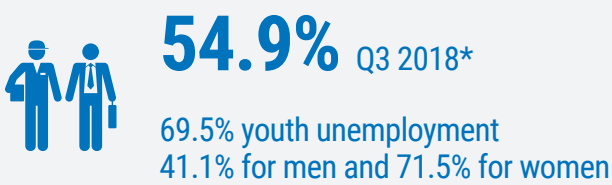
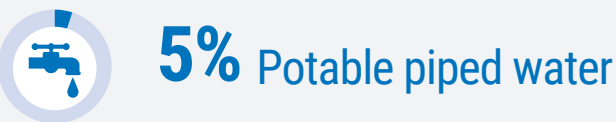
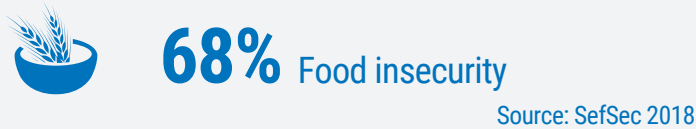


Palestine refugees represent 70 per cent of the total Gaza population. The 1.4 million Palestine refugees in Gaza, as all people in Gaza, are currently experiencing a deep socio-economic crisis, in a situation of de-development caused by both economic as well as political events. There is significant increased demand for services from UNRWA resulting from a growth in the number of registered Palestine refugees, the extent of their vulnerability and their deepening poverty. With the continuing restrictions on the movement of people and goods, the widespread loss of livelihoods due to the 2014 conflict, and the recent crisis resulting from PA allowance cuts and electricity shortages, the number of refugees requiring food assistance has been continuously increasing, showing an increase in poverty levels. Similarly, the number of medical consultations at UNRWA health centers has been regularly increasing since December 2016, becoming more pronounced from mid-2017. Unemployment levels rose again to over 54 per cent in Q2 2018.

The restrictions on the movement of people and goods, and the dire socio-economic situation, have had serious repercussions on the psychosocial well-being of Palestine refugees in Gaza. UNRWA's Community Mental Health Programme conducted a study in May 2017 assessing the psychosocial well-being of 2,262 adult refugees and 3,142 refugee students. The study found a high level of psychosocial stress among both refugee students and adults, with almost one half of adults (48.9 per cent) experiencing poor well-being, with 63 per cent of these warranting further screening for depression, and almost 30 per cent of children experiencing serious difficulties.

GAZA STRIP KEY FACTS

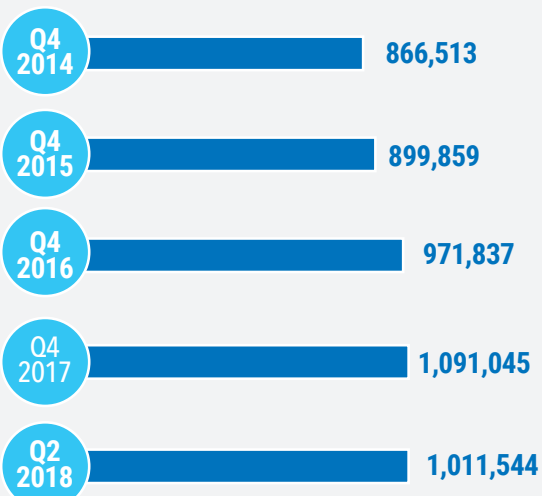
All figures are from UNRWA sources unless otherwise stated



*Source: PCBS 2018



NUMBER OF REFUGEES IDENTIFIED BY UNRWA AS LIVING IN POVERTY (Refugees in need of food assistance)



NEW ENROLLMENT IN UNRWA SCHOOLS

