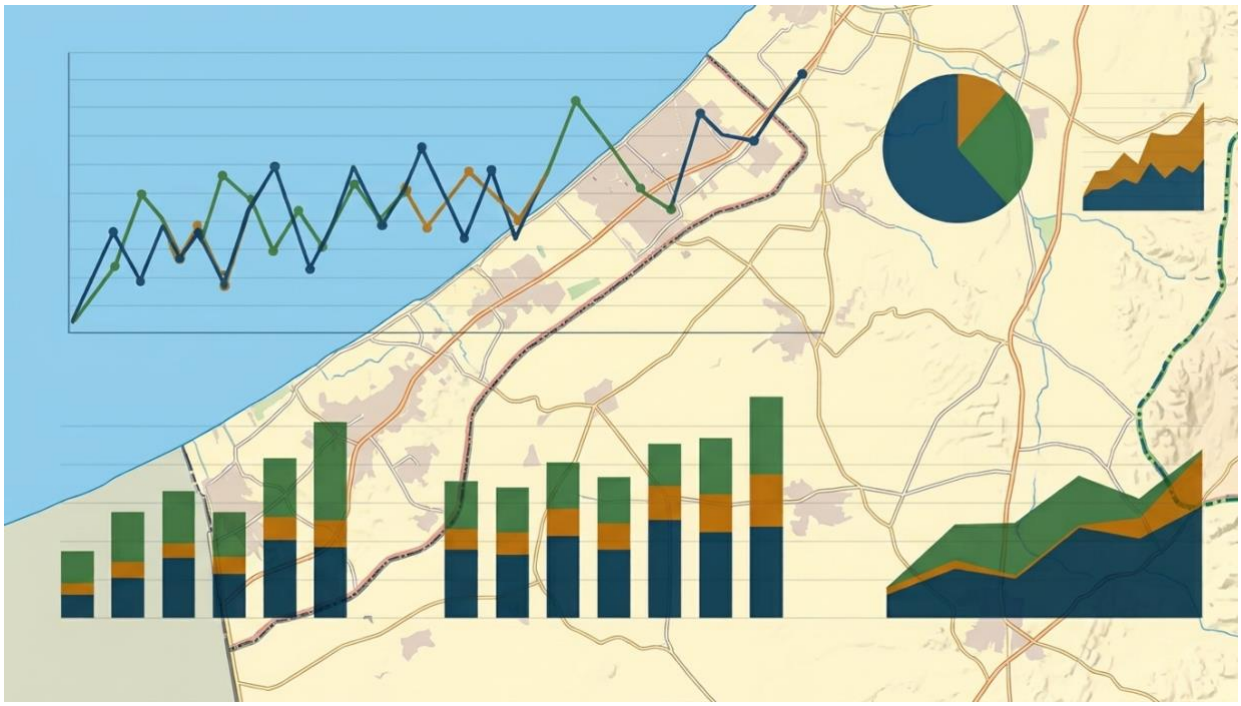
Fact Sheet: Hamas-controlled Gaza Ministry of Health's 2025 all-cause mortality report undermines "famine" and "genocide" claims

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Gaza Ministry of Health 2025 statistics

- Total deaths: 24,650
  - Male: 18,085 (73.4%)
  - Female: 6,565 (26.6%)
- Violent deaths: 18,870 (76.6%)
  - Direct targeting: 17,286 (70.1%)
  - Accidents: 1,584 (6.5%)
- Non-violent/indirect deaths: 5,780 (23.4%)

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Summary

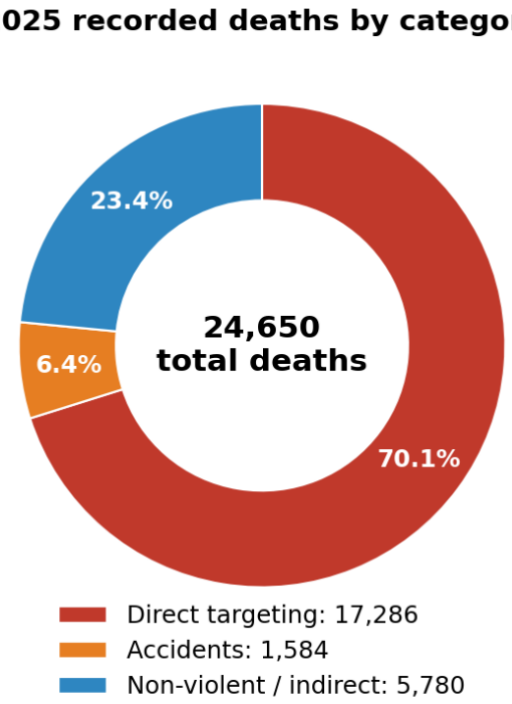
The most notable element of the recent all-cause mortality report for 2025 in Gaza, recently released by the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MOH), is the lack of the term "genocide" anywhere in the report, and the fact that the numbers contained in it seem to completely contradict claims by the United Nations-backed Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in August 2025 that, at that time, major parts of Gaza were experiencing category 5 "famine" conditions.

Introduction

Comparing the data in the 2025 report to those contained in the 2022 MOH report on deaths in Gaza, other key takeaways include:

- Gaza's population increased by 1.2% in 2025, growing faster than most populations globally – hardly what you would expect of a population enduring a "genocide."
- Gaza's non-violent deaths in 2025 were actually less than in 2022 – seeming to absolutely rule out the IPC claims that major parts of the territory experienced a "famine" in 2025, which would have required thousands to have died.
- The numbers seem to rule out claims frequently being made that indirect and non-trauma deaths in Gaza are being significantly undercounted and that the death toll is far higher than even the MOH reports.
- The MOH data also further add to the plethora of evidence that widespread claims that women and children account for 70% of casualties in Gaza are simply false. As is the norm in warfare, most casualties are military-aged males.

Note: AIJAC does not necessarily accept that data from the Hamas-controlled Ministry of Health is accurate, professional and untainted by the violent and rejectionist agenda of that banned terror group. However, we would argue that claims about genocide, famine and casualty breakdowns that are contradicted by what even Hamas claims about such casualties should immediately be viewed as exposing the individual or organisation making the claim as either extreme or cavalier about accuracy.



Strong population growth

According to the MOH data, as analysed by Eirik Schrøder-Bråtane,[1] Gaza in 2025 experienced natural population growth of 25,577, 1.2% of the population, which he noted "is higher population growth than most countries in the world and more than the world average":

> There are currently ~6,000 births/month in Gaza, per GMH. Assuming a similar number of non-violent deaths in Gaza in 2026 as in 2025, that means there are currently 12x more births than deaths in Gaza, and that Gaza is now experiencing one of the highest population growths in the world.

Needless to say, populations are not expected to grow rapidly during genocides. Among the acts listed under the Genocide Convention is "Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group," something Israel clearly is not doing.[2]

[1] https://x.com/EirikSchr/status/2105305881571160348?s=20.
[2] OHCHR, "Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide", https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-prevention-and-punishment-crime-genocide; https://twitter-thread.com/t/2113320032323121271.

The missing famine deaths

As noted above, the MOH data says that 5,780 Gazans died of non-violent or indirect causes in 2025. In 2022, there were 6,061 deaths in Gaza, though that number was likely slightly elevated due to the still ongoing effects of the COVID pandemic. But even discounting COVID deaths, the number of such deaths in 2025 – which would include anyone who died of starvation, malnutrition or lack of healthcare – is clearly not significantly higher than the natural deaths which occurred in 2022. We know this because the numbers for 2019, before COVID, are only slightly lower.

This seems to completely rule out the IPC claims that parts of Gaza experienced famine in June and August of 2025.

The crude death rate for an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 5 (Famine) declaration needs to be 2 or more per 10,000 total population per day or 4 or more children under five per 10,000 per day.[3]
Given the IPC estimated the population of Gaza Governorate at 937,604 during the alleged July-August famine period,[4] there should have been a minimum of about 8,600 indirect deaths during those 46 days in Gaza Governorate alone.

What's more, the IPC Famine Review Committee (FRC) in August 2025 found "the severity of conditions in North Gaza similar or worse than in Gaza Governorate," where it had assessed an ongoing famine. So it should actually be much higher than 8,600.

Since the MOH recorded only 5,780 non-violent deaths in 2025 across all of Gaza, there is no evidence of famine conditions ever existing anywhere in Gaza, as the numbers of non-violent deaths for both children under 5 and the general population are orders of magnitude below the IPC thresholds.

The annual report notes that, across all of Gaza, 0.7% of the total deaths were because of malnutrition or metabolic disorders. This amounts to approximately 173 deaths – and many of those were due to pre-existing conditions.

This comes on top of the findings by UNICEF in July 2026, based on measurements taken of children in Gaza, that malnutrition levels there were less than before October 7,

[3] IPC Famine Fact Sheet, https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Famine_Factsheet.pdf.
[4] IPC, "GAZA STRIP: Famine confirmed in Gaza Governorate, projected to expand | 1 July – 30 September 2025", https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Gaza_Strip_Acute_Food_Insecurity_Malnutrition_July_Sept2025_Special_Snapshot.pdf.

2023, and were also less than in neighbouring countries such as Egypt and Morocco. At the time, some UN officials argued that these good figures in 2026 did not absolutely disprove famine occurred in 2025. We can now say that the MOH figures do indeed disprove this.

What's more, according to analysis of the statistics by Israeli economist Yannay Spitzer, 2025 saw 1,679 under-5 deaths from all causes for the entire year, of which only about 744 were indirect deaths, about the same number as in 2022. Thus, according to Spitzer, mortality rates for those aged 1-5 appear to have actually declined since 2022.[5]

No evidence of significant undercounting of indirect deaths

Analysis of the data by Gabriel Epstein reveals that, despite some studies claiming that indirect deaths were being substantially undercounted or that the indirect-to-direct death ratio could be as high as 4:1, the actual data show that there were 0.43 non-violent deaths for every direct death in 2025. It seems very difficult to reconcile this with any estimate or projection of overall casualties in Gaza substantially larger than the numbers claimed by the MOH.[6]

Military-age males overrepresented

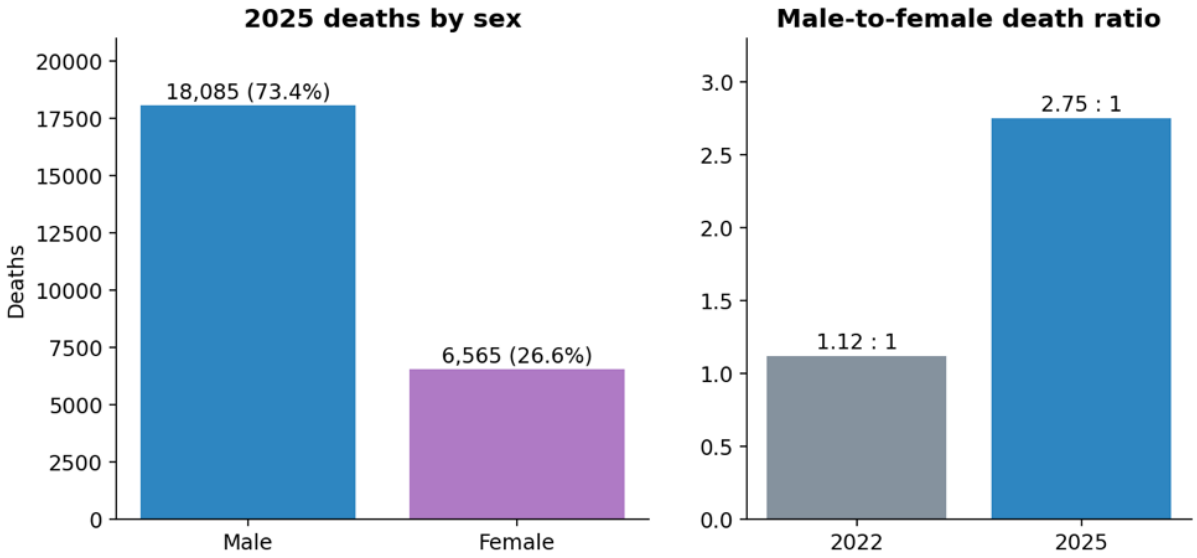
In the 2022 MOH report, the male-to-female mortality ratio in Gaza was 1.12:1. In 2025, it is recorded as 2.75:1.

The MOH numbers show that the number of deaths among military-aged males, those aged 20-59, was approximately 4.9 times the number of deaths among females in that same age group. Such overrepresentation of military-aged males is the norm in warfare.[7]

Despite widespread claims that 70% of casualties in Gaza have been women and children, the MOH's own published data has shown significant and growing over-

[5] https://twitter-thread.com/t/2105341114219913728.
[6] https://twitter-thread.com/t/2105412609860153467.
[7] Christin Ormhaug, Patrick Meier, and Helga Hernes, "Armed Conflict Deaths Disaggregated by Gender," PRIO, November 23, 2009, https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/109997/Armed%20Conflict%20Deaths%20Disaggregated%20by%20Gender.pdf.

representation of military-age males since early 2024.[8] Claims that women and children account for 70% of injuries are also belied by the MOH data.[9]



Caveats

Israel Policy Forum's Senior Policy Associate Gabriel Epstein emphasises that the 2025 mortality figures are not final, although large revisions at this stage are unlikely, and that backwards extrapolation to 2023–2024 or forward to 2026 has serious limitations.[10]

[8] Tom Simpson, Lewi Stone, and Gregory Rose, "Statistically Impossible: A Critical Analysis of Hamas's Women and Children Casualty Figures," *Fathom Journal*, March 2024, https://fathomjournal.org/statistically-impossible-a-critical-analysis-of-hamass-women-and-children-casualty-figures/; Gabriel Epstein, "Assessing the Gaza Death Toll After Eighteen Months of War," Policy Note no. 158, *The Washington Institute for Near East Policy*, May 19, 2025, https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/assessing-gaza-death-toll-after-eighteen-months-war; https://twitter-thread.com/t/2084330615495663991.
[9] https://x.com/GabrielEpsteinX/status/2084330630947745826?s=20.
[10] https://twitter-thread.com/t/2105412609860153467.