Population

2,697,687
West bank

1,753,327
Gaza strip

21.56%
Percentage of population aged 15-24 (West bank)

Representation in politics

25 Females
in the Palestinian Legislative Council (non-functioning)

647 Males
in the Palestinian Legislative Council (non-functioning)

Literacy rate

96.3%
Overall literacy rate

94.1%
Female

98.4%
Male
Average age at first marriage

20.3 Females age
24.7 Males age

Employment rate

73.1% Overall employment rate

61.6% Female
76.1% Male

Total fertility rate

4.3 Gaza strip
3.33 West bank

Maternal mortality rate

45 deaths/100,000 live births
Gender-based Violence Prevalence

FGM is reported not to be an issue in Palestine. There are no laws explicitly addressing forced or child marriage, and both remain a significant problem in the Palestinian Territories:

- 22% of women aged 20-24 years had at least one live birth before age 18
- 15% of girls were married by 18 years old
- 51% of ever-married women in the Gaza Strip who have been subjected to a form of violence within the household
- 29.9% of ever-married women in the West Bank who have been subjected to a form of violence within the household
- 48.8% of women in the West Bank declare having been psychologically abused
- 76.4% of women in the Gaza Strip declare having been psychologically abused
- 17.4% women in the West Bank physically abused

Among all women subjected to violence
A national GBV clinical management of rape protocol (GBV/CMP) SOP exists in the Gaza strip and a National Referral System exists in West Bank.

There is no unified penal code that conforms to international human rights standards and protects women from all forms of violence punishing the perpetrators.

Killing under the pretext of honour is socially accepted. Only recently, the Palestinian President issued a decree eliminating “pardoning excuses” for the perpetrators of such crimes.

**Gender-based violence laws and response**

- **34.8%** women in the Gaza strip physically abused
- **14.9%** women in the Gaza strip sexually abused
- **65.3%** of women who were exposed to violence by their husbands declared preferring to remain silent
- **10.2%** women in the West bank sexually abused
- **28** women were killed in the name of so-called “honour” in 2013*.

* Independent Commission for Human Rights and women’s organizations,
UNFPA programmes:

Capacity building of national partners:
56 health service providers from MoH trained on the role of MoH in preventing and responding to GBV. 15 service providers including health, psychosocial, and legal providers in Gaza Strip were trained on GBV detection, response, and referral. The trained service providers detected 85 cases in North of Gaza. 50 of them were provided with services according to their needs.

Services:
A one stop center for GBV cases established in North of the Gaza Strip. Special focus on IDP women and girls in Gaza. Dignity kits serve as means of raising awareness on positive health concepts and personal hygiene.

Community sensitization:
179 male community leaders were trained on SRHR, GBV including early marriage. 400 outreach meetings took place in West Bank and Gaza on GBV and reproductive health

In 2017-2022, UNFPA will continue focusing on:

1) GBV prevention: programmes on early marriage, male engagement.

2) GBV response support referral mechanisms, ensuring availability of quality GBV services.

3) GBV coordination leading the GBV sub-cluster in Gaza.