



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Conflict and protection:** Attacks have continued in Lebanon since the ceasefire in March 2026, causing 16,585 casualties, further displacement, delayed returns, and ongoing violations of international law (see page 2).
- **Humanitarian funding:** Funding shortfalls continue to undermine humanitarian efforts, with only 52% of the 2026 UN Lebanon Flash Appeal funded.
- **Our response:** Despite access constraints and funding cuts, Islamic Relief Lebanon has expanded its emergency response and adapted programmes to reach those most affected as displacement patterns evolved (see page 6).
- **Advocacy:** Islamic Relief advocates for a permanent ceasefire, protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, safe and dignified returns, accountability for violations, respect for international humanitarian law, and increased humanitarian assistance (see page 5).

2.99M

People in need

1.06M

Children in need

52%

Of 2026 flash appeal funded

348,898

Remain displaced

17

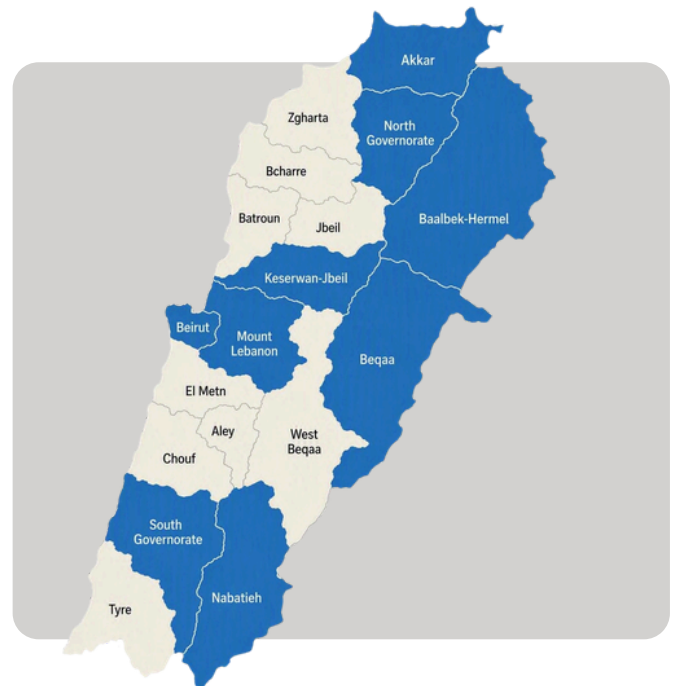
Hospitals damaged

16,649

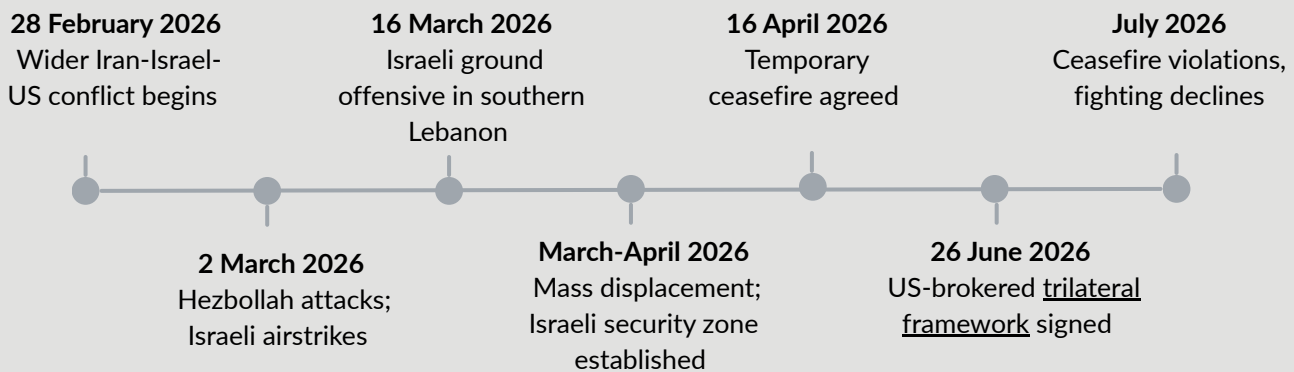
Total casualties

ISLAMIC RELIEF IN LEBANON

- **Programme reach:** Based in **Beirut**. Our operations run in all nine governorates: **Beirut, Mount Lebanon, North Governorate, Akkar, Beqaa, Baalbek-Hermel, South Governorate, Nabatieh, Keserwan-Jbeil**.
- **Staffing:** Islamic Relief Lebanon was established in 2006 and has 29 staff in Lebanon.
- **Oversight:** In 2025, Islamic Relief Lebanon directly reached 578,181 people through 19 projects.
- In 2026, like most agencies, Islamic Relief Lebanon faced funding cuts, especially in WASH, health, education, and seasonal programmes. At the same time, the conflict escalated and the emergency response grew significantly. As displacement patterns changed, the team regularly reviewed programme delivery to make sure aid reached those most affected.



Ceasefire situation and access challenges



The ceasefire in Lebanon is losing meaning: Despite a drop in large-scale fighting, daily violations continue. Israeli forces continue to carry out strikes and expand military activity in parts of southern Lebanon. Aid access has become more difficult, insecurity persists, and conditions for civilians continue to worsen. States and international actors should not treat a reduction in fighting as a return to safety. As long as violations continue and civilians remain at risk, the ceasefire cannot deliver the protection and security that people in Lebanon need.

Escalating conflict: The resumption of hostilities on 2 March 2026 became Lebanon's most serious conflict since 2006. Despite repeated ceasefire announcements, airstrikes, shelling, military operations, and other security incidents continue. Homes, schools, hospitals, and other civilian infrastructure have been damaged or destroyed. Repeated displacement, attacks on populated areas, and restrictions on humanitarian access have intensified civilian suffering and raised concerns that mass displacement is becoming an accepted method of warfare.

Civilian harm: A total of 366 people have been killed and 302 injured since the 19 June ceasefire announcement. The highest number of casualties has been reported in Nabatieh, followed by the South Governorate and Mount Lebanon. The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) recorded 16,649 casualties, including 4,346 deaths and 12,303 injuries since 2 March. Children accounted for 8% of all casualties, and 11% were women.

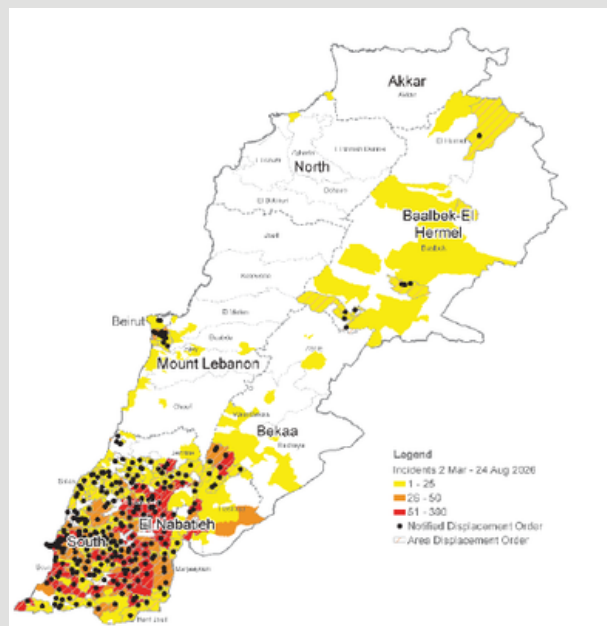


Figure 1: Lebanon: Conflict Intensity Geographic Impact Snapshot (UN OCHA, 27 August 2026). Source: [OCHA](#)

Access restrictions: Humanitarian access remains complex and unpredictable, particularly in areas of South Governorate and Nabatieh Governorates affected by ongoing military activity. Insecurity, access restrictions, damaged roads, telecommunications disruptions, UXO contamination continue to affect humanitarian operations, monitoring activities, and service delivery.

Areas south of the Litani River and parts of Baalbek are classified as high-risk zones, and access, including United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) operational areas, requires prior clearance through United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and UNIFIL notification mechanisms. In other areas, access is coordinated with local authorities.

Israel has also established a security zone in southern Lebanon that extends up to 10 kilometres north of the Blue Line.^[1]

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Displacement and return: More than 1.3 million people were displaced at the height of the conflict. Return movements have increased since the ceasefire and remain concentrated in southern Lebanon but continue to face significant challenges. More than 817,458 people have returned; displacement across Lebanon remains significant due to damaged homes and limited access to services. According to the latest Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), 348,898 people remained displaced across Lebanon as of 19 August,

Israeli evacuation and displacement orders have affected entire geographic areas across southern Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley, and densely populated neighbourhoods of Beirut. Most displaced people come from five districts: South Governorate, Nabatieh (particularly Bent Jbeil), Marjaayoun, Sour, and Baabda, which account for 91% of all internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The scale, frequency, and coercive nature of these displacement orders mirror patterns previously documented in Gaza. Repeated displacement, combined with limited access to shelter, basic services, and safe relocation options, has deepened humanitarian suffering and under such conditions, this may amount to forcible transfer, which is prohibited under international law and may constitute a war crime

Shelter: The destruction of 90,747 homes since 2 March 2026 has made it harder for displaced families to return safely. Many now rely on temporary shelters, host families, or rented accommodation. As of 19 August, 348,898 people remain displaced. Although the number of people living in shelters has fallen in recent weeks, many families continue to face repeated and prolonged displacement.

Conditions in shelters remain difficult. Overcrowding, lack of privacy, and inadequate shared facilities increase risks to health, safety, and wellbeing. Women and girls make up 53% of shelter residents and face higher risks of gender-based violence and exploitation.

Displaced families living outside collective shelters also face growing challenges. The continued pressure on host communities and local services has increased the need for healthcare, medicines, rental assistance, basic services, protection support, and emergency livelihood assistance. These services are essential to help families meet their basic needs and stay safe.

Protection: Displaced and returning families continue to face significant protection risks. Returns are often delayed by insecurity, damaged infrastructure, lack of services, financial constraints, and rising rental costs. The widespread presence of unexploded ordnance continues to threaten lives and block safe returns.

Children remain particularly affected. An estimated 770,000 children have experienced distress linked to violence, displacement, and loss. Prolonged displacement, interrupted education, economic hardship, and unsafe return conditions continue to increase risks of exploitation, family separation, and psychosocial harm.

People with disabilities and older people also face additional challenges in accessing support and services. Collective shelters currently host approximately 3,700 older people, 797 people with physical disabilities, and others with hearing, visual, or mental impairments.

[1] The Blue Line is the UN withdrawal line established in 2000 to confirm Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon. Although it is not an international border, it serves in practice as the boundary between Lebanon and Israel because the two countries have not agreed on a formal border.

Health system: The conflict continues to place severe pressure on Lebanon's health system. Attacks on healthcare facilities and personnel have reduced the capacity to provide essential services. Since 2 March 2026, 17 hospitals have been damaged, 3 hospitals remain non-operational (Bint Jbeil Public Hospital, Mays al-Jabal Public Hospital, and Salah Ghandour Hospital), and 24 primary healthcare centres (PHCs) remain closed.

Fragmented referral pathways continue to delay timely access to secondary, emergency, and specialised care, including hospitalisation support and continuity of treatment for patients with ongoing medical needs. Health programmes remain under considerable operational pressure to maintain services in displacement settings while adapting support to hard-to-reach return areas.

Funding shortages have further weakened the response. To date, only 23% of the Health Sector's funding requirements under the Lebanon Revised Flash Appeal have been met. Mental health needs are rising, particularly among children, older people, health workers, and families affected by repeated displacement and loss.

Refugees: Lebanon hosts one of the world's largest refugee populations relative to its size, placing heavy pressure on public services and host communities. Syrian refugees, migrant workers, and other non-Lebanese groups are among the hardest hit by the crisis. Many face barriers to accessing services, shelter, jobs, and legal documentation.

Between March and the end of May 2026, more than 444,000 Syrians crossed from Lebanon into Syria. However, most Syrians who remain in Lebanon do not plan to return soon. Their decisions are driven mainly by conditions inside Syria, including a lack of housing, high living costs, and limited opportunities to earn an income.

Recent assessments found that 92% of surveyed Syrian refugees said the conflict in Lebanon had little or no impact on their plans to return. This suggests that conditions in Syria remain the main barrier to voluntary return.

WASH: Water and sanitation systems remain under severe pressure. Large numbers of displaced people have moved into areas already facing strained infrastructure, increasing demand for water, sanitation, and waste management services. In parts of south Lebanon and Nabatieh, access to safe water remains limited, forcing greater reliance on water trucking. With summer temperatures rising, the risk of waterborne diseases, heat-related illness, and public health outbreaks continues to increase.

Education: Education has been severely disrupted by the conflict. Around 447 schools and technical institutes, including 329 public schools, continue to serve as collective shelters. School closures, insecurity, and limited access to online learning have interrupted education for thousands of children and increased the risk of long-term dropout.

Food security: Food insecurity remains severe. Between April and August 2026, nearly one in four people faced crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity. Rising food prices, displacement, loss of income, and disruptions to agriculture continue to limit families' ability to meet their basic needs.

Rising fuel costs, conflict-related disruptions, and inflation continue to increase pressure on households. Between February and May 2026, diesel prices rose by 61%, petrol by 39%, and generator costs by 53%, pushing inflation from 10.9% to 20%. Food prices have also surged, while displacement, agricultural losses, and supply disruptions have reduced local production, leaving many families struggling to afford basic needs.

OUR ASKS

Islamic Relief operates in accordance with national laws and remains committed to delivering assistance impartially to those most in need. Islamic Relief Lebanon works closely with local authorities, humanitarian partners, and coordination mechanisms to ensure assistance reaches those most in need and is delivered in line with humanitarian principles.

Protecting civilians and critical infrastructure:

- Enforce a permanent ceasefire and end all hostilities across Lebanon; stop the use of explosive weapons and incendiary munitions in populated areas; and end attacks on civilians, civilian infrastructure, healthcare facilities, schools, ambulances, medical personnel, and journalists. Halt forced displacement, ensure any evacuation is temporary, safe, and voluntary, and guarantee safe and dignified returns.
- Islamic Relief, along with other NGOs operating in Lebanon, warn that Lebanon's fragile communities are at breaking point. States with influence over Israel, particularly the United States and key European governments, should press for immediate de-escalation, prevent attacks on critical infrastructure, and support accountability for violations of international law.

Scale up immediate humanitarian assistance:

- Donors should urgently increase flexible funding to meet growing needs among displaced families, many of whom lack safe shelter, food, clean water, healthcare, and basic household items. Priority support should include emergency shelter, WASH services, food assistance, healthcare, and protection services, particularly for women, children, older people, and other vulnerable groups.
- Humanitarian actors should also strengthen partnerships with local charities and community-based organisations, which often have better access to affected areas, stronger community trust, and a greater ability to reach people in need quickly.
- Humanitarian assistance must reach all people in need without discrimination, based on need alone, and uphold the principles of impartiality and humanity.

To all parties to the conflict and the international community:

- Israel should withdraw from Lebanese territory in line with Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and all parties should reject any permanent demographic or territorial changes, including the creation of buffer zones in southern Lebanon. Independent UN-mandated mechanisms should monitor, verify, and publicly report on violations to support accountability and civilian protection.
- With UNIFIL due to end in December 2026,^[2] the UN Security Council and international community must urgently agree on a credible successor mechanism to monitor ceasefire violations, support the Lebanese Armed Forces, maintain oversight of the Blue Line, and prevent renewed escalation. Any gap in international monitoring or civilian protection capacity risks increasing tensions, weakening accountability, and undermining stability in southern Lebanon.
- Use political, economic, and diplomatic leverage to remove obstacles to safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return to all parts of the south of Lebanon, including restrictions linked to the de facto buffer zone, security 'pilot zones', ongoing demolitions, broad evacuation orders and movement limitations that prevent displaced people from returning home.
- Israel has repeatedly sought to advance its regional interests by contributing to existing political and social tensions, risking further fragmentation and weakening social cohesion. In Lebanon, military operations have affected mostly communities in the south, increasing tensions within communities. A similar approach is followed in Syria, where Israel has justified its actions as necessary to address security concerns and protect minority communities.

[2] UN Security Council [Resolution 2790](#) (August 2025) extended UNIFIL's mandate for a final period until 31 December 2026 and requested that the Secretary-General [present options](#) for implementing [Resolution 1701](#) after UNIFIL's withdrawal. This includes proposals for continued security assistance and monitoring along the Blue Line, as well as enhanced UN support for the redeployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) south of the Litani River.

ISLAMIC RELIEF PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE

Islamic Relief Lebanon provided lifesaving assistance to more than 35,000 displaced people and host community members across Beqaa, Beirut, Mount Lebanon, the South Governorate, and Keserwan-Jbeil. It prioritised people displaced by the violence and others facing the most urgent humanitarian needs.

Damage to roads, public infrastructure, health facilities, water systems, and community buildings affected programme implementation in several operational areas. Infrastructure damage also increased implementation costs, delayed project timelines, and made it more difficult for the communities we serve to access support.

Livelihood

Islamic Relief Lebanon broadened its programming by launching agricultural initiatives to support 340 small-and medium-scale farmers, helping strengthen food security and resilience through agricultural inputs, technical assistance, and capacity-building support in 2026.

The project has also supported vulnerable Palestinian farmers by providing olive seedlings as productive agricultural assets, helping around 90 farmers strengthen their livelihoods and invest in long-term, sustainable income generation. It also contributed to environmental sustainability and the preservation of traditional agricultural practices by using locally-adapted olive varieties.



Embracing Heritage Project, Empowering Palestinian Communities through Olive Cultivation in Lebanon. July 2026

Shelter and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) support

Islamic Relief reached around 3,000 households with emergency shelter and WASH assistance. Families received essential items including 14,604 bottled water (in gallons) , 2,562 hygiene kits, 767 dignity/ Menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits, and 200 blankets, helping them cope with displacement and deteriorating living conditions. This support improved access to basic necessities for households living in emergency shelters and other displacement settings.

Health and cash assistance

In south Lebanon, Islamic Relief supported 293 people through targeted cash and in-kind assistance. This included covering the cost of medical consultations and providing medical refrigerators to strengthen local healthcare services. The intervention was implemented in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), helping conflict-affected communities access essential healthcare and meet urgent medical needs. Islamic Relief Lebanon also delivered a medication shipment with 18,158 essentials (acute and chronic medications) for government hospitals and PHCs through the MoPH.

Emergency and food assistance

Islamic Relief provided emergency food assistance to more than 8,000 households . Support included 6,420 ready-to-eat meals, 2,708 food parcels, 18,242 daily meals and 3,846 bread, helping displaced and vulnerable families meet their immediate food needs during the crisis. Assistance was delivered directly to affected households and communities to ensure timely access to lifesaving support.

SPOTLIGHT: Protection and inclusion

In 2025 in north Lebanon, Islamic Relief delivered an integrated protection-focused intervention supporting orphaned Syrian children and widowed caregivers living in highly vulnerable conditions. The project combined psychosocial support (PSS), education assistance, life skills training, and shelter support, recognising that child wellbeing depends on both individual care and household stability.

This intervention directly reached 255 people, including 181 orphans and 74 caregivers, and indirectly benefitted over 1,100 others. Core activities included structured PSS sessions, case management, life skills training, educational support, and operational assistance to maintain safe shelter environments.



Improved Psychosocial conditions for Orphans from the host community and the Syrian refugees In Bekaa. January 2025