

Lebanon: Flash Update #40

Escalation of Hostilities in Lebanon

As of 02 July

This report is produced by the OCHA Lebanon Office in collaboration with the Inter-Sector Coordination Group under the 2026 Lebanon Response Plan (LRP) Framework

KEY FIGURES



Total displaced
(IDPs)

449,784

(DRM, LRC, IOM)



Displaced in
collective shelters

47,143

(DRM)



Shelters

430
(DRM)



People killed

4.3 K

(MoPH)



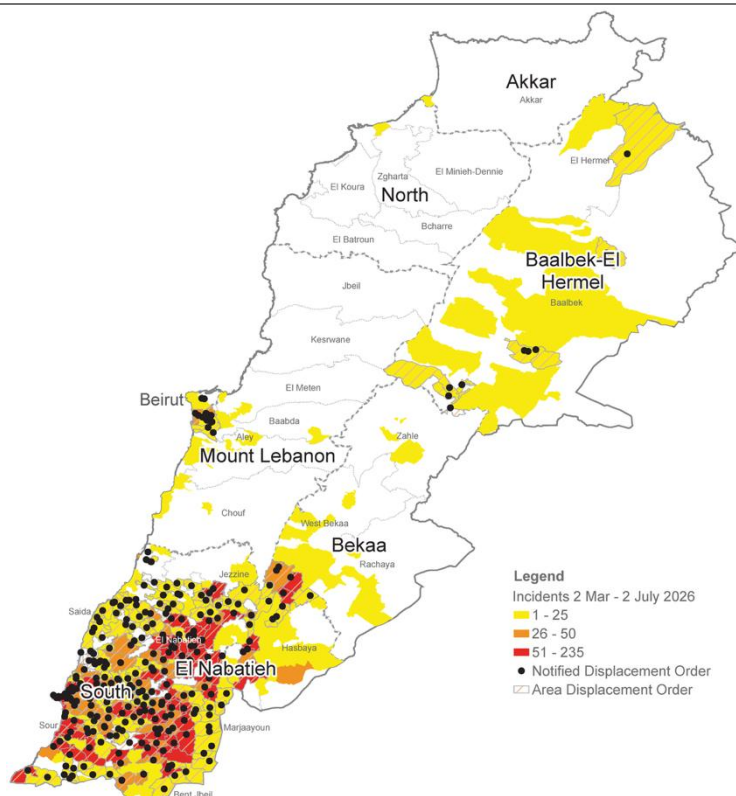
People injured

12.2 K

(MoPH)

HIGHLIGHTS

- At least 4,298 deaths and 12,196 injuries due to hostilities recorded by the Ministry of Public Health since 2 March.
- 646,107 people having returned to their areas of origin, while nearly 500,000 people remain displaced, including 47,143 Internally Displaced Persons (over 53 per cent women and girls) in 430 collective shelters as of 2 July.
- Humanitarian and protection needs remain significant despite reduced hostilities. Daily reports of airstrikes, shelling, demolitions, drone activity, and UXO incidents continue to pose risks to civilians and hinder safe, voluntary, and dignified returns.
- Access constraints and funding shortfalls continue to limit the response. Damage to infrastructure and service networks, together with insecurity in parts of South and Nabatieh governorates, continue to affect humanitarian operations, while the 2026 Lebanon Flash Appeal remains only 37 per cent funded.



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SITUATION OVERVIEW

The humanitarian situation in Lebanon remains critical, with significant humanitarian, protection and early recovery needs persisting despite a relative reduction in the intensity of hostilities. While the overall security environment improved compared with previous weeks, the situation remains volatile and unpredictable. Airstrikes, shelling, demolitions, drone activity, and the use of sonic grenades continued to be reported on a near-daily basis in South and Nabatieh governorates, generating continued protection risks and contributing to secondary displacement among internally

displaced persons (IDPs) and recent returnees. Conflict-related protection risks, legal and economic vulnerabilities, and risks of gender-based violence remain major concerns.

Population movements continued to evolve rapidly. According to the 2 July Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), **646,107 people have begun returning** to their areas of origin, representing an increase of approximately 123,000 people (23 per cent) compared to the previous update on 25 June. The largest share of returnees has been reported in South and Nabatieh governorates, where the conflict has caused extensive damage to housing, infrastructure, and essential services. Restoration of basic services, shelter support, clearance of unexploded ordnances, and early recovery support are critical for those returning.

Despite the increase in returns, movements remain **cautious, uneven, and often reversible**. Many households continue to undertake temporary “go-and-see” visits to assess levels of destruction, security conditions, and service availability before returning permanently. According to local authorities, only **39 per cent of the pre-2 March population has returned to Nabatieh Governorate**, with significant variations between districts, including 92 per cent in Hasbaya, 39 per cent in Nabatieh district, 35 per cent in Bint Jbeil and 26 per cent in Marjayoun.

Displacement levels have declined over the last two weeks but remain substantial, with 499,784 people still displaced from their areas of origin. Nationally, the proportion of IDPs residing in collective shelters declined from 11 per cent to 9 per cent, corresponding with a reduction in registered collective sites from 584 to 430 and a decrease in the collective-site population from 80,611 to 47,143 individuals since 25 June. While many shelters across the country are closing due to decreasing occupancy or consolidation, new shelters are being established in Nabatieh and South governorates. These sites are primarily accommodating individuals undertaking “go-and-see” visits prior to return, as well as households whose homes have been damaged, destroyed, or remain inaccessible. Many displaced households continue to face uncertainty regarding future accommodation arrangements, including a need for secondary shelter solutions and cash support for rent.

The Ministry of Public Health **reported 4,298 people killed** (including 391 Women and 253 children) and **12,196 injured** (1,449 women and 1,036 children) as of 2 July. **135 health care professionals have been killed on duty and 406 reported as injured** since 2 March.

Humanitarian needs persist across both displacement and return areas. Conflict-related protection risks, legal and housing concerns, economic vulnerability, psychosocial distress, and risks of gender-based violence remain key concerns. The presence of **unexploded ordnance (UXO)** continues to pose one of the principal obstacles to safe return and recovery, affecting residential areas, agricultural land, public infrastructure, and access to services. Protection partners continue to prioritize psychosocial support, case management, legal counselling, housing, land, and property support, and UXO risk education.

Access to essential services remains challenging due to evolving displacement dynamics, reported movement restrictions, underfunding of essential service providers, and damage to critical public infrastructure, particularly health facilities, water systems, electricity networks, and public utilities. **Humanitarian access also remains operationally complex**, especially in parts of South and Nabatieh governorates, where damaged roads, disrupted telecommunications continue to delay and constrain the delivery of assistance. In and around the Israeli-declared military area, humanitarian actors face additional challenges related to insecurity and restricted access. At the same time, access conditions have improved in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, North, Bekaa and Baalbek-El Hermel governorates following a reduction in military activity, enabling greater humanitarian reach in those areas.

Funding constraints continue to limit the response at a critical time. As of 29 June, the **2026 Lebanon Flash Appeal had received US\$237 million, representing only 37 per cent of the US\$639.9 million required**, with less than two months remaining under the current plan.

Humanitarian partners continue to emphasize key priorities for the response, including sustained de-escalation, respect for international humanitarian law, protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, support for safe, voluntary and dignified returns, UXO clearance, restoration of essential services, and urgent, predictable funding to sustain humanitarian operations and early recovery efforts.

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