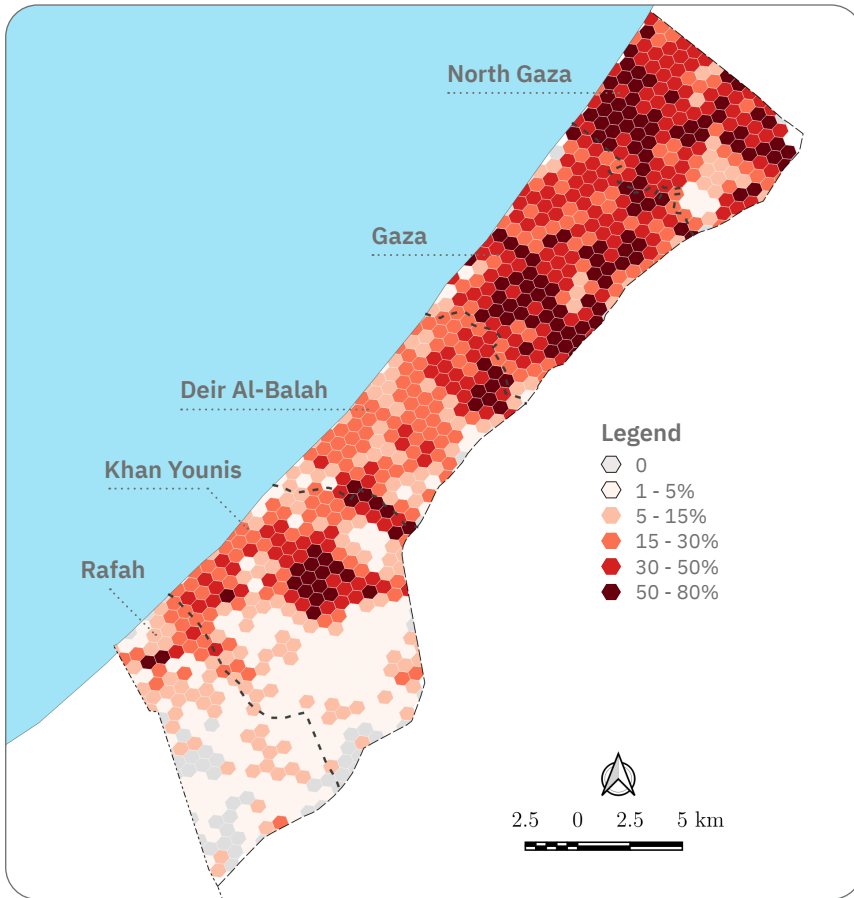




Damage to cropland due to the conflict in the Gaza Strip as of 31st December 2023



Damage to cropland

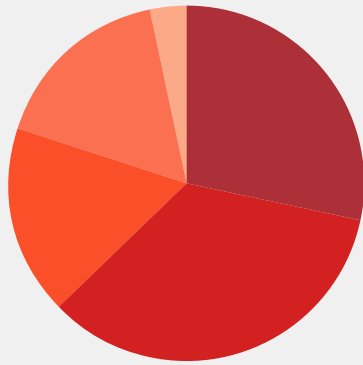
Sentinel 2 data from November 2022 and September 2023 was used as a baseline for comparison with December 2023 for NDVI-based change assessment.

Significant change in cropland greenness was identified as cropland damage.

A decrease of 0.2 or greater was considered as an abrupt change and a potential indication of affected cropland.

The severity of the impact on cropland was determined by calculating the percentage and hectares of the damaged area by cropland types. The grid depicts the severity of damage in localised areas; in each tile the area of damaged cropland was divided by the total cropland area.

The 2021 land cover map was used as an input to categorize cropland damage (<https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/cb7167en>).



Damaged cropland area (ha) by Governorate

percent

Governorate	Total Damaged Area (ha)	Damaged Area (ha)	Percent
North Gaza	3 099	1230	39.7%
Gaza	3 545	1482	41.8%
Deir Al-Balah	2 783	754	27.1%
Khan Younis	4 474	720	16.1%
Rafah	1 797	133	7.4%
Total	15 697	4319	27.5%



Key messages

- 27.5% (4319 ha) of all cropland has been damaged.
- The governorate of Gaza had the largest area of damaged cropland in hectares (1482 ha; 41.8% of all cropland).
- The governorate of Gaza had the largest proportion of damaged cropland (1482 ha; 41.8% of all cropland).
- 3184 ha (27.3%) of orchards, 676 ha (31.4%) of irrigated cropland and 459 ha (24.5%) of rainfed cropland have been damaged.

This assessment has been conducted based on available satellite imagery, ancillary data and remote sensing analysis for the period 7 October - 31 December 2023 without field validation. Land cover data from 2021 was used as baseline data due to limited availability for data collection in the area of interest and time constraints related to the nature of the report. This assessment was conducted by the Geospatial Unit at the Land and Water Division (NSL) of FAO and will be further complemented with additional field assessment and use of very high-resolution imagery. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on these map(s) do not express any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

