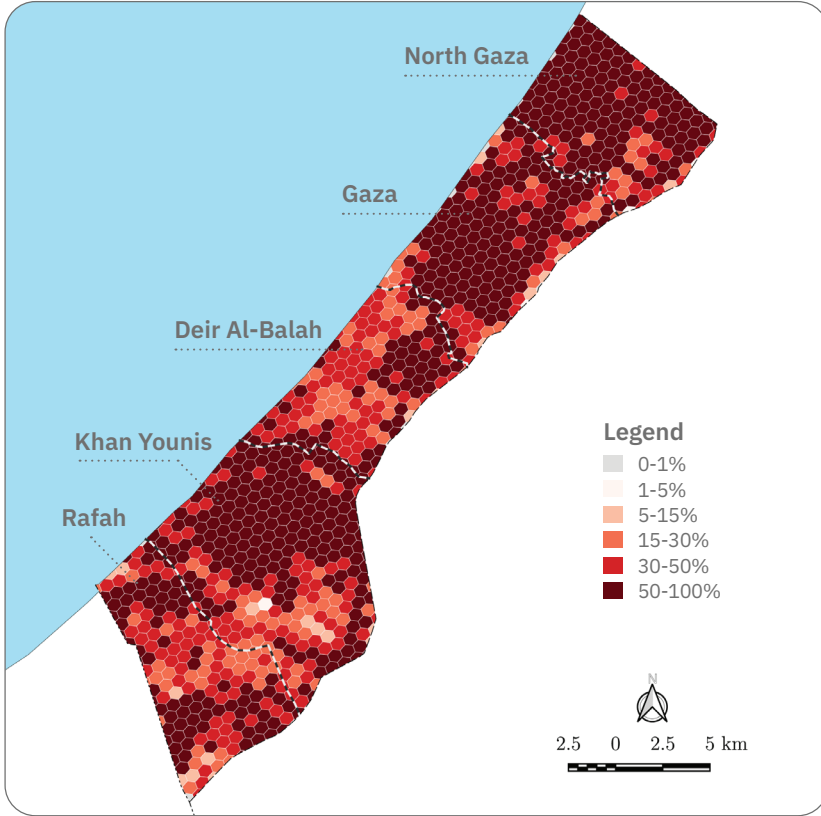


Damage to cropland due to the conflict in the Gaza Strip as of 20 May 2024

Proportional damage to cropland in the Gaza Strip

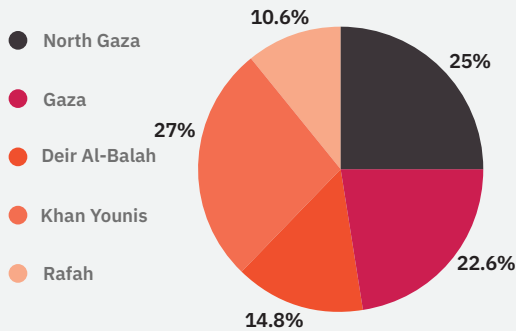


Damage to cropland

A cropland mask was prepared using very high-resolution satellite data from SPOT and Pléiades and high-resolution data from Sentinel-2 to analyse the damage to cropland. Sentinel-2 data from the month of May from 2017 to 2023 was used as a baseline for comparison with May 2024 data to conduct cropland change analysis of the cropland mask area.

A reduction in cropland greenness was considered as an abrupt change and an indication of damage. The severity of the impact on cropland was determined by calculating the percentage and hectares of the damaged area by governorate. 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.

Damage distribution



Cropland damage by governorate (ha*)

Governorate	Total Cropland (ha)	Damaged Cropland (ha)	Percent
North Gaza	3 172	2 162	68.1%
Gaza	3 191	1 955	61.3%
Deir Al-Balah	2 592	1 281	49.4%
Khan Younis	4 244	2 340	55.1%
Rafah	1 925	922	47.9%
Total	15 124**	8 660	57.3%

Key messages

- 57.3% (8 660 ha) of all cropland has been damaged.
- The governorate of Khan Younis had the largest area of damaged cropland (2 340 ha; 55.1% of all cropland).
- In the governorate of Rafah, the area of damaged cropland more than doubled, increasing from 452 ha in February to 922 ha in May 2024.

* To convert to the locally used unit of dunums, divide by 10 (1 ha is equal to 10 dunums).

** An updated baseline cropland category map for 2023 was used, while preceding assessments were based on a previous land cover map (FAO, 2021).

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.