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SITE MANAGEMENT

Rapid Intentions Survey -Gaza City

August 2025

Purpose

The assessment aimed to understand anticipated evacuation and displacement movements, identify key risks and barriers faced by different population groups, and capture priority needs and coping strategies. The findings guided preparedness and response planning, ensuring that assistance was timely, targeted, and responsive to the specific vulnerabilities of affected communities.

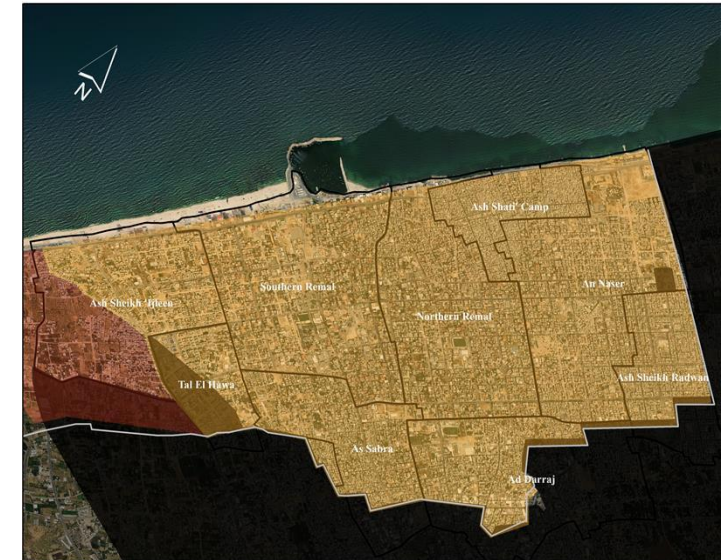


Figure : 1 Map of accessible areas within the targeted neighborhoods in Gaza city

Methodology

The survey was conducted in 9 accessible neighbourhoods across Gaza City. between August 19th and 20th, 2025. began with interviews with community leaders from IDP sites and surrounding communities using snowball sampling which sampling a non-probability method where initial participants nominate further respondents, to reach hard-to-access population groups, as a result, these key informants then referred enumerators to households willing to participate. Efforts focused on diversity, including female-headed households, persons with disabilities, and families with children.

Respondents profile:

Neighbourhood	# of key informant interviews	# of household level surveys
Southern Rimal	7 (5 men and 2 women)	10 (7 men and 3 women)
Northern Rimal	7 (4 men and 3 women)	15 (13 men and 2 women)
Sheikh Radwan	6 (3 men and 3 women)	8 (6 men and 2 women)
Sheikh Ajleen	6 (5 men and 1 woman)	11 (10 men and 1 woman)
Sabra	7 (4 men and 3 women)	12 (11 men and 1 woman)
Al-Nasr	3 (3 men)	11 (7 men and 4 women)
Tel al-Hawa	5 (4 men and 1 woman)	11 (10 men and 1 woman)
Al-Daraj	5 (3 men and 2 women)	12 (6 men and 6 women)
Al-Shati Camp	5 (3 men and 2 women)	9 (6 men and 3 women)
Total	51 Kils (34 men and 17 women)	99 surveys (76 men and 23 women)

2. Main Findings

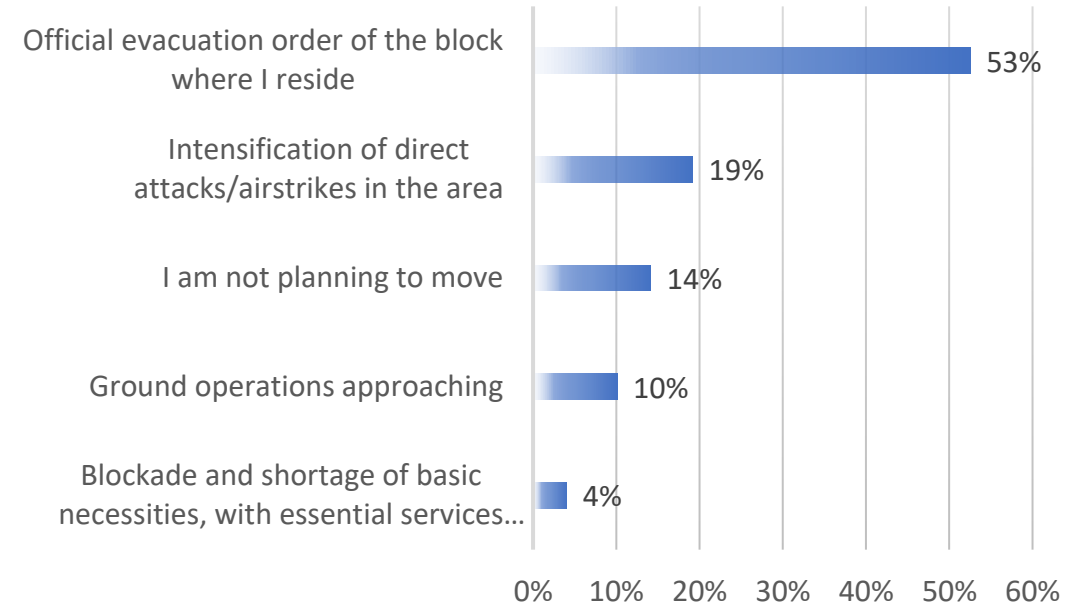


DISPLACEMENT TRIGGER AND INTENTIONS

Most households (53%, n=52) would leave if an official evacuation order is issued, others with direct attacks or airstrikes (19%, n=19) or approaching ground operations (10%, n=10). A smaller portion cited shortages of food, water, or medical care (4%, n=4), while 14% (n=14) were not planning to leave at all.

- Among households planning to leave in response to an evacuation order, 46% (n=24) would depart immediately if it were issued at night, while 54% (n=28) would wait until daylight.

- Households not planning to move (14%, n=14) cited **past displacement trauma (79%, n=11)**, **lack of safe alternatives (57%, n=8)**, **transportation issues (50%, n=7)**, **unsafe roads (43%, n=6)**, **inability to carry belongings (43%, n=6)**, **financial constraints (36–43%, n=5–6)**, and **health or physical limitations (29%, n=4)**. Among them, **50% (n=7) indicated that transportation and access to a safe destination would enable them to leave**. 43% (n=6) reported needing financial, psychological, or moral support in addition to transportation. 36% (n=5) highlighted basic survival needs such as shelter, food, water, sanitation, and healthcare as essential to facilitate movement.



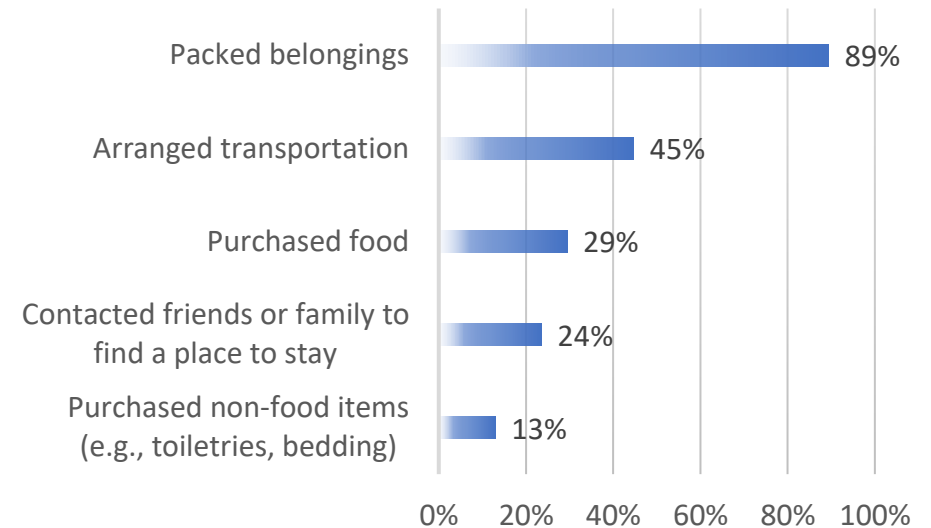
2. Main Findings



PREPAREDNESS

Key informants reported varying household preparedness: some had taken minimal steps such as **storing small amounts of food; others were ready to leave immediately with essential belongings and documents; some had sent a family member ahead while relocating belongings via private vehicles; and a few had secured transport and fuel in advance for potential evacuation.**

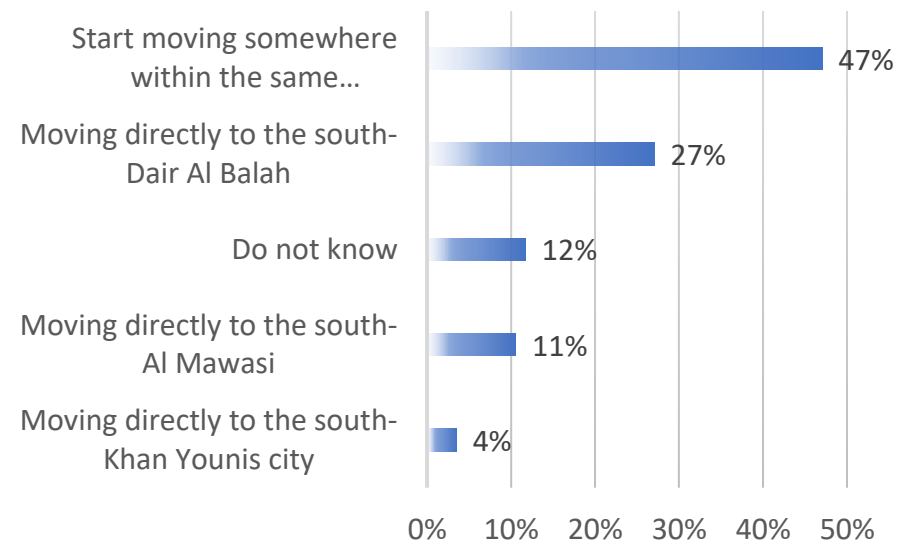
among the 85 planning to leave if needed, 93% (n=79) had taken at least one preparatory step: 89% (n=76) packed belongings, 45% (n=38) arranged transport, 29% (n=25) purchased food, 24% (n=20) contacted friends or family for a place to stay, and 13% (n=11) bought non-food items; while 7% (n=6) had made no preparations.



2. Main Findings

PLANNED RELOCATION DESTINATION

Among the households planning to move (n=85), the majority, 47% (n=40), intend to relocate within the same neighborhood or area if not included in an official evacuation order. 27% (n=23) plan to go to Dair Al Balah, 11% (n=9) to Al Mawasi, and 4% (n=3) to Khan Younis city, with 11% (n=10) not knowing yet. The majority (85%, n=72) did not know where they would stay specifically, most anticipating makeshift or other temporary arrangements, with only a handful reporting clear plans such as returning to a previous home (8%, n=7), coordinating with relatives (6%, n=5), or having secured another location (1%, n=1). Overall, both KII and household data underline the absence of concrete planning, suggesting that future movements will likely be reactive, shaped by safety concerns and access to humanitarian support.



Key informants, drawing on discussions with residents, reported **widespread uncertainty** about potential destinations due to the lack of reliable information on the “humanitarian zones.” Still, some patterns emerged: Al Mawasi in Khan Younis was most frequently cited, Deir al-Balah was mentioned for its proximity to humanitarian actors, and some families suggested moving westwards within Gaza City. Household responses mirror this uncertainty.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT DURING DISPLACEMENT

Key informants highlighted the importance of kinship and community ties, noting that families often move with relatives or neighbors in “caravan-like” groups, pooling resources such as transport and electricity. They explained that support during displacement can be logistical (sharing vehicles and transport costs), material, through food stocks, or psychosocial, by offering reassurance and advice to reduce panic. Yet they also acknowledged that in situations of extreme danger or mass displacement, families frequently act individually, relying on their own coping capacities. This is reflected in household responses (n=85): 84% reported they would relocate only with their immediate household, 15% with extended family, and just 1% with neighbors. **The contrast suggests that while collective strategies are valued and sometimes practiced, in reality most families expect to move primarily as nuclear units.**



2. Main Findings



KEY RISKS DURING DISPLACEMENT

Household responses largely confirm these concerns (n=85): **95% (n=81) anticipated airstrikes, 64% (n=54) road closures, 54% (n=46) ground fire, 48% (n=41) family separation, and 42% (n=36) theft or looting, with 1% (n=1) reporting no specific risk** (multiple-choice question).

The most frequently reported challenges were **lack of transportation (81%, n=70) and insufficient funds (66%, n=57). Other concerns included unsafe roads (62%, n=53), inability to carry belongings (53%, n=46), lack of access to cash (53%, n=46), and health or physical limitations (26%, n=22)** (multiple-choice question).

Key informants highlighted similar and additional risks households may face during evacuation, whether within Gaza City or towards the south, including lack of safe transportation, financial constraints, direct targeting, insufficient shelter, psychosocial stress, looting and theft, checkpoints and barriers, and loss of essential belongings or documents.

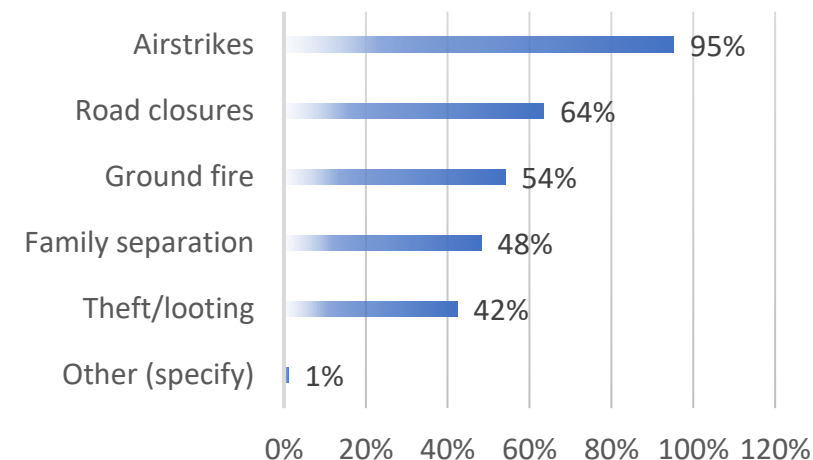


Figure 5: Perceived Risks During Displacement Among Households (n=86)

Community leaders highlighted heightened vulnerability for women, girls, and persons with disabilities, noting the lack of equipment and facilities for safe transport. Limited or collapsed transport options could force households to walk long distances, increasing physical strain and health risks, especially for older or chronically ill members. Security concerns, including potential arrests, financial constraints, and the risk of family separation, were also emphasized.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PRIORITIES DURING EVACUATION

Households most frequently reported needing **drinking water (97%, n=83), food (80%, n=69), and transportation assistance (80%, n=69) during movement. Other priorities included first aid/medical support (53%, n=46), sanitation facilities (45%, n=39), rest/reception points (44%, n=38), protection presence (41%, n=35), information points (40%, n=34), and short-term transit centers (22%, n=19).**

Key informants confirmed these needs, highlighting that displaced households would require **safe transport, multi-purpose cash assistance, emergency shelter items, access to water and food along displacement routes, guidance on potential relocation sites, protection monitoring, psychosocial support, and mobile sanitation or reception points.** This alignment indicates that household-reported priorities closely reflect the support mechanisms anticipated by community representatives

HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION NEEDED PRIOR TO DISPLACEMENT

Community leaders reported being approached daily with questions reflecting residents' deep uncertainty about a potential large-scale incursion into Gaza City. Most inquiries center on survival and displacement: how to secure food if staying, where and when to move if leaving, and what services exist for vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, children, or the elderly. **Transportation is a recurring concern**, with households asking how to access vehicles for evacuation, alongside requests for updated information on evacuation orders. Leaders noted that these concerns reveal widespread anxiety and a sense of “living in the unknown,” while they themselves often lack the information or resources to provide clear answers.

Households reflected similar concerns, **prioritizing information on relocation sites with available space (88%, n=76), WASH services including drinking water (62%, n=53), and road conditions or maps outside evacuation zones (58%, n=50).** **Transportation options were important for 53% (n=46), and connections with site committees or focal points for 30% (n=26).** The main channels for receiving information were social media (67%, n=58) and mobile/SMS (63%, n=54), followed by information desks on the road (24%, n=21) and community leaders or site committees (23%, n=20).

INFORMATION SHARING WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Key informants reported that shared information within the community focus **on the safety of routes, timing of movement, checkpoints, and the unclear status of “humanitarian areas.”** Rumors also circulate, adding to confusion and fear. Information is mainly shared via **social media and informal neighborhood or site-level gatherings**, though the reliability of such sources is limited.

Community leaders and committee members stated they are willing and actively share information on available services, primarily through verbal updates during regular site, neighborhood, or area-level meetings. These structures serve as key channels for ensuring critical messages reach residents, highlighting their role in broader communication and coordination during displacement.

TOP URGENT NEEDS UPON ARRIVAL

At destination, respondents highlighted **drinking water as the top urgent need (93%, n=80), followed by SNFI materials and tents (88%, n=76) and food (84%, n=72)**. Medical support was indicated by 30% (n=26), hygiene items by 24% (n=21), protection services by 16% (n=14), and means of transportation (2%, n=2) (multiple-choice question).

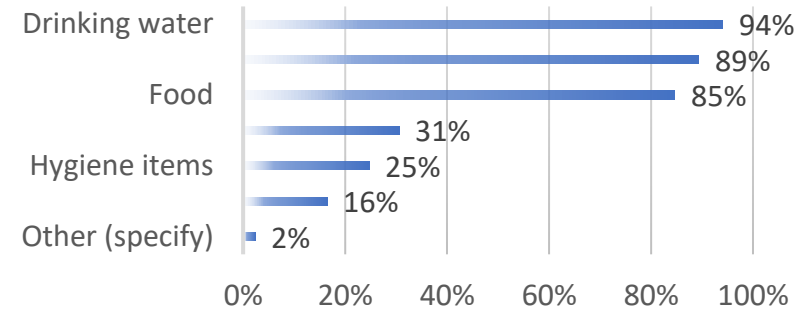
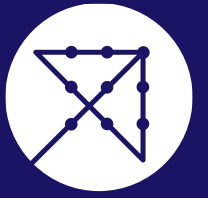


Figure 6: Top urgent needs upon arrival

➤ RECOMMENDATIONS



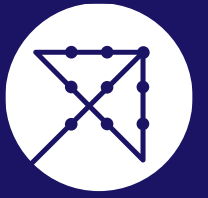
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1) Information and Communication with the local community:

- The humanitarian community to share the critical information through community leaders and committees: evacuation orders, road conditions, preparation guidance, and available services in the event of the displacement.
- Maintain active communication with community leaders to strengthen information flow through local channels—such as social media platforms, SMS, and information desks—for relaying verified updates.
- INGOs to establish emergency transportation plans to address the critical gap in mobility options—particularly for households with children, elderly members, or persons with disabilities—ensuring organized services both within the city and along the southern area of the Netzarim corridor.
- INGOs to develop and disseminate clear safety and preparedness guidance for households that choose to remain in Gaza City, including practical instructions on safe sheltering, pre-positioning of essential supplies (water, food, medicines), preparation of emergency kits, and contingency evacuation planning, while ensuring that information is accessible to vulnerable groups through trusted community channels.

ZERO
EXCLUSION
CARBON
POVERTY

➤ RECOMMENDATIONS



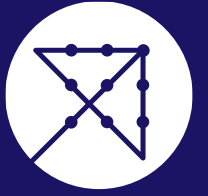
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2) Services and Aids delivery:

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- The INGOs continue providing services in the city, as this will foster a strong sense of comfort and reassurance among the population.
- Identify and support individuals with reduced mobility or isolated households; allow pre-emptive relocation if needed.
- Establish reception and transit points (including Set up information desks- share updates on destinations and available services) medical support, protection services, and basic facilities to reduce vulnerability and stress.
- Deploy protection monitoring and psychosocial support along displacement routes and at transit/reception points Including establish mechanisms for family tracing and reunification, particularly for children.



➤ RECOMMENDATIONS



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2) Services and Aids delivery:

- Provide multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) for transport, temporary shelter, and basic needs.
- Prioritize urgent needs at destinations (based on SMC population movement monitoring): safe drinking water, emergency shelter, food, and hygiene items.
- Provide mobile sanitation facilities, drinking water, and food distribution along evacuation routes.
- Provide ready-to-eat meals or quick food parcels to displaced households, especially during movement.

ZERO
EXCLUSION
CARBON
POVERTY

