



Palestinian vehicles waiting in a long queue due to intensive search procedures by Israeli forces at Tayasir checkpoint, in Tubas governorate, between the northern Jordan Valley and other parts of the northern West Bank, January 2025. Photo by a local commuter.

A rapid survey conducted by OCHA in January and February 2025 found that there are currently 849 movement obstacles that permanently or intermittently restrict the movement of 3.3 million Palestinians across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the H2 area of Hebron city. Coupled with the 712-kilometre-long Barrier, which remains the single largest obstacle in the West Bank, movement obstacles control and restrict the freedom of movement of Palestinians, impede access to livelihoods, healthcare, education and other essential services, entrench territorial and social fragmentation, and contribute to worsening humanitarian conditions.

Documented obstacles include: 94 checkpoints staffed 24/7; 153 partial (intermittently staffed) checkpoints (of which 45 have frequently closed gates); 205 road gates (of which 127 are frequently closed); 101 linear closures (such as earthwalls and trenches); 180 earthmounds; and 116 roadblocks. Checkpoints on the Green Line are not included in this data, nor are restrictions such as the declaration of “closed military zones,” the closure of Jenin and Tulkarm refugee camps for returnees, or physical obstacles installed by Israeli forces since March 2025.

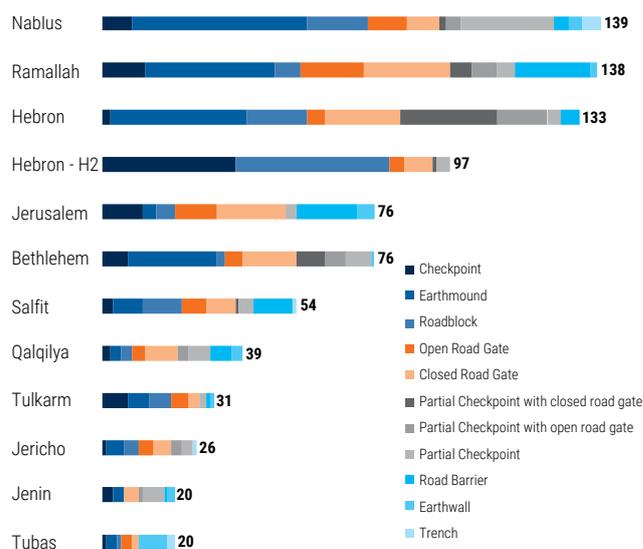
Of the total number of documented obstacles (849), 36 were installed between December 2024 and February 2025, with the majority erected between mid-January and February 2025, coinciding with the announcement of the Gaza ceasefire and the onset of the Israeli forces’ operation

KEY FIGURES (AS OF 28 FEB 2025)

849 Movement obstacles
of which **36** are new closures between December 2024 and February 2025

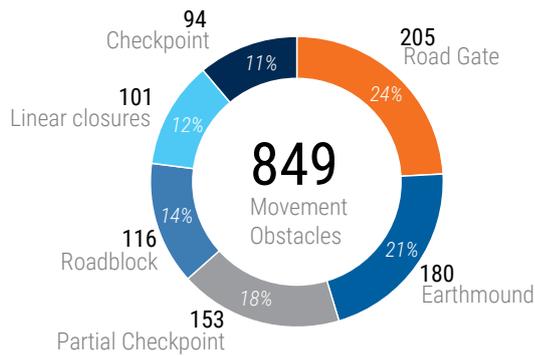
288 Road gates
both stand-alone and as part of partial checkpoints (34% of all closures) of which **172** gates (60%) are frequently closed

MOVEMENT OBSTACLES BY TYPE AND GOVERNORATE



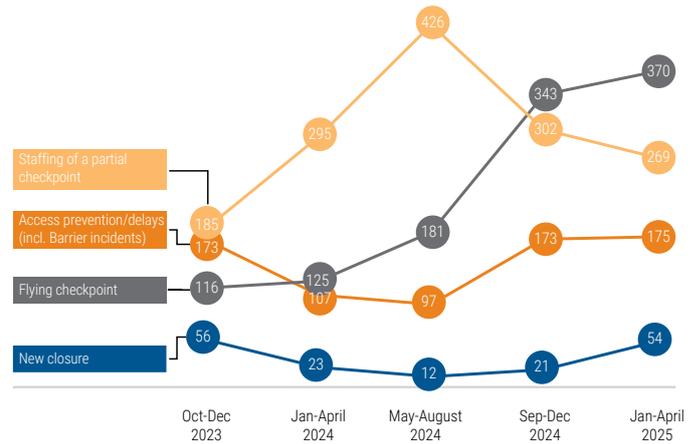
MOVEMENT OBSTACLES BY TYPE

February 2025



ACCESS INCIDENTS AFFECTING PALESTINIANS

7 October 2023 - 30 April 2025



in the northern West Bank. Other closures, believed to have been set up in 2024, were documented. Significantly, a total of 29 new gates have been installed across the West Bank, either as new stand-alone closures or added to existing partial checkpoints, bringing the overall number of open or closed road gates across the West Bank to 288, constituting a third of movement obstacles – these include 205 stand-alone gates and 83 that are part of partial checkpoints. Of these, about 60 per cent (172 out of 288) are frequently closed gates. Overall, this period witnessed an intensification of movement restrictions, including a rise in the number of road gates and partial checkpoints that are frequently closed, prolonged delays at checkpoints, and a notable increase in the number of “flying” or mobile checkpoints.

Between October 2023 and April 2025, OCHA documented about 3,500 access incidents affecting Palestinians, the majority being incidents whereby Israeli forces staffed partial checkpoints (42 per cent) or deployed mobile checkpoints (32 per cent) to conduct vehicular and ID checks. The remaining quarter of incidents primarily included: extended delays or closure of checkpoints;

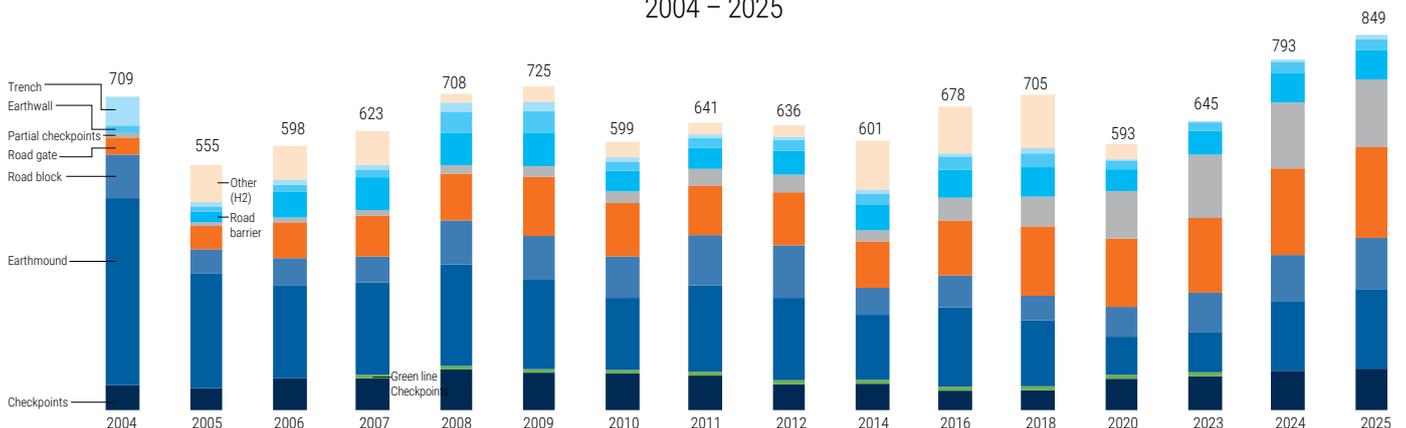
preventing access to agricultural land; installing a new closure; and shooting toward or detaining Palestinians attempting to cross through “informal” openings of the Barrier, reportedly to reach workplaces in East Jerusalem and Israel.

Access incidents affecting Palestinians generally show a fluctuating pattern that increase or drop in association with key developments or events, such as the escalation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip in late 2023, the Olive Harvest season in October 2024, operations by Israeli forces in the northern West Bank especially in June-July 2024 and since January 2025, and stone-throwing or shooting incidents by Palestinians against Israeli forces or settlers.

During the first four months of 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) [documented](#) 108 attacks on health care across the West Bank, the majority related to health access and 62 per cent (67 attacks) were in Jenin and Tulkarm governorates, where Israeli forces’ operations have been ongoing since 21 January 2025. According to WHO, factors impeding health access, including emergency services, in the West Bank include, among others, obstructions and

MOVEMENT OBSTACLES

2004 – 2025



detention at checkpoints, imposition of full closures in areas of ongoing operations by Israeli forces, preventing access to the critically injured, militarized search of health care personnel, facilities or transport, and coordination requirements prior to the movement of ambulances. This is in addition to movement obstacles that hinder the ability of health workers to reach their workplaces. In total, between 7 October 2023 and 7 May 2025, according to WHO's Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care (SSA), there were 791 attacks on health care in the West Bank, affecting about 60 health facilities and over 520 ambulances, three quarters of which entailed obstructed access.

The type and physical composition of movement obstacles have shifted over time. Two decades ago, the predominant form of movement obstacles installed by Israeli forces across the West Bank were earthmounds and roadblocks, which accounted for 73 per cent of obstacles, a percentage that has since dropped to 35 per cent. Conversely, elaborate infrastructure such as road gates and partial checkpoints (with or without road gates) now constitute 42 per cent of movement obstacles, up from seven per cent in 2004, reflecting a qualitative change from ad-hoc or temporary obstructions toward more institutionalized access restrictions that can be frequently staffed or closed.

CLOSURE OF TAYASIR CHECKPOINT AFFECTS 60,000 PALESTINIANS AND DISRUPTS ACCESS TO EDUCATION

On 4 February 2025, Tayasir checkpoint that connects the northern Jordan Valley with Jenin, Nablus, and the western areas of Tubas governorate was closed for two months following a shooting attack by a Palestinian that killed two Israeli soldiers and injured six others at the checkpoint. This significantly obstructed the movement of over 60,000 Palestinians to workplaces, markets, health facilities and schools, as well as negatively affected economic activities. In early April 2025, Israeli forces partially re-opened the checkpoint, operating it twice a day. About 140 teachers and school staff commuting to seven schools and one kindergarten in the northern Jordan Valley were forced to take a longer detour and pay higher transportation costs via Al Hamra checkpoint to reach their schools. The detours extended the journey by up to two hours instead of the usual 30-minute trip. While some teachers managed to reach their schools using these alternate routes, others were unable to afford the time and cost or the unpredictability of access. As a result, the education of about 1,100 students in Bardala, Kardalla, and Al Malih villages was severely disrupted. Similarly affected were 45 students who reside in these communities and attend two secondary schools in Tayasir town, with many unable to afford the longer commute or missing classes due to frequent transportation and checkpoint delays. To help bridge learning gaps, the Palestinian Ministry of Education implemented a remote learning program and mobilized community volunteers. Describing the daily challenges of reaching school, a teacher said: "Each day, we endure hours of waiting, treated more like objects than humans, just to reach our classrooms and put effort into teaching, hoping to give our children a brighter future than our present."



A group of Palestinian teachers travelling to their schools in the northern Jordan Valley undergoing a search by Israeli forces at Al Hamra checkpoint, in Nablus governorate - the alternative, longer route they were forced to take for two months, following the closure of Tayasir checkpoint, 5 March 2025. Photo by a teacher.

RESTRICTIONS VIA JABA' AND QALANDIYA CHECKPOINTS DISRUPT THE MOVEMENT OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PALESTINIANS

Palestinian travelers via Qalandiya and Jaba' checkpoints in the Jerusalem governorate witnessed heightened movement restrictions between mid-January and mid-February 2025, characterized by frequent closures of both checkpoints, slow checking procedures, and the installation of two road gates and an earthwall on alternative dirt roads. This has significantly increased travel times and severely disrupted the movement of tens of thousands of Palestinians commuting between the central West Bank and both East Jerusalem and the southern West Bank, to reach schools, universities, specialized health services, workplaces and markets. Especially affected were Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem who live in the areas of Kufr 'Aqab and Qalandiya refugee camp, with an estimated population of at least 80,000 people. These areas fall within the Israeli-declared Jerusalem boundary but on the West Bank side of the Barrier, where residents are physically separated from key services by the Barrier and checkpoints. According to official Palestinian sources, these access restrictions forced hundreds of students to change their schools in the middle of the academic year.



In January and February 2025, Israeli forces further intensified movement restrictions and installed new closures around Jaba' checkpoint, in Jerusalem governorate, on a key road artery for travel between the central and southern West Bank, 26 May 2025. Photo by OCHA

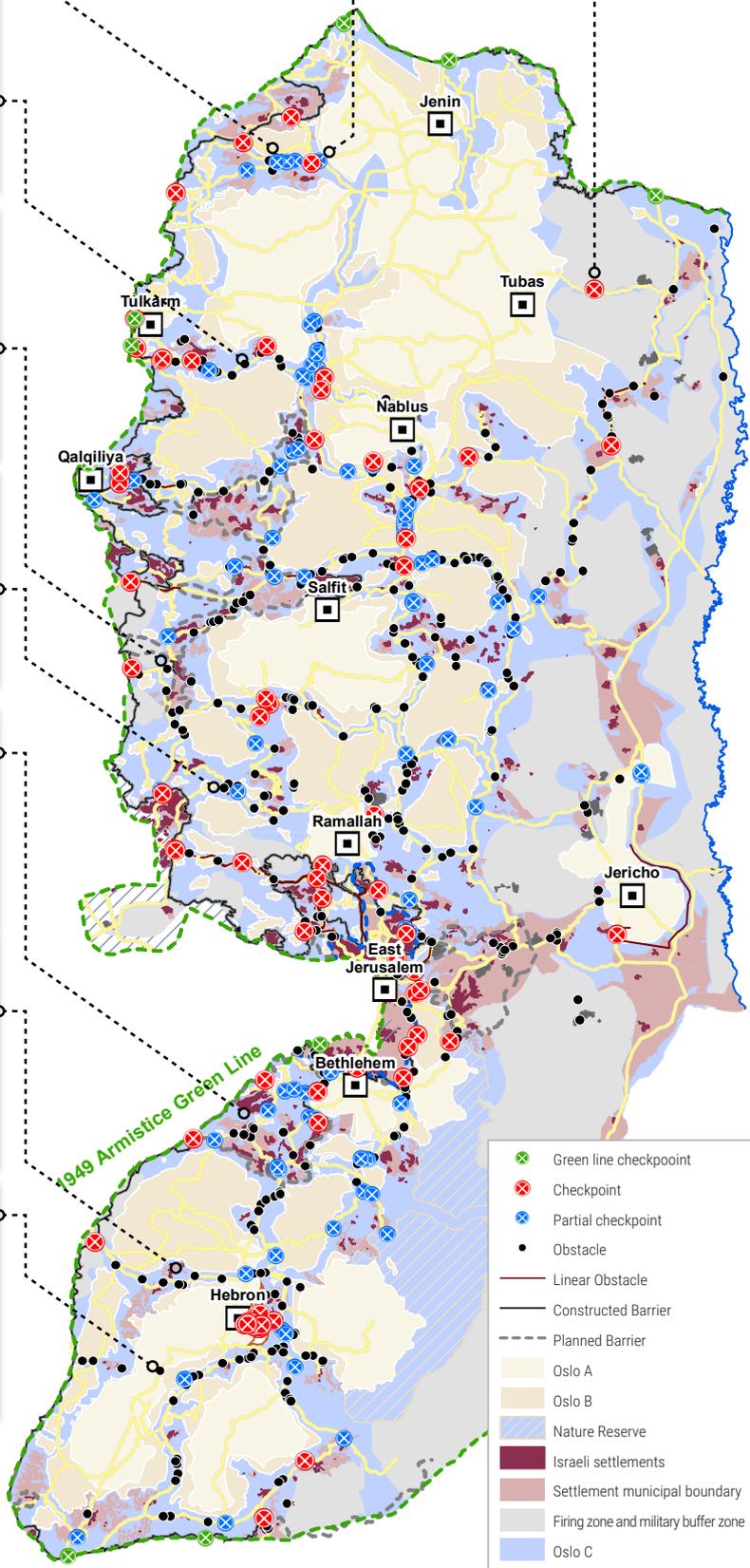
MOVEMENT OBSTACLES HINDER HEALTH CARE ACCESS TO OVER 177,000 PALESTINIANS IN HEBRON

A private medical centre serving 11 communities in Hebron governorate, with a combined population of over 177,000 people, has reported to OCHA a rise in the frequency of obstructions facing their ambulances and 15 paramedics, affecting communities such as Halhul, Beit Ummar and Sai'r towns, Al 'Arrub refugee camp, and Beit Ula village, among others. Since 7 October 2023, the centre's paramedics reported being routinely subjected to searches at permanent or mobile checkpoints and facing an increase in instances of harassment, intimidation, and physical assault by Israeli forces while transporting patients. In one incident, two paramedics were physically assaulted and detained by Israeli soldiers after completing a patient back-to-back transfer at a closed road gate. "The soldiers insisted we bring back the patient we had just transferred. They damaged the ambulance and held our team for over an hour," said one of the two paramedics. Describing the mounting risks, he added: "Every day I leave home thinking it could be my last."



An ambulance waiting to carry out a back-to-back transfer of an emergency case from a private vehicle due to the closure of a metal gate installed by Israeli forces at the entrance of Abda village near Dura town, in Hebron Governorate, 5 April 2025. Photo by a paramedic.

MOVEMENT AND ACCESS IN THE WEST BANK, AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2025



- ⊗ Green line checkpoint
- ⊗ Checkpoint
- ⊗ Partial checkpoint
- Obstacle
- Linear Obstacle
- Constructed Barrier
- ⋯ Planned Barrier
- Oslo A
- Oslo B
- Nature Reserve
- Israeli settlements
- Settlement municipal boundary
- Firing zone and military buffer zone
- Oslo C