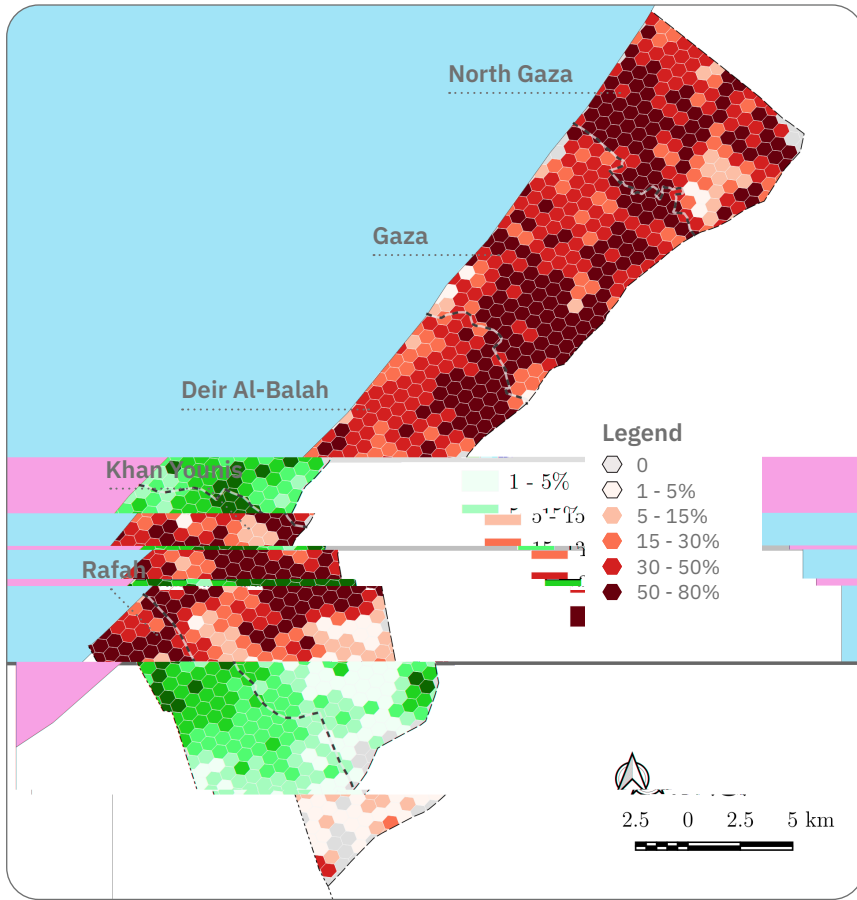




Damage to cropland due to the conflict in the Gaza Strip as of 15 February 2024



Damage to cropland

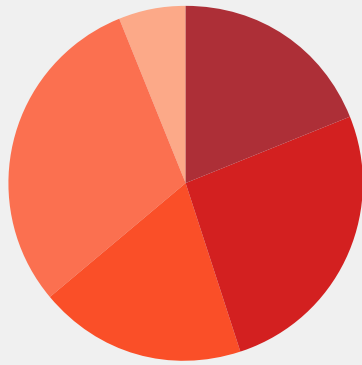
Sentinel data from January to February of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and September 2023 was used as a baseline for comparison with January-February 2024 for NDVI based change assessment.

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)	Percentage of Total Damaged Area
North Gaza	1 402	45.2%
Gaza	1 941	54.8%
Deir Al-Balah	1 408	50.6%
Khan Younis	1 492	33.3%
Rafah	451	25.1%
Total	6 694	42.6%



Key messages

- 42.6% (6 694 ha) of all cropland has been damaged.
- The governorate of Gaza had the largest area of damaged cropland in hectares (1 941 ha; 54.8% of all cropland).
- 5 027 ha (43.1%) of orchards, 887 ha (41.2%) of irrigated cropland and 780 ha (41.7%) 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 - 15 February 2024 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.

