

Israel increases use of planning to deepen West Bank apartheid: 2021-2024 in numbers

The 2022 establishment of the current extremist right-wing government has been marked by a significant increase in Israeli efforts to de-facto annex Area C of the West Bank. Grabbing more and more lands while forcibly displacing Palestinian communities is achieved through settlement expansion and the establishment of new outposts on one hand, and by blocking planning for Palestinians, denying them building permits, and demolishing their homes on the other. The data presented below demonstrates deepening of the apartheid system, grounded in blatant and systematic discrimination between Israelis and Palestinians in planning, building and enforcement policies.

Between 2021-2024 Israeli settlers built in Area C (and in some cases also in Area B) hundreds of unpermitted structures in outposts and farms, some on privately owned Palestinian land. This construction has been met with extremely lax enforcement. Simultaneously, Israeli authorities have marked all-time records of Palestinian home demolitions. Many more homes were destroyed and burned by state-backed settler violence.

An analysis of data obtained from the Israeli Civil Administration through a Freedom of Information request submitted by the organization Bimkom, along with planning documents, reveals:

- a **significant increase** in permits and plans for settlements, alongside a **complete lack of planning for Palestinians**.
- Palestinians submitted the highest number of building permit applications since the Oslo Accords (5,071) yet **only 0.4% (22)** of the applications were granted. Simultaneously, **9,385 housing units** in settlements received permits - **425 times more than for Palestinian**
- **862 Palestinian buildings were demolished in 2024**, an all-time high, while only 39 buildings in settlements were demolished.

Overall, the data shows extreme discrimination between Israelis and Palestinians in Area C. Settlers, inside and outside the government, are orchestrating unprecedented destruction not only in Gaza but also in the West Bank.

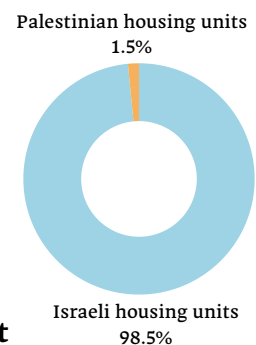
Planning

Between 2021 and 2024, only **one plan** for an existing Palestinians village was approved, allowing **170 housing units**. In the Israeli settlements **10,945 housing units** were approved.[1]

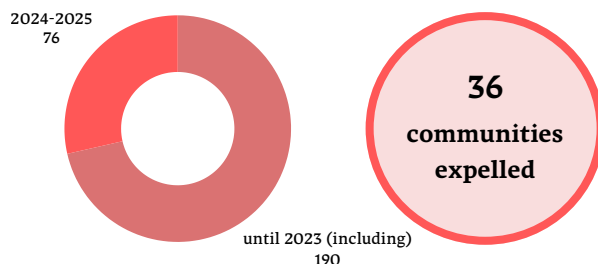
Additionally, in the past 18 months, **76 new outposts** were established in the West Bank, seven of which are in Area B. **266 outposts** currently exist, in addition to **31 outposts** which were retroactively legalized over the years.[1]

Many of the new outposts are shepherding farms, which occupy vast territories. Their main purpose is to **forcibly displace dozens of Palestinian herding communities** from their homes and lands. **36 communities** have already been expelled

Building Permits for Housing Units



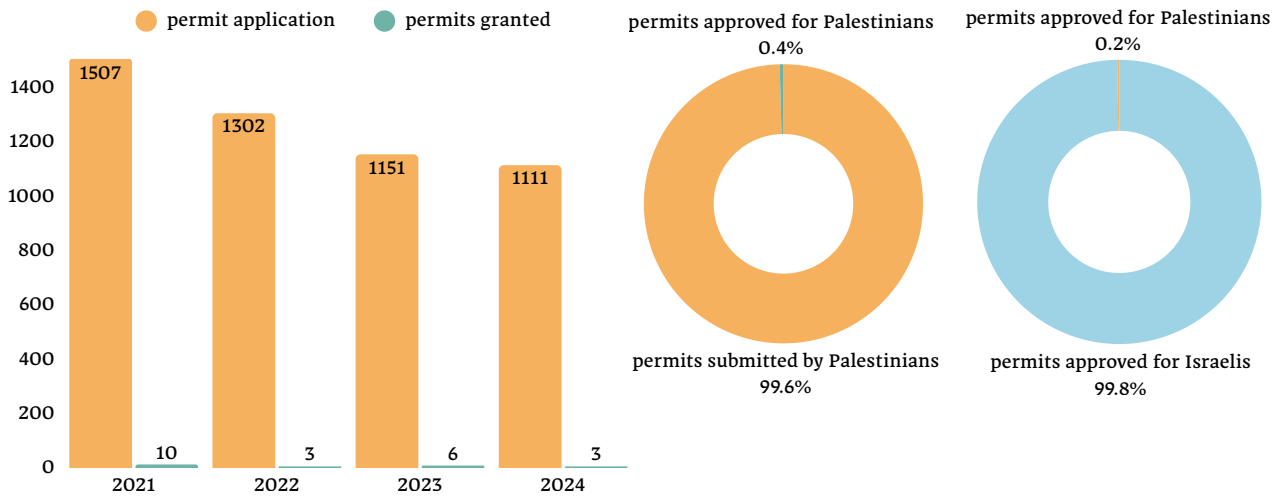
Outpost establishment



[1] For detailed data [see here](#)

Building Permits

In 2021-2024, Palestinians submitted a total of 5,071 building permit applications, yet 99.6% of these applications were rejected. only 22 permits were approved. Simultaneously, 9,385 housing units in the settlements received permits: **425 times more than for Palestinians.**

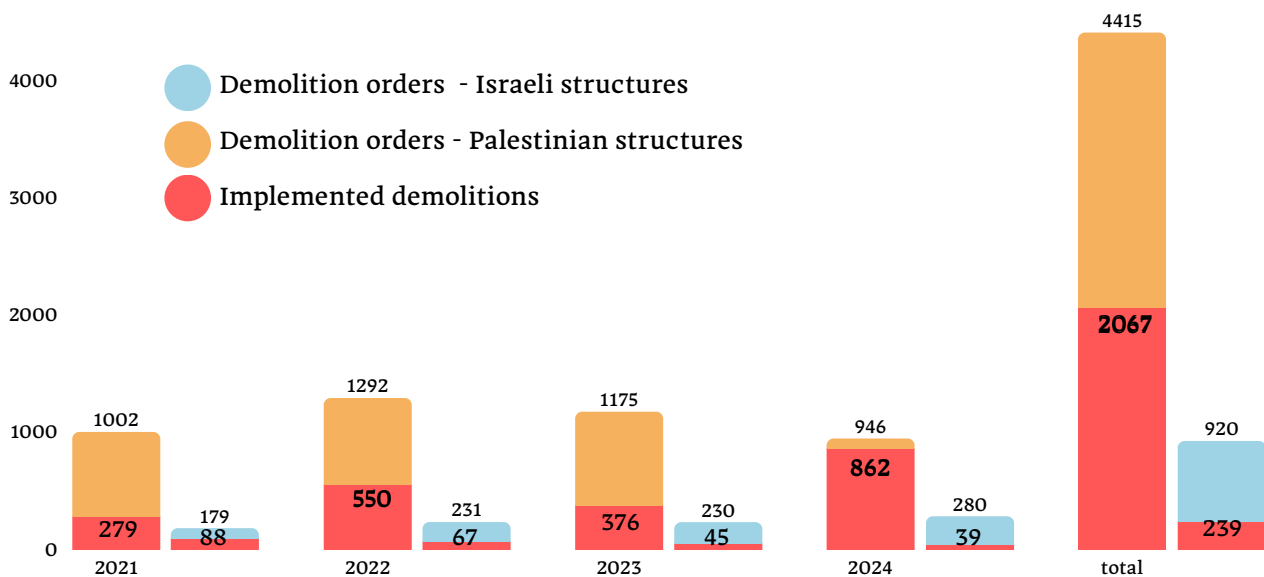


Demolition orders and home-demolitions

2024 marked an all-time record of Palestinian home demolitions by Israeli authorities. A total of 862 Palestinian demolitions were executed, on average more than 16 demolitions each week. Moreover, 946 demolition orders were issued, indicating a 91% implementation rate.[2]

By contrast, demolitions of Israeli buildings were minimal: only 39 demolitions were executed, despite 280 demolition orders being issued, making a 14% implementation rate.

A multi-year analysis reveals a persistent pattern of disparity. Between 2021 and 2024, Israeli authorities issued 4,415 demolition orders for Palestinian homes, and executed 2,067 demolitions (49% implementation rate). In comparison, 920 demolition orders were issued for Israeli settlers, and 239 demolitions were executed (26% implementation rate).



[2] Not all demolition orders are executed in the year they are issued. The figures reflect the ratio between the rate of orders issued and actual demolitions, not necessarily for the same set of orders.