



Refugee registers interest in the return programme and receives counselling



Repatriation interview and assessment conducted, including referrals to partners, if needed



Refugee approaches Return Space to confirm voluntariness and issued Repatriation Form. Case is closed and data is shared with UNHCR Syria



Refugee redeems return cash grant through OMT



Refugee self-organizes OR IOM provides transportation to Syria through official crossing points

HIGHLIGHTS

379,103

Syrian individuals inactivated in 2025 from UNHCR's records in Lebanon due to confirmed or presumed return

333,908

Syrian individuals spontaneously returning to Syria (confirmed or presumed)

45,195

Individuals directly supported by UNHCR to voluntarily repatriate

74,231

Total number of active and pending individuals (13,897 households) who expressed interest in return programme

Since January 2025, **379,103 Syrian individuals known to UNHCR have been inactivated** from UNHCR's database due to both confirmed and presumed returns to Syria. Among these, **88% spontaneously returned** to Syria – including 17% who returned under duress in late 2024 and remained in Syria; and 25% who were identified by General Security (GSO) without Repatriation Forms and crossed through official crossing points benefiting from administrative facilities for return by the GSO. An additional **12% of total inactivated households were facilitated at departure by UNHCR** under one of the voluntary repatriation programmes.

Registered **interest to return was highest (63%) in July and August**, with new registered interest decreasing to only 15% of total interest registered in October and November, due to the start of school in Syria and the winter season. At the end of November 2025, **74,231 Syrian individuals (13,897 households) who expressed interest** in the UNHCR-facilitated VolRep programme remain in the pipeline – 33% from Bekaa, Baalbek and Hermel; 31% from North and Akkar; 28% from Beirut and Mount Lebanon; and 9% from South and El Nabatieh. The decline in the active and pending registered interest compared to the previous month reflects the high productivity of households processed for VolRep - 50% already facilitated with voluntary repatriation, 40% unreachable and 10% changed their mind or postponing their return until the next school holiday. Among the 40% who are unreachable, further verification is ongoing to confirm their spontaneous return to Syria.

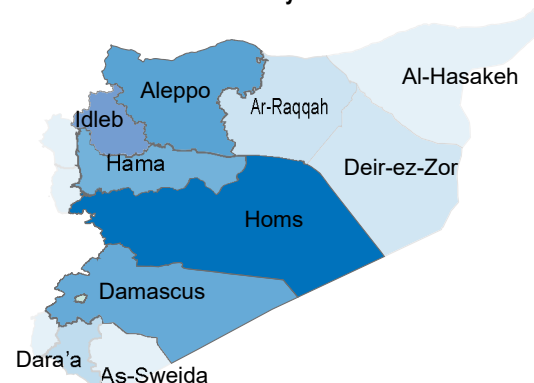
By the end of November, a total of **45,195 Syrian individuals (9,504 households) known to UNHCR underwent the facilitated VolRep programmes**, including completing voluntariness assessments, issuance of Repatriation Forms and provision of a return cash grant of USD 100 per returning individual. **94% of those who were facilitated with VolRep self-organized** their transport back to Syria, while 6% were provided organized transportation by IOM and UNHCR. Among those assessed for facilitated VolRep, **85% are returning to their areas of origin in Syria** – 36% returned to Homs, 19% to Idlib, 13% to Damascus and Rural Damascus, 13% to Aleppo and 10% to Hama. 39% of refugees self-organize their return through Arida crossing point, 32% through Qaa and 23% through Masnaa. Furthermore, **52% of those assessed for facilitated VolRep are women and girls**, and 60% are children. **25% of the returning individuals have a protection need**, in particular 12% with a serious medical condition and 5% with disabilities. Importantly, **83% return in complete families**. Among the 17% remaining behind, 75% are adult men staying for livelihood purposes.

Since July, UNHCR and IOM have also facilitated **11 organized return movements of 2,499 Syrian individuals** through Arida and Masnaa borders – 45% to Homs, 36% to Idlib, 8% to Rural Damascus and Damascus, 8% to Hama and 4% to Aleppo. A schedule of 2 further organized return movements for December is also being scheduled.

Area of Residence in Lebanon



Intended Area of Return in Syria



UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is grateful for the support provided by donors who contributed to this operation and return programme.

