UNHCR-supported Voluntary Repatriation of Syrian refugees Lebanon 2025

31 August 2025

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

238,120

TOTAL Syrian **individuals inactivated** in 2025 from UNHCR's records in Lebanon

231,850

Syrian individuals **spontaneously returning** to Syria (confirmed or presumed)

114,996

Total number of individuals (21,463 cases) who **expressed interest** in UNHCR's facilitated VolRep programs

6,270

Syrian individuals (1,190 cases) supported with **UNHCR-facilitated VolRep** and departed

Since January 2025, 238,120 Syrian individuals known to UNHCR have been inactivated from UNHCRs database due to both confirmed and presumed returns to Syria. Among these, 97% spontaneously returned to Syria and identified through UNHCR's various verification procedures.

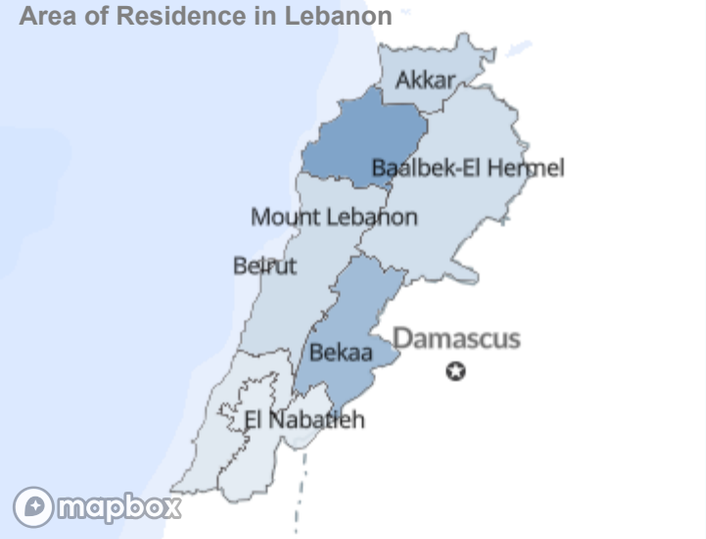
Since July, over 114,996 Syrian individuals (21,463 cases) have expressed interest in the UNHCR-facilitated VolRep program in general – 37% from Bekaa, Baalbek and Hermel, 35% from North and Akkar and 28% from Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South.

At the end of August, UNHCR implemented streamlined procedures and increased staffing capacity to conduct VolRep assessments resulting in a 282% increase in processing. Among the total inactivated figure, a total of 6,270 Syrian individuals (1,190 cases) known to UNHCR completed the Voluntary Repatriation assessment launched on 1 July, were issued a Repatriation Form and provided return cash grant in the amount of USD100 per returning individual. Among those assessed, 82% are returning to their areas of origin in Syria - 46% return to Homs governorate, 16% to Idlib, 10% to Rural Damascus, 9% to Hama and 9% to Aleppo. 41% of refugees self-organize their return through Arida crossing point, 20% through Qaa and 17% through Masnaa crossing point.

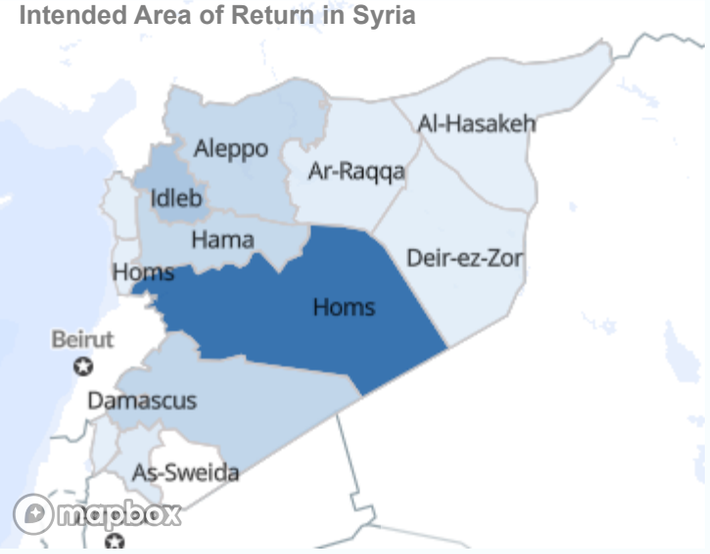
Among those assessed, 86% return in complete families. Of those 14% remaining behind, the majority are adult men staying for livelihood purposes or to finalize outstanding issues prior to returning to Syria. 26% of the returning individuals also have a protection need, in particular 13% with a serious medical condition.

UNHCR and IOM are also processing the organized return of over 300 Syrian individuals to take place on 11 September with transportation provided from Beirut, crossing through Masnaa border, to drop-off points in Hama, Homs and Idlib governorates in Syria.

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.

For more information on the UNHCR-supported voluntary programme, please visit UNHCRHelp – Voluntary Return page.