

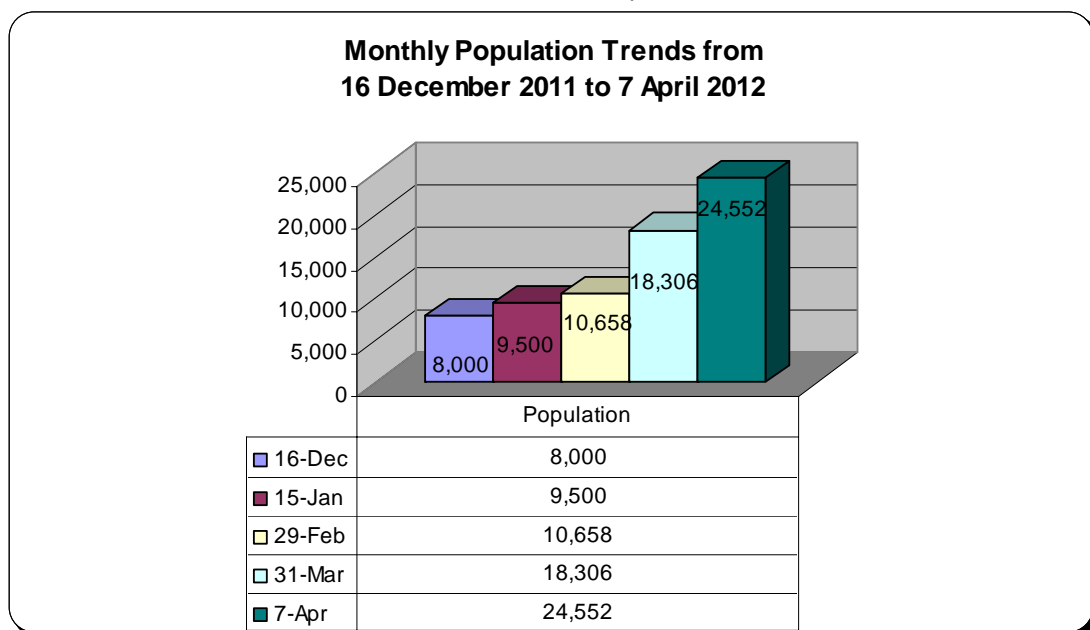


United Nations Country Team in Turkey
Daily Situation Report on the Situation Pertaining to Syria

April 7, 2012

It has been reported that total camp population is reached to **24,552** with the arrival of 795 persons and the return of 73 persons.

Increase in the arrivals from December 16, 2011 to April 7, 2012 is reflected below.



Currently arrivals from Syria are assisted in the border provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis and Şanlıurfa.

As of April 7, 2012 the city breakdown in the region is as follows:

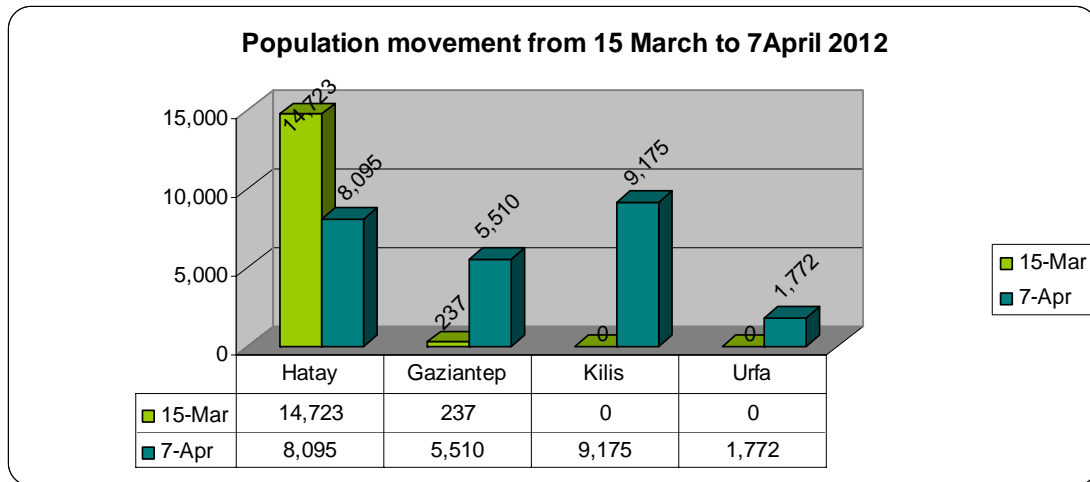
- ❖ Hatay population^{*}: 8,095 individuals
- ❖ Gaziantep population in İslahiye[†]: 5,510 individuals.
- ❖ Kilis population in Öncüpınar container site: 9,175 individuals
- ❖ Şanlıurfa population in Ceylanpınar: 1,772 individuals

Population movement from Hatay to Gaziantep (İslahiye Camp), Kilis (Öncüpınar Container site) and Şanlıurfa (Ceylanpınar), from March 15[‡] to April 7, 2012 is reflected below.

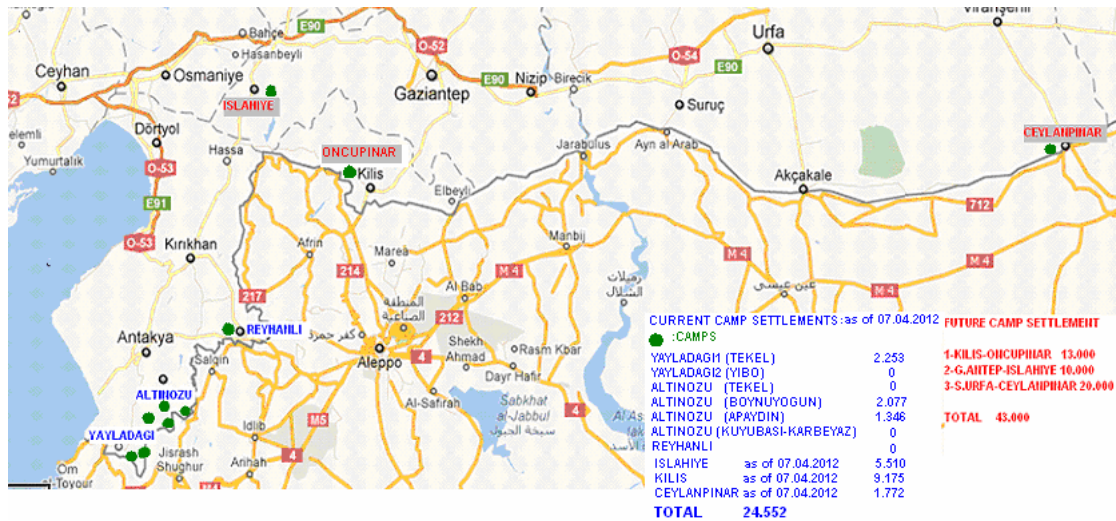
^{*} : The population of the Kuyubaşı/Karbeyaz, Yayladağı 2 (YİBO), Altınözü I (TEKEL) camps in Hatay is moved to İslahiye camp in Gaziantep and to Öncüpınar container site in Kilis. It has been reported that the empty camps will be kept for while as standby.

[†] : There are two locations in İslahiye; Nurdağı Sport Center and İslahiye tent city but population figure is for all.

[‡] 15 March is the date of first movement took place from Hatay.



Please find below the map of the region including current 10 camps in Hatay, Kilis, Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa as April 7, 2012.



1. Highlights:

- ❖ The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. António Guterres spoke with the Turkish Foreign Minister, Mr. Ahmet Davutoğlu today on phone. Situation of Syrians in Turkey and their needs were the issues reportedly discussed.
- ❖ The Turkish Prime Minister Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan reiterated today in an airport Press Conference before he departs for China for a four-day visit that, Turkey has been keeping its border open to Syrians approaching to Turkey and would continue to do so in the future. He also said that he invited Mr. Kofi Annan, the Special Envoy of UNSG on Syria, to come to the border to see the situation of the 'asylum seekers'.
- ❖ The increase in the arrivals were reported in the local papers **Özyurt**, **Şaşmaz**, **Zafer**, **Denge** and **Hatay Express** due to on going turmoil in Syria.
- ❖ It was reported in the local paper **Zafer** that newly arrived persons after having been registered directly transferred from Hatay to the newly established camp in Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa.

- ❖ It was reported in **Asya** and **Asi** that children in camps are taking Koran courses two days in a week. Bicycles were donated to the children in Boynuyoğun camp. (*Hatay team also has seen some children with bicycles*)

2. Meetings and contacts:

The Hatay Team visited Altınözü Boynuyoğun and Reyhanlı camps on 7 April.

a) Visit to Boynuyoğun Camp

- ❖ The camp is located in Altınözü province and few kilometers away from the border and 25 km to Antakya. The population of the camp is reduced due to the movement to Kilis and Gaziantep and it was reported that currently over 1,000 individuals assisted in the camp.
- ❖ A video regarding a view of the Kilis container site is shared with the team which was recorded by the persons who stay in this camp and it was reported that it is available in Youtube internet site called as *Kilis container city*.

b) Visit to Reyhanlı Camp

- ❖ The team also visited Reyhanlı camp located in Reyhanlı province and 40 km to Antakya and located close to border, approximately 200 meters away. Earlier, the whole population was transferred to the camps in Kilis and Islahiye and the camp was emptied. However, due to increase in the arrivals in these days, newly arrived persons are settled in this camp for temporary period. With the newly arrived of 650 persons on 6 April, the current camp population is around 1,000 persons. New comers has been hosted and assisted in this camp until they will be transferred to Ceylanpınar Camp in Şanlıurfa. Therefore this camp is currently considered as a transition camp.
- ❖ Shelter, food and medical assistance are provided in this camp.
- ❖ While the team had a walk in the camp, food distribution was on going.
- ❖ There were many journalist groups at the camp, having interviews with the persons as the restriction for journalists was lifted particularly for this camp.
- ❖ It has been reported that some newly arrived persons decided to return to their homeland instead of being transferred to Ceylanpınar camp in Şanlıurfa which is 550 km. away from Reyhanlı.

3. General media interest:

In parallel to the recent rapid increase in daily arrivals of Syrians to Turkey, as well as the statements by the most senior Turkish government officials on the subject, UNHCR Turkey has started to receive growing number of inquires from international and national media. The Representative gave two phone interviews today to Canadian CBC TV and to the Prime Hours news of the BBC World, while the PI provided interviews with Reuters, Hürriyet, Cumhuriyet, Haber Turk dailies as well as the official TRT Radio. Hürriyet daily published today UNHCR's remarks in the same story on Mr. Davutoğlu's telephone call to the UNSG.