

SYRIA REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey



31 August 2012

This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. The response is led by the UN Refugee Agency and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments, UN agencies, and NGO partners. This report covers the period from 25 to 31 August 2012. The next update will be issued on 7 September 2012.



Non-food items being distributed in Lebanon ©UNHCR/2012

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The overall registered Syrian refugee population in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey has now reached 228,976 persons, showing an increase of about 27,000 persons since last week.
- Turkey continues to see the largest refugee influx, with more than 80,000 people being officially registered in the country.
- In Jordan, an average of 1,400 Syrians have been arriving at the Za'atri camp per day over the past week, with the total number of registered Syrian refugees in the country now exceeding 70,000.
- On August 30, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr. Antonio Guterres, briefed the UN Security Council on the Syrian refugee situation during a Ministerial meeting on the humanitarian implications of the Syria crisis.

REFUGEE NUMBERS

Number of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN**	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTAL
Registered	46,111	41,949	13,989	80,410	182,459
Awaiting registration*	26,291	15,533	4,693	-	46,517
TOTAL	72,402	57,482	18,682	80,410	228,976

*Figures are based on estimates and thus may vary.

** According to the Government of Jordan, there are more than 150,000 Syrians in Jordan.

JORDAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration has increased by 11,400 persons since last week, bringing the total to **72,402**.
- An average of 1,400 Syrians have been arriving at the Za'atri camp per day over the past week, bringing the total number of those received in the camp to about 23,400.

Protection / Numbers

- New Arrivals: An average of 1,400 Syrians have been arriving at the Za'atri camp per day over the past week. Among the new arrivals are a large number of single men coming from Dara'a.
- Registration:
 - UNHCR has been able to increase the rate of registration at the Za'atri camp through the introduction of an emergency filing system. In total, 46,111 Syrian refugees have been registered with UNHCR, while another 26,291 are pending registration.
 - A total of 1,432 Iraqi refugees, formally registered in Syria, have so far moved to Jordan and have been re-registered there.
 - Meanwhile, according to local authorities, some 1,700 Syrians have voluntarily returned to their home country over the past six months, including 200 this week.
- Security: Following a security incident at the Za'atri camp, the Government is taking further measures to ensure the security of the camp population.
- Education: Government officials announced that the access of Syrian children to Jordanian schools is limited to those registered with UNHCR.



UNHCR introduced an emergency registration system at the Za'atri camp in Jordan ©UNHCR/2012

Assistance / Outreach

- Food: THW continues to construct kitchen facilities in the Za'atri camp, while the construction of food distribution points is ongoing. Meanwhile, WFP continues to deliver cooked meals, supplemented by bread packages distributed by the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization.
- Water and Sanitation:
 - UNICEF and partners, particularly ACTED, have improved the sanitary conditions at the Za'atri camp through increasing the number of toilets (permanent and mobile), showers, garbage containers and cleaning services throughout the camp.
 - The delivery of water to Za'atri camp has been affected by security and access challenges and has reduced from 740 m3 to 265 m3 during the reporting period.

LEBANON

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration now stands at **57,482**, showing an increase of some 6,427 since last week.
- As the security situation improved, UNHCR and partners resumed registration, distribution and monitoring activities.

Protection / Numbers

- Registration:
 - The total number of Syrian refugees registered has so far reached 41,949 across the country, while another 15,533 are awaiting registration.
 - The registration process resumed in Tripoli and central Bekaa, and will target Baalbak soon. However, some refugees still fear to come forward for registration especially in the North. Additional hotlines are being installed to best assist Syrians who wish to set up registration appointments.
- New Arrivals: UNHCR is witnessing an increase in the number of Syrian refugees arriving in the eastern Bekaa, with local charities and authorities reporting about 2,200 arrivals in the past week. Meanwhile, in the North, the inflow remains stable with some 400 people arriving each week, mainly coming from Homs (Tal-Kalakh, and Idlib).
- Security: UNHCR is monitoring the situation of refugees in the northern border area of Akkar, where security is still a big concern.



Syrian refugees are largely being hosted by the local community in Lebanon ©UNHCR/2012

Assistance / Outreach

- Shelter: Shelter remains a great concern in light of the on-going process of eviction from operational schools as the new school year is approaching. UNHCR, along with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Danish Refugee Council, and Action Contre la Faim continue their efforts to identify shelter alternatives, while “cash for rent” options are being offered to the most vulnerable families. UNHCR is also running a hotline for refugees who are coming under pressure to vacate, and has so far received 20 reports of refugees being pressured to leave. UNHCR is also waiting for the Government’s approval for the renovation of three abandoned schools found suitable for shelter.
- Health: Handicap International (HI) will start to assist refugees with mental health and disabilities. However, there remains a gap in central Bekaa where no partner is intervening in this area.
- Distribution: In Tripoli, UNHCR is searching for a new distribution center in an attempt to improve security for both refugees and aid workers.

IRAQ

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Syrian refugees has now reached **18,682**, with the arrival of 2,784 persons over the past week through the northern borders.

Protection / Numbers

- New Arrivals: There has been an increase in the number of new arrivals at the Kurdistan Regional Governorate as some 2,784 Syrians have crossed the borders during the week. This brings the total number of Syrians hosted in Kurdistan to 14,410. No Syrian refugee entry was reported elsewhere, while Al-Qaim border point remains closed.
- Registration: A total number of 13,989 Syrian refugees are now registered with UNHCR across the country, while another 4,693 are awaiting registration.
- Camp Population:
 - Domiz camp is now hosting 3,166 Syrian refugees, including 580 families (2,540 individuals) and 426 single male. Syrian refugees hosted by the local community continue to relocate to the camp as the local resources are becoming drained while the camp capacity and capability is increasing.
 - Al-Qaim camp is now hosting 2,090 Syrian refugees, while another 3,682 people are accommodated in local schools (1,735) and public buildings (1,947) in the city.
- Iraqi Returnees: The total number of Iraqi returnees has so far reached 31,459 including 5,997 returnees by air.
- Security: The Iraqi Security Forces are enhancing security for refugees and aid workers in both Al-Qaim and Domiz camps through the provision of extra police deployments and further security measures on site.



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Assistance / Outreach

- Shelter: Construction works are in progress to expand the capacity of Al-Qaim camp, while 38% of the extension of Domiz camp was completed during the reporting period.
- Water and Sanitation: In Al-Qaim camp, local authorities continue to provide water until the water system project, undertaken by UNICEF, is completed. In Domiz camp, the local Water Department has further increased the provided portable water quantity to reach 470,000 litres per day.
- Health: The Ministry of Health has provided the health unit at Al-Qaim camp with two ambulances in order to ensure a 24 hours service.

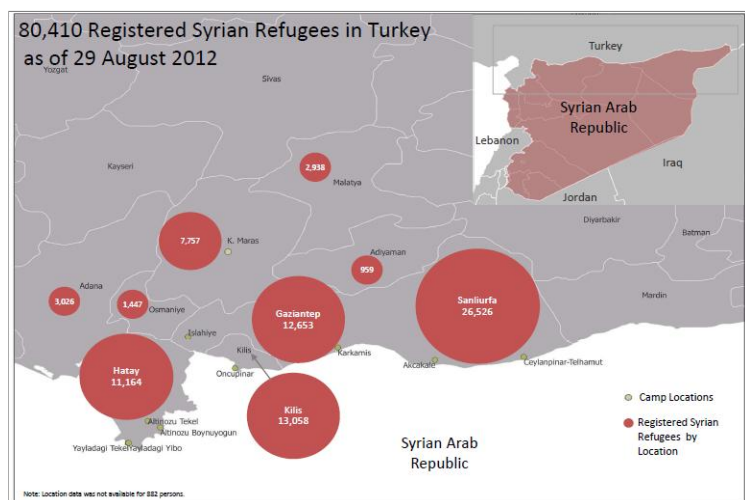
TURKEY

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the Turkish Government, the total number of registered Syrian refugees is now **80,410**, showing an increase of some 6,298 since last week. The overall trend of new arrivals has increased by 83% since the end of July.
- Two new camps were opened in Kahramanmaras and Gaziantep-Karkamis with a combined hosting capacity of 23,000 refugees.

Protection / Numbers

- **New Arrivals:** As of August 30, some 8,000 people were waiting to be admitted into the country according to the Turkish authorities. UNHCR was informed by local authorities that the border is not closed, but rather people are being admitted in smaller groups.
- **Registration:** As per Government statistics, a number of 80,410 Syrian refugees in Turkey are registered and assisted, however the registration process is becoming more challenging with the increase in the number of new arrivals.
- **Camp Population:** Syrian refugees are hosted and assisted in 11 camps in the border provinces of Hatay (11,164), Gaziantep (12,653 – including 3,492 in schools dormitories), Kilis (13,058 – including 785 in schools), Sanliurfa (26,526). This is in addition to those who are temporarily accommodated in boarding schools in Kahramanmaras (7,757), Adana (3,026), Osmaniye (1,447), Malatya (2,938) and Adiyaman(959).



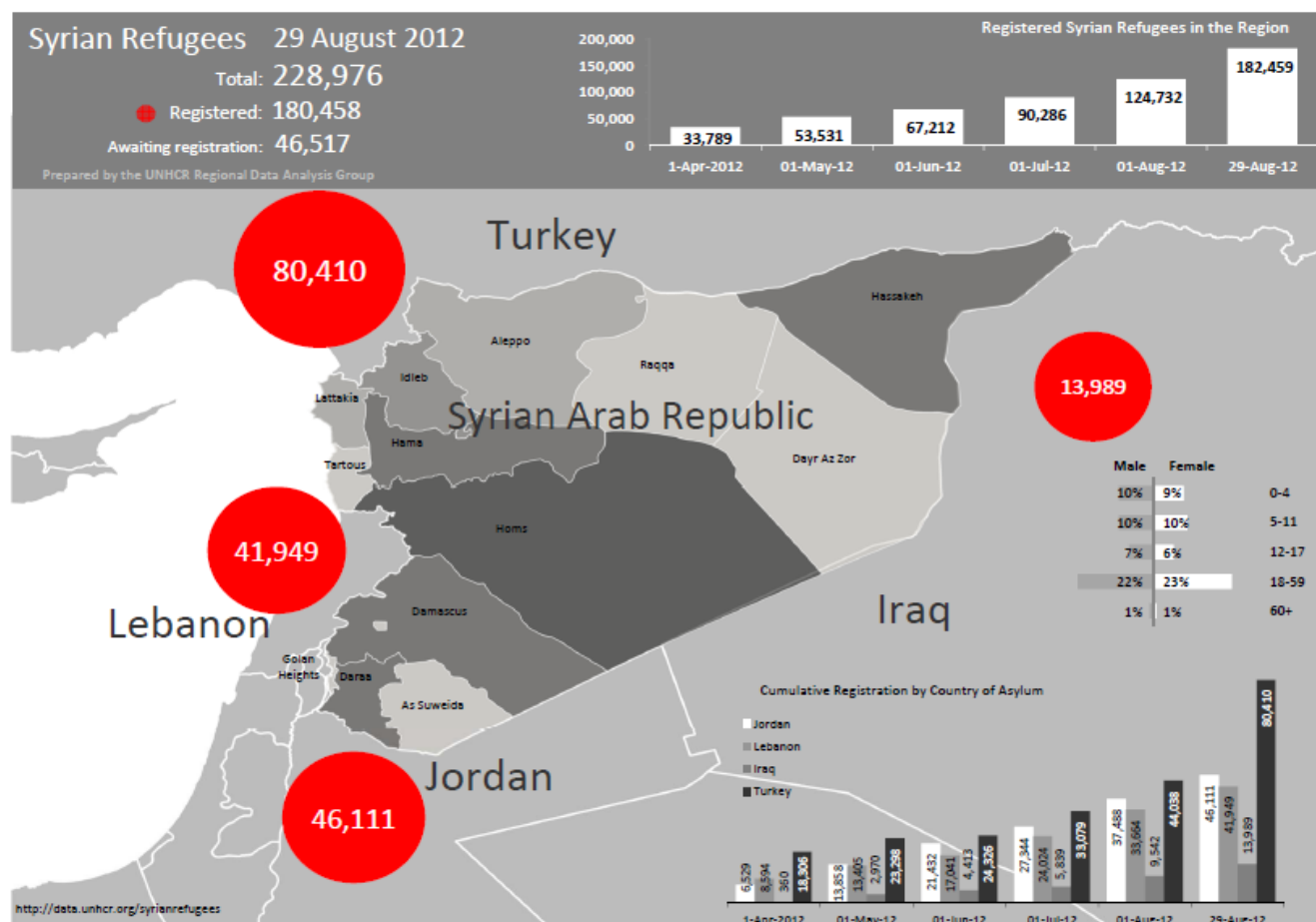
Assistance / Outreach

- **Shelter:** Two more refugee camps have been opened in the last week to cope with the increasing trend of new arrivals. Together, the new camps can host a total of 23,000 refugees. Another three camps, with the capacity to accommodate 10,000 refugees each, are expected to open in September. Those who are temporarily accommodated in schools will be transferred to those new camps.
- **Food Assistance:** WFP visited refugee sites in Kilis and Hatay and discussed with the local authorities the launch of the food-voucher assistance in support of the Turkish authorities.
- **Non-Food Assistance:** UNHCR is continuing to support the Government in hosting refugees by providing tents and other relief items. A UNHCR airlift carrying 600 tents arrived at Adana airport on August 28.

FUNDING UPDATE

- On 28 June the revised Regional Response Plan for Syrian refugees was launched by 7 UN agencies and 36 NGO partners, jointly appealing for USD 193 million to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. As of mid-August, the appeal has been funded for USD **104.7 million** or **54%** of the total needs. An updated funding overview will be issued next week.
- Since the number of Syrian refugees has already largely exceeded the end-of-the-year planning figure of the Regional Response Plan, another revision of the plan is foreseen to be issued by the end of September as increased humanitarian support for refugees will be needed over the coming months.

OVERVIEW MAP



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