

SYRIA REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey



7 September 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 1 to 7 September 2012. The next update will be issued on 14 September 2012.



Syrian refugees at Islahiye camp in Turkey ©UNHCR/2012

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The total registered Syrian refugee population in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, and Turkey has increased by about 17,000 during the first week of September, bringing the overall total to **246,267**.
- Following Turkey, Jordan is now hosting the largest refugee population with more than 81,000 Syrian refugees being officially registered in the country.
- The Regional Refugee Plan, which was revised and presented in June 2012 planning for 185,000 Syrian refugees till the end of the year, has been outdated due to the significant increase of newly arrived refugees. The regional refugee plan is currently being revised in close coordination with UN agencies and NGO partners with the view of presenting the revised plan in Geneva on 27 September 2012.

REFUGEE NUMBERS

Number of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN**	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTAL
Registered	48,314	46,177	19,903	78,431	192,825
Awaiting registration*	33,142	18,459	1,841	-	53,442
TOTAL	81,456	64,636	21,744	78,431	246,267

*Figures are based on estimates and thus may vary.

** According to the Government of Jordan, there are more than 200,000 Syrians in Jordan.

JORDAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- Jordan now hosts the largest number of registered Syrian refugees in the region with more than **81,000** being registered or awaiting registration in the country.
- The Government of Jordan granted access to Jordanian schools for all Syrian refugee children, regardless of whether they were registered with UNHCR or not.

Protection / Numbers

- New Arrivals:
 - The rate of new arrivals has been fluctuating during the reporting period between 26 and 1,598 arrivals per night. On the night of September 07, 243 Syrians crossed the borders into the country. Newly arrived refugees reportedly encountered many difficulties crossing the borders, with only limited access to escape routes.
 - There has been a significant increase in the number of male new arrivals, with a subsequent decrease in the ratio of women and children (55% males, 45% female, 37% children).
- Registration: A total of 48,314 Syrian refugees are now registered with UNHCR, while another 33,142 are awaiting registration (8,942 have registration appointments while 24,200 are pending registration at Za'atri camp).
- Camp Population: Za'atri camp has so far received 26,664 Syrian refugees, while many more continue to arrive on daily basis. The Jordanian Government is exploring the possibility of establishing new camps in an attempt to deal with the increase in the number of Syrian refugees.
- Education: The Government of Jordan decided to allow all Syrian refugee children to access Jordanian schools, while initially only granting school access to those registered with UNHCR.



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Assistance / Outreach

- Food: WFP expects to replace cooked meals provided with dry rations starting from the middle of September.
- Health: UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and Save the Children Jordan are undertaking a rapid nutrition assessment of children at Za'atri camp.
- Social Services: Six refugee committees representing the Za'atri camp population have now been established to contribute to the management of the camp. One of the refugee communities will run a mobile phone charging tent. The community tent, currently being set up by UNHCR, will help ensure that all refugees can keep in touch with relatives back home.

LEBANON

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon has now reached **64,636**, which marks an increase of 7,154 persons since last week.
- UNHCR is planning to open a new registration center in the south of Lebanon in response to the increase in the number of displaced Syrians who are settling in that area.

Protection / Numbers

- Registration:
 - A total of 46,177 Syrian refugees have so far been registered with UNHCR across Lebanon, while another 18,459 are yet to be registered. Of the registered population, 55% are in the North, 41% are in the Bekaa Valley, while smaller numbers are in Mount Lebanon, Beirut and the South. About 79% of Syrian refugees in Lebanon are women and children.
 - UNHCR is planning to open a new registration center in the south of Lebanon in response to an increase in the number of displaced Syrians who are settling in that area. A needs assessment is currently being completed and it is expected that at least 7,000 people will be registered in the south, mainly in Saida and surrounding villages.



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- Education: UNHCR and its partners have been on a 'back to school' drive in the recent weeks with the aim of providing information to refugees on how to enroll in schools. The campaign follows a decision by the Ministry of Education & Higher Education allowing Syrian children to enroll in Lebanese public schools. UNHCR, UNICEF, and SCI will support school registration fees and supplies. School bags and uniforms have been distributed to children already enrolled in Akkar and Tripoli in the north of the country.

Assistance / Outreach

- Shelter:
 - An estimated 180 Syrian families are occupying six operational schools that must be vacated before the new school year begins. Two identified unused schools in the East are now ready to receive some of those families evicted. UNHCR further started rehabilitating a school in Tekrit in the North on September 01, which should be ready to receive families in the course of this month. UNHCR is also offering cash-for-rent to vulnerable refugee families.
 - While the majority of displaced Syrians in Akkar and Wadi Khaled are living with Lebanese host families, many of the Lebanese border villages have already reached their maximum capacity, creating another challenge for shelter. UNHCR, DRC and NRC are looking for sustainable solutions to address the growing shelter needs.
- Health: UNHCR and its partner IMC began running mental health awareness sessions at the registration center in Tripoli to help refugees who are affected as a result of the on-going conflict in their home country.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq has now reached **21,744**, including 3,063 persons in the Kurdistan Regional Governorate over the past week.

Protection / Numbers

- New Arrivals: 3,063 Syrian refugees have arrived in Kurdistan Regional Governorate (KRG) during the past week, bringing the total number of Syrian refugees in KRG to 17,473. No Syrian refugee entry was reported at any other border crossing, while Al-Qaim border point remains closed.
- Registration: A total of 19,903 Syrian refugees are now registered with UNHCR across the country, while another 1,841 are waiting to be registered.
- Iraqi Returnees: Iraqi refugees continue to leave Syria back to Iraq. So far, 33,392 Iraqis have returned to their home country through various border points, including 5,997 who returned to their country by air. The majority of returnees identified Baghdad, Diyala and Al-Anbar as their final destinations, while few others identified Erbil and Duhok.
- Education:
 - In Al-Qaim, UNICEF, the Education Directorate and Emergency Cell are in the process of opening a school in the camp.
 - In Domiz camp, efforts are on-going to create more space in schools for Syrian refugee children, ahead of the new academic year which starts on September, 10.

Assistance / Outreach

- Water and Sanitation: In Al-Qaim camp, UNICEF has installed a permanent water system while local authorities continue to daily provide each of the tents with adequate water to be used for air coolers. In Domiz camp, water installations are in progress, including a deep well.
- Health: A total of 1,539 Syrian refugees living in Al-Qaim have been vaccinated against TB and HBC during a campaign launched by the Al-Qaim Health Directorate at the end of August.



A generator being installed in Al-Qaim camp ©UNHCR/2012

TURKEY

HIGHLIGHTS

- As per official Government figures, the number of registered Syrians in the country is **78,431** persons as of September 05, which marks a slight decrease in the trend of new arrivals.
- According to the Turkish authorities, there are about 10,200 Syrian refugees at the borders of Oncupinar/Kilis and Hatay/Reyhanli, waiting to be admitted in Turkey.
- A boat carrying Syrian, Iraqi, and Palestinian refugees sank off the western coast of Turkey near Izmir causing the death of many fleeing from Syria.

Protection / Numbers

- **New Arrivals:** According to the Turkish authorities, as of September 05, there are some 10,200 Syrian refugees waiting at the borders of Oncupinar/Kilis and Hatay/Reyhanli waiting to be admitted into the country. They are receiving food, water and medicine while waiting to be transferred to the camps once space is available and their registration process completed.
- **Registration:** So far, 78,431 Syrian refugees are registered and assisted as per Government statistics. 50% is below 18 years and 47% is female.
- **Camp Population:** Syrian refugees are being hosted and assisted in 11 camps in the border provinces of Hatay (11,156), Gaziantep (13,153), Kilis (12,461), Sanliurfa (26,865) and Kahramanmaras (7,791). In addition, many are temporarily accommodated in boarding schools in Kahramanmaras (5,816), Adana (2,178), Osmaniye (1,458), Malatya (2,885) and Adiyaman (971) until they are transferred to the new camps during the month of September. As of September 05, 13,308 persons (17%) of the official figure are still accommodated temporarily in the dormitories.
- **Education:** The Government of Turkey continues to provide education at pre-school, primary and secondary levels to Syrian refugee children and adolescents.



Yayladag camp in Turkey ©UNHCR/2012

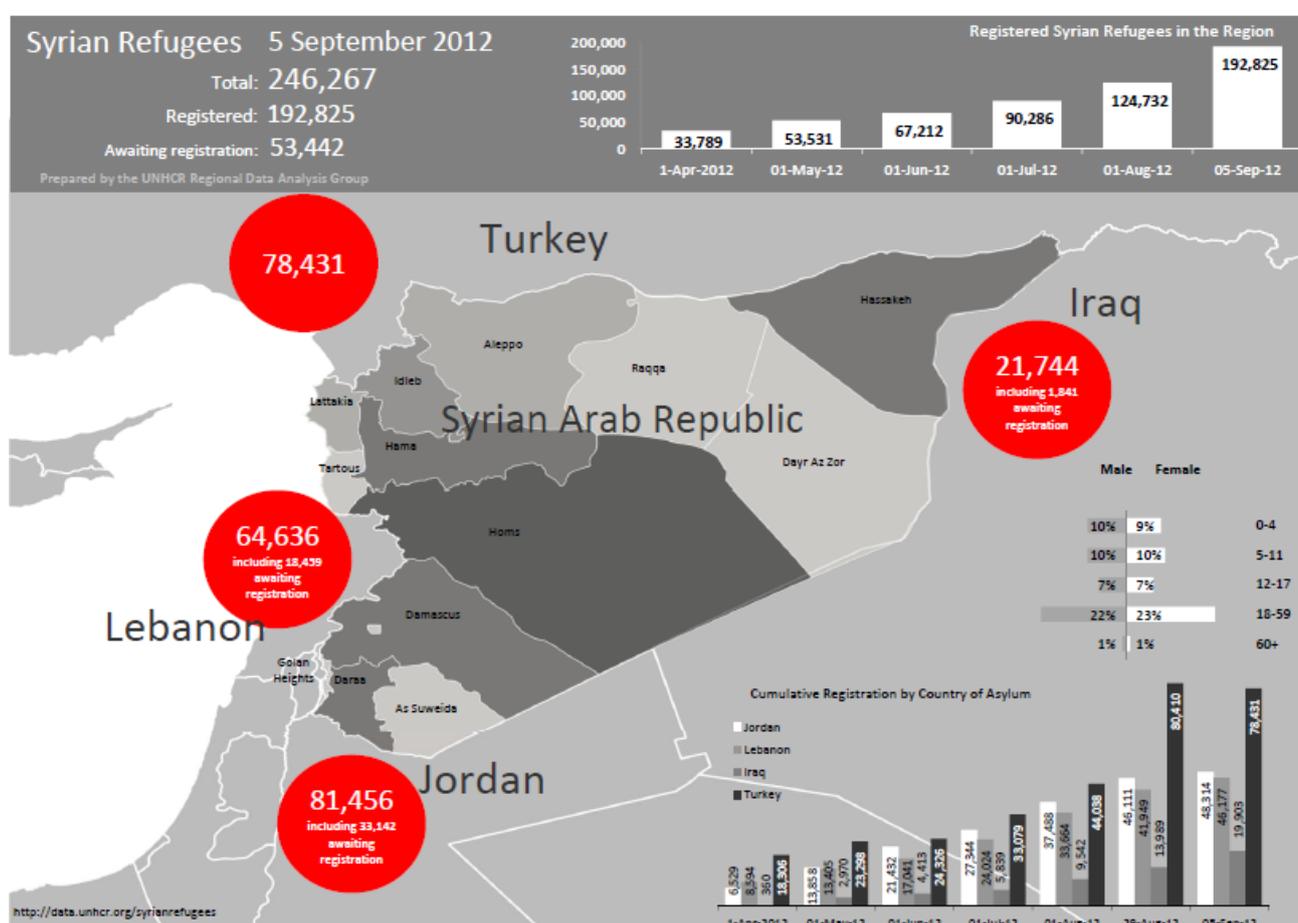
Assistance / Outreach

- **Shelter:**
 - While those who have been temporarily accommodated in schools are being relocated to the two new camps in Gaziantep-Karkamis and Kahramanmaras, those who are waiting across the border are also being admitted gradually and transferred to those camps. During the first five days of September, a number of 1,038 persons of the new arrivals were admitted and accommodated in the camps.
 - Following the opening of the two camps, establishment works continue on the three additional camps in Osmaniye, Gaziantep and Adiyaman, which are due to open on September 9, 10, and 20 respectively. When all camps are operational, Turkey will have a hosting capacity for 130,000 Syrian refugees.

FUNDING UPDATE

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OVERVIEW MAP



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