

GENERAL OVERVIEW

North Lebanon, which previously constituted one governorate with seven districts, has been effectively split into two governorates in 2014, following an earlier administrative decision. Tripoli and five surrounding districts maintained the denomination of North Governorate, while the district of Akkar became a governorate with the same name. While certain institutions and positions were divided (e.g. the post of the governor), others remain joint for the two governorates (e.g. the North Lebanon Water Establishments).

Tripoli Governorate is composed of six districts; Tripoli, El Koura, El Batroun, Bcharre, Zgharta, and El Minnieh-Dennie, which are commonly referred to as 'Tripoli +5 (T5)'. Tripoli is the capital of Tripoli Governorate and second largest city in the country.

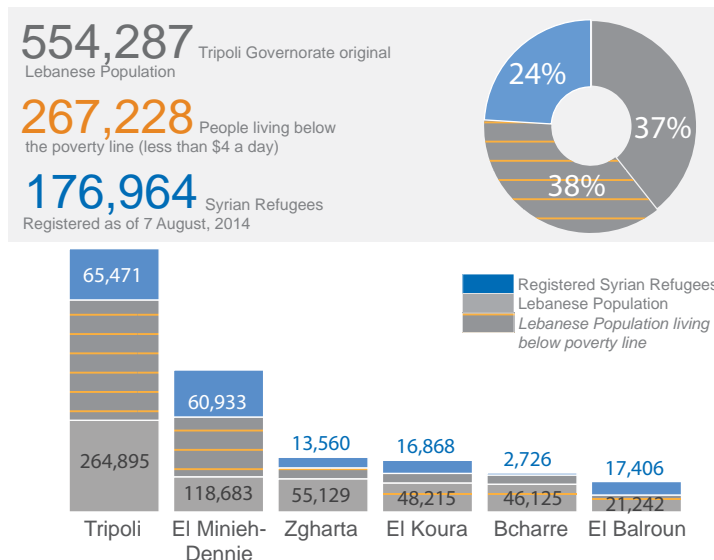


POPULATION OVERVIEW

Tripoli Governorate has a population of 554,287 Lebanese living in 117 municipalities. While Minnie Dennie district is mainly Sunni, Tripoli population is varied (Sunni, Alawite, Christian) whilst the other four districts are predominantly Christian.

The majority of Syrian refugees in Tripoli Governorate come from Homs, Idlib, Aleppo, and Hama. As of 7 August, there were 176,964 refugees registered in Tripoli Governorate. Syrian refugees are mainly settled in Bab al-Tibbaneh, Abou Samra and Mina areas of the Tripoli district and in Minnieh-Dennie district.

867 Lebanese households have returned from Syria to Tripoli Governorate and been registered by IOM and HRC. According to IOM's assessment, returnees in Tripoli Governorate have listed food as their priority need, followed by access to work, health, shelter and NFIs.



Palestine Refugees

There are two established Palestinian camps in Tripoli governorate. **Naher El Bared** camp was hosting 27,000 Palestine refugees before the crisis. **Beddawi** hosts more than 16,500 registered Palestine refugees.

8,500 Palestine refugees are living outside the camps. In addition 8,400 Palestine refugees from Syria are settled in Tripoli Governorate both in camps and in the villages with the host community.



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Syrian refugees are spread over 297 villages and live mainly in very challenging urban and semi-urban contexts. One of the main concerns is the growing number of informal settlements, currently over 100 as a result of the high cost of renting apartments and scarcity of accommodation options. At least 50 families have been evicted from their accommodations.

At the end of 2013, 43 community support projects had been completed and 14 planned for first half of 2014. Access to health is a challenge with only eight partner hospitals in the governorate and high costs of secondary health care. Local curfews have been imposed in some towns where the concentration of Syrian refugees has increased and arrests and detention for lack of valid permits have reportedly increased.

Security Situation

The conflict in Tripoli district is a recurring one between the residents of the two neighborhoods of Bab al-Tibbaneh and Jabal Mohsen divided along sectarian lines (Sunni and Alawite), as well as by their opposition to or support of the Syrian Government. Surrounding areas of Qobbeh, Mankoubin and Abou Samra are also involved. In May and June 2013, the conflict between the two communities grew in intensity following the capture of the Syrian town of Qusayr by GoS forces. The LAF was deployed to contain the conflict. However, intermittent clashes have continued since, resulting in the death of at least 115 people and injury of 827 people. In March 2014, renewed clashes resulted in the death of at least 30 people. The implementation of the LAF security plan in Tripoli since April has reduced the overall level of violence in the city, where humanitarian partners not face as many restrictions to enter as earlier in the year. To date, 146 of the 200 arrest warrants related to the previous round of clashes have been carried out across the North.

Humanitarian Intervention

