

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Governorates of Beirut (20 km²) and Mount Lebanon (1,984 km²) are the main urban areas of Lebanon. Mount Lebanon is divided into six districts: Baabda, Aley, Matn, Keserwan, Chouf and Jbeil.

Home of half of Lebanon's population, Beirut and Mount Lebanon make up the center of the country's most of social, economic, political and cultural activities. The majority of trade and industrial activities are also concentrated in the area. The governorates include 10 per cent of Lebanon's agricultural land.

Whilst the area gives off an initial image of being affluent, there is nevertheless poverty in especially the suburbs of Beirut. Ouzaii on the southern seaside (Baabda) and Nabhaa in Sin el Fil (Metn) are particularly marginalized.



POPULATION OVERVIEW

Beirut and Mount Lebanon have a population of almost two million, with greater Beirut being a melting pot with all religious confessions represented. Mount Lebanon is predominantly Christian, but with large pockets of Druze and other religious groups living in the southern and eastern parts of the Governorate.

Only 109 Lebanese returnees have registered with the High Relief Committee in Beirut, whilst just over one thousand are registered in Mount Lebanon. Their priority needs have been identified as being health and food.

The number of registered Syrian refugees in Beirut and Mount Lebanon has surpassed the 300,000 mark. UNHCR through its partner TDH provide transport to vulnerable refugees that live in remote areas to ease their access to the registration centre.

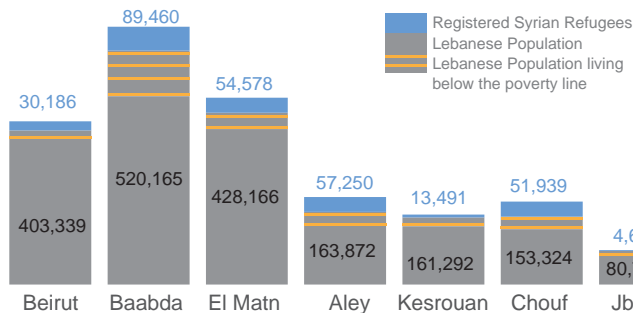
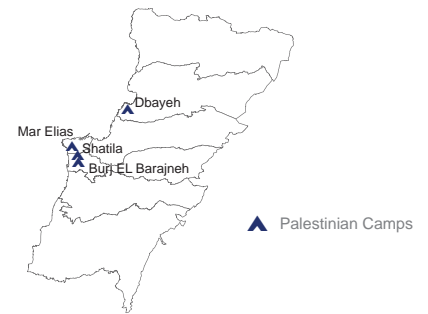
It is likely that a large number of refugees registered in other locations have made secondary movements to especially greater Beirut for job opportunities.



Palestine Refugees

There are four Palestinian camps in Beirut and Mount Lebanon: Shatila, Burj El Barajneh, Mar Elias and Dbayeh. Home of 59,000 Palestine Refugees, they also host migrants and refugees from other vulnerable communities, due to the relatively low cost of living in the camps. The camps also host 9,000 Palestine Refugees from Syria. Shatila and Burj El Barajneh are especially known for their damp and overcrowded shelters, narrow streets and low quality living conditions.

59,000 Palestine Refugees in Lebanon
9,500 Palestine Refugees from Syria



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

With only 16 Informal Settlements in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, the number of collective shelters, as a cheaper accommodation was recorded steadily growing in the area. The vast majority of refugees live in rented accommodation. The number living with host families have steadily decreased whilst that of those renting has increased, suggesting a saturation in both the availability and willingness of the local community to host refugees. Due to the expensive housing market in large parts of Beirut and Mount Lebanon, as well as the limited amount of available land, shelter is remains a big concern for humanitarian partners. With it comes challenges in terms of WASH, health and protection.

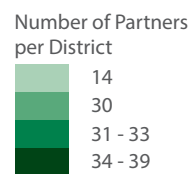
Security Situation

The security situation in Beirut deteriorated dramatically in the beginning of 2014 with the capital seeing several bombings and suicide attacks in the southern suburbs. Following a lull in security incidents the summer saw a series of raids, arrests but also bombings.

Due to the security situation some humanitarian activities have at times been suspended or decreased, with certain areas being deemed no-go or only allowing urgent and lifesaving programming.

In some areas, the communities or groups are putting in place and enforcing their own security measures. Curfews for Syrian refugees have been applied not only in the southern suburbs of Beirut, but also in the northern part of Mount Lebanon.

Humanitarian Intervention



	Education	WASH	Health	Protection	Shelter	Food	Other	Total *
Beirut	9	5	19	3	14	4	3	39
Baabda	14	4	12	5	17	3	5	35
El Matn	10	2	10	3	16	3	5	30
Aley	7	4	11	3	10	6	5	33
Kesrouan	4	1	4	2	5	5	3	14
Chouf	8	6	6	2	8	5	7	31
Jbayl	3	3	4		5	1	2	14

* Total number of organizations operating in each district

Social Cohesion Sector Livelihood Sector