



100% of Syrian Refugees (215,387) have access to health care

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than 30,000 refugees utilized available **primary, secondary and tertiary health care services** provided by the Directorate of Health (DoH) and NGO partners with the support of UN agencies. The overall health care utilization rate is stable, no outbreaks of communicable diseases occurred.
- A national mass polio vaccination was conducted during 5 days in September. A total of **5.69 Million children under 5 were reached**, representing 98.5% of the targeted children .
- Despite the constrained security situation, **health services continue to be provided by UNHCRs partner United Iraqi Medical Society for relief and development (UIMS)** in Al-Qaim camp, Anbar province.
- Shortages in essential drugs have become an increasing concern in urban health facilities since supply routes from Baghdad are disrupted. UN, international organizations and NGOs delivered essential medicines to the three Directorates of Health to overcome shortages.
- IMC and PU-AMI expanded activities to cover Syrian refugees living in impacted communities in Erbil and Dohuk governorate. The projects will focus on linking Syrian refugees to governmental PHCs through information campaigns to address current knowledge gaps on service availability and enhance health knowledge through behaviour change communication.



SYRIAN REFUGEE POPULATION IN IRAQ:



NEEDS ANALYSIS:

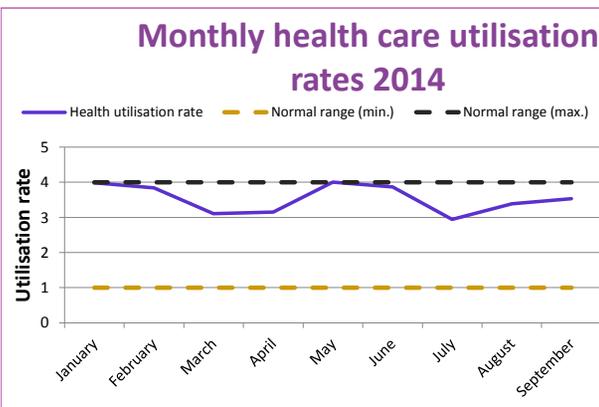
The primary objectives in the health sector response to the Syrian refugee crisis in Iraq are: ① the provision of comprehensive primary health care services, ensuring adequate nutrition care. ② maintaining access to essential secondary and tertiary health care for all refugees.

Access to comprehensive primary health care services including maternal and child health has improved, however, it remains constrained for specialized services including among others mental health, chronic diseases management and secondary/tertiary health care. The continued support for health care services provided by the Ministry of Health and humanitarian actors is a key priority to prevent excess morbidity and mortality among the displaced Syrian populations.

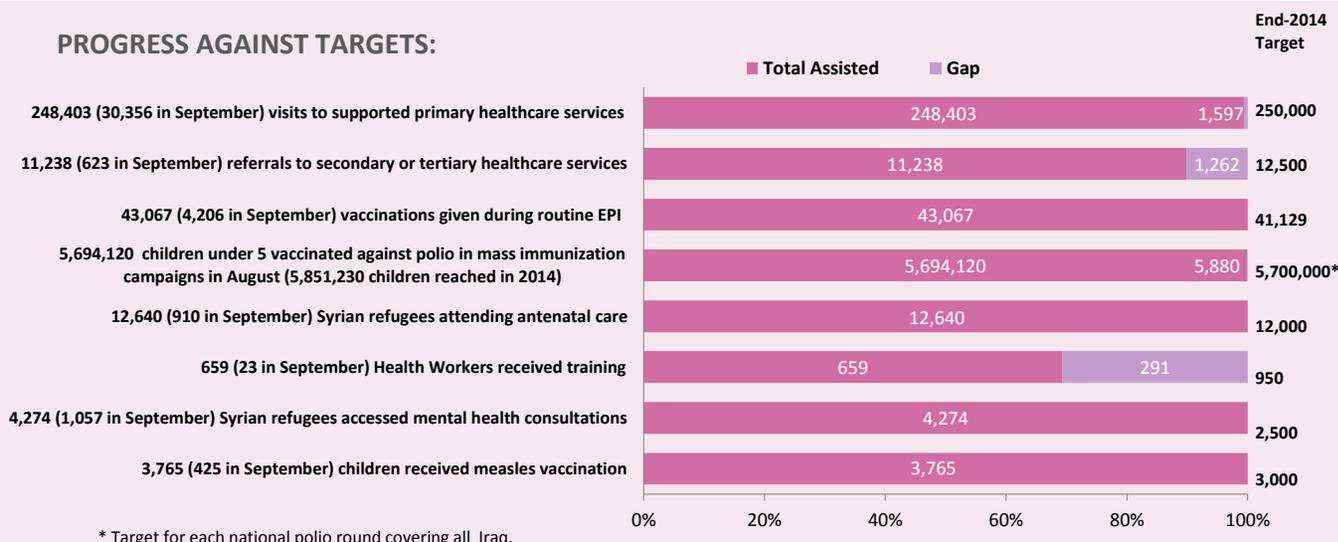
Control of communicable diseases remains another key priority and needs to be strengthened further. After the confirmation of the first Polio cases in Iraq since 2000, **national and subnational polio immunization campaigns** will need to be conducted throughout the year to contain the spread of the virus

Stretched hygiene and sanitation services in refugee camps result in the risk of outbreaks of cholera, dysentery and other WASH-related infectious diseases. Outbreak preparedness plans are under preparation, emergency stocks need to be established to ensure swift response.

Access to health care services for non-camp populations needs to be further strengthened. Preliminary results of the MSNA indicates that **20% of the non-camp population encounter difficulties in accessing health services**. Key obstacles include costs for health services and medicines as well as perceived availability of relevant services.



PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS:



* Target for each national polio round covering all Iraq.

Targets based on expected population of 250,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq by end-2014. There are currently 215,387 refugees in Iraq.