



Zaatari refugee camp in September 2015.
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HIGHLIGHTS

2nd

Highest per capita
refugee rate in the world

520,127

Syrians registered with
UNHCR living in urban areas

108,740

Syrians living in refugee
camps in Jordan

86%

Of Syrians registered with
UNHCR living below the
poverty line

Population of concern

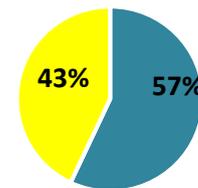
A total of **686,594** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total
Syria	628,867
Iraq	50,340
Sudan	3,473
Other persons of concern	3,914
Total	686,594

Funding

USD 329 million requested



■ Gap ■ Funded

UNHCR Presence

Staff: 617

509 national staff

108 international staff

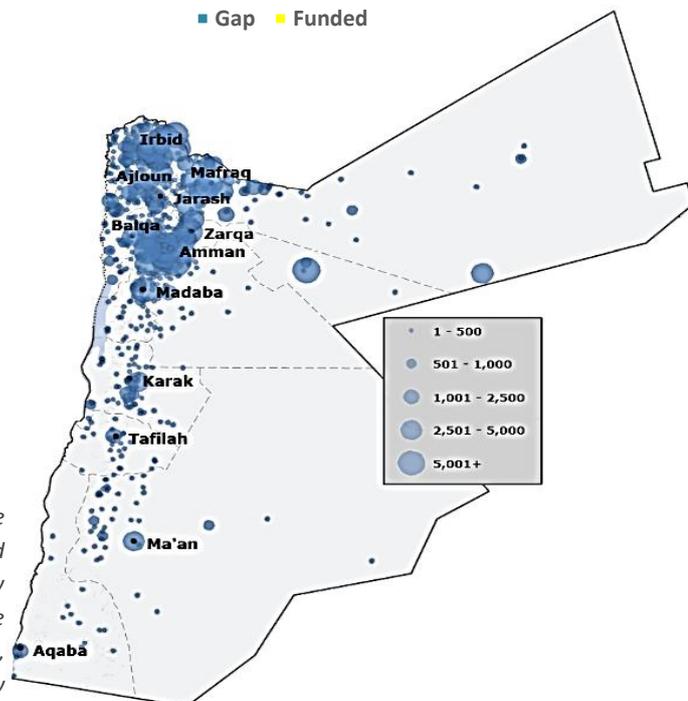
Offices:

4 offices:

Representation in Amman, field offices in Azraq camp and Irbid and a sub-office in Mafraq.

Context

The number of refugees returning to Syria from Jordan more than doubled in August with 3,853 returns recorded compared to 1,934 at the end of July. The rise partially reflects the increasingly difficult living conditions that are compelling many to choose the dangerous option of return, or for those with the resources - a life beyond the region. Key "push" factors include the cumulative impact of living four years in exile; the recent withdrawal of free access to life-essential services, like health care, and cuts to precious food assistance due to funding shortfalls.



Map showing the dispersal of Syrians in Jordan. ©UNHCR

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR coordinates the refugee response under the leadership of the Government of Jordan, and through the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF), in a collaborative effort between the donor community, UN agencies, international and national NGOs, community-based organizations, refugees and host communities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- UNHCR supports the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate (SRAD) in the management and coordination of Zaatari (pop. **79,709**) and Azraq (pop. **22,643**) refugee camps. UNHCR's role is to ensure that aid is provided in accordance with international humanitarian standards and protection principles, and to maximize the efficiency of funding provided for the refugee response by identifying gaps and targeting assistance.

Cash Assistance

- So far in 2015, **US\$ 29.6 million** has been delivered in cash assistance to over **22,500** Syrian refugee families living in urban areas. The delivery mechanism is based on an innovative biometric system using the iris recognition of beneficiaries at iris equipped ATM machines. For budgetary reasons, not all the eligible families can be assisted. The waiting list comprises of **9,601** Syrian families.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- At the end of August, **23** Community Support Committees (CSCs) were active throughout Jordan – **15** for Syrians, **6** for Iraqis and **1** each for Somali and Sudanese communities. CSCs are important community-based outreach mechanisms mandated to listen to and meet the needs and aspirations of refugees in Jordan.

Food Security and Nutrition

- On 31 July the World Food Programme announced that **229,000** refugees classified as “highly vulnerable” would no longer receive food assistance from September to reflect international funding shortfalls in Jordan. Food assistance for another **211,000** refugees identified as “severely vulnerable” will cease at the end of November.

Health

- In mid-August the Ministry of Health announced the withdrawal of subsidized health care access for Iraqi refugees at the primary level due to funding deficits. Iraqi refugees are now having to pay the same rate as foreigners at the primary level whilst non-refugee Iraqi citizens residing in Jordan are asked to pay the rate applicable to non-insured Jordanians.
- UNHCR healthcare activities during August included the provision of primary health care services with **23,587** total consultations including **1,137** clinical mental health care consultations and provision of secondary and tertiary lifesaving health services through referrals program with **2,602** referrals in the Zaatari and Azraq refugee camps and in urban settings.

Shelter and Core Relief Items

- UNHCR provides shelter support in its capacity as the sector lead to refugees living in camp and non-camp settings. A total of **35,867** shelters have been provided in the Azraq and Zaatari camps since they opened. In coordination with sector partners, UNHCR also intervenes in non-camp areas, including upgrading of sub-standard housing units among other activities.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Jordan operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

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