

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

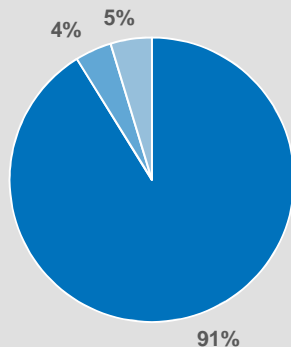
- UNHCR Jordan conducted an intention survey, through telephone interviews, among Syrian refugees in Jordan on 20 and 21 July 2018 to obtain an understanding of their intentions and perceptions regarding returns to Syria. This was a follow-up survey to the full-fledged intention survey carried out in March 2018 and focused on the same sample in order to see changes in views, perceptions and intentions in light of the situational changes in Syria.
- Out of the total 2,142 calls completed, 1,602 respondents (75%) were available and willing to participate in the interview, making up the sample for the overall analysis.
- 10 per cent of respondents live in a camp, while the remaining live in urban areas. 37 per cent of respondents were female, 63 per cent were male. Overall, 82 per cent of respondents said they have family members in Syria. Female-headed households (13%) were included in the survey, as well as respondents who participated in the October 2017 survey (12%).

RETURN INTENTIONS

- Five per cent expressed intentions to return to Syria in the coming year (12 months). 91 per cent said they had no such intentions, while five per cent were undecided, or did not know.
- In comparison to March 2018, the group with return intentions decreased by one per cent, while the group with no return intentions increased by five per cent. The group of the undecided also shrunk by four per cent.
- Interestingly, men are slightly more inclined to return than women, with five and four per cent respectively, while 92 per cent of females and 91 per cent of males said to have no return intentions. Among female headed households, 92 per cent expressed no return intention, while five per cent have such an intention and three per cent was undecided.
- Having family in Syria has been an important factor shaping return intentions. In this follow-up survey, among those 18 per cent with no family back in Syria, 92 per cent have no return intentions, while three per cent do and four per cent remains undecided.
- Those 95 per cent who said they had no intention to return to Syria in the coming year and those who were undecided, were asked an emotional question as to whether they hope to return to Syria one day, with 63 per cent expressing such a hope.

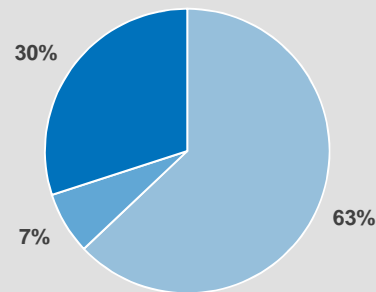
Do you plan to return to Syria in the next 12 months?

■ No ■ I don't know/ I am undecided ■ Yes

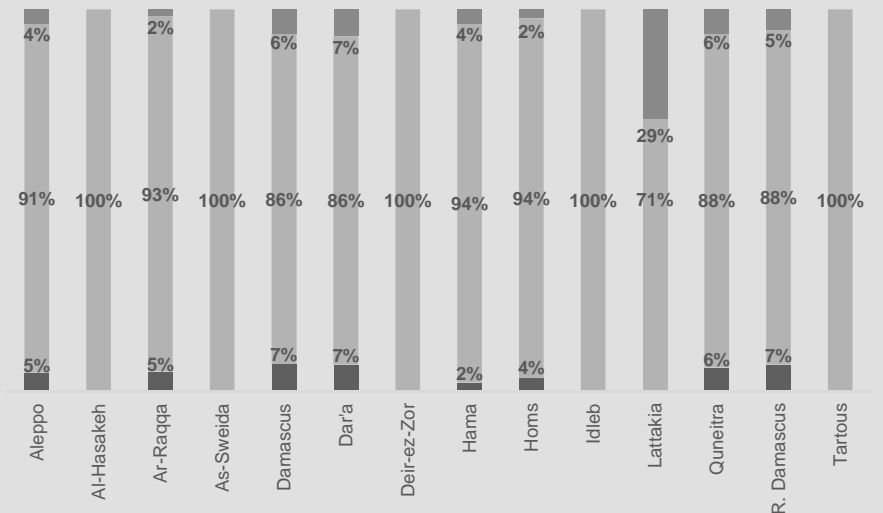
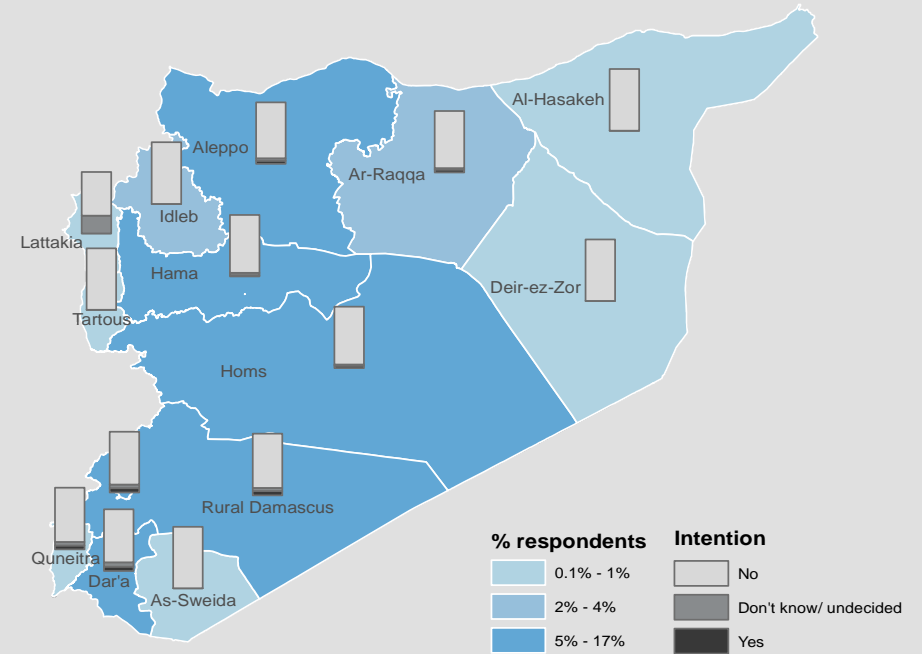


Do you hope to go back to Syria one day?

■ Yes ■ I don't know ■ No



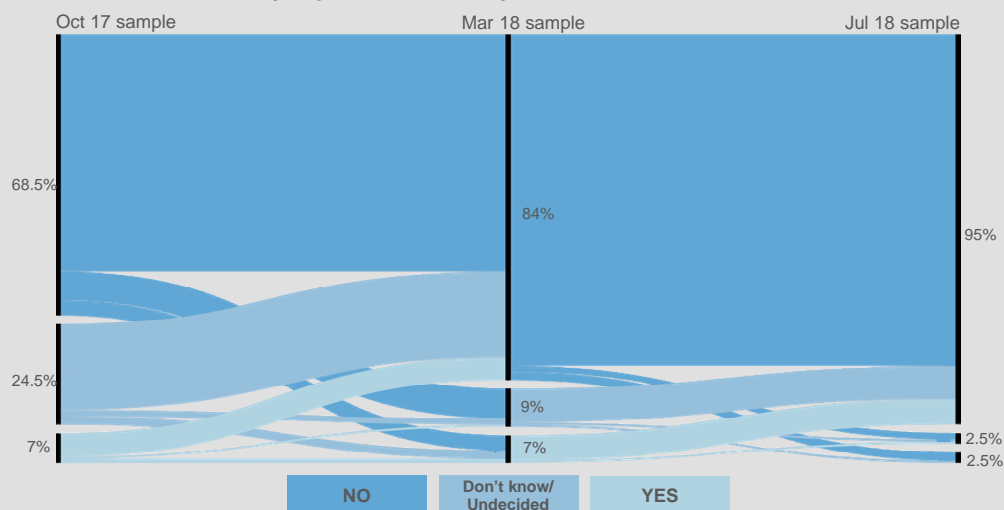
Respondents' Governorate of origin in Syria and return intentions



INTENTIONS OVER TIME: OCT 2017 - MAR 2018 - JUL 2018

- An intention survey is a snapshot in time. It is valid for the particular time and circumstances prevailing in the country of asylum and origin at the time of the interviews, i.e. July 2018. Possibilities to draw trends from previous surveys are therefore limited.
- Across the past four intention surveys, the group with return intentions consistently was the smallest within the range of three to eight per cent, while the group with no return intention was the largest group throughout ranging from 73 to 91 per cent.
- In comparison, the reluctance to return to Syria is highest in July 2018 and was lowest in October 2017.

Do you plan to return to Syria in the next 12 months?



CATEGORY 1: NO INTENTION TO RETURN

- Overall, the largest category among respondents, **91 per cent**, said they had no intention to return.
- The three main reasons for not intending to return to Syria remained the same as in March; (1) lack of safety and security, ongoing conflict and fear of conflict resumption; (2) lack of adequate housing and concerns related to housing and property; and (3) lack of livelihood and work opportunities. These are also the same top three reasons inhibiting return as in October 2017.

Top 3 obstacles to return



CATEGORY 2: UNDECIDED

- 4 per cent** were undecided as to whether or not to return to Syria in the next 12 months.
- When prompted about the main factors that would help return-related decision making, respondents quoted; (1) an improved security situation; (2) confidence to have access to basic services; (3) confidence about having livelihood opportunities; (4) having access to one's own or alternative housing; and (5) progress made in finding a political solution to the conflict.

CATEGORY 3: RETURN INTENTIONS

- 5 per cent** said they had intentions to return to Syria in the coming year.
- 82 per cent plan to return with their family, while four per cent intend to return as a partial family, and 13 per cent plan to return by themselves.
- The vast majority of respondents with return intentions plan to return to their place or origin (88%).
- All of those with a return intention said this was because their respective families had finally decided to return (100%). This is a change from March.
- As in March, other main reasons as to why refugees said they intend to return to Syria is improved security situation (76%). Family reunification is cited as the second most important reason for having a return intention (49%). Family reunification and improved security are also the main reasons for return throughout 2016, 2017 and 2018 to date, albeit in opposite order.

Why do you intend to return to Syria? (top 3)



Remaining fears and concerns

- 77 per cent of refugees who have an intention to return in the coming year continue to have fears about returning.
- By far, the main fear relates to the security situation (64%); this remains the same as in March. This is followed by fears related to lack of basic services (31%) and work and livelihood opportunities (25%).

What are your three main concerns/ fears about returning? (top 3)



Information needs

- Despite their intention to return to Syria in the coming year, 47 per cent of the respondents said they do not have sufficient information on their respective area of return, while 45 per cent were confident they had enough information, and eight per cent were not sure. Those 55 per cent who do not have enough information or were not sure, gave priority to additional information on the prevailing security situation in the intended area of return (37%).