

# FACTSHEET

CARE Jordan – 8 Years Into Exile – Urban Syrian refugees, non-Syrian refugees, and vulnerable host communities  
Survey results in brief | August 2018



## CARE'S CASE ASSESSMENT DATA

**1,510** Syrian urban refugees, **271** Iraqi refugees in Amman and Zarqa, and **388** vulnerable Jordanians were surveyed in Amman, Irbid, Mafrq, Zarqa, and Azraq Town in Jordan



## INTERVIEWS & FOCUS GROUPS

Different age/sex/nationalities



**key informant interviews & 30 focus group discussions**

CARE's 2018 assessment assesses primary needs among refugees and their hosts in Jordan in the sectors of protection, gender and age, refugee durable solutions, sustainable livelihoods, and education



Funded by European Union  
Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid

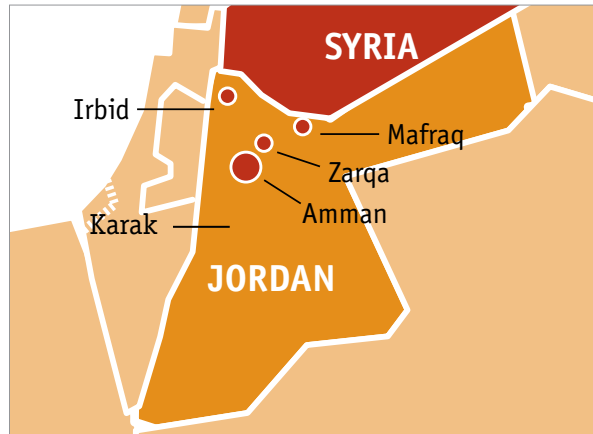


German humanitarian assistance  
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE



Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs

Canada



## MAIN STUDY TRENDS

- **Syrian refugees still face challenges** in obtaining civil documentation, accessing assistance, and finding cash, medical, and food assistance, and adequate housing.
- **Gender roles within Syrian, Jordanian, and Iraqi families are changing.** Women hold roles more traditionally held by men but also face increased domestic violence.
- **Relations between refugees and host communities have improved.**
- Syrian refugee children face education obstacles due to double shifts, harassment, and lack of cash.
- Syrian refugees, while wishing to return home, **increasingly show signs of resettling in Jordan.**

## HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Household survey of Syrian families



**5.6** Average household size

**29%** Female headed households



**9%** working women  
**46%** working men



**+1/2**

Of unregistered with UNHCR not registered because unaware of procedures



**14%** of girls

**11%** of boys married before age 18\*  
\*still under 18 at survey

**33%** missing civil documentation



**1/2**

reported reduced access to assistance



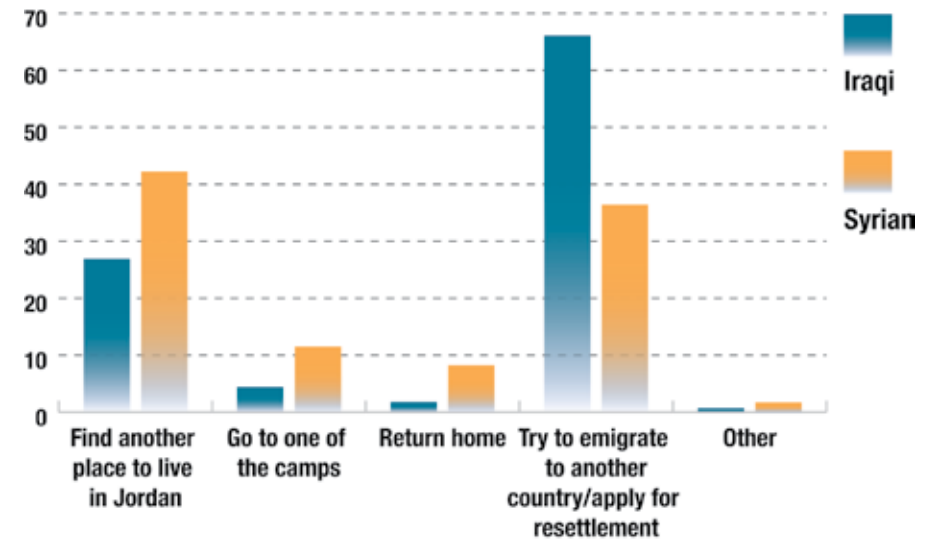
**Nearly 30%**

of school-age children not in school

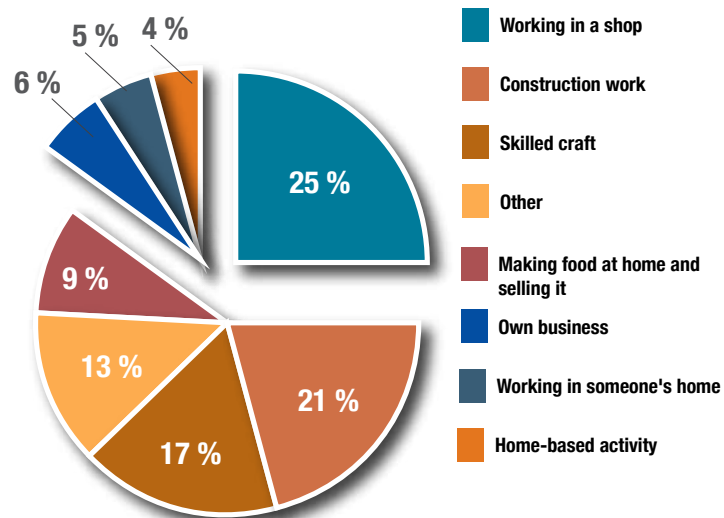
## REFUGEES REPORTING ALWAYS OR SOMETIMES FEELING PSYCHOSOCIAL DISTRESS IN LAST THREE MONTHS

INDICATOR	AFRAID TO THE POINT THAT NOTHING COULD CALM YOU DOWN	UNINTERESTED TO THE POINT WHERE YOU DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING AT ALL	HOPELESS TO THE POINT WHERE YOU DO NOT WANT TO KEEP LIVING	UNABLE TO CARRY OUT ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES FOR DAILY LIFE
SYRIAN	44.6%	52.1%	58.4%	63.0%
IRAQI	50.9%	57.9%	62.7%	66.1%
JORDANIAN	39.9%	49.2%	53.4%	55.2%

## REFUGEE PREFERRED OPTIONS IF SITUATION BECOMES TOO DIFFICULT WHERE THEY ARE



## SYRIAN REFUGEES REPORT THE TYPE OF WORK THEY SEEK



## SYRIAN REFUGEE PREFERRED OPTIONS IF SITUATION BECOMES TOO DIFFICULT WHERE THEY ARE 2016 - 2018

YEAR	2016	2017	2018
FIND ANOTHER PLACE TO LIVE IN JORDAN	35.0%	47.0%	42.2%
GO TO ONE OF THE CAMPS	12.6%	11.3%	11.5%
RETURN TO SYRIA	22.1%	14.2%	8.2%
TRY TO EMIGRATE TO ANOTHER COUNTRY/APPLY FOR RESETTLEMENT	30.3%	27.1%	36.4%
OTHER	-	0.4%	1.7%



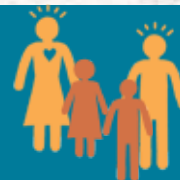
# SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS



## KEY FINDINGS

- **70.1%** of Syrian refugee household income came from work over the previous month, **53.6%** from formal work and **16.6%** from informal work.
- **5.9%** of Syrian household income came from humanitarian assistance instead of work - a sharp decline from **39.6% in 2017** and **32.6% in 2016**.
- Female Syrian refugees reported relying on humanitarian assistance to close the income-expenditure gap at a higher rate than male Syrian refugees (**50.8%** compared to **38.1%**).
- About **90%** of Syrian refugees, **76%** of Jordanian citizens, and **64.2%** of Iraqi families reported being in debt.
- Over half of Syrian refugee men report looking for a job (**55.3%**), in comparison to **34.5%** of Syrian refugee women.
- Only **15.9%** of all Iraqi refugee households reported that a member of their family was working.
- **24.3%** of Syrian refugees (none of them female-headed households) and **1.8%** of Iraqi refugees have work permits.
- **17%** of Jordanian households reported that elderly family members contribute to their household income.
- Syrians without work permits mainly cite the complicated procedure and needing external help, including a sponsor, money and a job.

# CONCLUSIONS



- Though both Syrian and Iraqi refugees report higher levels of formal documentation than among Jordanians, multiple **protection** gaps persist.
- **Gender** roles within Syrian, Jordanian, and Iraqi families are changing, impacting the entire family. Children and male youth are facing increased pressure to contribute to household income, which disrupts their education.
- Family separation continues to negatively impact Syrian refugee families. Intentions to resettle and emigrate, possible **durable solutions**, have increased since last year, while 18.8% of Syrian refugee families report planning to return to Syria.
- Syrian refugees are increasingly maintaining **livelihoods** with work, while their expenditures have decreased since 2017. Jordanians carry high rates of debt, while Iraqi refugees have low rates of formal employment.
- Poor access to **education** continues to form a protection gap about Syrian refugee children.

# ELDERLY



## KEY FINDINGS

- Only **4.5%** of Syrian refugee households reported that their elderly members receive services.
- Half of the time of the elderly is spent praying or in religious activities. Women over 60 are more likely to do housework or childcare, however, while their male peers are more likely to be praying.

# EDUCATION



## KEY FINDINGS

- Only **53.9%** of Syrian refugee respondents reported that all children below the age of 18 were attending school. **85%** of Jordanian children and **80.1%** of Iraqi children were in school.
- The main reason for their children not attending school was financial, said Syrian and Iraqi refugees.
- Only **28%** of Syrian refugee respondents reported that youth between the ages of 15 to 24 were attending school or university. **58%** of Jordanian youth are attending classes, as are **73.7%** of Iraqi youth.



Credit: Nancy Farese/CARE



# WOMEN & GIRLS

## KEY FINDINGS

- Only **1/3** of Syrian women of child-bearing age reported having access to family planning or reproductive healthcare, **1/4** of which have used them.
- Only **13.8%** of Syrian households with pregnant women in their family reported that they have access to prenatal healthcare, with only **10%** reporting they have used these services.
- **13.6%** of Syrian households had a female child that married before the age of 18, while **14.6%** of Syrian adults had been married before the age of 18
- Syrian girls are disproportionately affected by the double-shift school system that has been adopted by the majority of Jordanian primary schools, due to harassment when walking home.



Credit: Sara Rashdan/CARE

# PSYCHOSOCIAL

## KEY FINDINGS

- In nearly every instance, over **50%** of Syrian and Iraqi refugees reported feeling uncontrollable fear, lack of interest, hopelessness and not wanting to live, and an inability to carry out essential daily activities.
- **38%** of Syrian refugee families reported that they are separated from family members, primarily from extended family members and spouses, causing feelings of desperation about the future
- Syrian respondents left Syria due to violence and bombardment (**77.6%**), destruction of their home (**7.5%**), fear for the safety of women, girls, and boys (**6.2%**), and fear of arrest (**4.9%**).
- Half of Syrian urban refugee respondents reported coping by turning to religion, while others talk to others (**19.9%**), walk and spend time alone (**12.1%**), smoke (**5.5%**), and play sports (**1.5%**). Iraqi refugees' coping mechanisms followed a similar pattern, except more talked to others (**27.3%**) and walked and spent time alone (**15.1%**).
- Domestic violence towards women and children has increased due to psychosocial stress, according to data.
- Relations between refugees and host communities have improved overall, with most refugee respondents reporting no problems between the two communities, which is confirmed by host community members.



# DURABLE SOLUTIONS

## KEY FINDINGS

- Only **18.8%** of refugees stated that they would like to return to Syria permanently at the present time, rather than stay in Jordan or emigrate.
- **84%** of Syrian refugees said that they hope to return home "some day." About **30%** of Iraqi refugees in Jordan said they hope to return in the future.
- **38%** of surveyed Syrian refugee families reported that they were separated from family members, while over half (**53.5%**) of Iraqis were separated from family. A number of Syrian women said that their husbands had left them to return to Jordan's refugee camps.
- **31.7%** of Syrians returned to Syria permanently in 2018 compared with **4.7%** in 2017
- Four in ten Syrian refugees reported that their situation since arriving in Jordan had deteriorated, an increase from last year.
- Syrian refugees respondents reported that would return to Syria if they could reunite with family (**39.4%**), if the security situation in Syria were to improve (**39.4%**), if there is more availability of housing in Syria (**19.1%**), and if there is better work opportunities (**2.1%**).

