

Update No. 7

Syria Regional Refugee Response

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey

31 May 2012



This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and its partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. The response is led by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments. This report covers the period from 24 to 31 May 2012. The next update will be issued on Thursday, 07 June 2012.



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HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of assisted Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey has reached 78,137 persons this week. This marks an increase of 4,822 persons from the previous week. The total number of Syrian refugees registered in these countries currently stands at 67,212 persons.
- UNHCR has continued to strengthen and streamline registration procedures to bring registration in line with the actual situation, which will result in better protection and assistance services for Syrian refugees in the region.
- On 23rd May an inter-agency regional coordination meeting took place in Beirut on the current response, contingency planning and revision of the Syria Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP). Actors agreed to present the RRP on 28th June in Geneva and the revised needs for the operation till the end of 2012.
- The number of refugees hosted in the three transit sites in the Al-Ramtha Sub-Governorate, Jordan, has steadily increased during the reporting period, despite continued bailing out. Newly arrived Syrians are often bailed out after a few days by Jordanians.
- A food sub-working group meeting took place in Domiz camp in Iraq last week, attended by UNHCR, WFP, the Department of Displacement and Migration (DDM) and Qandil NGO.
- Improved registration verification exercise procedures in the Oncupinar Container site have resulted in higher numbers of Syrian refugees to be registered by the Government of Turkey over the past week.

II. JORDAN

Highlights

- The total number of Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR stands at 21,432. They are primarily located in the cities of Amman, Ramtha, Mafraq, Irbid, Zarqa and Ma'an.
- An additional 2,500 persons are awaiting registration and some 30,000 have been identified by local organisations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNHCR.
- UNHCR has registered on average 315 individuals per day in Amman and 138 on average per day in Ramtha during the week.



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Protection/Numbers

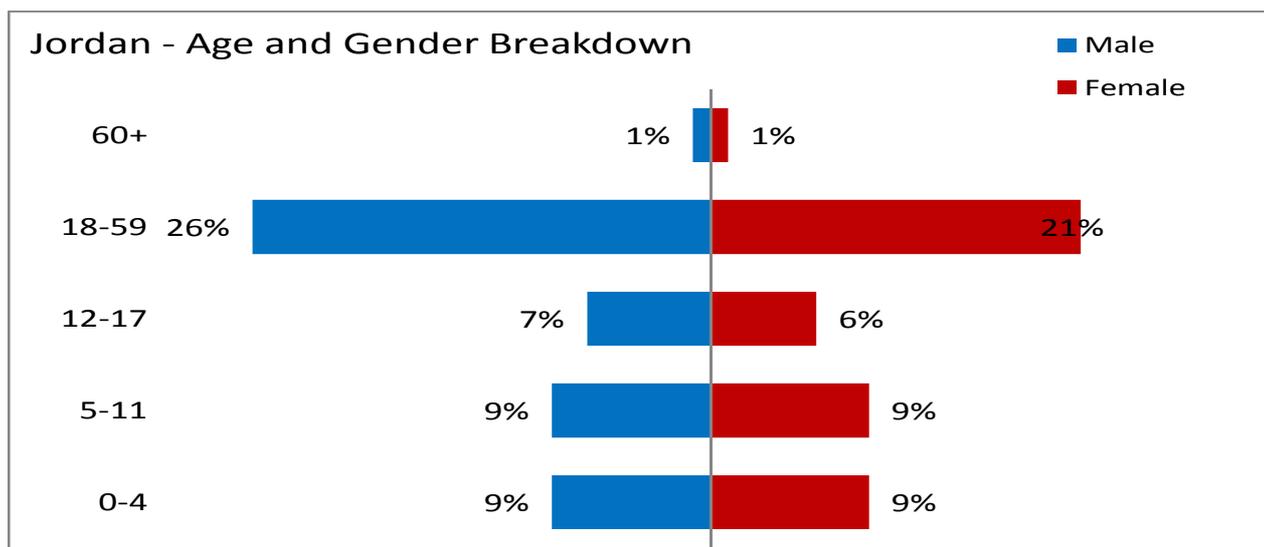
Registration reaches the 20,000 mark: With the prevailing gap between registration and actual Syrian asylum seekers in country, UNHCR has continued to strengthen and streamline registration procedures. The objective is to bring registration in line with the actual situation, which will result in better protection and assistance services for Syrian asylum seekers. UNHCR consults with the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) and community based organizations on the identification of Syrians in need of registration.

Assistance/Outreach

Transit Sites in Ramtha: On 22 May, the number of Syrian refugees present in the transit sites surpassed their absorption capacity. With this current trend, the sites will shortly face over-crowding. To mitigate this situation, UNHCR, JHCO and UNICEF/ACTED accelerated construction work on the King Abdullah Park (KAB) site. In parallel, contingency planning discussions are ongoing with the authorities, in relation to the eventual establishment of additional sites, should current arrival numbers continue or increase.

Nutrition: 1,000 complementary food packages were delivered to Bashabsheh and Cyber City. In addition to dry rations, WFP will continue to distribute hot meals for the next two weeks. **Health:** Hygiene brochures, developed jointly with the Ministry of Health and members of the Reproductive Health Sub-Group were printed (10,000 copies) and will be distributed along with the hygiene kits to Syrians. The brochure provides key health messages on hygiene. Health services were provided to 183 Syrians during the last week. **NFIs:** On 17 May, four desktop computers were handed over to the Governor of Mafraq and six desktop computers, two photocopiers and two printers were handed over to the Governor of Ramtha to support the authorities in the management of the refugee influx. **WASH:** UNICEF is providing from 20 to 40 m³ water to Bashabsheh border transit site through ACTED on a daily basis. **Education:** UNICEF and Noor Al-Hussein Foundation facilitated last week the registration of 30 children who are now attending school. UNICEF has completed joint monitoring visits with the Ministry of Education to 17 public schools with high numbers of Syrian students in Amman, Ramtha, Irbid, Rusaifa and Zarqa. They are also planning, with UNHCR, to install a tent for schooling, offering social classes and teaching Qur'an and simple mathematics for the kids.

Demography of Total Registered Syrian Refugees in Jordan



Coordination

The second bi-lateral food coordination meeting was held with WFP in Amman where it was agreed that UNHCR will discontinue provision of bread, while complementary food packs will continue to be provided until the end of June.

III. LEBANON



Highlights:

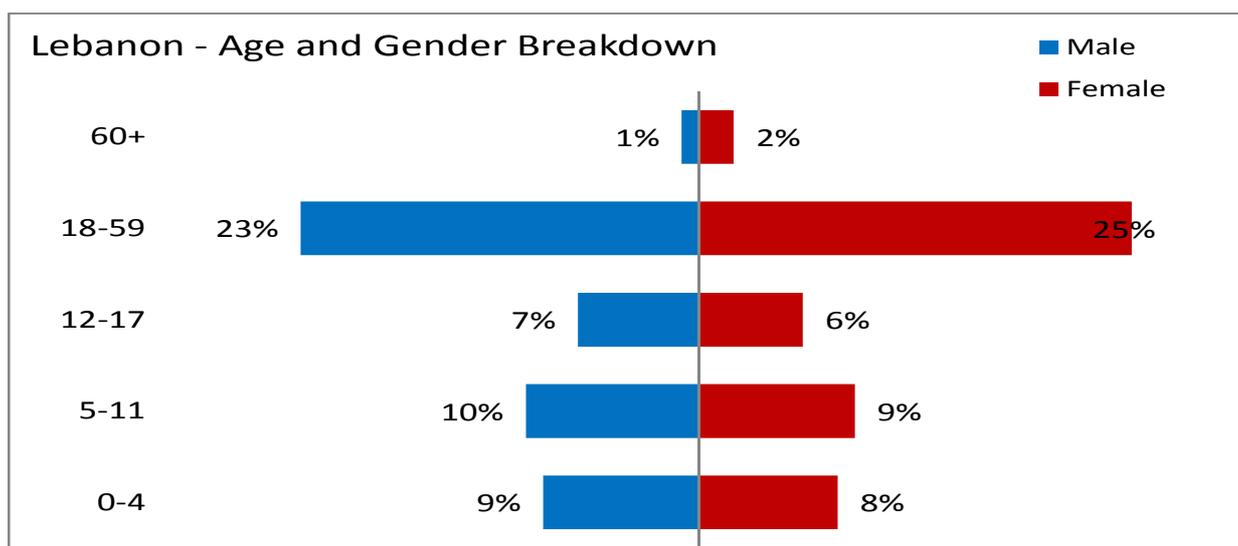
- Some 27,541 Syrian refugees are being assisted throughout the country. More than half of them, 17,041 have been jointly registered by UNHCR and Lebanon's High Relief Commission (HRC) in the North. UNHCR and partners are assisting an additional 3,000 Syrian refugees in Tripoli and 7,500 in Bekaa, who are pending registration.
- All assistance in the North was impeded last week due to the ongoing security incidents and road closures, which resulted to limited movement and inhibited access to refugees and affected communities.

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Protection/Numbers

Street protests and clashes erupted in Akkar due to a number of incidents including the death of Sheikh Ahmad Abed Al-Wahed. Registration in the North continues to be slow paced due to the ongoing security situation in Tripoli and recent unrest in Akkar. UNHCR registered 1,893 displaced people in both Aarsal and Saadnayel. Upon completion of the registration exercise in Saadnayel, UNHCR will initiate new rounds of registration in Bar Elias, Majdal Anjar, Zahle, and Chtoura. The information campaign raising awareness and encouraging refugee communities to register with UNHCR in Central Bekaa is continuing. Registration will continue in the Bekaa until an estimated 7,500 people are registered.

Demography of Total Registered Syrian Refugees in Lebanon



Assistance/Outreach

Distribution: Caritas Migrant Center (CLMC) distributed food and non-food items to over 1,000 people in Tripoli. UNFPA agreed to provide large stocks of sanitary napkins to displaced Syrian women and is currently developing the modalities of their distribution with other agencies. The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) distributed relief items, namely mattresses, to displaced Syrians living in Aarsal and El-Ain in the Bekaa Valley. CLMC in coordination with other organizations distributed food, hygiene kits, blankets and bed sheets to several displaced Syrians in the Bekaa. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) procured gas stoves and cookware that will be distributed to families living in 18 renovated mosques in Aarsal. WFP is planning for a voucher system enabling displaced and hosting families to purchase their own food. DRC and World Vision volunteers assessed local shops and grocers in the area where the vouchers can be used. **Shelter:** UNHCR's implementing partner NRC rehabilitated Saadnayel's municipality center which has been serving as a place for registration, and began renovation on one private mosque in Aarsal with the capacity to host 8 displaced families. In addition, NRC identified and assessed a number of shelter options in Aarsal and Al Fakeha where there is a pressing need for shelter improvements, including houses under construction, mosques, and buildings.

Education: In the North, an upgrade of the ongoing remedial and psycho-social support programme was agreed on by UNICEF and War Child Holland. This upgrade entails the creation of six safe spaces - four around Halba and two in Tripoli - and is aimed at reaching out to a larger number of displaced children. In the Bekaa, turnout to the four Child Friendly Spaces established by Save the Children in Brital, Baalbeck and Bar Elias have proved to be successful with over 250 displaced Syrian children benefiting from activities held in these safe spaces over the past week. Terre des Hommes Italia (TH) provided 100 children between the ages of 6 and 12 with educational support lessons 4 hours per day, 4 days per week in Aarsal.

Health: A number of activities such as home visits, health awareness sessions and mental health trainings were rescheduled in the North due to the security situation. The provision of essential primary and secondary healthcare services continued despite security impediments. International Medical Corps (IMC) was granted permission to provide medical services in 'Markaz Allrshad' in Berkeleyl. In the Bekaa, free primary health care consultations began in three health centers: Al Ain, Kamed el-Loz (Amel) and El Qaa (El Qaa Parish), with support from Medecins du Monde (MDM). Free medication will be delivered starting next week.

Coordination

UNHCR's implementing partner DRC mapped out available service providers across all sectors in the Bekaa. Some 80 NGOs and Governmental Organizations (GOs) have been identified in the area. This exercise will stretch over the coming weeks so that a comprehensive matrix of services available is developed and shared with relevant stakeholders. Inter-Agency Coordination meetings take place every 2 weeks in Beirut, Quobayat and Bekaa. Sectoral meetings (Distribution, Health, Education, Protection, Shelter, and WASH) are also taking place twice a month in Quobayat and Bekaa.

IV. IRAQ

Highlights

- UNHCR registered a total 4,413 individual Syrian refugees, and 425 Syrian persons await registration.
- A food sub-working group meeting took place in Domiz camp last week.



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Protection/Numbers

Among the registered persons all over the Kurdistan region of Iraq, 30 are unaccompanied minors and separated children under the age of 18, of which 6 are single females living with other families. Dohuk remains host to the largest number of Syrian new arrivals, with 3,426 individuals, followed by Erbil with 748 individuals and then Suleimaniya with 171 individuals. Among these are 468 families comprising 1,872 individuals, and 2,541 singles. In Erbil, 50 families, comprising 199 individuals, and 549 singles were registered. In Suleimaniya, 20 families comprising 68 individuals and 171 singles were registered. In Duhok Governorate, 397 families, comprising 1,605 individuals, and 1,821 singles were registered.

Assistance/Outreach

Shelter and Infrastructure: 254 tents were established in Domiz camp, in the families' section, and some 35 tents were installed for the singles on the side allocated for them. UNHCR, through Qandil, placed three playground tools for Children near the Admin location, while ACTED has also installed a tent for children-related activities. UNHCR has distributed 39 tents, 8 for families and 31 for singles, while 21 shares of NFIs were distributed, jointly with IOM, to 21 families. **Health:** The first meeting of the sub-working group on Health took place in Domiz camp on 23 May. The group was co-chaired by WHO and UNHCR, while the Directorate of Health (DoH) was present to guide and advise the group. The Government Emergency Cell

(GEC) in Dohuk, ACTED and Harikar were also present at the meeting. DoH briefed the participants on the health status and actions taken in the camp since its opening in the beginning of April. This was followed by a brief discussion on the gaps in the sector. While the participants generally agreed that the health situation in the camp was acceptable, both WHO and DoH emphasized the need for an additional caravan for the medical unit to offer adequate preventive services and cover maternal and child care. The need for an additional cabin for children and maternal care, vaccination process, oral re-hydration and training activities for existing health staff was also reported.

WASH:Fayda Water Department continued the provision of potable water by tankers at a rate of 90,000 liter per day. 41 water tanks were received of which 29 were distributed to 29 families who have recently relocated to the camp. DoH has distributed chloride tablets for family's water storage tanks.**Nutrition:**The Department for Displacement and Migration (DDM) Dohuk continued the provision of three meals per day to Syrian singles in Domiz camp; however DDM reported that by end of May, DDM will stop the provision of hot meals due to budget constraints. A food sub-working group meeting took place in Domiz camp last week, attended by UNHCR, WFP, DDM and Qandil NGO. WFP might cover the gap in next stage through the distribution of food for two months (July and August) and might use food vouchers for the last quarter of the year.

Education:UNHCR chaired the first sub-working group meeting on education, protection and community services. The meeting was organized in Dohuk DoE, attended by Director General of DoE, GEC, UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, PARC/Harikar and ACTED. A proposed educational plan to accommodate some 175 school age children in the existing school by using the facilities during the summer holidays (starting early June) has been reviewed and educational gaps have been identified. UNHCR has provided 6 cabins for additional classes; IOM will contribute by providing 6 AC cooling devices (Splits); DoE will print text books; and UNICEF will bring Curriculum and text books from Syria.

Coordination

UNHCR continued its coordination meetings with GEC, concerned local departments and agencies. It organized three sub-working group meetings on education, health, food and nutrition, and a GEC monthly coordination meeting.

V. TURKEY

Highlights

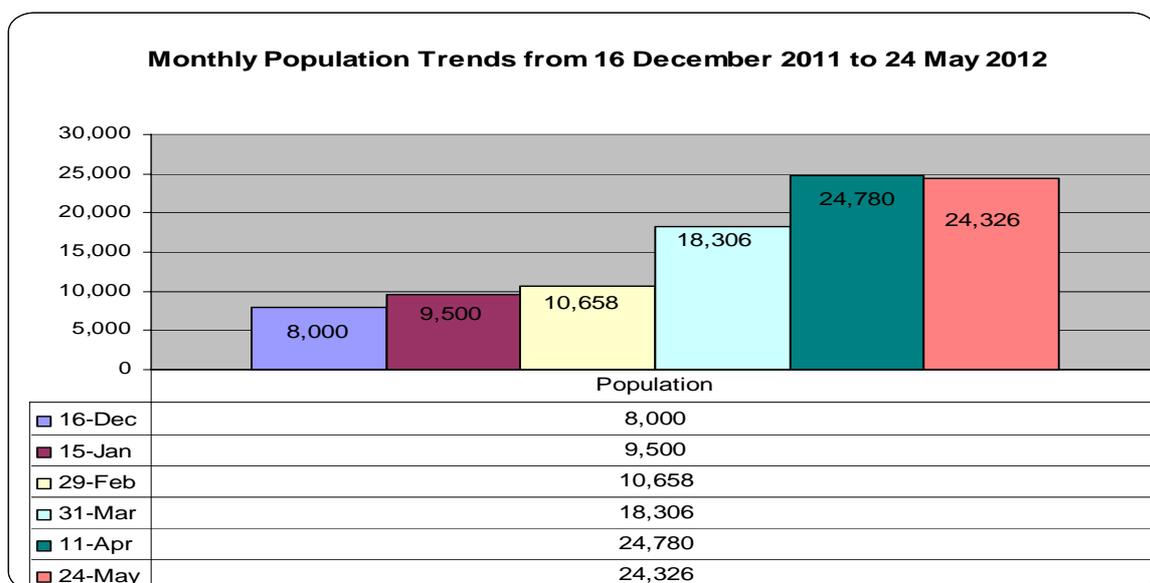
- The overall number of Syrian refugees in Turkey now stands at 24,326 persons, reportedly due to registration verification exercise procedures in the Oncupinar Container site, as well as new arrivals.

Protection/Numbers

Syrian refugees in Turkey are assisted by the Turkish Red Crescent Society in the border provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis and Sanliurfa. Syrian refugees in Turkey by region as of 24 May 2012:

- Hatay population¹: 6.625 individuals
- Gaziantep population in Islahiye²: 6.059 individuals
- Kilis population in Oncupinar container site: 10.493 individuals
- Sanliurfa population in Ceylanpinar: 1,098 individuals

¹: The population of the Kuyubasi/Karbeyaz, Yayladagi 2 (YIBO), Altinozu I (TEKEL) and Reyhanli camps in Hatay was moved to Islahiye camp in Gaziantep and to Oncupinar container site in Kilis.



Assistance/Outreach

NFIs and Food: The Government of Turkey and the Turkish Red Crescent Society continue to provide assistance to Syrian refugees registered in their camps.

Coordination/External Relations

On 25 May 2012 the Government of Kuwait donated refrigerators, ventilators and electric furnaces through IHH (The Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief Foundation) to be distributed in the camps in Hatay.

VI. STATISTICS

Statistics on Syrian Refugees in the Region

No. of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTALS
Registered and Assisted	21,432	17,041	4,413	24,326	67,212
Assisted (awaiting registration)	-	10,500	425	-	10,925**
TOTALS	21,432*	27,541	4,838	24,326	78,137

*An additional 2,500 persons are awaiting registration while some 30,000 have been identified by local organizations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNHCR. **Figures are based on estimates and thus might vary.

Funding: The funding overview for the RRP is provided once a month on the Syria Regional Refugee Response Update of the last week of the month. The last updated overview was provided in Update No. 6 of 24th May where the RRP was funded at the level of 36%. For more details please go to <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

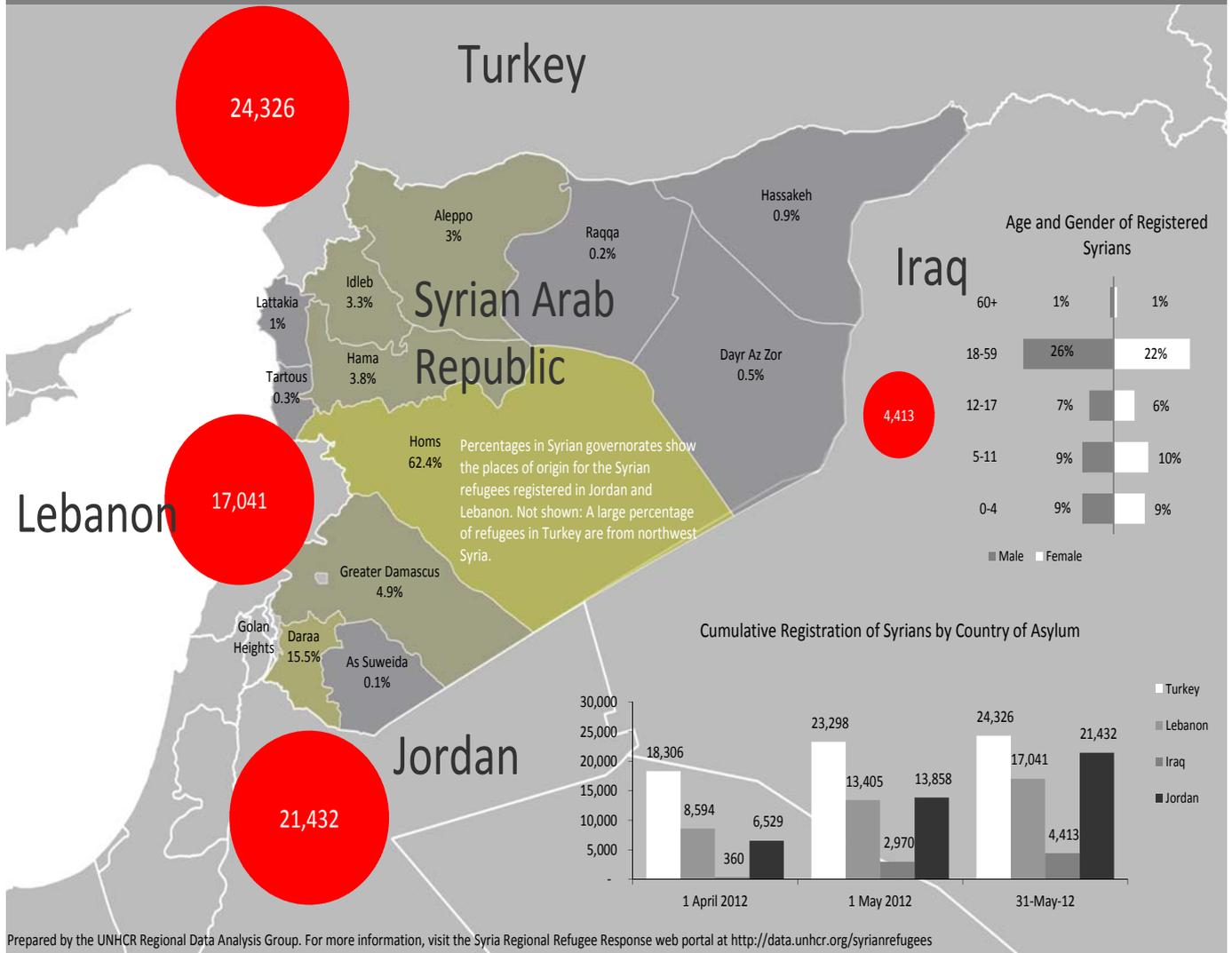
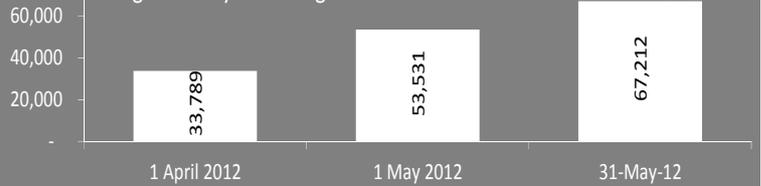
Syrian Refugees

Registered: **67,212**

Assisted: **78,137** as of 31 May 2012

● Syrian Refugees

Registered Syrian Refugees Almost Doubled in Less than 2 Months



Prepared by the UNHCR Regional Data Analysis Group. For more information, visit the Syria Regional Refugee Response web portal at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees>

©UNHCR/2012/Map of Registered and Assisted Syrian Refugees in the Region

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