



KEY ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MONTH

A total of **654** women had access to safe deliveries

HIGHLIGHTS:

Obstetrics procedures account for the majority of referral healthcare costs and admissions for refugees in Lebanon. Of the obstetric admissions the main reason was for deliveries with approximately one third requiring cesarean sections. The second highest referral costs have been for neonatal and congenital conditions. Therefore, women and children comprise the largest number of users of referral care.

Referral healthcare is extremely expensive in Lebanon and the health budget required for 1.5 million refugees remains extremely underfunded. Difficult decisions on prioritizing referral care are made everyday to ensure health resources are used for emergency and life saving procedures with good prognoses.

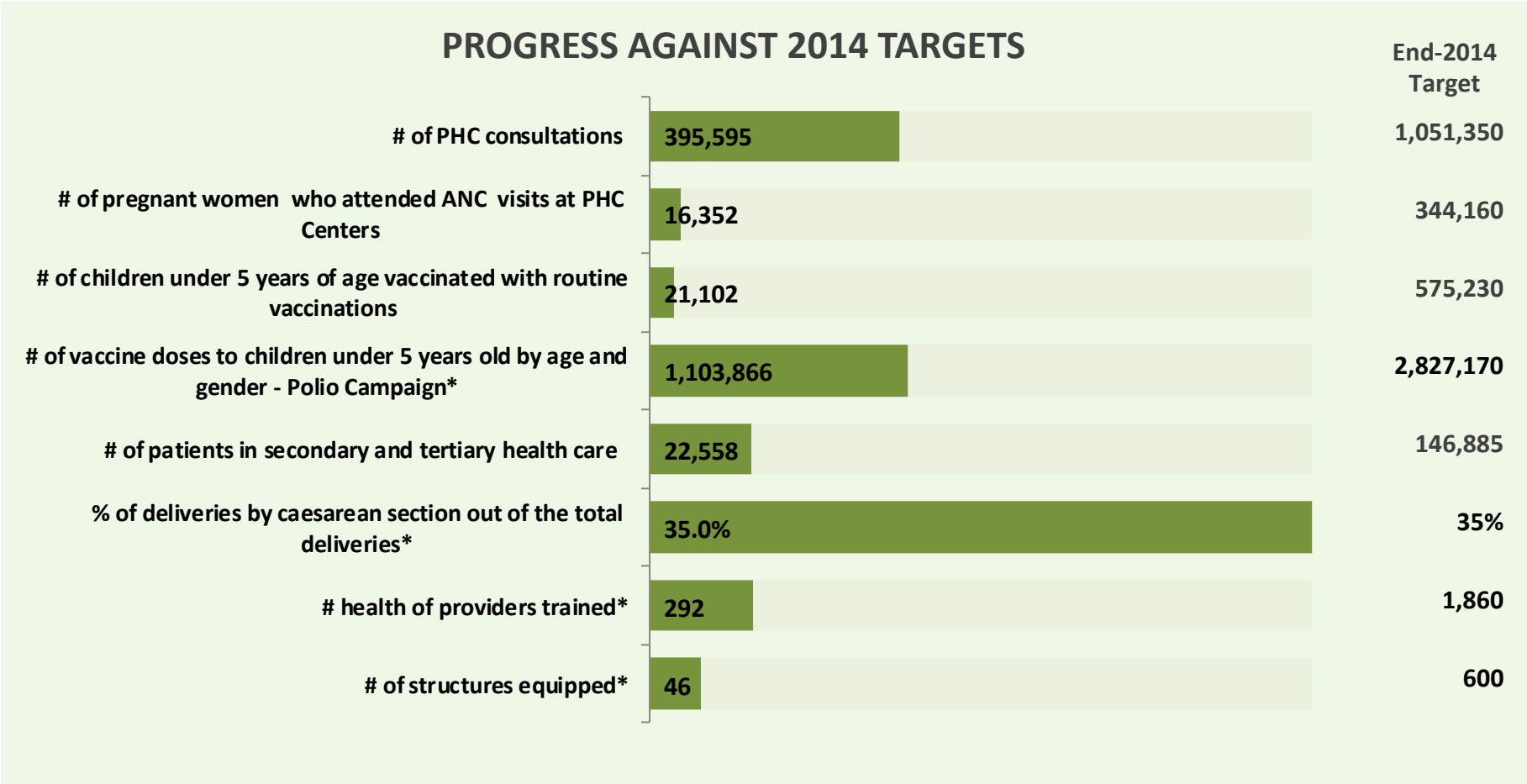


One Syrian Refugee child during the Polio Campaign vaccination in Lebanon

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

For the first half of 2014, approximately 70% of patients for referral and specialized healthcare were female and one quarter included children less than 5 years of age. Considering that only 52% of the population is female, the disproportionate referral rate among females is due mainly for obstetric care. Obstetric care includes deliveries, miscarriages, other early pregnancy complications and complications of labour and delivery.

To meet the high costs required for secondary healthcare needs, new and innovative initiatives will be analyzed to ensure greater access to primary healthcare with adequate preventative and curative services for the population. In particular, the high burden of referral care on women and children necessitates increased focus on access to ante-natal and post-natal care for pregnant women and new mothers to better understand their health seeking behaviours.



*Indicators have been adapted to reporting capacity of sector members to improve analysis and quality of data
Source: figures reported above reflect the information reported to Sector Coordinators by Partners participating in Working Groups

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