



VAF WELFARE MODEL

1) 86% of Syrian refugees in urban areas are living below the Jordanian poverty line.

- According to the VAF Welfare model, 86% of Syrian refugee individuals are living below the Jordanian poverty line of 68 JD per capita per month, and are rated as highly or severely vulnerable.
- 86% of individuals corresponds with 68% of family units or 'cases'. Highly and severely vulnerable families have larger family sizes.

2) Northern and Eastern Jordan have the highest proportion of highly and severely vulnerable refugees. There is also the highest proportion Syrian refugees relative to Jordanians in these areas.

- The Welfare model predicts 64% of cases in the Northern region are rated as highly vulnerable or above, versus 30% in the Central region.
- The Central region includes Amman and Zarqa where the majority of 'least vulnerable' families live. More rural areas including Madaba and Balqa have higher levels of vulnerability. The South has the highest proportion of 'least vulnerable' families, relative to the total population.
- The proportion of Syrians to Jordanians in Mafraq sub-district is 38%. In Irbid sub-district, 15.7%, and in Amman Qasaban, 6.4%, although the highest number of Syrians is still in Amman.

3) Over 80% of Syrian refugees are using crisis or emergency coping strategies.

- Refugees have exhausted their savings and they are depleting their food intake, sending family members (including children) out to beg or resorting to high risk, illegal or socially degrading jobs.
- Over 60% of Syrian non-camp families have a high or severely vulnerable level of debt per capita, influencing their ability to cope economically even if receiving an income/assistance.
- 56% of families with 'low' vulnerability have work permits. 17% of severely vulnerable families have a work permit.

4) Severely vulnerable refugee families have more family members, more children and a higher 'dependency ratio'.

- The dependency ratio is an indicator of economically active to economically inactive persons within a family, such as children, elderly and disabled. Over 60% of Syrian refugee individuals belong to cases that have a 'severe' dependency ratio.

5) Syrians are very young, but refugees tend to be even younger.

- Syrian refugees are different in their socio-economic dimensions from the Syrian pre-crisis population and from the hosting populations. 81% are under the age of 35, and tend to have low levels of education, compared to 73% under 35 for the Syrian pre-crisis population, and 68% of Jordanians. Over 80% of Syrian refugees have primary education or below.
- The Syrian refugee population has a larger share of young children (aged 0-4) and people aged 25-34. Approximately 65% of all registered Syrian refugees in Jordan are under the age of 25 and about 19.4% of all refugees are infants under the age of 4.
- In the VAF welfare model, a family with a 'low' vulnerability have no or fewer children. 59% of a severe vulnerable case will be children.
- The importance of the 'No Lost Generation' Initiative— and projects that seek to support, protect and offer educational opportunities for refugee and other vulnerable children, and encourage positive engagement of adolescents and youth—cannot be over-stated.

VAF SECTOR MODELS

Basic needs

Invest further in the capacity of refugees in communities, families and women, girls, boys and men to reduce exposure to negative coping mechanisms. Projects that reduce asset depletion of refugee households in urban areas should be prioritized. Continue to support female headed households, noting that male headed household are also severely vulnerable.

- The Basic Needs Model is calculated through a combination of indicators on Coping strategies, Dependency ratio and Economic state. Dependency and Economic state indicators are either static or suggest a deterioration in vulnerability.
- The vast majority of cases, almost 80%, are resorting to emergency coping strategies. 50% of cases are severely vulnerable; 42% are highly vulnerable. 50% of cases have a severe or high dependency ratio.
- Average debt per capita is 157 JD, with higher debt to expenditure for severely vulnerable cases.
- 89% of Male headed households are resorting to crisis or emergency coping strategies, compared to 73% of female headed households. 92% of Male headed households are highly or severely vulnerable, compared to 83% of female headed households. This emphasizes that male headed households also need to be targeted with assistance, as well as female. However, the VAF does not capture well protection risks that female refugees may be facing, as evidenced by other assessments using more appropriate methodologies.

Education

Support through the Ministry of Education to increase the absorption capacity and increase enrollment rates of Syrian children. Bilateral support to Jordan to support the formal education sector (schools, teacher salaries, textbooks), while UN & NGOs concurrently expand informal education to urgently address the issue of 90,000 out of school children. Projects that support reduce barriers to accessing education (distance, financial obstacles, child labour, violence in schools).

- 97% of school aged children display high risk of non-attendance at school, based on a combination of social, economic and physical risks.
- Refugee financial situation is the most significant risk factor influencing non-attendance with nearly 80% of cases being highly or severely financially vulnerable.
- 6% of cases are severely vulnerable due to the participation of at least one child in child labour. Protection-related barriers may also affect families' abilities to maintain children in school: early marriage, violence or perceived threats of violence, psychological distress, disabilities, mobility of the family and distance from school.

Food Security

Continuation of food assistance targeting vulnerable Syrian refugees in urban. In particular the WFP food voucher programme needs to be maintained, targeted at the most vulnerable refugees, in the absence of alternative self-reliance opportunities for refugees.

- Nearly 79% of refugees are highly or severely vulnerable to food insecurity, with 20% moderately vulnerable. 46% have severe vulnerability scores for expenditure on food; and 72% are severely vulnerable due to the adoption of emergency coping strategies to meet food needs.
- 45% of female headed households are severely vulnerable, with 30% highly vulnerable. 7% of male headed are severely and 70% highly vulnerable.
- The baseline survey was conducted following only a limited period of reduced WFP food voucher value covering around 85% of the Syrians refugees in host communities. With the continued reductions, the percentage in the severe or highly vulnerable category will increase.

VAF SECTOR MODELS

Health

Continue to invest resources through the public health system as the primary provider of medical services to Syrian refugees in urban areas. Support projects that provide additional services not provided through the public health system, or where there are obstacles to accessing such services.

- 41% of Syrian individuals are part of families with severe health vulnerability; 15% are part of highly health vulnerable families.
- 15% of cases were identified as severely vulnerable in terms of being able to access health services when needed.
- 16% of cases have the presence of pre-existing medical conditions (disabilities or chronic illnesses) that are negatively impacting a family members' day to day life.
- 10% of cases report that they spend more than 25% of their expenditure on health related items.
- Access to medical facilities has been positive indicator with the majority of cases rated as low vulnerable.

Shelter

In the face of the shortage of affordable and adequate shelters – resulting in rental inflation, eviction and multiple displacement – increase the availability of and access to such shelter through a scaled-up response. Such interventions should be complemented by programmes that strengthen security of tenure.

- Over 92.5% of refugees are living in rented accommodation in urban areas. Cost of rent and debt remain major challenges. The majority of dwellings are considered 'poor quality'. For the majority of families who have insecure livelihoods or income, maintaining rental commitments is a considerable burden and rental arrears have both financial and protection implications. Although most cases have acceptable rental contracts many were experiencing high debt per capita which puts them at risk not missing rental payments.
- Over 75% of individuals are highly or severely shelter vulnerable and 50% are highly shelter vulnerable. Over 50% of all cases have all the standard basic house assets.
- 50% of the cases' dwellings are showing at least one sign of poor quality, and 34% identified as having two or more instances of poor quality. 23% of cases properties were judged to be unsatisfactory by the enumerator.
- 60% of cases have a high or severe debt per capita. One third of cases did not have a rental agreement.

WASH

Increase the number and scope of community-level projects that benefit both Syrians and Jordanians in areas with high concentrations of refugees, together with greater investment in WASH infrastructure and services.

- The vast majority of Syrian refugees have access to the national water and sewage networks, including regular water supply (88%). While mains water may be available, the most vulnerable may not have sufficient or safe water storage.
- 60% of Syrians are severely vulnerable in WASH. The most negative factor is poor solid waste collection: 80% of cases have experienced solid waste vector evidence more than twice in the last year and 20% of cases have experience waste-water overflows more than once in the last year.
- The WASH expenditure rate varies significantly. 32% of cases are identified as severely vulnerable due to spending over 25% of their expenditure on WASH items.
- More than 50% of families have secure access to bathing facilities; but 15% are sharing facilities with three or more other families.