



## **GENDER ANALYSIS 2022 – WITH AGE AND DISABILITY INPUTS**

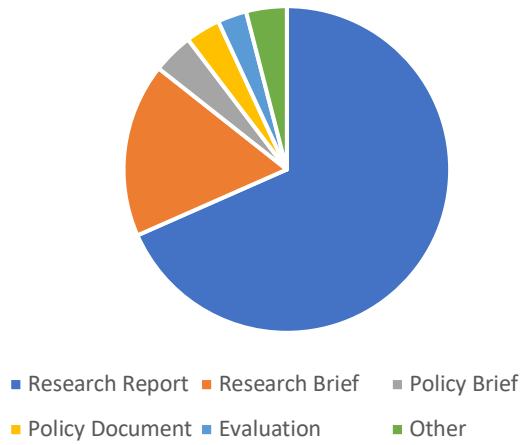
### **INTRODUCTION**

This report was produced in September 2022. Its primary objective was to take stock of existing research on gender, and age and disability, to highlight the key qualitative and quantitative trends emerging across various information sources, and to provide analysis on the strength of gender analysis and findings as well as key information gaps per each sector of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP). To this aim, a literature review was conducted on 172 existing qualitative and quantitative databases, research, surveys, evaluations, literature review, policy briefs, and assessments.

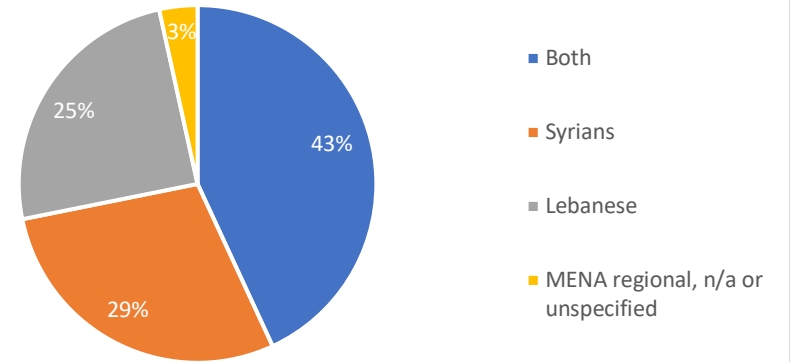
Literature reviewed for this exercise focused on displaced Syrians and vulnerable Lebanese. Each document was reviewed for its method, geographic coverage, extent of gender disaggregation, whether groups such as older people, adolescent girls, and women and girls with disabilities were discussed, and relevance to each of the LCRP sectors.

### **SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED**

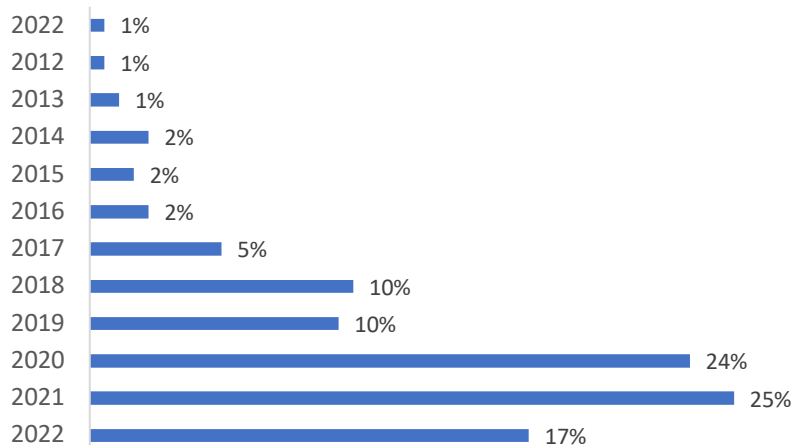
Types of documents reviewed



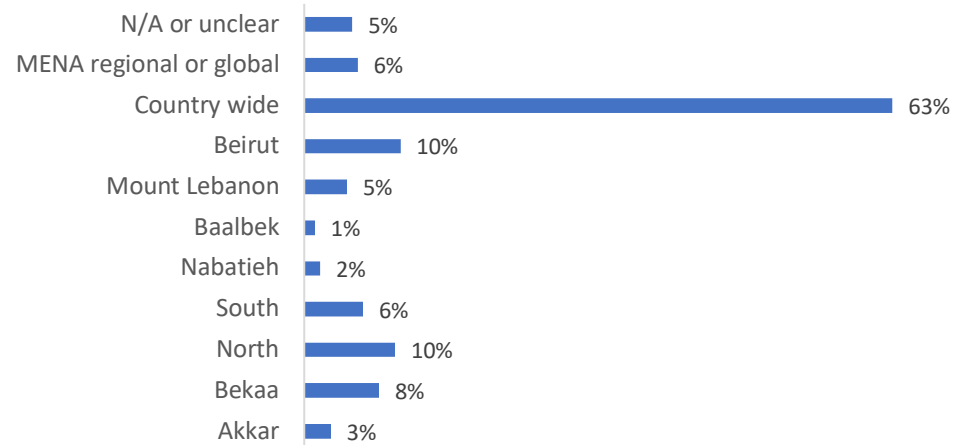
Nationalities discussed in documents reviewed



### Years of publication of documents reviewed



### Geographic coverage of documents reviewed



### Reports discussing different identity categories

Identity category	Number of reports that mention this category	% of total reports
Adolescent girls	51	29%
Women and girls with disabilities	34	20%
Older women and men (above 65 years)	27	16%

## Reports by sector and extent of gender disaggregation

Sector	Number of reports reviewed	% of total reports	% of reviewed reports including comprehensive gender disaggregation or that only focused on women and girls
Basic Assistance	16	9%	56%
Child Protection	40	23%	55%
Education	33	19%	52%
Energy	8	5%	63%
Food Security & Agriculture	30	17%	67%
Health	58	33%	67%
Livelihoods	80	46%	71%
GBV	78	45%	79%
Protection	31	18%	61%
Shelter	23	13%	57%
Social Stability	45	26%	76%
Water	25	14%	68%

## BASIC ASSISTANCE SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>1</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Cash transfer recipients	WFP cash-based transfer recipients	Total (Syrian and Lebanese)	% women and men WFP cash-based transfer beneficiaries in 2021	100%	52%	48%	<a href="#">WFP</a>	2021
	WFP cash-based transfer recipients	Nationality (Syrian)	% of MHH and FHH who received multi-purpose cash assistance Jan-March 2022		43%	57%	<a href="#">Basic Assistance Sector</a>	2022
Access and confidence	Usage of third party to access cash assistance	Nationality (Syrian)	% of MHH and FHH who used a third-party to withdraw WFP multi-purpose cash assistance in 2020		27%	11%	<a href="#">CAMEALEON</a>	2021
	Confidence in using ATMs to access cash assistance	Nationality (Syrian)	% of male and female MPC recipients who report feeling confident to use ATMs		22%	43%	<a href="#">CAMEALEON</a>	2021

<sup>1</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and basic assistance in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

Dependency	Dependence on assistance for main source of income	Nationality (Syrian)	% of female and male headed households that depend on food cards for their main source of income	46%	57%	39%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
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## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)

- **Men and women are equally targeted for Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance** under the Basic Assistance Sector
- Although exact targeting method for MPCA is not publicly available, **it is highly likely that female-headed household status is included as one of the targeting criteria.** The extent to which other gender-related issues factor into the basic assistance selection process is unclear.
- **Both Lebanese and Syrian women are more likely to ask third parties to assist them in withdrawing their cash assistance.**
- Preliminary analysis suggests **integrating cash assistance with Gender-Based Violence response mechanisms is a good practice that positively impacts case management outcomes.**
- **Recent studies suggest the price of menstrual hygiene items has increased between 98% and 234%** for locally produced items and between 66% and 409% for imported items, meaning women and girls will struggle this form of basic assistance.

### Syrians

- **Syrian men and women (individuals) are equally targeted for MPCA assistance**
- **Although Female-Headed Households account for 18% of the Syrian population, they account for 43% of basic assistance recipient households** showing they are disproportionately targeted.
- **Women, older people and FHH tend to be less confident in withdrawing MPCA and are more likely than men to rely on a third party.** This is largely linked to gender disparities in technological literacy, ability to read and write, mobility restrictions, transportation costs, ATM waiting times, and cultural norms that suggest women more often require assistance. Reliance on third party can make it easier for less mobile people to access their money, and this function is often conducted by neighbors,

family members or friends. However, delegating cash withdrawal might increase the risk of exploitation of women, persons with disability and the elderly to exploitation.

- **Long-term MPCA appears to give women the option to leave the labor force and avoid low-paying and, often, hazardous jobs** they would have otherwise had to take part in. MPCA therefore likely allows women to focus on childcare and household work over paid labor.
- Conversely, quantitative and quantitative findings have shown that **when MPCA is discontinued, women are more likely to take up paid work for low wages and in potentially exploitative conditions.**
- **Long-term MPC decreases child labor for the 5-14 age group for both boys and girls.** Qualitative and quantitative assessments have found that MPCA helps Syrian households avoid sending their children to work.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND BASIC ASSISTANCE**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 16<sup>2</sup> included discussion on child protection. Of these, 13 collected quantitative data, 2 collected qualitative data, and 1 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The majority (13) of the documents focused on Syrians and the remaining 3 focused on both Syrians and Lebanese. Half (8) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 7 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, and 1 focused only on women and girls.

**Overall, high quality, comprehensive and up-to-date quantitative and qualitative gender data are available on this subject.** WFP publishes gender-disaggregated data on MPCA on a quarterly basis. The VASyR collects data and provides gender disaggregation on accountability to affected populations and dependency rates on cash assistance on a yearly basis. CAMEALEON conducted a large-scale MPCA impact evaluation in 2020 that included comprehensive gender analysis, as well as at least three other high quality qualitative and quantitative reports on cash assistance included comprehensive gender information. However, additional gender analysis could potentially be conducted on the CAMEALEON impact evaluation data, the VASyR and WFP assistance data to provide more intersectional gender findings on basic assistance, such as how it affects older women, women with disabilities and low-income women.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

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<sup>2</sup> Of these 16, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

## Disability / Older Persons

Research tells us that people with disabilities face on average higher costs to reach the same level of access to services, resources and standard of living as people without disabilities. Globally, this extra cost is understood to vary between 10-40% extra.<sup>3</sup> Yet, in Lebanon, women and men with disability face significant barriers to access income generating and livelihood opportunities and households with a member with a disability or an older person who needs care giving arrangements often deciding between care giving and work. **Limits to economic participation is one of the most concerning gendered disability gaps in the country.** The unemployment rate (defined as unemployment in the 30 days prior to data collection) for Lebanese women with disabilities (50 per cent) is significantly higher than the average national rate for Lebanese women (38 per cent); it is also higher when compared to the unemployment rate for people with disabilities across nationalities (38 per cent).<sup>4</sup> With Lebanese women with disabilities 50 per cent more likely to be unemployed than Lebanese men with disabilities (34 per cent), while Lebanese men with disabilities demonstrate far high unemployment rates than men without disabilities (23 per cent). Such barriers to women and men with disabilities accessing the economy has a profound impact, making them more vulnerable to poverty, placing increased pressure on other household members to generate income, aid dependency, exploitation and other risks.

**Meanwhile, one third of Syrian refugee households with at least one member with a disability live below the Survival Minimum Basket Expenditure (SMEB).** Not surprisingly, 91% report reducing their expenditure on food and almost half (47 per cent) of households with members with disabilities reported times with no food in the house in the 30 days prior to data collection<sup>1</sup> compared to 84% per cent reducing food expenditure. These households often have increased financial costs (p.13, MSNA).

Older women and men and persons with disabilities are disproportionately impacted by the increase **in transportation costs and electricity shortages.** Public transportation is not accessible for persons with physical disability or assistive devices such as wheelchairs, and the high cost (when these households already face additional costs) means accessing services and resources is more difficult and often not possible. Furthermore, the lack of heating in houses during winter or functioning AC or Fans in summer has an unequal impact on older women and men and those suffering from chronic illness, this often exacerbates health conditions such as arthritis, hypertension and blood pressure (92% of older persons have at least one health condition) and leads to fatigue. Lack of electricity means regular health procedures conducted at home are no longer possible needed regular transportation to health facilities and often water pumps are not running to allow for hygiene and sanitation standards to be retained.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.calpnetwork.org/blog/people-with-disabilities-face-10-40-higher-costs-does-cva-account-for-this/> (Global research)

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## EDUCATION SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>5</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Literacy	Literacy rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of population 15 + who were literate in 2018	94%	91%	96%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
	Literacy rate	Nationality (Non-Lebanese)	% of population 15 + who were literate in 2018	88%	86%	91%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
	Literacy rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of youth (15-24) who were literate in 2018	98%	98%	98%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019
	Literacy rate	Nationality (Non-Lebanese)	% of youth (15-24) who were literate in 2018	80%	73%	87%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019
School attendance	Net attendance rate in primary education	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of children of primary school age (6-11) who were attending school in 2018	87%	87%	88%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021

<sup>5</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and education in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon..

Net attendance rate in complementary education	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of children aged 12-14 who were attending school in 2018	68%	72%	64%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
Net attendance rate in secondary education	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of children of secondary school age (15-17) who were attending school in 2018	55%	59%	51%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
Net attendance rate in tertiary education	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of youth of tertiary school age (18-24) who were attending school in 2018	40%	45%	35%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
School attendance among children with disabilities	Disability (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of children aged 3-14 with disabilities who were attending school in 2018	70%	72%	68%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
School attendance among youth with disabilities	Disability (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of youth with disabilities aged 15-24 who were attending school in 2018	30%	36%	26%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
Net attendance rate in primary education	Nationality (Syrian)	% of children of primary school age (6-14) who were attending school in 2021	53%	56%	49%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
Net attendance rate in secondary education	Nationality (Syrian)	% of children of secondary school age (15-17) who	27%	30%	23%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021(to be updated with 2022 data)

			were attending school in 2021					
	Net attendance rate in tertiary education	Nationality (Syrian)	% of youth of tertiary school age (18-24) who were attending school in 2021	5%	6%	4%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021(to be updated with 2022 data)
	School enrolment	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese children aged 4-19 enrolled in school in 2021	88%	90%	86%	<a href="#">MSNA</a>	2022
Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	NEET rate	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of youth 15-24 not in education, employment or training in 2022	29%	32%	26%	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
	NEET rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of youth 15-24 not in education, employment or training in 2018	19%	22%	15%	<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
	NEET rate	Nationality (Syrian)	% of youth 15-24 not in education, employment or training in 2021	67%	79%	52%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021(to be updated with 2022 data)

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)

- **The literacy rate in Lebanon is high but is higher among men than women for both Lebanese and Syrians.** The literacy gender gap is particularly significant among older men and women of both nationalities and much less significant among youth.
- **Syrian girls and boys are far less likely than Lebanese girls and boys to be in school.** 88% of Lebanese children 4-19 were in school in 2021 compared to less than half (47%) of Syrian children.

- **Syrian and Lebanese girls and boys attend primary school at similar rates, however more girls attend all other levels of school than boys.**
- **Boys past primary school age most often drop out of school to work while girls drop out to get married or to contribute to household chores.** Inability to afford school fees, transportation and materials are other highly common reasons for children of both genders to drop out but are more common reasons families cite in relation to girls. This has become especially true due to the ongoing economic crisis.
- **Syrian youth of both genders are far more likely than Lebanese youth to not be in education, employment or training (NEET).** Female youth of both nationalities are more often NEET than male youth, with the gender gap especially prominent among Syrian youth.
- **Boys and girls with disabilities are less likely to be enrolled in school,** especially girls with disabilities. This is because they are denied admission due to their disabilities, lack reasonable accommodations in most schools such as physically accessible classrooms and trained teachers, and their families are forced to pay higher fees.
- Although the link between menstrual hygiene and missing school is not assessed in detail, girls seem to be more likely to miss school due to menstruations (Plan International report: 82% of respondents thought it was fine for girls to miss school due to menstrual pain.
- Limited access to online education is affecting both girls and boys.

### *Syrians*

- **There is no significant difference between the literacy and numeracy levels of female and male youth.**
- **Girls are more likely to report transport, care requirements and timing of second shifts as barriers to education** while and boys need to work to support the family.
- **Dropping out of school to get married is highly prevalent among Syrian girls, 19% of whom are married by age 20.**
- At least one study found that **fathers who were the decision-makers in the household believed that a girl will eventually end up at her husband's house, so it would be enough for her to know how to read and write,** which justifies her dropping out of school.
- There is some evidence that **Syrian girls, especially in rural and conservative areas, drop out of school due to security and safety threats.**
- **Having a literate mother is positively associated with children's access to education.**

## Lebanese

- **Lebanese girls tend to have better access to secondary education than boys.** This is largely because young men, particularly those from low-income backgrounds, are expected to work, and because educated girls are seen to be better mothers than uneducated girls. There is also a perception that women struggle to find work unless they are educated.
- **Although there are far fewer Lebanese women in the workforce, working Lebanese women are better educated than working Lebanese men.** This is because men work in a wide variety of sectors, including low-wage manual labor, whereas women are largely confined to service, banking and education sectors.

### STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND EDUCATION

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 33<sup>6</sup> included discussion on education. Of these, half (18) collected quantitative data, 3 collected qualitative data, and 5 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remainder were secondary analyses (4), a literature review for a policy brief (1), a national strategy (1) and a global comparative report (1). The majority (15) of the documents focused on both Syrians and Lebanese. An additional 14 focused on only Syrians and 4 were on Lebanese. Half (18) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 13 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, and 2 were non-applicable.

**Comprehensive and up-to-date statistical gender-disaggregated data are available on education in Lebanon.** The VASyR collects comprehensive, gender-disaggregated information on Syrians' access to education on a yearly basis while the multi-sectoral needs assessments (MSNAs) collect similar information on Lebanese. In 2020, UNHCR conducted a Syrian youth literacy assessment which provided additional statistical information specifically on literacy. More gender analysis could be conducted on these datasets, however, to look at intersectional differences such as education differences among older men and women and access constraints for girls with disabilities.

While there is quantitative data on gender and education, there are only a few reports with qualitative information. Most of these focus on the lives of youth more generally and education is a sub-set of issues explored. Studies with a qualitative focus could look at differences in boys' and girls' experiences in school, including harassment, bullying, gender-based violence in school, online violence and the extent to which menstrual hygiene issues impacts girls' access to education.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

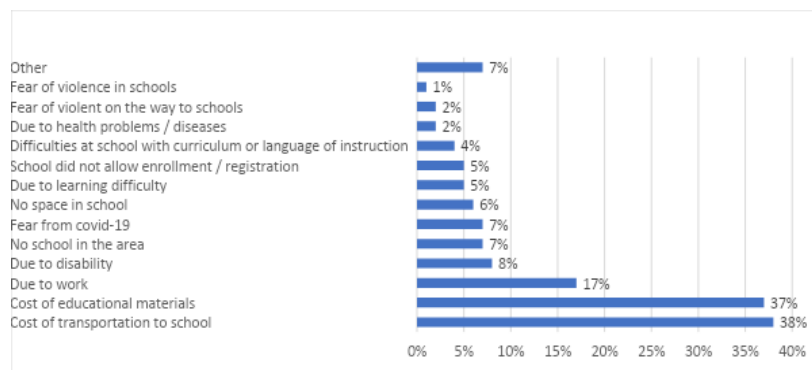
<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

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<sup>6</sup> Of these 33, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

## Disability

64% of children with disabilities aged 15 to 17 and 50% of those aged 6 to 14 are not attending school. The most reported reasons for children between 6 and 17 years of age not attending school are: cost of transportation to school (38%), cost of education materials (37%), due to work (17%) and due to disability (8%). **Although it should be noted that living with a disability increases household costs and therefore is likely to be a factor in the other reasons mentioned for lack of school attendance.**



### **BOX: Several critical barriers hinder equitable access for children with disabilities to education services**

- Financially, households with a child with a disability are observed to reduce expenditure on education costs more than households without due to other important financial obligations on the household.
- Caregivers face difficulties in covering the costs of maintaining and upgrading assistive devices, replacing batteries for hearing aids, transportation to therapy sessions—even if provided for free—and so on.
- Education of children with disabilities was disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. They and their caregivers faced challenges to access learning and rehabilitation services because of remote online learning, which can be observed by the decrease in attendance rates. This was driven particularly because learning materials were not adapted to their needs.

- Caregivers who needed additional guidance on how to support their children with a disability during home-schooling were not provided this support and teachers lack the knowledge and resources to tailor teaching to the needs of these children and depending on the severity of the disability.
- Physical barriers due to the inaccessibility of public and private schools and classrooms is a major problem for children with physical or sensory disabilities and attitudinal barriers whereby households believe that children with disability cannot be enrolled in formal or non-formal education is a problem.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> MSNA 2021



## ENERGY SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>8</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Energy access and usage	Access to electricity	Nationality (Syrian)	% of MHH and FHH with less than 6 hours of electricity per day in 2021		63%	72%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Access to furnace oil	Nationality (Syrian)	% of MHH and FHH who use furnace oil for cooking and heating in 2021	41%	49%	39%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Access to electric powered heater	Nationality (Syrian)	% of MHH and FHH with access to an electric powered heater		10%	15%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)

### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

#### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- This exercise did not identify significant gender differences in prevailing energy trends for either Lebanese or Syrians.

#### *Syrians*

- This exercise did not identify significant gender differences in prevailing energy trends for Syrians.

<sup>8</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and energy in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

## *Lebanese*

- This exercise did not identify significant gender differences in prevailing energy trends for Lebanese.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND ENERGY**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 8 included discussion on gender and energy. Seven of these were the 2015-2021 VASyR reports and one was the Labor Force and Household Living Conditions Survey (LFHLCS) 2018-2019, all quantitative. Seven of these surveys (the VASyR) focused on Syrians while the LFHLCS assessed Lebanese and non-Lebanese (nationalities unspecified). Five of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation and three included moderate gender disaggregation.

**Statistical information is available, though it is all reported at the level of Female-Headed Households and Male-Headed Households (rather than individual),** and these data show relatively few differences between FHH and MHH when it comes to energy access and consumption. There is no qualitative information available on gender and energy, particularly on women and “green jobs”.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

## FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>9</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Food insecurity	Food insecurity	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of assessed households reported there were times when there was no food in the house	32%	31%	32%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Food insecurity	Nationality (Syrian)	% of female and male headed households that are moderately or severely food insecure	49%	53%	48%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
Coping strategies	Reducing food expenditures	Nationality (Lebanese)	of assessed households reported they were reducing food expenditures to cope with a lack of food	84%	86%	84%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Reliance on help from friends and family to afford food	Nationality (Syrian)	% of female and male headed households that relied on help from friends and relatives because of a lack of food	41%	54%	38%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Reliance on help from friends and	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of female and male headed households that relied on family		31%	12%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment</a>	2022

<sup>9</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and food security in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

	family to afford food		and community support as their main source of income				<a href="#">(UN Women calculation)</a>	
	Dependence on assistance for main source of income	Nationality (Syrian)	% of female and male headed households that depend on food cards for their main source of income	46%	57%	39%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **Female-headed households (FHH)<sup>10</sup> tend to have higher incidences of multidimensional poverty (56.7 percent) relative to male-headed households (MHH) (52.6 percent),<sup>11</sup> suggesting they are more food insecure.**
- **No significant differences between MHH and FHH have been observed in terms of reliance on negative coping strategies overall.** This is true for both Syrians and Lebanese.
- **Both Syrian and Lebanese FHH are far more likely than MHH to depend on friends and family as their main sources of income and way of securing food, though this is especially common among Syrian FHH.**
- **Anecdotal reports describe the gendered impact of the crisis with women reducing their food intake to feed children and elderly people.**

### *Syrians*

- **Syrian FHH are slightly more likely to be food insecure** compared with Syrian MHH
- **There is no difference in FHH and MHH with income under the survival minimum expenditure basket**
- **FHH in non-permanent shelters are more likely to depend on assistance, friends and family as their main sources of income than FHH in other forms of shelter.**

<sup>10</sup> Female Headed Households are families which include the wife but not the husband.

<sup>11</sup> World Bank and CAS, Multidimensional Poverty Index, March 2022.

- As of 2017, **around half (53%) of households reported that women led decision-making** about food voucher and cash assistance expenditures

### *Lebanese*

- **Lebanese FHH are slightly more likely to be food insecure** compared with Lebanese MHH.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND FOOD SECURITY**

**Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 30<sup>12</sup> included discussion on gender and food security.** Of these, more than half (17) collected quantitative data, 2 collected qualitative data, and 2 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remainder were secondary analyses (3), gender alerts on COVID-19 written by UN Women (5), and one national strategy. The majority (18) of the documents focused on both Syrians and Lebanese. An additional 10 focused on only Syrians and 2 were on Lebanese. Most (20) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 8 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, one (1) focused on all women and girls, and one (1) had no gender disaggregation.

**The strength of statistical information on gender and food security is moderate.** This is because food security data is typically collected at the level of the household, meaning the only gender disaggregation is by male and female-headed household. It is likely that updated information on gender and food security is being collected by post-distribution monitoring programs, but this data is not typically shared publicly. Qualitative trends show that women and girls within a family often restrict their food consumption in order to feed children and working male household members, but this is not being captured by available statistical data which usually does not assess at the level of the individual. There is also very little qualitative data on issues of gender and food security.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

### **Disability / Older Persons**

**Research tells us that people with disabilities face on average higher costs to reach the same level of access to services, resources and standard of living as people without disabilities. Globally, this extra cost is understood to vary between 10-40% extra.<sup>13</sup>** Yet, in Lebanon, women and men with disability face significant barriers to access income generating and livelihood opportunities and

<sup>12</sup> Of these 33, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.calpnetwork.org/blog/people-with-disabilities-face-10-40-higher-costs-does-cva-account-for-this/>

households with a member with a disability or an older person who needs care giving arrangements often deciding between care giving and work. **Limits to economic participation is one of the most concerning gendered disability gaps in the country.** The unemployment rate (defined as unemployment in the 30 days prior to data collection) for Lebanese women with disabilities (50 per cent) is significantly higher than the average national rate for Lebanese women (38 per cent); it is also higher when compared to the unemployment rate for people with disabilities across nationalities (38 per cent).<sup>14</sup> With Lebanese women with disabilities 50 per cent more likely to be unemployed than Lebanese men with disabilities (34 per cent), while Lebanese men with disabilities demonstrate far high unemployment rates than men without disabilities (23 per cent). Such barriers to women and men with disabilities accessing the economy has a profound impact, making them more vulnerable to poverty, placing increased pressure on other household members to generate income, aid dependency, exploitation and other risks.

Households with persons with disabilities are more likely to become food insecure: almost half (47 per cent) of households with members with disabilities reported times with no food in the house in the 30 days prior to data collection. Challenging to identify persons with disabilities and older persons that often do not leave home.

**Meanwhile, one third of Syrian refugee households with at least one member with a disability live below the Survival Minimum Basket Expenditure (SMEB).** Not surprisingly, 91% report reducing their expenditure on food and almost half (47 per cent) of households with members with disabilities reported times with no food in the house in the 30 days prior to data collection<sup>1</sup> compared to 84% per cent reducing food expenditure. These households often have increased financial costs (p.13, MSNA).

## HEALTH SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>15</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Life expectancy	Life expectancy at birth	Nationality (Lebanese)	Average life expectancy at birth for men and women		79	74	<a href="#">WHO</a>	2019
Maternal mortality	Maternal mortality rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	# of deaths per 100,000 live births in 2018		6.1		<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
	Maternal mortality rate	Nationality (Non-Lebanese)	# of deaths per 100,000 live births in 2018		23.7		<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2021
Healthcare Access	Access to general health services and affordability	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of female or male headed households with family members unable to access healthcare reporting not being able to afford treatment		61%	56%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
Sexual and Reproductive Health	Cesarian sections	Nationality (Syrian)	% of deliveries through Cesarian section	35%			<a href="#">Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine</a>	2022
	Contraception	Nationality (Syrian)	% of households that use some form of contraceptive method	54%			<a href="#">UNHCR</a>	2022

<sup>15</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and health in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon..

	Contraception	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of households that use some form of contraceptive method among currently married women in 2009	54%			<a href="#">UNDP and CAS</a>	2022
Beirut Port Explosion	Injuries in the Beirut Port Explosion	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women and men who sustained injuries in the Beirut Port Explosion	100%	60%	40%	<a href="#">World Vision</a>	2020
	Deaths due to the Beirut Port Explosion	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women and men who were killed in the Beirut Port Explosion	100%	63%	30%	<a href="#">UN Women</a>	2020
COVID-19	Deaths from COVID-19	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women and men who died from COVID-19 from February 2020-February 2021	100%	37%	63%	<a href="#">UN Women</a>	2020
	Vaccination for COVID-19	Nationality (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of women and men who were vaccinated for COVID-19 as of August 2022	100%	52%	48%	<a href="#">MoPH</a>	2022
Mental Health	Callers to the National Emotional Support and Suicide Prevention Hotline	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women and men callers to the National Emotional Support and Suicide Prevention Hotline in 2021	100%	55%	45%	<a href="#">Embrace Lebanon</a>	2021
HIV	Prevalence of HIV	Nationality (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of men and women with HIV in 2014	100%	11%	89%	<a href="#">UNAIDS</a>	2016



## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **Women and men have disabilities at similar rates.** This is true across all types of disability except women are more likely to have walking-related disabilities than men. Syrians have higher disability rates than Lebanese.
- **The maternal mortality rate for non-Lebanese is almost four times higher than the rate for Lebanese.**
- **Only about half of both Syrian and Lebanese married women currently use any form of contraception,** an issue that is still largely taboo.
- In line with global trends, **more men than women died from COVID-19** in Lebanon.
- **More men than women were killed in the Beirut Port Explosions.**
- Girls report that it is rare for young brides to be allowed to use contraception, because marital families demand children. Married girls are likely to become pregnant shortly after marrying and may experience health problems through pregnancy and birth.
- Informed consent remains a major concern for adolescent girls who are not equipped with the relevant information when they reach puberty, especially around the notion of informed consent.
- The fact that more women than men call the National Emotional Support and Suicide Prevention Hotline **may mean that more women report mental health issues than men,** though this could also be linked to social norms that men should not report or discuss their mental health.
- **Poor mental health is largely related to poverty and risk of gender-based violence.** At least one study found that most (90%) Syrian and Lebanese women interviewed reported having serious mental health problems due to one or more environmental vulnerabilities: food insecurity (71%), physical health (62%), being separated from family (56%), and safety and security where they live (50%), noting that poverty was a key determinant of poor mental health.

### *Syrians*

- **Only around half of Syrian couples use family planning methods.** The most common family planning methods among Syrians are traditional methods only (31%), pill (28%) and IUD (24%)
- One recent study suggests **the economic crisis has influenced Syrian refugees' preferences towards limiting their number of children** or delaying having children until the situation improves.
- **Most information on sexual and reproductive health comes from schools,** but boys and girls do not typically learn about one another's bodies and reproductive health due to conservative social norms. Few girls married in adolescence receive any sexual

and reproductive health education prior to marriage, and those who did received it from a family member rather than a professional.

- A 2021 study of reproductive health in adolescent refugee girls found **adolescent pregnancy, reproductive tract infections, and sexual- and gender-based violence were major population health needs**, with early marriage, adolescent disempowerment, and men’s disengagement from care as key factors in these issues.
- The majority (85%) of older Syrian refugees adhered to COVID-19 preventive measures, but less than half (42%) took at least one vaccine dose.
- **The majority of Syrian women give birth in hospitals and their deliveries are financially supported by UNHCR.** However, the rate of cesarian sections is much higher among Syrian women (35%) than the WHO recommended rate (5-15%).
- **Most Syrian women (70%) who give birth receive antenatal care** but only 32% receive postnatal care. Notably the rate of women receiving antenatal care has decreased from 86% in 2020.

### *Lebanese*

- **There are few notable differences between FHH and MHH in barriers to accessing healthcare** or coping strategies for lack of access.
- **There is a similar rate of Lebanese women and men with physical and mental disabilities.** However, far more men hold Personal Disability Cards (the government disability compensation scheme) than women.
- **Women with disabilities face higher levels of discrimination, marginalization, and lack of inclusion than men with disabilities and women without disabilities.** This applies on multiple spheres, including within their families, communities, the media, and across civil society programming (including in OPDs, where women with disabilities are often underrepresented). This is especially because disability is believed to render women unable to fulfill roles of marriage and motherhood.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND HEALTH**

**Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 58<sup>16</sup> included discussion on gender and health.** Of these, more than half (23) collected quantitative data, 12 collected qualitative data, and 7 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remainder were secondary analyses (4), gender alerts on COVID-19 (5), literature reviews (3) national strategies (3) and a global report on the gender gap. Half (30) of the documents focused on both Syrians and Lebanese. An additional 22 focused on only Syrians and 5 were on Lebanese. Most (27) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 14 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, 12 focused only on women and girls, 2 had no gender disaggregation, and 3 were non-applicable.

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<sup>16</sup> Of these 33, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

High quality and comprehensive health data were collected on Lebanese in the 2018-2019 LFHLCs, and comprehensive gender analysis was conducted on these data in subsequent reports, though generally it was not disaggregated by Lebanese and non-Lebanese.<sup>17</sup> Both the VASyR and the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) collect statistical data on health indicators (apart from disability prevalence) at the household level. Because health is a difficult subject to explore at the level of the household, there is weak statistical data on gender and health for Syrians<sup>18</sup> as well as weak data on the gendered health impacts of the economic crisis on Lebanese. Given this gap, agencies responsible for implementing these surveys could consider gathering health data at the level of the individual in upcoming survey rounds.

In addition to the LFHLCs and the VASyR, UN agencies and NGOs have conducted smaller quantitative surveys on health issues in recent years, but most of them included limited or no gender disaggregation. Additional gender disaggregation should be conducted on datasets on COVID-19 vaccine acceptance among older people, mental health issues and access to healthcare more generally. A recent survey was conducted on women with disabilities in Lebanon, but little disaggregation by nationality was included. Health data is available from the Ministry of Public Health on a variety of health issues, though gender disaggregation is only sometimes available. There is also no updated information on HIV and AIDS prevalence (the last data was collected in 2014).

Qualitative gender data is focused primarily on sexual health, fertility practices and menstrual hygiene management. There is at least one high quality and up-to-date study on each of these subjects, but both focus on Syrians. Other studies focused on youth and adolescent issues and child marriage also discuss these topics, but health is a secondary subject. Additional qualitative research could be conducted on the sexual health, fertility and menstrual hygiene practices of Lebanese in the context of the economic crisis. Qualitative data on gender and disability for both Syrians and Lebanese could contribute to enriching prevailing knowledge in this subject area, as most available data is quantitative. In addition, there is very little data on the health situations for elderly people, and elderly women specifically, in Lebanon.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

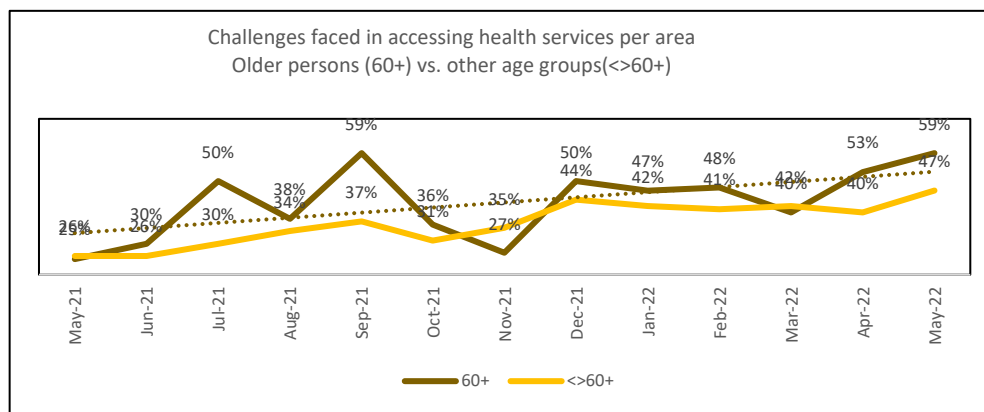
#### **Disability & Older Persons**

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<sup>17</sup> Gender analysis on LFHLCs include: *The Life of Women and Men in Lebanon: A Statistical Portrait* by UNDP (2021) and *The Status of Women in Lebanon: Assessing Women's Access to Economic Opportunities, Human Capital Accumulation & Agency* by the World Bank (2021)

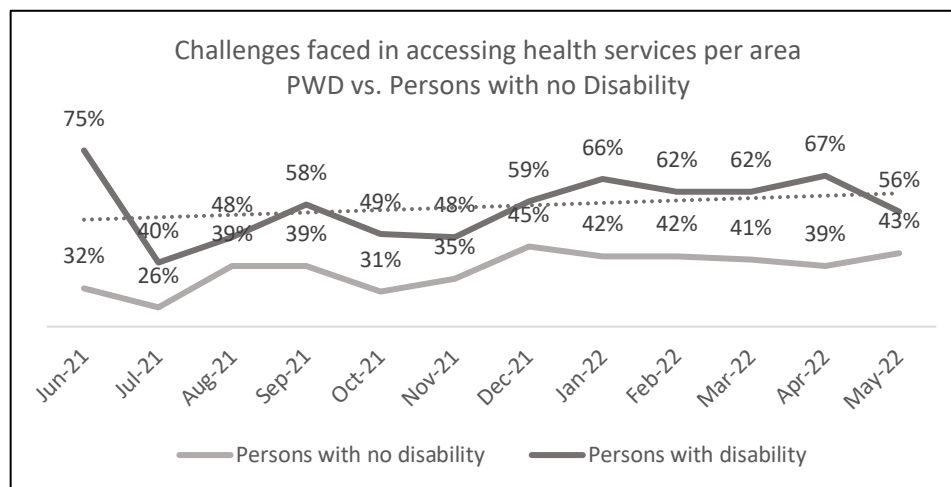
<sup>18</sup> The 2022 VASyR will ask some health questions at the level of the individual.

Access to quality health care was expressed a priority need for Syrian refugee older women and men as well as women and men with disabilities.<sup>19</sup> **Despite the greater needs of these groups for health care services, both face significant challenges in accessing healthcare.** IRC Protection Monitoring reports show that older persons face greater challenges in accessing healthcare compared to other age groups (as seen in the below graph) with the highest number of reporting challenges in September 2021 and May 2022.



From May 2021 challenges to accessing health care have been on an upward trend for all age groups. Similarly, persons with disability also report facing more challenges in accessing healthcare compared to individuals without a disability as show by the below graph.

<sup>19</sup> UNHCR Participatory Assessment 2021



According to IRC protection monitoring 63% of households with a disability reported challenges in accessing health services compared to 43% of those without a disability.

The two graphs drawn from UNHCR Protection Monitoring findings (January, February and March 2022) demonstrate the extent to which women and men living with a disability and those who are above 60 years old face **significant financial barriers** in accessing healthcare and medication<sup>20</sup>.

#### Persons with disability

- 47% more likely to report reduced access to medicine due to a lack of money
- 22% more likely to report reduced access to healthcare due to lack of money

#### And older persons are:

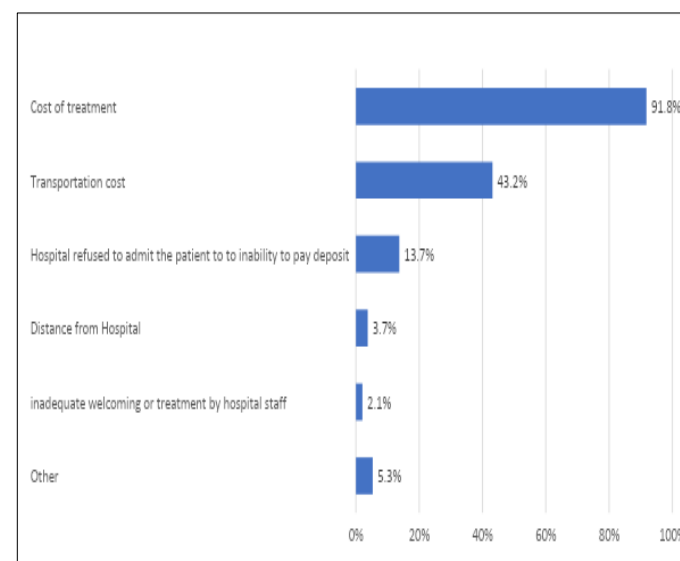
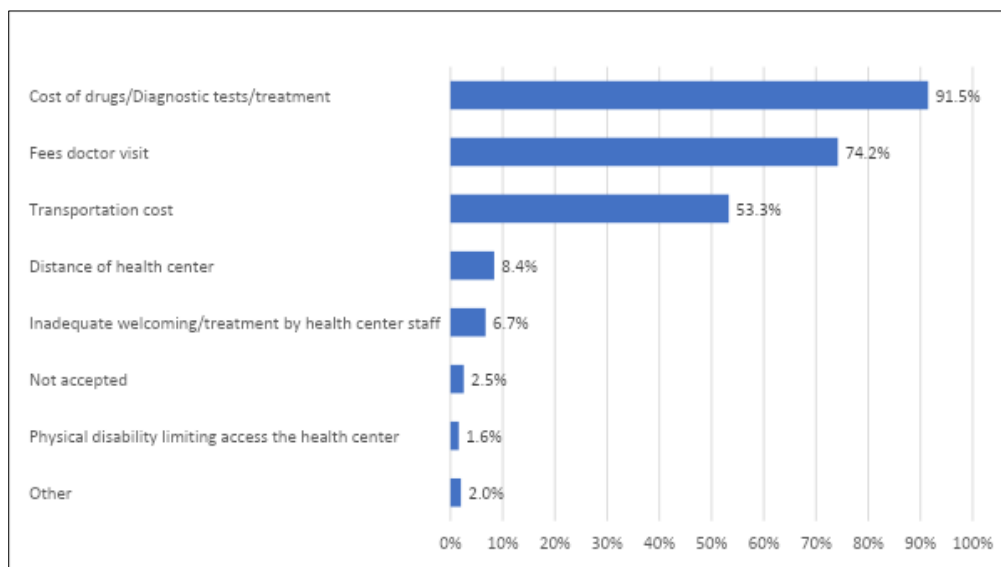
- 38% more likely to report reduced access to healthcare due to lack of money
- 53% more likely to report reduced access to medicine due to a lack of money
- 39% more likely to report diminishing spending on needed healthcare
- 54% more likely to report reduced spending on needed medicine

<sup>20</sup> UNHCR Protection Monitoring 2022

However, these groups also face significant **non-financial barriers** specifically related to attitudinal and physical barriers. Worryingly, 67% of households with at least one member with a disability said they required primary healthcare services but 15% had not been able to access those services, while 20% said they required secondary healthcare services, with 83% unable to access them.<sup>21</sup> The graphs below show the most commonly reported reasons for persons with disability not being able to access primary and secondary health care.

On average, older people are more likely to have health concerns and in some cases mobility issues, and experience vision and hearing impairments.<sup>22</sup> Not surprisingly, households across population groups interviewed by HelpAge which have at least one member with a disability reported having a greater need to access healthcare (59 per cent) compared to households without disabilities (43 per cent) and anticipated more financial and non-financial barriers to accessing healthcare (81 per cent compared 66 per cent).<sup>23</sup> These barriers include difficulty accessing transportation, treatment, medication – coupled with coping strategies such as borrowing money or cancelling doctors’ visits – are commonly reported among households with disability to access health care. Furthermore, the 2021 MSNA showed that Lebanese, PRL and migrant women and men with disability were more likely than Lebanese overall to report

financial barriers related to the cost of treatment,



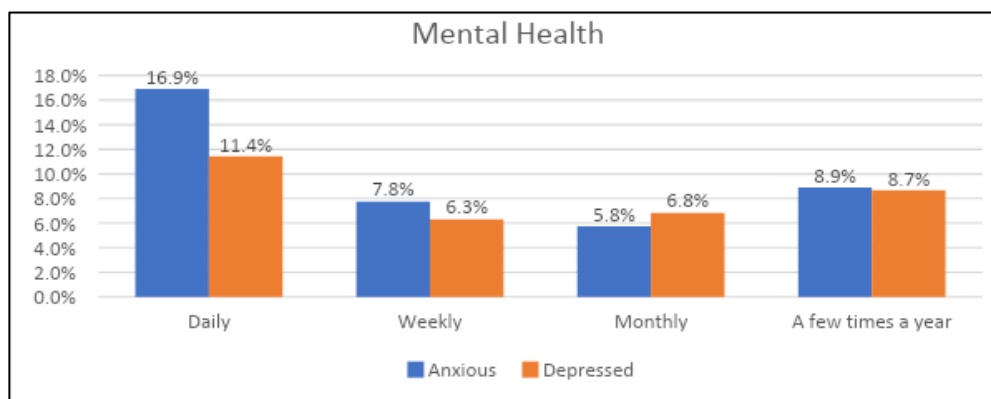
<sup>21</sup> IRC Protection Monitoring 2022  
<sup>22</sup> HelpAge Needs Assessment p.15  
<sup>23</sup> MSNA 2021

cost of medication, and cost of transportation, and they were also more likely to report having to delay or cancel a doctor’s appointment as means to coping with these barriers.<sup>24</sup> Similar challenges are experienced by older women and men from across community groups, with 54% reporting insufficient availability of medicine or treatment, 51% a lack of money and 39% physical obstacles as their main barriers in accessing health services.

According to the MSNA 2021, older persons and persons with disability resort to the following main coping mechanisms to address these barriers:

- ❖ Delayed or canceled doctors visit or other treatment
- ❖ Went to the pharmacy instead of the doctor or clinic
- ❖ Delayed or canceled diagnostic procedure or other analysis
- ❖ Switched to a health care facility closer to home
- ❖ No coping measure used<sup>25</sup>

Older women and men have increasing mental health and psychosocial support needs, mainly due to the changing social roles at time of retirement and increased household chores, especially for older women. Of Syrian refugee women, girls, men and boys living with a disability (age 5 years and above), 17% reported feeling worried, anxious, or nervous daily and 11% reported feeling depressed on a daily basis.<sup>26</sup> Despite these obvious needs older persons and persons with disability seldom receive MHPSS services.



<sup>24</sup> MSNA 2021

<sup>25</sup> MSNA 2021, note that in 2022 we will distinguish between “no coping mechanism available” versus “no coping mechanism needed” since it’s not possible to know from this current answer choice.

<sup>26</sup> VASYR 2021

## PROTECTION SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS | Gender-based Violence<sup>27</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
GBV prevalence	Estimated rate of domestic violence*	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese people who knew someone who had been subjected to domestic violence as of 2017	50%			<a href="#">UNFPA</a>	2017
	Intimate partner violence	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of married Lebanese women who report having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence as of 2018		31%		<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018
	Witnessing violence	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of women and men who reported witnessing violence or knowing a woman who had experienced violence in 2020		43%	30%	<a href="#">UN Women and UNFPA</a>	2021
	Sexual harassment in public	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of women who had experienced sexual harassment in a public place	61%			<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018
GBV trends	Cases reported to the GBV Information Management System*	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of women and men who reported cases of GBV to the GBV IMS in 2021	100%	96%	4%	<a href="#">GBV IMS Annual Report</a>	2022

<sup>27</sup> This briefing presents key findings on sexual and gender-based violence in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.



	Cases reported to the GBV Information Management System*	Disability (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of cases reported to the GBV IMS from people with disabilities in 2021	2%			<a href="#">GBV IMS Annual Report</a>	2022
	Cases reported to the GBV Information Management System*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of cases reported to the GBV IMS from Syrians in 2021	67%			<a href="#">GBV IMS Annual Report</a>	2022
	Types of cases reported to the GBV Information Management System*	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of cases reported to the GBV IMS that dealt primarily with physical assault in 2021	38%			<a href="#">GBV IMS Annual Report</a>	2022
	Types of cases reported to the GBV Information Management System*	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of cases reported to the GBV IMS that dealt primarily with emotional and psychological abuse in 2021	32%			<a href="#">GBV IMS Annual Report</a>	2022
Patriarchal social and cultural norms around GBV	Attitudes toward physical violence	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% Lebanese and Syrian population who perceived beating their wives as justifiable as of 2018		5%	21%	<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018
	Marital rape	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of Lebanese and Syrian women who had been victims of marital rape in their lifetime as of 2018		15%		<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018
	Marital rape	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of Lebanese and Syrian men who report having forced their wives to have sex as of 2018			7%	<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018

	Toleration of violence	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of young people (18-24) who agreed that women should tolerate violence to keep the family together in 2020		27%	44%	<a href="#">UN Women and UNFPA</a>	2021
	Reported sexual harassment at work*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women respondents who reported being sexually harassed at work in 2021		17%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021
	Reported verbal harassment at work*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of respondents (all women) who reported being verbally harassed at work in 2021		25%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021
Help-seeking behavior	Help-seeking behavior*	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of women who sought help out of those who know someone who experienced GBV as of 2020		24%		<a href="#">UN Women and UNFPA</a>	2021
	Reasons for survivors not accessing justice*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of assessed Syrian women survivors who report they do not access justice because they fear consequences		65%		<a href="#">UN Women</a>	2022
	Reasons for survivors not accessing justice*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of assessed Syrian women survivors who report they do not access justice due to stigma and shame		52%		<a href="#">UN Women</a>	2022
	Reasons for survivors not accessing justice*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of assessed Syrian women survivors who report they do not access justice because they believe nothing will change		48%		<a href="#">UN Women</a>	2022

	Awareness of specialized services	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of households aware of psychosocial support for women and girls within 30 minutes of home by respondents' usual form of transportation	11%			<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
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## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **There are no reliable nationwide prevalence estimates** on domestic and intimate partner violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and other forms of gender-based violence, as collecting data on this sensitive topic is extremely difficult.
- **Reliable GBV statistics are provided by the GBVIMS, however not in absolute numbers.** The system is based on access to services.
- However, **high quality survey data suggests intimate partner violence, marital rape and sexual harassment are common in Lebanon.**
- **Violence against women is linked to cultural, religious, and social norms around male dominance and female subservience.** A large segment of both Lebanese and Syrian populations, men and women, believe that women should tolerate violence at home, and many men believe beating their wives is justified.
- **It is unclear whether gender-based violence is equally common among Syrians and Lebanese.** Although Syrians seem to be more affected by GBV, the GBVIMS is reporting an increase of Lebanese survivors accessing services.
- **Few GBV survivors report it because they fear the consequences, social stigma, skepticism about the efficacy of reporting, and not having enough money.** In a recent study, only about one quarter of respondents reported that the women they knew who had experienced violence by a husband, a family member, or online had reported the violence. In addition, women from low-income backgrounds are often unable to afford the necessary services and arrangements that would help them seek justice.
- **The limited number of well-trained security personnel and qualified legal professionals, particularly those who are female, also deters women from pursuing legal redress.**

- **Women with disabilities face specific forms of GBV.** Almost all respondents in a recent study on women with disabilities affirmed they experienced more violence, harassment, and stigma than men with disabilities, including emotional, sexual, verbal, and economic violence in addition to intended or unintended neglect.
- **Lockdown measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 in 2020-2022 likely led to an increase in GBV incidence.** At least one study on violence against women during COVID-19 found evidence that women faced an increased risk of violence from their husbands and family members in the home during this period.
- **Transactional sex may be on the rise in Lebanon, particularly among Syrian women.** A 2018 study found that in 2011 147 women, 30% Syrian, were arrested or detained by General Security for prostitution compared to 289 (57% Syrian) in 2018. Current estimates on prostitution are unknown, but may have risen due to the economic crisis.

### *Syrians*

- **Fewer Syrian women than men have legal residency in Lebanon,** which prevents survivors from initiating steps to access formal justice mechanisms.
- **Most women have minimal awareness of their rights as refugees in Lebanon and the legal services available to them.** Only an estimated one-third of Syrian women know where to seek GBV services
- Given the lack of available and effective formal justice mechanisms and because of strong societal and familial pressures, **Syrian refugee women turn to “informal justice mechanisms”, or informal mediation, in cases of familial violence.** are more inclined to seek formal options for legal redress if the perpetrator is not within the family.
- **Informal justice actors reinforce existing gender discrimination and structural injustices against women** as they are male-dominated and unaccountable to Lebanese or international law.

### *Lebanese*

- **Lebanon’s 15 Personal Status Laws (PSLs) codify gender inequalities and institutionalize women’s status as secondary to men** across a range of matters, including divorce, marriage, custody, land ownership.
- Although domestic violence, sexual harassment, honor crimes, and rape (outside of marriage) have become criminalized over the past decade, **many of the laws criminalizing those actions are restrictive in their definitions, and certain provisions of criminal law still enable a host of legalized discrimination based on gender.**

## STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 78<sup>28</sup> included discussion on sexual and gender-based violence.** Of these, about one-third (27) collected quantitative data, 18 collected qualitative data, and 15 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remainder were secondary analyses (4), gender alerts on COVID-19 (5), literature reviews (4) national strategies (5). Half (40) of the documents focused on both Syrians and Lebanese. An additional 28 focused on only Syrians (or Syrians and other non-Lebanese groups) and 9 were on Lebanese. Most of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation (34) or focused exclusively on women and girls (29). In addition, 12 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation and 2 were non-applicable.

**Given prevailing taboos and sensitivities, gender-based violence is a very difficult subject to collect reliable data on, especially quantitative data.** The best available statistical data on GBV is likely the results from the *Understanding Masculinities: Results from the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES) in Lebanon*, which had a large sample of both Syrians and Lebanese and collected high-quality data on a wide range of SGBV-related topics. UN Women and UNFPA conducted a high-quality regional phone survey in 2020 to assess the impact of COVID-19 on VAW but conducting research on this topic over the phone has limitations, and this data was also not well disaggregated by Lebanese and Syrian populations. The VASyR and the MSNA ask questions on women's safety and security but have historically low response rates. Given the broad focus of these surveys, it is perhaps questionable whether they are in fact the best mechanisms to be collect such sensitive data. Data collected from the GBV IMS and KAFA hotline are useful in understanding trends among women who are aware of services and choose to seek this particular form of support for GBV, but studies show this is a limited pool compared to those subjected to GBV overall. In summary, given that the IMAGES data is now 5 years old, an update to this survey – which has yielded the best possible GBV prevalence approximations - in the coming years would be useful.

**Many qualitative and mixed-method studies have also been conducted on specific GBV-related issues in recent years.** These include (but are not limited to) the impact of the economic crisis on sexual behavior for Syrian women, menstrual hygiene management, the cost of seeking justice for GBV, Syrian women's access to justice, child marriage, prostitution, incarcerated girls, risk of sexual abuse in accessing humanitarian assistance, violence against women politicians and journalists, and violence against women with disabilities. Additional qualitative research could be conducted on the impact of the economic crisis on GBV and research could be expanded on under-researched groups, in particular older women and women with disabilities. Specifically, further qualitative research could focus on the extent to which the crisis has impacted the prevalence of survival sex and prostitution, sexual health practices and GBV among all populations (not only Syrians), GBV against older women.

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<sup>28</sup> Of these 33, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

### Disability / Older persons

**Women and girls:** According to an October 2021 study conducted by Humanity and Inclusion women and girls with a disability in Lebanon face greater exposure to violence including gender-based violence (GBV), exploitation, coercion, and abuse than those without a disability and they also face significant challenges accessing GBV services due to a variety of physical, societal, environmental and communication barriers; all factors that increase their risk of violence, abuse, and exploitation.<sup>29</sup> More specifically, women, girls, men and boys with intellectual and mental impairment appear to experience higher levels of sexual assault and abuse than other disability types.

**Syrian refugee households which have a member with a disability report that they experience safety and security concerns more regularly than households which don't have a member with disability.** Concerningly, the below graph demonstrates that we see a higher number of incidents reported by this group across all violence types; physical harassment, extortion, community violence and sexual harassment. **At the same time, these households report having less concerns in relation to confiscation of their Identification document (ID) and risk of detention.**

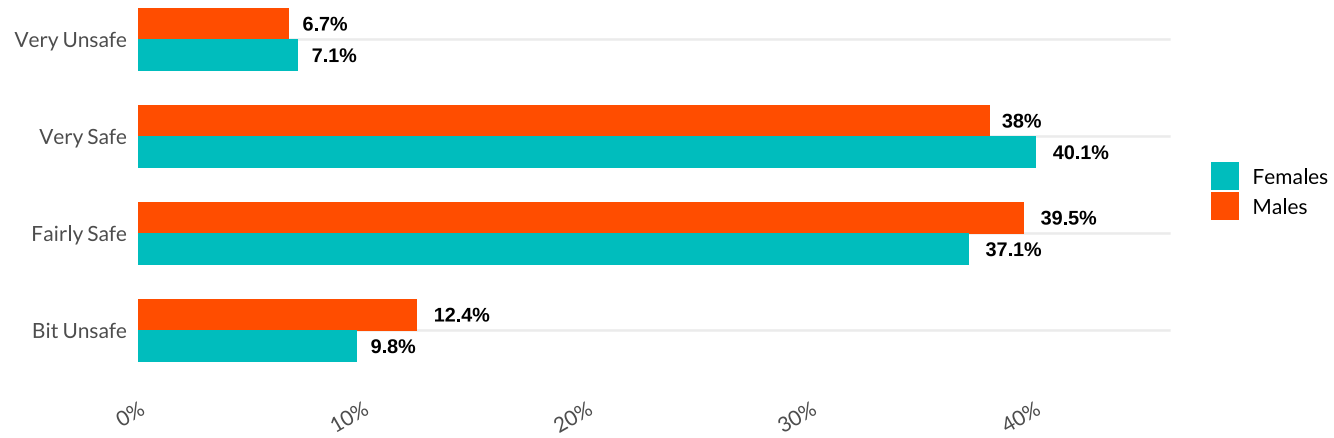
In South Lebanon, Syrian refugees with a disability frequently report to partners a general feeling of unsafety in their own communities due to discrimination, bullying and harassment compared to other locations in the country.

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<sup>29</sup> HI Factsheet, October 2021

### Level of safety walking alone at night in the area for PwD

Majority of disabled men and women feel very or fairly safe walking alone at night



VASyR 2022

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Child marriage	Prevalence of child marriage among Lebanese	Nationality (Lebanese)	% Lebanese aged 15-19 who were married in 2018	2%	3%	0.02%	CAS (UN Women calculation)	2022
	Prevalence of child marriage among Syrians	Nationality (Syrian)	% Syrians aged 15-19 who were married in 2021	20%	20%	0%	VASyR	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Prevalence of child marriage among GBV survivors	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% married callers to the KAFA GBV hotline in 2020 who were married as children		19%		<a href="#">KAFA</a>	2020
Child labor	Prevalence of child labor among Syrians	Nationality (Syrian)	% boys and girls engaged in child labor in 2021	5%	2%	8%	VASyR	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)

### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

#### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

<sup>30</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and child protection in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon..



- **The main child protection issue for girls is child marriage whereas for boys it is child labor.**
- **Child marriage and child labor are both more prevalent among Syrians than it is among Lebanese** due to their high economic vulnerability. One in five Syrian girls between the age of 15-19 is married compared to one in 50 Lebanese girls.
- **Child marriage and child labor affect boys' and girls' education**, as many girls, particularly Syrian girls, drop out of school to get married and boys drop out to work.
- **Parental pressure and poor economic circumstance are the main reasons for both child marriage and child labor**, and many parents cite financial needs as the main reason for parents pressuring their daughters to marry before 18 or send young boys to work.
- According to the Child Protection Working Group Response Monitoring Dashboard published in June 2022, **boys (67%) were more targeted or able to access case management services than girls.** This can be related to the fact that case management provided to girls is reported through the GBVIMS or it can be related to a more limited access to support by girls. To be investigated.

### Syrians

- **Child marriage and child labor are both directly linked to poor educational outcomes**, as only 30% of Syrian girls and 23% of Syrian boys attending were attending secondary school in 2021. The main reasons girls were not attending was child marriage while the main reason for boys not attending was child labor.<sup>31</sup>
- **Early marriage of Syrian refugee girls is caused by their families displacement, poverty, and patriarchal social norms.** According to data collected in 2007, only 7% of Syrian girls 15-19 were married (in Syria) compared to 20% of Syrian girls in Lebanon in 2022.<sup>32</sup> Qualitative and quantitative evidence confirms displacement has increased this risk and girls may not be marrying at such high rates if they were still living peacefully in Syria.
- **Apart from economic necessity, reasons for such marriages include** wanting to maintain the girl's honor, for her physical and financial security and there being fewer Syrian men left as a direct consequence of the civil war.
- **Child marriage is not necessarily viewed positively by the girls and families themselves**, as families, and the girls themselves to a certain extent, believe it would have been positive for their daughters to pursue their education rather than to get married. However, some girls see it as a way to stop working and as something that will benefit them given their options.

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<sup>31</sup> VASyR, 2021.

<sup>32</sup> See The Prevalence of Early Marriage and its Key Determinants Among Syrian Refugee Girls and Women (UNFPA, 2016), World Food Programme multi-purpose cash assistance in Lebanon: social cohesion and stability between Syrian refugees and host communities (ODI, 2019), Understanding the social processes underpinning child marriage: The impact of protracted displacement in Lebanon on Syrian refugees (Terre des Hommes, 2020).

- **Many child marriages are to cousins or extended family members.** Being a family member, usually a cousin, and being able to provide for the girl, are frequently mentioned as the most important attributes of a proposing groom.
- **Family members can start receiving proposals when their daughters are as young as 12,** and the onset of proposals appears to change parents' perspectives on their daughter's readiness as well as encourage other proposals.
- **Community reputation based on their daughters' perceived chastity and honor are important considerations for the families of adolescent girls, and factor strongly into their marriages.** Mothers describe not only being concerned about the 'gossip', but they were also worried that their girls might actually engage in inappropriate relationships with men before marriage or be raped.
- **Many married girls view their marriages and children as burdens at their age,** even when they have good relationships with their husbands.
- **Girls report that it is rare for young brides to be allowed to use contraception,** and most girls said that their knowledge about pregnancy and childbirth was limited before they conceived.
- **Gender-based violence against married girls is common.** Many report that sexual, emotional – and sometimes physical – violence is common.
- **Violence against Syrian boys and girls is possibly on the rise.** The rate of children aged between 1 and 14 were subjected to at least one form of violent discipline increased from 50% in 2020 to 56% 2021, with little gender difference.

### *Lebanese*

- **Child marriage and child labor are less common among Lebanese** but are still occurring.
- **Almost all Lebanese believe the best marriage age for females is 18+ and believe the best marriage age for males is 18+.** However, at least one in six also believes girls under 18 are ready for marriage after puberty and that girls are ready to assume responsibilities associated with marriage.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND CHILD PROTECTION**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 40<sup>33</sup> included discussion on child protection. Of these, 19 collected quantitative data, 7 collected qualitative data, and 6 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remaining 8 were secondary data analyses of CAS and MSNA data (4), literature reviews (3), and one was a national strategy document. Half (20) of the documents discussed both Syrians and Lebanese, 16 discussed only Syrians, 3 discussed Lebanese and one was unspecified. Half (19) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 12 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, 3 focused only on women and girls, 3 had no gender disaggregation, and the remainder were not applicable.

<sup>33</sup> Of these 40, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

**Overall, high quality, comprehensive and up-to-date quantitative and qualitative gender data are available on child protection.**

Prevalence data on child labor and child marriage among Syrians is collected on a yearly basis by the VASyR. UNICEF has been collecting regular data on children's wellbeing, but no publicly available gender-disaggregated findings beyond those on child labor and child marriage are available. Key information gaps include but are not limited to: gender disaggregated information on neglect, children in conflict with the law,<sup>34</sup> child labor in the form of unpaid housework and chores for girls and its impact on educational and health outcomes, updated comprehensive statistics on prevalence of child marriage among Lebanese and the potential impact of the economic crisis on child marriage among Lebanese, as the last reliable prevalence estimate for Lebanese was collected in 2018 (CAS and ILO). In addition, a large-scale survey (IMAGES, UN Women and Pro Mundo) that assessed attitudes on child marriage among Lebanese and Syrians was conducted in 2017 and would ideally be replicated in the coming years.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

### **Children with disability:**

Lebanese households with at least one child with a disability were 8% more likely to report that their child suffers from physical harassment (15%) compared to households with a child without a disability (7%), and nearly one fifth (19%) reported that their child was also being bullied. In PRL households, the most concerning safety and security concerns for children with disability is being robbed (30% almost double compared to Lebanese household) and 20% reported worrying that their child would be kidnapped. While for Syrian refugee children with disabilities 21.3% reported bullying as the main safety concern, followed by verbal harassment (9.7%). Surprisingly, kidnapping was a greater concern for these households than robbery, physical harassment or punishment. In a UNICEF Knowledge Attitude and Practices survey conducted in 2017, 30 per cent of respondents said that children with physical disabilities should not be integrated into society and participate in community life, compared to 75 per cent for children with intellectual disabilities, demonstrating the wide-spread negative attitudes of the community toward inclusion in particular for children with intellectual disability.

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<sup>34</sup> One recent case study examined the experiences of five women who were incarcerated as girls. Broader information on this topic, and potential exploration of incarcerated boys, could be useful.



## PROTECTION SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>35</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Legal Residency	Rates of legal residency	Nationality (Syrian)	# of total population 15+ with legal residency in 2021	16%	14%	19%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Types of legal residency	Nationality (Syrian)	% of total population 15+ with residency that possessed residency in the form of a UNHCR certificate	54%	69%	41%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Types of legal residency	Nationality (Syrian)	% of total population 15+ with residency that possessed residency in the form of sponsorship	31%	17%	42%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
Birth Registration	Birth registration	Nationality (Syrian)	% of FHH and MHH who had completed the birth registration process for their children in 2021	31%	13%	33%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)

<sup>35</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and legal protection in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- The Government of Lebanon is not party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, however by virtue of International Human Rights Law it bears primary responsibility for refugee protection with UNHCR closely coordinating and supporting their international protection and humanitarian assistance response. Legal protection for Lebanese individuals is the primary responsibility of the Lebanese government.
- **Both Syrian and Lebanese women often lack awareness of their legal rights and struggle to afford legal services.** Courts don't account for challenges women face appearing in court and paying for lawsuits, women typically have to borrow money to pursue justice and this is an inhibiting factor, and often women only go to court if all other recourse avenues have been exhausted.

### *Syrians*

- **Syrian women have consistently reported lower rates of legal residency compared to men since 2013**
- **More Syrian women with residency have it in the form of a UNHCR certificate while men are far more likely to have sponsorships.** This is linked to the fact that Syrian women participate in the paid labor force at far lower rates than men and men seek sponsorships in order to work.
- **There is a widespread perception that refugee women are less likely than men to be stopped at checkpoints and, if stopped, less likely to be detained.** One study suggested women were slightly more likely to return to Syria in order to maintain their legal stay than men due to the perception that women face fewer protection risks (such as detention or confiscation of documents) at the checkpoints within Lebanon and when crossing borders - including on the Syrian side where men may be stopped if they have not completed their military service.
- **Women who lack residency are less likely to approach police or justice mechanisms to report incidents of harassment or violence,** meaning a lack of legal recourse and justice for gender-based violence against Syrian women.
- **FHH are less likely to have registered marriages or births because they do not have residency, do not understand how to go about the process and can't afford it.** Children born in Lebanon since 2011 into FHH are less likely to have completed the birth registration process than children in MHH.
- **Many women who have either lost or been separated from their husbands may not be able to claim marital property without a marriage certificate to prove their relationship.**

### *Lebanese*

- **Confessional personal status laws in Lebanon are a significant contributor to the legal foundations of gender inequality in Lebanon.** They make women and girls more vulnerable to violence, institutionalize their status as secondary to men, and many even explicitly allow for gender-based violence through protecting practices such as marital rape and child marriage. They also limit women's rights to equal inheritance and, in some cases, their right to custody of their children and to divorce their husbands.
- **Lebanon's legal framework for nationality prohibits women from passing their nationality to spouses and/or children.**
- Although domestic violence, sexual harassment, honour crimes, and rape (outside of marriage) have become criminalized over the past decade, **certain provisions of Lebanon's criminal law still enable a host of legalized forms of discrimination based on gender.** The 2014 law on domestic violence lacks a unified definition and interpretation of domestic violence before civil courts and does not cover all forms of GBV, since it only applies in cases of domestic violence between family members.

#### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND LEGAL PROTECTION**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 30<sup>36</sup> included discussion on legal protection. Of these, 11 collected quantitative data, 3 collected qualitative data, and 7 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remaining 10 were secondary data analyses of CAS and MSNA data (4), legal analyses (2), literature reviews (3) and one was a national strategy document. Half (16) of the documents discussed legal protection issues related to Syrians, 7 discussed both Syrians and Lebanese, 6 discussed only Lebanese, and two were unspecified. One-third (12) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 10 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, 7 focused only on women and girls, and the remainder were not applicable.

**High quality, detailed, and gender-disaggregated statistical information is available on legal protection issues for Syrians,** as the VASyR collects this data on a yearly basis and provides gender-disaggregated findings. In addition, statistics on perceptions and attitudes around legal protection issues were collected in the IMAGES survey of 2018, which could be updated in coming years. Robust legal reviews on gender equality and Lebanese law are regularly updated.

In addition, **a few qualitative and mixed-method studies have been conducted on legal protection issues women face,** namely on access to justice, the cost of seeking justice for GBV, incarcerated women and girls, and the challenges of birth registration and maintaining legal residency. However, the last studies on barriers due to lack of legal residency were conducted 7 years ago and only included limited gender disaggregation.

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<sup>36</sup> Of these 40, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

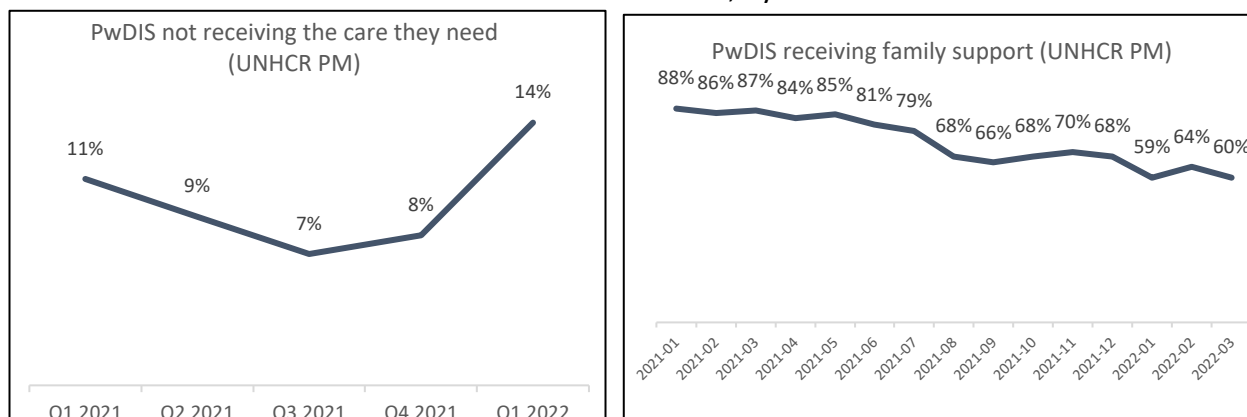
## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

### Persons with disability and older persons – family/community supports

Drastic changes to livelihoods and access to basic needs and services has significantly strained community and family support systems negatively impacting the support networks previously available for persons with a disability and older persons, as well as their household members. According to IRC Protection Monitoring, Lebanese and Syrian older persons and persons with disability are increasingly reliant on charitable assistance and family support as a main source of income. Their increasingly limited access to livelihood opportunities greatly impacts their inability to meet their basic needs, required assistive devices and materials (ex. diapers) and additional health and transportation costs. Since 2021, partners have reported consistently that there has been a shortage of adult diapers in the market. According to UNHCR Protection Monitoring data, there is a worrying trend showing the steady decline of Syrian refugees living with a disability reporting to rely on family support dropping from 88% in January 2021 to 60% in March 2022. This sharp decline during the first quarter of 2022, occurs in parallel to an increase in persons with disability reporting that their care needs are not being met from 8% in December 2021 to 14% in January 2022.<sup>37</sup>

The reduced ability of families and the community to support is particularly worrying when we consider that 58.7% of older refugees and 39.6% of disabled refugees weren't receiving care or support from their families.<sup>38</sup> This is more concerning when according to a 2021 HelpAge needs assessment conducted with 806 older Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian women and men, **26% said they lived**



<sup>37</sup> UNHCR Protection Monitoring

<sup>38</sup> UNHCR Protection Monitoring, August 2022



**alone.** According to a Rapid Gender Analysis conducted in the aftermath of the Beirut Port explosion 8 per cent of the people affected were older women living alone. They faced unique challenges such as to access in-person assistance due to a lack of information on available services, the need to take more COVID-19 precautions than others, and physical barriers due to the lay out of the town.

Interestingly, the findings from the HelpAge needs assessment, show that of those interviewed female-headed households (63 per cent) across community groups were far more likely than male-headed households (48 per cent) to include older members, which may place additional care-taking burdens as well as higher costs on female-headed households.<sup>39</sup> This is particularly worrying because we know that female headed households are more socio-economically vulnerable than male headed households with less income generating and livelihood opportunities than men and they are also more likely to send their children to work.

### **Access to information and two-way communication**

According to the 2022 VASyR, the largest barriers faced by older Syrian refugees with disabilities in accessing information was difficulties seeing or reading (64.4%), difficulties using otherwise accessible technology (40.1%) and being fully reliant on other household members to access information (23.7%).

### **Legal Residency**

Access to legal residency impacts the ability to access services and livelihood opportunities due to risk of arrest and detention, negatively impacts feelings of safety and security as well as the ability of individuals to file complaints or approach authorities. Older Syrian refugee men and women have the lowest legal residency rates compared to other age groups. In 2022, only 11% of older Syrian refugee women between 65-69 years old held a legal residency permit compared to the national average of 17%.<sup>40</sup> IRC Protection Monitoring trends show that people over 60 years old are significantly less likely to prioritize the need for legal residency compared with younger individuals (32% compared to 12%).<sup>41</sup>

Interestingly, legal residency rates for both Syrian refugee women and men living with a disability is higher than those without a disability and higher than the average (17%). Syrian refugees living with a disability similarly report having less concerns in relation to the confiscation of their identification documents (ID) by authorities or when accessing services, and reduced risk of arbitrary arrest

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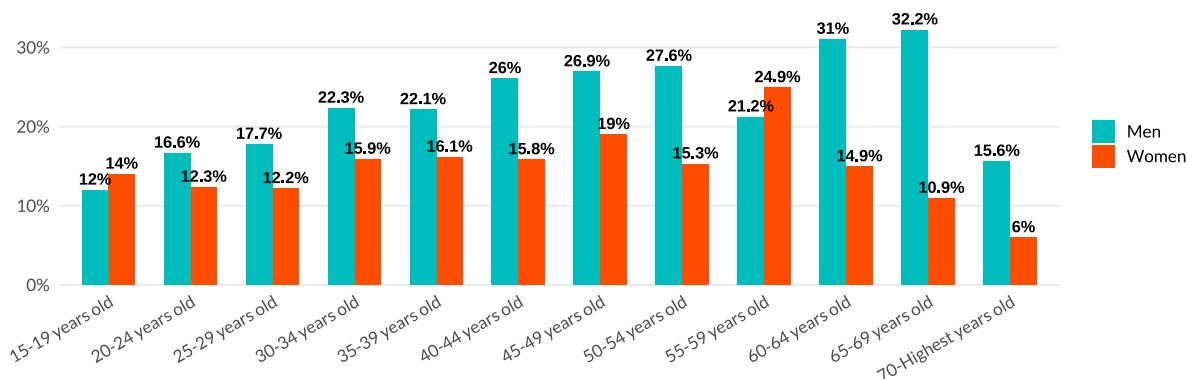
<sup>39</sup> HelpAge needs assessment 2022 p15

<sup>40</sup> VASYR 2022, this figure includes persons aged 15 years old and above

<sup>41</sup> IRC Protection monitoring Report, 2022

and detention as a result of lack of legal residency. **Of those with a disability without legal residency:** 37.4% cited not being able to obtain a sponsor and/or pay the fees, 17.6% cited entering Lebanon through unofficial borders, 7.4% were reluctant or discouraged to approach the GSO and 15.4% (up from 10% in 2021) cited having had a non-renewable and expired residency.

Syrian Refugees in Lebanon with Legal Residency  
by Age and Gender

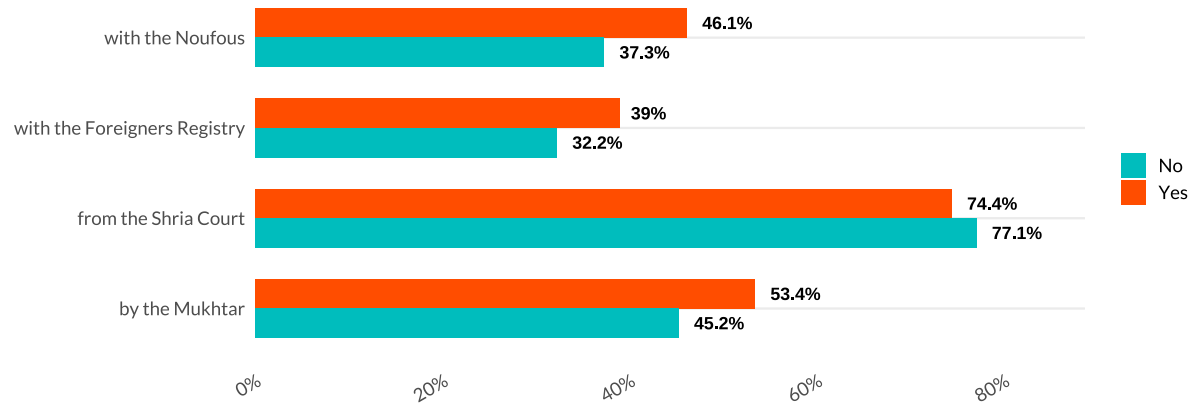


VASyR 2022

## Civil Documentation

**Access to marriage registration** has implications on legal protection including guardianship and inheritance rights and impacts access to birth registration which is critical for an individual's legal identity. Syrian refugees living with a disability are 6.8% more likely to have their marriages registered with the Foreigners Registry than those without a disability (32.2% without disability; 39% with disability). They are more likely to have their marriage certificate authenticated by a Mokhtar but are less likely to have a marriage contract from a religious authority or to have proof of marriage from a Shria Court (77.1% without disability; 74.1% with disability).

### Levels of Marriage Proof/Certification for Syrian Refugees



VASyR 2022

## LIVELIHOODS SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>42</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Labor Force Participation 2021**	Labor force participation rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese who were participating in the labor force in 2021	51%	34%	69%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Labor force participation rate	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrians who were participating in the labor force in 2021	47%	16%	81%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Labor force participation rate	Disability (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese with disabilities who were participating in the labor force in 2021	29%	17%	41%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022

<sup>42</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and livelihoods in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

Unemployment 2021**	Unemployment rate	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese and non-Lebanese who were unemployed in 2021	28%	36%	23%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Unemployment rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese who were unemployed in 2021	28%	39%	23%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Unemployment rate	Disability (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese people with disabilities who were unemployed in 2021	38%	50%	34%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
	Unemployment rate	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrians who were unemployed in 2021	30%	42%	27%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)

Income and earnings in 2022	Average monthly earnings (LBP)	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	Average monthly earnings for employees in their main job in LBP in 2022	2,284,100	2,492,000	2,205,600	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
	Average monthly earnings (USD)	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	Average monthly earnings for employees in their main job in USD in 2022 at the exchange rate when data was collected (January 2022)	\$99	\$108	\$96	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
	Employees with low pay rates	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of population with low pay rates in 2022	23%	27%	22%	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
Labor Force Participation pre-2019	Labor force participation rate	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese and non-Lebanese who were participating in the labor force in 2018	100%	25%	75%	<a href="#">World Bank and UN Women</a>	2021
	Labor force participation rate	Nationality (Lebanese)	% Lebanese who were participating in the labor force in 2018	100%	29%	70%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019
	Labor force participation rate	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrians who were participating in the labor force in 2018	38%	11%	66%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2019
	Labor force participation rate	Disability (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese and non-Lebanese people with disabilities who were participating in the labor force in 2018	14%	5%	24%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019

	Labor force participation rate	Age (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese men and women 65-69 participating in the labor force in 2019		7%	41%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019
Unemployment pre-2019	Unemployment rate	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of total population unemployed in 2018	11%	14%	10%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2019
	Unemployment rate	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrians who were unemployed in 2018	31%	37%	30%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2019 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Employees with low pay rates	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of population with low pay rates in 2018	22%	19%	23%	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
Informality	Formal sector employment	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese and non-Lebanese employed in the formal sector in 2018	45%	55%	43%	<a href="#">Central Administration of Statistics (Lebanon) and ILO</a>	2018

	Formal sector employment	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese population employed in the formal sector in 2018	53%	57%	52%	CAS (UN Women calculation)	2022
	Formal sector employment	Nationality (Non-Lebanese)	% of non-Lebanese population employed in the formal sector in 2018	7%	8%	6%	CAS (UN Women calculation)	2022
	Formal sector employment	Disability (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of Lebanese and non-Lebanese people with disabilities working in the formal sector in 2018	31%	34%	30%	CAS (UN Women calculation)	2022
	Proportion of workers who are monthly paid employees	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of labor force that was comprised of monthly paid employees in 2018	55%	78%	49%	<a href="#">World Bank and UN Women</a>	2021
Business Environment	Business ownership	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	Lebanese firms with women among their owners in 2018	10%			<a href="#">World Bank and UN Women</a>	2021
	Business ownership	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	Lebanese firms that were majority female owned in 2018	5%			<a href="#">World Bank and UN Women</a>	2021
	Self-employment	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% labor force that is self-employed in 2018	21%	11%	25%	<a href="#">World Bank and UN Women</a>	2021
	Women in managerial positions	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of women and men in managerial positions in 2022		27%	73%	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFHLCs Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022



	Working short hours	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of labor force working less than 30 hours per week in 2022	17%	26%	14%	<a href="#">ILO and CAS LFH LCS Follow-Up 2022</a>	2022
	Ownership of agricultural lands	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of agricultural lands owned by women in 2012		9%	91%	<a href="#">FAO</a>	2021
Work and social norms	Decision-making around employment*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women who said they had never considered engaging in paid work in their lives as of 2021		31%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021
	Attitudes of male spouses toward their wives working*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women whose spouses do not allow them to work in 2021 (of women surveyed who said they never thoughts of engaging in work)		22%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021
	Possession of work skills*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women who think they do not have the required skills to work in 2021 (of women surveyed who said they had never considered engaging in paid work)		23%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021
	Childcare responsibilities and work*	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of women who said that inability to work is due to childcare responsibilities in 2021 (of women surveyed who said they had never considered engaging in paid work)		26%		<a href="#">UN Women and the European Union</a>	2021

	Participation in domestic tasks	Nationality (Lebanese and Syrian)	% of men and women who reported they 'participate in traditionally female domestic tasks,' with these tasks defined as: washing clothes, preparing food, cleaning the kitchen or sitting rooms, cleaning the bathroom or toilet in 2017		98%	68%	<a href="#">IMAGES/UN WOMEN</a>	2018
	Attitudes toward childcare	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese population who believed that childcare could negatively affect children in 2017	63%	63%	63%	<a href="#">World Values Survey</a>	2018
	Childcare-related challenges*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of respondents (all women) reporting challenges in finding childcare services in 2021		71%		<a href="#">UNHCR, ILO, UN Women</a>	2021
	Housework burden*	Nationality (Syrian)	% of respondents (all women) who struggled to maintain housework while working in 2021		38%		<a href="#">UNHCR, ILO, UN Women</a>	2021
	Reasons for not seeking out jobs	Nationality (Syrian)	% of working-aged Syrian women who reported childcare and domestic duties as the main reason for not seeking out work		67%		<a href="#">CAMEALEON</a>	2020

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **Women in Lebanon participate in the labor force at a third of the rate of their male counterparts.** In 2018, the female labor force participation rate 29% overall, including Lebanese women and non-national women (nationalities unspecified), compared with 70% of men.
- **The labor force participation rate for Syrian women is far lower than for Lebanese women,** with only 16% in the labor force compared to 65% of refugee men in 2021.
- **Women in Lebanon have higher rates of unemployment than men,** especially Syrian women.

- **As of 2018, the gender wage gap was negative in Lebanon (-3.6%), meaning women earned, on average, more than their male counterparts at their main job.** This was because non-Lebanese workers earned substantially less than Lebanese (almost half) and the majority of non-Lebanese employees were men.
- The percent of women who are low-paid appears to have increased since 2018. It was 27% in January 2022, up from 18.5% in 2018-2019.
- **The impact of the economic crisis on Syrian women’s labor force participation is XX, while the impact on Lebanese women is unclear.** At least one recent statistic found it increased while another found it decreased.
- **Only 5.5% of women with disabilities participate in the labor force,** which is the lowest participation rate of any single group of women.
- **Transgender women face extremely high rates of joblessness and unemployment.**
- **Almost all working Lebanese women work in the service sector while the most common sector for working Syrian women is agriculture.**
- **Women in the informal economy often face particularly difficult conditions and lived experiences,** as they are often work long hours with poor pay, face frequent harassment from colleagues and/or customers, and have “double shifts”, i.e. the simultaneous requirement of unpaid care work.
- **The percentage of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) is significantly higher among young women (27%) than young men (17%).** The highest female NEET rates are in Akkar and the North.
- **Female-headed households tend to have higher incidences of multidimensional poverty (57%)** relative to male-headed households (53%)
- **Social norms around gender roles are key barriers to women entering the paid labor force.** The idea that women belong in the domestic sphere and lack of support from male partners in the undertaking of childcare, healthcare, and household tasks are main social factors in the low women’s labor force participation. While almost all married women reported participating in housework related to traditional roles such as washing clothes, preparing food, and cleaning the home; only about two-thirds of men report doing the same.

### *Syrians*

- **The unemployment rate for Syrian women (42%) is almost double that of Syrian men (27%).**
- **There was no difference in labor force participation of women with disabilities compared with the general population of Syrian refugee women, whereas a significant difference was noted among men with disabilities.** Eighty-six percent of men were participating in the labor force overall compared to 54% of men with disabilities.

- **Half of working Syrian women work in agriculture** and an additional one-third work in the service sector. This could be related to the fact that agriculture is one of three sectors in which Syrians are allowed to work in Lebanon, and due to the proliferation of informal tented settlements, where many FHH live, in agricultural lands.
- **The loss (or reduced income-generating capacity) of male breadwinners, coupled with regulatory restrictions for refugees, has forced many Syrian women to shift from traditional roles and responsibilities** to contribute to the survival of their households by engaging in livelihoods for the first time. This is especially true of women taking jobs in the agriculture sector.
- **Syrian women are heavily involved in seasonal farm activities and are consistently paid far less than Syrian men and Lebanese farm workers of both genders.** Women's agricultural activities include planting, weeding, harvesting, packaging and grading and they usually earn half the rate of Syrian male counterparts, who in turn have lower daily earnings than their Lebanese peers.

### *Lebanese*

- **Almost all working Lebanese women work in the service sector.** 92% of working Lebanese women were employed in services, 7% in industry and less than 2 per cent in agriculture. Similarly, most men (69% per cent) were found in services, but 27% worked in industry and 4% in agriculture. In general, the agriculture, economy and finance, politics and the public sector, property, architecture, and construction sectors are seen as exclusively for men whereas art and design, education, and sales are seen as "women's sectors"
- **Lebanese women's labor force participation varies significantly by governorate.** The women's labor force participation rate in Beirut and Mount Lebanon was twice the rate of participation in Akkar and Baalbek.
- **There are relatively fewer low-paid workers among women** (19%) than among men (23%), more men work informally, and more women work as monthly paid employees.
- **Working Lebanese women have decent representation in managerial positions,** as the proportion of women managers roughly corresponds to the proportion of women in the work force.
- **Only one in ten companies are owned or co-owned by women,** and women make up around 20% of the labour force of MSMEs.
- **The gender wage gap among Lebanese is approximately 6.5%.**
- **Women in the informal labor market, particularly in the north, often resort to self-employment and home-based businesses, or work in informal jobs or work with indecent working conditions.** They often report choosing self-employment and home-based work is due to the sexual harassment, discrimination, and underestimation their capabilities in the labor market.

## **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND LIVELIHOODS**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, almost half (80) included discussion on gender and livelihoods. Of these, 19 collected quantitative data, 17 collected qualitative data, and 16 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remaining 28 were literature reviews (15), strategy documents (6), secondary data analyses of CAS and MSNA data (5), a UN position paper, and a global analysis. More than half (44) of the documents discuss livelihoods and gender for both Syrians and Lebanese, 18 discuss only Syrians, 17 discuss only Lebanese, and one was unspecified. One-third (34) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 19 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, 23 focused only on women and girls, and the remainder were not applicable.

**High quality quantitative and qualitative data on gender and livelihoods is available for both Syrians and Lebanese.** The VASyR collects robust economic participation data on Syrians and provides gender disaggregated findings on a yearly basis. However, data is not as clear or robust for Lebanese. The 2019 Labor Force and Household Living Conditions Survey collected high quality data on women's economic participation and subsequent gender analyses have been conducted. While these gender analyses are comprehensive, they often did not disaggregate by nationality, meaning findings specifically on Lebanese women are only partially available. Additional gender disaggregation by Lebanese and non-Lebanese on LFHLCS data could be useful in improving our understanding of the economic participation of Lebanese. A follow-up to the LFHLCS as well as the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment were conducted on populations of approximately 5,000 in late 2021, both of which collected information on economic participation. However, the findings on women's economic participation from each were conflicting, meaning the broad impact of the economic crisis on women's economic participation remains somewhat unclear.

**Many high-quality qualitative and mixed-method studies have also been conducted on gender and livelihoods in recent years.** Main topics covered have included market assessments of specific sectors, namely the agriculture sector, women in the public sector, access to childcare services and the impact of domestic duties on economic participation, the impact of the Syrian conflict on gender roles, women with disabilities and work, and economic opportunities (or lack thereof) for youth.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

## Persons with Disability and Older persons

The vast majority of older Lebanese women and men rely heavily on their own savings and remittances from family members. Since 2019, the value of their savings and pensions have depleted significantly. Fuel and electricity are more expensive leading many middle-income households being forced to cancel their generator subscriptions and reduce travel due to the expensive cost of transport. Essential medicines and assistive devices are in short supply. As a result, many older women and men across communities have plunged into poverty and are forced to adopt negative coping strategies, including skipping meals and doing without vital medicines or cancelling doctors' appointments. **In 2022, it has been observed by the livelihood sector that more older women and men are approaching livelihood services and centers, and partners have noted increased numbers trying to re-enter the job market, often by opening small businesses in an effort to contribute to household income.** Yet, in Lebanon, women and men with disability face significant barriers to access income generating and livelihood opportunities and households with a member with a disability or an older person who needs care giving arrangements often deciding between care giving and work. **Limits to economic participation is one of the most concerning gendered disability gaps in the country.** The unemployment rate (defined as unemployment in the 30 days prior to data collection) for Lebanese women with disabilities (50 per cent) is significantly higher than the average national rate for Lebanese women (38 per cent); it is also higher when compared to the unemployment rate for people with disabilities across nationalities (38 per cent).<sup>43</sup> With Lebanese women with disabilities 50 per cent more likely to be unemployed than Lebanese men with disabilities (34 per cent), while Lebanese men with disabilities demonstrate far high unemployment rates than men without disabilities (23 per cent). Such barriers to women and men with disabilities accessing the economy has a profound impact, making them more vulnerable to poverty, placing increased pressure on other household members to generate income, aid dependency, exploitation and other risks.

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## SHELTER SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>44</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Shelter types	Prevalence of living in tents	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrian FHH and MHH living in tents in 2021	21%	32%	19%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Prevalence of living in apartments/houses	Nationality (Syrian)	% of Syrian FHH and MHH living in apartments or houses in 2021	65%	56%	67%	<a href="#">VASyR</a>	2021 (to be updated with 2022 data)
	Prevalence of living in apartments/houses/rooms	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese FHH and MHH living in apartments/houses/rooms in 2021	97%	97%	97%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022
Home ownership	Home ownership	Nationality (Lebanese)	% of Lebanese FHH and MHH who own their homes	68%	61%	70%	<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2022

<sup>44</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and shelter in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **Lebanese FHH and MHH live in houses, apartments and rooms at equal rates;** however Syrian FHH are more likely to live in tents than Syrian MHH.
- **Housing can be a factor in GBV survivors' abilities to leave violent home situations.** Women are often dependent on their family for housing and lack rights to their homes. Often they may not be named on any lease agreement and do not have a separate income or ability to pay rent.
- **Women can be more at risk of evictions.**

### *Syrians*

- **Syrian FHH are more likely to live in sub-standard tents than MHH, and this rate has increased in recent years.** FHH living in substandard non-permanent settlements are concentrated in Bekaa and Baalbek-Hermel governorates.
- **Many of those living in informal tented settlements, particularly FHH, are comprised of specific families and social networks.** Half (50%) of FHH in informal settlements and 35% of MHH had chosen their place of residence to be close to family and relatives.
- **MHH more commonly reside in residential settings where they pay more than FHH for accommodation.** More MHH saw their rent increase since 2020.
- **Female heads of household may face challenges renewing or regularizing legal stay for their household,** particularly if unable to prove they are the head of household.
- **Main challenges reported by Syrian FHH in accessing rental markets are affordability, risk of security, privacy, and exploitation** threats during occupancy, landlord discrimination, inadequate knowledge of the housing market and weak negotiation skills.

### *Lebanese*

- Almost all Lebanese live in houses, apartments or rooms and **Lebanese men more often own their homes than women.**
- **There are few major differences among Lebanese FHH and MHH on most shelter-related issues,** such as types of shelter defects, occupancy arrangements, tenure arrangements, rental currency and period, and housing, land and property issues.



## **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND SHELTER**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 23<sup>45</sup> included discussion on gender and shelter. Of these, 13 collected quantitative data, 4 collected qualitative data, and 3 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remaining 3 were secondary data analyses and literature reviews. Eight (8) of the documents discuss shelter and gender for both Syrians and Lebanese, 12 discuss only Syrians, 3 discuss only Lebanese. Half (11) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 9 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation and 3 focused only on women and girls.

**High quality quantitative and qualitative data on gender and shelter is available for both Syrians and Lebanese.** The VASyR collects robust data on the shelter situations for Syrians and provides gender disaggregated findings on a yearly basis. Similarly, the 2021-2022 MSNA collected a large body of data on the shelter situation for Lebanese, and subsequent rounds will continue collecting this information. Disaggregation of shelter data for both the MSNA and VASyR is limited to FHH and MHH and does not ask questions at the level of the individual which could yield findings on specific shelter concerns for women within a home.

**A few qualitative or mixed-method studies have been conducted on gender and shelter**, mainly on the barriers to accessing housing faced by Syrian women, shelter damages following the Beirut Port Explosion. Changes in accommodation trends due to the economic crisis and gender discrimination and sexual exploitation from landlords could be subjects for further analysis.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

### **Disability / Older persons risk of eviction**

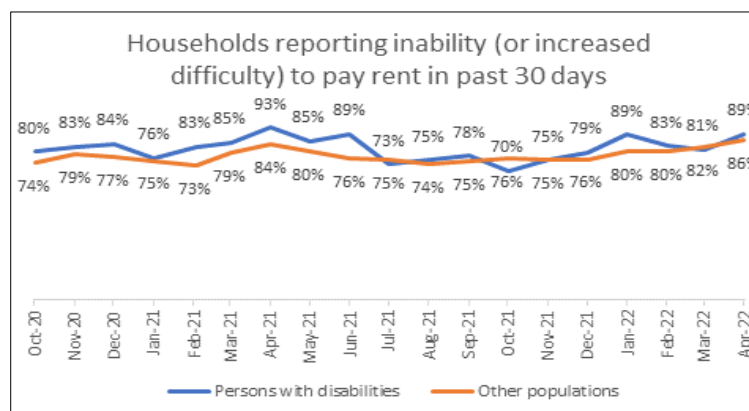
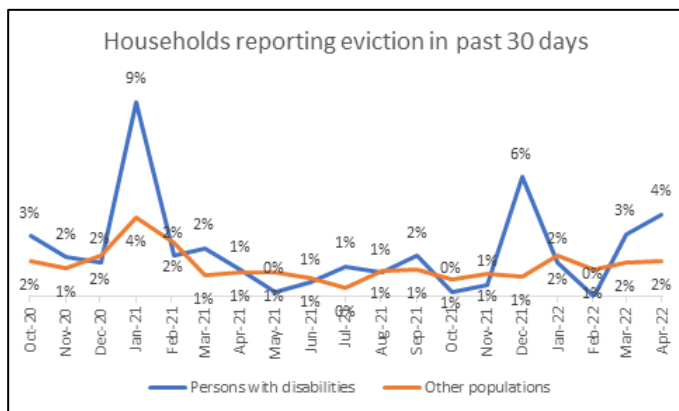
Ten percent of Syrian refugee households with at least one member living with a disability have moved in the last 12 months (prior to the survey June 2021) 17% of them because of eviction and 41.5% because rent was too expensive. For those evicted, inability to pay rent was the most reported reason (64.8%), followed by alternative use by landowners (13%) then dispute with landlord/owner (2.4%) landowners (9%).<sup>46</sup> At the time of the assessment, 7.3% of households with at least one member with disability were living with an eviction notice, 82% of which received a notice period of less than one month. In 94% of these cases notices were issued by the

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<sup>45</sup> Of these, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

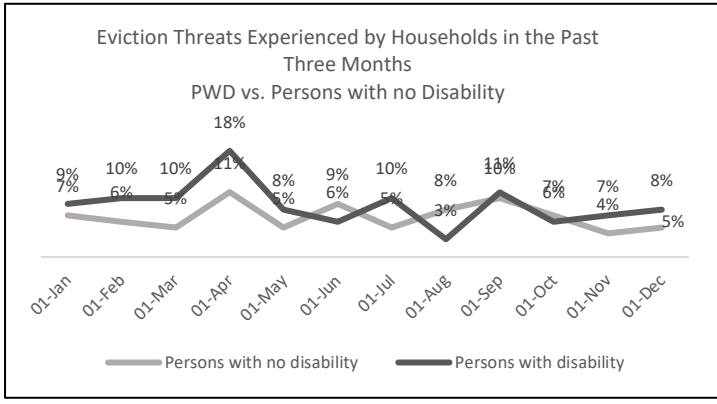
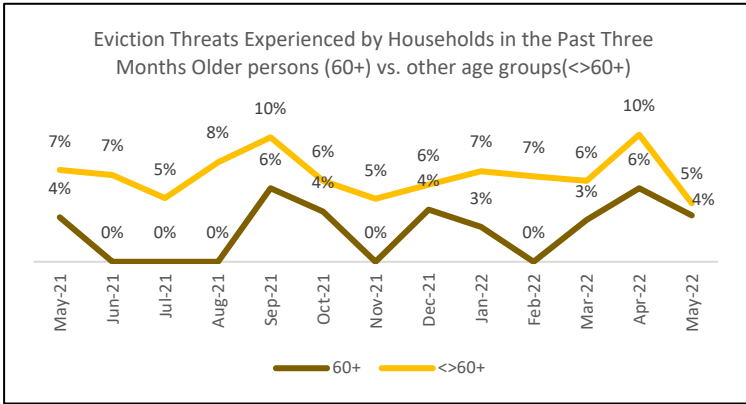
<sup>46</sup> VASYR 2021

property owner (VASYSR 2021). These findings are corroborated by IRC Protection Monitoring reports over March, April and May 2022 whereby 12% of households with at least one person living with a disability reported receiving a threat of eviction in the past three months compared to 7% of households without a disability.<sup>47</sup>



**The below graphs clearly indicate that households with a member with disability face greater challenges meeting rental payments and face higher incidents of eviction.** It is therefore essential that partners engaged in interventions to prevent and respond to eviction prioritize these households. Interestingly however according to IRC protection monitoring reports households who have an older member above 60 years old are less likely to face risk of eviction compared to other age groups.

<sup>47</sup> IRC protection monitoring quarter 1, 2022



## WATER SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS<sup>48</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Disaggregation	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Menstrual hygiene	Affordability of menstrual hygiene items	Total (Lebanese and non-Lebanese)	% of households with female members struggling to afford menstrual hygiene items in 2021	52%			<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2021
	Affordability of menstrual hygiene items	Governorate (North)	% of households with female members struggling to afford menstrual hygiene items in 2021	71%			<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2021
	Affordability of menstrual hygiene items	Governorate (Baalbeck)	% of households with female members struggling to afford menstrual hygiene items in 2021	60%			<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2021
	Affordability of menstrual hygiene items	Governorate (Bekaa)	% of households with female members struggling to afford menstrual hygiene items in 2021	60%			<a href="#">Multi-sectoral Needs Assessment (UN Women calculation)</a>	2021

<sup>48</sup> This briefing presents key findings on gender and WASH in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon..

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- **The economic crisis is threatening women and girls' access to basic hygiene materials**, as inflation has pushed the price of pads up by 320%. A recent survey found that three-quarters of respondents reported accessing menstrual hygiene products had become more difficult because of price increase.
- **To cope with the price increases on menstrual hygiene products, many women and girls are reducing their consumption**, using them for longer than they are intended for and using less sanitary means like tissues and cloths during their periods, with this particularly prevalent among Syrians.
- **Period poverty resulting from the economic crisis appears to be particularly prevalent in more rural areas** such as Baalbek-Hermel, Mount Lebanon, and the Bekaa.
- **There are strong social stigmas and taboos around menstrual hygiene management and it is largely a subject of secrecy**, particularly in conservative communities. This can prevent girls and women from going to work, school, doctor's appointments and other daily tasks when they are menstruating.

### *Syrians*

- **On average, Syrian FHH have less access to basic sanitation services than MHH**, due to their over-representation in informal and tented settlements. Three quarters (76%) of respondents overall had access to basic sanitation services, with FHH access at 64% compared to 77% of MHH.
- **There are few major differences between MHH and FHH in main types of water sources**, including unimproved water sources used, access to improved sources, and availability of drinking water, and the sufficiency of water for washing and domestic purposes.
- **Syrian women in the informal tented settlements (ITS) particularly struggle with menstrual hygiene management**. Main concerns include lack of private spaces to change menstrual materials and feeling uncomfortable purchasing pads from male grocery store attendants. Many women also report being unable to afford pads and using alternatives, namely diapers, and their mobility is often restricted due to a lack of proper products.
- **Poor menstrual hygiene management and poor access to water and sanitation, particularly in ITS, have been linked with high rates of infections** and other serious health concerns.

### *Lebanese*

- **Few statistical differences between Lebanese FHH and MHH have been identified in relation to various WASH-related issues** such as water sources, solid waste disposal, sewage and hygiene practices (outside of menstrual hygiene),

- Recent data shows that due to the economic crisis, **over half of Lebanese households reported some kind of issue in accessing menstrual hygiene products**, particularly in the North (71%), Bekaa (60%) and Baalbek (60%).
- **The vast majority of Lebanese women used disposable pads**, a small number use reusable pads or cloths and tampon use is rare.

### **STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND WASH**

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 25<sup>49</sup> included discussion on gender and WASH. Of these, 15 collected quantitative data, 5 collected qualitative data, and 3 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. There was also one secondary data analysis and one literature review. Half (13) of these documents discuss gender and WASH-related issues for Syrians, 8 focus on both Syrians and Lebanese, and 4 discuss only Lebanese. Most (11) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 7 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation and 7 focused only on women and girls.

**Quantitative and qualitative data on gender and WASH is available for both Syrians and Lebanese, though mainly at the household level.** The VASyR collects robust data on the WASH situations for Syrians and provides gender disaggregated findings on a yearly basis. Similarly, the 2021-2022 MSNA collected a large body of data on the WASH situation for Lebanese, and subsequent rounds will continue collecting this information. Both surveys disaggregate WASH findings at the level of the head of household, meaning WASH access issues for women within a household may not be captured (such as whether they feel safe using shared toilets, have equal access to water etc). Questions on menstrual hygiene, an issue that is still largely taboo and strictly related to women, are often posed to male heads of households and therefore results may not be entirely reliable.

**A few qualitative and mixed-method studies have been conducted on menstrual hygiene practices, mainly focused on Syrians.** Two of these focused specifically on Syrian women in the Bekaa and provide helpful insights into the significant challenges Syrian women face while menstruating and two focused on access to hygiene items after the Beirut Port Explosion. Changes in access to menstrual hygiene products and practices should continue to be monitored as the price of these items continues to increase during the economic crisis. There is also a lack of data on safety in accessing wash services for women and girls and in particular in informal settlements, also linked to energy crisis and lack of electricity in settlements and in non-standard housing facilities that can make accessing WASH facilities at night dangerous for women and children.

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<sup>49</sup> Of these, 9 were the 2013-2021 VASyR reports.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>

## SOCIAL STABILITY SECTOR GENDER ANALYSIS <sup>50</sup>

### STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Topic	Sub-topic	Value definition	Value (total)	Value (female)	Value (male)	Source	Publication year
Participation in the judiciary	Representation in the judiciary	% of women and men judges in 2017	100%	48%	52%	<a href="#">ESCWA</a>	2018
	Participation in the Beirut Bar Association committees	% of women and men who occupied leadership positions in the Beirut Bar Association's committees in 2016	100%	17%	83%	<a href="#">Hivos</a>	2021
	Participation in the Beirut Bar Association board	% of women and men board members in the Beirut Bar Association in 2017	100%	8%	92%	<a href="#">Hivos</a>	2021
	Participation in the Tripoli Bar Association board	% of women and men board members in the Tripoli Bar Association in 2017	100%	0%	100%	<a href="#">Hivos</a>	2021
Women in the security sector	Representation in the ISF	% of women and men in the ISF	100%	4%	96%	LAU	2020
	Representation in general security	% of women and men in general security personnel	100%	5%	95%	LAU	2020
	Representation in Lebanese Armed Forces	% of women and men in the LAF	100%	5%	95%	LAU	2020
Women in peace processes	Participation in the Taef Accord	% of women and men who participated in the 1989 Taef accord	100%	0%	100%	<a href="#">GIWPS</a>	2019

<sup>50</sup> This briefing presents key findings on Social Stability in Lebanon. Findings are based on a comprehensive gender-focused literature review of 172 research reports and briefings, relevant statistics, policy briefings, articles, evaluations and policy documents published primarily between 2016-2022 on Syrians and Lebanese in Lebanon.

	Participation in national dialogues on peace efforts	% of women and men who had participated in national dialogues until 2017	100%	0%	100%	<a href="#">Berghof Foundation</a>	2017
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## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### *Overall (Lebanese and Syrians)*

- The economic crisis is exacerbating existing social conflicts and creating new ones. Women are particularly affected by dwindling economies, as their political lives and livelihoods are devalued. GBV perpetrated both inside home and outside by other parties is the main conflict focus-issue for adolescent girls and young women while adolescent boys and young men are more concerned with decent work, armed violence and drugs.
- **Dire economic circumstances mean that household stress levels are extremely high, and the consequences are gendered.** Men are reportedly feeling emasculated because they cannot provide for their families while women and girls are concerned about running out of food for their children.
- **Intimate partner violence and child abuse have also increased as a result of the economic crisis,** where men vent their frustrations on their wives and fathers and mothers vent their frustrations on their children.
- Adolescent girls and young women report being exposed to catcalling, stalking, inappropriate touching, and rape when on the streets or in public spaces in general. Hence, they either voluntarily avoid walking on the streets, especially if alone or at night, or are forbidden to do so in the first place (by their parents and brothers).
- **Social norms contribute to gendered conflict risks.** Studies on adolescent conflict and tensions show the mentality of boys and men and sexist norms in society and government more broadly perpetuate harmful gender norms such as
  - Girls/Women are weaker than men
  - It is shameful to discuss the topic of harassment or rape
  - Girls/ Women are to be blamed if they get harassed or assaulted.
- **According to the Tensions monitoring, tensions are increasing.**
- **Women's participation is still very low in community based conflict resolution mechanisms.**



## Syrians

- **The Syrian refugee influx has led to an increase of socioeconomically vulnerable women who are largely sidelined from working and created a new layer of inter-communal conflict and competition over scarce jobs and resources.** As a result of displacement, economic insecurity, and marred social networks, the environment for Syrians in Lebanon is highly unstable.
- Because conflict and instability often leave men feeling emasculated in the public realm, research shows **such instability increases the risk violence against women in the home, the rates of which are very high for Syrian women in Lebanon.**
- **Men commonly respond to perceived or real inter-communal tensions by restricting women's movement and access to public space.** Such patterns have been observed between Syrian refugees and the Lebanese host communities. As a result of such tensions, women are less likely to work and less likely to participate in the workforce and in public life, fostering dependency on men and/or the humanitarian system

**Syrian girls can be particularly isolated**, noting that while boys and men may be able to rely on their friends for some degree of emotional support, even if only to know that their suffering is shared, girls and women are largely denied this opportunity by social norms that limit their access to mobility and communications technology.

## Lebanese

- Women were not part of the peace-processes as Lebanon entered Taif Accord, nor were women participating in formulating the new governance system.
- The masculinism advanced by the society which often praises militaristic behavior pervades social norms and constitutes a core driver of conflict
- **There are no comprehensive statistics available on how many women serve as part of the approximately 128,000 active security personnel in Lebanon**, but the overall percentage is thought to be low. Only 4% of Internal Security Forces personnel are women and 5% of General Security personnel.

## STRENGTH OF INFORMATION AND DATA GAPS ON GENDER AND SOCIAL STABILITY

Of the 172 documents reviewed for this exercise, 27 discussed issues related to gender and social stability. Of these, 7 collected quantitative data, 8 collected qualitative data, and 5 collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The remainder were literature reviews (5) and strategy documents (2). Most (15) of these documents discussed conflict and social stability for both Syrians and Lebanese women, 5 focused on Syrians, and 3 discuss Lebanese. Most (22) of these documents included comprehensive gender disaggregation, 4 included moderate or limited gender disaggregation, and one was non-applicable.

**High quality quantitative and qualitative data on social stability is available, though it is not well gender-disaggregated.** UNDP tensions monitoring data has reported on gender differences in only a handful of indicators, and its methodology may have limitations on its ability to report on gender-sensitive questions. Recent gender analysis was conducted on women's membership in unions and syndicates, which should be continuously updated. There is little quantitative information on Syrian women's participation in public life and peacebuilding, since there are no formal channels of political representation of Syrians in general. Since some of the main opportunities for Syrian women to participate politically are arguably through engaging with the UN system and NGOs, gathering more detailed SADD on Syrians who are active in NGOs could be telling from a political representation perspective.

**About a dozen qualitative or mixed-method studies have been conducted on social stability.** Main subjects studied have included the role of the impact of the economic crisis on women and girls, qualitative research on masculinities, Syrian women's decision-making power, and the impact of the economic crisis on adolescents in Lebanon. There are few remaining information gaps on this subject for Lebanese women and as mentioned, Syrian women's engagement in informal political and social structures could be further explored.

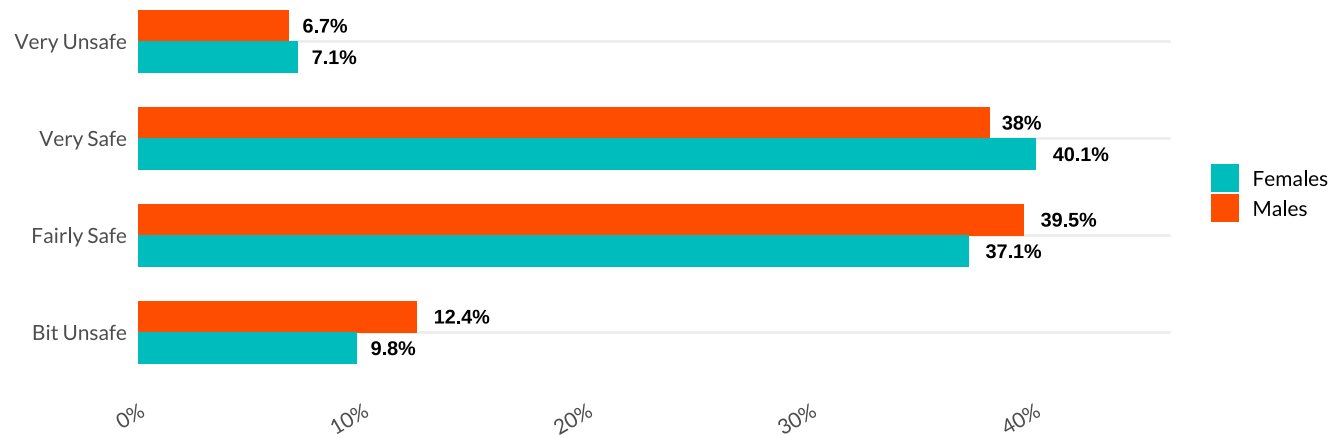
### **Safety and Security**

**Syrian refugee households which have a member with a disability report that they experience safety and security concerns more regularly than households which don't have a member with disability.** Concerningly, the below graph demonstrates that we see a higher number of incidents reported by this group across all violence types; physical harassment, extortion, community violence and sexual harassment. **At the same time, these household report having less concerns in relation to confiscation of their Identification document (ID) and risk of detention.**

In South Lebanon, Syrian refugees with a disability frequently report to partners a general feeling of unsafety in their own communities due to discrimination, bullying and harassment compared to other locations in the country.

### Level of safety walking alone at night in the area for PwD

Majority of disabled men and women feel very or fairly safe walking alone at night

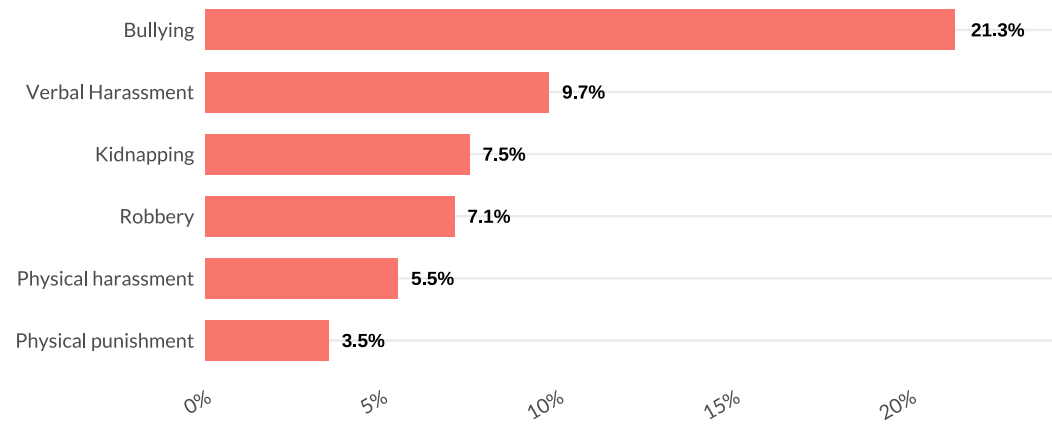


VASyR 2022

**Children:** Lebanese households with at least one child with a disability were 8% more likely to report that their child suffers from physical harassment (15%) compared to households with a child without a disability (7%), and nearly one fifth (19%) reported that their child was also being bullied. In PRL households, the most concerning safety and security concerns for children with disability is being robbed (30% almost double compared to Lebanese household) and 20% reported worrying that their child would be kidnapped. While for Syrian refugee children with disabilities 21.3% reported bullying as the main safety concern, followed by verbal harassment (9.7%). Surprisingly, kidnapping was a greater concern for these households than robbery, physical harassment or punishment. In a UNICEF Knowledge Attitude and Practices survey conducted in 2017, 30 per cent of respondents said that children with physical disabilities should not be integrated into society and participate in community life, compared to 75 per cent for children with intellectual disabilities, demonstrating the wide-spread negative attitudes of the community toward inclusion in particular for children with intellectual disability.

### Safety Concerns for Syrian Refugee Children with Disabilities

Kidnapping is a greater concern than robbery, physical harassment/punishment



VASyR 2022

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/working-group/385?sv=4&geo=71#>