Lebanon

Syrian returns & movements snapshot

at 31 July 2025

216,618 Syrians estimated to have crossed from or via Lebanon into Syria since 8 December 2024.

168,078 Syrian individuals inactivated in 2025 from UNHCR's records in Lebanon.

103,455 Estimated new arrivals of Syrians since 8 December 2024.

Refugee returns

Since 8 December 2024, UNHCR estimates that approximately 746,360 Syrians[1] have returned to Syria from neighbouring countries, including some 216,618 from or via Lebanon, about half of whom were transiting or undertaking temporary returns. Returns take place through both official and unofficial crossings, which complicates tracking. Since January 2025, more than 168,078 Syrians known to UNHCR have been inactivated due to verified or presumed return.
On 1 July 2025, Lebanon's General Directorate of General Security announced the waiver of exit fees, overstay fines, and re-entry bans for Syrians and Palestinian refugees from Syria returning home. Following this, UNHCR launched its Self Organized Voluntary Return Programme, and in August, in partnership with IOM, began the Organized Voluntary Return Programme, providing transportation support. While registration of interest for organized returns is ongoing, most individuals continue to opt for self organized returns. As of July 2025[2], nearly 71,900 individuals (13,500 families) have expressed interest in facilitated returns, mainly from North/Akkar (43%), with Homs (37%) as the top intended destination.

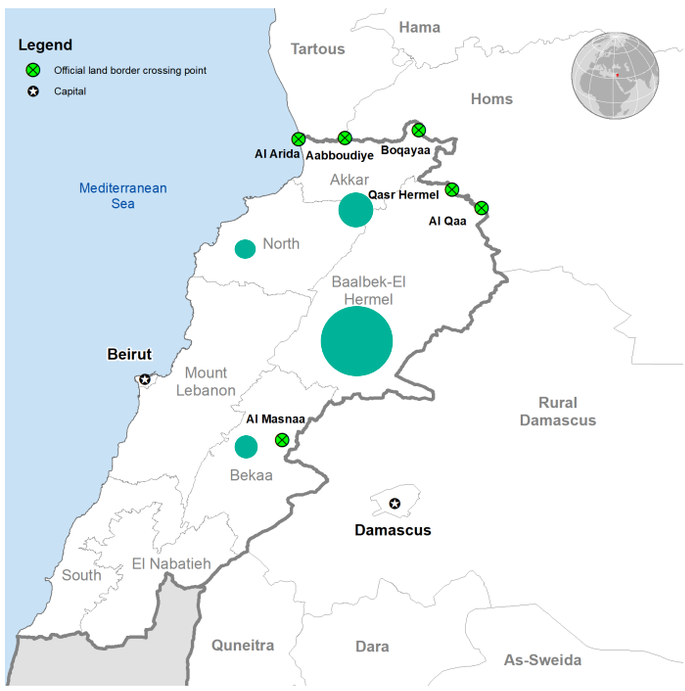
Movements trends

During July, the trend of total entry and exit movements (not just return movements) of Syrians at official land crossing points shows a 12% increase compared to June, reaching around 33,800 per week, with exits slightly surpassing entries during the month. This may be attributed to fewer restrictions or faster processing at border points in July. An upward trend in exits was observed during the summer period, particularly in July, following the end of the school term and the rollout of organized return programmes starting 1 July.

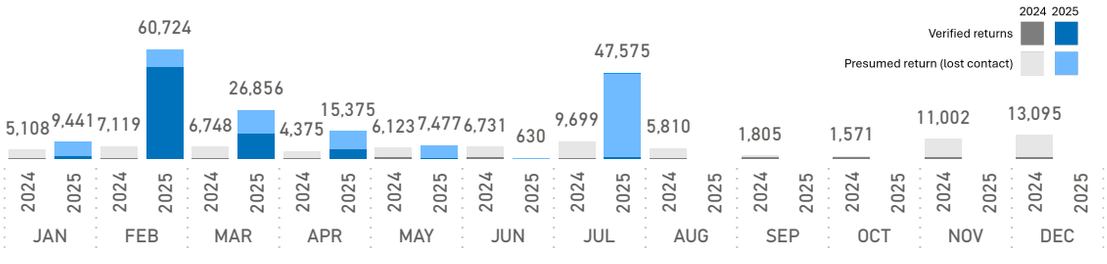
New arrivals

New arrivals of 103,455 Syrians have been monitored since 8 December 2024, of which 67,167 are residing in Bekaa & Baalbek-El Hermel and 24,673 are in Akkar & North.
In addition, some 11,615 new arrivals are reported in other areas. This group includes onward internal movements from place of first arrival in Lebanon. Numbers per region will continue to fluctuate due to a fluid movement environment in Lebanon, as identification is still ongoing of those who are in Beirut, the South and other areas beyond.

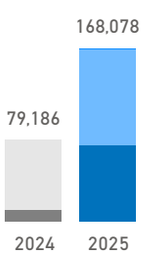
Illustrative map* of new arrivals by governorate



Return inactivations of Syrian refugees in UNHCR records in Lebanon | 2024 vs 2025



2024 vs 2025 to date



For further information, please contact Juliette Stevenson stevenso@unhcr.org

[1] Regional Flash Update #38 | [2] Voluntary Repatriation Programme - Lebanon, 31 July 2025

* The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on any map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.