

REGIONAL ANALYSIS SYRIA

26 June 2013

Part II – Host countries

This Regional Analysis of the Syria conflict (RAS) is an update of the [May RAS](#) and seeks to bring together information from all sources in the region and provide holistic analysis of the overall Syria crisis. While Part I focuses on the situation within Syria, Part II covers the impact of the crisis on the neighbouring countries. The Syria Needs Analysis Project welcomes all information that could complement this report. For more information, comments or questions please email SNAP@ACAPS.org

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Regional Overview

After over two years of fighting, the number of registered refugees surpassed 1.6 million in June. The UN projects that in the upcoming 6 months, this number will more than double, resulting in over 3.4 million Syrians registered in host countries by the end of December 2013.

Shelter: Most of the current refugees reside outside of camps. For these refugees, housing is an increasing worry. New camps are being constructed in Iraq, Jordan and Turkey to relieve the pressure on existing camps and host communities, but even once they are completed they are likely to be insufficient to host the current and projected numbers of refugees.

In all host countries, refugees in urban communities are increasingly struggling to pay rent as their financial resources dwindle and rents have been significantly raised in response to the heightened demand.

In Lebanon, the humanitarian response has not been able to meet the increasing influx. Despite it being the country with the highest number of refugees, the Lebanese Government has not as of yet allowed for camps to be built. Refugees are mostly residing in rented apartments, but are increasingly forced to live in substandard housing and tents.

WASH: There is limited up-to-date data on the WASH situation for refugees, but it can be presumed that with the critical overcrowding in camps and the hot summer months, access to water will be an increasing problem. Summer water shortages are common in several of the host countries and refugees in camps, informal settlements and unfinished buildings will be most affected. The presence of refugees will also strain the already insufficient services for refuse collection in Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon, thereby exacerbating hygiene issues.

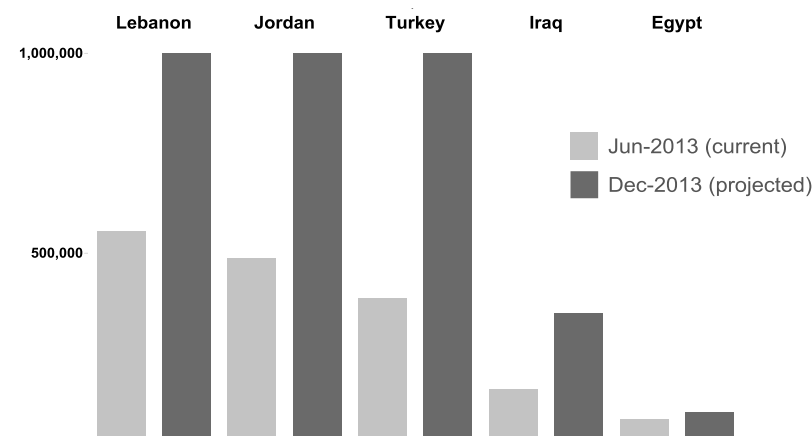
Monthly registration: In June, the total number of registered Syrians or those who made an appointment for registration in one of the host countries increased with 100,000 compared to May. This is far below the increase in May, when the total number increased with 200,000. The cause for this slowdown in registration figures is unclear, but is possibly related to the high number of returnees and due to constraints in accessing Turkey, Iraq and Jordan.

Returnees: During June there have been increasing reports of refugees returning to Syria from Turkey, Jordan and Iraq, sometimes when there is relative calm in their hometowns and sometimes when their situation in a host country becomes unbearable. Others go to check on their property or to escort family members through the border. There are reasons to believe that men from Za'atari camp in Jordan are returning to their places of origin in order to engage in combat.

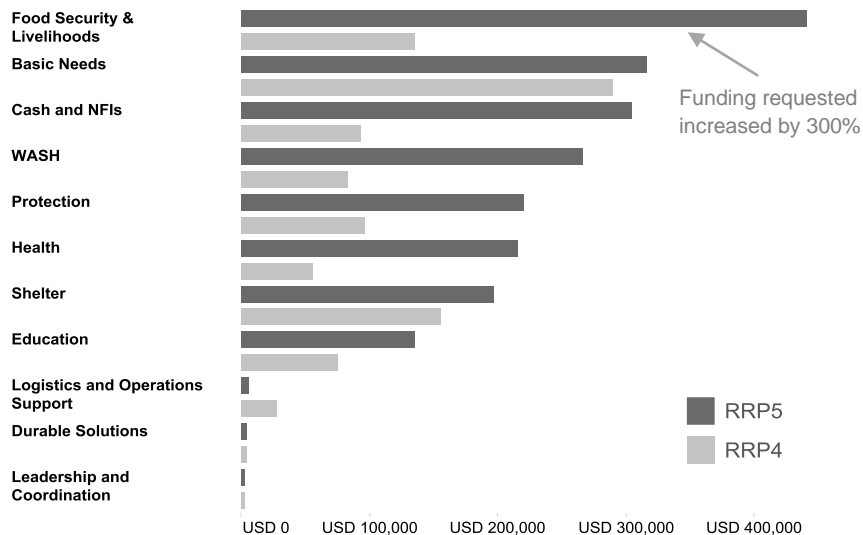
Negative coping mechanisms: As refugees are facing a worsening financial situation and assistance is further stretched, they are increasingly turning to alternative ways to survive. Children are often sent to work, as they are the mostly likely to find a job. Theft and smuggling are rife in Za'atari camp and food vouchers are sold to pay for rent and other expenditures.

Spill over into neighbouring countries: Incidents in Lebanon related to the conflict in Syria have increased. The Syrian army has fired at the Lebanese village of Aarsal, known for being staunch supporters of the opposition and thought to be the point where escaped fighters from Qusair fled to. Rockets have been fired into Hezbollah stronghold areas, thought to be reprisals for the group's activity in Syria. Fighting has continued in Tripoli and most recently the opposition-supporting group of Ahmad al Assir attacked the Lebanese army near Saida on 23 June. The overall situation is becoming increasingly tense.

Refugees registered and awaiting - June 2013 and projected number by December 2013 – Regional Response Plan 5



Funding requested per sector – RRP 5 compared to RRP 4



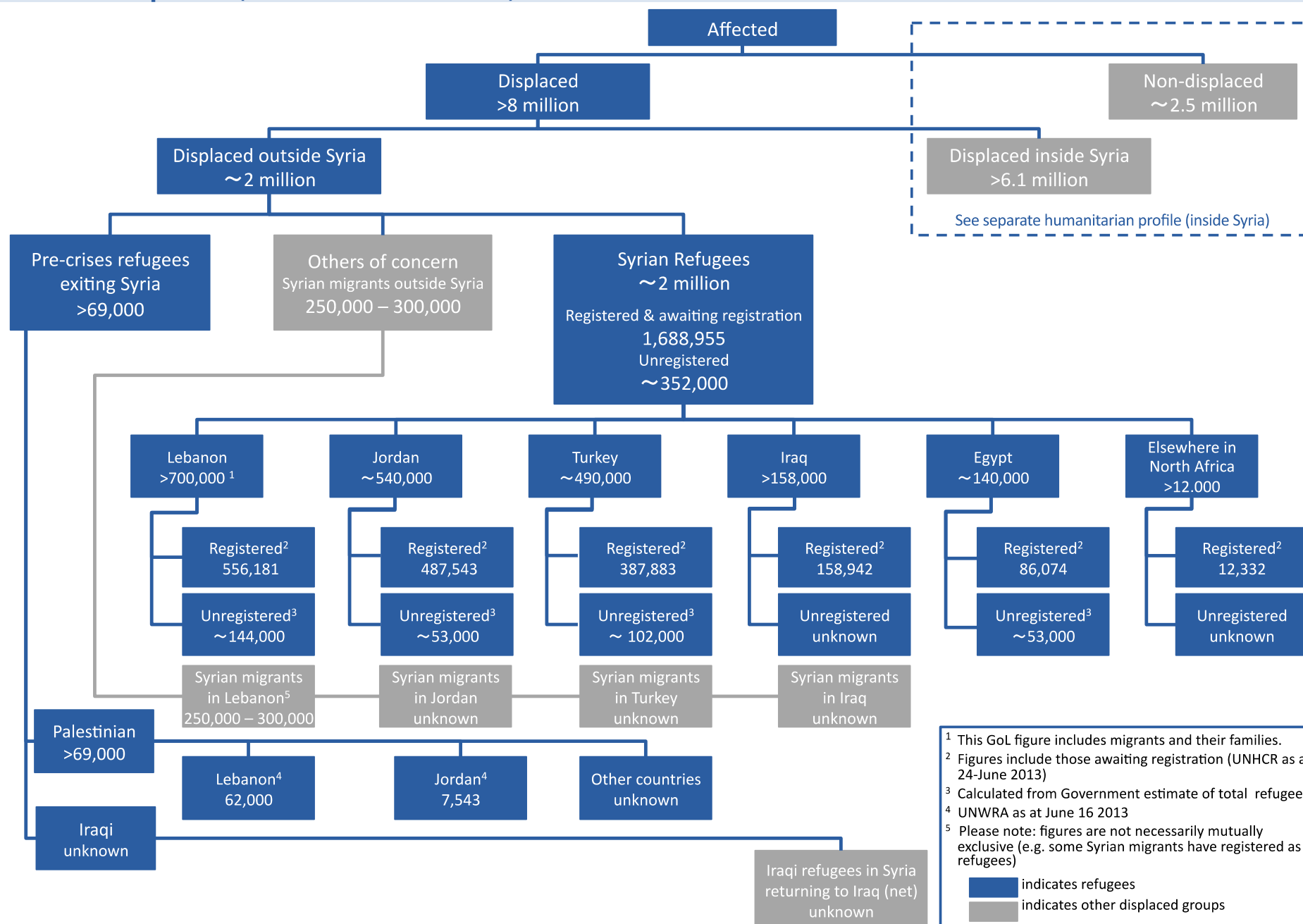
Data limitations and information gaps

- Although the development of the Regional Response Plan (RRP 5) triggered a number of assessments, large information gaps remain. In addition, apart from the situation in Lebanon, there does not appear to be a culture of information sharing in the host countries, and results of assessments are often not shared with the wider humanitarian community.
- Significant gaps remain between the number of refugees registered/awaiting registration and estimates by the different Governments on the number of Syrians residing in the country (almost 2 million according to estimates from the Governments in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Egypt while around 1.5 million are registered or awaiting registration in the countries). Over the last 2 months, Governments of Lebanon and Egypt have not updated their estimations of Syrians to reflect the influx of new refugees.
- Information on those residing outside of camps continues to be patchy. There is almost no information available on the humanitarian needs of registered and unregistered refugees residing outside of camps in Turkey and Jordan. Although WASH is a major issue of concern, no assessments have been conducted in Egypt, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq. Assessments on the host communities are still lacking in all countries except for Lebanon. Assessments on the humanitarian situation in Turkey and Iraq remain scarce, with no new assessment published recently.

Possible Developments

- Population movement:** as the conflict intensifies around Aleppo, a rise in the number of people seeking refuge in Turkey is likely to increase significantly. As those without passports will be refused entry, the IDP camps along the border will grow. With access to Jordan restricted and the conflict set to continue and even intensify as the opposition groups receive military assistance, the flow of refugees to Lebanon will continue apace putting the country under increasing strain. As the refugee population outnumbers the host population in more and more locations and increases competition for resources (schooling; health etc.), tensions will rise although it is expected that local authorities will continue to maintain law and order.
- Shelter:** The available options for sheltering refugees are insufficient to meet the current needs, let alone the needs of the refugee population projected to arrive in the coming months. Although additional camps are under construction in Iraq, Jordan and Turkey, most refugees are likely to remain outside of camps, and rents will continue to increase and suitable accommodation become increasingly scarce. In Lebanon, people are already forced to seek shelter in substandard shelter such as informal tented settlements and unfinished buildings. If the influx is on-going at the same level as in previous months, the shelter situation is expected to deteriorate even further.
- WASH/Health:** Throughout the region, an increase in communicable diseases has been reported. As in Syria, all risk factors for the outbreak of communicable diseases are present in Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan, including large-scale displacement, overcrowding and a lack of access to health care and adequate wash facilities. In Za'atari camp, incidences of diseases are regularly monitored but health issues among Syrians in other locations go largely unmonitored. As a result, there is a major risk of further disease outbreaks.
- Lack of funding:** The revised regional appeal, launched at the start of the month, requested funding of around USD 3 billion for international agencies and NGOs (a threefold increase on the January appeal) and an additional USD 830 million for the Governments of Jordan and Lebanon. Although donors pledged, in January, USD 1.5 billion to support the response in Syria as well as the host countries, only USD 700 million has been actually secured. It is likely that the revised appeal will likewise be underfunded, severely limiting the response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the host countries.
- Fighting in Lebanon:** The security situation deteriorated in June, with violence flaring up in Saida and Tripoli and on-going shelling on the border region. Internal conflict has already led to secondary and tertiary displacement, and is now restricting humanitarian response. A further deterioration will trigger return of refugees into Syria; increase pressure on the already overburdened health system; and further reduce humanitarian access.

Humanitarian profile (see annex A for definitions)



¹ This GoL figure includes migrants and their families.

² Figures include those awaiting registration (UNHCR as at 24-June 2013)

³ Calculated from Government estimate of total refugees

⁴ UNWRA as at June 16 2013

⁵ Please note: figures are not necessarily mutually exclusive (e.g. some Syrian migrants have registered as refugees)

■ indicates refugees

■ indicates other displaced groups

Neighbouring country displacement

June 2013

Turkey

3 additional camps were opened to host the refugees, bringing the total number of camps to 20 hosting around 200,000 Syrians.

Lebanon

Tensions between supporters and opponents of the Syrian Government in Lebanon have resulted this month in severe clashes in the north, Bekaa Valley and south of the country.

Egypt

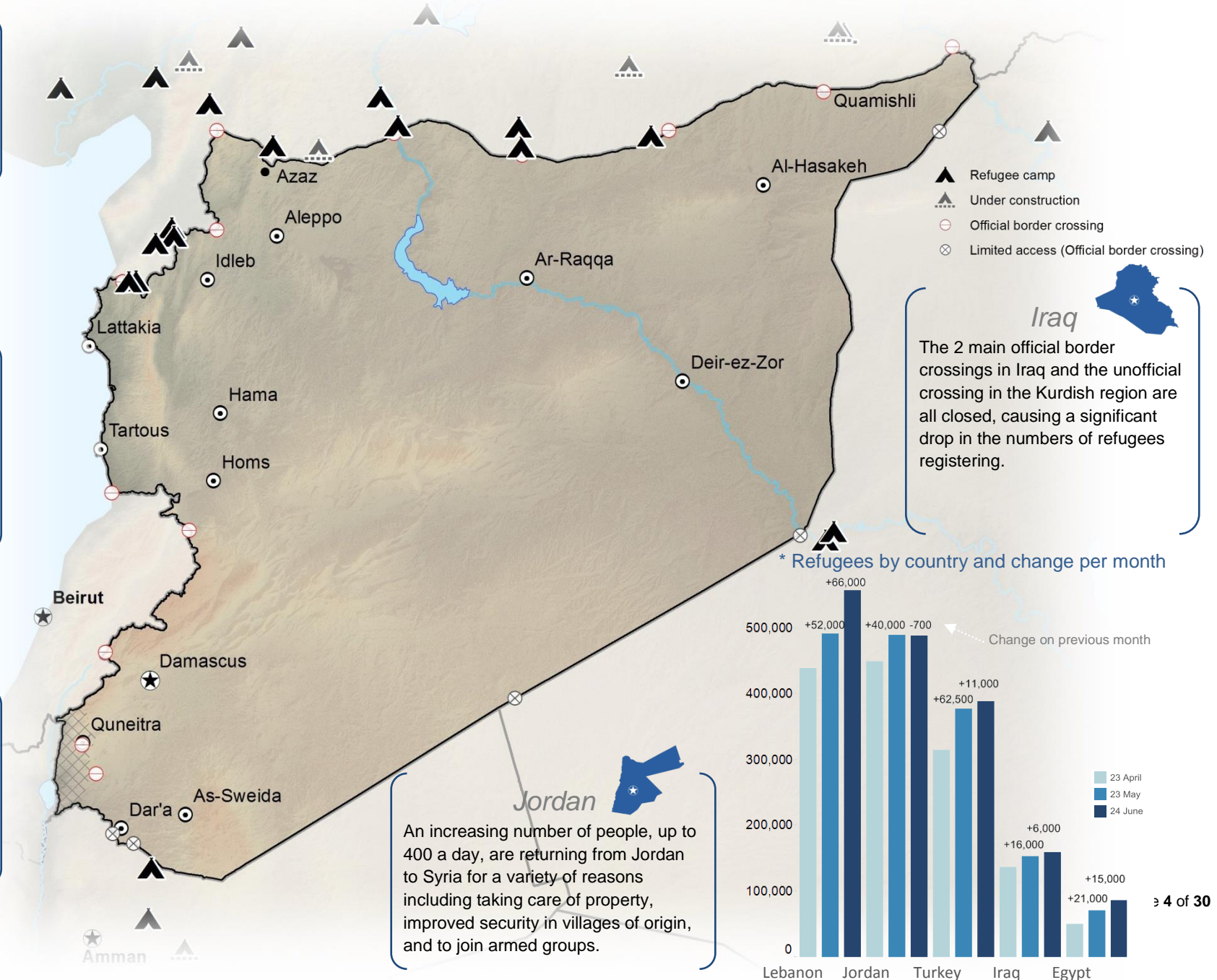
After more than two years of the Syrian crisis, Syrian refugees in Egypt are finding it difficult to secure shelter, with depleting financial resources and lack of jobs.

Iraq

The 2 main official border crossings in Iraq and the unofficial crossing in the Kurdish region are all closed, causing a significant drop in the numbers of refugees registering.

An increasing number of people, up to 400 a day, are returning from Jordan to Syria for a variety of reasons including taking care of property, improved security in villages of origin, and to join armed groups.

*Registered or awaiting registration
Data sources are listed on final page



Lebanon

Displaced	
Syrian registered refugees and awaiting registration	556,181
Unregistered Refugees	143,819
Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS)	62,000
Syrian migrants	~300,000
Syrian return	Unknown
Lebanese returnees	30,000
Non displaced	
Host communities	1,200,000

Source: [UNHCR 2013/06/25](#), [UNRWA 2013/06/16](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/19](#)

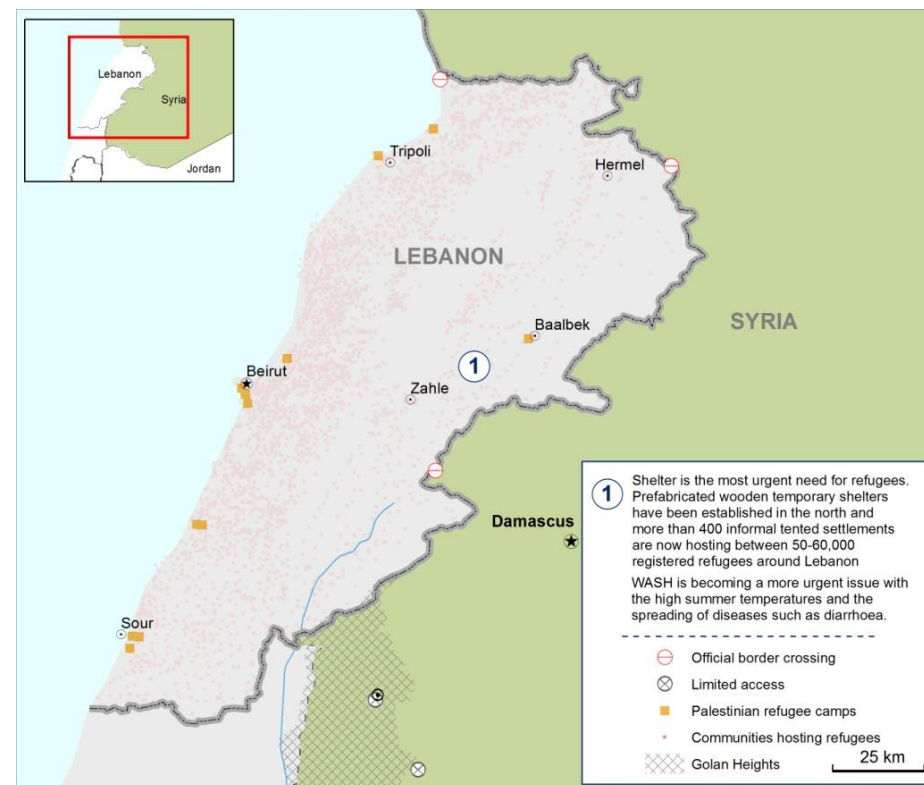


Key developments in June

- By the end of June, fierce fighting occurred in several areas in Lebanon. On the outskirts of Saida, the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) have been engaged in clashes with a Sunni cleric and his followers. These clashes have re-ignited fighting in Tripoli and led to small scale demonstrations and roadblocks across the country.
- Meanwhile, attacks continue to be launched by both the Syrian Government and Syrian opposition groups on the Bekaa valley. On 12 June, a Syrian Army helicopter fired rockets on Aarsal, a town which allegedly provides support to FSA fighters and is a supply route for weapons entering Syria. Syrian opposition groups continue to shell Shia areas in the Bekaa. In June, Syrian opposition fighters clashed with Hezbollah fighters for the first time on Lebanese soil. Hezbollah is increasingly involved in the conflict in Syria. Hezbollah fighters have supported the Government retake of the city of Qusair and the group is allegedly preparing to support the Government in its planned military operations in Aleppo. Tensions between supporters and opponents of the Syrian Government have started to result in serious conflicts between people of different confessions and political affiliations in the Bekaa. In a recent incident, an individual from the predominantly Sunni Aarsal village was killed and in retaliation 4 were killed in Hermel, a mostly Shia region.
- 1.2 million Lebanese in host communities are reportedly affected by the crisis and the number of Syrians registered by December 2013 is projected to reach one million. 80,000 Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) and more than

49,000 Lebanese returnees are expected to be in Lebanon by the end of the year. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))

- Shelter is the most urgent need for refugees. Despite the approval of the Government for the installation of 21 prefabricated wooden temporary shelters in the north, suitable lands for the establishment of these shelters have not yet been identified. There is a shortage of adequate shelter and rents are increasing, while income opportunities are low. Many Syrians are forced to reside in informal tented settlements and unfinished buildings, where access to services is limited. It is estimated that some 70% of the projected population of refugees by the end of the year will be in need of some form of shelter assistance. WASH is becoming a more urgent issue with the high summer temperatures and spreading of diseases such as diarrhoea.
- The cost of food coupled with locating adequate housing with functioning utilities remains at the forefront of the PRS needs, and represents the bulk of their expenses.



Operational constraints

- ✦ The security situation in the north, Bekaa and south remains highly volatile, impeding humanitarian access in both regions and restricting activities and the availability of services. WFP operations were suspended on multiple occasions in June, due to the deteriorating security situation in the Bekaa and the north. ([WFP 2013/06/05](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/13](#), [WFP 2013/06/05](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/14](#))
- ✦ The clashes in the north and Bekaa has led to road cuts and closure of borders such as the border crossing of Aarida which has been sporadically opening and closing in the first week of June. ([WFP 2013/06/05](#))
- ✦ The Lebanese Red Cross emergency medical services faced security risks while transferring wounded Syrians to be treated in Lebanese hospitals. ([ICRC 2013/06/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))
- ✦ Some shops participating in the WFP food voucher program have been disqualified from the programme for overcharging refugees, selling them expired food, or failing to supply all the items specified in their contracts. ([Daily Star 2013/06/24](#))

Data sources and limitations

- ✦ One assessment was published in June: International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted a rapid assessment in 5 refugee locations in southern Lebanon covering shelter, site management, non-food items, access to primary health care, psycho-social support, access to schooling, and levels of registration. ([IOM 2013/06/08](#))
- ✦ At the end of May, UNICEF Lebanon reported preliminary results of a vulnerability mapping exercise which has not been published yet, overlaying refugee registration figures with national poverty statistics. ([UNICEF 2013/05/28](#))
- ✦ The preliminary results of a joint UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF vulnerability assessment have been presented and the final report is expected to be published in July.
- ✦ The Government of Lebanon declared estimation on the number of Syrians in Lebanon has not been updated since 9 March.

Displaced

- ✦ While the RRP 5 projects 1 million registered Syrians by the end of 2013, Local sources report that Lebanese officials estimate that the total number of refugees will reach 2 million by the end of 2013. ([UNHCR 2013/05/28](#), [Assafir 2013/04/13](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/7](#))
- ✦ The number of refugees awaiting registration has increased; around 81,682 refugees were registered and awaiting registration in June, while around

59,000 were registered and awaiting registration in May. ([UNHCR 2013/06/26](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/28](#))

Registered refugees

Border crossings:

- The majority of refugees enter Lebanon through official border crossings (87%). However, some people cross on foot through unofficial border crossing points either due to a lack of appropriate documentation or because of their inability to move to other crossings due to fighting. There are 5 official border crossings between Lebanon and Syria: [Aarida](#) (between Homs and northern Lebanon), [El Aabboudiye](#) (between Tartous and northern Lebanon), [Qaa Baalbek](#) (at the northern end of the Bekaa valley) [Al-Masnaa](#) (between rural Damascus and Bekaa) and Wadi-Kahled. ([Assafir 2013/03/29](#), [Now Lebanon 2009](#), [UNHCR 2013/03/29](#), [WFP 2013/06/05](#))

Daily arrivals:

- ✦ An increase of new arrivals is noticed specifically in Bekaa. An average of 15 families a day arrived in Aarsal in the start of June. Some 200 refugees fleeing from different Syrian cities, particularly Qalamoun, arrived in Aarsal on a daily basis during the week of 14-21 June. The majority are believed to have travelled onwards to other areas in Lebanon, particularly the north. There has been an increase in the number of refugees registering who entered irregularly, linked to a recent influx from Qusair. ([WFP 2013/06/05](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [Lebanon Inter-Agency 2013/06/14-21](#))
- ✦ 4,200 refugees approach UNHCR for registration each day. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))

Refugee locations as registered at UNHCR 2013/06/20

(% of total number of registered refugees)

Area	April	May	June
North	34%	35%	36%
Bekaa	34%	34%	34%
Beirut and Mount Lebanon	18%	18%	18%
South	14%	13%	12%

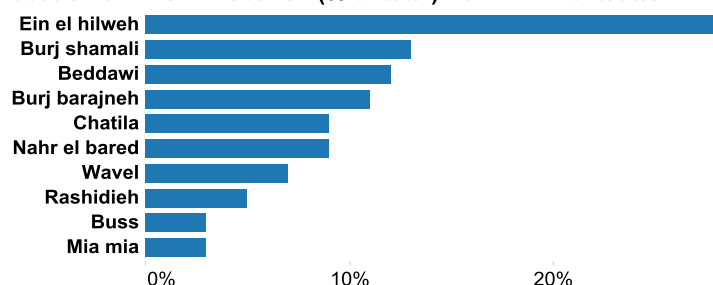
- ✦ **Place of origin:** The majority of refugees in Lebanon are from Homs (29%), Aleppo and Idlib (16%), and rural Damascus (12%). ([UNHCR 2013/06/20](#))

- **Current location:** As illustrated in the table, there are only slight variations in registration trends from April until June across regions. Refugees reside in 1,400 Lebanese towns and villages, mostly in Bekaa (Zahle and Baalbek) and the north (Akkar and Tripoli). ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/04/30](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/17](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/11](#))
- **Status:** When exiting Syria, Syrians are provided with a Return Coupon and exit stamp by the Syrian authorities. At the Lebanese official borders, an individual holding a valid national Syrian identity card or a valid passport receives an Entry Coupon (also called Return Coupon) with an entry stamp. This stamp allows him/her residency for a period of 6 months and can be renewed free of charge for another 6 months at any regional office of the General Security. This procedure gives any Syrian the possibility of residing in the country for one year without any fees. After this period, Syrians must apply for a 6-month residence permit renewal for a fee of LBP 300,000 (USD 200), which can be then renewed another time free of charge for 6 months. Some Syrian nationals (born to a Lebanese mother; married to a Lebanese; born in Lebanon; pursuing their studies; and retired diplomats) are also eligible for a “courtesy residence permit”, which is renewable, free of charge and valid for 3 years. ([LBC 2013/03/07](#))
- **Demographic breakdown:** In June, the demographic breakdown was 50% female and 50% male. 2.8% are over 60 years of age. ([UNHCR 2013/06/20](#))

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS)

- The number of PRS in Lebanon stands at 62,000, up 13% from May. Women and children make up the majority of PRS. By December, these numbers are expected to reach 80,000. ([UNRWA 2013/06/16](#), [UNRWA 2013/05/26](#), [UNRWA 2013/05/10](#), [AAID 2013/05/25](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/20](#))
- **Reason for displacement:** An UNRWA assessment amongst recorded PRS indicated that for 73% of families the main reason to flee Syria was fear of armed conflict, and for 24% the destruction of their houses. ([UNRWA 2013/12](#), [UNRWA 2013/03/08](#))

Location of PRS in Lebanon (% of total) - UNRWA 2013/06/07



- **Current location:** Most PRS are located in the southern town of Saida (31%), with the remainder are distributed between Bekaa (21%), Sour (17%), Beirut (17%) and the North (14%). The majority of PRS (52%) live in camps mainly Ein ElHelweh, Rashidiyeh, Beddawi and Nahr el-Bared camp. ([UNRWA 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/30](#))
- **Status:** PRS continue to be issued seven day transit visas, valid for 15 days costing LBP 25,000 (USD 17) upon their arrival in Lebanon. On the expiry of this entry visa, PRS were initially required to obtain a 3-month visa at a cost of LBP 50,000 (USD 33). In February 2013 a circular issued by the Directorate General of General Security stipulated PRS can obtain the visa for a period of 3 months free of charge. The Government had previously announced an amnesty in September 2012, which allows PRS with expired visas to return to Syria within one year of their entry into Lebanon without being subject to fines at the border. This remains in place. As of June 2013 PRS who wish to remain in Lebanon for more than a year are expected to pay a LBP 300,000 (USD 200) fee. Those who pay the fee will be able to continue to renew their 3 month temporary residence for another year. ([UNRWA 2012/12/19](#), [UNRWA 2013/06/25](#))
- **Demographic breakdown:** 53% of the PRS families are made up of 0-3 individuals and the rest are made up 4-6 and above. 60% of them are 18 years old and above and 15% are children (0-5 years). 49% of them are males. ([UNRWA 2013/06/07](#))

Unregistered refugees

- A significant proportion of the Syrians residing in Lebanon are not registered with UNHCR or awaiting registration. Relying on the previous Government estimate of 1 million refugees, around 144,000 refugees are estimated to be unregistered. However, not all unregistered Syrians in Lebanon are in need of support.

Refugee needs and concerns

Shelter

- Shelter capacity within Lebanon is insufficient to meet the needs and new arrivals increasingly face difficulties finding adequate and affordable shelter. While the majority of registered Syrians continue to be residing in rented apartments and houses, an increasing number is forced to live in informal tented settlements. The UNHCR definition of an informal tented settlement is a site with at least 10 tents, less than 100m from one another. In Bekaa alone, there were some 240 ad-hoc tented settlements in April, 6 times the number recorded in January. Over 400 informal tented settlements have been established country wide, hosting between 50-60,000 registered refugees

(approximately 11% of total number of Syrians registered or awaiting UNHCR registration nationwide), in addition to an unknown number of migrants and unregistered refugees. (SCI 2013/06/18, UNHCR 2013/05/22, SCI 2013/05/30, [Oxfam 2013/05/20](#))

- A large number of the informal settlements were already in place before the start of the Syria crisis, hosting Syrian agricultural workers and other migrants. During the crisis, these sites have expanded to host refugees. Rents are up to USD 50 – 100 per month, per tent. Overcrowding is a major concern. During a mapping exercise in Bekaa, it was found that on average 8 people share tent. (SCI 2013/06/18, SCI 2013/05/30)
- Those residing in tents, unfinished houses and garages/magasins are deemed the most vulnerable. These shelters are often inadequate, their security of tenure is limited and significant security risks exist. Several instances of fire have for instance been reported in the informal tented settlements. (SCI 2013/06/18)
- At the start of June, a number of families faced eviction or threats of eviction due to their inability to pay rent and it is expected that more will soon be facing the same problem as resources are depleting. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))
- In Lebanon's Akkar region, the number of Syrians has exceeded the original population in multiple villages. This influx caused the rent prices to double (from USD 100-200 for an apartment in July-August 2012 to USD 250-400 in March 2013). ([Polish centre for international aid 2013/06/01](#))
- **Projections:** Within the RRP 5, it is projected that over 4500,000 additional Syrians will have registered with UNHCR by December 2013. Different options for expanding the current shelter capacity have been proposed, including the expansion of informal tented settlements and the establishment of formal tented settlements. The Government of Lebanon allows for the establishment of these formal tented settlements as long as the site does not host more than 20 to 25 households. While the Government of Lebanon has not allowed for the establishment of camps until now, UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) are discussing the establishment of long term transit sites. Within the RRP 5, 12 transit sites have been planned, hosting over 100,000 refugees. A large part of the new arrivals is expected to be absorbed into informal tented settlements, increasing existing risks related to overcrowding and WASH. (SCI 2013/05/30, RRP 5 2013/06/)
- Several other initiatives to increase the availability of shelter are on-going:
 - The first detailed site planning for a camp (for 10,000 individuals) has been finalised. Two potential sites (West Bekaa) of an estimated capacity of 30,000 individuals have been identified. On June 17, the installation of 21 prefabricated wooden temporary shelters in the north (6 in existing

collective shelters, 3 in New Tikrit, and 2 in Ibra, and 10 in different locations agreed upon with the MoSA) has been approved by the Government. In Western and Central Bekaa, a similar project aiming to complete 14 shelters is under way. ([UNHCR 2013/05/24](#), [USAID 2013/05/23](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [Lebanon Inter-Agency 2013/06/14-21](#))

- There are currently 83 collective shelters either being renovated or assessed for their suitability. Renovations are currently underway in in Baalbek and surrounding villages offering a total capacity of 340 new shelter units. ([Lebanon Inter-Agency 2013/06/14-21](#))
- Around 90 families have relocated from informal settlements along the main road towards north Bekaa and settled in Delhamiyeh in central Bekaa and nearby settlements. This trend could be due to heightened tensions between refugee and hosting communities. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))
- Refugees in Saida and Zahrani (in Sarafand) live in rented rooms (costing USD 100-200); semi-permanent structures; rooms within basements and garages; and rooms allocated within abandoned schools. Some shelters were highly overcrowded and others were unfinished buildings. ([IOM 2013/06/08](#))
- **Palestinian Refugees from Syria:** Most PRS live in overcrowded conditions, with about one third living in substandard housing such as shelters with open vents, schools, shacks, rooftop chambers, shops and places of worship. 50% of the households hosting PRS are inhabited by more than 10 people. The Internal Security Forces have approved a request to renovate 30 new shelters for refugee families. ([Daily Star 2013/06/20](#))

Health and nutrition

- In May, the most common disease groups identified among refugees are neonatal or congenital conditions (26%), surgery (21%), and cardiovascular diseases (19%). ([UNHCR 2013/05/25](#))
- As of 24 May, the Ministry of Public Health reported a total of 135 measles cases and 164 cases of Leishmaniasis among refugees since January. ([UNHCR 2013/05/25](#))
- Poor hygiene, inadequate nutrition, and overcrowded living quarters contribute to the rapid spread of TB (68 active cases since the start of the crisis) within informal settlements in the south. ([IOM 2013/06/08](#))
- High temperatures during summer (up to 40°C) are expected to increase health-related risks for Syrian refugees. Increased cases of public health-related diseases such as diarrhoea (with 84 confirmed cases in MSF clinics in Bekaa) and skin infections have already been recorded in host communities and temporary settlements. ([Oxfam 2013/05/20](#))

- It was reported that many refugees are avoiding hospitalization since they cannot cover the remaining 25% share of the hospital bills they are expected to pay. ([UNHCR 2013/05/24](#), [IMC 2013/05/15](#))

Protection

- Violent incidents, including shelling from Syria, are spreading in Northern and Central Bekaa threatening the security of Syrian refugees and the local population, particularly in Aarsal and Baalbek. Due to clashes in Bab Tebennah and Jabal Mohsen, some refugees were trapped in buildings. A significant number of Syrians have left Hermel due to the shelling. Taybeh tented settlement in Northern Bekaa was vacated following unspecified security incidents. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))
- Tensions between the Syrian and hosting communities are increasing. The lack of job opportunities continues to be a major cause of tension and in certain villages Syrian workers are being asked to leave in order to reduce competition. In other villages notices have begun to appear politely requesting Syrians to observe a curfew. ([UNHCR 2013/05/17](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/05/20](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [AFP 2013/06/15](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/17](#), [PI 2013/06/25](#))
- About 13% of registered Syrian refugees have entered Lebanon through unofficial border crossings and do not have documents recognising their right of residency in Lebanon. The number of Syrians without residency permits is expected to increase further as the crisis continues to develop. In addition, Syrians who have entered legally are required to renew their residency coupons after 12 months and many will not have the financial means to pay for the renewal. ([UNHCR 2013/06/13](#))
- Waiting periods for registration with UNHCR continue to fall - averaging 22 days at the end of May in all registration centres. UNHCR and the Lebanese Armed Forces began providing transportation for recently arrived refugees from the border town of Chebaa to the registration centre in Sour. ([UNHCR 2013/06/13](#))
- Many refugees in the south are unaware of how and where to access assistance. ([IOM 2013/06/08](#))
- Under-age marriage among displaced Syrians in Lebanon has become a worrying phenomenon, affecting girls as young as 13, and is most notable in the Bebine (Akkar) tented settlement. ([Daily Star 2013/06/24](#), [Lebanon Inter-Agency 2013/06/14-21](#))
- Sex work is becoming increasingly visible in Lebanon. Violence against women and girls has been noted in Syria and Lebanon, with several SGBV incidents reported. Incidents of early marriage, survival sex, sexual harassment and intimate partner violence have been remarked. ([UNHCR 2013/05/15](#) [Al-akhbar 2013/05/01](#), [UNHCR 2013/03/22](#))

- A significant number of children are being sent to work in order to improve their family's income. There are significant child labour issues in the construction sector and they are likely to increase as the economic situation of households deteriorates. ([CPIEWG 2013/05/24](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/13](#))

• **Palestinian Refugees from Syria:** PRS are considered to be more vulnerable compared to Syrians because they have fewer legal safeguards, hardly any opportunities to find legal employment, and are housed in Palestinian refugee camps, which represent some of the poorest host communities in Lebanon. ([Daily Star 2013/06/20](#))

- A growing need for mental health services has been reported as those coming from Syria are diagnosed with depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Domestic violence has increased as well. ([MSF 2013/05/20](#))

Livelihoods and food security

• Preliminary results of a UNICEF vulnerability mapping exercise indicate that there are 182 extremely vulnerable localities (out of 1,577 localities nationwide), with the highest proportion of known refugees and Lebanese nationals living on less than USD 4 per day. The North governorate which hosts around 36% of refugees is home to 40% of Lebanon's poor, with more than half the people living under USD 4 a day. ([UNICEF 2013/05/28](#), [UNFPA 2013/06/20](#))

- Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis assessment:
 - **Agriculture:** the assessment reveals that labour opportunities in agriculture are not insufficient. Wages paid to Syrian migrants in Bekaa have decreased compared to pre-crisis, while in the north, farmers report paying higher wages to migrant workers than in 2011. In Bekaa, and to a certain degree in the north, the number of available work hours for refugees assessed has decreased, from about 8 hours per day to 4 hours to accommodate the allocation of shifts to more labourers. ([IA 2013/05/13](#))
 - **Construction:** some 11,000 and 9,500 workers in the north and Bekaa respectively are estimated to have entered the local construction industry. Syrian labourers experience a growing level of exploitation as working hours increase, break times are shortened and discrimination is felt more strongly. Most manage to find employment for only 1 to 2 weeks per month. In Bekaa, it is estimated that there has been a 40 to 50% increase in the number of unskilled labourers employed by small and medium-sized contractors. In the north, given the more significant downturn in the construction sector, no increase in the number of labourers was reported, despite the significant decrease in wages. Unskilled labourers with the lowest income and job security suffered the heaviest decrease in wages.

Wages have dropped by a third for skilled labourers with a shift of labourers from Lebanese to Syrians by 40% in the north and 30% in Bekaa. ([IA 2013/05/13](#))

- **Services:** Syrian refugees report experiencing exploitation in hotel and restaurant employment, earning between USD 250-300 a month and working an average 9 hours a day, over 23 days a month. In many locations, Syrians have been opening their own businesses, especially in central Bekaa. Syrian business owners recruit family members or even bring employees from Syria with whom they have a relationship or worked with previously. ([IA 2013/05/13](#))

- **Palestinian Refugees from Syria:** The PRS perceive the standard of living in Lebanon below that of Syria. Unlike Syrians who have long experience as migrant workers and have the legal framework and informal social networks to find employment in Lebanon, Palestinians are not able to find jobs. Many Palestinians had lost their purchasing power after converting the little savings they brought with them to Lebanese pounds. ([Daily Star 2013/06/20](#))

WASH

- The lack of adequate water and sanitation facilities in informal tented settlements is of major concern. ([SCI 2013/06/18](#), [Oxfam 2013/06/11](#))
- WASH assessments revealed that one third of Syrians are in need of urgent WASH support and 12% of refugee families reported at least one incidence of diarrhoeal related diseases at the end of May. A recent IOM assessment in Collective Shelters in the South found: ([IOM 2013/06/08](#)):
 - Raw, untreated sewerage being dumped directly into water streams close to refugee shelters.
 - Plastic and nylon bags being used as nappies.
 - Inadequate or no showering/washing facilities in most sites and families in need of buckets for personal hygiene and to wash clothing.
 - Between 70 and 400 people using a single latrine/toilet block.
 - Residents of all sites requiring improved access to water.
 - Syrian families having swapped food vouchers to purchase essential items such as nappies and female hygiene items.
- Palestine refugee camps in Lebanon are under severe pressure in terms of water, waste management and power supply due to overcrowding by both PRS and Syrian refugees. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))

Education

- Enrolment for Syrian registered children remains critically low, at 38% for primary school-aged children and just 2% at the secondary level. Moreover,

children continue to drop out of school due to their inability to cope with the new curriculum, the bullying by classmates, the need to seek employment to supplement the family's income, and the absence of sufficient remedial classes to address their needs. Syrians reported having difficulties with the exams as in Lebanon more analytical and linguistic skills are required than in Syria. ([UNHCR 2013/05/24](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [AFP 2013/06/19](#))

- In the South, an assessment among local schools revealed that the majority of Syrian children are still facing difficulties adapting to the Lebanese curriculum. Despite those reported difficulties, a public school in Marj Al Zouhour reported that 3 Syrian children were among the first ranked students. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#))
- Through joint UN advocacy efforts, it has been possible for 135 Syrian children to reconnect with relatives in Syria to find documentation of previous schooling making them eligible to sit for national year-end exams. 45 children are still awaiting news from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to find out if they can receive a special authorization to sit exams without documentation from their schools in Syria. ([UNHCR 2013/06/24](#))
- The number of PRS children attending UNRWA schools has increased to 3,704 students in from 3,671, although the total should be around 13,000. ([UNRWA 2013/05/26](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/30](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/15](#))
- By the end of March, it was estimated that there were up to 120,000 Syrian children of school going age not enrolled in public schools and 28,700 enrolled in public schools. ([UNHCR 2013/03/29](#), [IMC 2013/03/05](#))

Lebanese Returnees

- An estimated 30,000 Lebanese have returned from Syria, most of whom are concentrated in rural, agricultural districts in northern and eastern Lebanon. Smallholder returnees are very vulnerable as they face Lebanon's high animal feed costs, lack of winter grazing lands as well as a need to finance immediate household living costs. Previously, these used to benefit from Syria's (winter) seasonal pastures and generous feed subsidies but these sources are no longer available. ([FAO 2013/04/03](#))

Syrian Migrants

- Between 300,000 and 600,000 Syrians were working in Lebanon before the crisis, mostly in agriculture, construction, and services. Syrian migrants who traditionally reside in informal settlements in Lebanon during the agricultural season are becoming increasingly vulnerable. Due to the crisis, they face a decrease in daily wages, while the cost of living, including rent is increasing. Many have brought their family to Lebanon, resulting in a further increase in expenditure. As more Syrians settle in informal tented sites, they become

increasingly overcrowded, while access to services is limited. (SCI 2013/06/18, (UNHCR 2013/05/13, IRIN 2012/12/24)

Non-Displaced

Host communities

- Lebanon is hosting a number of registered refugees equal to 11% of the total estimated Lebanese population, according to UNHCR. According to the upcoming revision of the Regional Response Plan, 1.2 million Lebanese (including over 400,000 children) are in need as a result of the conflict in Syria and resulting refugee influx. By December 2013, the number of refugees in Lebanon is projected to reach one million individuals, a figure equivalent to 25% of the total population in a country that is experiencing debt to GDP ratio of over 180%. (UNHCR 2013/06/10, UNHCR 2013/04/18)

Host communities needs and concerns

Livelihoods and food security

- The Syrian crisis is severely affecting tourism, trade, and remittance levels from Lebanon's expatriate population. For instances, the Hermel region near the Syrian border is exposed to economic setbacks in tourism due to rocket attacks during the last two months. (Assafir 2013/06/06, Reuters 2013/05/09)
- Livestock and plant diseases:** The collapse of veterinary and plant protection services in Syria and increases in illegal cross-border trade have significantly increased the risk of trans-boundary animal and plant diseases and pests, posing a direct threat to the livelihoods and food and nutrition security of refugees and hosts. (UNHCR 2013/06/10)
- Food security:** The cost of living and housing prices have gone up in the North and Bekaa due to the reduction of cheap goods imported from Syria. The influx of Syrians into the casual labour market has caused a reduction in daily wages of up to 60%. Furthermore, the burden on host communities is increasing because of reduction in income opportunities and higher food prices. (FAO 2013/04/03)
- Agriculture:** Lebanese agriculture has been severely impacted by the crisis and the loss of overland export routes to the Gulf countries through Syria. Farmers in the Bekaa valley near the Syrian border have lost their income due to security problems barring access to land. In addition, farmers are struggling to compete with cheaper products from Syria. (IRIN 2013/06/13) In Bekaa, Lebanese workers reported a drop in average wages from LBP 35,000 to 25,000 per day (USD 16 – 23), as a result of competition with Syrian refugees

seeking work. In late 2012 and early 2013, as fighting in Syria escalated, transporters faced increasing obstacles in exporting goods through Syria, including risk of attack and difficulties crossing the border from Syria to Jordan. (IA 2013/05/13)

- The costs of agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, animal feed) are high as before the crisis a number of Lebanese farmers close to the borders benefited from lower priced imports or subsidised Syrian inputs through smuggling. The high input prices are forcing some Lebanese farmers out of business. (FAO 2013/04/03)
- Construction:** The construction sector experienced a dramatic slowdown in new projects. Households in rural areas are less willing to invest in housing. The number of construction permits issued in 2012 decreased by 12% overall compared to 2011. With respect to skilled labourers, there was a shift from Lebanese to Syrian workers, with a shift of 40% in the north and 30% in Bekaa. (IA 2013/05/13)
- Trade:** In Wadi Khaled, a Northern border town, trade has been brought to a standstill. Insecurity has interrupted the import of Syrian commodities, which are cheaper than their Lebanese equivalents. Agricultural bilateral and transit trade decreased, while informal trade increased. (NRC 2013/04/30, FAO 2013/04/03)
- Positive effects:** The conflict in Syria has increased Beirut Port revenues by 26%. The increased traffic of goods through the port is largely attributed to traders importing goods through sea ports instead of through land routes. In addition, traders who no longer have access to the Syrian ports of Lattakia and Tartous rely on Lebanese merchants for importing goods. (Daily Star 2013/06/20)
- The export of fuel (mainly diesel) to Syria has risen to become the first rank among Lebanese industrial exports (25% of these exports go to Syria). The Lebanese industrial exports grew in general by 13.5% in June compared to last year. (Al-akhbar 2013/06/17)

Protection

- The Syrian crisis is increasingly spilling over into Lebanon and security tensions have been increasing in Lebanon to include the north, Bekaa and the south.
- Northern Bekaa region from Northern Hermel to Southern Baalbek and some northern villages have been witnessing frequent shelling by the Syrian opposition. SAF aircrafts repeatedly shelled the vicinity of Aarsal, whose residents back the Syrian opposition, and which has been used as a conduit for weapons and rebels to enter Syria. Shelling was also reported in Akkar in the north on 23 June. (AFP 2013/06/08, Assafir 2013/06/06, Al-Jazeera 2013/06/03, Al-Jazeera 2013/06/11, Daily Star 2013/06/02, Daily Star 2013/06/04, Daily Star 2013/06/13, AFP 2013/06/12, Al-Jazeera 2013/06/12, Al-akhbar 2013/06/15, Daily Star 2013/06/24)

- On the outskirts of Baalbek, 2 km from the border, clashes erupted between Hezbollah and FSA in June.
- The security problems are not only due to the shelling, but also to the increasing tensions between the local communities. Clashes between the rival neighbourhoods of Bab Al Tabbaneh and Jabal Mohsen in Tripoli were on-going despite several attempts at a ceasefire. Tensions and clashes between communities also extended to Saida in the south and Beirut. A Lebanese protester against the Hezbollah intervention in Syria was killed outside the Iranian embassy in Beirut. In the north, tensions are high in the Northern Bekaa between Sunni and Shia communities after a Sunni resident from Aarsal was killed near Hermel (a predominantly Shiite community). In the following days, 4 other persons were killed in towns of Hermel as a possible retaliation. On 21 June, armed clashes exploded between Shiite supporters of Hezbollah and Sunni anti-Hezbollah groups from Northern Bekaa. Heightened tensions between Syrians and host communities, particularly around funerals and convoys were also reported. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/21](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/03](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/12](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/04](#), [Jordan Times 2013/03/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/13](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/17](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/17](#))
- On June 23, heavy clashes have erupted in Saida in Southern Lebanon and violence spread to different Lebanese areas (Tripoli, Bekaa and outskirts of Beirut) when an armed group, supporters of anti-Hezbollah Sunni cleric Sheikh Assir, attacked an army checkpoint on the outskirts of Saida. On 18 June clashes between supporters of Assir and a pro-Hezbollah group occurred in an eastern suburb of Saida. ([Al-akhbar 2013/06/24](#), [Al-akhbar 2013/06/24](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/24](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/24](#), [Independent 2013/06/18](#), [Daily Star 2013/06/18](#))
- Due to the clashes that have erupted in Tripoli and Saida, several people have temporarily left their homes. ([Al-akhbar 2013/06/03](#), [AFP 2013/05/26](#))
- Gulf Arab states have promised sanctions against members of the Lebanese Shia group Hezbollah in retaliation for its intervention in Syria. ([Al-Jazeera 2013/06/11](#))

Health

- The Lebanese hospitals are receiving an increased number of patients due to the mass influx of refugees and wounded fighters in addition to pregnancy related conditions (deliveries and pre-term babies) and non-surgical conditions such as respiratory infections, dehydration and other serious infections. The hospitals have reached their maximum capacities in Bekaa and the north. 40% of patients in public hospitals in the north and Bekaa are Syrians and 25% in Beirut. ([Al-akhbar 2013/06/19](#))

Jordan

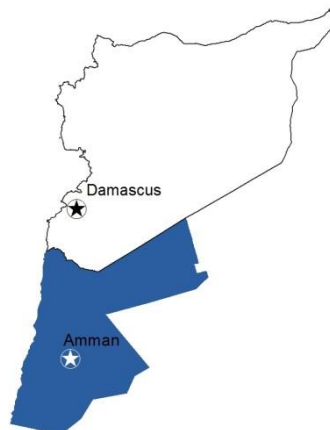
Displaced (see annex A for definitions)

Syrian registered refugees and awaiting registration	487,543
% registered and awaiting registration in camps	31
Palestinian refugees from Syria	7,543
Syrian unregistered refugees	53,404
Syrian returnees	60,000
Syrian migrants	Unknown

Non displaced

Non displaced affected by the Syria crisis	Unknown
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Source: [UNRWA 2013/06/16](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/25](#)

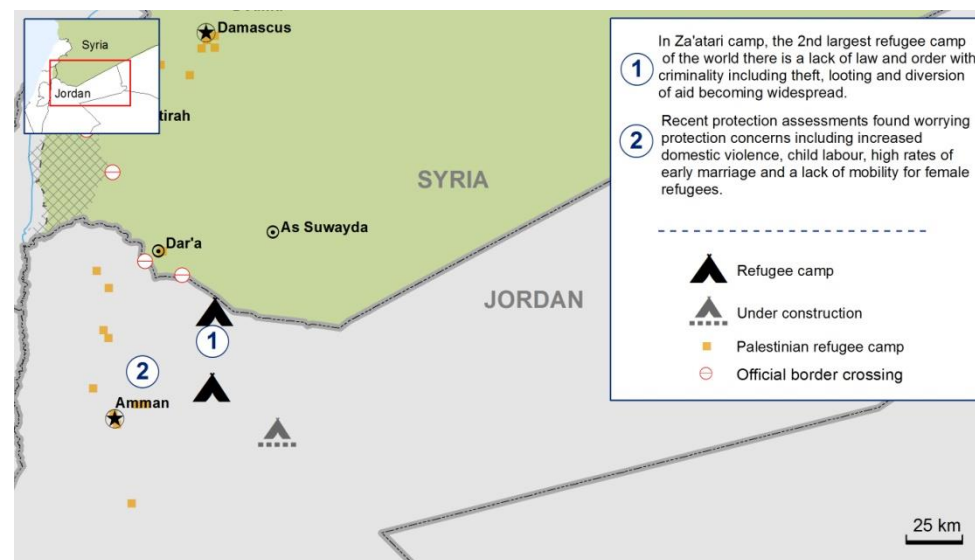


Key developments June

- The daily inflow of refugees decreased significantly in mid-May and has remained below average in June. The reason for this has not been confirmed: while some state that the Government of Jordan (GoJ) is restricting border crossings, others report that a lower number of Syrians arrive at the border due to heavy clashes in the border region.
- The overall number of Syrians registered with UNHCR or awaiting registration has slightly decreased since the end of May – from around 488,000 at 24 May to around 487,500 by the end of June. Possible reasons for this discrepancy could be that daily arrivals have decreased, while the number of Syrians returning to Syria stands at 400 a day. Some of those awaiting registration might no longer be included in the figures, either because they withdrew their registration or because they did not fall within UNHCR's category of persons of concern.
- Access to livelihoods and food security remains a main concern, with over 20% of refugees outside of camps and 18.5% in the camps found to have 'poor' or 'borderline' food consumption score. Income opportunities are limited and the prices for drinking water, food commodities and housing are increasing. The Cash Working group projects that 75% of the registered Syrians will be in need of some form of cash assistance by the end of the year. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- A nutrition assessment among children <5 shows that the nutritional status of Syrian children in and outside of camps is 'poor'. Access to health remains an issue, particularly for those outside of camps. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

Operational constraints

- In Za'atari camp, theft and violence, reported almost on a daily basis, is affecting humanitarian operations. Over USD 1 million of UNICEF assets have been lost since the start of the year due to vandalism. In a recent incident, 14 WASH blocks in the camp were heavily vandalised, affecting access to water and sanitation for 6,000 refugees. ([UNHCR 2013/06/18](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/30](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- In some areas of the camp, gangs control access to relief goods, for instance by determining who can occupy a caravan in a specific location. As a result, access to aid for vulnerable groups is impeded. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- Misuse of aid is common, and many refugees reportedly move from Jordan to Syria back into Jordan, in an attempt to receive additional assistance. ([IRIN 2013/06/10](#))



Data sources and limitations

- ✦ Jordan is the only host country where there are assessments available on the child protection and GBV situation. In June, UN Women released the findings of a new report on gender-based violence among Syrian refugees in Jordan. The report was not yet available at the time of publication of the RAS. In addition, UNICEF published a comprehensive assessment on the situation of children in and outside of camps, based on a review of secondary data and information from UNICEF sector specialists, INGOs and refugees. In March, the inter-agency child protection and gender-based violence sub working group released the findings of its assessment in Za'atari camp, which is the first comprehensive, publicly available assessment on protection and GBV in the region. However, the data for this assessment was collected in December and due to the fast changing nature of the situation (the camp population increased from around 55,000 in January to 166,500 by late March) the findings may no longer reflect the situation in the camp. ([UN Women 2013/06/20](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#), [CPGBV Sub Working Group 2013/03](#))
- ✦ There are 2 assessments available on the situation of refugees residing outside of camps:
 - Oxfam GB published an integrated assessment of Syrian Refugees in Host Communities based on data collection in February and March 2013. ([OXFAM 2013/04](#))
 - CARE undertook a rapid participatory community assessment of urban refugees in Jordan in January and February: ([CARE 2013/04/07](#))Despite these comprehensive assessments, information gaps remain on the types, locations and needs of vulnerable groups in urban settings.
- ✦ A March FAO assessment outlines the impact of the Syria crisis on agriculture and food security in Jordan. There is only limited other information available on the impact of the crisis on the host communities. ([FAO 2013/04](#))
- ✦ UNHCR produces detailed public health profiles for Za'atari camp on a weekly basis. These profiles provide sex and age disaggregated information on current public health concerns in the camp. While the health situation in Za'atari camp is closely monitored, there is a lack of information on the health status of Syrians residing in urban and rural areas.
- ✦ A number of assessments are planned in Jordan, including an IMC and WHO mental health assessment in Za'atari and urban areas, a WFP/UNHCR Joint Assessment Mission, and a REACH profiling exercise. ([UNHCR 2013/05/31](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))

Displaced

The GoJ estimates there to be some 541,000 Syrians in the Kingdom as of 4 June. ([GoJ 2013/06/04](#))

Registered refugees

- ✦ **Official border crossings:** Daraa and Nasib
- **Daily arrivals:** Since mid-May 2013, a significant decrease in refugee arrivals was reported and during several days a complete halt in crossings to Jordan. Although the number of daily arrivals has increased in June, it is still below the average: on 16 June, only some 150 Syrians crossed into Jordan, compared to 1,500 refugees per day at the start of May. This decrease was attributed to Jordanian Government security measures and difficulties in accessing the border from the Syrian side due to heavy fighting. In addition, the Syrian Government currently controls areas along the Syrian-Jordanian border previously controlled by the opposition, making it more difficult for the opposition to help people reach the border. ([UNHCR 2013/06/04](#), [Jordan Times 2013/06/10](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/30](#), [Oxfam 2013/06/11](#), [Jordan Times 2013/06/17](#), [IRIN 2013/06/10](#), [IRIN 2013/07/09](#))
- ✦ **Projections:** Within the Regional Response Plan for Jordan, it is projected that the number of Syrians in need of assistance in Jordan by the end of 2013 could reach 1 million, with 300,000 hosted in camps and 700,000 in urban and rural communities across the country. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- ✦ **Location:** The proportion of registered Syrians residing in camps remains at 30%, while 70% is dispersed in rural and urban areas in the rest of the country. Although the large majority of the registered refugees are residing in urban areas, there is no publically available data on their exact location. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))
- ✦ Since August 2012, all Syrian refugees entering Jordan are transferred to Za'atari camp, sometimes via the transit facilities of Cyber City and King Abdullah Park. By 12 June, over 142,000 refugees were registered in Za'atari camp. However, some of the registered refugees have already left Za'atari, including through a Government-administered system of sponsorship by individual Jordanians, leaving around 110,000 individuals residing in the camp. A specific site has been established to host the between 20,000 to 30,000 Syrian Army soldiers who have fled. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/08](#))
- ✦ **Place of origin:** The majority of refugees originate from Dar'a and some estimates indicate that one-third of the Governorate's original population is living in Jordan. Since the conflict in Qusair, Homs escalated, at least 3,500 Syrians from Qusair have entered Jordan. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#), [Al-Akhbar 2013/06/01](#)).

- **Flight motivation:** Reasons for fleeing Syria include increase of violent attacks through the use of heavy artillery, air strikes, scud missiles and reported use of chemical weapons in certain areas, property loss, lack of access to medical treatment, family reunification, fear of additional loss of family members, arbitrary arrest and rape incidents, and the high cost of living and lack of food, shelter and job opportunities. ([IA 2013/05/17](#))
- **Demographic breakdown:** 53% of registered Syrians are female and 47% male. 54% are younger than 18, while over 3% of the refugees are over 60. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))
- In Za'atari camp, the demographic balance differs slightly: 56% of the registered refugees are female and 57% are under 18. This discrepancy can be explained by the fact that there are limited livelihood opportunities in Za'atari, forcing men to search for employment outside of the camp. ([UNHCR 2013/05/10](#))

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS)

- **Number:** There are around 7,543 PRS in Jordan. ([UNRWA 2013/06/16](#))
- **Flight motivation:** Palestine refugees from Syria accessing UNRWA services in Jordan indicated they fled Syria for various reasons including: lack of basic services and availability of food, destruction of homes, loss of belongings conflict-related violence and overall insecurity, persecution of family members as well as targeted killings and torture. ([UNRWA 2013/05/19](#))
- **Demographic breakdown:** In May, 49% of those registered with UNRWA were male, while 51% of PRS were female. 9% were over the age of 50 and 37% under the age of 13. The average family size was 4.1. 29% of families were female-headed households. ([UNRWA 2013/05/19](#))

Unregistered refugees

- There is no information available on the number and location of unregistered refugees. The GoJ stated that Jordan currently hosts some 541,000 Syrians, 487,543 of whom are UNHCR-registered or awaiting registration. Hence, an estimated 53,404 Syrians are unregistered. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))

Syrian returnees

- According to the GoJ, nearly 60,000 Syrian refugees have voluntarily returned to Syria since the opening of Za'atari camp in July 2012. Since the start of April, the number of spontaneous returns to Syria has reportedly increased with around 400 Syrians currently leaving the camp on a daily basis, with the intention to return to Syria. This increase can be partly explained by the fact

that it has become easier to return: the GoJ facilitates application of returnees through committees and provides transport to the border. ([IRIN 2013/06/10](#))

- Around 3,000 Syrians left the Zaatari Refugee Camp on 19 June, the largest single group of returnees since the onset of the conflict. The high number of returns was reportedly triggered by opposition calls on refugee communities to return to Syria to "defend" their hometowns and villages. ([Jordan Times 2013/06/19](#))
- 80% of returnees originate from and return to Dar'a. Reported reasons for return include improved security in villages of origin; safeguarding property; reuniting with family members; and to bring back vulnerable family members (and single men who are not permitted to cross the border) to Jordan. ([IRIN 2013/06/10](#))

Syrian seasonal workers

- An unknown number of Syrian migrants reside in Jordan as agricultural seasonal workers. Anecdotal evidence suggests that those workers remain in Jordan, as they have not been able to return home. ([ECHO 2012/12/12](#)) There is no information available on their location, status or number.

Refugee needs and concerns

Health

- There is a significant need for health care among arriving refugees: between January and March, 3% of new arrivals required immediate medical care, usually for conflict wounds, and 5-7% sought medical attention within one week of entering Jordan. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- Syrians report having difficulties affording treatment and medication for chronic diseases. Chronic diseases such as hypertension are common among refugees, and the treatment of these diseases is a heavy financial burden for refugees and aid agencies. ([CARE 2013/04/27](#))
- Jordan reported no cases of measles for 3 years prior to the crisis and Syria reported no cases in 2010 and 2011. However, 54 cases of measles (including 12 in Za'atari camp) have been confirmed among Syrian refugees since the start of the crisis. ([WHO 2013/06/03](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/31](#), [Guardian 2013/06/04](#), [WHO 2013/06/04](#))
- **Camp:** Mortality rates in Za'atari are stable. Upper Respiratory Tract Infections continue to be the most common acute health conditions measured in the camp, while hypertension and diabetes are the main chronic health conditions. ([UNHCR 2013/05/24](#))
- Older people are particularly affected: around 3% of the Za'atari camp population are older than 60 years of age, but they account for 13% of acute health conditions and 32% of chronic conditions. ([UNHCR 2013/05/10](#))

- Distance to health centres for Syrians living in newer areas of Za'atari camp has been reported as a concern. ([UNHCR 2013/05/10](#))
- Hygiene conditions are below standards in Za'atari camp and the number of diarrhoeal cases is increasing. ([UNICEF 2013/05/30](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/31](#))
- Urban/rural:** Although all registered refugees officially have access to health care services, a lack of awareness of this right on the side of health care service providers results in some providers refusing treatment to refugees. Those who are not registered are forced to pay high 'foreigner' rates at Government health facilities. In addition, Government health services are becoming increasingly overburdened: there are shortages of hospital beds, staff and medicines for patients with chronic diseases. In addition, access to reproductive services for unregistered out-of-camp refugee women has been identified as problematic. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/30](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))

Nutrition

- UNICEF reports that Global Acute Malnutrition is 5.8% in Za'atari camp and 5.1% in host communities, which indicates a 'poor' nutrition situation according to WHO standards. In addition, alarming rates of children at risk of acute malnutrition in Za'atari camp (5.6%) are reported. Across the country, 4% of Syrian children <5 need treatment for moderate acute malnutrition. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- Over 6% of women of reproductive age are malnourished, with approximately 1% severely malnourished. In Za'atari camp, micronutrient deficiency, particularly anaemia, in women of reproductive age is a significant problem. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- Infant and young child feeding practices are very poor with low rates of exclusive breastfeeding, early cessation of breastfeeding, high use of infant formula and poor knowledge of appropriate complementary foods. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

Shelter

- Camps:** Za'atari camp is nearing full capacity and overcrowding is of concern. To relieve pressure on Za'atari camp, a new camp, with capacity for 100,000 refugees, is under construction in Azraq and scheduled to open by the end of the year. ([World Vision 2013/06/07](#))
- Inadequate site planning has resulted in the concentration of services in the western area of Za'atari camp. Some households from other areas have moved their shelter closer to the services, leading to congestion and unhygienic living conditions. ([UNHCR 2013/06/18](#))
- The cultural habits of the refugee population are sometimes conflicting with the site planning in Za'atari camp. For instance, newly arrived families seeking to

reunite with family members occupy firebreak corridors and drainage spaces. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))

- Urban/rural:** Most of the refugees outside of camps reside in rented apartments. The heightened demand for shelter is leading to an increase in rental rates, a reduction in availability of adequate housing and overcrowding. An estimated 50% of refugees in urban areas are living in inadequate or sub-standard accommodation. Most participants in an Oxfam assessment consider their accommodation poor and cited problems such as damp; lack of light and ventilation; presence of rats; small rooms; broken windows and old buildings among the problems encountered. ([UNHCR 2013/06/07](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [CARE 2013/04/27](#), [Oxfam 2013/05/20](#), [Oxfam 2013/04/27](#), [Oxfam 2013/05/20](#), [Oxfam 2013/04/27](#), [CARE 2013/04/27](#))
- There are reports of the establishment of informal settlements with makeshift tents. However, a number of people previously residing in the main informal settlement in Jordan, in Balqa, have reportedly left the settlement and moved to other areas. ([Oxfam 2013/06/05](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- Rent has consistently been identified as the primary need amongst refugees. Reported rental prices vary according to location and quality but most refugees pay between 100 and 250 Jordanian Dinar (JOD) per month (around USD 140-350). The direct threat or risk of eviction is an on-going concern for most if they are unable to pay their rent on time. ([Oxfam 2013/04/27](#), [Oxfam 2013/04/27](#), [SCI 2013/03/04](#), [CARE 12/10/01](#), [ECHO 2012/12/02](#), [ICMC 2012/11/30](#), [Mercy Corps 2012/10](#), [Un Ponte Per 2012/08](#))
- Households visited during an Oxfam assessment were generally very sparsely furnished. In addition, WFP reported that major concerns for families living with communities include non-food items, such as diapers and hygiene supplies. ([WFP 2013/05/03](#), [Oxfam 2013/04/27](#))
- Older urban refugees are disproportionately forced to live in substandard housing; 70% of those in extremely poor housing have specific needs due to older age, a disability, or chronic illness. ([CARE 2013/04/27](#))

Livelihoods and food security

- Food security and livelihood assistance remains a priority. During an Inter-Agency Assessment, 23% of community based refugees were found to have 'poor' or 'borderline' food consumption score, compared to 18.5% in the camps. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- Urban/rural:** As it is very difficult to obtain a work permit, most Syrians who work in Jordan do so illegally. According to unofficial figures, around 160,000 Syrians (of whom 30,000 are children) have taken up jobs in Jordan mainly in the agriculture sector. ([Jordan Times 2013/06/12](#))

- Significant gaps between income and expenditure have been identified among refugees living outside camps. The Cash Working Group estimated those receiving UNHCR and WFP assistance to have an income of JOD 75-320 (USD 105–450) per month, while in March, average household expenditure was assessed at JOD 315-550 (USD 445–775). It is projected that 75% of the registered Syrians will need some form of cash assistance by the end of 2013, compared to 60% at the beginning of 2013. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [Oxfam 2013/04/27](#))

Protection

- Critical child protection and GBV concerns as identified by UNICEF are increased domestic violence, especially against adolescent girls, boys and women, heightened fear of sexual harassment and sexual violence among girls and women, separation of children from their families or primary caregiver and the exclusion from services of female-headed households and Syrians with disabilities. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- According to unofficial figures, around 30,000 children are working, mainly in the agriculture sector. Child labour is common in Syria, especially in poorer areas, and is socially accepted. As a result, some Syrian parents in Za'atari camp encourage their children to work as it is easier for them to find jobs than adults. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#), [Jordan Times 2013/06/12](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- A recent survey found that rates of early marriage are high. Early marriage was common in Syria prior to the crisis. However, there is anecdotal evidence of changes in early marriage practices, notably a shift from girls marrying boys their own age in Syria to girls marrying much older men in Jordan. ([AFP 2013/06/12](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#), [UN Women 2013/06/20](#))
- Mobility for Syrian women is limited. A recent study reported that as much as 20% of girls in Syria never left the house before the crisis and displacement has likely increased this proportion. Their restricted ability to leave home without a male family member makes it harder for women to engage in economic activities, receive education, participate in social activities, or receive aid supplies. Freedom of movement is restricted for those male adolescents who have assumed the role of head of household and must accompany their mothers on a daily basis. ([UN Women 2013/06/20](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- Additional risks to Syrian children in Jordan are gang activity and the alleged recruitment by armed groups. According to Syrian adults and children, many boys currently living in Za'atari camp were involved in armed groups in Syria. Some boys are reportedly returning to Syria to fight after using Za'atari camp as a temporary source of medical treatment. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- Unaccompanied and separated children, identified through UNHCR registration, comprise 0.5% of the population, though the actual number is likely to be closer to 2%. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

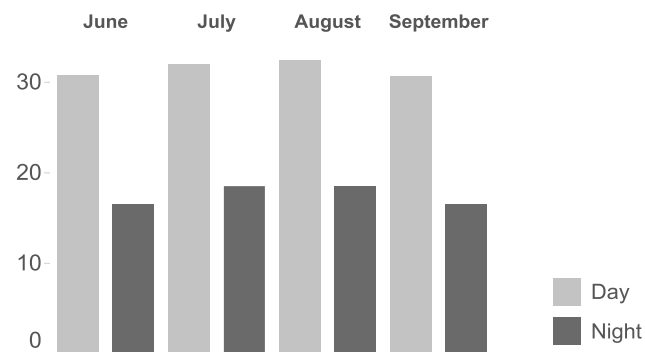
- Despite the constraints, a number of PRS however managed to flee to Jordan. Around 40% of the 7,000 PRS who reside in Jordan reportedly do not hold Jordanian passports and could be deported to Syria. ([ECHO 2013/05/24](#))
- Palestinian refugees exiting Syria, Syrians without documentation and young single men are not allowed to enter Jordan. ([IRIN 2013/06/10](#))
- Around 40% of the 7,000 PRS in Jordan reportedly do not hold Jordanian passports and could be deported to Syria. ([ECHO 2013/05/24](#), [IRIN 2013/06/10](#))
- **Camps:** There are growing reports of gang activity in Za'atari camp involving mostly Syrian men but also some boys. Gangs are often associated with certain streets or areas and these groups engage in criminal activities and diversion of assistance. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/18](#))
- The camp has been described as an insecure living environment, in which vulnerable groups may face serious protection risks, including sexual exploitation and abuse, without having access to the Jordanian justice system. ([UNHCR 2013/06/18](#))
- **Urban/rural:** There is evidence of gender-based violence and abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against Syrian children in host communities in Jordan, although there is less information available than in Za'atari camp.
- Child labour appears to be widespread outside camps, especially for younger boys. In Ghor, out of the 4,300 kindergarten-aged and school-aged Syrian children, 44% are working on farms. ([SCI/UNICEF 2013/04](#))
- Due to the increasing pressure on resources such as water supply, tensions between refugees and host communities are reported. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))

WASH

- Shortages in hygiene-related products such as soap are an issue in the camps as well as in host communities. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- **Camp:** Syrians in Za'atari camp believe the supplied water is of bad quality and are increasingly buying their drinking water. This perception likely stems from the fact that most Syrian refugees are not accustomed to the taste of chlorinated water. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- A high proportion of Syrian women and children under the age of 12 do not feel safe using the public showers and toilet facilities in Za'atari camp at night. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- On average, there is 1 public toilet per 50 people in the camp. Many households have created their own latrines and washing and bathing spaces, especially in the older parts of Za'atari camp, which they prefer over large communal WASH facilities. This causes concern about the risk of ground water contamination and disease outbreaks. ([MSF 2013/05/06](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

- **Urban/rural:** It is reported that the public water supply systems are under severe stress, as in some areas the demand has increased by 50%. The strain on public water supply systems in host communities is resulting in increasing tensions between Syrians and Jordanians. ([MSF 2013/05/06](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- As in camps, many Syrians in host communities buy their drinking water and this cost was identified by the majority of families in host communities assessed in January 2013 as 'a main water problem'. Syrian families living in rural and urban areas in the Northern Governorates of Jordan cited high food and water costs as one of the top reasons for being unable to live independently. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#)) As average temperatures have significantly increased since January, it can be expected that access to water has become an even greater concern.

Weather forecast Amman - WMO



Education

- **Camp:** Although children in the camp have free access to the 2 UNICEF-run schools in Za'atari camp, some 78% of school-age children are out of school. A third school recently opened and will host an additional 5,000 children. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [Jordan Times 2013/06/05](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/15](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- The inexperience of teachers in Za'atari camp has been reported as a problem. Jordanian teachers do not feel safe working in Za'atari camp while the Syrian teachers working to support them feel frustrated because they are only allowed to work as assistants instead of working as teachers. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- **Urban/rural areas:** Syrian children benefit from free access to public schools. However, the majority of Syrian girls and boys in host communities are not attending school:

- 60% of school-age children among Syrian refugees assessed in Amman, Irbid, Madaba, Mufrqa, and Zarqa are not going to school. ([CARE 2013/04/27](#))
- In the Northern Governorates of Jarash, Irbid and Balqa, 50% or more of assessed school-aged Syrian children are not attending school.
- In the Jordan Valley, up to 95% of assessed Syrian girls and boys do not attend school. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

As of June 2013, only children registered with UNHCR will be able to attend school. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

- Key reasons for not attending classes are: the lack of information about education services available, Syrians' belief that they will return to Syria soon, violence and harassment on the way to and from school, domestic work commitments for children, long distances to school and transportation costs. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))
- For those who are in school, learning environments are compromised by: students' poor nutrition, crowded classrooms, inadequate school supplies, corporal punishment by teachers and principals, violence and harassment by students and discrimination in host community schools. ([UNICEF 2013/06/10](#))

Non-Displaced

- According to Government estimates, the total population of Jordan increased by 9% due to the refugee influx. The Jordanian Government has spent around half a billion dollars in response to the refugee crisis. ([IRIN 2013/06/12](#))
- Syrians are mostly residing in the poorest governorates of Jordan and significantly increased demand for resources in these areas. The consequent increase in prices for items such as food and water affects local Jordanian communities. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- The health sector has been overwhelmed, with a 40% increase in level of activity, particularly in the north of the country. ([ECHO 2013/05/24](#))
- Tensions between Jordanian communities and refugees have been reported, especially in the north of Jordan. In a recent poll conducted by the Centre for Strategic Studies, a research institute at the University of Jordan in Amman, 70% of Jordanian respondents said they opposed allowing more Syrian refugees into the country. ([WFP 2013/05/06](#), [NYT 2013/05/07](#))
- In addition, some spill-over of the conflict has been reported in the border region. The Jordanian Armed Forces mentioned that stray mortar shells and bullets have fallen onto houses and fields in Jordan's towns bordering Syria in several incidents after fierce clashes between Syrian Government forces and the Free Syrian Army. ([Jordan Times 2013/05/19](#), [Jordan Times 2013/05/15](#))

Turkey

Displaced (see annex A for definitions)

Syrian registered refugees/awaiting registration	387,883
% registered and awaiting registration in camps	51%
Syrian unregistered refugees	102,117
Syrian returnees	>118,500
Syrian migrants	Unknown

Non displaced

Non-displaced affected by the Syria crisis Unknown

SOURCE: RRP 5 2013/06/07, UNHCR 2013/06/21, UNHCR 2013/05/31, UNHCR 2013/06/19



Key developments June

- Around 4,000 Syrian were registered or made appointments for registration in the first 11 days of June. 3 additional camps opened to host the refugees, bringing the total number of camps to 20. More than half of the total estimated refugee population registered and awaiting registration reside outside of the camps.

Operational constraints

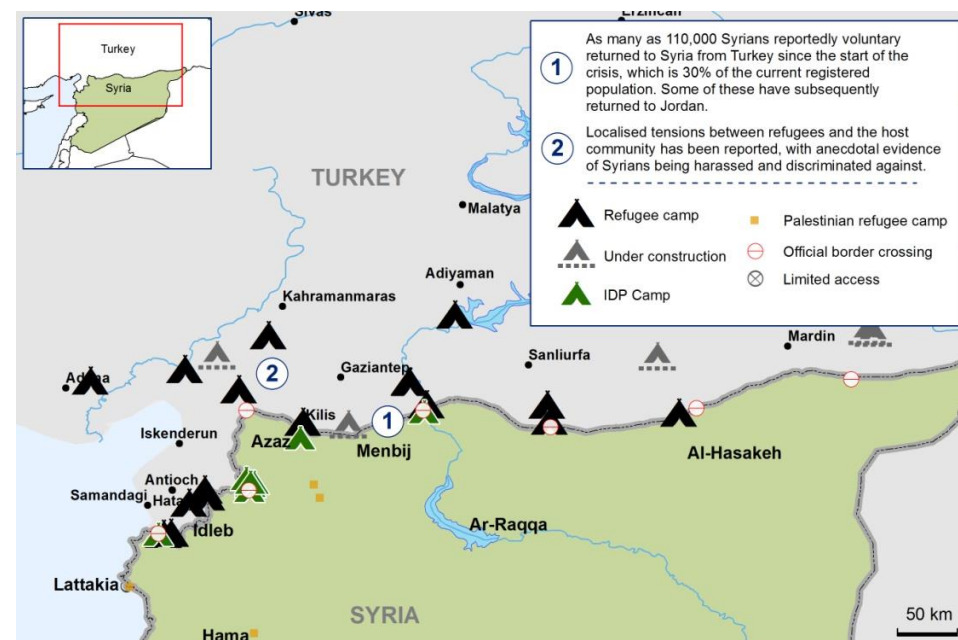
- International NGOs are required to register with the Turkish authorities in order to be permitted to work in Turkey and only 3 INGOs have been registered so far. In the RRP 5, it was stated that the Government had requested support from UN agencies to assist urban refugees (i.e. those not resident in camps). (RRP 2013/06/07)
- The Government of Turkey (GoT) continues to control access to the refugee camps for national and INGOs. Although UNHCR has unhindered access and monitors the situation in the camps on a daily basis, NGOs have not, in general, been authorised to carry out activities in the camps. (IFRC 2012/12/29, STL 2013/01/22, UNHCR n.d., WFP 2013/02/18)

Data sources and limitations

- There is almost no information available on the humanitarian needs of registered and unregistered refugees residing outside of camps. In January 2013, the GoT started registering Syrians residing outside of camps. These registration efforts, undertaken by AFAD (Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency), provide detailed statistics on the number and

location of refugees in urban areas. However these are not yet publicly available. An estimated 155,000 urban refugees remain unregistered and there is little information available on their situation. (RRP 5, 2013/06/07)

- Within the RRP 5, WFP expressed their intent to undertake a food security baseline assessment for refugees entering new camps in mid-2013 in coordination with the GoT and the Turkish Red Crescent. (RRP 2013/06/07)
- Although the authorities have published only limited information on the needs of registered refugees in camps, credible reports indicate that the GoT fulfils the needs of camp residents; thus an assessment of needs of the camp population is not a priority.
- There is no publicly available information on the number and location of Palestinian refugees from Syria. Under the GoT's temporary protection regime, no distinction is made between Palestinian refugees from Syria and Syrian nationals.
- Apart from a FAO report on the impact of the Syria crisis on agriculture and food security in Turkey, no assessments have been undertaken on the impact of the refugee influx on host communities in Turkey. (FAO 2013/04/03)



Displaced

The GoT estimated that around 490,000 Syrians are residing in the country by 19 June. (AFAD 2013/06/19)

Refugees (registered or awaiting)

- 🚩 **Border crossings:** There are 7 official border crossings (Oncupinar, Reyhanli/Cilvegozu, Nusaybin, Karkamis, Ceylanpinar, Akcakale, Cizre/Ain Diwar). Akcakale border gate has re-opened after closing for security reasons in early May. The border gate of Yayladag in Hatay province remains closed as is the border crossing_Nusaybin, which has been closed since the start of the crisis. In cases of emergency, the Government enables people to enter through a border point in Kiziltepetown in Mardin province. ([UNHCR 2013/06/13](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/17](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/08](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/09](#))
- **Status:** The GoT has implemented a temporary protection regime in line with international standards for dealing with mass influxes. The regime guarantees admission to the territory of Turkey, protection against forcible returns and access to reception arrangements where immediate needs are addressed. The temporary protection regime also covers Palestinians from Syria and stateless persons. (UNHCR n.d.)
- 🚩 **Location:** As of 11 June, around 198,500 registered refugees reside in 19 camps. Two recently opened camps do not yet host any refugees. 157,000 Syrians have been registered outside of camps, while around 25,000 await registration. ([UNHCR 2013/06/11](#))
- 🚩 Container sites in Malatya-Beydagi (capacity 10,000) and Kilis – Elbeyli Beseriye (capacity 20,000) opened on 11 June. An additional camp opened on 13 June in Mardin-Midyat province, bringing the total number of camps, located throughout 10 provinces, to 20. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/13](#))
- 🚩 Registration of non-camp Syrians is on-going in Gaziantep and Sanliurfa provinces, at the AFAD operated Coordination Centres. It is reported that registration has expanded throughout various towns of Sanliurfa provinces, under the auspices of the Coordination Centre. Some 6,000 Syrians have been registered in Sanliurfa and 40,000 in Gaziantep, while 25,000 have been given registration appointments. Other governorates are conducting enumeration exercises in their provinces. ([UNHCR 2013/06/14](#), [2013/06/13](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))
- 🚩 **Characteristics:** As in previous months, 52% of registered refugees are male and 48% are female. 51% are younger than 18 years old. ([UNHCR 2013/06/11](#))

Palestinian refugees from Syria

- No information is available on the number or location of Palestinian refugees from Syria. Palestinian refugees from Syria in Turkey fall under UNHCR's mandate as Turkey is outside of UNRWA's area of operations. However they are also covered by the temporary protection regime as, in its application, the GoT does not make a distinction between Syrians and Palestinians from Syria.

Unregistered refugees

- 🚩 Despite the recent registration exercise in urban areas, a number of Syrians remain unregistered. Their number is estimated up to 102,117 unregistered Syrians. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#), [UNICEF 2013/06/11](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/31](#))
- 🚩 By June, an estimated 70,000 IDPs were in at least 16 IDP camps at the Syrian side of the border, awaiting admission to Turkey. (ACU 2013/04, PI 2013/06/24, [UNHCR 2013/03/04](#), [UNHCR 2013/02/27](#))
- **Location:** Most Syrians not living in camps reside in the provinces bordering Syria. ([STL 2013/02/15](#), [ICG 2013/04/30](#))

Returnees

- Since the beginning of the crisis, almost 118,500 Syrians voluntarily returned to Syria. Some return temporarily to attend funerals, or take care of property while others plan to return due to an improvement in the security situation in their home areas. ([UNHCR 2013/05/31](#), [UNHCR 2013/04/12](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/01](#))

Refugee needs and concerns

Shelter

- 🚩 **Camps:** The shortage of space in the camps continues to be a major challenge for the authorities. Almost all of the 17 camps opened before June are over capacity. One of the reasons for this overcrowding is that some Syrians directly approach the camps requesting access, instead of being formally referred to the camp. Camp officials admit those having close family ties in the camps. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))
- 🚩 **Urban/rural areas:** Finding housing can be difficult for Syrians outside of camps, due to increasing rents, required deposits and insurance. Some property owners refuse to rent apartments to Syrians. In addition, Syrians reported that it has been more difficult to find work and housing since the bombing in Reyhanli in May. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))
- 🚩 It has been observed that approximately 4,000 Syrians are staying in a public park in Kilis in makeshift tents. ([UN 2013/05/30](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/21](#))

Livelihoods and Food Security

- **Camps:** Although opportunities exist for Syrians to leave the camps for short periods of time and take on daytime jobs, families living in camps are typically reliant on food assistance to meet their basic needs. Trade and some very basic forms of urban gardening provide some income. (RRP 5 2013/06/07, FAO 2013/04/03)
- **Urban/rural areas:** The primary sources of income for urban refugees are remittances from relatives; sale of personal possessions; and temporary jobs. Syrians also engage in casual work, mostly seasonal fruit picking or construction. As it is expensive and difficult to obtain a work permit, most refugees who work do so illegally. As a result, workers are vulnerable to exploitation and often receive half of the daily wage given to Turkish workers. (ICG 2013/04/30, FAO 2013/04/03)

Education

- By law, Syrians who are registered have the right to primary and secondary education services, and the state is supporting education for over 26,000 Syrian children. Students can attend Turkish universities as guests, without having to show proof that they used to attend universities in Syria (No. 6458, ICG 2013/04/30, MPC 2013/05)
- **Camp:** Schools have been set up in the different camps, providing Syrian children with education in Arabic according to the Syrian curriculum.
- **Non-Camp:** Outside of camps, only those with legal residence permits can enrol in public schools. Access to education is limited, primarily due to language barriers and the differences in curriculum. Those without permits can follow classes as guest, but do not receive a certificate. Local authorities have established some Syrian schools for non-camp Syrians while individuals have established several non-authorized schools to host Syrian refugee children. (UNHCR 2013/04/25, STL 2013/01, ICG 2013/04/30, RI 2013/04/26)

Health

- On January 18, the Government of Turkey issued a circular stating that all Syrians in Turkey could receive free health services in public hospitals regardless of whether they are being accommodated in camps or are residing in cities in Turkey. (UNHCR n.d., USAID 2013/01/30)
- While the situation in the camps is in line with humanitarian standards, refugees outside of camps have less access to services and it was reported that the major challenge for the non-camp Syrians is access to medical assistance. The free medical assistance granted to non-camp Syrians is for instance provided only to those who are living in the 8 provinces where there

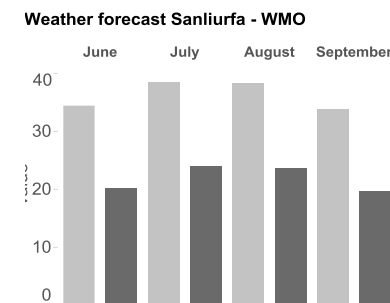
are camps for Syrians. Limited information for refugees on available services has been reported as a problem as well. The services provided by some informal health clinics are reportedly below standards (NGO 2013/06/15, STL 2013/02/15, UNHCR 2013/04/22, RI 2013/04/25, UNHCR 2013/05/03)

WASH

- There is no recent information on the WASH situation available. However, it can be assumed that the WASH situation in camps continues to be in line with humanitarian standards.

Protection

- There is anecdotal evidence of urban refugees moving from Antakya to Gaziantep, because they do not feel safe in Antakya after the recent demonstrations. There are reports of Syrians being harassed by host communities. (PI 2013/06/19)



Non-Displaced

- According to the Turkish authorities, costs related to the influx reached approximately USD 800 million as of April/May 2013. The impact of the refugee influx on host communities and on Syrians are reportedly significant in terms of food prices, rent prices and competition for labour. (RRP 5 2013/06/07, FAO 2013/04/03, USAK 2013/05/10)
- The low wage rate for Syrians is having a negative impact on the income of local Turkish labourers, while a positive effect for farmers who have access to this less costly source of labour has been noted. (FAO 2013/04/03)
- The Syria crisis has severely impacted smallholder families farming within 5 km of the Syria border in Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis and Saniurfa Provinces. They have lost more than half of their annual household income due to:
 - shortages of animal fodder, high animal feed prices and vaccination costs;
 - insecurity close to the border, looting/damage to irrigation equipment/structures and loss of fruit trees;
 - loss of local cross-border trading opportunities with neighbouring communities in Syria;
 - high agricultural input and fuel prices, limited access to agricultural credit and poor dairy animal hygiene (the latter, not as a consequence of the Syria crisis but as a compounding issue). (FAO 2013/04/03)

Iraq

(see annex A for definitions)

Syrian UNHCR registered refugees 159,393

% registered in camps

Syrian unregistered refugees Unknown

Syrian returnees

Iraqi returnees from Syria Unknown

Non displaced

Non-displaced affected by the Syria crisis Unknown

Source: UNHCR 2013/05/27, UNHCR Data (January – March 2013)



Key Developments

- The border crossing of Peshakapor in the Kurdish Region of Iraq (KR), the most commonly used crossing, has been closed since 19 May. Sehela crossing point is also closed, but the authorities are allowing entry for family reunifications and health emergencies and are checking IDs to verify claims. With the borders at Al Qa'im and Rabi'aa also closed, Syrians seeking refuge in Iraq are severely impeded. The number of Syrians entering Iraq has decreased significantly. Between 23 May and 23 June, 6,057 Syrians registered in Iraq, down from 17,043 the previous month. However the border crossings are open for Syrians to return to Syria. (NRC 2013/06/25, UNICEF 2013/06/12, UNHCR 2013/05/28, UNHCR 2013/06/7)
- Should the borders re-open, humanitarian actors expect the number of Syrian nationals seeking protection and humanitarian assistance in Iraq to continue to increase and possibly reach 350,000 by end of 2013. (RRP5 2013/06/07)
- More than 7,000 of the 11,000 Syrian refugees staying in the border town of Al Qa'im have returned to the opposition-held Syrian border town of Al Bukamal due to the improved security conditions, according to the mayor of Al Qa'im. (Reuters 2013/06/02)

Operational constraints

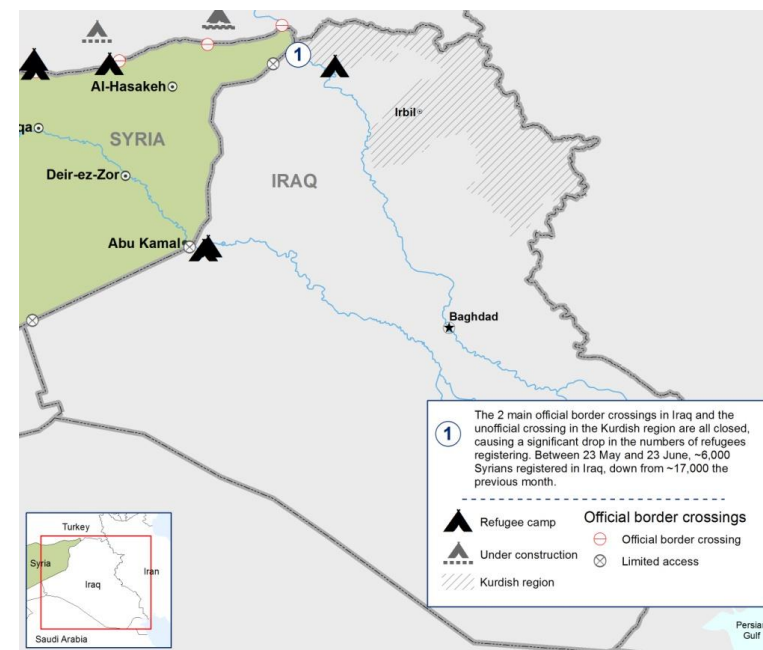
- A number of security incidents were reported on the route to Al Qa'im camp. As a result of the volatile situation, road missions were suspended and staff movements reduced in early June. The situation has now slightly improved,

although there are occasional security incidents, and the humanitarian response is operating normally. (UNHCR 2013/06/12)

- WFP stated that it is highly concerned about the lack of funding of the food voucher programme in Domiz camp. (WFP 2013/05/03)
- Although the atmosphere in Domiz is relatively calm, several security incidents have recently been reported in the camp including crime and unrest. (WFP 2013/05/03)

Data sources and limitations

- WHO and other humanitarian partners supported the Ministry of Health / Departments of Health of Dahuk and Anbar governorates in conducting a joint field assessment aimed at better understanding health conditions, services provided and needs of Syrian refugees in Iraq. The assessment targeted Syrians residing inside the camps and within host communities in the Anbar and Dahuk governorates. The results have not yet been published. (UNHCR 2013/05/28)
- There is limited information available on the situation of Iraqi refugees and on refugees living in urban communities. Assessments undertaken by various actors have been mentioned in reports but are not, as yet, publically available.



Displaced

Registered refugees

- ✦ **Border crossings:** Border crossings Rabi'aa and Al Qaim are closed. Rabi'aa has been completely closed since 2 March and Al Qa'im was closed on 22 October 2012 and as of 29 March no longer allows for family reunification. The main unofficial crossing between Syria and KR has been closed since 19 May.
- ✦ **Location:** The majority of Syrians in Iraq have fled to 3 governorates of Iraqi Kurdistan – Dahuk (63%, 50,000 of whom are in Domiz camp), Erbil (24%), and Suleimaniyah (9%). 3% of the registered refugees are in Al Qa'im, Anbar governorate, and the remainder are dispersed through the rest of Iraq. [\(UNHCR 2013/06/23\)](#) In Anbar governorate, there are 2,871 individuals living outside the camps (as of 28 May).
- **Place of origin:** The vast majority of Syrian refugees in the Kurdish region are Kurdish in ethnicity and originate from Al-Hasakeh governorate (62%), Aleppo (14%) and Damascus (13%). Most non-Kurdish Syrian refugees are located in Anbar governorate, and originated from rural areas in Deir-ez-Zor governorate. They came to Anbar because of family or tribal linkages.
- **Demographic breakdown:** As of May 16, 63.5% of the registered refugees are male while 36.5% are female. [\(UNHCR 2013/05/16\)](#) This breakdown differs significantly from the regional demographic balance of Syrian refugees across the region, which currently stands at 53% male against 47% female. This discrepancy could in part be due to the fact that many refugees are moving to Iraq in search of livelihood opportunities. It is traditionally more common for men to move in search of employment. Also, Kurdish men are anxious to avoid being drafted into the military. [\(NRC/WASH 2013/04/18\)](#)
- ✦ **Projections:** The total number of registered refugees is projected to reach 350,000 Syrians by end 2013. Should the Government of Iraq (GoI) agree to re-open Al Qa'im border, the number of Syrian nationals seeking safety through that border point may reach 30,000 by end of 2013, provided the currently fragile situation in Anbar governorate does not deteriorate further. [\(RRP5 2013/06/07\)](#)
- ✦ In KR, the refugee influx is expected to continue at the current pace and 40% of new refugees are likely to be camp based (i.e. 132,000). [\(RRP5 2013/06/07\)](#)

Unregistered refugees

- An unknown number of refugees are residing in Iraq without having registered with UNHCR, though it is believed the majority have registered.

Syrian returnees

- ✦ Lack of freedom of movement and lack of livelihood opportunities in Iraq as well as reports about an improving situation in their home countries and compelling family reasons is prompting the return of some refugees to Syria. [\(RRP5 2013/06/07\)](#)
- ✦ The number of refugees in Al Qa'im is constantly decreasing as refugees are returning to Syria. [\(UNHCR 2013/05/27\)](#)
- ✦ The GoI implemented a strict non-readmission policy for those returning to Syria and returnees are requested to sign a voluntary return form. [\(RRP5 2013/06/07\)](#)

Refugee needs and concerns

Health and nutrition

- ✦ **Camps:** The situation in the camps is deteriorating. The number of new arrivals in Domiz camp continues to rise, increasing the risks of disease outbreaks and of overburdening of the health system. [\(UNAMI 2013/06/16\)](#)
- ✦ Acute respiratory tract infections and diarrhoea continue to be the most common illness in the camps. The number of children <5 years of age suffering from diarrhoea in Domiz camp has doubled since February 2013 with an average of 9% of <5 years suffering from diarrhoea. [\(RRP5 2013/06/07, UNHCR 2013/04/29\)](#)
- ✦ There have been 62 cases of Hepatitis A since the start of 2013. [\(RRP5 2013/06/07\)](#)
- A rapid nutritional assessment of Syrian refugee children between 6-59 months old in Al-Anbar governorate/Al Qa'im district by the Nutritional Research Institute/ Ministry of Health-Iraq in March found that 13.3% of children were stunted or chronically malnourished; 3.7% of children were suffering from general malnutrition and 1.8% wasted or acutely malnourished. These figures are considered to be low according to WHO rating. [\(UNICEF 2013/04/16\)](#)
- Inequalities in water distribution are apparent, with some areas receiving only 4 litres per person per day, as opposed to the recommended minimum of 15-20 litres per person. [\(MSF 2013/05/15\)](#)
- ✦ **Urban refugees:** Although primary healthcare is available free of charge for Syrian refugees, the quality of medical facilities and availability of medicines in the public hospitals is limited and their facilities are already stretched. Specialised treatment for serious illnesses is only available in private clinics, which are often unaffordable. There is a lack of facilities for people with disabilities. [\(UNHCR 2013/03/05, WHO 2013/03/15, UN Assistance Mission for Iraq 2013/06/16, UNICEF 2013/05/15\)](#)

- Risk of poisoning from scorpion is affecting refugees in Suleimaniyah. Scorpion eradication campaigns are required. (DRC 2013/05)

Livelihoods and food security

- IFRC estimates that about 90% of the refugees are in debt and the situation will likely deteriorate in the future. While refugees in the camps receive free food and NFI items, Syrians in host communities rely on their own income; savings and hospitality of their host family, which is an unsustainable situation. (IFRC 2013/05/28)
- A trend of increasing poverty was noted among the urban refugees in Anbar governorate, due to long periods of unemployment and lack of access to services. Tensions are rising within the refugee community as a result of the lack of freedom of movement, particularly for urban refugees who have no documentation. (UNHCR 2013/05/28)
- Economic constraints force many families to reduce their number of meals per day. (IFRC 2013/05/28)
- The number of UNHCR registered refugees who live in the urban communities and are seeking food assistance in Domiz camp is continually increasing. Many of these refugees share the food rations of their relatives who live in the camp.
- **Urban refugees:** According to a March Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment by the FAO, the need to generate income to pay for food and rent is the highest priority for Syrian refugees in Iraq, particularly for those living outside the camps. Costs of living are high in the Kurdish region and most Syrians entering Iraq are relying on savings or financial assistance from relatives and have not found long-term sources of income. Significant numbers of Syrians are not accessing the services available to them due to the high cost of transport. (FAO 2013/03)
- NGOs estimate that 50% of refugees living outside the camps are vulnerable as a result of high costs of living. (UNHCR 2013/05/16)
- **Urban refugees:** 15% of the urban refugees in Erbil and Suleimaniyah are considered as vulnerable groups (e.g. female headed-households, people with disabilities, older people, children between 0 and 5 years old etc.) requiring urgent assistance. (DRC 2013/05)

Protection

- Assessments show that Syrian refugee children often display symptoms of psychological distress, such as flashbacks, nightmares, withdrawal and inability to concentrate due to the extreme violence they have witnessed. Displacement is causing further anxiety, due to family separation, breakdown of community ties and interruption of schooling. (RRP5 2013/06/07)

- Young people (aged 15 - 25/29) represent about 40% of Syrian refugees registered in the KR. They are vulnerable on several levels: because of the new environment; limited chances to pursue their secondary and higher education; and limited work opportunities. Young people, both female and male, are constantly exposed to risks and serious psycho-social disturbances. Young girls are particularly vulnerable to violence, sexual harassment, early/arranged/forced marriage, human trafficking. (RRP5 2013/06/07)
- The general security situation in areas of Iraq is deteriorating, with high levels of violence and sectarian attacks. Some urban refugees have expressed general fear of becoming victims of the unstable security situation in the cities where they are residing. (UNHCR 2013/05/28)
- Residence permits for Syrian refugees are still not being issued or renewed in Erbil or Sulaymaniyah, although permits are still being issued in Domiz camp. The Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) has indicated that issuance and renewals will resume once the planned camps have been set up in these governorates. (NRC 2013/05)
- Women are at risk of human/sexual trafficking with over 200 gangs offering sexual services from refugee and displaced women. Human trafficking was already a common activity in Erbil prior to the refugee influx, (DRC 2013/05)
- Child labour is a child protection concern, as identified by the Child Protection Sub Working Group. (UNICEF 2013/05/15)
- **Al Qa'im camps:** Armed operations in the border region and in close proximity to the camps have caused concern. (INGO 2013/03/15)

Education

- The KRG has allowed Syrians to register free of charge in public schools. However, in KR findings of an education assessment show that 90% of the children who participated in the survey are out of school. 76% of the children had attended school in Syria. (UNICEF 2013/06/12)
- There are several factors hampering access to education:
 - Throughout Iraq, the education system suffers from a lack of financial resources and learning materials. In addition, there is a shortage of learning spaces to cope with the increasing number of children.
 - A lack of finances to provide for transportation, school uniforms and fees.
 - Urban refugees are often living on the outskirts of cities and are face high transport costs for schools.
 - Inability to enrol in schools due to the lack of documentation.
 - Girls are reportedly physically and verbally abused in schools. (RRP5 2013/06/07)

- There are very few schools in the KR with the Arabic curriculum, which is leading to greater numbers of children out of school.
- Children are unable to attend classes as they are engaged in income generation. ([WFP 2012/06](#), [UNHCR 2013/03/05](#))

- **Camps:** In Domiz, classes have been separated into two groups, one group of children receiving classes in the morning and the other in the afternoon to maximise the number of children receiving education. Children will continue attending classes during the summer, to compensate for the education they missed due to the conflict.
- Around 3,600 (of 13,000) children (under 18) are in basic education in Domiz. ([UNICEF 2013/05/15](#))
- In Al Qa'im, it is reported that approximately 3,800 refugee children attend schools outside the camp. ([WFP 2013/05/03](#))

Shelter

- 40% of those registered are hosted in camps and 60% live in Iraqi communities, often in unfinished houses and apartments. ([RRP5 2013/06/07](#))
- Summer temperatures are worsening circumstances for urban refugees as they do not possess air conditioners or fans. In addition, electricity expenses are increasing. ([UNHCR 2013/05/28](#))
- **Camps:** In Anbar governorate, a third camp has been established at Al Obaidy, with capacity for 4,500 refugees. ([RRP5 2013/06/07](#))
- Ground preparations at the new Darashakran Camp in Erbil Governorate are nearing completion. The camp is expected to be open in time for the new school year in September. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))
- The critically overcrowded Domiz camp houses approximately 45,000 Syrian refugees and there is a continuing influx. Due to a shortage of tents around 3,000 families are sharing tents, increasing the risk of tension within the community: in some cases, over 15 refugees live in tents designed for 5 people. Over 6,000 refugees also reside in a part of the camp that is considered as a transit area. As the financial situation of the refugees in urban communities worsens, they are likely to relocate to the camps where they are able to access services. ([WFP 2013/05/03](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/09](#), [UNICEF 2013/05/15](#))
- **Urban refugees/unregistered:** Significant gaps between income and expenditure have been identified among refugees living outside of camps. Rent is cited as the primary need amongst non-camp refugees. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))
- As their own resources are often limited and employment is scarce, urban refugees are forced to live in sub-standard shelter.

- In Erbil city, refugees in the suburban areas are living with at least 3 families under one roof, comprising of up to 20 people. ([DRC 2013/05](#))

WASH

- **Camps:** The supply of fresh water is a major problem in the Domiz region. The poor quality of the water is associated with a prevalence of diarrhoea cases among bottle-fed children and related health problems are affecting vulnerable groups such as pregnant women, the elderly and those with pre-existing health problems. ([IFRC 2013/05/28](#))
- Poor drainage in Domiz camp is a critical problem. The sanitation infrastructure is seriously overloaded, causing overflows of water from the septic tanks, which is a serious health and environmental hazard. ([UNICEF 2013/05/15](#))

Iraqi returnees

- By mid-May, over 85,000 Iraqi refugees in Syria returned to Iraq since the start of the conflict. As Rabi'aa and Al Qa'im border crossing points have remained closed since March, only Al-Waleed border point is open to Iraqi returnees
- Some Iraqi refugees are hesitant to leave Syria, as they are afraid their application for refugee status in Syria will be withdrawn or delayed. Due to a backlog in registering Iraqi refugees in Syria, some of these refugees have been waiting for their refugee status for years. ([PI 2013/01/21](#))

Non-Displaced

- Food availability in Iraq has been affected by the significant drop of food imports from Syria. Food prices increased by about 8% between 2011-2012. ([FAO 2013/03](#))
- The Syria crisis is negatively affecting animal health services and herders in north-western parts of Iraq because Syrian veterinary services collapsed during 2012 and Iraqi veterinary services are non-existent, especially in remote border areas with Syria. ([FAO 2013/04/03](#))
- The large number of arrivals has led to an increase in rental rates and in competition for jobs in certain areas. While urban refugees have access to the KRG's social services, those services themselves are often underdeveloped and unable to serve additional clients. In addition, the large number of refugees in the Kurdish region has created competition for labour as well as increased pressure on local food production. ([FAO 2013/04/03](#), [RI 2012/12/05](#), [UNICEF 2013/02/08](#))

Egypt

Displaced (see annex A for definitions)

Syrian registered refugees and awaiting registration 86,074

Palestinian refugees from Syria 10,000

Syrian unregistered refugees 53,000

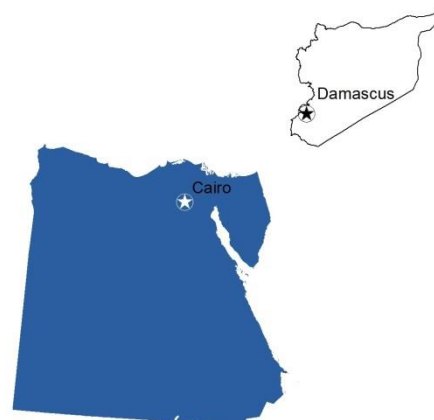
Syrian returnees Unknown

Syrian migrants Unknown

Non displaced

Non displaced affected by the Syria crisis Unknown

Source: [UNHCR 2013/06/24](#)



Key Developments

- As of 14 June, the total number of registered refugees and those awaiting registration exceeded 86,000. The number of Syrians registering with UNHCR or making appointments for registration is rapidly increasing, from 6,000 in May, to 15,000 in June. The number of registered refugees is expected to reach 100,000 by the end of 2013. ([UNHCR 2013/05/21](#), [RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))
- Palestinian refugees coming from Syria are in a critical situation as they cannot register with UNHCR and cannot procure residence permits. They do not have access to public schooling and healthcare and lack basic international protection.
- There are no refugee camps in Egypt and most Syrian refugees rent houses. As their financial resources are depleting and access to income is limited, shelter is becoming a priority need. Other issues include costly healthcare and difficulties in accessing education. There are, however, a number of Syrian refugees who are relatively well off and manage to live and work in Egypt without support.
- The Syrian refugee communities report that as school final exams end in Syria, more Syrians are expected to arrive to Egypt. ([UNHCR 2013/06/17](#))

Data sources and limitations

- The number of available assessments on Syrians in Egypt is limited. A Joint Assessment for Syrian Refugees by UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, IOM, CARITAS and CRS, which assessed the needs of Syrians in Alexandria and 2 areas on

the outskirts of the city (Borg Al Arab and Ajami), was conducted between 11 and 14 February and published in June. ([Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#))

UNHCR produces situational reports on a weekly basis that provide a comprehensive overview of the situation. However, unregistered refugees are not covered by these reports and there is little information available on their needs and location.

- The most recent estimate from the Government of Egypt (GoE) on the total number of Syrians in the country is from April. The immigration authorities monitor the number of Syrians entering the country but do not usually make these findings public. ([PI 2013/05](#))

Displaced

- According to the inter-agency assessment, there could now be as many as 150,000 Syrians in Egypt. The Government of Egypt (GoE) has not updated its estimate of the 140,000 Syrians published in April. ([UNHCR 2013/04/25](#), [Ahram 2013/04/04](#), [Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#))
- The number of Syrian registered refugees is expected to reach 100,000 by 31 December 2013. ([RRP 5 2013/06/07](#))

Registered refugees

- Border Crossings:** Most Syrians enter Egypt through Cairo International and Alexandria airports. A considerable number of Syrians also enter by Nuweiba Port, arriving from Aqaba in Jordan, while a smaller number enter via smaller ports. Irregular entry is uncommon but there are cases of Syrians attempting to leave Egypt illegally with forged documents. ([UNHCR 2012/11/14](#), [Dostor 2012/10/19](#), [Egypt Independent 2013/02/11](#))
- Registration:** There are 2 methods by which refugees are able to register: either by contacting the registration centre in Zamalek and requesting an appointment or by contacting one of the mobile registration units regularly sent out by UNHCR to Alexandria and Damietta. On average, around 700 refugees are registered on a daily basis. ([UNHCR 2013/06/12](#))
- Status:** The GoE exempts Syrians from entry visas to its territory. They are now allowed to stay for 6 months (whereas they were previously only allowed 3 months) after which they need to regularise their stay in the country by obtaining a residence permit. Both Syrian and Iraqi refugees can obtain residency visas either through UNHCR registration or school registration. Once a refugee acquires a yellow card, visas can be renewed free of charge for 6 months at a time at the Central Immigration Department. Syrians with children enrolled in public or private schools can obtain one-year residency permits. ([UNHCR 2013/06/13](#), [UNHCR 2013/01/22](#), [Zayd Bin Thabet NGO 2013/05/05](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/14](#), [RRP 2013/06](#))

- **Place of Origin:** Registered Syrians originate mainly from Homs, Damascus and Aleppo. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))
- **Current Location:** Most Syrian refugees are hosted by local communities or live in rented accommodation in Alexandria, Cairo (Oubour, Nasr City, Al-Haram, 6th October City), Damietta, Mansoura, Hurghada (Ghardaka), Suez, Ismailia and Port Said. They tend to live in areas where they have family links, in cities with similar characteristics to their cities of origin or where they can find jobs. Residents from the coastal cities of Lattakia and Tartous, for instance, prefer to live in the coastal city of Alexandria. Many Syrian craftsmen originating from Eastern Ghouta in the Damascus suburbs are living in New Damietta, where they can work in their crafts. Unlike other refugees in Egypt, Syrians do not necessarily settle in areas where other refugee communities and poorer populations are located but prefer to reside in areas with low crime levels, adequate shelter and income opportunities. ([UNHCR 2013/04/25](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/07](#), [Ahram Online 2013/04/04](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/07](#), [Dostor 2012/10/19](#), [FAO 2013/04/03](#), [UNHCR 2013/01/15](#), [OCHA 2013/03/04](#), [WFP 2013/05/17](#))
- Syrians who have settled in Alexandria came to the area because of its size, existing social networks, and/or because it is less expensive than Cairo. ([Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#))
- **Demographic Characteristics:** 50% of the registered refugees in Egypt are males and 45% are younger than 18. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/17](#))
- Syrians indicate that they fled to Egypt and not to other countries bordering Syria because of existing community ties. Egypt is less expensive than other neighbouring countries and some refugees do not wish to settle in camps (as in Jordan, Iraq or Turkey). In addition, the Syrian Government has little to no influence in Egypt and the country is therefore perceived as a safer option. ([RRP 2012/12/19](#), [UNHCR 2013/01/15](#))

Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS)

- Although there are no confirmed figures, some estimate that 10,000 PRS are residing in Egypt. There were already around 50,000–70,000 Palestinians residing in Egypt before the start of the crisis.
- **Registration:** UNRWA has a limited presence in Egypt and only operates a liaison office. UNHCR does not register PRS as per the Egyptian authorities' instructions. ([AhramOnline 2013/05/03](#), [AhramOnline 2013/04/24](#))
- **Status:** PRS do not receive residence permits. Some PRS receive a short-term tourist visa, while others are turned away at Cairo airport and sent back to Damascus. Palestinians without residency do not have access to public schooling and healthcare and lack basic international protection. ([AhramOnline 2013/05/03](#), [AhramOnline 2013/04/24](#))

Unregistered refugees

- Over 86,000 Syrians have been registered with UNHCR or are awaiting registration. Given the April GoE estimate of 140,000 total, around 39% (53,000) are not registered or awaiting registration. ([UNHCR n.d.](#))
- There are a variety of reasons why Syrians do not register with UNHCR. Given the favourable protection environment generally afforded by the authorities, particularly with regard to Syrians' legal stay in the country, some Syrians may not feel the need to register, particularly if they are able to support themselves. Others may not wish to be labelled as refugees, may fear detection or may not be aware of the possibility of registering. Some refugees expressed their reluctance to register due to fear of being detained upon their return to Syria if they had been registered. Syrians are widely dispersed throughout the country and as a result, accurate information about the purpose of registration is not reaching all communities. ([UNHCR 2013/05/14](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/17](#))

Syrian seasonal workers

- There is no information available on Syrian migrant workers in Egypt. This is because they mainly work in the informal sector as it is very difficult to obtain a work permit. Legal employment requires proof from the employer that no Egyptian is available for the work. Business permits are easier to obtain but require investment capital and registration with Egyptian partners. ([RRP 2012/12/19](#))

Refugee needs and concerns

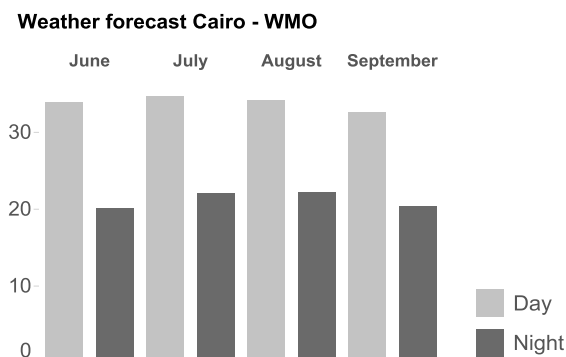
Shelter

- Rents in Sadat city range between EGP 400-1000 (USD 56 –140 at the exchange rate of USD 0.14 for every Egyptian Pound). Due to the influx of a large number of Syrians to Sadat city, the rent has increased to EGP 900–1200 (USD 126-168) for a 2 to 3 bedroom apartment. 2 to 3 families usually reside in a 3 room apartment. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#))
- **Inter-Agency Assessment Alexandria:** ([Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#))
 - Housing is an overwhelming priority need. Many families are unsure how long they can sustain their current housing arrangements. In addition, recent arrivals have often already depleted much of their savings surviving or escaping Syria and will have difficulty accessing the housing market.
 - Sometimes Syrians are charged more for apartments than Egyptians. Syrians are reportedly paying EGP1500-2000 (USD 210-280) for an apartment while Egyptians would pay EGP 500 (USD 70).

- Income and livelihood support is a priority need for Syrian refugees so that they can cope with the high costs of living, including rents. During a Save the Children needs assessment, Syrian refugees indicated that paying rent is a major concern. ([UNHCR 2013/05/14](#), [FAO 2013/04/03](#), [WFP 2013/05/17](#))

Health

- Syrians stated that it is difficult to access Government hospitals and that private doctors are expensive. Participants in 5 UNHCR focus group discussions for female registered refugees identified access to healthcare as one of the major challenges. The Egyptian Government has granted Syrians access to the public health system under the same conditions as Egyptians. However, there are reports that this policy has not been applied in all public hospitals, with some Syrians being charged expatriate-rate fees. The existing public health system is already overburdened, leading to low quality public health services. A lack of awareness of available public health services, long waiting periods in some NGO facilities and lack of means to afford medication and hospitalisation are additional factors barring access to healthcare. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [OCHA 2012/12/31](#), [RRP 2012/12/19](#), [OCHA 2012/12/31](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/14](#))
- Inter-Agency Assessment Alexandria** ([Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#)):
 - Syrians living in remote areas such as Borg Al Arab have difficulties accessing medical care. The low quality of housing available to the community has contributed to the spread of hygiene related diseases. The cost of medication and treatment for some chronic illnesses is perceived by the community as prohibitively expensive.
 - Syrians residing in these remote areas located 30-50 km from Alexandria city have an ad hoc approach to medical care needs and are sometimes exposed to exploitative fees imposed by many private health facilities. The available public health centres are either free of charge or with nominal fees as for Egyptian nationals.



Livelihoods and food security

- Inter-Agency Assessment:** ([Inter-Agency 2013/06/23](#))
 - The resources covering basic needs have been depleted. Most respondents had not found jobs, the majority of the refugees remain unemployed, or have casual jobs or work where their salary would not cover their basic needs. A lack of access to official work permits contributes to their vulnerability as they are forced to work in the informal working sector. Even those residing in Egypt for over 6 months had not found jobs that covered their basic needs. Refugees mainly depend on using their savings and support from NGOs and they depend less on wages and salaries (only 21%)
 - Around 60% of households assessed spend most of their monthly sources of income on food (60%) and 23 % on rents. This can be explained by the low levels of rents in Agamy and Borg Al Arab in winter and the rental support provided by aid agencies.
 - In terms of food consumption, only 57% reported sufficient food intake, while 21% reported insufficient food intake and another 22% reported that actual food consumption was barely sufficient. Food assistance is anticipated to become among the top priority needs of the Syrians residing in Agami and Borg El-Arab.
 - Food prices for refugees are considered high, and everyday items such as olive oil, Haloumi cheese and bulgur wheat are often beyond their purchasing capacity.
- Syrians are generally keen to work, but Egyptian unemployment rates are high and work permits difficult to obtain. Most of the refugees work in the informal sector or they open their own businesses. ([FAO 2013/04/03](#), [RRP 2012/12/19](#), [Assafir 2013/03/22](#))
- Initially, Syrian refugees were seeking employment in their particular fields of expertise. But as time passes and their financial resources diminish, they are more willing to take up different professions. Multiple sources indicate that Syrians are often focussed on returning to Syria, and are not endeavouring to establish medium or long term livelihoods. ([FAO 2013/04/03](#), [UNHCR 2013/05/14](#), [WFP 2013/05/17](#))
- The expense of commuting to low-paid labour jobs has been reported as a problem. ([WFP 2013/05/17](#))

Protection

- During an assessment in Sadat city, a lack of awareness about services and UNHCR registration was reported. Reported protection issues include unaccompanied or separated children, domestic violence, child labour, unwelcome offers to girls for early marriage, and challenges locating services such as healthcare. ([UNHCR 2013/06/10](#), [WFP 2013/05/17](#), [UNHCR 2013/06/13](#))

🚩 Inter-Agency Assessment Alexandria: (Inter-Agency 2013/06/23)

- New arrivals and women in particular do not have sufficient access to information regarding registration with UNHCR. This is, to a large extent, because Syrians are spread out among the urban population and there has been no spontaneous organization among the Syrian community. Distance from the suburbs where some Syrians reside to the city is a significant barrier to accessing registration services.
- In addition, Syrians reported difficulties in obtaining information on their obligations to procure residency and on procedures to regularize their stay.
- Several direct accounts of verbal harassment were recorded as well as petty crime. No cases of early marriage or coercion cases of minors being married were recorded.
- There is a lack of recreational activities for children and a lack of integration into the community.
- The phenomenon of unaccompanied young men traveling to Egypt without the support of their family to avoid conscription (at the age of 18) into the army was noted.
- Trauma resulting from violence witnessed in Syria was repeatedly raised as a priority concern. Many parents described symptoms of trauma such as bedwetting, becoming withdrawn and expressing fear at loud noises or during celebrations that involve gunfire.

Education

- 🚩 The GoE has given access to public primary and secondary education to Syrians on the same basis as Egyptians. The Government has also recently implemented several decrees to facilitate access to education for Syrians. For instance, Syrians are allowed to retake failed exams, instead of having to repeat the academic year, as is common in the Egyptian education system. (UNHCR 2013/06/10)
- 🚩 Syrians in Sadat City face difficulties in enrolling their children in Egyptian public schools due to bureaucracy and lack of awareness. Other challenges encountered include children repeating the same academic year and difficulties in obtaining papers requested by schools (passports, school transcripts, and school certificates). Access to higher education is limited and some are not able to afford tuition while others are not able to provide required documents for enrolment. (UNHCR 2013/06/13)
- 🚩 Inter-Agency Assessment Alexandria: (Inter-Agency 2013/06/23)
- Some families refrain from sending their children to school on a daily basis due to difficulties encountered by children in understanding the Egyptian dialect, gender mix at school and transportation costs. Families' perception

of the poor quality of the Egyptian schooling system discourages them from enrolling their children.

- Additional costs such as text books, school supplies, and private tutoring and transportation costs are considered to be barriers to education. Many see unsafe but affordable means of transportation as their only option. Private school fees are expensive and some are forced to pay up to EGP 8000 (USD 1,120).
 - Children who are enrolled find difficulties due to differences in curricula. Some children are facing problems with the English language and Math because this was one of the weakest points in the Syrian curriculum.
- Other reported issues include the difficulty of enrolment after the start of academic year and discouraging class environments such as overcrowded classes. To access education, Syrians have to provide a security clearance document from the Egyptian Directorate of Education. Obtaining this document can involve a long journey and high costs. (UNHCR 2013/05/14)

WASH

- 🚩 No WASH concerns have been reported.

Non-Displaced

- No information is available on the impact of the crisis on the Egyptian population. However, as the number of Syrians residing in Egypt is relatively small (there are around 140,000 Syrians in Egypt while the total population of Egypt is estimated at 80 million), the impact can be assumed to be minimal. However, on a localised level, an increase in rent has been witnessed. (GeoHives2011)
- There have not been any incidents reported in Egypt between Egyptians and Syrian refugee populations and the atmosphere has been one of solidarity. (FAO 2013/04/03)

Previous SNAP reports

• RAS (Part I and Part II)	January 2013
• RAS (Part I and Part II)	February 2013
• RAS (Part I and Part II)	March 2013
• RAS (Part I and Part II) – Summary version	April 2013
• RAS (Part I and Part II)	June 2013
• Baseline data Syria	January 2013
• Scenarios	February 2013
• Thematic report: Aleppo Governorate Profile	April 2013
• Thematic report: Legal Status of Individuals Fleeing Syria	June 2013

Forthcoming SNAP reports

• RAS (Part I and Part II) <i>The RAS report will be updated on a monthly basis</i>	End June 2013
• Thematic report: Livelihoods and economy in Syria	TBC
• Thematic report: Relief actors in Syria	TBC

Annex A – Definitions Humanitarian Profile

Affected

The number of affected refers to people affected by the violence in Syria. The number of affected can be divided in two groups: those non-displaced and those displaced.

Non-Displaced

The **non-displaced** include all those within Syria that have been, directly or indirectly, affected by the conflict, including those who have been injured, have lost access to essential services, and those whose vulnerability has increased due to the impact of the unrest on livelihoods and access to essential services ([OCHA 2012/06/05](#)). In addition, this group includes the **host** community, the people who are part of a community or family receiving affected people. Due to the stress placed on the host families and communities, they are considered part of the humanitarian caseload. As there is currently no information available on the needs of the host community, this group is currently excluded from this humanitarian profile.

Displaced

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are those persons or groups of persons who are residing in Syria but who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of, or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict. ([OCHA 2004](#))

Refugees and Asylum Seekers are those who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside Syria, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country. ([UN 1951](#)). For the purpose of this document, the category 'refugees' includes those registered, awaiting registration as well as those unregistered – despite the fact that unregistered Syrians are technically not refugees as their refugee status has not been established. Within this group, the Iraqi and Palestinian refugees are in a specifically vulnerable position, both within Syria as outside.

Others of Concern - Persons who have been displaced by the emergency and form part of the humanitarian caseload, but do not fall into either of the above categories (e.g. migrants, returnees).