



UNHCR

The UN
Refugee Agency

المفوضية السامية للأمم المتحدة
لشؤون اللاجئين

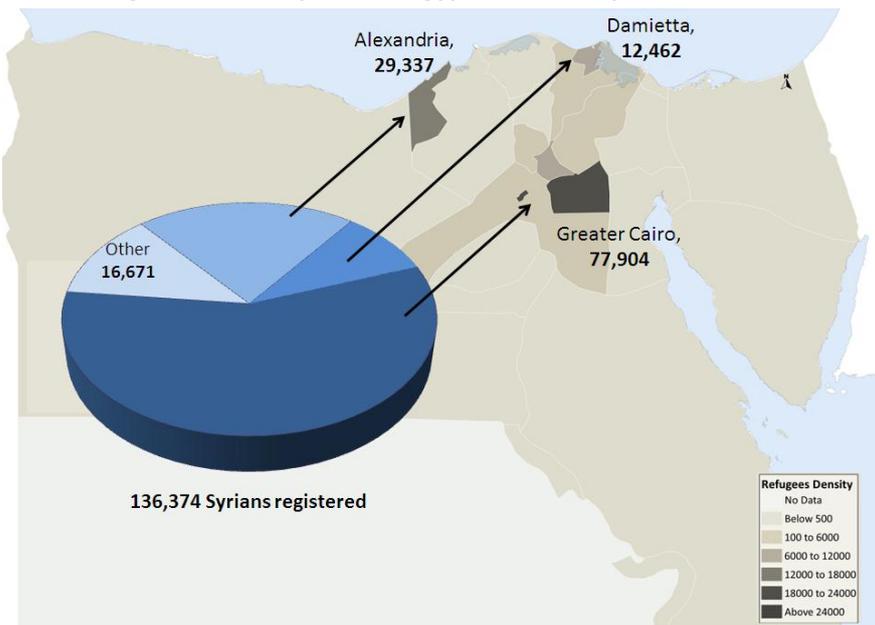
EGYPT WEEKLY UPDATE SYRIAN OPERATION

8 – 22 April 2014



As the conflict in Syria continues to escalate, the number of people fleeing into other countries in the region in search of refuge has been increasing. New arrivals of Syrians into Egypt, however, have decreased dramatically since the introduction on 8 July 2013 of visa requirements for Syrian entering the country. UNHCR has registered 136,374 individuals as of 19 April. Most Syrians in Egypt are scattered in urban neighbourhoods, renting and sharing accommodation, and benefit from access to public education and health care. UNHCR conducts registration, provides counselling, and works with partners to provide legal assistance and address the social needs of vulnerable Syrians in Egypt. UNHCR also operates hotlines for emergencies and inquiries.

Registration of Syrians in Egypt (as of 19 April)

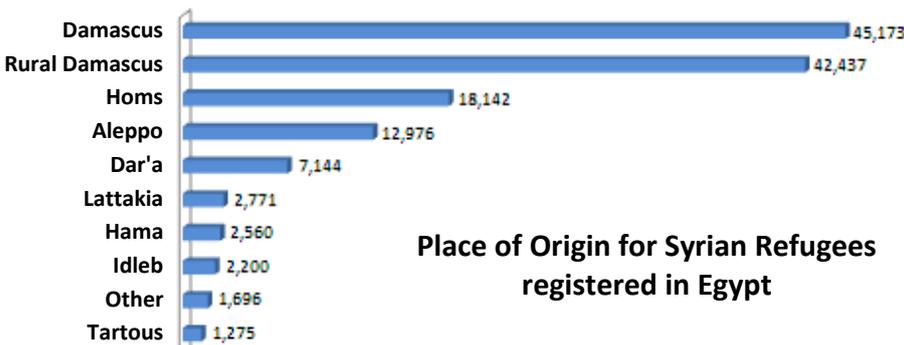


50.8% of registered Syrians arrived to Egypt through a transit country; of those, 76.3% passed through Lebanon, 12.4% through Jordan, and 11.3% through others countries.

During the week, 373 individuals registered in the Zamalek Registration Centre; 41 persons were identified with specific needs.

Gender and Age Breakdown

Age Group	F	M	Total
0 - 4	8,854	9,321	18,175
5 - 11	11,985	12,801	24,786
12 - 17	7,715	8,680	16,395
18 - 39	24,943	26,201	51,144
40 - 59	10,069	9,950	20,019
60+	2,951	2,904	5,855
Total	66,517	69,857	136,374



Partners:

Arab Medical Union (AMU) • Care Int/USA • Caritas • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Mahmoud Mosque society • Refuge Egypt • Resala Association • Terre Des Hommes - Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) • Save the Children • TADAMON • UNFPA • UNHABITAT • UNICEF • WFP • WHO

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Syria Regional Refugee Response
Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal
<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

Protection

It has been observed recently that there is an increase of Syrians who are attempting to leave Egypt illegally to Europe by boat. As of 22 April there are approximately 287 Syrians refugees detained in eight different police detention facilities in Alexandria and surrounding governorates. During April 50 Syrian refugees have been released from detention. UNHCR is following up with the authorities regarding the Syrian detainees, and UNHCR's partners Caritas and Resala have also been providing food, blankets and medical care to the detainees.

On 10 April UNHCR conducted an awareness session on the consequences of the irregular departure from Egypt by sea for 20 Syrian refugees residing in Nasr City district in Cairo. UNHCR also highlighted the importance of respecting Egyptian laws and regulations and discussed the requirements and process for obtaining residency permits on UNHCR asylum seeker cards, as well as the services that UNHCR and its partners provide to Syrian refugees in Egypt and how to access them.

Save the Children has identified new child friendly spaces (CFS) in the 10th of Ramadan city, in greater Cairo. These new CFSs will add to the five spaces Save the Children is currently running across Greater Cairo, where refugee and Egyptian children can receive psychosocial support and enjoy a safe space to play and learn.

Community Service

UNHCR partner Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) opened recently "Souriyat Association Community Centre" in 10th Ramadan city in Greater Cairo, where there large concentrations of vulnerable Syrians reside. The Centre will be managed by the Syrian Women Association in Egypt which has been formed in 2013 by Syrian women in Egypt.



Syrian Children performing at the opening of the Syrian Community Centre in 10th of Ramadan (UNHCR/A.Abughazala)

UNHCR attended the opening event along with representatives from the AOHR and the Syrian Women Association. The event incorporated Syrian children performing some dances and songs. The centre will organize cultural, recreational and sports events; livelihood, vocational and para-scholar activities; psycho-social support services; health and legal aid awareness; and fund raising and resources mobilization events. Another centre will be also opened soon in Heliopolis district in Cairo.

Food

WFP is planning to distributed food vouchers to up to 100,000 Syrian refugees in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta in April. WFP has begun introducing e-vouchers through Carrefour for Syrian refugees benefiting in Greater Cairo, and a small number of new beneficiaries in Greater Cairo will receive paper vouchers that can be redeemed at Fathallah supermarket for their first month of assistance until they are issued with e-vouchers. WFP is providing detailed messaging to beneficiaries on how and where they can redeem their vouchers.

Health

In close partnership with, WHO, UNICEF, and USAID, the Ministry of Health (MoH) coordinated and carried out the most recent round of the Polio vaccination campaign on 6 – 10 April for all children under five years old. The MoH, UNHCR, IOM and WHO conducted several community seminars and workshops for 139 Syrian women in Damietta, Alexandria, Qalilobia and 6th of October City (Greater Cairo) to raise awareness on the Polio vaccination campaign and address any misconceptions amongst the refugees. Also, the MoH, in collaboration UNHCR's partners Save the Children and Tadamon conducted four awareness sessions on the Polio vaccination campaign in community centres for 66 volunteers and community health workers on 6 – 9 April in five districts across Greater Cairo where there are high numbers of refugees (Faysal, Ard El Lewa, 6th of October, Nasr City and Maadi).

In coordination with UNHCR, the Ministry of Health's (MoH) prepared a flyer on the national Polio campaign. The flyer has been prepared in 6 languages for the main refugee populations in Egypt. The MoH and UNHCR sent SMSs to an estimated 22,000 refugee households with children 0-5 years old in order to inform them of the campaign.

Shelter

UNHCR Egypt participated in the Urban Refugees in the Arab Region panel during UN Habitat's World Urban Forum in Medellin, Colombia on 5 - 11 April. The panel addressed the Syrian Crisis as an urban crisis and facilitated a questions and answers session regarding the issues Syrian refugees face in Egypt.