



Ministry of Labour Syrian Refugee Unit -- Monthly Progress Report

# Syrian Refugee Unit Work Permit Progress Report *September 2017*

Timeframe	Report includes data gathered through September 30, 2017
Report compiled by	Syrian Refugee Unit at the Ministry of Labour
Date submitted	05/10/2017

## Introduction

This report was compiled by the Ministry of Labour's (MoL) Syrian Refugee Unit (SRU) and will provide the following:

- Total work permits issued to Syrian refugees.
- Disaggregation of work permit data by gender, type of permit, and location.
- Camp-specific work permit issuances.

January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017	<b>66,488</b> permits issued
January 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017	<b>29,698</b> permits issued
<i>Of which issued from camps February 2017 to September 30, 2017</i>	<i>7,098</i> permits issued

## Highlights

- **4,487 work permits were issued in the month of September** —a significant increase in the monthly rate and largely keeping with the trend begun last month. The average number of permits issued per month over the course of the first seven months of 2017 was roughly 2,800. The increase in monthly issuances has been driven mainly by the agriculture and construction sectors, with 3,564 and 284 permits issued respectively.
- Though the overall number of work permits is comparable to last year, more Syrians are obtaining permits in the agriculture sector, 13,102 in 2017 compared to 8,499 in 2016. This 54% increase may be attributable to the flexible work permits issued



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through the cooperatives. The Number of WP issued under the Cooperatives since the decision was out up to October 5, 2017 is 23,604.

### Policy Context

On September 28, 2017, the Ministry of Labor issued a circular to its directorates that officially rescinded its previous decision making professional certificates mandatory for flexible construction sector permits. Syrians will still be able to access the certification programs from ILO, but they will no longer be mandatory for obtaining a flexible work permit in the construction sector. The ongoing flexible work permit agreement allows Syrians to move from one construction project to another on a single, valid work permit. Between June, when the agreement went into effect, through the end of September, **573 work permits were issued through the GFJTU.**

**Short-term work permits** with a six-month duration or less continue to be issued, but only for cash-for-work or other “labor-intensive projects” conducted by NGOs. Through September, **105 of these short-term permits were issued.**

### Analysis

#### Work Permit Issuances by Gender

Period	Male	Female	Total
January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017	63,631 (96%)	2,857 (4%)	66,488
January 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017	27,954 (94%)	1,744 (6%)	29,698



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**Work Permit Issuances by Type**

Reason	Number of Permits
First-Time Issuance	16,133
Renewal	11,511
Change of Workplace	1,753
Social Security Purposes <sup>1</sup>	195
Recruitment <sup>2</sup>	1
Temporary Permits <sup>3</sup>	105

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of collecting the social security entitlements, work permits may be renewed.

<sup>2</sup> Recruitment involves hiring non-Jordanian workers while they are still in their country of origin and bringing them to Jordan for work. This normally applies to workers in the garment and domestic services sectors. As no Syrians are being recruited from Syria, this number remains (and will most likely remain for the near future) zero or close to zero.

<sup>3</sup> Based on new instructions and a circular related to employment for cash-for-work projects, short-term work permits were introduced.



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**Work Permit Issuances by Governorate**

Governorate	#	Governorate	#
Amman	9,680	Karak	568
Madaba	406	Ma'an	322
Irbid	11,349	Zarqa	5,647
Jerash	292	Mafraq	730
Ajloun	237	Tafila	151
Balqa	310	Aqaba	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>29,698</b>	

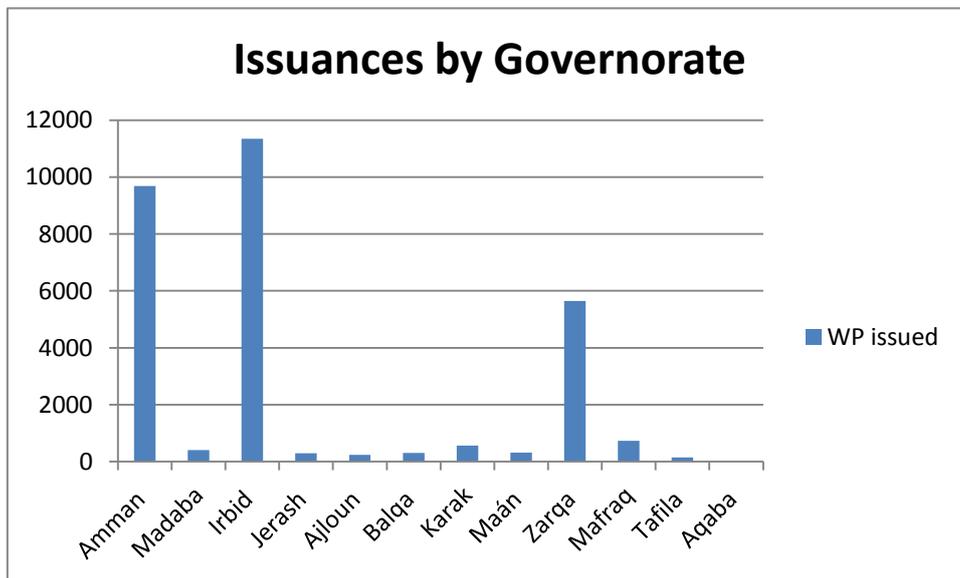


Figure 1: Work Permit Issuances by Governorate (1/1/2017 to 30/9/2017)

**Work Permits by Economic Activity**

Economic Activity/Field	January to September 2016	Share of Work Permit Issuances	January to September 2017	Share of Work Permit Issuances	Percent Change in Total Work Permits (Year-on-Year)[1]
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	8,499	28.90%	13,102	44.12%	54%
Mining and quarrying	27	0.09%	20	0.07%	-26%
Manufacturing	5,712	19.42%	4,890	16.47%	-14%



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Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning	9	0.03%	2	0.01%	-78%
Water supply, sewage, waste management activities	192	0.65%	230	0.77%	20%
Construction	2,738	9.31%	2,488	8.38%	-9%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	4,633	15.75%	3,756	12.65%	-19%
Transportation and storage	667	2.27%	240	0.81%	-64%
Hospitality and food service activities	3,927	13.35%	3,511	11.82%	-11%
Information and communication	30	0.10%	17	0.06%	-43%
Financial and insurance activities	5	0.02%	2	0.01%	-60%
Real estate activities	30	0.10%	9	0.03%	-70%
Professional, scientific and technical activities	66	0.22%	129	0.43%	95%
Administrative and support service activities	828	2.82%	421	1.42%	-49%
Public administration and defense; compulsory social	216	0.73%	294	0.99%	36%
Education	114	0.39%	85	0.29%	-25%
Human health and social work activities	58	0.20%	31	0.10%	-47%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	26	0.09%	22	0.07%	-15%
Other service activities	1,217	4.14%	314	1.06%	-74%



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Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services-producing activities of households for own use.	407	1.38%	132	0.44%	-68%
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	11	0.04%	3	0.01%	-73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,412</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>29,698</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1%</b>

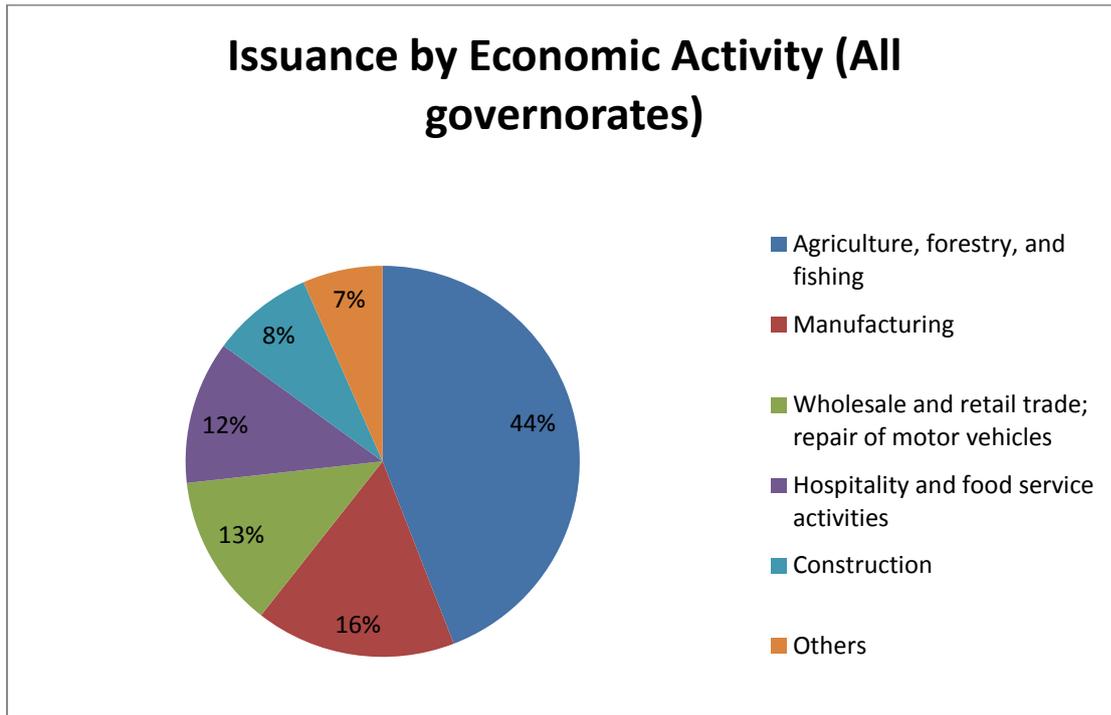


Figure 2: Work Permit Issuances by Economic Activity (1/1/2017 to 30/9/2017)



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**Work Permit Issuances at Camps**

Camp	Work Permits Issued <sup>4</sup>
Azraq Camp	3,987
Za'atari Camp	3,054
Cyber Camp	1
Mreijeb Camp	33
Unknown or Old Record	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,098</b>

Figure 3: Work Permit Issuances from Camps (1/2/2017 to 30/9/2017)

**Work Permits Issued for camps**

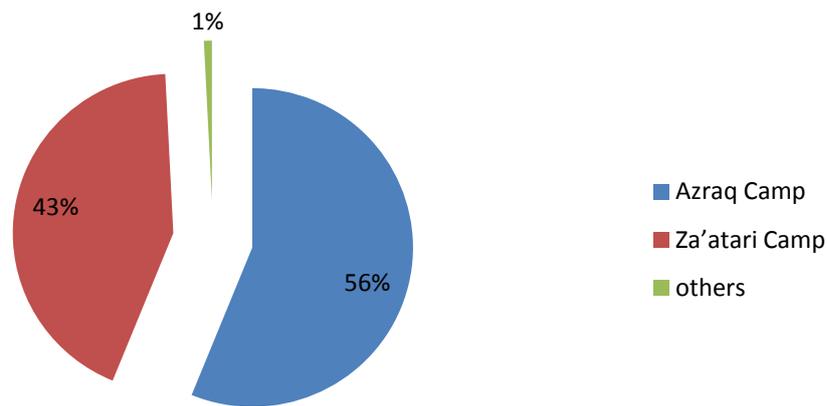


Figure 4: Comparing Work Permit Issuances by Camp (1/2/2017 to 30/9/2017)

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<sup>4</sup> This number represents the total number of work permits issued between February 1, 2017 (when work permits were first issued at the camp level) and September 30, 2017.