



Food Security, Social Cohesion, Resilience and Migration in Jordan Assessment Findings 2013-2015

Content

1. Sources and context
2. Refugee household vulnerability
 - Food security
 - Livelihoods
3. Jordanian livelihoods and resilience
4. Coping mechanisms: migration

Sources

Refugee food security

- World Food Programme (WFP)-REACH, Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (2014, 2015)

Community social cohesion and resilience

- British Embassy in Amman, World Bank-REACH, social cohesion assessments (2013, 2014, 2015)
- Global Communities/USAID, Social cohesion assessment (2015)

Coping mechanisms: migration

- World Food Programme (WFP)-REACH, Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (2015)
- REACH, Migration trends & patterns of Syrian asylum seekers travelling to the European Union (2015)

Context

5th YEAR SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS:

650,000 refugees in Jordan – 85% amongst Jordanian host communities

SYRIAN REFUGEES:

Vulnerability Trends



Coping Strategies
[Migration]

HOST COMMUNITIES:

Resilience



Social Cohesion

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LINKED SOCIAL RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING



Syrian Refugee Food Security and Livelihoods

WFP–REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise; 2014, 2015



World Food Programme

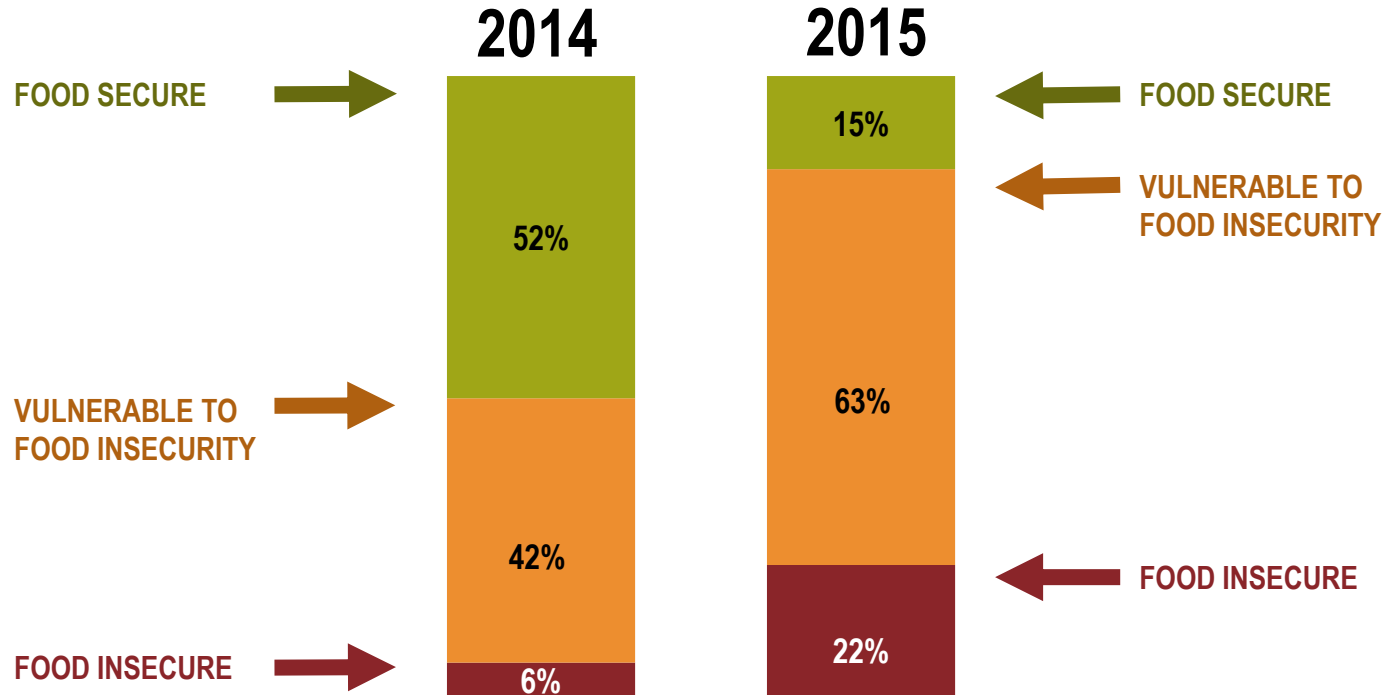
wfp.org

REACH An initiative of
IMPACT Initiatives
ACTED and UNOSAT

Food Security

The food security index is a global measure of food consumption and economic vulnerability:

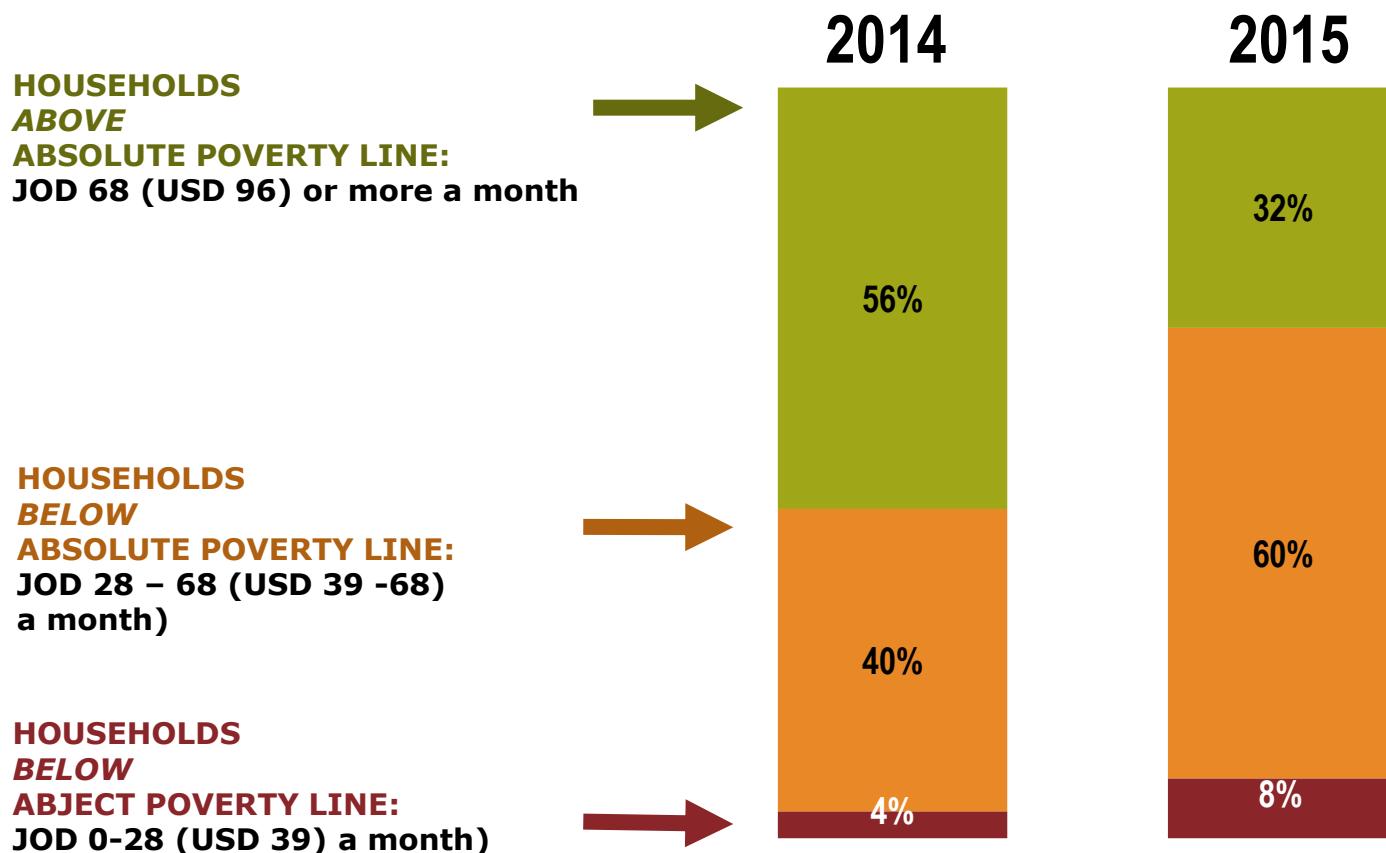
- Dramatic drop in food security for refugee households, in host community



Food Security Index CFSME

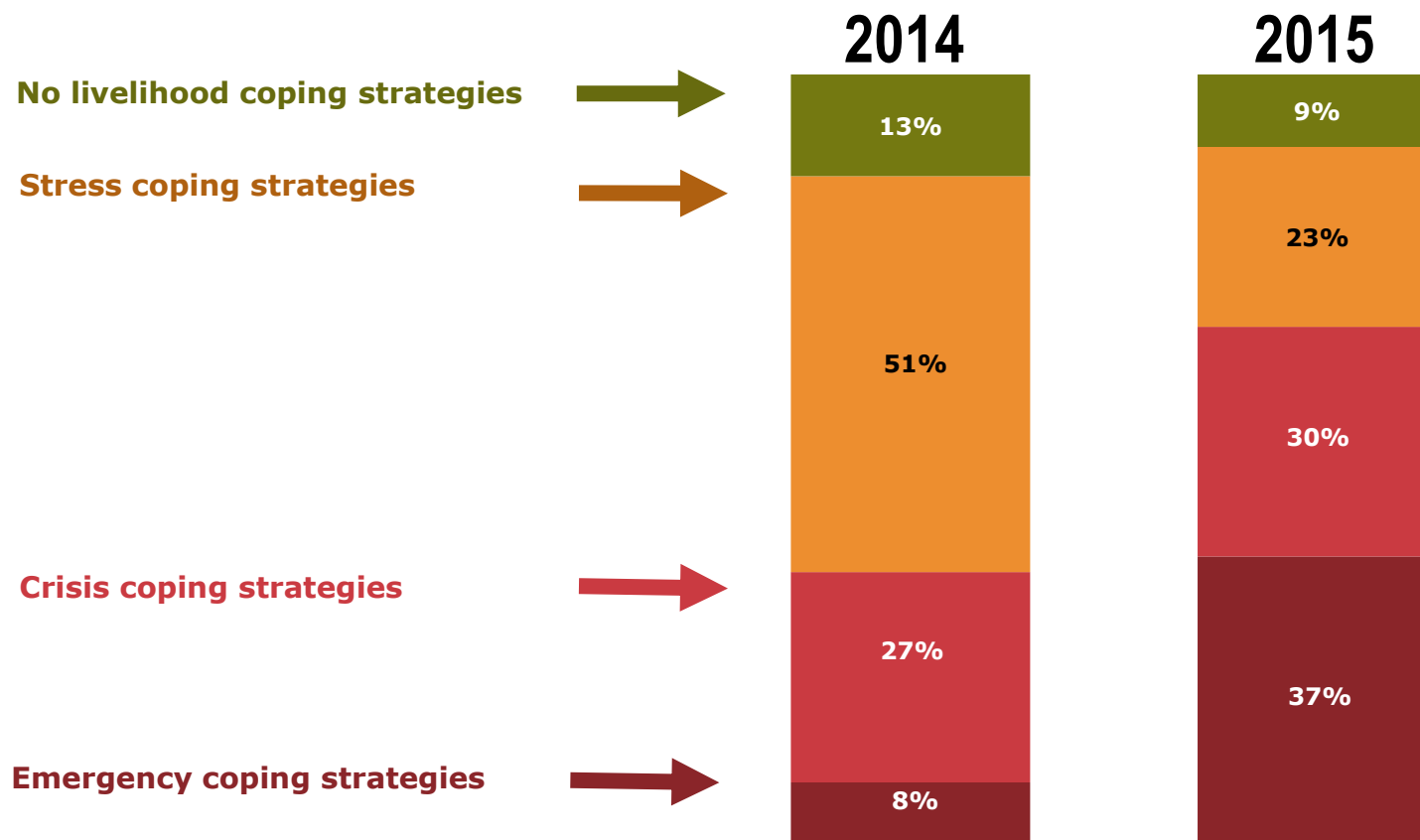
Household Poverty

In 2015, **over two thirds of Syrian refugee households live below the absolute poverty line**, more than double the number of households in 2014.



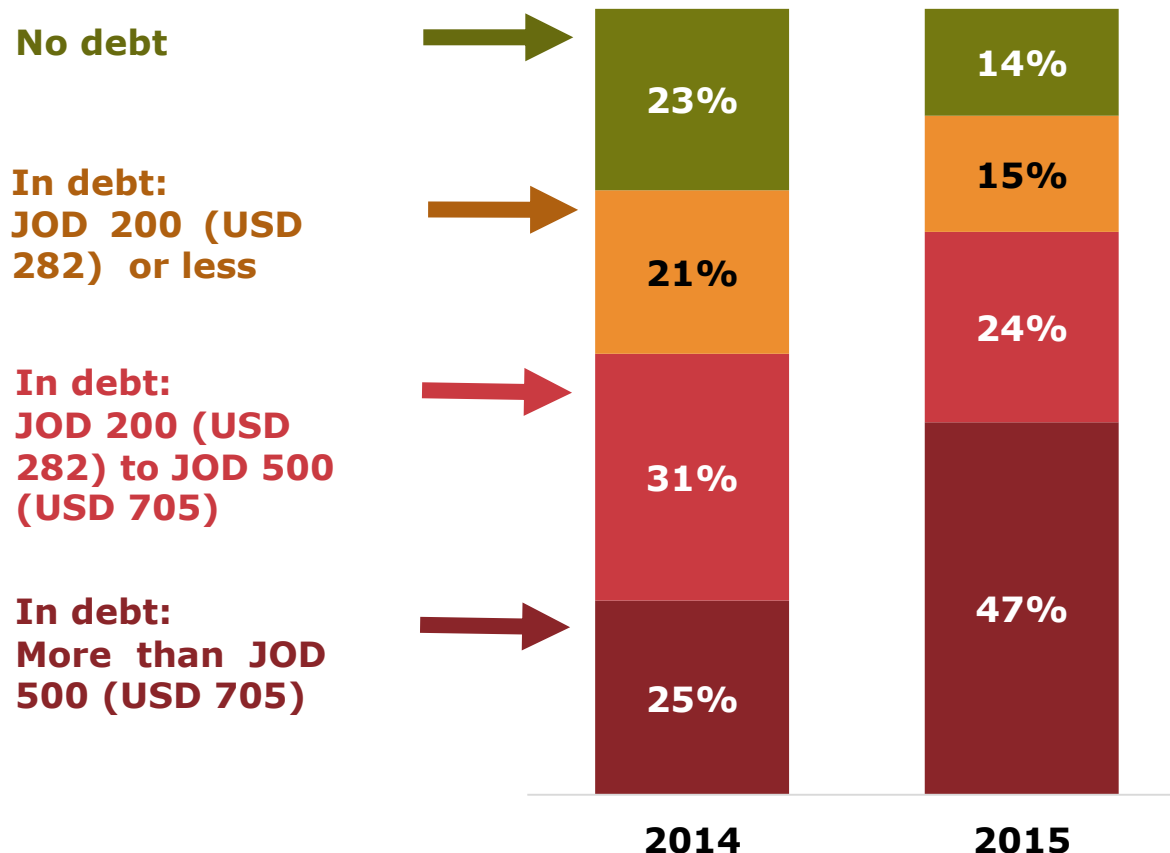
Livelihood Coping Strategies

Rapid increase in the most severe coping mechanisms: over two thirds of households adopt crisis or emergency coping strategies, a 33 percent increase from last year.



Debt Categories

Number of households with more than JOD 500 (USD 705.2) **debt has nearly doubled**: 47 percent of refugees households in 2015, compared to 25 percent in 2014.



Livelihoods and Resilience of Jordanians and Syrians in Host Communities



Most important problems facing community

- The most important problems facing communities appear to be **economic or water related**.

Most important problem cited across communities



Gender disaggregation

- Men and women were found to rank the top three problems facing their community slightly differently.

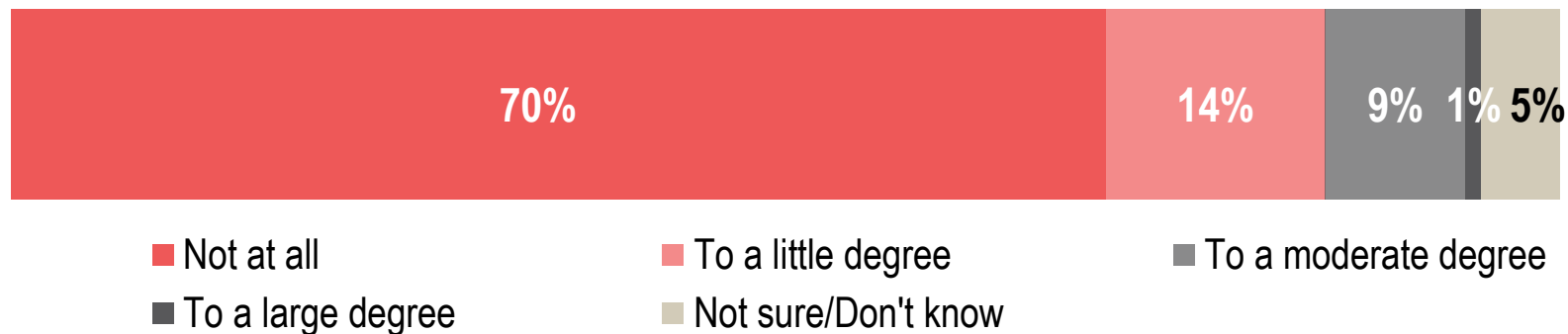
Men	Women
Unemployment (19%)	Rising prices in general (22%)
Rising prices in general (16%)	Lack and cuts of water supply (12%)
Lack and cuts of water supply (11%)	Unemployment (9%)

Community's ability to handle problems

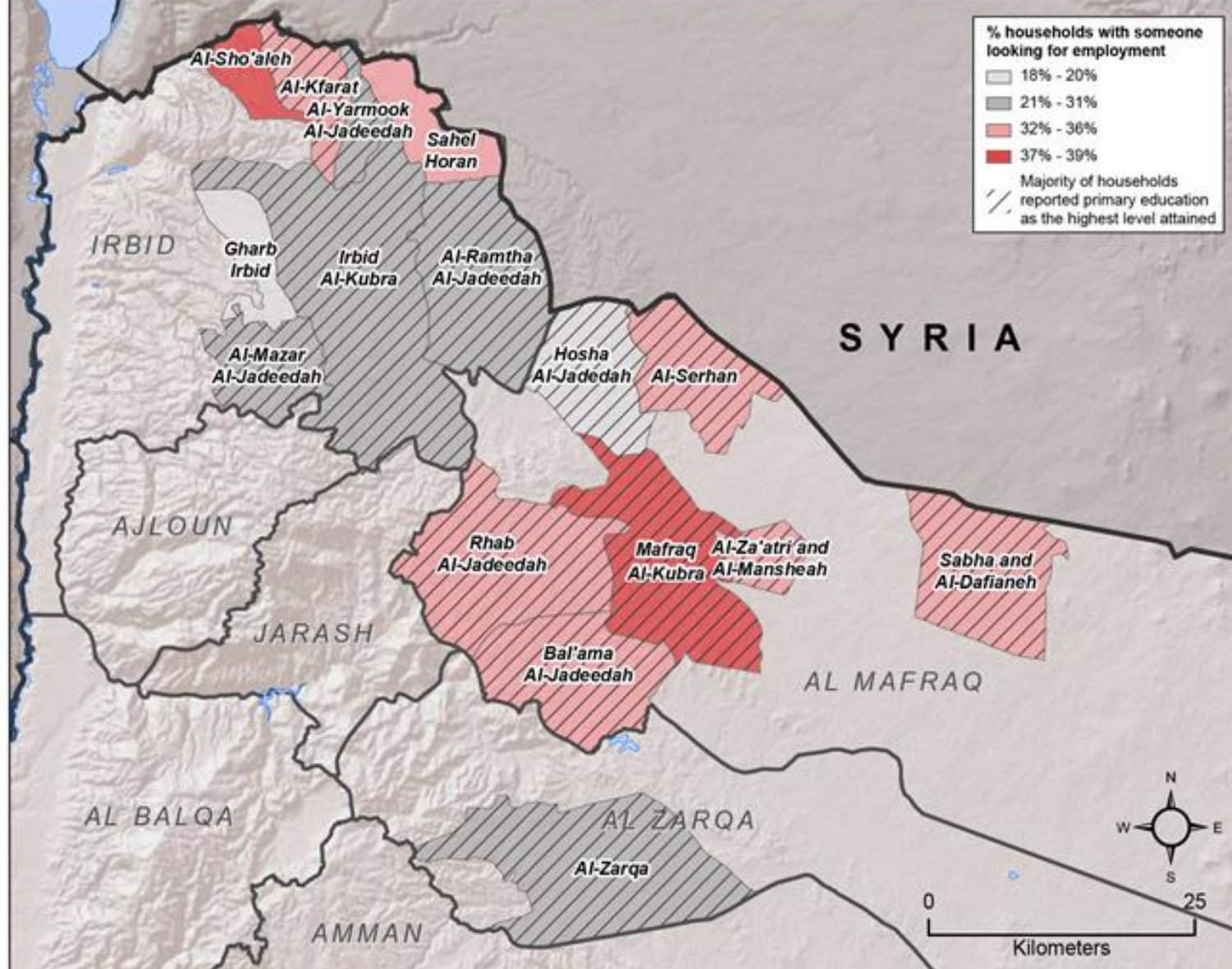
Communities perceive **limited degree to which they can handle these problems**:

- 10% of respondents stated that the problems facing the community could be handled to a “moderate” or “large degree”, while 84% stated either “to a little degree” or “not at all”.

Degree to which communities are perceived able to handle problems



Note: Data, designations and boundaries contained on this map are not warranted to be error-free and do not imply acceptance by the REACH partners, associates or donors mentioned on this map.



Livelihoods: % Households with Someone Looking for Employment

Livelihoods: Coping Mechanisms

- **61% of households reported adopting a coping mechanism to address limited livelihood opportunities in the 30 days preceding the survey. (WB/REACH 2015)**
- The three most commonly used coping mechanisms:
 1. **Borrow money from family, friends, and/or neighbors (49%)**
 2. **Take out a loan (20%)**
 3. **Sell personal belongings (7%)**
- Irbid Al-Kubra (12%) and Al-Ramtha Al-Jadeedah (11%) had the highest number of respondents reporting to endure poor working conditions in order to meet their basic needs.

Rising Cost of Living

The influx of Syrian refugees in Jordan has resulted in higher demand for basic goods and services, most notably in the housing sector, which has contributed to rising inflation.

- **28% of households** reported that the rising cost of living was the most prominent change observed in their community.
- **35% of Syrian households** reported this change, compared with 25% of Jordanians.
- This change was reported by a **greater proportion of women than men** – 31% of women compared with 24% of men.

Rising cost of living: Housing

24% of households reported adopting a coping mechanism to address housing challenges in the six months preceding the survey.

The three most commonly used coping mechanisms:

- 1. Borrow money from family, friends and neighbours to cover rental costs (27%)**
- 2. Borrow money from a landlord or delay payment of rent (22%)**
- 3. Take out loans to cover rental expenditure (21%)**

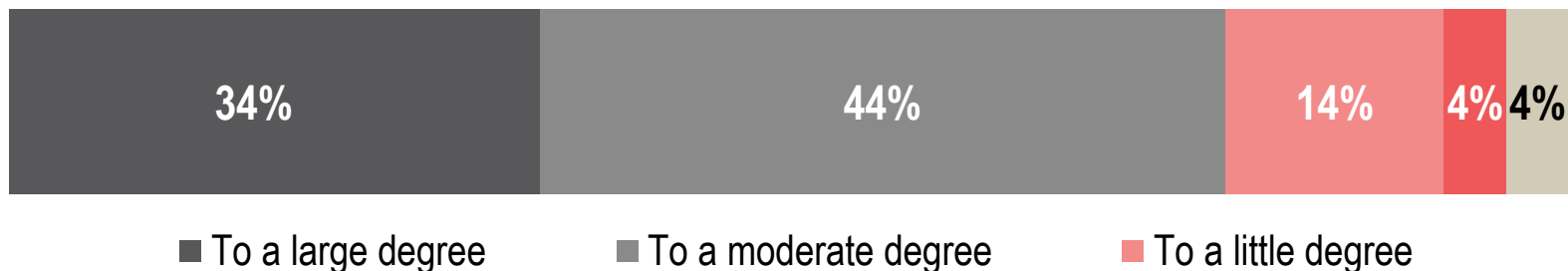
Social cohesion and perceived impact of Syrian refugee crisis in host communities

Trust within communities

Trust within communities appears robust across communities:

- 78% of respondents reported that people in the community trust each other to either a “large” or “moderate” degree.
- Nevertheless, 14% stated people trusted each other “to a little degree”, and 4% stated people did not trust each other “at all”.

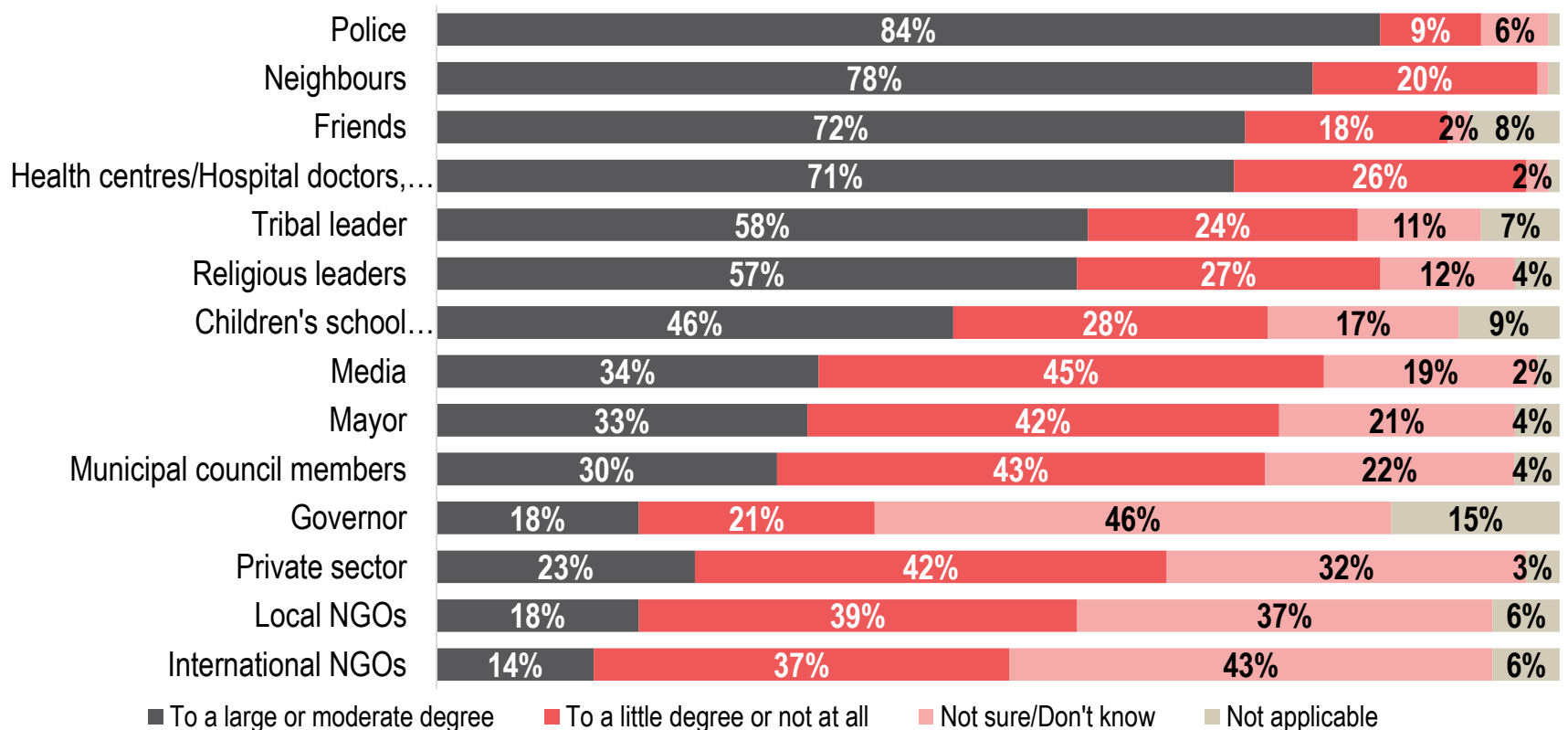
Degree to which people in community are perceived to trust each other



Trust in different groups

Respondents were asked to which degree they trusted the following groups. Reported levels of trust vary considerably between groups

Degrees of trust in...

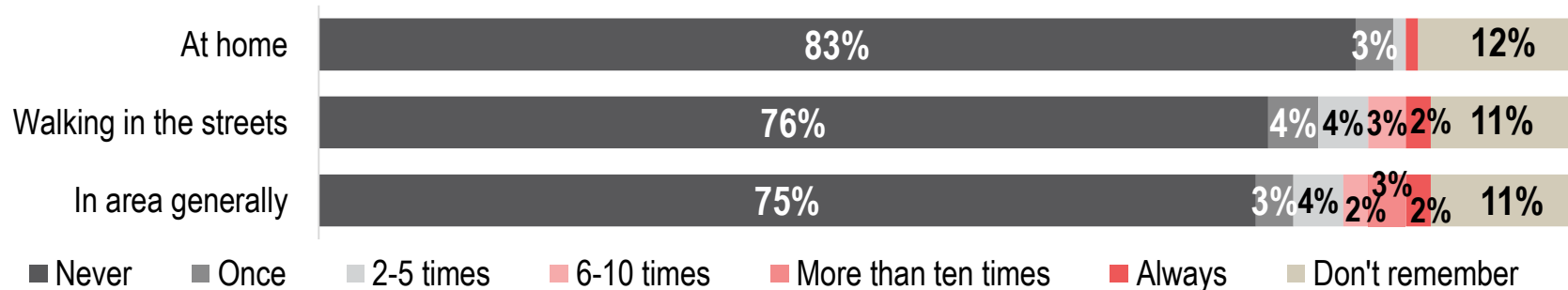


Feeling of safety

Respondents generally feel safe in their communities:

- 95% of respondents stated that they were living in safety to a large (73%) or moderate (22%) degree.
- A large majority of interviewees reported never feeling unsafe at home (83%), while walking in the streets (76%) or in the area in general (75%) over the past six months.

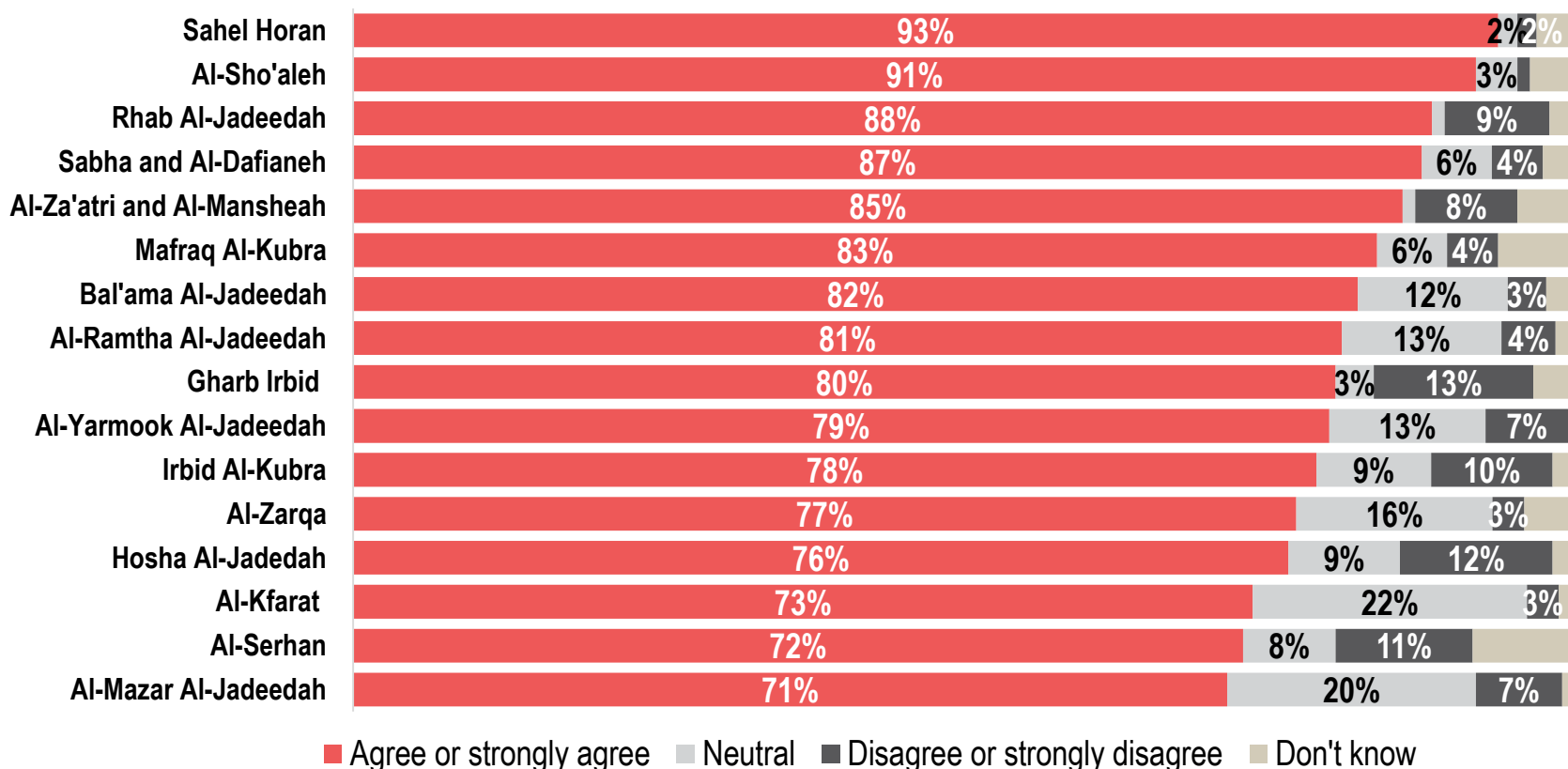
Number of times feeling unsafe (past 6 months)



Livelihoods: Perceived Community Tensions

81% of respondents reported that job competition has led to discontent in their community, with 83% of Syrians and 81% of Jordanians agreeing or strongly agreeing with this statement.

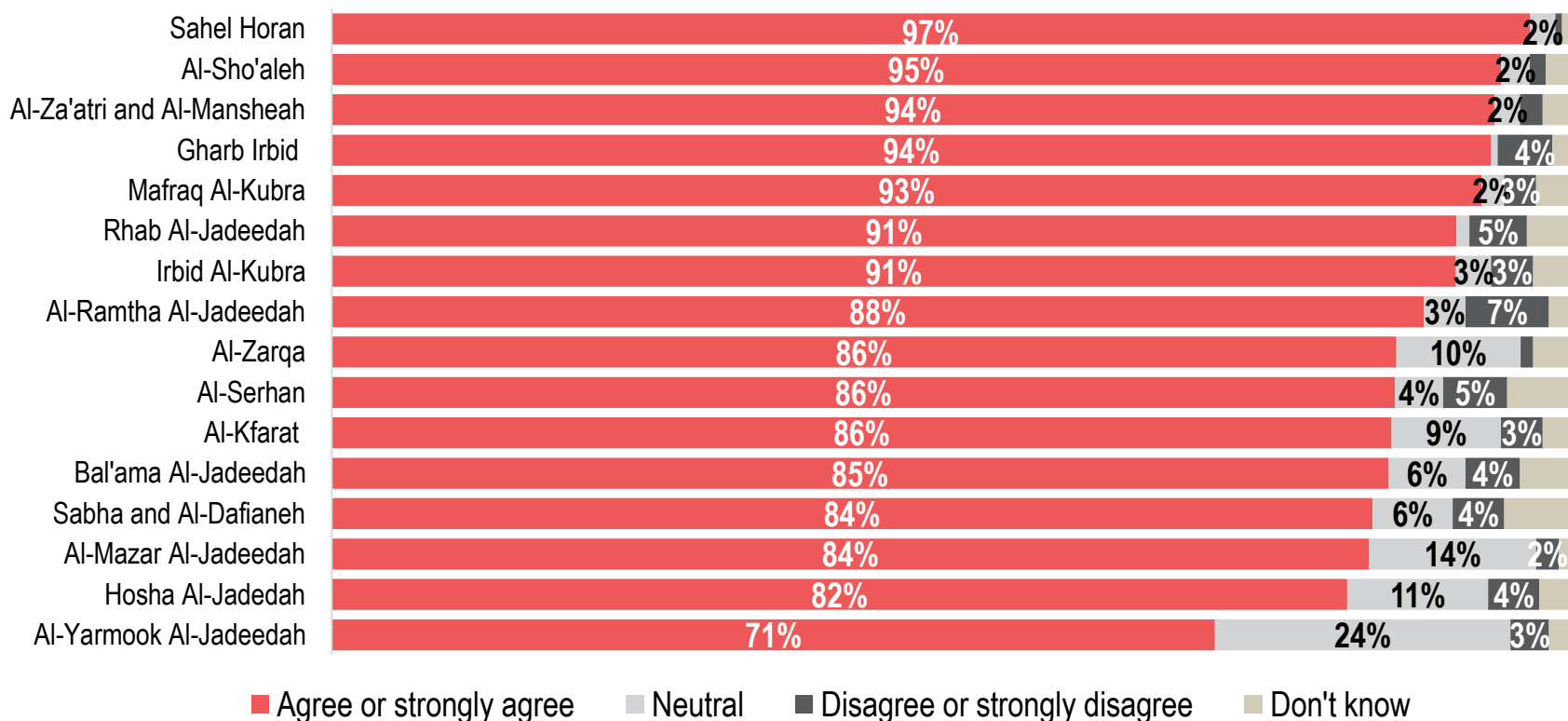
Proportion of respondents that agree tensions are related to job competition, disaggregated by municipality



Housing: Perceived Community Tensions

Across municipalities over two thirds reported that housing prices are linked to tensions in the community, ranging from 71% of respondents in Al-Yarmouk Al-Jadeedah to 97% in Sahel Horan.

Proportion of households that 'agree' or 'strongly agree' housing prices have led to discontent in the community, disaggregated by municipality

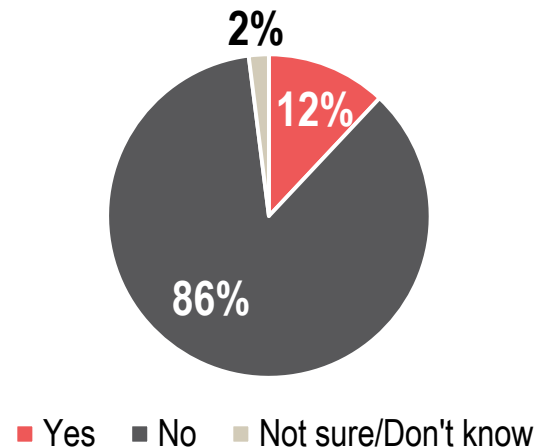


Perceived impact of Syrian refugees on safety

The majority of Jordanians, in the communities assessed, do not perceive Syrian refugees to be affecting their security:

- A large majority of Jordanian respondents (86%) do not perceive an impact of the arrival of Syrian refugees on the safety and security of their family or neighbourhood.

Impact of arrival of Syrian refugees on safety of family, security in neighbourhood

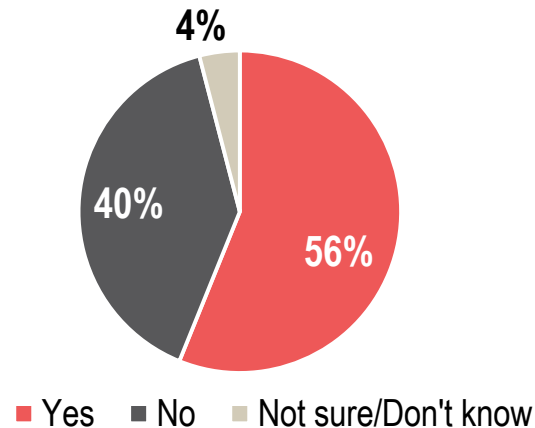


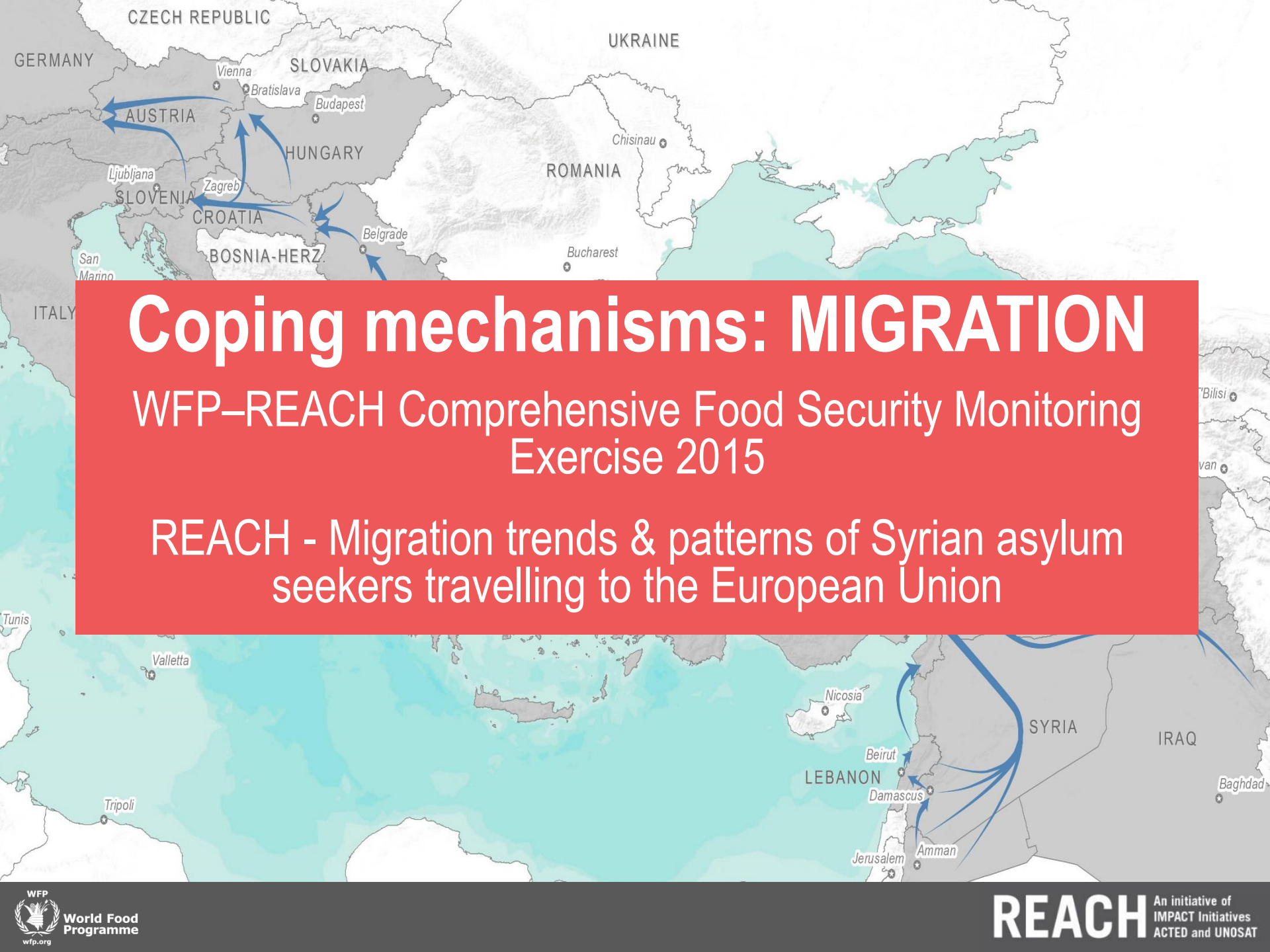
Perceived impact of Syrian refugees on job security

A majority of Jordanians, in the communities assessed, perceived Syrian refugees to be affecting job security.

- 56% of Jordanian respondents reported such an effect, while 40% of interviewees reported no impact.
- A higher proportion of men (66%) perceived an impact of Syrian refugees on job security than women (50%).

Impact of Syrian refugees seeking refuge in community on job security





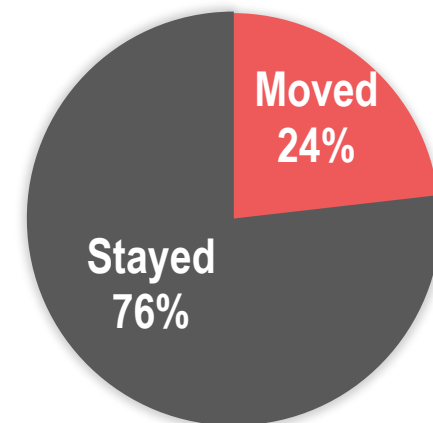
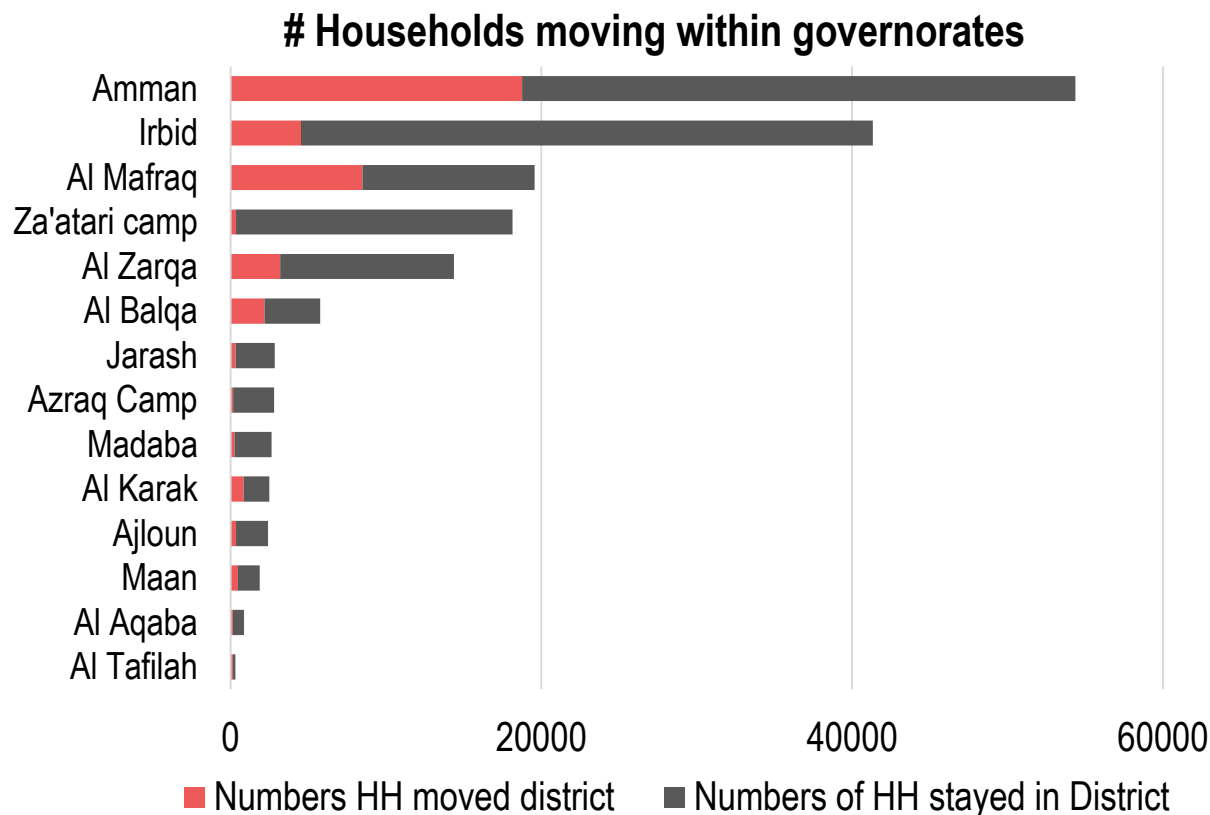
Coping mechanisms: MIGRATION

WFP-REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise 2015

REACH - Migration trends & patterns of Syrian asylum seekers travelling to the European Union

Migration: Within Jordan

- **24% of Syrian refugees moved** since registering with UNHCR in a given district.



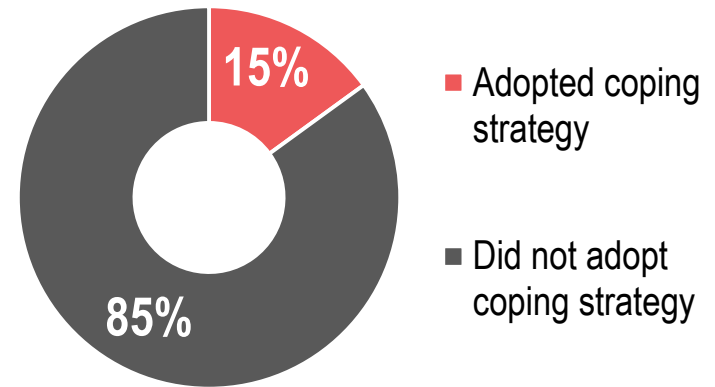
- **Largest movement internal to Amman and Mafrq governorates.**

Migration as coping strategy

LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY: Change Accommodation

- To cope with depleted resources: 15 percent households move into **cheaper and poorer quality accommodation**

% HH Changed accommodation to save resources



LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGY: Return to Syria

- To seek resources and livelihoods, **2.4% households** were sending family members **back to Syria**

Migration: Out of Jordan

[SITUATION OVERVIEW: REFUGEES MIGRATING TO EUROPE]

Profile of Syrian refugees moving to Europe:

- Lived in Jordan for 2 years
- Majority unemployed
- Small proportion working as unskilled labourers in farms, construction sites, restaurants and supermarkets.

Reasons for migration to Europe

- Limited access to livelihoods
- Reduced humanitarian assistance
- Perception more state support in Europe
- Perception Europe currently more open to refugees

ONGOING & UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS

More information coming soon...

- **CFSME - Nationwide multi-sectoral analysis of refugee food security from 2014 to present (WFP-REACH)**
- **Nationwide study of Jordanian and Syrian women's access to employment/livelihoods (UN Women-REACH)**
- **Understanding challenges women face accessing services in Zarqa and Irbid governorates (UN Women-REACH)**
- **Nationwide study of disaster risks and mitigation strategies and livelihoods (FAO-REACH)**
- **Nationwide study of Jordanian and Syrian food security and livelihoods (FAO-REACH)**
- **Nationwide study of Syrian refugee remittances practices (IOM-REACH)**