

SYRIA REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey



24 August 2012

This weekly update provides a snapshot of the United Nations and partners' response to the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. The response is led by the UN Refugee Agency and is undertaken in full coordination with host Governments, UN agencies, and NGO partners. This report covers the period from 18 to 24 August 2012. The next update will be issued on 31 August 2012.



Syrian refugee children in Jordan ©UNHCR/T. Haythornthwaite /2012

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The overall registered Syrian refugee population in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey has now reached **202,067**, showing an increase of some 31,951 persons since last week.
- Turkey continues to see the largest refugee influx, with more than 74,000 people being officially registered in the country.
- Jordan has witnessed a large refugee outflow over the week, resulting in an increase of some 14,104 persons in the total registered refugee population in the country.

REFUGEE NUMBERS

Number of Syrian Refugees	JORDAN**	LEBANON	IRAQ	TURKEY	TOTAL
Registered	43,962	39,194	13,856	74,112	171,124
Awaiting registration*	17,040	11,861	2,042	-	30,943
TOTAL	61,002	51,055	15,898	74,112	202,067

*Figures are based on estimates and thus may vary.

**Some 80,000 have been identified by local organizations as in need of assistance, some of whom have been registered by UNHCR. According to the Government of Jordan, there are more than 150,000 Syrians in Jordan.

JORDAN

HIGHLIGHTS

- A large number of Syrian refugees have crossed the borders into Jordan this week on an average of 2,000 arrivals per night. The total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration now stands at **61,002**, showing an increase of some 14,104 persons since last week.

Protection / Numbers

- **New Arrivals:** During the night of 23 to 24 August, some 2,200 Syrian refugees crossed the border into Jordan and were subsequently transferred by IOM and the Jordanian Armed Forces to Za'atri camp. This represents a 77% increase compared to the previous night's record (1,254). The newly arrived refugees are mainly from Dara'a, Karak, Shebaa, Herak and other surrounding villages.
- **Registration:** A number of 43,962 Syrian refugees are now registered with UNHCR, while another 17,040 are awaiting registration. Most of the latter are hosted and assisted in Za'atri camp.
- **Camp Population:** More than 14,500 refugees have been received in Za'atri camp, while the refugee population in the transit sites of King Abdullah Park and Cyber City stands at 1,291 and 488 respectively. An inter-agency verification exercise of the exact number of residents in Za'atri camp is currently being undertaken.
- **Protection:** IFP with the support of UNFPA will be conducting training sessions in Za'atri camp in order to prevent sexual exploitation.

Assistance / Outreach

- **Shelter:** Improvements to the Za'atri camp site continue to take place. Electricity is now installed in 40% of the camp, which will improve the protection environment and allow for further improved services in the future.
- **Food:** THW has begun the construction of a first communal kitchen in the camp, following a participatory assessment of the sample communal kitchen. THW will be constructing communal kitchens throughout the camp. WFP will then be able to move from the delivery of cooked meals to dry rations, and families will be able to cook their own food.
- **Water and Sanitation:** UNICEF's partner ACTED has begun mobilizing the Syrian community in the camp to move to a cash-for-work mechanism for cleaning. While pending the construction of a well at the Za'atri camp, UNICEF and THW continue to provide water out there.
- **Health:** The Moroccan field hospital at the Za'atri witnessed the delivery of the first baby in the camp.



*Electricity is being installed at the Za'atri camp
©UNHCR /2012*

LEBANON

HIGHLIGHTS

- A steady stream of Syrians continued to enter Lebanon mainly coming from Damascus, Aleppo, and Dara'a. The total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration now stands at **51,055**.
- Due to the deteriorating security situation, UNHCR registration center in Tripoli has been temporarily closed, while some registration activities in the Bekaa had to be cancelled as well.

Protection / Numbers

- **Registration:** The total number of Syrian refugees registered across the country has reached 39,194, while another 11,861 are awaiting registration. The registration process in Lebanon is affected negatively by the escalating security situation, resulting in the temporary closure of the central registration center in Tripoli and several registration points in the Bekaa.
- **Education:** As public schools enrolment will be starting on 1 September, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR, UNICEF and SCI are reaching out to refugee families to inform them. At the same time, UNHCR, SCI, the Norwegian Refugee Council, and Terre des Hommes are mapping semi-private schools in the Bekaa as a back-up plan in case there is not enough capacity in the public schools.

Assistance / Outreach

- **Health:** Syrian refugees continue to face challenges in accessing medical care. While the International Medical Corps and UNHCR cover the costs of primary health care, there is a gap in secondary health care which is only partially funded by UNHCR/IMC and the Qatari Red Crescent.
- **Shelter:**
 - Action Contre La Faim, DRC, NRC, UNHCR, UNICEF and SCI assessed 11 abandoned schools proposed by the MoEHE as potential refugee shelters. Three of them were found suitable and will be renovated.
 - As many Syrians are staying with host families, NRC is supporting minor renovations for some 90 host houses in Akkar through a number of rehabilitation initiatives. NRC also plans to rehabilitate another 12 unfinished houses with the capacity to host 300 individuals (60 families).
- **Social activities:** With the support of UNICEF and Amel, two new child friendly spaces will be opening soon in El Ain and Kamed el Loz.



©UNHCR 2012

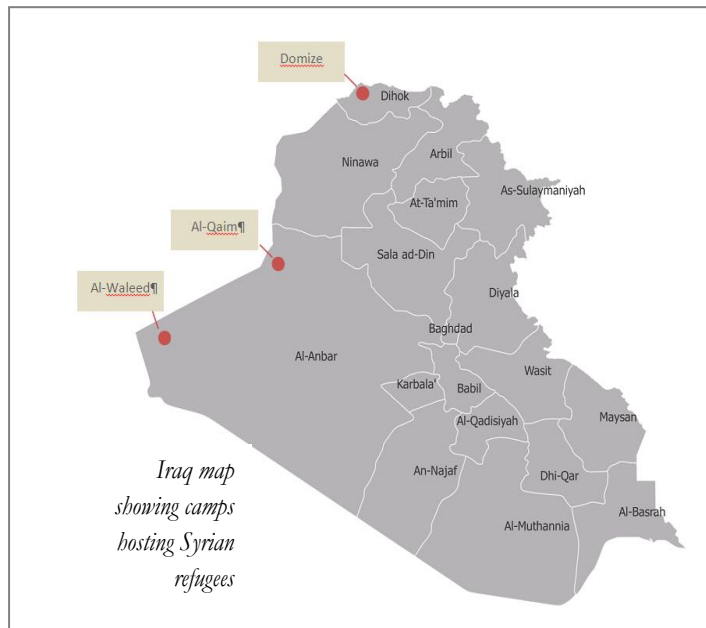
IRAQ

HIGHLIGHTS

- The number of Syrians crossing into Iraq has slowed over the week, with the total number of Syrian refugees registered or awaiting registration now being **15,898** in Iraq as a whole.

Protection / Numbers

- **Registration:** The registration rate remained stable this week with a total number of 13,856 Syrian refugees registered across Iraq and another 2,000 awaiting registration. Several hundreds of Syrians are reported to have returned back to Syria.
- **New Arrivals:** The number of Syrian crossing into Iraq has slowed over the past week. Some 892 Syrians crossed into Kurdistan Regional Governorate while the Al-Qaim border point in Anbar Governorate has been closed temporarily until Al-Qaim camp has enough hosting capacity.
- **Camp Population:** New arrivals in Kurdistan Regional Governorate continue to be accommodated in Domiz camp which now hosts 2,720 Syrian refugees. In Al-Anbar Governorate, Syrian refugees are being relocated from schools to Al-Qaim camp, currently hosting 1,832 persons. Seven out of sixteen schools have so far been vacated.
- **Iraqi Returnees:** Iraqi refugees in Syria continue to return to their home country on a daily basis. So far, 29,453 returns have been recorded, including 5,997 persons who have returned by air. Most of those returning are heading to Baghdad.



Assistance / Outreach

- **Water and Sanitation:** In Al-Qaim camp, UNICEF is assessing the installation of a proper water system through water tanks and gravity. In Domiz camp, the supply of water has increased to 400,000 liters per day, following the distribution of 112 water tanks by UNHCR and the Iraqi Department of Displacement and Migration during the past week. Five metal storage tanks of 23 cubic meters have been installed by the local NGO Kurds, and will shortly be connected to the water network.
- **Aid Distribution:** UNHCR distributed a number of 236 non-food aid packages for 200 families and 36 groups of singles in Domiz camp, while another 200 kits will be delivered to Al-Qaim camp. The Ministry of Displacement and Migration will be providing aircoolers to each of the tents in the latter camp.

TURKEY

HIGHLIGHTS

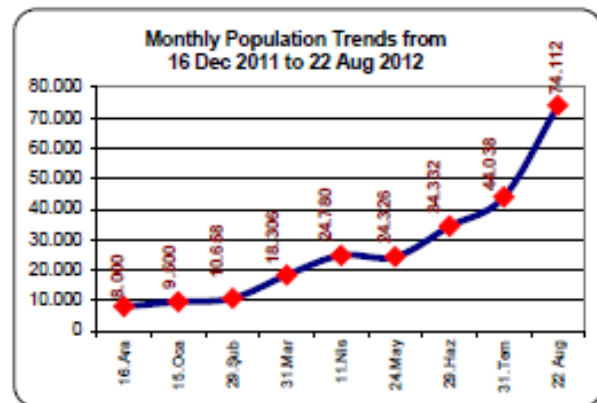
- Turkey continues to see the largest Syrian refugee influx in the region. According to the Turkish Government, the total number of Syrian refugees has reached **74,112**, showing an increase of some 12,662 persons since last week.

Protection / Numbers

- **Registration:** As per Government statistics, 74,112 Syrian refugees in Turkey are being registered and assisted, while many more continue to arrive on a daily basis.

Assistance / Outreach

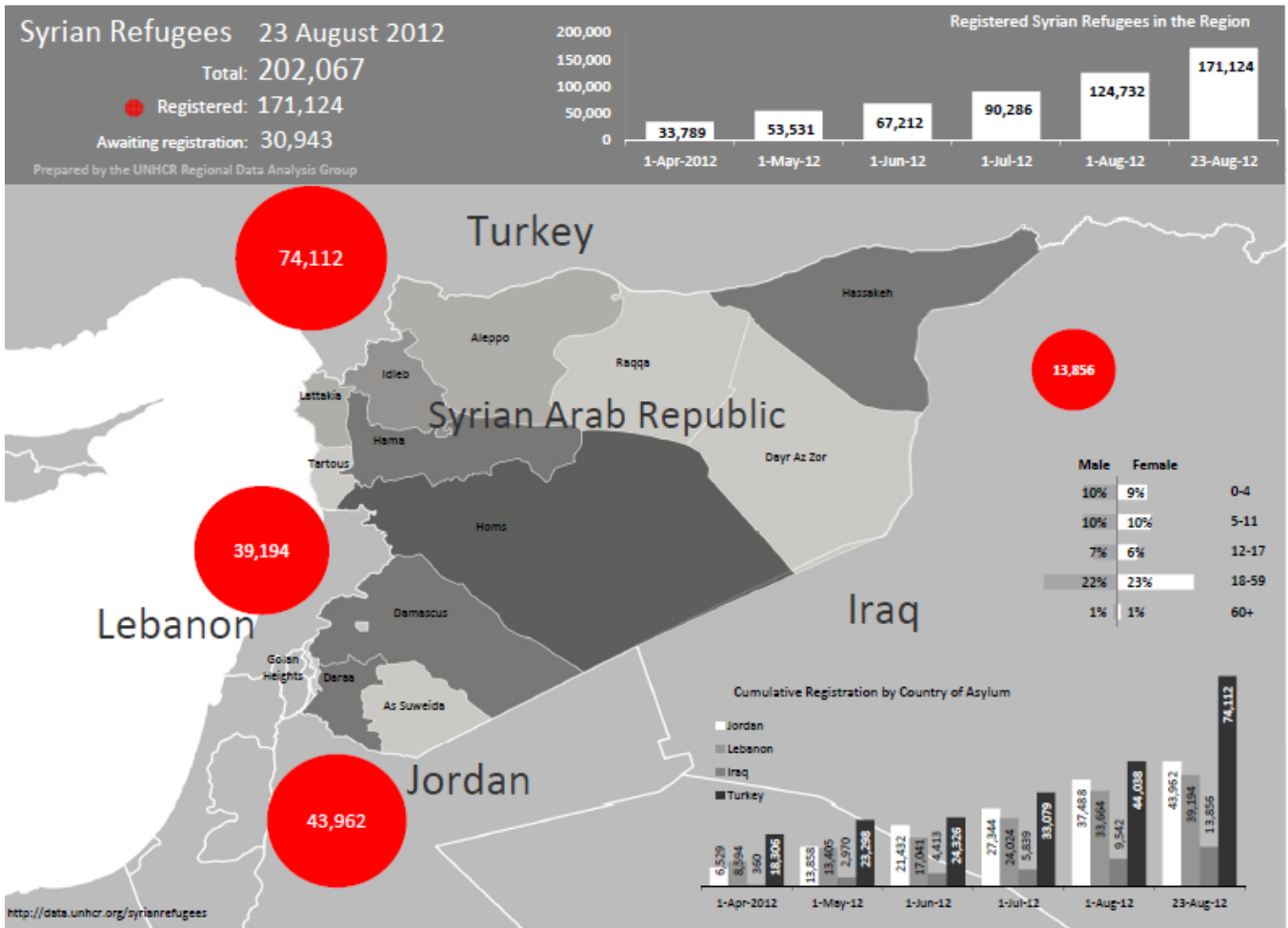
- **Shelter:**
 - Syrian refugees are hosted and assisted in nine camps in the border provinces of Hatay (12,471), Gaziantep (11,032 – including 3,112 in school dormitories), Kilis (14,099 – including 1,957 in schools), and Sanliurfa (25,289). In addition, almost 16,000 people, or 21% of the refugees in Turkey, are temporarily accommodated in boarding schools in Kahramanmaras, Adana, Osmaniye, Malatya and Adiyaman until their transfer to the new camps under construction.
 - In light of the big increase in the number of new arrivals, the Turkish authorities are building seven new camps which, together with the existing nine camps, will bring Turkey's camp capacity to 130,000 people. Three of the new camps are expected to be ready by the end of August, while the remaining would be operational by the end of September.



FUNDING UPDATE

- On 28 June the revised Regional Response Plan for Syrian refugees was launched by 7 UN agencies and 36 NGO partners, jointly appealing for USD 193 million to help Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey. As of end July, the appeal has been funded for USD **64.3 million** or **33%** of the total needs. An updated funding overview will be issued next week.
- Since the number of Syrian refugees has already largely exceeded the end-of-the-year planning figure of the Regional Response Plan, another revision of the plan is foreseen to be issued in September as increased humanitarian support for refugees will be needed over the coming months.

OVERVIEW MAP



For queries, please contact:
 Ms. **Salma Murid Al-Kudwah**, UNHCR – Geneva, alkudwah@unhcr.org
 or
 Ms. **Eveline Wolfcarius**, UNHCR – Geneva, wolfcari@unhcr.org