

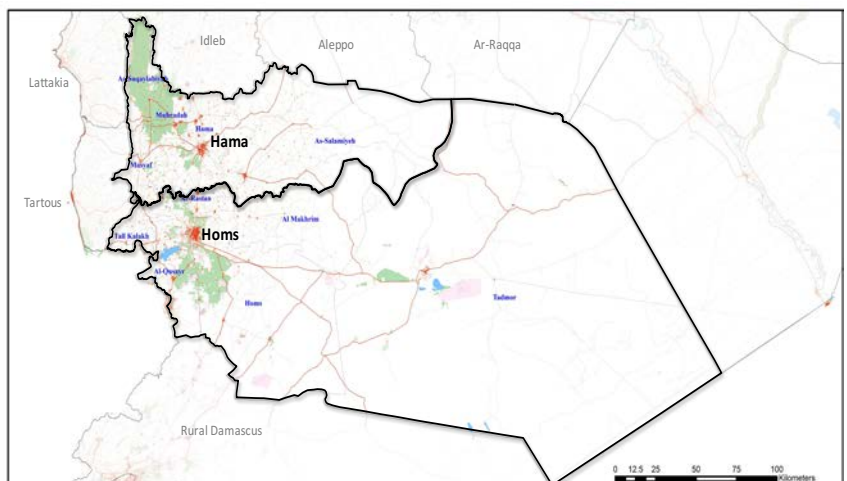
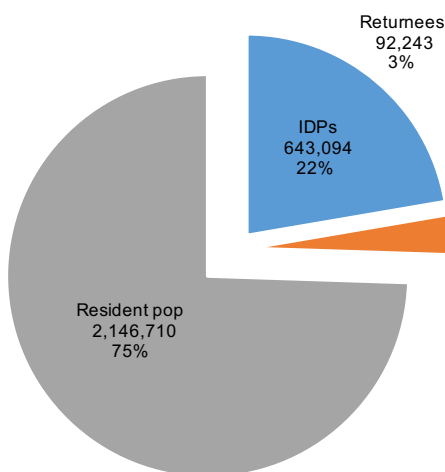
# UNHCR Syria / HOMS SO

## End of year 2017 / Factsheet

January – December 2017

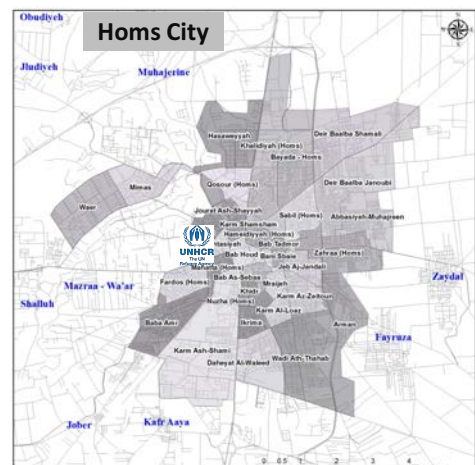
### Highlights

Population of Concern					
Governments	Number of Sub-Districts	IDPs	Returnees	Resident pop	Total pop
Hama	22	287,803	87,813	1,090,626	1,466,242
Homs	23	355,291	4,430	1,056,084	1,415,805
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>643,094</b>	<b>92,243</b>	<b>2,146,710</b>	<b>2,882,047</b>



### Presence in Homs Sub-Office

UNHCR National Staff	29
UNHCR International Staff	2
UNHCR Partners	13
UN Team in Homs	12

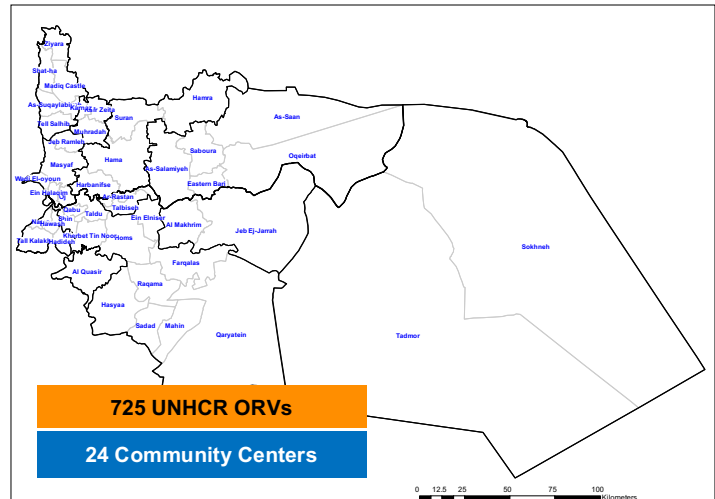


## OVERVIEW

Homs Sub-Office covers Homs and Hama Governorates situated in the country's central and western-central parts, with the former being Syria's largest governorate. Both governorates continue to have active front lines at their extremities and within their perimeters.

## ACCESSIBILITY

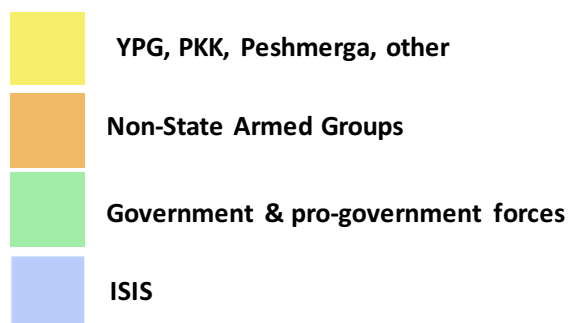
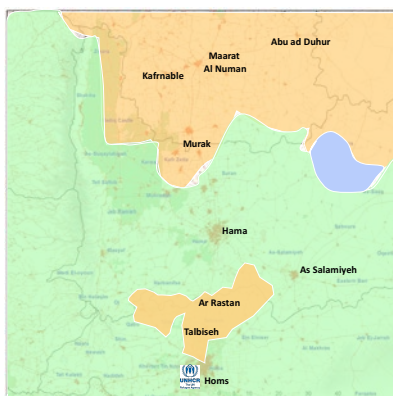
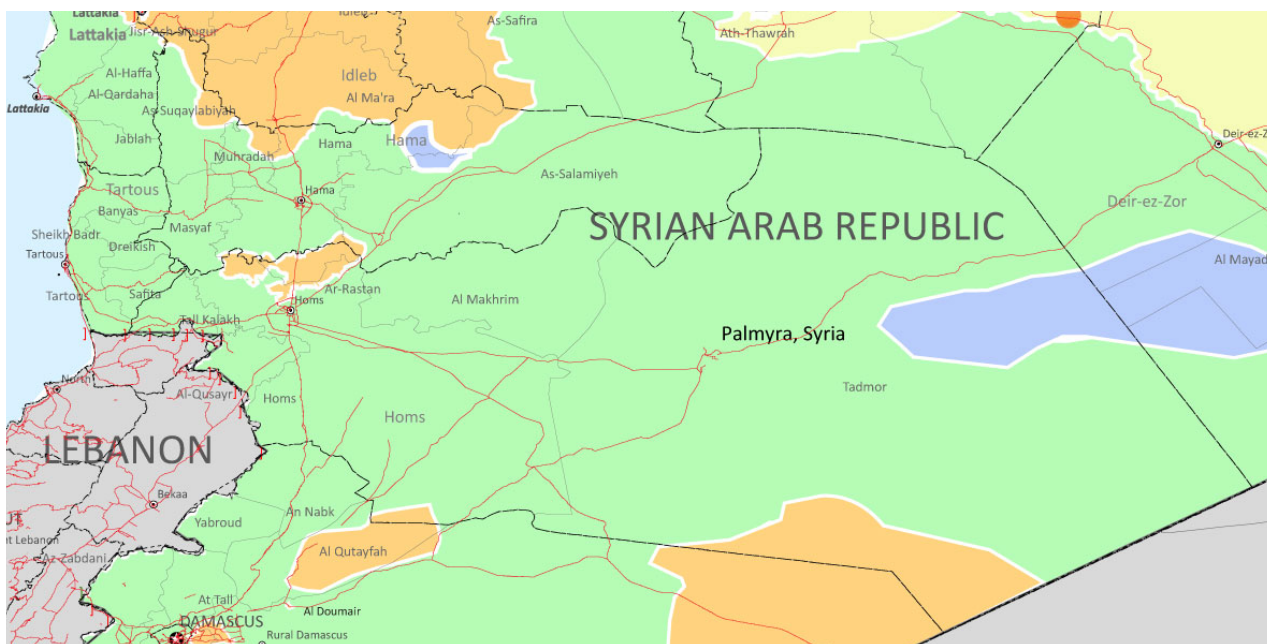
Over the past seven years, owing to fragile security and continuous armed hostilities, Hom's Sub-Office encountered challenges in gaining access to 11 districts of the two governorates. Since the beginning of 2017, major developments have taken place on both military and political fronts, that allowed greater humanitarian access to earlier off-limits locations in Homs, notably Al Qussair and Al Quaryatein among others, and north rural Hama. Meanwhile the districts of Tadmur and Arrastan in Homs Governorate remained hard-to-reach, implying occasional humanitarian access through inter-agency convoys of which UNHCR assumed a principal and a leading role.



Governorate	District	Who Has the Greatest Control Over the District	Accessibility Status	Newly Accessible Areas in 2017
Homs	Homs city	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	Al Wa'er Neighbourhood
	Al Qussair	Government of Syria (GOS)	Newly-accessible	-
	Mukharram	Government of Syria (GOS)	Newly-accessible	-
	Tal Kalakh	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	-
	Tadmur	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	Specific areas need governor's approval i.e., AlSukhneh (eastern)
	Arrastan (including other Northern Rural Homs)	Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs)_	Hard-To-Reach (HTR)	-
Hama	Hama	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	Souran, Taibat Allmam, Ma'ardis (Northern Rural Hama)
	Al-Suqaylabiyah	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	-
	Masyaf	Government of Syria	Accessible	-
	Muhardeh	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	-
	Salamiyah	Government of Syria (GOS)	Accessible	-

## SECURITY

- In 2017, the general security situation improved in some areas in both governorates, allowing an increased humanitarian access for UNHCR and other actors.
- In March 2017, a final agreement was reached by GoS and NSAGs to evacuate all fighters from Al Wa'er district in Homs city. The evacuation was completed in May 2017 and the district returned to the full control of GoS. Meanwhile, the GoS continued its military operations against NSAGs in other areas of Homs and Hama governorates. A number of areas northeast of Hama were recovered by the Syrian army, and became accessible for humanitarian actors to engage in identification of needs and respond to them. Similarly, in Homs eastern countryside, NSAGs were driven out of Al Quarryatein town, and the latter became accessible for UNHCR and other humanitarian actors. Also in northern Hama, the towns/villages of Souran, Ma'ardes, and Taibat Al Imam became accessible and are currently benefitting from the need-based humanitarian response by UNHCR and other humanitarian actors.
- In 2017, UNHCR led several Inter-Agency missions to the NSAGs-controlled areas of the northern rural Homs, and contributed to the humanitarian response through the provision of NFIs and shelter materials, in addition to conducting protection and shelter assessments in Arrastan, Talbisa, AlHoula, and Addar AlKabira.



## MAIN ACTIVITIES



### Protection:

- Improved security allowed Homs Sub-Office to expand its protection, community-based initiatives and other activities to earlier inaccessible hard-to-reach areas and areas of return in the rural parts of Homs and Hama. To this end, 799,926 individuals, including 618,243 in Homs and 181,683 in Hama protection interventions in 2017 was.
- UNHCR, in coordination with SARC legal team and the Civil Affairs department, deployed mobile teams to provide documentation-related services to Al Wa'er population during the besiegement of the area and after the evacuation of the NSAGs in 2017. The area was besieged from 2012 to 2017 and the GoS regained control over it pursuant to a truce agreement signed in April 2017.
- UNHCR continued to lead the protection sector response in Homs and Hama. To this end, in 2017, the Office led and/or participated in 18 Inter-Agency Cross line convoys to Arrastan, Talbisa, Adar Al Kabira and Al Houla, in addition to leading the coordination with local authorities on issues pertaining to civil status documentation and HLP issues.
- Homs SO engaged with the Civil Affairs Administration on the issue of documentation in Homs and Hama Governorates. The provided services included support/facilitation of issuance of national ID cards, birth registration and documents and affidavits, etc. To this end, 4,982 Persons of Concern (PoCs) in Homs and 5,707 in Hama received legal counselling; 29,416 beneficiaries in Homs and 26,514 in Hama benefitted from legal awareness sessions; 1,489 PoCs in Homs and 3,157 in Hama benefitted from legal interventions. These services have been provided by SARC and DRC legal aid teams consisting of 10 lawyers in Homs and seven in Hama, in addition to six legal ORVs.
- UNHCR implementing partners, GOPA, PUI, Al Birr, Child Care Society, SSSD, the Syria Trust, Aoun and Social Care Society are providing community services in Homs and Hama. In 2017, nine new community centres were established, which brought about the total number of community centres in Homs and Hama Governorates to 24, in addition to one Satellite centre in Al-Suqaylabiyah. The main services being provided by the community centres are Vocational Trainings, Counselling, Psychosocial Support (PSS), Educational Remedial Classes, Community Mobilization Services, SGBV and CP.
- In addition, 15 Mobile teams (10 in Homs and 5 in Hama), currently working with different partners, continue to provide awareness sessions, CP activities and PSS. The teams are established to conduct protection activities in areas out of the community centres coverage.
- In 2017, UNHCR provided support to persons of concern with specific needs, including PoCs with disabilities (2,481 individuals in Homs and 846 individuals in Hama), Psychosocial Support (8,237 individuals in Homs and 6,298 individuals in Hama), Soft Psychosocial Support (127,117 individuals in Homs and 59,642 individuals in Hama) and General In Kind Assistance (GIKA) and Medical In Kind Assistance (MIKA) (17,169 individuals in Homs and 885 individuals in Hama).
- UNHCR supported opportunities for community self-management, including community self-management structures that were strengthened and expanded by the Community-Based Organization (two in Homs and two in Hama) and community groups supported by Community-Based Initiatives (67 in Homs and 38 in Hama). Besides, UNHCR, through implementing partners, supported community leadership and decision-making (478 outreach volunteers in Homs and 247 in Hama).

- UNHCR continues to provide different types of services, including assessment and analysis aiming to mitigate protection risks, covering 2,248 cases in Homs and 1,771 in Hama. Moreover, UNHCR, together with its partners, provided child protection awareness sessions to 2,011 individuals in Homs and 1,451 individuals. Also SGBV awareness sessions were conducted for 33,469 individuals in Homs and 18,232 individuals in Hama.



## NFI:

In 2017, UNHCR Homs SO, along with its partners, distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) to 141,659 families/ 709,326 individuals including:

- Distribution of regular CRIs to 49,184 families/ 245,920 individuals in 28 locations in Homs and 15 locations in Hama during 2017.
- Response with CRIs to seven emergency situations, including new displacement and returns, in addition to provision of customized CRI packages for students who came from Ar-Raqqa to Homs and Hama to sit for their exams. A total of 13,550 families/ 78,606 individuals benefited from emergency CRIs distribution during 2017.
- Leading 18 inter-agency convoys to hard-to-reach areas, targeting 39,900 families/199,500 individuals in four areas in Homs and two in Hama.
- 41,125 families/ 195,800 individuals benefitted from the winterization programme between September 2017 and end January 2018. Winter items include high thermal blankets, winter clothing kits, additional plastic sheets, carpets and sleeping bags.



## Livelihood:

- **Dignity toolkits:** In 2017, UNHCR SO Homs distributed livelihood toolkits, including carpenter, plumbing, electrical, sewing, blacksmith and painting toolkits, improving the lives of 2,600 families/13,000 individuals in Homs and Hama Governorates.
- **Start-up-Small-Business-Grants:** UNHCR SO Homs approved 393 grants (269 in Homs and 124 in Hama).
- **Entrepreneurship/business training:** A total of 828 individuals benefited from UNHCR entrepreneurship and business training (310 in Hama and 518 in Homs).
- **Vocational training:** 4,513 individuals benefited from vocational training provided by UNHCR through its community centres in Homs and Hama governorates (3,581 individuals in Homs and 932 individuals in Hama).
- In addition, UNHCR SO Homs, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAP), distributed 450 poultry cages and related items, reaching 2,700 individuals in rural Homs and Hama Governorates.



## Shelter:

- In 2017, UNHCR Homs, in partnership with local NGOs and international partners, completed the rehabilitation of 2,314 apartments in areas of return, benefiting 2,875 families/13,410 individuals. Shelter interventions covered areas in Homs city, including Al Bayyadah, Bab Edderaib, Bab ElSebaa', Mreijeh, Bab Etturkman, Jourit AISHayyah, Bab Houd, Al Khaldyieh, Al Hamedieh, Baba Amr, Bab Tadmur, Bani ElSebaee, Jamal Eddeen, Al Naziheen, Karm Al Zaytoun, Jub Al Jandaly, Al Qusour, and Atta'menat. In rural Hama, interventions targeted Ma'ardes town.
- As an emergency response for internally displaced and returnee families whose houses were destructed, UNHCR SO Homs worked in partnership with the Child Care Society on the rehabilitation and preparation of two private shelters in the old city of Homs (Bab Houd and Al Hamedieh) accommodating 100 families/499 individuals. In Hama Governorate, UNHCR SO Homs in partnership with its partner

SIF, assisted in the rehabilitation of seven public buildings serving as collective shelters, including five schools, providing shelter for 338 families/1,728 individuals.

- As part of SO Homs shelter response for winterization, UNHCR, in coordination with its partners, distributed and installed 1,100 shelter kits, benefitting 1,262 families in Homs and Hama governorates, notably in the neighbourhoods of the old city of Homs, Baba Amr, Maskana, Al Manzoul, Al Zuhourya, Al Shallal, Al Naziheen among others.
- As an emergency response for newly-returnee families in the northern rural Hama, UNHCR, with its partner SCS, distributed and installed 600 shelter kits including winterization items for 1,145 families mainly in Souran, Taibat Al Imam and Ma'ardis.
- The total number of beneficiaries reached with shelter interventions in 2017 was 6,083 families/ 29,762 individuals.



## Health:

- During 2017, 164,754 individuals benefited from primary health care services (14,274 in Homs and 164,754 in Hama).
- Support to PoCs with additional critical health needs is carried through partners, health centres and ORVs. Such services include additional investigations and medical or surgical interventions.
- Emergency referral services: In 2017, 3,316 (393 Homs/ 2,923 Hama) individuals benefited from secondary/tertiary health care.

## Education:

- UNHCR continued to provide support to education sector, through its community centres.
- In 2017, UNHCR provided support to 21,603 students enrolled in Accelerated Learning Programs (ALP) in Homs governorate and 10,461 students in Hama governorate.
- UNHCR provided light rehabilitation to two schools, Rajab Fadel Al Fadel in Atta'aminat neighbourhood and Al Eskandarona in Al Bayadda neighbourhood, both in Homs city.
- UNHCR supported the capacity building of teachers through partners. During 2017, 360 teachers received supplementary training (195 in Homs and 165 in Hama).

## Refugees & Asylum Seekers By the Country of Origin

Country	Refugees	Asylum seeker
Iraq	411	2
Others	30	39
Total	441	41

### UNHCR Partners in SO

Syrian Society of Social Development (SSSD) | Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) | Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East (GOPA) | Secours Islamique France (SIF) | Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) | The Syria Trust (ST) | Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) | (The Islamic Charitable Society in Homs - Aoun Project for Relief and Development) | Danish Refugee Council (DRC) | Ministry of Local Administration | Social Care Society | Al Birr Association | Child Care Society (CCS).

### UN Team in SO

UNHCR | OCHA | UNICEF | UNRWA | WHO | UNDP | UNFPA | WFP | IOM | Un-HABITAT | FAO | UNDSS

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