

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

VASYR 2017



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- WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide.
- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a global organisation dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people.
- UNICEF is a leading humanitarian and development agency working globally for the rights of every child.

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ACRONYMS

ENA	Emergency Nutrition Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCS	Food Consumption Score
GSO	General Security Office
HDADD	Household Daily Average Diet Diversity
HH	Household
HWDD	Household Weekly Diet Diversity
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Basket
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SMEB	Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
Vit A	Vitamin A
VASyR	Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

VASYR 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **2017 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon** (VASyR) is the fifth annual survey assessing the situation of a representative sample of registered Syrian refugee households to identify situational changes and trends. With over one million registered refugees within its borders, Lebanon hosts the second-largest population of Syrian refugees in the region, and the highest per capita population of refugees in the world. Since the first assessment in 2013, the VASyR has been an essential tool for partnership and for shaping planning decisions and programme design. It is the cornerstone for support and intervention in Lebanon.

In January 2015, the Government of Lebanon established restrictive border policies, followed by a freeze on registering refugees. Given these limitations, the number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon has dropped slightly, from 1.017 million in 2016 to 1.001 million in 2017.

The conflict in Syria has exacerbated pre-existing development constraints in Lebanon, and the current level of humanitarian assistance is just keeping refugees afloat. In 2017, the funding required to provide adequate support to Syrian refugees in Lebanon was estimated at US\$ 2.035 billion. As of 13 October 2017, those needs were only 30% funded. Insufficient funding is threatening food assistance, health care and access to safe water, as well as constraining the ability to support vulnerable localities in the prevention and management of tensions between host communities and refugees.

The contents of this report, jointly issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP), demonstrate that economic vulnerability has worsened, with more than half of refugees living in extreme poverty, and that food insecurity rates are stable, but remain high.

Important successes, however, have been achieved over the past year. Cash programmes have scaled up, a Common Card cash system has been put into place, significant strides were made in primary school education, and targeting has improved the ability to identify and support the most vulnerable refugee households in Lebanon. Refined targeting, improved livelihood opportunities and a significant injection of funding will all be essential in order to build on these successes.

Priorities

- Continued access to safety and non-refoulement
- Civil status documentation
- Ensuring food security
- Addressing economic vulnerability
- Safeguarding children's well-being (education, health and protection)

KEY FINDINGS

Challenges in Civil Documentation

The lack of legal residency leaves refugees exposed to an increased risk of arrest, hinders their ability to register their marriages and births, and makes it difficult for them to work, send their children to school or access health care. Only 19% of households reported that all members were granted legal residency by the Directorate of General Security, a continued decline from 58% in 2014, 28% in 2015 and 21% in 2016. Less than half of households (45%) had at least one member with legal residency, while the share of households where none of the members had legal residency increased considerably, from 20% in 2015, to 29% in 2016 and 55% in 2017. Overall, 74% of surveyed Syrian refugees aged 15 and above did not have legal residency. The US\$ 200 renewal fee was cited as the largest barrier. An announcement from the General Security Office in February/March 2017 issued a waiver of the fee for a subset of the population, the impact of which should be clearer in the next year's VASyR survey.

Complete registration of births was another challenge for refugee households. Correct documentation establishes the existence of the child under the law, and failing to fully register a birth can have negative and long-lasting consequences on the life of a child. Registering the birth of a Syrian refugee child is a four-step process in Lebanon, which only 17% of parents manage to complete.

Poverty Persists

Syrian refugees in Lebanon are spending less every year, reporting per capita monthly expenditures of US\$ 98, a drop of US\$ 6 compared to 2016 and US\$ 9 since 2015. This is a sign that households have fewer resources. Three quarters of Syrian refugee households had expenditures below the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), unable to meet basic needs of food, health, shelter and education. Even more worrying, 58% of households had a per capita expenditure below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB), meaning they were living in extreme poverty, unable to meet survival needs—an increase of five percentage points over 2016. Similarly, the proportion of households living below the poverty line has continued to increase, reaching 76% of refugee households in 2017.

Incurring debt in order to buy food, cover health expenses and pay for rent remained extremely common, with 87% of refugees reporting having borrowed money. On average, 77% of Syrian refugee households reported having experienced a lack of food or lack of money to buy food during the 30 days prior to the survey. Although high, these figures reveal improvements over 2016, when 91% reported borrowing money and 88% reported experiencing a lack of food or money to buy food. Two thirds of Syrian refugees have continued to adopt crisis and emergency coping strategies, such as selling household goods, productive assets and housing or land, or withdrawing children from school. This was a significant reduction from 2016, when three quarters were adopting such strategies. It may reflect households' ability to cope using less severe strategies—such as spending savings, selling goods, buying on credit and going into debt—or it could also mean that some households have already exhausted these strategies. Alarming, the adoption of food-related coping strategies was nearly universal, with 96% of Syrian refugee households reporting having adopted them in the week prior to the survey.

Access to basic household assets, such as mattresses, blankets, winter clothes and gas stoves declined, with just half of Syrian refugee households reporting access to all four basic assets. On average, households had access to three of the four basic household assets, with the lowest ownership rates for winter clothing. Only 3.1% of households reported ownership of all six medium assets (water heater, bed, table, sofa, fridge and washing machine).

Methodology

Between 9 and 24 May 2017, the survey team visited 4,966 Syrian refugee households randomly selected from 26 districts across Lebanon.

The population was stratified by district to allow district and governorate level analysis. The household questionnaire was designed based on the questionnaire of the previous year to ensure comparability. The analysis was done following agencies' corporate guidance and global indicators.

Livelihood opportunities offer a way out of poverty. The labour force (those aged 15-64 and employed plus those not working but seeking work) represented 68% of working-age men and 10% of working-age women. An estimated 56% of male individuals aged 15-64 were working in the 30 days prior to the survey, and 7.6% of women. This left an unemployment gap of 12.7% for men and 2.7% for women. Both men and women cited the need to take care of children and adults in the household, and the lack of skills and/or experience, as reasons for not working, meaning that there are likely more individuals who would seek employment if it were feasible to overcome the cited barriers.

While 36% of households did not have any working member in the 30 days prior to the survey, 53% of households had one working member, and 11% of the households had two or more working members. Syrians were traditionally engaged in the construction sector and as seasonal agricultural workers before the crisis. Along with the environment, these are the sectors in which displaced Syrians are legally permitted to work. Employed men were mainly involved in construction (33%), agriculture activities (22%) and services (16%), while employed women were mainly involved in agriculture (55%) followed by services (24%). On average, 15% of households were involved in agricultural livelihood activities, and agriculture was reported as the first source of income in 9% of households.

Limitations on access to the labour market and the consequent lack of income opportunities have made it difficult for refugees to meet basic needs without external assistance. WFP assistance was the primary source of income for 28% of refugee households, while borrowing and credit (incurring debt) was the primary source for 16% of households. Looking at the aggregation of households' three main sources of income, informal credit and debt were utilized most frequently (62%), followed by WFP assistance (40%).

Food Insecurity

Food security and economic vulnerability are inextricably linked. Without economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, food security cannot exist. As poverty has persisted among the Syrian refugee population in Lebanon, so has food insecurity.

The 2017 VASyR revealed an increase of two percentage points in food secure households compared to 2016. However, 91% of Syrian refugee households remain food insecure to some degree, and the share of households classified as moderately and severely food insecure grew from 36% to 38%. Limited access to economic resources remained one of the main constraints on Syrian refugee households, limiting both their access to food and the possibility of finding and sustaining livelihoods.

There was an increase since 2016 in the share of households reporting acceptable food consumption without the use of food coping strategies (from 7% in 2016 to 9% in 2017), as well as slight increases in the number of meals consumed per day by adults (2.1) and children under five (2.4). These figures belie, however, a deterioration in food consumption. Well over one third of Syrian refugee households reported borderline to poor food consumption (38% in 2017, an increase of six percentage points over 2016), shrinking the proportion of households that had acceptable food consumption with the use of food-related coping strategies. Dietary diversity also deteriorated: 21% of households reported low dietary diversity (compared to 14% in 2016) and only 18% reported high dietary diversity (compared to 23% in 2016). Infant and young child feeding practices also worsened, with declines in the share of exclusively breastfed infants under the age of six months, and both insufficient complementary feedings and a significant worsening of dietary diversity for children aged 6-23 months.

The Safety Net of Assistance

Economically vulnerable Syrian refugees continued to receive cash assistance and other types of assistance, including household items, education, subsidized healthcare and shelter assistance. Seventy-one per cent of the sampled population received some form of assistance in the three months prior to the survey.

Food assistance delivered by WFP through a common cash card makes up the largest proportion of assistance to Syrian refugees. The level of assistance was maintained at US\$ 27 per person per month, and in May 2017, WFP provided food assistance to 692,451 Syrian refugees—an increase of over 14,000 refugees compared to June 2016. Multi-purpose cash aims to assist the most socioeconomically vulnerable households in meeting their basic needs by allowing

households to determine their own purchasing choices. In May 2017, 29,581 Syrian refugee households were receiving multi-purpose cash from UNHCR, and other cash actors were providing multi-purpose cash assistance to an additional 17,874 households.

Just over one third of surveyed households reported receiving seasonal cash assistance during the past winter cycle. Seventy-two per cent of children and youth aged 5-24 currently attending school received some type of school-related support in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Strides in Education

Significant strides were made in school enrolment for children aged 6-14. At a national level, 70% of children aged 6-14 were enrolled in school, compared to 52% in 2016. There was notable regional disparity in enrolment, with rates ranging from 78% in Akkar and Nabatieh, to 59% in the Bekaa. The latter is, however, nearly double the 2016 enrolment rate in the Bekaa.

While enrolment saw important gains, completion remained a challenge. Just 12% of adolescents aged 17-19 reported having completed grade nine. Boys were less likely to be in secondary school than girls, with a gender parity rate around 1.5 for students aged 12-17. Refugees continue to cite the “cost of education” as the biggest barrier, which can include the costs of transportation, supplies and clothing.

Children at Risk

The VASyR reveals the vulnerability of children during a crisis. Child labour remains a concern, with 4.8% of Syrian refugee children aged 5 to 17 reporting working, roughly the same as in 2016. Violent discipline was also a concern, a problem which is often exacerbated in households subjected to the stress of economic vulnerability and instability. As reported by the head of household, 78% of children under 18 were subjected to violent discipline (physical and/or psychological), including yelling and shouting (54%), spanking (31%), slapping the child on the hand, arm or leg (28%), or face (12%), shaking the child (19%), hitting the body with something (8.2%) or beating him or her (1.7%).

Child marriage, defined as a formal marriage or informal union before age 18, was a reality for both boys and girls, although girls were disproportionately affected. One in five girls aged 15 to 19 were married, and of those, 18% were married/in union with spouses ten or more years older than them.

Children with disabilities comprised 2.3% of the refugee population, and they are among the most marginalized groups in Lebanon. Children with disabilities are less likely to be enrolled in school, and they face risks of physical violence, both outside and inside the home.

As noted earlier, children are also made vulnerable by a lack of documentation, and only 17% of parents are managing to complete the four-step process to register the birth of a Syrian refugee child in Lebanon.

Vulnerable Women

Data analysis revealed the vulnerability of households headed by women across all indicators. As in previous years, for nearly every indicator of vulnerability, female-headed households fared worse than their male counterparts. Female-headed households were less food secure, had worse diets, adopted severe coping strategies more often and had higher poverty levels. Female-headed households were almost twice as likely as male-headed households to live in informal settlements, and were less likely to have legal residency. In addition, the monthly income for working women was only US\$ 159, compared to US\$ 206 for men, despite being employed for nearly the same number of working days (13 for women and 14 for men).

Stability in Health, Shelter and WASH

Health care indicators were stable both in terms of need and access. Most refugees (89%) were able to access primary health care services, as well as secondary and tertiary care when needed (80%). Although only a small share of households (2.5%) reported requiring mental health care for one or more household members, more than 60% of individuals that needed it were able to access it.


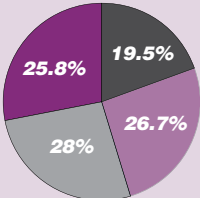





The VASyR results revealed no major changes in the types of shelter over the past year. Seventy-three per cent of households lived in residential buildings – either regular apartments/houses or in concierge rooms – while 9% lived in non-residential structures, such as worksites, garages, farms and shops. Seventeen per cent occupied improvised shelters in informal tented settlements. What has changed, however, is the conditions of those shelters, which were worsening. Of the surveyed households, 53% (compared to 42% in 2016) resided in dwellings that were overcrowded, had dangerous structural conditions, and/or urgently needed repairs. As might be expected, both vulnerability and poor housing conditions were more common for those in informal settlements and non-residential housing.

United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provided improved water sources to Syrian refugees, and 78% of surveyed individuals reported access to improved drinking water sources. Similar to 2016, 86% of household members reported access to improved sanitation facilities, namely flush toilets (56%) and improved pit latrines (30%).

Geographic Disparity

Geographic disaggregation of data is an important part of the vulnerability assessment. Some sectors have been evaluated at the governorate level, while others have been disaggregated to the district level for added clarity. At both levels, significant inequalities were revealed, and understanding these disparities is key to refined targeting of programmes.

AT A GLANCE

<p>1,001,051 registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon (June 2017)</p>  	 <p>36% no working HH member</p> <p>53% one working HH member</p> <p>11% two working HH members</p>
<p>US\$ 2.035 billion in estimated needs of which 30% was funded</p> 	<p>692,451 Syrian refugees were provided food assistance by WFP (May 2017)</p> 
<p>19% of households are headed by females</p> 	<p>66% of households had at least one member with a specific need</p> 

Recommendations

There have been important successes and efficiencies in support of Syrian refugees in Lebanon over the past year. The situation, however, remains highly precarious, and inadequate funding puts refugees at risk. Maintenance of a robust response with well-targeted and carefully planned programmes is essential to providing Syrian refugees with the support they need for survival and well-being.

- Ensuring that refugees are able to renew their **legal residency** and to access employment will facilitate self-reliance for refugees. Policies, measures and programmes oriented towards allowing refugees to generate income while protecting the Lebanese labour market and mitigating potential tensions with the host community are recommended.
- **Food security** in Lebanon remains a serious concern. Meeting the funding requirements is crucial to ensure and maintain food security for all Syrian refugees in Lebanon.
- Significant variations in household profiles were found at the **district** and **governorate** levels, and targeting accordingly is essential to ensuring the most efficient use of funding. Systems to identify and recognize these pockets will ensure an appropriate and fair level of assistance to vulnerable households.
- Building on the success of **primary school enrolment**, programmes to support pre-primary and secondary education, as well as education and skills training for out-of-school youth, can improve children's long-term well-being. In addition to combating poverty, education is also a tool for tackling the disempowerment and dissatisfaction that often lead youth to violence.
- **Women** in general, and female-headed households in particular, require additional support. This may include additional cash assistance, and/or programmes that protect women from different types of abuse, harassment and violence and support their access to livelihoods and their capacity for employment within the legal framework of the country.
- Ongoing refinement of **targeting** to identify the households which are most economically vulnerable and most food insecure will help ensure that a harmonized package of assistance reaches those who are most in need. Inclusion in assistance programmes and discontinuation of benefits should both be accompanied by messaging, communication and advocacy efforts.

INTRODUCTION

Now in its seventh year, the Syrian conflict has caused one of the largest displacements of people in the world, with an estimated 5.5 million Syrians displaced from their homes. As of June 2017, just over one million Syrian refugees were officially registered with UNHCR in Lebanon: the second largest population of Syrian refugees in the region and the highest per capita population of refugees in the world.

Updated and accurate information about the situation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon is vital for effective programme planning and intervention design. Since its inception in 2013, the Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) has provided this information to inform humanitarian actors of the trends in vulnerability of Syrian refugees in Lebanon at a national, governorate and district level.

The efforts of the Government of Lebanon and the international community have been critical in keeping refugees afloat, and there have been significant achievements in education, and stabilization of the situation for refugees in terms of health, sanitation and shelter. There has also been a worsening in the situation of the Syrian refugee population in other areas, with poverty rates increasing, and food consumption and dietary diversity deteriorating. Women and children, who constitute 80% of the refugee population, continue to be the most affected by the refugee crisis, being particularly vulnerable to exploitation and violence. A lack of civil documentation (both residency papers and birth registrations) puts households at further risk. With the conditions of many refugee families in a precarious state, the humanitarian community is challenged to prioritize assistance to families based on varying vulnerabilities. Social tensions have also emerged as a worrying factor that risk jeopardizing the fragile gains.

Findings from the VASyR are therefore used to inform the planning processes of the government (national and local), donor countries, UN agencies and NGOs. This information enables the community to refine targeting strategies and ensure assistance goes to those who need it the most. Data is collected at a multi-sectoral level including general demographics, coping strategies, economic vulnerability, livelihoods, food security, food consumption, protection, health, water, sanitation and hygiene. Sectors across the country use findings from the VASyR to enhance eligibility and targeting criteria of programmes and interventions designed for the Syrian refugee population in Lebanon.

Additionally, the VASyR allows for geographical comparisons of vulnerability and needs, which further enhance the use of the findings to target populations in need.

Objectives

The main objective of the VASyR is to provide a multi-sectoral overview and update on the situation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Specifically, the VASyR aims to:

1. Assess and update the vulnerability situation of Syrian refugees in Lebanon in comparison to the previous assessment.
2. Estimate the degree and types of vulnerability at the governorate and district levels.
3. Support targeting of the population in need.

Through a detailed analysis, the assessment describes the living conditions of this population and identifies trends through year to year comparisons. The report also draws conclusions and recommends steps forward.

The analysis for this report was carried out and led by three UN agencies. The World Food Programme (WFP) was the lead agency for analysis of economic vulnerability, livelihoods, food consumption, coping strategies, food security, and infant and young child feeding. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was the lead for the sections on demographics, protection, shelter, health, assistance and household assets. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) was the lead for the sections on WASH, education, child health and child nutrition.

METHODOLOGY

Population and sampling

In order to ensure comparability with previous VASyR assessments, a two-stage cluster sampling methodology was utilized in 2017. A total of 4,966 UNHCR-registered Syrian refugee households were surveyed.¹ The interviewed households were comprised of 24,415 individuals, out of which 4,839 were children aged five and under.

The population was stratified by district and governorate in order to obtain representative information at both geographical levels. Sample size per district was determined according to a two-stage cluster sampling methodology and per the following statistical parameters:

- 50% estimated prevalence
- $\pm 10\%$ precision
- 1.5 design effect
- 5% error
- 165 Households * (30 cluster groups in 26 districts) * (5 or 6 households per cluster) = 4,950 HH²

To ensure geographical representativeness, 30 clusters were selected per district following a random methodology proportional to refugee population size. In each cluster, five or six randomly selected households were visited.

In order to have representative information at the governorate level, additional clusters were selected in Beirut and Akkar, which are the only districts that are also governorates. All other governorates had more than one district to sample.

- Number of districts = 26
 - + 2 additional cluster samples in Beirut
 - + 2 additional cluster samples in Akkar
- = 30 cluster groups in 26 districts

To estimate the number of clusters as well as households per cluster, the following assumptions were made, following statistical and operational considerations:

- Minimum 30 clusters per cluster group
- One team per household visit
- Each day a team collected data in five to six households per cluster

Operations

In the first stage, 30 clusters³ and four replacement clusters were randomly selected per cluster group, proportional to the refugee population size. The population size per location considered for the cluster selection was the total number of registered Syrian refugees. ENA software was used for the selection of the clusters where names of locations and number of refugees were taken into consideration.

A total of 2,328 cases were not considered in the random selection. This was due to missing addresses (1,737 cases) and safety/security concerns (591 cases) (see Annex 1).

At the second stage, five to six households were randomly selected within each cluster. Replacement households within each cluster were identified. Five households were visited in odd-numbered clusters and six in even-numbered clusters, ensuring the representativeness of the sample per cluster group.

Organization of the operations was based on the following:

- 165 (households / cluster group) / 30 clusters / cluster group = 5.5 households / cluster
- One team (2 enumerators) / cluster / day = 5-6 households / day
- 2 enumerators to complete the questionnaire
- 5-6 households / day / team = 30 clusters / district * 5-6 households / cluster = 165 households / district
- 30 clusters/cluster group * 30 cluster groups = 900 clusters
- 154 enumerators and 17 supervisors to collect data

¹ As of December 2016, there were 235,024 Syrian refugee households registered with UNHCR in Lebanon.

² While 4,950 was the target, a few additional households were visited by some teams, yielding 4,966 households surveyed in total.

³ Locations: villages, towns, neighborhoods

Data collection

The data was collected between 9 and 24 May 2017. Data collection was monitored centrally by the information management unit to ensure all clusters were visited and in accordance with the plan.

Field data collection was undertaken by seven partners. Table 1 shows the operational areas of each partner:

Table 1. Operational areas by partner

Partner	Coverage Area
CARITAS	South Lebanon, North Lebanon and Akkar
Danish Refugee Council	North Lebanon
Intersos	Nabatieh
Makhzoumi Foundation	Beirut and Mount Lebanon
PU-AMI	Beirut and Mount Lebanon
SHEILD	South Lebanon and Nabatieh
World Vision International	Bekaa and Nabatieh

The data collected was registered by electronic devices using Open Data Kit (ODK) software and uploaded automatically on UNHCR's Refugee Assistance Information System (RAIS) platform.

Teams made appointments with the interviewees the day before the visit in order to reduce the risk of "preparation" by the household prior to the visit and therefore minimize bias.

Table 2. Cases in the surveyed sample

Households	4,966
Individuals	24,415
Children < 5	4,839
Children 5-17	8,432
Adults 18-65	10,808
Elders > 65	336

Questionnaire

The questionnaire included questions at the household level, for individuals and children below five. This year's questionnaire was based on the 2016 VASyR questionnaire to ensure comparability. It was designed to take approximately one hour and it covered multisectoral indicators. It included key information on household demographics, arrival profile, registration, protection, shelter, WASH, assets, health, education, security, livelihoods, expenditures, food consumption, coping strategies, debts and assistance, as well as infant and young feeding practices. A field test was conducted in advance of the survey roll-out to ensure its feasibility. The household questionnaire is available for download at: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=14685>.

Data analysis

Data was cleaned and weights were assigned to each cluster group according to the population of refugees registered in the region and country. The weighting system was used to compensate for the unequal probabilities of a household being included in the sample.

Data analysis included the following:

- Calculation of indirect indicators such as the dependency ratio, crowding index, food consumption score and coping strategies classification, among others.
- Descriptive statistics of direct and indirect indicators to provide a general characterization of the refugee population.
- Comparison of main indicators by governorate, district and gender.
- Statistical software used was SPSS 20.0 and R 3.4.0.

Limitations

Of all households called, 55% were unreachable. In most cases, this was because no one answered the phone after several attempts (24%), the family had moved to another area in Lebanon (22%), or the phone number was no longer valid (22%).

This may introduce a non-response bias towards those households with less geographical movement and/or households who were available at the time of the survey and had updated their contact information.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Household size and composition

Households were, on average, comprised of 4.9 members: 2.2 adults (age 18-65), 1.6 children aged 6 to 17, and 1.1 child aged five and under. A steady decline in average household size has been noted over the past few years. This is perhaps indicative of Syrian refugee households moving from extended family households upon arrival in Lebanon towards a more nuclear family set-up. The female to male ratio was 1.06 with no significant geographical differences, similar to the 2016 ratio of 1.05.

Forty-six percent of households consisted of four members or less — in the majority of cases, 2 parents and 2 children — while 33% of households included five to six members, and 21% of households consisted of seven members or more.

In 2016, the highest average household size was found in Baalbek-Hermel and Nabatieh (5.36 in both governorates). This year, however, the North had the largest average household size, at 5.2 members. The lowest average household size was found in Akkar (4.6 members). Average household size in Beirut increased from 3.75 members in 2016 to 4.8 members in 2017.

The share of individuals aged 25-34 ranged from 12% in Baalbek-Hermel to 21% in Kesrwane. Regional differences may be attributed to differences in livelihood opportunities across the country.

Livelihood opportunities may also account for the regional variances in single-member households. While at the national level 5% of households were comprised of a single member, at the governorate level, the share ranged from 11% in urban Beirut to just 0.6% in the more rural Baalbek-Hermel. At the district level, Jbeil also displayed a high proportion of single-member households (13%). At the national level, 68% of these single-member households consisted of males. In Beirut, this figure was higher compared to other regions, with 89% of the single-member households being male. This data seems to indicate that young men move to the central coastal districts to find work. Similar to 2016, it was noted that in Beirut the share of males in the surveyed population exceeded that of females: 52% male, compared to the national average of 48%.

There has not been much variation in the share of households headed by females: 19% in 2017, compared to 17% in 2016 and 19% in 2015. Also similar to 2016, the share of female-headed households was lowest in Beirut (7.3%) and highest in Baalbek-Hermel (32%).

The average age of the head of household was 37, compared to 38 the previous year. A small proportion of households (less than 1%) were headed by children aged 15-17 years and 4.7% were headed by individuals above the age of 60 (compared to 3% in 2016).



Figure 1. Share of households by size (number of members per household)

Around three-quarters (77%) of adults were married and 17% were single, compared to 76% and 20% in 2016. The remainder were either engaged, widowed or divorced. The percentage of minor girls in the sample that were married were as follows: 1.2% of 13- to 14-year-olds, 3% of 15-year-olds, 13.5% of 16-year-olds and 17% of 17-year-olds. Less than 1% of boys aged 13-17 were married.

As observed in previous years, the age distribution of the sample revealed a gender gap in the 20-24 and 25-29 age categories, where the share of females was higher than the share of males: 61% and 60% of these age categories respectively are female.

Looking at households with children or older adults, 29% of all households had children younger than two, 58% had children under five, 26% had children aged 12-14 years, 23% had children between the ages of 15 and 17, and 9.6 % of households reported having a member aged 60 or older.

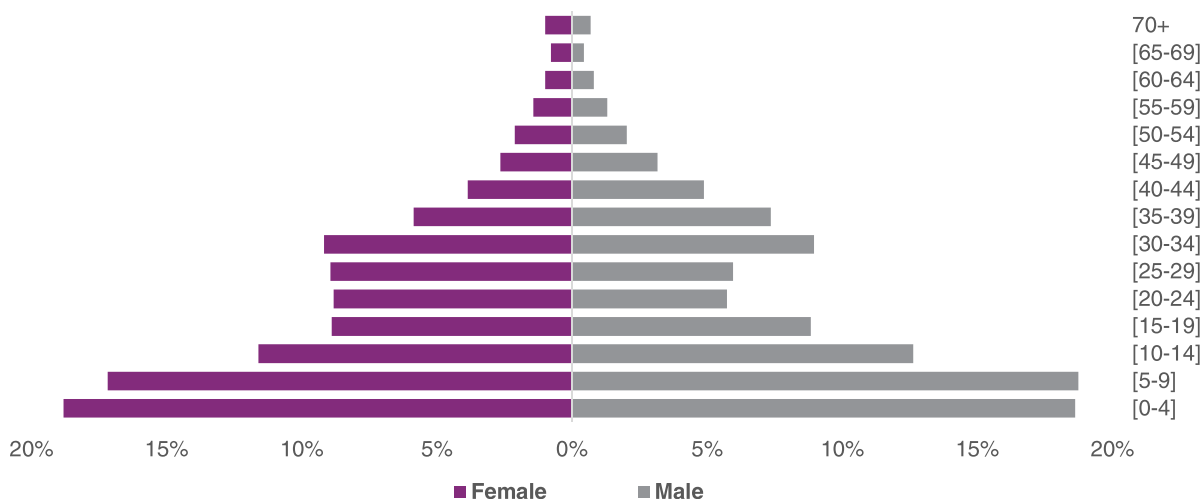


Figure 2. Age distribution by gender

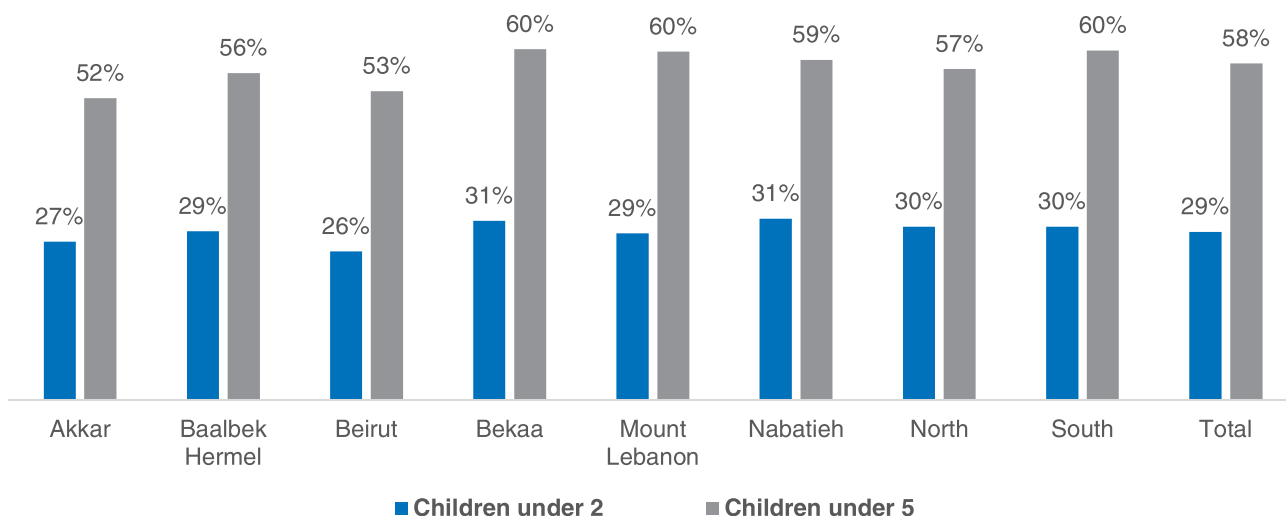


Figure 3. Share of households with young children by governorate

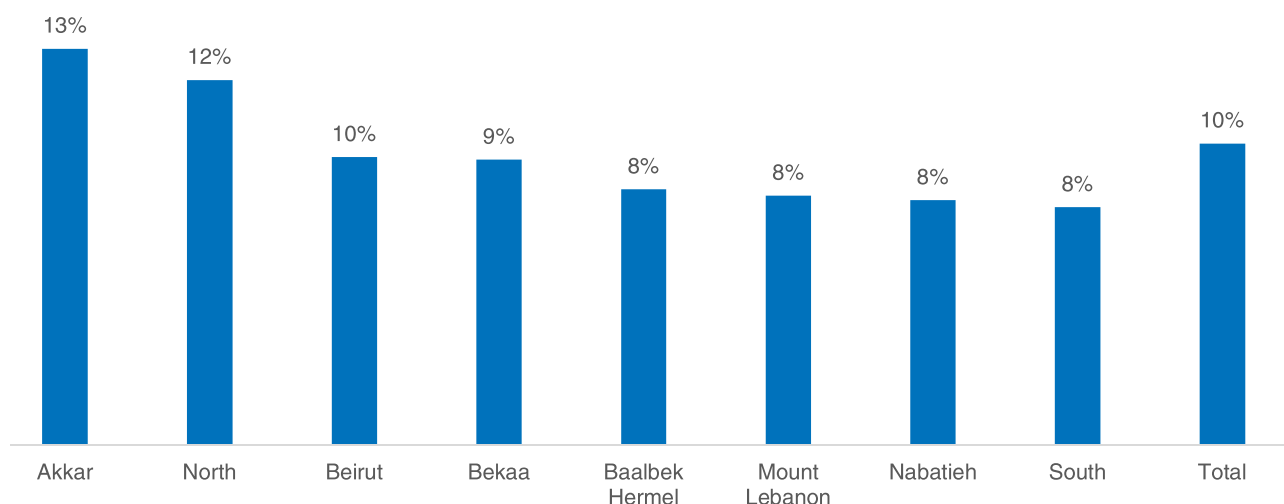


Figure 4. Share of households with older members (60 years and above) by governorate

Education levels of household heads

Female heads of household were consistently less educated than male heads of household, with 22.5% of female heads of household being illiterate, versus 8.3% of male heads of household. In 2016, illiteracy rates were 28% for female heads of household, and 12% for their male counterparts.

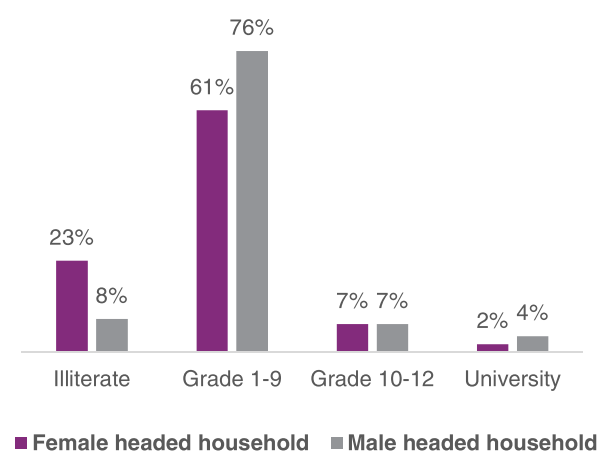


Figure 5. Education level of head of household by gender

Children

Around half of the sampled population (49%) was below 15 years of age, with 55% under the age of 18. As noted, 58% of households had a child under the age of five, and 29% had a child under the age of two.

Specific needs

For the purpose of this report, the term ‘specific needs’ refers to household members within any of the following categories: (i) physical or mental disability, (ii) chronic illness, (iii) temporary illness or injury, (iv) serious medical condition, and (v) people who need support in basic daily activities. The latter category refers to individuals aged 2+ with a specific need or aged 60+ who need assistance to use the toilet.

Sixty-six per cent of households had at least one member with a specific need, compared to 63% in 2016. The largest share of households reported having one or more members with a chronic illness, while one third of households included a member with a temporary illness. Forty-six per cent of households reported having one or more members with chronic illnesses. Fourteen per cent of households reported a member with a disability, a slight increase from 12% of households in 2016.

The North had the largest percentage of households reporting a member with a chronic illness (54%) and Beirut had the smallest (35%). Similarly, 5% of households in the North had a member with a serious medical condition, compared to 2% in both Beirut and the Bekaa.

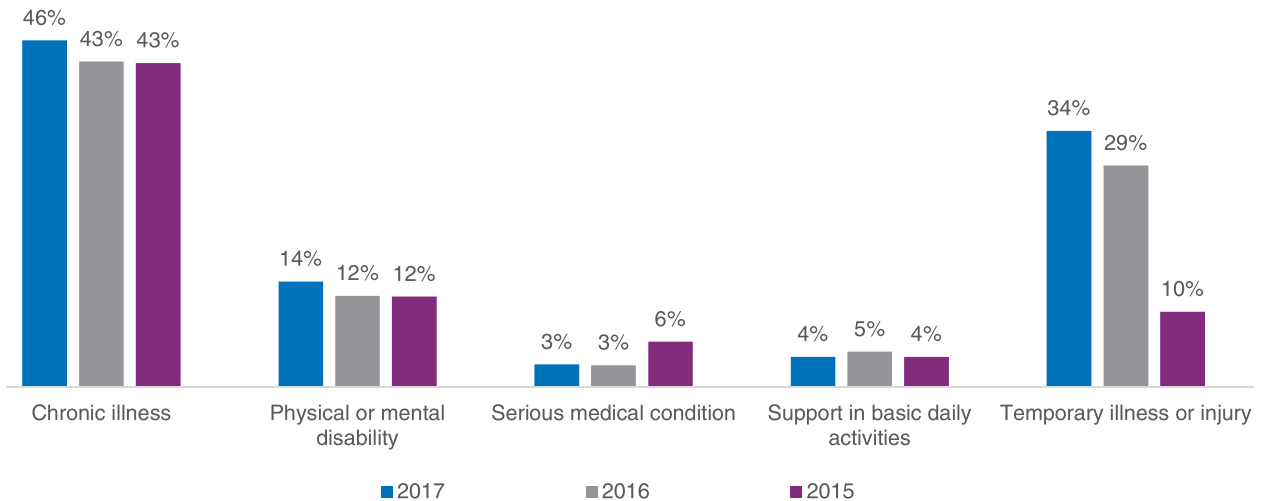


Figure 6. Households with at least one member reporting a specific need (2015-2017)

Table 3. Share of households with specific needs by governorate

	Akkar	Baalbek-Hermel	Beirut	Bekaa	Mount Lebanon	Nabatieh	North	South
Chronically ill	47%	50%	35%	46%	43%	44%	54%	39%
Serious medical conditions	2%	4%	2%	2%	3%	4%	5%	3%
Temporary illness	37%	38%	18%	33%	27%	40%	43%	40%
Disability (physical, sensorial, mental/intellectual)	16%	13%	11%	12%	14%	15%	20%	12%
Support for daily basic activities	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	1%

Refugee profile and registration status

UNHCR registration

The sample for the VASyR was drawn from a population of registered households. However, unregistered individuals were included in the sample when a registered household had an unregistered household member. At the time of this survey, 23% of households had one or more members that were not registered with UNHCR.

Seventy-three per cent of households reported that all household members arrived to Lebanon at the same time.

PROTECTION

Legal residence

Overall, 74% of surveyed Syrian refugees aged 15 and older did not have legal residency. Only one in five households (19%) reported that all members were granted legal residency by the Directorate of General Security, compared to 21% in 2016, 28% in 2015 and 58% in 2014. Slightly more female-headed households reported that all members had legal residency compared to male-headed households (20% versus 19%). The highest concentrations of households with all members holding legal residency were found in Nabatieh (32%), the South (29%) and Mount Lebanon (28%). Disaggregating by shelter type, 22% of households with all members having legal residency were living in residential homes, 14% in non-residential and 11% in informal settlements.

74%
of surveyed
Syrian refugees
aged 15 and
above did not
have legal
residency

On average, 45% of households had at least one member with legal residency. Male headed-households were more likely than female-headed households to have at least one member with legal residency: 46% compared to 39%. The highest concentrations of households with at least one member with legal residency were found in the South (59%), Nabatieh (61%) and Beirut (55%). Similar to above, higher proportions of households with at least one registered member were living in residential housing (48%).

The share of households where none of the members had legal residency increased considerably, from 20% in 2015, to 29% in 2016 to 55% in 2017. Sixty-one per cent of female-headed households had no members with legal residency, compared to 53% of male-headed households. The governorate with the highest concentration of households without any legal residency was Akkar (61%).

Legal residency varied by type of shelter as well. For households living in informal settlements, 61% had no members with legal residency, while for households in non-residential housing, 64% had no members with legal residency. This share was lowest in residential housing, where 52% had all members lacking legal residency.

For 88% of those interviewed, the reason cited for their lack of legal residency was that they could not afford the annual US\$ 200 cost of renewal. A waiver of the US\$ 200 fee was announced by the General Security Office (GSO) in February/March 2017 for Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR prior to 1 January 2015 who have not renewed under other categories. However, Syrian refugees continued to report facing challenges in renewing their residency due to inconsistencies in application by the GSO or being refused on the grounds that they were working, which may be perceived or actual. Those who do not fall within the waiver category are required to pay the US\$ 200 renewal fee for each household member aged 15 or older. Given the short time frame between the announcement of the waiver and survey implementation, the full impact of the fee waiver should be clearer by the time of the 2018 VASyR survey.

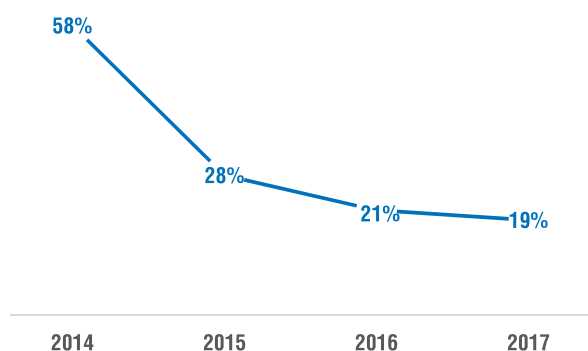


Figure 7. Households that reported having all household members with legal residency (2014-2017)

Birth registration

Among children born in Syria, 96% of the parents reported that they registered the birth of their children and had either a family booklet or an individual or family civil extract issued in Syria as proof of birth registration. This was similar to the 2016 figure of 97%.

With respect to Syrian refugee children born in Lebanon, the results varied greatly according to the different steps of the birth registration process. Syrian refugees, like all other foreigners, must complete four steps to register the birth of a baby born in Lebanon:

1. obtain a 'notification of birth' from the hospital or midwife;
2. obtain a birth certificate from the *Mukhtar*⁴;
3. register the birth with the competent local civil registry office (i.e. *Nofous*);
4. register the birth with the Foreigners' Registry.

If the birth is not registered with the *Nofous* within one year, a costly judicial procedure is required. The last step, registration with the Foreigners' Registry, required parents to present a certified proof of marriage from Syria and, until September 2017, proof of their legal stay in Lebanon, a condition that fewer and fewer refugees could meet.⁵ Two additional steps are needed to transfer records of the birth to the civil registry in Syria, i.e. registration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Syrian Embassy.

According to information reported by refugees, only 17% of families registered the birth of their children with the competent Lebanese civil registration authority, i.e. the Foreigners' Registry. The highest percentages of families who reached this step were found in the governorates of Beirut (47%), Mount Lebanon (32%), and Nabatieh (27%), while the lowest concentrations were found in Akkar (5%), Bekaa (4%) and Baalbek-Hermel (3%).

However, as shown in the graph below, higher percentages of families have completed the first two steps of the birth registration process: nearly all have obtained a notification of birth from the doctor or hospital, and three quarters have obtained a certificate from the *Mukhtar*. This documentation attests to the birth of the child, but does not constitute birth registration. As noted, if births are not registered with the *Nofous* within 12 months, a court procedure is required to ensure that the birth is registered. Just over one third of the children had their birth registered with the local civil registry office of the *Nofous*. The districts with the highest concentration of families accomplishing this step were Jezzine and Nabatieh (both at 72%), whereas the lowest concentrations were in Baalbek (9%) and Zahle (8%).

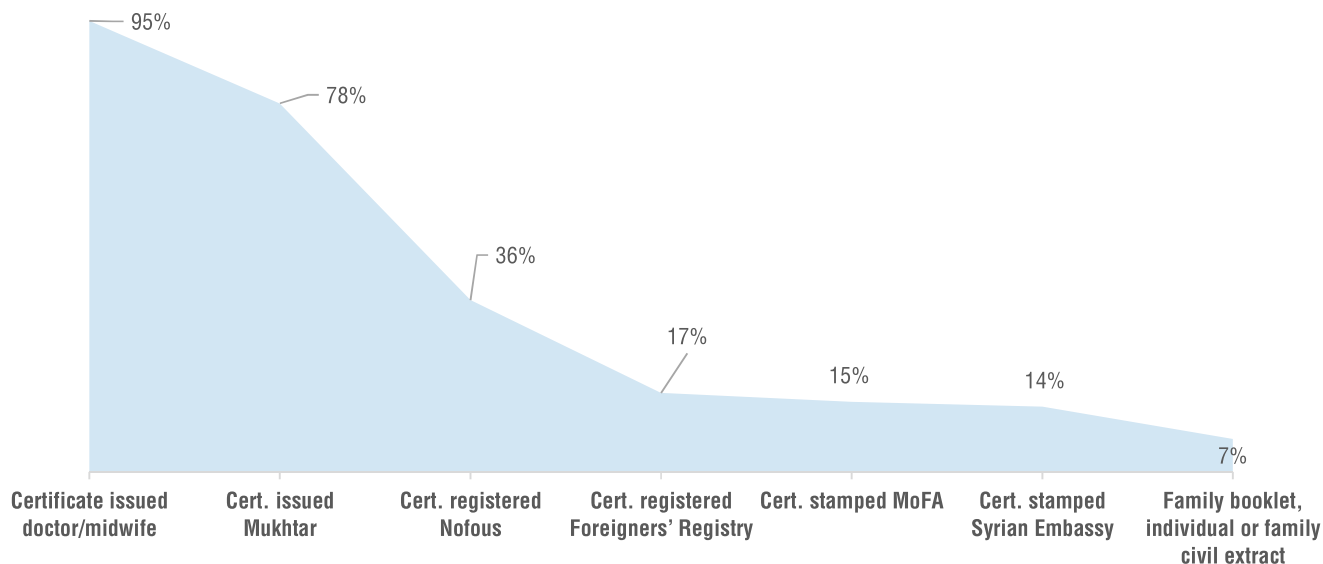


Figure 8. Households that have completed each step in birth registration for children born in Lebanon

⁴ A locally elected official responsible for confirming the identity of the parents.

⁵ As of September 2017, proof of legal residency is required for only one of the parents, not both.

Safety and security

Around 4% of households reported experiencing insecurities during the last three months, compared to 3% in 2016, with those in the North, South and Nabatieh reporting higher insecurity than those in other governorates. As in 2016, the share of female-headed households experiencing insecurities was lower than that of male-headed households (2.2% and 4.4% respectively). Among those who experienced issues related to their personal safety, refugees who resided in collective shelters were most frequently affected.

The most commonly reported form of insecurity was verbal harassment, cited by 67% of households who reported insecurities over the past three months citing it, compared to 57% in 2016. Harassment was more common in female-headed households (77%) than male-headed ones (66%). Of the female-headed households that experienced insecurities in the previous three months, 10% reported incidents of physical abuse, compared with 19% for male-headed households. Of the male-headed households experiencing insecurity in the previous three months, 13% reported being arrested.

In more than 58% of the cases, the source of insecurity was neighbors/host communities, followed by authorities (20%) and hosts/landlords (17%). This was similar to 2016, where neighbors/host communities and authorities were the most commonly cited sources of insecurity (66% and 21%). Most households described these insecurities as curtailing their freedom of movement (83% compared to 73% in 2016). There were no notable differences by gender of the household head.

Safety and security in Syria was the biggest factor cited by refugees as influencing their potential return home.

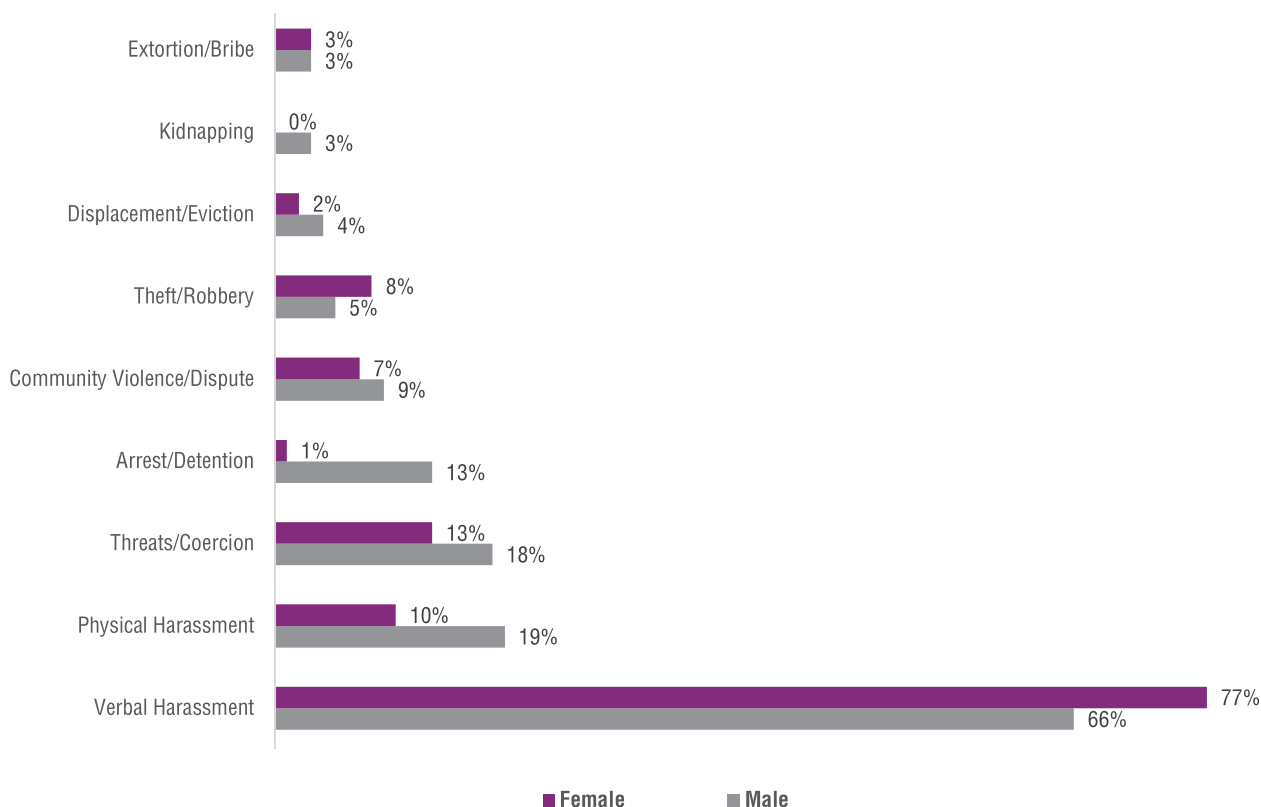


Figure 9. Form of insecurity by gender

When asked to rate the relationship between the refugees and host communities in their areas of residence, 51% of households cited neutral relations and 36% cited positive relations. Those reporting positive relationships ranged significantly geographically, from 48% and 42% in Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa to 18% in the South. Four per cent of households reported negative relationships, and only 1% reported very negative relations.

Similar to 2016, households cited competition for jobs as the most commonly perceived factor driving community tensions (47%), followed by competition for resources and services (13%) and cultural differences (12%). Forty-four per cent of households did not cite a reason for tensions. These were households that perceived community relations to be fair (71%) or reported neutral or minimal interaction with the host community (25%).

Geographic differences were observed in the share of households reporting job competition as a source of tension in the community. Fewer households in Akkar or Jbeil cited job competition as a source of tension (27% and 30% respectively), while in Bent Jbeil, Tyre, and Jezzine, 65%, 65% and 97% respectively reported it. For Bent Jbeil, this figure was the same in 2016, but in other districts, such as Jbeil and Tyre, it was an increase. There was little regional variation in how households in these districts rated relations with the host community, with the exception of Tyre, where 73% rated relations as neutral.

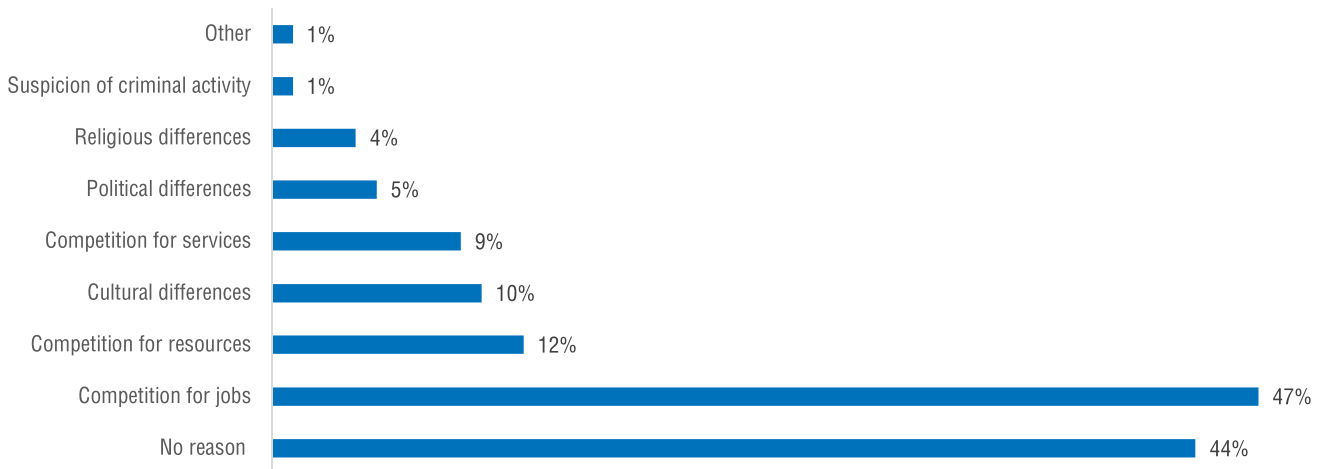


Figure 10. Perceived factors driving community tensions

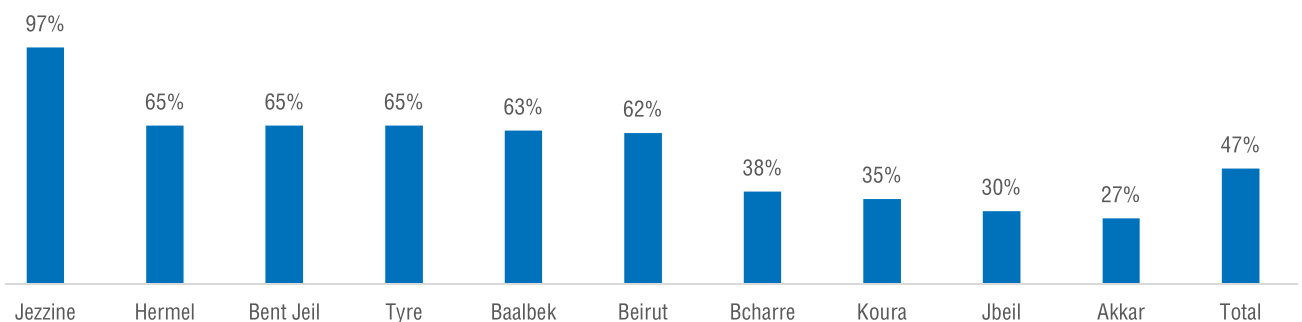


Figure 11. Households reporting competition for jobs as the driving factors behind community tensions in selected districts

Spontaneous returns and third country movements

Very few households (2%) reported having had at least one household member either returning to Syria or move to a third country.

When asked about factors that may induce them to move to a third country, households cited education opportunities in the third country (27%), respect for human rights (26%), cost of living in Lebanon (25%) and safety in the third country (23%).

The biggest factor cited by refugee households that would influence their potential return was safety and security in Syria (61%). The difficulties of meeting the high cost of living in Lebanon was also an important factor, cited by 26% of households.

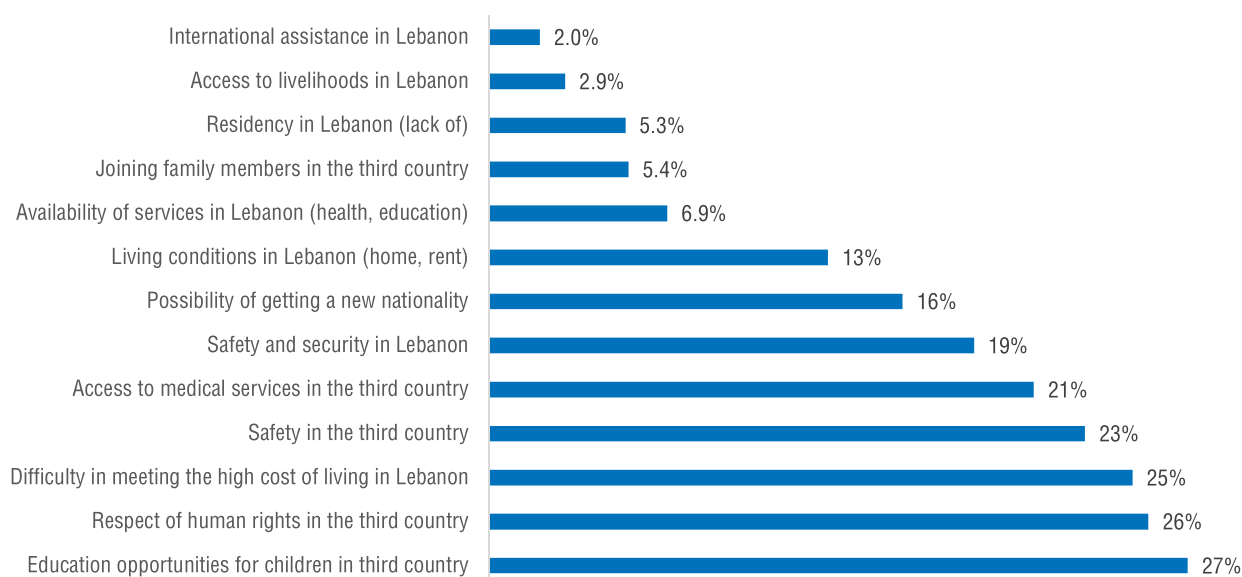


Figure 12. Factors for considering moving to a third country

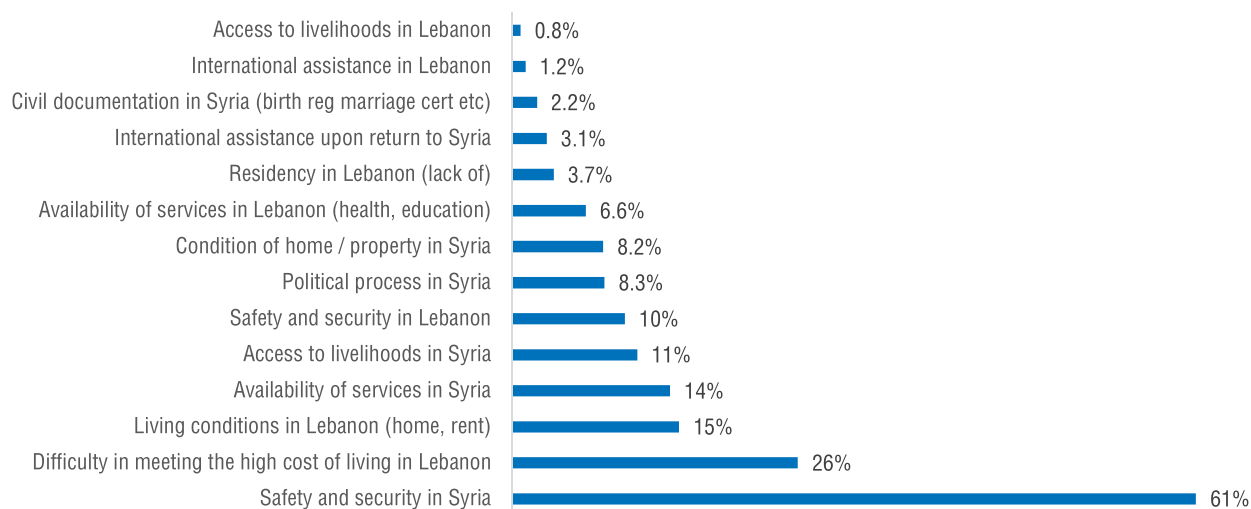


Figure 13. Factors influencing potential return to Syria

Communication and technology

Most refugee households (86%) reported receiving refugee-related information through text messaging (SMS), followed by humanitarian hotlines (13%) and neighbors and relatives (4.8%). Approximately 7% of households reported not having a source of information. Refugees were also active on social media, WhatsApp in particular, which was used by 84% of refugee households.

Nearly 80% of the sampled households reported using the internet, with 70% of them using internet daily.

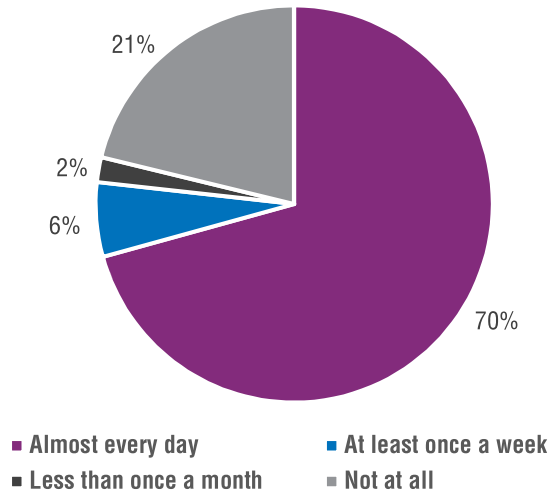


Figure 14. Distribution of households by frequency of internet use



CHILD PROTECTION

Child labour

Of Syrian refugee children aged 5 to 17, 4.8% reported working, which was essentially the same as in 2016 (5%). There was a higher percentage of child labour among boys (7.1%) than girls (2.1%). The highest child labour rate was found in the governorate of Nabatieh, where 7.4% of Syrian children reported working, and the lowest in the South, at 3.0%. Notably, 20% of children between the ages of 15 and 17 reported working (9.9% for girls and 30% for boys), compared to 2.3% for children between 5 and 14 years old (0.7% for girls and 3.8% for boys), which was again similar to 2016 (3%).

Child labour was defined as working at least one day in the previous 30 days.

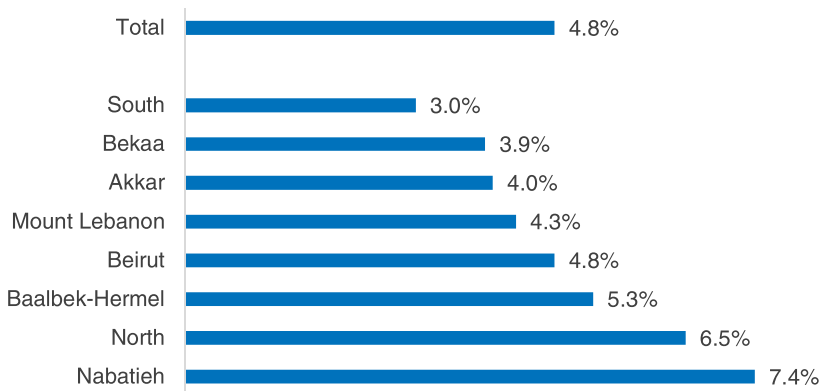


Figure 15. Child labour (between 5 and 17 years old) by governorate

Violent discipline

The share of children under 18 subjected to violent discipline was similar among boys and girls at 78%, as reported by the head of the household. The most common form of violent discipline was yelling and shouting (psychological aggression), reported for 54% of children. Physical violence included spanking (31%), slapping the child on the hand, arm or leg (28%), or face (12%), shaking the child (19%), hitting the body with something (8.2%) or beating him or her (1.7%). Nabatieh registered the highest percentage of children who were subjected to at least one form of violent discipline (94%), followed by Akkar (82%), and the North (81%).

Some parents reported other discipline tactics: 60% explained why the behaviour was wrong, 40% took away privileges, 26% gave them something else to do, and 16% admitted to verbally insulting the child (e.g. name calling).

When asked “Do you believe that in order to bring up, raise, or educate a child properly, the child needs to be physically punished?”, one in four heads of household agreed.



Figure 16. Children (below 18 years old) subjected to violent discipline by governorate



Child marriage

Child marriage, defined as a formal marriage or informal union before age 18, was a reality for both boys and girls, although girls were disproportionately affected. In fact, 22% of the girls aged 15 to 19 were married, of which 18% were married/in union with spouses 10 or more years older than them. As for married women aged between the ages of 20 and 25, 20% were 10 or more years younger than their spouses. The South was the governorate with the highest percentage of females aged 15 to 19 married/in union (37%), followed by Akkar (27%) and the North (27%). Baalbek-Hermel and the Bekaa had the lowest percentages, hovering around 16%.

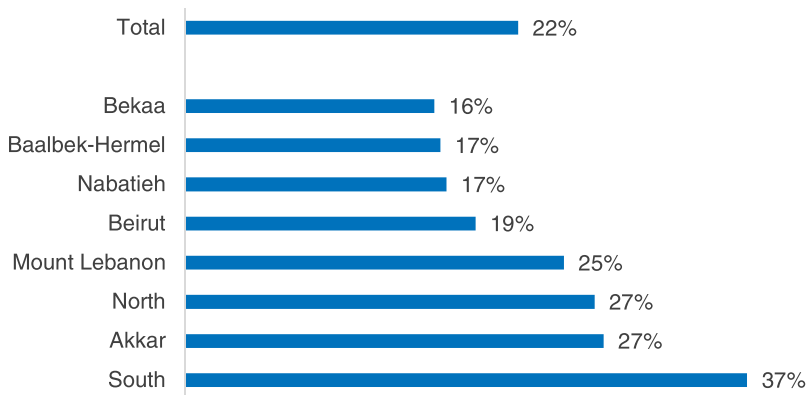


Figure 17. Females between 15 and 19 years old married/in union by governorate

SHELTER

The VASyR results revealed no major changes in the types of shelter over the past year. Seventy-three per cent of households lived in residential buildings – either regular apartments/houses or in concierge rooms – while 9% lived in non-residential structures, such as worksites, garages, farms and shops. Seventeen per cent occupied improvised shelters in informal tented settlements.⁶

In the governorates of Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Nabatieh, refugee households primarily live in residential buildings (96%, 94% and 84% respectively). Informal settlements are the most common in Baalbek-Hermel (50%), Bekaa (38%) and Akkar (22%). Female-headed households are almost twice as likely as male-headed households to live in informal settlements (26% of female-headed versus 15% of male-headed), and are less likely to live in residential buildings (62% of female-headed versus 76% of male-headed). The average home is composed of two rooms (excluding bathrooms and toilets), with 3.5 people per room. The average surface area per person decreased by 1.4 square meters in comparison to 2016 (10 to 8.6 square meters), leading to more than half of households living in homes with surface areas less than 35 square meters, indicating the decrease of stock in affordable shelters.

Shelter conditions

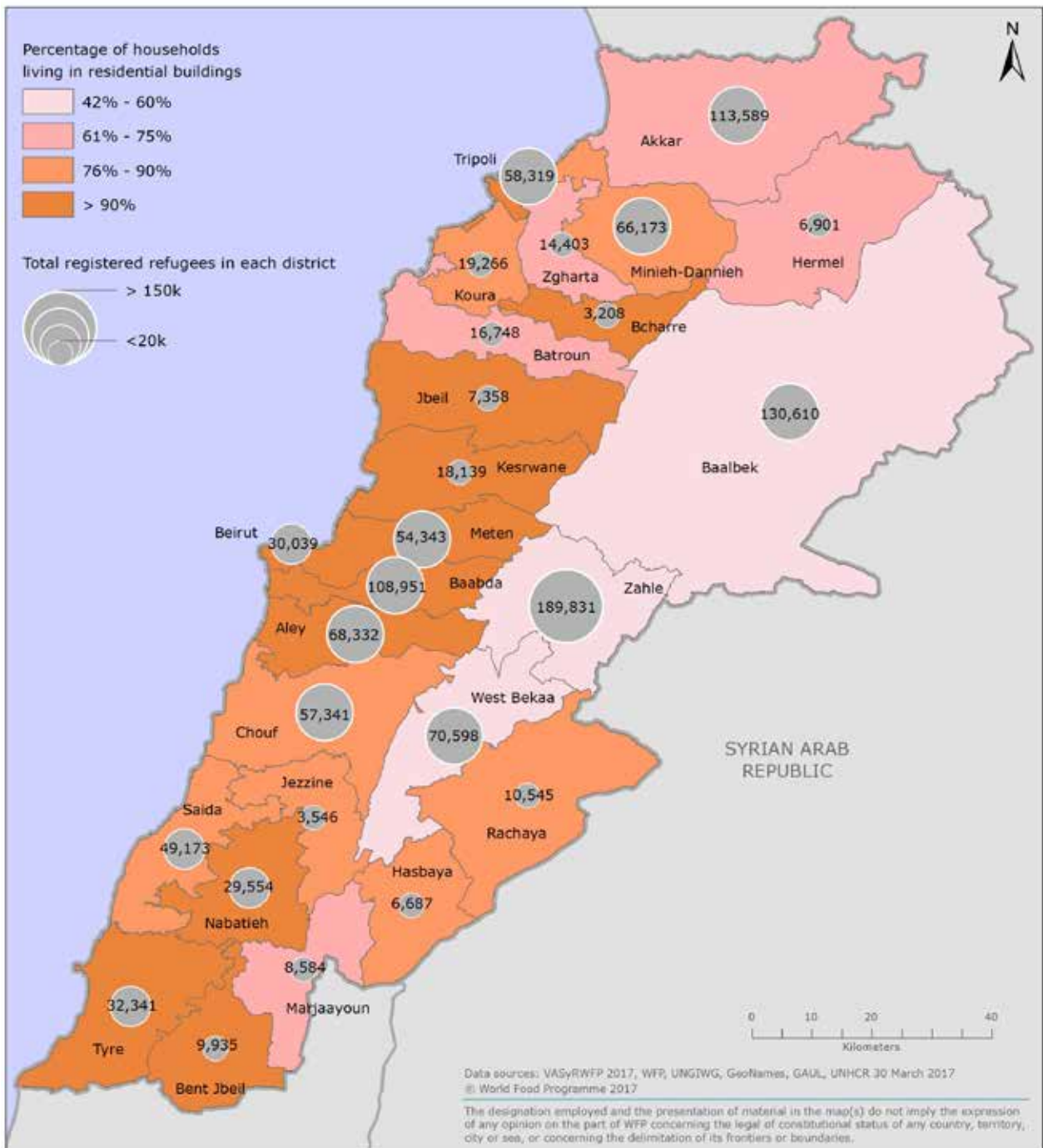
Refugees are increasingly living in shelters that do not meet the minimum humanitarian standards. Of the surveyed households, 53% (compared to 42% in 2016) resided in dwellings suffering from one or more of the below:

- Overcrowding
- Dangerous structural conditions
- Urgently needed repairs

One third (34%) live in overcrowded homes (less than 4.5 square meters per person – the minimum humanitarian standard). Overcrowding increased by 7% from 2016 and was much more common in informal settlements and non-residential structures, where over half of households lived in overcrowded conditions (53% and 52% respectively) versus 28% in residential buildings. Overcrowding is significantly more common in areas with higher concentrations of informal settlements, such as Baalbek-Hermel (48%), Bekaa (47%) and Beirut (43%) where housing is more expensive.

Similarly, 32% of households live in shelters with notably poor conditions – an increase of 6% from 2016. Four per cent of shelters are in dangerous conditions, severely damaged and/or at risk of collapse, while 28% have other urgent repair needs, such as unsealed windows, leaking roofs/walls, or damaged plumbing, latrines, bathing facilities or electricity. The highest share of shelters in poor condition was in the Bekaa at 38%. This partly relates to the fact that shelter conditions are almost twice as likely to be inadequate in non-residential structures and informal settlements (54% and 42% respectively), which are more prevalent in the Bekaa, than in residential buildings (27%).

⁶ 2016 VASyR data showed 71% in residential buildings, 12% in non-residential buildings and 17% in informal settlements.



Map 1. Percentage of households living in residential buildings

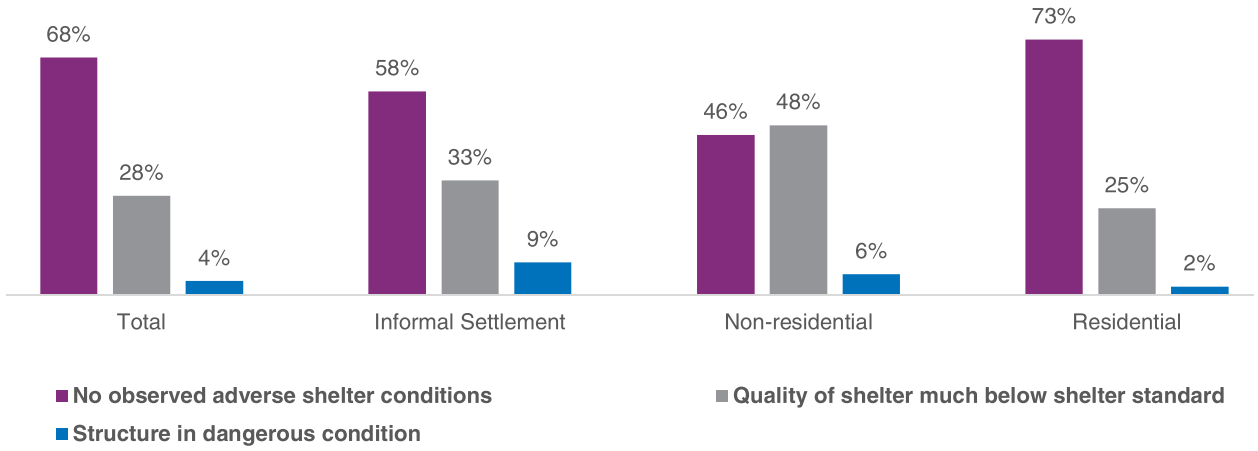


Figure 18. Shelter conditions by shelter type

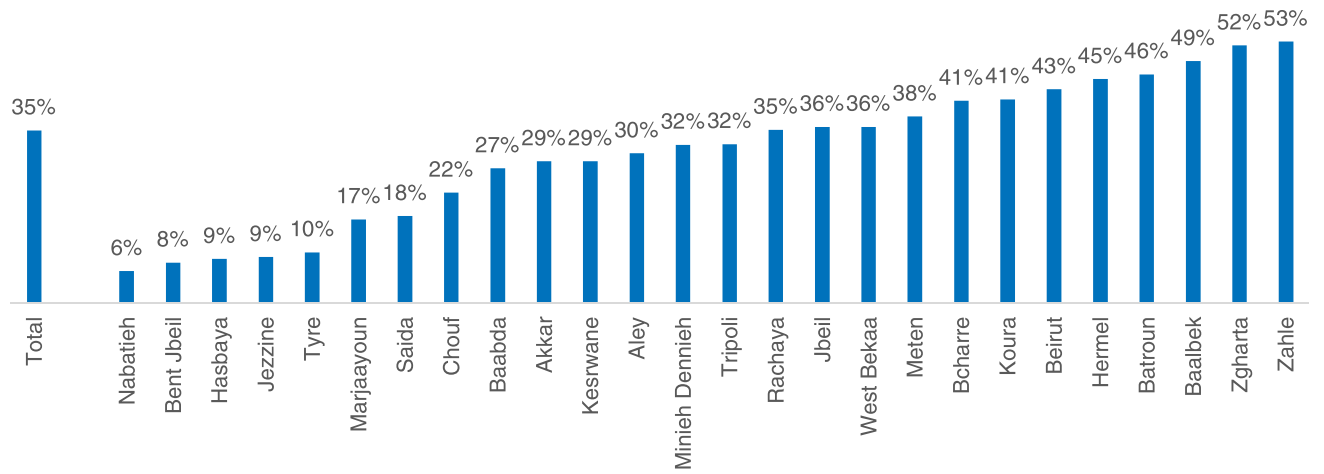


Figure 19. Percentage of households living in overcrowded shelters (<4.5 m²/person)



Rent costs

Eighty per cent of households reported paying rent, but only 6% have a written rental agreement with the landlord. Seven per cent covered the costs of their accommodation by working for their landlord, 4% through support from humanitarian agencies, and 7% are hosted for free. The nominal rent costs ranged from an average of US\$ 35 for a piece of land to build a tent in informal settlements, to an average of US\$ 219 for residential housing. Overall, the average monthly rent was US\$ 183, with the lowest rents found in Baalbek-Hermel and Bekaa (US \$88 and US \$115 respectively) and the highest averages in Mount Lebanon and Beirut (US \$268 and US \$328 respectively). Thirty-one per cent of households stated that water supply and electricity were included in the rent.

Rent cost was by far the most important factor affecting the choice of dwelling (according to 51% of the households). This increased by 15% from last year, suggesting refugees find housing increasingly unaffordable. Rent cost was followed by the proximity of the dwelling to relatives (20%) and access to livelihoods (10%).

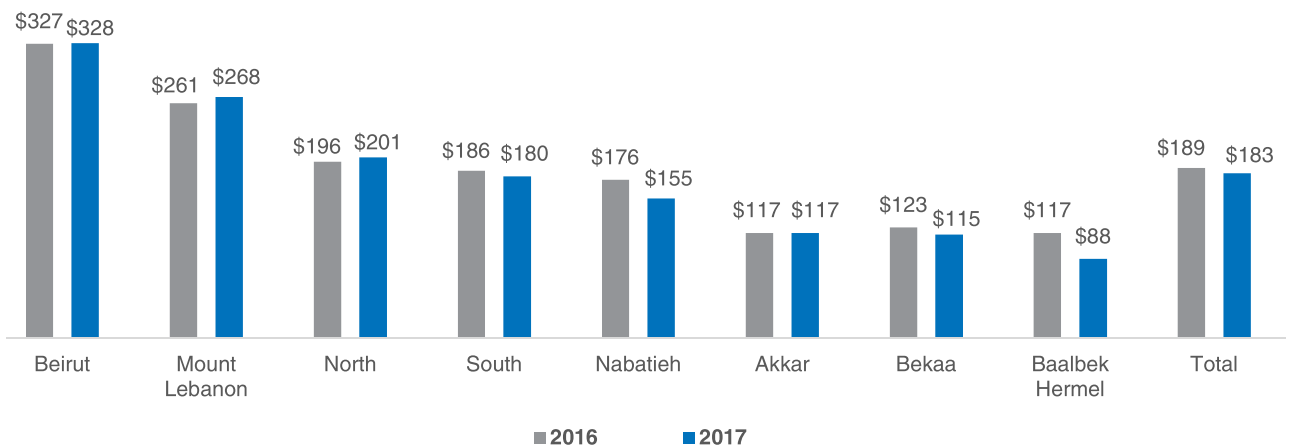
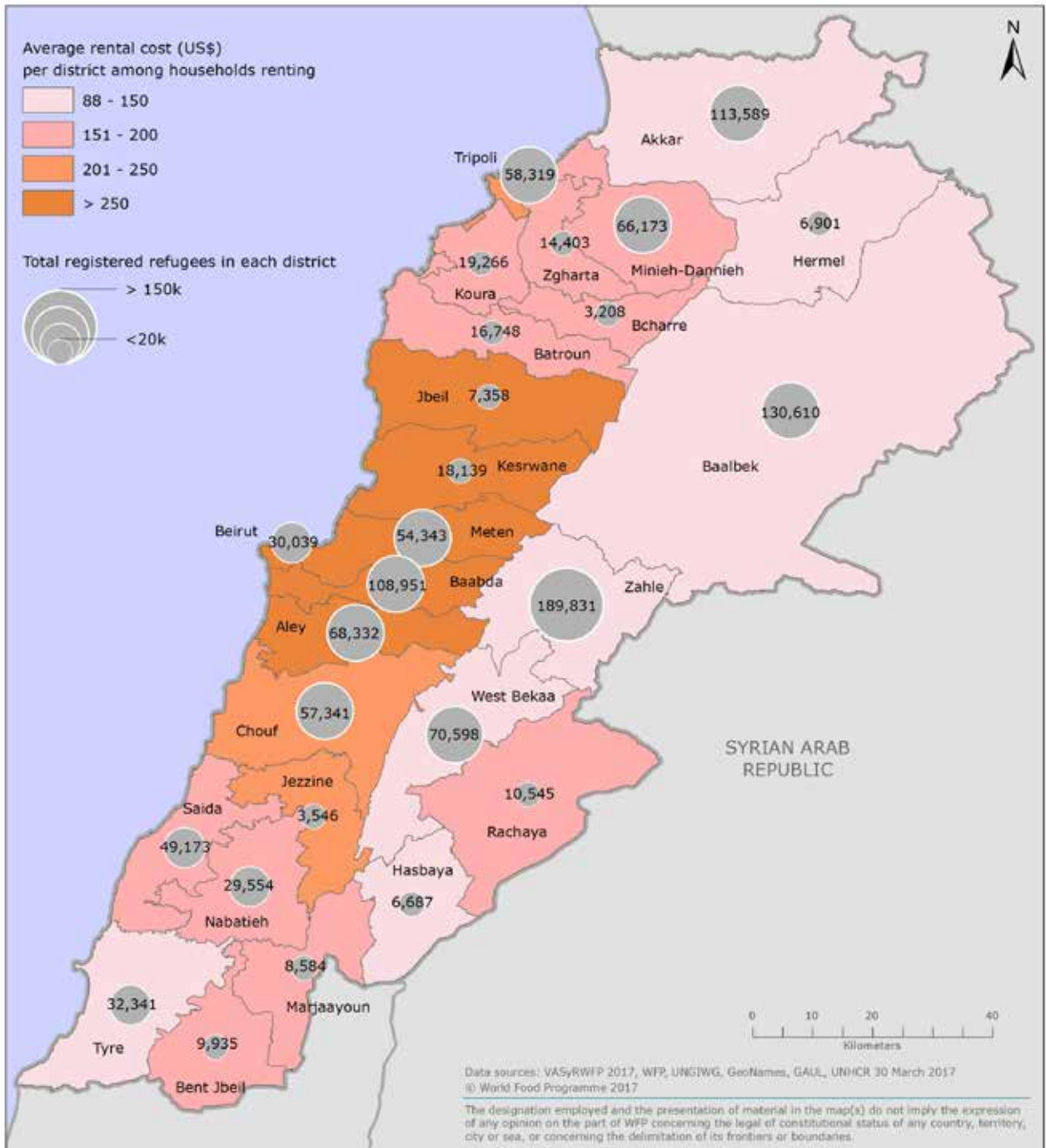


Figure 20. Average rental cost (US\$) per month by governorate



Map 2. Average rental cost (US\$) among households renting by district

Mobility

Twelve per cent of the surveyed households said they had changed accommodations during the previous six months, while 10% were planning to move in the following six months, with a higher prevalence in Tripoli (20%).

Eviction is increasingly the main reason cited by households for either a recent or planned move.⁷ Other major reasons for past or expected mobility were unaffordable rent expenses and unacceptable housing conditions. For those households that moved in the previous six months, 38% left because of eviction, 20% due to unaffordable rents, and 9% due to unacceptable housing conditions. Of those households planning on moving within the following six months, 45% cited eviction (compared to only 25% last year), while 22% specified unaffordable rents, and 7% named unacceptable housing conditions. Security threats or tension with the community were mentioned by 5% of households who had recently moved, as compared to 2% in 2016. This includes higher percentages in areas like Akkar (6%), which had been considered more sympathetic of refugees.

	Households that had moved in the previous six months	Household that expected to move in the next six months
	11.9%	10.30%
Reasons		
End of assistance/hosting	2%	4%
End of rent agreement	1%	0%
Eviction by authorities	6%	5%
Eviction by owner	32%	40%
Harassment	1%	0%
No work opportunities in the area	4%	1%
Not enough privacy for the family	5%	3%
Rent too expensive	20%	22%
Security threats	2%	1%
Shelter and WASH conditions not acceptable	9%	7%
Tension with the community	3%	0%
Tension with the landlord	3%	4%
Other	13%	11%

⁷ Thirty-two per cent of the households that recently moved were evicted by landlords and 6% were evicted by the authorities. For those who were planning to leave, 40% cited threat from landlords, and 5% cited the authorities.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Use of improved drinking water sources

UN agencies and NGOs have been working hard to provide improved water sources to Syrian refugees. In fact, 78% of surveyed individuals reported access to improved drinking water sources, with 77% using improved sources of drinking water either in their dwelling/yard/plot or within 30 minutes round trip collection time. Slightly more than one third of households who had access to other sources of improved drinking water also used bottled mineral water.

In contrast, the number of household members reporting a water collection time of more than 30 minutes round-trip from their residential location was minimal (0.3% for unimproved water sources, and 0.6% for improved sources). The main issue regarding access to water was not availability, but affordability and quality.

Disaggregating to the governorate level, Beirut registered the highest percentage of household members with access to improved drinking water sources (95%). Baalbek-Hermel reported the lowest percentage at 69%.

Improved drinking water sources

- Household water tap/water network
- Bottled mineral water
- Water tank/trucked water
- Protected borehole
- Piped water to yard/plot
- Protected spring
- Protected well

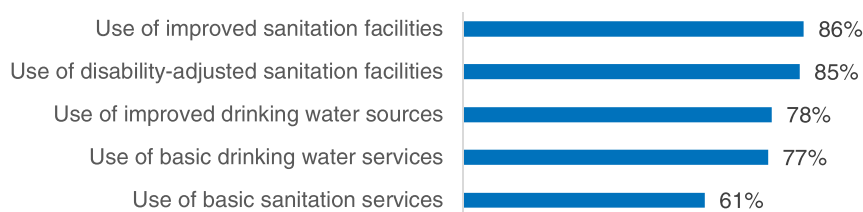


Figure 21. WASH indicators



Figure 22. Household members with access to improved drinking water sources

Thirty-four per cent of individuals were reliant on bottled mineral water, a drop from 42% in 2016. There was also a decrease in the share of households with access to tap/network water for more than two hours per day, from 18% in 2016 to 16% in 2017. On the other hand, the share of households with access to less than two hours per day of tap/network water increased slightly, from 9% in 2016 to 10% in 2017. Approximately 6% of households were provided with water tanks or trucked water by UN agencies/NGOs, compared to 8% provided by other parties.

Access to improved sanitation

Eighty-six per cent of household members reported access to improved sanitation facilities, namely flush toilets (56%) and improved pit latrines (30%), similar to 2016 (55% and 27%, respectively). In Beirut and Nabatieh, almost all of the surveyed population (98%) reported access to improved facilities, while the indicator dropped to 69% in Akkar.

Sixty-one per cent reported using facilities that were not shared with other households. Access to private facilities differed greatly from one governorate to the other. In Nabatieh and the South, the share reached 86% and 84% respectively, but dropped to 46% in Akkar.

Table 4. Share of households by main source of improved drinking water

Sources of improved drinking water	Frequency
Household water tap/water network < 2 hrs per day	10.1%
Protected spring	3.4%
Water tank/trucked water (UN/NGO provided)	5.7%
Water tank/trucked water (non-UN/NGO, private provider)	8.3%
Household water tap/water network > 2 hrs per day	16.2%
Piped water to yard/plot	0.5%
Protected well	0.9%
Bottled mineral water	34.4%
Protected borehole	1.2%



Figure 23. Household members using improved sanitation facilities

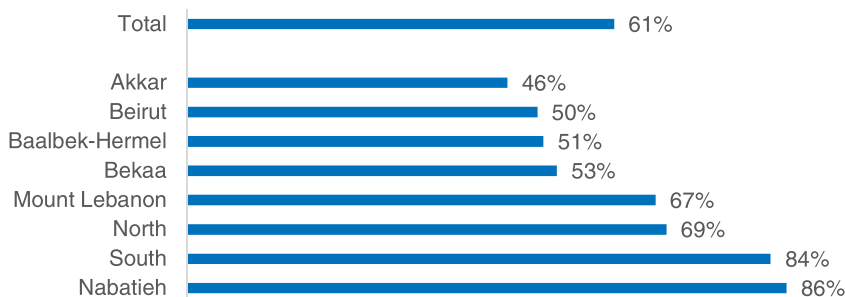


Figure 24. Household members using improved sanitation facilities that are not shared

Of the 3.5% of refugees with a disability, the vast majority (85%) were using disability-adjusted sanitation facilities. It is interesting to note that 100% access to improved sanitation facilities for household members with disabilities was reported in Beirut and the South. This indicator was considerably lower in Baalbek-Hermel and Akkar, where only 64% and 63% of the household members with disabilities had access to improved facilities.

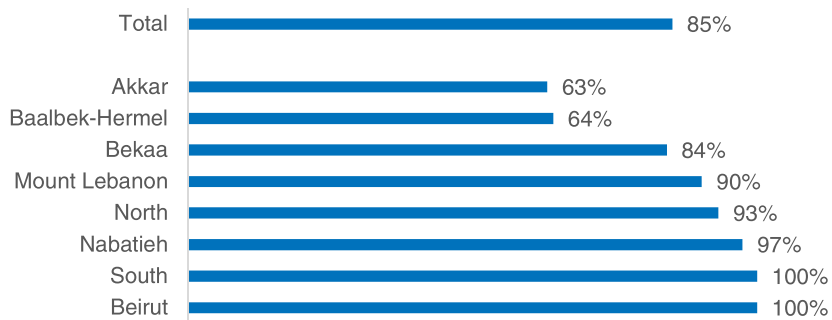


Figure 25. Percentage of household members with disability using improved sanitation facilities

Solid waste management

Only 2.3% of refugee households reported practicing recycling, sorting or organic dumping, compared to 3% in 2016. Additionally, 96% households reported disposing their garbage in dumpsters as opposed to 94% in 2016.

EDUCATION

Pre-primary school

The early years of childhood form the basis of intelligence, personality, social behaviour, and capacity to learn and nurture oneself as an adult. A good foundation, of which pre-primary education is a part, makes a difference through adulthood. Of Syrian refugee children aged 3-5, just 11% were attending an early childhood education programme. In terms of school readiness, the share of children in the first grade of primary school who attended pre-school the previous school year was also 11%.

Cycle Age Distribution		
Pre-Primary	KG 1-2	3-5 years
Primary	Grade 1 -6	6-11 years
Lower Secondary	Grade 7-9	12-14 years
Upper Secondary	Grade 10-12	15-18 years

70%
of children aged 6-14 were enrolled in school, compared to 52% in 2016

Primary and secondary school

Significant strides were made in school enrolment for children aged 6-14. At a national level, 70% of children aged 6-14 were enrolled in school, compared to 52% in 2016.

Only 16% of children of school-entry age (6 years old) were in the first grade of primary school. In contrast, the share of children of primary school age currently attending primary (or secondary) school was 61%. More than half of primary school students (54%) were two or more years older than the standard age for their grade. In addition, 11% of primary school students reported being 3-5 years older than the standard age for their grade.

Of children aged 12-14 (the age of lower secondary school, or grades 7-9), 13% were currently attending grade 7 or higher. Of all adolescents age 17-19, just 12% reported having completed grade 9. With regard to upper secondary school indicators (grades 10-12), only 4.1% of adolescents aged 15-18 were currently attending, and the completion rate (number of youth aged 21-23 who had completed grade 12) was 11%.

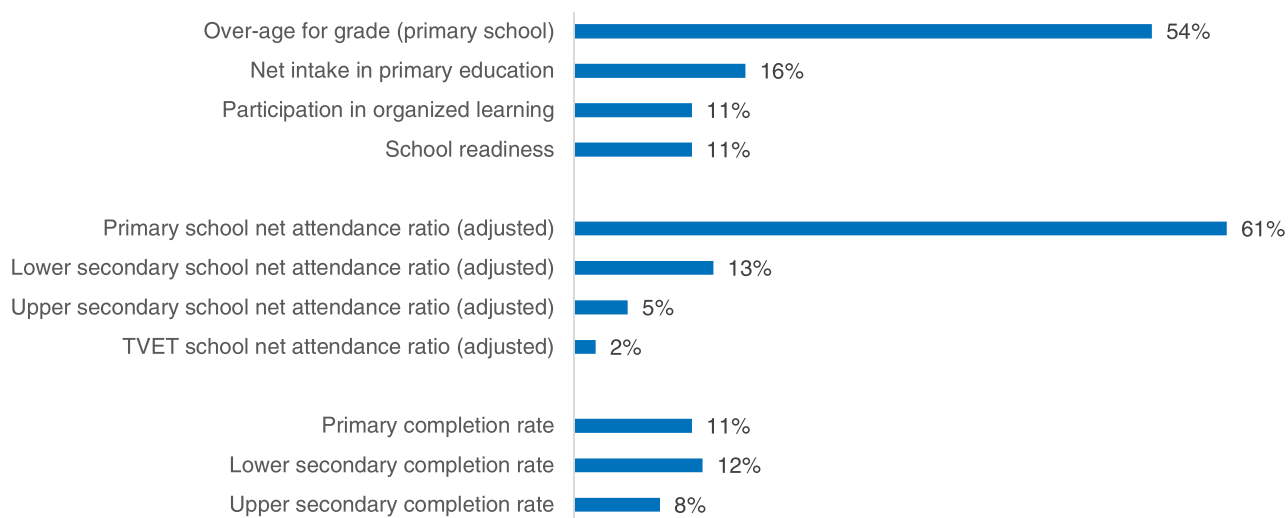


Figure 26. Education indicators

There continued to be substantial geographic disparity in school enrolment, despite the increases in school enrolment for children aged 6-14. The lowest rates of school enrolment were found in the Bekaa, at 7.8% for pre-primary education, 59% for intermediate education (primary plus lower secondary) and 13.2% for upper secondary education (this was the second lowest rate, after the South with 12%). This was, however, a remarkable improvement in school enrolment for children aged 6-14: 59% in 2017 compared to 30% in 2016 in the Bekaa. In contrast, Akkar registered the highest pre-primary education enrolment rate (25%), the second highest intermediate education enrolment rate (a couple of tenths of a point less than Nabatieh—both governorates registered 78%), and the third highest secondary education enrolment rate (32%, after Beirut with 35% and Baalbek-Hermel with 33%).

Regarding educational completion rates, Mount Lebanon had the highest primary completion rate at 14%, followed by the Bekaa with 12%. Looking at the lower secondary completion rate, the highest percentage was reported in the Bekaa at 15%, followed by Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Nabatieh, all around 13%. Beirut and Baalbek-Hermel had the highest rates of upper secondary completion (12% and 13% respectively). The lowest education completion rates across all school levels were reported in the South, with 6.9% for primary education, 4.0% for lower secondary education and 0.0% for upper secondary education.

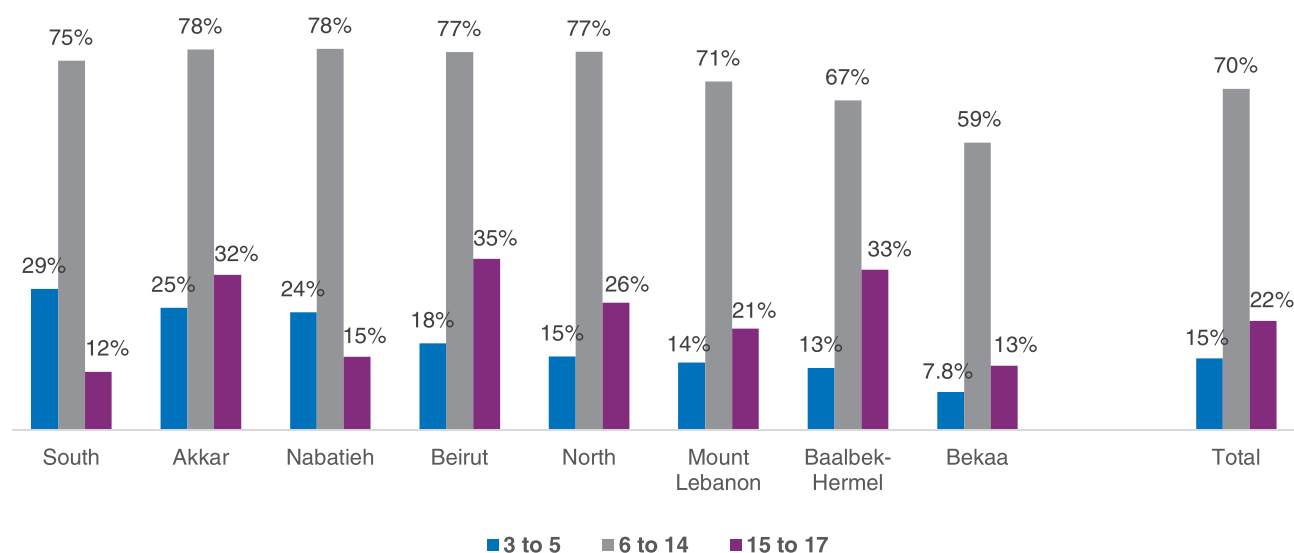


Figure 27. School enrolment by age group and by governorate

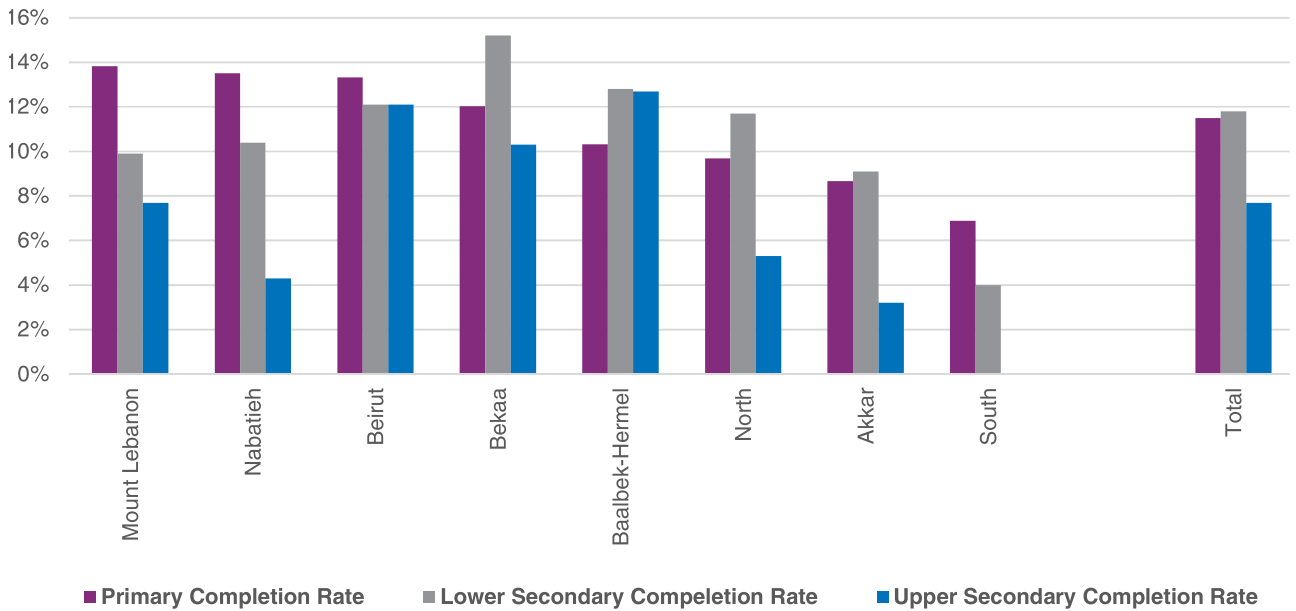


Figure 28. Education completion rate by school level and governorate

Gender parity

The gender parity index is the proportion of girls enrolled in school over boys enrolled in school. If the gender parity index is over 1, this shows school enrolment is higher for girls than boys, and for values lower than 1 vice versa. Notably, in primary school the total number of students was almost equally split between boys and girls, while the number of girls was significantly higher in secondary school (lower and upper).

Reasons for not enrolling in school

The most important reason for not enrolling in pre-primary and early primary education was “not of school age,” reported for 73% of out-of-school children aged 3-5 years and 20% of out-of-school children aged 6 to 8. The main barrier for the age brackets of 6 to 14 and 15 to 17 was the “cost of education,” reported for 39% and 36% of children, respectively.

Table 5. Gender Parity Index

	Gender Parity Index
Primary	0.94
Lower Secondary	1.48
Higher Secondary	1.51

Educational support for youth aged 15-24

Only 2.3% of youth aged 15 to 24 who were out of school attended education, literacy or skills training programmes within the previous 12 months. Akkar had the highest percentage of youth who attended training programmes (8.1%), followed by the South (6.0%). Beirut registered the lowest percentage, with only 0.9% of youth aged 15 to 24 reporting having attended a programme. As for school enrolment, 20% of youth between the ages of 15 and 18 reported being enrolled in school during the 2016-2017 school year, an increase of four percentage points over 2016. The rate of enrolment in formal education was drastically lower for youth aged 19 to 24, at 5.4%. In terms of gender disaggregation, females reported a higher enrolment rate than males in both age groups: 22% versus 18% for the 15-18 age group and 6.0% versus 4.4% for the 19-24 bracket.

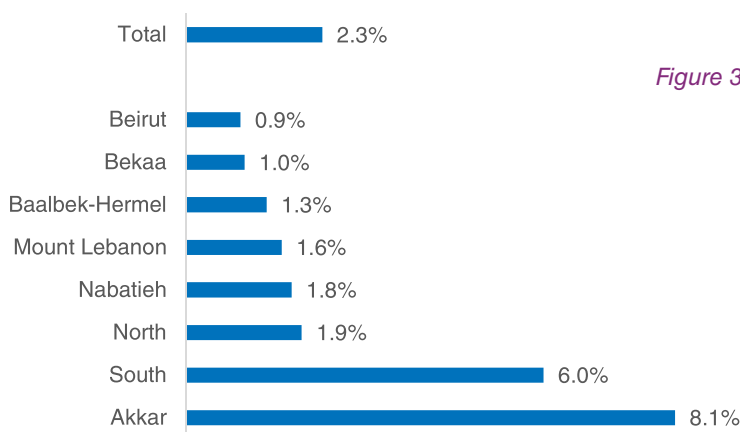


Figure 29. Out of school youth (aged 15 to 24) who attended education, literacy or skills training programmes within the previous 12 months by governorate

Technical vocational education and training

A mere 1.6% youth of post-primary school age (15-24) were attending Technical Vocational Education and Training school or higher at the time of survey.

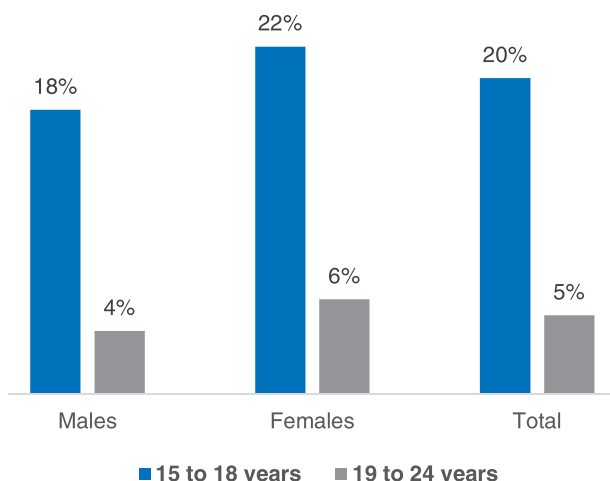


Figure 30. Enrolment rate by age bracket and gender

HEALTH

Access to health services

Primary health care

Forty-six per cent of households reported that they required primary health care services in the previous six months, similar to the 47% reported in 2016. Of these, 89% received the required care, compared to 84% in 2016.

There was geographic disparity in terms of reported access to primary health services. In Mount Lebanon, 25% of households did not receive the required health care, in comparison with 4.8% in Bekaa. At the national level, 11% of households lacked access. This could be explained by the fact that in the governorates of Beirut and Mount Lebanon, there are fewer supported Primary Health Care centers (where subsidized care is available) relative to population size than in other regions.

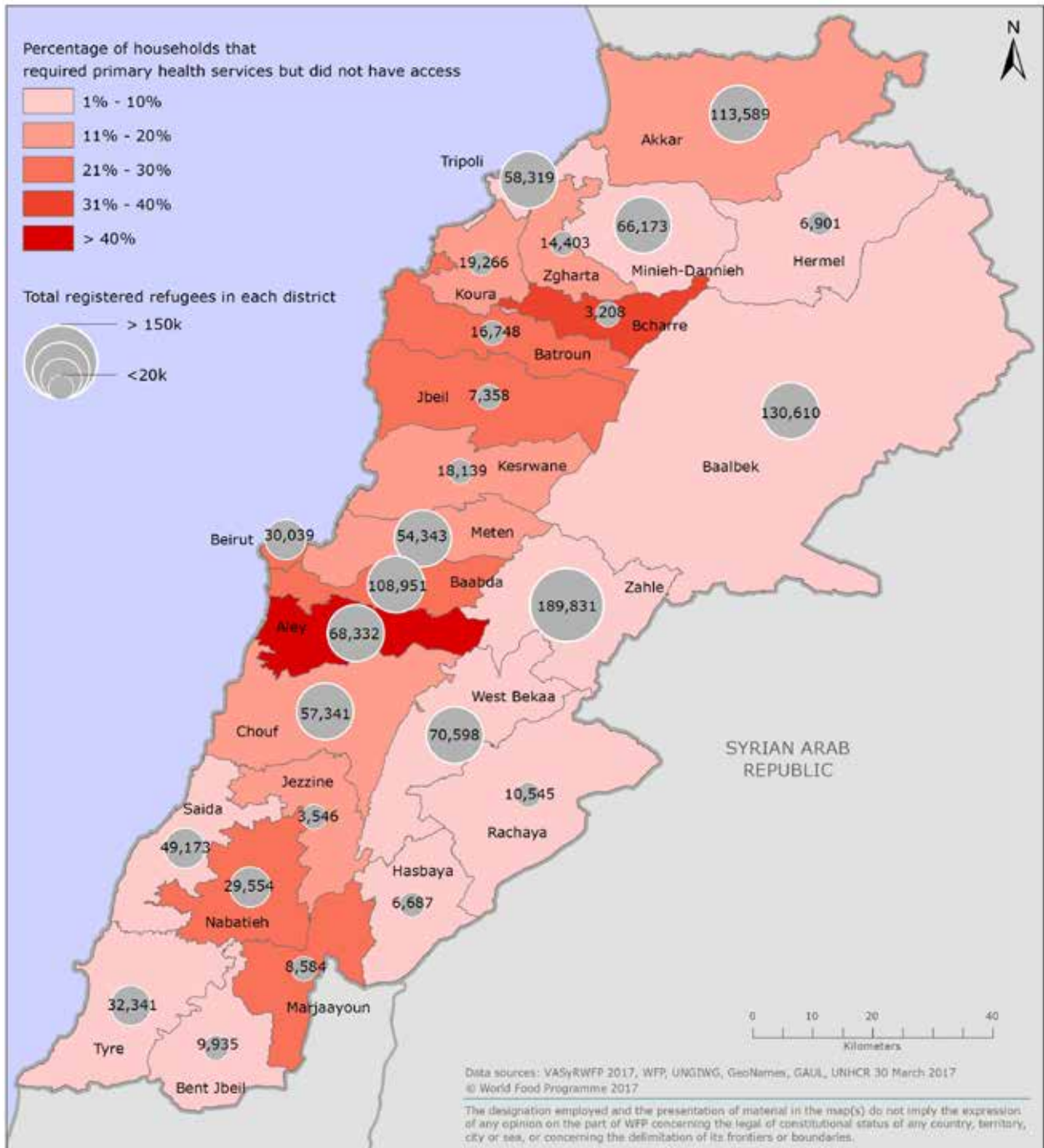
For those who accessed primary health care, 80% received it at a primary health care outlet, 16% at a private doctor/clinic, 2.4% at a mobile medical unit and 1.7% reported 'other'.

Of those households that did not receive the required care, the main reasons cited were cost of drugs (33%), consultation fees (33%), uncertainty about where to go (17%) and not being accepted at the facility (14%).

- **Primary Health Care Services:** the first level of preventive and curative health which includes childhood vaccination, reproductive health care (antenatal care, postnatal care and family planning), care for non-communicable diseases and curative consultations for common illnesses
- **Secondary Health Care Services:** hospital-level care including deliveries
- **Tertiary Health Care Services:** specialized consultative care
- **Mental Health Care Services:** care for persons with mental health conditions which may be delivered at community, primary, secondary or tertiary levels

89%
*of refugee households which
required primary health care
services were able to access
them, but there was geographic
disparity in access*

Primary health care is the essential health care made available in a comprehensive way for individuals and families in the community to access with affordable costs. It is the core of the health system, and based on the principles of justice, equality and rational use of resources.



Map 3. Households that required primary health care services in the previous six months but did not have access, by district

Barriers to primary health care

Fees doctor visit	33%
Cost of drugs/treatment	33%
Don't know where to go	17%
Not accepted	14%
Inadequate welcoming/treatment by health center staff	11%
Distance of health center	10%
Other	2.7%
Long wait time	2%

Secondary and tertiary health care

Twenty-four per cent of households reported requiring access to secondary or tertiary health care in the previous six months, similar to the figure of 26% in 2016. Of these, one in five did not receive the required care.

The main barriers to accessing care were reported as cost of treatment (53%), not being accepted (28%) and transportation costs (13%).

Barriers to secondary health care

Cost of treatment	53%
Not accepted	28%
Transportation cost	13%
Other	8%
Distance of health center	7%
Don't know where to go	7%
Inadequate welcoming/treatment by health center staff	5%

Mental health care

In 2015, mental health was explicitly included in the Sustainable Development Agenda, as it is an integral and essential component of health. Mental health is a state in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community. It is fundamental to both individual and collective well-being. To better assess the overall well-being of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, the 2017 survey included questions related to mental health.

Of all surveyed households, 2.5% reported one or more members requiring care. Of this group, 38% were reported to have received the required care, while 62% did not. Lower rates of access were reported in Beirut, then Baalbek-Hermel followed by Mount Lebanon.

The main barriers to accessing mental health care were reported as not being accepted at a facility (37%), consultation fees (29%), cost of medicine/treatments (25%), and not knowing where to go (15%).

Barriers to mental health care

Not accepted	37%
Cost of treatment	25%
Don't know where to go	15%
Transportation cost	11%
Other	10%
Distance of health center	4%
Inadequate welcoming/treatment by health center staff	2%

Children's health

The health situation of young children in the two weeks prior to the survey was also assessed. One third (34%) of children under the age of two were reported sick during this period. Ailments reported included fever (25%), cough (20%) and diarrhoea (12%). The governorates of Beirut and Mount Lebanon recorded fewer children under the age of two as sick during the assessment period (both at 26%), while the highest percentages were found in the North (44%) and Akkar (40%).

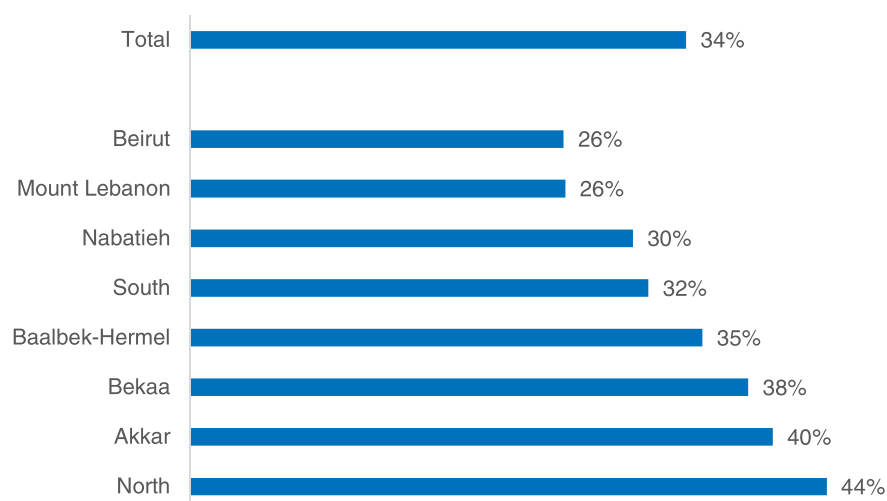


Figure 31. Children under the age of two who were sick in the two weeks preceding the survey



CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

Children with disabilities are among the most marginalized groups in Lebanon. In the emergency context of Lebanon, given the colossal number of marginalized and vulnerable individuals, the specific needs of refugees with disabilities remain largely unaddressed. Children and youth with disabilities have very limited access to education and learning opportunities. Public schools are mostly not accessible and do not provide a welcoming environment for students with special needs. Non-formal education programmes also have very limited coverage of children with special needs, given the lack of resources and capacity to provide inclusive education. As a result of multiple and complex unmet needs, which cross both medical and social dimensions, Syrian refugee children and youth with disabilities face protection risks. Families of persons with intellectual impairments face extreme challenges and additional social isolation as refugees. Children and youth with intellectual disabilities have a higher risk of experiencing violence, both within the home and in the wider community.

Eighty per cent of households who have children with disabilities also had an expenditure level that did not meet the Minimum Expenditure Basket threshold (compared to 75% for all surveyed households). On average, 7.0% of households had at least one member with a disability. Approximately 5.3% of individuals with disabilities were above the age of 24, followed by the age group 18-24 (3.4%) and 0-17 (2.3%). Of those with disabilities, 6.1% of children and 7.8% of youth suffered from chronic illnesses, similar to 2016 (5% children and 7% youth).

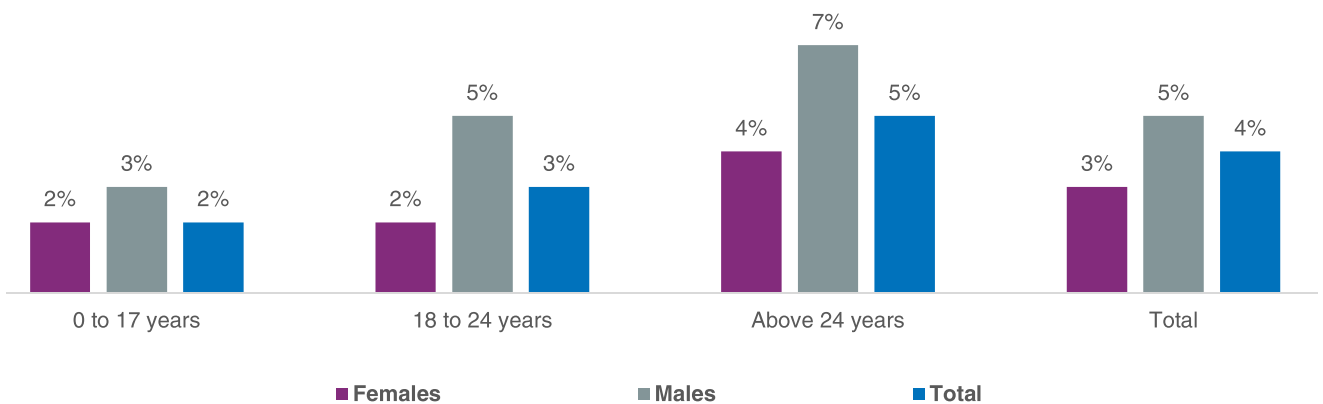


Figure 32. Individuals with a disability by age range and gender

Moving from the household level to the individual level, the rate of household members with disabilities was highest in the North (5.0%), followed by Akkar (4.1%) and Nabatieh (3.6%).

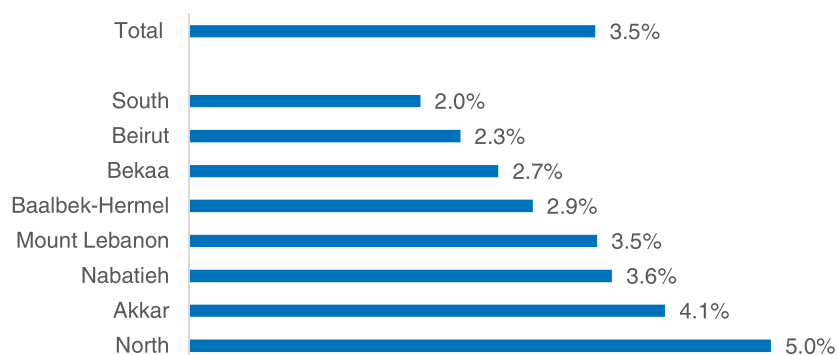


Figure 33. Household members with a disability by governorate

School enrolment

Just over half of children with a disability aged 6 to 11 were enrolled in school. The enrolment rate decreased to 38% for children aged 12 to 14, and dropped significantly more at both ends of the age spectrum: just 7.8% of children aged 3-5, 8.1% of adolescents aged 15-17, and 7.0% of youth aged 18-24 were enrolled in school. While young boys with disabilities (aged 3-5) were more likely to be enrolled in school than their female counterparts, the opposite was true for older males: 0.0% of males aged 15-24 with a disability were enrolled in school.

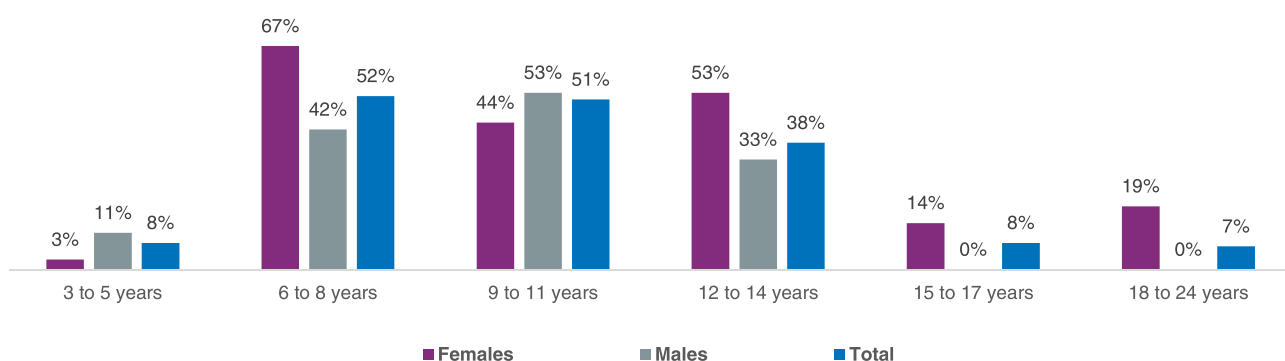


Figure 34. Enrolment rate among children with disabilities by age range

Generally, the percentage of children who are not enrolled in schools is higher among children with disabilities. When compared to children without disability, school attendance rates were consistently lower for children with disabilities across all age groups. The differences were most prominent among the age brackets 6-14 and 15-17. For children with disabilities aged 6-14, the school enrolment rate was 47%, compared to 70% for children without disabilities during the 2016-2017 academic year. Similarly, the attendance rate for children 15-17 years was 8.1% for children with disabilities, compared to 23% for children without disabilities.

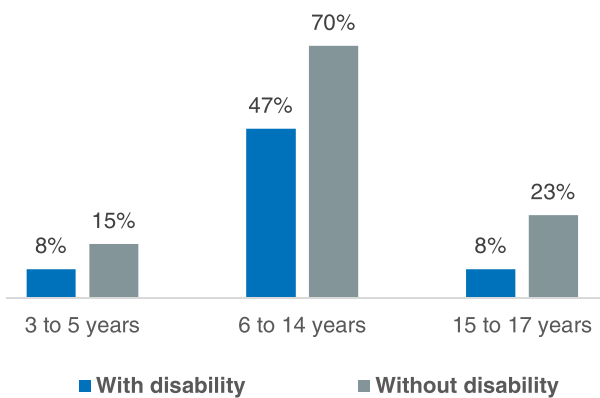


Figure 35. School attendance rates by age group and disability status

FOOD CONSUMPTION

The indicators in this chapter measure behaviours related to food consumption. Meals consumed serves as a proxy for the quantity of food, while the Food Consumption Score (FCS) and the Household Dietary Diversity scale capture quality and diversity.

Number of meals consumed

After steadily declining from 2014 through 2016, the number of meals consumed per day by adults and by children under five increased in 2017. On average, adults consumed 2.1 meals per day and children under five consumed 2.4 meals per day (compared to 1.8 and 2.3 in 2016). As shown in Figure 36, an increase in the number of meals consumed by adults was reported in 17 of the 26 districts, although in Marjaayoun the number of meals consumed dropped sharply (1.5 in 2017 from 2.2 in 2016).

The number of meals consumed per day by children under five followed a similar pattern as shown in Figure 39. Fourteen districts showed an increase, with notable increases reported in Aley, Batroun, Hermel and Chouf (the largest increase was in Hermel, where meals consumed per day went from 1.5 in 2016 to 2.7 in 2017). In Marjaayoun, however, similar to the adult consumption pattern, the number of meals per day consumed by children dropped from 2.6 in 2016 to only 1.5 in 2017.

Food consumption score and groups

The FCS⁸ is a composite indicator that considers diet diversity, frequency of consumption and nutrient value of the food groups consumed over a recall period of seven days. According to this score, households are classified into three consumption categories: poor, borderline and acceptable.

Food consumption continued to deteriorate. The percentage of households with a poor food consumption score went from 2% in 2015 to 8% in 2016, and reached 11% in 2017. The proportion of households with borderline food consumption also increased this year to 27% (compared to 24% in 2016 and 14% in 2015). Added together, this means that well over one third of Syrian refugee households reported borderline to poor food consumption (38% in 2017, compared to 32% in 2016).

Figure 40 shows the percentage of households with poor and borderline consumption in 2017 (bars) compared to 2016 (dots). Out of 26 districts, only seven presented some improvement in food consumption (a reduced percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption). The highest reduction was recorded in Tyre, followed (in descending order) by Beirut, Marjaayoun, Baalbek, Nabatieh, Hasbaya and Zahle. In all other districts, the percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption increased compared with 2016: Jezzine and Jbeil had the most significant increases, followed by Aley and Baabda.

Number of meals consumed by refugees per day

2.4

children
under five



2.1

adults



⁸ A detailed explanation on FCS calculation can be found in Annex 4.

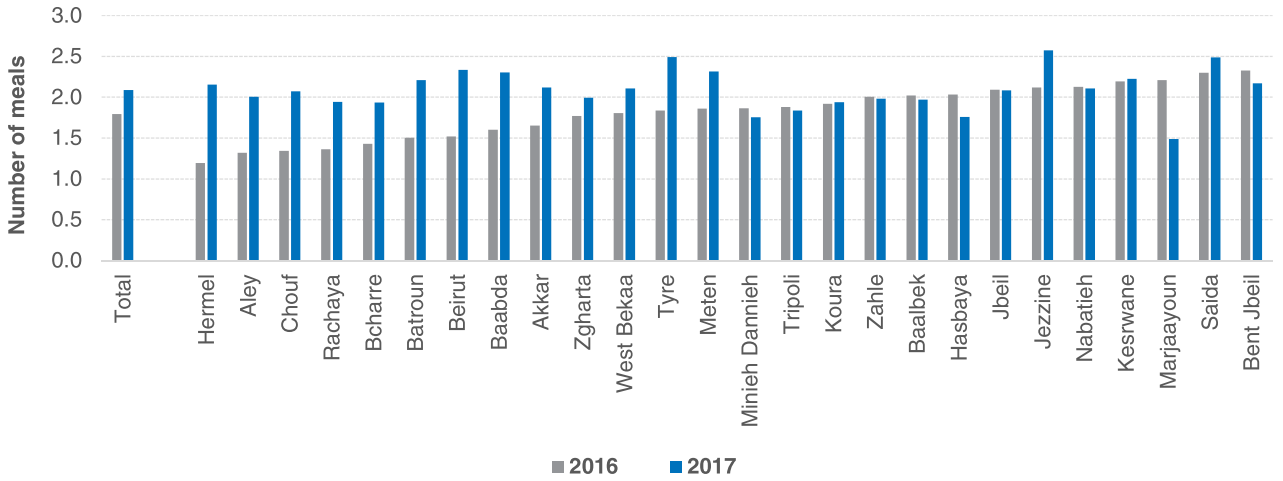


Figure 36. Number of meals consumed by adults per day by district

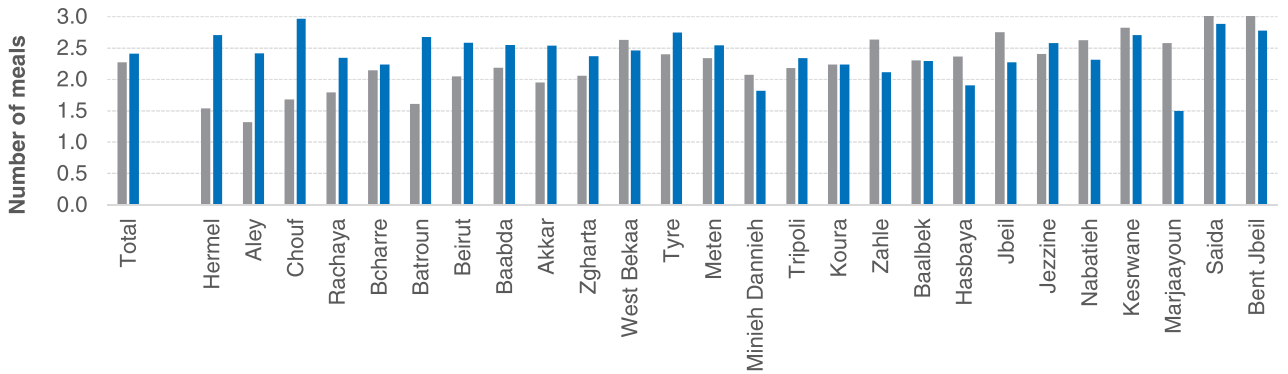


Figure 37. Number of meals consumed by children per day by district

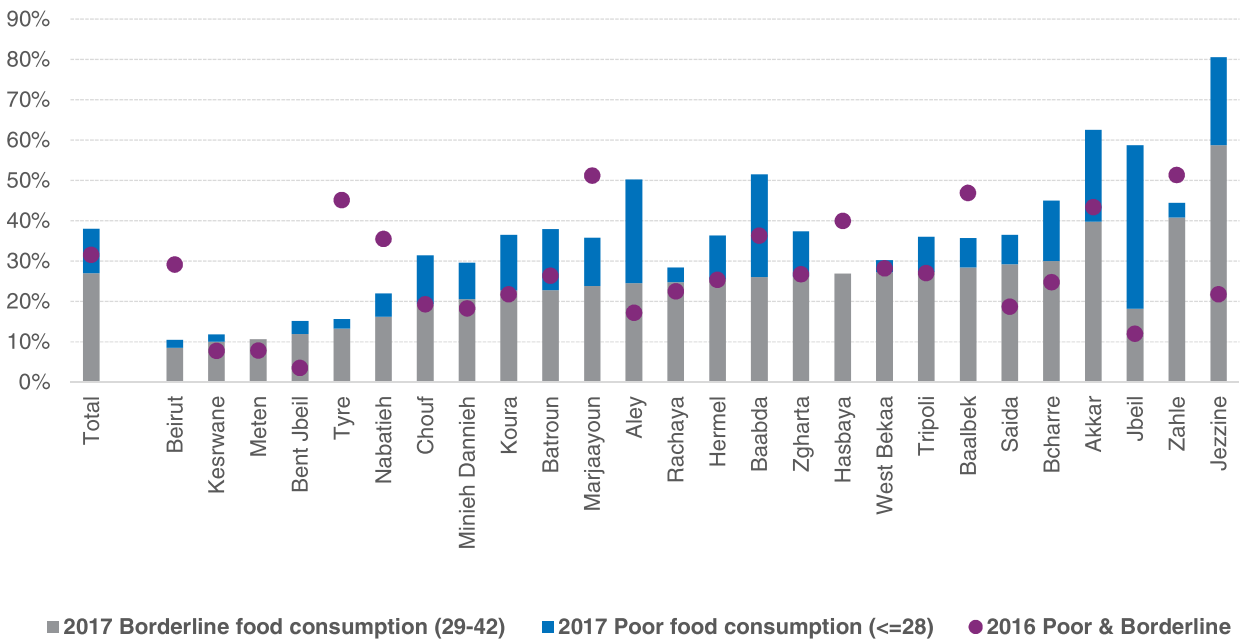
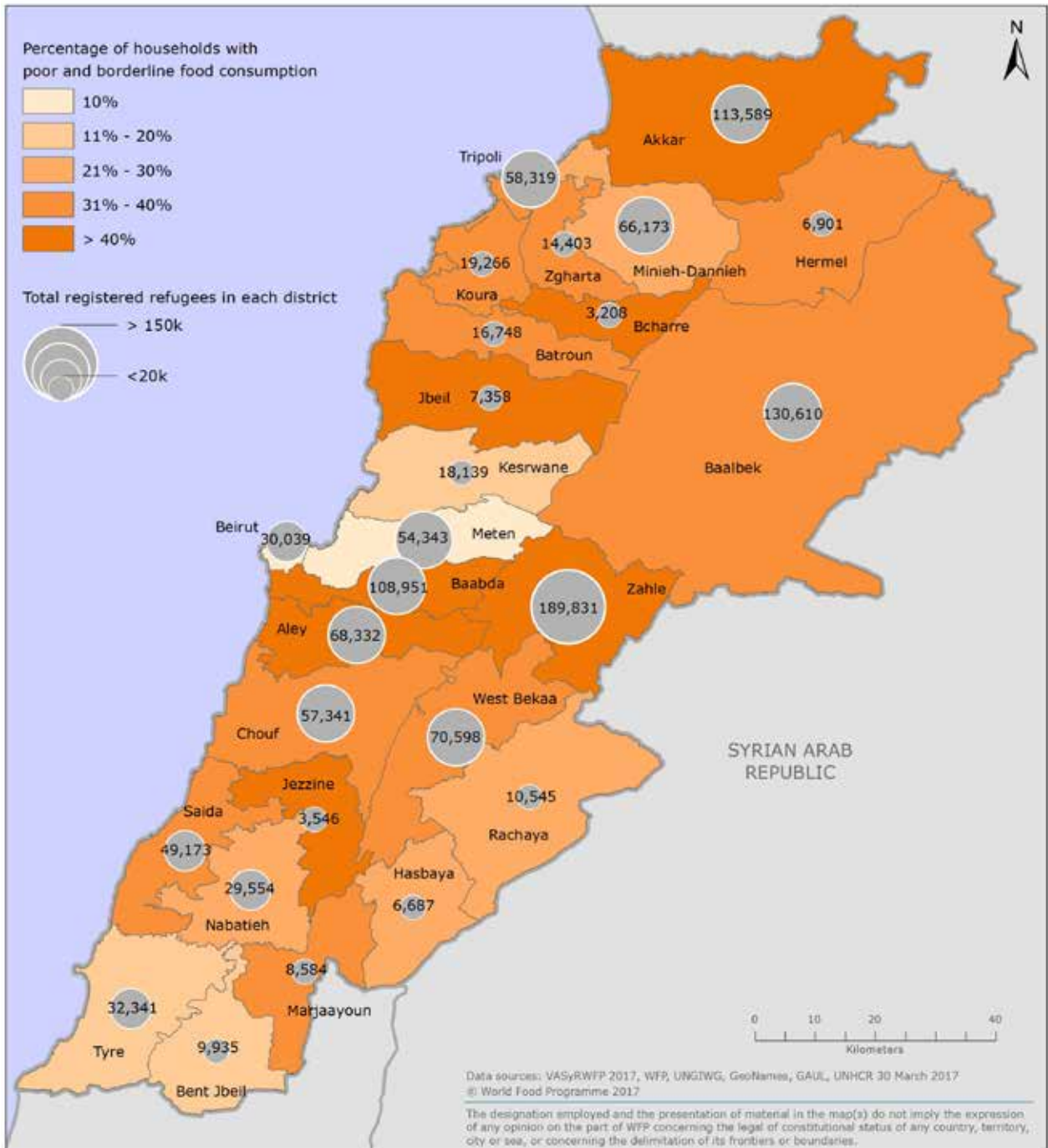


Figure 38. Households with poor and borderline food consumption 2016 and 2017 by district



Map 4 shows the combination of households with poor and borderline consumption in 2017. The districts with more than 40% of households reporting poor and borderline consumption increased from four in 2016 to seven in 2017: Akkar, Aley, Baabda, Bcharre, Jezzine and Zahle.



Map 4. Households with poor and borderline food consumption

Food consumption score nutrition quality analysis

In 2017, the food consumption module was expanded to calculate the food consumption score nutrient (FCS-N). This indicator provides a wealth of data including household consumption of nutrient rich food groups that are essential for nutritional health and well-being. This tool focuses on three key nutrients; Protein, Vitamin A and Iron (hem iron) primarily for their nutritional importance. Although any given nutrient, for example Vitamin A, can be obtained from many foods, the number of times a household consumes foods particularly rich in this nutrient can be used to assess likely adequacy of that nutrient.⁹

Importance of the 3 FCS-N components

A deficiency in protein intake (essential for growth) increases the risk of wasting and stunting. It also has an impact on micronutrient intake, as protein foods are rich sources of vitamins and minerals. Deficiencies in micronutrients, such as vitamin A and iron, over a long period of time, lead to chronic undernutrition. Iron deficiency contributes to anaemia, while vitamin A deficiency can lead to blindness, as well as interfere with the normal functioning of the immune system, growth and development, and reproduction.

The survey analysed the frequency of each household's consumption of foods rich in hem iron, vitamin A and proteins.¹⁰ The majority of the households reported a diet with a low consumption of foods rich in essential macro and micronutrients.

Overall, household consumption of food rich in hem iron was especially low, with 59% of Syrian refugee households not consuming any iron rich food in the past seven days, and none of them consuming these foods on a daily basis. Vitamin A rich foods were consumed more often with 43% of Syrian refugee households consuming them on a daily basis, and only 7% of households reporting not consuming vitamin A foods at all. Protein consumption was the highest of all, with 97% of the surveyed households consuming proteins in the previous seven days, and 56% of households consuming protein rich foods on daily basis.

Table 6. Food Consumption Score Nutrition Categories

	Food groups		
	Vitamin A	Protein	Hem iron
Never consumed	7%	3%	59%
Consumed 1 to 6 times a week	50%	41%	41%
Daily consumption	43%	56%	0%

⁹ For more details on FCS-N refer to this link <https://resources.vam.wfp.org/sites/default/files/FCS-N%20Guidance%20final%20version.pdf>

¹⁰ See Annex 4 for a detailed list of foods.

The highest percentages of households consuming food groups rich in vitamin A, proteins and hem iron on a daily basis were reported in Beirut, Bent Jbeil, Meten and Nabatieh. At the other end of the spectrum, the lowest consumption of these food groups was reported in Akkar, Batroun, Bcharre and Zgharta.¹¹

Dietary diversity - households have a less diversified diet

Two standard indicators are used to measure dietary diversity based on the weekly and daily consumption: the Household Weekly Diet Diversity (HWDD) and the Household Daily Average Diet Diversity (HDADD).¹²

Dietary diversity decreased slightly from 2016. Households consumed, on average, five food groups in 2017 (0.3 food groups less from 2016). On a weekly basis, household consumption remained essentially the same, with an average of eight different food groups¹³ consumed in a week.

In general, HWDD remained stable. In Aley, Bcharre, Jbeil and Koura, the percentage of households consuming fewer than six food groups increased since 2016, while it decreased in Beirut, Marjaayoun and Zgharta.

Households were divided into HDADD categories based on their daily food consumption:

- Low dietary diversity: <4.5 food groups
- Medium dietary diversity: 4.5-6.5 food groups
- High dietary diversity: >6.5 food groups

Table 7. HWDD and HDADD groups and mean in 2016 and 2017

	Household Weekly Diet Diversity			Household Weekly Diet Diversity mean food groups	Household Daily Diet Diversity			Household Daily Diet Diversity mean food groups
	<=6 food groups	7 - 8 food groups	>=9 food groups		<4.5 food groups	4.5-6.4 food groups	>=6.5 food groups	
2016	16%	43%	41%	8	14%	63%	23%	5.6
2017	16 %	41 %	43%	8	21%	62 %	18 %	5.3

¹¹ Annex 7 shows details of FCS-N food groups consumption by district.

¹² The methodology of these indicators is explained in Annex 5.

¹³ Out of the 12 standard food groups considered in the Household Dietary Diversity Score (FAO 2010).

On average, dietary diversity deteriorated: 21% of households reported low dietary diversity (compared to 14% in 2016) and only 18% reported high dietary diversity (compared to 23% in 2016).¹⁴ Figure 39 indicates that dietary diversity improved compared to 2016 in only seven districts (including Beirut, Marjaayoun, Nabatieh and Tyre). In the remaining districts, the share of households reporting low dietary diversity increased, with the biggest jumps in Aley, Baabda and Jbeil (purple dot over red bar).

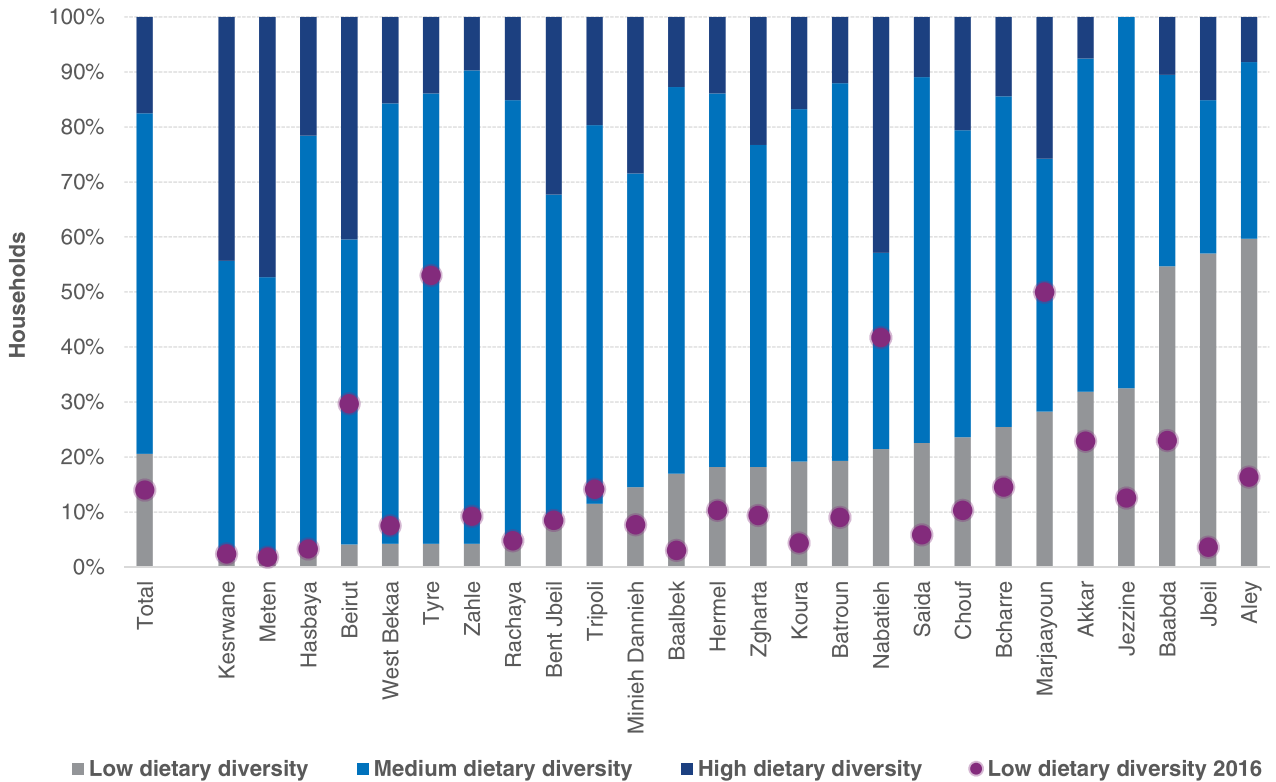
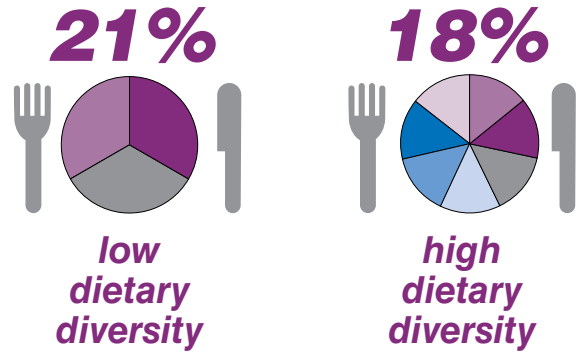


Figure 39. Household daily dietary diversity groups by district 2016-2017

¹⁴ The share of households reporting medium dietary diversity remained the same, at 63%.

Compared with 2016, the average Syrian refugee household increased consumption of dairy products, while all the other food groups were consumed less frequently. Bread and pasta, condiments and spices, sugar and fats were consumed almost daily. Dairy, vegetables and potatoes were consumed three times a week, while pulses were part of meals twice a week on average. Meat, fish and vitamin A rich fruit and vegetables were hardly consumed, and consumption of eggs was drastically reduced.

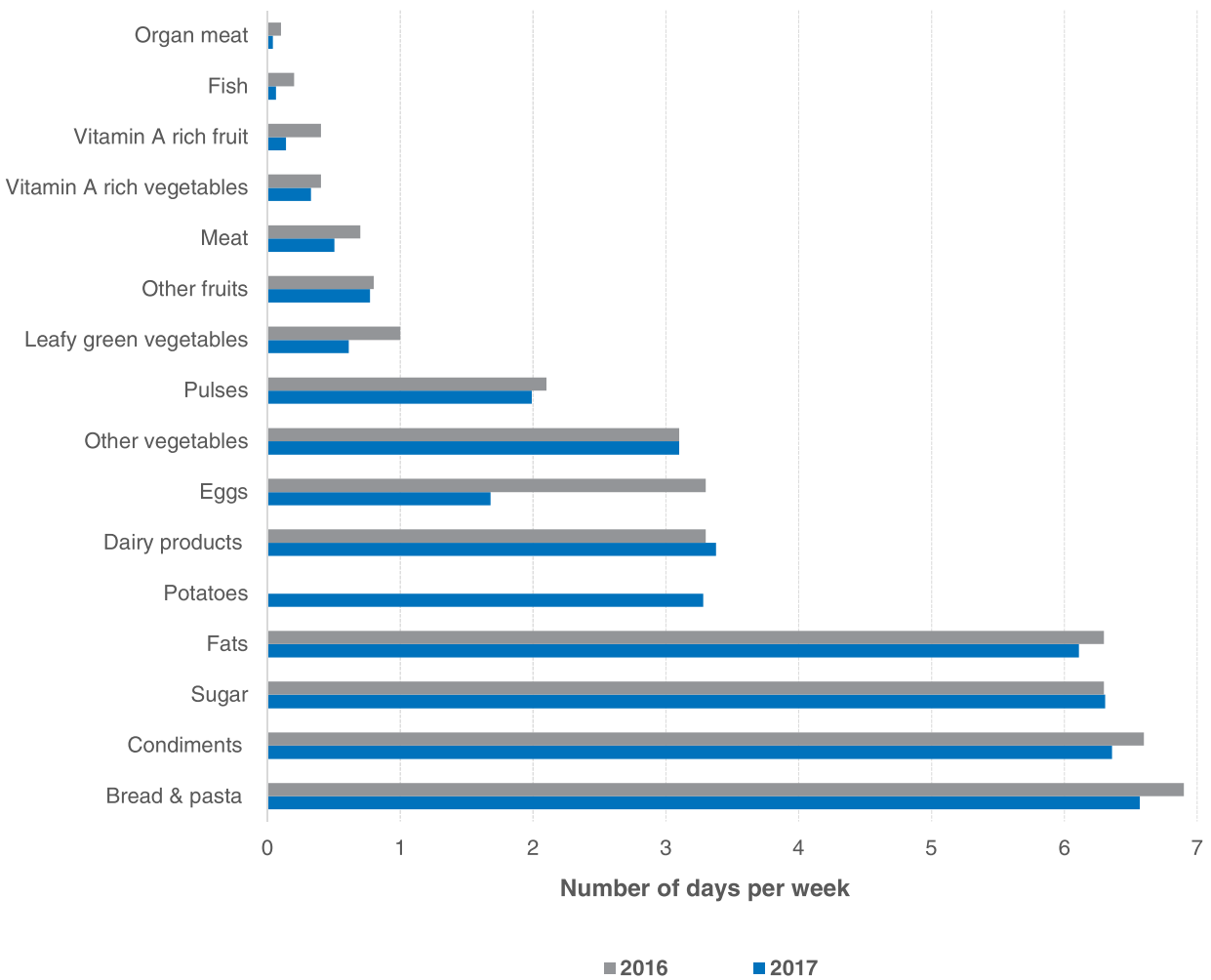


Figure 40. Number of days per week food groups were consumed

INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING PRACTICES

The assessment examined infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices in Syrian refugee households. Information was collected on 1,433 children aged 6-23 months and 464 infants under six months old.

Breastfeeding

Results indicated that exclusive breastfeeding of infants under six months old remained common (52%) among Syrian refugee households, but declined by six percentage points from 2016 (58%). Zahle had the highest percentage of exclusively breastfed infants (77%) while Saida presented the lowest share at 30%.

Breastfeeding increased by eight percentage points in 2017 for children aged 6-23 months, to 53%. Children aged 6-11 months that received breastmilk the day before increased by 10 percentage points since 2016, reaching 75% in 2017. More than half (58%) of children between 12 and 15 months continued to be breastfed, with the highest share recorded in Nabatieh (65%) and the lowest in the North (39%).

Complementary feeding

The percentage of children 6-23 months old receiving complementary feedings (solids, semi-solids and liquids other than breast milk) remained stable in 2017 (63%). For children aged 6-11 months, complementary feeding decreased from 56% in 2016 to 49% in 2017, but increased for the other age groups (12-17 and 18-23 months). For children 6-8 months old, 42% received complementary feedings. Looking at this same indicator by governorate, only 9.1% of children aged 6-8 months in the Bekaa received complementary feedings, compared to 58% in Baalbek-Hermel.

Minimum acceptable frequency

For children 6-23 months old, 22% of breastfed children in received the minimum number of meals, while for non-breastfed children, 75% received the minimum number of meals per day. Minimum acceptable frequency increased from 11% to 15% for children 18-23 months. There were significant variations by district, with 50% of the children meeting the WHO recommended acceptable frequency in Baalbek.

The World Health Organization defines minimum meal frequency as:

- 2 times per day for breastfed infants 6–8 months old,
- 3 times for breastfed children 9–23 months,
- 4 times for non-breastfed children 6–23 months.

“Meals” include both meals and snacks (other than trivial amounts), and frequency is based on caregiver report.

Minimum diet diversity

According to the WHO guidelines (2008) for assessing infant and young child feeding practices, children 6-17 months old should consume a minimum of four food groups out of seven¹⁵ to meet the minimum diet diversity target, independent of age and breastfeeding status. In 2017 only 9.1% of young children were fed the minimum diet diversity, a significant decline from 15% in 2016. For children age 18-23 months, the minimum diet diversity halved from 2016, with only 14% reaching the WHO standards. Tyre had the highest share of children age 18-23 months with minimum adequate diet diversity at 39%, while in Aley none of the children consumed adequate diet diversity.

Only 9.1%
of young children were fed the
minimum diet diversity

The decline in diet diversity is an indication of the persistence poor dietary diversity among the displaced Syrian population. In fact, 60% of children in that age category were reported to receive food from less than four food groups. Just over 30% of children in this age group did not receive any complementary feeding at all. Results revealed significant geographical variations: less than 1% of young children consumed a diversified diet in Baalbek-Hermel, compared to 30% of young children in the South.

¹⁵ The seven standard food groups are: 1. grains and tubers; 2. pulses and nuts; 3. dairy products; 4. meat and fish; 5. eggs; 6. vitamin A rich fruits and vegetables; and 7. other fruits and vegetables.

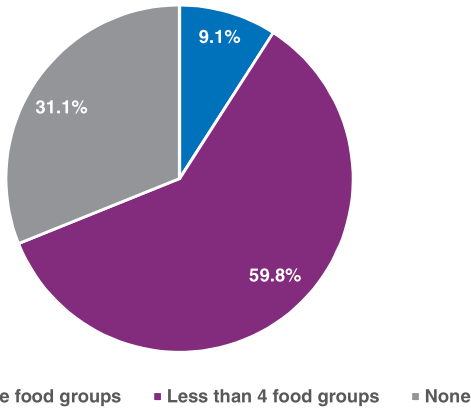


Figure 41. Minimum dietary diversity for children 6-23 months

Minimum acceptable diet

The minimum acceptable diet is an indicator¹⁶ that combines children’s dietary diversity and feeding frequency. Results showed a decrease in the share of children aged 6-23 months being fed the minimum acceptable diet, from 3% in 2016 to 1.8 % in 2017.

Dietary diversity

In 2017 dietary diversity decreased for most food groups, as well as for all age groups.

Cereals and dairy products remained the two most consumed food groups for children aged 6-23 months. In 2017, 52% of children consumed cereals and 42% of children consumed dairy products, decreases of five and three percentage points respectively, compared to 2016.

Consumption of protein sources remained low for children 6-23 months. A remarkable decrease was observed in 2017 for children aged 18-23 months in the consumption of eggs and pulses: consumption of eggs decreased from 30% in 2016 to 18% in 2017 and pulses from 30% to 23%. The total percentage of children consuming meat and fish remained low at 6%, although Zahle reported the highest prevalence with 25% of children consuming meat and fish.

In 2017 the consumption of infant formula decreased by three percentage points for children 6-23 months old, and by 10 percentage points for children 6-11 months old (37% in 2016 to 27% in 2017).

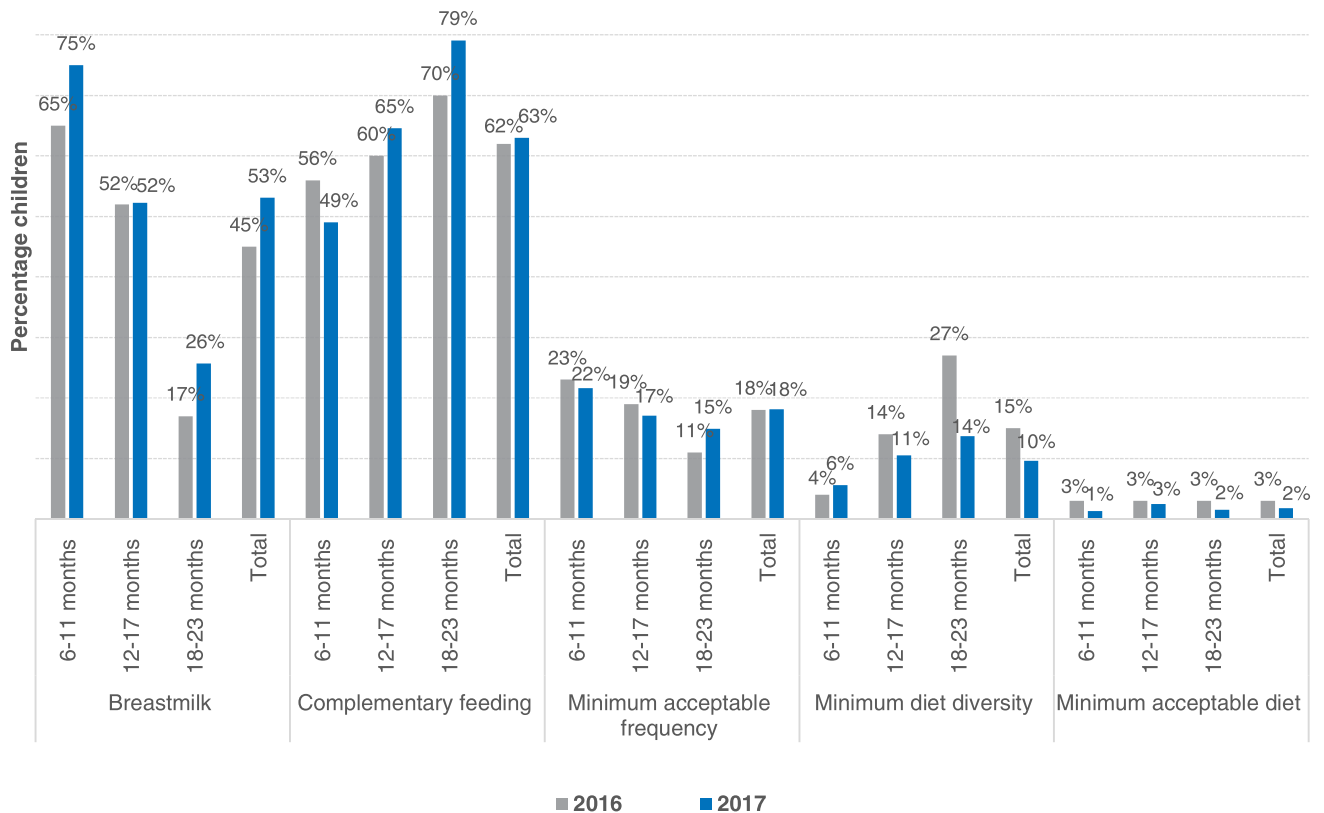


Figure 42. IYCF practices by age group and total 2016-2017

16 For reference please consult the WHO manual: Indicators for assessing infant and young child feeding practices Part 1 Definitions http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/43895/1/9789241596664_eng.pdf?ua=1&ua=1

Consumption of vitamin A rich fruits and vegetables is specifically assessed, as vitamin A is essential for the functioning of the immune system, the healthy growth and development of children, reducing the risk of blindness, and fighting illnesses such as infections, measles and those causing diarrhoea and undernutrition. Only 11% of children aged 6-23 months were eating vitamin A rich fruits and vegetables, a drop of three percentage points compared to 2016. Zahle had the highest percentage of children consuming vitamin A rich fruit and vegetables (17%) while Jezzine had the lowest, with almost no children consuming these foods. Looking at the data disaggregated by age, the percentage of the vitamin A fruits and vegetable consumed by children age 6-11 months reduced from 10% in 2016 to 6% in 2017.

1.8%
of young children aged 6-23 months consumed a minimum acceptable diet, a decline from 3% in 2016

Consumption of other fruits and vegetables was also limited, dropping by four percentage points since 2016, to consumption by just 16% of young children. The highest reduction in consumption of other fruit and vegetables was reported for children aged 18-23 months (21% in 2017 compared to 32% in 2016).

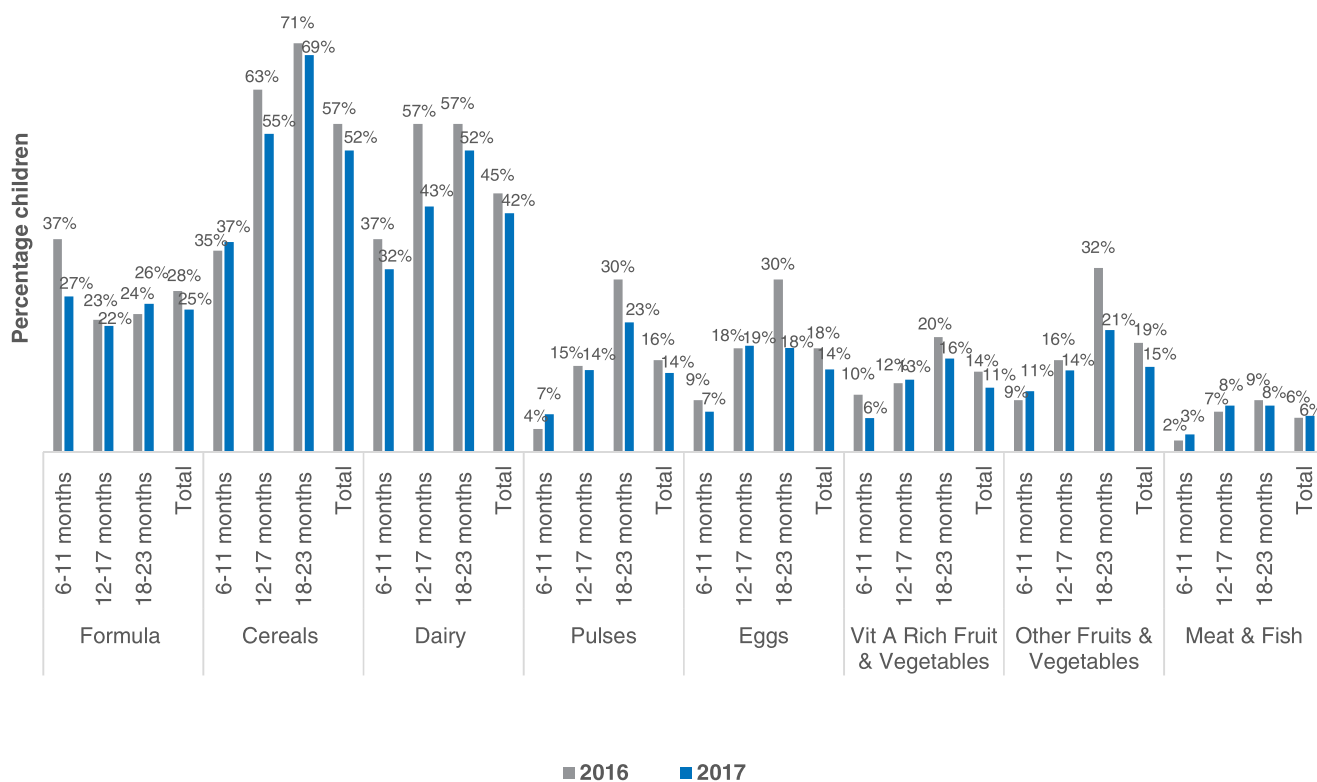


Figure 43. Proportion of children consuming different food groups the previous day by age group 2016-2017

ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY

Monthly per capita expenditures

Syrian refugees in Lebanon reported per capita monthly expenditures of US\$ 98, a drop of US\$ 6 compared to 2016 and US\$ 9 since 2015, signifying that households have fewer resources. Beirut remained the district with the highest per capita expenditure, followed by Kesrwane, Marjaayoun and Meten, while the lowest per capita expenditure was found in Baalbek and Hermel, as in 2016. The change in expenditure varied from district to district, illustrated in Figure 44. Out of 26 districts, per capita expenditure decreased in sixteen districts and increased in eight. Per capita expenditure was stable in Zahle, and could not be compared to 2016 for Hasbaya due to data limitations.¹⁷

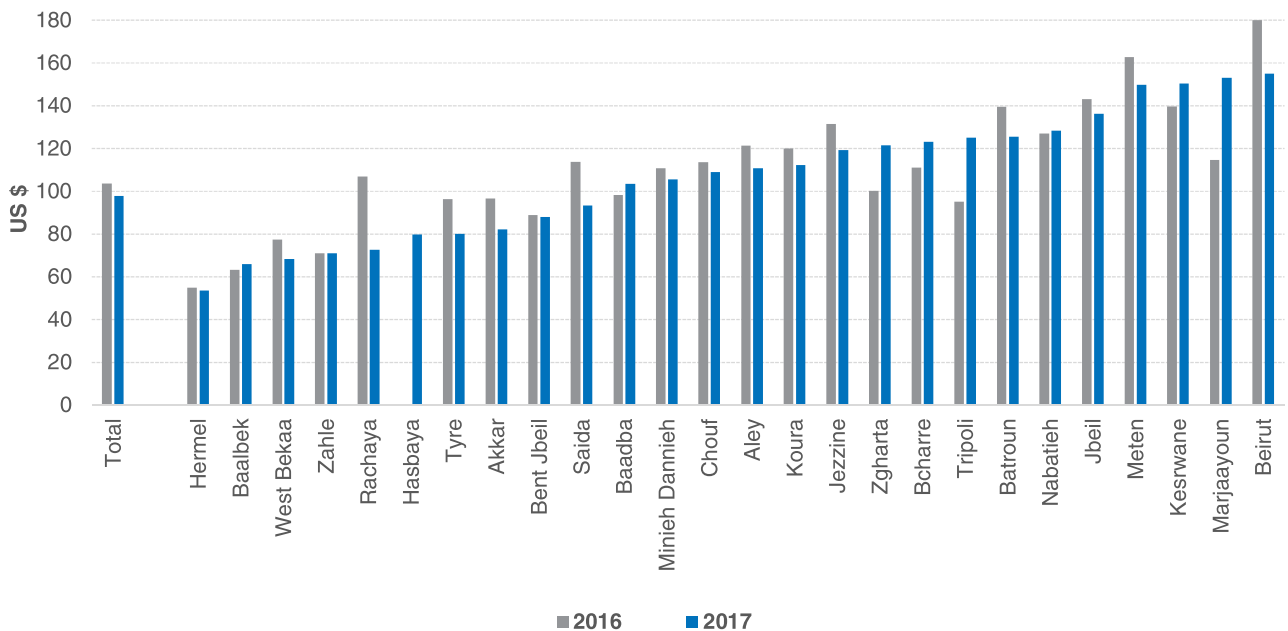


Figure 44. Per capita monthly expenditures by district

¹⁷ In the VASyR 2016, data for Hasbaya were not representative due to a bias in the data collection and limited accessibility in the area. Please refer to the methodology section of the VASyR 2016 report.

Food as a share of total expenditures

There were no major changes reported on the composition of household expenses compared to 2016. As in previous years, food accounted for 44% of monthly expenditures. The second largest household expenditure remained rent (18%), followed by health (11%).

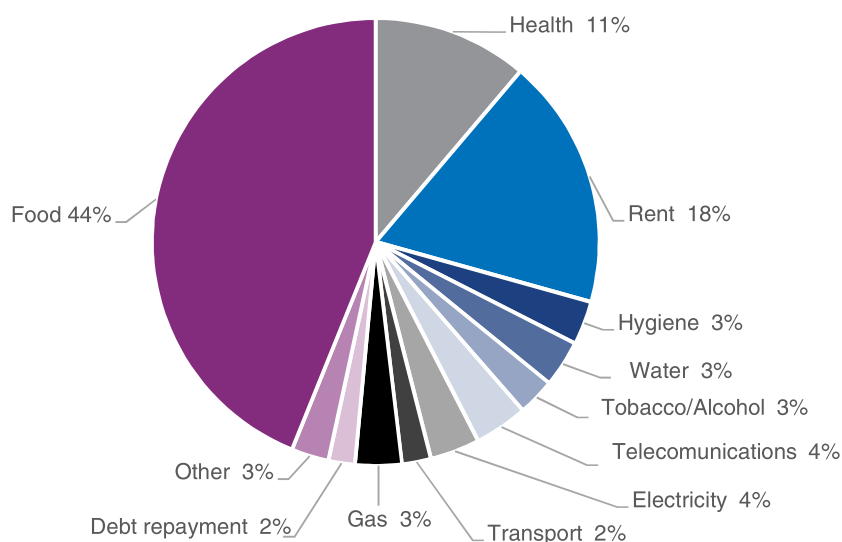


Figure 45. Average composition of household expenditure

Breaking out food expenditures by type of food, bread and pasta was the largest component at 22%, followed by 13% for fresh fruit and vegetables, 11% on dairy products, 9% apiece for cereals and oil/fats, and the remaining share on other foods such as fresh meat, pulses and nuts, sugar and canned food. Staple foods (bread, pasta, cereals, roots and tubers) comprised 38% of total food expenditure, indicating a high dependency on these foods in their diet.

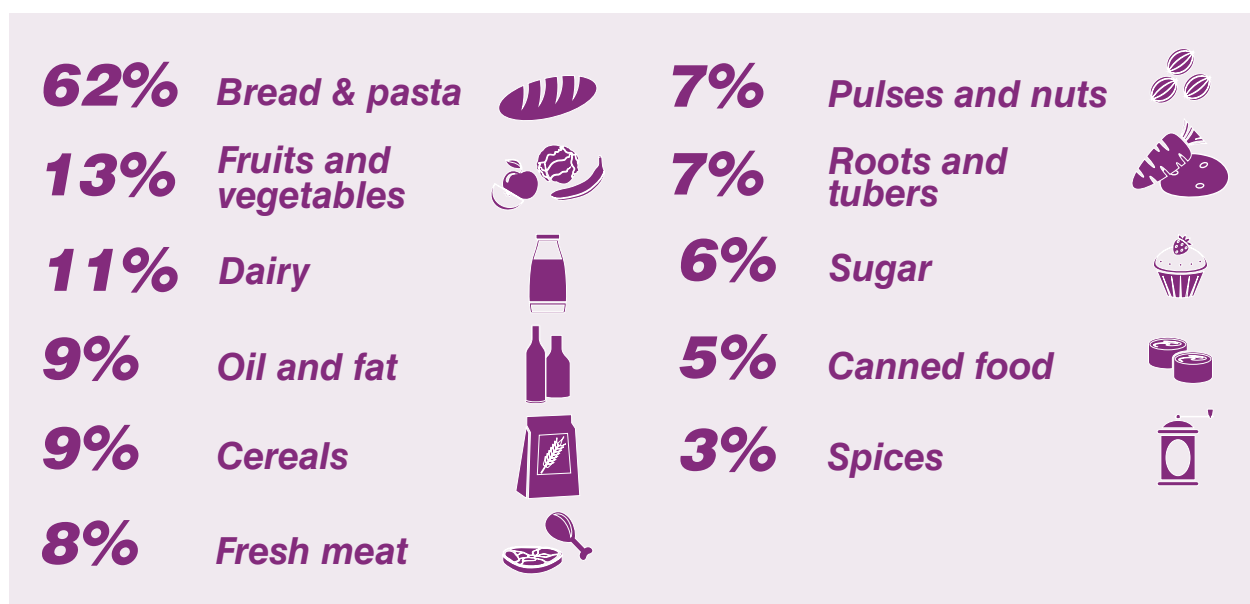


Figure 46. Average composition of food expenditure



In 2017, the districts with the highest share of food expenditure were Hasbaya and Hermel (53%), while the lowest shares of food expenditure were found in Meten and Jbeil (37%). The difference between districts in expenditure on rent was more dramatic, ranging from 9% of total household expenditure in Hasbaya to 36% of expenditures in Baabda. Health as a share of household expenditure ranged from 5% in Baabda to 16% in Akkar.

Food as a share of total household expenditure is used as a proxy indicator of food security. Households with a high share of food expenditure often do not have enough resources to cover other important costs such as health and education. Food expenditures share is classified into four categories:

- Very high: > 75%
- High: 66-75%
- Medium: 50-65%
- Low <50%

As in 2016, 17% of refugee households spent more than 65% of their expenses on food. Map 5 shows the variation among districts. In Hermel, 31% of Syrian refugee households reported allocating more than 65% of their expenditures to food, while in Akkar, Baalbek, Hasbaya, Jezzine, Saida and West Bekaa, between 21 and 30% of households allocated more than 65% of expenditures to food. The share of households reporting high expenditures increased since 2016 in Akkar, Hasbaya, Hermel, Jezzine and Saida.

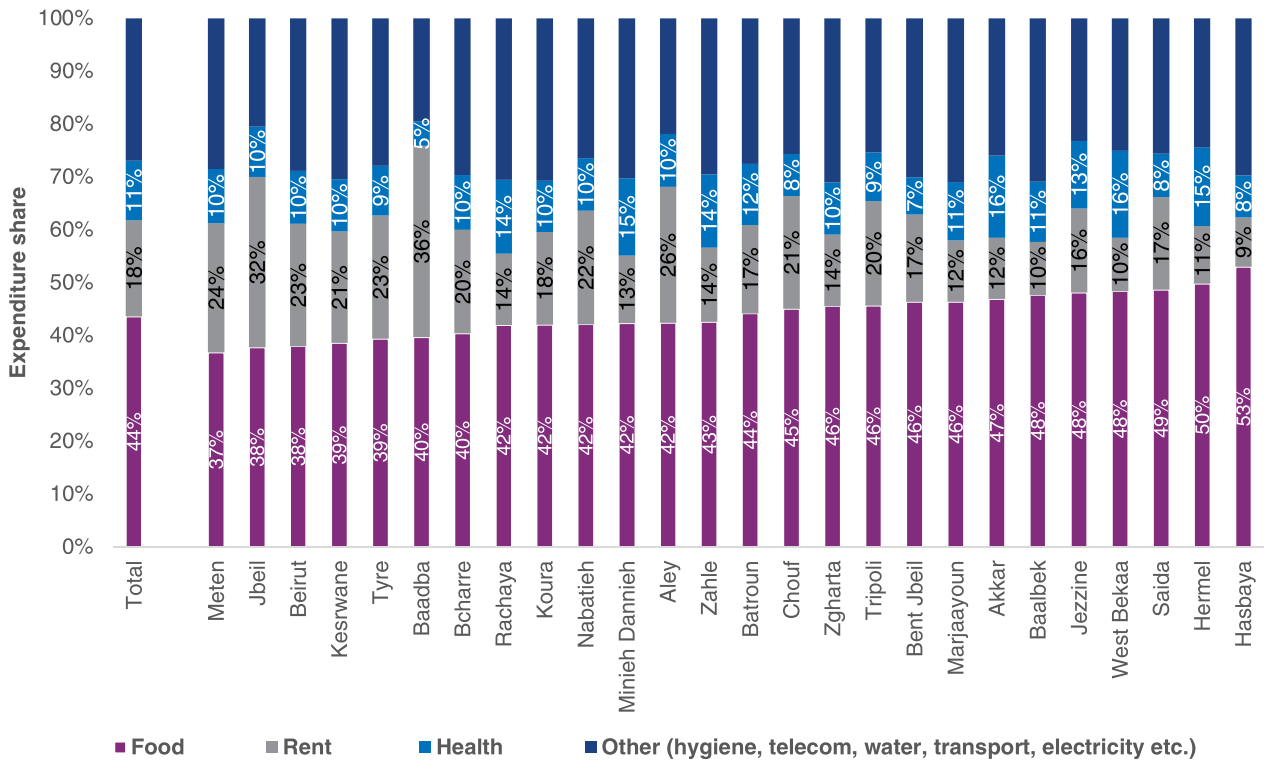
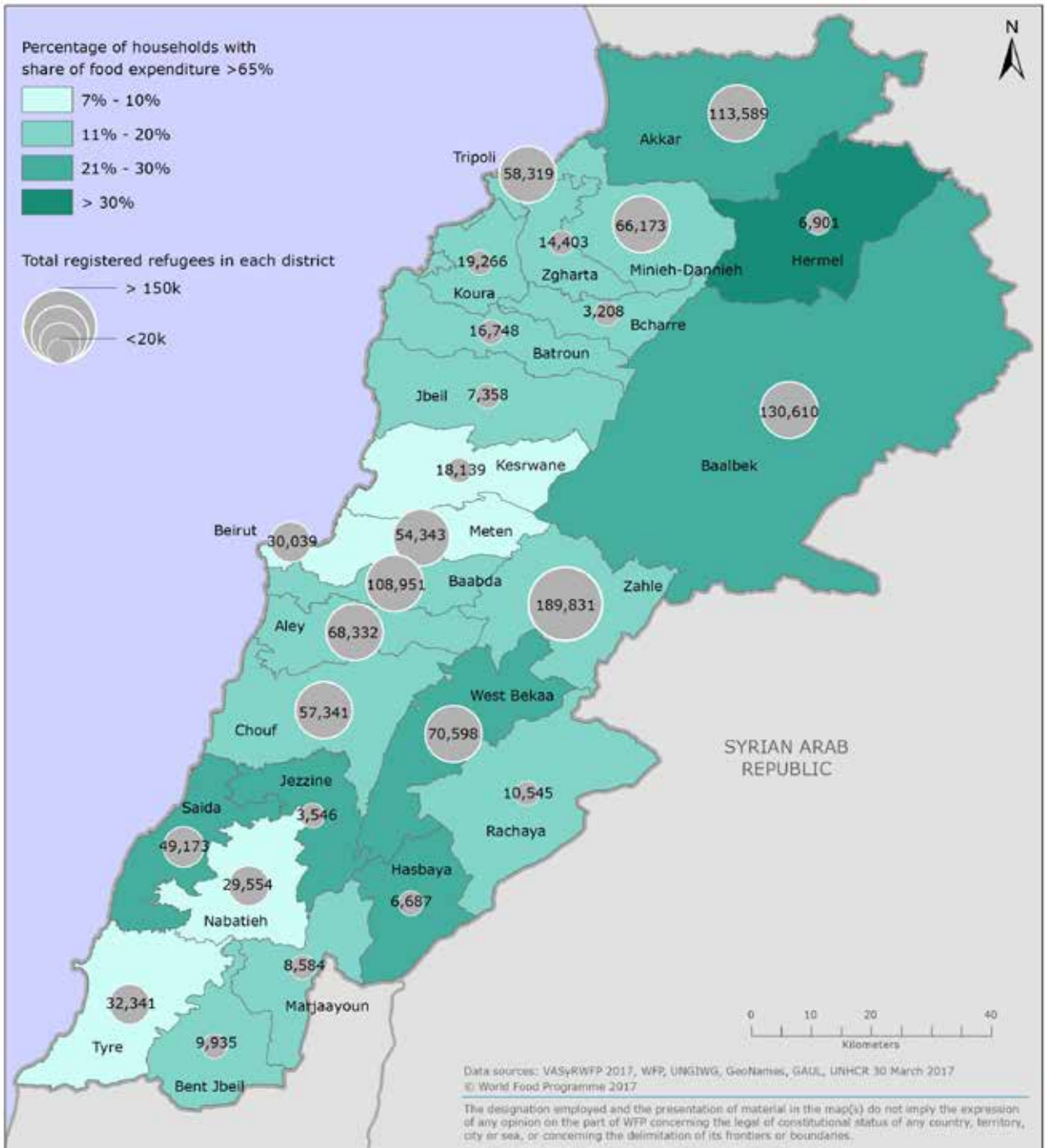


Figure 47. Average monthly main expenditure shares by category and district



Map 5. Syrian refugee households allocating over 65% of their expenditures on food

Minimum expenditures

The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) is an indicator of the cost of the food and non-food items needed by a Syrian refugee household of five members over a one-month duration.¹⁸ The Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) assumes the same minimum caloric intake of 2,100 but with fewer nutrients, the same non-food items, rent expenses for an informal tented settlement, less consumption of water, and an element of debt repayment. Also, the SMEB does not include health and education costs while these costs are included in the MEB. Households have been classified into four categories according to the proportion of the Minimum and Survival Expenditure Basket their total per capita expenditure represents.¹⁹

Expenditure thresholds	Per capita expenditure
< Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)	< US\$ 87
SMEB- Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)	US\$ 87 - US\$ 113
MEB – 125% of MEB	US \$114 - US\$ 142
>125% MEB	>US\$ 143

58%
of Syrian refugee households have monthly expenditures less than the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket—they are not spending enough to meet the basic needs for survival

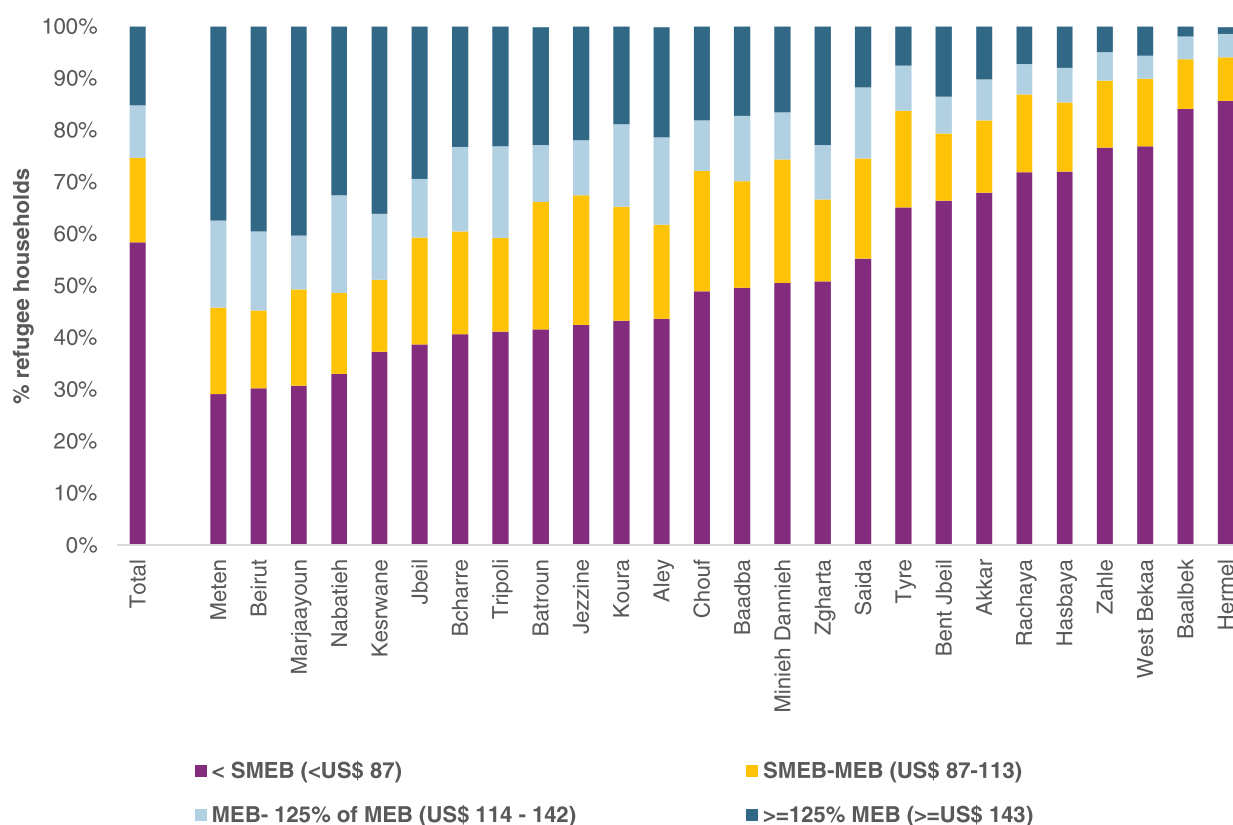


Figure 48. Percentage of households by Minimum and Survival Expenditure Basket categories by district

18 Annex 2 describes the composition of the MEB as well as the methodology used to determine it.

19 The comparison has been made using the expenditure per capita to control for household size.

Results showed that in 2017, 75% of Syrian refugee households were below the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), unable to meet basic needs of food, health, shelter and education. Furthermore, 58% of households had a per capita expenditure below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB), meaning they were living in extreme poverty, unable to meet survival needs. At the national level, there was an 11% increase since last year in the share of households below the SMEB, but the variation for some districts was larger. The share of Syrian refugee households in the SMEB category increased significantly since 2016 in Rachaya (from 41% to 72%), Jezzine (from 27% to 43%) and Saida (from 36% to 55%). In contrast, the share of households in the SMEB category dropped notably in Marjaayoun (from 48% to 31%) and Tripoli (from 53% to 41%) over the past year.

Geographical differences were substantial, and the proportion of households falling below the SMEB ranges from 17% in Meten to 86% in Hermel. Baalbek, Hasbaya, Rachaya, West Bekaa and Zahle all reported more than 70% of households below the SMEB, while Meten was the only district with a share under 30%.

Poverty line

Households have also been classified according to the poverty line proposed for Lebanon by the World Bank in 2013,²⁰ established at US\$ 3.84 per person per day. The proportion of households living below the poverty line has continued to increase, reaching 76% of the refugee households in 2017, as shown in Figure 49.

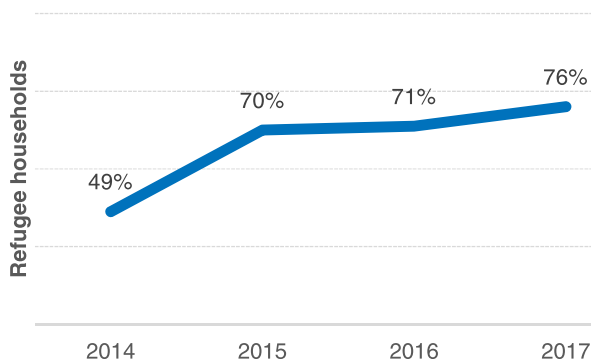
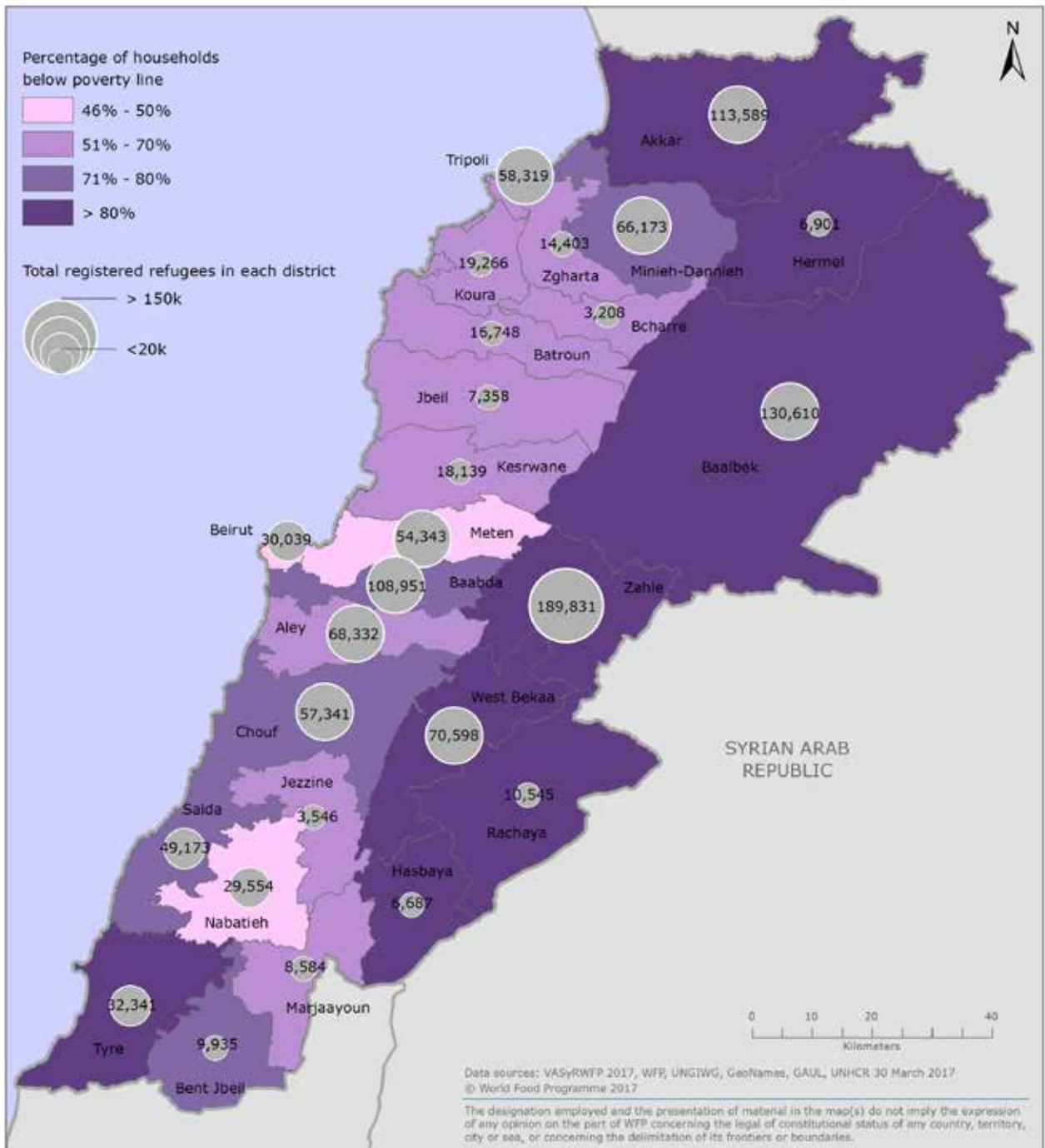


Figure 49. Syrian refugee households below the poverty line (US\$ 3.84 per person per day) 2014-2017

More than 80% of refugee households in the districts bordering the Syrian Arab Republic are living below the poverty line of US\$ 3.84 per person per day. Akkar, Hermel, Rachaya and Tyre had an increase of households below the poverty line, while a reduction was reported in Koura and Marjaayoun.

²⁰ United Nations Development Programme and the Council for Development and Reconstruction (2014). Lebanon Millennium Development Goals Report 2013-2014.



Map 6. Percentage of households below the poverty line by district

Debt and borrowing money

Although there was a slight reduction (four percentage points) in the share of refugee households which had debts and borrowed money, both remained extremely common. In the previous three months, 87% of refugee households had borrowed money, and the same percentage was currently in debt. Although still high (around 75%), Baabda, Jbeil and Nabatieh had the lowest percentage of households with debt, while almost all households (above 95%) in Rachaya, Zahle, Bent Jbeil and West Bekaa reported having debt.

Following the same trend, the average amount of debt decreased, from US\$ 857 in 2016 to US\$ 798 in 2017.

Across all Syrian refugee households, 77% had debts of US\$ 200 or more and 43% of US\$ 600 or more. Only 13% of refugee households did not have any debt. Figure 50 shows the distribution of debt categories among districts. More than 50% of refugee households in Bcharre, Bent Jbeil, Hasbaya, Jezzine and Meten had debt greater than US\$ 600. Households in Aley, Chouf, Hermel and Tyre have the lowest shares of households with high debt.

The main reasons for borrowing money have remained the same since 2014: to buy food (72%), cover health expenses (27%) and pay for rent (43%). In addition, 27% of refugee households reported borrowing money to buy medicine. While borrowing money to cover health expenses increased, borrowing to buy food and pay for rent decreased.



3/4
of households
borrowed money
to buy food

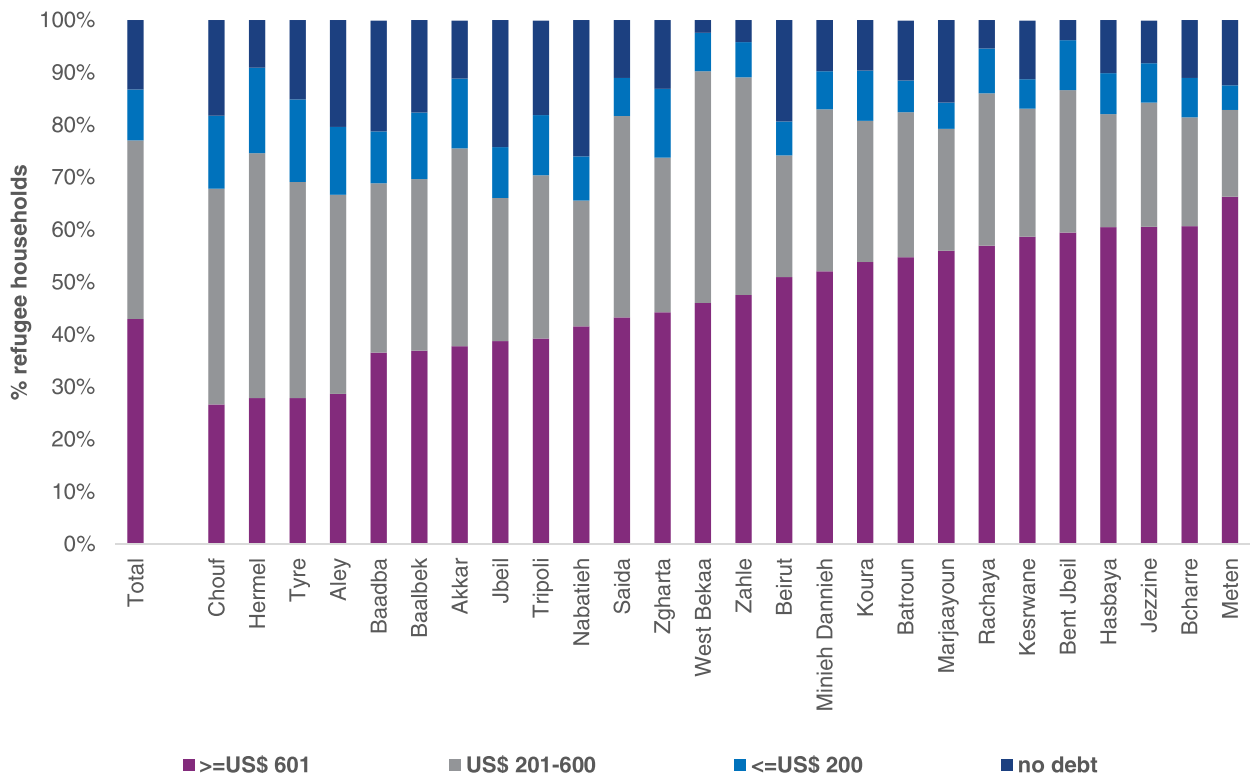


Figure 50. Household average debt and amounts owed by district

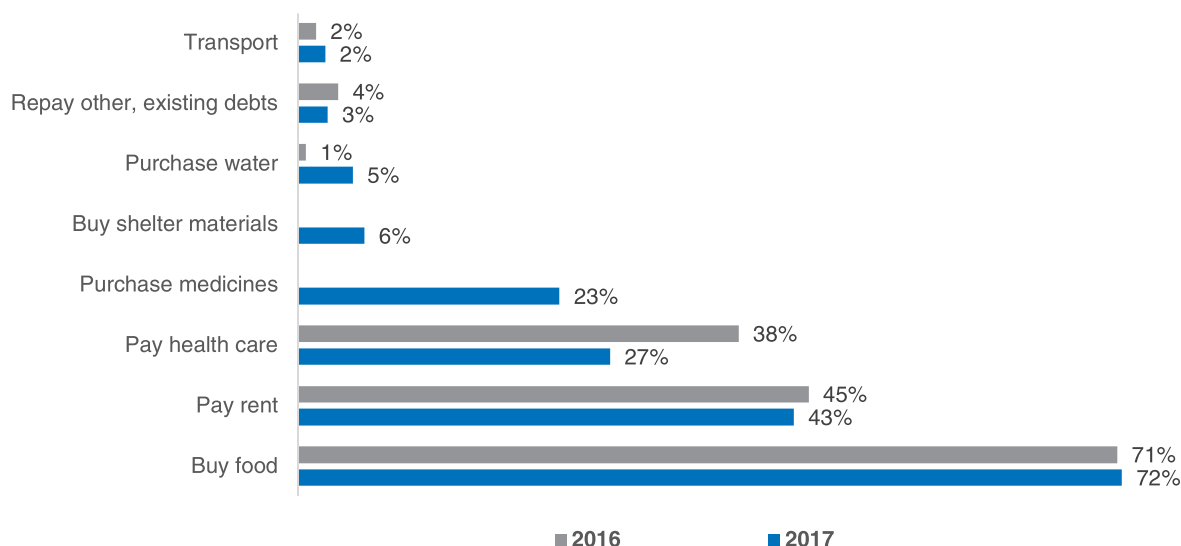


Figure 51. Main reasons for borrowing money 2016-2017

The reasons for incurring debt vary by district. In Bent Jbeil, Hermel, Koura, Rachaya and West Bekaa, more than 80% of households borrowed money to buy food. In nine districts—Bcharre, Bent Jbeil, Kesrwane, Koura, Meten, Nabatieh, Rachaya, Tripoli and Zgharta—more than 50% of refugee households borrowed money to pay for rent. In Hasbaya, Minieh Dannieh and Tyre, more than 40% of households borrowed money to pay for health expenses. In Bent Jbeil, more than 60% of refugee households borrowed money to buy medicine, and more than 30% of households in Hasbaya, Nabatieh and Tyre reported borrowing for the same reason.

The main sources of money borrowed remained friends and relatives in Lebanon (69%) followed by supermarket/shops (38%) and landlords (9%). Owing to their legal status and tendency to change accommodation frequently, the creditworthiness of refugees remained low. The main reasons were that refugees are perceived as less likely to repay on time and more likely to default on loans; there is a lack of social pressure from elders or a local guarantor; and it is difficult for traders to follow up with them as they change their accommodation often.²¹

The districts where more than 80% of households borrow money from friends or relatives in Lebanon are Bent Jbeil, Jezzine and Kesrwane. Borrowing money from supermarkets/shops was more common in Baalbek, Bent Jbeil, Hermel, Marjaayoun, Rachaya and West Bekaa, where more than 50% of households accessed this source of credit. In Rachaya and Zgharta, asking for credit from the landlord was reported by over 20% of surveyed households.

The other sources of credit, used by a small percentage of Syrian refugees, were friends or relatives outside Lebanon, local charities and money lenders.

Vulnerable districts

As noted above, national statistics hide significant vulnerability in certain districts. The five red flags of economic vulnerability are:

- Low monthly per capita expenditure
- Spending below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket threshold
- Household income below the poverty line of US\$ 3.84 per person per day
- High levels of debt (above US\$ 600)
- Having borrowed money in the previous three months

Two districts—Hasbaya and West Bekaa—have higher values compared to the national mean for all five indicators. Another five districts—Akkar, Bent Jbeil, Hermel, Rachaya and Zahle—are above the mean for four of the five indicators (see Table 11 in the Food Security chapter). These regional differences underscore the need for geographically-targeted interventions.

21 N. Kukrety & S. Al Jamal, *Poverty, Inequality and Social Protection in Lebanon*, OXFAM, AUB Policy Institute, April 2016.

LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME

The survey assessed income opportunities among refugees, collecting information at the individual and household levels. This section has first analysed data on income activities for individuals who worked in the 30 days prior to the survey: employment and unemployment levels, type of work, number of days

worked and salary earned. Data is then analysed at the household level for households which reported working members: who was working, the type of income sources and total household income. When possible, results were compared with 2016.²²

Employment, unemployment and labour force

For the purpose of this study the following definitions were used:

Employment: number of individuals of working age (15-64 years old) who worked during the past 30 days.

Unemployment: number of individuals of working age (15-64 years old) who were not employed during the past 30 days, but sought work.

Labour force: Sum of employed and unemployed working-age individuals.

Employment-to-population ratio: the proportion of a country's working-age population that is employed

Age disaggregation of individuals who worked in the 30 days prior to the survey:

- Working-age population: individuals aged 15-64
- Working-age adults: individuals aged 25-64
- Working youth: individuals aged 15-24
- Working children: children aged 5-14

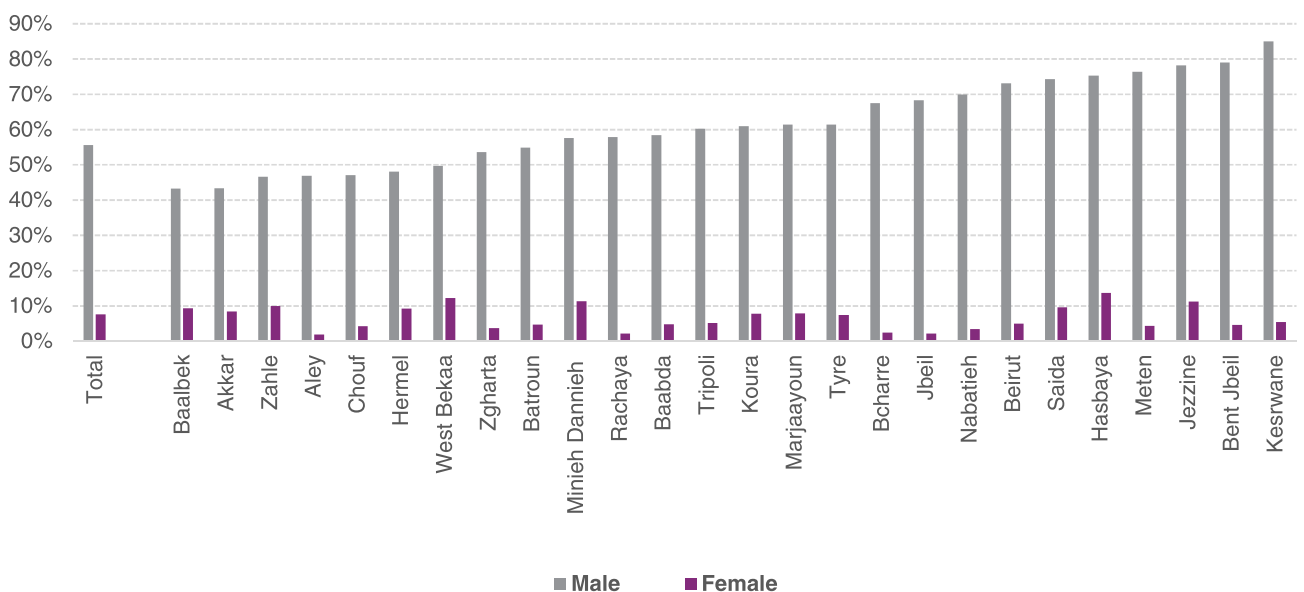


Figure 52. Employment-to-population ratios (aged 15-64) by district and gender

²² In 2016, the age groups were children (age 5-14), adolescents (age 15-17) and adults (age 18-65), making exact comparisons possible only for children.

Syrian refugees are legally permitted to work in agriculture, construction and environment. These are the sectors in which Syrians were traditionally engaged (agriculture and construction in particular) before the crisis.

The working-age population represents half of all Syrian refugees in Lebanon, and is composed of 48% men and 52% women. The labour force (those employed plus those not working but seeking work, aged 15-64) represented 68% of working-age men and 10% of working-age women. An estimated 56% of male individuals aged 15-64 were working in the 30 days prior the survey. Although an exact comparison is not possible, this seems to indicate a decline in male employment in the past year.²³ Female employment remained very low at 7.6%. The districts with more than 70% of males employed were Beirut, Bent Jbeil, Saida, Hasbaya, Jezzine, Kesrwane and Meten, while Hasbaya, Jezzine, Minieh Dannieh and West Bekaa had the highest percentages of employed women (all above 10%).

Looking at the age disaggregation, the percentage of children 5-14 years old who reported working remained stable (2.4% in 2017, compared to 2.5% in 2016). The highest percentage of working children was reported in Nabatieh (5.7%).

Of the youth cohort (aged 15-24), 24% reported working: around 40% of youth in Hasbaya and Saida, while in Bent Jbeil, Jezzine, Kesrwane, Meten and Tripoli, the share of working youth was around 30%. Aley reported the lowest rate of youth employment, at 11%.

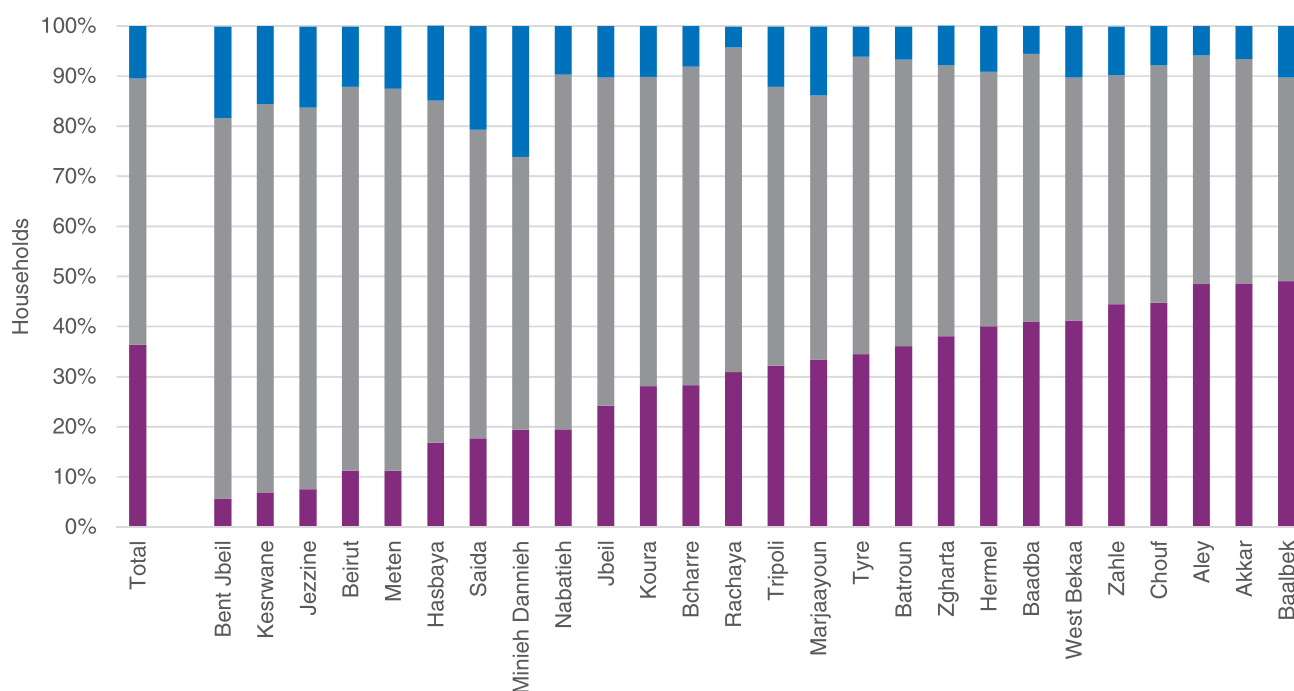


Figure 53. Number of working household members by district

²³ While 70% of working-age men reported being employed in 2016, that figure was for the age group 18-65, while employment for the age group 15-64 was evaluated in 2017.

While 36% of households did not have any working member in the 30 days prior to the survey, 53% of households had one working member, and 11% of the households had two or more working members. In Beirut, Bent Jbeil, Jezzine, Kesrwane and Meten, more than 88% of households had at least one working member, but in Akkar, Aley and Baalbek, nearly half of refugee households did not have any working member. More than half (56%) of female-headed households did not have any working members, compared to 32% of households headed by men. On average, 11% of households had two or more working members, with the highest percentage reported in Minieh Dannieh, with 26%.

For working men, the vast majority (88%) were considered the primary breadwinner for the household. For the 8% of women who were participating in the labour force, slightly more than half (57%) were the primary wage earners in the household. The majority (97%) worked a morning shift, 45% had afternoon shifts and only 5% worked night shifts, with few women working afternoon and night shifts.

Unemployment for working age individuals was reported at 12.7% for men and 2.7% for women. Aley had the highest percentage of unemployed men (22%), followed by Bcharre (20%) and Tyre (19%). Aley, Batroun and Tyre reported the highest female unemployment (around 5%). The primary reason cited for male unemployment was the absence of employment opportunities (79%), and the second was medical conditions or injuries (11%).

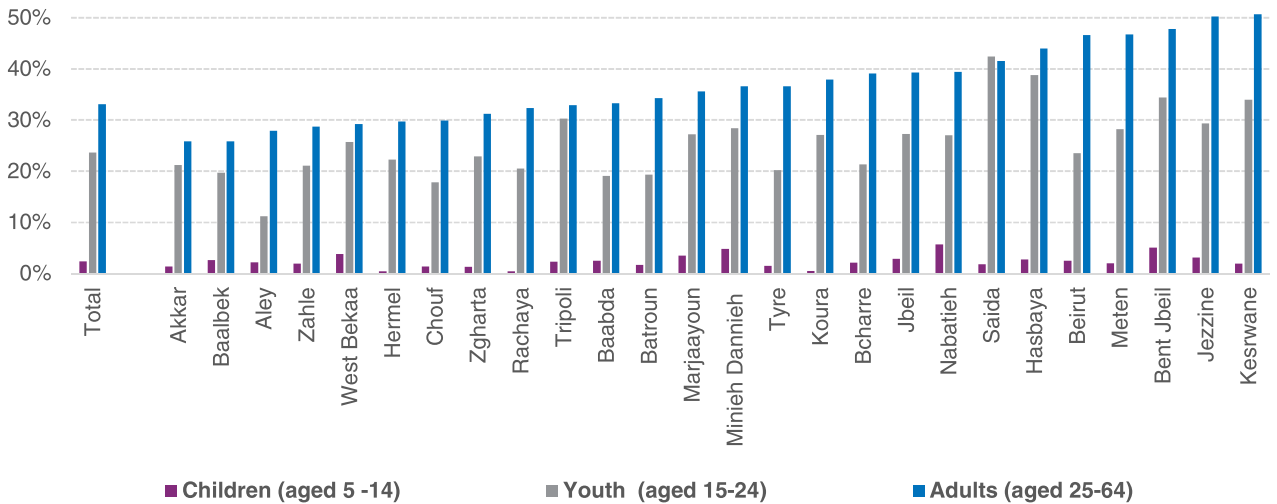


Figure 54. Employment-to-population ratios by age group and district

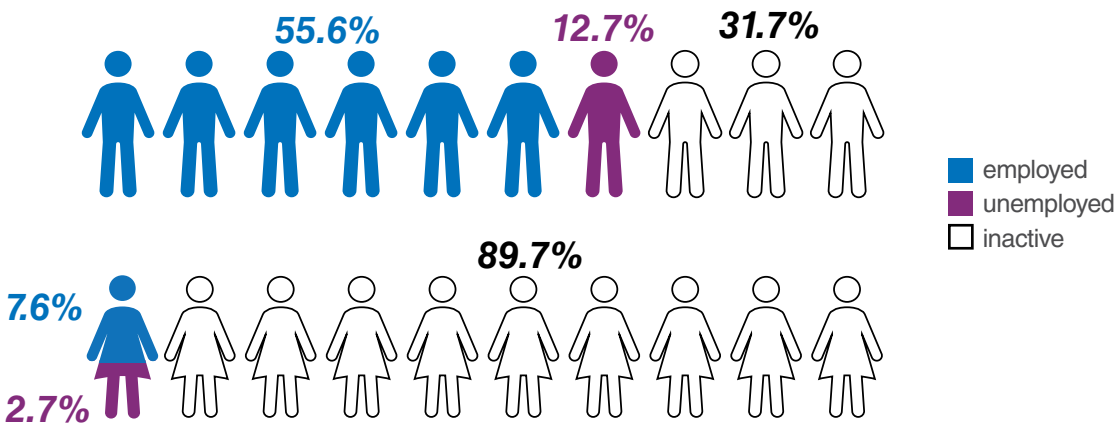


Figure 55. Employed and unemployed as share of total working-age population



BIG waves
surfers paradise



SN & SWS & SEA & SA
surfers paradise

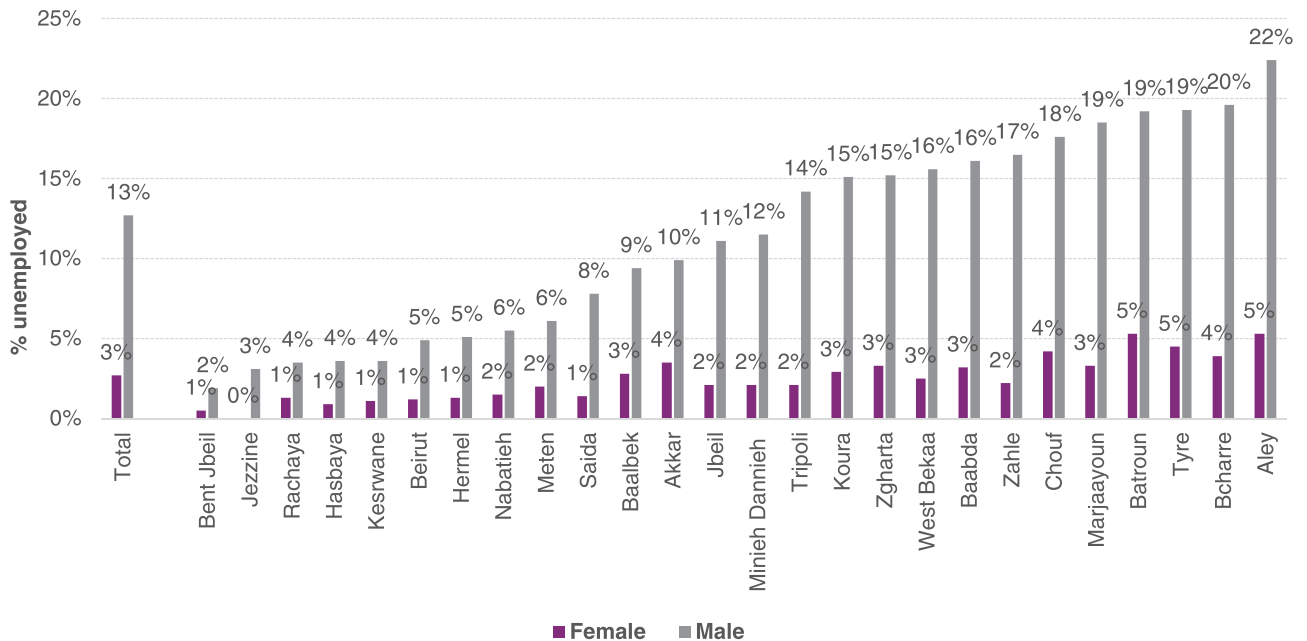


Figure 56. Unemployment rates by gender and district

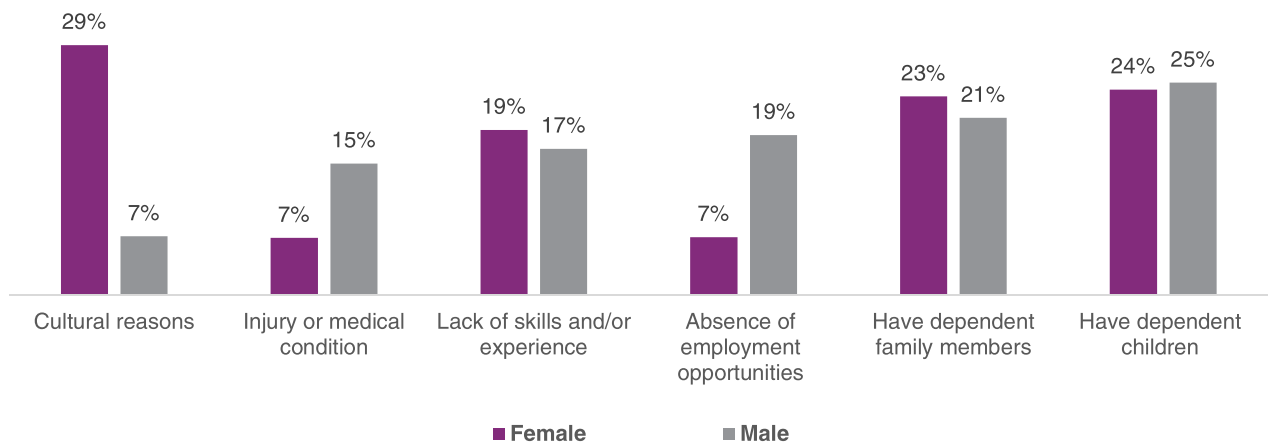


Figure 57. Main reasons for not working by gender

At a national level, 44% of Syrian refugee men aged 15-64 were not working, although not all of those were looking for work. In the districts of Akkar, Aley, Baalbek, Chouf, Hermel, West Bekaa and Zahle, more than 50% of male refugees were not working. Most Syrian refugee women (93%) were not working. The reasons why individuals were not working were different for men and women, and many refugees cited more than one reason. For women, the primary reasons cited for not working were: cultural reasons (29%), the need to take care of children and adults in the households (23% and 24%), and the lack of skills and experience to

apply for jobs (19%). For men, the primary reasons cited were having dependent family members and children (21% and 25%), the absence of employment opportunities (19%), lack of skills and/or experience (17%), and medical conditions or injuries (15%). As the unemployment rate only tracks those who are seeking work, there are likely more individuals who would seek employment if it were feasible to overcome the barriers cited.

Among employed Syrian refugees, only 32% reported working regularly. This percentage doubled in Beirut, where 60% of workers had regular employment.

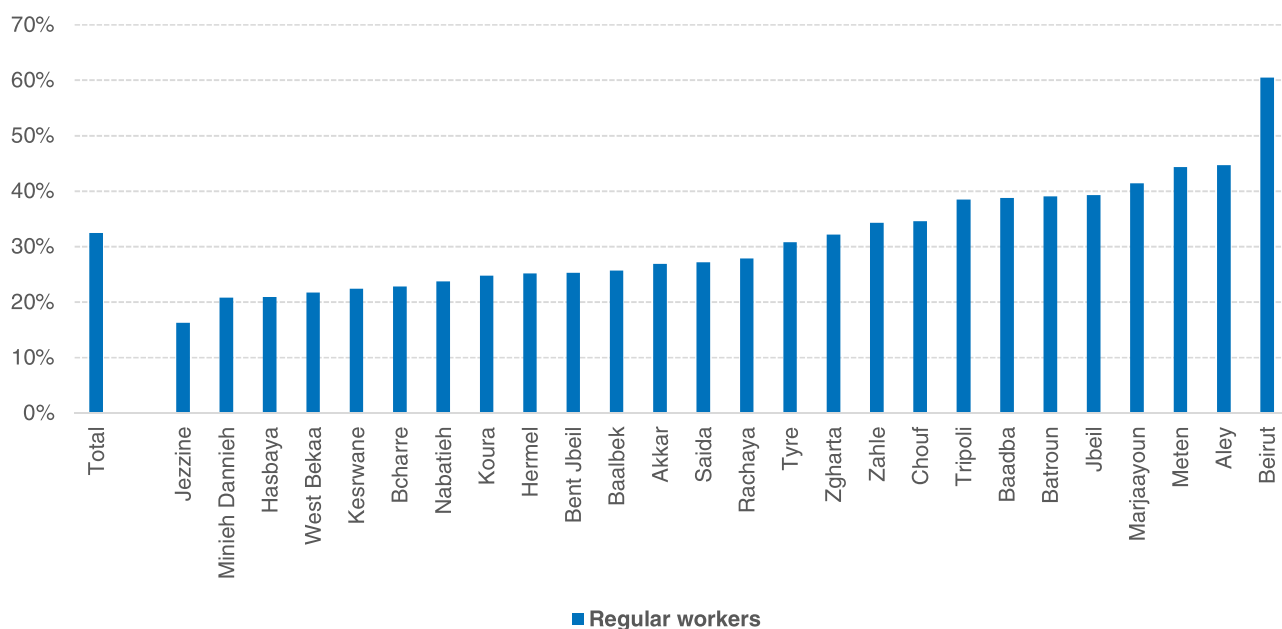


Figure 58. Percentage of displaced Syrians employed with regular work

On average, employed individuals aged 15-64 worked 14 days per month, with a small difference between women and men. Assuming 22 working days per month, this indicates significant underemployment. In Beirut, working adults worked an average of 21 days, and in Aley, Baabda, Chouf, Jbeil, Kesrwane, Meten, Nabatieh, Tripoli and Tyre, employed individuals worked an average of 16 days per month. Days worked was lowest in West Bekaa, where employed adults worked an average of just 11 days per month.

56%
of female-headed households did not have any working members, compared to 32% of households headed by men

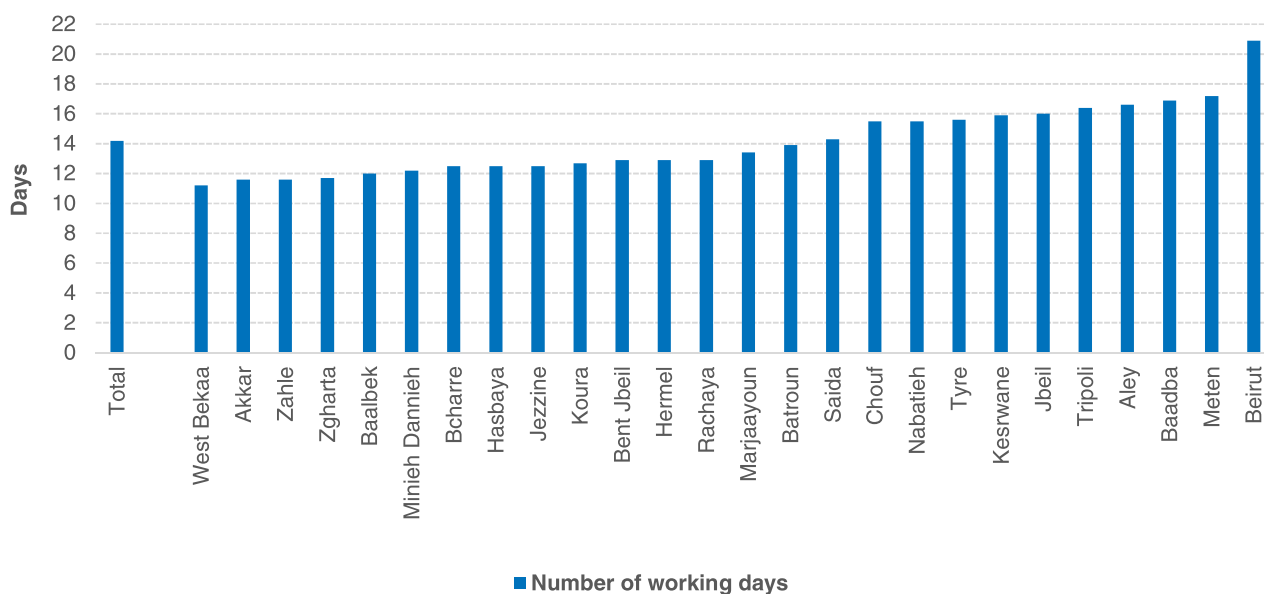


Figure 59. Average number of working days for employed individuals aged 15-64 by district

Sector of work and income

Women and men are involved in different economic activities. Employed men (aged 15-64) were mainly involved in construction (33%), agriculture activities (22%) and services (16%). (Services include working in hotels, restaurants and transport, and personal services such as cleaning, hair care, cooking and child care, and so on.) Around 8% worked in manufacturing, and 7% in professional activities and occasional work. Women were mainly involved in agriculture (55%) followed by services (24%), with a small number (8%) employed in professional services. Youth workers were mostly involved in agriculture (28%), construction (23%), services (19%) and manufacturing (8%). Working children were involved in agriculture and services (22% each) followed by professional services (11%) and manufacturing (8%).

There were no major changes compared to 2016 in the distribution of type of work among districts. Bcharre had the highest percentage of workers involved in agriculture (67%), followed by Hermel, then Hasbaya, Marjaayoun, West Bekaa and Zgharta, all of which had more than 40% of workers employed in agriculture.

Bent Jbeil had the highest share of workers involved in construction (61%), followed by Nabatieh (50%), Keswane (44%), Chouf (44%) and Meten (40%). In Beirut, just over half of workers (52%) were involved in service activities.

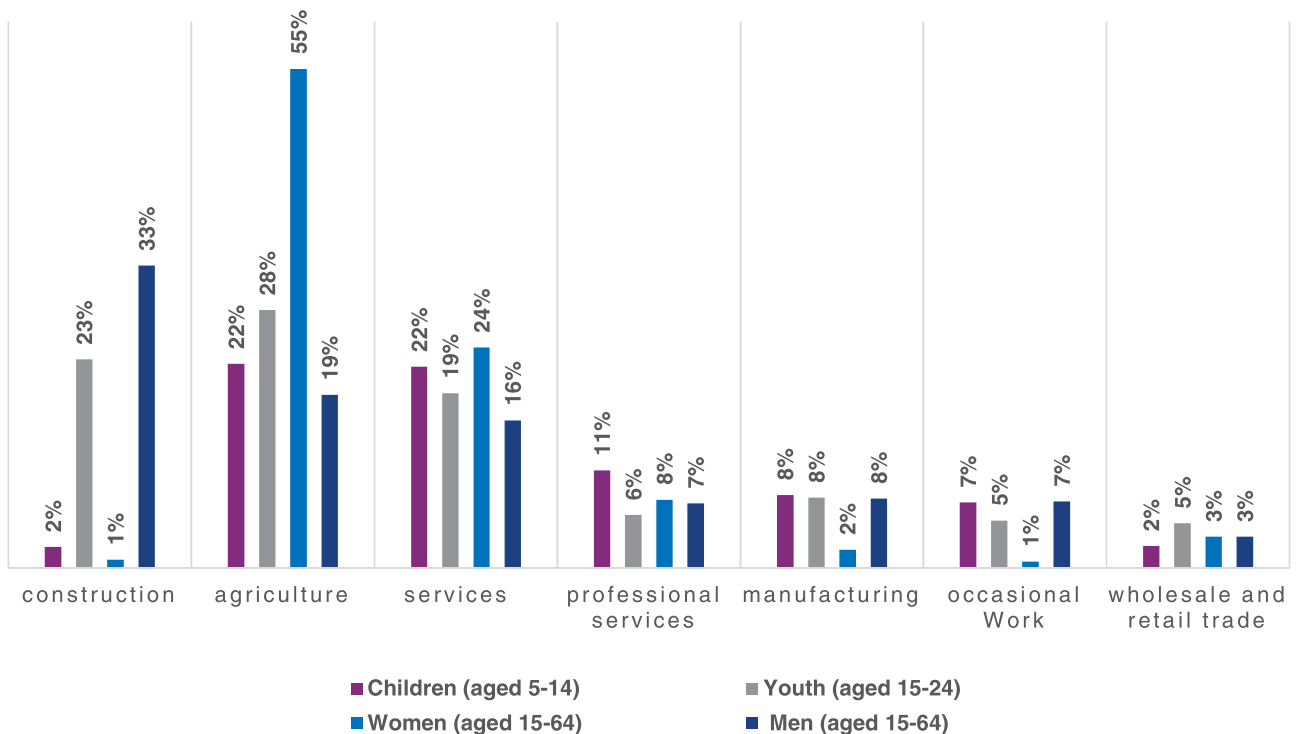


Figure 60. Distribution of employment by sector, age group and gender

Refugees and Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role in the economy of Lebanon. Displaced Syrians are legally permitted to work in agriculture activities, and were traditionally engaged as seasonal workers before the Syria crisis.



An average of 15% of households were involved in agricultural livelihood activities. Agriculture was reported as the first source of income in 9% of households.



The highest percentage of households involved in agricultural livelihood activities were found in Bcharre (60%), followed by Jezzine (45%), Tyre (42%) and Batroun (39%).



An average of 24% of workers were engaged in agriculture. Of the 8% of women who were working, just over half (55%) were involved in agriculture, compared with 19% of working men. Households in Hasbaya reported the highest percentage of women working in agriculture (12%), followed by West Bekaa (9%), Saida (8%) and Zahle (8%).



Individuals engaged in agriculture worked 12 days per month on average. They earned US\$ 9.7 per day, with men earning more than double what women earned (US\$ 12.4 versus US\$ 6).

On average, the monthly income for working adults was US\$ 193: US\$ 206 for men, but only US\$ 158 for women, despite being employed for nearly the same number of working days (14 for men and 13 for women). Results varied greatly among districts, with Beirut, Kesrwan and Meten as the districts where workers earned the most.

Looking at employment by sector, individuals earned more on average if engaged in wholesale and retail (US\$ 288 monthly) or manufacturing (US\$ 270 monthly). Workers engaged in professional services earned US\$ 235, in other services US\$ 215, and in construction US\$ 212 per month; while workers involved in agriculture earned the least (US\$ 118).

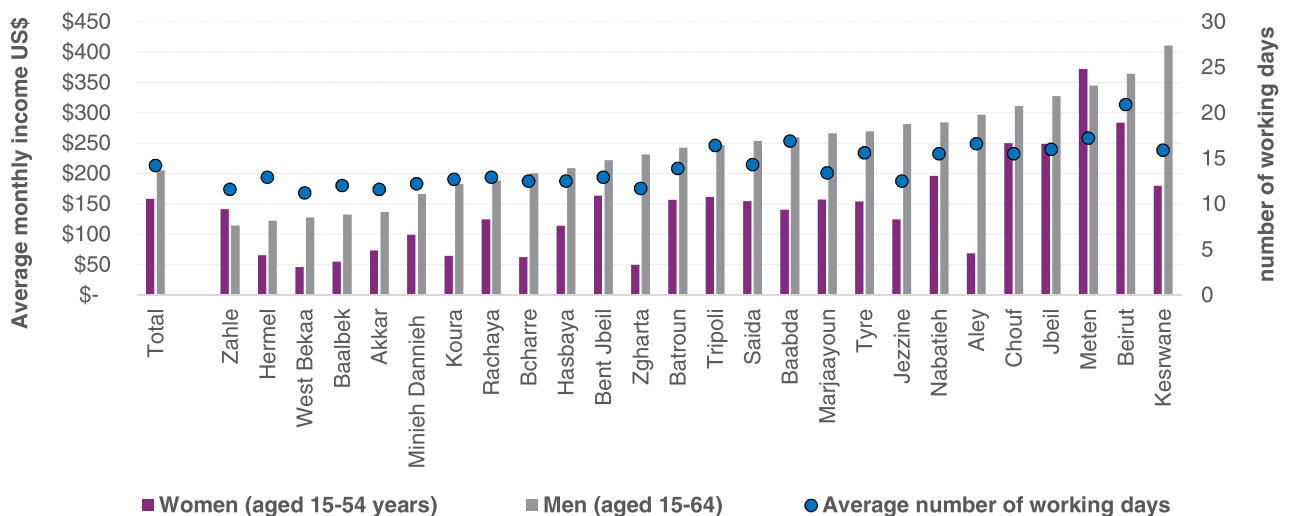


Figure 61. Average earnings in US\$ per month by gender and average number of working days, by district

Household income

Households were asked to report their total income. Figure 62 shows the average per capita monthly income by district. Households in Meten, Beirut, Jbeil, Kerswane, and Baabda had the highest monthly per capita incomes, all above US\$ 90. The lowest per capita incomes were reported in Hermel, Baalbek and West Bekaa (all averaging less than US \$30). It is worth noting that even the highest monthly per capita income falls short of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (US\$ 114), and is only barely above the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (US\$ 87).

Income opportunities remained a challenge for Syrian refugee households in 2017. Households were asked to report their primary, secondary and tertiary source of income (primary being the source providing the most income, and so on). Analysis revealed that the most utilized sources of income continued to be non-sustainable. WFP assistance remained the primary source of income for 28% of refugee households, while borrowing and credit was the primary source for 16% of households.

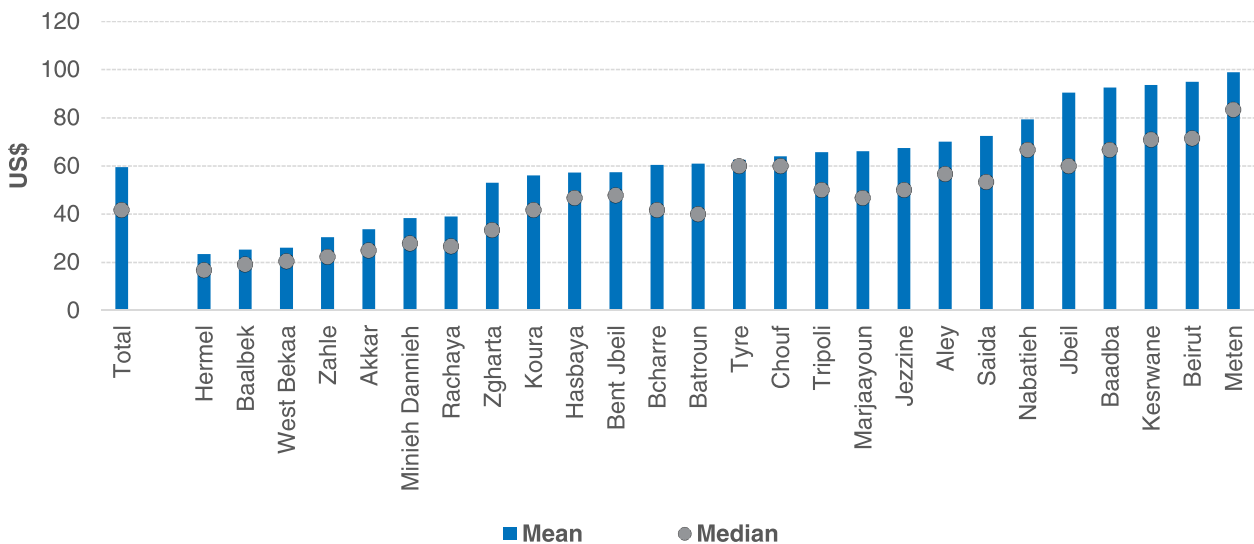


Figure 62. Average household monthly per capita income (US\$) by district

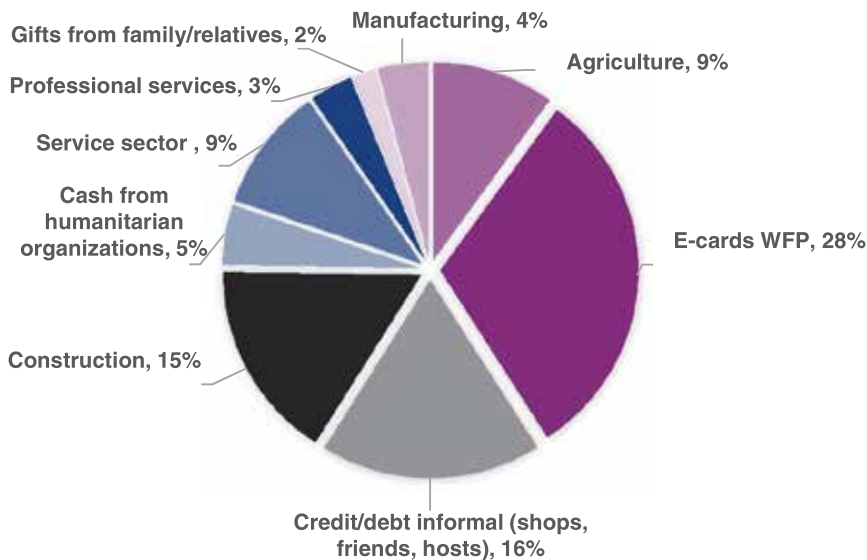


Figure 63. Main income sources reported by households

Looking at the aggregation of the three main sources of income, households relied most frequently on informal credit and debt (62%), followed by WFP assistance (40%). Work in construction was reported by 23% of refugee households, while 15% of households reported work in agriculture and the service sector. Cash assistance from humanitarian organizations (non-WFP) was a source of income for 14% of the households.

The most common sources of income varied widely among districts:

Informal loans: reported as source of income in more than 80% of the refugee households in Bent Jbeil, Rachaya, West Bekaa and Zahle.

WFP assistance – food voucher: over 50% of the households reported this source of income in Baalbek, Hasbaya, West Bekaa and Zahle.

Construction: in Bent Jbeil 62% of refugee households had this source of income; Marjaayoun and Nabatieh followed with more than 40% each.

Agriculture: in Bcharre 60% of households reported agriculture as source of income; in Jezzine the share is 45%, in Tyre 42% and in Batroun 39%.

Service sector: more than half of refugee households (57%) in Beirut worked in the service sector. Jezzine, Meten, Tripoli and Zgharta followed with averages around 30%.

Cash from humanitarian organizations (non-WFP): Zahle had the highest share (42%) of households relying on cash from humanitarian organizations as a source of income; West Bekaa followed with 36% and Rachaya with 21%.



Figure 64. Three main sources of income reported by refugee households

Employment among youth

Employment plays an important role not only in fighting poverty, but also in tackling the disempowerment and dissatisfaction that often lead youth to violence. Taking a closer look at youth employment among those aged 15 to 24, 3.7% were illiterate and inactive (unemployed and not seeking work), with 4.6% among females and 2.6% among males. The number of youth that were reported as illiterate and inactive was highest in the South at 7.1%, followed by the Bekaa at 6.3%. The lowest percentage was reported in Beirut, at only 1.8%.

Economically active youth refers to refugees aged 15 to 24 who reported working in the previous 30 days.

Economically inactive married females in the same age group (15-24), represented a much higher percentage of the total number of youth (25%). The highest number of inactive young females was again found in the South (33%), followed by Mount Lebanon (30%).

In terms of the employment to population ratio, 22% of youth aged 15 to 18 were economically active, while the share was 25% for the older bracket (aged 19 to 24), averaging 24% for all youth. There was a major gender difference in economic activity for both age groups. For youth aged 15 to 18, only 9.3% of the females were working compared to 34% of males. Similarly, for those aged 19 to 24, 6.5% of females reported working while 55% of males reported working.

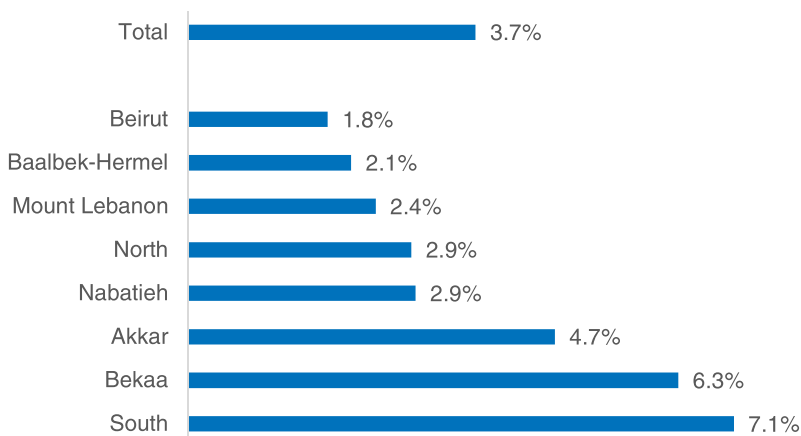


Figure 65. Percentage of illiterate youth that were economically inactive by governorate

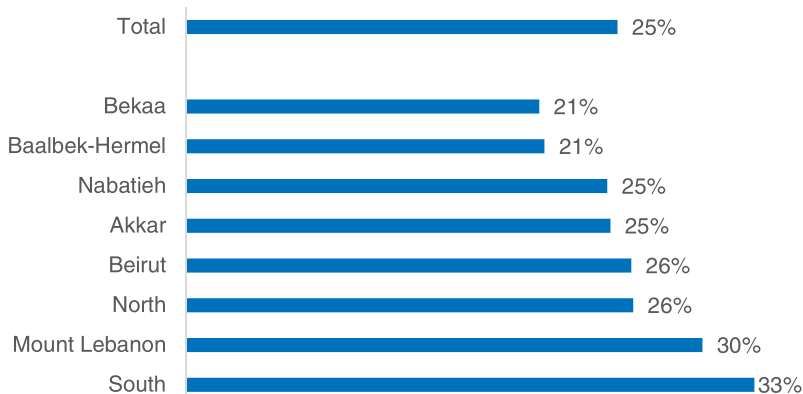
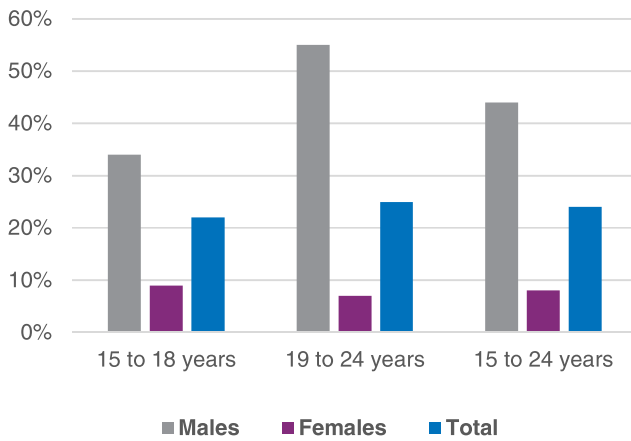


Figure 66. Percentage of economically inactive female youth as a share of total youth by governorate





Economically active youth aged 15-17

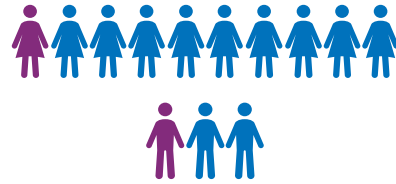


Figure 67. Share of economically active youth by age range and gender

Only 24% out of all youth aged 15 to 24 reported working in the previous 30 days. Economically active youth reported jobs in the agricultural sector (28%), followed by construction (23%) and other services (19%) such as hotels, restaurants, transport and so on. The remaining 30% were scattered between manufacturing, professional services, occasional work, and wholesale and retail. Only 0.3% of economically active youth reported resorting to begging. The main reason for not working reported by all unemployed youth was cultural reasons (24%),

with much higher values among females (33%) compared to their male counterparts (6.4%). The second most reported reason for not working was having a dependent child (22%, with only slight variation between females and males), followed by having a dependent family member (20%, reported by 22% of females and 14% of males), and then lack of skills at 19% (for both females and males). Much lower percentages were reported for the remaining reasons: medical condition at 6.8%, lack of legal residency at 3.6% and seasonal work at 0.9%.

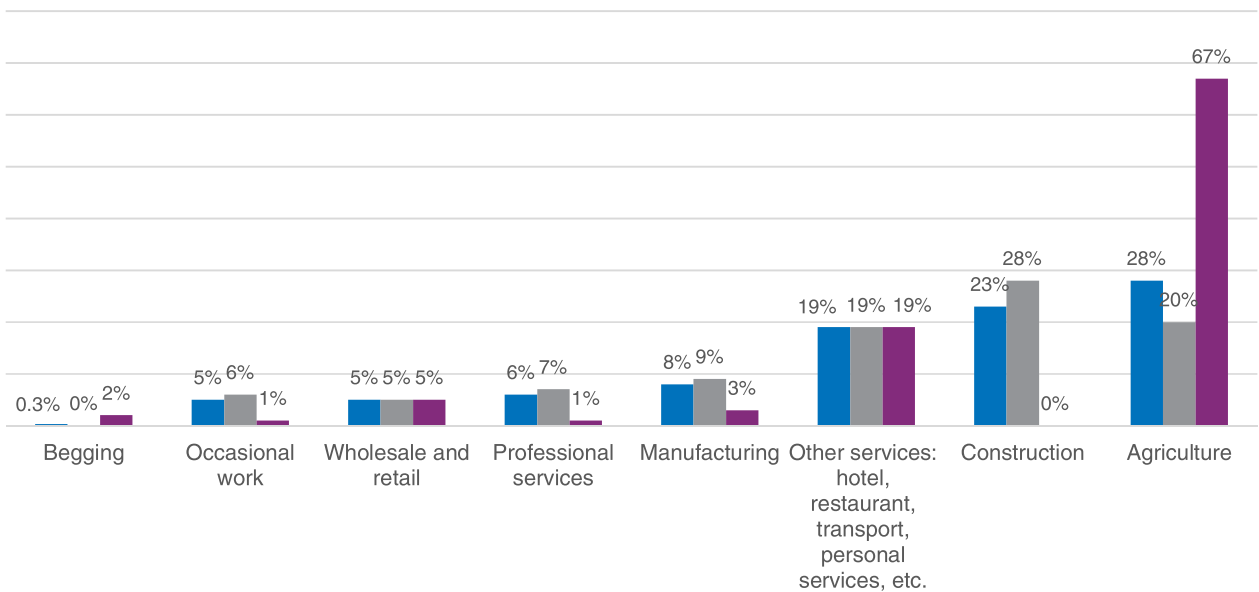


Figure 68. Type of work among economically active youth by gender

COPING STRATEGIES

An average of 77% of Syrian refugee households reported having experienced a lack of food or money to buy food during the 30 days prior to the survey. Although high, this is a notable improvement compared to 88% in 2016.

Food-related coping strategies

As in the past, nearly all Syrian refugee households (96%) adopted food-related coping strategies in the week prior to the survey, to deal with the lack of food or money to buy food. The most common coping strategy related to food consumption continued to be relying on less preferred or cheaper food (92%), followed by reducing the number of meals per day (54%) and reducing meal portion size (47%). The number of households borrowing food from friends or relatives increased slightly compared to 2016 (from 38% to 39%). Restricting adults' consumption was adopted by 33% of refugee households. Other coping strategies adopted by a small percentage of refugees included sending household members to eat elsewhere, spending days without eating, or restricting consumption by female household members.²⁴

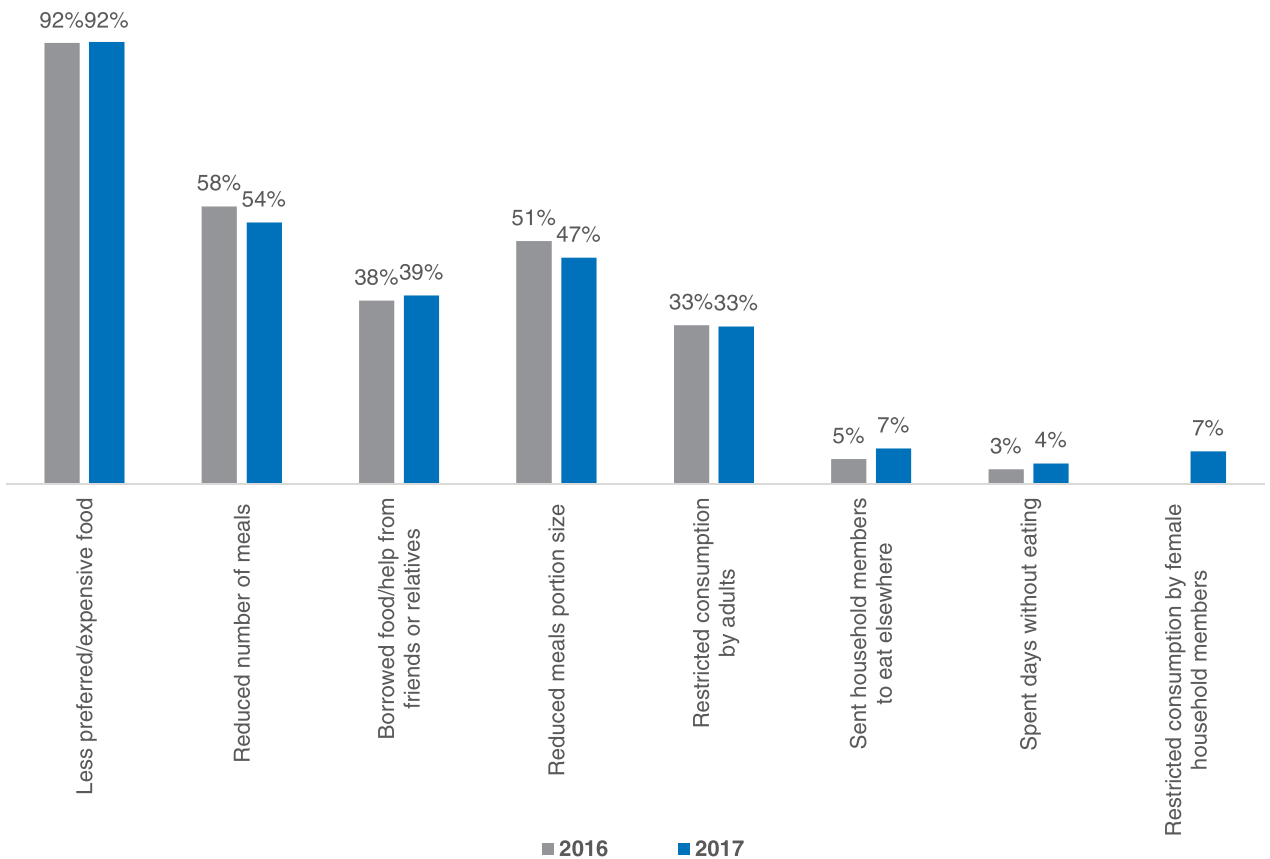


Figure 69. Households reporting food-related coping strategies

²⁴ The strategy of restricting consumption specifically of females was not assessed in previous years.

There was significant variation among districts on the adoption of food-related coping strategies. Households in the districts with the highest total percentages in Figure 70 adopted food coping strategies more often overall. The total percentages exceed 100% because, as the stacked columns illustrate, most households adopted multiple food coping strategies. The share of households adopting food-related coping strategies particularly increased in Baalbek, Chouf, Hermel, Jbeil, Jezzine and Zgharta, but decreased significantly in Aley.

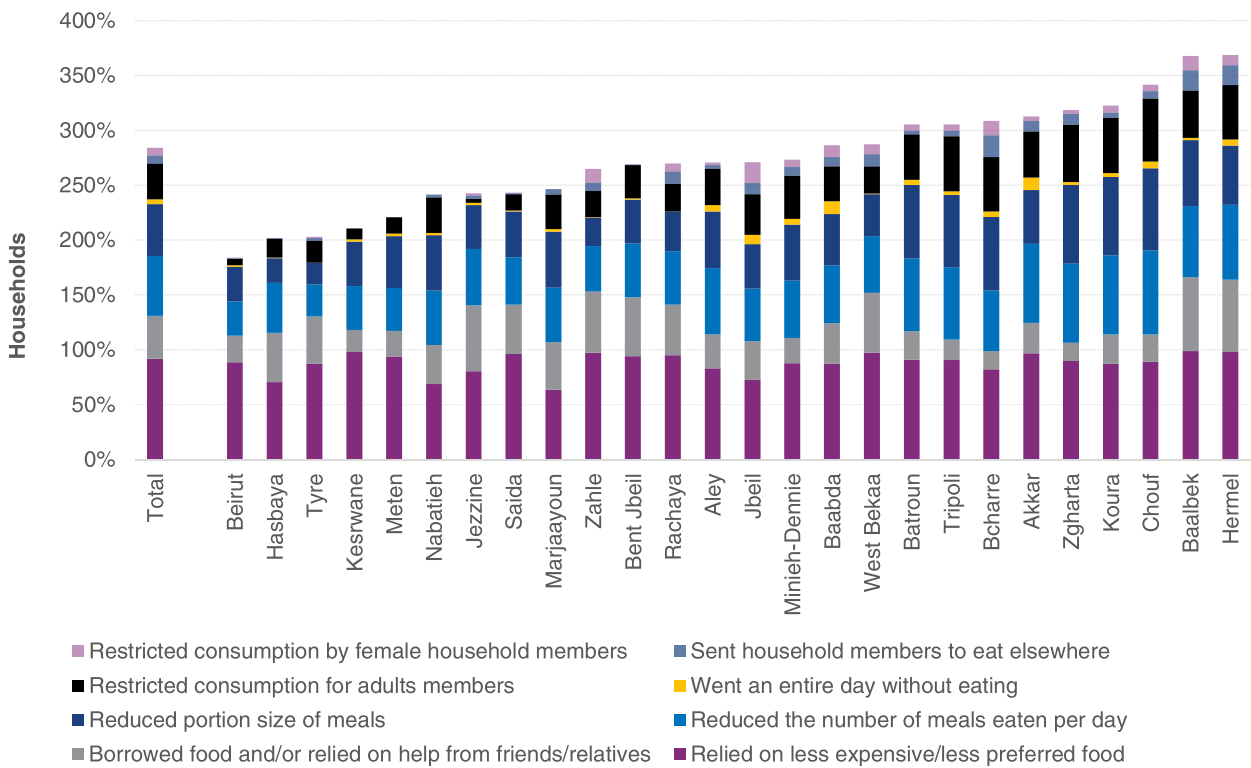


Figure 70. Households adopting food related coping strategies by district

Livelihood coping strategies

Livelihood coping strategies²⁵ undermine a household's ability to access food because they erode the household's fragile resources, pushing it deeper into poverty and affecting food security.

On average, households adopted fewer livelihood coping strategies in 2017, but the most commonly used coping strategies remained the same as in 2016. Reducing food expenditures (79%) and reducing essential non-food expenditures (53%) decreased significantly, while buying food on credit (77%) and spending savings (35%) remained stable. Additional questions on coping strategies were posed to respondents in 2017, revealing that 53% of Syrian refugee households reduced health expenditures (including medicine), 31% reduced expenditures on education, and 9% moved to cheaper accommodations.

In 2017, the number of households using strategies that have a severe impact on household livelihoods, such as selling household goods, productive assets, housing or land, has decreased, as has withdrawing children from school. This may reflect households' ability to cope otherwise, but it could also mean that some households have already exhausted these strategies.

Other crisis and emergency strategies, such as accepting high risk or illegal temporary jobs, begging, early marriage and sending household members to work somewhere else, were adopted by less than 2% of refugee households.

Livelihood coping strategies were not applied equally across the country. A greater share of households in Hasbaya, Minieh Dannieh, Saida and Tyre adopted livelihood coping strategies in the 30 days prior to the survey, while Baabda, Bcharre, Jezzine and Marjaayoun had the lowest percentages of households adopting these strategies.

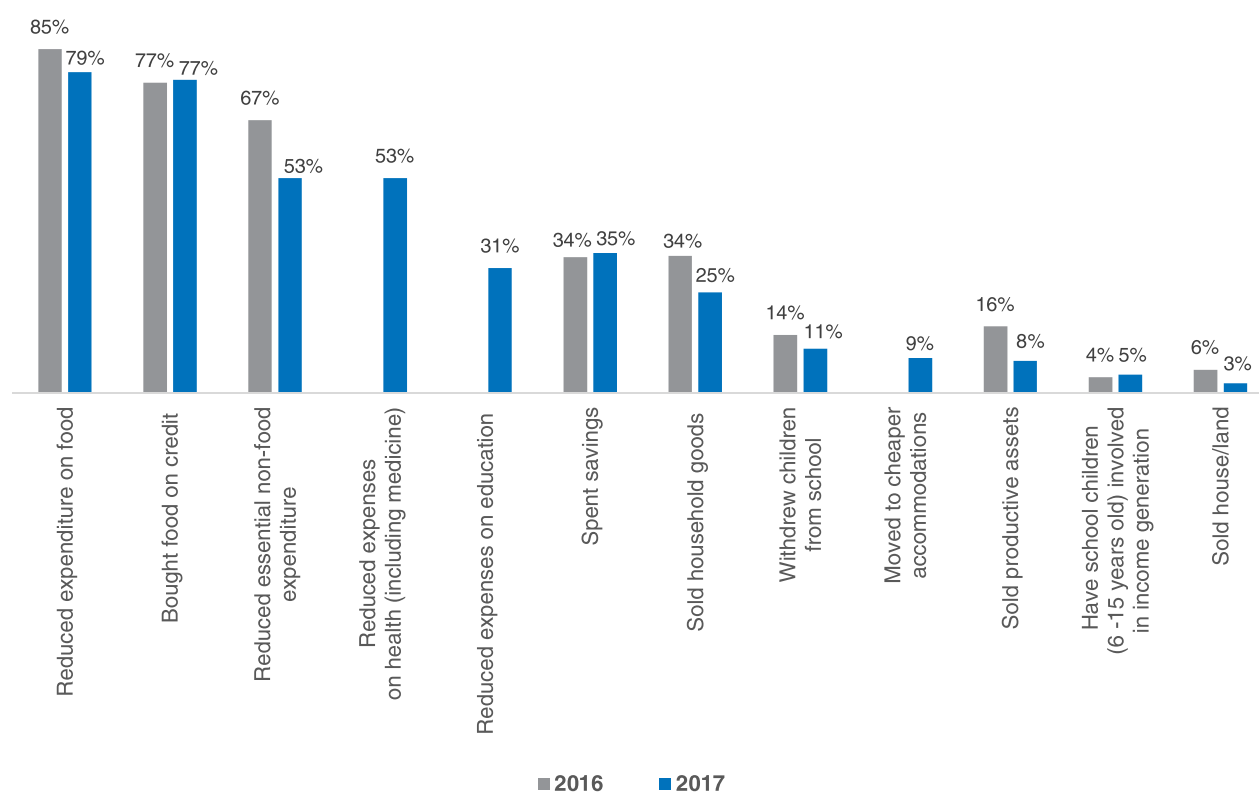


Figure 71. Households reporting livelihood coping strategies

25 In 2016 these were referred to as Asset Depletion Coping Strategies (ADCS).

26 Questions on reduction of expenses on health and education were added in 2017.

Livelihood coping strategies are classified into three categories according to their severity: stress, crisis and emergency. Table 8 identifies which strategies are included in each category.

Table 8. Coping categories

Stress	Crisis	Emergency
Spend savings	Sell productive assets	Involve school children in income activities
Sell household goods	Withdraw children from school	Beg
Buy on credit	Reduce non-food expenses	Accept high-risk jobs
Incur debt	Marriage of children under 18	Sell house or land

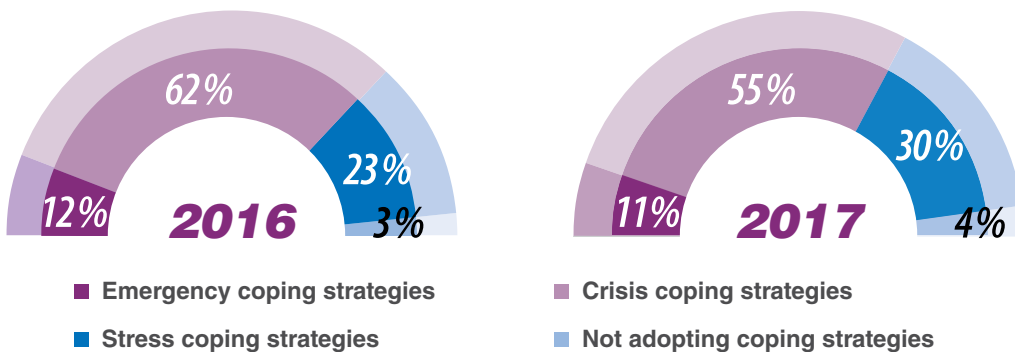
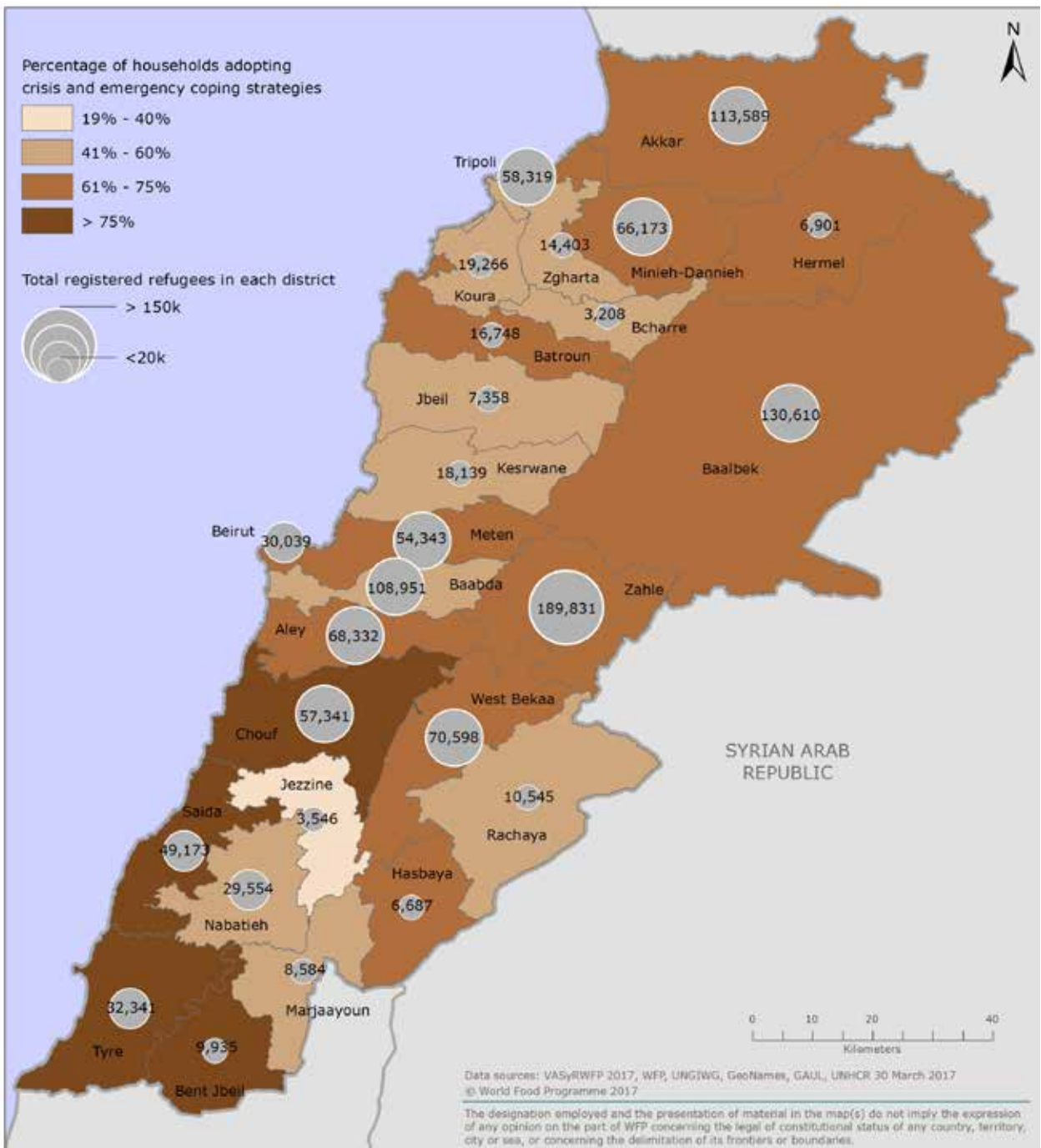


Figure 72. Livelihood coping categories in 2016 and 2017

Households are adopting fewer emergency and crisis coping strategies, a decrease of eight percentage points in the past year (74% vs 66%), trading them for less severe coping strategies such as: spending savings, selling goods, buying on credit and incurring debt. This could be due to the protraction of the crisis and the fact that households are using strategies that can be more sustainable in the long term. It remains alarming that only 4% of refugees did not apply any coping strategy in 2017.

96%
of refugees applied some type
of livelihood coping strategy

Map 7 shows the districts with the highest percentage of households adopting crisis and emergency coping strategies; refugee households in the southern districts had the highest prevalence of these strategies. Compared with 2016, households in Bent Jbeil, Bcharre, Hasbaya, Meten, Saida and Zgharta were adopting more severe coping strategies. On the other hand, the use of crisis and emergency coping strategies was reduced in Baabda, Baalbek, Beirut, Jezzine, Kesrwane and Nabatieh.



Map 7. Percentage of households reporting crisis and emergency coping strategies

FOOD SECURITY

The food security level as measured in the VASyR is determined by a composite indicator combining three dimensions of food security: one indicator gauges current food consumption (food consumption and food coping strategies), one indicator reflects economic vulnerability (food as a share of total expenditure) and the third identifies the livelihood coping strategies adopted. Each combination of these indicators has been deemed to contain sufficient information for establishing the level of food insecurity. The methodology used to classify households according to their food security situation is the same as in previous VASyR assessments and detailed in Annex 6. Table 9 summarizes the combination of the indicators.

Based on the methodology used, households are classified into four categories: food secure, mildly food insecure, moderately food insecure and severely food insecure. Table 10 describes the characteristics of the four categories.

	Food Security	Mild Food Insecurity	Moderate Food Insecurity	Severe Food Insecurity
Food consumption	Acceptable	Acceptable with food-related coping strategies	Borderline	Poor
Food expenditure share	<50%	50-65%	66-75%	>75%
Coping strategies	Household not adopting coping strategies	Stress coping strategies	Crisis coping strategies	Emergency coping strategies

Table 9. Food security classification (thresholds and point scale)

Food Security Categories	Description
Food Secure	Able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical coping strategies
Mildly Food Insecure	Has minimally adequate food consumption without engaging in irreversible coping strategies; unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures
Moderately Food Insecure	Has significant food consumption gaps OR able to meet minimum food needs only with irreversible coping strategies
Severely Food Insecure	Has extreme food consumption gaps OR has extreme loss of productive assets that will lead to food consumption gaps or worse

Table 10. Food security categories (descriptions)

Food insecurity trends 2013- 2017

Results of the analysis show that in the past year the overall situation was stable, with an increase of two percentage points in food secure households. However, 91% of Syrian refugee households remained food insecure to some degree, and the share of households moderately to severely food insecure grew from 36% to 38%.

Map 8 shows the geographical distributions of households with severe and moderate food insecurity in 2016 and 2017. In Akkar, Jbeil and Jezzine, moderate to severe food insecurity was found in over 50% of households surveyed, while in Aley, Baabda, Baalbek, Batroun, Bcharre, Hermel, Saida and Zahle, more than 40% of households reported moderate to severe food insecurity.

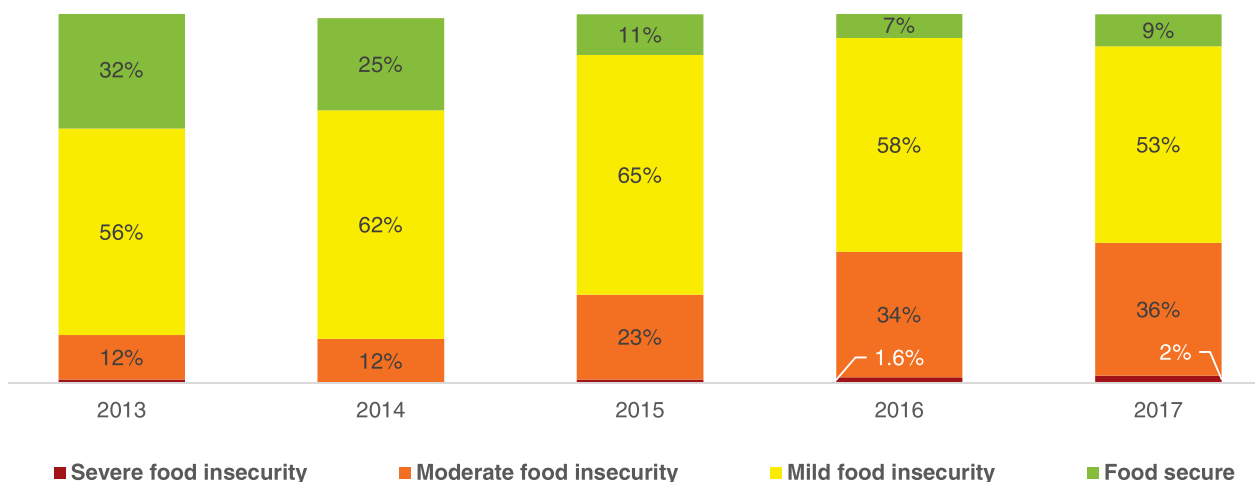
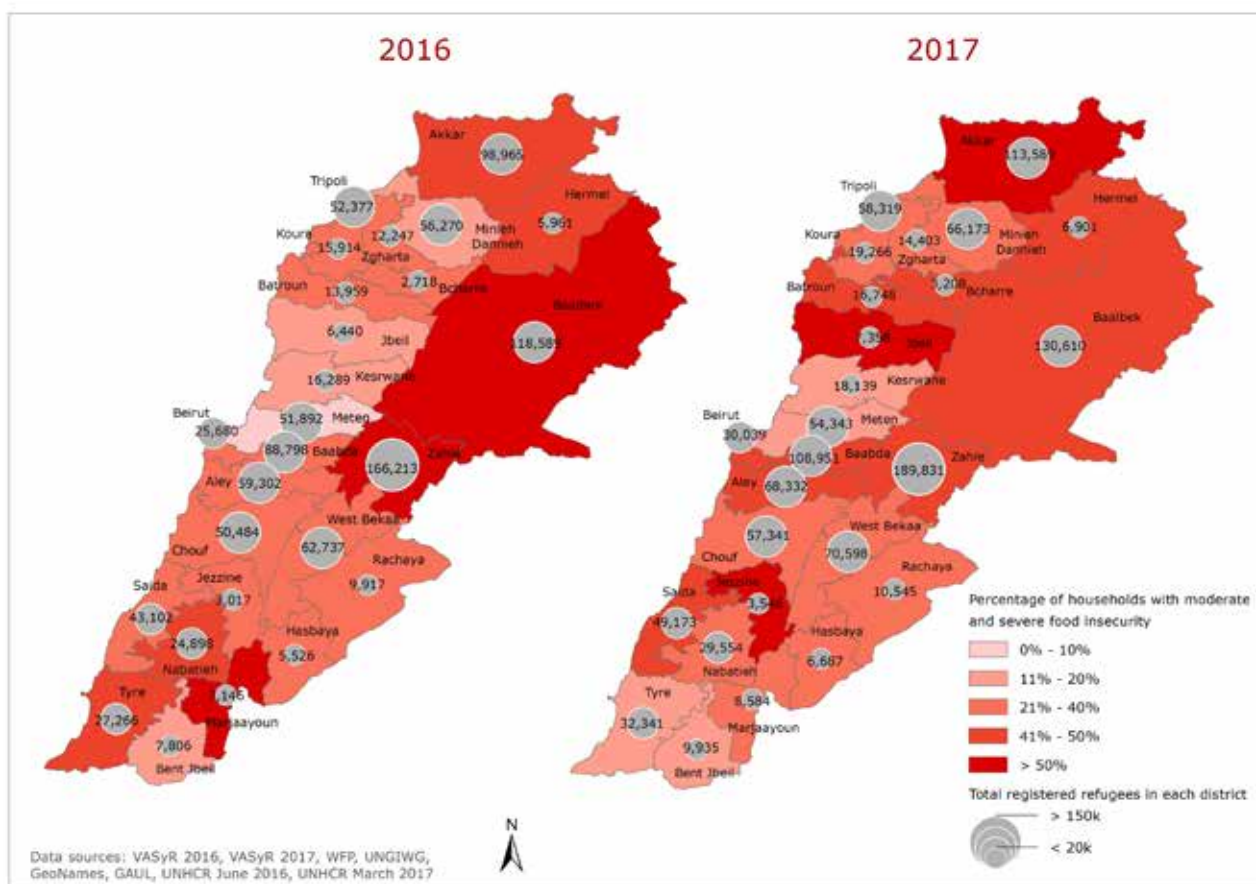


Figure 73. Food security trends 2013-2017



Map 8. Percentage of households with moderate and severe food insecurity 2016 and 2017



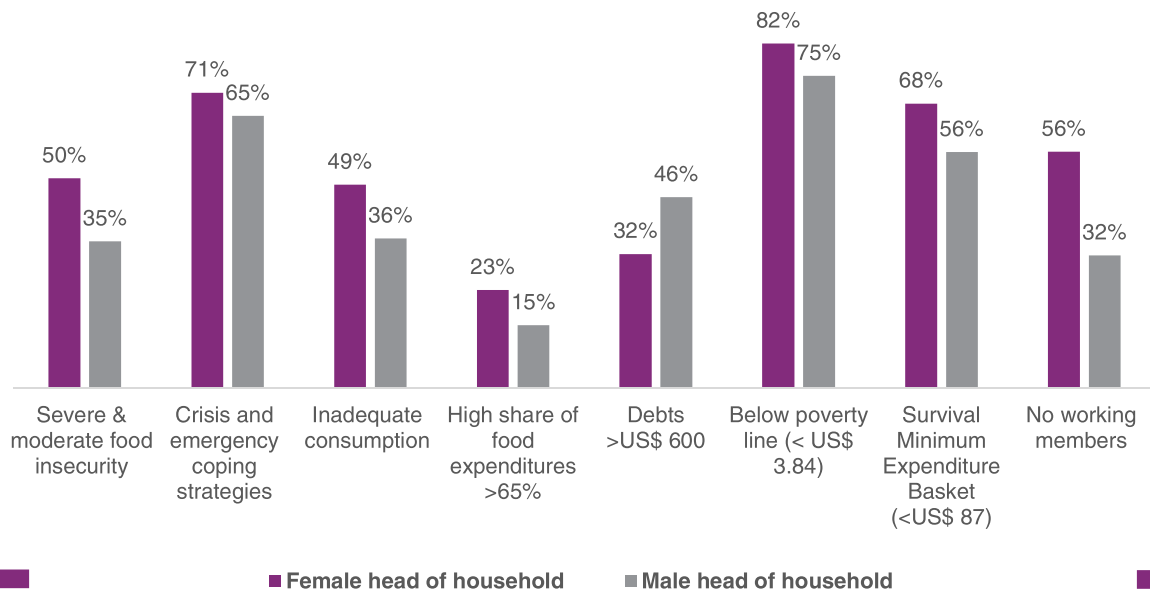
Female-headed households are still among the most vulnerable

Nineteen per cent of the Syrian refugee households sampled were headed by women, an increase of nearly 2% over 2016. Data analysis revealed the vulnerability of households headed by women across all indicators.

Again in 2017, for nearly every indicator of vulnerability, female-headed households fared worse than their male counterparts. There were more moderately to severely food insecure households headed by females than males (50% vs 34%). Female-headed households had worse diets, with a higher share of households reporting inadequate overall consumption (45%), an increase of four percentage points from 2016.

Female-headed households were also adopting severe coping strategies more often (71%), and were more often allocating over 65% of expenditures toward buying food than households headed by men (23% compared to 15%).

Poverty among households with female heads increased during the past year (82% versus 77%) and remains higher than households headed by males (75%). Female-headed households were also more likely than male to have expenditures falling under the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket. However, in 2017 female-headed households were less indebted than those headed by males. A partial explanation for the greater vulnerability of female-headed households could lie in the fact that 56% of female-headed households did not have any member working, while only 32% of households headed by males had no working members.



Components of food insecurity

The food security index is composed of: food consumption, livelihood and food coping strategies, and food expenditure share. Food consumption showed that since 2016 there was a small increase of households who had acceptable food consumption without the use of food coping strategies. At the same time, however, there was an increase in the percentage of households with poor and borderline consumption, shrinking the proportion of households that had acceptable food consumption with the use of food-related coping strategies.

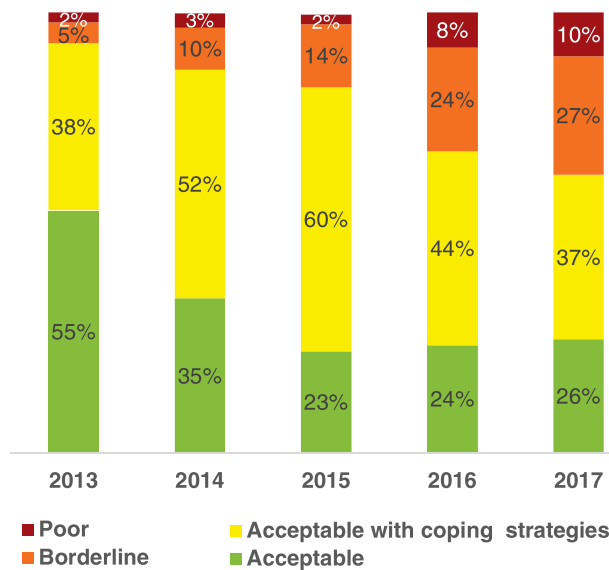


Figure 74. Food consumption trends 2013-2017

The second factor driving food insecurity is the adoption of livelihood-related coping strategies. While two thirds of Syrian refugees have continued to adopt crisis and emergency coping strategies, there was a significant reduction from 2016, when three quarters were adopting such strategies. These strategies included reducing essential non-food expenditures such as education and health, selling productive assets, and taking children out of school. The reduction of emergency and crisis coping strategies (such as involving children in income-generating activities, accepting high risk jobs and selling productive assets) could mean that households are finding less distressed ways to cope with the lack of resources.

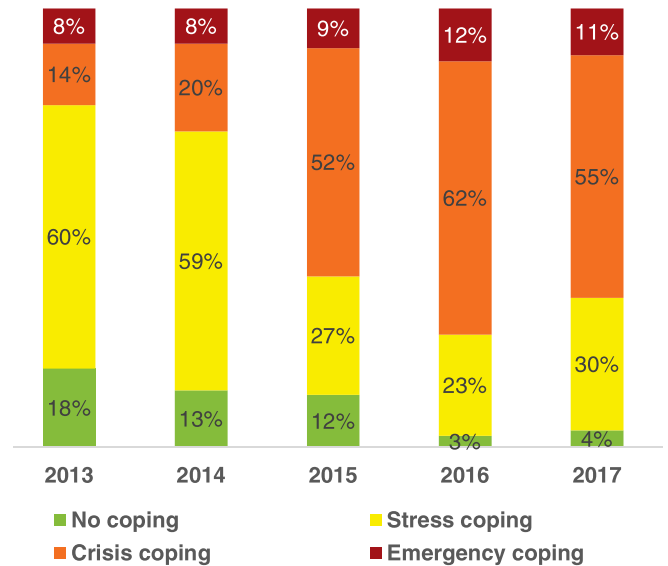


Figure 75. Trends in coping strategies 2013-2017

The share of food in total household expenditures did not change significantly since 2015. As in 2016, households with high food expenditures (above 65% of the total expenditures) remained 17% of the population (see the chapter on Economic Vulnerability).

Characteristics of food insecurity

Limited access to economic resources remained one of the main constraints on Syrian refugee households, limiting both their access to food and the possibility of finding and sustaining livelihoods.

Limitations on access to the labour market and the consequent lack of income opportunities have made it difficult for refugees to meet basic needs without external assistance. The indicators of economic vulnerability show that the share of households below the poverty line increased in the past year by five percentage points, reaching 76% of the Syrian refugee households.

Figure 76 shows the distribution of key economic indicators by food security group. The worst levels of food insecurity are associated with high economic vulnerability: households with severe or moderate food insecurity have greater debt, are more likely to fall below the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket²⁷ and the poverty line, and have lower expenditures per capita. Food secure households spent an average of US\$ 138 per month, while severely food insecure households spent less than half that to cover their monthly needs (US\$ 59).

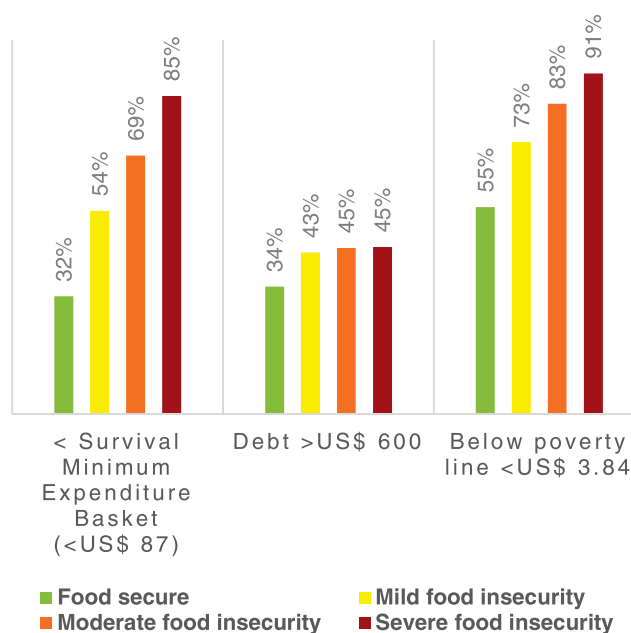


Figure 76. Economic vulnerability indicators by food security

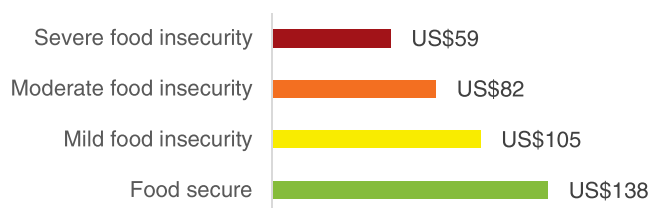


Figure 77. Monthly per capita expenditures by food security groups

Income opportunities are limited for all refugees. On average, 36% of displaced Syrian households did not have any member working in the month prior to the survey, while 53% reported having one member working.²⁸ Only 35% of households classified as severely food insecure had a member working, compared to 75% for households classified as food secure.

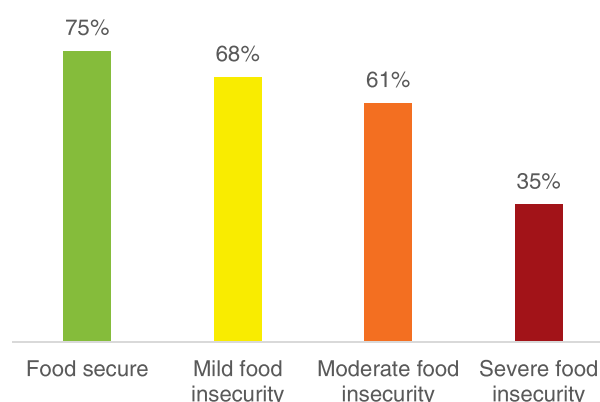


Figure 78. Households with working members by food security

WFP assistance was the primary source of income for 28% of refugee households, while borrowing and credit was the primary source for 16% of households. Looking at the aggregation of households' three main sources of income, informal credit and debt was utilized most frequently (62%), followed by WFP assistance (40%). Food secure households relied less on credit and food assistance, and were more involved in construction and service sector activities. The moderately food insecure had the highest prevalence of households involved in agriculture, while overall the households classified as severely food insecure had a low percentage of involvement in any remunerated activities.

27 For details on the Survival Minimum Basket see Annex 2 and the Chapter on Economic Vulnerability.

28 For more details on employment, see the chapter on Livelihoods and Income.

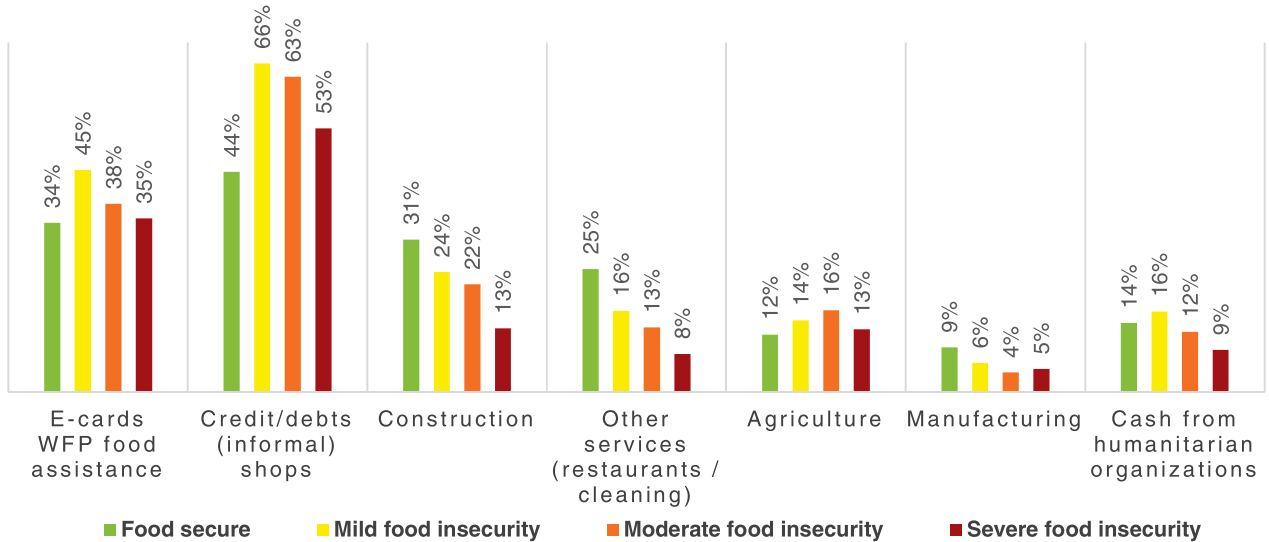


Figure 79. Most common income sources by food security

Changes in food security between 2016 and 2017 varied significantly between districts, deteriorating in some and improving in others.

Table 11 shows the districts' distribution of key economic indicators, together with food security prevalence and indicators used to determine the food security profiles. This summary gives an indication of which vulnerabilities inside each district require specific interventions or comprehensive support.

In Table 11, values in purple indicate greater food insecurity than the national average. All the variables have a negative connotation, therefore a district with a higher number of purple values should be considered more vulnerable.

- The districts of Akkar and Zahle have the highest values in purple, meaning that they were vulnerable in different aspects: economically deprived with unacceptable food consumption and increasing use of coping mechanisms;
- In Bent Jbeil, Hasbaya and West Bekaa, the increase of food insecurity was driven by economic vulnerability and a high use of severe coping strategies;
- Despite the negative indicators, in West Bekaa the food security situation remained stable with a slight reduction in food insecure households;
- In Baabda, Bcharre and Jbeil, food insecurity was determined by worsening food consumption.

Six districts demonstrated significant improvements in food security compared to 2016,²⁹ but nine districts³⁰ registered deteriorations in food security of 10 to 20 per cent. Particularly steep declines in food security were seen in Aley, Saida, Jezzine and Jbeil, where the share of households reporting moderate to severe food insecurity increased by 20, 20, 30 and 43 percentage points respectively.

²⁹ Baalbek, Beirut, Marjaayoun, Nabatieh, Tyre and Zahle.

³⁰ Akkar, Aley, Baabda, Batroun, Chouf, Koura, Minieh Dannieh, Saida and Zgharta.

Table 11. Key food security and economic vulnerability indicators by district

	Severe and moderate food insecurity 2017	Percentage points change of severe and moderate food insecurity 2016 - 2017	Low dietary diversity (≤ 4 food groups)	Poor and borderline food consumption	High food expenditure ($> 65\%$ of total)	Crisis and emergency coping strategies	Households $<$ SMEB (US\$ 87)	Households below poverty line ($<$ US\$ 3.84)	Households borrowed money	Households with debt $>$ US\$ 600
Overall	38%	3	21%	38%	17%	66%	58%	76%	87%	43%
District										
Akkar	59%	16	32%	63%	23%	70%	68%	83%	89%	38%
Aley	47%	20	60%	50%	18%	75%	44%	66%	80%	29%
Baabda	45%	11	55%	52%	15%	53%	50%	72%	79%	37%
Baalbek	41%	-14	17%	36%	23%	64%	84%	94%	82%	37%
Batroun	41%	10	19%	38%	17%	61%	42%	67%	89%	55%
Bcharre	41%	8	25%	45%	13%	55%	41%	61%	89%	61%
Beirut	12%	-10	4%	11%	10%	63%	30%	46%	81%	51%
Bent Jbeil	18%	-1	8%	15%	11%	89%	67%	80%	96%	60%
Chouf	37%	15	24%	32%	14%	75%	49%	74%	82%	27%
Hasbaya	34%	-	2%	27%	24%	70%	72%	86%	90%	61%
Hermel	47%	6	18%	36%	31%	62%	86%	95%	91%	28%
Jbeil	55%	43	57%	59%	11%	58%	39%	65%	76%	39%
Jezzine	55%	30	33%	81%	28%	19%	43%	68%	92%	61%
Kesrwane	13%	3	1%	12%	8%	59%	37%	53%	89%	59%
Koura	39%	13	19%	37%	12%	60%	43%	69%	90%	54%
Marjaayoun	30%	-31	28%	36%	16%	50%	31%	50%	84%	56%
Meten	14%	5	2%	11%	7%	65%	29%	49%	88%	66%
Minieh Dannieh	31%	12	15%	30%	10%	68%	51%	75%	90%	52%
Nabatieh	25%	-15	21%	22%	9%	55%	33%	49%	74%	42%
Rachaya	27%	0	5%	28%	16%	59%	72%	88%	95%	57%
Saida	41%	20	23%	37%	22%	82%	55%	76%	89%	43%
Tripoli	39%	7	11%	36%	18%	50%	41%	61%	82%	39%
Tyre	19%	-27	4%	16%	9%	86%	65%	85%	85%	28%
West Bekaa	33%	-2	4%	30%	23%	67%	77%	90%	98%	46%
Zahle	41%	-20	4%	45%	15%	71%	77%	90%	96%	48%
Zgharta	40%	12	18%	37%	16%	54%	51%	68%	87%	44%

ASSISTANCE AND HOUSEHOLD ASSETS

Socioeconomically vulnerable Syrian refugees continued to receive two main types of assistance: 1) cash assistance in the form of multi-purpose cash grants, seasonal cash assistance and cash for food; and 2) non-cash assistance in the form of in-kind goods and services, including household items, education, subsidized health care, shelter and WASH assistance, social and protection services, and legal services.

The share of registered Syrian refugees who received any type of assistance in the three months prior to the survey was 71%, with similar numbers among males and females. In terms of geographical coverage, 85% of household members residing in Baalbek-Hermel received at least one form of assistance, followed by the Bekaa (83%) and Akkar (80%). Beirut and Mount Lebanon were the governorates with the lowest percentages of surveyed individuals receiving assistance, at 50% and 58% respectively.

Assistance was provided to 77% of the poorest households in the previous three months.³¹ Looking again at the governorate level, the share of the poorest households who received at least one form of assistance reached 87% in Baalbek-Hermel, 84% in the Bekaa and 83% in Akkar.

At the national level, 76% of children and under the age of 18 and 63% of youth aged 18-24 received at least one form of assistance in the previous three months. The geographic variances followed the same pattern, with the highest coverage in Baalbek-Hermel, the Bekaa and Akkar, and the lowest in Beirut and Mount Lebanon.

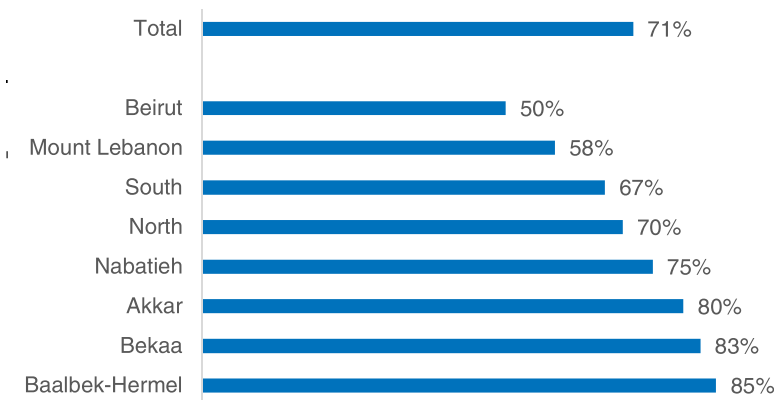


Figure 80. Share of households receiving assistance by governorate

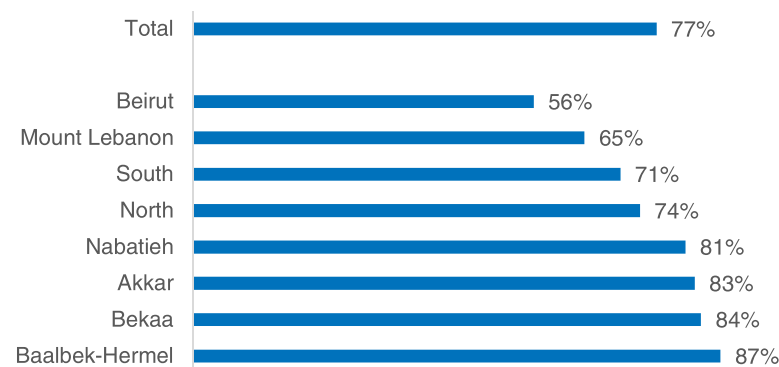


Figure 81. Assistance to the poorest households by governorate

³¹ The poorest households refers to those whose expenditure did not meet the Minimum Expenditure Basket.

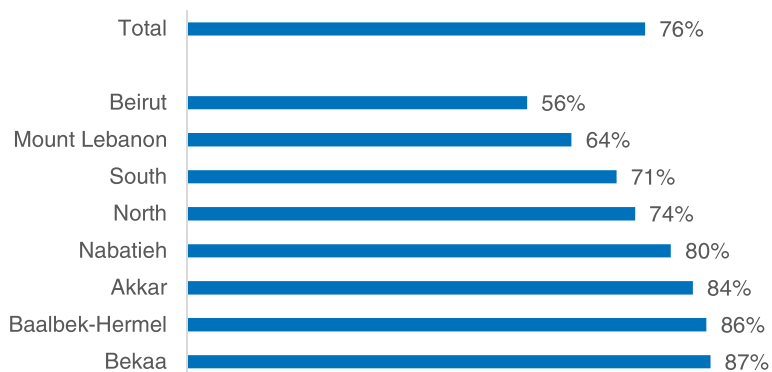


Figure 82. Assistance to children and adolescents (aged 0-17) by governorate

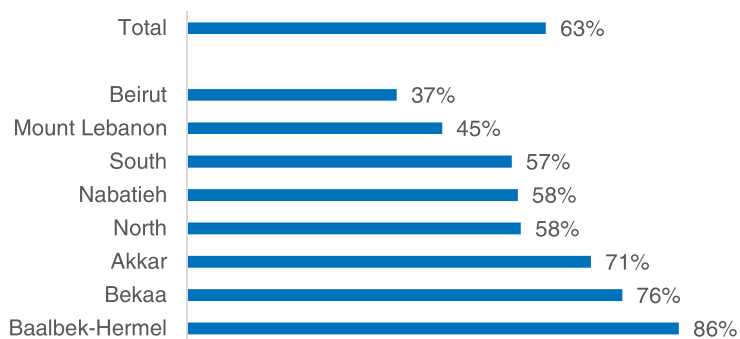


Figure 83. Assistance to youth (aged 18-24) by governorate



Cash Assistance

In late 2016, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP and the Lebanon Cash Consortium introduced a Common Card through which cash-based assistance is transferred to vulnerable populations in Lebanon, including Syrian refugees, refugees of other nationalities, and economically-disadvantaged Lebanese. The Common Card uses the Lebanon One Unified Inter-Organisational System for E-cards (LOUISE) – a system which uses one financial service provider, one information management portal and call center, and is harmonized with the results of one common targeting approach which is informed by the VASyR. Syrian refugees are targeted by means of an econometric model which aims to categorize households according to socioeconomic vulnerability. Assistance is tailored to each household, and those eligible may receive restricted food assistance redeemable at WFP-contracted shops, multi-purpose cash assistance,³² an unrestricted cash-for-education grant for children enrolled in primary school,³³ or a combination thereof. Seasonal unrestricted and restricted cash assistance is also provided to Syrian refugees during the winter months.

Food assistance delivered by WFP through a common cash card makes up the largest proportion of assistance to Syrian refugees. In May 2017, WFP provided food assistance to 692,451 Syrian refugees—an increase of more than 14,000 refugees compared to June 2016. Assisted households received US\$ 27 per person per month, which could be used to purchase food from any of the over 500 WFP-contracted shops throughout the country.

Half of the sampled refugee households reported receiving assistance for food within the previous three months. As the proportion of vulnerable Syrian refugee households in Lebanon varied significantly by governorate, the level of assistance disbursed differed from one governorate to another in order to target the most vulnerable. The highest level of food assistance was reported in Baalbek (70% of households), while the lowest levels were reported in Jbeil (24%), Kesrwan (30%), Meten (30%) and Bcharre (32%).

Multi-purpose cash aims to assist the most socioeconomically vulnerable households in meeting their basic needs by allowing households to determine their own purchasing choices. Cash loaded on the Common Card can be withdrawn at any ATM throughout Lebanon. UNHCR provides the largest proportion of unrestricted cash assistance to Syrian refugees. In May 2017, 29,581 Syrian refugee households were receiving multi-purpose cash from UNHCR. During this time, other cash actors³⁴ were providing multi-purpose cash assistance to an additional 17,874 households.

At the national level, 17% of households reported receiving multi-purpose cash assistance. Disaggregating by governorate, less than 2% of respondents in Meten, Jbeil and Kesrwan reported having received multi-purpose cash in the previous three months. In West Bekaa and Zahle, however, 37% and 40% of respondents reported receiving multi-purpose cash, respectively.

During the winter season, additional assistance is provided to the most vulnerable households to offset the expenses of fuel, blankets, tarpaulin repair and winter clothes for growing children. In the 2016-17 winter, 164,673 households received this kind of assistance (823,365 individuals) to support seasonal needs for five months (November through March). Just over one third of surveyed households reported receiving seasonal cash assistance during the past winter cycle.

Underreporting of assistance is not uncommon in the refugee population for two main reasons. Firstly, and as described, cash assistance is provided to Syrian refugees in multiple forms. While each modality of cash assistance serves a specific purpose and the modalities seek to meet different needs, refugees overlap their reporting of the different types of cash assistance. Secondly, some refugees may be under the misconception that reporting assistance could hinder their future eligibility for other forms of assistance and thus prefer not to fully disclose the information.

³² Multi-purpose cash corresponds to the amount of money a household needs to cover, fully or partially, a set of basic and/or recovery needs.

³³ The child benefit provides US\$ 20 per month for children aged 5-9 and US\$ 65 per month for children over the age of 9, to help with indirect school costs such as transportation and clothing. This benefit was not assessed in the VASyR 2017.

³⁴ Other cash actors included the Lebanon Cash Consortium (made up of Solidarités International, International Rescue Committee, Save the Children and World Vision), Solidar Suisse, Relief International, Caritas, Lebanese Red Cross, Oxfam and Secours Islamique France.

In-kind and other forms of assistance.

Contrary to cash assistance, in-kind assistance refers to the provision or distribution of a material or service. Distribution of in-kind items was much less common than the provision of cash grants, with blankets being the most commonly received item (reported by 10% of households).

Looking specifically at education assistance, 72% of children and youth aged 5-24 currently attending school received some type of school-related support in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Table 12. In-kind assistance by governorate

	Total	Akkar	Baalbek-Hermel	Beirut	Bekaa	Mount Lebanon	Nabatieh	North	South
blankets	10.2%	8.6%	15.8%	5.5%	9.0%	12.6%	27.9%	8.4%	1.9%
stoves	1.0%	1.4%	1.2%	0.0%	0.7%	1.6%	0.8%	0.8%	0.2%
shelter	4.6%	4.6%	17.0%	0.2%	6.5%	1.5%	3.8%	2.3%	0.8%
furniture/ clothes	6.3%	6.0%	20.0%	0.2%	8.7%	3.5%	17.2%	1.9%	0.5%
water storage items	2.4%	1.2%	8.5%	0.2%	3.1%	0.9%	2.6%	2.0%	0.8%
water services	1.5%	1.6%	3.6%	0.2%	1.4%	0.7%	1.7%	3.0%	0.0%
latrines	2.5%	1.6%	6.7%	0.0%	4.1%	0.7%	3.5%	3.2%	0.3%
cooking kits	2.6%	3.4%	0.6%	0.4%	2.6%	2.4%	15.8%	3.7%	1.2%
legal assistance	1.1%	1.0%	1.2%	0.0%	1.0%	0.8%	2.5%	1.3%	1.9%
other	1.2%	0.4%	0.6%	2.2%	0.5%	2.3%	0.0%	1.1%	0.8%

Household Assets

Household assets were classified into three categories: basic, medium and extended. Reporting on household assets does not necessarily indicate that households own these items, rather that they have access to them in usable condition and enough to cover household needs.

Basic Assets	Mattress, blankets, winter clothes, gas stove
Medium Assets	Water heater, bed, table, sofa, fridge, washing machine
Extended Assets	Electric oven, microwave, dishwasher, central heating, air conditioning, sewing machine, DVD player, computer, motorcycle, car

Access to basic assets continued to decline, with households reporting access to 3.11 out of the four basic household assets on average, compared to 3.19 in 2016 and 3.27 in 2015. Out of the six medium assets, households had access to an average of 2.3, an increase from 2.13 in 2016. The average number of extended assets was low at 0.92, but a slight increase from previous years (0.79 in 2016 and 0.48 in 2015).

On average, 52% of Syrian refugee households had access to all four basic assets, but only 3.1% reported access to all medium assets. There were notable differences across districts with regards to asset ownership, ranging from 11% of households having all basic assets in Baabda, to 79% in West Bekaa.

Household assets can also be categorized by the share of households that own or have access to them. High ownership indicates that 75% or more of households have these items, medium ownership indicates that 45-74% have these items, and low ownership refers to those assets for which less than 45% of households reported their use.

Similar to 2016, three of the four basic assets had a high ownership rates. The fourth, winter clothing, continued to lag behind, with 66% of households reporting that they had enough winter clothes for their household (compared to 69% in 2016). In general, ownership levels of the different household assets did not change dramatically since 2016. However, ownership of water heaters increased by 5% and ownership of space heaters by 10%.

As in previous years, notable differences in ownership of household assets were found across different shelter types, with higher rates of ownership for key assets in residential shelters as compared to non-residential and informal settlements. Refrigerators, for example, were accessible for 75% of households in residential shelters, but for only 29% of households in informal settlements. Similarly, 57% of households in residential settings had water heaters, while this figure dropped to 3% in informal settlements.

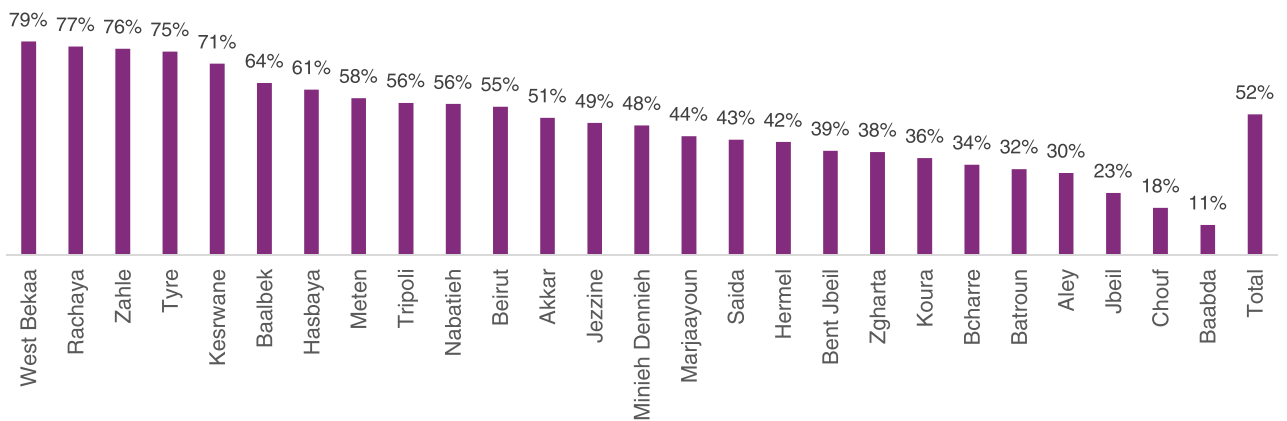


Figure 84. Share of households with all basic assets, by district

	ASSET	% HH
HIGH OWNERSHIP	Cutlery sets	88%
	Kitchen utensils	86%
	Mobile phone	86%
	Blankets	85%
	Pots/pans	84%
	Mattresses	82%
	Small gas stove for cooking	79%
	TV	77%
MEDIUM OWNERSHIP	Winter clothing set	66%
	Refrigerator	65%
	Water containers	60%
	Washing machine	57%
	Heater/heating stove	52%
	Satellite dish	48%
	Water heater	45%
LOW OWNERSHIP	Internet	22%
	Sofa/chairs	21%
	Table and chairs	18%
	Oven	13%
	Beds	10%
VERY LOW OWNERSHIP	Motorcycle	6%
	Dish washer/separate freezer/dryer	3%
	DVD player	2%
	Air conditioning	2%
	Microwave/vacuum cleaner	2%
	Car/van/truck	1%
	Computer	1%

Figure 85. Share of households by asset owned

CONCLUSIONS

The response to the Syrian crisis, coordinated by the Government of Lebanon and the international community through the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan, has been vigorous and consistently sustained. It has provided a crucial safety net for Syrian refugees. Their situation, however, remained tenuous.

Obtaining civil documentation remained a challenge for refugee households. Legal residency continued its dramatic decline, and 74% of surveyed Syrian refugees aged 15 and older lacked legal residency. At the household level, just 18% reported all members having legal residency, and fewer than half had at least one member with legal residency. The share of households where no members had legal residency increased considerably, from 20% in 2015, to 29% in 2016 and 55% in 2017. Cost was cited as the primary barrier to residency renewal. Although a waiver of the US\$ 200 fee was announced in February/March 2017, refugees reported challenges in renewal due to inconsistencies in the implementation of the waiver by General Security and limited capacity to process a large number of applications. Birth registration was another area of concern, given the potential long-term consequences for children lacking correct documentation. As in 2016, just 17% of households had completed all four steps in the birth registration process for children born in Lebanon. While residency of both parents was required in order to complete the registration process, this policy changed in September 2017, the effect of which should be visible by the next survey.

Few households (2%) reported any of their members returning to Syria or moving to a third country. Perceptions of personal safety and security in Lebanon remained positive, with 87% of refugees describing community relations as neutral to positive, and just 4% reporting experiencing any verbal or physical incident in the previous three months.

Refugees continued to struggle to find adequate shelter. Fifty-three per cent of households were living in shelters that did not meet the minimum humanitarian standards, suffering from overcrowding, dangerous structural conditions and/or urgently needed repairs. The average monthly rent was US\$ 183, while the average monthly income was US\$ 193, making the cost of rent a significant burden for many households.

United Nations agencies and NGOs have been working hard to provide improved water sources to Syrian refugees, and 78% of surveyed individuals reported access to improved drinking water sources. Most households (86%) also had access to improved

sanitation facilities. As in previous years, solid waste was primarily disposed of in dumpsters.

Significant strides were made in primary school enrolment. Nationally, 70% of children aged 6-14 were enrolled in school, compared to 52% in 2016. The Bekaa continued to lag behind other governorates, with 59% of primary school-aged children now enrolled, but that figure is nearly double its 2016 enrolment rate.

Because of gaps in schooling, many of the enrolled students are now above the standard age for their grade: 54% of primary school students were two or more years older than the standard age for their grade, and of children aged 12-14 (the age of lower secondary school, or grades 7-9), only 13% were currently attending grade 7 or higher. As school enrolment drops significantly for children aged 15-17 (to 22%), it will be important in the future to consider how to keep children in school so that they might complete, at a minimum, lower secondary. This is especially true for boys, who were much less likely to be enrolled in secondary school than girls. For all children aged 6-17, cost continued to be the main reason cited for not attending school. Few youth (2.3% of those aged 15-24) reported attending any education, literacy or skills training programmes within the previous 12 months.

People were going to primary health care centers and those who were going were predominantly able to get care (89%, an increase from 84% in 2016). For those who lacked access, cost (both consultation fees and the cost of medicines) was the primary barrier, although one third of those without access reported either not knowing where to go or not being accepted at the facility. Secondary health care services were largely accessible, with four out of five reporting accessing the required care. Children under the age of two were vulnerable to illness, with 34% reporting ailments in the two weeks preceding the survey.

Household health was also burdened by specific needs: physical or mental disabilities, chronic or temporary illnesses or medical conditions, and members who require support in daily activities such as going to the toilet. Similar to 2016, two thirds of households had at least one member with a specific need. The specific needs of refugees with disabilities remain largely unaddressed, and children with disabilities are among the most marginalized groups in Lebanon. They have limited access to education and learning opportunities, they face protection risks and social isolation. On average, 7% of households had at least one member with a disability.

Inappropriate or inadequate child feeding practices remained a concern. Only half of infants under the age of six months were exclusively breastfed. For children aged 6-23 months, 37% were not given any complementary feeding such as solids, semi-solids or liquids other than breastmilk. The share of children aged 6-23 months being fed the minimum acceptable diet decreased from 3% in 2016 to a meager 1.8% in 2017.

Food security was fairly stable, but the indicators remained troubling: 91% of Syrian refugee households remained food insecure to some degree, and the percentage of households moderately to severely food insecure grew from 36% to 38%. Food insecurity is driven by two key dimensions: limited access to food due to economic constraints, and the adoption of coping strategies. While the share of households who had acceptable food consumption without the use of food coping strategies increased slightly (24% to 26%), there was a simultaneous increase in the percentage of households with poor and borderline consumption (from 32% to 37%), shrinking the proportion of households that had acceptable food consumption with the use of food-related coping strategies. There was, however, a decrease in the share of households adopting crisis and emergency livelihood-related coping strategies. Limited income opportunities were directly tied to food security: in severely food insecure households, only 35% had a member working, compared to 75% for households classified as food secure.

After steadily declining from 2014 through 2016, the number of meals consumed per day by adults and by children under five increased in 2017. This belied, however, the overall status of food consumption for refugees, as dietary diversity and nutrient consumption declined.

As noted, food insecurity is linked to economic vulnerability. The food insecure households were poorer, had more debt and allocated the majority of their expenses on food. The percentage of households spending less than the SMEB was higher among food insecure households. The main cause of this vulnerability was the lack of earning power.

While Syrian refugees are legally permitted to work in agriculture, construction and environment (the sectors in which Syrians were traditionally engaged before the crisis), male employment was down from 2016, and average monthly salaries were just US\$ 193. Underemployment remained widespread, with employed men working an average of 14 of a month's 22 working days, and employed women working an average of 13 of the 22. Non-sustainable sources of income became increasingly important for refugee households: 62% named informal credit from shops

and friends/family as one of their main sources (compared to 53% in 2016), and 40% named food vouchers (up from 33% in 2016).

Economic vulnerability increased for all households. Monthly per capita expenditures continued to decline, signifying that households have fewer resources. Seventeen per cent of households were allocating more than 65% of their expenditures to food. Three quarters of refugee households had expenditures below the MEB, meaning they were unable to meet basic needs of food, health, shelter and education. Fifty-eight per cent of households had expenditures below the SMEB (an 11% increase over 2016), meaning they were living in extreme poverty, unable to meet survival needs. The share of households living below the poverty line continued to increase, reaching 76%, and borrowing remained extremely common.

More households were headed by females (19% in 2017, compared to 17% in 2016), and they continued to be worse off than their male-headed counterparts. They were less food secure, had worse diets, and were adopting severe coping strategies more often. Over half of female-headed households did not have any member working, underscoring their economic vulnerability.

Vulnerable households receive two main types of assistance: 1) cash assistance in the form of multi-purpose cash grants, seasonal cash assistance and food vouchers; and 2) non-cash assistance in the form of in-kind goods and services, including food, household items, education, subsidized health care and shelter assistance. In the three months prior to the survey, 71% of registered Syrian refugees received some form of assistance. Food assistance delivered by WFP through a common cash card makes up the largest proportion of assistance to Syrian refugees, and half of the sampled refugee households reported receiving assistance for food within the previous three months. Multi-purpose cash assistance delivered by UNHCR through the common card makes up the next largest share of regular assistance to refugees, and 17% of households reported receiving multi-purpose cash assistance from UNHCR, the Lebanon Cash Consortium or another actor in the three months prior to the survey. Assistance in its different forms has been critical to keeping Syrian refugees afloat.

Significant variations in household profiles were found at the district level, and targeting accordingly continues to be essential to ensuring the most efficient use of funding. Systems to identify and recognize these pockets will ensure an appropriate and fair level of assistance to vulnerable households, regardless of their location.

In conclusion, access to the labour market and assistance (both cash and in-kind) have been critical in providing a safety net to refugee households. Access to education has improved dramatically and access to health care remains high, two vital components of well-being. However, poverty and multi-dimensional insecurity threaten the well-being of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Continuous support is essential to ensure their welfare.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Sustained funding and careful programming, including opportunities for joint planning and implementation, continue to be required to ensure and maintain the well-being of vulnerable Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Below are additional specific recommendations based on the needs and gaps that have been identified through the VASyR 2017.

- The self-reliance of refugees will be strengthened if they are able to **renew their residency and access employment**. Exploring further measures that could allow refugees to generate income, while protecting the Lebanese labour market and mitigating potential tensions with the host community, is recommended. The Small and Medium Enterprise forum organized by the Ministry of Economy and Trade is one such example. In particular, improved access to employment could bolster food security, which remains fragile and dependent on external assistance. Improving livelihood opportunities is in line with the key priorities for the Government of Lebanon and its national and international partners – as highlighted in Lebanon’s Statement of Intent for the London Conference – to reduce the dependence of vulnerable people on assistance, as well as increase the productivity and income of local communities.
- Immediate assistance is required to meet the acute needs of the refugee population living in degraded temporary shelters within informal settlements and non-residential buildings that cannot be upgraded to the minimum standards. Access of vulnerable refugees to affordable occupancy in residential shelters at adequate conditions should continue to be facilitated through **sustainable upgrades and security of tenure agreements**.
- Continue to support access to and availability of **improved water supply and sanitation facilities** by ensuring access to services is safely managed based on agreed standards, irrespective of shelter type.
- Building on the success of increased school enrolment, the education response can look also at **boosting school completion rates**, particularly for boys, who are underrepresented in secondary school. Improved school completion can be a tool not only for combatting poverty, but also in tackling the disempowerment and dissatisfaction that often lead youth to violence. Pre-primary education presents another opportunity for improving children’s long-term well-being. Lastly, education interventions should be systematically linked to child protection systems and livelihood opportunities for youth.
- Invest in people by harnessing the knowledge, talents and skills of displaced Syrians and host communities. **Invest in programmes that create access to informal and formal education** particularly for young children (aged 3-5) and youth (aged 15-24); and programmes that transfer skills between displaced populations and host communities.
- **Increasing the engagement of Syrian refugee youth**, particularly in the most vulnerable communities, is critical to averting longer-term risks. This includes increasing school enrolment for youth aged 15-17, increasing participation in alternative education and vocational skills-training programmes for youth aged 15-24, and improving employment opportunities for youth aged 15-24.
- While health care was predominantly accessible, some of those who could not access it cited not knowing where to go or not being accepted at the facility as the barrier. This may be indicative of a lack of awareness among the refugee population about which affiliated health clinics to go to and suggests the need for **strengthened communication** on the matter.

- In light of the significant numbers of households reporting having family members with specific needs, programming will need to be inclusive of and informed by the particular challenges these persons face, such as persons with disabilities. The **correlations between specific needs and vulnerability** are multifaceted, having implications on socioeconomic status as well as the ability of households, including their most vulnerable members, to maintain legal residency and obtain documentation such as birth registration. More evidence should be generated on the multiple deprivations of persons with disabilities and respond to their needs through mainstreaming and targeted programmes in protection, education, child protection and WASH.
- The extended and continued **inadequacy of infant and young child feeding practices** remains a concern requiring an in-depth barrier analysis to ensure effective behavioural change of this persistent problem.
- **Food insecurity** in Lebanon remains a serious concern. Meeting the funding requirements is crucial to ensure and maintain food security for all Syrian refugees in Lebanon.
- Both men and women cited the need to take care of children and adults in the household, and the lack of skills and experience to apply for jobs, as reasons for not looking for work. **Addressing these barriers may open doors to employment** and self-reliance for refugees, within the legal framework of the country.
- **Special attention should continue to be paid to female-headed households**, given their greater vulnerability and more limited employment opportunities. This may include additional cash assistance, and/or programmes that protect women from different types of abuse, harassment and violence, and support their access to livelihoods and their capacity for employment. Identifying any barriers specific to female-headed households in obtaining legal residency (and supporting women in overcoming those barriers) could be another opportunity for improved programming.
- **Child labour and child marriage** remain two issues of serious concern that require addressing. For the latter, one in five married females aged 15-25 were married to men 10 or more years older than them, which is another area of potential concern.
- **Inclusionary approaches at the community level** should continue in order to keep community tensions at bay. These are particularly important as the crisis continues and tensions may be rising.
- **Refined targeting** to identify the households which are most economically vulnerable and most food insecure will help ensure that a harmonized package of assistance reaches those who are most in need. Both inclusion in assistance programmes and discontinuation of benefits should be accompanied by messaging, communication and advocacy efforts.



الوكالة الإيطالية
لتنمية والتعاون

برنامج الأغذية
العالمي



ANNEXES

Annex I: Cluster selection

Table 1: Clusters removed from the sampling selection because of lack of information on the specific location of residence

Districts	population size with no address
Akkar	63
Aley	16
Baabda	1025
Baalbek	12
Bcharre	1
Beirut	38
Bent Jbeil	6
Chouf	30
Batroun	7
Hermel	4
Koura	9
Meten	9
Minieh-Dennieh	17
Nabatieh	10
Hasbaya	5
Jbeil	7
Jezzine	3
Kesrwane	12
Marjaayoun	3
Rachaya	3
Saida	9
Tyre	5
Tripoli	20
West Bekaa	7
Zahle	30
Zgharta	6
HH without specific location	380

Table 2: Clusters removed from the sample because of security reasons:

District	Location	Population size
Saida	Ain el Helwe	512
Tyre	Rachidiyi	79

Annex 2: Minimum expenditure basket methodology

Methodology

The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) is based on secondary data on expenditures collected by 17 agencies. The data was consolidated and analysed by Handicap International during the second quarter of 2014. MEB composition was discussed and endorsed by the Cash Working Group after consultation and inputs received from sector working groups.

The expenditures included in the MEB are:

- **Minimum food expenditure basket (MFEB):** MFEB is based on WFP quantities which contain 2,100 kcal per day plus all nutrients needed. In order to calculate it, prices collected by WFP in January 2014 from across Lebanon were analysed.
- **Non-Food Item (NFI):** the NFI package was decided by the NFI Working Group— monthly price monitoring done by a few organizations was used to determine the average price for each item. Although only a few organizations are involved in the NFI price monitoring, prices were collected in all regions except Beirut.
- **Clothes:** no minimum requirement for clothes has been agreed upon by the sector lead, therefore this calculation is based on monthly expenditures collected through post-distribution monitoring (PDM).
- **Communication:** the price is based on the minimum requirement per month to keep a phone line active.
- **Rent:** the calculation is based on average rent regardless of the type of shelter that refugees are living in, taking into consideration only those refugees actually paying rent. This was agreed upon by the Shelter Sector Working Group.
- **Water:** the calculation is based on the Sphere standard of 35 liters of water per day per individual, then multiplied by the cost of trucked water service. This was agreed upon by the WASH Sector Group.
- **Transportation:** no minimum requirement for transportation was agreed, thus the calculation is based on monthly expenditures collected through PDM.
- **Health:** the calculation was determined by agreement in the Health Sector Working Group. Adults will make 2 medical visits per year in addition to drugs and diagnostic tests, at a cost of US\$ 16 per year per person. Children under the age of 5 will make 4 medical visits per year at a cost of US\$ 33 per year per child. It was assumed that a household was comprised of 2 adults, 1 child over 5 years of age and 2 children under 5.

- **Education:** no feedback was received from the education sector, therefore the calculation is based on expenditures collected through PDM.

Extra expenditures:

There were extra expenditures that required special attention from the humanitarian agencies who are providing assistance to Syrian refugees, such as legalization of stay in Lebanon. All Syrian refugees who arrived in Lebanon in 2013 had to renew their visa every six months (renewable once for no fees); in order to do so every individual over 15 years old was required to pay US\$ 200. An average of two people per household had to legalize their visa in 2014, thus every household required an additional US\$ 400 in assistance.

Regarding winterization, it was agreed that only petrol will be an additional cost for the household as distribution of stoves and high-quality thermal blankets has occurred and newcomers will receive this assistance.

Limitations

- The data was collected in different timeframes, therefore the MEB is not perfectly accurate.
- Some expenditures could not be disaggregated which makes it difficult to understand what they are incorporating.
- There was no harmonized methodology for the collection or calculation of expenditures.

Survival Expenditure Basket

Based on the MEB, a survival expenditure basket was calculated which includes all the survival basic items needed by the households, which are:

- **Food:** based on the 2100 kcal per day, same as the MEB, excluding the cost corresponding to 100% of the nutrients needed.
- **NFI:** the package remains the same as included in the MEB.
- **Clothes:** same package as MEB.
- **Communication:** same package as MEB.
- **Rent:** Average rent for refugees staying in informal tented settlements.
- **Water:** calculated based on 15 liters per day per person.
- **Transportation:** same package as MEB.
- **Loan refund:** based on average collected through field visit.

	Products	Quantity per capita	Quantity per HH	Cost in LBP	Cost in US\$	Comments
Food Basket	Ration per month in grams					
	Lemon	900		982	1	Minimum Food Expenditure Basket per HH with WFP ration to meet nutrient needs + 2100 kcal/month
	Lettuce	1,950		4,608	3	
	Egg	600		2,331	2	
	Bread	2,100		3,590	2	
	Milk powder	600		8,533	6	
	Egyptian rice	3,000		5,531	4	
	Spaghetti	1,500		3,664	2	
	Bulgur wheat	3,900		6,705	4	
	Canned meat	1,140		10,275	7	
	Vegetable oil	990		2,623	2	
	Sugar	1,500		1,993	1	
	Lentils	1,800		4,208	3	
Iodized salt	150		76	0		
Total Food expenditures per person				55,120	37	
Total Food expenditures per HH				275,599	184	
Non-Food Items (CWG)	Prices collected by Cash Working Group (CWG) actors					
	Toilet Paper		4 rolls/packet	1,233	1	Quantities harmonized by the NFI Working Group. Minimum NFI required.
	Toothpaste		2 tubes/75ml	4,132	3	
	Laundry soap/detergent		900gr	4,073	3	
	Liquid dish detergent		750ml	2,479	2	
	Sanitary napkins		3 packets of 20 pads per packet	8,052	5	
	Individual soap		5 pieces of 125g	2,462	2	
	Hypoallergenic soap		125g per bar	1,298	1	
	Disinfectant fluid		500ml	3,892	3	
	Shampoo		500ml	4,023	3	
	Diapers		90 per packet	14,599	10	
Cooking gas	1kg		2,733	2		
Total NFI expenditures				48,976	33	
Other NFI						Based on HH surveys
	Clothes		per month	37,050	25	Based on average expenditures collected through PDM
	Communications cost		per month	34,095	23	Minimum needed per month to keep the phone active
	Shelter – Rent		per month	290,075	193	Average rent regardless of shelter type. Weighted according to % of population residing in shelter.
	Wash –Water supply		per month	71,250	48	Monthly cost of water per HH in normal situation, 35 LL/person/day according to normal standard.
	Services – Transportation		per month	40,375	27	Based on average expenditures collected through PDM.
	Services – Health		per month	14,250	10	According to health sector, adults will do 2 medical visits per year+ drugs and diagnostic test which cost US\$ 16 per year per adult. Children <5 will do 4 medical visits per year which cost US\$ 33 per year/child. The assumption was made that a HH was comprised of 2 adults, 1 child>5 years and 2 children<5 years. Calculation: (16X3+33X2)/12
Services – Education		per month	45 4878	30	Based on average expenditures collected through PDM.	
TOTAL MEB				857,158	571	

Annex 3: Coping strategies categories

The coping strategy indicator is classified into four categories: households that are not adopting coping strategies, and households that are adopting stress, crisis and emergency coping strategies. Individual coping strategies relate to the categories as described in the table below.

Coping strategies by category		
Stress	Crisis	Emergency
Spent savings	Sold productive assets	School-aged children involved in income-generation
Sold goods	Withdrew children from school	Begged
Bought food on credit	Reduced non-food expenses	Accepted high risk jobs
Have debts	Marriage of children under 18	Sold house or land

Each coping strategy is given a different weight and classified under the corresponding category.

Annex 4: Food consumption score

The food consumption score (FCS) is based on dietary diversity (number of food groups consumed by households during the seven days prior to the survey), food frequency (number of days on which each food group is consumed during the seven days prior to the survey) and the relative nutritional importance of each food group. A weight was attributed to each food group according to its nutrient density. The food consumption score is calculated by multiplying the frequency of consumption of each food group (maximum of seven if a food group was consumed every day) by each food group weight and then averaging these scores.

Food groups	Weight	Justification
Main staples	2	Energy dense/usually eaten in large quantities, protein content lower and poorer quality (lower protein energy ratio, or PER) than legumes, micro-nutrients (bounded by phytates)
Pulses and nuts	3	Energy dense, high amounts of protein but of lower quality (PER less) than meats, micro-nutrients (inhibited by phytates), low fat
Vegetables	1	Low energy, low protein, no fat, micro-nutrients
Fruits	1	Low energy, low protein, no fat, micro-nutrients
Meat and fish	4	Highest quality protein, easily absorbable micro-nutrients (no phytates), energy dense, fat. Even when consumed in small quantities, improvement to the quality of diet are large
Milk	4	Highest quality protein, micro-nutrients, vitamin A, energy. However, milk could be consumed only in very small amount and should then be treated as condiment and therefore re-classification in such cases is needed
Sugar	0.5	Empty calories. Usually consumed in small quantities
Oil	0.5	Energy dense but usually no other micro-nutrients. Usually consumed in small quantities
Condiments	0	These foods are by definition eaten in very small quantities and not considered to have an important impact on overall diet.

The FCS can have a maximum value of 112, implying that each food was consumed every day for the last seven days. Households are then classified on the basis of their FCS and standard thresholds into three categories: poor, borderline and acceptable. The cut-off points have been set at 28 and 42 as recommended by the WFP Emergency Food Security Assessment Handbook. This is to allow for the fact that oil and sugar are consumed extremely frequently among all households surveyed and the cut-off points have been heightened to avoid distorting the FCSs of those surveyed.

Food Consumption Score Nutrition (FCS-N)

The way in which the FCS is analysed does not explicitly provide information on the main macronutrient (carbohydrate, fat, protein) and micronutrient (vitamins and minerals) adequacy and consequent potential risks of deficiencies of these nutrients, but the data recorded in the FCS module provides enough information to shed light on the consumption of these nutrients.

WFP has developed an analytical method to utilize this data and provide information on specific nutrients – a tool called the FCS-N. While it does not identify individual nutrient intake, the ‘**food consumption score nutrition quality analysis**’ fills this gap at the household level, and attempts to improve the link between household food access/consumption and nutritional outcomes.

The analysis looks at how often a household consumed foods rich in a certain nutrient. The thesis of the FCS-N is that although the nutrient, for example Vitamin A, can be obtained from many foods, the number of times a household consumed food particularly rich in this nutrient can be used to assess likely adequacy of that nutrient. The FCS-N analysis is complementary to the standard FCS estimation.

The following two steps illustrate this analytical method using a hypothetical example.

Step 1. Aggregate the individual food groups into nutrient rich food groups. As the purpose of the analysis is to assess nutrient inadequacy by looking at the frequencies of consumption of food groups rich in the nutrients of interest, we first need to create the nutrient-rich food groups. This is done by summing up the consumption frequency of the food sub-groups belonging to each nutrient-rich food group, following the FCS module table above:

- Vitamin A rich foods: Dairy, Organ meat, Eggs, Orange vegetables, Green vegetables and Orange fruits. 2. Protein rich foods: Pulses, Dairy, Flesh meat, Organ meat, Fish and Eggs. 3. Hem iron rich foods: Flesh meat, Organ meat and Fish. The first three groups above (Vitamin A, Iron and Protein) are mandatory to be able to perform FCS-N.
 - Categorize the Vitamin A rich groups (Dairy, Organ meat, Orange vegetables, Green Vegetables, Orange fruits) and Sum up the frequencies of consumption of foods rich in Vitamin A.
 - Categorize the protein rich groups (Pulses/nuts, Dairy, meat, organ meat, fish, eggs) and sum up the frequencies of consumption of foods rich in protein.
 - Categorize the hem iron rich group (Flesh meat, organ meat and fish) and sum up the of consumption of foods rich in hem iron.

Step 2. Build categories of frequency of food consumption groups. Based on the validation tests, frequency groups are classified according to the consumption frequency of:

- Never: 0 day
- Sometimes: 1-6 days
- At least daily: 7 (and/or more) days

For the purposes of analysis, the consumption frequencies of each nutrient rich food group are then recoded into three categories:

- 1 = 0 times (never consumed)
- 2 = 1-6 times (consumed sometimes)
- 3 = 7 times or more (consumed at least daily)
 - 2.1 Build the category of frequency of the Vitamin A rich group
 - 2.2 Build the category of frequency of the protein rich group
 - 2.3 Build the category of frequency of the hem iron rich group

Reference: <https://resources.vam.wfp.org/node/87>

Annex 5: Diet diversity score

Household food access is defined as the ability to acquire a sufficient quality and quantity of food to meet all household members' nutritional requirements for productive lives. Household dietary diversity, defined as the number of unique foods consumed by household members over a given period, has been validated to be a useful proxy for measuring household food access, particularly when resources for undertaking such measurement are scarce.

The number of different foods or food groups eaten over a reference period are recorded (in the VASyR questions were asked about food group consumed over the 7 days prior to the data collection), without regard to frequency of consumption.

Household weekly diet diversity is equal to number of food groups consumed over the previous 7 days. Household daily average diet diversity is equal to the number of food groups consumed over the previous 24 hours (in the VASyR, the number of food groups consumed was divided by 7 to estimate it by one day).

Calculation. Regroup all the food items into specific food groups:

1. Cereals
2. Vegetables
3. Fruits
4. Meat, poultry, organ meat
5. Eggs
6. Fish and seafood
7. Pulses/legumes/nuts
8. Milk and milk products
9. Oils/fats
10. Sugar/honey

Miscellaneous key concerns: Dietary diversity score does not take into account the nutrient value of food items eaten. The questionnaire should properly account for food items consumed in very small quantities. For instance, if a spoon of fish powder is added to the pot, this should be treated as a condiment rather than a day's consumption of fish. The same is true for a teaspoon of milk in tea. Reporting: Mean dietary diversity score; compare mean between different groups. Descriptive procedure: compare means; descriptive statistics. Interpretation: Dietary diversity is positively linked with adequacy of food intake. Hence, a smaller value indicates poor quality of diet.

For a detailed discussion on the dietary diversity indicator, visit the following website:

- http://www.fantaproject.org/downloads/pdfs/HDDS_v2_Sep06.pdf.
- http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/manual_guide_proced/wfp203208.pdf

Annex 6: Food security classification

The food security classification is based on the combination of three main indicators: the food consumption score, the livelihood coping strategies and the expenditures share.

- The food consumption score measures current food consumption. Households are grouped based on the variety and frequency of foods consumed as indicated in the FCS Annex. The FCS is grouped into three categories: acceptable, borderline and poor. Another group is created for the classification of food security combining those who have acceptable food consumption and they applied any food related coping strategies.
- Share of food expenditures measures the economic vulnerability. Households are categorized based on the share of total expenditures directed to food. Households which allocate more of their expenditures on food are more likely to be food insecure.

- The livelihood coping strategies measures sustainability of livelihoods. Households are categorized based on severity of livelihood coping strategies employed as indicated in Annex 3. Households which didn't apply any coping strategies fall under the category of food security.

Food security classification include four categories: food secure, mildly food insecure, moderately food insecure and severely food insecure

	Food Security	Mild Food Insecurity	Moderate Food Insecurity	Severe Food Insecurity
Food consumption	Acceptable	Acceptable with food-related coping strategies	Borderline	Poor
Food expenditure share	<50%	50-65%	65-75%	>75%
Coping strategies	Household not adopting coping strategies	Stress coping strategies	Crisis coping strategies	Emergency coping strategies

Table below describe the combination of the components for the FS classification.

Food Security Categories	Score	Description
Food Secure	1	Able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical coping strategies
Mildly Food Insecure	2	Has minimal adequate food consumption without engaging in irreversible coping strategies; unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures
Moderately Food Insecure	3	Has significant food consumption gaps OR just able to meet minimum food needs only with irreversible coping strategies
Severely Food Insecure	4	Has extreme food consumption gaps OR has extreme loss of productive assets that will lead to food consumption gaps or worse

The steps to compute food security categories are the following:

- Convert the three food security indicators into 4-point scale indices:
 - Coping strategy index
 - Food expenditure share index
 - Food consumption score index that was classified into four groups as follows:

FCS Groups	Score
Acceptable	1
Acceptable with food-related coping strategies	2
Borderline	3
Poor	4

1. Calculate the coping capacity indicator by computing a rounded mean for the coping strategies index and the food expenditures share index;
2. Calculate the 'food security classification' by computing a rounded mean of the household's FCS score index and the Coping Capacities indicator. This variable will have a value from 1 to 4 and represents the household's overall food security outcome.

The FS methodology used in the VASyR slightly differs from the WFP CARI methodology. This choice was necessary to maintain consistency and comparability across the VASyR over the past five years, as the CARI was developed and finalized only in 2015.

The main differences in the two methods consist in:

- The aggregation of food consumption and food related coping strategies in the second group of the food consumption; and
- 'Mildly food insecure' households are described as 'marginally food secure' in CARI. Although the nomenclature has changed, the households belonging to this group should be considered as vulnerable to food insecurity (both are yellow category).

WFP advocates that while the methodology should remain the same to ensure the comparability of results over years, the nomenclature should be changed in 2018 to be more consistent with WFP corporate definitions.

Please find below the link for more information about food security classification in CARI:

<http://www.wfp.org/content/consolidated-approach-reporting-indicators-food-security-cari-guidelines>

		Food Secure	Marginally Food Secure/Mildly food insecure	Moderately food Insecure	Severely Food insecure
CARI		Acceptable		Borderline	Poor
VASyR	Food consumption	Acceptable	Acceptable adopting food related coping wstrategies	Borderline	Poor

Annex 7: Data tables
Demographics

	Individuals				Heads of household		Households														
	Gender		Age		Civil Status		Gender		Household size			Share of households by number of members			Share of households by dependents			Share of households with at least one individual with a specific need			
	female	male	mean	median	single	wid-owed	female	male	1 member	1-4 members	5 to 6 members	more than 7 members	1 or more dependent	2 or more dependent	3 or more dependent	chronic illness	serious medical condition	potentially disabling	illness		
Total	52%	48%	20	15	17%	3%	19%	81%	5	46%	33%	21%	67%	45%	26%	46%	3%	34%	14%		
Gender of head of household																					
Female	60%	40%	20	15	56%	46%	100%	0%	4	60%	25%	16%	60%	39%	19%	50%	4%	33%	16%		
Male	50%	50%	20	15	54%	83%	0%	100%	5	43%	35%	23%	69%	46%	27%	45%	3%	34%	13%		
Shelter type																					
Residential	51%	49%	20	16	54%	79%	16%	84%	5	46%	34%	20%	67%	44%	24%	45%	3%	33%	14%		
Non-residential	53%	47%	20	15	50%	74%	23%	77%	5	47%	30%	24%	65%	46%	27%	50%	1%	35%	13%		
Informal settlement	54%	46%	19	14	48%	73%	28%	72%	5	44%	28%	28%	69%	48%	33%	50%	3%	39%	14%		
Governorate																					
Akkar	51%	49%	21	17	54%	74%	25%	75%	5	51%	29%	20%	60%	40%	25%	47%	2%	37%	16%		
Baalbek Hermel	55%	45%	21	16	53%	71%	32%	68%	5	43%	38%	19%	68%	44%	20%	50%	4%	38%	13%		
Beirut	48%	52%	21	16	53%	75%	7%	93%	5	11%	30%	23%	63%	42%	23%	35%	2%	18%	11%		
Bekaa	53%	47%	19	14	48%	77%	22%	78%	5	43%	31%	26%	70%	50%	32%	46%	2%	33%	12%		
Nabatieh	50%	50%	20	15	50%	80%	10%	90%	5	42%	33%	24%	69%	47%	30%	44%	4%	40%	15%		
Mount Lebanon	50%	50%	20	15	51%	81%	14%	86%	5	50%	33%	17%	66%	43%	24%	43%	3%	27%	14%		
North Lebanon	51%	49%	21	16	53%	76%	17%	83%	5	42%	32%	26%	68%	45%	26%	54%	5%	43%	20%		
South Lebanon	51%	49%	20	15	55%	81%	12%	88%	5	45%	35%	20%	70%	45%	24%	39%	3%	40%	12%		
District																					
Akkar	51%	49%	21	17	54%	74%	25%	75%	5	51%	29%	20%	60%	40%	25%	47%	2%	37%	16%		
Aley	51%	49%	20	15	50%	80%	14%	86%	5	47%	37%	16%	67%	44%	25%	53%	6%	38%	18%		
Baabda	52%	48%	19	14	49%	78%	24%	76%	5	52%	32%	17%	66%	42%	24%	37%	2%	26%	13%		
Baalbek	55%	45%	21	16	53%	71%	32%	68%	5	43%	38%	19%	68%	44%	20%	50%	4%	38%	13%		
Batroun	48%	52%	19	14	48%	85%	13%	87%	5	45%	37%	19%	72%	48%	28%	47%	4%	39%	14%		
Bcharre	50%	50%	18	14	48%	86%	9%	91%	5	42%	42%	16%	68%	53%	27%	47%	6%	40%	14%		
Beirut	48%	52%	21	16	53%	75%	7%	93%	5	47%	40%	23%	63%	42%	23%	35%	2%	18%	11%		
Bent Jbeil	48%	54%	18	14	48%	85%	4%	96%	5	38%	31%	31%	76%	51%	35%	40%	1%	52%	15%		
Chouf	49%	51%	20	16	52%	82%	9%	91%	5	45%	36%	19%	67%	47%	24%	50%	2%	37%	16%		
Hasbaya	53%	47%	21	17	55%	82%	20%	80%	5	50%	32%	17%	60%	37%	19%	55%	2%	38%	14%		
Hermel	50%	50%	19	14	48%	72%	24%	76%	5	41%	34%	25%	76%	53%	30%	50%	2%	41%	16%		
Jbeil	50%	50%	19	14	49%	77%	12%	88%	5	46%	32%	22%	66%	50%	26%	40%	2%	27%	12%		
Jejjine	50%	50%	19	13	48%	86%	11%	89%	5	36%	39%	25%	73%	56%	35%	24%	4%	19%	8%		
Keswane	48%	52%	20	16	51%	82%	5%	95%	5	54%	27%	19%	65%	40%	22%	32%	1%	11%	6%		
Koura	53%	47%	20	17	54%	81%	15%	85%	5	44%	29%	20%	70%	47%	25%	51%	5%	43%	18%		
Marijoun	52%	48%	19	14	49%	82%	9%	91%	5	51%	40%	36%	64%	37%	34%	38%	9%	30%	15%		
Metn	50%	50%	21	17	54%	82%	2%	98%	5	48%	31%	18%	64%	39%	22%	41%	2%	12%	11%		
Mineh Denneh	51%	49%	21	17	54%	82%	21%	79%	6	32%	32%	36%	72%	52%	30%	55%	5%	52%	27%		
Nabatieh	49%	51%	19	14	49%	84%	9%	91%	5	38%	38%	25%	77%	51%	23%	39%	2%	29%	16%		
Rachaya	52%	48%	21	16	52%	78%	20%	80%	5	44%	33%	23%	64%	46%	28%	47%	2%	33%	10%		
Saida	50%	50%	20	16	53%	80%	11%	89%	5	44%	34%	22%	66%	45%	24%	46%	5%	44%	13%		
Tripoli	50%	50%	22	17	55%	81%	15%	85%	5	48%	33%	19%	63%	39%	20%	60%	6%	38%	16%		
Tyre	54%	46%	19	15	50%	80%	16%	84%	5	48%	33%	13%	70%	39%	24%	30%	2%	46%	8%		
West Bekaa	54%	46%	20	14	48%	73%	23%	77%	5	39%	33%	27%	73%	52%	38%	55%	1%	33%	13%		
Zahle	53%	47%	19	14	48%	79%	22%	78%	5	45%	30%	25%	69%	49%	30%	42%	2%	32%	11%		
Zgharta	49%	51%	19	15	50%	76%	19%	81%	5	47%	31%	22%	66%	47%	28%	43%	6%	35%	14%		

Residency and birth registration

	Legal residency*			Birth registration (cumulative percentage of households who have accomplished each step)							
	Households with all members having legal residency	Households with at least one member having legal residency	Households with no members having legal residency	No documents	Birth notification from doctor/midwife	Certificate from Mukhtar	Register at local civil registry office (i.e. Noufous)	Reigster at the Foreigners' Registry	Certificate stamped at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Certificate stamped at the Syrian Embassy	Registered in the family booklet, individual or civil extract
Total	19%	45%	55%	5%	95%	78%	36%	17%	15%	14%	7%
Governorate											
Akkar	19%	39%	61%	4%	96%	70%	33%	5%	4%	4%	3%
Baalbek Hermel	15%	52%	48%	2%	98%	77%	11%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Beirut	25%	55%	45%	5%	95%	88%	65%	47%	39%	33%	16%
Bekaa	7%	29%	71%	9%	91%	83%	11%	4%	4%	4%	3%
Nabatieh	32%	61%	39%	2%	98%	83%	65%	27%	25%	22%	11%
Mount Lebanon	28%	52%	48%	6%	94%	80%	59%	32%	28%	26%	12%
North Lebanon	15%	43%	57%	3%	97%	65%	35%	14%	13%	12%	9%
South Lebanon	29%	59%	41%	1%	99%	88%	46%	22%	19%	19%	6%
District											
Akkar	19%	39%	61%	4%	96%	70%	33%	5%	4%	4%	3%
Aley	29%	54%	46%	7%	93%	76%	58%	37%	27%	25%	8%
Baabda	43%	60%	40%	7%	93%	80%	58%	36%	32%	30%	14%
Baalbek	15%	52%	48%	2%	98%	77%	9%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Batroun	19%	47%	53%	3%	97%	64%	31%	22%	22%	18%	8%
Bcharre	30%	69%	31%	12%	88%	53%	33%	18%	15%	15%	7%
Beirut	25%	55%	45%	5%	95%	88%	65%	47%	39%	33%	16%
Bent Jbeil	28%	58%	42%	0%	100%	82%	67%	35%	32%	32%	14%
Chouf	18%	45%	55%	2%	98%	87%	63%	32%	31%	30%	14%
Hasbaya	38%	64%	36%	0%	100%	81%	63%	20%	19%	19%	10%
Hermel	6%	32%	68%	9%	91%	80%	28%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Jbeil	20%	49%	51%	1%	99%	83%	68%	35%	30%	30%	17%
Jezzine	28%	71%	29%	1%	99%	92%	72%	34%	31%	29%	15%
Kesrwane	14%	35%	65%	5%	95%	74%	56%	24%	19%	17%	15%
Koura	19%	43%	57%	3%	97%	49%	33%	12%	11%	10%	6%
Marjaayoun	29%	61%	39%	4%	96%	71%	44%	21%	21%	21%	19%
Meten	12%	45%	55%	8%	92%	80%	60%	24%	22%	19%	10%
Minieh Dennieh	8%	43%	57%	4%	96%	73%	37%	11%	11%	11%	9%
Nabatieh	23%	53%	47%	3%	97%	88%	72%	27%	24%	19%	7%
Rachaya	16%	45%	55%	0%	100%	94%	26%	14%	13%	13%	12%
Saida	35%	63%	37%	2%	98%	89%	50%	19%	16%	15%	2%
Tripoli	18%	38%	62%	2%	98%	60%	35%	15%	14%	13%	11%
Tyre	26%	56%	44%	0%	100%	85%	39%	25%	22%	22%	12%
West Bekaa	9%	36%	64%	2%	98%	94%	16%	6%	6%	6%	4%
Zahle	6%	25%	75%	12%	88%	77%	8%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Zgharta	16%	56%	44%	2%	98%	64%	35%	19%	16%	10%	5%

Shelter

Type of housing	Type of Occupancy							Type of Rental Agreement			Rent		Overcrowdedness			Primary factor in choice of accommodation		Mobility		Overall shelter conditions							
	Residential	Non-residential	Informal settlement	Assisted by an organization/charity	Hosted for free	Owned	Rented	Work for rent	Squatting	Other	No Verbal agreement	Written agreement	Written agreement	Mean	Median	Average density	Household with < 4.5 m ² /person	Household with > 3.5 m ² /person	Rent cost	Proximity to family relatives	Proximity to work/livelihoods	Household which changed accommodation in the past 6 months	Household which plan to change accommodation in the next 6 months	No observed adverse shelter conditions	Quality of shelter much below standard	Structure in dangerous condition	
Total	73%	9%	17%	4%	7%	0%	80%	0%	2%	19%	74%	6%	183,184	165	8,587	23%	34%	51%	20%	10%	11.9%	10.3%	68%	28%	4%		
Gender of head of household																											
Female	62%	12%	26%	6%	15%	0%	71%	0%	3%	26%	67%	7%	151,231	132	8,601	24%	36%	46%	29%	6%	14%	10.1%	63%	32%	5%		
Male	76%	9%	15%	3%	5%	0%	82%	0%	1%	18%	76%	6%	189,507	198	8,584	22%	34%	52%	17%	11%	11%	10.3%	69%	27%	4%		
Shelter type																											
Residential	100%	0%	0%	2%	7%	0%	83%	0%	0%	16%	76%	8%	219,341	198	9,658	19%	28%	52%	18%	12%	12%	11.2%	73%	25%	2%		
Non-residential	0%	100%	0%	8%	10%	0%	72%	0%	3%	20%	77%	3%	136,124	132	6,319	38%	52%	43%	17%	6%	12%	12.1%	46%	48%	6%		
Informal settlement	0%	0%	100%	8%	7%	0%	73%	0%	5%	32%	66%	2%	34,758	17	5,312	30%	53%	56%	30%	6%	11%	5.3%	58%	33%	9%		
Governorate																											
Akkar	64%	14%	22%	10%	14%	0%	72%	0%	1%	14%	82%	4%	116,917	99	9,306	19%	28%	52%	28%	5%	11%	6.8%	76%	22%	1%		
Baalbek Hermel	42%	8%	50%	14%	8%	0%	72%	0%	3%	42%	53%	5%	87,977	66	5,536	25%	48%	48%	21%	2%	12%	7.9%	72%	29%	5%		
Beirut	96%	3%	0%	1%	9%	1%	64%	0%	0%	20%	73%	7%	327,563	297	7,178	31%	43%	53%	12%	14%	10%	7.1%	92%	8%	0%		
Bekaa	50%	12%	38%	3%	4%	0%	84%	0%	4%	27%	67%	6%	115,498	99	5,993	30%	47%	35%	35%	9%	15%	10.1%	62%	30%	8%		
Nabatieh	84%	4%	13%	3%	6%	0%	76%	0%	1%	9%	85%	7%	155,357	165	12,872	7%	11%	64%	13%	12%	11%	6.2%	66%	33%	1%		
Mount Lebanon	94%	5%	1%	0%	7%	0%	84%	0%	1%	19%	76%	5%	267,738	248	9,279	20%	29%	68%	9%	10%	11%	11.4%	67%	31%	3%		
North Lebanon	82%	14%	4%	1%	8%	0%	84%	0%	0%	6%	85%	9%	201,240	198	8,441	25%	36%	48%	16%	12%	11%	15.1%	65%	31%	3%		
South Lebanon	87%	8%	5%	3%	7%	0%	79%	0%	0%	7%	82%	11%	160,448	165	15,236	8%	13%	45%	15%	27%	10%	7.7%	67%	30%	3%		
District																											
Akkar	64%	14%	22%	10%	14%	0%	72%	0%	1%	14%	82%	4%	116,917	99	9,306	19%	28%	52%	28%	5%	11%	6.8%	76%	22%	1%		
Aley	94%	5%	1%	1%	8%	0%	78%	0%	0%	18%	74%	8%	281,649	248	10,192	22%	30%	64%	11%	5%	12%	13.5%	73%	21%	6%		
Baabda	96%	4%	0%	0%	7%	0%	86%	0%	0%	28%	67%	5%	252,626	248	9,689	20%	27%	75%	9%	9%	10%	14.9%	58%	40%	2%		
Baalbek	42%	8%	50%	14%	8%	0%	72%	0%	3%	42%	53%	5%	87,977	66	5,536	25%	48%	48%	21%	2%	12%	7.9%	72%	23%	5%		
Batroun	69%	20%	11%	0%	7%	0%	78%	1%	1%	8%	85%	6%	195,815	198	6,444	36%	46%	52%	11%	17%	6%	15.1%	42%	49%	8%		
Bcharre	91%	9%	1%	0%	2%	1%	90%	0%	0%	7%	89%	4%	183,551	198	7,529	25%	41%	38%	17%	24%	13%	15.6%	63%	30%	7%		
Beirut	96%	3%	0%	1%	9%	1%	84%	0%	0%	20%	73%	7%	327,563	297	7,178	31%	43%	53%	12%	14%	10%	7.1%	92%	8%	0%		
Bent Jubail	97%	3%	0%	1%	2%	0%	89%	0%	0%	1%	91%	8%	168,603	165	13,938	6%	8%	73%	7%	9%	9%	3.2%	68%	32%	0%		
Chouf	89%	7%	4%	0%	8%	0%	83%	0%	1%	8%	87%	5%	241,358	198	10,100	12%	22%	79%	4%	3%	15%	11.5%	48%	52%	1%		
Hasbaya	78%	4%	18%	8%	7%	0%	85%	0%	0%	4%	87%	9%	138,417	132	13,777	4%	9%	58%	17%	9%	10%	2.4%	71%	29%	0%		
Hermel	62%	6%	32%	1%	11%	0%	65%	0%	11%	36%	62%	2%	106,822	99	5,521	35%	45%	38%	23%	8%	16%	5.5%	59%	37%	4%		
Jbeil	91%	7%	2%	0%	4%	0%	77%	0%	0%	10%	85%	5%	343,740	248	7,404	29%	36%	55%	7%	20%	15%	10.9%	67%	33%	1%		
Jezzine	89%	10%	1%	0%	4%	0%	79%	0%	2%	1%	33%	66%	247,635	198	11,553	3%	9%	61%	16%	19%	4%	3.1%	95%	4%	1%		
Keswaneh	91%	8%	2%	1%	4%	0%	78%	0%	2%	21%	76%	3%	275,488	253	8,029	19%	29%	49%	12%	24%	14%	3.1%	95%	4%	1%		
Koura	79%	17%	4%	0%	8%	0%	81%	1%	0%	7%	82%	10%	199,956	198	7,786	28%	41%	51%	18%	12%	10%	14.4%	57%	41%	2%		
Marjayoun	74%	4%	22%	0%	9%	0%	70%	1%	2%	21%	76%	3%	150,144	148	10,847	11%	17%	58%	14%	18%	14%	13.2%	60%	38%	2%		
Meten	94%	5%	1%	1%	3%	0%	88%	0%	0%	14%	82%	8%	291,732	297	8,507	24%	38%	57%	10%	16%	8%	5.9%	83%	15%	2%		
Minieh Dennieh	81%	13%	6%	1%	7%	1%	88%	0%	0%	2%	89%	9%	184,815	165	9,235	22%	32%	44%	18%	7%	16%	12.1%	69%	30%	1%		
Nabatieh	95%	5%	0%	1%	5%	0%	90%	0%	0%	19%	71%	9%	190,245	198	14,579	2%	6%	40%	4%	18%	8%	10.4%	64%	34%	3%		
Rachaya	83%	14%	3%	1%	3%	0%	90%	0%	1%	24%	63%	13%	161,905	165	7,457	21%	34%	44%	28%	4%	12%	9.1%	66%	29%	5%		
Saida	79%	13%	8%	5%	8%	0%	71%	0%	1%	4%	85%	10%	197,776	198	13,517	14%	18%	60%	7%	20%	11%	7.9%	67%	29%	4%		
Tripoli	90%	10%	0%	1%	10%	1%	81%	0%	0%	8%	82%	10%	233,221	206	8,741	22%	32%	51%	17%	12%	8%	19.7%	72%	25%	3%		
Tyre	92%	2%	6%	2%	10%	0%	82%	0%	0%	2%	91%	7%	140,437	132	18,895	6%	10%	24%	15%	49%	12%	5.5%	68%	30%	2%		
West Bekaa	47%	10%	42%	3%	5%	0%	84%	0%	5%	29%	64%	7%	113,799	99	6,984	21%	36%	42%	37%	7%	12%	4.8%	62%	27%	10%		
Zahle	48%	13%	39%	4%	4%	0%	85%	0%	4%	26%	69%	5%	113,568	99	5,559	34%	52%	32%	35%	10%	16%	12.2%	61%	31%	8%		
Zgharta	68%	24%	7%	2%	5%	0%	80%	1%	0%	13%	82%	5%	152,738	132	6,804	36%	52%	46%	13%	23%	9%	9.1%	60%	34%	6%		

Health

	Primary Health Care (PHC)		Secondary/Tertiary Health Care (SHC/THC)		Mental Health Care (MHC)	
	Households that required PHC	Households that required and received PHC	Households that required SHC/THC	Households that required and received SHC/THC	Households that required MHC	Households that required and received MHC
Total	46%	89%	24%	78%	2%	38%
Gender of head of household						
Female	52%	91%	25%	86%	3%	42%
Male	44%	88%	24%	77%	2%	37%
Shelter type						
Residential	42%	88%	24%	77%	3%	39%
Non-residential	46%	88%	21%	84%	1%	33%
Informal settlement	61%	94%	29%	81%	1%	27%
Governorate						
Akkar	31%	82%	17%	86%	2%	70%
Baalbek Hermel	69%	93%	36%	85%	2%	0%
Beirut	24%	77%	15%	74%	1%	0%
Bekaa	62%	95%	26%	81%	1%	74%
Nabatieh	61%	95%	33%	82%	2%	33%
Mount Lebanon	31%	75%	18%	58%	4%	27%
North Lebanon	38%	91%	26%	89%	4%	60%
South Lebanon	60%	92%	32%	81%	2%	35%
District						
Akkar	31%	82%	17%	86%	2%	70%
Aley	27%	53%	21%	53%	6%	18%
Baabda	20%	72%	12%	65%	3%	0%
Baalbek	69%	93%	36%	85%	2%	0%
Batroun	28%	79%	23%	74%	2%	75%
Bcharre	43%	68%	36%	76%	2%	33%
Beirut	24%	77%	15%	74%	1%	0%
Bent Jbeil	75%	98%	39%	85%	1%	50%
Chouf	58%	81%	28%	43%	2%	0%
Hasbaya	76%	98%	37%	90%	2%	67%
Hermel	56%	95%	26%	81%	2%	67%
Jbeil	28%	70%	15%	58%	3%	40%
Jezzine	16%	84%	9%	87%	1%	100%
Kesrwane	22%	86%	16%	88%	4%	57%
Koura	38%	81%	26%	81%	3%	60%
Marjaayoun	32%	78%	23%	65%	4%	14%
Meten	33%	86%	14%	71%	3%	100%
Minieh Dennieh	58%	97%	31%	92%	6%	50%
Nabatieh	45%	76%	22%	53%	4%	0%
Rachaya	63%	99%	27%	86%	1%	100%
Saida	56%	95%	43%	87%	2%	33%
Tripoli	22%	90%	23%	93%	2%	100%
Tyre	84%	97%	25%	86%	2%	100%
West Bekaa	64%	95%	32%	87%	1%	0%
Zahle	61%	95%	24%	78%	1%	100%
Zgharta	28%	86%	22%	79%	2%	50%

Food consumption

	Meals per day (mean)		Household Food Consumption				Household Weekly Diet Diversity groups			Household Daily Average Diet Diversity groups				Household Weekly Diet Diversity (mean)	Household Daily Average Diet Diversity (mean)
	adults	children <5	Poor (<=28 FCS)	Borderline (29-42 FCS)	Acceptable (>42 FCS)	<=6 food groups	7-8 food groups	>=9 food groups	<4.5 food groups	4.5-6.4 food groups	>=6.5 food groups	Household Weekly Diet Diversity (mean)	Household Daily Average Diet Diversity (mean)		
Total	2.09	2.41	11.0%	27.1%	62.0%	16.3%	41.1%	42.6%	20.6%	61.9%	17.5%	8.0	5.3		
Governorates															
Akkar	2.12	2.54	22.7%	39.8%	37.5%	36.1%	42.6%	21.3%	31.9%	60.6%	7.6%	7.0	4.8		
Baalbek-Hermel	1.98	2.31	7.4%	28.3%	64.2%	10.8%	55.2%	34.0%	17.0%	70.2%	12.8%	7.9	5.4		
Beirut	2.34	2.58	2.0%	8.5%	89.4%	4.5%	25.2%	70.3%	4.1%	55.5%	40.4%	8.9	6.2		
Bekaa	2.01	2.21	3.5%	36.7%	59.8%	9.0%	44.5%	46.5%	4.3%	84.2%	11.5%	8.3	5.5		
Nabatieh	1.98	2.21	5.5%	18.2%	76.3%	6.6%	31.4%	62.0%	17.6%	47.0%	35.4%	8.8	5.9		
Mount Lebanon	2.20	2.60	17.2%	20.4%	62.3%	20.5%	33.1%	46.5%	36.9%	42.0%	21.1%	7.9	4.8		
North Lebanon	1.87	2.15	10.3%	24.0%	65.8%	18.5%	47.3%	34.2%	14.9%	63.1%	22.1%	7.8	5.6		
South Lebanon	2.49	2.82	6.1%	24.5%	69.4%	7.7%	37.1%	55.2%	16.1%	72.3%	11.6%	8.5	5.4		
Districts															
Akkar	2.12	2.54	22.7%	39.8%	37.5%	36.1%	42.6%	21.3%	31.9%	60.6%	7.6%	7.0	4.8		
Aley	2.01	2.41	25.7%	24.6%	49.7%	32.7%	28.7%	38.6%	59.6%	32.2%	8.2%	7.4	4.1		
Baabda	2.30	2.55	25.5%	26.1%	48.4%	24.2%	34.8%	41.0%	54.7%	34.8%	10.6%	7.7	4.0		
Baalbek	1.97	2.29	7.3%	28.5%	64.2%	10.3%	55.8%	33.9%	17.0%	70.3%	12.7%	7.9	5.4		
Batroun	2.21	2.68	15.1%	22.9%	62.0%	25.9%	45.2%	28.9%	19.3%	68.7%	12.0%	7.5	5.3		
Bcharre	1.94	2.24	15.0%	30.1%	54.9%	33.5%	47.4%	19.1%	25.4%	60.1%	14.5%	7.2	5.3		
Beirut	2.34	2.58	2.0%	8.5%	89.4%	4.5%	25.2%	70.3%	4.1%	55.5%	40.4%	8.9	6.2		
Bent Jbeil	2.17	2.78	3.2%	12.0%	84.8%	5.1%	25.3%	69.6%	8.2%	59.5%	32.3%	8.8	5.9		
Chouf	2.07	2.97	12.1%	19.4%	66.5%	18.8%	45.5%	35.8%	23.6%	55.8%	20.6%	7.7	5.2		
Hasbaya	1.76	1.91	0.0%	26.9%	73.1%	3.6%	23.4%	73.1%	2.4%	76.0%	21.6%	9.3	5.8		
Hermel	2.16	2.71	10.9%	25.5%	63.6%	21.2%	44.2%	34.5%	18.2%	67.9%	13.9%	7.7	5.4		
Jbeil	2.08	2.27	40.6%	18.2%	41.2%	35.8%	27.9%	36.4%	57.0%	27.9%	15.2%	7.4	3.8		
Jezzine	2.57	2.58	21.9%	58.7%	19.4%	19.4%	36.2%	44.4%	32.5%	67.5%	0.0%	8.0	4.6		
Kesrwane	2.23	2.70	1.9%	10.0%	88.1%	3.1%	26.9%	70.0%	1.2%	54.4%	44.4%	9.0	6.3		
Koura	1.94	2.24	13.8%	22.8%	63.5%	29.3%	35.3%	35.3%	19.2%	64.1%	16.8%	7.6	5.5		
Martaayoun	1.49	1.50	11.9%	23.9%	64.2%	11.3%	28.3%	60.4%	28.3%	45.9%	25.8%	8.5	5.4		
Meten	2.31	2.54	0.0%	10.7%	89.3%	5.9%	26.6%	67.5%	1.8%	50.9%	47.3%	8.8	6.4		
Minieh Dannieh	1.76	1.82	9.1%	20.6%	70.3%	18.2%	47.9%	33.9%	14.5%	57.0%	28.5%	7.8	5.8		
Nabatieh	2.11	2.31	5.8%	16.2%	77.9%	6.5%	36.4%	57.1%	21.4%	35.7%	42.9%	8.9	6.0		
Rachaya	1.95	2.34	3.6%	24.8%	71.5%	9.7%	46.7%	43.6%	4.8%	80.0%	15.2%	8.2	5.6		
Saida	2.49	2.88	7.3%	29.3%	63.4%	7.9%	34.1%	57.9%	22.6%	66.5%	11.0%	8.6	5.2		
Tripoli	1.84	2.34	8.7%	27.3%	63.9%	12.6%	49.2%	38.3%	11.5%	68.9%	19.7%	7.9	5.6		
Tyre	2.49	2.75	2.4%	13.3%	84.2%	6.1%	41.8%	52.1%	4.2%	81.8%	13.9%	8.5	5.7		
West Bekaa	2.11	2.46	3.0%	27.3%	69.7%	10.3%	37.6%	52.1%	4.2%	80.0%	15.8%	8.4	5.7		
Zahle	1.98	2.11	3.7%	40.9%	55.5%	8.5%	47.0%	44.5%	4.3%	86.0%	9.8%	8.2	5.4		
Zgharta	1.99	2.37	11.4%	26.1%	62.5%	19.3%	55.7%	25.0%	18.2%	58.5%	23.3%	7.5	5.6		

Food consumption score nutrition

	Vitamin A			Protein			Hem Iron		
	Never consumed	1 to 6 times a week	at least daily	Never consumed	1 to 6 times a week	at least daily	Never consumed	1 to 6 times a week	at least daily
Total	6.9%	50.0%	43.1%	2.7%	41.4%	55.9%	58.5%	41.3%	.2%
Governorates									
Akkar	18.5%	58.6%	22.9%	7.6%	60.8%	31.7%	74.5%	25.5%	0.0%
Baalbek-Hermel	6.2%	55.0%	38.8%	3.6%	40.7%	55.7%	66.4%	33.6%	0.0%
Beirut	1.0%	26.2%	72.8%	.4%	19.5%	80.1%	33.7%	64.8%	1.4%
Bekaa	6.0%	56.9%	37.1%	1.1%	50.9%	48.1%	57.0%	43.0%	0.0%
Nabatieh	1.5%	41.5%	57.0%	.2%	28.9%	70.9%	41.5%	57.9%	.6%
Mount Lebanon	4.6%	42.5%	52.9%	2.5%	34.2%	63.2%	54.3%	45.3%	.3%
North Lebanon	9.5%	42.8%	47.7%	3.0%	38.3%	58.7%	67.3%	32.4%	.2%
South Lebanon	3.9%	70.9%	25.2%	1.1%	38.8%	60.1%	45.0%	55.0%	0.0%
Districts									
Akkar	18.5%	58.6%	22.9%	7.6%	60.8%	31.7%	74.5%	25.5%	0.0%
Aley	5.3%	46.8%	48.0%	5.3%	35.7%	59.1%	60.8%	39.2%	0.0%
Baabda	6.8%	52.2%	41.0%	3.1%	46.0%	50.9%	59.6%	40.4%	0.0%
Baalbek	6.1%	55.2%	38.8%	3.6%	40.6%	55.8%	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%
Batroun	13.3%	45.8%	41.0%	4.2%	44.0%	51.8%	70.5%	29.5%	0.0%
Bcharre	14.5%	47.4%	38.2%	7.5%	47.4%	45.1%	80.3%	19.7%	0.0%
Beirut	1.0%	26.2%	72.8%	.4%	19.5%	80.1%	33.7%	64.8%	1.4%
Bent Jbeil	1.9%	41.8%	56.3%	0.0%	22.8%	77.2%	36.7%	62.0%	1.3%
Chouf	4.8%	41.2%	53.9%	1.8%	32.1%	66.1%	65.5%	33.9%	.6%
Hasbaya	2.4%	50.9%	46.7%	0.0%	34.1%	65.9%	38.9%	61.1%	0.0%
Hermel	8.5%	51.5%	40.0%	3.6%	41.8%	54.5%	60.6%	39.4%	0.0%
Jbeil	8.5%	58.2%	33.3%	3.0%	53.3%	43.6%	60.6%	38.8%	.6%
Jezzine	13.1%	76.2%	10.6%	4.4%	78.7%	16.9%	68.7%	31.2%	0.0%
Kesrwane	0.0%	31.9%	68.1%	0.0%	23.7%	76.2%	31.9%	66.9%	1.2%
Koura	16.2%	36.5%	47.3%	3.6%	37.7%	58.7%	68.9%	31.1%	0.0%
Marjaayoun	3.1%	44.0%	52.8%	1.3%	37.1%	61.6%	44.7%	55.3%	0.0%
Meten	.6%	23.7%	75.7%	0.0%	14.8%	85.2%	34.9%	64.5%	.6%
Minieh Dannieh	6.7%	37.6%	55.8%	2.4%	32.1%	65.5%	70.3%	29.7%	0.0%
Nabatieh	.6%	38.3%	61.0%	0.0%	27.3%	72.7%	42.9%	56.5%	.6%
Rachaya	4.2%	56.4%	39.4%	1.2%	40.6%	58.2%	61.8%	38.2%	0.0%
Saida	4.3%	73.2%	22.6%	0.0%	43.3%	56.7%	41.5%	58.5%	0.0%
Tripoli	8.7%	49.2%	42.1%	2.7%	42.6%	54.6%	61.7%	37.7%	.5%
Tyre	2.4%	66.7%	30.9%	2.4%	27.3%	70.3%	47.9%	52.1%	0.0%
West Bekaa	4.2%	50.9%	44.8%	.6%	40.0%	59.4%	52.1%	47.9%	0.0%
Zahle	6.7%	59.1%	34.1%	1.2%	55.5%	43.3%	58.5%	41.5%	0.0%
Zgharta	11.4%	42.6%	46.0%	4.0%	40.3%	55.7%	69.9%	29.5%	.6%

Expenditures

Total per capita monthly expenditures	Food expenditure categories				Value non-purchased food per capita	Household expenditure shares																					
	mean	<50%	50-64%	65-74%		>75%	mean	Food	Health	Rent	Educa- tion	Water	To- bacco/ Alco- hol	Hy- giene	Fuel	Trans- port	Cloth- ing	Tele- com- muni- cations	Elec- tricity	HH as- sets	Other	Shelter materi- als	Gas expen- ditures	Legal expen- ditures	Ente- tain- ment	Debt repay- ment	
	97.8	63.0%	20.4%	8.3%	8.2%	13.5	43.6%	11.2%	18.2%	1.1%	3.4%	2.7%	3.2%	0.1%	2.1%	0.5%	3.9%	3.6%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	3.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	1.9%	
Governorates																											
Akkar	82.2	57.1%	19.7%	10.0%	13.3%	18.3	46.9%	15.6%	11.6%	1.1%	2.9%	2.6%	3.1%	0.1%	2.4%	0.3%	3.5%	3.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	4.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	
Baalbek-Hermel	65.5	52.5%	24.3%	10.3%	12.9%	19.5	47.8%	11.5%	10.1%	1.2%	2.9%	2.4%	3.0%	0.1%	2.9%	0.8%	4.2%	3.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	4.9%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	
Beirut	155.2	75.6%	14.5%	6.1%	3.7%	6.1	38.0%	10.0%	23.2%	1.1%	4.6%	3.1%	4.8%	0.2%	2.0%	1.2%	4.6%	1.9%	0.1%	1.1%	0.3%	2.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	
Bekaa	70.4	58.6%	24.1%	9.6%	7.7%	15.6	44.0%	14.5%	13.0%	0.8%	2.9%	2.3%	2.5%	0.2%	1.6%	0.6%	4.1%	5.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	3.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%	
Nabatieh	118.5	66.4%	21.0%	8.0%	4.6%	13.1	45.0%	9.3%	17.5%	1.7%	3.8%	3.5%	3.3%	0.2%	1.5%	0.7%	4.4%	3.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	2.9%	0.9%	0.1%	0.1%	1.3%	
Mount Lebanon	119.2	71.9%	14.8%	5.1%	8.2%	10.5	40.4%	7.9%	28.1%	1.5%	4.1%	2.2%	2.6%	0.1%	1.6%	0.4%	3.3%	3.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	2.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	1.1%	
North Lebanon	116.4	61.9%	23.8%	9.1%	5.2%	10.6	43.9%	11.5%	16.2%	0.8%	3.3%	3.6%	4.7%	0.1%	3.2%	0.5%	3.9%	2.8%	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%	3.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	
South Lebanon	89.6	61.9%	20.8%	10.8%	6.5%	12.6	45.2%	8.9%	19.6%	1.2%	3.3%	3.8%	3.6%	0.0%	2.2%	0.3%	4.5%	2.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	3.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	
Districts																											
Akkar	82.2	57.1%	19.7%	10.0%	13.3%	18.3	46.9%	15.6%	11.6%	1.1%	2.9%	2.6%	3.1%	0.1%	2.4%	0.3%	3.5%	3.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	4.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	
Aley	110.8	67.5%	15.0%	7.5%	10.0%	16.1	42.4%	10.0%	25.7%	1.5%	5.6%	1.5%	1.7%	0.1%	2.0%	0.3%	2.2%	2.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	2.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	
Baabda	103.6	72.8%	11.9%	2.6%	12.6%	8.4	39.7%	4.6%	36.2%	1.0%	4.5%	1.4%	1.4%	0.0%	1.1%	0.3%	2.6%	3.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	1.3%	
Baalbek	66.1	52.5%	24.7%	10.1%	12.7%	19.2	47.7%	11.4%	10.0%	1.3%	3.0%	2.4%	3.1%	0.1%	2.9%	0.8%	4.2%	3.5%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	4.9%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	
Batroun	125.5	63.2%	19.6%	11.0%	6.1%	12.6	44.2%	11.5%	16.8%	1.2%	3.0%	3.7%	4.3%	0.1%	3.0%	0.3%	3.8%	2.8%	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	
Bcharre	123.1	74.4%	12.8%	7.6%	5.2%	11.8	40.4%	10.4%	19.6%	0.7%	1.1%	4.1%	5.2%	0.3%	2.2%	0.8%	3.7%	3.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	3.9%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	
Beirut	155.2	75.6%	14.5%	6.1%	3.7%	6.1	38.0%	10.0%	23.2%	1.1%	4.6%	3.1%	4.8%	0.2%	2.0%	0.2%	4.6%	1.9%	0.1%	1.1%	0.3%	2.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	
Bent Jbeil	88.0	57.4%	31.6%	8.4%	2.6%	15.5	46.4%	7.0%	16.5%	0.9%	6.3%	3.9%	3.0%	0.1%	1.7%	0.4%	4.6%	3.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	3.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	
Chouf	109.1	65.2%	20.6%	6.5%	7.7%	8.4	45.1%	7.9%	21.3%	1.7%	4.1%	2.4%	3.6%	0.3%	1.7%	0.7%	3.7%	3.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	2.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	
Hasbaya	79.8	47.3%	28.5%	14.5%	9.7%	22.3	53.0%	7.9%	9.4%	0.4%	1.3%	5.4%	3.7%	0.2%	1.0%	0.9%	6.2%	3.4%	0.1%	0.9%	0.3%	3.8%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	
Hermel	53.6	52.6%	16.2%	13.6%	17.5%	26.1	49.9%	14.9%	10.9%	0.5%	0.7%	3.1%	2.7%	0.1%	2.0%	0.6%	4.7%	1.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	5.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	
Jbeil	136.3	75.3%	13.3%	8.0%	3.3%	12.4	37.7%	9.6%	32.2%	2.6%	2.6%	2.0%	2.2%	0.1%	1.4%	0.4%	2.9%	2.2%	0.1%	0.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	
Jezzine	119.4	55.6%	16.8%	20.6%	6.9%	3	48.1%	12.8%	15.9%	1.2%	1.0%	3.9%	3.2%	0.4%	1.0%	0.0%	5.2%	2.1%	0.6%	0.0%	3.2%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		
Kesrawane	150.4	75.9%	15.9%	5.1%	3.2%	7.7	38.6%	9.9%	21.1%	2.2%	1.7%	4.5%	4.5%	0.4%	2.4%	0.4%	4.7%	2.6%	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%	2.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	3.4%	
Koura	112.3	64.6%	23.8%	7.3%	4.3%	12	42.0%	9.7%	17.6%	0.8%	4.4%	3.9%	4.9%	0.0%	2.8%	0.3%	3.8%	4.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	3.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	
Marjaayoun	153.1	60.3%	23.7%	9.0%	7.1%	25.6	46.4%	11.1%	11.6%	1.5%	3.1%	2.6%	4.2%	0.2%	2.8%	1.8%	3.4%	4.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.2%	3.1%	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%	1.7%	
Meten	149.7	78.6%	14.3%	5.4%	1.8%	10.2	36.8%	10.2%	24.5%	1.8%	2.8%	3.5%	4.3%	0.2%	1.9%	0.6%	5.1%	4.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	2.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	
Mineh Damieh	105.6	62.8%	26.8%	6.7%	3.7%	9.5	42.4%	14.6%	12.7%	0.6%	3.3%	3.5%	4.8%	0.0%	4.0%	0.6%	4.1%	2.2%	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%	3.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	
Nabatieh	128.4	76.0%	14.9%	5.8%	3.2%	6.3	42.1%	9.9%	21.5%	2.3%	3.9%	3.0%	3.1%	0.2%	1.1%	0.5%	4.1%	3.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	2.4%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	
Rachaya	72.8	57.5%	26.8%	10.5%	5.2%	19.5	41.9%	14.0%	13.5%	1.0%	4.3%	1.9%	2.5%	0.0%	2.0%	0.7%	4.4%	3.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	3.3%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	5.5%	
Saida	93.4	53.4%	24.8%	13.0%	8.7%	13.8	48.7%	8.2%	17.5%	1.3%	3.0%	3.4%	3.6%	0.0%	2.0%	0.4%	4.5%	2.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	3.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	
Tripoli	125.1	59.9%	22.0%	11.5%	6.6%	11.3	45.7%	9.2%	19.8%	0.9%	3.1%	3.6%	4.4%	0.1%	2.4%	0.2%	3.9%	2.6%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	
Tyre	80.2	75.8%	14.9%	6.2%	3.1%	11.9	39.4%	9.4%	23.3%	1.0%	4.0%	4.5%	3.6%	0.1%	2.6%	0.2%	4.5%	2.8%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	
West Bekaa	68.4	54.4%	22.5%	10.6%	12.5%	17	48.4%	16.4%	10.1%	0.7%	1.6%	2.4%	3.1%	0.2%	1.9%	0.5%	3.5%	4.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%	
Zahle	71.0	60.1%	24.5%	9.2%	6.1%	14.9	42.6%	13.8%	14.1%	0.8%	3.3%	2.2%	2.3%	0.1%	1.4%	0.6%	4.3%	5.8%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	3.8%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	4.2%	
Zgharta	121.5	58.5%	25.1%	9.4%	7.0%	8.7	45.6%	9.9%	13.5%	1.3%	2.8%	3.6%	5.4%	0.1%	3.5%	1.2%	3.8%	3.8%	0.1%	0.3%	0.5%	3.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	

SMEB and poverty

	Minimum Expenditure Basket categories				Households below poverty line US\$ 3.84	Households with Debt categories				Debt per household Mean
	< SMEB (<US\$ 87)	SMEB-MEB (US\$ 87-113)	MEB- 125% MEB (US\$ 114-142)	>=125% MEB (>=US\$ 143)		no debt	<= US\$ 200	US\$ 201- US\$ 600	>=US\$ 601	
Total	58.4%	16.3%	10.1%	15.2%	75.9%	13.2%	9.7%	34.1%	43.0%	798
Governorates										
Akkar	68.0%	13.9%	7.9%	10.2%	83.1%	11.0%	13.3%	37.8%	37.8%	665
Baalbek-Hermel	84.2%	9.4%	4.4%	1.9%	94.0%	17.2%	12.9%	33.4%	36.6%	649
Beirut	30.3%	15.0%	15.2%	39.5%	46.3%	19.3%	6.5%	23.2%	51.0%	1204
Bekaa	76.6%	13.0%	5.2%	5.2%	90.2%	3.8%	6.9%	41.7%	47.5%	798
Nabatieh	43.9%	15.3%	13.8%	27.0%	59.8%	18.3%	8.0%	24.1%	49.5%	813
Mount Lebanon	43.1%	19.3%	13.8%	23.8%	65.0%	18.3%	9.9%	31.3%	40.5%	840
North Lebanon	45.6%	21.0%	13.2%	20.2%	67.7%	13.0%	9.3%	30.0%	47.7%	862
South Lebanon	58.5%	19.3%	11.7%	10.6%	78.8%	12.4%	10.5%	38.9%	38.2%	727
Districts										
Akkar	68.0%	13.9%	7.9%	10.2%	83.1%	11.0%	13.3%	37.8%	37.8%	665
Aley	43.7%	18.1%	16.9%	21.2%	65.5%	20.5%	12.9%	38.0%	28.7%	648
Baabda	49.7%	20.5%	12.6%	17.2%	72.0%	21.1%	9.9%	32.3%	36.6%	728
Baalbek	84.2%	9.5%	4.4%	1.9%	93.9%	17.6%	12.7%	32.7%	37.0%	654
Batroun	41.7%	24.5%	11.0%	22.7%	66.9%	11.4%	6.0%	27.7%	54.8%	915
Bcharre	40.7%	19.8%	16.3%	23.3%	60.7%	11.0%	7.5%	20.8%	60.7%	1127
Beirut	30.3%	15.0%	15.2%	39.5%	46.3%	19.3%	6.5%	23.2%	51.0%	1204
Bent Jbeil	66.5%	12.9%	7.1%	13.5%	79.7%	3.8%	9.5%	27.2%	59.5%	1009
Chouf	49.0%	23.2%	9.7%	18.1%	73.9%	18.2%	13.9%	41.2%	26.7%	562
Hasbaya	72.1%	13.3%	6.7%	7.9%	85.6%	10.2%	7.8%	21.6%	60.5%	935
Hermel	85.7%	8.4%	4.5%	1.3%	94.5%	9.1%	16.4%	46.7%	27.9%	551
Jbeil	38.7%	20.7%	11.3%	29.3%	64.8%	24.2%	9.7%	27.3%	38.8%	851
Jezzine	42.5%	25.0%	10.6%	21.9%	68.1%	8.1%	7.5%	23.7%	60.6%	1148
Kesrwane	37.3%	13.9%	12.7%	36.1%	52.5%	11.2%	5.6%	24.4%	58.7%	1278
Koura	43.3%	22.0%	15.9%	18.9%	68.9%	9.6%	9.6%	26.9%	53.9%	942
Marjaayoun	30.8%	18.6%	10.3%	40.4%	50.3%	15.7%	5.0%	23.3%	56.0%	1066
Meten	29.2%	16.7%	16.7%	37.5%	48.5%	12.4%	4.7%	16.6%	66.3%	1342
Minieh Dannieh	50.6%	23.8%	9.1%	16.5%	74.5%	9.7%	7.3%	30.9%	52.1%	948
Nabatieh	33.1%	15.6%	18.8%	32.5%	49.4%	26.0%	8.4%	24.0%	41.6%	644
Rachaya	71.9%	15.0%	5.9%	7.2%	87.9%	5.5%	8.5%	29.1%	57.0%	905
Saida	55.3%	19.3%	13.7%	11.8%	75.6%	11.0%	7.3%	38.4%	43.3%	795
Tripoli	41.2%	18.1%	17.6%	23.1%	60.7%	18.0%	11.5%	31.1%	39.3%	741
Tyre	65.2%	18.6%	8.7%	7.5%	84.8%	15.2%	15.8%	41.2%	27.9%	575
WestBekaa	76.9%	13.1%	4.4%	5.6%	90.3%	2.4%	7.3%	44.2%	46.1%	827
Zahle	76.7%	12.9%	5.5%	4.9%	90.2%	4.3%	6.7%	41.5%	47.6%	781
Zgharta	50.9%	15.8%	10.5%	22.8%	67.6%	13.1%	13.1%	29.5%	44.3%	766

Food security

	Food secure	Mild food insecurity	Moderate food insecurity	Severe food insecurity
Total	8.6%	53.4%	36.0%	2.0%
Governorates				
Akkar	3.1%	37.6%	53.1%	6.2%
Baalbek-Hermel	1.4%	57.2%	38.8%	2.6%
Beirut	16.8%	70.9%	11.7%	.6%
Bekaa	6.0%	55.9%	37.1%	1.0%
Nabatieh	21.3%	52.8%	25.0%	.8%
Mount Lebanon	11.6%	52.5%	34.1%	1.8%
North Lebanon	11.3%	52.4%	34.3%	2.0%
South Lebanon	5.9%	60.9%	32.5%	.8%
Districts				
Akkar	3.1%	37.6%	53.1%	6.2%
Aley	7.0%	45.9%	44.6%	2.5%
Baabda	14.4%	40.4%	42.5%	2.7%
Baalbek	1.3%	57.6%	38.6%	2.5%
Batroun	10.4%	48.5%	39.9%	1.2%
Bcharre	13.4%	45.3%	39.0%	2.3%
Beirut	16.8%	70.9%	11.7%	.6%
Bent Jbeil	3.2%	78.7%	17.4%	.6%
Chouf	11.0%	51.6%	36.1%	1.3%
Hasbaya	13.9%	52.1%	33.3%	.6%
Hermel	3.2%	49.4%	43.5%	3.9%
Jbeil	6.0%	38.7%	51.3%	4.0%
Jezzine	9.4%	35.8%	54.1%	.6%
Kesrwane	18.4%	68.4%	12.7%	.6%
Koura	9.1%	51.8%	37.8%	1.2%
Marjaayoun	11.5%	59.0%	27.6%	1.9%
Meten	10.7%	75.6%	13.7%	0.0%
Minieh Dannieh	11.0%	57.9%	28.7%	2.4%
Nabatieh	31.8%	42.9%	24.7%	.6%
Rachaya	4.6%	68.6%	26.8%	0.0%
Saida	5.0%	54.0%	39.8%	1.2%
Tripoli	12.7%	48.6%	36.5%	2.2%
Tyre	6.8%	74.5%	18.6%	0.0%
West Bekaa	7.5%	59.4%	32.5%	.6%
Zahle	5.5%	54.0%	39.3%	1.2%
Zgharta	10.5%	49.7%	38.6%	1.2%

Cash assistance

Self-reported cash assistance in the past three months						
	Any cash assistance	Food assistance (WFP)	Multi-purpose cash assistance	Winter cash assistance (in the previous winter cycle)	Fuel voucher (in the previous winter cycle)	
Total	50.5%	49.3%	17.2%	35.1%	22.2%	
Gender of head of household						
Female	56.1%	62.7%	18.7%	39.4%	29.6%	
Male	49.2%	46.2%	16.9%	34.2%	20.4%	
Shelter type						
Residential	46.4%	44.3%	12.7%	31.6%	21.1%	
Non-residential	52.0%	53.3%	22.3%	38.3%	26.0%	
Informal settlement	67.0%	68.3%	33.5%	48.4%	24.5%	
Governorate						
Akkar	55.6%	56.4%	15.1%	41.2%	19.3%	
Baalbek Hermel	60.0%	70.3%	18.8%	41.2%	47.3%	
Beirut	31.7%	33.1%	2.2%	18.7%	7.1%	
Bekaa	66.7%	59.0%	38.2%	49.5%	18.6%	
Nabatieh	53.5%	49.3%	17.2%	44.8%	23.4%	
Mount Lebanon	36.5%	36.5%	5.4%	23.1%	22.2%	
North Lebanon	50.3%	48.4%	15.5%	34.8%	21.8%	
South Lebanon	44.6%	40.3%	11.8%	28.1%	9.7%	
District						
Akkar	55.6%	56.4%	15.1%	41.2%	19.3%	
Aley	52.6%	49.7%	11.7%	35.7%	33.3%	
Baabda	37.9%	35.4%	3.7%	23.6%	23.6%	
Baalbek	60.0%	70.3%	18.8%	41.2%	47.3%	
Batroun	27.1%	34.9%	5.4%	12.7%	16.3%	
Bcharre	23.1%	32.4%	4.0%	12.1%	14.5%	
Beirut	31.7%	33.1%	2.2%	18.7%	7.1%	
Bent Jbeil	52.5%	43.7%	10.8%	45.6%	5.7%	
Chouf	37.0%	33.9%	7.9%	32.1%	36.4%	
Hasbaya	65.9%	54.5%	23.4%	58.7%	13.2%	
Hermel	51.5%	44.2%	20.6%	35.2%	30.3%	
Jbeil	19.4%	24.2%	1.2%	6.7%	7.9%	
Jezzine	42.5%	41.3%	3.8%	15.6%	7.5%	
Kesrwane	20.0%	30.0%	1.3%	6.3%	3.1%	
Koura	39.5%	49.7%	9.6%	26.3%	26.9%	
Marjaayoun	43.4%	50.9%	18.9%	31.4%	52.8%	
Meten	23.7%	30.2%	1.2%	8.3%	3.6%	
Minieh Dennieh	60.6%	51.5%	22.4%	43.0%	13.9%	
Nabatieh	35.1%	34.4%	6.5%	26.0%	14.3%	
Rachaya	57.6%	46.7%	21.2%	43.6%	20.0%	
Saida	48.2%	45.7%	15.2%	22.6%	6.1%	
Tripoli	52.5%	50.3%	13.7%	37.2%	27.9%	
Tyre	47.9%	37.0%	12.1%	40.0%	11.5%	
West Bekaa	70.3%	63.6%	37.0%	52.1%	16.4%	
Zahle	66.5%	58.5%	40.2%	49.4%	18.9%	
Zgharta	39.8%	42.6%	14.2%	28.4%	32.4%	

