

Findings of the Household Assessment of Syrian Households in Host Communities

Mafraq Governorate

15th April 2013

BACKGROUND

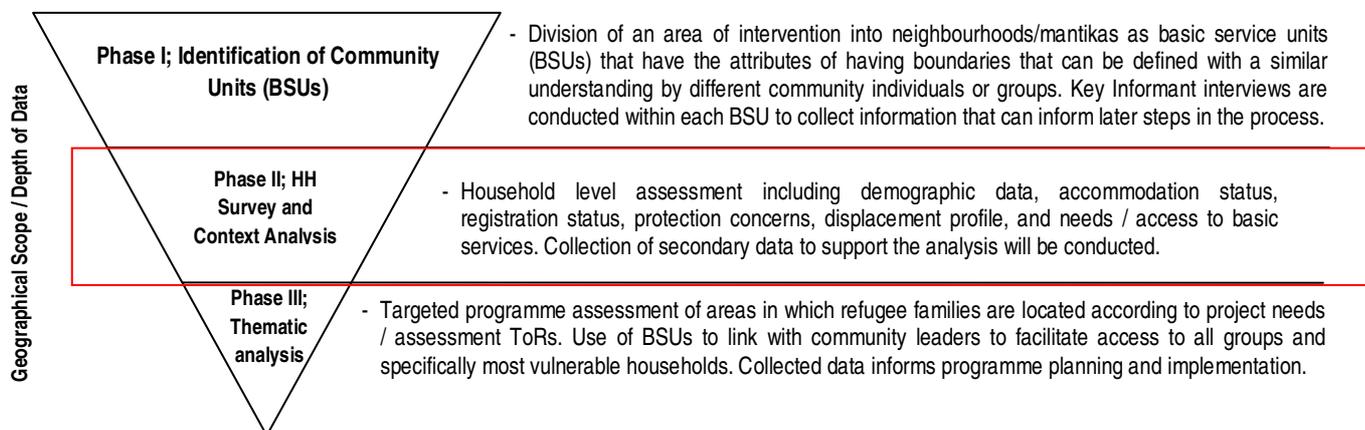
The ongoing crisis in Syria has caused a large influx of Syrians into Jordan, amounting to more than 424,771 refugees (UNHCR, 15.04.2013). According to UNHCR registration data, more than 60% have settled in Northern Jordan, as well as the urban and peri-urban centres of Amman and Zarqa, with the large majority of refugees settling within host communities.

Information management systems available to humanitarian actors have struggled to keep pace with the rapidly changing refugee context. With this in mind, REACH was deployed to Jordan in October 2012 in order to complement information management efforts undertaken by other humanitarian actors, notably by UN agencies, and to contribute towards addressing information gaps on Syrian refugees located in camps and host communities. By establishing a baseline dataset that includes key information on the geographical distribution, conditions and priority needs of Syrian refugees, REACH aims to ensure better planning, coordination and traceability of humanitarian aid.

The data presented in this factsheet represents the findings of household level interviews that were conducted in the host communities of Mafraq Governorate in March 2013. During this phase of the project, 7,279 displaced Syrian households, representing 31,230 individuals, were assessed. The household assessments focused on collecting five key sets of information from each households: 1. Household demographic data; 2. Registration card numbers; 3. Displacement profile; 4. Accommodation context; 5. Services and Needs. Additionally, assessment team leaders collected GPS data for each building housing Syrian households in order to allow for the mapping of key data trends discovered through the analysis of collected data.

Assessment Methodology

REACH's assessment methodology is based on a three step approach to data collection that gradually sharpens the understanding of the context both in terms of geographical focus as well as depth of data, as shown in the figure below. The objective of this process is to provide humanitarian actors with information that allows for more informed decision-making with regards to their targeting of specific geographic locations or beneficiary group based on their programme planning needs; thus enabling better planning, coordination and traceability of aid. As such the REACH methodology (outlined in the figure below) focuses primarily on the geographic identification of refugees living in host communities and collects a core baseline of household specific information that enables the preparation of situational analyses.



Key findings

A total of **7,279** households were identified through the assessment, representing approximately **31,230** individuals. Of these, **10,852** individuals were settled in Mafraq City, and the remaining **20,378** in rural areas of the Governorate. *Annex 1* shows the breakdown of individuals per BSU in Mafraq Governorate.

Household profile

The average size of households identified through the assessment was **4**, with an equal split between men and women, **2** per household on average.

55% of individuals identified were reported to be under the age of 18, of which **19%** were reported to be less than 5 years old. Only a relatively small proportion of identified individuals, **29%**, were reported to be aged between 29 and 59, indicating a high dependency ratio.

Age	Males	Females	Total %
Under 5	3006	2871	19%
5 to 11	3245	3119	20%
12 to 17	2486	2407	16%
18 to 24	1685	2306	13%
25 to 59	4042	4961	29%
over 60	448	654	3%
Total	14912	16318	100%

88 households reported having children under 18 with them who were part of their extended family but not a direct relation. In total **145** such children, **91** male and **54** female, were identified as being hosted by the aforementioned households at the time of the assessment.

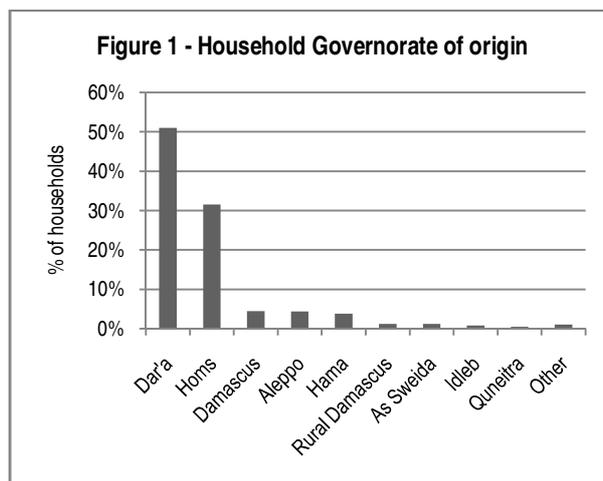
In addition to this number of households, **13** reported having children under 18 with them who were not part of their nuclear or extended family. In total **22** such children, **9** male and **13** female, were identified as being hosted by the aforementioned households at the time of the assessment.

In total **468** disabled individuals, reported by **417** households, were identified through the assessment. As expected, due to the sensitivity of the question when considered in the context, a considerable number of households refused to provide a response, **403**.

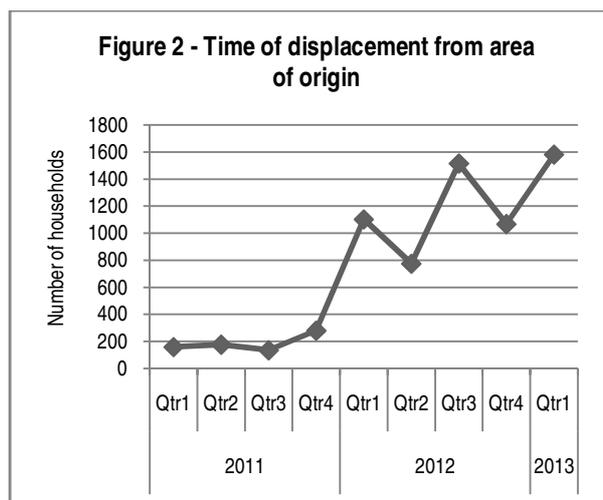
Displacement profile

Over half of all households, **51%**, identified as being a resident in Mafraq Governorate at the time of assessment,

reported their Syrian Governorate of origin as being Dar'a. This considerable proportion of households that reported originating from Dar'a can be explained by the Governorate's close geographical proximity to Mafraq. Additionally, a considerable proportion of households, **32%**, reported their Syrian Governorate of origin as being Homs, located in the centre of Syria. Only a very small number of households reported originating from other Syrian Governorates, representing **17%** of the total.



Of the households identified through the assessment, the majority, **66%**, reported that they had been displaced from their area of origin during 2012. Only a small proportion of households, **11%**, reported that they had been displaced during 2011, a relatively early period of the Syrian crisis. A sizeable proportion of households, **23%**, reported that they had been displaced from their area of origin relatively recently during the first quarter of 2013.

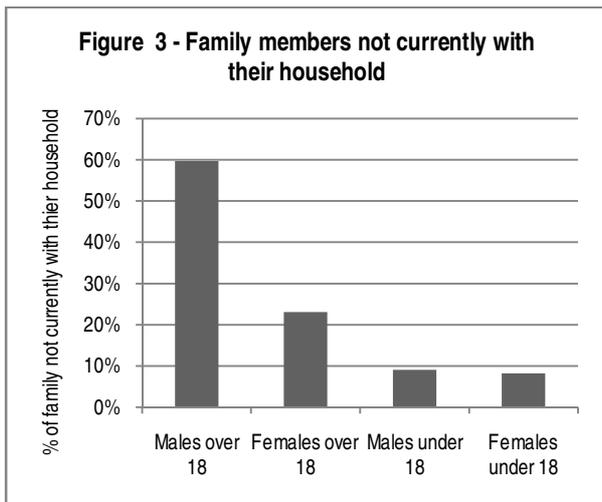


79% of households reported that they left with all of their family members upon initial displacement, with only a minority

of households, 14%, reporting that they left any family members behind¹.

In spite of this, a slightly higher proportion of households, 28%, reported that they had family members who were not currently with them at their location in Jordan. Of this proportion it was overwhelmingly males over the age of 18 who were not currently with their household, representing 60% of this proportion. Only a small proportion of households reported that males or females under the age of 18 were not currently with them, 9% and 8% respectively. When asked whether family members not currently with the household would be joining them within 2 months, most commonly households reported negatively, representing 48% of the total. Interestingly, 30% of households with family members not currently with them reported that they did not know whether they would be joining them within 2 months. In the vast majority of cases, all members of households identified through the assessment were reported to be currently residing in either Jordan or Syria, with only 9% of households reporting to have family members abroad.

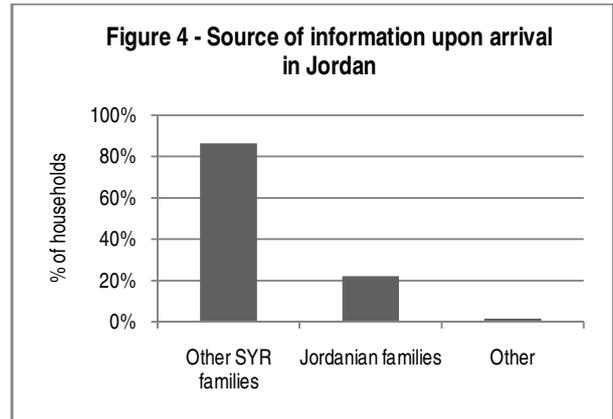
Figure 3 - Family members not currently with their household



The overwhelming majority of households reported that their primary source of information on the support and services available to them on arrival in Jordan was other Syrian families, representing 86% of the total. A sizeable proportion of households, 22%, reported that information was received from Jordanian families. Only a very small proportion, representing 2% of the total, reported that they primarily received information from other sources such as local authorities, community leaders, or border authorities.

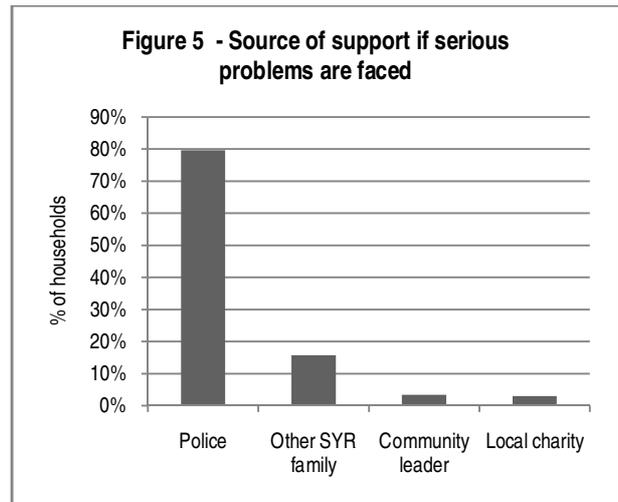
¹ The remaining 8% of households declined to give a response to the question.

Figure 4 - Source of information upon arrival in Jordan



The vast majority of households identified through the assessment reported that they would be comfortable seeking the assistance from the Jordanian Police in the event they faced serious problems / threats in Mafraq Governorate, representing 80% of the total. Despite the reliance on other Syrian households in other situations, such as on information upon arrival in Jordan as described above, only a minority of households, 16%, reported that they would seek the assistance of other Syrian households in the case that serious problems / threats were faced.

Figure 5 - Source of support if serious problems are faced

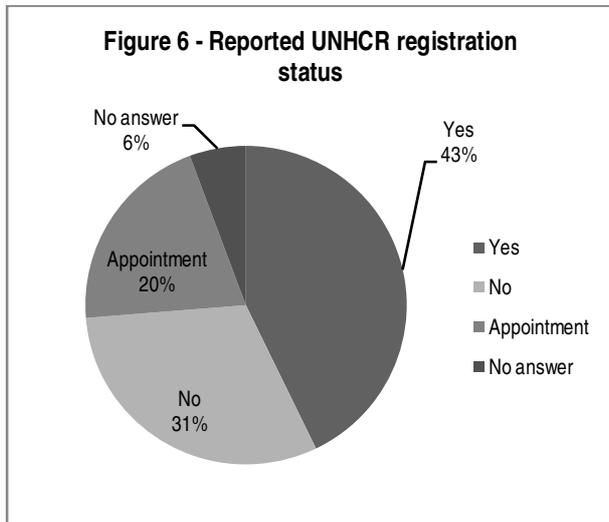


Context analysis in Jordan

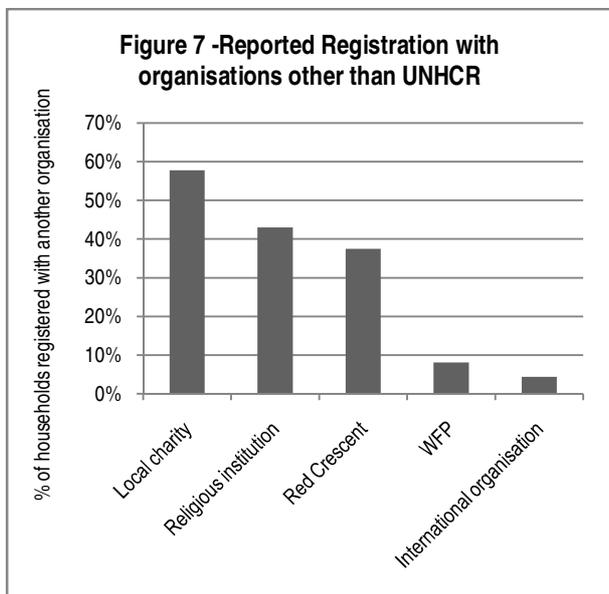
Registration status

Of the 7,279 households identified, a slight minority, 43%, reported that they were registered with UNHCR at the time of the assessment. In addition to the 31% of households that reported they were not registered with UNHCR at the time of the assessment, 20% of households reported that they had a registration interview scheduled with UNHCR. The average date for scheduled registration interviews was reported to be the beginning of June 2013. 276 households, representing 4% of the total households identified during the assessment

reported that they were in possession of a ration card², indicating that they had previously spent time in a UNHCR administered camp or transit facility.



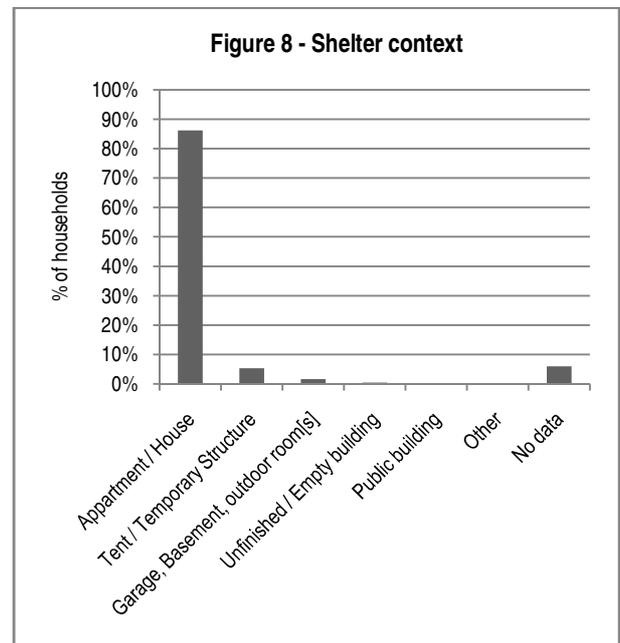
A higher proportion of households, **55%**, reported that they were registered with an organisation other than UNHCR. Of this proportion, the majority, **58%**, reported that they were registered with local charities. In addition to local charities, a considerable proportion of households reported that they were registered with either religious institutions or the Jordanian Red Crescent, **43%** and **37%** respectively.



Shelter context

The overwhelming majority of households identified in Mafrq Governorate, **86%**, were residing in apartments or houses at the time of the assessment. Unlike other Governorates

targeted through the assessment, particularly Balqa, only a very small proportion of households were residing in tents / temporary shelters at the time of assessment, representing **5%** of the total.

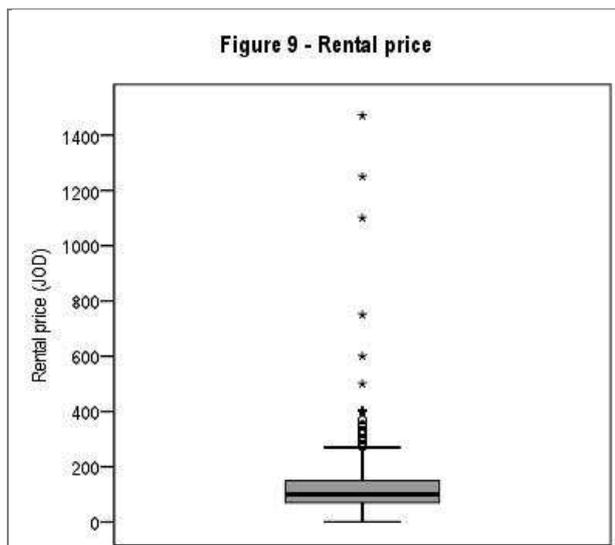


The most common context in which households were living was accommodation shared with other Syrian households, **36%**. Despite this, a similar proportion of households, **35%**, reported that they were the sole resident of their shelter. When compared with other Governorates targeted through the assessment, a relatively high proportion of households, **15%**, reported that they were being hosted by a Syrian family with either Jordanian citizenship or the right to work in Jordan.

66% of households reported that they were paying rent for their shelter at the time of the assessment, with an average monthly price of **113 JOD**. Rental prices were on average higher in urban areas than in rural areas, **136 JOD** compared to **89 JOD**.

Rental prices in Mafrq Governorate ranged from a symbolic monthly rate of **1 JOD** to **1470 JOD**. However, in spite of the considerable aforementioned range in rental prices, as figure 9 shows the vast majority of households reported that their average monthly rental costs were to the low end of the range.

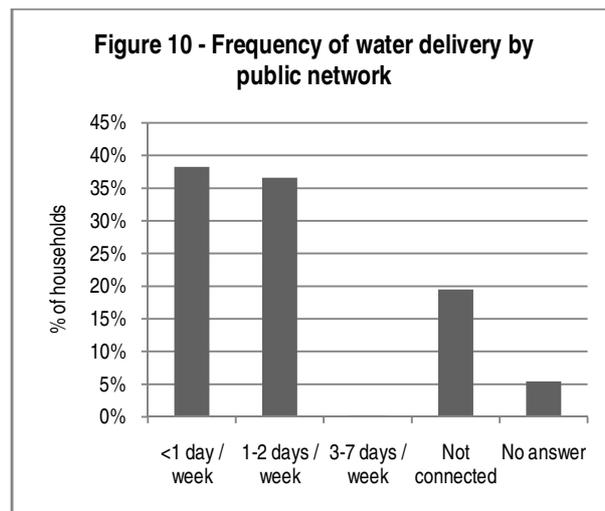
² 6% of interviewed households declined to provide an answer to this questions



As expected with such a high proportion of Syrian households resident in apartments or houses, a similarly high proportion reported that they had access to a latrine inside their shelter, **85%**. Only a small proportion of households reported that they either had a latrine located outside of their shelter or that they had no access to a latrine at all, **5%** and **4%** respectively³.

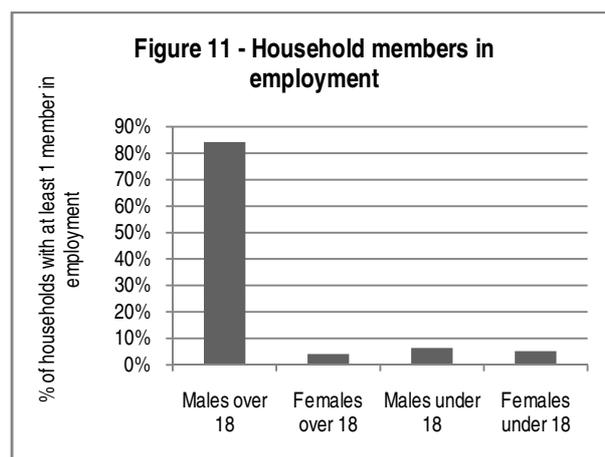
75% of households reported that they were able to receive water deliveries through the public network on at least a semi-regular basis, either less than once per week, **38%**, or 1 – 2 times per week, **37%**. Despite this a relatively high proportion of households, **19%**, reported that their shelter was not connected to any public water delivery network.

When asked what coping strategies were utilised when a water shortage was faced, the majority of households, **67%**, reported that they were able to rely on additional water trucking services to meet their needs. In addition to this a considerable proportion of households, **34%**, reported that they met their needs by purchasing bottled water from shops. The remainder of households were able to access water through charitable organisations or private wells.



Employment

Only **5%** of households reported that they had at least one family member in employment. In addition to this proportion, **5%** of identified households were unwilling to provide an answer to the question; this could conceivably be a result of the legal challenges facing Syrian households seeking work in Jordan. Of the proportion of households with at least one family member in employment, **84%** reported that males over the age of 18 were working at the time of the assessment. Surprisingly, a slightly higher proportion of females under the age of 18 were reported to be working than females over the age of 18, **5%** compared to **4%**. However, on the whole child employment amongst Syrian households resident in Mafraq Governorate is negligible, representing only **12%** of households with at least one member working.



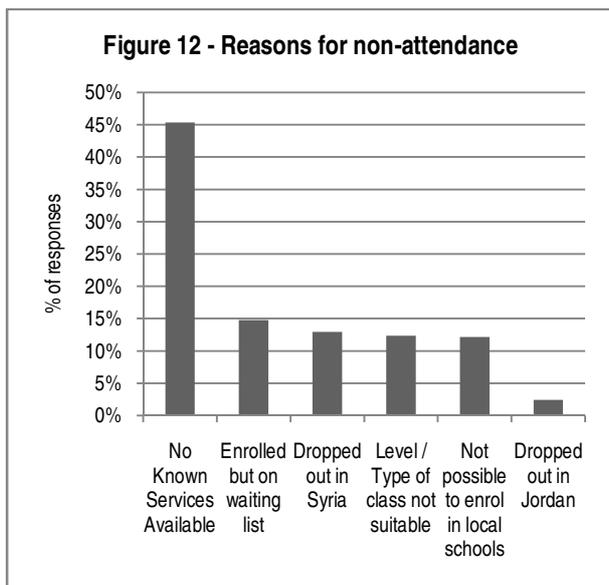
Education

A total of **2,397** children between the ages of 6 and 17 were identified as not currently being enrolled in school, with a roughly 50/50 gender split. With 11,257 children between the ages 5 and 17, approximately **21%** of school aged children were not attending school at the time of the assessment. This

³ The remaining households declined to provide a response to the question.

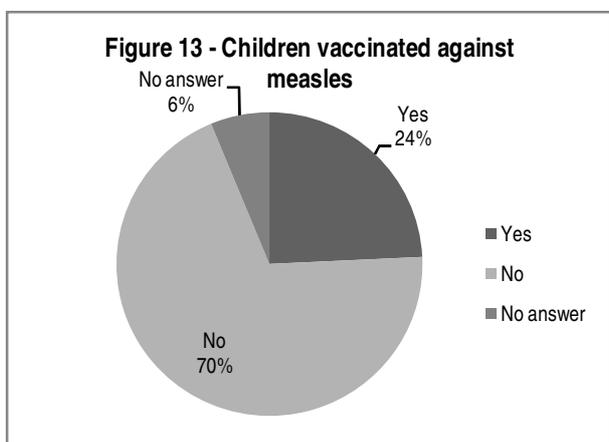
is considerably lower than other Governorates targeted through the assessment such as Jarash, where approximately half of school aged children were not attending at the time of the assessment.

When asked to provide a reason as to why children were not currently enrolled in school, it was most commonly reported that available educational services were not known about, representing 45% of responses. In addition, as expected due to problems of overcrowding in Jordanian schools, 15% of responses indicated that Syrian children had been enrolled in school but were placed on a waiting list.



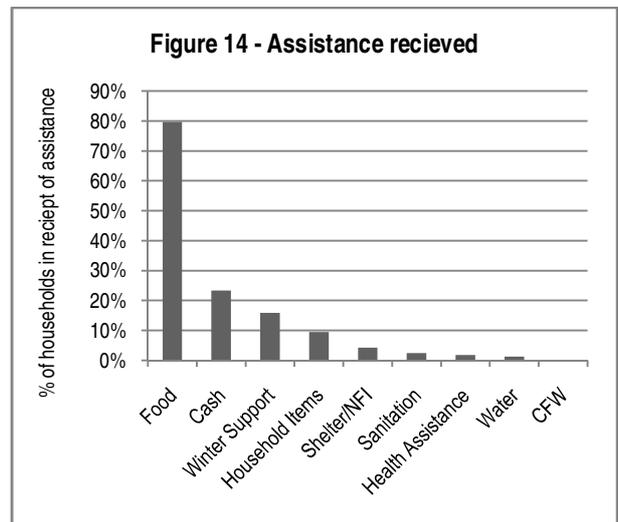
Health

When compared to other Governorates targeted through the assessment, a relatively large proportion of households with children between 6 months and 5 years, 24%, reported that they had been vaccinated against measles in Jordan. In spite of this, the overwhelming majority of these households, 70%, reported that their children had not been vaccinated against measles since arriving in Jordan.

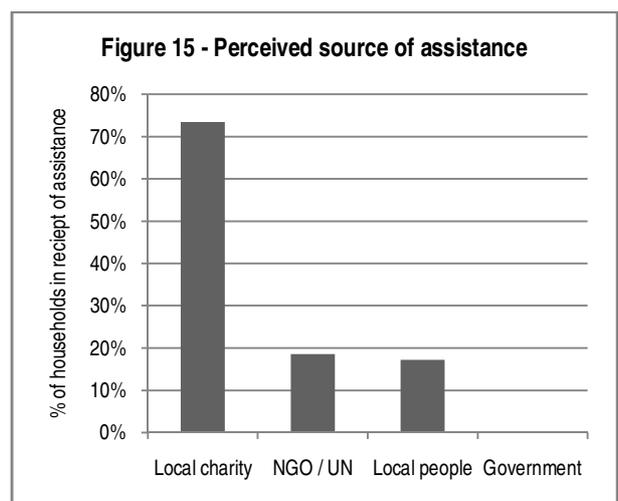


Assistance received and reported needs

44% of all households identified to be resident in Mafraq Governorate reported that they had received some kind of assistance since arriving in Jordan. Of this proportion the most common form of assistance reported to have been received was food aid, representing 80% of assistance received.



As was the case with other Governorates targeted through the assessment, the overwhelming majority of households that reported receipt of assistance, perceived that assistance was provided primarily by locally based charities, 73%. Despite the large number of international organisations operating in Mafraq when compared to other Governorates, only a small proportion of households perceived that assistance was primarily provided by the international community, 19%.



Cash for rent was selected by the vast majority of households identified through the assessment as the highest priority need, 74%. In addition, household items and food assistance

were selected by identified households as prominent secondary and tertiary needs.

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Water	1%	5%	5%
Shelter	7%	5%	3%
Sanitation	1%	4%	5%
Cash for rent	74%	12%	4%
Household items	3%	30%	22%
CfW / Job Placement	1%	4%	6%
Winter support	2%	6%	8%
Food assistance	4%	26%	30%
Health assistance	3%	6%	13%
Other	4%	3%	5%

REACH

REACH was formed in 2010 as a joint initiative of two INGOs (ACTED and IMPACT Initiatives) and a UN program (UNOSAT). The purpose of REACH is to promote and facilitate the development of information products that enhance the humanitarian community's capacity to make decisions and plan in emergency, reconstruction and development contexts.

At country level, REACH teams are deployed to countries experiencing emergencies or at-risk-of-crisis in order to facilitate interagency collection, organisation and dissemination of key humanitarian related information. Country-level deployments are conducted within the framework of partnerships with individual actors as well as aid coordination bodies, including UN agencies, clusters, inter-cluster initiatives, and other interagency initiatives.