



REFUGEE POPULATION IN JORDAN



JULY HIGHLIGHTS

E-card distribution: In July, e-cards were loaded for 282,590 beneficiaries. WFP has now converted to e-vouchers all the registered Syrian beneficiaries residing in 10 of the 12 Governorates, including Ajloun, Aqaba, Balqa, Jerash, Karak, Ma'an, Mafraq, Madaba, Tafleeh and Zarqa. On-going e-card distributions are taking place in Amman (Qweismeh) and distributions began in Irbid for 30,000 HH on 15 July; these distributions are expected to finish in August.

Assistance in camps: WFP and partner ACTED began the sixth general voucher distribution in Azraq camp on 21 July reaching 4,855 beneficiaries (41% of the UNHCR beneficiary list) by 27 July from a UNHCR camp manifest of 11,762 individuals. The difference between the planning and actual figures is attributed to many Syrians having left Azraq camp. In Zaatari camp, WFP and partner SCI reached a total of 77,053 beneficiaries with voucher distributions.

Ramadan distributions: JHCO completed the distribution of 1,000 mt of dates on behalf of WFP in all regions of Jordan to both Syrian refugees and Jordanians in need for Ramadan. JHCO reached 35,444 Syrian refugees and 39,422 Jordanians in need with dates, or 74,866 beneficiaries in total. All voucher beneficiaries in Azraq camp also received a Ramadan food parcel in a WFP shopping bag including the regular dry ration commodities, dates and Supercereal Plus.

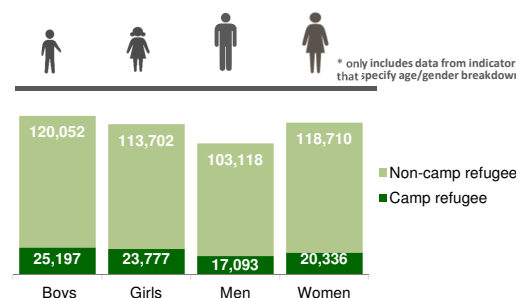
CFSME Launch: The WFP/REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), launched on 24 July, found that overall there is a low prevalence of food insecurity amongst Syrian refugees residing in Jordan given WFP's blanket coverage of all Syrian refugees in camps and communities (only 6% were food insecure but 42% were vulnerable to food insecurity). However, the assessment noted the increasing vulnerability of refugees the longer time is spent in Jordan as shown by the increasing adoption of coping mechanisms and that only 32% of refugees had found work in the last month (95% of which were temporary or seasonal jobs). It therefore concluded that the majority of Syrian refugees are vulnerable and still in need of WFP food assistance.

Distribution of SuperCereal Plus: In July, 13,141 beneficiaries received SuperCereal Plus as part of the age-appropriate/blanket distributions targeting Syrian children under the age of five. The distributions were implemented by WFP cooperating partners, Save the Children Jordan in Zaatari camp, ACTED in Azraq camp and Medair through JHAS clinics in the host community settings.



JHCO staff distributing dates on behalf of WFP

POPULATION ASSISTED* BY FOOD SECURITY SECTOR



* only includes data from indicators that specify age/gender breakdown.



JHCO staff preparing to distribute dates on behalf of WFP

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Agencies who reported in this update:



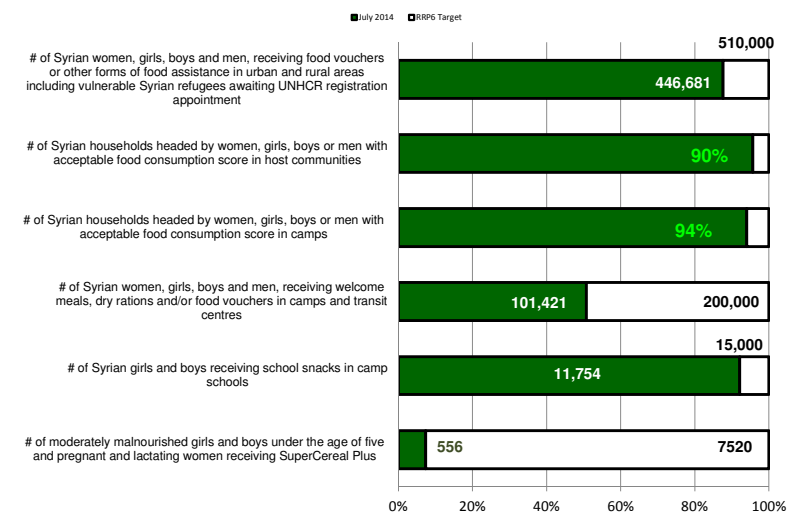
NEEDS ANALYSIS

Food expenditure constitutes more than one-third of all expenditure for both Syrian refugees and Jordanians. The income versus expenditure gap, caused by limited livelihood opportunities, rising rent, food and service prices, induces increased use of negative coping strategies as the Syrian crisis becomes more protracted, increasing the financial pressure on vulnerable refugees and Jordanians alike.

Syrian refugees are highly reliant on food assistance as their main food source, and thus food assistance remains a high priority to prevent the deterioration of refugees' food security status, particularly in camp settings where there are very few income opportunities. The WFP/REACH Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME), launched in July 2014, showed that WFP food vouchers are the main source of income and food for 74% of Syrian refugee households in Jordan. Increased food, rent and service prices, combined with the refugee competition for informal unskilled labour has aggravated the food security and livelihood conditions of poor Jordanians living in host communities.

Assessments and monitoring have shown that beneficiaries prefer to go to shops on a regular basis (multiple times per week), given that many households have limited food storage capacity. In addition, beneficiaries have expressed dissatisfaction in having to attend monthly distributions due to expensive transportation costs, compounded by difficult weather conditions in the winter months. E-cards bring several important benefits to the beneficiaries, including the possibility of spending their monthly entitlements in multiple visits to the shops. This offers beneficiaries much more flexibility in their food purchases, as well as a greater sense of normalcy. As they resemble debit cards, e-cards also provide a more discreet assistance modality.

PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS*



*The figure to the right reflects yearly targets; however, progress is reported on a monthly basis, rather than a sum of monthly figures, to avoid duplication and over-reporting.