

# FAST FACTS

# SYRIA CRISIS

August 2019

unicef   
for every child



## GENERAL<sup>1</sup>

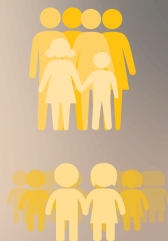
Total number of Syrian children in need inside Syria and in host countries: **Over 7.4 million children, 5 million children inside Syria, 2.5 million in refugee-host countries<sup>2</sup>**

## INSIDE SYRIA

Total population  
**18.4 million<sup>3</sup>**

Population in need  
**11.7 million<sup>4</sup>**

Children in need  
**5 million<sup>5</sup>**



People in hard-to-reach areas nearly

**1.1 million<sup>6</sup>**

Children in hard-to-reach areas

**360,000<sup>7</sup>**



Internally displaced people

**6.2 million<sup>8</sup>**

Internally displaced children

**2.6 million<sup>9</sup>**



## IN REFUGEE HOST COUNTRIES

Total registered refugees outside Syria  
**over 5.6 million<sup>10</sup>**



Total registered refugee children outside Syria

**over 2.5 million<sup>11</sup>**



## CHILD PROTECTION<sup>12</sup>



From January to end June 2019 (verified)

- › At least 532 children were killed or injured, including 359 killed or injured in northwest Syria alone.
- › 292 children recruited or used in combat<sup>12</sup>

Since 2014 inside Syria (verified)

- › Over 4,500 children killed.<sup>13</sup>
- › Over 3,000 children severely injured.<sup>14</sup>
- › More than 3,800 children recruited and used in combat.<sup>15</sup>

In refugee host countries:

- › Nearly 10,000 Syrian refugee children are either unaccompanied or separated, and many of these children are vulnerable to exploitation, including child labour, due to lack of legal documentation.<sup>16</sup>

## EDUCATION



Inside Syria:

- › From January to end June 2019, the UN verified 74 attacks on schools and military use of 24 schools.<sup>17</sup>
- › Since 2014, the UN verified over 385 attacks on education facilities and military use of over 50 schools.<sup>18</sup>
- › Two in five schools in Syria has been damaged or destroyed.<sup>19</sup>
- › Over 2 million children – over one third of Syria's child population - is out-of-school<sup>20</sup> and 1.3 million children are at risk of dropping out.<sup>21</sup>
- › One in eight children per classroom requires specialized psychosocial support.<sup>22</sup>

In refugee host countries:

- › The flow of refugees out of Syria has added a huge strain on service provision in neighbouring countries, challenging Syrian and host communities' access to basic services, including education.
- › Over 800,000 children remain out-of-school.<sup>23</sup>
- › In Jordan, 38 per cent of Syrian children aged 15-17 years old are not in school, citing distance, cost, lack of space and bullying as reasons for dropping out or not enrolling.<sup>24</sup>
- › Nine out of ten children living as refugees and who engage in learning are in formal school.<sup>25</sup>

## POVERTY



Inside Syria:

- › Four out of five people in Syria live below the poverty line<sup>26</sup>, pushing children into extreme survival measures – like child labour, early marriage and recruitment into the fighting - to help their families make ends meet.

In refugee host countries:

- › More than 90 per cent of Syrian refugees are living in host communities and facing challenging conditions. These circumstances have pushed children to extreme survival measures including dropping out of school to work or marry.<sup>27</sup>
- › Percentage of refugees (outside of camps) living in poverty<sup>28</sup>:  
Jordan: 80% Lebanon: 71% Turkey: 64% Iraq: 37%

## HEALTH



Inside Syria:

- › From January to end June 2019, 51 medical facilities have been attacked in northwest Syria, forcing several UNICEF partners to suspend their activities.<sup>29</sup>
- › Since 2014, the UN verified over 420 cases of attacks on health facilities.<sup>30</sup>
- › Half of all health care facilities are partially functioning or aren't functioning at all.<sup>31</sup>
- › National routine immunization coverage declined from 80% in 2010 to less than 50% in 2017, triggering several outbreaks.<sup>32</sup>
- › Over two thirds of children with physical or mental disabilities require specialized services unavailable in their area.<sup>33</sup>

## In refugee host countries:

- › In Jordan, nearly half of Syrian children under the age of five are not accessing proper health services including vaccination and disability support.<sup>34</sup>
- › More than half of refugee households in Iraq and 11 per cent in Lebanon encounter challenges to access quality healthcare because of cost, distance or unavailability of services.<sup>35</sup>

## NUTRITION



### Inside Syria:

- › Acute malnutrition among pregnant or nursing women increased more than two-fold in 2018.<sup>36</sup>
- › 19,263 children under the age of five are severely malnourished.<sup>37</sup>
- › 6.5 million people are food insecure pushing children as young as three years old to work or beg to keep families afloat.<sup>38</sup>

### In refugee host countries:

- › More than one third of refugee households in Lebanon and approximately 80 per cent of refugee households in Jordan show some level of food insecurity.<sup>39</sup>

## WATER SANITATION



### Inside Syria:

- › Over half of surveyed households rely on unsafe or water sources to meet their daily water needs.<sup>40</sup>
- › Families living in informal settlements spend more than half of their income on water.<sup>41</sup>
- › At least 70 per cent of sewage is untreated and at least half of the sewerage systems are not functional, exposing children to serious health risks.<sup>42</sup>

### In refugee host countries:

- › In Lebanon, a majority of households have access to an improved water supply, but nearly half of all sources are contaminated.<sup>43</sup>
- › In Turkey, over a quarter of interviewees reported that shelters have poor hygiene facilities.<sup>44</sup>

## UNICEF'S RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS<sup>45</sup>

*From January to June 2019*

	Inside Syria:	In refugee host countries:
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Over 268,000 children were enrolled in formal education, and over 168,000 children in non-formal education	Over 958,000 children had access to education (including formal, informal/non-formal)
<b>HEALTH</b>	Almost 3.3 million children were vaccinated against polio, and almost 219,000 children accessed routine immunization services	Almost 22,000 children <sup>46</sup> were vaccinated against polio and over 97,000 children <sup>47</sup> received routine and measles vaccinations
<b>NUTRITION</b>	Nearly 749,000 children and pregnant and nursing women were screened for malnutrition. Almost 4,000 children were treated for severe acute malnutrition	Almost 42,000 children <sup>48</sup> were screened for acute malnutrition and nearly 19,000 caregivers/ pregnant and nursing women <sup>49</sup> received counselling on infant and young child feeding practices
<b>WASH</b>	Over 2.1 million people had access to safe water through improved water supply, and over 174,000 people reached with hygiene promotion and nearly 649,000 people had access to improved emergency WASH facilities and services	Over 235,000 people <sup>50</sup> had access to improved water supply, and nearly 339,000 people had improved access to sanitation services
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>	Almost 211,000 people had access to psychosocial support and positive parenting services, and over 837,000 people were reached with mine risk education	Almost 239,000 children and adults had access to structured, and sustained child protection, psychosocial support, and positive parenting services

In 2019, UNICEF has appealed for US\$ 1.2 billion for its programmes for children inside Syria and in neighboring host countries. To date, UNICEF is facing a 44 per cent gap.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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## ENDNOTES

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