Overview

Through its General Food Assistance (GFA) activity WFP provides monthly unconditional cash assistance to Syrian refugees in host communities and camps throughout the Kingdom, with the objective to meet basic food needs of the most vulnerable.

The cross-sectional Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM) is conducted quarterly to measure food security trends and inform and assess, effects of programmatic changes.

The sampling is representative at the level of four strata groups; vulnerable and extremely vulnerable beneficiaries, beneficiaries residing in camps and Syrian refugees not assisted by WFP.

Food consumption

- WFP beneficiaries residing in camps report the highest level of ‘Acceptable’ FCS (87%), followed by extremely vulnerable beneficiaries in host communities (80%). These figures are significantly higher compared to vulnerable beneficiaries (68%) and non-beneficiaries (57%), and are reflective of access to services in camps and higher transfer values.
- Use of food consumption-based coping strategies to meet food needs are frequently used by HHs in all strata groups – mainly resorting to less preferred/expensive commodities.
- HHs in the governorate of Irbid drives up average figures (82% ‘Acceptable’ FCS), and are better able to meet food needs than HHs in other parts of the country, e.g. Amman (61% ‘Acceptable’).
- Male- and female-headed HHs reported similar food consumption-levels.

Food Consumption Score by strata group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strata Group</th>
<th>Camps</th>
<th>Extremely vulnerable</th>
<th>Vulnerable</th>
<th>Non beneficiary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food Consumption Score</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Food-based coping strategies

- Less preferred/ expensive:
  - Camps: 78%, 78%
  - Non beneficiary: 81%, 76%
- Borrow/help from others:
  - Camps: 51%
  - Non beneficiary: 53%, 51%
- Fewer meals:
  - Camps: 60%
  - Non beneficiary: 52%, 53%
- Reduced meal size:
  - Camps: 34%
  - Non beneficiary: 50%, 51%
- Less consumption for adults:
  - Camps: 20%
  - Non beneficiary: 31%, 28%
A vast majority of HHs utilise coping mechanisms affecting their long-term income-generating abilities to meet food needs, such as reducing essential non-food expenditures (medicine, transportation etc.) – a strategy used by almost half of all HHs (48%). Female-headed HHs use more severe coping strategies compared to male-headed. Beneficiaries in host communities are utilising ‘crisis’ or ‘emergency’ level coping strategies at alarming, and increasing, levels – indicating increasing difficulties to make ends meet. 9% of HHs reported withdrawing children from school, and 3% reported family members aged 16 or younger marrying as coping mechanisms.

Overall one in five HHs have disabled members, of which a high proportion live in Irbid where one quarter (24%) of HHs include one disabled member and 10% two or three. The higher prevalence in Irbid does not correlate with age or sex of head of HHs which indicates that many disabled members are of working age.

The proportion of HHs with disabled members in camps is lower than average (15%), indicating that access to services available for disabled in camps not is a strong pull factor. HHs with disabled members are resorting to use of more severe coping mechanisms negatively affecting longer term income-generating ability, such as reducing costs for e.g. medicine and education.

In terms of food consumption and short-term coping mechanisms, levels reported by HHs with disabled members are similar to those of HHs without disabled members.

Protection issues related to WFP assistance

- Unfairly Treated
- Safety Problems
- Assistance Stolen

Awareness regarding WFP's assistance

- Entitlement
- Why selected
- How to contact WFP or CP
- WFP Hotline

Numbers reveal that WFP has work to do with regards to beneficiary communication – only 14% are aware how they were selected for assistance, reflecting a complex targeting method, six out of ten (61%) are aware about what their entitlements are in terms of assistance level and too few (43%) expressed awareness about how to contact WFP or WFP's hotline (35%).

Very few protection-related issues are reported to redeeming assistance, but WFP works with patterns to strengthen proactive measures and referral mechanisms where needed.