



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# Food Security Outcome Monitoring - Q4 2021

## Communities Factsheet




### Key Findings

- Food security for refugee households in communities improved slightly in Q4 with 78% of households classified as severely food insecure, moderately food insecure, or marginally food secure in Q4 compared to 81% in Q3. This improvement is primarily driven by an increase in household food consumption due to the significant rise in household income linked to winterization assistance, with per capita monthly household income of 69 JOD in Q4 compared to 56 JOD in Q3. WFP monitoring during the previous winter also showed this improvement related to winterization assistance, but it did not last beyond the quarter of distribution.
- Dietary diversity for women of reproductive age remained low in Q4, with 75% of women of reproductive age in communities consuming less than 5 food groups, the universally defined threshold for adequate dietary diversity
- Consumption of hem iron-rich foods continued to be inadequate for the majority of refugee households in communities in Q4, with 40% of households consuming no hem iron-rich foods throughout the week.
- WFP assistance continued to play a significant role in maintaining household income in Q4, with WFP assistance providing 26% of all household income.
- WFP assistance continued to play a significant role in reducing household-level poverty in Q4; with WFP assistance, 33% of refugee households in communities have a total expenditure below the SMEB, however removing WFP assistance from household expenditure would see the proportion of refugee households with total expenditure below the SMEB nearly double, to 53%.

## Introduction

During Q4 2021, WFP Jordan responded to the food needs of 466,073 refugees, 237,697 females and 228,376 males, through the provision of monthly food assistance in the form of cash-based transfers. Assistance was provided in both host communities and camps, covering 353,819 refugees living in communities and 112,254 refugees living in camps. To ensure that assistance is effective, efficient, relevant, and aligned with organizational commitments towards protection and inclusion, the WFP Jordan Country Office conducts quarterly food security outcome monitoring (FSOM) exercises covering WFP beneficiaries in Jordan. This factsheet provides a summary of the main findings for refugees in communities from the FSOM Q4 2021 conducted in November 2021. The findings and conclusions presented in this document provide the evidence base for effective, data-driven decision-making for WFP and partners with the goal of improving program quality and accountability.

## Programme Overview (Communities Only)

PROGRAMME COVERAGE <sup>1</sup>	PROGRAMME TARGETING	PROGRAMME ASSISTANCE MODALITY
 <p><b>353,819</b> Individuals in communities</p>	<p>Eligible refugee households in communities as defined through targeting criteria.</p>	<p>Unconditional e-vouchers redeemable as unrestricted cash at WFP-contracted ATMs or at WFP-contracted shops with a value of 23 JOD per person per month for extremely vulnerable (EV) households or 15 JOD per person per month for vulnerable (V) households.</p>

## Study Overview

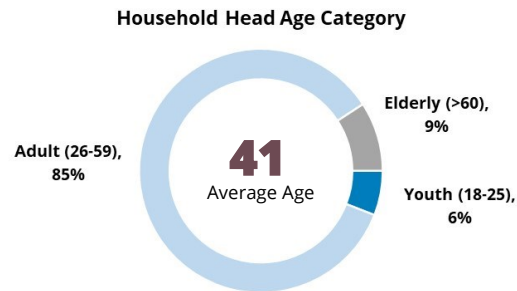
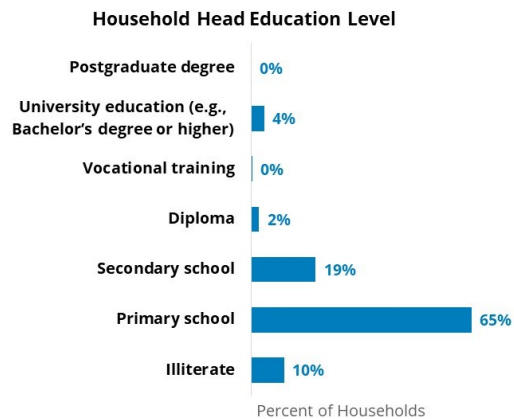
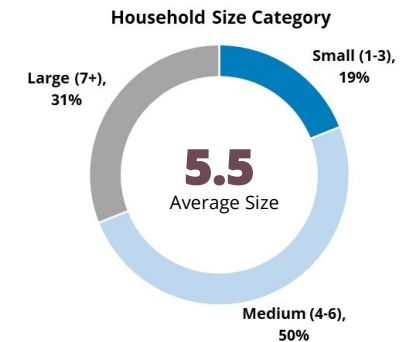
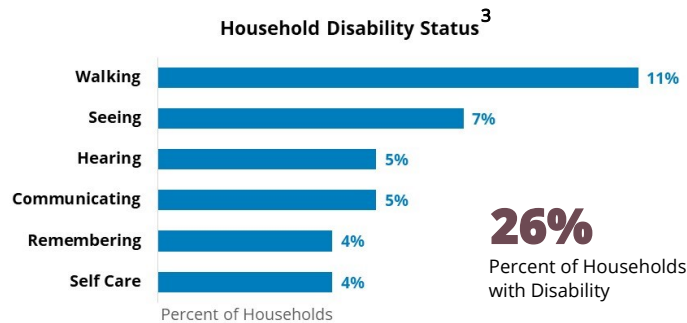
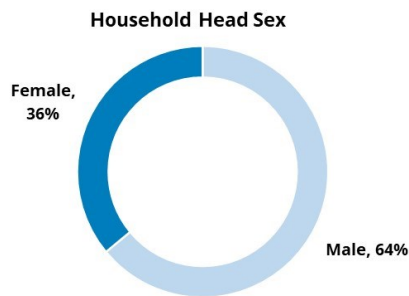
DATA COLLECTION	DATA ANALYSIS
<p>Face-to-face survey administered to a stratified random sample, with a margin of error of 5% and confidence interval of 95%.</p> <p><b>1,075</b> Households in communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>235</b> Newly Included</li> <li><b>269</b> Newly Excluded</li> <li><b>311</b> Always Received</li> <li><b>260</b> Never Received</li> </ul>	<p>Weighted descriptive statistics and hypothesis testing across strata (newly excluded, newly included, always received, never received) and disaggregated by head of household gender, household disability status, and household size.</p>

<sup>1</sup>: Figures as of December 2021

# Study Findings

## Demographics<sup>2</sup>

Refugee households in communities had an average of 5.5 members with 31% of households having 7 or more members. Sixty-four percent of households were headed by a male and 36% headed by a female. The average age of the head of households was 41 years, with 9% of households headed by a member who was 60 or older. Household heads were primarily married (81%) and generally completed formal education through primary school (65%) or secondary school (19%). Ten percent of household heads were illiterate and forty-six percent of household heads found some work in Q4 2021. Of those that found work, 86% engaged in temporary work and 13% in permanent work. Twenty-six percent of households had a member with a disability, with difficulties in walking (11%) and seeing (7%) reported as the most frequent challenges.



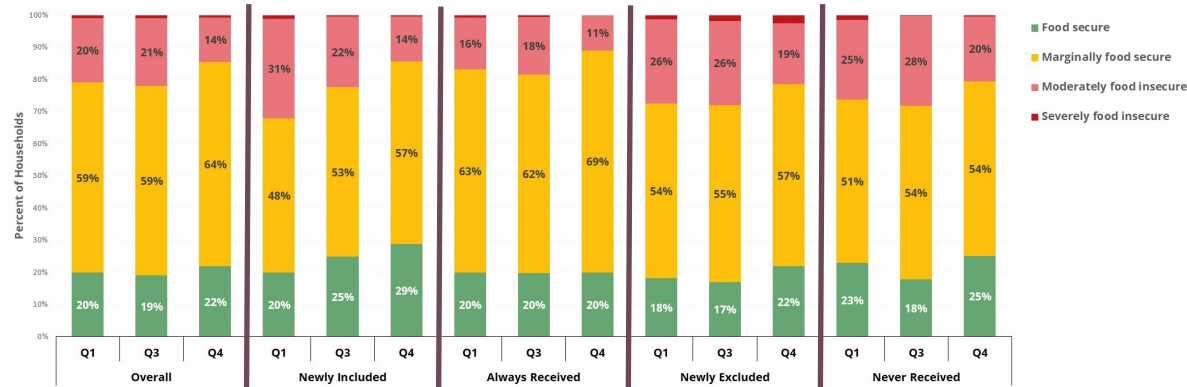
<sup>2</sup>: Figures based on data collected as part of Q4 2021

<sup>3</sup>: Figures based on the "Disability 3" threshold recommended by the Washington Group which includes all households citing "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do at all".

# Food Security Index (FSI)

**Indicator Definition:** The Food Security Index is a composite measure of food security that combines the Food Consumption Score (FCS), Food Expenditure Share (FES), and Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) into a single holistic measure calculated following the Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI).

**Food Security Index by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period**

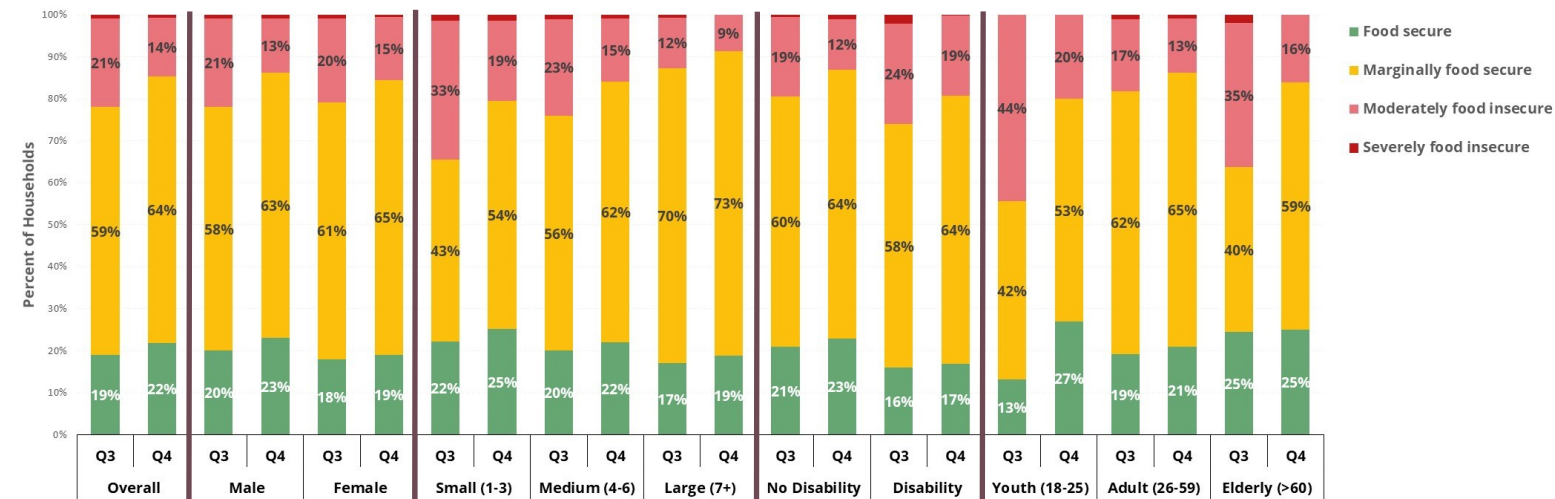


- Food security for refugee households in communities improved in Q4 when compared to Q3 and Q1. Overall 78% of households in camps were classified as severely food insecure, moderately food insecure, or marginally food secure in Q4 compared to 81% of households in Q3.

- Disaggregation by household retargeting status found significant improvements in household food security for newly included households in Q3 and Q4 as compared to Q1. For newly excluded households, food security neither deteriorated or improved for most households in Q3 and Q4 as compared to Q1.

- Disaggregation by household socio-demographic characteristics identified female-headed households (81%) and households with a member with a disability (83%) as particularly likely to be severely food insecure, moderately food insecure, or marginally food secure in Q4.

**Food Security Index by Socio-Demographic Disaggregate and Period**

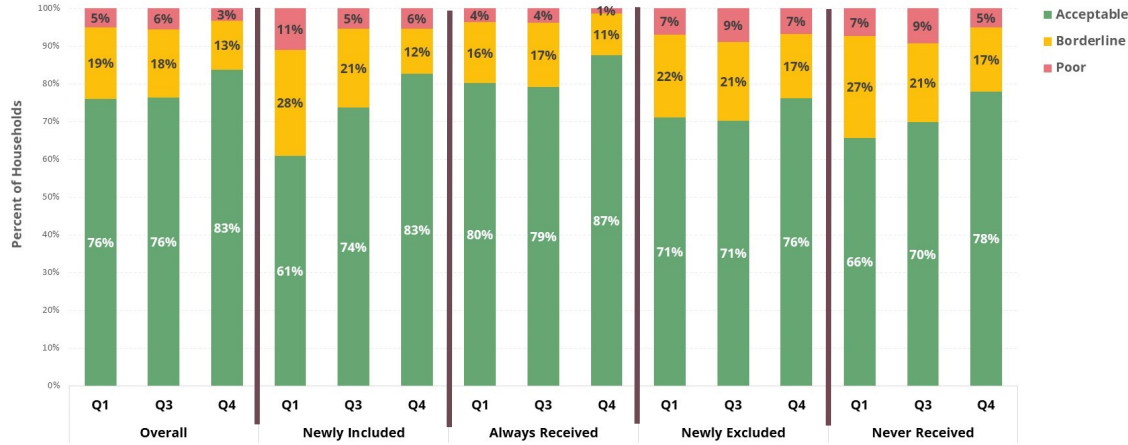


**Methodological Note:** Socio-demographic disaggregates defined as Sex of Head of Household (e.g. Male, Female); Household Size (e.g. Small, Medium, Large); Household Disability Status (e.g. No Disability, Disability); and Age of Head of Household (e.g. Youth, Adult, Elderly)

# Food Consumption Score (FCS)

**Indicator Definition:** The Food Consumption Score measures dietary diversity, consumption frequency, and relative nutritional importance of household food consumption. The measure is considered a good indicator of current food security when combined with the Consumption-Based Coping Strategy Index (rCSI).

Food Consumption Score by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period

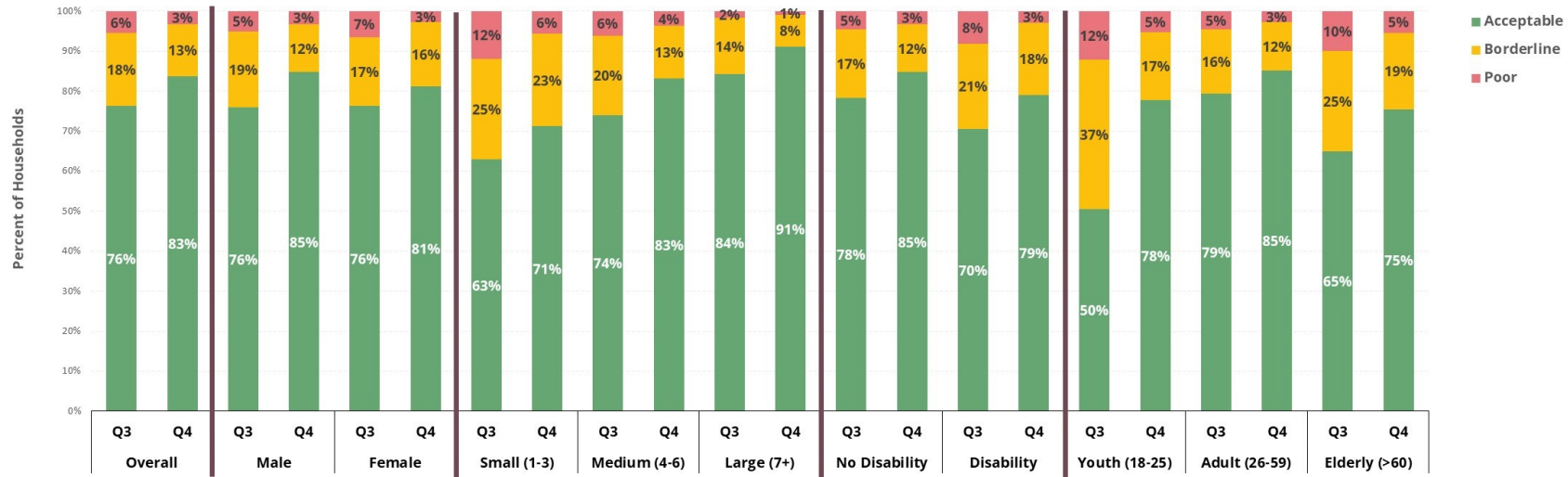


- The proportion of refugee households in communities with poor or borderline food consumption decreased to 16% in Q4 as compared to 24% in Q1 and Q3, indicating an improvement in food consumption.

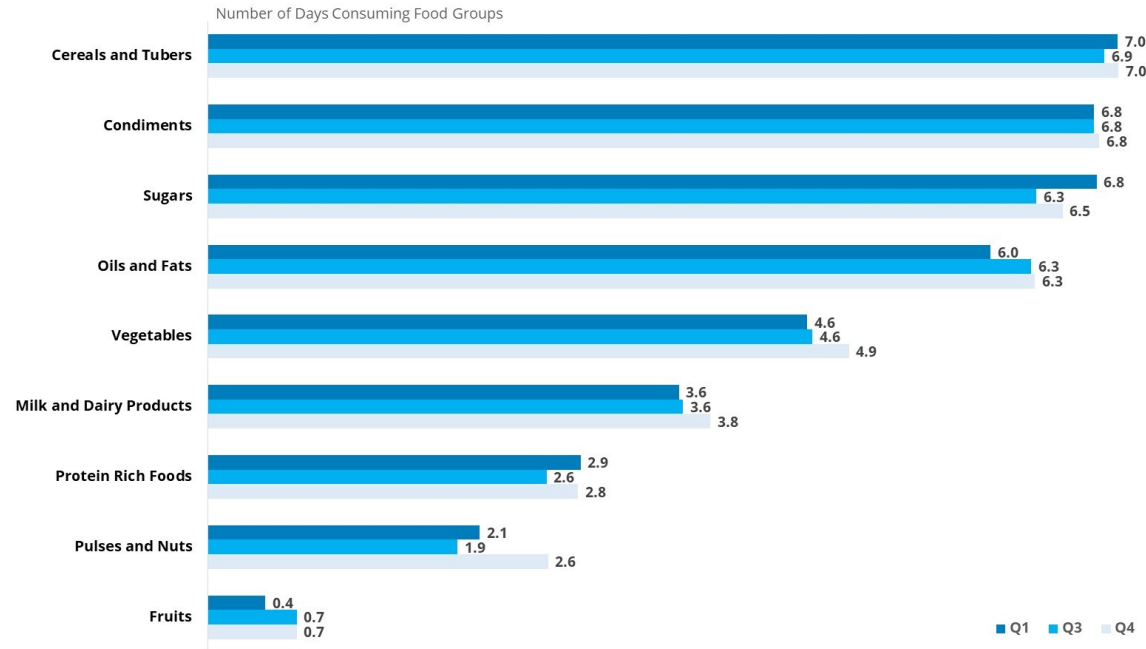
- Disaggregation by household retargeting status found significant improvements in household food consumption for newly included households in Q3 and Q4 as compared to Q1. For newly excluded households, food consumption slightly deteriorated for the most vulnerable in Q3 as compared to Q1 and did not see a boost in Q4 from the winterization assistance unlike other stratifications.

- Disaggregation by household demographics identified female headed households (19%), small households (29%), households with a member with a disability (21%), and elderly headed households (24%) as having particularly inadequate food consumption in Q4, as measured by the proportion of households with poor or borderline food consumption.

Food Consumption Score by Socio-Demographic Disaggregate and Period



## Food Group Consumption Score by Period



Refugee households in communities generally consumed cereals and tubers, condiments, sugars, and oils and fats 6-7 days per week. Vegetables, protein-rich foods, and milk and dairy products were consumed 3-5 days per week, while pulses, nuts and fruits were consumed 1-2 days per week. Changes in consumption patterns between Q4 and Q3 include an increase in the consumption of vegetables, milk and dairy products, and pulses and nuts.

### Food Consumption Score Food Groups:

**Cereals and Tubers** includes rice, wheat, bulgur, bread, pasta, wheat flour, vermicelli, potatoes, sweet potatoes, etc.

**Condiments** includes spices, tea, coffee, cocoa, salt, garlic, yeast, baking powder, thyme, etc.

**Sugars** includes sugar, juice, halawa, honey, jam, cakes, candy, cookies, pastries, etc.

**Oils and Fats** includes vegetable oil, palm oil, olive oil, ghee, margarine, etc.

**Vegetables** includes tomatoes, cucumber, onions, carrot, red pepper, pumpkin, spinach, broccoli, etc.

**Milk and Dairy Products** includes powdered milk, fresh milk, cheese, yoghurt, etc.

**Protein-Rich Foods** includes chicken, beef, lamb, goat, duck, fish, eggs, etc. and includes both flesh meat and organ meat (liver, kidneys, hearts, etc.)

**Pulses and Nuts** includes lentils, chickpeas, peanut, almond, cashew, etc.

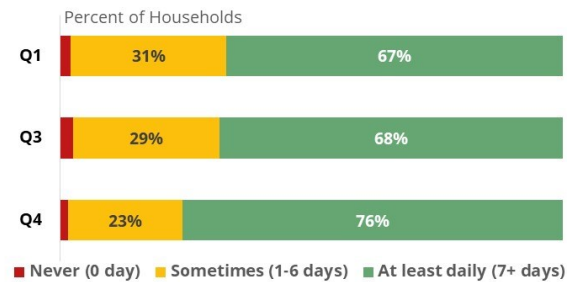
**Fruits** includes apple, banana, orange, clementine, apricot, peach, etc.

## Food Consumption Score - Nutrition (FCS-N)

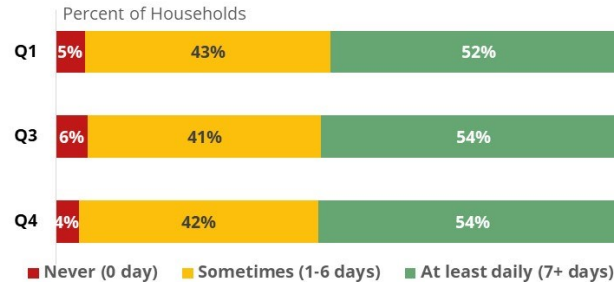
**Indicator Definition:** The Food Consumption Score - Nutrition is a proxy measure of household consumption of key macro and micronutrients, including Vitamin A, Protein, and Hem Iron. The FCS-N is assessed as the frequency of consumption of Vitamin A-Rich, Protein-Rich, and Hem Iron-Rich foods over a 7 day recall period.

- Consumption of protein-rich foods improved in Q4 while consumption of vitamin a-rich foods remained barely adequate in Q4, as compared to Q1 and Q3.
- Consumption of hem iron-rich foods was inadequate for the majority of refugee households in communities with 40% of households consuming no hem iron-rich foods throughout the week in Q4. Consumption of hem iron appears to be low due to the relatively high cost of animal-based proteins compared to more affordable energy sources including cereals, sugars, and oils. Hem iron is generally provided through animal-based proteins, including meat, poultry, seafood, and fish and is a key macronutrient needed for the prevention of anemia. Anemia is particularly detrimental for young children and adult females, with correlations to motor and cognitive development delays and increased risk of infection among young children, and pregnancy complications and heart problems among adult females.

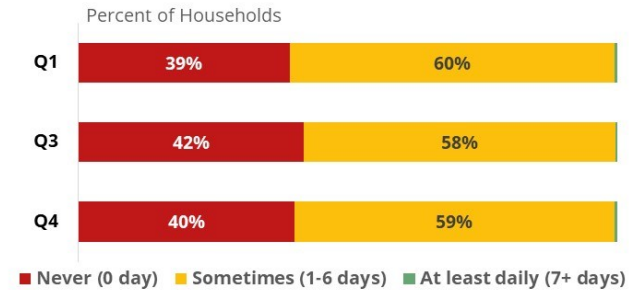
Consumption of Protein-Rich Foods by Period



Consumption of Vitamin A-Rich Foods by Period



Consumption of Hem Iron-Rich Foods by Period

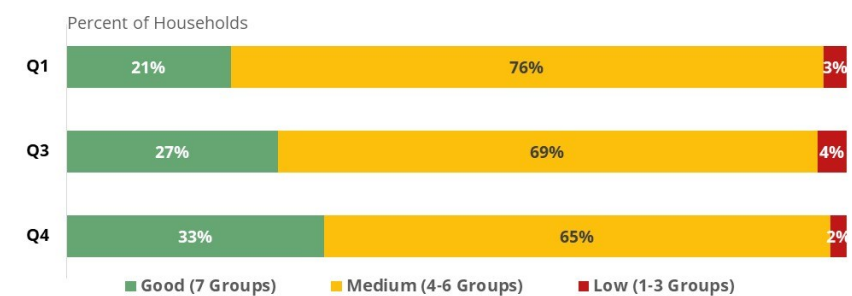


## Dietary Diversity Score (DDS)

**Indicator Definition:** The Dietary Diversity Score is a proxy measure of overall household nutrient intake, reflecting the degree to which a household consumes a diverse diet. The DDS is assessed as the number of food groups consumed by a household within a 7 day recall period.

- Dietary diversity for refugees in communities improved in Q4, with 33% of households having good dietary diversity in Q4 compared to 27% in Q3 and 21% in Q1. However, over two-thirds of households still had medium or low dietary diversity.

Dietary Diversity Score by Period



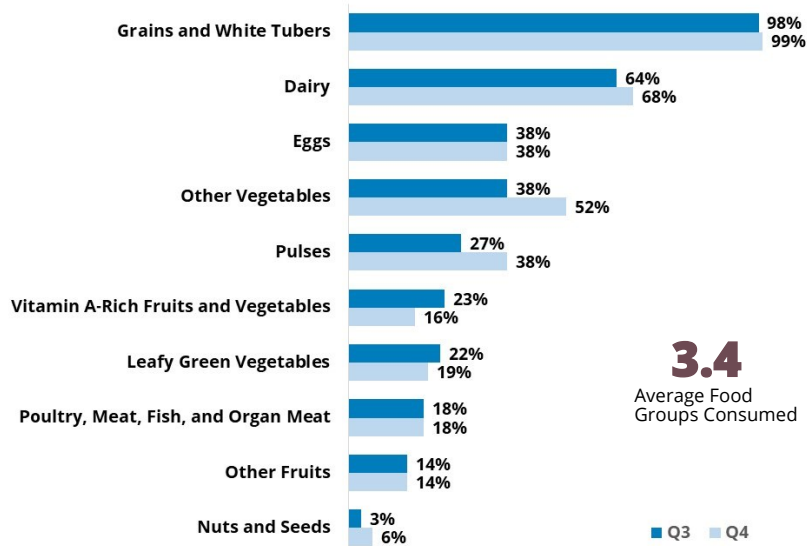
## Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (MDD-W)

**Indicator Definition:** Women of reproductive age (age 15 - 49) are often nutritionally vulnerable due to the demands of pregnancy and lactation, as the requirements for most nutrients are higher for pregnant and lactating women than adult men. Insufficient intake of nutrients during these times can affect both women and their children. Additionally, given pressures on household diets, women often consume less than adult men and sometimes poorer quality. The Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (MDD-W) is a proxy indicator which seeks to measure micronutrient adequacy of 11 essential micronutrients. While MDD-W does not measure the full scope of diet quality and nutrition for women of reproductive age, the consumption of a diet with foods from diverse food categories is recommended universally and the indicator allows for the comparison of food group consumption patterns across areas and time. The MDD-W is assessed as the number of food groups consumed by women of reproductive age within the households within a 24 hour recall period.

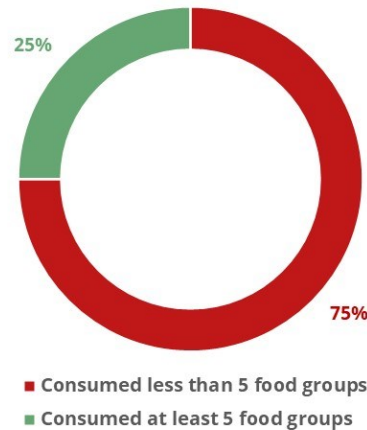
- The percentage of women of reproductive age in communities who consumed at least 5 food groups, the universally defined threshold for adequate dietary diversity, was 25% in Q4, indicating that the majority of women of reproductive age are consuming a diet which provides inadequate micronutrient intake. Limited dietary diversity among women of reproductive age, if sustainable over time, may lead to micronutrient deficiencies with significant implications on health and developmental outcomes for both women and children.
- On average, women of reproductive age in camps consumed 3.4 food groups, primarily comprised of grains and white tubers (e.g. bread, rice, pasta, potato, etc.), dairy (e.g. milk, cheese, yoghurt, etc.), eggs, and other vegetables (e.g. tomato, cucumber, eggplant, etc.).



Food Groups Consumed by Women of Reproductive Age by Period



Women of Reproductive Age Consuming Minimum Dietary Diversity



**3.4**

Average Food Groups Consumed



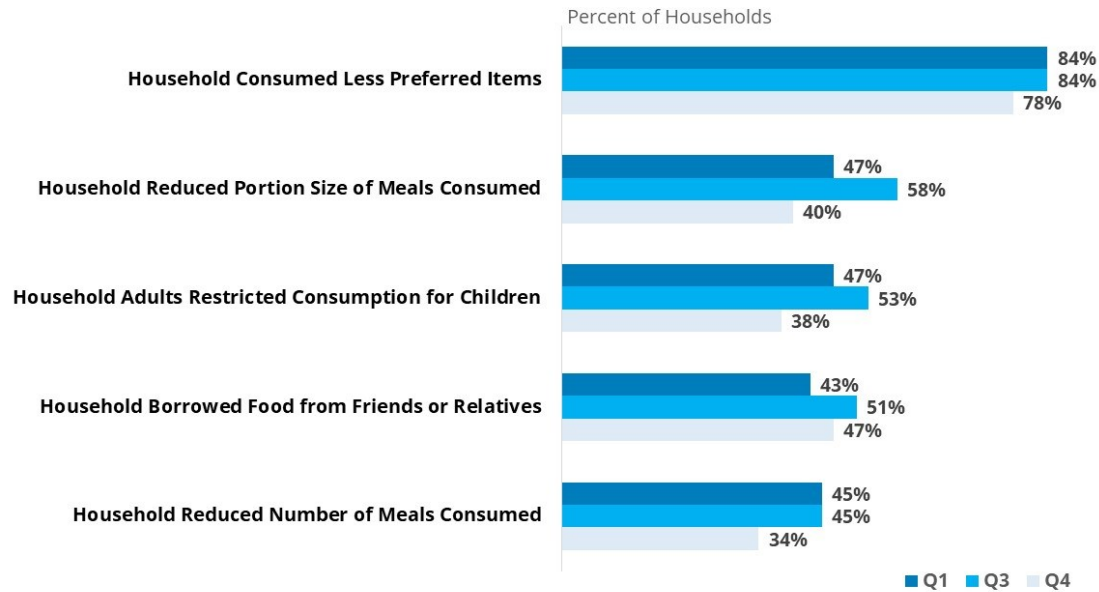
## Consumption-Based Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

**Indicator Definition:** The Consumption-Based Coping Strategy Index measures the adoption of consumption-based coping strategies frequently employed by households exposed to food shortages. The rCSI is as an indicator of current household food security when analyzed in combination with the FCS.

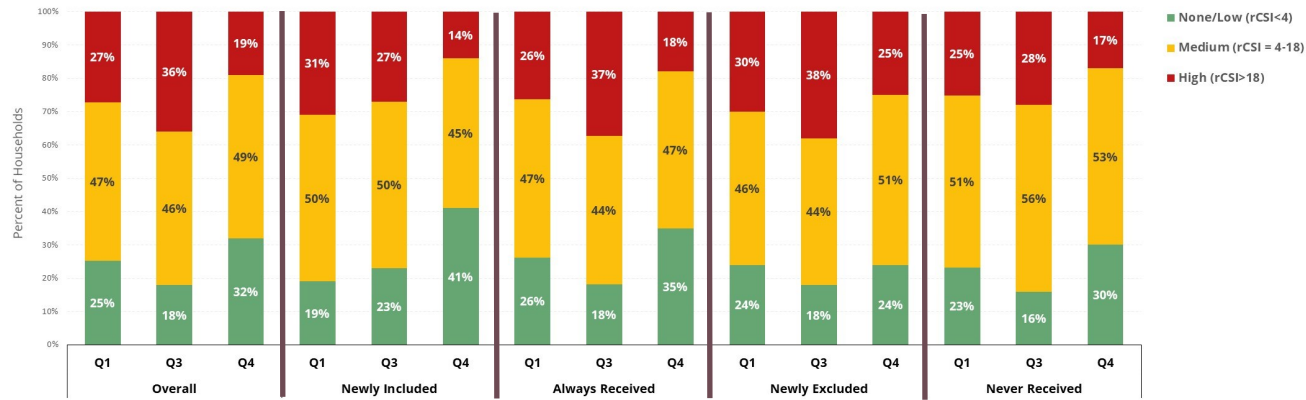
The adoption of consumption-based coping strategies generally decreased in Q4 as compared to Q3. The most commonly applied strategies by refugee households in communities continue to be the consumption of less preferred foods (78%), borrowing of food from friends and relatives (47%), and the reduced portion size of meals consumed (40%).



Consumption-Based Coping Strategies by Period



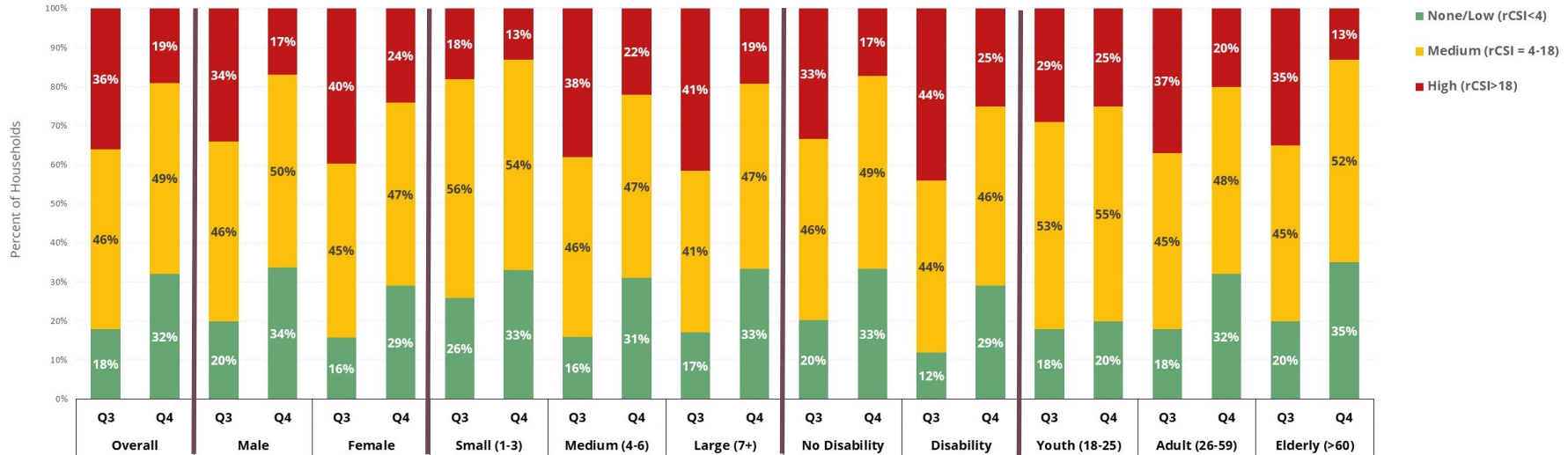
### Consumption Based Coping Strategy Index by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period



- Generally refugee households in communities adopted consumption-based coping strategies less in Q4 compared to Q3, decreasing both the number and the frequency of strategies adopted.

- Disaggregation by household socio-demographic characteristics identified female-headed households (71%), households with a member with a disability (72%), and youth headed households (80%) as particularly likely to use consumption-based coping strategies, as measured by the proportion of households with medium or high rCSI scores.

### Consumption Based Coping Strategy Index by Socio-Demographic Disaggregate and Period

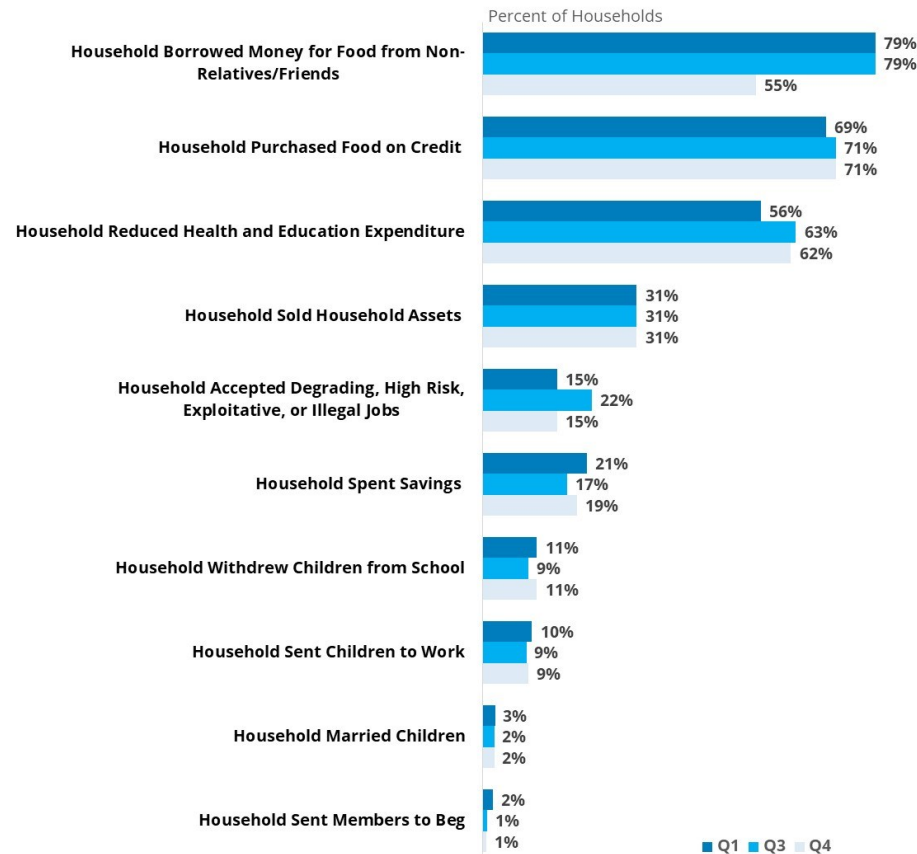


## Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategy Index (LCSI)

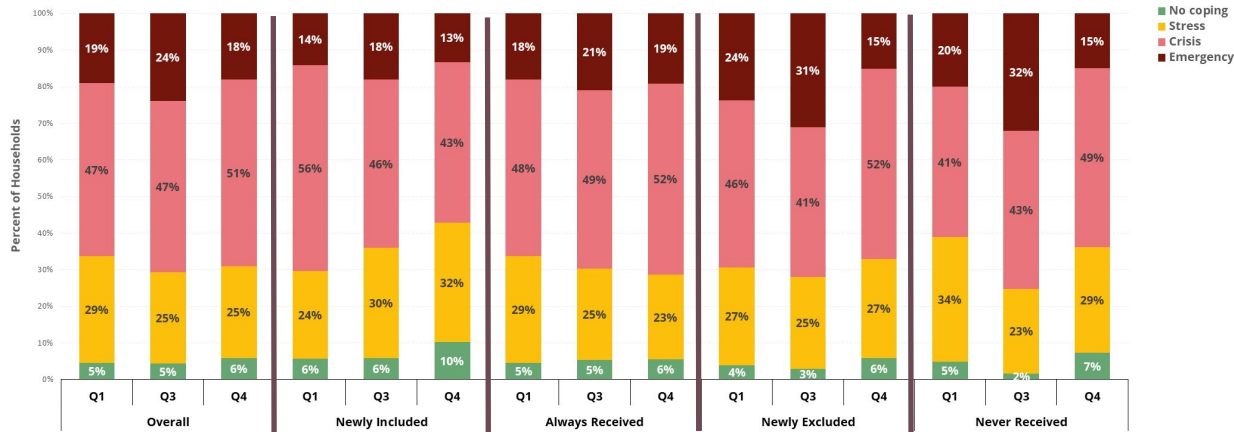
**Indicator Definition:** The Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategy Index measures the adoption of livelihoods-based coping strategies frequently employed by households exposed to food shortages. The LCSI is an indicator of future household food security when analyzed in combination with the FCS and rCSI.

The adoption of livelihoods-based coping strategies by refugee households in communities decreased in Q4 as compared to Q3 and Q1. The most commonly applied strategies included household borrowing money for food from non-relatives and friends (79%), household purchases of food on credit (71%), household reductions in health and education expenditure (62%), and sale of household assets (31%) in Q4.

### Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategies by Period



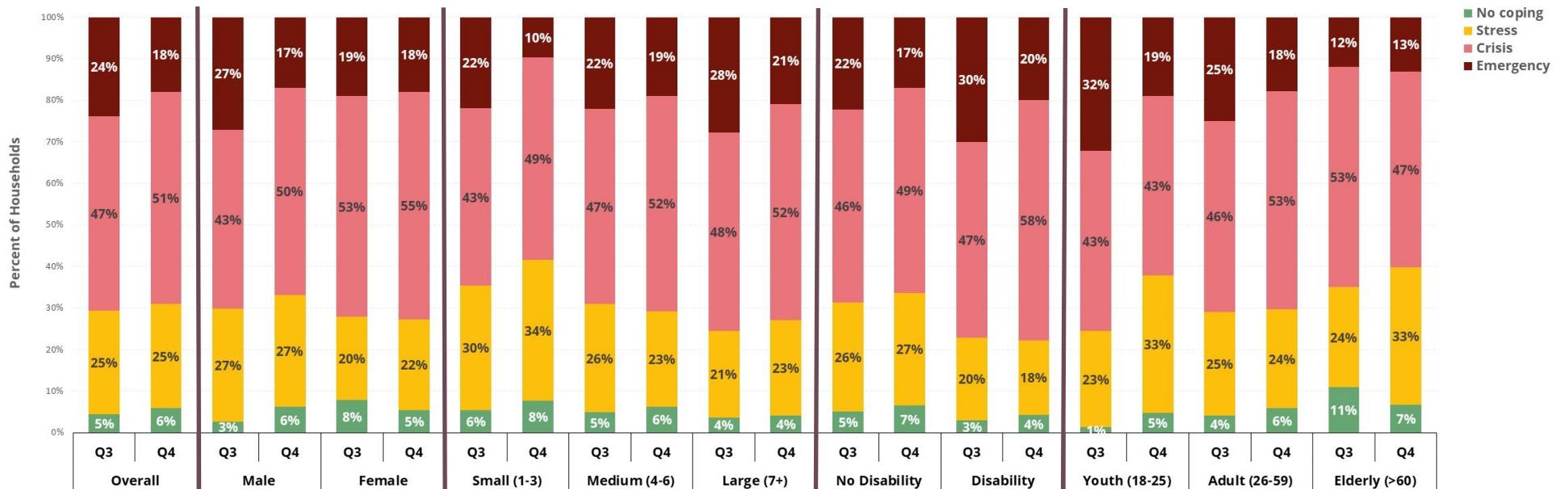
### Livelihoods Based Coping Strategy Index by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period



- The share of refugee households in communities resorting to emergency and crisis level coping strategies decreased in Q4 as compared to Q3.

- Disaggregation by household demographics identified female headed households (73%), large households (73%), and households with members with disability (78%) as having particularly high rates of adoption of emergency and crisis level coping strategies in Q4.

### Livelihoods Based Coping Strategy Index by Socio-Demographic Disaggregate and Period



## Household Economics

- Total household income for refugee households in communities increased to 69 JOD per capita per month in Q4, compared to 56 JOD in Q3 and 54 JOD in Q1. This increase is primarily driven by increased income from assistance (e.g. winterization assistance) from other agencies.
- Household expenditure for refugee households in communities increased to 71 JOD per capita per month in Q4, compared to 63 JOD in Q3 and 66 JOD in Q1. This increase is driven primarily by increased non-food expenditure on debt repayment, especially for loans from friends.
- Despite this debt repayment, accumulated debt for refugee households in communities increased to 217 JOD per capita in Q4, compared to 181 JOD in Q3 and 176 JOD in Q1. Growing debt was mainly unpaid rent to landlords.

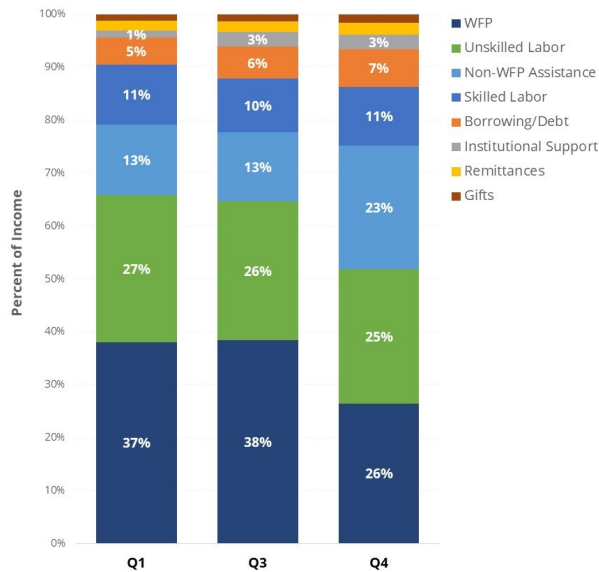
Household Monthly Income, Expenditure, Debt by Period

Indicator	Q1	Q3	Q4
Income (JOD)	283	282	340
Expenditure (JOD)	337	316	345
Food Expenditure (JOD)	131	109	115
Non-Food Expenditure (JOD)	205	208	230
Debt (JOD)	868	865	921

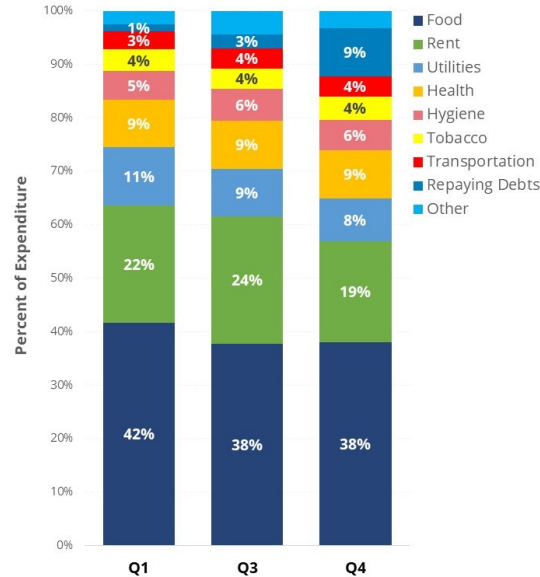
Per Capita Monthly Income, Expenditure, Debt by Period

Indicator	Q1	Q3	Q4
Income (JOD)	54	56	69
Expenditure (JOD)	66	63	71
Food Expenditure (JOD)	24	21	23
Non-Food Expenditure (JOD)	42	42	48
Debt (JOD)	176	181	217

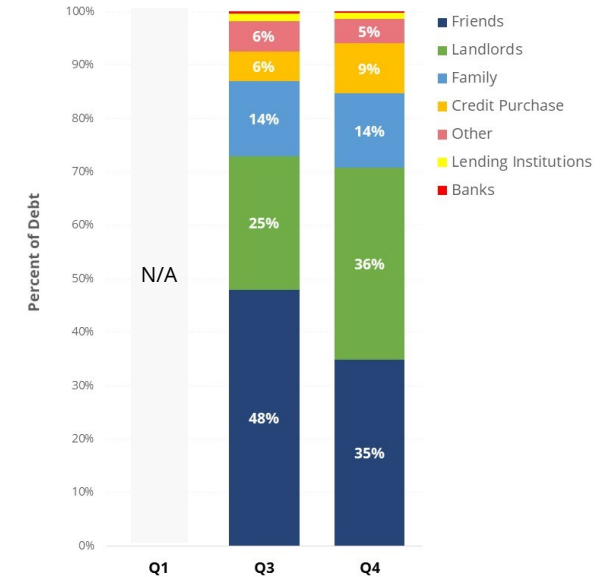
Household Income Source by Period



Household Expenditure Source by Period



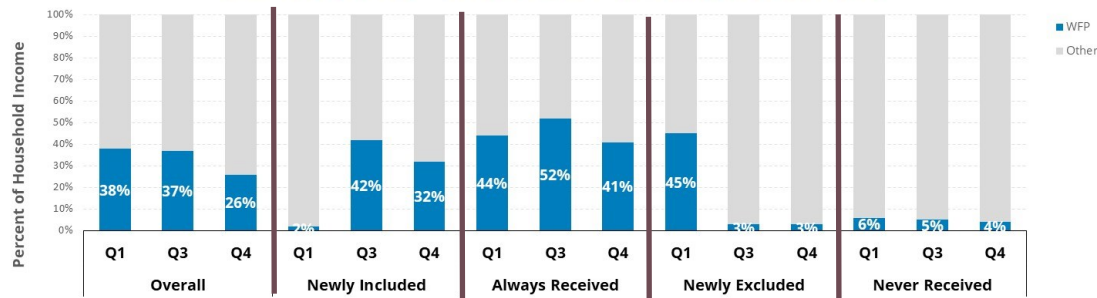
Household Debt Source by Period



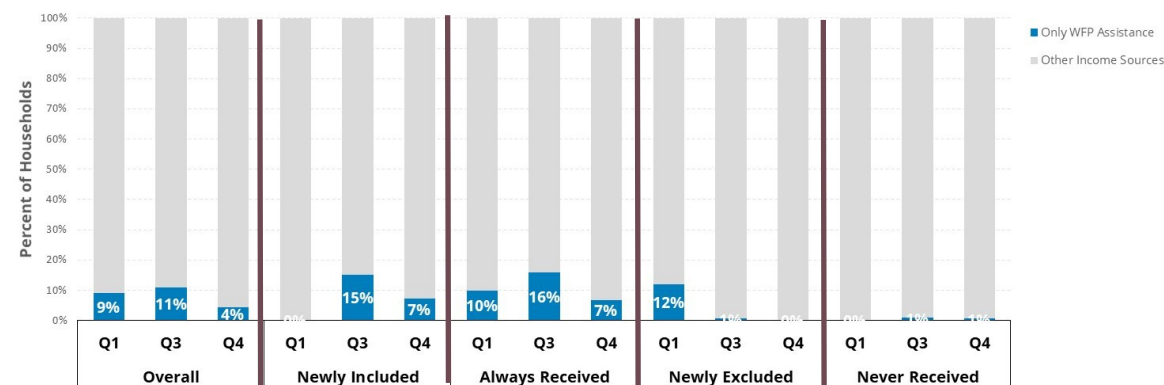
## Household Assistance

- In Q4, WFP assistance provided an average 26% of household income for refugee households in communities. Disaggregation by retargeting status noted that WFP assistance provided 32% of household income for newly included households and 41% of household income for always received households.
- Roughly 4% of refugee households in communities noted that WFP assistance was their only income source in Q4. Disaggregation by retargeting status noted that WFP assistance was the only income source for 7% of newly included and always received households.

WFP Assistance Contribution to Income by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period



WFP Assistance Only Income Source by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period



Household Assistance Past 30 Days by Period

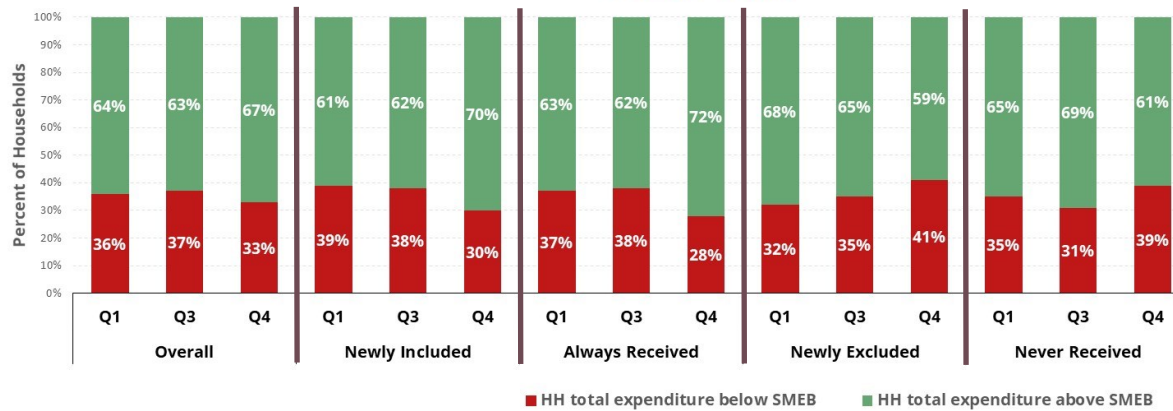
Indicator	Q1	Q3	Q4
WFP Assistance (JOD)	105	107	88
Other Assistance (JOD)	37	37	78

**Methodological Note:** WFP and Other assistance calculations assign a value of 0 for households who do not receive assistance. The average value of other assistance for those provided assistance was 133, 145, and 305 in Q1, Q3, and Q4..

# Household Poverty

**Indicator Definition:** The Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs (ECMEN), is an indicator designed to capture the percentage of households with expenditure above the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) and Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB). The MEB can be considered equivalent to a poverty line and the SMEB can be considered equivalent to an abject poverty line.

**Household Expenditure Compared to Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period**

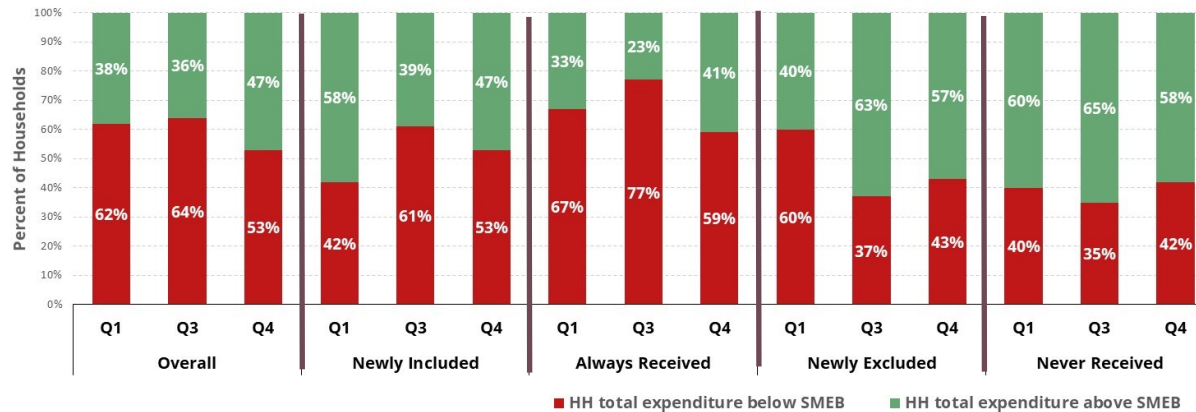


- The percentage of refugee households in communities with total expenditure below the SMEB, the abject poverty line, decreased to 33% in Q4, compared to 37% in Q3 and 36% in Q1, indicating a decrease in household-level abject poverty.

- To understand household economic standing in the absence of WFP assistance, WFP assistance was subtracted from household expenditure and the percentages of households above and below the SMEB threshold were re-evaluated. The percentage of refugee households in communities with total expenditure (excluding WFP assistance) below the SMEB threshold decreased to 53% in Q4, from 64% in Q3 and 62% in Q1.

- Together these findings suggest that the incidence of abject poverty among refugee households in communities is decreasing, although WFP assistance continues to play a significant role in reducing the overall abject poverty rate.

**Household Expenditure With WFP Assistance Removed Compared to Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket by Retargeting Status Disaggregate and Period**



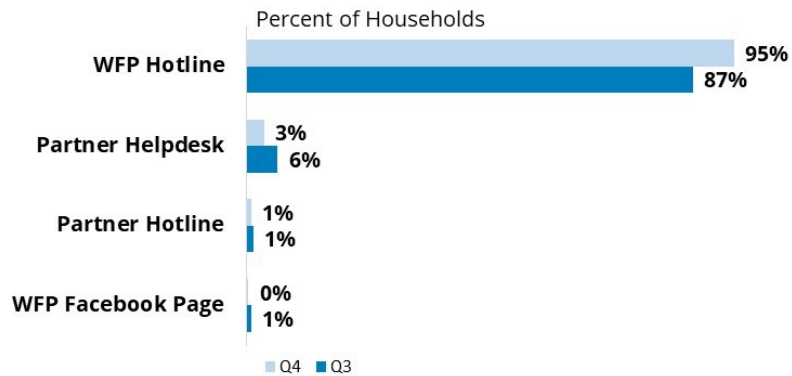
## Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

- Generally refugee households in communities perceived that the WFP hotline (95%) was the preferred communication channel for raising and addressing issues. The next most popular channels were partner helpdesk (3%) and partner hotline (1%).
- Requests through our hotline for inclusion in the general food assistance program, increased from 33% in December to 54% in January as the effects from the winterization assistance likely no longer supported households.

## Protection

- Generally, protection concerns improved between Q1, Q3, and Q4, with only 2% of households aware of safety problems in the community in Q4 compared to 3% in Q1, and 1% of households unable to access WFP assistance and intervention sites in Q4 compared to 3% in Q1.
- One-hundred percent of refugee households in communities felt that WFP intervention sites were respectful in Q4 and 98% of refugee households in communities felt that WFP intervention sites were dignified in Q4.

Household Preferred Channel to Contact WFP by Period



Household Self-Reported Protection Indicators Past 30 Days by Period

Indicator	Q1	Q3	Q4
Household Aware of Safety Problems in Community	3%	2%	2%
Household Unable to Access WFP Assistance and Intervention Sites	3%	2%	1%
Household Reported Respectful Treatment by WFP and Partners	99%	99%	100%
Household Reported Dignity of WFP Intervention Sites	99%	99%	98%







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