



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# Food Security Outcome Monitoring - Q1 2022

## Host Communities Factsheet



### Key Findings


- **More than three-quarters of refugee households in host communities are food insecure (75%) and the other quarter (24%) are vulnerable to food insecurity.** 82% of households with a member with a disability are food insecure.
- **Dietary diversity for women of reproductive age remains low,** with seven out of 10 women of reproductive age in host communities consuming less than five food groups and 45% of all households consuming no heme iron-rich foods.
- **Rising food insecurity is driven by increasing costs of food and decreasing income opportunities;** food items represented 43% of household expenditure, compared to 38% last quarter (Q4-21). Similarly, fewer refugees reported working (-8 percentage points).
- **Nine out of 10 households are holding debt,** with most households either purchasing food on credit (75%) or borrowing money from friends and neighbors for food (58%). Rent is also a concern and debt to landlords has almost doubled since Q1-21 from 22% to 41%.
- **The percentage of households working declined by 22% to the lowest levels reported since the onset of Covid-19.**
- **WFP assistance was the only source of income for one out of 10 households** and represents almost 40% of income for refugees in host communities in the first quarter of 2022 (Q1-22).
- **Without WFP assistance, 70% of refugee households in host communities would fall into abject poverty** and be unable to afford a survival minimum expenditure basket (SMEB) of food, rent and basic hygiene. This is a 32% increase from last quarter (Q4-21).

## Introduction

During Q1 2022, WFP Jordan responded to the food needs of up to 462,488 refugees, 220,775 females and 241,713 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 349,326 refugees living in communities and 113,499 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 Q1 2022 conducted in March 2022. 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>349,326</b> Individuals in communities</p>	Targeted and prioritized coverage for refugee households in communities.	Unconditional e-vouchers redeemable at either WFP-contracted shops or as unrestricted cash at WFP-contracted ATMs 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.

## Study Overview

DATA COLLECTION	DATA ANALYSIS
<p>Face-to-face survey administered to a stratified random sample, with a margin of error of 3% and confidence interval of 99%.</p> <p><b>1,900</b> Households in communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>500</b> Syrian Refugee Beneficiaries in Communities (EV)</li> <li><b>500</b> Syrian Refugee Beneficiaries in Communities (V)</li> <li><b>450</b> Non-Syrian Refugee Beneficiaries in Communities</li> <li><b>450</b> Syrian Refugee Non-Beneficiaries in Communities</li> </ul>	Weighted descriptive statistics and hypothesis testing across strata (WFP Beneficiaries: Extremely Vulnerable Syrians, Vulnerable Syrians, and Non-Syrians; Non-WFP Beneficiaries: Syrians and Non-Syrians) and disaggregated by head of household gender, household disability status, and household size.

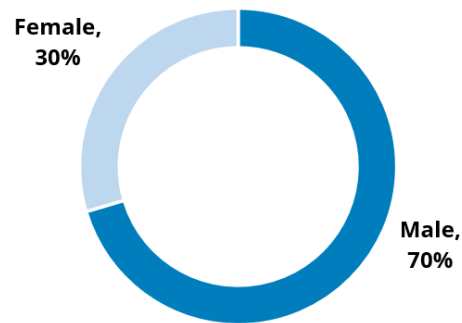
<sup>1</sup>: Figures as of December 2021

# Study Findings

## Demographics<sup>2</sup>

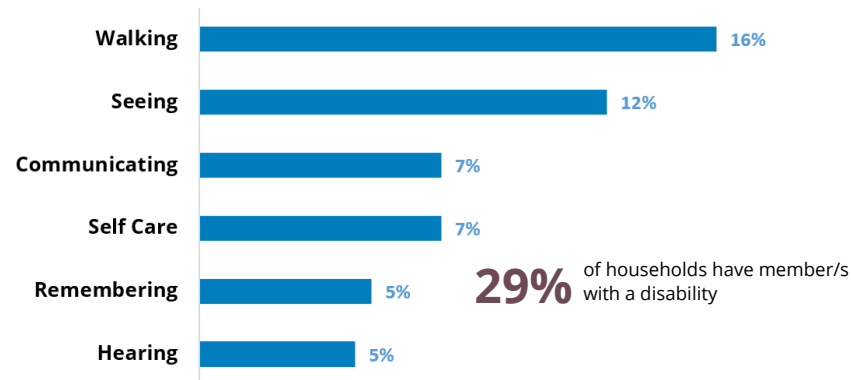
Refugee households in communities had an average of 5.6 members, with 32% of households having 7 or more members. Seventy percent of households were headed by a male and 30% headed by a female. The average age of the head of household was 43 years, with 12% of households headed by a member who was 60 or older. Household heads were primarily married (82%) and generally completed formal education through primary school (65%) or secondary school (18%). Eleven percent of household heads were illiterate, although this percentage increased to 18% for female-headed households. Twenty-nine percent of households had a member with a disability, with difficulties in walking (16%) and seeing (12%) reported as the most frequent challenges.

### Household Head Sex

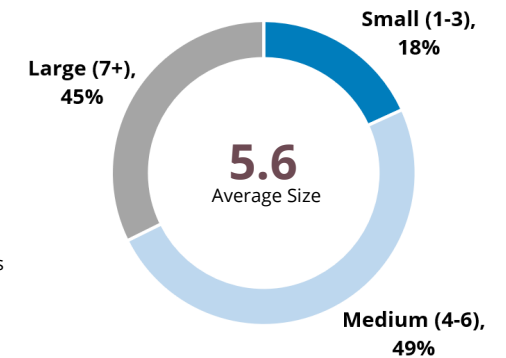


### Household Disability Status<sup>3</sup>

Percent of households

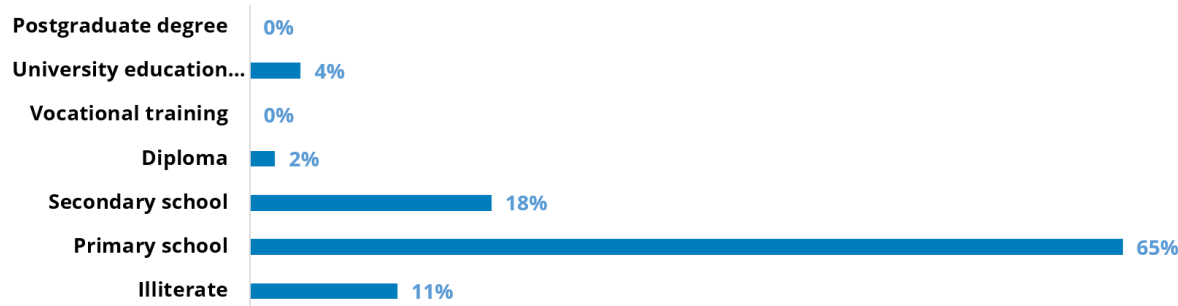


### Household Size

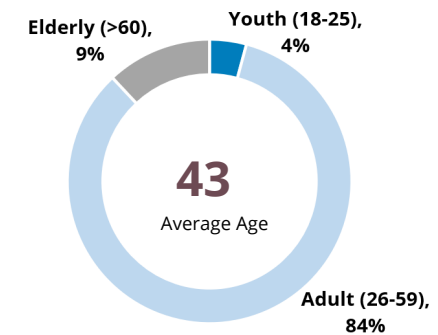


### Household Head Education Level

Percent of households



### Household Head Age



<sup>2</sup>: Figures based on data collected as part of Q1 2022

<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), reduced Coping Strategies Index (rCSI), Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs (ECMEN), and Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategy Index (LCSI) into a single holistic measure calculated following the Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI).

Domain		Indicator	Food Secure	Marginally Food Secure	Moderately Food Insecure	Severely Food Insecure
Current Status	Food Consumption	Food Consumption Score and reduced Coping Strategies Index	22.4%	<b>56.2%</b>	16.6%	4.7%
Coping Capacity	Economic Capacity	Economic Capacity to Meet Essential Needs	4.0%		24.3%	<b>71.7%</b>
	Livelihood Coping Strategies	Livelihood Coping Strategies - Food Security	6.4%	27.8%	<b>52.9%</b>	13.0%
<b>CARI</b>			<b>0.6%</b>	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>70.0%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>

**In Q1 2022, three-quarters (75%) of refugee households in host communities are food insecure and the other quarter are vulnerable to food insecurity.**

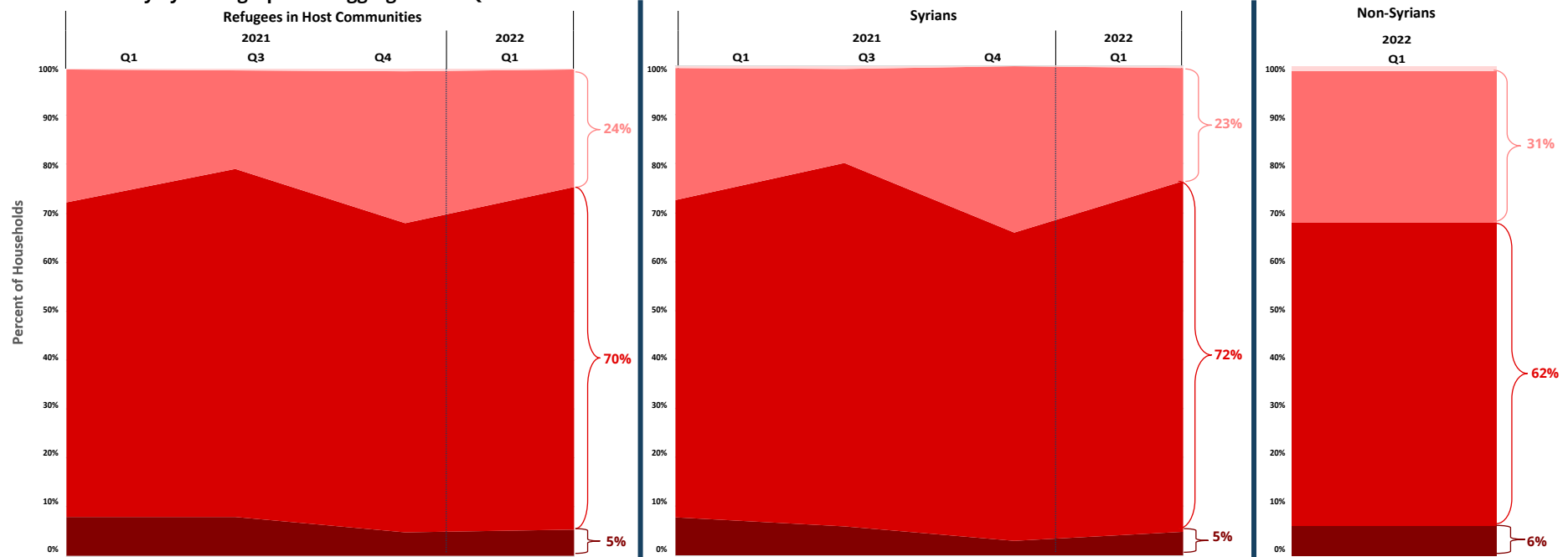
### Current Status

- Considering food consumption alone, 80% of refugee households are able to consume acceptable levels of food.
- However, most households are using consumption based coping strategies, multiple times a week, in order to keep food on the table i.e. consuming less preferred items (78%) or borrowing food from friends (52%).

### Coping Capacity

- More Syrian households are moderately food insecure than Non-Syrian households. Syrian households also adopt consumption and livelihood coping strategies at higher rates i.e. purchasing food on credit or borrowing food from friends.
- However, Non-Syrians may have a weaker social network than their Syrian counterparts and are unable to use these same coping strategies as a safety net.

### Food Security by Demographic Disaggregate and Quarter



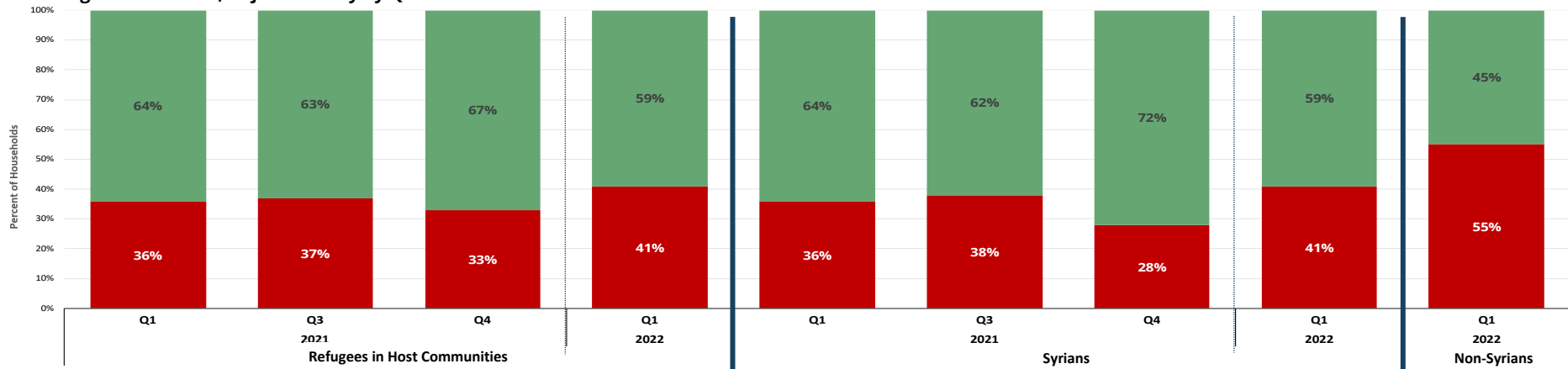
# Household Poverty

**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.

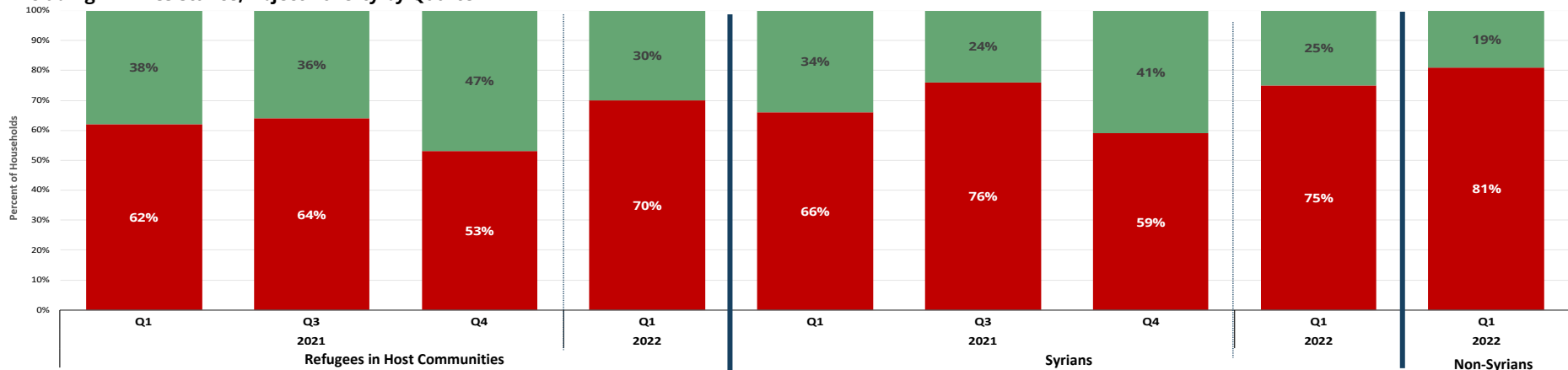
**Without WFP assistance, 70% of refugee households in host communities would fall into abject poverty** and be unable to afford a survival minimum expenditure basket (SMEB) of food, rent, and basic hygiene.

- The percentage of refugee households in host communities with total expenditure below the SMEB, the abject poverty line, increased to 41%, compared to 33% in Q4-21, indicating a significant increase in household-level abject poverty.
- Without WFP assistance, an additional 26% of Non-Syrian households and 34% of Syrian households in host communities would fall below the abject poverty line.

## Including All Assistance, Abject Poverty by Quarter

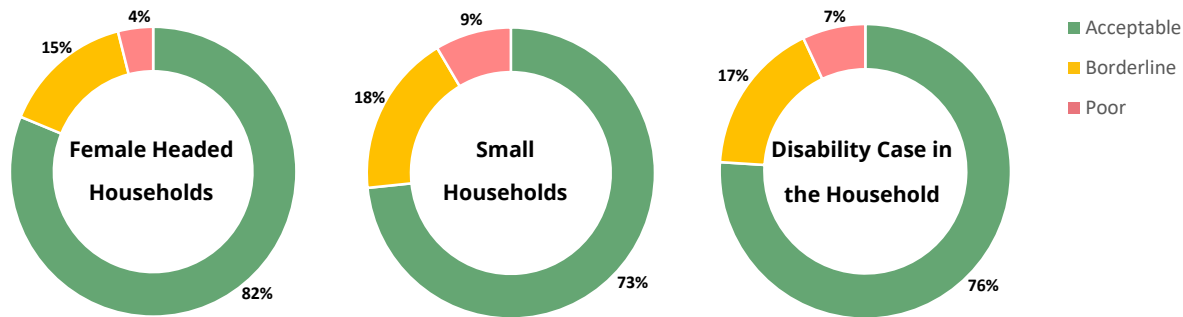


## Excluding WFP Assistance, Abject Poverty by Quarter



## 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).

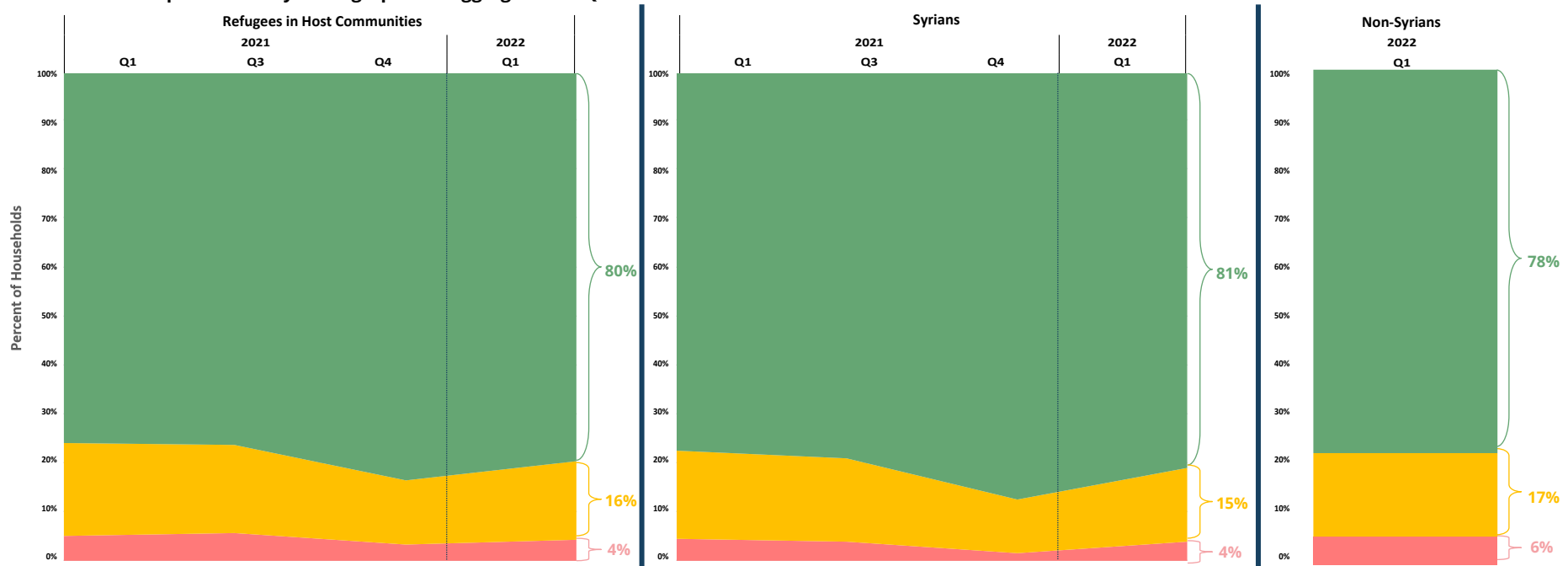


### Eight out of ten refugee households in host communities are showing acceptable levels of food consumption.

Historically, refugee households in communities have had high food consumption scores due to the Government of Jordan fixing prices of food items (i.e. vegetable oil, chicken, cucumbers) in times of crisis. In Q1-22, many food items had price ceilings in place, but local market monitoring showed these ceilings were not necessarily enforced.

- The proportion of refugee households in camps with poor or borderline food consumption increased to 20% from 16% in Q4-21.
- Female headed households (19%), small households (27%), and elderly headed households (25%) continue to have higher levels of poor and borderline food consumption.
- Similarly, 23% of Non-Syrian households reported either poor or borderline food consumption.

### Food Consumption Score by Demographic Disaggregate and Quarter

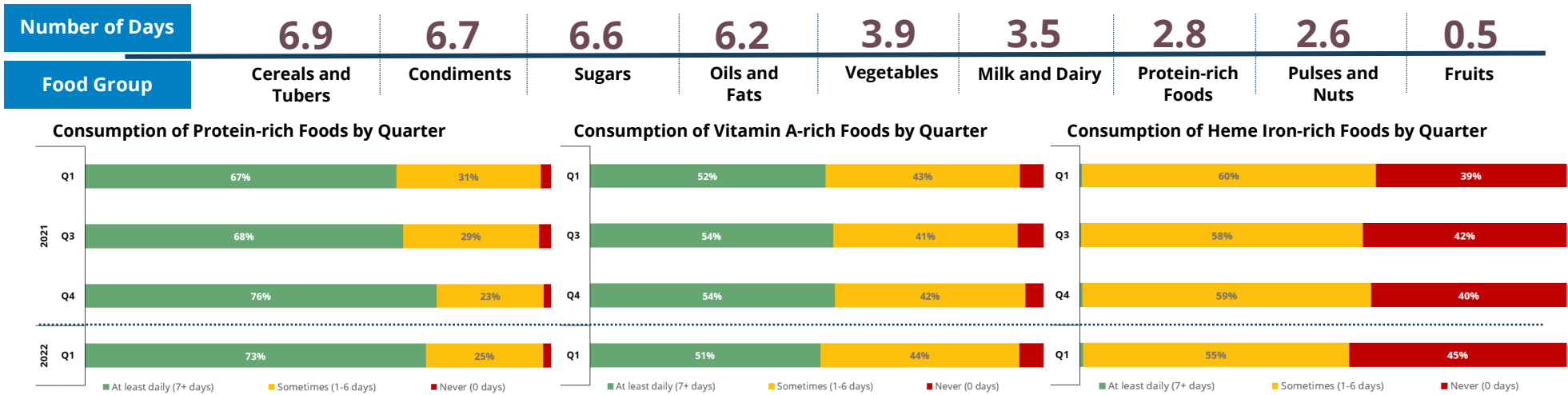


## Food Consumption Score - Nutrition (FCS-N)

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

**Consumption of Heme Iron-rich foods is inadequate for the majority of refugee households in host communities.**

- 45% of households did not consume Heme Iron-rich foods (i.e. beef, chicken, fish) during the 7-day recall period and consumption levels are the lowest recorded in the past year.
- Consumption of Protein-rich foods slightly decreased, though consumption levels were 6% higher compared to Q1 of last year. Consumption of Vitamin A-rich foods also slightly decreased but remains consistent with levels seen in 2021.

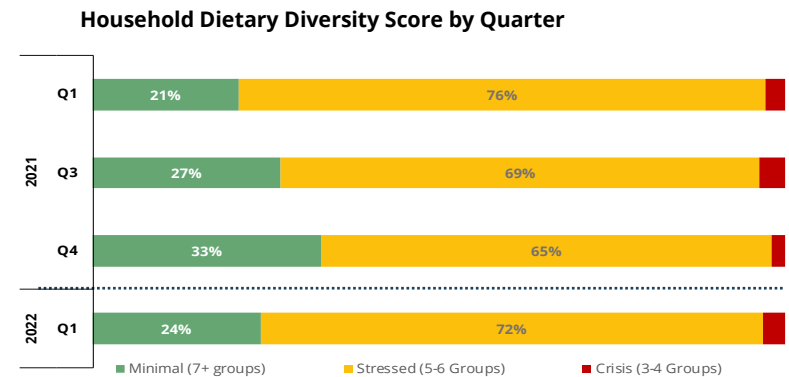


## Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS)

**Indicator Definition:** The Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) aims to reflect the economic ability of households to access a variety of foods. The data for this indicator is based on households' self-reporting of the 12 food groups consumed in the previous 24 hours. This FANTA-developed indicator has been validated against household caloric consumption and is highly correlated with other food security indicators.

**Seven out of ten households in host communities are considered stressed based on their limited dietary diversity. These households are just 1-2 food groups away from crisis.**

- Dietary diversity decreased by 9 percentage points. Only 24% of households consumed 7 or more food groups compared to 33% in Q4-21.
- While the average household consumed 5.7 food groups, 4% of refugee households in host communities only consumed 3-4 food groups and therefore are considered in crisis.



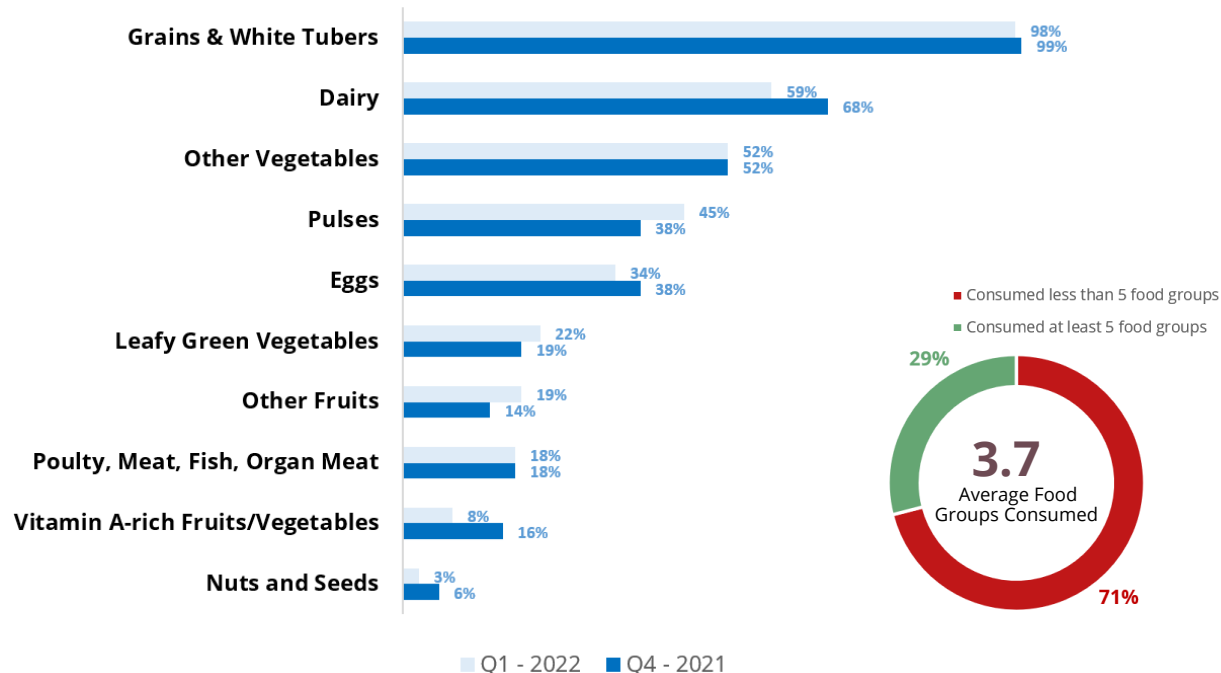
## Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (MDD-W)

**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 food. 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.

**Almost three-quarters of women of reproductive age are consuming a diet which provides inadequate micronutrient intake.**

- The universally defined threshold for adequate dietary diversity is five food groups and 71% of women of reproductive age are consuming less than five per day. Limited dietary diversity among women of reproductive age, if sustained 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 host communities consumed 3.7 food groups, primarily comprised of grains and white tubers (e.g. bread, rice, pasta, potato, etc.), dairy products (e.g. milk, cheese, yoghurt, etc.), and other vegetables (e.g. tomato, cucumber, eggplant, etc.).

**Food Groups Consumed by Women of Reproductive Age by Quarter**





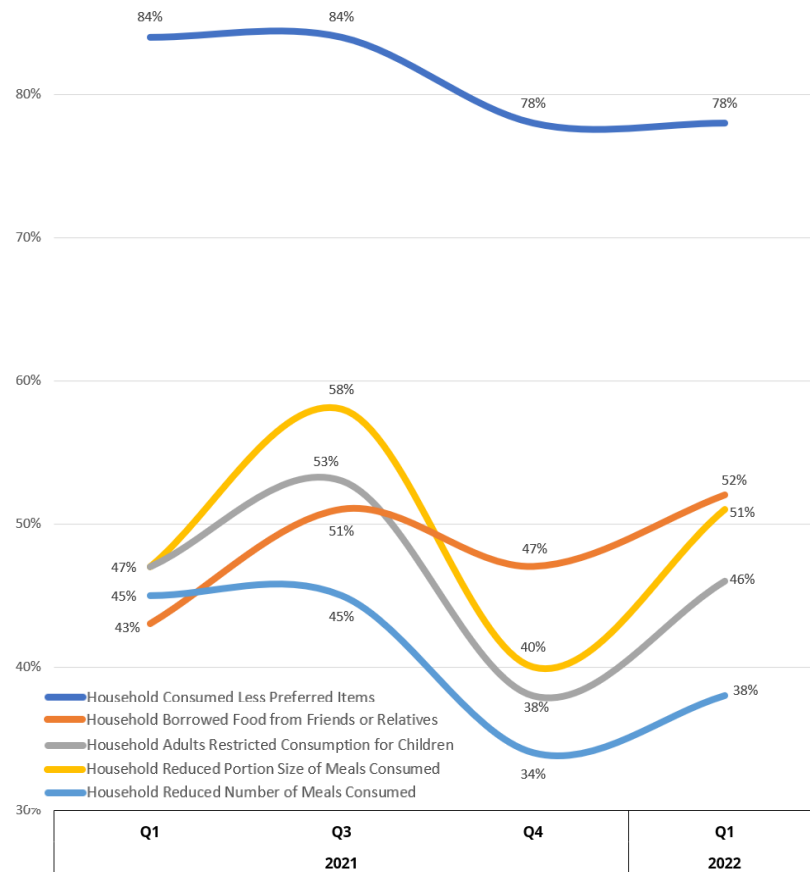
# Consumption-Based Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

**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.

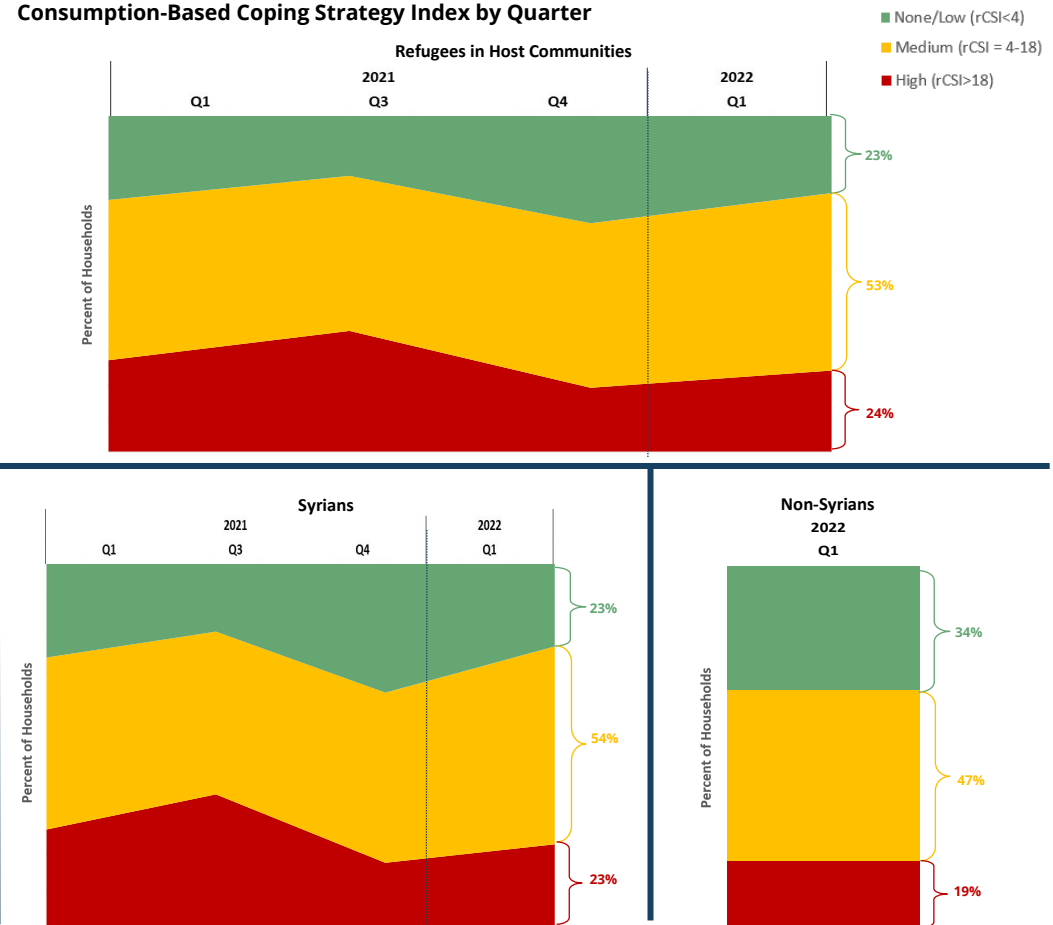
**More than half of households resorted to lower quality and quantity of food to make ends meet.** Four in five households relied on less preferred food and nearly 50% reduced their consumption in order for their children to eat.

- All consumption-based coping strategies showed increased tendencies compared to Q4-21, although their usage remained lower than in 2021. This increase was felt more by Syrian households with the number of households using zero consumption-based coping strategies nearly halved between Q4-21 (39%) and Q1-22 (21%).
- Large households (81%) and households with a member with a disability (81%) are particularly likely to use consumption-based coping strategies, as measured by the proportion of households with medium or high rCSI scores.

**Consumption-Based Coping Strategies by Quarter**



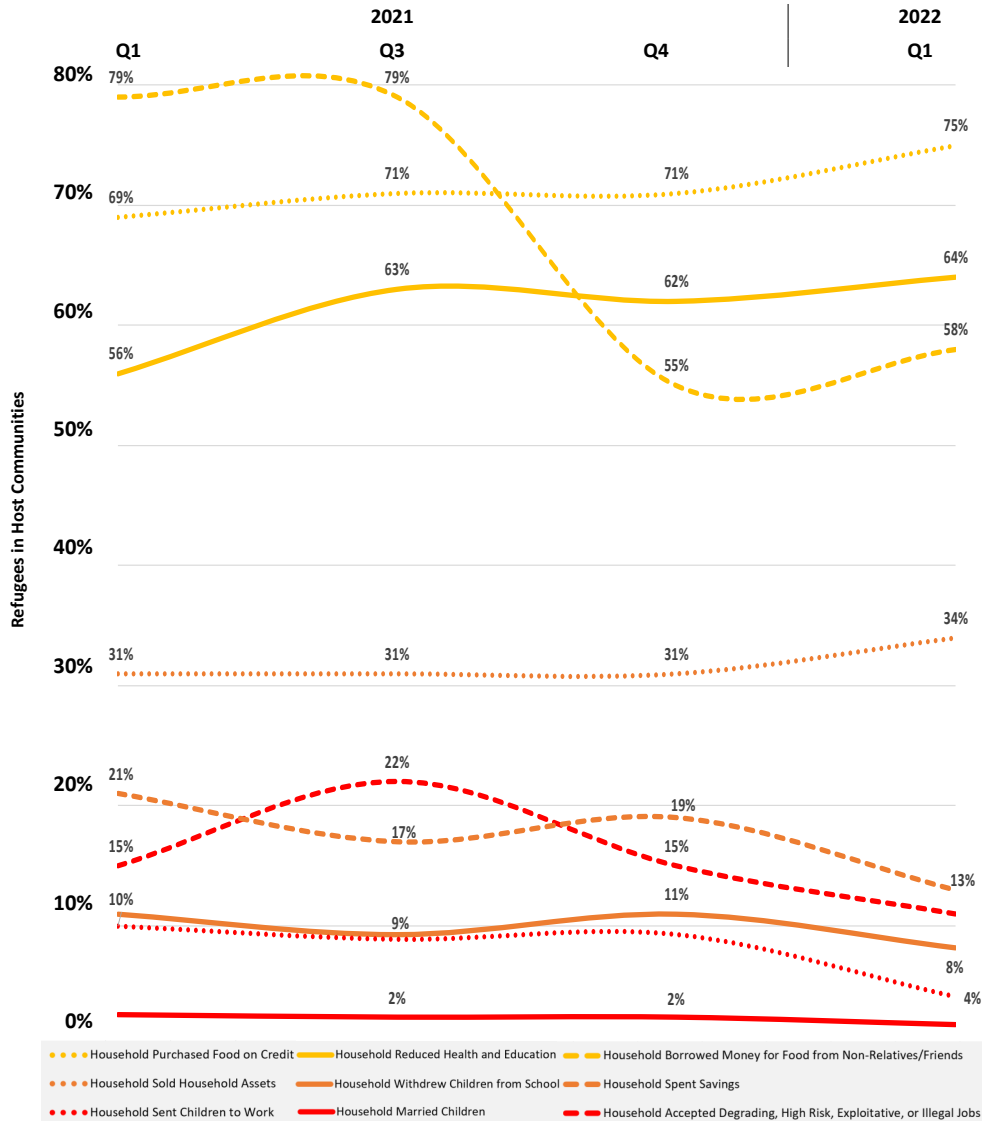
**Consumption-Based Coping Strategy Index by Quarter**



# 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.

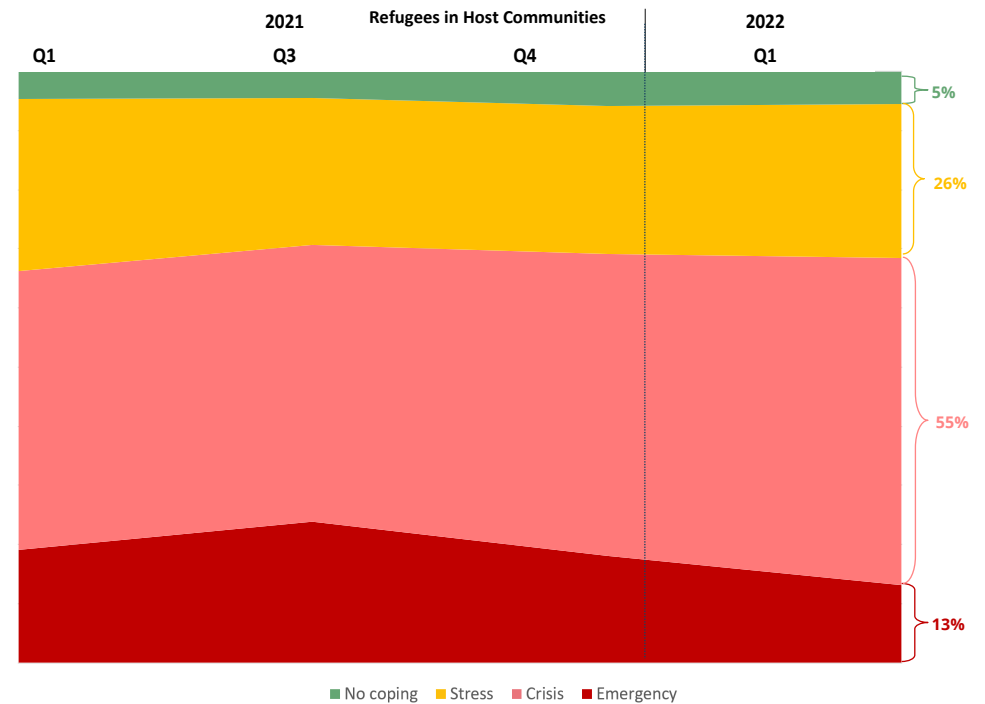
**Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategies by Quarter**



## Seven out of ten households purchased food on credit and more than half borrowed money for food.

- Overall, the usage of stress level livelihood coping strategies increased, while crisis and emergency level coping strategies decreased compared to Q4-21. Sending children to work decreased by 5% and accepting degrading, high risk, exploitative or illegal jobs decreased by 4%.
- Households with members with disability (77%), female-headed households (70%), and large households (69%) continue to report higher rates of adoption of emergency and crisis level coping strategies than other socio-demographics.
- Regarding emergency coping strategies, 4% of households sent children to work, 2% of households sent members to beg, and 2% of households married off their children.

**Livelihoods-Based Coping Strategy Index by Quarter**



# Household Economics

Overall, 74% of expenditure is on minimum survival needs such as food, rent, health, and hygiene. While non-food expenditure decreased 20%, food expenditure increased (+4%) is at an all time high, likely due to increasing prices for key commodities i.e. vegetable oil and chicken.

- Household income for refugee households in host communities decreased 17% to 57 JOD per capita per month. This decrease is driven by a reduction in all income sources (e.g. unskilled labor, borrowing,) and the end of seasonal assistance from other agencies.
- Debt levels decreased by 3.6% to 888 JOD per household compared to 921 JOD in Q4-21, yet is still 2% higher than the 868 JOD in Q1 of 2021. This is likely due to the levels of debt repayment in Q4-21, where refugees spent 9% of their expenses on debt repayment.

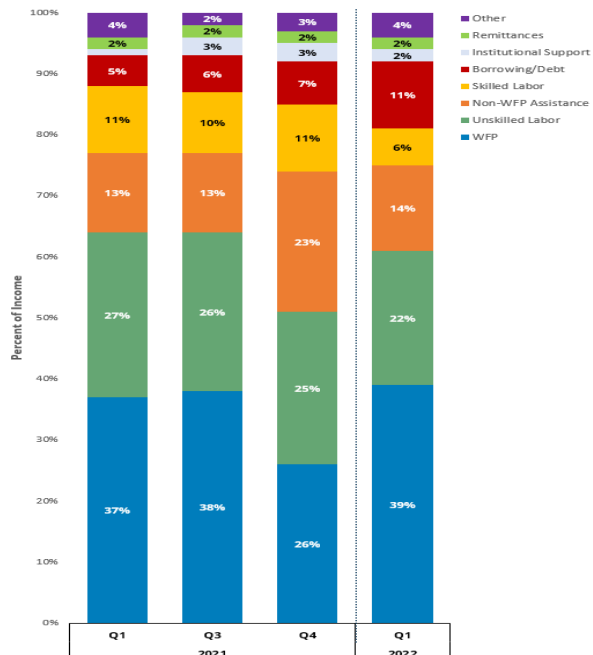
Household (Monthly)

Income, Expenditure, & Debt	2021			2022
	Q1	Q3	Q4	Q1
Income (JOD)	283	282	340	281 ↓
Expenditure (JOD)	337	316	345	304 ↓
Food Expenditure (JOD)	131	109	115	120
Non-Food Expenditure (JOD)	205	208	230	184
Debt (JOD)	868	865	921	888 ↓

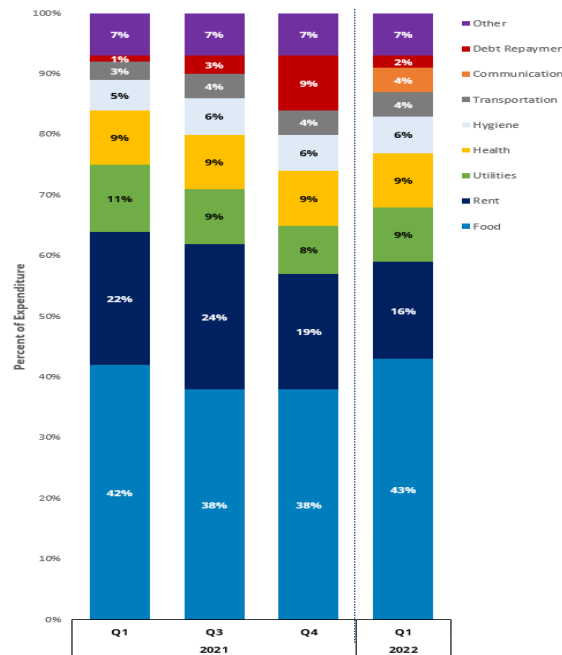
Per Capita (Monthly)

Income, Expenditure, & Debt	2021			2022
	Q1	Q3	Q4	Q1
Income (JOD)	54	56	69	57 ↓
Expenditure (JOD)	66	63	71	62 ↓
Food Expenditure (JOD)	24	21	23	23
Non-Food Expenditure (JOD)	42	42	48	39
Debt (JOD)	176	181	217	196 ↓

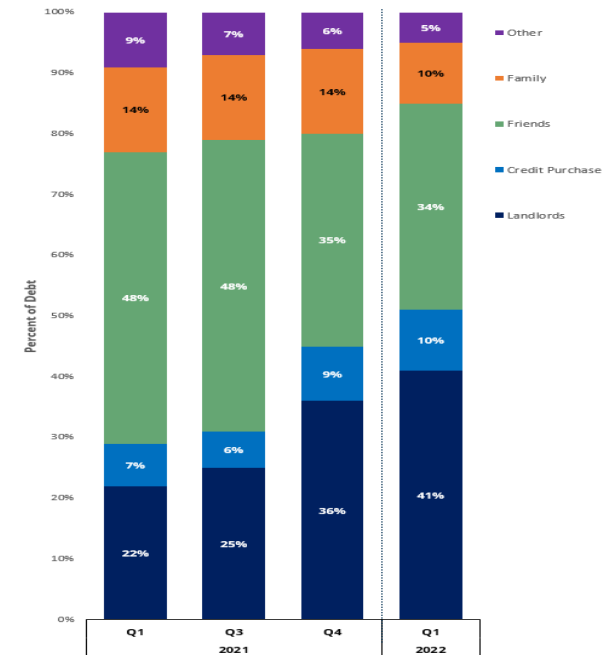
Household Income Source by Quarter



Household Expenditure Source by Quarter



Household Debt Source by Quarter



## Household Assistance

**WFP assistance provided 39% of household income for refugee households in host communities.** Of those receiving assistance, 10% cited WFP assistance as their only source of income.

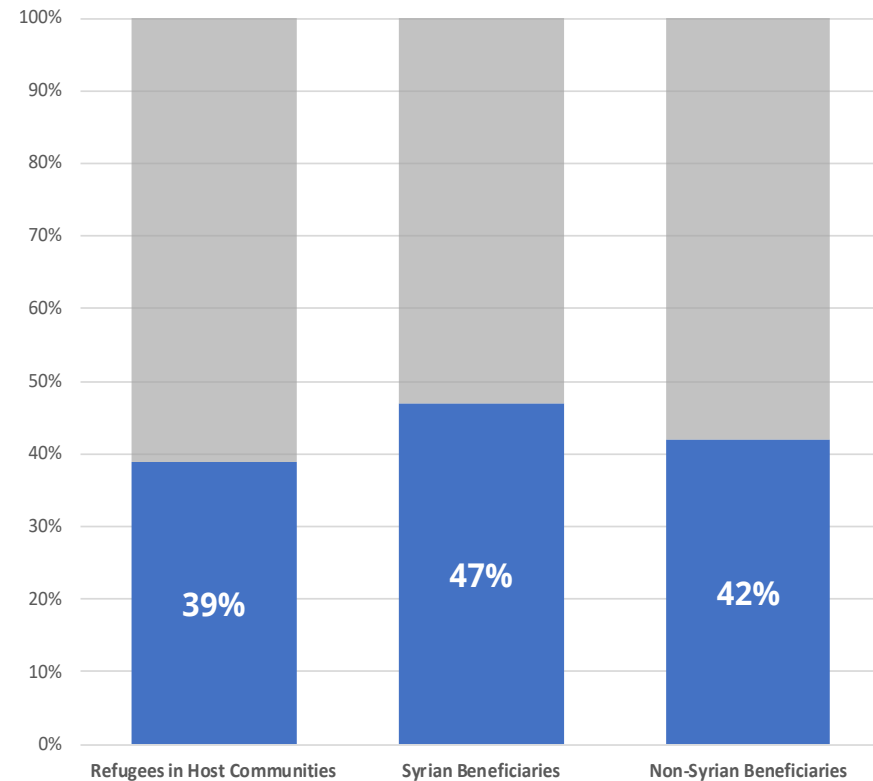
- Thirty-eight percent of household heads found some work in Q1-22. This is the lowest level of reported households working since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and a 22% decline.
- Of those working, 88% are working temporary positions i.e. daily or seasonal labor.
- When considering socio-demographic breakdowns, only 17% of Non-Syrians, 13% of female-headed households, and 3% of elderly-headed households found work.



Household Assistance Past 30 Days by Quarter

Indicator	2021			2022
	Q1	Q3	Q4	Q1
WFP Assistance (JOD)	105	107	88	114
Other Assistance (JOD)	37	37	78	39

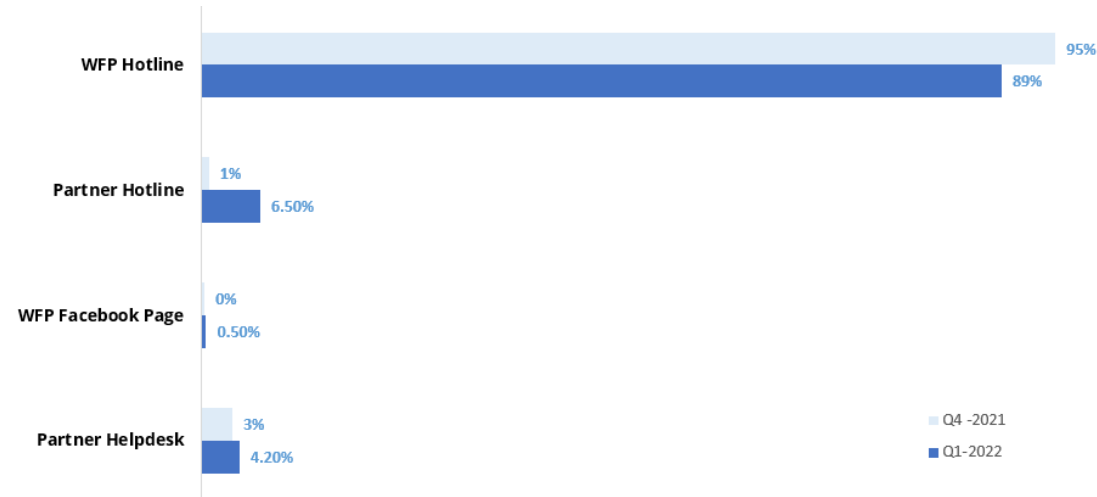
WFP Assistance Contribution to Income in Q1-22



## Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

- Generally refugee households in host communities perceived that the WFP hotline (89%) was the preferred communication channel for raising and addressing issues.
- The next most popular channels were partner hotline and partner helpdesk.
- The partner hotline significantly increased in preference from only 1% referencing the partner hotline in Q4-21 to over 6% preferring the channel in Q1-22.

Household Preferred Channel to Contact WFP by Period



## Protection

- Generally, protection concerns improved between Q1 of 2021 and Q1-22, with only 1% of households aware of safety problems in the host community compared to 3% in Q1 of 2021. All refugee households in host communities were access WFP assistance and intervention sites compared to 97% in Q1 of 2021.
- One-hundred percent of refugee households in host communities felt that WFP intervention sites were respectful in Q4 and 99% of refugee households in host communities felt that WFP intervention sites were dignified.

Household Self-Reported Protection Indicators Past 30 Days by Quarter

Indicator	2021			2022
	Q1	Q3	Q4	Q1
Household Aware of Safety Problems in Community	3%	2%	2%	1%
Household Unable to Access WFP Assistance and Intervention Sites	3%	2%	1%	0%
Household Reported Respectful Treatment by WFP and Partners	99%	99%	100%	100%
Household Reported Dignity of WFP Intervention Sites	99%	99%	98%	99%



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