FOOD SECURITY IN NUMBERS
REFUGEES IN JORDAN
Q1 2023
KEY FINDINGS

Overall, food security of refugees has improved in the past one year and returned slightly above pre-COVID level; however, certain household groups (female-headed, unemployed, with members with a disability etc.) remain more vulnerable and more likely to resort to coping strategies that negatively impact their long-term capacity to meet essential needs.

A 25 percent increase over one year in the average amount of debt has been observed among refugees both in host communities and camps over one year. Alarmingly, the dominant usage of the debts is not for livelihood or business investment. Instead, food purchase, rent, health expenses consume most of them.

Overall, refugees in camps are more dependent on assistance compared to the refugees living in the communities. For in-camp refugee households, an average of 57 percent of their monthly income is sourced from assistance, highlighting the importance of continuing WFP assistance for the beneficiaries' welfare. Comparatively, assistance consists of 20 percent of the total monthly income for out-of-camp refugee households. To meet their essential needs including housing, health care, and education, these households have been increasingly using unsustainable financial means such as debt and remittances in the absence of sufficient livelihood activities.

Relatedly, a spike in severe food insecurity among the most vulnerable refugees living in communities was observed as a result of WFP transfer value reduction from September to November 2022. All indicate the importance of a targeted approach to ensure the households of different levels of needs receive the adequate support.

While work opportunities have been observed to contribute to better food security, refugees still face the bottleneck of finding sustainable, longer-term jobs. 55 percent of refugee adults in the host communities remain unemployed and 70 percent in the camps in Q1 2023. Support for building self-reliance pathways is essential to realizing economic self-sufficiency and increasing resilience to shocks among refugees.
REFUGEES IN COMMUNITIES

IN COMMUNITIES, OVERALL REFUGEES' FOOD SECURITY IMPROVED*

*CARIMethodology

But some groups are much more vulnerable*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Type</th>
<th>Q1 2022 82%</th>
<th>Q1 2022 76%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Households with disabilities</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4% Severely</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female-headed households</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Sum of moderately and severely food insecure

HOUSEHOLDS WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE 7% LESS LIKELY TO BE VULNERABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Status</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed households</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed households</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VS
FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

REFUGEES IN CAMPS

IN CAMPS, OVERALL REFUGEES’ FOOD SECURITY REMAINED STABLE

*CARIT methodology

But some groups are much more vulnerable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Households with Disabilities</th>
<th>Q1 2022 - 55%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female-Headed Households</th>
<th>Q1 2022 - 60%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Sum of moderately and severely food insecure

HOUSEHOLDS WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE 18% LESS LIKELY TO BE VULNERABLE

42% EMPLOYED HOUSEHOLDS VS 61% UNEMPLOYED HOUSEHOLDS
Food security is a combination of *food consumption, household economics*, and *coping strategies*.

### FOOD CONSUMPTION

**WFP BENEFICIARIES**

**REFUGEES IN COMMUNITIES**

83% HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCEPTABLE FOOD CONSUMPTION

**REFUGEES IN CAMPS**

95% HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCEPTABLE FOOD CONSUMPTION

**But** diets are not nutritious enough

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th>Cereals &amp; Tubers</th>
<th>Condiments</th>
<th>Sugars</th>
<th>Oils &amp; Fats</th>
<th>Vegetables</th>
<th>Milk &amp; Dairy</th>
<th>Protein-rich Foods</th>
<th>Pulses &amp; Nuts</th>
<th>Fruits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Number of Days Consumed (out of 7)</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference from Q1 2022</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(–.2)</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(+.3)</td>
<td>(–1.5)</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>(–.1)</td>
<td>(–.5)</td>
<td>(–.3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS**

**WORK OPPORTUNITIES**
% adult individuals working

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Syrians</th>
<th>Non-Syrians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2021</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 2021</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 2021</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2022</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 2022</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 2022</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BUT, 68% of the work is temporary or seasonal**

**HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>301 JOD/Month</th>
<th>270 JOD/Month</th>
<th>320 JOD/Month</th>
<th>368 JOD/Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q2 2022</td>
<td>27 JOD/Month</td>
<td>36 JOD/Month</td>
<td>96 JOD/Month</td>
<td>141 JOD/Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 2022</td>
<td>35 JOD/Month</td>
<td>24 JOD/Month</td>
<td>111 JOD/Month</td>
<td>100 JOD/Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 2022</td>
<td>54 JOD/Month</td>
<td>61 JOD/Month</td>
<td>128 JOD/Month</td>
<td>77 JOD/Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>140 JOD/Month</td>
<td>74 JOD/Month</td>
<td>81 JOD/Month</td>
<td>74 JOD/Month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ABJECCT POVERTY**
297 JOD/MONTH
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS

WORK OPPORTUNITIES
% adult individuals working

73% of the work is temporary or seasonal

HOUSEHOLD INCOME
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS

Refugees in Camps

FOOD SECURITY PATTERNS

Other
incentive-based volunteer jobs (IBV), Guards, Sales.

Manufacturing

16%

Construction

12%

Accommodation & food service

15%

Transportation & storage

6%

Information & communication

6%

Water supply & related activities

6%

Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles

8%

Agriculture

10%

21%

Work sectors
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS

REFUGEES IN COMMUNITIES

+25% INCREASE IN AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD DEBT FROM ONE YEAR AGO
10% FROM LAST QUARTER

Sources of debt:

- Male-headed households accumulate informal debt sourced from:
  - Friends or family

- Women-headed households are more likely to accumulate formal debt from:
  - Landlords, credit purchases, or lending institutions

Reasons for debt:

- To pay for food: 64% of Households
- To pay rent: 58% of Households
- For health expenses: 28% of Households

Deterioration in household economics:

Refugees in Communities

Household Economics

Food Security Patterns

11
**Sources of Debt for Both Male and Female Headed Households**

- **Credit Purchases**
- **Friends or Family**

**Reasons for Debt**

- **To Pay for Food**
  - 81% of Households
- **For Health Expenses**
  - 25% of Households

**Increase in Average Household Debt from One Year Ago**

+25% from one year ago

- 5% from last quarter

**Refugees in Camps**

**Household Economics**

**Households of Households**

- Credit purchases
- To pay for food
- Friends or family
- For health expenses

**Deterioration**

**Food Security Patterns**

**Increase in Average Household Debt from One Year Ago**

- +25% from one year ago
- 5% from last quarter

**Q1 2021**

573

**Q1 2022**

886

**Q2 2022**

828

**Q3 2022**

771

**Q4 2022**

821

**Q1 2023**

910

US$ 959
Emergency coping strategies include: child early marriage, begging, accepting degrading, high risk, illegal, or exploitation jobs.

Crisis coping strategies include: reducing health and education expenditures, withdrawing children from school, and sending children to work.
COPING STRATEGIES

LESS RESORT TO EMERGENCY COPING STRATEGIES OVERTIME
% households

But the most vulnerable groups have adopted them more often

- Withdrew children from school
- Sent children to work
- Married children
- Sent members to beg

Q1 2022 Q2 2022 Q3 2022 Q4 2022 Q1 2023

HOUSEHOLDS WITH DISABILITIES
- Female-headed households
- Households > 7 members

Overall refugee HH living in communities

COMFROM SECURITY PATTERNS
Emergency coping strategies include: child early marriage, begging, accepting degrading, high risk, illegal, or exploitation jobs.

Crisis coping strategies include: reducing health and education expenditures, withdrawing children from school, and sending children to work.
IMPROVEMENT

LES S RESORT TO EMERGENCY COPING STRATEGIES OVERTIME
% households

Withdrew children from school
Sent children to work
Married children
Sent members to beg

5% 5% 5% 4% 4% 3% 3% 2% 2% 1% 1% 0% 0% 0% 0% 0%

Q1 2022 Q2 2022 Q3 2022 Q4 2022 Q1 2023

But the most vulnerable groups have adopted them more often

Withdraw children from school
Sent children to work
Sent members to beg

4% 6% 8% 7% 3% 3% 0% 1%

Q1 2023

overall refugees HH living in camps
Households with disabilities
Female-headed households
Households > 7 members
THE IMPACT
OF THE ASSISTANCE
ON VULNERABILITY
THE REDUCED ASSISTANCE HAD SEVERE IMPACT ON THE MOST VULNERABLE

THE IMPACT OF THE ASSISTANCE ON VULNERABILITY

- Moderately food insecure
- Severely food insecure
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