



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Jordan Country Brief June 2024

Operational Context

Jordan is a low-middle-income country with a population of 11.6 million, 63 percent of whom are below the age of 30. Jordan is also a resource-poor, food-deficit country with dwindling energy and water resources and limited agricultural land.

Jordan hosts the world's second-highest share of refugees per capita with 3.5 million refugees residing in the country. This includes 628,000 Syrian refugees and 70,000 refugees from other countries as registered by UNHCR in July. This large number of refugees adds unprecedented pressure on Jordan's budgetary and natural resources, infrastructure, and labour market. Nevertheless, Jordan has linked the attainment of its own national goals with a progressive approach to hosting refugees.

Jordan has shown commendable resilience in maintaining its stability in the face of regional and global crises. Despite the direct impact of the global and regional shocks on vital economic sectors in Jordan, the country has been able to sustain a steady average growth rate of 2.5 percent over the past decade. This is mainly attributed to its strategic geopolitical positioning and relevant recent political reforms that effectively enhanced the resilience of its economy. However, there is still a pressing need to enhance job creation for Jordan's young population and to bring more women into the labour market. Jordan's Department of Statistics announced the unemployment rate of 21.4 percent in Q1 2024, which is still way beyond pre-COVID rates (15 percent), of whom 35 percent are women.

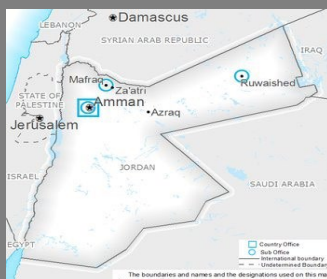
Under WFP's five-year Country Strategic Plan-CSP (2023-2027), WFP continues its provision of unconditional food assistance for vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, as well as providing technical assistance for national social protection programmes and systems. WFP refocuses on education and nutrition activities and expands its climate action to strengthen adaptive livelihoods and sustainable management of natural resources and food systems.

Population: **11.6 million**

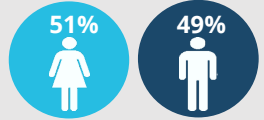
Income Level: **low-middle income**

Chronic malnutrition: **7.4% of children between 0-59 months in refugee**

2022 Human Development Index: **0.74 (98 out of 204 countries)**



In Numbers



410,000 people assisted in June

USD 8.6 m cash-based transfers

USD 105.0 m (July - December 2024) net funding requirements

WFP's Humanitarian Response in Jordan

- In June, WFP continued to provide monthly food assistance to nearly 410,000 vulnerable refugees in camps and host communities with a reduced transfer value of JOD 15 (USD 21) per person per month (reduced from JOD 23 (USD 32) since July 2023).
- **Starting July 2024, due to severe funding shortfalls WFP is forced to suspend its food assistance for 100,000 Syrian refugees (16,650 families) residing in communities.**
- **With the limited funds available, WFP is prioritising assistance for 310,000 Syrian refugees in camps and communities, at the reduced assistance levels.**
- In June 2024, WFP informed the 16,650 families through text messages about the suspension of their monthly food assistance. Following the announcement, the WFP call centre received over 500 calls; and during the first week, over 100 beneficiaries visited the help desks daily to voice their concerns about their dire conditions. They expressed frustration as they rely on WFP assistance, especially since they cannot find jobs. They asserted that they will be forced to resort to harmful coping strategies, such as begging, withdrawing children from school, and finding illegal jobs, as their only options to survive.
- Within the framework of the National School Feeding Programme, WFP distributed date bars to around 25,000 students in the camps in June. The School Feeding activities will be paused during the summer break, from July to August.
- As part of the technical support provided to the National Aid Fund (NAF), Jordan's primary social assistance provider, WFP completed 80 percent of the planned household visits for 2024. This represents 25,000 visits as part of the NAF's annual beneficiary data validation exercise to determine their eligibility for assistance.
- WFP hosted the Climate Adaptation Innovation Accelerator Programme (CAIAP) inception mission in June to launch the programme in Jordan. The mission identified the national climate priorities and solutions, in consultation with national stakeholders, which will be used as the basis for the innovation accelerator call for applications in July.

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Photo Caption: After a year of reduced cash assistance, families purchase only essential food items, while others resort to more challenging measures to cope with the decreased assistance. @ Mohammad Batah

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
997 m	20.9 m
2024 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (July - December 2024)
213 m	105.0 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Jordan, including refugees, meet their food and nutrition needs through the year.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- **Act 1:** Provide unconditional resource transfers to refugees and other vulnerable populations to support access to food.

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Extremely vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, are covered by adequate social protection schemes by 2027

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- **Act 2:** Provide capacity strengthening to national social protection institutions.
- **Act 3:** Support the Government with technical expertise for the operationalization of the national school feeding strategy to provide nutrition-sensitive school meals to targeted children.

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, have improved self-reliance, access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, and increased resilience to shocks by 2027

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- **Act 4:** Build an interagency two-way referral system and an evidence-based advocacy strategy for refugee self-reliance and provide a livelihood support package to targeted refugees and vulnerable Jordanians.
- **Act 5:** Provide tailored climate adaptive support to smallholder farmers, pastoral communities and institutions responsible for natural resources management.

Strategic Result 17: Capacity building

Strategic Outcome 4: National and subnational institutions in Jordan have increased capacity to coordinate, manage and monitor food security and nutrition programmes, and respond to shocks by 2027

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- **Act 6:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to the Government for the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy
- **Act 7:** Provide technical expertise and capacity strengthening to national and local EPR/DRR institutions

Strategic Result 17: Global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors have enhanced ability to support vulnerable populations in Jordan all year round through on-demand cash-based transfer services

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

- **Activity 8:** Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services to partners

- In June, WFP participated in the Green Climate Fund (GCF) regional MENA dialogue in Morocco. WFP presented its concept note and consulted with the GCF on future possible funding options and partnership schemes.

Support for Gaza response

- Between November 2023 and June 2024, WFP and the Logistics Cluster delivered 1,431 trucks carrying 19,450 mt of food and other humanitarian supplies from Jordan. West Erest crossing is presently the only operational entry point into Gaza. Hence, the flow of aid from the Jordan Corridor is presently focused on North Gaza.
- WFP's Deputy Executive Director was a key speaker at the high-level conference on 'Call for Action: Urgent Humanitarian Response for Gaza', held in Jordan on 11 June.

Monitoring

- WFP completed the Food Security Outcome Monitoring exercise for the second quarter of 2024. One year after the reduction in WFP assistance, overall food insecurity has increased from 70 percent to 92 percent among host community beneficiaries, with no recovery observed from the winter season. In camps, half of the population is food insecure, and 14 percent are severely food insecure, compared to 0 percent at the same time last year. Refugees in communities and camps are resorting to harmful coping strategies with long-term impacts (withdrawal of children from schools doubled, and early marriage increased sixfold).

Challenges

- As per WFP's Prioritization Plan for General Food Assistance, WFP requires USD 15 million to continue providing assistance until the end of the year at reduced levels (JOD 15/USD 21) for the remaining 310,000 refugees in camps and communities. The requirements for the Needs-Based Plan amount to USD 46 million to provide assistance at regular levels (JOD 23/USD 32) for all eligible 410,000 refugees in camps and communities until the end of the year.
- Furthermore, WFP is facing a funding shortfall under its school feeding portfolio which will limit its ability to reach vulnerable students in communities. WFP requires USD 1.3 million for the first scholastic semester (September 2024 – January 2025) to continue providing healthy meals and date bars for vulnerable students in camps and communities.

Donors

[Australia](#), [Austria](#), [France](#), [Germany](#), [Ireland](#), [Japan](#), [KSA/KSrelief](#), [UK/FCDO](#), [USA/BHA](#), and private sector ([Seattle Foundations](#) and [Talabat](#)).