



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Jordan Country Brief June 2025

Operational Context

Jordan is a low-middle-income country with a population of 11.8 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 around 3 million refugees residing in the country. This includes over 2 million Palestinian refugees, and around 511,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of June, in addition to refugees from other countries. Between 8 December 2024 and 28 June 2025, approximately 100,000 Syrian refugees returned to Syria from Jordan, representing 16 percent of the registered with UNHCR.

Jordan's recent political reforms effectively enhanced the resilience of its economy. However, the ongoing conflicts in the region has significantly impacted the country, particularly in sectors such as tourism, while exacerbating existing economic challenges. Unemployment remains a structural challenge in Jordan as there is still a pressing need to enhance job creation for the young population and to bring more women into the labour market. Jordan's Department of Statistics announced an unemployment rate of 21.3 percent in the first quarter of 2025 with women making up 31 percent.

Under its five-year Country Strategic Plan-CSP (2023-2027), WFP continues providing unconditional food assistance for vulnerable populations in Jordan, including refugees, and technical assistance for national social protection programmes and systems. WFP focuses on education and nutrition activities and expands its climate action in Jordan. Additionally, WFP and the Government of Jordan have been playing a pivotal role in coordinating and delivering food aid to Gaza.

Income Level: **low-middle income**

Population: **11.8 million**

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

2025 Human Development Index: **0.74 (99 out of 193 countries)**



In Numbers

51%



49%



275,400 refugees assisted in June

USD 6 m cash-based transfers

USD 86.7 m (July-December 2025) net funding requirements

WFP Operations in Jordan

- **Persistent funding shortfalls continue to pose a significant challenge to WFP, limiting its ability to provide the regular transfer value to refugees in Jordan.** In June, WFP provided monthly food assistance to 275,400 refugees in camps and communities at reduced levels (JOD 15/USD 21 per person). **Current resources can sustain monthly cash-based assistance for refugees in camps and communities until September 2025.** Urgent support to avoid a break in assistance is required.
- Additionally, the increase in voluntary returns of refugees from Jordan to Syria (100,000 between December 2024 and June 2025) has impacted the number of refugees WFP assists in Jordan. Since the beginning of 2025, nearly 32,000 refugees, previously eligible for monthly food assistance, were excluded from assistance following their return to Syria. This was based on routine individual-level eligibility checks for refugees residing in Jordan.
- The Government of Jordan, in collaboration with WFP and the World Bank, presented the findings of the impact evaluation of Jordan's National School Feeding Programme. The event, attended by different ministries, the Jordan Armed Force, the private sector, Local and Development Committees, marked a milestone in showcasing the achievements, lessons learned, and forward-looking vision of the National School Feeding Programme. Findings focused on comparing the impact of the healthy meal and the date bar models on students and kitchen women workers, indicating that the healthy meal model is more effective; it reduced school absenteeism and improved energy levels and dietary diversity among children. Women working in kitchens experienced increased income and willingness to participate in the labour market.
- As part of its support to the implementation of the updated National Social Protection Strategy, WFP organised a high-level Government-to-Government knowledge exchange webinar on shock-responsive social protection in June. The webinar was organised in partnership with the Jordan Ministry of Social Development and attended by social protection and disaster risk management actors, and lead entities from five countries (Turkey, Ukraine, Cambodia, China and the Dominican Republic). This virtual exchange aimed to enable the Government of Jordan to design a national vision for a shock-responsive social protection system

Contact info: Noor Al-Baik (noor.albaik@wfp.org)
Country Director: Alberto Mendes
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Jordan

Photo Caption: WFP is providing Healthy School Meals to vulnerable students in communities to enhance their nutrition, support their learning outcomes, and encourage regular school attendance. @Mohammad Batah

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
997 m	390 m
2025 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (July – December 2025)
213.8 m	86.7 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

- With support from WFP, the National Aid Fund (NAF), Jordan’s primary social assistance provider, released a publication about the concrete daily impact of its assistance on the most vulnerable Jordanians, as told through their own voices. Selected human-interest stories aimed to help NAF demonstrate the effects of their assistance and facilitate advocacy and fundraising.
- Within the framework of resilience building and enhancing shock-responsiveness, WFP supported 155 smallholder farmers and agricultural micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Jerash and Mafraq to promote their resilient agricultural practices. In parallel, WFP, through its cooperating partner, Tetra Tech, and in coordination with the Agricultural Credit Corporation, designed three tailored loan products to enhance farmers’ access to finance and ultimately support their resilience through smart-agricultural investments.
- Under the Innovation School initiative in Ajloun governorate, 15 Jordanian and Syrian youth participated in a two-day training focused on local market research and innovation. This will be followed by practical fieldwork, allowing participants to practice their newly acquired skills and knowledge. The initiative aims to equip youth with practical innovation and market research skills to design solutions that support resilient and sustainable livelihoods.

Challenges

General Food Assistance provided to refugees in Jordan

- WFP’s priority is to secure sufficient funds to address refugees’ immediate food needs in Jordan. However, current resources can sustain monthly cash-based assistance for refugees in camps and communities only until September 2025. **WFP Jordan requires USD 24 million for its prioritisation plan to address the critical needs of refugees through the end of 2025.**

The National School Feeding Programme

- Due to a funding shortfall, WFP suspended the provision of healthy meals under its National School Feeding Programme for 12 feeding days, starting from 11 May 2025. **WFP Jordan requires around USD 3.6 million to resume its school feeding activity for the upcoming scholastic semester (September – December 2025).**
- Without this funding, WFP will be unable to provide daily nutritious school meals to 90,000 children across 476 community schools, putting their nutrition and ability to learn at risk. The suspension will also disrupt the livelihoods of 250 vulnerable women employed in community kitchens to prepare the meals, nearly 300 smallholder farmers who supply fresh produce, and workers in local bakeries, impacting income sources and the wider local food supply chain.

Donors

Austria, Canada, China, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, and the private sector (Astra and Talabat Jordan).

while drawing lessons from international experiences.