



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Jordan Country Brief September 2025

Operational Context

Jordan is a low-middle-income country with a population of 11.9 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 over 2 million Palestinian refugees, 1.3 million Syrian refugees (of whom around 447,000 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR as of September), in addition to refugees from other countries. Between 8 December 2024 and 27 September 2025, 158,000 Syrian refugees returned to Syria from Jordan, representing 25 percent of those registered with UNHCR.

Jordan's recent political reforms have contributed to strengthening the resilience of its economy. Nevertheless, ongoing regional conflicts have had a considerable impact on the country, especially in sectors like tourism, and have intensified pre-existing economic challenges. Unemployment remains a structural issue in Jordan, particularly among youth and women. In the first quarter of 2025, the Department of Statistics reported an unemployment rate of 21.3 percent, with women accounting for 31 percent of the unemployed.

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 resilience efforts 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: **11.9 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%



700,000 people assisted in September (estimate)

USD 5 m cash-based transfers

USD 69.3 m (October 2025-March 2026) net funding requirements

WFP Operations

- The increase in voluntary repatriations of refugees from Jordan to Syria, totalling around 158,000 individuals between December 2024 and September 2025, according to UNHCR, has led to a reduction in the number of refugees receiving assistance from WFP in Jordan. In September, **WFP provided monthly food assistance to 234,000 refugees in camps and communities**, at reduced levels (JOD 15/USD 21 per person). Since early 2025, almost 76,000 refugees have been excluded from WFP assistance, primarily due to their return to Syria and following the verification exercise.
- In September, WFP and the International Medical Corps (IMC) resumed nutrition awareness sessions provided to beneficiaries in Zaatari camp. This initiative aims to promote positive dietary habits among **400** pregnant and breastfeeding refugee women and caregivers of children under two. A new educational component was introduced to guide participants on using cash assistance to purchase nutritious foods and on traditional methods of food processing and preservation to enhance household food security and dietary diversity.
- In support of the National School Feeding Programme, WFP resumed its school feeding activities for the first semester of 2025–2026 by mid-September. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, WFP distributed date bars to **380,000** students in communities. Furthermore, WFP distributed healthy meals to **90,000** students in communities **and expanded the healthy meals modality to include 25,800 students in Zaatari and Azraq camps**. The meals consist of a pastry, a vegetable, and fruit prepared by women working in dedicated kitchens, with the involvement of local bakeries and smallholder farmers.
- To enhance engagement, visibility, and communication with communities under the National School Feeding Programme, WFP conducted awareness sessions for programme workers and partners in camps and host communities. These sessions addressed updates on the programme, accountability to affected populations, protection principles, community feedback mechanisms, and the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and fraud.

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Photo Caption: In September, WFP expanded its healthy meals modality to include 25,800 students in Zaatari and Azraq Camps. @Mohammad Batah

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
997 m	426 m
2025 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (October 2025 – March 2026)
213 m	69.3 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

- As part of its technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Development, WFP organized a simulation workshop to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for shock-responsive social protection. These SoPs aim to operationalize the Sumood (resilience) pillar of the National Social Protection Strategy. The workshop brought together stakeholders from relevant ministries and national institutions in the social protection and emergency response sectors.
- With WFP's support under its resilience-building programme, the Jordan Palestinian Company for Marketing Agricultural Products upgraded its grading and packing centre in Deir Alla - Balqa governorate, enhancing its capacity to contract more farmers. Additionally, farmers received training on the high-value markets standards, improving their ability to access high-value markets.
- In support of the Higher Food Security Council, WFP kicked off the second phase of the Food Security Management Information System development. This phase will focus on creating a Monitoring and Evaluation platform for food security, supporting evidence-based decision-making for policies and future interventions. The system will ultimately help to strengthen Jordan's capabilities to manage food security effectively.

Support for Gaza Response

- Between November 2023 and September 2025, WFP and the Logistics Cluster have delivered over 73,000 mt of food commodities and non-food items into Gaza. Following the resumption of convoy deliveries in June 2025, 12,000 mt of food commodities have been delivered into Gaza.
- The Jordan Corridor currently has nearly 7,600 mt of food commodities in storage, ready to support the Gaza response. An additional 3,600 mt are in production, with a further 6,700 mt planned under the ongoing procurement process.

Challenges

General Food Assistance for refugees in Jordan

- WFP's priority is to secure adequate funds to address the immediate food needs of refugees in Jordan. However, current resources can sustain monthly cash-based assistance for refugees in camps and communities only until the end of January 2026. WFP Jordan requires **USD 64 million** to address the critical needs of refugees through the end of 2026.

The National School Feeding Programme

- WFP Jordan requires around **USD 11 million** to continue its school feeding activity through the end of 2026.
- Without additional funding, WFP will be unable to provide daily nutritious school meals to **500,000** vulnerable Jordanian and refugee children in schools across camps and host communities.

Donors

Austria, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Ministry of Education/GoJ, ROK, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Sweden, UK/FCDO, USA, and the private sector Astra, Choithrams and Talabat.