

# RETURNEES AT RISK

## PROFILING LEBANESE RETURNEES FROM THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOUR YEARS INTO THE CRISIS

2015



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**IOM Lebanon**

Moubarak Building, Jnah, Beirut.

**For more information, please contact:**

Mr. Fawzi Al Zioud  
IOM Lebanon, Head of Office  
fzioud@iom.int

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Lebanese returnees from the Syrian Arab Republic receiving IOM support as part of its winterization activities in Zahle.



IOM distributes debit cards to returnees in Hermel to provide fuel subsidies.

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# 1.

## INTRODUCTION AND KEY FINDINGS

Since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis in 2011, roughly half of the country's population has been displaced, and millions of people have sought refuge in neighbouring countries. Perhaps no country has been affected more than Lebanon, where more than 1.07 million Syrians have registered as refugees.<sup>1</sup> In Lebanon, one person out of four is displaced, giving the country the highest per-capita concentration of displaced people in the world.

The sudden influx of refugees has overwhelmed Lebanon's economy and infrastructure, including a range of basic services and labour markets. This has fuelled tension and hostility between host and displaced communities, which, in turn, has presented major challenges for humanitarian access and the delivery of assistance. Providing aid has also been impeded by the fragile security situation. Today, living conditions are worsening for many displaced people in Lebanon, and the situation of vulnerable Lebanese host communities has also deteriorated.

Meanwhile, tens of thousands of Lebanese citizens who had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic – many of them for decades – have returned to Lebanon to escape the violence and hardship. As advised by the Government of Lebanon, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Lebanese High Relief Commission (HRC) consider returnees to be “all those Lebanese citizens who had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic since 2006 or earlier, and returned to Lebanon after March 2011 as a result of the conflict”.

Lebanese returnees often do not receive the assistance they need – in part because they are not refugees and thus are ineligible for certain forms of aid, and in part because their numbers and needs had not been adequately researched. In 2013, though, IOM and HRC completed a first round of registration

and profiling for Lebanese returnees across the country from July through October 2013, reaching a total of 3,206 households (17,510 individuals).<sup>2</sup> In 2014, a qualitative survey of Lebanese returnees' conditions was conducted with 313 households (1,776 individuals), hereafter referred to as “the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment”.<sup>3</sup>

It is important to note that some of the Lebanese returnees also hold other nationalities as well. It was agreed with HRC that all individuals in “mixed families” comprising Lebanese citizens and others without Lebanese nationality would be registered, even if the entire family would not be considered as “Lebanese returnees” by some government-led assistance programmes such as the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP).

Before the drive began, the anticipated caseload was estimated to be 6,000 households, which was close to the actual number of 5,245 households that registered. (Individuals living by themselves were regarded as comprising a household.)

Because many of the returnees lived in the Syrian Arab Republic for a long period of time, their connections with Lebanon may be attenuated: some regard the Syrian Arab Republic as their home, and have no close family or social support network in Lebanon, rendering them more vulnerable. In many respects, returnees – despite being Lebanese citizens – experience the same difficulties as displaced Syrians living in Lebanon and require external support to meet their needs. The government capacity to respond to such needs, however, remains insufficient.

Although returnees enjoy some privileges that displaced Syrians do not, such as the ability to enroll their children in the Lebanese public school system and to access some basic primary health-care services provided by Lebanon's Ministry of Public

<sup>1</sup> *More than 60 per cent of Lebanese living under the poverty line are in areas that host 80 per cent of displaced Syrians.*

<sup>2</sup> “The Situation and Needs of Lebanese Returnees from Syria,” IOM Lebanon, December 2013.

[www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/The-Situation-and-Needs-of-Lebanese-Returnees-from-Syria.pdf](http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/Country/docs/The-Situation-and-Needs-of-Lebanese-Returnees-from-Syria.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> “Inter-agency Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) - Phase One Report: Secondary Data Review and Analysis,” May 2014.

[www.reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/inter-agency-multi-sector-needs-assessment-msna-phase-one-report-secondary-data](http://www.reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/inter-agency-multi-sector-needs-assessment-msna-phase-one-report-secondary-data)

Health, 19 per cent of returnee households reported being unable to obtain primary health care.

Given the unique profile of Lebanese returnees, it is critical to obtain a detailed, accurate picture of their numbers and living conditions. Accordingly, from April 20 to May 31, 2015, IOM and HRC conducted the second Lebanese Returnee Registration drive, which aimed to register all Lebanese citizens who had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic before the conflict began, and who have since returned to Lebanon. In coordination with municipalities across the country, IOM and HRC registered 28,574 Lebanese returnees comprising 5,245 households. This included 2,280 of 3,206 total households that were registered in 2013, the registration records of which were updated with relevant changes and new information.<sup>4</sup>

In addition to registration, returnee households were asked about their demographics, location, living conditions, economic situation, and priority needs. The results of the survey were compared with similar data obtained during the 2013 registration drive, and with the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment.<sup>5</sup>

The information gathered from the 2015 registration drive will directly inform the interventions of IOM, HRC, and other organizations targeting Lebanese returnees, improving the provision of assistance to the most vulnerable households.

What follows are key findings and an in-depth analysis of the survey's results.

## Key findings:

- *Despite being Lebanese citizens, returnees' economic status and living conditions more closely resemble those of displaced Syrians than those of the Lebanese population at large.*
- *Since 2013, the return of Lebanese nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic has slowed. Of the households registered this summer, only 5 per cent reported returning from the Syrian Arab Republic in 2014. However, the flow of returnees from the Syrian Arab Republic to Lebanon may increase in the coming months due to escalating violence in areas of the Syrian Arab Republic near the Lebanese border.*
- *Returnee households' average monthly expenditures exceed their average monthly income by 79 per cent, forcing many families to either draw down their savings or go into debt to make ends meet.*
- *The percentage of returnee households receiving humanitarian assistance has risen markedly since the first round of registration in 2013, when just 16 per cent of households said they had received some form of aid. Now, half of households report having received aid in the past three months.*
- *A significant portion of returnees face difficulties accessing health care: 19 per cent of households reported being unable to receive primary health care, and 16 per cent of households were unable to obtain secondary/specialized health care or hospitalization.*

<sup>4</sup> "The Situation and Needs of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, December 2013.

<sup>5</sup> "Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, November 2014.



**IOM staff registers returnees in Akkar, one of 9 registration centres across Lebanon.**

## 2. METHODOLOGY

As part of the follow-up of the first round of registration and profiling, IOM and HRC created a referral mechanism to gather information about unregistered Lebanese returnees and newcomers, in order to facilitate their access to basic assistance and the second registration round. Accordingly, a hotline was established by IOM at HRC, and was shared with partners and municipalities along with a referral form.

In advance of the registration process, a formal letter was sent by HRC to the Ministry of Interior, requesting its assistance in announcing the registration dates and locations to municipalities across Lebanon. HRC also shared guidelines specifying the documents required for registration, in addition to the registration centres' addresses and numbers, with unions, municipalities and partner organizations. Additionally, text messages were sent to returnees who had been identified by partners in the field and referred to IOM, and to those returnees who had previously registered in 2013.

In order to register, the head of each returnee household was required to provide proof of their Lebanese citizenship and of their Syrian residency. The former condition required returnees to provide their civil registration record or their Lebanese IDs and/or passports. The latter condition could be fulfilled by providing either a Syrian residency ID, or any two of the following types of documents: utility bills, bank statements, housing leases/contracts or mortgage statements, property or income tax statements, employment certificates with original signatures on company letterhead, life or health insurance policies, driver's licenses, vehicle registration cards, vehicle insurance policies, military orders/documents, financial statements, or school records. Nine returnee registration centres were set up across Lebanon, and remained open for six weeks, from 20 April to 31 May. These centres were located in Akkar, Tripoli, Hermel, Baalbek, Zahle, Aley, Beirut, Tyr, and Al Nabatiyeh.

Before registration, interviewers informed the participants of the survey's purpose and duration, stressing that results would be kept confidential and that participation was voluntary.

At the registration, reception involved reviewing existing documents prior to interviews for resolving document uncertainties, highlighting inconsistencies and clarifying information. That was followed by initial registration, when the head of household was asked to fill out a Basic Returnee Information Form (F1), which requested respondents to list their place of residence, contact information, and the name, gender, date of birth, and nationality of each member of the family. After the F1 forms were submitted and the returnees' identification documents were verified, a photograph was taken of the head of household, and a registration number was provided to him/her. This number served as the reference number for recording data during registration and in all subsequent activities.

Then, a Registration Form (F2) was filled out by interviewers, who asked the heads of household for detailed information on household demographics, vulnerability, and social and economic indicators. After this interview, a Proof of Registration certificate (derived from the F1 form) was printed, stamped, signed, and given to the head of household. (See the "Annexes" section at the end of this report for an example of a Proof of Registration certificate and the F1 and F2 forms). The certificate functions as proof that a household has registered with IOM and HRC. At the end of each day, data gathered from the F1 forms were sent by email to a central database, while interview papers from the F2 forms were sent to HRC, where they were entered and stored in a database provided by IOM.

For the purpose of the registration drive, a household was defined as a group of people who live together, either in one or more structures, and share the same budget. The head of household was defined

as the person who manages the family resources and decisions.

The questionnaire used in the 2015 registration drive was designed so that its results could be compared with the results of the 2013 registration drive. The 2015 questionnaire also included questions asked in the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment, and the Vulnerability Assessment of displaced Syrians in Lebanon reports.

The time-limited nature of the registration drive was among the biggest challenges faced. Because the drive lasted for just six weeks, some returnee families who would have been eligible for registration were unable to do so because they missed the May 31 deadline. Despite extensive outreach efforts by HRC and IOM, some returnees may not have been

aware that the registration drive was taking place. Other returnees may have lacked the necessary documentation to register. An additional limitation was that, given that the questionnaire was completed at registration centres, no “on-site” observation and assessment took place in order to verify the information provided by the heads of household.

In the analysis that follows, returnee households’ location is classified in one of five geographic categories: Akkar; Beirut and Mount Lebanon; Bekaa; North Lebanon (except Akkar); and South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh. Akkar district was treated as a separate region from North Lebanon because it is home to more returnees than any other district in the country, and has a distinct profile compared to other districts in North Lebanon.



**In partnership with HRC, IOM registered 5,245 households in April–May 2015.**

## 3. FINDINGS

### Household size

Of the 5,245 registered returnee households, the average family size was 5.4 individuals per household. This is nearly identical to the 5.5 individuals per household recorded in the 2013 registration drive of Lebanese returnees. The average size of Syrian refugee households in Lebanon was 5.2 individuals.<sup>6</sup> Lebanese host community households, meanwhile, were found to comprise 4.9 individuals on average.<sup>7</sup>

Returnees living in Akkar reported significantly larger households, averaging 6.5 members, compared to the overall average of 5.4. By contrast, returnee households in the Bekaa and in the Beirut and Mount Lebanon regions averaged just 4.9 members.

### Age

Slightly more than three-quarters of households included at least one child, and overall, more than four in 10 returnees were under the age of 18. About half (52%) were working-age adults between the ages of 18 to 59, and 5 per cent were aged 60 or above. The average age of the returnees was 25, and the oldest was 102 years old.

### Gender

The gender breakdown of the 28,574 registered returnees was roughly equal, with 51 per cent males and 49 per cent females. About one in six (16%) households were headed by a non-married (single, widowed, separated, or divorced) person. Of these households, about half were headed by non-married women.

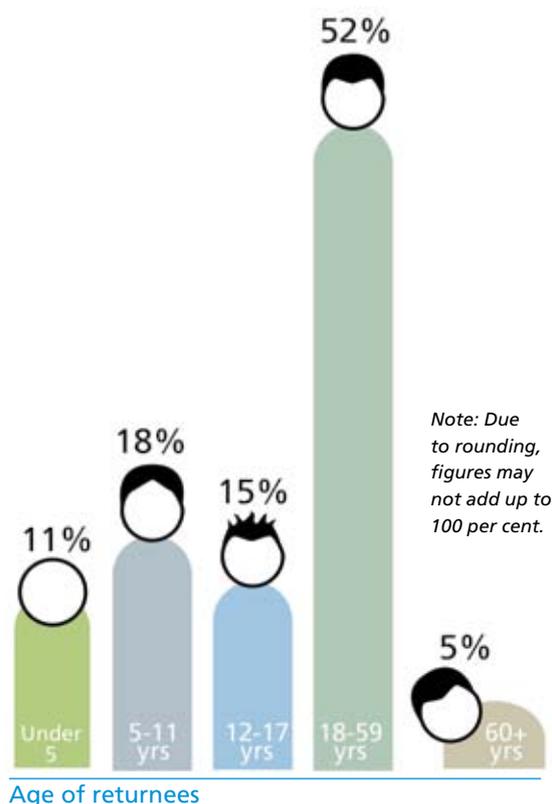
### Nationality

73 per cent of individuals registered held Lebanese citizenship only. Another 26 per cent of individuals were citizens of both the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon, and less than 1 per cent held Palestinian, Iraqi, or other Arab nationalities in addition to Lebanese citizenship.

### Education and health

Among working-age returnees, 20 per cent had completed secondary school, university, or technical courses. Fewer than half had completed schooling beyond the primary or intermediate levels, and 15 per cent were illiterate or had received no formal education.

More than six in ten returnee households included individuals who have major health needs, and 6 per cent of households had a pregnant or lactating women.



<sup>6</sup> "Vulnerability Assessment of displaced Syrians 2015: Preliminary results," WFP, July 2015, page 16.

[www.data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=9265](http://www.data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=9265)

<sup>7</sup> "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 4.

[www.reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/food-security-and-livelihoods-assessment-lebanese-host-communities-june-2015](http://www.reliefweb.int/report/lebanon/food-security-and-livelihoods-assessment-lebanese-host-communities-june-2015)



A returnee and her young daughter participating in IOM activities in the Bekaa.

## 4. DISPLACEMENT PROFILE

Most of the households surveyed had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic for more than 25 years before returning to Lebanon. 29 per cent of households originally migrated to the Syrian Arab Republic in the 1960s or earlier (or were born in the Syrian Arab Republic). They were followed by the 37 per cent of households who moved there in the 1970s and 80s. Roughly one-third of households migrated to the Syrian Arab Republic in the 1990s and 2000s. These percentages are nearly identical to findings from the 2013 registration drive.

A large number of returnee households reported first migrating to the Syrian Arab Republic during the Lebanese civil war (1975–90) - with a spike in the number migrating in 1982, when the Israeli military invaded Lebanon. The number of registered households who said they migrated in the 1990s was lower than during the civil war years, but still significantly higher than the number of households who migrated in the decade before the war.

As a result of their long stays in the Syrian Arab Republic, some families have few social bonds tying them to Lebanon: 11 per cent of households reported having no relatives living there.

Before migrating to the Syrian Arab Republic, 37 per cent of returnee households said they came from the Bekaa, and 27 per cent from Akkar district in North Lebanon. An additional 22 per cent were born in the Syrian Arab Republic, while the remaining households came from other parts of Lebanon.

The majority of returnee households, 61 per cent, had been living in the Syrian Arab Republic's Homs governorate, which borders North Lebanon and the Bekaa, before returning to Lebanon. 15 per cent lived in Damascus city, while 16 per cent lived in rural parts of Damascus governorate. 8 per cent lived elsewhere in the Syrian Arab Republic. When asked why they had first moved to the Syrian Arab Republic, 36 per cent of households cited social reasons, such as getting married or joining one's relatives. 22 per cent migrated for economic reasons, 13 per cent for security reasons, and 13 per cent for other reasons.

Most returnee households (79 per cent of all

households registered) arrived in Lebanon in either 2011, the year that the Syrian conflict began, or in 2012. An additional 741 households (14%) returned in 2013. Since then, the rate of return has decelerated, with just 254 families (5%) arriving in 2014, and 43 (1%) within the first five months of 2015. However, due to the recent escalation of violence in parts of the Syrian Arab Republic near the Lebanese border, such as Zabadani, the number of returnees could significantly increase this year.

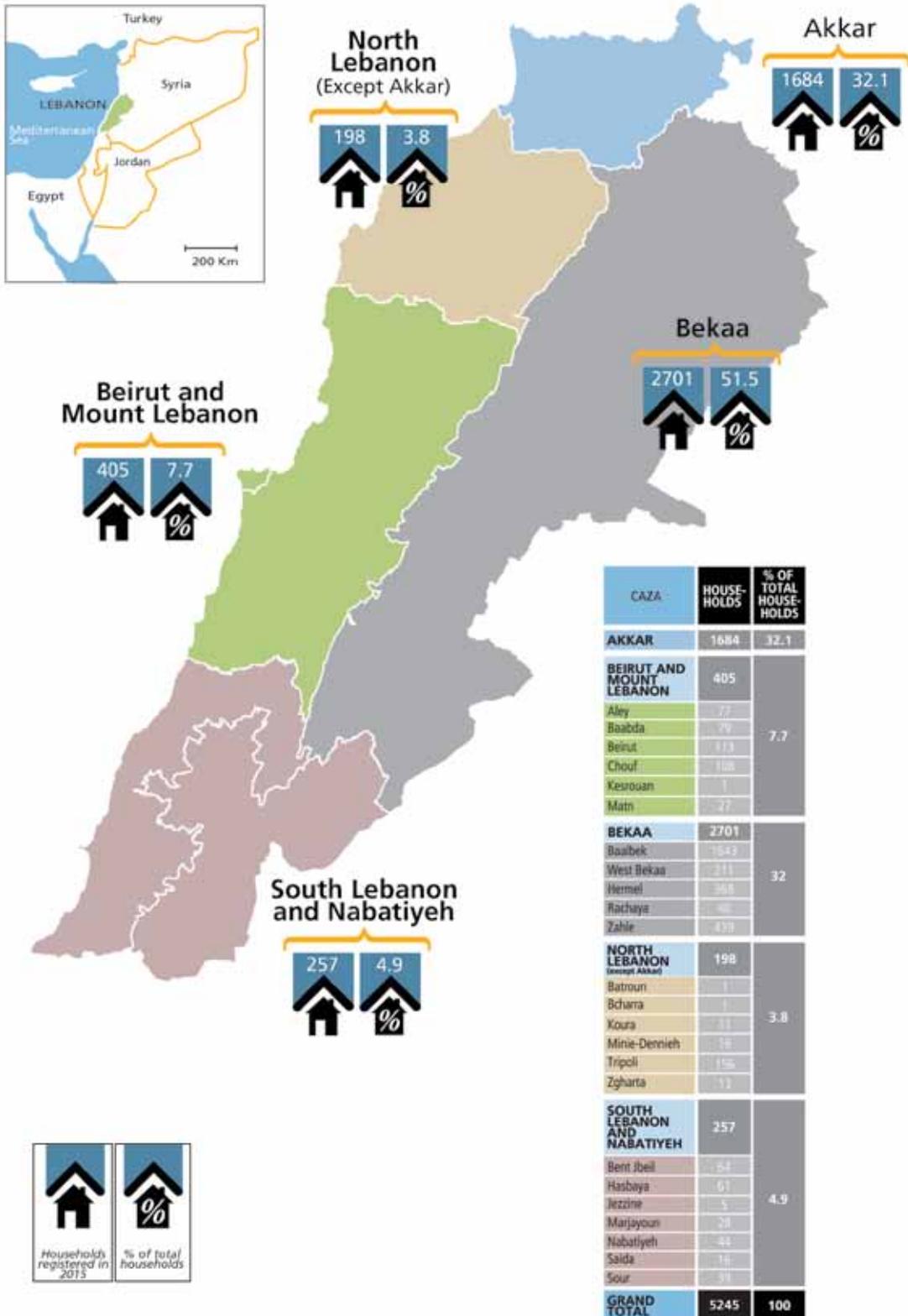
The vast majority of returnees reported living in either the Bekaa (51% of households) or North Lebanon (36%). Of the latter, the vast majority lived in Akkar district. Within the Bekaa, 31 per cent of all returnee households lived in Baalbek district, 8 per cent in Zahle district, and 7 per cent in Hermel district. This marks a shift from 2013, when 62 per cent of returnee households registered were living in the Bekaa, and 27 per cent in North Lebanon. However, the apparent shift in returnees' place of residence within Lebanon could be partly due to the fact that the 2015 registration drive was more extensive and thorough than that conducted in 2013.

When asked about their future plans, 40 per cent of households said they plan on returning to the Syrian Arab Republic. Another 29 per cent said they would integrate in their current location, with just 5 per cent expressing an intention to move to another country. One in four households have not yet made a decision whether to return. These results are much different from those recorded in 2013, when 75 per cent of households said they were waiting on one or several factors to make a decision.<sup>8</sup> With the passage of time, more households appear to have made up their minds, with big increases both in the percentage saying they plan on integrating locally (from 10 per cent in 2013 to 29 per cent in 2015), and the portion planning on returning to the Syrian Arab Republic (from 9 per cent in 2013 to 40 per cent in 2015).

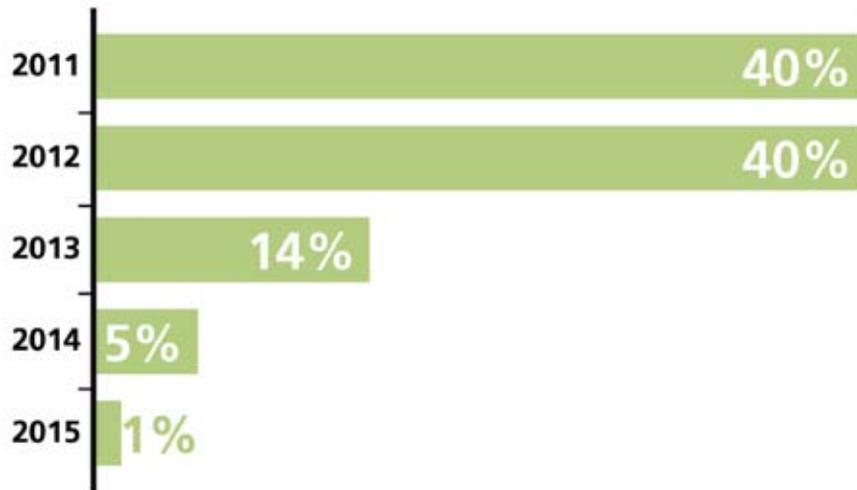
A small share (7%) of households reported having resettled in more than one location in Lebanon for a period of six months or more.

<sup>8</sup> "The Situation and Needs of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, December 2013, page 10.

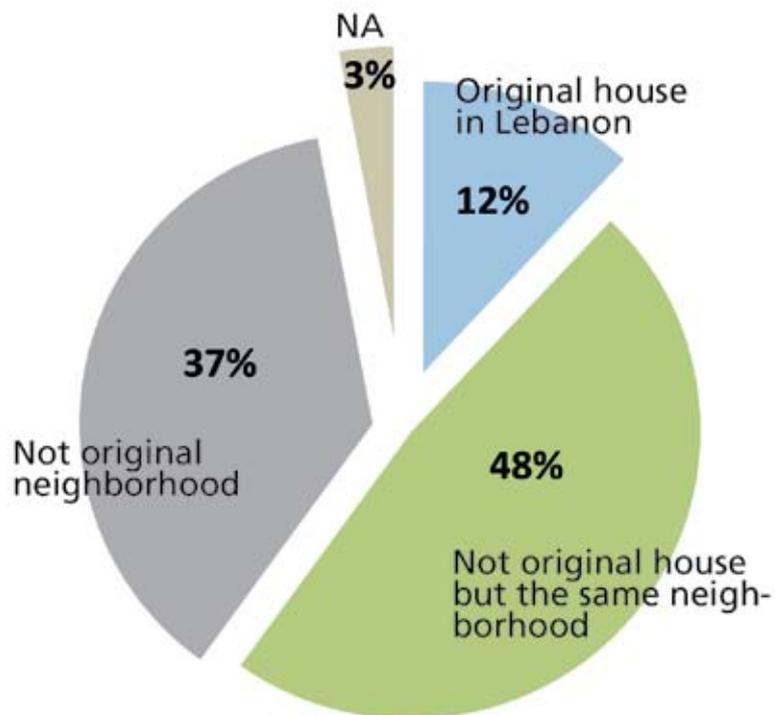
Current location of returnees



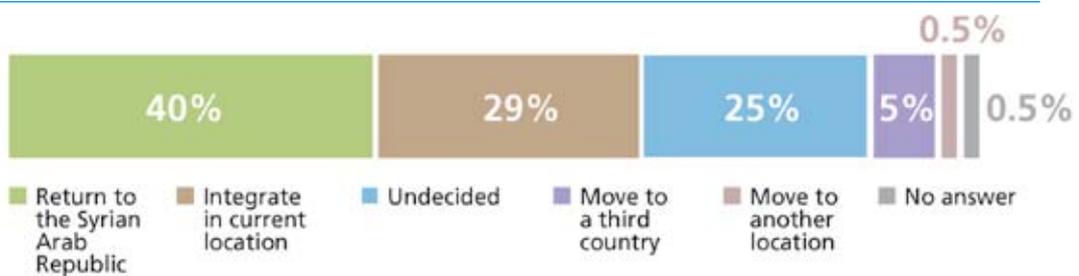
### Year of return to Lebanon



### Location of return



### Future intentions





IOM assists a Lebanese returnee family on a farm in South Lebanon as part of its livelihoods intervention.

## 5. SHELTER AND POSSESSIONS

Nearly seven in ten (69%) returnee households rented an apartment or house, making this by far the most common living arrangement. By comparison, more than 8 of 10 displaced Syrians also rented their living space in Lebanon.<sup>9</sup>

16 per cent of returnee households are being hosted for free by relatives or friends, and just 8 per cent are living in property that they own. In 2013, by comparison, 57 per cent of households were renting, and 30 per cent were being hosted by relatives or friends – almost double the current figure. This may indicate that patience is wearing thin among hosts, forcing more returnees to find dwellings of their own. The rise in the percentage of households renting may also indicate an increase in participation in cash-for-rent programmes.

Returnee families living in Akkar had a distinctly different profile from those living elsewhere in Lebanon. Just 47 per cent of households living in Akkar rented apartments or houses, a relatively large percentage (24%) were being hosted for free, and 21 per cent reported living in their own apartment or house, compared to just 8 per cent overall.

Households' type of shelter also varied widely by region. Overall, 9 per cent of households lived in tents or structures in formal settlements, but this figure ran as high as 15 per cent in the Bekaa. And while 93 per cent of households in Beirut and Mount Lebanon lived in independent houses or apartments, that figure was much lower in Akkar (76%) and the Bekaa (71%). Akkar households were almost three times as likely as other returnees to live in substandard shelters such as garages, shops or worksites.

### Rent and living space

Among households that rented an apartment or house, the average monthly rent was USD 204 - higher than in 2014, when the average monthly rent paid was USD 193.<sup>10</sup> Average rents varied significantly by region, ranging from a low of USD 179 in Akkar to USD 305 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. By comparison, in 2014 displaced Syrians in Lebanon paid an average of USD 205 a month in rent.<sup>11</sup> Returnee households, like Syrian refugee households, spend a significantly larger portion of their budget on rent than do non-returnee Lebanese households.<sup>12</sup>

The average area of returnee households' dwellings was 83 square metres.<sup>13</sup> 63 per cent were living in dwellings with an area of less than 100 square metres, and 28 per cent in dwellings with an area between 100-150 square metres. This marks a slight decline in living space from the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment, which found that the average total area of dwellings was 94 square metres. The average size of returnee households' dwellings in the Syrian Arab Republic was much larger, at 140 square metres.<sup>14</sup>

There has also been an uptick in the percentage of returnee households living in crowded conditions: In 2015, 42 per cent of households lived in spaces offering less than 10.5 square metres per person, compared to 34 per cent in 2014, according to the Livelihoods Assessment. Households' living space was inhabited by an average of 6.5 people – though in Akkar, this figure rose to 8 people. Overall, 15 per cent of households reported that 10 or more members shared the same living space, a figure that

9 "Humanity, hope, and thoughts of home: displaced Syrians in southern Lebanon," UNHCR, February 25, 2015. [www.unhcr.org/54ede4b16.html](http://www.unhcr.org/54ede4b16.html)

10 "Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, November 2014, page 15.

11 "Vulnerability Assessment of displaced Syrians in Lebanon 2014," WFP, page 6.

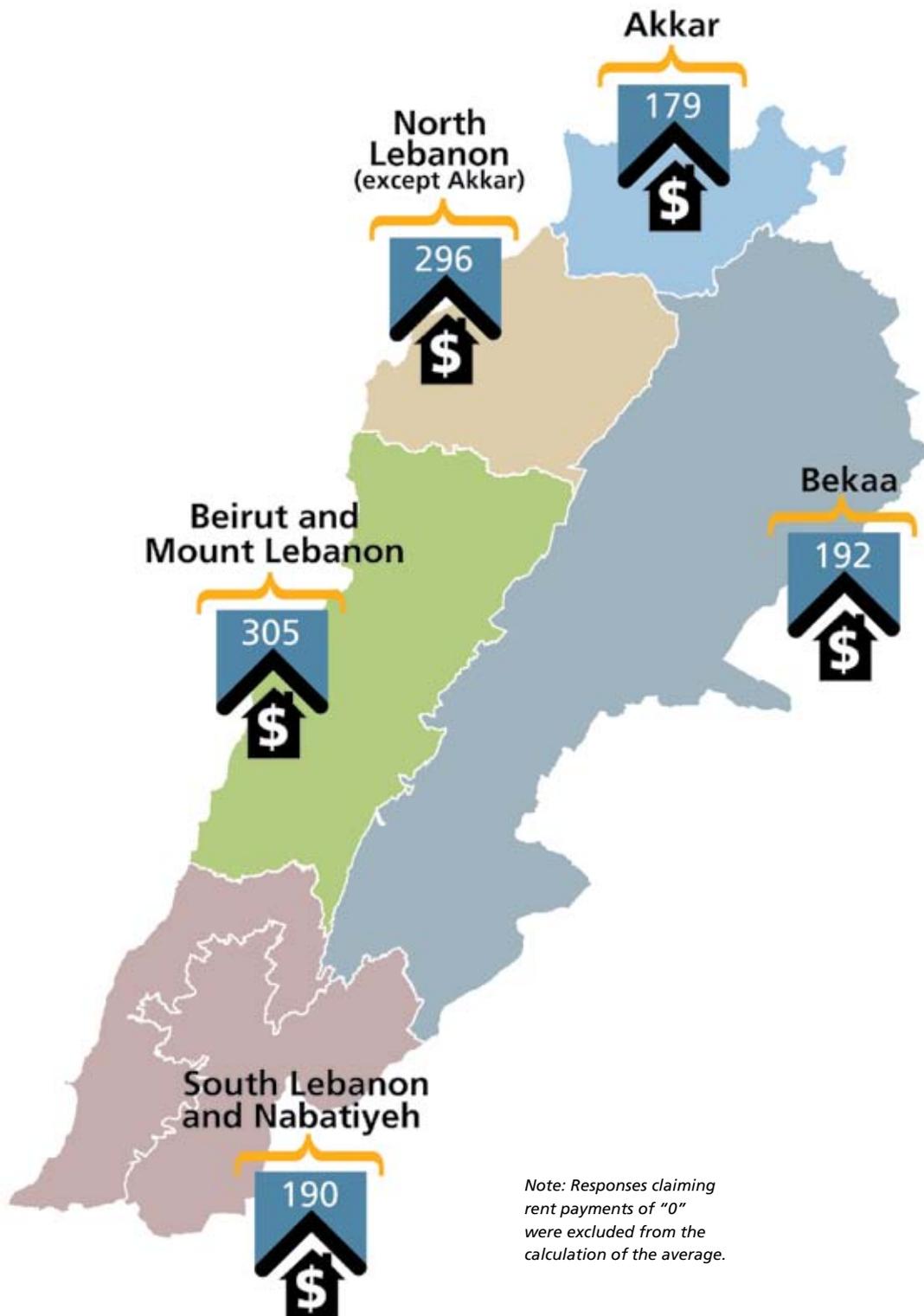
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12 "Vulnerability Assessment of displaced Syrians 2015: Preliminary results," WFP, July 2015, page 16; "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 20.

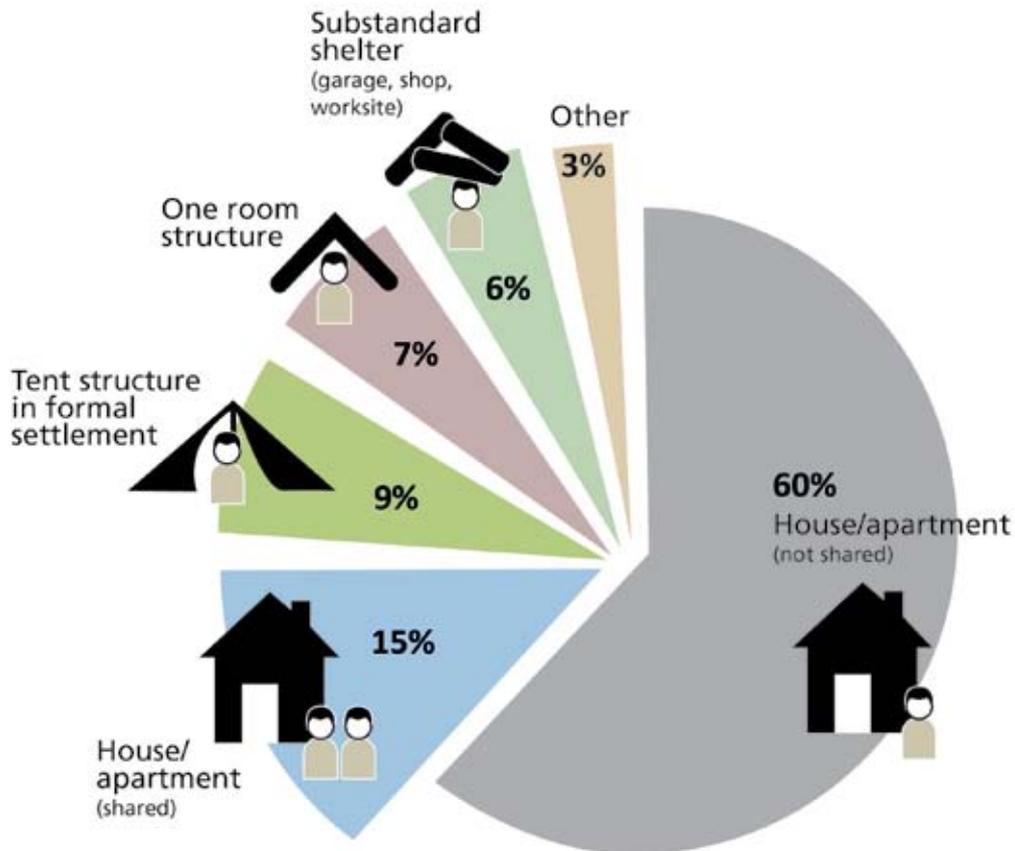
13 Anomalous responses claiming living space greater than 2,000 square metres were excluded from this average.

14 "Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, November 2014, page 15.

Average monthly rent paid, by region



## Type of shelter



was almost twice as high, at 29 per cent, among households living in Akkar. In Bekaa, by contrast, just 8 per cent of households lived with 10 or more people.

The vast majority (80%) reported that their household consisted only of family members, while 19 per cent also lived with other individuals related to the family. Only 1 per cent of households lived with individuals not related to the family. In 2014, 75 per cent said their household was comprised only of family members, with 24 per cent including other related individuals and 1 per cent including unrelated people.

### Water

Water access was an obstacle for a significant portion of returnees. Just over two-thirds (69%) of households reported having access to an adequate amount of both drinking water and water for domestic

use, such as for cleaning, cooking and doing laundry. 18 per cent said they did not have adequate access neither to drinking water nor to domestic use water. An additional 11 per cent of households reported having enough access to domestic use water only, while 2 per cent said they only had sufficient access to drinking water.

Adequate access to water supplies in North Lebanon (except Akkar), South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh was lower than in the rest of the country. 66 per cent of households in North Lebanon (except Akkar) lacked sufficient access either to drinking water or domestic use water, or to both; as did 42 per cent of households in South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh.

Water sources also varied substantially by region. In Akkar, just over 5 per cent had household water taps, while 41 per cent used protected wells. (The figure is similar among non-returnee households

<sup>15</sup> "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 40.

in Akkar, 40 per cent of which get their water from wells.<sup>15</sup>) In the Bekaa, by contrast, 31 per cent of returnees had household water taps, and only 22 per cent used protected wells.

## Possessions

Many returnee families own very little in Lebanon. Almost six in ten households (59) said they owned no substantial property in Lebanon. 30 per cent said they owned basic household commodities. 13 per cent reported owning a house, though this figure varied greatly by region: one-third of households in Akkar owned a house, but just 3 per cent of those living in the Bekaa. 5 per cent said they own land on which a house could be built, 4 per cent own a vehicle, and 3 per cent own land for business or agriculture. Two per cent or less of households reported owning livestock, poultry, a shop, or other possessions.

The relatively high rate of home ownership in Akkar, despite the area's generally deprived conditions, may be due to the fact that its location close to the Syrian border makes it easily accessible by Lebanese living in the Syrian Arab Republic; many

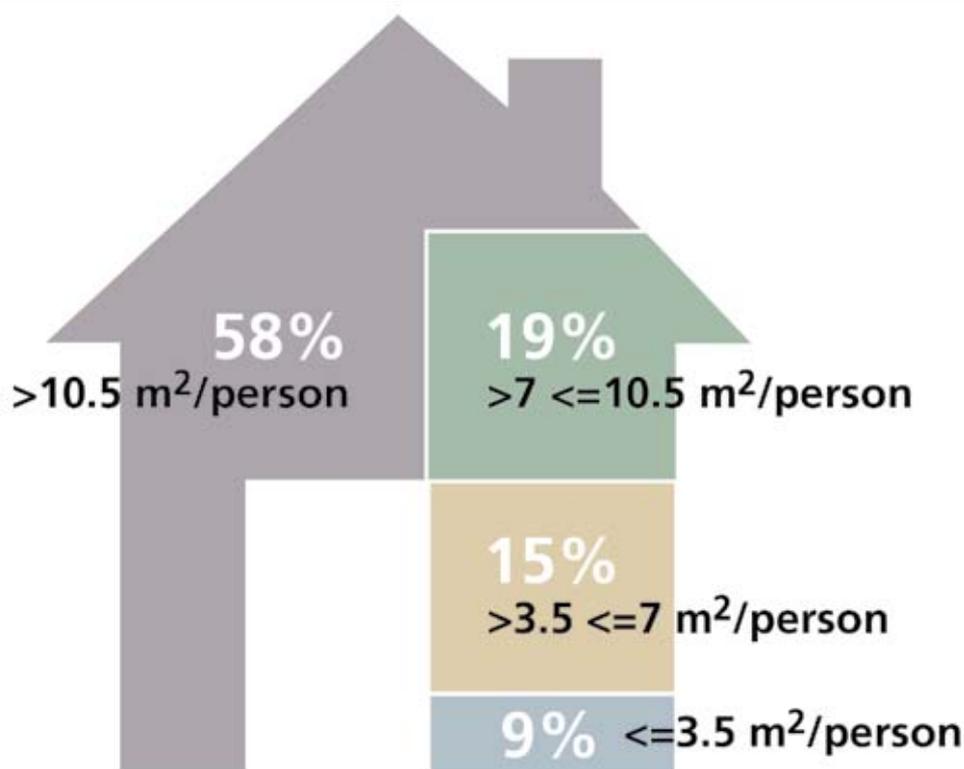
returnees living in Akkar traditionally migrated between the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon on a regular basis.

The percentage of households reporting that they had a sufficient amount of certain necessary household items fell compared to the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment: 85 per cent of households said they had enough blankets, compared to 95 per cent in 2014; 77 per cent of households reported having enough mattresses, down from 92 per cent in 2014, and the percentage of households that said they owned enough winter clothes dropped from 79 per cent in 2014 to 71 per cent.

The rate of vehicle ownership also fell, perhaps because households sold valuable belongings to meet their daily needs. The 2014 Livelihoods Assessment found that 21 per cent of households owned motorcycles, and 10 per cent owned a car, van, or truck. In the 2015 registration drive, those figures dropped to 9 per cent and 6 per cent respectively.

However, the share of families owning a gas stove shot up from 58 per cent in 2014 to 84 per cent in 2015. Satellite dish ownership similarly increased, from 43 per cent to 60 per cent.

## Shelter density



*Note: Due to rounding, figures may not add up to 100 per cent.*

## 6. EDUCATION

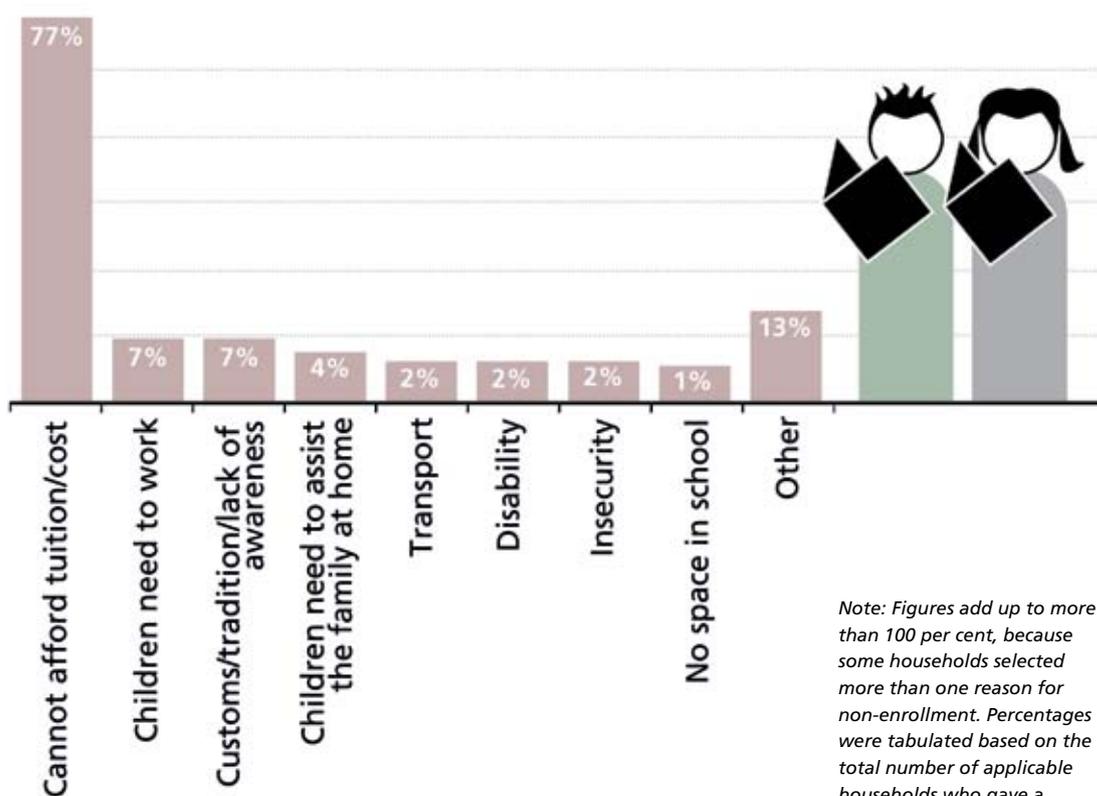
Overall, 67 per cent of school-aged children returnees were enrolled in school - roughly the same as in 2013, when 69 per cent were enrolled. When broken down by gender, there was no significant gap between the percentage of females (68%) and males (67%) who were enrolled. Younger children were more likely to be in school than older children: among 5-to-11-year-olds, 76 per cent were enrolled, compared to just 57 per cent among 12-to-17-year-olds.

When asked why their children were not enrolled, two-thirds (77%) of returnee households who gave a response said it was due to inability to afford tuition

or other related costs. 7 per cent of households with un-enrolled children said they needed their children to work. 7 per cent of households also said their children did not attend school because of customs, tradition, or lack of awareness.

Syrian refugee children, by contrast, are not automatically eligible for enrollment in the Lebanese school system, and accordingly, their enrollment rate is much lower. A March 2015 report by UNHCR on displaced Syrians in Lebanon found that of nearly 400,000 school-age children, only 106,000 were enrolled in public schools during the 2014–15 academic year, or about 27 per cent.<sup>16</sup>

### Reasons for non-enrollment of children



<sup>16</sup> "Refugees from Syria: Lebanon," UNHCR-Lebanon, March 2015, page 10. [www.data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=8649](http://www.data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=8649)



Beneficiaries receive health care from an IOM support facility in South Lebanon.

## 7. HEALTH

Access to health care has been one of the foremost challenges for Lebanese returnees. As noted in the 2014 Livelihoods Assessment, “Lebanese returnees appear to face more difficulty in terms of access to health-care services than displaced Syrians”.<sup>17</sup> Even before the influx of Lebanese returnees, Lebanon’s public education and health-care systems were already overburdened, and relied heavily on the private sector.

Although Lebanese citizens are legally entitled to some basic primary health-care services, 19 per cent of households reported being unable to receive primary health care, and 16 per cent of households were unable to obtain secondary/specialized health care or hospitalization. By comparison, in 2014, 28 per cent of households in need of primary health care were unable to receive it, and 15 per cent were not able to obtain secondary/specialized health care or hospitalization.<sup>18</sup>

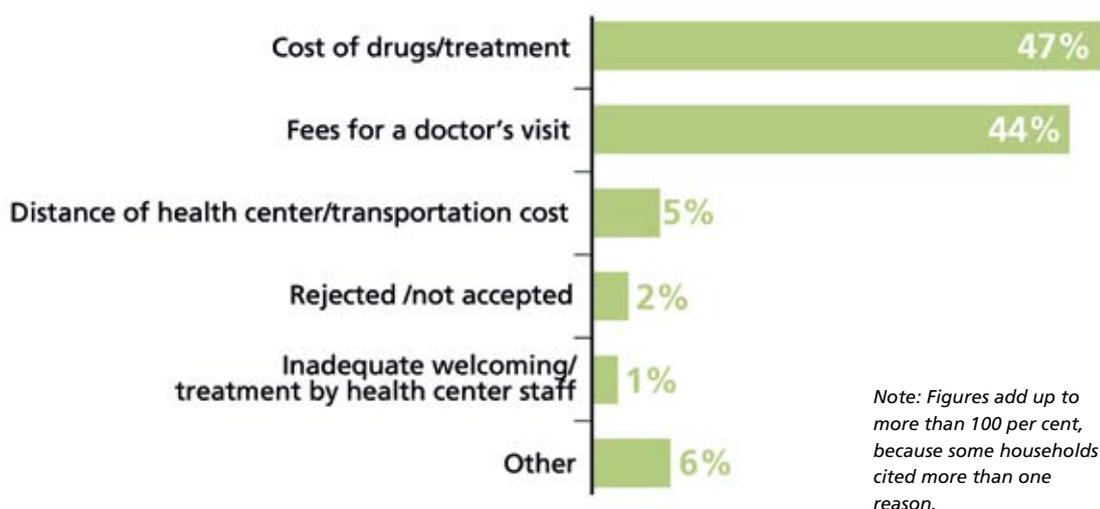
When households were asked why they were unable to access health care, nearly half (47%) mentioned the cost of drugs or treatment, and almost

as many (44%) cited the fees needed to visit a doctor. A small fraction of households (5%) said distance or cost of transportation to reach a health facility prevented them from accessing health care. A further 2 per cent said they were rejected or not accepted for treatment.

A majority of returnee households (62%) did not benefit from health assistance, and paid all costs themselves. An additional 23 per cent received health benefits from a CSO/public health clinic, but paid part of the cost themselves. A further 8 per cent had all health-care costs paid by a CSO/public health clinic. Only 1 per cent of households reported having health insurance.

Returnees’ difficulties in accessing health care is made all the more pressing by the fact that a majority of households (63%) include members with health needs. Six per cent of surveyed households in 2015 included a pregnant or lactating women, 10 per cent of individuals were afflicted with a chronic illness, and 2.4 per cent suffered from physical or mental disabilities.

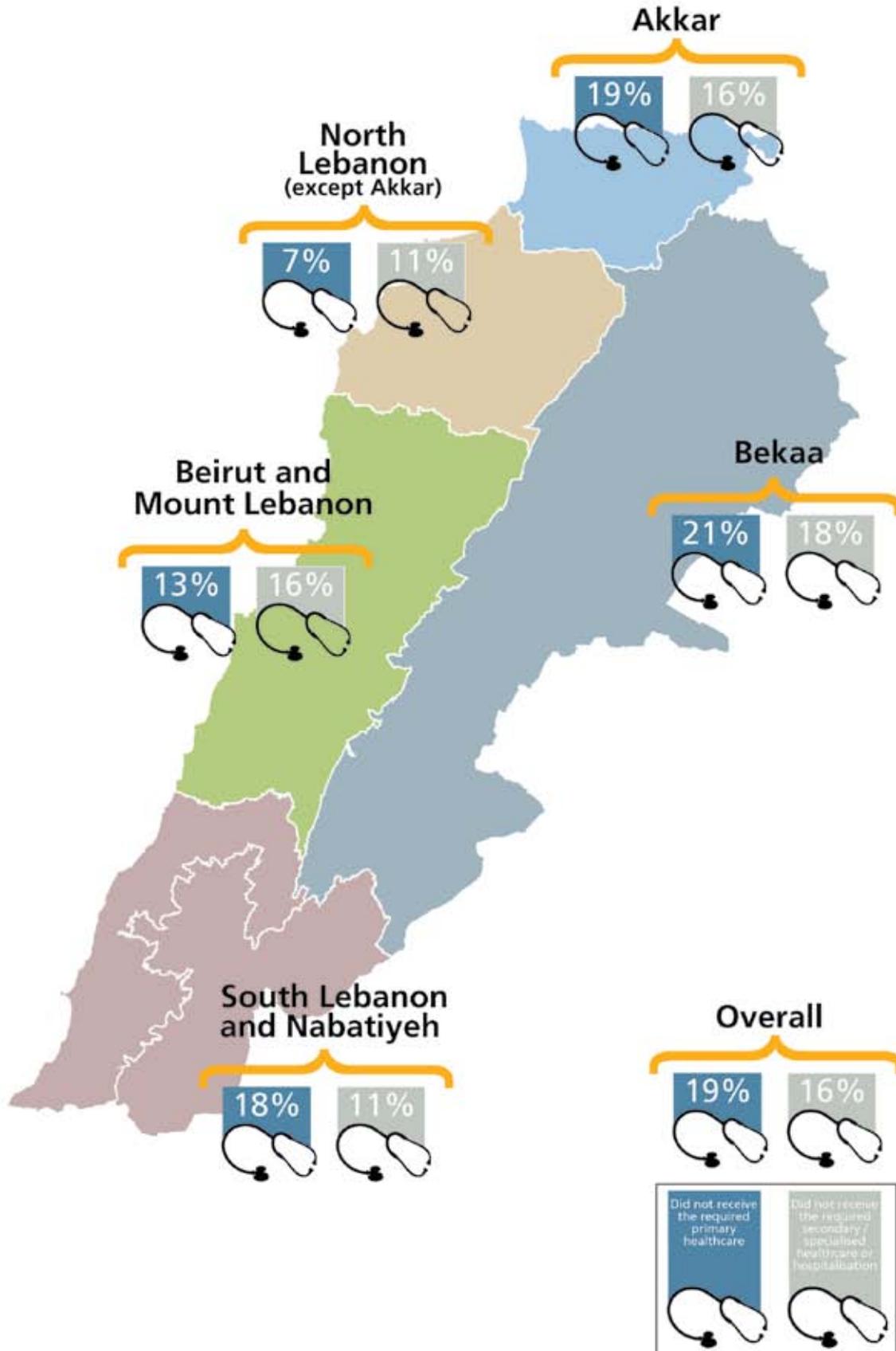
### Reasons cited for lack of access to health-care services



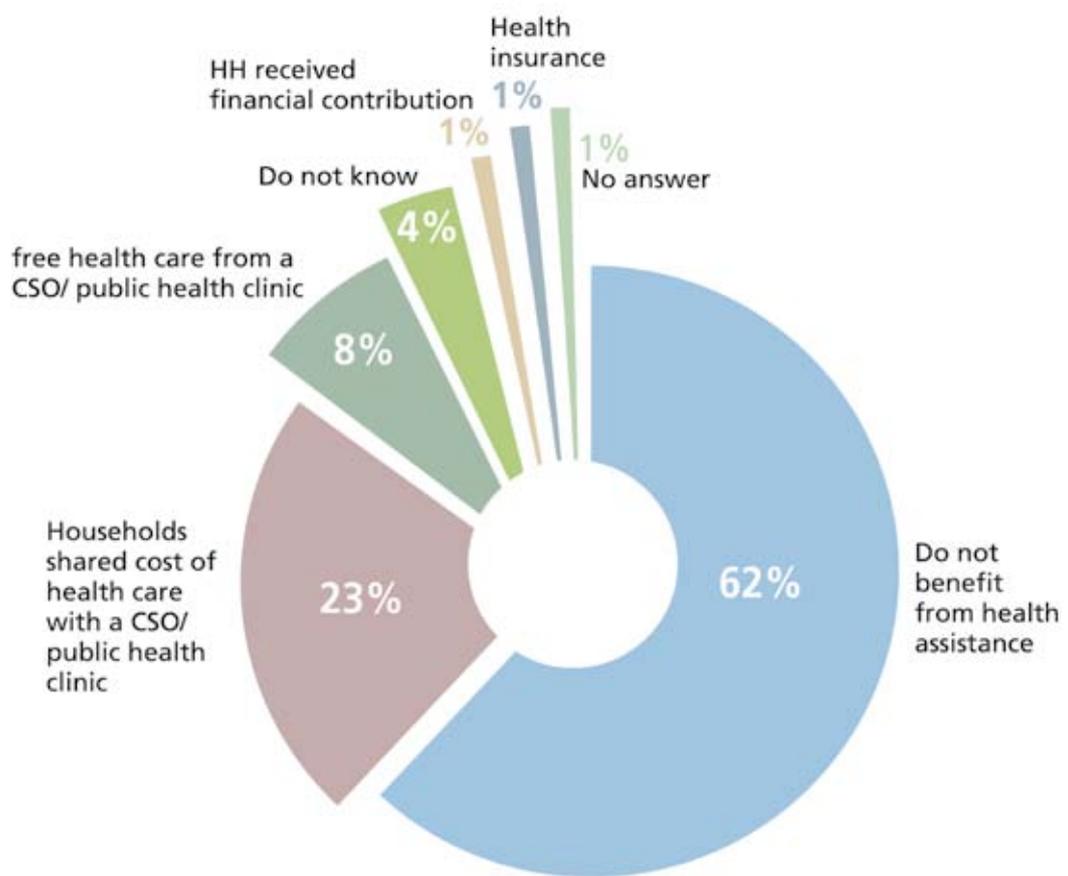
<sup>17</sup> “Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria,” IOM, November 2014, page 20.

<sup>18</sup> “Refugees at Home: A Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Returnees from Syria,” IOM, November 2014, page 20.

Inability to access required health care, by region



## Type of health assistance received



Lebanese returnee at a registration centre.



A Lebanese returnee uses the masonry tools provided by an IOM in-kind grant in the Bekaa.

## 8. ECONOMIC STATUS

Although returnees may not face the same difficulties as displaced Syrians in working legally in Lebanon, returnee households nevertheless suffer from low incomes, debt, unemployment, and lack of property.

The average monthly income among surveyed returnee households was USD 292, significantly lower than Lebanon's minimum monthly wage of USD 450.<sup>19</sup> Meanwhile, the median monthly household income in Lebanon was estimated in 2013 at USD 1,084.<sup>20</sup> Household income was highest among returnees in Beirut and Mount Lebanon – the wealthiest regions in the country – where households earned an average of USD 484 per month. Returnee households in Bekaa brought in the least income, at USD 261 a month, followed by those in Akkar, at USD 274.

Thirty-four per cent of working-age returnees are currently working in some form, and 79 per cent of households reported that at least one member was working - a rise from 2013, when this was the case for 70 per cent of households.<sup>21</sup> Forty-four per cent of working-age returnees (aged 18–59) said they were unemployed, unable or unwilling to work. Just over one in four working-age returnees worked as daily wage earners, only 3 per cent were employed in regular work, and 2 per cent were business owners or self-employed. However, the implementation in January 2015 of tighter restrictions on Syrians working in Lebanon could cause a jump in the percentage of Lebanese returnees in the workforce, given that returnees and Syrians often compete for

the same jobs in Lebanon.

Men were more likely to be participants in the labour market than women: 25 per cent of women were classified as unable or unwilling to work, compared to just 13 per cent of men. Few heads of household reported that their children and teenagers were working: 7 per cent of 12-to-17-year-olds, and 0.6 per cent of 5-to-11-year-olds.

Work was the most common source of income, reported by 78 per cent of households. The second-most-common income source was loans, at 73 per cent. A smaller portion of households reported receiving income from humanitarian assistance (29%) and savings or selling assets (16%). Very few said they obtained income from sources such as remittances or begging. Only 69 households – about 1 per cent of the total surveyed – said they received remittances from abroad. Of those, the average amount received was USD 151 per month.

In North Lebanon (except Akkar), just 68 per cent of households received income from work, and only 53 per cent from debt or loans. Four in ten returnee households in South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh said they received income from humanitarian assistance, compared to 29 per cent overall.

Average monthly expenditures for returnee households were USD 522, which was 79 per cent greater than average income. Food (35 per cent of total spending) and rent (23%) were the two biggest expenses, followed by health (11%) and education (5%). The 2014 Livelihoods Assessment found almost the same level of average monthly household

<sup>19</sup> "Employment and Social Security," Investment Development Authority of Lebanon, page 2.

[https://investinlebanon.gov.lb/en/doing\\_business/starting\\_a\\_business/employment\\_social\\_security](https://investinlebanon.gov.lb/en/doing_business/starting_a_business/employment_social_security)

<sup>20</sup> "Lebanon This Week," Byblos Bank Economic Research and Analysis Department, January 20-25, 2014, page 5.

[http://www.byblosbank.com/Library/Files/Lebanon/Publications/Economic%20Research/Lebanon%20This%20Week/Lebanon%20This%20Week\\_339.pdf](http://www.byblosbank.com/Library/Files/Lebanon/Publications/Economic%20Research/Lebanon%20This%20Week/Lebanon%20This%20Week_339.pdf)

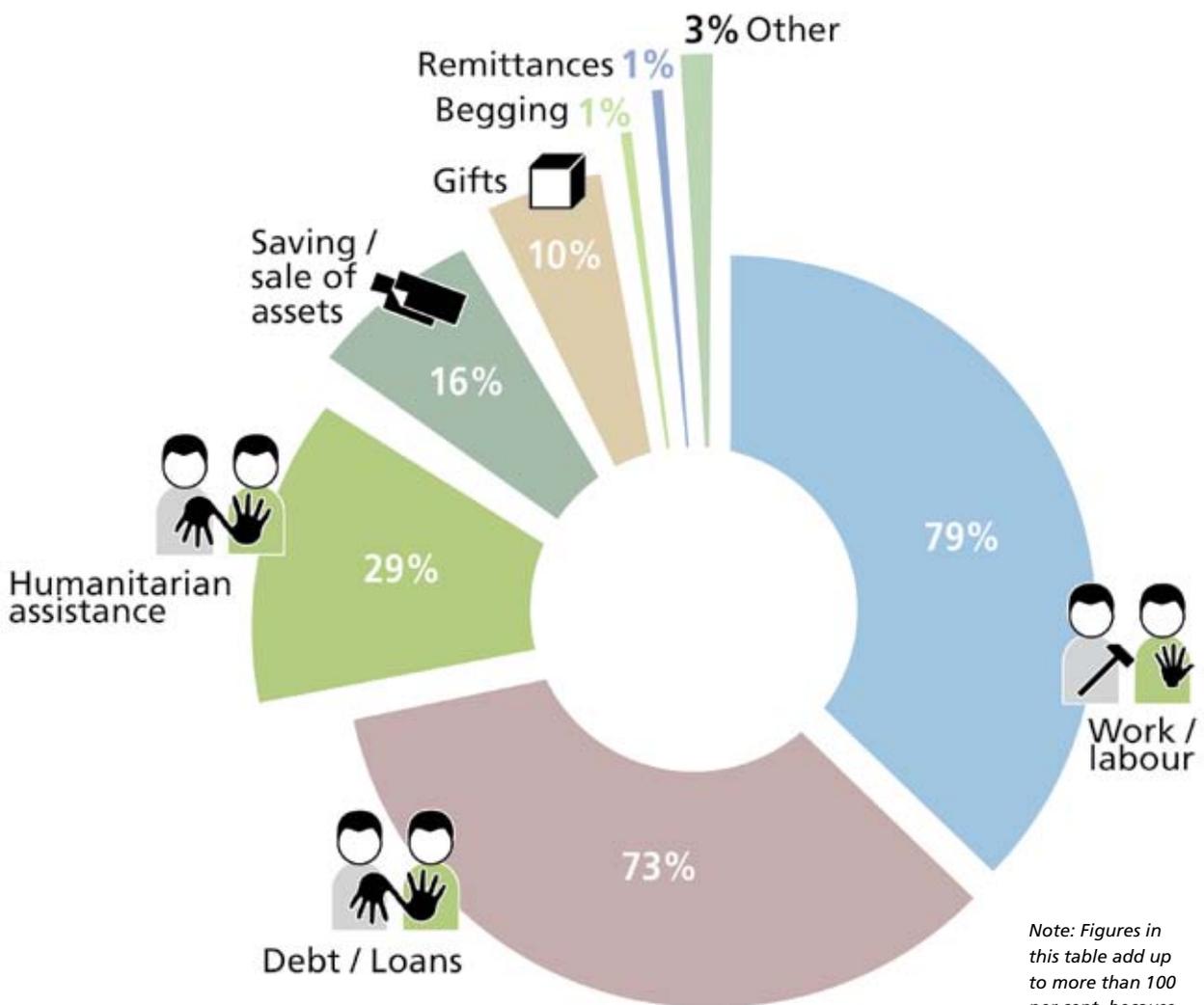
<sup>21</sup> "The Situation and Needs of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, December 2013, page 16.

<sup>22</sup> "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 16.

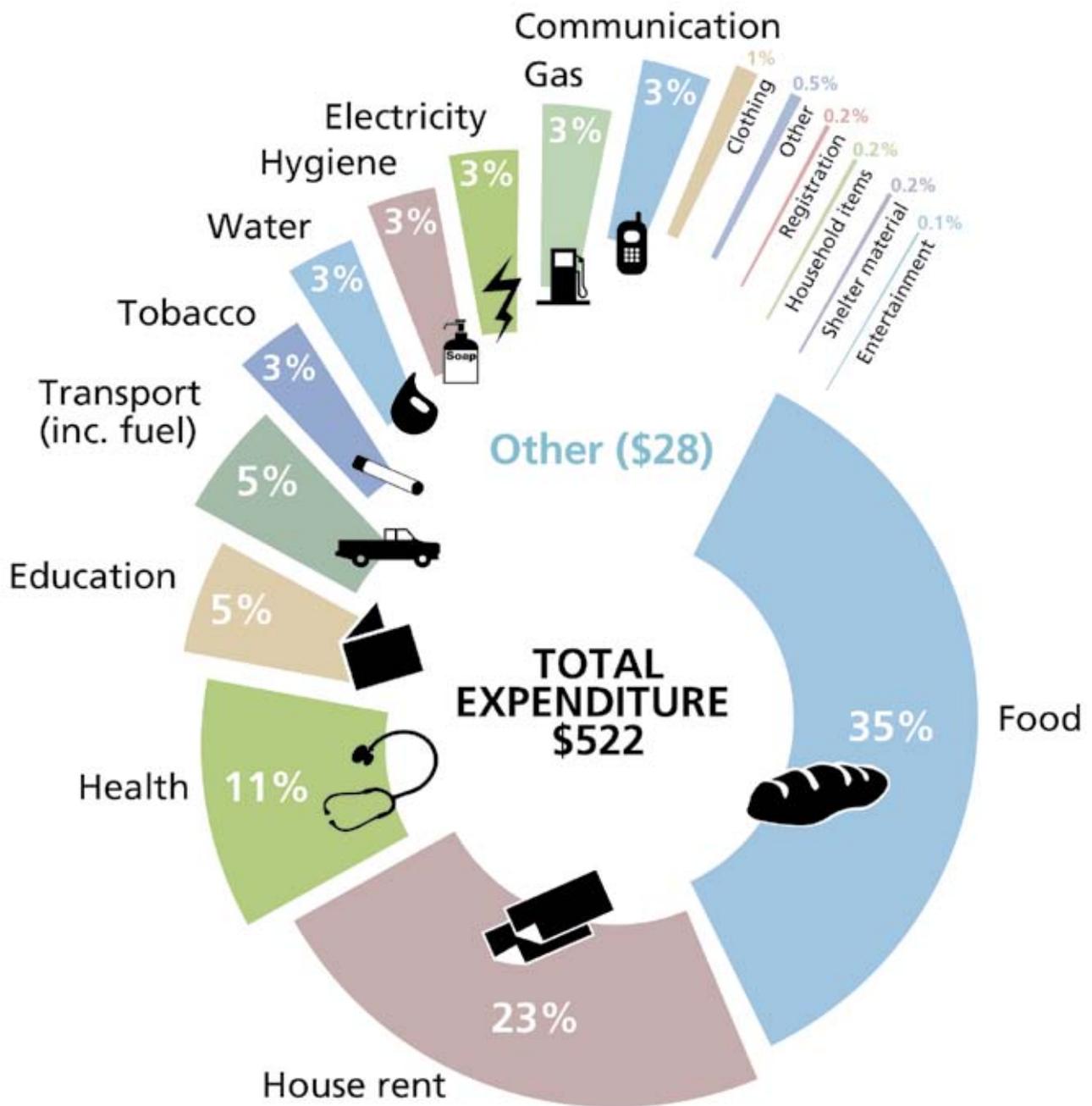
expenditures, at USD 519; then as now, food and rent were the first- and second-biggest expenses, respectively. As can be seen in the accompanying chart, Lebanese returnees' expenditures were quite similar to those of displaced Syrians living in Lebanon, both of which differed markedly from non-returnee Lebanese households' budgets<sup>22</sup>.

With monthly expenditures exceeding income for many returnee families, taking on debt was quite common: nearly nine in ten households reported owing some amount of debt, and 95 per cent of households living in Akkar. The median amount of debt owed was USD 796, though a significant portion (10%) owed more than USD 3,000.

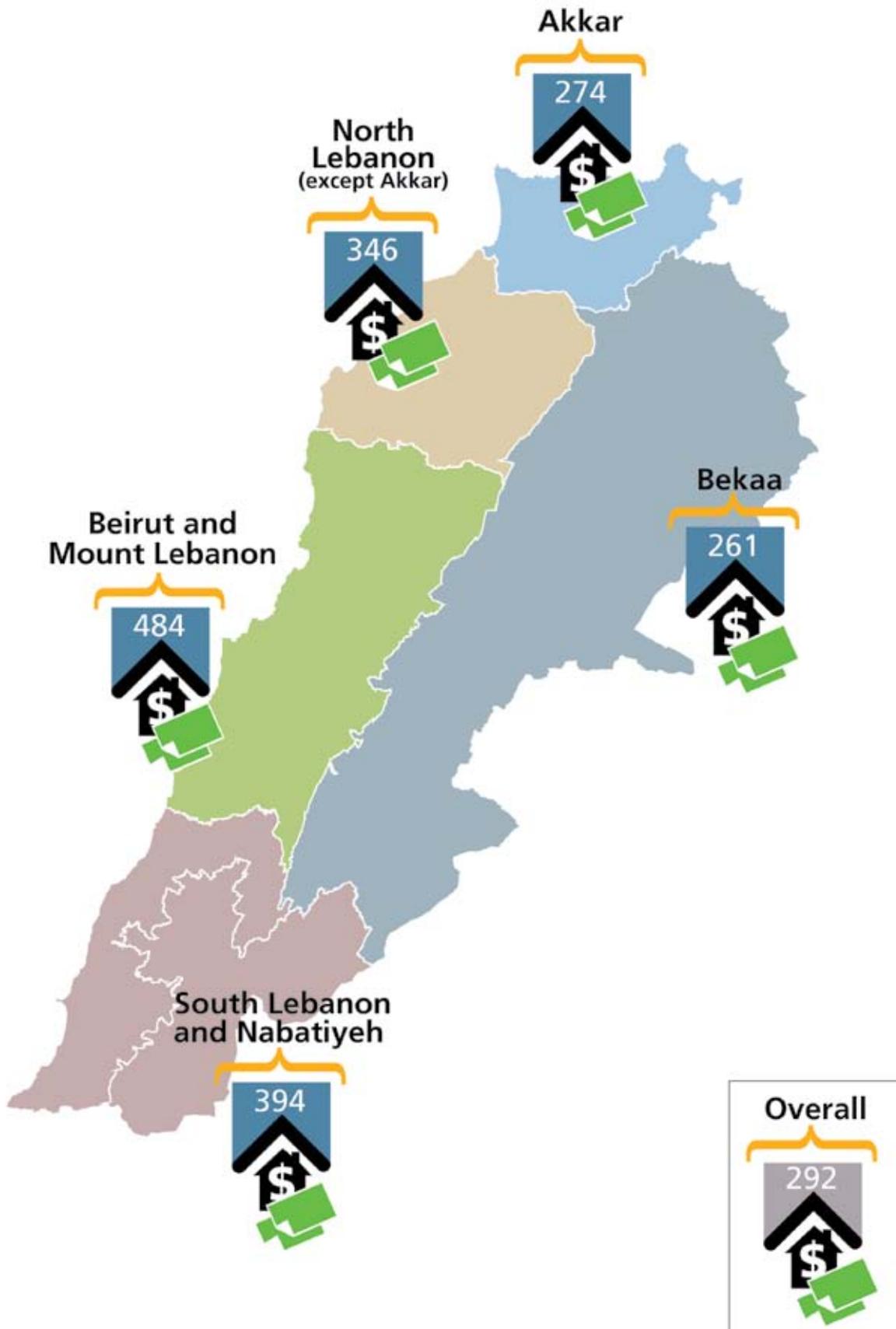
### Households reporting income, by source



*Note: Figures in this table add up to more than 100 per cent, because some households receive income from multiple sources.*



Households' average monthly income by region



## 9. FOOD SECURITY

Due to the economic difficulties they face, many returnee households are unable to buy food in the quantity and quality they desire.

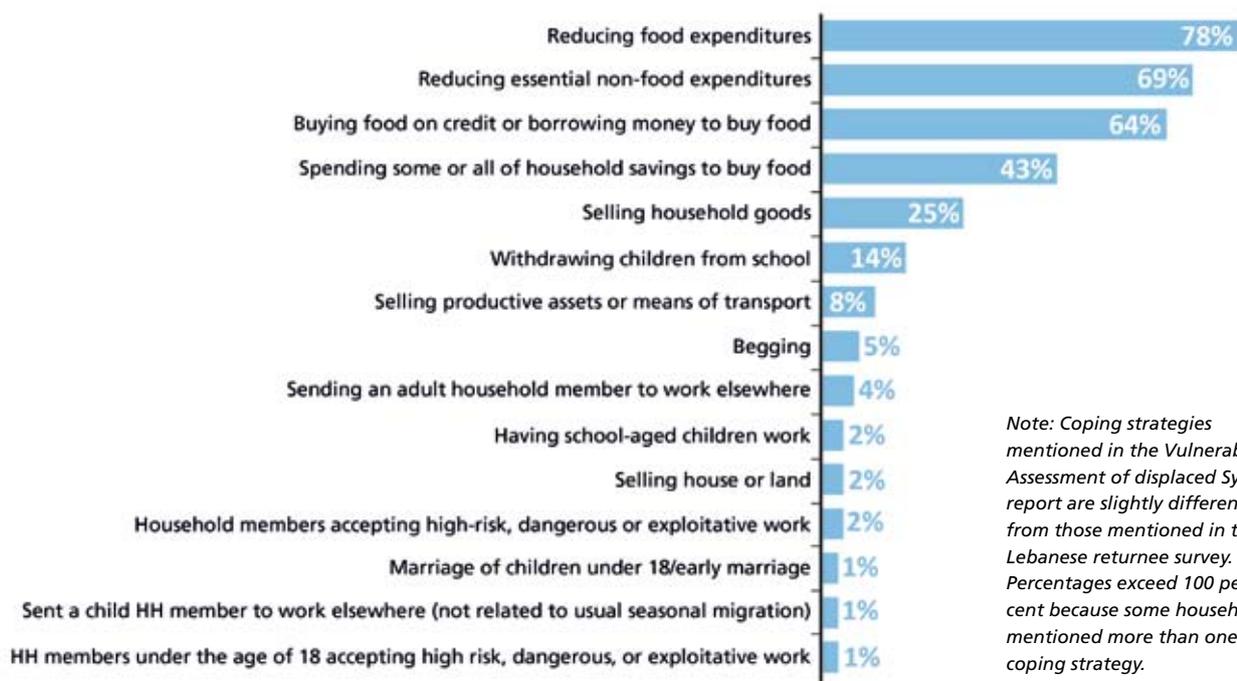
Households resorted to a variety of coping mechanisms when faced with a lack of food or a lack of money to buy it. The most commonly used coping mechanism was reducing household spending on food, which 78 per cent of returnee households said they had done in the past month. Nearly seven in ten households reduced essential non-food expenditure, and 64 per cent bought food on credit or borrowed money to buy food. Forty-three per cent said they spent some or all of the household's savings to buy food in the past month.

Overall, 88 per cent of returnee households

reported using some type of coping mechanism, compared to 56 per cent of host community households.<sup>23</sup> Returnee households in Akkar appeared to be the most food-insecure, resorting to coping mechanisms at a higher rate than the general returnee population. By contrast, households living in North Lebanon (except Akkar) reported relatively low use of coping mechanisms.

The percentage of displaced Syrians reporting the use of coping strategies was similar to that of Lebanese returnees, though a higher proportion of displaced Syrians (81%) said they bought food on credit, while a greater percentage of Lebanese returnees reported reducing essential non-food expenditures.<sup>24</sup>

### Food-related coping strategies adopted during the past month



<sup>23</sup> "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 41.

<sup>24</sup> "Vulnerability Assessment of displaced Syrians 2015: Preliminary results," WFP, July 2015, page 18.

## 10. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

As previously mentioned, Lebanese returnees' ability to access humanitarian assistance can differ significantly from that of displaced Syrians in Lebanon - even though these two groups of displaced people often face similar needs. In 2013, when returnees were first registered by HRC and IOM, 84 per cent of households said they had not received any type of assistance since arriving in Lebanon.<sup>25</sup>

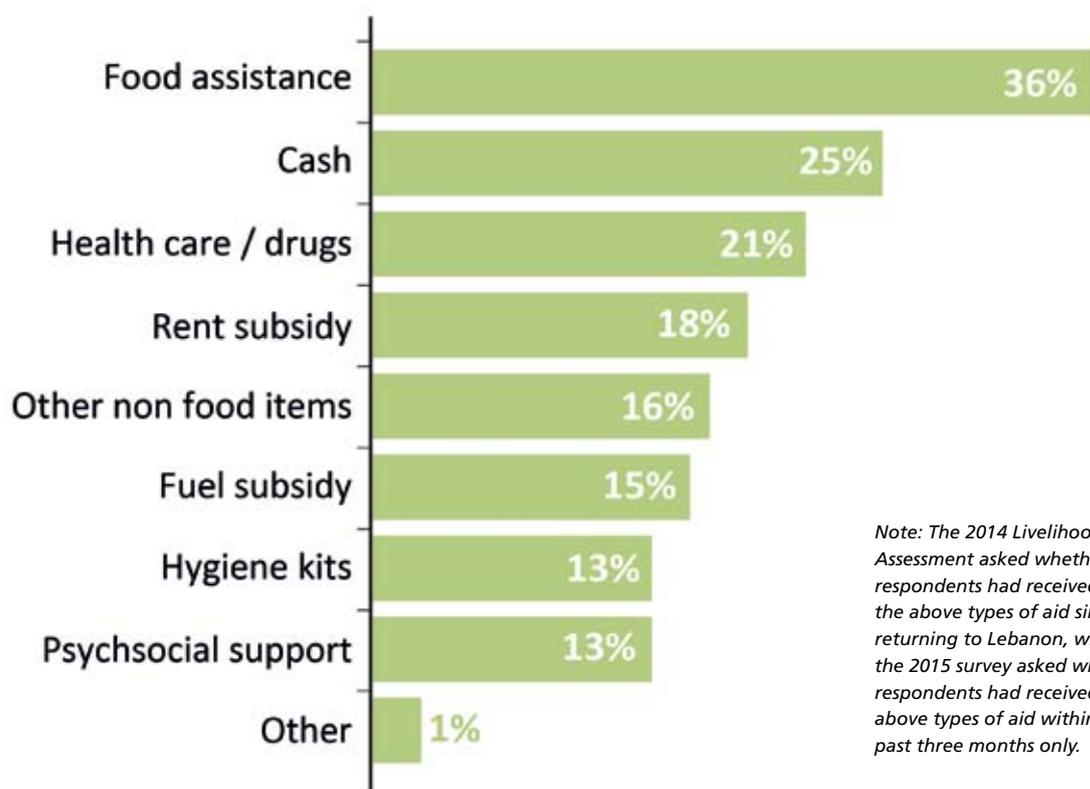
In 2015, by contrast, fully half of Lebanese returnee households reported receiving some form of humanitarian assistance within the past three months. Of those that did, food assistance was the most common form of aid received. In 2013, just 14 per cent of households had obtained food assistance; in 2015, 36 per cent had received food assistance within the past three months. The percentage of

households receiving cash aid, health care or drugs, rent subsidies, psychosocial support, and other non-food items has also risen substantially over the past two years.

More returnees reported receiving humanitarian assistance from relatives and family (34% of households) than from the UN or NGOs (16%), local organizations (6%), or the Lebanese government (3%).

Households in Akkar were more likely to receive humanitarian assistance than those living in other regions. In Akkar, 42 per cent of households said they received food assistance, 31 per cent health care or drugs, and 31 per cent cash. By contrast, those living in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, and North Lebanon (except Akkar), were least likely to receive assistance.

### Households receiving humanitarian assistance, by type



*Note: The 2014 Livelihoods Assessment asked whether respondents had received the above types of aid since returning to Lebanon, while the 2015 survey asked whether respondents had received the above types of aid within the past three months only.*

<sup>25</sup> "The Situation and Needs of Lebanese Returnees from Syria," IOM, December 2013, page 14.

## 11. TOP PRIORITY NEEDS

When asked about their most urgent needs, returnee households most frequently mentioned health care, food, access to work, and shelter. Almost half (49%) of returnee households listed food as their most-urgent or second-most-urgent need; this was followed by health (46%), access to work (33%) and shelter (28%).

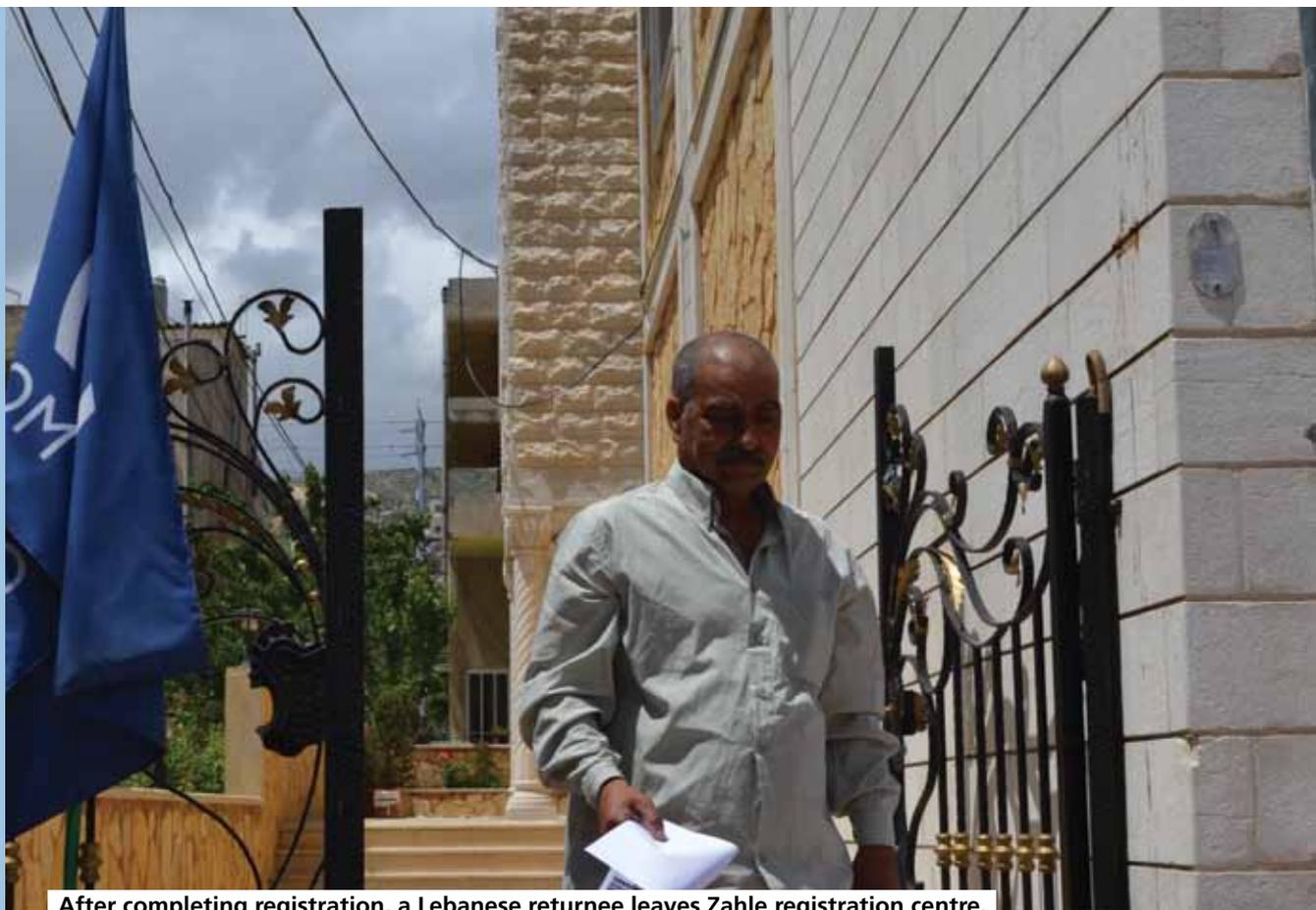
In 2013, these same four needs were also the most frequently mentioned by returnees. However, compared with the 2013 results, in 2015 a lower percentage of households cited food as their most-

urgent or second-most-urgent need, and a higher portion said they were concerned with health.

Still, food was the most frequently mentioned priority need in all regions except South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh, where health was the most mentioned need. In Akkar, 41 per cent said food was their top priority need, a far higher percentage than in any other region.

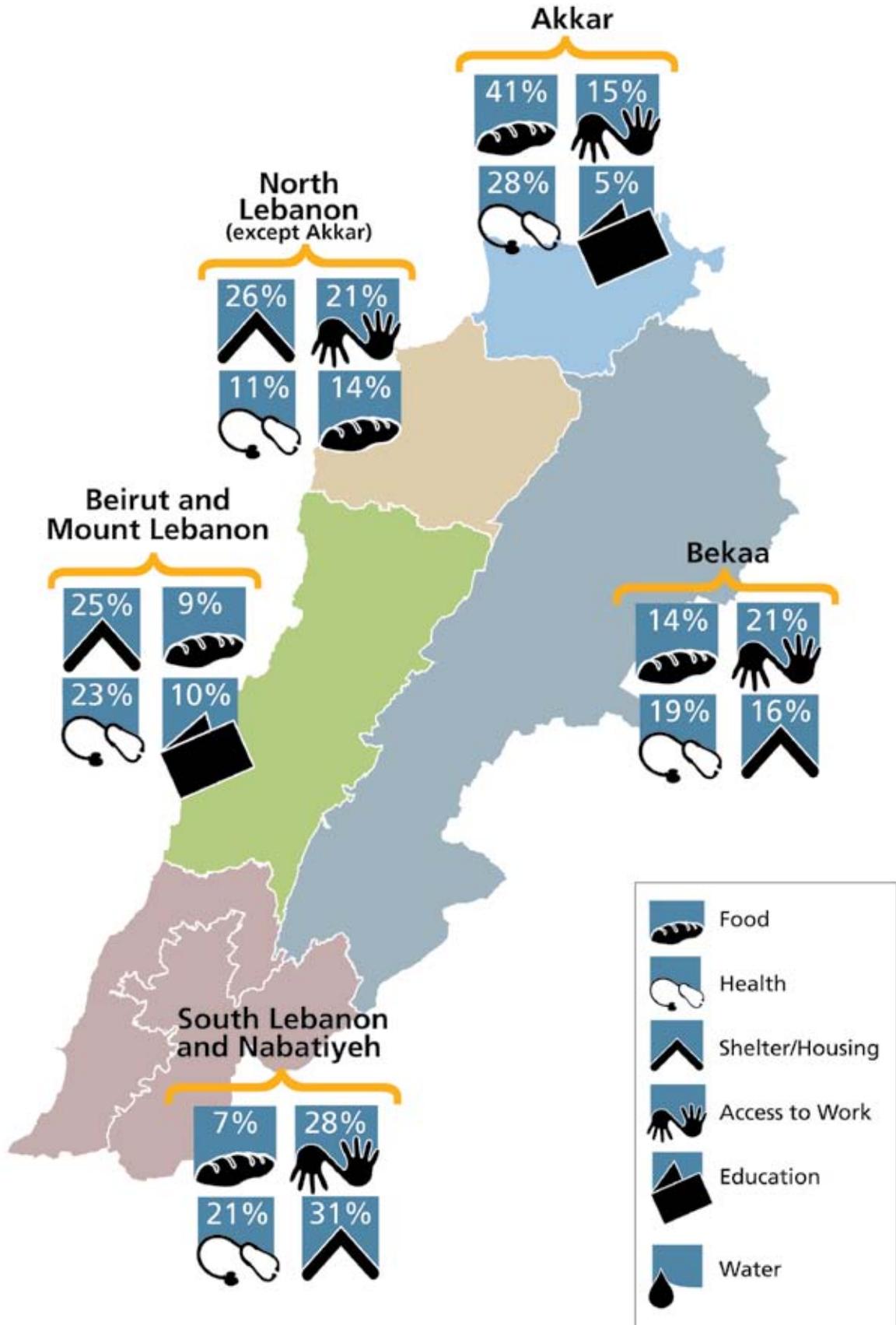
A survey undertaken by the FAO last year found that Lebanese host community households also identified food and health as their two top needs.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>26</sup> "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Lebanese Host Communities," FAO, June 2015, page 21.



After completing registration, a Lebanese returnee leaves Zahle registration centre.

Most frequently mentioned priority needs



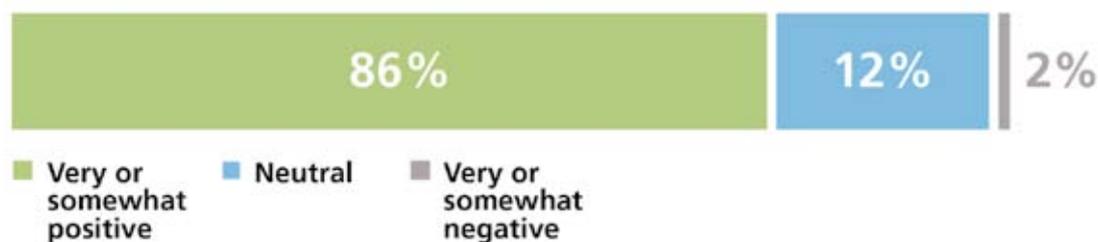
## 12. RELATIONS WITH HOST COMMUNITIES AND DISPLACED SYRIANS

When asked about their relations with Lebanese host communities and displaced Syrians, returnees were overwhelmingly positive. Just over three in four Lebanese returnees (77%) said their relations with displaced Syrians were either positive or very positive. 22 per cent described their relations with displaced Syrians as neutral, and only 1 per cent as negative.

Similarly, a large majority (86%) of Lebanese returnees described their relations with Lebanese

host communities as being either positive or very positive, while 12 per cent characterized their relations as neutral, and just 2 per cent as negative or very negative. In South Lebanon and Al Nabatiyeh, this figure was higher, with 6.6 per cent reporting negative or very negative relations with host communities.

### Returnees' view of their relations with other Lebanese



IOM staff interviews a beneficiary at the Baalbek registration centre.

# 13.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey conducted as part of the 2015 Lebanese Returnee Registration drive was the second in-depth study of returnees from the Syrian Arab Republic, building on the first such survey conducted in 2013. (The 2014 Livelihoods Assessment, by contrast, used a much smaller sample size than the 2013 and 2015 rounds of registration.)

The data obtained from the registration drive clearly shows the many similarities between returnees and displaced Syrians living in Lebanon – similarities that have persisted for at least the past two years. Both groups earn significantly lower incomes than the average Lebanese household, and both groups experience difficulties accessing health care and education. Both groups frequently use coping mechanisms to deal with a lack of food or the money to buy it.

Based on the survey's findings, we recommend the following steps be taken:

- *In the short term, assistance must continue to be provided to meet returnee households' immediate needs, tailored to the priority needs most frequently cited in each region. Given that a small but significant portion of returnees reported living in tents or substandard shelters, efforts should be made to improve returnees' form of housing or provide winterization materials ahead of the coming winter.*

- *In the longer term, a livelihoods programme should be implemented to facilitate returnee households' engagement in income-generating activities.*

- *Humanitarian or other service providers targeting displaced Syrians, as well as governmental service providers such as the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), should consider extending their services to Lebanese returnees upon provision of their Proof of Registration certificates. These documents were issued to Lebanese returnees for the first time as part of the 2015 registration drive.*

- *As previously mentioned, the 2015 registration drive lasted just six weeks, and some returnees were unable to register, either because of lack of awareness or lack of documentation. In the future, a continuous registration system should be implemented, to ensure that newly arrived returnees and other unregistered households do not have to wait for a long period of time to be able to register. Meanwhile, efforts should be made to follow up and track returnees who have already been registered, to assess their priority needs and guarantee that they are receiving the necessary humanitarian assistance.*

- *The assistance provided to Lebanese returnees should be coordinated between partners, to avoid duplication, to fill existing gaps in aid provision, and to deliver a cohesive humanitarian response.*

- *Strategic partnership agreements should be developed with key stakeholders to streamline assistance to returnees. Upon signing a data-sharing agreement with HRC, partners should be able to access returnee households' contact information, including phone numbers, for the purpose of providing assistance to them.*

- *The adequacy of existing assistance programmes should be examined and modified in order to reflect the changing needs of Lebanese returnees.*

# ANNEXES

- A: Registration Outreach Leaflet**
- B: Proof of Registration Certificate**
- C: Basic Returnee Information Form (F1)**
- D: Registration Form (F2)**
- E: Location of Lebanese Returnees by district**

# A: REGISTRATION OUTREACH LEAFLET



IOM International Organization for Migration  
المنظمة الدولية للهجرة

## REGISTRATION AND PROFILING OF LEBANESE RETURNEES FROM SYRIA

20 April - 31 May 2015

### Background:

Between July and October 2013, IOM supported the Government of Lebanon's High Relief Commission to complete a first round of registration and profiling for Lebanese returnees across the country, reaching a total of 17,510 individuals. The findings of this exercise formed the basis of activities to assist returnees (by IOM, HRC and other partners).

A second round of registration will be completed from **20 April -31 May 2015**. The objective of the exercise will be to generate updated information on the situation and needs of all returnees, including those previously registered in 2013. By registering, individuals will ensure that they are known to different organizations providing assistance to Lebanese returnees.

### Lebanese returnee definition:

"Lebanese returnees" are considered by the Government of Lebanon to be all those Lebanese citizens who were living in Syria since 2006 or earlier and returned to Lebanon after March 2011 as a result of the conflict.

### How to register:

To register, Lebanese returnees should approach the registration centers at any of the locations below between 20 April and 31 May, bringing with them original copies as well as one photocopy of each of the following documents:

- **Proof of Lebanese citizenship:** Family civil registry record ('ikhraj qayd') not older than 6 months (this can be obtained from a local mukhtar) or, as alternative, Lebanese IDs or passports for all household members.
- **Proof of Syrian residency:** residency document ('*sanad iqama*') or a minimum of two of the following documents: utility bill (such as landline telephone, electric, water, gas, cable); bank statement; housing lease/contract, mortgage statement; property or income tax statement; official employment certificate; life or health insurance policy; driver's license/vehicle registration card; vehicle insurance policy; military orders/documents; financial statement; school records; other official documents issued by the Government of Syria. These documents must be in the name of the individual registering.

For more information on the precise location of the registration center, and to arrange an appointment, please call the relevant contact number after 20 April (from 9am-5pm).

- Akkar
- Tripoli
- Hermel
- Baalbek
- Zahle
- Mt. Lebanon
- Beirut
- Nabatieh
- Tyre

Note: Numbers and addresses of the registration centers were excluded for publishing purposes

Note: Addresses and numbers of the registration centres were excluded for publishing purposes.

# B: PROOF OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE



## Lebanese Returnee from Syria – Proof of Registration

International Organization for Migration IOM in Lebanon



1. Registration number	6. Governorate of Residence
2. Date of Registration	7. District of Residence
3. Name of respondent:	8. Town or village/Cadastre
4. Relation to HoH:	9. Neighborhood/settlement
5. Is Household previously registered with IOM	10. Telephone number:
11. Residence address	

Document Proof of Lebanese Nationality		Document Proof of Syrian Residency		Other Registration Documents	
12: Civil Registry Record (Ikhrāj Qayd)	13: Lebanese ID	14: Type of Document	14.1: Syr Doc ID	15: UNRWA Registration ID	16: UNHCR ID

LEBANESE RETURNEE FAMILY MEMBERS					
17. Name of Family member	18. Gender	19. Date of Birth	20. Relationship to HoH	21. Nationality	
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

Interviewer name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# C: BASIC RETURNEE INFORMATION FORM (F1)



## Lebanese Returnee from Syria- Basic Information from (F1)

### International Organization for Migration IOM in Lebanon

The purpose of this form is to register the main information of Lebanese returnees from Syrian (after 2011). The information recorded in this form will be used to issue a proof of registration document.

<b>1. Registration center Name</b>	<b>6. Governorate of Residence</b>
<b>2. Date of Registration</b>	<b>7. District of Residence</b>
<b>3. Name of respondent:</b>	<b>8. Town or village/Cadastre</b>
<b>4. Relation to HoH:</b> 1)HoH/MB, 2)Spouse, 3)Son/Daughter, 4)Son/daughter-in-law, 5)Grandchild, 6)Father/Mother, 7)Brother/Sister	<b>9. Neighborhood/settlement</b>
<b>5. Is Household previously registered with IOM (V/N)</b>	<b>10. Telephone number:</b>
<b>11. Residence address</b>	

Document Proof of Lebanese Nationality		Document Proof of Syrian Residency		Other Registration Documents	
<b>12: Civil Registry Record (Ikhrāj Qayd)</b>	<b>13: Lebanese ID</b>	<b>14: Type of Document</b>	<b>14.1: Syr Doc ID</b>	<b>15: UNRWA Registration ID</b>	<b>16: UNHCR ID</b>

FAMILY MEMBERS BASIC INFORMATION					
17. Name of Family member	18. Gender 1) Male 2) Female	19. Date of Birth (dd-mm-yyyy)	20. Relationship to HoH 1)HoH/MB, 2)Spouse, 3)Son/Daughter, 4)Son/daughter-in-law, 5)Grandchild, 6)Father/Mother, 7)Brother/Sister, 8)Relatives, 9)Others (please specify)	21. Nationality 1) Lebanese, 2)Syrian, 3)Palestinian, 4)Iraqi, 5)Arab other, 6)Other (Please specify)	
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

I hereby authorize the use of the above data for the purpose of the response to the Lebanese Returnees Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize the use of my picture for the purpose of the response to the Lebanese Returnees Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# D: REGISTRATION FORM (F2)

## REGISTRATION AND PROFILING OF LEBANESE RETURNEES – 2015

REGISTRATION NUMBER    |\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|\_|

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am working with a team from the High Relief Commission and the International Organization for Migration seeking to register and profile all Lebanese returnees from Syria, living across the country. The objective of this exercise is generate information on the situation and needs of Lebanese returnees. Registering will not guarantee that you receive assistance, but it will allow the Government of Lebanon and its humanitarian partners to consider your case and in some instances, facilitate the provision of assistance. The collected information will remain confidential but may be shared with humanitarian partners for the purposes of providing assistance.

Do you consent to the sharing of this information with other partners for the purposes of targeting of assistance?    YES / NO

1. Name of surveyor: \_\_\_\_\_



**SECTION 1\_ HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS**

2. Name	3. Marital Status	4. Registration	5. Educational Attainment	6. Current education status (for 4-17 year olds)	7. Health (MULTI-RESPONSE)	8. Occupation in Syria	9. Work status in Lebanon	10. Occupation in Lebanon
<p>Write in rows the name of each household member. Household members to be listed in this table are those members registered as one family</p> <p><u># 1 should be the Head of Household/Main breadwinner</u></p> <p>Insert an X sign in Number Column in front of the household member selected as being the head of the household (main bread winner...prior to crisis)</p>	<p>1) Single 2) Married 3) Divorced 4) Separated 5) Widowed</p>	<p>1) Registered or pending registration with UNHCR 2) Registered or pending registration with UNRWA 3) NA</p>	<p>1) None/literate 2) Knows how to read and write 3) Primary 4) Intermediate 5) Secondary 6) Technical course 7) University</p>	<p>1) Not enrolled 2) Enrolled 3) NA</p>	<p>1) Pregnant and/or lactating women 2) Physical disability 3) Mental health challenges/mental disability 4) Chronically ill 5) Temporal functional limitations/injured conditions 6) Serious medical conditions 7) In need of assistance from another person to use the toilet 8) Other (please specify)</p>		<p>1) Business owner/self employed 2) Employed 3) Daily wage earner 4) Seasonal work only 5) Unemployed 6) Retired 7) Student 8) Student AND Working work 9) Unable/Unwilling to work 10) Other</p>	
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
8								
9								
10								
11								

## **SECTION 2 DISPLACEMENT PROFILE**

11. Where did you live in Syria?

- i. Governorate:
- ii. District:

12. Date of original migration to Syria (mm/yy):

|\_|\_| (Month) |\_|\_|\_|\_| (year)

13. Reasons for Migration to Syria (primary answer, circle relevant):

- i. Security
- ii. Economic
- iii. Study
- iv. Social (to get married, join relatives)
- v. Other (please specify):

14. Where did you previously reside in Lebanon?

- i. Governorate of origin:
- ii. Qaza/District of origin:
- iii. Village/town of origin:

15. When did the members of the household first return to and resettle in Lebanon?

|\_|\_| (Month) |\_|\_|\_|\_| (year)

16. Did you have friends or relatives in Lebanon before coming to Lebanon?

- i. Yes
- ii. No

17. Has the family returned to:

- i. Original house
- ii. Not original but the same neighborhood
- iii. Different Location

18. Did your family resettle in more than one location (for a period of 6 months or more) since arriving in Lebanon?

- a) Yes
- b) No (*Skip next question*)

19. list in order the governorates (in Lebanon) you have moved to and settled in (for more than 6 months) since arriving in Lebanon (start from first governorate of arrival):

1)	
2)	

3)	
4)	
5)	

20. What are your residence intentions in the future?

- a) Integrate in the current location
- b) Move to another governorate
- c) Move to another country
- d) Return to Syria
- e) Did not take a decision yet

21. How would you describe your relations with other Lebanese/ members the hosting community?

- a) very positive
- b) positive
- c) neutral
- d) negative
- e) very negative

22. How would you describe your relations with Syrian refugees/ members the displaced

- a) very positive
- b) positive
- c) neutral
- d) negative
- e) very negative
- f) not applicable

### SECTION 3\_HOUSING, WASH

23. Type of residence in Lebanon (post-crisis)

- i. Independent house/apartment (not shared)
- ii. Independent house/apartment (shared)
- iii. Substandard shelter (garage, shop, worksite)
- iv. One room structure
- v. Unfinished building
- vi. Unmanaged collective shelter
- vii. Managed collective shelter
- viii. Unmade shelter in informal settlement
- ix. Tent/structure in formal settlement
- x. Homeless/no shelter
- xi. Other (please specify):

24. Type of occupancy in Lebanon(post-crisis):

- i. Owned apartment/house (*skip following question*)
- ii. Unfurnished rental
- iii. Furnished rental
- iv. Provided by employer (*skip following question*)
- v. Hosted (for free) (*skip following question*)
- vi. Squatting (occupancy without permission from owner) (*skip following question*)
- vii. Assistance/charity (*skip following question*)
- viii. Other (please specify) (*skip following question*)

25. If you are renting, how much do you pay per month? :|\_|\_|\_|\_| LBP

26. What is the total living space in m2, occupied by HH?: |\_|\_|\_| sqm

27. How many people are sharing this living space?: |\_|\_| members

28. Do you live:

a)	With only your own family
b)	With other relative family/members
c)	With other unrelated family/members

29. Does your HH have access to an adequate amount of water for drinking and domestic use purposes?

- i. Yes – both
- ii. Only drinking water
- iii. Only domestic use water
- iv. No – neither

30. What is the main source of HH water?

- i. Household water tap/water network <2 hrs per day
- ii. Household water tap/water network >2 hrs per day
- iii. Public/shared water stand/taps
- iv. Protected well
- v. Unprotected well
- vi. Bottled mineral water
- vii. Borehole/tap
- viii. Protected spring
- ix. Unprotected spring
- x. Water tank/trucked water (UN/NGO provided)
- xi. Water tank/trucked water (non-UN/NGO provider)
- xii. Public reservoir
- xiii. Other

31. Does your household currently own enough number of the following items to cover household needs? (in usable condition). Indicate if the household have access to the following items (0=no

1=yes) READ OUT EACH OF THE ITEMS BELOW. WRITE 0 IF NOT OWNED

1)	Mattresses	
2)	Beds	
3)	Blankets	
4)	Winter clothes	
5)	Table and chairs	
6)	Sofa/chairs	
7)	Small gas stove (for cooking)	
8)	Refrigerator	
9)	Water heater	
10)	Washing machine	
11)	Oven	
12)	Microwave/Vacuum cleaner	
13)	Dish washer/ Drier machine/Separate freezer	
14)	Heater/heating stove (electric, diesel, wood etc)	

15)	Air conditioning	
16)	TV	
17)	DVD Player	
18)	Computer	
19)	Satellite dish	
20)	Motorcycle	
21)	Car/van/truck	

#### **SECTION 4 EDUCATION**

32. What are the main reasons for non-enrollment of children in your family? **DO NOT READ BUT TICK ALL REASONS MENTIONED**

1)	Cannot afford to pay for tuition/cost (textbook, etc)
2)	No school in the community / Distance
3)	No space in school
4)	Children need to stay at home and assist the family with household chores
5)	Children need to work
6)	Newly/irregularly arrived
7)	Attending Khalwa (informal school)
8)	Customs/tradition/lack of awareness
9)	Insecurity
10)	Bullying
11)	Transport
12)	Disability
13)	Traumatized
14)	Others (specify)
15)	Not applicable

#### **SECTION 5 HEALTH**

33. Did any of your household members require health assistance in the last 6 months and could not get it? (For whatever reason). **Do not read. Circle all the options that applied**

- i. HH **did not require** any primary health care in last 6 months/since they are in Lebanon
- ii. HH **did not require** any secondary/specialized or hospitalization health care in last 6 months/ since they are in Lebanon
- iii. HH received the required primary health care
- iv. HH received the required secondary/specialized or hospitalization
- v. Was not able to receive primary health care
- vi. Was not able to receive secondary/specialized health care or hospitalization
- vii. Don't know

34. If any member of your household did not receive the required health care, which were the reasons?

**DO NOT READ BUT TICK ALL REASONS MENTIONED**

- i. Distance of health center/transportation cost
- ii. Physical limitations to access the health center

- iii. Inadequate welcoming/treatment by health center staff
- iv. Fees doctor visit
- v. Cost of drugs/treatment
- vi. Rejected / not accepted
- vii. Don't know where to go
- viii. Pending appointment
- ix. Other (specify)

35. Do you benefit from health assistance?

- i. Do not benefit from health assistance / HH pays all health related costs (consultation, drugs, etc...)
- ii. CSO/public health clinic - HH paid parts of the health care/ cost sharing
- iii. CSO/public health clinic - total free health care
- iv. Insurance (employment, private, other insurance)
- v. HH received financial contribution for consultation with physician/ diagnostics / medicines
- vi. Don't know

### SECTION 6\_ INCOME SOURCES

36. How many household members have worked in the past 30 days? |\_\_|\_\_|

37. In the past 30 days, what was the total income of all the HH members? (In LBP): :|\_\_|\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| LBP

38. In the past 30 days, what were the **three** main source of income to sustain your household?

- i. Income from work/labour
- ii. Savings/sale of assets
- iii. Humanitarian assistance
- iv. Remittances
- v. Begging
- vi. Gifts
- vii. Debt/loans
- VIII. Other (please specify)

39. If you receive remittances from abroad, please specify amount and the country of origin: \_\_\_\_\_

40. Do you own any of the following (in the current location)? Status coding 1=In good condition 2=Damaged 3=Destroyed 4=Don't know 5=NA

Description of Property	Status
Land for Business or Agriculture	
Land for House	
House	
Vehicle	
Basic household commodities	
Livestock	
Poultry	
Shop	
Other: Specify:	

## SECTION 7\_ HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES

41. What is the estimated amount spent by the household during the last month: |\_\_|\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| LBP

42. What is the estimated amount spent by the household during the past 30 days for the following items? (PLEASE DIVIDE THE YEARLY EXPENSES SUCH AS WATER AND EDUCATION BY 12 TO CALCULATE THE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE)

Type of expenditure	Amount (LBP)
a. Food	
b. Health and medical costs	
c. Education costs	
d. Rent	
e. Shelter materials	
f. Water	
g. Transport (including fuel)	
h. Electricity	
i. Gas	
j. Clothing	
k. Communications (mobile, internet, satellite)	
l. Soap and other household hygiene items	
m. Household items (such as cooking pots/utensils, furniture, etc)	
n. Entertainment	
o. Tobacco	
p. Cost of registration/legalizing stay in Lebanon	
q. All other expenditures not listed above	

43. During the last 30 days, did anyone in your HH have to do one of the following things to cope with a lack of food or money to buy it? (Yes or No)

- i. Selling HH goods (radio, furniture, television, jewellery etc)
- ii. Sell productive assets and/or means of transport (sewing machine, wheelbarrow, bicycle, car, livestock etc)
- iii. Reduce food expenditure
- iv. Reduce essential non-food expenditure (such as healthcare, education, etc)
- v. Spent some or all of the HH savings
- vi. Bought food on credit and/or borrowed money to purchase food
- vii. Sold house and/or land
- viii. Withdrew children from school
- ix. Have school aged children (Aged 15 years and under) involved in income generation
- x. Asked for money from strangers (begged)
- xi. HH members 18 years and over accepting high risk, dangerous, or exploitative work
- xii. HH members under the age of 18 accepting high risk, dangerous, or exploitative work

- xiii. Sent an adult HH member to work elsewhere (not related to usual seasonal migration)
- xiv. Sent a child HH member to work elsewhere (not related to usual seasonal migration)
- xv. Marriage of children under 18
- xvi. Sold humanitarian assistance received (either food or non-food items)

44. During the last three months, did any member of your household borrow money?

1)	Yes
2)	No

45. What is your total amount of debt till now? \_\_\_\_\_ LBP

#### SECTION 8\_HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

46. Have you received any kind of assistance over the last 3 months?

#	Type of assistance	From a) UN/NGO, b) government, c) local organization, d) relatives/family
1)	Food assistance (In kind) (المساعدات الغذائية (عينية) )	
2)	Health care/drugs (الرعاية الصحية / الأدوية)	
3)	Psychosocial support/الدعم النفسي الإجتماعي	
4)	Fuel subsidy (إعانة في الوقود)	
5)	Rent subsidy (إعانة في الإيجار)	
6)	Hygiene kits (مستلزمات النظافة)	
7)	Other non-food items (مواد أخرى غير غذائية)	
8)	Cash (مساعدة نقدية)	
9)	Others (specify) _____	

47. Please rank below your household's top five priority needs:

Priority Need	Ranking
Water	
Food	
Health	
Sanitation/ sewage disposal	
Hygiene	
Non Food Items (NFI)	
Education	
Access to work	
Shelter	
Physical security	
Gender issues/GBV	
Child protection	
Documentation and legal issues	
Electricity	
Shelter /renovation/rehabilitation	
Mental health and psychosocial support	
Other: Specify: _____	

## E: LOCATION OF LEBANESE RETURNEES BY DISTRICT

GOVERNORATE	LOCATION DISTRICT	HOUSEHOLDS	INDIVIDUALS
An Nabatiyah	Nabatiyeh	44	236
	Hasbaya	61	290
	Marjayoun	28	147
	Bent Jbayl	64	331
Beirut	Beirut	113	586
Beqaa	Bekaa-West	211	979
	Baalbek	1,643	8,178
	Rachaya	40	201
	Zahlé	439	2,077
	Hermel	368	1,894
Mount Lebanon	Chouf	108	524
	Baabda	79	384
	Kesrouan	1	3
	Matn	27	143
	Aley	77	345
North Lebanon	Minie-Danniyeh	16	96
	Zgharta	13	71
	Akkar	1,684	10,937
	Tripoli	156	767
	Koura	11	52
	Batroun	1	11
	Bcharré	1	4
South Lebanon	Jezzine	5	33
	Saida	16	94
	Sour	39	191
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,245</b>	<b>28,574</b>

# RETURNEES AT RISK

## PROFILING LEBANESE RETURNEES FROM THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOUR YEARS INTO THE CRISIS



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**IOM Lebanon**

Moubarak Building, Jnah, Beirut.

**For more information, please contact:**

Mr. Fawzi Al Zioud  
IOM Lebanon, Head of Office  
fzioud@iom.int

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