

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK FOR REFUGEES IN JORDAN

2021/2022: VAF PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Out-of-Camp Population

March 2022

[Click here for interactive
VAF Sector Dashboard](#)

[Click here for interactive
Livelihoods & Economic
Inclusion Dashboard](#)

BACKGROUND

- **Fourth bi-annual survey** assessing multi-sectoral vulnerability for a representative sample of registered refugee families in Jordan
- **In 2021/2022, VAF expanded** to include non-Syrian refugees and Syrian refugees residing in Camps (Zaatari and Azraq)*
- **Joint UNHCR –World Bank analysis to harmonize targeting for cash assistance** for all refugee populations
- **Governorate and Camp level insights across nationalities** on key areas such as protection, access to services, food security, livelihoods, income and expenditure, and COVID-19
- **Results can inform strategic planning** of humanitarian and development partners on refugee related matters and **provide evidence-based inputs** for the Jordan Response Plan, UN Common Country Analysis and UN Strategic Framework

* This presentation only contains results on the out-of-camp population; Camp population will be presented separately

Methodology

METHODOLOGY

FIELDWORK 5 July - 9 October



Completed Visits

6,427

Refugee Households

31,328

Individuals



Teams

7



Enumerators

22

(3 per team)



Supervisors

7



Household visits per team

12 to 14

per day



Duration

16 Weeks

5 July / 9 October



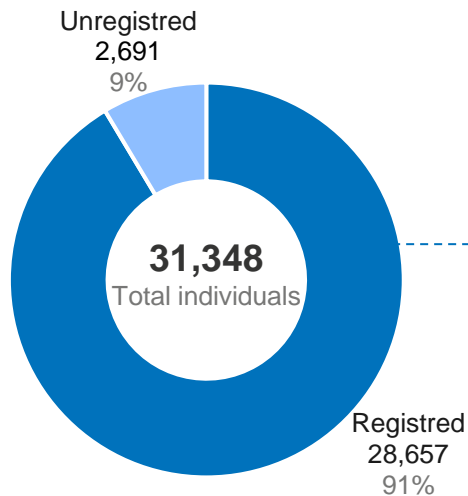
Field Data Collection




mindset

Demographics

DEMOGRAPHICS

SAMPLE SIZE



 HOUSEHOLDS	 FAMILIES	 INDIVIDUALS
6,427 TOTAL	8,562 TOTAL	28,657 TOTAL
4,546 SYRIAN	5,978 SYRIAN	22,712 SYRIAN
833 IRAQI	1,344 IRAQI	3,253 IRAQI
1,048 OTHER	1,240 OTHER	2,692 OTHER

* Number of families refers to UNHCR proGres Case/Registration Group

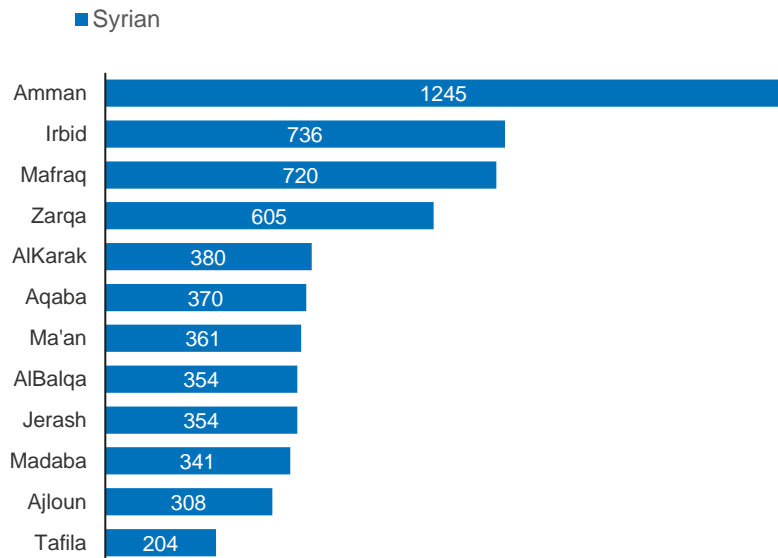
* 'Unregistered' consists of individuals pending UNHCR registration or Jordanians/other non-refugees in mixed families; the analytical results only include registered individuals

DEMOGRAPHICS

SAMPLE SIZE AND METHODOLOGY

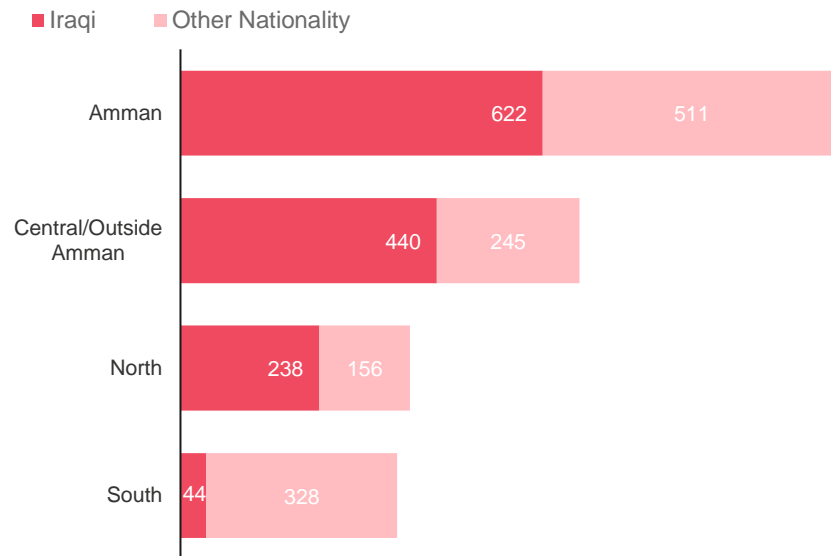
Distribution of families by Governorate | 2021

Number of Syrian families



Distribution of families by Region | 2021

Number of Iraqi and Other Nationality families



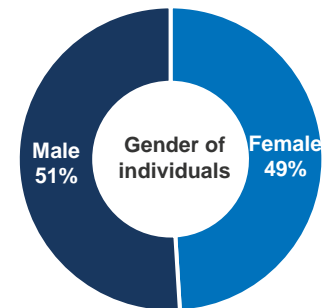
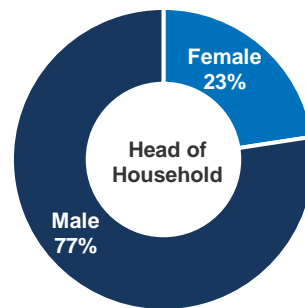
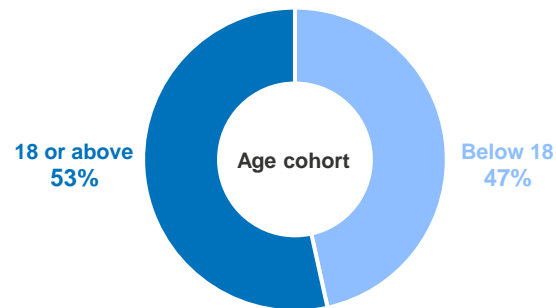
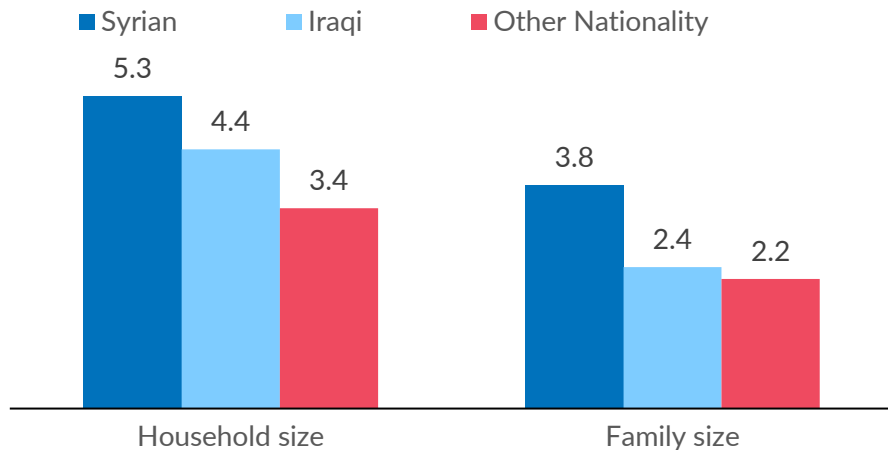
- **Sample methodology** was based on three nationality groups and region (based on population density)
- Syrian families are representative across the 12 governorate levels
- Iraqi and other nationalities are representative across 4 regional levels
- Families were randomly selected using UNHCR's Registration Database (proGres)

DEMOGRAPHICS


HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Average household and family size | 2021*

Average number of individuals



99% of households are composed of one single sharing group (multiple families pooling resources).

 **34%** of families have at least one member with a disability.

*Family size is calculated using case level data. Only registered individuals are counted for average family size whereas all household members (registered and unregistered) are counted for average household size

*Age, gender and disability breakdown is based on registered individuals and families' Disability identification is based on Washington Group Questions

Shelter

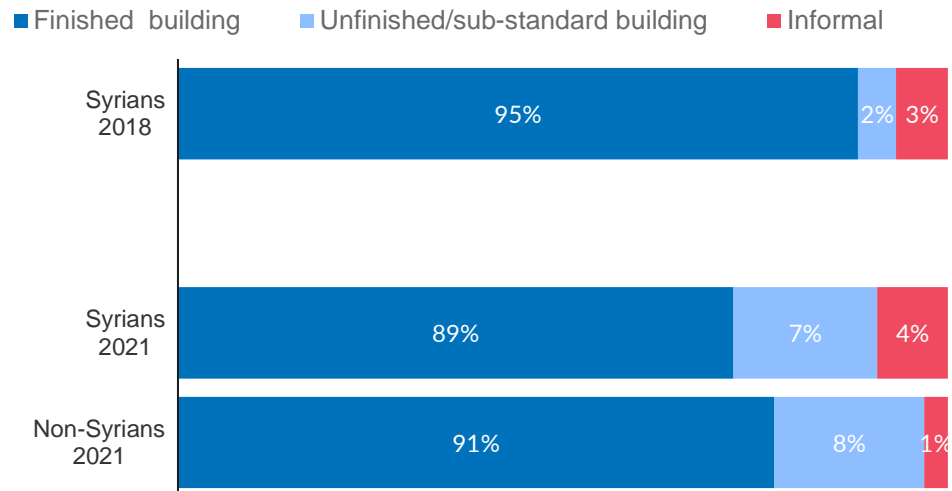
SHELTER

TYPE OF SHELTER

↑ 6 percent point increase in Syrian refugee families living in unfinished or informal shelters between 2018 and 2021.

Types of shelters | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

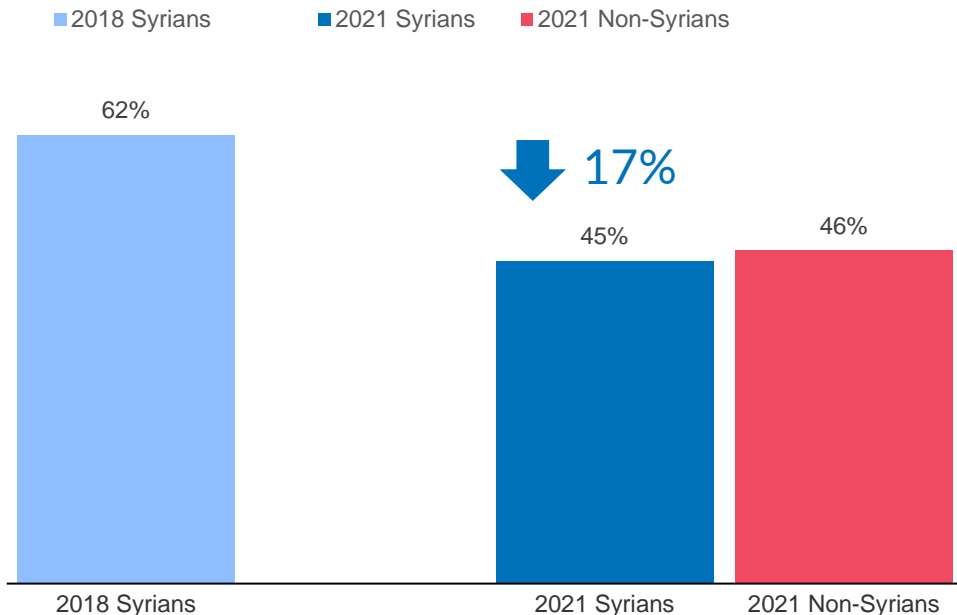


SHELTER

SHELTER CONDITIONS

Families living in acceptable shelter conditions | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)



55% of Syrian families and 54% of other nationalities' families are living in sub-standard shelters, unsafe shelters, with leaking roofs and/or no windows.
(vs. 38% of Syrian families in 2018)

* Sub-standard shelter conditions refers to status of roof leakage, non-functioning windows, exposed wires/electrical installation, minimal natural light/ventilation

SHELTER

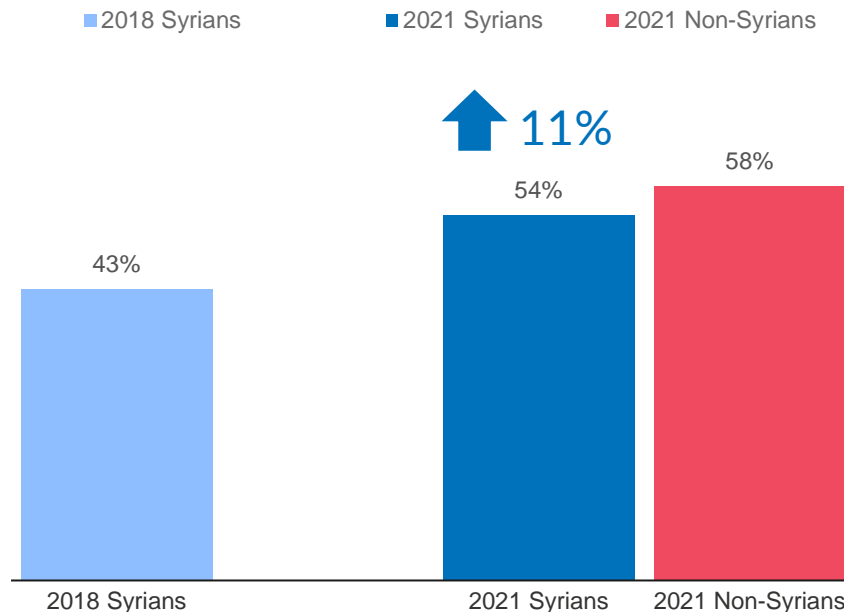
SECURITY OF TENURE

More than half of refugees' families have no written agreement.

18% and **19%** of Syrian and non-Syrian families have received verbal or written threats of eviction in 2021, compared to 8% (Syrian) in 2018.

Families with no written agreement | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)



SHELTER

ENERGY EXPENDITURE



Both Syrian and non-Syrian families report spending almost 5% of their total household budget on electrical bills*

*Figure only includes families who reported spending any budget on electrical bills


Water and Sanitation

WASH

WATER ACCESSIBILITY

90% 

of refugee families report having access to water through the municipality (piped).

32% 

of refugee households do not consider their water storage capacity to be sufficient to cover for all family needs (hygiene, cooking, cleaning).

6% and 5%



Syrian families report spending 6% of their total monthly household budget on WASH, while non-Syrian families report 5%, on average.

*WASH expenditure includes water bill, drinking water and sanitation items; water bill includes 1-2% of total expenditure

*Insufficient water storage indicates households who run out of water more than once a month

The vast majority of families considers the latrines to be **physically accessible** and **safe** to all household members.

Access to **exclusive household latrines** has improved since 2018.

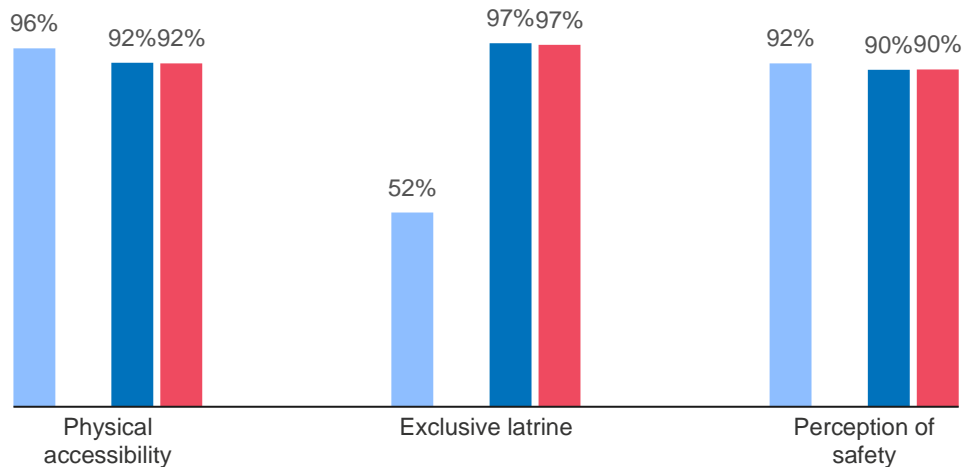
 **88%**

of families with disabilities have access to safe latrines (vs. 92% of those without disabilities)

Accessibility to toilet | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

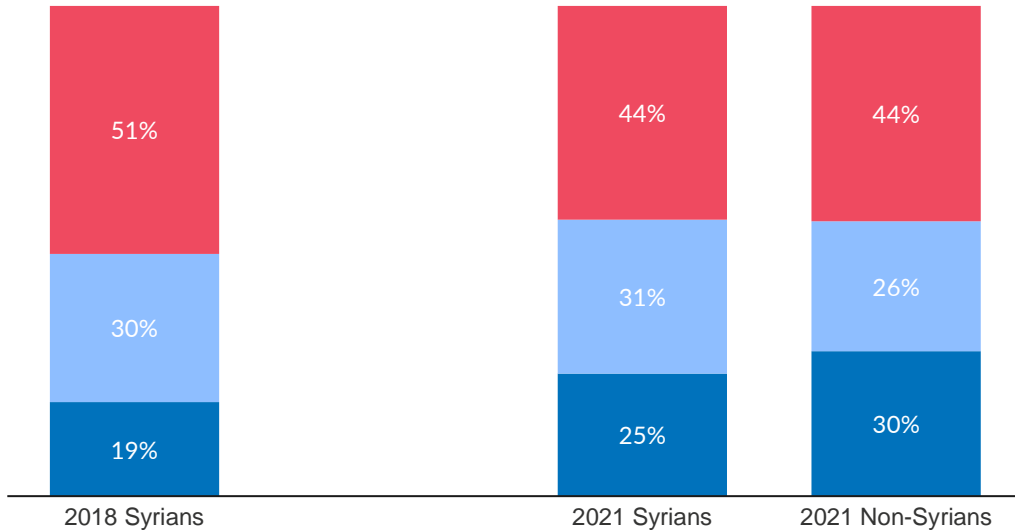
■ 2018 Syrians ■ 2021 Syrians ■ 2021 Non-Syrians



Frequency of solid waste related vector diseases | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

■ Never ■ 1-2 times per year ■ > 2 times per year



Solid waste related vector diseases remain the biggest issue in sanitation systems, despite a slight improvement since 2018.

Health

HEALTH

VULNERABILITY



14% and **10%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
families report having at least
one household member with a
disability that affects their daily
life.



45% and **35%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
families report having at least
one family member with a
chronic illness that affects their
daily life.

HEALTH

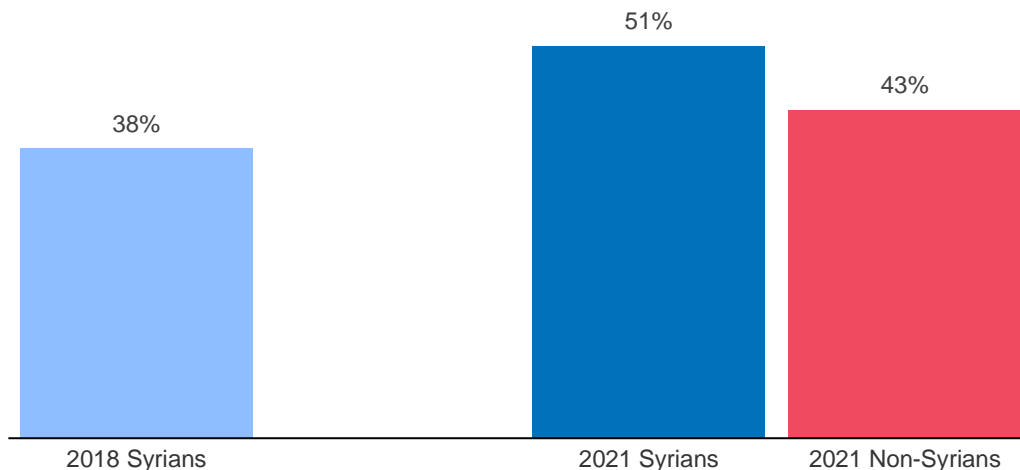
MEDICAL ACCESS



A **↑ 13%** point increase in Syrian families who needed access to medical services and did not get it, from 2018-2021.

Families who did not access medical care | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)



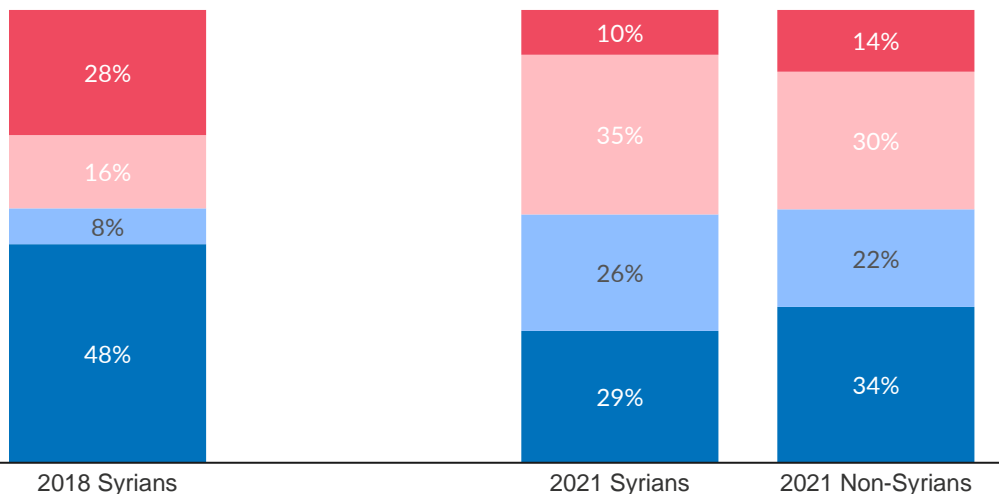
HEALTH

HEALTH EXPENDITURE

Health expenditure, share of total expenditure | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

■ <5% ■ 5-10% ■ 10-25% ■ >25%



71% and 66%
of Syrian and non-Syrian
families with medium to very
high health expenditure
share.
(vs. 52% of Syrian
households in 2018)

*Medical masks for coronavirus was added to 2021 health expenditure

COVID-19

COVID-19

KNOWLEDGE



88% and **86%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
households, know of at least
three symptoms of COVID-
19.



28% and **27%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
households, know how the
virus is transmitted*.



32% and **25%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
households, do not know where
to get a vaccine.

* Households who selected all three categories: through air, surfaces and handshaking, and did not select through food

COVID-19

ATTITUDES



93% and **96%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
households think that COVID-19
is a serious health concern.



92% and **88%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
households think that refugees and
local populations have the same
likelihood of contracting COVID-19.

COVID-19

PRACTICES



96% and 99%

of Syrian and non-Syrian households self-isolated, sought medical treatment, or both, when they suspected they had COVID-19.



38% and 46%

of Syrian and non-Syrian households have been tested for COVID-19.

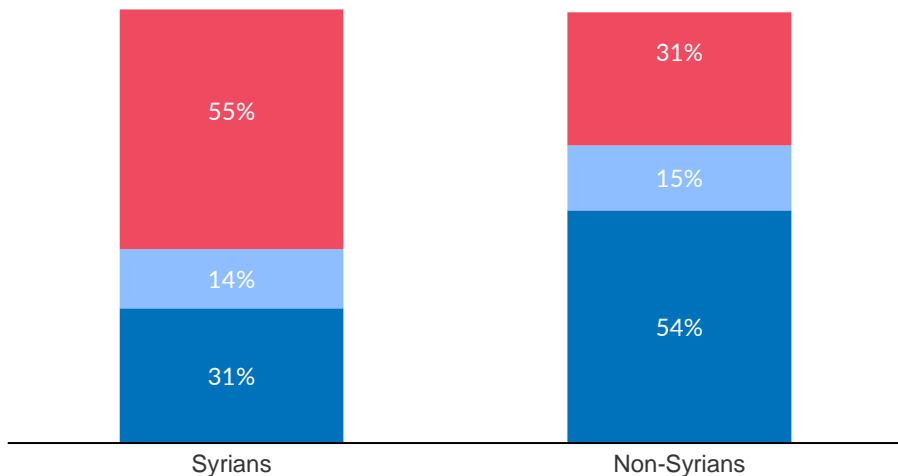
COVID-19

VACCINES*

Household COVID-19 vaccination status | 2021

Percentage of households (%)

■ Two Doses ■ First Dose ■ Not Vaccinated



59% and 54%
Of **Syrian** and **Non-Syrian**
households who did not plan to
receive the COVID-19 vaccine
reported that they were worried
about the side effects.

* These questions were most frequently answered by the head of the household and might not reflect the vaccination status of every member of the household

Education

EDUCATION

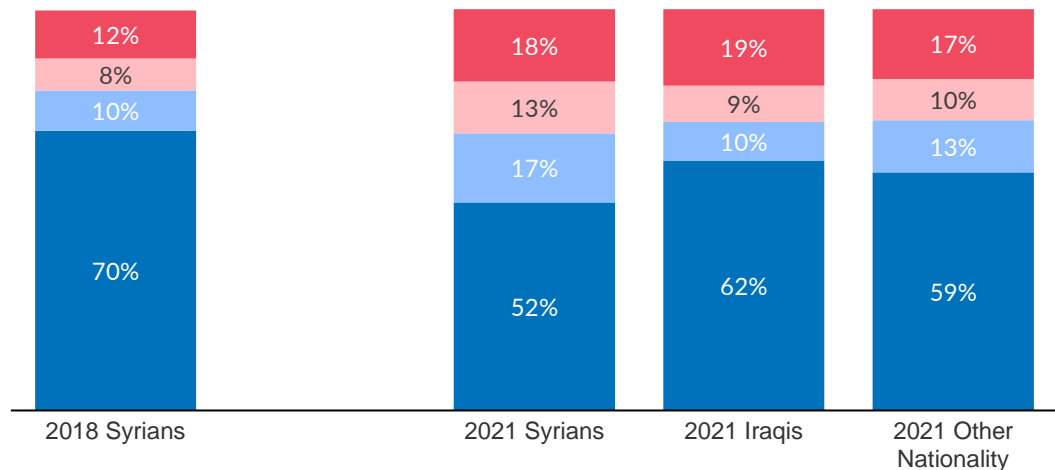
FORMAL EDUCATION

75% of school aged children attend school

Education attendance | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

■ All school-aged children ■ The majority (>50%) ■ Half or less (<50%) ■ No children



A ↓18% point decrease in Syrian families where all school-aged children attend school from 2018.

13%
of both Syrian and non-Syrian families have children with prolonged absence (3+ consecutive years missed from school)
(15% of Syrian families in 2018)

* 2021 figures indicate the 2020-2021 school year, where remote learning was the main modality

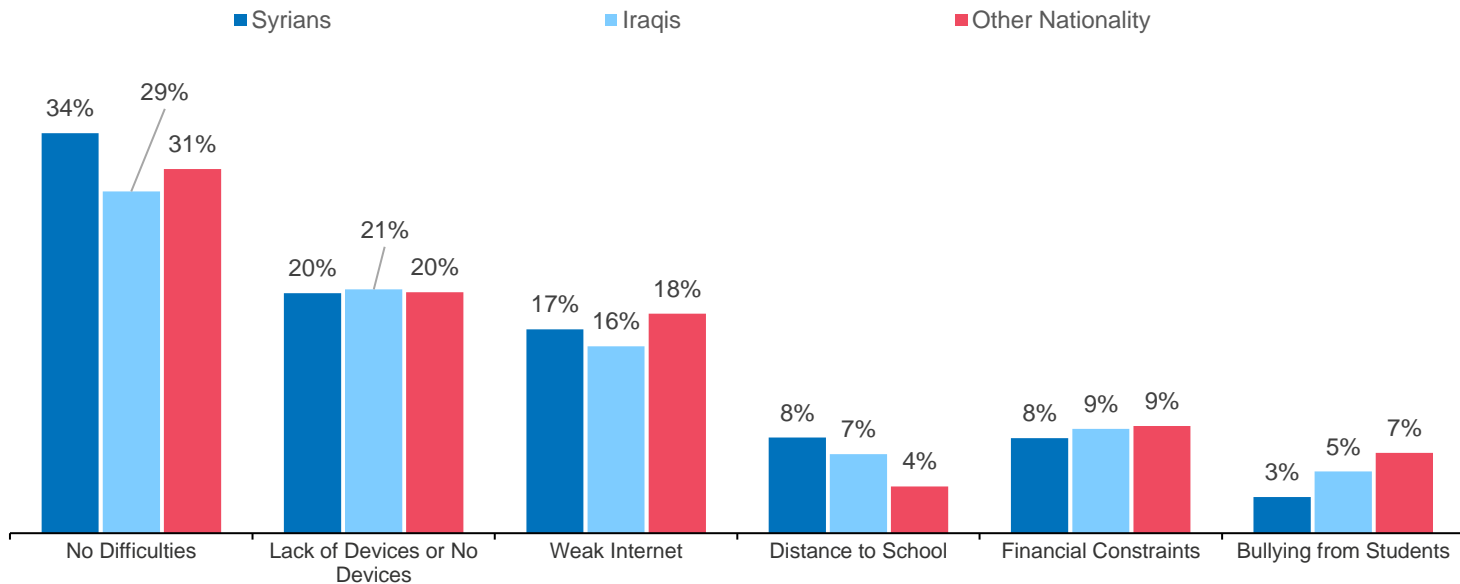
*Calculated for families (n=4,081) with individuals between the ages of 5 and 18 (n= 10,326)

EDUCATION

RISK OF NON-COMPLETION

Main Challenges faced by those in school | 2021

Percentage of individuals of school age * (%)



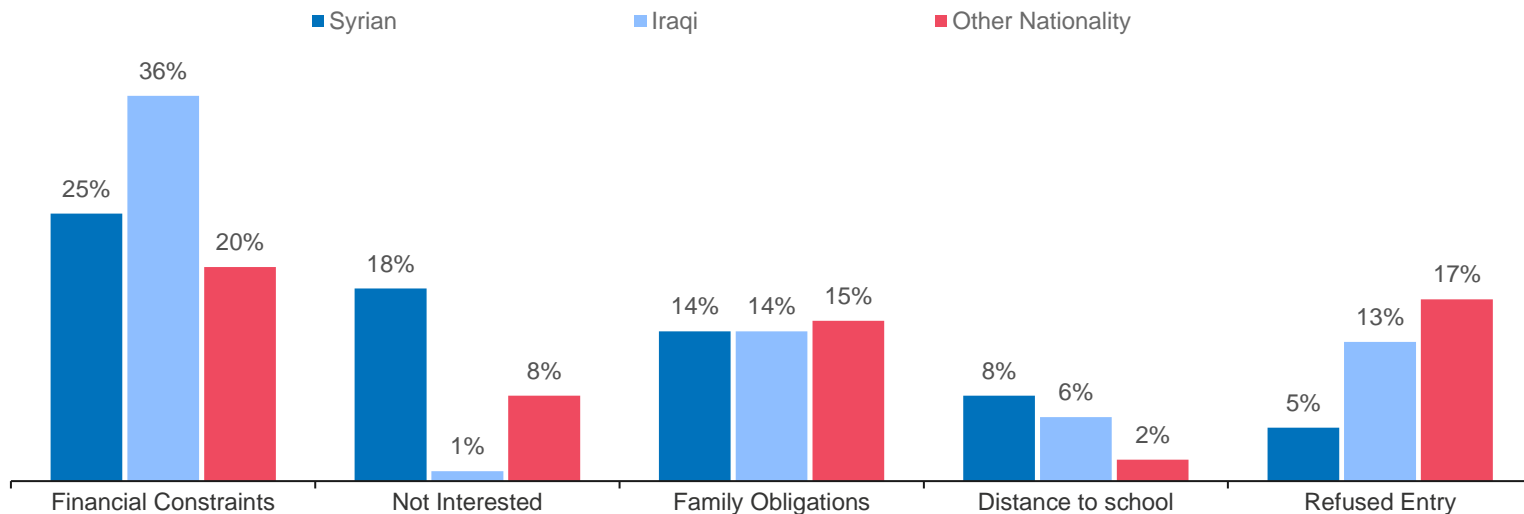
*Calculated from all individuals between the ages of 5 and 18 who responded that they attend school (n = 7,765, 75% of all individuals of school age)

EDUCATION

NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL

Challenges faced by those in school | 2021

Percentage of individuals of school age * (%)



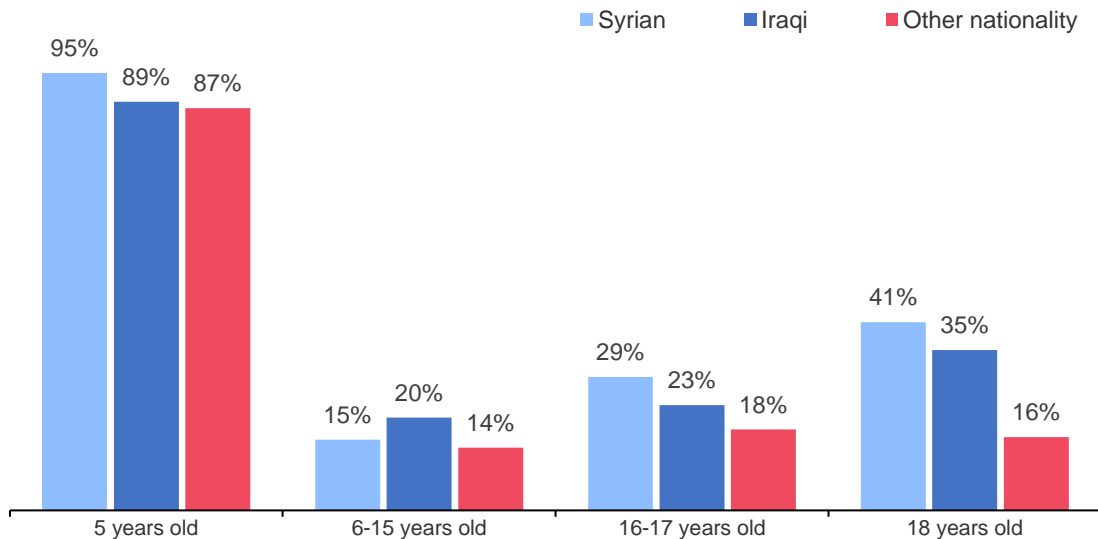
*Children who selected 'not school age' for main reason, and thus were not included in this analysis (n = 1272, 12% of all school-aged children)

EDUCATION

NOT ENROLLED

Percentage of school-age children not enrolled by age group and nationality | 2021

Percentage of individuals (%)



25% of total school-aged children (5–18) are not enrolled in school

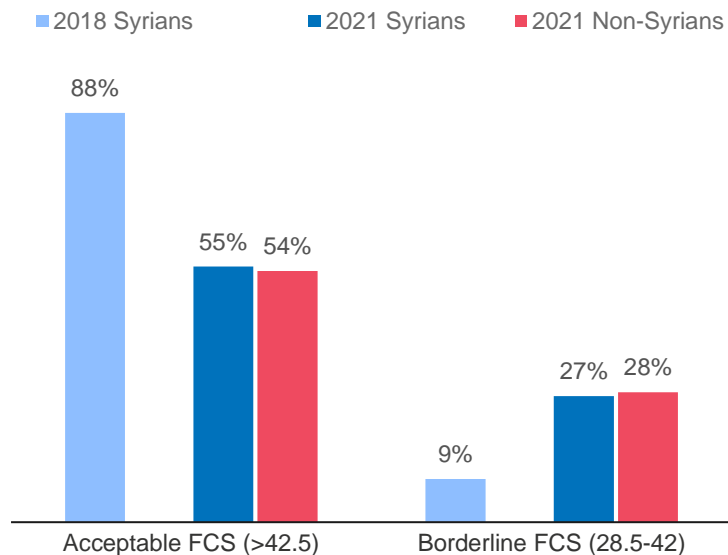
Food Security

FOOD SECURITY

FOOD CONSUMPTION

Food consumption (FCS score) | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)



↓ 33% point decrease in Syrian families presenting an **acceptable FCS** between 2018 and 2021.

*FCS of a household based on dietary diversity, food frequency and relative nutritional importance of different food groups, over a 7-day recall period

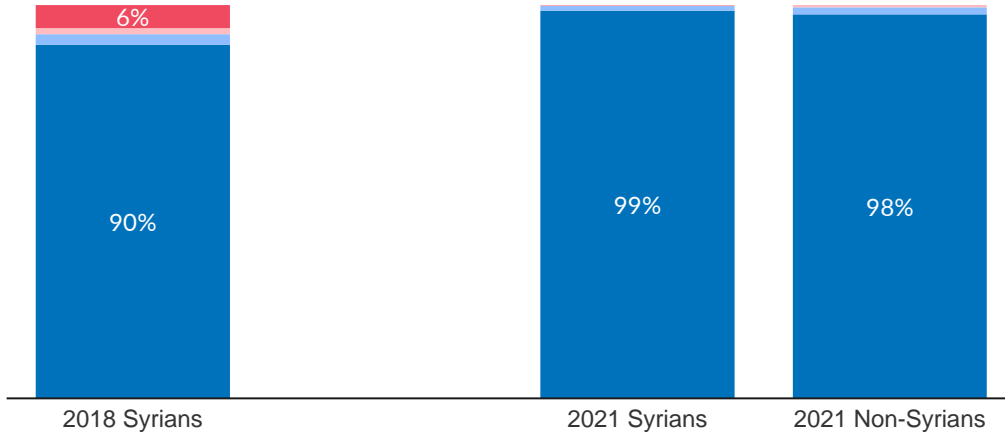
FOOD SECURITY

FOOD EXPENDITURE SHARE

Food expenditure, share of total expenditure | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

<50% 50-65% 65-75% >75%



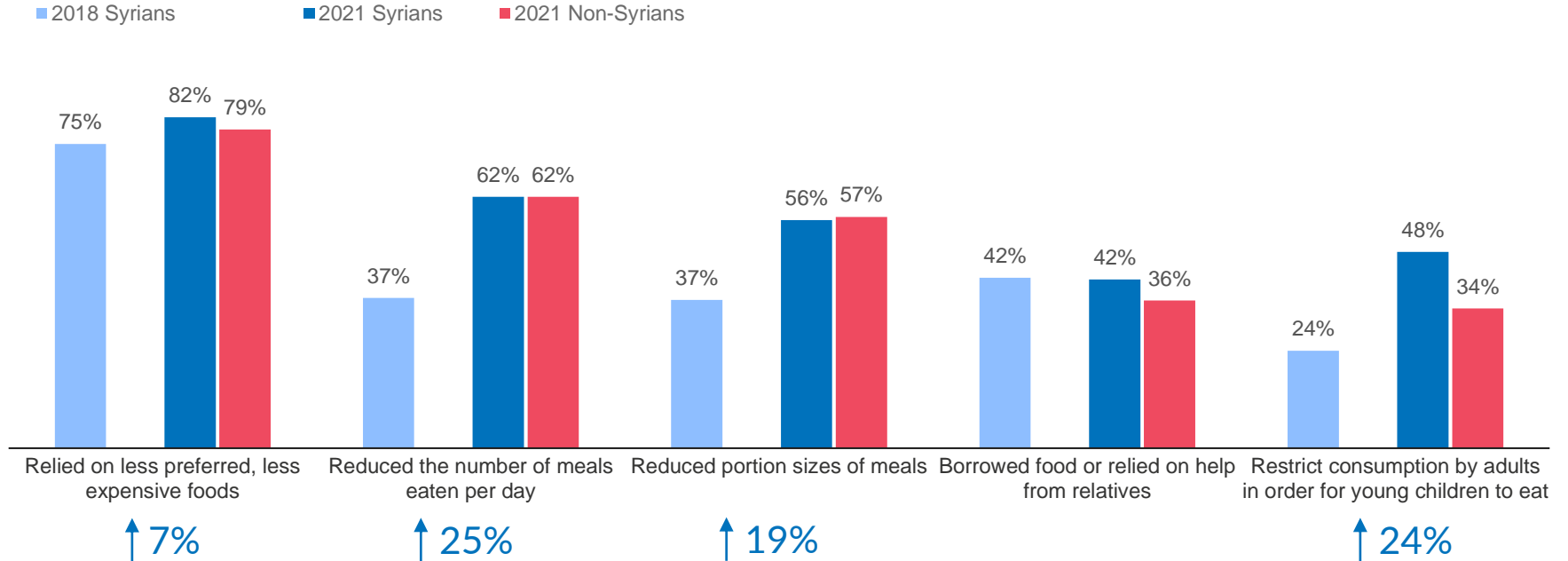
99% and 98%
of Syrian and non-Syrian
families with a low (<50%)
food expenditure share.

FOOD SECURITY

FOOD-BASED COPING STRATEGIES

Food-based coping strategies | 2018-2021

Percentage of families who relied on coping mechanism at least once in the past week (%)



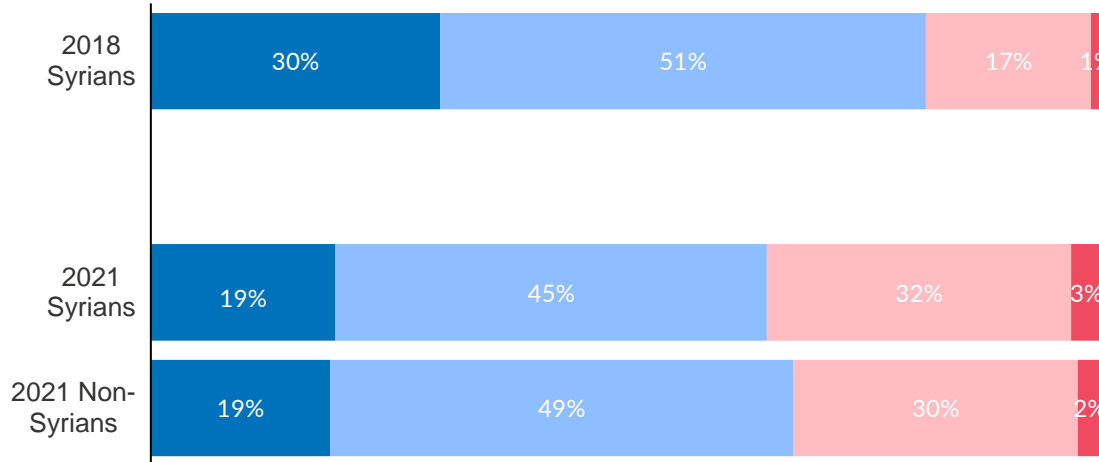
FOOD SECURITY

REDUCED COPING STRATEGIES INDEX (rCSI)

Food Insecurity Classification of rCSI scores | 2021

Percentage of families (%)

■ Minimal ■ Stressed ■ Crisis ■ Emergency



Minimal: $rCSI \leq 3$

Stressed: $3 > rCSI \leq 18$

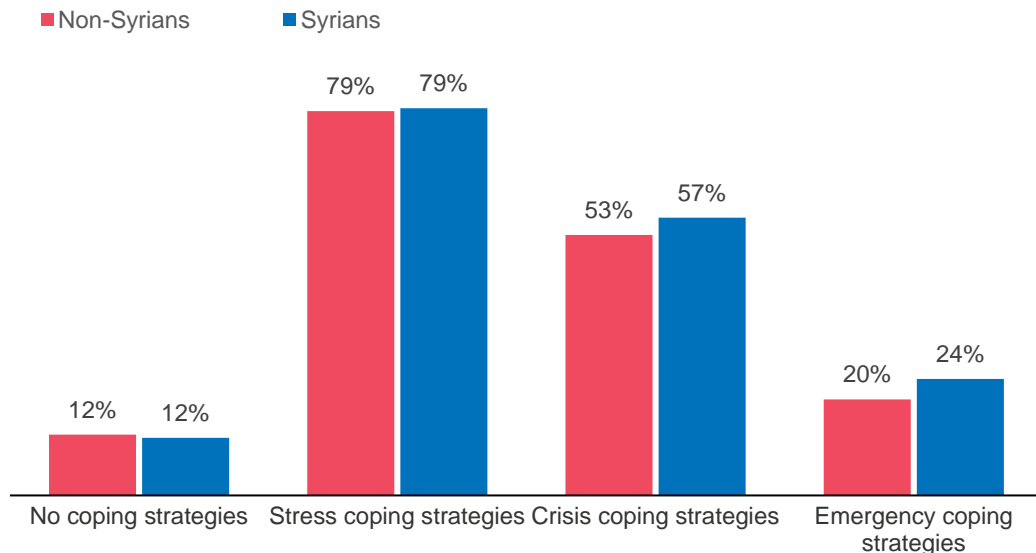
Crisis: $18 > rCSI \leq 42$

Emergency: $42 > rCSI$

Livelihood Coping Strategy Index

LCSI levels | 2021

Percentage of families (%)



Stress CS: Spent Savings, Took loan for non-food essentials, Bought food on credit, Sold household goods/assets, Changed accommodation to reduce rental expenses.

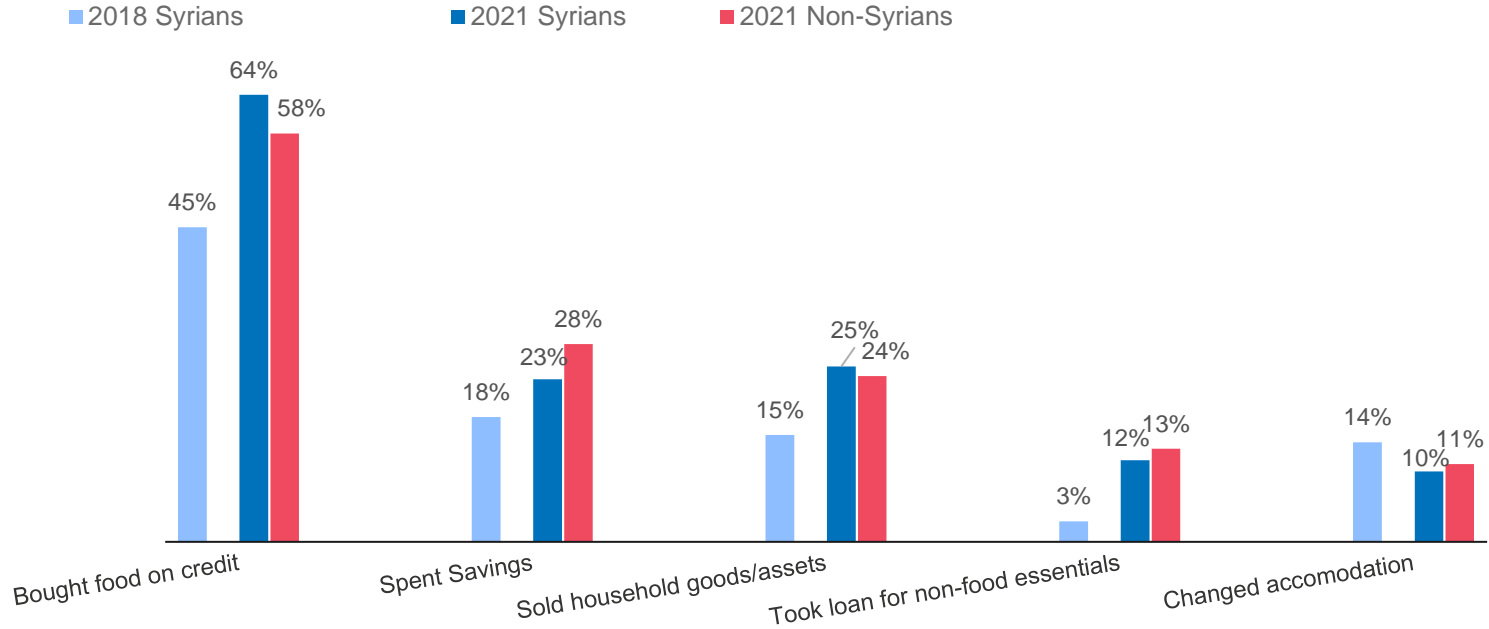
Crisis CS: Sold productive assets, Reduced non-food expenses, Withdrew children from school.

Emergency CS: Accepted high-risk job, Adult begging, Child begging, Child working, Child marriage.

*Indicator refers to families relying on coping strategy during the 30 days prior to the interview in order to meet basic needs

Stress level coping mechanisms | 2018-2021

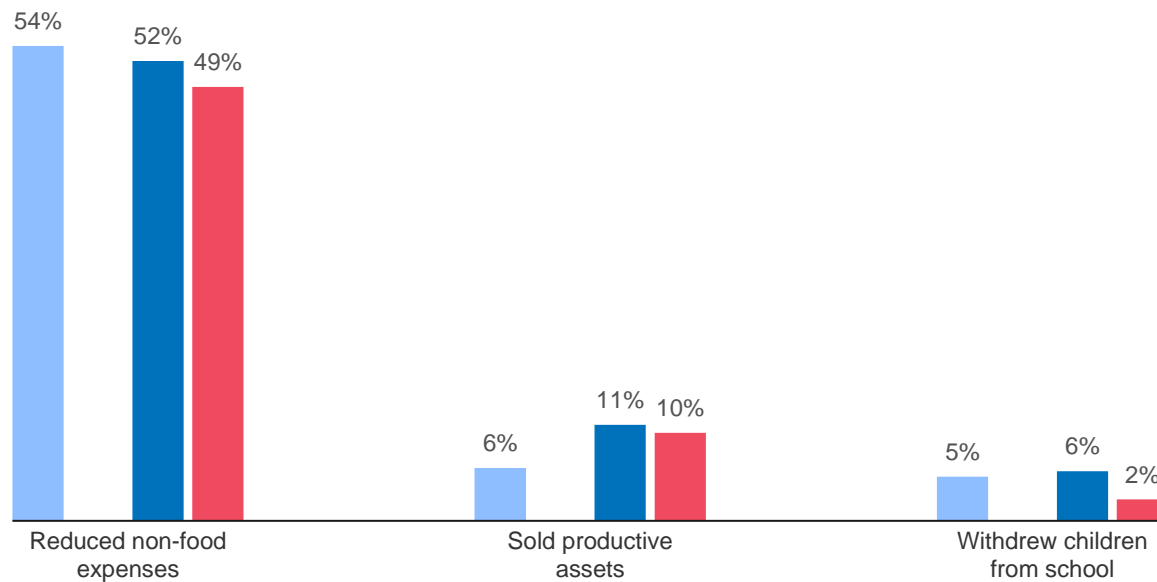
Percentage of families (%)



Crisis level coping mechanisms | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

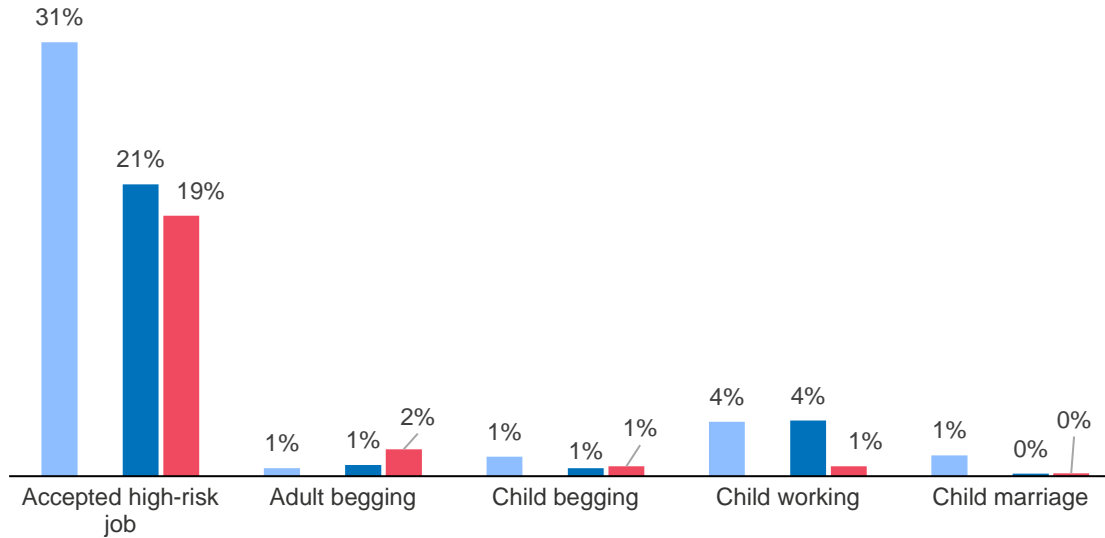
■ 2018 Syrians ■ 2021 Syrians ■ 2021 Non-Syrians



Emergency level coping mechanisms | 2018-2021

Percentage of families (%)

■ 2018 Syrians ■ 2021 Syrians ■ 2021 Non-Syrians



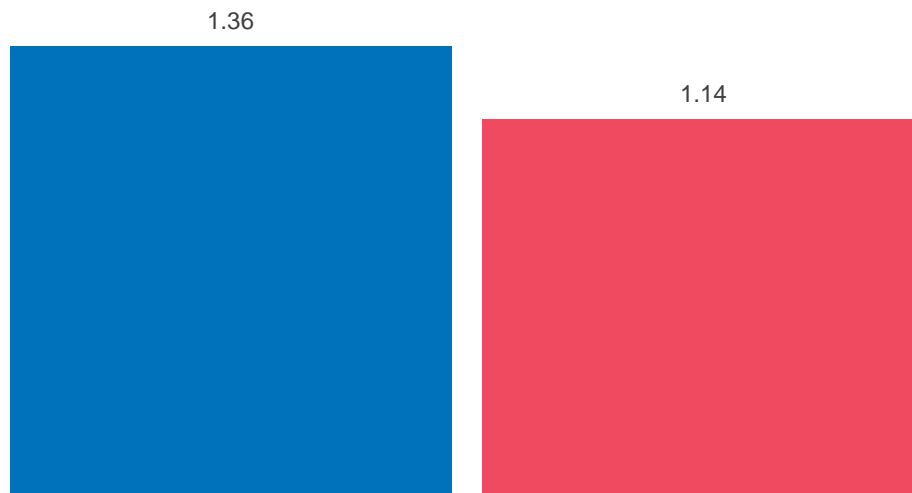
Dependency Ratio

DEPENDENCY RATIO

AUTONOMOUS ADULTS

Average number of autonomous adults per family | 2021

■ Syrian ■ Non-Syrian

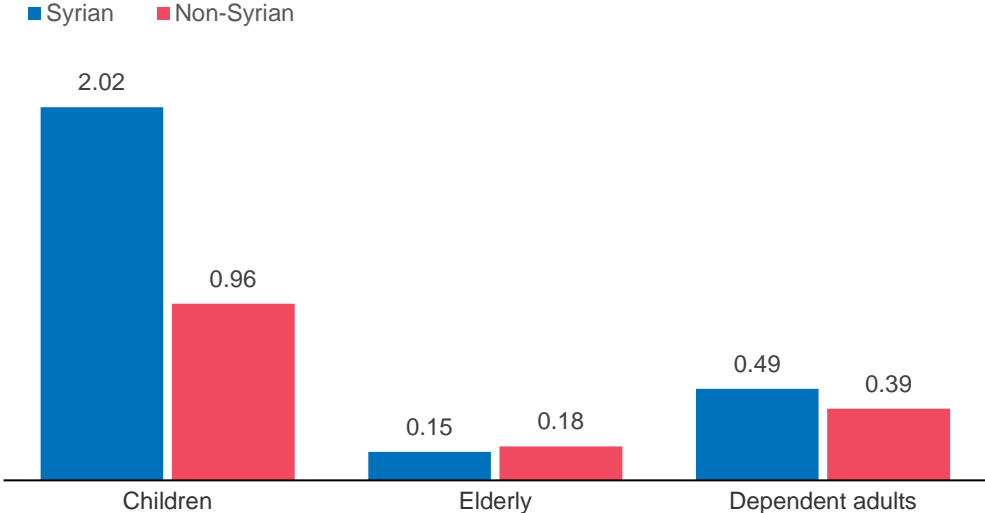


*Autonomous adults refers to individuals aged 18-59 with no serious medical condition or disability

DEPENDENCY RATIO

DEPENDENTS PER FAMILY

Average number of dependents per autonomous adults | 2021



DEPENDENCY RATIO

DEPENDENTS



10% and **9%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
families report having at least
one family member with
a disability that affects their
working ability.



41% and **35%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
families report having at least
one family member with
a chronic illness that affects
their working ability.

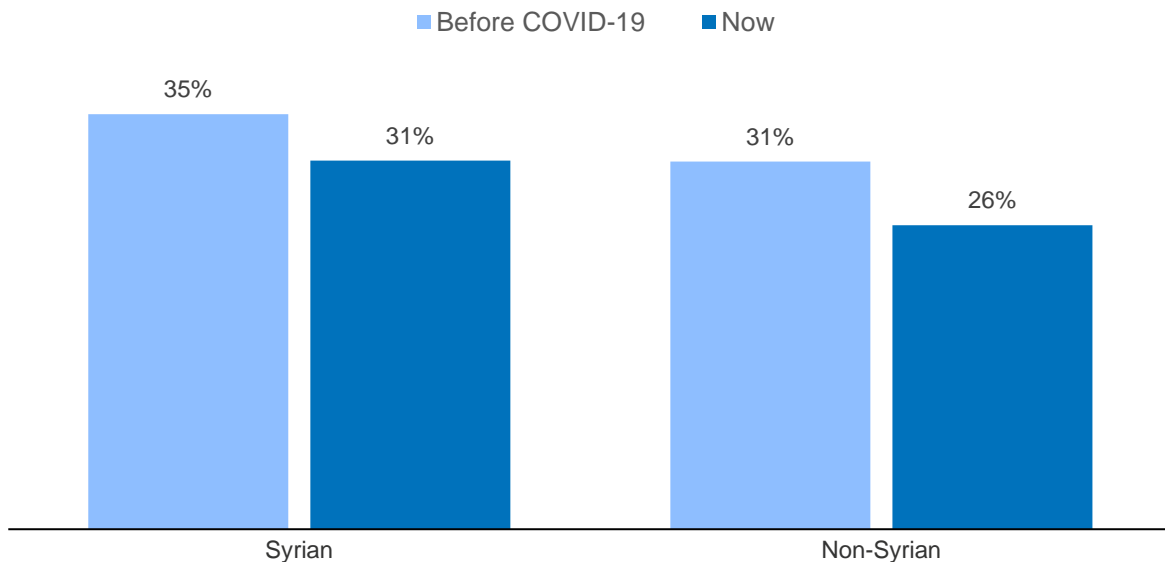
Income and Livelihoods

INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS

COVID-19 AND EMPLOYMENT

Employment status before COVID-19 and now | Before COVID-19 - 2021

Percentage of individuals aged 18 through 60 (%)



4% and 5% point drop in employment for Syrian and non-Syrian individuals of working age, before and after COVID-19.

2% point drop for non-Syrian individuals, but a slight increase in employment for Syrian individuals aged between 18 and 25, before and after COVID-19.



16% of disabled individuals are currently employed.

*Before COVID-19 refers to the period before April 2020 and the initial government lockdown

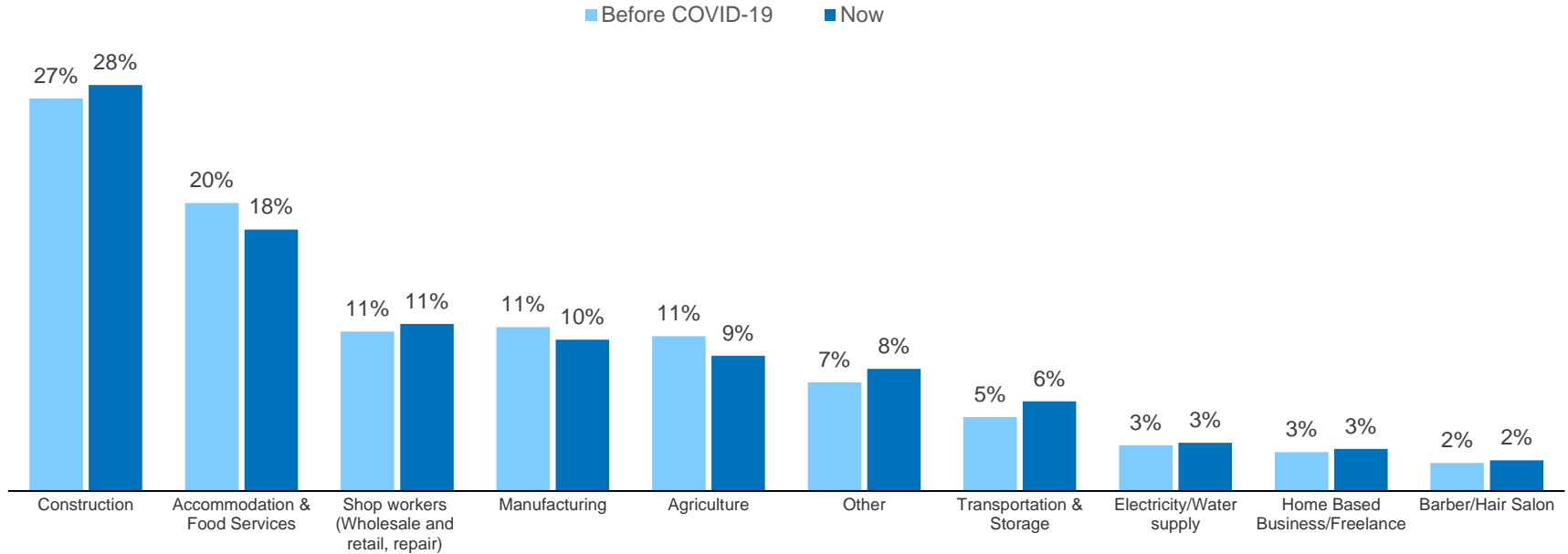
*Disability identification is based on Washington Group Questions

INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS

SECTORS OF EMPLOYMENT

Sector of work before COVID-19 and now | Before COVID-19 - 2021

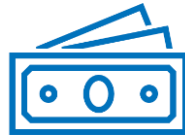
Percentage of individuals (%)



*Before COVID-19 refers to the period before April 2020 and the initial government lockdown

INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS

AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME FROM WORK



Non-Syrian family
172 JOD

Syrian family
191 JOD

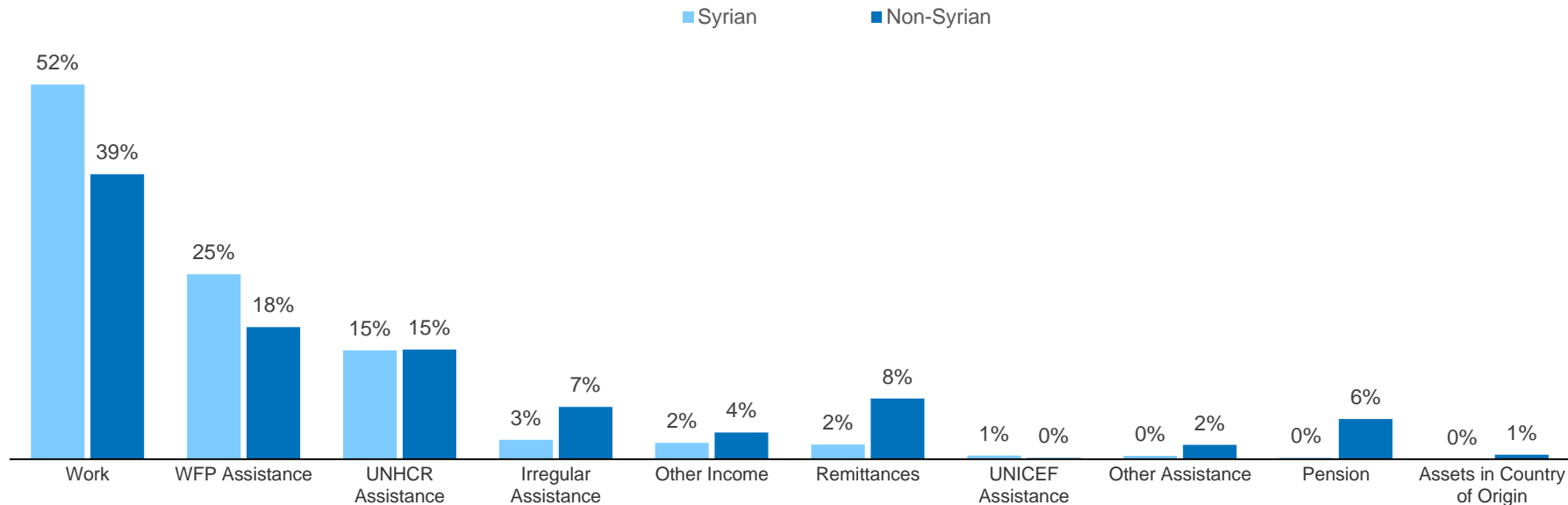
*Figure only for families which report work income

INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS

MAIN INCOME SOURCES

Main sources of income | 2021

Percentage of family income (%)



*8% of families have no reported income

*Includes families which receive no humanitarian cash assistance

INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION AND SMEB RATIO



56% and **37%**
of **Syrian** and **non-Syrian**
families have at least one working
family member

Nationality	Monthly SMEB (JOD)	Average Monthly Work Income (JOD)	Ratio of income to SMEB value
Syrian	145	211	146%
Non-Syrian	132	190	144%

*Work income is calculated at is at **household level** and income increases as families pool resources.*

*Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) refers to monthly average cost for rent, electricity and water bills; SMEB calculation does not include food cost

*Average monthly work income only calculated for households which report work income

Basic Needs

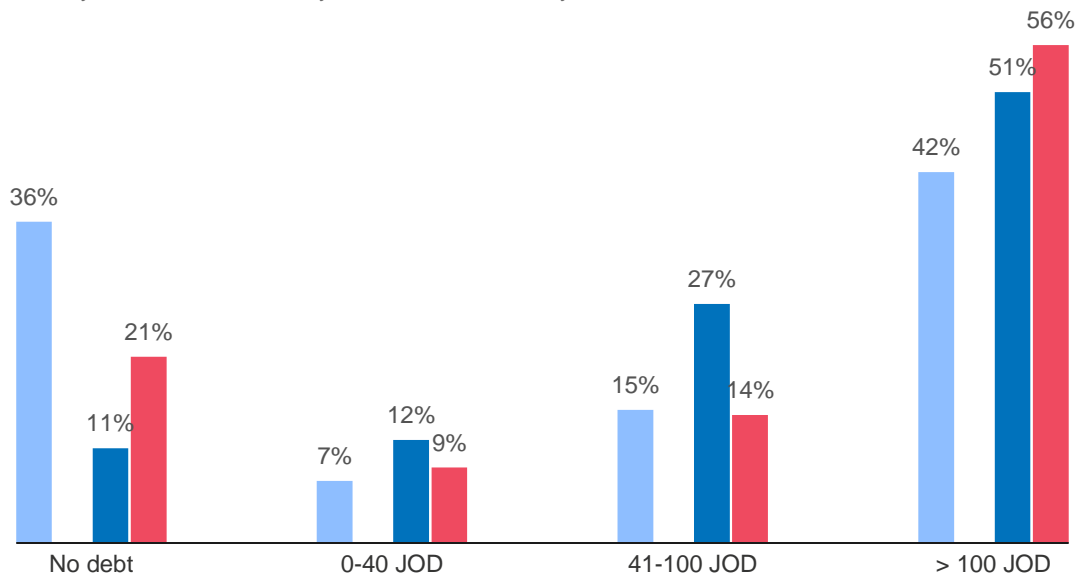
BASIC NEEDS

DEBT

Debt levels | 2018-2021

Percentage of families by debt per capita level (%)

■ 2018 Syrians ■ 2021 Syrians ■ 2021 Non-Syrians



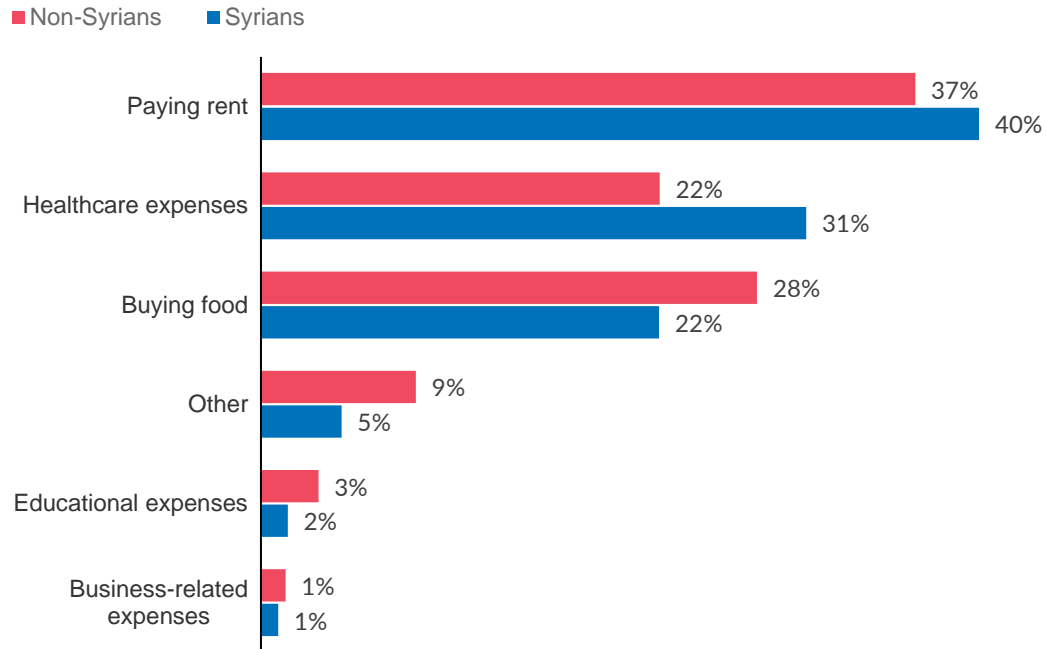
↑ 25% point increase in Syrian households holding debt from 2018 to 2021.

There are more Syrian households holding debt, but non-Syrian households tend to hold larger debt per capita.

BASIC NEEDS

DEBT

Reasons for borrowing money | 2021*

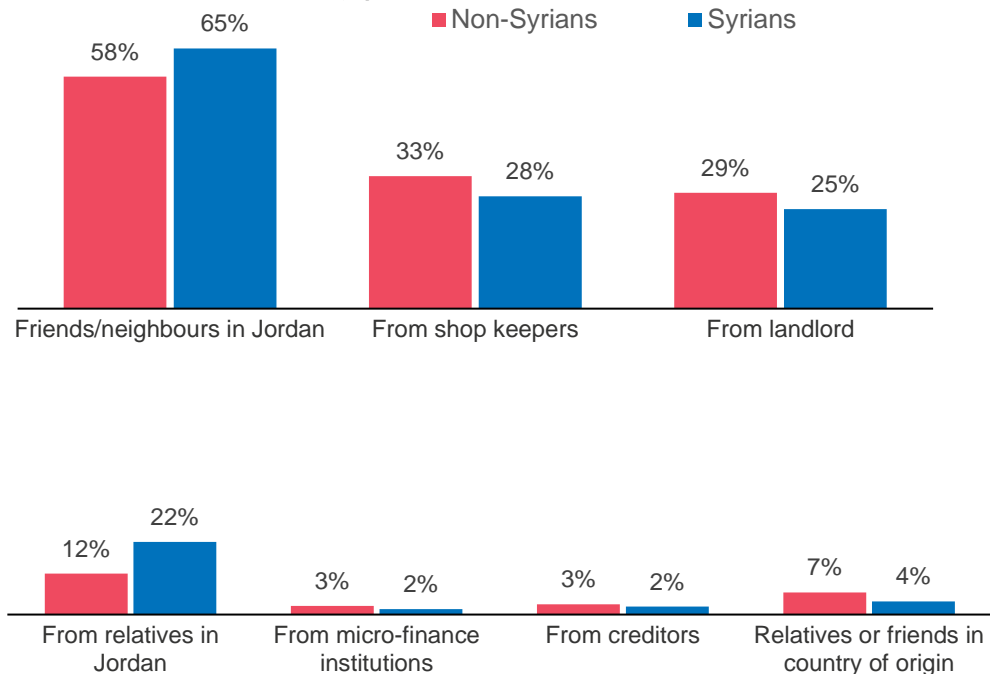


*The most selected 'Other' responses being family debts to a shop owner, bank loan, electricity or gas bill and various expenses

BASIC NEEDS

DEBT

Sources of borrowed money | 2021



The majority of borrowed money comes from **informal sources**.

Both **Syrians** and **non-Syrians** mostly borrow from friends and neighbours in Jordan.

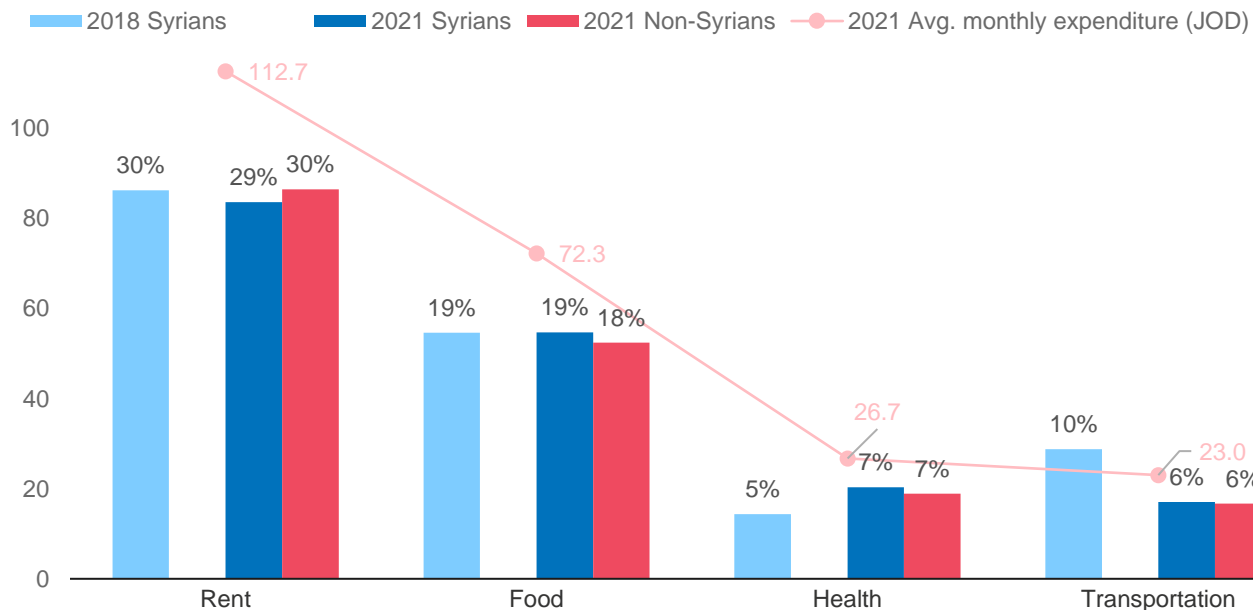
Syrians tend to borrow more from relatives in Jordan.

BASIC NEEDS

EXPENDITURE

Top average monthly expenditures | 2021

Share of total average monthly expenditure (%)



40% TOTAL AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE

30% Syrian household
398 JOD

20% Non-Syrian household
351 JOD

*Average total per capita monthly expenditure is 75JOD for Syrians and 91JOD for Non-Syrians

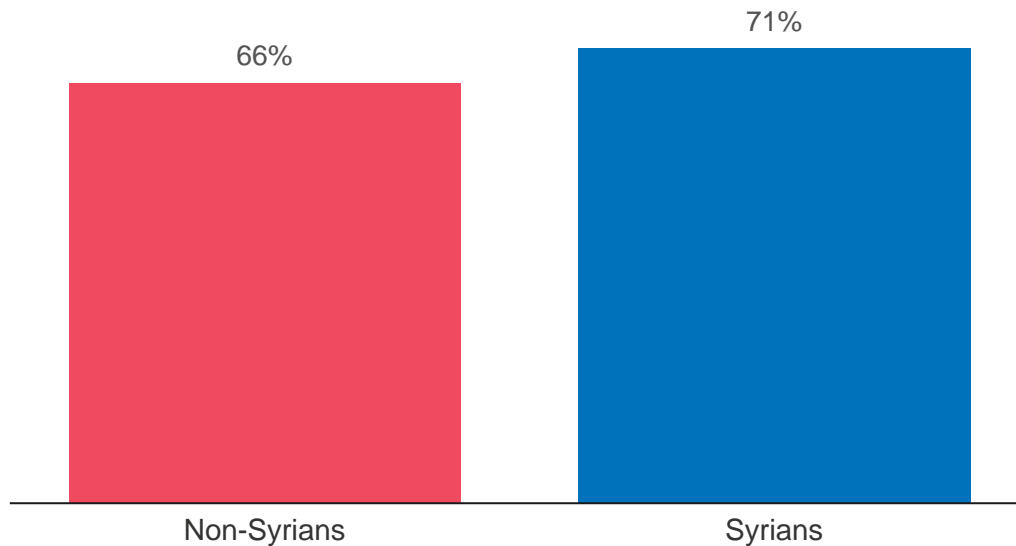
*Health includes hospital costs and medications from pharmacy

BASIC NEEDS

EXPENDITURE

Percentage of families spending below the SMEB | 2021

Percentage of families (%)



*Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) refers to monthly average cost for rent, electricity and water bills; SMEB calculation does not include food cost

Child Labour

CHILD LABOUR

WORKING CHILDREN

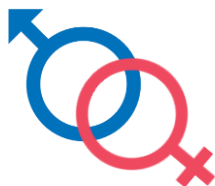


3.3%

(306 children)

of children between the ages of 6 and 17 are currently engaged work activities, an increase from 1.8% in 2016*

91%
(277 children)
of working children are involved in child labour



75% and 16%

(228 boys, 49 girls)

of working boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 17 are currently involved in child labour activities



59%

(182 children)

of working children are exposed to hazardous work environments

*2016 figure from National Child Labour Survey (NCLS, 2016)

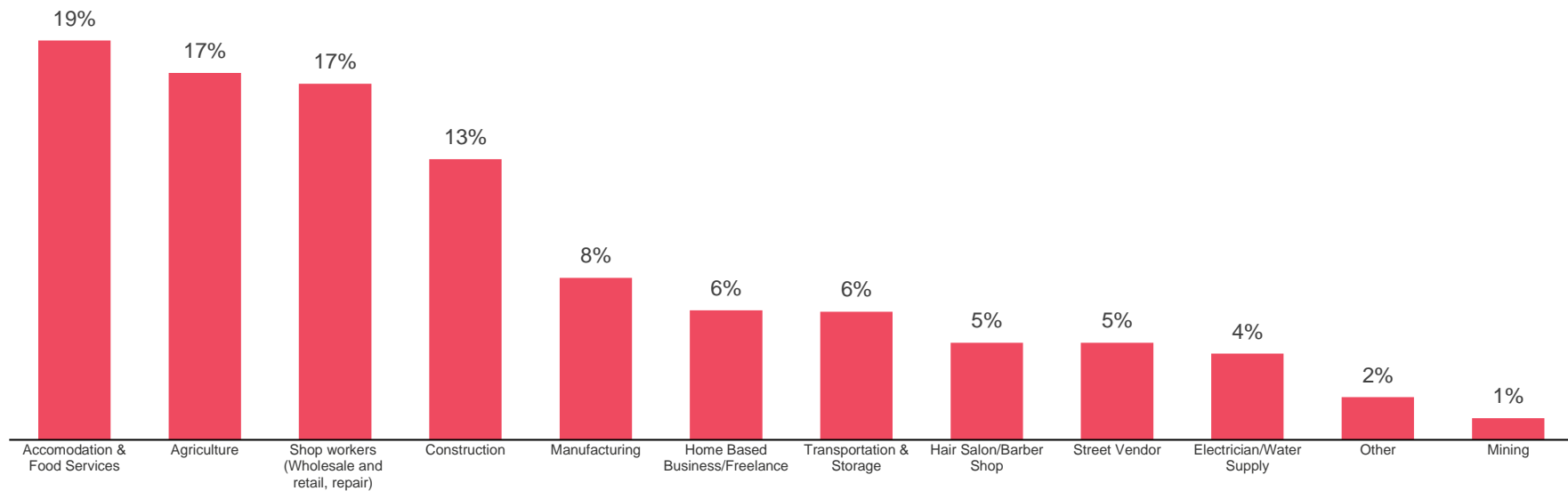
[Click here for interactive dashboard](#)

CHILD LABOUR

WORK SECTORS

Sector of work for working children | 2021

Percentage of children involved in work (%)



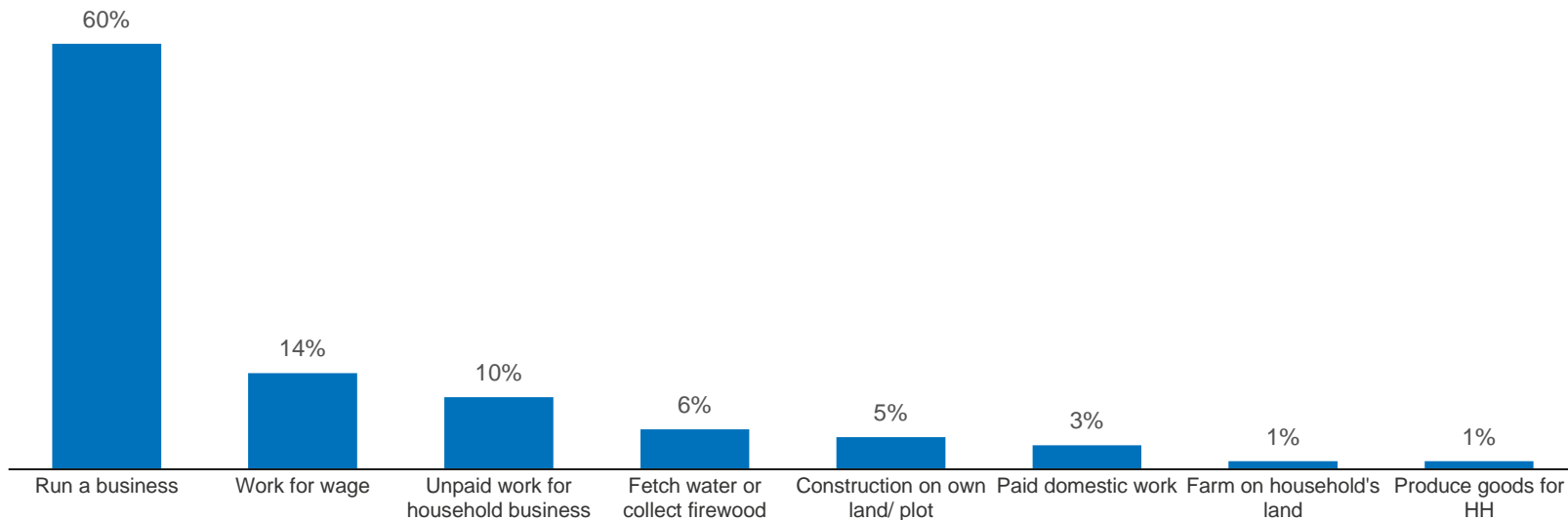
* The total sample of working children is N=306.

CHILD LABOUR

WORK ACTIVITIES

Work activities for working children (at least one hour spent on the activity in the last month) | 2021

Percentage of children (%)



* The total sample of working children is N=306.

Gender Analysis

GENDER ANALYSIS

WATER AND SANITATION



Female Headed Households (FHH) are slightly more likely to not have physical access to latrine to all household members than Male Headed Households (MHH) (9% vs. 7%).

DEBT AND EXPENDITURE



FHH are equally likely than MHH to have debt. However their debt levels tend to be lower.



FHH and MHH are equally likely to be below the SMEB.



FHH have lower total monthly expenditure than MHH (351 JOD vs. 396 JOD)



FHH spend on average 2% more of their monthly expenditures on rent than MHH.



MHH spend more on cigarettes (2% vs. 4%), medical prescriptions (5% vs. 7.5%) than FHH.

COPING MECHANISMS



FHH are less likely to engage in emergency coping mechanisms than MHH (19% vs. 24%):

- MHH are more likely to have accepted high risk jobs (22% vs. 15%)



FHH are more likely to have relied on less preferred foods than MHH (84% vs. 80%)

HEALTH AND EDUCATION



MHH and FHH have similar levels of health expenditure, access and vulnerability.



FHH are more likely to have all-school aged children in school than MHH (63% vs. 51%)

LIVELIHOODS



Women of working age (between 18 and 60) are less likely than men to be engaged in the workforce both now (5% vs. 55%) and before COVID-19 (7% vs. 62%)

UNHCR Jordan

319 Wasfi Al-Tal Street

Khalda, Amman

Jordan

Phone: +962 6 530 20 00

<https://www.unhcr.org/jo/>

For more information please contact:

Maria Lagourou

VAF Coordinator

Lagourou@unhcr.org