



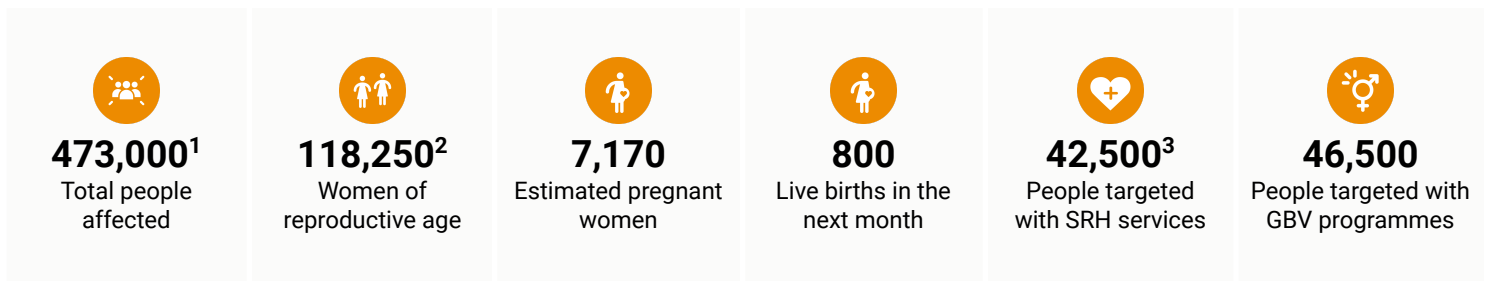
# Situation Report #4

## Influx from Lebanon into Syria

Photo: © UNFPA/Syria

Region:	Arab States
Emergency type:	Conflict
Start Date of Crisis:	Sep 24, 2024
Date Issued:	Nov 15, 2024
Covering Period:	Oct 29, 2024 to Nov 11, 2024
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### Key Figures



<sup>1</sup> [UNHCR Syria Short Brief: Response to Displacement from Lebanon to Syria](#) (24 September- 2 November 2024).

<sup>2</sup> MISP calculations based on 473,000 total people affected.

<sup>3</sup> The UN Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for Syria estimates that up to 480,000 people will be displaced and/or affected by the conflict in Lebanon. This situation report targets those in need based on current numbers affected with the aim to scale-up if the number of affected people increases.

## Highlights

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- The ongoing conflict in the region has triggered a mass exodus of people seeking safety in Syria. Over 473,000 individuals (71% Syrian nationals and 29% Lebanese nationals) are estimated to have crossed the borders into Syria from Lebanon since the escalation of hostilities seven weeks ago – 25% are women of reproductive age (aged 15 to 49 years).
- Nearly half of Syrian families returning to Lebanon are female-headed, who are facing severe challenges to ensure the well-being of their families and to access essential health services, safe shelter, nutritious food, non-food items, and legal support to navigate complex administrative procedures. Female headed households are also struggling to secure any means of earning a living. Some families are forced to send adolescents in search of work.
- UNFPA is expanding access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and protection services to women and girls affected by the crisis through 147 service points, including health facilities, women and girls' safe spaces (WGSS), community well-being centers, and integrated SRH/gender-based violence (GBV) mobile teams. Services include maternal health care, family planning, GBV prevention, response and risk mitigation services, including specialized services, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).
- UNFPA continues to distribute dignity kits containing essential hygiene items, including sanitary pads, to displaced women and girls in need.
- Protection risks have increased for women and girls forced to flee, particularly those who are struggling to find a safe place to stay and to meet the basic needs of their families. To respond to the growing demand for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), as reported by frontline service providers/partners, UNFPA is finalizing the recruitment and deployment of a MHPSS surge staff, and continues to coordinate with MHPSS working groups and other stakeholders to ensure accessible and multisectoral referral services for GBV for those in need.
- As winter approaches, UNFPA is exploring the local procurement of winterized kits to address women and girls' immediate needs.

## Situation Overview

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- The healthcare system in Syria has already been significantly weakened by over a decade of war, exacerbated by dire shortages of medical supplies and skilled personnel. The influx of new arrivals is placing an additional strain on the health care system and there is an urgent need for reproductive health and hygiene supplies and additional skilled human resources, including for maternal health care, emergency obstetric care and family planning.
- A total of 22 hosting centers in Lattakia (9), Tartous (4), Rural Damascus (1), Homs (5) and Hama (3) are accommodating people arriving from Lebanon. Women have reported that they lack privacy and access to basic services in centers, and as temperatures drop, winterized assistance is urgently needed. In Raqqa city and Darra, up to 40 people are living in one house, with some families living in unsafe buildings. UNFPA and partners are advocating with local authorities to ensure centers are safe and women-friendly and that women and girls in centres and host communities have access to health and protection services.

- In the North-East of Syria (NES), there is a limited number of maternity hospitals and clinics in both Al Hasakah and Deir Ez-Zor with the capacity to provide emergency obstetric care, including cesarean sections. There is an urgent need for additional healthcare facilities providing reproductive and maternal health services, along with trained human resources and supplies, to meet the needs of people arriving from Lebanon and host communities. A total of 9,705 households (54,426 individuals) have arrived in Deir-ez-Zor governorate.
- Arrivals in Aleppo continue to surge. As of 7 November 2024, 8,620 households (40,450 individuals) had arrived in the governorate. No centers have been opened, as the majority of arrivals are being hosted by communities or have returned to their homes, resulting in secondary displacements in some cases.
- An assessment in host communities in Aleppo highlighted that women and girls are at increased risk of GBV. Most reported needs include access to health services, including maternal health and PSS, winter clothes, and legal support, especially for documentation. UNFPA partners have registered more than 1,400 pregnant and breastfeeding women, nearly 4,350 female-headed households and approximately 230 persons with disabilities in Aleppo. UNFPA is providing reproductive health and protection services, updating GBV referral pathways, distributing hygiene items and providing cash and voucher assistance.

## UNFPA Response

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- UNFPA has reached over 1,000 women and girls with SRH and GBV services, including PSS and female dignity kits, containing flashlights, under garments, soap, and sanitary pads in Daraa City and 33 rural locations.
- In Deir Ezzour, UNFPA and partners have mobilized and prepositioned 5,610 female dignity kits for distribution to new arrivals, pending the issuance of assistance cards by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC).
- The UNFPA-supported Youth Charity Association (YCA) community wellbeing centre and mobile team in Mayadin district, Deir Ez Zor, are providing SRH and GBV services. Some 4,610 female dignity kits are prepositioned with four implementing partners (Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch (GOPA), Amelioration Sanitation and Society Level Association (ASSLS), Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA) and YCA) and will be distributed soon.
- A total of 32 community midwives are delivering maternal health care to support safe births in Aleppo and Deir Ez Zor as well as referrals for women experiencing obstetric complications. Since 24 September, 13 women have been assisted to give birth safely and 86 free consultations have been provided.

### **At Borders and Other Crossings:**

- UNFPA and partners are on the ground at border crossings in Al-Arida, Tartous, and Jocida/Daboucieha, Homs, delivering SRH and GBV services, including psychological first aid, PSS, MHPSS and essential medical and hygiene supplies, to women and girls. To date, 19,600 individuals have received services. UNFPA is monitoring the response, ready to revise activities according to needs.

### **In Hosting Centers:**

- UNFPA is supporting the Syrian Youth Council (SYC) to manage a hosting center in Lattakia, for over 600 families.
- Women and girls' safe spaces (WGSS) and community well-being centers are being expanded in Jableh, providing SRH and protection services, including PSS and referrals, to specialized services as needed. Health education and literacy programmes are also available. To date 15,140 people have accessed WGSSs and community well-being centers.
- To reduce GBV and protection risks, UNFPA has supported the improvement of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities at hosting centers, including supplying washing machines, water filters, and installing lighting at centers in Lattakia, in coordination with UN Women.

### **In Host Communities:**

- In Aleppo, UNFPA, through its partners, provided SRH services to 816 women and GBV services, including case management, referrals and awareness-raising, to 900 women and girls. To ensure quality services, UNFPA has trained 130 frontline workers in Aleppo on GBV case management and reproductive health.
- UNFPA has delivered over 16,000 dignity kits and 22,000 packs of sanitary pads, sufficient to cover the menstrual needs of 7,000 women and girls for one month, for distribution by partners across urban and rural Aleppo.
- In Zabadani and Madaya, UNFPA, through its partners, provided SRH and GBV services to 970 Syrian and 420 Lebanese women and girls. UNFPA continues to provide services to displaced women and girls in host communities in Rural Damascus, Dara'a and As-sweida governorates.
- UNFPA-supported facilities and mobile teams are providing SRH and GBV services in Al Hassakah and Al Raqqa governorates to both host communities and new arrivals; 696 individuals accessed SRH services and 57 individuals accessed GBV services. 1,707 sanitary pads were distributed and 14 pregnant and breastfeeding women received a female dignity kit.
- UNFPA, through its partners, delivered GBV services to 10,733 individuals and SRH services to 18,052 individuals in Homs Governorate.
- In Raqqa, a total of 276 women were reached with PFA and 569 packs of sanitary pads were distributed.

## Results Snapshots

UNFPA Syria response to Syrians and Lebanese who recently arrived from Lebanon (cumulative data since 24 Sep)



**18,052**  
People reached with **SRH services**



**59**  
SRH facilities supported



**10,733**  
People reached with **GBV prevention, mitigation and response activities**



**26**  
**Women and Girls Safe Spaces** supported providing **specialized GBV services**



**62**  
**Integrated SRH/GBV mobile teams**  
 deployed for the response



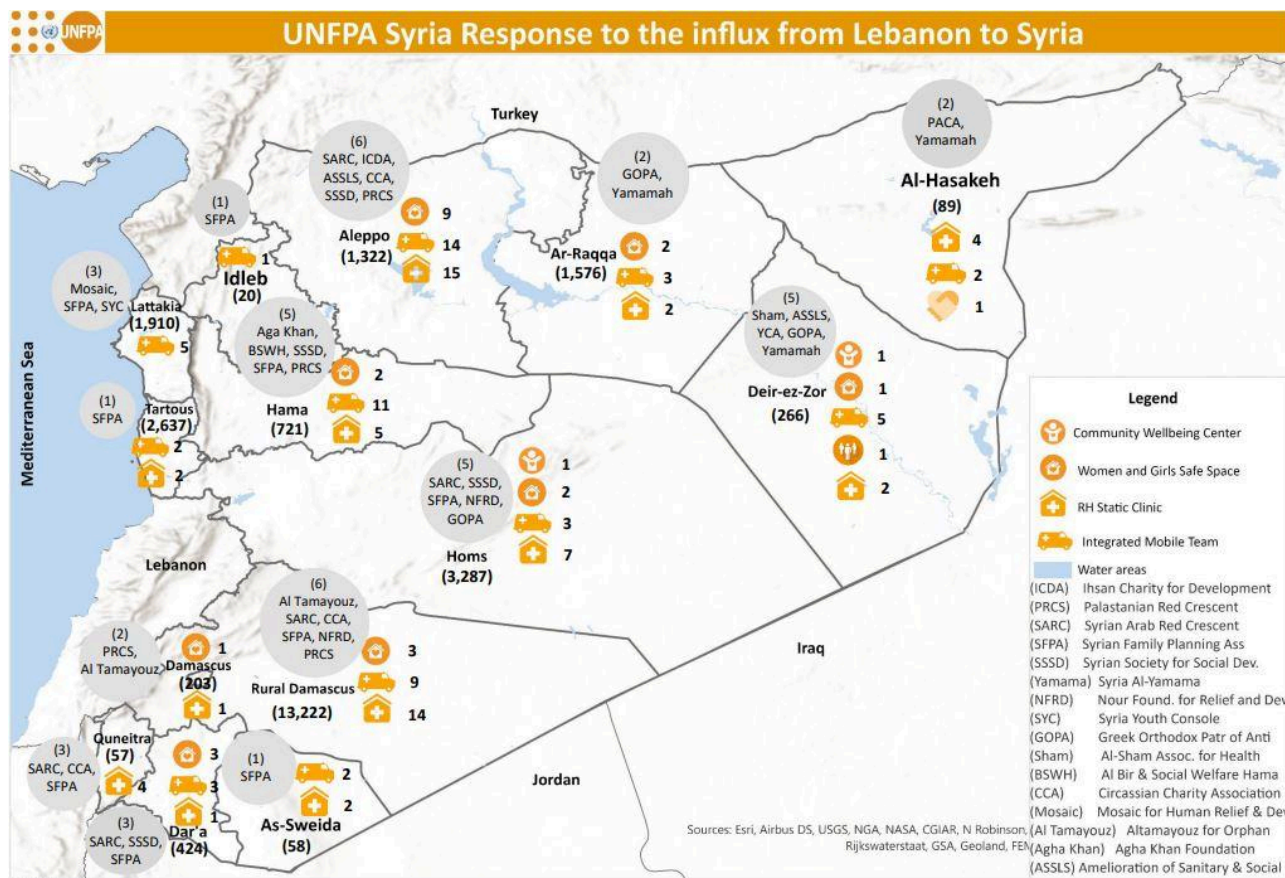
**12,440**  
**Dignity kits** distributed to women and girls



**55**  
**Inter-Agency Reproductive Health kits** with  
 supplies to support 17,500 health services



**32**  
**Community midwives** are supporting safe  
 and clean deliveries in Aleppo and Deir Ez  
 Zor



Map Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement by the United Nations.

## Coordination Mechanisms



### Gender-Based Violence:

- GBV risks and needs assessments are ongoing at border crossing points and in hosting centers to ensure the response is effective and adapting to evolving needs.
- The integration of GBV risk mitigation and psychological first aid across the humanitarian response is prioritized.
- The GBV Sub-Sector, led by UNFPA, in collaboration with the Protection Sector and other sub-sectors, continues to coordinate the joint delivery of essential services and risk mitigation supplies, including dignity kits.

- Advocacy with the Humanitarian Country Team and at the Inter-Sector Coordination level is ongoing to ensure the prioritization of GBV across the response, and facilitate the movement of specialized GBV staff to affected areas.
- GBV safety audits were conducted in Harjellah hosting center in Damascus, and in Al Bassel hosting center in Lattakia. The main GBV risks identified were the lack of lighting and door locks in some hosting centers, restricted movement in overcrowded rooms, and a lack of privacy.

#### ♥ Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- Three minimum initial service package (MISP) assessments of UNFPA-supported mobile teams (SFPA and Mosaic) were conducted in Lattakia and Tartous. These assessments highlighted that implementing partners are providing safe referrals to hospitals through coordination with SARC ambulance cars for emergencies or specialized health needs. Family planning methods are available, helping to prevent unintended pregnancies and unsafe abortions. However, challenges remain, including a shortage of medicines for sexually transmitted infections and limited access to SRH services for adolescent girls and unmarried women, primarily due to cultural and social norms in hosting centers.
- UNFPA is finalizing MISP assessments in Aleppo, Homs, Al Hassakah and Ar-Raqqa.

## Funding Status

The Inter-Agency Flash Appeal for Syria, launched on 7 October 2024, seeks to secure US\$ 324 million to address the most pressing needs of 480,000 people and host community members in Syria over the next six months. Within the framework of this inter-agency appeal, [UNFPA's financial requirements](#) are **US\$ 7.5 million: US\$ 2.8 million for SRH and US\$ 4.7 million for GBV programmes of which UK£ 500,000 (approx. US\$ 650,000) has been received from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), and US\$ 500,000 from the UNFPA internal Emergency Fund and the Humanitarian Thematic Fund.** UNFPA is also grateful to the European Union (EU) Civil Protection for extending the flexibility of repurposing existing funds to support the humanitarian response.

**NOTE:** This appeal is in line with the Syria Inter-Agency Flash Appeal and does not cover funding requests included in the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan, the Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan Appeals, and the Whole of Syria Appeals.

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