



WFP Syria Situation Report #8

August 2021



5 million people assisted

August 2021 (based on dispatches)



WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)

2021 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan	Overall requirement: US\$ 4.2 billion
	WFP share: US\$ 1.27 billion
WFP 6-Month Net Funding Requirement (September 2021 – February 2022)	US\$ 480 m As of 23 August 2021
WFP Syria 2019-2021 Interim Country Strategic Plan (November 2018)	
Interim Country Strategic Plan Revision 04 (April 2020)	

In Numbers

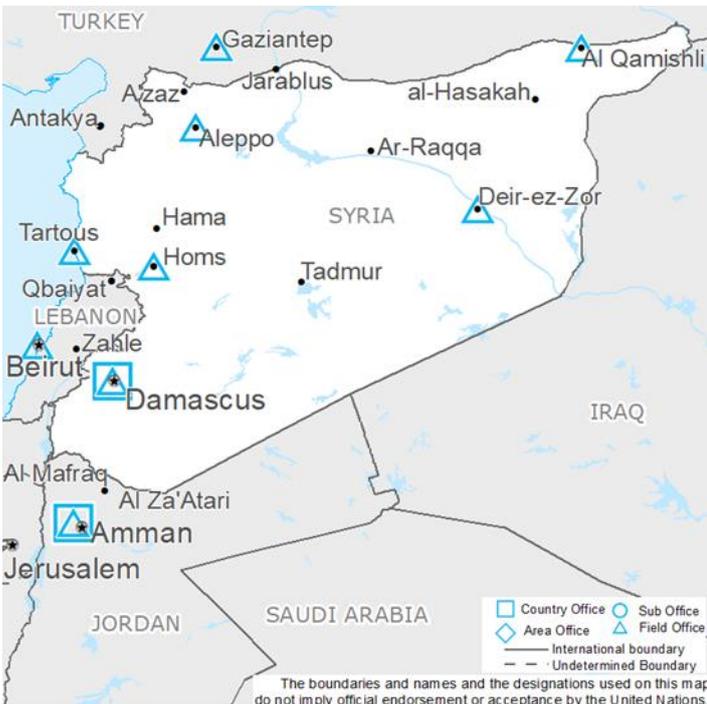
12.4 million people food insecure

1.3 million severely food insecure

6.8 million people internally displaced

Highlights

- WFP dispatched humanitarian assistance sufficient for an estimated 5 million people across all activities in Syria in August¹.
- WFP revised its resource-based implementation plan, gradually increasing the target for General Food Assistance (GFA) by one million people - from 4.8 to 5.8 million people each month starting August 2021.
- The humanitarian situation in Dar'a al Balad (Dar'a governorate) deteriorated significantly in August as a result of the ongoing fighting and deteriorating security situation. A ceasefire was agreed to on 31 August and held in September. WFP provided emergency assistance through ready-to-eat rations.
- On 30 August, WFP undertook a crossline delivery from Aleppo to Idlib governorates of food and nutrition assistance sufficient for 50,000 people.



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Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic

Situation Update

Economic situation

- The informal exchange rate weakened between June and July 2021, and the Syrian pound lost two percent of its value, reaching SYP 3,210/US\$. Compared to one year ago, the Syrian pound has depreciated by 30 percent. The official exchange rate and the UN operational rate remain at SYP 2,500/US\$.
- The national average price of WFP's standard reference food basket² has remained somewhat stable in July at around SYP 167,439 (US\$ 67 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,500/US\$). This is a one percent increase from June, according to the latest [WFP Syria Market Price Watch Bulletin](#).
- Compared to the same time last year, the price of the reference food basket has increased by an average of 93 percent across all 14 governorates.

Southern Syria

- The humanitarian situation in Dar'a al Balad (Dar'a governorate) deteriorated significantly in August as a

¹ This is the latest dispatch figure as of 16 September and may increase pending further data reconciliation.

² The standard food basket is a group of essential food commodities. In Syria, the food basket is set at a group of dry goods providing 2,060 kcal a day for a family of five for a month. The basket includes 37 kg bread, 19 kg rice, 19 kg lentils, 5 kg of sugar, and 7 litres of vegetable oil.

result of the ongoing fighting and deteriorating security situation, with reports indicating critical shortages of bread, fuel, and electricity. Further, a 25 – 35 percent general commodity price increase was reported in Dar'a governorate, with traders attributing this to increased transport difficulties and the closure of several roads leading to western rural Dar'a.

- WFP continued its emergency distributions of ready-to-eat rations (RTEs) for those displaced by the conflict. Meanwhile, WFP's regular general food assistance distribution plan for August to some 450,000 people across Dar'a governorate was put on hold by relevant authorities due to security concerns, approvals have since been received and distributions have started.

North-Western Syria

- On 30 August, WFP successfully undertook a crossline delivery of food and nutrition assistance from government-controlled Aleppo city, Aleppo governorate, to opposition controlled Sarmada city, Idlib governorate. The assistance delivered was sufficient for 50,000 people.
- The UNHCR-led Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCCM) Cluster recorded more than 31,000 displacements in north-west Syria in August, mainly from Idlib (Idlib governorate) and Afrin (Aleppo governorate), as well as Ehsam (Idlib governorate) towards safer areas in Raju, Bulbul and Sharan sub-districts of Aleppo governorate. This represents a 3 percent decrease compared to July (32,000 displacements). During the same period, more than 2,700 IDP returnees were reported as returning to the place of origin, mainly arriving to Ariha, Mhambal and Jisr-Ash-Shugur sub-districts of Idlib governorate.

COVID-19 Pandemic

- Some 86,560 COVID-19 cases and 3,570 deaths have been confirmed across all areas of Syria as of end of August. This is a 22 percent increase in cases and a 5 percent increase in deaths since the end of July. This includes 28,045 cases and 2,018 deaths in government-controlled areas, 37,870 cases and 760 deaths in north-western Syria, and 20,649 cases and 788 deaths in north-eastern Syria.
- As part of the Health Sector-led response to COVID-19 in Syria, WFP, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) provided food assistance to 17,250 people in ten quarantine and ten isolation centres in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Latakia, Tartous, and Rural Damascus governorates as of 31 August. The project is funded through the Syria Country-Based Pooled Fund (CBPF).

WFP Operations

- WFP dispatched food and nutrition assistance sufficient for an estimated 5 million people across all activities in Syria in August. US\$ 1.8 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) was distributed to 126,100 WFP beneficiaries.

General Food Assistance (GFA) Programme

- In August, WFP dispatched GFA sufficient for some 4.97 million people across all 14 Syrian governorates.
- Cross-border deliveries from Turkey accounted for 25 percent of the total WFP general food assistance dispatched. This includes food rations for some 1.3 million people areas of Idlib and Aleppo governorate inaccessible from inside Syria.
- In July, WFP revised the resource-based implementation plan to increase the target for General Food Assistance (GFA) by one million people - from 4.8 to 5.8 million people each month. This is in line with the results of the latest food security assessments. The implementation of this scale up started in August will be completed in October. However, due to funding shortfalls, WFP had to cut rations across the operation.

Livelihoods, Resilience and Social Safety Nets

- WFP reached some 33,000 people under its livelihoods, resilience, and social safety-nets-projects by providing kitchen gardens, food processing units, and thyme cultivation assistance. This was across Rural Damascus, Dar'a, Quneitra, As-Sweida, Homs, Hama, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, Latakia, Tartous and Deir Ezzor governorates.
- Rehabilitation works on two bakeries in Deir Ezzor have been completed. The two bakeries are now able to provide affordable and fresh bread to over 80,000 people.

School Feeding Programme

- As part of the national exams response led by the education sector, WFP supported 937 children sitting for the final round of their national exams.
- No fortified snack, fresh meal or CBT distributions were conducted in August. Distributions will resume in September, following the start of the new school year.

Nutrition Programme

- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the prevention of acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies for 190,200 children (6-23 months old) and Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls (PLWG). This includes some 67,600 PLWG who received CBT to purchase fresh food from WFP-contracted shops.
- WFP dispatched nutrition products for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition for 9,100 children and PLWG for one month.

Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

- Facilitating the cross-border operation from Turkey, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster transshipped 37 Syrian trucks from Turkey in August through the Bab al-Hawa border crossing. A total of 354 mt of Education, Health, WASH and Shelter items were transhipped on behalf of IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF.
- In August, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the storage of 716 m³ of humanitarian goods in its common storage facilities in Aleppo, Rural Damascus and Qamishli on behalf of WHO, NRC, ICRC and UNFPA.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- In August, the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) provided Internet services in six common operational areas in Syria to an average of 385 users and supported security telecommunications services in up to 13 sites in Syria and neighbouring countries.
- Amid the country-wide power crisis, the ETC has installed and operationalized a solar power system to support security communications services in five of the six Security Operation Centres (SOCs) managed by the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) in Syria – Aleppo, Deir Ezzor, Homs, Tartous and Qamishli.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

- In August, UNHAS Syria completed 21 rotations on its two routes from Damascus to Qamishli and Aleppo, transporting 489 passengers and 3 mt of light cargo. Of the passengers transported on both routes, 48 percent were UN staff, and 52 percent were staff from national and international non-governmental organisations.

Resourcing Update

- WFP requires US\$ 480 million to keep operations running at current levels through February 2022.

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For further information, visit the [WFP Syria website](#).

WFP Syria Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

	2021 Requirement (in US\$)	6-Month Net Funding Requirement (September 2021 – February 2022)	People Assisted (August 2021 dispatches)	Female	Male
ICSP (January 2019 – December 2021)	1.27 billion	480 million	5,003,945		
Activity 1: General Food Assistance			4,966,173	55%	45%
Activity 2: School Feeding			937	49%	51%
Activity 3: Livelihoods and Resilience			33,015	55%	45%
Activity 4: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition			190,212	68%	32%
Activity 5: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition			9,140	59%	41%