WASH

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

This chapter examined the water, sanitation, and hygiene situation of Syrian refugee households in Lebanon.

KEY FINDINGS

- In terms of access to drinking water, 87% of household members had access to an improved drinking water source, like last year. Bottled mineral water remained to be the highest source that households rely on for drinking water, though it dropped from 42% in 2019 to 37% in 2020;
- When asked whether a water source was readily available on premise, 69% of household members had it so, an 8-percentage point improvement from last year;
- The majority (91%) of household members had access to improved sanitation facilities. The rate went down to 84% and 78% when the shelter type was non-permanent or non-residential, respectively. The use of a basic sanitation service, which is an improved not shared sanitation facility, was found to be at 77%, with the lowest rate being observed in Akkar governorate at 53%.

ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER

Improved drinking water sources:
- Household water tap/water network
- Bottled mineral water
- Water tank/trucked water
- Protected borehole
- Piped water to yard/lot
- Protected spring
- Protected well

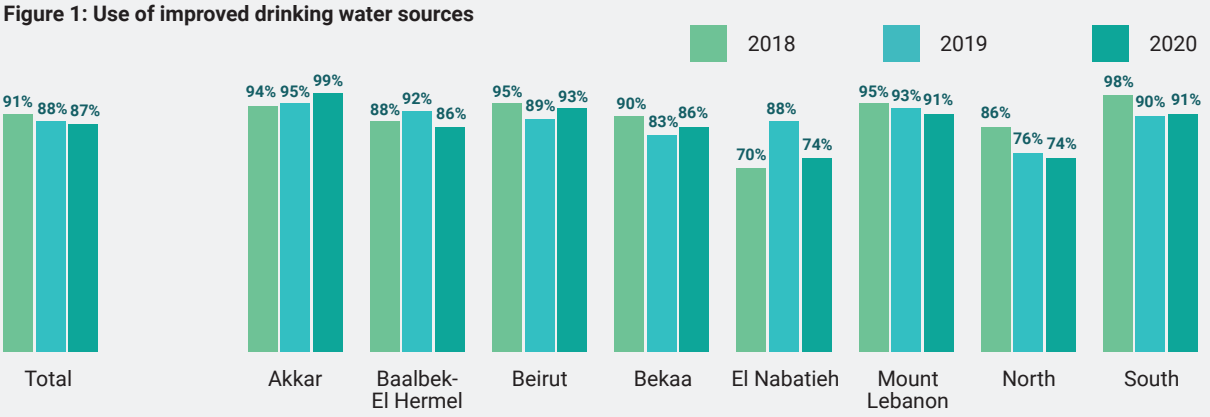
Unimproved drinking water sources
- Public/shared water stand/taps
- Unprotected borehole/well/spring
- Rainwater

Basic drinking water sources
- Water source in dwelling/yard/plot
- Water source within 30 minutes round trip collection time

The majority (87%) of Syrian refugee households had access to improved drinking water sources, a slightly similar result to last year, representing a governorate level decrease, mostly El Nabatieh with a decrease of 14 percentage points. Furthermore, the rates of improved drinking water sources in 2020 varied across governorates, with a notable decrease of 14% in the governorate of El Nabatieh (see figure 1).

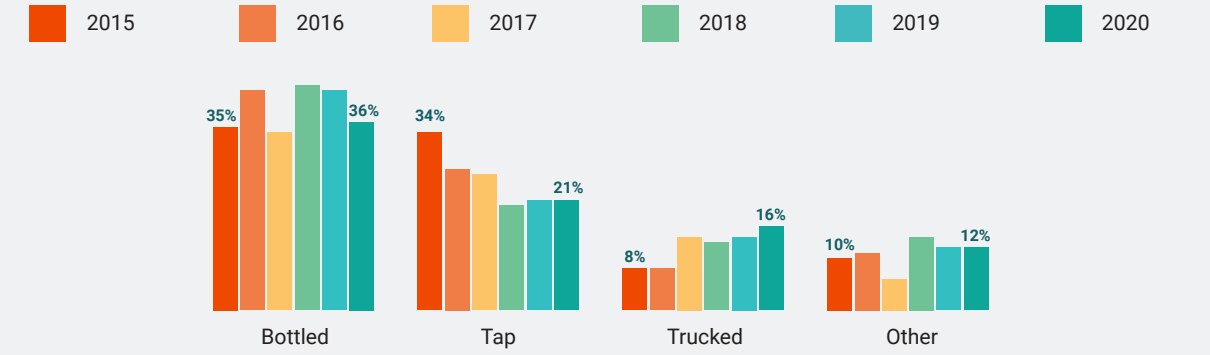
It should be noted that VASyR did not measure the quality of the water provided.

Figure 1: Use of improved drinking water sources



SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER

Figure 2: HH main source of drinking water from 2015 to 2019 (Improved Water Sources)

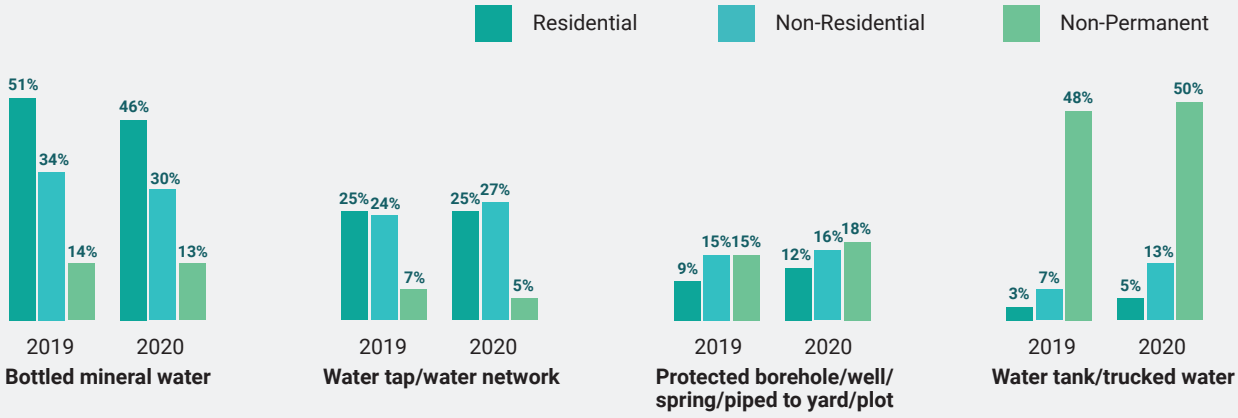


Although bottled mineral water remained the main source of drinking water as in the previous year, there was a decrease from 42% in 2019 to 37% in 2020. Bottled mineral water was followed by tap water/water network (21%). The Distribution of the main sources of drinking water can be seen in figure 2.

The distribution varied widely across governorates. For example, while Beirut, Mount Lebanon, and the South showed the highest rates of use of bottled water (80%, 64%, and 58% respectively), the Bekaa and Baalbek- El Hermel governorates showed relatively low use of bottled mineral water (18% and 15% respectively).

The main sources of drinking water also varied considerably among different shelter types, as can be seen in figure 3.

Figure 3: Sources of drinking water by shelter type

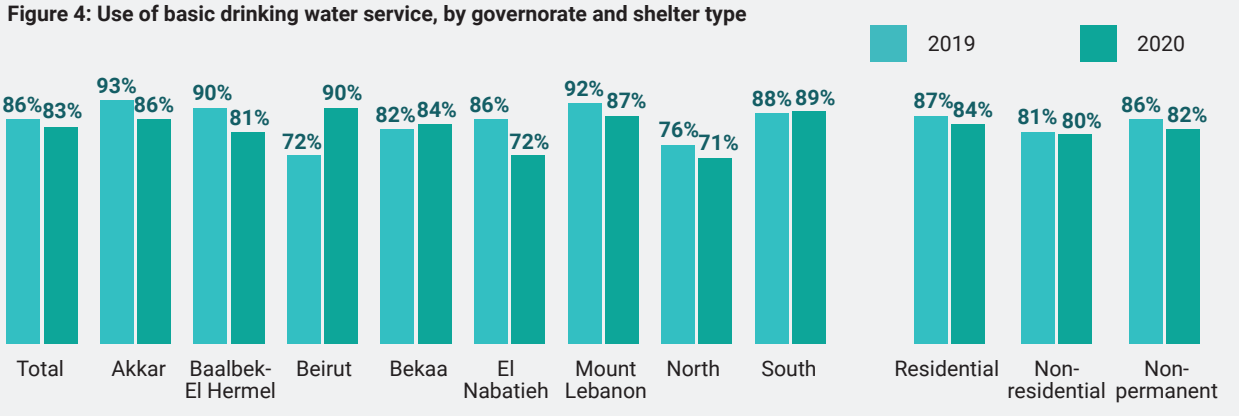


The results confirmed the previous year trend that on one hand, households in residential and non-residential shelters relied most on bottled mineral water, at 51% and 34% respectively. On the other hand, households in non-permanent shelters relied most often on water tank or trucked water, at 21% when provided by UN/NGO and at 27% by a private provider.

BASIC DRINKING WATER SERVICES

The use of basic drinking water service was reported at 83%. The below graph shows the variation across governorates and shelter types.

Figure 4: Use of basic drinking water service, by governorate and shelter type



SANITATION FACILITIES

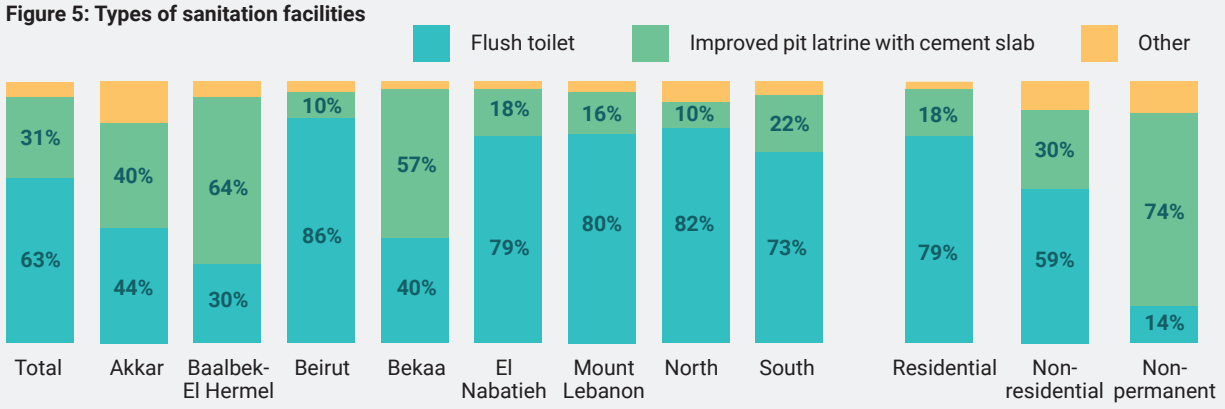
Improved sanitation facilities
- Flush toilets
- Improved pit latrines with cement slabs

Unimproved sanitation facilities
- Traditional/pit latrine with no slab
- Bucket

Ninety-one percent of Syrian refugee households had access to improved sanitation facilities, close to last year at 94%, with a notable decrease of 12 percentage point in Akkar governorate. Of the improved sanitation facilities, the majority used flush toilets (66%) with the remaining majority reporting improved pit/latrine with cement slab (25%).

A wide variation across governorates was noted (see figure 5), with the lowest percentage of improved sanitation still in Akkar (72%) and the highest reported in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, and El Nabatieh with rates above 90%.

Figure 5: Types of sanitation facilities

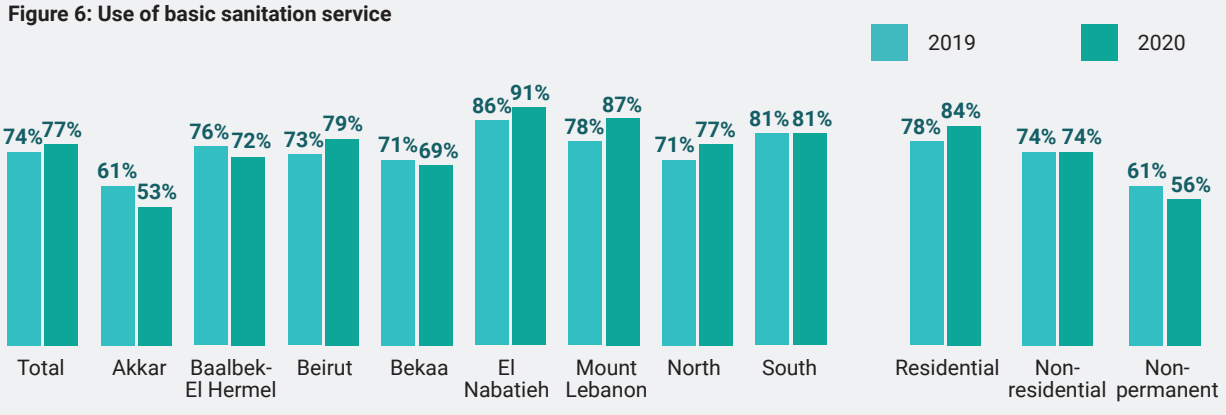


Improved sanitation facilities also varied by shelter type, with residential shelters showing 97% rate of use of improved sanitation facilities, non-residential 84% and 78% in 2020.

BASIC USE OF SANITATION AND UTILIZATION OF SANITATION FACILITIES BY PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Out of Syrian refugee household members, 77% had access to an improved sanitation facility that was not shared, with the highest rate being in El Nabatieh at 91% and the lowest in Akkar at 53%.

Figure 6: Use of basic sanitation service



Among the refugees with disabilities, 90% had access to disability adjusted sanitation facility.