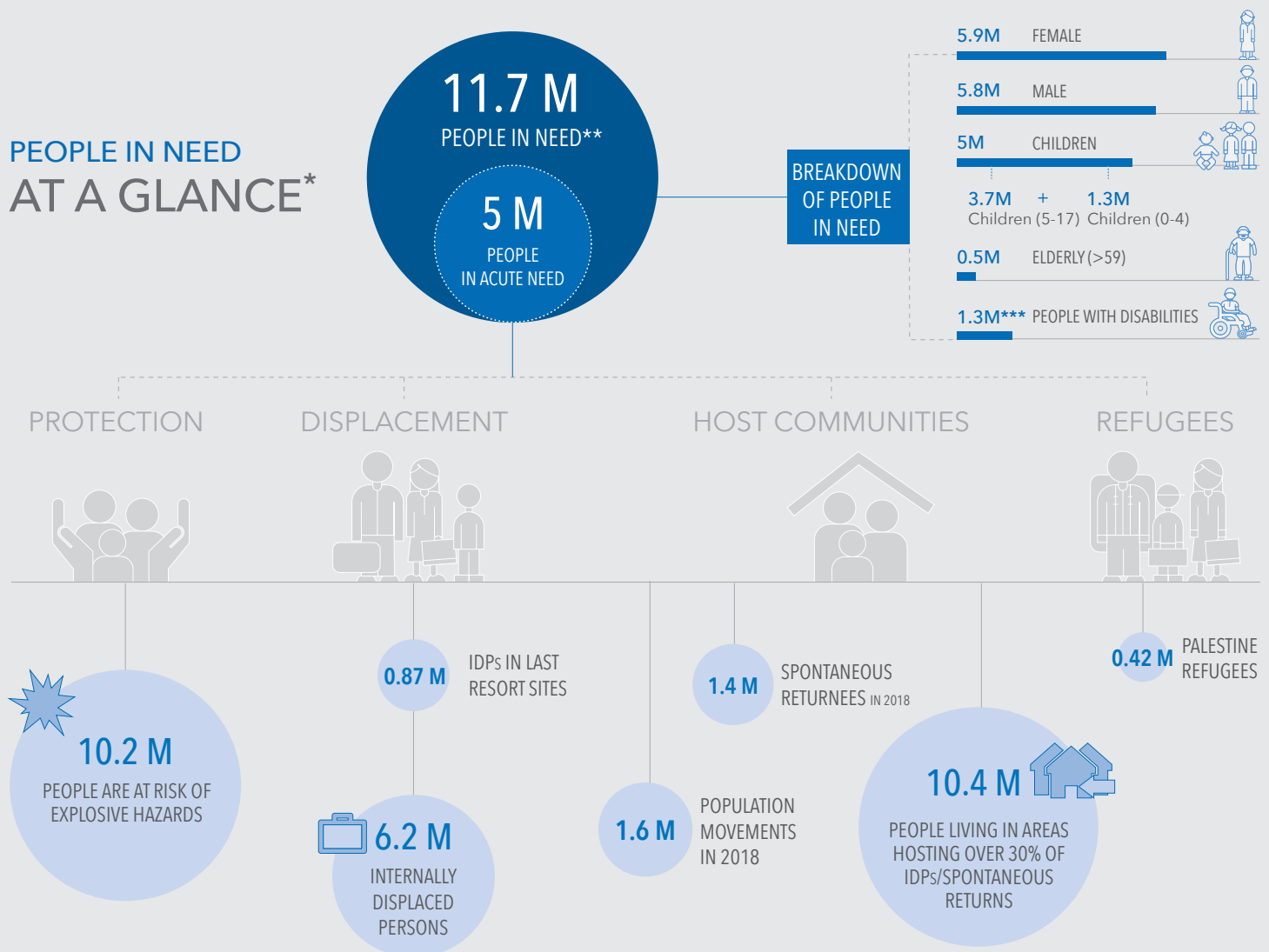


# 2019 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW

## SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

With the crisis in its eighth year, staggering levels of need persist for people throughout Syria. Whilst there has been a reduction in violence in many parts of the country over the past year, an estimated 11.7 million people require multi-sectorial humanitarian assistance. The population continues to look for safety in parts of the country still affected by ongoing hostilities with significant protection needs, and new and protracted displacement, increased self-organized returns and the sustained erosion of communities' resilience persisting. The widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure, the depletion of savings, and limited economic opportunities have forced many to resort to harmful coping strategies and resulted in extreme vulnerability to additional shocks. Children, pregnant and lactating women, people with disabilities, the elderly and other groups or individuals with specific needs or diminished coping mechanisms are particularly at risk.

The figures and findings reflected in the 2019 HNO represent the independent analysis of the United Nations and its humanitarian partners based on information available to them. While the HNO aims to provide consolidated humanitarian analysis and data to help inform joint strategic humanitarian planning, many of the figures provided throughout the document are estimates based on sometimes incomplete and partial data sets using the methodologies for collection that were available at the time. The Government of Syria has expressed its reservations over the data sources and methodology of assessments used to inform the HNO, as well as on a number of HNO findings.



\* The diagram illustrates the broad population groups that generally face humanitarian needs in Syria. Due to their exposure to multiple risk factors, many of these people belong to more than one group. As a result the overall number of people in need is lower than the cumulative total of these groups.

\*\* People in need (PIN) refers to people whose physical security, basic rights, dignity, living conditions or livelihoods are threatened or have been disrupted, and whose current level of access to basic services, goods and protection is inadequate to re-establish normal living conditions within their accustomed means without assistance. People in acute need refers to those facing more severe forms of deprivation in terms of their security, basic rights and living conditions and face life-threatening needs requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. PIN and acute PIN have been calculated based on the inter-sector severity categorization tool which is accessible at: <https://hno-syria.org/#severity-of-needs>

\*\*\* Please note that this figure is calculated out of the inter-sector PIN.

## KEY FIGURES

**11.7 million**  
People in need of multi-sectorial humanitarian assistance

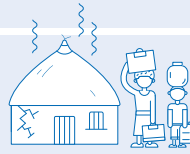


**6.2 million**

internally displaced persons in Syria

**871 thousand**

IDPs are living in IDP sites of **last resort**



**1.4 million**

Spontaneous returnees in 2018



**Protection**

Complex and inter-linked protection needs continue to exist across Syria, resulting from a variety of situations ranging from **direct exposure to hostilities, displacement, conditions in sites/collective shelters, protracted displacement, and returns to destroyed and impoverished areas**

in **59%** of the assessed communities **civil documentation** related issues were reported as occurring



in **47%** of the assessed communities **housing, land and property** related issues were reported as occurring



in **45%** of the assessed communities **early marriage** related issues were reported as occurring



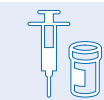
in **46%** of the assessed communities **freedom of movement** - related issues were reported as occurring



**Hostilities**

At least **50%** of sewage systems are affected by hostilities and are not functional, exposing communities to significant health risks

More than **1 in 3 schools** are damaged or destroyed.  
**1 in 2 people** are potentially at risk from the threat of explosive hazards.



**3 million**

people live with a **disability** in Syria

**41%** of the population requires treatment for **non-communicable diseases**



**37%** of the affected population requires routine reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health services

**46%** of health facilities are not fully functional  
**Displaced populations and returnees** are vulnerable to **outbreaks of infectious diseases** due to unsanitary living conditions and low coverage of routine immunization

**15.5 million** people require WASH assistance, **6.2 million** of whom are considered in acute need



**At least 70%** of sewage is untreated



**6.5 million**

people are food insecure

**2.5 million**

**Food Security**

people are at risk of food insecurity

**91,811** girls and boys aged 6 to 59 months



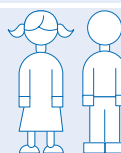
are acutely undernourished. If malnutrition is not prevented an additional



**146,898** children under five years

will become acutely malnourished during 2019

Over **100%** increase in acute malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women



**Children**  
**2.1 million** children in Syria are out of school

**1.3 million** children are at risk of dropping out

**85%** of assessed communities reported a high occurrence of **child labor preventing school attendance**



**Urban**

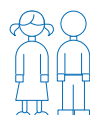
The increase in shelter related need is particularly acute in more densely populated urban areas. The number of people in need of shelter assistance has increased by **14%** to **4.7 million** people over the last year.

**64%** of IDPs are renting accommodation



## VULNERABLE GROUPS AT RISK AND MOST IN NEED

The groups outlined below require specific consideration when planning and prioritizing the response



CHILDREN



ADOLESCENTS/ YOUTH



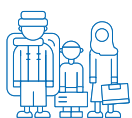
WOMEN AND GIRLS



THE ELDERLY



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



DISPLACED PERSONS



POPULATION HOSTING DISPLACED PERSONS



SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES



PALESTINE REFUGEES



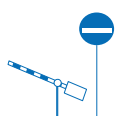
PEOPLE WITHOUT PERSONAL DOCUMENTATION



PEOPLE LIVING IN AREAS CONTAMINATED WITH EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS



PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS AND INJURIES



PEOPLE IN ACCESS-RESTRICTED AREAS AND IN AREAS OF SHIFTING CONTROL



PEOPLE FACING EXTREME SOCIO-ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

# KEY HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



Staggering levels of need persist for people across Syria. An estimated 11.7 million people were in need of multi-sectorial humanitarian assistance as of the end of 2018, representing a reduction since the beginning of the year. An estimated 6.2 million people remained internally displaced, with well over 1.6 million population movements recorded between January and December 2018. Close to 1.4 million people – mostly IDPs – reportedly returned home spontaneously during the same period, with the majority estimated to have been displaced for relatively short durations. The UN estimates that a third of the population in Syria is food insecure, with pockets of acute and chronic malnutrition persisting in certain areas\*. Outbreaks of measles, acute bloody diarrhoea, typhoid fever and leishmaniasis were reported in various areas of the country throughout the year. Palestine refugees in Syria have remained particularly vulnerable, affected by displacement, loss of assets, and massive destruction of residential areas.

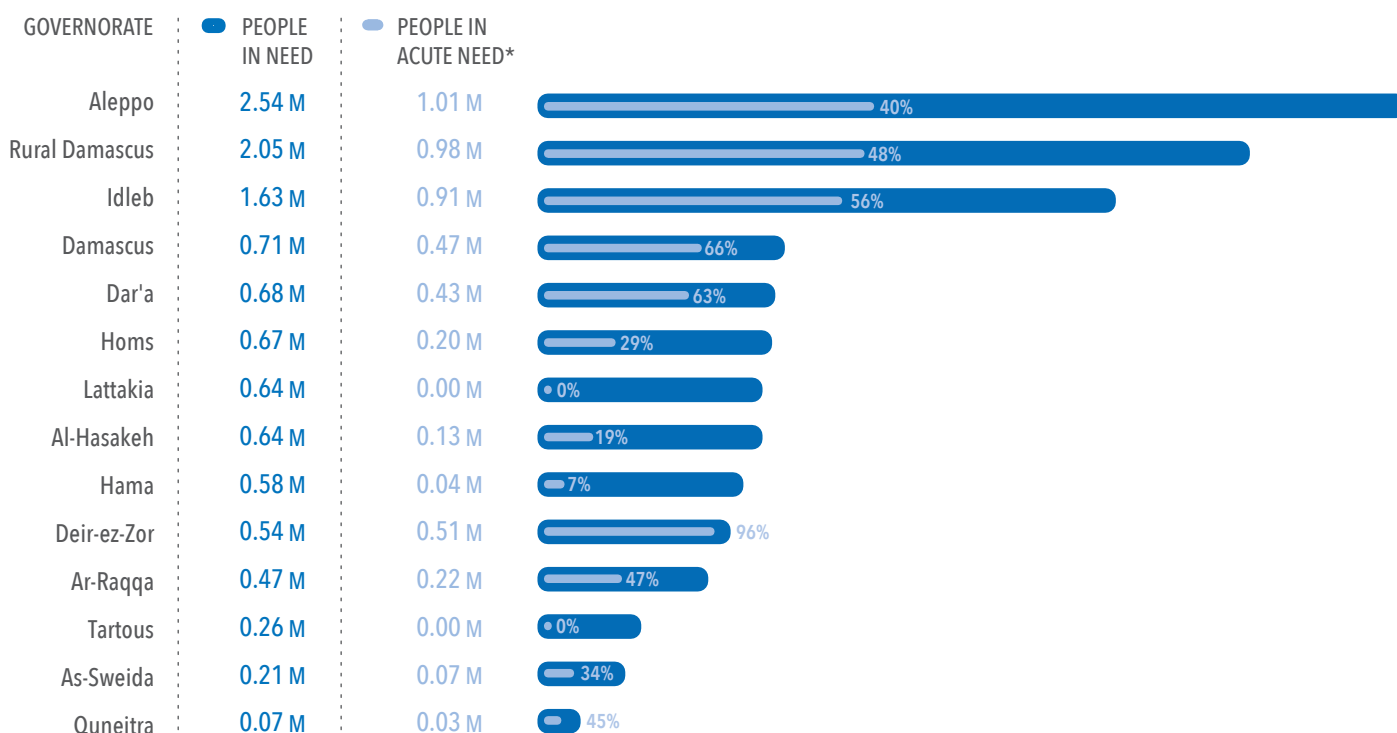


Syria remains a major protection crisis, with civilians exposed to multiple protection risks related to ongoing hostilities; the effects of new and protracted displacement; dire conditions in sites/collective shelters hosting IDPs, people returning to overburdened and impoverished communities; and the depletion of socio-economic resources triggering harmful coping strategies (e.g. child labor and early marriage). Despite a reduction in hostilities in many parts of the country bringing about a significant return movement, 2018 saw intense fighting in several locations, including Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus Governorate, parts of southern Damascus, the south-west (particularly Dara'a and Quneitra), much of the north-west, including Idlib Governorate and Afrin District in Aleppo Governorate, and eastern Deir-ez-Zor Governorate. In many cases, hostilities had an immediate impact on the lives of civilians, causing death and injury, large-scale displacement, damage to property and destruction of civilian infrastructure including schools, hospitals/health facilities and other services and infrastructure necessary to daily life. Attacks on healthcare have remained a hallmark of the crisis. The UN estimates that almost half of health facilities in Syria are either non-functional or partially functional as a direct result of hostilities.



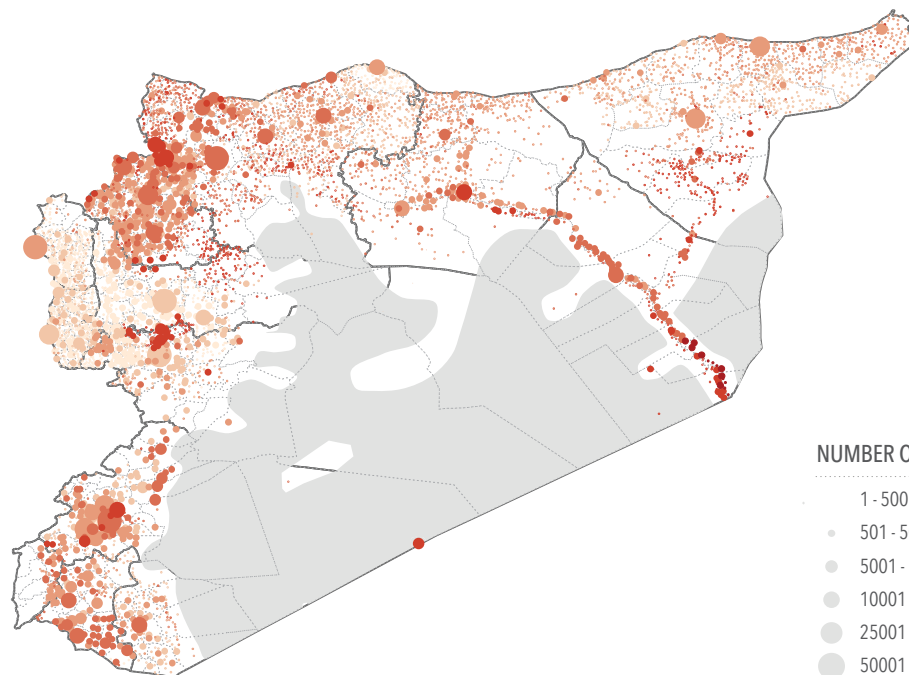
Close to eight years into the crisis, the resilience capacity of people in the most affected communities in Syria has been severely eroded. An estimated 83 percent of Syrians live below the poverty line. A monthly food ration with staple items costs at least 80 percent of an unskilled labourer's monthly salary and 50 to 80 per cent of a public service employee's monthly salary, demonstrating the existence of "working poor" in Syria. People in Syria are increasingly vulnerable due to the loss or lack of sustained livelihoods. Increased spontaneous returns to affected areas in the context of limited economic opportunities, depletion of productive assets and savings, and widespread destruction and contamination are having a profound impact on the population. In some cases, this has led to chronic levels of deprivation, contributing to people's adoption of harmful coping strategies, such as reduced food consumption, deferment or delay in seeking necessary medical care; reduced hygiene practices, increasing public health risk; the spending of savings and the accumulation of debt, and child labor and early marriages affecting particularly adolescent girls. Consultations with communities have indicated that access to livelihood opportunities and basic services are among their primary concerns as affected people seek to rebuild their lives.

## PEOPLE IN NEED VS PEOPLE IN ACUTE NEED FIGURES BY GOVERNORATE



\* People in need (PIN) refers to people whose physical security, basic rights, dignity, living conditions or livelihoods are threatened or have been disrupted, and whose current level of access to basic services, goods and protection is inadequate to re-establish normal living conditions within their accustomed means without assistance. People in acute need refers to those facing more severe forms of deprivation in terms of their security, basic rights and living conditions and face life-threatening needs requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. PIN and acute PIN have been calculated based on the inter-sector severity categorization tool which is accessible at: <https://hno-syria.org/#severity-of-needs>

## INTER-SECTORAL SEVERITY OF NEEDS AS OF DECEMBER 2018



The crisis continues to affect all Syrians to varying degrees. However, impacts differ with some segments of the population and locations more affected than others. The sectors' and inter-sector severity categorisation tool seeks to identify the areas across Syria where humanitarian needs are generally more acute - whilst noting that acuteness of needs is found at the household level in many other areas - due to a convergence of factors including: displacement, exposure to hostilities, significant presence of returnees, and limited access to basic goods and services.

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED

- 1 - 500
- 501 - 5000
- 5001 - 10000
- 10001 - 25000
- 25001 - 50000
- 50001 - more than 1M
- Areas with no or limited population

### INTER-SECTOR CATEGORIZATION

- Minor need
- Moderate need
- Major need
- Severe need
- Critical need
- Catastrophic need

Source: OCHA - based on inter-sector severity data

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



DISPLACED PEOPLE

## OVERVIEW OF DISPLACEMENT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SYRIA (AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

**6.2 million**  
Internally displaced persons

**5.7 million**  
Registered Syrian refugees worldwide,  
including  
**5.3 million**  
refugees in neighboring countries

AREAS WHERE INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PERSONS LIVE



**86%**  
In urban  
areas



**14%**  
In rural  
areas

**3,622,366**

TURKEY

ALEPPO

AR-RAQQA

AL-HASAKEH

LATTAKIA

IDLEB

HAMA

TARTOUS

DEIR-EZ-ZOR

**252,526**

IRAQ

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

HOMS

RURAL DAMASCUS

DAMASCUS

QUNEIRRA

DAR'A

AS-SWEIDA

**132,553**

Syrian Refugees  
in Egypt

**35,713**

Syrian Refugees  
in North Africa

An estimated 6.2 million people remained internally displaced as of December 2018. A large majority are located in five governorates; Rural Damascus, Idlib, Aleppo, Damascus, and Latakia. In addition, there are some 5.3 million Syrians registered as refugees in neighboring countries, the majority of whom are hosted in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.

# of IDPs (Aug 2018)

- 0 - 500
- 501 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 5,000
- 5,001 - 10,000
- 10,001 - 50,000
- > 50,000

Areas with no or limited population

Syrian Refugees  
(Dec 2018)

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

Source: OCHA - based on inter-sector PIN data, refugees

Source: UNHCR - <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>