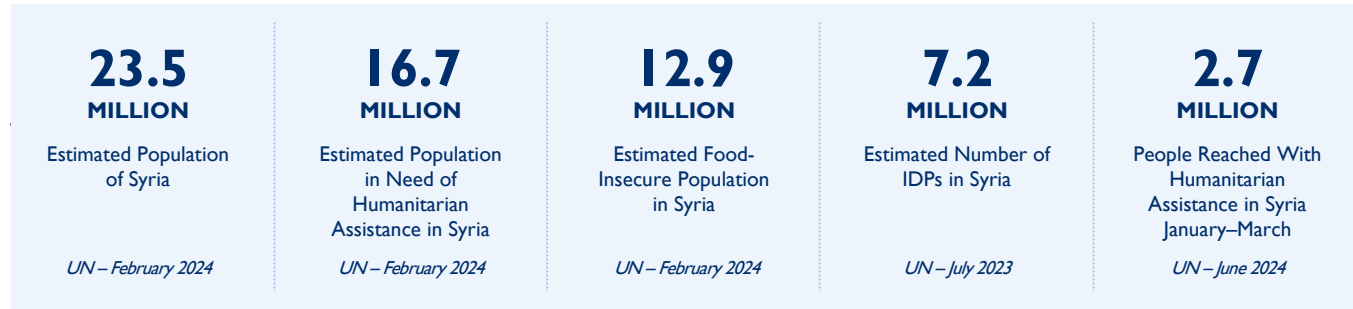


Syria – Complex Emergency

JUNE 28, 2024

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Approximately 4.2 million people in opposition-held NWS and 2.6 million people in DAANES-controlled areas of NES require multi-sector humanitarian assistance, according to new figures from the UN and NES NGO Forum.
- USAID/BHA partner WFP reached 815,000 people with emergency food assistance and continued to register recipients under a new, highly targeted monthly distribution program across Syria in May. The suspension of WFP’s monthly emergency food assistance since December 2023 has likely increased harmful coping mechanisms among food-insecure households, NGO REACH reports.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Syria Response in FYs 2012–2024	USAID/BHA ¹	\$9,020,525,222
	State/PRM ²	\$8,802,553,455
	Total	\$17,823,078,677

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

¹ USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

² U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Millions in Need of Assistance in Non-Regime-Held Areas

More than 4.2 million people—approximately 84 percent of the overall population—in non-regime-held areas of Aleppo and Idlib governorates in northwest Syria (NWS) require humanitarian assistance in 2024, representing an increase of approximately 100,000 individuals since 2023, according to new estimates released by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in May. The estimate highlights persistent vulnerabilities among NWS's population amid significant humanitarian funding shortages in 2024, which had resulted in a reduction in aid entering the area compared with previous years and the shutdown of numerous humanitarian-supported health facilities as of May, the UN reports. In particular, the 2.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Idlib and 1.1 million IDPs in northern Aleppo—approximately 2 million of whom reside in camps—continue to face heightened food, health, protection, and shelter needs, among others, in 2024. In response to extensive needs, USAID/BHA supports four UN agencies and 20 NGO partners to provide critical food, health, protection, shelter, and other assistance for vulnerable populations across NWS as of June.

Similarly, the Northeast Syria (NES) Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) Forum released estimates in May indicating nearly 2.6 million people, or approximately 82 percent of the population, in Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (DAANES)-controlled areas of NES require humanitarian assistance in 2024. Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support is a key priority among this population, with nearly 2.4 million people in need across DAANES controlled NES; other critical needs include protection, health, economic recovery and livelihoods, and food security and agriculture support, in order of decreasing priority. Notably, eastern and southern subdistricts of DAANES-controlled Al Hasakah Governorate show the highest prevalence of food insecurity across all of Syria, with up to 98 percent of the population facing moderate to severe food insecurity in some subdistricts, according to a countrywide 2023 Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment. Furthermore, in Ras al-Ayn/Tal Abyad, an area of NES under the control of the Government of Türkiye and affiliated non-state armed groups, approximately 75 percent of the population—more than 131,300 people—requires humanitarian assistance, OCHA reports. To address essential multi-sector humanitarian needs, USAID/BHA supports five UN agencies and 15 NGO partners across NES as of June. The figures for NES and NWS represent newly disaggregated subsets of 16.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance identified in the 2024 Syria Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), which did not disaggregate people in need by the three distinct humanitarian hubs covering NES, NWS, and Syrian Arab Republic Government (SARG)-controlled areas.

USAID/BHA Partner WFP Resumes Limited Monthly Food Assistance

USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) reached an estimated 815,000 people across Syria with emergency food assistance in May, including via the first food distributions in SARG controlled areas since December 2023. The May distribution included one-off assistance to respond to rapid-onset shocks across the country, in-kind food assistance for an estimated 41,000 people in five camps in NES, and the first distributions in NWS under WFP's new, highly targeted monthly food assistance program. The program aims to resume monthly food assistance across Syria on a reduced scale, prioritizing households experiencing the most severe levels of acute food insecurity, after funding shortfalls prompted the UN agency to suspend regular distributions under its general food assistance (GFA) program in December 2023. While some distributions have begun in NWS, registration for the program remains ongoing countrywide and is not expected to be complete for the full targeted caseload until October. Between August and December 2023, WFP targeted approximately 3.2 million individuals across Syria per month for GFA, itself a reduction from the 5.5 million individuals targeted by the UN

agency at the beginning of 2023. In total, the 2024 HNO estimates 12.9 million people in Syria are acutely food insecure, representing an increase of 800,000 individuals compared to the 2023 HNO.

Food insecurity has likely worsened in NWS—where more than 1.1 million IDPs had previously received monthly assistance—since WFP’s GFA pause in December 2023, according to key informant interviews and analysis of more than 670 communities by the NGO REACH. The percentage of assessed communities reporting food as their priority need increased from 58 percent to 72 percent among IDPs and 52 percent to 66 percent within host communities between January and March. Moreover, the reduction of regular food assistance may increase demand for food in local markets, potentially elevating food prices and reducing household purchasing power in the coming months, according to REACH. Countrywide, the NGO assesses that the expected deterioration in food security and nutrition conditions resulting from the decline in assistance will likely push affected individuals to adopt additional harmful coping mechanisms, such as assuming increased debt to purchase sufficient food and increasing the use of child labor and marriage to augment household incomes.

Flooding in Northwest Syria in Late May Destroys At Least 520 IDP Shelters

Heavy rains and subsequent floods in Aleppo and Idlib on May 24 affected an estimated 590 households—comprising more than 3,100 individuals—across more than 42 IDP sites, according to the NWS Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian CCCM activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. The storm damaged or destroyed at least 520 shelters, exacerbating needs for essential household items and shelter and WASH assistance among already vulnerable populations, including some individuals previously affected by early May floods that affected more than 12,600 residents of IDP sites in the two governorates. In response, a local NGO sub-awardee of a USAID/BHA partner provided emergency relief items, such as cleaning supplies and insulators, and safe drinking water to more than 620 flood-affected households living across three camps in Idlib.

KEY FIGURES



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Number of USAID/BHA partners providing emergency food and nutrition assistance in Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP, the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and 15 NGOs providing emergency food and nutrition assistance within Syria and to Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. In Syria, USAID/BHA partners provide vulnerable populations with cash transfers for emergency nutritional products, food vouchers, and monthly in-kind food rations, while also distributing wheat flour and yeast to bakeries. One USAID/BHA NGO partner reached an estimated 90,000 individuals in northern Aleppo and 35,000 individuals in Idlib with cash-based or in-kind food assistance during May, while also supporting 12 bakeries with flour and yeast sufficient to provide more than 322,000 individuals access to subsidized bread in the governorates. WFP and USAID/BHA NGO partners provide monthly food assistance to people inside Syria and Syrian refugees across Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye. Additionally, with State/PRM support, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) provides child nutrition assistance in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye.



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Number of USAID/BHA partners providing health assistance in Syria

HEALTH

USAID/BHA funds 13 partners, including ten NGOs, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and WHO, to provide critical health assistance in Syria, including delivering medical supplies, deploying mobile health and nutrition teams to hard-to-reach areas, and dispatching mobile medical units and surgical teams to treat trauma-related injuries and provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services at temporary shelters housing displaced populations. Relief actors also provide community-based health education and training for Syrian medical workers.

State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, WHO, and 20 NGO partners to provide health assistance—including medical consultations, MHPSS services, specialized health services, and vaccinations—for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries.



17

Number of USAID/BHA partners providing critical WASH assistance in Syria

WASH

USAID/BHA supports 17 partners to provide WASH assistance in Syria. USAID/BHA partners distribute essential hygiene items to vulnerable populations and enhance WASH facilities by rehabilitating small-scale sanitation and water systems—such as handwashing stations and latrines—in displacement camps and informal settlements. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners are increasing access to safe drinking water through emergency water trucking and the distribution of water storage tanks and water treatment devices. USAID/BHA is also supporting NGOs to undertake hygiene promotion activities by distributing soap and other WASH commodities and providing additional water for handwashing and cleaning. In May, one NGO partner supported water stations to pump more than 183 million gallons of water, reaching an estimated 650,700 individuals across nearly 120 communities in Idlib and northern Aleppo. State/PRM supports partners—including international organizations in Jordan and Lebanon and a partner in Syria—to provide WASH assistance to Syrian refugees and to vulnerable populations inside Syria.



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Centers through which State/PRM provides protection assistance in Syria

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA funds 16 protection partners, including UNFPA, WHO, and 14 NGOs, to provide case management, referral services, and PSS for children at high risk of exploitation and abuse. USAID/BHA also supports safe spaces for women and girls, as well as medical supplies and specialized training for health staff to provide appropriate care for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors throughout Syria.

Furthermore, State/PRM partner UNHCR provides comprehensive protection services—including facilitating community-based protection interventions, identifying people in need of protection assistance, providing educational services for parents and children, and providing referrals to legal aid services—for conflict-affected and displaced Syrians in both Syria and

neighboring countries. UNHCR also supports community-led initiatives that aim to foster better community relations and support the needs of IDPs, returnees, and host communities. State/PRM supports the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, and NGO partners to provide protection assistance, including legal documentation and case management services, for Syrian refugees in neighboring countries. Since the beginning of 2024, UNHCR legal partners provided legal assistance through lawyers and legal outreach volunteers to over 21,500 individuals. The assistance included legal awareness raising, direct legal interventions provided mainly to IDPs for birth and marriage registration, as well as legal assistance on GBV prevention and response. In April alone, UNHCR general protection services—including awareness-raising activities, case management for children and GBV survivors, community mobilization and empowerment activities, and PSS—reached more than 7,500 individuals.



9

Number of USAID/BHA partners providing shelter assistance and relief commodities in Syria

SHELTER AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA supports nine partners to distribute shelter materials and basic household items and rehabilitate shelters in Syria. In northern Syria, USAID/BHA partners distribute emergency shelter items and maintain and rehabilitate IDP camps and collective centers. In addition, State/PRM partner UNHCR supports the replacement of damaged tents for households in IDP camps in northeast Syria. State/PRM also supports IOM, UNHCR, and five NGO partners to provide shelter and relief commodities to refugees in Syria and neighboring countries.

Seven UN agencies—including UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO, among others—continue to transport in-kind food assistance, pharmaceuticals, and other relief items to northwest Syria in support of dually conflict- and earthquake-affected communities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Following peaceful demonstrations against the SARG in March 2011, SARG President Bashar al-Asad pledged legislative reforms. However, reforms failed to materialize, and SARG forces loyal to President al-Asad responded to demonstrations with violence, leading armed opposition groups to retaliate. The escalation in conflict led to widespread displacement and a humanitarian crisis within Syria and the region. Hostilities continue to date, as shifting frontlines and areas of control force IDPs into smaller and more congested areas, exacerbating humanitarian needs.
- At a November 2012 meeting in Doha, Qatar, Syrian opposition factions formed an umbrella organization, the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, also known as the Syrian Coalition. The USG recognized the coalition as the legitimate representative of the Syrian people on December 11, 2012. On March 19, 2013, the Syrian Coalition established the Syrian Interim Government, which opposes the SARG and is based in decentralized locations throughout opposition-held areas of Syria. During 2014, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) captured significant areas of

Syria, adding additional complexity to the multi-actor conflict. In March 2019, the Syrian Democratic Forces announced the capture of the last ISIS strongholds in Syria.

- On January 9, 2023, the UN Security Council adopted UNSC Resolution 2672, reauthorizing UN cross-border delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected populations in Syria via Türkiye’s Bab al-Hawa crossing for six months; however, in July 2023, the UNSC failed to reauthorize UN cross-border access. The UN and SARG reached an understanding in early August 2023 to resume UN cross-border assistance via the Bab al-Hawa border crossing point (BCP), with transshipments beginning in September. On January 11, the Permanent Mission of Syria to the UN announced the six-month extension of the consent-based mechanism for humanitarian assistance to the Bab al-Hawa BCP until July 13.
- On February 6, 2023, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck central-southern Türkiye near the border with Syria at a depth of 11.1 miles. The earthquake and subsequent aftershocks had resulted in at least 6,000 deaths and injury to more than 11,200 people in Syria as of March 24, as well as damage to or the destruction of at least 34,000 buildings. On February 13, SARG President Bashar al-Asad granted the UN three months of cross-border access to two additional BCPs—Al Ra’ee and Bab al-Salama—for aid deliveries from Türkiye to northwest Syria. Following the initial approval, the SARG has approved or extended humanitarian access six times to the two BCPs, most recently until August 13.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2024¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
SYRIA			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement (LRIP); Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Nutrition	Syria	\$35,000,000
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, LRIP; HCIMA; Health; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Syria	\$140,089,000
	Program Support		\$324,474
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SYRIA			\$175,413,474
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	CCCM, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$17,030,000
IPs	Education, ERMS, Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Health, Logistics Support, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Syria	\$5,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$22,930,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2024			\$198,343,474

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES IN FY 2024¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
EGYPT			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, Protection	Egypt	\$5,800,000
UNICEF	Education, Food Assistance, Health, Protection	Egypt	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$6,800,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2024			\$6,800,000
IRAQ			
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Iraq	\$22,543,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Iraq	\$460,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$23,003,000
JORDAN			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers	Jordan	\$58,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN JORDAN			\$58,000,000
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, Livelihoods, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan	\$55,610,000
UNICEF	Education, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jordan	\$25,000,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Jordan	\$2,000,000
IP	Protection	Jordan	\$1,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$84,110,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN JORDAN IN FY 2024			\$142,110,000
LEBANON²			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers	Lebanon	\$43,134,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN LEBANON			\$43,134,000
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Education, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Lebanon	\$106,270,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Lebanon	\$40,600,000
IP	Protection	Lebanon	\$8,800,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$155,670,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN LEBANON IN FY 2024			\$198,804,000
TÜRKİYE			
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Türkiye	\$17,000,000

UNHCR	Education, ERMS, Health, Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$27,860,000
UNICEF	Education, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Türkiye	\$18,200,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Türkiye	\$3,000,000
IP	ERMS	Türkiye	\$1,700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$67,760,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN TÜRKIYE IN FY 2024			\$67,760,000

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2024

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2024	\$276,547,474
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSES IN FY 2024	\$360,273,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FY 2024	\$636,820,474

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2024³

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2024	\$9,020,525,222
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR SYRIA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2024	\$8,802,553,455
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SYRIA RESPONSE IN FYs 2012–2024	\$17,823,078,677

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of May 27, 2024; State/PRM FY 2024 funding included above was announced, but not committed and obligated, as of the release of Syria Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #7 dated May 27, 2024.

² Funding for Lebanon is also reported in the Lebanon Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #1 dated April 3, 2024.

³ The total USG funding for the Syria regional crisis response does not include \$251,475,623 in FY 2023 funding for the 2023 earthquake response, which is reported separately in the USG Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Fact Sheets.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)