



Care for refugees and their children in Turkey

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Turkey - Refugees

- Throughout the history
 - A country of immigration
 - A transit centre for asylum-seekers and refugees



The official number of refugees in Turkey

- **Over 3.2 million** (April 2017)
- Almost half of them are children

“The largest refugee population in the world.”

Estimated Affected Population: 3,105,840¹

(Estimates are based on latest figures from the Government of Turkey's Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM))

	Registered Syrians ²		Registered non-Syrians ³		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Total Affected Population	1,497,384	1,317,247	177,577	113,632	3,105,840
Children Affected (Under 18)	655,809	602,331			1,258,140
Children Under Five	199,839	185,766			385,605

Source: Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), December 2016

Source: UNHCR, December 2016.

Refugees in Turkey

- A mixture of different communities with differing needs;
 - urban and rural
 - male and female
 - younger and older
 - different sectorian divisions
 - different economic status and capability



Directorate General of Migration Management



- The sole institution officially responsible for asylum seekers and refugees
- Implement migration policies and strategies

Syrian refugees in Turkey are currently under
“temporary protection status”

Temporary protection status

- Through a provisional identity card with a registration procedure.
- Grants them access to public services
 - health
 - education
 - social and legal assistance



Nongovernmental organizations in Turkey

- An increasingly active role in the response
 - ❖ UNHCR
 - ❖ Local and other international organizations



- Humanitarian aid
- Healthcare
- Psychosocial support
- Educational support
- Legal assistance
- Social assistance
- Advice and occupational retraining

Refugee children

Children continue to pay the highest price of the crisis!

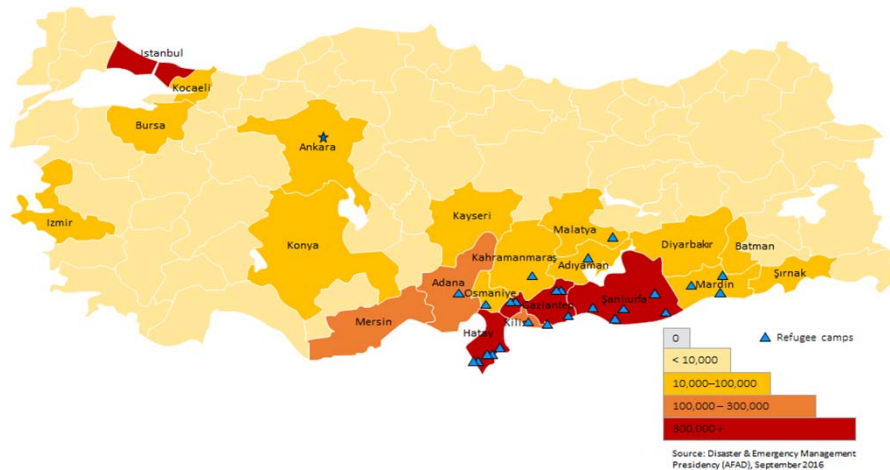
- Sheltering
- Healthcare
- Nutrition
- Education
- Protection
- Social difficulties and adaptation



Sheltering

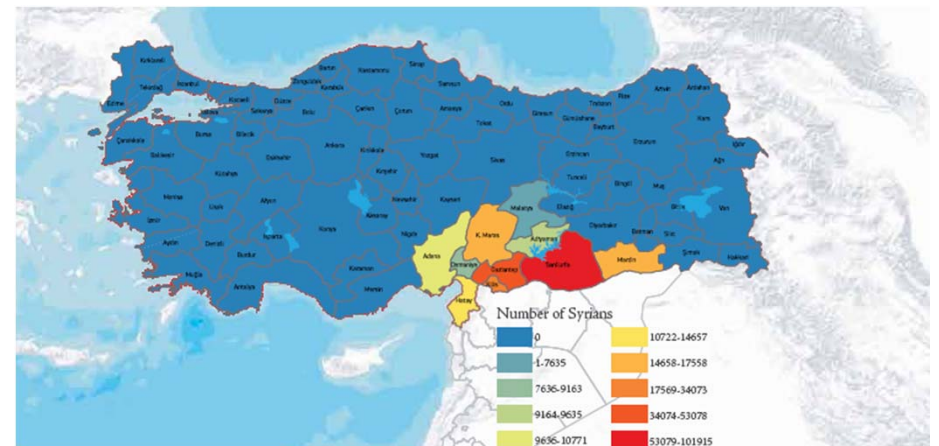
- Temporary protection centers (Camps)
- Outside of the camps

Syrian refugee population in Turkey (by province)



Temporary Protection Centers (Camp settlements)

- Currently 300-thousand of the refugees (mostly Syrians and also Iraqis)
- 26 temporary protection centers
- 10 different cities near the Syrian border.
- Mostly containers and tents.



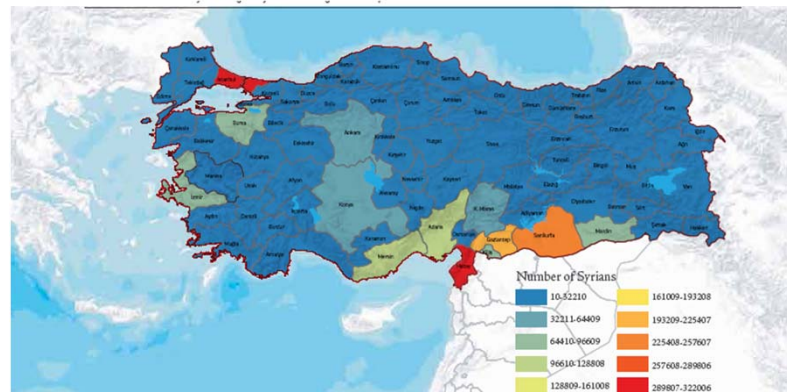
Temporary Protection Centers (Camp settlements)

- Managed by
 - Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD)
 - The Turkish Red Crescent Society
- National and international organizations
- Refugees access to public services



Outside of the camps

- About 90% of Syrian refugees (**over 2.7 million refugees**)
- Different cities and regions in Turkey.
- Urban areas mostly in the South Eastern part of the country, as well as other big cities



Outside of the camps

- House type is dependent on family's income
- Unemployment and poor living conditions

- hovels, disused houses
- Single-room houses with no bathroom or electricity
- Inappropriate conditions
- Sanitation problems



Health care

- **Turkish Ministry of Health**
- Registered Syrian refugees are enrolled in the Turkish General Health Insurance Program
- **Free access to** health-care services and preventive health services
 - Routine immunization program
 - Follow-up of infants, children and pregnant women
 - Reproductive health services
 - Health counseling

Health care

- **85 Refugee Health Centers** in 16 provinces.
 - Health personal, social workers, psychologists, translators
- Local hospitals have been enlarged and equipped.
- WHO-supported adaptation courses for Syrian physicians and nurses
 - on-the-job training and mental health issues.



- 964.047 refugees were hospitalized
- 918.694 refer to a hospital
- 797.450 operation
- 184.390 birth
- 20.956.267 polyclinic examination

Health services

- All the Syrian children are included into **the national childhood immunization programme of Turkey**.
 - Vaccination in Turkish-Syrian border
 - Childhood vaccination screening
 - Vaccination coverage of more than 90% among refugees.
 - Polio and measles vaccination following the 2013 polio outbreak
 - Polio mop-up campaigns in 2015
- Active surveillance for cutaneous leishmaniasis and malaria.



Health – Nutrition works

- Turkish Ministry of Health and UNICEF collaboration
 - Nutrition screenings
 - Acute malnutrition treatment programs
 - Vitamin and energy support
 - Brochures and other materials

Mostly seen health problems in refugee children

- Malnutrition
- Anemia
- Food and waterborne diseases
- Diarrhoea
- Measles
- Cutaneous leishmaniasis
- Tuberculosis
- Depression
- Post-traumatic stress disorder

•The Data of Ministry of Health
•Inci R et al. *Med Sci Monit* 2015;20(21):2100-4.
•Özkeklikçi A et al. *Acta Tropica* 2017;166:35–38.
•Bucak IH et al. *Avicenna J Med* 2017;7:110-4.

Access problems to health care

- Unregistration
- The mobility of refugees in country
- Language problems
- Communication problems
- Cultural differences
- Lack of previous health and vaccination information
- Insufficient number of health care workers and mental health professionals

•Sirin SR and L Rogers-Sirin. 2015, Migration Policy Institute.

•Aygun O et al. TJFM&PC 2016;10 (1):6-12.

Education

- The Ministry of National Education
- Registered refugees have **access to public education services.**

- Schools in camps
- Temporary education centers
- Turkish schools



Education-Official numbers

	Number
School-age Syrian children	870.000
Syrian children enrolled in a school	490.000
Syrian children out of school	380.000

➤ **More than 40% of Syrian refugee children in Turkey are missing out on education**



Ministry of National Education data, November 2016.

The causes of out of school

- Registering problems
- Language difficulties
- Economic difficulties
- Child labor
- Lack of knowledge of educational options
- Prioritization of basic necessities

Risk of “lost generation”

➤ Turkish Ministry of National Education
UNHCR, UNICEF

- Building, renovating or refurnishing schools
- Training Syrian volunteer teachers
- Cash grants for education

#NOLOST
GENERATION



Protection and social difficulties

The protection needs are enormous

- Psychological trauma
- War trauma
- Child abuse and neglect
- Adolescence marriage
- Child labor
- Social isolation
- Discrimination



Social support services

- Turkish Ministry of Family and Social Policies
- UNICEF

Creating protective environments for children;

- Psychosocial support centers
- Child Friendly Spaces
- Adolescent Friendly Spaces
- Child and Family Support Centres



- About 20 000 refugee children were identified with serious child protection concerns and referred

Refugees in Turkey:

A mixture of different communities with differing needs

- Irregular migration movements
- Increase in the number of Syrian refugees
- Unregistration
- Depleted resources
- Language and cultural difficulties
- Lack of refugees' previous data
- Relatively limited access to public services

For solving the problems

- **A comprehensive approach**
 - Basic needs
 - Access to public services (health, education, protection etc)
 - Access to skills, language and vocational training
 - Social and economic integration
- **An appropriate collaboration and coordination between**
 - governmental and nongovernmental organizations in Turkey
 - international organizations and Turkey

For solving the problems

- ❑ International and ethical standards for the refugees and their children

“The best solution would be to end the war. Nobody would leave their countries and houses unless they have to”.

An official at the Directorate of Migration Management, Ankara

Thank you...