

New Arrivals to North Lebanon

17 March 2025



15,798 new arrivals from Syria (3,587 families including 73 Lebanese families)



25 locations across North and Akkar Governorates, Northern Lebanon

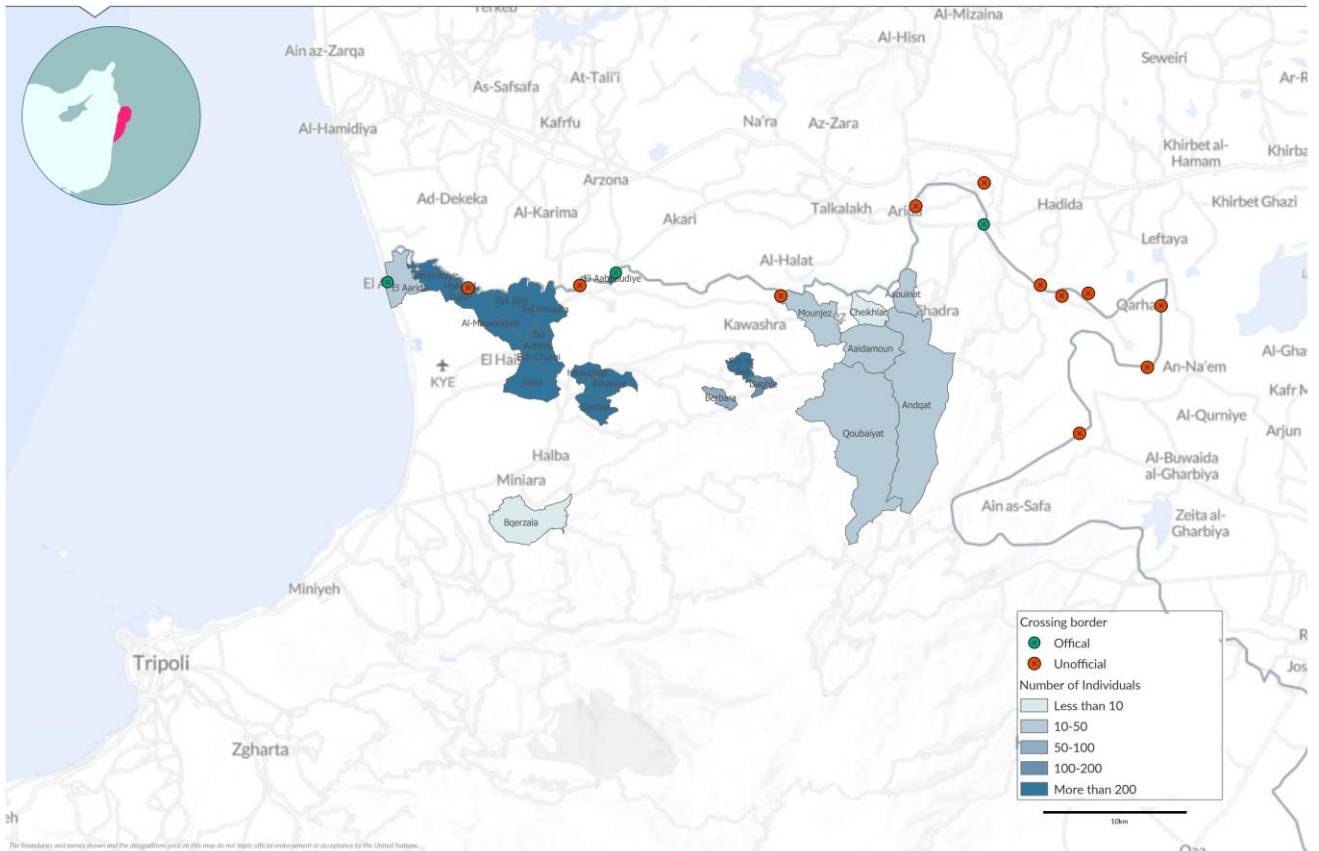
Background

The hostilities in the Tartous, Latakia, Homs, and Hama Governorates of Syria in early March continue to displace people on a daily basis into the North and Akkar Governorates of north Lebanon. Newly arrived refugees are now across 25 different locations, predominantly in Akkar in 22 villages near to the border with Syria. Local authority official figures from Disaster Risk Management (DRM) cite 12,798 individuals (2,792 families) as of 17 March in Akkar. The highest concentrations are in Massaaoudiye (2,451ind/470HH), Tall Bire (1,208ind/280 HH), Hissa (1,389ind/300HH), and Hokr ed-Dahri (1,109ind/217 HH). New arrivals have also reached Tripoli, Koura and Zgharta in North Governorate, with various information sources being cross checked by authorities to have one agreed data set of arrivals to aid further assistance. While official data is pending, 3,000 have been included in the overall numbers of new arrivals, which will be amended upward once further numbers are available.

Needs and Response

- Fleeing families continue to cross through several unofficial border crossing points, with most wading through rivers along the border with what belongings they could carry on foot from Syria, having walked up to 50 kilometres at times. Many have reported difficulties in making it to the border due to ongoing insecurity on the way. Common profiles are pregnant women, elderly and persons with chronic medical needs.
- A large proportion of new arrivals are being generously hosted by local communities including by relatives and friends. In addition, Municipalities have opened 15 collective sites for those without alternative accommodation options. These buildings, mainly religious institutions, municipal halls and disused buildings, are accommodating approximately 1,000 people in total at present and are already severely overcrowded, while lacking the adequate WASH facilities for such numbers. As people continue to arrive, shelter and associated WASH facilities are woefully inadequate; shelter partners are providing some partitioning in buildings where possible. However, this is only for privacy for women to change and for breast-feeding; space does not allow for family partitions, so more sustainable options are being sought as a top priority.
- Coordination is continuing through the subnational sectors already operational in support of local authority efforts, as designated by the Government upon its enactment of an emergency situation.

- The Lebanese Red Cross are currently collecting demographic data through Kobo forms in the north on behalf of the Disaster Risk Management to inform the response, after initial first life-saving assistance has been provided to the most vulnerable.
- Families reported urgent needs, including diapers, milk, and transportation assistance, to join relatives, upon arrival through informal border crossings, in addition to the need for a mobile medical team at the crossing point for those who are arriving with physical and psychological distress. Psycho-social support is being responded to by general protection, child protection and GBV actors, with more specific support being provided to separated and unaccompanied children.
- Basic items have been given out as an immediate emergency response to vulnerable new arrivals, and hot meals are provided on a daily basis. Partners on the ground have limited funding availability beyond the first response and are using contingency stocks, thus a longer term and an expanded response will not be possible without additional funds to partners should numbers continue to increase.



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