

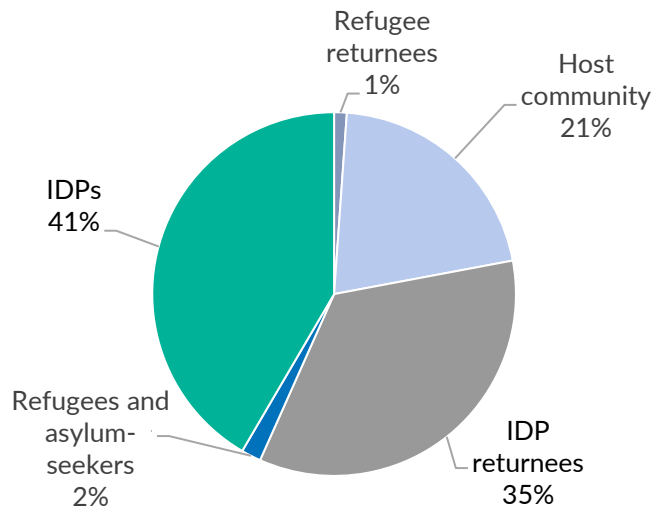
Education in Syria

January – June 2023

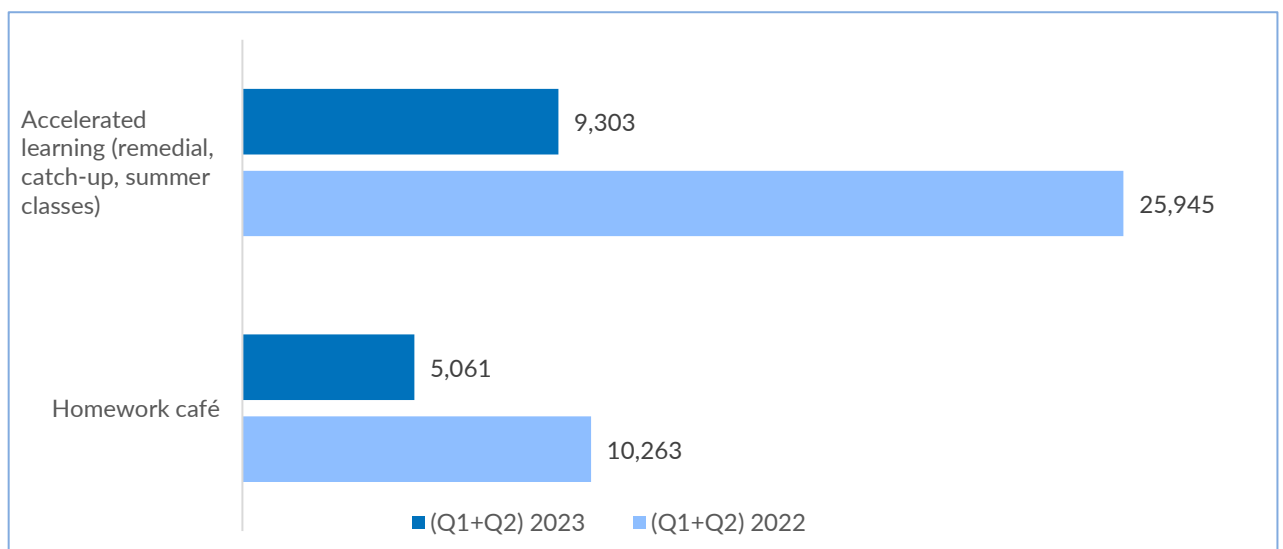


14,448 persons received education services

Population groups benefiting from services



Services provided



*Due to the decrease in funding to education services in 2023, there was a decrease in the number of accelerated learnings and homework cafés in comparison to Q1 and Q2 of 2022.

Context

The negative impact of the crisis in Syria on the protection and well-being of internally displaced, returnee, host community, and refugee children is significant. Access to and quality of education is severely limited across the country, with many schools destroyed and a severe shortage of teachers. The damage to schools has resulted in an acute need for additional learning spaces throughout the country for children from the refugee, internally displaced, returnee, and host communities.

The two devastating earthquakes have widened the education needs and placed additional challenges for children in accessing education. According to the Ministry of Education (MoE), **2,288** schools were damaged due to the earthquakes. Out of these, **161** schools were still out of service in Latakia, Aleppo, Idlib, and Hama governorates in the second quarter of 2023.

DAFI scholarships

The DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) scholarship programme offers qualified refugee and returnee students the possibility to earn an undergraduate degree in their country of asylum or home country. In Syria, the DAFI programme supports refugee university studies through covering the annual tuition fees. For the 2022-2023 academic year, in partnership with the Ministry of Higher Education and through this programme, UNHCR is supporting **84** refugee students enrolled in Syrian public universities. UNHCR continues its advocacy with DAFI to grant new slots for the refugee students in Syria for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Accelerated learning programmes

Accelerated learning programmes (remedial, catch-up, and summer classes) support refugee, internally displaced and returnee children to prepare for mid-year and final exams. The accelerated learning programmes also support out-of-school children to re-enrol in the formal education system. In the first half of 2023, **9,303** children attended accelerated education programmes. These UNHCR-funded activities provided learning support to displaced and returnee students who have fallen behind their classmates in school performance and enhanced the enrolment of out-of-school children to quality primary and secondary education.

Homework cafés

UNHCR provides remedial classes and facilitates homework cafés for children visiting community centres. In the first half of 2023, **5,061** children attended homework café activities, with teachers assisting them in completing their homework.

Earthquake response

The devastating earthquake has created gaps leading to child-drop out and a setback in learning. Many schools have been damaged mainly in Latakia, Aleppo, Idlib, and Hama governorates. UNHCR is helping repair **damaged** schools under its earthquake response.

National exam support

As part of the support provided by the humanitarian agencies for students traveling to areas under the government's control, including those coming from Lebanon to sit for national exams in Syria, UNHCR supported **9,512** students and those accompanying them with transportation by bus,

including across conflict lines. Around 96% of the total number of students transported came from Lebanon, Idlib, Aleppo, Raqqa, and Deir-ez-Zor.

Moreover, UNHCR provided the following protection and education activities to ensure a protective environment:

- Remedial sessions to around **1,312** students in Aleppo, Deir-ez-Zor and Rural Damascus governorates. These sessions were an opportunity for students to review their subjects supported by qualified teachers. Each student also received a stationery kit;
- In cooperation with civil register, legal services provided to over **4,901** students. These services include issuing IDs, rectify the civil events, legal awareness sessions, and individual legal counselling;
- Psychosocial support provided to a total of **979** students through group and individual counselling.