# UNHCR Jordan Summary: Cash Assistance to Registered Refugees in the First Quarter of 2009



Data Analysis Group - 21 May 2009 - Tracking Code: BIS0006

#### Highlights

- 1. Current cash beneficiaries received assistance in multiple sectors (87.8%) during the past few years. However, in 2009 almost half receive only cash assistance. A follow-up study is required to see if this is due to improved coping mechanisms or other factors.
- 2. The amount of assistance ranges from 60 JD for an individual to 240 JD for a family of 10. UNHCR's rates are based on those provided by the Jordanian Ministry for Social Development for vulnerable Jordanians.

#### II. Background

In 2008, similar to an initiative introduced in Syria, the Jordan office rolled out a system of direct financial assistance via ATM cards. Cash, a current focus of UNHCR assistance, is seen as a more dignified means of providing refugees with supplementary support for their shelter, food and other basic needs. In 2008, UNHCR phased out food assistance mid-year. Before being replaced by financial assistance, food assistance was provided for around 3,000 families up until October 2008.

#### III. Cash Assistance to Registered Refugees - First Quarter of 2009

- 1. 17,779 individuals/about 6,000 families received cash assistance in the first quarter of 2009.
- 2. The majority of those receiving cash in the first quarter of 2009 arrived before the last quarter of 2008.
- 3. As most of the people registered with UNHCR are between the ages of 18 to 59, the majority of cash assistance beneficiaries are also between those ages.
- 4. The number of males and females receiving cash assistance is almost equal, but there are more men registered with UNHCR so a higher percentage of females receive cash assistance.
- 5. 50% of women at risk who are registered with UNHCR receive cash assistance.
- 6. 26% of cash beneficiaries have vulnerabilities such as disabilities or important medical conditions. 30% of those with an important medical condition may not have received health assistance from UNHCR's implementing partners in 2007, 2008 or 2009. This cannot be confirmed because some of this data was not entered.
- 7. In 2008, most of these beneficiaries (34%) received assistance in multiple sectors, in 2009 almost half receive only cash assistance. A follow-up study is required to see if this is due to improved coping mechanisms or other factors.
- 8. There are no major differences in assistance provided to the various age groups, with the exception of those over 60 who receive more health assistance.
- 9. In terms of additional assistance to cash beneficiaries, females receive more healthcare and hygiene, and males receive more clothing.

#### IV. Basic Criteria for Cash Assistance

- 1. Families registered with UNHCR can be eligible for monthly cash assistance. The purpose of material assistance is to provide partial support to individuals and families who could otherwise not meet their basic needs. The assistance is also considered as a protection tool within this urban context, and as a preventative measure for exploitation and abuse (SGBV, sexual exploitation, child labour and labour exploitation). Material assistance targets the most vulnerable and destitute Iraqi individuals and families as well as Iraqi persons at heightened risk.
- 2. In general, material assistance is targeted toward individuals/families who face rights violations and/or lack economic and social supports for meeting their basic needs in the country of asylum. Persons who are living on incomes below the poverty level are eligible to receive financial assistance.

(Note: 503 individuals could not be linked with other sectors of assistance due to difficulties linking proGres and Beneficiary Information System data.)

# UNHCR Jordan - Cash Assistance to Registered Refugees in the First Quarter of 2009

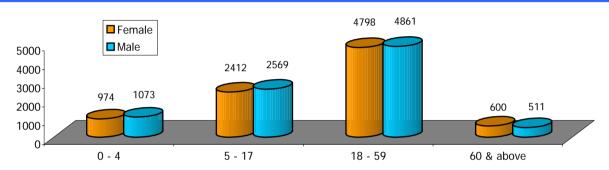
Who is Receiving Cash Assistance?

### **Criteria for Cash Assistance**

- 1. Income of less than 60JD (84 USD) per month.
- 2. Registered with UNHCR.

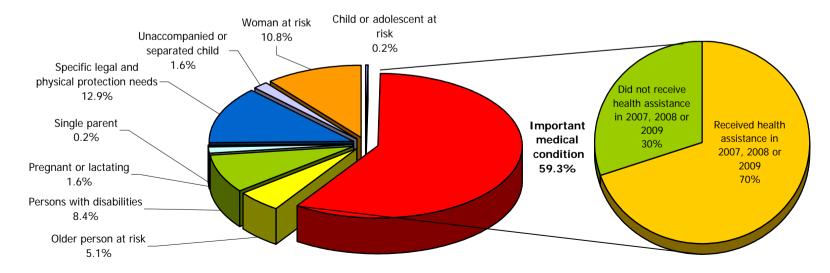
By Arrival Dates	
Before Last Quarter of 2008	17,481
Last Quarter of 2008	226
In 2009	92
Total	17,799

## **Cash Assistance Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group**



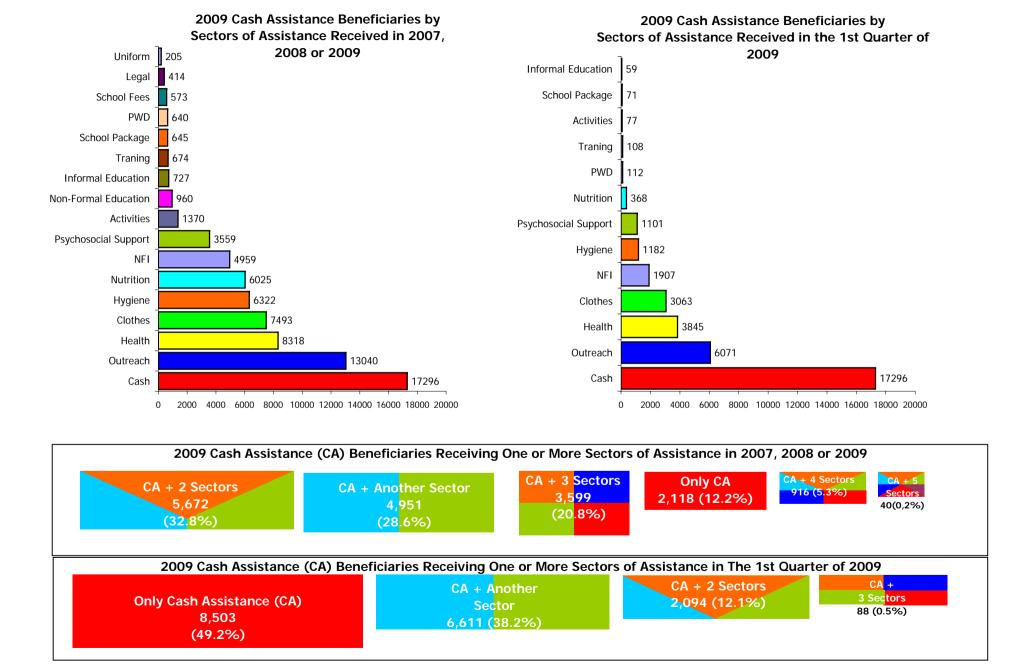
## **Vulnerabilities of Cash Assistance Beneficiaries**

26% of cash assistance beneficiaries have vulnerabilities. Beneficiaries may have more than one vulnerability.

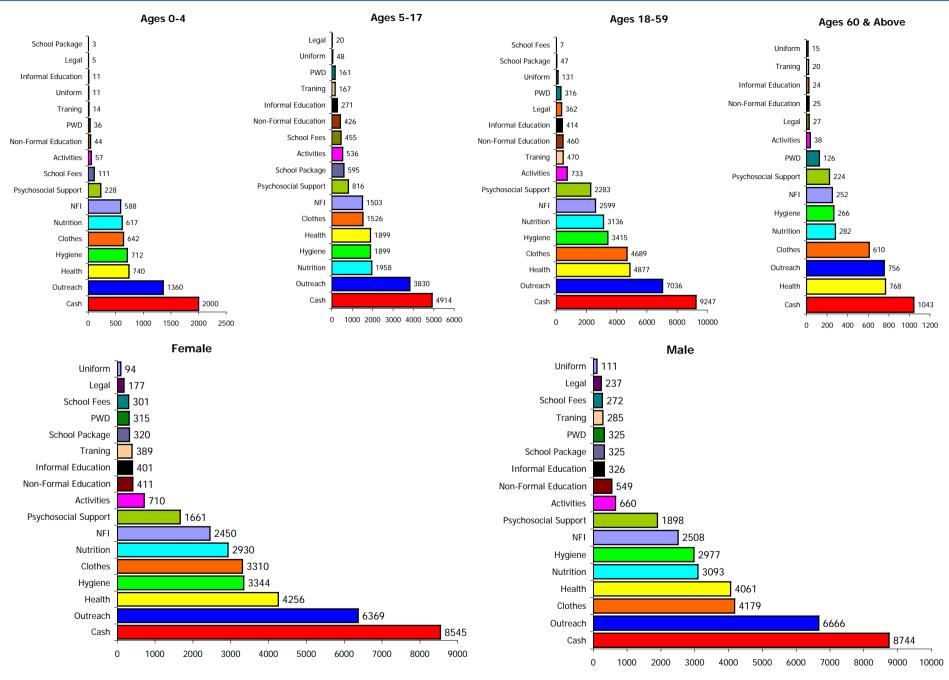


### **Cash Assistance Beneficiaries by Sectors of Assistance**

\* 503 Individuals are not included in the charts below due to difficulty in linking proGres and BIS data.



## Cash Assistance Beneficiaries by Sectors of Assistance, Age Group, and Sex



Note: Please print in color.