



# Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME) 2016



**World Food Programme**

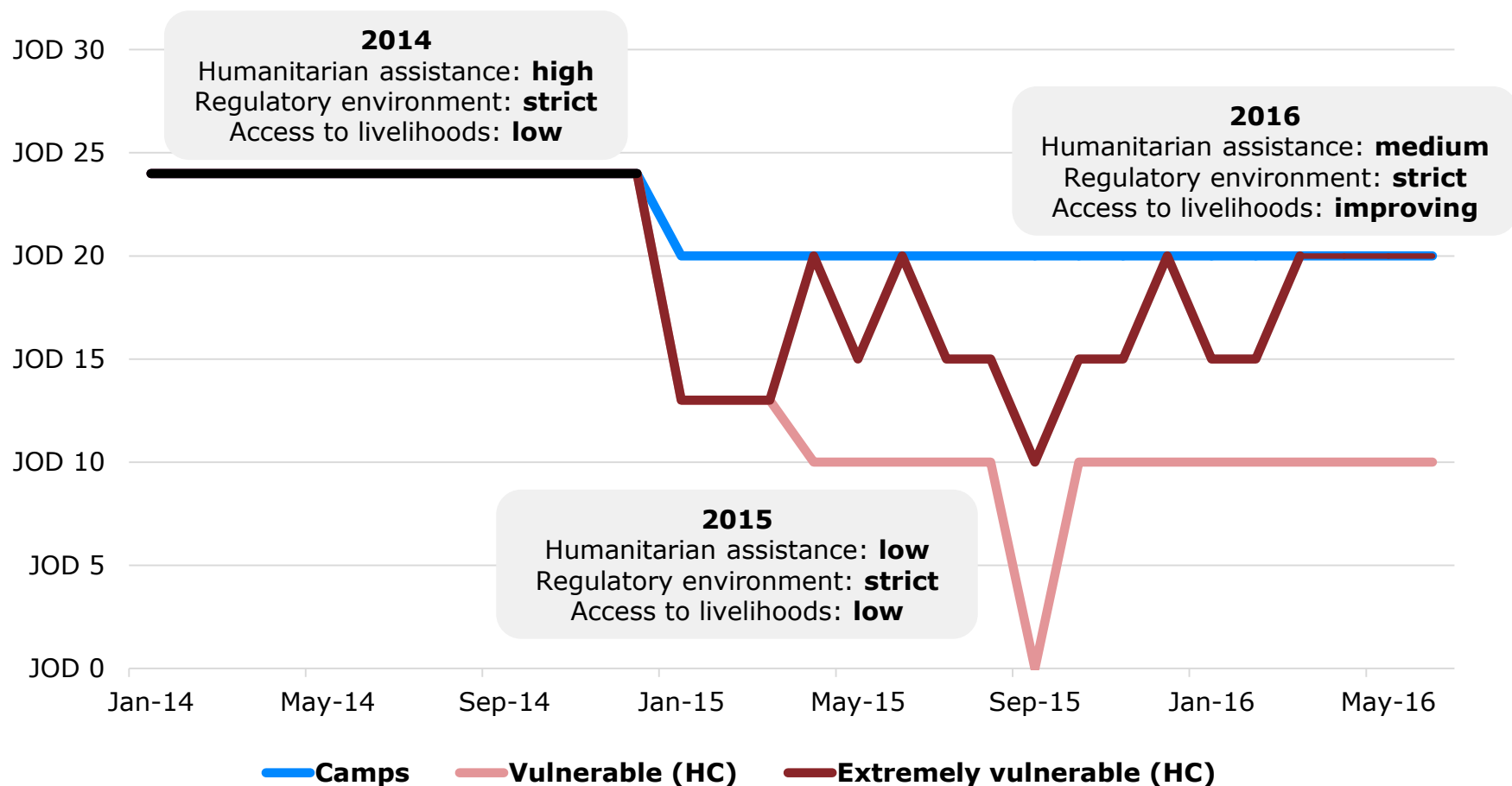
**REACH** Informing  
more effective  
humanitarian action

# Introduction

- CFSME 2016 is the third WFP/REACH nationwide assessment of Syrian refugees' food security in Jordan.
- By applying a methodology consistent with CFSMEs 2014 and 2015, we can look at trends in food security over time and identify causes for change in food security.
- The assessment has been updated and improved each year, allowing us to ensure it maintains relevancy in light of contextual developments.
- This presentation will explore the findings from the 2016 CFSME.

# Context

## WFP assistance levels per case member per month



# Objectives

The objectives of CFSME 2016 are to:



**Recognise current needs and vulnerabilities** of Syrian refugee households across Jordan in camp and non-camp settings



**Identify trends in needs and vulnerabilities** by triangulating findings with CFSME 2014 and CFSME 2015



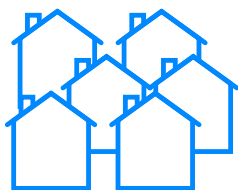
**Assess the impact of WFP's targeting approach** and fluctuating levels of assistance on the food security of Syrian refugees



**Provide programmatic recommendations** for the short, medium, and long term

# Methodology

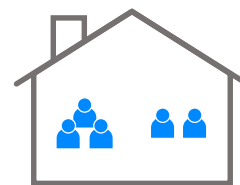
- A randomly sampled nationwide household survey was conducted for quantitative analysis.
- The sample size was sufficient for findings to be representative at:
  - The national level with 99% confidence level and 2% margin of error
  - The governorate level with 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error
  - The district level with 90% confidence level and 5% margin of error
- Data was collected at the household, case, and case member levels, allowing for a comparison of data and an understanding of intra-household and intra-case dynamics.
- 16 focus group discussions were also conducted across Jordan to expand on and explain trends in the quantitative data.



3,253 households interviewed



5,252 cases interviewed



20,067 case members interviewed

## Key findings



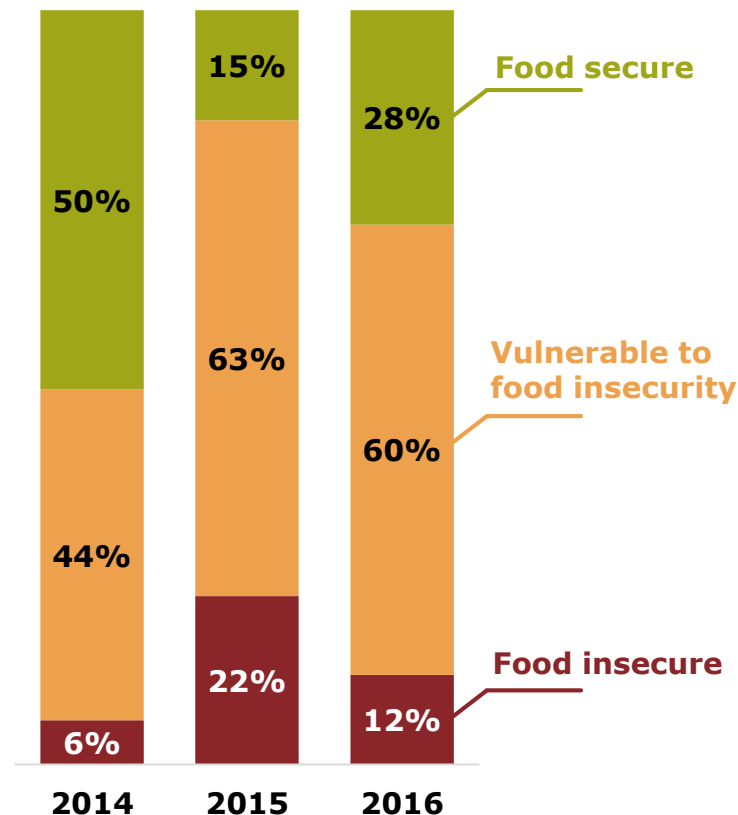
## Food security

# Food security overview

- In host communities, **food security has improved since 2015 but remains below 2014 levels.**
- There have also been improvements in both Azraq\* and Za'atari refugee camps.
- This is potentially due to the increased capacity of WFP to deliver the planned level of assistance.

\*In Azraq camp, refugees were only interviewed in Village 3 and Village 6

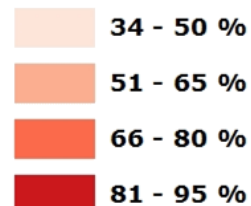
Food security index, Syrian refugees living in host communities





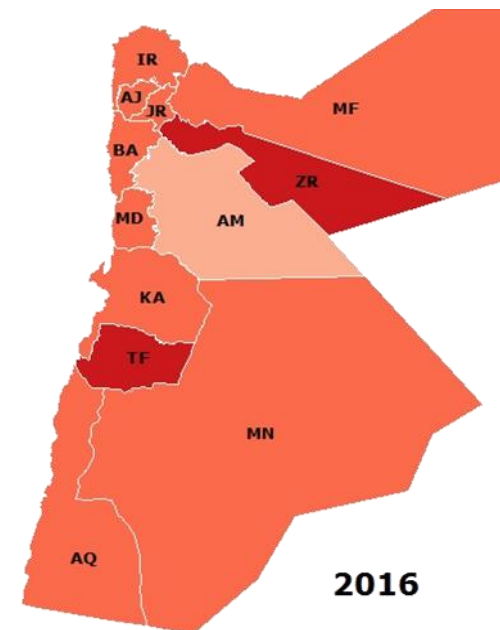
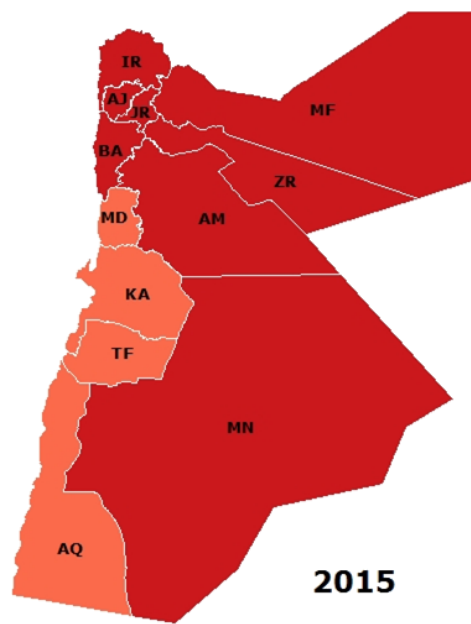
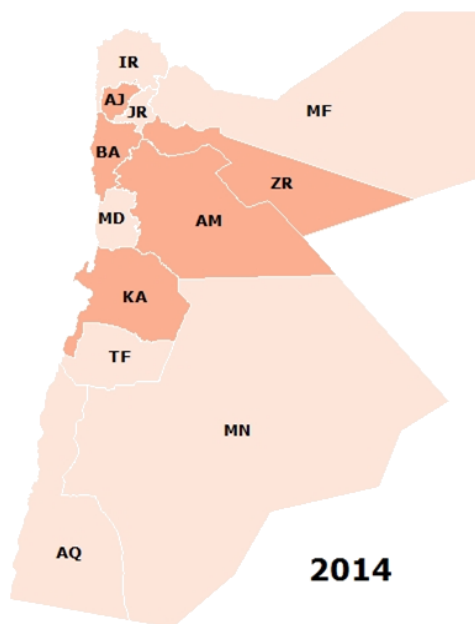
# Food security by governorate

Households that are food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity



AJ Ajloun  
 AM Amman  
 AQ Al Aqaba  
 BA Al Balqa  
 IR Irbid  
 JR Jarash  
 KA Al Karak  
 MD Madaba  
 MF Al Mafraq  
 MN Maan  
 TF Al Tafilah  
 ZR Al Zarqa

Food insecurity by governorate, refugees living in host communities





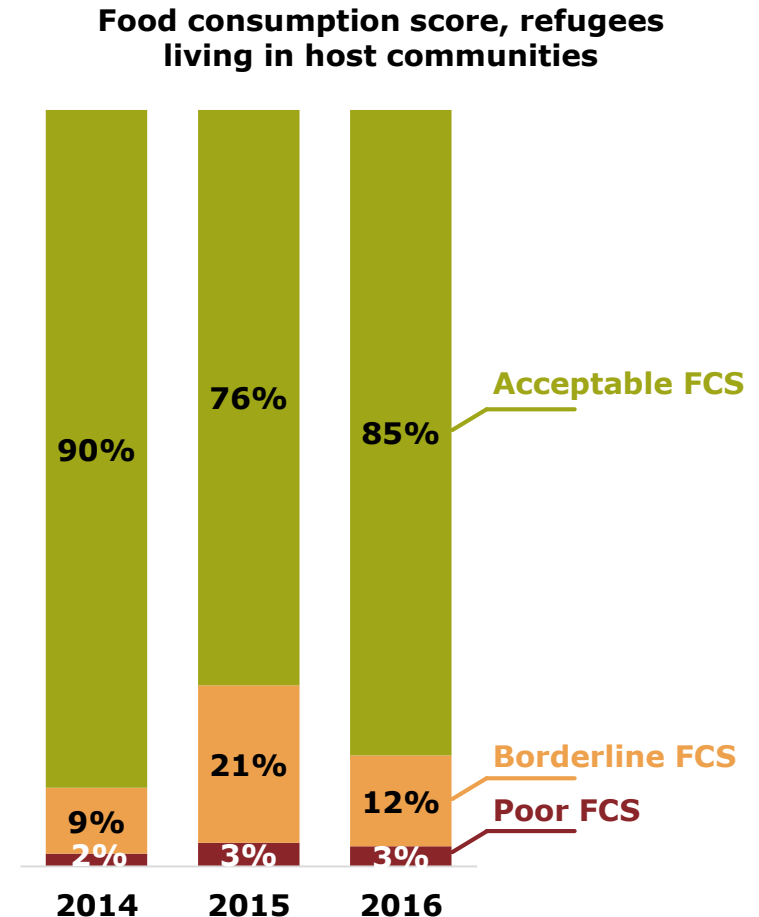
## Key findings



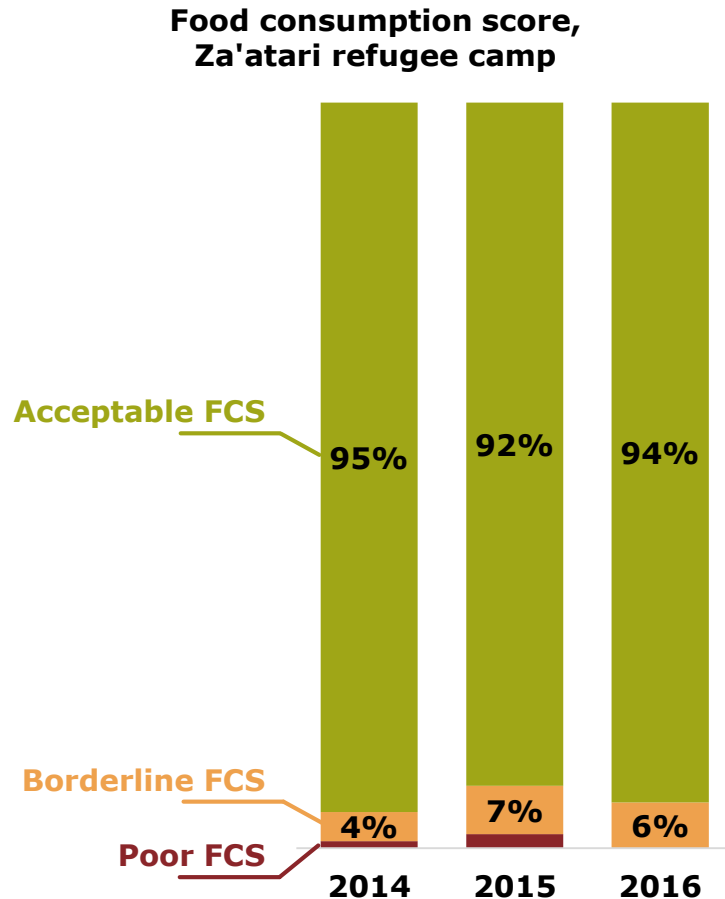
## Access to food

# Food consumption levels: Host communities

- **Food consumption levels have improved since 2015**, but remain below 2014 levels.
- In particular, the percentage of households consuming meats, dairy products, and nuts and pulses has increased since 2015.



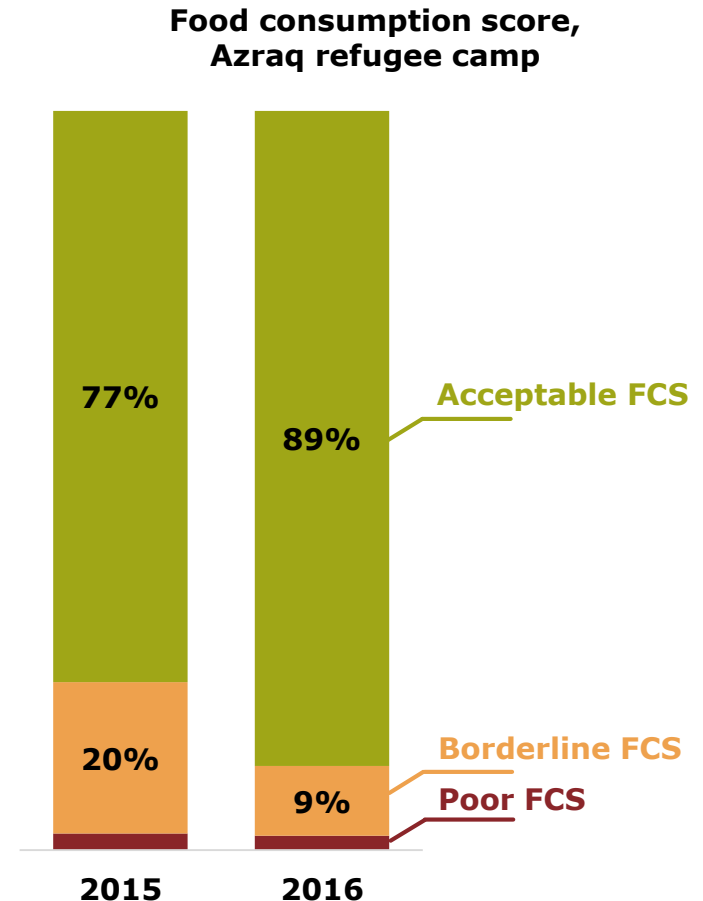
# Food consumption levels: Za'atari camp



- Food consumption levels remain high in Za'atari.
- **The ongoing development of the informal market** grants refugees access to a broad range of goods as well as potential avenues for income generation.
- FGD respondents explained that food prices have reduced at the supermarkets in the camp – this follows WFP's efforts to reduce food costs in WFP contracted shops nationwide.

# Food consumption levels: Azraq camp

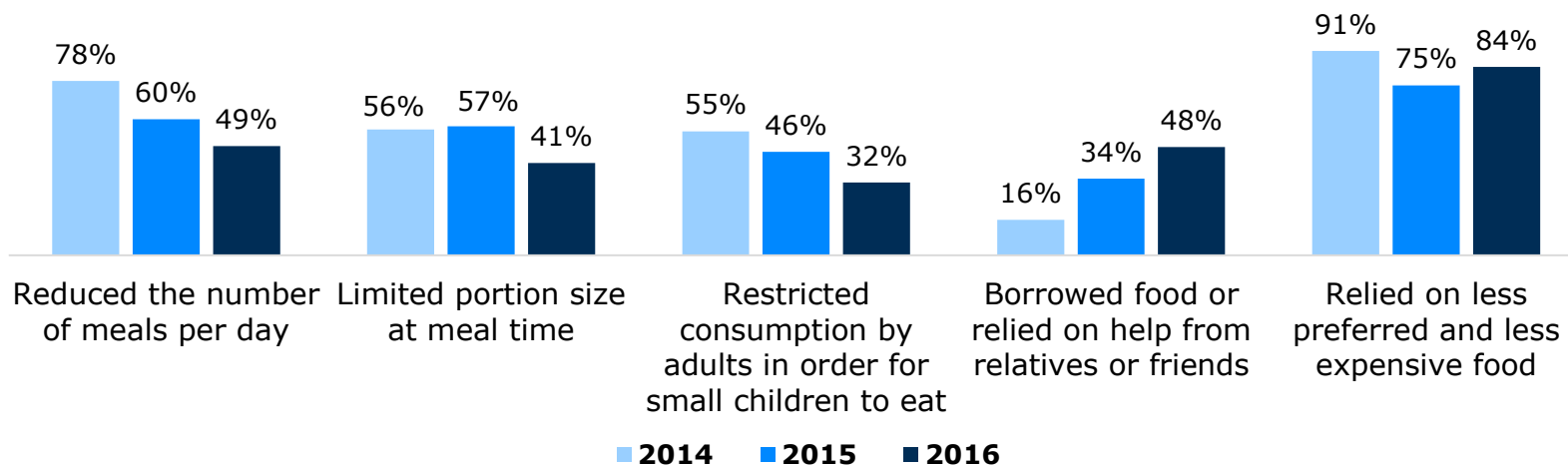
- Food consumption scores in Azraq camp have **improved significantly since 2015**.
- Households reported eating more vegetables, fruits, meats, pulses, and dairy products than in 2015.
- This is potentially due to the opening of an informal market in early 2016.
- However FGD respondents noted the limited availability of cash means it is not always possible to purchase the food available in the market.



# Consumption coping strategies

- As the crisis continues to protract, the **use of consumption-based coping strategies continues to decrease** as households shift coping mechanisms towards livelihoods-based strategies.
- The use of consumption-based coping strategies has also decreased in both refugee camps, particularly in Azraq camp.

Usage of consumption-based coping strategies, refugees in host communities





## Key findings



## Access to resources

# Household income sources

- Since 2014, there has been a diversification of income sources.
- This has potentially been driven by reductions in humanitarian assistance and increased access to work opportunities.
- It is also reflective of sample characteristics – a higher percentage of households in the 2016 sample are not recipients of WFP assistance than in the 2015 sample.

**Top 5 sources of income, refugees in host communities**

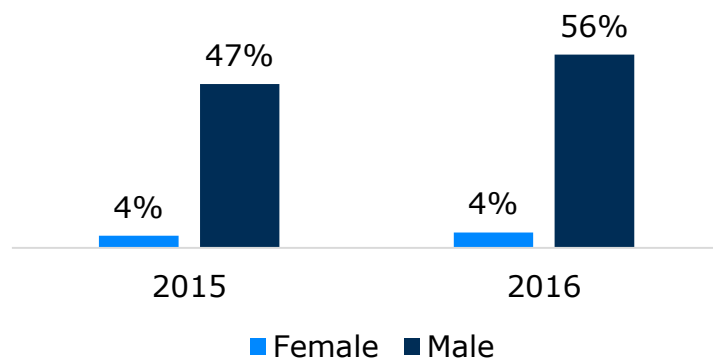
Main source of income	2014	2015	2016	Trend
WFP food voucher	75%	22%	15%	↓
Unskilled labour	5%	23%	29%	↑
Cash from aid organisations	2%	11%	21%	↑
Credits/borrowing money	5%	20%	14%	↓
Skilled labour	2%	10%	11%	↑






# Access to work

- Access to work has increased since 2015, but remains a coping strategy for many households.
- Of the 19 to 60 year olds who worked in the 30 days prior to being interviewed, **83% were in temporary (irregular) work.**
- Overall, **26% of households** in host communities are sending household members to work in **socially degrading, high-risk, exploitative or illegal work as a coping strategy.**




Percentage of 19 to 60 year olds in employment, refugees in host communities



## Top 3 employment sectors: Female

-  **33%** Accommodation and food services
-  **26%** Agriculture, forestry and fishing
-  **12%** Cleaning services

## Top 3 employment sectors: Male

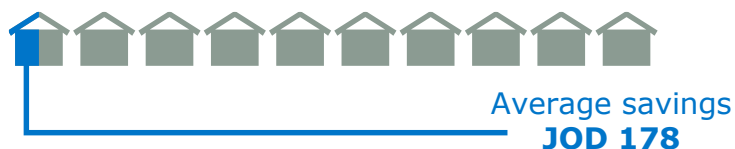
-  **41%** Construction
-  **14%** Wholesale, retail, trade and repair
-  **11%** Agriculture forestry and fishing

# Asset depletion

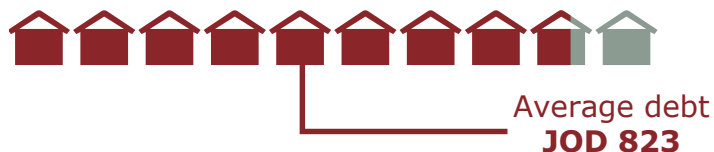
- **High levels of debt and low levels of savings persist.**
- 67% of households are borrowing money or buying food on credit as a coping strategy.

## Debt and savings levels, refugees in host communities

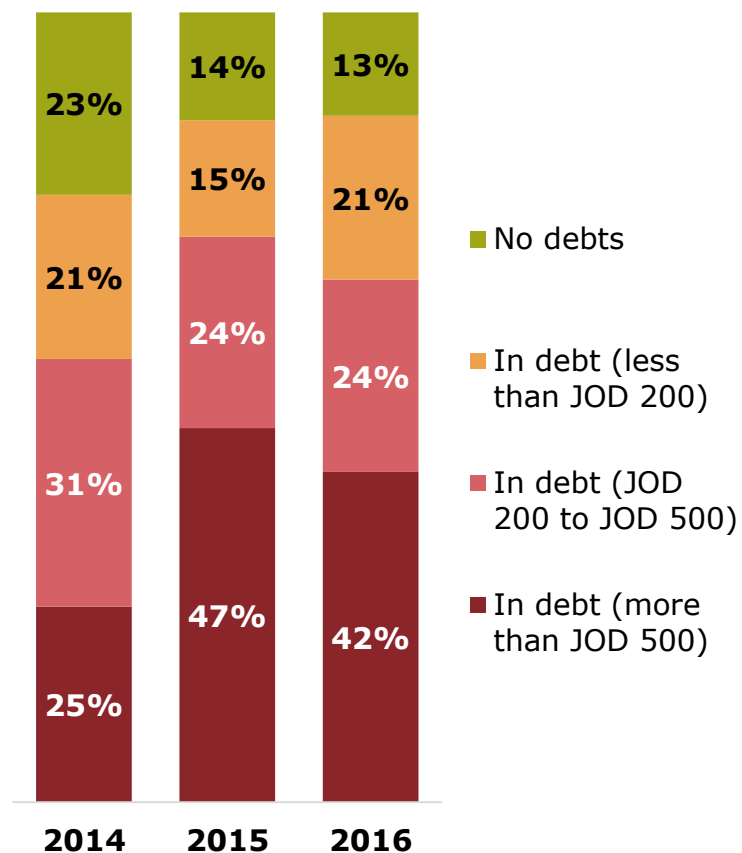
5% of households have savings



87% of households are in debt



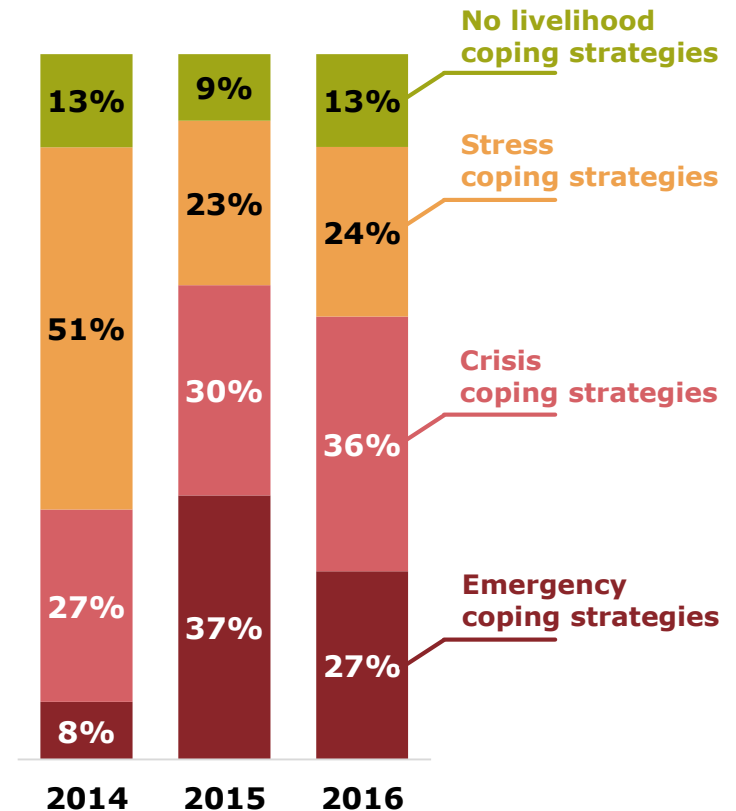
## Household debt, refugees in host communities



# Livelihood coping strategies

- More than 60% of households in host communities are using crisis or emergency livelihood coping strategies to maintain access to food.
- This suggests **households continue to face difficulties in accessing resources.**

Household use of livelihood coping strategies, refugees in host communities



## Key findings



## Access to goods and services

# Household expenditure allocation

- **Average monthly expenditure has fallen** from JOD 101 per household member in 2014 to JOD 58 in 2016.
- In host communities, **49% of households are reducing essential non-food expenditure** to cope with a lack of food or lack of resources to buy food.

Household expenditure allocation, refugees in host communities

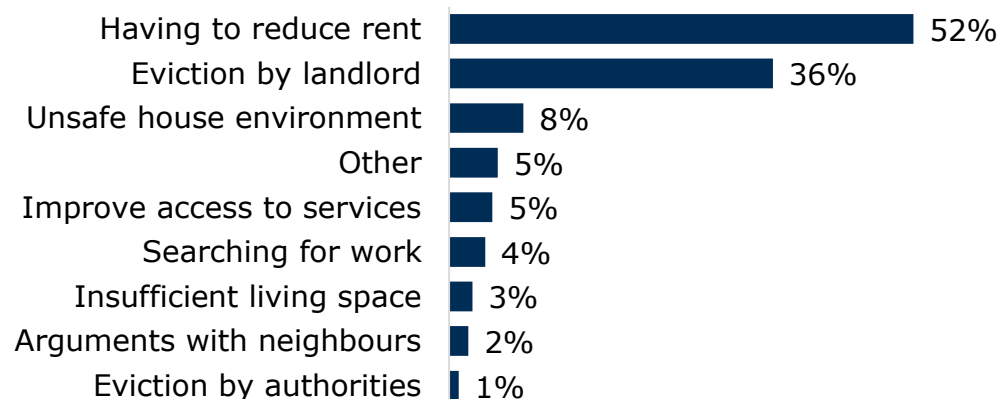
Share of total expenditure	2014	2016	Trend
Food	27%	30%	↑
Rent	43%	30%	↓
Health	5%	11%	↑
Utilities	6%	7%	↑
Transport	7%	6%	↓
Water	4%	4%	-
Debt repayment	1%	2%	↑
Education	2%	2%	-
Other	7%	7%	-

- Although households are spending significantly less on shelter than in 2014, **rent remains a primary expenditure item.**
- 33% of households have changed location prior to current accommodation – the main reason for doing so was to reduce rent.

**Average household size and rent expenditure, refugees in host communities**

Indicator	2014	2015	2016
Average household size (number of household members)	4.5	6.7	6.4
Average household expenditure on rent (JOD)	144	102	99
Average rent expenditure per household member (JOD)	44	18	18

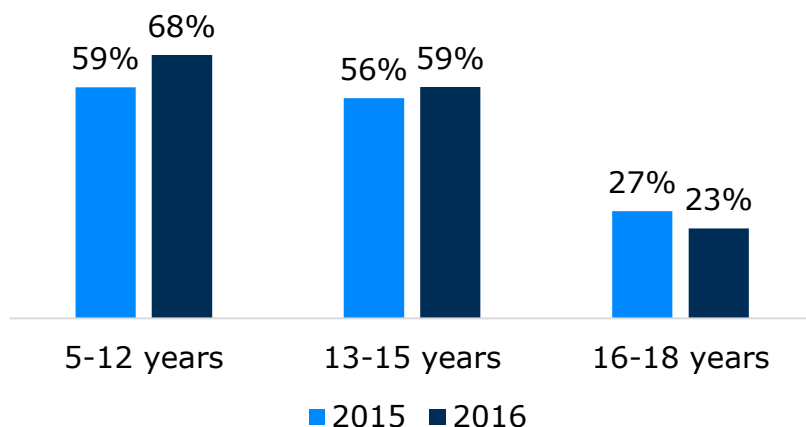
**Reasons for changing accommodation, refugees in host communities**



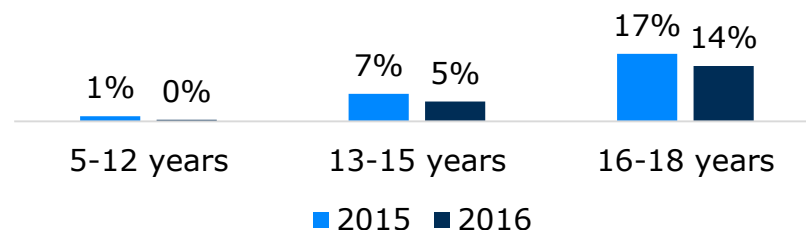
# Education

- On average, households in host communities spend JOD 2.9 on education per school aged child, **significantly lower than in 2014** (JOD 6.1).
- School attendance has risen for 5 to 15 year olds since 2015 but fallen for 16 to 18 year olds.
- 27% of 16 to 18 year old males are employed, compared with 33% in 2015.

**School attendance, refugees in host communities**



**Youth employment, refugees in host communities**

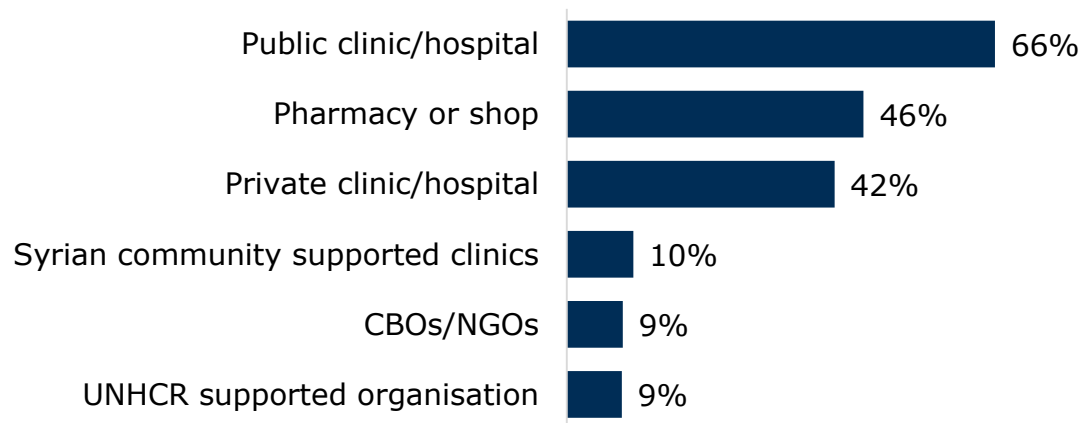




# Healthcare

- Households spend JOD 8.6 per household member per month on healthcare, 54% higher than in 2015.
- Public clinics and hospitals are the main healthcare facilities used, although **households face difficulties in covering the costs of medical treatments** following the cessation of free healthcare in 2014.
- Households with members who have serious medical conditions, physical impairments, or have been seriously injured have JOD 779 worth of debt, compared with JOD 562 for households that do not.

**Types of medical facility accessed, refugees in host communities**



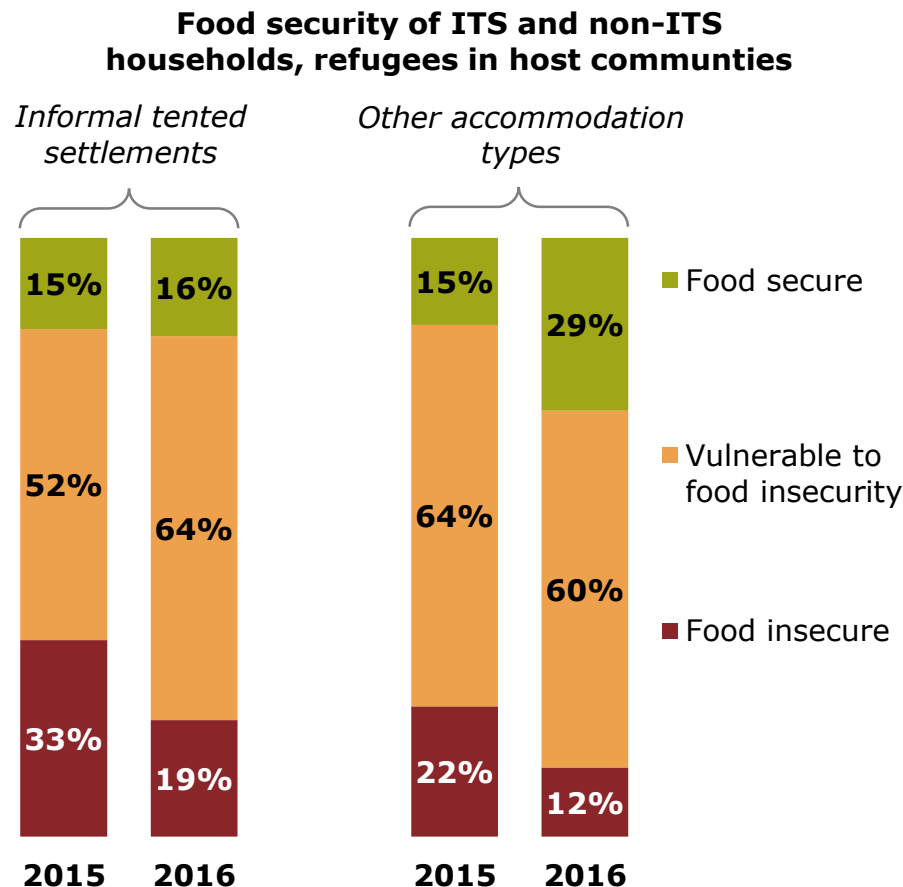
## Key findings



## Who are the food insecure?

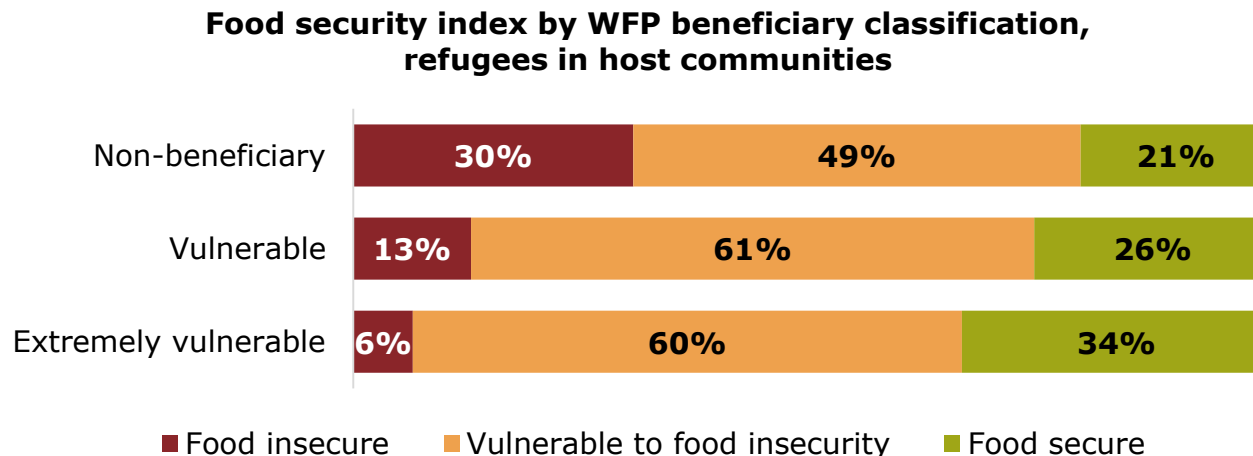
# Who are the food insecure: ITS

- Households living in informal tented settlements (ITS) are more likely to be food insecure.
- Food consumption levels are lower – 11% of ITS households have poor food consumption scores, compared with 2% of non-ITS households.
- The percentage of ITS households using emergency livelihood coping strategies increased** from 32% in 2015 to 38% in 2016.
- In particular, ITS households are sending members to work in exploitative, socially degrading, or high risk illegal temporary work (38%).



# Who are the food insecure: WFP assistance

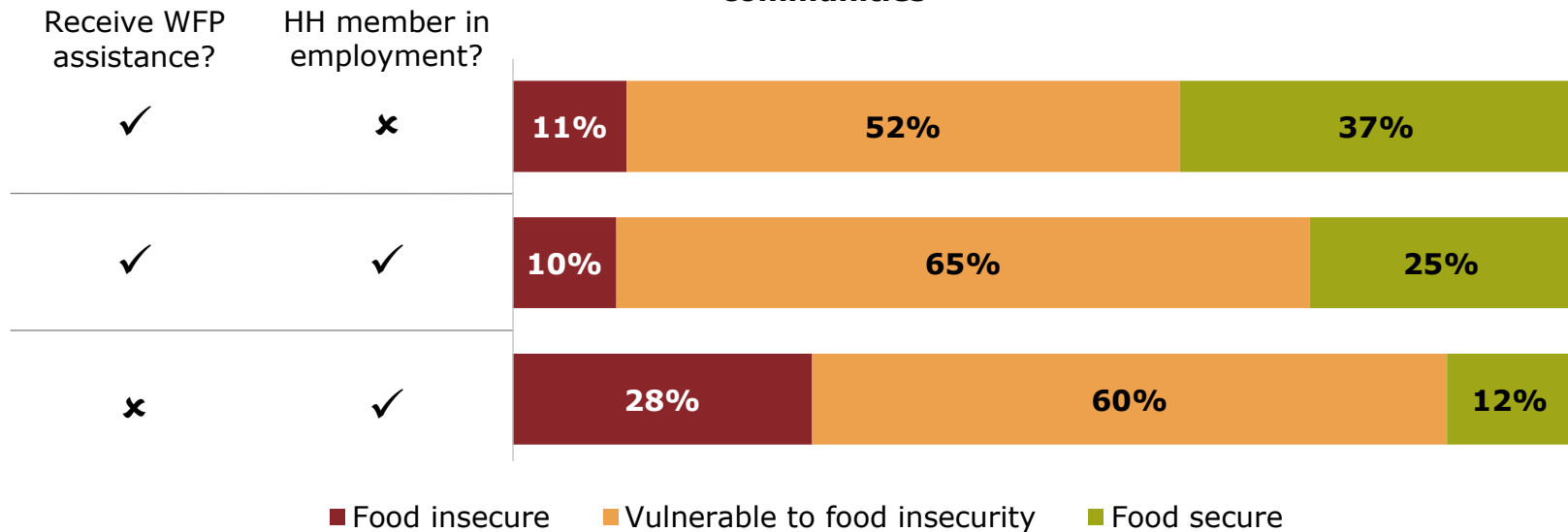
- Households receiving a lower level of WFP assistance per household member are more likely to be food insecure.
- This provides further evidence of the **continued need for food assistance** among the Syrian refugee population in Jordan.
- The fact that a high proportion of those not currently receiving assistance are food insecure implies that current targeting leaves certain gaps.



# Who are the food insecure: Access to work

- Access to work does **not necessarily ensure increased food security**.
- Regression analysis indicates households in which males are engaged in temporary work are more likely to adopt livelihood coping strategies.

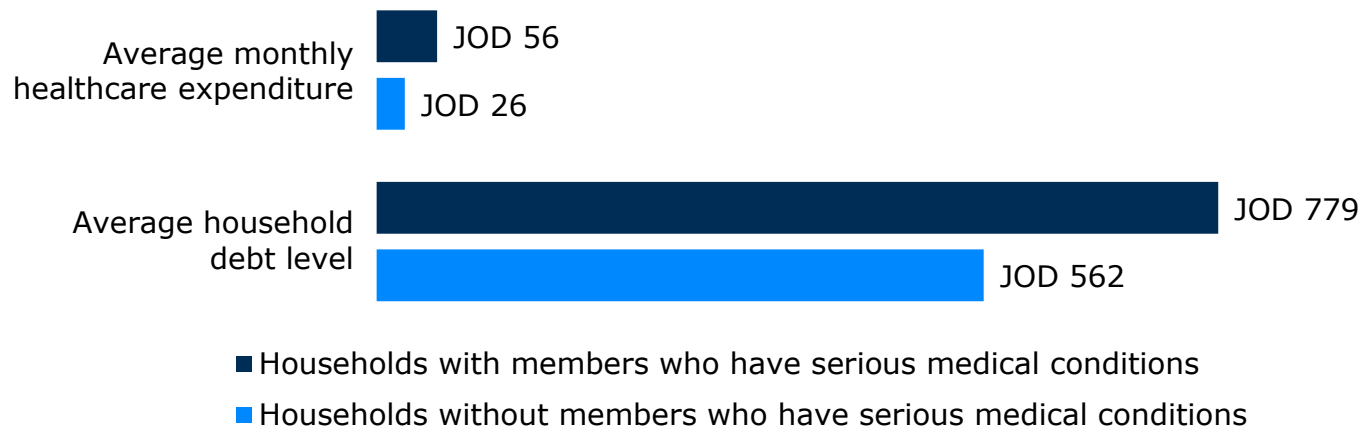
**Food security by WFP assistance and employment, refugees in host communities**



# Who are the food insecure: Health issues

- Households with members who have serious medical conditions, physical impairments, or have been severely injured are **more likely to be food insecure**.
- In host communities, 84% of households with such medical issues have acceptable food consumption scores, compared with 88% of households who do not have such issues.

**Average monthly healthcare expenditure and household debt levels, refugees in host communities**







## Conclusions and recommendations



# Conclusions

- **Food security has improved since 2015** but remains below 2014 levels.
- This improvement has been **driven by a stabilisation in humanitarian assistance**.
- Access to informal livelihood opportunities appears to have improved, although **work does not necessarily ensure increased food security**.
- A substantial level of **economic vulnerability remains**, with persistently high debt levels and minimal levels of savings.
- **Rental payments** continue to place a strain on household budgets, while the **high costs of medical treatment** means health issues represent an ever-present, unpredictable threat to refugee welfare.
- Despite improvements in food security since 2015, **ITS households remain more vulnerable** than other refugee households in host communities.

# Recommendations: Short term

In the **short term** (within the next 12 months):



Methods should be found to **mitigate the negative impacts of health costs** for households requiring emergency treatment or with chronically ill members

- ➔ Medical voucher transfers, insurance plans, longer term payment schemes



Solutions for **more affordable housing** and shelter should be considered

- ➔ Allows for reallocation of household resources to other needs



Livelihoods support should be considered for **refugees living in ITS** communities

- ➔ Cash for Work, additional voucher transfers

# Recommendations: Medium term

In the **medium term** (within the next one to three years):



**WFP food assistance should continue** for Syrian refugees in camps and host communities with systematic reviews of targeting criteria and implementation approach

➔ Development of a more established referral system



Support for **regular and decent economic opportunities** should be prioritised



**Tailored livelihoods opportunities should be provided** for refugees who are less able to work

➔ Work at home, social safety net

# Recommendations: Long term

In the **long term** (within the next three to five years):



Programming decisions should be made to gradually reduce refugee reliance on assistance, with an emphasis on **longer-term sustainability**

- ➔ There should be coherency and collaboration between resilience programming and humanitarian interventions