



HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

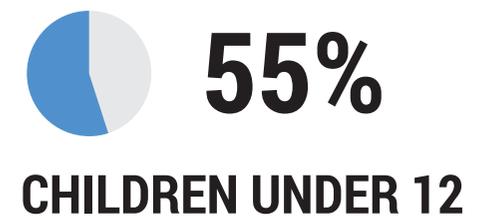
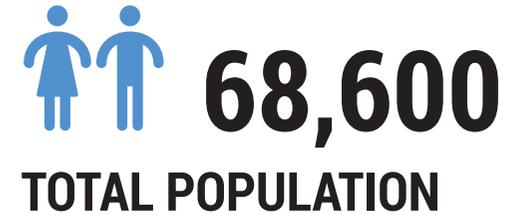
As of 25 September, the population of Al Hol stands at around 68,600 people (or 19,000 households), with little change reported in previous weeks. Since the beginning of June almost 2,640 residents have departed the camp, including more than 1,230 Syrians and 1,400 third country national women and children. In August, four German children were repatriated in addition to seven unaccompanied and separated minors from Nigeria (3) and Russia (4) in September. A number of irregular departures of Syrians have also taken place in recent months contributing to the overall reduction in residents.

While the humanitarian situation in the camp has stabilized compared to previous months, needs remain considerable and without a long-term solution across all sectors. In addition

to daily deliveries of water (around 30 litres of drinking water per person per day and 40 litres of non-drinking water per person per day), and the monthly provision of food rations and hygiene and dignity kits, there is a constant need to maintain and upgrade existing facilities such as latrines and water tanks, as well as replace worn out or damaged tents. Currently, partners are in the process of replacing up to 3,000 tents across the camp with 1,177 tents already replaced in Phases 1 and 2 and 1,762 requiring replacement in phases 2, 3, 4 and 5. In mid-October, winterization distributions will begin with all families in the camp set to receive two plastic sheets, blankets, and winter clothing – partners are also encouraged to provide heating support. Plastic sheeting is in the process of being procured for the annex, however gaps in commu-

nal kitchens (114) and illumination in sections 1, 2 and 5 have been identified. A pipeline break in hygiene kits – for which 20,000 are required across the camp each month – is also expected from November onwards should additional resources not be forthcoming, with funding also required for 26,000 children's winter kits.

Procedures for medical referrals remains challenging despite ongoing advocacy. In the past two weeks, 10 medical referrals were rejected and returned back to the camp without treatment due to the limited number of Asayish available to accompany them to health facilities in Al Hassakeh. Camp Administration is currently liaising with the relevant security departments to resolve this issue. The process also remains problematic for third country



nationals in the annex who require sponsorship from male residents to depart the camp, and which is difficult to obtain given the limited number of men present in the camp. Over the past two weeks, 5 medical referrals from the annex were rejected due to a lack of sponsorship. Health partners continue to advocate for unimpeded movement for emergency medical referrals while simultaneously working to increase the scope and capacity of secondary health services available within the camp. Similarly, while a static health facility has now been established in the annex following negotiations, 24/7 health services remains a noticeable gap and a source of ongoing consultations with Camp Administration to find a solution given the willingness of one partner to provide round-the-clock support.

Following recent media reports regarding the number of deaths inside Al Hol, analysis shows that the crude mortality rate is 0.5 deaths/10,000/day and the under 5 mortality rate between 0.14 to 0.29 deaths/10,000/day – both well below their respective emergency thresholds of 1.0 deaths/10,000/day and 2.0/10,000/day based on SPHERE standards. Between 4 December and 31 August, 406 deaths were recorded in Al Hol, however more than half of these (212) occurred between January and March when arrivals to the camp were at their peak, likely due in large part to the dire living

conditions they were previously exposed to in parts of Baghouz and south-eastern Deir-ez-Zour. While the overall trend in weekly diarrhoea cases has declined since the beginning of June, occasional spikes in weekly case numbers remain a cause concern, particularly in the annex and phases 1, 3 and 5 where proportionate morbidity (case rates) are higher than in other areas of the camp, and require concerted hygiene promotion efforts in response, along with intervention with ice suppliers given that water quality testing continues to show signs of contamination. Two suspected measles cases have also been reported in the past week.

Relocation of residents to phases 6 and 8 is ongoing with 1,811 tents erected so far and almost two-thirds occupancy in both. Relocation is slow as residents continue to express concern about the lack of comprehensive services and marketplace available in these phases. While it is expected that relocation will accelerate following construction of a temporary learning site in phases 6 and 8 and given plans to establish a hospitalization centre in phase 6 (with 10 beds) and 50 shops in phase 8, camp management will undertake an assessment with protection and shelter partners over the coming weeks to better understand the underlying reluctance of residents to relocate and the reasons why they are moving back to

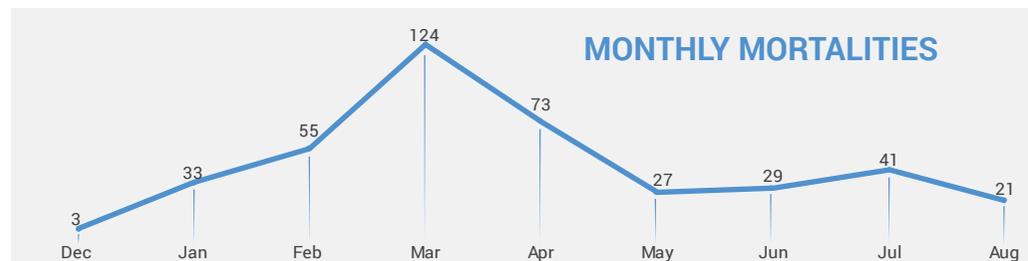
other congested parts of the camp. On 23 September, Camp Administration reported that 40 Syrian IDPs departed Al Hol Camp for Ar-Raqqa (13 people / 3 families), Deir-ez-Zour (11 families / 23 people) and Aleppo governorates (4 individuals) out of 210 who have registered to return. Camp Administration have also recently approved guidelines for return procedures, including those for unaccompanied and separated children, with a system for outlining the process of departure for persons with special needs also to be shortly established. Following previous reports of increased access restrictions for humanitarian partners to enter the camp, agreement has now been reached with Camp Administration on entry procedures for INGOs operating in the camp, along with recruitment processes for daily wage labourers. Nevertheless, education partners have recently reported challenges in recruiting teachers/facilitators from the camp following a decision by Camp Administration to prohibit the recruitment of residents for these functions. Currently, partners are seeking a waiver for this rule given that in many cases recruitment of teachers/facilitators started a month ago, and will lead to inevitable delays in the delivery of education services if not resolved.

Tensions remain high in the camp with security incidents reported on a weekly basis, most recently against contractors working on site

preparation of annex 5. In the first three weeks of September, 128 tents were also reported as burned across different phases of the camp, primarily to receive new items in advance of winter. Shelter/NFI partners are planning to conduct awareness raising sessions over the coming weeks to prevent future incidents.



Credit: OCHA



Agency	Fund Requirement	Fund Received	Fund Gap
WHO	5.87 M	2.32 M	3.54 M
WFP	5.35 M	3.23 M	2.11 M
UNFPA	3.53 M	1.16 M	2.36 M
UNICEF	18.3 M	9.22 M	9.07 M
UNHCR	11.46 M	3.25 M	8.20 M
Total	44.52 M	19.20 M	25.31 M

25.3M
FUNDING REQUIRED

This report is produced by OCHA Syria in collaboration with humanitarian partners. More detailed situation reports on Al Hol camp are produced as needed.