Multi-Sector Needs Assessment
Gender and Social Inclusion Factsheet
Lebanese Households in Lebanon

CONTEXT

Lebanon's multi-layered and unprecedented political and socio-economic crisis, underpinned by a history of violence, corruption and discriminatory legal frameworks is deepening gender inequalities. Lebanon has one of the highest overall gender inequality in the world, ranking 119 out of 146 countries in the World Economic Forum Gender Gap report 2022.[1] Economic collapse, high unemployment and increasing poverty are affecting people of all genders, but it is women who are bearing the brunt of the social and economic consequences. This includes being economically sidelined, taking on more unpaid labor in the home, experiencing higher levels of food insecurity and poverty, and being subjected to domestic violence. In addition, women and men with disabilities and older people are more likely to have specific vulnerabilities and needs, such as health concerns and mobility issues. They can also face heightened difficulties accessing life-saving information and assistance.
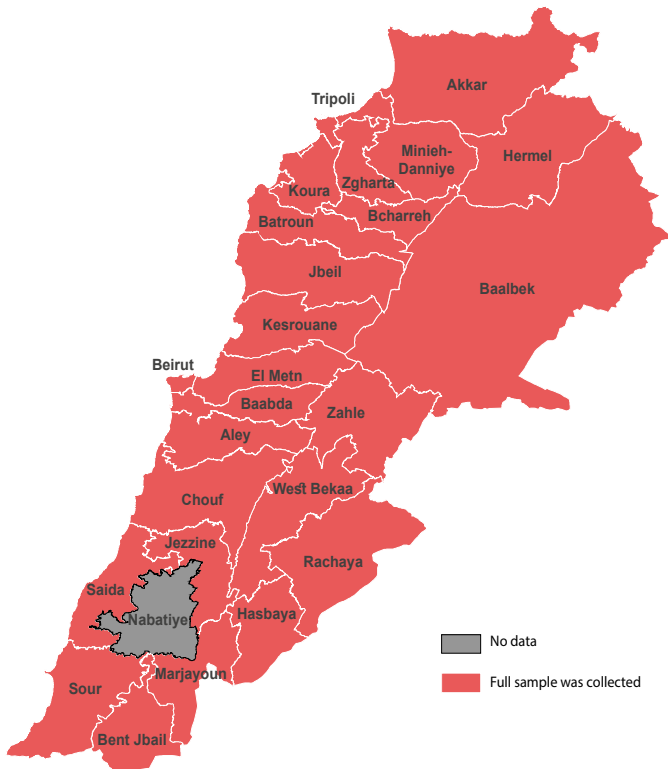
Given the gender inequalities underpinning the humanitarian needs situation in Lebanon and specific risks posed to people with marginalized identities, it is necessary to produce high quality gender and social inclusion analysis of information guiding the humanitarian response to the ongoing crisis. For this reason, **UN Women partnered with the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and REACH Initiative (REACH) to produce gender and social inclusion analysis on the country-wide Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) data.[2]** The purpose of this factsheet is to provide humanitarian practitioners and stakeholders with full and transparent access to disaggregated gender, age, disability data to inform their humanitarian interventions.

METHODOLOGY

Quantitative data was collected through a household-level survey assessing three population groups: Lebanese households (HHs), Palestine Refugees in Lebanon (PRL) HHs, and Migrant HHs. Data collection took place between 27 July and 26 November 2022. This factsheet presents the findings for Lebanese households specifically. The assessed Lebanese HHs were selected by means of a Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) cluster sampling approach where population hexagons (of 1km on each side) were the primary sampling units whose number of clusters (minimum 6 in each hexagon) was based on population density data (divided by average household size). This allowed a total sample of 3,944 HHs representative of the Lebanese HHs population at a district level and at a national level with a 95% level of confidence and a 10% margin of error.[3]

The MSNA was designed so that some survey questions were posed at the household level (i.e. the head of household or any adult household member were asked questions regarding the entire household) while others were posed at the individual level per each household member, meaning individual level findings should be considered indicative. This means full gender disaggregation by male and female was available for some findings while disaggregation only by the gender of the head of household was available for others. Other categories of analysis included older individuals and individuals with disabilities as well as households with older members and households that included at least one person with a disability.

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Akkar
Tripoli
Minieh-Danniye
Hermel
Koura
Zgharta
Batroun
Bcharreh
Jbeil
Baalbek
Kesrouane
Beirut
El Metn
Baabda
Zahle
Aley
West Bekaa
Chouf
Jezzine
Rachaya
Saida
Nabatiyeh
Hasbaya
Marjayoun
Sour
Bent Jbail

No data
Full sample was collected

SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

📍 **Sample:** **3,944** households

📝 Gender of survey respondents

Female 33% | **Male** 67%

👥 14,214 HH members were covered by the assessment.

📊 Demography of individual HH members

	Female		Male	
60+	20%		19%	
18-59	60%		58%	
5-17	15%		17%	
0-4	6%		6%	
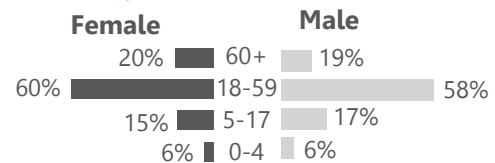
Gender of the head of household

Female 19% | **Male** 77% | **Co-headed** 4%

A note on female-headed households
A female-headed household (FHH) is a household in which an adult female is the sole or main decision-maker, whereas a male-headed household (MHH) is led by an adult male. The MSNA included an additional category of co-headed households, in which decision-making is shared. In the MSNA, the head of household is self-identified, where enumerators ask the first person they encounter upon visiting the household to designate the main decision-maker of the household. If the head of the household is not available, information about this person is gathered and enumerators interview another adult in the family capable of conducting the interview. Hence in some cases, the sex of the head of household and that of the respondent is different.
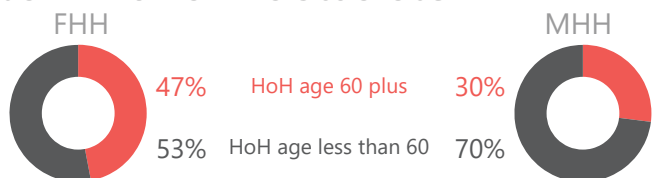
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SPECIFIC VULNERABILITIES

OLDER PEOPLE (60 years or above)

Female heads of household were more often 60 years or above compared to male heads of household.

% of HH with HoH who is 60 or older

FHH   MHH

47% HoH age 60 plus 30%

53% HoH age less than 60 70%

% of HHs that included older members

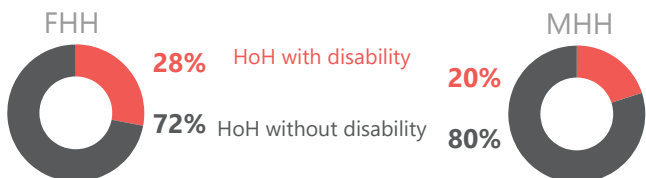FHH   MHH

56%   38%

DISABILITY[4]

Older people were more likely to have disabilities.

% of HH members with disabilities by gender and age

Female individuals	Age	Male individuals
1%	5 – 17	3%
4%	18 – 59	4%
25%	60+	22%
8%	All Ages	7%

% of HH with with a HoH with a disability by gender of HoH

FHH   MHH

28% HoH with disability 20%

72% HoH without disability 80%

% of 60+ individuals with disabilities, by type of disability and gender

Demographic group	Male Individuals	Female Individuals	Total
Seeing	13%	16%	15%
Hearing	10%	12%	11%
Walking	8%	8%	8%
Selfcare	5%	7%	6%
Remembering	4%	5%	5%
Communicating	1%	2%	2%

YOUNG CHILDREN

% HH with at least one small child (aged 0-5 years)

FHH   MHH

7%   18%

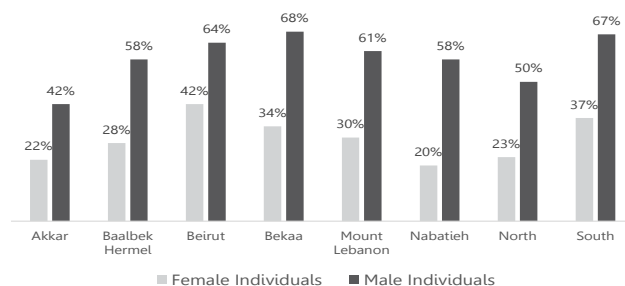**8%** of women were pregnant, lactating or had given birth in the last 2 years

LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT

Women were far less likely to be employed than men, especially women with disabilities.

Labour Force Participation[5] rates by age and gender

Demographic group	Male Individuals	Female Individuals	Total
Working-aged (15+ years)	58%	28%	40%
Persons with Disabilities	31%	12%	21%
Youth (15 – 30 years old)	55%	37%	46%
Adults (31 – 59 years old)	75%	33%	53%

Labour Force Participation rates by governorate and gender

Governorate	Female Individuals	Male Individuals
Akkar	22%	42%
Baalbek Hermel	28%	58%
Beirut	42%	64%
Bekaa	34%	68%
Mount Lebanon	30%	61%
Nabatieh	20%	58%
North	23%	50%
South	37%	67%

Unemployment Rates[6]

Demographic group	Male Individuals	Female Individuals	Total
Working-aged (15+ years)	13%	22%	17%
Youth (15 – 30 years old)	17%	24%	20%
Adults (31 – 59 years old)	9%	12%	10%

Unemployment rates by governorate and gender

Governorate	Female Individuals	Male Individuals
Akkar	24%	15%
Baalbek Hermel	25%	12%
Beirut	12%	12%
Bekaa	34%	20%
Mount Lebanon	13%	9%
Nabatieh	23%	9%
North	36%	19%
South	11%	3%
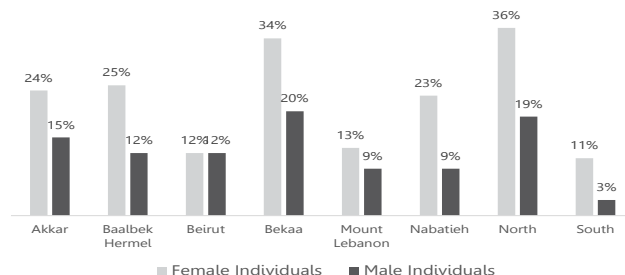
HH DEBTS

More FHH were in debt, but MHH owed larger amounts of debt on average.

31% of FHHs reported being in debt with an average debt of 1,225,455 LBP.[7]

24% of MHHs reported being in debt with an average debt of 2,045,306 LBP.

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HH INCOME

FHH were more dependent on others for their income.

Top 4 most commonly reported main sources of income, by gender of HoH

FHH	Income Type	MHH
34%	Daily/intermittent work	44%
30%	Employment (contracted)	26%
20%	Savings	18%
39%	Support from family and friends	16%

FHH had lower incomes than MHH, especially older FHH.

% FHH and MHH with monthly incomes below 6,000,000 LBP

FHH	MHH
58%	48%

% of 60+ FHH and MHH with monthly incomes below 6,000,000 LBP

FHH	MHH
62%	51%

FOOD SECURITY

More FHH had borderline and poor food consumption scores.

% of HHs by Food Consumption Score (FCS) and gender of HoH:

FCS Category	FHH	MHH
Acceptable	73%	82%
Borderline	17%	14%
Poor	10%	4%

EDUCATION

Most Lebanese children were in school with little difference between boys and girls or MHH and FHH.

% of school-aged children not enrolled in a formal school for the 2021-2022 school year by gender

Girls	Boys
5%	6%

% of HHs with at least one child not enrolled in school, by gender of the HoH

FHH	MHH
3%	6%

HEALTH

Older FHH and women with disabilities were more likely to have an unmet primary healthcare need.

% of 60+ FHH and MHH with an unmet primary healthcare need

FHH	MHH
62%	51%

% of individuals with unmet primary healthcare need, by presence of disability and gender		
Demographic group	**Male Individuals**	**Female Individuals**	**Total**
With disability	26%	35%	31%
Without disability	23%	26%	24%
Total	23%	28%	26%

HYGIENE

38% % of HHs with female HH members of menstruating age[8] (n=2,254) reported struggling to access menstrual hygiene items

PROTECTION

One in ten households reported protection concerns for women, particularly in Bekaa.

% of FHH and MHH that reported that women and girls avoided certain areas in their location because they felt unsafe there

FHH	MHH
8%	12%

Top 3 governorates where HH reported women avoid certain areas out of concern for safety

Bekaa	25%
Akkar	13%
North	13%

Almost a quarter of boys 15-17 were working.

% of individual boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 17 who were working

Female	Male
9%	22%

3% of girls under 18 were married at the time of the assessment

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ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF:

FUNDED BY:

WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

ENDNOTES

[1] World Economic Forum. 2022. Global Gender Gap Report. 2022. Benchmarks progress towards gender parity and compares countries' gender gaps across four dimensions: economic opportunities, education, health and political leadership.

[2] The MSNA was funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations unit (DG-ECHO) and the Lebanese Humanitarian Fund (LHF)

[3] For more information on the methodology, please refer to the Terms of Reference.

[4] Disability is defined as someone who responded to any of the Washington Group Questions (seeing, hearing, walking, self-care, remembering and communicating) with 'a lot of difficulty' or 'cannot do at all' "WGQ".

[5] Labour Force Participation is calculated by looking at all individuals who reportedly had any type of job at the time of data collection (either working for someone else for pay, running their own business, supporting a family business, etc.) or who were looking for a job and available to start working in 7 days divided by the total number of working-aged individuals (15+ years) in the population.

[6] Unemployment is calculated by dividing the number of individuals who were reportedly looking for work at the time of data collection by the number of individuals who either had a job (any type) or were looking for a job at the time of data collection.

[7] At the time of data collection, 1USD= circa 30.000 LBP, as per www.lirarate.org

[8] 15-49 years old