

Living Conditions of Palestinian Refugees in Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon

Introduction

Survey objectives:

- Broad description of current living conditions
- Analysis to provide insight into the dynamics of socio-economic development processes
- Provide data relevant to a range of policy concerns associated with living conditions and well-being

The Lipril sample survey

- The sample
 - New sampling frame was constructed and used
 - A stratified one stage probability sample of about 4000 households
 - All camps (12) and most (44) Palestinian gatherings are included
- Fieldwork in Spring 1999
 - Response rate is 97.2%
 - Refusal rate is 0.83%
- Overall good data quality

Refugee/Displacement status: Self-described by respondents in the Lipril survey

- All persons, asked if they were:
 1. Refugee from 1948
 2. Refugee after 1948
 3. Displaced from 1967
 4. Forced to migrate (*muhajjar*)
 5. None of the above
- For 1-4, asked if they are registered with UNRWA and DPRA
- Also asked about the year of first arrival to Lebanon, family's place of origin in mandatory Palestine, citizenship, and kind of travel document, if any.



The population covered in the following analysis:

- Population living in refugee camps (including the de facto borderline) or “gatherings”.
- Households where at least one household member is a Palestinian.



Main topics in the analysis:

- Population and demographic characteristics
- Health
- Education
- Employment
- Income and poverty
- Housing and environment
- Participation in daily life

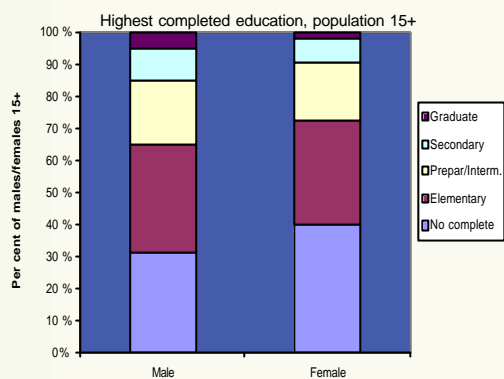
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Education

Education

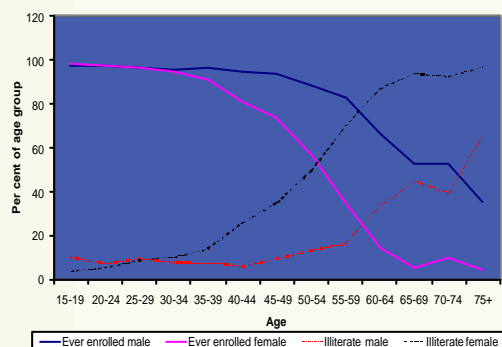
- Information collected on enrollment, literacy and highest level of completed education
- Those ever enrolled are questioned about their educational career, and the types of educational institutions attended
- Main findings:
 - The educational level is low
 - Significant non-enrollment among the young, especially men
 - High illiteracy
 - Many students quit for economic reasons or de-motivation
 - UNRWA is the dominant provider of basic education.

Low educational level for both males and females



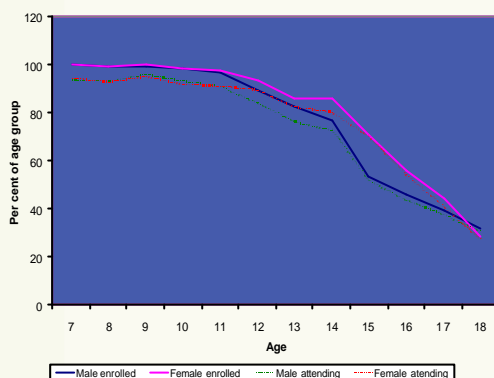
- Three in ten have not completed any education.
- Half have passed basic education, for both men and women.
- Men dominate in higher education, while more women than men have not completed any education.

High illiteracy, especially among women



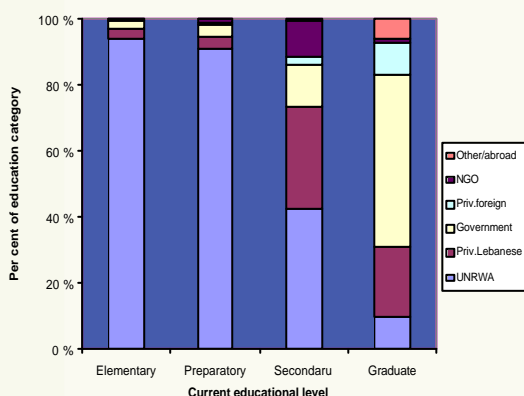
- 9% of males and 22% of females (15+) have never been to school.
- 20% of adult population (15+) is illiterate: 13% of men and 26% of women.
- But illiteracy also among the young: 8% of 15-39 cohorts are illiterate

Frequent non-enrollment among the young



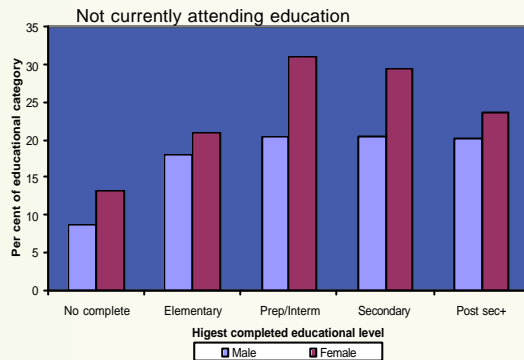
- Enrollment drops fast from age 11, especially for males.
- 21% non-enrolment among children 7-18 years old.
- 5% of enrolled did not attended education during the last month.
- From 5-9, same enrolment rate as for Lebanese, dropping fast to half of Lebanese for 15-24.

UNRWA provides education for nine in ten enrolled students



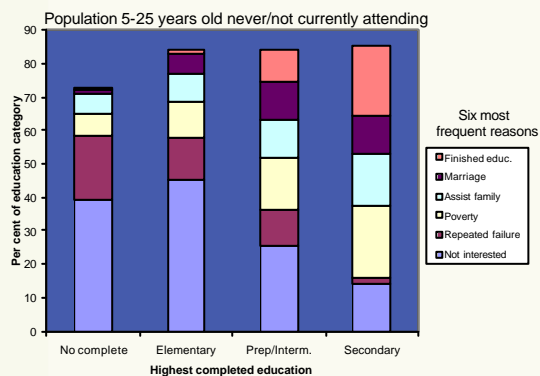
- UNRWA is the dominant provider of basic education, and covers half of secondary education
- NGOs, private and government agencies serve the remaining half attending secondary education
- Most students in graduate/post graduate studies attend government and private institutions

Vocational training supports formal education



- Two in ten have attended short (<12 months) training course.
- Highest participation among females with intermediate or secondary education
- Moreover:
 - Participation evenly spread across agencies
 - Most popular courses are clothing and personal grooming for women and electrical/mechanical courses for men

Lack of interest and economic difficulties are frequent reasons for “drop-out”



- Four in ten leave at the lowest levels due to de-motivation.
- Economic reasons increasing in importance with increasing educational level.
- Repeated failure frequent at lower levels.....
.. marriage and completed education frequent at highest.

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Health status and health services

Health status and health services

- Information about health insurance, chronic and acute illness, and the use of and satisfaction with health services collected for all household members
- Randomly selected adults answered questions about their general health status and psychological well-being
- For children 1-4 years old mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) was used to estimate malnourishment
- Data on birth history, maternal health and contraceptive use are available but not reported in this presentation

Main findings:

1 out of 5 persons suffers from chronic health failure

1 in 5 uses medicines due to psychological distress

Under five health poor

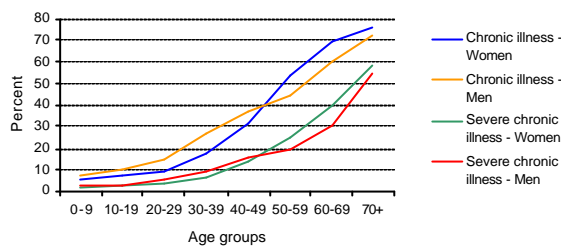
7 out of 10 with acute illness see a doctor

UNRWA clinics: preferred place of consultation; cheapest provider; lowest rating on satisfaction with consultation



Fafo

Nearly one in five have a chronic health failure - close to one in ten suffer from a severe problem

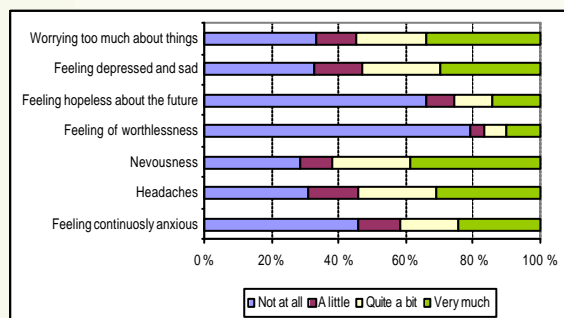


- 19% suffer from chronic health failure
- 3% have a chronic problem caused by war (more common among males than females: 21% versus 13%)
- 8.5% suffer from a severe chronic problem (making it difficult to go out without help)
- More prevalent in the lower income bracket and the southern camps



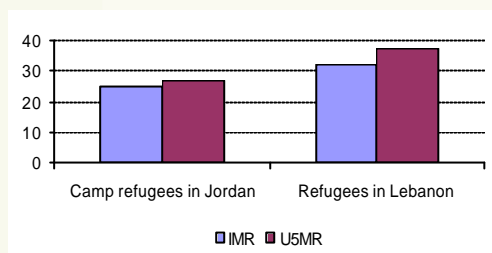
Fafo

The majority show sign of psychological distress One in four feels hopeless about the future



- 42% report four symptoms or more
- 21% have used medicines due to psychological distress regularly, and 16% occasionally, during the last 6 months
- 1,5% have seen a doctor for mental problems

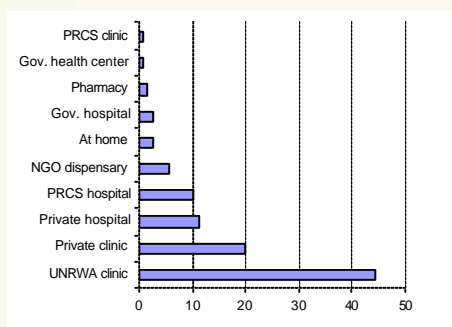
Under-five health is poor as indicated by high IMR and undernourishment (measured by mid-upper arm circumference - MUAC)



- 5% of children 1-3 years old are malnourished (MUAC < 12.5 cm)
- Another 4% are in the group of vulnerable children (MUAC 12.5 - 13.4 cm)

UNRWA clinics, private institutions most often visited after acute illness

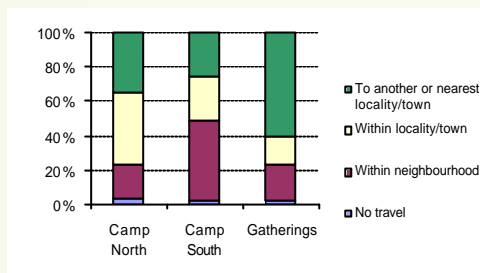
Place of consultation and treatment
Percent of the acutely ill aged 5+



- 11% suffered from acute illness in the two week reference period
- 75% consulted someone, most often a general practitioner (56%) or a specialist doctor (40%)
- UNRWA's share of the patient stream is high
- Household income does not influence the type of services used
- ...but the 7% with health insurance go to private hospitals more often

Regional differences in the availability of health services

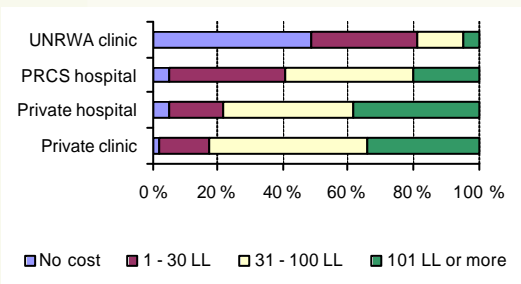
Travel distance to place of consultation



- 36% of all patients consulted someone in their neighbourhood
- Health services are within easier reach for people in the southern camps ...
- ... who more often go to UNRWA for consultation (5 in 10 compared to 4 in 10 for the two other regions)
- People residing outside of the refugee camps travel the most

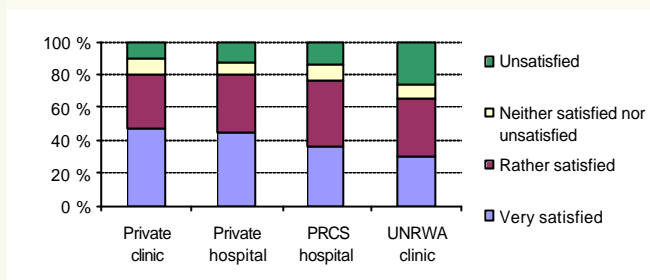
UNRWA clearly the less expensive provider ...

Total consultation, medication and treatment expenses
In thousand LL



- Patients from the gatherings pay more for health services: One-half as many people in the gatherings get services for free compared to people in the camps

... but more dissatisfaction with consultation and treatment at UNRWA clinics



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Housing and Infrastructure



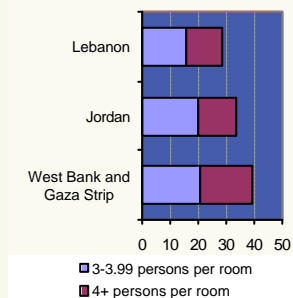
Housing and Infrastructure

Main findings:

- Camps are not as crowded as refugee camps in Jordan and West Bank and Gaza
- Low-income, loner and Northern region camp households inhabit lower quality housing by several different measures
- Unstable drinking water and electric supply in camps. Garbage disposal a large problem in gatherings
- 1/2 do not have piped drinking water
- Dissatisfaction with housing conditions is high in Northern camps
- Dissatisfaction with outdoor environment and neighborhood services higher in gatherings than camps



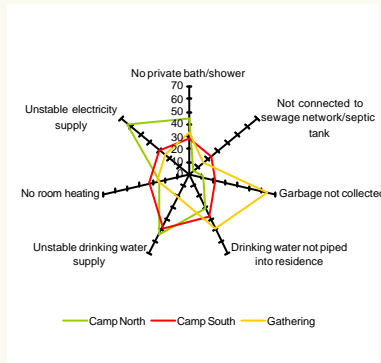
Less crowding in camp refugee households in Lebanon than in camps elsewhere in the region...



Comparing crowding in refugee camps across the region:

- 28% of camp households in Lebanon compared to 34% in Jordan and 39% in the West Bank and Gaza
- Partially due to smaller households in Lebanon camps

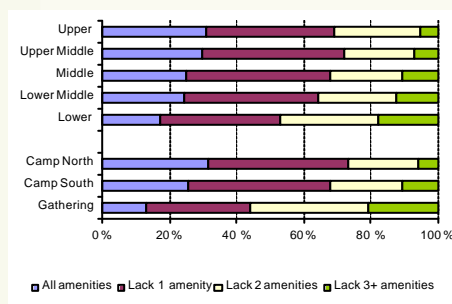
Many households face infrastructure problems



- Garbage disposal a huge problem for gathering households
- Unstable electricity supply in more than 6 in 10 Northern camp households
- Overall 50% without drinking water piped into dwelling
- Unstability in drinking water supply for one-half of the camp households

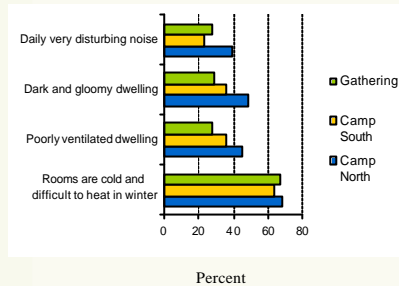
One in five household have all infrastructure amenities

Poor households and the northern camps worse off



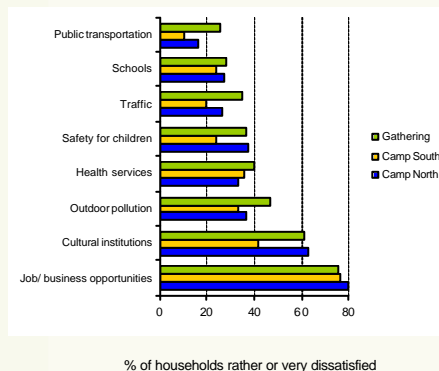
- The 7 amenities are: private kitchen, bath or toilet in dwelling, connection to sewerage system or septic tank, connection to electricity network, piped water, and regular garbage collection

Poor quality of indoor environment



- Nearly 7 out of 10 dwellings are cold and difficult to heat in winter
- Low income, female-headed and loner households inhabit dwellings with less physical comfort than average
- 1 in 3 households daily experience noise so disturbing that it is difficult to have a normal conversation

Considerable dissatisfaction with neighborhood and outdoor environment



- Overall, 3 in 10 are rather or very dissatisfied with the neighborhood in which they live
- Nearly 4 out of 5 express dissatisfaction with work and business opportunities
- Cultural institutions a major concern

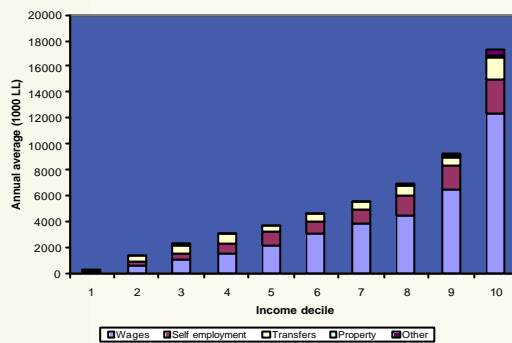
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Income: Level, Distribution and Sources

Income and poverty

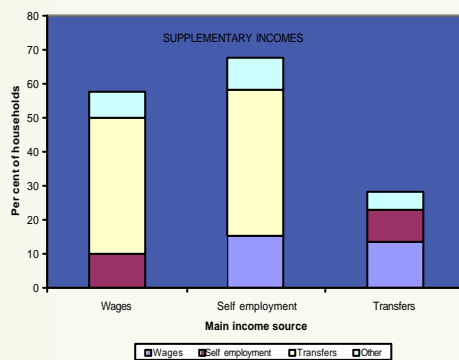
- Assessed by a measure of household yearly income by (detailed list of income) sources
- Various other indicators of economic well-being are used:
 - Subjective hardship assessment
 - Savings & ownership of property
 - Household durable goods
- Main findings:
 - Household incomes are low, but dispersed
 - Deprived households have little human capital and weak labour market attachment
 - The economic environment is difficult

Incomes are low and the distribution is skewed



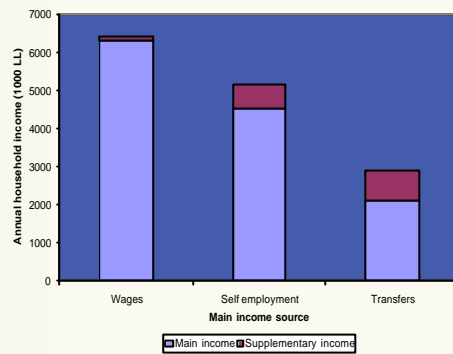
- Average yearly income is 5,5 millions
- Two top deciles earn half of all incomes
- Most households rely on employment income - in particular wages
- Transfers are crucial to the poor

Low income diversification



- Every second household has only one income source
- Lowest income diversification among transfer receivers and highest among "others"
- Transfers is the most frequent secondary income source regardless of main income

Modest contribution from supplementary income sources



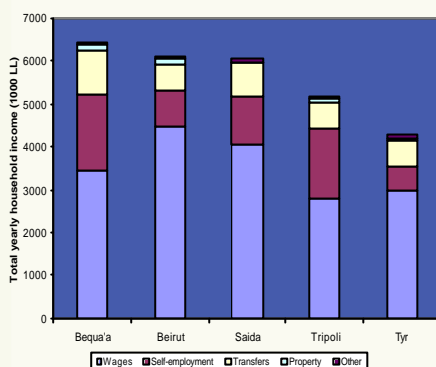
- Total household income varies significantly by the main income type.
- Supplementary incomes add 2%-30% to main income depending on income type
- The contribution of supplementary incomes increases with decreasing main income

Little income differentiation in the labour market



- Incomes are low
- Two exceptions: professionals/technicians (high) and agriculture (low).
- Eight in ten households assess local work and business opportunities as "very bad"

Little regional income differentiation

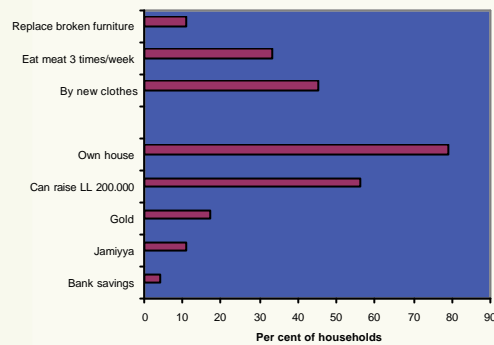


- Overall income lowest in Tripoli and Tyr
- Wages dominant in Beirut and Saida
- Compensation by self-employment in the Bequa'a and in Tripoli
- Transfers in all regions, especially the Bequa'a

Deprived households have little human capital and weak labour market attachment

	INCOME DECILE	
	1	10
HOUSEHOLD HEAD:		
Single (%)	48	14
Female (%)	42	12
No education (%)	70	29
Employed	19	74
Disabled/retired (%)	50	11
HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION:		
Household size (average)	3,5	6,7
Singles alone (%)	27	0
Couple with children (%)	34	67
Sex ratio	0,8	1,4
Dependancy ratio	0,8	1,8
MEMBER'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITY:		
Economically active members(%)	7	33
Unemployed members (%)	6	3
Work hours last week (average)	11	101
High professionals (average)	0	0,7

Low affordability and few households rely on financial assets



- About one in ten have savings or can replace broken furniture
- About half can eat meat three times a week, buy new vs. second hand clothes and can raise LL 200,000
- Eight in ten own their dwelling

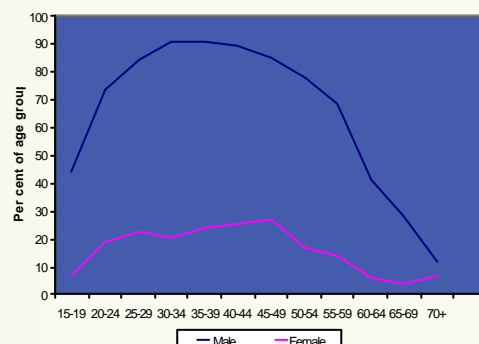
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Employment

Survey objectives and main findings

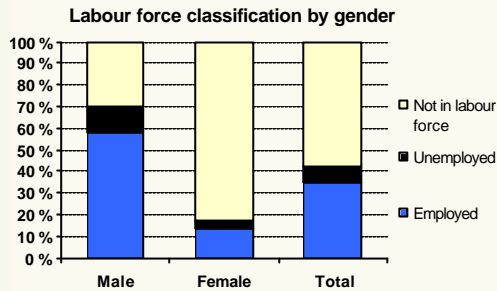
- Assess the size and structure of the labor force, including economic activity, unemployment, and underemployment, using the ILO framework
- Main findings:
 - Total labour force participation is low at 42 percent, mainly due to low female participation at 17 percent
 - Significant underutilization of labour:
 - * Unemployment is high at 16 percent and underemployment is at 13 percent.
 - * Four in ten non-active males 25-44 have lost all hopes of finding a job.
 - Significant labour market segmentation between males and females and between regions

Early exit for males and low overall participation for females



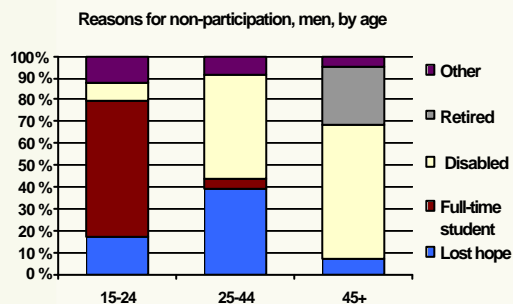
- Male participation not exceeding 90%
- Female participation low at all ages.
- Males leave the labour market early...
- ...while females are slow to enter

Low labor force participation



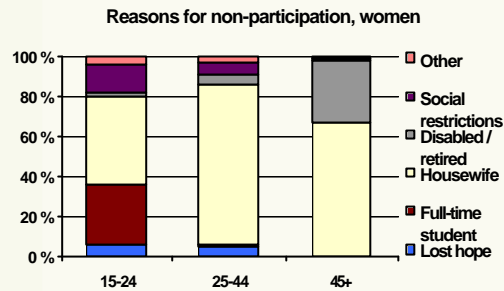
- Low overall labour force participation rate at 42%
- Mainly caused by low female participation rate (17 %)
- Overall unemployment is high at 16 % (of labour force)

Studies, health and discouragement are major causes of non-participation for men



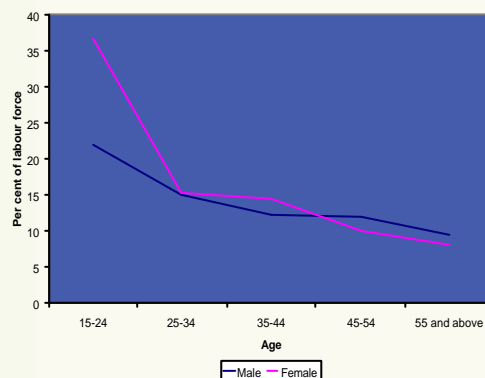
- Half of the inactive men age 25-44 report sickness or disability
- Nearly 40 % of the inactive between 25 - 44 have lost hope of finding a job
- The young are students
- The old are sick, disabled or retired

Housework is the main reason for non-participation among women



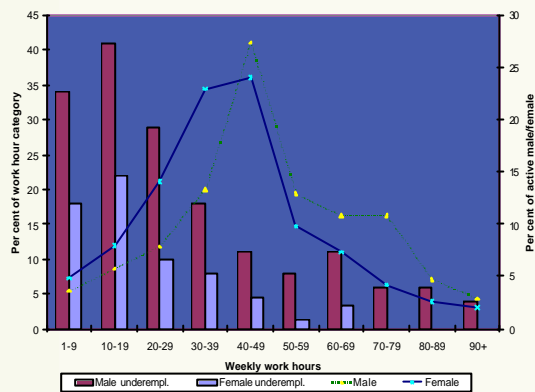
- Nine in ten non-active 25-44 year olds are housewives
- Social restrictions also important: 14 % below 25 and 7% aged 25-44 cite this reason
- As for men, health reasons are important among the old, studies among the young

High unemployment rates among the young



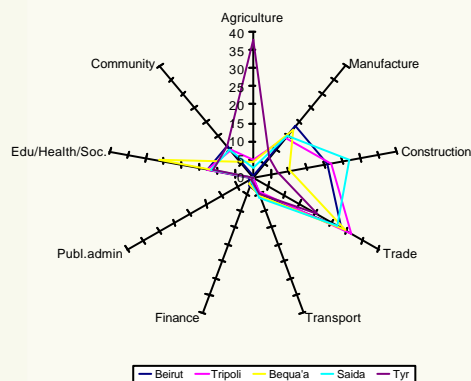
- Unemployment decreasing with age for both genders
- Gender disparity due to high unemployment among youngest females
- Moreover:
 - Education has no effect on average
 - Unemployment higher in Beirut (26%) than elsewhere

Lowest working hours reflect high rate of underemployment



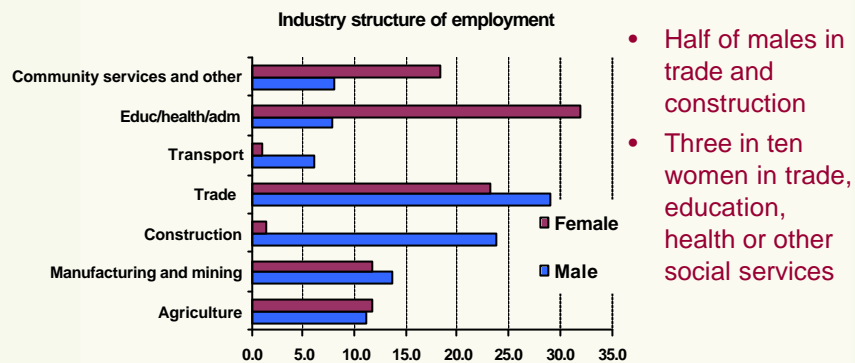
- Half of employed work more than 40 hours
- Underemployment high at 13%.
- Highest underemployment among males working less than 30 hours.
- Underemployment highest in agriculture and construction

Significant regional differentiation across industries

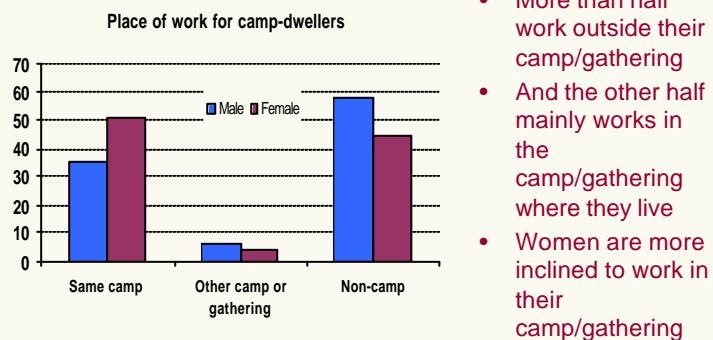


- Beirut, Tripoli & Saïda: Manufacture, construction and trade
- Tyr: Agriculture
- Bequa'a: Education and health
- Few in transport and finance - no one in public administration

Significant gender differentiation across industries



Labour markets outside the camp/gathering are important



Living Conditions Survey Among Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon

Social participation

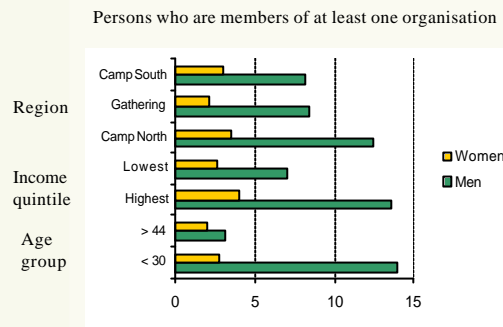
Social participation

- Information on attitudes and social participation was collected from one randomly selected adult in each household

Main findings:

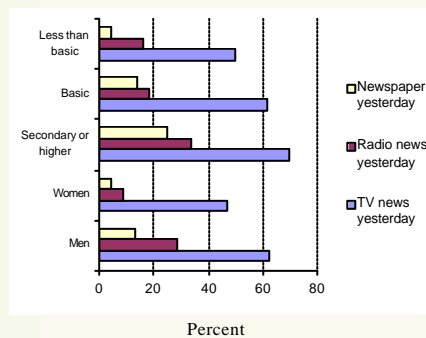
- Marked gender differences in all aspects of social participation
- Men consume more news and are more often members of organisations
- Women, and in particular young unmarried women, have quite limited freedom of movement

Low organisational participation



- 6% are members of an organisation (women, youth, social, sports, cultural, religious)
- Slightly higher activity in the north
- Participation increases with household income
- Men more active than women
- The young more active than the old

A majority follows news daily through modern mass media, but some variation according to type of media



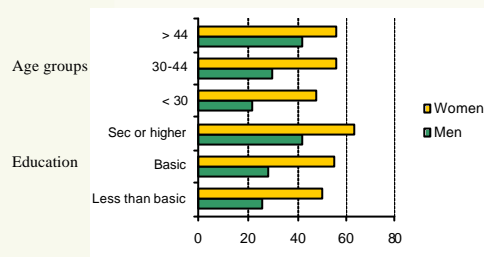
- Overall, nearly 6 in 10 read newspapers or get news through TV or radio every day
- Men with higher education consume most news, while lower educated women consume the least
- TV news was by far the most common source for news:
 - 38% men and 32% women receive news from TV only



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Well-educated women believe in higher female participation in the public sphere, while the young uneducated men show little support

Percent who answer yes to all 8 indicators of women's participation in public life: work outside of home, higher education, vote in elections, be a minister etc.



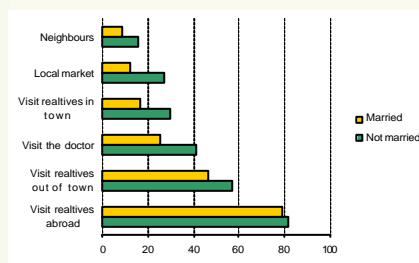
- ? Women are clearly more supportive to female participation in public life than men
- ? Older people are more positive than the younger generation, and men below 30 are the most hostile
- ? People's attitudes to female public participation get more positive with more education



Fafo

Women's ability to move around at will is reduced by distance to place of visit and marital status

Percent women who cannot visit certain places on their own, by marriage status



- The young and unmarried women the less mobile:
 - 34% of the unmarried women under 30 cannot go alone to the local market compared to 16% of the married women below 30, and
 - 23% versus 38% cannot visit neighbours residing in the same area or town
- Education and income have little effect

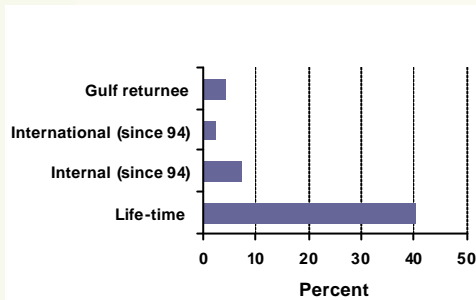
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Migration and geographic mobility

Migration and geographic mobility

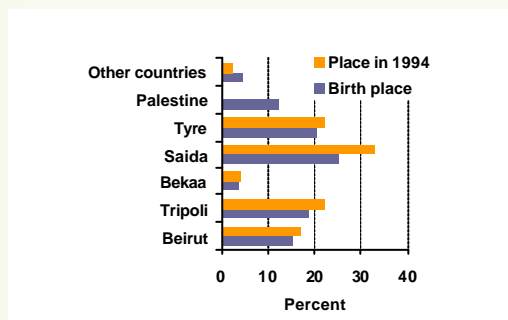
- Migration is usually selective by age and sex, and is also income-dependent
- Present summary measures:
 - **Life-time migration** (place of birth & current place)
 - **Period migration** (place in 1995 & current place)
 - **Labor migration** (Gulf returnee & work abroad)
 - **Complete migration history (15 years & over)**
- **Data limitations:** Only summary codes for other localities in Lebanon; coverage restricted to populations in camps and gatherings.
- **Main finding:** The refugee population is quite mobile. Recent movers are generally younger and better off economically.

A mobile population



- Nearly 40% were born elsewhere (in Lebanon or abroad)
- However, international migration is relatively low
- About 4% are returnees from the Gulf

About one out of ten was born in Mandatory Palestine/Israel

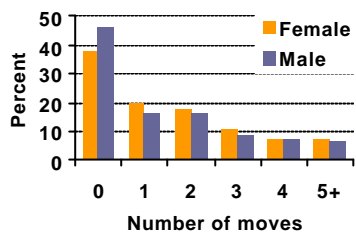


- Otherwise, there is little international migration



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About 6 out of every 10 adults migrated at one point in their life

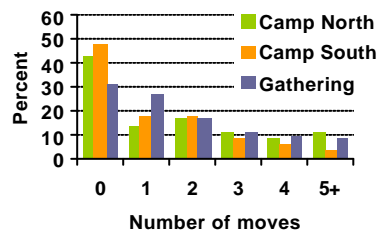


- Women are more likely to be movers than men
- They are also more likely to make additional moves
- Data are limited to those living in camps & gatherings



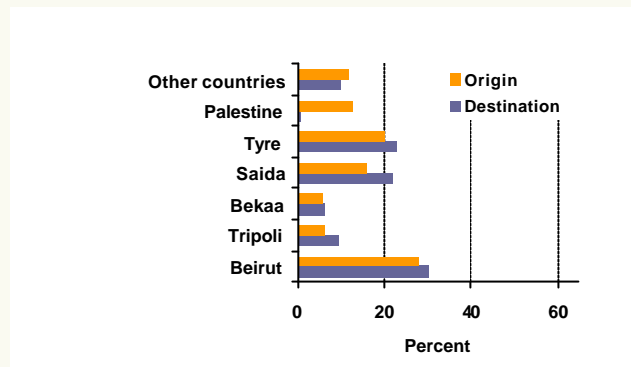
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The gatherings' adults are more mobile

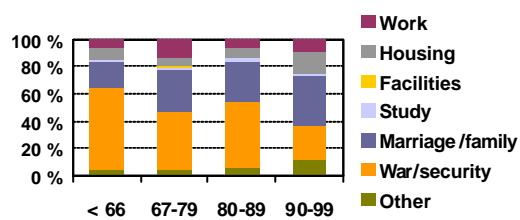


- The non-camp populations are more likely to make additional moves compared to the other two regions
- Adults in the Southern camps are the least mobile

The majority of moves originate in Lebanon

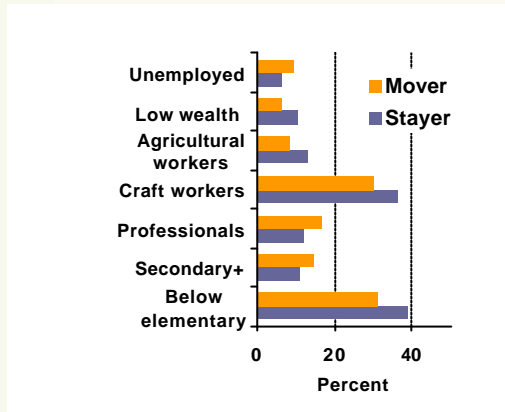


War and security are the most important reasons (47%) given for moving overall



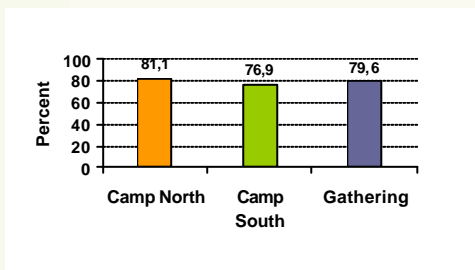
- .. But less so in the 1990s
- Increasing importance of housing, work, & marriage in the 1990s

Movers have higher socio-economic status



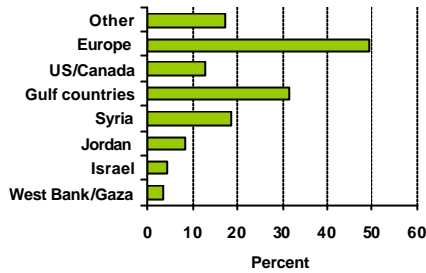
- ... and higher education
- But they are more likely to be unemployed compared to stayers

Nearly 80% of households have *close* relatives living abroad



- This is larger than the refugee population in Jordan (60%)
- The Northern camps are slightly more likely to – but regional differences are small

One out of two households has a close relative in Europe



- ... one out of 3 has a close relative in the Gulf
- And one out of 5 in Syria
- Only 4% of households have a relative in West Bank/Gaza or Israel

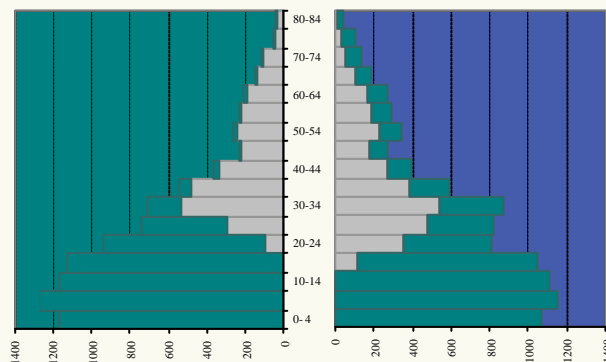
Living Conditions of Palestinian Refugees in Camps and Gatherings in Lebanon

Population & demographic characteristics

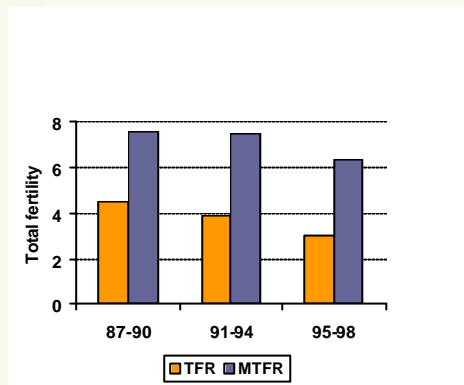
Population & demographic characteristics

- Population patterns are of interest for their own sake (overall growth or decline of numbers)
- But they also shed light on other social and economic changes (labor market, poverty, etc.)
- **Purpose**: Describe age-sex structure, fertility, and mortality
- **Main results**: The demographic transition is well underway (low levels of fertility and mortality), but the refugee populations have higher fertility and mortality levels than the Lebanese

Rapid fertility decline is evident, but the age distribution is clearly distorted by migration

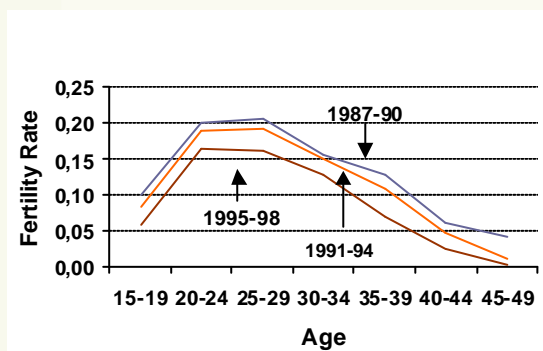


Fertility levels are relatively low – compared to Palestinian "sisters" elsewhere



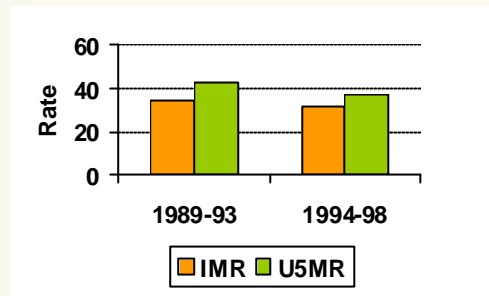
- Women are making an average of three children
- - - Still higher than other women in Lebanon (2.5)
- Marital fertility is still high (6.3)
- But, fertility has been declining rapidly in all regions

The fertility decline is rapid across all ages



- ... but especially so among women aged 20-29 years
- The age pattern indicates use of contraceptives (CPR is 66%)

Mortality levels are low



- But they are higher than expected.
- Infant and under 5 mortality rates are 32 & 37 per 1000 births, respectively.
- Mortality has been declining