

WEST BANK

- ❖ Stateless.
- ❖ Live under a combination of Palestinian Authority (PA) and Israeli civil-military administration.
- ❖ Three-quarters live outside of camps, and use both UNRWA and PA services.
- ❖ For those living outside of camps, the standard of living is similar to that of the non-refugee population.

GAZA

- ❖ Stateless.
- ❖ Area is administered by local Hamas-controlled government, but Israel retains direct control over Gaza's airspace, coast, and most of its borders, and severely restricts access.
- ❖ Many refugees (from 1948 and 1967) in Gaza have been displaced multiple times due to large-scale Israeli attacks between 2008 and 2014.

JORDAN

- ❖ Palestinians who arrived in 1948 or soon after are defined as “refugees” and have full Jordanian citizenship.
- ❖ However, those who arrived after 1967 are defined as “displaced persons” and only hold temporary passports renewed every two years. Even for Palestinians who have been in Jordan for nearly 50 years, severe restrictions on employment and education are imposed, and they therefore experience a much higher rate of poverty and unemployment.
- ❖ Fewer than one in eight Palestinian refugees in Jordan lives in a camp, and most camps have effectively become urban neighborhoods.
- ❖ As of 2013, Jordan refuses entry to Palestinian refugees fleeing Syria.

SYRIA

- ❖ Non-citizens.
- ❖ Prior to the 2011 uprising, Palestinian refugees were provided with full access to employment and social services. Only one quarter of the refugees lived in a camp.
- ❖ Since the end of 2013, Palestinian refugees, particularly the 18,000 in Yarmouk camp, have been in a state of emergency, and many have been forced to flee.
- ❖ Palestinians fleeing violence in Syria face significant obstacles that Syrian nationals do not face when seeking refuge in neighboring states. Though the UN Relief Works Agency (UNRWA) was originally formed to give special protection to Palestinian refugees, now it has resulted in a severely detrimental gap in their protection compared to non-Palestinian refugees, who are under the protection of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- ❖ Jordan curtailed entry of Palestinian refugees from Syria in 2013, and Lebanon curtailed entry of Palestinian refugees from Syria in May 2014.

LEBANON

- ❖ Stateless.
- ❖ Face numerous employment restrictions and are barred from owning property.
- ❖ Consequently, they generally live in adverse circumstances, often in poor and overcrowded refugee camps.
- ❖ Because of this, many have left the country.
- ❖ There have been some changes in Lebanese government policy since 2005, and some minor reforms were made to employment restrictions in August 2010.
- ❖ Lebanon curtailed entry of Palestinian refugees from Syria in May 2014.

OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

- ❖ Dealt with by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), rather than UNRWA.
- ❖ In Kuwait, most Palestinians fled or were forced to leave after the 1990-91 Gulf war.
- ❖ In 1995, Libya expelled many of its Palestinians in a bizarre protest against the peace process.
- ❖ In Iraq, many refugees faced attacks after 2003, and fled the country.
- ❖ In the Gulf states, Palestinians are typically treated as foreign visitors/residents.
- ❖ Since the crisis in Syria, Palestinian refugees in Egypt have been prevented access to UNHCR services.