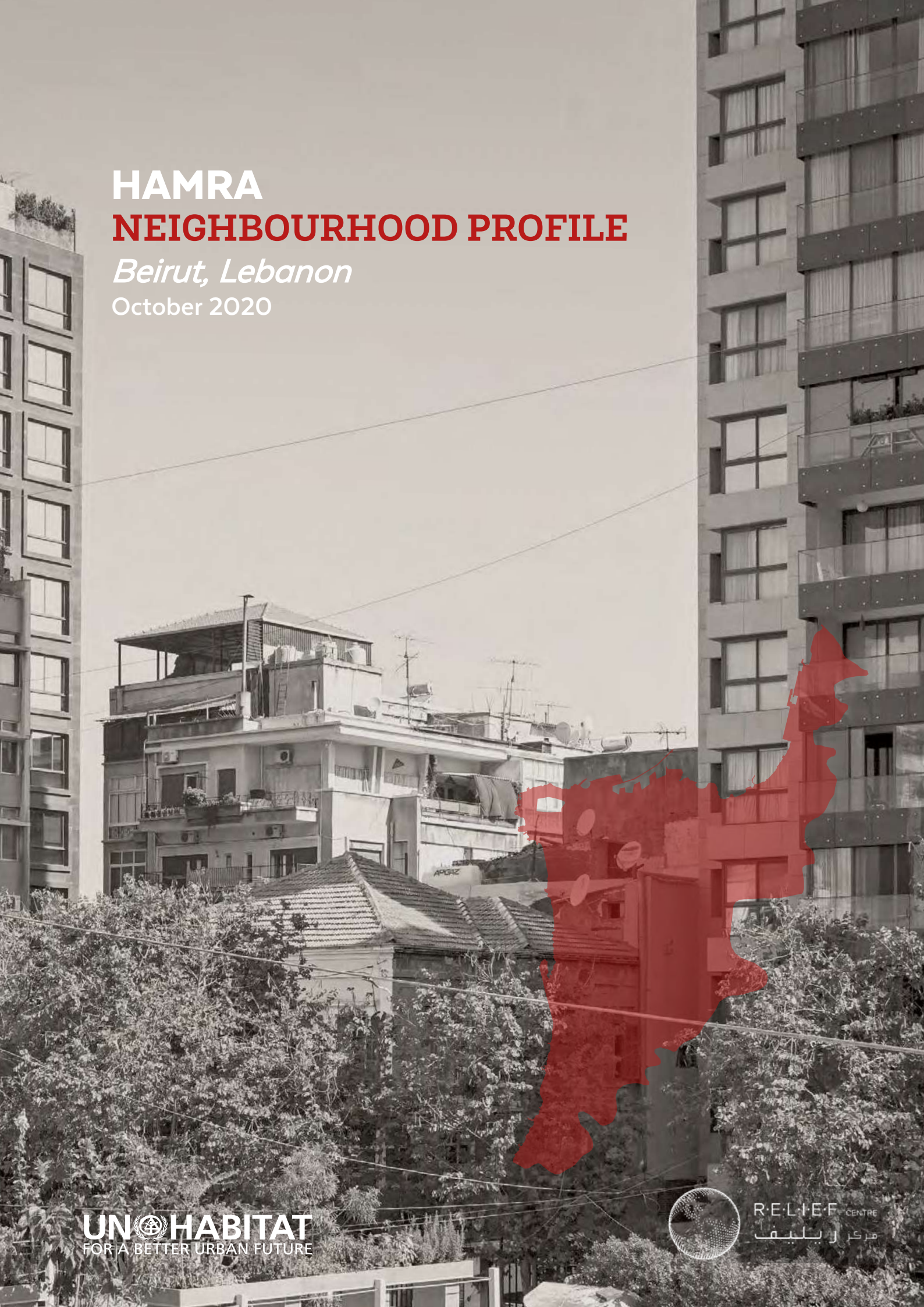
HAMRA
NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILE

Beirut, Lebanon

October 2020



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FOREWORD

Lebanon is experiencing a number of intersecting social and economic challenges. The Syrian refugee crisis is currently in its ninth year, and Lebanon is host to an estimated 1.5 million Syrian refugees (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2019). Furthermore, since October 2019, the country has been experiencing a nationwide wave of political protests and a severe economic crisis, compounded, since March 2020, by a lockdown resulting from the global COVID-19 pandemic. At the time of this neighbourhood profile's publication, Beirut is still recovering from the port explosion of 4 August 2020. The explosion has caused devastating physical damage to the capital, and has resulted in the deaths of more than 160 people, the injury of thousands and the displacement of about 300,000 inhabitants. In a long-standing national context of scarce data, combined with ever-growing pressure to maximize efficiencies in intervention funding, there is an urgent need for reliable spatialized information on which to base holistic, multisectoral, multi-actor mitigation approaches that support municipalities and other state entities.

Adopting an area-based approach to data gathering and synthesis, where a defined territorial unit is the point of entry rather than a particular sector or beneficiary cohort, neighbourhood profiling can inform integrated programming for communities in ways that benefit all residents in the long term. This has the potential for mitigating cross-cohort vulnerability and for reducing host–refugee community tensions, which are reported to be on the rise year-on-year. Thus, neighbourhood profiling offers a springboard for moving towards sustainable development and prosperity, shedding light on how relatively fixed built environments and relatively mobile social dimensions interface with each other in specific contexts.

Organizationally, profiles can serve as a framework for area-based coordinated actions between partners to the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), United Nations Strategic Framework (UNSF), and local authorities to improve the response in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in complex urban settings.

Profiles of neighbourhoods with varying levels of vulnerability contribute to building a national database of comparable data that can be used for better understanding and monitoring of dynamics in urban pockets that cadastral, municipal and district averages can be blind to, and how these relate to their wider urban contexts.

Neighbourhood profiling was initiated in 2017 as part of a joint ongoing project by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in disadvantaged neighbourhoods across Lebanon, and the project findings are currently available as part of the publicly accessible UN-Habitat–UNICEF online portal. As part of knowledge exchange that started in 2018, UN-Habitat and the RELIEF Centre—an international partnership programme between University College London (UCL), the American University of Beirut (AUB), and the Centre for Lebanese Studies at the Lebanese American University (LAU)—collaborated on the production of the Hamra Neighbourhood Profile.

The RELIEF Centre and UN-Habitat recognize that the value of profiles lies in their use by partners, including local authorities, for evidence-based coordination and programming. We welcome constructive conversations about how this may best be achieved going forward.

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Head of Country Programme
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Founder and Director of the Institute for Global Prosperity
Principal Investigator of the RELIEF Centre

CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The RELIEF Centre and UN-Habitat acknowledge the cooperation of Beirut Municipality in the production of this report. Research for this report was funded by the Economic and Social Research Council via the RELIEF Centre (ES/P008003/1) and we are very grateful for this generous support. The field data collection effort was led by the RELIEF Centre and a team of local citizen scientists, with the support of the AUB Neighborhood Initiative.

A slightly adapted version of the UN-Habitat–UNICEF neighbourhood profiling methodology was used for this profile. The cooperation of UNICEF is recognized.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hamra is one of the most socially and economically vibrant areas in Lebanon. Covering an area of 0.52 km^2, as defined for the purposes of this study, the neighbourhood is located in the Ras Beirut quarter and falls within the jurisdiction of Beirut Municipality.

The neighbourhood accommodates approximately 8,740 residents, among which 72.2 percent are Lebanese and 27.8 percent are non-Lebanese. Syrians, amounting to 18.3 percent of the population, constitute the largest non-Lebanese group. A household survey shows that around three quarters of Syrian households arrived in Lebanon after 2011, the year when the Syrian refugee crisis started, suggesting the crisis has greatly contributed to demographic changes in the neighbourhood.

The neighbourhood has a total of 634 buildings, including 21 buildings that are under either demolition or construction. The average number of occupants per residential unit is higher among Syrians (5.7 per unit) than among Lebanese (3.6 per unit). More than half of Lebanese households (51.9 percent) own their residential units, whereas this percentage drops to around one third (31.7 percent) for Syrian-owned households.

More than a third of buildings in the neighbourhood (38 percent) are mixed-use, both commercial and residential. Ras Beirut, and more specifically Hamra, became a vibrant commercial and cultural centre in the 1960s, with renowned cinemas, theatres, newspaper headquarters, educational centres, and cafés, which became spaces for heated debates and political activities. The neighbourhood's physical fabric dates back to earlier than the 15th Century; the area was originally inhabited by Sunni and Greek Orthodox families. After the opening of the American University of Beirut that was initially the Syrian Protestant College in the late 19th Century, the area started to undergo significant urban growth, especially during the 1950s, following the 1948 Palestinian Nakba and the boom of the Arabian Gulf, which resulted in population influx and brought in cash flow, respectively. This growth stopped during the Lebanese Civil War (1975–1990), as the area experienced economic decline but remained undivided during the country's political crisis and sectarian clashes in spite of the religious diversity of its population.

Today, Hamra is a hub for real estate development and is considered a vibrant commercial centre. The big construction projects with large footprints and high number of storeys that multiplied in the 2000s have led to a noticeable change in the urban fabric. Some challenges include housing insecurity due to the high prices of land and properties, demolition of old heritage buildings, increased pressure on services and infrastructure, traffic congestion, and lack of parking spaces.

A number of public and private facilities, located within or just outside Hamra, provide a range of healthcare and education services to the neighbourhood's residents—often regardless of nationality, age and gender. The presence of important private facilities (such as schools, hospitals and universities) is considered an asset in the area and could be seen as an opportunity of collaboration between both public and private sectors. However, public facilities face various challenges, including limited financial resources, shortage of equipment or personnel for specialized services, and lack of awareness among residents about the existence of certain services.

Children and youth are particularly vulnerable groups, experiencing various challenges, including child labour, scarcity of specialized healthcare and education services for children with disabilities, and lack of vocational training opportunities or satisfying and stable work for youth. In addition, children and the elderly do not have access to safe open public spaces, pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, or well-lit streets that can be considered unsafe at night.

Hamra has several well-known commercial streets. The area hosts a range of enterprises, from boutiques and jewellery stores to a wide variety of cafés, pubs and restaurants. The neighbourhood also has many bookstores that are now often part of other enterprises, such as boutiques and cafés. Despite the presence of important landmarks and attractive destinations, as well as the presence of many services in the neighbourhood, Hamra's enterprises are facing different challenges and obstacles in the current economic crisis, such as high rent, shortage in customers, and high competition. The average monthly income is significantly higher for Lebanese households than for Syrian ones (USD 1,705 and USD 814, respectively), and the two cohorts generally appear to show contrasting livelihood conditions.

The structural condition of buildings in the neighbourhood is mainly good (81 percent), noting that 79 percent of the buildings date to the period between 1944 and 1975. The majority (66.5 percent) of pre-1920s buildings require structural repair, whether minor, major or emergency. Buildings with structural and exterior conditions in need of major repair or emergency intervention are concentrated on the north-south axis at the centre of the neighbourhood, while those with communal spaces in need of major repair or emergency interventions are scattered all over the neighbourhood. The majority (80 percent) of buildings, housing 86 percent of residents, have a functional connection to the domestic water network with good-quality pipe, while 61 percent of buildings, amounting to 55 percent of residents, benefit from a functional connection to the public electrical grid, with properly installed electrical wiring.

This report maps—and suggests the relative criticality across space of—interlinked social, economic and built-environment challenges in Hamra in the context of a socioeconomically diverse and mixed-use neighbourhood. It offers a new area-based knowledge springboard that can be used for coordination and programming. This may be both for alleviating immediate needs and, taking into account the neighbourhood's embeddedness in the wider city, for longer-term sustainable urban development planning. The RELIEF Centre and UN-Habitat recognize that the profile's value lies only in its uptake and use for these purposes by the municipality and other relevant actors and partners, and look forward to facilitating productive discussions to this end.

Figure i Beirut Governorate within Lebanon

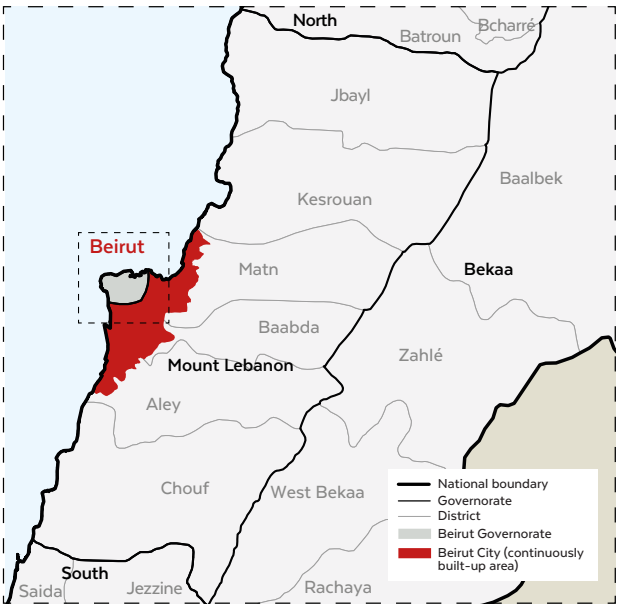


Figure ii Beirut Governorate and Beirut City (continuously built-up area)[i]

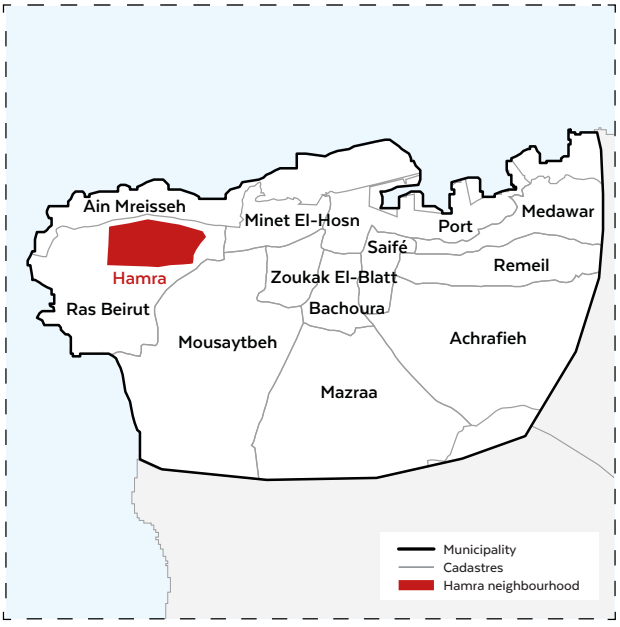


Figure iii Hamra within Beirut Governorate

[i] The boundary of Beirut City's continuously built-up area has been defined by UN-Habitat (UN-Habitat Lebanon, forthcoming).

HAMRA

BEIRUT, LEBANON

8,740 INHABITANTS

0.52 km²

634 BUILDINGS

1,186 AVERAGE MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME

1,075 ENTERPRISES

POPULATION

72.2% Leb

18.3% Syr

9.5% Others

OCCUPANCY PER RESIDENTIAL UNIT

3.6 Leb 5.7 Syr 4.9 Other

21.7% Syr households that arrived in Lebanon before 2011

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTS BY AGE GROUP

879 CHILDREN (0-14)

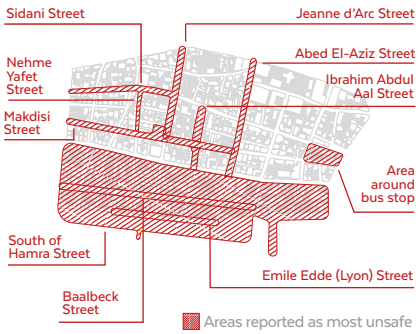
1,289 YOUTH (15-24)

3,956 ADULTS (25-63)

1,034 ELDERLY (64 & above)

Unreported age group: 1,582

SAFETY & SECURITY



HEALTH

CHRONICALLY ILL POPULATION

12.4% of all Leb 6.7% of all Syr

Most needed subsidized PHC services reported by surveyed households:

87.4% General medicine

6.1% Cardiology

5.8% Ophthalmology

5.6% Allergy/Immunology

EDUCATION

74.5% PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

58.1% Secondary school attendance

25.0% Children (6-14) who never attended school

CHILD PROTECTION

CHILD (0-14) POPULATION

9.2% of all Leb 27.4% of all Syr

3.0% Children (5-17) involved in economic activities

3.6% of all male children 2.0% of all female children

1.2% Child marriage rate among girls (15-18)

0.0% of all Leb girls 2.7% of all Syr girls

YOUTH

YOUTH (15-24) POPULATION

18.2% of all Leb 17.6% of all Syr

21.2% UNEMPLOYED YOUTH POPULATION

22.2% of all Leb youth 20.0% of all Syr youth

LOCAL ECONOMY

989 SHOPS

55 WORKSHOPS

52% long-established shops (operational for more than 10 years)

82% Rented enterprises

39% Female employees

LIVELIHOODS

5,245 WORKING-AGE (15-63) POPULATION

Reported unemployment rate (15-64 age group)

35.3% of all Leb (15-64)

29.1% of all Syr (15-64)

14.7% POPULATION POVERTY RATE

10.1% of all Leb households 22.6% of all Syr households

BUILDINGS

62% RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

48.8% Buildings constructed between 1944 and 1975

6.0% Buildings in need of major structural repair/ emergency intervention

45.9% Owned housing (by number of residential units)

54.0% Rented housing (by number of residential units)

OVERCROWDING

Three or more persons sleeping within the same room

4.8% of all Leb households

41.9% of all Syr households

WASH

3.2% Buildings not connected to the domestic water network

2.7% Residents with blocked or no connection to the wastewater network

46.9% Streets (by area) with no stormwater drains

20.3% Households that recycle any solid waste

ELECTRICITY

3.7% Buildings connected with critical defects to the public electrical grid

ACCESS & OPEN SPACES

5.8% Roads (by area) showing major signs of deterioration

1.4% Neighbourhood area comprising publicly used open spaces

11% Open spaces (by area) that are private and semi-public

15.8% Open spaces (by count) that are unused lots

Publicly used open spaces

Some of the above percentages have been rounded. For a detailed list of indicators, see Appendix 1.

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RELIEF-UN-Habitat Hamra Neighbourhood Profile is available at: https://www.relief-centre.org/un-habitat-lebanon
UN-Habitat-UNICEF Lebanon neighbourhood profiles are available at: http://lebanonportal.unhabitat.org/.

For further information including data, contact: unhabitat-lebanon@un.org or relief_admin@ucl.ac.uk

Related Publication:

UN-Habitat Lebanon (forthcoming) *Beirut City Profile*, Beirut: UN-Habitat Lebanon.[ii]

[ii] The city profile is a geographical, statistical and multisectoral description and analysis of an urban area, where the boundary is defined by the continuously built-up area. Its purpose is to inform the urban crisis response, generate a national urban database, lead to a city strategy, and inform strategic project identification.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

ADP	Arab Democratic Party
AUBMC	American University of Beirut Medical Center
BT	*Baccalauréat Technique* [Technical Baccalaureate]
F	Female(s)
FGD	Focus group discussion
GIS	Geographic information system
GPI	Gender Parity Index
HH	Household
IMAM	Integrated management of acute malnutrition
(I)NGO	(International) Non-governmental organization
ISF	[Lebanese] Internal Security Forces
IYCF	Infant and young child feeding
KII	Key informant interview
LBP[iii]	Lebanese Pound(s)
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
Leb	Lebanese
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Others
LT	*Licence Technique* [Technical Diploma]
M	Male(s)
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education [of Lebanon]
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health [of Lebanon]
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs [of Lebanon]
No.	Number
Non-Leb	Non-Lebanese
OPD	Outpatient Department
PHC	Primary healthcare
PHCC	Primary Healthcare Centre
PRL	Palestine refugees in Lebanon
PRS	Palestine refugees from Syria
SDC	Social Development Centre
SSNP	Syrian Social Nationalist Party
Syr	Syrian(s)
TS	*[Diplôme de] Technicien Supérieur* [Higher Technician Certificate]
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
USD	United States Dollar(s)
WaSH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

[iii] At the time of data collection and writing, LBP 1,500 was equivalent to USD 1.

GLOSSARY

Cadastre

In Lebanon (and elsewhere), land registration, real estate rights and related information are ordered by territorial units, known as cadastres. A cadastre often corresponds to a municipality. Alternatively, it may comprise multiple municipalities or indeed make up only a part of one municipality. The cadastral framework is important for the current purpose because certain demographic data are available at this level.

Governorate (*Mohafazah*)

An administrative division in Lebanon that is divided into districts (*qada'*). The words "*Mohafazah*" and "Governorate" are interchangeable.

Mukhtar

The representative of the smallest state body at the local level in Lebanon. The latter can have several *mukhtars*, according to its population. As an administrative officer, the *mukhtar* is responsible for some of the official functions established among the people of his/her community, such as registration for national registers, births, deaths and marriages.

Primary Healthcare Centre (PHCC)

In Lebanon, primary healthcare (PHC) is available to vulnerable Lebanese as well as displaced Syrians, whether registered as refugees with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or not, through various PHC facilities. These include the network of 208 Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCCs) of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and an estimated 1,011 other PHC facilities, referred to as "dispensaries", most of which are clinics run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). PHCCs offer a relatively comprehensive package of PHC services, while the dispensaries typically provide more limited support. The Social Development Centres (SDCs), which are affiliated to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), also provide limited healthcare services, in addition to social services (See definition below). In a considerable number of these facilities, routine vaccination, medications for acute and chronic illnesses, as well as reproductive health products are available free of charge. These are supplied through MoPH, with the support of partners, to address increased needs at the PHC level (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2018).

Social Development Centre (SDC)

Social Development Centres (SDCs), which are affiliated to MoSA, provide comprehensive services for the benefit and development of local communities. They offer social services and limited PHC services, catering to beneficiaries irrespective of age, gender and nationality. SDCs are considered as key executive instruments to achieve the decentralized development strategy adopted by MoSA. Some of the mandates of SDCs defined by law include: planning for development, optimizing local resources (including human resources), undertaking field assessments, developing local action plans, studying development projects that fall under SDCs' geographical scope of work, as well as coordinating with public and private bodies. According to the *Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017–2020* (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2018), 220 SDCs serve as the primary link between the government and the vulnerable population. For instance, in 2009, SDCs delivered social services to almost 61,619 beneficiaries, health services to 309,164 beneficiaries, training services to 6,894 beneficiaries, and education services (including nursing, volunteer work, foreign language, programmes against illiteracy, courses for school dropouts) to 16,486 beneficiaries all over the country (MoSA, 2011).

Souk

Arabic word for market.

UNRWA (Palestinian) camp

The Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon have their own governance systems, mainly comprising popular committees, local committees and political factions. The camp management system involves local and international organizations, which provide key services. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is the main provider of services in Lebanon's official camps.

SCOPE

Neighbourhood profiles are reports containing original spatialized data and analysis, generated within an area-based framework, and synthesized to respond to the evidence needs of the community, sector specialists, multisector practitioners as well as local authorities.

Neighbourhood profiles offer a cohort-stratified, multisectoral evidence base on features of and associations—if not causal links—between residents and their social, economic and built environments. Profiles cover multiple sectors and issues, including context; governance; population; safety and security; health; education; child protection; youth; local economy and livelihoods; buildings; water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH); electricity; and access and open spaces. Data is gathered participatively through field surveys, household surveys, key informant interviews and focus group discussions.

Neighbourhood profiles are in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Strategic Framework (UNSF) for Lebanon 2017–2020, and the *Lebanon Crisis Response Plan [LCRP] 2017–2020 (2020 Update)* (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2020).

This neighbourhood profile was completed as part of the RELIEF Centre's research theme "Prosperity Gains and Inclusive Growth" in Lebanon. Prosperity Gains and Inclusive Growth explores what prosperity means for people in Lebanon and how it can be achieved in the context of large-scale displacement in an inclusive way that benefits all residents. The research conducted in this theme is used to develop innovative tools and frameworks, which residents can use to monitor the prosperity and quality of life in their community. The RELIEF Prosperity Team leads scientific research on well-being and its challenges in local neighbourhoods and Hamra was the first selected case study for this research. The RELIEF Prosperity Team adopts a participatory approach where data collected by citizen scientists is used to develop urban interventions that address their own community's needs and create positive change in the neighbourhood.

METHODOLOGY

The UN-Habitat and UNICEF neighbourhood profiling[iv] approach comprises two steps. The first (Phase 1) involves the national selection and geographical delimitation of areas to be profiled. The second (Phases 2.1 to 2.4) involves neighbourhood data gathering, data analysis and validation/dissemination. The first phase of this UN-Habitat and RELIEF Centre neighbourhood profile differed in that the location was jointly selected and delimited by the RELIEF Centre and UN-Habitat.

PHASE 1: AREA IDENTIFICATION, RANKING & NEIGHBOURHOOD BOUNDARY DRAWING

Hamra was chosen as a neighbourhood for the sociocultural diversity of its residents, the rapid pace of social and urban change, and the history of previous research in the area, which provides a context for understanding this social change. It was also chosen for comparative purposes in contrast to the disadvantaged neighbourhoods selected for the neighbourhood profiles undertaken by UN-Habitat and UNICEF.

The Hamra neighbourhood boundary was chosen following the mapping of neighbourhoods conducted for the Ras Beirut Well-being Survey (Kaddour et al., 2018) commissioned by the American University of Beirut (AUB) Neighborhood Initiative, which involved focus group consultations of neighbourhood perimeters. The boundary drawing was a participative field exercise involving observing natural/built geography and socioeconomic functionalities, interviewing key informants to delimit the geography of their place-based identity and sense of ownership relative to a named neighbourhood, and consulting RELIEF Centre's Hamra citizen scientists.

PHASE 2: PROFILE PRODUCTION

PHASE 2.1: FIELD PREPARATION

The preparatory phase comprises the active involvement of local stakeholders, including Beirut Municipality, community representatives, and universities.

2.1.1. Community

The involvement of the community is critical to gaining access to the neighbourhood and facilitating the field data collection. Citizen Social Science, as practised by the RELIEF Centre, is about building a research team based in and around the areas of study. For the data collection and analysis of this report, RELIEF Centre recruited local residents as citizen scientists, offered them training in research methods, developed a strong working relationship with them, and went to the field together to collect data. The main idea behind this approach is that social science research should be carried out through sustained long-term collaboration with local residents in a way that ensures that the knowledge and skills developed in the overall process are embedded in the community.

2.1.2. Universities

The RELIEF Centre is led by researchers and scholars at AUB, the Lebanese American University (LAU) as well as the Institute for Global Prosperity (IGP) and a number of departments at the University College London (UCL). The RELIEF Centre's work in Hamra is in partnership with AUB's Neighborhood Initiative. Some of the citizen scientists involved in the data collection and analysis for this profile were current or past students of RELIEF Centre's local partner universities—AUB and the LAU.

[iv] As part of the neighbourhood profiles undertaken by UN-Habitat and UNICEF in disadvantaged neighbourhoods of Lebanon, Phase 1 involved the national identification and ranking of 498 disadvantaged areas based on certain criteria, followed by a selection of and neighbourhood boundary drawing for top-ranking identified disadvantaged areas. The UN-Habitat–UNICEF neighbourhood profiles, including details about their scope and methodology as well as the approach followed in Phase 1 for these profiles, can be found on an online portal: **https://lebanonportal.unhabitat.org/**.

PHASE 2.2: DATA COLLECTION

Neighbourhood profiling adopts a mixed-method approach. Primary qualitative and quantitative data is gathered using systematic questionnaires and geographic information system (GIS)-based mapping. Data collection consists of conducting field surveys, household (HH) surveys, key informant interviews (KIIs), and a series of focus group discussions (FGDs). Information is collected not only from Lebanese but also non-Lebanese residents of the neighbourhood, including (displaced) Syrians, Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Palestine refugees from Syria (PRS), and other non-Lebanese, if any.

Throughout the data collection phase, a participatory approach is adopted that engages local partners and other stakeholders. Respondents are assured of confidentiality and anonymity in all cases. Secondary quantitative and qualitative data is collected to contextualize and complement the primary data findings.

2.2.1. Field Surveys

Based on visual inspection that is guided by structured questionnaires, the field surveys involve a population count[v] by residential unit[vi] stratified by nationality, gender and age; assessments of building conditions and basic urban services (water and sanitation, solid waste management, electricity and mobility) (See **Buildings chapter**, p. 52), as well as of open spaces. The field surveys for Hamra neighbourhood took place in February and March 2019, and 634 buildings were surveyed. Questions within the field surveys used for UN-Habitat–UNICEF neighbourhood profiles were slightly modified or refined in consultation with RELIEF Centre and its citizen scientists to reflect Hamra's buildings and infrastructure and collect more accurate data.

The field surveys also include an enterprise survey. Enterprises are surveyed comprehensively if there are under 400 in the neighbourhood, and on a representative sample basis stratified by type and distributed spatially if there are over 400, as in Hamra, where a sample of 341 enterprises were surveyed in May 2019.

2.2.2. Household (HH) Survey

The HH survey is conducted in Arabic and English with heads of households, and covers a household's characteristics, members, education level and livelihoods; housing and land property issues; displacement; child health, labour and discipline; water and sanitation practices; and accessibility to subsidized education and health services as well as Social Development Centres (SDCs). The UN-Habitat–RELIEF Centre HH survey questionnaire is a slightly modified version of the UN-Habitat–UNICEF HH survey questionnaire, which in turn is the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) used in the UNICEF Lebanon baseline survey (2016), with some modifications made in order to meet the objectives of the UN-Habitat–UNICEF profiling exercise. More specifically, additional RELIEF-designed questions were added to the survey questionnaire (covering themes such as neighbourhood belonging, satisfaction with accommodation, noise pollution, rights and status, sociopolitical activism and community), but are not analysed within this report.

The UN-Habitat–UNICEF HH surveys are conducted for a representative sample of the comprehensive population count, proportionally stratified by nationality (Lebanese and non-Lebanese). The sampling design[vii] consists of a two-stage random sample. Separate sampling frames are used for Lebanese and non-Lebanese. The sample size for non-Lebanese is calculated using the same formula, but by applying a finite population correction factor that accounts for the smaller population size of non-Lebanese within the area. Given the diversity of non-Lebanese populations in Hamra, representative samples were collected for Lebanese and Syrian populations but not for people of other nationalities. Considering a projected non-response rate of 20 percent, the sample needed in Hamra neighbourhood was 384 for the Lebanese households, 221 for the Syrian ones, and 156 for other nationalities. Out of the total sample size, 428 Lebanese, 178 Syrian and 82 households of other nationalities were reached.

2.2.3. Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

KIIs are conducted (in Arabic) one-to-one with main stakeholders living in and/or linked to the area of study who have first-hand knowledge of the location. KIIs are used to collect in-depth information, including opinion from lay experts about the nature and dynamics of community life. Confidentiality is assured throughout the interviews. KII respondents typically include decentralized government stakeholders (*mukhtar*[s], municipal council member[s], a municipal engineer), representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are active in the neighbourhood, social service actors (education, health), business holders from key industries operating in the local economy, and key religious and political influencers. The aforementioned KIIs in Hamra neighbourhood took place in March, April and May 2019.

2.2.4. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

FGDs are held to gather qualitative data that draws upon attitudes, feelings, beliefs, experiences and reactions of a neighbourhood's inhabitants. FGDs were conducted in Arabic with Lebanese and non-Lebanese; female and male; youth and adult participants. In addition, FGDs were held with Lebanese and non-Lebanese caregivers,[viii] parents of children with disabilities, elderly people and domestic workers. A total of nine FGDs took place in Hamra neighbourhood in August and September 2019.

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[v] Unlike in UN-Habitat–UNICEF neighbourhood profiles, a comprehensive population count was not possible for Hamra as some residential buildings were not accessible. The total number of inhabitants was extrapolated on the basis of the number of floors of inaccessible buildings.

[vi] A residential unit is a self-contained space used for a residential activity by one or more persons and household(s). It could be an apartment, rooftop add-on, studio, workshop, basement, etc.

[vii] The sample size was calculated using a 95 percent level of confidence (Z=1.96), a conservative prevalence (p=0.5), an anticipated sampling error (Err=0.2), and an estimated average household size of 3.6 for Lebanese and 5.7 for Syrians, while accounting for a 30 percent non-response rate (NRR).

[viii] Females who provide care or raise a child, including mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers or any other female.

PHASE 2.3: DATA ANALYSIS

Data analysis is structured around 13 profile content sections: context, governance, population, safety and security, health, education, child protection, youth, local economy and livelihoods, buildings, WaSH, electricity, and access and open spaces. Data is uploaded into a geodatabase that is used to store georeferenced information, which is then used to create maps and analyse spatial information for the neighbourhood. Data from all mapped, quantitative and qualitative sources is analysed holistically to ensure data integration across all sectors. Analysis for each sector draws on the data collection methods shown in Table i.

Sector/Chapter	Field survey	KIIs	FGDs	HH survey	Literature review
Context	✓				✓
Governance		✓			✓
Population	✓			✓	
Safety & Security	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Education	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Child Protection	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Youth			✓	✓	
Local Economy & Livelihoods	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Buildings	✓			✓	
WaSH	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Electricity	✓	✓			
Access & Open Spaces	✓	✓	✓		

Table i Data analysis scheme across data collection methods

PHASE 2.4: VALIDATION & DISSEMINATION

Data and analysis are validated with a range of local actors, from local NGOs and community-based organizations, to citizen scientists and to the wider local community in public events. AUB's Neighborhood Initiative was actively engaged in the validation and the dissemination effort of the Hamra prosperity-related findings—some of which are presented in this profile—through the co-hosting of events with RELIEF's Prosperity Team, some of which are presented in this profile.

TERMINOLOGY

• **Children, youth, adults and elderly (age groups)**:In this neighbourhood profile, for general analysis and HH survey-related data, the following age groups have been used: children (0-14), youth (15-24), adults (25-64) and elderly (65 and above). For analysis of particular indicators (child labour, child marriage, primary and secondary school attendance, etc.) and data based on other sources (population count by residential unit, enterprise survey, etc.), different other age-group divisions have been used, specified in their respective sections, as per MICS indicators (**Appendix 1**).

• **Displaced Syrians and PRS**: As mentioned in the *LCRP 2017-2020 (2020 Update)*, the United Nations:

> ... characterizes the flight of civilians from Syria [since the onset of the crisis in the country] as a refugee movement, and considers that these Syrians are seeking international protection and are likely to meet the refugee definition. The Government of Lebanon considers that it is being subject to a situation of mass influx. It refers to individuals who fled from Syria into its territory after March 2011 as temporarily displaced individuals, and reserves its sovereign right to determine their status according to Lebanese laws and regulations. (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2020, p. 4)

In this neighbourhood profile, the term "displaced Syrians" is used to refer to Syrian nationals who have fled from Syria into Lebanon since March 2011, excluding PRS and Lebanese returnees. The abbreviation "Syr" is used to denote Syrians,

METHODOLOGICAL CAVEATS

1. Neighbourhood profiles contain data gathered for the territory within the neighbourhood boundaries only. It is strongly recommended that any actions based on this profile are undertaken with awareness of the wider context of which this neighbourhood is a part, and the spatial relationships and functional linkages that background implies.

2. The first run of a neighbourhood profile offers but a snapshot in time and, until or if further profiles are undertaken for the same territory, trends cannot be reliably identified.

3. Given the absence of an accurate line listing of all households, citizen scientists spin a pen as a starting point, which can be subject to biases. However, the sampled area is relatively small in size; this helps limit discrepancies.

4. The HH survey and FGDs are conducted with a sample of non-Lebanese residents, who are referred to as such. In some neighbourhoods, it happens that the majority of non-Lebanese belong to one nationality. However, the population count by residential unit collects data on building inhabitants by nationality cohort. Hence, there is an interplay in the use of the term "non-Lebanese" and a specific nationality in the report writing.

5. It is not known whether residents surveyed for the comprehensive population count (by residential unit) have more than one nationality.

6. Neighbourhood profile resident counts currently do not distinguish between refugees and economic migrants, noting that these categories are not mutually exclusive and may be mixed even at the level of one household.

7. Assessments of buildings are undertaken visually by trained citizen scientists and offer a guide to building quality, including structural quality. The neighbourhood profile data on buildings cannot be treated as a final definitive technical guide to risk. Detailed technical structural assessments may be required to inform some types of action.

8. HH survey, KII and FGD results and inputs are translated from the source language by a native bilingual. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the translation.

9. Population data in the Population chapter is based on the population count by residential unit, while population data related to age groups in the Child Protection and Youth chapters is based on the HH survey (information on HH members). Hence, there is a minor discrepancy in the age-group figures between the Population chapter and Child Protection and Youth chapters.

10. There is a difference in the way rounding is done between HH and field survey data. All HH survey data is rounded to the nearest tenth in the following chapters/sections: Safety and Security (Community Relationships and Disputes); Health; Education; Child Protection; Youth; Livelihoods; Buildings (Housing, Land and Property Issues); and WaSH (Water and Sanitation at the Household Level). Some field survey data are rounded to the nearest whole number in the following chapters: Population; Local Economy; Buildings; WaSH; Electricity; and Access and Open Spaces.

11. Among the total number of buildings in the neighbourhood, not all buildings were accessible or evaluated for all the questionnaire/survey items. Hence, percentages pertaining to building conditions or connections to infrastructure networks (i.e. domestic water, stormwater, wastewater, public and/or private electricity, telecom) relate to the collected data only.

12. The mapping of features related to basic urban services in the WaSH and Electricity chapters is indicative of their approximate location (based on observation by citizen scientists) and has not been accurately georeferenced.

13. Any totals that do not add up to 100 percent in the report can be due to lack of a response, totalling of rounded numbers, fractions of percentages related to other unmentioned categories, or other data gaps.

14. National and governorate indicators (**Appendix 1**) are derived from the UNICEF 2016 baseline survey, where a HH survey (based on the MICS) was conducted at national and governorate levels for Lebanese and non-Lebanese (proportionally stratified by nationality). With some modifications made in order to meet the objectives of the current profiling exercise, the HH survey was replicated at the neighbourhood level for representative samples of Lebanese and non-Lebanese (in the case of Hamra, of Lebanese and Syrians). Given that the majority of non-Lebanese are Syrian in Hamra, comparison is made between Lebanese and Syrians with national and Beirut Governorate indicators pertaining only to Syrians.

15. Due to AUB Institutional Review Board restrictions, no child under 18 was interviewed or participated in FGDs in any phase of the research in Hamra.

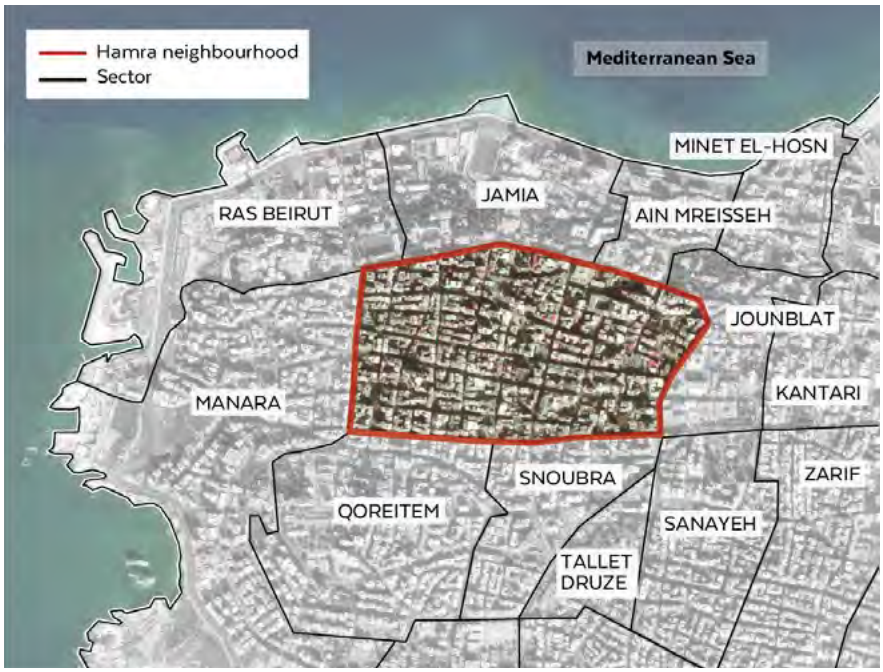
16. Children were not accounted for in calculating the HH survey sample size, as only 3 percent of Lebanese households had a child less than 5 years old. However, 390 out of 879 total children living in Hamra were counted in the final HH survey sample, which constitutes a child sample size with a 95 percent level of confidence (Z=1.96), and a 4 percent margin of error, and therefore representative.

INTRODUCTION

CONTEXT

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The neighbourhood of Hamra is located in the electoral district of Ras Beirut, in the northern part of Beirut. It is one of the 62 sectors of Beirut and is bordered by Ras Beirut, Jamia, Ain Mreisseh, Jounblat, Snoubra, Qoreitem and Manara sectors. Its area of about 0.52 km^2 constitutes 25.7 percent of the Ras Beirut cadastral area (2.02 km^2), or 2.6 percent of the 20 km^2 capital (administrative Beirut or Beirut District/Governorate). Moreover, the neighbourhood covers around 0.47 percent of the 111.22 km^2 Beirut City (continuously built-up area) (UN-Habitat Lebanon, forthcoming). Hamra is a mixed-use (commercial and residential) neighbourhood, and it offers a varied range of services. It is the commercial centre of Ras Beirut, a largely residential area known for the socio-cultural and economic diversity of its inhabitants and for its historic families. Ras Beirut's transformation from a small village to the commercial, educational and health centre it is today was heavily influenced by the establishment of the Syrian Protestant College (SPC) in 1866 (today known as the American University of Beirut [AUB]), and the rise of an educated and diverse middle class in its midst.



Source: WGS84, 2016

Figure 1 Hamra neighbourhood in the context neighbouring sectors of Beirut

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Hamra's name derives from the now extinct Hamra clan, a Persian-origin family from the Bekaa who settled in the area in 1407 (Abunnasr, 2013, p. 202). Due to their Sufi beliefs, the clan was expelled from the city centre, where they had a *zawiya* (an Islamic religious school) at the Grand Omari Mosque. When they moved to Ras Beirut, the family bought the stones of the ruined Church of our Saviour—a church that is mentioned in a number of sources but without further explanation of its significance or reason for becoming ruined—and built a mosque south of Hamra Street.

Ras Beirut's distance from the port of Beirut and the city centre rendered it historically isolated and its people proud of their exceptionalism (Abunnasr, 2013). The largely agricultural land of Hamra was appropriated by a few Sunni families deriving from the Hamra clan, as well as native Greek Orthodox families whose presence dates even earlier than the 15th Century. According to Samir Khalaf, the area was once characterized by its gardens and groves, with its typical "flat farm houses" (Khalaf in Hojeij, 2006). When the SPC opened its doors in the late 19th Century, its staff started building suburban houses consisting of two or three floors and tiled roofs. As a result, some natives felt marginalized from the cultural life of Ras Beirut, while others adapted to this change and even converted to Protestantism in order to be able to study at the SPC. By 1920, the SPC secularized and became the American University of Beirut. By the 1930s, the professional middle-class had populated the neighbourhood (Abunnasr, 2013).

According to Khalaf, the neighbourhood saw unprecedented building growth in the 1950s. This was largely due to the 1948 Palestinian Nakba, when many middle-class and educated Palestinians, often Greek Orthodox, moved to Hamra (Abou Ghaida and Al Zougbi, 2005, p. 382), as well as an influx of oil-money from the then newly booming Arabian Gulf. Commercial activity also moved from Downtown Beirut following the 1958 Lebanon Crisis, which saw the occupation of the nearby Beirut Port by the US Army. Ras Beirut and more specifically Hamra became a vibrant commercial and cultural centre, with renowned cinemas, theatres, newspaper headquarters, educational centres, and cafés, which became spaces for heated debates and political activities (Abou Ghaida and Al Zougbi, 2005). Two years after the Arab army's defeat in the Arab-Israeli War in 1967, the censored play *Majdaloun*, written by Henry Hamati and directed by Roger Assaf and Nidal Achkar, was staged in front of the Horseshoe Café (Merhi, 2016). The staging of this play was an indication of the political and intellectual culture in Hamra and its emphasis on open debate about sometimes controversial topics.

During the 15-year Lebanese Civil War, the eminent journalist, politician and writer Ghassan Tueni remarked that Ras Beirut became a third Beirut, remaining exceptionally undivided along the sectarian lines between East and West, Christian and Muslim (Abunnasr, 2013, p. 10). For this same reason, local civil society actors labelled Ras Beirut as a "United Front" because the

area's religiously diverse population maintained its solidarity even in times of political crisis, danger and infrastructural shortages (Abou Ghaida and Al Zougbi, 2005).[1] However, Ras Beirut was affected by illegal squatters and the casual presence of militiamen (Ibid, p. 387). These militiamen were often of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP), an active militia that fought at the battlefronts of the war, and returned home to their historic headquarters in Ras Beirut.

The neighbourhood saw an economic decline during and after the war, as "landmark establishments and buildings were closed, torn down or irreversibly transformed" (Ibid, p. 387). However, with the steady growth of the real estate market in Lebanon after the civil war, Ras Beirut has become a hub for real estate development and regeneration. This has led to an increase in land prices and rents, which have put pressure on the livelihoods of local residents and in many cases led to housing insecurity. Established residents paying low-cost "old rent"[2] have been facing increasing anxiety about eviction by landlords interested in redeveloping their property into more profitable flats. As Cardoso and Thing (2015) and Khechen (2018) have argued, developers are actively incentivizing owners to displace long-time renters and to demolish their historic homes in order to give space to high-end luxury towers aimed at the financial elite. Gentrification and regeneration mechanisms have thus played an active role in transforming the physical as well as the social landscape in Ras Beirut as they have in other parts of the capital (See, for example, Bou Akar, 2018; Sawalha, 2010).

The political and regional instability since the mid-2000s has impacted Hamra in a number of ways. In 2006, after the protests in Downtown Beirut transformed the city centre into a security zone, Hamra witnessed a revival of economic and social life with the opening of new pubs, shops, cafés and restaurants. In May 2008, Hamra saw episodes of street fighting between the Future Movement and the pro-Hezbollah SSNP over a larger political dispute that took place in Beirut. Since 2011, the war in Syria has brought many refugees to the neighbourhood. As a result, Hamra has seen a substantial increase of Syrian residents and workers, as well as Syrian-operated businesses (See **Population** and **Local Economy & Livelihoods** chapters).

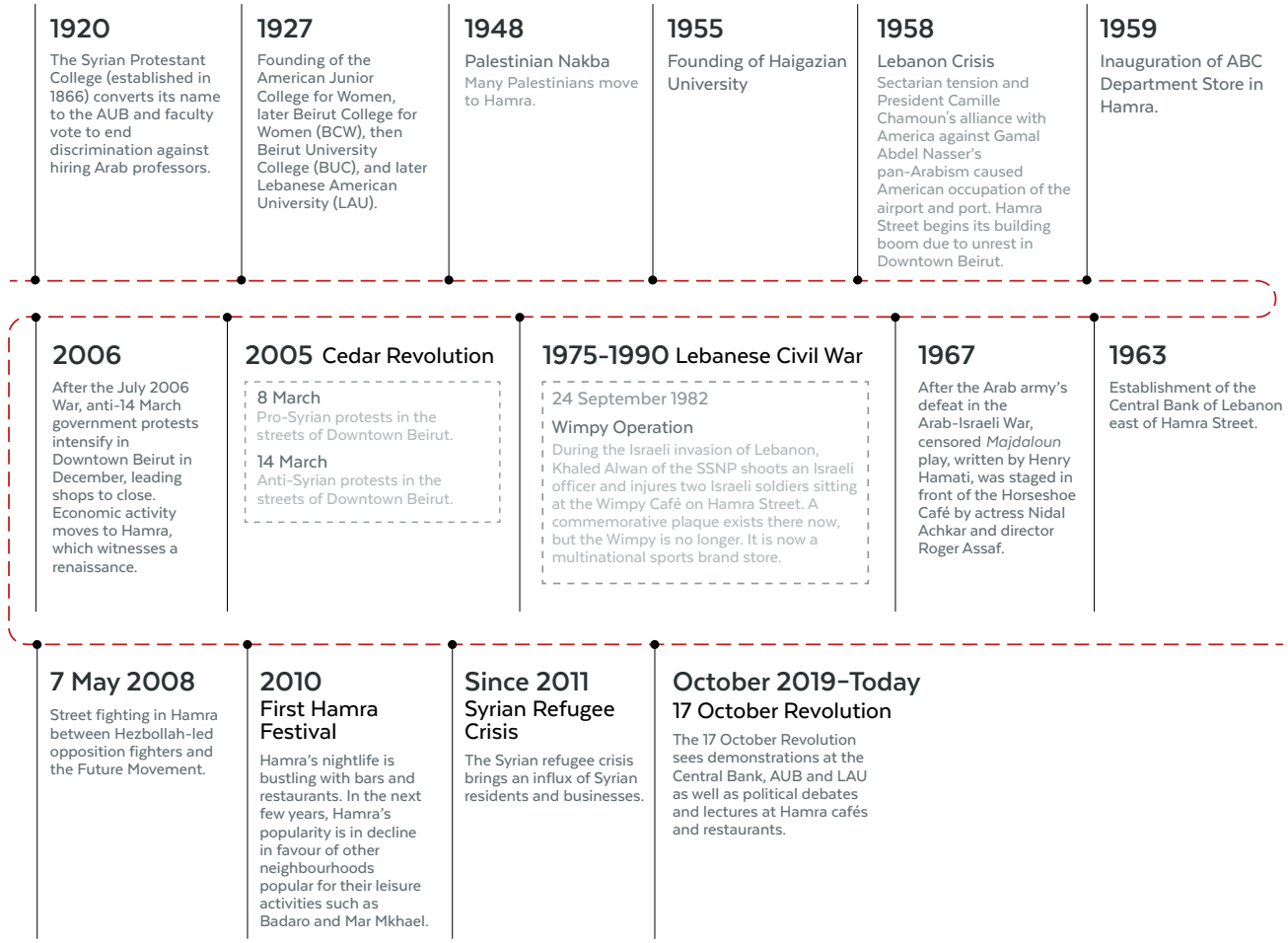


Figure 2 Timeline of events in Hamra area

[1] "Water and food shortages, electricity cuts and increased danger to self and property" (Abou Ghaida and Al Zougbi, 2005, p. 383).

[2] The old rent law (Law 160/1992) restricts increases to the rental rates of lease agreements (both residential and commercial) that were signed before 1992, thus maintaining much lower rates than the current market value of properties. The law was issued in 1992 and it was amended in 2014 and 2017; "old rent law" refers to the 1992 law and not to its recent amendments.

NEIGHBOURHOOD BOUNDARY DEFINITION

The boundaries of the neighbourhood were defined according to the official quarter boundary of Hamra (**Figure 1**). The area is bounded by Bliss Street to the north, Rome Street to the east, Emile Edde (Lyon) Street to the south and Sadat Street to the west. These edges were further confirmed by focus group discussions conducted for the Ras Beirut Well-being Survey (2010), where participants were asked to define the different neighbourhoods of Ras Beirut (Kaddour et al., 2018).

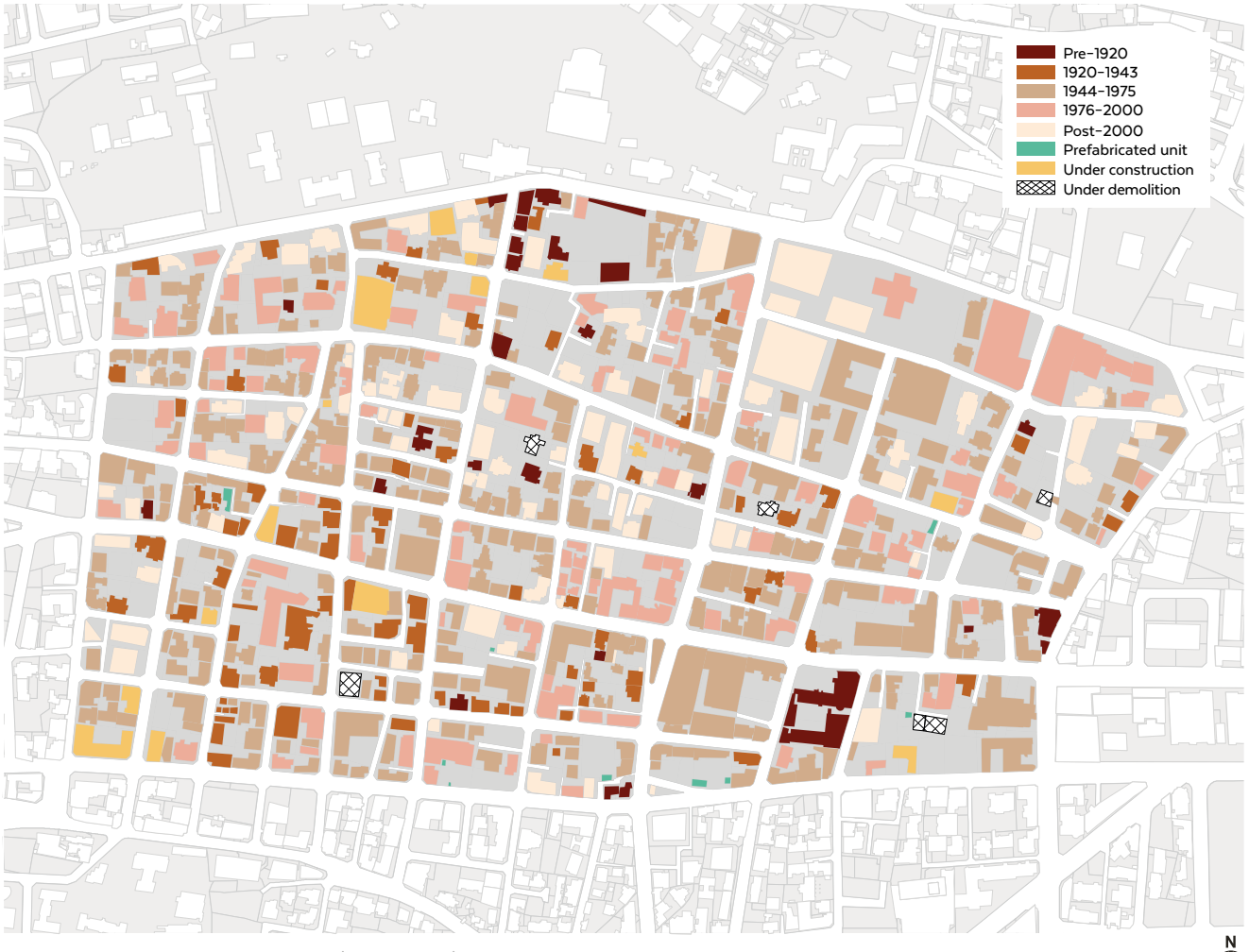


Figure 3 Dates of construction of buildings (see next page)

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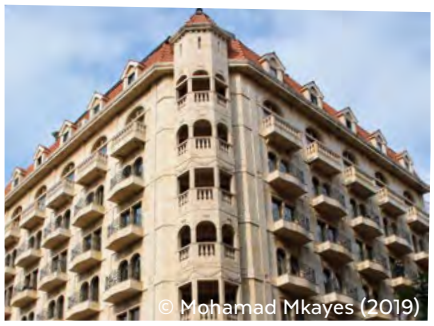
Pre-1920 [29]

1920-1943 [81]

1944-1975 [294]

1976-2000 [114]

Post-2000 [83]



Data about the dates of constructions of buildings was collected for 601 out of 634 surveyed buildings. For the remaining 33, buildings were either under construction or the date of their construction could not be confirmed.

Figure 3 (continued) Dates of construction of buildings (see previous page)

NEIGHBOURHOOD TYPOLOGY

The neighbourhood of Hamra has a total of 634 buildings, out of which, at the time of data collection in 2019, 15 were under construction and 6 under demolition, signifying respectively the constant building renewal of the area and the lack of conservation of the historic urban fabric (**Figure 3**). There are 294 modernist buildings in Hamra (1944 to 1975)—a testament to the building boom that occurred there in the 1950s and 1960s. There are also an impressive 114 postmodern buildings that were built during the civil war and before the year 2000, signifying that the construction industry remained active during the civil war and the first decade after the war ended. In addition, 83 buildings are of a contemporary post-2000 style. Only 29 buildings remain from the pre-1920 era, which alludes to the farm houses and the original buildings of the SPC. Moreover, 81 buildings remain from the Colonial and Art Deco Era, which saw the expansion of the SPC into AUB and the French Mandate in Lebanon.

- **Hamra Street**: The buildings of Hamra Street are mostly modernist apartment or office buildings with a commercial ground floor. Most buildings have elevators. Iterations of curtain walls are notable in office buildings, such as the Centre Sabbagh, built in 1970 by architects Aalto and Roth (Habre, 2016), the Murr/Horseshoe building with its first curtain wall in Lebanon, by Schayer, Makdisi and Adib, 1957 (Arbid, 2019) and Piccadilly building by William Sednaoui in 1965 (Arab Center for Architecture, 2016). Many movie theatres are tucked under these commercial buildings, but are now in disuse and disrepair. Historic cafés (such as the Horseshoe, Modca, Wimpy and Café de Paris), which once had a reputation as centres of heated political and intellectual debate, have now also closed down or transformed into retail stores.

- **Bliss Street**: The municipality of Beirut changed the name of the thoroughfare south of the SPC from Midhat Pasha/ Ras Beirut Street to Bliss Street. The street was renamed after Daniel and Howard Bliss, the first two presidents of the SPC, when the latter died in 1920 (Abunnasr, 2013, p. 83).

The tramway of Beirut passed through Bliss Street, starting at the old lighthouse of Ain Mreisseh (the Manara), stopping at the Hbeish Police Station, then at the AUB's main gate, and then leading to the city centre's Burj Square and to Furn El Chebbak towards the east. According to Bliss Street's legendary barber Philippe Safar, the tramway was discontinued in February 1965 (Hojeij, 2006).

Many of the buildings south of Bliss Street are contemporaries of the SPC/ AUB, built as part of the urbanization driven by the university. The most notable instance of this is the *khan*-like two-storey stone structure behind which lies the St. Mary's Orthodox Church Cemetery. This structure's emblematic zig-zagging red-tiled roof is where the former National Bakeries were based, and where fast-food restaurant Bliss House added its signature postmodern aluminium cladding to the façade.

- **The universities**: In 1850, the Ottoman government gave *millet* (self-rule) status to the Protestant community, granting it the right to build institutions. The SPC was a Protestant mission founded by Daniel Bliss. It gave its first lessons in 1866 to a group of 16 students. When funding was secured, the SPC erected its first buildings by 1873: College Hall, Medical Hall, the Observatory and the Dining Hall. Their architecture was inspired by monumental New England campus architecture, while using local construction materials. Both College Hall and Assembly Hall (the chapel) were designed by New York architect George B. Post (Abunnasr, 2013, p. 57).

Further south of Zokak al Hamra (Hamra Street), Sarah L. Smith opened the American School for Girls in 1835. That establishment became the American Junior College for Women, and erected its first autonomous building, the Administration Building, later named Sage Hall, in 1933. The school became the Lebanese American University in 1994 (Lebanese American University, 2020). Sage Hall is similar to College Hall in its monumentality and volumetry, adopting gothic arches instead of round arches for its many windows.

Haigazian College was founded in 1955 by the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East (UAECNE) and the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) with donations from relatives of Dr. Armenag Haigazian, a highly respected educator who died in captivity during the Armenian Genocide. The historic structure the university is known for, with its pointed-arched galleries, was acquired through a grant by Mr. Stephen P. Mugar (Haigazian University, 2020). The college was renamed Haigazian University College in 1992 and Haigazian University in 1996 (for more details, see **Education chapter**).

- **The hospitals**: The neighbourhood is characterized by the many hospitals operating today within its boundaries. The SPC's medical school was opened in 1902 and subsequently purchased property in front of the SPC's eastern (medical) gate. The establishment provided 200 beds for patients. The SPC's School of Nursing was founded in 1905. The hospital expanded significantly in 1970 with a new building on the same site, which became the AUB Medical Center (AUBMC, 2020).

In addition to AUBMC, Hamra has seen the building of a number of other medical establishments: Trad Maternity Hospital was opened in 1940 (Trad Hospital, 2020), Khalidi Hospital (now demolished) was founded in 1952 (Ya Beyrouth, 2020), Bikhazi Hospital was founded in 1957 and moved to its current location in 1960 (Bikhazi Medical Group, 2020), and Najjar Hospital was opened in 1981 (Najjar Hospital, 2020) (for more details see **Health chapter**).

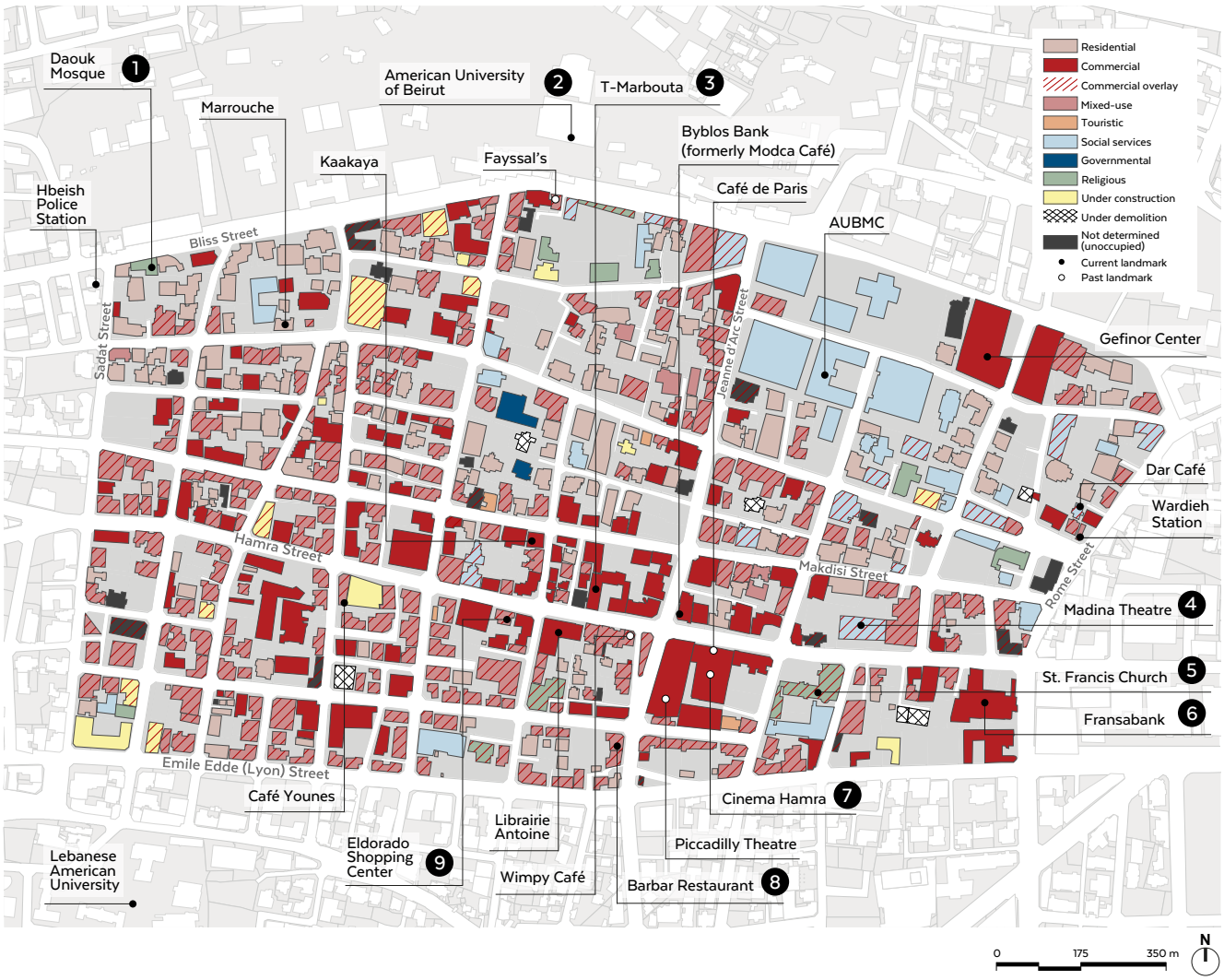


Figure 4 Building uses and landmarks

GOVERNANCE

MUNICIPALITY

The Hamra neighbourhood falls under the jurisdiction of Beirut Municipality. The municipality is independent, meaning that it has no membership in a union of municipalities. However, unlike local governments in other parts of Lebanon, it closely coordinates management of public services with government ministries.

The municipality participates in multiple partnerships with other cities and organizations. It is involved in a number of twinning projects with cities such as Los Angeles, Miami and Marseilles, with which it collaborates on infrastructural and capacity-building projects. Collaboration with twin municipalities has been beneficial for such initiatives as the improvement of the Horsh Beirut park, improvement of transport and street lighting infrastructure, and training of the city's firefighters.

The municipality also works with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and universities. Members of the municipal council (consisting of 24 persons) regularly read reports by NGOs and subsequently suggest projects for financing and implementation to the municipality's multiple committees (e.g. the Social Affairs Committee and the Health Committee). According to a key interviewed stakeholder, the Beirut Municipality is in partnership with over 600 NGOs, and communication and partnership also take place with university institutions, such as AUB's Neighborhood Initiative and the Arab University's Development programme.

At the time of writing, the municipality is working on addressing a number of issues to improve its capacity for implementing projects more efficiently and effectively. This includes addressing shortages in administrative capacities and expanding automation to improve the approval system for projects as part of a larger ongoing initiative to transform Beirut into a smart city.

According to an interviewed key stakeholder at Beirut Municipality, the municipality views Hamra as one of the city's key commercial and tourist areas, and is committed to supporting the entrepreneurs and traders who are based in the neighbourhood, as well as the historical heritage that is located there. The municipality's aim is to contribute to the development of the area while preserving its heritage architecture and supporting its long-established "old families" and its local community.

The fast rate of urban change and the large construction projects in Hamra and its surroundings have increased population density, which, in turn, has had a major impact on infrastructure. One of the biggest challenges that has resulted from construction is an increase in traffic specifically due to recent developments linked to AUB, LAU, AUBMC, and numerous services and hotels in and around Hamra.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

There are eight administrative officers (*mukhtars*) whose offices are located in Hamra, but only three represent the electoral district of Ras Beirut, in which Hamra is located. The other *mukhtars* represent electoral districts outside of Hamra, such as Minet El-Hosn, Mousaytbeh, and Mazraa.

The Ras Beirut *mukhtars*, all three of whom were interviewed, reported a good working relationship with the municipality, and close collaboration with it in the renovation and maintenance of infrastructures, such as sidewalks and street lighting.

Hamra is not considered a vulnerable area; on the contrary, it is often seen as an affluent centre of commerce and urban development. Despite this, *mukhtars* reported a number of local challenges faced by Hamra's residents and businesses in the past years: high cost of living, high unemployment rate, disputes between multiple heirs of a property, increased pressure on jobs and infrastructure due to migration into the area, and a drop in local business activities due to a shortage of customers. As one *mukhtar* pointed out, newly arrived residents who do not own property and pay new rent are more likely to struggle financially than established residents because of the high cost of living. The presence of street beggars was also raised as a significant issue, and it was noted that the police is actively involved in trying to resolve it.

A main positive attribute of Hamra, which was emphasized by local *mukhtars*, is the diversity of the area and the historical—and ongoing—peaceful coexistence and conviviality between different religious groups.

Mukhtars are key neighbourhood stakeholders who often safeguard local community relations and represent the neighbourhood to other state representatives. As such, the *mukhtars* that were interviewed in Hamra explained that they liaise with the municipality and with *mukhtars* in other neighbourhoods to address Hamra's various social, economic and infrastructural challenges. Hamra's *mukhtars* are also involved in local work, such as facilitating charity and financial aid from wealthy donors (for example to support orphans and to provide food for the extremely vulnerable), helping resolve local disputes among residents, and assisting people with residency documents and other administrative matters.

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MAPPING OF STAKEHOLDERS

Hamra is the site of a number of NGOs providing a range of educational, care, and social and cultural services, as well as working to improve the quality of the built environment and the quality of life for Hamra residents. While two of the seven NGOs that were interviewed reported collaboration with the municipality, others stated that they have no such relationship. One NGO interviewee cited the importance of high-level connections as a prerequisite for such collaboration and explained the difficulty in establishing such connections.

The NGOs and the other stakeholders in Hamra include are of various religious backgrounds (including many secular organizations) that reflect the diversity of the neighbourhood.

One of Hamra's most well-known organizations is the AUB Neighborhood Initiative, which is committed to improving the local area through the resources of AUB. The Neighborhood Initiative's most notable recent project is the rehabilitation of Jeanne d'Arc Street to make it pedestrian friendly and turn it into an interactive social space that benefits both residents and local businesses. Another Hamra-based NGO, the United Front of Ras Beirut, is specifically concerned with promoting Hamra, and Ras Beirut more broadly, as a model neighbourhood on the basis of its diversity and cultural vibrancy through activities such as local festivals.

Hamra has a number of NGOs working in the care sector. Balsam is a pioneering organization providing palliative care, primarily in Beirut, but also in other parts of Lebanon. Moadieh Evangelical Center for Assisted Living also offers care and social activities for dependent elderly people in need of support.

NGOs working on education include CrossTalk and MMKN Organization. CrossTalk, which is an Ecumenical Christian NGO, provides Christian education for children, but also runs a range of outreach and community support activities for vulnerable people (including cancer patients, lonely elderly people, and people struggling with depression). MMKN Organization supports public school students with training and education to help them enter university. The organization trains private university students from AUB and elsewhere to become tutors for public school students from grades 9 to 12. Activities take place during afterschool hours, and they help young students gain the skills they need to pass the university entry exams.

Hamra has several churches and mosques, representing the historically mixed character of the area. Interviewed representatives of religious institutions did not report tensions between different religious groups. Both Muslim and Christian religious leaders explained that a substantial number of the attendees in their places of worship are non-Lebanese. Mosques were heavily attended by Syrians, Iraqis and Bangladeshis, while the churches received large numbers of people from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Ghana and Ethiopia.

Politically, the party that has the strongest presence in Hamra is the SSNP, whose main aim, according to an interviewed representative, is to eradicate boundaries in the region and to unite its people across national and religious differences. The representative reported that the party practises this ideal in Hamra by supporting the neighbourhood's diversity and actively promoting inclusive community life for residents of different religious backgrounds. The SSNP has its headquarters in Hamra and is seen as the most significant political presence in the area, although participants in the adult male Lebanese FGD claimed that the Amal Movement also exercises certain influence in the area, specifically when it comes to control of parking spaces. Both residents and stakeholders in FGDs and KIIs, however, emphasized that Hamra residents are religiously, culturally and politically diverse, and so they do not have strongly consolidated political commitments in the same way as residents of less diverse neighbourhoods.

POPULATION

8,740

Total number of residents*

50% Males | 50% Females

72.2% Leb	3.6 people/ residential unit
18.3% Syr	5.7 people/ residential unit
9.5% Others	4.9 people/ residential unit

879	Children (0-14)
1,289	Youth (15-24)
3,956	Adults (25-63
1,034	Elderly (64 & above)

* Since some residential buildings were not accessible, the total number of inhabitants was extrapolated on the basis of the number of floors of the building. See Figure 7 for the residential buildings that were not accessible. All other numbers are the actual numbers collected during the population count in February and March 2019.

Source: Population count by residential unit (February-March 2019 field survey).

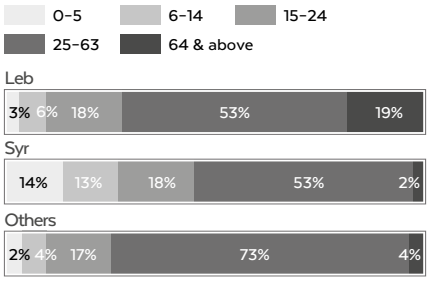

Figure 5 Age distribution by cohort (rounded to the nearest whole number)

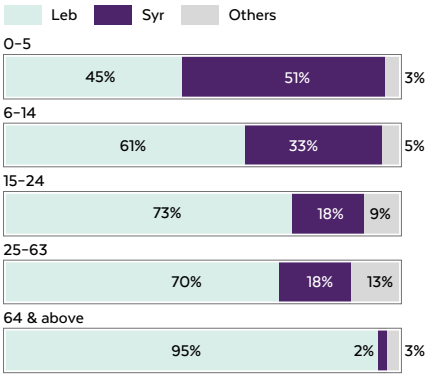

Figure 6 Cohort distribution by age group (rounded to the nearest whole number)

POPULATION COUNT

The Hamra neighbourhood covers an area 0.54 km^2 (**Figure 1**). According to one local *mukhtar*, the neighbourhood has a total of 3,000 Lebanese residents as well as an estimate of 3,000 Syrian residents and 1,500 Palestinian residents.[3] The *mukhtar* also stated that Hamra has approximately 23,000 registered voters, although registration does not reliably indicate de facto residence. However, while many registered voters do not live in Hamra, there are also many Hamra residents who are registered to vote elsewhere.[4] Residents who are not registered in Hamra, according to the *mukhtar*, mainly come from the South of Lebanon and are either registered there or elsewhere.

According to the Hamra population count (carried out in February-March 2019), the neighbourhood has an all-cohort resident count of 8,740. This amounts to a population density of 16,185 people per km^2, a high figure compared to Lebanon's average population density of 667 per km^2, which translates into a lively urban environment, but also into high traffic congestion and potential pressure on services, such as social and urban services (World Bank, 2020).

According to the population count,[5] the majority of Hamra residents—72.2 percent (5,167 people)—are Lebanese, while 27.8 percent (1,991 people) are non-Lebanese. The Lebanese population has a higher number of women (2,841) than men (2,326)—a female-to-male ratio of 1.22. Syrians constitute the largest non-Lebanese group in the neighbourhood, making up 18.3 percent of the population (1,312 people). Among Syrian residents, the number of men is significantly higher than the number of women, as 67 percent of Hamra's Syrians are men (880 people) and only 33 percent are women (432 people).

The neighbourhood also accommodates 679 residents from a range of other national backgrounds, collectively making 9.5 percent of the total population.

Regarding age distribution, there are 2,168 persons (30.3 percent of the population), who are children or youth (aged 0-24). Syrian residents tend to be younger than the Lebanese: 45 percent of Syrian are 24 years old or less, compared to only 27 percent of Lebanese (**Figure 5; Table 1**).

Children aged between 0 to 14 make up 12.3 percent of the Hamra's population, while residents of working age (15-63), account for 73.3 percent. Residents aged 64 and above account for 14.4 percent of the population (**Figure 6; Table 1**).

[3] A resident is "a person who lives somewhere permanently or on a long-term basis" (Oxford English Living Dictionaries, 2018).
[4] Lebanese nationals are allowed to vote in municipal or parliamentary elections only in the cadastral area where they are registered. It is very common for Lebanese to be registered in one cadastre but live in another.
[5] This was a survey of residential units conducted for each building in the profiled neighbourhood area, as explained in the Methodology section (2.2.1).

	Children				Youth		Adults		Elderly		Subtotal		Total
	0–5		6–14		15–24		25–63		64 & above				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Leb	83	85	144	168	454	488	1,238	1,523	407	577	2,326	2,841	5,167
Syr	97	93	102	68	162	69	508	189	11	13	880	432	1,312
Others*	5	7	15	12	55	61	264	234	11	15	350	329	679
Total	185	185	261	248	671	618	2,010	1,946	429	605	3,556	3,602	7,158**

* People of other nationalities.

** This total excludes 1,582 people of unreported age groups.

Table 1 Population distribution by nationality cohort, age and gender

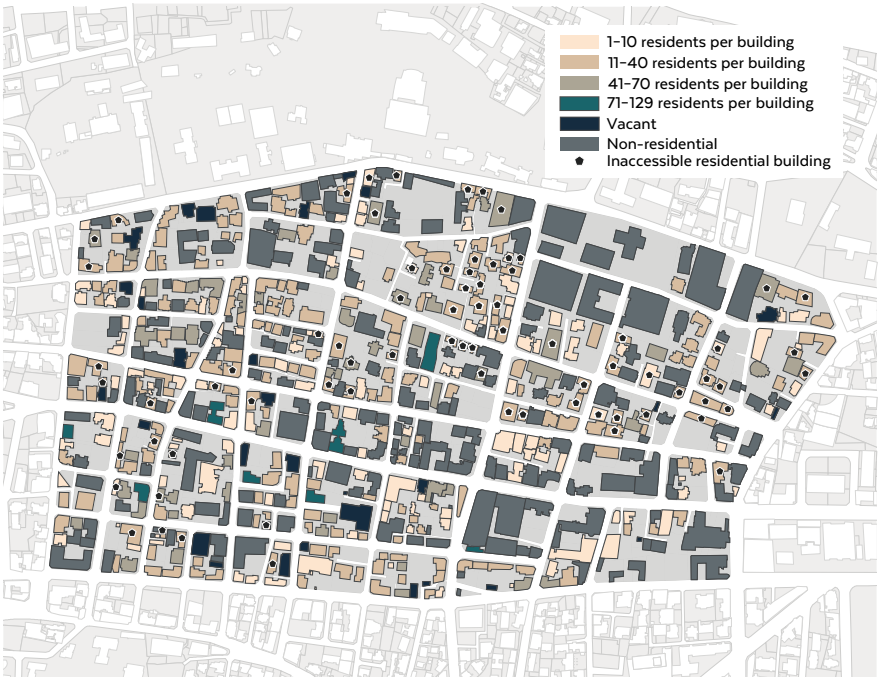

Figure 7 Residential occupancy per building

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Residential occupancy at the building level is shown in **Figure 7** to illustrate the distribution of the population across the neighbourhood. Generally, the population density gradient is higher in the north-west of Hamra than in the other two zones of the neighbourhood.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY RESIDENTIAL UNIT

Figure 8 shows the distribution of the population by number of residents per occupied unit, stratified by cohort. The most frequently met occupancy rates in Hamra are one and two residents per unit. The average number of occupants per residential unit is lowest among Lebanese at 3.6, and highest among Syrians at 5.7 per unit. The latter figure is higher than the 2019 national average Syrian refugee household size of 5, reported in the *Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon* (UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP, 2019). However, differences in the definition of residential unit versus household constrain the value of such comparisons.[6]

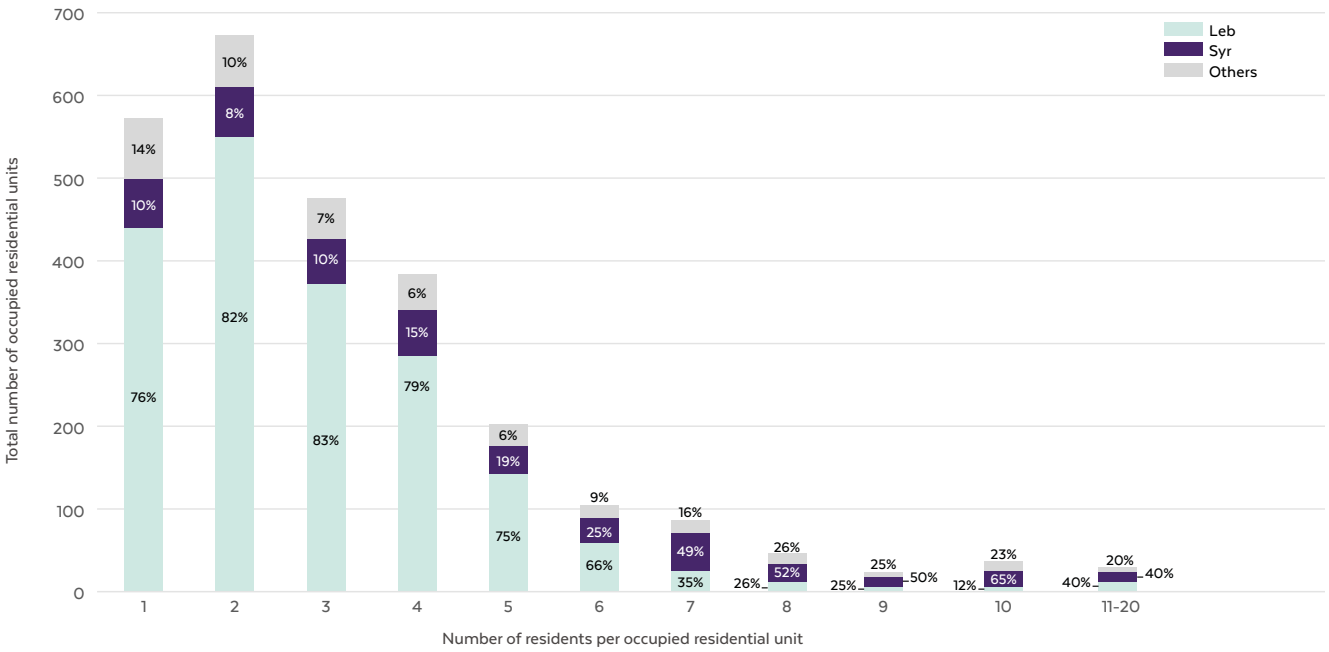

Figure 8 Population distribution by occupied residential unit (rounded to the nearest whole number)

ARRIVAL OF SYRIANS IN LEBANON

The household survey[7] obtained data about the immigration of Syrian[8] Hamra households to Lebanon before and after 2011, the year of the Syrian crisis outbreak. An analysis of that data shows that just under a quarter (21.7 percent) of these surveyed Syrian households reported having come to Lebanon prior to 2011 (**Figure 9**).

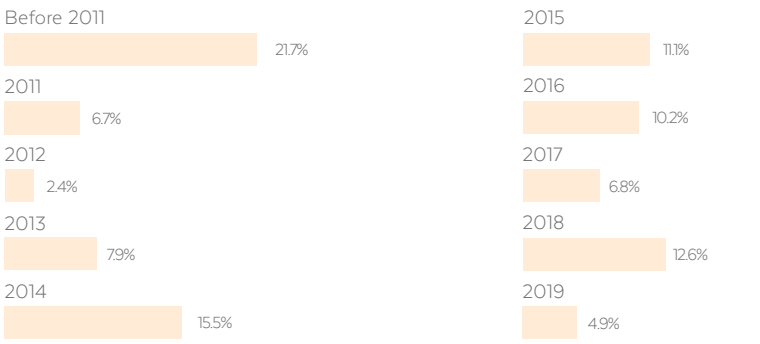

Figure 9 Syrian households by year of arrival in Lebanon

[6] A residential unit may hold one or more households.

[7] This was a survey of households that was conducted for a representative sample of Lebanese and Syrian population counts, as explained in the Methodology section (2.2.2).

[8] Households whose heads are Syrians. It was not possible to collect a representative sample of Palestine refugees in Lebanon (PRL), Palestine refugees from Syria (PRS) and other non-Lebanese households in Hamra.

SAFETY & SECURITY

PERCEPTIONS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY

During focus group discussions (FGDs), participants identified certain locations within and immediately bordering Hamra as unsafe, mostly during night-time in the less crowded streets. These areas include the streets of Baalbeck, Abed El-Aziz, John Kennedy, Sidani, Emile Edde (Lyon), Ibrahim Abdul Aal and Makdisi (**Figure 10**). The perceptions of unsafety stem from previous incidents of robbery or verbal harassment, the presence of pubs, and lack of proper street lighting. FGD participants also added that some incidents happen due to political tension and national or cultural differences; however, they acknowledged that such incidents happen significantly less frequently compared to other areas.

Almost all FGD participants, especially the youth, pointed out that Bliss Street and Hamra Main Street are perceived to be the safest and cleanest in the neighbourhood. They attributed safety mainly to the presence of AUB security guards on Bliss Street and the diverse shops and restaurants on Hamra Main Street, which keep both streets busy. Participants also mentioned that AUB makes Hamra a student neighbourhood where many people wander or gather at any time of the day.

Both Lebanese male adults and Lebanese female adults mentioned that it was not safe for children to play alone in the streets anymore, indicating that Hamra was a safer place when they lived there as children. Parents of children with disabilities showed concerns about children's physical safety due to sidewalks that were not disability-friendly and vehicular/pedestrian traffic. They added that Hamra lacks safe open/public spaces where children can play and showed preference for indoor places, such as malls. (See **Access & Open Spaces chapter** and "Children with Disabilities" section in **Child Protection chapter** for general information.)

During FGDs, Lebanese female adults and female domestic workers reported Hamra as a safe area; the former explained that they do not feel comfortable in other areas because of the presence of the army in places such as Ramlet el-Baida and Rabieh. They mentioned Hamra was safe because it was crowded and had many security guards, as opposed to army bases or checkpoints. Lebanese male youth, elderly, and Syrian female adults mentioned that although they perceive Hamra to be a safe neighbourhood compared to others, it can be unsafe for women at night. Lebanese youth stressed that women are more prone to experience constraints regarding free and safe movement inside the neighbourhood. Some Syrian female adults mentioned their unease with the area of Hamra that has many bars (The Alleyway/Ibrahim Abdul Aal Street) and their preference to be accompanied by their husband when walking at night. Others felt safe in Hamra, even at night. In general, Syrian women felt less safe outside of Hamra, in areas they were not familiar with and in which they feared harassment by thugs.

Lebanese youth mentioned that it is mostly safe to travel from the neighbourhood to another location, but some young women reported a need to be vigilant when taking taxis to avoid possible harassment by drivers.

The elderly FGD participants did not mention anxiety related to security issues and considered Hamra to be

Lebanese females in FGDs felt the entire neighbourhood to be safe.

Figure 10 Reported unsafe areas within and immediately bordering the neighbourhood

generally safe, except for the risk of car accidents and the need for better sidewalks and street lighting. Some elderly women stressed feeling insecure at night-time. Most FGD elderly participants, however, reported a general feeling of safety with only a few respondents feeling uneasy due to fear of harassment.

Non-Lebanese male adults and non-Lebanese youth mentioned their wariness of a few buildings in Hamra that housed a certain Syrian clan/family that was hostile and regularly monitored by the police. The adults also mentioned that the precarity of their job meant that they should be very careful not to "bother" the Lebanese. However, they said that the diversity of Hamra created a relaxed and non-discriminatory environment that did not discriminate based on sect. One Lebanese youth FGD participant mentioned that Hamra is known for its sense of familiarity, hospitality and tolerance to diversity. On the other hand, non-Lebanese female adults mentioned a few discriminatory incidents that happened in public spaces, such as the Corniche and Sanayeh Garden. However, one participant expressed his respect for the police and the good condition of Lebanese jails.

These different perceptions of safety and security in Hamra align with the views expressed by the three interviewed *mukhtar*s. Two of the three interviewed *mukhtar*s considered Hamra as an entirely safe area and reported that residents feel safe to move within and outside the neighbourhood. One of them mentioned that people of Ras Beirut, including Hamra, live in solidarity despite national and political differences. However, the third *mukhtar* acknowledged the security shortcomings inside the neighbourhood and in Lebanon in general. He attributed unsafety to the presence of drunk people on the streets, the enormous number of motorcycles, political and religious differences, and robbery incidents. Furthermore, he expressed his concerns around the ongoing refugee crisis, attributing the lack of security to the presence of Syrian refugees. He mentioned that some Lebanese families do not allow female household members to wander the streets alone because they believe that they are threatened by the refugee population.

All FGD participants provided suggestions as to how to improve safety and security, and to enhance community activities in the neighbourhood. FGD participants raised the need for strong measures against sectarianism, corruption and political conflicts. Some participants proposed new citizen-led projects that might help enhance the area's social cohesion and the well-being of its residents, such as recycling and the maintenance of streetscapes.

Ensuring the permanent presence of police officers and security guards, improving street lighting, and installing more surveillance cameras were important means suggested by the majority of FGD participants to increase safety within Hamra neighbourhood.[9] Other recommendations for enhancing neighbourhood safety and resident well-being include promoting clear communication between residents and the municipality (rather than fining infractions opaquely), as well as keeping shops open for longer on streets that are usually dark at night-time, such as Emile Edde (Lyon) Street. Non-Lebanese participants also mentioned the importance of improving tolerance among Lebanese by reminding them of the Syrian-Lebanese solidarity in times of war. They also suggested that dividing troublesome non-Lebanese clans in different buildings might improve security.

Participants also highlighted potential spaces to be used for improving social stability, including Al Madina Theater and the AUB Green Field. Lebanese youth participants believe that every street in Hamra can be a potential space for improving social stability, especially if these become spaces for events, such as festivals. Affordable sports clubs and comfortable public spaces were also mentioned as a means to channel the energy of youth and avoid their involvement in dangerous activities. One Lebanese male FGD participant complained, when asked about how youth should divert their energy: "They used to tell us to register at a gym, to practise boxing, but now I cannot register because it is so expensive. It costs between USD 60 and USD 100. So I cannot do sports. Also, I cannot take a walk on Al Manara and Raoucheh because there are a lot of scoundrels there: the Municipality and the police do not do their jobs in providing security in the area. You can go and see how many problems happens on the Corniche".

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[9] For further mapping of security in Hamra, see Fawaz, Gharbieh and Harb (2009).

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS & DISPUTES

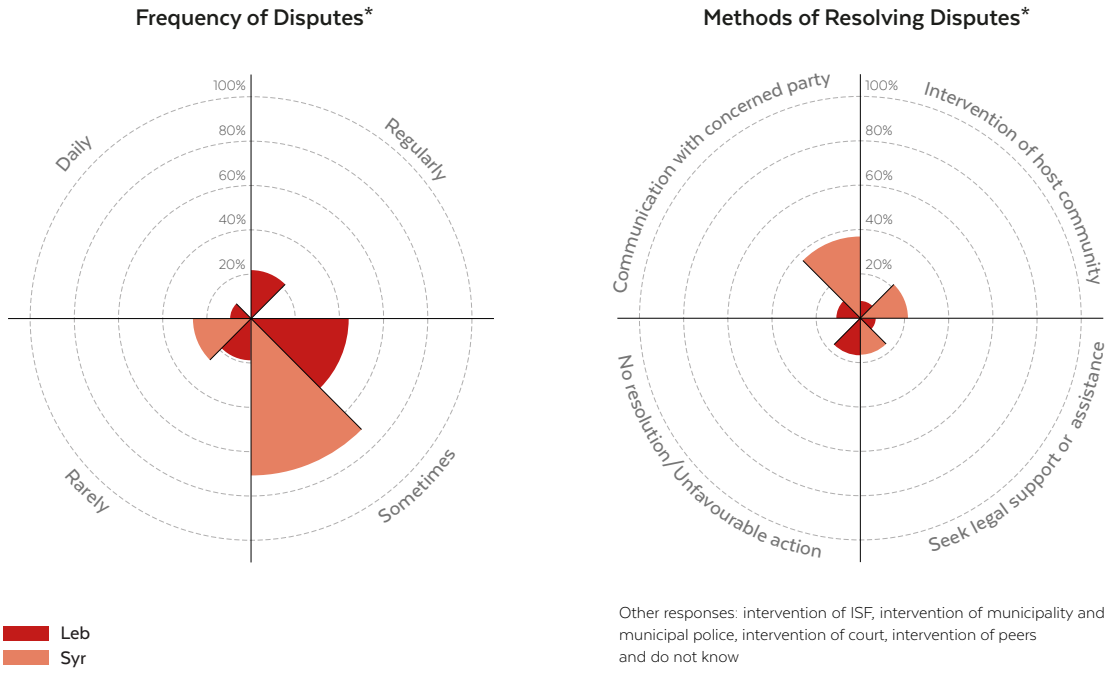
Hamra residents expressed diverse perspectives on community relationships, disputes and conflicts in the neighbourhood. A small minority of surveyed households (3.4 percent of Lebanese and 0.9 percent of Syrians, a total of 21 out of the 688 households that completed the household survey questionnaire) reported having faced disputes in the area. Among the minority of households in Hamra that have experienced disputes, the majority (42.8 percent) said that they face these disputes only sometimes (**Figure 11**).

Among the vast minority of Lebanese and Syrian households that have faced disputes, the most commonly reported reasons were disputes with landlords over eviction decision/threat (21 percent), disputes with the host community over cultural differences (9.8 percent), and disputes with service providers over interruption of service provision (9.8 percent), among other reasons.

With regard to resolving disputes faced by the small number of households in the area, the majority of Syrian households reported communicating with the concerned party (38.3 percent) or having host community members intervene (21.6 percent). The majority of Lebanese households (16.1 percent) households reported that no resolution had been reached or that they have been forced to accept an unfavourable decision or action (**Figure 11**).

With respect to relations between Lebanese and refugees/displaced people, most FGD participants viewed Hamra as a small area with close community relationships among residents with diverse national, religious and cultural backgrounds. Relationships between the host community and refugees are reportedly mostly positive even though some FGD participants reported involvement in past disputes. Participants described a minimal but regular occurrence of conflicts between residents or with the municipality, which usually do not persist for a long time. They mentioned that disputes in the neighbourhood mainly happen due to dissatisfaction with services, disagreements with neighbours or family members, and discrimination based on differences in nationalities or political affiliations. Two of the interviewed *mukhtar*s agreed that the neighbourhood's residents generally live in harmony. However, the third *mukhtar* mentioned that some social tension among residents of different nationalities does exist. The reason he gave was related to the influx of displaced Syrians—following the outbreak of the Syrian crisis in 2011—which reportedly affected the area's housing conditions, work opportunities, salaries, and safety.

As for the residents' relations with law enforcement bodies, most FGD participants reported being aware of the police's role and presence to keep the area safe, mainly pointing to Hbeish Police Station. They reported that general authorities, including police officers, Internal Security Forces (ISF), and municipalities are mainly responsible for security in the area. When asked whether they report to the police when faced with an issue or not, Lebanese and Syrian adult participants stated that they resort to police officers when they face problems or witness incidents. Elderly respondents reported that the police always arrive late and suggested that Hbeish Police Station's work should be monitored and improved. The elderly stated that they tried to report problems to the police before; however, they also said that they perceived the response to be slow and uncooperative. While Lebanese youth participants stated that they would resort to police officers if they were nearby, some Syrian youth participants mentioned that they do not trust the police. All FGD participants, except for the elderly, reported that the police has been treating them well. Some FGD participants stated that the police are selective in what they respond to and their role is limited to simple incidents, including noise complaints, street fights, and robbery. According to Lebanese male adults, the



* These figures pertain to the minority of households (3.4 percent of Lebanese and 0.9 percent of Syrians, a total of 21 out of the 688 households that completed the household survey questionnaire) that reported having faced disputes in the area.

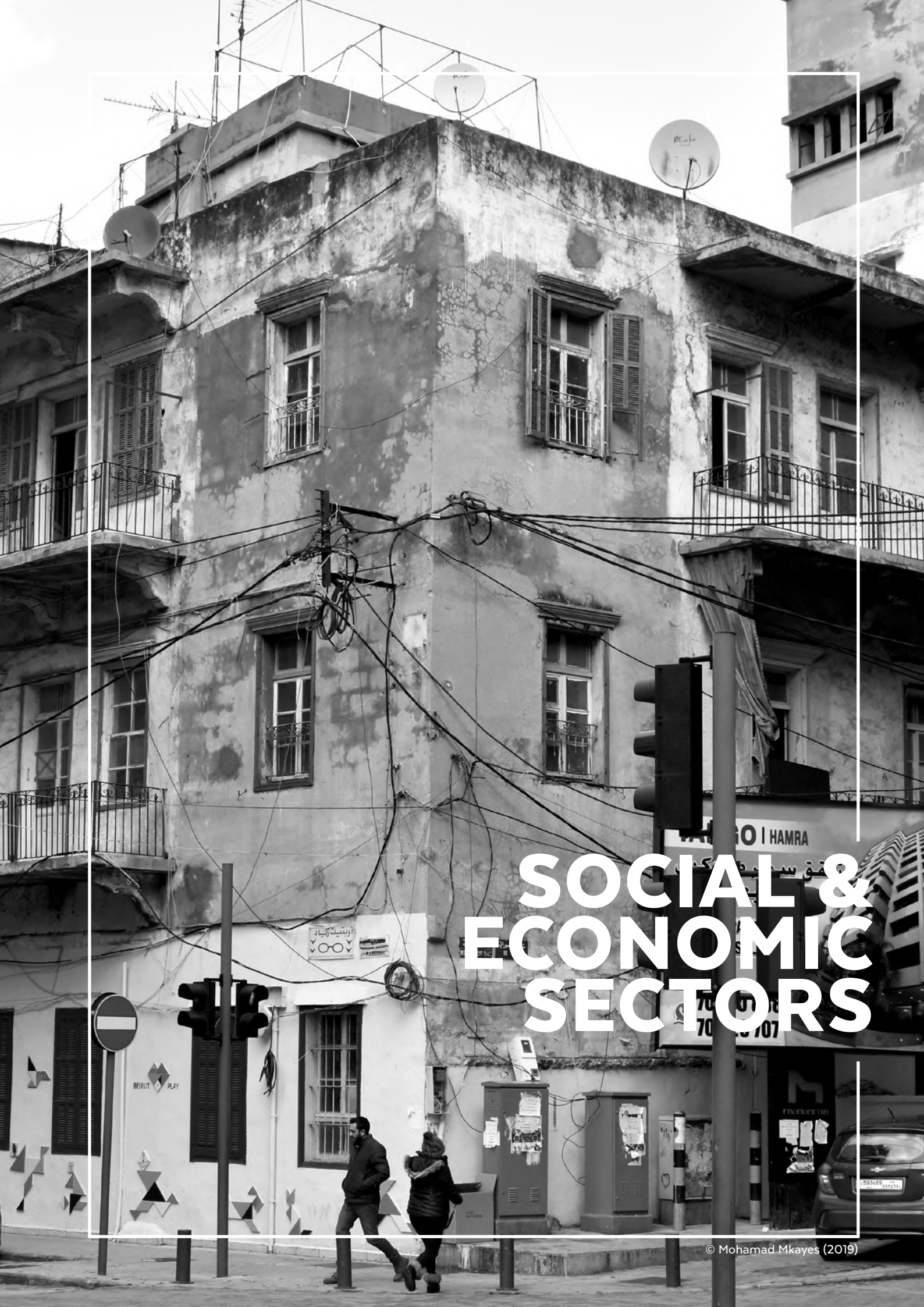
Figure 11 Frequency of disputes and methods of resolving them as reported by surveyed households

police do not care about animal abuse complaints and do not react responsibly. In general, some participants, including non-Lebanese male adults and youth, stressed on personal responsibility in maintaining security in the area. They believe that every resident is responsible for taking the measures needed to keep the neighbourhood safe.

While most FGD participants acknowledged the important role of authorities in maintaining safety and security in the area, one of the interviewed *mukhtar*s refuted this view. He highlighted the shortcomings of security presence in Hamra while criticizing the structure of Hbeish Police Station and Beirut Municipality. This *mukhtar* also stated that Hbeish police officers tend to be from outside of Ras Beirut, which made him concerned about discrimination on sectarian grounds.

Besides resorting to governmental bodies that are responsible for safety and security measures in the area, some participants reported resorting to active political parties in Hamra. One of the Lebanese male adult participants reported that he decided to join a political party after being attacked in a protest in Mar Elias and needing to feel protected. He added that being a member of the party makes him feel secure for knowing that the party members will be willing to help or defend him in any situation or place. His views align with the interview made with the aforementioned political party representative who highlighted the party's readiness to resolve any conflict happening around Hamra, including disputes at restaurants, coffee shops, parking lots, or on the streets. He said they try to stop conflicts before they get out of control and stressed on the importance of reconciliation between people. The representative acknowledged security issues in Lebanon and ensured that the party is trying to protect the neighbourhood respectfully without imposing any threats on residents. He also acknowledged the importance of ISF and how they resort to them when conflicts become more critical.

Although the presence of armed groups was not mentioned by key informants when discussing the most recent history of Hamra, the 7 May 2008 clashes between Hezbollah-led opposition fighters (SSNP and Amal Movement) and the Future Movement brought up memories of armament and violence. One interviewed *mukhtar*'s son was killed during the clashes, along with a few of his son's friends. One male Lebanese FGD participant who is affiliated to a political party mentioned his role on 7 May in appeasing the clashes between Sunni and Shia groups in a Beirut neighbourhood outside of Hamra. That same participant mentioned his refusal to own a gun at home today, because he has young children. Individual gun ownership was also mentioned by another male Lebanese adult FGD participant as a means of "shooting in the air" in times of celebration.



SOCIAL & ECONOMIC SECTORS

HEALTH

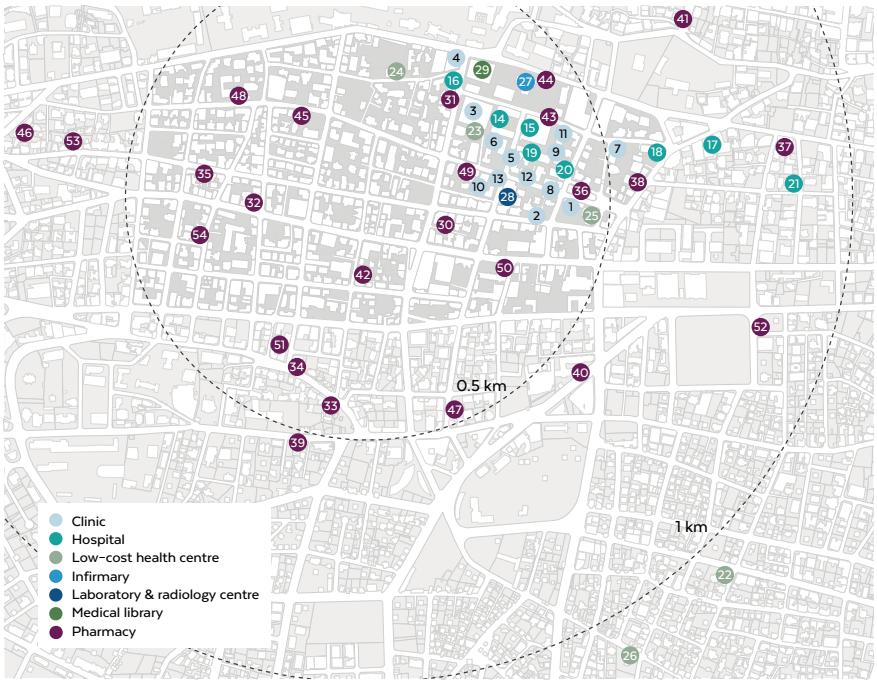


Figure 12 Health facilities in Hamra and its catchment area

Clinics
1 Al Sabah Building Clinics
2 Al Zouhour Building Clinics
3 AUBMC Academic and Clinical Center (ACC)
4 Blue Building Clinics
5 Darazi Building Clinics
6 Doctors' Center
7 Maamari Building Clinics
8 Massabki Building Clinics
9 Nassif Building Clinics
10 Ras Beirut Building Clinics
11 Specialty Clinics Center
12 Vision Building Clinics
13 Zakka Building Clinics

Hospitals
14 AUBMC Phase 1
15 AUBMC Phase 2
16 Fouad Khoury Hospital (Bikhazi Medical Group-BMG)
17 Clemenceau Medical Center
18 Bikhazi Hospital
19 AUBMC Medical Administrative Building
20 Najjar Hospital
21 Trad Hospital

Low-cost health centres
22 Al Zarif Health Center
23 AUBMC Outpatient Department (OPD)
24 Saint Mary's Orthodox Church Dispensary (Al Saydeh Clinic)
25 Caritas Medical Center (medicine distribution)
26 Dar Al Fatwa Health Center

Infirmary
27 AUB University Health Services

Laboratory & radiology centres
28 Doctors' Center Laboratory & Radiology Clinics

Medical library
29 Saab Medical Library

Pharmacies
30 Abiad Pharmacy
31 Al Chark Pharmacy
32 Al Madina Pharmacy
33 Al Rabih Pharmacy
34 Al Rasheed Pharmacy
35 Al Saher Pharmacy
36 Al Wardieh Pharmacy
37 Anny Pharmacy
38 Balsam Pharmacy
39 Bristol Pharmacy
40 Bustros Pharmacy
41 Ein Mreisseh Pharmacy
42 Hamra Pharmacy
43 Kaddoura Pharmacy
44 Khayyat Pharmacy
45 Kutteh Pharmacy
46 Light House Pharmacy
47 Mazen Ounsi Pharmacy
48 Plaza Pharmacy
49 Richani Pharmacy
50 Shaker Pharmacy
51 Shatila Pharmacy
52 Spears Pharmacy
53 Versailles Pharmacy
54 White Pharmacy

CHRONICALLY ILL

12.4% of all Leb

6.7% of all Syr

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

1.5% of all Leb

3.1% of all Syr

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations

	Leb (%)	Syr (%)
Disability	1.5	3.1
Chronic illness	12.4	6.7
Temporary illness/ Injury	2.1	1.6
Serious/Life-threatening medical condition	2.0	2.3

Table 2 Most commonly reported types of health conditions in surveyed households

HEALTH STATUS OF THE POPULATION

84.2%

of children under 5 with diarrhoea (in the two weeks prior to the household survey) for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider.

Chronic illnesses are the most commonly reported category of health conditions in Hamra, affecting 12.4 percent of Lebanese and 6.7 percent of Syrians in surveyed households. Temporary illnesses or injuries are faced by 2.1 percent of Lebanese and 1.6 percent of Syrians. In addition, 2 percent of Lebanese and 2.3 percent of Syrians have serious or life-threatening medical conditions. Disabilities are present among 1.5 percent of the Lebanese and 3.1 percent of the Syrians (**Table 2**).

As one health facility interviewed key informant explained, children in Hamra (and Beirut) tend to have better health than children in areas outside of Beirut, and primarily visit medical facilities for treatment related to fever and vaccinations. However, the key informant also reported that there are challenges with children's health in Hamra, primarily related to an unhealthy diet, and the fact that parents do not always follow instructions and protocols for giving their children the medicines they need. FGD participants gave mixed responses about the opportunities that Hamra offers for a healthy living. These ranged from responses claiming that Hamra is cleaner than many other areas with relatively good air quality, to concerns about pollution mainly due to traffic jam, inadequate waste management and electricity generators.

Among children under 5 in surveyed households, around 4.5 percent had diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the survey. For 15.7 percent of these children, no care (advice or treatment) was sought (**Figure 16**). In cases where care was sought, 39.5 percent received it from a private facility, 10.3 percent from a public health provider, and 50.1 percent from a pharmacy. In general, advice or treatment is more commonly sought for Lebanese children under 5 with diarrhoea in Hamra (95.2 percent) than at the Beirut Governorate (8.2 percent) and national (64.3 percent) levels. Similarly, the proportion of care-seeking Syrian children residing in the neighbourhood (75.4 percent) is higher than the national figure for Syrian children (29 percent) (**Appendix 1**).

Figure 13 Children under 5 with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the household survey for whom care was sought

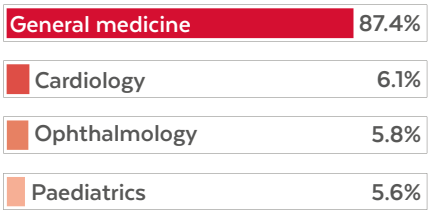


Figure 14 Most needed subsidized PHC services reported by surveyed households

	AUBMC Outpatient Department (OPD)	Al Saydeh Clinic
Consultations	✓	✓
Medications	✓	✓
Examinations	✓	✗
Laboratory tests	✓	✗
Vaccinations	✓	✗
IYCF	✓	✗
Nutrition screening management	✓	✓

Table 3 Service provision in interviewed health facilities by type

	AUBMC Outpatient Department (OPD)	Al Saydeh Clinic
Allergy/Immunology	✓	✗
Cardiology	✓	✓
Dermatology	✓	✓
Ear/Nose/Throat	✓	✓
Endocrinology	✓	✗
Gastroenterology	✓	✓
General medicine	✓	✓
General surgery	✓	✗
IMAM	✗	✓
Mental health	✓	✗
Neurology	✓	✗
Ophthalmology	✓	✓
Oncology	✓	✗
Oral health	✗	✓
Orthopaedics	✓	✓
Paediatrics	✓	✗
Physiotherapy	✗	✗
Plastic surgery	✓	✗
Pulmonary medicine	✓	✗
Reproductive health	✓	✓
Rheumatology	✓	✗
Urology	✓	✗
Vascular medicine	✓	✗

Table 4 Service provision in interviewed health facilities by medical specialty

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hamra is often considered to be a hub for health facilities in Beirut. The majority of the neighbourhood's health facilities are located in its north-eastern part (**Figure 15**). Lebanese and non-Lebanese female adult FGD participants mentioned that residents use the Dar El-Fatwa Health Center, Aisha Bakkar Islamic Center Clinic, Sahel General Hospital, Sabra Health Center (supported by the United Nations), and the Child and Mother Care Association in Aisha Bakkar, which are outside the boundaries of our neighborhood and are more than 1km away from Hamra. Key informants from two Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCCs)[10] within Hamra were interviewed for this study: The AUBMC Outpatient Department (OPD) and Saint Mary's Orthodox Church Dispensary (Al Saydeh Clinic) (**Appendix 3**). According to the KIIs with these health facilities, Hamra inhabitants also receive medical services from Al Zarif Health Centre and free medicine from the Caritas Ras Beirut Sector at the Rosary Church.

The two interviewed health facilities offer common types of services, including consultations, medications, and nutrition screening management. Other services provided only by the AUBMC OPD include examinations, laboratory tests, vaccinations, and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) (**Table 3**).

The medical specialties that are offered by both AUBMC OPD and Al Saydeh Clinic include cardiology, dermatology, ear/nose/throat issues, gastroenterology, general medicine, ophthalmology, orthopaedics, and reproductive health. In general, Al Saydeh Clinic has fewer medical specialties in comparison to AUBMC OPD—for instance, mental health is only covered by the latter (**Table 4**). The two interviewed health facilities are accessible to people of all nationalities, including Lebanese and Syrians, PRL and PRS with legal identification documents—across age groups and gender. However, Al Saydeh Clinic is not accessible for children with special needs.

The catchment area of AUBMC OPD and Al Saydeh Clinic stretches beyond Hamra neighbourhood, with patients coming from across Lebanon; for chronic-disease medication provision, however, Al Saydeh Clinic can only cover Hamra.

With regard to service fees, Al Saydeh Clinic provides consultation services for fees ranging from LBP 7,000 to LBP 15,000, while AUBMC OPD charges LBP 25,000 for first visits (to all nationalities) and LBP 15,000 for follow-up visits. AUBMC OPD provides immunization for free, while Al Saydeh Clinic fees range from LBP 7,000 to LBP 15,000. In addition, the fees of malnutrition management services range from LBP 7,000 to LBP 15,000 at both facilities. According to the key informant interview, Al Saydeh Clinic provides free consultations when patients cannot afford to pay for their visit and has some agreements with laboratories and medical centres where patients can benefit from fee discounts. Al Saydeh Clinic is accredited by the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and the Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut and AUBMC OPD is accredited by AUBMC (**Appendix 3**). The facilities reported to face challenges including shortage of medication and medical staff, inability to cover all patients' needs, and poor parental awareness about the importance of healthy nutrition and vaccination for children. However, FGD participants reported that no health-awareness sessions are conducted in the neighbourhood in general, and that it might be that they are not aware of ones done (if any).

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[10] See the Glossary for more details about PHCCs.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

77.8% of all Leb have health insurance

Of those Lebanese with health insurance:

- **34.1%** have social security
- **9.3%** have community-based insurance
- **34.1%** have health insurance provided by the employer

Others (22.5%)

15.3% of all Syr have health insurance

Of those Syrians with health insurance:

- **16.8%** have social security
- **16.2%** have community-based insurance
- **37.4%** have health insurance provided by the employer

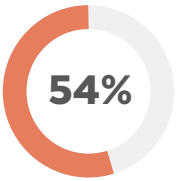
Others (29.6%)

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations

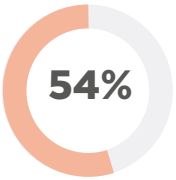
AWARENESS ABOUT, USAGE OF & SATISFACTION WITH HEALTH SERVICES[11]

AWARENESS
Households are aware of subsidized PHC services provided in the area

USAGE
Households are using or willing to use subsidized PHC services



RELEVANCE
Households find that subsidized PHC services are relevant to the population's needs



SATISFACTION
Households are satisfied with and would recommend subsidized PHC services provided in the area

Data is rounded to the nearest whole number.

Of the Lebanese and Syrian surveyed households in Hamra, 64.6 percent are not aware of a subsidized primary healthcare service provider (PHCC) in the area, and 41.6 percent do not use or are not willing to use such services. The AUBMC OPD key informant reported that they provide affordable consultations and follow-ups with patients.

In FGDs, both Lebanese and Syrian female adults reported that their children receive vaccines in Hamra's various PHCCs. It was also reported that representatives of AUBMC have raised crucial awareness about free vaccinations by visiting people's homes and presenting them with the relevant information.

Of surveyed households, 68.9 percent considered community outreach to be the most effective method of informing people about subsidized primary healthcare services, followed by flyers in the neighbourhood (32.4 percent) and phone calls (12.4 percent). According to its key informant, Al Saydeh Clinic conducts community outreach activities through flyers, awareness sessions, and word of mouth, as well as with the support of a priest who reaches out to the local community and church visitors. The key informant of AUBMC OPD stated that patients know about their services through their website, as well as through word of mouth. He also mentioned that they invest in individual-based awareness for visiting patients rather than community-based awareness sessions.

Of the surveyed households that are using or have used subsidized primary healthcare services in Hamra, 45.7 percent do not find them relevant to the population's needs and are not satisfied with or would not recommend them. Households reported that the most needed subsidized primary healthcare services are related to general medicine (87.4 percent), cardiology (6.1 percent), ophthalmology (5.8 percent) and paediatrics (5.6 percent), among others (**Figure 17**). FGD participants considered the health provision in Hamra to be of high quality, although many reported it was unaffordable to them. During the elderly FGD, some participants expressed their dissatisfaction with AUBMC OPD services, while others considered it and Al Saydeh Clinic to provide high-quality services at fair cost.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[11] Most of the analysis in this section is related to fully or partially subsidized primary healthcare services provided in PHCCs in the area.

EDUCATION

Private schools and universities

1. Al Ahlya School
2. Al Hamra Modern School
3. Al Iman Al Namouthajiya Secondary School
4. Al Mahaba School
5. American Center for Excellence
6. American Community School (ACS)
7. American University of Beirut (AUB)
8. Armenian Evangelical College
9. Beirut Baptist School
10. Beirut Play
11. British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) English
12. Collège Protestant Français
13. École des Soeurs de la Charité-Besançon Beyrouth
14. École St. François des Capucins
15. German International School
16. Haigazian University
17. International College (IC)
18. International Development Program (IDP) Education Building
19. Khadija Al Kobra School
20. LAU School of Architecture and Design*
21. Learner's World International School (LWIS) City International School
22. Lebanese American University (LAU)
23. Lebanese International University (LIU)
24. Lycée Franco-Libanais Verdun
25. National Protestant College
26. Saint Elie Mousaytbeh School
27. St. Mary's Orthodox School
28. Université Libano-Française

Public and subsidized schools

29. Amir Chakib Erslan Public School
30. Jaber Ahmad Al Sabah Public School
31. Near East School of Theology
32. Raml El Zarif, Renee Mouawad, Dr. Hassan Saab School
33. Ras Beirut Mixed High School
34. Second Public School for Girls-Salim Salam
35. Zahia Kaddoura Secondary School for Girls

* As the neighbourhood profile's production was being finalized, sources confirmed that the LAU's new School of Architecture and Design building was actually under renovation, rather than under construction. The LAU is transforming the facades of the previously residential Gezairi Building entirely.

Figure 15 Education facilities in Hamra and its catchment area

74.5%
Primary school attendance

94.2% of all Leb children (6-11) | 66.2% of all Syr children (6-11)

97.2% Secondary school attendance

97.1% of all Leb children (12-17) | 41.4% of all Syr children (12-17)

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations. Other non-Lebanese were not included given sampling limitations.

EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE POPULATION[12]

Household survey results indicate that over half (56.2 percent) of children aged 3 to 14 in surveyed households have attended primary school. Females have a higher primary school attendance rate (66 percent) compared to males (56.6 percent) (**Figure 16**).[13]

Household survey results also revealed that among Hamra's youth (aged 15-24), 4.9 percent had reached intermediate school as their highest level of education, while 17.8 percent reported secondary school as their highest level. It is important to mention that the proportion of female youth with secondary school as their highest level of attainment was much higher than the proportion of male youth—53 percent compared to 2.1 percent. This, however, might be associated with gender differences in higher education attainment rates among youth. As the data on higher education shows, the proportion of males who had reached this level is 89.3 percent, which is substantially higher than the proportion of females that stands at 23.7 percent (**Figure 17**). (For more details, see **Youth chapter**).

[12] The Lebanese educational system comprises three divisions: general education, higher education (universities) and vocational and technical education. General education schools comprise 44 percent public schools (run by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education [MEHE]), 41 percent private schools (independent of MEHE), 13 percent free private schools (run by religious organizations) and 2 percent UNRWA schools (accommodating Palestinian pupils and other residents of Palestine refugee camps free of charge). General education in Lebanon is divided into four main levels: preschool (3 to 5 years old), primary school (6 to 11 years old), intermediate school (12 to 14 years old) and secondary school (15 to 18 years old). Secondary school follows the academic curriculum or technical curriculum. The Technical Baccalaureate (*Baccalauréat Technique* or BT), Higher Technician Certificate ([*Diplôme de*] *Technicien Supérieur* or TS) and Technical Diploma (*Licence Technique* or LT) are technical secondary and higher levels in Lebanon's educational system (MEHE Center for Educational Research and Development, 2016).

[13] The household survey was conducted for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations. Other non-Lebanese were not included given sampling limitations.

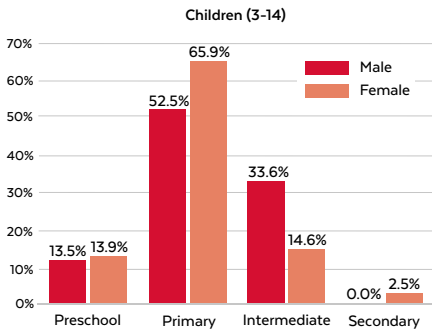

Figure 16 Highest education level attended by children (3–14)

Of surveyed heads of households, 54.9 percent reported having completed higher education, while less than 1 percent of males and 2 percent of females claimed to have discontinued education after preschool. In general, female heads of households are considerably more educated than male ones. This suggests that women with low educational attainment are significantly less likely to head a household than men with low educational attainment. Of the surveyed male heads of households, 27.1 percent have completed intermediate school as their highest level of education, while a minority of 10.1 percent have completed secondary school, and 37.4 percent have completed a higher level of education after secondary school. On the other hand, 8.4 percent of surveyed female heads of households have completed intermediate school as their highest level of education, 7.4 percent have completed secondary school, and 69.2 percent reported having completed a level of education higher than secondary school (**Figure 17**).

PROVISION OF EDUCATION SERVICES

Education is provided by both public and private institutions located within or around the neighbourhood. There are no schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in Hamra.

For the purposes of this study, key informants from three educational institutions, two public and one private, were interviewed, ranging from early childhood education facilities to secondary schools. One of these institution (Ras Beirut Mixed High School) is located inside the studied area, while the other two institutions that were interviewed (Jaber Ahmad Al Sabah Public School and Al Hamra Modern School) are located outside the neighbourhood.

As shown in **Figure 18**, there are two public or subsidized schools within the boundaries of Hamra: Ras Beirut Mixed High School and the Near East School of Theology. There are eight private schools and universities within the neighbourhood: St. Mary's Orthodox School, Beirut Play, National Protestant College, British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) English, École St. François des Capucins, International Development Program (IDP), Université Libano-Française, and American Center for Excellence (a private technical school providing professional courses). In addition, the Gezairi Building, which will house LAU's School of Architecture and Design, was under construction at the time of the field survey.[14] Three private universities (AUB, LAU and Haigazian University) are located in the catchment area of Hamra, the first two of which are just outside the immediate boundary of the neighbourhood. The International College (IC) is also in very close proximity to the neighbourhood boundary.

The number of students enrolled in each of the three interviewed schools ranges from 174 to 850. Two of them provide education during the morning shift only, while the third offers activities in morning and afternoon shifts. The afternoon shift follows the Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), which is mainly aimed at displaced Syrian children who are out of school. Second-shifts within the two public schools interviewed do not run at full capacity currently.

All interviewed education facilities accept students of all nationalities. For instance, in the private Al Hamra Modern School, 85 percent of students are Syrian. Both of the interviewed public schools cater to children with disabilities and special needs. As mentioned by the key informant at the Jaber Ahmad Al Sabah Public School, there is a dedicated team with specialists from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) to help students with special needs. However, in Ras Beirut Mixed High School, there are no specialists; the role is fulfilled by the teachers. Furthermore, during an FGD of mothers with children with disabilities, participants reported that their children are receiving education services in a specialized centre—Step

[14] As the neighbourhood profile's production was being finalized, sources confirmed that LAU's new School of Architecture and Design building was actually under renovation, rather than under construction. The LAU is transforming the facades of the previously residential Gezairi Building, entirely.

Together Association, an NGO that is sponsored by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). Moreover, parents stated that in this centre, every child has their own educational approach and there is a lot of communication between the administration and the parents, making both parents and children feel safe.

Regarding the cost of schooling, in the private schools, registration and education fees are paid for by the students' families. Alternatively, education in public schools is either free of charge or covered by MEHE or MoSA if the student is Lebanese, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or another United Nations agency if the student is a refugee, irrespective of the nationality.

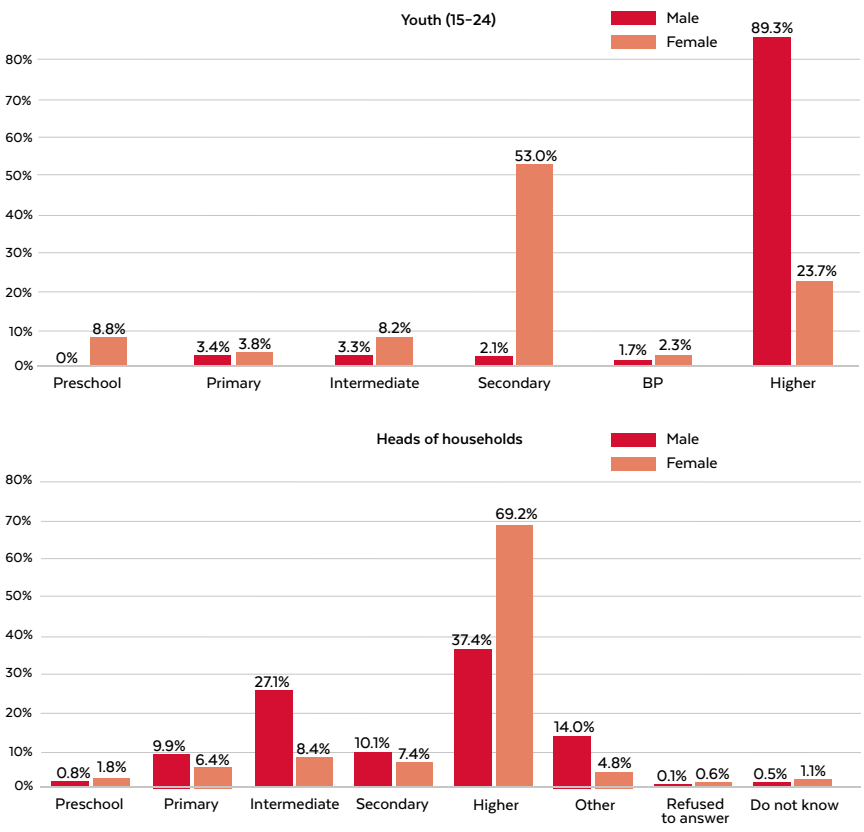

Figure 17 Highest education level attended by youth and completed by heads of households

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HOMEWORK SUPPORT

Surveyed households reported that more than half (57.3 percent) of the children and youth (aged 3-24) receive homework support. Help is provided at home free of charge (55 percent), at home for a fee (1 percent), outside the school for a fee (1 percent) or outside the school for free (0.2 percent).

Three key informants of education facilities reported that most children receive support from their neighbours or their relatives and some of them register in private institutes. In addition, the key informants from both public schools mentioned that MMKN, an NGO (See **Governance chapter**), through its Public School Support Program, provides support for public school students in intermediate classes (grades 7, 8 and 9). MMKN provides assistance for all subjects to help students succeed in the final exams and to prevent them from skipping school. MMKN volunteers also help outstanding students to apply for scholarships at universities. However, key informants interviewed from the private school stated that they prefer that children do not receive any help at home since students should be able to do their homework relying on the knowledge acquired at school. Moreover, none of the Lebanese and Syrian caregivers mentioned during FGDs that they have private teachers helping their children with homework.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

In the surveyed households, most children of primary school age (6 to 11) attend school (74.5 percent). Among Lebanese children in surveyed households, the primary school attendance ratio is 94.2 percent, which is quite similar to the national and Beirut Governorate levels (95.8 percent and 96.4 percent, respectively). Syrian children aged 6 to 11 residing in Hamra are only a reported 66.2 percent to attend primary school. This figure is higher compared to the national average for Syrian children, which stands at 50.8 percent, but lower compared to the Beirut Governorate rate of 70.7 percent (**Appendix 1**).

Secondary school attendance (for students aged 12-17) is significantly lower than primary school attendance, standing at a mere 58.1 percent. Yet attendance for both Lebanese and Syrian students in Hamra (97.2 percent and 41.4 percent, respectively) is significantly higher in comparison to the national averages (64.2 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively, for Lebanese and for Syrians), and to Beirut Governorate averages (41.3 percent for Lebanese, with data not available for Syrians).

Parents reported a number of reasons

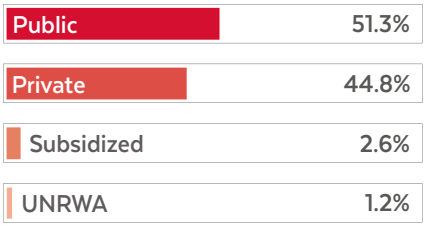

Figure 18 School attendance by type among children and youth (3–24)

for which their children did not attend school. One Syrian female reported in an FGD that some of her children are enrolled in school, while others are not because her family cannot afford tuition for all of them. Another woman stated that none of her children are enrolled in school, citing as the reason the lack of capacity of schools in the area.

For the age group 12 to 17, those who are not attending secondary school are either out of school (64.7 percent) or still attending primary school (39.3 percent). Both primary and secondary school net attendance ratios are consistently higher among Lebanese than among Syrian children, but gender differences are more striking (**Tables 5** and **6**).

Among the Lebanese children, attendance ratios for males and females are quite similar for both primary and secondary school levels. This is very different for Syrian children. Although attendance ratios for Syrian females and males are quite similar in primary school level, the net attendance ratio of boys is almost twice as high as it is for girls at the secondary school level (**Tables 5** and **6**).

The gender parity index (GPI)[15] was calculated for the surveyed population and it shows that in primary school, attendance reaches a score of 0.99 among Lebanese children (6–11), which is identical to the Beirut Governorate level. However, the figure drops to 0.95 for Syrian children in Hamra, which is slightly lower than the Beirut Governorate score of 1 (**Appendix 1**).

	Male (%)			Female (%)			Total (%)		
	Net attendance ratio	Attending preschool	Out of school*	Net attendance ratio	Attending preschool	Out of school*	Net attendance ratio	Attending preschool	Out of school*
Total	**76.9**	**23.1**	**35.1**	**69.0**	**20.4**	**45.0**	**74.5**	**17.0**	**38.1**
Age at beginning of school year									
6	69.5	0.0	30.4	73.8	10.5	33.9	70.1	1.7	31.0
7	83.8	33.1	43.9	82.2	55.7	63.5	83.2	41.5	51.3
8	91.4	32.7	37.9	41.7	0.0	58.2	71.5	24.6	46.1
9	63.4	0.0	36.5	81.8	9.3	25.7	67.3	2.0	34.0
10	100.0	0.0	0.0	66.2	14.6	43.3	81.5	6.4	23.7
11	69.4	40.7	58.8	87.2	0.0	12.8	76.3	22.6	40.9
Cohort									
Lebanese	94.6	0.0	5.3	93.6	3.1	9.3	94.2	1.7	7.4
Syrian	67.3	25.7	49.9	64.1	25.4	52.1	66.2	25.6	50.7

* "Out of school" includes children of primary school age not enrolled in school and those still attending preschool.

Table 5 Primary school attendance rate and out-of-school ratio by gender, age and cohort

	Male (%)			Female (%)			Total (%)		
	Net attendance ratio	Attending primary school	Out of school*	Net attendance ratio	Attending primary school	Out of school*	Net attendance ratio	Attending primary school	Out of school*
Total	**55.6**	**65.2**	**80.3**	**60.9**	**10.6**	**45.5**	**58.1**	**39.3**	**78.6**
Age at beginning of school year									
12	91.0	86.8	88.0	18.2	56.5	91.8	54.7	81.6	89.9
13	85.7	75.7	79.1	73.3	0.0	26.6	81.7	53.6	62.1
14	88.1	66.9	70.8	58.3	36.5	62.9	73.6	55.1	32.9
15	15.4	0.0	84.6	84.1	0.0	15.8	29.5	0.0	29.5
16	35.9	41.1	78.0	65.1	11.0	42.0	43.7	28.6	31.6
17	29.7	0.0	70.2	88.9	0.0	11.0	74.1	0.0	74.1
Cohort									
Lebanese	100	0.0	0.0	95.3	3.7	8.2	97.2	2.3	5.0
Syrian	49.2	83.7	92.0	23.2	53.3	89.1	41.4	78.6	91.1

* "Out of school" includes children of secondary school age not enrolled in primary, secondary and higher-level schools.

Table 6 Secondary school attendance rate and out-of-school ratio by gender, age and cohort

[15] GPI is the ratio of the number of female students enrolled in primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education to the number of male students in each level.

With regard to secondary school attendance, the GPI among Lebanese students (aged 12-17) is 0.95, which is low in comparison to the Beirut Governorate level of 1.01. The GPI among Syrian students is 0.47 (governorate-level data is unavailable for comparison).

Among participants in FGDs, all Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth reported that they are enrolled in private universities, meaning that the study's FGD sample did not account for youth enrolled in the Lebanese University (the only free university in Lebanon). However, non-Lebanese youth FGD participants mentioned that they have friends who attend the Lebanese University in different areas like Tyre and Tripoli. They also mentioned that many of their friends do not study or work, which, they attributed to a number of reasons:

- They were unable to secure a scholarship.
- They found the programmes and the large number of students at the Lebanese University to be overwhelming.
- Their parents could not afford the tuition fees of private institutions.
- They had poor experiences at school and claimed that the system of education made them dislike studying.

As one FGD participant explained, "private universities care about their students. They provide the needed facilities for them to move forward. On the other hand, not every Lebanese can afford to be in a private university."

In addition to the aforementioned factors, FGD participants reported a number of additional challenges that they have faced in the course of their education. Experiences of racism against non-Lebanese youth in public schools were reported as an issue, as were tensions based on differences in religious or political party affiliation at the university level. Participants also claimed that there was discrimination between tuition-paying and scholarship-receiving students in universities, as well as competition and tension among AUB and LAU students.

SCHOOL DROPOUTS & CHILDREN WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED SCHOOL

In surveyed households, 25 percent of children between the ages of 6 and 14 have never attended school. This relatively high number is largely driven by Syrian children within these ages, 34.4 percent of whom have never gone to school, compared to only 3.8 percent of Lebanese children.

The proportion of primary school children (aged 6-11) who are out of school[16] in Hamra is 7.5 percent among Lebanese and 50.7 percent among Syrians. These figures are lower in Hamra than they are at the national level (49.2 percent among Syrian and 4.2 percent among Lebanese children), but slightly higher at the level of the Beirut Governorate (28 percent among Syrians and 3.6 percent among Lebanese) (**Appendix 1**).

Among all secondary school age children (aged 12-17) residing in Hamra, 5.1 percent of Lebanese and 91.2 percent of Syrian children are out of school. This reflects a lower occurrence of this phenomenon among this age group, compared to the younger surveyed child population of the neighbourhood, irrespective of nationality (but especially among Syrians). This also indicates that while Lebanese students in Hamra have a lower out-of-school rates than the national average (10.2 percent), Syrian students' out-of-school rates are higher than the 82.9 percent national average for their cohort (**Appendix 1**).

According to household survey data, the main reasons for non-enrolment of children and youth (aged 3-24) in school were that they are under the school or preschool age (54.3 percent), the school is asking for payment (25.3 percent), the children or youth have a responsibility to earn money for their family (9.2 percent) and there is a lack of legal documentation (4.2 percent). In other cases, it was reported that children and youth were unable to attend school due to a lack of academic documents necessary to prove eligibility for enrolment (1.5 percent), the full capacity of the schools (1.1 percent), or early marriage (0.7 percent).

Participants in KIIs and FGDs described a number of factors that lead children to drop out of school. In one FGD, Lebanese female caregivers mentioned that those who were out of school are mainly "refugees" whose decision may be motivated by early marriage or the need to work to support their parents financially (See **Child Protection chapter** for details about child marriage and labour). In another focus group, Syrian female caregivers mentioned several additional reasons for children not attending school: parents preferring that their child works, lack of awareness about educational opportunities, disinterest in education, a school atmosphere that does not motivate children, high tuition fees for private schools, and public schools that are not considered good enough.

In order to encourage children and youth to stay in school, Syrian female FGD participants suggested providing awareness sessions to parents and children regarding the importance of education, and offering financial support. Furthermore, youth FGD participants made the following recommendations: improving the curriculum and teachers' treatment of students, providing advice and awareness sessions about the importance of education, and enhancing the situation in the Lebanese university and the public schools. (See **Child Protection chapter** for details about child labour and marriage).

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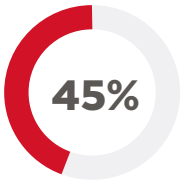
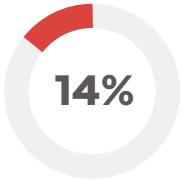
[16] "Out of school" includes children who had dropped out of school (excluding preschool) at one point and were not attending school at the time of the survey.

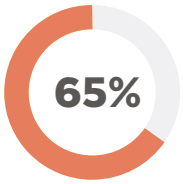
AWARENESS ABOUT, USAGE OF AND SATISFACTION WITH EDUCATION SERVICES[17]



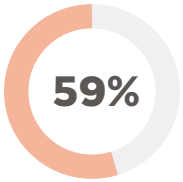
AWARENESS
Households are aware of subsidized education services provided in the area



USAGE
Households are using or willing to use subsidized education services



RELEVANCE
Households find that subsidized education services are relevant to the population's needs



SATISFACTION
Households are satisfied with and would recommend subsidized education services provided in the neighbourhood

Data is rounded to the nearest whole number.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Approximately half (51.3 percent) of children and youth aged from 3 to 24 are enrolled in a public educational institution irrespective of their nationality and gender. In addition, a large minority (44.8 percent) receive education at a private facility, while 2.6 percent of students are enrolled in subsidized public education without having to pay, and 1.2 percent attend UNRWA schools.

Among the households that use subsidized education services, 65.4 percent perceive such services to be relevant to the population's needs and 58.9 percent are satisfied with these services and would recommend them to others. Less than half of households (44.5 percent) are aware of a subsidized education services in or around the neighbourhood, and just 14.2 percent reported that they are using or are willing to use such services. Moreover, access and use of subsidized education services were perceived as significant issues for some non-Lebanese parents and their children during FGDs, either due to the need of transportation or the limited physical capacity of the schools.

Both Lebanese and Syrian female caregivers mentioned during FGDs that they are not satisfied with the public education services their children were receiving. However, 57.2 percent of the Lebanese households reported that they are not willing to send their children to public schools, while just 17.7 percent of Syrian households made the same claim.

Key informants from educational facilities complained about a lack of resources in the educational and the cultural domain in terms of financial support from the government. However, they stated that the presence of important private schools and universities in the area could be seen as an opportunity for collaborations that support partnerships between public and private school students and staff.

During an FGD with Lebanese female caregivers, all participants reported that they are satisfied with the education services their children are receiving. The Syrian female caregivers whose children are in private schools are extremely happy with the outcome and they mentioned the following advantages of such education facilities: a high level of security, excellent treatment of the students and good hygiene. However, Syrian female caregivers whose children attend public schools are satisfied just because their children are studying, although they perceive the quality of education they receive not to be as good as in private schools.

When discussing reasons for dissatisfaction with subsidized education services, Syrian female caregivers raised a number of issues during an FGD. They claimed that children are not receiving adequate attention from teachers who do not follow up with them, and also that the system of teaching differs between the two shifts (where Syrian students attend the second shift). In addition, public schools were perceived to be disordered and chaotic, and people complained that girls were seen together with their boyfriends in front of the school, which made them feel uncomfortable. Other reasons reported by FGD participants include new administrative requirements, which mandate that all newly registered Syrian children must be enrolled in the second shifts only. It is important to mention that non-Lebanese youth in FGDs also highlighted the verbal abuse of Syrian students as an expression of racism in public schools (See "Child Violence & Discipline" section in **Child Protection chapter**).

While most female caregivers did not mention barriers to accessing subsidized educational services, parents of children with disabilities expressed the need to access specialized schooling and their right to free non-precarious access to education by MoSA (See **"Children with Disabilities" section in Child Protection chapter**). Key informants from educational facilities expressed the need for additional specialized personnel and an upgrade in their facility's infrastructure to cater the needs of all children, including those with special needs.

[17] Most of the analysis in this section is related to fully or partially subsidized education services provided in public and semi-private schools in the area.

CHILD PROTECTION

12.9%
Child (0-14) population
9.2% of all Leb | 27.4% of all Syr

3.0% Children (5-17) involved in economic activities
1.5 % of all Leb children | 4.1% of all Syr children

5.8% Young women (15-19) currently married
1.4% of all Leb young women | 4.6% of all Syr young women

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations

Gender
Male 3.6%
Female 2.0%

Cohort
Leb 1.4%
Syr 4.1%

Figure 19 Child (5-17) involvement in economic activities by gender and cohort

In surveyed Hamra households, 9.2 percent of the Lebanese and 27.4 percent of the Syrian residents are children (14 years old or less).[18] Protection challenges that children face in the neighbourhood include involvement in economic activities, marriage at an early age, and violence at home. Data collected for some of these issues also covers those aged 15 to 19. (For more information on residents between 15 and 24, see **Youth chapter**).

CHILD LABOUR[19]

Of all children between the ages of 5 and 17 in surveyed households, 3 percent are involved in economic activities. The engagement of boys in economic activities (3.6 percent) is slightly higher compared to that of girls (2 percent). The engagement of Syrian children residing in Hamra (4.1 percent) is higher compared to that of Lebanese children (1.4 percent) (**Figure 19**).

Work carried out by children constitutes child labour if it deprives them:

> ... of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and ... is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and interferes with their schooling by: depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work. (International Labour Organization, 2018)

Participants of FGDs conducted in the neighbourhood reported that they have witnessed child labour among Syrian children working in different types of jobs, due to the financial situation of their families. Participants explained that this translated into different experiences for the children who work: for some Syrian children, it was reported that involvement in labour does not affect school attendance during the afternoon shift; other children, it was said, were not registered in schools due to financial issues or unavailability of academic documentation.

Participants stated that they are against child labour, because there is no such thing as acceptable working conditions for children. They also perceived child labour as putting children at risk of physical harm.

According to Decree Number 8987 issued in 2012 by the Lebanese Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, it is strictly forbidden to employ children below the age of 18 in activities and labour sectors that may harm their health, safety and morale. These "worst forms of child labour" include activities with physical, psychological and moral hazards; and activities preventing children from pursuing their right to education (Ministry of Labour and International Labour Organization, 2015). Children employed by some businesses in Hamra might be considered to be subjected to these "worst forms of child labour", based on the definition in the above-mentioned decree. For example, working in a grocery store that sells tobacco and/or alcohol may potentially trigger substance abuse among children. Furthermore, some businesses, such as mechanics workshops, might expose children to the risk of injury or even death as they involve handling dangerous tools and equipment.

Among children involved in economic activities between the ages of 5 and 17 in surveyed households, hazardous work conditions are 1.5 percent among Lebanese and 0.9 percent among Syrians, and more prevalent among boys (1.6 percent) than girls (0 percent).

[18] These figures are based on the household survey (conducted for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations). According to the comprehensive population count by residential unit, 879 residents are within this age group (480 Lebanese, 360 Syrians, and 39 people of other nationalities).

[19] Child labour is defined here as the involvement of children between the ages of 5 and 17 in economic activities. But the data based on the household survey does not take into account the time spent on economic activities, nor the hazardous nature of the working conditions. For more details about the national and international legal framework governing child labour, including information about acceptable duration and conditions of work, see a recent publication by Inter-Agency Coordination Lebanon (2018).

For the children involved in economic activities, getting paid irregularly and experiencing physical force or verbal abuse exerted by their employer was not reported by the heads of surveyed households. The treatment the children receive by their employers is reported to be respectful and fair for males more than females (55.3 percent and 36.5 percent, respectively) and slightly more for Lebanese compared to Syrians (50.8 percent and 46.9 percent, respectively). However, the surveyed households reported the employers to be strict but fair more commonly among females and Syrians compared to males and Lebanese, respectively (**Table 7**).

During the field data collection, a few children in Hamra were noticed working as shoe-shiners or begging on the streets. According to an interviewed *mukhtar* and Lebanese female adult FGD participants, child employment is common in Hamra, with a majority bagging vegetables and goods at grocery stores, throwing garbage and doing deliveries. A very limited number of child employees were reported during the enterprise survey, and employers were reluctant to disclose child employees when asked about the age of their employees. The majority of interviewed business owners agreed that recruiting children is wrong and they would not consider it. However, some business owners believed that it is beneficial to teach children a profession at young age. As one of them put it, this is "essential to broaden their thinking and teach them the skills of life". Some considered bringing or actually brought their own children to their enterprises to observe. Several recruited their neighbours' children over the summer or for short-term periods, in many cases explaining that this would keep them away from the street. A couple of business owners claimed to have worked as child workers in their youth. One of them mentioned that he does not recommend that children take the same path as he did, so as not to remain in the same job their whole life. Another business owner mentioned that child labour is considered an unacceptable practice in Hamra, since it is a "posh" area.


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	M (%)	F (%)	Leb (%)	Syr (%)
Total of children (5-17) involved in economic activities	**62.5**	**37.5**	**33.4**	**66.6**
Treatment by employer				
The child is respected and treated fairly	55.3	36.5	50.8	46.9
The employer is strict but fair	44.6	63.5	49.1	53.0
The employer uses physical force on the child	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The employer verbally abuses the child	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The child does not get paid regularly	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 7 Work conditions of children (5-17) involved in economic activities by gender and cohort, as reported by surveyed heads of households

CHILD MARRIAGE

1.2% of girls between the ages of 15 and 18 are married.

0.0% of boys between the ages of 15 and 18 are married.

Of all young females aged 15 to 19 in surveyed Hamra households, 5.8 percent were married at the time of the survey. Marriage in this age group is more common among Syrian (4.6 percent) than Lebanese (1.4 percent) females. The prevalence of marriage among female youth (aged 15-19) in Hamra is significantly lower than it is at the Beirut Governorate level (14.8 percent among Lebanese, with no available data for Syrians) and the national level (4.1 percent among Lebanese and 26.6 percent among Syrians). The marriage rates among surveyed female children between the ages of 15 and 18 show that early marriage is most prevalent among Syrian girls (2.7 percent) residing in the neighbourhood. Unlike girls in surveyed households, no cases of early marriage were reported among boys (15-18) (**Appendix 1**).

During the FGD with non-Lebanese female adults, participants agreed that the minimum acceptable age for marriage is between 15 and 18 for girls, and between 18 and 22 for boys. Participants in the FGD with non-Lebanese male adults argued that the marriage age depended on clan rule. Most believed that women should be married between 14 and 18, and that it was difficult for parents to marry off their girls that are older than 20 years. They said men should be married starting 18, although one participant was himself married at 14 and did not mind it. In this regard, participants based their rationale on the concept of "*sutra*" (meaning the protection of women from indecency), the social norms and customs, the absence of academic qualifications, the preservation of the individuals and society from moral corruption, and financial vulnerability due to the Syrian crisis.

CHILD VIOLENCE & DISCIPLINE

Using violence to discipline children is a common practice in Hamra, particularly at home (**Table 8**). Violent discipline experienced at home by surveyed children (aged 1-14) in Hamra (49.8 among Lebanese and 53.7 percent among Syrians) is slightly lower in comparison to the national and Beirut Governorate data among Lebanese (56.9 percent and 53.1 percent, respectively). Also, violent discipline experienced at home is relatively much lower among Syrian children in Hamra in comparison to the national and Beirut Governorate data (65 percent and 73.5 percent, respectively) (**Appendix 1**). Of children between the ages of 1 and 17 in the surveyed Lebanese and Syrian households, 60.2 percent have been subjected to at least one form of violent discipline by a household member. Using psychological aggression (58.4 percent) is more prevalent than using only non-violent discipline (28.2 percent) and any kind of physical punishment at home (24.2 percent). Severe physical punishment is experienced by 9.5 percent of all children (aged 1-17) in surveyed households (**Table 8**).

With regard to discipline at school, 13.6 percent of children between 1 and 17 have experienced a type of violent discipline, according to the household survey. Non-violent discipline is experienced by 23.2 percent of children in that age group, while psychological aggression is experienced by 13 percent. Severe physical punishment is faced by 3.2 percent. Syrian pupils are more subjected to any violent discipline at school (25.3 percent) than Lebanese ones (13.1 percent) (**Table 8**). Participants in the FGD with non-Lebanese female adults reported that reasons for violence against children at schools include quarrels between students and racism. At home, overcrowding and child play sometimes cause children to get hurt. According to one Lebanese female adult, racism at public schools comes in the form of Lebanese students bullying Syrian ones in mixed sections. (For general information on child safety and security issues, see "Perceptions of Neighbourhood Safety" section in **Safety & Security chapter**).

	Child discipline at home (%)					Child discipline at school (%)				
	Only non-violent discipline	Psycho-logical aggression	Physical punishment		Any violent discipline	Only non-violent discipline	Psycho-logical aggression	Physical punishment		Any violent discipline
			Any	Severe				Any	Severe	
Total (%)	**28.2**	**58.4**	**24.2**	**9.5**	**60.2**	**23.2**	**13.0**	**6.5**	**3.2**	**13.6**
Gender										
Male	17.5	73.6	29.7	12.4	75.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female	52.5	24.0	11.6	3.0	25.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Age										
1-2	43.4	52.6	46.6	40.3	52.6	10.6	13.6	15.2	0.0	22.7
3-4	43.8	39.1	1.3	0.0	39.1	13.7	23.3	28.8	1.4	35.6
5-9	16.0	75.0	22.7	9.9	76.7	13.0	4.1	1.6	0.0	4.1
10-14	18.4	58.2	44.1	14.4	59.2	18.7	38.4	20.5	11.4	41.0
15-17	68.7	17.9	12.3	0.0	23.7	65.7	6.4	2.5	2.5	6.4
Cohort										
Leb	27.4	44.3	22.1	3.0	47.8	19.5	8.1	4.9	0.0	13.1
Syr	30.3	51.8	39.1	16.9	54.5	21.3	25.3	12.4	6.9	25.3
Education of head of household										
Preschool	48.6	12.9	12.9	0.0	12.9	0.0	49.7	32.7	0.0	49.7
Primary	26.5	64.3	46.8	20.0	67.3	14.2	14.0	2.2	0.0	15.1
Intermediate	35.8	35.3	27.9	6.8	41.7	34.6	29.6	27.5	21.0	30.9
Secondary	30.5	66.4	44.0	20.7	66.4	39.3	29.9	8.5	5.5	32.9
BP	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	0.0	100
BT, TS or LT	0.0	100	91.4	83.6	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
University	27.6	65.1	3.0	0.0	65.6	25.4	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7

Table 8 Child (1-17) discipline at home and at school, as reported by surveyed heads of households

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

According to the FGD with parents of children with disabilities, Beirut is not a child-friendly city, let alone for disabled children. One issue that was raised was that the noise pollution in Hamra troubles children with disabilities who might have acute senses. The streets and sidewalks of Hamra are not equipped for people with physical disabilities and could lead to injury. However, children without physical disabilities enjoy walking on the commercial streets of Hamra. Children with disabilities and their families sometimes struggle with shops and restaurants that are not accepting or accommodating of disabilities, although it was reported that tolerance has improved in recent years. It was reported that passers-by sometimes mistake children with disabilities for beggars and do not respond when the children say hello, making them feel ignored by society. One FGD participant mentioned that once, when her daughter was having a fit,[20] a neighbour threatened to call the police if she did not keep it down. The neighbour justified that she did not say this as a real threat, but to help the mother discipline her daughter.

Parents of children with disabilities mentioned the lack of playgrounds or malls in Hamra where their children can be entertained and play safely without constraints. There are, however, schools that provide support for children with disabilities, including both interviewed public schools (See **Education chapter**). Some respondents reported that their children are enrolled in STEP Together, a school for students with special needs in Mansourieh, a 30-minute drive from Hamra. Many children enrolled in STEP Together receive financial support by MoSA, but at the time of the FGD (December 2019), the ministry had not reimbursed the school yet. Parents that could afford to pay the yearly fees did so, indirectly financing the school. In-house services of speech therapy, physiotherapy and psychology are provided by STEP Together on a case-by-case basis. Other extracurricular activities, such as horseback riding and neurofeedback therapy are not covered by the regular fees. For an extra fee, the school offers a summer camp where the children can swim.

For Lebanese citizens, a "disability card" offers free car registration and helps in requesting wheelchairs at the airport. One Palestinian FGD participant mentioned that such a card was not offered to PRL. One parent mentioned her fear of the economic crisis affecting the import of medicine her daughter needs daily. Children with disabilities are among the most vulnerable populations of Hamra, but their level of protection and access to services depends on their parents' resources, the often-delayed financial aid offered by MoSA, as well as the public services, or their lack thereof, shared by all those living in Hamra.

[20] An episodic, potentially violent, crisis people with disabilities go through, especially as they cannot express themselves.

YOUTH

18.1%

Youth (15-24) population

18.2% of all Leb | 17.6% of all Syr

21.2% Unemployed

22.2% of all Leb youth | 20.0% of all Syr youth

92.1% Completed primary school

100% of all Leb youth | 84.1% of all Syr youth

58.2% Out-of-school

26.3% of all Leb youth | 90.1% of all Syr youth

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations

Figure 20 Pregnant youth (15–19) by cohort

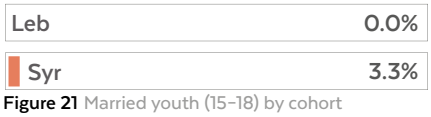

Figure 21 Married youth (15–18) by cohort

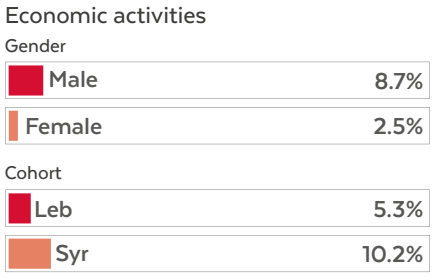

Figure 22 Youth (15-24) involvement in economic activities by gender and cohort

Among Hamra's surveyed population, 18.2 percent of Lebanese residents and 17.6 percent of Syrian residents are youth aged 15 to 24.[21] Findings from quantitative and qualitative data suggest that although Hamra is a place with many opportunities for youth, some young people in the neighbourhood are facing challenging living conditions, especially related to limited educational, training and employment opportunities.

EDUCATION LEVEL

Most surveyed youth in Hamra have attended university or secondary school as their highest level of education (69.1 percent and 17.7 percent, respectively). The proportion of female youth who have attended secondary school (53 percent) is significantly higher than that of male youth (2.1 percent). However, males have a much higher attendance rate for higher education (89.3 percent) compared to females (23.7 percent). Females have a higher attendance rate for intermediate school (8.2 percent) and technical school (2.3 percent) compared to males (3.3 percent and 1.7 percent, respectively). For primary school, the proportion of youth attendance for both males and females does not display such a pronounced difference (3.4 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively) (**Figure 17**). Some FGD participants linked the existing problem of low educational attainment of youth (number) to domestic issues, the need to work, early marriage, and discrimination and bullying at school (See **Education chapter**).

LIVELIHOODS[22]

Among youth aged 15 to 24, 22.2 percent of Lebanese and 20 percent of Syrians reported being unemployed (**Table 11**).

Among youth, males are proportionally more involved in economic activities (8.7 percent) than females (2.5 percent). Moreover, Syrian youth are more engaged in economic activities (10.2 percent) than Lebanese youth (5.3 percent) (**Figure 22**).

With regard to work conditions of youth involved in economic activities, more males compared to females (56.9 percent and 36.1 percent, respectively) and significantly more Syrians compared to Lebanese (63.9 percent and 20.9

	M (%)	F (%)	Leb (%)	Syr (%)
Total of youth (15-24) involved in economic activities	**72.9**	**27.1**	**46.5**	**53.5**
Hazardous conditions				
Carrying heavy loads	16.5	0.0	13.3	14.9
Working with dangerous tools/machinery	23.8	0.0	0.0	24.8
Exposed to dust, fumes or gas	32.0	0.0	0.0	33.6
Exposed to extreme cold, heat or humidity	15.0	32.6	6.5	20.4
Exposed to loud noise or vibration	9.0	39.9	26.4	11.2
Working at heights	23.5	12.6	0.0	25.7
Working with chemicals or explosives	10.6	0.0	0.0	11.6
Exposed to other things, processes or conditions bad for health or safety	22.9	12.6	0.0	24.9
Exposed to any of the above	56.9	36.1	20.9	63.9
Treatment by employer				
The child is respected and treated fairly	67.0	48.6	39.3	67.0
The employer is strict but fair	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The employer uses physical force on the child	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The employer verbally abuses the child	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The child does not get paid regularly	24.5	45.3	20.2	32.9

Table 9 Work conditions of youth (15–24) involved in economic activities by gender and cohort as reported by surveyed heads of households

[21] These figures are based on the household survey (conducted for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations). According to the population count by residential unit, 1,289 residents are within this age group (of whom 942 are Lebanese, 231 Syrian, and 116 are people of other nationalities).

[22] This section focuses on the involvement of youth (aged 15–24) in economic activities, irrespective of their employment age. For information on child labour for those between 5 and 17, see Child Protection chapter.

percent, respectively) are exposed to hazardous conditions during their work. Only the Syrian youth reported working under hazardous conditions such as working with dangerous tools/machinery, at heights, with chemicals or explosives and being exposed to dust, fumes or gas, or to other things, processes or conditions bad for the health or safety. Lebanese youth reported being exposed to loud noise or vibrations, carrying heavy loads and being exposed to extreme cold, heat or humidity. For the youth involved in economic activities, more males than females receive respectful and fair treatment by their employers (67 percent, and 48.6 percent respectively). Furthermore, more female than male working youth have received irregular payments by their employers (45.3 percent, and 24.5 percent respectively) (**Table 9**).

Youth FGD participants reported different experiences and opinions about work opportunities in Hamra. While many participants agreed that Hamra is a place with great job opportunities due to the high number of shops, restaurants, cafés, hotels and banks among other businesses, others expressed concern that the large number of food establishments limited the type of work that is available. In addition, unlike the Lebanese, non-Lebanese FGD participants reported difficulties in finding employment due to legal restrictions.[23] Syrian male youth stated their readiness to accept any income-generating work irrespective of its hardship due to job loss anxiety. However, they expressed their preference to go back to Syria for work.

FGD youth participants mentioned the importance of education, technical skills and social connections as key factors for obtaining good-quality jobs. Some youth participants were aware of vocational training programmes happening in other areas and reported to have participated in training sessions on business management, design thinking, communication skills, and leadership. However, they expressed their preference for sessions on technology-related topics (such as Augmented Reality and the Internet of Things), English language, and technical skills that would help them with employment opportunities. They also expressed a need for awareness-raising sessions on social coexistence and tolerance of different communities, including the LGBTQ+ community, to ensure peace among the residents in the neighbourhood and its surroundings. FGD participants mentioned that training sessions must focus on transmitting new skills, creating a dynamic network of people, and positively changing the community.

SAFETY & SECURITY[24]

Youth FGD participants reported that Hamra feels generally safe, and that it is a safer place compared to other areas. One issue that caused safety concerns was the lack of adequate street lighting in some parts of the neighbourhood (**Figure 47**). Participants also reported hearing of instances of harassment, although they did not see these as a major problem in Hamra. Moreover, youth FGD participants complained about the poor road conditions; many accidents happen due to traffic jams or the lack of street signs.

With respect to pubs and the presence of alcohol, FGD participants offered a range of views—while some described feeling uneasy around places where alcohol is served, others explained that they do not have such concerns. Areas that some participants perceived as unsafe are mainly within the streets that have pubs or nightclubs, such as Makdisi Street. A few participants complained about the bad reputation of the neighbourhood related to the consumption of alcohol in many cafés and pubs.

Regarding community relationships, FGD youth participants, along with female adults, reported to have good relationships with their neighbours, including refugees. Participants reported Lebanese and non-Lebanese neighbours to interact with one another and sustain a good relationship. Syrian youth participants reported not to communicate with Beirut Municipality. However, Lebanese youth participants reported to have a connection with the municipality, and female adults stated that the municipality is sometimes cooperative but not always responsive.

Youth participants did not report any conflicts with security forces or the police. In case of witnessed conflict among civilians, Lebanese and non-Lebanese youth described different responses. According to Lebanese youth, if there is ever a conflict, people who are present are quick to intervene and try to resolve the conflict. In contrast, non-Lebanese youth reported that they are reluctant to intervene. This is likely related to their minority status. As one Syrian adult pointed out, Syrians often intervene in disputes between other Syrians but they do not intervene when the conflict is between Lebanese. The reason given for this was that Lebanese residents have better knowledge of how to manage the situation and which authority to call for assistance.

Youth FGD participants acknowledged the presence of the Lebanese Army and ISF, but highlighted the need for more police officers and security guards. They stated that they would resort to them in times of conflict or when witnessing an incident and highlighted the latter's friendly attitude towards the elderly and women.

[23] Relative to Lebanese, Palestinians and Syrians face additional constraints to labour market access in terms of the types of jobs they can occupy and the acquisition of work permits.

[24] See Safety & Security chapter for more general information at the neighbourhood level.

LOCAL ECONOMY & LIVELIHOODS

1,075
Total number of enterprises

989	Shops
55	Workshops
31	Vacant*

Source: Field surveys of neighbourhood buildings and enterprises

* The total number of vacant shops/ workshops was extrapolated from the enterprise survey.

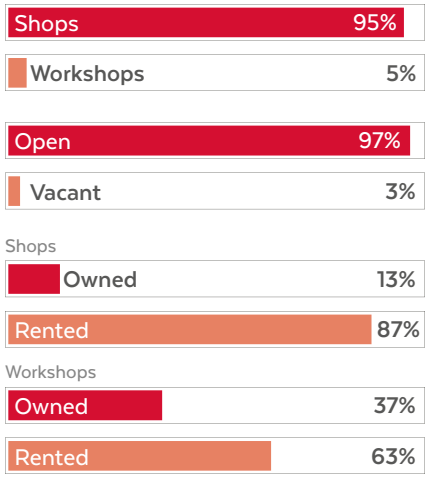

Figure 23 Types, ownership and occupancy of enterprises

OVERVIEW

Hamra is often seen as one of Beirut's liveliest commercial centres, hosting a range of enterprises from restaurants and cafés to clothing stores, jewellery boutiques and bookshops. The neighbourhood's commercial character is an important characteristic, affecting how local residents perceive its identity and the quality of life it offers. The main commercial streets in the neighbourhood are the parallel streets of Bliss, Makdisi and main Hamra, all of which stretch across the neighbourhood from east (Jounblat sector/area) to west (Manara sector/area) (**Figures 1 and 24**). Perpendicular to these streets are around six secondary commercial streets, stretching from the north-east (Jamia and Ain Mreisseh sectors) to the south-west (Qoreitem and Snoubra sectors) of the neighbourhood (**Figure 1**). There are three pop-up markets in Hamra. And that the neighbourhood's main commercial streets are accessed from the all directions (i.e. east, south and west) except for north where AUB campus is located (**Figure 24**).

Respondents in interviews and focus groups frequently pointed out that Hamra's businesses give the area a unique character that historically precedes the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990). They also pointed out that the high number of enterprises make the neighbourhood a convenient place to live because of the proximity and availability of all kinds of goods and services. Older respondents recalled that in earlier times, many of Hamra's businesses catered to an upper-class clientele who would visit the neighbourhood to buy high-end clothing and accessories—according to them, this has now changed, despite the presence of a number of high-end stores. The presence of AUB and LAU just outside of Hamra's boundaries means that the neighbourhood has a large population of students, many of whom use the cafés, restaurants and fast-food establishments as places to eat during the day and socialize in the evenings and weekends. In addition to students, tourists were also identified as a sizeable clientele particular to Hamra, although business owners expressed concerns that the number of tourists has declined in recent years.


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*SOUK*S & ENTERPRISES

DISTRIBUTION

Hamra has a high rate of active businesses: 97 percent of all surveyed enterprises[25] (both shops and workshops) are in operation, while only 3 percent are vacant. However, interviewed owners frequently expressed anxiety about the survival of local businesses and the challenging current economic climate. Businesses in Hamra, according to them, are regularly closing down due to expensive rents (specifically new rents) and the general challenging economic situation in the country, which is limiting how much people can spend on non-essential shopping.

A large majority of businesses in the area are shops (95 percent), while only a small fraction are workshops (5 percent). Over half of the shops in Hamra consist of boutiques (32 percent), restaurant/cafés (21 percent) and food and grocery stores (10 percent). Most workshops are tailors (36 percent), followed by electronics workshops (25 percent) and printing shops (22 percent) (**Figures 25-27**). There is no clear pattern of spatial distribution of the two types of businesses , although there is a slight concentration of workshops in the central and western parts of Hamra, and a more significant concentration of shops along Hamra and Makdisi streets (two of the main roads in the area) (**Figure 24**). The zones around AUBMC and the north-western side of Hamra are mostly residential-only with no businesses on the ground floor.

In terms of hours of operation, 67 percent of the surveyed businesses are open at standard working hours (8-12 hours per day), 20 percent are open for more than 12 hours (but less than 24 hours) and around 8 percent are open 24/7. Only a small fraction (5 percent) are open for less than 7 hours.

[25] Data gathering for this enterprise survey was undertaken on a representative sample basis stratified by type and distributed spatially. A sample of 341 enterprises was surveyed in May 2019. Figures 24-27 as well as the percentages for shops versus workshops are based on the total number of the 1,044 operating shops and workshops; this total number derives from the building survey, during which data on the (ground floor) use of buildings was collected.

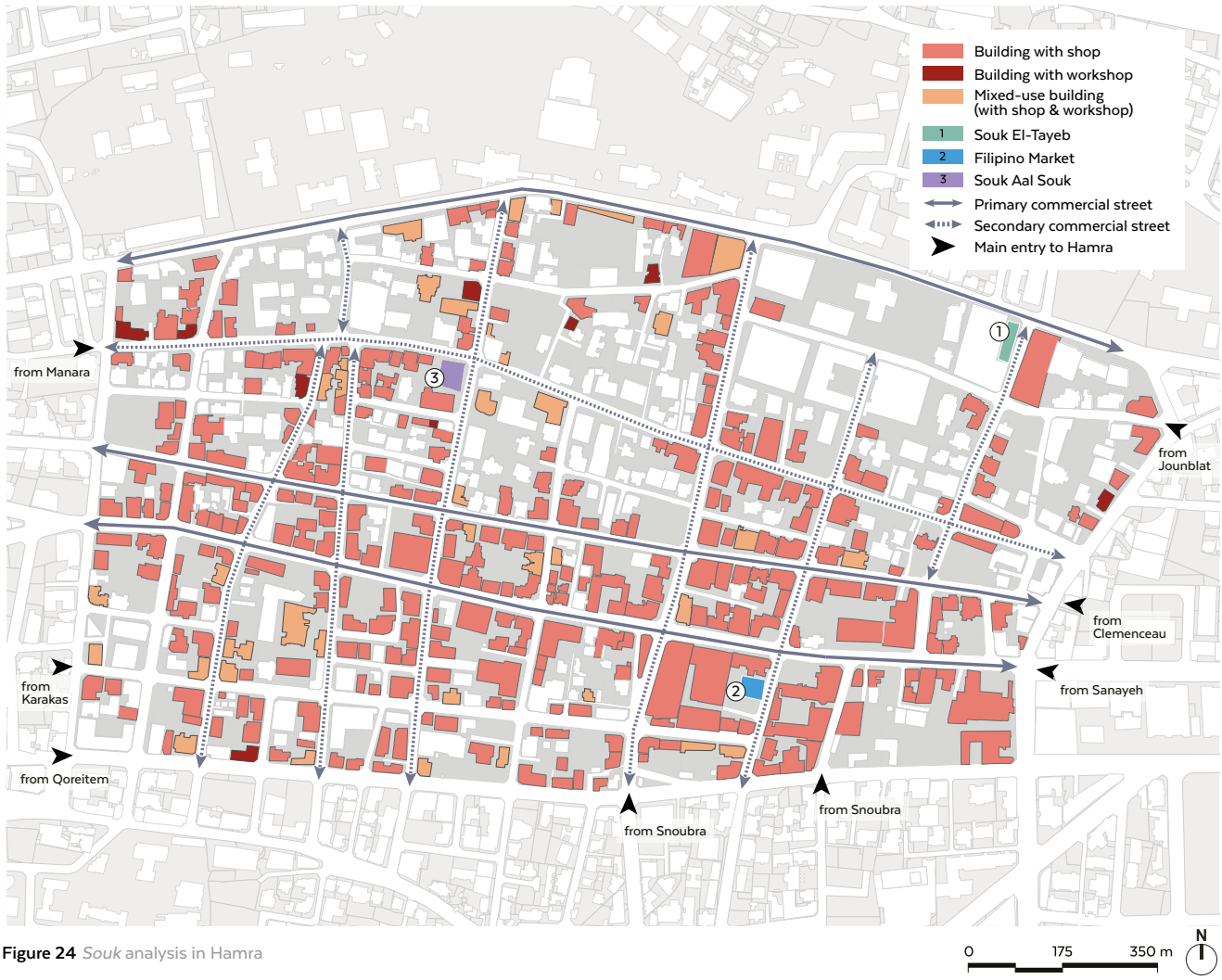


Figure 24 *Souk* analysis in Hamra

BUSINESS AGE

The majority of enterprises in Hamra (both shops and workshops) are long-established businesses that have been operating for more than 10 years (**Table 10**).[26] On average, workshops seem to be older than shops as there is a much larger proportion of new shops (operating for five years or less) than new workshops.

There are pronounced differences in the ages of different shops. While approximately 70 percent of salons and around 50 percent of restaurants/cafés and food and grocery stores are new businesses, almost 75 percent of the boutiques and all furniture shops, pharmacies and butchers are long-established businesses. This confirms the statements of a number of business owners who explained that boutiques could not survive in today's business environment unless they pay old rent (suggesting that most surviving boutiques are long-established ones), or are newly opened food establishments and Syrian-owned nuts and sweets shops (although, as explained later, only 4 percent of Hamra's businesses are Syrian-owned) (**Appendix 5**).

ENTERPRISE TENURE TYPE

There is no typical shop-size for businesses in Hamra. A quarter of the businesses have 16-20 m^2 of floor space, while another quarter have more than 90m^2. Quantitative enterprise survey data and interviews with business owners both indicate that expensive rent is among the most common and serious problems that Hamra's enterprises face. Almost 75 percent of businesses pay rents of more than USD 1,000 per month (the highest category in the survey). Just over half of surveyed enterprises also reported a rent increase since 2011. This is a major obstacle to the success of local businesses—especially newly established ones—given that the majority of shops (86 percent) and workshops (63 percent) are rented (**Table 10**), and that newer businesses are less likely to be owned than older ones.

[26] The survey data, being a snapshot, cannot distinguish dynamics such as rate of establishment and die-off among different enterprise types, nor does it consider structural change affecting the business environment. These caveats limit ability to interpret this data.

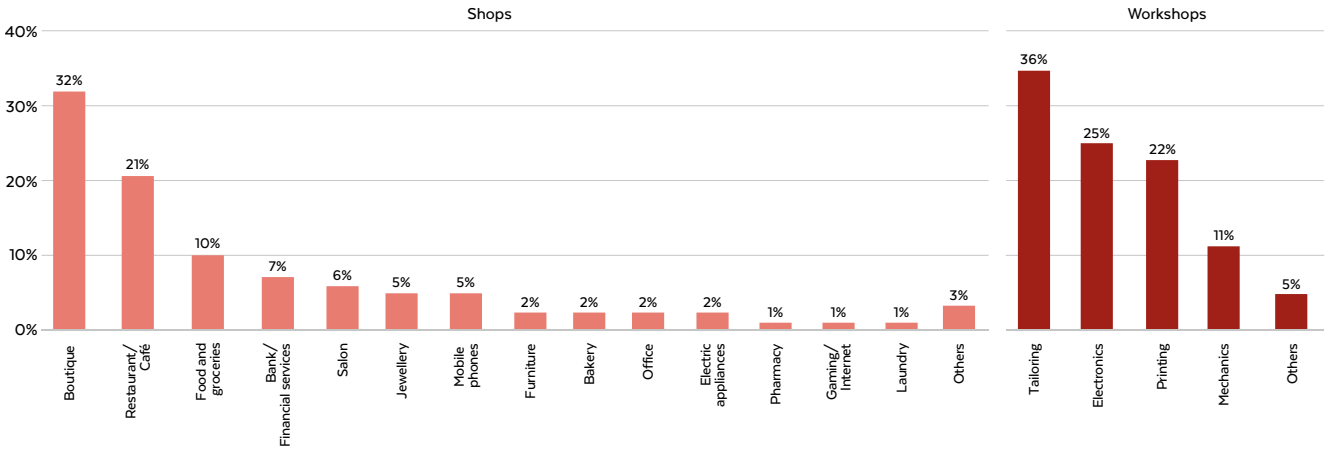


Figure 25 Distribution of shops and workshops by type

		Shop tenure type (%)			Workshop tenure type (%)		
		Owned	Rented	Total	Owned	Rented	Total
Business age*	Long-established	9	43	52	26	37	63
	Medium-aged	3	11	14	9	17	26
	New	2	32	34	3	9	11
	Total	14	86	100	38	63	100

* "Long-established", "medium-aged" and "new" refer to businesses that have been operational for more than 10 years, 6-10 years and 0-5 years, respectively.

Table 10 Business age and tenure type of enterprises

CUSTOMER CATCHMENT

According to the enterprise survey, the majority of the customers for shops (45 percent) and workshops (70 percent) in Hamra come from within the neighbourhood. While almost half of the shops (43 percent) still have international customers, only a few workshops (8 percent) attract a foreign clientele. Boutiques are behind the high percentage of international customers of shops, as over 60 percent of them attract such customers. Other shops with a share of over 50 percent of international customers are financial services, jewellery and mobile phone shops.

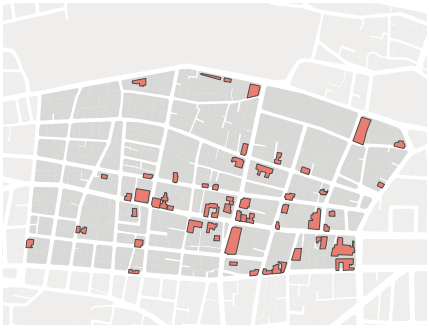
BUSINESS OWNERS & EMPLOYEES[27]

Around 70 percent of businesses in Hamra are owned by a single business owner, 13 percent by two owners, and 7 percent by three owners. The remaining businesses are either run by more than three owners or by a corporate group. The vast majority (93 percent) of businesses are owned by Lebanese citizens and 4 percent by Syrians (**Figure 28; Appendix 5**). This finding comes in stark contrast with commonly encountered perceptions among Lebanese FGD participants that Syrian establishments—especially shops selling nuts and sweets—have surged in numbers and made a major impact on the local business environment.

About 18 percent of the businesses are run by a single business owner without any employees. In addition, 20 percent have one employee and 15 percent two employees. Around 90 percent of all businesses have less than 14 employees, while a few businesses have up to 60 employees. Half of the businesses with more than 14 employees are restaurants/ cafés. The remainder are mainly food and grocery stores, pharmacies, banks and offices. Nearly two thirds (63 percent) of all employees in Hamra are Lebanese, while 27 percent are Syrians and 10 percent of people of other nationalities (**Figure 29**). The majority of Lebanese business owners own boutiques (28 percent), which employ the majority of Lebanese employees (20 percent). Moreover, the second majority of Lebanese business owners (22 percent) run restaurants/cafés, which employ the majority of Syrian employees (11 percent) and the second highest majority of Lebanese employees (16 percent) (**Appendix 5**). Unsurprisingly, the average age group of employees is a bit younger than the one of business owners with the highest percentage of employees (44 percent) for the age range between 25 and 35.

[27] The enterprise survey does not assess the official registration status of enterprises. Compared to Lebanese, Palestinians and Syrians face additional barriers to labour market access in terms of the kinds of occupations they can legally have and the acquisition of work permits.

Bakery [22]



Bank & financial services [65]

Boutique [312]

Electric appliances [17]

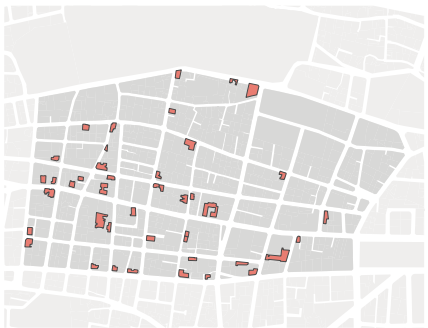
Food & groceries [103]

Furniture [24]

Gaming/Internet [10]

Jewellery [48]

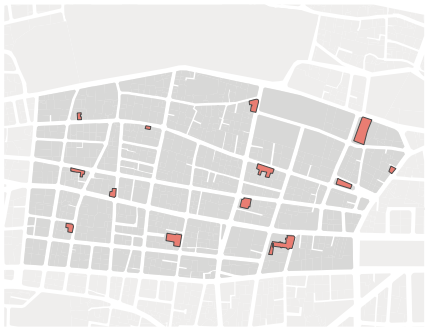
Laundry [10]



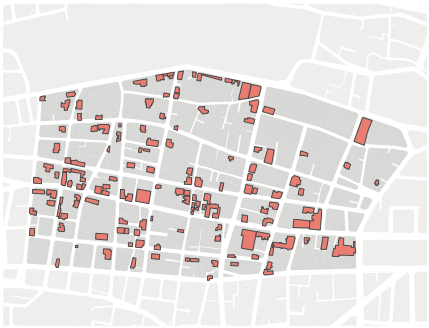
Mobile phones [48]

Office [20]

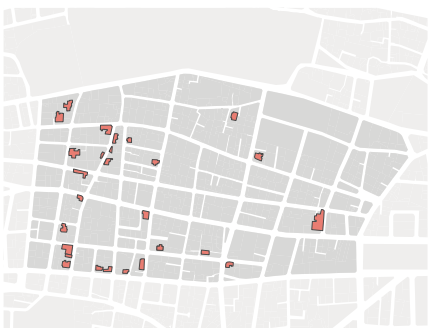
Salon [64]



Pharmacy [13]



Restaurant/Café [203]



Others [30]

Figure 26 Number and distribution of shop types in buildings

Figure 27 Number and distribution of workshop types in buildings

GENDER

In terms of gender balance, most businesses in Hamra are owned by men, and a minority of only 13 percent is headed by women. The quantitative data on this topic come into conflict with the view (commonly expressed by both male and female interviewed business owners) that Hamra is a place with an equal gender balance of business ownership. This is likely because despite its low proportion, female ownership in Hamra is higher than in many other neighbourhoods across Lebanon. The female share of employees (27 percent) is higher than those of female business owners but still significantly lower than the share of male employees (**Figure 28** and **29**; **Appendix 5**).

The largest employers in terms of number of employees in Hamra are restaurants/cafés, followed by boutiques. In terms of gender representation in the workforce, 16 percent of male and 13 percent of female employees work in boutiques, while 16 percent of male and 12 percent of female employees work in restaurants/cafés. The third largest employment sectors for men are food and grocery shops (7 percent), which also employ 3 percent of the female workforce. For business owners, the pattern looks similar. Out of all male business owners, 25 percent own boutiques, 24 percent restaurants/cafés and 10 percent food and grocery shops. For females, it is 4 percent boutiques, 3 percent restaurants/cafés and 2 percent salons (**Appendix 5**).

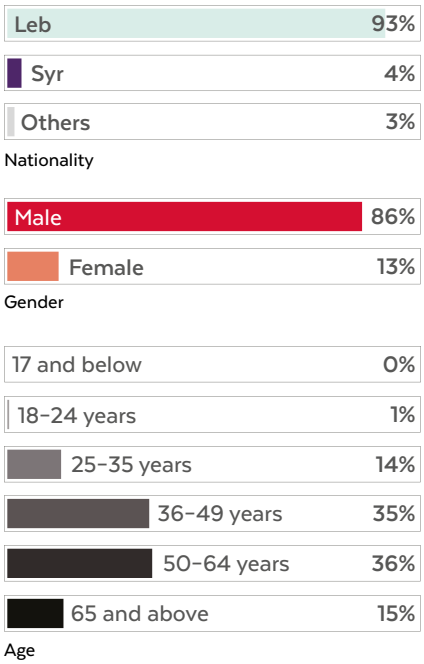


Figure 28 Information on business owners

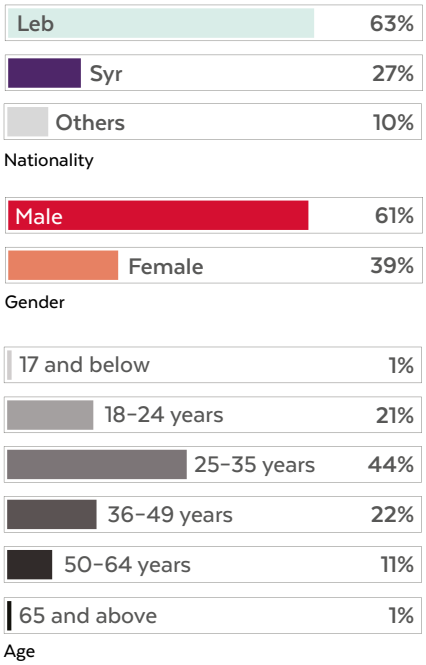


Figure 29 Information on employees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COMMERCIAL STREETS & BASIC URBAN SERVICES

The neighbourhood of Hamra can be characterized as a commercial area, where businesses of various kinds have a strong presence in every part of the neighbourhood. As **Figure 4** shows, there are a number of streets, such as Hamra and Makdisi, where commercial activity is more highly concentrated. Smaller streets,[28] in contrast, are more likely to have buildings that are for residential use only. The roads and sidewalks along Hamra's commercial streets vary in condition (**Figure 30**), but there have been substantial recent efforts to improve the situation, most notably with the renovation of Jeanne d'Arc Street (led by the AUB Neighborhood Initiative), which has widened its sidewalks and made it more pedestrian friendly (See **WaSH** and **Electricity chapters**; **"Accessibility & Mobility" section** in Access & Open Spaces chapter for general information about basic urban services in Hamra). **Figure 30** shows that one of the main constraints that enterprises experience in Hamra is the malfunctional wastewater and stormwater network. Customer walkability is relatively good along the primary commercial streets with the exception of the end of Makdisi Street, where there are wide sidewalks with obstructions. Bliss Street has relatively the best basic urban service conditions (with the exception of minor signs of road deterioration in its middle part).

Major signs of road deterioration: Dilapidated surface, potholes, water ponding.
Minor signs of road deterioration: Road surface in fair condition.
No stormwater drains: Lack of stormwater drains.
Malfunctional wastewater network: Bad smell, flooding, recurrent clogged pipes.
Sidewalk obstructions: Street furniture, parked vehicles, shop goods, utility structures, etc.

Figure 30 Basic urban services in commercial streets

[28] The hierarchy of the commercial streets is determined by visual observation by comparing customer footfall and the number of enterprises at the different commercial streets. It is relative to each neighbourhood's commercial activity.

LIVELIHOODS

According to the comprehensive population count by residential unit, Hamra's working-age (15-63) population is 5,245 (73.3 percent of the total population), 70.6 percent Lebanese, 17.7 percent Syrians and 11.7 percent other nationalities (**Table 1** in **Population chapter**). Based on the household survey, 35.3 percent of Lebanese and 29.1 percent of Syrian working-age population are unemployed[29] (**Table 12**). Unemployment for Lebanese is higher than that for Syrians only among male working-age population. Female and elderly Syrians have significantly higher unemployment rates than their Lebanese counterparts. As noted in the FGDs, many Syrian women who are not employed act as the primary caregivers for their children. Among the Lebanese demographic, the unemployment rate is 64.1 percent for women and 30.1 percent for men. Among Syrians, the gender difference is significantly higher; the unemployment rate for men (20.2 percent) is more than fourfold lower than that for women (90.4 percent). Unemployment for elderly people is 69 percent for Lebanese and 88 percent for Syrian elderly.[30]

Employed Lebanese (whether paid in cash or in other goods or services) work on average 45 hours per week, while Syrians work around 55 hours per week. Employed Lebanese heads of households are mainly occupied as professionals (42 percent), legislators, senior officials and managers (17 percent) or service workers, shop and market workers (14 percent). Syrian heads of households, on the other hand, are more likely than Lebanese ones to work in low-skilled jobs. They work as service workers, shop and market workers (53 percent), in elementary occupations (20 percent) or as professionals (7 percent).

The estimated average monthly income for Lebanese (USD 1,705) households in Hamra is significantly higher than that for Syrians (USD 814) (**Figure 33**). Furthermore, 45.8 percent of Lebanese households and 64.8 percent of Syrian ones indicated that their income comes from waged labour. The second most mentioned income source for both nationalities is self-employment (around 25 percent for both). Finally, while a significant number of Lebanese households said that they rely to a large extent on savings (19.2 percent) and remittances from relatives (18.2 percent), the percentage of Syrian households that who reported the same was much smaller (10.7 percent and 6 percent, respectively) (**Figure 31**).

Household wealth was assessed through an index, which was constructed by using data on housing characteristics, household and personal assets, and water and sanitation via principal components analysis. Along the five constructed wealth index quintiles, 49.7 percent of Lebanese households were found in the richest quintile, compared to 10.1 percent being in the poorest quintile. In contrast, 22.6 percent of Syrian households were categorized as "poorest" and 2.1 percent as "richest" (**Figure 32**).

USD 1,186 ± 395*

Average household monthly income

USD 1,705 ± 388 Leb
USD 814 ± 401 Syr

Unemployment among working-age (15-64) population

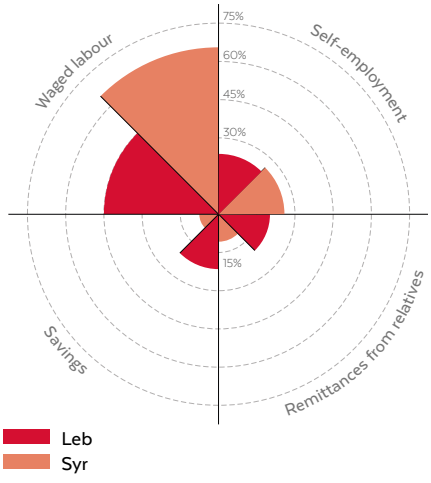
35.3% of all Leb working-age group | 29.1% of all Syr working-age group

* Average household income was calculated assuming uniform distribution within an income category.

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations.

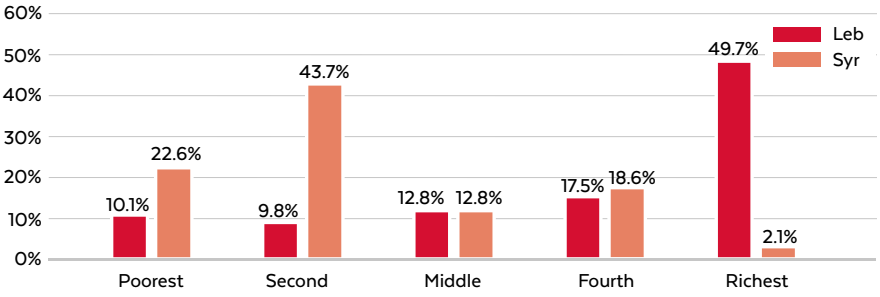
15.5% of all Leb | 34.5% of all Syr

Households with at least a member who borrowed money. Reasons include: buying or renting a house (25.1 percent of Lebanese and 25.6 percent of Syrian households), buying food (18.3 percent of Lebanese and 46.6 percent of Syrian), paying education fees (27.8 percent of Lebanese and 8.6 percent of Syrian) or paying for health care (15.4 percent of Lebanese and 22.6 percent of Syrian), among other reasons.



Other sources: Gifts from family or relatives, humanitarian aid, wholesale and retail trade, pension, and construction work, among others.

Figure 31 Sources of household income by cohort



Household wealth was assessed through an index, which was constructed by using data on housing characteristics, household and personal assets, and water and sanitation via principal components analysis.

Figure 32 Household wealth index quintiles by cohort

[29] In the household survey, heads of households report on the employment status of household members for the last week prior to the survey day. In their answers, the heads of households are asked to include any activity performed by each household member as a regular or casual employee, self-employed or employer; or as an unpaid family worker helping out in a household business or farm.

[30] However, stay-at-home mothers have been excluded from these calculations given data limitations. Students were excluded from the unemployment calculations for the 15-24 age group.

MALE EMPLOYMENT

Male FGD participants differed in their experiences of the job market depending on their nationality and educational level. University students saw Hamra as a neighbourhood with good job opportunities for both students and graduates,. The abundance of commercial establishments, such as restaurants, bars and cafés was seen as an excellent opportunity to find student jobs for those who did not have a degree. Furthermore, the concentration of banks in Hamra as well as the presence of AUB, LAU and AUBMC, were all seen as indication that the neighbourhood is a hub for graduate employment.

Male FGD participants who were not students also saw major employment opportunities in Hamra's restaurants, cafés, shops and supermarkets. One Lebanese participant explained that bars and pubs offer local opportunities, but acknowledged that many people may be prevented from working in such enterprises due to religious restrictions. Syrians, in contrast, pointed out that there were many opportunities to work in the delivery of food and other goods. These jobs, according to them, were relatively easy to obtain, but they required that one owns a motorcycle. Lebanese participants frequently mentioned that Syrians in Hamra have recently opened a number nut and sweets shops. Although there are several such shops in the neighbourhood, only 4 percent of businesses in Hamra are actually owned by Syrians, according to the enterprise survey (**Figure 28**).

Furthermore, Syrian male FGD participants pointed out that they face several disadvantages as a result of their nationality. A number of participants emphasized that the need for a sponsor and legal documentation often presents an obstacle in finding employment, as does discrimination from employers who prefer to hire Lebanese staff. Syrians also expressed concern that their vulnerable legal and economic position in Lebanon made them susceptible to exploitation and mistreatment by employers. As a result, Syrians reported that they work significantly longer hours and get paid less than their Lebanese counterparts.

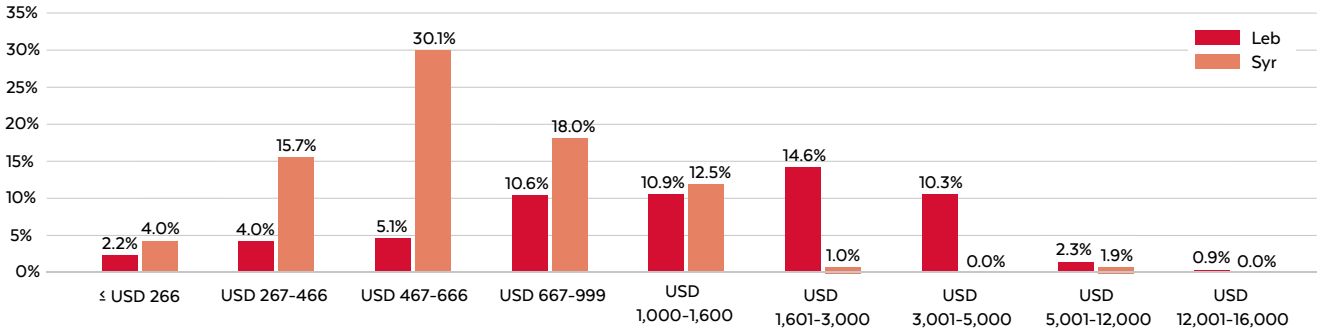
FEMALE EMPLOYMENT

Lebanese female FGD participants saw Hamra as a neighbourhood that offers numerous opportunities for female employment at all levels. One Lebanese female FGD participant even claimed that it is easier for women to find jobs in Hamra than it is for men. The neighbourhood's banks, as well as its cafés, shops, restaurants and boutiques were all seen as providing job opportunities for women without discrimination on the basis of gender. This perception of gender equality in accessing employment was seen as linked to Hamra's liberal culture. As one female participant who had previously lived in the north of Lebanon pointed out, waitressing, especially in enterprises where men are present, is often seen as culturally unacceptable.

In addition to working in Hamra's banks, shops and restaurants, female FGD participants also reported that they—or other local women they know—have a history of starting their own businesses in food retail or fashion design.

The experience reported by Lebanese women was markedly different from that of Syrian women, as the latter faced severe labour market exclusion. All Syrian female FGD participants were housewives who were not in paid employment. Syrian women reported feeling significantly more vulnerable than Lebanese women whom they saw as educated, strong and independent. In contrast, they reported that their own lack of education put them at a disadvantage both within the family and in society as a whole. Syrian female participants saw themselves as "weak" and dependent on their husbands despite having aspirations to work and be more financially and socially independent.

Finally, given that Hamra is a relatively affluent area, many households employ female domestic workers, usually from the Philippines and from countries in Africa and South Asia. An FGD with foreign domestic workers revealed that although many women in the sector have good relationships with their employers, they often feel homesick, lonely, and overworked, which takes a burden on their well-being.



Refused to answer (18.9% of Lebanese and 41.9% of Syrians)

Figure 33 Average monthly household income by cohort

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ELDERLY EMPLOYMENT

Data gathered about the employment of elderly people (65 and above) is scarce. Only one person in the FGD with elderly people reported to be working (as a shop owner) at the time when the research was carried out. Another FGD participant explained that she would like to work but is unable to work full-time and there are no available part-time opportunities for her. Data from the household survey shows that 20.6 percent of Lebanese and a lower 12 percent of Syrian elderly people are paid employees (**Table 11**).

	Gender		Age			
			Working age			Elderly (≥ 65 years) (%)
	Male (≥ 5 years) (%)	Female (≥ 5 years) (%)	Youth (15-24) (%)	Adults (25-64) (%)	Total (%)	
Leb						
Employed, paid	61.1	30.7	66.7	58.7	**59.2**	20.6
Employed, unpaid	2.4	0.5	10.9	0.6	**1.1**	2.1
Unemployed	30.1	64.1	22.4	36.0	**35.3**	69.0
Others	6.4	4.7	0.0	4.7	**4.4**	8.3
Syr						
Employed, paid	76.8	9.5.1	72.0	66.2	**67.7**	12.0
Employed, unpaid	2.5	1.1	7.9	0.5	**2.4**	0.0
Unemployed	20.2	90.4	20.0	32.3	**29.1**	88.0
Others	0.6	3.3	0.0	1.1	**0.8**	0.0

Out of 1,682 observations, there are 292 with omissions for the employment variable and 14 for the age variable.
Table 11 Employment status by nationality cohort, gender and age

BUILT SECTORS

BUILDINGS

634
Total number of buildings

613	Buildings (includes 9 prefab units)
15	Under construction
6	Under demolition

Profiled area = 0.52 km²

25.6%	Low-rise (1-3 storeys)
36.9%	Medium-rise (4-6 storeys)
37.5%	High-rise (7 or more storeys)

Source: Field survey of all neighbourhood buildings.

There are 634 buildings in Hamra, 613 of which are not under demolition or under construction. Slightly over one quarter of all buildings are low-rise (1-3 storeys), while medium-rises (4-6 storeys) and high-rises (7 storeys or more) each respectively account for 36.9 and 37.5 percent of all buildings. Hamra's buildings are primarily constructed of concrete, with a few units containing steel additions on the top floors. Of all buildings, about 13 percent have a residential rooftop add-on (a structure added on roofs to house additional residents). At the time of data collection, out of the 613 buildings, 24 were unoccupied, 9 were prefabricated units and 6 were under renovation. In addition, there were 6 buildings under demolition and 15 buildings under construction.

A comprehensive building condition assessment was undertaken as part of the neighbourhood field survey. It involved a visual inspection of the following features:

a. Structural building conditions: Structural elements (i.e. beams, columns).

b. Exterior building conditions: Components of the building envelope (i.e. walls, roof, windows and doors, balconies).

c. Communal spaces: Shared spaces of a building (i.e. means of exit, entrances, lighting, provisions for people with disabilities).

d. Connection to services: Building connection to infrastructure networks (i.e. domestic water, stormwater, wastewater, public and/or private electricity, telecom).

Each building feature was categorized according to the following rating criteria:

1. Good – Routine maintenance required: No apparent problems.

2. Fair – Minor repair required: Minor repairable problems.

3. Substandard – Major repair required: Apparent failure, including significant problems.

4. Critical – Urgent repair and/or replacement required: Extensive damage or missing element(s).

Data on buildings with highly precarious and/or potentially life-threatening structural and/or architectural elements is released as soon as possible after data collection, through the neighbourhood profile Red Flag Report. The Hamra Red Flag Report is in **Appendix 6**.

It should be noted that while the aforementioned survey findings offer rich information about the quality of buildings in Hamra, the field survey scope does not extend to assessing individual housing units internally, on which measure they may be deemed substandard. In addition, given that not all buildings were accessible[31] or evaluated for all the questionnaire/assessment items, percentages pertaining to building conditions or connections to infrastructure networks relate to the collected data only.

In Hamra, the buildings are mainly residential (394 buildings or around 62 percent by building count), including 222 mixed-use residential and commercial, 167 residential-only buildings, and 5 mixed-use residential and touristic. There are 123 commercial-only buildings (19.4 percent); 50 social service buildings (7.9 percent) including 20 healthcare buildings, 13 educational buildings, 11 religious buildings and 6 social centres; 23 touristic buildings (3.6 percent), among which 14 mixed-use touristic and commercial, 4 touristic-only buildings and 5 mixed-use residential-touristic[32]; and 3 governmental facilities (0.5 percent).[33] (**Figure 4**). The ground floors of 55.1 percent of buildings have a mixed use with commercial ground floor (commercial with workshop, residential, parking, social service, government facility or other vacant stores), 28.9 percent have commercial-only use, 12.5 percent have residential-only use. In addition, there are 22 buildings (3.5 percent) with completely vacant ground floors.

Regarding the age of the built stock, 48.8 percent of buildings date to the period between 1944 and 1975. In addition, 19.2 percent of buildings are built between 1976 and 2000, 13.7 percent post-2000, and 13.4 percent between 1920 and 1943. Furthermore, 4.8 percent remain from the pre-1920 era (**Figure 3**).

Buildings of one to two and three to five storeys (16.3 percent and 24.9 percent of all buildings, respectively) are mainly aggregated around secondary streets in Hamra and within tightly knit blocks. Those of six to eight storeys (40.8 percent) occupy mostly main primary streets, like Hamra and Makdisi, and have larger building footprints. Buildings of 9 storeys or more (17.9 percent) occupy the main east-west streets of Hamra and have the largest building footprints. Generally, building heights rise on Bliss, Clemenceau, Souraty and Hamra streets, and west of Baalbeck Street. The number of high-rises also grows on Jeanne d'Arc Street. It is important to note that high-rise buildings in Hamra reach up to 21 storeys, such as the Gefinor Center buildings and the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Other 18-storey buildings are also the second Crowne Plaza tower, 1866 Court and Suites on Bliss Street, and another residential tower at the corner of Bliss and Sadat streets (**Figure 34** [continued]).

Findings from the building condition assessment show that:

- The structural building condition of the majority of buildings (81.1 percent) is good, requiring routine maintenance.
- Buildings with structural and exterior conditions in need of major repair or emergency intervention are concentrated

[31] E.g. gated high-end buildings.
[32] Aforementioned. Do not count twice when adding up numbers.
[33] To reach full count (634), add 25 unoccupied buildings, 6 buildings under demolition and 15 buildings under construction.

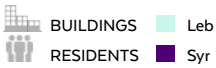
on the north-south axis at the centre of the neighbourhood. Those with communal spaces in need of major repair or emergency interventions are scattered all over the neighbourhood, including on Bliss, Jeanne d'Arc, Hamra and Emile Edde (Lyon) streets (**Figure 34**). Reasons for lack of maintenance—cost, willful speculation or other—have not been identified in this study, as they are on an individual building basis.

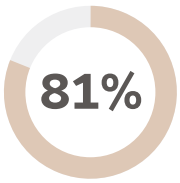
- Approximately 6 percent of the total number of buildings are structurally in need of major or emergency repair; this dimension identifies buildings that may be at heightened risk of collapse especially in the case of earthquakes.
- Of the buildings constructed after 2000, 96.4 percent (80 buildings) are rated as structurally good, compared to those built during the periods of 1976-2000 (92 percent), 1944-1975 (79 percent), 1920-1943 (74 percent) and pre-1920 (34.5 percent) (Figure 3). The majority (65.5 percent) of pre 1920s buildings require structural repair, whether minor, major or emergency.
- 74.9 percent of all buildings have lift shafts that may offer structural support against seismic damage.
- With regard to the condition of communal spaces, 7.2 percent of the total number of buildings—housing 5.6 percent of residents—are categorized as substandard or critical. More specifically, 2.2 percent of all buildings (14 buildings) have communal spaces with major lighting problems due to absent or nonfunctional lighting fixtures. Moreover, 1.1 percent of buildings (7 buildings) have entrances that are not secure against intruders, due to absent or severely damaged entrance gates.

The below diagrams categorize building conditions of all occupied and unoccupied buildings (with collected data) vis-à-vis the proportion of total residents stratified by nationality cohort.

STRUCTURAL BUILDING CONDITION

Structural supporting elements I Beams I Columns

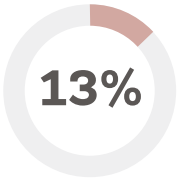




Good | Routine maintenance

Buildings have no visible sign of distress or failure.

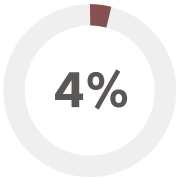
83% RESIDENTS



Fair | Minor repair

Buildings have minor shrinkage cracks in floors and/or walls with no intrusion back into buildings. Continual monitoring is required.

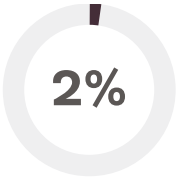
12% RESIDENTS



Substandard | Major repair

Buildings show distinct signs of roof or wall leaks, water penetration, and visible rusted reinforcement. Attention is needed to stop further damage.

4% RESIDENTS



Critical | Emergency intervention

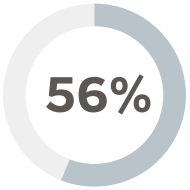
Buildings show severe cracking or missing structural supporting elements. Buildings are in critical state and are in need of urgent rehabilitation.

1% RESIDENTS

EXTERIOR BUILDING CONDITION

Exterior walls I Roof I Windows and doors I Balconies

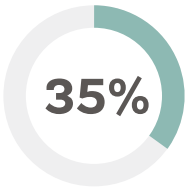
BUILDINGS Leb
RESIDENTS Syr



Good | Routine maintenance

Buildings have good exterior conditions with no apparent failure or problems of any kind. Routine maintenance will be adequate.

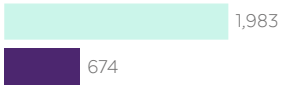
50% RESIDENTS

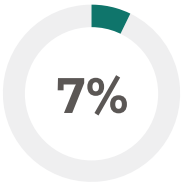


Fair | Minor repair

Buildings have fair exterior conditions with minor problems and slight cracks that are easily repairable. Continual monitoring is required.

41% RESIDENTS

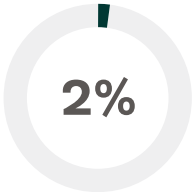




Substandard | Major repair

Buildings have poor exterior conditions with distinct signs of failure, including water intrusion, cracks and deterioration requiring major repair.

7% RESIDENTS



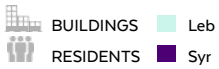
Critical | Emergency intervention

Buildings have dilapidated exterior conditions with apparent severe failure, resulting in extensive damage where emergency attention is called for.

2% RESIDENTS

CONDITION OF COMMUNAL SPACES

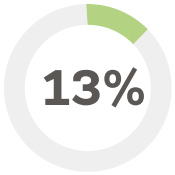
Means of exit I Entrances I Lighting I Provisions for people with disabilities



Good | Routine maintenance

Buildings have functional communal spaces with gated entrances, lighting provided in all areas, and easily accessible exit doors and staircases.

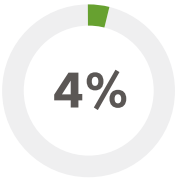
81% RESIDENTS



Fair | Minor repair

Buildings have minor defects in the communal spaces, such as minor problems in entrance gates.

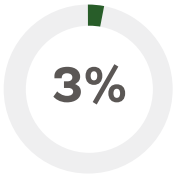
13% RESIDENTS



Substandard | Major repair

Buildings have serious defects in the communal spaces, including malfunctional gates, electrical wiring problems, and blocked staircases by obstructions that can be removed.

5% RESIDENTS



Critical | Emergency intervention

Buildings have no and/or damaged gates or lighting at the entrances, with significant obstructions to staircases that cannot be easily removed in case of emergencies.

1% RESIDENTS

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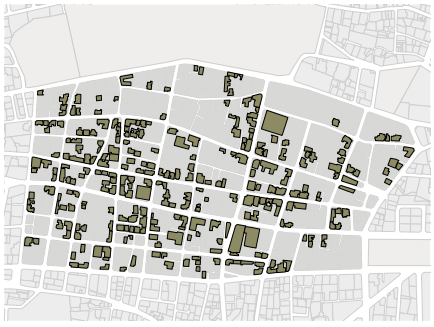
Figure 34 Building conditions (see next page)

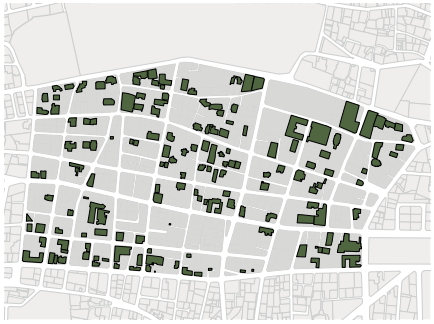
Number of storeys

1-2

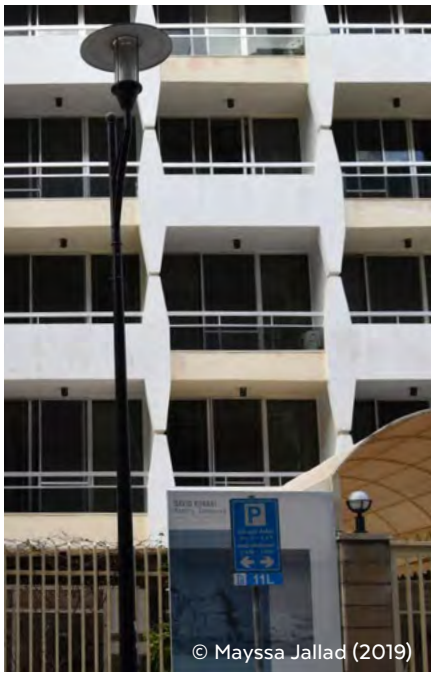
3-5



6-8



9 & above



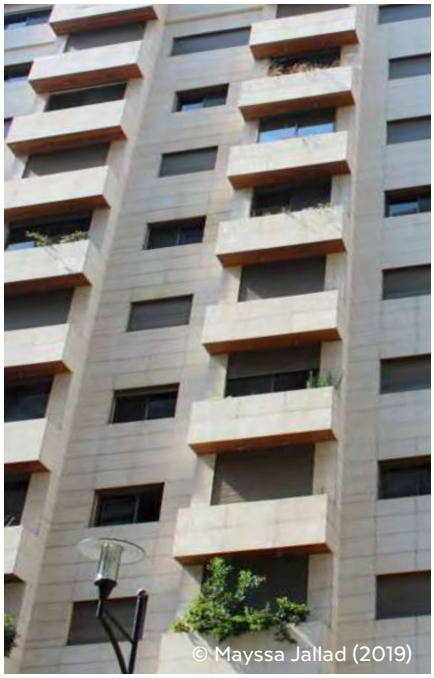


Figure 34 (continued) Building conditions (see previous page)

3,006

Total number of residential units

Source: Field survey of all neighbourhood buildings

45.9% Owned housing

51.9% of all Leb residential units | 31.7% of all Syr residential units

54.0% Rented housing

48.1% of all Leb residential units | 68.3% of all Syr residential units

This is based on 2,490 residential units.

OVERCROWDING

4.8% of all Leb households

41.9% of all Syr households

Overcrowding describes three or more persons sleeping within the same room.

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations.

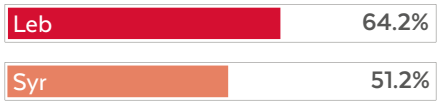


Figure 35 Unfurnished rental occupancy reported by surveyed households that rent their unit

HOUSING ISSUES

HOUSING TYPOLOGY, TENURE & CROWDEDNESS

The all-cohort resident count in Hamra is 8,740 (See **Population chapter**). There are over 3,000 residential units. For 516 of those units, population count data was unobtainable, due to lack of accessibility. Linked to this, nationality data for these units is partial or absent (**Appendix 2**).

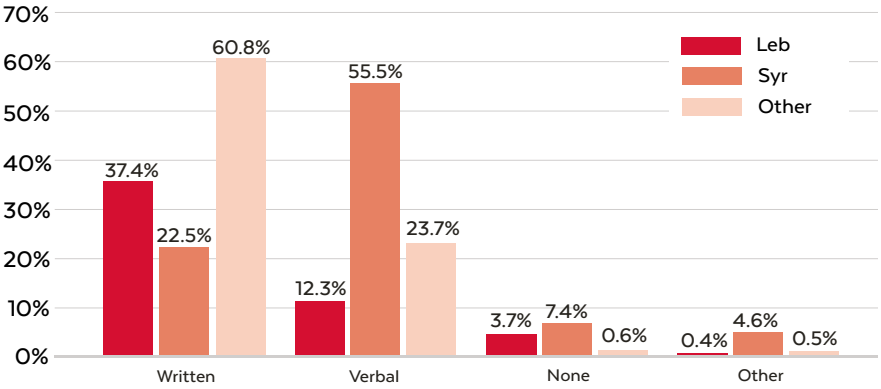
The tenure status of surveyed households is dissimilar between nationality cohorts. About half of all residential units in Hamra are owned by Lebanese (51.9 percent) and one third by Syrian (31.7 percent). The remainder (48.1 percent of Lebanese and 68.3 percent of Syrian households) are rented units[34] in the neighbourhood. Characteristics of the property owners/landlords are not captured in the current study.

The reasons surveyed households (stratified by cohort) gave for choosing their current accommodation are mainly the following: proximity to work/livelihoods (27.1 percent of Lebanese and 52.4 percent of Syrian households, respectively), proximity to family or relatives (22.3 percent and 13.5 percent, respectively), the renting cost (12.2 percent and 13.2 percent, respectively), being within a community with the same background (3.1 percent and 1.6 percent), proximity to services (8.8 percent and 5.3 percent) and for its safety and security (0.8 percent and 1.9 percent). Furthermore, no Lebanese and one Syrian household (0 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively) noted the provision of adult informal labour in lieu of rent as their reason for shelter choice.[35]

Regarding the type of accommodation, most surveyed households, whether Lebanese or Syrian, live in an unshared apartment/house (85.1 percent and 54.9 percent, respectively); in addition, 10.7 percent of Lebanese and 32.2 percent of Syrian households live in shared apartment/house (**Table 12**).

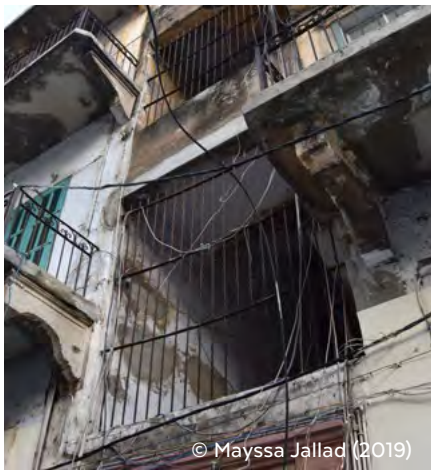
The household survey shows that Lebanese households are slightly less crowded than Syrian ones—the mean number of people per room used for sleeping[36] (± standard deviation) is 1.24 (± 0.85) among the former and 2.71 (± 2.31) among the latter.[37] Overcrowding (three or more people sleeping within the same room) is 8 times higher among Syrian households (41.9 percent) compared to Lebanese ones (4.8 percent).

The majority of tenants occupy units leased as unfurnished (64.2 percent of Lebanese and 51.2 percent of Syrian households), while 24.2 percent of Lebanese and 12.7 percent of Syrian households rent furnished units.[38]



151 responded not applicable (21.9%) and 234 did not respond (34%). Non-responses include 151 (35.3%) Lebanese and 67 (28%) Syrian households.

Figure 36 Type of rental agreement reported by surveyed households that rent their unit



[34] These percentages are based on 2,490 residential units. The proportion of tenants paying historically set low-cost rent ("old rent") on the properties they occupy is captured in the household survey but not the building survey from which these values are estimated.

[35] Other answers were: not applicable (7.3 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively), other (18.2 percent and 11.2 percent, respectively) and no answer (0.2 percent and 0 percent, respectively).

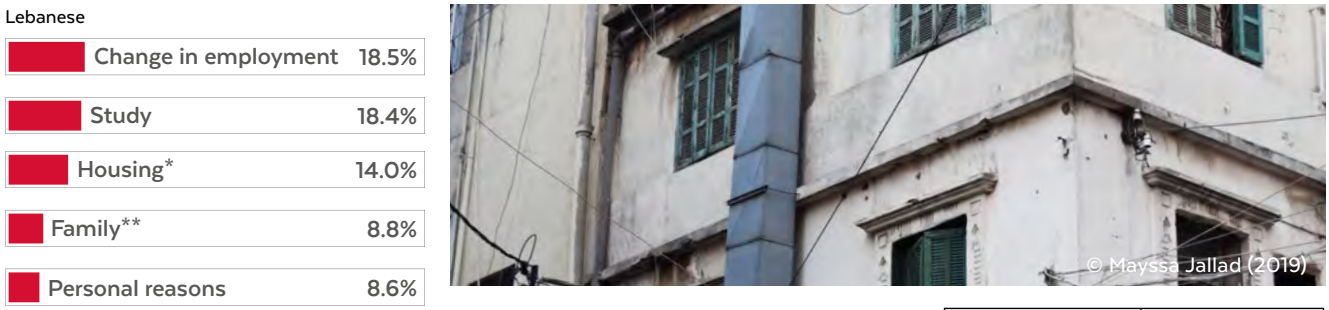
[36] Any occupied room, excluding kitchens and bathrooms, that is used for sleeping.

[37] A separate measure of crowdedness is the number of residents per residential unit, which shows that the average number of occupants per unit is 3.6 for Lebanese and 5.7 for Syrian (See "Population Distribution" section in Population chapter; Figure 8).

[38] Other options included in the questionnaire (some of which registered zero responses) are: provided by employer/hosted by provider in exchange of work (6.7 percent of Lebanese and 27.6 percent of Syrian households), partly rented/partly provided by employer (0.9 percent of Lebanese and 0.6 percent of Syrian), hosted for free (2.6 percent of Lebanese and 2.4 percent of Syrian), without host's permission (0.3 percent of Syrian), assistance/charity (0.4 percent of Lebanese and 0.6 percent of Syrian), squatting (0.3 percent of Syrian), other types (1.5 percent of Lebanese and 0.8 percent of Syrian), missing answer (51.6 percent of Lebanese and 2.2 percent of Syrian).

With respect to the type of tenancy agreements, written agreements with the landlord are much more likely to be held by renters of other nationalities[39] (60.8 percent) in contrast to Lebanese and Syrian (37.4 percent and 22.5 percent, respectively). Verbal agreements are more commonly used by Syrian (55.5 percent) than Lebanese (12.3 percent) renters. Other households (3.7 percent of Lebanese and 7.4 percent of Syrian) have no agreement at all with their landlord (**Figure 36**). Most surveyed households that are tenants reported that their rent is mainly secured by money earned from employment in Lebanon, although using personal savings or family paying for accommodation were also prevalent reasons. Monetary assistance from (I)NGOs was reported neither from Lebanese nor Syrians.[40]

According to the household survey, 4.3 percent of Lebanese and 13 percent of Syrian households that rent their unit expressed that they anticipate moving. Of these households, 29.4 percent said that their reason for wanting to move is high rent values (11.9 percent of Lebanese and 33.1 percent of Syrian). Other reasons included eviction by landlord; authorities and non-authorities; poor shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) conditions; and family or work reasons.[41]



* Includes: sale/acquisition, demolition, etc.
** Includes: marriage, moving close to family members, etc.

Figure 37 Reasons for relocation/displacement within Lebanon among surveyed households that have relocated at least once

	Lebanese (%)	Syrian (%)
Independent house/villa	1.2	0.0
Unshared apartment/house	85.1	54.9
Shared apartment/house	10.7	32.2
Makeshift shelter in informal settlement	0.2	0.6
Collective shelter (6 families or more)*	0.0	0.2
One-room structure	1.0	8.1
Garage/Shop	0.0	0.3
Structure under construction/worksite	0.0	0.3
Makeshift shelter	0.2	2.7
Farm**	0.2	0.0
Other	1.0	0.3

* Managed and unmanaged
** Reporting error

Table 12 Types of accommodation reported by surveyed households

RELOCATION/DISPLACEMENT WITHIN LEBANON

Households were further asked about relocation or displacement within Lebanon. Of households living in Hamra, 45.8 percent had relocated at least once, 37.9 percent of Lebanese and 60.8 percent of Syrians. Of those that had relocated at least once, 67.2 percent had done so within Lebanon and 46.1 percent within Beirut. Also, 25.2 percent had relocated in the six months preceding the survey. Of the Syrians who had relocated to Hamra, 61.2 percent had relocated from other parts of Lebanon or Beirut, 38.1 percent from Syria and 0.6 percent from other countries. Of the various options provided in the questionnaire about reasons for moving residences, many of the relocated households reported security threats (3.9 percent of Lebanese and 31 percent of Syrians), new work opportunities in Hamra (18.4 percent of Lebanese and 14.7 percent of Syrian), lack of work and income in the previous neighbourhood (2.9 percent of Lebanese and 11.9 percent of Syrian), and educational opportunities in Hamra (18.5 percent of Lebanese and 4.8 percent of Syrian) (**Figure 37**). Of the total number of households that had relocated, 11.6 percent of Lebanese and 37.5 percent of Syrian ones share their current residence. Among households who live in shared accommodation, 27.4 percent of Lebanese and 50.6 of Syrian households, respectively, share their residence with relatives. Of the relocated Lebanese households, 46.3 percent are staying with relatives who own their home. In contrast, none of the relocated Syrian households are staying with relatives who own their home, and 46.3 percent are staying with relatives who rent their residence. While 94.1 percent of the relocated Syrian households staying with relatives pay rent, only 50.1 percent of the Lebanese ones do the same.

[39] People of other nationalities in Hamra include PRL, Yemenis, Americans, Bangladeshis, Germans, Iraqis, Canadians, Swedish, etc.
[40] There are too few observations to include percentages.
[41] Percentages for these other reasons are not conclusive given only 44 stated they would anticipate moving in the next six months.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

97.0% Use of bottled water to obtain drinking water (by number of households)

99.8% Use of improved sanitation (by number of households)

20.3% Any solid waste recycling (by number of households)

Source: Household survey for representative samples of Lebanese and Syrian populations

WATER & SANITATION AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

Hamra's residents face a number of challenges in water provision. As household survey findings show, many Hamra households use water cisterns. FGD participants, furthermore, pointed out that they do not drink potable water supplied by the Beirut Water Establishment and instead resort to alternative water resources, including private water tankers and bottled water.

The household survey produced a number of key findings about water sources and sanitation:

- The vast majority of surveyed households (97 percent) reported that they rely mainly on bottled water for drinking, while only 2.8 percent reported that they rely mainly on water piped into their dwellings.[42]
- Most surveyed households (99.7 percent) do not use any water treatment methods to make water safer to drink. Of all surveyed households, only two reported using a water filter, and one[43] reported boiling the water.
- Almost all surveyed households (99.8 percent) stated that they use an improved type of sanitation facility. Of these households, 99.5 percent use a piped sewer system. Only two observations use other facilities such as a ventilated improved pit latrine, which do not flush into a piped sewage system.
- Most surveyed households (82 percent) reported that they do not share their sanitation facility with others who are not members of their household.

[42] Drinking from unprotected wells or using piped water as the main source for drinking water are very rare in Hamra. In the household survey, only one respondent reported to be drinking from an unprotected well and six reported drinking from piped water into dwellings.

[43] This is the same household that uses water from the unprotected well.

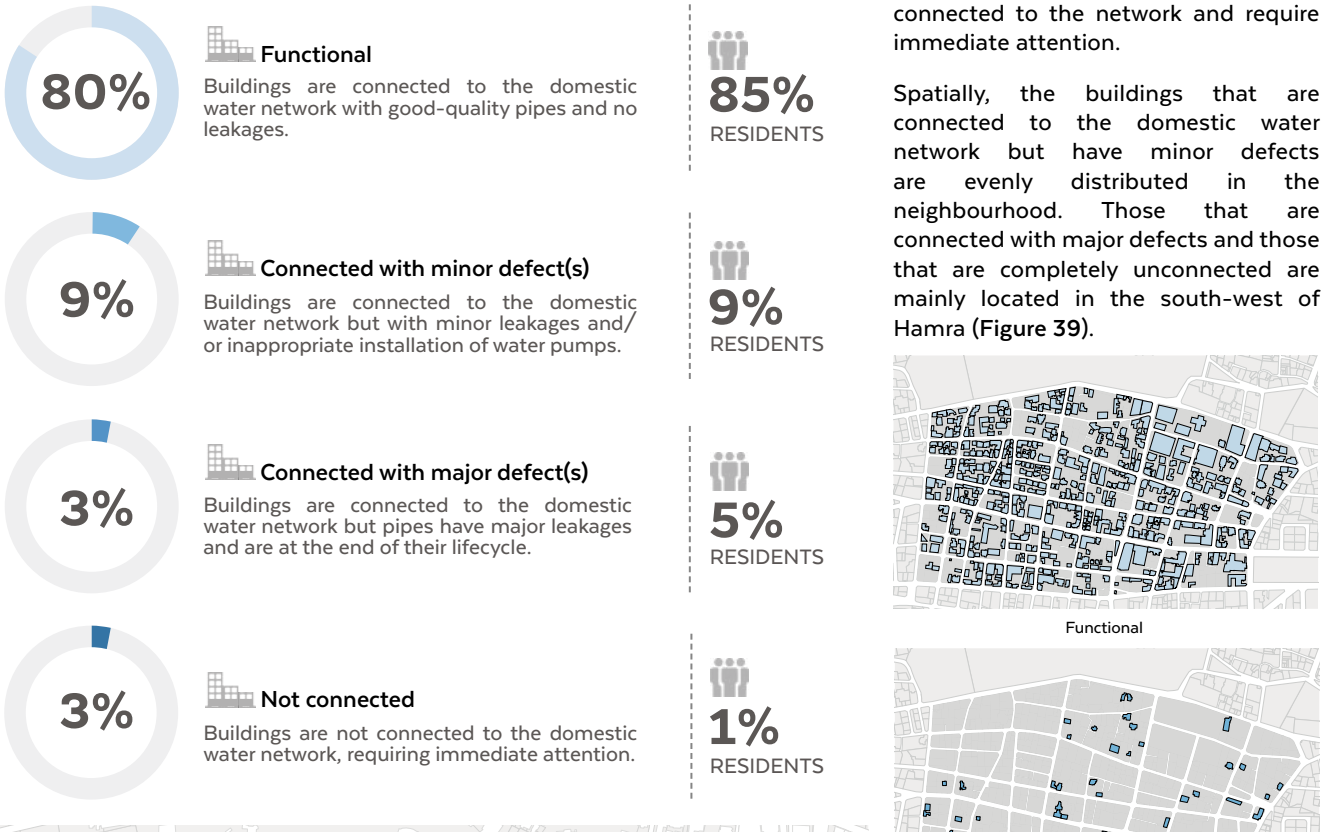
DOMESTIC WATER

Publicly supplied domestic (drinkable and domestic-use) water reaches all buildings in Hamra (**Figure 38**). The public subscription fee for each residential unit is approximately LBP 425,000 annually. Water supply, however, is intermittent and inhabitants depend on alternative water sources and suppliers to secure their daily needs. While some buildings have an active well, the most common alternatives are purchasing water cisterns for utility use and purchasing bottled water for drinking.

FGD participants commented that tenants living in old buildings constructed over 40 years ago purchase cistern water individually, whereas the purchase and storage of both public and cistern water in buildings constructed within the past 15 years are managed through building committees or the concierge. The latter type of buildings typically have shared storage tanks and wells that were dug during the construction of the building.

The majority (80.4 percent) of buildings, housing 85.5 percent of residents, have a functional connection to the domestic water network with good quality pipes, while 8.5 percent of buildings, housing 8.9 percent of residents, have minor defects in their connection. Only 3.2 percent of the buildings, accommodating 0.8 percent of residents, are not connected to the network and require immediate attention.

Spatially, the buildings that are connected to the domestic water network but have minor defects are evenly distributed in the neighbourhood. Those that are connected with major defects and those that are completely unconnected are mainly located in the south-west of Hamra (**Figure 39**).



Many buildings in Hamra have wells, yet they are rarely authorized because of the loose regulations related to digging wells during the period of construction of the correspondent building. These wells are not mapped here as they exist within individual buildings.

Figure 38 Street mapping of domestic water network

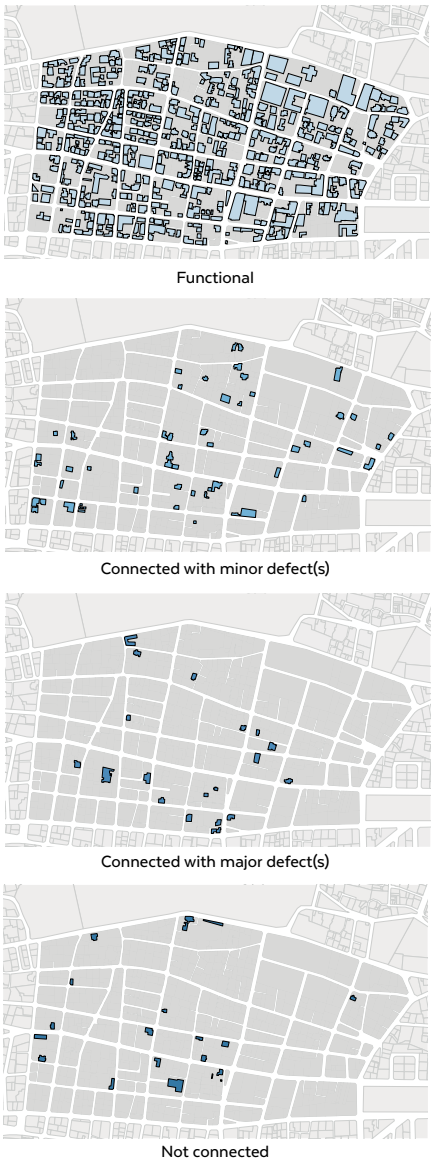


Figure 39 Condition of buildings' connection to domestic water network

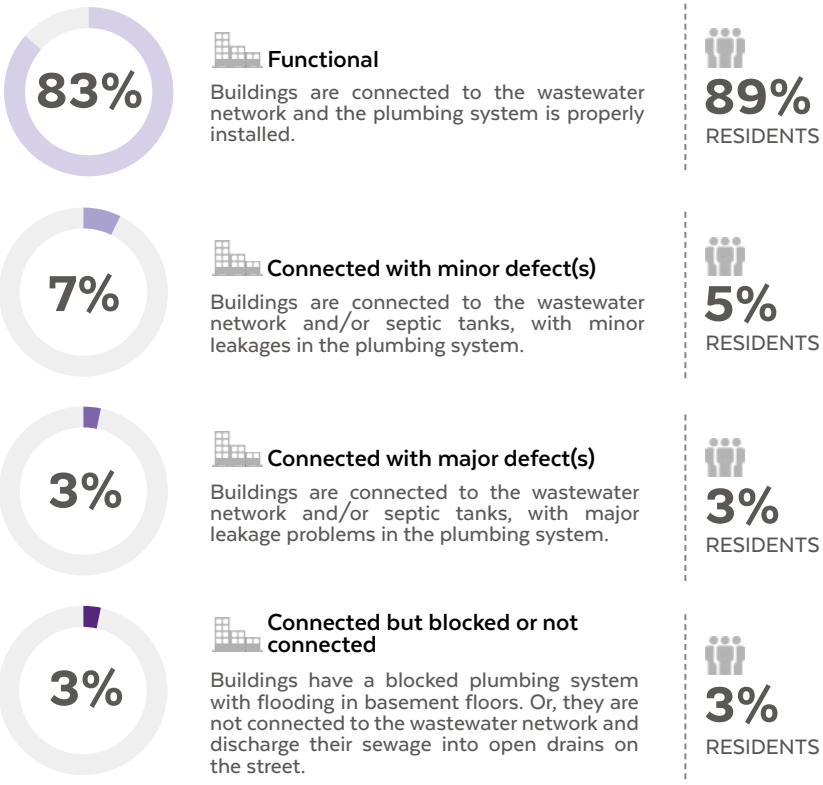
WASTEWATER

Hamra faces a number of challenges with respect to stormwater and wastewater drainage. In January 2019, there was an illegal blockage of sewer lines, which led to flooding of the streets with sewage-contaminated water. Bliss Street and the AUB campus were affected particularly badly. The flood was the result of the sealing of a sewage drain with cement close to the Lancaster Eden Bay resort located on Ramlet El-Baida beach. Such floods, however, do not seem to be limited to places with a malfunctioning wastewater network (**Figure 40**).

According to survey findings, 82.8 percent of buildings, housing 89.2 percent of residents, are connected to the wastewater network, while 6.6 percent of buildings, amounting to 4.9 percent of residents, have minor defects in their connection. Only 2.5 percent of buildings, housing 2.6 percent of residents, are connected to the wastewater network with major defects, and 3.3 percent of the buildings, amounting to 2.7 percent residents, are not connected at all. The malfunctional wastewater network is concentrated in the south-eastern part of the neighbourhood (**Figure 40**).

An assessment of the wastewater network condition shows that:

- 16.5 percent of the sewage network (by street area) is malfunctioning, contributing to sewer flood-prone areas that are not restricted to small streets. These areas are concentrated in sloped streets, as well as in certain sections of primary and secondary streets, such as Bliss Street and Emile Edde (Lyon) Street.
- 9.5 percent of the streets (by area) are considered to be sewer flood-prone areas (**Figure 40**).



Functional wastewater network: No issues; Malfunctional wastewater network: Bad smell, flooding, recurrent clogged pipes

Figure 40 Street mapping of wastewater network

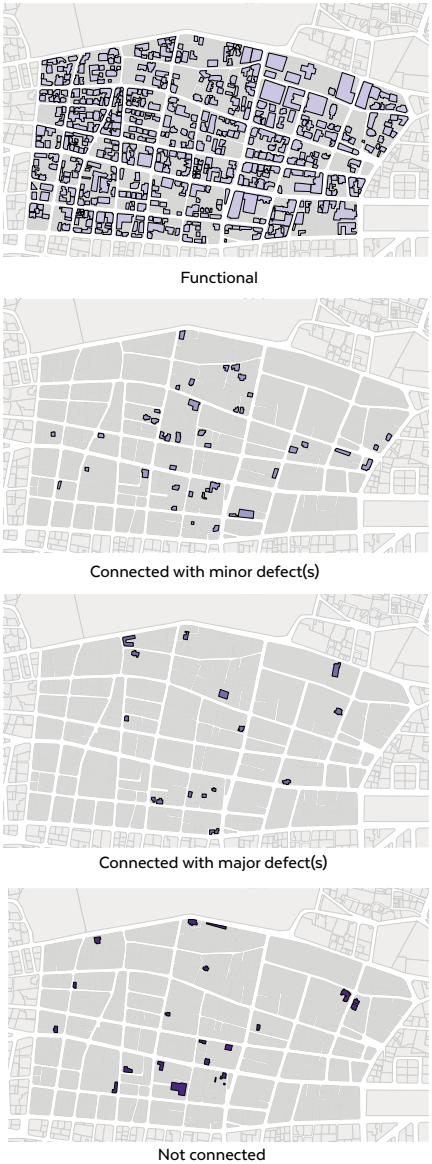


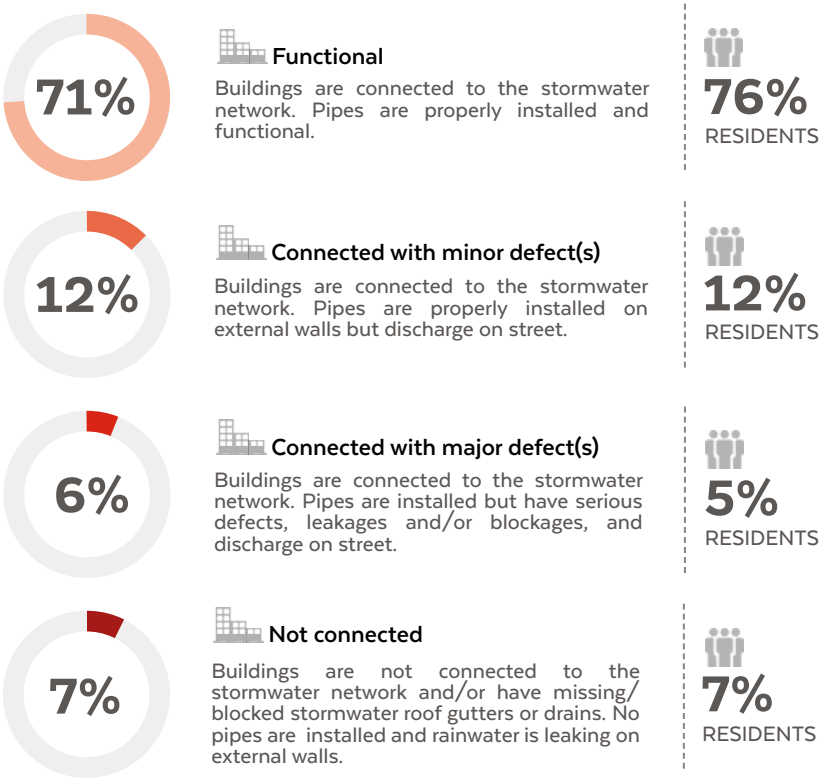
Figure 41 Condition of buildings' connection to wastewater network

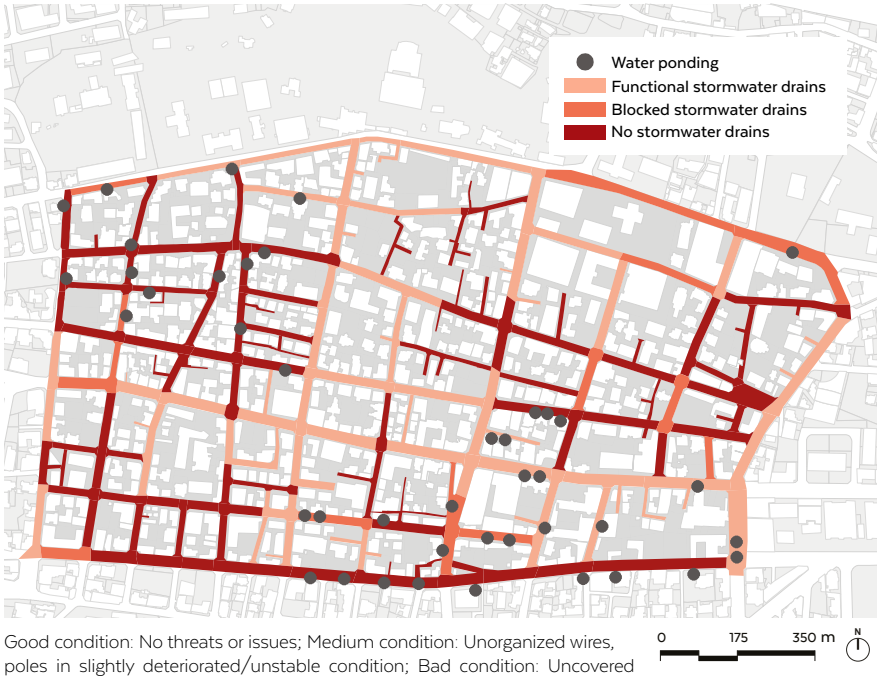
STORMWATER

The neighbourhood has a poor stormwater network, which is overloaded partly because it is combined with the wastewater network. This combination triggers overflow of contaminated water during heavy rainfall. Furthermore, it should be noted that there is a difference between the floods resulting from wastewater and stormwater. The fact that wastewater and stormwater have different networks at the building level but join up at the street level means that floods can be caused by deficient building infrastructure as well as street-level infrastructure.

An assessment of the stormwater network condition reveals the following:

- Most streets (40.2 percent by street area) have functional stormwater drains that are dispersed around the neighbourhood. Buildings with a functional connection to the stormwater network are evenly distributed in the neighbourhood.
- Most streets (59.8 percent by area) have malfunctional or non-existent gullies, contributing to uncontrolled on-street stormwater run-off. More specifically, 46.9 percent of streets lack gullies or any other means of drainage (**Figure 42**).
- Streets with no stormwater drains include primary, secondary and tertiary commercial streets (**Figure 30 and Figure 42**).
- 25 percent of buildings, amounting to 24 percent of residents, have major or minor defects in or missing connections to the stormwater network, experiencing stormwater overflow at a street level (**Figure 43**).





Good condition: No threats or issues; Medium condition: Unorganized wires, poles in slightly deteriorated/unstable condition; Bad condition: Uncovered wires causing electrical hazards, extremely tangled wires, leaning poles in risky condition.

Figure 42 Street mapping of stormwater network

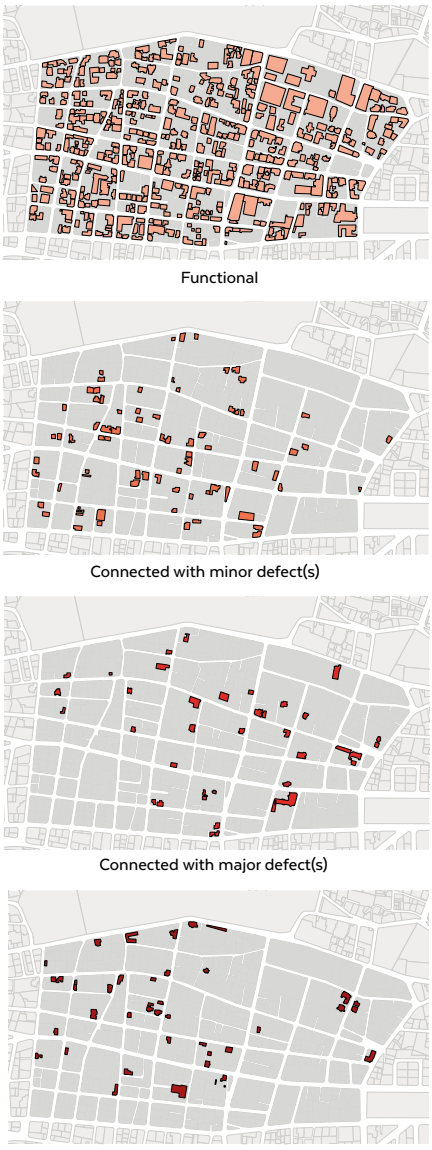


Figure 43 Condition of buildings' connection to stormwater network

SOLID WASTE

Solid waste is collected regularly in Hamra. Currently, the enterprise in charge of waste collection is Ramco Trading and Contracting, a private company appointed by the Beirut Municipality in March 2018 to take over operation from Sukleen. Ramco began street sweeping, as well as collecting and transporting household solid waste, in May 2018. According to a Ramco company representative, waste in Hamra is collected approximately four to six times per day[44] in morning and evening shifts. Ramco has three trucks allocated for the Hamra area and their schedules vary depending on the streets they service. In busy areas such as Bliss Street, garbage collection occurs up to 12 times a day beginning at 5:30 a.m. and continues late into the night. In less dense streets, garbage collection occurs twice a day and at night, respectively.[45]

A street-level assessment of aspects of solid waste management (**Figure 44**) suggests the following:

- The distribution of official garbage receptacles (bins, dumpsters) across the neighbourhood is uneven; receptacles are mainly clustered along the main commercial streets of the neighbourhood (Hamra Street and Bliss Street). Furthermore, Hamra's western part has very few bins and dumpsters. During the field survey, littering was observed in some streets irrespective of the proximity of bins and dumpsters.
- A solid waste collection system is available regularly in most streets of the neighbourhood.
- According to field survey findings, there is an accumulation of on-street garbage disposal in three areas of the neighbourhood even though some bins and dumpsters are located there: (1) on the intersection of Jeanne d'Arc Street and Sidani Street; (2) on the intersection of Hamra Main Street and Roosevelt Street; and (3) on the intersection of Antoun Gemayel Street and Baalbeck Street. This accumulation of on-street garbage is likely to be contributing to stormwater channel blockages and flooding, as well as causing hygiene and health risks.
- There is a presence of recycling and waste-sorting facilities in the neighbourhood (e.g. glass recycle bins on Abed El-Aziz Street).

FGD and household survey data revealed a number of further key findings:

- A minority of 20.3 percent of surveyed households reported that they recycle solid waste. In the case of Lebanese households, the proportion (25 percent) is close to the national average (21.6 percent), but significantly higher than the Beirut Governorate one (7.6 percent). For Syrian households, Hamra scores at 6.7 percent, which is higher than both the national (0.9 percent) and Beirut Governorate (0.3 percent) figures (**Appendix 1**).
- Proper types of disposal (through garbage bins or collection from home by a third party) were reportedly practised in 97.8 percent of all households.
- Participants in FGDs and interviews, both Lebanese and Syrian, claimed that further awareness is needed to ensure that more people recycle. They also noted the lack of local recycling bins that would enable people to recycle more easily.
- Participants expressed approval and support for school and neighbourhood programmes (such as the AUB Neighborhood Initiative's work on recycling) that informed the public and provided better opportunities for recycling.

The AUB Neighborhood Initiative has recently installed butt bollards outside the AUB main gate in support of the AUB Tobacco-Free Initiative. The aim of the project is to limit the amount of cigarette waste by collecting its butts and to recycle them into paddleboards, which in turn will be used to clean up the beach.

The AUB Neighborhood Initiative has also launched a campaign, which targets a network of buildings in Ras Beirut, Hamra neighbourhood included, that will commit to sorting their recyclables by providing them with the necessary training sessions on sorting waste at home (**Figure 44**).

Figure 44 Street mapping of solid waste collection

[44] This information is based on a phone conversation with the operation supervisor at Ramco Waste Management (26-11-2019).
[45] Ibid.

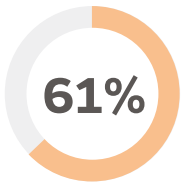
ELECTRICITY

An assessment of the electrical network at building and street levels reveals a number of issues that are also common at the national level.

Electricity supply in Hamra is better than in other parts of Lebanon but still faces significant challenges. Survey results indicate that 89.5 percent of the neighbourhood's area receives 21 hours of public electricity supply per day, and residents across the neighbourhood rely on privately owned generators to bridge the gaps in supply (**Figure 45**). The monthly charge for a generator subscription varies from USD 50 to USD 75 for 5 amperes. The use of power generators is not regulated and this contributes significantly to air and noise pollution.

AT STREET LEVEL:

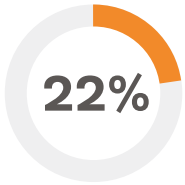
- The electrical infrastructure is dilapidated and dangerous in several places. This problem is particularly pronounced in and around a number



Functional

Buildings are connected to the public electrical grid, with properly installed electrical wires.

55% RESIDENTS



Connected with minor defect(s)

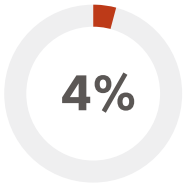
Buildings are connected to the public electrical grid but have minor defects in their connection. Electrical wires are installed externally, with some safety measures such as weatherproofing.

27% RESIDENTS

Connected with major defect(s)

Buildings are connected to the public electrical grid but have major defects in their connection. Electrical wires are installed externally with limited safety measures.

15% RESIDENTS



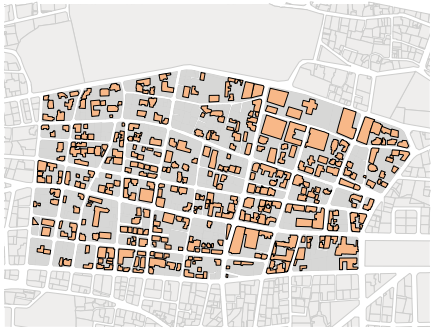
Connected with critical defect(s)

Buildings are connected to the public electrical grid but have critical defects in their connection. Electrical wires are installed externally with no safety measures, presenting an immediate hazard.

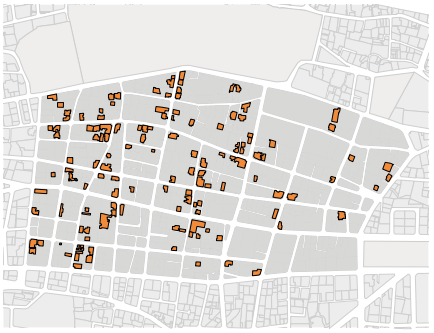
2% RESIDENTS

Functional stormwater drains: Drains are functional for stormwater use only, no or limited water ponding.

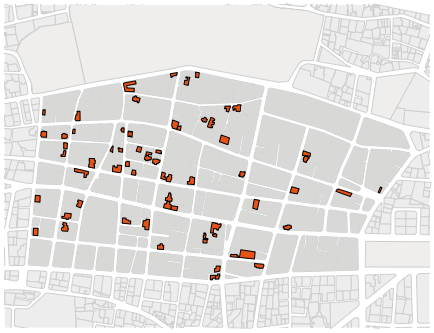
Figure 45 Street mapping of electrical network



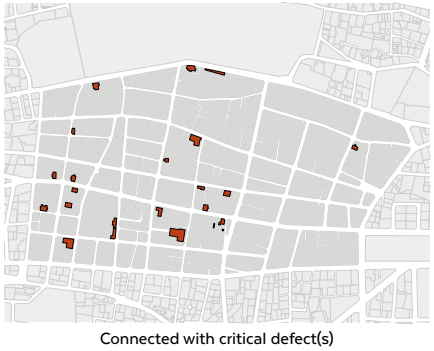
Functional



Connected with minor defect(s)



Connected with major defect(s)



Connected with critical defect(s)

Figure 46 Condition of buildings' connection to electrical network

of intersections along Makdisi Street, specifically where the latter intersects with Nehme Yafet, Antoun Gemayel and Sadat streets. These intersections have tangled overhead wires and other electrical hazards, constituting safety and fire risks (**Figure 45**).

- The vast majority of the streets in the neighbourhood (79.3 percent by street area) are connected to an electrical network of good quality. The electrical network of only five streets in the north-west part (3.7 percent by street area) is in bad condition (**Figure 45**).

- Functional street light coverage is good on most main streets, although there are numerous parts of the neighbourhood with no street lighting at all (**Figure 47**). Street lights are non-functional when public electricity is down.

AT BUILDING LEVEL:

- 61 percent of buildings, amounting to 55 percent of residents, benefit from properly installed electrical wiring. However, 14 percent of buildings, amounting to 17 percent of residents, are connected to the electrical grid but have major or critical defects in their connection. The latter buildings pose an electrical hazard to residents and are located mostly in the central, northern and western parts of the neighbourhood (**Figure 46**).

- 4 percent of buildings, housing 2 percent of residents, are connected with critical defects to the main electrical grid at all. These are mainly derelict, empty buildings or buildings under demolition. These buildings are primarily located in the north-west of the neighbourhood (**Figure 46**).

This map is representative only when public electricity is available. When the power is down store fronts light commercial streets.

Figure 47 Street lighting mapping

ACCESS & OPEN SPACES

ACCESSIBILITY & MOBILITY

Hamra neighbourhood has two roads that serve as main points of access: the first of these, Hamra Street, allows visitors to access the neighbourhood from Downtown Beirut, Spears and Ain Mreisseh by entering from the south-east and going westwards; the second, Sidani Street allows people to come from Raoucheh and Qoreitem, and enter the neighbourhood from the north-west. Hamra Street remains the main artery for both vehicular and pedestrian circulation. In addition, Rome, Abed El-Aziz, Jeanne d'Arc and Sadat streets are the main north-south arteries. Fransabank represents an attraction node at the entrance of Hamra, which many buses use as a strategic location to attract customers (**Figure 48**).

An assessment of the neighbourhood's road conditions (**Figure 49**) reveals that 72 percent of the road network (by area) shows major and/or minor signs of deterioration. There are a number of roads in the neighbourhood that show major signs of deterioration, such as Abed El-Aziz and Rome streets near Fransabank and Bikhazi Hospital.

An assessment of the neighbourhood's sidewalk conditions (**Figure 50**) shows that 57 percent of roads (by area) have functional sidewalks, mainly located on the main Hamra artery and major north-south connection roads. However, 41 percent of roads (by area) have either wide or narrow blocked sidewalks with obstructions, such as street furniture, parked vehicles, shop goods and utility structures. These obstructions hinder the movement of pedestrians in the area and potentially affect their safety.

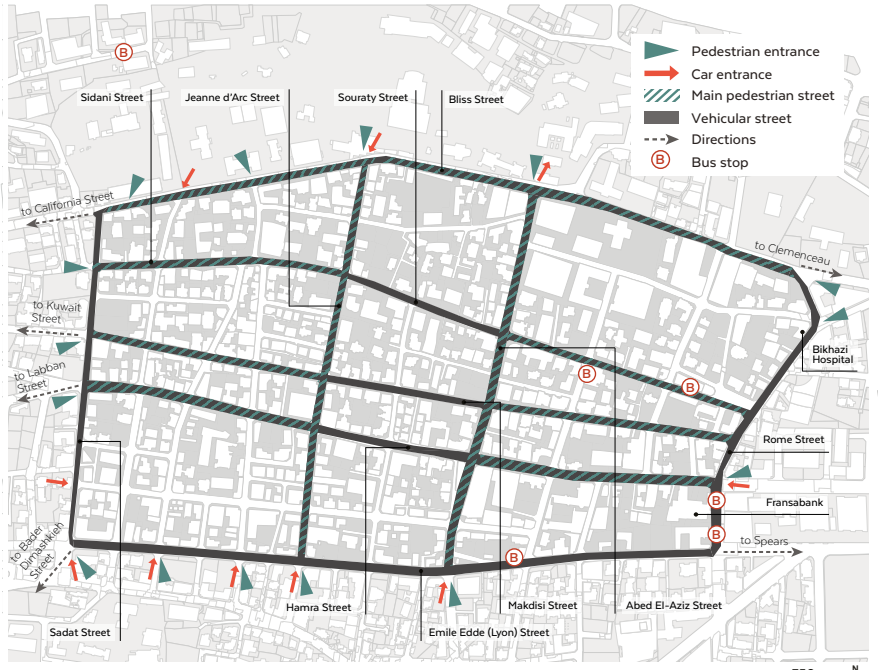


Figure 48 Street mapping of access and circulation

Figure 49 Road condition mapping

Sidewalk obstructions: Street furniture, parked vehicles, shop goods, utility structures, etc.

Figure 50 Street mapping of sidewalk conditions

OPEN SPACES

Hamra has a few public open spaces,[46] collectively covering 0.007 km^2 or 1.4 percent of the neighbourhood's area. The neighbourhood's public open spaces can be found around three major roundabouts, which are located on Bliss Street (representing AUB's public extension), on Rome Street near Bikhazi Hospital, and at the intersection of Souraty and Rome streets (**Figure 51**).

However, there are several private and semi-public open spaces in Hamra, which collectively constitute around 11 percent of the neighbourhood's total area and 88 percent of its open space area. Semi-public open spaces are located mostly in the western and eastern parts of the neighbourhood, especially near Mohamed Abdel Baki Street (**Figure 51**).

Most of Hamra's open spaces have no greenery inside them, although there is a small number of publicly accessible private buildings that have adopted green roofs. These are mainly clustered in Hamra's centre.

The spaces where informal street gatherings[47] occur are located primarily along the major pathways between Hamra Street and AUB—especially on Jeanne d'Arc Street (**Figure 51, No. 4**) and Abed El-Aziz Street—and also around major landmarks and important hubs, such as AUBMC (**Figure 51, No. 5**) and Fransabank. Gardens, playgrounds and sportsfields are scarce, even though the neighbourhood contains a lot of unbuilt areas (**Table 13; Figure 51**). There are a few very small private gardens located in the east side of Hamra, with limited access to people. The FGDs revealed that major open public space destinations for the residents of Hamra—and especially for non-Lebanese adults and their children—are the Sanayeh Garden and the Corniche, both of which are located outside the neighbourhood's boundaries.

Various field observations and FGDs suggested that social gatherings occur mostly in an informal manner on street sidewalks. In fact, during the FGDs, Lebanese elderly participants stated that the absence of green areas in Hamra meant that they often ended up sitting with their friends along sidewalks instead of using more comfortable and pleasant public spaces. They also expressed their hopes for a neighbourhood with better-lit streets and improved sidewalk conditions. The newly renovated Jeanne d'Arc Street was specifically mentioned by one elderly participant as a street with wide and walkable sidewalks. In contrast to elderly residents, Lebanese youth had different perspectives on the role of sidewalks in Hamra, mentioning alternative activities, such as *shisha* smoking, coffee drinking, and also youth gatherings near gaming shops.

Hamra has a number of plazas but these are limited to private developments, such as Sadate Tower, Hamra Center, and Hamra Square (**Figure 51, No. 7**). These plazas represent a major collective point for informal gatherings and meeting points, but they are semi-public or private as they are located within privately owned establishments.

Saint Mary's Orthodox Church Cemetery (**Figure 51, No. 1**) is also found within Hamra's boundaries. Cemeteries constitute some of the most important green and open spaces in Beirut but they remain undervalued as urban sites and as landscape typologies. Al-Akl and colleagues have argued that there is a need to rethink urban cemeteries as places for the living and to respect them as calm spiritual sites and spaces for human and ecological well-being. Although cemeteries are often perceived in negative terms—as places of death and burial—a recent study has also highlighted that in the context of Beirut, the cemetery could be

[46] The term "open spaces" refers to the well-defined gathering spaces, including all of the roundabouts, narrow and wide streets, plazas, playgrounds, parking areas, unbuilt plots, and gardens.

[47] Informal street gatherings are spontaneous social meeting spaces for interaction among diverse individuals by appropriation and activation of unused plots or streetscape spots.

positively perceived as a "private garden where one can get away from the city" (Al-Akl et al., 2018; Al-Akl, Al-Zein and Grounds, 2018). This positive vision is highly dependent on the presence of greenery and openness, as well as good organization and maintenance. It is therefore possible to redefine the value of these sites as spaces that can play a significant role in the shaping of a sustainable and healthy urban environment.

Public spaces in Hamra are also used by a significant number of beggars—highly vulnerable adults (almost exclusively women) and children—whose presence was often brought up during interviews and FGDs. Hamra's beggars, many of whom were said to live outside of Hamra, tend to appropriate public spaces such as sidewalks, especially in areas with high levels of pedestrian traffic.

Hamra is characterized by the presence of many domestic workers, either living in-house with their employers or renting accommodation in groups. In the FGD with Filipppina domestic workers, the participants explained that going to church in Hamra on Sundays is an important ritual for them. They also stated that they often go shopping in Hamra for weekly necessities after the Sunday church service. Domestic workers also use the private parking lot of the Saint Francis Church for Sunday meetings, where they sit and talk, and sometimes sing and dance.

	Publicly used		Semi-publicly used		Privately used		Total	
Cemetery	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	1	1.2%
Garden	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	16	16.8%	17	17.9%
Landscaped roundabout	6	6.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	6.3%
Parking lot	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	42	44.2%	43	45.3%
Plaza	0	0.0%	3	3.2%	9	9.5%	12	12.6%
Religious*	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%
Unused lot	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	15	15.8%	15	15.8%
Total	**6**	**6.3%**	**6**	**6.3%**	**83**	**87.4%**	**95**	**100%**

*Belonging to a religious institution.

Table 13 Types and usage of surveyed open spaces

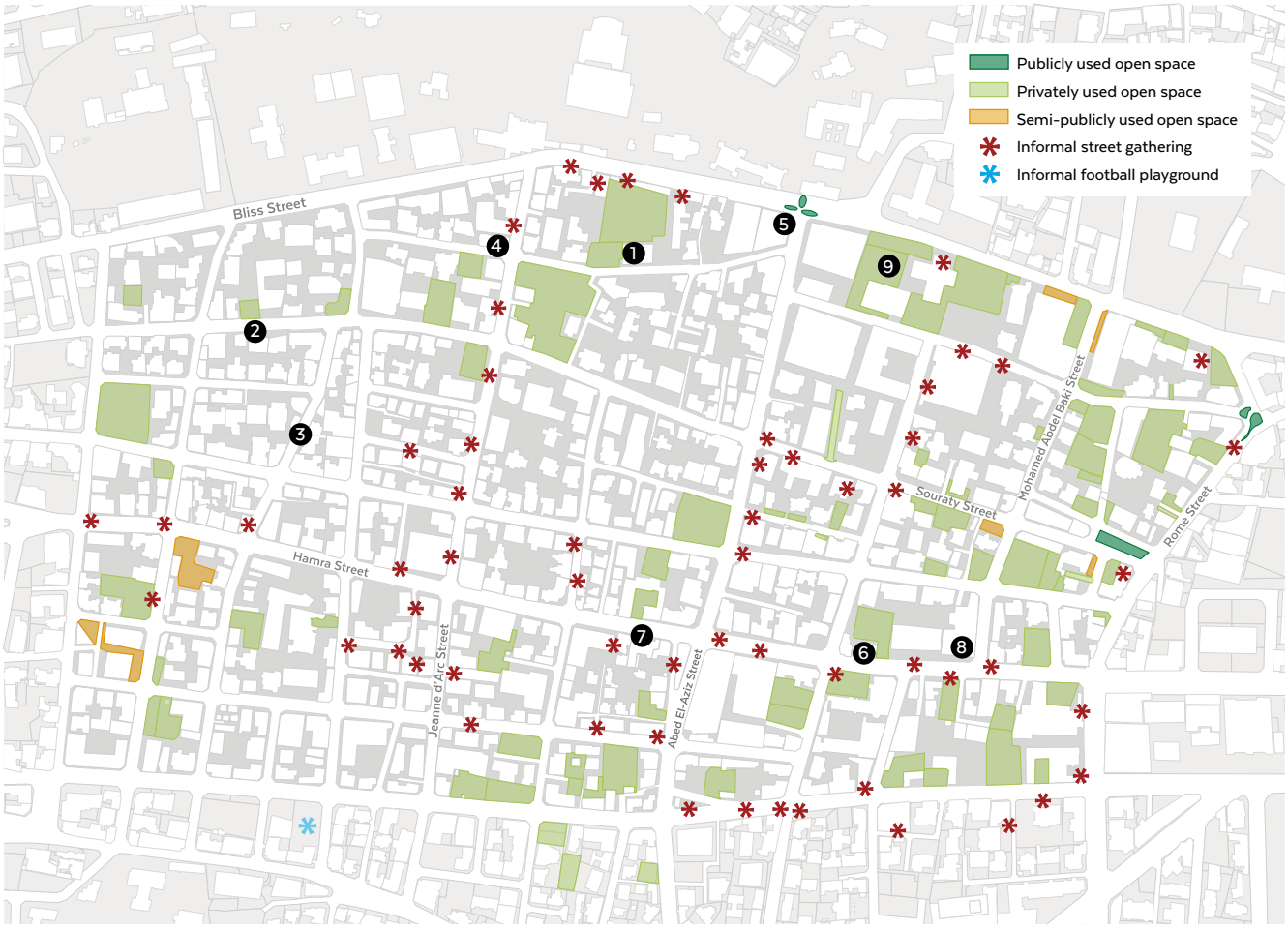
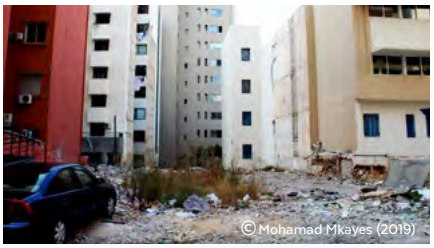


Figure 51 Open spaces in and immediately bordering Hamra (see next page)

❶ Saint Mary's Orthodox Church Cemetery

❷ Unused lot near Ras Beirut Mixed High School



❸ Green rooftop on the residential Shamma Building

❹ Informal gathering on Jeanne d'Arc Street

❺ Landscaped roundabout near AUB Medical Gate

❻ Parking lot near Saroulla Building

❼ Hamra Square plaza

❽ Pool d'Etat rooftop

❾ St. Jude Children's Cancer Center private plaza

Management (municipality, community, none)
Walkability
Lighting
Furniture
Vehicular circulation
Safety
Littering
User cohort (Leb, accessible to all)

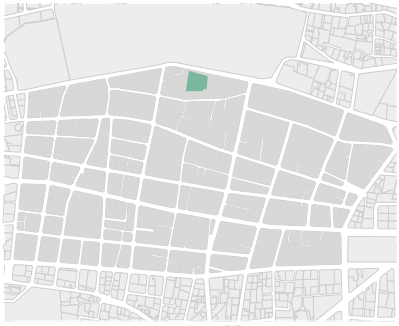
Figure 51 (continued) Open spaces in and immediately bordering Hamra (see previous page)

CHILDREN & YOUTH

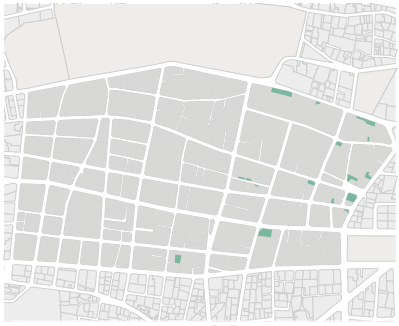
The scarcity of safe open spaces in Hamra particularly impacts youth and children who have limited access to gardens, playgrounds, sportsfields and other safe and healthy places for exercise and social activities. In fact, Lebanese and Syrian FGD youth participants both stated that the main open space for gathering for them is the AUB Green Field inside the AUB campus. The neighbourhood counts only one informally used semi-public space as a playground (**Figure 51**). The only children's playground in Hamra is a private parking lot for the Saint Francis Church, which is often used by children of the adjacent buildings. This is a fenced space with an asphalt ground, which is managed by the administration of the church. It is mainly accessible on Sundays or when the gates of the church are open. This playground has a few trees that provide shade, but it lacks facilities and playground furniture for children. In addition, this space is an important gathering point for domestic workers, as mentioned above.

There are no football fields or other playgrounds in Hamra. The main sportsfield near the neighbourhood is the Al Riyadi centre, which is located near Manara. However, the centre has expensive fees, meaning that youth and children in Hamra do not have access to affordable and easily accessible playgrounds and sportsfields.

Types of main open spaces

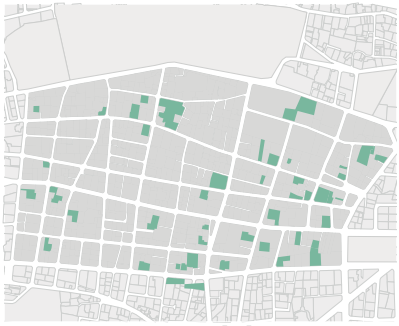


Cemetery [1]

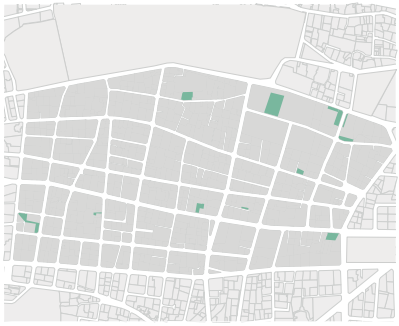


Garden [17]

Landscaped roundabout [6]

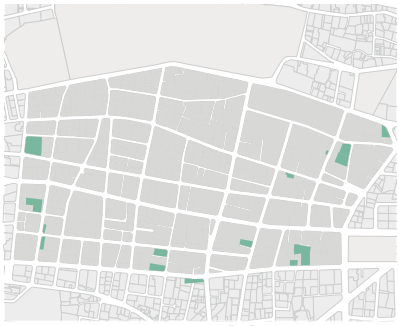


Parking lot [43]



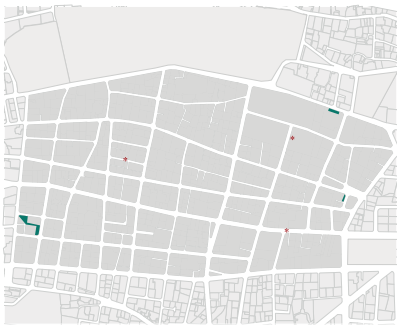
Plaza [12]

Informal street gathering [59]

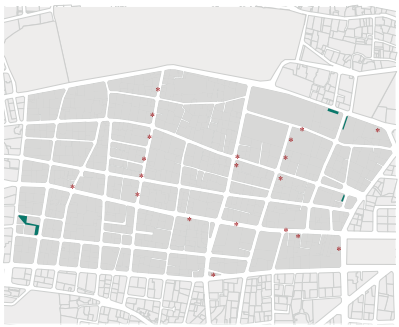


Unused lots [15]

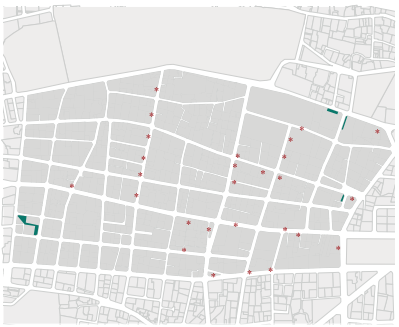
User age and gender



Children



Female youth



Male youth

Female adults/elderly

Male adults/elderly

Open space

Informal street gathering

Figure 52 Main open spaces by type and user age and gender

CONCLUSION

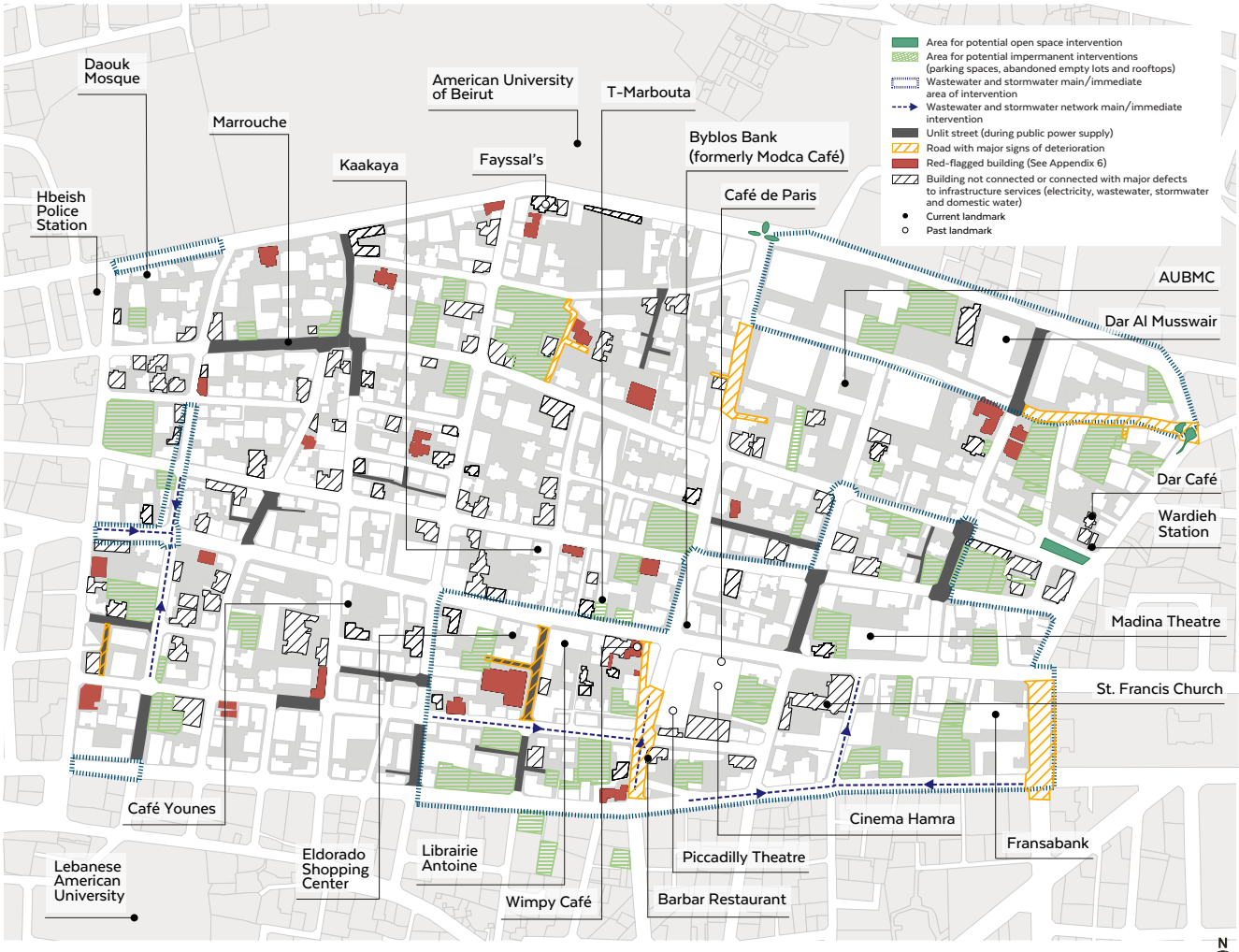


Figure 53 Integrated map of selected built-environment vulnerabilities in Hamra

This report is one of a series of neighbourhood profiles being undertaken for different neighbourhoods in Lebanon. Hamra was chosen as a neighbourhood for the sociocultural diversity of its residents, the rapid pace of social and urban change, and the history of previous research in the area, which provides a context for understanding this change. It was also chosen for comparative purposes in contrast to the disadvantaged neighbourhoods selected for the neighbourhood profiles undertaken by UN-Habitat and UNICEF.

Profiles offer a cohort-stratified, multisectoral evidence base on features of and associations—if not causal links—between residents and their social and built environments. As area-based statistical and mapped data sources, profiles can be used by local authorities and NGOs for context-sensitive targeting and sectorally integrated programming, capturing the efficiencies that area-based coordination allows. It is hoped that this new knowledge baseline for Hamra, endorsed by the local community, will help inform sectoral and stakeholder planning and coordination with the aim of mitigating vulnerabilities, especially through the enhancement of assistance and service provision to those in need, whether through strategies or projects.

All stages of the profile preparation—from neighbourhood selection and boundary drawing to data collection, analysis and dissemination—were conducted by the RELIEF Centre in collaboration with UN-Habitat, through a participatory approach, with the inclusion of local NGOs active in the neighbourhood. A key element in the RELIEF Centre's research methodology is the collaboration with citizen scientists, who are community researchers that reside, work or study in Hamra. These citizen scientists were instrumental in adapting the survey to the locality in question, as well as in data collection and analysis. Comprehensive data was collected on various determinants of residents' living conditions, by applying a mixed-methods approach, including field and household surveys, focus group discussions, and interviews with key informants from various institutions and service providers.

This document has offered an integrated place-based analysis covering multiple sectors and issues, including governance; population; safety and security; health; education; child protection; youth; local economy and livelihoods; buildings; WaSH; electricity; and access and open spaces. The main findings—as well as comparisons of some indicators with national and Beirut Governorate data (**Appendix 1**)—can be summarized as follows:[48]

- Hamra is a diverse neighbourhood; although historically middle-income, it presents today many pockets of

[48] Comparisons with figures of other profiled neighbourhoods is available in an online indicator database available on the UN-Habitat and UNICEF portal of neighbourhood profiles (See p. 1).

vulnerability. Hamra is situated in the coastal district of Ras Beirut, in Lebanon's capital city, Beirut. Hamra neighbourhood as defined for the purposes of this profile covers 0.52 km^2.

- In addition to being a residential area, Hamra is one of the commercial centres of Beirut. It has many shops, cafés and restaurants. It is also a cultural, educational and healthcare hub.

- Hamra neighbourhood is populated mostly by Lebanese: of the 8,740 residents, 72.2 percent are nationals. Of the 27.8 percent minority that is non-Lebanese, the largest cohort by far is Syrian (18.3 percent of all residents). The remaining 9.5 percent comprises people of other nationalities. According to the June–August 2019 household survey, the majority (78.1 percent) of Syrian households in Hamra reported having come to Lebanon between 2011 and 2019 (i.e. after the Syrian crisis outbreak), with 21.7 percent having arrived prior to 2011.

- Related to shelter, Hamra is a residential and commercial area comprising 634 buildings, almost equally distributed between low-rises of one to three storeys (25.6 percent), medium-rises of four to six storeys (36.9 percent) and high-rises of seven or more storeys (37.5 percent). Of all buildings, 48.8 percent were built between 1944 and 1975. Considering the structural and building envelope quality of housing, the majority of the buildings in Hamra appear to fall under the category of "good" (requiring routine maintenance). A visual architectural field survey undertaken as part of this study in the neighbourhood suggests that 81 percent of the buildings in Hamra are in good structural conditions. According to that survey, 6 percent of the buildings, housing 5 percent of the residents, are in structurally substandard or critical condition; they are in need of major repair or emergency intervention and constitute structural hazards. Around 9 percent of buildings, accommodating 9 percent of the residents, are in substandard or critical exterior conditions, resulting in water intrusion and damage to buildings. Furthermore, 7 percent of buildings have communal spaces that are classed as substandard or critical. Buildings with structural and exterior conditions in need of major repair or emergency intervention are concentrated on the north-south axis at the centre of the neighbourhood. Those with communal spaces in need of major repair or emergency interventions are scattered all over the neighbourhood, including on Bliss, Jeanne d'Arc, Hamra and Emile Edde (Lyon) streets. About 46 percent of residential units (51.9 percent of Lebanese and 31.7 percent of Syrian ones) are owned.

- Population density is 16,185 people per km^2 in Hamra, a high figure compared to Lebanon's average population density of 667 per km^2, which translates into a lively urban environment, but also into high traffic congestion and potential pressure on services, such as social and basic urban services. In terms of density of occupancy, the average number of occupants per residential unit is lowest among Lebanese at 3.6 and highest among Syrians at 5.7 per unit. The household survey shows that overcrowding (three or more people sleeping within the same room) in Hamra is much higher among Syrian (41.9 percent) compared to Lebanese (4.8 percent) households.

- Compared to many Lebanese municipalities in disadvantaged areas, Beirut Municipality, in which Hamra falls, is not limited in financial assets. However, it is limited in human resources and the ability to hire new talent.

- Lack of safety and security in Hamra is perceived to result mainly from incidents of robbery or verbal harassment, the presence of pubs, and lack of proper street lighting. All residents who participated in FGDs reported that they regularly move outside the neighbourhood although some feel unsafe doing so: Non-Lebanese women especially feel unease outside the neighbourhood because of their unfamiliarity with other areas. A small minority of surveyed households (3.4 percent of Lebanese and 0.9 percent of Syrians, a total of 21 out of the 688 households that completed the household survey questionnaire) reported having faced disputes in Hamra. Among the minority of households in Hamra that have experienced disputes, 42.8 percent said that they face these disputes only sometimes. (See Safety & Security chapter for areas reported as unsafe by FGD participants, as well as for proposed social stability interventions.)

- Overall, findings on the general health condition of residents suggest that residents suffer from various illnesses. Chronic illnesses are the most commonly reported category of health conditions, affecting 12.4 percent of Lebanese and 6.7 percent of Syrians in surveyed households. Diarrhoea was reported to have been experienced by a small percentage of children below 59 months (5.9 percent of Lebanese and 6.8 percent of Syrian ones) two weeks prior to the household survey.

- Regarding usage of or access to services, 41.6 percent of surveyed households do not use or are not willing to use subsidized primary healthcare services. For the minority (15.7 percent) of children (0–59 months) with diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to the household survey, no care—whether advice or treatment—was reported to have been sought. Disaggregating this non-care-seeking percentage by nationality, the rate is higher for Syrian (24.6 percent) than for Lebanese (4.8 percent) children. Relative to national and Beirut Governorate averages, care seeking in Hamra neighbourhood is more prevalent for Syrian and Lebanese children. With regard to water services, 99.7 percent of the surveyed households reported not using any water treatment methods. However, the vast majority of surveyed households (97 percent) reported that they rely mainly on bottled water for drinking, while only 2.8 percent reported that they rely mainly on water piped into their dwellings. Almost all surveyed households (99.8 percent) stated that they use an improved type of sanitation facility.

- A number of factors, including financial capabilities and awareness-related issues, affect access to healthcare services in Hamra. Although Hamra is a medical hub in Beirut, there are only two low-cost health clinics and one free medical dispensary in the neighbourhood. On the service provider side, health facilities reported to face challenges including shortage of medication and medical staff, inability to cover all patients' needs, and poor parental awareness about the importance of healthy nutrition and vaccination for children. On the service user side, FGD participants reported that no health-awareness sessions are conducted in the neighbourhood in general, and that it might be that they are not aware of ones done (if any). Of the surveyed households that are using or have used subsidized primary healthcare services in Hamra, 45.7 percent do not find them relevant to the population's needs and are not satisfied with or would not recommend them. A majority (77.8 percent) of all Lebanese and a much lower 15.3 percent of all Syrians in surveyed households have health insurance.

- In the case of education indicators, most Lebanese children in surveyed Hamra households attend school, while the attendance of Syrian children falls short. The attendance

ratio in the neighbourhood (irrespective of nationality) falls from 74.5 percent for primary school level (ages 6-11) to 58.1 percent for secondary school (ages 12-17). Additionally, children in surveyed Hamra households (irrespective of nationality) are more likely to attend secondary school relative to available national and Beirut Governorate figures. In general, the attendance ratio for females is slightly lower than that for males for primary school level, but slightly higher for secondary school level. Among children (aged 6-14) in surveyed households, 25 percent have never attended school. According to household survey data, the main reasons for non-enrolment of children and youth (aged 3-24) in school were that they are under the school or preschool age (54.3 percent), the school is asking for payment (25.3 percent), the children or youth have a responsibility to earn money for their family (9.2 percent) and there is a lack of legal documentation (4.2 percent). Less than a quarter (17.7 percent) of youth (aged 15-24), irrespective of gender and nationality, have attended secondary school as their highest level of education. The proportion of male youth who have attended primary school (3.4 percent) is slightly lower than that of female youth (3.8 percent). However, a shift is noticeable for secondary school, where percentages for females (53 percent) are much higher than those of males (2.1 percent). For youth enrolled in higher education, the gender gap shifts to 89.3 percent of male youth and 23.7 percent of female youth.

- Children and youth are particularly vulnerable to various other challenges too. Of all children (aged 5-17) in surveyed households in Hamra, 3 percent are involved in economic activities. The proportion of young women (aged 15-19) who were married at the time of the survey in Hamra is 5.8 percent. This phenomenon is higher among Syrians compared to Lebanese in Hamra, but considerably lower than the national average for married Syrian young women. For Lebanese young women, the percentage is lower than both national and Beirut Governorate numbers.[49] Of children (aged 1-17) in surveyed households, 60.2 percent have experienced at least one form of violent discipline at home, a slightly higher rate among Syrians (54.5 percent) than Lebanese (47.8 percent). In school settings, violent discipline exerted on children (aged 1-17) is not as common as at home (13.6 percent) and disaggregates similarly to a higher 25.3 percent for Syrian and lower 13.1 percent for Lebanese pupils. Moreover, children and youth in Hamra have limited access to safe and attractive playgrounds, gardens and other pockets. There is no public sportsfield or community centre catering to the youth. According to the FGD with parents of children with disabilities, Beirut is not a child-friendly city, let alone for disabled children. Children with disabilities are among the most vulnerable populations of Hamra, but their level of protection and access to services depends on their parents' resources. Youth in the neighbourhood struggle with finding employment opportunities (reported unemployment is 21.2 percent for youth aged 15-24). While many youth FGD participants agreed that Hamra is a place with great job opportunities due to the high number of shops, restaurants, cafés, hotels and banks among other businesses, others expressed concern that the large number of food establishments limits the type of work that is available. In addition, unlike the Lebanese, non-Lebanese FGD participants reported difficulties in finding employment due to legal restrictions.

- Unemployment is a general challenge faced by a considerable part of the working-age (15-64) population in Hamra (reportedly, 35.3 percent among Lebanese and 29.1 percent among Syrians). The majority of employees and business owners in Hamra are Lebanese and male. The gender gap is higher among business owners than employees. The average monthly household income in Hamra is USD 1,186 ± 395. Overall, Syrian households reported earning lower average monthly incomes (USD 814 ± 401) than Lebanese ones (USD 1,705 ± 388) in Hamra and are classified as poorer based on an assessment of household wealth.[50]

- The majority of the customers of Hamra shops and workshops (45 percent and 70 percent, respectively) come from within the neighbourhood. Of the surveyed enterprises (both shops and workshops), 3 percent are vacant. The most common types of enterprises among shops are boutiques, restaurant/cafés and food and grocery stores, while among workshops, tailoring and electronics ones are the most prevalent. In general, consumption enterprises (i.e. shops) are more numerous than production ones (i.e. workshops); 95 percent and 5 percent of all operating enterprises in Hamra, respectively. With regard to business age, over half of the neighbourhood's surveyed enterprises (52 percent of shops and 63 percent of workshops) are long-established businesses (functioning for more than 10 years).

- Interviewed business owners frequently expressed anxiety about the survival of local businesses and the challenging economic climate. Businesses in Hamra, according to them, are regularly closing down due to expensive rents (specifically new rents) and the general difficult economic situation in the country, which is limiting how much people can spend on non-essential shopping.

- Hamra's wastewater and stormwater networks are overloaded and under-maintained, increasing the risk of flooding and ponding of potentially sewage-contaminated water during peak stormflow, especially on the south-eastern and north-western parts of the neighbourhood. On a street level, 16.5 percent of the sewage network (by street area) is malfunctioning, concentrated in the south-eastern part of the neighbourhood. In addition, 59.8 percent of streets (by area) have malfunctional or non-existent gullies, contributing to uncontrolled on-street stormwater run-off. Concerning network connections to buildings, 5.8 percent of Hamra's buildings either have major defects in their connections to the wastewater network or have blocked/non-existent connections to it. Moreover, 13 percent of buildings show major defects in or have no connections to the stormwater network. Regarding connections to the domestic water network, 97 percent of all buildings are connected, including 3 percent of all buildings that experience major defects in their connection. Defects in these various infrastructure networks constitute public environmental health hazards with the potential of negatively impacting on the protection status of residents and on livelihood activities, while posing a stress to buildings and road structures.

- With regard to the electrical infrastructure, the majority (79.3 percent) of the streets (by area) are connected to a power grid of good quality. Tangled overhead wires and electrical hazards are observed in a few parts of the neighbourhood, especially on Makdisi Street, constituting danger to residents. At building level, 61 percent of buildings, amounting to 55 percent of residents, benefit from properly installed electrical wiring. However, 14 percent of buildings, amounting to 17 percent of

[49] Significant data on marriage below the age of 15 was not collected.

[50] At the time of data collection and processing, LBP 1,500 was equivalent to USD 1.

residents, are connected to the electrical grid but have major or critical defects in their connection. The discontinuous public electricity supply common to the national context has fostered dependency on neighbourhood-level private generators, which are known sources of air and noise pollution as well as contributors to unsafe wiring solutions. Street lighting coverage is functional on most main streets, although there are numerous parts of the neighbourhood with no street lighting at all.

- In Hamra, solid waste collection, transport and sweeping are provided by a private company, Ramco Trading and Contracting. Solid waste is collected regularly Hamra. Many streets are served by bins and dumpsters. As for self-reported solid waste practices, a minority (20.3 percent) of surveyed households reported that they recycle solid waste. In the case of Lebanese households in Hamra, the proportion is much higher than the Beirut Governorate and slightly higher than the national levels. Syrian households in Hamra are more likely to practise recycling, compared to the national and Beirut Governorate averages.

- Hamra neighbourhood has two roads that serve as main points of access: the first of these, Hamra Street, allows visitors to access the neighbourhood from Downtown Beirut, Spears and Ain Mreisseh by entering from the south-east and going westwards; the second, Sidani Street allows people to come from Raoucheh and Qoreitem, and enter the neighbourhood from the north-west. Hamra Street remains the main artery for both vehicular and pedestrian circulation. In addition, Rome, Abed El-Aziz, Jeanne d'Arc and Sadat streets are the main north-south arteries. Within the neighbourhood, 72 percent of streets (by area) show major or minor signs of road deterioration.

- The neighbourhood has a number of large privately owned open spaces scattered all around, which are mostly parking lots. Almost no public open spaces are present, 1.4 percent of the neighbourhood's total area. There are several private and semi-public open spaces, which collectively constitute around 11 percent of the neighbourhood's total area.

This profile has identified the relative criticality across space of a range of interlinked social, economic and built-environment challenges in the predominantly residential, commercial and middle-income neighbourhood of Hamra. Figure 53 provides an integrated map of selected built-environment vulnerabilities in the neighbourhood, also identifying areas that may be potentially targeted for open space interventions. While profiles may be used to inform both hard and soft interventions, this map suggests how hard urban upgrading has the potential to advance agendas related to the concerns of safety and security, public health, accessibility and socioeconomic development.

Finally, it is important to note that neighbourhood profiles offer a form of spatial analysis that is rich in detail but limited in horizontal coverage. Neighbourhoods are part of a wider urban context in which they are morphologically and functionally embedded. So, the opportunities and threats that bear on any neighbourhood derive from both within and beyond its boundaries. Recognition of the interconnectedness of spatial scales is a key principle of sustainable development and urban planning therein. The implication is that the refinement of potential responses to action areas signposted by this profile will likely have to draw on additional information sources. Similarly, institutional and stakeholder engagement surrounding such actions will need to be mobilized flexibly both within and across the Hamra neighbourhood boundary.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: MULTISECTORAL INDICATORS AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, GOVERNORATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS

National and governorate indicators are derived from the UNICEF 2016 baseline survey, where a HH survey (based on the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey [MICS]) was conducted at national and governorate levels for Lebanese and non-Lebanese (proportionally stratified by nationality). With some modifications made in order to meet the objectives of the current profiling exercise, the HH survey was replicated at the neighbourhood level for samples of Lebanese and non-Lebanese. Since the majority of non-Lebanese residents in Hamra are Syrian, and given the lack of a representative sample for other non-Lebanese population groups, only indicators pertaining to Syrians at national and governorate levels were integrated into the below table for analysis purposes.

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Lebanese			Syrian		
			Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra	Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra
POPULATION & HOUSING								
Proportion of overcrowding	No. of households with three or more persons per occupied room, excluding the kitchen and bathroom	Total no. of households	-	-	4.9%	-	-	41.8%
Proportion of owned housing	No. of households owning the housing	Total no. of households	-	-	51.9%	-	-	31.7%
Proportion of rented housing	No. of households renting the housing	Total no. of households	-	-	48.1%	-	-	68.3%
HEALTH								
Care seeking for diarrhoea	No. of children under the age of 5 with diarrhoea in the last two weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	Total no. of children under the age of 5 with diarrhoea in the last two weeks	64.3%	8.2%	95.2%	29.0%	-	75.4%
Health insurance coverage	No. of household members covered by health insurance	Total no. household members	-	-	77.8%	-	-	15.3%
Awareness of subsidized health services	No. of households that are aware of the existence of the subsidized services at the points of service delivery	Total no. of households	-	-	6.3%	-	-	0.6%
Relevance of health services to the population needs	No. of households that report the relevance of the subsidized services at the points of service delivery to their needs	Total no. of households that are using/used the services	-	-	43.9%	-	-	92.2%
Willingness to use health services	No. of households that use/are willing to use the subsidized services at the points of service delivery	Total no. of households	-	-	56.4%	-	-	84.8%
Satisfaction with health services	No. of households that are using/used the subsidized services, are satisfied with them and would recommend them	Total no. of households that are using/used the services	-	-	40.9%	-	-	92.2%
Recommendation of the public health services	No. of respondents using and willing to recommend public health services	No. of respondents being aware of and making use of public health services	-	-	75.8%	-	-	95.0%
LITERACY & EDUCATION								
Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	No. of children of primary school age (6-11), currently attending primary or secondary school	Total no. of children of primary school age (6-11)	95.8%	96.4%	94.2%	50.8%	70.7%	66.2%
Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	No. of children of secondary school age (12-17) currently attending secondary school or higher	Total no. of children of secondary school age (12-17)	64.2%	41.3%	97.2%	2.7%	-	41.4%

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Lebanese			Syrian		
			Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra	Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra
Gender parity index (primary school)	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	1	0.99	0.9	1	1	0.95
Gender parity index (secondary school)	Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls	Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	1.2	1.01	0.9	1.8	-	0.4
Out-of-school children (primary school age)	No. of children of primary school age (6-11) who are currently out of school	Total no. of children of primary school age (6-11)	4.2%	3.6%	7.4%	49.2%	28.0%	50.7%
Out-of-school children (lower secondary school age)	No. of children of lower secondary school age (12-14) who are currently out of school	Total no. of children of lower secondary school age (12-14)	10.2%	11.0%	5.1%	82.9%	-	91.1%
Out-of-school children (higher secondary school age)	No. of children of higher secondary school age (15-18) who are currently out of school	Total no. of children of higher secondary school age (15-18)						
Primary level of education of heads of households	No. of heads of households with primary level of education	Total no. of heads of households	-	-	7.7%	-	-	32.3%
Secondary or equivalent level of education of heads of households	No. of heads of households with secondary or equivalent level of education	Total no. of heads of households	-	-	22.0%	-	-	36.5%
Higher level of education of heads of households	No. of heads of households with higher level of education	Total no. of heads of households	-	-	70.1%	-	-	31.3%
Awareness of subsidized education services	No. of households that are aware of the existence of the subsidized services at the points of service delivery	Total no. of households	-	-	70.1%	-	-	31.3%
Relevance of education services to population needs	No. of households that report the relevance of the subsidized services at the points of delivery to their needs	Total no. of households that are using/used the services	-	-	57.7%	-	-	66.6%
Willingness to use education services	No. of households that use/ are willing to use the subsidized services at the points of service delivery	Total no. of households	-	-	13.1%	-	-	32.0%
Satisfaction with education services	No. of households that are using/used the subsidized services, are satisfied with them and would recommend them	Total no. of households that are using/used the services	-	-	41.6%	-	-	63.6%
Homework support	No. of children receiving homework support	Total no. of children in schools	-	-	26.8%	-	-	61.3%
Rate of children enrolled in public schools	No. of children enrolled in public schools	Total no. of children in schools	-	-	18.4%	-	-	79.2%
Rate of children enrolled in private schools	No. of children enrolled in private schools	Total no. of children in schools	-	-	79.5%	-	-	15.3%
Recommendation of the education services	No. of respondents using and willing to recommend educational services	No. of respondents being aware of and using educational services	-	-	16.4%	-	-	62.2%
CHILD PROTECTION								
Violent discipline at home	No. of children aged 1-14 who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month at home	Total no. of children aged 1-14	56.9%	53.1%	49.8%	65.0%	73.5%	53.7%

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Lebanese			Syrian		
			Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra	Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra
Violent discipline at school	No. of children aged 3-14 who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month at school	Total no. of children aged 3-14	-	-	6.1%	-	-	9.6%
Young women aged 15-19 years who are currently married	No. of women aged 15-19 years who are married	Total no. of women aged 15-19	4.1%	14.8%	1.4%	26.6%	-	4.6%
Awareness of subsidized social services	No. of households that are aware of the existence of the subsidized services at the points of service delivery	Total no. of households	-	-	6.3%	-	-	0.6%
Child marriage rate for girls	No. of girls aged 15-18 who are married	Total no. of girls aged 15-18	-	-	0.0%	-	-	2.7%
Child marriage rate for boys	No. of boys aged 15-18 who are married	Total no. of boys aged 15-18	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%
Proportion of children mistreated by employer	No. of children mistreated by employer	Total no. of children involved in child labour	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%
YOUTH								
Proportion of 15-19 year olds who are pregnant	No. of girls aged 15-19 who are pregnant	Total no. of girls aged 15-19	-	-	0.0%	-	-	0.0%
Completion rate of primary education	No. of youth aged 15-24 who have reported completing primary education	Total no. of youth aged 15-24	-	-	100%	-	-	84.2%
Out-of-school rate	No. of youth aged 15-21 who are out of school	Total no. of youth aged 15-21	-	-	26.4%	-	-	90.2%
Child marriage rate (by ages 15-18)	No. of youth aged 15-18 who are married	Total no. of youth aged 15-18	-	-	0.0%	-	-	3.3%
Adolescent population	No. of 15-24 years olds	Total no. of population	-	-	18.2%	-	-	17.6%
Percentage of 14-17 year olds who experienced psychological or physical punishment or discipline, at home, in the past month	No. of 14-17 year olds who experienced psychological or physical punishment or discipline, at home, in the past month	Total no. of 14-17 year olds	-	-	46.8%	-	-	58.8%
Percentage of 14-17 year olds who experienced psychological or physical punishment or discipline, at school, in the past month	No. of 14-17 year olds who experienced psychological or physical punishment or discipline, at school, in the past month	Total no. of 14-17 year olds	-	-	8.7%	-	-	30.5%
Percentage of 14-17 year olds who reported being bullied at least once in the last couple of months	No. of 14-17 year olds who reported being bullied at least once in the last couple of months	Total no. of 14-17 year olds	-	-	20.3%	-	-	79.7%
Percentage of 15-24 year olds engaged in labour	No. of 15-24 year olds engaged in economic activities or household chores	Total no. of 15-24 year olds	-	-	5.3%	-	-	10.2%
Unemployment rate among 15-24 year olds	No. of youth aged 15-24 who are unemployed	Total no. of 15-24 year olds	-	-	22.2%	-	-	20.0%
LIVELIHOODS (Income & Expenditure)								
Mean household monthly income in USD	Total amount of monthly income surveyed households have reported	Total no. of households	-	-	1555	-	-	618
Households receiving remittance	No. of households that received any type of remittance in the last three months	Total no. of households	-	-	18.2%	-	-	6.0%

Indicator	Numerator	Denominator	Lebanese			Syrian		
			Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra	Lebanon	Beirut Governorate	Hamra
LIVELIHOODS (Income & Expenditure)								
Overall poverty	No. of households in the lowest ("poorest") wealth index quintile	Total no. of households	-	-	10.1%	-	-	22.6%
WASH								
Use of improved drinking water sources	No. of household members using improved sources of drinking water	Total no. of household members	93.1%	84.9%	100%	73.9%	82.4%	99.4%
Use of improved sanitation	No. of household members using improved sanitation facilities that are not shared	Total no. of household members	99.7%	100%	100%	98.3%	97.2%	99.6%
Solid waste recycling	No. of households recycling any solid waste	Total no. of households	21.6%	7.6%	25.2%	0.9%	0.3%	6.7%

APPENDIX 2: POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

No. of residents/ unit	Leb				Syr				Others				No nationality data				Total			
	⌂	%	👥	%	⌂	%	👥	%	⌂	%	👥	%	⌂	%	👥	%	⌂	%	👥	%
0/-	26	1.4%	-	-	2	0.6%	-	-	8	3.3%	-	-	506	99.8%	-	-	542[i]	18.0%	-	-
1	435	22.6%	435	8.4%	58	17.4%	58	4.4%	78	31.8%	78	11.5%	1	0.2%	1	100%	571	19.0%	571	8.0%
2	559	29.1%	1,118	21.6%	58	17.4%	116	8.8%	66	26.9%	132	19.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	683	22.7%	1,366	19.1%
3	380	19.8%	1,140	22.1%	47	14.1%	141	10.7%	30	12.2%	90	13.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	457	15.2%	1,371	19.2%
4	293	15.3%	1,172	22.7%	56	16.8%	224	17.1%	23	9.4%	92	13.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	372	12.4%	1,488	20.8%
5	142	7.4%	710	13.7%	36	10.8%	180	13.7%	12	4.9%	60	8.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	190	6.3%	950	13.3%
6	55	2.9%	330	6.4%	21	6.3%	126	9.6%	7	2.9%	42	6.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	83	2.8%	498	7.0%
7	17	0.9%	119	2.3%	24	7.2%	168	12.8%	8	3.3%	56	8.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	49	1.6%	343	4.8%
8	6	0.3%	48	0.9%	12	3.6%	96	7.3%	5	2.0%	40	5.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	23	0.8%	184	2.6%
9	2	0.1%	18	0.3%	4	1.2%	36	2.7%	2	0.8%	18	2.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	0.3%	72	1.0%
10	2	0.1%	20	0.4%	11	3.3%	110	8.4%	4	1.6%	40	5.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	0.6%	170	2.4%
12	3	0.2%	36	0.7%	1	0.3%	12	0.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	0.1%	48	0.7%
14	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	14	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	14	0.2%
15	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	15	1.1%	1	0.4%	15	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	30	0.4%
16	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	16	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	16	0.2%
17	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	17	2.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	17	0.2%
20	1	0.1%	20	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	20	0.3%
Total	1,921	100%	5,166	100%	333	100%	1,312	100%	245	100%	680	100%	507	100.0%	1	100.0%	3,005	100%	7,158	100%

⌂ Number of residential units 👥 Number of residents

[i] For these residential units, population count data was unobtainable. Linked to this, nationality data for these units is partial or absent. These units can be either occupied or unoccupied.

APPENDIX 3: HEALTH FACILITIES INFORMATION

ID[ii]	Name	Catchment area	Accessible for					Accreditation	Guarantors	Consultation fee (LBP)														Immunization fee (LBP)														Malnutrition management fee (LBP)													
										Leb				Syr				PRL				PRS				Leb				Syr				PRL				PRS				Leb				Syr				PRL				PRS			
			Leb	Syr	PRL	PRS	O			free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{5,000-18,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}	free	{1,000-7,000}	{7,000-15,000}	{> 15,000}
Clinic/Dispensary/PHCC																																																			
23	AUBMC OPD	• Hamra • Municipal Beirut • Nationwide (including Akkar, Tripoli, Danniyé)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓[iii]	Yes	• AUBMC	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
24	Saint Mary's Orthodox Church Dispensary (Al Saydeh Clinic)	• Hamra (for chronic disease medication) • Nationwide (for consultation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Yes	• MoPH (for medication) • Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓

[ii] See Figure 12 (p. 26)

[iii] Accessible for all nationalities with legal documents.

APPENDIX 4: EDUCATION FACILITIES INFORMATION

ID[iv]	Name	Facility type	Facility ownership	Physical capacity (per shift)	Total registered	AM shift					PM shift					No. of shifts	Over capacity	Dropouts	Dropouts' gender	
						Leb	Syr	PRL	PRS	O[v]	Leb	Syr	PRL	PRS	O[v]				F	M
Public and subsidized schools																				
30	Jaber Ahmad Al Sabah Public School	• Kindergarten • Primary • Intermediate	Public	1,000	850	662	170	10	-	8	-	800	-	-	-	2	No	< 5%	-	-
33	Ras Beirut Mixed High School	• Intermediate • Secondary	Public	450	400	320	64	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	No	< 3%	-	-
Private school																				
2	Al Hamra Modern School	• Kindergarten • Primary	Private	180	174	26	148	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	No	1%	-	-

[iv] See Figure 15 (p. 30).
[v] O: Other nationalities.

APPENDIX 5: BUSINESS AGE OF ENTERPRISES, BUSINESS OWNERS, AND EMPLOYEES

	BUSINESS AGE (%)			BUSINESS OWNERS (%)					EMPLOYEES (%)				
				Cohort			Gender		Cohort			Gender	
	Long-established (>10 years)	Medium-aged (6–10 years)	New (0–5 years)	Leb	Syr	O	F	M	Leb	Syr	O	F	M
SHOP TYPE													
Bakery	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Bank	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Boutique	23%	2%	8%	28%	0%	0%	4%	25%	20%	4%	4%	13%	16%
Butcher shop	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Carpets	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Electric appliances	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Financial services	2%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%	1%	3%
Food and groceries	5%	2%	4%	11%	1%	0%	1%	10%	5%	5%	1%	3%	7%
Furniture	3%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Gaming/ Internet	0%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Gym	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Jewellery	3%	0%	2%	4%	0%	0%	1%	4%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Laundry	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Mobile phones	2%	0%	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Office	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	1%	2%	2%
Pharmacy	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
Restaurant /Café	5%	5%	10%	22%	3%	2%	3%	24%	16%	11%	2%	12%	16%
Salon	1%	1%	(%	5%	0%	1%	2%	4%	4%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Tools	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Others	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	**52%**	**13%**	**34%**	**93%**	**4%**	**3%**	**13%**	**86%**	**63%**	**27%**	**10%**	**39%**	**61%**
WORKSHOP TYPE													
Electronics repairs	20%	6%	9%	27%	5%	0%	3%	30%	17%	8%	13%	0%	28%
Mechanics	6%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	5%	4%	4%	4%	0%	6%
Printing	14%	6%	0%	16%	0%	0%	0%	16%	21%	4%	8%	17%	28%
Tailor clothes	11%	8%	3%	24%	0%	3%	5%	22%	4%	4%	4%	6%	0%
Tailor shoes/ bags	6%	3%	0%	11%	0%	0%	3%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%
Others	6%	3%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	8%	4%	0%	0%	0%	6%
Total	**63%**	**26%**	**11%**	**92%**	**6%**	**25%**	**11%**	**89%**	**50%**	**21%**	**29%**	**22%**	**78%**

APPENDIX 6: UNSOUND BUILDINGS (RED FLAG REPORT)

RELEASE DATE: April 2020

5.0% of the buildings (32 of 634 by count) are at risk.

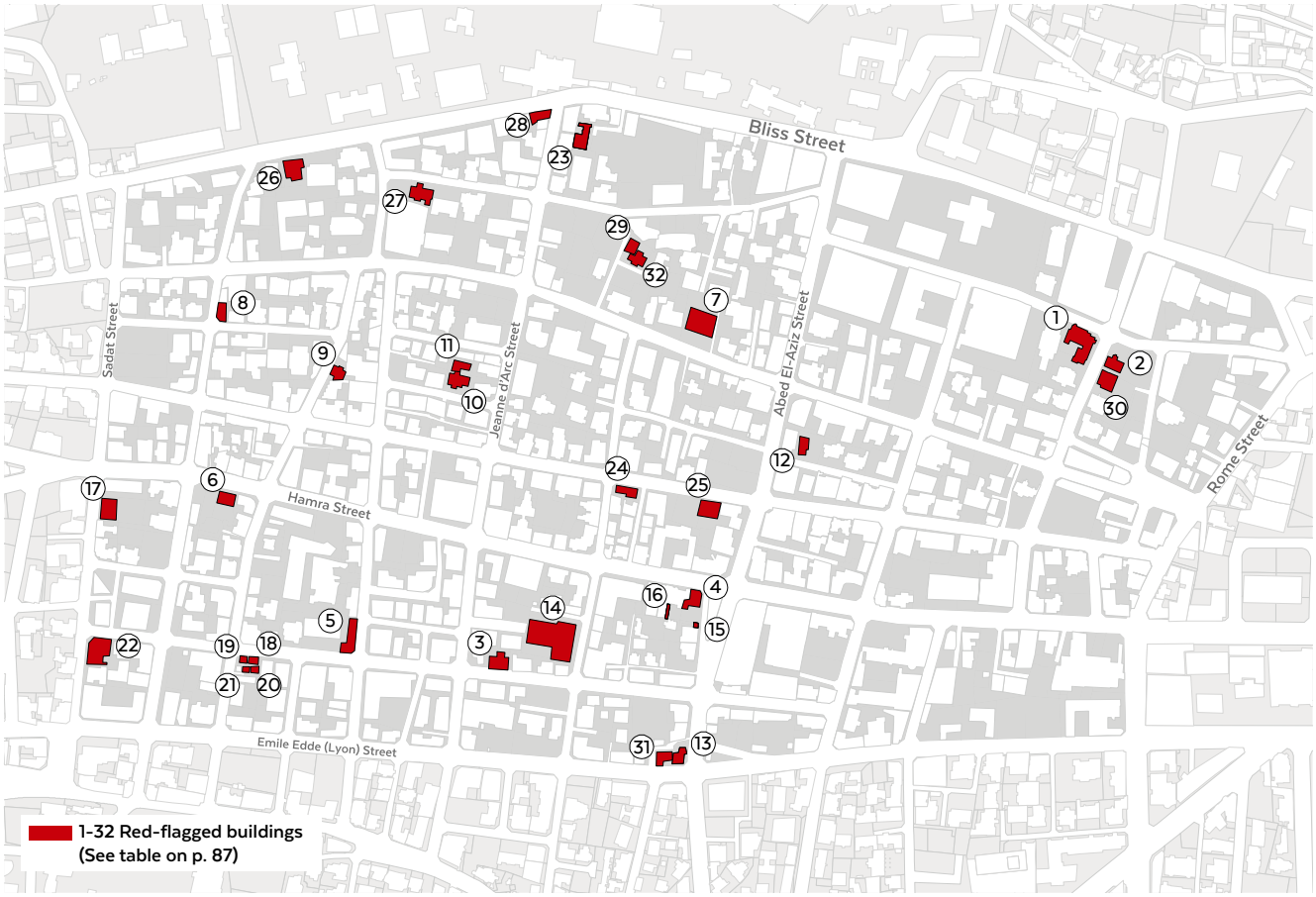


Figure 54 Red-flagged buildings in Hamra

Neighbourhood Red Flag Reports are designed to fast-track the release of field survey data indicating time-sensitive, acute and/or potentially life-threatening situations relevant to one or more sectors and/or local authorities. Red Flag Reports offer spatialized information extracted from wider multisectoral datasets that are later synthesized and published as neighbourhood profiles.

CRITERIA

Buildings in critical state where failure or collapse of structural and/or architectural elements appears imminent in one or more of the following: foundation and structure, walls, roof or balconies.

FIELD SURVEY SCOPE

Covers residential, partly residential, commercial and unoccupied buildings. Other buildings (such as religious, educational, administrative or industrial) are included if access was possible.

METHODOLOGY AND CAVEATS

Citizen Scientists trained by RELIEF and UN-Habitat collected the data for this report.. The data is derived from visual survey only. To be highlighted above, a building must have one or more of the following:

FOUNDATION & STRUCTURE	Foundations, columns, reinforcement, beams or structural walls show signs of failure or distress, such as severe cracking or crushing, or are missing structural supporting elements.
WALLS	Extensive damage to building interior apparent.
ROOF	Severe and extensive failure apparent, resulting in extensive damage to buildings.
BALCONIES	Severe problems apparent. Deflected and falling parts. No or very weak balustrade.

In the following table, buildings are classified by *type*, *occupancy* and *number of residents*. *Type* can be residential, residential mixed-use, commercial or not determined. *Occupancy* refers to whether the building is in use residentially or for any purpose. *Number of residents* indicates: a) if the building is in use as residential; and b) the number of people living there.

RED-FLAGGED BUILDINGS

ID[vi]	BUILDING TYPE	OCCUPANCY	NO. OF RESIDENTS	CRITICAL ISSUES			
				FOUNDATION & STRUCTURE	WALLS	ROOF	BALCONIES
1	Residential	Occupied	12				●
2	Unoccupied	Unoccupied	0				●
3	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	53	●	●	●	●
4	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	41		●		●
5	Unoccupied	Unoccupied	0				●
6	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0				●
7	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0				●
8	Residential	Under renovation	0	●	●	●	●
9	Residential	Occupied	3				●
10	Residential	Occupied	7				●
11	Residential	Occupied	26				●
12	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	15			●	
13	Residential	Occupied	7		●	●	
14	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0		●	●	
15	Commercial	Occupied	0	●	●	●	
16	Unoccupied	Unoccupied	0	●	●	●	
17	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	73			●	
18	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0			●	
19	Commercial	Occupied	0			●	
20	Residential	Occupied	15			●	
21	Residential	Occupied	5			●	
22	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	30			●	
23	Unoccupied	Unoccupied	0	●	●	●	
24	Commercial	Under renovation	0	●	●	●	
25	Commercial	Under renovation	0	●	●	●	
26	Residential	Under renovation	0	●	●	●	
27	Unoccupied	Unoccupied	0			●	
28	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0			●	
29	Commercial	Occupied	0	●	●	●	
30	Residential	Occupied	0		●		
31	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	17		●		
32	Residential mixed-use	Occupied	0		●		

[vi] See Figure 54 (p. 86).

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مربع ازدهار الحمرا

AUB American University of Beirut

مبادرة حسن الجوار The Neighborhood Initiative

LAU Lebanese American University

CLS Centre for Lebanese Studies مركز الدراسات اللبنانية

UCL Institute for Global Prosperity

E·S·R·C ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL