



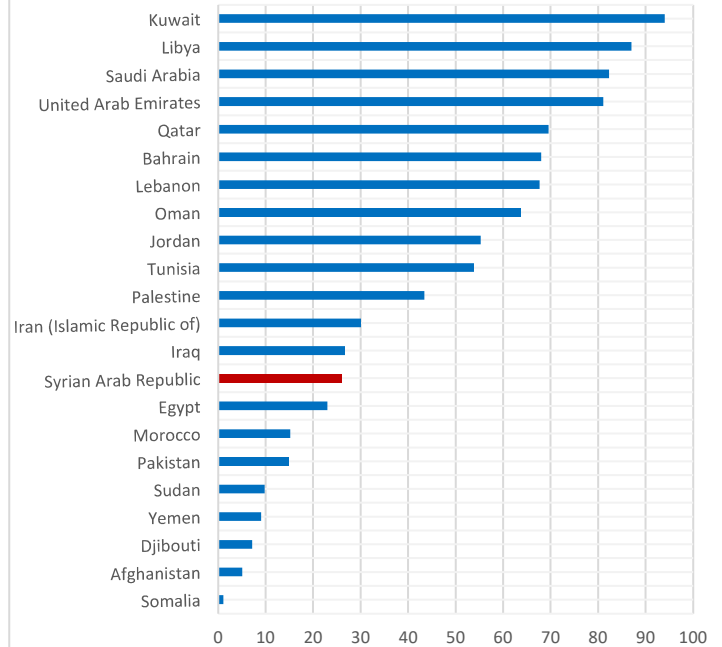
Health workforce snapshot

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AT A GLANCE¹

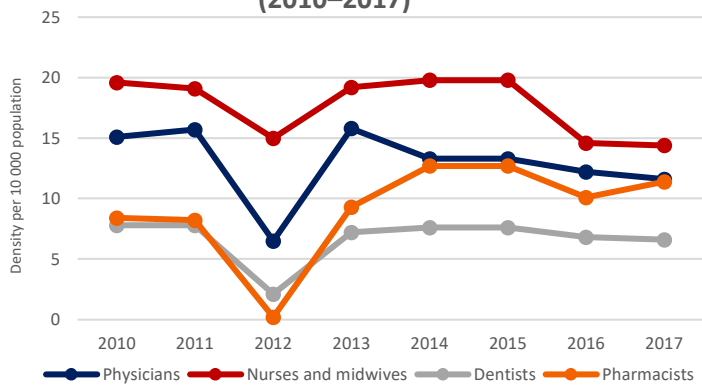
Total population (2017)	24 422 000
Unemployment (% of total labour force) (2019) ²	8.37
Per capita current health expenditure (US\$ 2012)	160
Government health expenditure as % of general government expenditure (2012)	4.3
Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of current health expenditure (2012)	54
Universal health coverage index (2017) ³	60
Number of refugees (2016)	810 374
Number of internally displaced persons (2016)	6 325 978
Maternal mortality ratio per 100 000 live births (2017)	68
Under-5 mortality rate per 1000 live births (2019) ⁴	23.7
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%) (2016)	96
Raised blood glucose (% , 18+ years) (2017)	14.6
Raised blood pressure (% , 18+ years) (2017)	24.5
Hepatitis B incidence rate per 100 000 (2017) ⁵	600

Density of physicians, nurses and midwives in countries of the Region (2017)



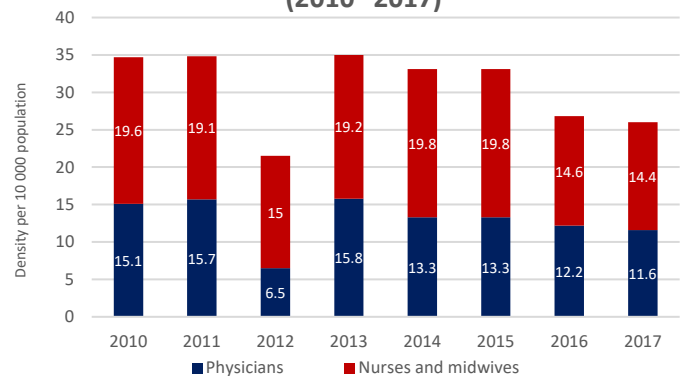
Source: Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory.

Density of selected health professionals (2010–2017)



Source: Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory.

Density of physicians, nurses and midwives (2010–2017)

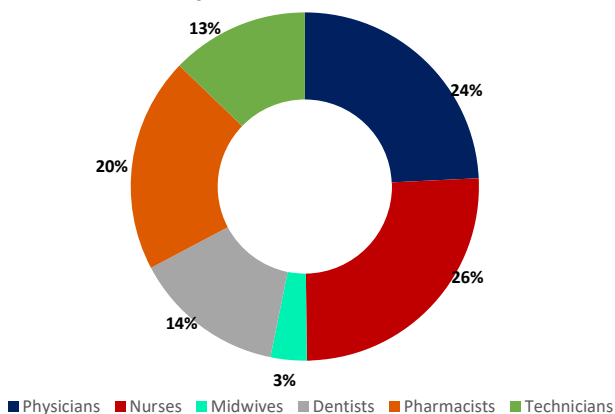


Source: Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory.

KEY FACTS

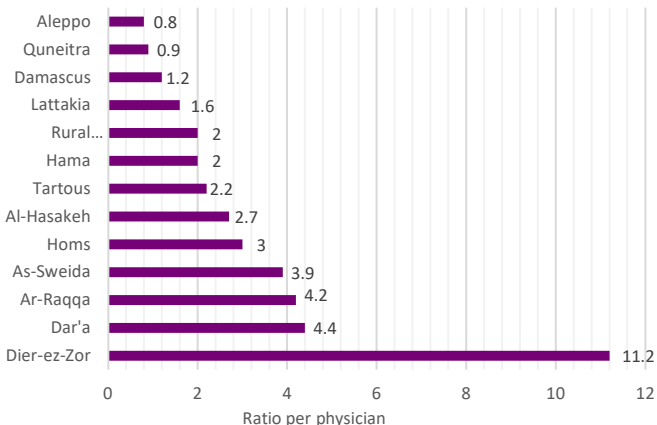
- Conflict has been ongoing in the Syrian Arab Republic for many years. Since 2011, there have been 192 attacks with heavy weapons on health care resulting in 125 deaths and 259 injuries of health care personnel.⁶ About 57% of public hospitals have been damaged, and 37% are no longer functioning.⁷
- HeRAMS 2018 reported that 24% of assessed public hospitals were partially functioning and 23% were non-functioning, due to shortages of staff and supplies or damage to the building.⁸
- HeRAMS 2018 reported that the number of medical doctors available in public hospitals increased by 6% in December 2018 compared to January 2018, and the number of nurses and midwives increased by 4% and 2%, respectively. In public health centres, the number of medical doctors decreased by 0.2% by the end of December 2018, and the number of nurses and midwives decreased by 2% and 0.5%, respectively.⁸
- Out-migration of skilled professionals due to the conflict has further compounded the shortages in health workforce.
- Regional maldistribution of the health workforce is prominent across the country.

Distribution of health workforce by profession (2018)



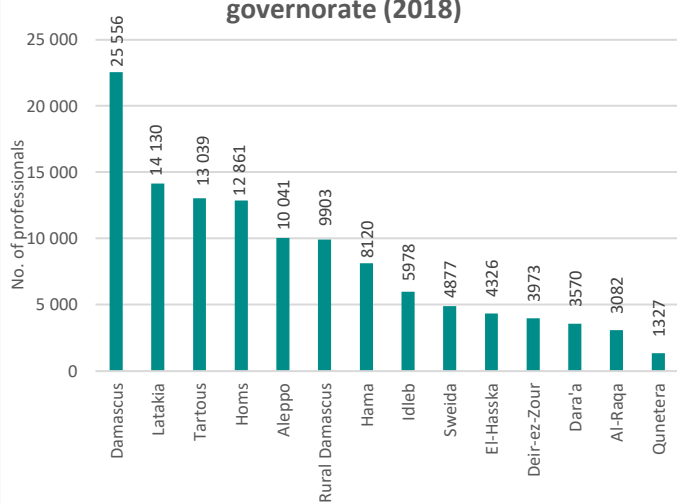
Source: Health statistical abstract 2018, Ministry of Health.

Ratio of nurses and midwives per physician in public hospitals, by governorate (2018)



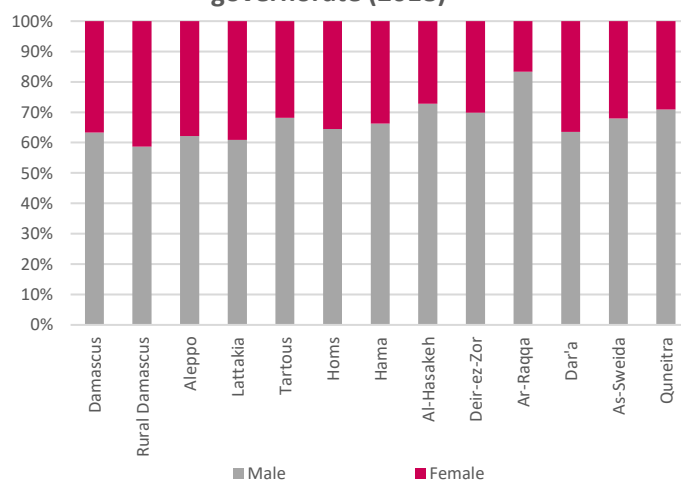
Source: HeRAMS annual report January–December 2018: public hospitals in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Distribution of health workforce by governorate (2018)



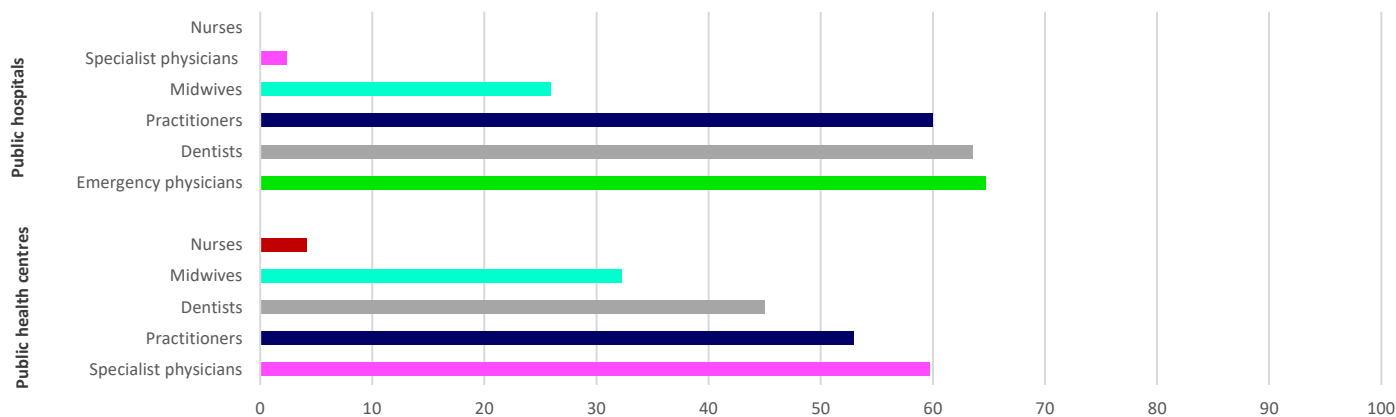
Source: Health statistical abstract 2018, Ministry of Health.

Gender distribution of physicians by governorate (2018)



*Physicians include a total of specialists, emergency physicians, resident doctors and dentists.
Source: HeRAMS annual report January–December 2018: public hospitals in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Percentage of functioning public health centres and hospitals without medical staff, by profession (2018)



Source: HeRAMS annual reports January–December 2018: public hospitals and public health centres in the Syrian Arab Republic.

1. Eastern Mediterranean Health Observatory [online data repository]. Cairo: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (<https://rho.emro.who.int/data-r>, accessed 5 November 2019).
2. The World Bank, 2018 data [online]. Washington (DC): World Bank; 2018 (<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=SY>, accessed 5 November 2019).
3. The World Bank, 2018 data [online]. Washington (DC): World Bank; 2018 (<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.UHC.SRVS.CV.XD>, accessed 27.07.2020)
4. National survey on mother and childhood health, 2019. Ministry of Health, Syrian Arab Republic.
5. National hepatitis B and C strategy, 2017. Ministry of Health, Syrian Arab Republic.
6. Surveillance system for attacks on health care (SSA) [online data repository]. Geneva: World Health Organization (<https://publicspace.who.int/sites/ssa/SitePages/PublicDashboard.aspx>, accessed 5 November 2019).
7. Strengthening health financing systems in the Eastern Mediterranean Region towards universal health coverage: health financing atlas 2018. Cairo: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean; 2019 (<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/311328>, accessed 5 November 2019).
8. HeRAMS annual reports January–December 2018: public hospitals and public health centres in the Syrian Arab Republic. Cairo: WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean; 2018 (<http://www.emro.who.int/syr/information-resources/herams-reports.html>, accessed 27 July 2020).