



**The State of Food Security in
Jordan (2013–2014)**

Analytical Report

February 2016



Introduction

The Department of Statistics is pleased to submit this report, highlighting the results of the Food Security Survey, conducted by the Department as part of the more inclusive Households Expenditures and Income Survey (HEIS) during the period 1/7/2013–30/6/2014. The nation-wide sample for the HEIS survey included around 24,000 households, representing both rural and urban areas, as well as all the Kingdom's governorates at district level.

This report seeks to discover the state of food security in Jordan and identify areas of food insecurity and vulnerability at district level. The report also seeks to identify the living conditions of these households, e.g., their demographic and social characteristics, income and expenditure, which would help decision-makers in targeting needy groups and directing activities towards building a food security protection net.

The report includes the survey's detailed objectives, methodology and sample design, and provides descriptions of the preparatory work for the survey, the various stages of field work, and processing and extracting the results. It also highlights the main detailed findings of the survey.

The Department of Statistics would like to thank those in charge at the World Food Program for their financial and technical support, which has had the greatest impact in the implementation and success of this survey. It would also like to thank all the families that participated in this survey for their response, which had a significant impact on its success.

The Department would also like to thank all its employees, who have worked on producing this report, hoping that the information contained therein would benefit all those interested in food security issues, including planners, researchers, policy makers and decision makers at the official and private levels.

Dr. Qassem Al-Zoubi
Director General

Executive Summary

- 0.5% of all Jordanian households suffer from food insecurity.
- 5.7% of all Jordanian households are vulnerable towards food insecurity.
- The highest percentage (0.9%) of food-insecure households are in Ma'aan and Karak governorates, while Aqaba Governorate did not at all record any food insecure households.
- The highest percentage of food insecure households (12.9%) was reported in Mreighah District, while the highest percentage (25.6%) of vulnerable-to-food-insecurity households was reported in Umm Al-Rassas District.
- All Jordanian households consume cereals and carbohydrates (wheat, the various types of bread, the various types of rice, etc.) on a daily basis, followed by the food group: Sugar, at an average of 6 days a week.
- Food secure households eat meat and poultry at an average of 6 days a week, while food insecure household consume this group at an average of two days a week.
- 14% of all food insecure and vulnerable-to-food-insecurity households receive cash or in-kind assistance from the National Aid Fund (NAF).
- The annual income of 80% of food insecure households is less than JD 5,000.
- 33.5% of Jordanian households used food coping mechanisms during the survey year.
- More than half of all households in Mafraq Governorate used food coping mechanisms during the survey year.
- More than 90% of all households in Ruweished District used food coping mechanisms.
- A direct relationship exists between using coping mechanisms and the household size and an indirect relationship between using coping mechanisms and the educational level of the head of household.
- Around half the number of food insecure households used severe food coping mechanisms
- 9.6% of Jordanian households received food assistance, while 5.9% received non-food assistance.
- More than half the households in Mafraq Governorate received food assistance, followed by Maan and Ajloun governorates.
- Around 71% of all households in Ruweished District received food assistance.
- Around 17% of all food insecure households received food assistance, against 17% of households that are vulnerable to food insecurity.

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1. General Background About the survey

1.1 Introduction

Food security is a central issue to which paramount importance is attached at all national and international levels, not only because obtaining food is the right of every human being and the essence of his/her survival, but also because efforts exerted to overcome the food problem in many countries have so far failed. It has thus become inevitable to pay increased attention to the daily challenges faced by millions of households all over the world as they try to overcome hunger and poverty.

The joint efforts of the Department of Statistics (DoS) and the World Food Program (WFP) have borne fruit in implementing this survey, which aimed at assessing the food situation in Jordan. This survey focuses on providing answers to the following key questions:

- Who are the food insecure people?
- Why have they become food insecure?
- How many Jordanians are food insecure?
- Where are the food insecure people concentrated, geographically?
- How can the suffering of the food insecure people be alleviated?

The objective of answering these questions is to provide data that will serve planners and decision-makers to develop policies, that are well connected to reality, in order to secure the required objective solutions

This survey, conducted in conjunction with the Households Expenditures and Income Survey (HEIS), covers all the districts in the Kingdom's 12 governorates. It is, thus, the first of its kind in the Middle East in terms of helping those in charge of preparing this report in linking food security indicators to household income and expenditure indicators, as well as the demographic and social characteristics of these households.

1.2 Objectives of the Survey

1. To provide a detailed, objective assessment of the current state of food security and vulnerability to food insecurity in the Kingdom;
2. To identify the geographical areas where food vulnerable households are concentrated and may need assistance in the future;
3. To provide decision makers with the information they need in their bid to select the best possible ways for targeting needy groups, directing activities and identifying the best options for building a safety net for food security.

1.3 Framework of the Survey

The 2004 General Census of Population and Housing provided a detailed framework for housing and households at all the administrative levels in the Kingdom. For administrative purposes, the Kingdom was divided into 12 governorates, each consisting of a number of districts (Liwa'a). Each district, in turn, consisted of one or more sub-district (Qada'a), each comprising a number of population centers (cities, towns and villages). Each population center was divided into a number of blocks, each consisting of 80 houses, on average. The framework excluded roaming nomads (Badou), as well as people residing in communal housing, e.g., hospitals, prisons, etc.

1.4 Sample Design

The sample for the 2013 survey was designed to serve the main objectives of the survey. In light of these objectives, a relatively large sample was designed to provide data at the sub-district level. A two-stage stratified cluster sampling method was employed in designing the sample, whereby a clusters sample was drawn using a proportionate-to-size sampling method. The number of households in each cluster was considered a weight for that cluster. The second stage involved employing the systematic sampling method to draw a sample of 10 targeted households in each cluster, as well as an additional 5 “reserve” households in each primary sampling unit for use during the first visit to the cluster in case a response from any household in the main sample was not possible for any reason whatsoever. For the purposes of the present survey, each sub-district was considered to be an independent stratum in order to guarantee the possibility of extracting results at the level of each sub-district.

To estimate the size of the sample, the variance coefficient and the impact of the design on the expenditure variable for each sub-district were computed. These results were used in estimating the size of the sample at sub-district level so that the variance coefficient for the expenditure variable at sub-district level is < 10%, with a minimum of 8 clusters at sub-district level, in order to guarantee dispersion of clusters in the administrative areas in such a manner as to enable drawing of a poverty map.

Table 1 shows the distribution of primary sampling units (clusters), as well as the number of households in each governorate.

Table 1: Number of primary sampling units (clusters) and households, by Governorate

Governorate	Number of Clusters	Number of Households
Amman	654	6540
Balqa	197	1970
Zarqa	264	2640
Madaba	100	1000
Irbid	335	3350
Mafraq	238	2380
Jerash	64	640
Ajloun	100	1000
Karak	222	2220
Tafleh	85	850
Maan	146	1460
Aqaba	69	690
Total	2474	24740

1.5 Survey Methodology

Work started on November 1, 2012 on the preparatory stage, considered to be of utmost importance for statistical work. This stage consisted of a set of interwoven and integrative operations that required intensifying the efforts of all specialists working along the different stages of the survey and drawing a plan of action and an implementation timeframe, as well as recruiting and training the required qualified human resources and assigning their tasks and work locations..

The preparatory stage also involved designing the survey sample, including identifying the size and method of sample selection. This was followed by selecting the primary sampling units (clusters) then updating them at the field level in order to enable selecting the secondary sampling units (households). This stage also involved identifying the concepts and definitions to be used in conducting the survey, as well as supplying all such requirements as questionnaires and drafting the instructions related to administering the questionnaires. This stage also called for providing the required maps of the population centers and the lists of buildings and housing units in these centers as per the statistical and administrative divisions approved by the Department. Also during this stage, the programs and plans of action for the electronic equipment were prepared for the purposes of data entry, auditing and revision. Data for the survey were gathered all year long in four rounds, each involving gathering data about the household's weekly consumption of the various food groups during that particular round.

1.6 Survey Tools

The survey tools were designed in such a manner that would allow reaching the main objective it was initiated for. These tools were put in their final form after a series of tests and reviews carried out by specialists who took into consideration the need to facilitate and audit the data. The survey tools included the following:

1. The main household characteristics (demographic, economic, etc.) questionnaire;
2. The expenditure on food items questionnaire, which covered the household's expenditure on the different food items;
3. The expenditure on non-food items questionnaire, which covered the household's expenditure on non-food items and services;
4. The food security questionnaire, which included the following:
 - a) The number of days during which the household consumed each of the specific food groups and the way the household secured these groups;
 - b) The number and frequency of coping ways used by the household to face the lack of sufficient money to cover any of its basic needs (food, medicine, fuel, education).
 - c) The type and frequency of assistance the household received.

1.7 Definitions Relevant to Food Security

Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognizes "the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing."

Food Security

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), “Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life”. Hence, food security requires the following:

- **Food availability:** The availability of sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or imports (including food aid).
- **Food access:** Access by individuals and households to adequate foods, including the community’s economic and legal arrangements, as well as its traditional rights.
- **Utilization:** The availability of conditions for good nutrition, including adequate diet, clean water, sanitation and health care.
- **Stability:** Access to adequate food at all times, without the risk of losing access to food as a consequence of sudden shocks, e.g. economic, environmental, cyclical or seasonal crises.

Food Insecurity

Food insecurity occurs when people suffer from malnutrition as a result of the unavailability of, or inability to access food. The food insecure are persons, whose food supplies are less than their minimum daily caloric requirements, as well as those who show symptoms resulting from malnutrition and lack of energy caused by the insufficiency or imbalance of the meals they take or the inability of their body to utilize food.

Vulnerability

People are vulnerable to experiencing food insecurity when their food intake are less than those consumed by food secure persons, yet more than those consumed by food insecure persons. They are at risk of becoming food insecure when facing future shocks. The degree of the harm, inflicted upon individuals, households and groups, is determined by the extent to which they are subjected to these elements, as well as their ability to cope with crises.

Food Insecurity Coping Mechanisms

Mechanisms for coping with food insecurity are arrangements to which households resort when they do not have enough food or money to buy food.

1.8 Methodology Used in Computing Food Security Indicators

1.8.1 Food Consumption Score (FCS) Indicator

FCS is calculated using the frequency of consumption of different weighted food groups consumed by the household. The calculation is illustrated as follows:

1. First the average number of days during which the household consumes each food group: (number of days during which the first food group is consumed in the first round + number of days during which the first food group is consumed in the second round + number of days during which the first food group is consumed in the third round + number of days during which the first food group is consumed in the fourth round) divided by 4. This represents the average for one food week. The same is applied to the other food groups.

2. For the purposes of analysis, the main food groups are re-classified by combining the 12 food groups into 8 groups, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Food Groups, Components and Weights

Main Food Groups	Components	Food Group Weight
Cereals, carbohydrates, potatoes and roots	Wheat, bread, burghul, couscous, macaroni, rice, potatoes, carrots	2
Pulses	Fava beans, lentils, beans, peas, nuts	3
Vegetables	All kinds of vegetables, including salads	1
Fruits and dates	All kinds	1
Meat, poultry, fish and eggs	All kinds of meat, poultry and fish, as well as eggs	4
Dairy products	Labaneh, cheese, butter, jameed, milk	4
Sugar and honey	All imported and local kinds	0.5
Oils	All kinds of oils and ghee	0.5

3. A period of 7 days has been adopted as the maximum number of days during which a food group is consumed.
4. Each food group is multiplied by its weight (a pre-determined international weight).
5. The FCS is computed by adding the number of days for the 12 weighted food groups, provided that its value should not exceed 112.
6. Re-classifying FCS into three categories as follows:
 - i) Food insecure households, where FCS is less than, or equal to 45.
 - ii) Households that are vulnerable to experiencing food insecurity, where FCS is more than 45, but less than or equal to 61.
 - iii) Food secure households, where FCS is more than 61.

1.8.2 Coping Strategies Index (CSI)

CSI is computed on the basis of the frequency of using a certain weighted coping mechanism. These weights have been computed on the basis of the findings of focus group discussions, conducted by the Department of Statistics, in cooperation with the World Food Program in the Kingdom's three regions. The weights ranged between 1 and 5, where 5 is the most difficult mechanism that a household can apply. Averages for these weights have been computed for the Kingdom in general. Table 3 shows coping mechanism and their weights:

Table 3: Coping Mechanisms and Their Weights

Coping Mechanism	Weight
Relying on less preferred and less expensive foods.	1
Borrowing food or relying on help from others.	5

Purchasing food on credit.	3
Skipping or reducing the size of a meal.	2
Restricting consumption of adults to enable small children to eat.	4
Skip entire days without eating.	5
Consuming seed stock held for the following season.	1
Reducing expenses related to agricultural production costs.	3
Selling household assets.	3
Selling production inputs or income sources.	4
Selling more animals than usual.	2
Reducing expenditure on medical treatment.	2
Pulling children out of school.	5
Seeking work alternatives.	1
Emigration of household members.	4

CSI was computed as follows:

1. Adding the number of times the coping mechanism was used during the four rounds: (Number of times the first coping mechanism was used in the first round + Number of times the first coping mechanism was used in the second round + Number of times the first coping mechanism was used in the third round + Number of times the first coping mechanism was used in the fourth round), and so on and so forth for the other mechanisms.
2. Multiplying each mechanism by its weight, identified through focus group discussions.
3. Computing CSI by combining the weighted coping mechanisms.
4. Re-classifying the coping strategies indices according to the severity of the coping mechanisms (the higher the CSI, the higher the severity) into three categories as follows:
 - a) Households using mechanisms whose severity is low;
 - b) Households using mechanisms whose severity is medium;
 - c) Households using mechanisms whose severity is high.

It is noteworthy that the focus of this report has been only on analysis of coping mechanisms related to food, which are the first six coping mechanisms listed in Table 3. The above steps were applied only for these mechanism.

1.8.3 Assistance Indicator

The last part of the Food Security Questionnaire dealt with the assistance the household received from any source (with the exception of debts and loans), irrespective of whether this assistance is in cash or in kind (which the household is not bound to repay) or provided by a government or a non-government body. The indicator was computed as follows:

1. Adding the number of times the household received each assistance separately in the four rounds (the number of times the household received the first assistance in the first round + the number of times the household received the first assistance in the second round + the number of times the household

received the first assistance in the third round + the number of times the household received the first assistance in the fourth round), and so on and so forth for other kinds of assistance.

2. Computing the assistance indicator by adding the number of times the household received all kinds' assistance.
3. Re-classifying the assistance indicator into two categories as follows:
 - a) Household that have received assistance: Assistance Indicator is more than zero;
 - b) Households that have not received assistance: Assistance Indicator is zero.

The focus in the analysis of data was on food assistance received by the household during the survey year, which included: school food rations, food rations for children suffering from malnutrition or nursing mothers, or any free food obtained by the household from governmental or private agencies. The above steps were applied, but only for these types of assistance.

2. Food Security Indicators

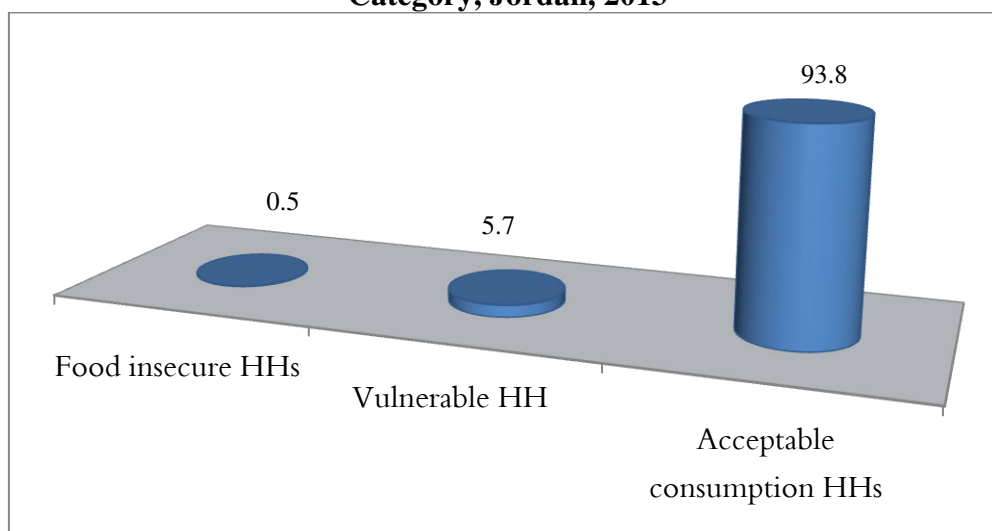
2.1 General Food Consumption Indicator Score (FCI)

The food consumption score (FCS) is based on the number of times the household consumes each food group during the 7 days preceding the day of the interview and the weight of each food group. Consequently, this FCS increases with the diversity and frequency of consumption of the different food groups. Households were classified according to their food consumption into three categories as follows:

1. Low food consumption households (insecure Households);
2. Critical food consumption households (Households vulnerable towards food insecurity);
3. Acceptable food consumption households.(Food Secure Households)

Survey results indicate that 6,212 households in Jordan are food insecure, compared with 3,887 households in 2010, i.e., 0.5% of all households in the Kingdom, against 5.7% of households that are vulnerable to food insecurity. Households whose food consumption is acceptable accounted for 93.8% of the total (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Relative Distribution of Households by Average Food Consumption Category, Jordan, 2013

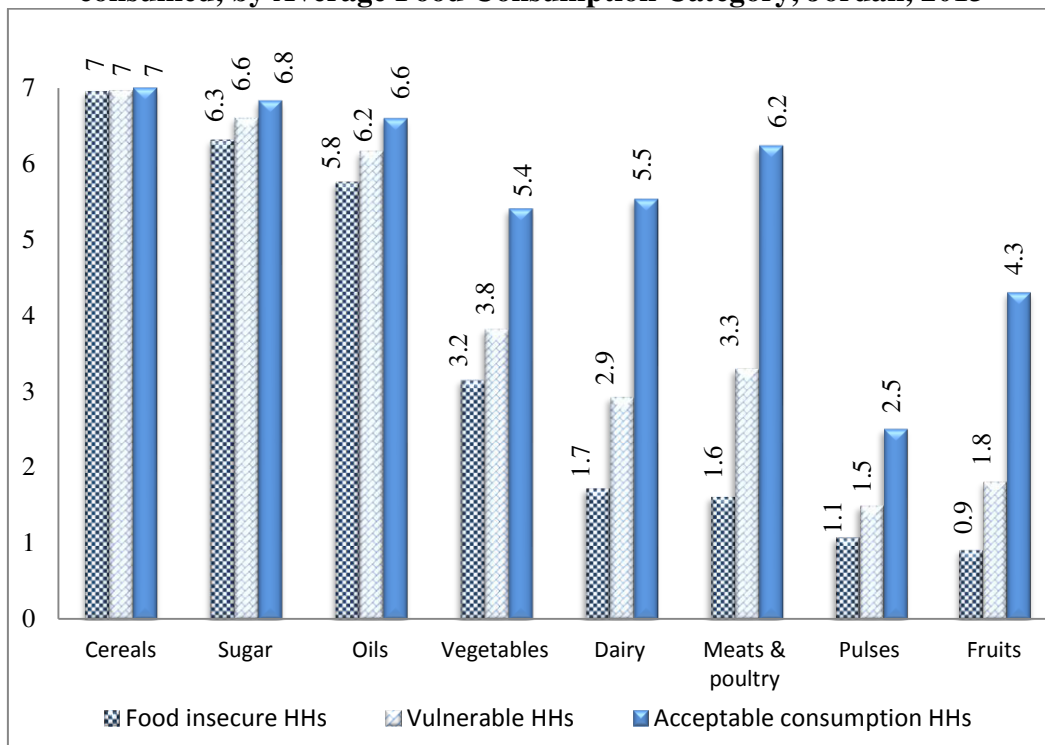


Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The survey revealed that all households, irrespective of their food consumption category, consume cereals and starches (including wheat, the different kinds of bread and rice, burghul, couscous, macaroni, potatoes and roots) on daily basis. This group is followed by the sugars and oils groups, which are consumed 6 days a week.

The findings reveal a clear difference in the consumption pattern of some food groups by food insecure households, compared with food secure households, especially in terms of the meat and poultry group, the dairy products group and the fruits group. While food secure households consume meat around 6 days a week, food insecure households consume this group only two days a week on average (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Average Number of Days, during which Main Food Groups are consumed, by Average Food Consumption Category, Jordan, 2013

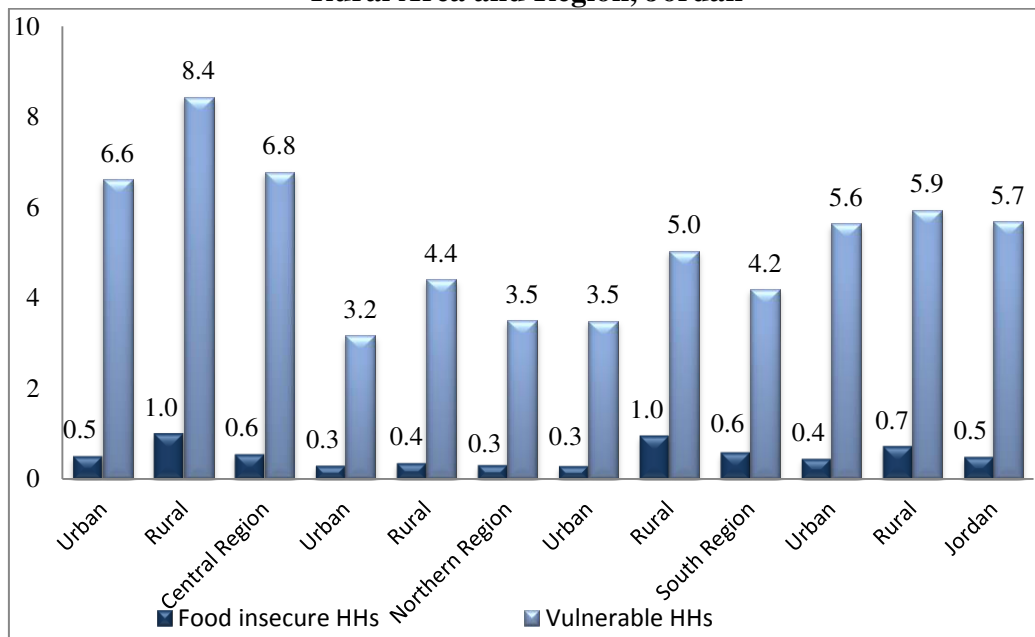


Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 3 shows that 0.6% of households in both the central and southern regions are food insecure, while only 0.3% of households in the northern region are food insecure. At the same time, the highest percentage of households that are vulnerable to food insecurity was found in the central region (6.8%), followed by the southern region (4.2%).

In terms of food insecurity in urban and rural areas, the findings revealed that the percentages are very close in the northern region, while the highest percentage of food insecurity of 1% was reported for rural areas in the central and southern regions.

Figure 3: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Urban and Rural Area and Region, Jordan

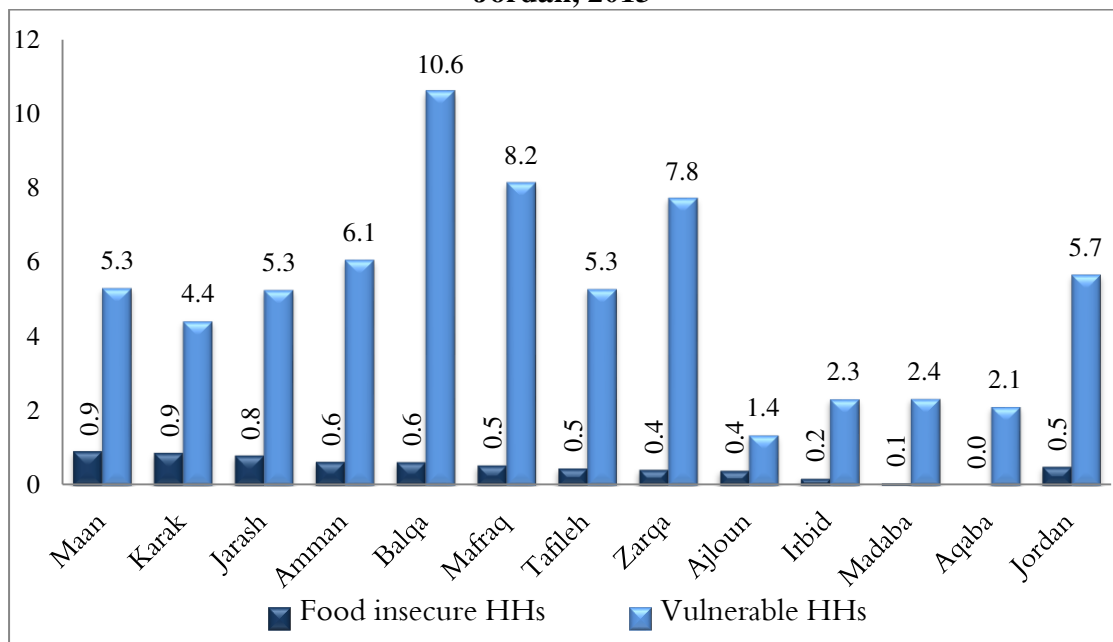


Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Ma'aan and Karak governorates reported the highest percentages of food insecure households (0.9%), while Aqaba governorate did not report any food insecure households.

Regarding vulnerable households to food insecurity, Ajloun governorate reported the lowest percentage of 1.4%, while the highest percentage was reported by Balqa governorate (10.6% of all households in the governorate) (See Figure 4).

Figure 4: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Governorate, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 4 shows the highest 10 of the Kingdom's 89 sub-districts, whose households suffer from food insecurity and vulnerability.¹ Um Al-Rassas sub-district in Amman governorate came first with 3.4% of all households suffering from food insecurity and about 26% were vulnerable to food insecurity, followed by Mreighah subdistrict with 12.9% of all households suffering from food insecurity and 14.1% vulnerable to food insecurity.

Table 4: % of food Insecure and Food Insecurity Vulnerable Households in Jordan, by District, 2013

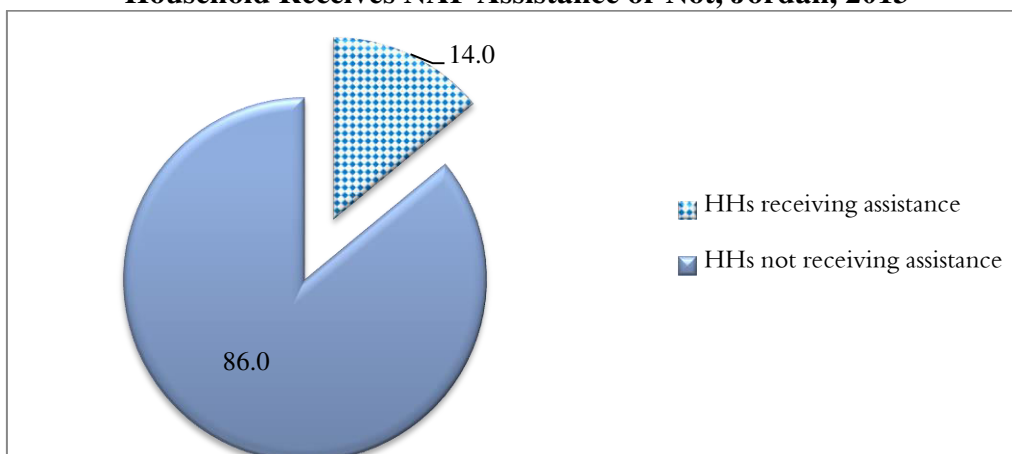
Governorate	Subdistrict	Food Insecure Households	Vulnerable Households
Amman	Um Rassas	3.4	25.6
Maan	Mreighah	12.9	14.1
Mafraq	Salehiyya	2.2	21.7
Amman	Muwaqqar	2.4	19.7
Amman	Jiza	3.0	16.9
Balqa	South Shuneh	1.5	15.0
Mafraq	Deir Al-Kahf	0.9	14.8
Mafraq	Khalidiyya	0.0	15.0
Amman	Um Al-Basateen	0.0	15.0
Balqa	Ein Al-Basha	1.0	13.9
Jordan		0.5	5.7

Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings also revealed that 14% of food insecure and food vulnerable households received cash or in-kind assistance from the National Aid Fund, against 86% of the households that did not receive any assistance (Figure 5).

¹ For the other sub-districts, please refer to Annex 3.2, entitled Detailed Food Security Data.

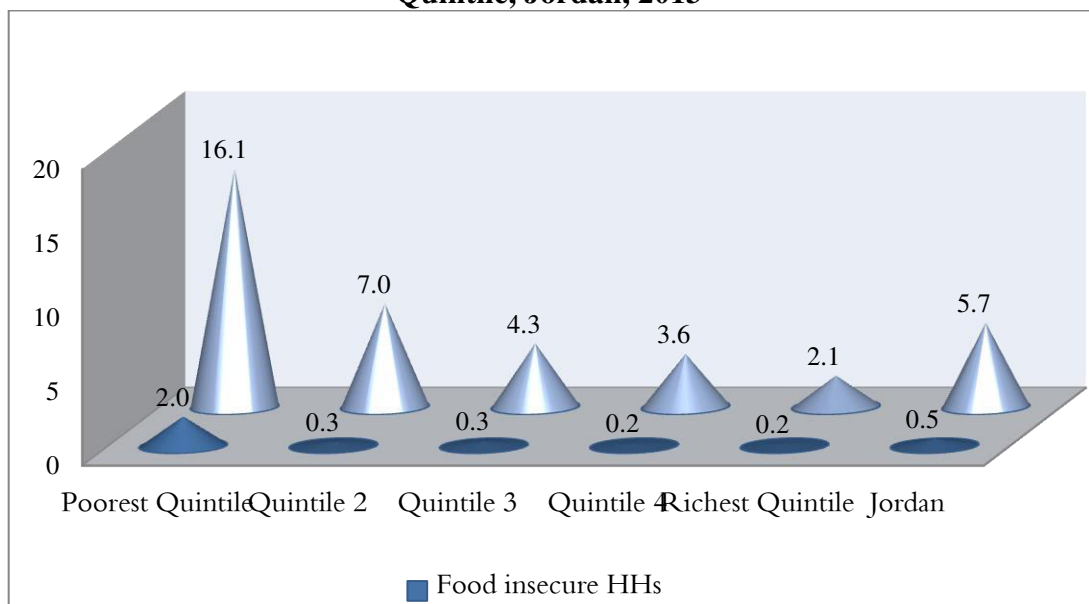
Figure 5: Distribution of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable, by Whether Household Receives NAF Assistance or Not, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings indicated a high percentage of food insecure households during the first quintile, compared to the other quintiles. A very small percentage was reported for the fourth and fifth quintiles, probably because the households during these two quintiles used their own food patterns, which impacted the food consumption categories. Higher percentages of vulnerability to food insecurity were also observed during the first and second quintiles, especially in the poorest group (first quintile), where the percentage stood at 16.1% of all the households in the quintile (Figure 6).

Figure 6: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Expenditure Quintile, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Regarding household expenditure, the food insecure households spent an overall average of JD 4,157 on food items, against JD 10,553 spent by households, whose food consumption was acceptable. The vulnerable households spent on food less than half the amount spent by households whose consumption was acceptable. At the time when the overall average expenditure on food items by food insecure households

amounted to JD 1,606, households whose food consumption was acceptable spent JD 4,101 annually (See Table 5).

Table 5: Average Annual Household Expenditure, by Average Food Consumption Categories and Type of Expenditure (in Jordanian Dinars), 2013

Average Food Consumption Category/Average Expenditure	Average Household Expenditure on Food Items	Average Household Expenditure on Non-Food Items	Average Total Household Expenditure
Food insecure households	1606	2551	4157
Vulnerable households	2296	3440	5736
Acceptable consumption households	4101	6452	10553
Jordan	3986	6261	10247

Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The percentage of food insecure and vulnerable towards food insecurity households varied according to the current annual income of the household. Households, whose annual income was less than JD 5,000, included the highest percentage of food insecure households and vulnerable towards food insecurity households (80.3% and 57.1% respectively), while no percentage was recorded for food insecure households whose annual income was more than JD 20,000 (See Table 6).

Table 6: Distribution of Food Insecure and Food Insecurity Vulnerable Households, by Household Current Income Bracket, Jordanian Dinars, 2013

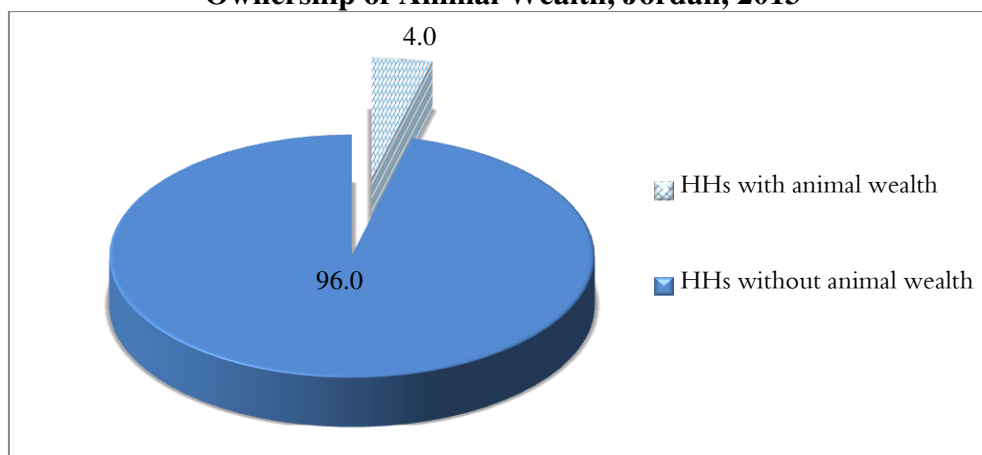
Annual Household Income	Insecure Households	Vulnerable Households
Less than JD 5,000	80.3	57.1
5000>-10000	17.2	35.1
10000>-15000	1.7	6.6
15000>-20000	0.8	0.5
+20000	0.0	0.8
Jordan	100	100

Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Household ownership of animal wealth plays a role in alleviating food insecurity and vulnerability through enabling households to secure their basic needs of the different food products, such as meat, milk, eggs, dairy products, etc., or through selling these products to secure the required revenues for the household and, consequently, the households' ability to buy the food it needs.

Figure 7 reveals that only 4.0% of food insecure and vulnerable households own animal wealth.

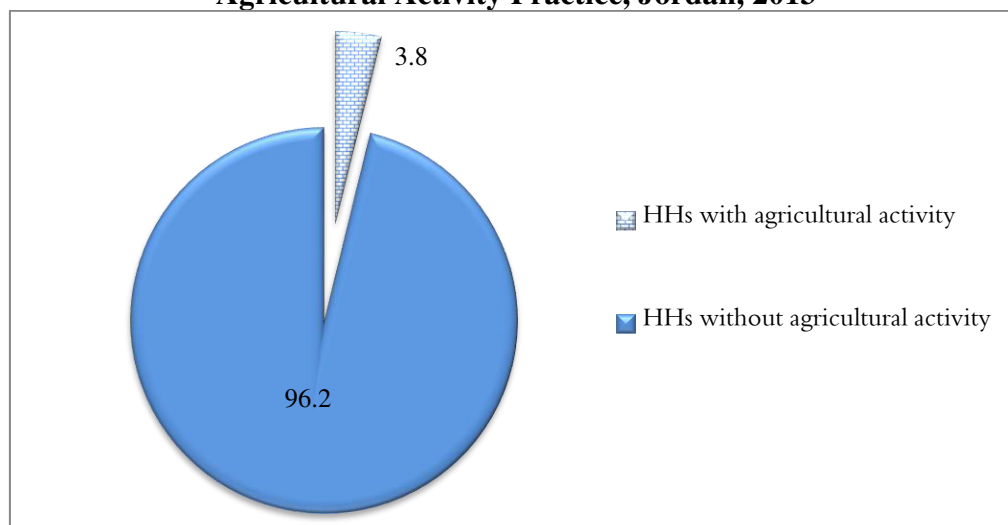
Figure 7: Distribution of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Ownership of Animal Wealth, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The results indicated that around 4% of food insecure and vulnerable households were engaged in tilling lands not exceeding one dunum during the survey year (figure 8).

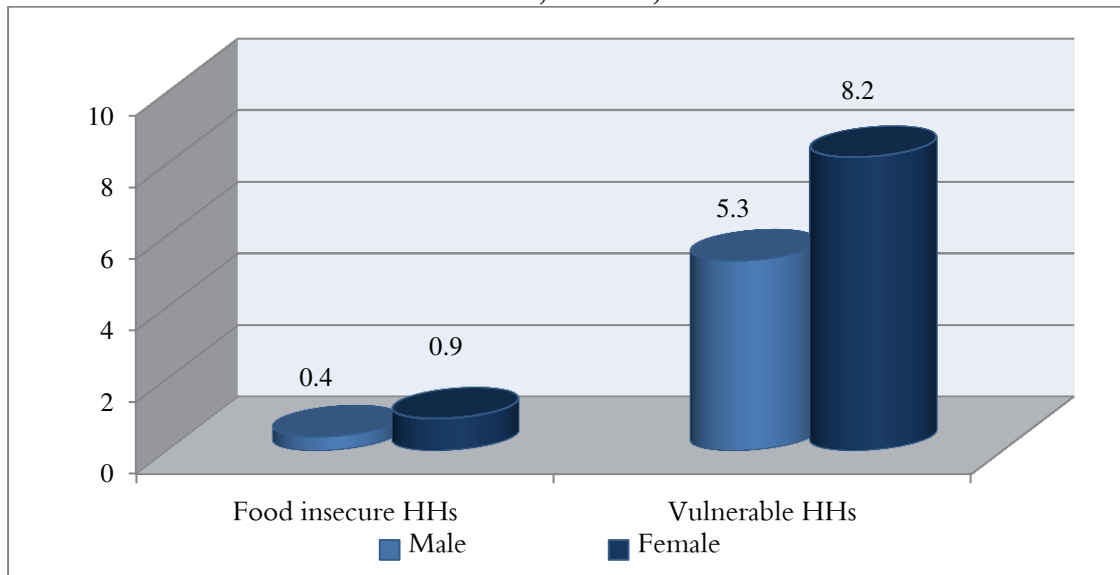
Figure 8: Distribution of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Agricultural Activity Practice, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings indicated that the percentages of food insecure households were close irrespective of the sex of the head of household – 0.4% of households headed by males, against 0.9% of households headed by females. But, the disparity in the percentage of households vulnerable to food insecurity was clear in terms of the sex of the head of household -- 5.3% for households headed by males, against 8.2% for households headed by females (Figure 9).

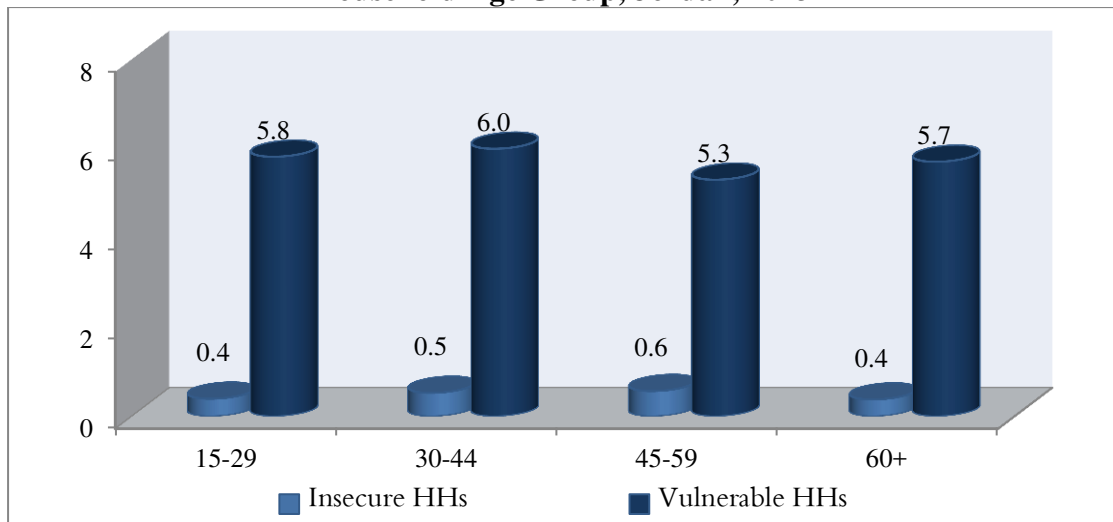
Figure 9: % of Food Insecure and Fragile Households, by Sex of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 10 indicates close percentages regarding insecure households irrespective of the age group of the head of household, while the percentages for vulnerable households to food insecurity varied between 5.3% and 6% within the various age groups of the head of household.

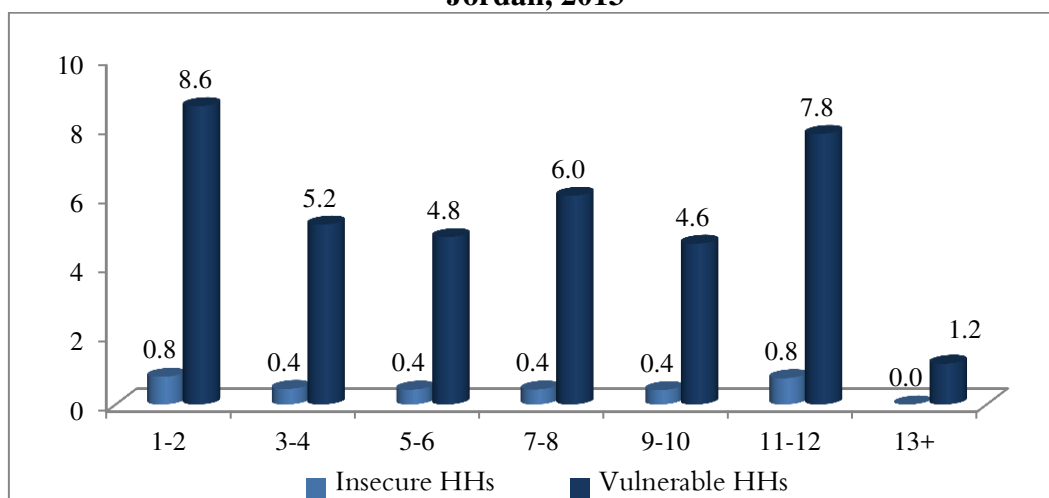
Figure 10: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Head of Household Age Group, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The results indicated disparities related to household size in terms of food insecurity: 0.8% of households with 1-2 and 11-12 members were food insecure, while no observations were reported in households with 13+ members. The highest percentage for vulnerable households was 8.6% among households with 1-2 members (figure 11).

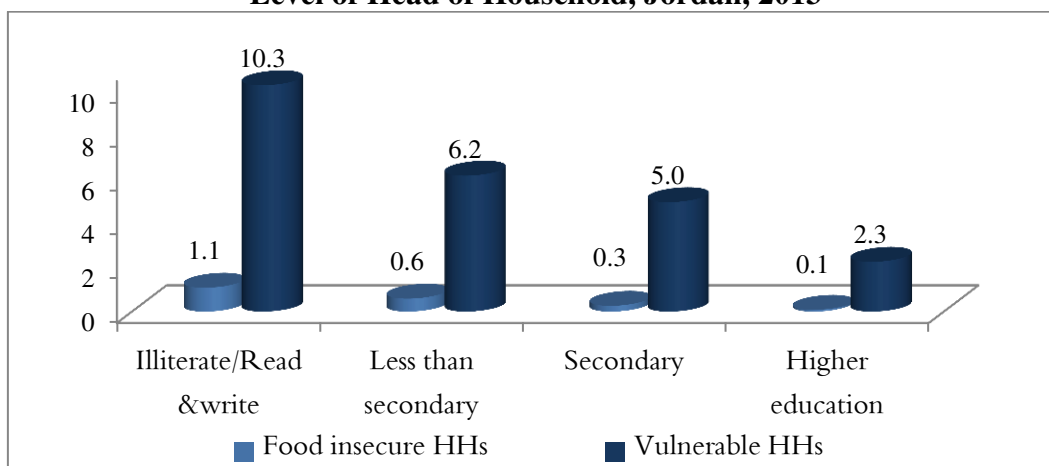
Figure 11: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Family Size, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Food insecurity is linked to a large extent to the educational level of the head of household. Households whose heads are illiterate or barely literate are more at risk of food insecurity and vulnerability. The results indicated that around 1% of households whose head is illiterate or barely literate are food insecure, while this percentage was only 0.1% of households whose head holds an intermediate diploma or a higher degree (Figure 12).

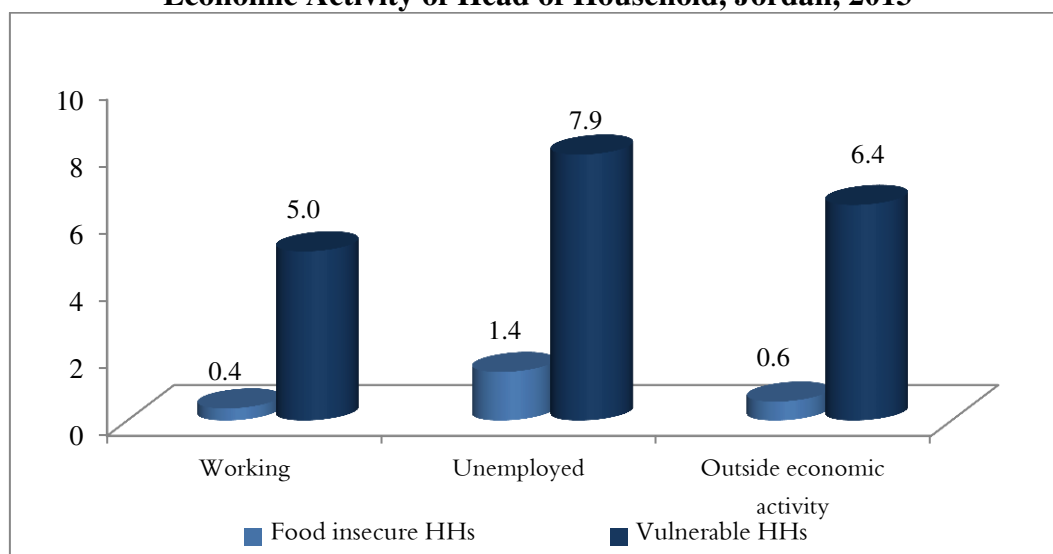
Figure 12: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by Educational Level of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 13 shows the relation between food security and the head of household's state of economic activity. The results revealed that 1.4% of households whose heads are unemployed are food insecure, while 0.4% of households whose head is working are food insecure. The same applies to households that are vulnerable to food insecurity, where the highest percentage of 8% is among households whose heads are unemployed.

Figure 13: % of Food Insecure and Food Vulnerable Households, by State of Economic Activity of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

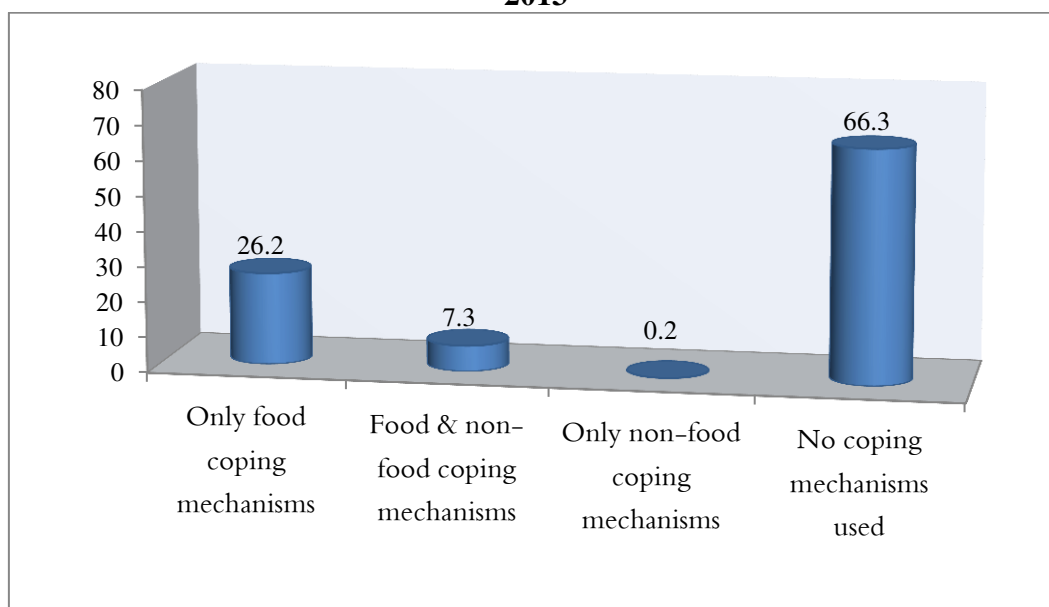
2.2 Coping Strategies Index (CSI)

Coping mechanisms are arrangements the household adopts to face the lack of sufficient money to cover its basic needs (food, medicine, fuel, education). CSI measures behavioral responses to food insecurity. There are two types of coping mechanisms, namely:

- Food coping mechanisms, including a set of food arrangements, e.g., relying on less preferred and less expensive foods, borrowing food or relying on help from others, purchasing food on credit, skipping a meal or reducing its size of, restricting consumption of adults in order for small children to eat, and skipping entire days without eating.
- Other coping mechanisms, including a set of arrangements at household level, e.g., consuming seed stock held for next season, reducing expenses related to agricultural production costs, selling household assets (television set, radio, furniture), selling production inputs or income sources, selling more animals than usual, reducing expenditure on medical treatment, pulling children out of school, seeking employment alternatives, and emigration of household members.

The survey results showed that 26.2% of all households used only food coping mechanisms, while 7.3% used food coping mechanisms, together with non-food coping mechanisms and 0.2% used non-food coping mechanisms (figure 14).

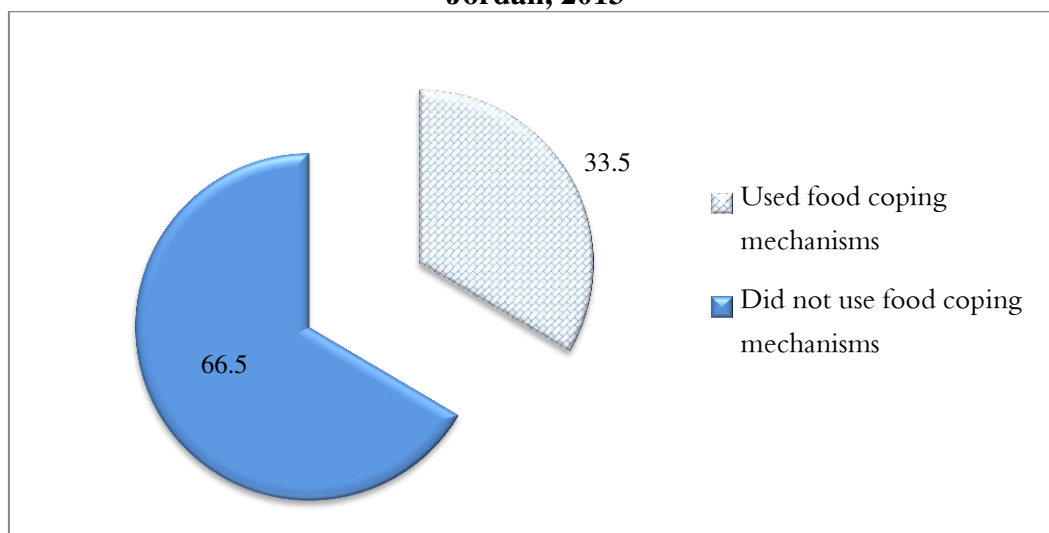
Figure 14: Distribution of Households, by Use of Coping Mechanisms, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings also revealed that one third of the Kingdom’s households used food coping mechanisms, against 66.5% which did not use any food coping mechanisms (figure 15).

Figure 15: Distribution of Households, by Use of Food Coping Mechanisms, Jordan, 2013

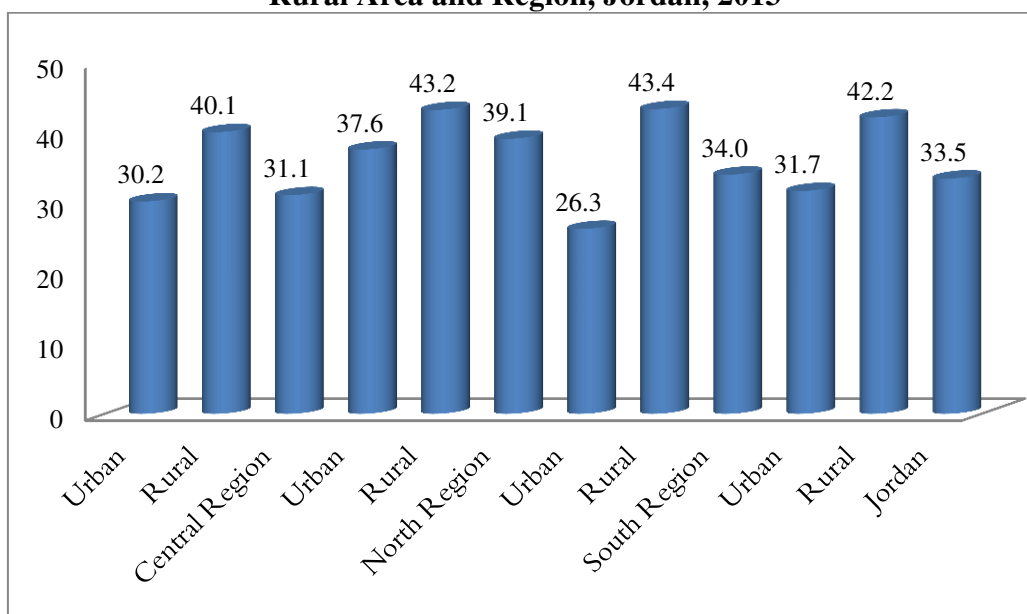


Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 16 shows that 39.1% of households in the Northern Region used food coping mechanisms, which was higher than corresponding percentages reported for the middle and southern regions.

It was also observed that the percentage of households using food coping mechanisms was higher in urban areas than rural areas.

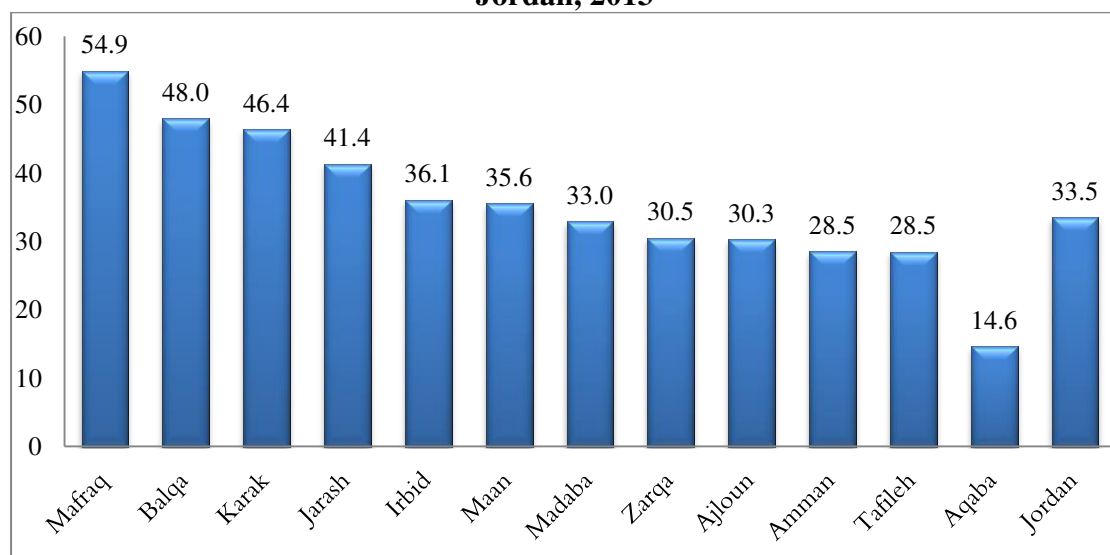
Figure 16: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by Urban and Rural Area and Region, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Percentages for households using food coping mechanisms varied at governorate level between more than 50% in Mafrqa Governorate and less than 15% in Aqaba governorate (Figure 17).

Figure 17: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by Governorate, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Table 7 shows the sub-districts where the percentage of households using food coping mechanisms exceeded 60% of all households. In Ruweished Sub-district in Mafrqa Governorate the percentage exceeded 90%.

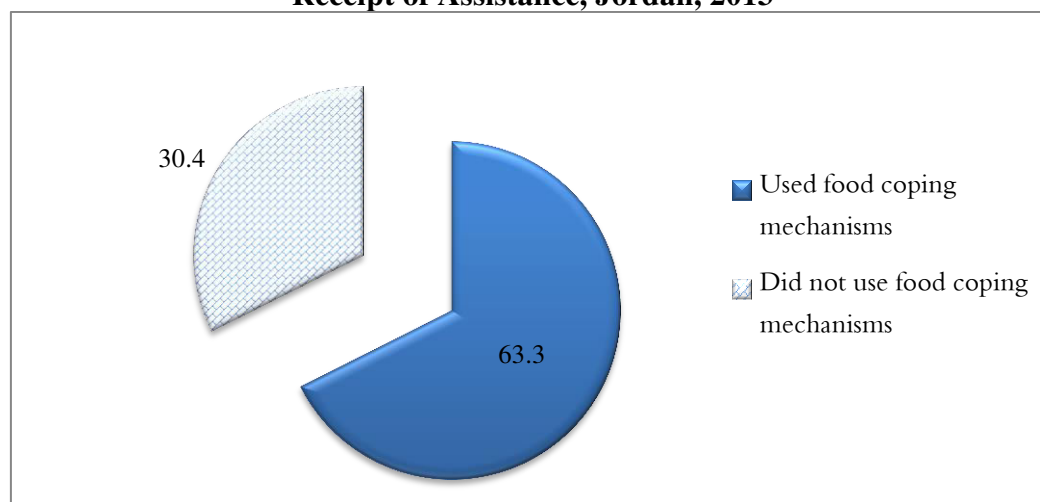
Table 7: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by District, Jordan, 2013

Governorate	Sub-district	% Households
Mafraq	Ruweished	91.2
Karak	Ghor Al-Safi	82.3
Mafraq	Deir Al-Kahf	80.4
Mafraq	Um El-Jimal	73.4
Mafraq	Khalidiyya	67.7
Mafraq	Salehiyya	66.6
Karak	Moab	65.7
Amman	Jiza	60.7
Amman	Umm Al Basateen	60.0
Jordan		33.5

Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 18 shows that 63.3% of households that received assistance during the survey year from the National Aid Fund, Ministry of Awqaf's Zakat Fund, Royal Hashemite Court, NGOs, individuals outside the family, UNRWA, or any other agency, used food coping mechanisms.

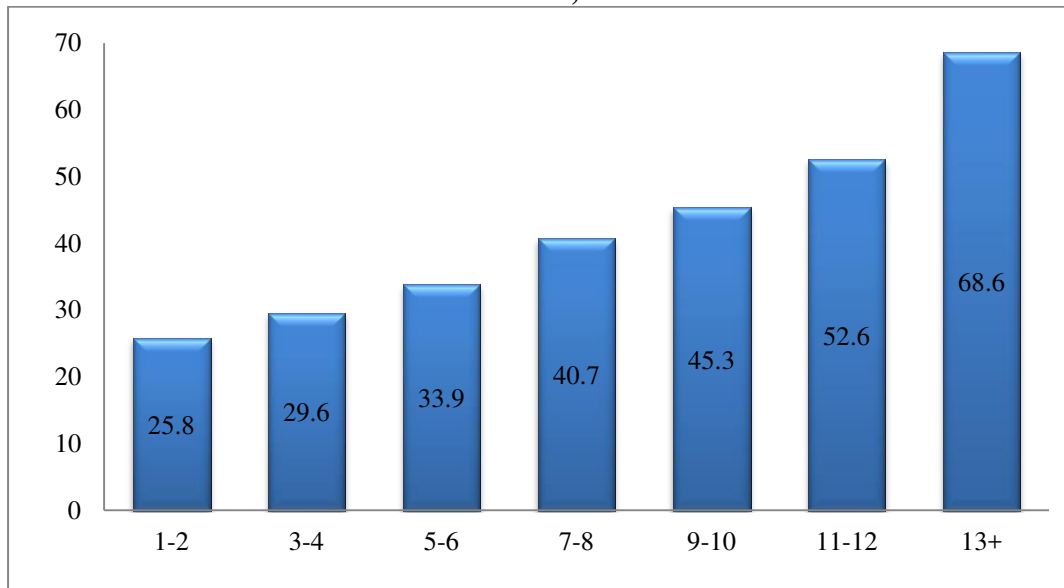
Figure 18: Distribution of Households, by Use of Food Coping Mechanisms and Receipt of Assistance, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 19 shows the relation between food coping mechanisms and household size, where the percentage of households using food coping mechanisms varied with the size of the household. It varied between 25.8% for households with 1-2 members and around 69% for households with 13 or more members.

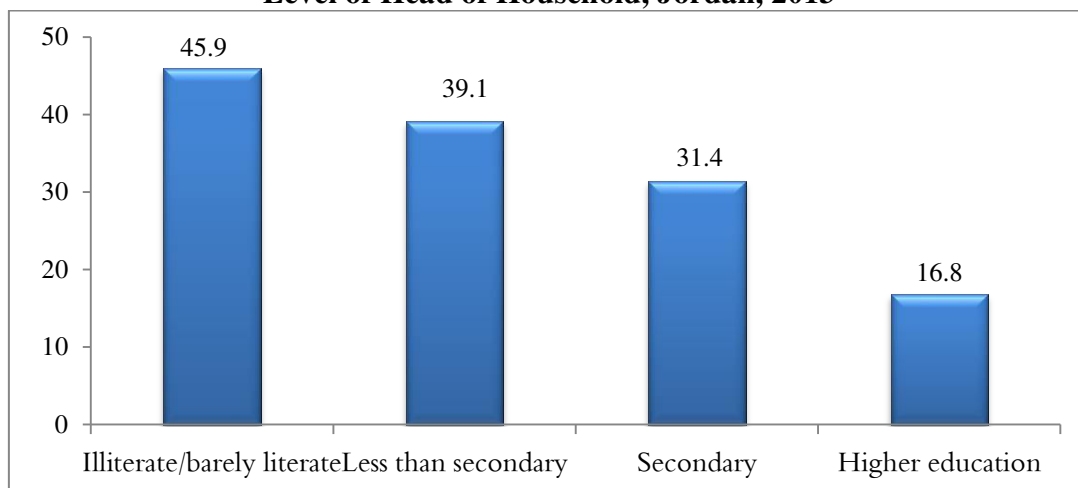
Figure 19: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by Family Size, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Regarding the educational level of the head of household and its relation to the household's use of food coping mechanisms, the findings reveal that the higher educational level of the head of household, the lower the percentage of the household's use of food coping mechanisms. The findings also showed that around 46% of households whose heads are illiterate or barely literate used food coping mechanisms, against 16.8% of households whose heads hold an intermediate diploma or a higher degree (figure 20).

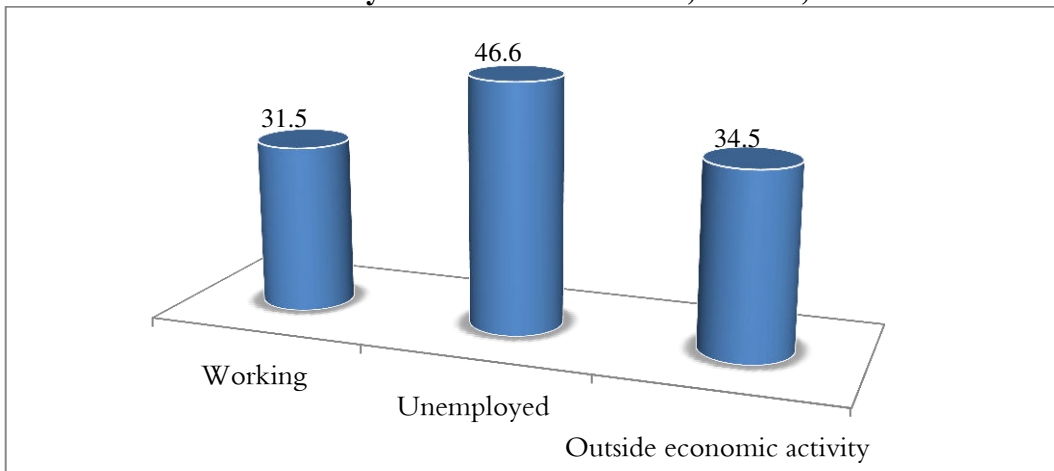
Figure 20: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by Educational Level of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 21 shows that the highest percentage of households using food coping mechanisms (46.6%) was among households whose heads are unemployed, but was 31.5% among households whose heads were working.

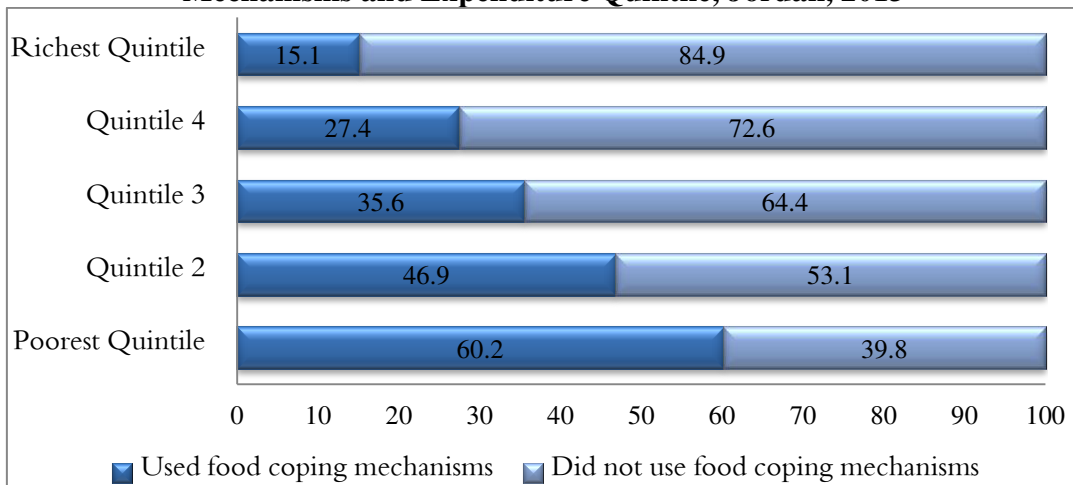
Figure 21: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by State of Economic Activity of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 22 shows the relation between coping mechanisms and welfare quintiles. When the society was divided into quintiles according to individual expenditure, the findings revealed that about 60% of households in the first (poorest) quintile used food coping mechanisms, while only 15% of households in the fifth (richest) quintile used such mechanisms.

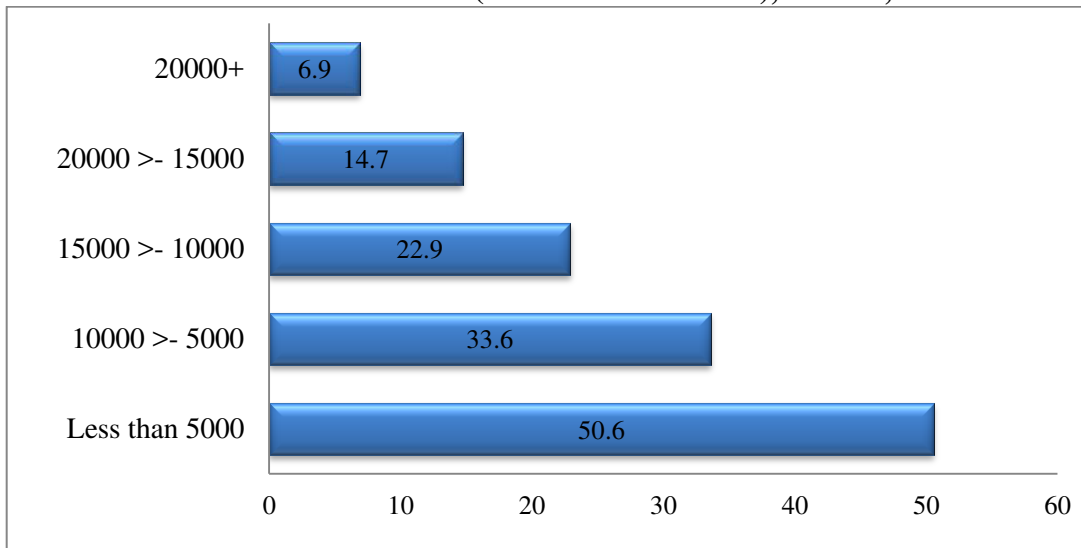
Figure 22: Distribution of Households by State of Using Food Coping Mechanisms and Expenditure Quintile, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

As to the relation between the household's annual income and food coping mechanisms, the findings revealed that the percentage of households that used food coping mechanisms in the lower income categories was high. It was noted that this percentage decreased with the increase of household income (figure 23).

Figure 23: % of Households Using Food Coping Mechanisms, by Current Annual Household Income (in Jordanian Dinars), Jordan, 2013

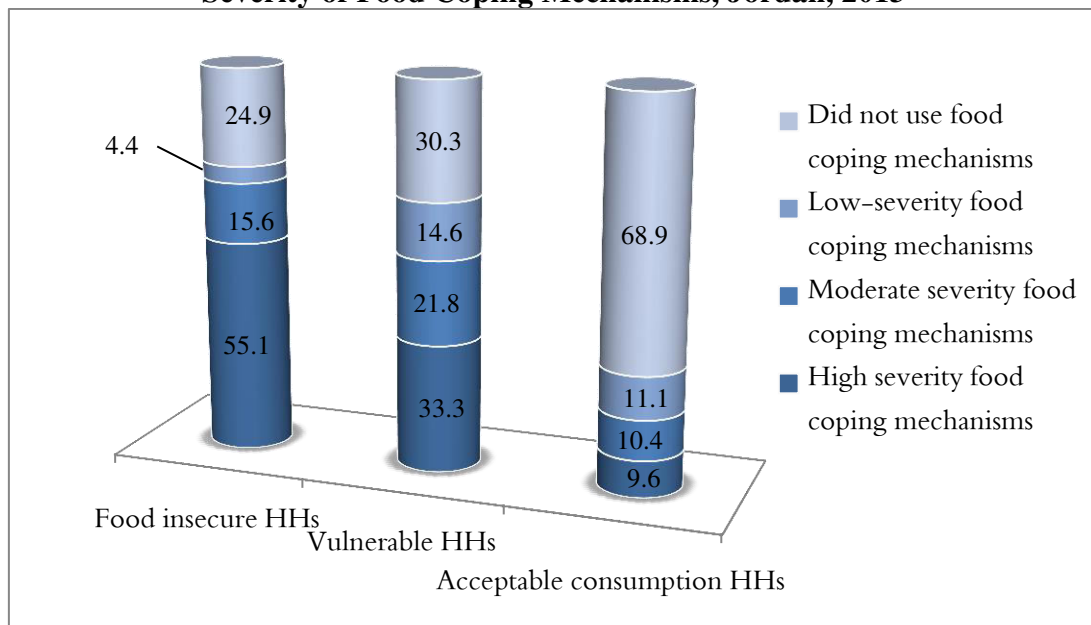


Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The results revealed that around three quarters of food insecure households used food coping mechanisms during the survey year, against 70% of households that are vulnerable to food insecurity and around one third of the households whose food consumption was acceptable.

Regarding the severity of food coping mechanisms, Figure 24 shows that more than half the food insecure households used highly-severe food coping mechanisms, against 33.3% of the vulnerable households that resorted to highly severe mechanisms. These percentages did not exceed 10% of households with acceptable food consumption.

Figure 24: Distribution of Households by Average Food Consumption and Severity of Food Coping Mechanisms, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

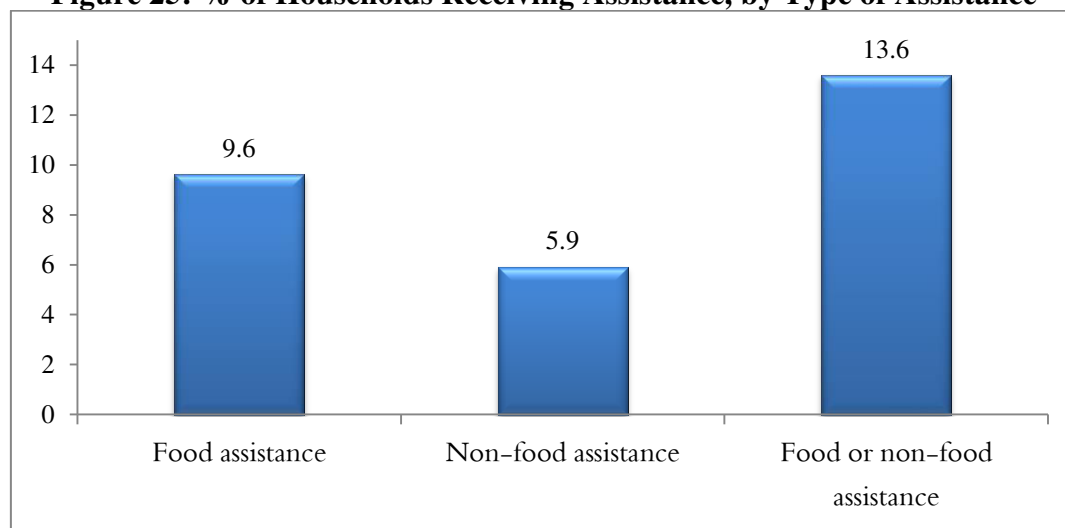
2.3 Assistance

The Food Security Questionnaire included a question as to whether the household or any of its members received any kind of assistance (except debts and loans) from any source, whether such assistance was in cash or in kind. In this respect, assistance was divided into two categories:

1. Food assistance, including any school feeding rations, food rations for children suffering from malnutrition or nursing mothers, and free food materials.
2. Non-food assistance, including financial assistance from social support projects, free health care, micro-enterprise support, free agricultural production materials, free agricultural tools and equipment, free animal feed, and free veterinary services.

The findings revealed that around 14% of the Kingdom's households received all kinds of food and non-food assistance, while around 10% of households received only food assistance and around 6% received non-food assistance (figure 25).

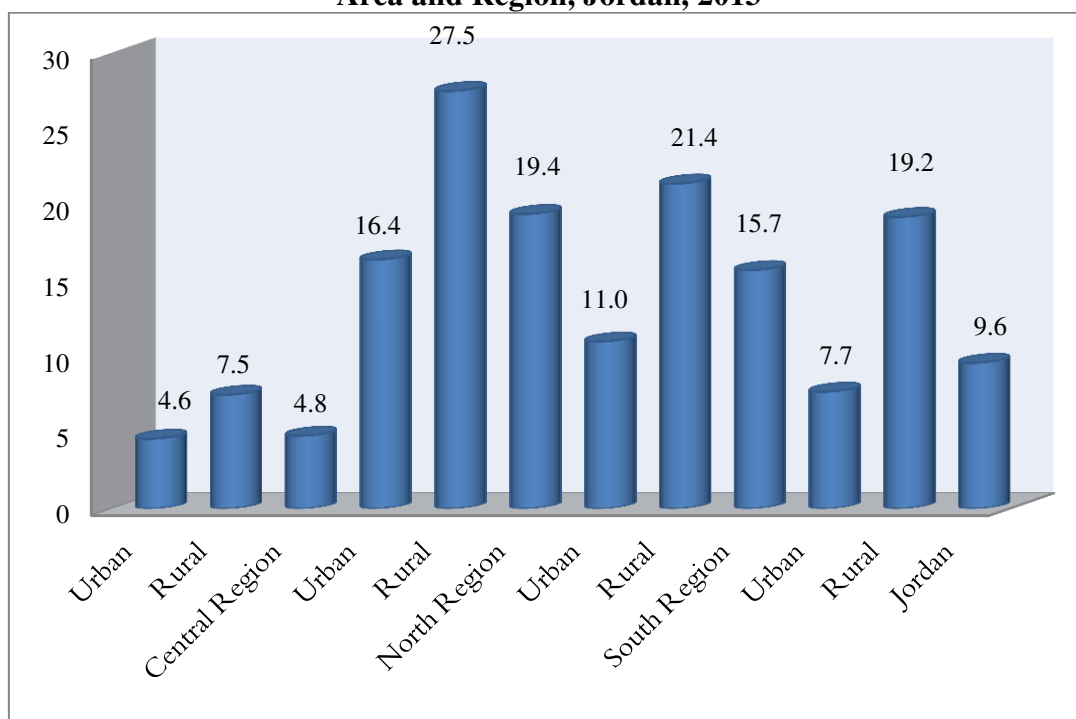
Figure 25: % of Households Receiving Assistance, by Type of Assistance



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings showed that the highest percentage of households that received food assistance was in the Northern Region and stood at 19.4%, followed by the Southern Region with 15.7% and the Central Region with 4.8%. Comparing percentages of households that received food assistance in urban and rural areas within each region, the results revealed that in all the three regions, more rural households than urban households received food assistance, with 27.5% of households in the Northern Region, against 21.4% in the Southern Region and 8% in the Central Region (Figure 26).

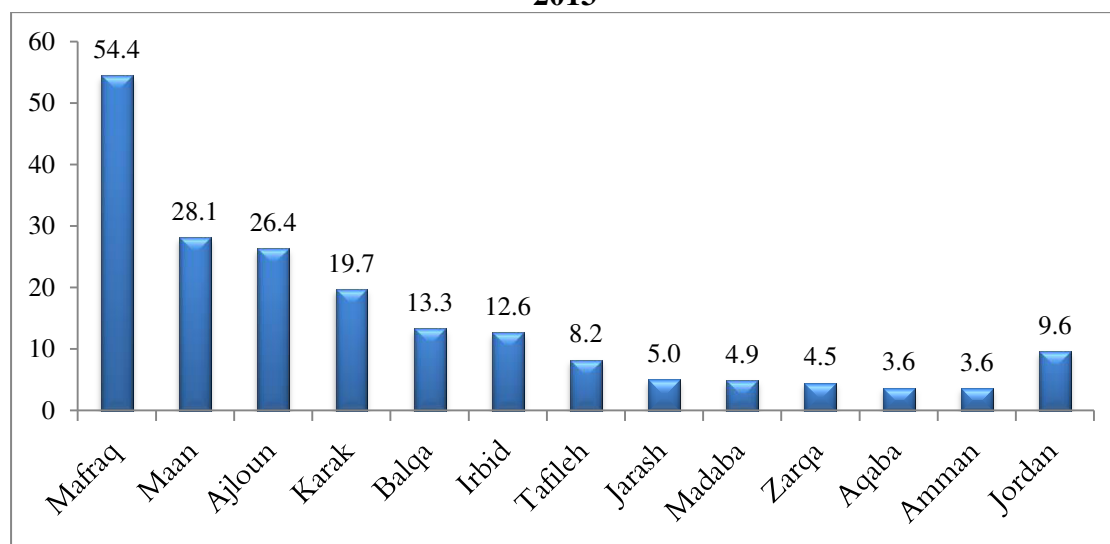
Figure 26: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by Urban and Rural Area and Region, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Turning to food assistance received by households in the Kingdom, Figure 27 shows that around half the households in Mafrq Governorate received food assistance, followed by Maan Governorate (28.1%), and Ajloun Governorate (26.4%). The lowest percentage (3.6%) was reported for both Amman and Aqaba governorates.

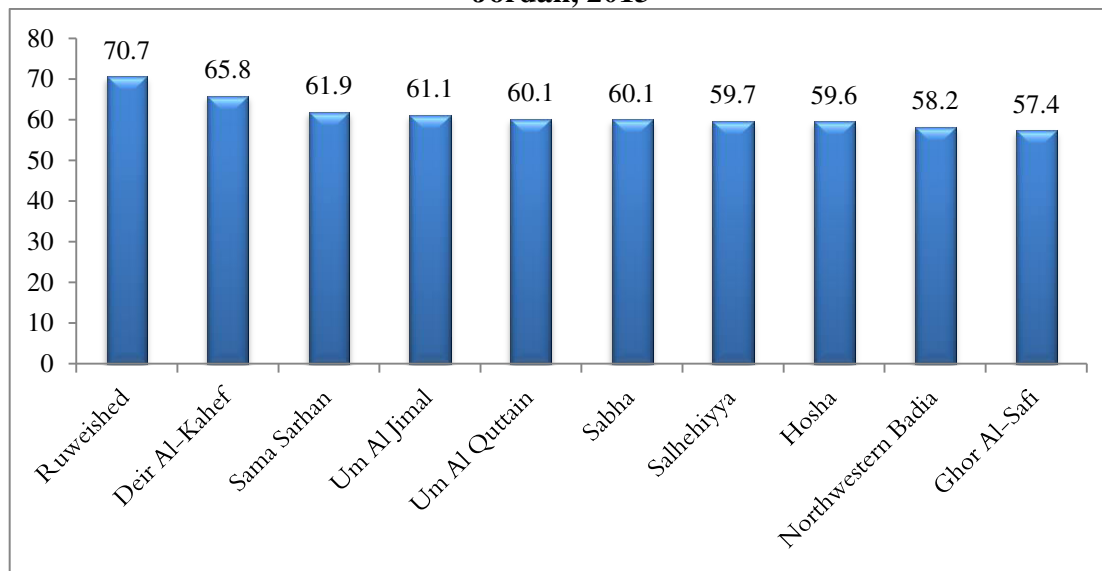
Figure 27: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by Governorate, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 28 shows the highest 10 sub-districts whose households received food assistance during the survey year. The percentages ranged between 57.4% in Ghor Al-Safi Sub-district and around 71% in Ruweished Sub-district.²

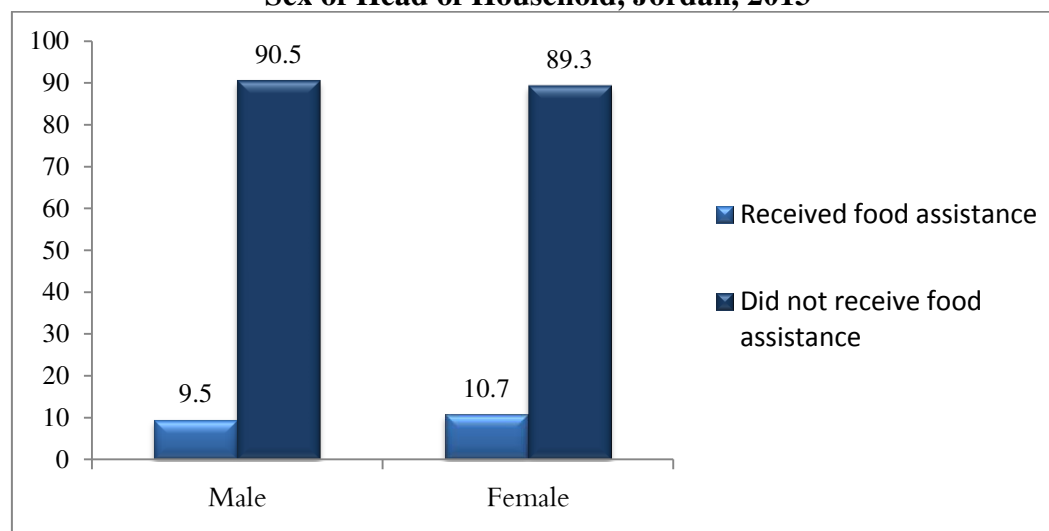
Figure 28: Distribution of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by District, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Percentages for households receiving food assistance were proximate for households headed by a male (9.5%) and those headed by a female (10.7%).

Figure 29: Distribution of Households by State of Receiving Food Assistance and Sex of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



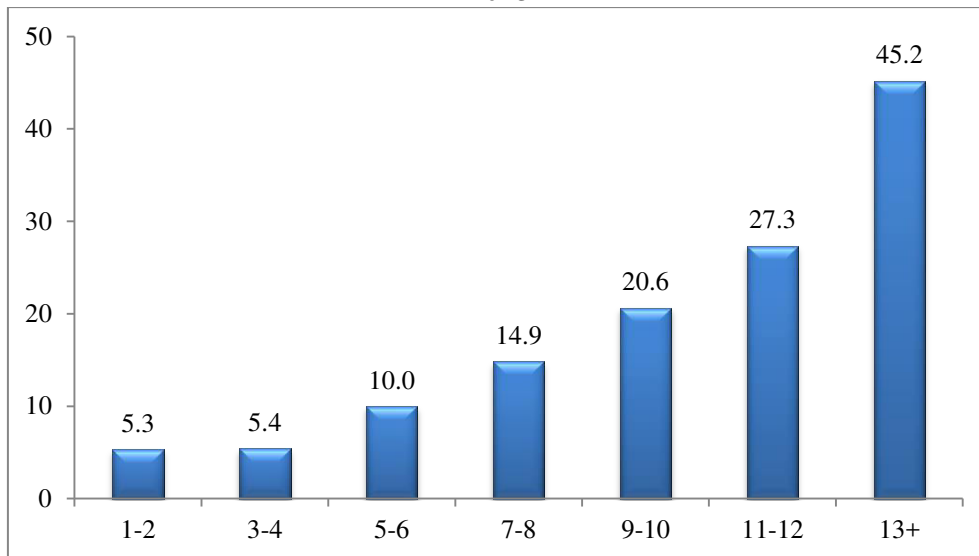
Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings revealed a direct relation between the household size and the percentage of households that received food assistance, which were: 45.2% of households with more than 13 members; 27.3% of households with 11-12 members, 20.6% of

² For the other sub-districts, please refer to Annex 3.2, entitled Detailed Food Security Data.

households with 9-10 members, and 6% for households with 1-2 members (Figure 30).

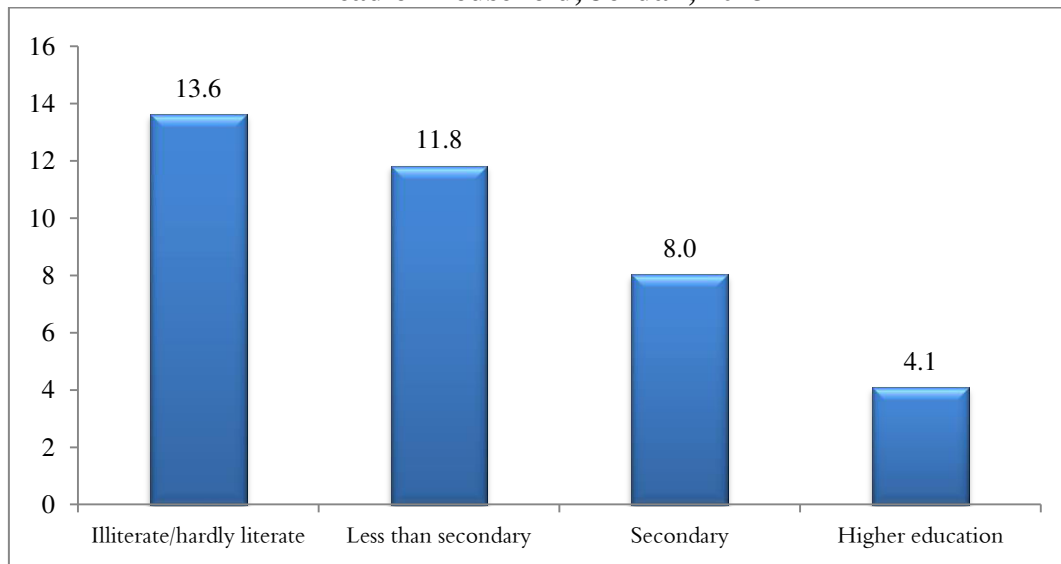
Figure 30: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by Family Size, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 31 shows the percentage of that around 14% of households headed by an illiterate person or a person who is barely literate received food assistance. This percentage stood at 11.8% for households whose head has not completed secondary school, 4.1% for households whose head is a holder of a higher education degree.

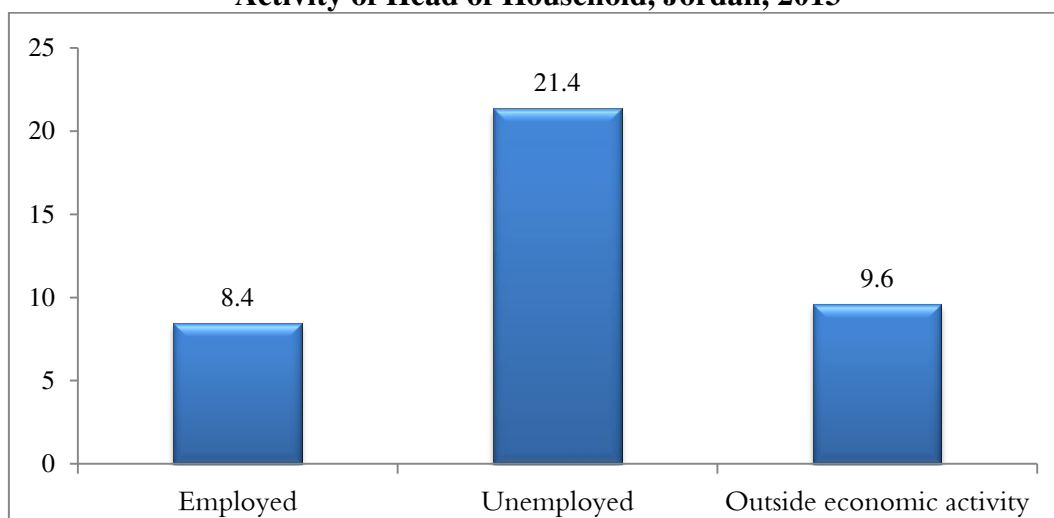
Figure 31: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by Educational Level of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 32 shows that households received food assistance included 21% of households whose head is unemployed, 10% of households whose head is outside economic activity and 9% of households whose head is employed.

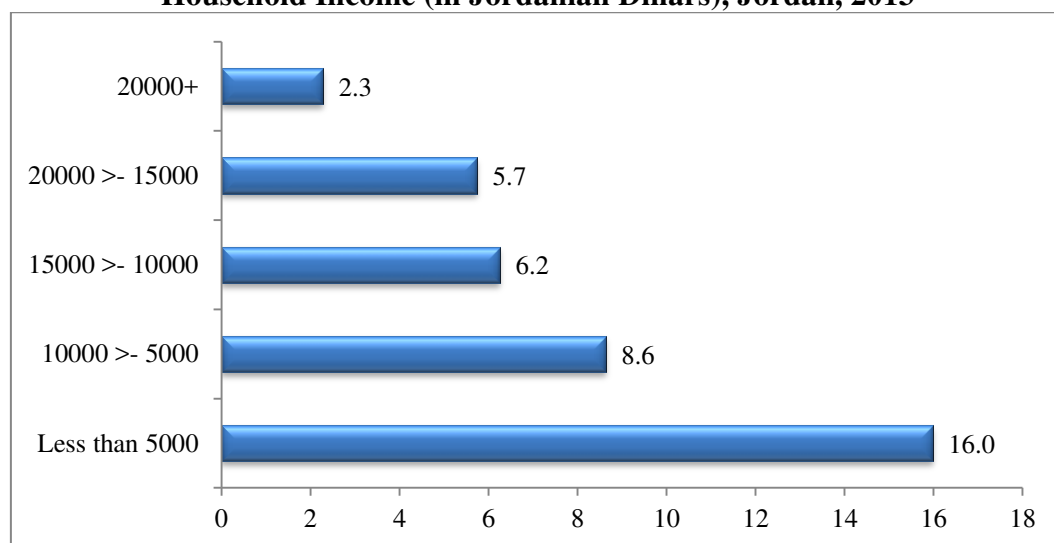
Figure 32: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by State of Economic Activity of Head of Household, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The survey results showed that 16% of households whose annual income was less than JD 5,000 and households whose annual income was less than JD 10,000 received food assistance (Figure 33).

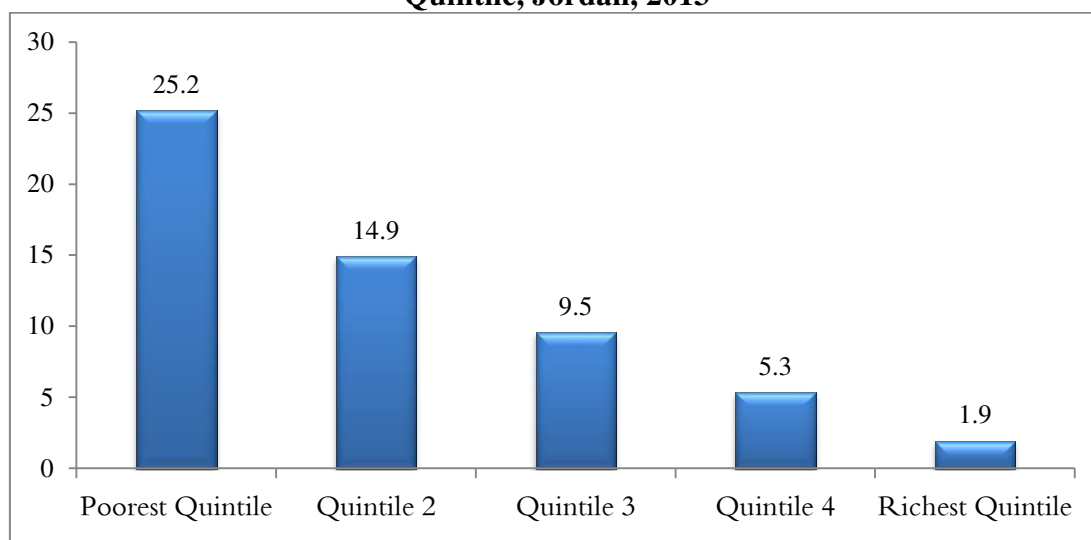
Figure 33: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance and Current Annual Household Income (in Jordanian Dinars), Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The findings also showed that around one fourth of households in the first (poorest) quintile received food assistance, against 14.9% of households in the second quintile and 1.9% in the fifth (richest) quintile (Figure 34).

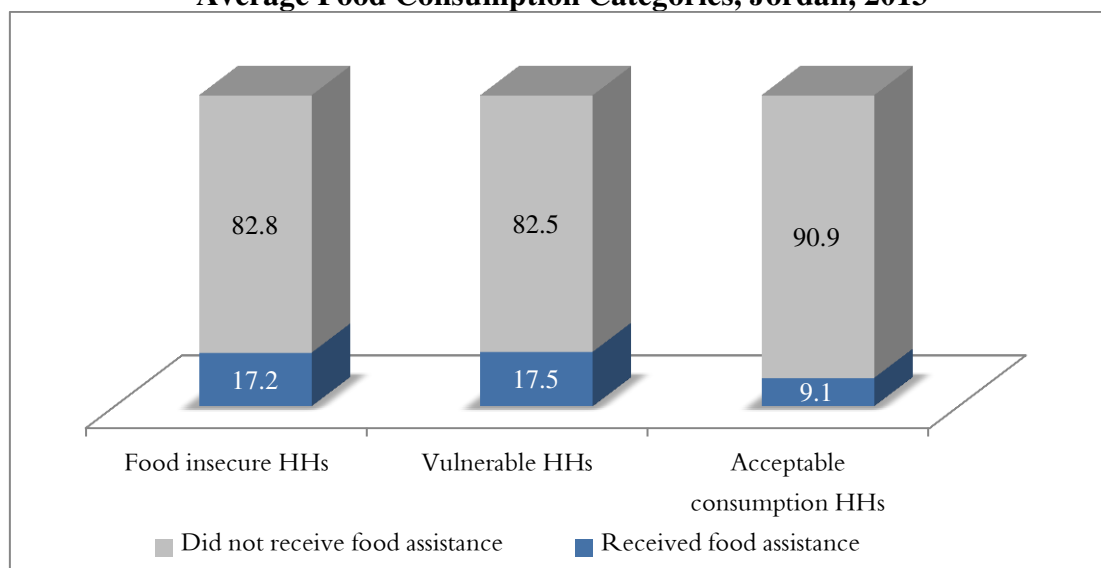
Figure 34: % of Households Receiving Food Assistance, by Expenditure Quintile, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

The survey findings revealed that around 17% of food insecure and food insecurity vulnerable households received food assistance, against 9.1% of households with acceptable food consumption. This indicates targeting to a certain extent of households that actually need the assistance. By contrast, 82.8% of food insecure households did not receive any food assistance during the survey year (Figure 35).

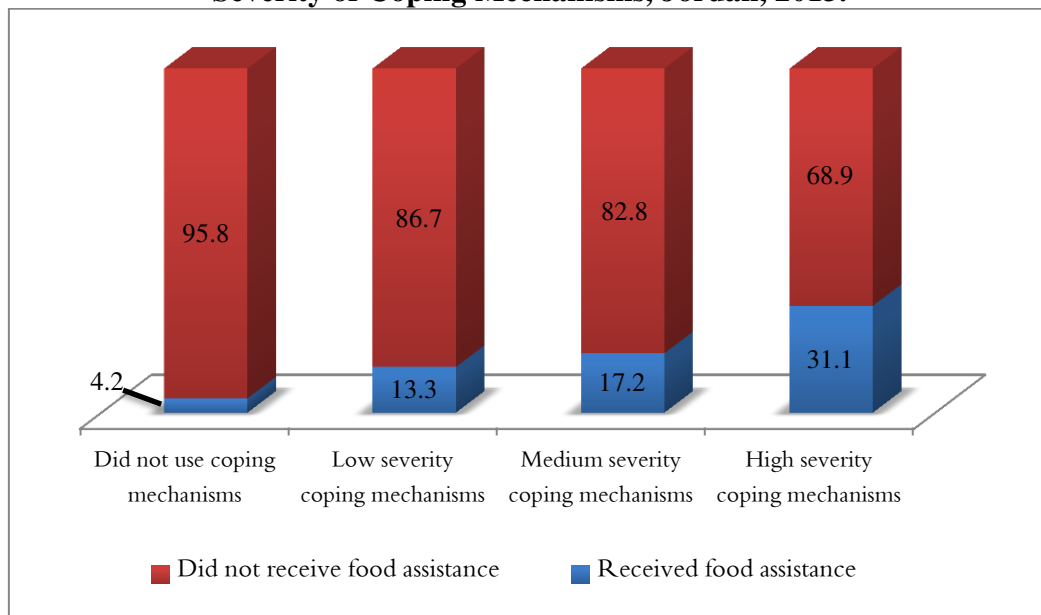
Figure 35: Distribution of Households, by State of Receiving Food Assistance and Average Food Consumption Categories, Jordan, 2013



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

Figure 36 shows the distribution of households by the state of receiving food assistance and the severity of food coping mechanisms. The findings reveal that around 31% of households that used highly severe food coping mechanisms received food assistance, against 17.2% of households that used moderately severe food coping mechanisms and 13.3% of households that used low-severity food coping mechanisms.

Figure 36: Distribution of Households by State of Receiving Food Assistance and Severity of Coping Mechanisms, Jordan, 2013.



Source: DoS, Household Expenditure and Income Survey; Food Security Survey.

3. ANNEXES

3.1 Food Security Questionnaire

How many days during which the household consumed the following food items? (Note to researcher: Identify the source from which the household secured food)						
Source of food → 1. Cash purchase 2. Home produced 3. Gift 4. Assistance 5. Purchase on credit 6. Borrowed from neighbors 7. Other (please identify)						
Food Group			Food Items	No. of Days	Main Source	
8	1801	Cereals and starches	Wheat (bread, etc.), burghul, macaroni, rice			
8	1802	Potatoes & roots	Potatoes, carrots			
8	1803	Pulses	Fava beans, lentils, beans, peas, nuts			
8	1804	Vegetables	Including salads			
8	1805	Fruits	All kinds of fruits			
8	1806	Meat and fish	Beef, lamb, poultry, goat, frozen meat			
8	1807	Eggs	Farm and <i>baladi</i> eggs			
8	1808	Dairy products	Milk, yoghurt, labaneh, cheese, butter, jameed			
8	1809	Sugar	Sugar and sugar products			
8	1810	Oils	Olive oil, vegetable oil, ghee			
8	1811	Honey	Local and imported			
8	1812	Dates	Local and imported			
8	1813	What is the average number of meals consumed by household members during the previous 7 days?		Children aged 5-16 yrs <input type="text"/> A <input type="text"/> B سنة فأكثر 16 <input type="text"/>		
8	1814	During the 90 days preceding the visit, was there any day on which the household did not have enough money to cover any of its basic needs (food, medicine, fuel, education)?		1. Yes → Continue 2. No → Go to 1830		
8	Has the household or any of its members resorted to any of the following coping mechanisms during the past 90 days?			Yes	No	No. of times
8	1815	Relying on less preferred and less expensive foods		1	2	
8	1816	Borrowing food or relying on help from others expensive foods		1	2	
8	1817	Purchasing food on credit شراء الطعام بالدين		1	2	
8	1818	Skipping or reducing the size of a meal		1	2	
8	1819	Restricting consumption in order to enable small children to eat		1	2	
8	1820	Skipping entire days without eating		1	2	
8	1821	Consuming seed stock held for the following season		1	2	
8	1822	Reducing expenses related to agricultural production costs		1	2	
8	1823	Selling household assets (TV, radio, furniture)		1	2	
8	1824	Selling production inputs or income sources		1	2	
8	1825	Selling more animals than usual		1	2	
8	1826	Reducing expenditure on medical treatment		1	2	
8	1827	Pulling children out of school		1	2	
8	1828	Seeking work alternatives		1	2	
8	1829	Emigration of household members		1	2	
8	Has the household or any of its members received any of the following kinds of assistance (except debts and loans) during the past 90 days?			Yes	No	No. of times
8	1830	School food rations		1	2	
8	1831	Food rations for children suffering from malnutrition or nursing mothers		1	2	

8	1832	Free food stuffs	1	2	
8	1833	Financial assistance from (government or private sector) social support projects	1	2	
8	1834	Free health care (government or projects)	1	2	
8	1835	Support for small projects	1	2	
8	1836	Free agricultural production materials	1	2	
8	1837	Free agricultural tools or equipment	1	2	
8	1838	Free animal feed	1	2	
8	1839	Free veterinary services	1	2	
8	1840	Others (please identify)	1	2	

3.2 Detailed Food Security Data

Percentages of food insecure households, households that are vulnerable to food insecurity, households using coping mechanisms, and households receiving food assistance, by Subdistrict, Jordan, 2013

Region	Governorate	Subdistrict	Food insecure	Vulnerable to food insecurity	Used coping mechanism	Received food assistance
Central Region	Al-Aasima	Amman Qasabah	1.4	12.2	46.2	5.1
		Marka	0.1	2.3	25.6	3.4
		Quweismeh	0.5	7.0	23.4	2.3
		Al-Jami'ah	0.0	1.2	9.8	2.8
		Wadi Seer	0.4	2.9	12.0	1.4
		Sahab	0.0	1.1	16.3	0.8
		Jiza	3.0	16.9	60.7	12.7
		Umm Al-Rassas	3.4	25.6	55.2	20.0
		Muwaqqar	2.4	19.7	55.6	1.5
		Rujm Al-Shami	0.0	1.0	19.5	11.5
		Na'ur	0.0	2.5	44.6	3.7
		Umm Al-Basateen	0.0	15.0	60.0	2.2
		Husban	0.8	2.9	20.9	2.4
	Balqa	Salt Qasabah	0.0	5.2	43.2	5.9
		Al-Aarda	0.9	4.5	55.2	9.1
		Zay	0.8	7.3	51.3	11.5
		Eera-Yarqa	0.0	4.6	47.7	8.7
		South Shuneh	1.5	15.0	53.3	32.1
		Deir Alla	0.5	13.5	54.5	23.8
		Ein Al-Basha	1.0	13.9	50.7	11.4
		Mahes-Fuheis	0.0	7.2	27.0	5.5
	Zarqa	Zarqa (Qasabah)	0.5	5.9	30.7	4.7
		Biereen	0.0	13.4	22.3	0.0
		Dhleil	0.0	2.4	44.0	5.5
		Azraq	0.0	0.7	44.8	9.0
		Russeifah	0.4	11.0	29.7	3.9
		Al-Hashemiyya	0.0	8.9	24.4	4.8

Percentages of food insecure households, households that are vulnerable to food insecurity,

households using coping mechanisms, and households receiving food assistance, by Subdistrict, Jordan, 2013						
Region	Governorate	Subdistrict	Food insecure	Vulnerable to food insecurity	Used food coping mechanisms	Received food assistance
Central Region	Madaba	Madaba Qasabah	0.0	0.7	30.9	5.6
		Jreineh	1.3	4.2	41.6	12.0
		Ma'in	0.0	1.0	37.6	2.1
		Faisaliyya	0.0	3.8	32.1	3.4
		Theiban	0.0	6.0	38.2	3.2
		Al-Areed	0.0	12.7	45.7	4.6
		Mleih	0.0	8.6	31.3	0.7
North Region	Irbid	Irbid Qasabah	0.4	3.1	36.4	13.4
		Ramtha	0.3	3.9	54.9	17.0
		Koura	0.0	0.6	33.0	5.4
		Bani Kinana	0.0	2.2	24.7	4.6
		North Shuneh	0.5	1.9	36.5	15.2
		Bani Ubeid	0.0	3.2	33.7	16.0
		North Mazar	0.0	1.5	36.2	12.1
		Tayyiba	0.0	0.0	31.2	18.2
		Al-Wistiyya	0.0	0.3	17.8	6.2
	Mafraq	Mafraq Qasabah	1.2	10.4	47.5	41.8
		Bal'ama	0.0	4.3	58.9	52.2
		Irhab	0.0	3.9	30.1	53.9
		Al-Manshiyya	0.0	0.0	34.8	55.6
		Al-Salehiyya	2.2	21.7	66.6	59.7
		Sabha	0.0	2.0	37.1	60.1
		Um Al-Jimal	0.0	2.6	73.4	61.1
		Deir Al Kahf	0.9	14.8	80.4	65.8
		Um Al-Quttein	0.0	8.9	52.2	60.1
		North Badia	1.3	7.9	59.6	58.2
		Sama Al-Sarhan	0.4	6.2	59.7	61.9
		Hosha	0.0	0.6	37.5	59.6
		Al-Khalidiyya	0.0	15.0	67.7	55.3
		Ruweished	0.0	13.9	91.2	70.7
	Jerash	Jerash Qasabah	0.9	5.4	40.3	5.2
		Al-Mustaba	0.0	7.1	48.5	4.7
		Burma	0.0	7.6	48.5	1.9

Percentages of food insecure households, households that are vulnerable to food insecurity, households using coping mechanisms, and households receiving food assistance, by Subdistrict, Jordan, 2013

Region	Governorate	Subdistrict	Food insecure	Vulnerable to food insecurity	Used food coping mechanisms	Received food assistance	
North Region	Ajloun	Ajloun Qasabah	0.8	1.5	31.4	16.5	
		Sakhra	0.0	2.1	31.5	21.2	
		Urjan	0.0	2.3	43.5	43.2	
		Kufranja	0.0	0.0	20.0	42.3	
South Region	Karak	Karak Qasabah	1.6	3.5	42.5	21.0	
		South Mazar	0.0	1.9	43.1	5.7	
		Moab	0.0	1.4	65.7	3.8	
		Al-Qasr	0.0	5.0	31.6	29.4	
		Al-Mujib	1.4	6.1	55.7	19.4	
		Ghor Al-Safi	0.7	11.8	82.3	57.4	
		Ghor Al-Mazra'a	2.7	7.4	46.9	24.3	
		Ai	0.5	6.4	39.3	6.7	
		Fqou	0.4	5.0	39.0	25.4	
		Qatrana	1.3	10.0	49.9	35.5	
	Tafileh	Tafileh Qasabah	0.0	5.8	27.3	8.6	
		Buseira	1.3	3.1	31.5	5.9	
		Al-Hasa	1.4	7.5	28.4	11.4	
	Maan	Maan Qasabah	0.0	7.8	33.2	10.6	
		Ail	0.0	0.0	18.1	45.4	
		Al-Jafr	0.0	8.0	50.1	31.6	
		Mreighah	12.9	14.1	45.0	43.2	
		Ithruh	0.0	9.7	43.5	48.7	
		Petra	0.0	2.3	34.7	33.3	
		Shobak	0.0	0.0	32.5	22.9	
	Al-Husseiniyya	0.0	7.9	47.1	44.6		
	Aqaba	Aqaba Qasabah	0.0	1.7	9.9	1.0	
		Wadi Arabah	0.0	1.0	51.7	28.7	
		Quweirah	0.0	5.3	34.2	11.0	
		Al-Disi	0.0	4.5	25.1	16.5	
	Jordan			0.5	5.7	33.5	9.6