As of 19 July 2020, 65,406 people (17,962 households) live at Al Hol, comprising 47 per cent Iraqis (30,573), 38 per cent Syrians (24,914) and 15 per cent third country nationals (TCNs) (9,912). There has been little change in the camp population in recent months, largely due to authorities suspending all visits and departures from the camp as part of COVID-19 precautionary measures implemented in late March. However, following resumption of infant registration in the past two weeks, 66 new camp residents have been recorded. Since last June, more than 5,870 residents departed Al Hol including 4,345 Syrians and 1,527 Third Country Nationals (TCN) women and children. This includes ten French national children who departed on 22 June accompanied by a French delegation, and 47 unaccompanied or separated children who were earlier returned to their respective countries between 21 November 2019 and 6 February 2020. On 19 July, 460 individuals departed the camp for Deir-Ez-Zor governorate under tribal sponsorship arrangements; the first such organized departure since 12 March, when 191 individuals (44 households) left for Al Sha’afa, Basira and Sousa villages, also in Deir-Ez-Zor.

**HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE**

Since WHO officially declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on 11 March, humanitarian actors have implemented a wide range of activities at the camp aimed at reducing the risks of transmission. This has included adjustment of distribution modalities to reduce overcrowding at gathering points such as combining NFI, food and hygiene distributions and switching to two-month rotations. In addition, humanitarian actors have implemented comprehensive risk communication and community engagement activities with awareness campaigns, hygiene outreach and dissemination of information materials across all phases. Infection prevention and control measures have also been enhanced, including rehabilitation of WASH facilities, and disinfection of communal kitchens, latrines and showers. To date, 28,640 items of personal protective equipment and six thermal screening devices (four for the main gate, two for the Annex) have been delivered and more than 100 personnel, health workers and community leaders trained in thermal screening, case management (resuscitation and ventilation management), and community engagement and mobilization.

An eighty-bed isolation area has been constructed in Phase 7, comprising two rub-halls, two large tents and three family-size tents. The center has been equipped with beds and other medical supplies and is ready to receive patients as necessary; the camp’s health committee are currently finalizing standard operating procedures, including on the activation and operation of the space and the establishment of referral pathways. Outside of the isolation center, three ventilation devices are confirmed to be on-site, and the one 24/7 operational field hospital has allocated five beds for moderate COVID-19 cases. Dedicated case management capacity inside the camp remains extremely limited, including due to a reported decrease in available health services in recent weeks due to issues with the contract renewal of

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **TOTAL POPULATION**: 65,406
- **WOMEN AND CHILDREN**: 94%
- **CHILDREN UNDER 12**: 53%

**KEY MESSAGES**

Water supply to Al Hol – made even more critical in summer and to protect against COVID-19 – has been increasingly compromised in past months, endangering the health and well-being of camp residents and causing increased camp tension. Frequent disruptions to Alouk water station, reduced supply at Euphrates Dam and a volatile informal exchange rate are factors.

Increasing and persistent protection concerns have also emerged in recent months, including over lack of information relating to the planned relocation of 400 families to Al Raj; the reported transfer of unaccompanied youths aged 12-15 to Alaya prison; the biometric registration of Annex residents, including children, in June; and the lack of clarity over planned repatriations of third country nationals, including children, and departures of Syrian IDPs.

Humanitarian actors also report increased limitations on access to the service center in the Annex, limiting the range and availability of necessary humanitarian services to residents.
As of 26 July 2020

two women were injured and two more camp
a lack of ice led to a security incident in which
– all six ice factories supplying the camp are
contributed to severe shortages of ice at Al Hol
reportedly occur up to 12 hours a day. This has
than 200 cubic meters per second), negatively
challenges have been further compounded by a
Annex due to difficulties in securing agreements
provision of water in several phases and the
issue, leading to recurrent delays in the
Water supply to the camp is increasingly

This report is produced by OCHA Syria in collaboration with humanitarian partners. More detailed situation reports on Al Hol camp are produced as needed.

Creation date: 26 July 2020  Sources: Humanitarian actors, OCHA  www.unocha.org  www.reliefweb.int
An unaccompanied/separated children (UASC) verification exercise in the camp has been completed by a UN agency in all phases bar the Annex where consultations are ongoing with Camp Administration on the questionnaire tool. The assessment identified 875 UASC in the camp, however this number may increase once the verification exercise has been completed in the Annex. Currently, 93 UASC live in three interim care centers at Al Hol, while 312 children have been reunified/repatriated with their families and relatives both inside and outside the camp.