Government of Turkey (AFAD - Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency) reported that the total number of Syrians registered and accommodated in the camps (14) in seven provinces increased to 123,367 persons including 667 who are undertaking medical treatment in hospitals. Since end of June 2012, the number of Syrians accommodating in the camps increased by 260%.

According to AFAD, since April 2011, more than 174,000 Syrians have arrived to Turkey and registered in the camps while during the same period more than 50,000 have returned to Syria voluntarily. Reportedly, during the 24hrs of 20-21 November 2012, 1,523 new arrivals were admitted and registered while 120 Syrians have returned to Syria voluntarily.

Local authorities informed that the number of Syrians across the borders Kilis and Hatay continued to increase. Based on the number of food packages delivered at zero point of the border, it is estimated that there were between 25,000-30,000 persons on the Syrian side of the border. According to information that UNHCR Field Teams obtained through the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating in the camps across the border in Syria, not all displaced people are willing to cross to Turkey but moved to the border area because they believe it to be safer and the assistance provided by the NGOs as well as by the Turkish Red Crescent Society at zero point. Reportedly, several people wanted to be closer to their villages and property. Meanwhile, there are Syrians approaching the camps spontaneously which is a major challenge for the camp officials because of shortage in capacity, ie more than 2,500 in Kahramanmaras waiting to receive family tents.

During the visit to the camps, Kahramanmaras camp officials informed UNHCR Field Team that there was a fire in one of the tents which caused the death of a one year old baby meanwhile, the baby’s parents and a 3 year old sibling are being treated in the hospital as a result of the fire. Initial findings were that the fire might have started because of an electrical fault, however, the investigation is still going on.

According to the information provided by the camp officials to UNHCR, more than 18,000 children are attending schools (kindergarten to high schools) in the camps, and since the beginning of the crisis, more than 280,000 medical interventions were provided to the Syrians in the camps.