



2.9.5. Female headed households

The conflict in Syria has led to a demographic change leading to a bigger number of female heads of households.[846](#) The situation of women living alone has not improved since the fall of the Assad regime.[847](#) Female-headed households face significant challenges in accessing basic services, including economic constraints[848](#) and social stigma.[849](#) UNOCHA noted that female-headed households continue to face disproportionately low levels of food security.[850](#)

Female-headed households, including single and widowed women, face difficulties in securing housing due to restrictive societal norms,[851](#) discriminatory inheritance laws,[852](#) and a lack of property documentation,[853](#) compounded by accommodation-related costs and limited employment opportunities.[854](#) This was indicated as a significant obstacle to the return of female-headed households,[855](#) as they often have to rely on family network to sustain themselves.[856](#) UNOCHA highlighted that women heads of household face heightened risk of GBV and exposure to exploitation.[857](#)

Women whose husbands are missing faced severe administrative issues.[858](#) Barriers to access documents proving the death or disappearance of their husbands led to economic and legal ambiguity and hindered their access to inheritance,[859](#) as well as custody and documentation for their children.[860](#) Many women heads of households faced difficulties registering their children's births,[861](#) particularly those who were married to foreign nationals and often lack legal proof of marriage.[862](#)

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