

The Syrian Conflict

Located in the Middle East, the Syrian Arab Republic has a population of 22,457,336. The main religion in Syria is Islam. The majority of the population are Sunnis, while the rest of the population consists of Alawis, Christians and Kurds.

Death toll

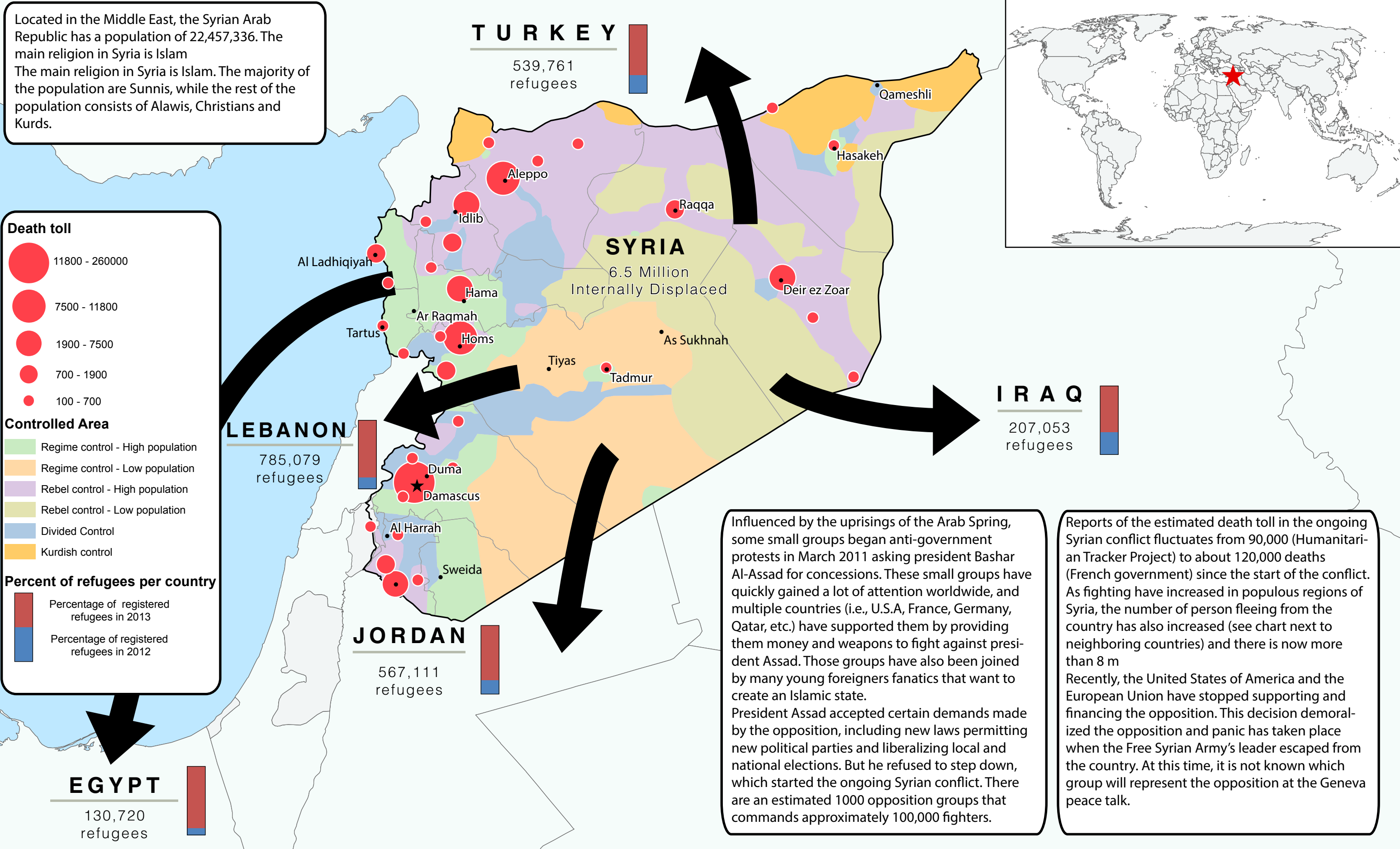
- 11800 - 260000
- 7500 - 11800
- 1900 - 7500
- 700 - 1900
- 100 - 700

Controlled Area

- Regime control - High population
- Regime control - Low population
- Rebel control - High population
- Rebel control - Low population
- Divided Control
- Kurdish control

Percent of refugees per country

- Percentage of registered refugees in 2013
- Percentage of registered refugees in 2012



Influenced by the uprisings of the Arab Spring, some small groups began anti-government protests in March 2011 asking president Bashar Al-Assad for concessions. These small groups have quickly gained a lot of attention worldwide, and multiple countries (i.e., U.S.A, France, Germany, Qatar, etc.) have supported them by providing them money and weapons to fight against president Assad. Those groups have also been joined by many young foreigners fanatics that want to create an Islamic state. President Assad accepted certain demands made by the opposition, including new laws permitting new political parties and liberalizing local and national elections. But he refused to step down, which started the ongoing Syrian conflict. There are an estimated 1000 opposition groups that commands approximately 100,000 fighters.

Reports of the estimated death toll in the ongoing Syrian conflict fluctuates from 90,000 (Humanitarian Tracker Project) to about 120,000 deaths (French government) since the start of the conflict. As fighting have increased in populous regions of Syria, the number of person fleeing from the country has also increased (see chart next to neighboring countries) and there is now more than 8 m. Recently, the United States of America and the European Union have stopped supporting and financing the opposition. This decision demoralized the opposition and panic has taken place when the Free Syrian Army's leader escaped from the country. At this time, it is not known which group will represent the opposition at the Geneva peace talk.

