

SOCIAL NETWORKS OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN TURKEY

Economic self-reliance of refugees is crucial for their protection and economic contribution to host communities. Social networks of refugees can play an important role in refugees' quest for self-reliance in host communities. A recent survey of Syrian refugees in Gaziantep, Turkey explored the well-being and social networks of these refugees.

40%

Of male respondents do not feel safe at home



80%

Of female respondents do not feel safe at home



Vocational skills, especially proficiency in Turkish, Kurdish, or English, is connected to educational attainment, employment, and monthly income



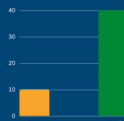
A larger initial social network is associated with an increase in a refugee's monthly income and likelihood of employment



Having a smart phone was associated with an increase in salary



Female refugees earn less money than male refugees



Refugees in the study showed low rates of financial resilience but an average ability to fulfill their basic needs



The majority of men (73%) and women (70%) met or spoke with individuals in their support networks frequently



Ultimately, refugees entering a host country with a larger social network, better language skills, and frequent contact with their networks, have higher financial resilience and are better able to maintain their well-being