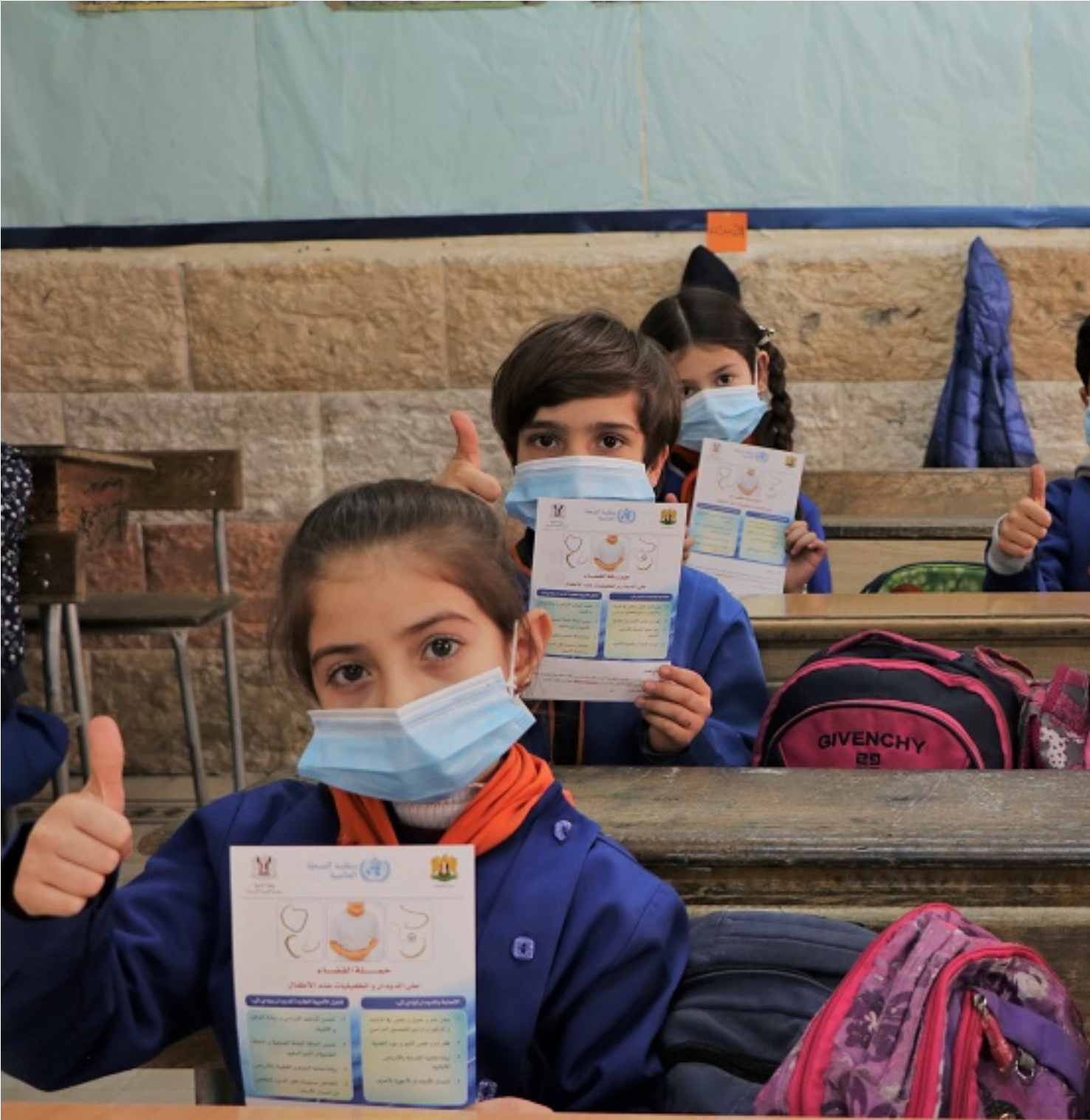




2 November 2021, Damascus – The latest data from Syria depict that people hospitalized with severe forms of COVID-19 and those who died from its consequences were unvaccinated. It is not surprising, as currently, only 6.2% of the population have received vaccination. If the vaccines in the projected pipeline will be delivered in the coming months, only 16% of the total population could be fully vaccinated by the end of 2021.

Tackling vaccine hesitancy and increasing vaccine uptake by schoolteachers and administration, as well as helping children to adhere to preventive measures and promote healthy lifestyle has been on agenda of a WHO-supported workshop for Syrian health educators last week.

“In some areas of the governorate where I come from, we witness the refusal to receive the COVID-19 vaccine due to the spread of rumours and misinformation. The workshop brought together health educators to discuss the common issues we face with regards to vaccination and preventive measures in schools. Now, I feel more knowledgeable on how to address these rumours and how to promote healthy behaviour among teachers and children more effectively,” said Dr Elias Zahlouq, Head of School Health Department in Idlib and Health Supervisor of School Health in Hama.



www.who.int/emro/syria/health-educators-in-syria-strengthen-skills-to-promote-health-in-schools