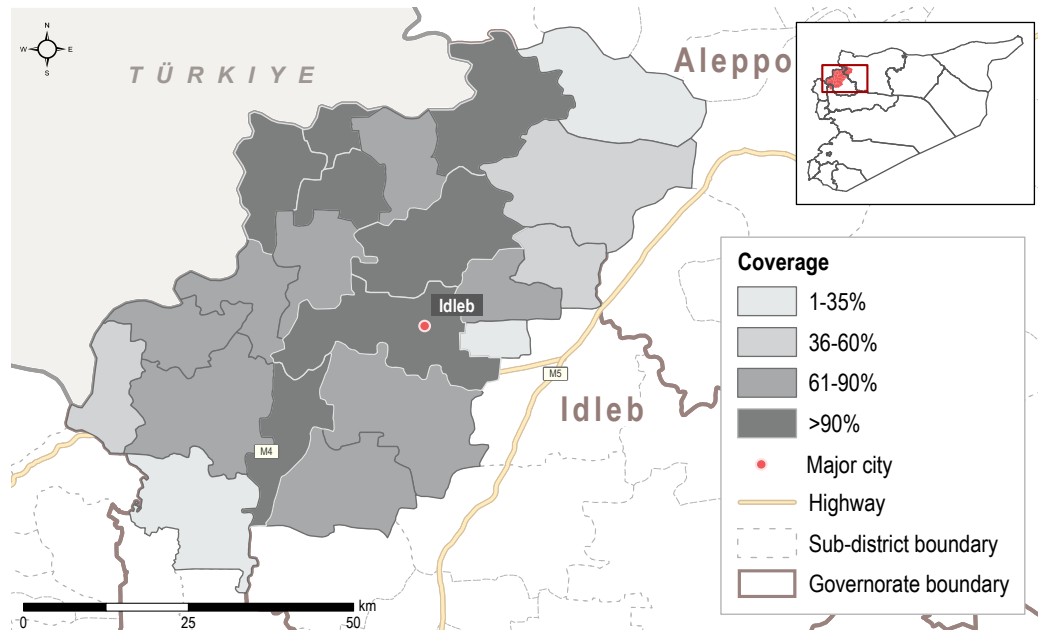


### Introduction and Methodology

HSOS is a monthly assessment that provides comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian conditions and priority needs inside Syria. This factsheet presents a thematic review based on the HSOS assessment of the priority needs and humanitarian assistance, economic conditions, living conditions, access to basic services, COVID-19 situation, and the security and protection situation in the Greater Idlib area in Northwest Syria (NWS). **Sector-specific indicator findings by location can be found on the [HSOS dashboard](#).**

The assessment is conducted using a key informant (KI) methodology at the community level. REACH enumerators are based inside Syria and interview three to six KIs per assessed location, either directly or remotely (via phone). KIs are chosen based on their community-level and sector-specific knowledge. This factsheet presents information gathered in **371 communities** across the greater Idlib area.<sup>1</sup> **Data was collected between 7-27 July 2022 from 1,232 KIs** (8% female). Unless specified by an endnote, all indicators refer to the situation in the 30 days prior to data collection. Findings are indicative rather than representative, and should not be generalized across the population and region. Findings that are calculated based on a subset of the community are indicated by the following footnote ♦, with each subset specified in the endnotes.

The **complete monthly HSOS dataset** is available on the [REACH Resource Centre](#).



### Key Highlights

**More communities are relying on their own food cash crop production, likely due to the higher availability of locally produced crops during the current harvest season. However, agricultural productivity remains low. Furthermore, signs of food insecurity are increasing, most notably skipping meals and reducing meal sizes. Healthcare needs have remained high, with KIs in an increasing number of communities reporting treatment for chronic illnesses as a priority need. Lastly, summer items are currently a priority need.**

- ♦ **Reliance of households on local production increased during the ongoing harvest season<sup>a</sup> despite barriers to agricultural productivity continuing to burden households.** Own food production was reported as a main source of food by KIs in 78% of assessed communities in July, up from 60% in May. Similarly, KIs in 72% of assessed communities noted cash crop production as a main source of meeting needs for residents (9% for IDPs), up from 49% in May. Fresh vegetables were less commonly reported as a priority food need. However, despite agriculture currently providing an important source of livelihoods and foods, farmers have continued to face severe challenges this season. REACH's field team particularly noted low levels of agricultural production and profits, mentioning high temperatures, and the high cost of irrigation<sup>b,c</sup> and agricultural inputs<sup>d</sup> as causes. Notably, high operational costs are the second most commonly reported barrier to agricultural livelihoods, reported by KIs in 73% of assessed communities in July.

- ♦ **Food insecurity remains high with more communities having reported households skipping meals.** The food security situation remains difficult as KIs in an increasing proportion of communities reported that some households in their communities were skipping meals (53%) or reducing meal sizes (47%) due to the lack of food. The difficult economic situation is the main driver of food insecurity,<sup>e</sup> as KIs in 90% of assessed communities reported that markets are functional but essential food items are unaffordable. While cooking oil and bread are consistently the most reported priority food needs, rice was reported more frequently over the previous months. In July, it was the third most commonly reported priority food need, reported by KIs in 56% of assessed communities for residents and 57% for IDPs, up from 45% and 44% in April respectively. Rice is one of the food items of which the WFP has been required to provide reduced quantities in its food baskets since May 2022,<sup>f,g</sup> and REACH's field team noted that current quantities do not cover household needs.

- ♦ **Healthcare needs remained high, especially treatment for chronic disease.** Healthcare access has long been a challenge for communities, as KIs in 76% of assessed communities reported a high cost of transportation to health facilities and 75% reported a lack of transportation. The number of communities in which KIs reported the unaffordability of health services steadily increased since the beginning of the year, from 45% in January to 59% in July. These barriers are worsened by the closure of health facilities in response to the recent lack of funding,<sup>h</sup> which increases travel distances and puts pressure on individuals to access private healthcare facilities. Correspondingly, KIs in more communities reported that households in their communities forwent non-essential treatment to cope with the lack of healthcare, increasing from 5% in January to 15% in July. KIs prioritized treatment for chronic disease, reported in 59% of assessed communities, up from 45% in January.

### HSOS Dashboard

For a breakdown of sector-specific indicators by location, please see the [HSOS dashboard](#). The interactive HSOS dashboard provides a monthly sectoral overview of key indicators disaggregated at the sub-district and community level.

Feedback on improvements to this product can be done anonymously using the following [link](#).



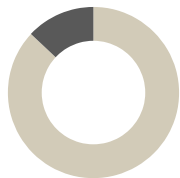
## Priority Needs and Humanitarian Assistance



Most commonly reported **first, second, and third** and **overall** priority needs for residents (by % of assessed communities) <sup>2,3</sup>

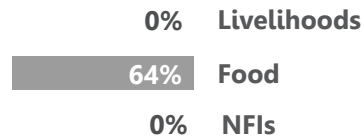
	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	OVERALL	
1	Food	Livelihoods	NFIs	Livelihoods	71%
2	Livelihoods	Summer items	Livelihoods	Food	59%
3	WASH <sup>▲</sup>	Food	Summer items	Summer items <sup>▼</sup>	45%

% of assessed communities where some of the resident households were able to access humanitarian assistance



Yes: **87%**  
No: **13%**

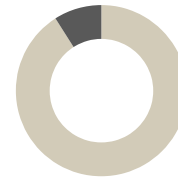
% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of the following **types of assistance for residents** <sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported **first, second, and third** and **overall** priority needs for IDPs (by % of assessed communities) <sup>2,3</sup>

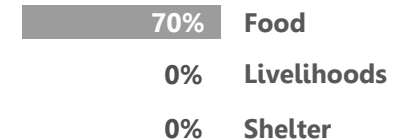
	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	OVERALL	
1	Food	WASH	Livelihoods	Food	60%
2	Shelter	Summer items	Summer items	Livelihoods	53%
3	Livelihoods	NFIs <sup>▶</sup>	NFIs	Shelter	50%

% of assessed communities where some of the IDP households were able to access humanitarian assistance



Yes: **91%**  
No: **9%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of the following **types of assistance for IDPs** <sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported barriers that resident households faced in accessing humanitarian assistance (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4,♦</sup>

In communities where access to humanitarian assistance was reported

- Assistance provided was insufficient to cover all people in need **70%** **1**
- Assistance provided was not relevant to all needs **54%** **2**
- Quantity of assistance provided to households was insufficient **46%** **3**

In communities where no access to humanitarian assistance was reported

- No humanitarian assistance was available **94%**
- Distribution points were too far or the routes were inaccessible **6%**

Most commonly reported barriers that IDP households faced in accessing humanitarian assistance (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4,♦</sup>

In communities where access to humanitarian assistance was reported

- Assistance provided was insufficient to cover all people in need **70%** **1**
- Assistance provided was not relevant to all needs **51%** **2**
- Quantity of assistance provided to households was insufficient **47%** **3**

In communities where no access to humanitarian assistance was reported

- No humanitarian assistance was available **94%**
- Distribution points were too far or the routes were inaccessible **6%**

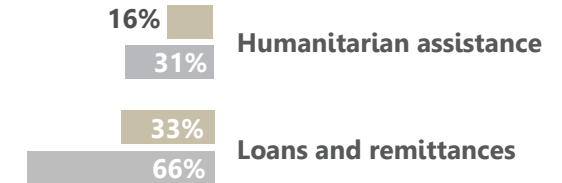
▲ Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)  
▼ Summer items include fans, sleeping nets, and water cooler boxes.  
▶ Non-Food Items (NFIs)



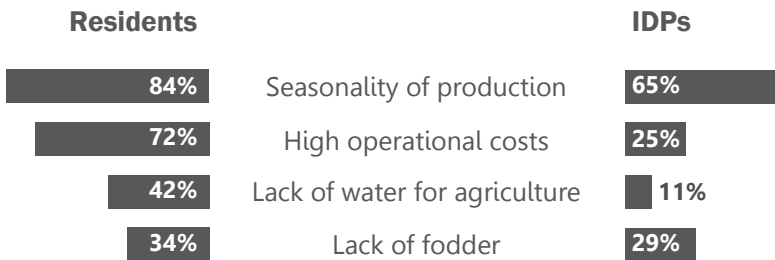
## Economic Conditions

Region	Median estimated monthly household expense for water for a household of six <sup>5,6</sup>			Median estimated monthly rent price for a two bed-room apartment <sup>5,6</sup>			Median estimated daily wage for unskilled labour <sup>5,7,8</sup>		
	SYP	TRY <sup>▲</sup>	USD	SYP	TRY	USD	SYP	TRY	USD
Greater Idlib area	85 TRY			375 TRY			35 TRY		
% of assessed communities where indicator was reported in following currencies <sup>*</sup>	0%	100%	0%	0%	62%	38%	0%	100%	0%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of **residents** and IDP households relying on non-productive sources of livelihoods to meet their basic needs <sup>4</sup>



Most commonly reported barriers to accessing live-lihoods related to agriculture (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4</sup>



### 90% and 93%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported daily waged labour as a common source of income for **residents** and IDPs

### 74 days

Number of days the average day labourer would need to work to earn the monthly cost of basic SMEB<sup>▲</sup> items <sup>5,9</sup>

### 94% and 53%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the **insufficient income of households** and general lack of employment opportunities as barriers to meeting basic needs <sup>8</sup>

% of assessed communities where common livelihood sources from agriculture were reported <sup>4</sup>

Livelihood source	Residents	IDPs
Food crop production	67%	16%
Cash crop production	72%	9%
Livestock products	65%	62%
Sale of livestock	13%	18%

Intersectoral findings on **unaffordability** hindering access to goods and services

- KIs in **73%** of assessed communities cited that **rent** was unaffordable for the majority of people
- KIs in **44%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **fuel for generators** as a common challenge
- KIs in **87%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **solar panels** as a common challenge
- KIs in **46%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **water trucking** as a common challenge
- KIs in **90%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **food** as a common challenge <sup>8</sup>
- KIs in **68%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **health services** as a common challenge

▲ Turkish Lira (TRY), Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)



## Living Conditions

In **96%** of assessed communities at least **80%** of the resident population reportedly **owned their shelter**

In **64%** of assessed communities reportedly **none** of the IDP households owned their shelter

In **24%** of assessed communities at least one fifth of the IDP population reportedly lived in unfinished or abandoned residential buildings

In **19%** of assessed communities at least one fifth of the IDP population reportedly lived in tents



A lack of toilets was reported as a shelter issue for IDPs in **2%** of assessed communities



A lack of bathing facilities was reported as a shelter issue for IDPs in **6%** of assessed communities

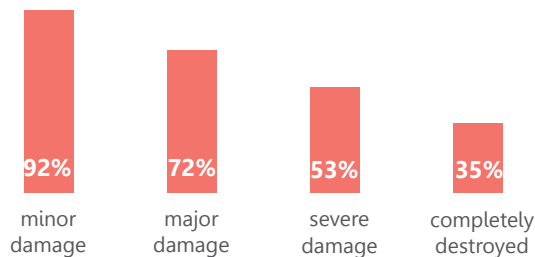


Problems with the drinking water were reported in **49%** of assessed communities



**Water being calcareous** was the most commonly reported problem with drinking water (reported by KIs in 49% of assessed communities)

### Reported presence of occupied shelters with damage across communities where damages were reported (by % of assessed communities) <sup>5,10</sup>



**Shelter and repair materials being too expensive** was the most commonly reported challenge for households to repair their shelter (reported by KIs in 91% of assessed communities) <sup>4</sup>

### Reported sanitation issues affecting public space in the community (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4</sup>

Solid waste in the streets **19%**

Rodents and/or pests are frequently visible **8%**

Sewage system pollutes public areas **6%**

Stagnant water **6%**

Flooding in the streets **0%**



# 99%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that **house-holds experienced barriers to accessing sufficient food** <sup>8</sup>



In **18%** of these communities, KIs reported that the **unavailability of certain food items** was a challenge to accessing sufficient food <sup>8</sup>

### Most commonly reported coping strategies for a lack of food (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4</sup>

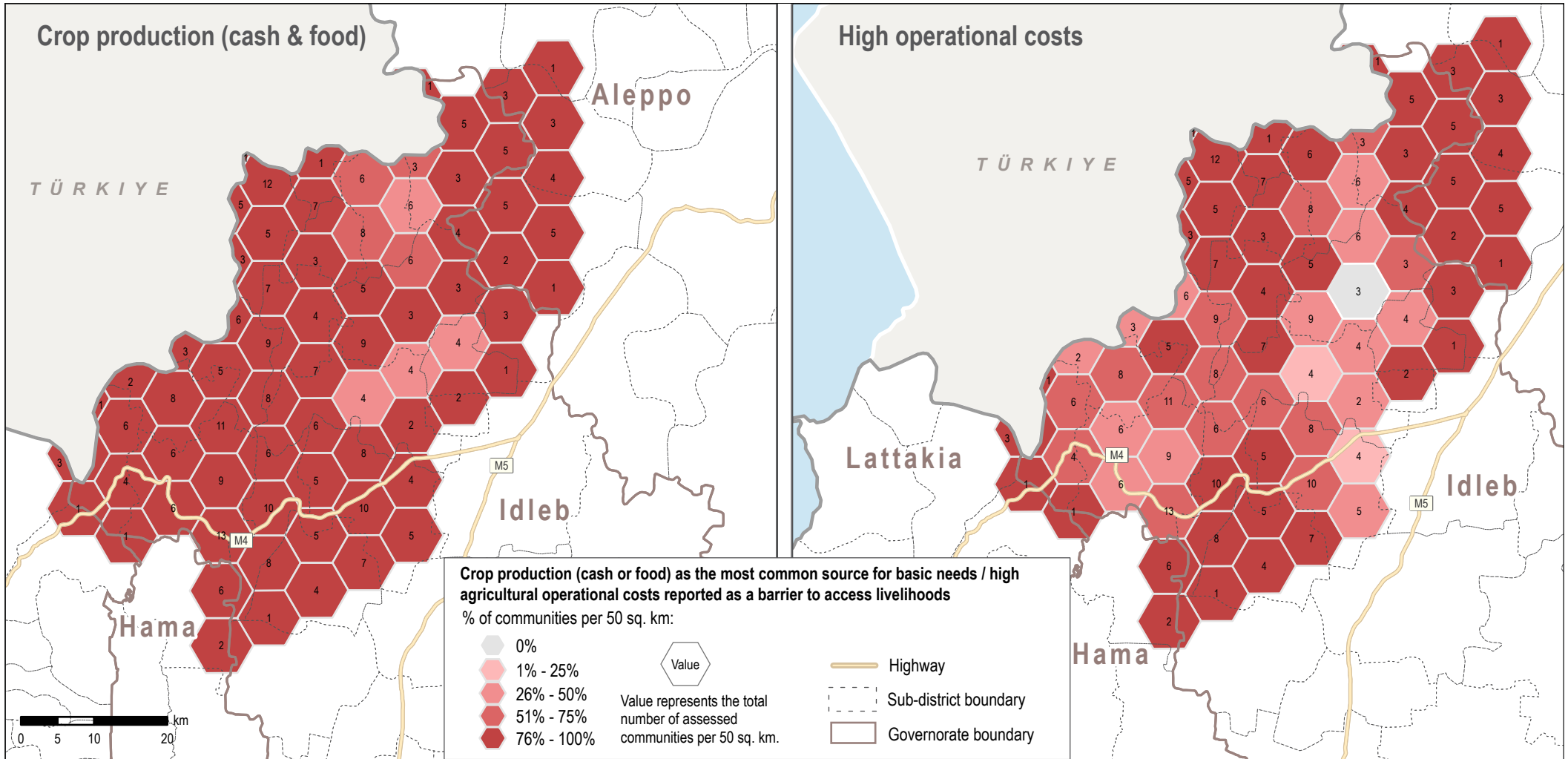
- 1 Relying on less preferred food / lower food quality **86%**
- 2 Borrowing money to buy food **84%**
- 3 Buying food with money usually used for other things **64%**



**High price of suitable foods formula** was the most commonly reported challenge to feeding young children (reported by KIs in 99% of assessed communities) <sup>4,11</sup>

### Commonly reported sources of food for house-holds other than markets (by % of assessed communities) <sup>4</sup>

- 1 Own production or farming **79%**
- 2 Relying on food stored previously **19%**
- 3 Assistance from local council or NGOs **18%**



## Crop production and high operational costs

### Note on the map

This map shows the percentage of communities in which KIs reported crop production (cash & food) as the most common source for basic needs, and high agricultural operational costs reported as a barrier to access livelihoods.



## Access to Basic Services



### Access to Electricity

**7-8** hrs per day

was the most commonly reported range for hours of electricity accessible to households (reported by KIs in 32% of assessed communities)

### Solar panels

was the most commonly reported main source of electricity (reported by KIs in 63% of assessed communities)

**46%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the main network is partially or completely not functioning as a barrier for electricity access ♦



### Access to Water

**49%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that not all households had access to sufficient water



7 days	10%
5-6 days	13%
3-4 days	17%
1-2 days	10%
0 days	50%

Days per week where water from the network was available (by % of 328 communities connected to a water network) ♦

### Private water trucking

was the most commonly reported source of drinking water (reported by KIs in 45% of assessed communities)

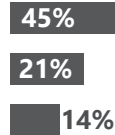


### Access to Sanitation

**39%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that no sewage system was present

Most commonly reported ways people disposed of solid waste (by % of assessed communities)



45%	Paid private waste collection
21%	Waste burnt
14%	Waste disposed of by household to a dumping location

**37%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported waste removal services as a WASH priority need <sup>8</sup>



### Access to Markets

**9%**

% of assessed communities in which households reportedly were unable to access markets in the assessed location

### Not enough consumers to support markets in the assessed location

was the most commonly reported reason for why markets were not functioning (reported by KIs in 85% of assessed communities where markets were not functioning)

**74%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that the lack of transportation to markets was a barrier to physically accessing food markets

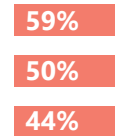


### Access to Health Services

**35%**

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that the households did not have access to health services in the assessed location

Most commonly reported health priority needs (by % of assessed communities) <sup>8</sup>



59%	Treatment for chronic diseases
50%	Paediatric consultations
44%	Medicines and other commodities

### Going to the pharmacy instead of a clinic

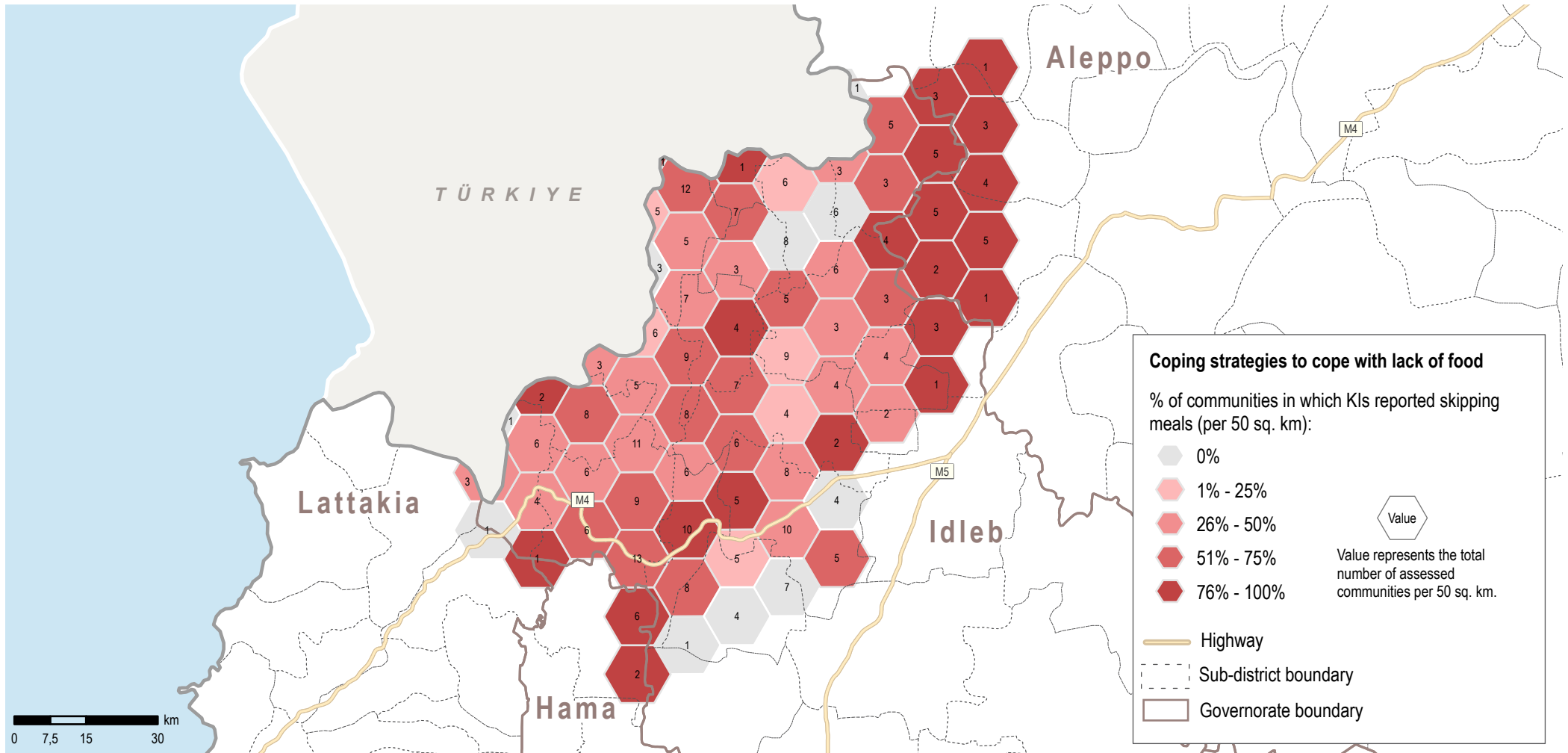
was the most commonly reported coping strategy for a lack of healthcare (reported by KIs in 81% of assessed communities)



### Access to Education Services

Due to summer holidays, no information on education was collected. Information on access to education services will be displayed again in October.





## Food coping strategies

### Note on the map

This map shows the percentage of communities in which KIs reported skipping meals as a coping mechanism to cope with a lack of food.



## COVID-19

Effects of COVID-19 on livelihoods sectors in the community (by % of assessed communities)

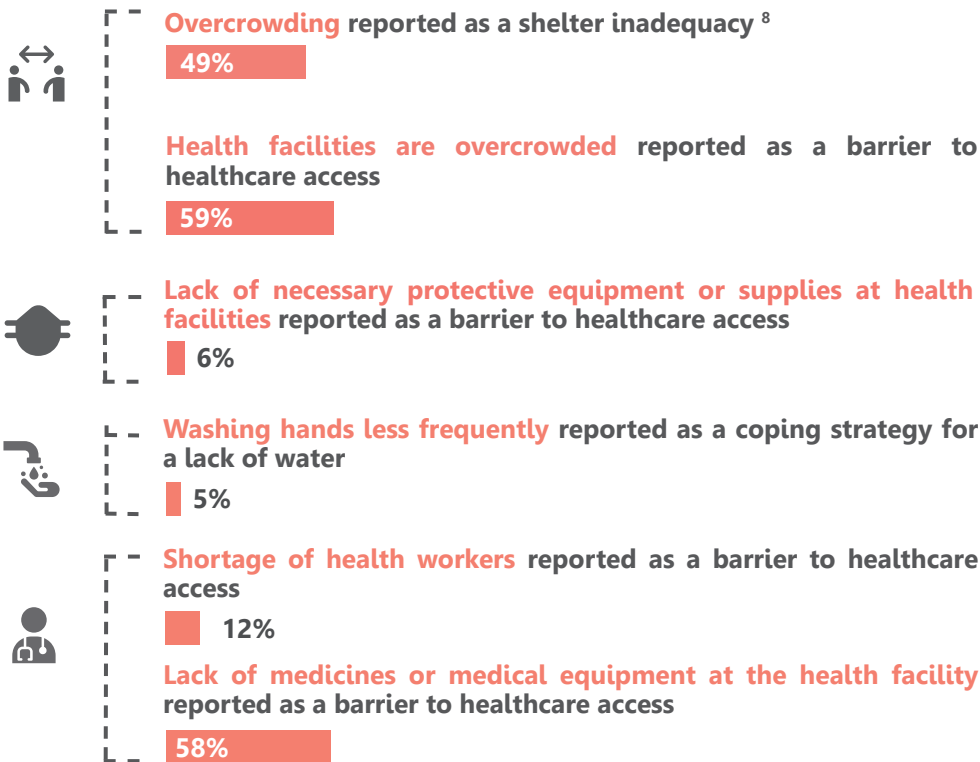


None of the available livelihood sectors were affected **92%**  
At least one of the available livelihood sectors was partially or totally affected **8%**

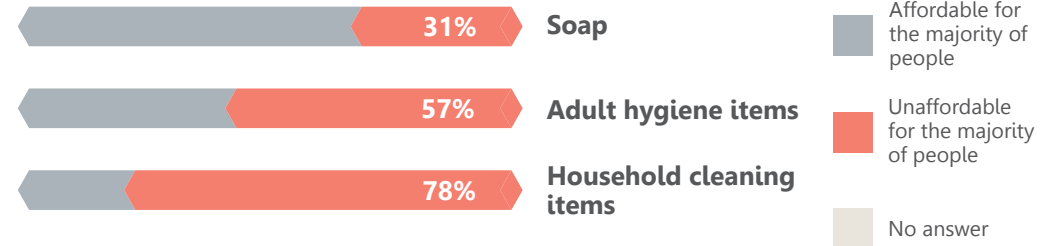
### Most commonly reported sectors affected by COVID-19 (by % of assessed communities)

- 6% Regular waged labour
- 6% Trading
- 5% Daily waged labour

### % of assessed communities where COVID-19 risk indicators were reported by KIs



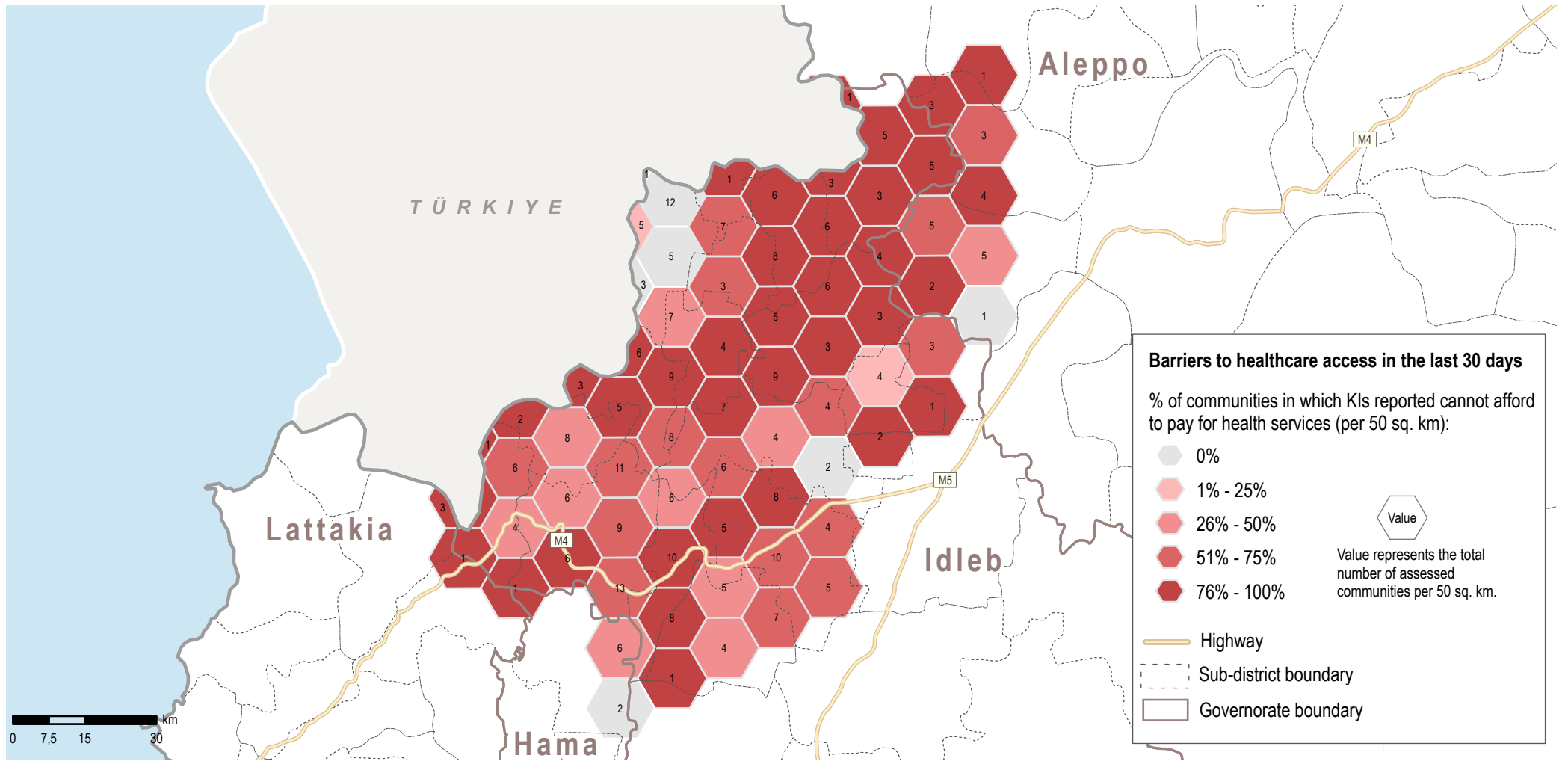
### Reported hygiene item availability and affordability (by % of assessed communities)<sup>12</sup>



### % of assessed communities where COVID-19 related barriers to access services were reported







## Barriers to healthcare access

### Note on the map

This map shows the percentage of communities in which KIs reported households could not afford to pay for health services.



## Security and Protection

### Intersectoral findings on security



**General safety and security concerns restricting movement to markets** was a reported barrier to market access in **1%** of assessed communities

**General safety and security concerns at markets** was a reported barrier to market access in **4%** of assessed communities

**Markets not opening because of security issues** was a reported barrier to markets not functioning in **0%** of assessed communities



**Threat from airstrikes** was reported as a protection risk in **21** communities <sup>8</sup>

**Threat from shelling, snipers or gunfire** was reported as a protection risk in **41** communities <sup>8</sup>

**Threat from improvised explosive devices (IEDs), mines or unexploded ordnances** was reported as a protection risk in **0** communities <sup>8</sup>

**Fear from imminent conflict** was reported as a protection risk in **84** communities <sup>8</sup>



**The inability to lock homes securely** was reported as a shelter inadequacy in **30%** of assessed communities <sup>8</sup>

**Lack of lighting around the shelter** was reported as a shelter inadequacy in **89%** of assessed communities <sup>8</sup>

**The security situation** was reported as a barrier to shelter repairs in **12%** of assessed communities



**General safety and security concerns at the health facility** was reported as a barrier to healthcare in **1%** of assessed communities

### Most commonly reported protection priority needs (by % of assessed communities)<sup>3, 8</sup>

- 1 81%** Special assistance for vulnerable groups
- 2 70%** Specialised child protection services
- 3 39%** Psychosocial support



### % of assessed communities where the lack of civil documentation for residents and IDPs was reported

- 62%** Lack or loss of civil documentation as a protection risk
- 5%** Some people did not have the necessary personal documents as a barrier to accessing humanitarian assistance

### % of assessed communities where extreme coping strategies used by residents and IDPs to meet basic needs were reported<sup>4</sup>

#### Residents

- 40%** Early marriage
- 1%** Forced marriage
- 2%** High risk work
- 3%** Sending family members to beg
- 86%** Sending children (15 or below) to work

#### IDPs

- 48%**
- 0%**
- 7%**
- 1%**
- 90%**

### Age, Gender, and Diversity

KIs in **46%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of employment opportunities for women** as a barrier to meeting basic needs <sup>8</sup>

KIs in **39%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of employment opportunities for persons with a disability** as a barrier to meeting basic needs <sup>8</sup>

KIs in **20%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of privacy for women and girls at health facilities** as a barrier to healthcare access

KIs in **36%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of market access for people with restricted mobility**

KIs in **6%** of assessed communities reported that **women and girls feel unsafe when traveling to markets**

**Children below the age of 12** were reported as a group affected by child labour in **22%** of assessed communities <sup>8</sup>

**Hazardous child labour** was reported as a protection risk in **7%** of assessed communities <sup>8</sup>

### Endnotes

1. The greater Idleb area includes Idlib governorate, parts of Aleppo western countryside, and parts of Hama northwestern countryside controlled by armed opposition groups (AOGs).
2. KIs were asked to select a first, second, and third highest priority need in their communities. The ranking shows the sectors most frequently chosen as either first, second or third highest priority. The overall priority need refers to the frequency a sector was selected across all three categories (first, second or third highest priority).
3. KIs could select three answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.
4. KIs could select multiple answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.
5. KIs were asked about the situation at the time of data collection, instead of the last 30 days.
6. KIs had the option to select the price in United States Dollars (USD), Turkish Lira (TRY), or Syrian Pounds (SYP). When the price was not reported in SYP, the Idleb Governorate Market Monitoring exchange rate was used to calculate the amount in SYP. According to the [Joint Market Monitoring Initiative \(JMMI\)](#) July 2022, 1 USD = 3,984 SYP; 1 TRY= 237 SYP.
7. According to the Idleb Governorate July 2022, 1 USD = 3,984 SYP.
8. Findings for residents and IDPs were merged. The merge was calculated as follows: (option was selected for either residents or IDPs) / (communities reporting challenges/barriers/coping strategies for either residents or IDPs).
9. According to the Idleb Governorate JMMI July 2022, the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) = 611,044 SYP.
10. Minor damage (cracks in walls, leaking roof, need of new doors and window repairs, etc.); Major damage (buildings with extensive damage to window frames and doors, but no structural damage to columns, slabs, or loadbearing walls); Severe damage (buildings with significant structural damage to column slabs, or loadbearing walls, cracking, steel elements and deformations visible in concrete; the building would require extensive repairs); Completely destroyed (buildings with structural damage so significant that rehabilitation is not possible).
11. KIs were asked about the situation in the last two months, instead of the last 30 days.
12. Adult hygiene items include: shampoo, toothbrush, and toothpaste. Household cleaning items include: washing powder, liquid, and dish detergent.

### ◆ By number of communities where KIs reported the relevant indicator for the relevant population group(s)

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Subset</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Subset</i>
<i>N.o of communities reporting on:</i>		<i>N.o of communities reporting on:</i>	
Residents	366	Currency used for paying water	344
IDPs	361	Currency used for paying rent	286
Challenges to assistance access (resident)	310	Currency in which wages are paid (merge)	330
Barriers to assistance access (resident)	48	Barriers to accessing sufficient food (merge)	368
Challenges to assistance access (IDPs)	321	Days when water is available from network	328
Barriers to assistance access (IDPs)	33	Barriers to markets functioning	33

### Sources

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### About REACH

REACH facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT). For more information please visit our website: [www.reach-initiative.org](http://www.reach-initiative.org). You can contact us directly at: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto:geneva@reach-initiative.org).