

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 5th-11th July 2021

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash programming, REACH in partnership with the northeast (NES) and northwest (NWS) Syria Cash Working Group (CWG) conducts monthly Market Monitoring Exercises in northern Syria to assess the availability and prices of 36 basic commodities that are typically sold in markets and consumed by average Syrian households, including food and non-food items, water, fuel, and cell phone data.

Of these, 18 items comprise the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB; see below), which represents the minimum, culturally adjusted items required to support a 6-person household for a month.

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community. See REACH Resource Centre for the [July 2021 dataset](#).

Coverage and data collection dates

In July 2021, REACH and partners covered:

- 4 governorates
- 11 districts
- 30 subdistricts
- 55 communities
- 1,427 individual shops

In light of the fluctuation of the Syrian Pound (SYP)'s value and resulting market disruption, prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (5th-11th July 2021).

Partners

Data collection for this month was conducted by REACH and the following partners:

- ATAA
- CARE NES
- Global Communities
- Danish Church Aid
- Mercy Corps
- People in Need
- Solidarités International
- Samaritans Purse
- CWG NES

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

NES SMEB Basket Value Increase

SYP

SMEB July value: 336,608 SYP

One month change (compared to June): **increase of 1%**

Six month change (compared to January): **increase of 25%**

United States Dollar (USD)

SMEB May value: 106 USD

One month change: **decrease of 1%**

Six month change: **increase of 12%**

Despite a minor decrease, the first half of 2021 has seen the highest recorded SMEB in SYP in the Market Monitoring exercise, attributed to the protracted hyperinflation of the Syrian economy. The SMEB in United States Dollars (USD) is currently the highest recorded cost in USD since December 2019.

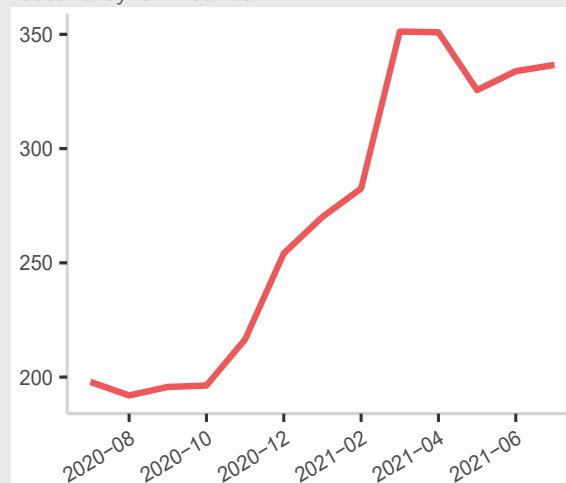
MEDIAN SMEB COST FOR NES

336,608 SYP (106 USD)

NES COVERAGE: AL-HASAKEH, AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR AND EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB Water Trucking Price Increase^{#1}

NES average: 15,930 SYP per 4,500 litres

One month change: **increase of 12%**

Six month change: **increase of 11%**

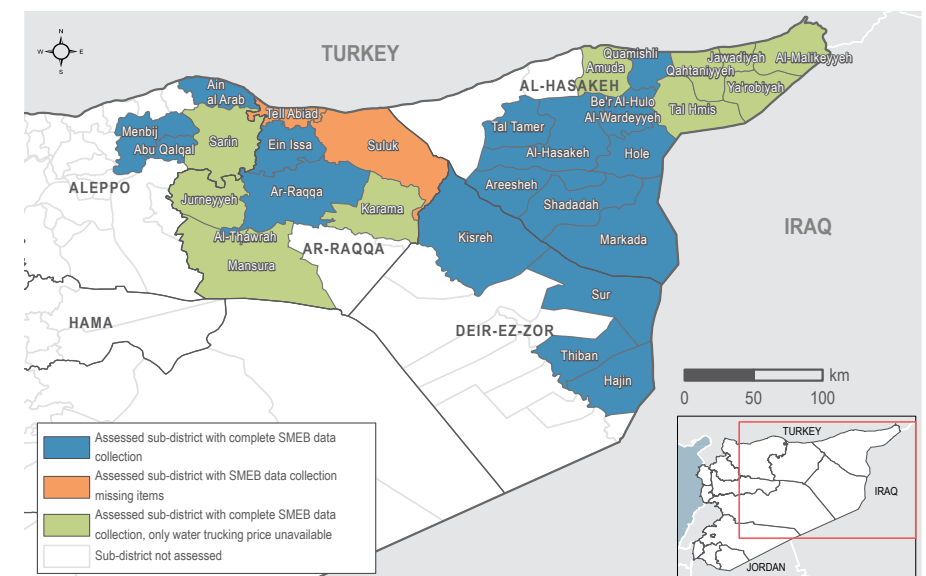
% of surveyed vendors reporting water trucking as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 0%

Water trucking is the main source of clean water for most individuals. Water challenges in each governorate have led to erratic prices across the region, with Al-Hasakeh experiencing the highest costs, by far:

- Al-Hasakeh: 20,813 SYP
- Aleppo NE: 13,950 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 11,138 SYP
- Ar-Raqqa: 2,610 SYP

Water restrictions continue to push up prices in Al-Hasakeh, NE Aleppo and Deir-Ez-Zor, and communities must cope by finding alternative sources, or reducing water use in sometimes dangerous ways. For a detailed overview of the current water crisis, please see the [REACH Syria Briefing Note: Water Crisis in NES](#).

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE



^{#1} Equates to 25L per person for day. See page 7 for further water trucking data

NORTHEAST SYRIA - KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND OVERVIEW

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	336,608	1%	25%
Abu Qalqal*	336,608	2%	52%
Ain al Arab	280,709	-8%	13%
Al-Hasakeh	350,382	-2%	20%
Al-Malikeyyeh	326,324	0%	31%
Al-Thawrah	321,247	2%	18%
Amuda	334,851	5%	-1%
Areesheh	335,983	1%	19%
Ar-Raqqa	337,647	6%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	350,628	-2%	15%
Al-Wardeyyeh			
Ein Issa	347,696	4%	29%
Hajin	336,297	5%	25%
Hole	311,069	NA	7%
Jawadiyah	305,563	6%	12%
Jurneyyeh	327,928	7%	28%
Karama	327,867	-8%	18%
Kisreh	312,163	0%	NA
Mansura	326,574	7%	23%
Markada	331,803	-1%	21%
Menbij	349,394	3%	50%
Qahtaniyyeh	293,048	1%	5%
Quamishli	359,923	4%	27%
Sarin*	283,101	NA	NA
Shadadah	320,755	-1%	19%
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	340,387	0%	26%
Tal Hmis	325,296	4%	27%
Tal Tamer	345,183	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	311,481	-3%	17%
Ya'robiyah	282,306	0%	4%

* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

** For these sub-districts, all of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

Note: For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. The above applies to all tables.

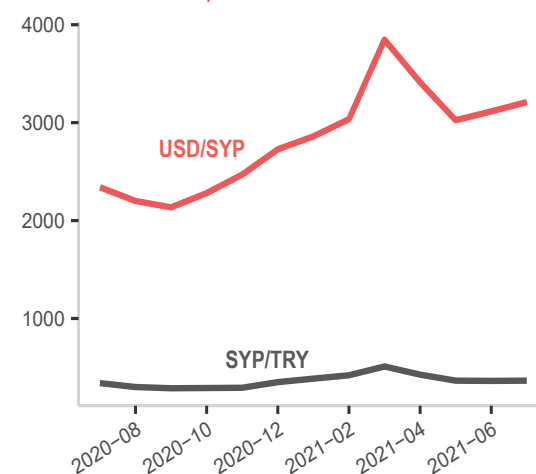
SURVIVAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (SMEB) CONTENTS

	Item	Quantity
Food Items	Bread	37 kg
	Bulgur	15 kg
	Chicken	6 kg
	Eggs	6 kg
	Fresh vegetables	12 kg
	Ghee/vegetable oil	7 kg/L
	Red lentils	15 kg
	Rice	19 kg
	Salt	1 kg
	Sugar	5 kg
	Tomato paste	6 kg
Hygiene items	Bathing soap	12 bars
	Laundry/dish soap	3 kg
	Sanitary pads	4 packs of 10
	Toothpaste	200 g
Fuel	Cooking fuel+	25 L
Water	Water trucking	4500 L
Telecom	Smartphone data	1 GB
Other	Float (other costs)++	7.5% total value

+Kerosene in northern Syria

++ Float only applied to observations where prices of all SMEB contents could be collected. Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



KEY DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

High Quality Fuel Prices Decrease^{#2}

High quality diesel prices decreased greatly in July after sharp increases over the past three months, but still remains high in price relative to earlier in the year and is still largely unavailable in the majority of communities. High quality petrol has remained high in price year round and also remains largely unavailable. High quality fuels are mostly imported, and our REACH field teams report that typical challenges include restrictions on imports from Government of Syria (GoS) areas due to their own limited supply, lack of production materials in the region and general road closures.

High Quality Diesel

231 SYP per litre

One month price change: **decrease of 49%**

Six month price change: **increase of 54%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality diesel as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 78%

High Quality Petrol

2,100 SYP per litre

One month price change: **decrease of 6%**

Six month price change: **increase of 18%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality petrol as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 65%

Manually Refined Fuel Prices Increase

REACH field teams report that low quality fuels are often used as transport fuel because high quality fuels are rarely available. Low quality manually refined fuels are reported as widely available across NES. However, the price of

manually refined fuels vary greatly both across governorates and month to month, typically because of high transportation costs and other regional challenges.

Manually Refined Diesel:

350 SYP per litre

One month price change: **increase of 8%**

Six month price change: **increase of 56%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 6%

Manually Refined Petrol:

625 SYP per litre

One month price change: **decrease of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 79%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 5%

Exchange Rates Fall^{#3}

Informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate: 3,210 SYP to 1 USD

One month rate change: **increase of 3%**

Six month rate change: **increase of 12%**

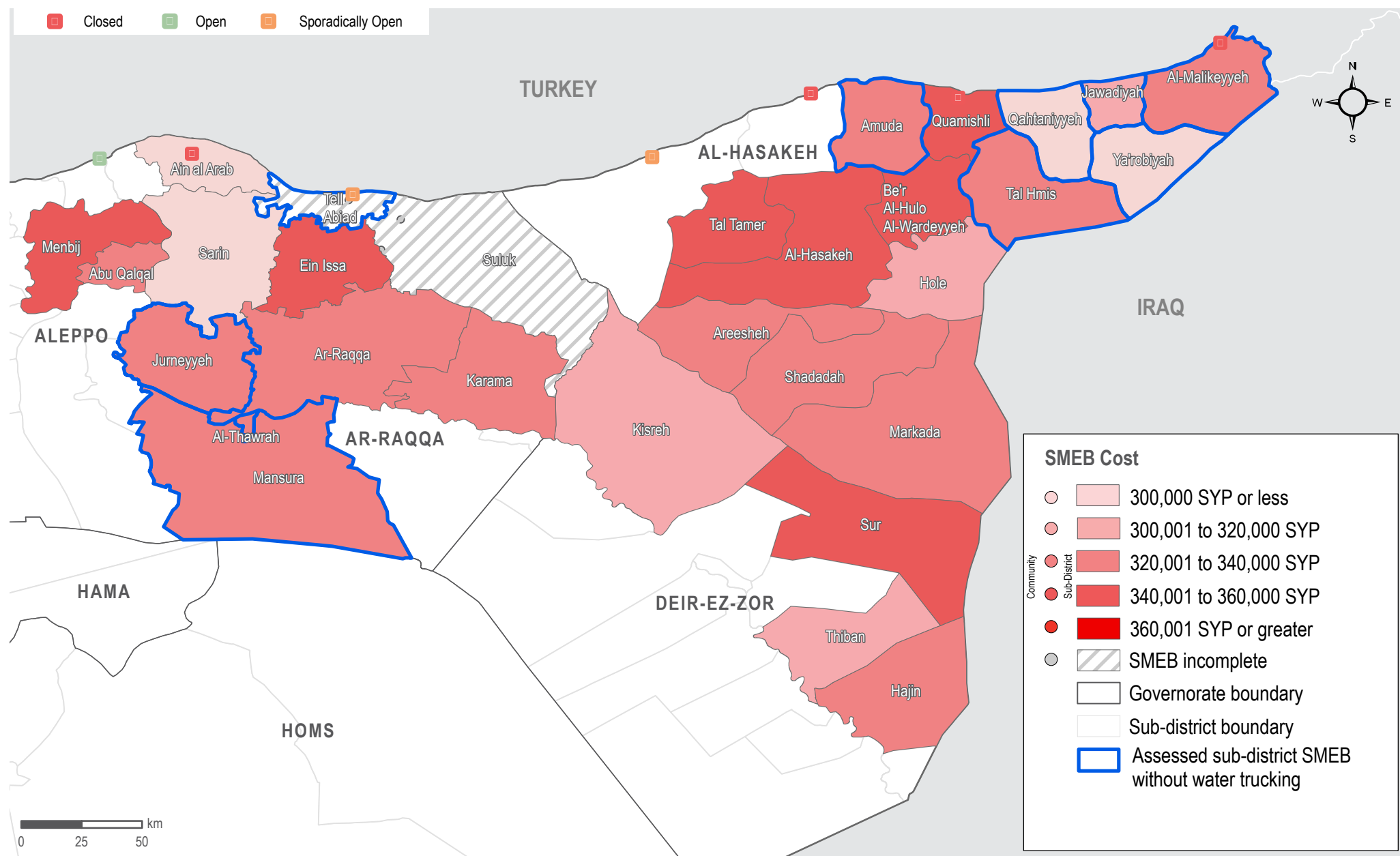
In July, both the Turkish Lira (TRY) and SYP depreciated slightly against the USD, reversing a positive trend of appreciation seen in the last three months. This is considered the underlying factor for many price increases in July in NES. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,270 SYP for 1 USD in Suluk community in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

^{#3} To compare SYP prices to USD or TRY, our [July 2021 dataset](#) provides informal exchange rates at the regional, district, subdistrict and community levels, where data is available

^{#2} See page 11 for further fuel data

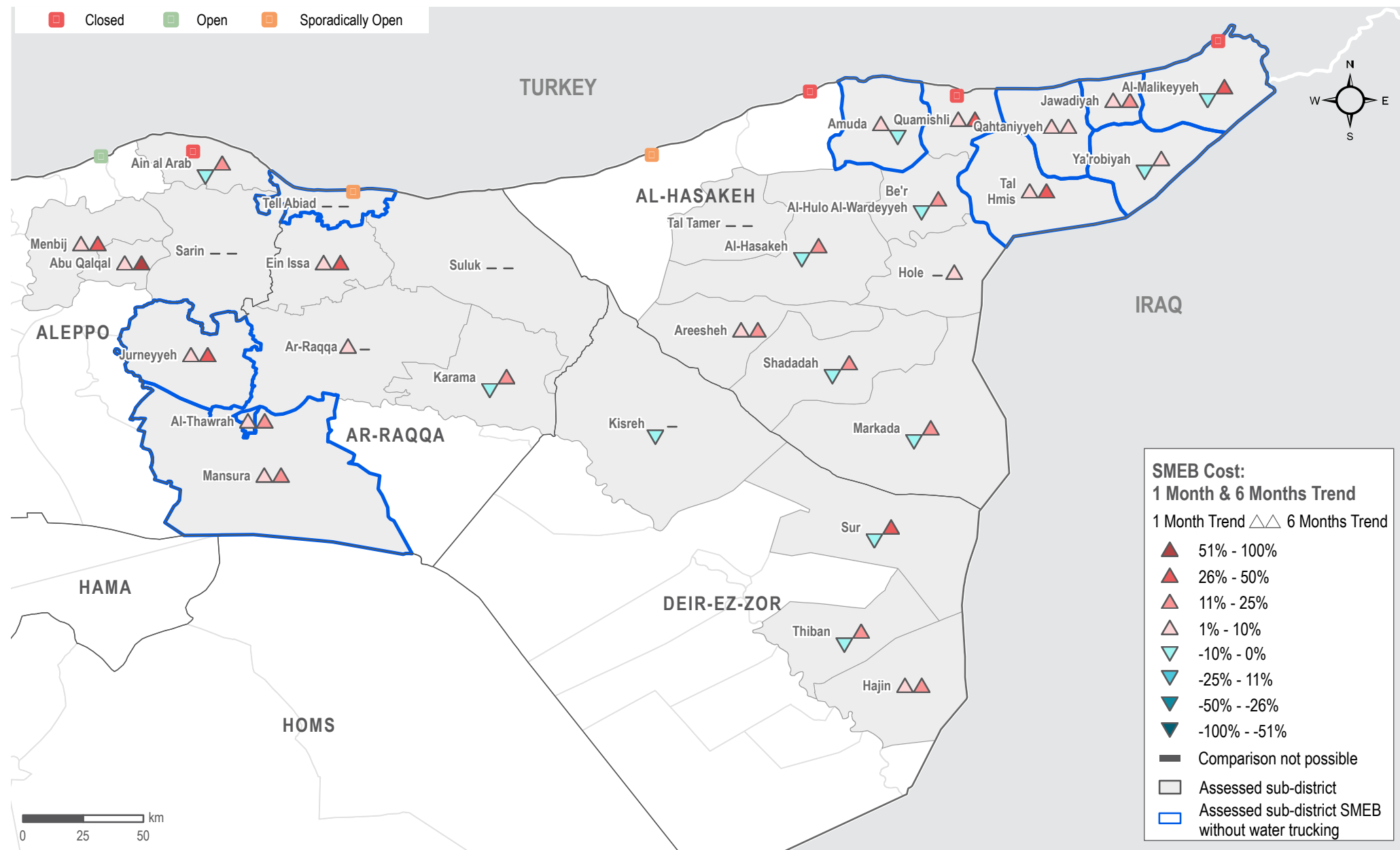
NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

SMEB COST: 1 MONTH AND 6 MONTHS TREND



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

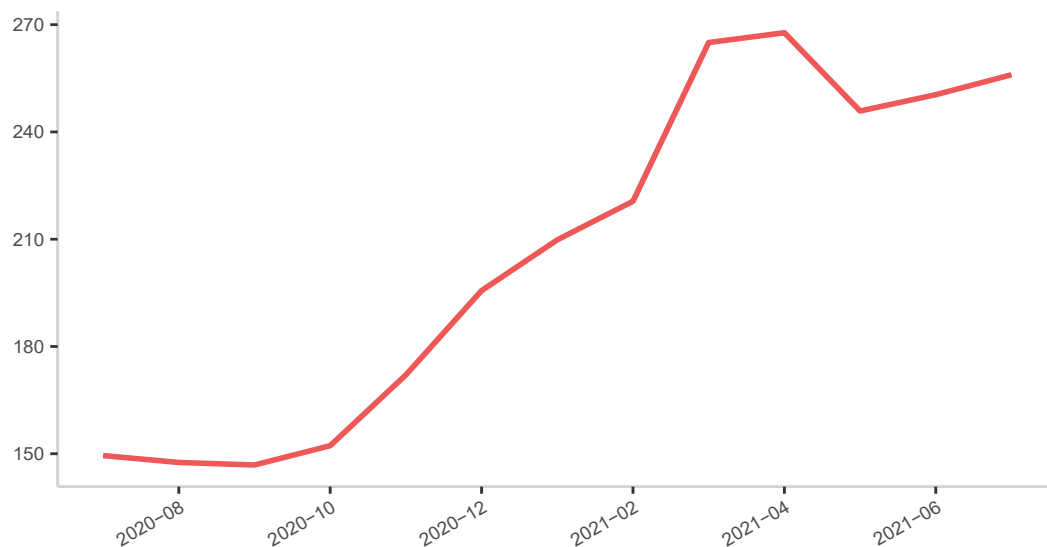
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	255,980	2%	22%
Abu Qalqal*	264,863	2%	51%
Ain al Arab	216,550	-9%	9%
Al-Hasakeh	261,550	-2%	18%
Al-Malikeyyeh	270,407	3%	30%
Al-Thawrah	249,950	1%	16%
Amuda	277,204	4%	-2%
Areesheh	248,900	-1%	18%
Ar-Raqqa	250,050	2%	19%
Be'r Al-Hulo	261,525	3%	13%
Al-Wardeyyeh	261,525	3%	13%
Ein Issa	260,025	2%	24%
Hajin	262,500	6%	31%
Hole	232,993	NA	5%
Jawadiyah	242,795	6%	12%
Jurneyyeh	257,900	7%	27%

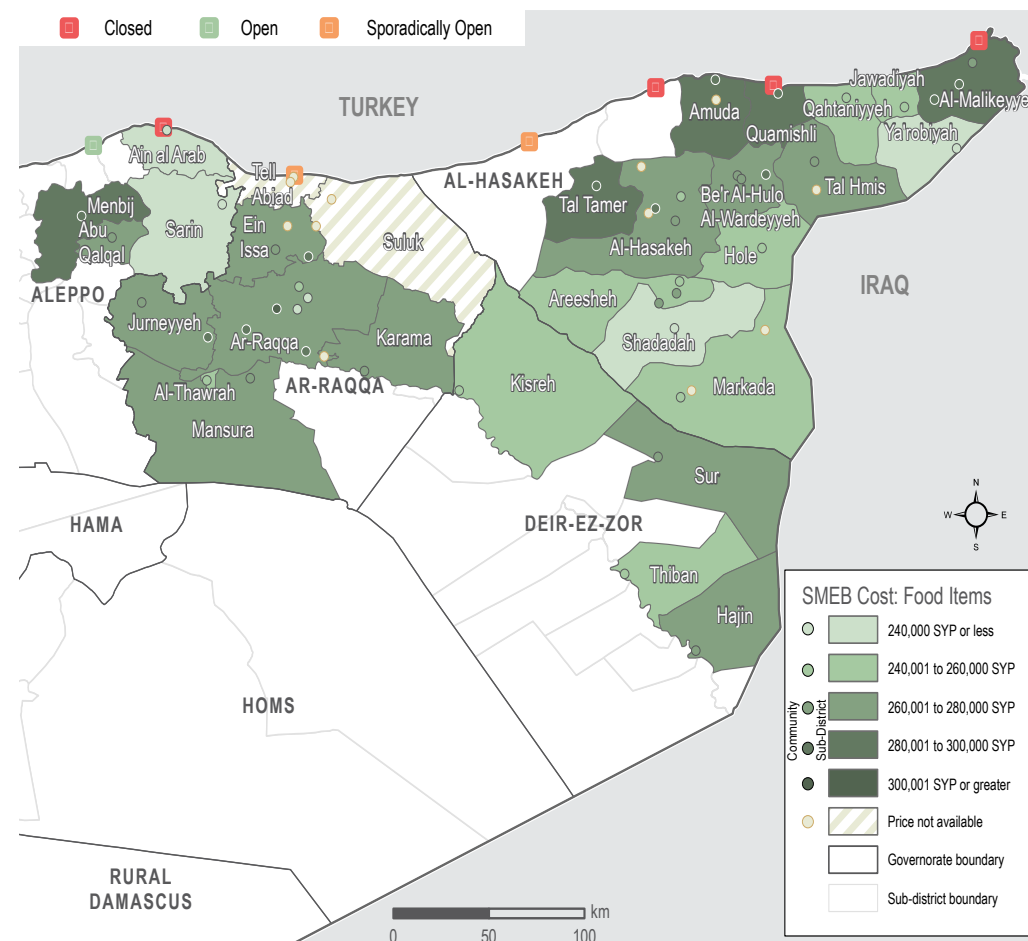
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD COMPONENT 255,980 SYP (80 USD)^{#4}

One month price change: **increase of 2%**

Six month price change: **increase of 22%**

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting a SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood

- 6% for bread

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting a SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood for previous month

- 9% for chicken

SMEB BULK FOODS 127,064 SYP (35 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 24%**

- Salt increased by **11%**
- Tomato paste increased by **9%**
- Sugar increased by **3%**
- Rice no change (**0%**)
- Bulgur decreased by **2%**
- Red lentils decreased by **3%**

According to REACH field teams, these items are typically imported, and as such their prices mostly increased due to depreciation of the SYP against the TRY and USD.

SMEB VEGETABLE COMPONENT 6,450 SYP (2.01 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 22%**

Six month price change: **decrease of 37%**

- Potatoes decreased by **14%**
- Onions decreased by **17%**
- Cucumbers decreased by **17%**
- Tomatoes decreased by **48%**

REACH field teams attribute these price drops to key vegetable items being in season and produced locally.

BREAD 300 SYP PER 8 PIECE BUNDLE (0.09 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 16%**

Six month price change: **increase of 23%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting bread as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 6%

Price fluctuations are attributed to both the appreciation of the SYP and general subsidies by the authorities. The average bread prices varied greatly between governorates:

- NE Aleppo 625 SYP per bundle
- Al-Hasakeh 424 SYP per bundle
- Ar-Raqqa 275 SYP per bundle
- Deir-Ez-Zor 250 SYP per bundle

FLOUR 1,500 SYP PER KILO (0.47 USD)

One month price change: **no change (0%)**

Six month price change: **increase of 88%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting flour as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 2%

For a deeper analysis of the agricultural context in Syria, please see the [FAO Agriculture Input and Commodity Bulletin for June 2021](#).

CHICKEN 5,000 SYP PER KILO (1.56 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 36%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting chicken as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 5%

Prices for chicken increased slightly as expected, due to the depreciation of the SYP against the USD.

EGGS 6,375 SYP FOR 30 EGGS (1.99 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 6%**

Six month price change: **increase of 7%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting eggs as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 0%

COOKING FUELS

Kerosene is the typical cooking fuel in NES and is also used for heating but may on occasion be substituted with LP gas.

Manually Refined Kerosene:

500 SYP per litre (0.16 USD)

One month change: **no change (0%)**

Six month price change: **increase of 25%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined kerosene as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 11%

LP Gas:

3,438 SYP per canister^{#5} (1.07 USD)

One month price change: **no change (0%)**

Six month price change: **no change (0%)**

% of surveyed vendors reporting LP gas as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 6%

^{#4} July informal regional exchange rate for NES: 3,210 SYP

^{#5} Prices are taken for the cheapest available canister at the time of data collection, which is typically 20-25 litres.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

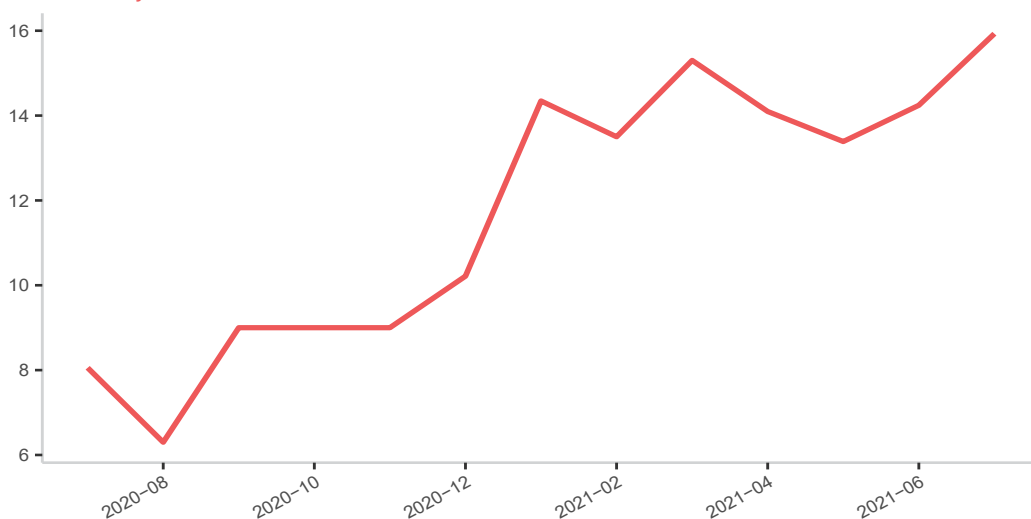
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	15,930	12%	11%
Abu Qalqal**	13,950	-13%	168%
Ain al Arab	12,375	-8%	83%
Al-Hasakeh	22,500	-6%	32%
Al-Malikeyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA
Areesheh	24,525	20%	40%
Ar-Raqqa	18,000	107%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	19,125	-11%	0%
Al-Wardeyyeh**	19,125	-11%	0%
Ein Issa	2,610	-61%	10%
Hajin	6,300	-30%	-30%
Hole**	24,705	3%	21%
Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA

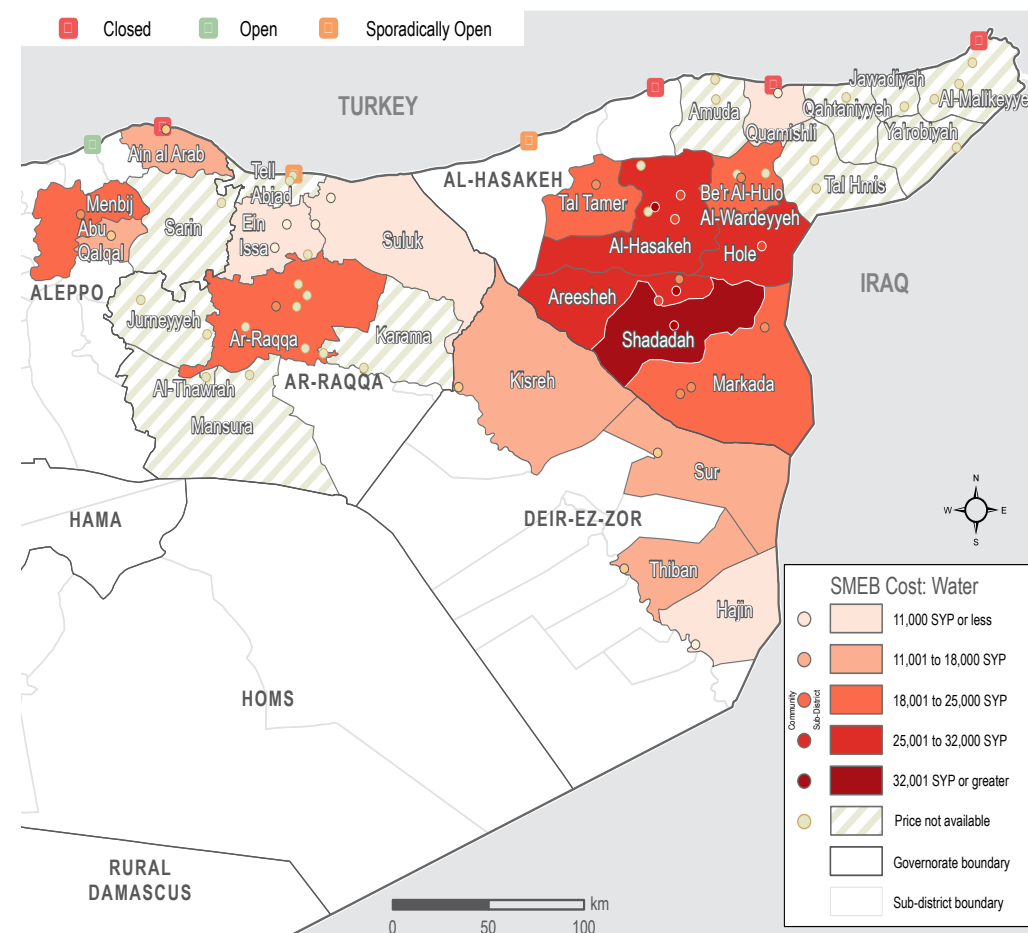
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



Water trucking prices varied greatly across NES in July:

Al-Hasakeh: 20,813 SYP
 Aleppo NE: 13,950 SYP
 Deir-Ez-Zor: 11,138 SYP
 Ar-Raqqa: 2,610 SYP

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

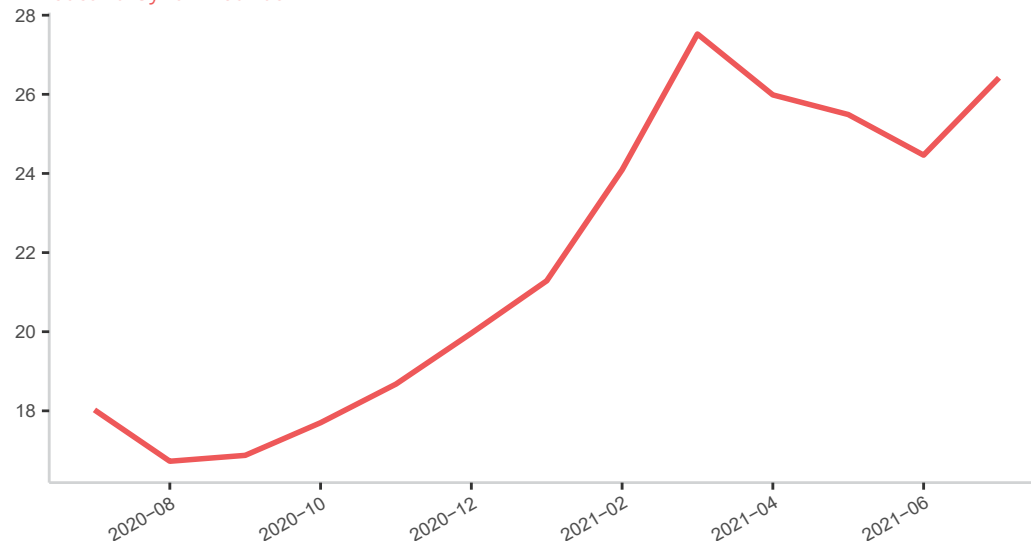
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	26,419	8%	24%
Abu Qalqal	22,181	8%	34%
Ain al Arab	23,700	0%	36%
Al-Hasakeh	26,387	2%	17%
Al-Malikeyyeh	28,150	-4%	47%
Al-Thawrah	26,469	8%	37%
Amuda	30,084	23%	20%
Areeshah	23,617	7%	2%
Ar-Raqqa	26,041	7%	22%
Be'r Al-Hulo	29,766	-28%	46%
Al-Wardeyyeh	29,766	-28%	46%
Ein Issa	28,303	25%	39%
Hajin	30,584	12%	25%
Hole	24,994	5%	10%
Jawadiyah	28,050	4%	-8%
Jurneyyeh	26,900	8%	34%

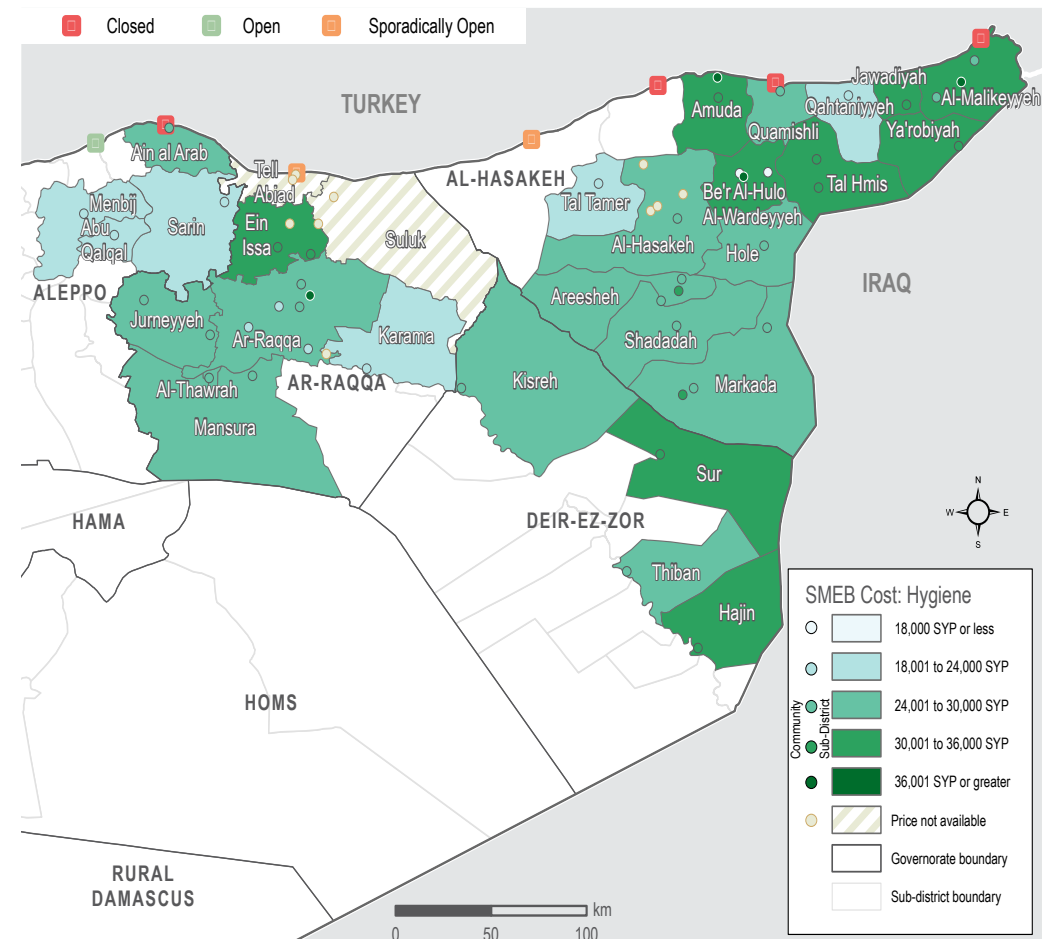
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

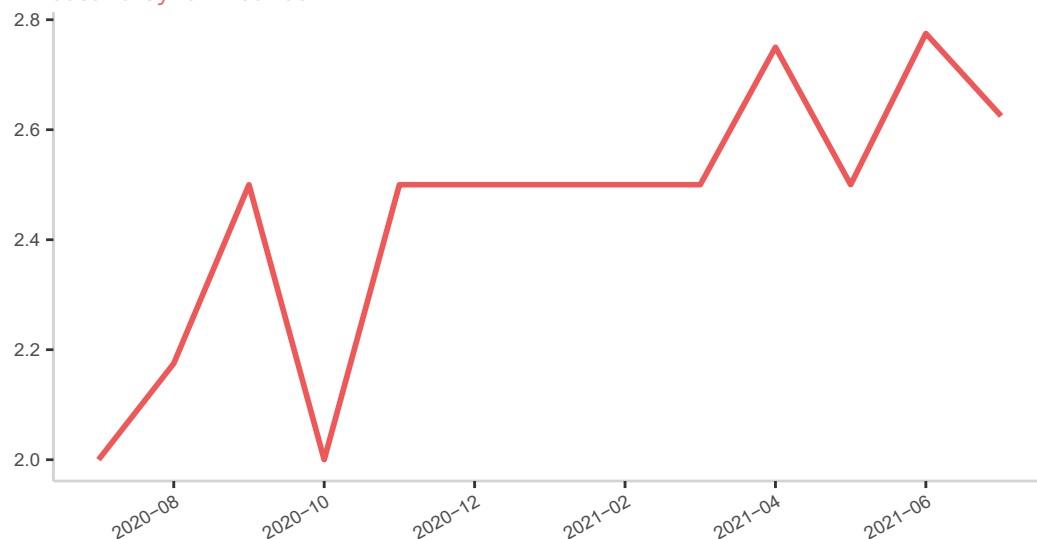
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,625	-5%	5%
Abu Qalqal**	9,006	6%	49%
Ain al Arab	5,000	0%	-9%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	0%	100%
Al-Malikeyyeh	1,500	0%	-25%
Al-Thawrah	4,915	0%	2%
Amuda	1,702	-38%	-32%
Areeshah	3,000	7%	9%
Ar-Raqqa	2,500	-12%	0%
Be'r Al-Hulo	3,250	-19%	-19%
Al-Wardeyyeh			
Ein Issa	2,500	0%	0%
Hajin	2,200	-12%	-12%
Hole	3,300	3%	10%
Jawadiyah	900	0%	44%
Jurneyyeh	2,750	10%	-8%

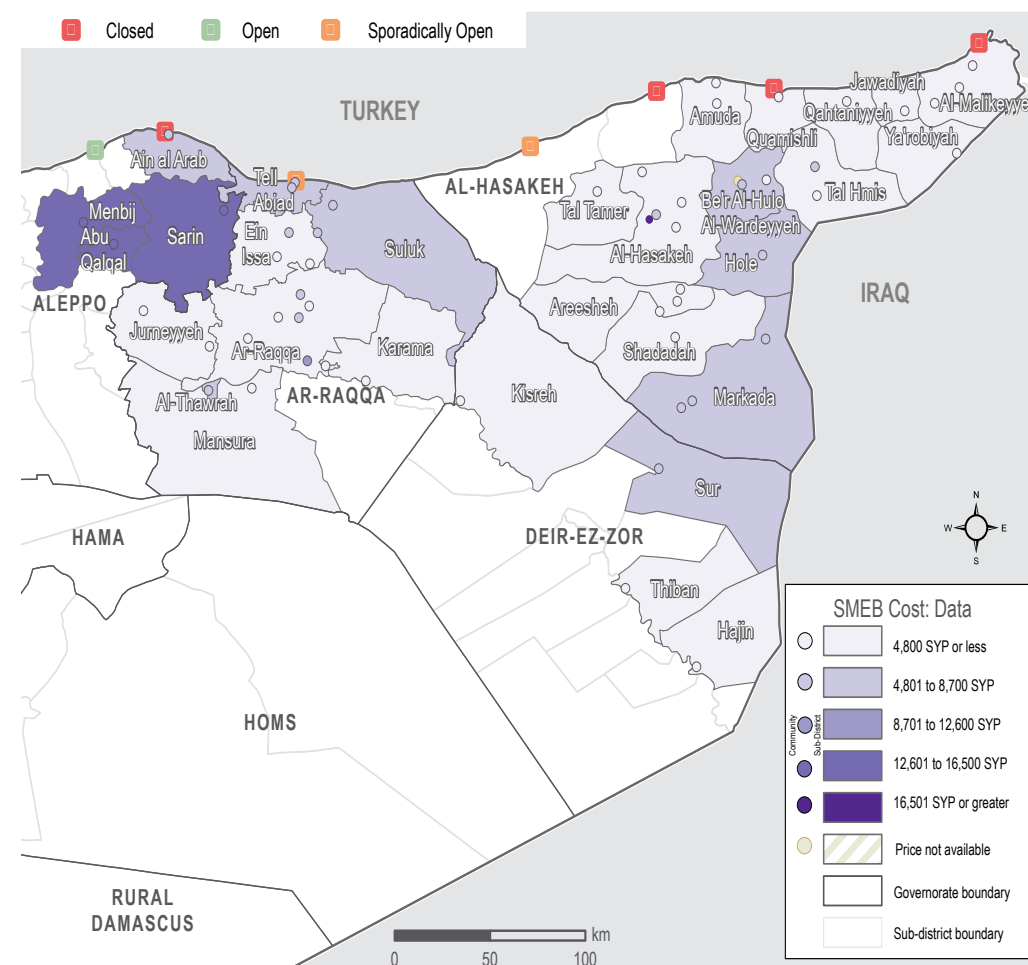
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

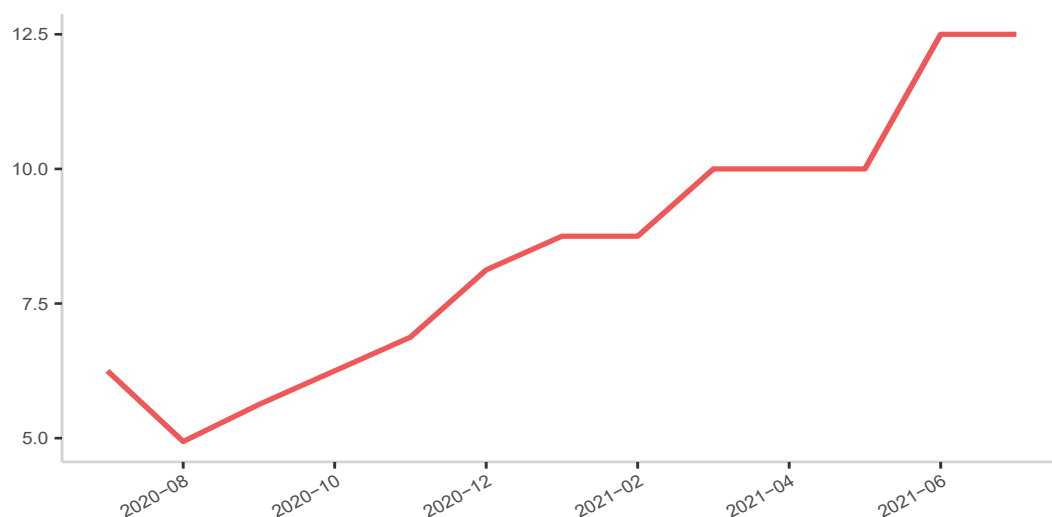
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	12,500	0%	43%
Abu Qalqal**	3,125	0%	0%
Ain al Arab*	3,500	0%	0%
Al-Hasakeh	12,500	0%	43%
Al-Malikeyyeh*	3,500	-69%	12%
Al-Thawrah	17,500	8%	17%
Amuda**	2,500	0%	0%
Areesheh	12,500	0%	43%
Ar-Raqqa	17,500	0%	27%
Be'r Al-Hulo	12,500	0%	43%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	12,500	0%	43%
Ein Issa	30,000	23%	100%
Hajin**	11,250	-10%	-27%
Hole**	3,375	NA	35%
Jawadiyeh**	12,500	0%	82%
Jurneyyeh	17,500	0%	60%

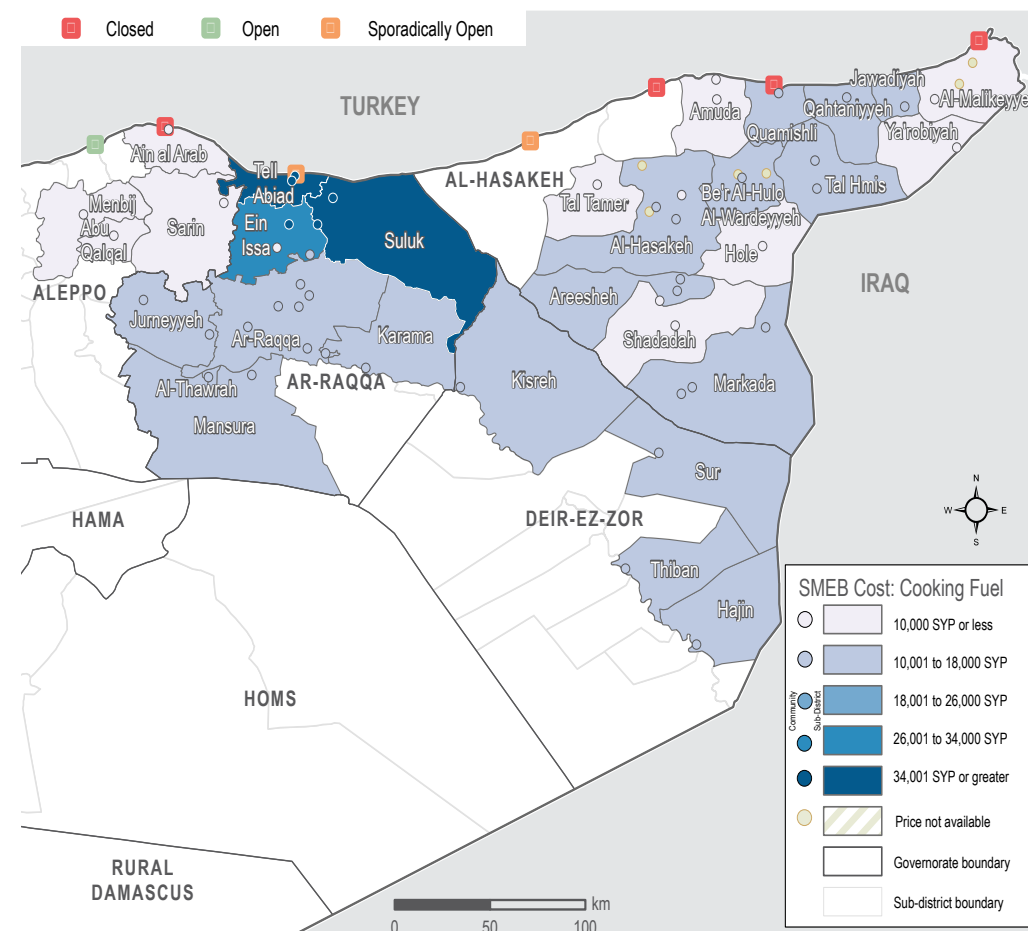
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

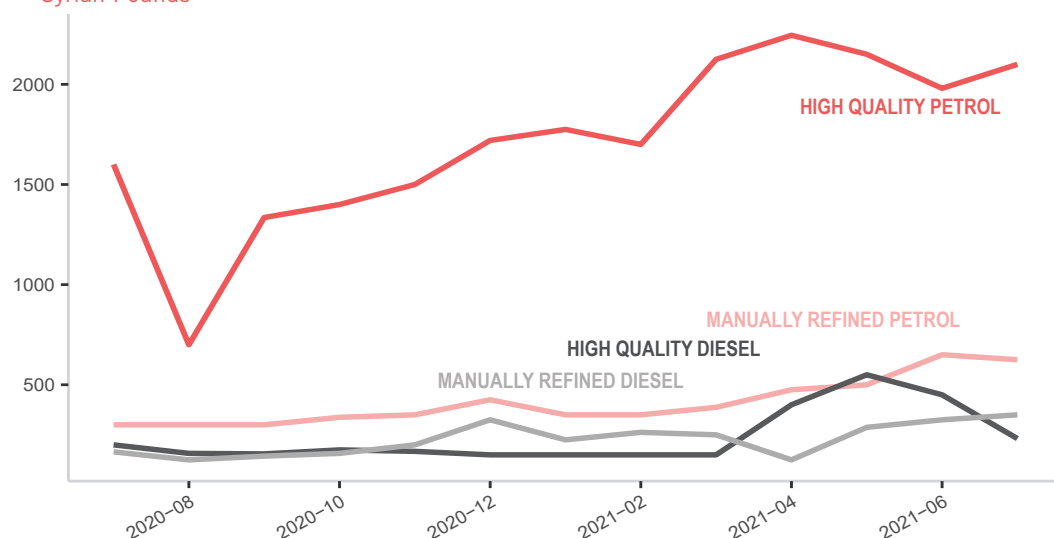
MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

Diesel and Petrol, 1L (High Quality and Manually Refined), Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	600	5%	19%	Karama*	638	-9%	24%
Abu Qalqal**	812	385%	385%	Kisreh*	500	-9%	0%
Ain al Arab*	636	4%	-8%	Mansura*	750	0%	30%
Al-Hasakeh	769	-4%	20%	Markada*	525	0%	-5%
Al-Malikeyyeh	604	-20%	11%	Menbij	812	-29%	385%
Al-Thawrah*	800	0%	-23%	Qahtaniyyeh**	143	-2%	0%
Amuda**	275	58%	68%	Quamishli	684	2%	24%
Areesheh*	550	-6%	38%	Sarin**	161	0%	NA
Ar-Raqqa	1,250	-2%	32%	Shadadah*	143	0%	0%
Be'r Al-Hulo	500	0%	82%	Suluk	2,125	25%	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh*	500	0%	82%	Sur*	575	-4%	15%
Ein Issa*	850	0%	55%	Tal Hmis*	450	-10%	71%
Hajin**	556	11%	2%	Tal Tamer*	262	104%	NA
Hole**	143	0%	0%	Tell Abiad	2,075	12%	NA
Jawadiyah**	288	0%	76%	Thiban*	600	14%	12%
Jurneyyeh	703	-20%	34%	Ya'robiyah**	NA	NA	NA

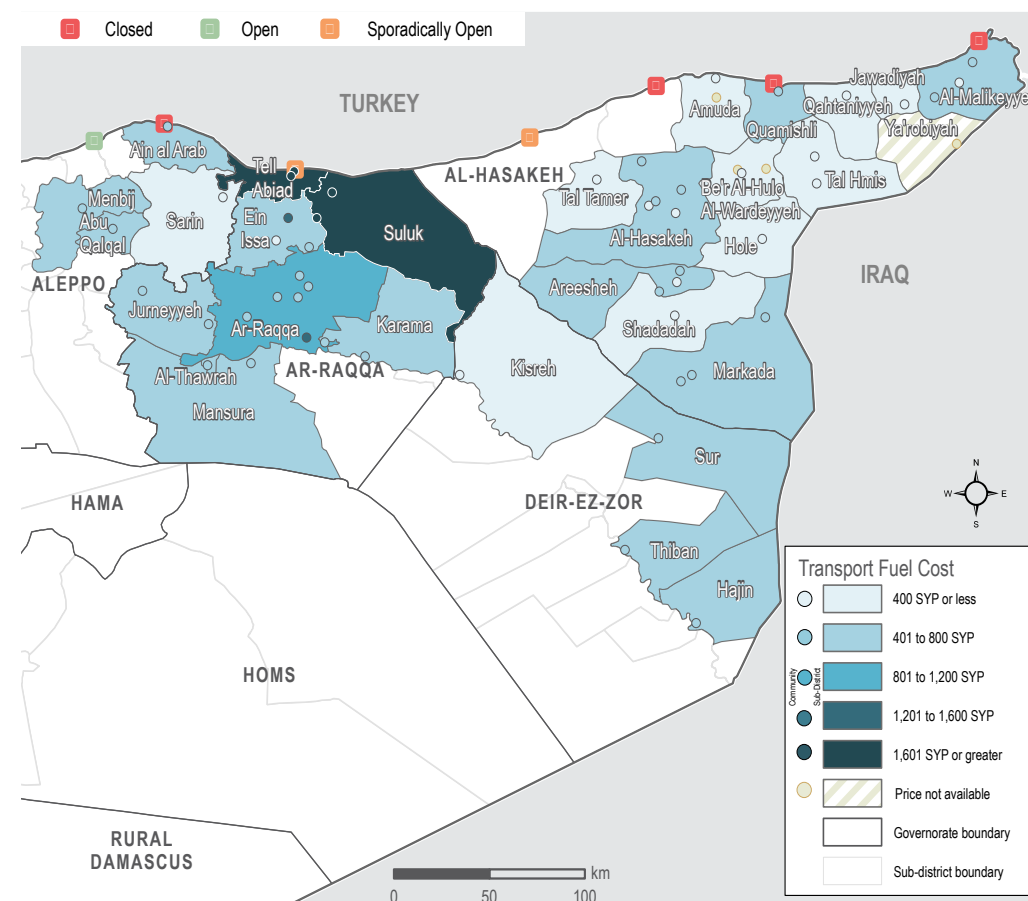
MEDIAN FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



Manually refined fuel prices varied greatly across NES in July:

NES Manually Refined Diesel: 350 SYP per litre

Al-Hasakeh: 75 SYP per litre

NE Aleppo: 125 SYP per litre

Deir-Ez-Zor: 425 SYP per litre

Ar-Raqqa: 500 SYP per litre

NES Manually Refined Petrol: 625 SYP per litre

NE Aleppo: 210 SYP per litre

Al-Hasakeh: 475 SYP per litre

Deir-Ez-Zor: 688 SYP per litre

Ar-Raqqa: 1,100 SYP per litre

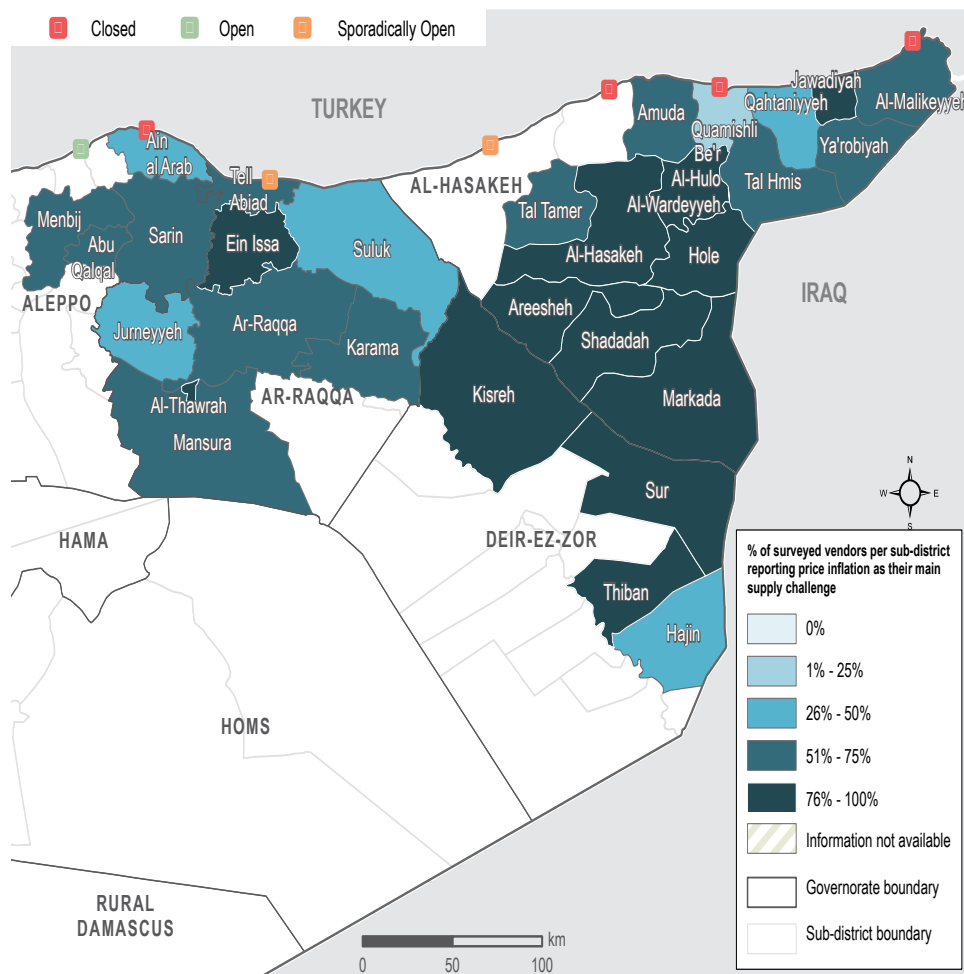
NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY



SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts

■ Closed
 ■ Open
 ■ Sporadically Open



SUPPLY CHALLENGES (SEE FIGURE 1)

Total Surveyed Vendors: 1,398

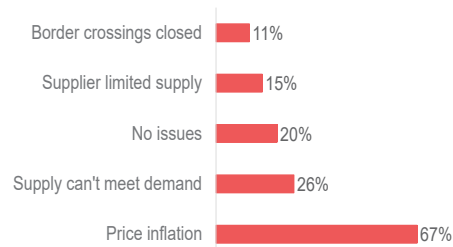
% of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: 80%

One month change for % of vendors facing supply challenges: **decrease of 6 pp**

Most reported supply challenge: Price inflation 67% (see map, left)

One month change for price inflation: **decrease of 6 pp**

Figure 1: Most commonly reported supply challenges by all surveyed vendors (1,398 respondents)



RESTOCKING (SEE FIGURE 2)

Number of surveyed vendors who were asked if they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 1,398

Surveyed vendors reporting that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 17 shops = 1% of all surveyed shops.

One month change for restocking:

decrease of 1 pp

Surveyed vendors were asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supply lines were to be cut:

Less than 3 days: 46%

One month change for less than 3 days:

no change (0 pp)

Across shop types, surveyed water trucking vendors (84%), vegetable vendors (71%) and butchers (63%) most commonly reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock.

Most notably, 100% of water trucking vendors in Ar-Raqqa, Deir-Ez-Zor and Northeast Aleppo governorate reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if supply lines were cut. Also in in Deir-Ez-Zor, 100% of vegetable vendors and butchers all reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock.

Figure 2: Reported number of days before all types of vendors would hypothetically run out of stock, if supply lines were to be cut (1,398 respondents)



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

Informal currency exchange vendors were asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations.

Surveyed currency vendors: 141

Surveyed vendors reporting having limited stock of one or more USD denomination: 99%

One month change for limited stock of one or more USD denomination: increase of 1%

The majority of surveyed vendors reported having a limited stock of all denominations of USD banknotes less than 50 USD.

See [July 2021 dataset](#) for full USD denomination availability.



MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

For a wider overview of the Syrian market context please see the [REACH Quarterly Needs Overview](#) for June 2021.

Total Surveyed Vendors: 1,427

Surveyed vendors reported shop closure: 34 shops = 2% of all surveyed shops.

31 of these 34 closed shops were in Al-Hasakeh, and 3 in Deir-Ez-Zor.

One month change for number of closed shops: **no change (0 percentage points / pp)**

NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

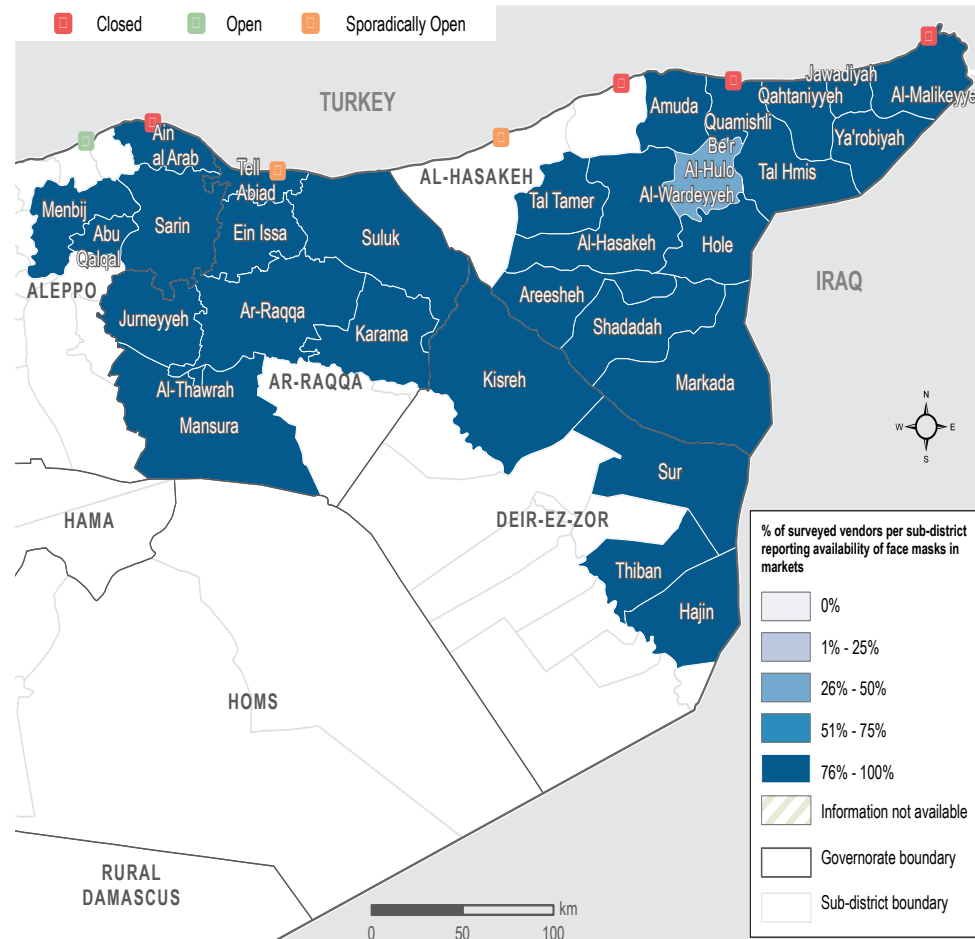
Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	375	25,000	10,000	5,833	1,700	4,000
Abu Qalqal	400	24,750	8,500	8,000	1,725	3,550
Ain al Arab	400	27,500	7,000	7,000	1,500	4,000
Al-Hasakeh	500	25,000	10,000	6,750	1,700	5,450
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	23,000	11,500	3,750	1,500	4,000
Al-Thawrah	200	25,000	13,000	3,700	2,000	4,750
Amuda	300	31,000	11,500	5,000	2,250	NA
Areesheh	500	25,000	15,000	2,500	1,500	3,500
Ar-Raqqa	400	28,000	10,000	4,000	1,800	4,200
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyeh	400	19,500	11,000	11,250	2,000	5,750
Ein Issa	350	18,000	1,812	3,000	1,800	4,200
Hajin	300	19,000	6,500	5,500	2,500	4,650
Hole	450	22,750	1,625	7,500	1,700	3,550
Jawadiyah	300	22,000	11,000	7,000	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	400	30,000	10,000	2,700	1,700	4,000
Karama	300	28,000	6,000	4,000	2,000	3,500
Kisreh	300	26,500	7,500	8,000	1,400	3,500
Mansura	400	27,000	1,875	4,000	1,500	4,000
Markada	500	21,000	6,500	5,833	1,500	NA
Menbij	500	25,000	9,000	8,000	1,600	3,500
Qahtaniyyeh	200	19,000	10,000	5,000	1,800	3,300
Quamishli	350	25,000	12,500	3,750	3,500	4,300
Sarin	300	27,000	10,200	7,500	1,350	3,400
Shadadah	300	18,000	10,000	5,000	1,000	4,000
Suluk	500	18,250	NA	10,000	1,500	NA
Sur	500	23,500	16,000	5,833	2,000	4,750
Tal Hmis	350	31,000	7,625	8,000	3,312	NA
Tal Tamer	300	25,000	10,000	6,000	1,500	2,700
Tell Abiad	500	18,500	NA	8,750	1,500	NA
Thiban	300	28,500	7,500	8,000	2,000	4,500
Ya'robiyah	400	20,000	7,500	5,000	NA	NA

Prices in **bold** refer to COVID items where median prices rely on less than 3 observations.



AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

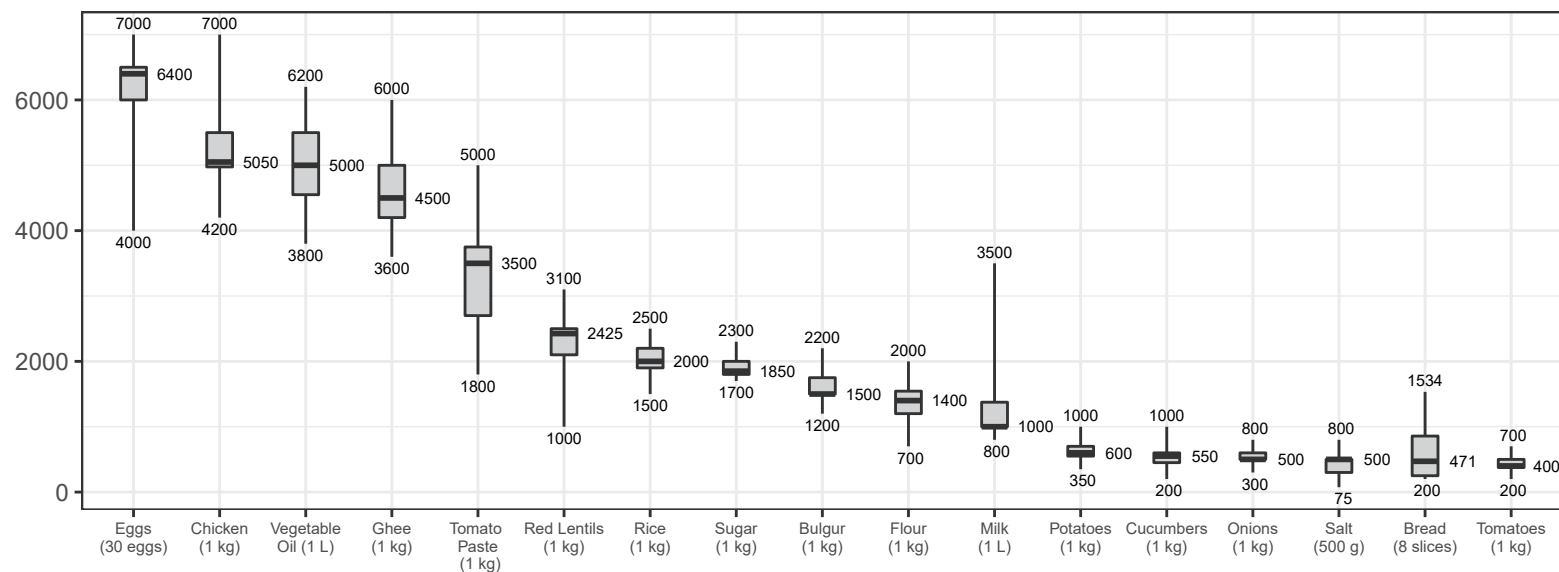
Northeast Syria



NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

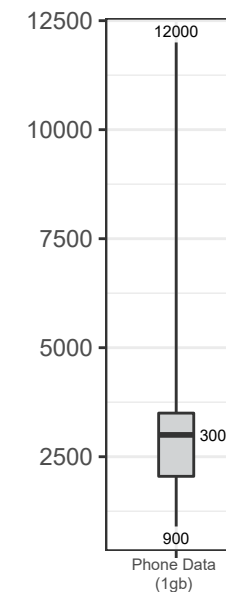
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



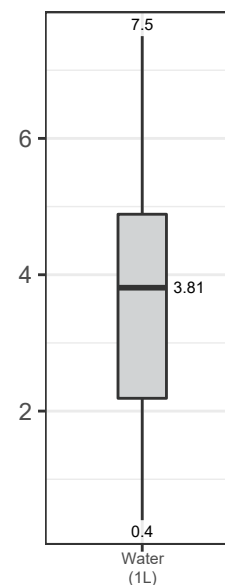
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



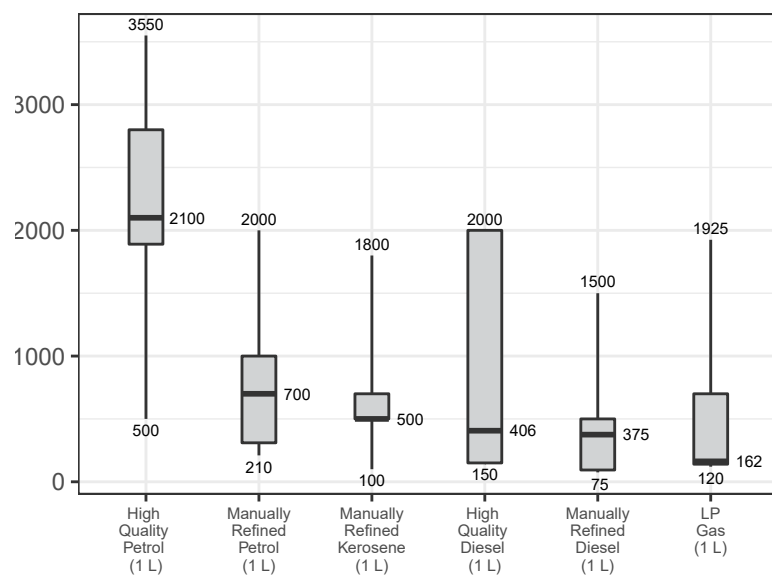
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



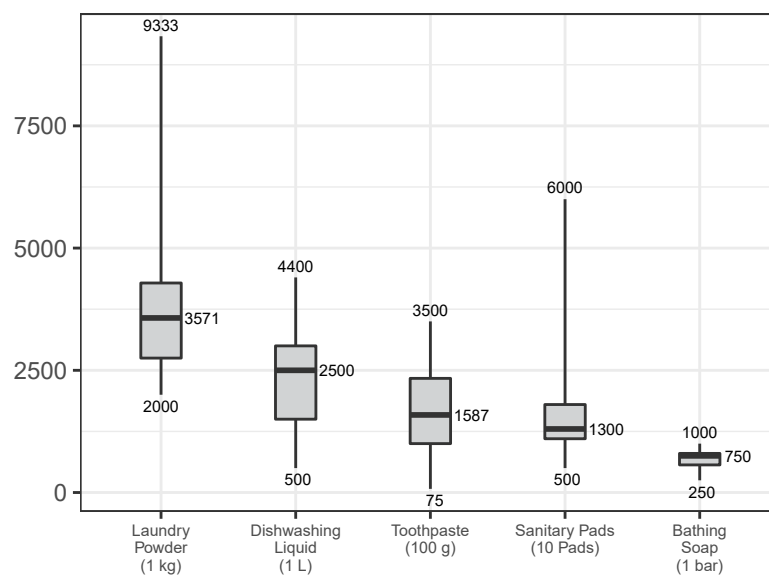
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

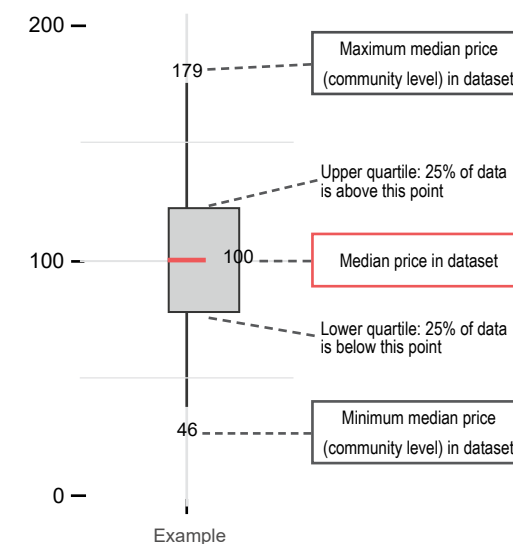


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



READING BOXPLOTS



METHODOLOGY

In order to be included in the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise, markets must be permanent in nature, large enough to support at least two wholesalers, and diverse enough to provide a sufficient variety of goods and commodities. Additionally, the shops surveyed within each market must be housed in permanent structures and must sell certain items to be eligible for inclusion. Participating organisations train their enumerators on the Market Monitoring methodology and data collection tools using standard training materials developed by REACH. Each enumerator aims to assess three to five shops of each type in the main market in their assigned community/neighbourhood, using surveys to collect information about the cheapest prices of each item and whether there are any barriers in the supply chain. In sub-districts where direct surveying by enumerators is not possible, data collection is conducted remotely through key informants such as shop owners, suppliers and consumers. A survey form is deployed on KoBo each month to capture price and stock information from different types of establishments, including grocery stores, fuel traders, currency exchange shops, water trucking services and mobile phone shops, among others. Nearly all participating partners submit their data to these KoBo forms, using the KoBoCollect Android app to upload data. A small number of partners, by prior permission, collect data using fully harmonised data collection tools deployed on other platforms, then submit their raw data to REACH for standardisation, compilation and cleaning.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partners' data, normalising prices and cross-checking outliers. The cleaned data is then analysed by SMEB costs, components of the SMEB, and by commodities. These trends are observed at the sub-district-level and, when possible, at the community-level. Prices are divided into quartiles and boxplots are created to assist CWG members in understanding the distribution of prices across the northeast and northwest of Syria. To illustrate local variations in prices and availability,

REACH uses the collected data to map the price of the SMEB in each sub-district and adds illustrations of surrounding border crossings, with data sourced from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, each SMEB component costs and transport fuel prices are graphed to visualise trends over time.

The cleaned datasets are available on the [Humanitarian Data Exchange](#) website and the [REACH Resource Centre](#) and are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

Calculating 'median cheapest price'

The regional figures are calculated by taking the medians of the minimum-reported prices of a region's sub-districts. In turn, the sub-district medians are calculated using the Market Monitoring base-data.

Calculating Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) costs

The cost of a SMEB is calculated for each assessed sub-district by calculating the median cheapest price of each SMEB commodity in that sub-district, then multiplying these medians by the number of units that an average Syrian household requires to purchase in a month. The composition of the SMEB can be found on [page 2](#). SMEB vegetables includes potatoes, tomatoes, onions, and cucumbers.

Calculating price trends over time

One month and six-month price changes and trends in this factsheet are calculated only with the comparable assessed communities of a sub-district with consistent coverage across months. On the other hand, in the dataset medians are calculated taking all assessed communities for the current month in consideration. Therefore, prices and percentage changes within the tables of this factsheet may slightly differ from the current month's dataset medians. In the narrative, both regional median SMEB values are shared; the SMEB value including all assessed communities that specific month, and the SMEB value only taking

in consideration communities with consistent coverage since the previous month.

Calculating regional SMEB costs with limited coverage

For the months of January and February 2020, the regional full SMEB cost as well as the regional full SMEB cost without water were calculated by summing the medians of each regional SMEB component. This was done due to the lower coverage at a sub-district level in January and February 2020, which affected the regional median SMEB calculations.

Changes to coverage

Given security and access constraints in the south of Syria, data collection has been unable to take place since July 2018. Escalation of conflict in October 2019 has resulted in limited coverage in northeast Syria since then. However, coverage between January and December 2020 greatly increased (from 9 assessed sub-districts to 29 assessed sub-districts).

Challenges and limitations

As the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise currently includes 26 partners based in 2 hubs, achieving a consistent approach is inherently challenging. Participating organisations are therefore requested to adopt harmonised data collection methodologies and tools to ensure that the data uploaded is as accurate as possible. Since this exercise collects data directly from vendors and relies on partner organisations for its wide coverage, Market Monitoring may sporadically lose coverage temporarily or for longer periods of time owing to challenges in accessing locations or due to loss in the shared data collection capacity of the project. This impacts the ability to report on trends, as can be seen in the line graphs and 'NA' values in the tables.

ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative 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. You can contact us directly at: geneva@reach-initiative.org and follow us on Twitter [@REACH_info](https://twitter.com/REACH_info).

ABOUT THE CASH WORKING GROUP

The Cash Working Group (CWG) was established in May 2014 to analyse the impact of the ongoing conflict on markets in Syria and guide the implementation of humanitarian cash and voucher programmes within those markets. REACH and the CWG have been partners on the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise since early 2015.

About REACH's COVID-19 response

As an initiative deployed in many vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, REACH is deeply concerned by the devastating impact the COVID-19 pandemic may have on the millions of affected people we seek to serve. REACH works with Cash Working Groups and Partners to provide up-to-date evidence to inform the humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments is a key area where REACH aims to leverage its existing expertise to help humanitarian actors understand the impact of changing restrictions on markets and trade. Updates regarding REACH's response to COVID-19 can be found in a [devoted thread](#) on the REACH website. Contact geneva@impact-initiatives.org for further information.