

# NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 1-8th February 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 cellphone 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.

Data collection took place between 1-8th February 2021 and was conducted by REACH, CARE, Global Communities, Danish Church Aid, Mercy Corps, People In Need, and Solidarités International.

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

## 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

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Coverage and data collection dates

In February 2021, REACH and partners covered 27 sub-districts in northeast Syria (NES) for the Market Monitoring exercise, including 1,813 individual shops. Please note that prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (1-8th February).

### Highest northeast SMEB cost in SYP recorded

In February, the value of the regional SMEB reached 282,526 Syrian pounds (SYP), a 5% increase compared to January and 47% increase since August 2020, setting the highest ever recorded price in the Market Monitoring exercise in NES. The SMEB in United States Dollars (USD) decreased slightly from 95 USD in January to 94 USD in February.

### Slight depreciation of the SYP against the USD

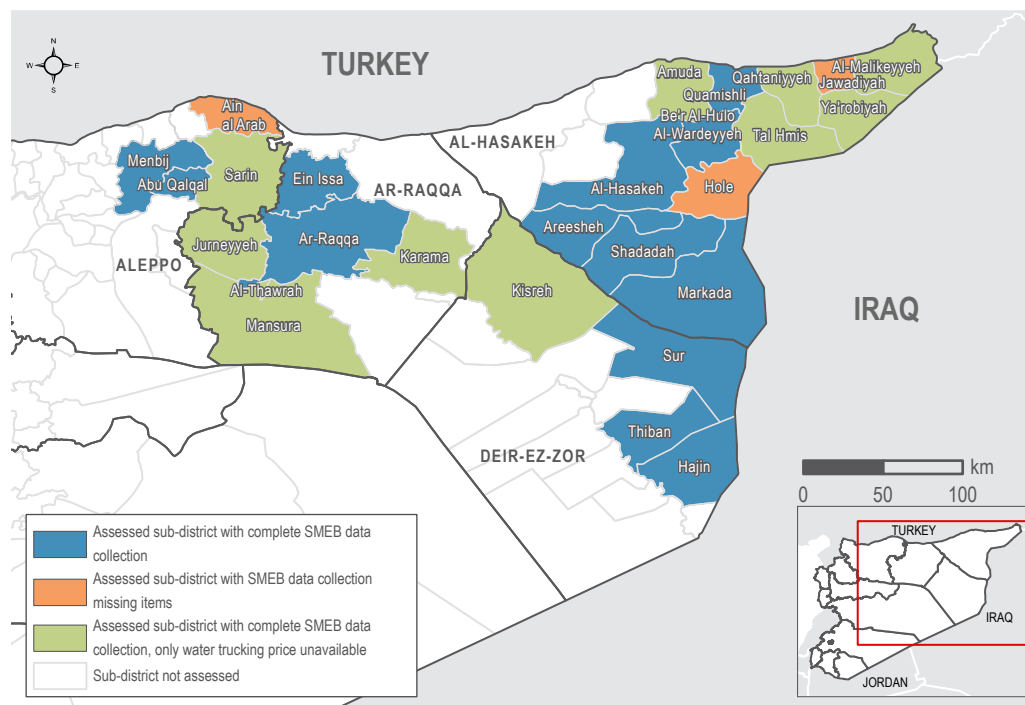
Between January and February, the informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate increased by 6%, reaching a regional median of 3,035 USD/SYP. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,300 SYP for 1 USD in Hdadiyah, in Al-Hasakeh governorate.

### Prices increased for manually refined transport fuels; high quality fuels remained unavailable

Regional median prices for manually refined fuels increased again in NES in February. Prices for manually refined transport fuels also increased by 8% between January and February; 52% since August. Manually refined diesel increased by 17% and manually refined petrol remained stable (0% change since January). According to REACH field teams, in addition to the

impacts of SYP depreciation, these price increases likely resulted from increased demand. As in previous months, high quality transport fuels were reportedly widely unavailable in assessed markets due to increased demand and fuel smuggling between NES and Government of Syria-held areas, as well as northwest Syria. 85% of fuel vendors reported that high quality diesel was not available in their market while 74% reported the same regarding high quality petrol. The price of high-quality petrol decreased by 4% since January but this is a negligible decrease in comparison to the 143% price increase since August 2020. The price of manually refined kerosene, primarily used for cooking and heating, decreased by 13% since January 2021. Nevertheless, manually refined kerosene shows a 40% six-month price increase since August 2020.

## ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

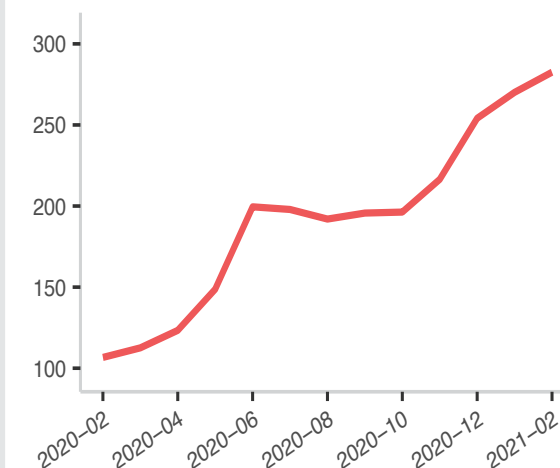


## MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

282,526 SYP (94 USD) NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH, AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR, EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

## MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

282,526 SYP  
(94 USD)

NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH,  
AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR,  
EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

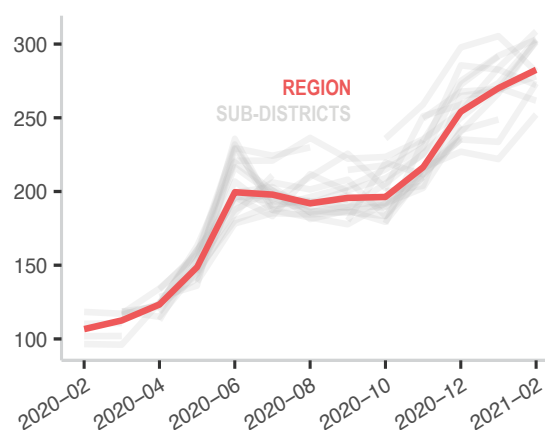
### Food item prices increased, although bread prices continued to fall

The value of the regional SMEB food component further increased by 5% between January and February, reaching a record high median value of 220,600 SYP. The price of the SMEB vegetable component increased by 6% since January. The evolutions of prices for all monitored vegetables varied, with tomato prices decreasing most significantly by 6%, while cucumbers increased by 17% and onions increased by 14%. Potatoes remained at the same price as in January. According to REACH field teams, these price developments are likely due to the more expensive reliance on the import of fresh foods from Government of Syria-held areas, [affected by high transportation costs and increasing dollar exchange rates](#). Additionally, the cost of chicken meat also increased by 12% in February, primarily as a result of the high costs of animal food, which is also impacted by the depreciation of SYP. However, the cost of eggs remained stable since January. Overall prices for bulk foods also increased in February by 8%, with some items such as bulgur, red lentils, tomato paste and salt all increasing by 11% since January, and rice and sugar increasing by 6% in the same time period. Whilst bulk food item prices have remained relatively stable with only minor increases due to increased local production, there has been a 39% six month increase since August 2020. This is also attributed to the SYP depreciation and increasing fuel prices for transport, as much of the bulk food in the region remains imported. The price of bread decreased by 18% between January and February, a 38% decrease since August 2020. According to REACH field teams, the decreasing prices resulted from subsidies for bakeries put in place by local authorities. However, flour prices increased by 25% between January and February, contributing to a 67% increase in the same [six-month period](#).

### Water trucking prices dropped slightly, hygiene item prices slightly increased

Following an increase of the SMEB water trucking cost in January, the median regional cost decreased in February by 6%, dropping slightly to 13,500 SYP. According to REACH field teams, the price decrease was attributed to the recent resumption of reliable supply from Alouk water station. However, this decrease is negligible relative to the 114% price increase since August 2020. Additionally, the cost of the SMEB hygiene component increased by 13% in February, reaching a median of 24,092 SYP. Specifically, the cost of toothpaste and bars of soap saw the largest increases, by 22% and 20% respectively. The depreciating value of the SYP as well as higher demand likely account for these increases, according to REACH field teams. The median prices for many COVID-19 related items saw varied price fluctuations. Hand sanitizer - which is more frequently locally produced - decreased by 5% in price, whereas facemasks - also frequently locally produced - increased by 14%. The latter may be due to the increased consumption by, and demand from, humanitarian organisations. The median prices of plastic gloves (+1%), bleach (0%) and sterile alcohol (0%) all remained stable.

### MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH Thousand Syrian Pounds



## MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES\*

Syrian Pounds

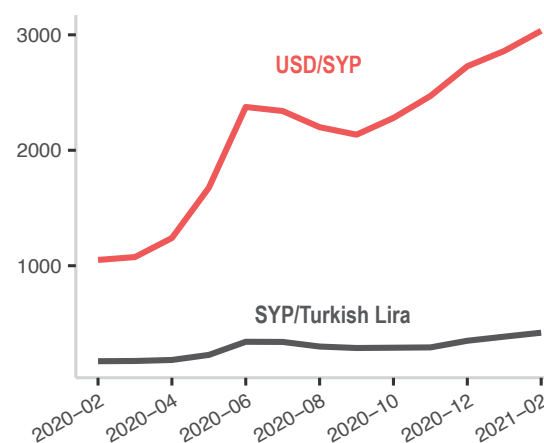
Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB	One month	Six month
Northeast Syria	282,526	5%	47%	Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal***	252,166	14%	37%	Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	Karama**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	303,105	4%	NA	Kisreh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh**	NA	NA	NA	Mansura**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA	Markada	303,174	11%	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA	Menbij	273,359	17%	47%
Areeshah	302,820	NA	48%	Qahtaniyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	272,234	-4%	NA	Quamishli	308,595	9%	31%
Be'r Al-Hulo	281,331	-8%	NA	Sarin	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	282,525	5%	46%	Shadadah	261,582	-3%	NA
Hajin***	301,466	12%	61%	Sur	278,139	3%	21%
Hole***	NA	NA	NA	Tal Hmis**	NA	NA	NA
				Thiban	302,451	13%	50%
				Ya'robriyah**	NA	NA	NA

\* For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. This applies to all the following tables.

\*\* Denotes sub-districts where water trucking is not common, and therefore does not have water trucking prices in the SMEB cost. \*\*\* For the change calculations of these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

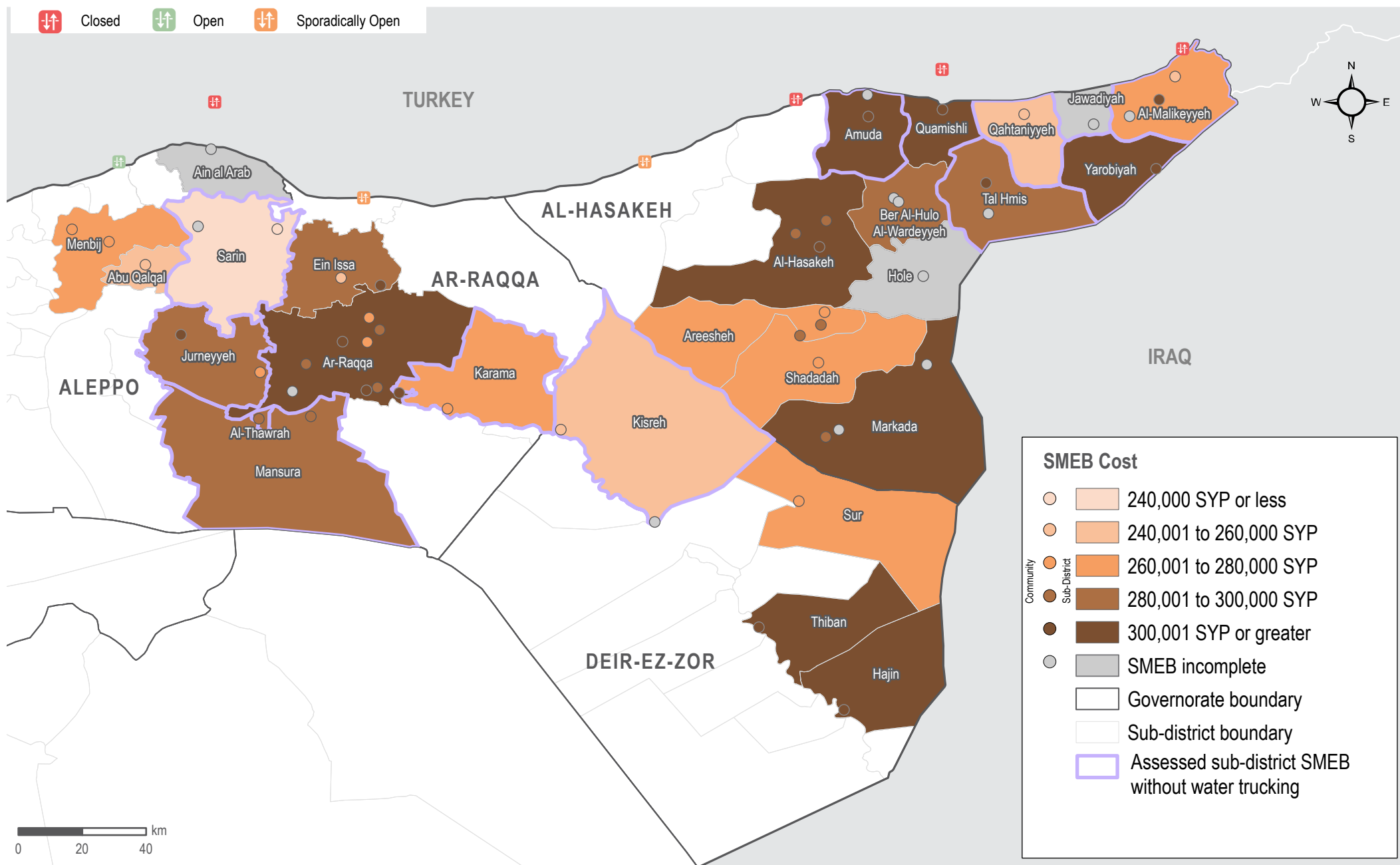
Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

### EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

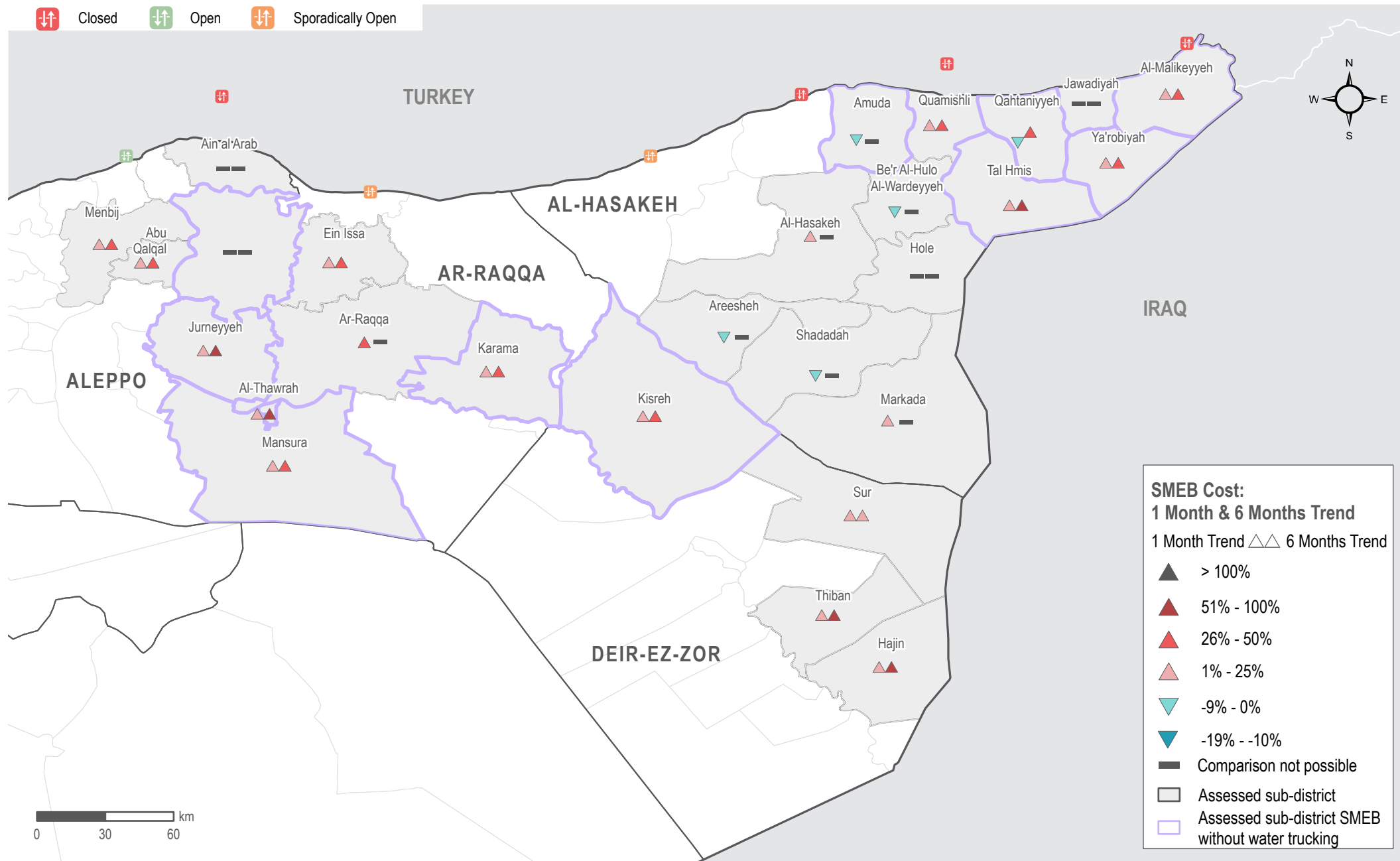
## SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

## SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND

⬆️⬆️ Closed   
 ⬆️⬆️ Open   
 ⬆️⬆️ Sporadically Open



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

## MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS See Page 1, Syrian Pounds

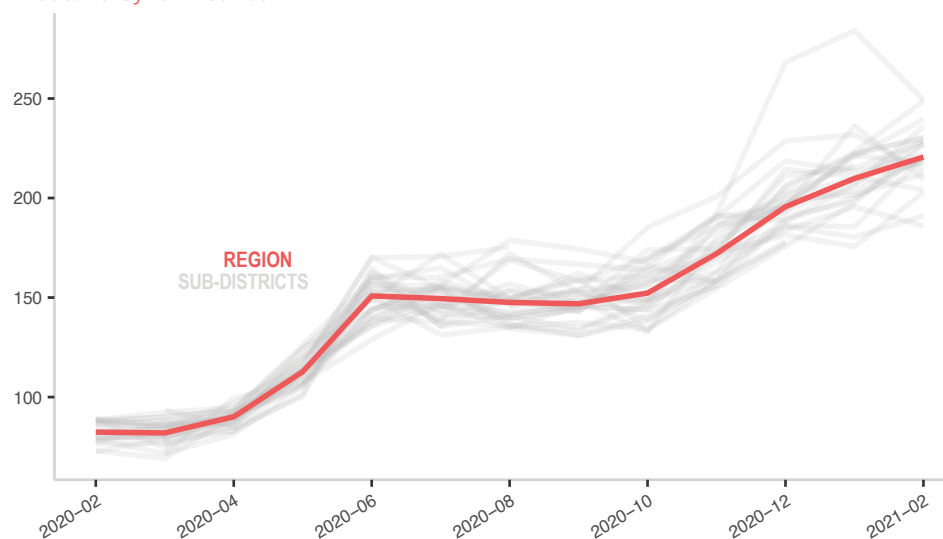
Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	220,600	5%	48%	Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal*	202,750	15%	38%	Jurneyyeh	219,875	8%	57%
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	Karama	217,205	-2%	26%
Al-Hasakeh	230,475	4%	54%	Kisreh	191,100	6%	30%
Al-Malikeyyeh	227,077	10%	56%	Mansura	222,010	4%	24%
Al-Thawrah	228,150	6%	60%	Markada	220,525	10%	NA
Amuda	249,253	-12%	67%	Menbij	220,739	19%	49%
Ar-Raqqa	229,209	9%	46%	Qahtaniyyeh*	209,500	-11%	36%
Areeshesh	204,071	-3%	NA	Quamishli	239,475	8%	41%
Be'r Al-Hulo	213,541	-8%	43%	Sarin	192,335	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	217,975	4%	42%	Shadadah	186,073	-5%	NA
Ein Issa	217,975	4%	42%	Sur	212,300	5%	21%
Hajin	220,600	11%	64%	Tal Hmis	235,832	14%	66%
Hole**	230,034	3%	70%	Thiban	227,200	15%	52%
				Ya'robiyah	248,725	11%	47%

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

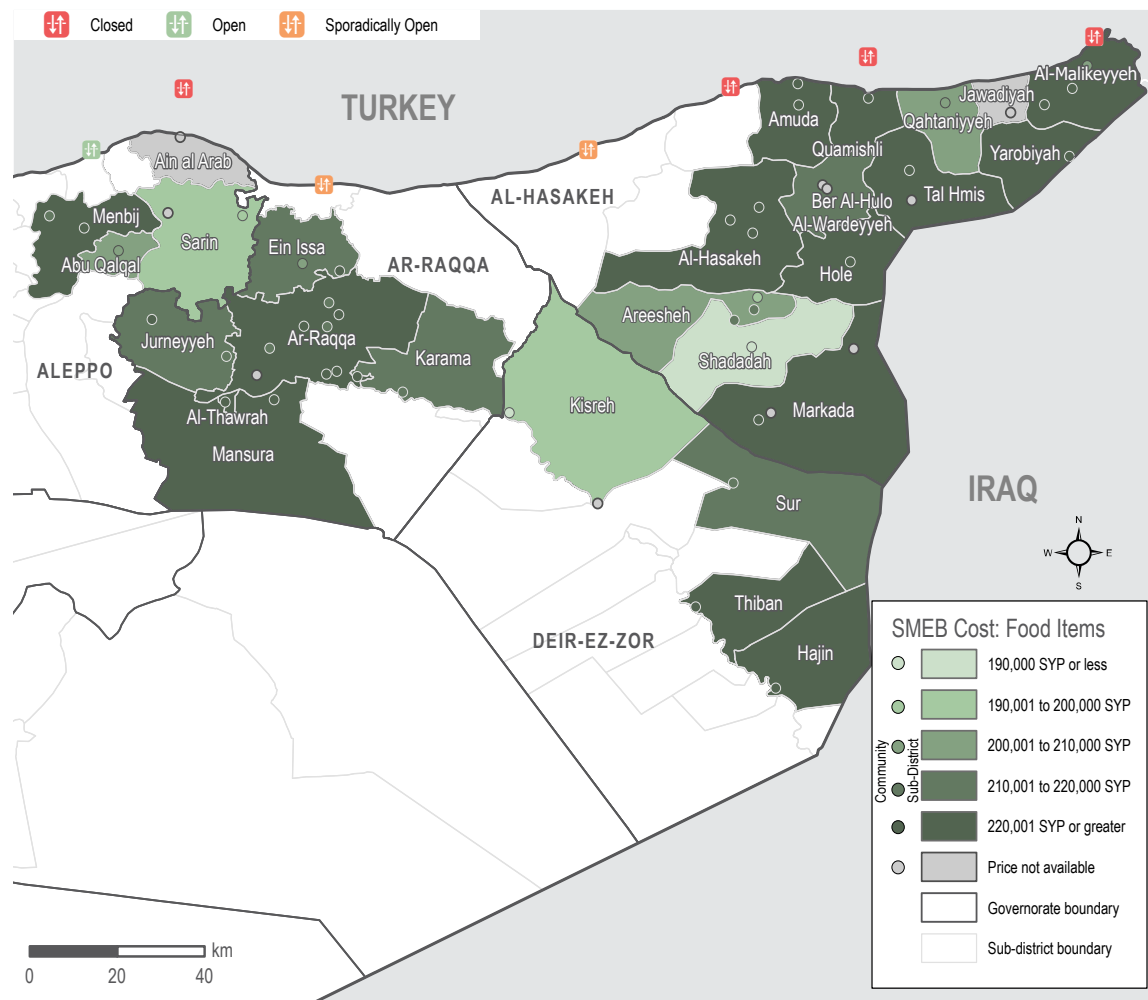
\*\* For this sub-district, all SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

## MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

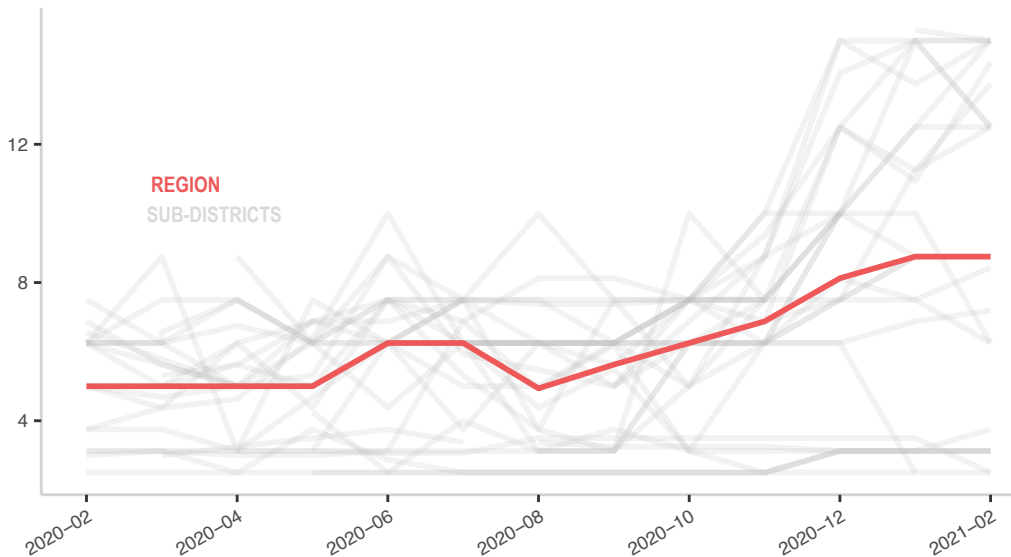
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	8,750	0%	88%	Jawadiyah*	7,187	5%	130%
Abu Qalqal*	3,125	0%	25%	Jurneyyeh	14,375	31%	77%
Ain al Arab	2,500	-29%	-29%	Karama*	13,750	22%	120%
Al-Hasakeh	8,750	0%	NA	Kisreh	12,500	0%	100%
Al-Malikeyyeh	3,125	0%	-37%	Mansura	12,500	-17%	100%
Al-Thawrah	15,000	0%	103%	Markada	15,000	20%	NA
Amuda	2,500	0%	-43%	Menbij	3,125	0%	25%
Areeshesh	8,750	0%	NA	Qahtaniyyeh*	3,125	0%	-7%
Ar-Raqqa	15,000	9%	100%	Quamishli	6,250	-17%	67%
Be'r Al-Hulo	8,750	0%	180%	Sarin	2,500	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	8,750	0%	180%	Shadadah	12,500	11%	NA
Ein Issa	15,000	0%	300%	Sur	6,250	-38%	0%
Hajin*	15,000	-2%	140%	Tal Hmis	8,437	13%	69%
Hole*	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	12,500	-17%	25%
				Ya'robayah	3,750	20%	50%

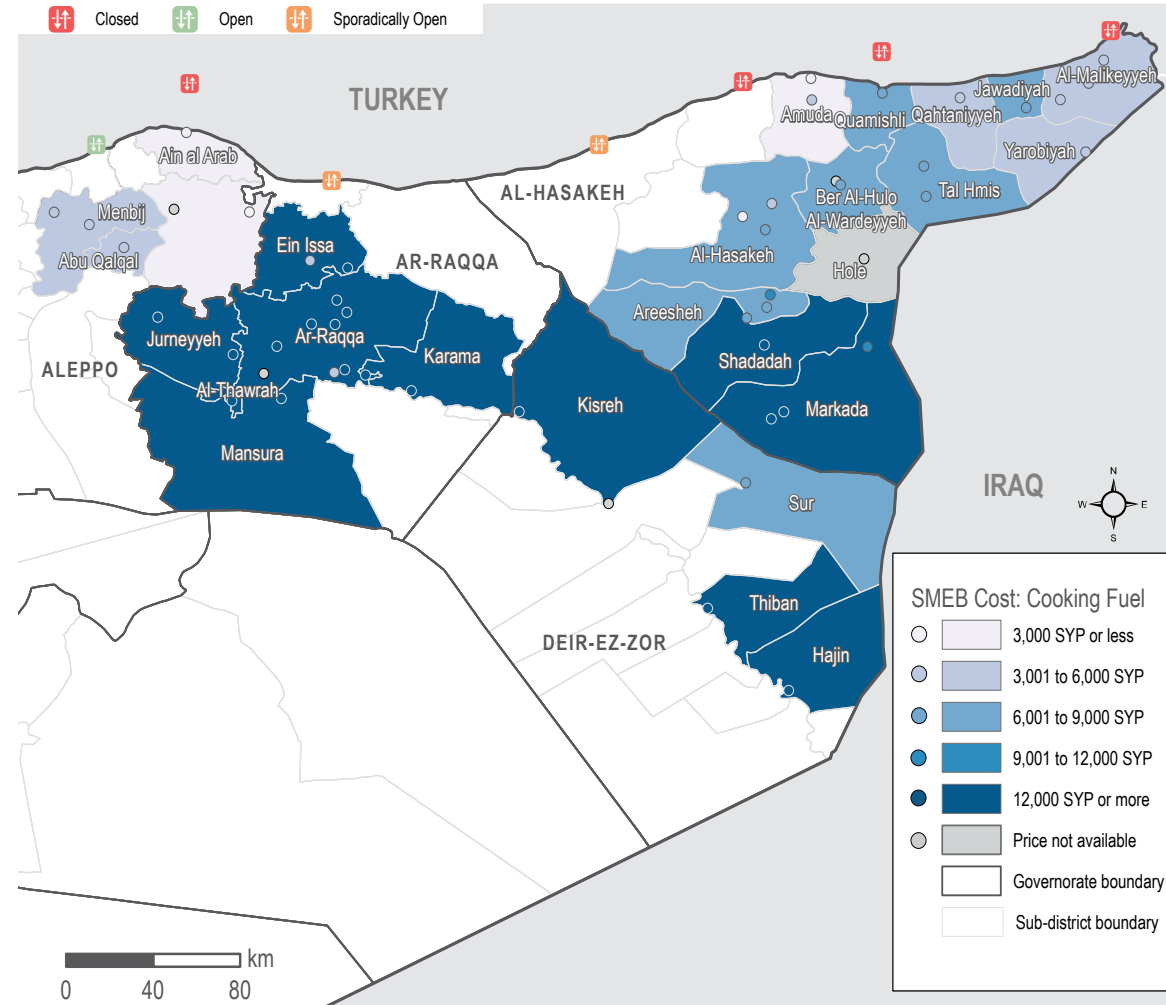
\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cooking fuels rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB COOKING FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

## MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

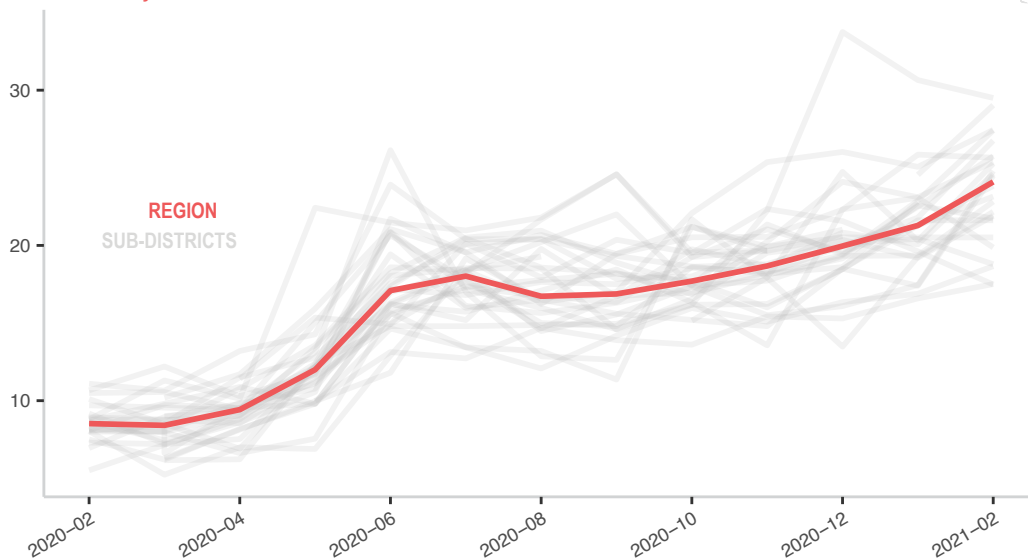
12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	24,092	13%	36%	Jawadiyah	29,500	-4%	59%
Abu Qalqal*	17,510	6%	19%	Jurneyyeh	24,613	23%	24%
Ain al Arab	24,500	41%	48%	Karama	25,373	10%	37%
Al-Hasakeh	21,734	-4%	48%	Kisreh	23,150	9%	38%
Al-Malikeyyeh	21,906	14%	46%	Mansura	24,800	42%	71%
Al-Thawrah	22,165	15%	68%	Markada	22,822	18%	NA
Amuda	27,440	10%	68%	Menbij	18,663	11%	55%
Areeshah	19,870	-14%	NA	Qahtaniyyeh*	17,483	-11%	-3%
Ar-Raqqa	23,834	12%	34%	Quamishli	27,410	20%	31%
Be'r Al-Hulo	18,787	-8%	18%	Sarin	24,349	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	Shadadah	21,619	0%	NA
Ein Issa	25,269	24%	31%	Sur	20,516	0%	1%
Hajin*	29,034	18%	33%	Tal Hmis	26,749	23%	71%
Hole	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	25,650	-1%	24%
				Ya'robiyah	25,750	14%	46%

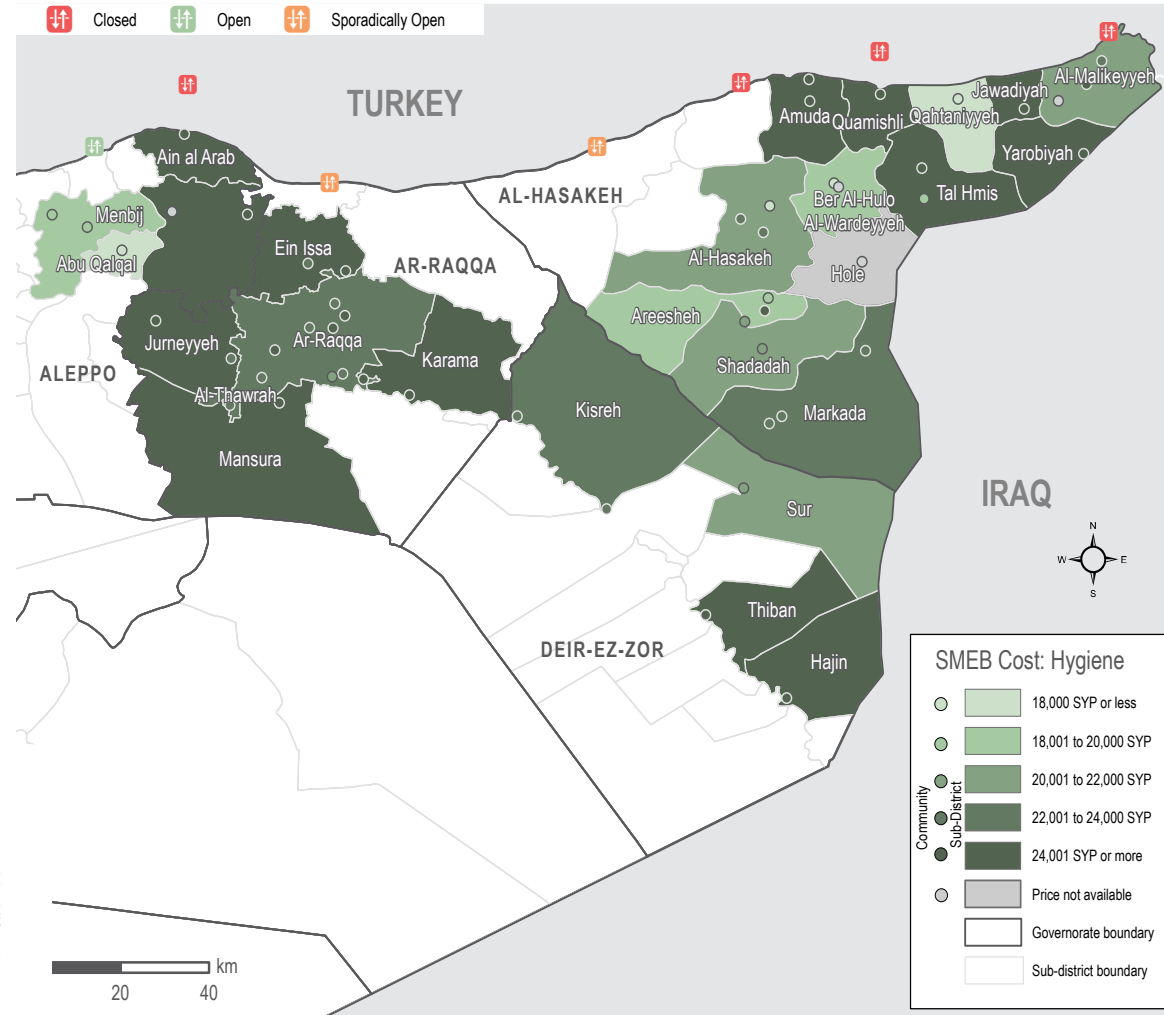
\* For these sub-districts, all hygiene items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



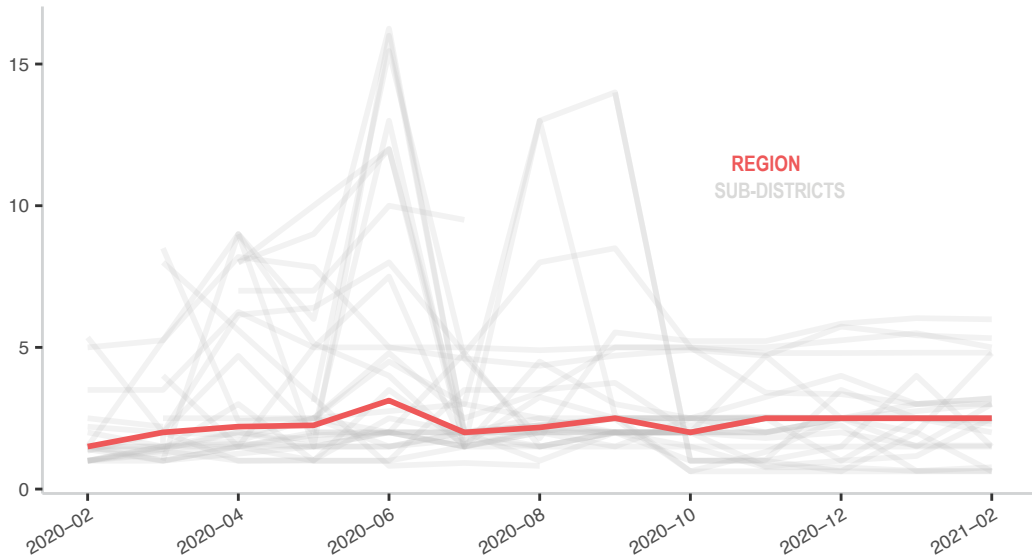
# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

## MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE 1GB data, Syrian Pounds

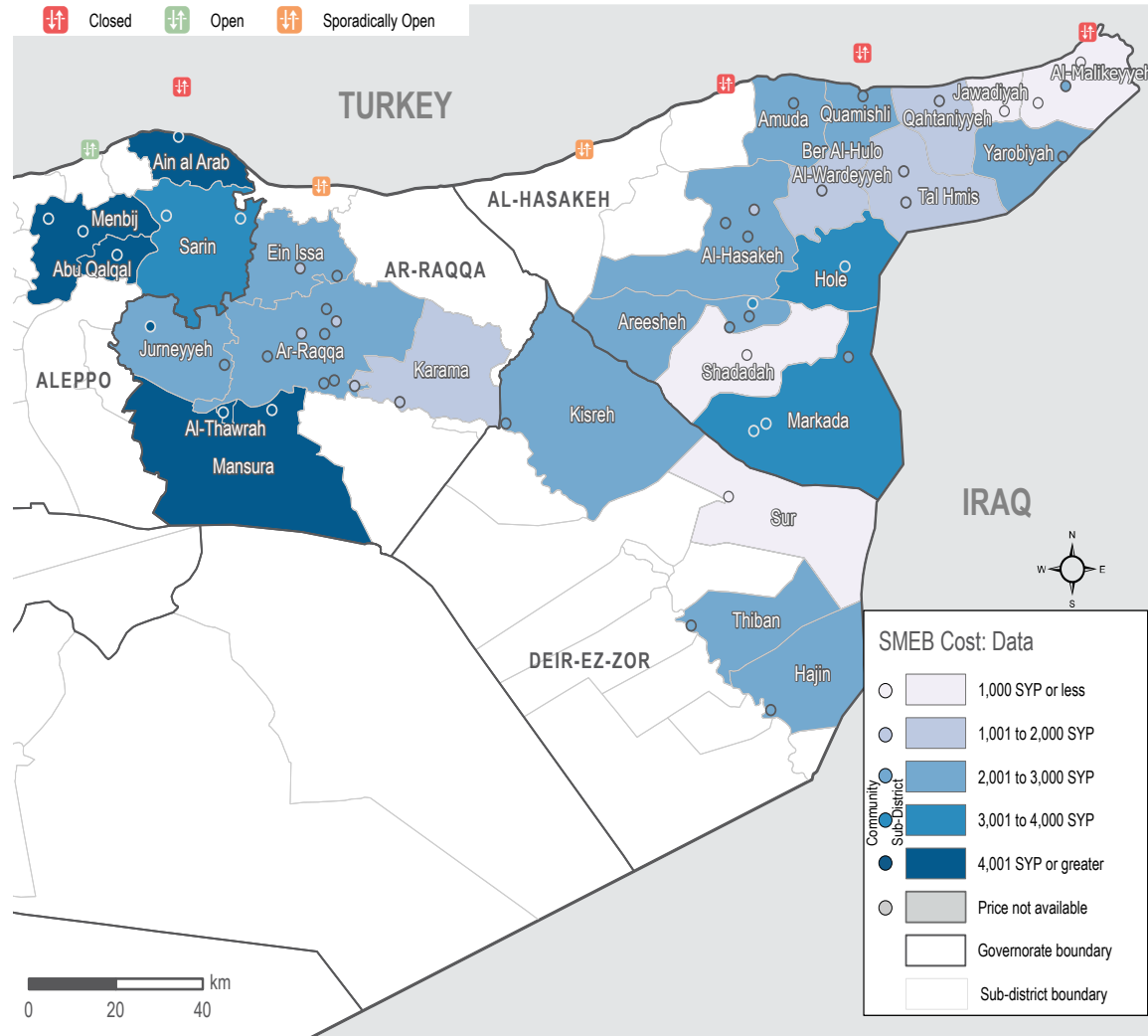
Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	0%	9%
Abu Qalqal*	5,990	-1%	234%
Ain al Arab	5,000	-9%	2%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	100%	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	625	-69%	-95%
Al-Thawrah	4,813	0%	-40%
Amuda	2,500	0%	NA
Areesheh	3,000	9%	NA
Ar-Raqqa	2,400	-4%	60%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	1,500	-63%	-88%
Ein Issa	2,500	0%	67%
Hajin*	2,300	-8%	15%
Hole	3,200	7%	60%
Jawadiyah	625	0%	NA

\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cellphone data rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds





# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

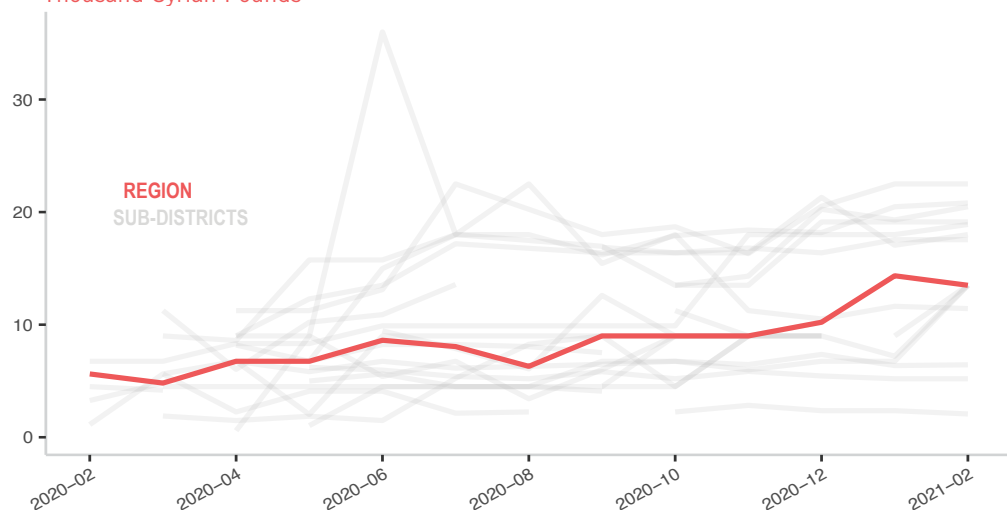
4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	13,500	-6%	114%	Jawadiyah*	NA	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal*	5,197	0%	0%	Jurneyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	13,500	100%	200%	Karama*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	18,000	6%	NA	Kisreh*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh*	NA	NA	NA	Mansura*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah*	NA	NA	NA	Markada	20,475	6%	NA
Amuda*	NA	NA	NA	Menbij	6,435	1%	2%
Areesheh	17,550	0%	NA	Qahtaniyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	11,250	NA	67%	Quamishli	11,430	-2%	-49%
Be'r Al-Hulo	19,125	0%	NA	Sarin*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh*	19,125	0%	NA	Shadadah	22,500	0%	NA
Ein Issa*	2,070	-12%	-8%	Sur	18,900	5%	91%
Hajin	13,500	50%	50%	Tal Hmis*	NA	NA	NA
Hole*	20,812	2%	16%	Thiban	13,500	88%	200%
				Ya'robriyah*	NA	NA	NA

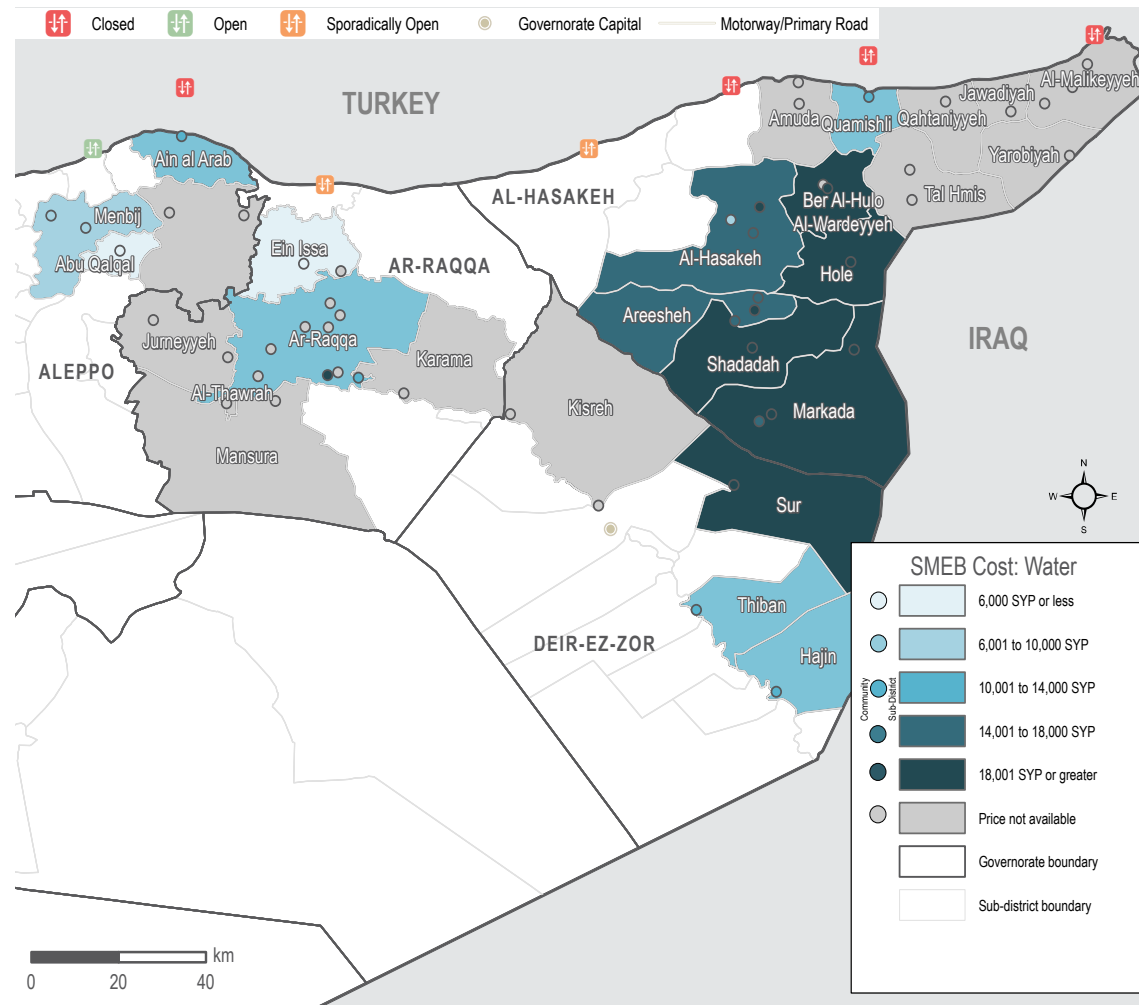
\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of water trucking rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB WATER TRUCKING 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

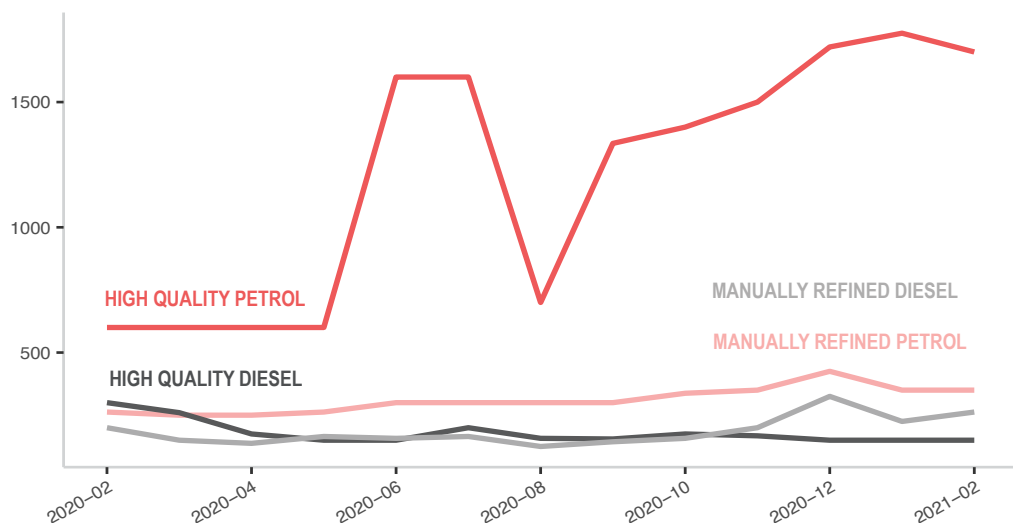
Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	534.36	6%	75%	Jawadiyah*	187.50	15%	114%
Abu Qalqal*	616.67	268%	1%	Jurmeyyeh	600.00	14%	85%
Ain al Arab	534.38	-23%	-5%	Karama	510.00	0%	41%
Al-Hasakeh	587.50	-9%	NA	Kisreh	500.00	0%	9%
Al-Malikeyyeh	560.00	3%	95%	Mansura	575.00	0%	-20%
Al-Thawrah	1033.33	0%	255%	Markada	550.00	0%	NA
Amuda*	181.25	11%	-40%	Menbij	616.67	268%	0%
Ar-Raqqa	743.75	-22%	223%	Qahtaniyyeh*	145.00	2%	66%
Areeshah	425.00	6%	NA	Quamishli	540.00	-2%	234%
Be'r Al-Hulo	750.00	173%	350%	Sarin	148.75	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	750.00	173%	350%	Shadadah	142.50	0%	NA
Ein Issa	550.00	0%	57%	Sur	550.00	10%	61%
Hajin*	500.00	-8%	72%	Tal Hmis	300.00	14%	-3%
Hole*	142.50	0%	63%	Thiban	475.00	-12%	-20%
				Ya'robiyah*	350.00	25%	133%

\* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of medians for the items composing the transport fuel indicator rely on less than 3 observations.

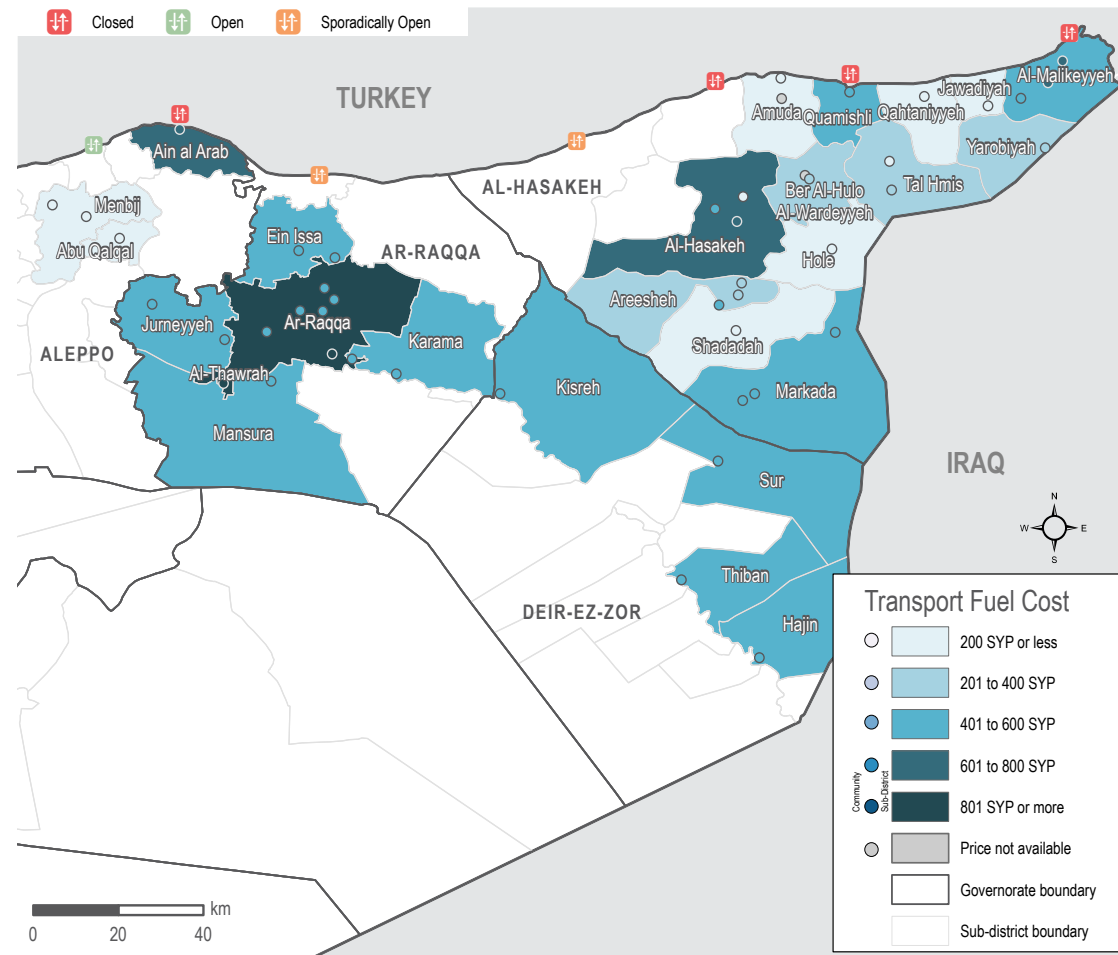
\*\* For these sub-districts, all fuel items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



## TRANSPORT FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

## MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 piece, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Jerrycan	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Solid fuel stove	Fire extinguisher	Fire blanket
Northeast Syria	3,850	20,000	105,000	40,000	37,750	23,000	25,000	27,250	11,000
Abu Qalqal	3,700	15,000	22,000	29,000	18,000	18,000	8,000	17,500	15,000
Ain al Arab	2,800	26,000	85,000	47,000	39,000	24,000	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	5,000	19,000	100,000	30,000	30,000	20,000	25,000	NA	NA
Al-Maikeyyeh	4,750	22,150	117,500	53,500	47,500	23,000	36,000	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	3,000	17,000	90,000	45,000	35,000	15,000	25,000	35,000	8,000
Amuda	NA	NA	172,500	68,000	57,500	35,500	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	3,500	24,000	105,000	60,000	23,500	35,000	28,000	100,000	11,000
Areeshah	5,000	20,000	85,000	42,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	4,250	17,500	77,500	52,500	65,000	26,500	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	4,000	NA	NA	25,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	3,500	21,000	140,000	24,000	50,000	14,000	NA	NA	NA
Hole	3,500	26,000	85,000	43,000	NA	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	4,500	22,000	128,000	53,000	51,000	33,000	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	90,000	NA	36,500	18,000	NA	NA	NA
Karama	3,500	24,000	105,000	60,000	40,000	32,500	32,000	NA	NA
Kisreh	4,000	19,500	240,000	90,000	4,000	18,500	3,500	NA	NA
Mansura	3,000	45,000	125,000	25,000	30,000	10,000	NA	NA	8,000
Markada	5,000	25,000	100,000	30,000	55,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	3,200	16,000	25,000	31,000	20,000	19,000	9,500	19,500	16,500
Qahtaniyyeh	4,500	19,000	105,000	37,500	40,000	32,500	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	5,850	18,000	135,000	40,000	15,000	20,000	18,000	NA	NA
Sarin	3,200	13,000	95,000	40,000	16,000	17,000	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	16,000	110,000	NA	40,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	4,000	20,250	NA	33,500	NA	NA	18,750	NA	NA
Thiban	3,500	20,000	125,000	40,000	40,000	18,000	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

\* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

\*\* NA means data not available.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

## MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - CLOTHES

Per 1 piece/pair, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Adult's hat	Children's hat	Second hand men's winter jacket	Second hand women's winter jacket	Second hand children's winter jacket	Second hand men's winter boots	Second hand women's winter boots	Second hand children's winter boots	Second hand adult's hat	Second hand children's hat	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots
Northeast Syria	3,500	2,500	10,000	9,000	5,000	7,000	5,875	3,500	1,225	1,000	38,500	32,000	20,000	12,500	9,250	6,000
Abu Qalqal	1,500	1,200	9,000	7,500	4,500	7,000	6,000	3,500	1,500	1,200	15,000	13,000	8,000	9,000	7,500	6,000
Ain al Arab	6,000	4,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	15,000	13,000	8,000	6,000	4,000	35,000	30,000	24,000	19,000	15,000	8,000
Al-Hasakeh	4,000	2,500	15,000	15,000	9,000	9,000	8,500	5,000	4,000	2,500	45,000	50,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	12,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	2,500	1,000	12,500	12,000	6,000	15,000	7,000	5,000	2,500	1,000	56,000	50,000	18,000	25,000	25,000	13,000
Al-Thawrah	3,500	4,000	6,000	7,000	3,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	3,500	4,000	50,000	50,000	35,000	6,500	4,500	4,000
Amuda	NA	NA	12,500	10,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	4,000	NA	NA	40,000	50,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	3,000	2,500	6,750	7,000	3,500	7,000	5,000	3,000	3,000	2,500	41,000	30,000	20,000	20,000	14,000	7,500
Areesh	4,750	3,500	13,000	12,000	8,000	3,500	3,000	3,000	4,750	3,500	42,500	37,500	20,000	6,000	5,500	5,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	4,500	3,000	17,000	16,000	7,000	11,000	7,000	5,000	4,500	3,000	37,000	40,000	20,000	12,000	11,000	6,000
Ein Issa	2,500	1,500	10,000	8,000	5,000	NA	NA	NA	2,500	1,500	45,000	40,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	3,500	2,000	8,500	10,000	2,500	3,750	3,750	2,000	3,500	2,000	21,000	25,000	11,000	8,000	8,000	3,500
Hole	4,000	1,500	10,750	12,000	5,500	NA	NA	NA	4,000	1,500	46,000	50,000	15,000	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	3,000	3,000	8,000	7,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	2,500	3,000	3,000	38,000	41,000	22,000	8,500	8,500	6,000
Jurneyyeh	3,000	2,000	10,000	7,000	4,000	9,000	NA	3,000	3,000	2,000	38,500	25,000	17,000	14,500	8,000	6,000
Karama	3,000	2,200	8,500	7,000	3,500	7,000	5,000	3,500	3,000	2,200	42,000	36,000	20,000	23,000	15,000	10,000
Kisreh	5,000	3,500	14,000	12,500	9,000	5,000	4,000	2,500	5,000	3,500	32,000	30,000	21,000	8,000	6,000	4,000
Mansura	4,250	3,250	5,000	6,000	2,000	10,000	8,000	5,000	4,250	3,250	25,000	20,000	16,000	14,000	12,000	10,000
Markada	2,900	2,250	12,000	9,000	5,000	5,000	2,500	2,000	2,900	2,250	50,000	45,000	25,000	15,000	13,000	10,000
Menbij	1,850	1,450	10,500	7,000	3,000	5,500	4,500	3,000	1,850	1,450	17,500	15,000	11,000	11,500	8,000	6,000
Qahtaniyyeh	5,500	3,000	19,000	19,000	13,500	8,000	8,000	5,000	5,500	3,000	32,500	30,000	19,000	10,000	10,000	6,000
Quamishli	4,750	2,750	15,000	12,000	9,000	9,500	8,000	5,500	4,750	2,750	39,000	33,500	22,000	17,500	15,000	10,500
Sarin	NA	1,000	3,000	3,250	1,750	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,000	23,250	20,000	8,750	5,000	3,850	2,750
Shadadah	2,500	1,500	4,000	4,000	2,000	3,000	2,500	1,500	2,500	1,500	30,000	27,500	15,000	7,000	8,000	4,000
Sur	5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	25,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000
Tal Hmis	3,000	2,000	8,000	6,500	5,000	6,000	5,750	5,500	3,000	2,000	45,000	32,000	19,000	13,000	8,500	6,500
Thiban	3,500	2,500	8,000	9,500	5,000	NA	NA	NA	3,500	2,500	23,000	26,000	15,500	6,500	6,500	5,500
Ya'robriyah	15,000	8,000	7,500	7,000	5,500	17,500	15,000	7,500	15,000	8,000	52,500	40,000	35,000	35,000	30,000	25,000

\* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

\*\* NA means data not available.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

## MEDIAN ALTERNATIVE FUEL ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 kilo, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Firewood	Olive residues	Pistachio shells	Coal
Northeast Syria	175	155	250	1,500
Abu Qalqal	175	155	250	175
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	1,000
Al-Hasakeh	NA	NA	NA	3,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	250	100	138	1,500
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	NA	NA	NA	3,500
Mansura	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	175	155	250	175
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	NA	NA	NA	1,500
Sarin	NA	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA

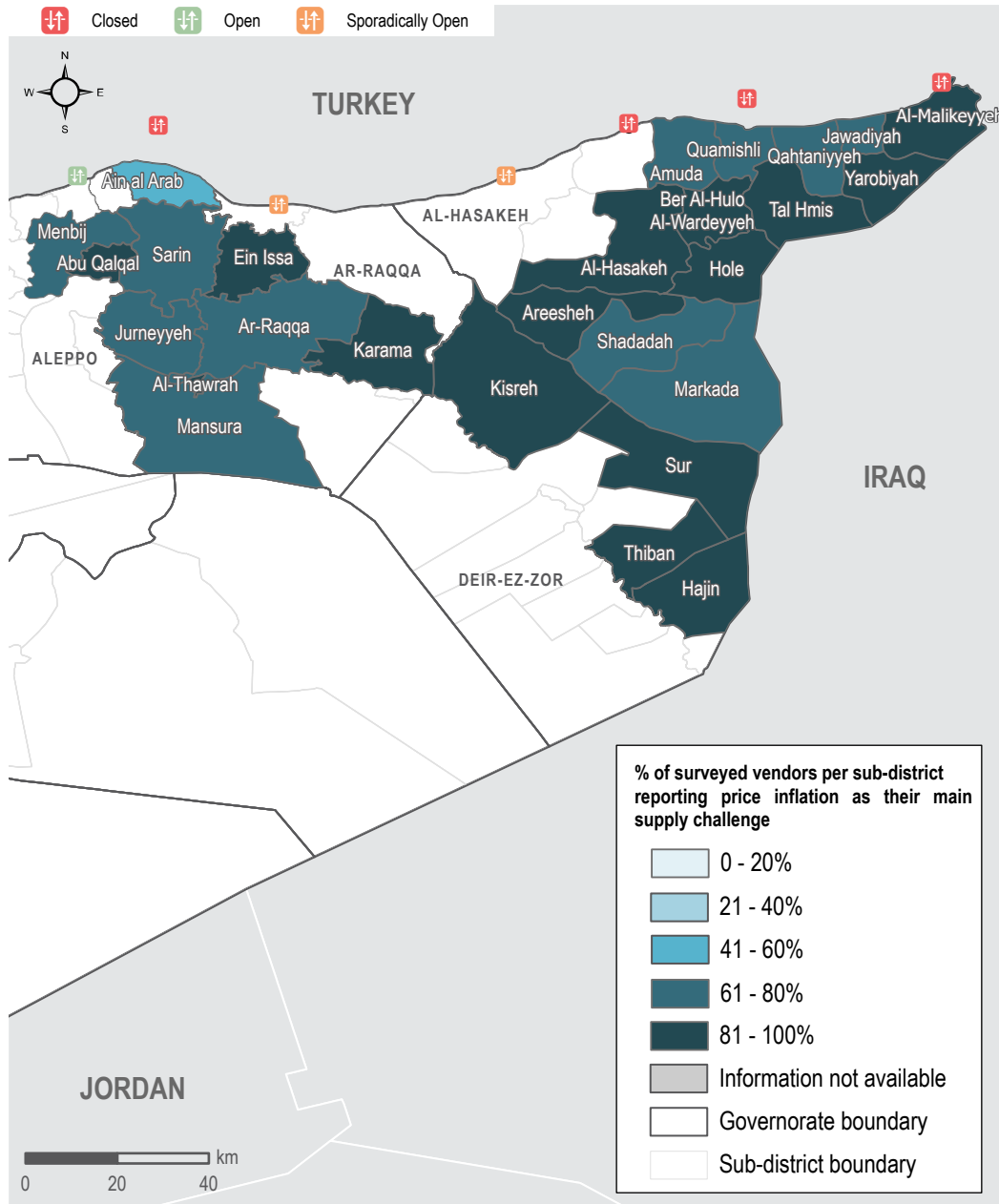
\* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

\*\* NA means data not available.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts



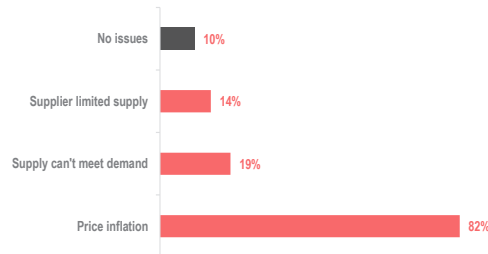
## MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

In February, 17 out of the 1,813 surveyed vendors across NES reported having closed their shops. 11 of these shops were in Al-Hasakeh, of which 6 (3 bakeries and 3 meat or poultry shops) were in Al-Malikeyyeh district. The most commonly reported shop types closed in February were bakeries (6 of 104 total bakeries surveyed) followed by meat vendors (3 of 171 total meat vendors surveyed).

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES

In February, the primary supply challenge cited remained price inflation, reported by 82% of the 1,708 surveyed vendors reporting supply challenges across NES. The proportion of vendors who reported that supply was unable to keep up with consumer demand increased in February with 21% of surveyed vendors reporting this. Furthermore, 14% of all surveyed vendors reported that their suppliers had limited stocks, and 5% reported that their supply had been affected by border closures (see figure 1). Compared to other governorates, surveyed vendors in Deir-ez-Zor more commonly reported that border closures impacted supply, with 25% citing this as an issue.

Figure 1: Top 4 most commonly reported supply challenges by surveyed vendors (1,708 respondents)



## RESTOCKING

In addition to facing the above-mentioned supply challenges, 3% of the 1,708 surveyed vendors reported that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies. This was most commonly reported by gas vendors in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorate.

When asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supplies were to be cut, 36% of surveyed

vendors said that they would run out of supplies in less than 3 days and 25% said in 3 to 7 days (see figure 2). Across shop types, surveyed bakers (63%), butchers (73%), vegetable vendors (74%) and water trucking vendors most commonly reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock. Most notably, 100% of bakers, vegetable vendors and water trucking vendors in Deir-Ez-Zor reported that they would run out of supply 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 (1,708 respondents)



## AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

In February, informal currency exchange vendors were also asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations. Across NES, 97% of the 141 surveyed currency vendors reported having limited stock of one or more denomination. Vendors most commonly reported limited supplies of larger denomination notes such as 100 USD (70%) and 50 USD (60%), potentially as these are more commonly used for exchange transactions and therefore in higher demand. However, shortages of smaller notes were also reported across different governorates, with 5 USD banknotes most commonly reported as limited in Al-Hasakeh governorate (by 66% of surveyed currency vendors) and 10 USD banknotes most commonly reported as being limited in Deir-ez-Zor (75%).

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



## MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

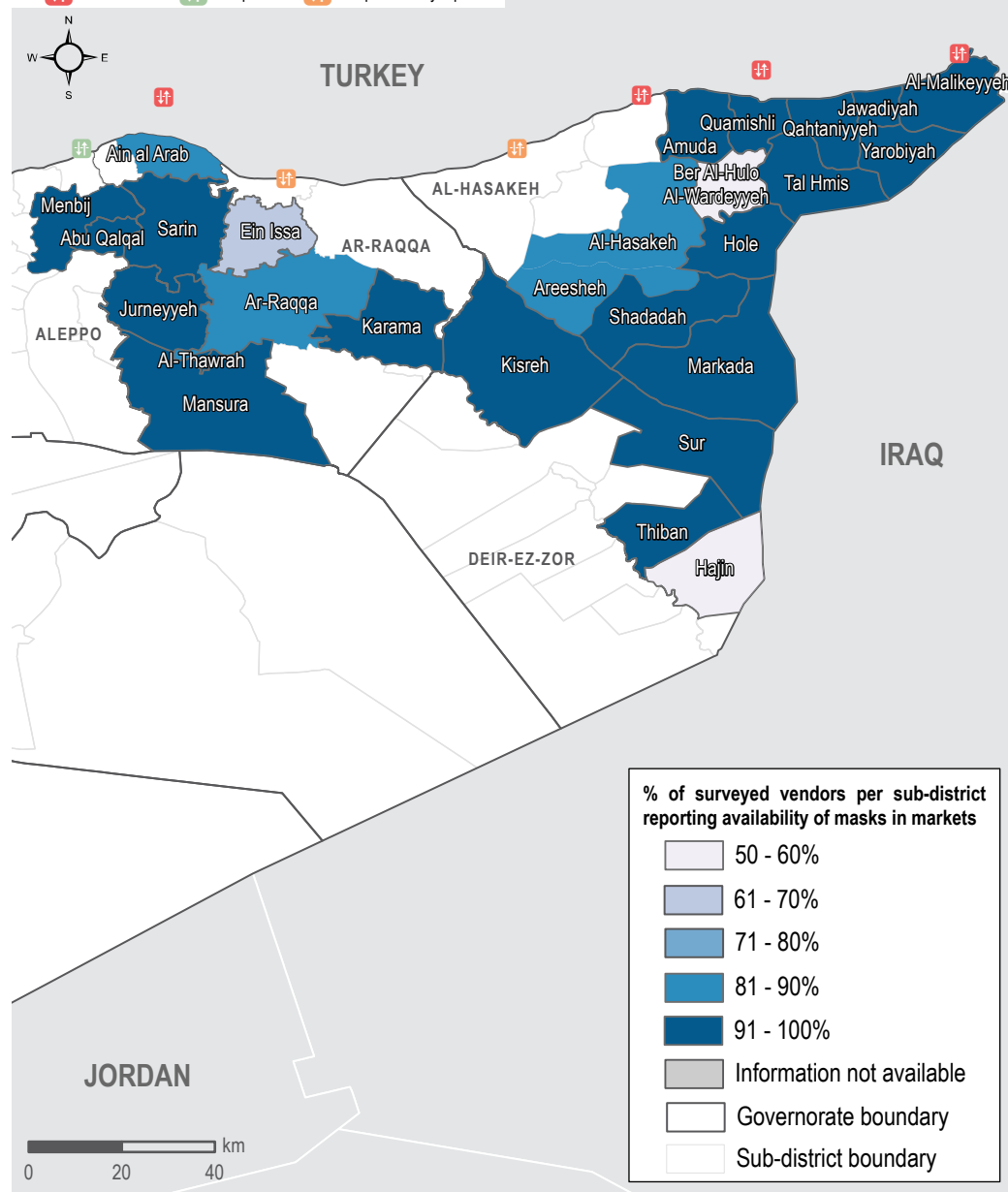
Syrian Pounds



## AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

Northeast Syria

⬇️ Closed 
 ⬆️ Open 
 ⬆️ Sporadically Open



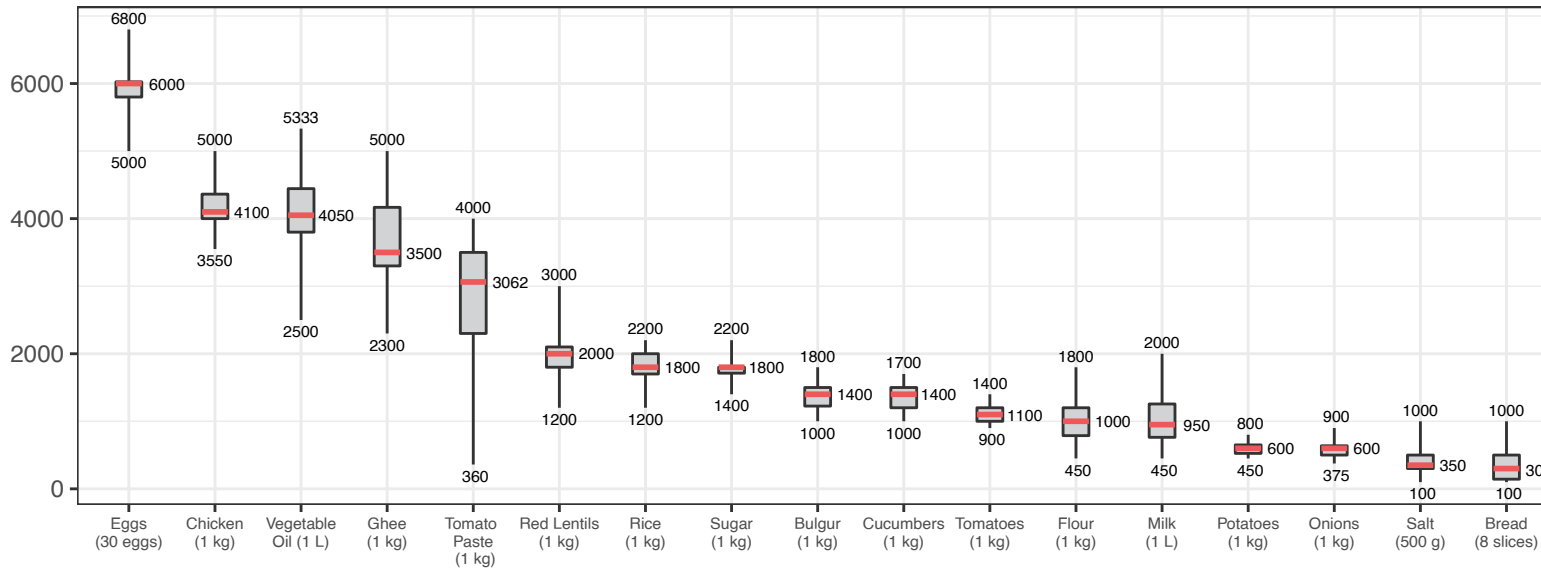
Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	400	21,250	8,000	4,000	1,500	3,000
Abu Qalqal	375	20,000	7,250	7,500	1,250	2,500
Ain al Arab	300	30,000	8,000	2,500	1,500	3,000
Al-Hasakeh	500	20,000	10,000	5,500	1,500	3,700
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	24,000	11,000	2,000	1,500	3,020
Al-Thawrah	350	17,500	11,000	2,600	1,300	3,200
Amuda	300	25,000	4,500	7,500	1,875	NA
Ar-Raqqa	325	23,000	8,000	3,350	1,600	2,800
Areesheh	500	17,000	5,000	3,000	1,425	2,800
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	350	19,000	10,000	12,000	NA	NA
Ein Issa	400	13,200	14,286	3,250	1,500	3,000
Hajin	500	21,250	6,100	4,000	1,700	NA
Hole	350	23,000	11,500	3,400	1,400	3,200
Jawadiyah	300	22,000	10,000	10,000	1,400	NA
Jurneyyeh	400	23,000	9,000	5,550	1,500	3,000
Karama	500	22,200	1,333	3,000	1,667	3,500
Kisreh	500	21,000	7,000	4,000	1,300	3,500
Mansura	300	21,000	11,429	3,600	1,400	2,800
Markada	500	19,250	9,500	4,000	1,450	NA
Menbij	400	20,000	7,450	7,750	1,225	3,000
Qahtaniyyeh	300	18,000	6,000	5,000	1,450	2,400
Quamishli	700	26,000	16,750	5,500	1,700	4,750
Sarin	300	19,500	6,000	4,700	1,500	NA
Shadadah	400	21,000	7,000	6,000	800	2,500
Sur	500	23,000	7,000	7,000	1,300	NA
Tal Hmis	400	32,500	5,550	4,500	2,000	NA
Thiban	500	21,500	6,500	3,500	1,500	2,700
Ya'robiah	500	28,000	9,000	1,200	1,525	NA

\* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

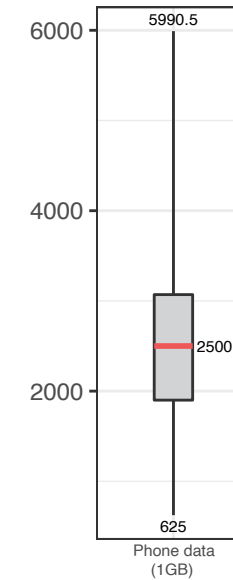
## ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



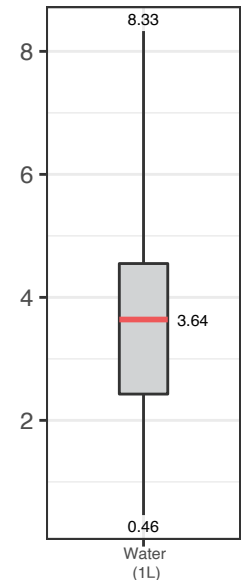
## CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



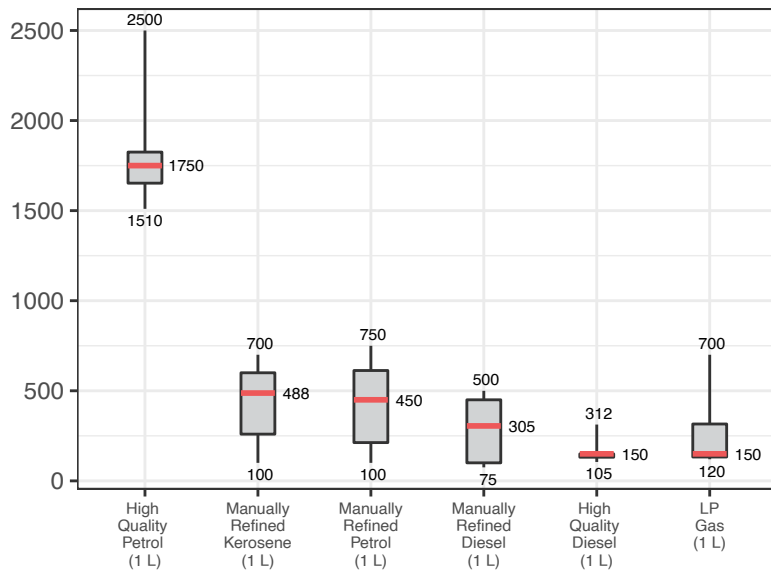
## WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



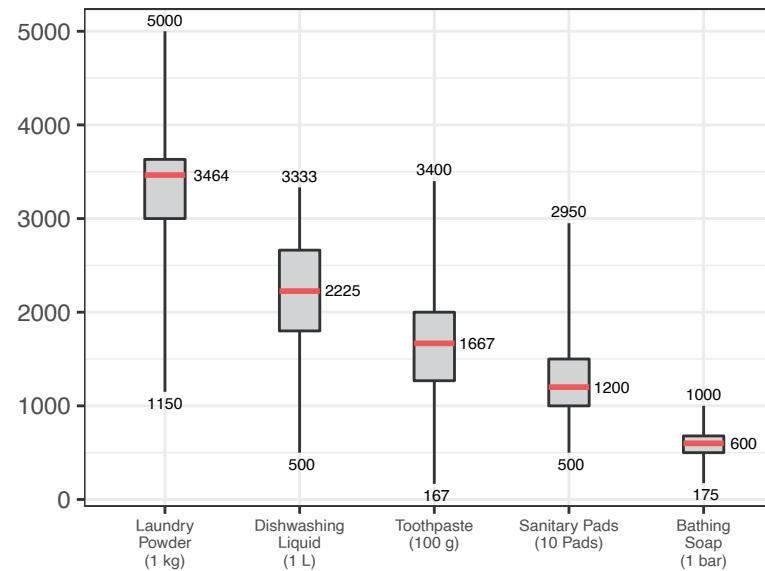
## ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

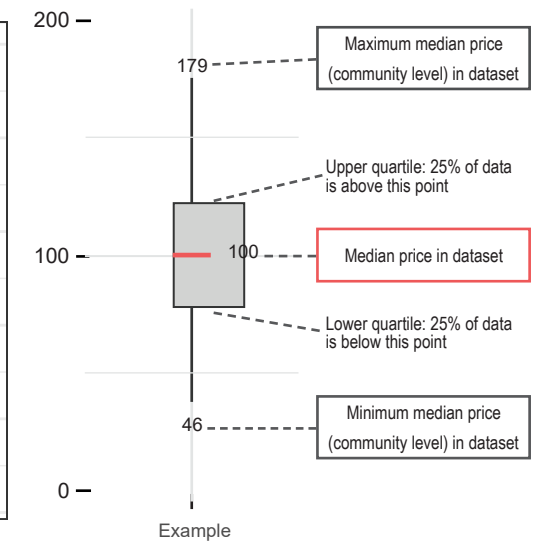


## ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

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 1](#). 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 significantly 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](http://www.reach-initiative.org). You can contact us directly at: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto: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 is currently working with Cash Working Groups and partners to scale up its programming in response to this pandemic, with the goal of identifying practical ways to inform humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments are 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](mailto:geneva@impact-initiatives.org) for further information.