

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 6th-13th September 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. The exercise assesses 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. For further information about our methodology, please see [Appendix 2](#).

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

Coverage and data collection dates

In September 2021, REACH and partners covered:

- 4 governorates
- 11 districts
- 30 subdistricts
- 68 communities
- 1,684 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 (6th-13th September 2021).

Partners

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

- ACTED
- ATAA
- CARE NES
- Danish Church Aid
- Mercy Corps
- Nasaem Kheir
- People in Need (PIN)
- Solidarités International (SI)
- CWG NES

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

NES SMEB Price Increase

SYP

SMEB September value: 402,213 SYP

One month change (compared to August): **increase of 20%**

Six month change (compared to March): **increase of 15%**

United States Dollar (USD)

SMEB September value: 118 USD

One month change: **increase of 14%**

Six month change: **increase of 31%**

September had the highest recorded SMEB in SYP in the Market Monitoring exercise, attributed to the protracted hyperinflation of the Syrian economy, especially due in September to the sudden increase in cost of key food items (see [page 5](#)). The SMEB in USD also increased sharply to 118 USD, the highest recorded cost in USD since December 2019.

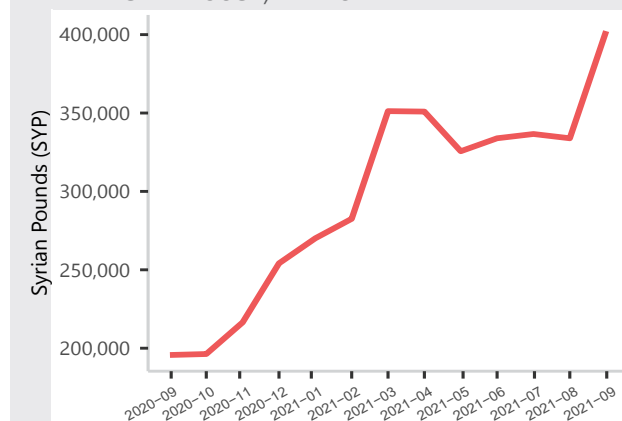
Days Needed to Work to Afford the SMEB #1

The median daily wage for residents and IDPs in NES was 5,000 SYP. This means a household of six whose sole income is from an unskilled daily labourer would need the equivalent of **80 days** of work to cover the price of the NES SMEB.

MEDIAN SMEB COST FOR NES

402,213 SYP (118 USD)

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH



#1 According to the Humanitarian Situation Overview of Syria (HSOS) NES September 2021 dataset

SMEB Water Trucking Price Increase #2

NES average: 15,863 SYP per 4,500 litres

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

Six month change: **increase of 4%**

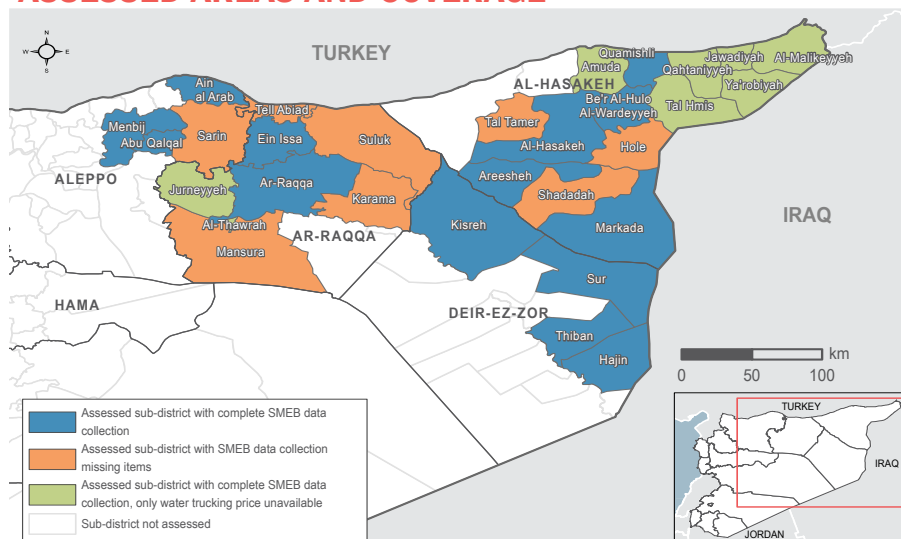
% of surveyed vendors reporting water trucking as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 0%

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. Water prices fell slightly in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor in September but rose greatly in Aleppo.

- Al-Hasakeh: 22,388 SYP per 4,500 litres
- Aleppo: 18,068 SYP per 4,500 litres
- Ar-Raqqa: 15,863 SYP per 4,500 litres
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 9,000 SYP per 4,500 litres

According to the REACH Humanitarian Situation Overview of Syria (HSOS) [water and electricity trends](#), there has been an increasing downward trend of households able to access sufficient water for all purposes across NES. Furthermore, the falling water levels of water wells means water tankers drive to remote areas, which requires more transport fuel and hence, increased costs. According to [Doctors Without Borders \(MSF\)](#), "in Northern Syria, a decade of war has left water and sanitation infrastructure damaged and neglected. More than three million people [...] now face a water crisis that has dire health consequences." For more context surrounding the water crisis in northern Syria, please see the [OCHA ROSC WOS Water Response Plan for September 2021](#).

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE



#2 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	402,213	20%	15%
Abu Qalqal	388,632	16%	22%
Ain al Arab	350,175	18%	6%
Al-Hasakeh	424,008	19%	17%
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	405,879	21%	3%
Areeshah	410,516	25%	17%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	448,505	33%	20%
Ein Issa	400,963	16%	8%
Hajin	402,839	25%	12%
Hole	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Karama	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	408,348	30%	NA
Mansura	NA	NA	NA
Markada	401,587	15%	17%
Menbij	414,481	18%	32%
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	397,790	10%	13%
Sarin	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	344,054	3%	-1%
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	370,929	15%	17%
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA

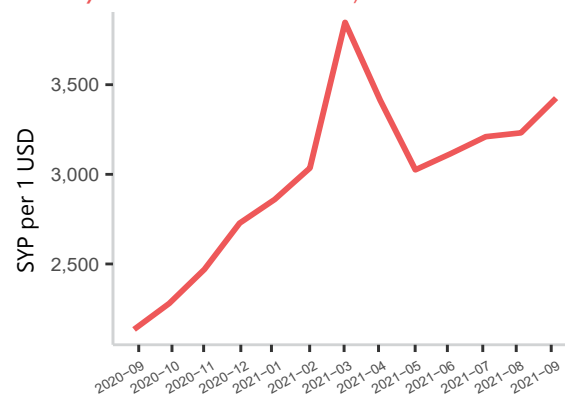
* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.
 ** For these sub-districts, all of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.
 Note: For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent 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
Hygiene items	Tomato paste	6 kg
	Bathing soap	12 bars
	Laundry/dish soap	3 kg
	Sanitary pads	4 packs of 10
Fuel	Toothpaste	200 g
	Cooking fuel+	25 L
Water	Water trucking	4500 L
Telecom	Smartphone data	1 GB
Other	Float (other costs)++	7.5% of 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.

USD/SYP EXCHANGE RATE, BY MONTH



KEY DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

High Quality Transport Fuel Prices #3

The price of high quality diesel increased notably in September and remains largely unavailable in many communities. High quality petrol was stable in price and availability in September.

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. Ar-Raqqa governorate has seen erratic prices since February, with a price spike of 175% in September.

High Quality Diesel

319 SYP per litre

One month price change: **increase of 113%**

Six month price change: **increase of 113%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 77%

High Quality Petrol

2,275 SYP per litre

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

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 66%

Manually Refined Transport Fuel Prices

REACH field teams report that manually refined (low quality) fuels are often used in place of high quality fuel for transport and generators because high quality fuels are rarely available. 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 petrol has been increasing in price in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor over the past 2-3 months. Manually refined diesel prices decreased slightly overall but saw large increases in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor since August.

Manually Refined Diesel:

350 SYP per litre

One month price change: **decrease of 3%**

Six month price change: **increase of 40%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 4%

Manually Refined Petrol:

650 SYP per litre

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

Six month change: **increase of 68%**

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

Exchange Rates #4

Informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate: 3,425 SYP to 1 USD

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

Six month rate change: **decrease of 11%**

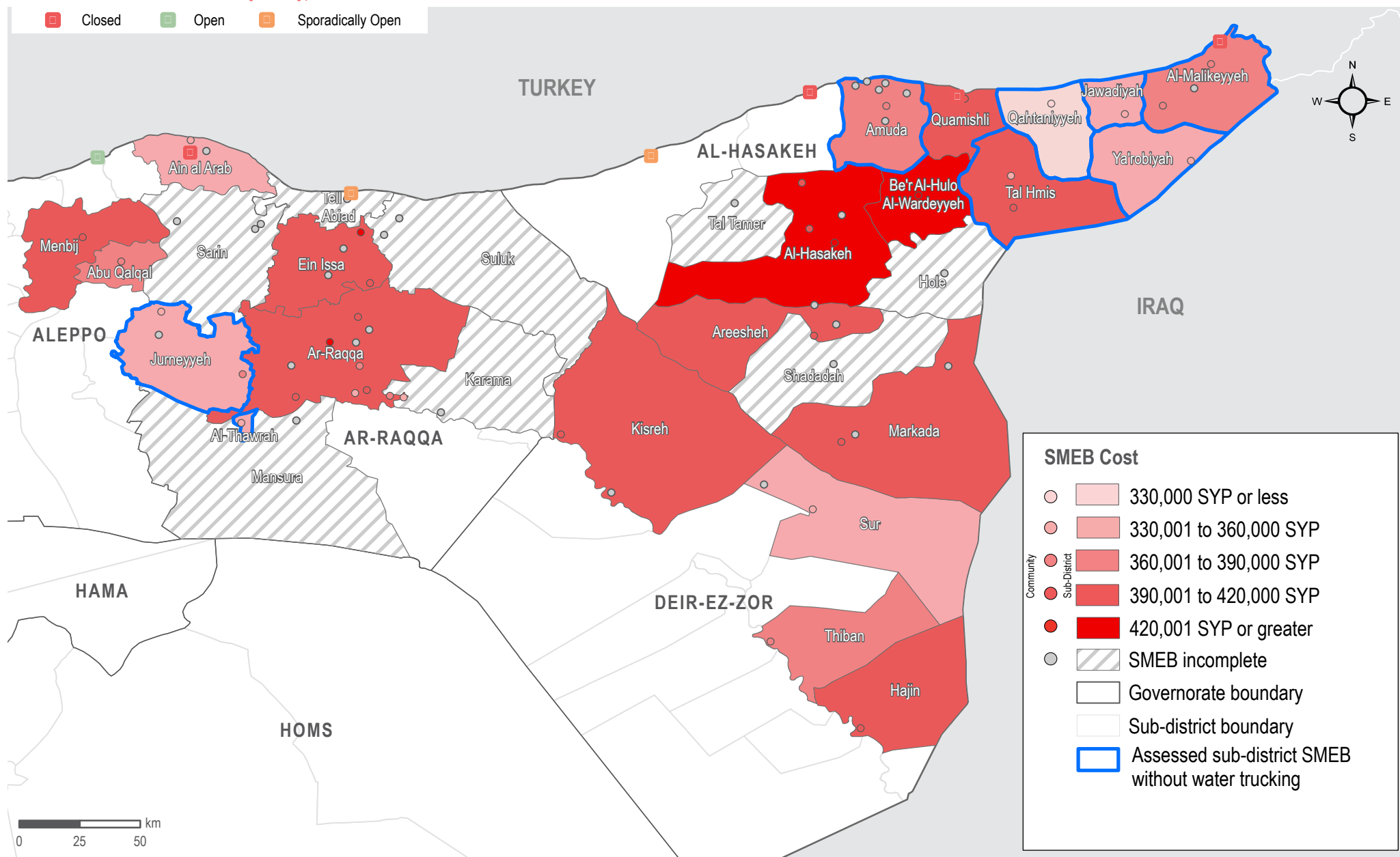
In September, the SYP depreciated slightly against the USD, and this has been an ongoing trend since May. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,450 SYP for 1 USD in Dashisha, Amuda, Qahtaniyyeh and Jawadiyah communities, all in Al Hasakeh governorate. For an overview of the USD/SYP exchange rate across all of Syria, please see the [WFP VAM Food Security Analysis for August 2021](#).

#4 To compare SYP prices to USD or TRY, the [September 2021 dataset](#) provides informal exchange rates at the regional, district, subdistrict and community levels (where data is available).

#3 See page 11 for further fuel data

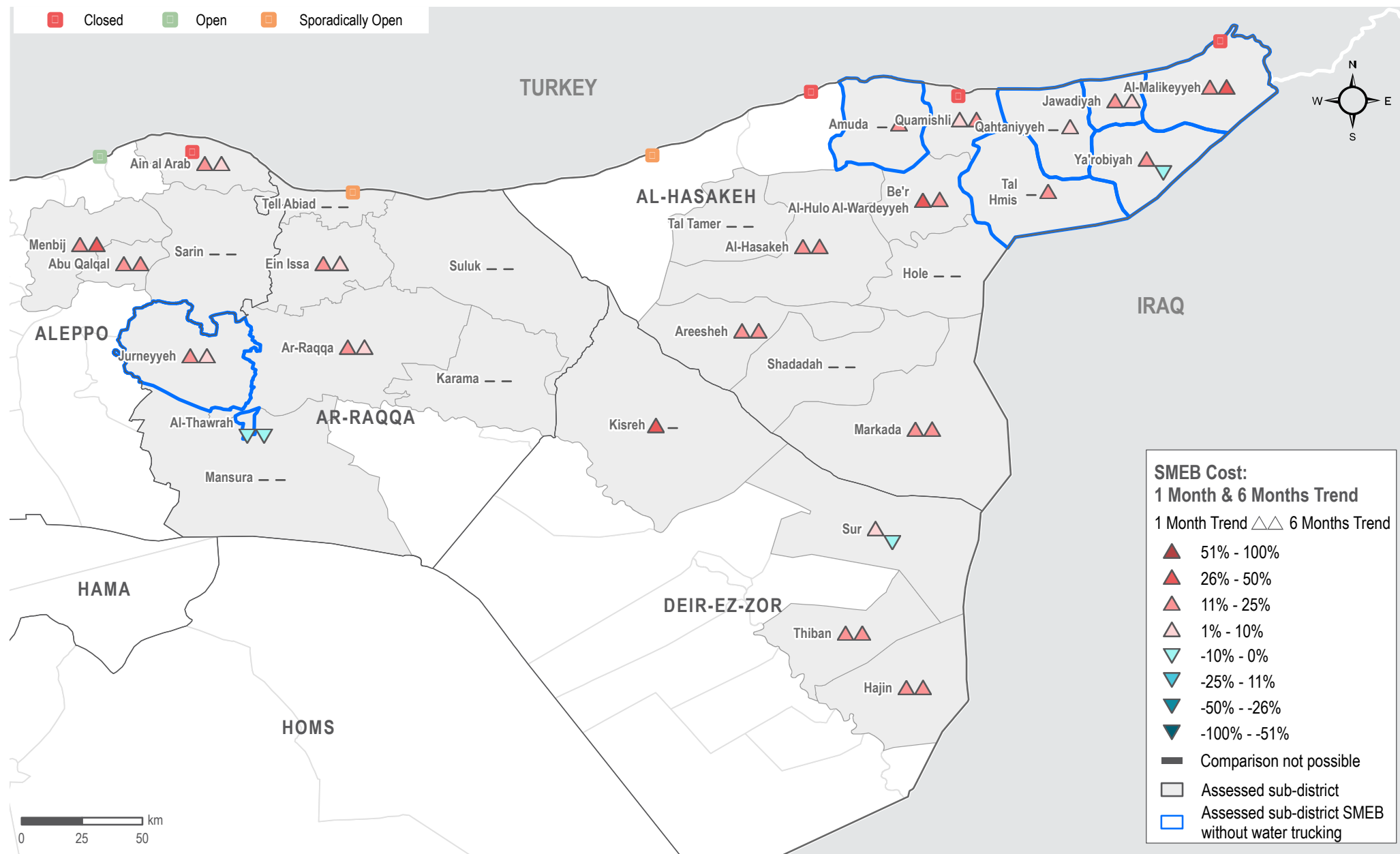
NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

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



SMEB FOOD COMPONENT: 309,957 SYP (90 USD)^{#5}

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

Six month price change: **increase of 17%**

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

- 19% for sugar

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

- 8% for bread

Overall food prices increased greatly. Prices increased faster than regional exchange rates, average transport fuel prices and water prices. This upward trend in the SMEB Food component was similar for all monitored governorates. According to the [Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations \(FAO\) Precipitation Analysis](#), "the impact of the poor harvest from the 2020/21 agricultural season on Syrian families is compounded by interrelated issues that include economic constraints, currency depreciation, poverty, conflict, population displacement and climate-induced factors. The consequences of uneven temporal distribution of rainfall combined with high temperatures will not only affect the current cropping season but the effects may also be felt in the next one to two years." For a broader, national overview of the market context in Syria, please view the [WFP Syria mVAM Bulletin for August 2021](#). For insights on food security across Syria, please see the [WFP Hunger Map](#).



SMEB BULK FOODS: 140,150 SYP (41 USD)

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

Six month price change: **increase of 3%**

- Sugar: increased by **16%**

- Red lentils: increased by **12%**
- Rice: increased by **10%**
- Bulgur: increased by **6%**
- Tomato paste: increased by **3%**
- Salt: no change (**0%**)

According to REACH field teams, these items are typically imported, as such their prices mostly increased due to depreciation of the SYP against the Turkish Lira (TRY) and USD. However, sugar had the highest increase in price, and also jumped from 0% unavailability in August to 19% unavailability in September.



SMEB VEGETABLE COMPONENT: 12,600 SYP (3.68 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 38%**

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

- Cucumbers: increased by **67%**
- Potatoes: increased by **33%**
- Tomatoes: increased by **31%**
- Onions: no change (**0%**)

In September, prices increased greatly for the vegetable component of the SMEB, and prices are now higher than 6 months ago, before the agricultural period began.



BREAD: 486 SYP PER 8 PIECE BUNDLE (0.14 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 71%**

Six month price change: **increase of 34%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting bread as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: **10%**

Price fluctuations are attributed to both the depreciation of the SYP and general subsidies by the authorities.

- Al-Hasakeh: 1,200 SYP per bundle

- Aleppo: 416 SYP per bundle
- Ar-Raqqa: 416 SYP per bundle
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 325 SYP per bundle

Although average bread prices varied greatly between governorates, this regional price increase is due to a price spike of **323%** in Al-Hasakeh governorate in September. REACH field teams suggest that bakeries across NES had reduced support in September (mostly flour and diesel subsidies), yet Al-Hasakeh governorate was most affected due to the larger number of bakeries that relied on these subsidies.



FLOUR: 1,625 SYP PER KILO (0.47 USD)

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

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting flour as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: **8%**

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



CHICKEN: 5,913 SYP PER KILO (1.73 USD)

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

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting chicken as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: **8%**



EGGS: 8,500 SYP FOR 30 EGGS (2.48 USD)

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

Six month price change: **increase of 31%**

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



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 (0.15 USD)

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

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined kerosene as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: **26%**

LP GAS: ^{#6}

3,625 SYP per canister (1.06 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 9%**

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting LP gas as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: **1%**

#5 September informal regional exchange rate for NES: 3,425 SYP
#6 Prices are taken for the cheapest available canister at the time of data collection, which is typically 20-25 litres.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

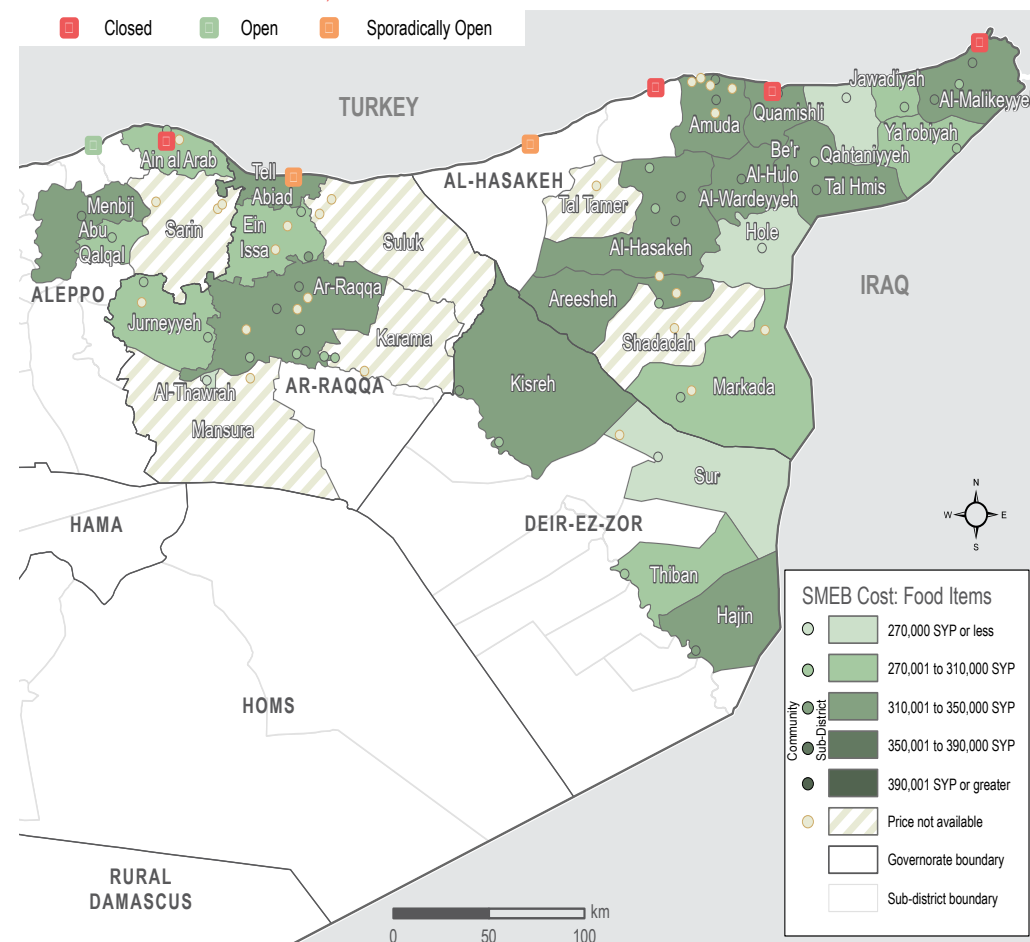
SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	309,957	23%	17%
Abu Qalqal	301,984	14%	16%
Ain al Arab	287,050	23%	11%
Al-Hasakeh	325,100	23%	17%
Al-Malikeyyeh	311,250	21%	25%
Al-Thawrah	261,514	-7%	-1%
Amuda	313,950	2%	21%
Ar-Raqqa	311,375	25%	3%
Areeshesh	311,600	31%	18%
Be'r Al-Hulo	333,014	25%	20%
AL-Wardeyyeh			
Ein Issa	309,489	23%	6%
Hajin	319,800	28%	12%
Hole	263,398	NA	-12%
Jawadiyah	290,879	22%	5%
Jurneyyeh	289,248	14%	12%

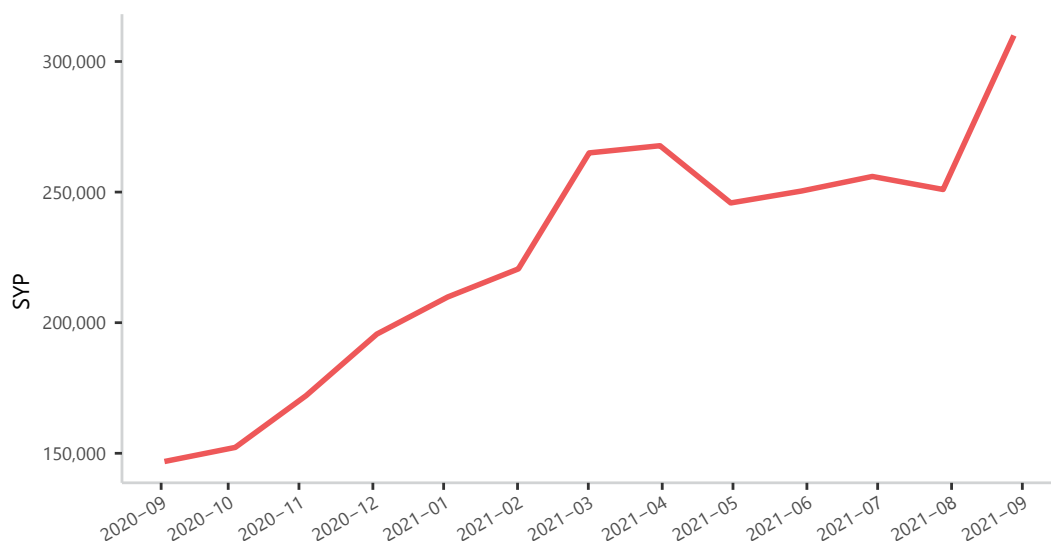
Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Karama	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	321,150	36%	33%
Mansura	NA	NA	NA
Markada	307,699	19%	19%
Menbij	323,918	18%	27%
Qahtaniyyeh	256,725	16%	4%
Quamishli	310,425	6%	12%
Sarin	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	264,400	9%	-1%
Tal Hmis	319,174	NA	19%
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	315,418	NA	NA
Thiban	283,700	17%	17%
Ya'robriyah	276,564	25%	-7%

SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

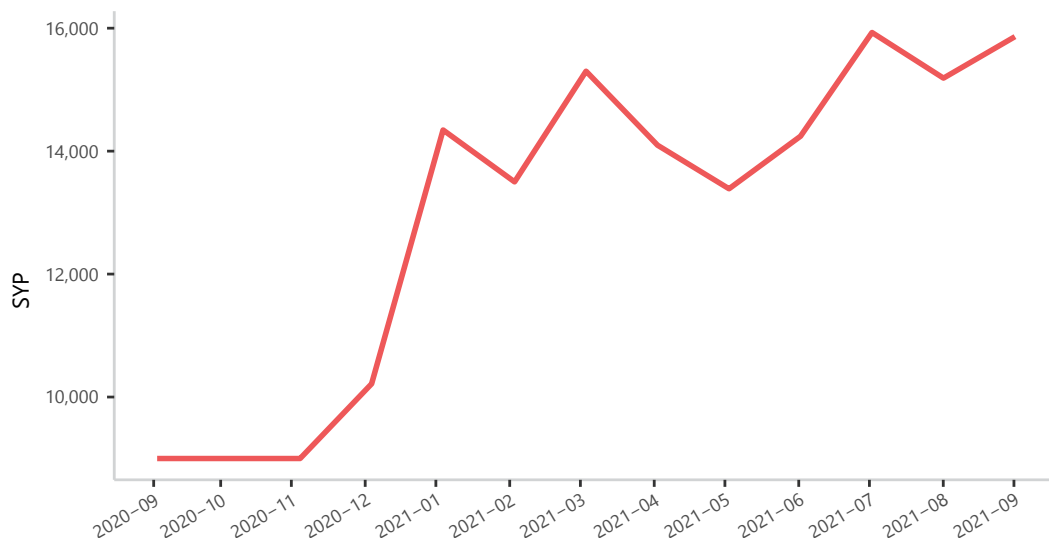
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

4,500L, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	15,863	4%	4%
Abu Qalqal	20,835	75%	197%
Ain al Arab	4,500	-47%	-63%
Al-Hasakeh	24,525	0%	27%
Al-Malikiyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	15,863	-6%	4%
Areeshesh	24,525	0%	28%
Be'r Al-Hulo	20,250	80%	0%
Al-Wardeyyeh	20,250	80%	0%
Ein Issa	9,000	0%	92%
Hajin	7,200	14%	60%
Hole	14,895	-41%	-35%
Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA

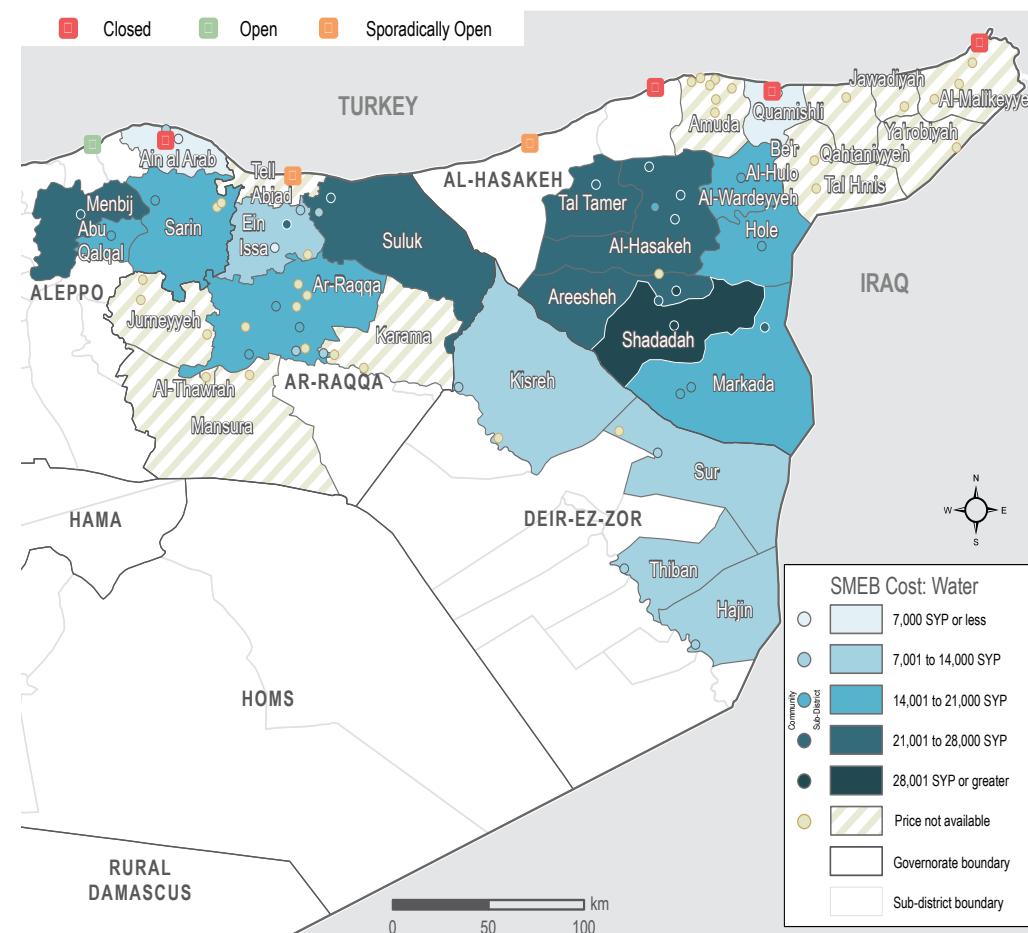
Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Karama**	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	9,000	0%	NA
Mansura**	NA	NA	NA
Markada	16,380	-20%	-4%
Menbij	23,985	33%	264%
Qahtaniyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	5,513	-27%	-53%
Sarin	15,300	325%	NA
Shadadah	33,750	0%	0%
Suluk	21,735	6%	NA
Sur	9,000	-56%	-55%
Tal Hmis**	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	25,695	NA	NA
Tell Abiad**	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	13,500	0%	0%
Ya'robiyah**	NA	NA	NA

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



WATER TRUCKING PRICES VARIED GREATLY ACROSS NES IN SEPTEMBER:

Al-Hasakeh:	22,388 SYP per 4,500 litres
Aleppo:	18,068 SYP per 4,500 litres
Ar-Raqqa:	15,863 SYP per 4,500 litres
Deir-Ez-Zor:	9,000 SYP per 4,500 litres

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

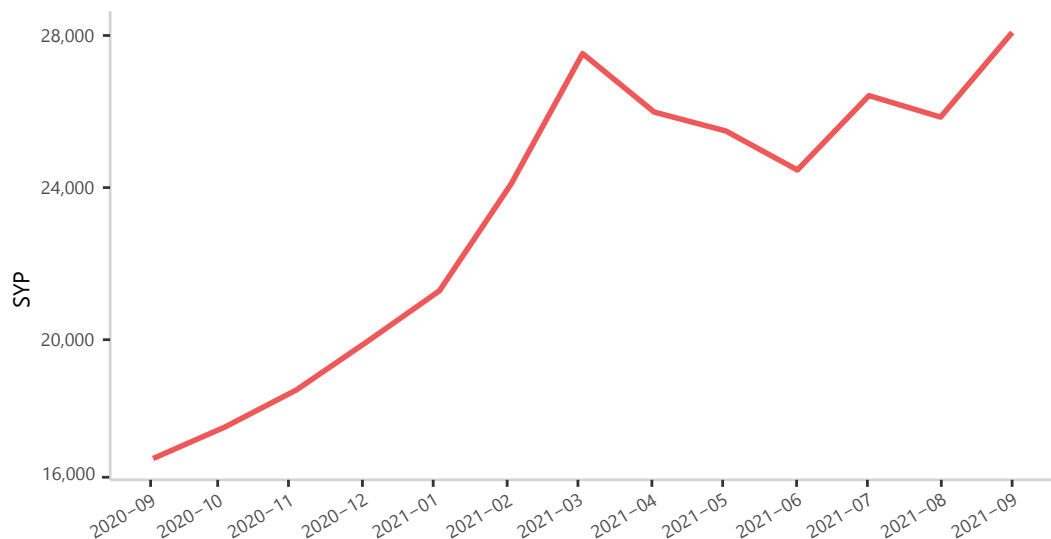
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

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	28,079	9%	2%
Abu Qalqal	30,874	33%	55%
Ain al Arab	25,444	2%	-9%
Al-Hasakeh	29,301	9%	2%
Al-Malikeyyeh	25,193	2%	42%
Al-Thawrah	24,650	32%	-15%
Amuda	32,250	-1%	-5%
Ar-Raqqa	27,824	12%	-5%
Areeshesh	30,100	5%	-6%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	50,950	98%	42%
Ein Issa	27,001	3%	-12%
Hajin	32,734	5%	-5%
Hole**	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	26,800	1%	-30%
Jurneyyeh	23,317	-13%	-8%

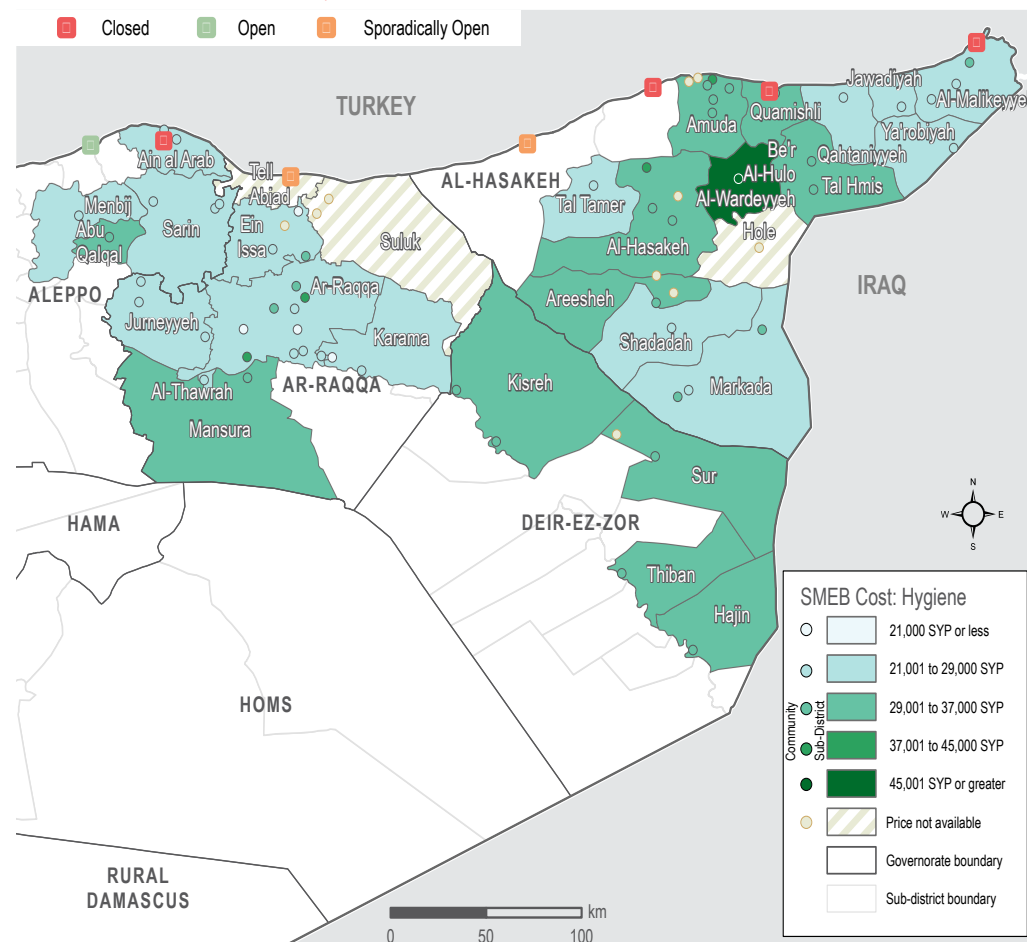
Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Karama	26,094	5%	-1%
Kisreh	32,834	9%	33%
Mansura	31,587	24%	26%
Markada	28,491	11%	11%
Menbij	24,736	9%	20%
Qahtaniyyeh	24,466	11%	7%
Quamishli	32,850	27%	9%
Sarin	27,209	3%	11%
Shadadah	28,079	20%	4%
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	31,650	4%	19%
Tal Hmis	31,362	-3%	-7%
Tal Tamer*	21,875	NA	37%
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	30,350	6%	24%
Ya'robiyah	27,596	-1%	-10%

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

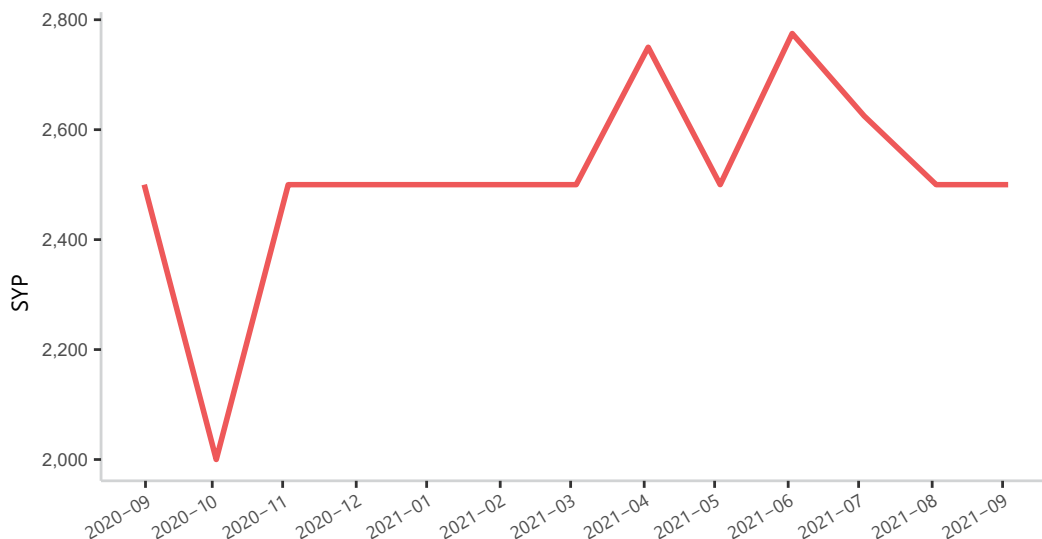
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB DATA, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	0%	0%
Abu Qalqal	4,700	-52%	-30%
Ain al Arab	5,000	0%	-9%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	7%	0%
Al-Malikeyyeh	1,500	50%	50%
Al-Thawrah	2,200	0%	-55%
Amuda	3,000	138%	66%
Ar-Raqqa	2,500	0%	0%
Areeshesh	3,150	5%	5%
Be'r Al-Hulo AL-Wardeyyeh	3,000	71%	-25%
Ein Issa	2,500	11%	25%
Hajin	2,500	14%	0%
Hole	3,500	-3%	-13%
Jawadiyah	900	0%	44%
Jurneyyeh	2,750	38%	-8%

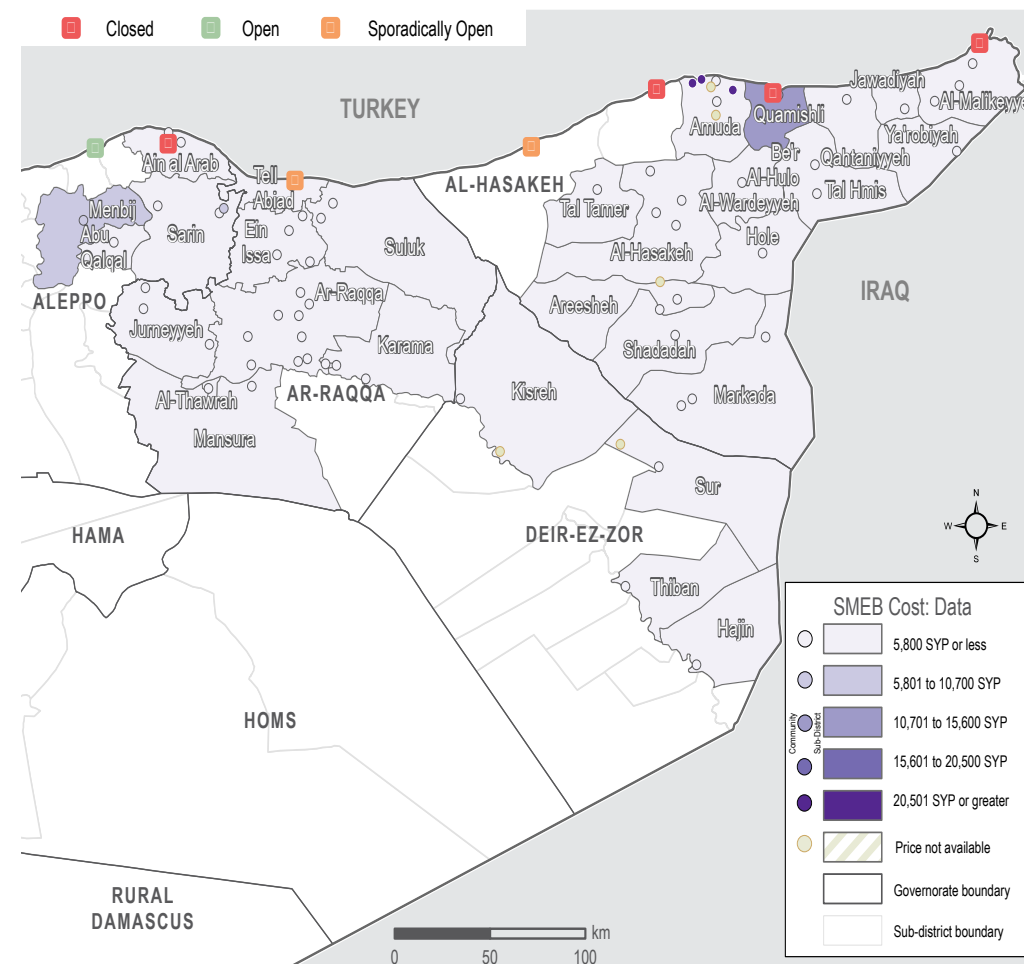
Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Karama	1,536	0%	0%
Kisreh	2,500	0%	0%
Mansura	2,000	-47%	-20%
Markada	3,500	0%	0%
Menbij	9,800	3%	47%
Qahtaniyyeh	2,500	25%	67%
Quamishli	13,750	686%	450%
Sarin	3,000	20%	-91%
Shadadah	1,024	-10%	-74%
Suluk	2,560	-31%	NA
Sur	2,500	-38%	226%
Tal Hmis	2,000	-33%	-20%
Tal Tamer	3,700	NA	363%
Tell Abiad	2,407	-38%	NA
Thiban	2,500	0%	0%
Ya'robiyah	1,200	-8%	0%

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

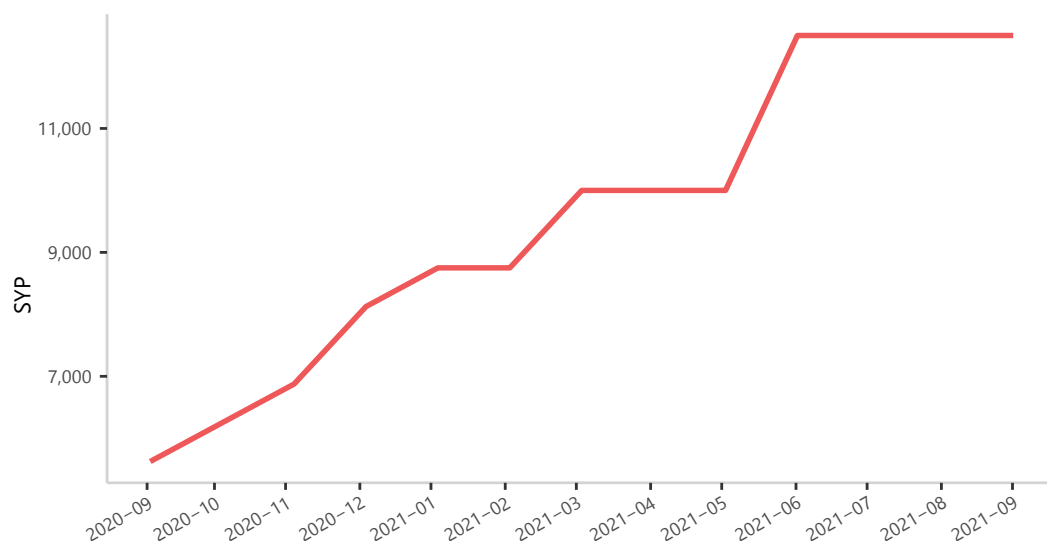
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

KEROSENE 25L, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	12,500	0%	25%
Abu Qalqal	3,125	0%	0%
Ain al Arab*	3,750	7%	7%
Al-Hasakeh	12,500	0%	67%
Al-Malikiyyeh*	12,500	11%	11%
Al-Thawrah	25,000	0%	67%
Amuda*	3,000	NA	20%
Ar-Raqqa	20,000	14%	36%
Areeshah	12,500	0%	33%
Be'r Al-Hulo	10,000	0%	0%
Al-Wardeyyeh	10,000	0%	0%
Ein Issa	25,000	-23%	67%
Hajin**	12,500	29%	33%
Hole**	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah**	12,500	0%	25%
Jurneyyeh	15,625	4%	14%

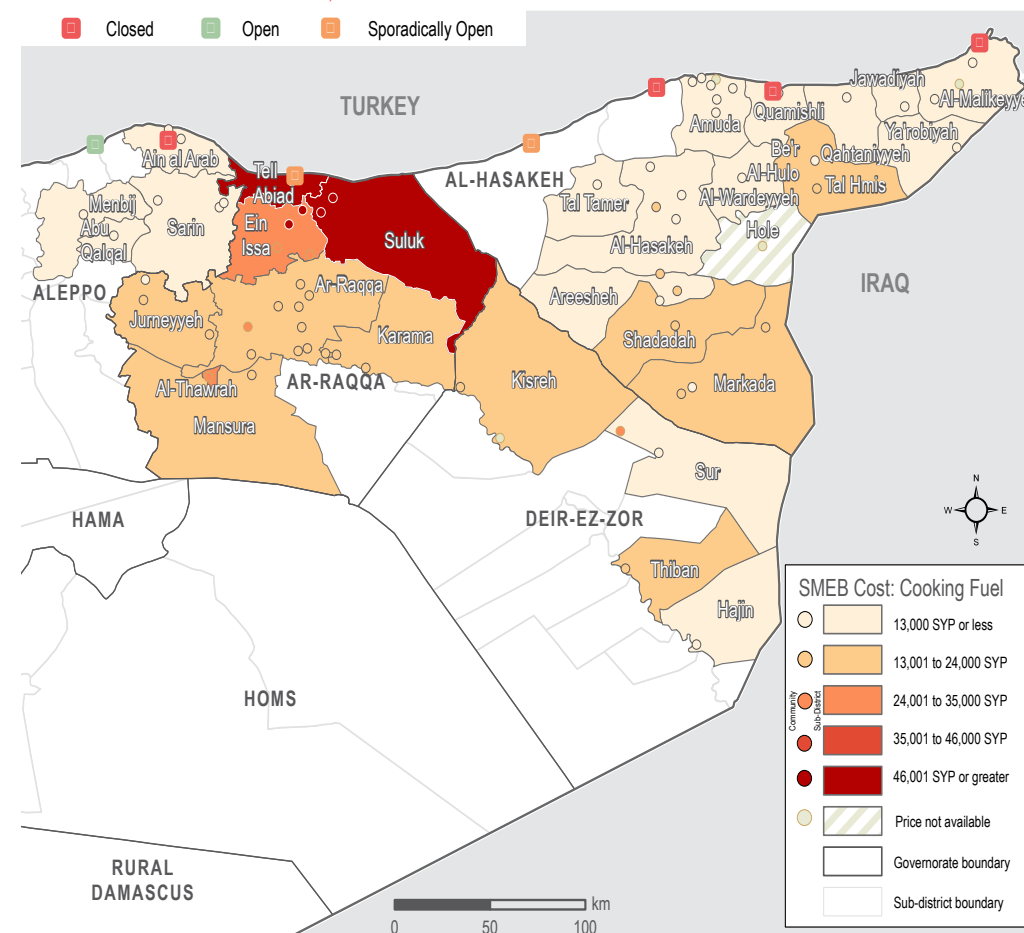
Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Karama*	13,125	0%	-13%
Kisreh**	14,375	15%	15%
Mansura	22,500	29%	50%
Markada*	17,500	17%	17%
Menbij	3,125	0%	0%
Qahtaniyyeh**	3,125	NA	-69%
Quamishli	7,500	-25%	20%
Sarin	2,500	0%	0%
Shadadah*	17,500	112%	40%
Suluk*	55,000	21%	NA
Sur	12,500	0%	43%
Tal Hmis*	15,000	9%	20%
Tal Tamer**	5,000	NA	33%
Tell Abiad*	55,000	22%	NA
Thiban*	15,000	20%	20%
Ya'robiyah**	3,500	12%	-7%

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



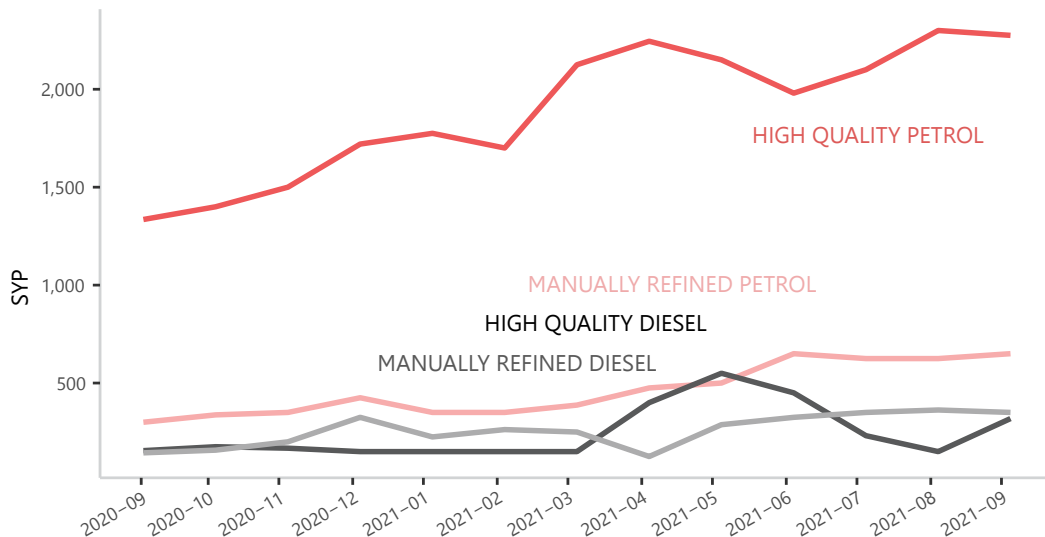
NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

DIESEL AND PETROL, 1L (HIGH QUALITY AND MANUALLY REFINED), SYRIAN POUNDS

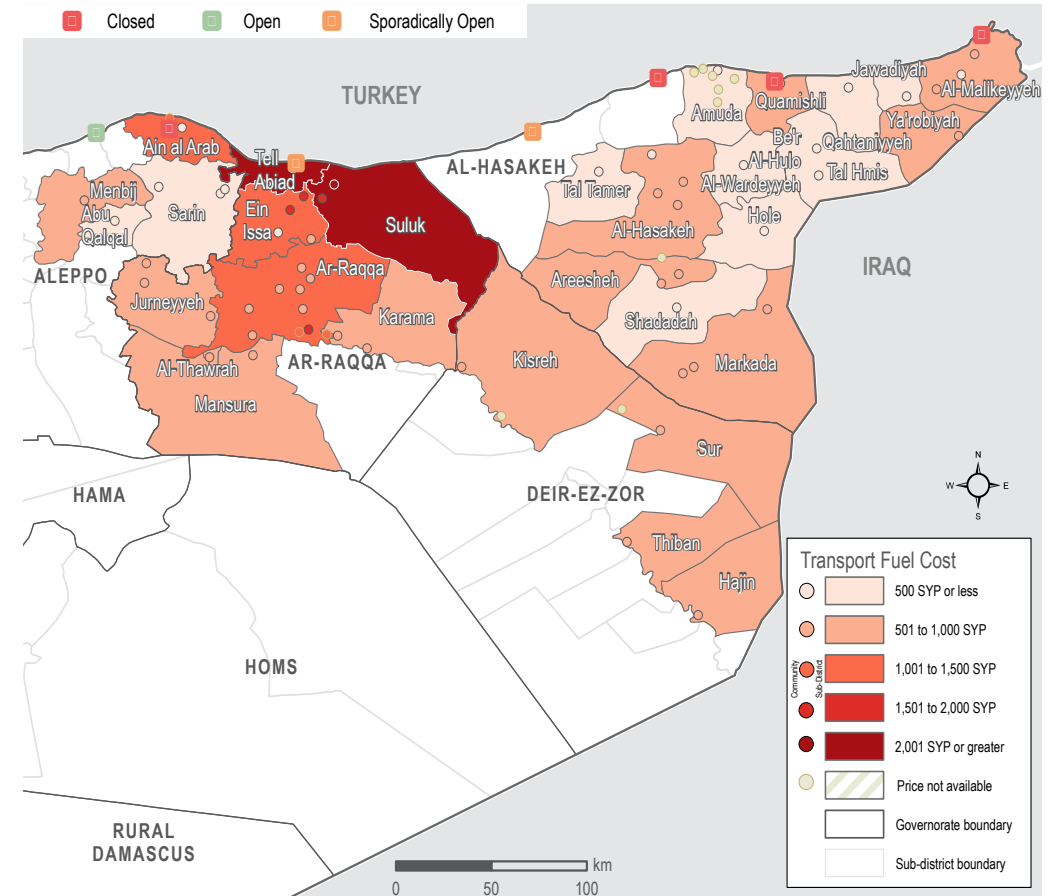
Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	711	10%	39%	Karama*	763	11%	27%
Abu Qalqal*	184	-79%	-71%	Kisreh**	788	31%	58%
Ain al Arab*	1,012	44%	10%	Mansura*	1,000	19%	54%
Al-Hasakeh	676	-35%	-2%	Markada*	750	15%	43%
Al-Malikeyyeh	703	-2%	393%	Menbij	812	-8%	32%
Al-Thawrah*	900	6%	-29%	Qahtaniyyeh**	143	-2%	-2%
Amuda**	161	-55%	-15%	Quamishli	759	19%	12%
Areeshah*	563	5%	61%	Sarin*	162	-3%	0%
Ar-Raqqa	1,481	10%	56%	Shadadah*	143	0%	0%
Be'r Al-Hulo	296	-34%	-58%	Suluk*	2,388	14%	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh*	296	-34%	-58%	Sur*	800	14%	45%
Ein Issa*	1,150	28%	80%	Tal Hmis*	450	-8%	20%
Hajin**	700	32%	40%	Tal Tamer*	143	NA	0%
Hole**	143	0%	0%	Tell Abiad	2,375	16%	NA
Jawadiyah**	288	0%	28%	Thiban*	600	0%	20%
Jurneyyeh	719	66%	15%	Ya'robiyah**	731	NA	179%

MEDIAN FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



MANUALLY REFINED FUEL PRICES VARIED GREATLY ACROSS NES IN SEPTEMBER:

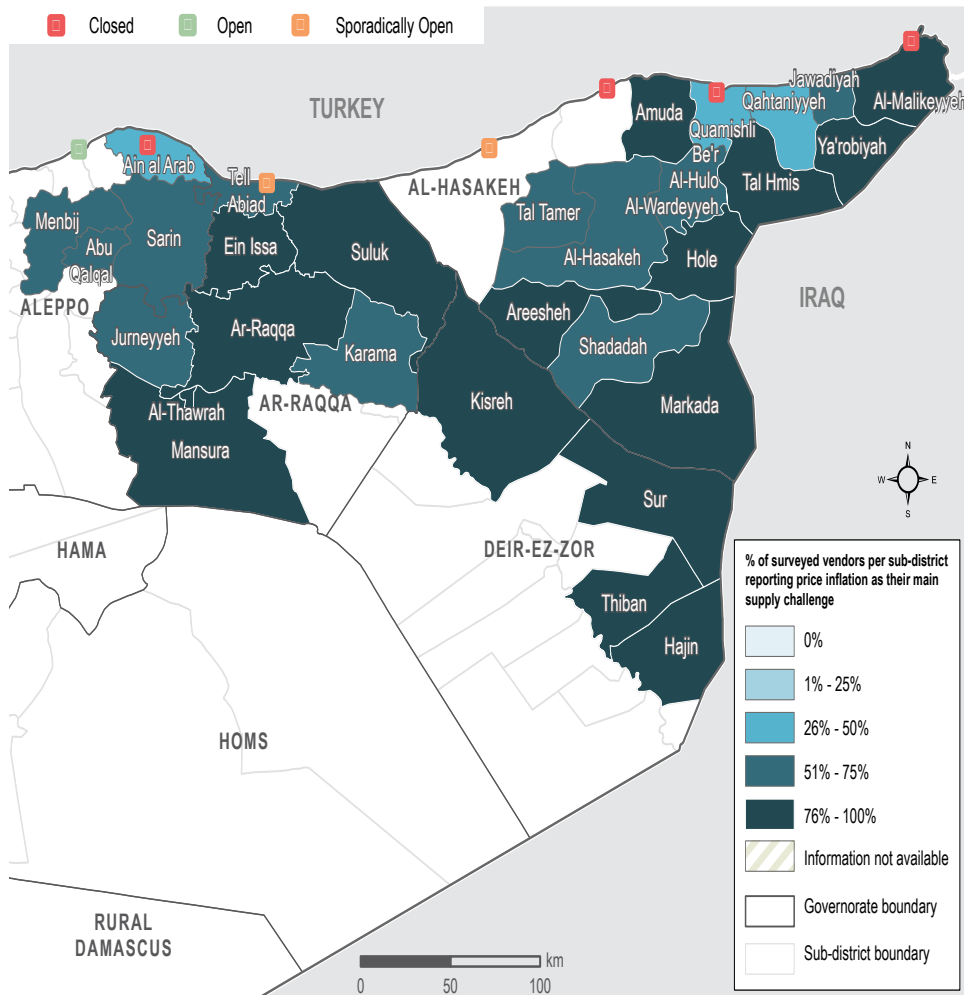
NES Manually Refined Diesel: 350 SYP per litre

NES Manually Refined Petrol: 650 SYP per litre

- Ar-Raqqa: 800 SYP per litre
- Deir-ez-Zor: 613 SYP per litre
- Aleppo: 138 SYP per litre
- Al-Hasakeh: 106 SYP per litre

- Ar-Raqqa: 1,100 SYP per litre
- Deir-ez-Zor: 850 SYP per litre
- Al-Hasakeh: 230 SYP per litre
- Aleppo: 210 SYP per litre

SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION



SUPPLY CHALLENGES

(SEE FIGURE 1, BELOW)

Total surveyed vendors: 1,678
 % of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: 84%
 One month change for % of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: **increase of 3 percentage points (pp)**
 Most reported supply challenge: price inflation 73% (see map, left)
 One month change for % of vendors who reported facing price inflation: **increase of 5 pp**

FIGURE 1: MOST COMMONLY REPORTED SUPPLY CHALLENGES BY ALL SURVEYED VENDORS



RESTOCKING

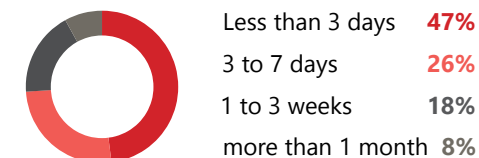
(SEE FIGURE 2, RIGHT)

Number of surveyed vendors who were asked if they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 1,678
 Survey vendors reporting that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 20 shops = 1.2% of all surveyed shops.
 One month change: **increase of 0.3 pp**
 Surveyed vendors were asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supply lines were to be cut:
 Vendors reporting less than 3 days: 47%
 One month change for less than 3 days: **increase of 1 pp**

Across shop types in NES, surveyed water trucking vendors (96%), vegetable vendors (88%) and butchers (88%) 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 NE Aleppo governorate reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if supply lines were cut, followed by 92% of water trucking vendors in Al-Hasakeh. Furthermore, 100% of vegetable vendors in NE Aleppo and Deir-Ez-Zor and 96% of vegetable vendors in Ar-Raqqa reported the same, although this dropped to 67% in Al-Hasakeh.

FIGURE 2: REPORTED NUMBER OF DAYS BEFORE ALL TYPES OF VENDORS WOULD HYPOTHETICALLY RUN OUT OF STOCK, IF SUPPLY LINES WERE TO BE CUT



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

Informal currency exchange vendors were asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations.
 Surveyed currency vendors: 159
 Surveyed vendors reporting having limited stock of one or more USD denomination: 96%
 One month change for limited stock of one or more USD denomination: **decrease of 4%**
 The majority of surveyed vendors reported having a limited stock of all denominations of USD banknotes above 1 USD.
 See the [September 2021 dataset](#) for full USD availability.

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

In September - of the 1,684 total surveyed vendors - 10 vendors closed their shop. 5 of those vendors were in AL-Hasakeh governorate, and the remaining 5 were in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

SYRIAN POUNDS

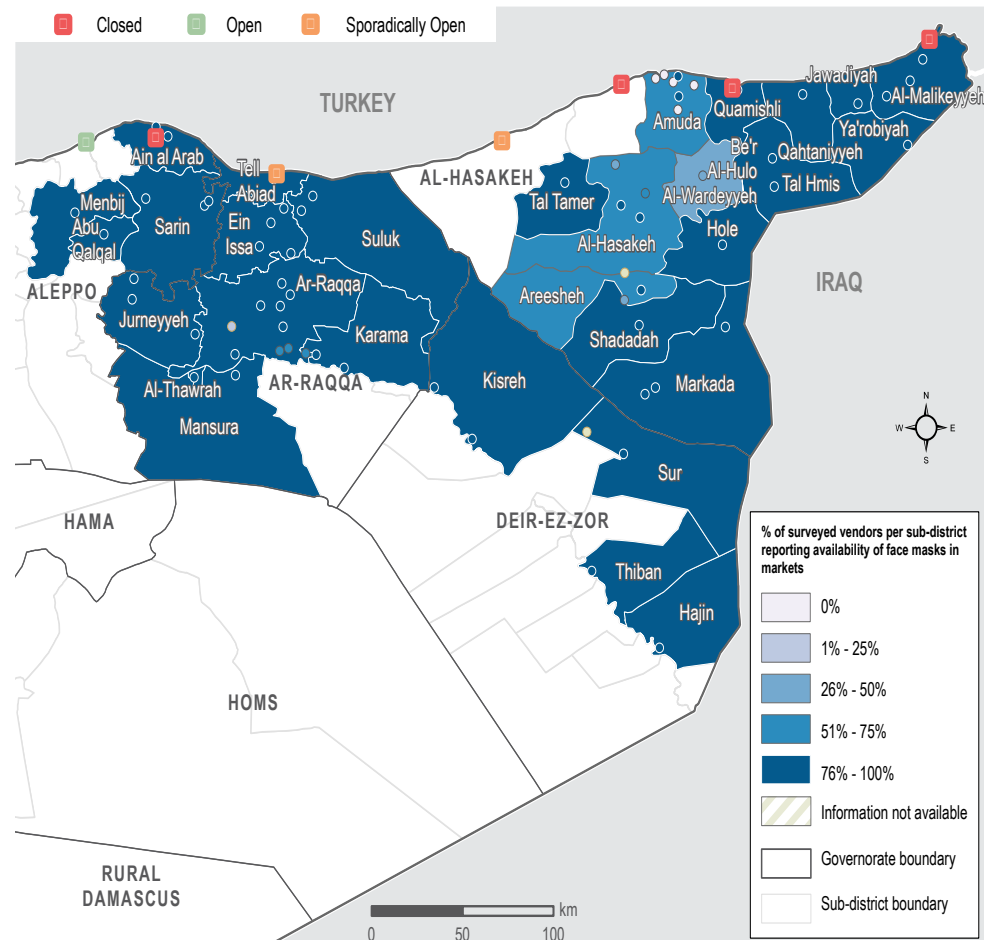
Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	300	26,000	10,000	6,375	1,850	4,250
Abu Qalqal	400	25,000	8,500	7,500	1,700	3,600
Ain al Arab	325	30,000	8,750	6,500	1,800	4,250
Al-Hasakeh	500	25,000	12,750	6,500	1,800	5,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	25,000	13,333	4,000	1,600	4,500
Al-Thawrah	300	26,000	12,000	13,750	1,000	9,800
Amuda	250	32,000	11,500	10,714	2,000	7,000
Areesheh	500	22,000	3,000	500	2,000	4,000
Ar-Raqqa	400	28,000	11,000	4,584	1,800	4,300
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyeh	500	22,000	13,000	16,667	2,500	8,000
Ein Issa	300	30,000	13,000	5,000	2,000	3,750
Hajin	300	21,500	7,000	6,500	3,000	5,000
Hole	300	25,000	10,000	9,375	1,700	NA
Jawadiyah	300	22,000	11,000	7,500	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	300	26,000	10,000	5,000	1,500	2,800
Karama	300	29,000	15,000	5,000	1,350	5,000
Kisreh	300	22,000	7,500	7,000	3,200	5,000
Mansura	300	39,000	1,250	3,250	2,000	NA
Markada	500	25,000	7,000	6,250	1,900	NA
Menbij	500	25,000	8,500	8,000	1,675	3,600
Qahtaniyyeh	225	20,000	15,000	5,000	1,800	3,350
Quamishli	400	29,000	4,000	2,000	2,500	6,500
Sarin	300	30,000	10,000	8,333	1,750	3,700
Shadadah	300	30,000	13,000	4,000	2,500	4,000
Suluk	500	45,000	33,333	NA	2,000	NA
Sur	500	33,500	8,500	6,000	1,500	3,500
Tal Hmis	400	30,000	10,000	7,875	2,625	3,500
Tal Tamer	300	1,500	5,000	3,150	2,100	4,000
Tell Abiad	750	45,000	33,333	NA	2,000	NA
Thiban	500	30,000	8,000	6,500	2,500	5,000
Ya'robiyah	250	25,000	15,000	2,500	1,800	NA

Prices in **bold** refer to COVID-19 items where median subdistrict prices rely on less than 3 observations.



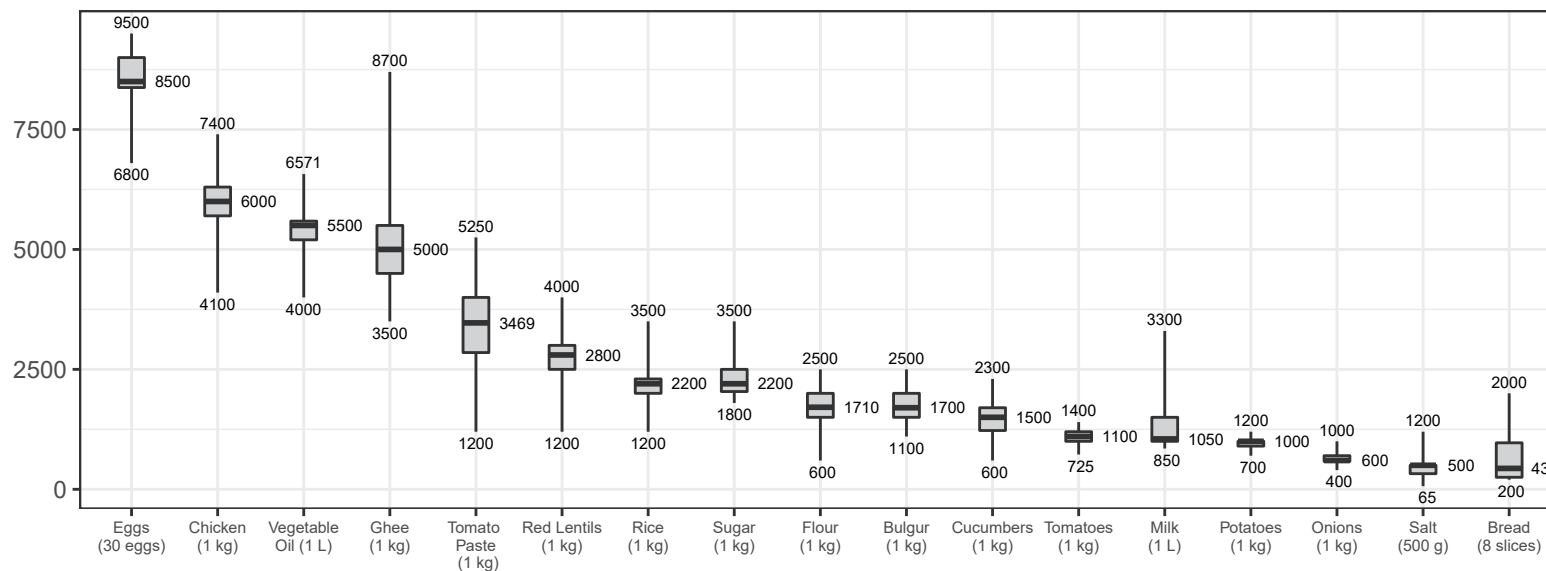
AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

NORTHEAST SYRIA

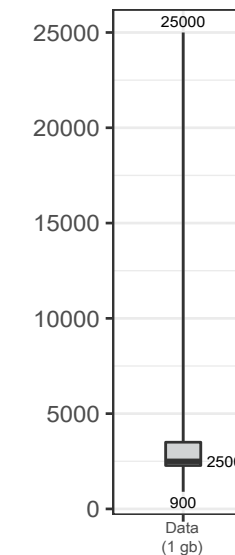


APPENDIX 1: NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

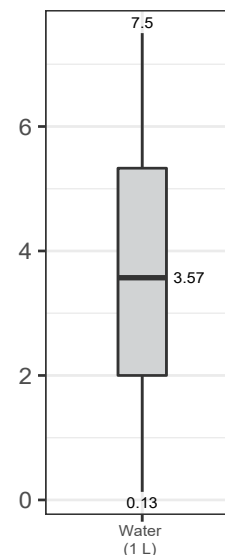
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



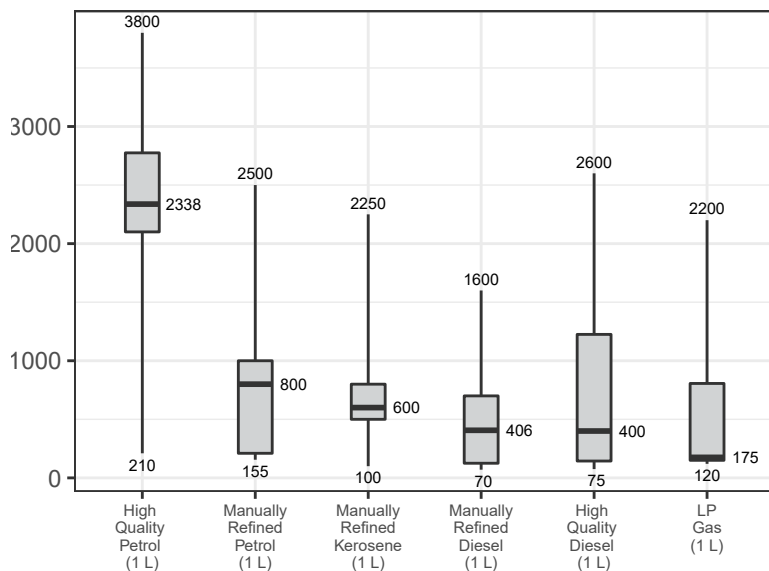
CELLPHONE DATA SYRIAN POUNDS



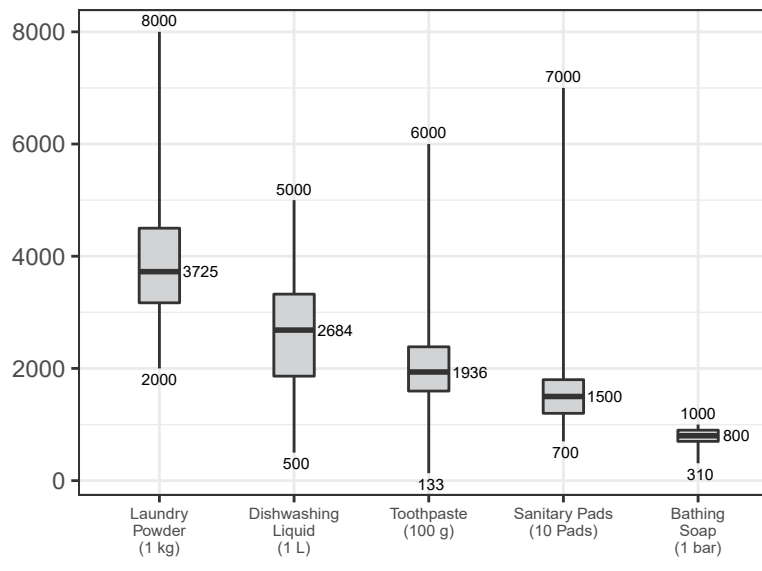
WATER TRUCKING SYRIAN POUNDS



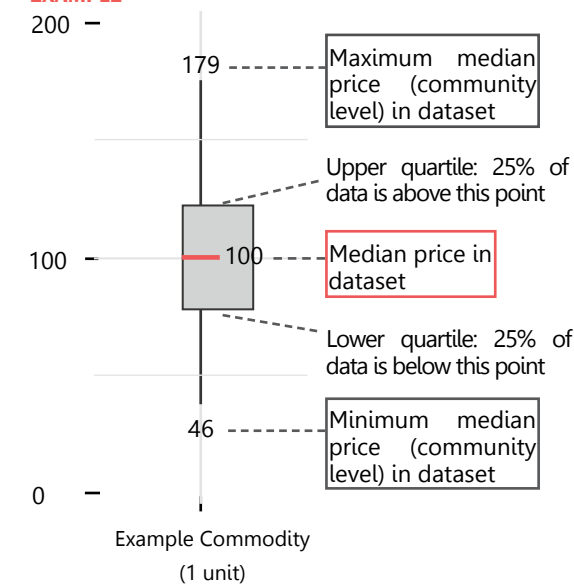
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



READING BOXPLOTS EXAMPLE



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 SMEB total is the median cost of the minimum, culturally adjusted items required to support a 6-person household for a month. The SMEB Food and other SMEB groupings are subsections of the SMEB total. For individual SMEB items such as red lentils, the price is available as per standard weight (red lentils price per kilo) and 'SMEB' red lentils (15kg of red lentils, to meet the survival needs of a family of 6). The composition of the SMEB and the SMEB item quantities can be found on [page 2](#).

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.