

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 7-14 September, 2020 - page 1

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 7-14 September 2020 and was conducted by CARE, Concern, Danish Church Aid, Global Communities, Ihsan, Mercy Corps, People In Need, and REACH.

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community. See REACH Resource Centre for the [September 2020 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
Fuel	Toothpaste	200 g	
Water	Cooking fuel*	25 L	
Telecom	Water trucking	4500 L	
Other	Smartphone data	1 GB	
	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; monitoring of winterisation items began

In September 2020, REACH and partners covered 30 sub-districts in northeast Syria (NES) for the Market Monitoring Exercise, including 1,389 individual shops. REACH and partners also started to monitor various winterisation items in anticipation of the upcoming winter season. Missing lines in all graphs indicate lack of data for the months of October and November 2019. Please note that prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (7-14 September).

Third highest northeast SMEB cost in SYP recorded

In September, across comparable communities with consistent coverage since August (see Methodology), the value of the regional SMEB reached 195,669 SYP. The SMEB in SYP increased slightly by 2% since August and

the value was still the third highest price recorded by the Market Monitoring Exercise in NES. The SMEB in United States Dollars (USD) increased from 86 to 92 USD in September alongside a slight appreciation of the SYP against the USD (see next paragraph).

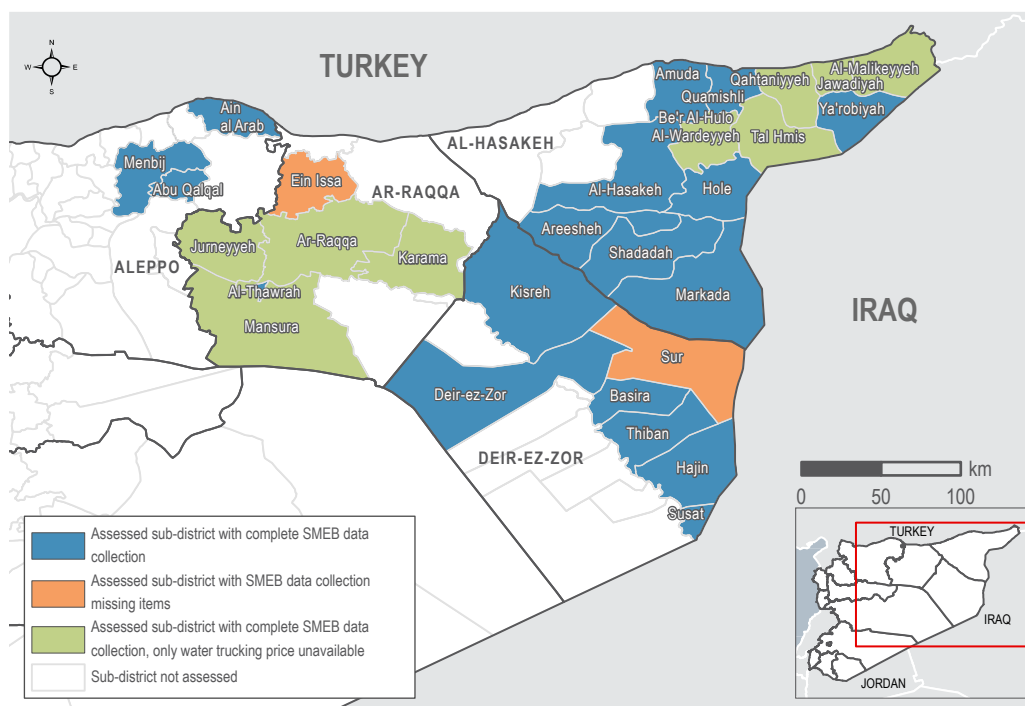
Slight appreciation of the SYP against the USD

During data collection in September, the informal USD/SYP exchange rate slightly decreased across the region, compared with the exchange rates recorded in August. Despite a small 3% decrease since last month, the informal exchange rate remained at a very high level with a recorded regional median of 2,135 USD/SYP. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 2,400 SYP for 1 USD in Sawa community in Deir-ez-Zor governorate.

High quality fuels unavailable or at increasing prices

In September, high quality fuels were reportedly widely unavailable or at increasing prices. The price of high quality petrol increased drastically by 91% since August, reaching a median of 1,335 SYP, and was reported unavailable by 51% of surveyed fuel and gas vendors. This significant price increase could be attributed partially to its [low production level in the Government of Syria \(GoS\)-controlled area](#) that resulted in limited supplies for exporting into NES, according to REACH field teams. Meanwhile, high quality diesel was reportedly widely unavailable with 60% of surveyed fuel and gas vendors reporting it as unavailable in their market. High quality fuels are reportedly no longer imported from GoS areas but from Iraq into NES, which could potentially explain the unavailability due to the added complexity of importing fuel across international borders. This scarcity of quality products may further affect prices of commodities in the future, especially of imported items.

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

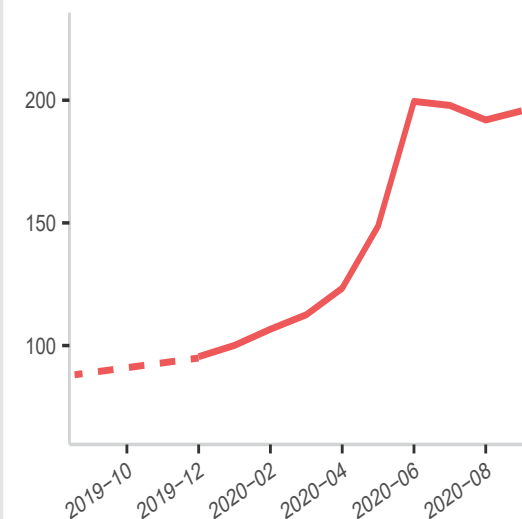


MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

195,669 SYP (92 USD)
NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH, AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR, EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

195,669 SYP
(92 USD)

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

Food items prices generally remained stable

In September, the value of the regional SMEB food component remained stable, recording an extremely high median level of 146,856 SYP. Among vendors who reported supply challenges during the Market Monitoring Exercise, 92% reported price inflation was a supply challenge (see page 13 for Market Functionality findings). Certain bulk food items have witnessed a slight price increase since August. For example, prices for ghee increased by 3%, and rice by 2% between August and September. As bulk food items are largely imported into NES, these small price increases might have been caused by the increasing prices of transport fuel. Finally, field teams reported that the reduction of flour subsidies by the local authorities negatively impacted the prices for flour and bread, which increased by 17% and 3%, respectively, since August.

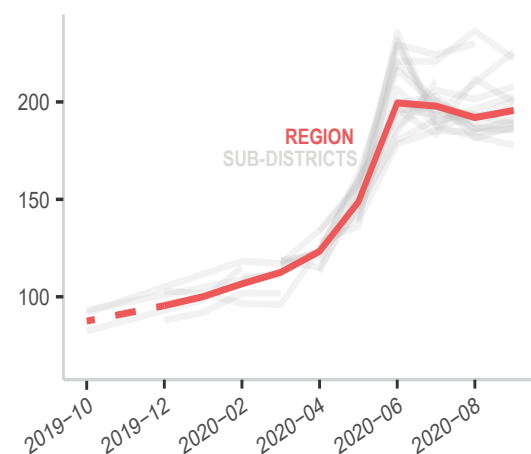
Hygiene item prices and water trucking cost increased

The value of the SMEB hygiene component increased slightly by 2%, reaching a median of 17,500 SYP in September. Specifically, the price of toothpaste increased by 1% since August but prices of other items remained basically unchanged or a small price

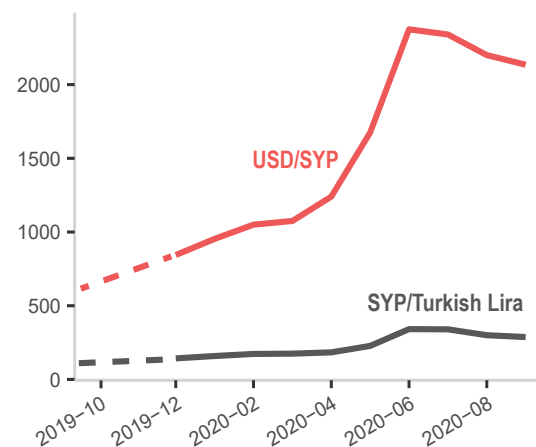
decrease was recorded. As with bulk food, hygiene items are largely imported into NES, and thus the slight increase of high-quality transport fuel prices likely contributed to the moderate increase of prices. Meanwhile, the price of soap used for handwashing increased by 5% since August. This price increase may reflect a decreased availability for these items in the COVID-19 environment (see page 14 for COVID-19-related findings). On the other hand, the cost of the SMEB water trucking component significantly increased by 43%, reaching a median of 9,000 SYP. The water trucking price increase could be attributed to high demand and temporary suspension of water supply from the Allouk station as well as the 10% increase of transport fuel prices. In addition, disruption of water supply could negatively impact efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the area.

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES*

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	195,669***	2%	74%	Jawadiyah**	193,817***	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal	186,134	1%	NA	Jurneyyeh**	186,565	1%	85%
Ain al Arab	177,778	-2%	74%	Karama**	192,056	-10%	89%
Al-Hasakeh	214,611	NA	81%	Kisreh	197,244	4%	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh**	191,245	-1%	NA	Mansura**	211,694	-2%	125%
Al-Thawrah	194,537	1%	75%	Markada	225,679	NA	NA
Amuda	196,800	NA	NA	Menbij	191,067	3%	99%
Areeshah	203,033	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh**	181,251***	-5%	53%
Ar-Raqqqa**	186,621	-6%	77%	Quamishli	222,229	-6%	90%
Basira	187,169	3%	66%	Shadadah	188,726	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	199,762	2%	99%	Sur	NA	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh**	199,762	2%	99%	Susat	189,667	2%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	180,224***	NA	NA	Tal Hmis**	183,042***	3%	89%
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	207,986	3%	79%
Hajin	185,797	0%	NA	Ya'robiyah	200,052	-6%	NA
Hole	200,729***	5%	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 25% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

SUB-DISTRICTS WITH INCOMPLETE SMEB IN SEPTEMBER

Ein Issa Water trucking, toothpaste, LP gas

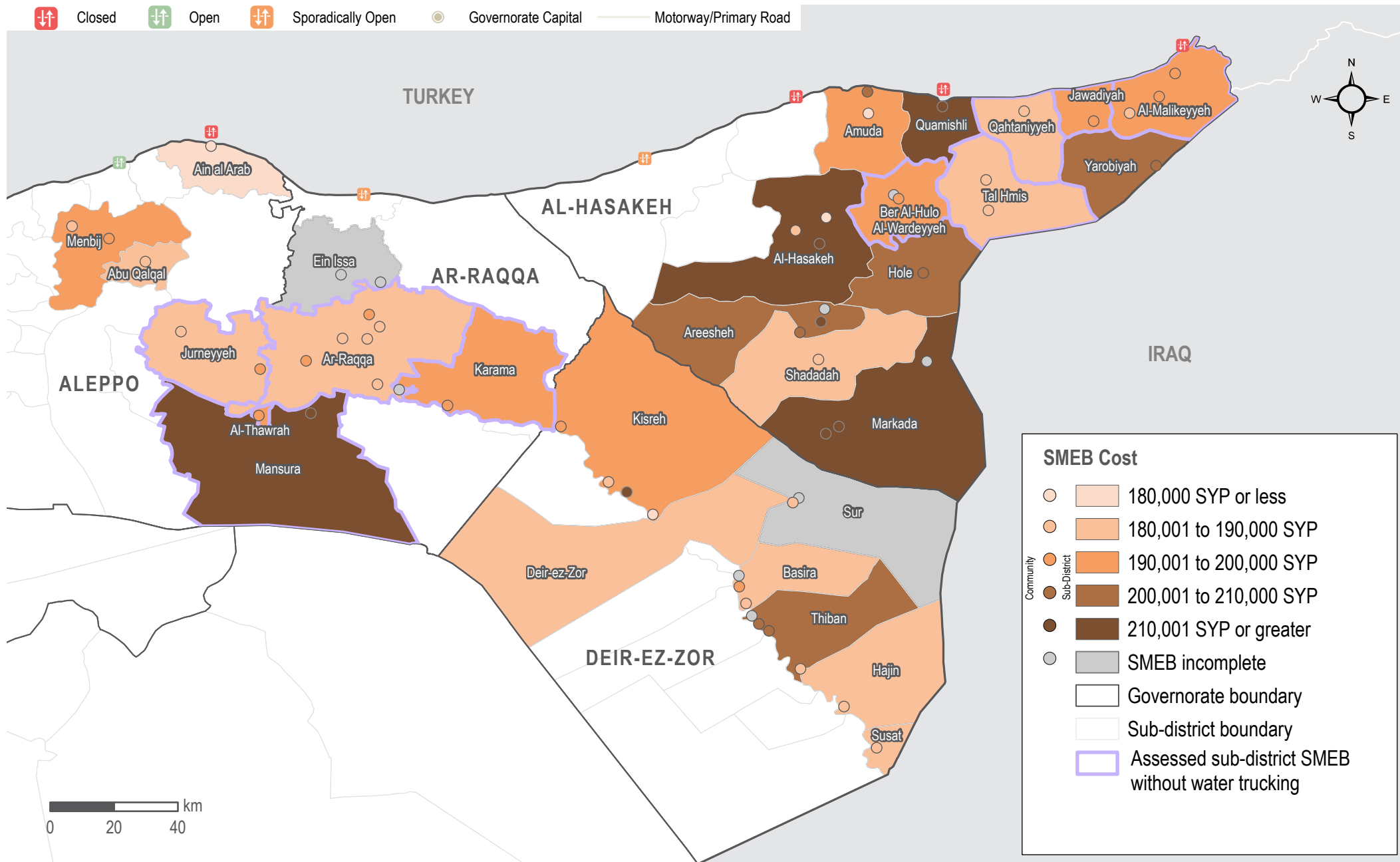
Sur Chicken, LP gas

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

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

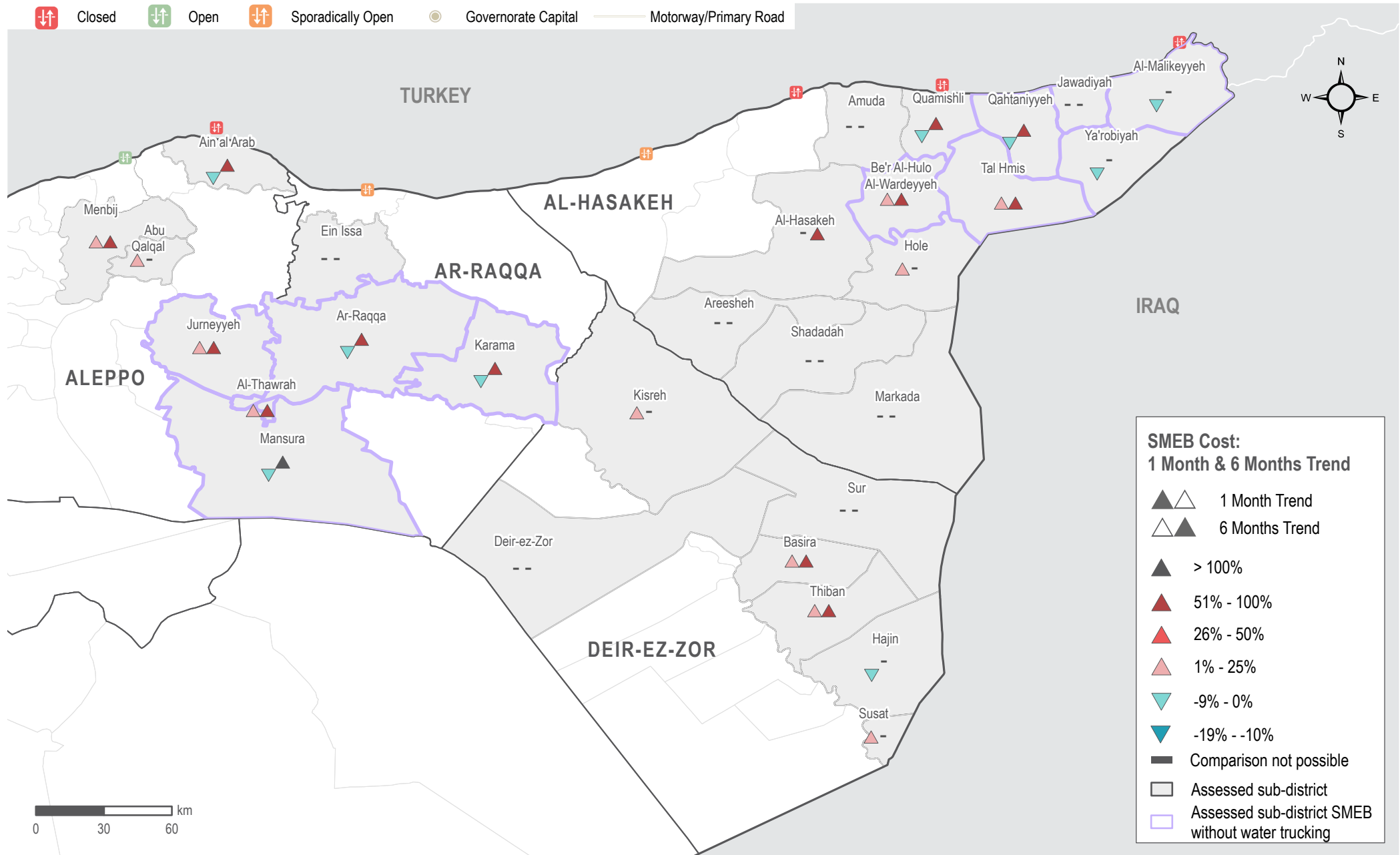
SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND



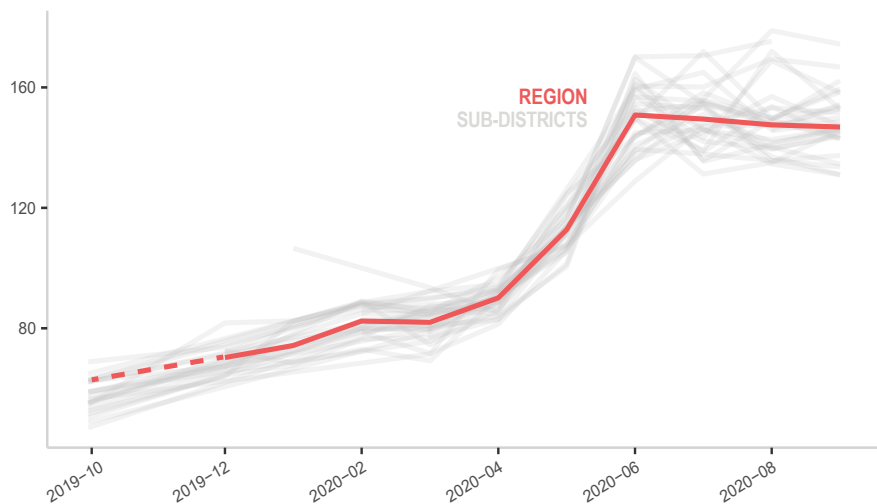
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS See Page 1, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	146,856	0%	78%	Jawadiyah	148,595**	2%	NA
Abu Qalqal	145,390*	-1%	NA	Jumeyyeh	143,725	3%	83%
Ain al Arab	134,525	-4%	75%	Karama	152,800	-11%	94%
Al-Hasakeh	158,514	6%	89%	Kisreh	152,875	4%	82%
Al-Malikeyyeh	154,335	6%	NA	Mansura	174,375	-3%	143%
Al-Thawrah	146,214	2%	84%	Markada	162,219	NA	NA
Amuda	142,953	-4%	67%	Menbij	149,864	1%	117%
Areeshesh	146,538	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	142,990*	-7%	53%
Ar-Raqqa	147,175	-6%	82%	Quamishli	166,775	-2%	98%
Basira	137,401	1%	62%	Shadadah	133,609	NA	77%
Be'r Al-Hulo	153,475	3%	92%	Sur	NA	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	153,475	3%	92%	Susat	131,000	-4%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	144,400*	4%	70%	Tal Hmis	145,720*	3%	104%
Ein Issa	151,487	-1%	73%	Thiban	159,525	7%	78%
Hajin	131,000	-3%	76%	Ya'robiyah	158,250	-6%	71%
Hole	145,575*	8%	NA				

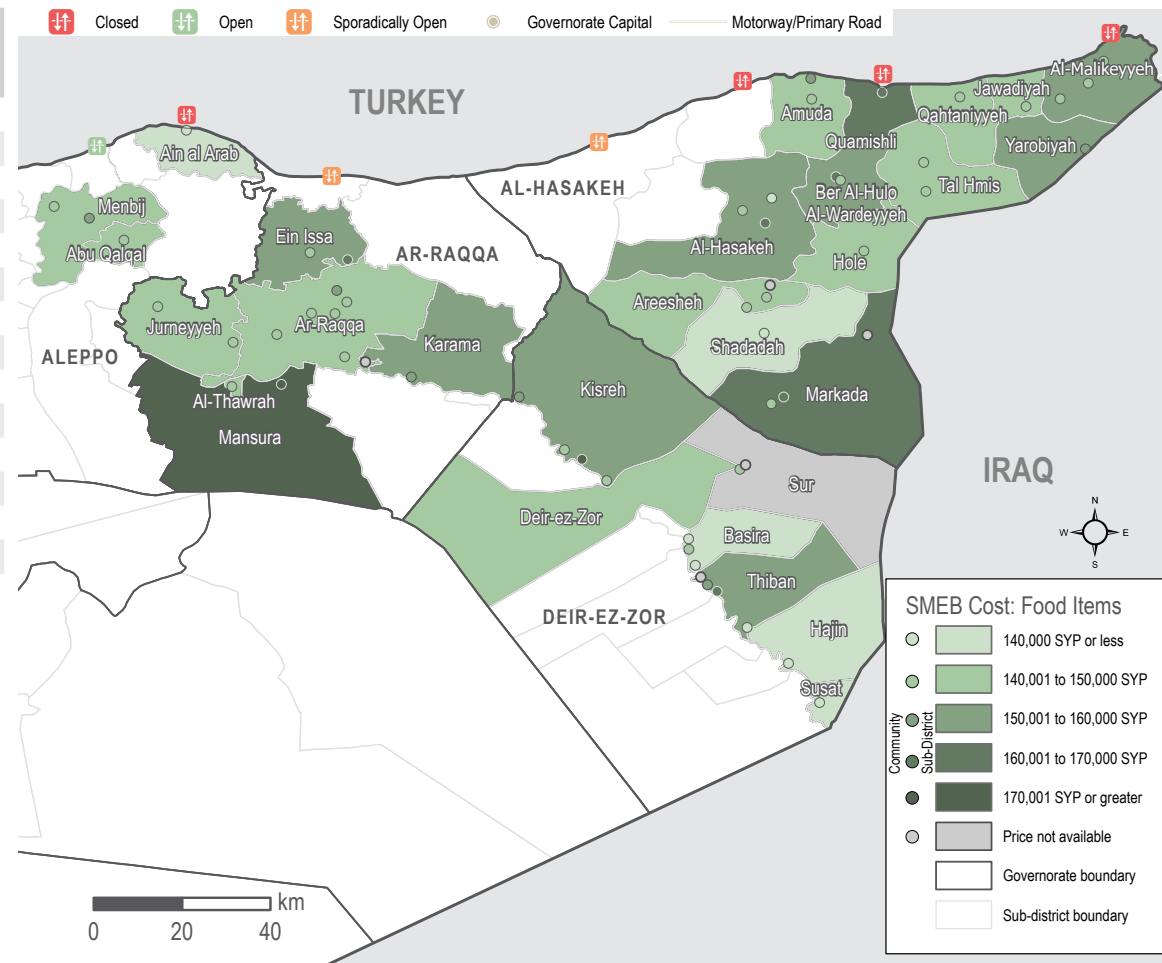
* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.
 ** For this sub-district, all SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



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



MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

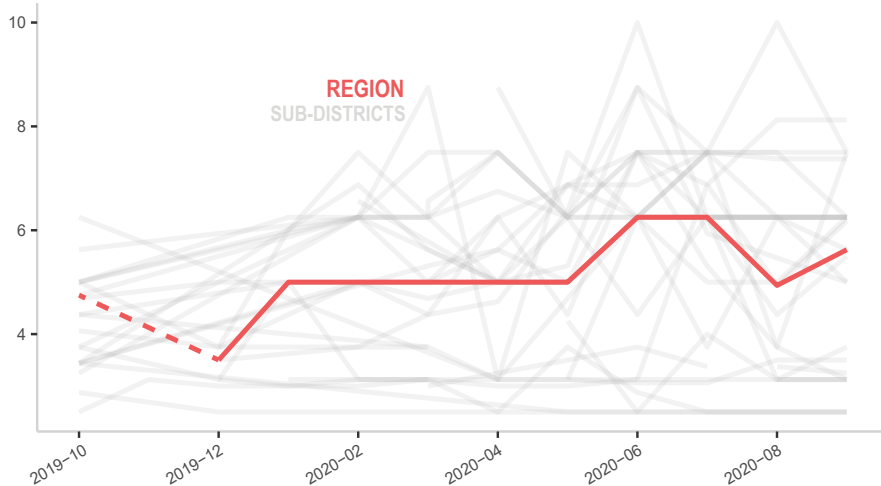
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	5,625	14%	13%	Jawadiyah	3,125*	0%	NA
Abu Qalqal	2,500*	0%	NA	Jurneyyeh	8,125	0%	30%
Ain al Arab	3,500	0%	12%	Karama	5,625	-10%	-10%
Al-Hasakeh	5,000	NA	0%	Kisreh	6,250	0%	33%
Al-Malikeyyeh	6,175	25%	NA	Mansura	5,000	-20%	-43%
Al-Thawrah	7,375	0%	18%	Markada	6,250	NA	NA
Amuda	5,500	26%	76%	Menbij	2,500	0%	-20%
Areeshah	5,000	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	3,250*	-4%	4%
Ar-Raqqa	6,250	-17%	0%	Quamishli	3,125	-17%	-29%
Basira	6,250	0%	18%	Shadadah	7,500*	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	3,750*	20%	0%	Sur	6,250	0%	25%
Al-Wardeyyeh	3,125*	0%	0%	Susat	6,250	0%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	3,125*	0%	-29%	Tal Hmis	6,250	25%	67%
Ein Issa	7,500	100%	0%	Thiban	7,500	-25%	50%
Hajin	6,250	0%	11%	Ya'robiyah	2,500*	0%	0%
Hole	3,125*	0%	NA				

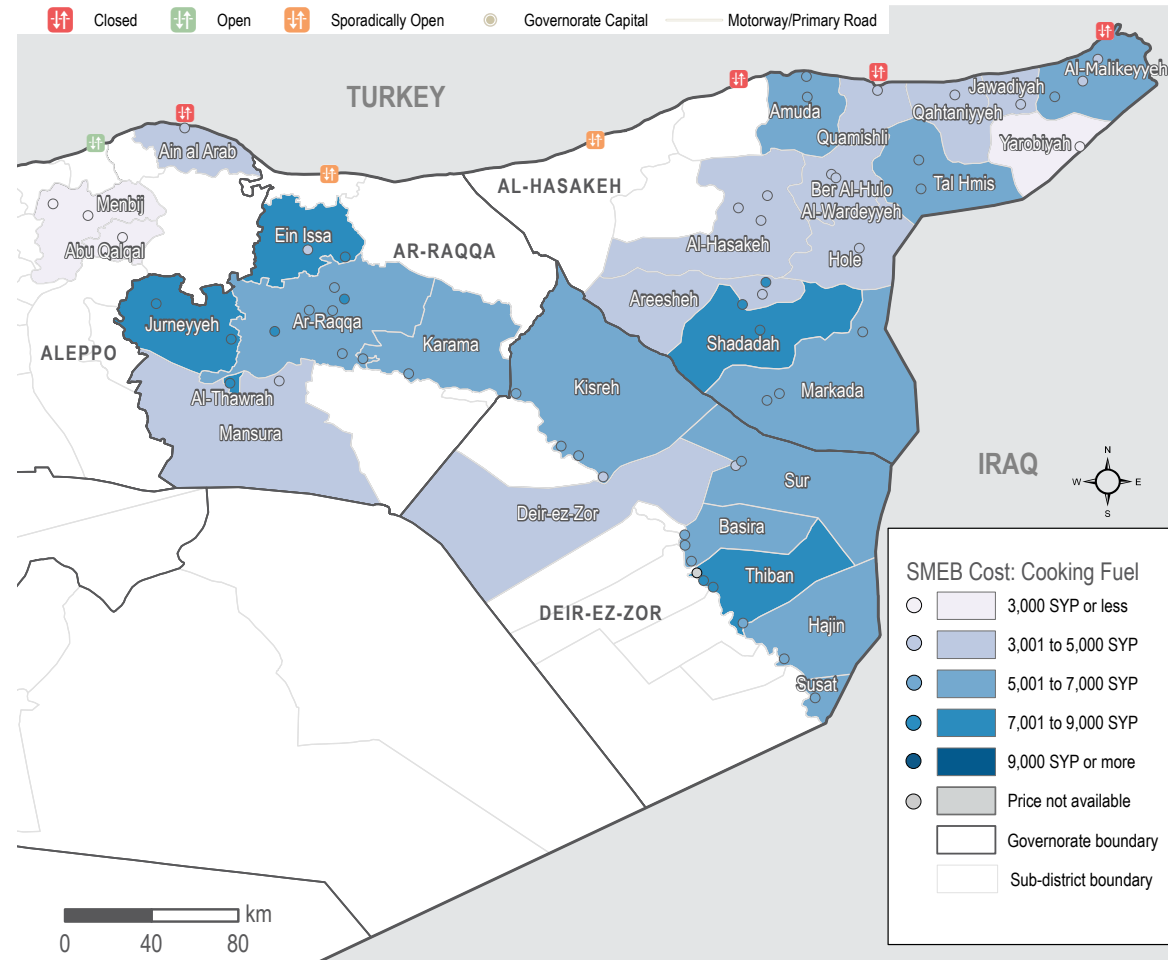
* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cooking fuels rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



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



MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

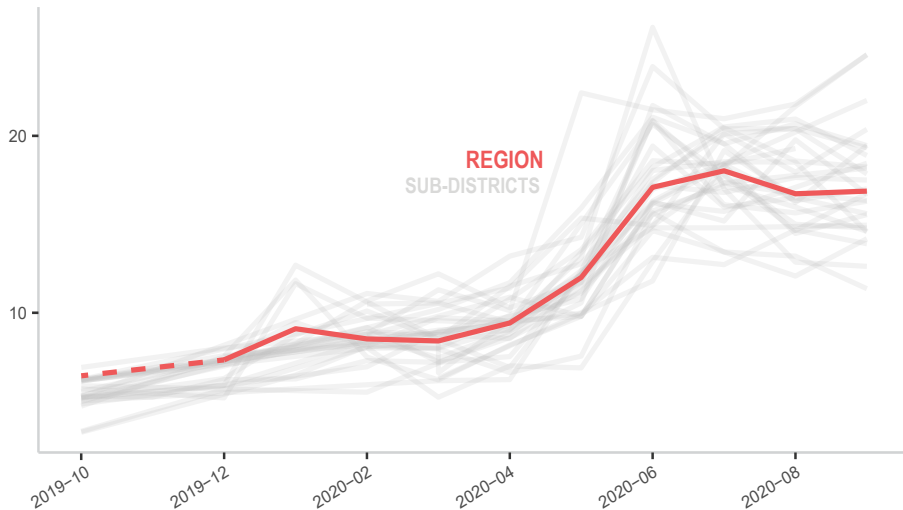
12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	16,875	-2%	100%	Jawadiyah	14,575*	-21%	NA
Abu Qalqal	13,901*	-5%	NA	Jurneyyeh	16,699	-16%	124%
Ain al Arab	15,600	-5%	117%	Karama	18,232	-2%	127%
Al-Hasakeh	16,750	14%	91%	Kisreh	16,350	-2%	34%
Al-Malikeyyeh	14,793	-1%	NA	Mansura	15,550	7%	197%
Al-Thawrah	11,361	-14%	43%	Markada	22,000	NA	NA
Amuda	17,000	4%	104%	Menbij	14,184	17%	129%
Areeshah	18,450	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	20,366*	13%	139%
Ar-Raqqqa	18,176	2%	87%	Quamishli	18,890	-10%	116%
Basira	19,459	20%	91%	Shadadah	14,950	NA	66%
Be'r Al-Hulo	14,600	-9%	96%	Sur	17,850	-13%	68%
Al-Wardeyyeh	14,600	-9%	96%	Susat	24,584	13%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	12,625*	-2%	20%	Tal Hmis	16,302*	4%	165%
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	19,450	-6%	169%
Hajin	24,584	13%	118%	Ya'robiyah	17,500	-1%	119%
Hole	19,325*	-5%	NA				

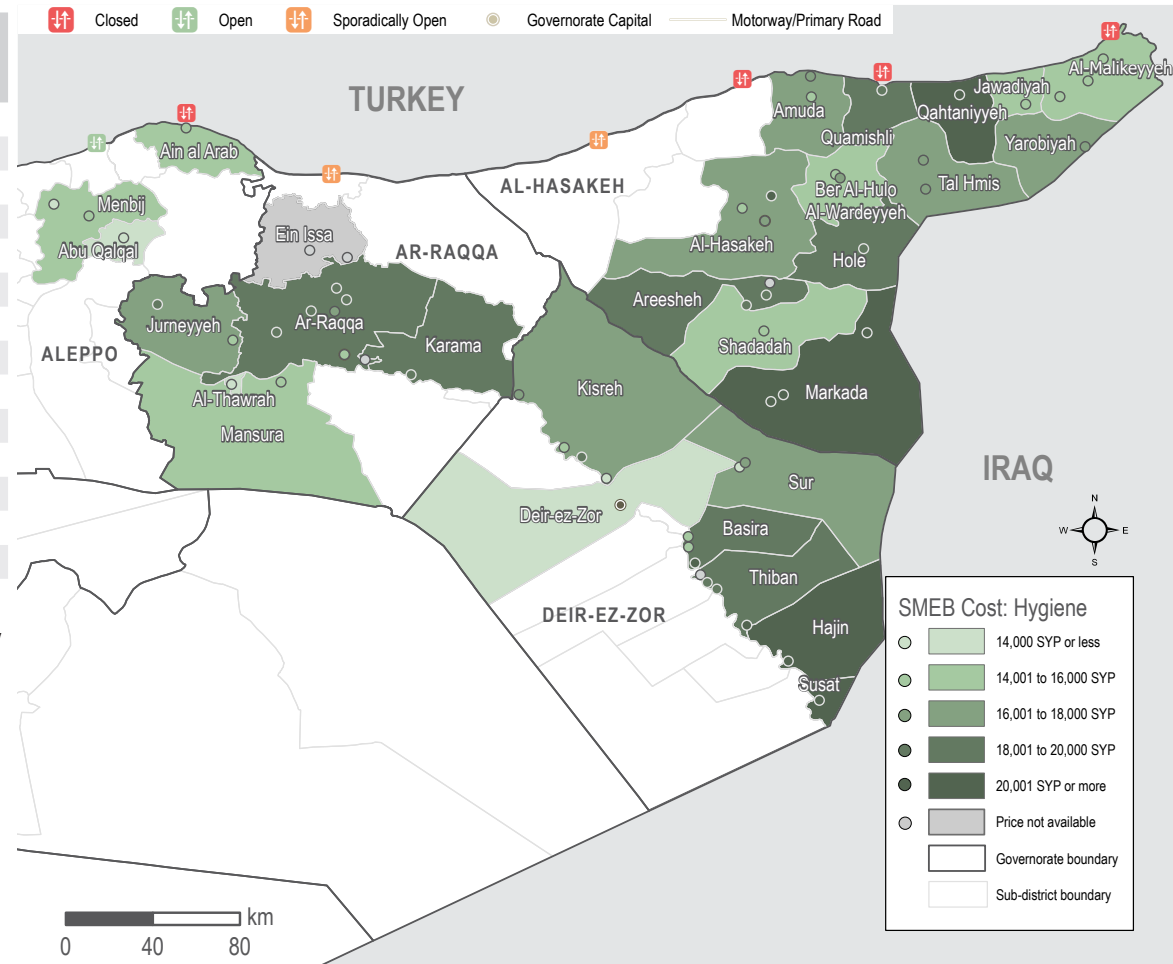
* For these sub-districts, all hygiene items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

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

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

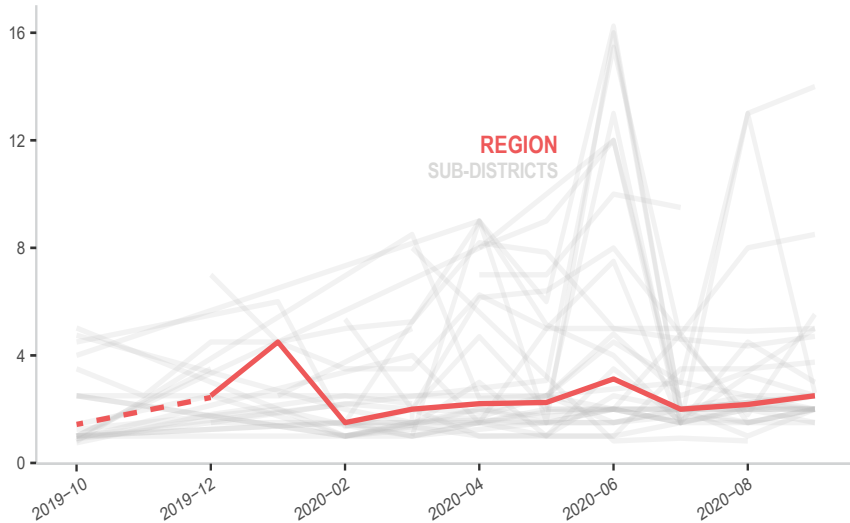
1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	11%	67%	Jawadiyah	14,000*	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal	5,530*	209%	NA	Jurneyyeh	5,000	47%	233%
Ain al Arab	5,000	2%	43%	Karama	2,000	100%	48%
Al-Hasakeh	2,500	NA	77%	Kisreh	2,000	-5%	100%
Al-Malikeyyeh	2,600	-80%	NA	Mansura	2,000	33%	0%
Al-Thawrah	8,500	6%	325%	Markada	2,500	NA	NA
Amuda	2,475	NA	148%	Menbij	4,710	8%	-10%
Areeshah	2,500	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	2,000	0%	-60%
Ar-Raqqqa	2,000	33%	33%	Quamishli	2,500	-23%	25%
Basira	2,000	-11%	-20%	Shadadah	1,500*	NA	-63%
Be'r Al-Hulo	14,000*	8%	536%	Sur	1,500	-25%	50%
Al-Wardeyyeh	14,000*	8%	536%	Susat	2,000*	0%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	3,000	-33%	114%	Tal Hmis	2,000	-20%	-76%
Ein Issa	2,000	33%	100%	Thiban	2,500	0%	67%
Hajin	2,000	0%	33%	Ya'robiyah	3,750	7%	150%
Hole	2,500*	25%	NA				

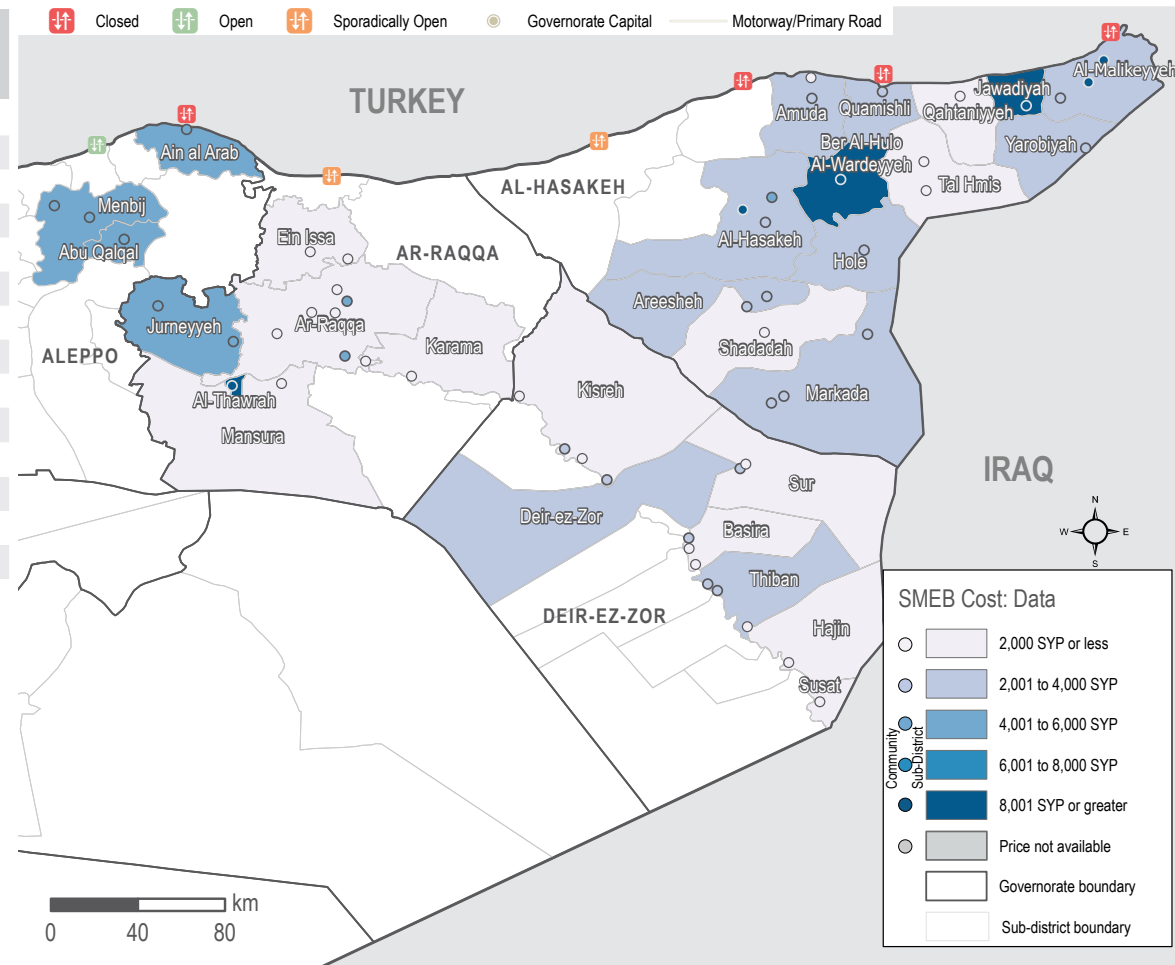
* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cellphone data rely on less than 3 observations.

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

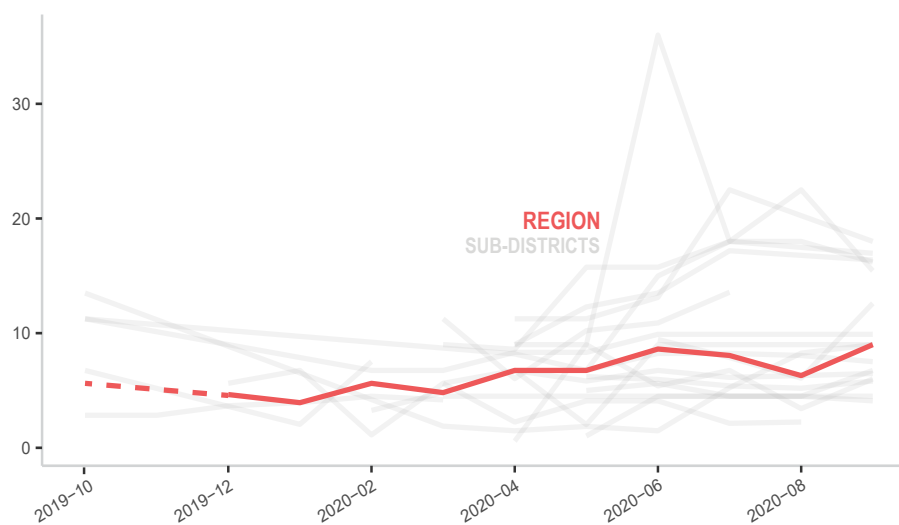
Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE 4,500L, Syrian Pounds

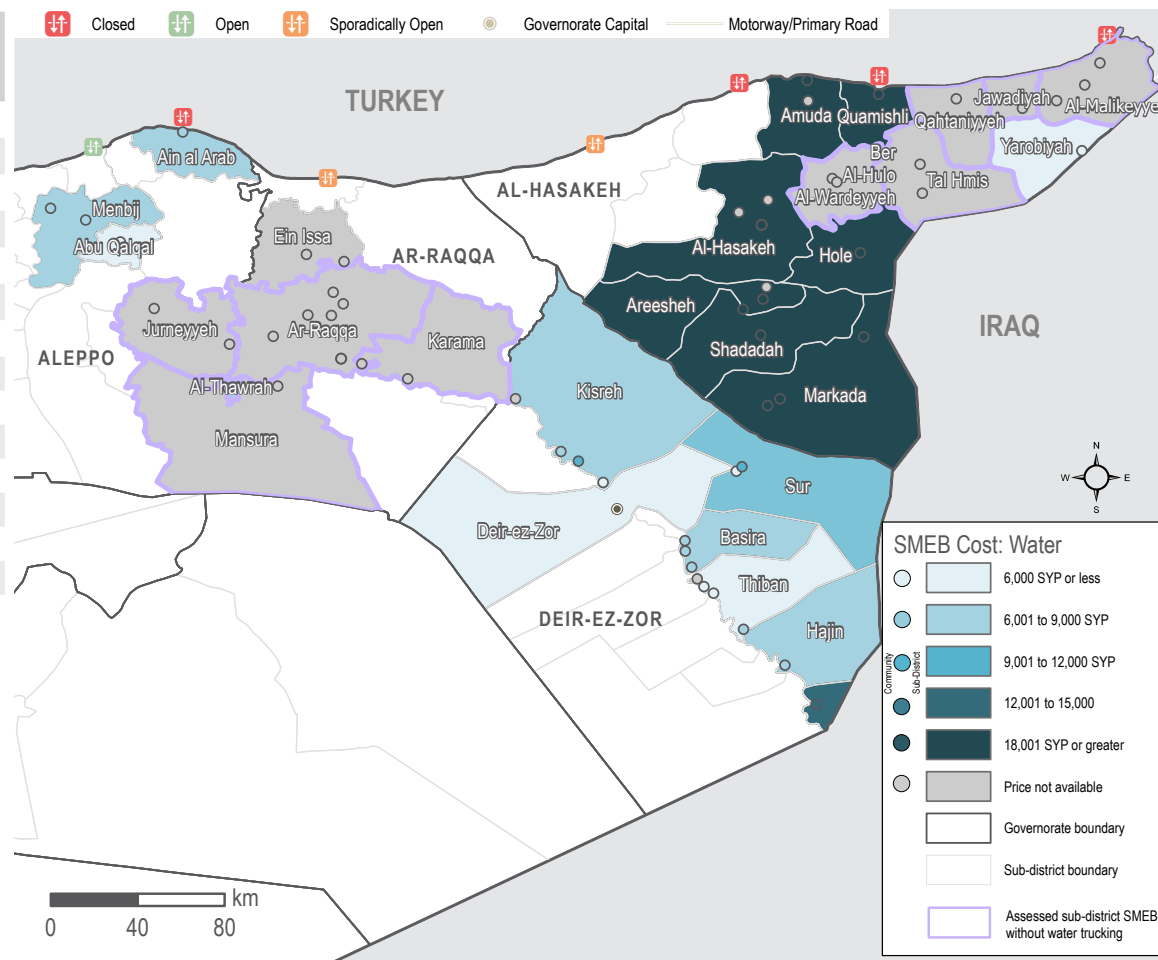
Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	9,000	43%	60%	Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal	5,828*	12%	NA	Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	6,750	50%	61%	Karama	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	16,875	NA	50%	Kisreh	6,008	76%	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	Mansura	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	7,515*	-7%	0%	Markada	16,965	NA	NA
Amuda	15,143*	NA	NA	Menbij	6,480	3%	15%
Areeshah	16,380	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqqa	NA	NA	NA	Quamishli	15,435	-31%	72%
Basira	9,000	9%	376%	Shadadah	18,000	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	NA	NA	NA	Sur	9,900*	0%	47%
Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	Susat	12,600*	107%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	4,500*	NA	NA	Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	4,500	0%	0%
Hajin	9,000	0%	NA	Ya'robiyah	4,095*	-9%	NA
Hole	16,200	-10%	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



MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

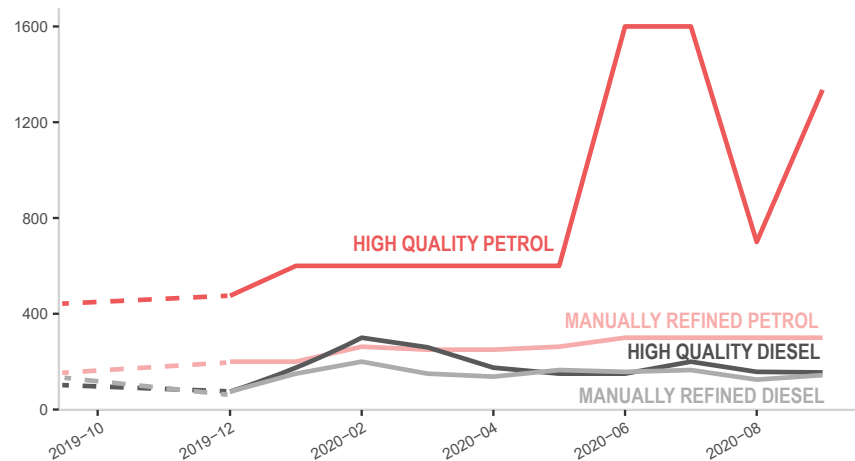
Diesel and Petrol, 1L (High Quality and Manually Refined), Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	335	10%	13%	Jawadiyah	88*	0%	NA
Abu Qalqal	168*	-73%	NA	Jurneyyeh	313	-4%	6%
Ain al Arab	557	-1%	78%	Karama	375	3%	2%
Al-Hasakeh	448	NA	16%	Kisreh	341	-25%	2%
Al-Malikeyyeh	260	-10%	NA	Mansura	793	11%	388%
Al-Thawrah	762	162%	158%	Markada	271	NA	NA
Amuda	313	4%	-2%	Menbij	548	-11%	158%
Areeshah	275	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh	88*	0%	-72%
Ar-Raqqa	534	132%	37%	Quamishli	484	199%	22%
Basira	260	-18%	4%	Shadadah	269*	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	419*	151%	196%	Sur	341	0%	9%
Al-Wardeyyeh	419*	151%	196%	Susat	291	0%	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	975*	NA	220%	Tal Hmis	319*	3%	264%
Ein Issa	335	-4%	22%	Thiban	541	-8%	83%
Hajin	291	0%	29%	Ya'robiyah	469*	213%	88%
Hole	150*	71%	NA				

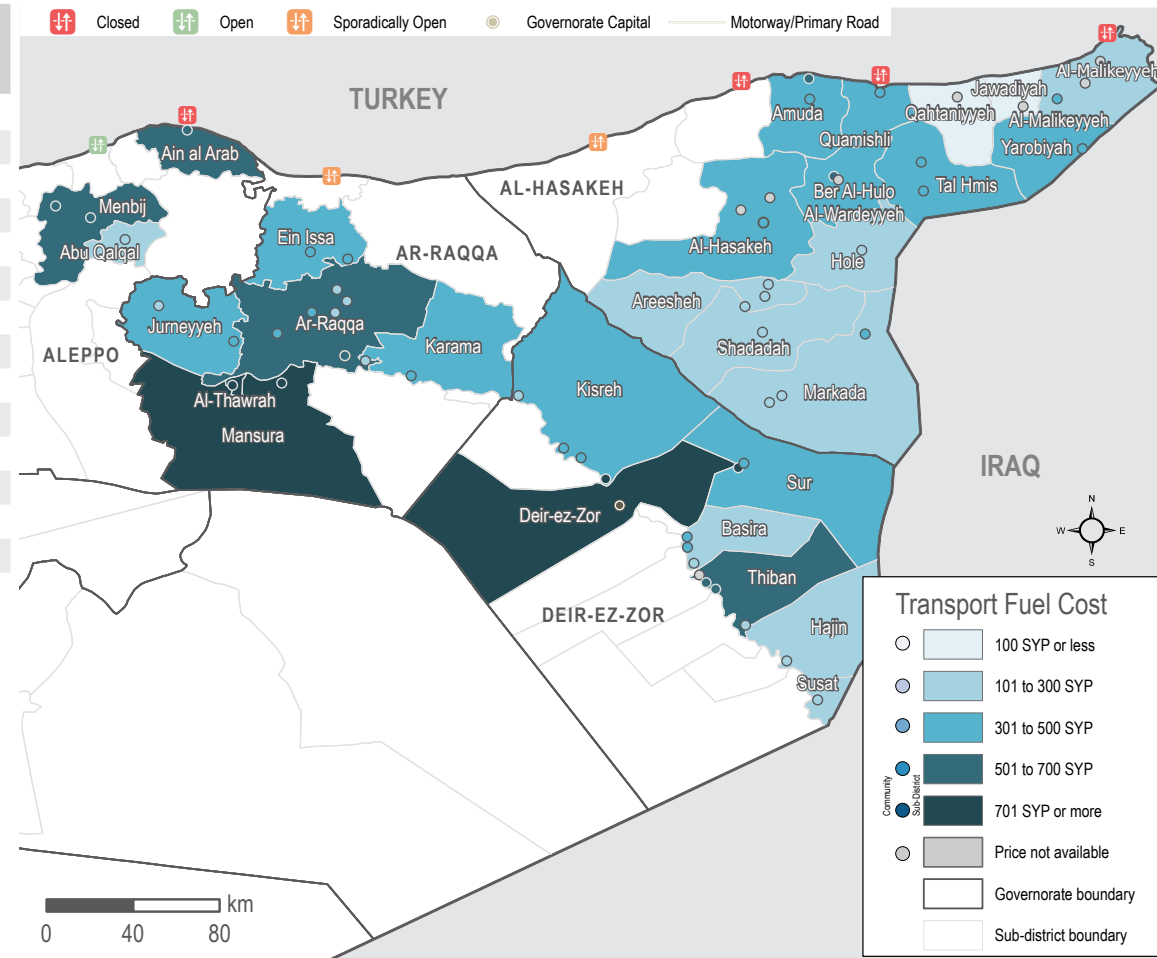
* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of medians for the items composing the transport fuel indicator rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 piece, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Jerrycan	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/ diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket
Northeast Syria	2,600	13,125	66,250	28,750	22,000	13,000	29,000	28,000	16,000
Abu Qalqal	NA**	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	2,500	8,000*	67,500	NA	21,500	16,500	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	12,750*	77,500	NA	22,500	12,850	19,000	20,500	14,000
Al-Maikeyyeh	15,000*	NA	90,000*	NA	25,000*	15,000*	40,000*	40,500*	30,000*
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	2,700	31,000*	75,000	31,000*	22,000	16,000	29,000	32,000	18,000
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Basira	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	50,000*	NA	23,000*	13,000*	18,000*	20,000*	15,000*
Deir-ez-Zor	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	70,000*	NA	20,000*	13,000*	35,000*	31,500*	17,500*
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	NA	NA	25,000*	NA	12,000*	10,000*	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mansura	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	2,500*	15,000*	21,000*	26,500*	14,500*	15,000*	14,500*	12,500*	7,500*
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	20,000*	NA	25,000*	15,000*	18,000*	18,000*	15,000*
Quamishli	2,500	13,500	65,000	31,000*	22,000	13,000	30,000	28,000	16,000
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Susat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	2,000*	5,750*	60,000*	23,000*	NA	12,500*	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	12,000*	NA	85,000*	NA	21,000*	11,000*	36,000*	30,000*	16,000*

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

** NA means data not available.

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 piece/pair, Syrian Pounds

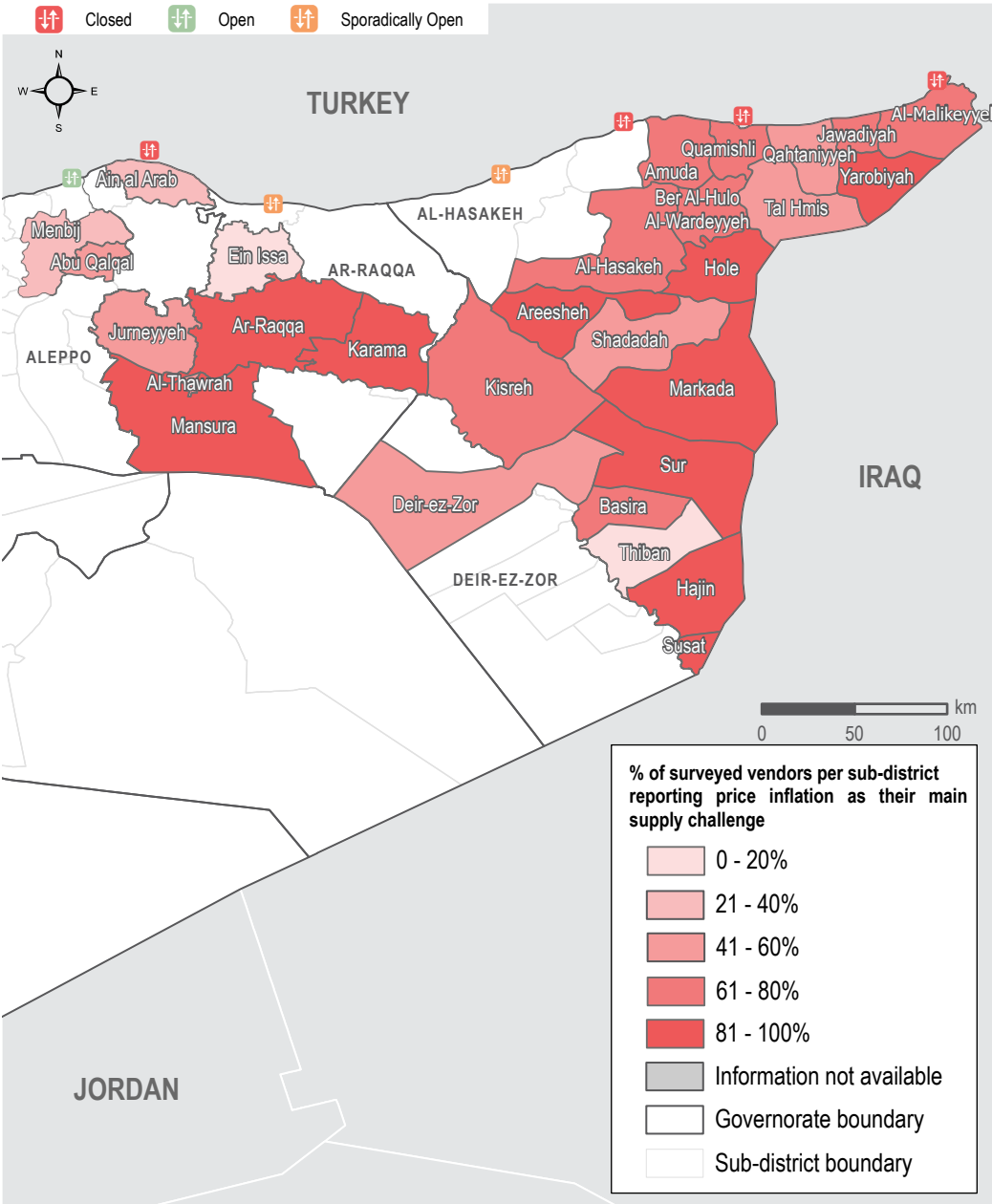
Sub-district	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots	Adult's hat	Children's hat	Solid fuel stove	Fire extinguisher	Fire blanket
Northeast Syria	9,500	9,500	5,250	2,750	1,800	45,000	15,000	9,500
Abu Qalqal	NA**	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	7,500*	5,000*	4,500*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	12,000	11,000	8,000	3,000	2,000	50,000*	NA	NA
Al-Maikeyyeh	9,000*	10,000*	5,500*	2,500*	1,500*	90,000*	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	17,000	17,000	8,500	4,000	1,800	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Basira	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	7,000*	8,500*	5,000*	2,000*	1,400*	40,000*	NA	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	2,750*	2,000*	40,000*	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mansura	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	8,000*	7,000*	3,500*	1,500*	1,200*	7,500*	15,000*	9,500*
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	3,000*	2,000*	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	18,000	17,000	11,000	5,000	2,500	NA	NA	NA
Ras Al Ain	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Susat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	10,000*	9,000*	4,000*	2,500*	1,500*	70,000*	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	10,000*	9,000*	4,000*	2,500*	1,500*	70,000*	NA	NA

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

** NA means data not available.

SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts



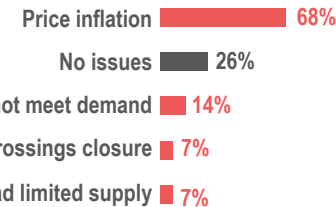
MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

In September, none of the surveyed vendors reported shop closure in Al-Hasakeh and Aleppo governorates. Meanwhile, 2% of surveyed vendors reported their shops were closed in Deir-ez-Zor governorate and 1% in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

SUPPLY CHALLENGES

While supply challenges reported by vendors were similar to last month's, the percentage of surveyed vendors reporting facing one or more supply challenge slightly decreased from 76% to 74% since August. As in the [August Market Monitoring Exercise](#), price inflation was the most commonly reported supply challenge, reported by 68% of total respondents. This underscores how critical of a supply challenge price inflation was for vendors and how it may negatively impact the availability of items. Furthermore, among all surveyed vendors, 14% reported that their supplies could not meet the existing demand, 7% reported that their supplier had limited supply and 7% that their supplies were affected by the closure of border crossings (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Top 5 most commonly reported supply challenges by surveyed vendor (1,290 respondents)*



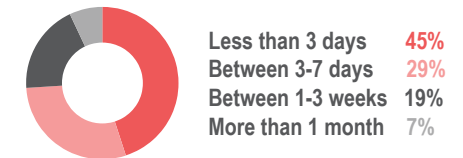
*Multiple answers allowed, thus findings may exceed 100%

RESTOCKING

In addition to the supply challenges reported earlier, 1% of the 1,290 surveyed vendors reported that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies. When looking at specific shop types, restocking challenges were reported by 3% of clothes, house goods and water surveyed vendors and 2% of gas and currency surveyed vendors. In Aleppo governorate, 2% of all surveyed vendors reported facing restocking challenges, with 20% of clothes vendors, 11% of gas vendors and 8% of food and non-food items vendors mentioning they would be unable to restock

if they were to run out of supplies. Vendors were also asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supplies were to be cut. Forty-five percent (45%) of respondents said that they would run out of supplies in less than 3 days and 29% in 3 to 7 days (see figure 2). Across shop types, butchers, water and vegetables vendors reported they would run out of supplies the fastest.

Figure 2: Reported number of days before all types of vendors would hypothetically run out of stock, if supply lines were to be cut (1,290 respondents)



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

In September, informal currency exchange vendors were also asked about their stock situation of USD banknotes. Across NES, 97% of the 130 surveyed currency vendors reported having limited stock of one or more denomination. Specifically, in Aleppo and Al-Hasakeh governorates, all currency vendor respondents reported having a limited USD banknote stock. By banknote denomination, vendors most commonly reported limited supply of the 50 USD banknote (68% of surveyed vendors), followed by the 100 USD banknote and by the 20 USD banknote (60% and 45%, respectively).



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	450	17,250	5,750	4,000	1,500	3,000
Abu Qalqal	400	14,000	4,000	8,125	1,778	2,350
Ain al Arab	375	17,500	8,750	3,500	1,200	3,250
Al-Hasakeh	650	18,750	5,000	4,000	1,600	3,500
Al-Malikeyyeh	15,000	21,250	1,500	4,515	1,700	4,000
Al-Thawrah	350	17,000	7,000	1,000	1,333	3,200
Amuda	550	16,500	8,000	3,450	1,000	3,200
Areeshah	400	22,500	5,000	5,000	1,200	2,000
Ar-Raqqqa	400	15,000	7,000	5,000	1,450	3,000
Basira	520	15,850	2,000	2,100	1,500	2,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	15,000*	18,750*	1,150*	6,750*	1,650	3,000*
Deir-ez-Zor	400*	14,500*	3,750*	1,500*	1,350*	4,750*
Ein Issa	300	21,750	7,500	6,250*	1,429	NA
Hajin	500	20,000	6,000	2,000	1,000	2,500
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,350*	1,950*
Jawadiyah	16,000*	22,000*	1,000*	7,800*	1,800	4,000*
Jurneyyeh	375	18,500	6,750	4,750	1,500	3,100
Karama	400	15,000	1,077	5,000	1,100	3,000
Kisreh	400	15,000	5,500	1,800	1,000	2,160
Mansura	500	20,000	8,750	5,000	1,500	3,000*
Markada	400	17,500	6,000	3,750	1,800	NA
Menbij	400	14,000	4,500	7,375	1,700	2,400
Qahtaniyyeh	300	12,000	7,000	7,125	1,500	3,000*
Quamishli	575	19,000	9,250	2,650	1,100	3,400
Ras Al Ain	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	450*	12,250*	1,550*	1,200*	1,500*	1,575*
Sur	450*	17,000*	6,000*	2,500*	1,500	NA
Susat	500	20,000	6,000	3,500	1,000	2,500
Tal Hmis	520	15,225	2,050	2,000	2,113*	NA
Thiban	500	6,500	7,500	4,000	1,750	2,400
Ya'robiyah	14,750*	21,250*	1,000*	7,750*	1,550*	3,500*

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



AVAILABILITY OF COVID-19 ITEMS

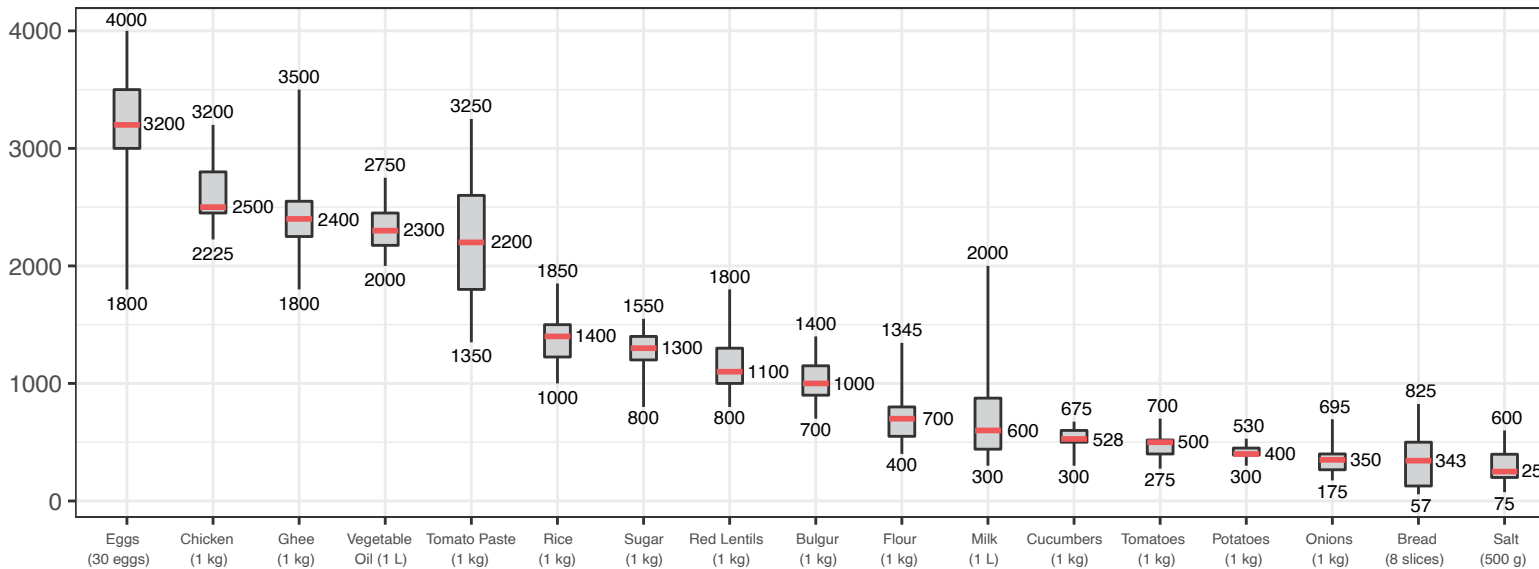
Northeast Syria

In September, most of the monitored COVID-19 items were reported as widely available across northeast Syria. The regional median prices of face masks and plastic gloves increased by 6% and 15%, respectively, since August. The regional median price of sterile alcohol decreased by 8% since August. These three items were reported available in all assessed communities.

Hand sanitiser, bottled bleach, and trash bags median prices remained stable since August, and were reportedly available in the assessed communities by 99%, 97% and 92% of surveyed vendors, respectively.

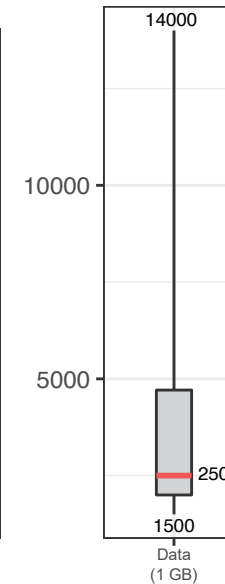
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



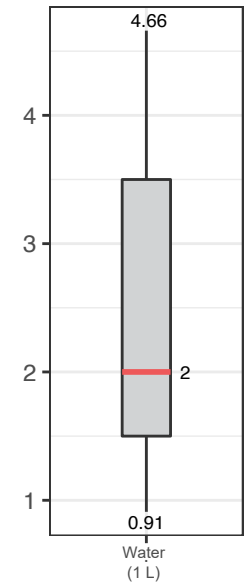
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



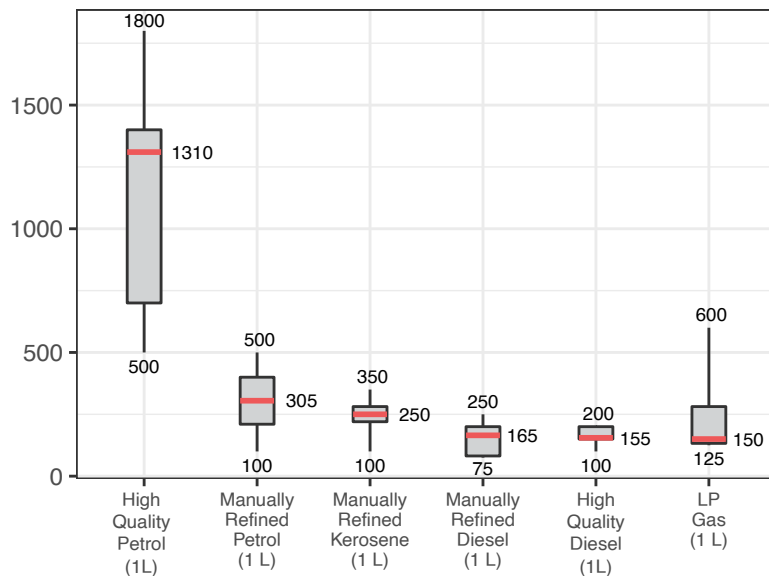
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



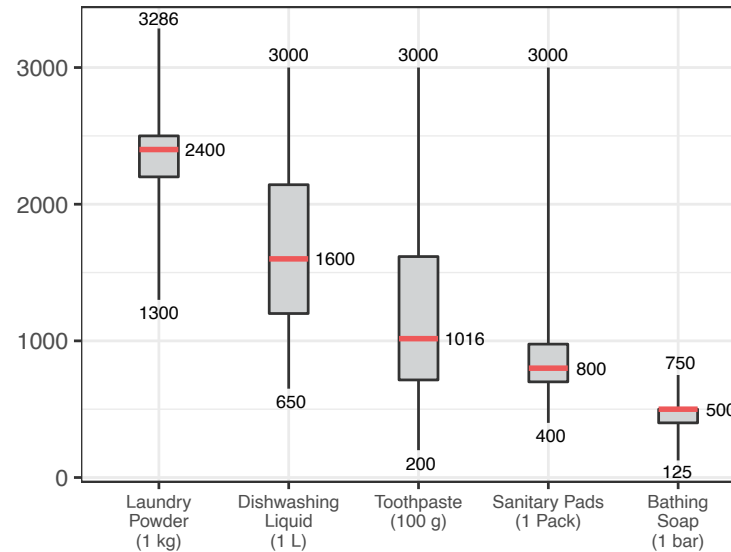
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

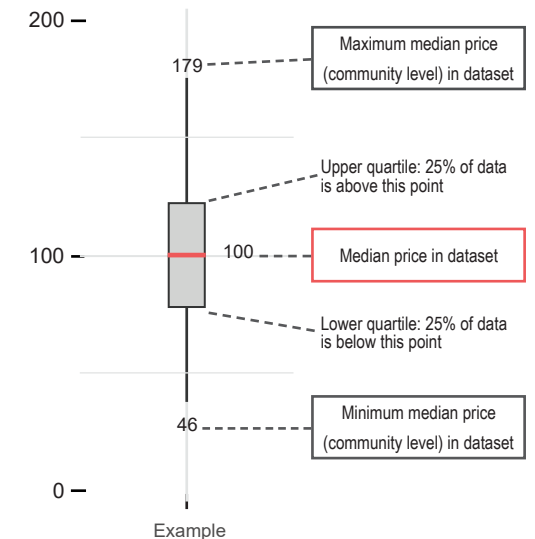


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

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 September 2020 significantly increased (from 9 assessed sub-districts to 30 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. Because 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 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 for further information.