

SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 10-17 February 2020

Cash-Based Responses
Technical Working Group

REACH Informing
more effective
humanitarian action

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash programming, REACH, in partnership with the Cash-Based Responses Technical Working Group (CBR-TWG), 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 was collected this month (between 10-17 February 2020) by CARE Shafak, GOAL, REACH, Ihsan, and Solidarités International (SI).

The accompanying [data from the month of February](#) is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community.

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

Highest northwest SMEB cost recorded

This month, REACH and partners covered 30 sub-districts in northwest Syria for the Market Monitoring Exercise, including 1,922 individual shops. The SMEB cost increased by 6% from 106,563 Syrian Pounds (SYP) in January to 111,964 SYP in February 2020, resetting the highest price recorded for the fourth time in a row since November 2019. The SMEB cost in United States Dollar (USD) increased by 4% from 104 USD to 108 USD.

Continued depreciation of the SYP against the USD

The regional median of the informal USD/SYP exchange rate continued to show an upward trend, increasing by 2% from 1,024 to 1,043 SYP against 1 USD this month. This depreciation slowed down compared to previous months where it increased by 22% in January 2020 and by 23% in December 2019. [This depreciation is likely due to the financial crisis in neighbouring Lebanon and international economic sanctions on Syria.](#)

Fuel widely unavailable across region

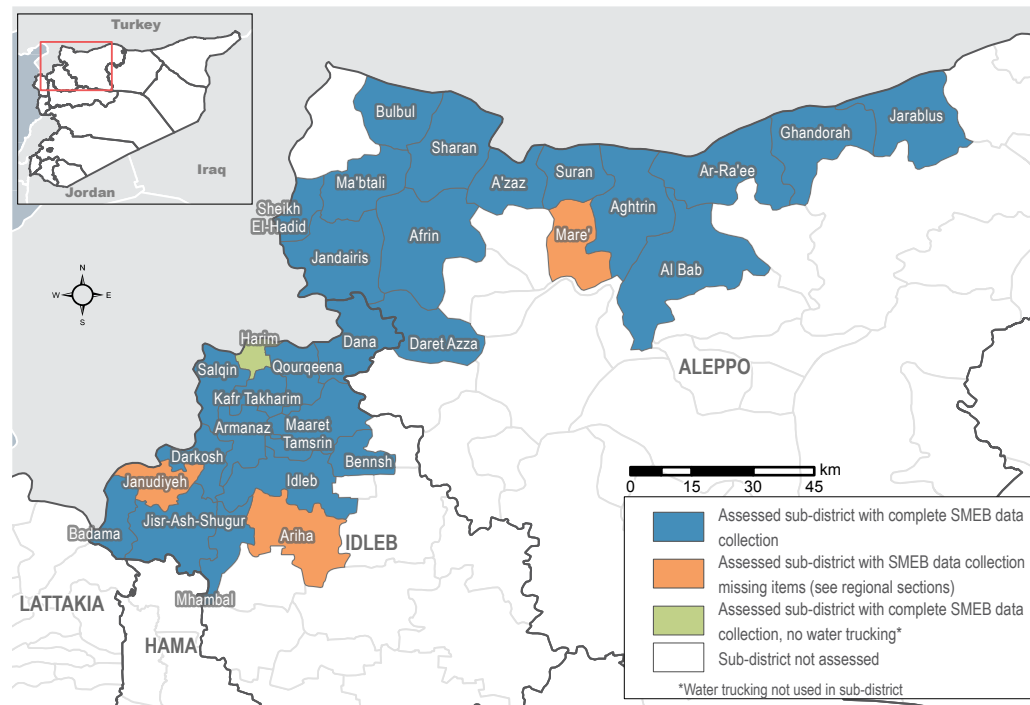
KIs reported a paucity of different types of fuel. Conflict escalation in the northwest has affected access to several sub-districts within the district of Idlib, making it both difficult and expensive to import fuel. Markets in half of the assessed sub-districts reported unavailability of all types of transport fuels. High quality petrol and diesel were reportedly the least available transport fuels (reported unavailable in markets in 84% of assessed sub-districts), followed by manually-refined petrol and diesel (reported unavailable in markets in 57% of assessed sub-districts). The unavailability and inflation of transport fuel also has a major impact on prices of imported goods in the region. Manually refined kerosene—used for heaters and cooking fuel—was also reportedly unavailable in 77% of assessed sub-districts in February 2020. [Recent Emergency Needs Tracking](#) findings show that the most commonly reported needs of newly-arrived IDPs in both northern Aleppo and Idlib governorates were heating and

cooking fuel. Continued high demands despite low availability may further drive up prices and lead to an increase in winterisation needs.

Price of bread greatly increased

The median prices of bread and flour increased by 30% and 14%, respectively, at the regional level. These increases are reportedly due to increase in demand from newly-arrived IDPs and the depreciation of the SYP. Field teams reported that bread is also largely imported from Turkey, purchased in USD or Turkish Lira, and then sold at higher prices in SYP to anticipate USD/SYP depreciation and cover losses. In the sub-district of Idlib, the median price of bread increased by 45%. Enumerators reported that a significant number of aid organisations that distribute bread and flour in the sub-district of Idlib have left and moved towards northern Aleppo, anticipating the movement of IDPs. This may explain the significant increase of bread prices in Idlib sub-district.

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

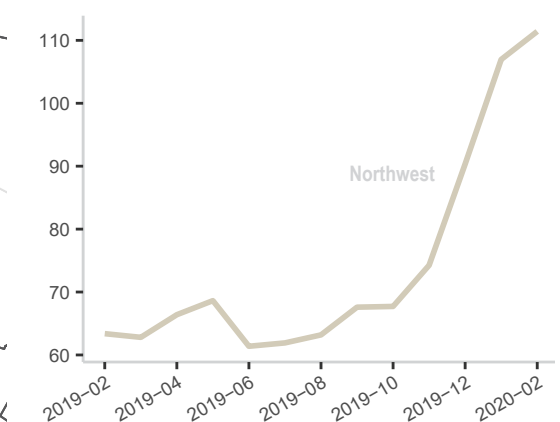


MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

111,416 SYP (107 USD)
NORTHWEST SYRIA - NORTHERN HAMA, IDLEB, WESTERN & NORTHERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH & REGION

Thousand Syrian Pounds



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

111,416 SYP
(107 USD)

NORTHWEST SYRIA - NORTHERN HAMA, IDLEB, WESTERN & NORTHERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

Baby formula prices varied across sub-districts

The median price of baby formula witnessed large increases in certain sub-districts such as Harim and Jisr-Ash-Shugur where prices increased by 150%, reaching 8,750 SYP and 3,000 SYP, respectively. Baby formula increased in price by 99% in the sub-district of A'zaz which has experienced significant numbers of IDP arrivals recently, which has likely led to an increase in demand. These increases were also reportedly due to the depreciation of the SYP. On the other hand, baby formula prices decreased by 64% in the sub-district of Darkosh and by 49% in the sub-districts of Aghtrin and Suran.

Winterisation items increased; unavailability reported in some locations

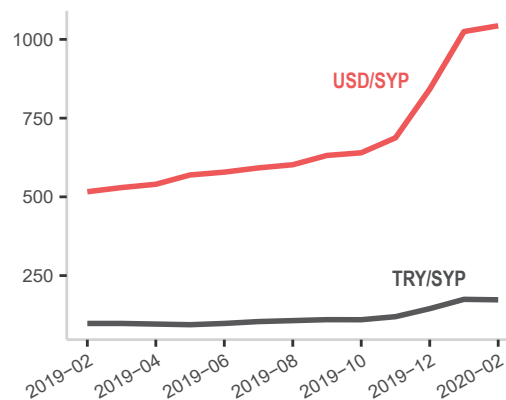
The median regional price of winter blankets increased by 22% due to the increase in demand from arriving IDP communities, the increasing cost of importation from Turkey, and the likely compounding need due to the limited availability of heating fuel. Inflation of winter

blankets reached 67% in the sub-district of Sheikh El-Hadid, and reached 58% in the sub-district of Kafr Takharim. In Ma'bтали sub-district, all winter items (except for firewood) were reported to be unavailable, which reportedly forced civilians from this subdistrict to travel to Afrin to purchase winter items.

SMEB food component value increased – especially vegetables

At a regional level, the SMEB food component value increased by 7%, reaching 75,438 SYP. In particular, SMEB fresh vegetables (i.e. tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, and onions) increased by 15% in one month. The highest increase was recorded in the sub-district of Ariha where the SMEB vegetables component value increased by 36%. The field team reported that agricultural activities decreased in Idleb governorate because seeds and pesticides were extremely expensive. Therefore, most vegetables were reportedly imported from Turkey and were sold at these high prices.

EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH & CURRENCY



MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES*

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	111,964	6%	66%
Afrin	113,239	23%	47%
Aghtrin	94,512	-4%	40%
Al Bab	107,441	5%	71%
Ariha	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	114,696	2%	69%
Ar-Ra'ee	102,243	2%	61%
A'zaz	116,040	6%	64%
Badama	111,663	1%	NA
Bennsh	109,016	10%	60%
Bulbul	112,265	2%	89%
Dana	113,342	3%	77%
Daret Azza	122,917	15%	76%
Darkosh	119,277	6%	NA
Ghandorah	95,359	1%	60%
Harim**	107,269	-3%	NA
Idleb	106,842	2%	55%
Jandairis	103,791	0%	58%
Janudiyeh	NA	NA	NA
Jarablus	101,269	-1%	53%

* For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included.

** SMEB calculated without water trucking component.

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	107,995	8%	68%
Kafr Takharim	113,228	2%	59%
Maaret Tamsrin	112,703	6%	76%
Ma'bтали	122,429	20%	74%
Mare'	NA	NA	NA
Mhambal	113,377	11%	53%
Qourqeena	115,011	7%	NA
Salqin	109,749	1%	59%
Sharan	104,745	10%	62%
Sheikh El-Hadid	121,733	7%	56%
Suran	106,271	-1%	61%

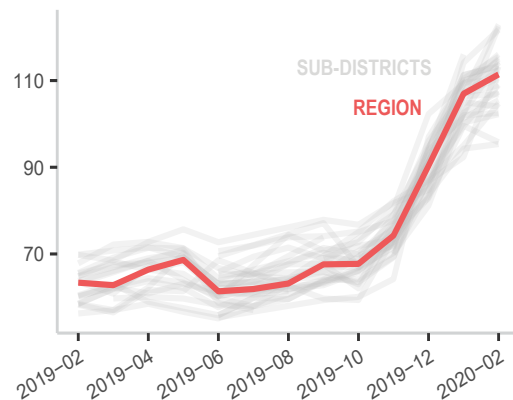
SUB-DISTRICTS WITH INCOMPLETE SMEB IN FEBRUARY

SUB-DISTRICT	MISSING ITEMS
Janudiyeh	Cucumber, toothpaste, liquefied petroleum, gas (LP gas)
Mare'	Toothpaste, manually refined kerosene
Ariha	Bread, manually refined kerosene

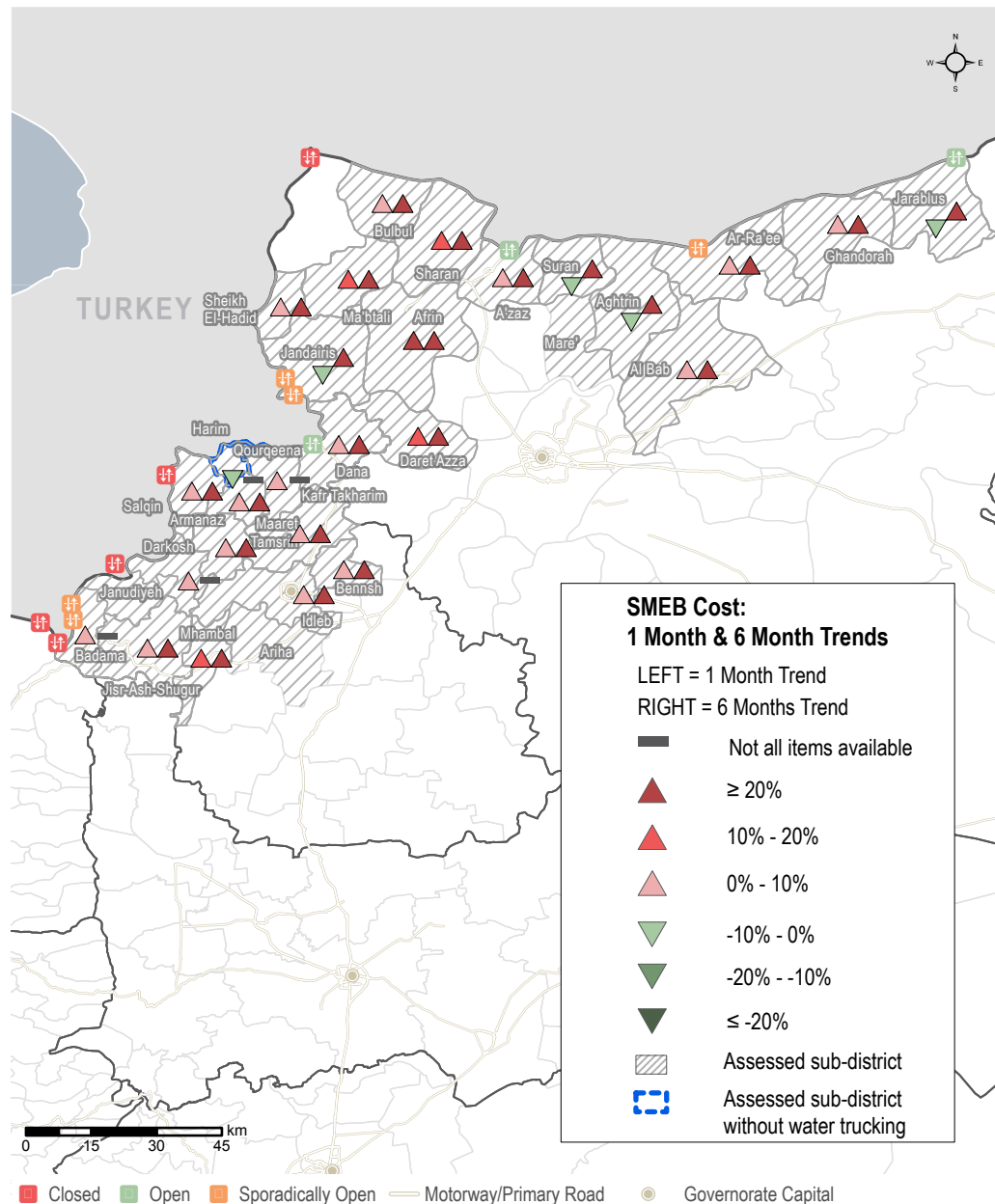
Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH

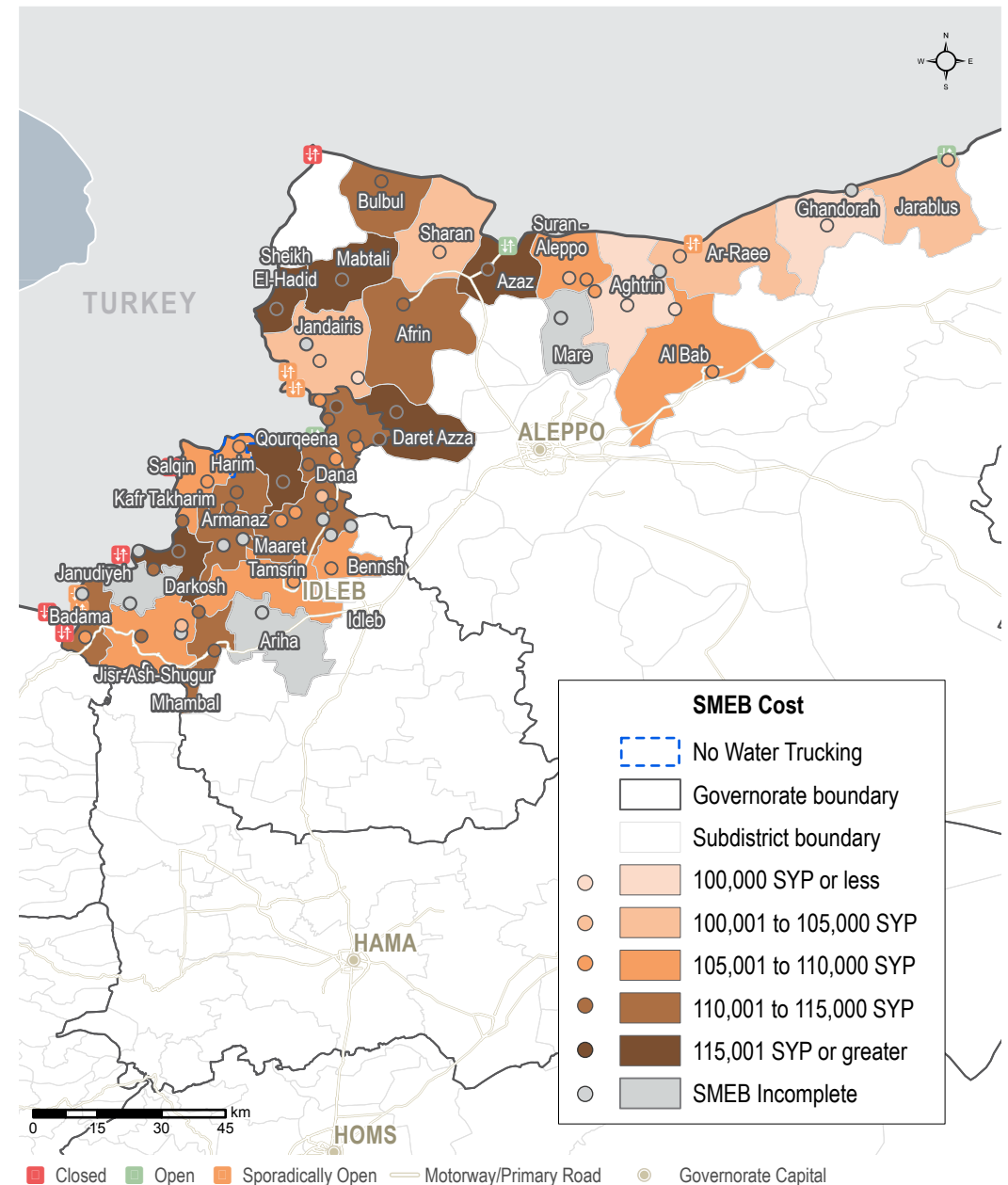
Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND



SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES



NORTHWEST SYRIA - SMEB FOOD ITEMS

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

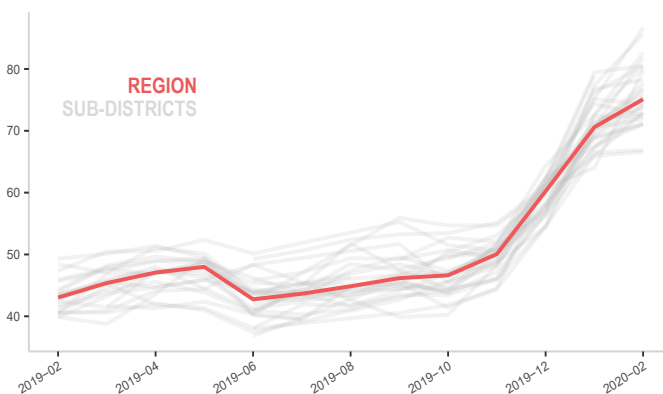
See Page 1, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	75,438	7%	64%
Afrin	79,800	25%	54%
Aghtrin	65,675	-1%	44%
Al Bab	75,100	7%	69%
Ariha	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	75,598	3%	57%
Ar-Ra'ee	71,950	2%	69%
A'zaz	82,650	14%	74%
Badama	72,339	5%	NA
Bennsh	76,615	9%	63%
Bulbul	71,193	3%	76%
Dana	73,553	5%	64%
Daret Azza	86,688	16%	86%
Darkosh	83,290	14%	NA
Ghandorah	66,598	1%	67%
Harim	72,500	-3%	NA
Idleb	72,275	1%	52%
Jandairis	74,250	-2%	65%
Janudiyeh	74,090	10%	NA
Jarablus	69,673	3%	55%

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	75,665	18%	71%
Kafr Takharim	80,558	1%	63%
Maaret Tamsrin	73,160	10%	69%
Ma'bтали	81,900	16%	69%
Mare'	80,500	6%	44%
Mhambal	77,321	10%	45%
Qourqeena	76,890	9%	68%
Salqin	77,370	0%	55%
Sharan	72,903	11%	61%
Sheikh El-Hadid	85,615	11%	55%
Suran	75,438	5%	63%

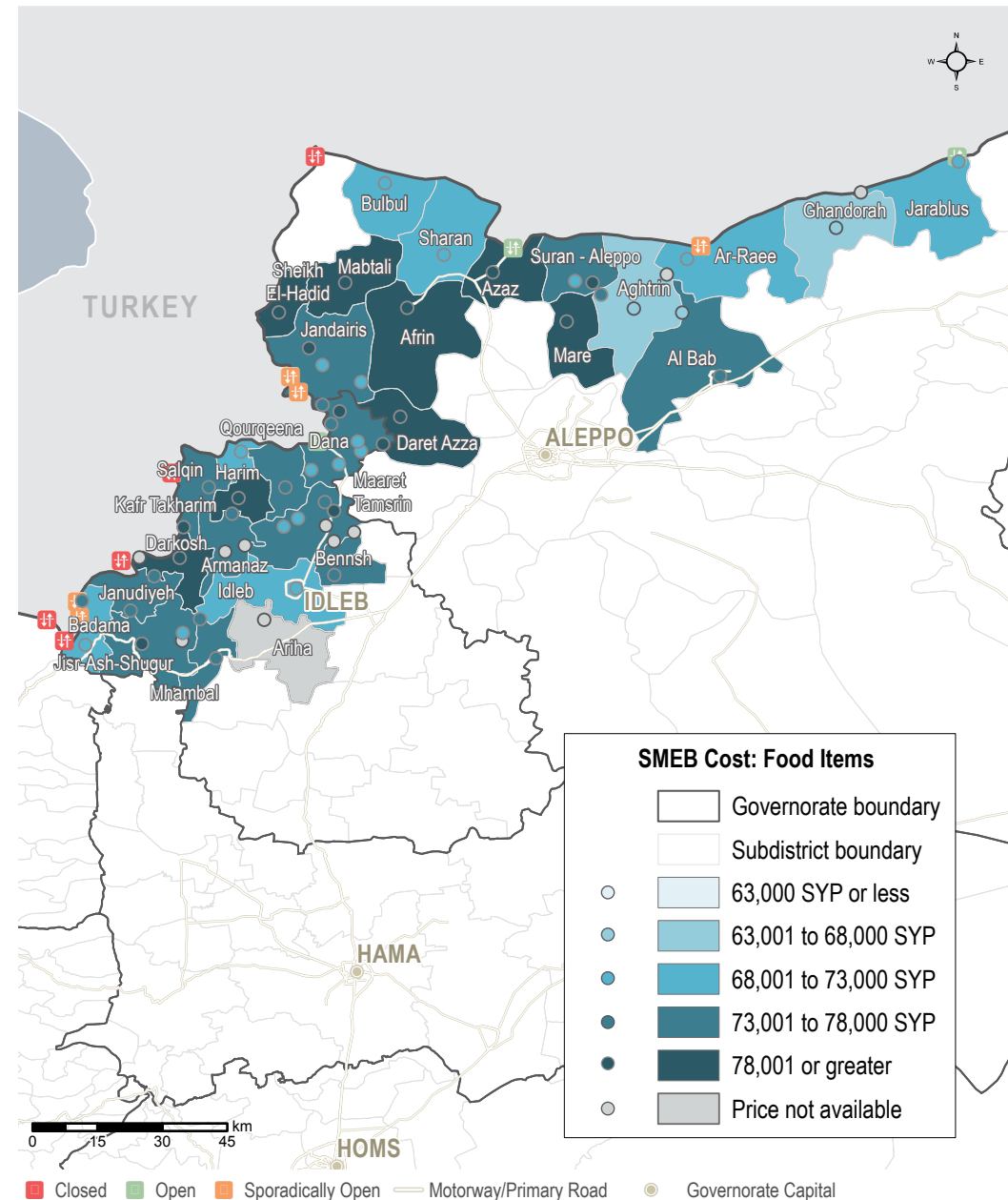
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Region (red) and Sub-districts (grey), Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - SMEB COOKING FUEL

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

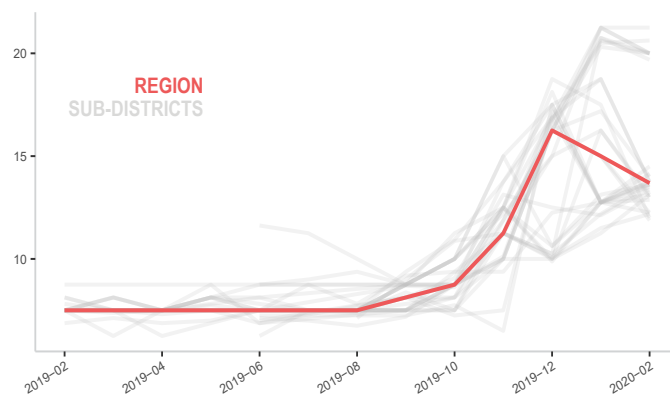
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	13,688	-12%	68%
Afrin	13,125	17%	62%
Aghtrin	12,000	-20%	60%
Al Bab	12,250	-4%	63%
Ariha	14,000	-19%	60%
Armanaz	20,000	-3%	146%
Ar-Ra'ee	12,188	6%	40%
A'zaz	12,000	-31%	48%
Badama	19,063	-9%	135%
Bennsh	13,625	12%	48%
Bulbul	20,625	1%	154%
Dana	20,000	-3%	167%
Daret Azza	14,500	14%	66%
Darkosh	13,750	-27%	57%
Ghandorah	12,875	1%	72%
Harim	20,000	-6%	NA
Idleb	13,125	3%	50%
Jandairis	13,500	6%	80%
Janudiyeh	20,000	-4%	NA
Jarablus	12,938	-20%	73%

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	13,750	-27%	50%
Kafr Takharim	13,375	10%	65%
Maaret Tamsrin	20,000	-6%	139%
Ma'bтали	13,125	-19%	50%
Mare'	13,750	8%	90%
Mhambal	14,063	10%	61%
Qourqeena	21,250	0%	143%
Salqin	13,750	8%	91%
Sharan	13,625	7%	56%
Sheikh El-Hadid	13,625	4%	56%
Suran	12,781	-29%	70%

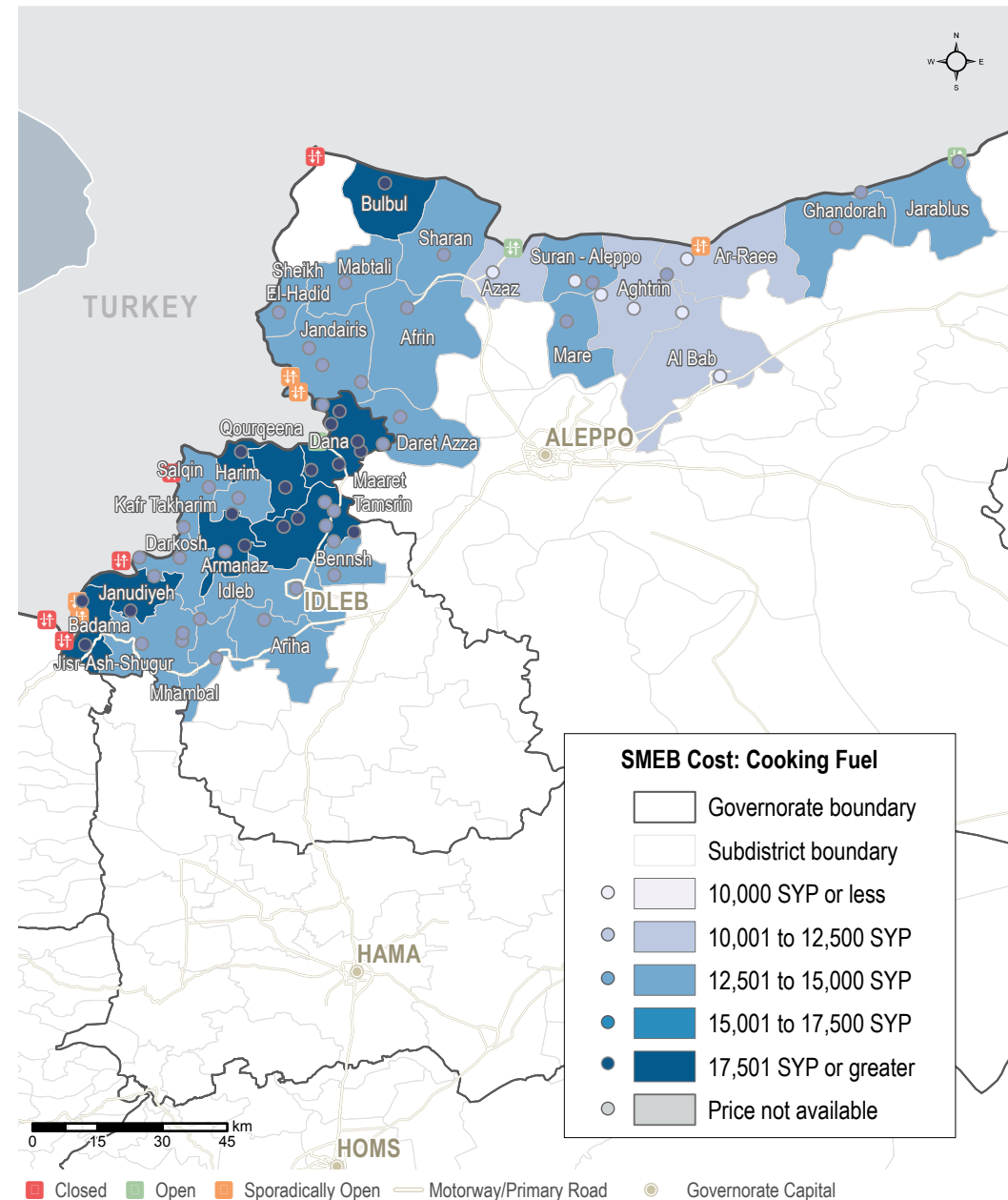
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Region (red) and Sub-districts (grey), Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - SMEB WATER TRUCKING

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

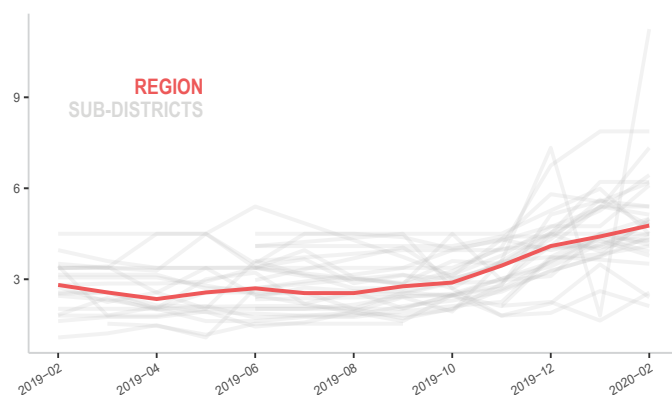
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water Truck	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	4,635	7%	67%
Afrin	6,188	11%	66%
Aghtrin	4,635	-14%	14%
Al Bab	6,210	0%	84%
Ariha	6,435	22%	180%
Armanaz	4,275	6%	111%
Ar-Ra'ee	5,400	0%	60%
A'zaz	6,098	28%	39%
Badama	4,905	2%	9%
Bennsh	4,995	33%	178%
Bulbul	5,400	-3%	122%
Dana	4,500	10%	82%
Daret Azza	4,410	18%	96%
Darkosh	5,265	-6%	208%
Ghandorah	3,780	-12%	-5%
Harim	NA	NA	NA
Idleb	7,875	0%	178%
Jandairis	2,408	-3%	-47%
Janudiyeh	4,500	0%	NA
Jarablus	5,198	-4%	27%

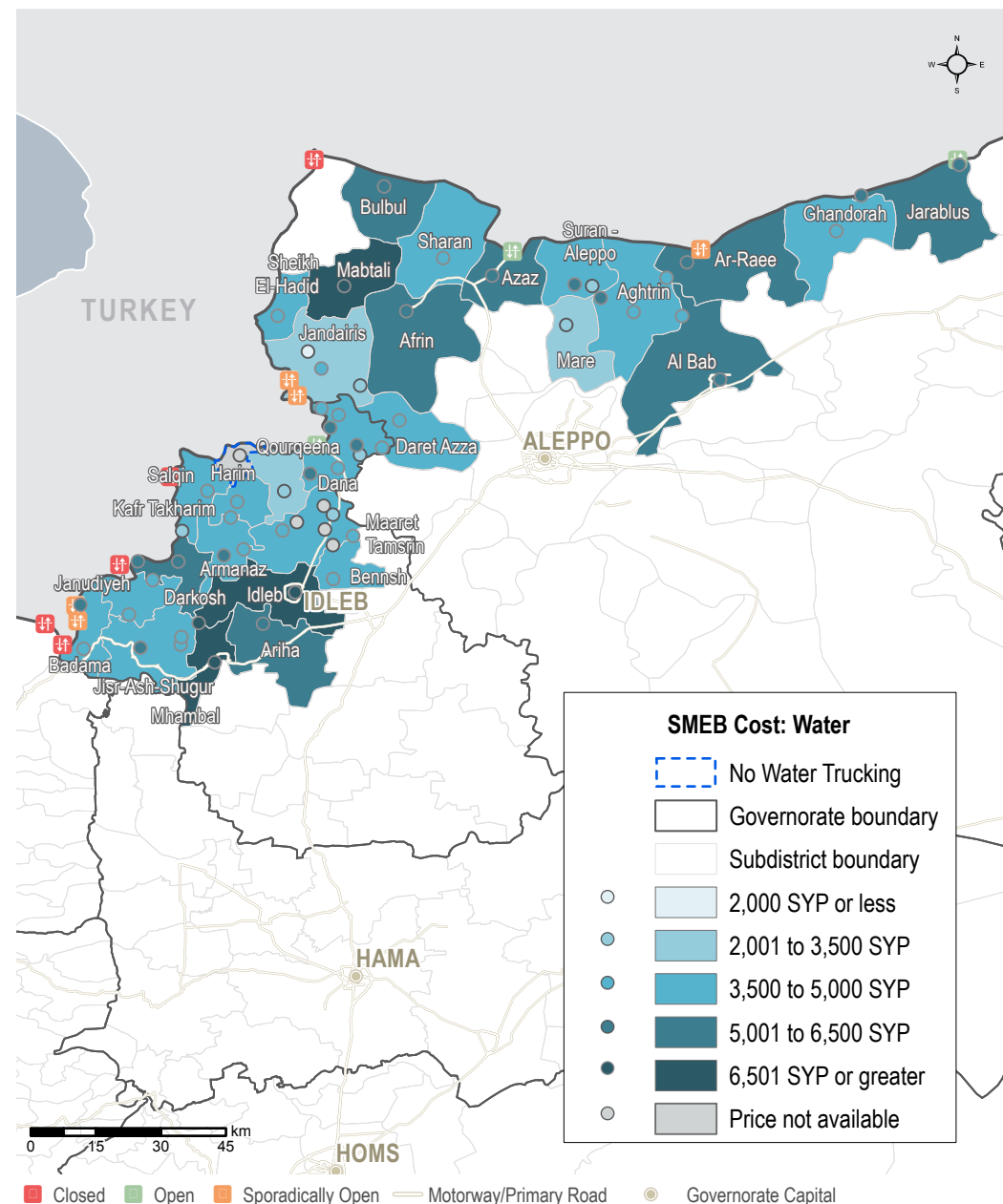
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - SMEB CELLPHONE DATA

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

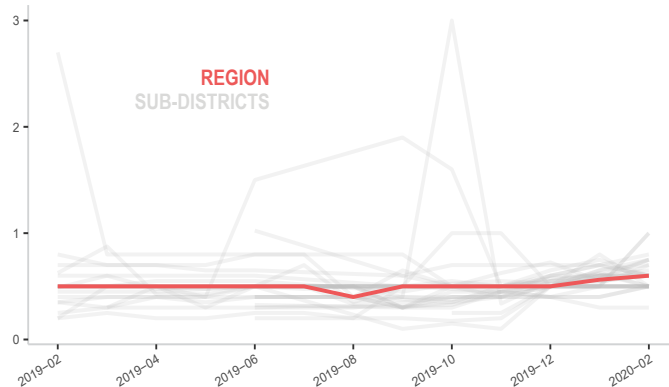
1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data (1GB)	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	600	7%	25%
Afrin	650	8%	-67%
Aghtrin	500	0%	-17%
Al Bab	600	0%	20%
Ariha	600	-14%	60%
Armanaz	500	0%	67%
Ar-Ra'ee	500	-38%	-38%
A'zaz	600	9%	-8%
Badama	575	0%	44%
Bennsh	500	25%	0%
Bulbul	600	-20%	100%
Dana	600	-14%	100%
Daret Azza	500	0%	25%
Darkosh	1000	100%	100%
Ghandorah	500	0%	0%
Harim	700	8%	NA
Idleb	500	0%	67%
Jandairis	750	20%	275%
Janudiyeh	500	0%	NA
Jarablus	500	0%	0%

Sub-district	SMEB Data (1GB)	One month change	Six month change
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	925	76%	92%
Kafr Takharim	500	-18%	0%
Maaret Tamsrin	600	0%	20%
Ma'btali	800	14%	33%
Mare'	750	15%	650%
Mhambal	300	0%	-4%
Qourqeena	600	9%	50%
Salqin	750	25%	88%
Sharan	700	33%	56%
Sheikh El-Hadid	500	0%	0%
Suran	650	-7%	37%

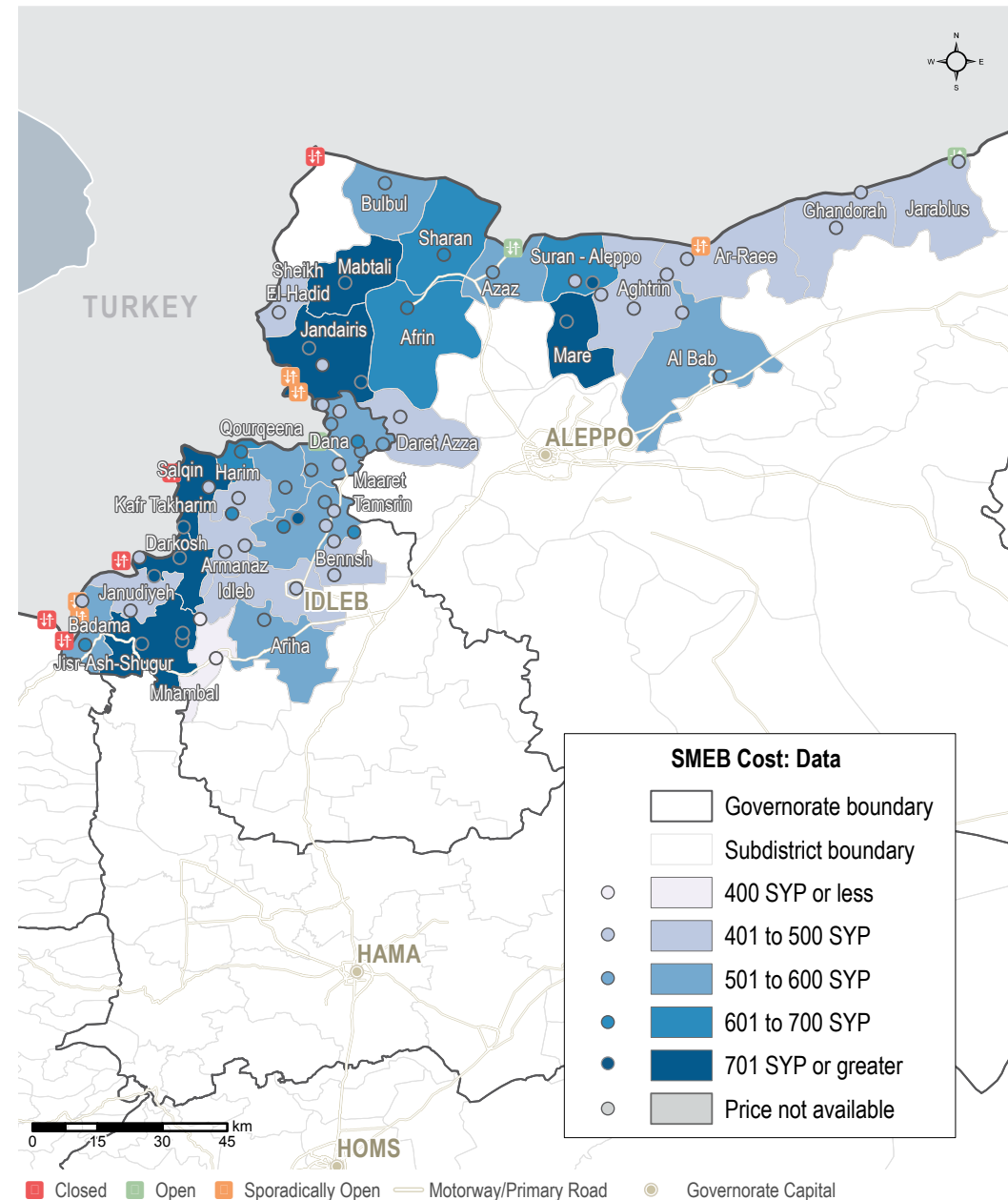
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

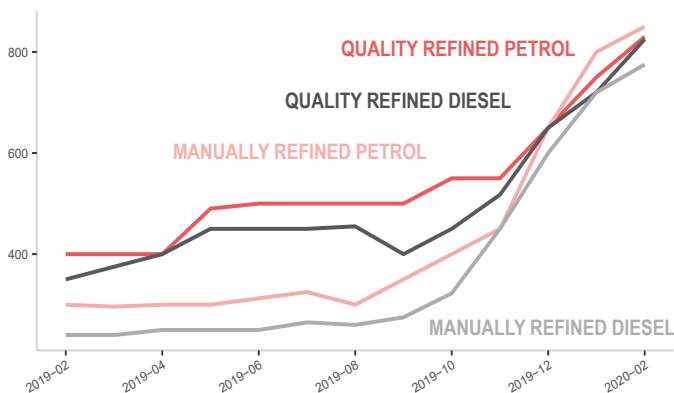
MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

Diesel and Petrol, 1L (Government of Syria and Manually Refined), Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Trans Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Trans Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	825	4%	113%	Jarablus	NA	NA	NA
Afrin	NA	NA	NA	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	825	4%	80%
Aghtrin	766	9%	166%	Kafr Takharim	860	22%	105%
Al Bab	NA	NA	NA	Maaret Tamsrin	850	6%	121%
Ariha	888	10%	104%	Ma'btali	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	826	14%	138%	Mare'	825	13%	113%
Ar-Ra'ee	NA	NA	NA	Mhambal	NA	NA	NA
A'zaz	800	15%	100%	Qourqeena	845	17%	99%
Badama	NA	NA	NA	Salqin	825	4%	130%
Bennsh	NA	NA	NA	Sharan	NA	NA	NA
Bulbul	NA	NA	NA	Sheikh El-Hadid	NA	NA	NA
Dana	804	5%	114%	Suran	809	9%	90%
Daret Azza	NA	NA	NA				
Darkosh	875	11%	126%				
Ghandorah	NA	NA	NA				
Harim	700	NA	NA				
Idleb	NA	NA	NA				
Jandairis	800	2%	114%				
Janudiyeh	NA	NA	NA				

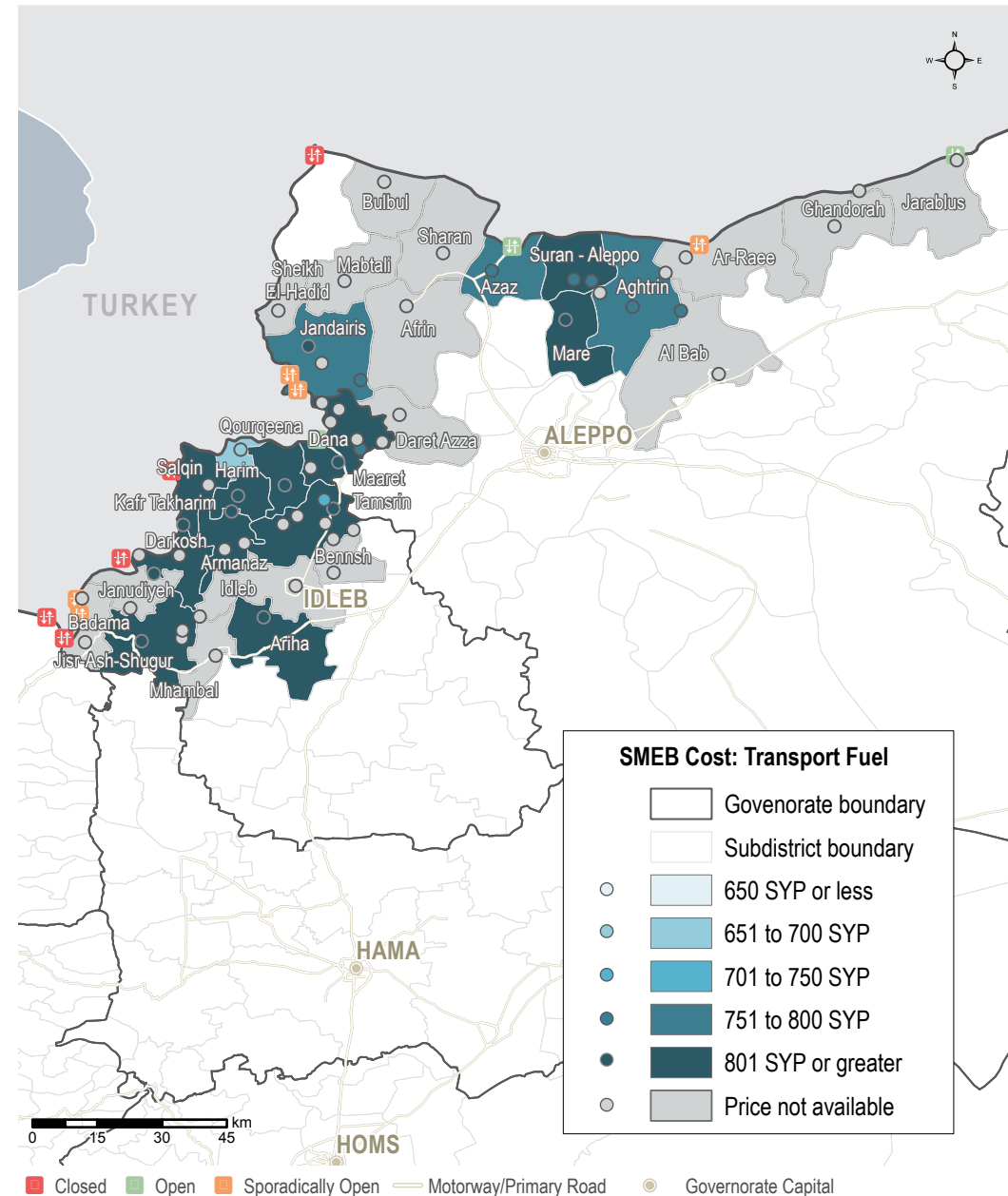
MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS

Northern Hama, Idleb, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

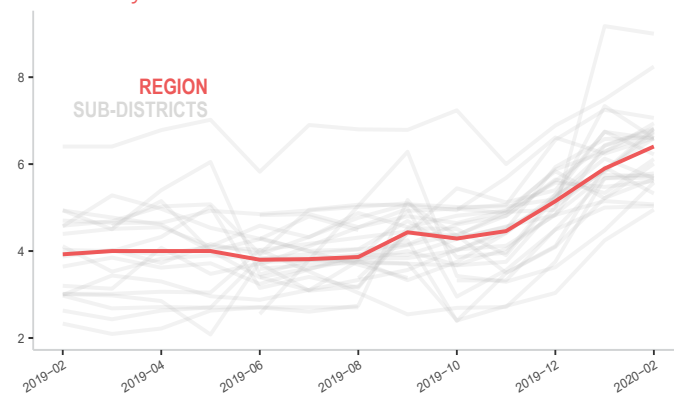
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

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
Northwest Syria	6218	6%	44%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	5,215	-1%	56%
Afrin	5,576	25%	-11%	Kafr Takharim	6,600	-10%	30%
Aghtrin	5,108	11%	3%	Maaret Tamsrin	7,165	21%	56%
Al Bab	5,785	2%	128%	Ma'btali	6,813	16%	53%
Ariha	5,325	-8%	31%	Mare'	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	6,321	0%	36%	Mhambal	6,808	5%	74%
Ar-Ra'ee	5,073	-2%	42%	Qourqeena	5,690	0%	NA
A'zaz	6,597	6%	30%	Salqin	6,488	0%	64%
Badama	6,991	-6%	NA	Sharan	6,115	15%	47%
Bennsh	5,675	-7%	21%	Sheikh El-Hadid	9,000	-2%	76%
Bulbul	6,615	1%	72%	Suran	5,871	3%	41%
Dana	6,782	5%	55%				
Daret Azza	8,244	6%	19%				
Darkosh	7,650	5%	48%				
Ghandorah	4,953	17%	33%				
Harim	6,585	-2%	NA				
Idleb	5,613	3%	17%				
Jandairis	5,642	-1%	41%				
Janudiyeh	NA	NA	NA				
Jarablus	5,896	13%	39%				

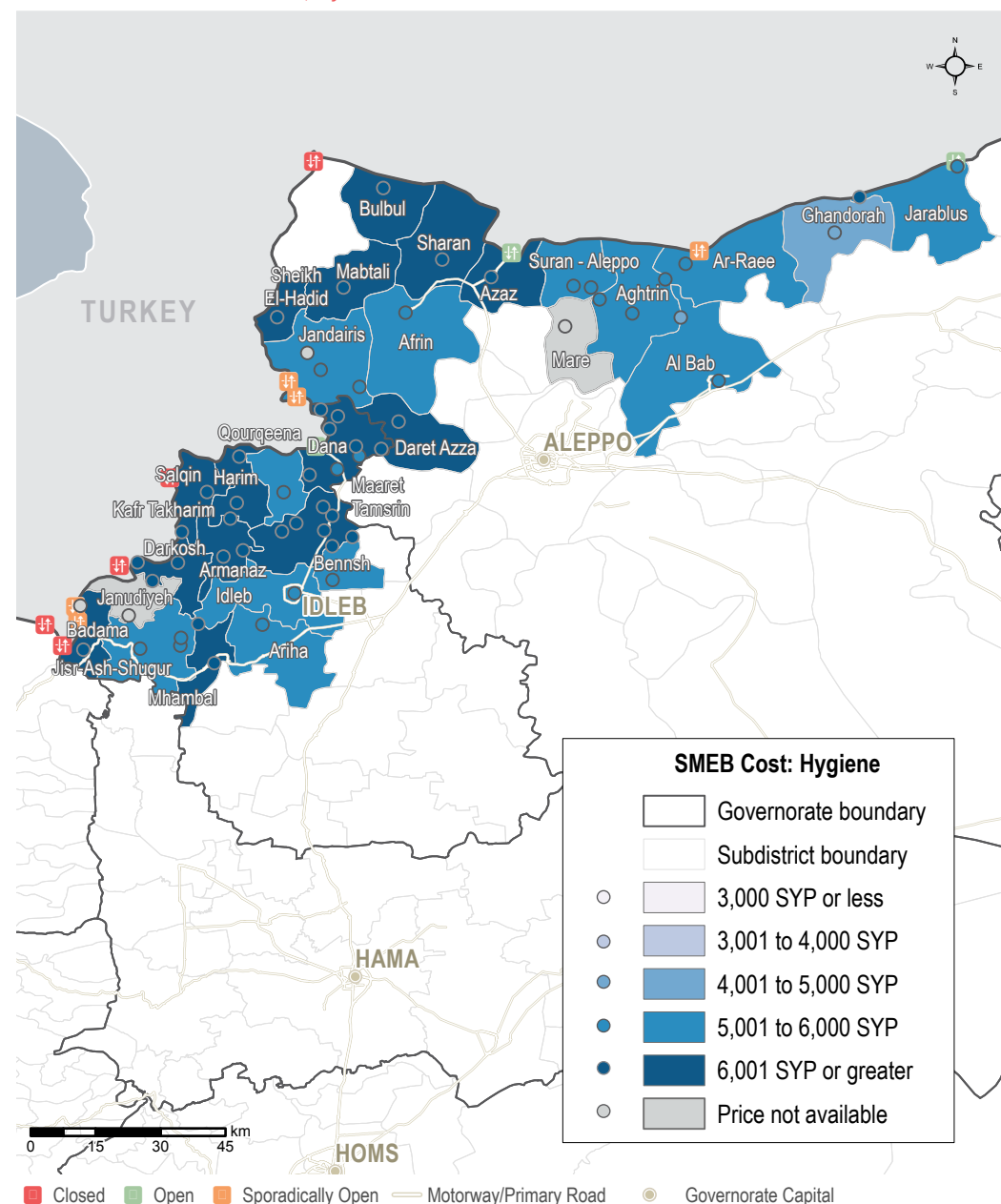
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHWEST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

Northern Hama, Idlib, Western & Northern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS

Per 1 piece, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Jerry can	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots	Adult hat	Children's hat
Northwest Syria	1,500	5,500	27,000	13,500	4,875	6,338	10,000	13,500	6,000	4,125	3,875	2,625	1,000	725
Afrin	1,200	8,000	15,500	9,500	4,000	2,000	7,750	8,000	4,500	4,500	4,750	2,500	750	600
Aghtrin	1,450	7,500	37,000	17,000	7,250	6,750	13,500	9,250	7,000	7,000	4,000	3,000	1,250	1,000
Al Bab	NA	NA	70,000	13,000	10,000	10,000	14,000	9,500	7,000	6,000	4,500	3,500	1,000	1,000
Ariha	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	9,000	18,000	6,000	3,500	3,000	3,000	1,000	800
Armanaz	1,200	4,250	20,250	13,750	3,500	4,600	10,750	18,000	6,200	4,000	3,500	3,000	900	700
Ar-Ra'ee	1,250	5,800	30,000	8,500	8,000	7,000	12,000	10,500	8,500	4,500	3,500	2,500	1,050	750
A'zaz	1,500	5,500	37,000	8,250	4,750	6,500	12,250	13,500	8,000	4,500	3,400	2,500	1,600	1,200
Badama	1,600	5,200	26,000	10,300	5,650	5,500	11,350	15,500	7,375	3,525	4,200	2,625	1,000	825
Bennsh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bulbul	2,000	5,000	27,000	11,000	5,000	4,600	10,600	14,500	6,300	3,000	3,000	2,000	600	600
Dana	1,800	5,500	27,000	11,000	5,000	4,600	10,600	14,500	6,200	3,300	3,400	2,100	600	600
Daret Azza	1,100	6,500	47,000	13,500	7,500	5,500	8,000	13,500	5,000	6,000	7,500	3,500	1,200	1,000
Darkosh	1,500	6,500	28,500	18,000	5,000	7,000	10,000	14,000	5,000	4,250	4,500	3,000	1,000	600
Ghandorah	1,300	6,500	36,000	10,250	2,500	6,500	9,500	7,500	5,000	5,500	3,000	2,750	900	500
Harim	2,000	5,000	22,000	15,000	7,500	5,500	15,500	16,000	6,000	3,500	4,800	2,500	1,500	1,000
Idlib	1,500	3,000	10,000	12,000	5,000	5,000	8,500	11,000	5,000	2,000	2,500	1,500	800	500
Jandairis	2,500	5,000	35,000	15,000	4,000	6,500	9,500	12,000	5,500	3,500	4,000	2,000	1,400	1,000
Janudiyeh	1,500	NA	NA	17,000	8,000	6,500	12,000	15,000	7,000	4,500	5,500	3,500	1,450	1,150
Jarablus	1,388	6,350	23,250	10,375	2,200	6,300	9,000	7,500	5,000	5,125	3,125	2,625	1,050	525
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	1,363	5,375	29,000	18,000	2,770	6,375	8,000	8,500	3,500	4,375	4,250	2,875	850	500
Kafr Takharim	1,400	5,000	9,500	14,250	3,000	5,000	6,750	15,000	6,000	2,950	3,100	2,100	900	600
Maaret Tamsrin	1,875	5,500	24,500	11,250	4,125	4,625	11,000	14,500	5,500	3,100	3,400	2,200	775	600
Ma'btali	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mare'	NA	5,000	40,000	15,000	4,000	6,500	8,000	8,250	5,250	3,500	4,250	2,500	1,500	1,200
Mhambal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	13,375	19,250	6,950	3,500	3,500	2,400	600	400
Qourqeena	1,750	5,900	13,000	12,000	3,350	4,500	9,600	9,800	5,000	3,500	3,000	2,000	1,000	500
Salqin	1,650	4,000	30,500	17,500	3,375	6,750	9,500	13,500	5,750	5,000	4,750	3,750	1,250	975
Sharan	700	5,500	27,000	NA	1,500	5,200	7,350	8,250	3,750	4,350	3,750	3,100	550	400
Sheikh El-Hadid	1,500	8,000	25,000	18,000	7,500	7,000	10,000	15,000	6,000	4,000	5,000	3,000	1,500	1,000
Suran	1,725	4,625	47,000	13,875	5,000	6,625	12,250	11,750	6,750	5,625	4,400	3,500	1,325	1,050

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS (ALTERNATIVE HEATING/COOKING FUEL)

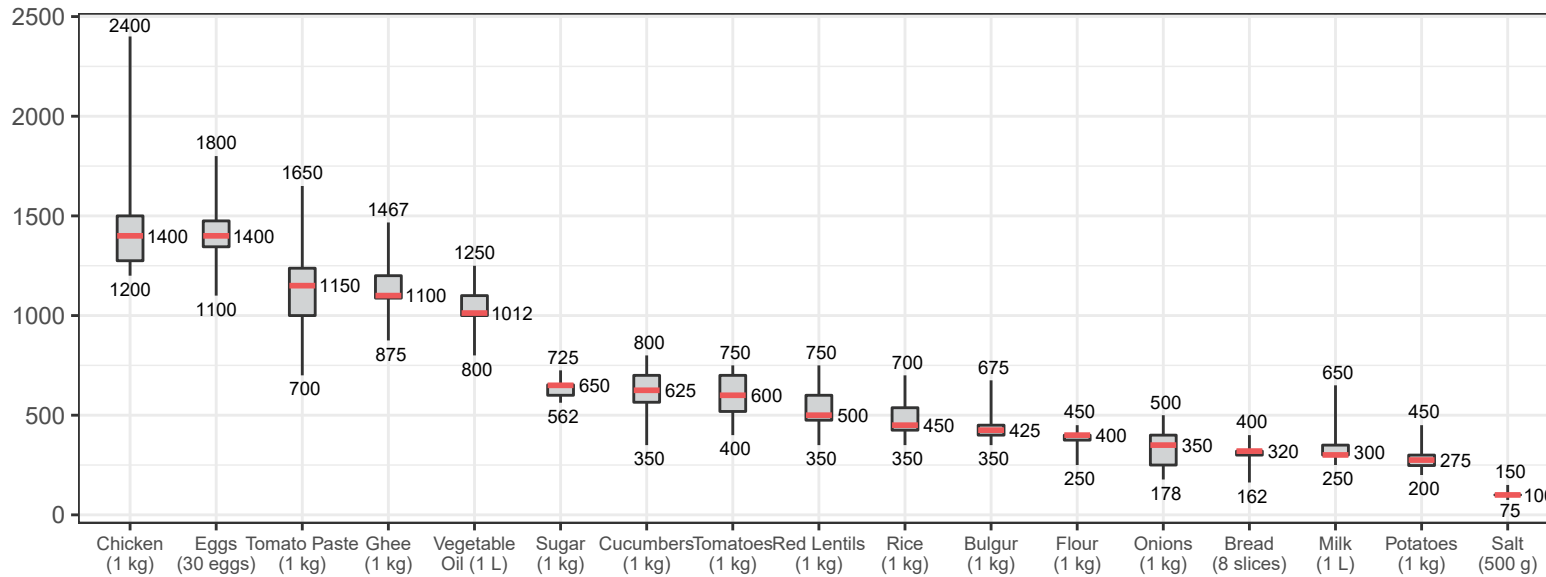
Per 1 kilogram, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Coal	Firewood	Olive residue	Pistachio shells
Northwest Syria	95	116	100	180
Afrin	78	100	75	NA
Aghtrin	59	121	94	NA
Al Bab	70	125	100	NA
Ariha	NA	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	95	115	110	175
Ar-Ra'ee	75	115	100	NA
A'zaz	140	140	103	NA
Badama	108	129	118	135
Bennsh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bulbul	90	125	100	140
Dana	95	125	100	169
Daret Azza	110	125	100	NA
Darkosh	113	65	90	200
Ghandorah	100	118	90	NA
Harim	100	125	95	200
Idlib	80	80	80	140
Jandairis	100	105	90	150
Janudiyeh	120	125	120	NA
Jarablus	125	140	105	245
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	94	113	100	180

Sub-district	Coal	Firewood	Olive residue	Pistachio shells
Kafr Takharim	90	88	100	NA
Maaret Tamsrin	100	128	110	190
Ma'btali	NA	80	NA	NA
Mare'	100	85	85	150
Mhambal	130	120	NA	NA
Qourqeena	90	95	110	180
Salqin	88	100	105	225
Sharan	85	115	100	185
Sheikh El-Hadid	80	90	110	200
Suran	106	138	100	150

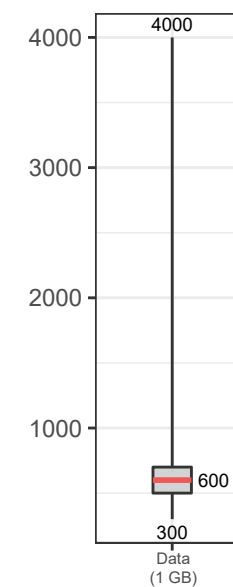
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



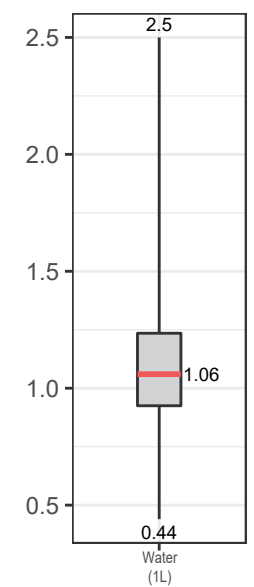
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



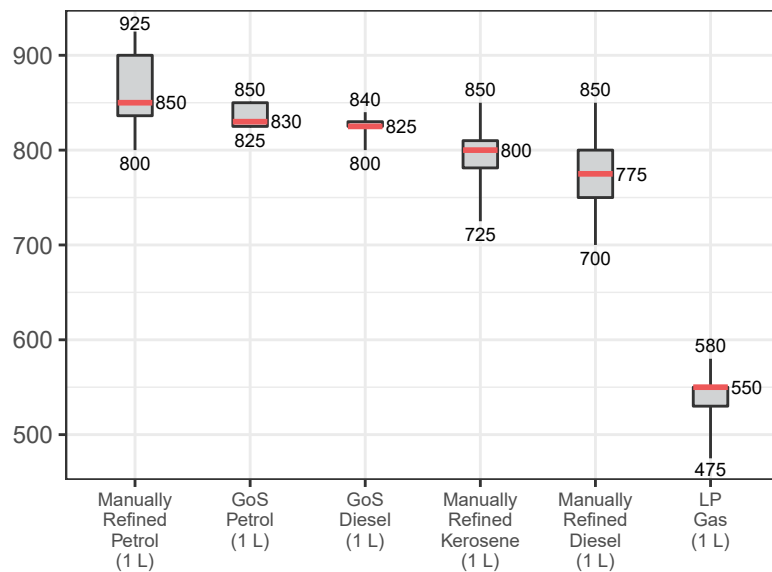
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



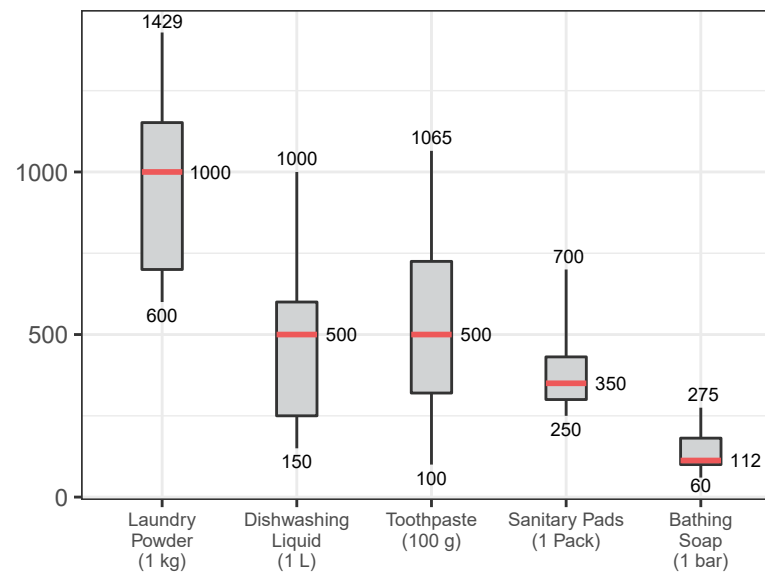
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

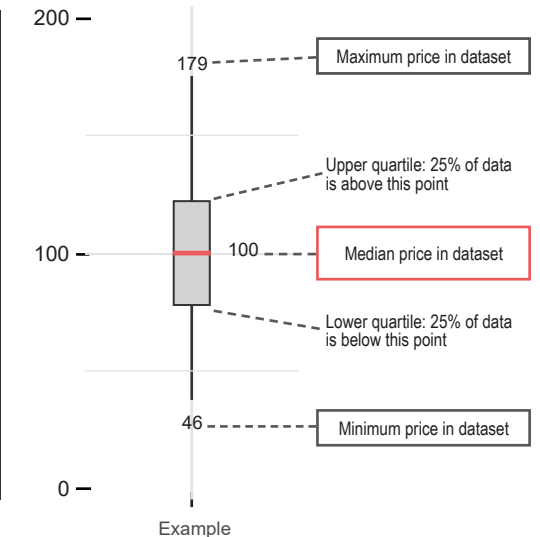


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

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 sub-district, 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 CBR-TWG 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 are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

Calculating 'median cheapest price'

This figure is calculated by taking the median of the minimum-reported prices of a region's sub-districts. In turn, the minimum-reported prices for each sub-district were taken from the median of the minimum-reported prices of the constituent towns assessed.

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 are calculated only with the communities of a sub-district with consistent coverage across months. For the current month's regional SMEB cost, all assessed communities are included in determining medians; thus, prices and percentage changes within the Costs and Changes tables may differ from the current month's regional SMEB cost.

Seasonal items

Winterisation items have been added to the market monitoring exercise and data collection will continue for these items over winter, until February 2020. Whilst other commodities are bought regularly by families, winterisation items are not expected to be bought regularly and may be one-off purchases for each family member.

Changes to coverage

Given security and access constraints in the south of Syria, data collection has been unable to take place since July 2018.

Challenges and limitations

As the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise currently includes 13 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 organizations for its wide coverage, Market Monitoring may sporadically lose coverage temporarily or for longer periods of time due to challenges in accessing locations or 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-BASED RESPONSES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

The Cash-Based Responses Technical Working Group (CBR-TWG) 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 CBR-TWG have been partners on the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise since early 2015.