

ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT

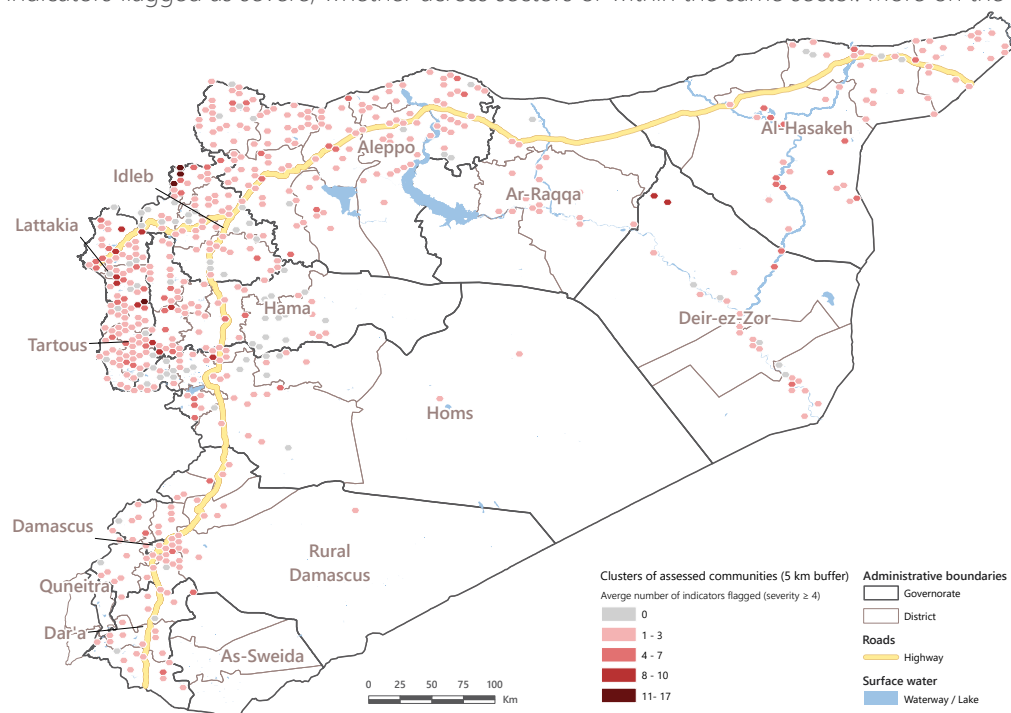
HSOS is a key informant (KI) assessment monitoring communities across Syria to provide multi-sectoral information on humanitarian conditions and needs. Results are indicative and reflect the percentage of assessed communities (at national or governorate level) where KIs reported information. All governorates were covered with the exception of As-Sweida and Quneitra due to security constraints.

KEY MESSAGES

- **Economic access constraints are the dominant driver of severity across sectors**, with households widely unable to afford food, healthcare, water, and hygiene items despite reported availability. High prices linked to inflation, service costs, and irregular supply continue to underpin food insecurity and limit access to essential services.
- **WASH and health conditions remain critically strained**, with widespread inadequate water availability, sewage and solid waste issues, and significant barriers to healthcare driven by high costs and shortages of medicines, equipment, and medical staff. Persistent gaps in mental health, rehabilitation, and assistive services further exacerbate public and environmental health risks
- **Multi-sectoral vulnerabilities remain entrenched across governorates**, with sustained severity in food security, WASH, and health extending beyond previously identified hotspots. The persistence and geographic spread of these pressures indicate limited improvement since July and point to deepening household vulnerability and eroding coping capacity.

SEVERITY MAP

The map visualizes the accumulation of humanitarian issues. Each point represents a community, and the color reflects the number of indicators flagged as severe, whether across sectors or within the same sector. More on the "Severity Index Section".



The November distribution of average severity index flags highlights Latakia, Idleb, Hasakeh, and Deir-ez-Zor as the governorates with the highest concentrations of average flags per community. Aleppo (303 flags) and Hama (132 flags) also show substantial levels of severity, indicating widespread multi-sectoral pressures. the report of [July HSOS](#).

Compared to the July HSOS findings, which identified Latakia, Tartous, and Rural Damascus as key geographic hotspots, the November data confirms that Latakia continues to record high levels of severity, while Deir-ez-Zor appears more prominently in November. Hasakeh and Idleb, which were less central in July's hotspot profile, also register high flag volumes in November, pointing to a broader geographic distribution of concerning conditions.

Following the July analysis, which examined severity drivers in Latakia, this section focuses on Hasakeh given its high concentration of severity flags in November. In Hasakeh, food security challenges were widespread despite reported availability: while 83% of communities reported high food availability, 98% experienced difficulties accessing adequate food, with half describing these as serious. Economic constraints were the primary driver in 98% of communities, underscoring access rather than supply as the core issue. WASH conditions further compounded severity, with all assessed communities reporting inadequate water availability, most commonly at moderate levels (71%), and over a third reporting that at least three-quarters of the population had very limited access to water. Sewage system issues affected nearly half of communities, alongside common environmental health risks including solid waste, rodents, and stagnant water. Healthcare access was constrained by high costs (87%), shortages of medicines and equipment, and limited medical staff, with major gaps in mental health services, assistive devices, and malnutrition treatment.

Similar multi-sectoral pressures were evident in Idleb and Latakia, confirming the broader geographic spread of severity in November. In Idleb, three-quarters of communities faced water access difficulties driven by irregular supply and high costs, alongside widespread inability to afford hygiene items, while most communities reported barriers to healthcare and limited availability of mental health, rehabilitation, and assistive services. In Latakia, water access problems affected 87% of communities, driven by insufficient availability and drought, alongside sewage and environmental health concerns. Food access challenges affected 77% of communities, mainly due to economic barriers and limited dietary diversity, while healthcare access remained constrained by shortages of medicines, staff, and services.

Overall, the November severity flag distribution shows no improvement compared to July. High concentrations of severity persist across multiple governorates and extend beyond earlier hotspots, reflecting entrenched, multi-sectoral vulnerabilities driven largely by economic access constraints and deteriorating WASH and health conditions.

November 2025 | Syria

PRIORITY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

The following results are presented as percentage of communities at national and governorate level.

First priority need

1	Food	36%
2	Livelihoods	27%
3	Health	10%

Second priority need

1	Food	25%
2	Livelihoods	23%
3	Health	18%

Third priority need

1	Winterisation	21%
2	Health	16%
3	Food	14%

Food Security

Jul 71% had problems accessing food Nov 73%

Hasakeh	97%	Hasakeh	98%
Deir-ez-Zor	84%	Raqqa	91%
Lattakia	77%	Deir-ez-Zor	85%

Jul 88% faced economic barriers Nov 89%

Damascus	100%	Raqqa	100%
Tartous	95%	Hasakeh	98%
Hasakeh	91%	Rural Damascus	96%

Jul 20% reported people with hunger Nov 19%

Lattakia	44%	Hasakeh	43%
Hasakeh	39%	Lattakia	38%
Raqqa	31%	Hama	38%

Livelihoods

Jul 89% had problems earning enough income to meet basic needs Nov 89%

Raqqa	94%	Hasakeh	100%
Tartous	93%	Idleb	97%
Idleb	92%	Raqqa	95%

Jul 86% had low wages offers Nov 84%

Hasakeh	96%	Damascus	100%
Deir-ez-Zor	94%	Hasakeh	98%
Dar'a	94%	Deir-ez-Zor	94%

Jul 63% relied on farming for food Nov 55%

Homs	75%	Homs	76%
Aleppo	70%	Deir-ez-Zor	72%
Tartous	68%	Idleb	62%

Health

Jul 73% had problems accessing healthcare Nov 77%

Hasakeh	95%	Hasakeh	98%
Lattakia	89%	Raqqa	90%
Raqqa	84%	Deir-ez-Zor	90%

Jul 63% had a lack of medicine Nov 57%

Lattakia	73%	Deir-ez-Zor	84%
Dar'a	73%	Lattakia	70%
Deir-ez-Zor	72%	Idleb	66%

Jul 78% relied on pharmacies for healthcare Nov 84%

Raqqa	100%	Raqqa	100%
Deir-ez-Zor	94%	Damascus	100%
Dar'a	86%	Deir-ez-Zor	94%

Winterisation

Nov 89% had people in the community affected by winter

Hasakeh	98%
Homs	96%
Aleppo	91%

Nov 76% food prices increased during the last winter

Damascus	100%
Aleppo	87%
Lattakia	81%

Nov 32% relied on debit or credit to buy food in winter

Hasakeh	54%
Raqqa	50%
Aleppo	49%

Food security challenges were primarily driven by economic constraints, with the majority of respondents identifying limited financial resources as the main barrier to accessing food. However, limited physical access to available food was also reported, affecting 35% of the population. Livelihoods remain fragile with (84%) citing lack of work, (68%) environmental risks, and (57%) reporting reduced crop yields and 43% indicated they could no longer access their usual livelihoods. Access to health services is also constrained; despite hospitals being available in 51% of surveyed locations, communities reported relying more heavily on pharmacies as their main source of healthcare.

Winterization trends further exacerbate food insecurity, as 80% of households reported purchasing food from markets during winter instead of relying on pre-winter or harvest-time food storage. During this period, communities highlighted high market prices and the instability or low availability of animals and animal products as key challenges. Looking ahead, concerns remain high, with 47% of respondents expecting hunger to worsen next year based on current meteorological and drought conditions.

In the previous 30 days to data collection, 43% of communities reported no major shocks; however, for the rest a variety of events were a substantial stressors that persist across affected areas. Drought or lack of rainfall impacted 37% of communities, price increases affected 32%, and 16% experienced major livelihood losses. These shocks continue to shape household vulnerability and reinforce existing access constraints identified across WASH, food security, and health.

Displacement dynamics remained critical: 26% of communities reported recent departures, while 51% were hosting displaced households, with armed conflict (63%) and economic hardship cited as the main drivers. Shelter challenges were widespread: 60% of communities reported building damage or destruction, 37% cited inadequate shelter, and 43% reported overcrowding.

Access to essential items and basic services remained strained. High prices for non-food items were reported in **76%** of communities, and **77%** cited lack of money as a barrier to purchasing basic goods. Food insecurity was primarily economic in nature, with **89%** of communities attributing difficulty accessing food to financial constraints. WASH gaps also persisted: **48%** of communities reported lack of water, **29%** lacked soap, and in **43%** women struggled to afford hygiene items.

SECTORAL FINDINGS

The following results are presented as percentage of communities at national level.

Displacement trends

The main reason people arrived to the assessed area were to escape armed conflict (**63%**) followed by being in transit (**21%**) and the lack of livelihoods opportunities where they previously were (**21%**). In **45%** of communities, it was reported that the number of arrivals was more than the departures and **60%** was found that there were no significant or additional strain on services and infrastructure.

WASH

81% reported of communities reported the lack of drinking water being a widespread concern. Economic barriers were the main challenges to access drinking water (**30%**) and maintaining a proper hygiene (**73%**). Additionally, **55%** of communities cited a lack of functioning sewage network.

Protection & Social Cohesion

10% reported problems due to tensions between residents and displaced people in the community. **38%** reported that differences in political opinions are the main drivers of tension in the community. **43%** reported the main protection problem was child labour. While cases of evictions were not highly reported, the main reasons in the reported cases were: economic barriers to afford rent (**56%**) and disputes over properties (**33%**).

Electricity and infrastructure

74% of communities relied on the main electricity network, yet **80%** reported receiving less than 12 hours of electricity per day. While solar panels and batteries were identified as a potential alternative, **57%** of communities considered them too expensive to rely on it in place of government electricity.

Shelter & NFIs

37% reported problems due to inadequate shelters for members of the community. Although **86%** of households were living in rented accommodation, **70%** of communities reported that residents could not afford rent. Living conditions were frequently described as overcrowded with limited privacy (**43%**), and conflict was the primary reported cause of shelter damage (**67%**).

Accountability to affected population

56% of communities reported problems due to a lack of or inadequate assistance. The most preferred aid was food (**81%**), while in terms of the modality to receive aid, cash was the most reported mechanism (**60%**). Additionally, **49%** preferred receiving assistance for health services. The most needed information in **80%** of the communities was how to access aid.

SEVERITY INDEX METHODOLOGY

The [Area of Knowledge Severity Index \(AoK SI\)](#)¹ is a composite index methodology that aims to provide a standardized and efficient approach to summarising and interpreting AoK data into meaningful and actionable analysis of acute multisectoral humanitarian needs at community and area level. The AoK SI has indicators across nine sectors or themes: Food Security; Livelihoods; Shelter; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH); Health; Protection; Education; Market Functionality; and Shocks. In terms of the threshold, the cutting point is 4 as *the standard because it effectively identifies critical needs while aligning with established frameworks*.

For the case of Syria, **49 indicators were analysed to calculate the Flag Index**. This approach enables the prioritisation of response actions within a crisis based on an absolute comparison of the severity of needs using a predefined scale. It is important to note that these thresholds are applied per individual indicator, and should not be interpreted as part of a cumulative or scoring system. The severity scale ranges as follows:

- 1 - None/minimal:** Essential basic sectoral needs are met
- 2 - Stress:** Borderline inability to meet basic sectoral needs
- 3 - Crisis/Severe:** Moderate inability to meet basic sectoral needs (and moderate risk of preventable loss of life)
- 4 - Emergency/Extreme:** Extreme inability to meet basic sectoral needs (and high risk of preventable loss of life)
- 4+ - Extreme Emergency/Catastrophic/Sectoral Collapse:** Collapse of basic services and/or total inability to meet basic sectoral needs (and very high risk of preventable loss of life)

KEY INFORMATION

Governorates: **12**
 Communities assessed: **681**
 Key informants: **1,024**
 Data collection dates: **10-17 November**
 Recall period of indicators: **30 days**

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).