

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OVERVIEW OF SYRIA (HSOS)

June 2024 | Northeast Syria

SITUATION OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

HSOS is a monitoring key informant (KI) assessment that provides comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian conditions and priority needs inside Syria. This Situation Overview presents a thematic review based on the HSOS assessment of the priority needs and humanitarian assistance, access to basic services and infrastructure, economic conditions, public health, as well as the security and protection situation in Northeast Syria (NES). HSOS focuses on host community and internally displaced persons (IDP) households residing in communities. **This assessment does not provide information on camps and informal settlements.**

This Situation Overview presents information gathered in **1029 communities** across Aleppo¹, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, and Deir-ez-Zor. Data was collected **between 2-13 June 2024** from **3419 KIs** (16% female).

The complete HSOS dataset and analysis can be downloaded as an [excel file](#).

INTERPRETATION

Findings are indicative rather than representative and should not be generalised across the population and region. **All results in this output should be interpreted as referring to a percentage of assessed community where KIs reported an information.** All indicators refer to the situation in the 30 days prior to data collection.

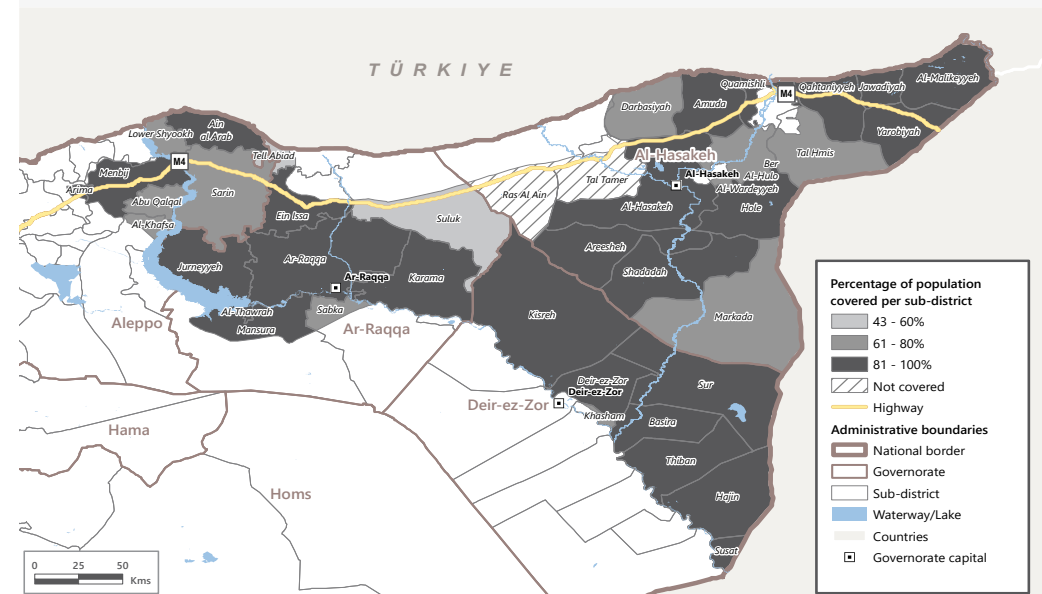
The symbol ▲ indicates that KIs could select multiple answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.

HSOS Dashboards

- **Sectoral dashboard:** This interactive dashboard presents a sectoral review of key indicators from HSOS. Users can easily navigate through their sector of interest and visualise data from the community level to the region level.
- **Trend analysis dashboard:** This dashboard allows users to quickly see how the humanitarian situation in northern Syria has been changing over time. It also includes a flagging system tab that highlights numerical differences across different periods.
- **Water and electricity dashboard:** This dashboard shows trends of access to water, access to electricity and problems with drinking water indicators in NES. Trends are displayed in graphs and maps showing findings at various administrative levels.

KEY MESSAGES

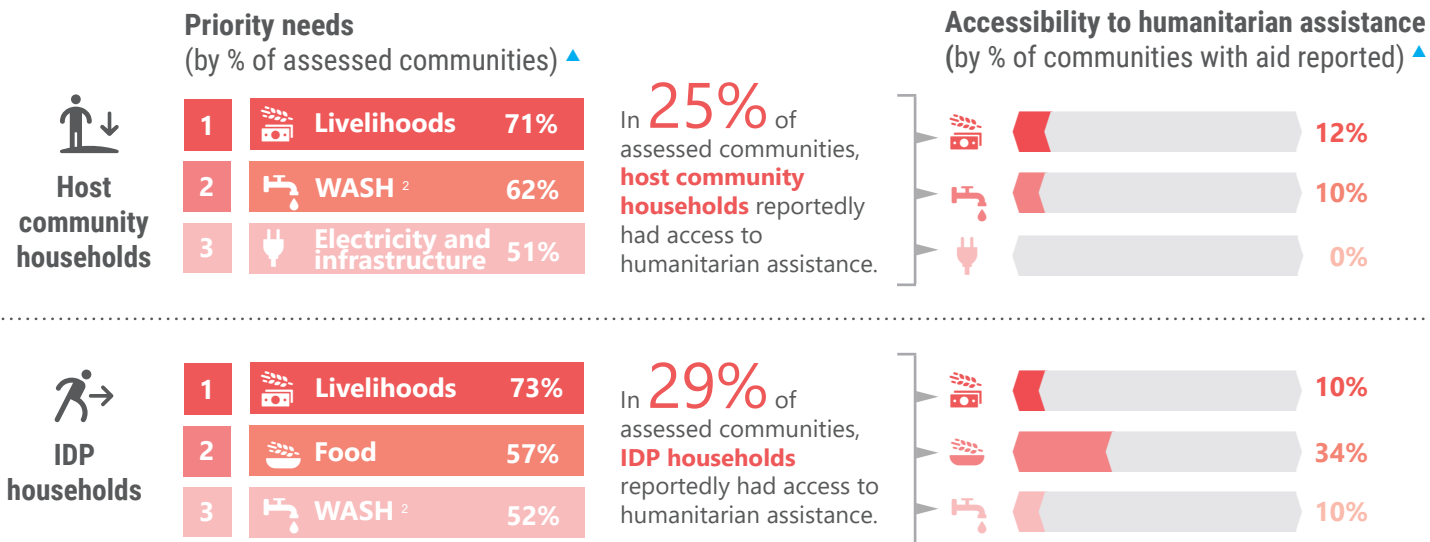
- Access to water has continued to deteriorate in NES governorates, **KIs in 73% of the assessed communities in Al-Hasakah governorate reported that households lack sufficient water.** The [Khabur River](#), located in the Hasakah countryside, is experiencing drought due to a combination of insufficient water and high summer temperatures.
- **Agricultural crops were the primary source of livelihood for households in 89% of the assessed communities.** High operational costs were identified as the top challenge in accessing agriculture-related livelihoods, affecting 83% of assessed communities. Additionally, difficulties related to selling agricultural outputs were reported as a challenge, impacting 47% of the communities. These issues are expected to persist, as this year's [agricultural output selling](#) prices are lower than last year's.
- **KIs in all communities across NES reported that stores and markets were a common source of food for households.** However, KIs in 98% of the assessed communities indicated that households faced challenges in accessing sufficient food. The most common challenges were the unaffordability of food items, reported in 91% of assessed communities, and insufficient quantities of food in markets, reported in 17% of assessed communities.



¹ Aleppo governorate includes Menbij and Ain Al Arab districts

PRIORITY NEEDS AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

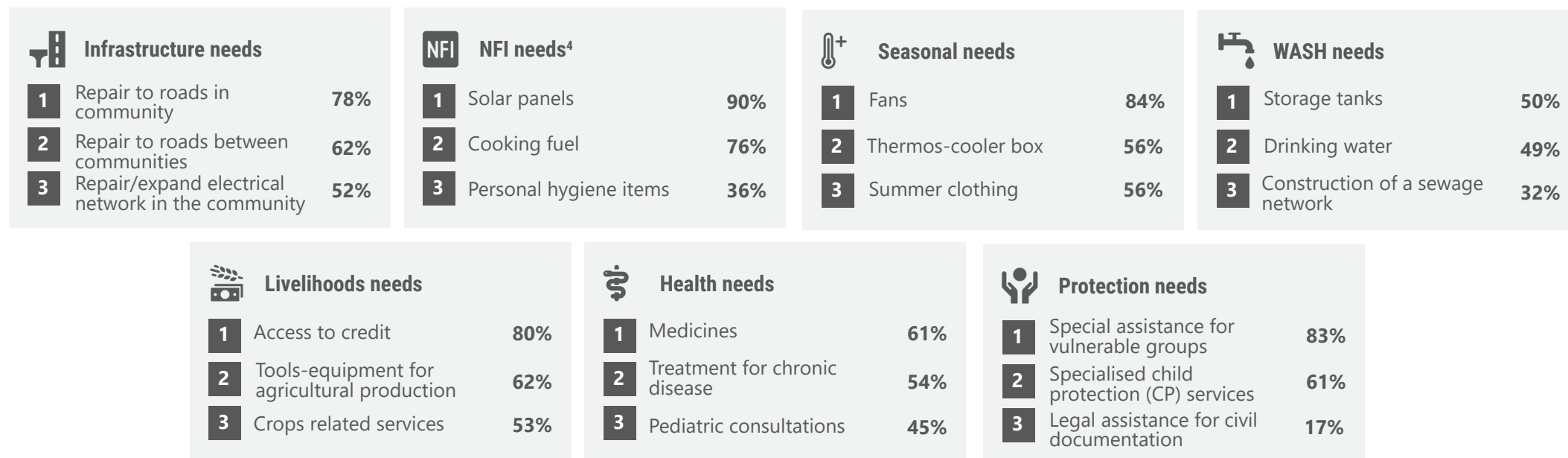
Most commonly reported priority needs and reported accessibility to associated humanitarian assistance



Most commonly reported difficulties faced when accessing humanitarian aid (by % of communities where access to aid was reported) ▲

- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 72% |
| 2 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs | 54% |
| 3 | Distribution points were too far-routes were hardly accessible | 25% |
-
- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 75% |
| 2 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs | 50% |
| 3 | Quality of assistance provided was not good | 20% |

Top reported needs by sector (by % of assessed communities) ▲, ³



² Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

³ All the findings on priority needs by sector correspond to the needs of the general population living in assessed communities. Hence, they cover both host community and IDP households.

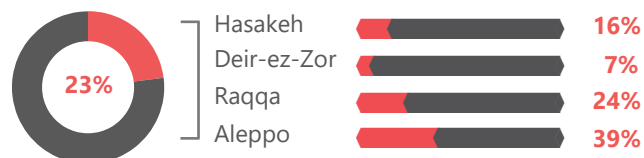
⁴ Non-food items (NFI)

ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Access to Markets

% of assessed communities where **markets were not functioning every day**



Most commonly reported barriers to food-market functioning (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 People do not have the financial means to open a shop/market 21%
- 2 Lack of sufficient electricity-other power sources 7%
- 3 Limited demand to support markets in the community 5%

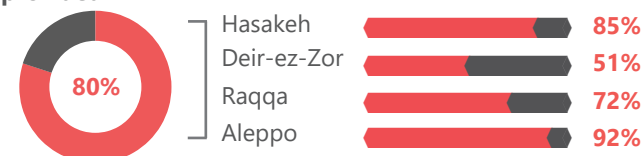
Most commonly reported NFI unavailable in markets (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 Solar panels 6%
- 2 Cooking fuel 4%
- 3 Batteries 4%



Access to Healthcare

% of assessed communities where **no health services were provided**



98% Assessed communities where KIs reported that **households accessed health services in other/nearby** communities.

Most commonly reported challenges to access healthcare (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 High costs of health services 93%
- 2 High cost of transportation to health facilities 78%
- 3 Lack of transportation to health facilities 71%



Access to Electricity

% of assessed communities where households had **access to less than 6 hours of electricity per day** in average



% of assessed communities connected to the main electricity network (either functioning or not)

Connected 100%
Not connected 0%



In **23%** of assessed communities connected to the main electricity network, KIs reported that **the electricity network was partially or completely not functioning**



Access to Water

% of assessed communities where **not all households had access to sufficient water**



% of assessed communities connected to the main water network (either functioning or not)

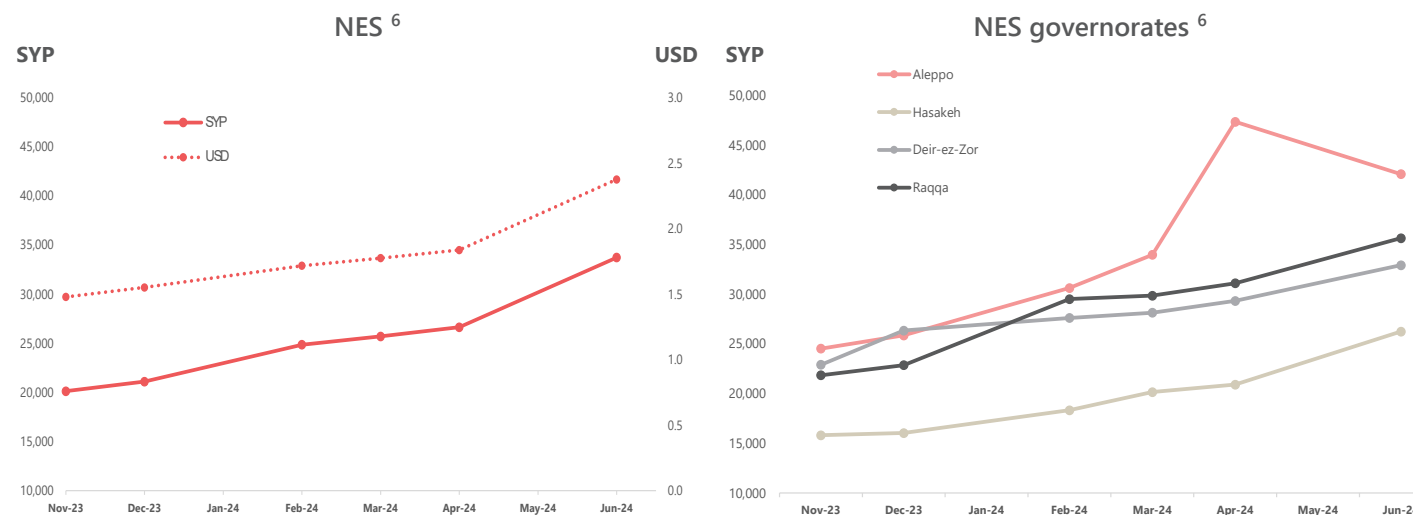
Connected 69%
Not connected 31%



In **17%** of assessed communities connected to the main water network, KIs reported that **the water network was partially or completely not functioning**

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Evolution of the average daily wage for casual or irregular labour reported over the past six HSOS rounds in NES ⁵



| Governorate | Median estimated monthly rent price for a two-bedroom apartment ⁴ |
|-----------------|--|
| Aleppo | 150,000 SYP |
| Al-Hasakeh | 300,000 SYP |
| Ar-Raqqa | 213,000 SYP |
| Deir-ez-Zor | 200,000 SYP |
| Northeast Syria | 200,000 SYP |

Most commonly reported non-income generating sources of livelihoods (by % of assessed communities) [▲]

| | Host community households | IDP households |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| Borrowing/loans | 67% | 65% |
| Remittances (from outside Syria) | 34% | 29% |
| Financial support from family or friends (inside Syria) | 4% | 9% |
| Cash or in-kind humanitarian assistance | 1% | 1% |



In **77%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that **agriculture was a common source of livelihoods** for households.

Most common challenges to access livelihoods related to agriculture (by % of communities relying on agriculture) [▲]

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | High operational costs | 91% |
| 2 | Seasonality or instability of income | 71% |
| 3 | Lack of sufficient quantity and quality of resources for agriculture | 69% |

Intersectoral findings on **unaffordability** hindering access to goods and services



In **88%** of assessed communities with people renting, KIs indicated that **rent was unaffordable for the majority of people**



KIs in **90%** of assessed communities reported that the **high cost of solar panels or batteries to store solar power** was a common challenge to access power



KIs in **52%** of assessed communities reported that the **high cost of fuel for generators** was a common challenge to access power



KIs in **37%** of assessed communities indicated that the **high cost of water** prevented households to access sufficient water



KIs in **91%** of assessed communities cited the **unaffordability of food** as a common challenge



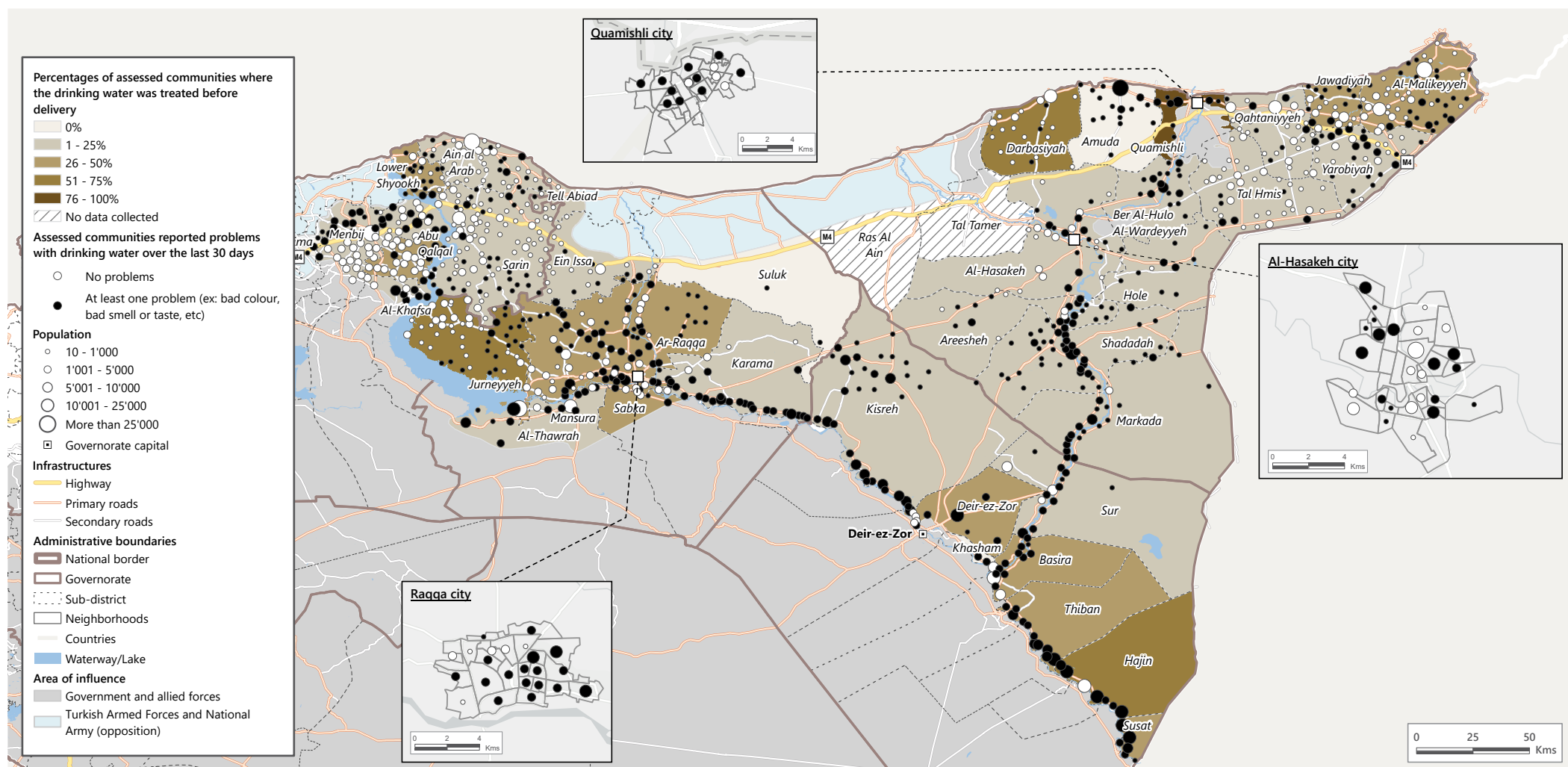
KIs in **93%** of assessed communities cited the **high cost of health services** as a common challenge



KIs in **48%** of assessed communities reported that households **lacked money or resources** to cover the cost of attending **school**

⁵ KIs had the option to select the price in United States Dollars (USD) or Syrian Pounds (SYP). The values displayed here were all harmonised in SYP and USD, based on the exchange rate from the NES Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI). According to the REACH Market Monitoring April 2024, 1 USD = 14,200 SYP.

⁶ There was no KI data collection in January and May 2024 across NES.



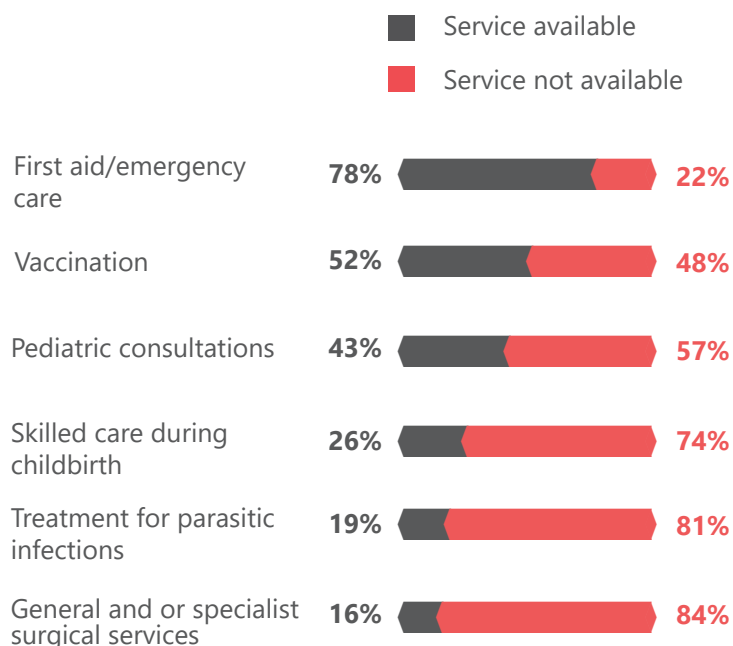
Treated drinking water before delivery and reported any problem with it.

Note on the map

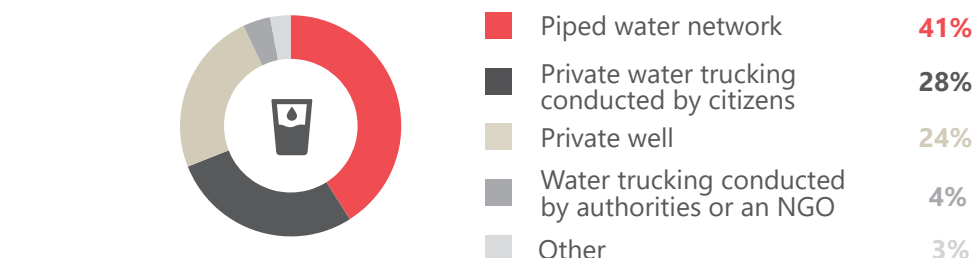
This map displays the percentage of communities per sub-district where KIs reported that drinking water was treated before delivery. Therefore, sub-districts with darker shading have a higher percentage of communities with treated drinking water. White dots indicate communities where no problems with drinking water were reported. Black dots represent communities where KIs reported at least one of the following problems: bad taste or smell, bad color, water is calcareous, perception that the water is making people sick.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Essential health services available in the assessed community
(by % of assessed communities where households could access health services [20%]) ⁷



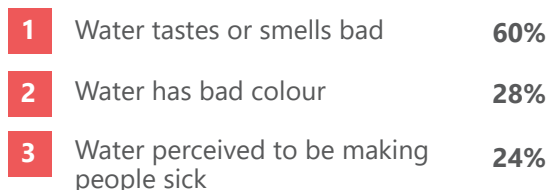
Source of drinking water used by most households (by % of assessed communities)



In **57%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that households **faced problems with drinking water**



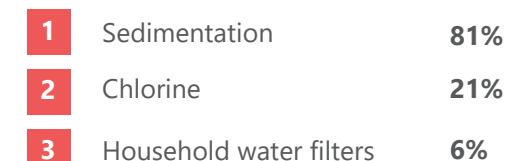
Problems with drinking water ⁸



In **34%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that households **did not treat their water despite needing to**.



Methods used by households to make water safer to drink ⁸



Most commonly reported sanitation issues (by % of assessed communities) ⁸



In **36%** of assessed communities, **leaving garbage in public areas** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of solid waste.



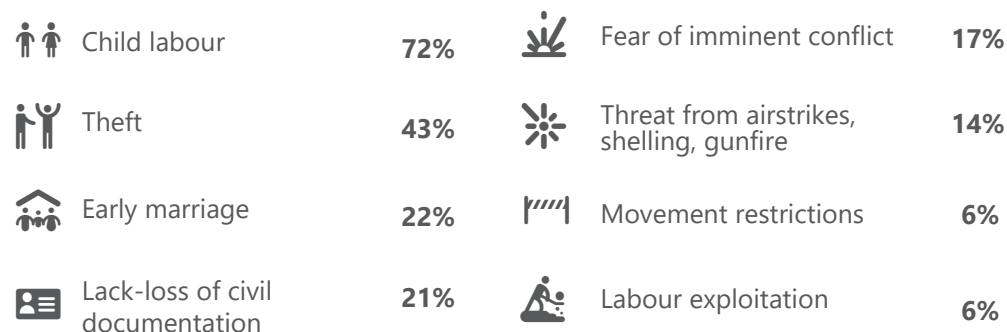
In **11%** of assessed communities, **releasing wastewater and human feces over land surface** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of wastewater.

⁷ The displayed services were not selected based on how commonly they were reported.

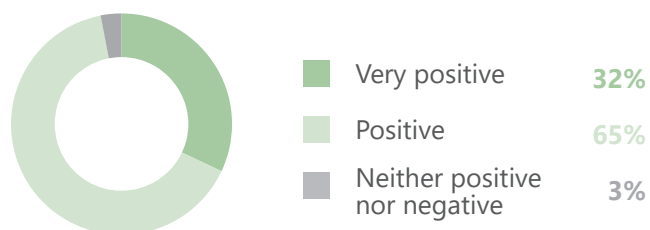
⁸ These problems were not selected based on how commonly they were reported, but rather on their potential negative impact on health.

SECURITY AND PROTECTION

Most commonly reported protection risks (by % of assessed communities) ▲



Perception of the social cohesion (by % of assessed communities)



Intersectoral findings on security

-  **Security restrictions** reportedly prevented the access to livelihood activities in 78 assessed communities
-  **General safety and security concerns at markets or while travelling to markets** was a reported barrier to market access in 51 assessed communities
-  In 64 assessed communities, KIs reported that households could not access sufficient water due to **disruption caused by conflict activity**

METHODOLOGY

The assessment is conducted using a key informant (KI) methodology at the community level. In each community, REACH enumerators interview a minimum of three KIs selected based on their knowledge of the community and areas of expertise. Enumerators submit one single form per community and only one KI should answer each section of the survey. Interviews are usually done in person unless security and access restrictions prevent enumerators to reach the community.

More information about HSOS KI methodology can be found on [HSOS KI terms of reference \(ToR\)](#).

This Situation Overview only presents a selection of collected indicators. The complete HSOS dataset and analysis can be downloaded as an [excel file](#).

| Number of communities per subset: | Subset |
|--|--------|
| Host community households | 1024 |
| IDP households | 539 |
| Communities where assistance was reported (host community) | 252 |
| Communities where assistance was reported (IDP) | 154 |
| Communities connected to a main electricity network | 1028 |
| Communities connected to a main water network | 706 |
| Communities with agriculture as a common source of livelihoods | 790 |
| Communities with access to health services | 203 |

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).