

# Syria | Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) | May 2026

4 - 11 May 2026

## INTRODUCTION

The JMMI monitors on a quarterly basis the availability and prices of essential goods typically purchased by Syrian households, including food, water, hygiene items, fuel, and internet access. Of these, 24 monitored items make up the 9 components of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB), which represents the minimum culturally appropriate goods required to sustain a household of six for one month.

Until March 2025, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was conducted separately in northeastern and northwestern Syria by the respective Cash Working Groups (NES CWG and NWS CWG), in collaboration with local and international NGOs. **Following the transition to a unified nationwide humanitarian coordination structure, REACH launched the first unified JMMI covering the whole of Syria in April 2025.**

For additional information on the SMEB composition, please refer to the [SMEB contents](#) section.

## Coverage

14	Assessed governorates
51	Assessed districts
101	Assessed sub-districts
230	Assessed communities
4761	Surveyed shops
87	Sub-districts with complete SMEB calculation

For additional information on the geographical coverage of May 2026 round, please refer to the [Coverage map](#).

## KEY INDICATORS

Median cost of national SMEB  
**2,171,139 SYP**

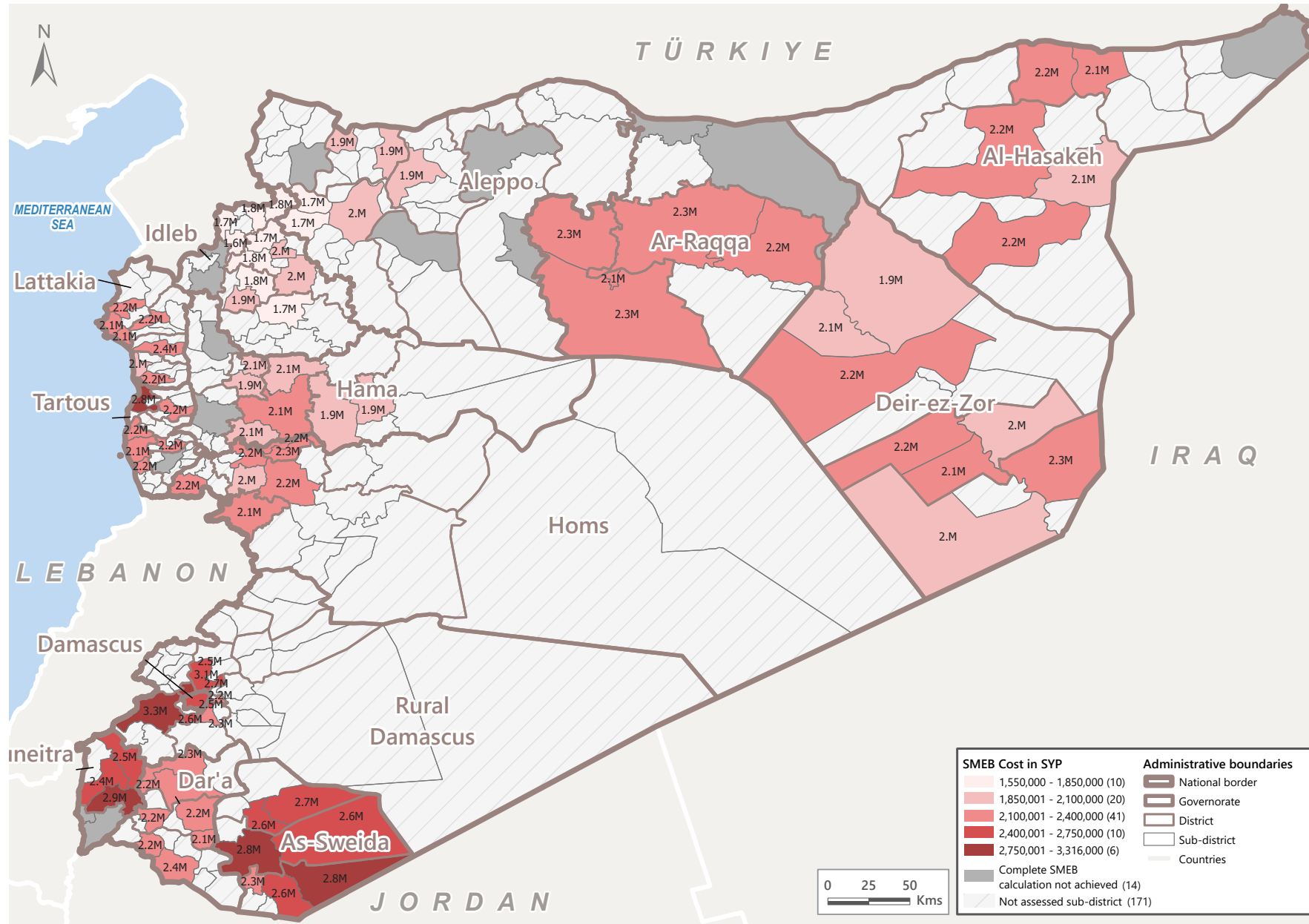
Median cost of national SMEB Food  
**1,568,513 SYP**

Median national USD/SYP informal exchange rate  
**13,400 SYP**

## KEY FINDINGS

- In May 2026, the national median SMEB cost increased by 10% in SYP (reaching 2,171,139 SYP) compared with February 2026, despite a decline in USD prices.** Regionally, SYP-denominated costs rose sharply, with increases of 9% in Central Southern Syria and 8% in Northeastern Syria, reflecting the strong impact of currency depreciation. These trends indicate that rising local currency prices continue to drive affordability challenges and erode household purchasing power.
- The sharp depreciation of the Syrian Pound—losing around 15% of its value—was the main driver behind rising SMEB costs in SYP,** effectively offsetting declines observed in USD. In contrast, the more moderate 5% depreciation of the TRY contributed to relatively stable or slightly declining SMEB costs in northwestern Syria.
- In May 2026, the SMEB food component recorded significant increases in local currencies, with prices rising by 8.8% in SYP nationally,** 7.8% in Central Southern Syria, and 5.4% in Northeastern Syria, despite a decline in USD terms. **and the NFI component recorded notable increases in SYP despite stable USD prices, rising by 12.2% nationally,** with higher increases in Central Southern Syria (+13.8%) and Northeastern Syria (+7%).
- Water trucking costs recorded substantial increases in SYP, rising by 19% nationally,** with sharper increases in Northeastern Syria (+40%) and Central Southern Syria (+10%), despite stable USD prices. These trends underline the strong impact of currency depreciation in driving higher local costs and worsening affordability for households.
- The national median cost of refilling a 24 kg LPG cylinder showed significant increases in SYP reaching 144,726 SYP, rising by 15.8% nationally, despite stable USD prices,** with even higher increases in Central Southern Syria (+16%) and Northeastern Syria (+9.2%) in SYP.
- Between February and May 2026, **reported market operability and financial accessibility declined nationwide. In May 2026, 57% of vendors reported at least one operational barrier, primarily driven by high supplier prices limiting stock procurement (47%),** alongside 62% who reported financial barriers faced by customers in affording essential goods. These dynamics coincided with increasingly multi-currency market practices, marked by growing reliance on USD, likely reflecting its use as a value-preserving currency amid persistent exchange-rate volatility and upward price pressures along supply chains, further constraining procurement and operational conditions for market actors

### Overview of the May 2026 median SMEB price range in SYP, by assessed sub-districts



## SMEB and foreign exchange rate trends

**2,171,139**

**SYP**

The cost of the national median SMEB

**10%** ▲

The national Syria median SMEB in SYP increased by 10% between February and May 2026

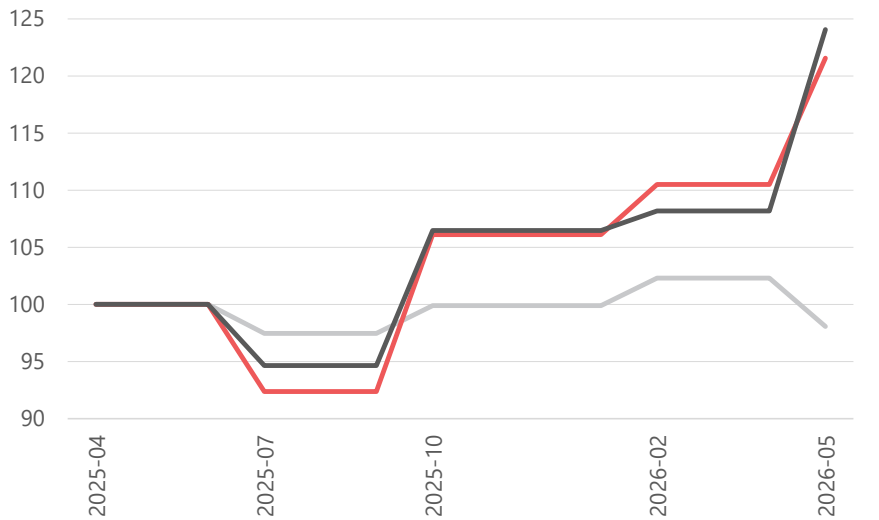
Between February and May 2026, the national median cost of the SMEB expressed in SYP increased by 10%, reaching approximately 2,171,139 SYP. Similar upward trends were recorded across assessed regions, with the SMEB cost increasing by 8% in northeastern Syria (2,186,020 SYP) and by 9% in central and southern Syria (2,224,780 SYP). See Annex 1 for the regional classification of governorates and sub-districts.

Conversely, when expressed in USD, the national median cost of the SMEB decreased by 4% over the same period, reaching 162 USD. This decline was consistently observed across all assessed regions.

These diverging trends are primarily driven by significant exchange-rate fluctuations during the reporting period. Compared with the previous quarter, the Syrian Pound depreciated by approximately 15% against the USD at both national and regional levels. Consequently, although USD-denominated market prices declined, the depreciation of the Syrian Pound resulted in substantially higher SMEB costs for households earning and spending in SYP.

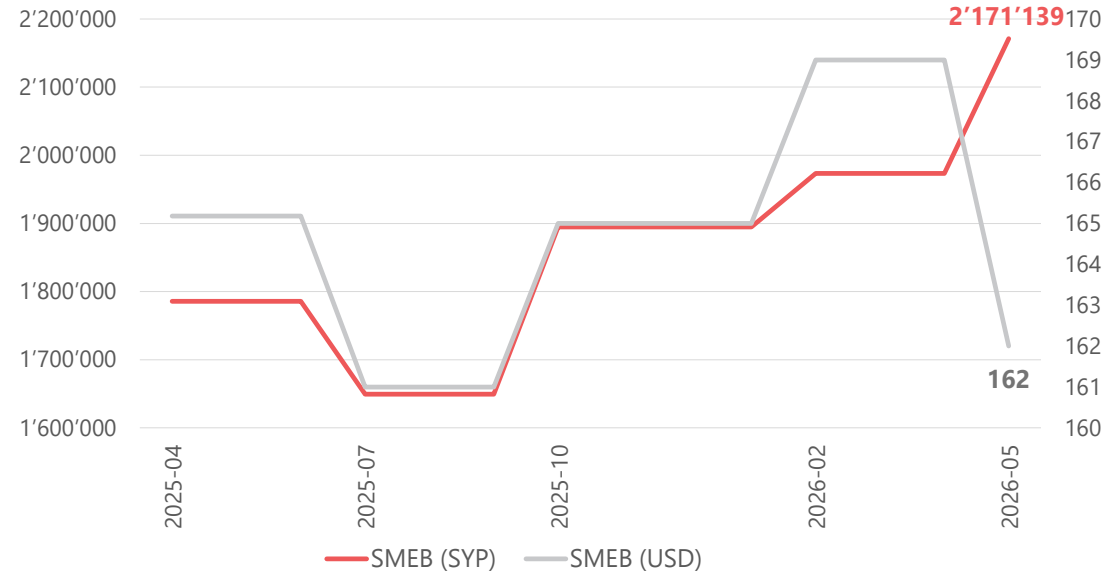
In contrast, the TRY depreciated more moderately, by approximately 5%, contributing to the relatively stable or slightly declining SMEB cost expressed in TRY observed in northwestern Syria.

**Indexed Trends in SMEB Cost and SYP/USD Exchange Rate, April 2025–May 2026 (Base = 100)**

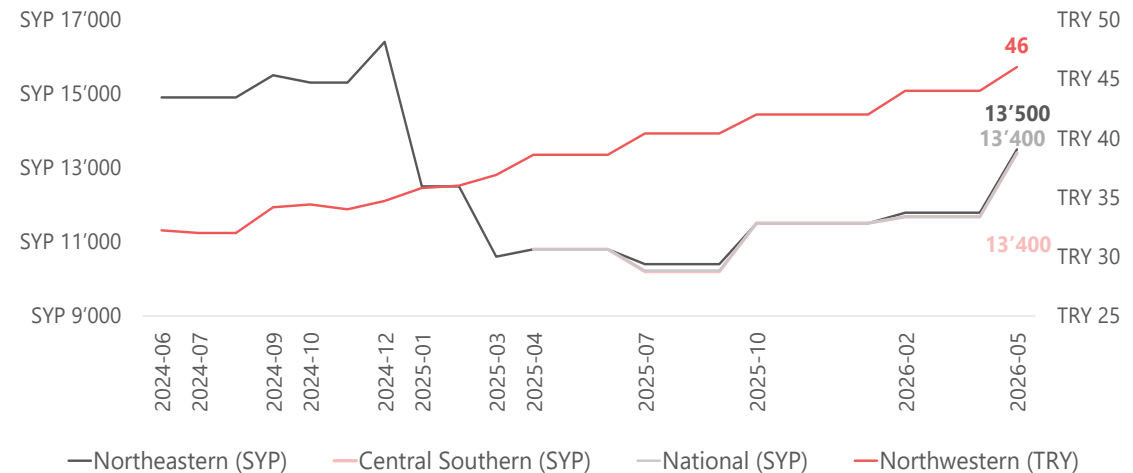


Overall, households reliant on Syrian pounds for income and daily transactions continue to face declining purchasing power as rising nominal expenditures coincide with currency depreciation. Recent government measures aimed at reinforcing the use of the Syrian Pound, including increased reliance on SYP-denominated salary payments and restrictions on bank cash withdrawals, may further limit household liquidity. As a result, even where USD-denominated prices remain relatively stable, households dependent on SYP are likely to experience worsening affordability and increasing financial pressure.

**National median SMEB prices, SYP and USD<sup>1 2</sup>**



**Median SYP/USD and TRY/USD informal exchange rate trends**



## Food

1,568,513 SYP

117 USD

The cost of the **national median SMEB Food component**

Between February and May 2026, the national median cost of the SMEB food component expressed in SYP increased by 9%, broadly mirroring the trend observed for the overall SMEB during the same period. This increase was primarily driven by the continued depreciation of the Syrian Pound against the USD.

At the commodity level, nearly all food categories included in the SMEB food basket recorded increases in SYP-denominated prices, with the exception of chicken and eggs, whose prices remained comparatively stable or declined slightly over the reporting period.

Conversely, when expressed in USD, the national median cost of the SMEB food component decreased by 5%, reaching 117 USD. This suggests that, despite relative easing in underlying market prices when measured in foreign currency terms, exchange-rate depreciation continued to exert significant upward pressure on household food expenditures in SYP.

As a result, households reliant on SYP-denominated income are likely to have experienced further deterioration in food affordability, particularly given the high share of food expenditures within overall household spending.

### Median SMEB Food component cost by Governorate (SYP), February–May 2026

Governorate	February 2026	May 2026	% change
Aleppo	1173'089	1313'611	12%
Al-Hasakeh	1563'174	1560'377	0%
Ar-Raqqa	1556'810	1607'000	3%
As-Sweida	1657'550	1930'750	16%
Damascus	1564'000	1662'500	6%
Dar'a	1521'138	1664'125	9%
Deir-ez-Zor	1412'613	1547'464	10%
Hama	1402'734	1483'300	6%
Homs	1391'450	1494'500	7%
Idleb	1136'055	1293'956	14%
Lattakia	1464'150	1484'225	1%
Quneitra	N/A	1641'625	N/A
Rural Damascus	1631'500	1770'750	9%
Tartous	1451'500	1561'750	8%

### Median national and regional May 2026 SMEB food prices and % change compared to February 2025

Region	USD		SYP/TRY	
	SMEB food price May 2026	% change from February 2026	SMEB food price May 2026	% change from February 2026
Northeastern	115 USD	- 8% ▼	1,556,632 SYP	5% ▲
Northwestern	112 USD	- 3% ▼	5090 TRY	0.5% ▲
Central southern	118 USD	- 6% ▼	1,579,125 SYP	8% ▲
National	117 USD	- 5% ▼	1,568,513 SYP	9% ▲

### Regional monthly price changes of median SMEB food components between February and May 2026

SMEB food component	Northeastern (SYP)	Northwestern (TRY)	Central-southern (SYP)	National (SYP)
SMEB bulk food	+9% ▲	9%	+11% ▲	+13% ▲
SMEB vegetables	-1% ▼	-3% ▼	+17% ▲	+11% ▲
SMEB chicken	-4% ▼	-20% ▼	-3% ▼	-3% ▼
SMEB eggs	-6% ▼	-13% ▼	-5% ▼	-3% ▼
SMEB cooking oils	+15% ▲	+4% ▲	+15% ▲	+14% ▲
SMEB bread	+25% ▲	+46% ▲	+4% ▲	+11% ▲

## Hygiene Non-food items

157,172 SYP

12 USD

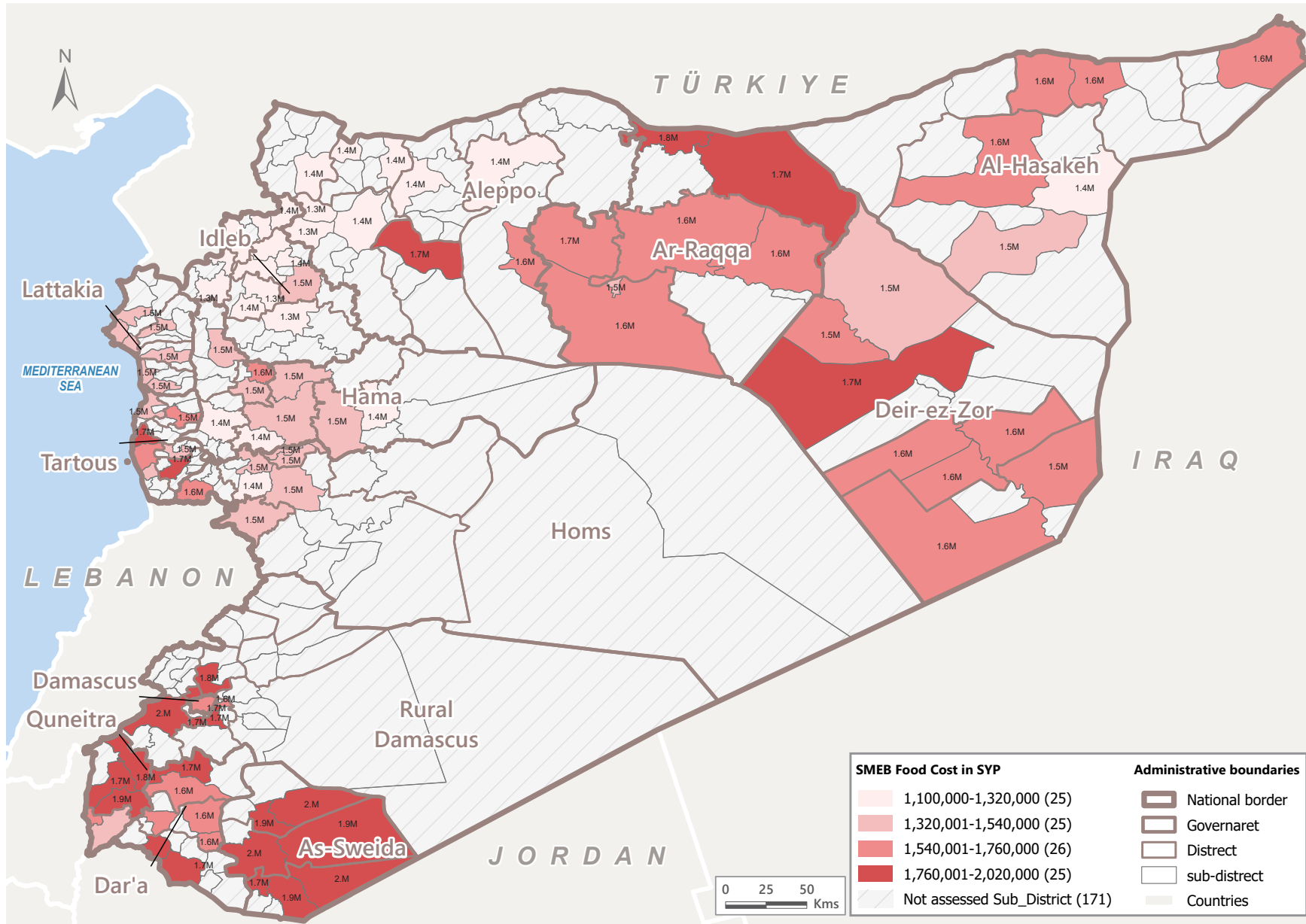
The cost of the **national median SMEB hygiene NFI component**

When expressed in local currencies, the cost of the SMEB NFI hygiene component denominated in SYP recorded notable increases across assessed regions between February and May 2026, primarily driven by continued depreciation of the Syrian Pound. At the national level, the median cost increased by 12%, reaching 157,172 SYP. Similar upward trends were observed regionally, with costs rising by 13.8% in central and southern Syria to 164,938 SYP, and by 7% in northeastern Syria to 167,792 SYP.

In contrast, the TRY-denominated SMEB NFI hygiene component recorded an 11% decrease over the same period, reaching 344 TRY in northwestern Syria. This divergence reflects differing currency dynamics across regions, with depreciation of the Syrian Pound continuing to place upward pressure on nominal household expenditures in SYP-denominated markets.

When expressed in USD, however, the median cost of the NFI hygiene component remained comparatively stable at the national level, holding at 12 USD in May 2026, unchanged from February 2026. Overall, these trends suggest that underlying market prices for NFI items remained relatively stable, or declined slightly, in foreign currency terms, while increases observed in SYP were driven predominantly by exchange-rate depreciation rather than by substantial changes in base commodity prices.

### Overview of the May 2026 median SMEB Food component price range in USD, by assessed sub-district



## Fuels

144,726 SYP

11 USD

The cost of the national median SMEB cooking fuel component

Despite continued availability of cooking and transportation fuels at the time of data collection, with no major shortages reported at either national or regional level, fuel components recorded the highest percentage price increases among all monitored items between February and May 2026. This upward trend was particularly pronounced across fuel types, reflecting sustained pressure on energy-related expenditures despite stable supply conditions.

At the national level, the median price of the SMEB cooking-fuel component, defined as the cost of refilling a 24-litre domestic LPG canister with 15L, increased by 16%, reaching 144,726 SYP.

In northwestern Syria, where transactions are primarily denominated in TRY, LPG prices increased from 462 TRY to 479 TRY, corresponding to a 3.7% increase, despite relatively stable USD-denominated prices over the same period.

When expressed in USD, however, the national median price of the SMEB cooking-fuel component remained stable at 11 USD in May 2026, unchanged compared with February 2026. Regionally, USD-denominated prices also showed limited variation, remaining at 11 USD across most assessed regions. Northeastern Syria was the only region to record a decline, with prices decreasing by 8% from 12 USD to 11 USD. Overall, these trends indicate that increases observed in local currencies were primarily driven by exchange-rate depreciation rather than by substantial changes in underlying USD-denominated LPG prices.

Regarding transportation fuels, prices increased considerably across both formal and informal markets during the reporting period. The sharpest increase was recorded for manually refined local diesel sold through fuel stations (+18%), indicating continued volatility in locally refined fuel markets and sustained upward pressure on transportation-related expenditures.

### Median domestic LPG cylinder refill price (15L) on formal markets, by region and nationwide

	SYP/TRY	Quarterly change SYP/TRY	USD	Quarterly change USD
Northeastern	148,250 SYP	+9.2% ▲	11 USD	-8% ▼
Northwestern	479 TRY	+3.6% ▲	11 USD	0%
Central southern	145,000 SYP	+16% ▲	11 USD	0%
National	144,726 SYP	+15.8% ▲	11 USD	0%

### Median national transportation fuel prices (formal and informal markets) and percentage change, February–May 2026

Item	Unit	Price	% change from February 2026
Imported diesel	1L	10,120 SYP	+15% ▲
Imported petrol	1L	11,500 SYP	+14% ▲
Manually refined diesel	1L	10,050 SYP	+18% ▲
Manually refined petrol	1L	11,390 SYP	+17% ▲
Black market diesel	1L	10,500 SYP	+17% ▲
Black market petrol	1L	12,000 SYP	+14% ▲

## Water trucking

141,253 SYP

11 USD

The cost of the national median SMEB water trucking component

Nationally, the median cost of water trucking services increased by 19% in SYP between February and May 2026, reaching 141,253 SYP.

In USD terms, however, the price of the SMEB water component remained relatively stable at the national level at 11 USD, with limited regional variation. This divergence indicates that observed increases in SYP-denominated prices are primarily driven by exchange-rate depreciation and rising input costs—particularly fuel—rather than by significant changes in underlying service prices when expressed in USD.

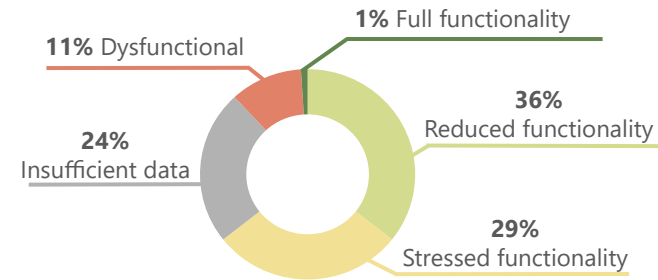
Given the high dependence of water trucking operations on transportation fuels, increases in fuel prices have directly translated into higher operational costs for service providers. In combination with continued currency depreciation, this has amplified nominal price increases in SYP-denominated markets, contributing to a gradual deterioration in affordability and reduced access to water services for households reliant on local-currency incomes.

## Market Functionality Score (MFS)<sup>3</sup>

Overall, findings indicate that market functionality remained constrained across assessed sub-districts, with partially functioning and stressed market systems accounting for the majority of classifications. While comparison with February 2026 points to a modest overall improvement in market functionality, deterioration persisted in several areas, particularly in coastal and southern governorates, reflecting continued pressures on affordability, supply-chain resilience, and market infrastructure.

### Overview of the May 2026 MFS classification, by assessed sub-district

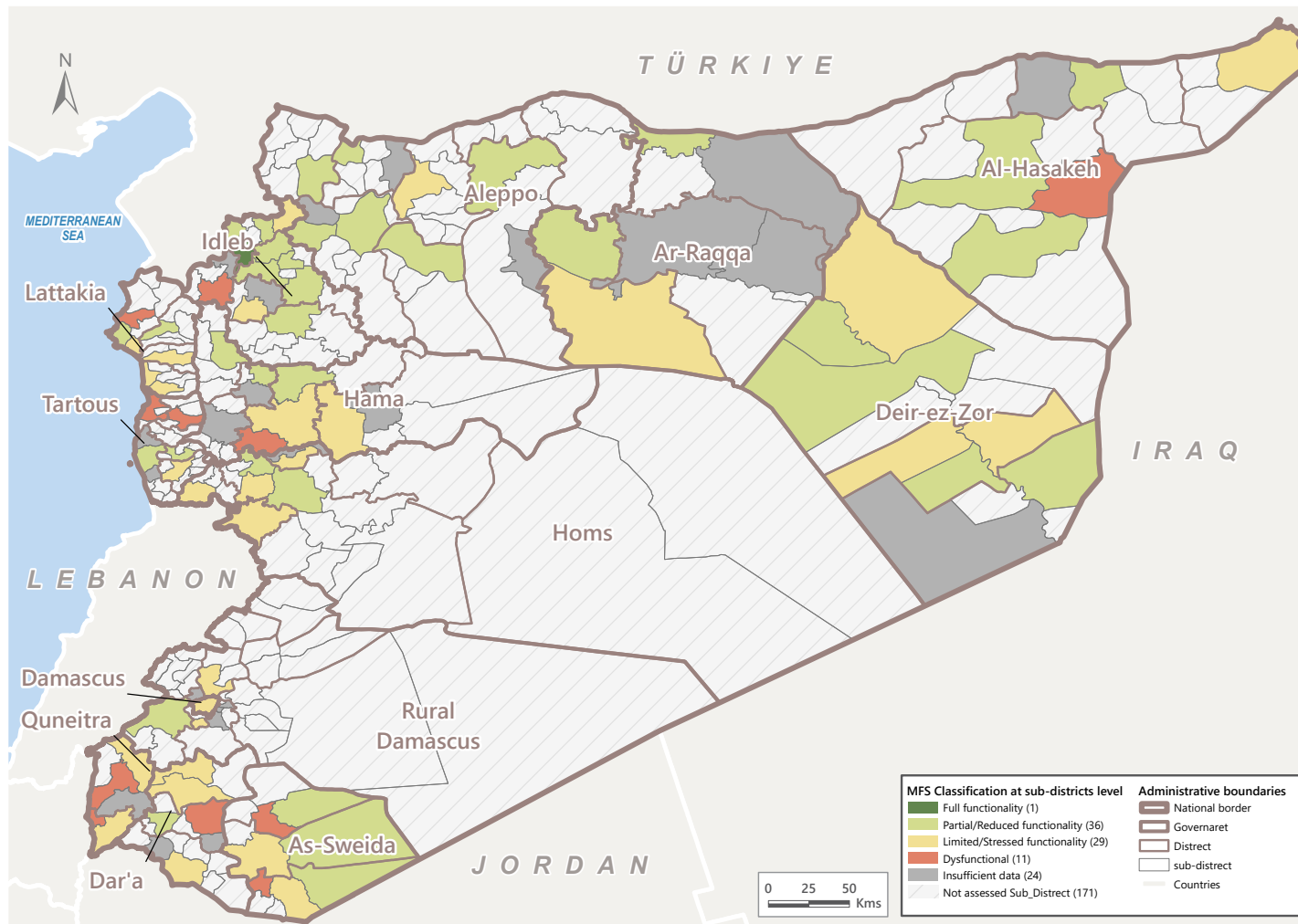
Share of assessed sub-districts by MFS in May 2025



Assessment results show that **36%** of assessed sub-districts were classified as partially functioning, while **29%** were classified as stressed and **11%** as dysfunctional. **Only one sub-district, Armanaz, was classified as fully functional.** The remaining sub-districts could not be classified due to insufficient data availability across the indicators required to calculate the MFS at sub-district level.

**Comparison with the February 2026 MFS classification, considering only sub-districts assessed in both rounds with successfully calculated MFS values in both periods (n=51), indicates a mixed but overall improving trend in market functionality.** While **43%** of comparable sub-districts remained unchanged, **35%** recorded an improved score and classification relative to the previous quarter, and **22%** experienced a deterioration in functionality. Sub-districts recording worsening classifications were concentrated mainly in Hama and Tartous governorates.

**Among sub-districts experiencing declining functionality, the dimensions most affected were affordability, supply-chain resilience, and market infrastructure.** In addition to price increases observed across nearly all SMEB categories, findings indicate increasing pressure on supply chains, reflected in shorter stock coverage periods and restocking timelines that were insufficient to keep pace with consumption levels. Vendors also reported increased reliance on a single supplier, alongside greater operational challenges in maintaining stock levels and business continuity. Furthermore, a lower proportion of interviewed vendors reported accepting payment modalities other than cash or informal credit during the reporting period, indicating reduced flexibility in transaction mechanisms.



## Share of interviewed vendors reporting access barriers and operational challenges nationwide, October 2025, February 2026, and May 2026

		Oct 2025 (N=7070)	Feb 2026 (N=4838)	May 2026 (N=4440)	Oct 2025-May 2026 change
Physical accessibility	Vendors reporting customers facing at least one physical barrier to accessing local markets	6%	9%	7%	+1 ▲
Security barriers	Vendors reporting customers facing at least one security-related barrier to accessing local markets	8%	13%	6%	-2 ▼
Financial barriers	Vendors reporting customers facing at least one financial barrier to affording essential goods	52%	60%	62%	+10 ▲
Operational barriers	Vendors reporting at least one operational challenge in keeping their shop open and well-stocked	39%	47%	57%	+18 ▲

In May 2026, reported market operationality and financial accessibility declined nationwide compared to February 2026. This deterioration was primarily driven by an increase in both operational barriers affecting shop functionality and financial barriers limiting customers' ability to afford essential goods. These dynamics coincided with increasingly multi-currency market practices, marked by a growing reliance on USD as a value-preserving currency amid persistent exchange-rate volatility and upward price pressures along supply chains, further constraining procurement and operational conditions for market actors.

## Operational barriers

Operational barriers reported by vendors increased nationwide by 10 percentage points compared to February 2026, with 57% of assessed vendors reporting at least one operational constraint in May 2026. The increase in operational barriers was observed across nearly all assessed governorates, pointing to a broad deterioration in vendors' ability to procure and maintain stocks of essential goods.

### Share of interviewed vendors reporting at least one operational challenge, by governorate, February and May 2026

	Feb 2026 (N=4838)	May 2026 (N=4440)	Percentage point change
Al-Hasakeh	96%	80%	-15 ▼
Aleppo	61%	48%	-13 ▼
Ar-Raqqa	54%	61%	+7 ▲
As-Sweida	85%	89%	+4 ▲
Damascus	0%	12%	+12 ▲
Dar'a	29%	59%	+30 ▲
Deir-ez-Zor	50%	64%	+15 ▲
Hama	36%	47%	+11 ▲
Homs	33%	47%	+14 ▲
Idleb	47%	46%	-1 ▼
Lattakia	54%	68%	+14 ▲
Quneitra	N/A	86%	N/A
Rural Damascus	13%	29%	+16 ▲

This indicates growing challenges affecting market operations and vendors' ability to procure and maintain stocks of essential goods.

Across governorates, the most commonly reported constraint by a wide margin was price increases or high supplier prices limiting stock procurement, followed by insufficient financial resources.

**The increase in operational barriers was observed across nearly all assessed governorates, pointing to a broad deterioration in vendors' operating conditions nationwide. Particularly sharp increases were recorded in Dar'a, Tartous, Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Homs, and Lattakia, while declines were observed only in a limited number of governorates, including Al-Hasakeh and Aleppo.** Nationwide and across all governorates, the most commonly reported constraint by a wide margin was price increases or high supplier prices limiting stock procurement (47%), followed by insufficient financial resources (23%).

## Financial accessibility

The share of vendors reporting customers facing financial barriers reached the highest level over the last year, up to 62% of assessed vendors nationwide, highlighting increasing economic pressures affecting household purchasing power. Half of vendors (54%) nationwide reported that many customers were unable to afford available items, making affordability the most commonly cited constraint. This was followed by limitations related to accepted payment modalities (18%) and liquidity-related challenges (14%).

### Overview of the share of vendors accepting SYP and USD as a payment method nationwide over the last year (April 2025-May 2026)

	Apr-25	Jul-25	Oct-25	Feb-26	May-26
SYP	70%	82%	85%	89%	94%
USD	36%	39%	37%	42%	47%

Findings indicate a continued diversification of transactional currency practices among vendors, likely reflecting persistent exchange-rate volatility, liquidity constraints, and broader macroeconomic changes across Syria.

While SYP remains the predominant currency for transactions, its acceptance has expanded significantly in recent rounds, particularly driven by changes in northwestern Syria, where it has increasingly replaced TRY as the main transactional currency. At the same time, USD acceptance has also continued to increase, reinforcing its role as a parallel currency used for value preservation and pricing stability amid ongoing currency fluctuations.

Overall, the concurrent use of SYP and USD points to the consolidation of a multi-currency market environment, in which vendors adapt their payment practices to fluctuating monetary conditions. This dynamic likely enhances transactional flexibility for market actors, while also contributing to uneven purchasing power among households depending on the currency composition and stability of their income sources.

		Central Southern		Northeastern		Northwestern		
Item	Unit	SYP	Quarterly change (SYP)	SYP	Quarterly change (SYP)	TRY	Quarterly change (TRY)	SYP
Bulk foods								
Bulgur	1kg	10,000	+14% ▲	10,000	+11% ▲	30	0%	8,816
Red lentils	1kg	13,000	+8% ▲	13,000	+2% ▲	42.25	+0.6% ▲	12,415
Rice	1kg	12,000	+11% ▲	12,000	+2% ▲	38.75	+6% ▲	11,387
Wheat flour	1kg	6,500	+8% ▲	8,000	+20% ▲	20	-6% ▼	5,877
Salt	500g	1,500	0%	2,000	+31% ▲	5.75	+15% ▲	1,690
Sugar	1kg	8,500	+10% ▲	9,000	+7.5% ▲	30	0%	8,815
Baby formula	1kg	85,000	+6% ▲	144,125	+38% ▲	541.5	+92% ▲	159,125
Tomato Paste	1kg	18,000	+20% ▲	17,750	+2% ▲	70	+7% ▲	20,570
Vegetables								
Tomatoes	1kg	12,000	+41% ▲	11,630	+29% ▲	40	+25% ▲	11,754
Potatoes	1kg	6,750	+28% ▲	5,000	+11% ▲	16.25	+8% ▲	4,775
Cucumbers	1kg	9,000	0%	6,750	-30% ▼	28.75	-23% ▼	8,448
Onions	1kg	5,625	-2% ▼	5,250	-9% ▼	15.5	-17% ▼	4,554
Cooking oils								
Ghee	1kg	35,000	+17% ▲	27,071	+13% ▲	100	+10% ▲	2,938
Vegetable oil	1L	26,000	+13% ▲	26,000	+18% ▲	85	0%	24,989
Poultry								
Chicken	1kg	29,000	-3% ▼	25,750	-4% ▼	100	-20% ▼	29,386
Eggs	1kg	30,000	-5% ▼	30,000	-6% ▼	100	-13% ▼	29,386
Bread								
Non-subsidised bread	8pc	6,000	+20% ▲	6,268	+28% ▲	14	-14% ▼	4,114
Subsidised	8pc	4,000	+5% ▲	4,437	+10% ▲	NA	NA	NA
Hygiene NFI								
Bathing soap	1pc	4,000	+23% ▲	5,000	0%	8	-33% ▼	2,350
Sanitary pads	10pc	11,000	+10% ▲	9,375	+12% ▲	18	-10% ▼	5,289
Toothpaste	100g	12,375	+3% ▲	10,767	+2% ▲	31.75	-6% ▼	
Toothbrush	1 pc	8,000	N/A	5,000	N/A	20	N/A	
Laundry powder	1kg	19,500	+15% ▲	19,275	+21% ▲	43.74	-3% ▼	1,2856
Dish soap	1L	12,625	+15% ▲	13,229	+10% ▲	31.5	+60% ▲	9,256
Baby diaper	30 pcs	37,250	+16% ▲	32,000	+14% ▲	115	+2% ▲	33,793
Cooking fuels								
Kerosene	1L	12,750	+56% ▲	9,875	+23% ▲	38	+29% ▲	11,200
LPG gas	1L	20,714	+16% ▲	21,179	+9% ▲	68.4	+3.6% ▲	21,100
Water								
Water trucking	1L	38	+9% ▲	35	+40% ▲	0.05	-36% ▼	15
Internet								
Mobile data	1gb	8,000	-8% ▼	3,333	0%	91.2	+4% ▲	26,800
Transportation fuels								
Imported diesel	1L	10,500	+17% ▲	10,000	N/A	34.2	+4% ▲	10,050
Imported petrol	1L	11,500	+9% ▲	11,375	+3% ▲	41.5	+11% ▲	12,194
Manually refined diesel	1L	10,013	+16% ▲	10,050	+34% ▲	34.2	+11% ▲	10,050
Manually refined petrol	1L	11,500	+17% ▲	10,750	+39% ▲	38.8	+17.5% ▲	11,390
Black market diesel	1L		+16% ▲	9,250	+23% ▲	35	+6% ▲	10,285
Black market petrol	1L	13,000	+18% ▲	9,500	+23% ▲	37.5	+0.3% ▲	11,019

Regional median prices of all monitored items in SYP, and TRY where applicable, and quarterly percentage change (February 2026 - May 2026)

## JMMI Methodology

### Coverage

Coverage is determined through a combination of identifying key market hubs and partners' field capacity. Firstly, key market hubs are identified using the July 2025 [Nationwide Market Network Analysis](#), classifying all communities that 5 or more other communities report to rely on for markets as a key market hub. Secondly, these "key market hubs" are reviewed by the field teams for validity purposes. In this step, additional important markets in communities are included. These could be communities that either a) have significant markets but were not included in HSOS coverage, or b) communities that have markets that are important for people living in camps. Finally, we compare the ideal coverage with the capacity of partners and aim to ensure that key market hubs are covered. The actual coverage is, therefore, restricted to the capacity of partners.

### Data Collection

In each assessed location, at least 3 prices for all SMEB items need to be collected from different traders to ensure the quality and consistency of the collected data. In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the prices of the cheapest, most commonly bought type of item are recorded for each product, except in cases where otherwise indicated.

### SMEB Calculation

The cost of the SMEB is determined by multiplying the median price of each item in the respective location by the quantity listed in the table to the right.

### Identification of traders

Field teams identify traders to assess based on the following criteria:

- Traders are retailers selling directly to consumers.
- Traders need to be representative of the local price level.
- Traders have knowledge of the shop operations.

To the extent possible, the same traders are revisited in every data collection round.

### Enumerators and training

The data are collected by field staff familiar with local market conditions. They undergo training on the methodology and tools provided by REACH. Training sessions occur each time a new partner joins the JMMI, at partner request, and at scheduled intervals throughout the year, such as when the assessment undergoes changes. Additionally, field teams are equipped with a JMMI Standardised Operational Procedure (SOP) offering guidance on market identification, trader assessment, and pricing. The REACH JMMI

team manages the integration of partner feedback on the JMMI SOP, sharing updates, and conducting re-training with the field, as needed. Data collection is carried out using the KOBO Collect mobile application.

### Data cleaning and analysis

After data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partner data, standardizing prices, cross-checking outliers, and calculating the median cost of prices in each assessed location. Follow-ups are initiated with field teams to address data queries, including outliers, missing data, and incorrect entries. The median item prices reported in this factsheet are 'location medians,' designed to mitigate the impact of outliers and variations in data quantity among assessed locations.

### Aggregation

The published data is disaggregated at the community, sub-district, district, governorate, and regional levels. The lowest administrative level at which the SMEB is calculated is the sub-district. Item-level medians are computed at the sub-district level, provided that at least three price points are available per item. If this threshold is not met, the sub-district median is imputed using the corresponding district-level item median.

Following imputation, medians at the district, governorate, and regional levels are derived exclusively from sub-district-

level medians; that is, higher-level aggregates are based on sub-district values rather than by calculating medians of medians.

### Challenges and limitations

- Price data reflects only the specific timeframe in which it was collected. Variations in coverage may occur between data collection rounds, and any comparisons should be regarded as indicative.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest, most commonly bought type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across regions. Therefore, price comparisons across regions may be based on slightly varying products.
- With current coverage, data is mostly collected from main markets, which may not be representative of rural areas.
- As the JMMI continues to expand and is extended to additional locations, the reported changes in the overall median prices may be driven by shifts in coverage rather than actual price changes

### JMMI Dashboard

JMMI data is updated monthly through the [Interactive Dashboard](#) where users can filter for SMEB components of interest, currencies, and assessed areas.

## Market Functionality Score (MFS)

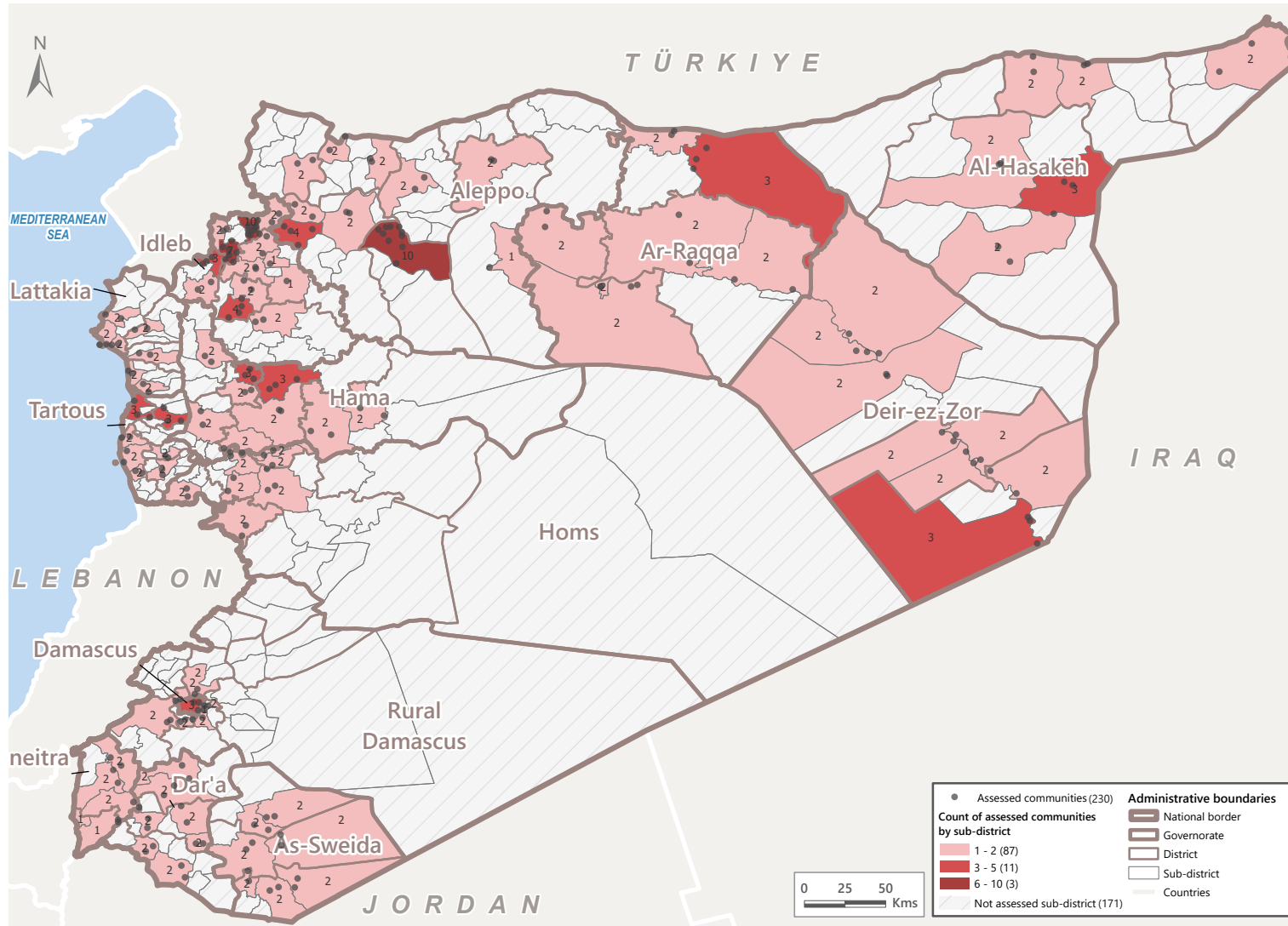
The Market Functionality Score (MFS) is a framework used to classify markets according to their overall level of functionality. It assesses markets across five core dimensions that capture their capacity to supply essential goods and services to consumers while enabling vendors to operate effectively. These dimensions are weighted as follows:

- **Accessibility (25%):** physical and social access to markets
- **Availability (30%):** the ability of markets to consistently supply core SMEB commodities
- **Affordability (15%):** financial access to markets and price stability of core SMEB commodities
- **Resilience (20%):** the vulnerability of supply chains and the ease with which vendors can restock goods
- **Infrastructure (10%):** the condition of markets' physical and financial infrastructure

The MFS is calculated by aggregating indicators collected through individual vendor interviews. These indicators are combined across the five dimensions to generate an overall market functionality score for each assessed location. Based on this score, markets are classified along an ordinal scale comprising four categories:

- **Fully functional:** Markets performing exceptionally well compared with national trends, consistently operating at a high level.
- **Reduced functionality:** Markets that remain largely operational but exhibit emerging or localized vulnerabilities.
- **Stressed functionality:** Markets operating under considerable strain, with reliability and overall performance noticeably uneven or fragile.
- **Severely constrained / Dysfunctional:** Markets facing major constraints, with very limited or near non-operational functionality.

Geographic coverage of the May 2026 JMMI



Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)

The current SMEB is a tool designed in 2017 by the Cash-based responses Technical Working Group (CBR-TWG) for Northern Syria. The SMEB is designed as an indicator of the cost of the minimum, culturally-appropriate items that a family of 6 needs to survive for one month, while meeting basic standards for nutritious food, water use and hygiene in Northern Syria. The cost of the SMEB can be used as a proxy for understanding the financial burdens that households face in different locations.

<b>SMEB bulk foods</b>	
Bulgur	15kg
Red lentils	15kg
Rice	19kg
Wheat flour	1kg
Salt	1Kg
Sugar	5kg
Tomato Paste	6kg
<b>SMEB vegetables</b>	
Tomatoes	
Potatoes	12kg
Cucumbers	
Onions	
<b>SMEB cooking oils</b>	
Ghee / Vegetable oil	7kg/L
<b>SMEB poultry</b>	
Chicken	6kg
Eggs	6kg
<b>Bread</b>	
Non-subsidised bread	37 Kg
<b>SMEB NFI</b>	
Bathing soap	12pc
Sanitary pads	40pc
Toothpaste	2pc
Laundry powder	3kg/L
Dish soap	
<b>SMEB cooking fuels</b>	
Kerosene	25L
LPG gas	
<b>SMEB water</b>	
Water trucking	4,500L
Internet	
Mobile data	1GB

**Annex 1**

**Regional classification of assessed governorates and sub-districts**

Central southern			
Governorate	Sub-district	Governorate	Sub-district
<b>Damascus</b>	Damascus		Al-Qusayr
<b>Dar'a</b>	As-Sanamayn	<b>Homs</b>	Ar-Rastan
	Dar'a		Homs
	Ghabagheb		Kherbet Tin
	Hrak		Talbiseh
	Izra'		Taldu
	Mzeireb		Tall Kalakh
	Nawa		Banyas
<b>Hama</b>	As-Salamiyeh	<b>Tartous</b>	Dreikish
	Hama		Kherbet Elma'aza
	Harbanifse		Qadmous
	Kafr Zeita		Soda Khawabi
	Muhradah		Tartous
	Masyaf		Al-Haffa
	Saboura		Al-Qardaha
<b>As-Sweida</b>	Suran	<b>Lattakia</b>	Ein El-Bayda
	As-Sweida		Hanadi
	Mashnaf		Jablah
	Milh		Lattakia
	Qarayya		Qteilibiyyeh
	Salkhad		Quneitra
	Shahba		<b>Quneitra</b>
Shaqa	Al-Khashniyyeh		
<b>Rural Damascus</b>	At Tall		
	Babella		
	Jaramana		
	Kafr Batna		
	Qatana		
	Qudsiya		
	Sahnaya		

Northwestern	
Governorate	Sub-district
<b>Aleppo</b>	Afrin
	Aghtrin
	Al Bab
	As-Safira
	Atareb
	A'zaz
	Daret Azza
	Menbij
	Ariha
	Armanaz
<b>Idleb</b>	Bennsh
	Dana
	Darkosh
	Ehsem
	Idleb
	Jisr-Ash-Shugur
	Maaret Tamsrin
	Ma'arrat An Nu'man
	Qourqeena
	Salqin
Saraqab	

Northeastern	
Governorate	Sub-district
<b>Aleppo</b>	Jebel Saman
	Maskana
	Menbij
<b>Al-Hasakeh</b>	Al-Hasakeh
	Al-Malikeyyeh
	Amuda
	Hole
	Quamishli
<b>Ar-Raqqa</b>	Shadadah
	Al-Thawrah
	Ar-Raqqa
	Jurneyyeh
	Karama
	Mansura
	Suluk
<b>Deir-ez-Zor</b>	Tell Abiad
	Abu Kamal
	Al Mayadin
	Ashara
	Deir-ez-Zor
	Hajin
	Kisreh
	Tabni
Thiban	

### Endnotes

1 The JMMI data collection conducted in April 2025 marked the first time data was gathered across the entire Syrian national territory, expanding coverage to include the central and southern regions. As a result, REACH does not have historical JMMI data for either the central and southern regions or for the national-level territory prior to this round.

2 The dates shown in all line charts correspond to the months when JMMI data was collected. Where no date appears, no JMMI round was conducted; thus price trends in those months are inferred from the preceding and subsequent JMMI rounds.

3 JMMI data, together with REACH’s Market Network Analysis conducted in July 2025, indicate that market demand and supply dynamics in Syria frequently extend beyond individual communities. Households and vendors commonly rely on markets and supply networks that operate across administrative boundaries, particularly between neighbouring communities and sub-districts. Consequently, the community level was considered insufficient to adequately capture these economic interactions. The sub-district level was therefore identified as the smallest operationally relevant unit for analysing functional market systems in Syria, encompassing retailers, wholesalers, and transport networks. For broader analytical purposes, the Market Functionality Score is also aggregated at governorate level, although findings at this level are considered less representative.

### Contributing partners



### 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).