

Aleppo Governorate, December 2017

Humanitarian Situation Overview in Syria (HSOS)

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action

OVERALL FINDINGS¹

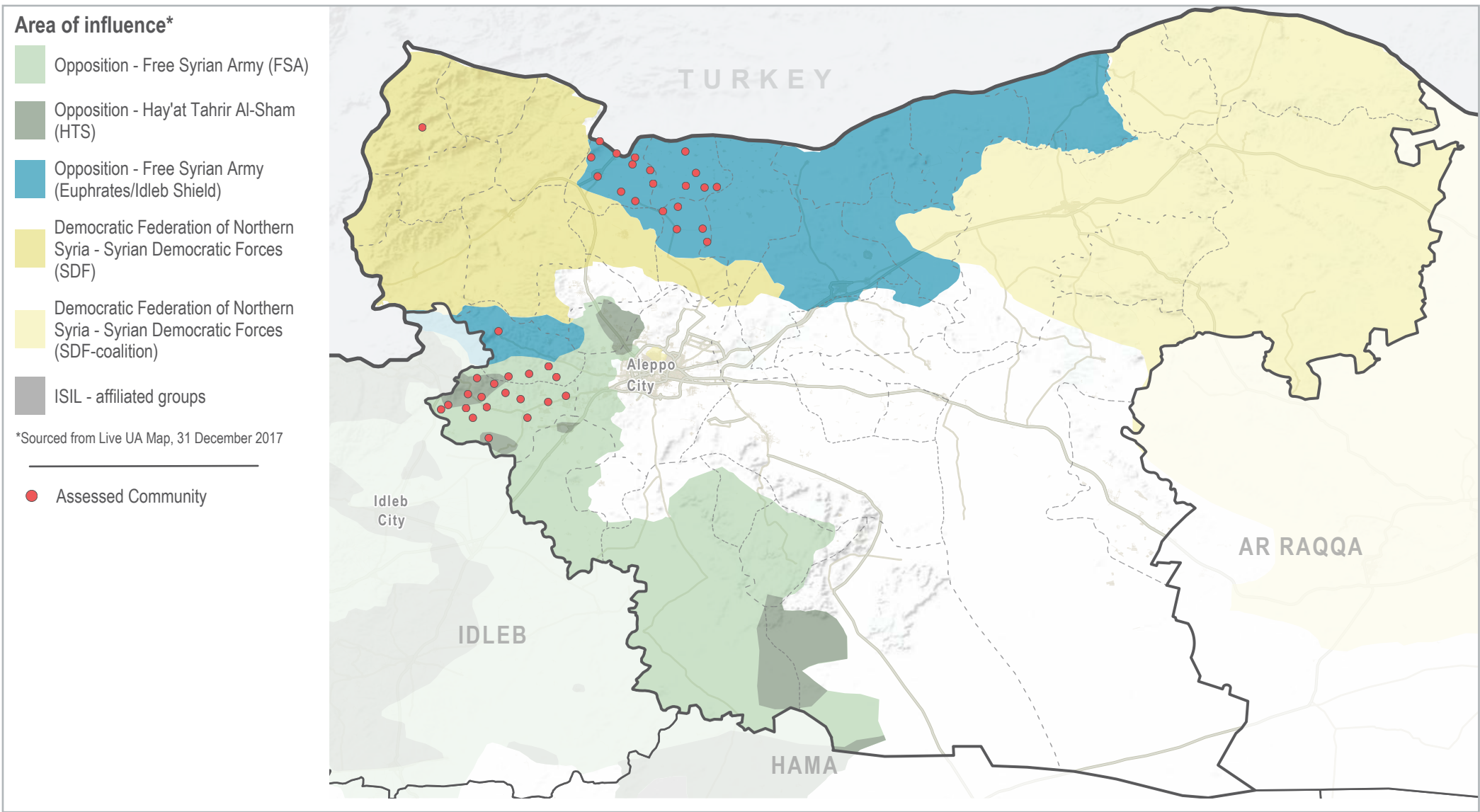
Following the cessation of conflict in and around Aleppo City in December 2016, thousands have spontaneously returned to their communities in 2017². In December, **none** of the 41 communities assessed in north-western Aleppo witnessed spontaneous returns and **no** communities reported that members of the pre-conflict population left their community. Of the communities assessed, **98%** reported the presence of IDPs, with a **58%** increase in IDP arrivals reported in December compared to November. The estimated number of IDP arrivals in assessed communities ranged from **8,510 - 9,650** individuals. A majority of arrivals reportedly originated from other areas of Aleppo governorate, in particular Hajeb subdistrict, due to conflict. Out of the 40 communities reporting an IDP presence, **76%** reported hosting more than 1,000 IDPs and **15%** reported the presence of over 10,000 IDPs. Half of the latter were located in Atareb subdistrict. Of these communities, **50%** reported that over half of their population was comprised of IDPs. The largest number of IDPs, approximately **91,000**, was reported in A'zaz City, comprising more than half of the city's estimated population of 143,500. Of the 40 communities hosting IDPs, **all but five** reported that the most common type of shelter lived in by IDPs was independent apartments or houses. In the remaining **five** communities, most of which are located in Mare' and Suran subdistricts, a majority of IDPs reportedly lived in tents.

Of the communities assessed, **39%** reported having insufficient water to cover household needs. A majority of these communities are located in A'zaz subdistrict, including A'zaz City, as well as in neighbouring Mare' and Suran subdistricts. These communities predominantly relied on water trucking as their main source of water. **Over half** of the communities assessed in Aleppo reported a lack of fuel, concentrated in Atareb and Daret Azza sub-districts. Fuel prices in these subdistricts were higher than in other assessed subdistricts in Aleppo, with the exception of butane. **All but one** of these communities reported relying on generators as their main source of electricity. Of these communities, **12** reported the presence of over 4,000 IDPs, and **four** reported that over 10,000 IDPs were residing in their community. Rent prices in **84%** of these communities were above the Syrian average, 6,882 SYP, and over 10,000 SYP in **nine** of them.

Of the 41 assessed communities, **51%** reported experiencing challenges to accessing sufficient amounts of food. All of these communities reported a lack of resources to buy available food as well as the high cost of some food items. These **21** communities were predominantly located in A'zaz, Mare', and Suran subdistricts, and all 21 reported that unstable employment was among the three most common sources of income. Nonetheless, **all** communities assessed in Aleppo reported that food was either somewhat sufficient or sufficient and no extreme food-based coping strategies were reported. Of the communities assessed in Aleppo, **73%** reported that children were being sent to work or beg, a majority of which are located in Atareb and Daret Azza subdistricts³. Although 15 to 18-year old children were sent to work or beg most frequently,

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Governorate areas of influence:



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DISPLACEMENT

8,510 - 9,650 Estimated number of IDP arrivals in assessed communities in December.

0 Estimated number of spontaneous returns in assessed communities in December².

Communities with the largest estimated number of IDP arrivals:

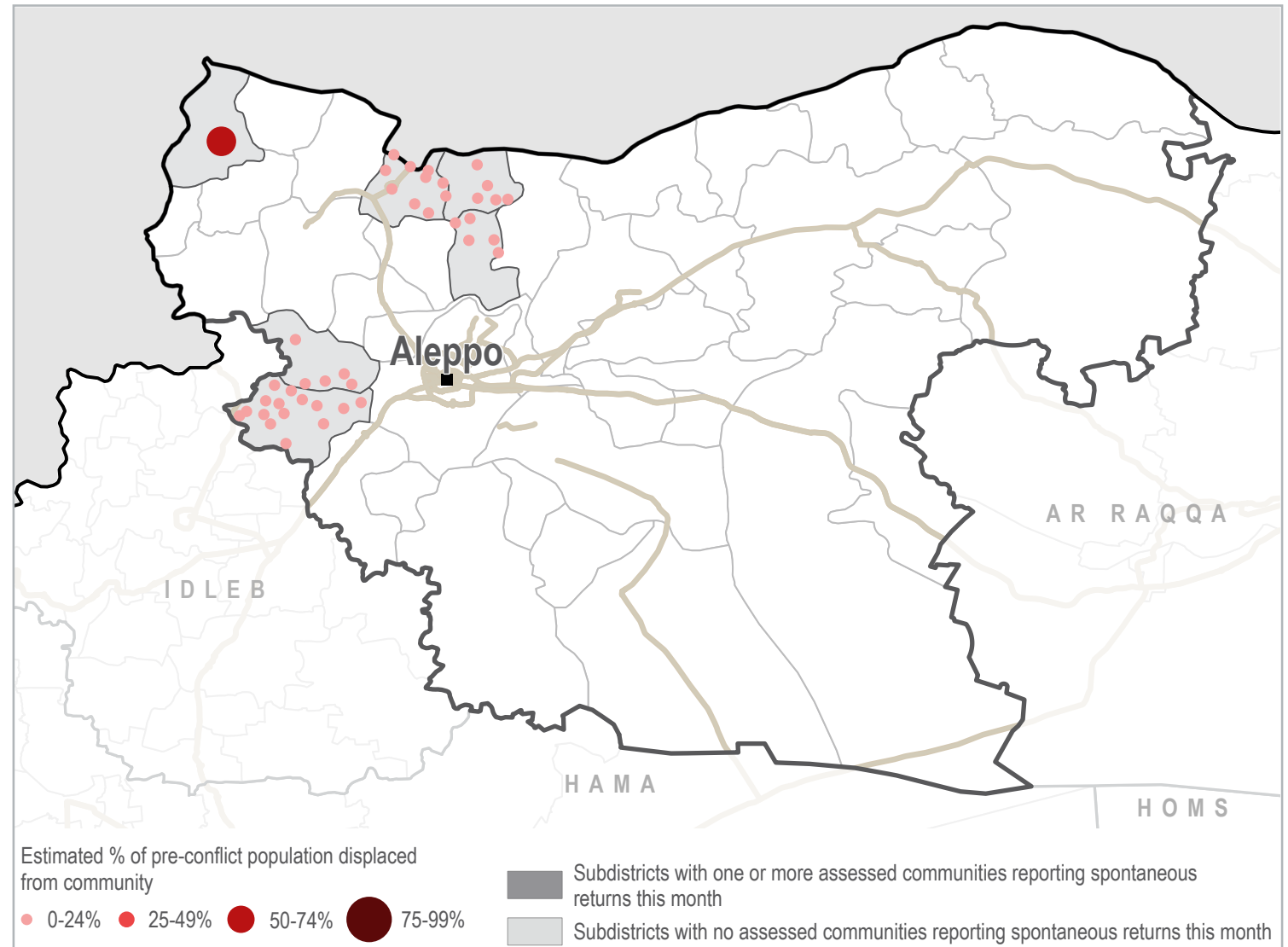
A'zaz	5,000 - 5,500
Batbu	700 - 800
Suran	700 - 750

Top 3 subdistricts of origin of most IDPs arrivals^{3,4}:

Hajeb (Aleppo)	50%
Tall Ed-daman (Aleppo)	19%
Zarbah (Aleppo)	6%

41 communities reported no PCP departures^{3,4}.

Estimated percent of pre-conflict population (PCP) displaced from community:



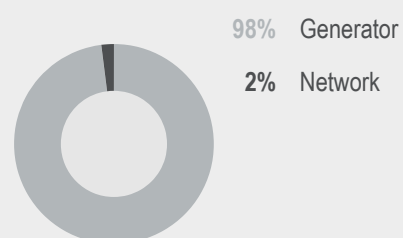
³ Multiple choices allowed.

⁴ By percent of communities reporting.

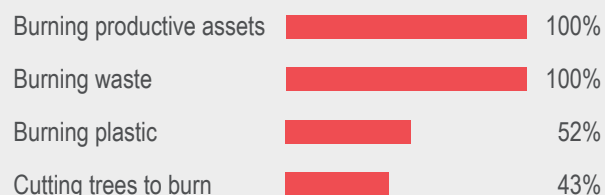
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SHELTER AND NFI

Primary source of electricity reported:⁴



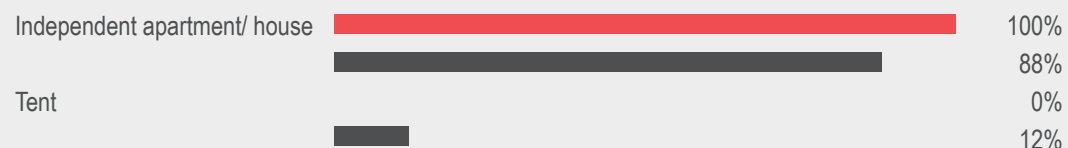
20 communities reported no lack of fuel. Most common strategies to cope with a lack of fuel in the remaining **21** assessed communities^{3,4}:



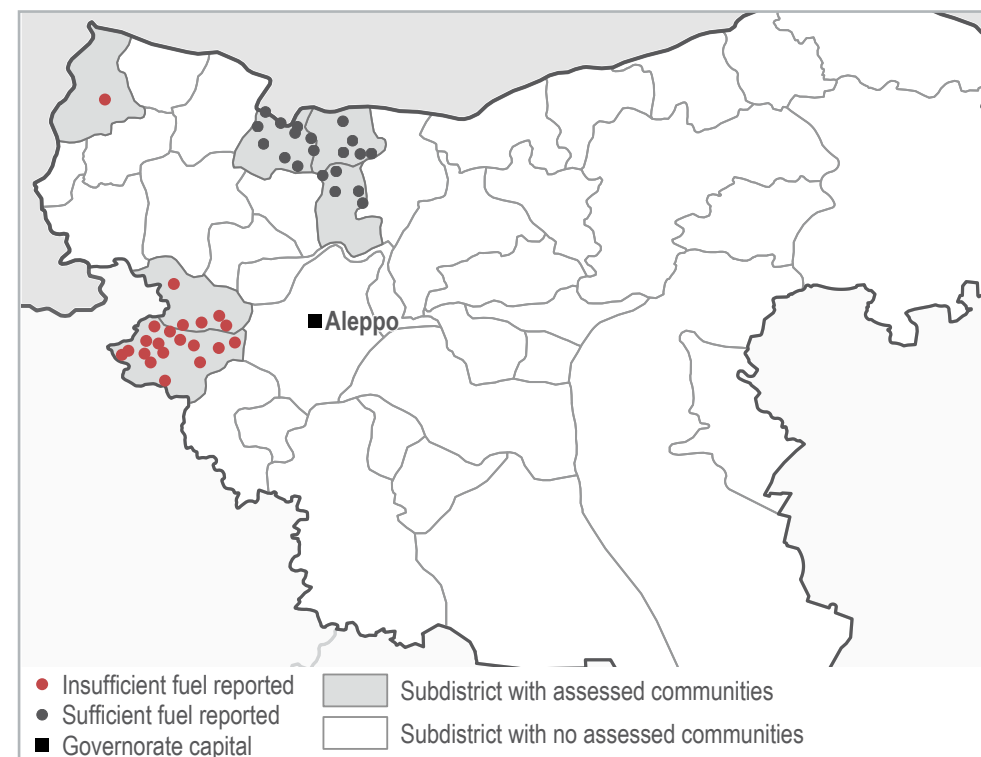
10,581 SYP Governorate average reported rent price in Syrian Pounds (SYP) across assessed communities.⁵

6,882 SYP Syrian average reported rent price in SYP across assessed communities.⁵

Most commonly reported shelter type for PCP (in red) and IDP (in grey) households⁴:



Fuel sufficiency:



Reported

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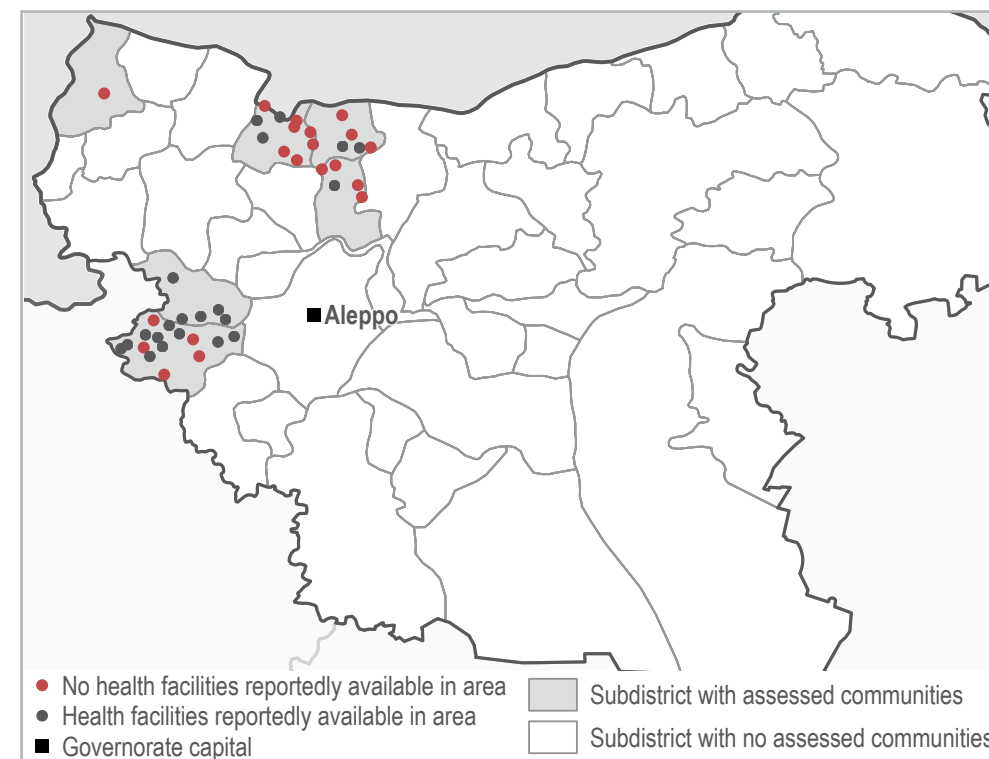
- 9** Communities reported that no medical items were available in their community.
- 0** Communities reported that the majority of women did not have access to formal health facilities to give birth.

21 communities reported that residents experienced no barriers to accessing healthcare services. The barriers in the remaining **20** assessed communities were^{3,4}:



41 communities reported that residents were not using coping strategies to deal with a lack of medical supplies^{3,4}.

Presence of health facilities in assessed communities:



Top 3 most needed healthcare services reported^{3,4}:

Surgical care	46%
All health services	44%
Orthopedic services	34%

Top 3 most common health problems reported^{3,4}:

Severe diseases affecting those younger than 5	98%
Acute respiratory infections	56%
Chronic diseases	49%

³ Multiple choices allowed.

⁴ By percent of communities reporting.

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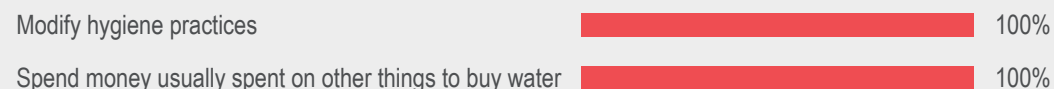


- 0 Communities reported that water from their primary source tasted and/or smelled bad.
- 0 Communities reported that drinking water from their primary source made people sick.

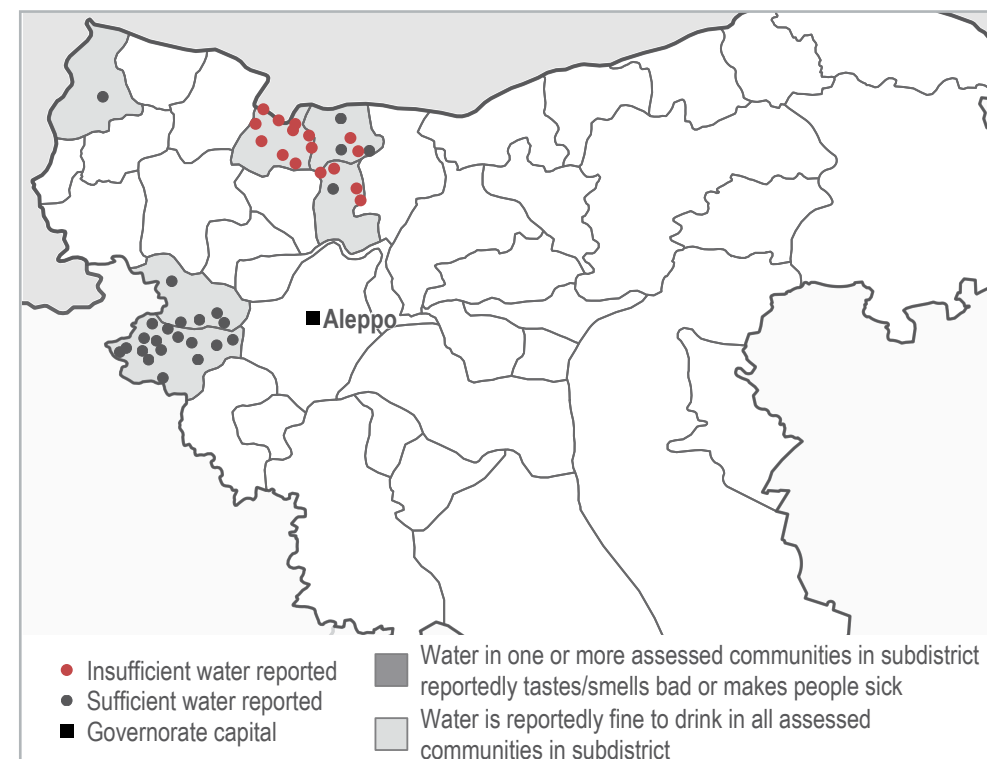
31 communities reported that they had no problems with latrines. The most prevalent problems with latrines in the remaining 10 assessed communities were^{3,4}:



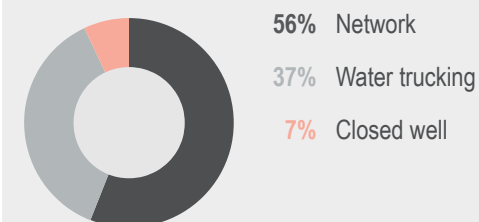
25 communities reported that they had sufficient amounts of water to meet household needs. The most common coping strategies to deal with a lack of water in the remaining 16 assessed communities were^{3,4}:



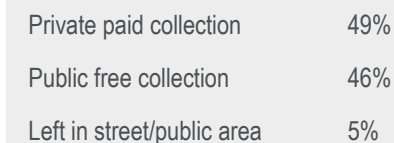
Water sufficiency for household needs:



Primary drinking water source reported⁴:



Top 3 reported methods of garbage disposal^{3,4}:



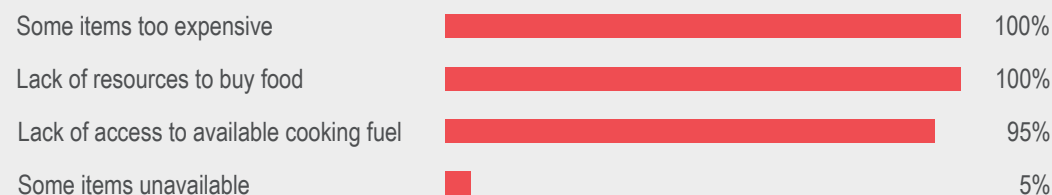
³ Multiple choices allowed.

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FOOD SECURITY

- 0 Communities reported not having received a food distribution in the last 12 months.
- 0 Communities reported that residents were unable to purchase food at shops and markets.

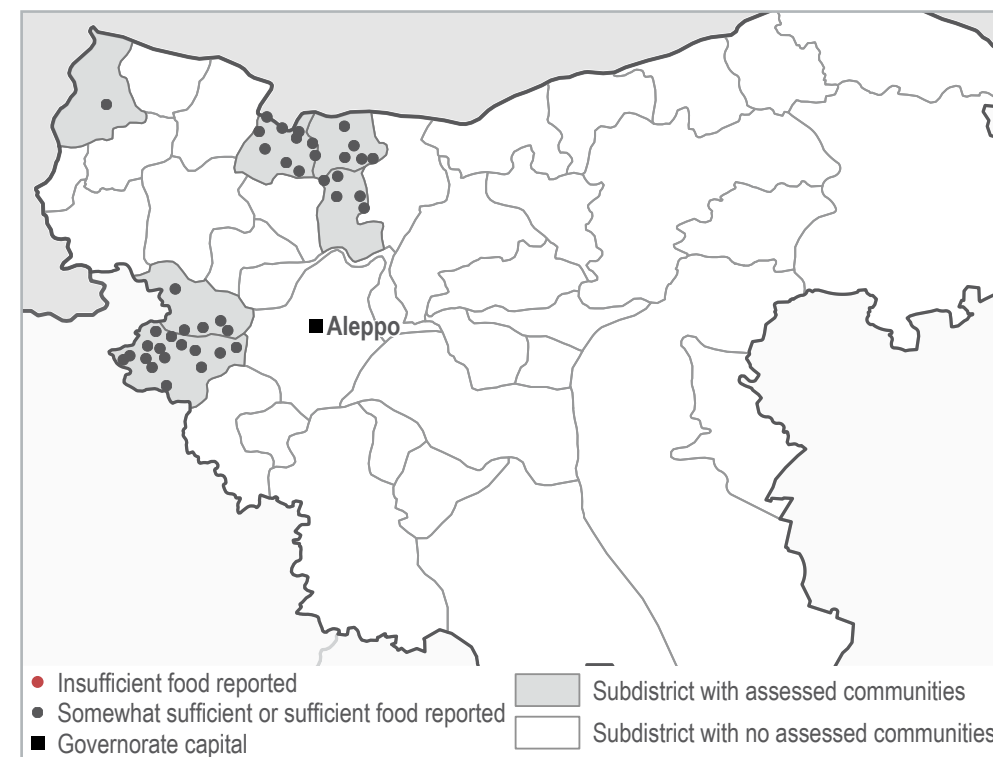
20 communities reported that residents experienced no challenges in accessing food. The most common difficulties experienced in the remaining **21** assessed communities were^{3,4}:



Core food item prices reported (in SYP)⁵:

Food item:	Governorate average price in December:	Governorate average price in November:	Syrian average price in December:
Bread public bakery (1 loaf)	110	110	114
Rice (1 kilogram)	469	469	565
Lentils (1 kilogram)	360	363	472
Sugar (1 kilogram)	336	350	410
Cooking oil (1 litre)	477	509	697

Food sufficiency:



Most common ways of obtaining food reported^{3,4}:



³

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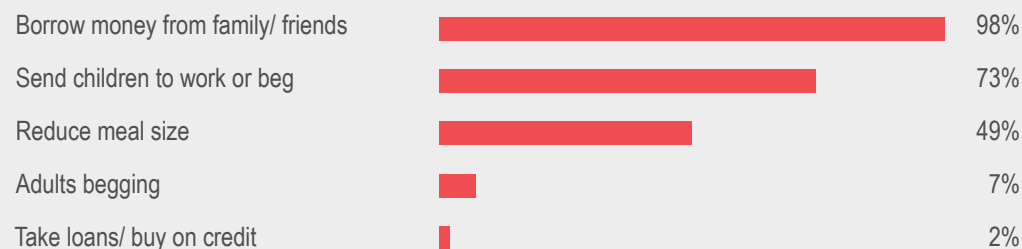
LIVELIHOODS

Less than 50,000 SYP Most commonly reported household income range⁵.

25,624 SYP Governorate average food basket price^{5,6}.

0 Communities reported that residents used extreme food-based coping strategies to deal with insufficient income⁷.

0 communities reported that residents had enough income to cover household needs. The most commonly reported coping strategies to deal with a lack of income in the remaining **41** assessed communities were^{3,4}:



Most commonly reported main sources of income^{3,4}:



³ Multiple choices allowed.

⁴ By percent of communities reporting.

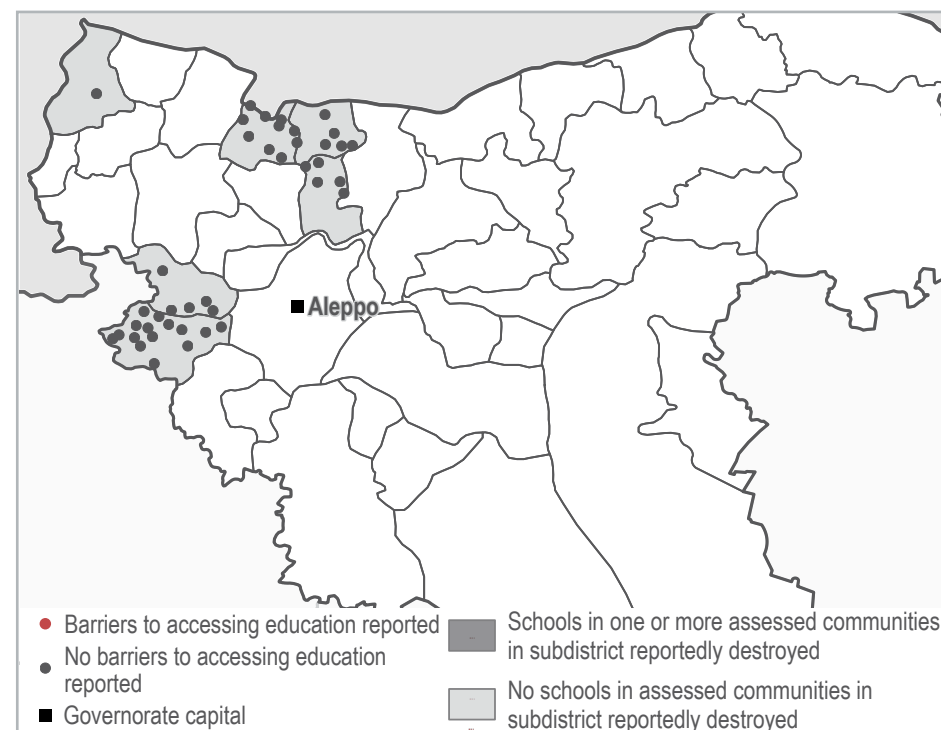
⁵ 1 USD = 434 SYP (UN operational rates of exchange as of 1 December 2017)

⁶ Calculation of the average price of a food basket is based on the World Food Programme's standard basket of dry goods. The food basket includes 37 kg of bread, 19 kg of rice, 19 kg of lentils, 5 kg of sugar, and 7 kg of vegetable oil, and provides 1,930 kcal a day for a family of five for a month.

⁷ Extreme food-based strategies: Eating food waste; eating non-edible plants and spending days without eating.

EDUCATION

Barriers to accessing education services:



METHODOLOGY

The HSOS project, formerly known as the AoO (Area of Origin) project, is a monthly assessment that aims to provide comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian situation inside Syria. This factsheet presents information gathered in 41 communities in January 2018, referring to the situation in Aleppo Governorate in December 2017. It presents key indicators, rather than the entire range of indicators gathered in the HSOS questionnaire. For community-level data on assessed subdistricts in Al Hasakeh, Dar'a, Idleb, Rural Damascus and Quneitra, please refer to the monthly subdistrict factsheets, available on the [REACH Resource Centre](#). The complete HSOS dataset is disseminated monthly via the REACH Syria mailing list.

Wherever possible, information was collected through an enumerator network. REACH enumerators are based inside Syria and interview Key Informants (KIs) directly in the community they report about. Where access and security constraints rendered direct data collection unfeasible, KI interviews were conducted indirectly through participants identified in camps and settlements in neighbouring countries by REACH field teams. Participants contact KIs in their community in Syria to collect information about their community. KIs were asked to report at the community level.

A minimum of three KIs were interviewed per community to enhance data accuracy. KIs generally included local council members, Syrian NGO workers, medical professionals, teachers, shop owners and farmers, among others, and were chosen based on their community-level or sector specific knowledge. In cases where KIs disagreed on a certain piece of information, enumerators triangulated the data with secondary sources or selected the response provided by the KI with the more relevant sector-specific background. For each question asked, confidence levels were assigned based on the KIs area of expertise and knowledge of the sector-specific situation. The confidence levels associated with each question are presented in the final dataset. The full confidence matrix used to assign confidence levels is available upon request.

Findings were triangulated through secondary sources, including news monitoring and humanitarian reports. Where necessary, follow-up was conducted with enumerators and participants. Findings are indicative rather than representative, and should not be generalised across the governorate.

ENDNOTES

¹ All information and figures reported in HSOS factsheets refer to the situation in assessed communities and cannot be generalised to other non-assessed communities of the governorate.

² Returns are not necessarily voluntary, safe, or sustainable.

³ 'Children' includes all persons below the age of 18.

⁴ Pleitgen, F. (15 August 2017). Inside Aleppo: Residents return to rebuild Syria's shattered city. CNN. Retrieved from <http://edition.cnn.com>.

⁵ IOM (11 August 2017). Over 600,000 Displaced Syrians Returned Home in First 7 Months of 2017. IOM. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int>.

⁶ UNCHR (8 March 2017). Syria: Flash update on recent events - 08 March 2017. Reliefweb. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int>.

⁷ Aboufadel, L. (23 April 2017).