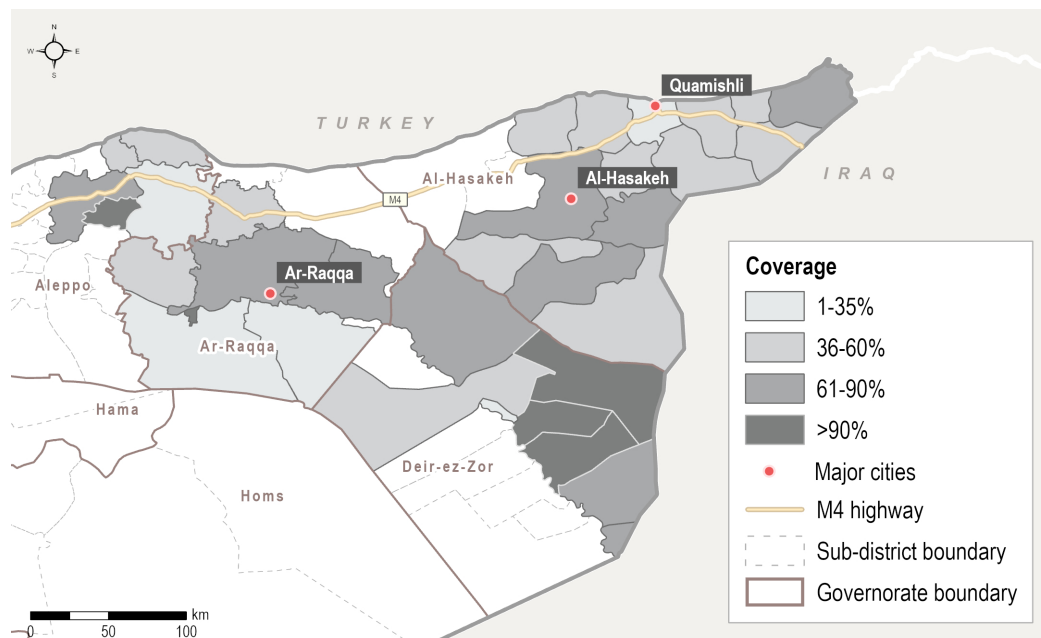


Introduction and Methodology

HSOS is a monthly assessment that provides comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian conditions and priority needs inside Syria. This factsheet presents a thematic review based on the HSOS assessment of the priority needs and humanitarian assistance, economic conditions, living conditions, access to basic services, COVID-19 situation, and the security and protection situation in Northeast Syria (NES). **Sector-specific indicator findings by location can be found on the [HSOS dashboard](#).**

The assessment is conducted using a key informant (KI) methodology at the community level. REACH enumerators are based inside Syria and interview three to five KIs per assessed location, either directly or remotely (via phone). KIs are chosen based on their community-level and sector-specific knowledge. This factsheet presents information gathered in **1,323 communities** across Aleppo¹ (252 communities), Ar-Raqqa (261 communities), Al-Hasakeh (705 communities), and Deir-ez-Zor (105 communities). **Data was collected between 2-16 November 2022 from 4,890 KIs** (18% female). Unless specified by an endnote, all indicators refer to the situation in the 30 days prior to data collection. Findings are indicative rather than representative, and should not be generalized across the population and region. Findings that are calculated based on a subset of the community are indicated by the following footnote ♦, with each subset specified in the endnotes.

The **complete monthly HSOS dataset** is available on the [REACH Resource Centre](#).



Key Highlights

With winter starting, internal displaced persons (IDPs) living in precarious shelters such as tents and unfinished or abandoned buildings faced winterisation needs. Cholera cases continued to spread while access to clean water remained challenging in Northeast Syria. Additionally, limited financial resources continued to hamper access to sufficient food.

- **IDPs in need of safe shelters and winter items before the harsh weather conditions this winter.** In 56% of assessed communities, KIs reported that at least a fifth of the IDP population lived in unfinished or abandoned residential buildings, and in 52% of communities, KIs reported that a fifth of IDPs lived in tents. Furthermore, possible new displacement following the increased level of conflict activities around the frontlines,^a is expected to expose IDPs to cold weather conditions. Winterisation items are critical: KIs reported that floor mats, winter clothes and heating fuel were among the top winterisation needs for IDPs in 51%, 50% and 44% of assessed locations, respectively.

- **Access to clean water remained limited as cholera continued to spread.** Despite a relative slowdown, cholera continued to spread, with 4,931 suspected cases and 5 deaths recorded in NES throughout November.^b KIs in half of assessed communities reported problems with drinking water. Among those, the bad taste of water was reported in nearly 60% of assessed communities, and the perception that water was making people sick in 22% of communities. However, the percentage of communities where KIs reported the use of methods to make water safer increased from 10% to 20% between September and November, possibly indicating an increased awareness of the population about preventing water borne diseases.

- **Lack of financial resources continued to impact access to food.** As food remained among the most commonly reported priority needs for both IDPs and residents, KIs in 83% of assessed communities reported that some households could not afford essential food items. The prices of basic food items such as flour, rice, sugar, and vegetables continued to increase in November;^c causing households to resort to negative coping strategies. In 85% of assessed communities, KIs reported that households relied on less preferred or lower food quality, and that they purchased food on credit in 84% of assessed communities. The inability to afford food items also affected market functionality, as in 66% of communities without functioning markets, KIs reported that the lack of consumers was a barrier to market functioning.

HSOS Dashboard




For a breakdown of sector-specific indicators by location, please see the [HSOS dashboard](#). The interactive HSOS dashboard provides a monthly sectoral overview of key indicators disaggregated at the sub-district and community level.



Priority Needs and Humanitarian Assistance



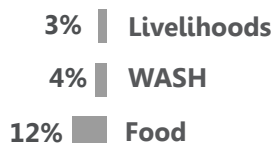
Most commonly reported **first, second, and third** and **overall** priority needs for residents (by % of assessed communities) ^{2,3}

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	OVERALL	
1	Livelihoods	Livelihoods	Livelihoods	 Livelihoods	81%
2	WASH [▲]	WASH	Infrastructure	 WASH	50%
3	Food	Healthcare	Healthcare	 Food	50%

% of assessed communities where some of the resident households were able to access humanitarian assistance



% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of the following **types of assistance for residents** ⁴



Most commonly reported barriers that resident households faced in accessing humanitarian assistance (by % of assessed communities) ^{4, *}

In communities where access to humanitarian assistance was reported

Assistance provided was insufficient to cover all people in need **53%**

Assistance provided was not relevant to all needs **47%**

Quantity of assistance provided to households was insufficient **45%**

In communities where no access to humanitarian assistance was reported




No humanitarian assistance was available **95%**

Not aware if assistance was available **2%**

Perceived discrimination in provision of humanitarian assistance **2%**



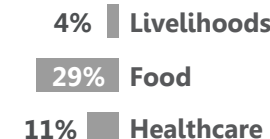
Most commonly reported **first, second, and third** and **overall** priority needs for IDPs (by % of assessed communities) ^{2,3}

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	OVERALL	
1	Food	Livelihoods	Livelihoods	 Livelihoods	82%
2	Livelihoods	Food	Winterisation	 Food	67%
3	WASH	WASH	Healthcare	 Healthcare	41%

% of assessed communities where some of the IDP households were able to access humanitarian assistance



% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of the following **types of assistance for IDPs** ⁴



Most commonly reported barriers that IDP households faced in accessing humanitarian assistance (by % of assessed communities) ^{4, *}

In communities where access to humanitarian assistance was reported

Assistance provided was insufficient to cover all people in need **57%**

Assistance provided was not relevant to all needs **52%**

Quantity of assistance provided to households was insufficient **43%**

In communities where no access to humanitarian assistance was reported

No humanitarian assistance was available **98%**

Perceived discrimination in provision of humanitarian assistance **1%**

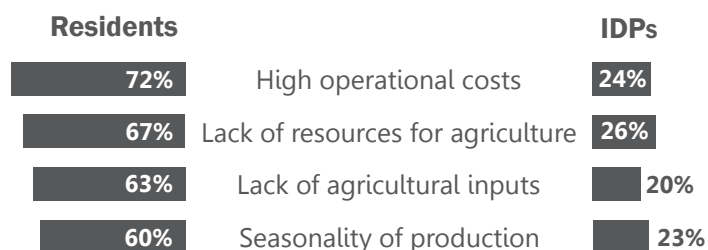
Safety concerns traveling to and remaining at distribution points **<1%**



Economic Conditions

Region	Median estimated monthly household expense for water for a household of six ^{5,6}	Median estimated monthly rent price for a two bedroom apartment ^{5,6}	Median estimated daily wage for unskilled labour ^{5,7,8}
Northeast Syria	20,000 SYP	55,000 SYP	8,000 SYP
Aleppo	15,000 SYP	45,000 SYP	10,000 SYP
Al-Hasakeh	30,000 SYP	100,000 SYP	8,000 SYP
Ar-Raqqa	2,000 SYP	67,500 SYP	10,000 SYP
Deir-ez-Zor	40,000 SYP	50,000 SYP	7,500 SYP

Most commonly reported barriers to accessing live-lihoods related to agriculture (by % of assessed communities) ⁴



% of assessed communities where common livelihood sources from agriculture were reported ⁴

Livelihood source	Residents	IDPs
Food crop production	40%	24%
Cash crop production	61%	10%
Livestock products	46%	17%
Sale of livestock	50%	19%

74% and 90%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported daily waged labour as a common source of income for residents and IDPs

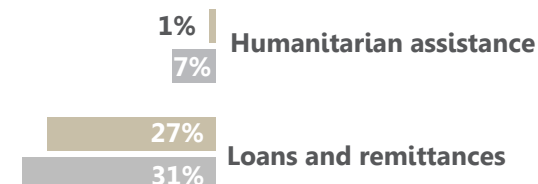
88 days

Number of days the average day labourer would need to work to earn the monthly cost of basic SMEB[▲] items ^{5,9}

94% and 65%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the insufficient income of households and lack of employment opportunities that match people's skills as barriers to meeting basic needs ⁸

% of assessed communities where KIs reported the presence of residents and IDP households relying on non-productive sources of livelihoods to meet their basic needs ⁴



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



KIs in **22%** of assessed communities cited that **rent** was unaffordable for the majority of people



KIs in **61%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **fuel for generators** as a common challenge



KIs in **75%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **solar panels** as a common challenge



KIs in **46%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **water trucking** as a common challenge



KIs in **83%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **food** as a common challenge ⁸



KIs in **86%** of assessed communities cited the high cost of **health services** as a common challenge



Living Conditions

In **93%** of assessed communities at least **80%** of the resident population reportedly owned their shelter

In **74%** of assessed communities reportedly none of the IDP households owned their shelter

In **7%** of assessed communities at least one fifth of the IDP population reportedly lived in unfinished or abandoned residential buildings

In **7%** of assessed communities at least one fifth of the IDP population reportedly lived in tents



A lack of toilets was reported as a shelter issue for IDPs in **16%** of assessed communities



A lack of bathing facilities was reported as a shelter issue for IDPs in **15%** of assessed communities

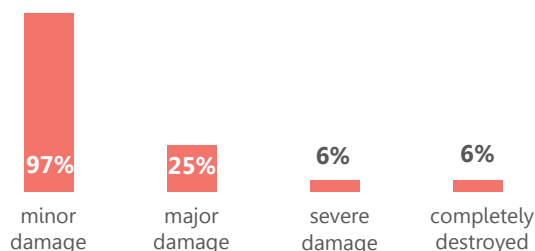


Problems with the drinking water were reported in **49%** of assessed communities



Water tasting bad was the most commonly reported problem with drinking water (reported by KIs in 29% of assessed communities)

Reported presence of occupied shelters with damage across communities where damages were reported (by % of assessed communities) ^{5,10}



Shelter and repair materials being too expensive was the most commonly reported challenge for households to repair their shelter (reported by KIs in 96% of assessed communities) ⁴

Reported sanitation issues affecting public space in the community (by % of assessed communities) ⁴

Rodents and/or pests are frequently visible

21%

Solid waste in the streets

23%

Sewage system pollutes public areas

13%

Stagnant water

7%

Flooding in the streets

4%



98%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that **households experienced barriers to accessing sufficient food** ⁸



In **17%** of these communities, KIs reported that the **unavailability of certain food items** was a challenge to accessing sufficient food ⁸

Most commonly reported coping strategies for a lack of food (by % of assessed communities) ⁴

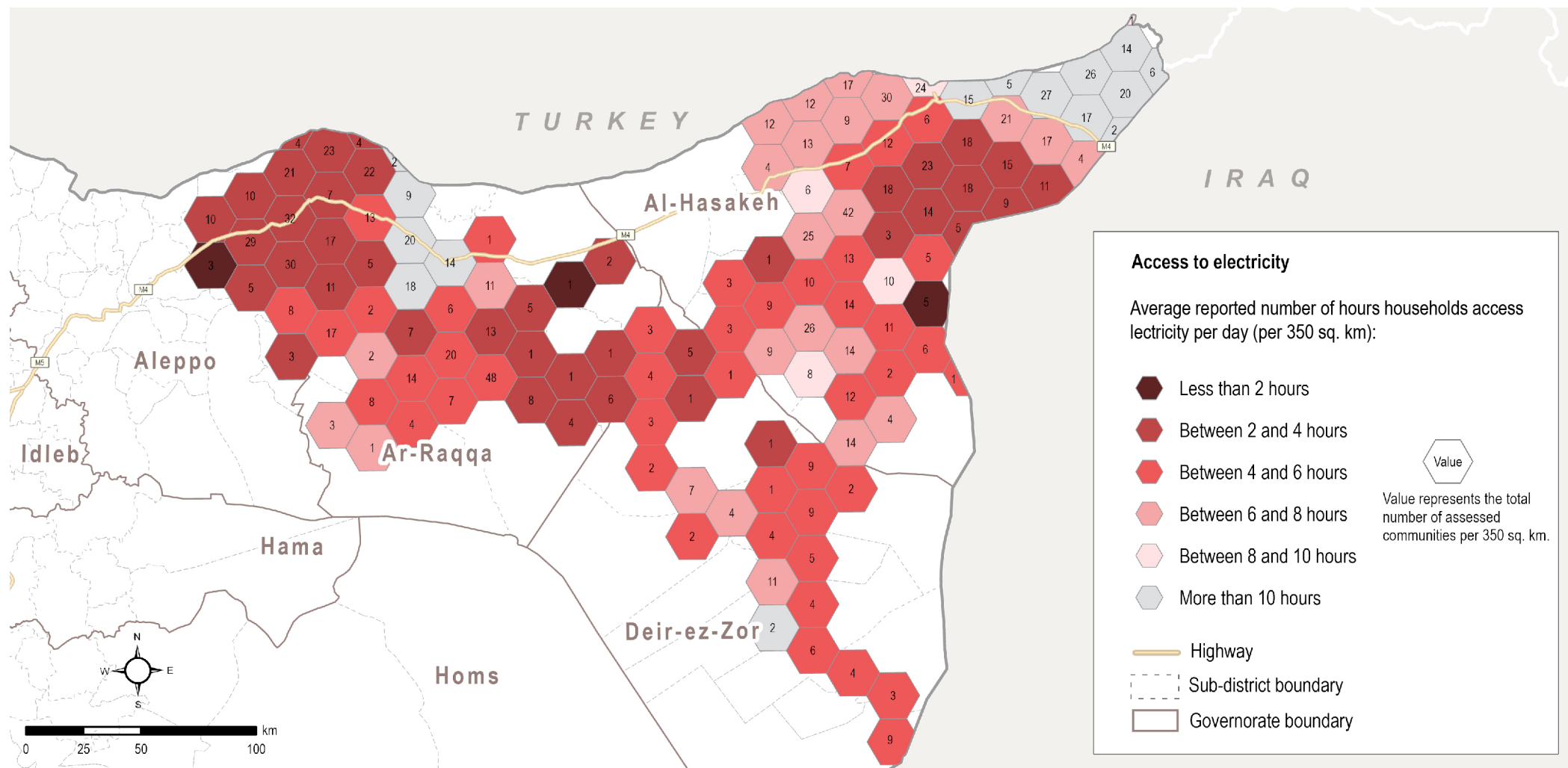
- 1 Relying on less preferred food / lower food quality **85%**
- 2 Borrowing money to buy food **84%**
- 3 Buying food with money usually used for other things **66%**



High price of suitable foods formula was the most commonly reported challenge to feeding young children (reported by KIs in 95% of assessed communities) ^{4,11}

Commonly reported sources of food for households other than markets (by % of assessed communities) ⁴

- 1 Own production or farming **40%**
- 2 Relying on food stored previously **38%**
- 3 Food gifts from friends and family **3%**



Access to electricity

Note on the map

This map shows the reported average number of hours per day households access electricity, regardless which electricity sources households used. The figure displayed in the centre of each hexagon corresponds to the number of communities assessed in an area of 350 sq.km.



Access to Basic Services



Access to Electricity

2-4 hrs per day

was the most commonly reported range for hours of electricity accessible to households (reported by KIs in 37% of assessed communities)

Main network

was the most commonly reported main source of electricity (reported by KIs in 72% of assessed communities)

79%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported **local authorities rationing electricity** as a barrier for electricity access



Access to Water

70%

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



7 days
5-6 days
3-4 days
1-2 days
0 days

Days per week where water from the network was available (by % of 826 communities connected to a water network)

Piped water network

was the most commonly reported source of drinking water (reported by KIs in 33% of assessed communities)



Access to Sanitation

80%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that **no sewage system was present**

Most commonly reported ways people disposed of solid waste (by % of assessed communities)

37%

Free public waste collection

36%

Waste burnt

19%

Waste disposed of by household to a dumping location

22%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported waste removal services as a WASH priority need ⁸



Access to Markets

35%

% of assessed communities in which households reportedly were **unable to access markets in the assessed location**

People lack financial means to open shop/market

was the most commonly reported **reason for why markets were not functioning** (reported by KIs in 85% of assessed communities where markets were not functioning)

77%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that the **lack of transportation to markets** was a barrier to physically accessing food markets



Access to Health Services

72%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that the **households did not have access to health services** in the assessed location

Most commonly reported health priority needs (by % of assessed communities) ⁸

64%

Medicines and other commodities

59%

Treatment for chronic diseases

49%

Paediatric consultations

Going to the pharmacy instead of a clinic

was the most commonly reported coping strategy for a lack of healthcare (reported by KIs in 96% of assessed communities)



Access to Education Services

30%

% of communities in which half or less of the school aged-children accessed school in the last 30 days for **residents** and IDPs

89%

In person

0%

Online

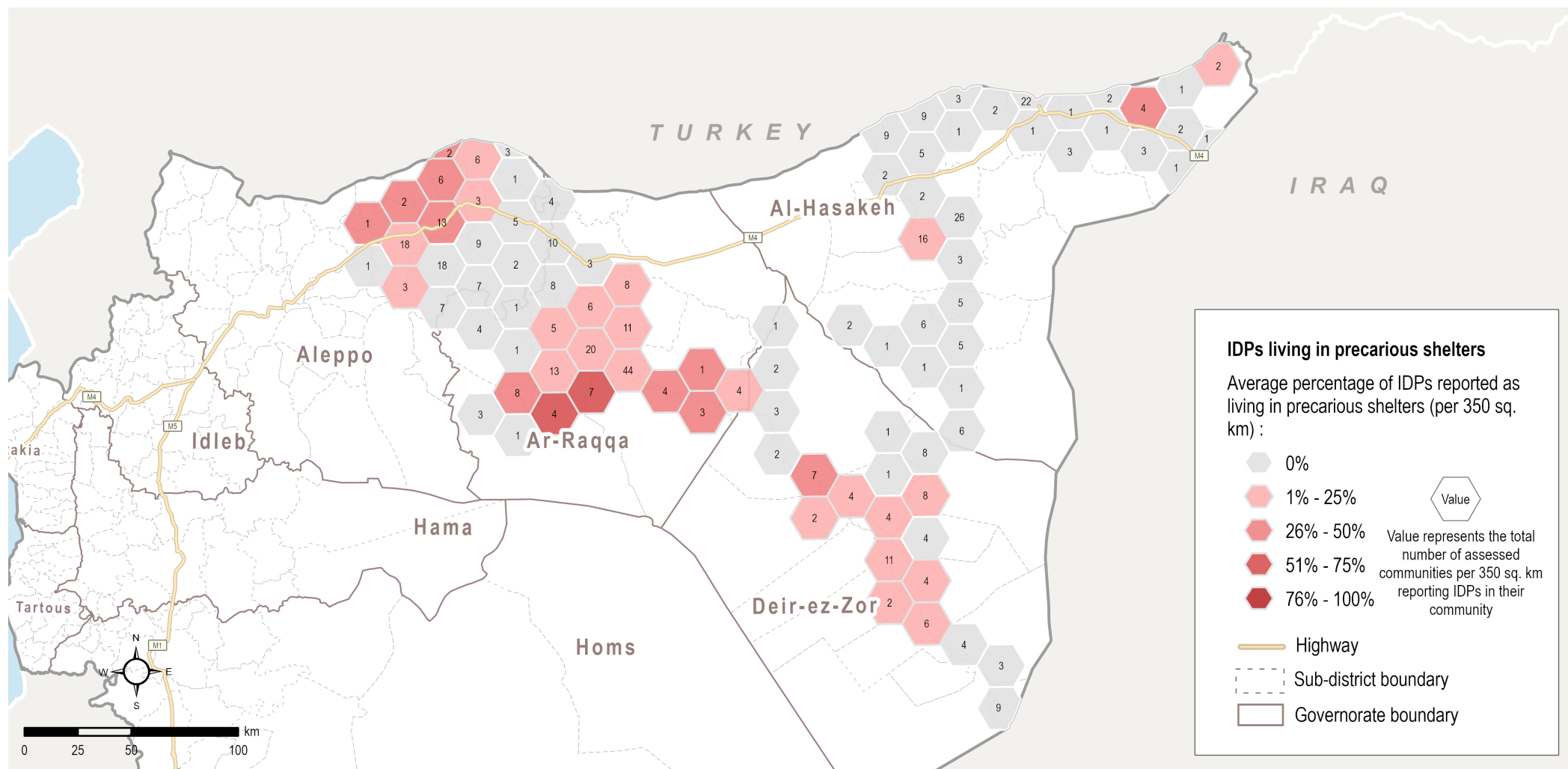
11%

Not functioning

% of assessed communities where KIs reported on the functioning of education services in the assessed location ⁴

59%

% of assessed communities where KIs reported that the **high cost of transportation to school** was a barrier to accessing education services ⁸



Vulnerable shelters among IDPs

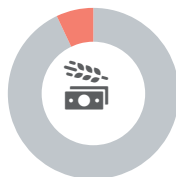
Note on the map

This map shows the average percentage of IDPs living in precarious shelters in assessed communities where IDPs were reported. In this map, precarious shelters refer to accommodations in which occupants may be exposed to cold weather conditions. They include unfinished or abandoned residential buildings, damaged residential buildings, tents, and unfinished houses made of treated clay.



COVID-19

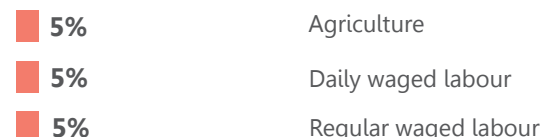
Effects of COVID-19 on livelihoods sectors in the community (by % of assessed communities)



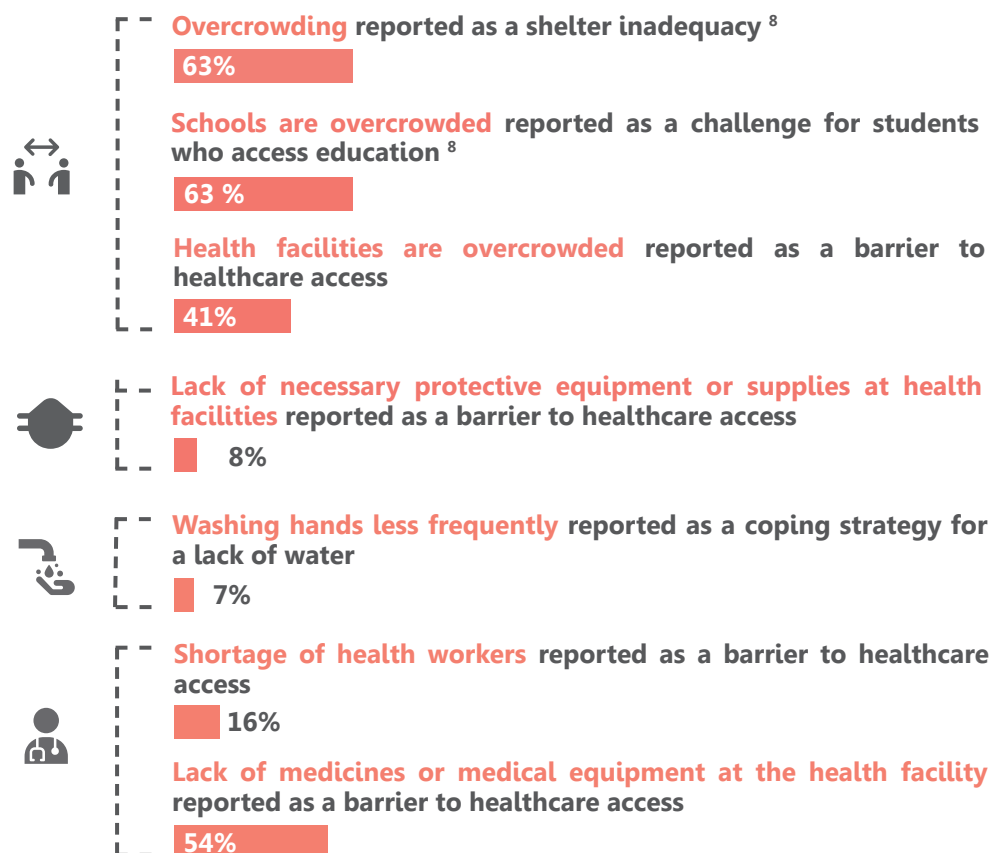
None of the available livelihood sectors were affected **93%**

At least one of the available livelihood sectors was partially or totally affected **7%**

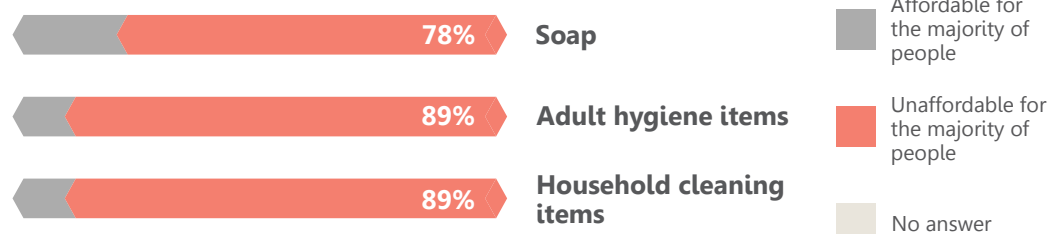
Most commonly reported sectors affected by COVID-19 (by % of assessed communities)



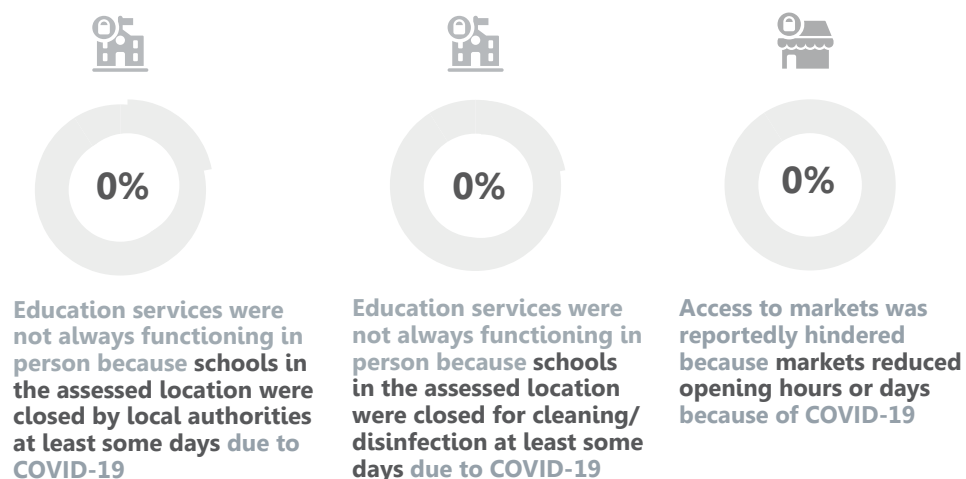
% of assessed communities where COVID-19 risk indicators were reported by KIs

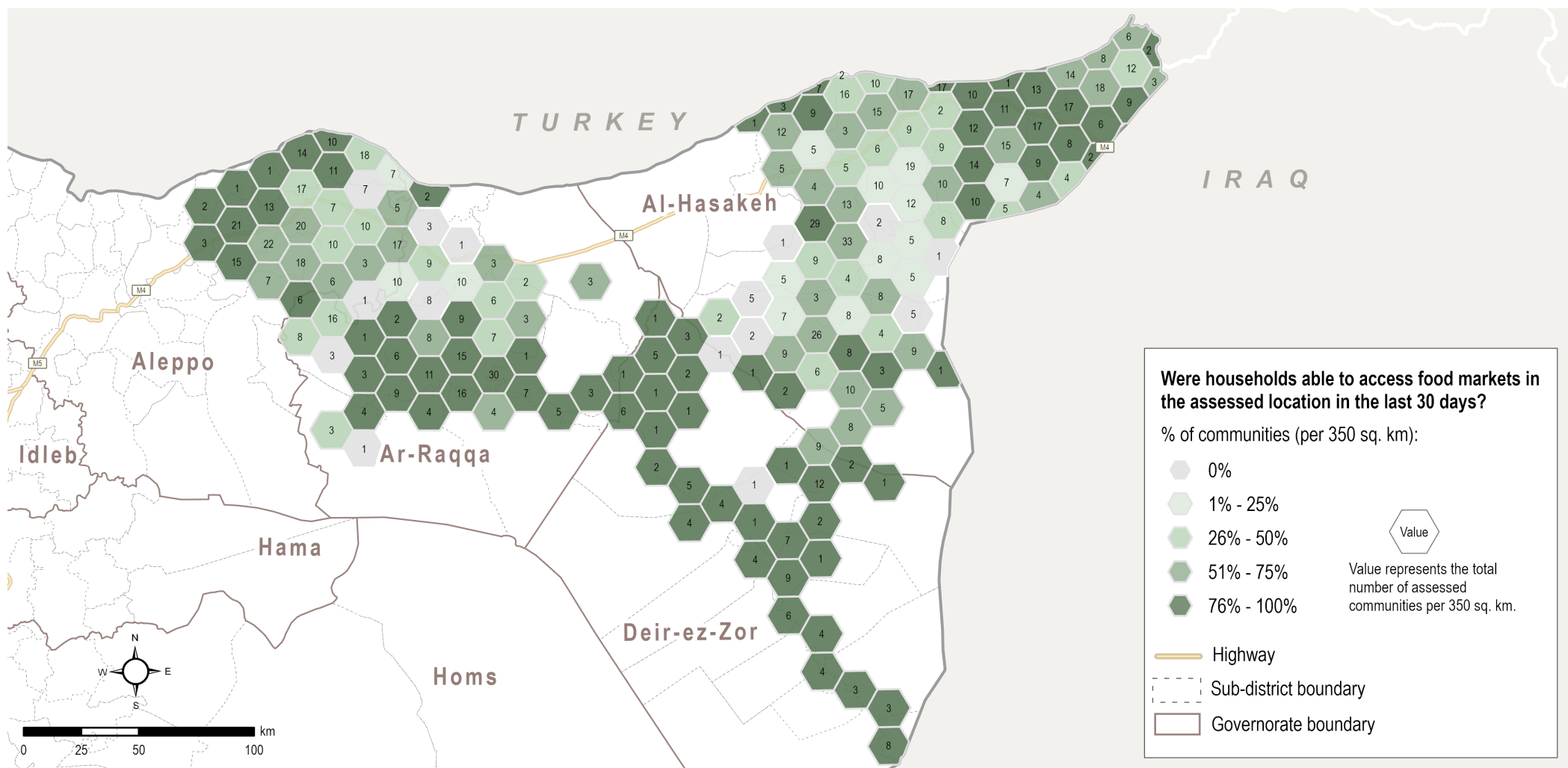


Reported hygiene item availability and affordability (by % of assessed communities)¹²



% of assessed communities where COVID-19 related barriers to access services were reported





Access to food markets

Note on the map

This map shows the percentage of KIs reporting that households were able to access food markets in their communities in the last 30 days. The values displayed in the centre of each hexagon correspond to the number of assessed communities in a 350 sq. km area.



Security and Protection

Intersectoral findings on security



General safety and security concerns restricting movement to markets was a reported barrier to market access in **26** communities

General safety and security concerns at markets was a reported barrier to market access in **4** communities

Movement restrictions was reported as a protection risk in **5** communities ⁸



Tribal disputes were reported as a protection risk in **18** communities ⁸

Threat from shelling was reported as a protection risk in **48** communities ⁸

Fear from imminent conflict was reported as a protection risk in **90** communities ⁸



The inability to lock homes securely was reported as a shelter inadequacy in **43%** of assessed communities ⁸

Lack of privacy inside the shelter was reported as a shelter inadequacy in **60%** of assessed communities ⁸

Lack of lighting around the shelter was reported as a shelter inadequacy in **86%** of assessed communities ⁸

The security situation was reported as a barrier to shelter repairs in **5%** of assessed communities



Safety and security concerns travelling to health facilities was reported as a barrier to healthcare in **22** communities

Most commonly reported protection priority needs (by % of assessed communities) ^{3,8}

- 79%** Special assistance for vulnerable groups
- 51%** Specialised child protection services
- 27%** Information about services



% of assessed communities where the lack of civil documentation for residents and IDPs was reported

- 20%** Lack or loss of civil documentation as a protection risk
- 22%** Some people did not have the necessary personal documents as a barrier to accessing humanitarian assistance ⁴
- 3%** Lack of personal documentation required to enrol in school as a barrier to education access
- 5%**
- 2%**
- 3%**

% of assessed communities where extreme coping strategies used by residents and IDPs to meet basic needs were reported ⁴

Residents

- 12%** Early marriage
- 2%** Forced marriage
- 7%** High risk work
- 2%** Sending family members to beg
- 56%** Sending children (15 or below) to work

IDPs

- 15%**
- 5%**
- 6%**
- 5%**
- 65%**

Age, Gender, and Diversity

KIs in **33%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of employment opportunities for women** as a barrier to meeting basic needs ⁸

KIs in **17%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of employment opportunities for persons with a disability** as a barrier to meeting basic needs ⁸

KIs in **12%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of privacy for women and girls at health facilities** as a barrier to healthcare access

KIs in **19%** of assessed communities reported a **lack of market access for people with restricted mobility**

KIs in **4%** of assessed communities reported that **women and girls feel unsafe when traveling to markets**

Children below the age of 12 were reported as a group affected by child labour in **16%** of assessed communities ⁸

Hazardous child labour was reported as a protection risk in **73** communities ⁸

Endnotes

1. Aleppo governorate includes Menbij and Ain Al Arab districts.
2. KIs were asked to select a first, second, and third highest priority needs in their communities. The ranking shows the sectors most frequently chosen as either first, second or third highest priority. The overall priority need refers to the frequency a sector was selected across all three categories (first, second or third highest priority).
3. KIs could select three answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.
4. KIs could select multiple answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.
5. KIs were asked about the situation at the time of data collection, instead of the last 30 days.
6. KIs had the option to select the price in United States Dollars (USD), Turkish Lira (TRY), or Syrian Pounds (SYP). When the price was not reported in SYP, the NES **Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)** exchange rate was used to calculate the amount in SYP. According to the REACH Market Monitoring November 2022, 1 USD = 5,400 SYP; 1TRY= 288 SYP.
7. According to the NES **JMMI** November 2022, 1 USD = 5,400 SYP.
8. Findings for residents and IDPs were merged. The merge was calculated as follows: (option was selected for either residents or IDPs) / (communities reporting challenges/barriers/coping strategies for either residents or IDPs).
9. According to the NES **JMMI** November 2022, the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) = 707,654 SYP.
10. Minor damage (cracks in walls, leaking roof, need of new doors and window repairs, etc.); Major damage (buildings with extensive damage to window frames and doors, but no structural damage to columns, slabs, or loadbearing walls); Severe damage (buildings with significant structural damage to column slabs, or loadbearing walls, cracking, steel elements and deformations visible in concrete; the building would require extensive repairs); Completely destroyed (buildings with structural damage so significant that rehabilitation is not possible).
11. KIs were asked about the situation in the last two months, instead of the last 30 days.
12. Adult hygiene items include: shampoo, toothbrush, and toothpaste. Household cleaning items include: washing powder, liquid, and dish detergent.

◆ By number of communities where KIs reported the relevant indicator (access/barriers/inadequacies/damages/coping strategies/risks etc.) for the relevant population group(s)

Indicator N.o of communities reporting on:	Subset	Indicator N.o of communities reporting on:	Subset
Residents	1,322	Barriers to assistance access (IDPs)	283
IDPs	515	Barriers to accessing sufficient food (merge)	1,298
Challenges to assistance access (resident)	313	Days when water is available from network	826
Barriers to assistance access (resident)	981	Barriers to markets functioning	459
Challenges to assistance access (IDPs)	213		

Sources

- a. Human Rights Watch. (7 December 2022). Northeast Syria: Turkish Strikes Exacerbate Humanitarian Crisis. Retrieved from: <https://www.hrw.org/>
- b. Health Working Group. NES Cholera Dashboard Retrieved from: [Microsoft Power BI](#)
- c. REACH. (November 2022) Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) Northeast Syria. Retrieved from: <https://www.reachresourcecentre.info>

About REACH

REACH 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.