

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 1st - 8th November 2021

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash programming, REACH - in partnership with the northeast (NES) and northwest (NWS) Syria Cash Working Group (CWG) - conducts monthly Market Monitoring Exercises in northern Syria. The exercise assesses the availability and prices of 36 basic commodities that are typically sold in markets and consumed by average Syrian households, including food and non-food items, water, fuel, and cell phone data.

Of these, 18 items comprise the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB; see [below](#)), which represents the minimum, culturally adjusted items required to support a 6-person household for a month. For further information about our methodology, please see [Appendix 2](#).

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community, please see the [November 2021 dataset](#) for further information.

Coverage and data collection dates

In November 2021, REACH and partners covered:

- 4 governorates
- 11 districts
- 29 subdistricts
- 63 communities
- 1,752 individual shops

In light of the fluctuation of the Syrian Pound (SYP)'s value and resulting market disruption, prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (1st-8th November 2021).

Partners

Data collection for this month was supported by REACH and the following partners

- ACTED
- ATAA
- CARE
- CWG NES
- Mercy Corps
- Nasaem Kheir
- People in Need (PIN)
- Samaritans Purse
- Solidarités International (SI)
- Syria Cross

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

NES SMEB Price Increase

SYP

SMEB November value: 435,402 SYP

One month change (compared to October): **increase of 4%**

Six month change (compared to May): **increase of 34%**

United States Dollar (USD)

SMEB November value: 124 USD

One month change: **increase of 3%**

Six month change: **increase of 16%**

November had the highest recorded SMEB in SYP in the Market Monitoring exercise, attributed to the protracted hyperinflation of the Syrian economy, especially due to the increasing cost of key food items (see [page 5](#) for further food information). The SMEB in USD also increased to 124 USD, the highest recorded cost in USD since December 2019.

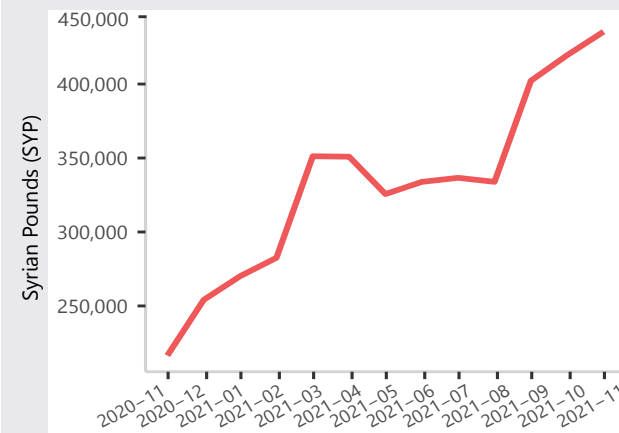
Days Needed to Work to Afford the SMEB #1

The median daily wage for residents and IDPs in NES was **5,000 SYP**. This means a household of six - whose sole income is from an unskilled daily labourer - would need the equivalent of **87 days of work** to cover the price of the NES SMEB.

MEDIAN SMEB COST FOR NES

435,402 SYP (124 USD)

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH



SMEB Water Trucking #2

NES average: 18,000 SYP per 4,500 litres

One month change: **increase of 7%**

Six month change: **increase of 36%**

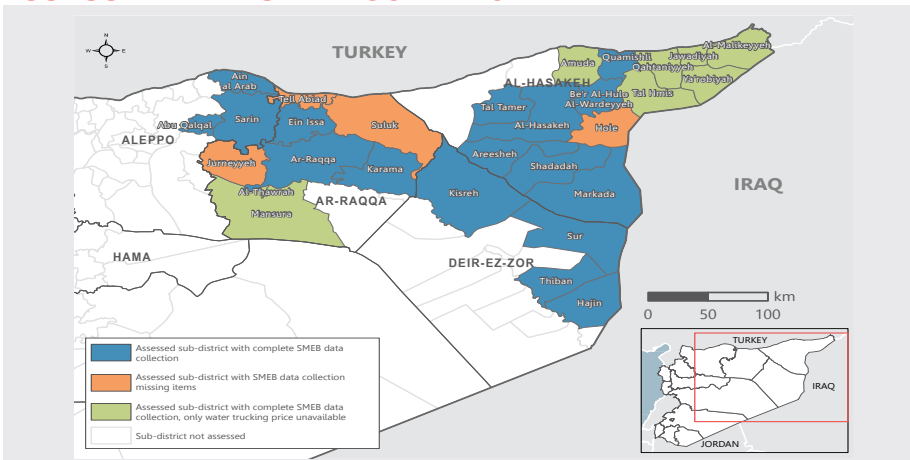
% of surveyed vendors reporting water trucking as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 0%

In November the highest price for the SMEB water was recorded at 33,750 SYP in Shaddadah community in Al-Hasakeh. At the governorate level, water prices fell slightly for NE Aleppo and were stable in Deir-Ez-Zor, whereas prices rose slightly in Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqa.

- Al-Hasakeh: 21,886 SYP per 4,500 litres
- Ar-Raaq: 19,227 SYP per 4,500 liters
- Aleppo: 18,000 SYP per 4,500 litres
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 8,550 SYP per 4,500 litres

Water trucking is the main source of clean water for most individuals, and REACH field teams report that some towns have experienced water cuts resulting in increased prices. Furthermore, the falling water levels of water wells means water tankers drive to remote areas, which requires more transport fuel and hence, increased costs. Moving into the winter months in NES, the average percentage of households with access to sufficient water (for all purposes) has slightly improved to 82% of households, but the percentage of communities reporting problems with drinking water has also slightly increased to 44% of reporting communities, [according to the HSOS water and electricity trends dashboard](#). The highest reported problem was that the water tastes bad (25%). However, that water was perceived to be making people feel sick has been continuously falling since August. August is when temperatures in Syria began to fall and so diseases typically caused by low water levels combined with increased temperatures – such as cholera – are generally less common. For more context surrounding the water crisis in northern Syria, please see the [FAO Precipitation Analysis for 1980-2021](#) for longer term trends.

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE



#1 According to the Humanitarian Situation Overview of Syria ([HSOS NES November 2021 dataset](#))

#2 Equates to 25L per person for day. See [page 7](#) for further water trucking data

NORTHEAST SYRIA - KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND OVERVIEW

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES

SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	435,402	4%	34%
Abu Qalqal	422,586	4%	30%
Ain al Arab	391,438	-1%	25%
Al-Hasakeh	458,099	2%	30%
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	437,296	4%	37%
Areeshah	451,605	6%	27%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	424,334	NA	NA
Ein Issa	443,827	5%	39%
Hajin	424,974	-1%	30%
Hole	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Karama	447,634	NA	NA
Kisreh	435,402	8%	NA
Mansura	NA	NA	NA
Markada	441,498	5%	36%
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	436,356	NA	26%
Sarin	408,012	8%	NA
Shadadah	459,974	9%	33%
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	379,135	5%	19%
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	417,238	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	409,736	6%	29%
Ya'robriyah	NA	NA	NA

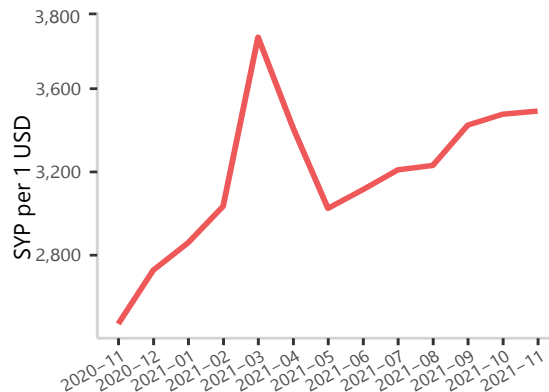
SURVIVAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (SMEB) CONTENTS

	Item	Quantity
Food Items	Bread	37 kg
	Bulgur	15 kg
	Chicken	6 kg
	Eggs	6 kg
	Fresh vegetables	12 kg
	Ghee/vegetable oil	7 kg/L
	Red lentils	15 kg
	Rice	19 kg
	Salt	1 kg
	Sugar	5 kg
	Tomato paste	6 kg
Hygiene items	Bathing soap	12 bars
	Laundry/dish soap	3 kg
	Sanitary pads	4 packs of 10
	Toothpaste	200 g
Fuel	Cooking fuel+	25 L
Water	Water trucking	4500 L
Telecom	Smartphone data	1 GB
Other	Float (other costs)++	7.5% of total value

+Kerosene in northern Syria

++ Float only applied to observations where prices of all SMEB contents could be collected. Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

USD/SYP EXCHANGE RATE, BY MONTH



KEY DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

Exchange Rates (see graph, left)^{#3}

Informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate: 3,493 SYP to 1 USD

One month rate change: **increase of 0.4%**

Six month rate change: **increase of 15%**

In November, the SYP depreciated slightly against the USD, which has been a continuing trend since the start of 2020. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,520 SYP for 1 USD in Tell Abiad community in Ar-Raqqa governorate. For an overview of the USD/SYP exchange rate across all of Syria, please see the [WFP VAM Food Security Analysis for October 2021](#).

High Quality Transport Fuel Prices ^{#4}

High quality fuels are mostly imported, and our REACH field teams report that typical challenges include restrictions on imports from Government of Syria (GoS) areas due to their own limited supply, lack of production materials in the region and general road closures. High quality transport fuels in NES were more expensive in Ar-Raqqa due to a lack of quantities, where fuel costs have been increasing sharply since April 2021.

High Quality Diesel

410 SYP per litre

One month price change: **decrease of 5%**

Six month price change: **decrease of 25%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 67%

High Quality Petrol

2,650 SYP per litre

One month price change: **increase of 5%**

Six month price change: **increase of 33%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 65%

Manually Refined Transport Fuel Prices

REACH field teams report that manually refined (low quality) fuels are often used in place of high quality fuel for transport and generators because high quality fuels are rarely available. Manually refined fuels are reported as widely available across NES. However, the price of manually refined fuels vary greatly - both across governorates and month to month - typically because of high transportation costs and other regional challenges.

Manually Refined Diesel

525 SYP per litre

One month price change: **increase of 28%**

Six month price change: **increase of 79%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 5%

Manually refined diesel has seen sharp increases in Deir-Ez-Zor and Ar-Raqqa governorates since August 2021. However, prices in Al-Hasakeh and NE Aleppo have remained much lower and relatively stable throughout the year.

- Deir-Ez-Zor: 838 SYP per litre
- Ar-Raqqa: 800 SYP per litre
- Al-Hasakeh: 169 SYP per litre
- NE Aleppo: 125 SYP per litre

Manually Refined Petrol

750 SYP per litre

One month change: **decrease of 3%**

Six month change: **increase of 50%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 5%

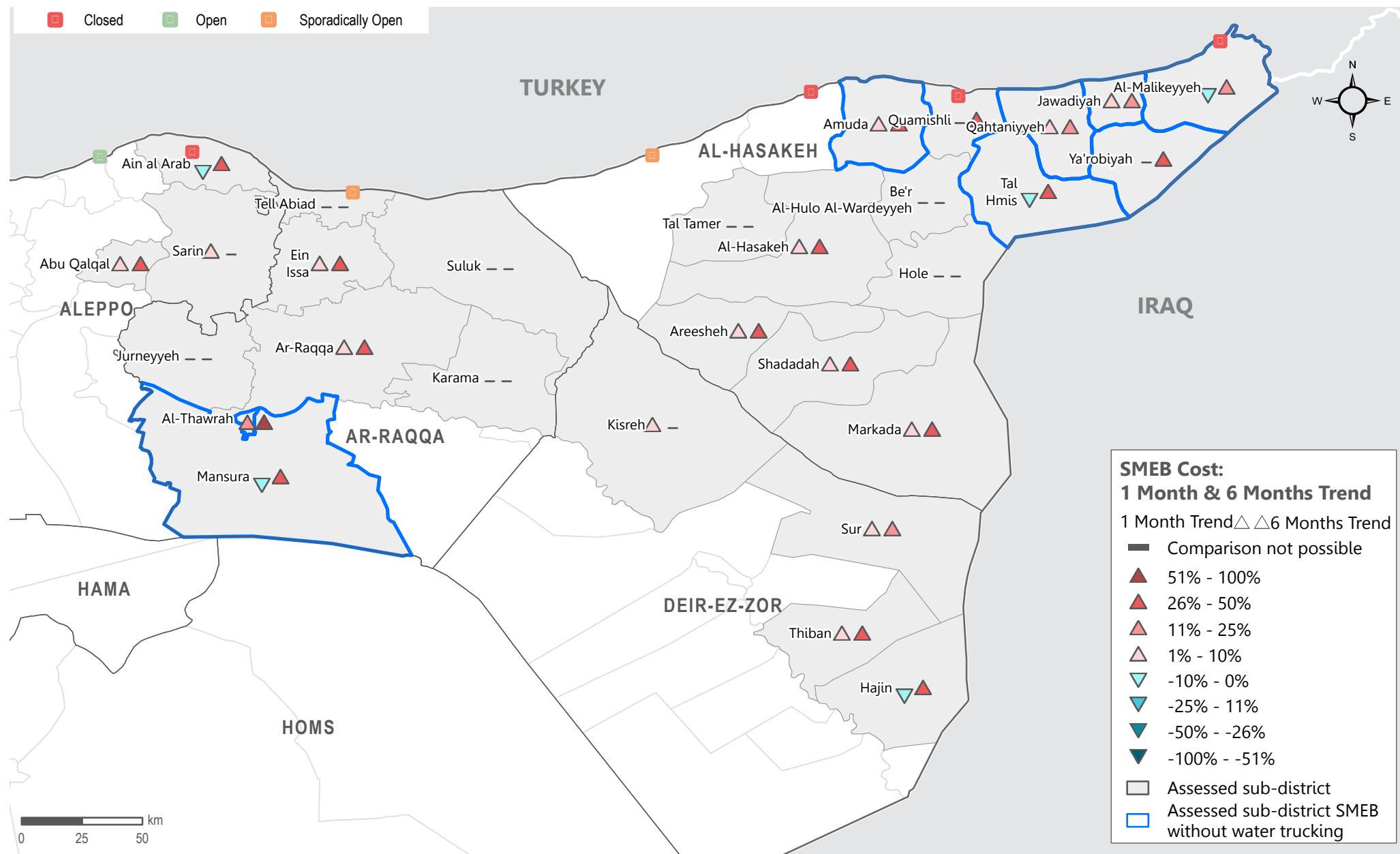
In November, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor saw sharp price increases. Conversely, Al-Hasakeh saw a decrease in price and NE Aleppo continued to remain stable in price.

* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.
 ** For these sub-districts, all of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.
 Note: For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. The above applies to all tables.

^{#3} To compare SYP prices to USD or TRY, the [November 2021 dataset](#) provides informal exchange rates at the regional, district, subdistrict and community levels (where data is available). ^{#4} See [page 11](#) for further fuel data

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

SMEB COST: 1 MONTH AND 6 MONTHS TREND



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS



SMEB FOOD COMPONENT 331,021 SYP (95 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 35%**

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting a SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood:

- 7% for chicken

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood for previous month:

- 9% for bread

Overall food prices increased greatly, although at a much slower rate than seen in September. There were price increases for almost all fresh vegetables and bulk foods as well as eggs, cooking oils, water trucking and bottled water.

[According to the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations \(FAO\) Precipitation Analysis](#), "the impact of the poor harvest from the 2020/21 agricultural season on Syrian families is compounded by interrelated issues that include economic constraints, currency depreciation, poverty, conflict, population displacement and climate-induced factors. The consequences of uneven temporal distribution of rainfall combined with high temperatures will not only affect the current cropping season but the effects may also be felt in the next one to two years". For a broader, national overview of the market context in Syria, please view the [WFP Syria mVAM Bulletin for October 2021](#). For insights on food security across Syria, please see the [WFP Hunger Map or the WFP Syria Emergency Dashboard for October](#).

For further understanding of how agricultural inputs and food price fluctuations in Syria affect a household's overall food security and livelihood restoration, please see the [iMMAP Quarter 3 bulletin](#) which incorporates both REACH and WFP market data.



SMEB BULK FOODS 166,200 SYP (48 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 8%**

Six month price change: **increase of 39%**

- Red lentils: increased by **17%**
- Tomato paste: increased by **8%**
- Bulgur: increased by **4%**
- Rice: increased by **4%**
- Sugar: increased by **2%**
- Salt: no change (**0%**)

According to REACH field teams, these items are typically imported, as such their prices mostly increased due to depreciation of the SYP and Turkish Lira (TRY) against the USD.



SMEB VEGETABLE COMPONENT 15,000 SYP (4.29 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 8%**

Six month price change: **increase of 22%**

- Cucumbers: increased by (**6%**)
- Onions: increased by (**4%**)
- Potatoes: no change (**0%**)
- Tomatoes: decreased by (**21%**)

In November prices decreased slightly for the vegetable component of the SMEB. Vegetable prices had begun to stabilise again in October, following on from the price spikes that were seen after the agricultural period of the summer months drew to a close in August.



BREAD 333 SYP PER 8 PIECE BUNDLE (0.1 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 5%**

Six month price change: **increase of 25%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting bread as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 6%

Price fluctuations are attributed to both the depreciation of the SYP and general subsidies by the authorities. The average bread prices varied greatly between governorates. Prices spiked in Al-Hasakeh and Deir Ez Zor in November.

- Al-Hasakeh: 1,163 SYP per bundle
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 750 SYP per bundle
- Ar-Raqqa: 319 SYP per bundle
- Aleppo: 250 SYP per bundle



FLOUR 1,800 SYP PER KILO (0.52 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 0%**

Six month price change: **increase of 38%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting flour as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 7%

For a deeper analysis of the agricultural context in Syria, please see the [FAO Agriculture Input and Commodity Bulletin for October 2021](#).



CHICKEN 4,250 SYP PER KILO (1.22 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 20%**

Six month price change: **decrease of 15%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting chicken as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 7%



EGGS 9,500 SYP FOR 30 EGGS (2.72 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 58%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting eggs as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 1%



COOKING FUELS

Cooking fuels are typically far more expensive in Ar-Raqqa compared to other governorates in NES, although prices in Deir-Ez-Zor are also increasing at a concerning rate.

Kerosene is the typical cooking fuel across NES and is also used for heating but may be substituted with LP gas.

MANUALLY REFINED KEROSENE

650 SYP per litre (0.19 USD)

One month price change: **increase 18%**

Six month price change: **increase of 41%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined kerosene as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 20%

LP GAS #6

2,850 SYP per canister (0.82 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 79%**

Six month price change: **increase of 6%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting LP gas as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 4%

#5 November informal regional exchange rate for NES: 3,493 SYP

#6 Prices are taken for the cheapest available canister at the time of data collection, which is typically 20-25 litres.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

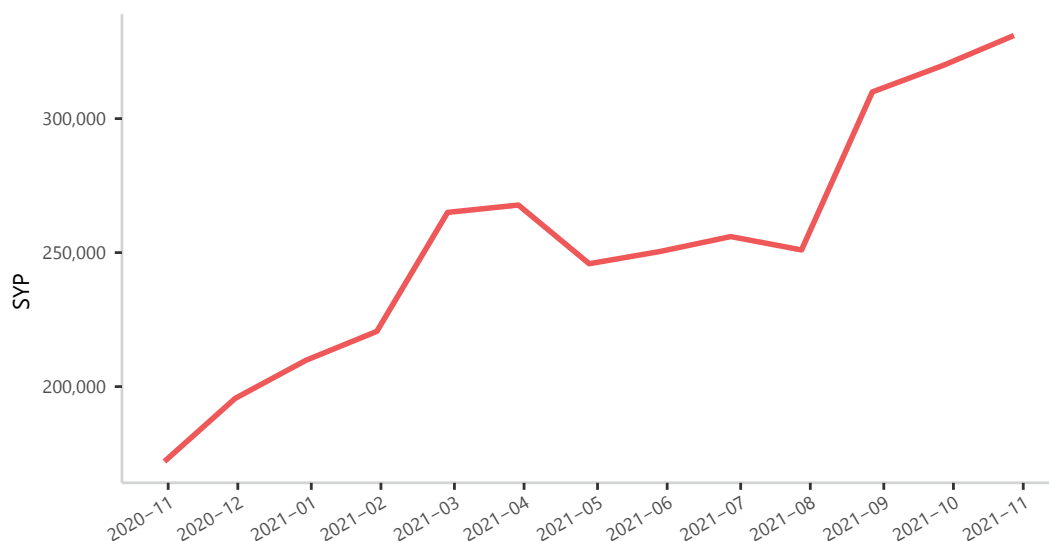
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	331,021	4%	35%
Abu Qalqal	319,900	0%	21%
Ain al Arab	325,875	2%	33%
Al-Hasakeh	353,965	3%	33%
Al-Malikeyyeh	315,100	-4%	24%
Al-Thawrah	361,486	12%	50%
Amuda	365,988	6%	26%
Ar-Raqqa	330,275	4%	37%
Areeshesh	351,925	10%	31%
Be'r Al-Hulo	310,611	6%	NA
AL-Wardeyyeh			
Ein Issa	336,700	4%	36%
Hajin	338,500	-1%	34%
Hole	265,964	-1%	10%
Jawadiyah	303,267	3%	22%
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA

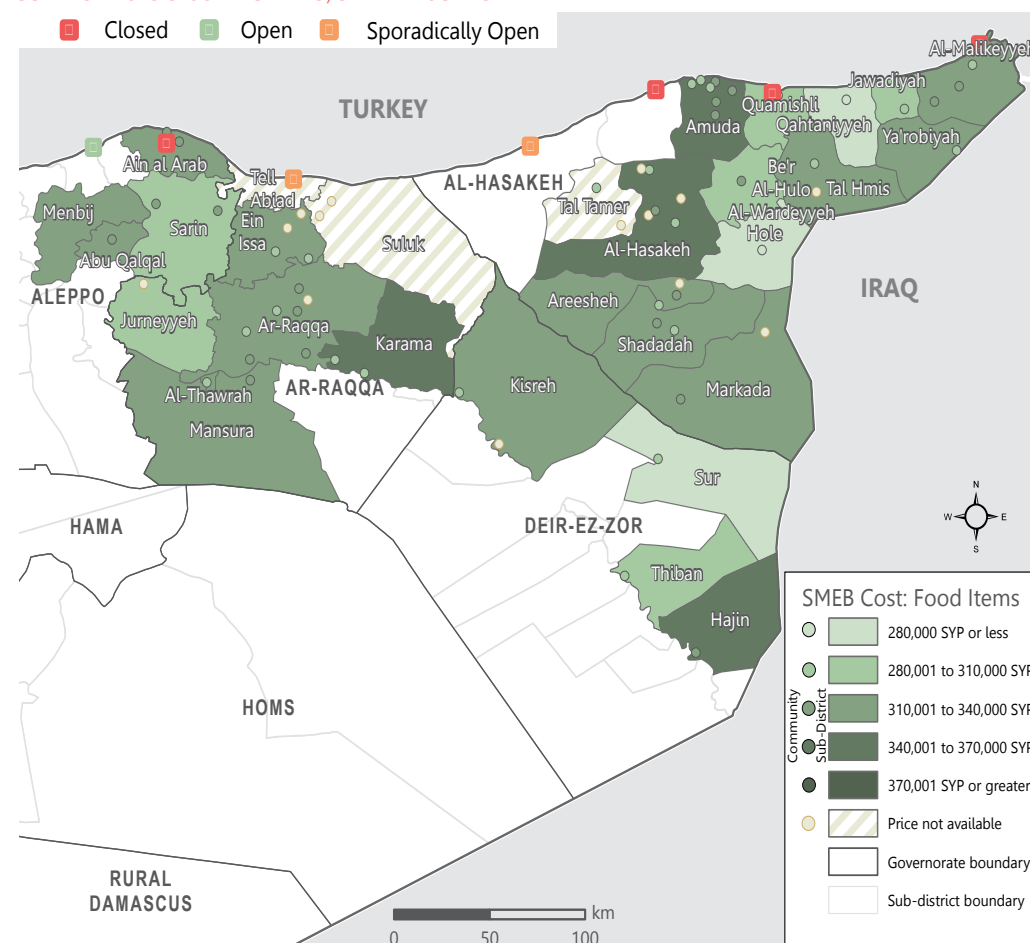
Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Karama	340,432	0%	18%
Kisreh	348,250	9%	51%
Mansura	322,967	-3%	31%
Markada	331,767	4%	39%
Qahtaniyyeh	252,300	-1%	11%
Quamishli	347,000	20%	27%
Sarin	327,800	10%	56%
Shadadah	363,608	10%	38%
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	289,050	6%	23%
Tal Hmis	305,683	-4%	25%
Tal Tamer	349,144	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	309,850	2%	28%
Ya'robiyah	342,571	10%	41%

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



SMEB FOOD COMPONENT PRICES AT THE GOVERNORATE LEVEL:

Al-Hasakeh:	337,169 SYP
Ar-Raqqa:	336,700 SYP
Aleppo:	325,875 SYP
Deir-Ez-Zor:	324,175 SYP

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

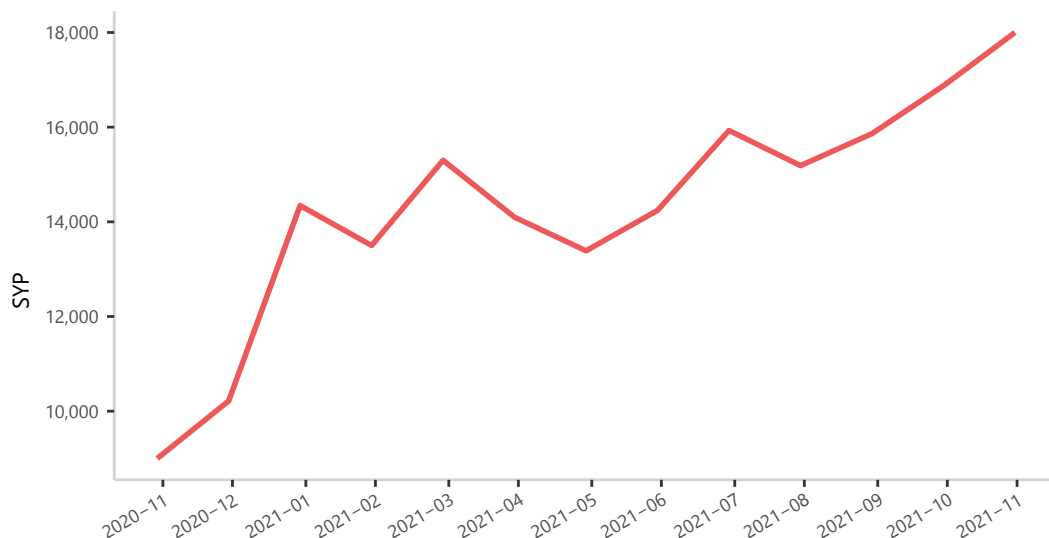
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

4,500L, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	18,000	7%	36%
Abu Qalqal	22,500	6%	231%
Ain al Arab	4,500	-9%	-60%
Al-Hasakeh	25,824	0%	15%
Al-Malikeyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	18,000	7%	69%
Areeshesh	27,273	-5%	33%
Be'r Al-Hulo	23,318	38%	38%
AL-Wardeyyeh			
Ein Issa	16,773	86%	258%
Hajin	7,200	0%	60%
Hole	14,882	0%	-31%
Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA

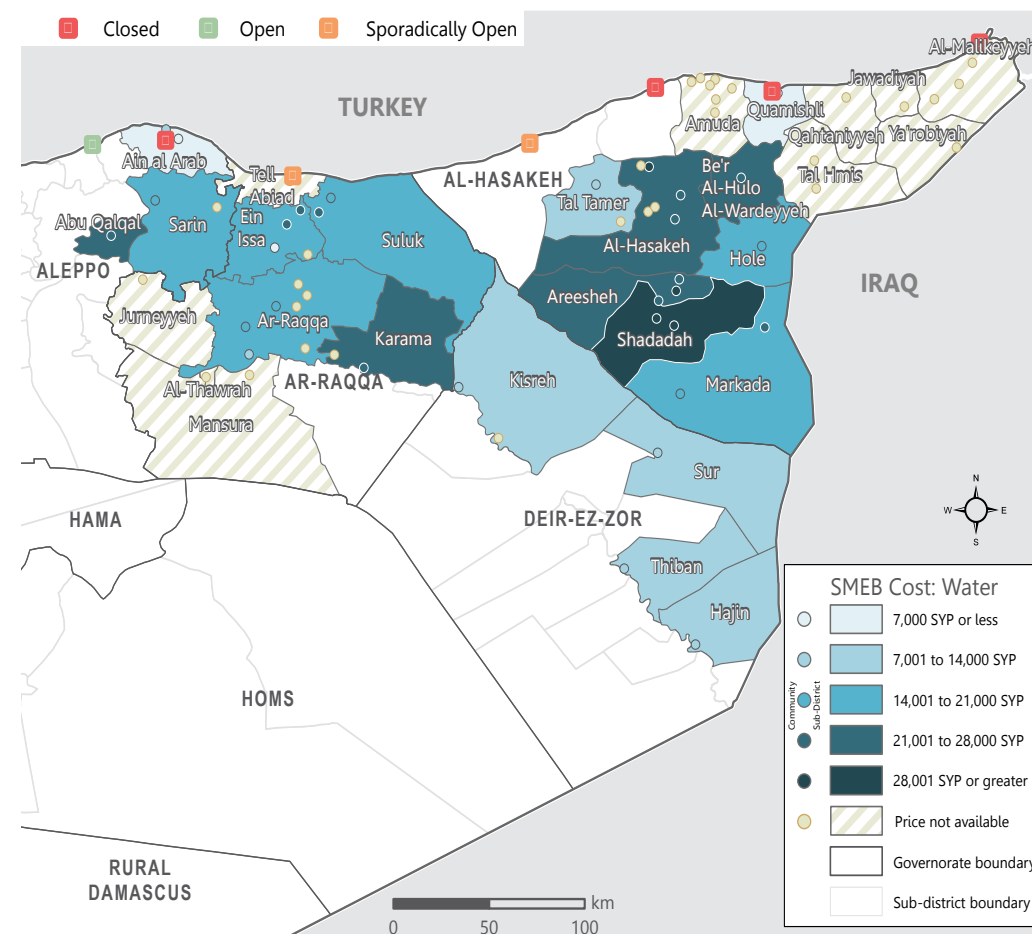
Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Karama	22,500	NA	NA
Kisreh	8,100	0%	NA
Mansura**	NA	NA	NA
Markada	20,455	0%	20%
Qahtaniyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	4,538	-29%	-14%
Sarin**	18,000	0%	NA
Shadadah	33,750	0%	15%
Suluk	20,455	-9%	NA
Sur	9,000	0%	-32%
Tal Hmis**	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	9,000	NA	233%
Tell Abiad**	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	13,500	0%	0%
Ya'robriyah**	NA	NA	NA

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICES AT THE GOVERNORATE LEVEL:

Al-Hasakeh:	21,886 SYP per 4,500 litres
Ar-Raqqa:	19,227 SYP per 4,500 litres
Aleppo:	18,000 SYP per 4,500 litres
Deir-Ez-Zor:	8,550 SYP per 4,500 litres

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

12 BARS OF SOAP, 4 PACKS OF 10 SANITARY PADS, 3KG OF LAUNDRY/DISH SOAP, 200G OF TOOTHPASTE, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	29,750	2%	16%
Abu Qalqal	34,475	18%	67%
Ain al Arab	28,054	-9%	8%
Al-Hasakeh	30,850	0%	14%
Al-Malikiyyeh	26,024	23%	7%
Al-Thawrah	38,388	36%	51%
Amuda	42,625	40%	45%
Ar-Raqqa	31,012	10%	21%
Areeshah	24,850	-15%	-12%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	46,550	NA	NA
Ein Issa	31,889	-4%	26%
Hajin	30,250	-7%	-3%
Hole	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	28,850	7%	-8%
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA

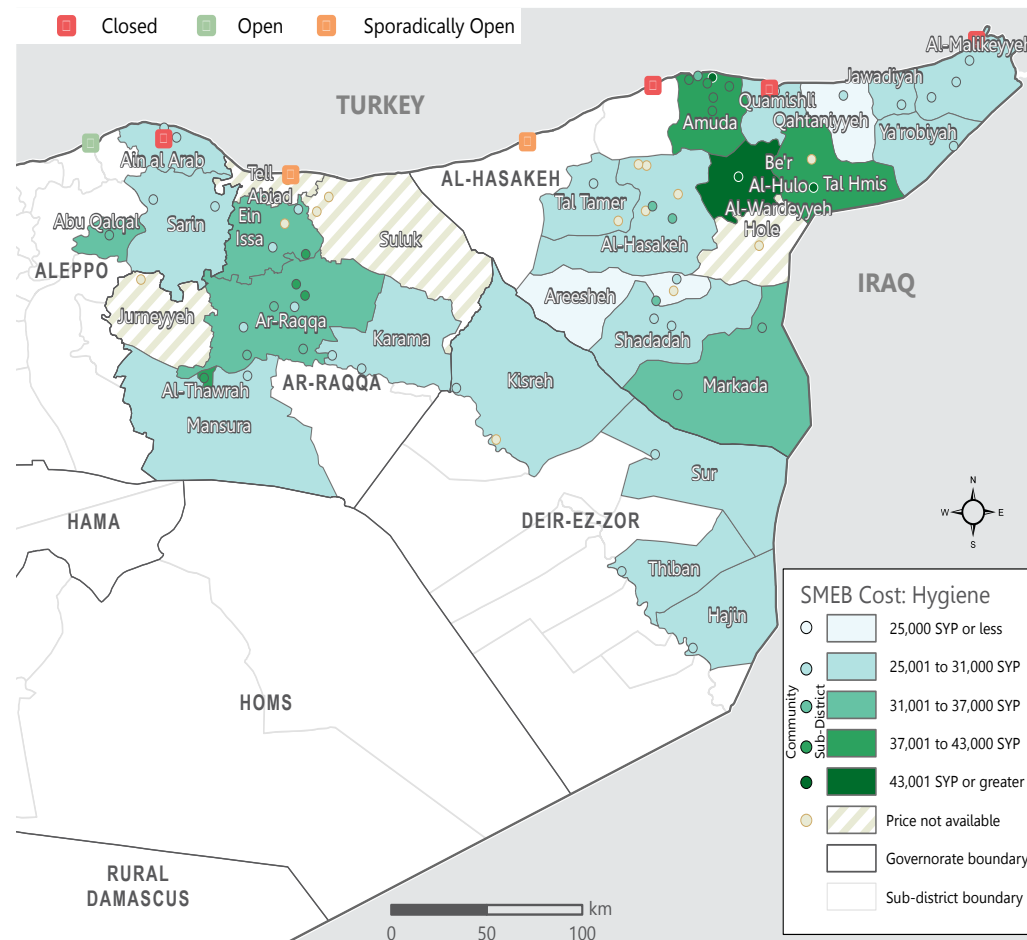
Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Karama	29,436	1%	43%
Kisreh	30,550	-3%	6%
Mansura	27,877	0%	44%
Markada	33,850	23%	15%
Qahtaniyyeh	22,817	-2%	-3%
Quamishli	29,750	NA	1%
Sarin	28,496	-2%	16%
Shadadah	26,750	4%	27%
Suluk	NA	NA	NA
Sur	29,633	-2%	2%
Tal Hmis	41,714	15%	37%
Tal Tamer	26,485	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	30,300	15%	19%
Ya'robiyah	26,546	5%	6%

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



SMEB HYGIENE COMPONENT PRICES AT THE GOVERNORATE LEVEL:

Ar-Raqqa:	33,214 SYP
Aleppo:	31,605 SYP
Al-Hasakeh:	31,265 SYP
Deir-Ez-Zor:	30,383 SYP

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB DATA, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	-6%	0%
Abu Qalqal	1,229	-74%	-84%
Ain al Arab	2,500	-75%	-50%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	5%	0%
Al-Malikeyyeh	1,500	0%	0%
Al-Thawrah	2,500	0%	-49%
Amuda	1,000	0%	-53%
Ar-Raqqa	2,500	0%	-17%
Areeshah	3,550	1%	18%
Be'r Al-Hulo	4,000	NA	0%
AL-Wardeyyeh	4,000	NA	0%
Ein Issa	2,500	-17%	0%
Hajin	2,500	0%	0%
Hole	20,000	0%	545%
Jawadiyah	1,100	10%	22%
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA

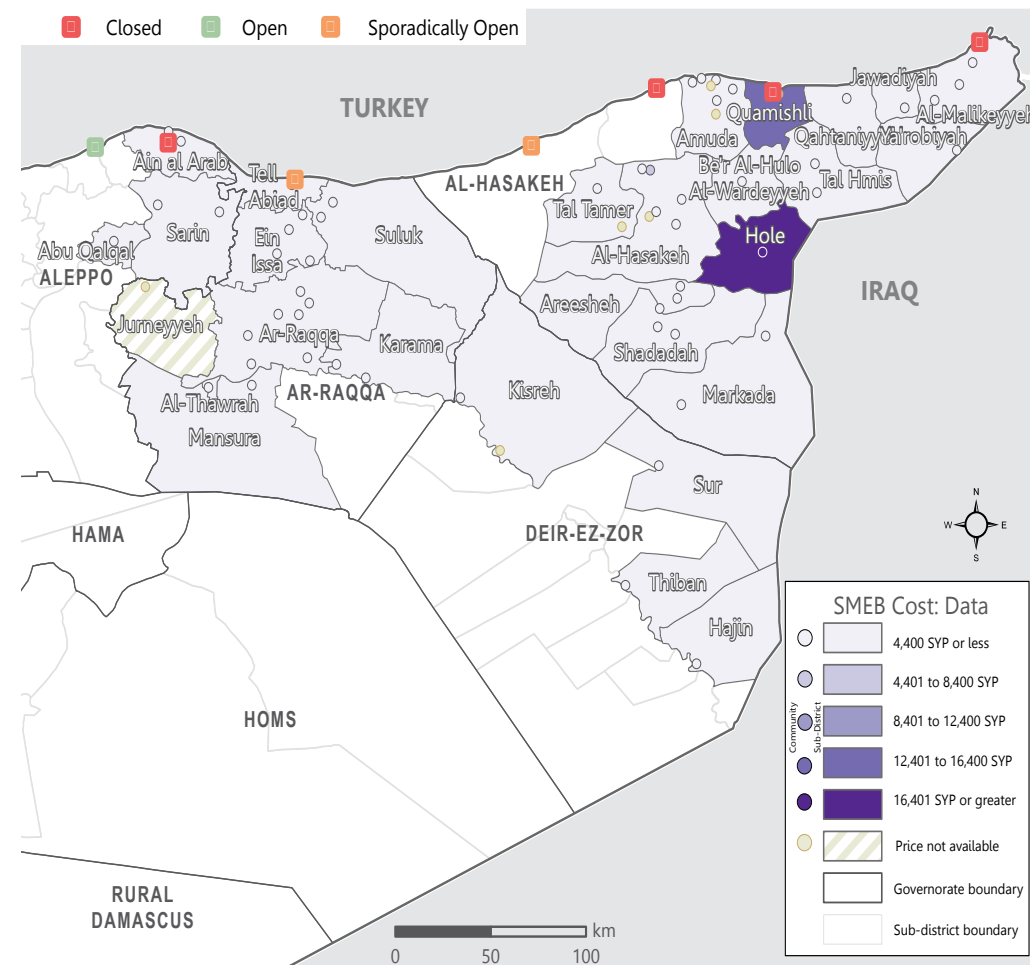
Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Karama	1,536	0%	0%
Kisreh	2,500	0%	0%
Mansura	2,000	0%	-20%
Markada**	4,000	14%	60%
Qahtaniyyeh	2,500	0%	25%
Quamishli	13,250	231%	430%
Sarin	2,750	-8%	-89%
Shadadah	1,024	11%	50%
Suluk	4,055	35%	NA
Sur	2,500	0%	-38%
Tal Hmis	3,500	17%	17%
Tal Tamer	1,000	NA	-20%
Tell Abiad	3,686	5%	NA
Thiban	2,500	0%	0%
Ya'robiyah	1,200	NA	-8%

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

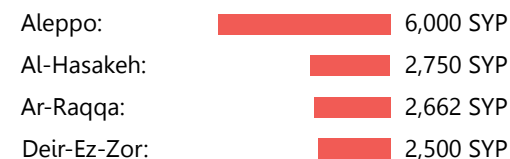


SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICES AT THE GOVERNORATE LEVEL:



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

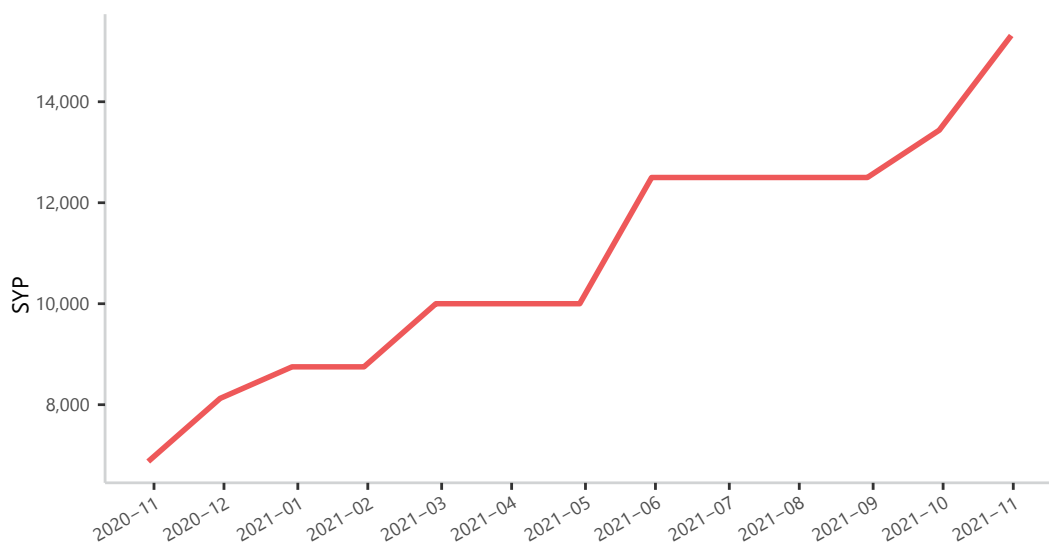
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

KEROSENE 25L, SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	15,313	11%	53%
Abu Qalqal*	15,000	269%	380%
Ain al Arab*	3,200	3%	14%
Al-Hasakeh	12,500	0%	43%
Al-Malikiyyeh*	2,500	-17%	-6%
Al-Thawrah	30,000	20%	100%
Amuda*	7,750	210%	210%
Ar-Raqqa	25,000	0%	54%
Areeshah	12,500	-5%	25%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh*	10,250	3%	3%
Ein Issa	25,000	0%	43%
Hajin**	16,875	13%	46%
Hole**	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah**	12,500	0%	0%
Jurneyyeh*	17,500	17%	-3%

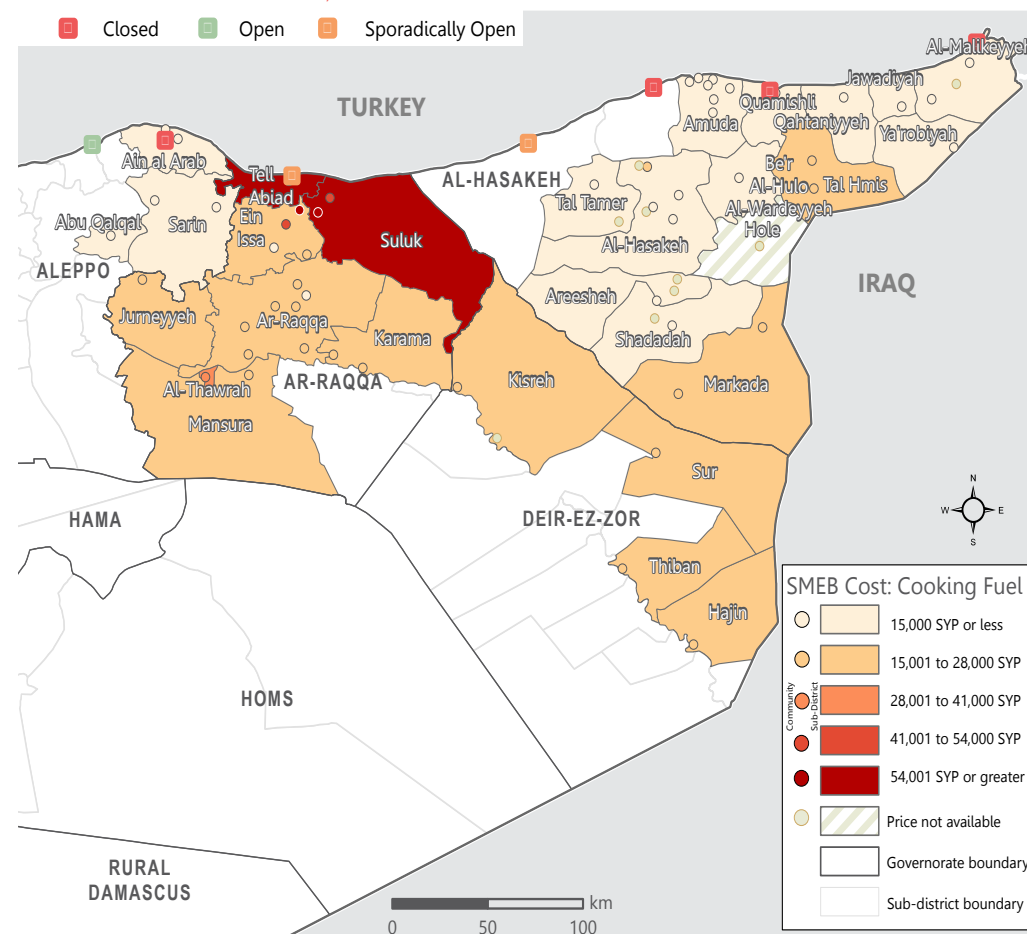
Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Karama*	22,500	16%	50%
Kisreh**	15,625	14%	56%
Mansura	22,500	-6%	13%
Markada*	20,625	-3%	38%
Qahtaniyyeh**	12,500	400%	400%
Quamishli*	11,375	11%	14%
Sarin*	2,500	0%	0%
Shadadah	2,750	0%	-64%
Suluk*	62,500	56%	NA
Sur	22,500	0%	50%
Tal Hmis*	18,750	25%	62%
Tal Tamer**	2,500	NA	-29%
Tell Abiad*	56,250	41%	NA
Thiban	25,000	67%	150%
Ya'robiyah**	11,250	-10%	309%

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS



SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICES AT THE GOVERNORATE LEVEL:

Ar-Raqqa :	25,000 SYP
Deir-Ez-Zor:	19,688 SYP
Al-Hasakeh:	11,375 SYP
Aleppo:	3,200 SYP

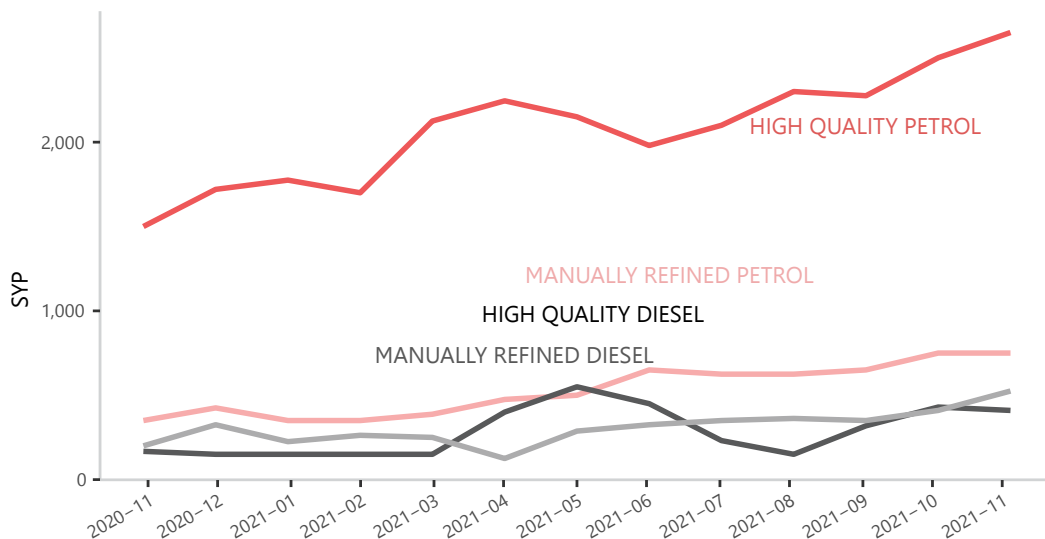
NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

DIESEL AND PETROL, 1L (HIGH QUALITY AND MANUALLY REFINED), SYRIAN POUNDS

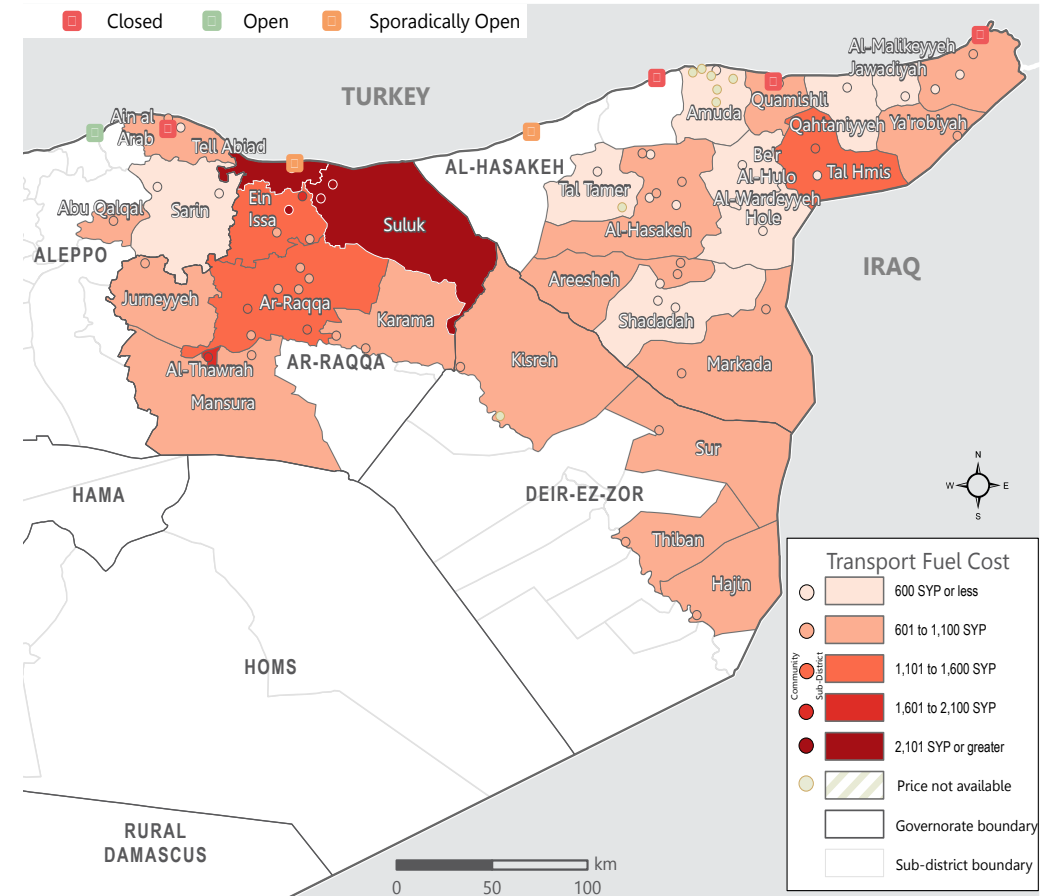
Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	875	8%	66%	Karama*	875	0%	35%
Abu Qalqal**	688	246%	304%	Kisreh**	988	18%	98%
Ain al Arab*	945	16%	22%	Mansura*	1,050	2%	40%
Al-Hasakeh	1,006	171%	14%	Markada*	875	9%	46%
Al-Malikiyyeh	776	-11%	0%	Qahtaniyyeh**	148	4%	3%
Al-Thawrah*	1,967	13%	23%	Quamishli	901	-4%	23%
Amuda**	310	0%	63%	Sarin*	142	-43%	-9%
Ar-Raqqa	1,425	1%	31%	Shadadah*	143	0%	0%
Areeshah*	638	1%	36%	Suluk*	2,498	7%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	297	-41%	-26%	Sur*	825	0%	50%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	297	-41%	-26%	Tal Hmis*	1,428	221%	268%
Ein Issa*	1,325	-20%	133%	Tal Tamer**	148	NA	NA
Hajin**	975	-1%	88%	Tell Abiad	2,445	4%	NA
Hole**	143	0%	0%	Thiban*	925	54%	73%
Jawadiyah**	290	1%	1%	Ya'robiyah**	844	2%	207%
Jurneyyeh*	1,000	25%	28%				

MEDIAN FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES, SYRIAN POUNDS

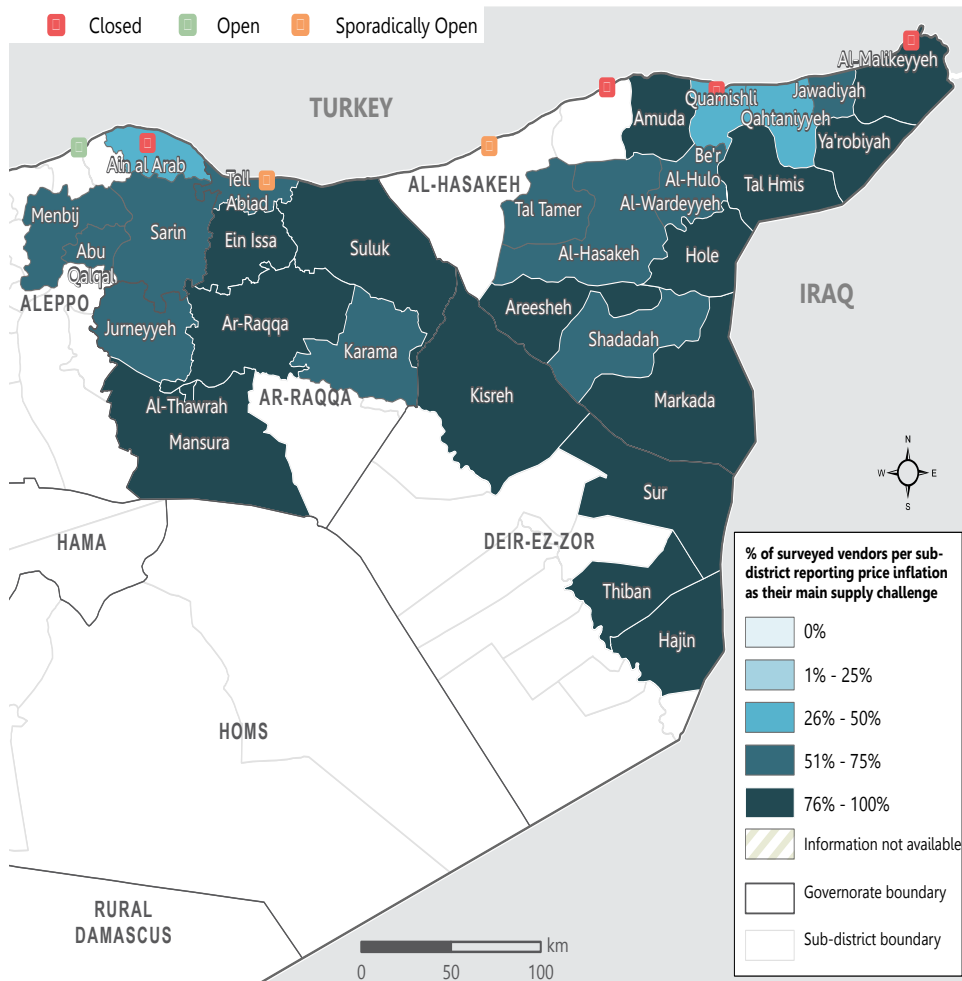


MANUALLY REFINED FUEL PRICES VARIED GREATLY ACROSS NES IN NOVEMBER:

NES Manually Refined Diesel: 525 SYP per litre	NES Manually Refined Petrol: 750 SYP per litre
Deir-ez-Zor: 838 SYP per litre	Ar-Raqqa: 1,350 SYP per litre
Ar-Raqqa: 800 SYP per litre	Deir-ez-Zor: 1,050 SYP per litre
Al-Hasakeh: 169 SYP per litre	Al-Hasakeh: 305 SYP per litre
Aleppo: 125 SYP per litre	Aleppo: 215 SYP per litre

NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

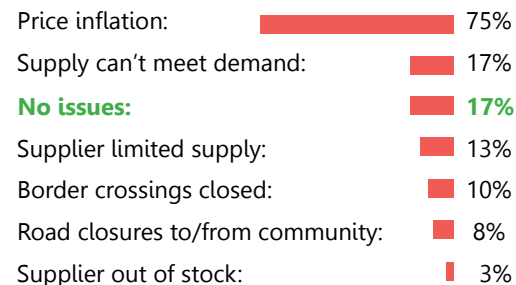


SUPPLY CHALLENGES

(SEE FIGURE 1, BELOW)

Total surveyed vendors: 1,731
 % of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: 83%
 One month change for % of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: **decrease of 3 percentage points (pp)**
 Most reported supply challenge: price inflation 75% (see map, left)
 One month change for % of vendors who reported facing price inflation: **decrease of 4 pp**

FIGURE 1: MOST COMMONLY REPORTED SUPPLY CHALLENGES BY ALL SURVEYED VENDORS



RESTOCKING

(SEE FIGURE 2, RIGHT)

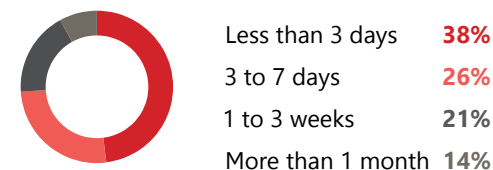
Number of surveyed vendors who were asked if they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 1,731
 Number of surveyed vendors reporting that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 19 shops = 1.1% of all surveyed shops.
 One month change: **no change (0 pp)**
 Surveyed vendors were asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supply lines were to be cut:
 Vendors reporting less than 3 days: 38%

One month change for less than 3 days: **decrease of 4 pp**

Across shop types in NES, surveyed water trucking vendors (95%), butchers (82%) and vegetable vendors (80%) and most commonly reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock.

Notably, **100%** of water trucking vendors in NE Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor and 90% of water trucking vendors in Al-Hasakeh reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if supply lines were cut. Furthermore, 100% of vegetable vendors and butchers in Deir-Ez-Zor reported the same.

FIGURE 2: REPORTED NUMBER OF DAYS BEFORE ALL TYPES OF VENDORS WOULD HYPOTHETICALLY RUN OUT OF STOCK, IF SUPPLY LINES WERE TO BE CUT



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

Informal currency exchange vendors were asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations.
 Surveyed currency vendors: 138
 Surveyed vendors reporting having limited stock of one or more USD denomination: 94%
 One month change for limited stock of one or more USD denomination: **decrease of 5%**
 The majority of surveyed vendors reported having a limited stock of all denominations of USD banknotes above 1 USD.
 See the [November 2021 dataset](#) for full USD availability.

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

In November - of the 1,752 total surveyed vendors – 28 vendors closed their shop. 26 of those vendors were in Al-Hasakeh governorate, 0 were in NE Aleppo, 2 in Ar-Raqqa and 0 in Deir-Ez-Zor.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

SYRIAN POUNDS

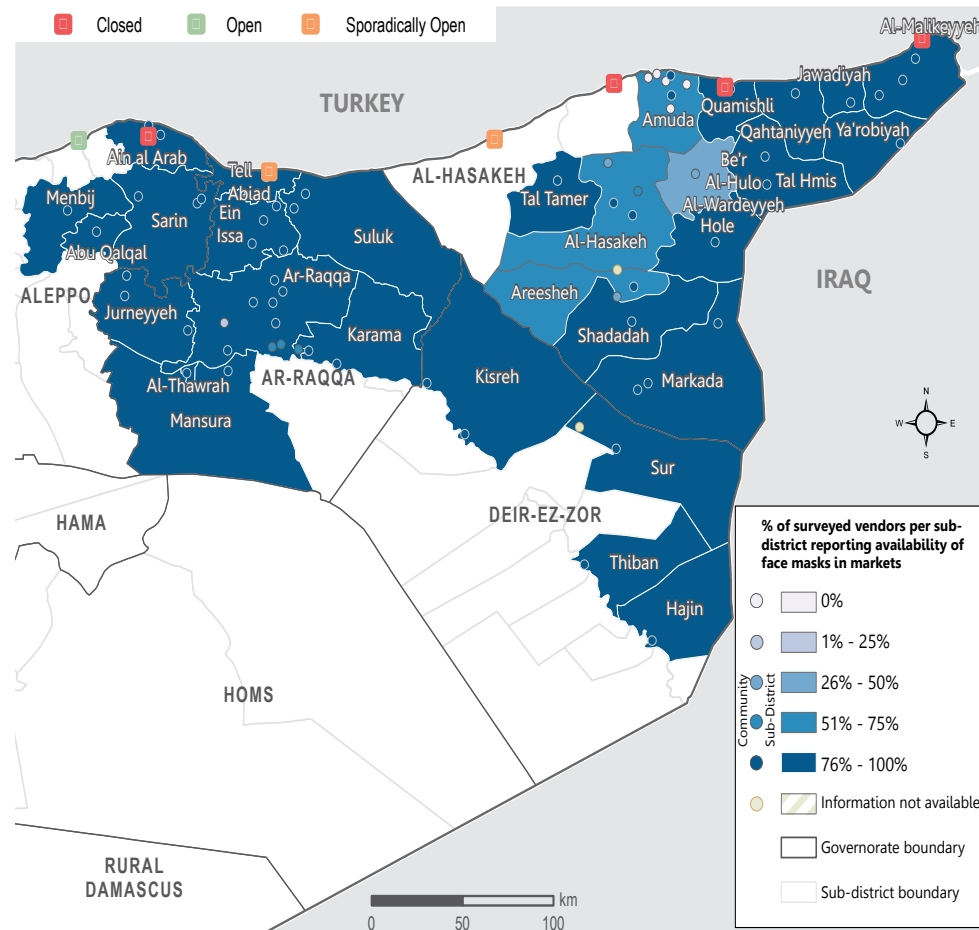
Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	350	30,000	11,250	6,250	2,000	5,000
Abu Qalqal	300	32,000	15,000	4,000	2,000	5,500
Ain al Arab	300	30,650	11,250	7,000	2,200	6,000
Al-Hasakeh	500	29,000	12,500	5,000	2,000	5,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	30,000	11,950	6,600	1,800	4,250
Al-Thawrah	300	25,000	12,500	2,000	2,000	5,000
Amuda	300	32,000	10,000	5,000	2,200	7,500
Areesheh	500	22,000	15,000	500	2,100	4,000
Ar-Raqqa	400	30,000	10,000	6,000	2,300	5,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyeh	500	20,000	14,000	6,000	3,000	8,000
Ein Issa	500	25,000	14,000	6,833	2,500	4,000
Hajin	300	22,500	10,000	6,500	3,300	4,900
Hole	300	25,000	10,000	9,375	1,700	NA
Jawadiyah	300	22,000	11,000	8,333	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	500	25,000	2,000	3,600	NA	NA
Karama	350	33,500	15,000	7,000	1,333	6,000
Kisreh	300	22,500	9,500	7,000	3,200	5,000
Mansura	500	38,500	1,250	7,500	2,000	NA
Markada	500	33,000	20,000	6,250	2,500	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	250	20,000	15,000	4,500	1,500	3,300
Quamishli	200	30,000	13,000	4,000	3,000	6,250
Sarin	300	34,500	10,000	8,750	2,000	NA
Shadadah	400	25,000	10,000	5,000	1,800	6,500
Suluk	500	45,250	33,333	NA	2,000	NA
Sur	500	30,000	8,000	8,000	1,500	3,500
Tal Hmis	450	33,500	3,750	6,500	3,750	NA
Tal Tamer	275	19,000	3,750	2,300	1,800	NA
Tell Abiad	500	45,000	33,333	NA	2,000	NA
Thiban	500	30,000	7,000	8,000	2,000	4,500
Ya'robiyah	300	20,000	15,000	3,333	2,000	NA

Prices in **bold** refer to COVID-19 items where median subdistrict prices rely on less than 3 observations.



AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

NORTHEAST SYRIA



NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

PER 1 PIECE - IN SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	Jerrycan	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Solid fuel stove	Fire extinguisher	Fire blanket
Northeast Syria	5,850	30,000	125,000	85,000	49,000	27,500	47,500	78,400	18,000
Abu Qalqal	6,000	22,000	85,000	65,000	35,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	5,000	24,500	137,500	97,500	51,500	33,500	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	7,000	50,000	205,000	80,000	60,000	32,500	45,000	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	5,500	40,000	105,000	100,000	39,500	20,250	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	6,000	50,000	65,000	120,000	70,000	40,000	80,000	NA	25,000
Amuda	NA	NA	250,000	100,000	70,000	45,000	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	6,000	26,500	139,600	110,000	50,000	32,500	47,500	121,800	11,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	10,000	NA	NA	60,000	NA	NA	45,000	NA	NA
Ein Issa	7,750	8,500	22,500	75,000	3,000	9,500	47,500	NA	NA
Hajin	5,000	35,000	90,000	45,000	16,000	19,000	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	5,700	27,000	162,500	110,000	49,000	23,500	50,000	NA	NA
Kisreh	4,800	35,000	85,000	45,000	16,000	18,000	NA	NA	NA
Mansura	6,500	30,000	125,000	35,000	50,500	NA	33,000	NA	NA
Markada	4,500	35,000	130,000	NA	75,000	40,000	NA	NA	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	60,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	8,000	37,500	125,000	115,000	50,000	42,500	35,000	35,000	NA
Sarin	5,650	28,500	135,000	100,000	49,000	45,000	32,500	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	8,000	NA	150,000	100,000	40,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Sur	4,000	2,750	312,500	62,500	52,500	25,000	60,000	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	5,000	38,000	120,000	85,000	36,500	NA	60,000	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	3,000	1,300	14,000	NA	NA	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	8,250	NA	150,000	112,500	40,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	4,000	20,000	100,000	50,000	35,000	18,000	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	15,000	38,000	NA	70,000	40,000	NA	NA	NA	NA

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - NEW CLOTHING

PER 1 PIECE/PAIR - IN SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots	Adult's winter hat	Children's winter hat
Northeast Syria	65,000	60,000	35,000	17,500	15,500	10,000	5,000	4,000
Abu Qalqal	60,000	70,000	35,000	15,000	13,000	10,000	4,500	4,000
Ain al Arab	65,000	55,000	35,000	15,000	14,000	10,000	4,750	3,000
Al-Hasakeh	75,000	75,000	42,500	26,000	22,000	12,000	3,000	2,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	50,000	50,000	35,000	30,000	30,000	17,500	7,000	5,500
Al-Thawrah	70,000	65,000	45,000	20,000	10,000	8,000	NA	NA
Amuda	85,000	75,000	50,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,000
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	65,000	51,500	25,500	34,000	23,000	13,000	4,500	3,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	72,500	60,000	30,000	16,500	14,000	8,500	6,250	4,250
Hajin	65,000	60,000	30,000	18,000	16,000	10,000	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	67,500	49,000	24,500	15,000	12,000	6,000	3,500	2,100
Kisreh	55,000	60,000	25,000	17,500	15,000	10,000	NA	NA
Mansura	80,000	55,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA	3,500	2,500
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	35,000	20,000	NA	NA	NA	5,000	3,000
Quamishli	97,500	90,000	40,000	21,500	20,500	13,500	8,000	5,500
Sarin	60,000	40,000	26,500	14,000	12,500	9,000	3,500	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	64,800	61,200	38,700	43,200	46,800	22,500	9,000	9,000
Sur	60,000	65,000	35,000	8,250	8,000	5,000	5,000	4,000
Tal Hmis	87,500	72,500	45,000	17,500	15,500	10,000	6,000	4,000
Tal Tamer	37,500	50,000	22,500	6,000	6,500	4,500	4,000	3,500
Tell Abiad	63,000	61,200	40,500	43,200	46,800	25,200	9,900	9,900
Thiban	40,000	35,000	25,000	20,000	25,000	12,000	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	50,000	50,000	35,000	15,000	18,000	15,000	6,000	NA

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - SECOND HAND CLOTHING

PER 1 PIECE/PAIR - IN SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	Second hand men's winter jacket	Second hand women's winter jacket	Second hand children's winter jacket	Second hand men's winter boots	Second hand women's winter boots	Second hand children's winter boots	Second hand adult's hat	Second hand children's hat
Northeast Syria	19,500	17,000	9,625	12,000	10,000	6,500	2,750	1,750
Abu Qalqal	8,000	12,500	5,500	7,500	6,500	6,000	1,500	1,000
Ain al Arab	12,000	12,000	7,000	7,000	6,000	3,500	1,500	1,500
Al-Hasakeh	20,000	18,000	9,500	12,000	10,000	7,000	2,250	2,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	24,000	20,000	12,000	15,000	12,000	8,000	3,500	2,000
Al-Thawrah	20,000	17,000	12,000	8,000	5,000	3,000	NA	NA
Amuda	17,000	20,000	8,000	21,000	10,000	8,000	3,500	3,500
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	15,000	13,000	6,500	12,000	10,000	5,000	1,750	1,250
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	20,000	25,000	15,000	18,000	15,000	10,000	3,000	3,000
Ein Issa	15,000	12,500	7,000	7,500	6,500	4,000	3,500	2,000
Hajin	25,000	25,000	10,000	12,000	10,000	7,000	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	12,000	10,000	5,000	6,000	NA	4,000	2,500	1,500
Kisreh	20,000	20,000	8,000	12,000	10,000	6,500	NA	NA
Mansura	15,000	12,000	8,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	19,000	18,000	13,500	NA	NA	NA	3,000	1,750
Quamishli	26,500	25,000	15,000	12,500	10,000	8,000	4,000	3,000
Sarin	22,500	15,000	10,000	9,000	8,000	5,000	2,000	1,500
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	20,000	17,500	10,000	15,000	12,000	8,000	5,000	2,000
Sur	16,500	17,000	9,750	4,500	3,500	4,000	3,000	1,500
Tal Hmis	15,000	13,500	9,000	7,000	7,000	6,000	1,000	1,000
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	20,000	17,000	12,500	15,000	12,000	9,750	1,750	1,750
Thiban	10,000	7,000	3,500	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	20,000	20,000	15,000	35,000	40,000	30,000	NA	NA

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - ALTERNATIVE FUELS

PER 1 KG - IN SYRIAN POUNDS

Sub-district	Firewood	Olive residues	Pistachio shells	Coal
Northeast Syria	3,500	NA	NA	2,750
Abu Qalqal	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Karama	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mansura	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	NA	NA	NA	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Sarin	NA	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Suluk	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	3,500	NA	NA	3,000
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	NA	NA	NA	5,000
Ya'robayah	NA	NA	NA	NA

UNAVAILABILITY OF WINTER ITEMS AT SUB-DISTRICT LEVEL - PER GROUP (AVERAGE)

Sub-district	Group 1: Winter clothes	Group 2: NFI	Group 3: Fuels	Group 4: Kerosene/ diesel heaters
Abu Qalqal	0%	29%	60%	0%
Ain al Arab	14%	35%	66%	0%
Al-Hasakeh	33%	51%	62%	60%
Al-Malikeyyeh	0%	49%	40%	60%
Al-Thawrah	25%	14%	50%	0%
Amuda	13%	14%	40%	0%
Areeshah	NA	NA	64%	NA
Ar-Raqqa	5%	35%	54%	17%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	0%	86%	60%	0%
Ein Issa	25%	57%	59%	0%
Hajin	25%	29%	60%	0%
Hole	NA	NA	78%	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	60%	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	60%	NA
Karama	2%	29%	57%	0%
Kisreh	25%	29%	60%	0%
Mansura	52%	21%	60%	0%
Markada	NA	29%	70%	100%
Qahtaniyyeh	0%	14%	40%	0%
Quamishli	0%	17%	38%	0%
Sarin	0%	43%	55%	0%
Shadadah	NA	NA	60%	NA
Suluk	0%	21%	13%	0%
Sur	0%	29%	40%	0%
Tal Hmis	0%	55%	42%	0%
Tal Tamer	0%	57%	74%	0%
Tell Abiad	0%	24%	15%	0%
Thiban	0%	29%	50%	0%
Ya'robayah	0%	14%	20%	0%

NA indicates that no data was collected for these items in the sub-district. Lack of data does not necessarily suggest item unavailability

Group 1: Winter clothes and second-hand winter clothes (boots, jackets, hats for children and adults)

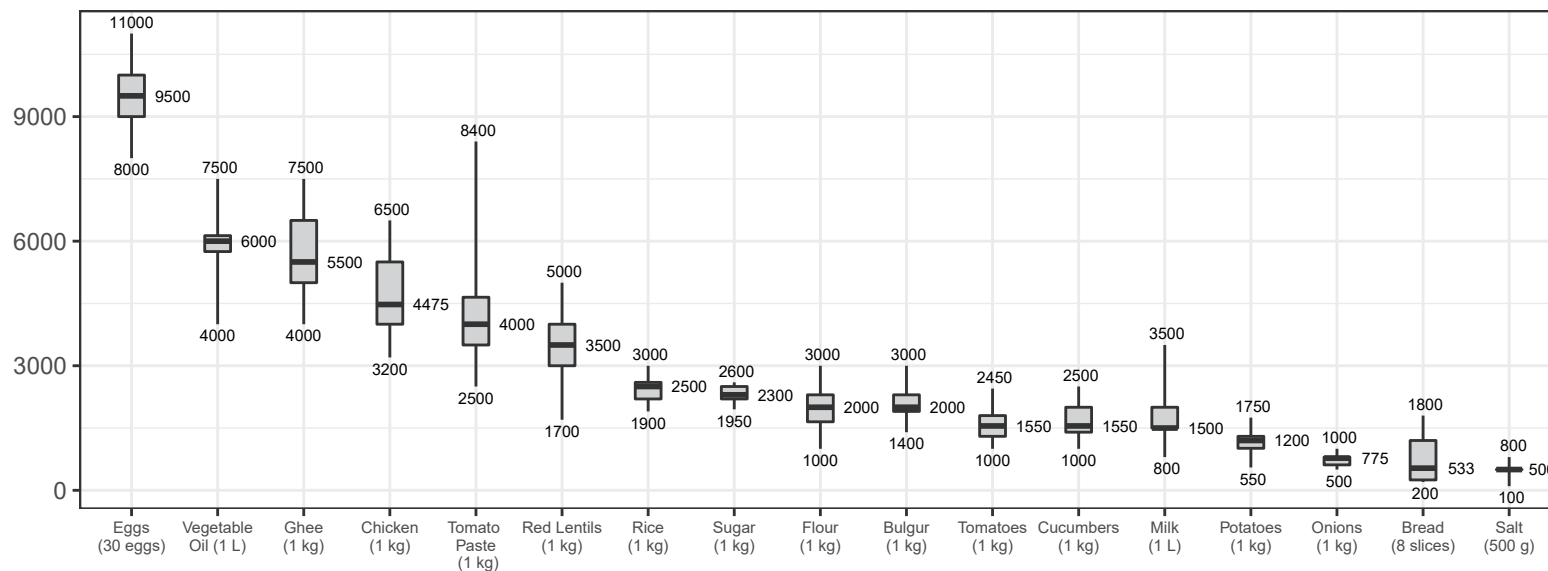
Group 2: "NFI" (fire blankets, fire extinguishers, winter blanket, winter carpet, plastic sheet, mattress, jerrycans)

Group 3: Fuel (high quality petrol, high quality diesel, manually refined petrol, manually refined diesel, LP gas, manually refined kerosene, coal, olive residuals, pistachios, firewood)

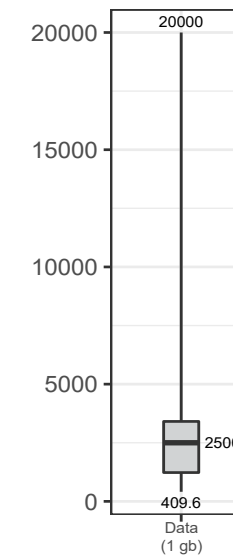
Group 4: Heater (Kerosene/diesel heaters)

APPENDIX 1: NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

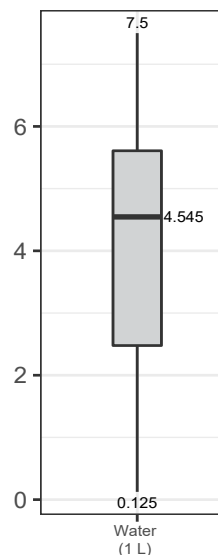
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



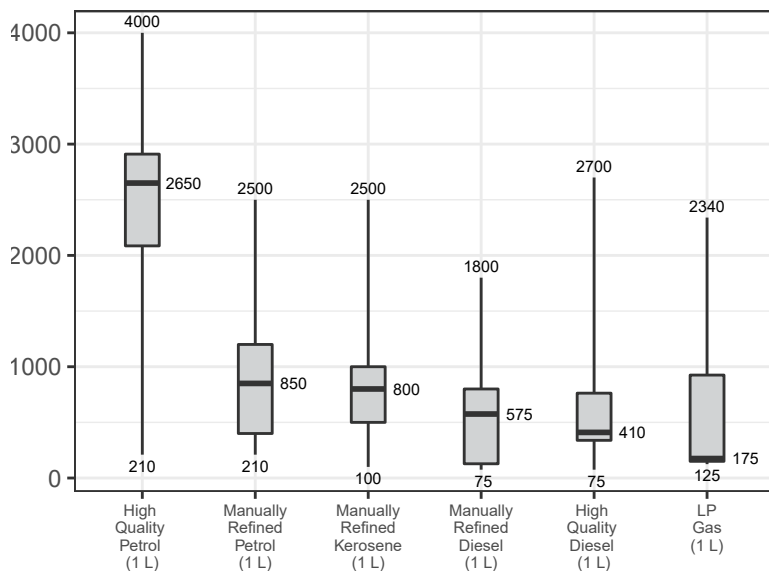
CELLPHONE DATA SYRIAN POUNDS



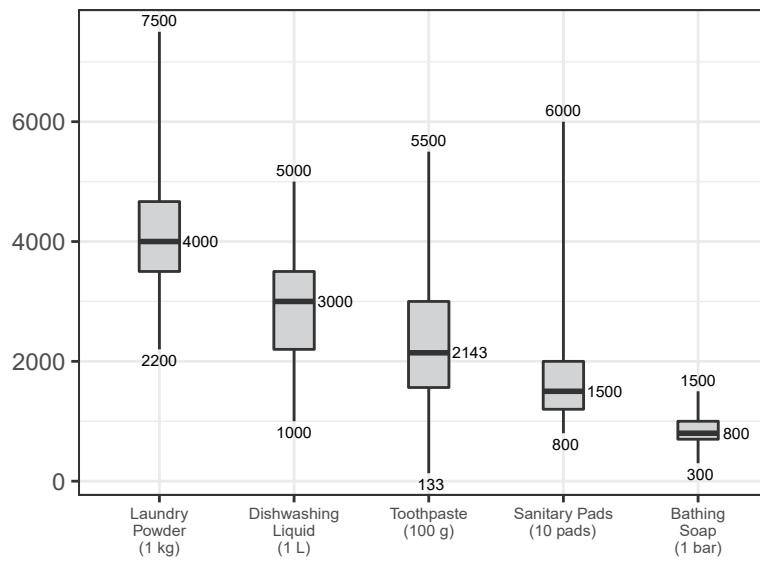
WATER TRUCKING SYRIAN POUNDS



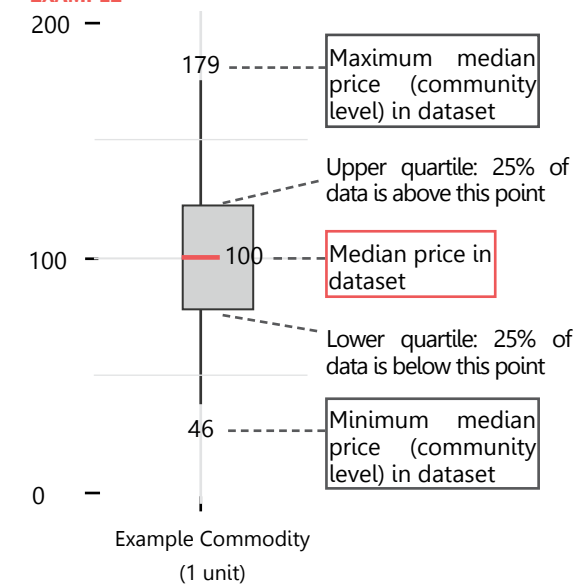
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS SYRIAN POUNDS



READING BOXPLOTS EXAMPLE



Methodology

In order to be included in the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise, markets must be permanent in nature, large enough to support at least two wholesalers, and diverse enough to provide a sufficient variety of goods and commodities. Additionally, the shops surveyed within each market must be housed in permanent structures and must sell certain items to be eligible for inclusion. Participating organisations train their enumerators on the Market Monitoring methodology and data collection tools using standard training materials developed by REACH. Each enumerator aims to assess three to five shops of each type in the main market in their assigned community/neighbourhood, using surveys to collect information about the cheapest prices of each item and whether there are any barriers in the supply chain. In sub-districts where direct surveying by enumerators is not possible, data collection is conducted remotely through key informants such as shop owners, suppliers and consumers. A survey form is deployed on KoBo each month to capture price and stock information from different types of establishments, including grocery stores, fuel traders, currency exchange shops, water trucking services and mobile phone shops, among others. Nearly all participating partners submit their data to these KoBo forms, using the KoBoCollect Android app to upload data. A small number of partners, by prior permission, collect data using fully harmonised data collection tools deployed on other platforms, then submit their raw data to REACH for standardisation, compilation and cleaning.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partners' data, normalising prices and cross-checking outliers. The cleaned data is then analysed by SMEB costs, components of the SMEB, and by commodities. These trends are observed at the sub-district-level and, when possible, at the community-level. Prices are divided into quartiles and boxplots are created to assist CWG members in understanding the distribution of prices across the northeast and northwest of Syria. To illustrate local variations in prices and availability, REACH uses the collected data to map the price of the SMEB in each sub-district and adds illustrations of surrounding border crossings,

with data sourced from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, each SMEB component costs and transport fuel prices are graphed to visualise trends over time.

The cleaned datasets are available on the [Humanitarian Data Exchange](#) website and the [REACH Resource Centre](#) and are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

Calculating 'median cheapest price'

The regional figures are calculated by taking the medians of the minimum-reported prices of a region's sub-districts. In turn, the sub-district medians are calculated using the Market Monitoring base-data.

Calculating Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) costs

The cost of a SMEB is calculated for each assessed sub-district by calculating the median cheapest price of each SMEB commodity in that sub-district, then multiplying these medians by the number of units that an average Syrian household requires to purchase in a month.

The SMEB total is the median cost of the minimum, culturally adjusted items required to support a 6-person household for a month. The SMEB Food and other SMEB groupings are subsections of the SMEB total. For individual SMEB items such as red lentils, the price is available as per standard weight (red lentils price per kilo) and 'SMEB' red lentils (15kg of red lentils, to meet the survival needs of a family of 6). The composition of the SMEB and the SMEB item quantities can be found on [page 2](#).

Calculating price trends over time

One month and six-month price changes and trends in this factsheet are calculated only with the comparable assessed communities of a sub-district with consistent coverage across months. On the other hand, in the dataset medians are calculated taking all assessed communities for the current month in consideration. Therefore, prices and percentage changes within the tables of this factsheet may slightly differ from the current month's dataset medians. In the narrative, both regional median SMEB

values are shared; the SMEB value including all assessed communities that specific month, and the SMEB value only taking in consideration communities with consistent coverage since the previous month.

Calculating regional SMEB costs with limited coverage

For the months of January and February 2020, the regional full SMEB cost as well as the regional full SMEB cost without water were calculated by summing the medians of each regional SMEB component. This was done due to the lower coverage at a sub-district level in January and February 2020, which affected the regional median SMEB calculations.

Changes to coverage

Given security and access constraints in the south of Syria, data collection has been unable to take place since July 2018. Escalation of conflict in October 2019 has resulted in limited coverage in northeast Syria since then. However, coverage between January and December 2020 greatly increased (from 9 assessed sub-districts to 29 assessed sub-districts).

Challenges and limitations

As the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise currently includes 26 partners based in 2 hubs, achieving a consistent approach is inherently challenging. Participating organisations are therefore requested to adopt harmonised data collection methodologies and tools to ensure that the data uploaded is as accurate as possible. Since this exercise collects data directly from vendors and relies on partner organisations for its wide coverage, Market Monitoring may sporadically lose coverage temporarily or for longer periods of time owing to challenges in accessing locations or due to loss in the shared data collection capacity of the project. This impacts the ability to report on trends, as can be seen in the line graphs and 'NA' values in the tables.

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). For more information please visit our website:

www.reach-initiative.org. You can contact us directly at: geneva@reach-initiative.org and follow us on Twitter [@REACH_info](https://twitter.com/REACH_info)

ABOUT THE CASH WORKING GROUP

The Cash Working Group (CWG) was established in May 2014 to analyse the impact of the ongoing conflict on markets in Syria and guide the implementation of humanitarian cash and voucher programmes within those markets. REACH and the CWG have been partners on the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise since early 2015.

ABOUT REACH'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

As an initiative deployed in many vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, REACH is deeply concerned by the devastating impact the COVID-19 pandemic may have on the millions of affected people we seek to serve. REACH works with Cash Working Groups and Partners to provide up-to-date evidence to inform the humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments is a key area where REACH aims to leverage its existing expertise to help humanitarian actors understand the impact of changing restrictions on markets and trade. Updates regarding REACH's response to COVID-19 can be found in a [devoted thread](#) on the REACH website. Contact geneva@impact-initiatives.org for further information.