

# HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OVERVIEW OF SYRIA (HSOS)

June 2024 | Northwest Syria

SITUATION OVERVIEW

## INTRODUCTION

HSOS is a monitoring key informant (KI) assessment that provides comprehensive, multi-sectoral information about the humanitarian conditions and priority needs inside Syria. This Situation Overview presents a thematic review based on the HSOS assessment of the priority needs and humanitarian assistance, access to basic services and infrastructure, economic conditions, public health, as well as the security and protection situation in Northwest Syria (NWS). HSOS focuses on host community and internally displaced persons (IDP) households residing in communities. **This assessment does not provide information on camps and informal settlements.** This Situation Overview presents information gathered in **627 communities** across Greater Idlib and Northern Aleppo areas<sup>1</sup>. Data was collected **between 6-13 June 2024** from **2,442 KIs** (5% female).

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

## INTERPRETATION

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

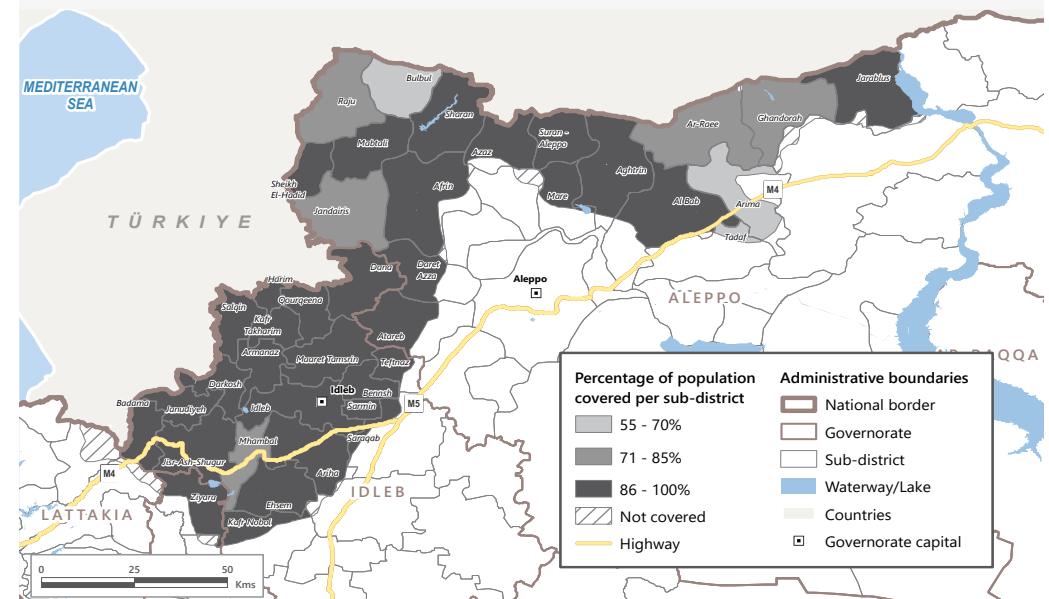
The symbol ▲ indicates that KIs could select multiple answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.

### HSOS Dashboards

- [Sectoral dashboard](#): This interactive dashboard presents a sectoral review of key indicators from HSOS. Users can easily navigate through their sector of interest and visualise data from the community level to the region level.
- [Trend analysis dashboard](#): This dashboard allows users to quickly see how the humanitarian situation in northern Syria has been changing over time. It also includes a flagging system tab that highlights numerical differences across different periods.

## KEY MESSAGES

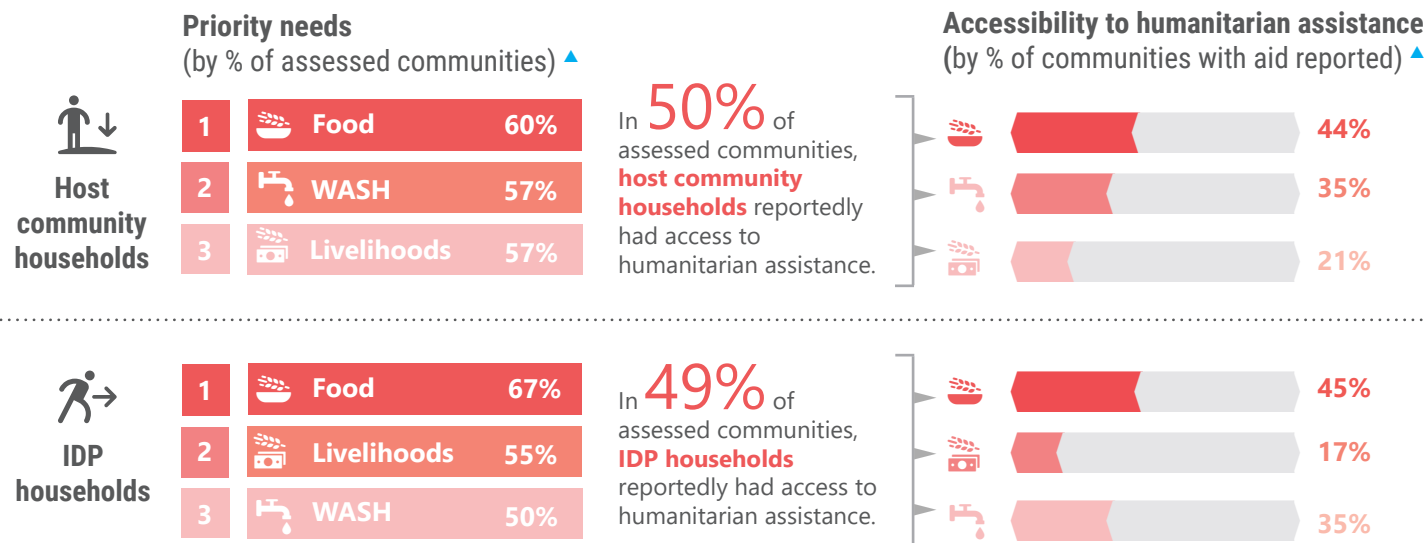
- **In the majority of the assessed communities (98%), KIs reported that households faced challenges in accessing healthcare services.** The high cost of transportation was identified as the most substantial obstacle (in 63% of assessed communities). This was followed by a lack of transportation (58%) and a shortage of medicines or medical equipment at health facilities, which impacted households in 51% of assessed communities.
- **Across NWS, 46% of assessed communities had access to electricity for less than 12 hours per day.** Among the main challenges to accessing power, KIs reported that solar panels or batteries for power storage were too expensive and the cost of electricity itself was too high (in 74% and 47% of assessed communities respectively).
- **The economic situation in NWS has made food security more challenging.** Among the 87% of assessed communities where KIs reported challenges in accessing sufficient food, 77% indicated that the households' inability to afford essential food items was among the top challenges. Specifically, the food groups with the greatest needs for households were bread and cereals (78%) and oil and fat (62%).



<sup>1</sup> The Greater Idlib area includes Idlib governorate, parts of Aleppo governorate (Atareb and Daret Azza sub-districts), and parts of Hama governorate controlled by armed opposition groups (Ziyara sub-district). The Northern Aleppo area includes 16 sub-districts located across Afrin, A'zaz, Al Bab and Jarablus districts.

## PRIORITY NEEDS AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

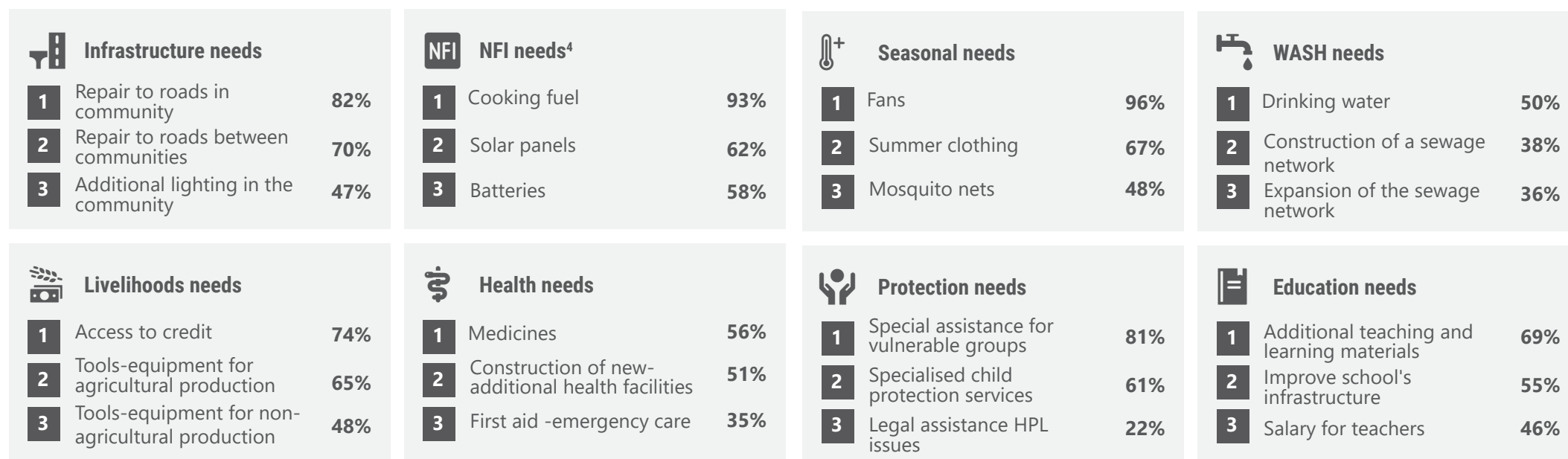
### Most commonly reported priority needs and reported accessibility to associated humanitarian assistance



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

- |   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 81% |
| 2 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs    | 33% |
| 3 | Some people did not comply with the eligibility criteria       | 26% |
- 
- |   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| 1 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 79% |
| 2 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs    | 31% |
| 3 | Some people did not comply with the eligibility criteria       | 26% |

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



<sup>2</sup> Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

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

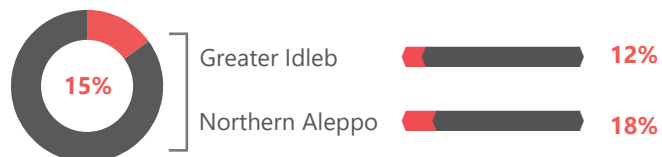
<sup>4</sup> Non-food items (NFI)

## ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



## Access to Markets

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



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

- 1 People do not have the financial means to open a shop/market 12%
- 2 Limited demand to support markets in the community 4%
- 3 Vendors cannot afford restocking 3%

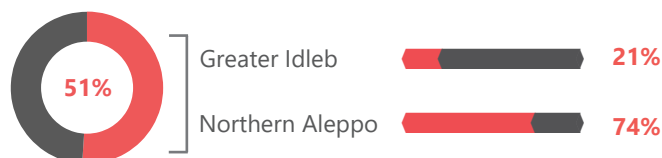
Most commonly reported NFI unavailable in markets (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 Solar panels 15%
- 2 Batteries 15%
- 3 Plastic sheeting 14%



## Access to Healthcare

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



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

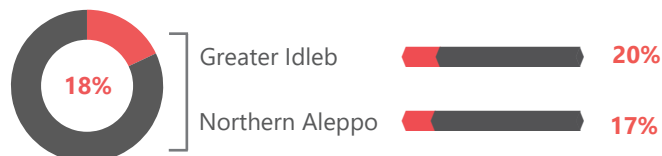
Most commonly reported challenges to access healthcare (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 High cost of transportation to health facilities 63%
- 2 Lack of transportation to health facilities 58%
- 3 Lack of medicines and/or medical equipment at the health facility 51%



## Access to Electricity

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



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

Connected 76%  
Not connected 24%

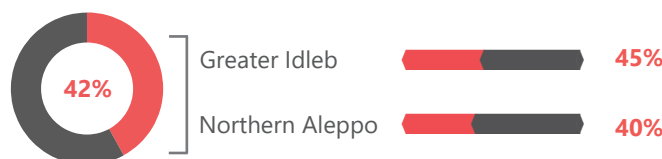


In **17%** of assessed communities connected to the main electricity network, KIs reported that **the electricity network was partially or completely not functioning**



## Access to Water

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



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

Connected 75%  
Not connected 25%

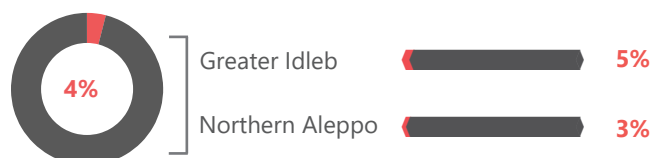


In **11%** of assessed communities connected to the main water network, KIs reported that **the water network was partially or completely not functioning**



## Access to Education services

% of assessed communities where **no education services were provided** over the past 30 days



Frequency of education services (by % of assessed communities with operational education services [96%])

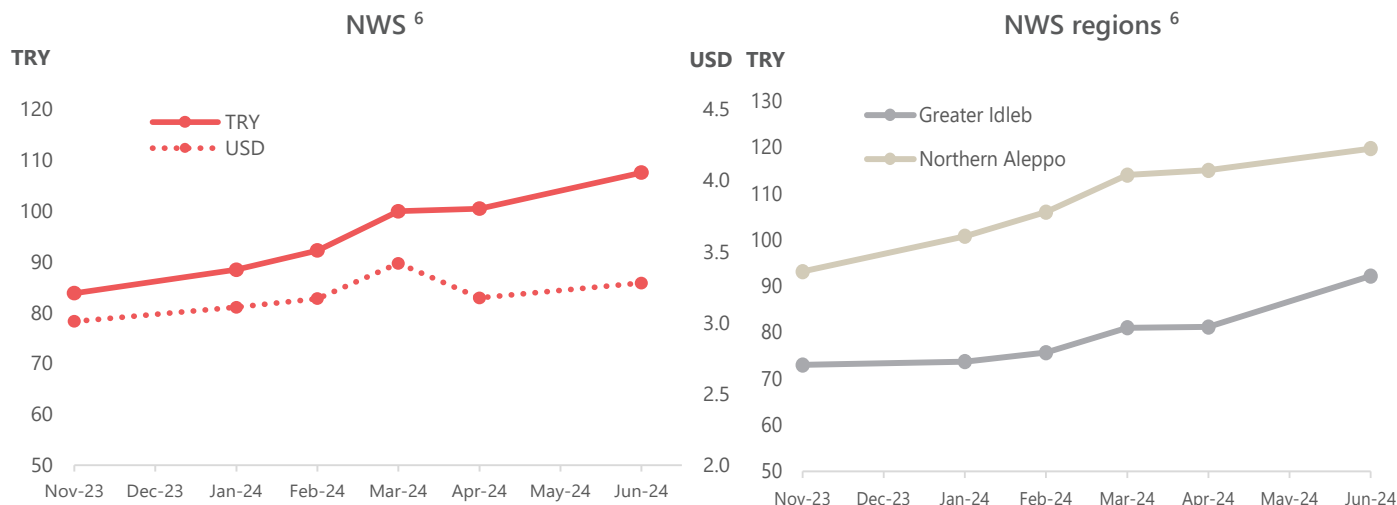


Most commonly reported difficulties when accessing education (by % of assessed communities) ▲

- 1 Not enough teaching or learning supplies 69%
- 2 Unsuitable environment 56%
- 3 Overcrowding 49%

## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Evolution of the average daily wage for casual or irregular labour reported over the past six HSOS rounds in NWS <sup>5</sup>



Region	Median estimated monthly rent price for a two-bedroom apartment <sup>5</sup>
Greater Idleb	820 TRY
Northern Aleppo	500 TRY
Northwest Syria	700 TRY

### Most commonly reported non-income generating sources of livelihoods (by % of assessed communities) <sup>▲</sup>

	Host community households	IDP households
Borrowing/loans	47%	55%
Remittances (from outside Syria)	21%	28%
Cash or in-kind humanitarian assistance	8%	12%
Financial support from family or friends (inside Syria)	8%	11%



In **92%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that **agriculture was a common source of livelihoods** for households.

### Most common challenges to access livelihoods related to agriculture (by % of communities relying on agriculture) <sup>▲</sup>

1	High operational costs	82%
2	Seasonality or instability of income	52%
3	Lack of water for agriculture	49%

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



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



KIs in **74%** of assessed communities reported that the **high cost of solar panels or batteries to store solar power** was a common challenge to access power



KIs in **14%** of assessed communities reported that the **high cost of fuel for generators** was a common challenge to access power



KIs in **33%** of assessed communities indicated that the **high cost of water** prevented households to access sufficient water



KIs in **77%** of assessed communities cited the **unaffordability of food** as a common challenge



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



KIs in **72%** of assessed communities reported that households **lacked money or resources** to cover the cost of attending **school**

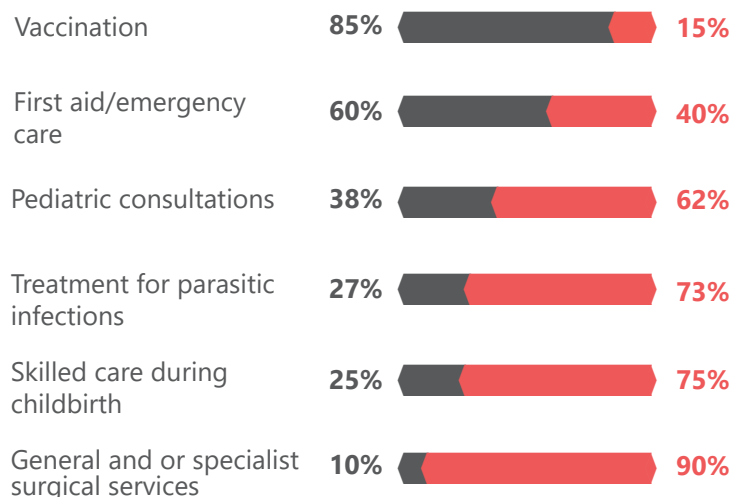
<sup>5</sup> KIs had the option to select the price in United States Dollars (USD) or Turkish Lira (TRY). The values displayed here were all harmonised in TRY and USD, based on the exchange rate from the NWS Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMIMI). According to the REACH Market Monitoring April 2024, 1 USD = 32.80 TRY.

<sup>6</sup> There was no KI data collection in December 2023 and May 2024 across all NWS.

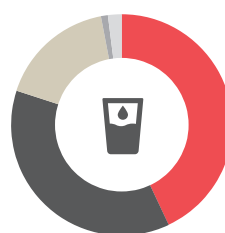
## PUBLIC HEALTH

**Essential health services available in the assessed community**  
(by % of assessed communities where households could access health services [49%]) <sup>7</sup>

■ Service available  
■ Service not available



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



Private water trucking conducted by citizens	43%
Piped water network	37%
Private well	17%
Community well	1%
Other	2%

In **55%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that households **faced problems with drinking water**

In **27%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that households **did not treat their water despite needing to.**

**Methods used by households to make water safer to drink** (by % of assessed communities where methods were used [28%]) <sup>▲</sup>

1	Chlorine	59%
2	Sedimentation	26%
3	Household water filters	15%

**Most commonly reported sanitation issues** (by % of assessed communities) <sup>▲</sup>

1	Sewage network does not reach all households	36%
2	Desludging services are not available	26%
3	Stagnant water in the streets	23%
4	Could not afford desludging services	22%
5	Sewage system pollutes public areas	22%

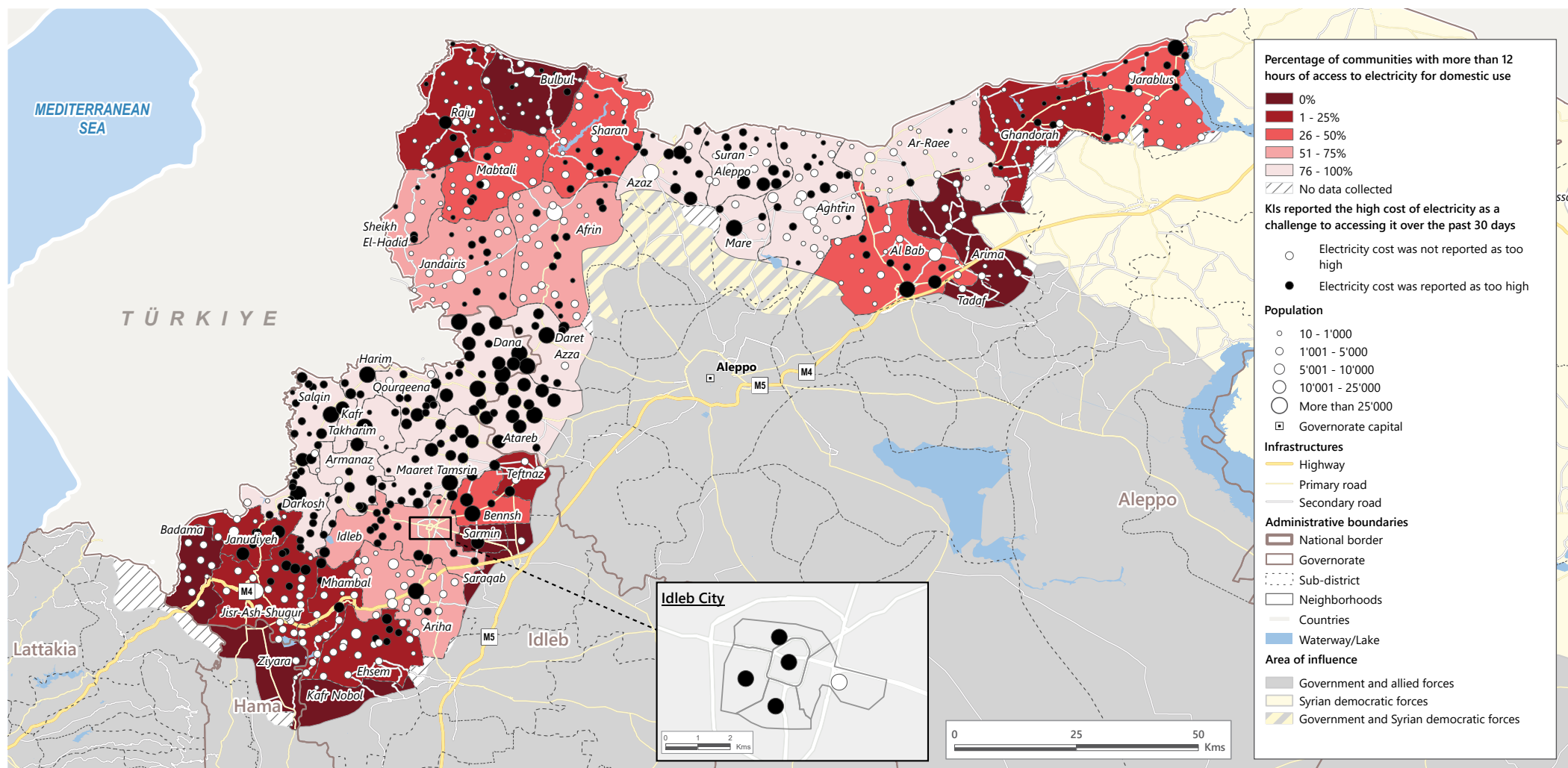


In **3%** of assessed communities, **leaving garbage in public areas** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of solid waste.



In **10%** of assessed communities, **releasing wastewater and human feces over land surface** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of wastewater.





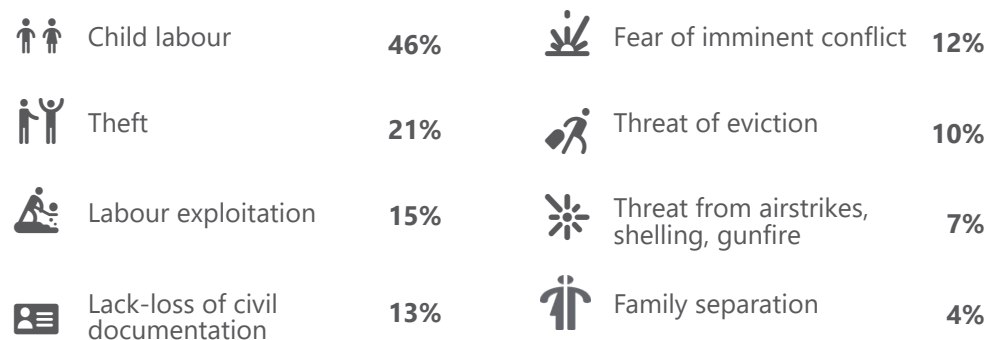
## Hours of availability and high electricity costs

### Note on the map

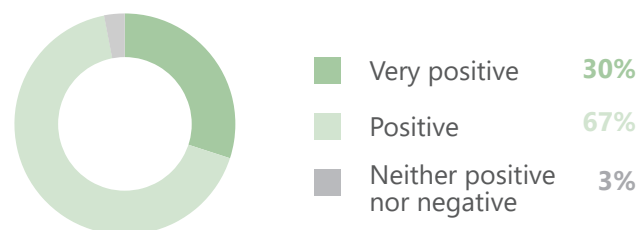
This map illustrates the sub-districts based on the percentage of assessed communities where KIs reported that households had access to electricity for more than 12 hours for domestic use. Black dots represent communities where KIs reported high electricity costs as a challenge to accessing electricity, while white dots indicate communities where KIs did not report high electricity costs as a challenge.

## SECURITY AND PROTECTION

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



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



### Intersectoral findings on security

-  **Security restrictions** reportedly prevented the access to livelihood activities in 14 assessed communities
-  **General safety and security concerns at markets or while travelling to markets** was a reported barrier to market access in 15 assessed communities
-  **General safety and security concerns at health facilities or while travelling to health facilities** was a reported barrier to healthcare access in 4 assessed communities
-  **Lack of safety while travelling to or from school** was reported as a barrier preventing access to education in 36 assessed communities

## METHODOLOGY

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

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

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

Number of communities per subset:	Subset
Host community households	619
IDP households	616
Communities where assistance was reported (host community)	309
Communities where assistance was reported (IDP)	300
Communities connected to a main electricity network	474
Communities connected to a main water network	467
Communities with operational education services	602
Communities with agriculture as a common source of livelihoods	579
Communities with access to health services	310

## 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).