

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 7-14 December 2020

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 to assess 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 cellphone 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.

Data collection took place between 7-14 December 2020 and was conducted by REACH, CARE, Concern, Global Communities, Danish Church Aid, Mercy Corps, People In Need, Solidarités International.

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community. See REACH Resource Centre for the [December 2020 data](#).

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
	Bathing soap	12 bars
Hygiene items	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% total value

* Kerosene in northern Syria

** Float only applied to observations where prices of all SMEB contents could be collected

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Coverage and data collection dates

In December 2020, REACH and partners covered 28 sub-districts in northeast Syria (NES) for the Market Monitoring Exercise, including 1,947 individual shops. Please note that prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (7-14 December).

Highest northeast SMEB cost in SYP recorded

In December, the value of the regional SMEB reached 254,111 SYP, a 15% increase compared to November and a 27% increase since June 2020, setting the highest recorded price in the Market Monitoring Exercise in NES. The SMEB in United States Dollars (USD) increased from 89 to 92 USD in December, corresponding with the depreciation of the SYP against the USD (see next paragraph).

Slight depreciation of the SYP against the USD

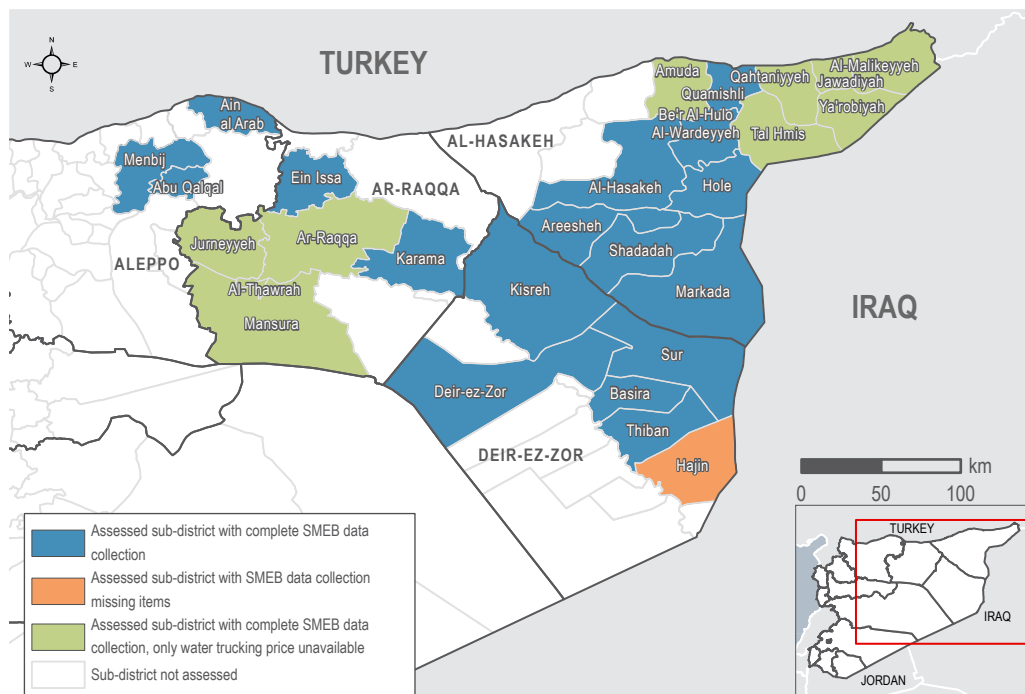
In December, the informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate increased by 10%, reaching a regional median of 2,728 USD/SYP. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 2,800 SYP for 1 USD in both Sur and Sawa communities in Deir-ez-Zor governorate.

Prices increased for manually refined fuels; high quality fuels remained unavailable

Regional median prices for all manually refined fuels increased significantly in NES in December. The price of manually refined kerosene, primarily used for cooking and heating, increased by 45% since November, likely due to the depreciation of the SYP against the USD as well as to issues of availability. Prices for manually refined transport fuels also increased between November and December, with manually refined petrol increasing by 21%

and manually refined diesel increasing by 73%. According to REACH field teams, in addition to the impacts of SYP depreciation, these price increases likely also result from reduced local production levels in some areas due to the high cost of raw materials as well as environmental restrictions imposed by local authorities. As in previous months, high quality transport fuels were reportedly widely unavailable in assessed markets due to continued lower level of imports from Iraq and Government of Syria-controlled areas. Ninety-three percent (93%) of fuel vendors reported that high quality diesel was not available in their market while 70% reported the same regarding high quality petrol. The price of high quality petrol also increased by 15% in December.

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

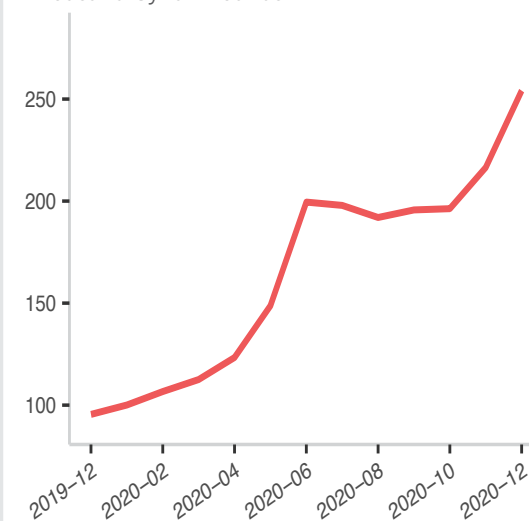


MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

254,111 SYP
(92 USD)
NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH,
AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR,
EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

254,111 SYP
(92 USD)

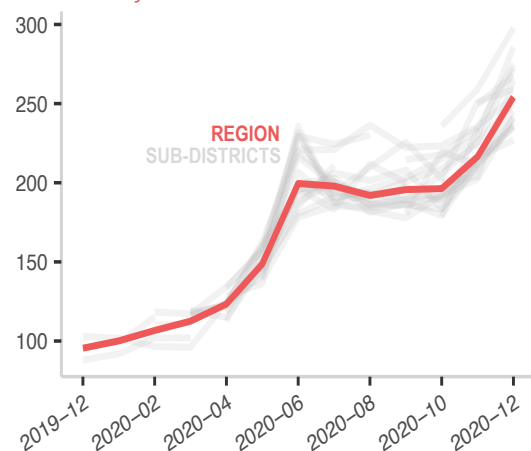
NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH,
AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR,
EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

Food item prices increased

The value of the regional SMEB food component further increased by 13% in December, reaching a record high of 195,625 SYP. The price of the SMEB vegetable component increased significantly, up 39% since November. Prices for all monitored vegetables increased, with tomato prices increasing by 73% and prices for other SMEB vegetables increasing between 29% and 17%. These price increases are likely due to the end of the local agricultural season, increased reliance on more expensive imported fresh foods, as well as SYP depreciation and increasing transport fuel costs. Additionally, the cost of chicken also increased at the regional level by 13% in December, primarily as a result of increasing transport fuel prices and some reported unavailability. Finally, overall prices for bulk foods also increased in December by 14%, with some items like bulgur and salt increasing more significantly (24% and 20%, respectively). While bulk food item prices have remained relatively stable since September due to increased local production, this latest increase is likely a result of SYP depreciation and increasing fuel prices for transport as much of the bulk food in the region remains imported.

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH

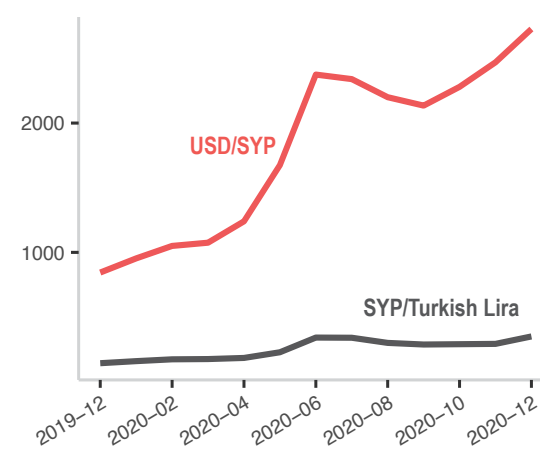
Thousand Syrian Pounds



Water Trucking and hygiene item prices slightly increased

Following an apparent stabilisation of the SMEB water trucking cost in November, the median regional cost increased in December by 14%, reaching 10,215 SYP. According to REACH field teams, the prior price stabilisation was likely due to increased local production and increased monitoring of water supplies by local authorities following earlier issues with service from Allouk water station. However, [service from Allouk was suspended again in early December](#) due to electricity failures related to pumping and subsequent maintenance work. Additionally, the cost of the SMEB hygiene component increased by 8% in December, reaching a median of 19,962 SYP. Specifically, the costs of dish soap and laundry soap saw the largest increases, by 16% and 8%, respectively. The depreciating value of the SYP as well as higher demand likely account for these increases according to REACH field teams. While median prices for many COVID-19 related items, such as facemasks and sterile alcohol which are more frequently locally produced, remained stable in December, the median price of hand sanitizer increased by 13%, primarily due to the fact that it is generally imported and therefore more dependent on the SYP value and transport costs.

EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES*

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	254,111	15%	27%	Hole***	272,424	21%	17%
Abu Qalqal***	227,005	5%	27%	Jawadiyah**	261,521	16%	NA
Ain al Arab	241,587	19%	17%	Jurneyyah**	251,753	16%	30%
Al-Hasakeh	274,957	17%	49%	Karama	255,173	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyah**	234,088	11%	12%	Kisreh	245,170	13%	12%
Al-Thawrah**	260,238	18%	38%	Mansura**	265,731	12%	50%
Amuda**	321,611	35%	82%	Markada	258,909	3%	13%
Areeshah	285,566	24%	21%	Menbij	235,306	10%	18%
Ar-Raqqa**	248,729	9%	45%	Qahtaniyyah***	238,454	2%	19%
Basira	237,323	12%	26%	Quamishli	254,111	8%	15%
Be'r Al-Hulo	297,738	15%	NA	Shadadah	249,963	11%	27%
Al-Wardeyyeh	297,738	15%	NA	Sur	267,712	7%	17%
Deir-ez-Zor	235,586	11%	NA	Tal Hmis**	235,868	21%	29%
Ein Issa	264,749	30%	47%	Thiban	240,518	15%	26%
Hajin***	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah**	233,365	5%	22%

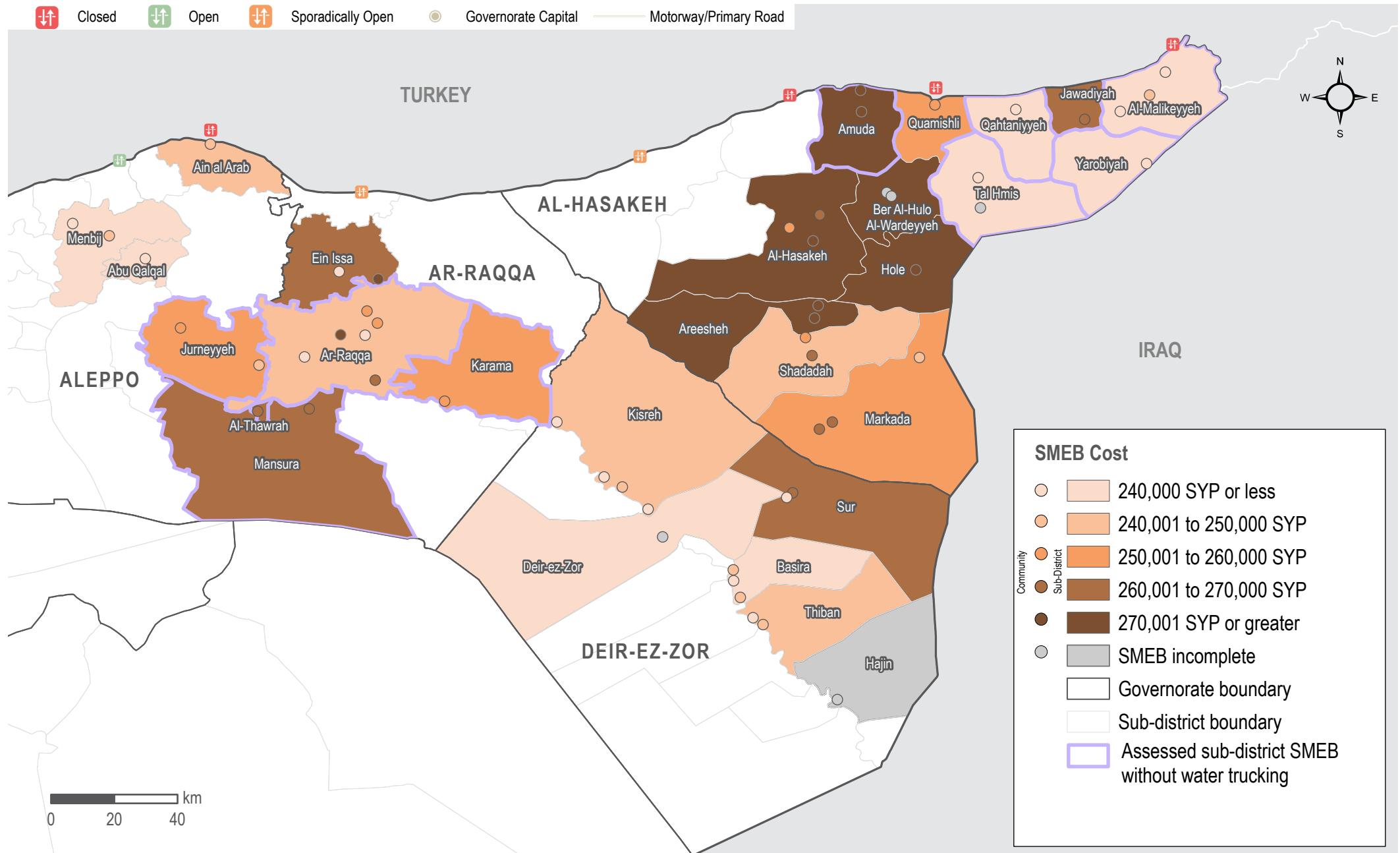
* For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. This applies to all the following tables.

** Denotes sub-districts where water trucking is not common, and therefore does not have water trucking prices in the SMEB cost

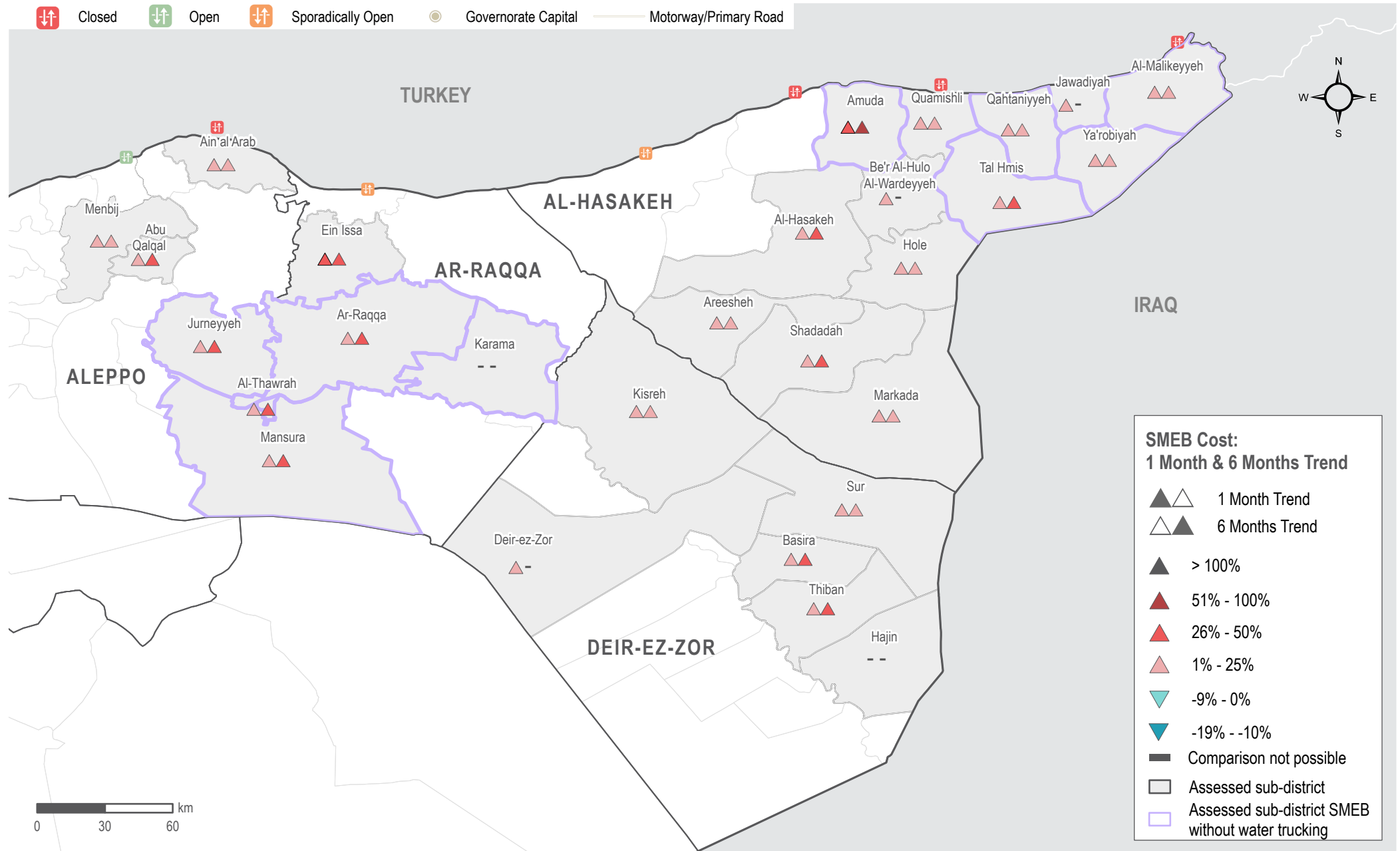
*** For the change calculations of these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS See Page 1, Syrian Pounds

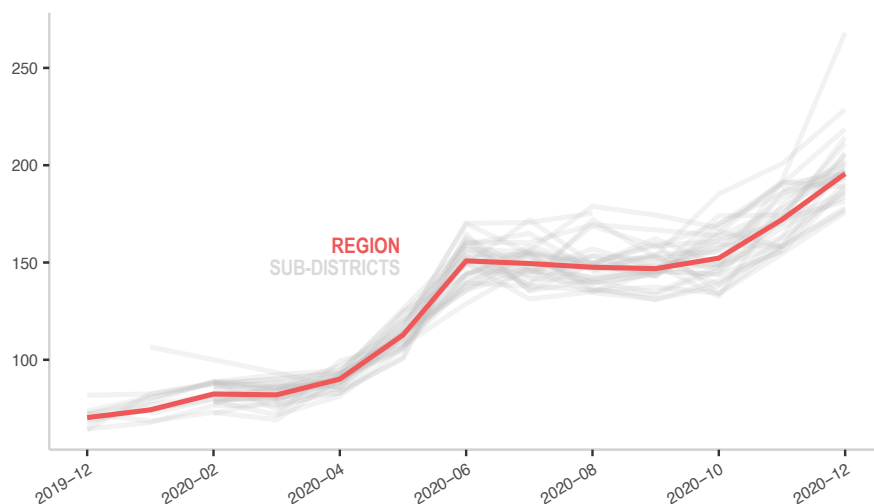
Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	195,625	13%	31%	Hole**	206,388	27%	38%
Abu Qalqal*	181,466	5%	41%	Jawadiyah	202,650	13%	NA
Ain al Arab	190,732	20%	20%	Jurneyyeh	197,513	16%	30%
Al-Hasakeh	205,300	18%	48%	Karama	196,520	6%	31%
Al-Malikeyyeh	193,650	12%	21%	Kisreh	185,750	14%	9%
Al-Thawrah	211,300	21%	46%	Mansura	218,600	15%	52%
Amuda	268,150	40%	98%	Markada	188,771	-1%	17%
Ar-Raqqqa	195,388	7%	44%	Menbij	186,327	9%	19%
Areeshah	214,438	25%	30%	Qahtaniyyeh*	195,625	3%	27%
Basira	178,250	13%	24%	Quamishli	197,325	11%	23%
Be'r Al-Hulo	228,700	14%	53%	Shadadah	183,791	9%	32%
Al-Wardeyyeh	228,700	14%	53%	Sur	199,750	7%	17%
Deir-ez-Zor	177,050	12%	15%	Tal Hmis	188,451	21%	34%
Ein Issa	201,675	28%	46%	Thiban	175,875	14%	23%
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah	193,575	4%	23%

* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of the SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

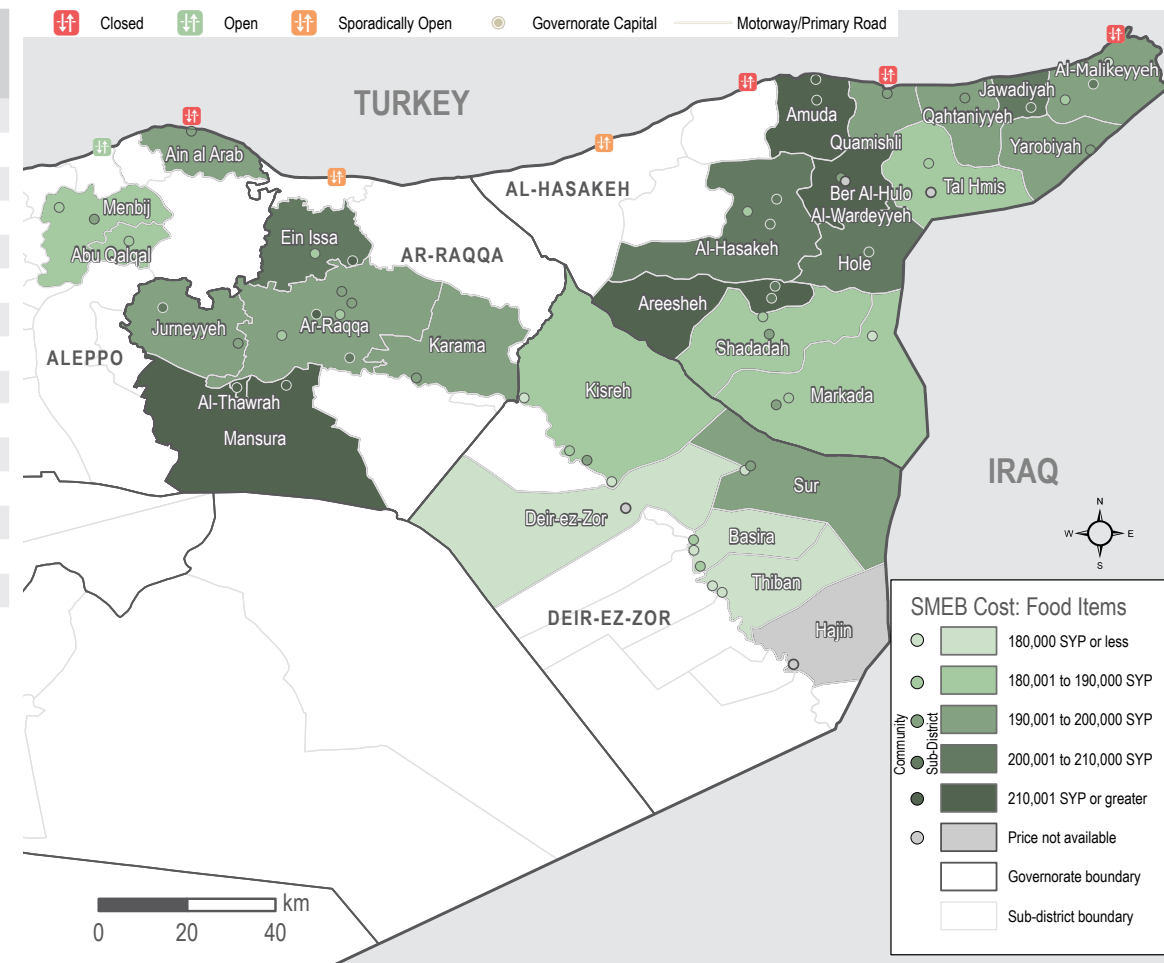
** For this sub-district, all SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqah, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

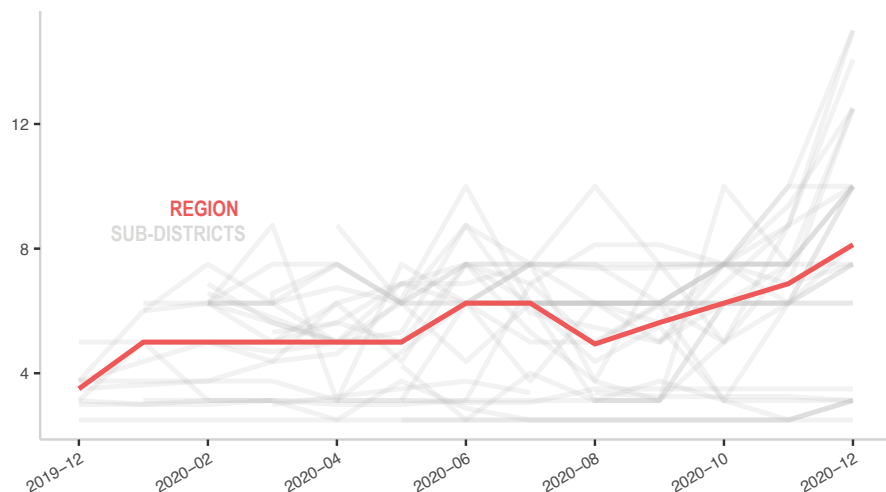
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	8,125	24%	30%	Hole*	6,250	0%	100%
Abu Qalqal*	3,125	25%	25%	Jawadiyah*	6,250	0%	NA
Ain al Arab	3,500	0%	14%	Jurmeyyeh	12,500	33%	67%
Al-Hasakeh	7,500	9%	20%	Karama	12,500	82%	43%
Al-Malikeyyeh	3,125	0%	0%	Kisreh	10,000	60%	60%
Al-Thawrah	12,500	67%	100%	Mansura	10,000	0%	60%
Amuda	2,500	0%	-60%	Markada	10,000	33%	129%
Areeshah	10,000	14%	14%	Menbij	3,125	25%	25%
Ar-Raqqah	15,000	50%	140%	Qahtaniyyeh*	3,125	-4%	0%
Basira	10,000	33%	60%	Qamishli	8,125	30%	8%
Be'r Al-Hulo	7,500	20%	200%	Shadadah	7,500	0%	0%
Al-Wardeyyeh	7,500	20%	200%	Sur	10,000	60%	33%
Deir-ez-Zor	10,000	33%	0%	Tal Hmis	7,500	20%	20%
Ein Issa	15,000	71%	100%	Thiban	14,063	61%	105%
Hajin*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah	3,125	25%	9%

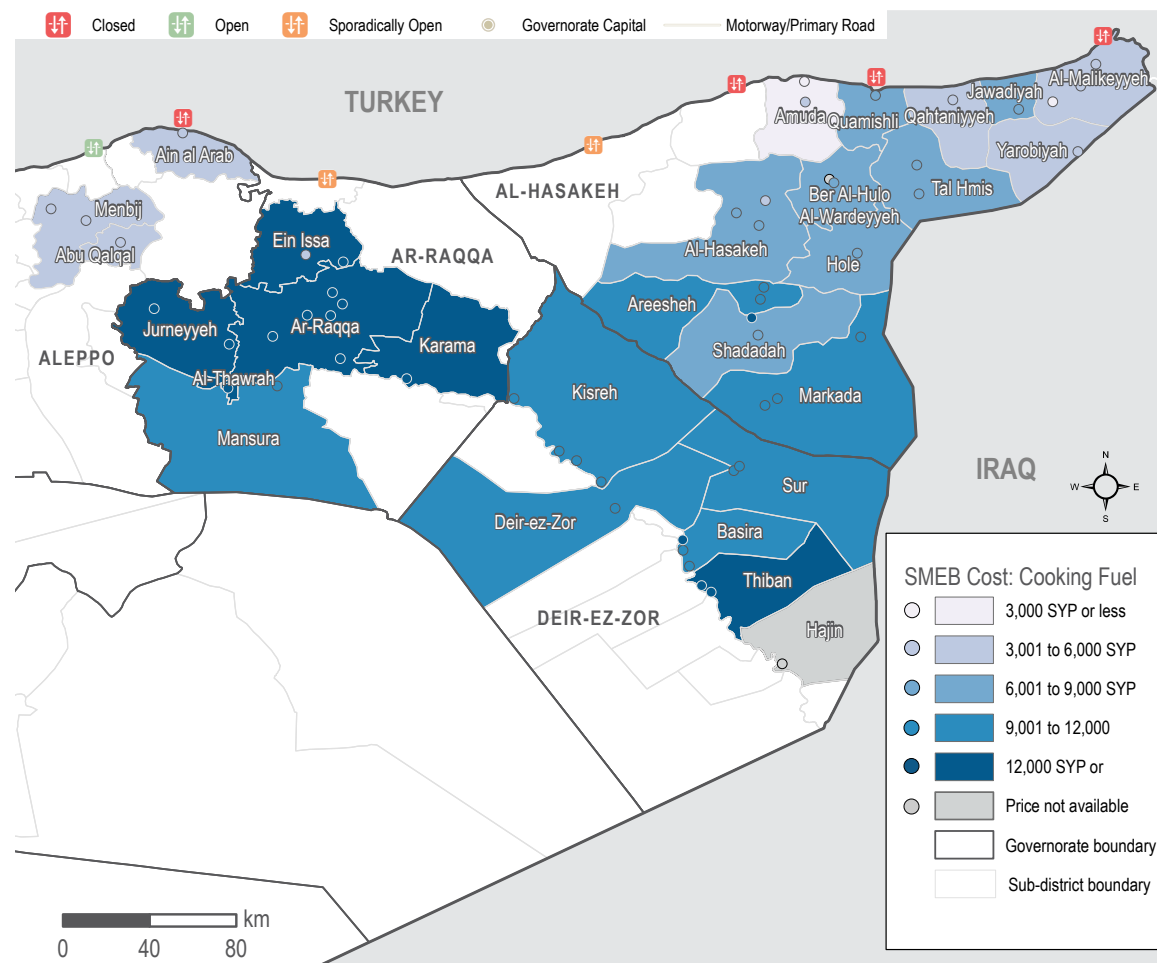
* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cooking fuels rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

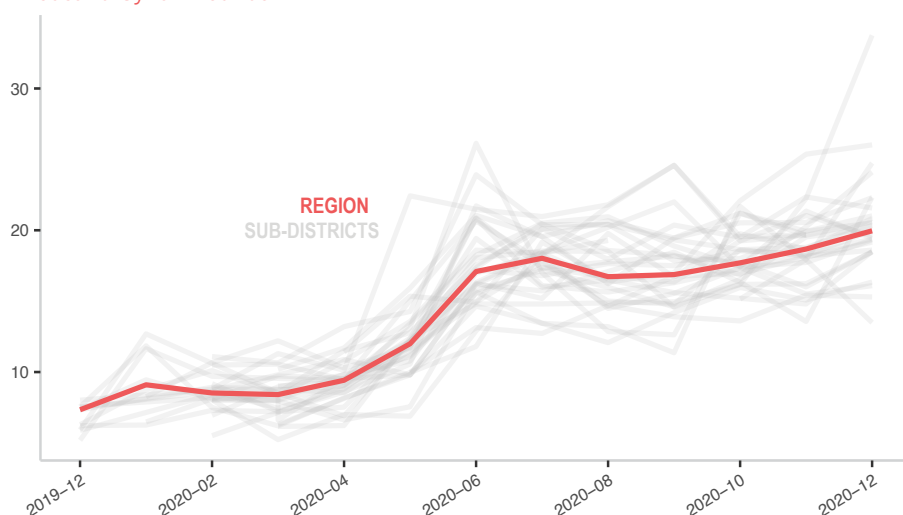
12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	19,962	8%	16%	Hole	18,600	2%	25%
Abu Qalqal*	15,294	-1%	16%	Jawadiyah	33,750	52%	87%
Ain al Arab	18,500	25%	-5%	Jurneyyeh	20,826	12%	28%
Al-Hasakeh	19,166	6%	28%	Karama	24,100	19%	39%
Al-Malikeyyeh	20,356	8%	-1%	Kisreh	19,600	-7%	-6%
Al-Thawrah	13,482	-25%	-14%	Mansura	16,092	4%	25%
Amuda	26,023	3%	40%	Markada	19,325	9%	18%
Areeshah	22,325	65%	38%	Menbij	16,346	8%	12%
Ar-Raqqa	18,488	15%	19%	Qahtaniyyeh*	21,568	-4%	23%
Basira	21,016	5%	0%	Quamishli	19,425	-9%	7%
Be'r Al-Hulo	20,141	3%	28%	Shadadah	18,463	14%	25%
Al-Wardeyyeh	20,600	5%	-21%	Sur	20,516	3%	-14%
Deir-ez-Zor	24,741	38%	46%	Tal Hmis	19,962	9%	-4%
Ein Issa	NA	NA	NA	Thiban	22,300	9%	3%
Hajin*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah	19,384	6%	13%

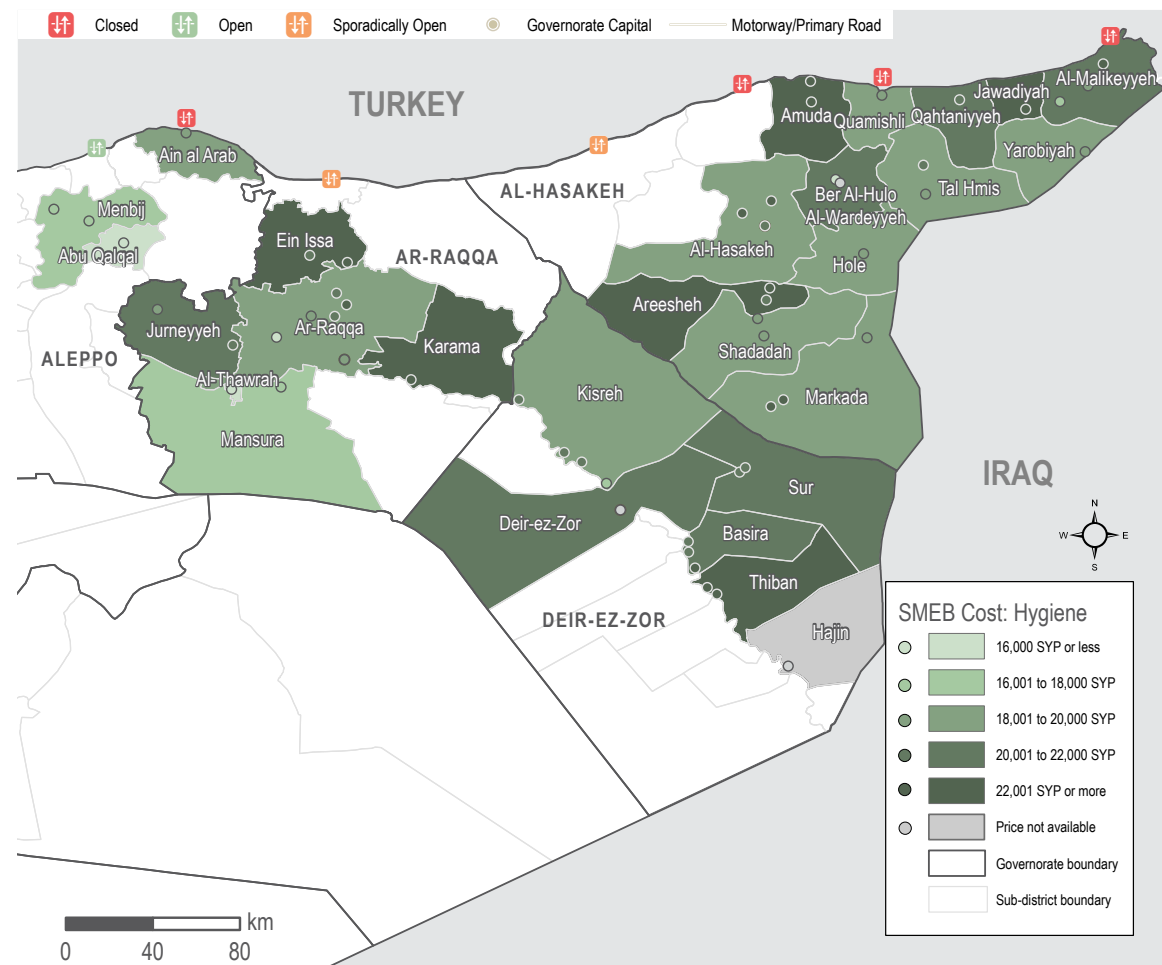
* For these sub-districts, all hygiene items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqah, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

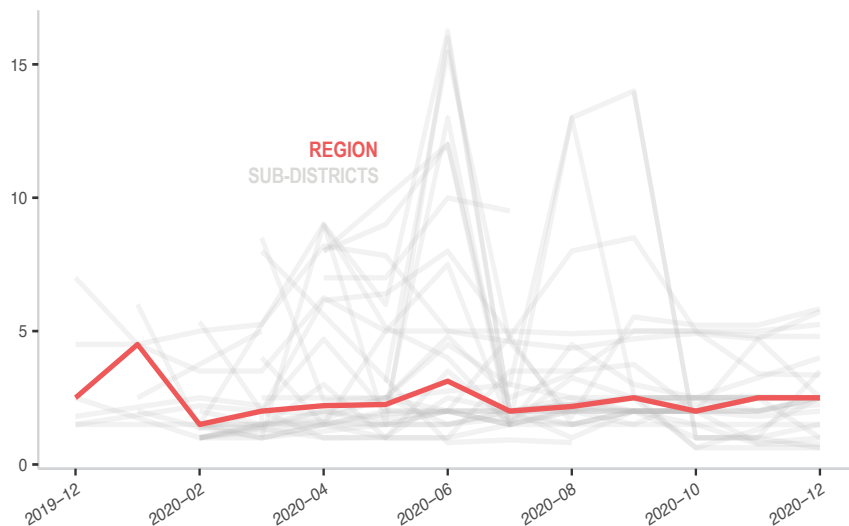
1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	0%	-33%	Hole	4,000	23%	-67%
Abu Qalqal*	5,837	12%	-62%	Jawadiyah	625	-38%	-94%
Ain al Arab	5,250	5%	5%	Jurneyyeh	3,350	-1%	-30%
Al-Hasakeh	2,500	25%	150%	Karama	2,000	11%	-20%
Al-Malikeyyeh	625	0%	-95%	Kisreh	2,500	0%	25%
Al-Thawrah	4,800	0%	-40%	Mansura	2,500	-47%	25%
Amuda	2,500	90%	-38%	Markada	2,500	0%	-84%
Areesseh	2,500	-2%	-85%	Menbij	5,734	22%	15%
Ar-Raqqah	2,500	25%	25%	Qahtaniyyeh	1,500	0%	-88%
Basira	2,500	0%	25%	Quamishli	1,000	-60%	-71%
Be'r Al-Hulo	1,500	50%	-67%	Shadadah	2,250	13%	-70%
Al-Wardeyyeh	1,500	50%	-67%	Sur	768	0%	-62%
Deir-ez-Zor	2,500	0%	25%	Tal Hmis	3,500	242%	27%
Ein Issa	2,500	25%	67%	Thiban	2,500	0%	67%
Hajin*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah	1,000	25%	0%

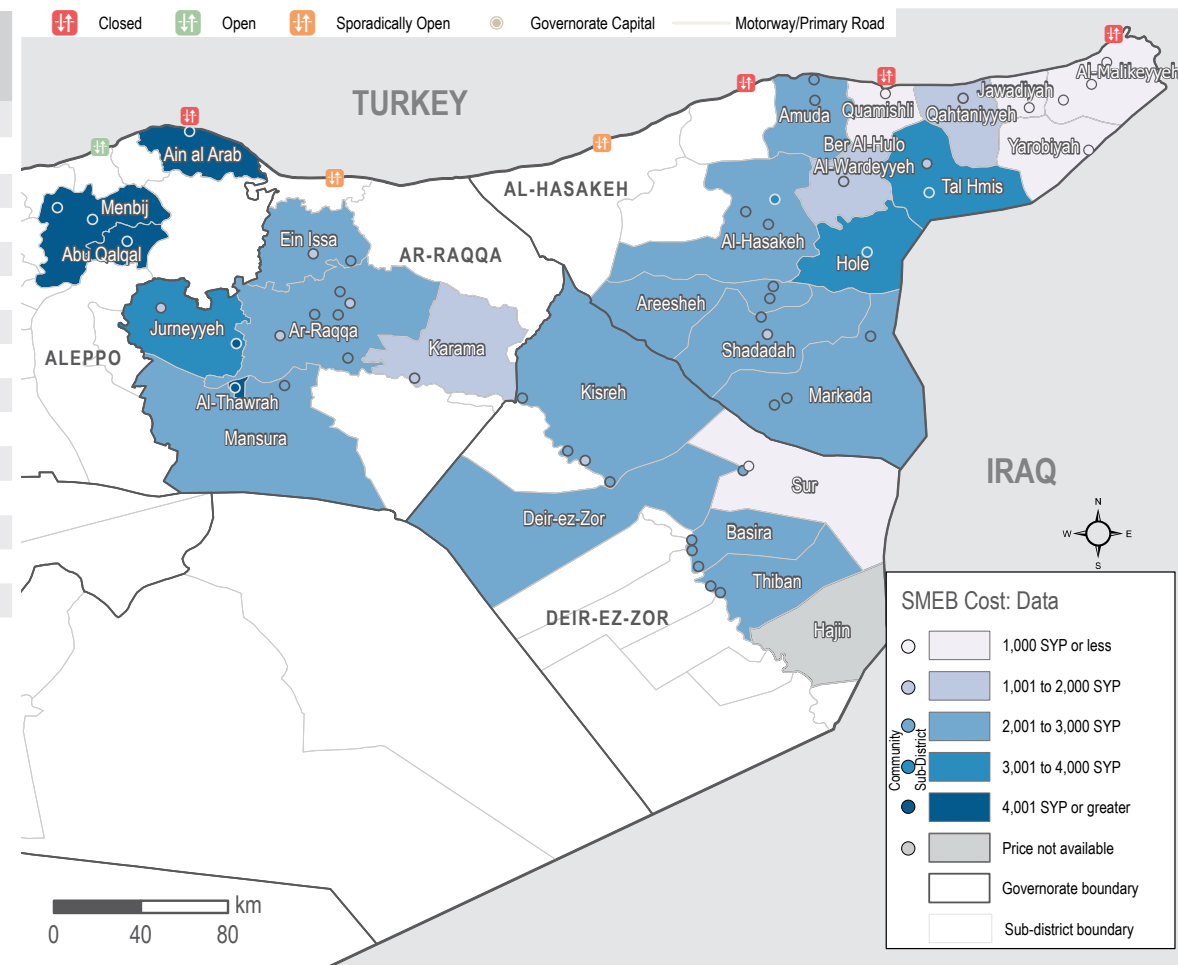
* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cellphone data rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

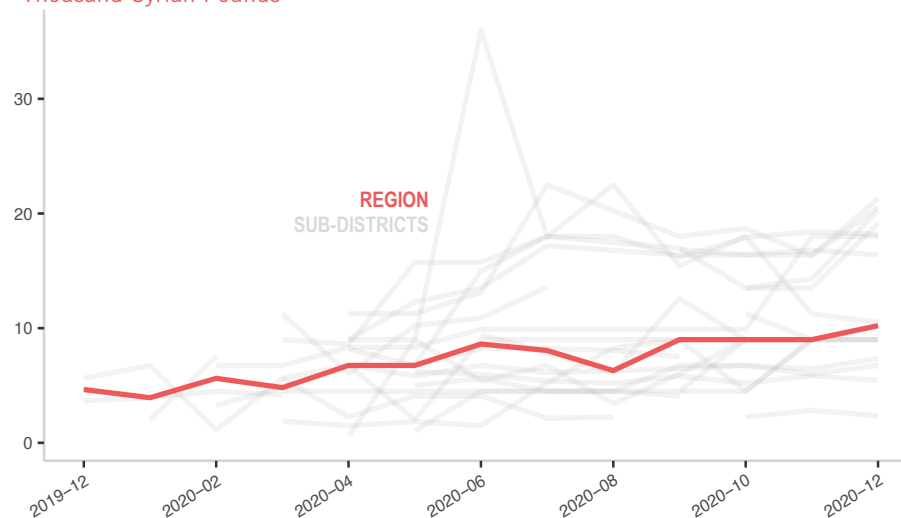
Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqah, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE 4,500L, Syrian Pounds

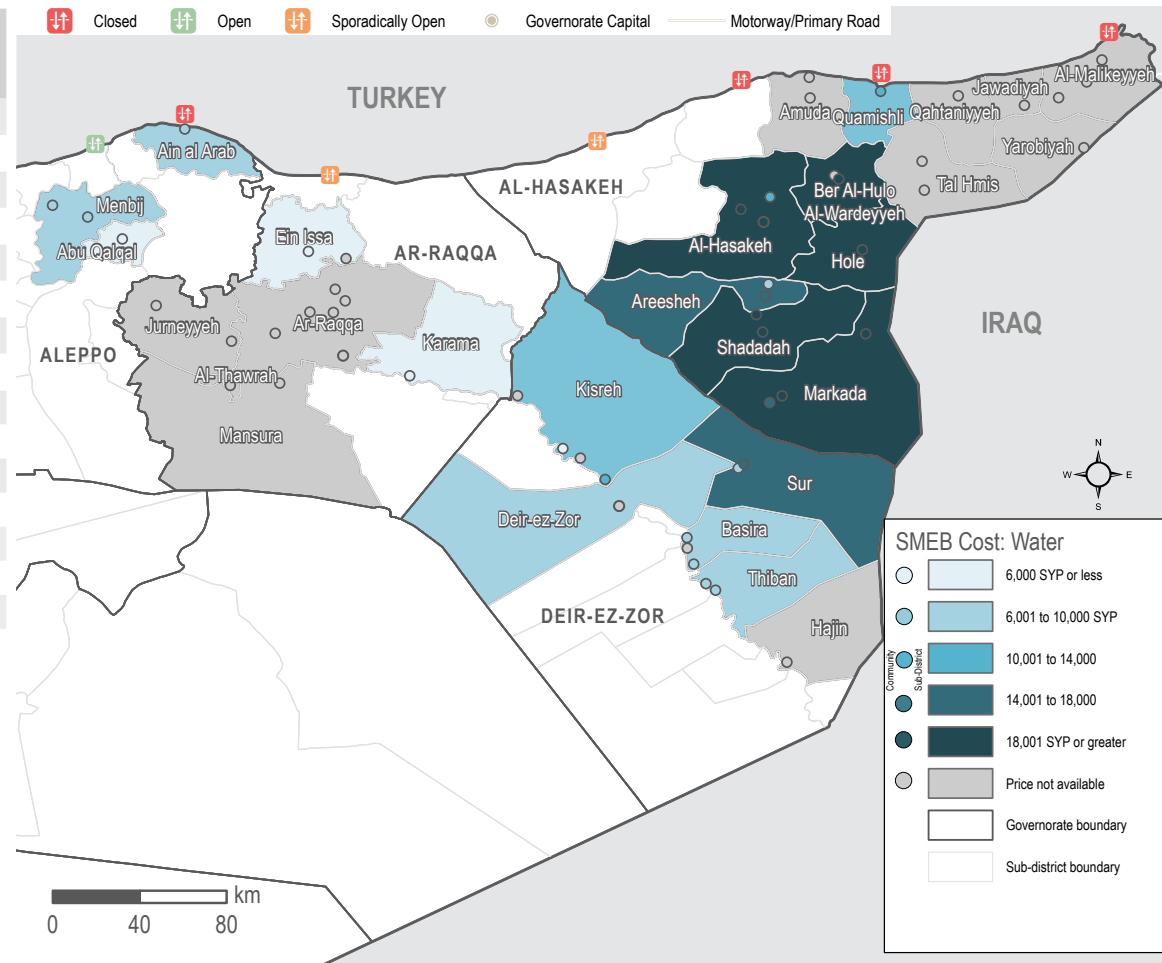
Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	10,215	14%	24%	Hole*	18,180	-1%	-50%
Abu Qalqal*	5,445	-7%	-9%	Jawadiyah*	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	6,750	13%	20%	Jurneyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	21,308	30%	96%	Karama	2,250	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh*	NA	NA	NA	Kisreh	10,215	14%	89%
Al-Thawrah*	NA	NA	NA	Mansura*	NA	NA	NA
Amuda*	NA	NA	NA	Markada	20,250	42%	35%
Areeshah	16,380	-3%	21%	Menbij	7,358	14%	9%
Ar-Raqqah*	NA	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Basira	9,000	0%	506%	Quamishli	10,508	-7%	-33%
Be'r Al-Hulo	19,125	42%	NA	Shadadah	20,520	26%	56%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	NA	NA	NA	Sur	18,000	0%	82%
Deir-ez-Zor	9,000	0%	NA	Tal Hmis*	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa*	2,363	-17%	-42%	Thiban	9,000	0%	100%
Hajin*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah*	NA	NA	NA

* For these sub-districts, the median prices of water trucking rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

Diesel and Petrol, 1L (High Quality and Manually Refined), Syrian Pounds

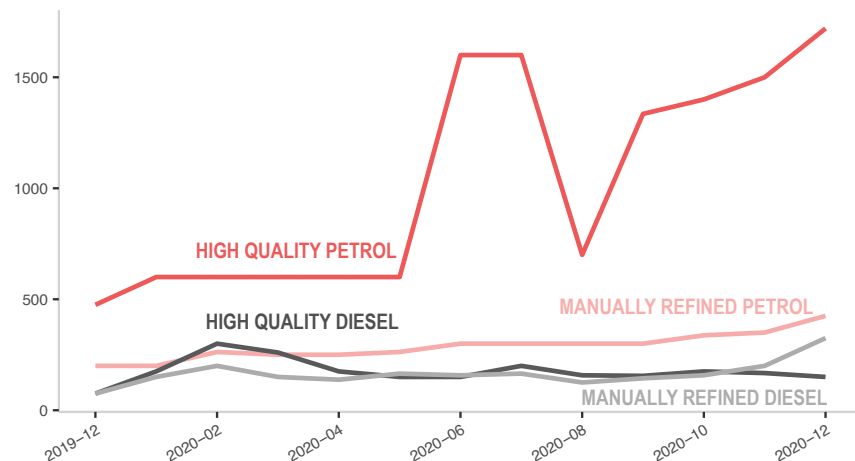
Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	542	61%	10%	Hole*	225	-5%	157%
Abu Qalqal*	687	12%	12%	Jawadiyah*	165	2%	89%
Ain al Arab	702	15%	1%	Jurneyyeh	575	46%	-7%
Al-Hasakeh	581	9%	10%	Karama	500	48%	85%
Al-Malikeyyeh	670	23%	25%	Kisreh	500	57%	-16%
Al-Thawrah	950	192%	45%	Mansura	450	29%	86%
Amuda*	663	335%	19%	Markada	450	24%	414%
Ar-Raqqa	1,028	29%	47%	Menbij	683	11%	39%
Areeshah	525	71%	62%	Qahtaniyyeh*	88	0%	0%
Basira	500	54%	-16%	Quamishli	542	7%	19%
Be'r Al-Hulo	717	16%	NA	Shadadah	375	36%	114%
Al-Wardeyyeh	717	16%	NA	Sur	500	115%	54%
Deir-ez-Zor	525	67%	-8%	Tal Hmis	238	19%	27%
Ein Issa	575	53%	77%	Thiban	544	62%	-8%
Hajin*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah*	683	15%	-20%

* For these sub-districts, more than 50% of medians for the items composing the transport fuel indicator rely on less than 3 observations.

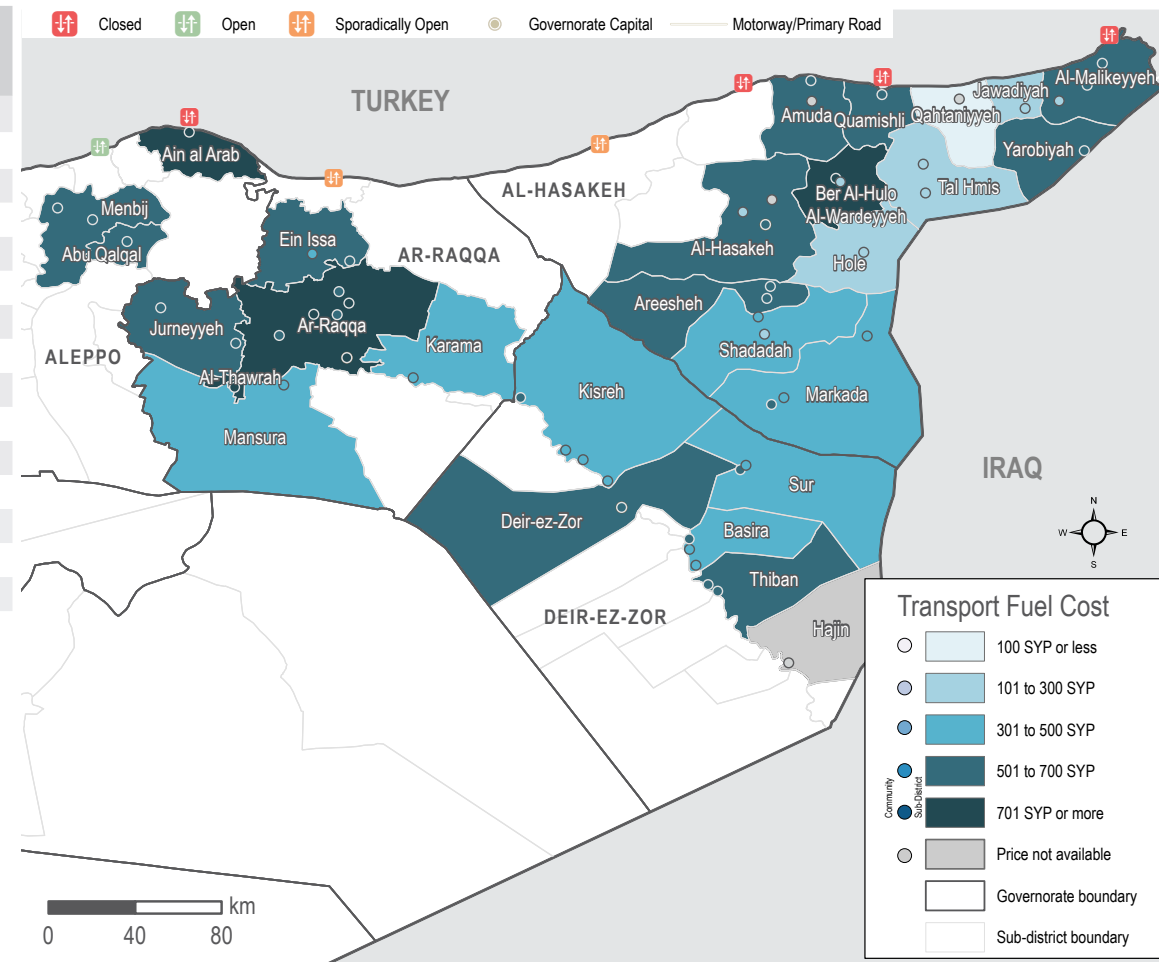
** For these sub-districts, all fuel items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 piece, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Jerrycan	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Solid fuel stove	Fire extinguisher	Fire blanket
Northeast Syria	3,500	17,750	90,000	47,500	34,500	19,250	26,500	25,000	15,000
Abu Qalqal	3,000*	15,000*	20,000*	25,000*	17,000*	17,000*	7,500*	17,800*	12,000*
Ain al Arab	3,000	20,000*	95,000	48,000	42,500	20,000	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	3,500	5,500	190,000	26,000	28,500	18,500	NA	22,000	23,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	7,000*	20,000	95,000	45,000	55,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	3,000	25,000	85,000	45,000	35,000	18,000	24,000	35,000*	8,000*
Amuda	NA	NA	190,000*	50,000*	49,000*	25,500*	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	5,000*	20,000*	87,500*	55,000	33,500*	31,000*	35,000	50,000*	5,000*
Ar-Raqqa	3,200	22,000	90,000	45,000	34,500	28,000	28,000	32,000	54,000
Basira	3,500	18,000	110,000	65,000	30,000	20,000	50,000	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	4,250*	17,500*	77,500*	52,500*	65,000*	26,500*	NA	NA	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	3,500	16,500	150,000	95,000	25,000	15,000	70,000	NA	NA
Ein Issa	2,850*	NA	NA	61,000*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	3,400*	16,500*	NA	26,500*	NA	NA	22,500*	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	4,000	18,000	90,000*	47,500	50,000*	30,000*	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA	35,000*	12,500*	NA	NA	NA
Karama	3,000	24,000*	90,000	51,000	35,000	15,000	28,000*	NA	NA
Kisreh	3,500	15,000	75,000	65,000	15,000	15,000	55,000	NA	NA
Mansura	3,000	NA	550,000*	25,000	30,000*	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	6,000	17,000	50,000	50,000	40,000	15,000	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	2,900*	15,500*	25,000*	26,000*	19,000*	16,500*	10,000*	18,000*	15,000*
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	19,500*	120,000*	40,000*	72,500*	30,000*	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	3,500	11,000	50,000	35,000	19,500	20,000	25,000	25,000	30,000
Shadadah	5,750	16,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	20,000	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	4,000	19,500	NA	33,000	NA	NA	16,000	NA	NA
Thiban	3,500	18,000	100,000	35,000	30,000	17,500	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	8,000*	14,000*	35,000*	55,000*	24,000*	14,000*	NA	NA	NA

* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

** NA means data not available.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Deir-ez-Zor, Eastern Aleppo governorates

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS' PRICE - CLOTHES

Per 1 piece/pair, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Adult's hat	Children's hat	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	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots
Northeast Syria	3,000	2,500	9,500	8,500	5,000	6,125	4,750	3,625	1,500	1,000	37,000	35,000	21,000	9,250	8,500	5,750
Abu Qalqal	1,500*	1,000*	9,000*	6,500*	3,000*	4,500*	4,000*	3,000*	1,000*	800*	15,000*	12,000*	6,000*	8,000*	6,500*	4,000*
Ain al Arab	4,000	2,250	8,000	8,000	4,000	9,000	10,000	5,000	1,000	500	35,000	40,000	15,000	20,000	17,500	9,000
Al-Hasakeh	4,000	2,500	16,000	15,000	10,000	12,000	11,500	7,000	2,000	1,000	46,000	41,500	25,000	18,000	18,000	11,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	3,000*	2,250*	10,000	12,000	5,000	14,000	11,000	10,000	2,000	1,500	37,500	40,000	25,000	16,500	16,500	12,000
Al-Thawrah	2,500	3,000	5,500	7,000	3,000	2,000	2,500	1,500	1,000	500	50,000	55,000	30,000	6,500	5,000	4,000
Amuda	NA	NA	15,000	15,000	10,000*	NA	NA	NA	3,000*	2,000*	65,000*	60,000*	30,000*	NA	NA	NA
Areesheh	4,500	3,500	14,000	13,500*	10,000	3,500	3,500*	3,500	2,000*	2,000	35,000	32,000	21,000*	5,000*	5,000	4,500*
Ar-Raqqa	2,500	2,000	10,000	12,000	4,000	7,500	5,500	3,500	1,000	1,000	50,000	30,000	19,000	25,000	15,000	8,000
Basira	3,500	2,500	12,750	10,000	7,000	3,250	2,500	2,000	1,750	1,250	30,000	30,000	22,000	5,000	5,000	4,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	4,500	3,000	17,000	16,000	7,000	11,000	7,000	5,000	1,500	1,000	37,000	40,000	20,000	12,000	11,000	6,000
Deir-ez-Zor	3,000	2,000	9,500	8,500	6,000	3,000	2,500	2,000	2,000	1,500	28,000	26,000	22,000	4,500	3,500	2,500
Ein Issa	2,500*	1,500*	8,500*	8,500*	4,500*	NA	NA	NA	NA	600*	50,000*	50,000*	25,000*	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hole	1,400	1,000	4,750*	5,500*	4,250*	6,000*	6,500*	4,500*	850*	600*	11,000	12,000	9,000	9,000*	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	4,000	3,000	8,000	8,000	5,000	4,500*	4,000*	2,250*	1,000*	1,000*	30,000	35,000	20,000	9,500*	9,500*	5,500*
Jurneyyeh	3,000*	2,500*	9,000*	8,000*	5,250*	6,250*	5,000*	4,000*	1,350*	3,000*	40,000*	NA	22,000*	6,000*	4,500*	4,000*
Karama	2,500	1,500	9,000*	7,500*	3,250*	6,500*	4,500*	3,000*	1,000*	850*	55,000	35,000	18,000	25,500*	18,500*	9,500*
Kisreh	4,000	3,000	9,500	8,000	5,000	3,750	3,250	2,000	1,500	1,500	25,000	25,000	20,000	6,500	5,000	5,000
Mansura	2,000*	3,000*	12,000*	14,000*	6,000*	5,000*	3,500*	4,000*	2,000*	2,500*	40,000*	35,000*	30,000*	NA	NA	NA
Markada	3,000	2,500	5,750	5,000	3,250	1,500*	1,800*	1,700*	1,000	1,000	35,000	30,000	20,000	9,250	7,500	5,500
Menbij	1,900*	1,350*	10,000*	8,000*	3,500*	4,400*	3,500*	2,300*	1,100*	800*	16,500*	13,500*	9,500*	8,750*	7,000*	4,750*
Qahtaniyyeh	6,500*	3,500*	16,500*	16,500*	11,000*	11,000*	11,000*	7,500*	3,500*	1,750*	37,500*	37,500*	17,500*	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	4,150	3,000	25,000	20,000	8,000	10,500	8,000	4,500	2,000	875	48,000	40,000	25,000	16,750	15,250	10,000
Shadadah	3,500	2,500	15,000	10,000	6,000	6,500	5,750	3,750	1,750	1,250	40,000	35,000	25,000	12,000	10,000	6,000
Sur	NA	NA	15,000*	15,000*	10,000*	9,000*	10,000*	5,000*	2,500*	2,500*	25,000*	35,000*	27,500*	17,500*	20,000*	15,000*
Tal Hmis	2,500	2,000	4,000	4,000	2,500	3,250*	3,000*	2,750*	500	500	37,000	27,500	13,500	9,000	6,500	6,000
Thiban	3,500	2,750	8,250	7,750	4,250	NA	NA	NA	1,000	500	20,000	23,500	13,250	5,000	5,000	3,000
Ya'robiyah	11,000*	9,000*	7,000	7,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	8,000	NA	NA	33,000	30,000	24,000	15,000	14,000	12,000

* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

** NA means data not available.

MEDIAN ALTERNATIVE FUEL ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 kilo, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Firewood	Olive residues	Pistachio shells	Coal
Northeast Syria	175	151	254	2,000
Abu Qalqal	175*	150*	255*	NA
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	NA	NA	NA	1,500
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	150	NA	NA	2,900
Basira	NA	NA	NA	2,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	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
Menbij	175	152	252	NA
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	NA	NA	NA	1,000
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	NA	NA	NA	2,000
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA

* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

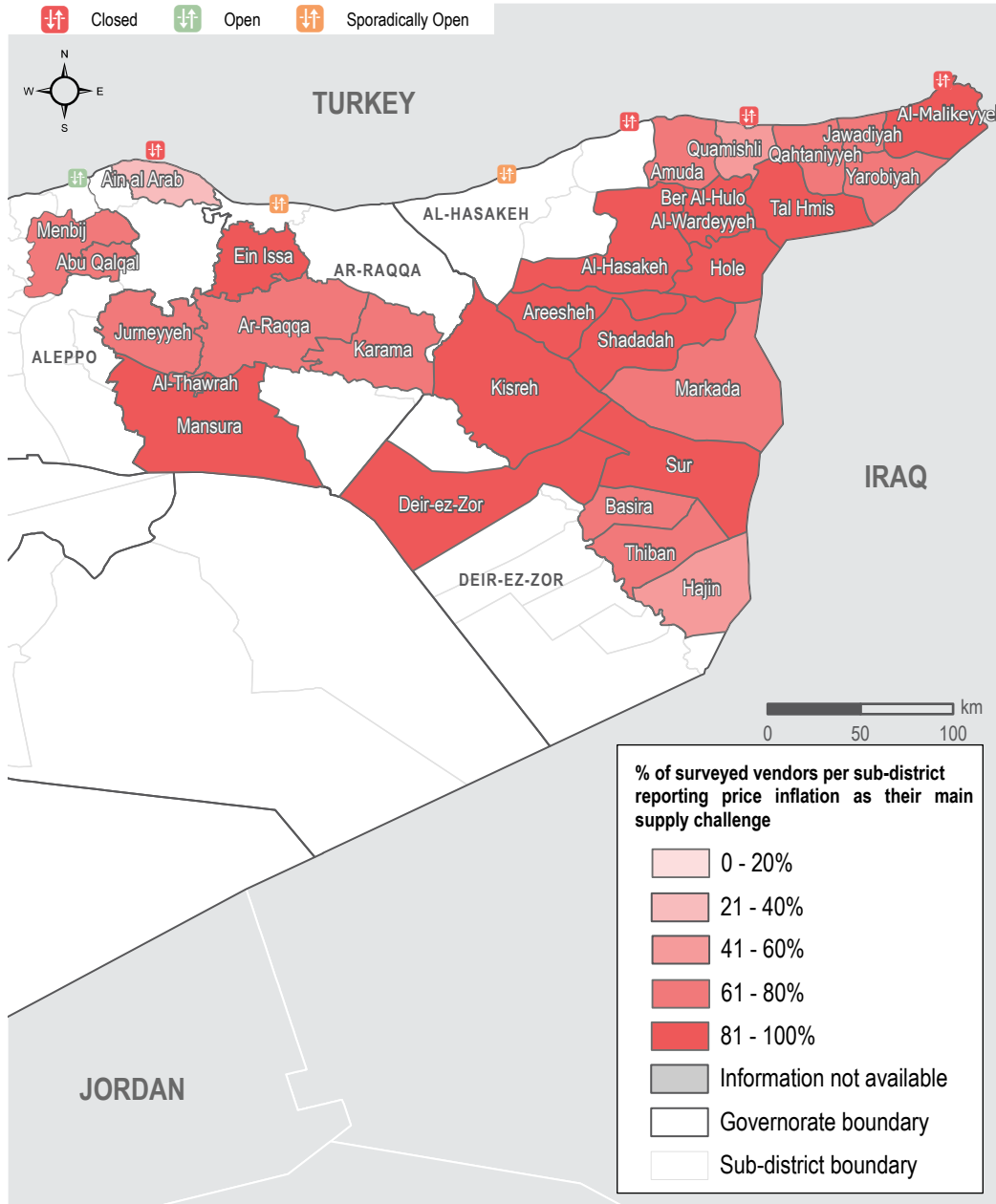
** NA means data not available.



SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts

Closed
 Open
 Sporadically Open



MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

During the data collection period, 29 out of the 1,947 surveyed vendors across NES reported having closed their shops. This was most commonly reported in Hajin community of Deir-ez-Zor governorate (25 of 30 surveyed vendors reporting having closed), where only bakeries and pharmacies reported remaining open. According to REACH field teams, closures in Hajin were due to a locally-mandated COVID-19 curfew in the community that was ongoing at the time of data collection.

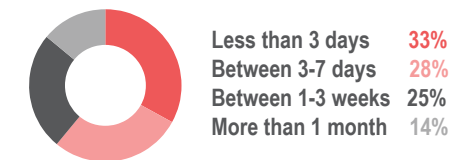
When asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supplies were to be cut, 33% of respondents said that they would run out of supplies in less than 3 days and 28% said in 3 to 7 days (see figure 2). Across shop types, surveyed water trucking vendors, butchers, and vegetable vendors most commonly reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock.



SUPPLY CHALLENGES

The percentage of surveyed vendors that reported facing one or more supply challenge in December only slightly increased from the percentage reporting the same in the [November Market Monitoring Exercise](#) (86% and 84%, respectively). The primary supply challenge cited remained price inflation, reported by 79% of surveyed vendors across NES. However, the proportion of vendors reporting that supply was unable to keep up with consumer demand increased since November, with 25% of surveyed vendors reporting this issue in December compared to 14% in November. Further, 14% of all surveyed vendors reported that their suppliers had limited stocks, and 8% that their supply had been affected by border closures (see figure 1). Compared to other governorates, surveyed vendors in Deir-ez-Zor more commonly reported that border closures impacted supply, with 22% citing this issue.

Figure 2: Reported number of days before all types of vendors would hypothetically run out of stock, if supply lines were to be cut (1,918 respondents)



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

In December, informal currency exchange vendors were also asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations. Across NES, 95% of the 148 surveyed currency vendors reported having limited stock of one or more denomination. Vendors most commonly reported limited supplies of larger denomination notes, potentially as these are more commonly used for exchange transactions and therefore in higher demand. However, shortages of smaller notes were also reported across different governorates, with 5 USD banknotes most commonly reported as limited in Al-Hasakeh governorate (by 59% of surveyed currency vendors) and 10 USD and 5 USD banknotes most commonly reported as being limited in Ar-Raqqa (59% and 77%, respectively).

Figure 1: Top four most commonly reported supply challenges by surveyed vendor (1,918 respondents)*



*Multiple answers allowed, thus findings may exceed 100%



RESTOCKING

In addition to facing the above mentioned supply challenges, 2% of the 1,842 surveyed vendors reported that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies, most commonly reported by vegetable vendors and bakeries in Ar-Raqqa governorate.



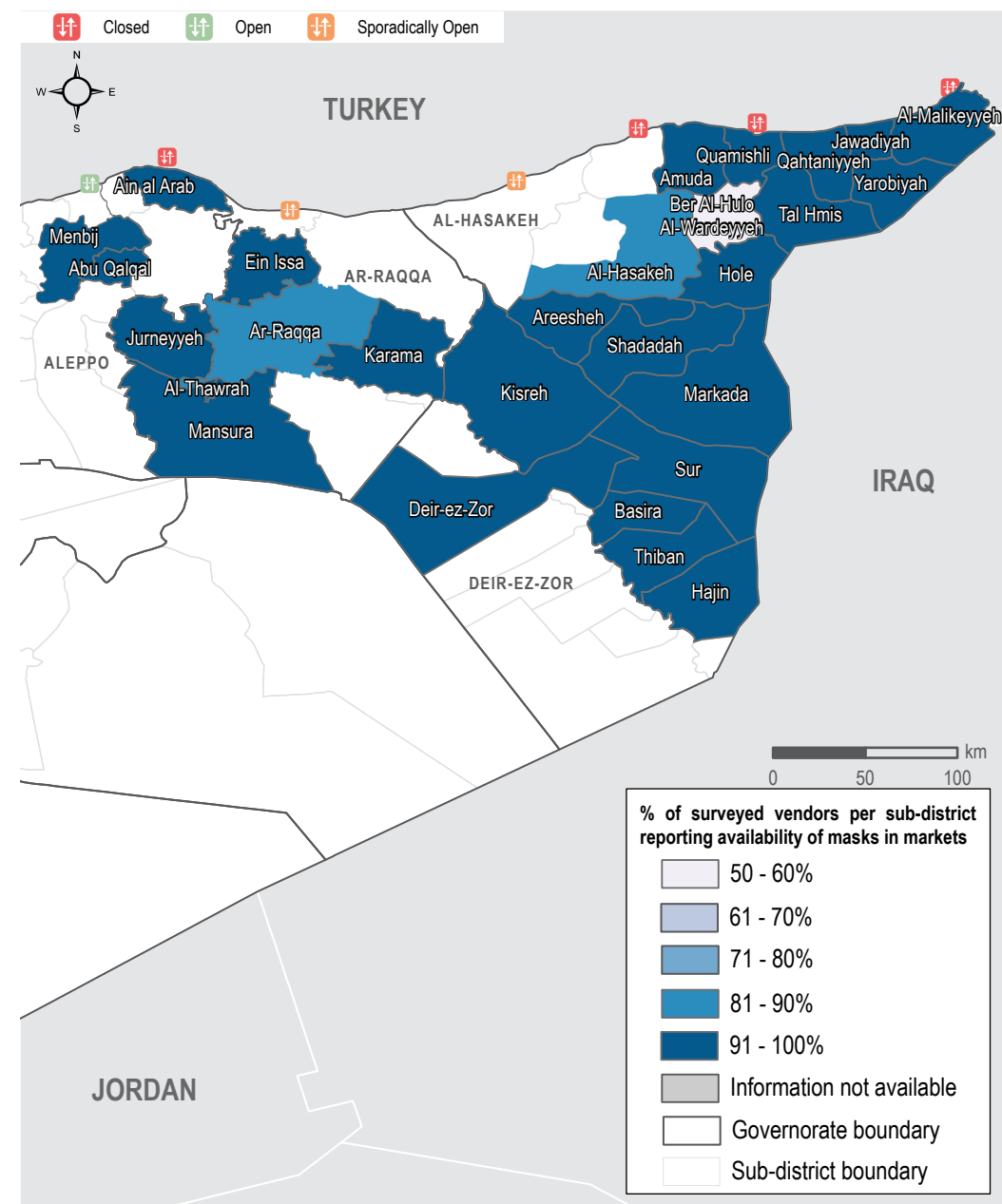
MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS Syrian Pounds

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	400	20,000	6,500	4,500	1,400	2,950
Abu Qalqal	350	16,000	6,000	6,250	1,175*	2,550*
Ain al Arab	300	25,000	8,750	5,500	1,250	3,000
Al-Hasakeh	500	21,000	11,000	4,250	1,400	2,600
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	21,000	9,000	4,000	1,500	NA
Al-Thawrah	500	25,000	1,500	2,200	1,250	3,000*
Amuda	300	23,250	7,750	4,250	1,888	NA
Areesheh	500	15,000*	10,000	11,250	1,750*	2,900*
Ar-Raqqa	400	18,000	9,000	5,500	1,550	2,900
Basira	500	21,000	6,500	4,500	1,500	3,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	280	18,000	NA	6,667	1,100	NA
Deir-ez-Zor	500	21,000	6,500	4,000	1,200	3,000
Ein Issa	400	18,000	15,000*	5,000*	1,500	2,500*
Hajin	200	19,000	6,500	4,500	NA	NA
Hole	300	21,750*	5,000	4,200	1,300	2,800
Jawadiyah	400	22,500	10,000	6,667	1,300	NA
Jurneyyeh	500	20,000	5,000	5,500	1,450	1,500
Karama	400	18,500	2,500	2,000	2,500	3,500
Kisreh	500	12,000	6,500	4,500	1,200	3,000
Mansura	500	20,000	5,000	5,500	2,000*	NA
Markada	500	18,000	7,000	4,000	1,400	NA
Menbij	375	15,750	6,500	6,500	1,200	2,500
Qahtaniyyeh	400	20,000	9,000	6,667	1,650*	3,200*
Quamishli	500	20,000	13,000	4,000	1,350	4,100
Shadadah	500	12,750	6,500	4,500	1,200	2,800*
Sur	400	21,000	6,500	6,500	1,300	NA
Tal Hmis	300	21,750	3,450	3,500	1,400	NA
Thiban	500	21,000	6,500	4,500	1,500	NA
Ya'robiyah	400	20,000	11,000	1,600	2,900	5,800*

* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

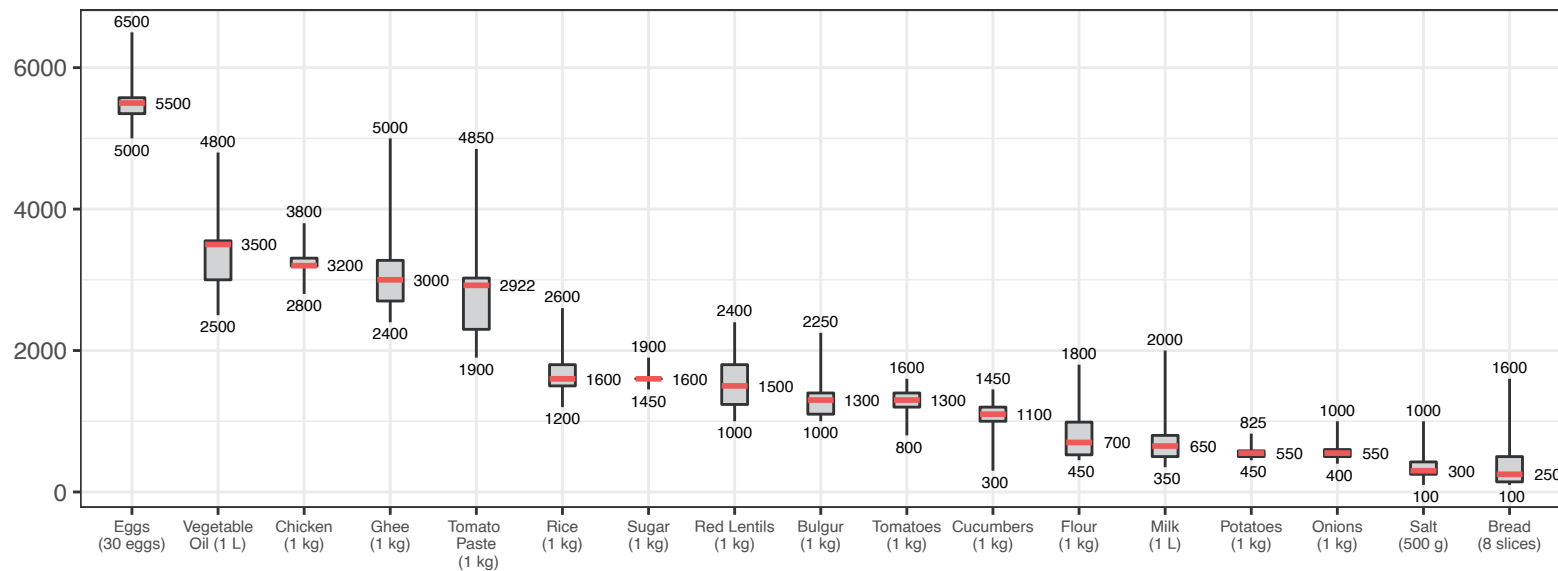


AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS Northeast Syria



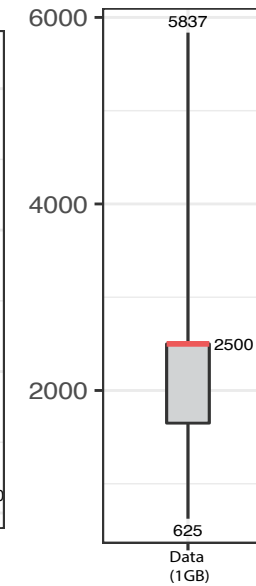
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



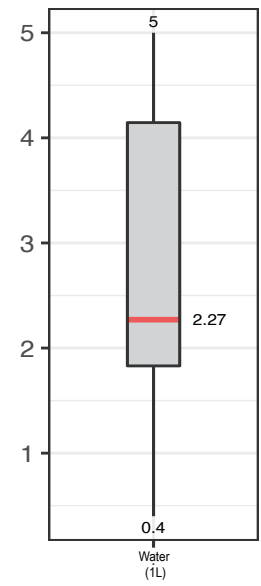
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



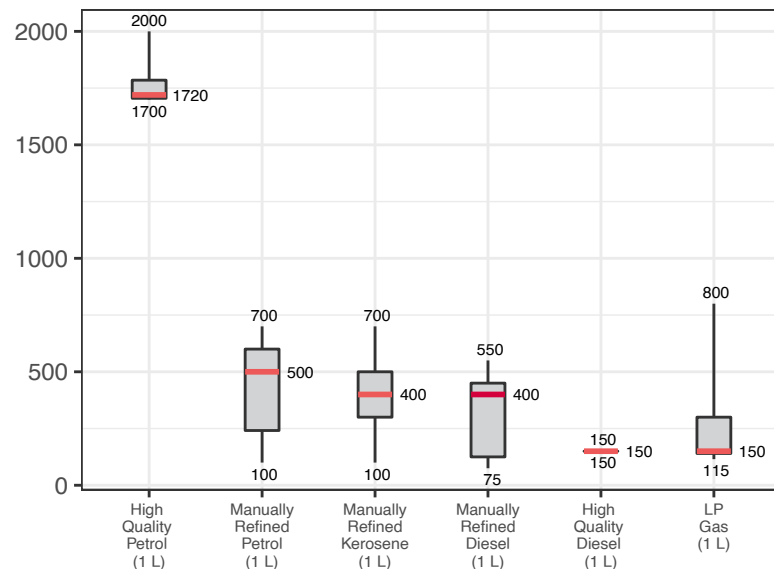
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



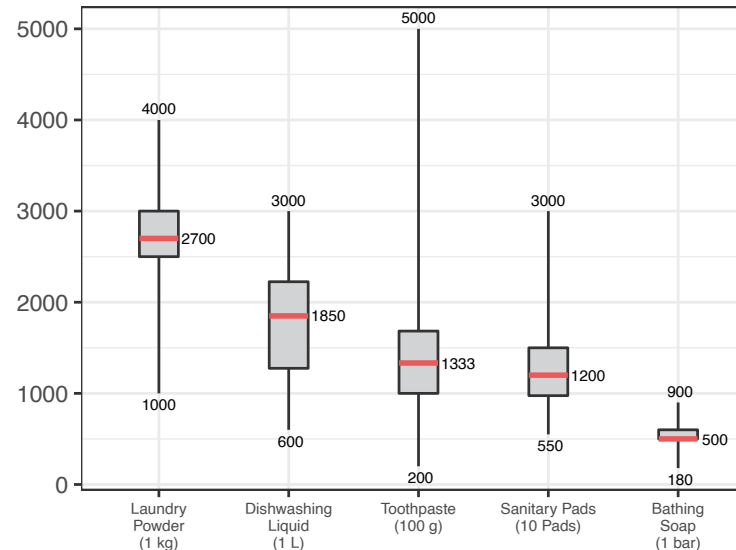
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

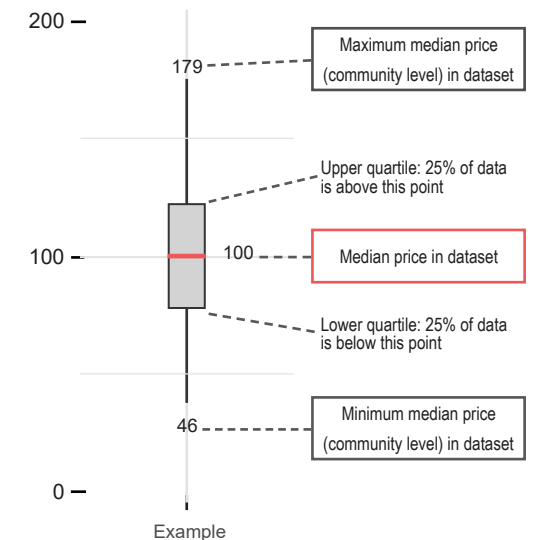


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



READING BOXPLOTS



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 composition of the SMEB can be found on [page 1](#). SMEB vegetables includes potatoes, tomatoes, onions, and cucumbers.

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 significantly 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 is currently working with Cash Working Groups and partners to scale up its programming in response to this pandemic, with the goal of identifying practical ways to inform humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments are 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.