

# NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 3-10th May 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 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 cell phone data.

Of these, 18 items comprise the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB; see next page), which represents the minimum, culturally adjusted items required to support a 6-person household for a month.

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community. See REACH Resource Centre for the [May 2021 dataset](#).

### Coverage and data collection dates

In May 2021, REACH and partners covered:

- 4 governorates
- 11 districts
- 28 subdistricts
- 48 communities
- 1,316 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 (3-10th May 2021).

### Partners

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

- CARE
- Global Communities
- Danish Church Aid
- Mercy corps
- People In Need
- Solidarités International
- Samaritans Purse

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### NES SMEB Basket value increase

#### SYP

SMEB May value: 325,613 SYP

One month change (compared to April): decrease of 7%

Six month change (compared to November): increase of 45%

#### United States Dollar (USD)

SMEB May value: 107 USD

One month change: increase of 5%

Six month change: increase of 18%

Despite minor short term decreases, the first half of 2021 has seen the highest recorded SMEB in SYP in the Market Monitoring exercise, attributed to the protracted hyperinflation of the Syrian economy. The SMEB in USD is currently the highest since December 2019.

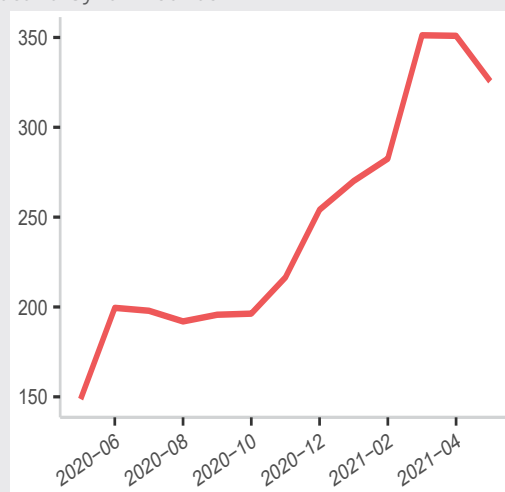
### MEDIAN SMEB COST FOR NES

**325,613 SYP (107 USD)**

NES COVERAGE: AL-HASAKEH, AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR AND EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

### MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



### SMEB Water Trucking price decrease #1

NES average: 13,388 SYP per 4,500 litres

One month change: decrease of 5%

Six month change: increase of 32%

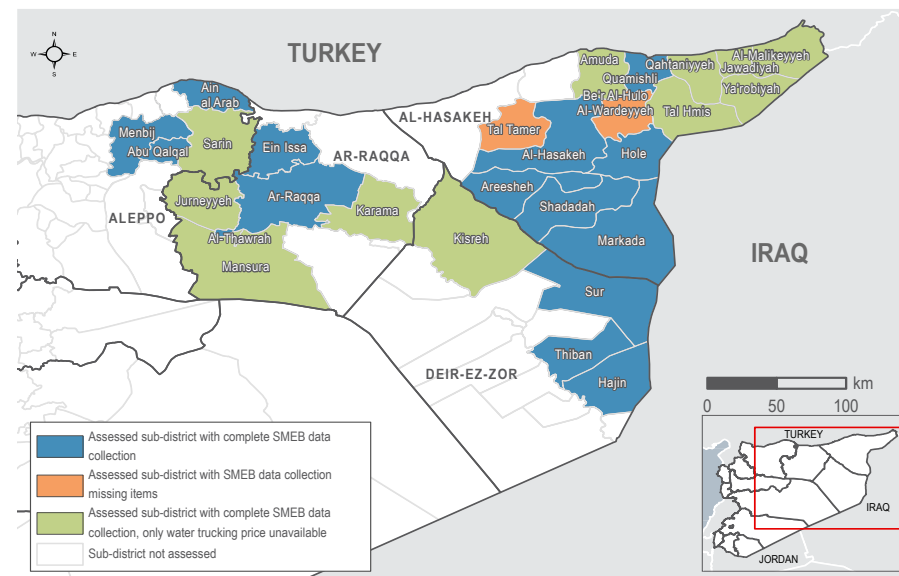
% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 0%

Water trucking is the main source of clean water for most individuals. While prices at the regional level have dropped slightly due to the appreciation of the SYP, different water challenges in each governorate have led to erratic prices across the region:

- Ar-Raqqa: 7,661 SYP
- Aleppo NE: 11,250 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 13,275 SYP
- Al-Hasakeh : 18,765 SYP

For a visual and detailed overview of the Euphrates water crisis affecting Aleppo NE, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-Ez-Zor, please see the [Euphrates Crisis: Drinking Water Stations Overview](#) developed by the WASH Working Group for East Syria. For a situation update for the Alouk Water station that serves Al-Hasakeh and is currently working at limited capacity, see the [OCHA Syria Disruption to Alouk Water Station - Flash update #01 \(As of 28 April 2021\)](#).

## ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE



#1 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
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>325,613</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>45%</b>
Abu Qalqal	326,119	8%	51%
Ain al Arab	313,363	-8%	55%
Al-Hasakeh	351,542	-3%	50%
Al-Malikeyyeh	304,901	0%	45%
Al-Thawrah	308,411	-3%	40%
Amuda	349,365	1%	47%
Areesheh	355,341	-5%	55%
Ar-Raqqa	318,313	-8%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	NA	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	319,297	-12%	57%
Hajin	325,900	NA	55%
Hole	315,780	4%	40%
Jawadiyah	315,108	-11%	40%
Jurneyyeh	296,839	-9%	37%
Karama	349,940	-9%	51%
Kisreh	292,759	NA	42%
Mansura	309,376	-23%	31%
Markada	325,326	-6%	30%
Menbij	331,426	5%	54%
Qahtaniyyeh	274,887	-14%	18%
Quamishli	345,656	-7%	47%
Sarin*	281,185	-15%	NA
Shadadah	346,245	-8%	53%
Sur	319,629	NA	28%
Tal Hmis	310,329	-5%	59%
Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	316,480	NA	51%
Ya'robiyah	294,026	-7%	32%

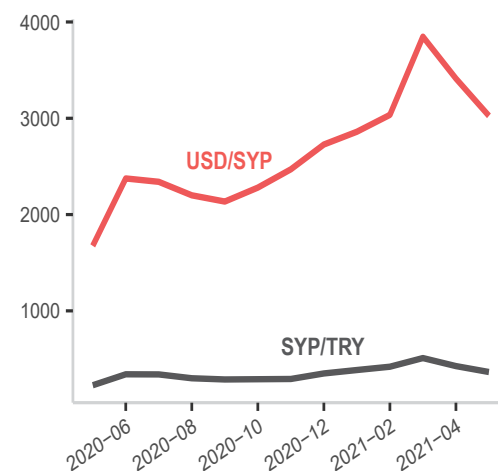
## SURVIVAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (SMEB) CONTENTS

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

## EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



## KEY DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

### High Quality Fuels<sup>#2</sup>

High quality fuels are mostly imported, but REACH field teams report that challenges include restrictions on imports from Government of Syria (GoS) areas, lack of production materials in the region and general road closures.

### High Quality Diesel: 550 SYP per litre

One month change: **increase of 38%**

Six month change: **increase of 228%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 93%

### High Quality Petrol: 2,150 SYP per litre

One month change: **decrease of 4%**

Six month change: **increase of 43%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 71%

### Low Quality Manually Refined Fuels

Low quality manually refined fuels are reported as widely available across NES, and REACH field teams report that they are often used as transport fuel as high quality fuels are rarely available. However, the price of manually refined fuels vary greatly across governorates.

### Manually Refined Diesel: 288 SYP per litre

One month change: **increase of 130%**

Six month change: **increase of 69%**

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

### Manually Refined Petrol: 500 SYP per litre

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

Six month change: **increase of 54%**

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

### Exchange Rates Fall<sup>#3</sup>

Informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate: 3,025 SYP to 1 USD

One month change: **decrease of 11%**

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

In May, the SYP continued to appreciate against the USD (see graph, left). This is typically attributed to earlier than expected improvements in the global economy and the knock-on impacts for national economies. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,115 SYP for 1 USD in Qahtaniyyeh community, Al-Hasakeh.

\* 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.

<sup>#2</sup> See page 11 for further fuel data

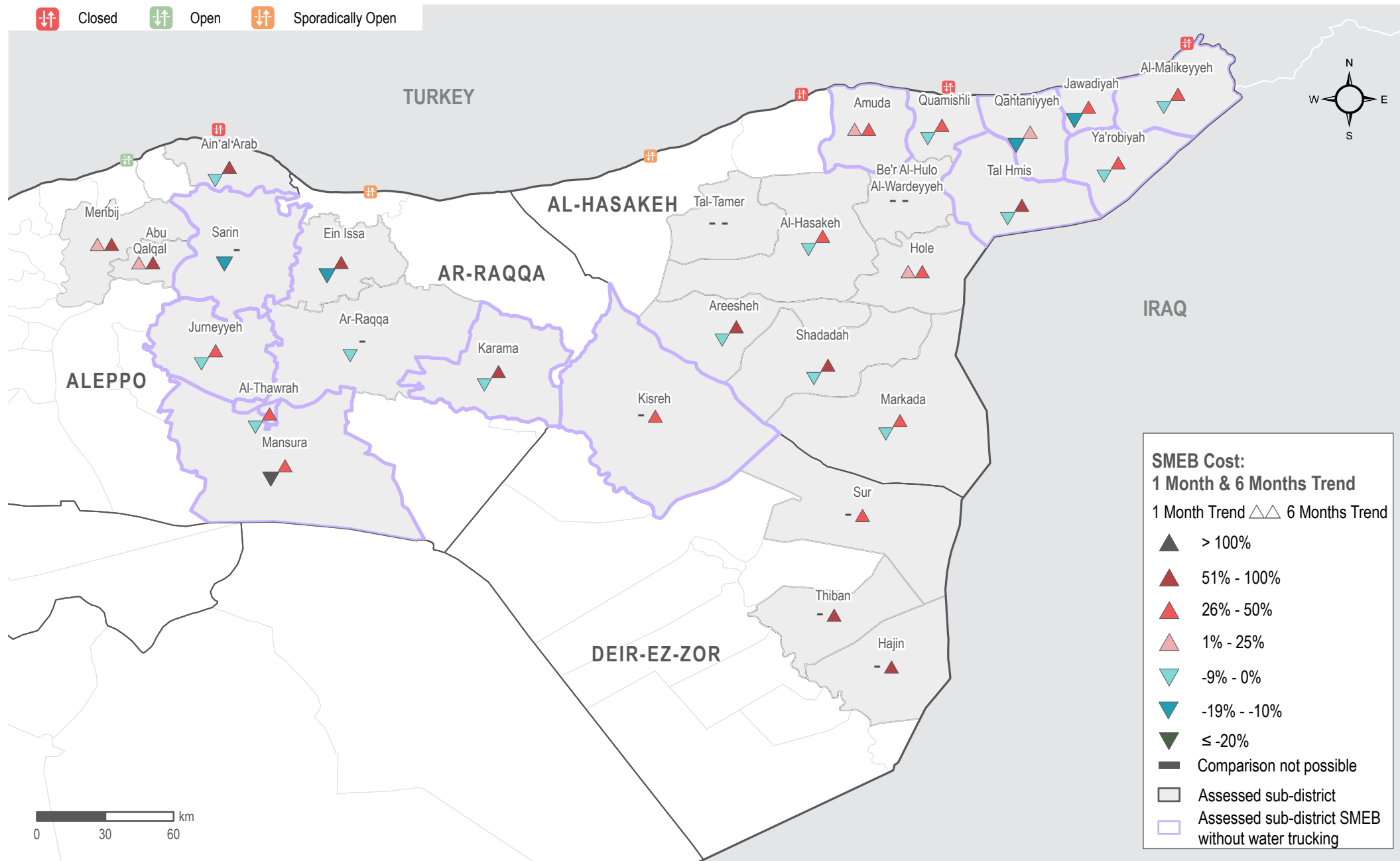
<sup>#3</sup> To compare SYP prices to USD or TRY, our [May 2021 dataset](#) provides informal exchange rates at the regional, district, subdistrict and community levels, where data is available



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

## SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND

⬆️⬆️ Closed   
 ⬆️⬆️ Open   
 ⬆️⬆️ Sporadically Open



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

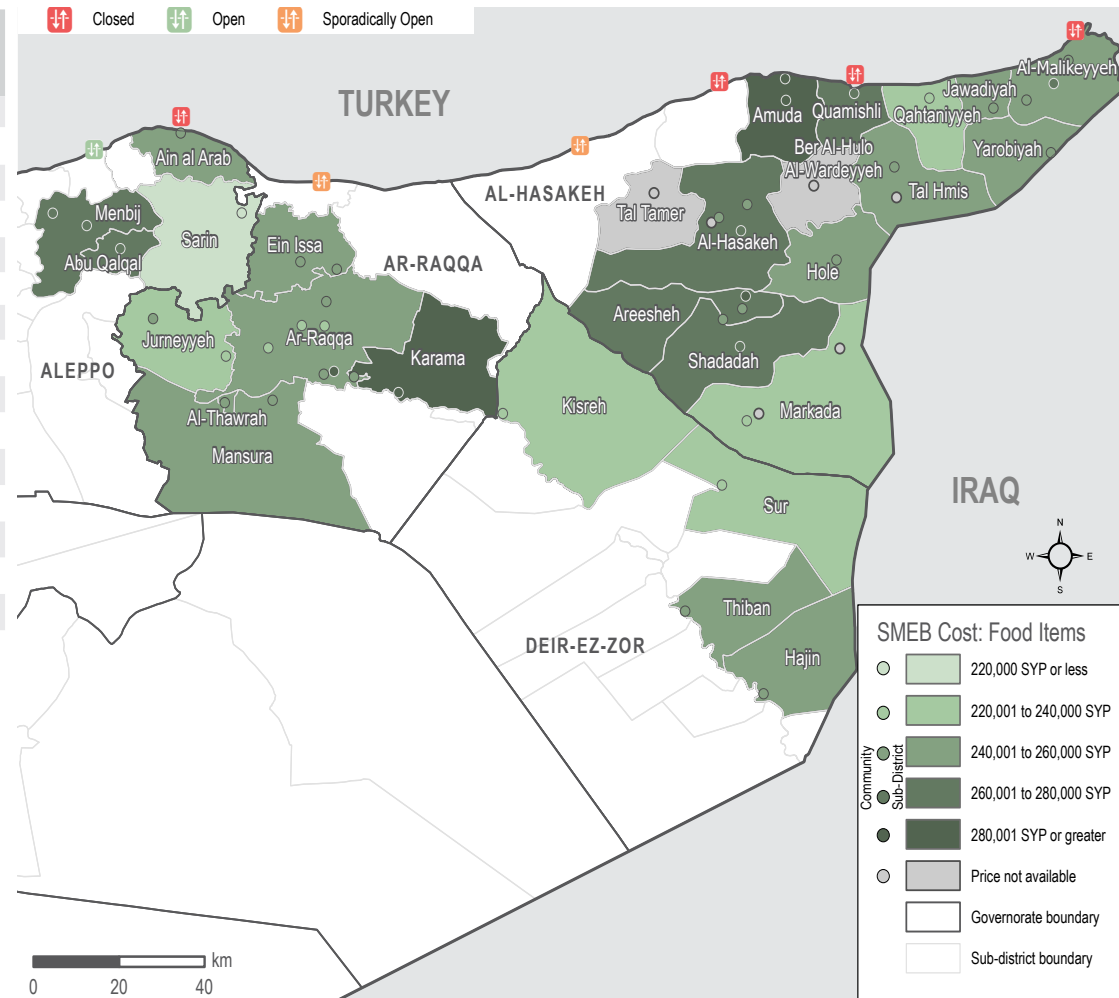
## MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change*	Six month change*	Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change*	Six month change*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>245,851</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>Jurneyyeh</b>	234,229	-9%	38%
Abu Qalqal	265,113	8%	54%	Karama	288,340	-8%	55%
Ain al Arab	245,750	-10%	55%	Kisreh	230,950	NA	42%
Al-Hasakeh	265,750	-4%	52%	Mansura	245,952	-26%	29%
Al-Malikeyyeh	254,600	3%	47%	Markada	238,749	-8%	25%
Al-Thawrah	241,550	-5%	39%	Menbij	263,075	3%	54%
Amuda	290,929	0%	52%	Qahtaniyyeh	227,050	-15%	19%
Areeshah	268,725	-4%	56%	Quamishli	274,225	-5%	54%
Ar-Raqqa	240,613	-10%	31%	Sarin**	210,350	-14%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	NA	NA	NA	Shadadah	263,547	-4%	57%
Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	Sur	235,955	NA	26%
Ein Issa	246,971	-12%	56%	Tal Hmis	243,585	-8%	56%
Hajin	253,550	NA	62%	Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Hole	242,012	6%	48%	Thiban	242,850	NA	57%
Jawadiyah	248,287	-10%	38%	Ya'robiyah	243,725	-6%	31%

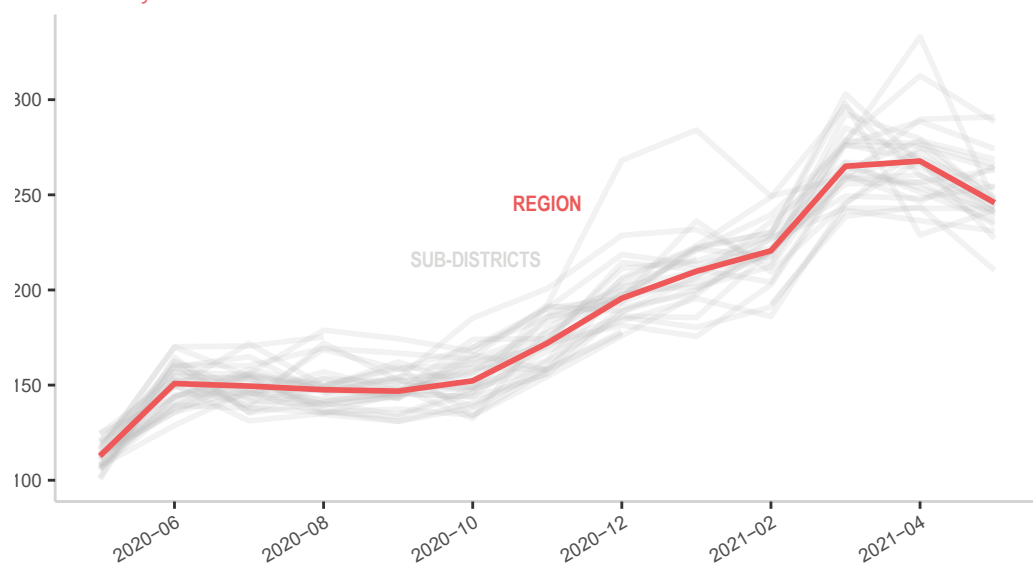
## SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



## MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB FOOD COMPONENT 245,851 SYP (81 USD)<sup>#4</sup>

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

Six month change: **increase of 42%**

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting a SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 8% for bread

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood for previous month: 11% for bread

## SMEB BULK FOODS 121,192 SYP (40USD)

One month change: **decrease of 11%**

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

Rice decreased by 15%

Sugar decreased by 14%

Bulgur decreased by 6%

Tomato paste decreased by 2%

Red lentils no change (0%)

Salt increased by 5%.

According to REACH field teams, these items are typically imported, but their prices decreased due to appreciation of the SYP against the Turkish Lira (TRY) and USD.

## SMEB VEGETABLE COMPONENT 12,150 SYP (4 USD)

One month change: **decrease of 19%**

Six month change: **increase of 59%**

Cucumbers decreased by 28%

Onions decreased 14%

Tomatoes decreased by 17%

Potatoes decreased by 4%.

REACH field teams attributed these price drops to key vegetable items being in season and produced locally, alongside the SYP appreciation.

## BREAD 275 SYP PER 8 PIECE BUNDLE (0.1 USD)

One month change: **increase of 38%**

Six month change: **decrease of 21%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 8%

Price fluctuations are attributed to both the appreciation of the SYP and general subsidies by the authorities. The average bread prices varied greatly between governorates:

Deir-Ez-Zor: 236 SYP

Ar-Raqqa: 259 SYP

NE Aleppo: 525 SYP

Al-Hasakeh: 526 SYP

For deeper analysis of the bread and wheat context in Syria, please see the [Wheat-to-Bread Processing Facilities Mapping Study for Northeast Syria , Q1 2021](#)

## FLOUR 1,300 SYP PER KILO (0.4 USD)

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

Six month change: **increase of 86%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 5%

## CHICKEN 5,013 SYP PER KILO (1.7 USD)

One month change: **increase of 17%**

Six month change: **increase of 86%**

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

Prices for chicken increased significantly due to the closure of crossings, the high price of fodder and an increase in demand, according to REACH field teams.

## EGGS 6,000 SYP FOR 30 EGGS (2 USD)

One month change: **decrease of 1%**

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

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 2%

## COOKING FUELS

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

Manually Refined Kerosene: 431 SYP per litre (0.1 USD)

One month change: **decrease of 4%**

Six month change: **increase of 57%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 11%

LP Gas: 3,375 SYP per canister / 20 Litres (1.1 USD)

One month change: **No change (0%)**

Six month change: **increase of 4%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 2%

<sup>#4</sup> May informal regional exchange rate for NES: 3,025 SYP

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

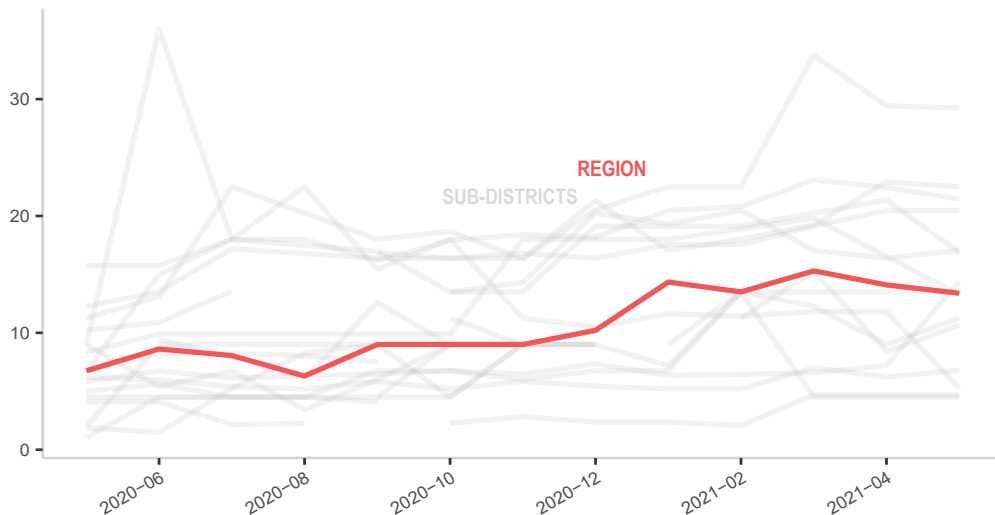
## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE 4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change*	Six month change*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>13,388</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>32%</b>
Abu Qalqal**	6,795	9%	16%
Ain al Arab	11,250	25%	88%
Al-Hasakeh	22,500	-2%	37%
Al-Malikeyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	20,475	0%	22%
Ar-Raqqa	10,643	27%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh**	16,875	-21%	25%
Ein Issa**	4,680	0%	65%
Hajin	4,500	NA	-50%
Hole**	21,443	-4%	17%
Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA

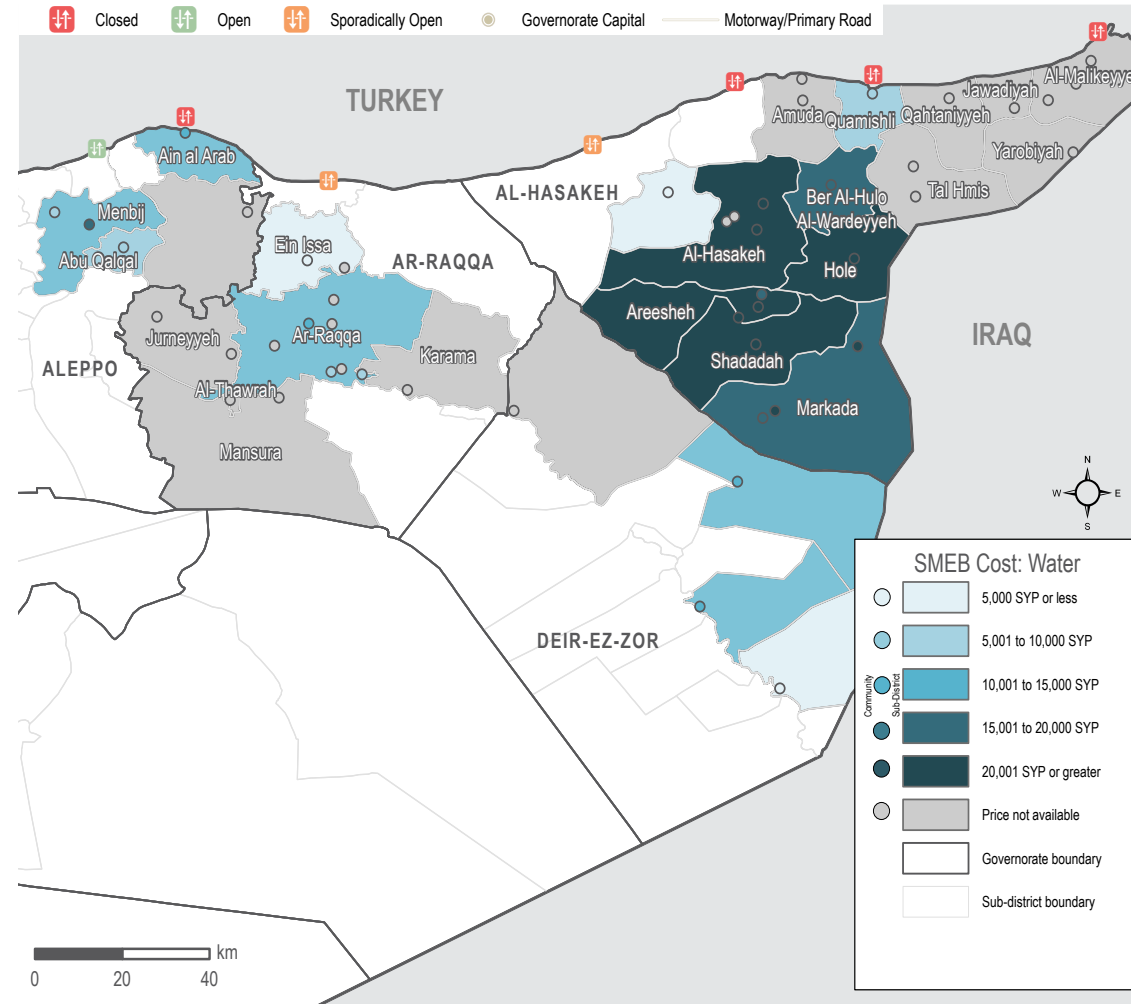
  

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change*	Six month change*
Jurneyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Karama**	NA	NA	NA
Kisreh**	NA	NA	NA
Mansura**	NA	NA	NA
Markada	17,055	4%	19%
Menbij	14,400	100%	123%
Qahtaniyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	5,265	-55%	-53%
Sarin**	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	29,250	-1%	79%
Sur**	13,275	NA	-26%
Tal Hmis**	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer**	2,700	NA	NA
Thiban	13,500	NA	50%
Ya'robiyah**	NA	NA	NA

## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH Thousand Syrian Pounds



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



Water trucking prices varied greatly across NES in May, most notably at the governorate level:

- Ar-Raqqa: 7,661 SYP
- Aleppo NE: 11,250 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 13,275 SYP
- Al-Hasakeh: 18,765 SYP

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

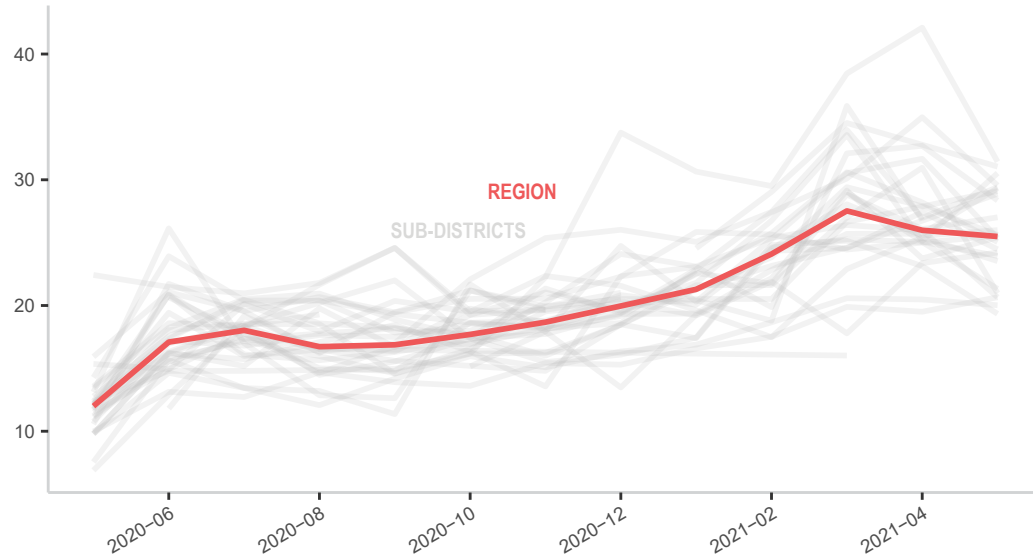
## MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

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*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>25,489</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>39%</b>
Abu Qalqal	20,654	6%	34%
Ain al Arab	26,000	2%	76%
Al-Hasakeh	27,016	4%	49%
Al-Malikeyyeh	24,216	4%	29%
Al-Thawrah	25,429	7%	42%
Amuda	29,412	9%	16%
Areeshah	28,350	-13%	109%
Ar-Raqqa	25,600	-8%	60%
Be'r Al-Hulo	NA	NA	NA
Al-Wardeyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	25,370	-20%	41%
Hajin	31,050	NA	58%
Hole	23,945	-4%	32%
Jawadiyah	31,438	-25%	41%

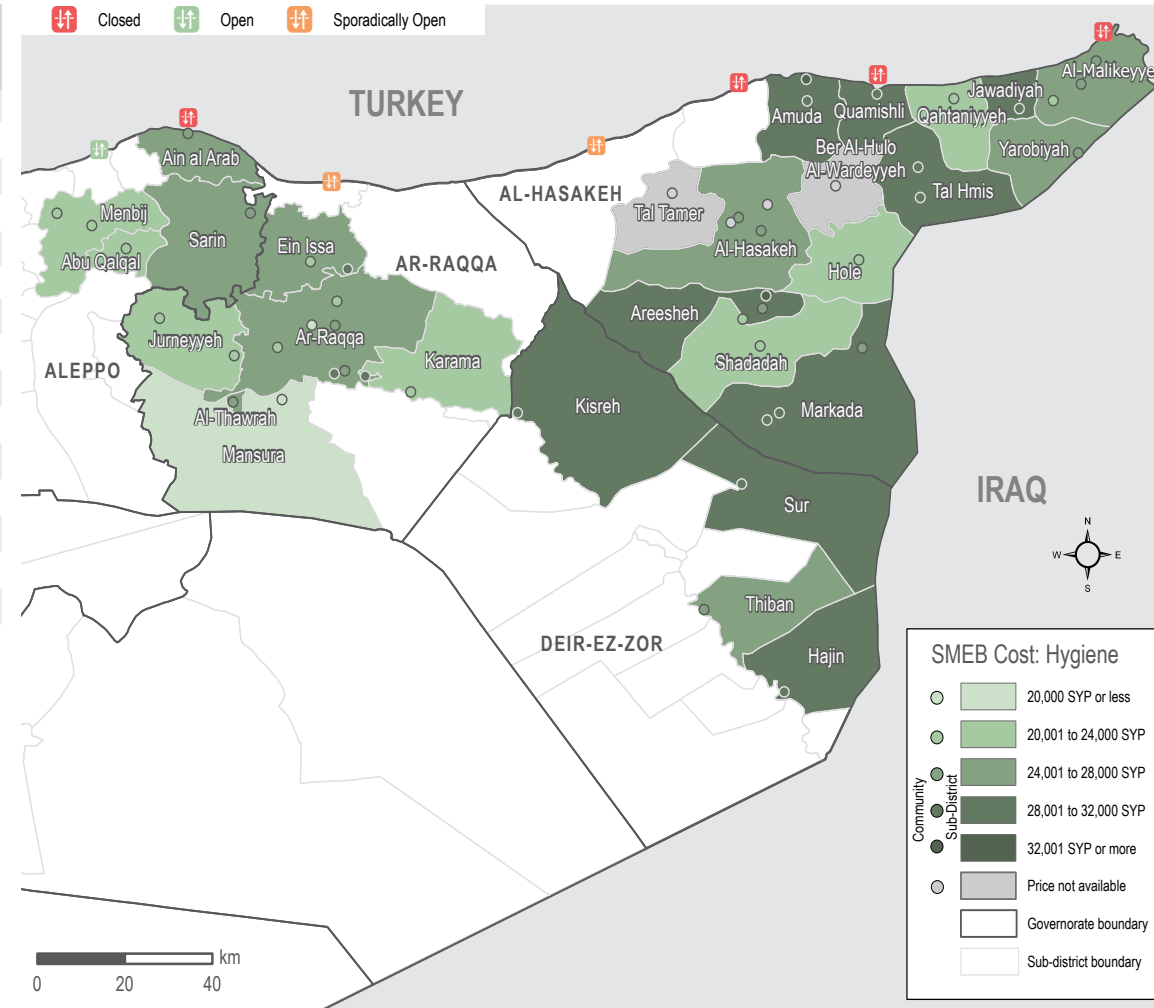
## MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

## MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB data, Syrian Pounds

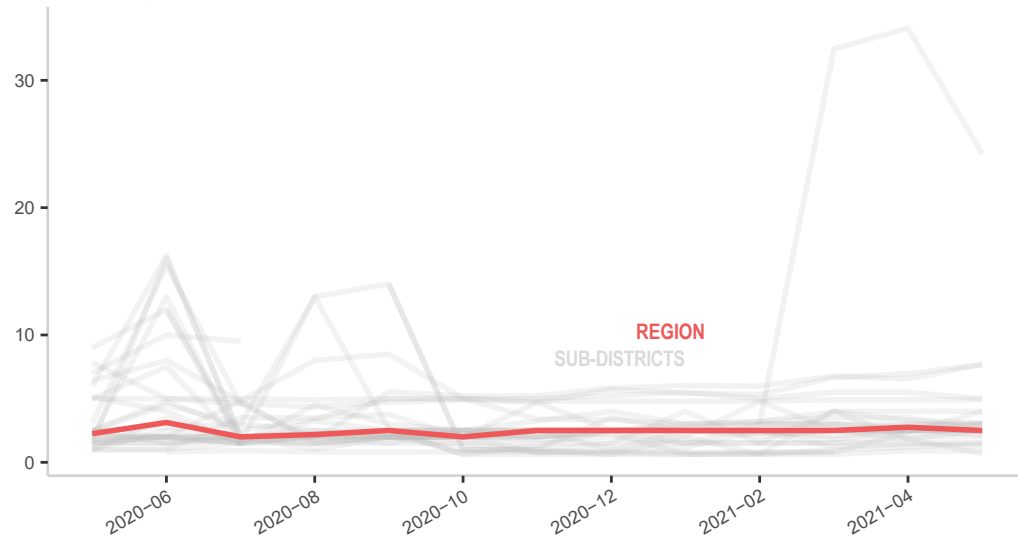
Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change*	Six month change*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>11%</b>
Abu Qalqal	7,680	17%	47%
Ain al Arab	5,000	-9%	0%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	22%	50%
Al-Malikeyyeh	1,500	25%	140%
Al-Thawrah	4,915	0%	2%
Amuda	2,150	-14%	64%
Areeshesh	3,000	0%	18%
Ar-Raqqa	3,000	7%	50%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	4,000	0%	300%
Ein Issa	2,500	0%	25%
Hajin	2,500	NA	0%
Hole	3,100	-6%	-5%
Jawadiyah	900	0%	-10%

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change*	Six month change*
Jurneyyeh	2,450	-11%	-28%
Karama	1,536	0%	-15%
Kisreh	2,500	NA	0%
Mansura	2,500	0%	-47%
Markada	2,500	-29%	0%
Menbij	7,680	10%	63%
Qahtaniyyeh	2,000	0%	33%
Quamishli	2,500	36%	0%
Sarin**	24,250	-29%	NA
Shadadah	683	-63%	-66%
Sur	4,000	NA	421%
Tal Hmis	3,000	0%	193%
Tal Tamer**	1,250	NA	NA
Thiban	2,500	NA	0%
Ya'robiyah	1,300	-9%	63%

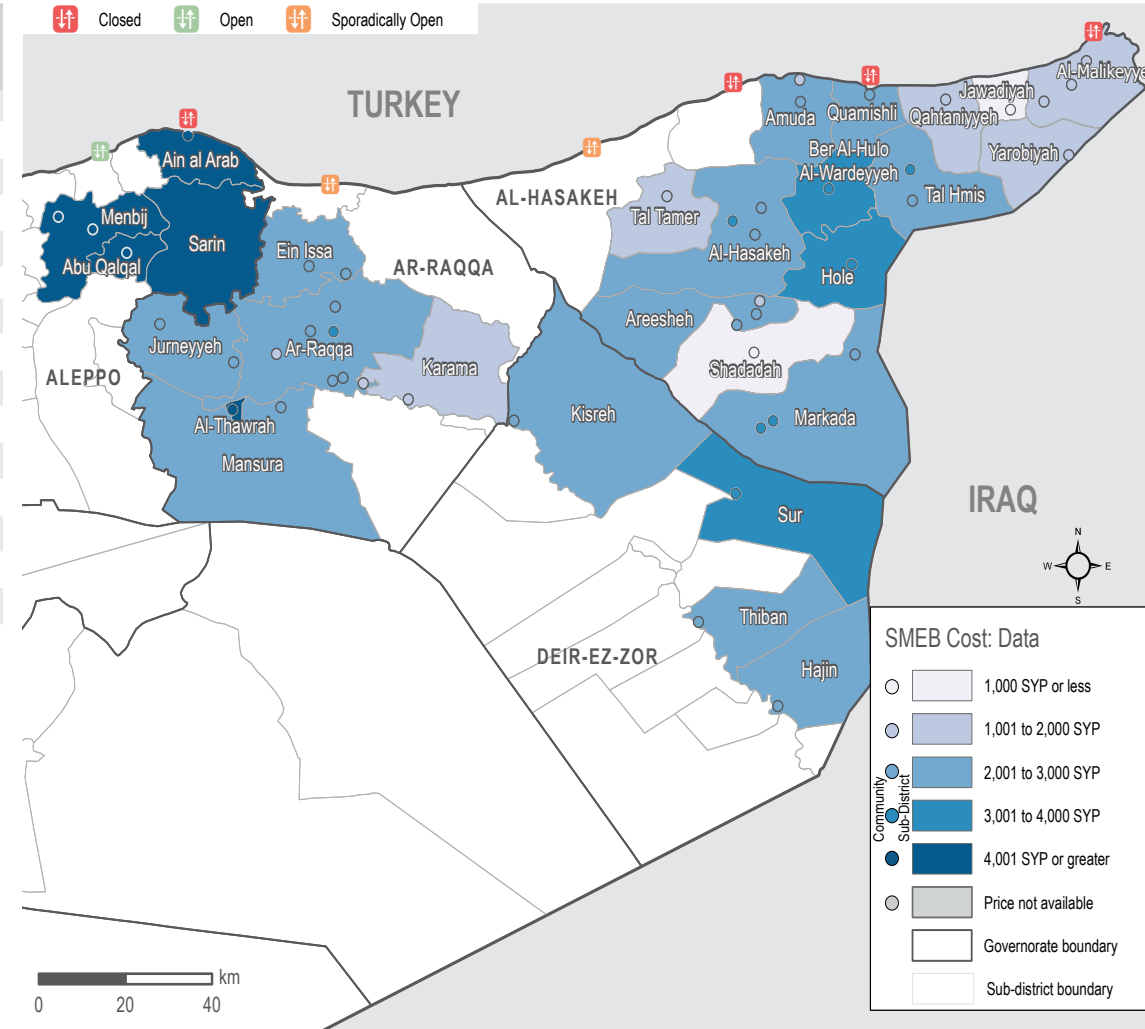
## MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

## MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

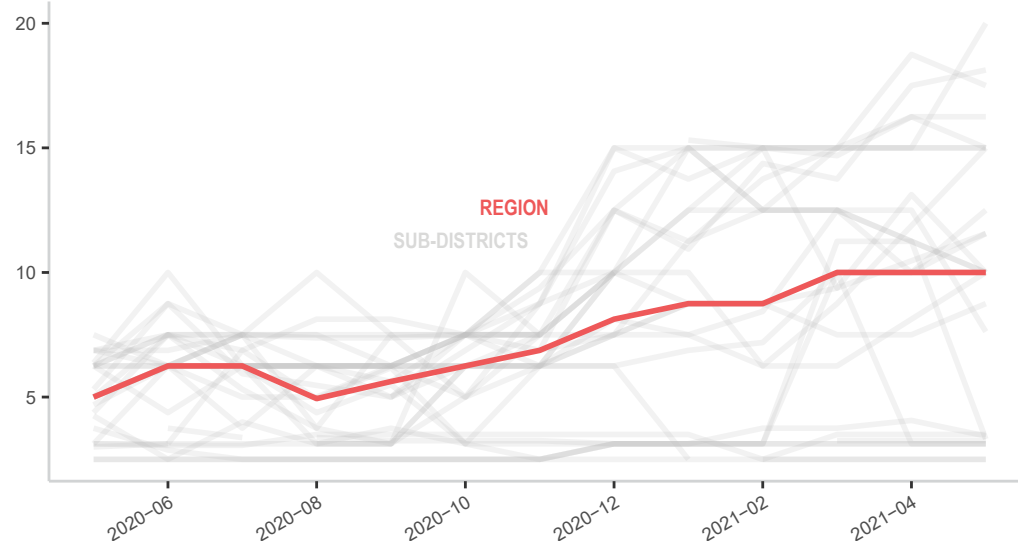
Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change*	Six month change*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>60%</b>
Abu Qalqal*	3,125	0%	25%
Ain al Arab*	3,500	0%	0%
Al-Hasakeh	8,750	17%	27%
Al-Malikeyyeh*	3,313	-71%	6%
Al-Thawrah	15,000	0%	100%
Amuda**	2,500	0%	0%
Areeshesh	10,000	-24%	14%
Ar-Raqqa	16,250	0%	63%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh*	10,000	0%	60%
Ein Issa	17,500	-7%	100%
Hajin**	11,563	NA	54%
Hole**	3,250	0%	-48%
Jawadiyah**	12,500	25%	100%

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change*	Six month change*
Jurneyyeh	18,125	4%	93%
Karama*	15,000	-8%	118%
Kisreh	10,000	NA	60%
Mansura	20,000	33%	100%
Markada*	15,000	0%	100%
Menbij	3,125	0%	25%
Qahtaniyyeh**	3,125	0%	-4%
Quamishli*	10,000	23%	60%
Sarin**	2,500	0%	NA
Shadadah*	7,625	-39%	2%
Sur**	15,000	NA	140%
Tal Hmis*	11,563	16%	85%
Tal Tamer**	4,375	NA	NA
Thiban*	10,000	NA	14%
Ya'robriyah*	3,438	-15%	38%

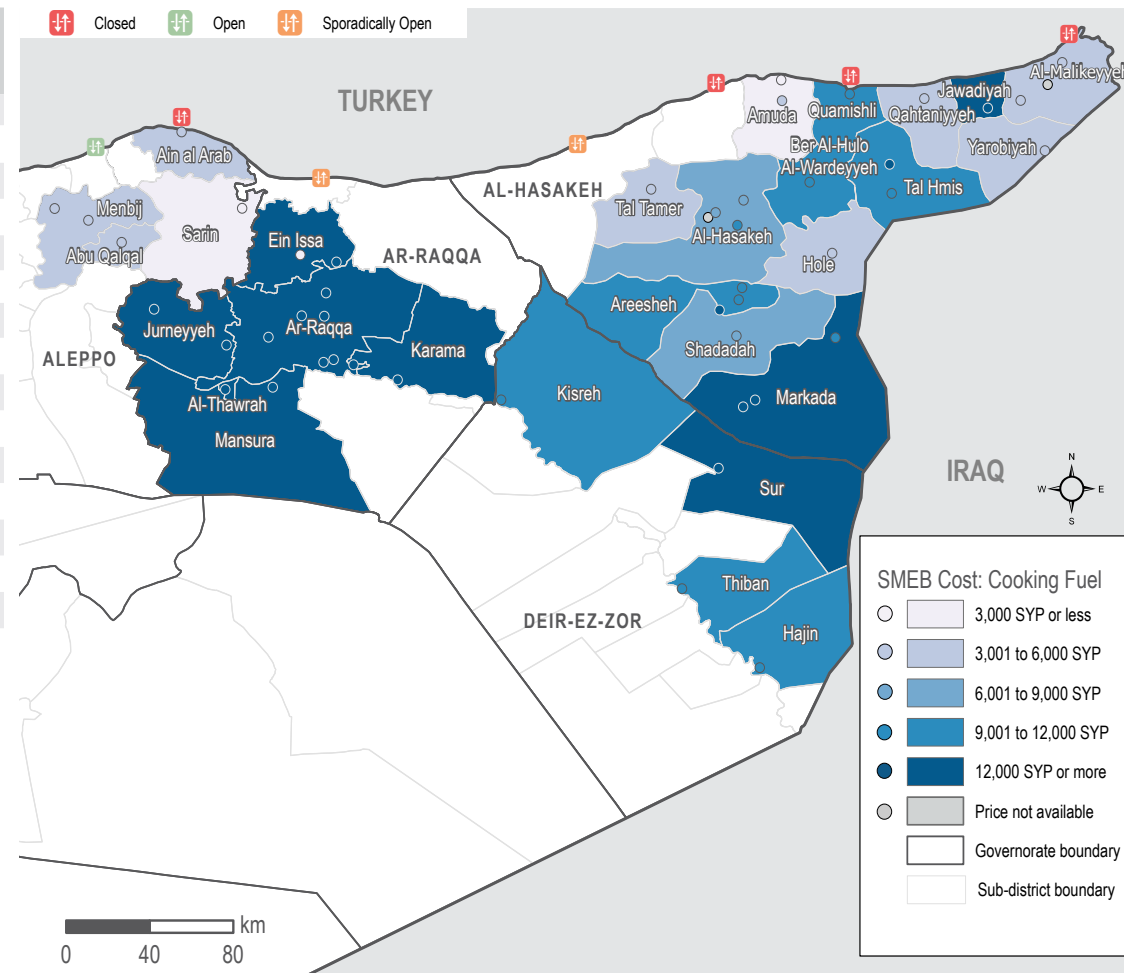
## MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

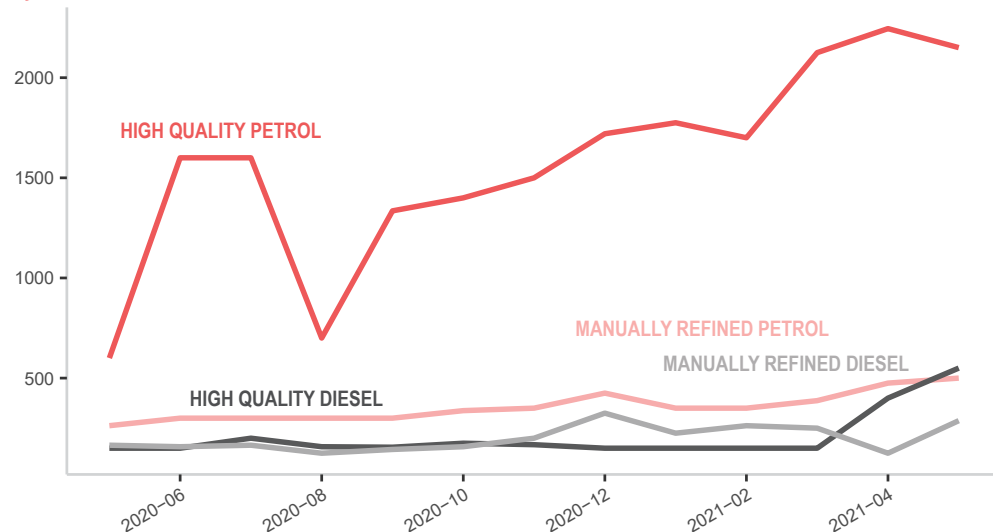
## MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

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*
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>56%</b>	Jurneyyeh	781	13%	98%
Abu Qalqal*	170	-85%	-72%	Karama*	650	31%	93%
Ain al Arab*	773	-18%	26%	Kisreh*	500	NA	57%
Al-Hasakeh	883	2%	66%	Mansura*	750	25%	114%
Al-Malikeyyeh	779	-9%	43%	Markada*	600	4%	66%
Al-Thawrah*	1,600	167%	392%	Menbij*	1,145	4%	86%
Amuda*	190	33%	25%	Qahtaniyyeh**	144	-1%	64%
Areesheh*	469	14%	53%	Qumishli*	734	-1%	44%
Ar-Raqqa	1,088	25%	36%	Sarin**	155	-4%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh*	400	47%	-35%	Shadadah*	143	-12%	-48%
Ein Issa*	569	-14%	52%	Sur*	550	NA	137%
Hajin**	520	NA	70%	Tal Hmis*	388	-3%	95%
Hole**	143	0%	-40%	Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah**	288	21%	77%	Thiban*	535	NA	60%
				Ya'robiyah*	275	0%	-54%

## MEDIAN FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

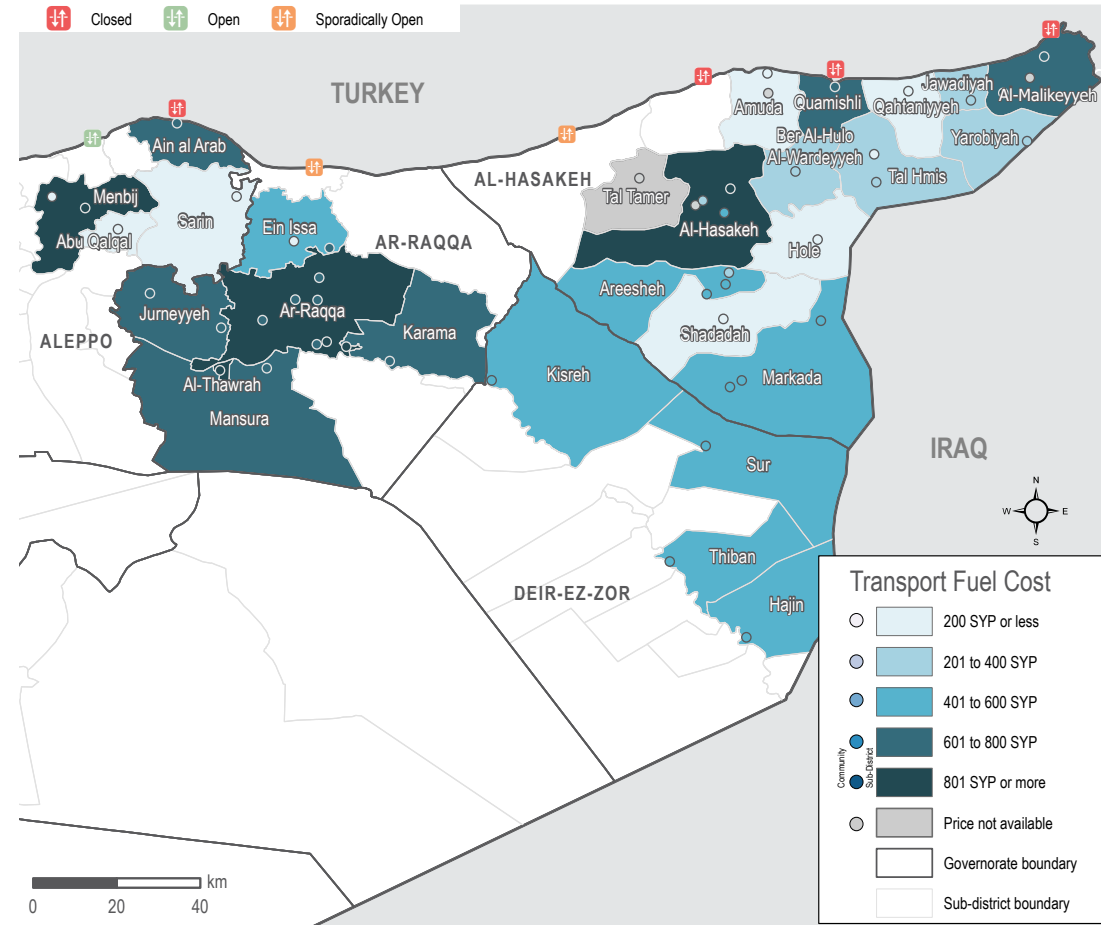
Syrian Pounds



Syria Northeast Market Monitoring Monthly Snapshot: 3-10th May 2021

## TRANSPORT FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



Manually refined fuel prices varied greatly across NES in May, most noticeably at the governorate level

**NES Manually Refined Diesel: 288 SYP per litre**

NE Aleppo: 125 SYP per litre  
 Al-Hasakeh: 150 SYP per litre  
 Deir-Ez-Zor: 400 SYP per litre  
 Ar-Raqqa: 488 SYP per litre

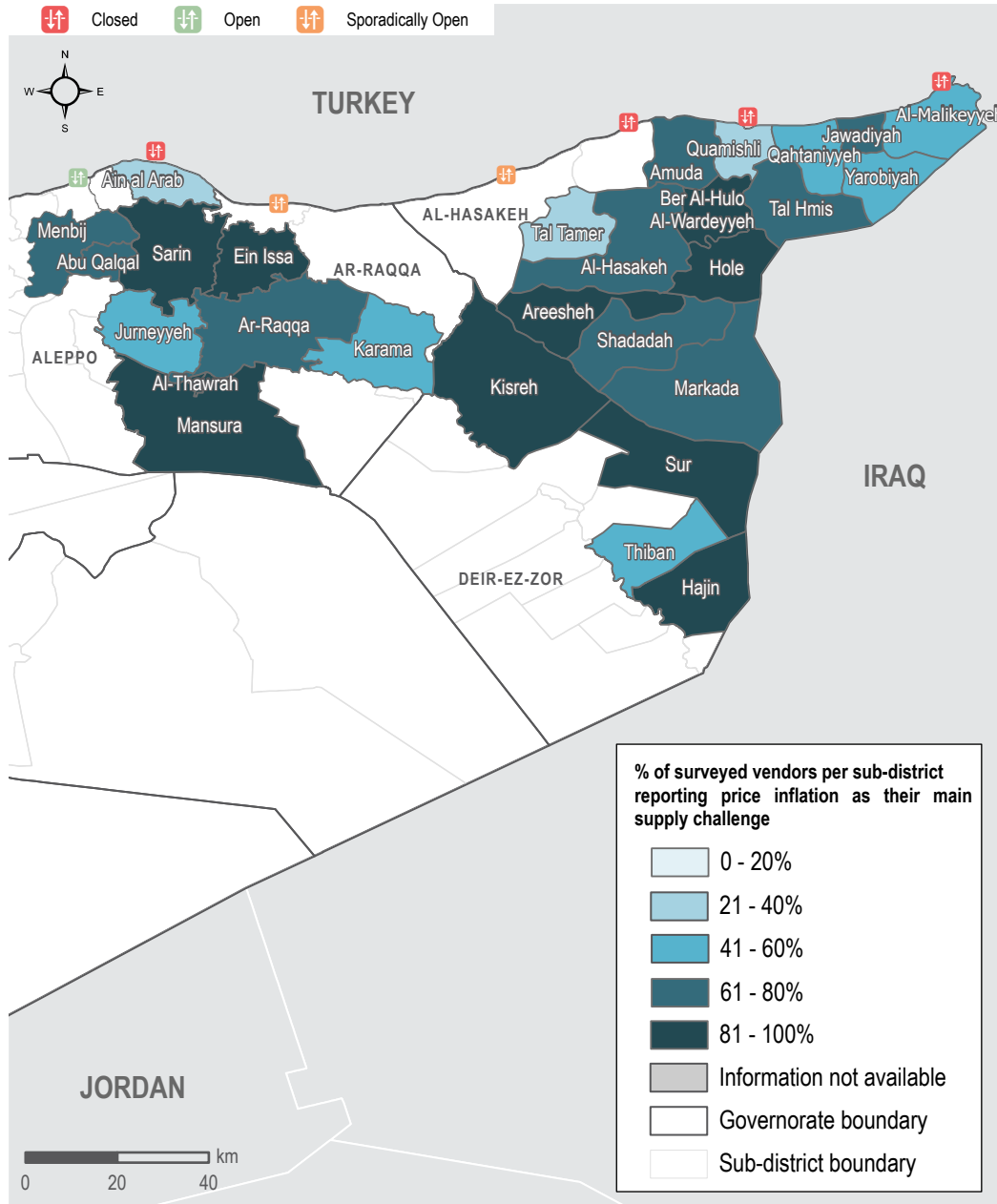
**NES Manually Refined Petrol: 500 SYP per litre**

NE Aleppo: 210 SYP per litre  
 Al-Hasakeh: 400 SYP per litre  
 Deir-Ez-Zor: 650 SYP per litre  
 Ar-Raqqa: 950 SYP per litre

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts



## MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

For further Syrian market context please see the [Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021](#).

Total surveyed vendors: 1,316

Surveyed vendors reported shop closure: 9 shops = 1% of all surveyed shops.

8 of these 9 closed shops were in Al-Hasakeh

One month change: **decrease of 4 percentage points (pp)**

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES (SEE FIGURE 1)

Total surveyed vendors: 1,309

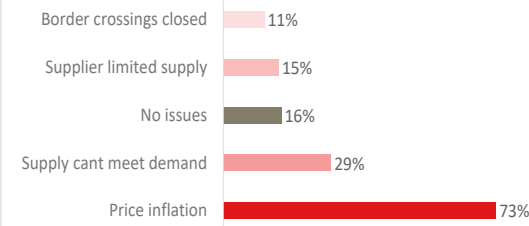
% of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: 84%

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

Most reported supply challenge: Price inflation 73% (see map left)

One month change: **decrease of 2 pp**

Figure 1: Most commonly reported supply challenges by all surveyed vendors (1,309 respondents)



## RESTOCKING (SEE FIGURE 2)

Number of surveyed vendors who were asked if they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 1,309

Surveyed vendors reporting that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 18 shops / 1%

One month change: **No change (0%)**

Surveyed vendors were asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supply lines were to be cut:

Less than 3 days: 45%

One month change: **increase of 1%**

Across shop types, surveyed water trucking vendors (90%), butchers (85%), vegetable vendors (82%), bakers (61%) most commonly reported that they would run out in less than 3 days if unable to restock. Most notably, 100% of water trucking vendors in Ar-Raqqa, NE Aleppo and Deir-Ez-Zor governorates reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if supply lines were cut, compared to 84% of water trucking vendors in Al-Hasakeh.

Figure 2: Reported number of days before all types of vendors would hypothetically run out of stock, if supply lines were to be cut (1,309 respondents)



## AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

Informal currency exchange vendors were asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations.

Surveyed currency vendors: 137

Surveyed vendors reporting having limited stock of one or more USD denomination: 100%

One month change: **increase of 2%**

The majority of surveyed vendors reported having a limited stock of all denominations of USD banknotes less than 100 USD.

See [May 2021 dataset](#) for full USD denomination availability.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



## MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

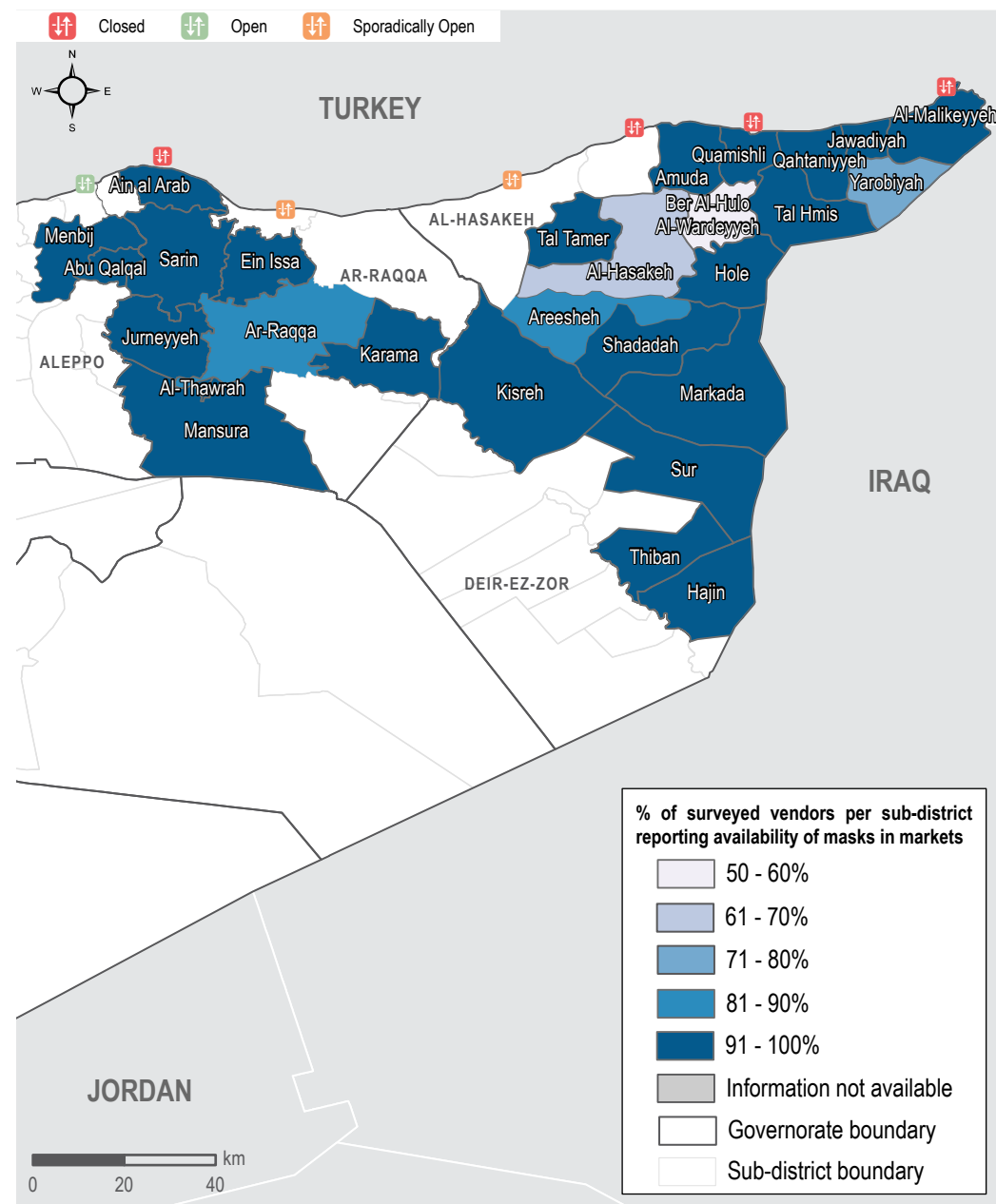
Syrian Pounds

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)
<b>Northeast Syria</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>6,250</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>3,650</b>
Abu Qalqal	400	25,000	8,000	8,000	1,600	3,500
Ain al Arab	400	28,000	9,000	6,500	1,500	4,500
Al-Hasakeh	400	21,000	11,000	6,500	1,500	4,800
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	25,000	9,500	3,500	1,500	4,000
Al-Thawrah	200	24,000	13,000	3,500	1,714	NA
Amuda	300	27,250	20,000	8,500	1,875	NA
Areesheh	500	18,000	12,000	6,500	2,000	3,500
Ar-Raqqa	400	26,000	10,000	2,500	1,500	3,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Ward	400	19,500	11,000	8,333	1,700	NA
Ein Issa	300	28,000	15,000*	2,600*	2,000	2,500*
Hajin	200	18,750	6,000	4,600	1,500	4,500
Hole	400	21,250*	1,375	7,125	1,550	3,850*
Jawadiyah	300	20,000	11,000	6,500	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	400	32,000	12,500	3,000	1,500	2,500
Karama	200	30,500	3,800	3,000	2,000	3,500
Kisreh	300	29,000	9,500	8,000	2,000	4,500
Mansura	250	25,000	12,000	4,000	1,700	2,300
Markada	400	25,000	11,000	6,000	1,800	NA
Menbij	400	25,000	8,000	7,500	1,600	3,500
Qahtaniyyeh	250	18,000	10,000	6,000	1,867	3,200*
Quamishli	300	28,500	11,500	9,250	2,600	3,800
Sarin	300*	26,750*	1,000*	9,000*	1,250	1,800*
Shadadah	400	20,000	10,000	4,000	1,500	4,000
Sur	500	25,000	14,000	6,667	1,700	5,000*
Tal Hmis	400	30,000	6,812	6,000	2,500	NA
Tal Tamer	300*	28,000*	8,000*	3,000*	2,000*	NA
Thiban	500	28,500	7,500	8,000	2,000	4,500
Ya'robiyah	500	23,500	11,000	5,000	1,650	NA



## AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

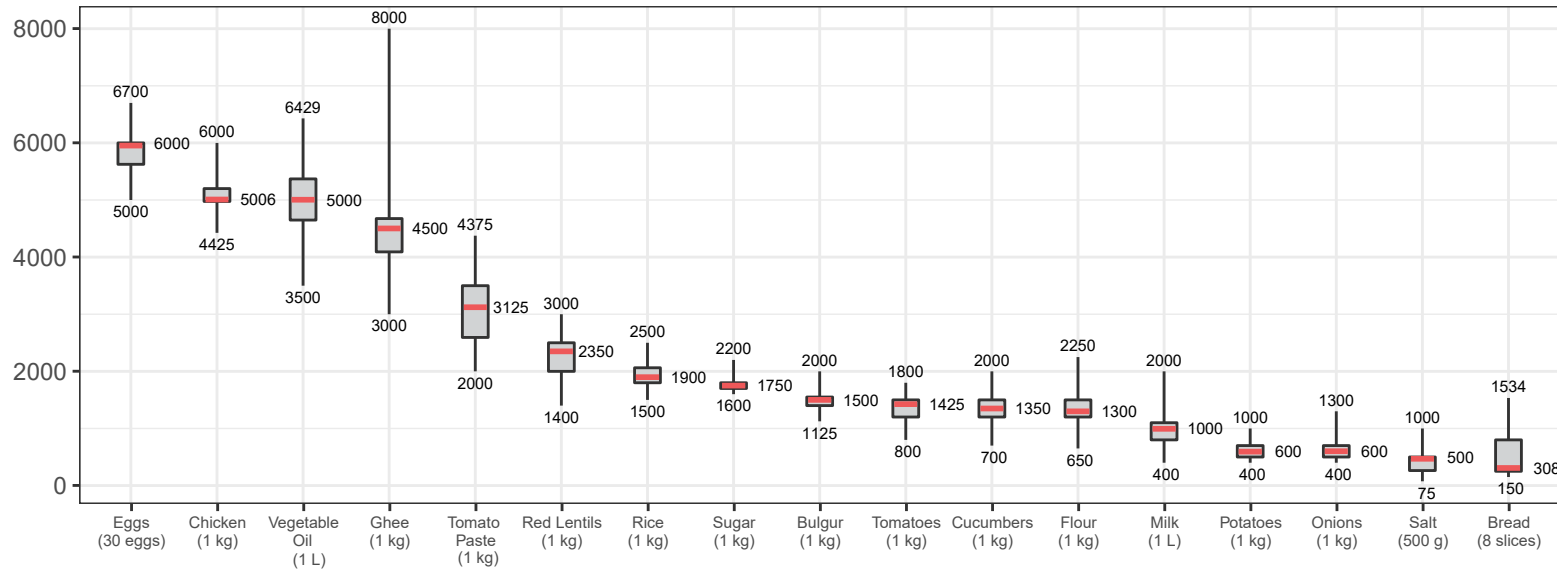
Northeast Syria



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

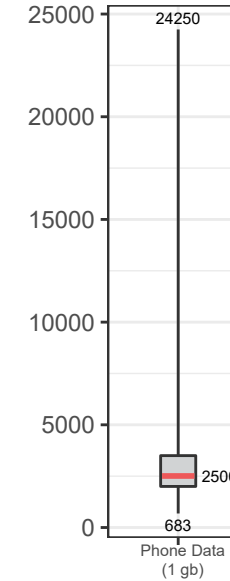
## ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



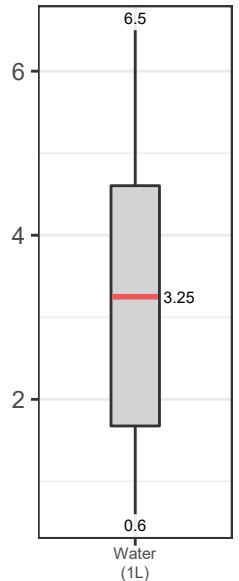
## CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



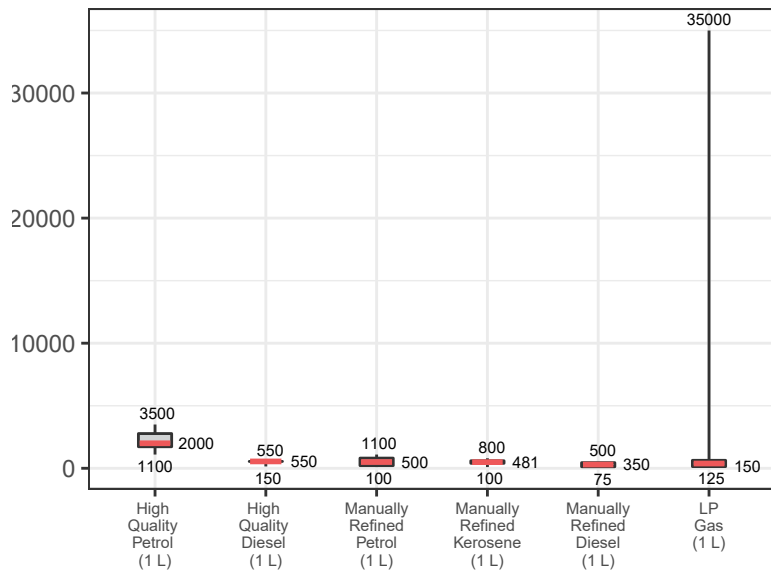
## WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



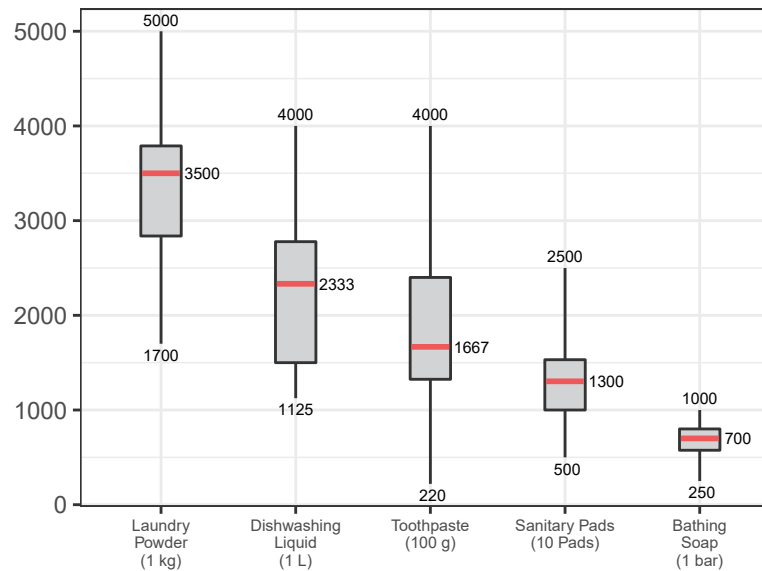
## ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

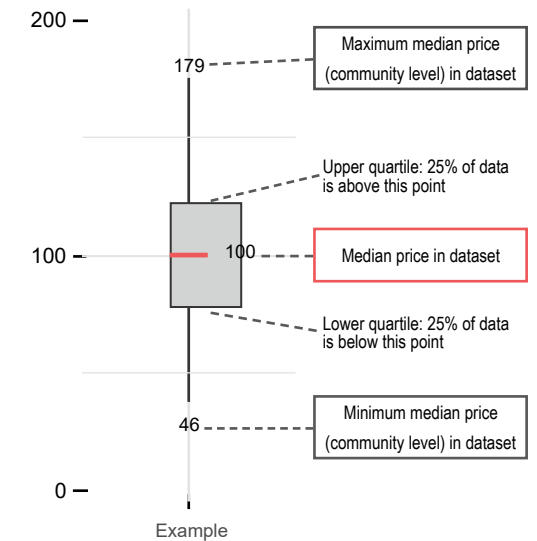


## ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



## READING BOXPLOTS



## 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 2](#). 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](http://www.reach-initiative.org). You can contact us directly at: [geneva@reach-initiative.org](mailto: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](mailto:geneva@impact-initiatives.org) for further information.