## 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 Northeast Syria (NES). 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 **1037 communities** across Aleppo[1], Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, and Deir-ez-Zor. Data was collected **between 16-25 July 2024** from **3302 KIs** (14% 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.
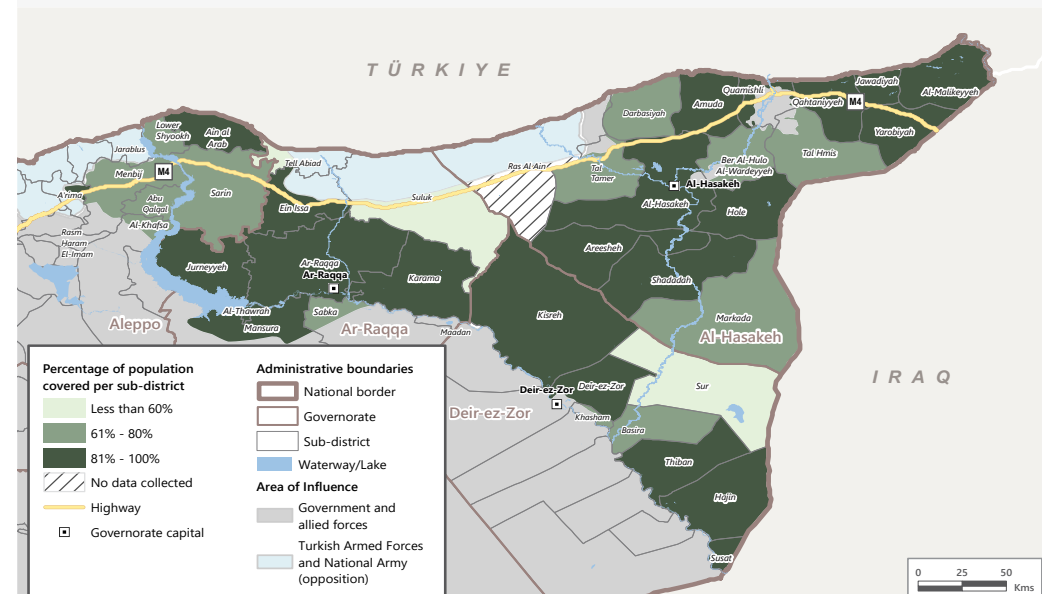
The symbol ▲ indicates that KIs could select multiple answers, thus findings might exceed 100%.

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### 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.

- Water and electricity dashboard: This dashboard shows trends of access to water, access to electricity and problems with drinking water indicators in NES. Trends are displayed in graphs and maps showing findings at various administrative levels.

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## KEY MESSAGES

- **The shelter conditions for IDP households in Deir ez-Zor governorate continued to be challenging,** with KIs in 71% of assessed communities reporting that IDP households are living in unfinished or abandoned shelters. Among these communities, KIs indicated a lack of privacy (79%) and insufficient insulation against heat or cold (72%) as shelter inadequacies.

- **Electricity and infrastructure were reported as one of the top three priority needs in 52% of assessed communities across NES.** Among the 25% of communities where KIs reported receiving humanitarian assistance, only for 2% of communities KIs reported receiving aid related to electricity. It is worth noting that KIs in 41% of assessed communities reported that households receive less than 6 hours of electricity per day on average.

- **Compared to other assessed governorates, KIs in Raqqa governorate reported the highest percentage of assessed communities (76%) where drinking water was neither treated before delivery nor before consumption.** Among the drinking water issues reported in Raqqa governorate, KIs indicated that the water tasted or smelled bad (in 45% of assessed communities), and the water was perceived to make people sick (25%) as the main problems.



Map legend:

**Percentage of population covered per sub-district**
- Less than 60%
- 61% - 80%
- 81% - 100%
- No data collected
- Highway
- Governorate capital

**Administrative boundaries**
- National border
- Governorate
- Sub-district
- Waterway/Lake

**Area of Influence**
- Government and allied forces
- Turkish Armed Forces and National Army (opposition)

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# PRIORITY NEEDS AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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

**Priority needs**
(by % of assessed communities) ▲

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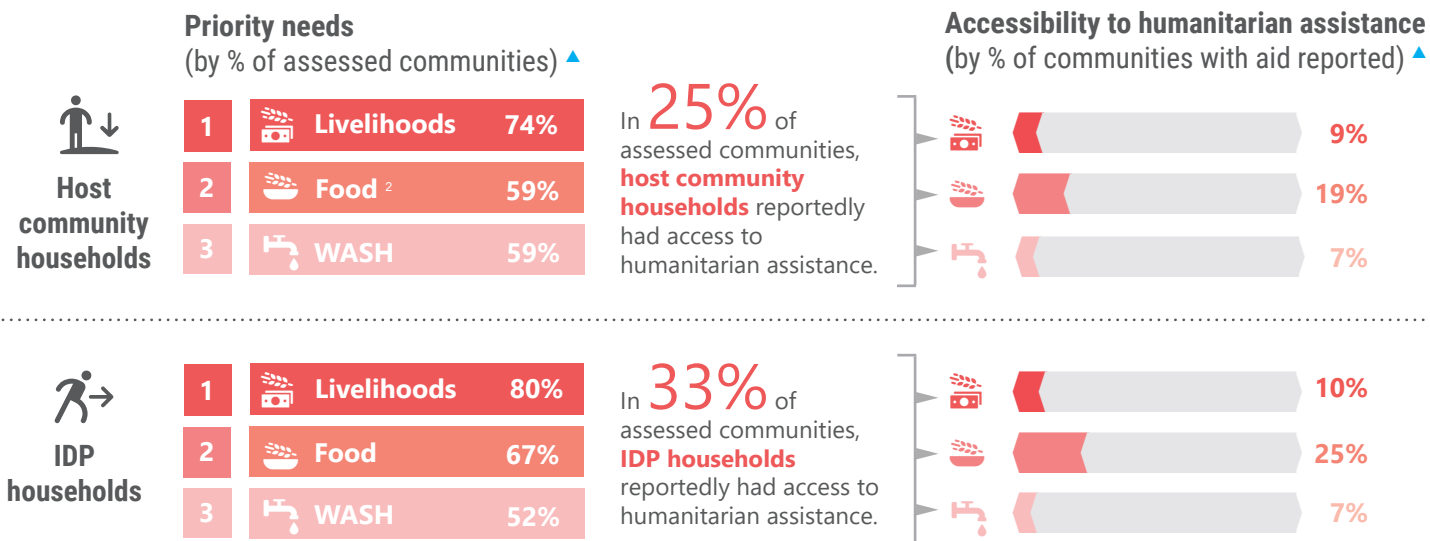
**Most commonly reported difficulties faced when accessing humanitarian aid** (by % of communities where access to aid was reported) ▲

### Host community households

| 1 | Livelihoods | 74% |
| 2 | Food [2] | 59% |
| 3 | WASH | 59% |

In **25%** of assessed communities, **host community households** reportedly had access to humanitarian assistance.

- 9%
- 19%
- 7%

| 1 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs | 80% |
| 2 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 72% |
| 3 | Distribution points were too far/routes were hardly accessible | 30% |

### IDP households

| 1 | Livelihoods | 80% |
| 2 | Food | 67% |
| 3 | WASH | 52% |

In **33%** of assessed communities, **IDP households** reportedly had access to humanitarian assistance.

- 10%
- 25%
- 7%

| 1 | Types of assistance provided were not relevant to all needs | 77% |
| 2 | Assistance provided was not enough to cover all people in need | 65% |
| 3 | Quality of assistance provided was not good | 31% |

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

### Infrastructure needs

| 1 | Repair roads in community | 78% |
| 2 | Repair roads between communities | 67% |
| 3 | Repair/expand electrical network in the community | 53% |

### NFI needs[4]

| 1 | Solar panels | 90% |
| 2 | Cooking fuel | 79% |
| 3 | Personal hygiene items | 38% |

### Seasonal needs

| 1 | Fans | 81% |
| 2 | Thermos/cooler box | 64% |
| 3 | Summer clothing | 56% |

### WASH needs

| 1 | Storage tanks | 57% |
| 2 | Drinking water | 49% |
| 3 | Electricity to operate water pumps | 35% |

### Livelihoods needs

| 1 | Access to credit | 82% |
| 2 | Tools/equipment for agricultural production | 58% |
| 3 | Crops related services | 54% |

### Health needs

| 1 | Medicines | 58% |
| 2 | Treatment for chronic disease | 52% |
| 3 | Pediatric consultations | 42% |

### Protection needs

| 1 | Special assistance for vulnerable groups | 83% |
| 2 | Specialised child protection services | 69% |
| 3 | Legal assistance for civil documentation | 21% |

[2] Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
[3] 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.
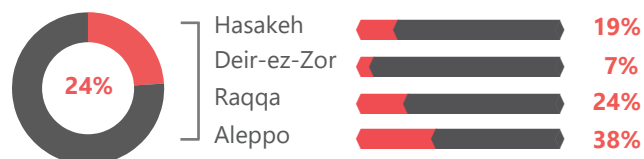[4] Non-food items (NFI)

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# ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## Access to Markets

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

**24%**

| | |
|---|---|
| Hasakeh | 19% |
| Deir-ez-Zor | 7% |
| Raqqa | 24% |
| Aleppo | 38% |

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

1. People do not have financial means to open a shop/market — 23%
2. Lack of sufficient electricity/other power sources — 8%
3. Limited demand to support markets in the community — 5%

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

1. Solar panels — 5%
2. Bedding items — 4%
3. Mattresses sleeping mats — 4%

## Access to Healthcare

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

**81%**

| | |
|---|---|
| Hasakeh | 85% |
| Deir-ez-Zor | 48% |
| Raqqa | 74% |
| Aleppo | 91% |

**99%** 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 costs of health services — 95%
2. High cost of transportation to health facilities — 81%
3. Lack of transportation to health facilities — 76%

## Access to Electricity

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

**41%**

| | |
|---|---|
| Hasakeh | 26% |
| Deir-ez-Zor | 34% |
| Raqqa | 59% |
| Aleppo | 50% |

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

Connected — **100%**
Not connected — **0%**

In **25%** 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**

**75%**

| | |
|---|---|
| Hasakeh | 83% |
| Deir-ez-Zor | 100% |
| Raqqa | 58% |
| Aleppo | 71% |

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

Connected — **67%**
Not connected — **33%**

In **18%** of assessed communities connected to the main water network, KIs reported that **the water network was partially or completely not functioning**

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# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

**Evolution of the average daily wage for casual or irregular labour reported over the past six HSOS rounds in NES [5]**

### NES [6]
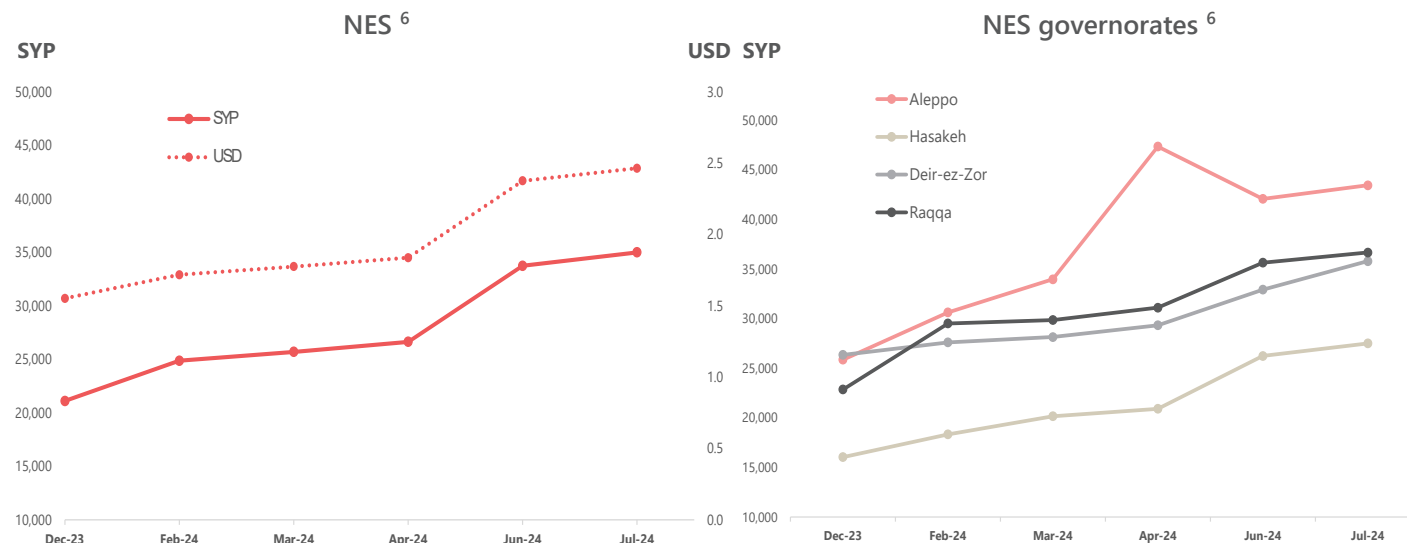


### NES governorates [6]



| Governorate | Median estimated monthly rent price for a two-bedroom apartment [4] |
|---|---|
| Aleppo | **150,000 SYP** |
| Al-Hasakeh | **300,000 SYP** |
| Ar-Raqqa | **284,000 SYP** |
| Deir-ez-Zor | **250,000SYP** |
| Northeast Syria | **250,000 SYP** |

**Most commonly reported non-income generating sources of livelihoods** (by % of assessed communities) ▲

| | Host community households | IDP households |
|---|---|---|
| Borrowing/loans | **75%** | **73%** |
| Remittances (from outside Syria) | **35%** | **29%** |
| Financial support from family or friends (inside Syria) | **4%** | **9%** |
| Cash or in-kind humanitarian assistance | **0%** | **1%** |

In **76%** 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) ▲

| 1 | High operational costs | **88%** |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | Lack of sufficient quantity and quality of resources for agriculture | **82%** |
| 3 | Seasonanilty or instability of income | **74%** |

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

In **87%** of assessed communities with people renting, KIs indicated that **rent was unaffordable for the majority of people**

KIs in **89%** 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 **60%** of assessed communities reported that the **high cost of fuel for generators** was a common challenge to access power

KIs in **41%** of assessed communities indicated that the **high cost of water** prevented households to access sufficient water

KIs in **92%** of assessed communities cited the **unaffordability of food** as a common challenge
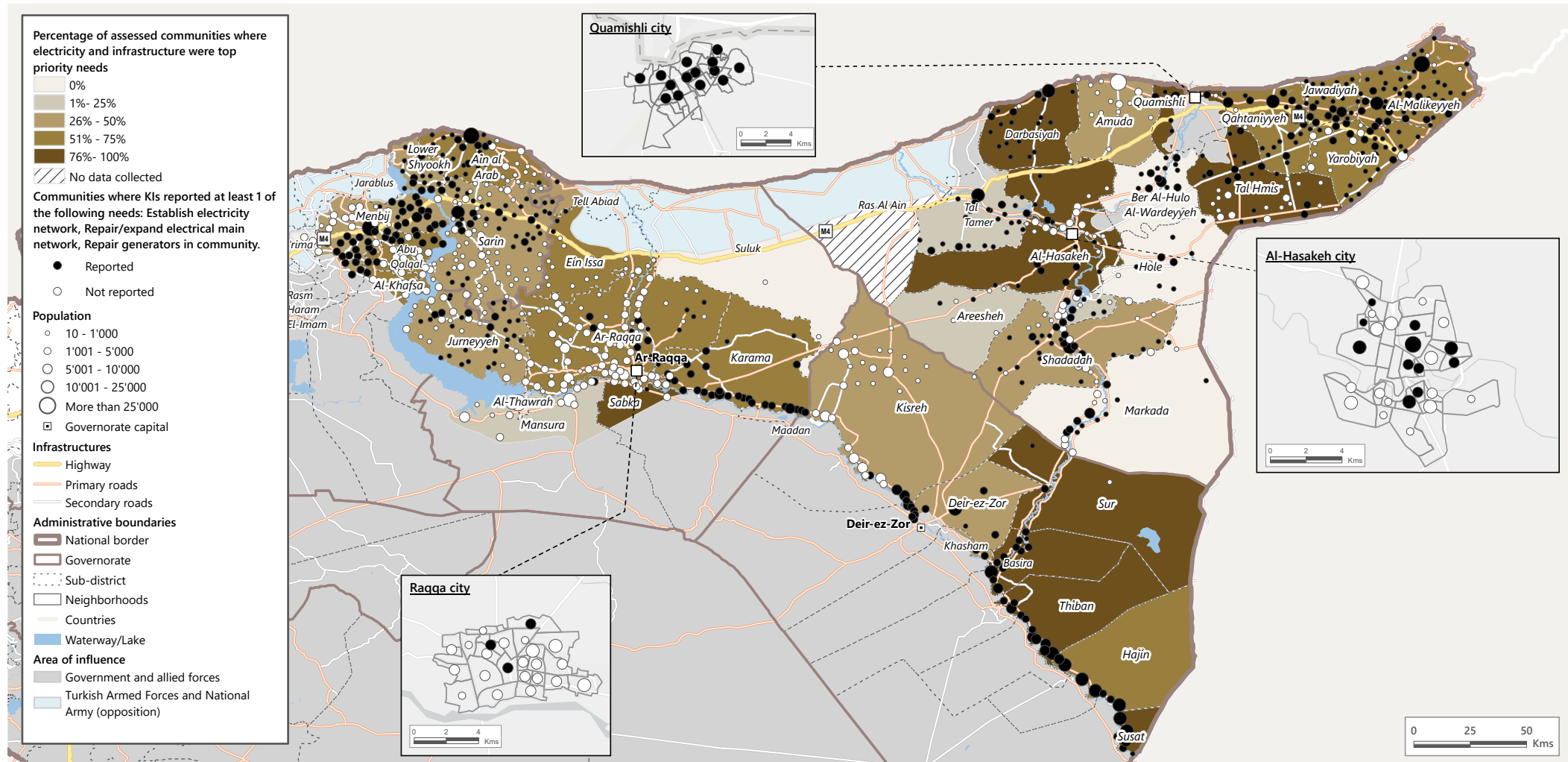
KIs in **95%** of assessed communities cited the **high cost of health services** as a common challenge

KIs in **19%** of assessed communities reported that households **lacked money or resources** to cover the cost of attending **school**
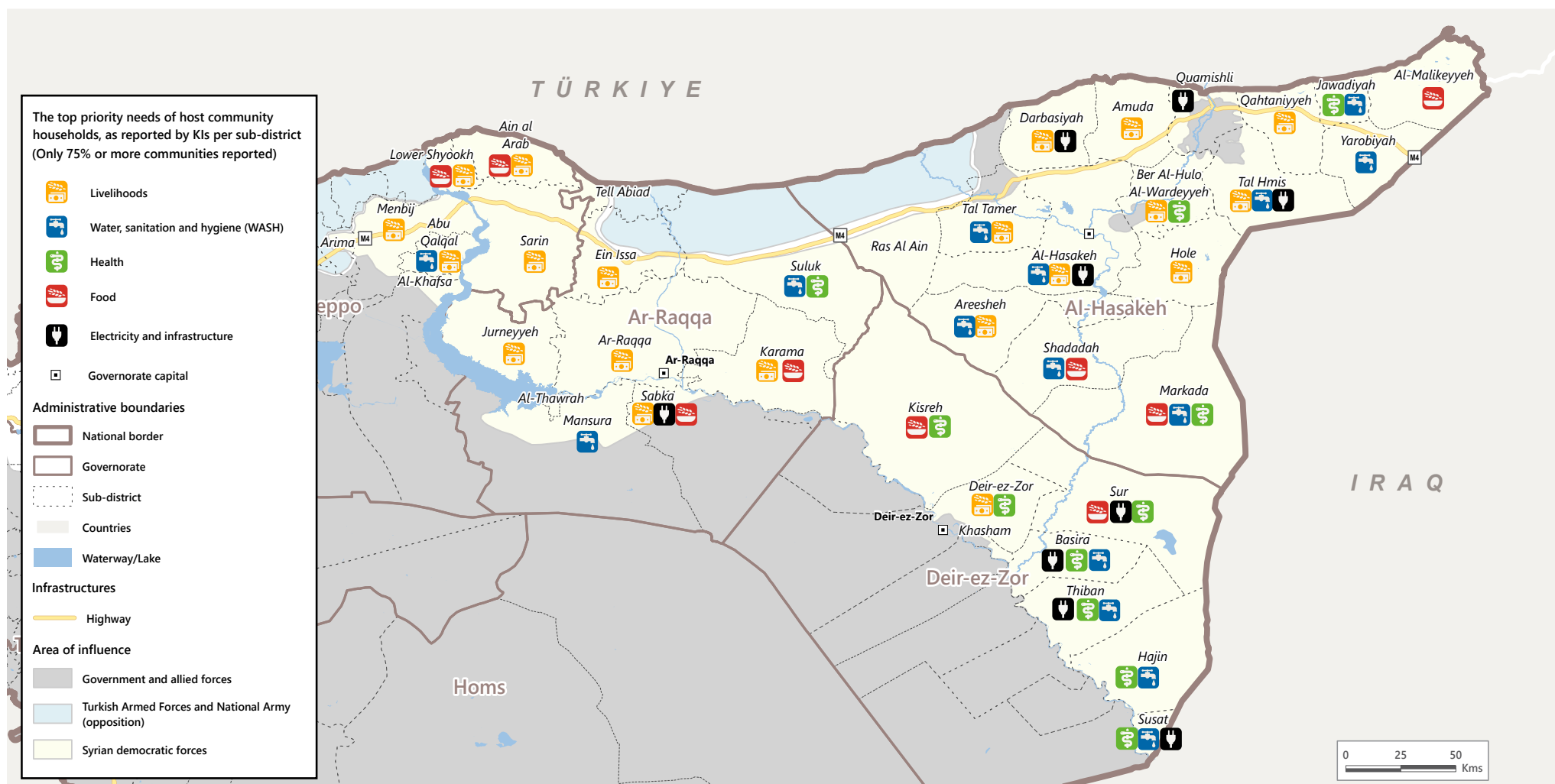
[5] KIs had the option to select the price in United States Dollars (USD) or Syrian Pounds (SYP). The values displayed here were all harmonised in SYP and USD, based on the exchange rate from the NES Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI). According to the REACH Market Monitoring May 2024, 1 USD = 15,300 SYP.
[6] There was no KI data collection in Jan and May 2024 in NES.

**Quamishli city**

**Al-Hasakeh city**

**Raqqa city**

**Percentage of assessed communities where electricity and infrastructure were top priority needs**

- 0%
- 1%- 25%
- 26% - 50%
- 51% - 75%
- 76%- 100%
- No data collected

**Communities where KIs reported at least 1 of the following needs: Establish electricity network, Repair/expand electrical main network, Repair generators in community.**

- ● Reported
- ○ Not reported

**Population**
- ∘ 10 - 1'000
- ○ 1'001 - 5'000
- ○ 5'001 - 10'000
- ○ 10'001 - 25'000
- ○ More than 25'000
- ⊡ Governorate capital

**Infrastructures**
- Highway
- Primary roads
- Secondary roads

**Administrative boundaries**
- National border
- Governorate
- Sub-district
- Neighborhoods
- Countries
- Waterway/Lake

**Area of influence**
- Government and allied forces
- Turkish Armed Forces and National Army (opposition)

## Note on the map

This map shows the percentage of communities per sub-district where KIs reported electricity and infrastructure as top priority need. Black dots represent communities where KIs reported at least one of the following needs: establishing an electricity network, repairing/expanding the main electrical network, or repair generators in the community. White dots represent communities where no electricity needs were reported.
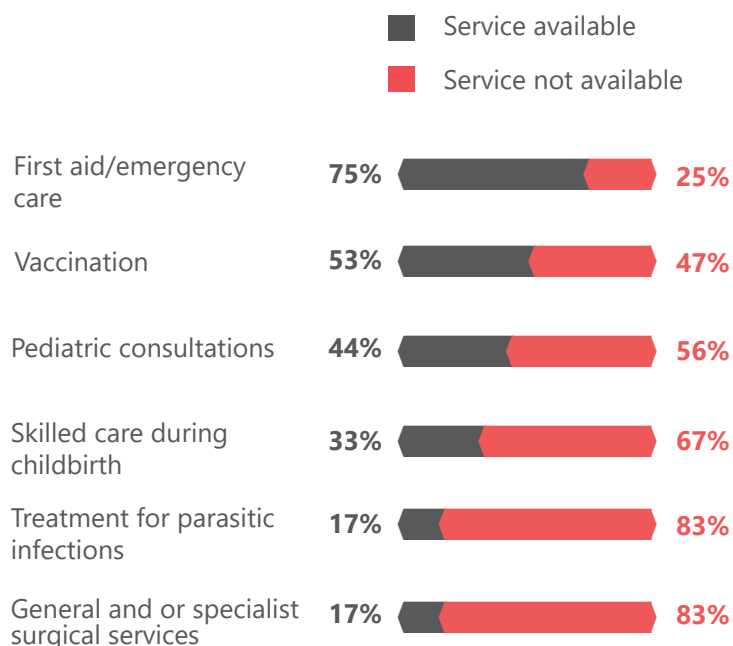
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**The top priority needs of host community households, as reported by KIs per sub-district (Only 75% or more communities reported)**

- Livelihoods
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Health
- Food
- Electricity and infrastructure
- Governorate capital

**Administrative boundaries**
- National border
- Governorate
- Sub-district
- Countries
- Waterway/Lake

**Infrastructures**
- Highway

**Area of influence**
- Government and allied forces
- Turkish Armed Forces and National Army (opposition)
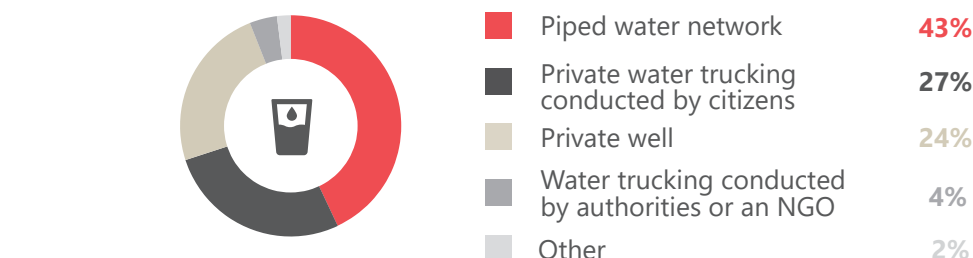- Syrian democratic forces

**Note on the map**

This map displays the top priority needs of host community population, as reported by KIs in at least 75% of the assessed communities. Some sub-districts show only one priority need because KIs in at least 75% of the assessed communities reported only one priority need. Other sub-districts show two priority needs because KIs in at least 75% of the assessed communities reported two priority needs. The remaining sub-districts show three priority needs.

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# PUBLIC HEALTH

**Essential health services available in the assessed community**
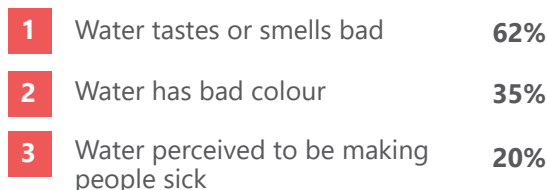(by % of assessed communities where households could access
health services [19%]) ▲ 7

■ Service available

■ Service not available

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First aid/emergency care | **75%** | **25%** |
| Vaccination | **53%** | **47%** |
| Pediatric consultations | **44%** | **56%** |
| Skilled care during childbirth | **33%** | **67%** |
| Treatment for parasitic infections | **17%** | **83%** |
| General and or specialist surgical services | **17%** | **83%** |

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



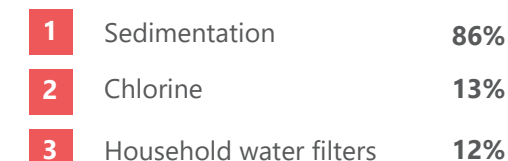| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ■ | Piped water network | **43%** |
| ■ | Private water trucking conducted by citizens | **27%** |
| ■ | Private well | **24%** |
| ■ | Water trucking conducted by authorities or an NGO | 4% |
| ■ | Other | 2% |

In **62%** of assessed communities, KIs reported that households **faced problems with drinking water**

↓

**Problems with drinking water** ▲ 8

| 1 | Water tastes or smells bad | **62%** |
| 2 | Water has bad colour | **35%** |
| 3 | Water perceived to be making people sick | **20%** |

In **43%** 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** ▲

| 1 | Sedimentation | **86%** |
| 2 | Chlorine | **13%** |
| 3 | Household water filters | **12%** |

**Most commonly reported sanitation issues** (by % of assessed communities) ▲

| 1 | Garbage in the streets | **37%** |
| 2 | Rodents and-or pests frequently visible | **34%** |
| 3 | Sewage system pollutes public areas | **25%** |
| 4 | Could not afford desludging services | **24%** |
| 5 | Stagnant water in the streets | **22%** |

In **37%** of assessed communities, **leaving garbage in public areas** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of solid waste.

In **12%** of assessed communities, **releasing wastewater and human feaces over land surface** was among the most commonly reported ways people disposed of wastewater.

7 The displayed services were not selected based on how commonly they were reported.
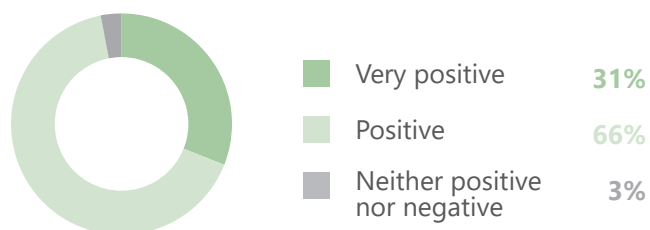8 These problems were not selected based on how commonly they were reported, but rather on their potential negative impact on health.

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# SECURITY AND PROTECTION

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

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 👫 Child labour [9] | **75%** | | 💥 Fear of imminent conflict | **18%** | |
| 🧍 Theft | **44%** | | ✳ Threat from airstrikes, shelling, gunfire | **12%** | |
| 🪪 Lack/loss of civil documentation | **28%** | | 〰 Movement restrictions | **6%** | |
| 🏠 Early marriage | **22%** | | 🧗 Labour exploitation | **6%** | |

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

Very positive **31%**

Positive **66%**

Neither positive nor negative **3%**

## Intersectoral findings on security

🌾 **Security restrictions** reportedly prevented the access to livelihood activities by KIs in 85 assessed communities (8% of assessed communities).

🏪 **General safety and security concerns at markets or while travelling to markets** was a reported barrier to market access by KIs in 47 assessed communities (5% of assessed communities).

💧 In 84 assessed communities (8% of assessed communities), KIs reported that households could not access sufficient water due to **disruption caused by conflict activity.**

# METHODOLOGY

The assessment is conducted using a key informant (KI) methodology at the community level. In each community, REACH enumerators interview a minimum of three 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 | 1032 |
| IDP households | 541 |
| Communities where assistance was reported (host community) | 256 |
| Communities where assistance was reported (IDP) | 179 |
| Communities connected to a main electricity network | 1035 |
| Communities connected to a main water network | 697 |
| Communities with agriculture as a common source of livelihoods | 787 |
| Communities with access to health services | 201 |

## 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).

[9] Child labor refers to work that negatively impacts a child's mental or physical health or deprives the child of their fundamental rights to childhood.

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