

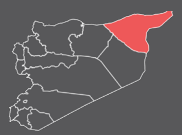


Informal Site and Settlement Profiles

Al-Hasakeh Governorate, Syria

May 2022

Feedback on improvements to this product can be done anonymously following [this link](#)



Background

In October 2019, military operations in the area around the Turkish border led to a change in control of an area of approximately 4,000 km², encompassing Ras al-Ain, Suluk and Tell Abiad. As a result, approximately 70,000 persons were displaced, and two camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) were closed.¹ Towards the end of 2020, clashes and shelling resumed, causing further displacement.²

Meanwhile, economic conditions have deteriorated across Syria, and the prices of basic goods are increasing. This is partly due to the instability and decline of the Syrian Pound (SYP) against the US Dollar (USD), as well as the escalation of conflict in northwest Syria in early 2020.³

Since late 2020 and continuing in 2022, Northeast Syria has been experiencing drought conditions due to the reduced flow in the Euphrates River and a long-term reduction in groundwater levels. The drought has not only affected access to water but also electricity, agricultural livelihoods, food security, and health.⁴

Assessment Overview

Coverage:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Assessed settlements: | 2 |
| Population in assessed settlements: | 8,804 |
| Collective centres: | 38 |

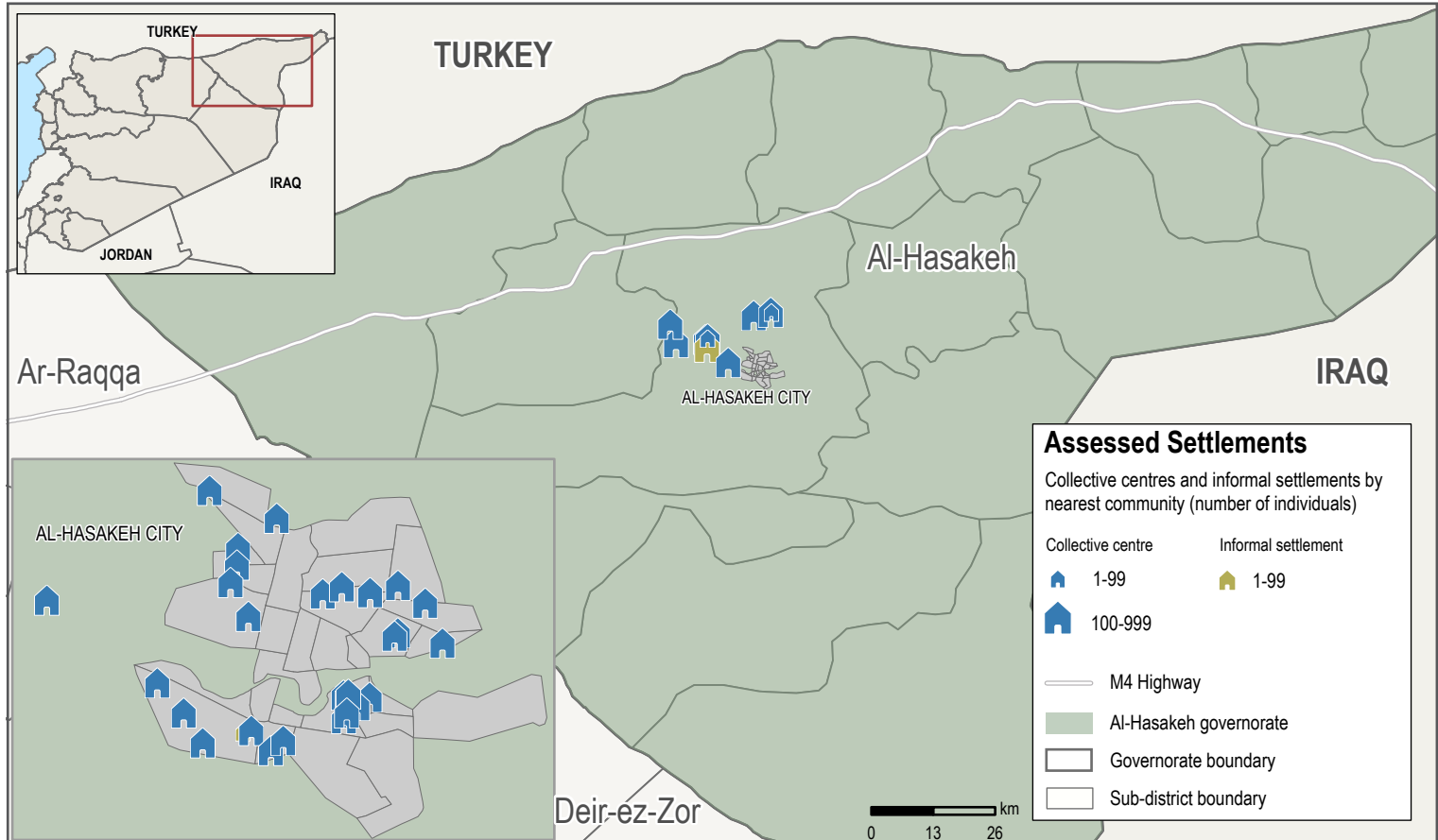
Settlement Typology:

| | |
|--|----|
| Settlements in school building: | 38 |
| Settlements with other buildings in use: | 4 |
| Tented: | 3 |

Most commonly reported first, second, third, and overall priority needs for residents⁷

| | FIRST | SECOND | THIRD | OVERALL |
|---|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | Food | Employment | Medical Care | Food |
| 2 | Employment | Food | Employment | Employment |
| 3 | Water | Medical care | Summer Items | Medical Care |

Locations of Assessed Settlements



1. UNOCHA (10 July 2020). Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Update No. 14 - 10 July 2020. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int>

2. UNOCHA (23 December 2020). Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Humanitarian Update No. 22 - 23 December 2020. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int>

3. REACH (November 2020). Northeast Syria Market Monitoring Exercise November 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.reachresourcecentre.info>

4. REACH Briefing Note: Humanitarian Impact of Water Shortages in Northeast Syria. Retrieved from <https://www.reachresourcecentre.info>

5. Informal settlements are defined as "a spontaneous grouping of tents or other housing units (5+ HHs). Settlements are usually without the presence of a dedicated Camp Administration and do not have static Camp Management, though mobile camp management activities may cover the settlement".

6. Collective centres (CCs) are defined as "a settlement (5+ HHs) hosted in existing public infrastructure not originally designed as a shelter. CCs do not have a static Camp Management or Camp Administration, though mobile Camp Management or local civil councils may be present." [SSWG Update](#)

7. SSWG (June 2022). [Sites & Settlements Working Group Monthly Update - Northeast Syria June 2022](#)

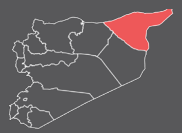
7. KIs were all asked to rank the top 3 priority needs of the settlements. The figure shown ranks how many times a given need was reported by a KI as first, second or third need. The overall indicates how many times a need was mentioned not considering the rank.



Informal Site and Settlement Profiles

Al-Hasakeh Governorate, Syria

May 2022



Overall Key Findings per Sector

| Demographics:* | | | 40% Males | Females 60% | Settlement Size:* | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Older (60+) | 6% (527 individuals) | 44% | 60+ | 56% | Average: | 220 individuals |
| Adults (18-59) | 45% (3,910 individuals) | 41% | 18-59 | 59% | Largest Settlement: | 455 individuals |
| Children (0-17) | 49% (4,414 individuals) | 42% | 0-17 | 58% | Smallest Settlement: | 27 individuals |

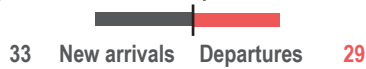
*based on KI estimates

MOVEMENT

Top three areas of origin by percentage of households across assessed settlements:

| Country | Governorate | Sub-district | Percentage |
|---------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| Syria | Al-Hasakeh | Ras Al Ain | 98% |
| Syria | Al-Hasakeh | Al-Hasakeh | 2% |
| Syria | NA | NA | 0% |

Movements reported in the 2 weeks prior to the assessment:



The main pull factors reported for people to arrive to this settlement was **Access to shelter** and **Access to food**.

Movement intentions by percentage of households across assessed settlements:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Leave within 3 months | 3% |
| Leave within 3-6 months | 0% |
| Stay for at least 1 year | 58% |

KIs reported that the main factors influencing the intention to leave were **High cost of living** (22% of assessed settlements) and **Reduced access to food** (20%).

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Latrines



Available latrines:^{9,10}

| Household | Communal | Makeshift |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 98 | 8 | 0 |

In 0% of assessed settlements, KIs reported that no latrines were available in the settlement. Top three latrine alternatives were Open defecation within the site (28%), Open defecation outside the site (e.g. nearby fields or bushes) (2%) and Designated space outside the shelter (0%).

Communal latrine characteristics, by % of assessed settlements:¹¹

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|------|-----|
| Segregated by gender | 5% | 5% | 90% |
| Lockable from inside | 46% | 31% | 23% |
| Functioning lighting | None | Some | All |
| | 67% | 21% | 13% |

The main issues reported with latrines was that **There are no lights**, reported by KIs in 78% of assessed settlements, and that **There are no locks**, reported in 60% of settlements.⁹

Showers



Bathing facilities:^{9,10}

| | Available: | Mostly used: |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Bathing inside shelter: | 98% | 98% |
| Communal: | 5% | 2% |
| Household: | 0% | 0% |

The main issue reported with showers was **There are no showers**, reported by KIs in 75% of assessed settlements, and **There are no private showers**, reported in 60% of settlements.⁹

Reported proportion of residents with access to soap within the assessed settlements:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Everyone | 42% |
| More than half | 15% |
| About half | 10% |
| Only a few | 22% |
| None | 10% |

The main issues reported with soap was **Soap is too expensive**, reported by KIs in 45% of assessed settlements, and **Some people don't like the quality of the soap**, reported in 8% of settlements.⁹

Water



Tanker truck (NGO) and **Public tap/standpipe** were the primary sources of water in the assessed settlements at the time of data collection.

Drinking water issues, by % of assessed settlements:⁹



| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| No issues | 15% |
| Water tastes bad | 80% |
| Insufficient storage capacity | 55% |
| Water has chlorine smell | 50% |

Proportion of residents reported to have enough water to cover their needs:



| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Everyone | 22% |
| More than half | 10% |
| About half | 18% |
| Less than half | 25% |
| Only a few | 8% |
| None | 18% |

Proportion of residents reported to have used negative strategies to cope with a lack of water in the two weeks prior to data collection:



Most commonly reported strategies:⁹

- Modify hygiene practices (bathe less, etc) (82%)
- Rely on drinking water stored previously (57%)
- Drink water usually used for cleaning or other purposes than drinking (22%)

In 95% of assessed settlements, KIs reported that at least one resident in the settlement suffered from diarrhoea in the two weeks prior to data collection.

Waste disposal



Primary waste disposal system: Garbage collection (NGO) (65% of assessed settlements) and Garbage collection (local authorities) (28%)⁹

Primary waste disposal problem: Insufficient number of bins/dumpsters (40% of assessed settlements)⁹

9. Questions where KIs had multiple answer options (total may be >100%).

10. Communal latrines and showers are shared by more than one household. Household latrines and showers are used only by one household. This may be an informal designation that is not officially enforced.

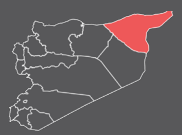
11. The question applied to a subset of settlements where a given issue was reported.



Informal Site and Settlement Profiles

Al-Hasakeh Governorate, Syria

May 2022



HEALTH



In **47%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that residents in their settlement can access at least one health facility. In **89%** of the remaining settlements, residents had access to a pharmacy/dispensary.

In **100%** of settlements, KIs reported health issues among residents. The most commonly reported issues were **Chronic diseases** (90%), **Diarrhoea** (88%), and **Pregnancy-related complications** (high blood pressure, infections, blood clots, anemia, etc.) (52%).^{9,11}

Most commonly reported health priority needs by % of assessed settlements:⁹



| | | |
|---|-----|---------------------------------|
| Treatment for chronic disease | 95% | <div style="width: 95%;"></div> |
| Medicines and other commodities | 70% | <div style="width: 70%;"></div> |
| Outpatient consultation/ consultation with general practitioner | 57% | <div style="width: 57%;"></div> |

The most common place for women in the settlement to **give birth** was reportedly **In a health facility** (**95%** of settlements). In **2%** of settlements, KIs reported maternal health services as a priority health need.

The most common medicine needs were **Treatments for hypertension/heart disease, Diabetes medicines and Painkillers/analgesics.**

Most commonly reported barriers to health services by % of assessed settlements:⁹

| | | |
|--|-----|---------------------------------|
| Cannot afford to pay for health services | 92% | <div style="width: 92%;"></div> |
| High cost of transportation | 60% | <div style="width: 60%;"></div> |
| Health facilities are overcrowded | 50% | <div style="width: 50%;"></div> |

COVID-19

Reported proportion of residents who consider COVID-19 an important issue:



| | | |
|----------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Everyone | 0% | <div style="width: 0%;"></div> |
| More than half | 15% | <div style="width: 15%;"></div> |
| About half | 22% | <div style="width: 22%;"></div> |
| Only a few | 32% | <div style="width: 32%;"></div> |
| None | 30% | <div style="width: 30%;"></div> |

Measures reportedly implemented by residents to protect themselves from COVID-19:⁹

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Wash hands more regularly | 57% | <div style="width: 57%;"></div> |
| Stay at home as much as possible | 35% | <div style="width: 35%;"></div> |
| Cover nose and mouth | 32% | <div style="width: 32%;"></div> |

Measures reportedly implemented by local authorities to protect from COVID-19:⁹

| | | |
|---|-----|---------------------------------|
| Distribution of hygiene materials (soap, disinfectant, masks, etc.) | 25% | <div style="width: 25%;"></div> |
| Prevention messages | 15% | <div style="width: 15%;"></div> |
| Enforce curfew | 10% | <div style="width: 10%;"></div> |

In **42%** of settlements, all residents had access to soap and in **5%** of settlements all residents had **access to a handwashing facility** according to KIs. The main issues reported with handwashing facilities were that **There were no handwashing facilities** and that there was **No or not enough water.**⁹

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Shelter adequacy

KIs reported that the main shelter adequacy issues in their settlement were: an **Insufficient number of shelters for the population** (**72%** of assessed settlements), **Shelters are too small/not enough space for entire household** (**72%**) and **Lack of electricity** (**52%**).⁹

Top three most commonly reported shelter item needs by % of assessed settlements:⁹



| | | |
|------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Windows/doors | 72% | <div style="width: 72%;"></div> |
| Tools | 52% | <div style="width: 52%;"></div> |
| Plastic sheeting | 45% | <div style="width: 45%;"></div> |

Degree to which KIs assess that people in their settlement have enough living space:



| | | |
|----------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Everyone | 0% | <div style="width: 0%;"></div> |
| More than half | 0% | <div style="width: 0%;"></div> |
| About half | 15% | <div style="width: 15%;"></div> |
| Less than half | 25% | <div style="width: 25%;"></div> |
| Only a few | 15% | <div style="width: 15%;"></div> |
| None | 45% | <div style="width: 45%;"></div> |

Electricity

Public electricity network was reported among the primary electricity sources in **85%** of settlements, and **Shared site generator (households contribute to running costs)** in **68%** of settlements.⁹ KIs reported that residents in the settlement had an average of **8** hours of electricity access per day.

NFI needs

Top three reported anticipated NFI needs by % of assessed settlements, for the three months following data collection:⁹



| | | |
|------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Fan | 62% | <div style="width: 62%;"></div> |
| Cooler box | 45% | <div style="width: 45%;"></div> |
| Batteries | 42% | <div style="width: 42%;"></div> |

In **95%** of settlements, KIs reported that aid distribution had taken place in their settlement in the month prior to data collection, with **79%** of assessed settlements having received NFI items.

The main topics residents need information about, according to KIs were **How to find job opportunities** (100%), **How to access assistance** (70%) and **Information about returning to AoO** (45%).⁹

FOOD SECURITY

Most commonly reported sources of food by % of assessed settlements:⁹



| | | |
|--|------|----------------------------------|
| From local markets outside the camp/site | 100% | <div style="width: 100%;"></div> |
| Food distributions | 82% | <div style="width: 82%;"></div> |
| From markets in the camp/site | 2% | <div style="width: 2%;"></div> |

KIs reported that **Ghee/vegetable oil** (**75%** of assessed settlements), **Sugar** (**62%**) and **Rice** (**50%**) were the main food items needed by residents that are currently not sufficiently available through assistance or markets.⁹

Reportedly, **food distributions** took place in **97%** of the assessed settlements and **drinking water** in **95%** of assessed settlements.

Top three reported food-related coping strategies used by residents in the 2 weeks prior to data collection, by % of assessed settlements:⁹



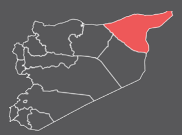
| | | |
|---|-----|---------------------------------|
| Buying cheaper, lower quality food | 85% | <div style="width: 85%;"></div> |
| Buying food with money for other things | 75% | <div style="width: 75%;"></div> |
| Purchasing food on credit/borrowing | 68% | <div style="width: 68%;"></div> |



Informal Site and Settlement Profiles

Al-Hasakeh Governorate, Syria

May 2022

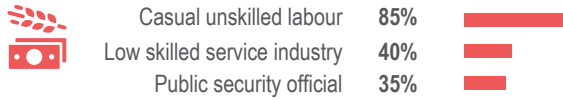


LIVELIHOODS

Household income and expenses

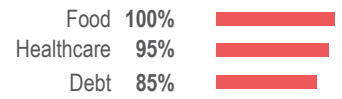
KIs estimated that all households in **100%** of settlements had access to income sources. However in **0%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **most residents** in the settlement **have a stable income**.

Top three reported primary income sources in the 30 days prior to data collection, by % of assessed settlements:^{9,11}



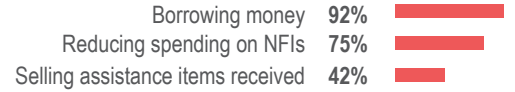
Cash/voucher distributions were reported by KIs in **0%** of assessed settlements over the last 30 days prior to data collection.

Top three reported expense types by % of assessed settlements:⁹



Coping strategies

Top three reported livelihoods-related coping strategies over the last 30 days prior to data collection, by % of assessed settlements:⁹

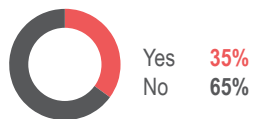


PROTECTION

Freedom of movement

In **98%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that all residents were able to **leave the assessed settlement for a medical emergency without disclosing the medical reason** at the time of data collection. In **98%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **all** residents could leave for non-emergency reasons.

Proportion of assessed settlements with KIs reporting on whether residents experienced barriers when leaving the assessed settlement in the two weeks prior to data collection:



Most commonly reported barriers to movement in assessed settlements:⁹

- Transportation options available but too expensive (45%)
- Insufficient transportation (18%)

Older persons and persons with disabilities

At the time of data collection, in **5%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported interventions targeting **elderly populations** and in **0%** KIs reported interventions for **persons with disabilities** in their settlements.

Safety and Security issues

In **65%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported safety and security issues in the camp over the 30 days prior to data collection.

Most commonly reported security issues in assessed settlements:⁹

- Disputes between residents (50%)
- Serious threat from scorpions, snakes or similar (45%)

Documentation

In **2%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **noone in their settlement has** their national identification, passport, family booklet and/ or individual/family civil record.

In **98%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **births are not registered** in their settlement.

KIs reported that Yes - Boys (in **40%** of assessed settlements) and Yes - Men (**35%**) face particular challenges in accessing documentation.⁹

EDUCATION

Education Facilities

In **46%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that children in their settlement have access to education. In **50%** of settlements **primary schools** were reported to be available and in **40%** **secondary schools** were reported to be available.

In these settlements, education was available for the following age groups:^{9,11}

| | | |
|--------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 3-5 year olds in | 5% | of these settlements. |
| 6-11 year olds in | 100% | of these settlements. |
| 12-14 year olds in | 80% | of these settlements. |
| 15-17 year olds in | 35% | of these settlements. |

Child protection

Proportion of assessed settlements with KIs reporting the presence of child protection issues over the 30 days prior to data collection:



Most commonly reported child protection concerns in assessed settlements:⁹

- Child labour (72%)
- Early marriage (below 18 years old) (38%)

In assessed settlements with child labour reported, most commonly reported types of child labour by gender were:^{9,11}

Boys (100%)

- Domestic labour (69%)
- Factory work (62%)
- Selling goods (48%)

Girls (83%)

- Domestic labour (72%)
- Selling goods (21%)
- Factory work (17%)

In **90%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that they were aware of **child labour** occurring among **children under the age of 11**, most commonly reporting Domestic labour (69% of these assessed settlements) and Selling goods (28%).^{9,11}

In **8%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that their settlement had an accessible **child-friendly space**.

Gender-based violence

In **88%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that their settlement had an accessible designated space for women and girls.

Proportion of settlements with KIs reporting the presence of gender-based concerns within the settlement in the two weeks prior to data collection:



Most commonly reported gender-based concerns were:⁹

- Early marriage (girls below 18 years old) (38%)
- Emotional violence (20%)

Social cohesion

In **68%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that the social relationship between different community groups in their area was neutral, in 12% of cases it was positive.

Barriers to education

In **90%** of settlements, KIs reported barriers to education. **The most commonly reported barriers were:**⁹

- Schools closed/educational services suspended due to summer holiday (65%)
- The child has to work (35%)
- Education is not considered important (30%)