

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI) is an initiative of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, implemented by REACH, with the support of Syria Relief Network (SRN) and cluster members. ISMI entails weekly monitoring of IDP movements, numbers, origins and intentions. To form a foundation for the weekly monitoring, a baseline assessment was conducted in October/November 2016, providing an overview of the displacement situations within a number of communities across northern Syria, assessing the numbers of displaced households, communities of origin, current shelter situations, intentions of both IDP and host community populations, as well as their most likely intended destinations. While 2,387 locations in the assessed governorates were reported by the HNO 2017 as hosting IDPs, it was not possible to access all communities within each sub-district, nor was it possible to access all sub-districts within each governorate. Of these 2,387 locations, 1,183 were assessed based on accessibility.

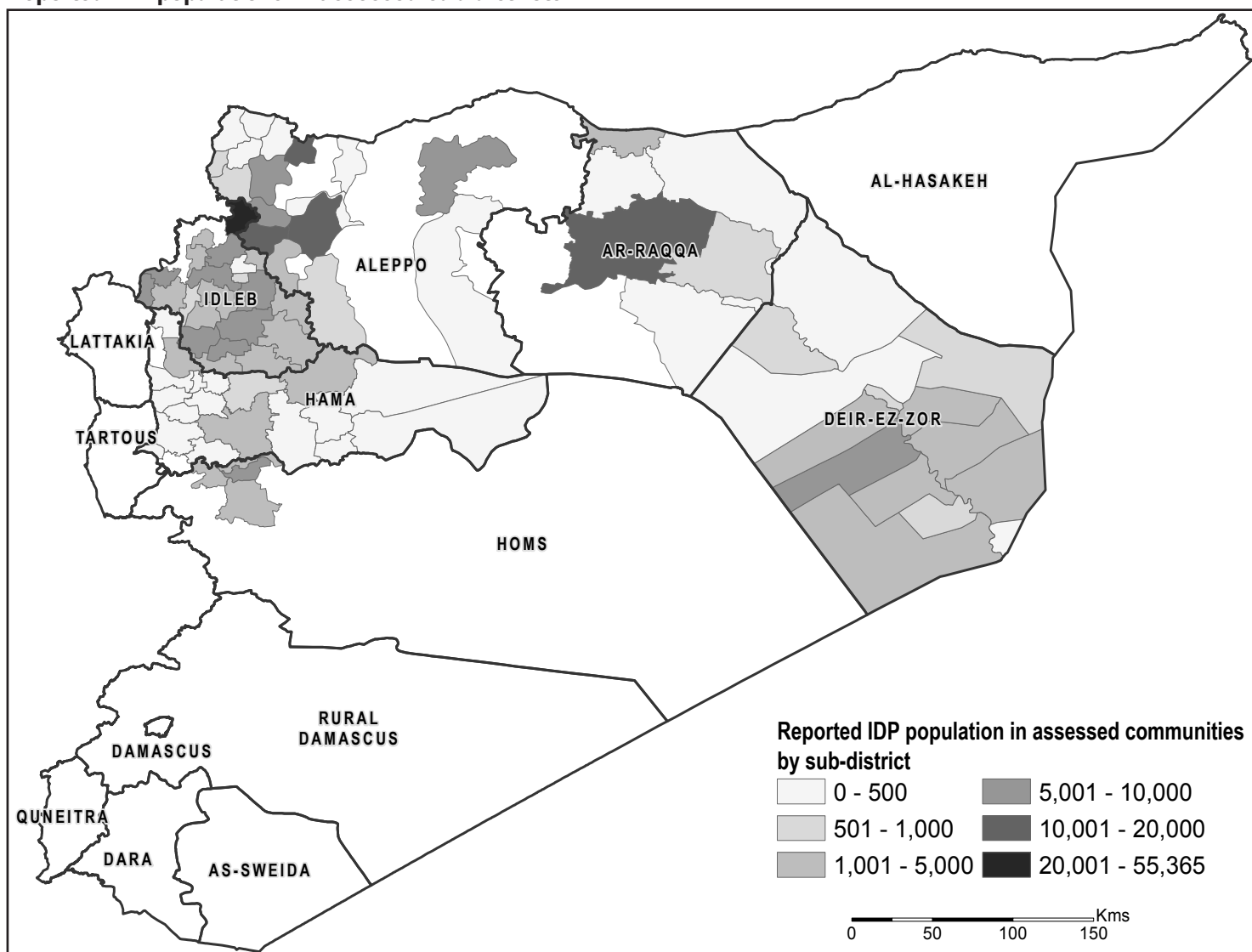
This overview is a complementary document to the baseline report and the baseline dataset. Its purpose is to present an overarching summary of the data from the baseline assessment, with a focus

on data visualisation at the governorate level and cross-governorate comparisons. Findings presented in this document are described in further depth in the baseline report.

Data for this assessment was collected between October 25 and November 27 2016, through qualitative interviews with 2-3 IDP and host community leaders¹ in 1,183 locations across Aleppo, Ar Raqqa, Deir ez Zor, Hama, Homs and Idleb governorates. While direct interviews were conducted in the majority of governorates, some remote interviews were conducted due to access restrictions in certain locations. Data obtained from community leaders was verified with other information sources, such as humanitarian reports, and follow up was conducted where discrepancies occurred. Due to the purposive nature of data collection, information should be considered as indicative for the areas assessed only and does not indicate the situation of IDPs in other unassessed areas.

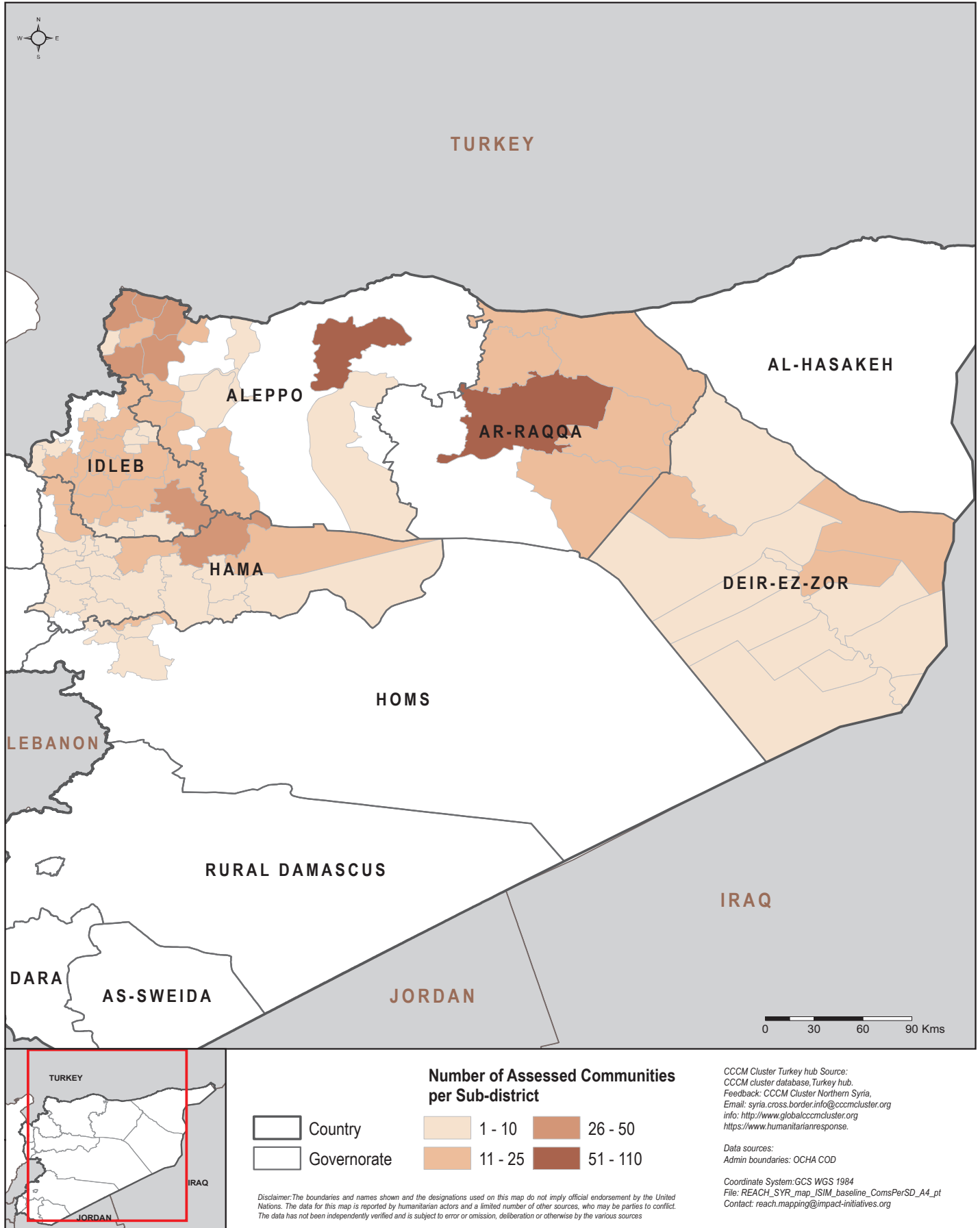
The 1,183 assessed communities housed 74% of the IDPs in these governorates according to HNO figures. Overall, 1,301,500 households were reported to be living in the assessed communities, approximately 280,000 of which were IDP households (21%) living in 84% of communities.

Reported IDP populations in assessed sub-districts



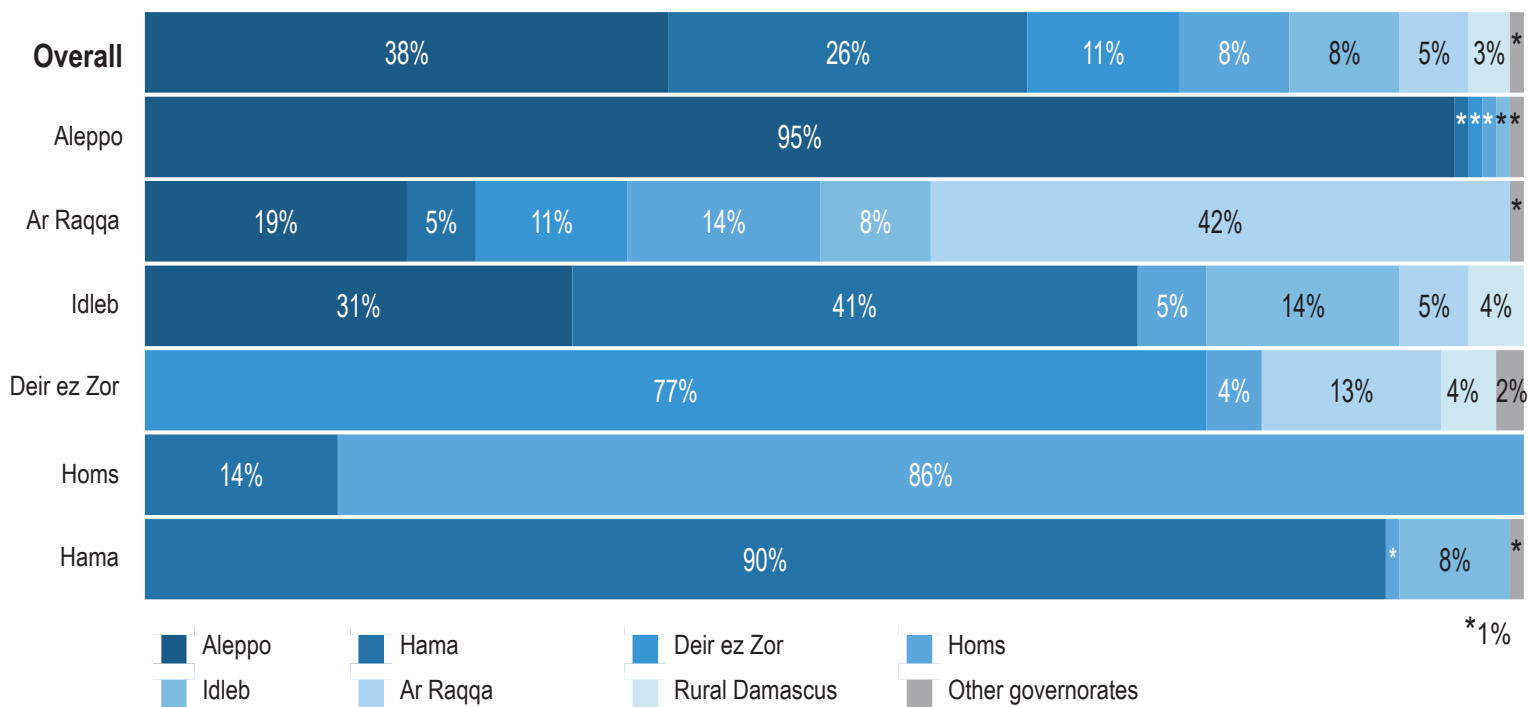
¹ Community leader profiles include; Local councils, IDP community leaders (elders or religious leaders), IDP camp managers/leaders, collective centre managers/leaders, and workers from local charities, local relief committees and NGOs.

Number of assessed communities per sub-district



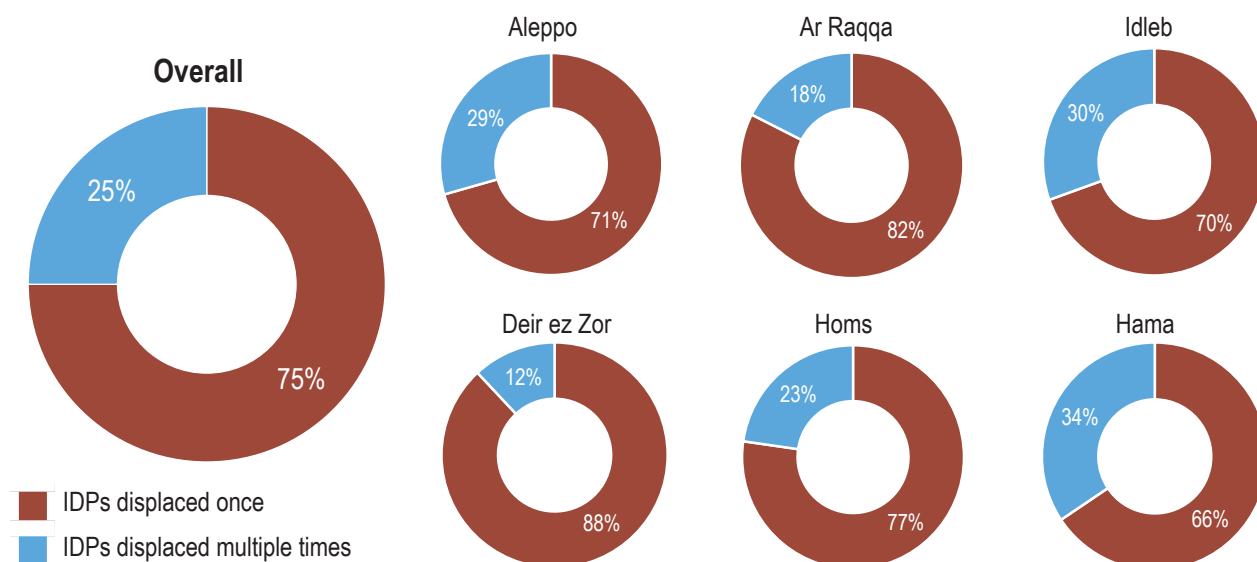
IDP POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Proportion of all IDP households by governorate of origin



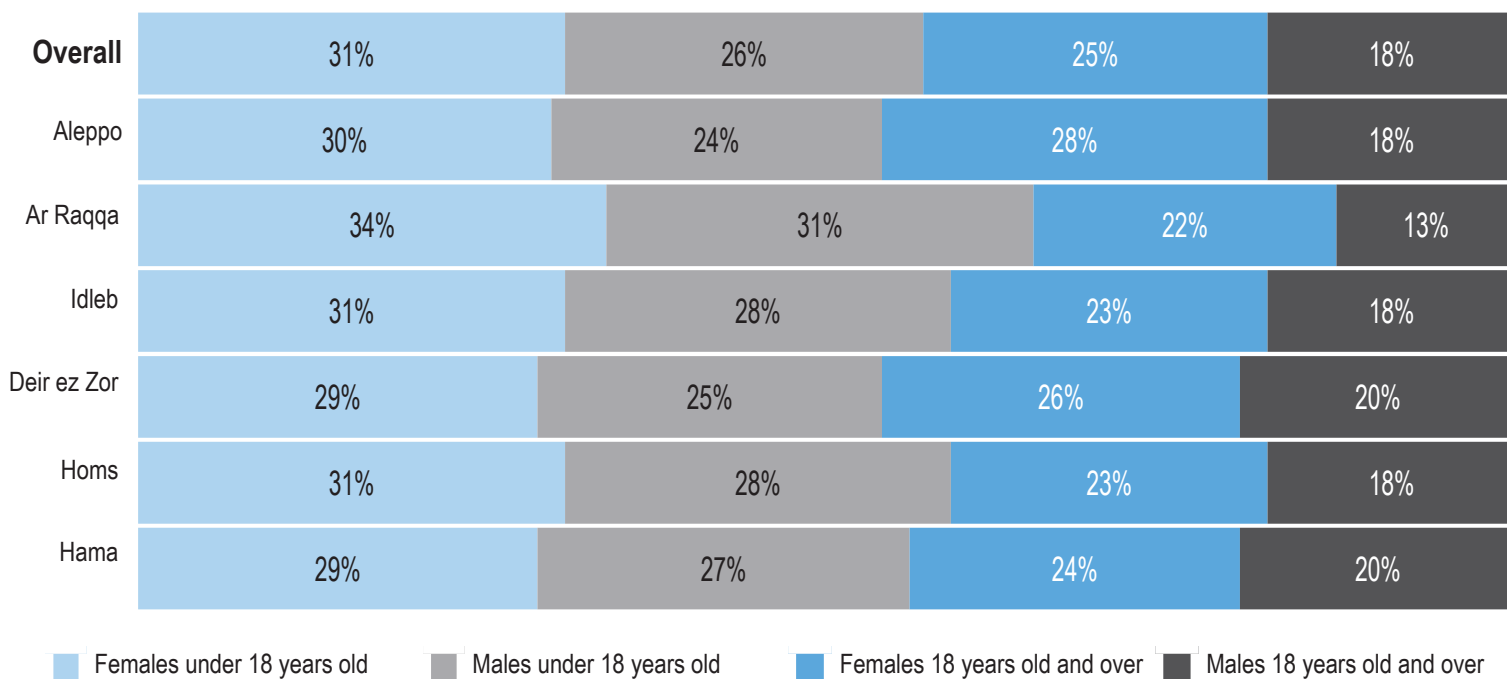
With the exception of Idlib, the majority of IDPs in each governorate were reported to have originated from within their respective governorates. In Idlib, 72% of displaced households reportedly originated from neighbouring Hama and Aleppo governorates.

Proportion of IDPs experiencing multiple displacements



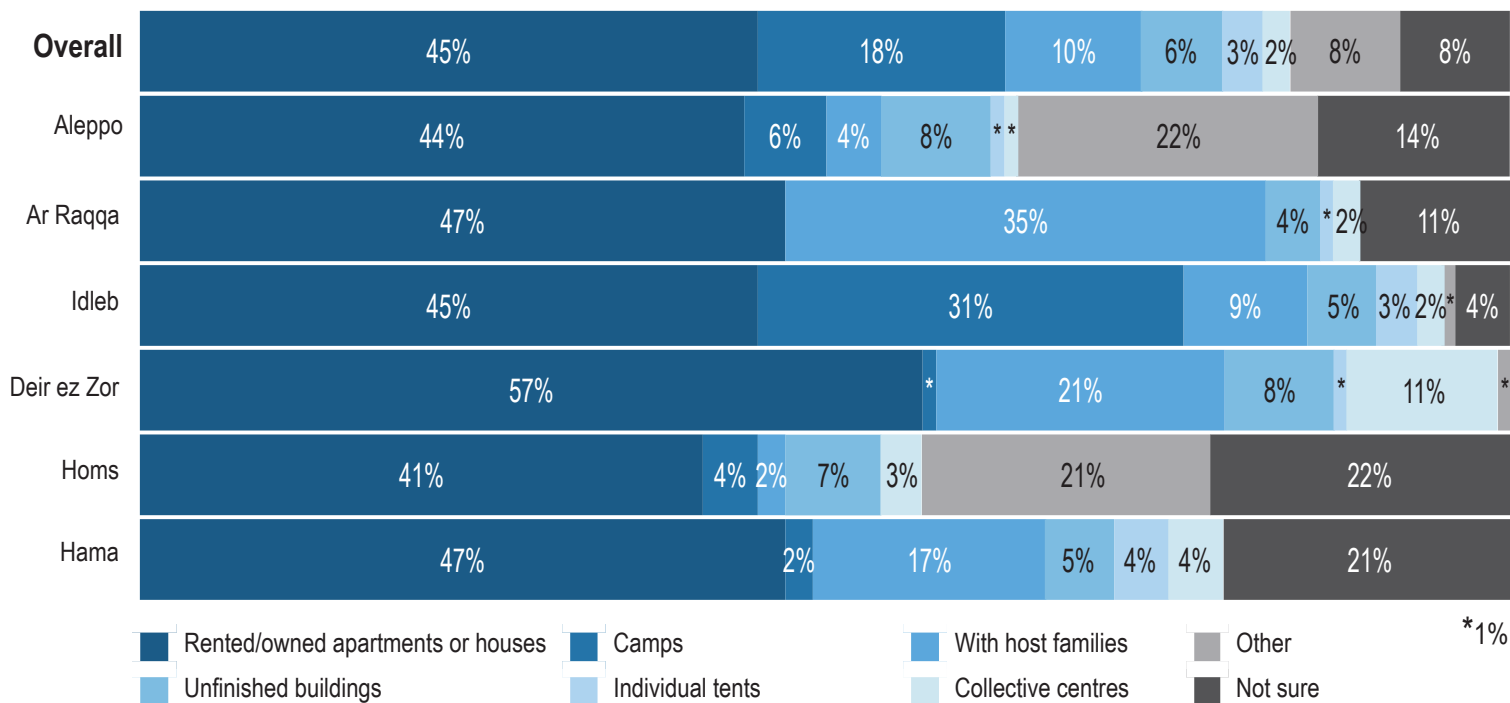
Three quarters of IDPs had arrived in assessed locations directly from their areas of origin, with an estimated 25% having been displaced multiple times. The proportion of IDPs that had been displaced multiple times was highest in Hama governorate, at 34%. In Deir ez Zor governorate, on the other hand, only 12% of the IDP population in assessed locations were reported to have been displaced more than once.

IDPs by age and gender



On average, almost 60% of IDPs were estimated to be boys and girls under 18 years old, who constituted the majority of the reported IDP population in all governorates assessed.

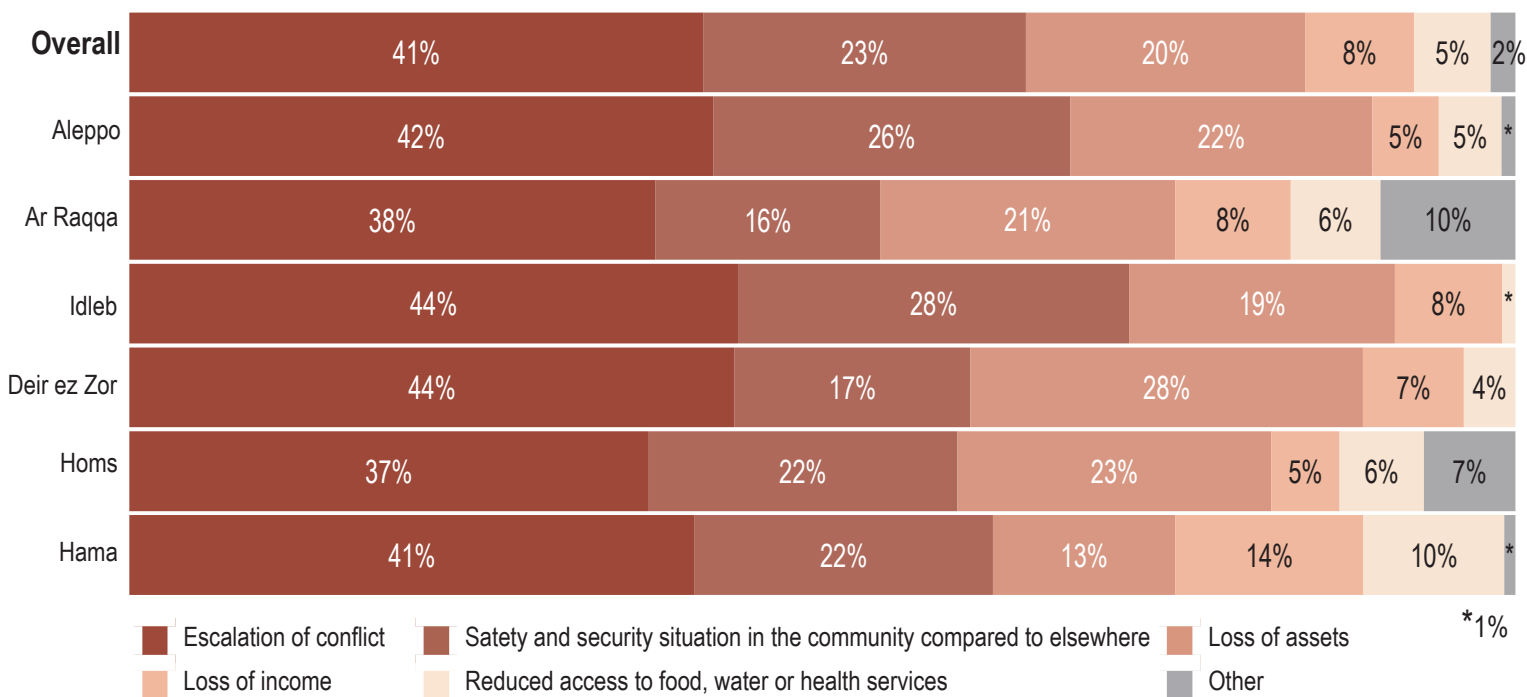
IDP households by shelter type



Rented/owned apartments or houses were the most commonly reported IDP shelter type in all assessed governorates, although they only represented the majority of IDP shelter types in Deir ez Zor governorate. The large proportion of IDPs reportedly living in shelter types categorised as 'other' in Homs and Aleppo governorates were reportedly mostly living in housing provided by local councils in host communities. A larger proportion of IDPs lived in camps in Idleb than in any other assessed governorates, while the proportion of IDPs living in collective centres was substantially higher in Deir ez Zor governorate than elsewhere.

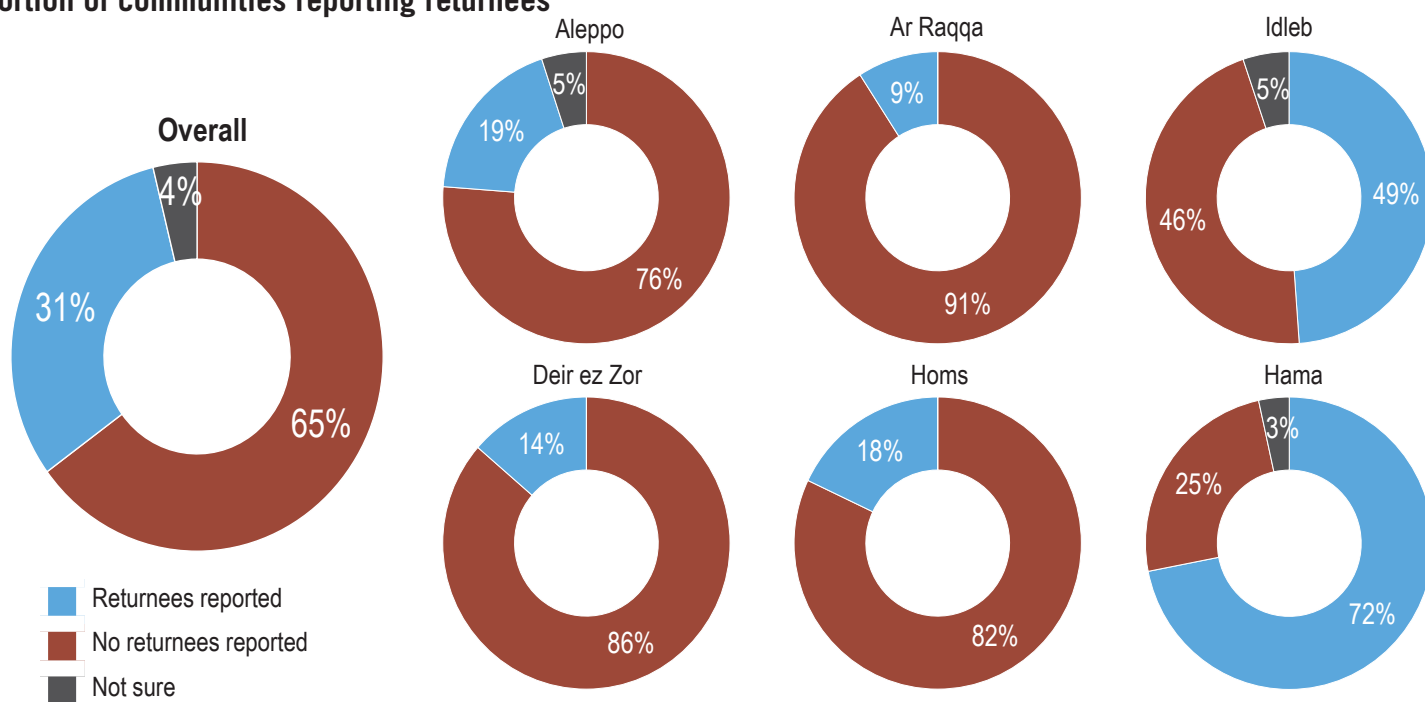
DISPLACEMENT OVERVIEW

Reported causes for displacement from areas of origin (weighted by ranked importance)



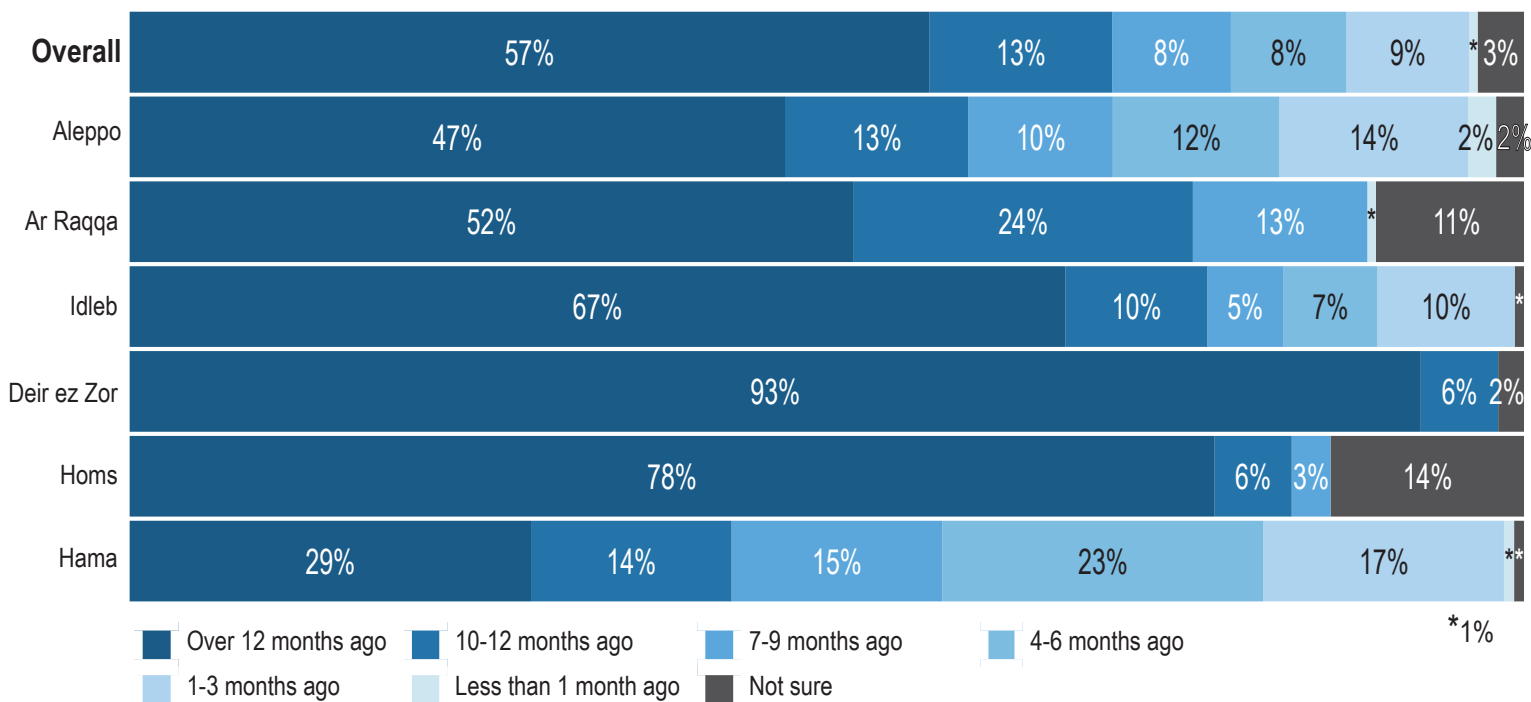
The most commonly reported cause of displacement in assessed areas overall was escalation of conflict, followed by the safety and security situation in the community compared to elsewhere. These two security-related factors together comprised more than 60% of reported causes in all governorates other than Ar Raqqa and Homs. Loss of assets was also a significant cause, particularly in Deir ez Zor governorate.

Proportion of communities reporting returnees



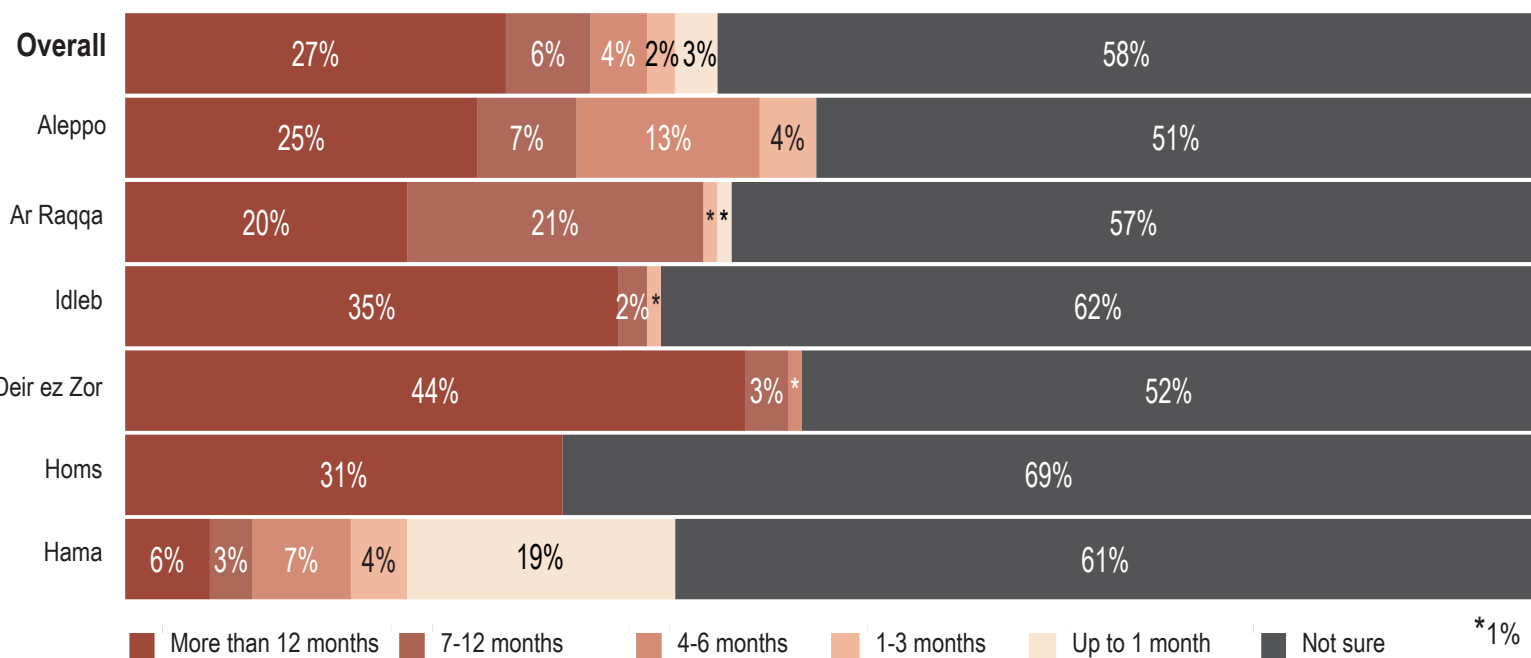
Almost a third of assessed communities overall reported the presence of pre-conflict populations who had been displaced and subsequently returned. However, there were very large variations between governorates in the proportion of communities reporting returnees. Only 9% of assessed communities in Ar Raqqa governorate and 14% in Deir ez Zor governorate reported returnees, while almost half of all assessed communities in Idleb governorate and 72% in Hama governorate did so.

Time since the majority of IDPs arrived in assessed communities



Most IDPs reportedly arrived in the majority of assessed communities over a year ago, as was the case in all governorates other than Aleppo and Hama. Hama governorate had the highest proportion of communities in which the majority of IDPs reportedly arrived within the past 6 months, with 40% of communities receiving most of their IDPs either 1-3 or 4-6 months ago.

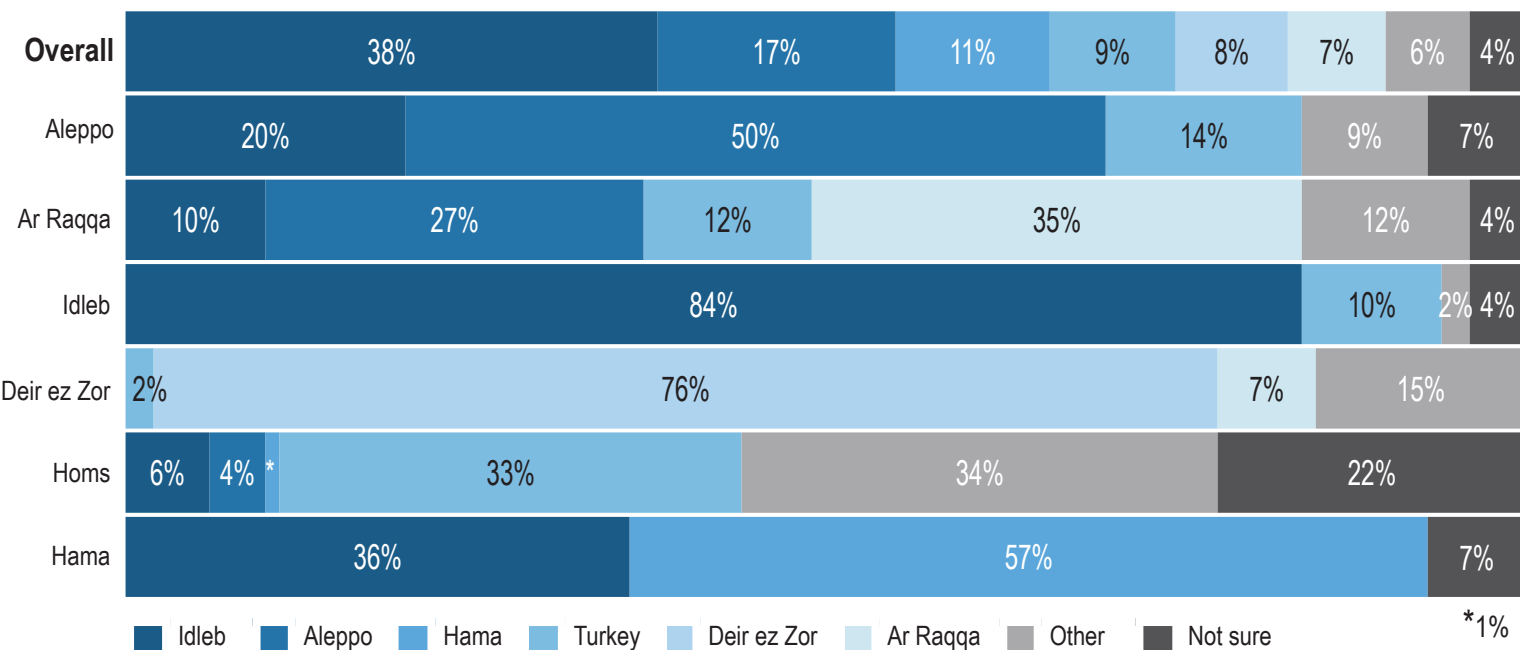
Intended duration of stay of IDPs in assessed communities



There were high levels of uncertainty around the timing of future IDP movements across assessed governorates, with the intended duration of stay in assessed locations reportedly unclear for more than half of the IDP population in all governorates. In cases where information was available, the most commonly reported intended duration of stay was over 12 months in all governorates other than Ar Raqqa and Hama. The situation in Hama was especially striking, as almost 20% of the IDP population in assessed parts of the governorate were expected to leave within the next month. This, along with high levels of returnees and recent IDP arrivals, suggested that the displacement situation in Hama governorate was more dynamic than in any other assessed governorate.

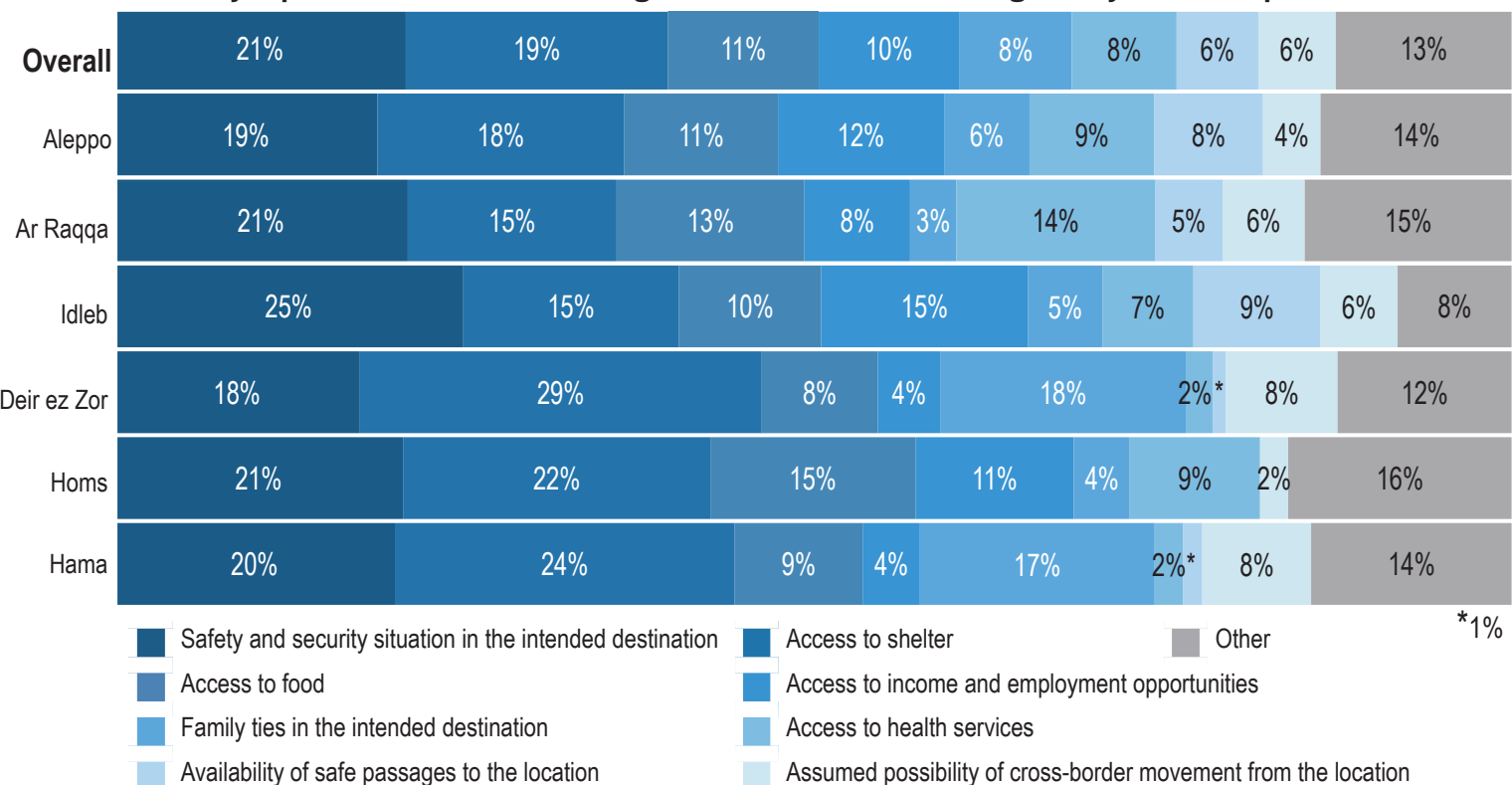
INTENTIONS

Most commonly reported intended destinations for both IDPs and host populations



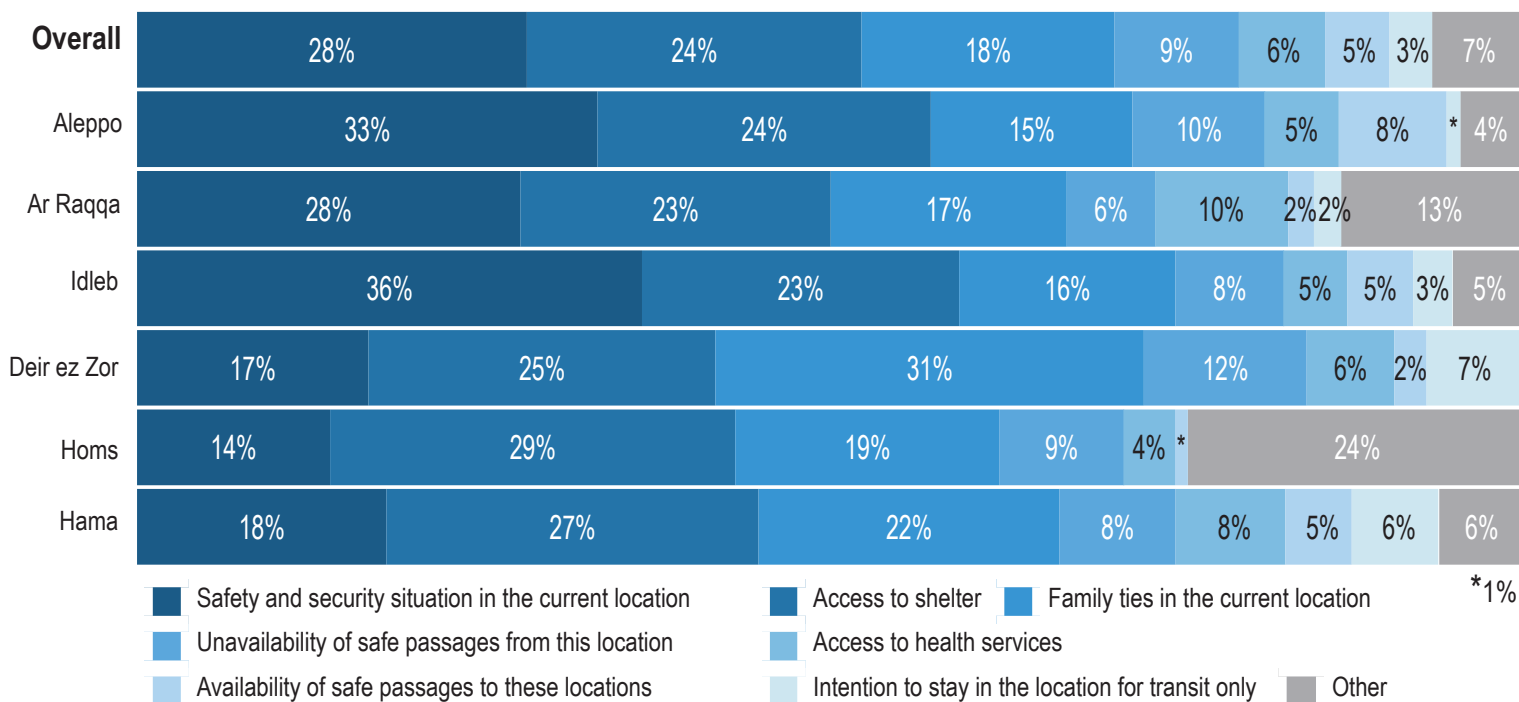
While IDP and host community departures will be assessed in the weekly updates and were not assessed during baseline data collection, information was collected during the baseline on reported intended destinations. The most commonly cited intended destinations of displacement for both IDPs and host community populations were located within Idleb governorate, in particular to areas in Dana sub-district, followed by Aleppo governorate, specifically to locations within Az'az sub-district. More than three quarters of intended destinations in Idleb and Deir ez Zor governorates were within the respective governorates, far higher than any other governorate.

Most commonly reported reasons for choosing intended destinations (weighted by ranked importance)



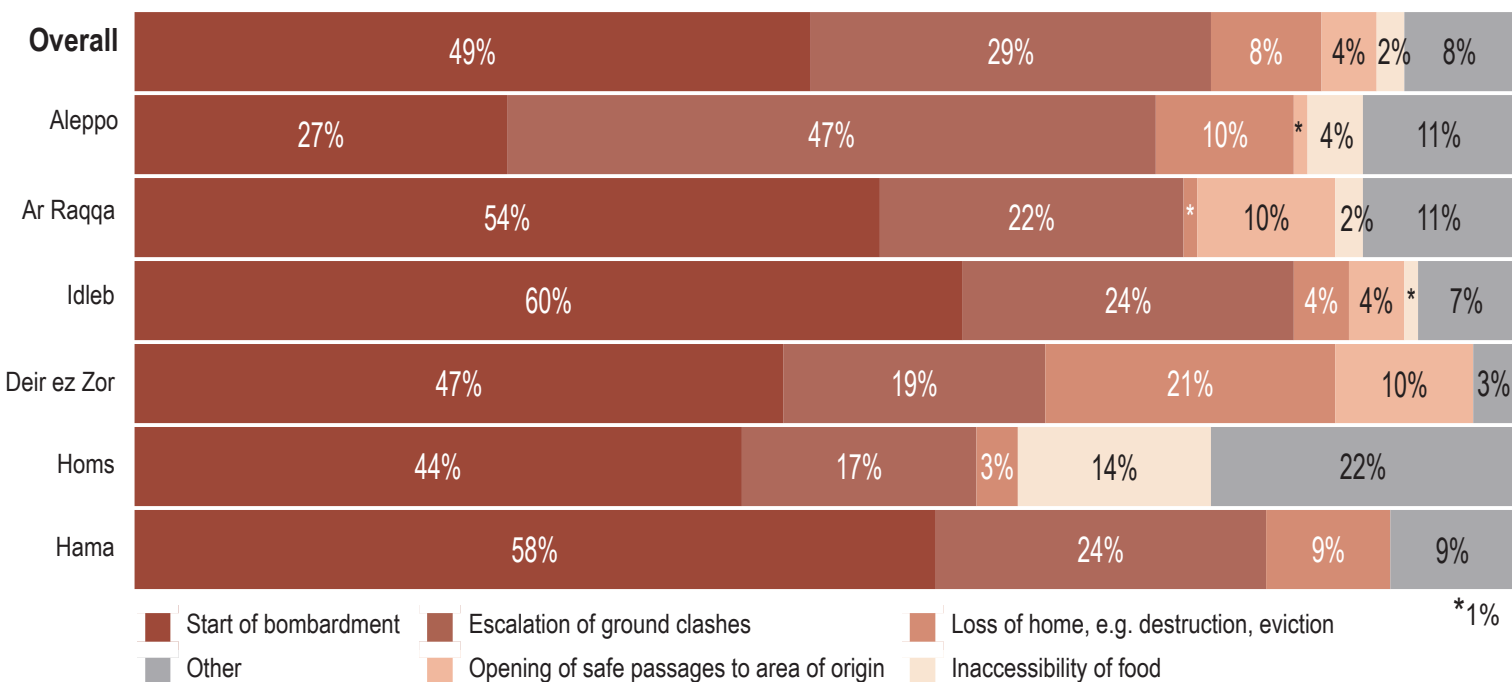
The most commonly reported reasons, both overall and within each governorate, for choosing intended destinations were safety and security in the intended destination and access to shelter. Other prominent reasons included access to food, health, income and employment opportunities and family ties in the intended destination.

Reported causes for IDPs to remain in their current location (weighted by ranked importance)



The most commonly reported reasons overall for IDPs to remain in their current location were safety and security, access to shelter, and family ties in the current location. The 'other' reasons for remaining included access to electricity, food and water. Unlike in other governorates, the most commonly reported reason to remain in Deir ez Zor was the presence of family ties in communities, while access to shelter was most commonly reported in Homs and Hama governorates.

Factors likely to trigger departure of IDPs from their present location



The escalation of conflict, either in the form of bombardment or fighting on the ground, was reported as the factor most likely to trigger departure of IDPs in a majority of assessed communities across all assessed governorates. Loss of home featured as a prominent potential trigger factor in Deir ez Zor governorate, as did inaccessibility of food in Homs governorate.