

# NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 1-8th March 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 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 1-8th March 2021 and was conducted by REACH, CARE, Global Communities, Danish Church Aid, Mercy Corps, People In Need, and Solidarités International.

The accompanying data is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community. See REACH Resource Centre for the [March 2021 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	
	Hygiene items	Bathing soap	12 bars
		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 March 2021, REACH and partners covered 28 sub-districts in northeast Syria (NES) for the Market Monitoring exercise, including 1,799 individual shops. Please note that prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (1-8th March).

### Highest northeast SMEB cost in SYP recorded

In March, the value of the regional SMEB reached 351,203 Syrian pounds (SYP), a 24% increase compared to February and 78% increase since September 2020, setting the highest ever recorded price in the Market Monitoring exercise in NES. The SMEB in United States Dollars (USD) decreased slightly from 94 USD in February to 90 USD in March.

### Further depreciation of the SYP against the USD

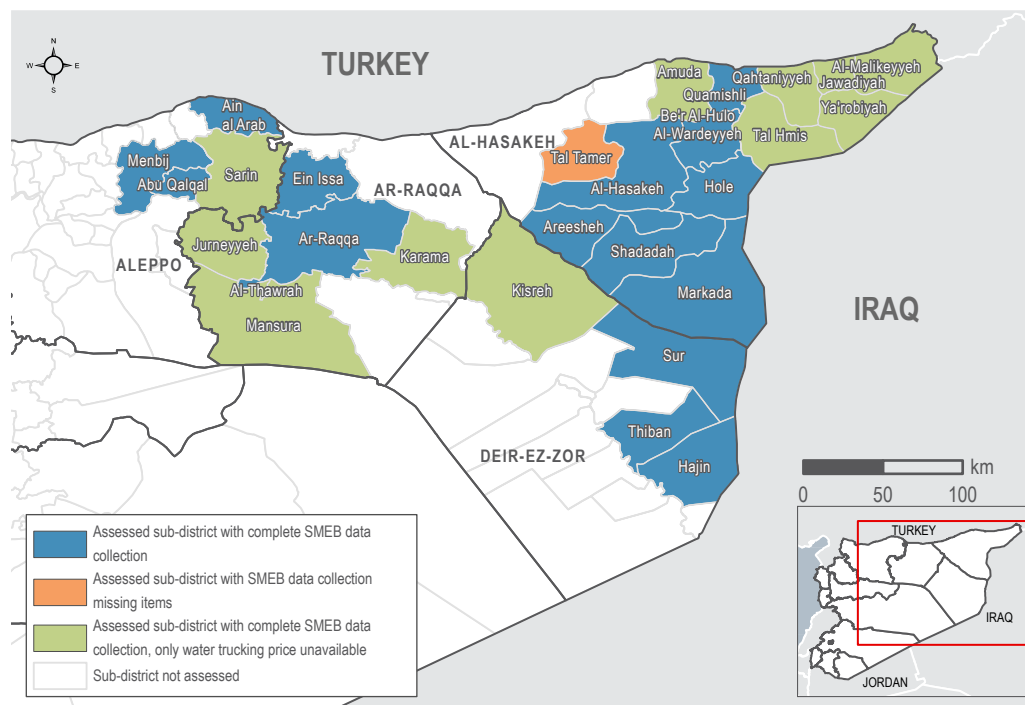
Between February and March, the informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate increased by 27%, reaching a regional median of 3,848 USD/SYP. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,970 SYP for 1 USD in Qahtaniyyeh community, in Al-Hasakeh governorate.

### Prices decreased slightly for transport fuels; high quality fuels remained unavailable

Regional median prices for transport fuels decreased slightly (by 4%) in NES in March. Prices for manually refined transport fuels showed different price developments between February and March. Manually refined diesel decreased by 5% since February, but showed a 74% price increase since September 2020 nevertheless. Manually refined petrol increased by 11%

since February and by 29% over the last six months. According to REACH field teams, these price increases resulted from increased demand and the impact of the SYP depreciation. As in previous months, high quality transport fuels were reported widely unavailable in assessed markets due to increased demand and fuel smuggling between NES and Government of Syria (GOS)-held areas, as well as northwest Syria. 87% of fuel vendors reported that high quality diesel was not available in their market while 69% reported the same regarding high quality petrol. The price of high-quality petrol increased by 25% since February, and by 55% since September 2020. The price of high-quality diesel stayed the same as in February. The price of manually refined kerosene, primarily used for cooking and heating, increased by 14% since February. This continues a 61% six-month price increase since September 2020.

## ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

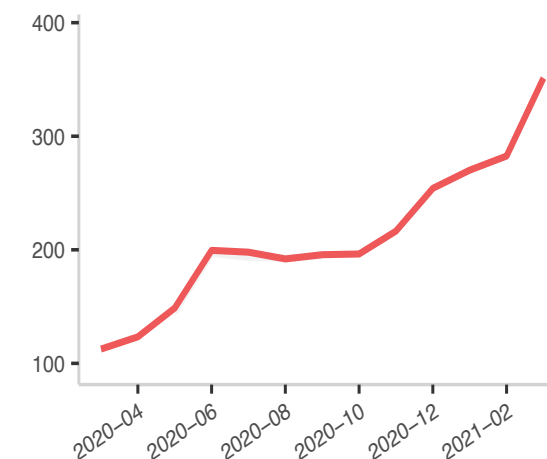


## MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

351,203 SYP (90 USD)  
NORTHEAST SYRIA - AL-HASAKEH, AL-RAQQA, DEIR-EZ-ZOR, EASTERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

## MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

351,203 SYP  
(90 USD)

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

### Continued increase of food item prices, bread prices rose considerably

The value of the regional SMEB food component further increased by 20% between February and March, reaching a record high median value of 265,000 SYP. The price of the SMEB vegetable component increased by 5% since February. The price development for all monitored vegetables varied, with tomato prices increasing most significantly by 9%, cucumbers decreasing by 14% and onions decreasing by 4%. According to REACH field teams, these price developments are likely due to the more expensive reliance on the import of fresh foods from GoS areas, affected by high transportation costs and increasing depreciation of the SYP. Additionally, the cost of chicken also increased at the regional level by 24% in March, primarily as a result of the high costs of poultry feed, also impacted by the depreciation of the SYP. The cost of eggs also increased by 8% since February. Finally, overall prices for bulk foods also increased considerably in March (by 22%). Rice increased by 28%, bulgur by 21%, red lentils by 20%, sugar by 18%, tomato paste by 16% and salt by 36%. Whilst bulk food item prices have remained relatively stable with only minor increases month on month due to increased local production, the price increase in March is considerable and represents a 66% six month increase since September 2020. This is also attributed to the SYP depreciation and increasing fuel prices for transport, as much of the bulk food in the region remained imported.

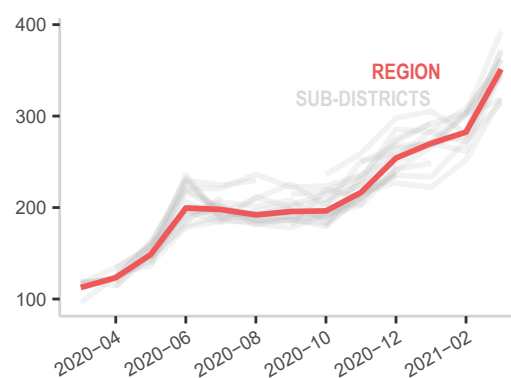
The price of bread also increased considerably by 82% between February and March, however, this was only a 6% increase since September 2020. According to REACH field teams, the increasing prices resulted from increasing flour and fuel prices, as well as wage payments. At the same time, flour prices increased by 30% in March, contributing to an 86% increase in the same six-month period.

### Water trucking prices increased, hygiene item prices increased considerably

Following a slight decrease of the SMEB water trucking cost in February, the median regional cost increased in March by 13%, reaching to 15,300 SYP. According to REACH field teams, the price increase can be attributed to the rising costs of fuel and the SYP depreciation. This increase represents a 62% price increase since September 2020. Additionally, the cost of the SMEB hygiene component increased by 14% in March, reaching a median of 27,525 SYP. Specifically, the cost of sanitary pads and toothpaste saw the largest increases, by 25% and 23% respectively. The depreciating value of the SYP as well as high transportation costs related to the import of these products likely account for these increases, according to REACH field teams. The median prices of many COVID-19 related items saw varied price fluctuations. Hand sanitizer - which is more frequently locally produced - increased by 35% in price after it saw a slight decrease in February, and facemasks – also frequently locally produced – increased by 22%. The latter may be due in part to the increased consumption by, and demand from, humanitarian organisations, according to REACH field teams. The median prices of plastic gloves (18%), bleach (13%) and sterile alcohol (25%) all increased in price as well.

### MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



### 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	351,203	24%	78%	Jurneyyeh**	323,479	15%	73%
Abu Qalqal***	319,485	27%	72%	Karama**	346,092	25%	80%
Ain al Arab	331,326	NA	86%	Kisreh**	302,613	23%	59%
Al-Hasakeh	362,279	20%	69%	Mansura**	343,945	21%	62%
Al-Malikeyyeh**	300,367	11%	57%	Markada	343,650	13%	52%
Al-Thawrah**	337,610	16%	81%	Menbij	314,768	15%	65%
Amuda**	319,930	6%	77%	Qahtaniyyeh**	301,337	21%	66%
Areeshah	351,203	29%	73%	Quamishli	351,700	14%	58%
Ar-Raqqa	392,344	30%	NA	Sarin**	320,549	34%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	372,505	32%	NA	Shadadah	346,993	33%	84%
Al-Wardeyyeh	372,505	32%	NA	Sur	347,029	25%	NA
Ein Issa	370,489	31%	NA	Tal Hmis**	339,346	16%	85%
Hajin	361,244	20%	94%	Tal Tamer***	NA	NA	NA
Hole	384,416	NA	92%	Thiban	318,039	5%	53%
Jawadiyah**	349,317	NA	80%	Ya'robiyah**	357,034	18%	82%

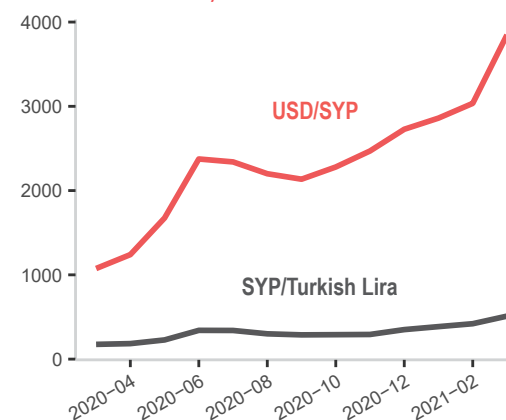
\* For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. This applies to all the following tables.

\*\* 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.

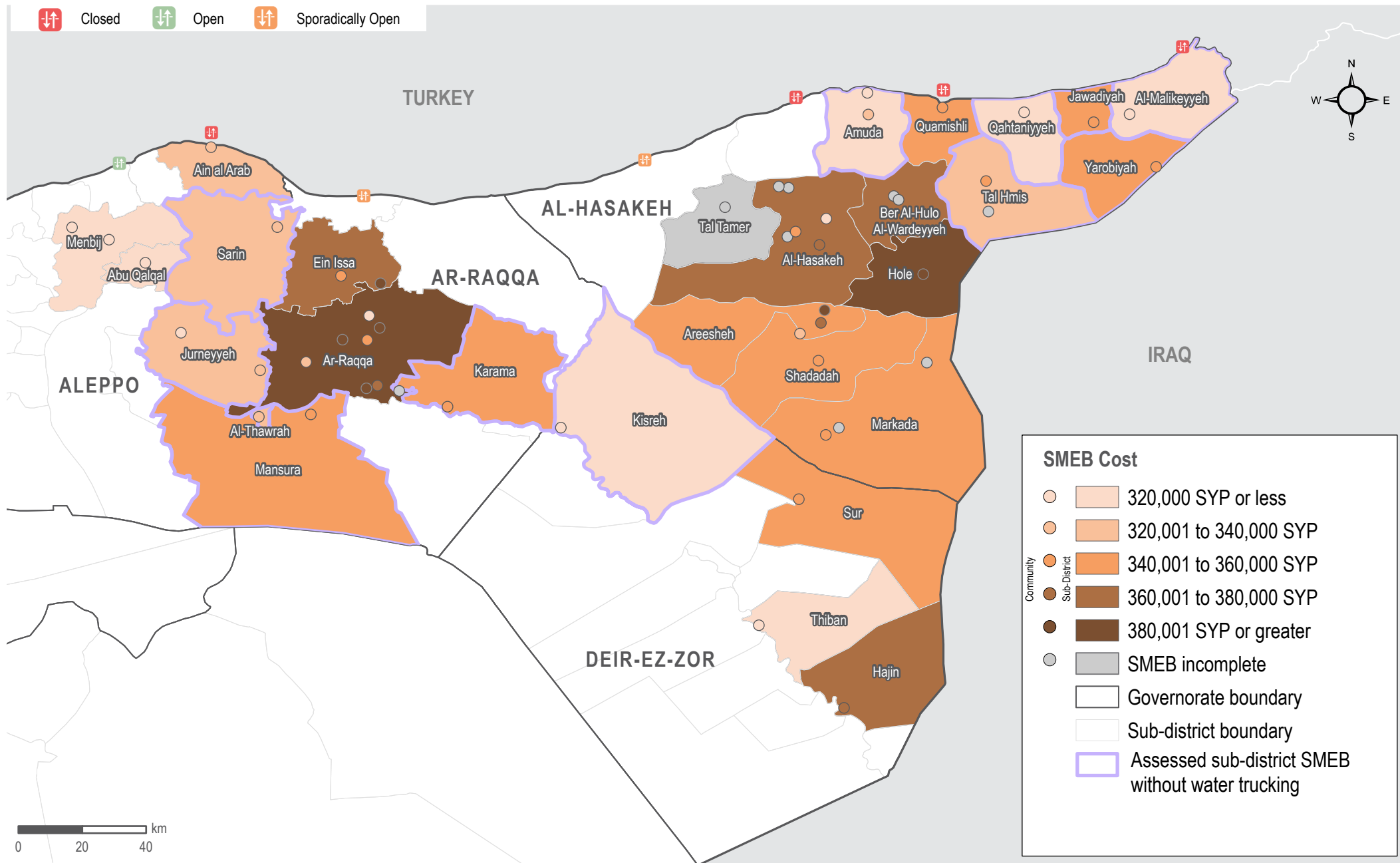
Note: Lack of data for a SMEB item does not necessarily imply a shortage.

### EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

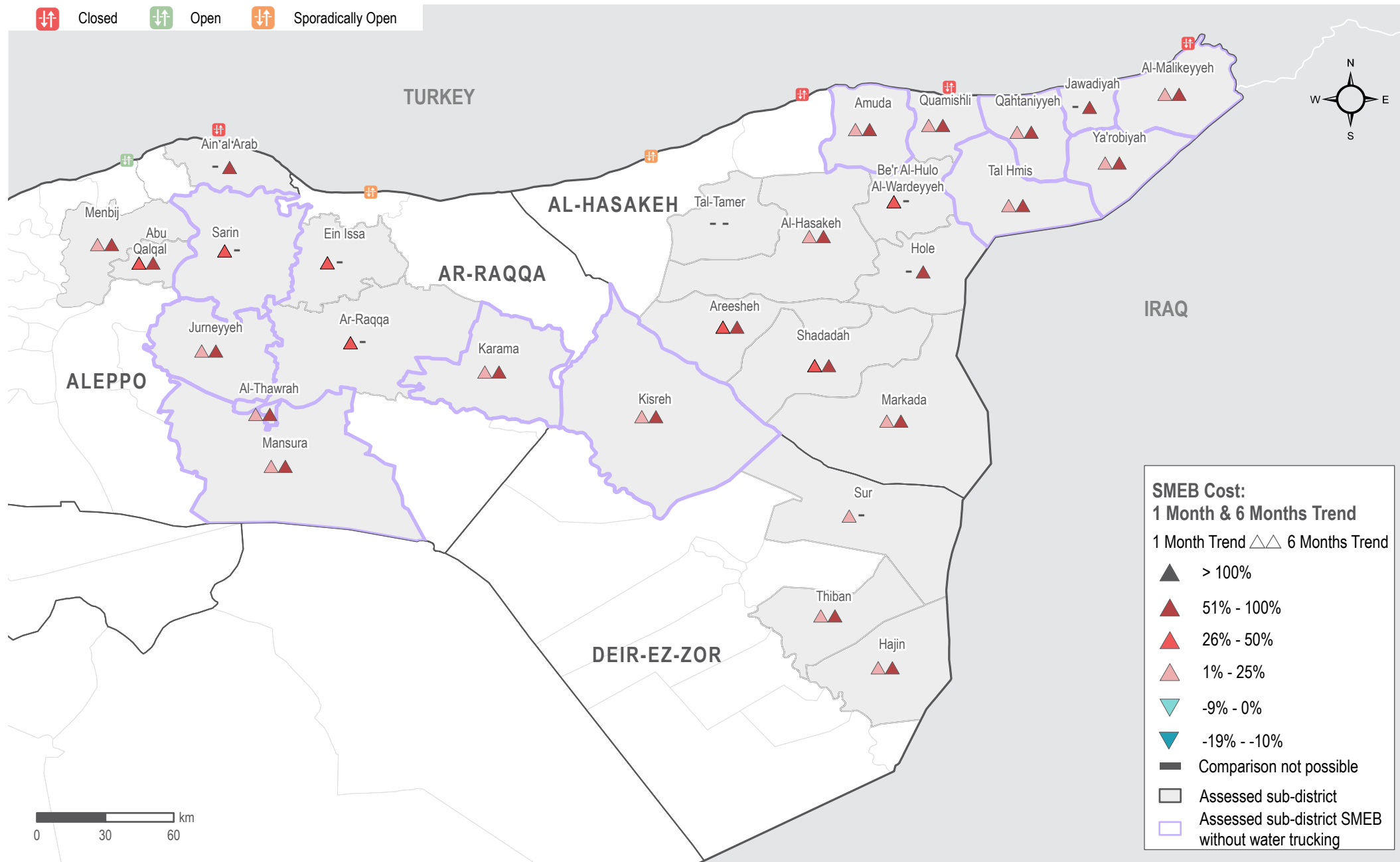
## SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



# 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 See Page 1, Syrian Pounds

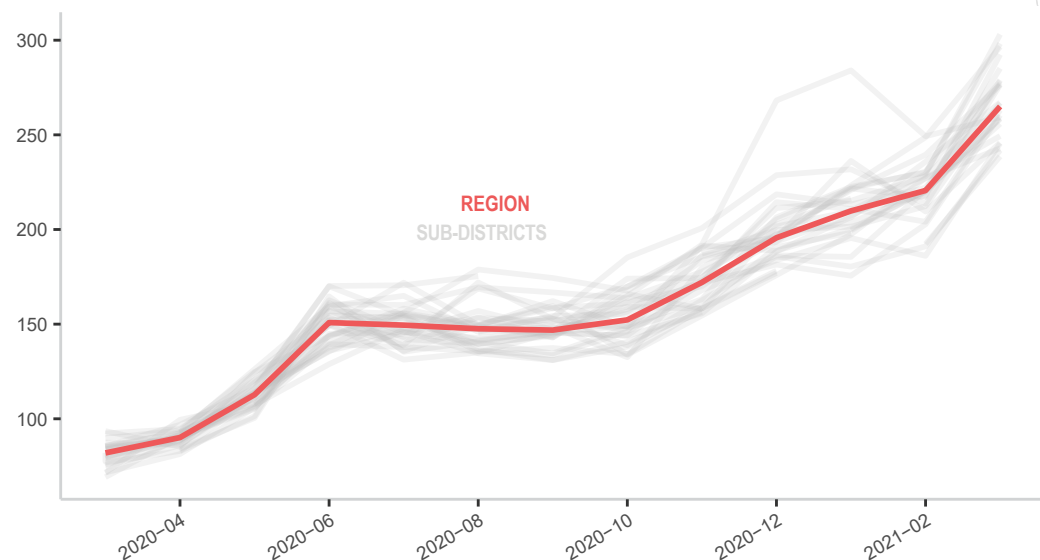
Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	265,000	20%	78%	Jurneyyeh	258,898	18%	80%
Abu Qalqal*	260,401	28%	79%	Karama	279,010	28%	83%
Ain al Arab	258,875	NA	92%	Kisreh	241,900	27%	58%
Al-Hasakeh	278,442	21%	76%	Mansura	277,299	25%	59%
Al-Malikeyyeh	249,377	10%	62%	Markada	258,419	17%	59%
Al-Thawrah	265,000	16%	81%	Menbij	255,856	16%	71%
Amuda	259,334	4%	81%	Qahtaniyyeh	245,914	17%	72%
Ar-Raqqa	263,100	29%	80%	Quamishli	276,500	15%	66%
Areeshesh	303,075	32%	106%	Sarin	238,660	24%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	276,391	29%	80%	Shadadah	245,534	32%	84%
Al-Wardeyyeh	276,391	29%	80%	Sur	266,850	26%	NA
Ein Issa	292,432	34%	93%	Tal Hmis	267,100	13%	83%
Hajin	285,150	29%	118%	Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Hole	298,230	30%	105%	Thiban	242,900	7%	52%
Jawadiyah	275,871	NA	86%	Ya'robiyah	296,575	19%	87%

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

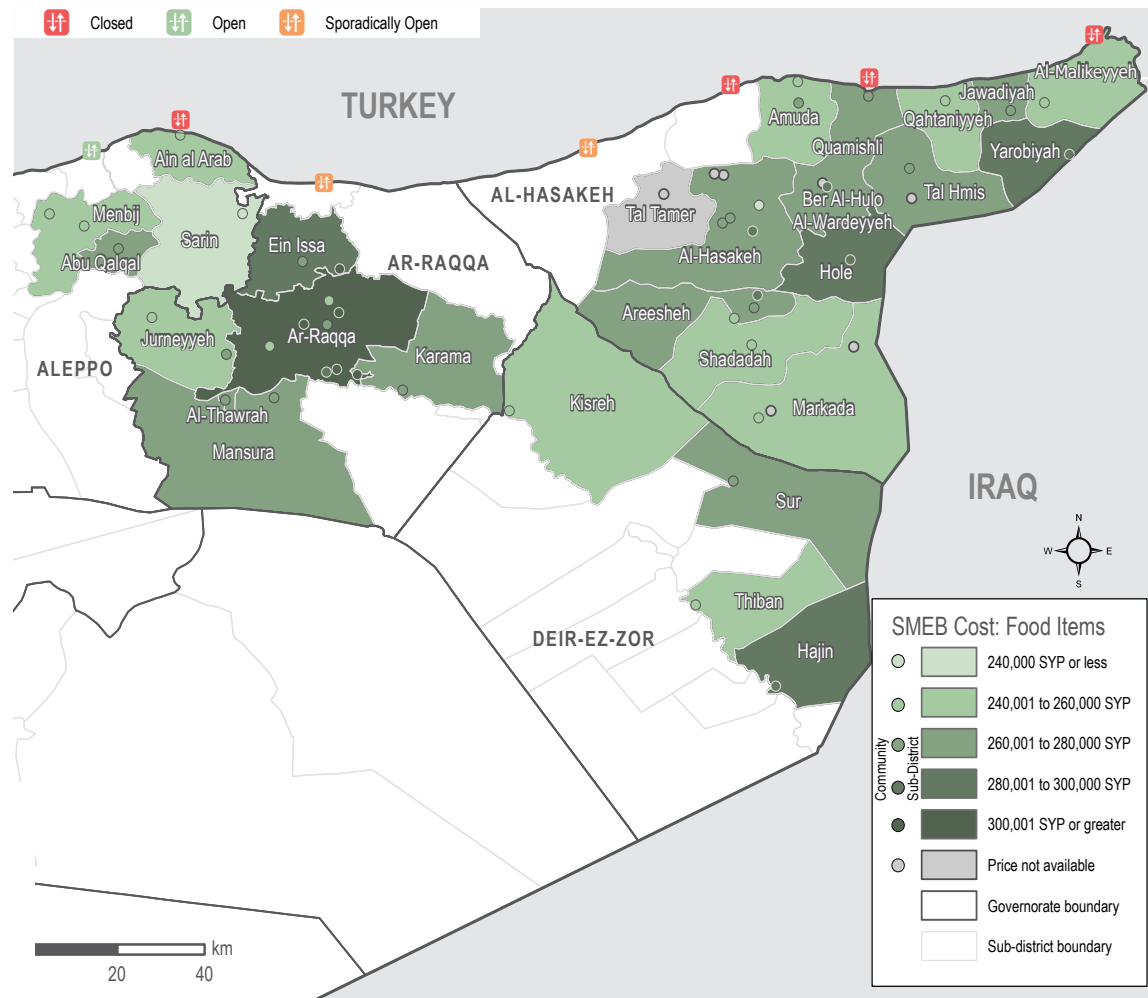
\*\* For this sub-district, all SMEB Food items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## 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

## MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

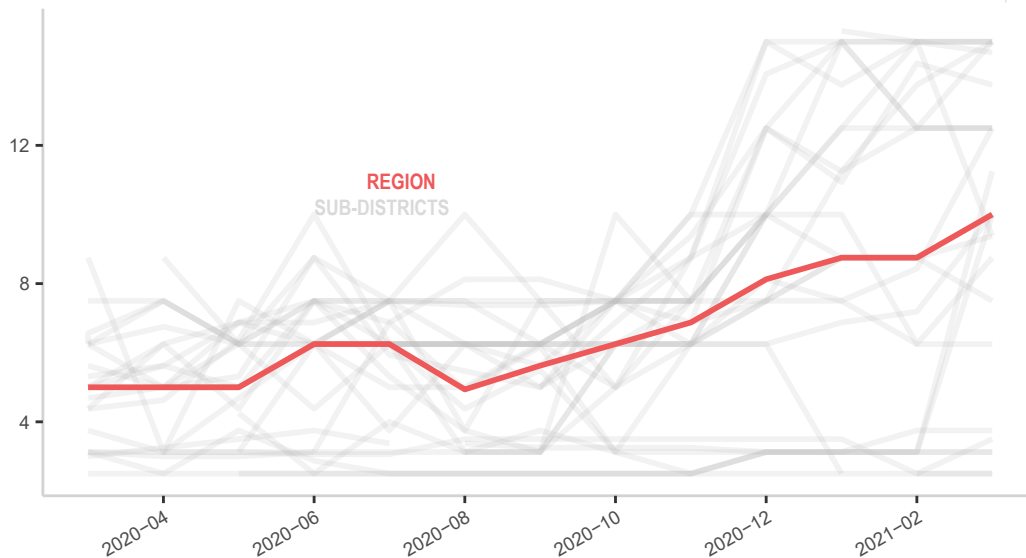
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	10,000	14%	80%	Jurneyyeh	13,750	-4%	69%
Abu Qalqal*	3,125	0%	25%	Karama*	15,000	9%	167%
Ain al Arab	3,500	40%	0%	Kisreh	12,500	0%	100%
Al-Hasakeh	7,500	-14%	50%	Mansura	15,000	20%	200%
Al-Malikeyyeh	11,250	260%	82%	Markada	15,000	0%	140%
Al-Thawrah	15,000	0%	103%	Menbij	3,125	0%	25%
Amuda	2,500	0%	-55%	Qahtaniyyeh*	10,000	220%	208%
Areeshesh	9,375	7%	88%	Quamishli	6,250	0%	100%
Ar-Raqqa	14,688	-2%	135%	Sarin*	2,500	0%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	10,000	14%	167%	Shadadah	12,500	0%	67%
Al-Wardeyyeh	10,000	14%	167%	Sur	8,750	40%	40%
Ein Issa	15,000	0%	100%	Tal Hmis	12,500	48%	100%
Hajin*	9,375	-38%	50%	Tal Tamer*	3,750	NA	NA
Hole*	3,250	NA	4%	Thiban	12,500	0%	67%
Jawadiyah*	10,000	39%	220%	Ya'robiyah	3,750	0%	50%

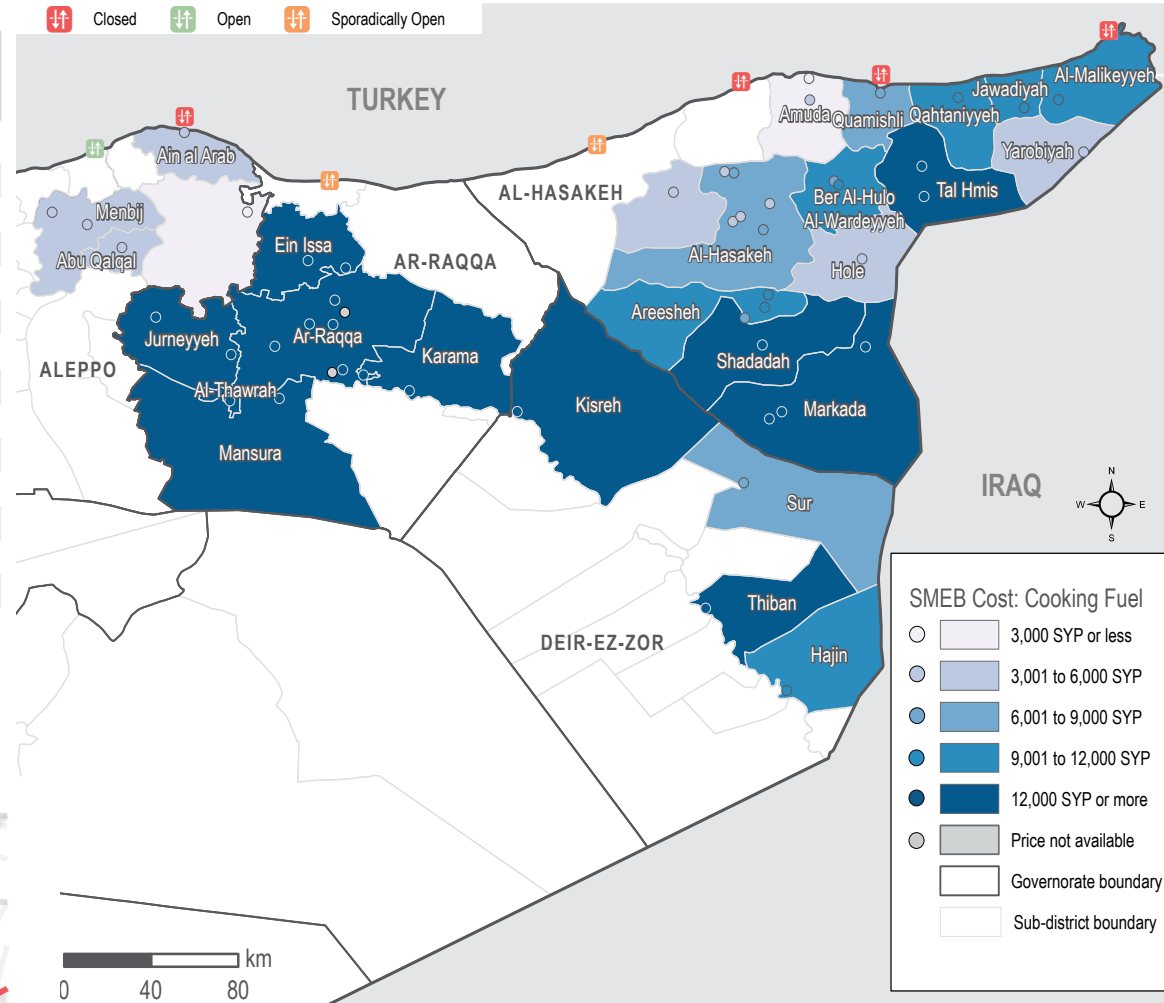
\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cooking fuels rely on less than 3 observations.

## 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

## MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

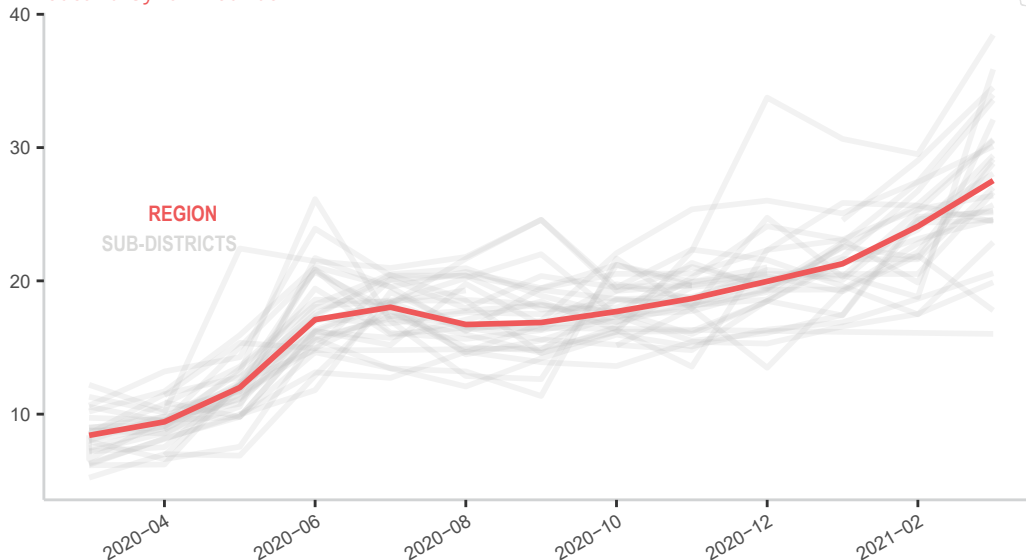
12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	27,525	14%	64%	Jurneyyeh	25,264	3%	51%
Abu Qalqal	19,891	14%	43%	Karama	26,400	4%	45%
Ain al Arab	28,050	14%	80%	Kisreh	24,600	6%	50%
Al-Hasakeh	28,825	33%	72%	Mansura	25,150	1%	62%
Al-Malikeyyeh	17,784	-19%	20%	Markada	25,700	13%	17%
Al-Thawrah	29,141	31%	156%	Menbij	20,578	10%	45%
Amuda	33,963	24%	100%	Qahtaniyyeh	22,900	31%	12%
Areeshah	32,100	62%	74%	Quamishli	30,100	10%	59%
Ar-Raqqa	29,409	23%	62%	Sarin	24,565	1%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	35,875	91%	146%	Shadadah	27,000	25%	81%
Al-Wardeyyeh	30,529	21%	NA	Sur	26,650	30%	49%
Ein Issa	34,516	19%	40%	Tal Hmis	33,570	25%	106%
Hajin	29,031	NA	50%	Tal Tamer*	16,021	NA	NA
Hole	38,450	30%	164%	Thiban	24,450	-5%	26%
Jawadiyah				Ya'robiyah	30,600	19%	75%

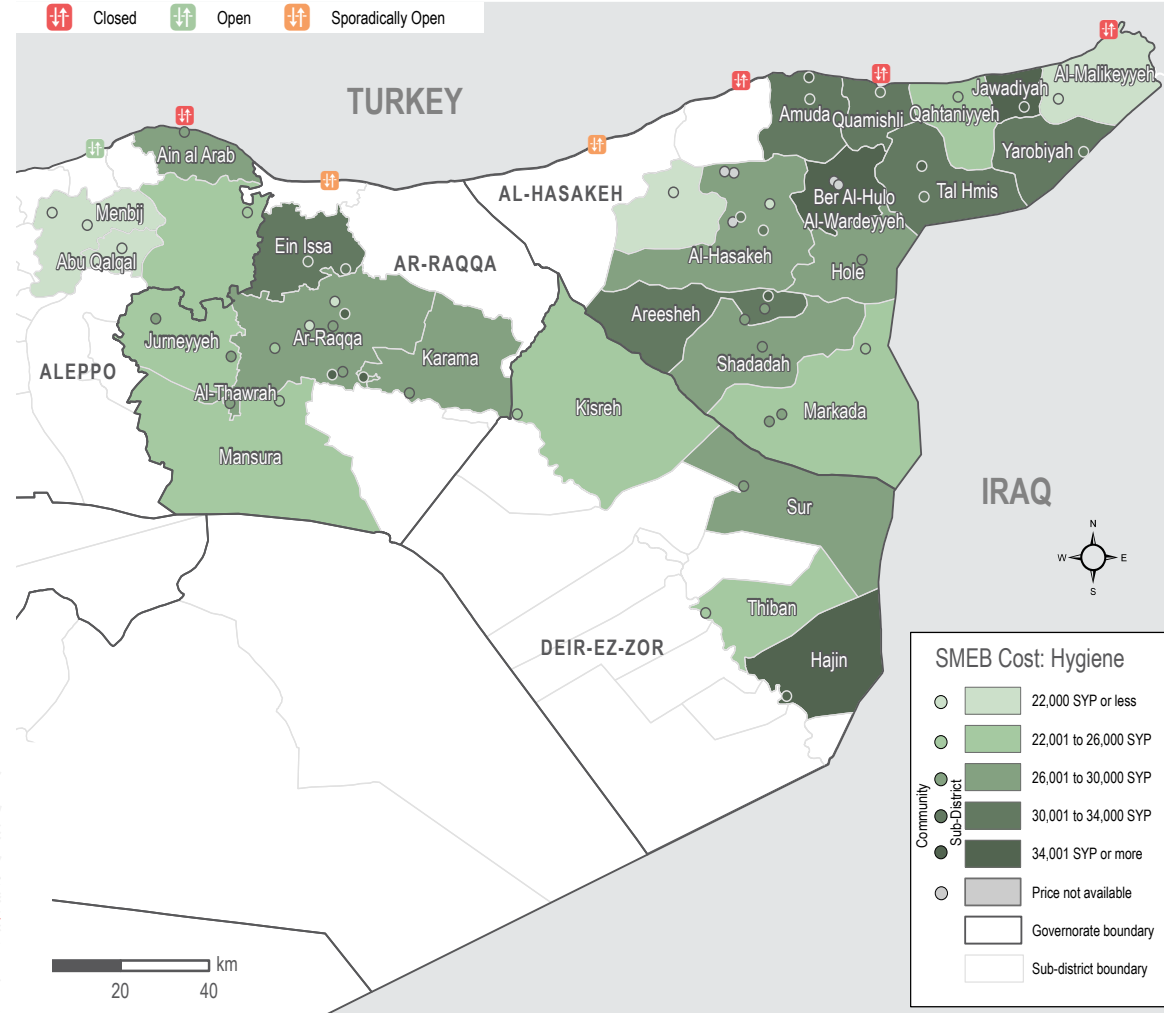
\* For these sub-districts, all hygiene items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## 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

## MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

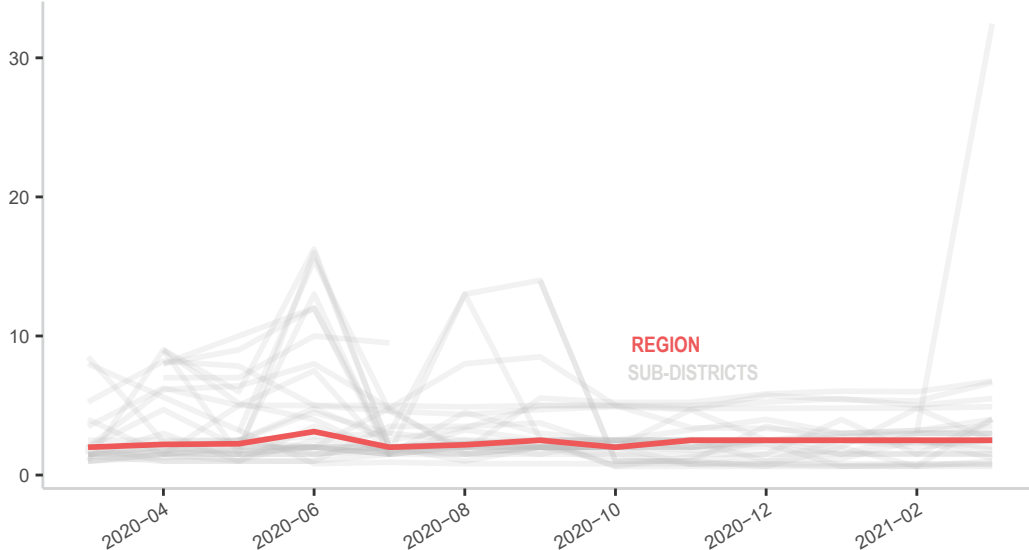
1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,500	0%	0%
Abu Qalqal*	9%	25%	234%
Ain al Arab	25%	60%	2%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	100%	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	625	-69%	-95%
Al-Thawrah	4,813	0%	-40%
Amuda	2,500	0%	NA
Areesheh	3,000	9%	NA
Ar-Raqqa	2,400	-4%	60%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	1,500	-63%	-88%
Ein Issa	2,500	0%	67%
Hajin*	2,300	-8%	15%
Hole	3,200	7%	60%
Jawadiyah	625	0%	NA

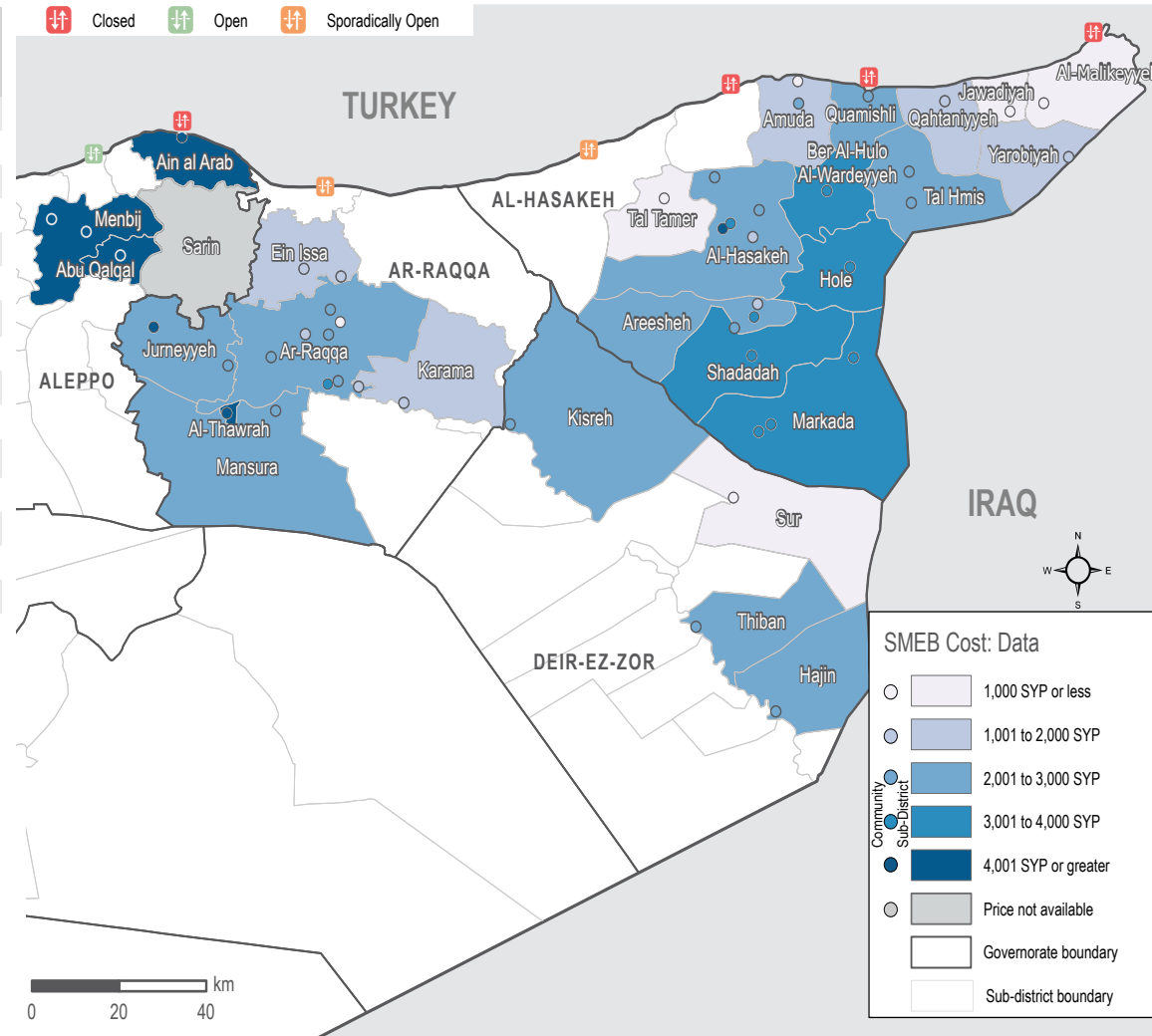
\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of cellphone data rely on less than 3 observations.

## 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

## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

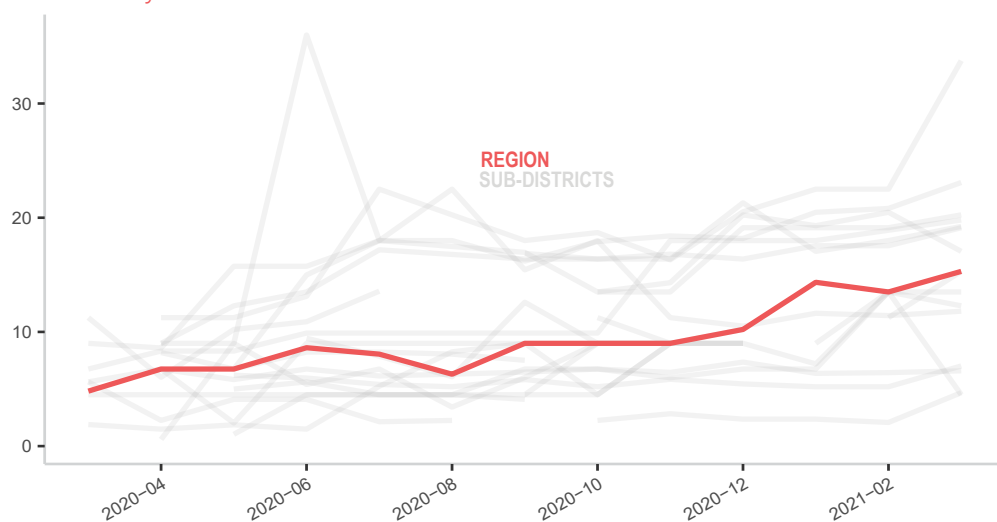
4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	15,300	13%	62%	Jurneyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Abu Qalqal	7,020	35%	20%	Karama*	NA	NA	NA
Ain al Arab	12,285	-9%	82%	Kisreh*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	19,238	7%	14%	Mansura*	NA	NA	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh*	NA	NA	NA	Markada	17,055	-17%	1%
Al-Thawrah*	NA	NA	NA	Menbij	6,593	2%	2%
Amuda*	NA	NA	NA	Qahtaniyyeh*	NA	NA	NA
Areesheh	19,125	9%	17%	Quamishli	11,813	3%	-23%
Ar-Raqqa	15,300	36%	NA	Sarin*	NA	NA	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	20,250	6%	NA	Shadadah	33,750	50%	88%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	20,250	6%	NA	Sur	19,800	5%	100%
Ein Issa*	4,680	126%	NA	Tal Hmis*	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	4,500	-67%	-50%	Tal Tamer*	NA	NA	NA
Hole*	23,085	11%	43%	Thiban	13,500	0%	200%
Jawadiyah*	NA	NA	NA	Ya'robiyah*	NA	NA	NA

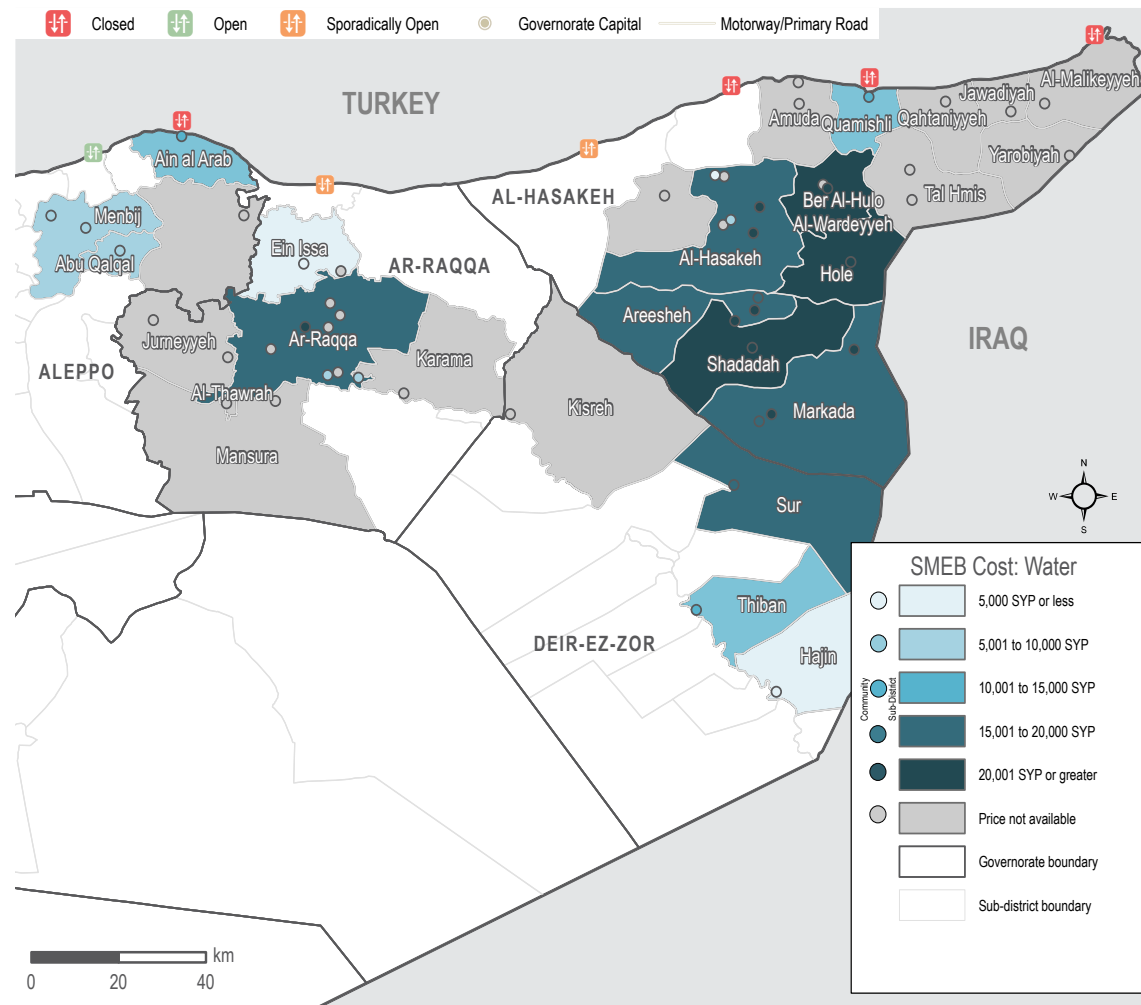
\* For these sub-districts, the median prices of water trucking rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



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



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

## MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

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

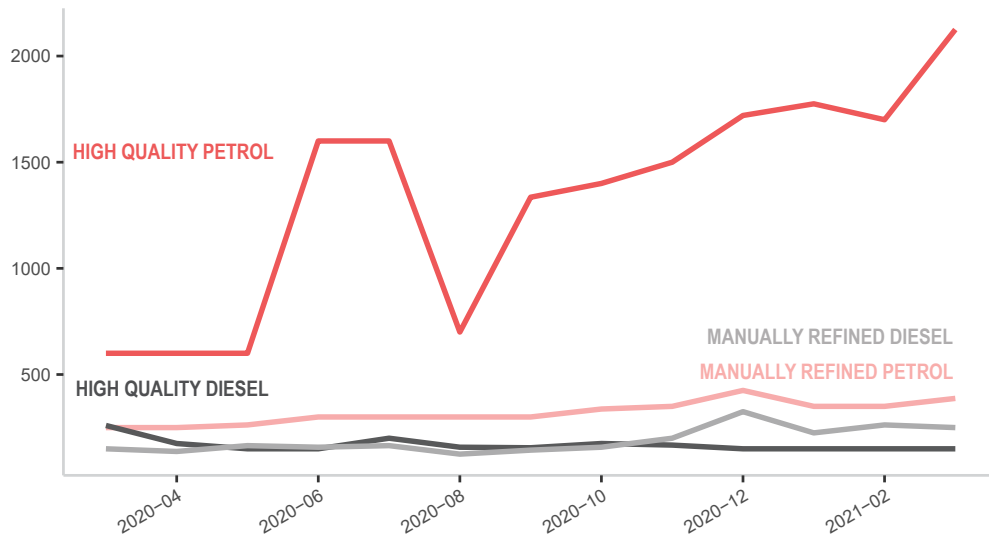
Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	513.00	-4%	52%	Jurneyyeh	625.0	4%	100%
Abu Qalqal*	633.3	3%	278%	Karama	600.0	18%	60%
Ain al Arab	918.3	72%	65%	Kisreh	500.0	0%	47%
Al-Hasakeh	687.5	17%	53%	Mansura	650.0	13%	-18%
Al-Malikeyyeh	142.5	-75%	-45%	Markada	525.0	-5%	94%
Al-Thawrah	1,266.7	23%	66%	Menbij	616.7	0%	12%
Amuda*	190.0	5%	-39%	Qahtaniyyeh*	145.0	0%	66%
Ar-Raqqa	350.0	-18%	27%	Quamishli	680.0	26%	41%
Areeshesh	950.0	28%	78%	Sarin	161.3	8%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	706.3	-6%	69%	Shadadah	142.5	0%	-47%
Al-Wardeyyeh	706.3	-6%	69%	Sur	550.0	0%	61%
Ein Issa	637.5	16%	90%	Tal Hmis	375.0	25%	18%
Hajin*	500.0	0%	72%	Tal Tamer	142.5	NA	NA
Hole*	142.5	0%	-5%	Thiban	500.0	5%	-8%
Jawadiyah	225.0	20%	157%	Ya'robiyah*	262.5	-25%	-44%

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

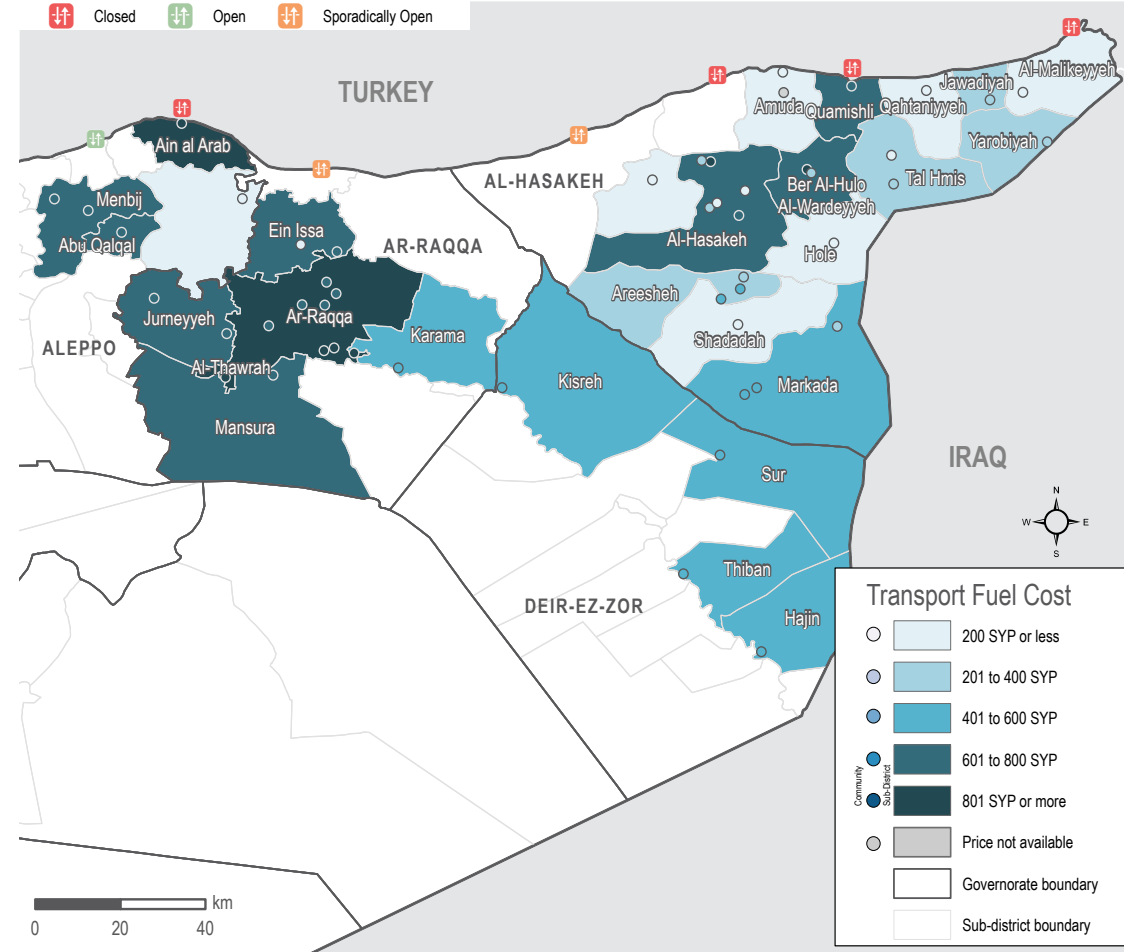
\*\* For these sub-districts, all fuel items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

## MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



## TRANSPORT FUEL COST Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - WINTERISATION

## 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	4,000	22,250	115,000	55,000	40,000	30,000	29,250	26,000	18,000
Abu Qalqal	3,950	17,350	25,500	30,000	22,000	20,000	12,000	20,000	16,750
Ain al Arab	3,500	22,500	120,000	62,500	50,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	4,750	20,000	150,000	55,000	50,000	30,000	NA	40,000	NA
Al-Malikeyyeh	5,000	23,000	75,000	65,000	30,000	25,000	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	4,000	26,000	90,000	50,000	40,000	20,000	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	195,000	70,000	75,000	47,500	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	5,500	20,000	87,500	50,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	3,800	28,500	110,000	68,000	41,000	38,000	29,000	26,000	63,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	6,250	22,000	89,000	70,000	77,500	34,000	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	4,000	NA	NA	25,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	3,000	23,000	135,000	38,500	45,000	15,000	NA	NA	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	5,000	25,000	132,000	66,000	50,000	35,000	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	110,000	NA	35,000	16,000	NA	NA	NA
Karama	3,700	29,000	112,000	62,000	40,500	36,500	33,000	NA	NA
Kisreh	4,000	20,000	225,000	90,000	37,500	16,500	NA	NA	NA
Mansura	NA	25,000	120,000	NA	35,000	NA	NA	NA	NA
Markada	4,750	21,500	130,000	29,000	60,000	23,500	NA	NA	NA
Menbij	4,000	18,000	28,000	32,000	23,000	22,000	13,000	22,000	18,000
Qahtaniyyeh	5,000	19,000	115,000	45,000	37,500	32,500	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	7,750	22,500	176,000	65,000	13,000	27,000	NA	55,000	NA
Sarin	3,500	NA	75,000	NA	10,000	38,000	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	5,000	20,000	115,000	55,000	55,000	32,000	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	5,000	26,500	NA	50,000	NA	NA	29,500	NA	NA
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	3,500	20,000	120,000	40,000	40,000	18,000	NA	NA	NA
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	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

## 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	3,500	2,500	11,000	10,000	6,000	7,000	5,500	3,875	1,500	1,000	39,000	35,000	20,000	13,500	10,000	8,000
Abu Qalqal	1,650	1,275	11,750	10,250	6,000	7,000	6,100	4,000	825	500	18,250	15,250	11,750	11,500	9,000	7,250
Ain al Arab	4,500	3,500	12,000	12,000	7,000	10,000	10,000	5,000	1,500	750	37,500	50,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Al-Hasakeh	5,000	2,500	15,000	15,000	9,000	10,000	10,000	6,000	2,000	1,500	45,000	50,000	25,000	20,000	22,500	15,000
Al-Malikeyyeh	4,500	3,000	12,000	12,000	10,000	18,000	24,000	12,000	2,500	NA	35,000	35,000	28,000	18,000	17,000	14,000
Al-Thawrah	4,000	5,000	6,500	7,500	4,000	3,000	3,500	3,000	1,000	500	60,000	55,000	35,000	7,500	6,000	5,500
Amuda	NA	NA	8,500	9,000	5,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	40,000	50,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Areesh	4,500	3,500	13,000	12,000	8,000	3,500	3,000	3,000	1,750	1,500	40,000	35,000	20,000	5,500	5,250	4,500
Ar-Raqqa	3,500	2,500	8,750	8,250	4,500	8,000	5,000	4,000	1,000	1,000	39,000	25,000	18,000	18,000	13,000	9,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	6,000	4,000	19,000	19,000	15,000	14,000	14,000	8,000	2,500	1,500	45,000	45,000	25,000	15,000	15,000	8,000
Ein Issa	NA	NA	12,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	NA	NA	1,500	1,000	60,000	50,000	30,000	NA	NA	NA
Hajin	2,500	1,500	6,000	7,000	3,000	3,250	3,500	2,000	1,750	1,500	15,000	17,000	8,500	8,500	8,000	4,000
Hole	3,500	1,700	9,000	8,500	6,000	13,000	NA	NA	1,500	1,000	50,000	45,000	15,000	20,000	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	3,000	3,000	7,500	8,000	4,500	5,000	5,000	3,000	1,500	1,000	35,000	35,000	25,000	9,500	9,500	6,000
Jurneyyeh	3,000	1,500	10,000	8,000	5,250	7,500	5,000	3,000	NA	NA	40,000	20,000	16,000	16,000	10,500	8,000
Karama	3,500	2,500	7,500	5,500	3,000	7,000	5,000	3,500	2,000	1,000	45,000	38,000	23,000	25,000	15,000	12,000
Kisreh	7,000	5,000	13,000	12,000	10,000	4,500	4,000	3,000	4,000	3,000	37,500	33,000	23,000	9,500	7,000	5,000
Mansura	3,000	2,500	15,500	12,000	10,000	12,000	10,000	9,000	1,000	1,000	24,000	22,000	16,000	17,750	16,000	15,000
Markada	3,500	2,500	8,000	5,000	4,000	3,750	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,000	50,000	44,000	20,000	15,000	13,000	8,000
Menbij	1,800	1,450	13,000	11,650	6,750	7,000	6,350	3,450	1,000	775	18,000	14,500	12,000	11,500	10,000	8,000
Qahtaniyyeh	4,500	3,000	16,500	16,500	11,000	6,000	6,000	4,000	2,750	1,500	27,500	25,000	16,500	9,000	9,000	6,500
Quamishli	6,000	3,500	19,000	18,000	12,500	7,500	5,000	3,750	2,750	1,500	70,000	51,250	30,000	26,000	17,500	11,500
Sarin	2,600	1,500	11,000	9,000	6,000	8,000	10,000	4,000	NA	NA	15,000	18,500	11,000	5,500	4,250	2,900
Shadadah	2,500	1,500	5,500	3,500	2,000	6,000	3,000	2,000	500	500	31,000	26,000	13,500	8,000	6,000	6,000
Sur	3,500	3,500	10,000	10,000	6,000	9,000	9,000	5,000	2,000	2,000	30,000	32,500	20,000	22,500	25,000	17,500
Tal Hmis	3,000	2,500	7,000	7,000	5,000	6,500	7,000	6,000	850	800	55,000	35,000	20,000	12,000	10,000	10,000
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	3,500	2,500	7,500	7,000	4,500	5,000	5,000	3,000	NA	NA	22,000	25,000	15,000	8,000	7,500	5,000
Ya'robiyah	4,750	4,750	11,000	10,000	6,000	20,000	15,000	10,000	1,000	1,000	62,500	45,000	35,000	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

## MEDIAN ALTERNATIVE FUEL ITEMS' PRICE

Per 1 kilo, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Firewood	Olive residues	Pistachio shells	Coal
Northeast Syria	200	175	275	2,500
Abu Qalqal	198	173	270	305
Ain al Arab	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Hasakeh	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA	NA
Areeshah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ar-Raqqa	250	250	1,125	1,000
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	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	200	175	275	300
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	NA	NA	NA	2,625
Sarin	NA	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sur	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Tal Tamer	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	NA	NA	NA	2,500
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA	NA

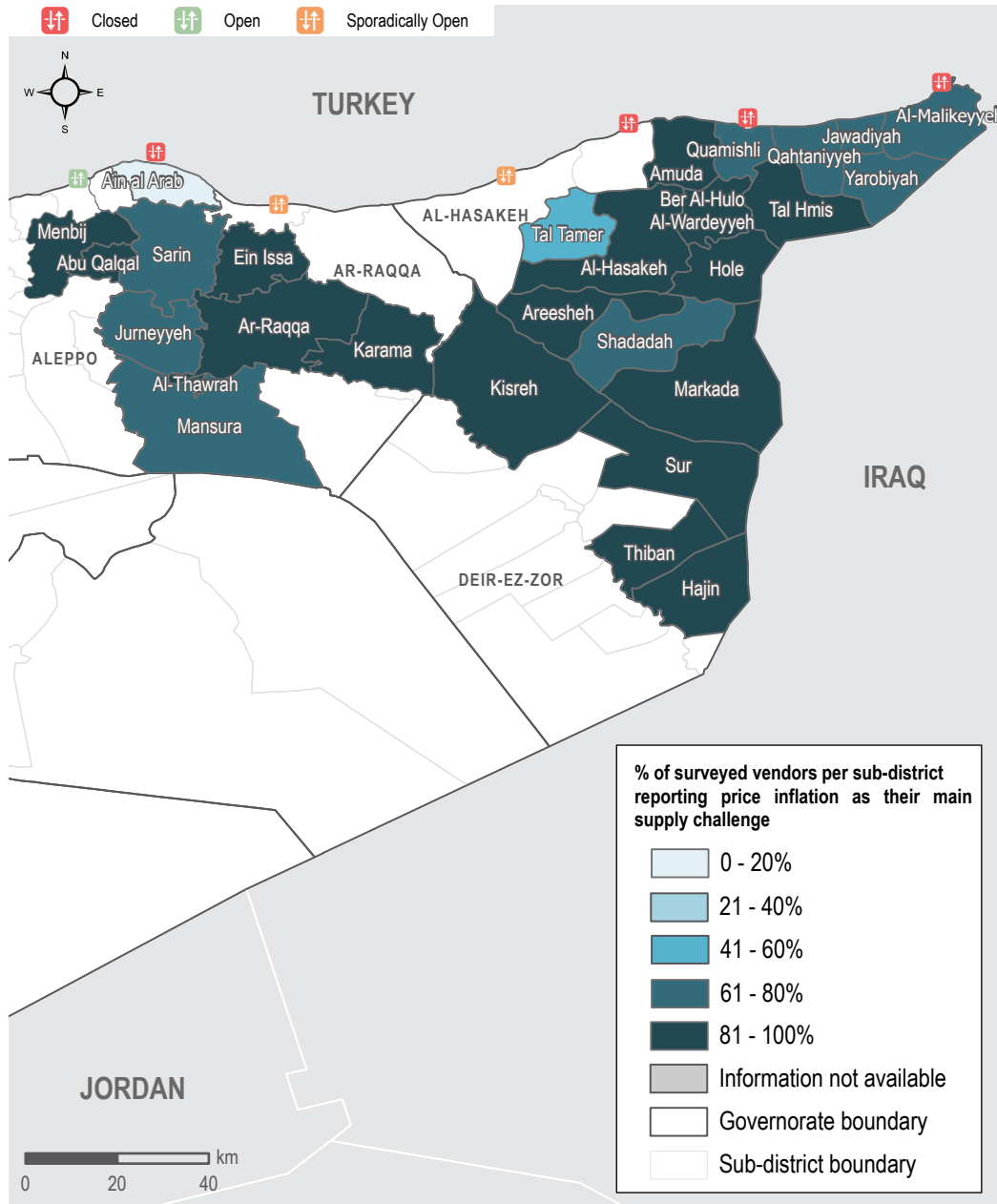
\* For these sub-districts, the median price are relying on less than 3 observations.

\*\* NA means data not available.

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts



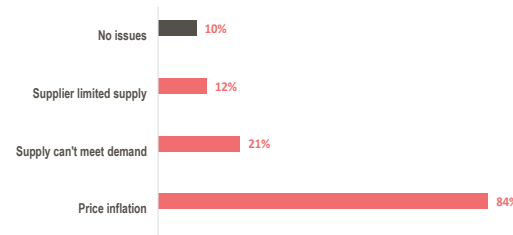
## MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

In March, 22 out of the 1,799 surveyed vendors across NES reported having closed their shops. 15 of these shops were in Al-Hasakeh, of which 6 (a bakery, a currency shop, a fuel station, hygiene shop, pharmacy and water shop) were in Tal Majdal district. The most commonly reported shop types closed in March were bakeries (6 of 103 total bakeries surveyed) followed by fuel and gas shops (3 of 14 total butchers surveyed).

## SUPPLY CHALLENGES

In March, 90% of vendors reported facing supply challenges. the primary supply challenge cited remained price inflation, reported by 84% of the 1,799 surveyed vendors (see figure 1). The proportion of vendors who reported that supply was unable to keep up with consumer demand stayed the same in March with 21% of surveyed vendors reporting this. Furthermore, 12% of all surveyed vendors reported that their suppliers had limited stocks, and 3% reported that their supply had been affected by border closures. Compared to other governorates, surveyed vendors in Deir-ez-Zor more commonly reported that border closures impacted supply, with 24% citing this as an issue.

Figure 1: Top 4 most commonly reported supply challenges by surveyed vendors (1,799 respondents)



## RESTOCKING

In addition to facing the above-mentioned supply challenges, 2% of the 1,799 surveyed vendors reported that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies, most commonly reported by gas vendors in Al-Hasakeh, Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor governorates. When asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supplies were to be cut, 37% of surveyed

vendors said that they would run out of supplies in less than 3 days and 24% said in 3 to 7 days (see figure 2). Across shop types, surveyed water trucking vendors (87%), vegetable vendors (83%), bakers (71%) and butchers (70%) 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 governorate and 100% of bakers and vegetable vendors in Deir-Ez-Zor reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if unable to restock.

Figure 2: Reported number of days before all types of vendors would hypothetically run out of stock, if supply lines were to be cut (1,799 respondents)



## AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

In March, informal currency exchange vendors were also asked about their stock levels for USD banknotes of different denominations. Across NES, 97% of the 141 surveyed currency vendors reported having limited stock of one or more denomination. Vendors most commonly reported limited supplies of larger denomination notes such as 100 USD (67%) and 50 USD (60%), 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 67% of surveyed currency vendors) and 10 USD banknotes most commonly reported as being limited in Deir-ez-Zor (75%) and 20 USD banknotes most commonly reported as being limited in Ar-Raqqa (86%).

# NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



## MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

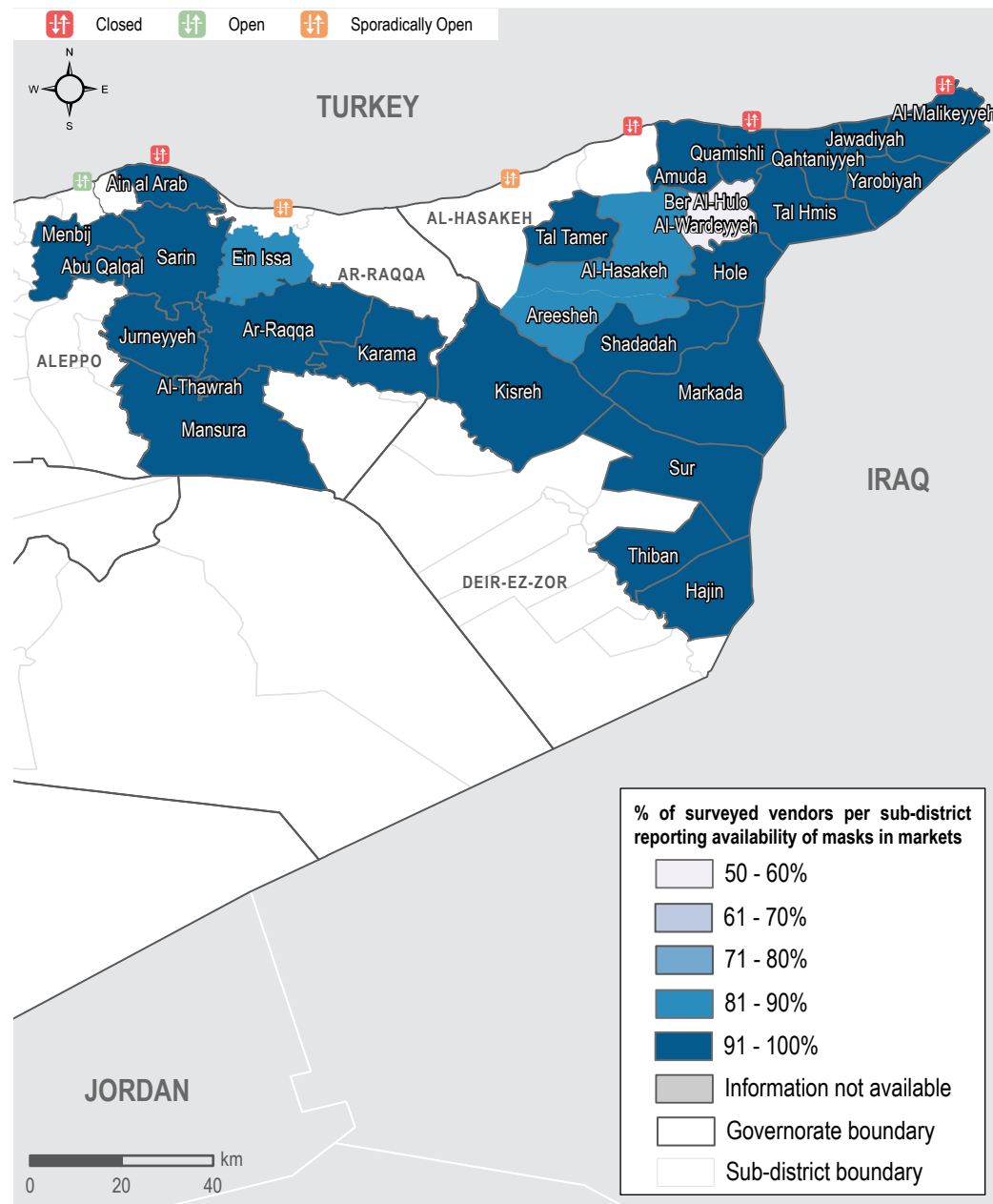
Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	488	25,000	10,000	5,400	1,700	3,500
Abu Qalqal	400	26,000	7,500	7,000	1,725	3,200
Ain al Arab	500	42,500	8,000	6,750	1,600	4,500
Al-Hasakeh	500	27,500	12,250	7,000	1,700	3,750
Al-Malikeyyeh	400	22,000	15,000	2,500	2,300	NA
Al-Thawrah	500	24,000	13,500	3,500	1,500	4,000
Amuda	300	27,500	10,000	9,500	2,600	NA
Ar-Raqqa	500	25,000	6,000	4,000	2,000	4,250
Areesheh	500	21,000	12,750	1,500	1,500	2,850
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	475	25,000	12,000	12,084*	1,500*	NA
Ein Issa	400*	26,000*	14,286	5,000*	2,000	3,500*
Hajin	500	23,000	6,800	5,800	2,800	4,500
Hole	400	25,250*	1,219	7,500	1,750	4,100
Jawadiyah	500	25,000	12,000	10,000	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	500	25,000	14,286	4,400	2,000	2,400
Karama	350	31,500	11,667	1,500	2,334	4,000
Kisreh	500	22,500	7,500	3,800	1,500	3,500
Mansura	500	23,000	14,286	4,000	2,200	2,200
Markada	500	18,000	10,000	4,900	1,700	NA
Menbij	400	25,000	7,400	7,000	1,750	3,250
Qahtaniyyeh	300	19,000	12,000	6,000	1,600	3,000
Quamishli	725	32,000	23,000	7,500	1,700	5,000
Sarin	300	40,075	10,000	6,250	1,500	1,980*
Shadadah	300	24,000	10,000	5,000	1,800	4,000
Sur	500	26,000	7,500	7,500	1,500	NA
Tal Hmis	450	25,500	12,000	8,500	2,300	NA
Tal Tamer	200*	1,000	5,000*	2,500*	1,250*	NA
Thiban	500	22,500	7,500	4,500	1,700	2,500*
Ya'robayyah	400	26,000	9,500	1,500	NA	NA

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



## AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

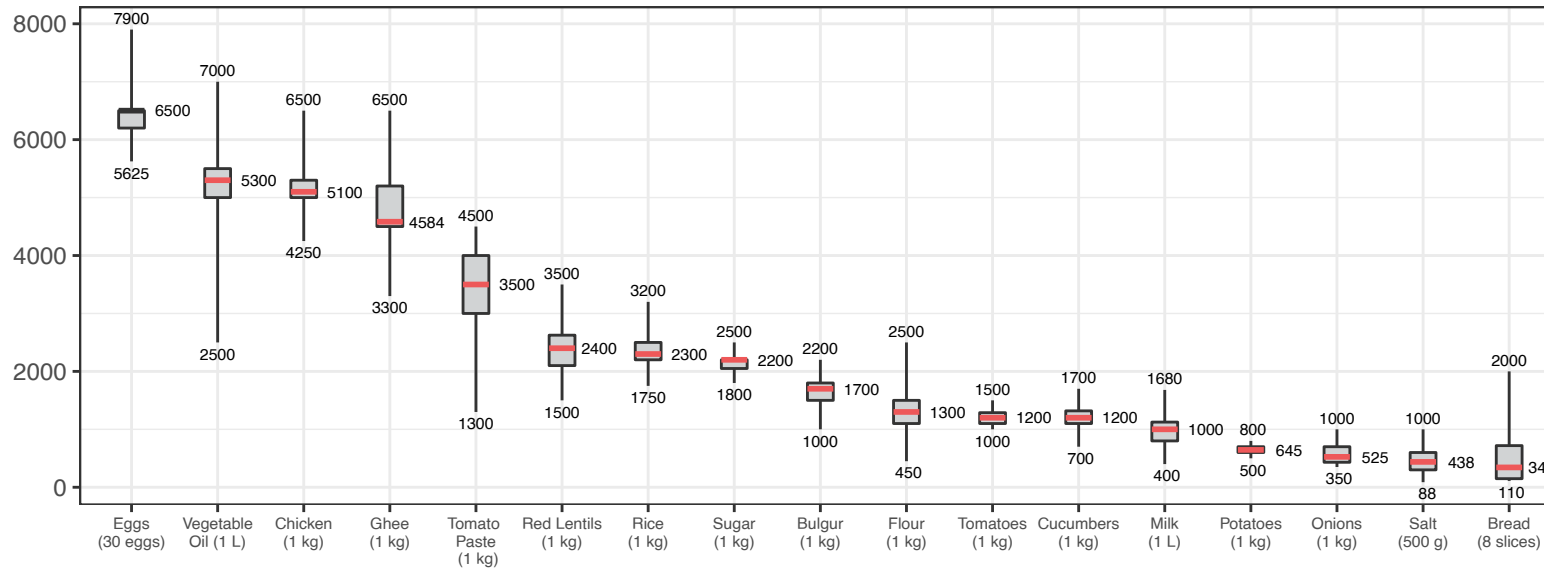
Northeast Syria



# NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

## ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

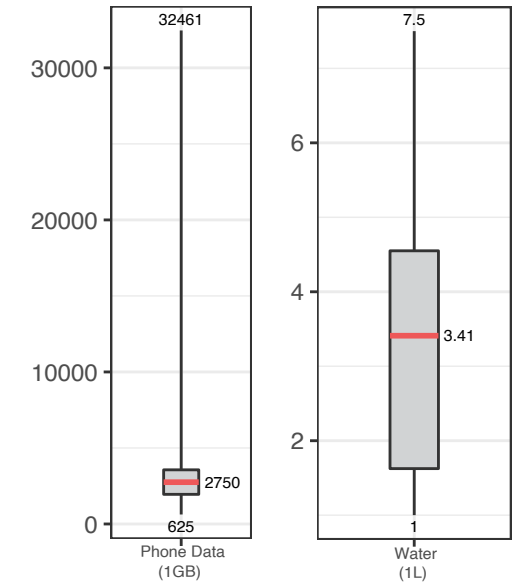


## CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds

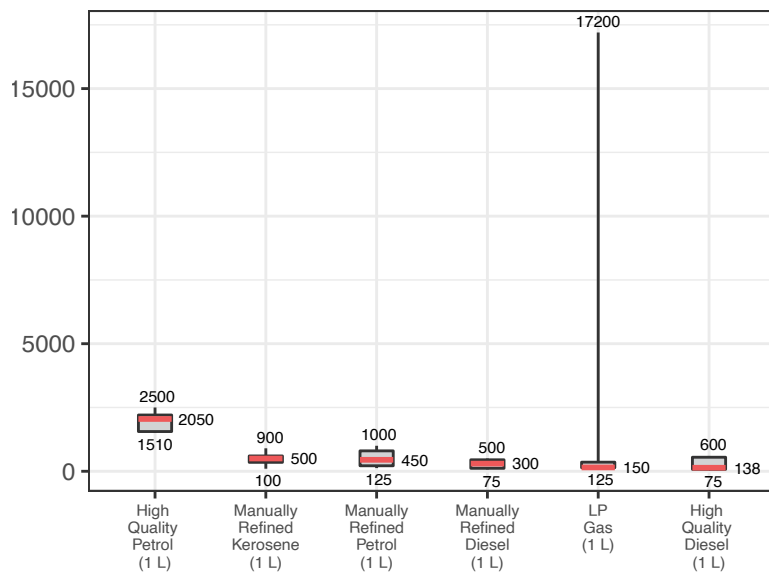
## WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



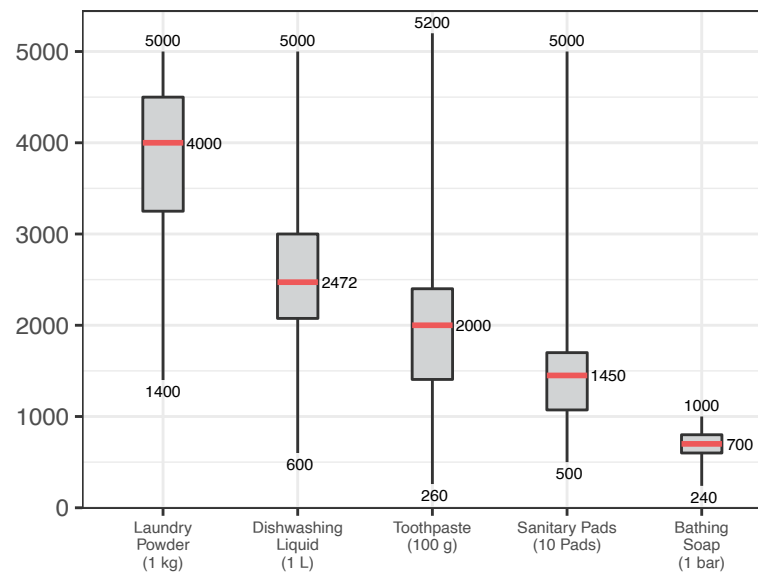
## ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

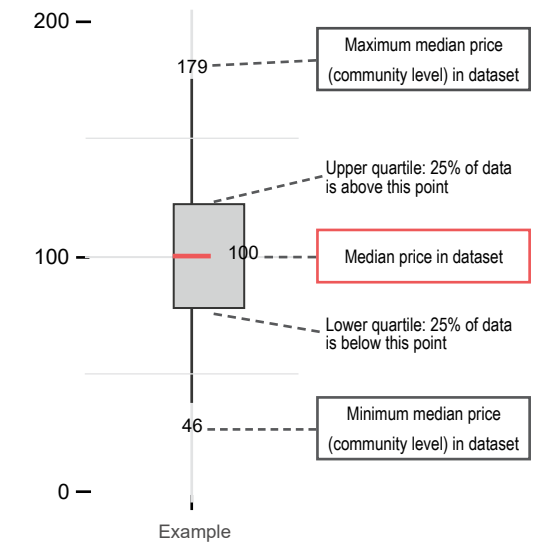


## ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

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 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](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.