

NORTHEAST SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 7th-14th June 2021

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash programming, REACH - in partnership with the northeast (NES) and northwest (NWS) Syria Cash Working Group (CWG) - conducts monthly Market Monitoring Exercises in northern Syria to assess the availability and prices of 36 basic commodities that are typically sold in markets and consumed by average Syrian households, including food and non-food items, water, fuel, and cell phone data.

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

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

Coverage and data collection dates

In June 2021, REACH and partners covered:

- 4 governorates
- 11 districts
- 30 subdistricts
- 61 communities
- 1,556 individual shops

In light of the fluctuation of the Syrian Pound (SYP)'s value and resulting market disruption, prices should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (7th-14th June 2021).

Partners

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

- ACTED
- ATAA
- CARE
- Danish Church Aid (DCA)
- People In Need (PIN)
- Global Communities
- Mercy corps
- Solidarités International
- Samaritans Purse

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

NES SMEB Basket Value Increase

SYP

SMEB June value: 333,879 SYP

One month change (compared to May): **increase of 3%**

Six month change (compared to December): **increase of 31%**

United States Dollar (USD)

SMEB June value: 107 USD

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

Six month change: **increase of 13%**

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

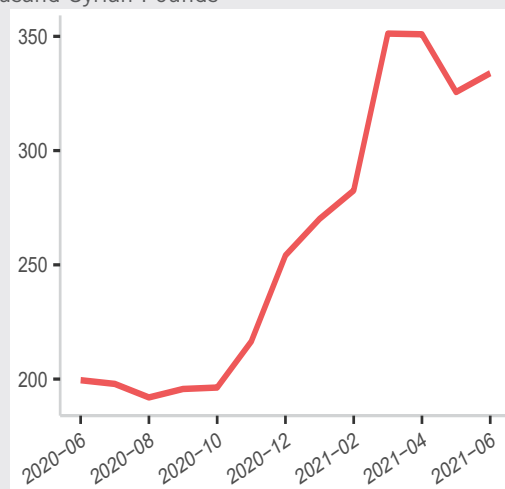
MEDIAN SMEB COST FOR NES

333,879 SYP (107 USD)

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

MEDIAN SMEB COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB Water Trucking Price Increase^{#1}

NES average: 14,243 SYP per 4,500 litres

One month price change: **increase of 6%**

Six month price change: **increase of 36%**

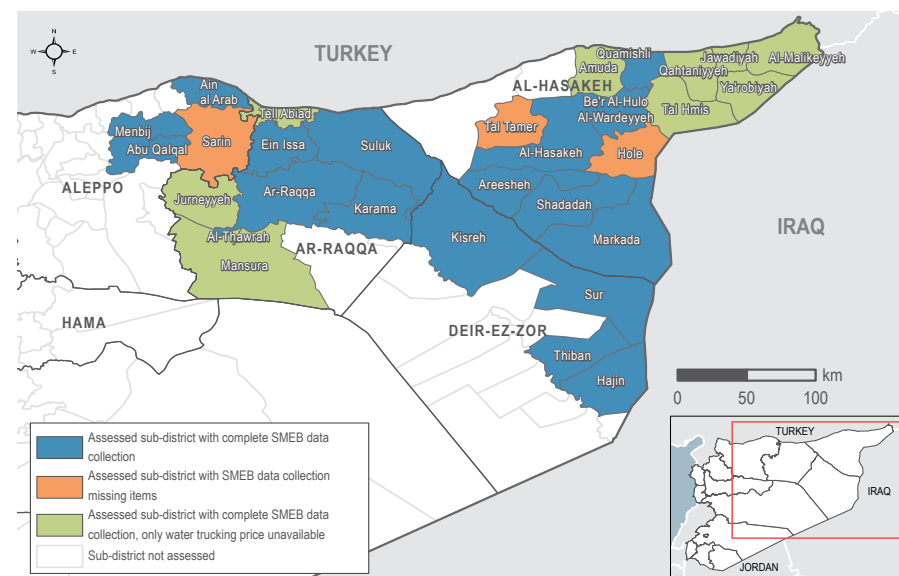
% of surveyed vendors reporting water trucking as unavailable in their community/ neighbourhood: 0%

Water trucking is the main source of clean water for most individuals. Water challenges in each governorate have led to erratic prices across the region, with Al-Hasakeh experiencing the highest costs, by far:

- Al-Hasakeh: 21,375 SYP
- Aleppo NE: 14,985 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 11,138 SYP
- Ar-Raqqa: 7,718 SYP

Water insufficiency presents itself differently within different contexts across NES, and no water source is without barriers. When these barriers to access present too great a challenge, communities must cope by finding alternative sources, or reducing water use in sometimes dangerous ways. For a detailed overview of the current water crisis, please see the [REACH Syria Briefing Note: Water Crisis in NES](#).

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE



^{#1} Equates to 25L per person for day. See page 7 for further water trucking data

NORTHEAST SYRIA - KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND OVERVIEW

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	333,879	3%	31%
Abu Qalqal*	330,469	1%	46%
Ain al Arab	304,601	-3%	26%
Al-Hasakeh	357,074	2%	30%
Al-Malikeyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah	NA	NA	NA
Amuda	NA	NA	NA
Areesheh	331,355	-7%	16%
Ar-Raqqa	319,628	0%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	356,593	NA	20%
Ein Issa	333,879	5%	26%
Hajin	321,300	-1%	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Karama	362,728	NA	42%
Kisreh	312,862	NA	28%
Mansura	NA	NA	NA
Markada	336,036	3%	30%
Menbij	340,403	3%	45%
Qahtaniyyeh	NA	NA	NA
Quamishli	345,129	0%	36%
Sarin*	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	324,746	-6%	30%
Suluk	390,622	NA	NA
Sur	341,217	7%	27%
Tal Hmis	NA	NA	NA
Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	321,748	2%	34%
Ya'robiyah	NA	NA	NA

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

** For these sub-districts, all of the SMEB items median prices rely on less than 3 observations.

Note: For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included. The above applies to all tables.

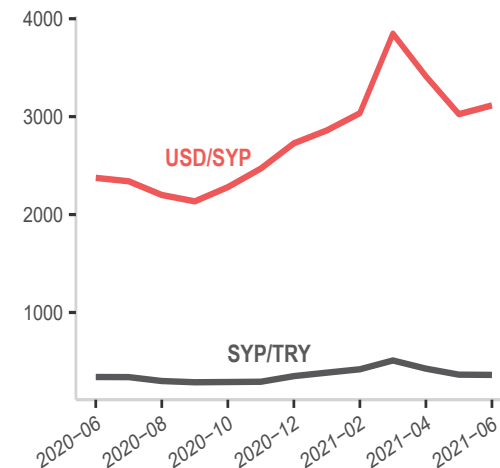
SURVIVAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (SMEB) CONTENTS

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

EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH AND CURRENCY



KEY DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

High Quality Fuels decrease^{#2}

The price of high quality transport fuels decreased in price across the region in June and improved in availability, although it remains expensive and there are still reports of cars queueing in long lines for hours to access fuels. Transport fuel is partly imported and partly produced locally, but REACH field teams reported that typical challenges include restrictions on imports from Government of Syria (GoS) areas due to their own limited supply, lack of production materials in the region, and general road closures.

High Quality Diesel

450 SYP per litre

One month price change: decrease of 18%

Six month price change: increase of 200%

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 79%

High Quality Petrol

1,980 SYP per litre

One month price change: decrease of 8%

Six month price change: increase of 15%

% of surveyed vendors reporting high quality petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 69%

Manually Refined Fuels Decrease

REACH field teams reported that low quality fuels are often used as transport fuel because high quality fuels are rarely available. Low quality manually refined fuels were reportedly widely available across NES. However, the price of manually refined

fuels varies greatly across governorates, typically because of high transportation costs and other regional challenges.

Manually Refined Diesel:

325 SYP per litre

One month price change: increase of 13%

Six month price change: increase of 86%

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined diesel as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 2%

Manually Refined Petrol:

650 SYP per litre

One month price change: increase of 30%

Six month price change: increase of 117%

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined petrol as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 2%

Exchange Rates Fall^{#3}

Informal USD/SYP regional median exchange rate: 3,115 SYP to 1 USD

One month rate change: increase of 3%

Six month rate change: increase of 14%

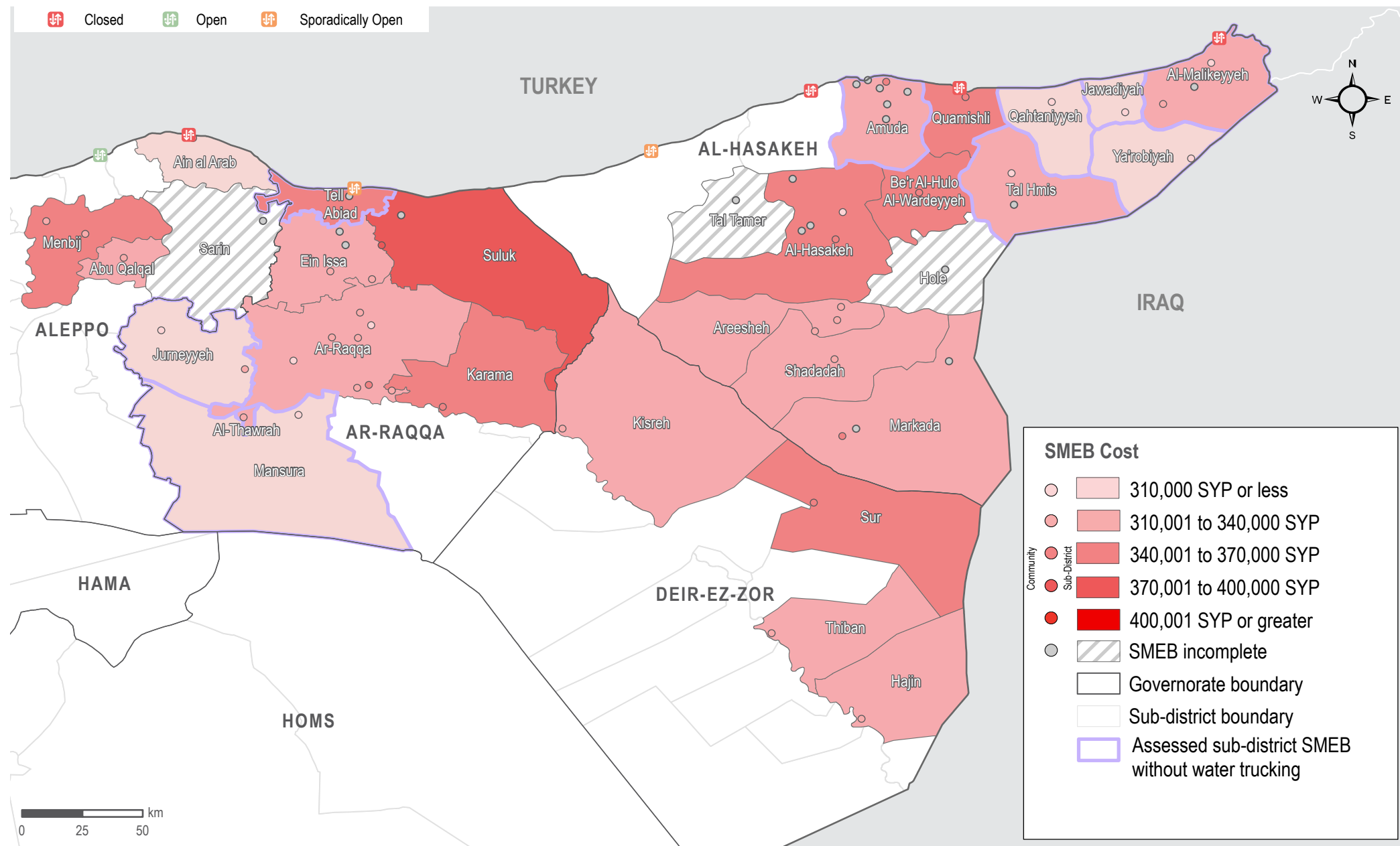
In June, both the Turkish Lira (TRY) and SYP depreciated against the USD, reversing a positive trend of appreciation seen in the last three months. This is considered the underlying factor for many price increases in June. The highest exchange rate was recorded at 3,150 SYP for 1 USD in both Disheisha community in Al-Hasakeh governorate and Hazimeh community in Ar-Raqqa governorate.

^{#3} To compare SYP prices to USD or TRY, our [June 2021 dataset](#) provides informal exchange rates at the regional, district, subdistrict and community levels, where data is available

^{#2} See page 11 for further fuel data

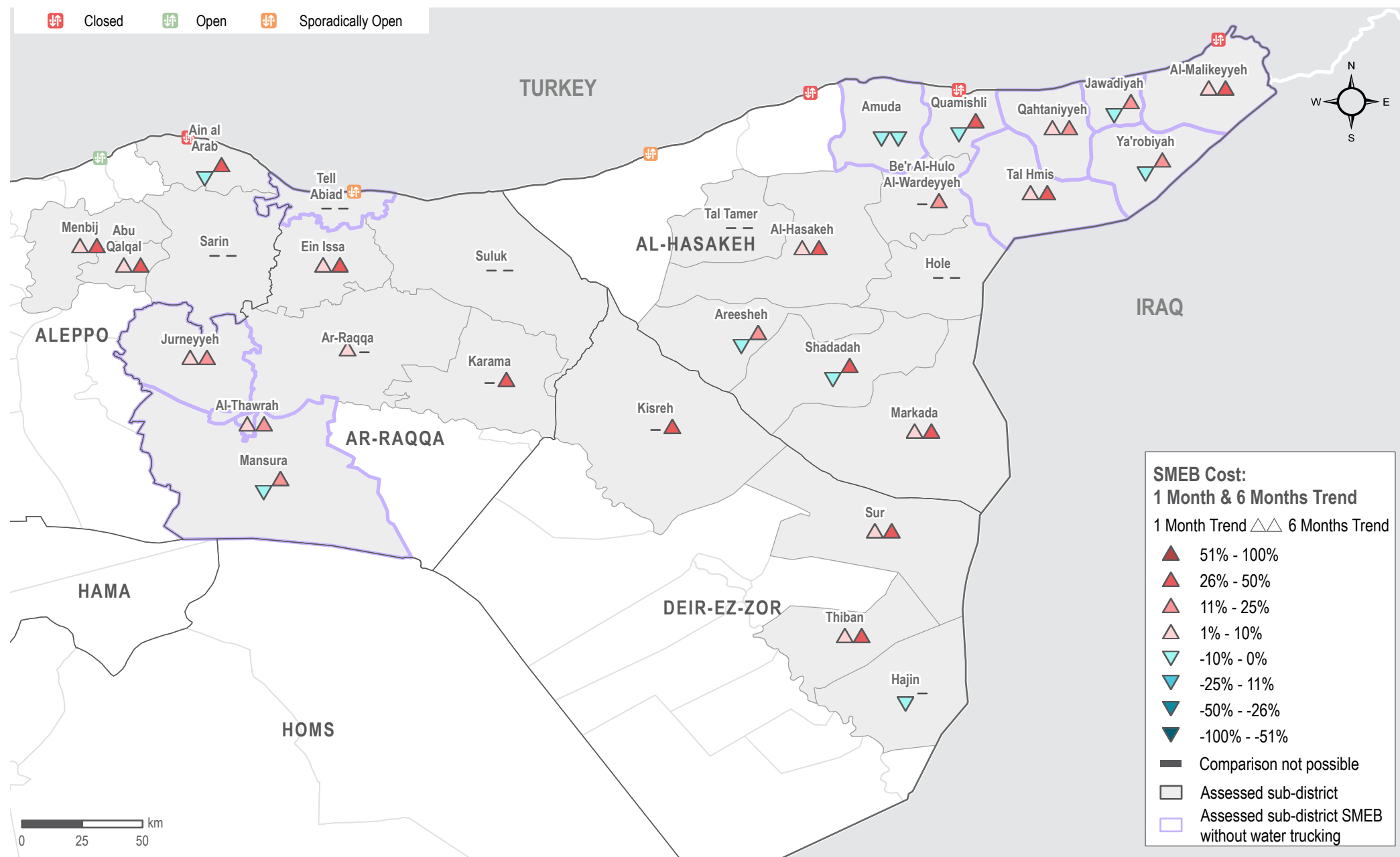
NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST RANGES

SMEB COST: 1 MONTH AND 6 MONTHS TREND



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

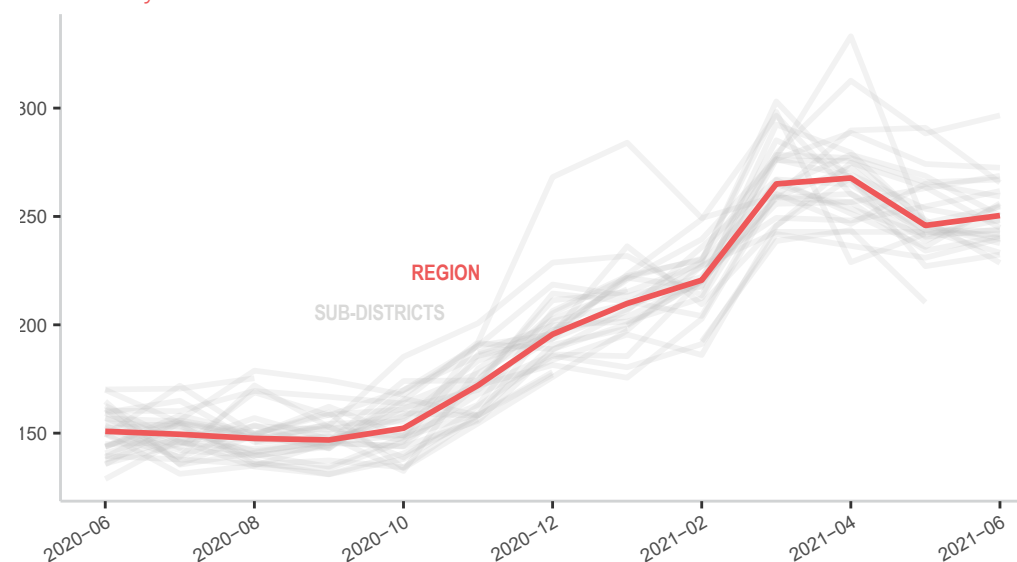
Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	250,413	2%	27%
Abu Qalqal*	259,250	-2%	43%
Ain al Arab	237,675	-3%	25%
Al-Hasakeh	267,075	0%	30%
Al-Malikeyyeh	261,729	3%	35%
Al-Thawrah	248,400	3%	18%
Amuda	265,629	-9%	-1%
Areesheh	250,413	-7%	17%
Ar-Raqqa	244,075	1%	25%
Be'r Al-Hulo	252,739	NA	11%
Al-Wardeyyeh	252,739	NA	11%
Ein Issa	254,387	3%	26%
Hajin	247,650	-2%	NA
Hole	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah	228,589	-8%	13%
Jurneyyeh	240,850	3%	22%

Sub-district	SMEB Food	One month change	Six month change
Karama	296,650	3%	51%
Kisreh	239,800	4%	29%
Mansura	240,002	-2%	10%
Markada	255,039	7%	35%
Menbij	268,750	2%	44%
Qahtaniyyeh	232,412	2%	19%
Quamishli	272,475	-1%	38%
Sarin**	NA	NA	NA
Shadadah	244,747	-7%	33%
Suluk	265,313	NA	NA
Sur	256,036	9%	28%
Tal Hmis	243,383	0%	29%
Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	257,897	NA	NA
Thiban	241,700	0%	37%
Ya'robiyah	233,250	-4%	20%

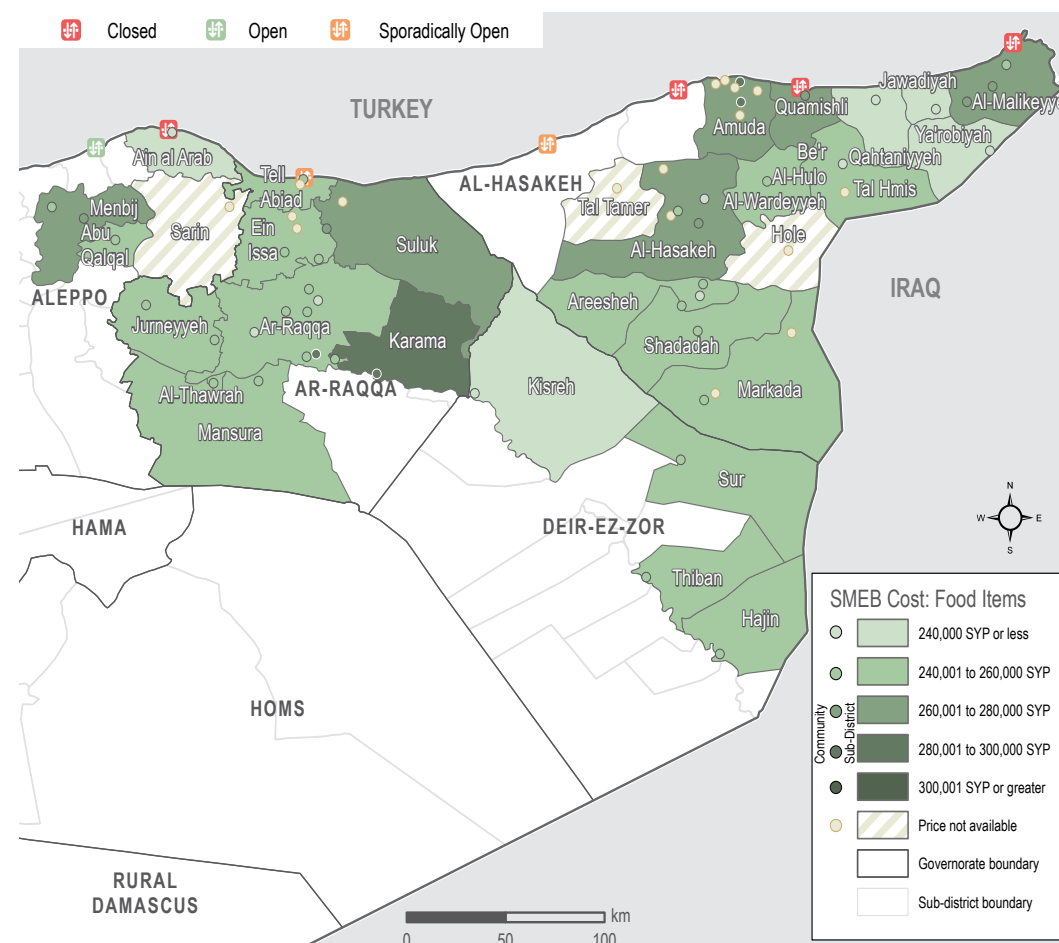
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD COMPONENT 250,413 SYP (80 USD)^{#4}

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

Six month price change: **increase of 27%**

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

- 9% for chicken

Highest % of surveyed vendors reporting a SMEB food item as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood for previous month

- 8% for bread

SMEB VEGETABLE COMPONENT 8,250 SYP (3 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 32%**

Six month price change: **decrease of 23%**

- Potatoes: increased by **12%**
- Onions: no change (**0%**)
- Tomatoes: decreased by **49%**
- Cucumbers: decreased by **52%**

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

Note that, whilst the price of potatoes in June (700 SYP per kilo) was considerably higher than in May (600 SYP), July data indicates that, at the time of publication, the price of potatoes has returned back to 600 SYP per kilo. This suggests a short term supply or storage issue with the product that affected its price in June. The price increase was highest in Deir-Ez-Zor (21%) followed by Ar-Raqqa (18%).

SMEB BULK FOODS 121,192 SYP (40 USD)

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

Six month price change: **increase of 23%**

- Rice: increased by **7%**
- Sugar: increased by **4%**
- Bulgur: increased by **3%**
- Red lentils: no change (**0%**)
- Tomato paste: decreased by **2%**
- Salt: decreased by **20%**

According to REACH field teams, these items are typically imported, as such their prices mostly increased due to depreciation of the SYP against the TRY and USD.

BREAD 259 SYP PER 8 PIECE BUNDLE (0.1 USD)

One month price change: **decrease of 6%**

Six month price change: **decrease of 19%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting bread as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 9%

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

- Al-Hasakeh: 437 SYP
- NE Aleppo: 525 SYP
- Ar-Raqqa: 250 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 250 SYP

FLOUR 1,500 SYP PER KILO (0.5 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 15%**

Six month price change: **increase of 88%**

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

For a deeper analysis of the agricultural context in Syria, please see the [FAO Agriculture Input and Commodity Bulletin for May 2021](#).

CHICKEN 5,225 SYP PER KILO (1.7 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 4%**

Six month price change: **increase of 63%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting chicken as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 9%

Prices for chicken increased slightly as expected, due to the depreciation of the SYP against the USD.

EGGS 6,000 SYP FOR 30 EGGS (1.9 USD)

One month price change: **no change (0%)**

Six month price change: **increase of 9%**

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

COOKING FUELS

Kerosene is the typical cooking fuel in NES and is also used for heating, but may on occasion be substituted with LP gas. Both cooking fuels saw increases in price and unavailability, despite the summer season.

Manually Refined Kerosene:

500 SYP per litre (0.2 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 16%**

Six month price change: **increase of 25%**

% of surveyed vendors reporting manually refined kerosene as unavailable in their community/neighbourhood: 13%

LP Gas:

3,469 SYP per canister^{#5} (1.1 USD)

One month price change: **increase of 3%**

Six month price change: **increase of 11%**

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

^{#4} June informal regional exchange rate for NES: 3,115 SYP

^{#5} Prices are taken for the cheapest available canister at the time of data collection, which is typically 20-25 litres.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: WATER TRUCKING

MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

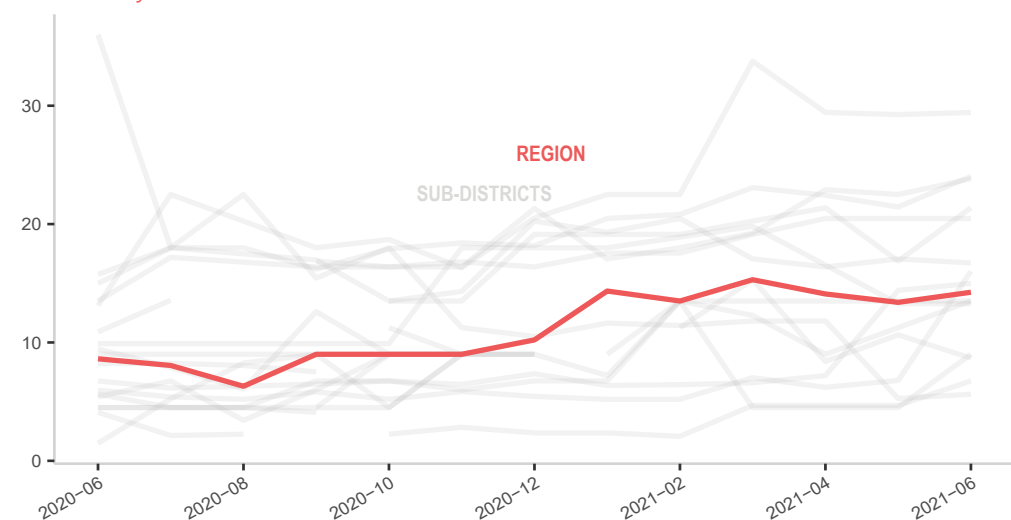
4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	14,243	6%	36%
Abu Qalqal	16,020	136%	194%
Ain al Arab	13,500	20%	100%
Al-Hasakeh	23,828	6%	12%
Al-Malikiyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Al-Thawrah**	NA	NA	NA
Amuda**	NA	NA	NA
Areesheh	20,475	0%	25%
Ar-Raqqa	8,685	-18%	NA
Be'r Al-Hulo	21,375	27%	12%
Al-Wardeyyeh**	NA	NA	NA
Ein Issa	6,750	44%	186%
Hajin	9,000	100%	NA
Hole**	24,030	12%	32%
Jawadiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Jurneyeh**	NA	NA	NA

Sub-district	SMEB Water	One month change	Six month change								
Karama**	4,500	NA	100%								
Kisreh	9,000	NA	-12%								
Mansura**	NA	NA	NA								
Markada	16,718	-2%	-17%								
Menbij**	14,985	4%	104%								
Qahtaniyyeh**	NA	NA	NA								
Quamishli	5,625	7%	-46%								
Sarin**	NA	NA	NA								
Shadadah	29,430	1%	43%								
Suluk	27,090	NA	NA								
Sur**	13,275	0%	-26%								
Tal Hmis**	NA	NA	NA								
Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA								
Tell Abiad**	NA	NA	NA </tr <tr> <td>Thiban</td> <td>13,500</td> <td>0%</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ya'robiyah**</td> <td>NA</td> <td>NA</td> <td>NA</td> </tr>	Thiban	13,500	0%	50%	Ya'robiyah**	NA	NA	NA
Thiban	13,500	0%	50%								
Ya'robiyah**	NA	NA	NA								

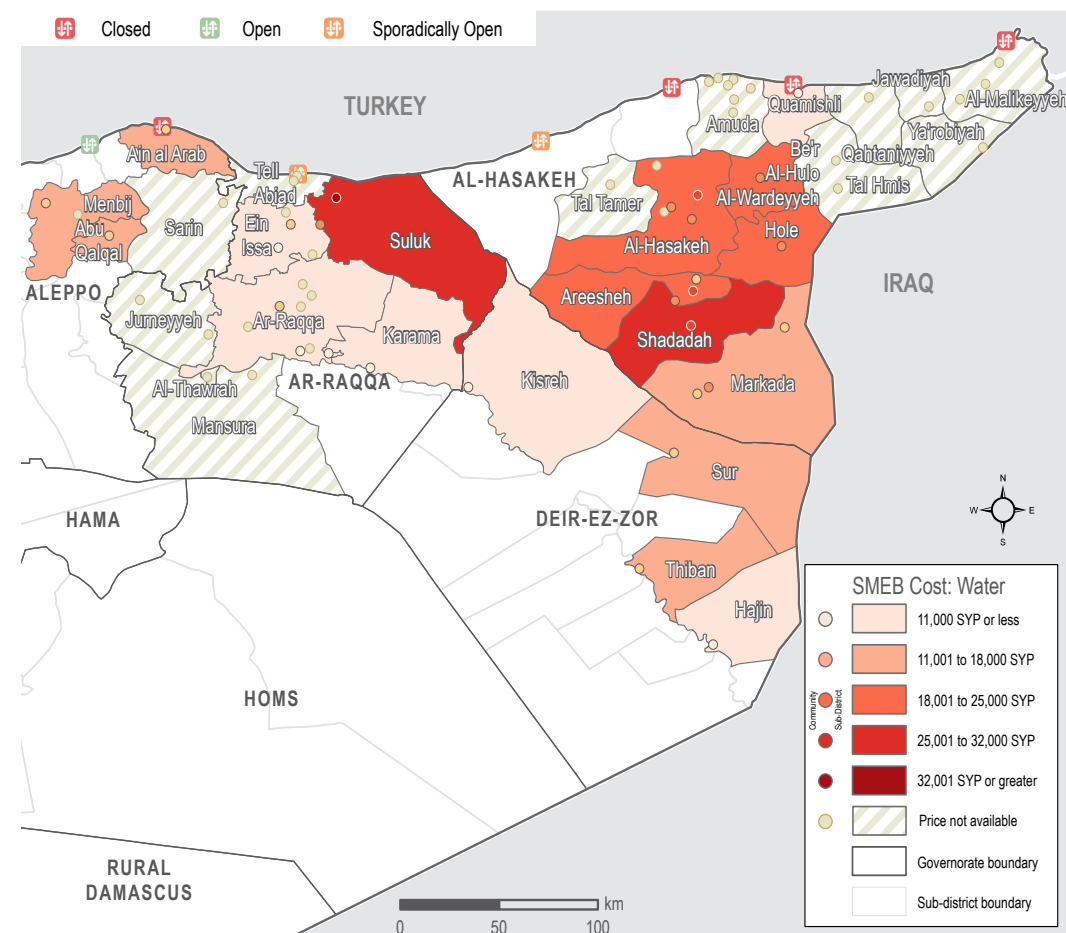
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



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

- Al-Hasakeh: 21,375 SYP
- Aleppo NE: 14,985 SYP
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 11,138 SYP
- Ar-Raqqa: 7,718 SYP

NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: HYGIENE ITEMS

MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

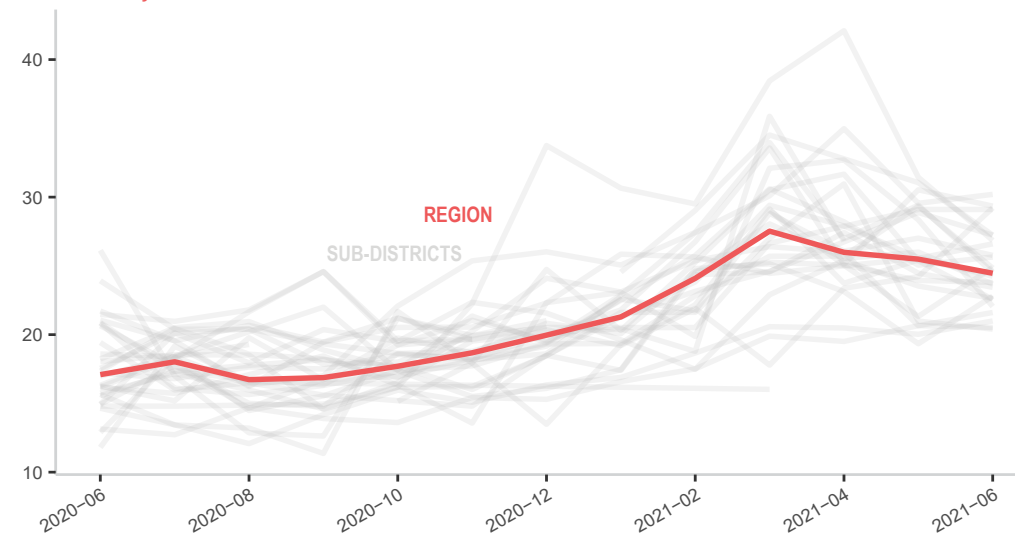
12 bars of soap, 4 packs of 10 sanitary pads, 3kg of laundry/dish soap, 200g of toothpaste, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	24,463	-4%	25%
Abu Qalqal**	20,522	-1%	34%
Ain al Arab	23,675	-9%	28%
Al-Hasakeh	25,759	-5%	34%
Al-Malikeyyeh	29,216	21%	44%
Al-Thawrah	24,409	-4%	81%
Amuda	24,517	-17%	-6%
Areesheh	22,050	-22%	-1%
Ar-Raqqa	24,244	-5%	31%
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	41,100	NA	104%
Ein Issa	22,574	-11%	-9%
Hajin	27,234	-12%	NA
Hole	23,795	-1%	28%
Jawadiyah	26,850	-15%	-20%
Jurneyyeh	24,891	17%	20%

Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Karama	21,611	5%	-10%
Kisreh	27,234	-6%	39%
Mansura	22,790	18%	42%
Markada	24,835	-15%	29%
Menbij	20,994	5%	28%
Qahtaniyyeh	22,634	-4%	5%
Quamishli	30,200	2%	55%
Sarin	23,439	-4%	NA
Shadadah	20,400	-3%	10%
Suluk	29,966	NA	NA
Sur	29,100	0%	42%
Tal Hmis	29,345	-4%	47%
Tal Tamer**	19,750	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	21,757	NA	NA
Thiban	26,600	4%	19%
Ya'robiyah	25,643	2%	32%

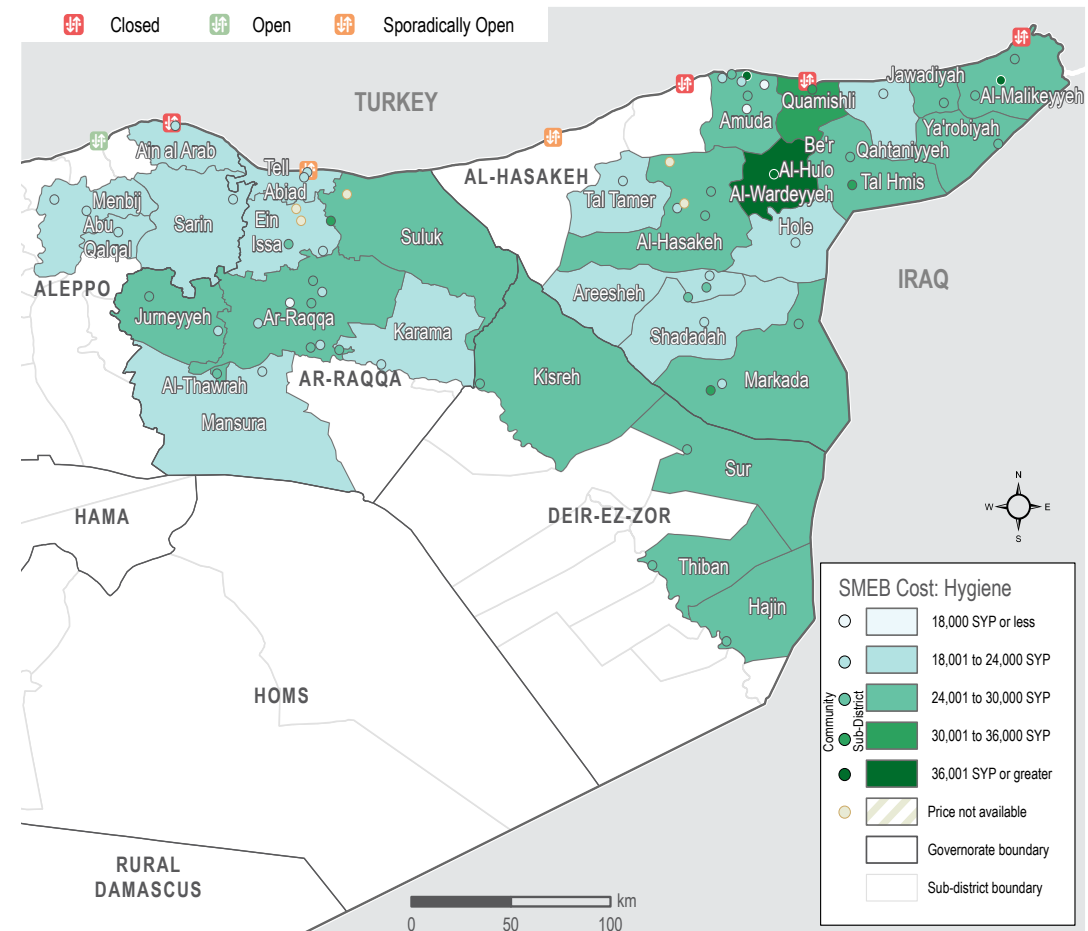
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: PHONE DATA

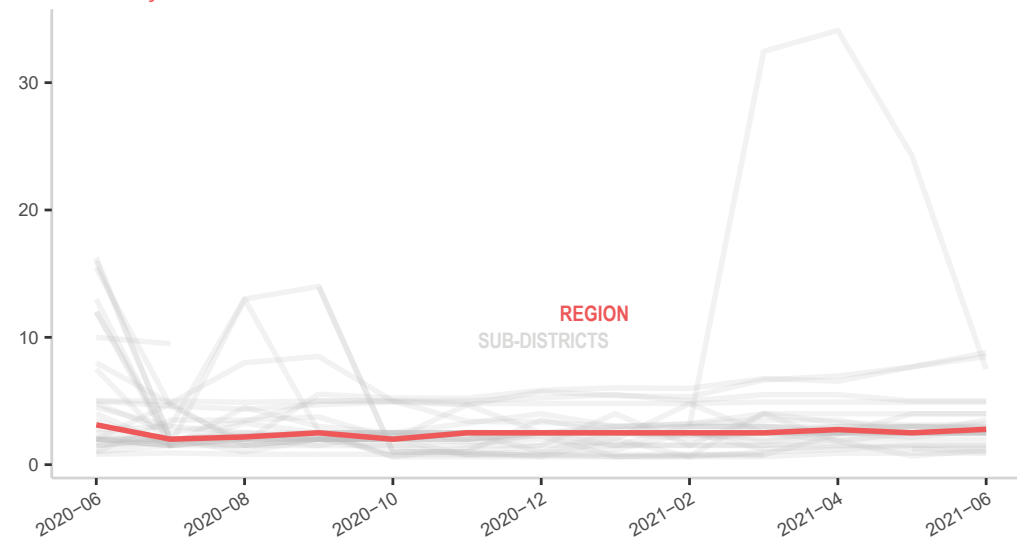
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	2,775	11%	11%
Abu Qalqal**	8,496	11%	46%
Ain al Arab	5,000	0%	-5%
Al-Hasakeh	3,000	0%	20%
Al-Malikeyyeh	1,500	0%	140%
Al-Thawrah	4,915	0%	2%
Amuda	2,750	28%	10%
Areesheh	2,800	-7%	12%
Ar-Raqqa	2,825	-6%	13%
Be'r Al-Hulo	4,000	0%	167%
Al-Wardeyyeh	4,000	0%	167%
Ein Issa	2,500	0%	0%
Hajin	2,500	0%	NA
Hole	3,200	3%	-20%
Jawadiyah	900	0%	44%
Jurneyyeh	2,500	2%	-25%

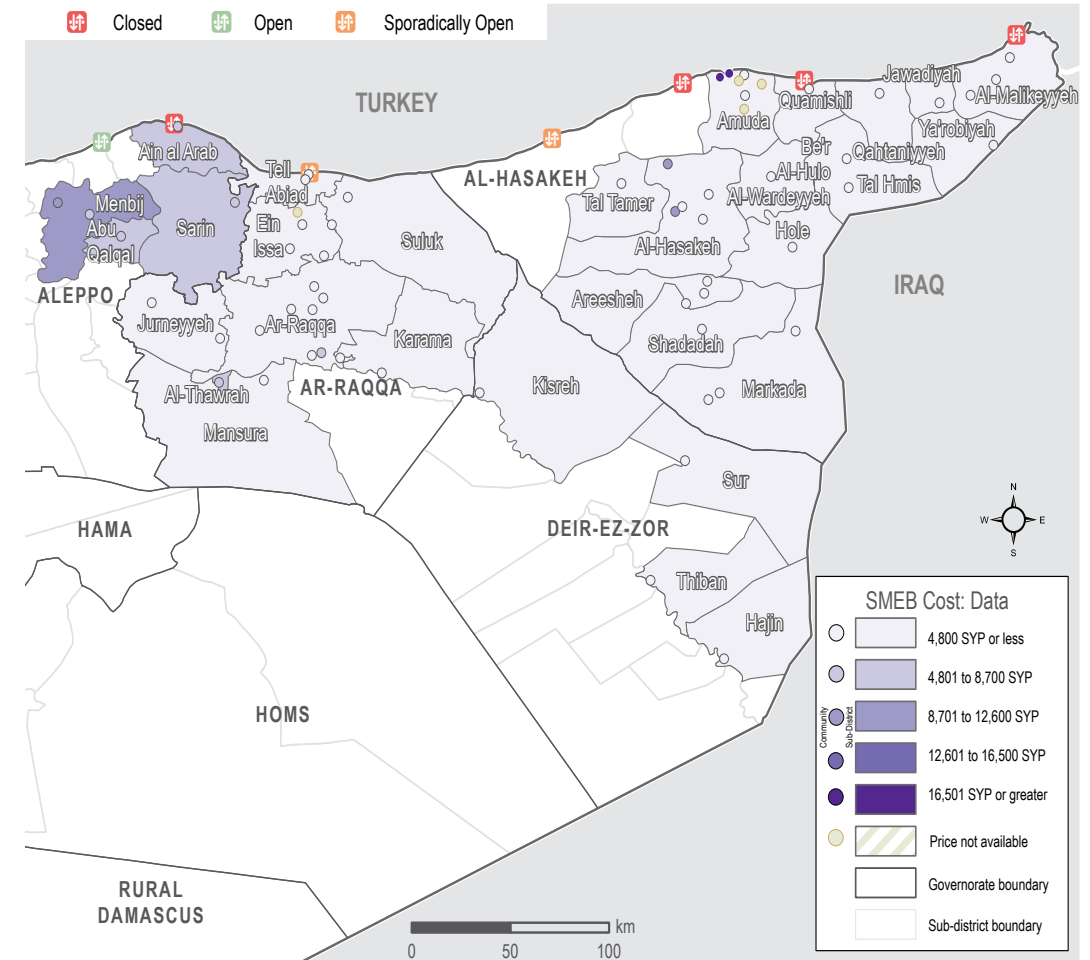
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - SMEB COST: COOKING FUEL

MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

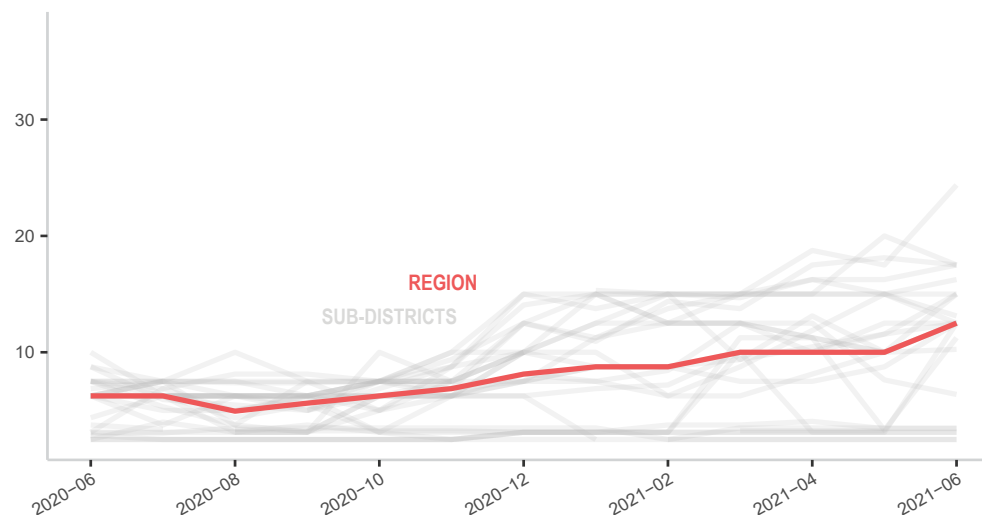
Kerosene 25L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	12,500	25%	67%
Abu Qalqal*	3,125	0%	0%
Ain al Arab*	3,500	0%	0%
Al-Hasakeh	12,500	43%	67%
Al-Malikeyyeh*	11,250	240%	260%
Al-Thawrah	16,250	8%	30%
Amuda*	2,500	0%	0%
Areesheh	12,500	25%	25%
Ar-Raqqa	17,500	8%	17%
Be'r Al-Hulo	12,500	25%	67%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	12,500	25%	67%
Ein Issa	24,375	39%	63%
Hajin*	12,500	8%	NA
Hole**	NA	NA	NA
Jawadiyah**	12,500	0%	100%
Jurneyyeh	17,500	-3%	40%

Sub-district	SMEB Cooking Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Karama	13,125	-13%	5%
Kisreh	12,500	25%	25%
Mansura*	17,500	-13%	75%
Markada	12,500	-17%	25%
Menbij	3,125	0%	0%
Qahtaniyyeh**	12,500	300%	300%
Quamishli*	10,250	3%	26%
Sarin**	2,500	0%	NA
Shadadah*	6,375	-16%	-15%
Suluk	37,500	NA	NA
Sur*	15,000	0%	50%
Tal Hmis*	15,000	30%	100%
Tal Tamer**	NA	NA	NA
Tell Abiad	37,500	NA	NA
Thiban	15,000	50%	7%
Ya'robiyah*	3,438	0%	10%

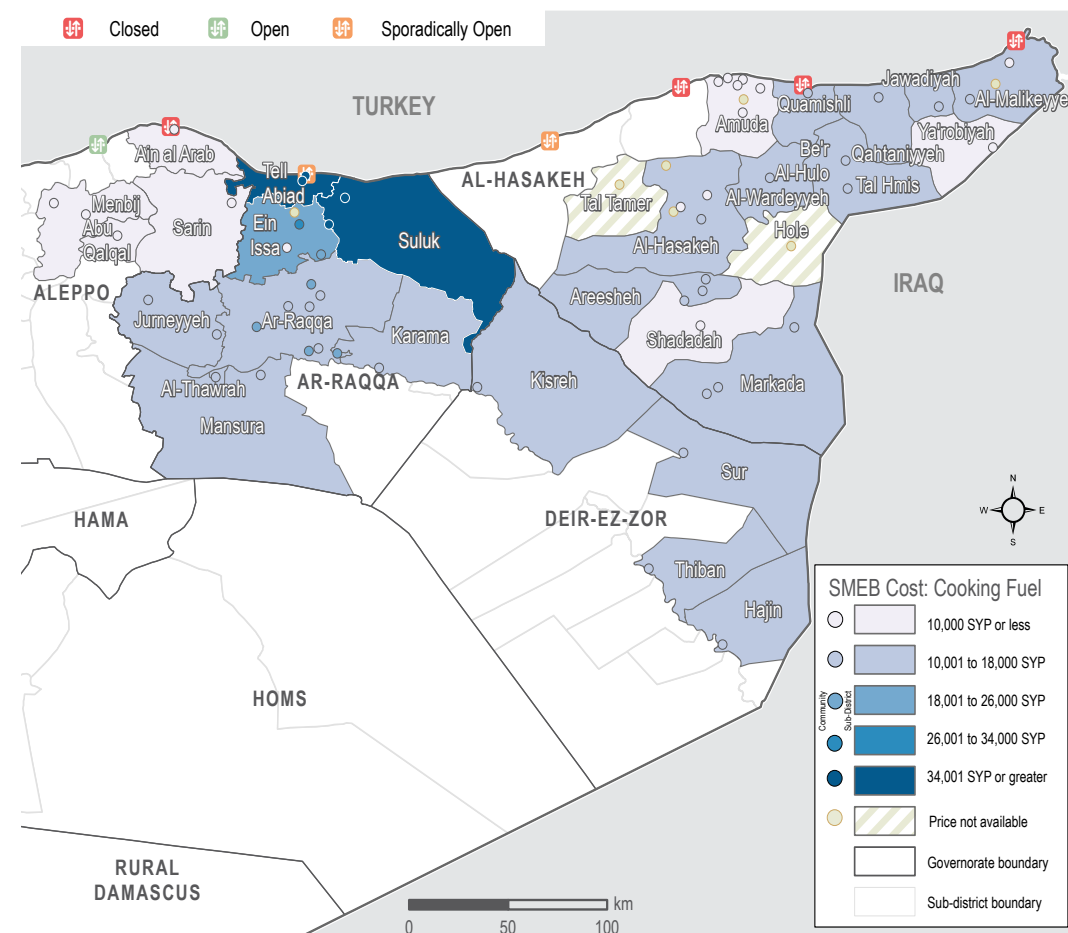
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



NORTHEAST SYRIA - TRANSPORT FUEL

MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

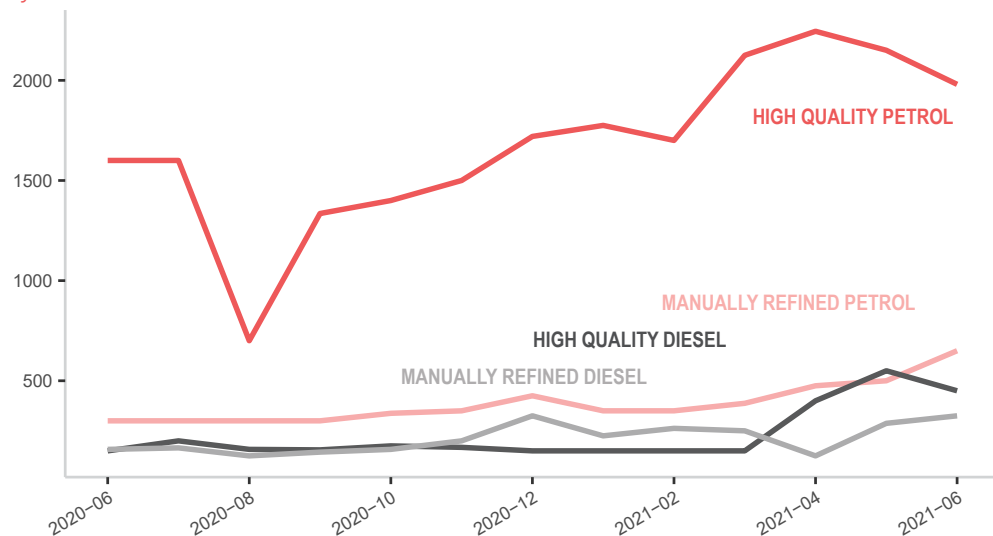
Diesel and Petrol, 1L (High Quality and Manually Refined), Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northeast Syria	569	6%	5%
Abu Qalqal*	168	-1%	-76%
Ain al Arab*	614	-21%	-13%
Al-Hasakeh	800	-9%	38%
Al-Malikeyyeh	759	-3%	13%
Al-Thawrah*	800	-50%	-16%
Amuda**	174	-9%	-74%
Areesheh*	588	25%	12%
Ar-Raqqa	1,275	17%	24%
Be'r Al-Hulo	500	25%	-30%
Al-Wardeyyeh*	500	25%	-30%
Ein Issa*	850	49%	48%
Hajin*	500	-4%	NA
Hole**	143	0%	-37%
Jawadiyah**	288	0%	74%
Jurneyyeh*	875	12%	52%

Sub-district	Transport Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Karama*	700	8%	40%
Kisreh*	550	10%	10%
Mansura*	750	0%	67%
Markada*	525	-13%	17%
Menbij*	1,145	0%	68%
Qahtaniyyeh**	145	1%	66%
Quamishli	669	-9%	23%
Sarin**	161	4%	NA
Shadadah*	143	0%	-62%
Suluk*	1,700	NA	NA
Sur*	600	9%	20%
Tal Hmis*	500	29%	111%
Tal Tamer**	128	NA	NA
Tell Abiad*	1,856	NA	NA
Thiban*	525	-2%	-3%
Ya'robiyah*	188	-32%	-73%

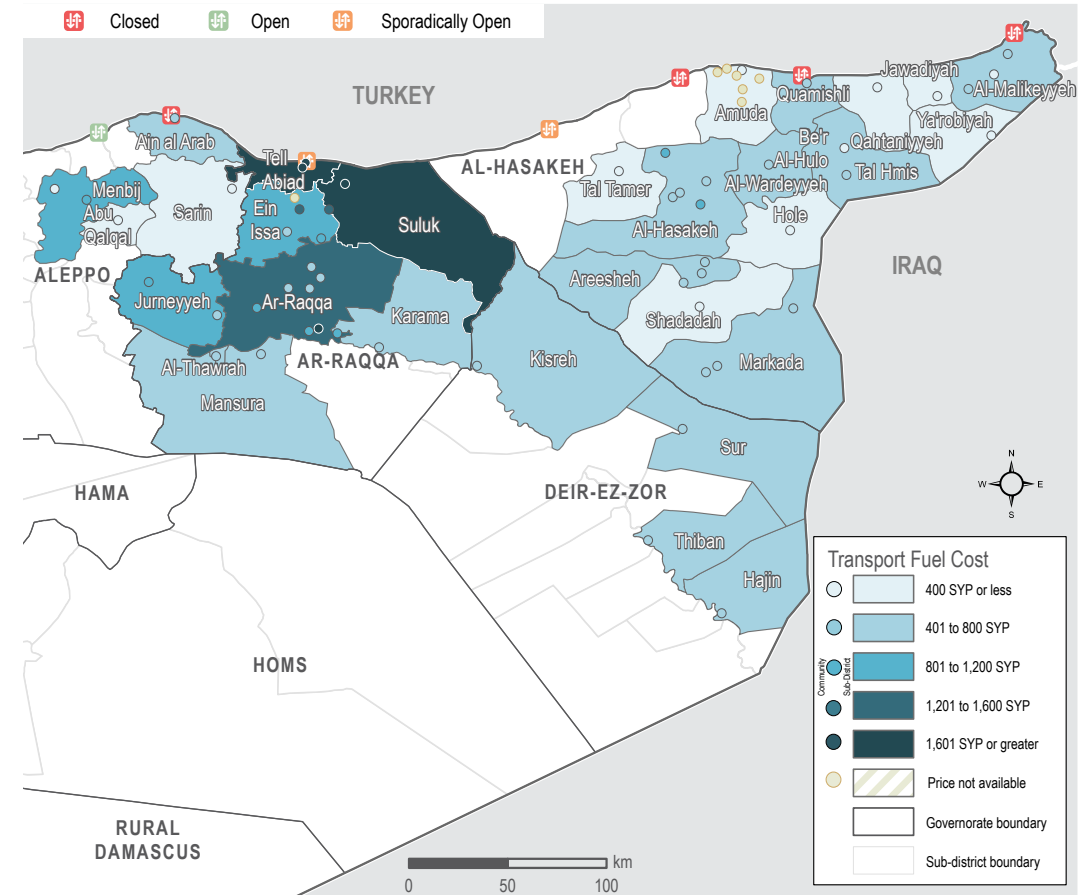
MEDIAN FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



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

NES Manually Refined Diesel: 325 SYP per litre

- Al-Hasakeh: 100 SYP per litre
- NE Aleppo: 125 SYP per litre
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 400 SYP per litre
- Ar-Raqqa: 500 SYP per litre

NES Manually Refined Petrol: 650 SYP per litre

- NE Aleppo: 210 SYP per litre
- Al-Hasakeh: 400 SYP per litre
- Deir-Ez-Zor: 625 SYP per litre
- Ar-Raqqa: 1,100 SYP per litre

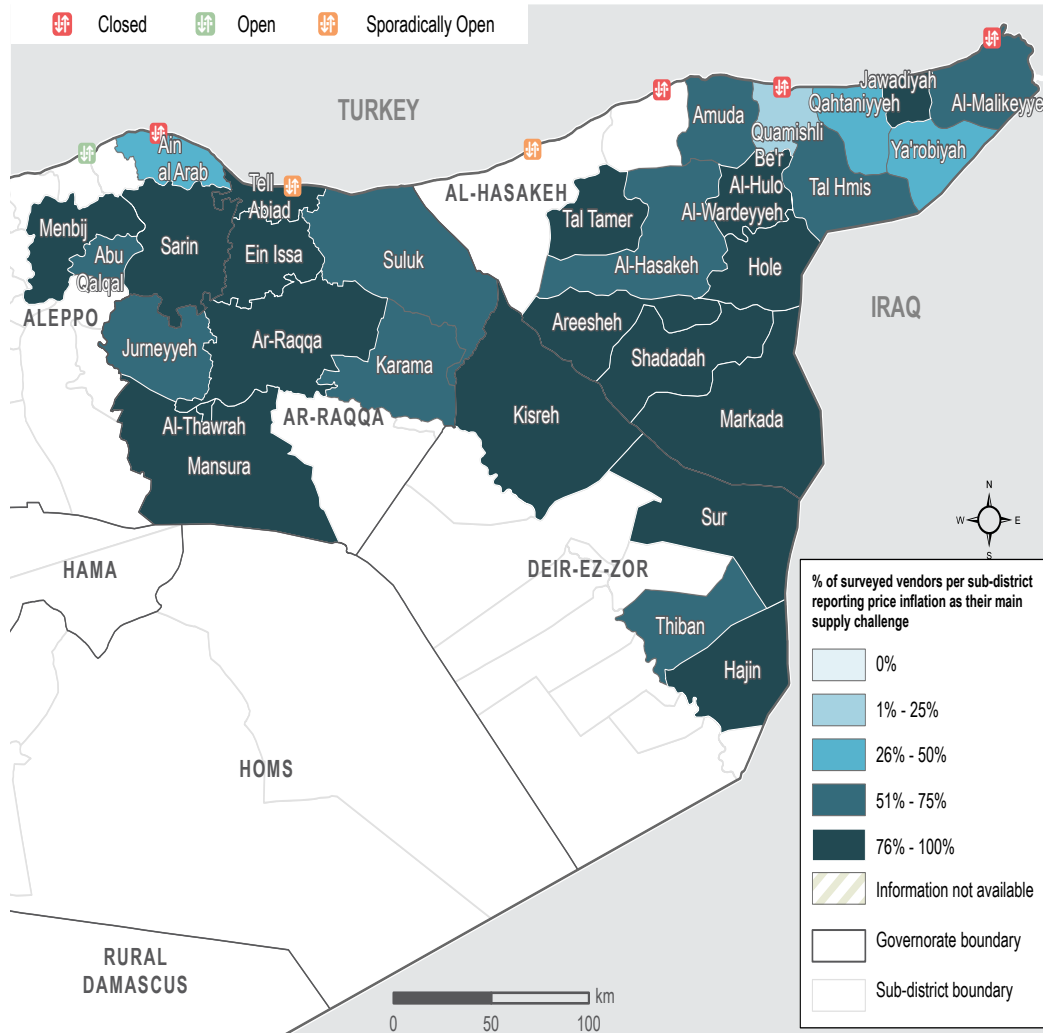
NORTHEAST SYRIA - MARKET FUNCTIONALITY



SUPPLY CHALLENGES - PRICE INFLATION

Sub-districts

Closed
 Open
 Sporadically Open



MARKET FUNCTIONALITY

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

Total surveyed vendors: 1,556

Surveyed vendors reported shop closure: 29 shops = 2% of all surveyed shops.

28 of these 29 closed shops were in Al-Hasakeh, and 1 in Deir-Ez-Zor.

One month change for number of closed shops: **increase of 4 percentage points (pp)**



SUPPLY CHALLENGES (SEE FIGURE 1)

Total surveyed vendors: 1,536

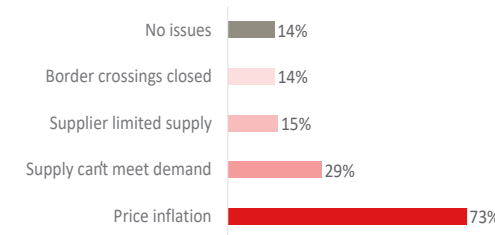
% of vendors who reported facing supply challenges: 86%

One month change for supply challenges: **increase of 2 pp**

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

One month change for price inflation: **no change**

Figure 1: Most commonly reported supply challenges by all surveyed vendors (1,536 respondents)



RESTOCKING (SEE FIGURE 2)

Number of surveyed vendors who were asked if they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 1,536

Surveyed vendors reporting that they would be unable to restock if they were to run out of supplies: 28 shops = 2% of all surveyed shops.

One month change for restocking: **increase of 1 pp**

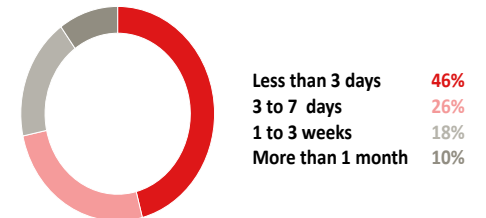
Surveyed vendors were asked after how many days they would hypothetically run out of stock if supply lines were to be cut:

Less than 3 days: 46%

One month change for less than 3 days: **increase of 1 pp**

Across shop types, surveyed water trucking vendors (89%), butchers (86%) and vegetable vendors (85%) 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 and Deir-Ez-Zor governorate reported that they would run out of supply in less than 3 days if supply lines were cut. Also in Deir-Ez-Zor, 100% of vegetable vendors, butchers and bakers all reported that they would run out 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 (1,536 respondents)



AVAILABILITY OF USD BANKNOTES

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

Surveyed currency vendors: 150

Surveyed vendors reporting having limited stock of one or more USD denomination: 98%

One month change for limited stock of one or more USD denomination: **increase of 2 pp**

The majority of surveyed vendors reported having a limited stock of all denominations of USD banknotes less than 50 USD. See [June 2021 dataset](#) for full USD denomination availability.

NORTHEAST SYRIA - COVID-19



MEDIAN PRICE OF COVID-19 ITEMS

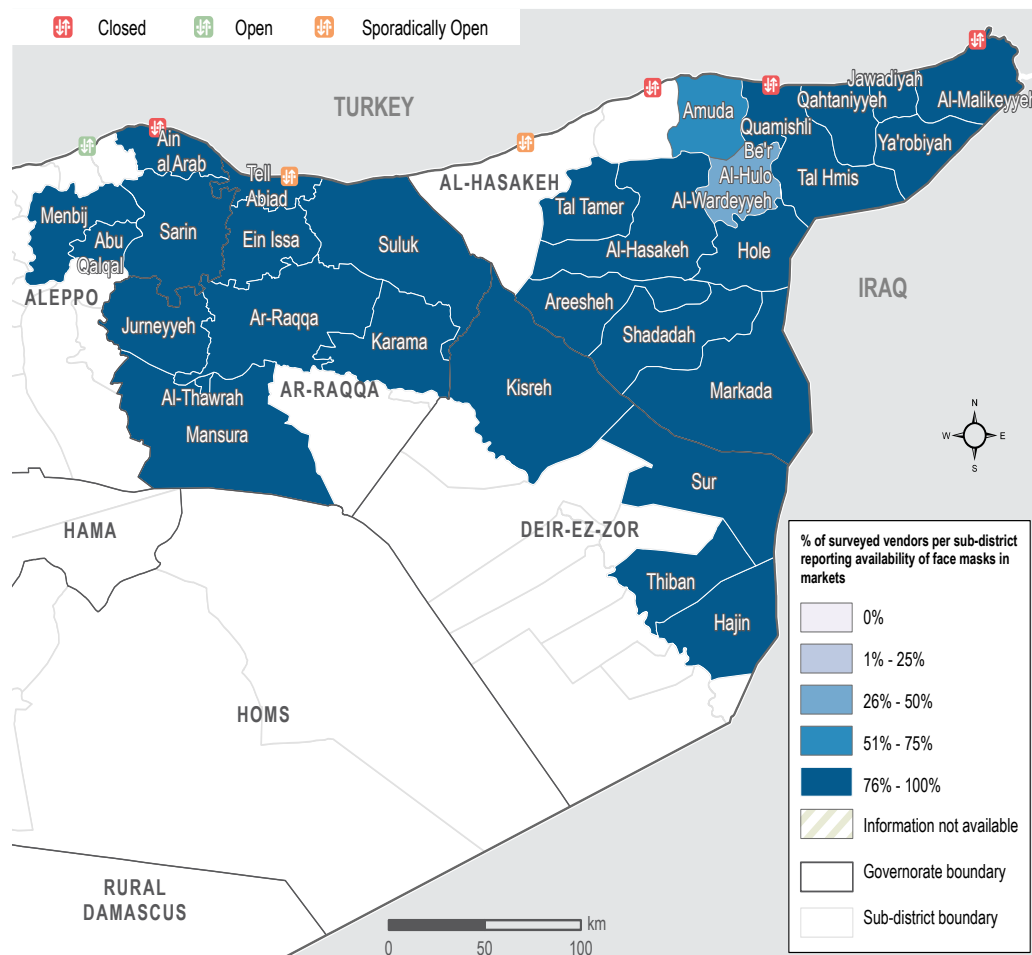
Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Face mask (1 piece)	Plastic gloves (box of 100)	Sterile alcohol (1 litre)	Hand sanitiser (500 ml)	Bottled bleach (1 litre)	Trash bags (roll of 30)
Northeast Syria	350	24,750	10,000	6,000	1,613	3,750
Abu Qalqal	400	24,000	7,250	7,500	1,600	3,600
Ain al Arab	500	28,000	10,000	6,000	1,500	3,750
Al-Hasakeh	500	24,500	11,000	6,500	1,600	5,275
Al-Malikeyyeh	300	25,000	9,500	3,000	1,500	4,000
Al-Thawrah	200	23,500	12,500	3,500	1,500	4,500*
Amuda	300	30,500	12,000	5,000	1,600	4,320*
Areeshah	500	17,500	10,000	900	1,500	4,000
Ar-Raqqa	400	21,000	10,000	4,000	1,700	3,500
Be'r Al-Hulo Al-Wardeyyeh	400	19,500	11,000	10,833	1,700	NA
Ein Issa	400	30,000	15,000	2,600	2,250	3,750*
Hajin	300	27,500	7,000	7,500	1,400	3,500
Hole	400	21,250*	1,438	7,500	1,650*	4,000*
Jawadiyah	300	20,000	10,000	7,500	1,500	NA
Jurneyyeh	300	31,000	10,667	2,800	1,800	5,000*
Karama	275	22,000	6,000	3,500	2,500	3,600*
Kisreh	300	28,000	7,500	8,000	1,300	4,000
Mansura	250	25,000	12,000	4,000	2,500	2,000
Markada	500	21,000	6,250	5,833	1,800	NA
Menbij	400	24,500	7,500	7,500	1,700	3,600
Qahtaniyyeh	300	20,000	8,333	4,750	1,500	3,200*
Quamishli	200	21,000	10,850	6,300	1,800	5,000*
Sarin	300*	25,500*	9,500*	4,200*	1,300	3,250*
Shadadah	300	18,000	10,000	6,000	1,000	3,500
Suluk	500	27,000	6,667*	7,813	1,625	2,400*
Sur	500	27,000	14,000	6,667*	1,800	4,500*
Tal Hmis	400	31,500	7,625	6,250	2,750	NA
Tal Tamer	200*	29,000*	15,000*	5,000*	1,500*	3,000*
Tell Abiad	500	20,000	11,500	5,000	1,500	3,000
Thiban	300	28,500	7,500	8,000	1,800	4,500
Ya'robiyah	400	25,250	9,000	7,666	1,800	NA



AVAILABILITY OF FACE MASKS

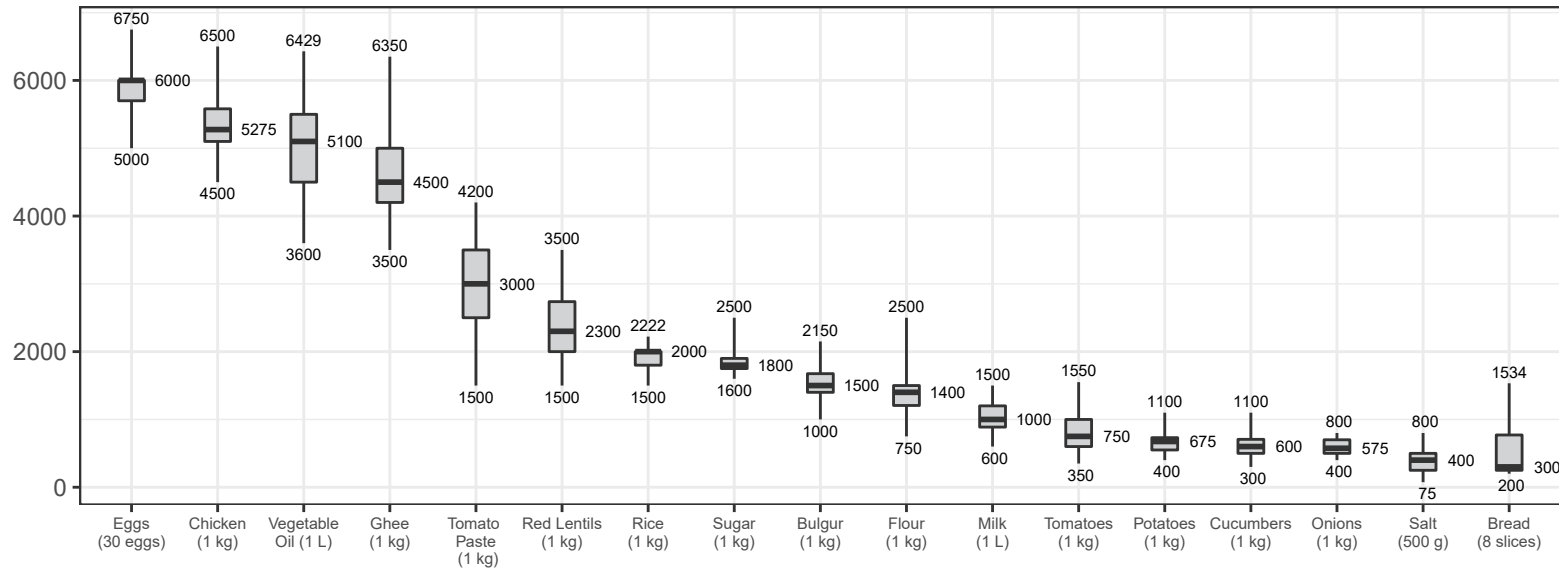
Northeast Syria



NORTHEAST SYRIA - DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES

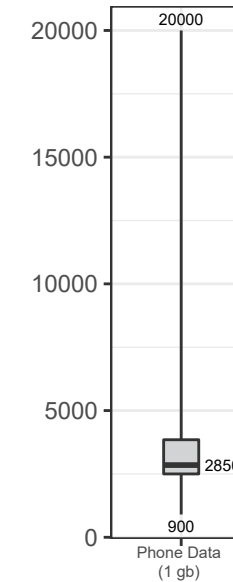
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



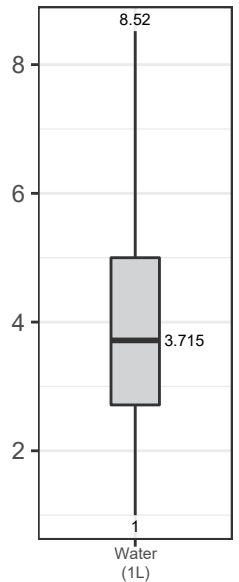
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



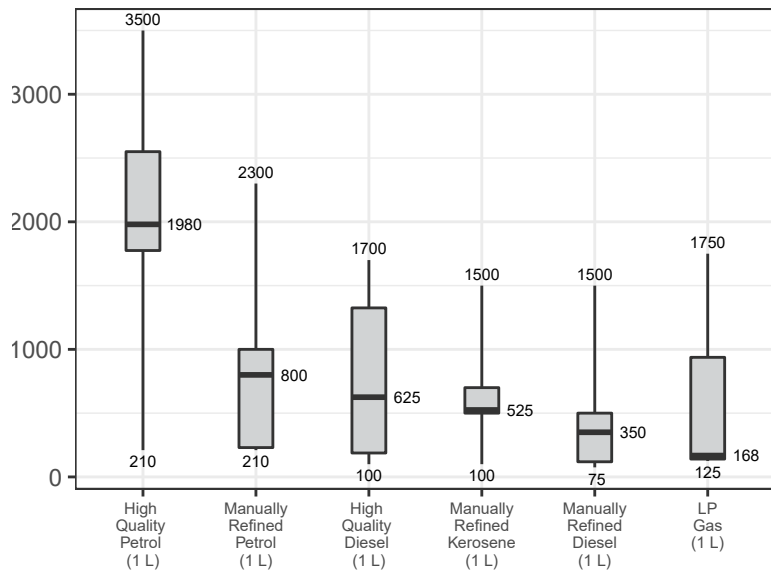
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



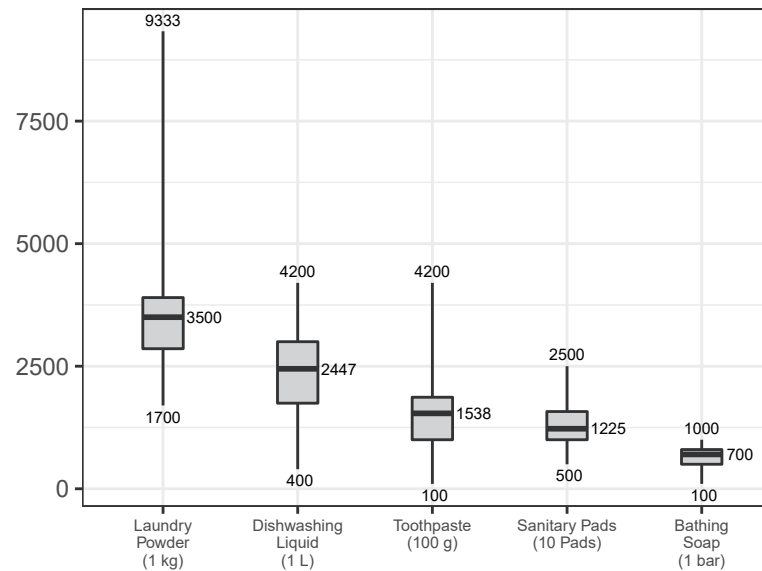
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

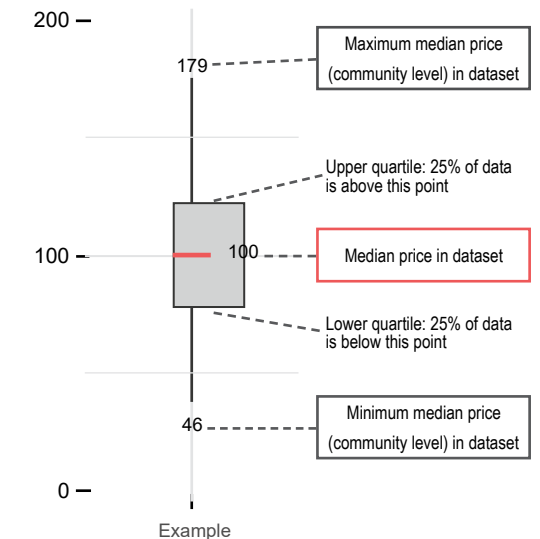


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



READING BOXPLOTS



METHODOLOGY

In order to be included in the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise, markets must be permanent in nature, large enough to support at least two wholesalers, and diverse enough to provide a sufficient variety of goods and commodities. Additionally, the shops surveyed within each market must be housed in permanent structures and must sell certain items to be eligible for inclusion. Participating organisations train their enumerators on the Market Monitoring methodology and data collection tools using standard training materials developed by REACH. Each enumerator aims to assess three to five shops of each type in the main market in their assigned community/neighbourhood, using surveys to collect information about the cheapest prices of each item and whether there are any barriers in the supply chain. In sub-districts where direct surveying by enumerators is not possible, data collection is conducted remotely through key informants such as shop owners, suppliers and consumers. A survey form is deployed on KoBo each month to capture price and stock information from different types of establishments, including grocery stores, fuel traders, currency exchange shops, water trucking services and mobile phone shops, among others. Nearly all participating partners submit their data to these KoBo forms, using the KoBoCollect Android app to upload data. A small number of partners, by prior permission, collect data using fully harmonised data collection tools deployed on other platforms, then submit their raw data to REACH for standardisation, compilation and cleaning.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partners' data, normalising prices and cross-checking outliers. The cleaned data is then analysed by SMEB costs, components of the SMEB, and by commodities. These trends are observed at the sub-district-level and, when possible, at the community-level. Prices are divided into quartiles and boxplots are created to assist CWG members in understanding the distribution of prices across the northeast and

northwest of Syria. To illustrate local variations in prices and availability, REACH uses the collected data to map the price of the SMEB in each sub-district and adds illustrations of surrounding border crossings, with data sourced from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, each SMEB component costs and transport fuel prices are graphed to visualise trends over time.

The cleaned datasets are available on the [Humanitarian Data Exchange](#) website and the [REACH Resource Centre](#) and are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

Calculating 'median cheapest price'

The regional figures are calculated by taking the medians of the minimum-reported prices of a region's sub-districts. In turn, the sub-district medians are calculated using the Market Monitoring base-data.

Calculating Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) costs

The cost of a SMEB is calculated for each assessed sub-district by calculating the median cheapest price of each SMEB commodity in that sub-district, then multiplying these medians by the number of units that an average Syrian household requires to purchase in a month. The composition of the SMEB can be found on [page 2](#). SMEB vegetables includes potatoes, tomatoes, onions, and cucumbers.

Calculating price trends over time

One month and six-month price changes and trends in this factsheet are calculated only with the comparable assessed communities of a sub-district with consistent coverage across months. On the other hand, in the dataset medians are calculated taking all assessed communities for the current month in consideration. Therefore, prices and percentage changes within the tables of this factsheet may slightly differ from the current month's dataset medians. In the narrative, both

regional median SMEB values are shared; the SMEB value including all assessed communities that specific month, and the SMEB value only taking in consideration communities with consistent coverage since the previous month.

Calculating regional SMEB costs with limited coverage

For the months of January and February 2020, the regional full SMEB cost as well as the regional full SMEB cost without water were calculated by summing the medians of each regional SMEB component. This was done due to the lower coverage at a sub-district level in January and February 2020, which affected the regional median SMEB calculations.

Changes to coverage

Given security and access constraints in the south of Syria, data collection has been unable to take place since July 2018. Escalation of conflict in October 2019 has resulted in limited coverage in northeast Syria since then. However, coverage between January and December 2020 significantly increased (from 9 assessed sub-districts to 29 assessed sub-districts).

Challenges and limitations

As the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise currently includes 26 partners based in 2 hubs, achieving a consistent approach is inherently challenging. Participating organisations are therefore requested to adopt harmonised data collection methodologies and tools to ensure that the data uploaded is as accurate as possible. Since this exercise collects data directly from vendors and relies on partner organisations for its wide coverage, Market Monitoring may sporadically lose coverage temporarily or for longer periods of time owing to challenges in accessing locations or due to loss in the shared data collection capacity of the project. This impacts the ability to report on trends, as can be seen in the line graphs and 'NA' values in the tables.

ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT). For more information please visit our website:

www.reach-initiative.org. You can contact us directly at: 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 works with Cash Working Groups and Partners to provide up-to-date evidence to inform the 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 for further information.