

SYRIA MARKET MONITORING EXERCISE

Snapshot: 9-16 March 2020

INTRODUCTION

To inform humanitarian cash programming, REACH, in partnership with the 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 was collected this month (between 9-16 March 2020) by Save the Children/Shafak, GOAL, REACH, People In Need, Violet, ACTED, and Solidarités International.

The accompanying [data from the month of March](#) is disseminated monthly and is distributed through partners across the humanitarian community.

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
	Bathing soap	12 bars
Hygiene items	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

This month, REACH and partners covered 31 sub-districts in northwest Syria for the Market Monitoring Exercise, including 2,237 individual shops. In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic and corresponding market disruption, prices in the Market Monitoring dataset and output should be seen as representative only of the markets and dates where and when information was collected (9-16 of March). REACH will be adding COVID-related items to the April Market Monitoring Exercise.

Highest northwest SMEB cost recorded

This month, the SMEB cost increased by 3% from 111,964 Syrian Pounds (SYP) in February to 115,876 SYP in March 2020 across comparable communities with consistent coverage since February (see Methodology); the previous record has been reset every month since November 2019. The SMEB cost in United States Dollar (USD) did not increase between February and March, and remained at

108 USD. This is likely due to the continued depreciation of the SYP against the USD. When aggregating all assessed communities in NWS in March 2020, the total median regional SMEB was recorded at 115,455 SYP / 107 USD.

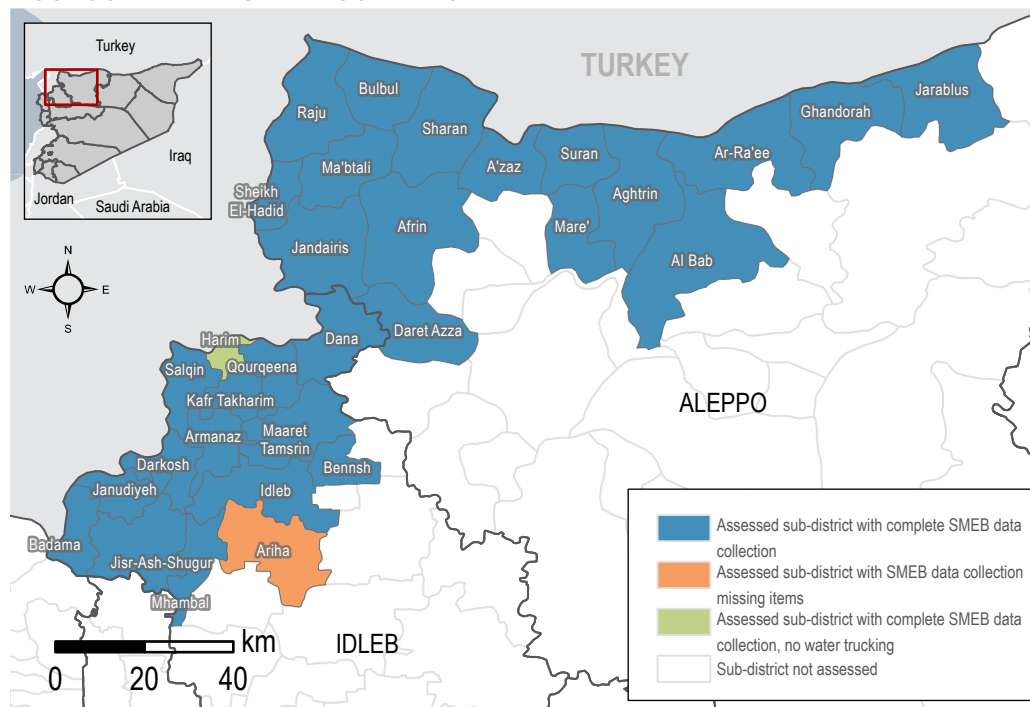
Continued depreciation of the SYP against the USD

The regional median of the informal SYP/USD exchange rate continued to show an upward trend, increasing by 4% from 1,043 to 1,080 SYP against 1 USD this month. The rate of depreciation has slowed since January 2020. In February 2020 the rate of depreciation was 2%, a less significant decline than in January 2020 (22%) and December 2019 (23%). The continued financial crisis in neighbouring Lebanon ([as banks in Lebanon restrict the release of USD - including for Syrians with Lebanese bank accounts](#)), and [international economic sanctions on Syria](#) and [Iran](#) are reported as probable causes for the reduced supply of USD and the continued depreciation of the SYP informal exchange rate.

Transport fuel prices decreased and high quality types widely unavailable

This month, transport fuel prices decreased by 21% at the regional level. Field teams reported that this decrease could be related to the revival of importing manually refined fuel from NES as well as European fuels into NWS. This might have increased the availability of transport fuels in markets, especially manually refined diesel, which was reportedly available in 50% of the assessed shops selling fuel, compared to 29% of assessed fuel shops in February. High quality petrol and diesel, on the other hand, were reportedly unavailable this month in 89% and 91% of assessed fuel shops, respectively. KIs reported a scarcity of high quality transport fuels originating from government-controlled areas of Syria.

ASSESSED AREAS AND COVERAGE

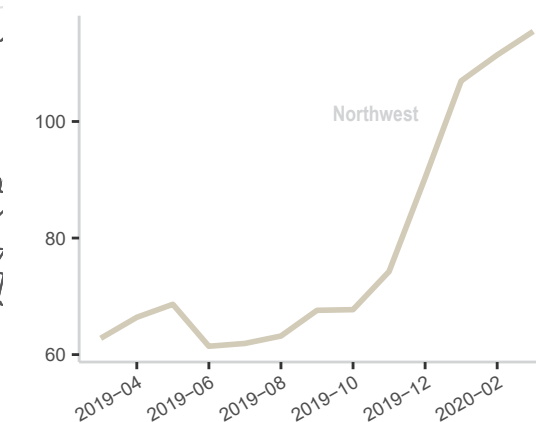


MEDIAN SMEB COST IN SYP (USD), BY REGION

115,455 SYP (107 USD) NORTHWEST SYRIA - IDLEB, WESTERN & NORTHERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH & REGION

Thousand Syrian Pounds



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

115,455 SYP (107 USD) **NORTHWEST SYRIA - IDLEB, WESTERN & NORTHERN ALEPPO GOVERNORATES**

Essential SMEB food items' prices sharply increased – especially vegetables and chicken

Recent Emergency Needs Tracking (ENT) findings show that communities, including newly-arrived IDPs, continue to rely on markets for their food sources. This month, the regional SMEB food component value increased by 5%, of which the vegetable component increased by 12%. Price increases may reflect ENT findings reporting that food was the second most commonly reported priority need of IDP communities, and that 17% and 32% of IDP populations were eating one meal or less per day in both [Idleb](#) and [Aleppo](#) governorates, respectively (see ENT, 16 March 2020). The SMEB food component value increase was largely driven by the soaring prices of onions and chicken. The median price of chicken has increased by 32% since February. Field teams reported that this inflation could be attributed to the increasing expenses of raising livestock and the significant loss of poultry farming land to the Government of Syria in the last few months. Moreover, the prices of onions witnessed a sharper increase of 43%, reaching a regional median of 500

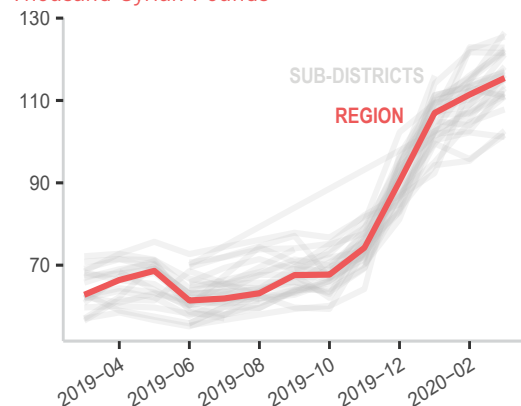
SYP. Field teams reported that onions were imported and difficult to find in markets in NWS due to lack of storage space, which resulted in high prices. On the other hand, as winter comes to an end, the regional median price of tomatoes decreased by 17% since February. According to the [World Food Programme](#), food prices in Syria increased due to the depreciation of the SYP.

Decrease in price of winter items

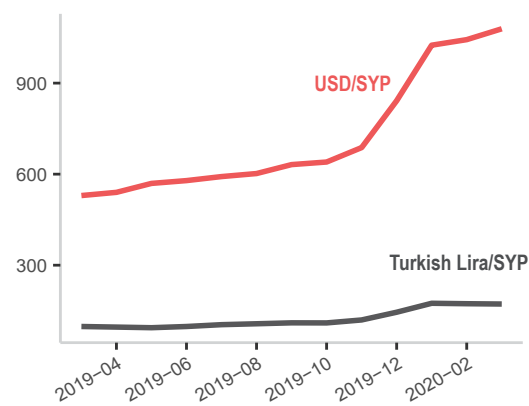
Prices of most winter items decreased since last month as the season comes to an end, which means there is a lower demand for such items. This includes the price for manually refined kerosene (used for heating in addition to cooking), which decreased by 11% since last month. Field teams reported that prices decreased as most winter items were on sale and households tried to buy secondhand items for the last cold weeks. Nonetheless, prices of some winter items remained very high. In particular, women's winter boots reached 7,500 SYP in Aghtin sub-district, and men's winter boots reached 9,000 SYP in Al Bab sub-district in northern Aleppo governorate.

MEDIAN SMEB COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



EXCHANGE RATES, BY MONTH & CURRENCY



MEDIAN SMEB COSTS & CHANGES*

Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	115,876	3%	73%
Afrin	110,717	-2%	65%
Aghtin	99,593	5%	59%
Al Bab	114,961	7%	75%
Ariha	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	125,133	9%	74%
Ar-Ra'ee	101,147	-1%	51%
A'zaz	121,935	5%	68%
Badama	116,887	5%	75%
Bennsh	115,455	6%	71%
Bulbul	111,462	-1%	85%
Dana	115,876	2%	75%
Daret Azza	122,824	0%	65%
Darkosh	123,652	4%	78%
Ghandorah	102,652	8%	73%
Harim**	NA	NA	NA
Idleb	106,899	0%	56%
Jandairis	110,576	7%	61%
Janudiyeh	117,030	NA	NA
Jarablus	113,005	12%	79%

* For price and change calculations, only the communities within a sub-district with consistent coverage across months are included.

** SMEB calculated without water trucking component.

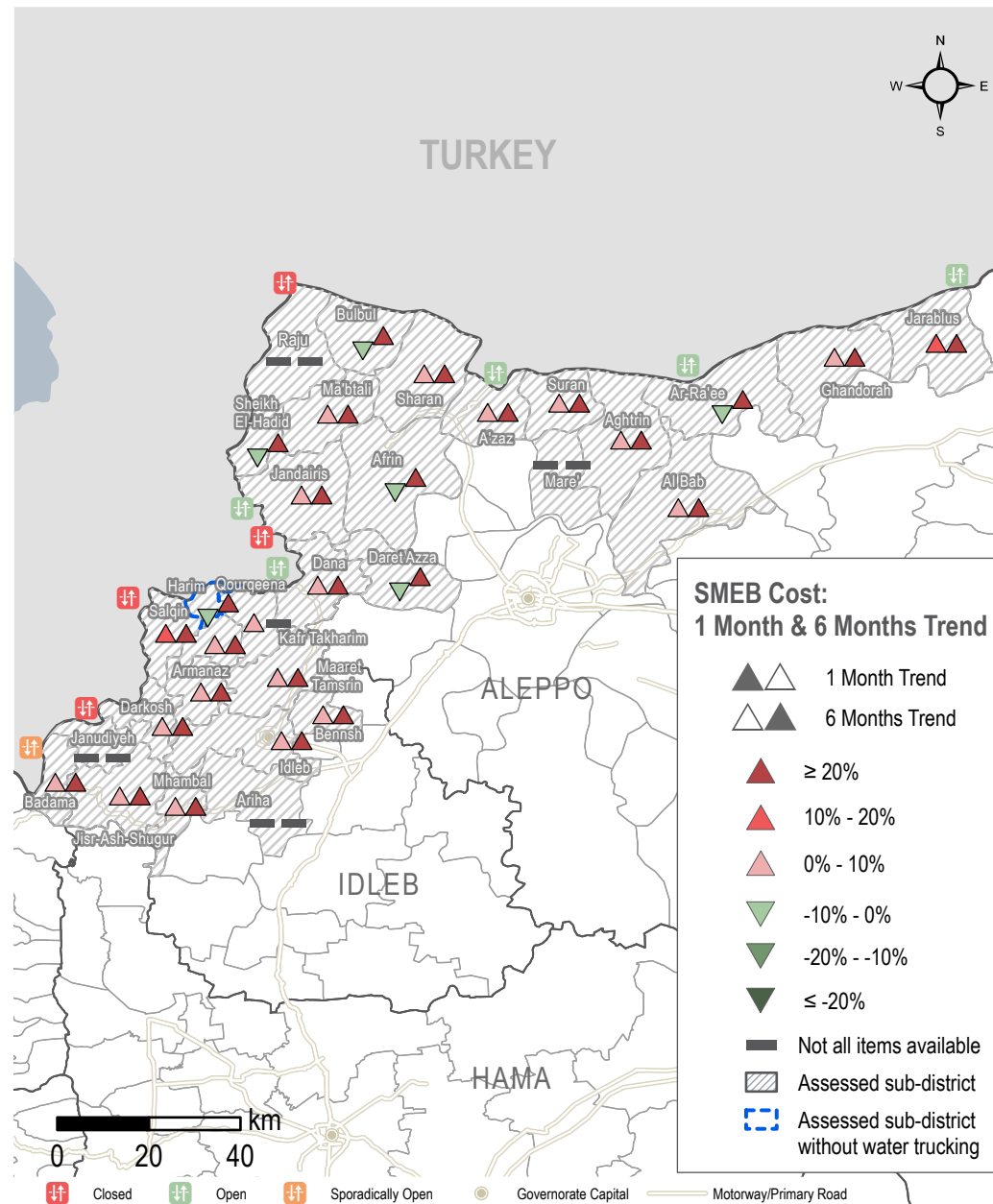
Sub-district	SMEB	One month change	Six month change
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	116,518	8%	76%
Kafr Takharim	117,198	4%	68%
Maaret Tamsrin	115,060	2%	80%
Ma'bitali	125,533	3%	85%
Mare'	110,342	NA	NA
Mhambal	118,242	4%	56%
Qourqeena	121,747	6%	NA
Raju	118,659	NA	NA
Salqin	120,927	10%	60%
Sharan	107,821	3%	70%
Sheikh El-Hadid	121,529	0%	58%
Suran	114,963	8%	74%

SUB-DISTRICTS WITH INCOMPLETE SMEB IN MARCH

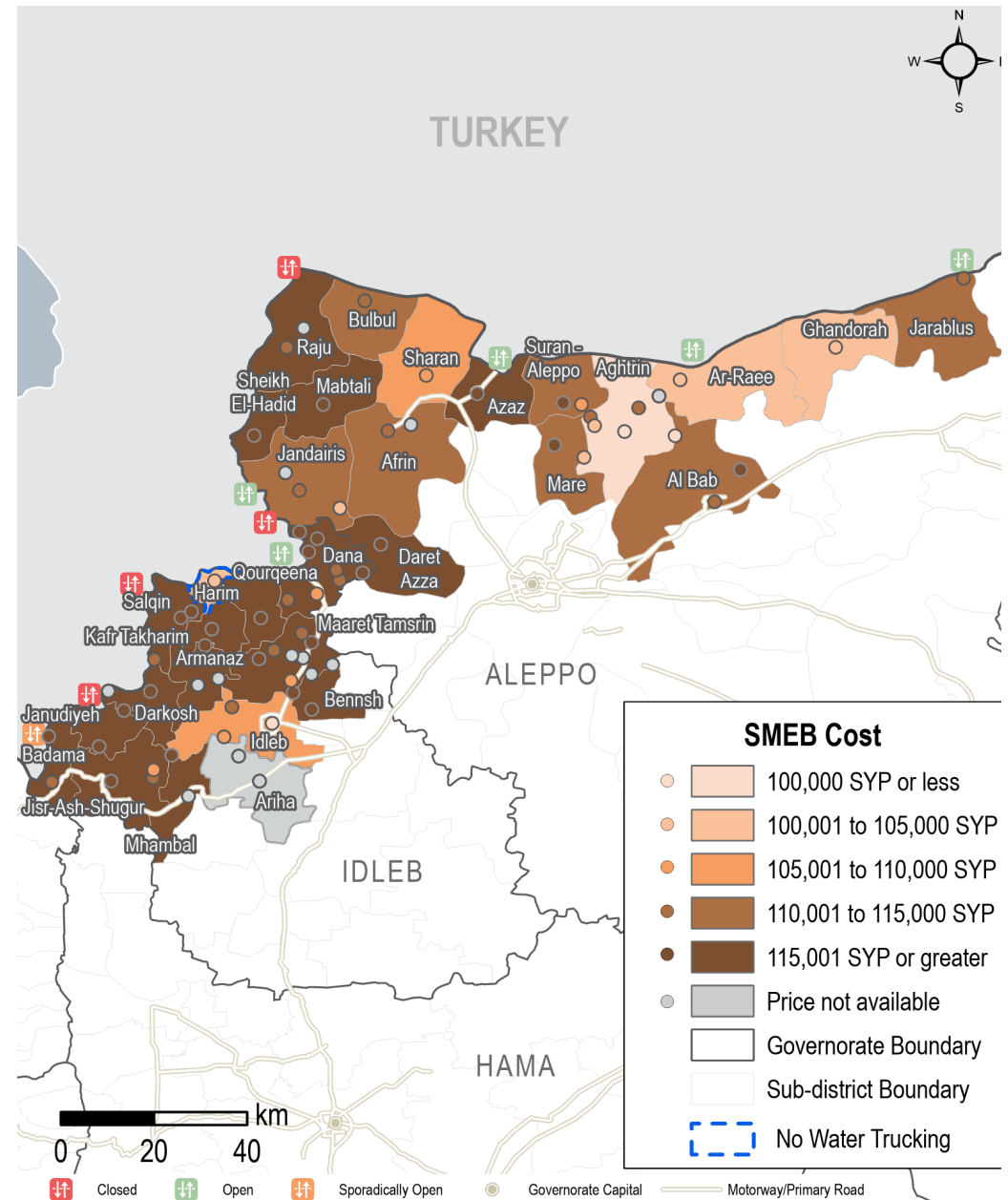
SUB-DISTRICT	MISSING ITEMS
Ariha	Cucumbers, bread, manually refined kerosene
Harim	Water trucking, manually refined kerosene

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

SMEB COST: ONE MONTH & SIX MONTHS TREND



SMEB COST RANGES (SYP), BY SUB-DISTRICTS & COMMUNITIES



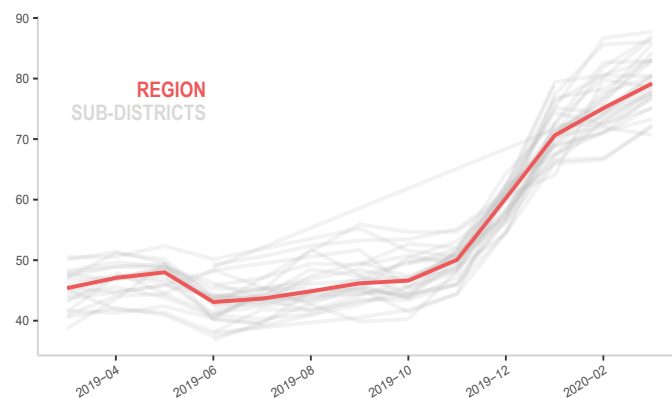
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS

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
Northwest Syria	79,551	5%	74%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	78,554	4%	81%
Afrin	78,600	-2%	73%	Kafr Takharim	83,135	3%	75%
Aghtrin	70,488	7%	59%	Maaret Tamsrin	77,820	6%	76%
Al Bab	81,025	8%	81%	Ma'bтали	86,950	6%	87%
Ariha	NA	NA	NA	Mare'	79,588	-1%	46%
Armanaz	86,253	14%	70%	Mhambal	82,143	6%	52%
Ar-Ra'ee	70,663	-2%	55%	Qourqeena	85,740	12%	96%
A'zaz	82,919	0%	68%	Raju	84,095	NA	NA
Badama	77,053	7%	70%	Salqin	83,165	7%	54%
Bennsh	82,840	8%	76%	Sharan	77,138	6%	86%
Bulbul	73,305	3%	75%	Sheikh El-Hadid	86,050	1%	67%
Dana	77,380	5%	69%	Suran	77,219	2%	71%
Daret Azza	87,750	1%	78%				
Darkosh	83,820	1%	75%				
Ghandorah	72,298	9%	80%				
Harim	75,115	4%	52%				
Idleb	73,265	1%	65%				
Jandairis	80,400	8%	63%				
Janudiyeh	79,515	7%	NA				
Jarablus	77,068	11%	75%				

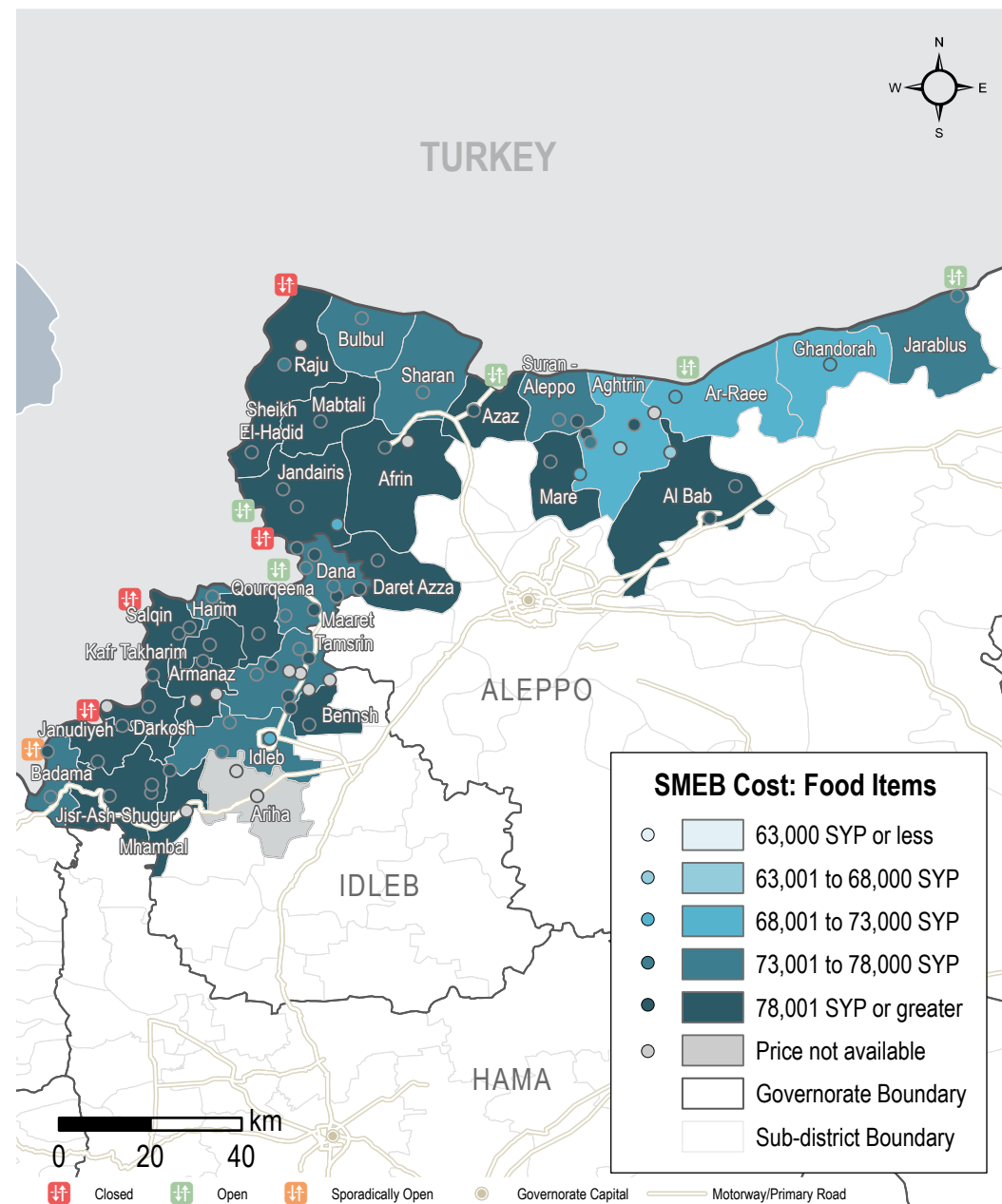
MEDIAN SMEB COST: FOOD ITEMS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB FOOD ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



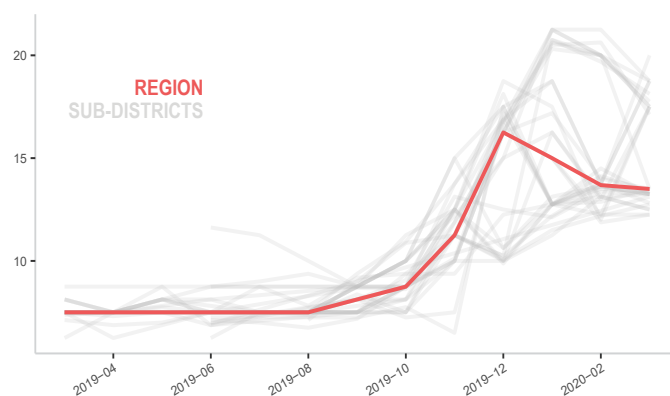
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL PRICE

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
Northwest Syria	13,500	-1%	54%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	18,750	36%	76%
Afrin	12,500	-5%	43%	Kafr Takharim	13,250	-1%	46%
Aghtrn	12,156	1%	62%	Maaret Tamsrin	17,500	-13%	133%
Al Bab	12,250	0%	31%	Ma'btali	12,500	-5%	43%
Ariha	13,500	-4%	60%	Mare'	12,813	-7%	65%
Armanaz	18,750	-6%	114%	Mhambal	13,375	-5%	53%
Ar-Ra'ee	12,750	5%	48%	Qourqeena	18,750	-12%	88%
A'zaz	17,500	46%	100%	Raju	14,063	NA	NA
Badama	17,813	-7%	123%	Salqin	20,000	45%	129%
Bennsh	13,250	-3%	41%	Sharan	13,250	-3%	33%
Bulbul	17,125	-17%	136%	Sheikh El-Hadid	13,250	-3%	33%
Dana	17,750	-11%	103%	Suran	17,500	37%	107%
Daret Azza	13,250	-9%	33%				
Darkosh	18,750	36%	88%				
Ghandorah	13,500	5%	66%				
Harim	13,500	-33%	24%				
Idleb	13,250	1%	18%				
Jandairis	13,125	-3%	62%				
Janudiyeh	17,500	-13%	115%				
Jarablus	17,500	35%	133%				

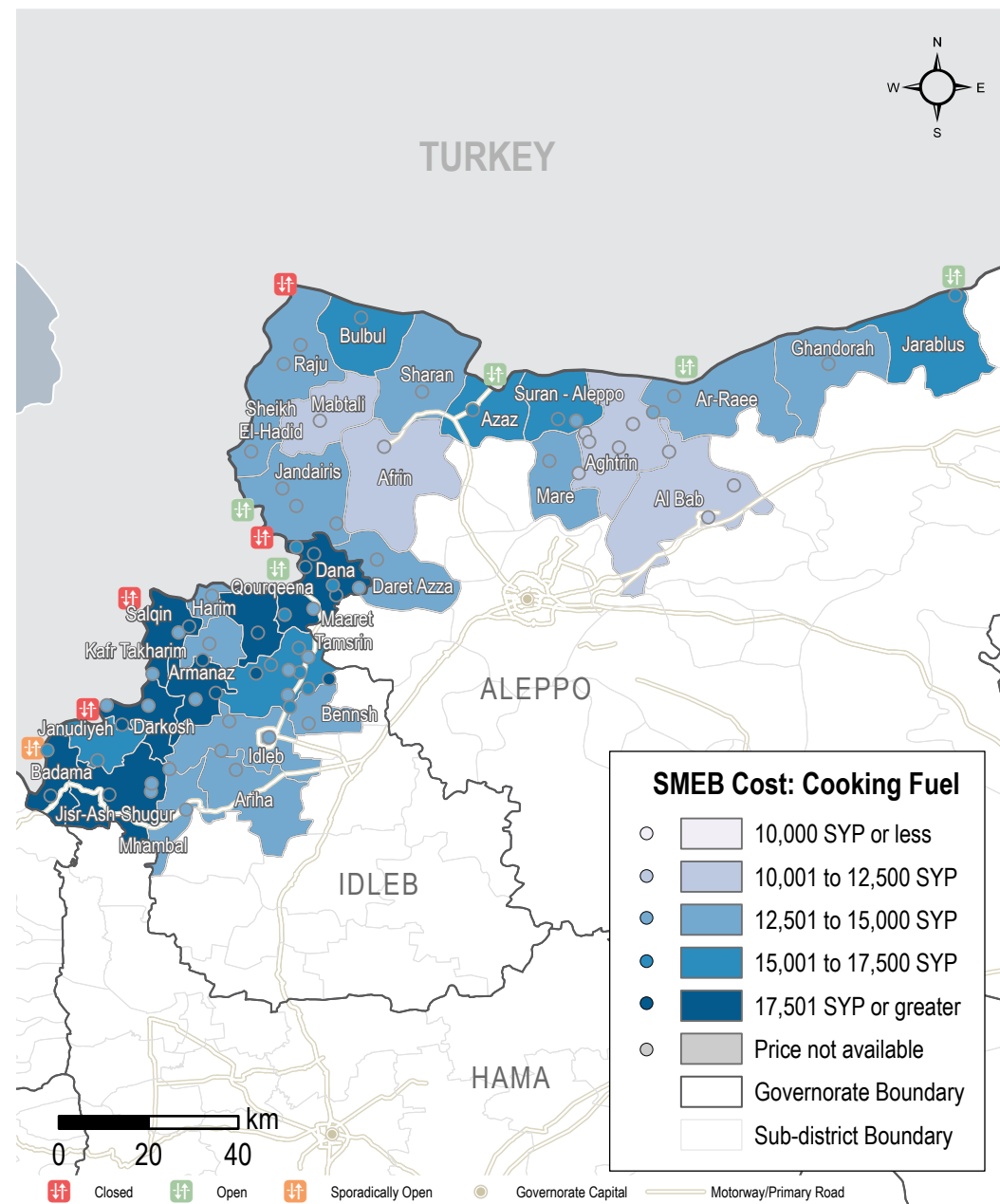
MEDIAN SMEB COOKING FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB COOKING FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



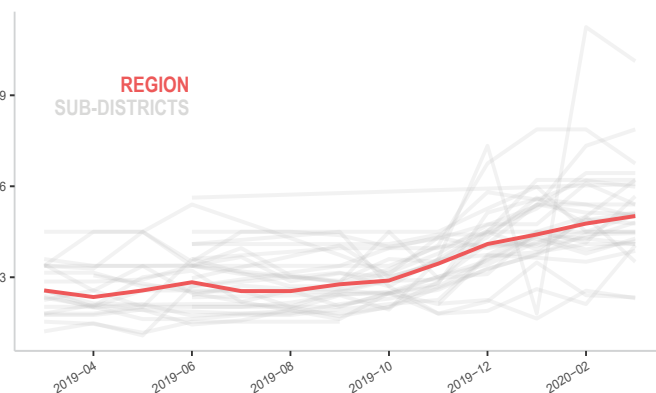
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING PRICE

4,500L, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Water Truck	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Water Truck	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	5,023	8%	78%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	4,725	-4%	64%
Afrin	5,985	-3%	93%	Kafr Takharim	4,807	12%	59%
Aghtrin	5,108	10%	82%	Maaret Tamsrin	3,960	1%	59%
Al Bab	6,210	0%	57%	Ma'btali	10,125	-10%	275%
Ariha	6,435	0%	233%	Mare'	4,050	91%	64%
Armanaz	4,095	-4%	78%	Mhambal	7,448	7%	128%
Ar-Ra'ee	4,995	-8%	48%	Qourqeena	2,308	-10%	NA
A'zaz	5,400	-11%	35%	Raju	6,098	NA	NA
Badama	5,828	19%	62%	Salqin	3,870	4%	37%
Bennsh	3,510	-30%	75%	Sharan	4,095	0%	65%
Bulbul	5,400	0%	118%	Sheikh El-Hadid	4,500	0%	0%
Dana	5,220	16%	107%	Suran	5,051	23%	62%
Daret Azza	4,455	1%	100%				
Darkosh	5,130	-3%	128%				
Ghandorah	4,275	13%	8%				
Harim	NA	NA	NA				
Idleb	6,863	-13%	118%				
Jandairis	2,340	-3%	-13%				
Janudiyeh	4,500	0%	113%				
Jarablus	5,085	-2%	24%				

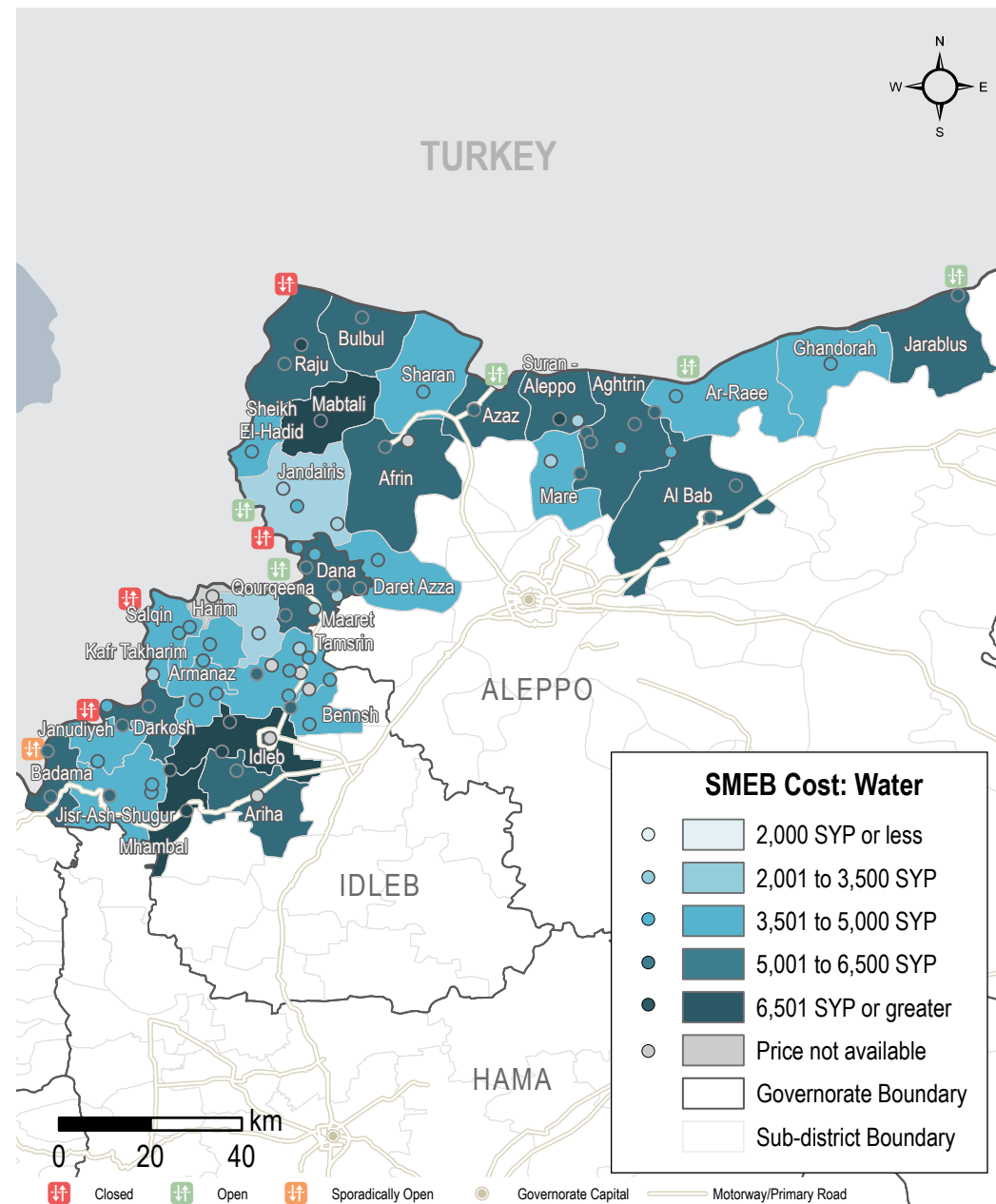
MEDIAN SMEB WATER TRUCKING COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB WATER TRUCKING COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



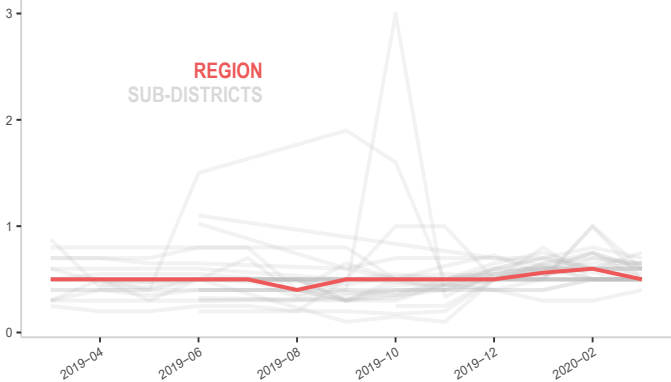
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA PRICE

1GB data, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	SMEB Data (1GB)	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Data (1GB)	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	550	-8%	10%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	625	-32%	25%
Afrin	650	0%	-59%	Kafr Takharim	500	0%	-9%
Aghtrin	500	0%	0%	Maaret Tamsrin	600	0%	20%
Al Bab	600	0%	20%	Ma'btali	700	-13%	0%
Ariha	600	0%	71%	Mare'	600	-20%	300%
Armanaz	500	0%	25%	Mhambal	450	50%	44%
Ar-Ra'ee	500	0%	0%	Qourqeena	550	-8%	-82%
A'zaz	750	25%	50%	Raju	500	NA	NA
Badama	575	0%	59%	Salqin	500	-33%	11%
Bennsh	500	0%	5%	Sharan	650	-7%	24%
Bulbul	650	8%	86%	Sheikh El-Hadid	500	0%	-50%
Dana	600	0%	92%	Suran	650	0%	33%
Daret Azza	500	0%	25%				
Darkosh	500	-50%	0%				
Ghandorah	500	0%	0%				
Harim	650	-7%	160%				
Idleb	500	0%	0%				
Jandairis	625	-17%	213%				
Janudiyeh	500	0%	25%				
Jarablus	500	0%	0%				

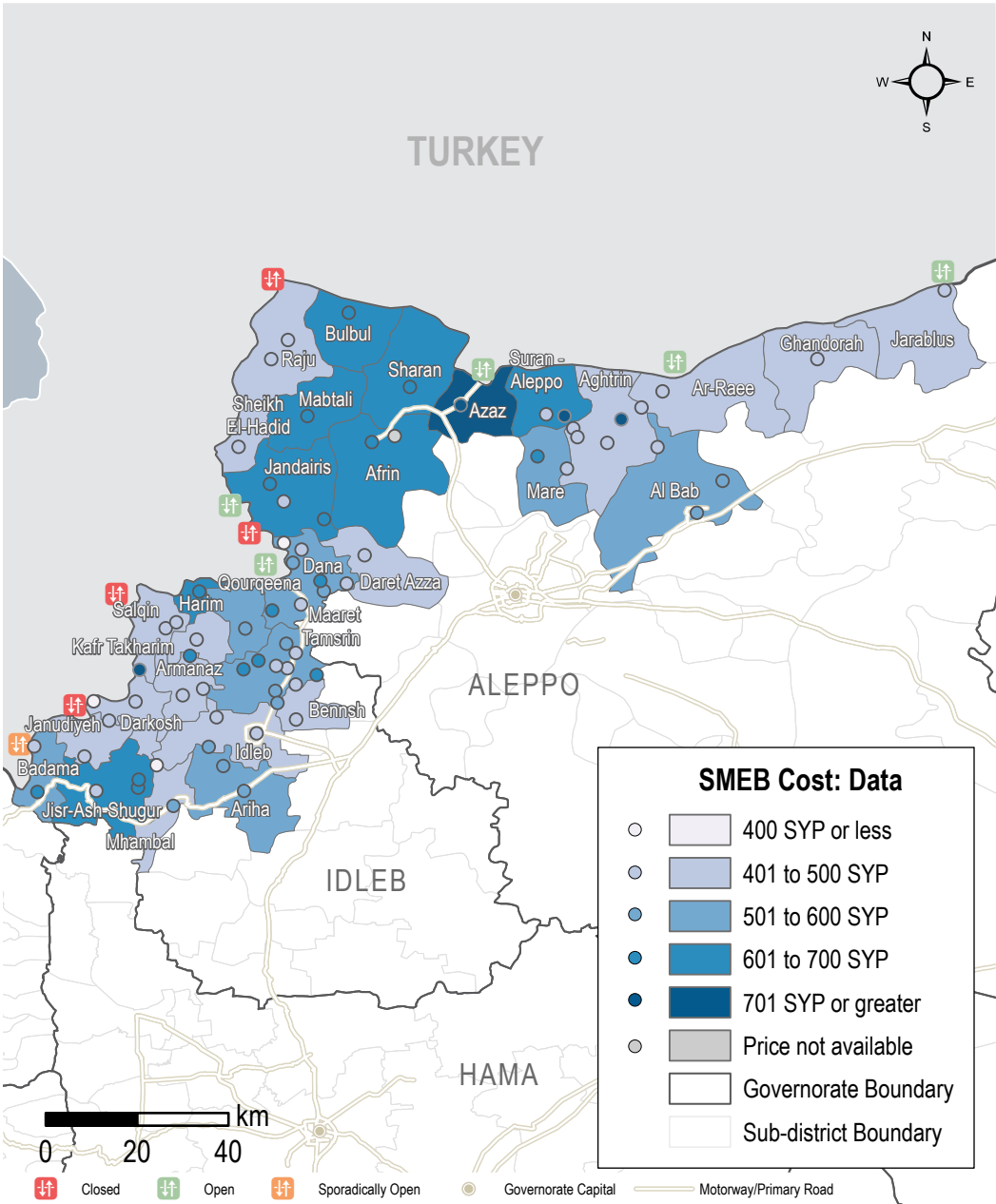
MEDIAN SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB CELLPHONE DATA COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



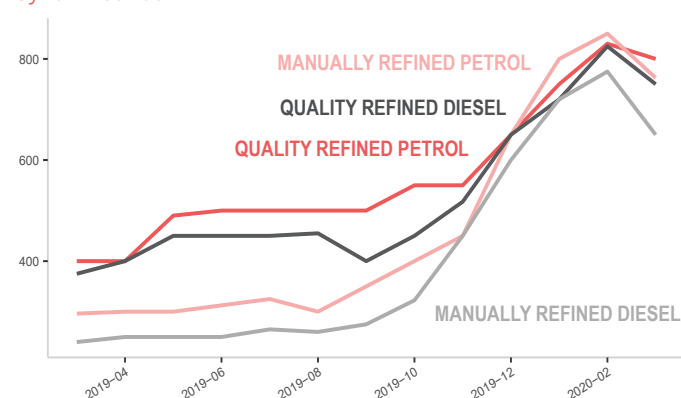
MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL PRICE

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

Sub-district	SMEB Trans Fuel	One month change	Six month change	Sub-district	SMEB Trans Fuel	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	650	-21%	60%	Jarablus	650	NA	77%
Afrin	750	NA	102%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	725	-12%	60%
Aghtrin	650	-15%	126%	Kafr Takharim	728	-15%	69%
Al Bab	NA	NA	NA	Maaret Tamsrin	730	-14%	80%
Ariha	768	-14%	85%	Ma'bтали	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	747	-10%	91%	Mare'	725	-12%	45%
Ar-Ra'ee	NA	NA	NA	Mhambal	NA	NA	NA
A'zaz	763	-5%	88%	Qourqeena	733	-13%	79%
Badama	663	NA	77%	Raju	600	NA	NA
Bennsh	NA	NA	NA	Salqin	781	-5%	102%
Bulbul	650	NA	72%	Sharan	NA	NA	NA
Dana	700	-13%	77%	Sheikh El-Hadid	NA	NA	NA
Daret Azza	650	NA	65%	Suran	800	-1%	90%
Darkosh	725	-17%	58%				
Ghandorah	NA	NA	NA				
Harim	750	7%	75%				
Idlib	650	NA	39%				
Jandairis	763	-5%	59%				
Janudiyeh	650	NA	53%				

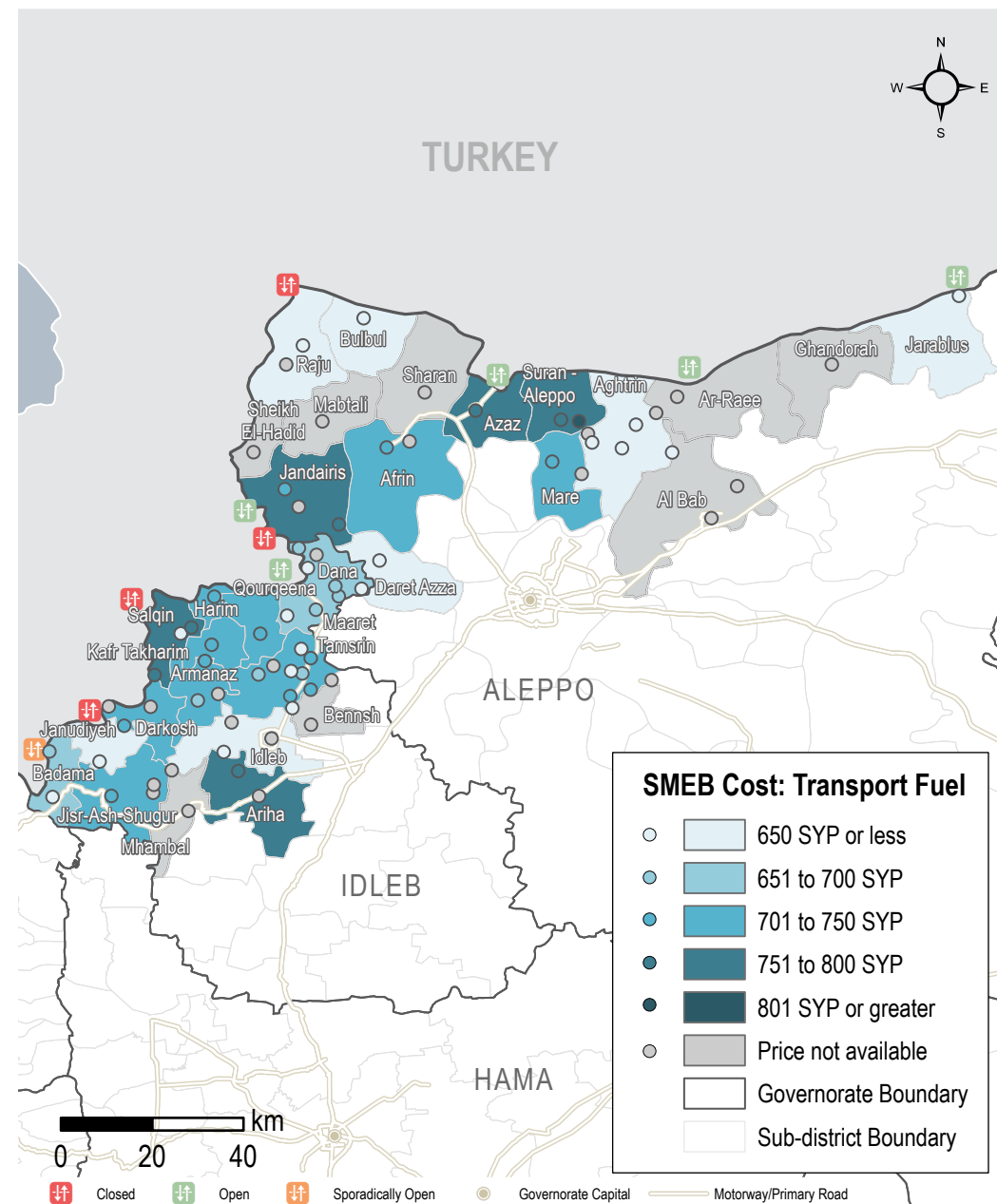
MEDIAN TRANSPORT FUEL COSTS, BY MONTH & TYPE

Syrian Pounds



TRANSPORT FUEL COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



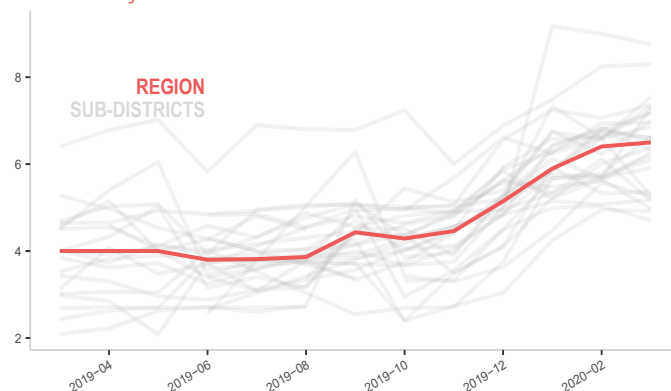
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' PRICE

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	Sub-district	SMEB Hygiene Items	One month change	Six month change
Northwest Syria	6,522	5%	52%	Jisr-Ash-Shugur	5,735	10%	29%
Afrin	5,258	-6%	53%	Kafr Takharim	7,330	11%	46%
Aghtrin	4,394	-14%	41%	Maaret Tamsrin	7,153	0%	55%
Al Bab	6,855	18%	155%	Ma'bтали	6,500	-5%	51%
Ariha	5,363	1%	56%	Mare'	5,594	NA	NA
Armanaz	6,805	8%	48%	Mhambal	6,577	-3%	53%
Ar-Ra'ee	5,183	2%	28%	Qourqeena	5,906	4%	78%
A'zaz	6,859	4%	39%	Raju	5,625	NA	NA
Badama	7,464	7%	51%	Salqin	4,955	-24%	22%
Bennsh	7,300	29%	81%	Sharan	5,166	-16%	12%
Bulbul	7,206	9%	80%	Sheikh El-Hadid	8,750	-3%	101%
Dana	6,841	1%	55%	Suran	6,522	11%	47%
Daret Azza	8,300	1%	15%				
Darkosh	6,825	-11%	74%				
Ghandorah	4,918	-1%	105%				
Harim	7,550	15%	39%				
Idlib	5,563	-1%	20%				
Jandairis	6,371	13%	77%				
Janudiyeh	6,850	NA	NA				
Jarablus	4,968	-16%	108%				

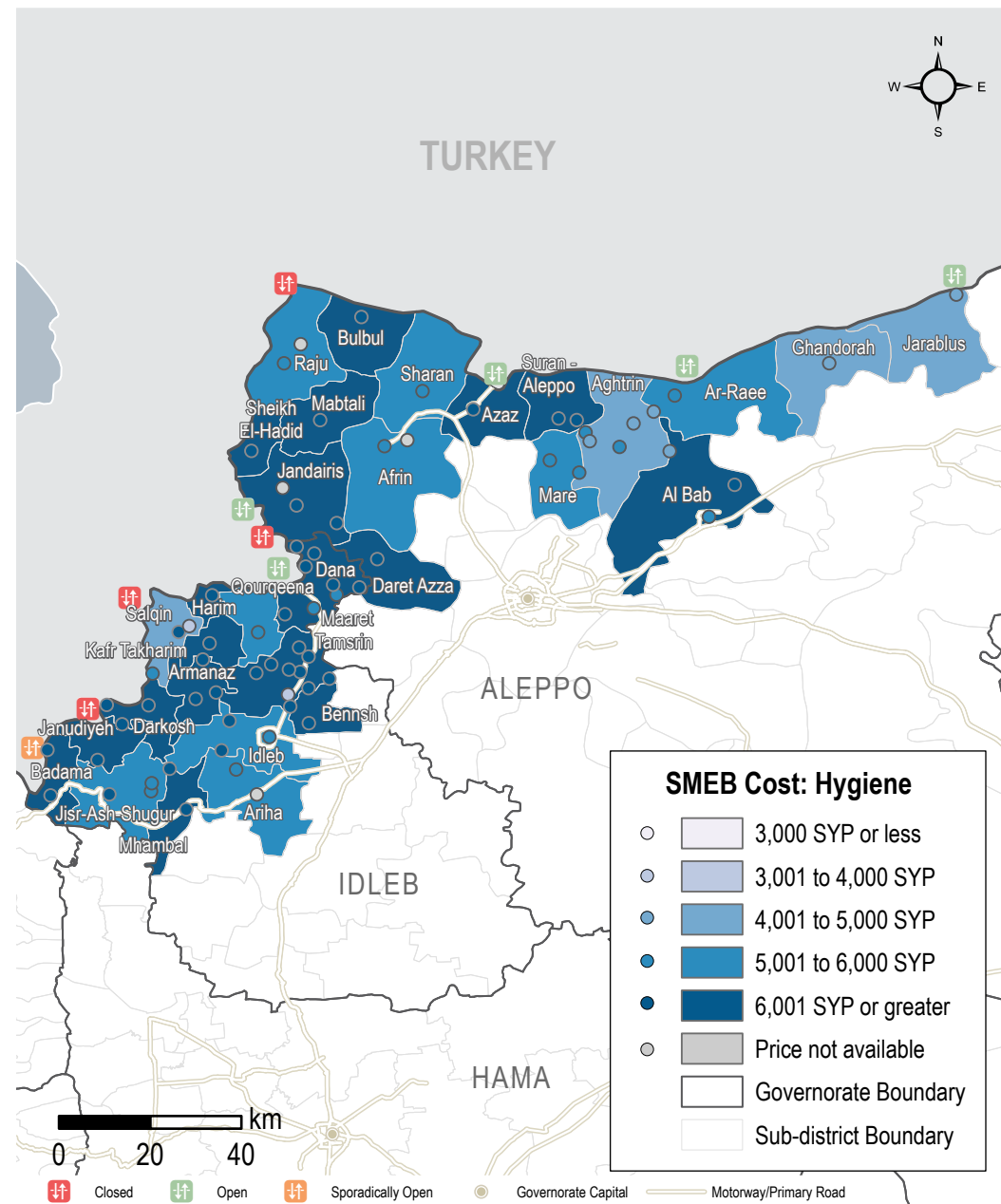
MEDIAN SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COSTS, BY MONTH

Thousand Syrian Pounds



SMEB HYGIENE ITEMS' COST

Sub-districts & Communities, Syrian Pounds



MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS

Per 1 piece, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Jerry can	Plastic sheet	Winter carpet	Kerosene/diesel heater	Winter blanket	Mattress	Men's winter jacket	Women's winter jacket	Children's winter jacket	Men's winter boots	Women's winter boots	Children's winter boots	Adult hat	Children's hat
Northwest Syria	1,500	5,338	26,250	11,600	4,650	5,125	9,850	12,250	6,000	4,250	3,900	2,500	888	688
Afrin	1,200	6,000	10,000	8,500	5,000	3,000	7,000	7,250	3,000	4,250	5,000	2,000	500	500
Aghtrin	1,400	6,000	35,000	15,000	7,000	6,000	10,875	9,250	6,750	6,500	4,000	3,500	1,200	925
Al Bab	1,400	5,000	65,000	14,000	9,750	9,750	14,500	9,500	7,000	8,250	4,500	3,250	1,000	1,000
Ariha	1,200	4,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	9,000	17,000	6,000	4,500	4,500	4,000	800	600
Armanaz	1,500	4,100	14,000	11,200	2,000	5,000	9,250	14,500	5,000	3,600	3,750	2,500	800	600
Ar-Ra'ee	1,200	4,900	27,000	11,000	8,000	7,500	10,500	9,000	8,000	5,000	3,500	3,000	750	500
A'zaz	1,500	5,450	27,500	6,500	5,000	6,625	10,000	12,500	7,000	3,750	3,400	2,250	1,350	1,000
Badama	1,575	5,300	31,000	10,000	5,850	4,825	13,400	16,750	7,725	4,050	4,675	3,200	1,125	950
Bennsh	1,500	5,000	22,000	16,000	3,000	6,500	12,000	20,000	8,000	8,000	5,000	3,500	2,000	1,000
Bulbul	1,900	5,300	26,250	10,850	4,850	4,600	10,500	14,200	6,300	3,000	3,000	1,900	590	585
Dana	1,700	5,400	25,500	10,500	4,800	4,500	10,000	14,400	6,000	3,000	3,000	2,200	600	500
Daret Azza	1,100	5,500	41,000	12,500	5,750	4,250	6,250	9,500	4,000	4,750	5,000	2,500	925	775
Darkosh	1,250	6,500	16,750	15,000	4,250	6,000	9,000	12,000	5,000	4,000	4,500	3,000	850	600
Ghandorah	1,500	6,500	36,000	10,250	2,500	6,000	9,000	7,000	4,500	5,500	2,750	2,500	650	500
Harim	1,500	5,500	21,000	12,500	5,000	4,800	10,800	14,500	7,000	3,500	4,500	2,000	1,200	800
Idleb	1,000	3,600	11,000	12,000	4,000	4,000	8,000	11,500	5,000	4,000	3,700	2,100	800	600
Jandairis	2,200	5,000	37,500	14,000	4,000	6,500	10,000	12,500	6,250	4,250	5,000	3,500	1,200	900
Janudiyeh	1,500	NA	NA	NA	7,000	5,000	14,000	17,000	8,000	4,500	5,500	3,500	1,500	1,100
Jarablus	1,500	6,400	36,000	10,800	2,500	5,000	8,000	7,000	4,500	5,000	3,000	2,500	700	400
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	1,125	5,375	30,500	18,500	1,550	4,750	8,000	8,500	3,000	4,500	3,800	2,500	1,000	500
Kafr Takharim	1,200	5,000	17,500	10,500	4,000	5,250	8,500	13,500	6,200	3,000	3,500	2,500	500	600
Maaret Tamsrin	1,800	5,500	24,000	11,000	4,500	4,750	10,900	14,000	5,400	3,100	3,400	2,200	750	600
Ma'btali	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mare'	1,600	5,100	55,000	14,250	7,750	8,500	12,000	10,625	7,375	6,250	4,750	3,250	1,250	1,000
Mhambal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14,500	18,750	7,250	3,500	3,500	2,300	600	400
Qourqeena	900	6,200	5,800	11,000	2,200	4,000	9,700	9,800	5,500	4,000	3,500	2,500	1,300	800
Raju	1,050	2,800	13,000	10,800	3,900	4,200	9,000	8,500	4,500	3,500	4,100	2,900	800	825
Salqin	1,375	4,000	19,500	12,750	2,250	5,750	8,000	13,000	5,000	3,500	3,000	2,500	1,000	800
Sharan	700	6,500	28,000	15,000	2,100	5,500	7,250	7,500	3,750	4,500	3,500	2,300	825	550
Sheikh El-Hadid	1,500	8,000	25,000	NA	7,000	7,000	9,000	14,000	6,000	5,000	6,000	3,000	1,500	1,000
Suran	1,975	5,000	47,500	14,375	5,250	6,850	11,250	11,000	6,500	5,000	4,125	3,625	1,175	1,050

MEDIAN WINTERISATION ITEMS (ALTERNATIVE HEATING/COOKING FUEL)

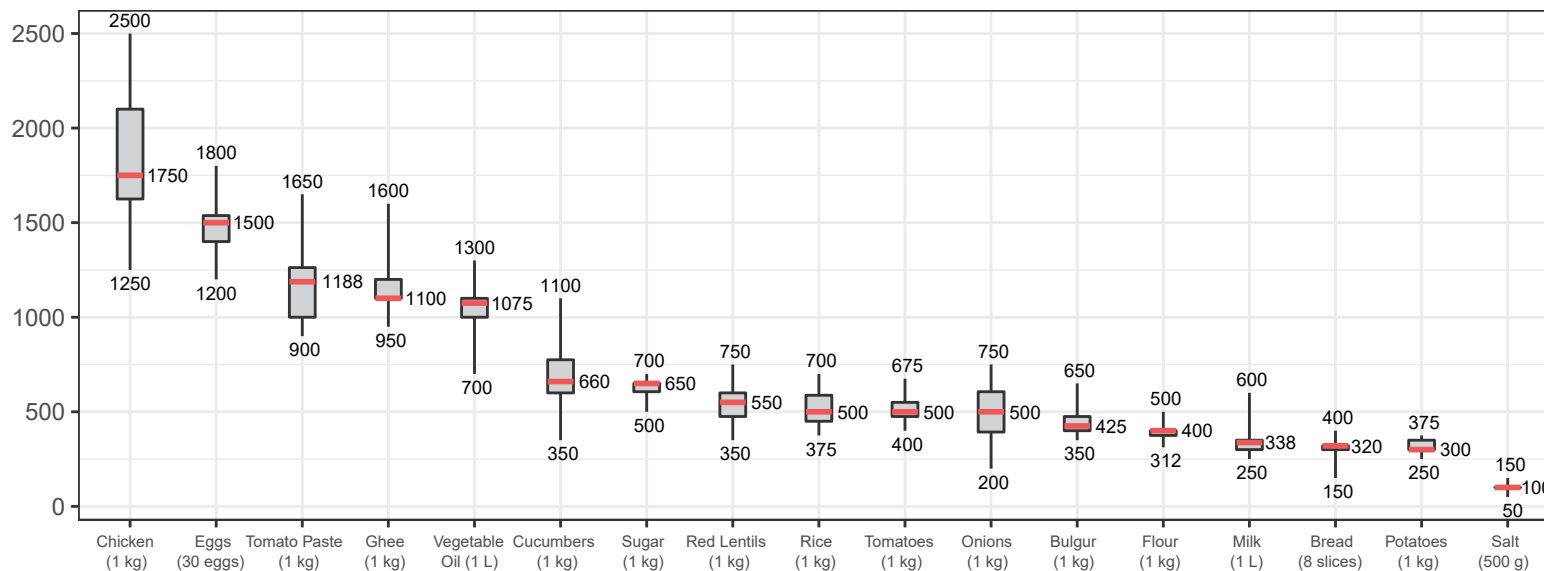
Per 1 kilogram, Syrian Pounds

Sub-district	Coal	Firewood	Olive residue	Pistachio shells
Northwest Syria	86	100	90	160
Afrin	78	85	70	NA
Aghtrin	65	103	75	150
Al Bab	55	93	70	NA
Ariha	NA	NA	NA	NA
Armanaz	75	90	88	175
Ar-Ra'ee	80	100	90	NA
A'zaz	110	100	95	NA
Badama	95	118	105	130
Bennsh	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bulbul	95	115	105	145
Dana	90	110	100	143
Daret Azza	70	85	70	NA
Darkosh	75	60	100	NA
Ghandorah	100	100	85	NA
Harim	90	110	100	190
Idleb	100	100	80	160
Jandairis	80	113	85	120
Janudiyeh	100	115	110	NA
Jarablus	130	145	110	235
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	78	80	75	NA

Sub-district	Coal	Firewood	Olive residue	Pistachio shells
Kafr Takharim	70	90	101	NA
Maaret Tamsrin	98	120	103	190
Ma'btali	NA	50	NA	NA
Mare'	78	123	90	120
Mhambal	60	75	NA	NA
Qourqeena	95	90	93	180
Raju	90	83	90	150
Salqin	90	90	90	170
Sharan	85	80	77	160
Sheikh El-Hadid	80	75	120	180
Suran	86	111	90	NA

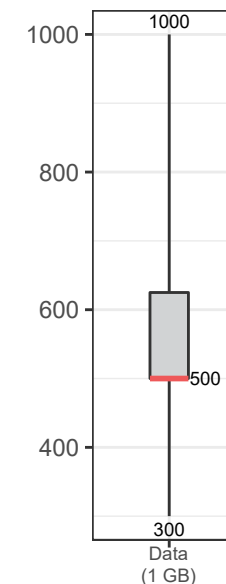
ASSESSED FOOD ITEMS

Syrian Pounds



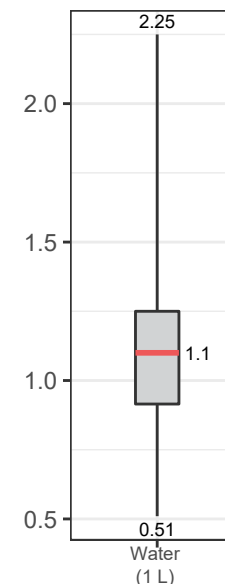
CELLPHONE DATA

Syrian Pounds



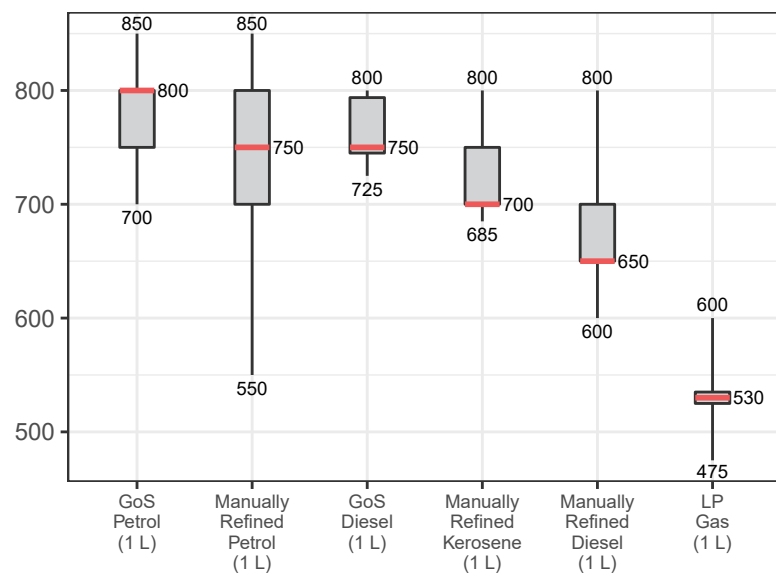
WATER TRUCKING

Syrian Pounds



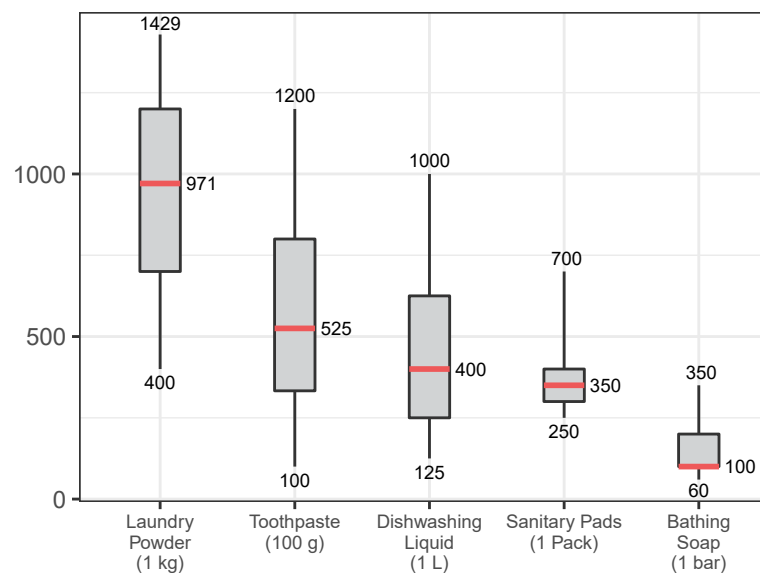
ASSESSED FUEL ITEMS

Syrian Pounds

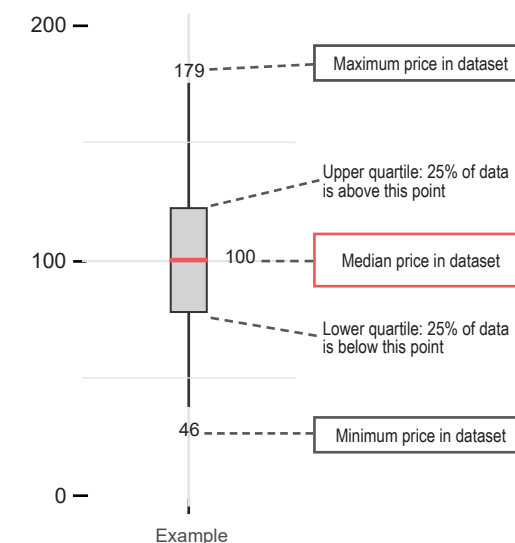


ASSESSED HYGIENE ITEMS

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 sub-district, 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 are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

Calculating 'median cheapest price'

This figure is calculated by taking the median of the minimum-reported prices of a region's sub-districts. In turn, the minimum-reported prices for each sub-district were taken from the median of the minimum-reported prices of the constituent towns assessed.

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.

Seasonal items

Winterisation items have been added to the market monitoring exercise and data collection will continue for these items over winter, until mid-March 2020. Whilst other commodities are bought regularly by families, winterisation items are not expected to be bought regularly and may be one-off purchases for each family member.

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.

Challenges and limitations

As the Syria Market Monitoring Exercise currently includes 17 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. Because this exercise collects data directly from vendors and relies on partner organizations for its wide coverage, Market Monitoring may sporadically lose coverage temporarily or for longer periods of time due to challenges in accessing locations or 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.