# Syria Shelter and NFI Assessment: Ar-Raqqa (Household Surveys) August 2018

# CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

Since the conflict in Ar-Raqqa city ended in October 2017, access to the city and the governorate has increased, however, remains challenging due to the prevalence of unexploded ordnance.<sup>1</sup> The removal of contaminated soil in Ar-Raqqa governorate started in June 2018, but significant challenges persist. Displacement in the governorate is likely to be protracted as individuals return to their community origin, regardless of the security challenges.

To provide up-to-date information on shelter conditions and NFI availability and affordability across northern Syria, REACH conducted an assessment on behalf of the Shelter and NFI Cluster and in partnerships with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Findings presented in this factsheet are based on data collected between 24 June and 2 August 2018 from a total of 819 households across 89 communities and 7 sub-districts in Ar-Raqqa governorate. Households were sampled to allow findings to be generalisable with a 95% level of confidence and 10% margin of error at the sub-district level, and at least the same level of confidence and margin of error at the regional level. This factsheet also refers to data from a similar assessment from July 2017 in order to highlight significant trends.<sup>2</sup>

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

This assessment found that a high proportion of Spontaneous returnees' (SRs) last place of departure was within Ar-Raqqa governorate (92%). 90% of SR households in the governorate reported property ownership as the primary reason for returning to their community of origin. IDP households in Ar-Raqqa commonly reported shelter adequacy issues such as a lack of bathing facilities (34%) and the inability to lock their shelter securely (21%). The majority of households (64%) reported shelter damage, with 46% of households reportedly unable to make repairs. 87% of households reported adopting coping strategies to cope with the lack of access to NEIs, while 64% of households in Ar-Raqqa reportedly received no information about NFI support in the past year.

# DEMOGRAPHICS

1 DEINO	GRAPHIC	5		
Estimated to region:	tal population	across the	869,808 in	dividuals <sup>3</sup>
Estimated po districts:	pulation of as	sessed sub-	710,576 in	dividuals
Average hou	sehold size:		7	7.5 people
Population d	istribution by	gender and age:		
		Age		
	3%	■ 60+ ■	3%	
•	18%	18-59	22%	•
	8%	11-17	9%	
n	20%	0-10	17%	11
Self-reported displacement status of households:				
	83%	Resident populat	ion	
	13%	IDPs		
	4%	Spontaneous ret	urnees	
∕ <mark>k</mark> ₊ DISP	LACEMEN	T₄		

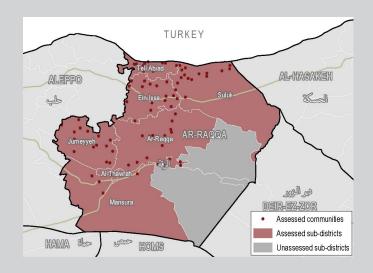
Average number of times IDP households have been	
displaced before arriving in current location:	2.3

Average length of time since IDP households arrived in their current location: 10.3 months

For the 13% of IDP households, top 3 reasons for moving to their current location:

The place of origin is unsafe	69%
Feel safer in this location than in other places	29%
No money to go to other locations	21%

# Map 1: Sub-districts assessed



For the 4% of spontaneous returnee households, top 2 reasons for returning to areas of origin:

Own house/ property in this community	80%
Family ties	11%

# 41% of IDP households intended to leave their current location within the next month, with intended destinations as follows:5



71% Return to place of origin 16% Different shelter in the same community

7% Different community in another governorate 6% Not sure

For these 41% of IDP households, top 3 reasons for intending to leave current location:⁵

- 1. Improve access to income and employment
- Access to better shelter
- Proximity to friends/ relatives

1% of spontaneous returnee households intended to leave their current location within the next month. 100% of households reported they would move to a different shelter in the same community.

For these 1% of spontaneous returnee households, 100% of households reported it was due to cheaper rent or housing prices.

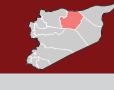
Syria Crisis: Northeast Syria. Situation Report No. 27 (15 July 2017 – 31 August 2018)
These comparisons are only indicative due to changes in coverage since the previous Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) assessment in July 2017
Population Task Force, July 2018.
Average length of time since IDP households left their place of origin was not included due to insufficient data.
Findings based on a subset of responses may have a lower confidence level and wider margin of error than findings based on the patien compared.

on the entire sample.





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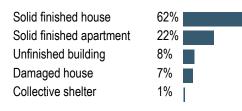


# SHELTER

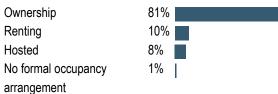
Average number of individuals per bedroom:

5.2

# Percentage of households living in each shelter type:



# Percentage of households living in each occupancy arrangement:



Average monthly rent (over three months	66 USD⁴
preceding data collection):	(July 2017: 30.5 USD)

**12%** of households reportedly rented their shelter. Change in rental price (in the three months preceding data collection):

7% 2%	91%	
Stayed the same	Decreased	Increased

Of these 12%, ability to pay rent on time (in the three months preceding data collection):



Paid on time or almost on time Missed a rent payment

Partially

Miss multiple rent payments

# HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY (HLP)

# 73% of households reported possessing legal documentation to prove their occupancy status. Of these, top 3 most common types of documentation:

Green or other Tabou⁵	62%
Temporary municipal record	16%
Contract for sale	7%

# 6% of households reported HLP problems. Of these, most commonly reported issues:

33%
17%
17%
Ξ

# SHELTER ADEQUACY/DAMAGE

54% of households reported shelter adequacy issues. Of those, top 5 issues<sup>6,7</sup>:

Lack of bathing facilities	34%
Unable to lock securely	21%
Lack of space inside shelter	15%
Lack of toilets	13%
Lack of lighting around the shelter	12%

64% of households reported shelter damage. Of those, the top 5 issues<sup>6</sup>:

Some cracks in some walls Doors/ windows missing Broken or cracked windows Doors unable to shut properly Damaged floors	Ŧ	33% 31% 30% 25% 14%
Damaged floors		14%

# SHELTER REPAIR AND SUPPORT

Of the 64% of households reporting shelter damage, 46% were unable to conduct repairs in the three months preceding data collection. Of those, top 3 reasons<sup>6</sup>:

Shelter and repair materials were too expensive Repairs require professionals, but services were unaffordable	-	36% 14%
Other		5%

# Top 3 reported unavailable or unaffordable shelter repair materials<sup>6</sup>:

Cement	31%
Doors/ windows	31%
Sand/ gravel	24%

# Reported preference for shelter support:

Unconditional cash support	69%
External actor to directly assist with repairs	17%
No preference	11%
Shelter repair materials	%

64% of households reportedly received no information about shelter support in the last year.

Of the 24% of households reportedly having received information, most commonly reported source of information was government office/local council (68%).

4. 19,081 SYP, using UN Operational Rate (514.85) on 1 August 2018.

Beal estate registry
Multiple responses allowed.

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7. Comparison with 2017 could not be made because KI interviews were conducted in Ar-Ragga in 2017



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# 🛞 NFIs

61% of households reported inability to afford one or more NFIs in the three months preceding data collection.

## Reported availability and unaffordability of NFIs:

Available in the local market Unaffordable NFIs<sup>8</sup>

1	Hygiene Items <b>(90%</b> )	1	Clothing (47%)
2	Blankets (82%)	2	Blankets (43%)
3	Clothing (80%)	3	Water container/Jerry can (39%)
4	Shoes ( <b>79%</b> )	4	Generators (37%)
5	Diapers (children) (80%)	5	Mattresses (29%)

Change in access to basic household items (over the three months prior to data collection):

No change	75%
Getting better	15%
Getting worse	10%

#### Priority NFI needs reported per age and gender groups9:

	1.	2.	3.
Girls	Clothing	Shoes	Diapers
(0-10y)	(87%)	(62%)	(61%)
Boys	Clothing	Shoes	Diapers
(0-10y)	(90%)	(61%)	(59%)
Adolescent Girls (11-17y)	Clothing (86%)	Shoes (53%)	Hygiene items (48%)
Adolescent Boys (11-17y)	Clothing (88%)	Shoes (77%)	Hygiene items (35%)
Women	Hygiene	Cooking utensils	Clothing
(18-59y)	items (58%)	(46%)	(46%)
Men	Clothing	Shoes	Hygiene items
(18-59y)	(65%)	(39%)	(28%)
Elderly Women (60+ y)	Clothing (50%)	Hygiene items (36%)	Blankets (31%)
Elderly Men	Clothing	Blankets	Shoes
(60+ y)	(59%)	(60%)	(27%)

#### 87% of households adopted coping strategies in response to a lack of NFIs, most commonly<sup>10</sup>:

- 1. Borrowing money
- 2. Spending savings
- 3. Selling household assets

# - ELECTRICITY

#### 2% of households reportedly had no main source of electricity. For the remaining 98%, the main sources were as follows:

Main network grid		85%
Neighbourhood generator		11%
Private generator	1	2%

# Reported hours of electricity available per day:



9% 0-3 hours 40% 4-7 hours 28% 8-11 hours 23% 12+ hours

#### 85% of households reportedly adopted coping strategies in response to a lack of electricity, most commonly<sup>10</sup>:

- 1. Use battery powered devices such as torches
- Remain without electricity and do not use coping strategies
- 3. Used electricity for certain purposes only

# FUEL

## Top 3 main sources of heating and cooking fuel:

Cooking fuel	% of households using the source	Heating fuel	% of households using the source
Kerosene	74%	Diesel	80%
Gas	19%	Wood/ Charcoal	16%
Electricity	5%	Electricity	3%

# CCESS TO MARKETS AND NFI SUPPORT

#### 24% of households reportedly faced challenges to accessing a market, most commonly<sup>11</sup>:

Distance to markets too far Lack of transportation to markets Physical constraints preventing access to markets	:	68% 15% 6%
Means of accessing NFIs <sup>11</sup> :		
In the market		92%

In the market	92%
Through relatives and friends	18%
Through free NFI distributions by local organisations	3%

## 56% of households reportedly had accessed information regarding NFI support through government office. For the remaining 44%, the main sources were as follows:

Friends/relatives		17%
Community representatives (e.g. sheikhs)		16%
Approached directly by a humanitarian organisation		7%
Media (e.g. internet)	I.	3%

#### 64% of households reportedly received no information about NFI support in the past year.

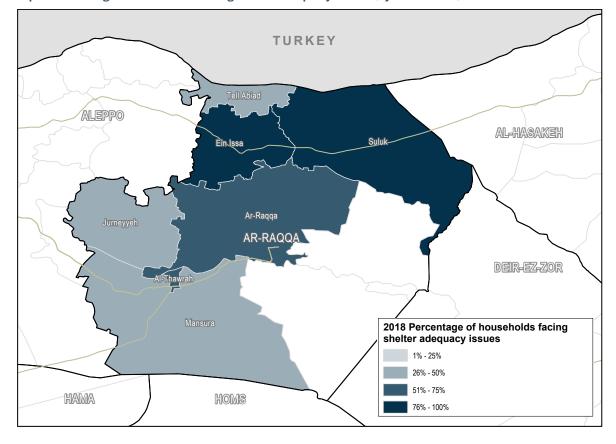
8. Respondents were asked if there was one or more NFIs they needed to procure in the last 3 months but were unable

Respondents were asked in the mass into a most in a structure and into a find.
Percentages add up to more than 100% because multiple responses could be selected
A coping strategy is a certain action employed by a household to overcome a lack of access to a certain item.
For example, consuming fewer hot meals if there is a lack of cooking fuel.
Multiple responses allowed.

OCHA Symbols: Electricity by Marc\_PF, Fuel by DTDesign and Market by Ismail Nural from the Noun Project.

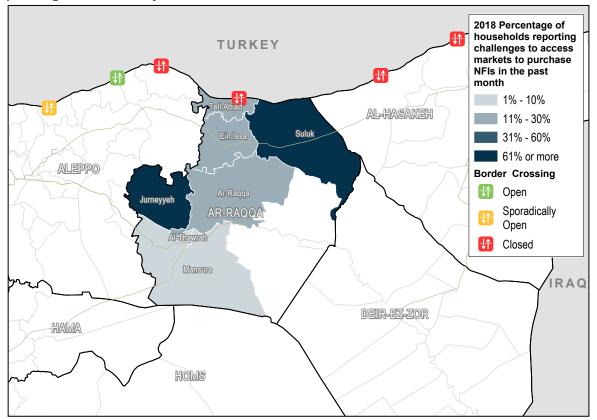


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Map 2: Percentage of households facing shelter adequacy issues (by sub-district)<sup>12</sup>

Map 3: Percentage of households reporting challenges to access markets to purchase NFIs in the month preceding data collection (by sub-district)<sup>12</sup>



12. A comparison between July 2017 and August 2018 data could not be made because KI interviews were conducted in Ar-Raqqa in 2017.





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