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### Highlights

o In March, the national average price of WFP’s standard reference food basket increased by 24 percent compared with February 2022, reaching SYP 286,757 (USD 114.7 at the official exchange rate of SYP 2,500/USD). This is the seventh consecutive month registering the highest ever recorded average price since monitoring started (2013).

o FAO’s Global Food Price Index averaged a record high 159.3 points in March 2022, up 12.6 percent from February 2022 when it had already reached its highest level since inception in 1990.

o The Minimum Expenditure Basket in Syria covering 28 commodities, 20 of which food items, increased by 15.3 percent m-o-m and by 44.2 percent since September 2021.

o Conflict in Ukraine has further increased national annual inflation rates across the world. In March 2022, USA inflation was 8.5 percent (highest rate since 1981), Euro-area inflation was 7.5 percent (highest rate on record) and Turkey’s inflation was 61.1 percent.

o In March 2022, the Syrian pound’s informal exchange rate weakened by 6 percent, reaching SYP 3,848/USD. The Syrian pound’s informal exchange rate has depreciated by 50 percent since March 2021. The official exchange rate remains at SYP 2,500/USD.

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### Standard Food Basket

In March 2022, the national average price of a standard reference food basket<sup>1</sup> increased by 24 percent since February 2022, reaching SYP 286,757. The national average food basket price was 54 percent higher than that of September 2021 (six months ago) and 59 percent higher compared to March 2021 (Figure 1). March 2022 marked the highest ever recorded monthly average reference food basket price since monitoring started in 2013, representing the seventh consecutive month with record price levels for the standard national average reference food basket price.

Month-on-month (m-o-m), all 14 governorates recorded increases in their average reference food basket price in March. The increase came as a result of events in Ukraine affecting global food prices. Dar’a governorate recorded the highest monthly average food basket price at SYP 306,983, up 26 percent m-o-m, while Al-Hasakeh remains the governorate reporting the lowest monthly average price at SYP 246,354, up 17 percent m-o-m (Fig. 1).

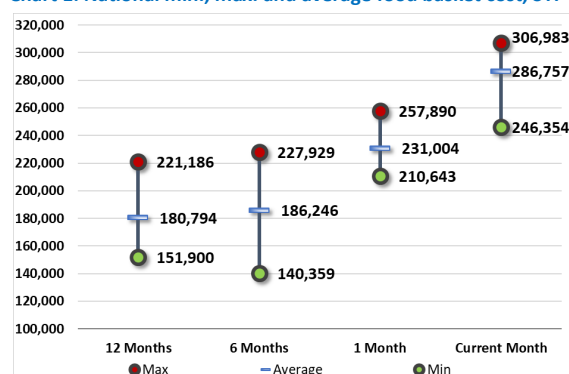
The highest m-o-m increase was reported in As-Sweida (of 35 percent), where the average price of the reference basket reached SYP 296,272 followed by a m-o-m price increase of 29 percent in Damascus, Hama, Lattakia and Quneitra Governorates. The lowest m-o-m average increase was recorded in Tartous where the price of the reference food basket increased by 17 percent reaching SYP 279,255.

Year-on-year (y-o-y), the price of the reference food basket has significantly increased across all 14 governorates. Damascus governorate recorded the highest increase (up 84 percent), while Idleb recorded the lowest increase (up 39 percent) - Chart 1.

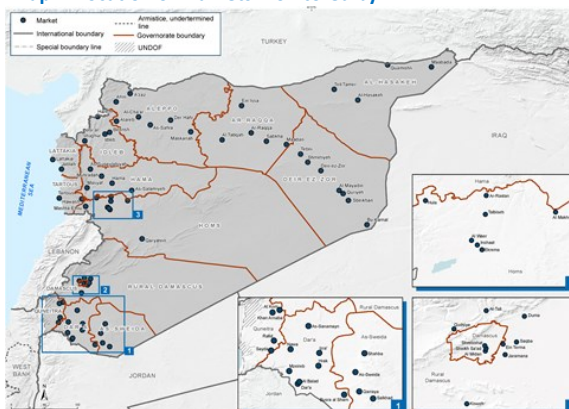
Figure 1: Food basket cost and changes, SYP

Governorate	Price March 2022	1 month change	6 months changes	12 months changes
Aleppo	SYP 286,534	24%	47%	51%
Damascus	SYP 298,908	29%	52%	84%
Dar’a	SYP 306,983	26%	56%	74%
Deir-ez-Zor	SYP 260,498	20%	58%	64%
Hama	SYP 289,205	29%	51%	55%
Al-Hasakeh	SYP 246,354	17%	76%	62%
Homs	SYP 279,741	27%	53%	50%
Idleb	SYP 306,618	19%	35%	39%
Lattakia	SYP 292,115	29%	49%	49%
Ar-Raqqa	SYP 268,009	15%	41%	53%
Rural Damascus	SYP 299,929	28%	45%	81%
As-Sweida	SYP 296,272	35%	63%	67%
Tartous	SYP 279,255	11%	53%	41%
Quneitra	SYP 304,182	29%	58%	46%
Average	SYP 286,757	24%	54%	59%

Chart 1: National min., max. and average food basket cost, SYP



Map 1: Location of markets monitored by WFP



1. The standard food basket is a group of essential food commodities. In Syria, the food basket is set at a group of dry goods providing 2,060 kcal a day for a family of five during a month. The basket includes 37 kg bread, 19 kg rice, 19 kg lentils, 5 kg of sugar, and 7 litres of vegetable oil.

## Impact of the Ukrainian crisis on global food prices

Prior to the conflict in Ukraine in February-March 2022, the global markets were already experiencing record high inflation rates not seen in 30 to 40 years (see page 3 of this report). The COVID-19 pandemic heavily impacted the world economy as nations implemented expansionary monetary policies to contain the health crisis and support their citizens' needs in the wake of large-scale movement restrictions and limited access to employment opportunities. The world's shipping sector experienced significant reductions in ports' operational capacity causing a huge backlog and thus leading to a 350 percent increase in a year in the freight cost for shipping containers<sup>2</sup>. These economic disruptions led to a significant worldwide increase in food prices since 2020, which by January were already up 19.5 percent y-o-y according to FAO's Food Price Index<sup>3</sup>.

On top of its local and regional impact, the crisis in Ukraine also has wider global implications. Together, Ukraine and Russia account for around 29 percent of the world's wheat exports - a key staple commodity across the world, including Syria. In addition to wheat, Ukraine and Russia also contribute significantly to the world's global stocks of other key staples such as barley (31 percent) and sunflower oil (78 percent), which are also heavily used in Syria. The two countries also hold around 20 percent of the world's corn supplies, an important ingredient in fodder for animals in Syria<sup>4</sup>. In addition to these key staples, Russia also produces large amounts of nutrients such as potash and phosphate, (key ingredients in fertilisers) with an estimated 13 percent share of the world global fertiliser stocks. Russia is also one of the main sources of natural gas needed to produce ammonia, the main ingredient in nitrogen fertiliser.

Given the important weight of Ukraine and Russia in global food and agriculture trade, the crisis in Ukraine and the subsequent international sanctions on Russia have led to further increases in the global price of food items. This comes as a direct result of the evolving conflict in Ukraine as well as from fear/speculation of subsequent reductions in the amount of food available on international markets. In addition, the jump in the price of Brent crude oil on international markets, now ranging between US \$100 - \$120 per barrel (up 36 percent in March 2022 compared to January 2022 average price), has led to higher input and transportation costs in-turn pushing up the price of food items. Moreover, as a result of the conflict in Ukraine, some exporting nations are already starting to impose exports bans in an attempt to hold on to their national food stocks, hereby further disrupting global food markets<sup>5</sup>.

### Impact on prices in Syria

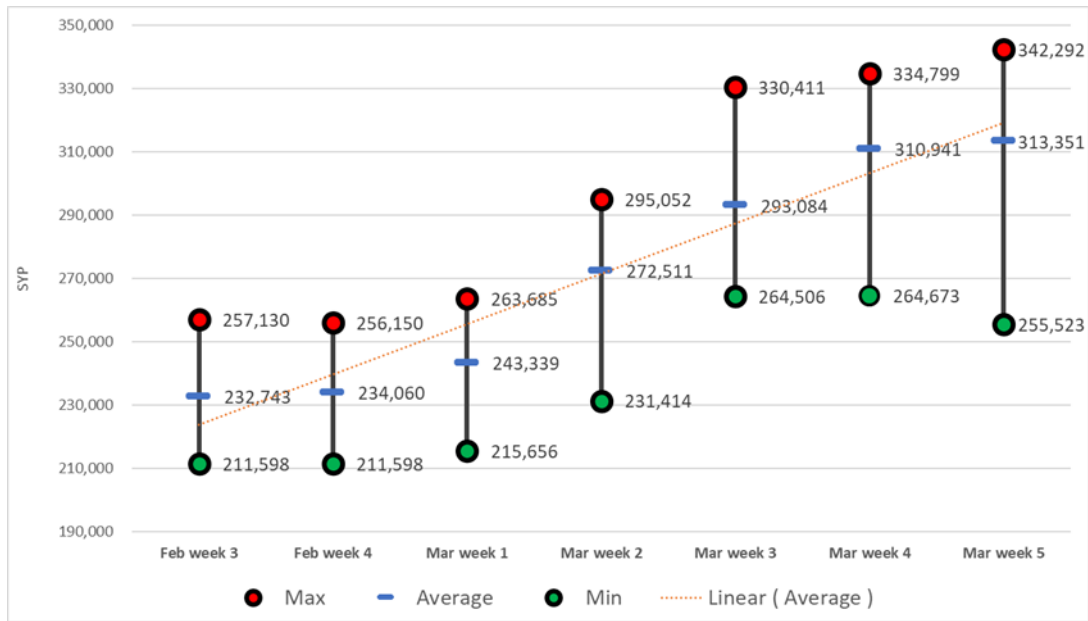
Commodity price increases have also occurred in Syria as the country depends on the importation of key commodities such as (wheat flour, bulgur, rice, cooking oil, sugar and petrol among other items). Ongoing price monitoring of food and non-food items by WFP from 75 markets across all 14 governorates in Syria over the past few weeks, indicate that food prices increased as a result of the Ukrainian unfolding crisis and the conflict's repercussion on global food and energy markets.

Chart 2 shows the spread of WFP's standard reference food basket by governorate by week starting from the third week of February 2022 up to the fifth week of March 2022. The price range of the standard reference food basket remained relatively stable between the third and fourth weeks of February with only a slight increase in

the first week of March 2022. However, by the second week of March the price range of the standard reference food basket by governorate started increasing considerably with a price jump of 12 percent of the national average reference food basket price compared to the national average price a week earlier. This was followed by further price increases of eight percent in the third week of March and six percent in the fourth week of March before somewhat stabilizing at around SYP 313,000 in the fifth week of March (up around 1 percent compared to a week earlier). When comparing the average price between the first and the last week of March, we notice an increase of 29 percent in the weekly national average reference food basket price, highlighting significant price increases in the governorates average reference food basket price in March 2022. These increases are very likely an effect of markets across Syria factoring-in the disruption of the Ukraine crisis on global food, fuel and fertiliser supplies and markets.

While all commodities in Syria saw significant price increases in March compared to February, commodities that saw the greatest increase in their national average price by the fifth week of March 2022 compared to their average price in February 2022 were as follows: tomatoes (up 59 percent), bulgur and vegetable oil (both up 58 percent), onions (43 percent), informal market diesel price (up 40 percent); red split lentils (up 32 percent); wheat flour, potatoes and carrots (all up 28 percent); sugar and diapers (both up 24 percent); chickpeas, multipurpose soap and informal market butane gas (all up 23 percent), and commercial bread (up 21 percent).

Chart 2: National weekly min., max. & average food basket cost between Feb 2022 week 3 and March 2022 week 5, SYP



Source: WFP

2. "Freight Rate Index / Freightos Baltic Container Index" <https://fbx.freightos.com/>  
 3. "World food prices hit record level in January" <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/world-food-prices-hit-record-level-in-january/2493110#:~:text=Up%2019.5%25%20year%20Don%20year%2C%20world%20food%20prices,sub%2Ditems%20saw%20significant%20increases.>  
 4. "Russia-Ukraine conflict: What it means for grain and oilseed markets" <https://think.ing.com/articles/russia-ukraine-conflict-what-it-means-for-grain-markets>  
 5. "Hungary Bans All Grain Exports Effective Immediately" <https://www.grainnet.com/article/264442/hungary-to-ban-all-grain-exports-effective-immediately> 05.03.2022; "Russia temporarily bans grain exports to ex-Soviet countries" <https://www.reuters.com/business/russia-may-suspend-grain-exports-until-june-30-interfax-2022-03-14/>

## Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)

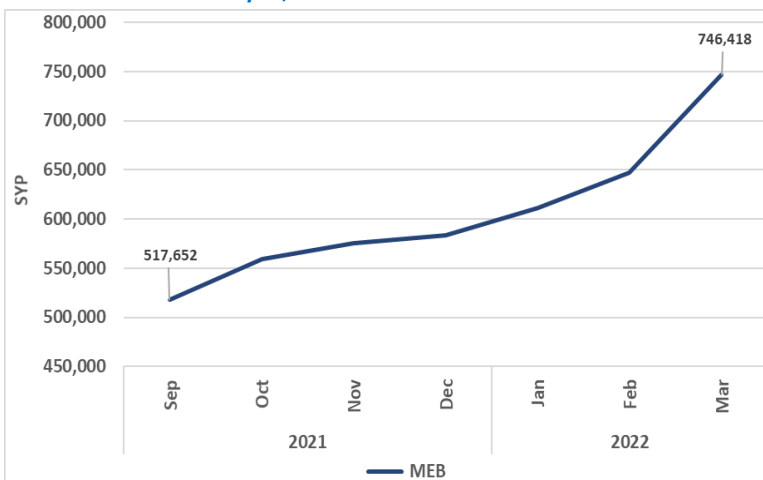
### MEB Trend

In March 2022, the national average MEB (Damascus Cash Working Group) for a household of five members was recorded at SYP 746,418 (US \$299), up 15.3 percent m-o-m and up 44.2 percent since September 2021. The rate of increase fluctuates considerably between months with a high of 15.3 percent recorded in March 2022 and a low of 1.4 percent recorded in December 2021.

On average, since monitoring of the MEB started (September 2021), the value of the MEB has increased by around SYP 38,128 (US \$15.3) per month representing around a 6.1 percent increase on a monthly basis (Chart 3).

The breakdown by category of MEB price changes in March 2022 compared to a month earlier are as follows: vegetable oil (up 46 percent), followed by pulses (up 17 percent), cereals (up 16 percent), sugar and potatoes (up 12 percent), fuel and fruits and vegetables (up 10 percent), hygiene items (up nine percent), animal protein (up seven percent) dairy products (up five percent) and communication costs (no change).

Chart 3: MEB Trend in Syria, SYP



Source: Damascus MEB Working Group

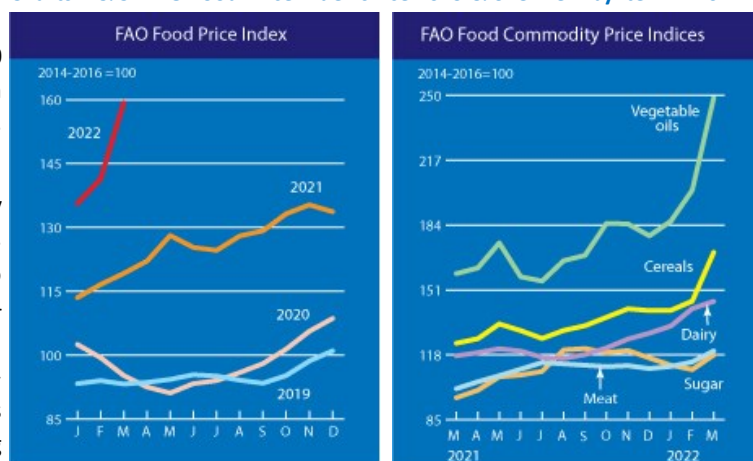
## Worldwide food prices and overall inflation trends

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's Food Price Index, an index tracking monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities, has outlined an increasing index since mid-2020 (Charts 4 and 5). FAO's Food Price Index averaged 159.3 points in March 2022, up 18.6 points from February 2022 when it had already reached its highest level since its inception in 1990<sup>6</sup> (Chart 6).

The FAO Food Price Index rose by 12.6 percent in March 2022 m-o-m and by 33.6 percent y-o-y, as conflict in the Black Sea region sent shock waves through markets for staple grains and vegetable oils (Chart 5). According to FAO, the biggest price increases were reported for cereals (17.1 percent m-o-m) due to a surge in prices of wheat and coarse grains and vegetable oils (23 percent m-o-m) due to sunflower, palm, soy and rapeseed oil. The meat index was up 4.8 percent m-o-m, also hitting an all-time high and dairy prices increased by 2.6 percent m-o-m and sugar rose 6.7 percent m-o-m, reversing most of the previous three months' decline, as a sharp increase in crude oil prices raised expectations of greater use of sugarcane for ethanol production. Unfavorable weather for crops and the ramifications on food supplies and energy prices threaten to keep prices rising higher in the months ahead.

In March 2022 many countries saw their inflation rates rise higher than the high levels already recorded over the previous months<sup>8</sup>. The Euro-area's annual inflation rate stood at 7.5 percent in March up from 5.9 percent in February 2022, its highest recorded rate. The United States of America's annual inflation rate stood at 8.5 percent in February up from 7.9 percent in February 2022, its highest rate since 1981. Turkey's annual inflation rate stood at 61.1 percent in March up from 54.7 percent in February 2022, its highest rate since 2002. Egypt's annual inflation rate stood at 12.1 percent in March 2022, up from 10 percent a month earlier, while Lebanon's annual inflation rate stood at a high 215 percent in March down from 240 percent in February 2022.

Charts 4 & 5: FAO Food Price Index since 2019 & overview by item in 2022



Source: FAO

Chart 6: Food Prices are at a Record High (Financial Times<sup>7</sup>)



Source: FAO

6. FAO "FAO Food Price Index posts significant leap in March" <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/fao-food-price-index-posts-significant-leap-in-march/en?cn=DD%20%20April%2011%202022&cid=452b8b5603168c9c0baf93ceacda018&lt=index#::::text=The%20FAO%20Food%20Price%20Index,since%20its%20inception%20in%201990>.

7. FT "World food prices hit new record on impact from Ukraine war" <https://www.ft.com/content/5212871a-d2d3-41ef-99fe-400ed33859e8>

8. Trading Economics "Inflation Rate" <https://tradingeconomics.com/country-list/inflation-rate?continent=asia>

**Legend on regions of analysis:** 'Northwest'=Aleppo; 'Cross-border'=Idleb & Aleppo [A'zaz, Atarib & Afrin]; 'Coastal'=Lattakia & Tartous; 'Northeast'=Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh & Deir-ez-Zor; 'Middle'=Hama, Homs and Idleb [Senjar]; 'South'=Damascus, Rural Damascus, Dar'a, As-Sweida & Quneitra.

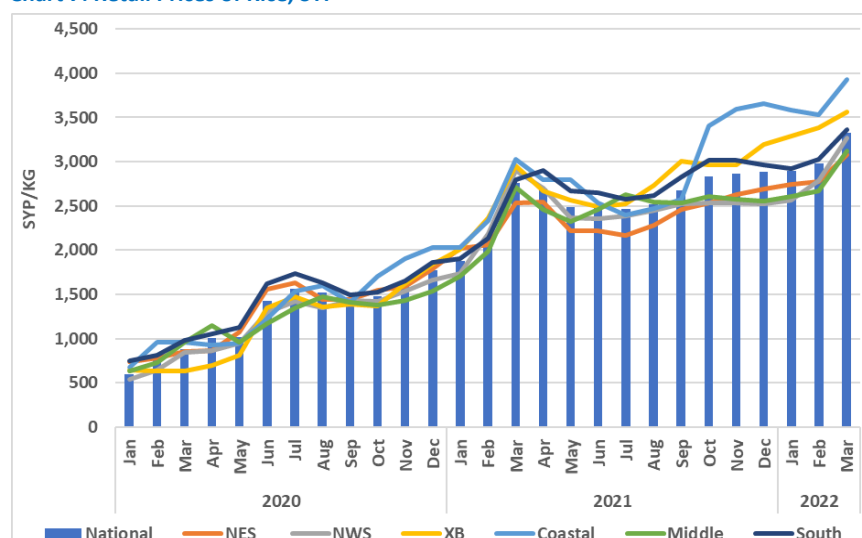
## Staple cereals retail prices

### Rice

The national average retail price of Egyptian white rice increased by 12 percent compared to February 2022 and by 21 percent y-o-y, reaching SYP 3,322/kg in March 2022. Tartous recorded the highest monthly average price at SYP 4,658/kg (up eight percent m-o-m), followed by Dar'a at SYP 3,753/kg (up nine percent m-o-m). Deir-ez-Zor recorded the lowest price at SYP 3,042/kg (up 12 percent m-o-m), followed by Ar-Raqqa at SYP 3,084 (up 10 percent m-o-m).

M-o-m, the Coastal region recorded the highest monthly average price of Egyptian white rice at SYP 3,926/kg (up 11 percent m-o-m), followed by the Cross-border region at SYP 3,561/kg (up five percent m-o-m). The Northeast Syria (NES) region recorded the lowest average Egyptian white rice price by region at SYP 3,083/kg (up 11 percent m-o-m), followed by Syria's Middle region at SYP 3,121/kg (up 17 percent m-o-m) - Chart 7.

Chart 7: Retail Prices of Rice, SYP

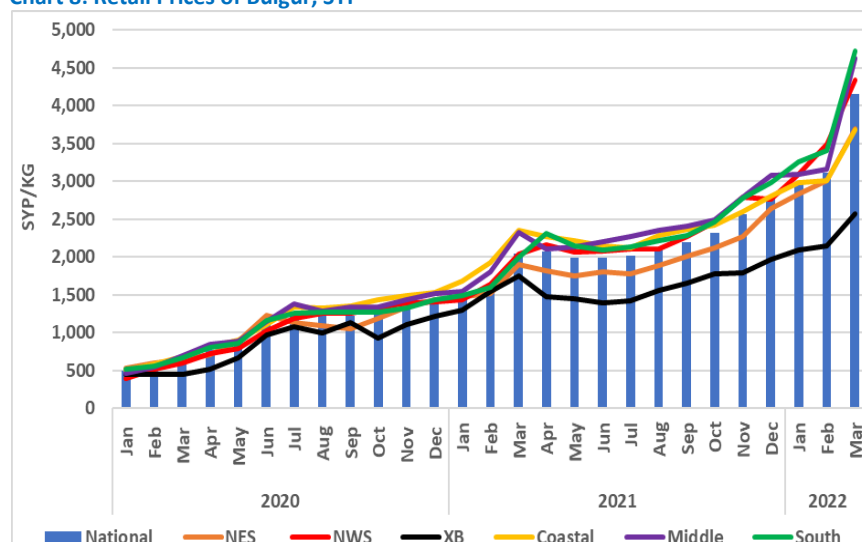


### Bulgur

M-o-m, the national average retail price of bulgur increased by 34 percent at SYP 4,158/kg in March 2022, whereas y-o-y, the price of bulgur increased by 104 percent. Damascus recorded the highest bulgur retail price at SYP 4,840/kg (up 39 percent m-o-m), followed by Dar'a at SYP 4,768/kg (up 41 percent m-o-m). Idleb recorded the lowest price at SYP 3,069/kg (up 28 percent m-o-m), followed by Al-Hasakeh at SYP 3,357/kg (up 12 percent m-o-m).

The Southern Syria region recorded the highest monthly average bulgur price by region at SYP 4,725/kg (up 39 percent m-o-m), followed by Syria's Middle region at SYP 4,623/kg (up 46 percent m-o-m). Syria's Cross-border region recorded the lowest average bulgur price at SYP 2,577/kg (up 20 percent m-o-m), followed by Coastal Syria region at SYP 3,677/kg (up 22 percent m-o-m) - Chart 8.

Chart 8: Retail Prices of Bulgur, SYP



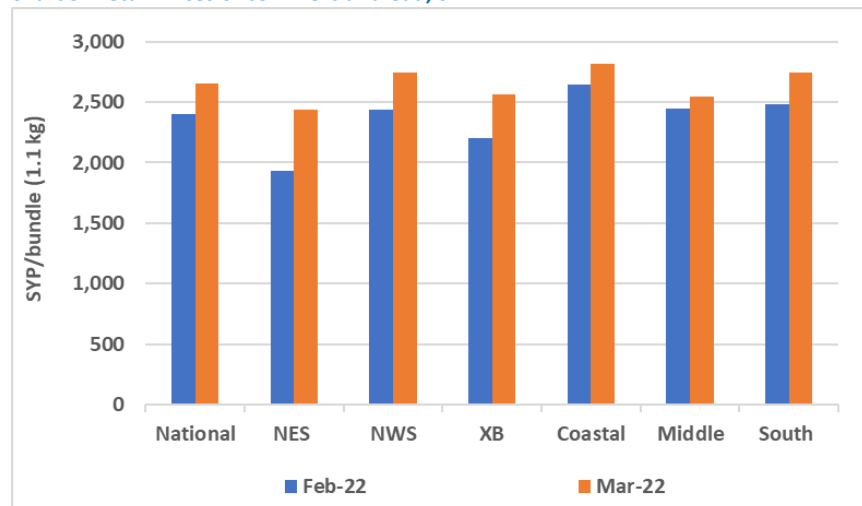
### Bread\*

The national average price of subsidized bread increased by three percent m-o-m at SYP 253/bundle in March 2022; whereas it has increased by 113 percent compared to 12 months ago.

Moreover, the price of commercial bread increased by 11 percent m-o-m and by 57 percent y-o-y, reaching SYP 2,653/bundle. Lattakia recorded the highest commercial bread price of SYP 2,898/bundle (up five percent m-o-m) followed by Dar'a at SYP 2,778 (up 17 percent m-o-m). Ar-Raqqa recorded the lowest national average price of commercial bread at SYP 2,319/bundle (up 45 percent m-o-m) followed by Idleb at SYP 2,378 (up 19 percent m-o-m) - Chart 9.

Broken down by region, the Coastal region recorded the highest price of commercial bread at SYP 2,816/bundle (up six percent m-o-m), while the Northeast Syria region recorded the lowest price at SYP 2,440/bundle (up 26 percent m-o-m).

Chart 9: Retail Prices of commercial bread, SYP



Source: WFP Field Offices

\*Starting from March 2021, WFP-monitored commercial bread has been switched from resold public bread bundles to commercial bread sold at shops. Prices for the past year have been adjusted to include commercial bread resold from shops. Moreover, all prices have been adjusted to reflect bread bundle size of 1.1 kg instead of 1.3 kg since November 2020.

### Exchange rate\*\*

In March 2022, the informal SYP/US \$ exchange rate depreciated by six percent m-o-m, reaching an average of SYP 3,848/US \$. Moreover, y-o-y the Syrian pound has depreciated by 50 percent.

The highest informal exchange rate was reported in Damascus and Rural Damascus both at SYP 3,884/US \$ (both depreciating by six percent m-o-m), followed by As-Sweida, at SYP 3,858/US \$ (depreciating by five percent m-o-m). The lowest informal exchange rate was reported in Al-Hasakeh at SYP 3,796/US \$ (depreciating by four percent m-o-m), followed by Ar-Raqqa at SYP 3,807/US \$ (also depreciating by four percent m-o-m) - Table 1.

Moreover, the formal exchange rate and the UN operational rate have both remained unchanged m-o-m at SYP 2,500/USD.

### Diesel

The formal national average price of diesel remained unchanged compared to last month at SYP 475/litre in March 2022. Its (formal diesel) price though is 173 percent higher than 12 months earlier (SYP 174/litre).

Moreover, the informal national average price of transport diesel increased by 23 percent m-o-m, while it increased by 121 percent y-o-y, reaching SYP 3,394/litre in March 2022. The informal price is now 7.1 times higher than the formal price (SYP 475/litre) - Chart 10.

Dar'a recorded the highest informal price at SYP 4,451/litre (up 48 percent m-o-m) followed by As-Sweida at SYP 4,430/litre (up 48 percent m-o-m). Al-Hasakeh recorded the lowest price at SYP 952/litre (up 15 percent m-o-m) followed by Ar-Raqqa at SYP 1,550/litre (down 12 percent m-o-m). The overall increase in the informal price of transport diesel in Syria is linked to the considerable increase in the price of Brent crude oil on international markets in March 2022 as a result of the Ukrainian crisis.

Broken down by region, the Southern Syria region recorded the highest price of informal transport diesel at SYP 4,094/litre (up 31 percent m-o-m), while the Northeast Syria region recorded the lowest price at SYP 1,486/litre (down five percent m-o-m).

Moreover, the informal national average price of heating diesel increased by 13 percent m-o-m, reaching SYP 3,019/litre. Broken down by region, the Middle Syria region recorded the highest price of diesel for heating at SYP 3,683/litre (up 32 percent m-o-m), while Cross-border Syria recorded the lowest price at SYP 1,900/litre (up six percent m-o-m).

### Butane gas prices

The national average price of formal butane gas cylinder (25,000 L) remained unchanged m-o-m and increased by 200 percent y-o-y, reaching SYP 10,564/refill in March 2022.

Moreover, the informal national average price of one butane gas cylinder (25,000 L) increased by 11 percent m-o-m, while it increased by 205 percent y-o-y, reaching SYP 80,855/refill in March 2022. Damascus recorded the highest average price at SYP 116,333/refill (down 16 percent m-o-m), followed by Dar'a at SYP 111,283 (up 29 percent m-o-m). Al-Hasakeh continued to record the lowest average price of informal butane refill price at SYP 19,033/refill (up 19 percent m-o-m) followed by Idlib at SYP 49,097/refill (up 11 percent m-o-m).

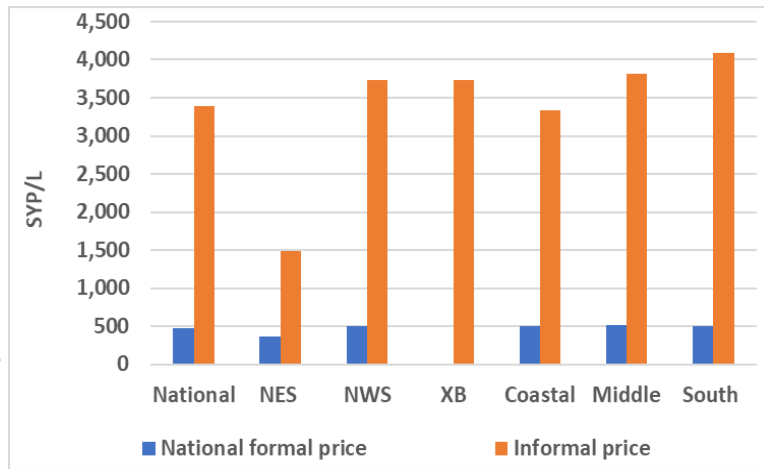
Broken down by region, the Southern Syria region recorded the highest average informal butane gas refill price at SYP 106,425/refill (up nine percent m-o-m) followed by the Coastal region at SYP 86,111 (up seven percent). Northeast Syria continued to record the lowest average refill price of informal butane gas at SYP 40,102/refill (up 19 percent m-o-m) followed by the Cross-border region at SYP 48,687 (up 10 percent m-o-m) - Chart 11.

Table 1: Informal market exchange rate, 1 US \$ to SYP

Governorate	March 2022	% change (m-o-m)	% change (y-o-y)
Aleppo	3,848	-6%	3%
Al-Hasakeh	3,796	-4%	1%
Ar-Raqqa	3,807	-4%	2%
As-Sweida	3,858	-5%	4%
Damascus	3,884	-6%	3%
Dar'a	3,855	-5%	4%
Deir-ez-Zor	3,816	-5%	7%
Hama	3,857	-6%	4%
Homs	3,857	-6%	4%
Idlib	3,834	-6%	0%
Lattakia	3,857	-6%	3%
Quneitra	3,856	-5%	4%
Rural Damascus	3,884	-6%	3%
Tartous	3,857	-6%	3%
National average	3,848	-6%	3%
Official rate	2,500	0%	-50%
UN operational rate	2,500	0%	-50%

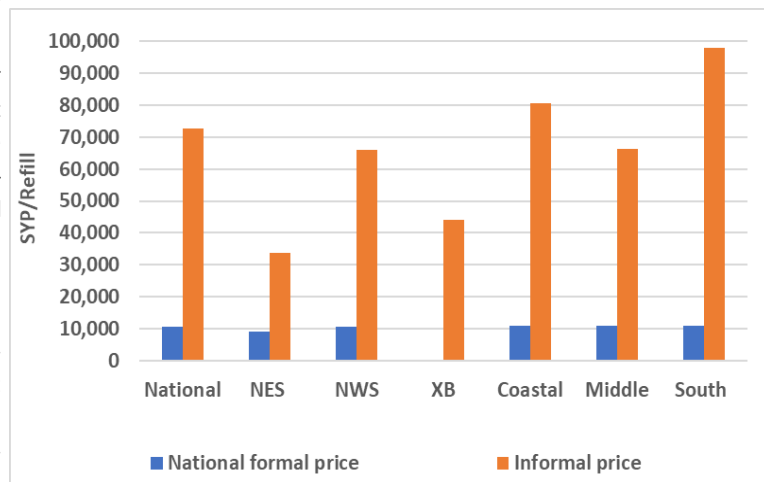
Source: WFP field offices

Chart 10: Formal and informal transport diesel prices, SYP\*\*\*



Source: WFP

Chart 11: Formal and informal butane gas cylinder prices, SYP\*\*\*



Source: WFP

\*\*When measuring exchange rates, there are two quotations. The first is the direct quotation where the US dollar is the base of measuring the change in exchange rate against the local currency. The second one is the indirect quotation where the local currency is the base of measuring the change in the exchange rate against the US dollar. The change in the exchange rate used below reflects the indirect quotation (measuring how much has the Syrian pound improved (appreciated) or worsened (depreciated) against the US dollar).

\*\*\*No formal prices have been reported in the cross-border region because there is no subsidized diesel or butane gas in the region.

## Terms of Trade (ToT)<sup>9</sup>

### ToT between wage labour and wheat flour

The national average non-skilled labour wage, representing construction, off-loading and agricultural labour, was recorded at SYP 10,616/day (up eight percent m-o-m) in March 2022. Moreover, the non-skilled national average wage rate was 84 percent above its y-o-y level and 41 percent above levels recorded in September 2021 - Chart 12.

Tartous recorded the highest daily non-skilled wage rate at SYP 19,329/day (up 29 percent m-o-m), followed by Damascus at SYP 18,222 (up 10 percent m-o-m). Deir-ez-Zor recorded the lowest daily non-skilled wage rate at SYP 5,619/day (up 28 percent m-o-m). Broken down by region, the Coastal region recorded the highest non-skilled wage rate of SYP 17,442/day (up 14 percent m-o-m), while Northwest Syria recorded the lowest non-skilled wage rate of SYP 6,417/day (down 1 percent m-o-m).

The national average ToT between wheat flour and wage labour, a proxy indicator for purchasing power, decreased by seven percent between February and March 2022, reaching 3.66 kgs of wheat flour/daily wage compared to 3.95 kgs of wheat flour/daily wage in February 2022.

The national average ToT between wheat flour and wage labour decreased by two percent compared to September 2021 (six months ago), while it was up by 26 percent compared to March 2021 levels. In other words, the national average daily wage of a non-skilled labourer could buy 3.66 kgs of wheat flour in March 2022 compared to 3.95 kgs of wheat flour in February 2022; 3.72 kgs of wheat flour in September 2021; and 2.9 kgs of wheat flour in March 2021. Broken down by region, the Coastal region recorded the highest ToT at 6.4 kgs (up one percent m-o-m), while Northwest Syria recorded the lowest ToT at 1.94 kgs (down 17 percent m-o-m) - Chart 13.

### ToT between sheep and wheat flour

The national average price of a two-year old alive male sheep increased by three percent compared to February 2022 and was up by five percent compared to March 2021, reaching SYP 521,716/sheep in March 2022 (Chart 14). Tartous recorded the highest average price of a two-year old alive male sheep at SYP 718,111/head (up four percent m-o-m), while Deir-ez-Zor recorded the lowest price at SYP 339,713/head (down nine percent m-o-m).

Broken down by region, the Coastal region recorded the highest average price across Syria at SYP 641,167/sheep (up three percent m-o-m), followed by Northwest Syria at SYP 580,784/sheep (unchanged m-o-m). Northeast Syria recorded the lowest price at SYP 429,414/sheep (down two percent m-o-m), followed by the Southern Syria region at SYP 521,985/sheep (up four percent m-o-m).

In March 2022, the ToT between wheat flour and an alive two-year old male sheep was 180 kg/sheep (down 12 percent m-o-m) and down 28 percent compared to March 2021.

Broken down by region, the Coastal region recorded the highest ToT at 236 kg/sheep (down nine percent m-o-m), followed by the Cross-border region at 212 kg/sheep (up three percent m-o-m). While Northeast Syria recorded the lowest ToT at 164 kg/sheep (down 13 percent m-o-m), followed by Southern Syria at 170 kg/sheep (down 13 percent m-o-m) - Chart 15.

Chart 12: Daily wage for unskilled labour, SYP

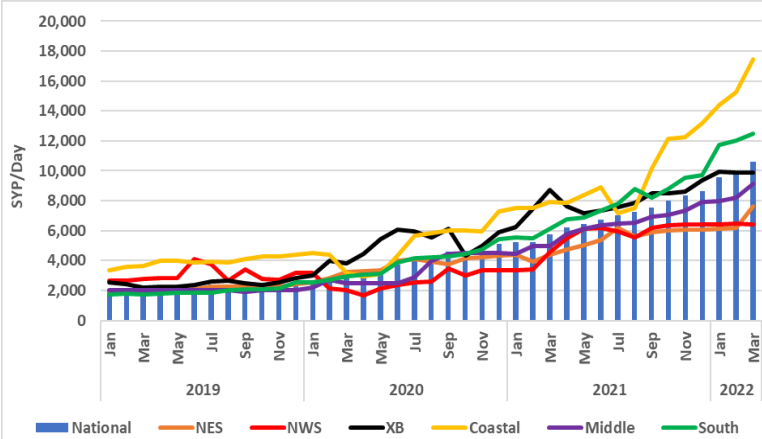


Chart 13: Terms of Trade (ToT) between wheat flour and wage rate

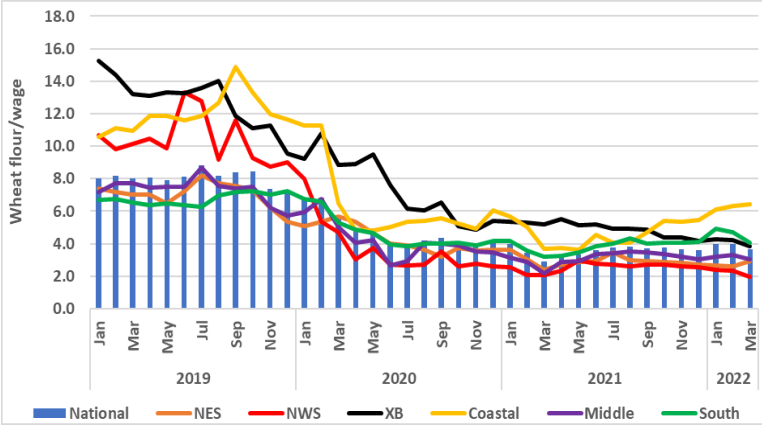


Chart 14: Price of livestock, SYP/one 2Y old sheep

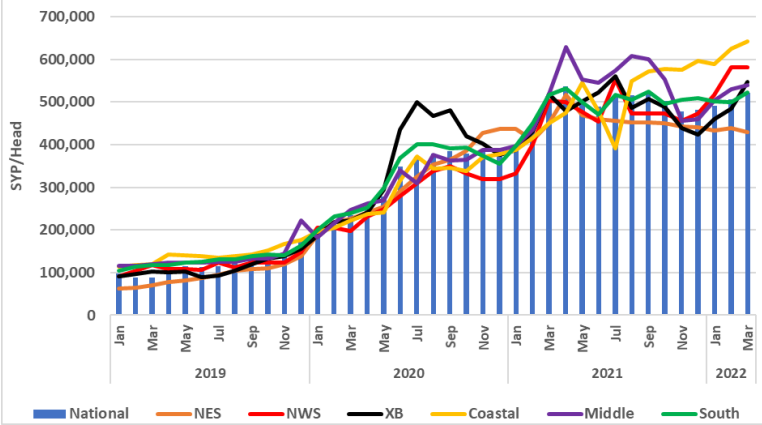
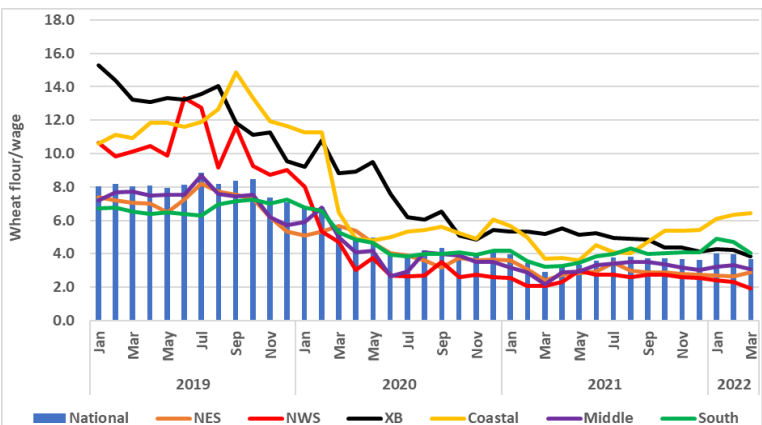


Chart 15: Terms of Trade (ToT) between wheat flour and the price of a 2 year old sheep



9. The ToT are proxy indicators of the purchasing power of households that rely on livestock and/or casual labour as their main source of income for the purchase of cereals from local markets. ToT are important components of food security analysis. Changes in the terms of trade between wages/livestock and staple food commodities are indicative of the trends in purchasing power and the impact on the food security situation of households dependent on food purchases through income from daily wage labour and/or the sale of livestock.

Source: WFP

Table 5. Market Price of Main Commodities in Syrian Pounds: March 2022

Commodity	Governorate	Current Price	Price change	Price change	Price change	Average Change	Average Change	Average Change	Commodity	Governorate	Current Price	Price change	Price change	Price change	Average Change	Average Change	Average Change
			1M (%)	6 M (%)	12 M (%)	1M	6 M	12 M				1M (%)	6 M (%)	12 M (%)	1M	6 M	12 M
Bread Public (1.1 kg)	Aleppo*	243	-2	-1	96	↓	↓	↑	Dates (kg)	Aleppo	8,704	18	45	64	↑	↑	↑
	Damascus	200	-	-	88	↔	↔	↑		Damascus	10,778	27	86	108	↑	↑	↑
	Dar'a	254	0.3	2	81	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	10,368	26	77	101	↑	↑	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	357	1	25	116	↑	↑	↑		Deir-ez-Zor	4,500	4	21	30	↑	↑	↑
	Hama	250	-	-	150	↔	↔	↑		Hama	9,087	35	57	67	↑	↑	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	213	-	6	113	↔	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	4,442	-1	1	5	↓	↑	↑
	Homs	250	-	-	150	↔	↔	↑		Homs	6,133	19	26	13	↑	↑	↑
	Idleb*	NA	-	-	-	↔	↔	↔		Idleb	6,127	17	37	21	↑	↑	↑
	Lattakia	294	7	18	194	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	8,936	15	46	62	↑	↑	↑
	Quneitra	250	-	-	81	↔	↔	↑		Quneitra	10,097	34	69	96	↑	↑	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	236	12	11	111	↑	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	2,456	-2	-39	-40	↓	↓	↓
	Rural Damascus	200	-	-1	100	↔	↓	↑		Rural Damascus	10,155	33	100	100	↑	↑	↑
	As-Sweida	250	-	25	150	↔	↑	↑		As-Sweida	7,992	25	43	39	↑	↑	↑
	Tartous	250	-	-	68	↔	↔	↑		Tartous	4,704	1	4	-26	↑	↑	↓
Bread Shop (1.1 kg)	Aleppo	2,747	9	30	43	↑	↑	↑	Diesel (parallel market, L)	Aleppo	3,690	27	18	72	↑	↑	↑
	Damascus	2,733	8	22	32	↑	↑	↑		Damascus	3,749	10	20	131	↑	↑	↑
	Dar'a	2,778	17	35	48	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	4,451	48	33	170	↑	↑	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	NA	-	-	-	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	1,780	-6	15	149	↓	↑	↑
	Hama	2,696	3	33	206	↑	↑	↑		Hama	4,164	46	29	127	↑	↑	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	2,501	19	76	114	↑	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	952	15	315	315	↑	↑	↑
	Homs	2,434	5	25	38	↑	↑	↑		Homs	3,582	29	26	97	↑	↑	↑
	Idleb	2,378	19	29	29	↑	↑	↑		Idleb	3,793	17	27	35	↑	↑	↑
	Lattakia	2,898	5	12	120	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	3,397	3	19	144	↑	↑	↑
	Quneitra	2,540	3	20	27	↑	↑	↑		Quneitra	4,020	44	32	199	↑	↑	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	2,319	45	45	70	↑	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	1,550	-12	28	129	↓	↑	↑
	Rural Damascus	2,710	8	27	35	↑	↑	↑		Rural Damascus	3,683	8	7	132	↑	↑	↑
	As-Sweida	2,868	7	37	45	↑	↑	↑		As-Sweida	4,430	48	31	202	↑	↑	↑
	Tartous	2,733	7	96	113	↑	↑	↑		Tartous	3,267	1	-13	117	↑	↓	↑
Bulgur (kg)	Aleppo	3,461	21	70	75	↑	↑	↑	US Dollar exchange rate (parallel market, \$1)	Aleppo	3,848	-6	-11	3	↓	↓	↑
	Damascus	4,840	39	121	144	↑	↑	↑		Damascus	3,884	-6	-11	3	↓	↓	↑
	Dar'a	4,768	41	96	140	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	3,855	-5	-10	4	↓	↓	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	4,024	34	97	110	↑	↑	↑		Deir-ez-Zor	3,816	-5	-11	7	↓	↓	↑
	Hama	4,620	43	103	98	↑	↑	↑		Hama	3,857	-6	-11	4	↓	↓	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	3,357	12	80	84	↑	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	3,796	-4	-9	1	↓	↓	↑
	Homs	4,617	49	85	99	↑	↑	↑		Homs	3,857	-6	-11	4	↓	↓	↑
	Idleb	3,069	28	72	89	↑	↑	↑		Idleb	3,834	-6	-10	0.3	↓	↓	↑
	Lattakia	4,358	34	95	112	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	3,857	-6	-11	3	↓	↓	↑
	Quneitra	4,691	42	120	151	↑	↑	↑		Quneitra	3,856	-5	-11	4	↓	↓	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	3,605	19	72	86	↑	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	3,807	-4	-10	2	↓	↓	↑
	Rural Damascus	4,726	34	115	140	↑	↑	↑		Rural Damascus	3,884	-6	-11	3	↓	↓	↑
	As-Sweida	4,587	38	91	105	↑	↑	↑		As-Sweida	3,858	-5	-11	4	↓	↓	↑
	Tartous	2,997	9	20	14	↑	↑	↑		Tartous	3,857	-6	-11	3	↓	↓	↑
Butane Cylinder (parallel market, 25 kg)	Aleppo	68,407	21	3	117	↑	↑	↑	Eggs (carton)	Aleppo	11,214	7	25	65	↑	↑	↑
	Damascus	116,333	-16	52	472	↓	↑	↑		Damascus	12,320	10	36	83	↑	↑	↑
	Dar'a	111,283	29	19	312	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	11,963	9	29	73	↑	↑	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	53,622	19	82	139	↑	↑	↑		Deir-ez-Zor	11,452	8	24	67	↑	↑	↑
	Hama	71,667	20	4	113	↑	↑	↑		Hama	11,912	13	33	66	↑	↑	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	19,033	24	57	83	↑	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	10,367	1	14	60	↑	↑	↑
	Homs	80,857	13	-31	145	↑	↓	↑		Homs	11,756	9	30	63	↑	↑	↑
	Idleb	49,097	11	-9	20	↑	↓	↑		Idleb	10,501	10	15	61	↑	↑	↑
	Lattakia	94,667	10	101	244	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	11,900	10	34	71	↑	↑	↑
	Quneitra	99,254	19	58	444	↑	↑	↑		Quneitra	12,243	9	50	87	↑	↑	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	55,714	16	112	191	↑	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	10,540	5	18	64	↑	↑	↑
	Rural Damascus	110,476	-3	33	422	↓	↑	↑		Rural Damascus	12,263	11	32	78	↑	↑	↑
	As-Sweida	89,000	14	37	267	↑	↑	↑		As-Sweida	12,533	9	32	77	↑	↑	↑
	Tartous	77,556	3	-55	156	↑	↓	↑		Tartous	11,573	6	30	65	↑	↑	↑
Cheese (kg)	Aleppo	11,083	3	20	72	↑	↑	↑	Eggplant (kg)	Aleppo	3,280	3	310	117	↑	↑	↑
	Damascus	10,880	2	33	85	↑	↑	↑		Damascus	3,304	-3	223	212	↓	↑	↑
	Dar'a	10,563	2	31	108	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	2,931	1	266	154	↑	↑	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	10,051	7	29	94	↑	↑	↑		Deir-ez-Zor	2,559	14	353	96	↑	↑	↑
	Hama	10,807	-1	38	96	↓	↑	↑		Hama	2,712	-7	233	102	↓	↑	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	10,108	2	75	87	↑	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	1,920	6	95	30	↑	↑	↑
	Homs	10,062	8	37	84	↑	↑	↑		Homs	2,859	3	208	112	↑	↑	↑
	Idleb	9,382	5	10	9	↑	↑	↑		Idleb	3,953	6	317	72	↑	↑	↑
	Lattakia	12,024	5	21	85	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	2,013	11	100	75	↑	↑	↑
	Quneitra	11,967	9	60	137	↑	↑	↑		Quneitra	2,896	8	274	153	↑	↑	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	9,480	-9	40	96	↓	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	2,607	-4	204	72	↓	↑	↑
	Rural Damascus	11,147	9	36	89	↑	↑	↑		Rural Damascus	3,187	1	240	187	↑	↑	↑
	As-Sweida	11,300	17	50	72	↑	↑	↑		As-Sweida	2,980	9	414	136	↑	↑	↑
	Tartous	9,500	3	7	65	↑	↑	↑		Tartous	1,253	11	50	9	↑	↑	↑
Chickpeas (kg)	Aleppo	3,942	18	50	71	↑	↑	↑	Fish (tuna, canned) - 160 gm	Aleppo	3,859	8	61	61	↑	↑	↑
	Damascus	5,562	18	64	134	↑	↑	↑		Damascus	4,749	0.3	61	106	↑	↑	↑
	Dar'a	4,600	17	40	113	↑	↑	↑		Dar'a	4,248	10	48	61	↑	↑	↑
	Deir-ez-Zor	4,300	24	78	105	↑	↑	↑		Deir-ez-Zor	3,393	10	39	79	↑	↑	↑
	Hama	4,992	9	39	81	↑	↑	↑		Hama	4,500	1	49	28	↑	↑	↑
	Al-Hasakeh	3,700	11	37	114	↑	↑	↑		Al-Hasakeh	2,707	2	19	12	↑	↑	↑
	Homs	4,667	15	45	70	↑	↑	↑		Homs	4,624	5	55	32	↑	↑	↑
	Idleb	3,242	2	9	60	↑	↑	↑		Idleb	3,685	15	49	50	↑	↑	↑
	Lattakia	5,191	23	37	81	↑	↑	↑		Lattakia	4,342	4	49	63	↑	↑	↑
	Quneitra	4,780	14	65	131	↑	↑	↑		Quneitra	4,575	14	66	78	↑	↑	↑
	Ar-Raqqa	5,000	-	3	80	↔	↑	↑		Ar-Raqqa	3,441	7	34	49	↑	↑	↑
	Rural Damascus	5,470	16	62	142	↑	↑	↑		Rural Damascus	4,698	3	62	94	↑	↑	↑
	As-Sweida	5,271	30	60	111	↑	↑	↑		As-Sweida	4,353	-6	64	75	↓	↑	↑
	Tartous	4,702	8	26	54	↑	↑	↑		Tartous	6,000	0.3	119	98	↑	↑	↑

Key:  
 ↑ Price increase equal to or greater than 25 percent  
 ↑ Price increase between 0.1 and 25 percent  
 ↔ No price change  
 ↓ Price decrease below normal price fluctuation  
 \* Bread (bakery) in Aleppo and Idleb represents subsidized bread in Government of Syria areas

\* Key for unskilled labor wage and exchange rate:  
 ↑ Increase equal to or greater than 25 percent  
 ↑ Increase between 0.1 and 25 percent  
 ↔ No change  
 ↓ Decrease below normal fluctuation

Commodity	Governorate	Current Price	Price change 1M (%)	Price change 6 M (%)	Price change 12 M (%)	Average Change 1M	Average Change 6 M	Average Change 12 M	Commodity	Governorate	Current Price	Price change 1M (%)	Price change 6 M (%)	Price change 12 M (%)	Average Change 1M	Average Change 6 M	Average Change 12 M
Iodised salt (kg)	Aleppo	918	-5	10	13	↓	↔	↔	Sheep 2Y old Male (head)	Aleppo	539,156	-0.2	10	11	↓	↔	↔
	Damascus	729	-15	14	69	↓	↔	↔		Damascus	545,200	-1	1	5	↓	↔	↔
	Dar'a	1,172	34	94	116	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	564,750	6	9	9	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	608	-13	33	39	↓	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	339,713	-9	-16	-20	↓	↓	↓
	Hama	891	23	23	-4	↔	↔	↓		Hama	576,600	3	3	11	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	625	3	14	29	↔	↔	↔		Al-Hasakeh	471,250	1	1	6	↔	↔	↔
	Homs	882	2	-5	-5	↔	↔	↓		Homs	499,857	1	-20	-4	↔	↓	↓
	Idleb	586	11	-15	-9	↔	↓	↓		Idleb	589,944	16	11	6	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	833	17	31	19	↔	↔	↔		Lattakia	564,222	1	6	25	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	650	16	66	47	↔	↔	↔		Quneitra	449,250	-0.2	-16	-14	↓	↓	↓
	Ar-Raqqa	1,009	6	23	74	↔	↔	↔		Ar-Raqqa	500,000	3	4	4	↔	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	862	37	18	104	↔	↔	↔		Rural Damascus	538,429	8	1.3	3	↔	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	1,000	0	25	81	↔	↔	↔		As-Sweida	463,000	3	-7	-7	↔	↓	↓
	Tartous	1,086	17	33	107	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	718,111	4	18	59	↔	↔	↔
Red split lentils (kg)	Aleppo	5,689	21	60	83	↔	↔	↔	Sugar (kg)	Aleppo	3,516	12	38	46	↔	↔	↔
	Damascus	6,273	29	93	188	↔	↔	↔		Damascus	3,423	15	17	53	↔	↔	↔
	Dar'a	5,754	20	97	187	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	3,308	16	20	39	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	5,199	18	137	96	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	3,315	6	20	52	↔	↔	↔
	Hama	5,948	30	82	108	↔	↔	↔		Hama	3,488	19	20	46	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	5,020	7	135	130	↔	↔	↔		Al-Hasakeh	3,322	2	60	51	↔	↔	↔
	Homs	5,641	27	88	96	↔	↔	↔		Homs	3,329	19	24	38	↔	↔	↔
	Idleb	4,508	14	28	59	↔	↔	↔		Idleb	3,659	13	36	48	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	5,960	28	73	104	↔	↔	↔		Lattakia	3,329	16	25	44	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	6,000	33	112	163	↔	↔	↔		Quneitra	3,435	22	23	48	↔	↔	↔
	Ar-Raqqa	5,545	4	38	82	↔	↔	↔		Ar-Raqqa	3,935	-3	34	68	↓	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	6,246	23	106	168	↔	↔	↔		Rural Damascus	3,464	17	17	54	↔	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	5,947	42	118	132	↔	↔	↔		As-Sweida	3,603	20	26	40	↔	↔	↔
	Tartous	4,746	13	59	39	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	3,220	7	13	32	↔	↔	↔
Meat (beef, kg)	Aleppo	23,255	-1	5	26	↓	↔	↔	Tomato (kg)	Aleppo	2,572	15	131	94	↔	↔	↔
	Damascus	27,733	11	29	38	↔	↔	↔		Damascus	2,640	23	109	170	↔	↔	↔
	Dar'a	23,321	17	17	26	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	2,408	17	118	117	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	17,127	2	3	13	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	2,357	31	132	130	↔	↔	↔
	Hama	24,973	7	24	37	↔	↔	↔		Hama	2,352	21	87	119	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	18,183	0.6	-1	23	↔	↓	↔		Al-Hasakeh	2,218	3	85	74	↔	↔	↔
	Homs	25,733	5	30	42	↔	↔	↔		Homs	2,446	16	94	130	↔	↔	↔
	Idleb	18,396	12	-9	-5	↔	↔	↓		Idleb	3,312	22	83	73	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	24,222	2	10	22	↔	↔	↔		Lattakia	1,728	29	32	33	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	20,133	1	-8	13	↔	↓	↔		Quneitra	2,342	15	120	134	↔	↔	↔
	Ar-Raqqa	15,000	1	-6	13	↔	↓	↔		Ar-Raqqa	2,409	20	91	77	↔	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	24,677	6	21	22	↔	↔	↔		Rural Damascus	2,499	23	119	159	↔	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	26,217	22	31	53	↔	↔	↔		As-Sweida	2,652	12	142	120	↔	↔	↔
	Tartous	30,456	4	31	45	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	1,507	6	2	28	↔	↔	↔
White beans (kg)	Aleppo	7,133	8	22	25	↔	↔	↔	Unskilled Labor wage*	Aleppo	8,112	-0.3	13	34	↓	↔	↔
	Damascus	7,924	0.3	20	20	↔	↔	↔		Damascus	18,222	10	71	149	↔	↔	↔
	Dar'a	8,069	3	12	18	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	9,008	5	20	69	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	7,317	6	10	18	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	5,619	28	25	97	↔	↔	↔
	Hama	7,128	3	13	6	↔	↔	↔		Hama	9,787	27	44	96	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	5,425	6	10	11	↔	↔	↔		Al-Hasakeh	9,125	15	23	69	↔	↔	↔
	Homs	8,454	3	33	26	↔	↔	↔		Homs	8,914	4	23	78	↔	↔	↔
	Idleb	6,274	2	16	33	↔	↔	↔		Idleb	9,317	0	20	0.5	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	7,229	3	4	6	↔	↔	↔		Lattakia	15,556	0.2	49	115	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	7,400	1	31	49	↔	↔	↔		Quneitra	9,800	9	26	65	↔	↔	↔
	Ar-Raqqa	7,513	4	27	21	↔	↔	↔		Ar-Raqqa	9,227	28	40	61	↔	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	7,967	1	37	22	↔	↔	↔		Rural Damascus	17,600	-0.1	106	140	↓	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	8,442	-1	30	12	↓	↔	↔		As-Sweida	8,800	-0.1	14	81	↓	↔	↔
	Tartous	8,102	1	25	10	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	19,329	29	95	125	↔	↔	↔
Vegetable oil (L)	Aleppo	12,216	49	69	57	↔	↔	↔	Wheat Flour (kg)	Aleppo	3,028	14	47	58	↔	↔	↔
	Damascus	13,871	50	82	63	↔	↔	↔		Damascus	3,242	29	48	68	↔	↔	↔
	Dar'a	14,466	55	73	59	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	3,006	19	37	58	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	10,762	37	44	65	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	2,950	14	45	42	↔	↔	↔
	Hama	13,020	43	55	40	↔	↔	↔		Hama	2,987	20	54	29	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	9,615	52	78	40	↔	↔	↔		Al-Hasakeh	2,602	17	26	58	↔	↔	↔
	Homs	12,501	41	53	35	↔	↔	↔		Homs	3,005	21	50	31	↔	↔	↔
	Idleb	10,383	45	59	61	↔	↔	↔		Idleb	2,530	11	47	39	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	13,093	50	58	42	↔	↔	↔		Lattakia	2,907	19	37	49	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	14,021	52	75	59	↔	↔	↔		Quneitra	3,002	23	55	72	↔	↔	↔
	Ar-Raqqa	10,920	50	72	52	↔	↔	↔		Ar-Raqqa	2,000	0	3	23	↔	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	14,054	52	79	63	↔	↔	↔		Rural Damascus	3,111	20	58	63	↔	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	13,877	54	71	55	↔	↔	↔		As-Sweida	3,082	16	54	51	↔	↔	↔
	Tartous	10,869	16	37	21	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	2,534	8	14	9	↔	↔	↔
Parsley (packet)	Aleppo	388	-7	-18	133	↓	↓	↔	Pasta (spaghetti)	Aleppo	5,268	14	47	58	↔	↔	↔
	Damascus	280	-4	0.3	40	↓	↔	↔		Damascus	5,093	10	48	98	↔	↔	↔
	Dar'a	475	7	36	175	↔	↔	↔		Dar'a	5,238	11	44	94	↔	↔	↔
	Deir-ez-Zor	322	6	30	95	↔	↔	↔		Deir-ez-Zor	4,024	13	64	113	↔	↔	↔
	Hama	262	-7	-31	31	↓	↓	↔		Hama	5,752	14	47	45	↔	↔	↔
	Al-Hasakeh	658	0	216	216	↔	↔	↔		Al-Hasakeh	2,947	-2	133	28	↓	↔	↔
	Homs	273	18	7	36	↔	↔	↔		Homs	6,410	6	47	63	↔	↔	↔
	Idleb	541	14	-14	85	↔	↓	↔		Idleb	3,061	12	21	32	↔	↔	↔
	Lattakia	329	11	-12	100	↔	↓	↔		Lattakia	5,231	7	49	55	↔	↔	↔
	Quneitra	384	2	41	135	↔	↔	↔		Quneitra	4,797	11	56	85	↔	↔	↔
	Ar-Raqqa	274	8	-52	54	↔	↓	↔		Ar-Raqqa	2,465	13	29	35	↔	↔	↔
	Rural Damascus	271	-3	-7	36	↓	↓	↔		Rural Damascus	5,231	24	45	110	↔	↔	↔
	As-Sweida	287	15	-4	55	↔	↓	↔		As-Sweida	5,150	19	44	85	↔	↔	↔
	Tartous	310	8	11	188	↔	↔	↔		Tartous	4,464	5	1	65	↔	↔	↔
Rice (kg)	Aleppo	3,535	11	20													