

April 2021

Economic Reality In Northern Syria

The report "Economic reality in northern Syria" investigates the economic conditions in areas outside the control of the Syrian Regime within the Syrian Arab Republic given the fact that the war has been ongoing for ten years as well as the impact of this war on the economic sectors and the residents' sources of income.



Funded by MEAE



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Issued by: Information Management unit (IMU)



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Economic Reality in Northern Syria
A substantive report
April 2021
Prepared by Information Management Unit.

Economic Reality
In Northern Syria
A p r i l 2 0 2 1

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ECONOMIC REALITY



Economic Reality April In Northern Syria 2021

Executive Summary

The report “Economic reality in northern Syria” investigates the economic conditions in areas outside the control of the Syrian Regime within the Syrian Arab Republic given the fact that the war has been ongoing for ten years as well as the impact of this war on the economic sectors and the residents’ sources of income.

PART ONE: METHODOLOGY

The assessment was performed in 64 sub-districts affiliated with 21 districts in the governorates of Idleb, Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor. All the cities and towns included in the assessment are not subject to the control of the forces of the Regime. The study included interviews with key informants as well as questionnaires with employers and residents. Information Management Unit developed a basic questionnaire for interviewing key informants relying on a group of basic indicators of the economic sectors that exist in northern Syria. The draft of the questionnaire was revised by an economic statistician who developed a questionnaire with employers and residents. Enumerators were trained on filling questionnaires related to collecting information and completing questionnaires and this training continued for two consecutive days virtually using Skype for Business App.

PART TWO: GENERAL INFORMATION

The results of the study showed that the percentage of male workers aged between 20 and 45 years old is %59 in northern Syria, while the percentage of female workers of the same age group is %32. The education sector came on top of income resources available in northern Syria followed by manual occupations, seasonal agriculture and daily labour. The results found that the big part of economical facilities rely mainly on self-financing because of the lack of grants and loans. Also, it was found that the largest part of the working cadres are unexperienced ordinary workers. The study further showed that the biggest part of the workers doesn't get wages that can secure minimum level of basic life requirements in Syria which is estimated by 90 USD monthly per family. The largest part of the population relies mainly on humanitarian assistances and cash transfers from outside Syria as additional sources of income.

PART THREE: TRADE SECTOR

The trade of food items forms about %50 of the types of trade in northern Syria and this big percentage of food items trade compared to other types of trades shows the deterioration of the humanitarian conditions as a result of the war and the focus of the population to get food items primarily. The source of the biggest portion of commercial items was Turkey. The rise in prices of fuel came on top of the list of challenges that face the trade sector which led to the rise in the cost of shipping and transportation. Also, the unstable exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to other foreign currencies formed a big barrier in the trade sector. Consumers rely mainly on debt in buying their needs, consequently this led to decreasing the value of the items because of the change in the exchange price of the currencies used in selling. Additionally, the closure of internal crossings (between different powers of control) and border crossings (with the neighboring countries) formed a big barrier in front of the commercial circulation.

PART FOUR: INDUSTRY SECTOR

The dairy products came on top of most popular industries while the industry of construction materials came in the second rank. About %31 of the primary materials used in industry is imported from Turkey and %5 from Iraq, while %98 of the manufactured products are sold internally in Syria, only %2 are exported to Turkey and %1 to Iraq. The main difficulties that face the industrial sector is the lack of electricity which led workshops to rely on electricity generators that use diesel to generate electricity the thing which led to the increase in the cost of manufacturing. The absence of markets and the competition of the imported products that swamped the local market form a big challenge in front of the growth of the industrial sector. The owners of factories face a big difficulty in performing maintenance works for their equipment or in getting spare parts.

PART FIVE: AGRICULTURE SECTOR

The wheat planting came on the top agricultural types in northern Syria and it forms about %21 of the planted lands. While vegetables planting forms %19 of the planted lands, barely planting forms %18 of the planted lands and olives planting forms %17 of the planted lands. About %20 of the agricultural inputs get imported from Turkey and about %2 from Iraq, while %88 of the agricultural products are sold locally and %12 only are exported to Turkey and Iraq. The high price of fuel came on the top of difficulties that face the agricultural sector which led to the high cost of irrigation. Moreover, the agricultural pests that infect plants ranked third.

PART SIX: CONSTRUCTION AND CONTRACTING SECTOR

About %55 of materials used in building and construction are imported from Turkey and %10 from Iraq while %35 of the materials used in building and construction is from local sources. The main difficulty that faced construction and contracting sector was the unavailability of buying ability for population the matter that led to the deterioration in the construction and contracting works, while the high prices of fuels which led to the rise in the cost of construction came in the second rank of difficulty and the instability in the exchange rates of the local currency compared to the foreign currencies formed the third level of difficulty considering that the big portion of cash dealings in constructions and contracting sector are done in foreign currency. This part displays information about the parties responsible for providing water, electricity and transportation services.

PART SEVEN: FINANCIAL DEALINGS AND REMITTANCES

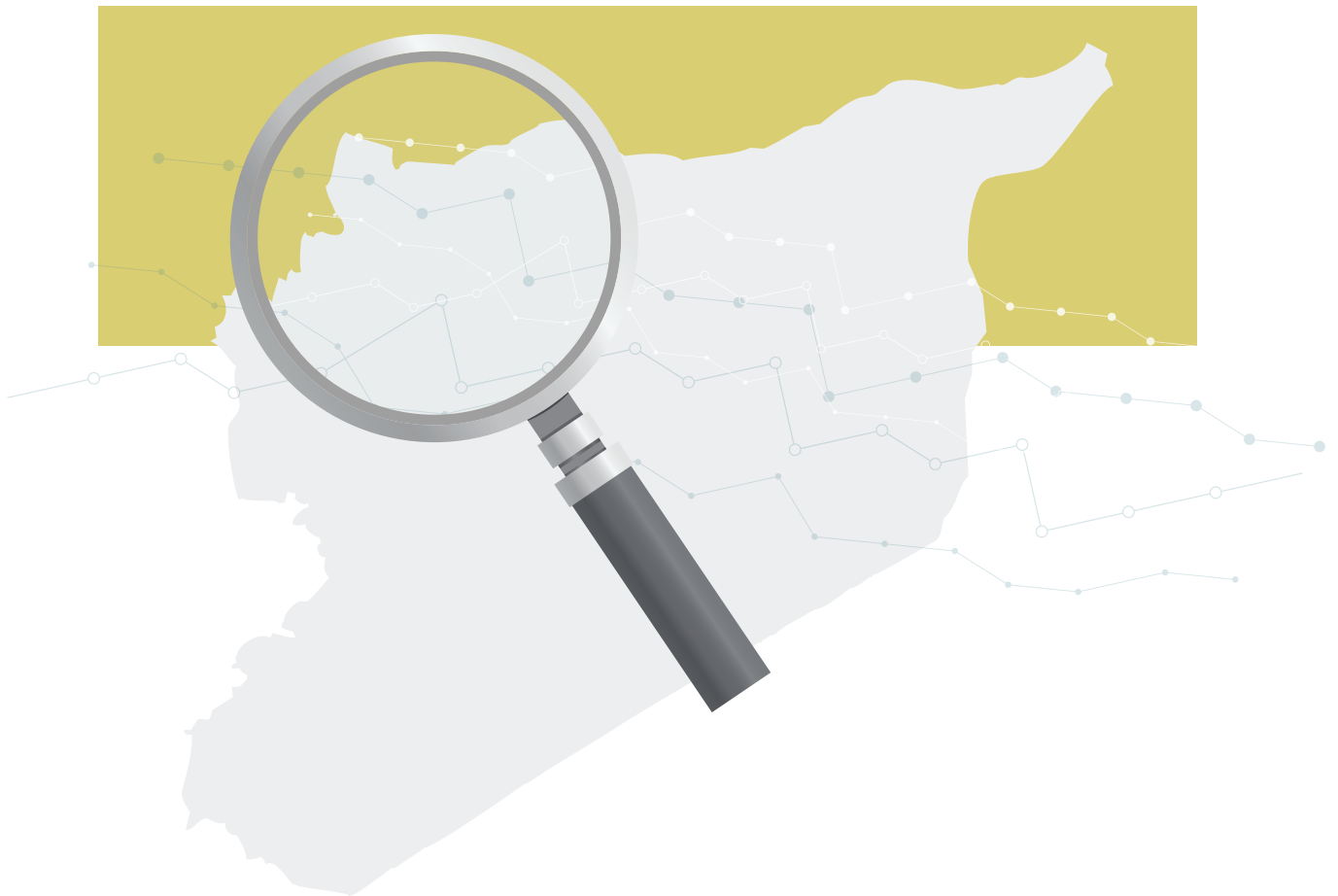
The study showed the availability of the Turkish banks and Turkish remittance offices along with the private remittance offices as well as the availability of the banks affiliated with the Regime and the private banks in Quamishli city in Al-Hasakeh governorate. The instability of exchange rate of the Syrian pound compared to the foreign currencies came on the top of difficulties while the instability of the Turkish lira compared to the American dollar ranked second and the absence of security (armed robberies) that face workers in the sector of managing and transferring money ranked third.

PART EIGHT: RECOMMENDATIONS

This section provides a group of recommendations that contribute to supporting economy in northern Syria which in turn will contribute to providing more work opportunities and enhancing the living conditions of workers. Moreover it will also contribute to providing trained working cadres. This section also contains recommendations for facilitating the movement of commercial exchange between different controlling powers as well as the importing and exporting movements according to the requirements of the local markets.

Part One

Methodology



01 Assessment Sample

The assessment was performed in 64 sub-districts within 21 districts in the governorates of Idleb, Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor. All cities and towns included in the assessment are not subject to the control of the Regime's forces. The study included interviews with key informants and perception surveys with the employers and residents.

Questionnaire of key informants:

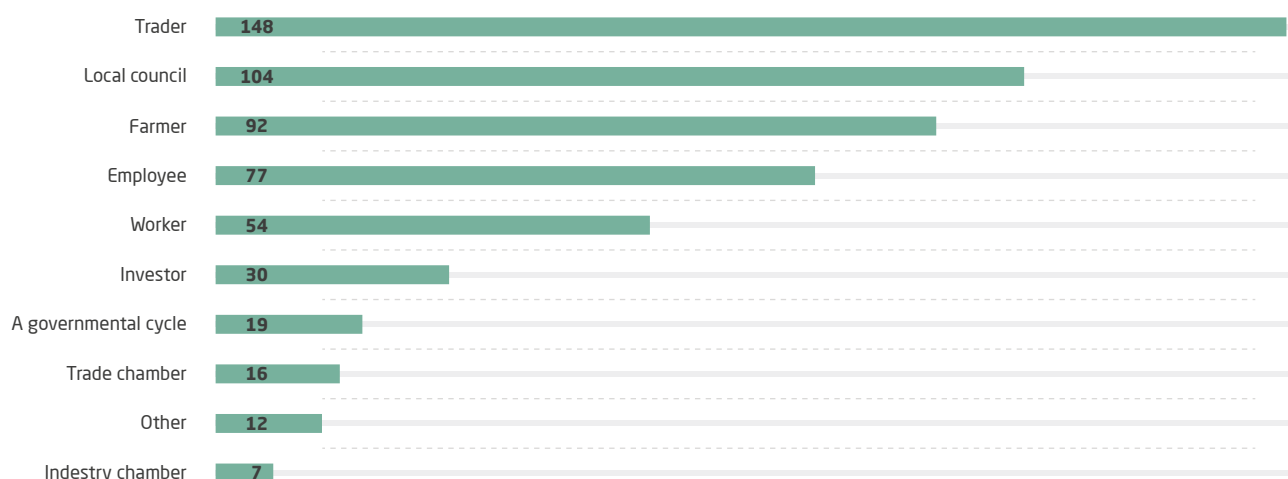
This questionnaire was conducted with key informants who are aware of the economic reality in northern Syria. The questionnaire included information about the percentages of the workers who are between 20 and 45 years old from both genders and the percentages of workers in the main professions available in cities and towns according to the type of residency (IDP- residents of the host community) and gender (males- females) and the average wages for both genders. The questionnaire also contained information about trade, industry, agriculture, construction and contracting sectors as well as the sector of financial management and remittance.

Table 1 Assessment sample of the questionnaire of key informants

#	Governorate	District	Subdistrict	City/ town	Number of questionnaires
1	Idleb	4	17	50	90
2	Al-Hasakeh	4	15	23	61
3	Ar-Raqqa	3	6	8	22
4	Aleppo	7	21	44	88
5	Deir-ez-Zor	3	5	10	15
Total		21	64	135	276

IMU enumerators performed 276 interviews with key informants within 135 towns and cities. The cities and towns that reflect all forms of economic reality in northern Syria were chosen in the study. The interviews were performed with 148 traders, 104 persons from the local council, 92 farmers (landowners), 77 employees, 45 workers (familiar with the economic reality), 30 investors and 19 governmental bodies (affiliated with dominant parties - no interviews were performed with departments of the Regime), and 16 interviews with employees within commercial chambers as well as 7 interviews with employees within the industrial chambers.

Figure 1 Number of key informants interviewed according to the type of source



Surveys of employers

The enumerators of Information Management Unit performed surveys with 636 persons who own economic projects within 5 governorates. Females formed %14, whereas males formed %86.

Table 2 distribution of employers' polls

#	Governorate	District	Subdistrict	City/ town	Number of questionnaires
1	Idleb	4	17	65	292
2	Al-Hasakeh	4	15	39	95
3	Ar-Raqqa	3	6	18	36
4	Aleppo	7	21	59	180
5	Deir-ez-Zor	3	5	20	33
Total		21	64	201	636

Surveys of population:

The enumerators of IMU performed surveys with 1,223 persons who aged over 18 years old within 5 governorates. Females formed %32 and males formed %68. About %56 of persons included in the survey are from the host community, %44 are IDPs and %19 weren't able to get a work opportunity.

Table 3 Distribution of population's survey

#	Governorate	District	Subdistrict	City/ town	Number of questionnaires
1	Idleb	4	17	84	571
2	Al-Hasakeh	4	15	64	177
3	Ar-Raqqa	3	6	24	66
4	Aleppo	7	21	87	353
5	Deir-ez-Zor	3	5	26	56
Total		21	64	285	1,223

Data included in the report are shown in 3 geographical regions:

- Idleb governorate: represents all the cities and towns outside the control in the Regime in Idleb as well as cities and towns outside the control of the Regime in the western countryside of Aleppo in Atareb and Daret Azza sub-districts. This geographical area is subject to the control of the opposition and is governed by the Salvation Government.
- Northern Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh: represent all cities and towns of districts of Afrin, A'zaz, Al Bab and Jarablus which are affiliated with Aleppo governorate as well as towns and cities in Tell Abiad and Suluk affiliated with Ar-Raqqa governorate and Ras Al Ain sub-district which is affiliated with Al-Hasakeh governorate. This geographical area is under the control of the Turkish-backed opposition and is governed by the interim government which is represented in the local councils and departments affiliated with the interim government.
- Eastern Syria: represent all cities and towns outside the control of the Regime and subject to the control of the Syrian Democratic Forces SDF in Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh and Deir-ez-Zor governorates. This geographical area is governed by SDF government.

02 Assessment tools

Information management Unit has put a basic questionnaire for interviews of key informants relying on a group of basic parameters for economic sectors that exist in northern Syria. The draft of the questionnaire was reviewed by an economic statistician who developed surveys with the employers and residents.

Questionnaire of key informants:

This questionnaire was performed with key informants that are aware of the economic reality in northern Syria. The questionnaire included information about the percentages of the workers who are between 20 and 45 years old from both genders and the percentages of workers in the main professions available in cities and towns according to the type of residency (IDPs- residents of the host community) and gender (males- females) and the average wages for both genders. The questionnaire also contained information about trade, industry, agriculture, construction, contracting sectors as well as the sector of financial management and remittance.

Surveys of employers:

The survey of employers includes information about the nature of facilities owned and run by the employers, their size and locations (in countryside- cities- industrial areas) as well as information about the working cadres in their facilities, sources of facilities' funding and employers' opinion in the challenges that face the work of their facilities.

Surveys of population:

The survey of residents includes information about the gender, age and level of educational attainment, availability of work opportunities for them, their level of income and expenditure as well as the parties responsible for providing basic services in their areas.

03 Training of researchers and data collection

Information Management Unit IMU owns a network of enumerators that is consisted of 100 enumerators and these enumerators were trained to fill questionnaires related to collecting information and completing surveys. The training was performed virtually and lasted for two consecutive days using Skype for Business. The process of training the enumerators took 10 training hours and the training sessions were recorded and sent to the enumerators in order to use them as a reference in case they need to study any of the information displayed during the training. The training course included a pilot period for questionnaires (piloting) which continued for two days. The notes of the enumerators were collected through field work and these notes were used to amend some points in the questionnaire. One or more enumerators were assigned to collect data according to the size of the population of each assessed sub-district. The coordinators based in Turkey supervised the process of data collection on a daily basis where the enumerators referred to them in case they encountered any problem. Each enumerator received a work plan from the network coordinators stipulating the coverage of their data collection.

04 Managing and analyzing data and preparing reports

The enumerators filled the questionnaires electronically using ONA program. Coordinators, who were responsible for research oversight encoded the data into an Excel database. Data analysis team proceeded with data cleaning and validation to find and correct any odd or missing values or complete them in conjunction with the data collection. After data cleaning, IMU data analysis team proceeded with data visualization, generating tables, and graphs. Tools such as Dax, Query Editor, Arc GIS, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign and Adobe Photoshop were used to generate a visual interpretation of the collected data. The first draft of the report was written in Arabic and simultaneously translated into English. Both versions of the report (Arabic - English) have been subjected to quality assurance standards in the preparation and content internally and externally.

05 Schedule of report preparation

The preparation of "Economic reality in northern Syria" report started in January 2021 as questionnaires were developed and all suggested amendments from the economic expert were added and the officials of data and analysis electronically programed the questionnaires using ONA program. The enumerators got trained on filling questionnaires related to information gathering and completing surveys and this training was performed virtually on two consecutive days using Skype for Business platform. The process of training the enumerators took 10 training hours and ended on 12 February 2021. The pilot period of questionnaires (piloting) started and continued for two days as during it the enumerators sent experimental data about the questionnaire of key informants and surveys and the officials of data and analysis test the data and assert the incoming values. The period of data collection started on 18 February 2021 and ended at the end of February 2021. The data and analysis officers started to extract the irregular and missing values and review them with the enumerators in order to start the analysis process and write the report in Arabic and English simultaneously. The process of designing the report was started and the final edition of the report came out in April 2021.

06 Difficulties and challenges

The enumerators faced a group of challenges during the process of data collection of the report of economic reality in northern Syria. Some of these difficulties are connected to the dominating powers and military operations and some of them are connected to natural factors like weather or distances.

- **Spread of COVID19**

The spread of the virus-imposed restrictions on the movement of the enumerators and the interviews with key informants. Assistance Coordination Unit provided the enumerators with face masks, gloves and sterilizers in order to use during the period of data collection.

- **Trusted data**

Trusted and accurate data about the economic reality in northern Syria is not available, thus the enumerators were obliged to meet with a bigger number of key informants in order to get the highest level of accuracy. The report also included qualitative and quantitative data in order to reflect a high level of accuracy and to approach the economic reality from different points of view.

- **Security situation**

The employers feel afraid to give any information related to their economical projects to avoid accountability from some sides. The enumerators relied on their network of acquaintances in order to reach trusted key informants that agreed to participate in the study.

Part Two

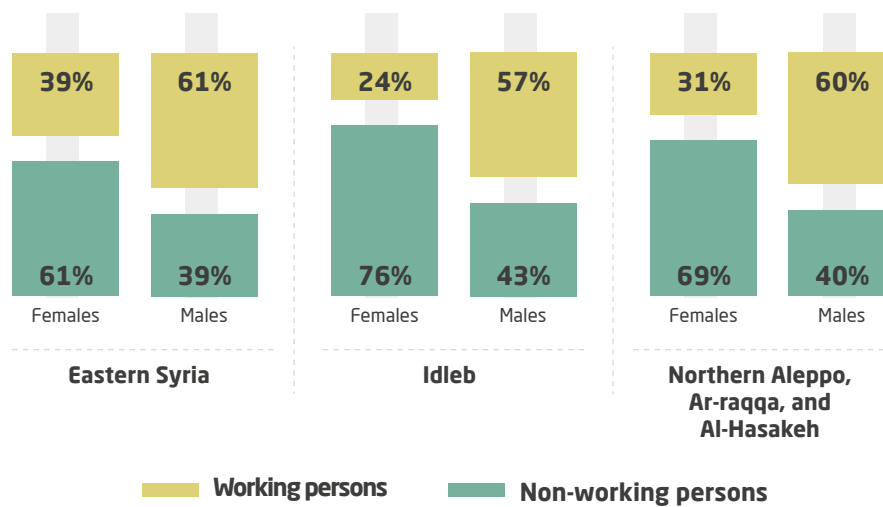
General information



01 Percentages of workers

In this study the focus was mainly on the productive age group between 20 and 45 years old from both genders. The results of the study showed that the percentage of the workers from males that are between 20 and 45 years old is %59 in northern Syria while %51 of this age group from males wasn't able to get any work opportunity. And the percentage of female workers that are between 20 and 45 years old is %32 in northern Syria while %68 of this age group from females wasn't able to get any work opportunity. It is noteworthy that all population in northern Syria of all ages are in an urgent need for work opportunities because of the lack of social insurance for old or retired people. Also, big part of households has lost their breadwinner because of the ongoing war or the breadwinner can't find a proper work because of his war injury.

Figure 2 percentages of workers in Syria from the age group 45-20 years old.

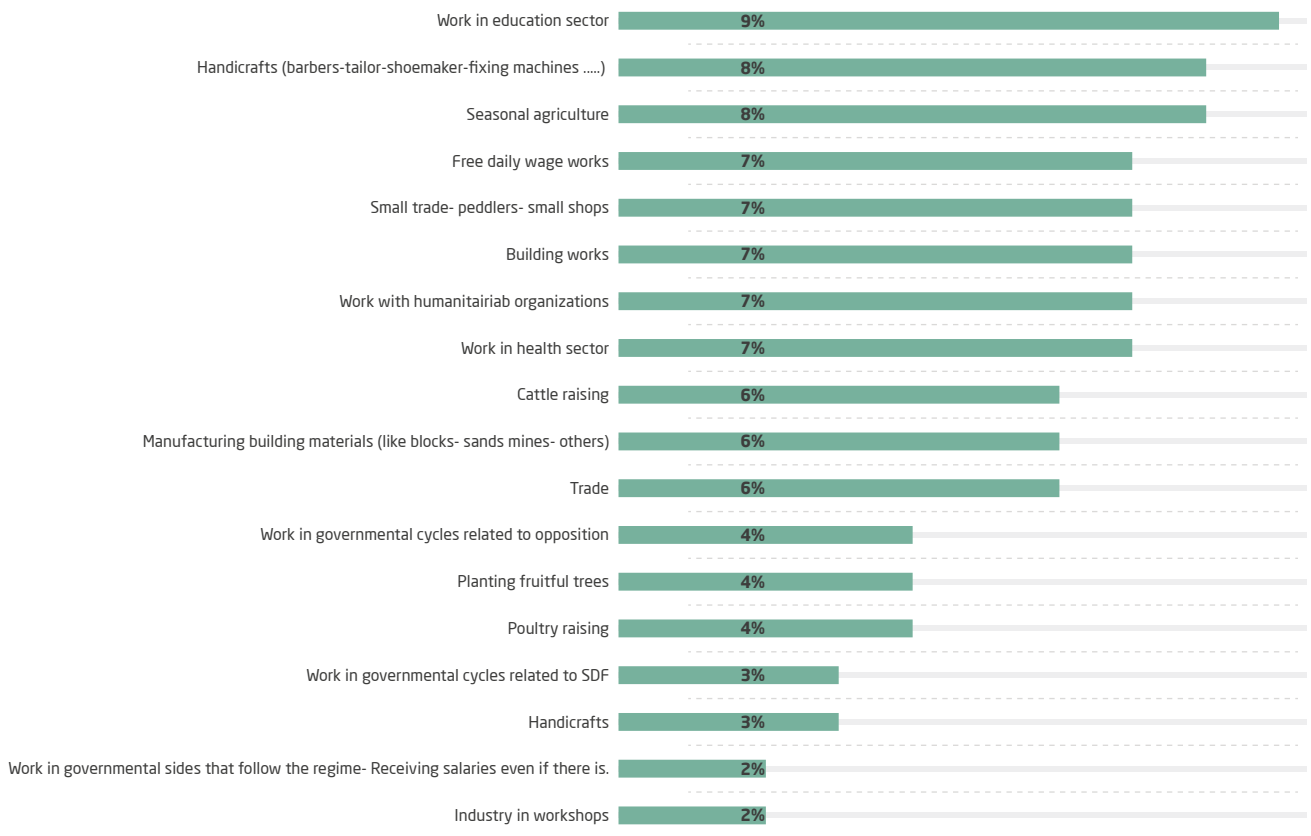


02 Available sources of income

The results of the study showed that the largest available source of income in northern Syria is for the workers in the educational sector and their percentage is about %9 of all workers in all professions. According to the report of schools in Syria issued by Assistance Coordination Unit, the number of teachers in northern Syria has reached 40.076 teachers during the year 2021-2020. The hand professions and seasonal farming formed %8 from the available work opportunities and the daily work professions and small trade (small shops and peddlers) as well as buildings works, work with humanitarian organizations, work in the health sector, cattle raising, producing building materials and trade formed %6 of the available professions. Moreover, the work in governmental departments related to opposition, planting fruitful trees and poultry raising formed %3 of the available professions. In addition to that, the work in governmental departments related to SDF and handcrafts formed %3 of the available professions and the work in the governmental departments affiliated with the regime (receiving salary even if not working) and industry in labs formed %2 only.

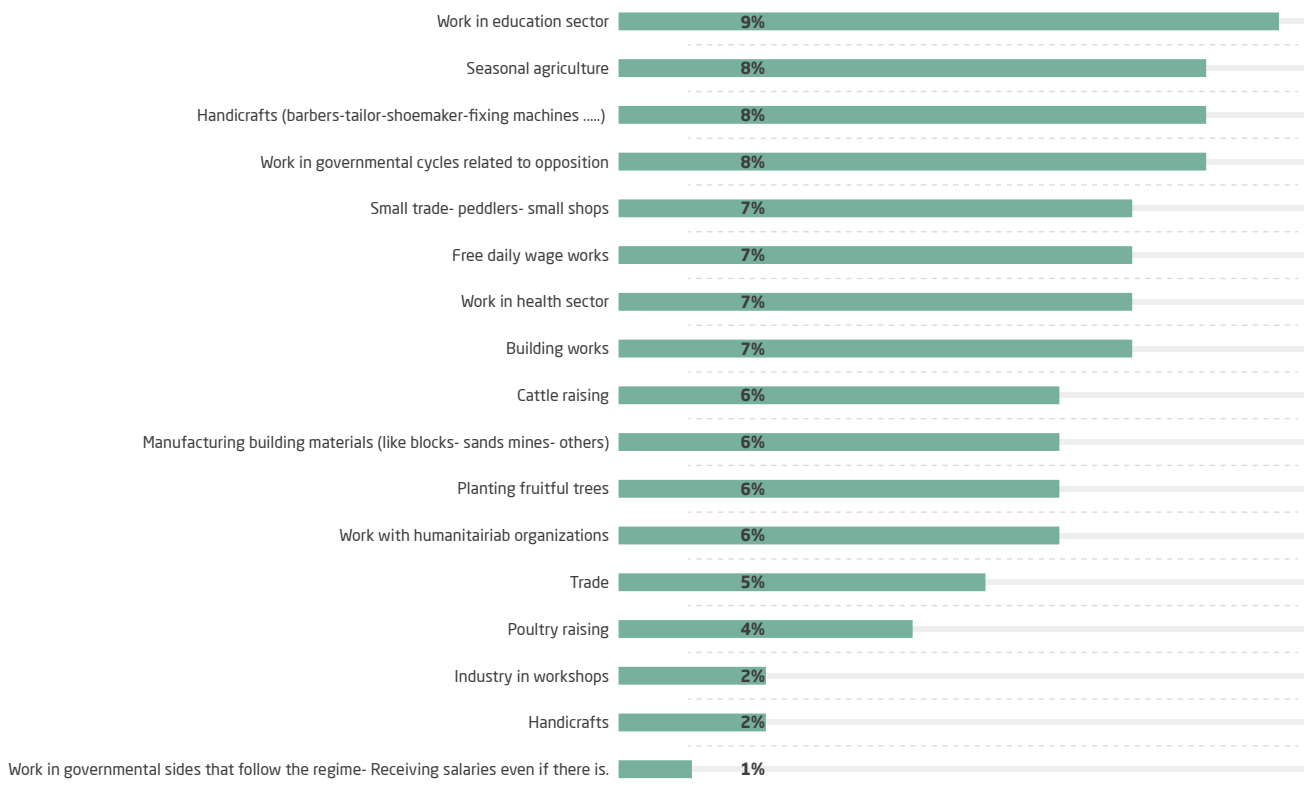
The results show that the industrial sector has provided only %2 of the work opportunities and this reflects the big decline in this sector. Also, the sectors of seasonal planting, raising cattle and planting fruitful trees only provides %18 of work opportunities and this means that these sectors have severely declined as Syria is considered an agricultural country. On the other hand, the education sector and work within humanitarian organizations, health sector, departments of opposition and SDF formed %30 of income sources and the salaries of these professions are paid by donors which means that these sources of income are not stable, and their absence will reflect on all other sources of income.

Figure 3 Available sources of income in the Syrian North according to their percentages



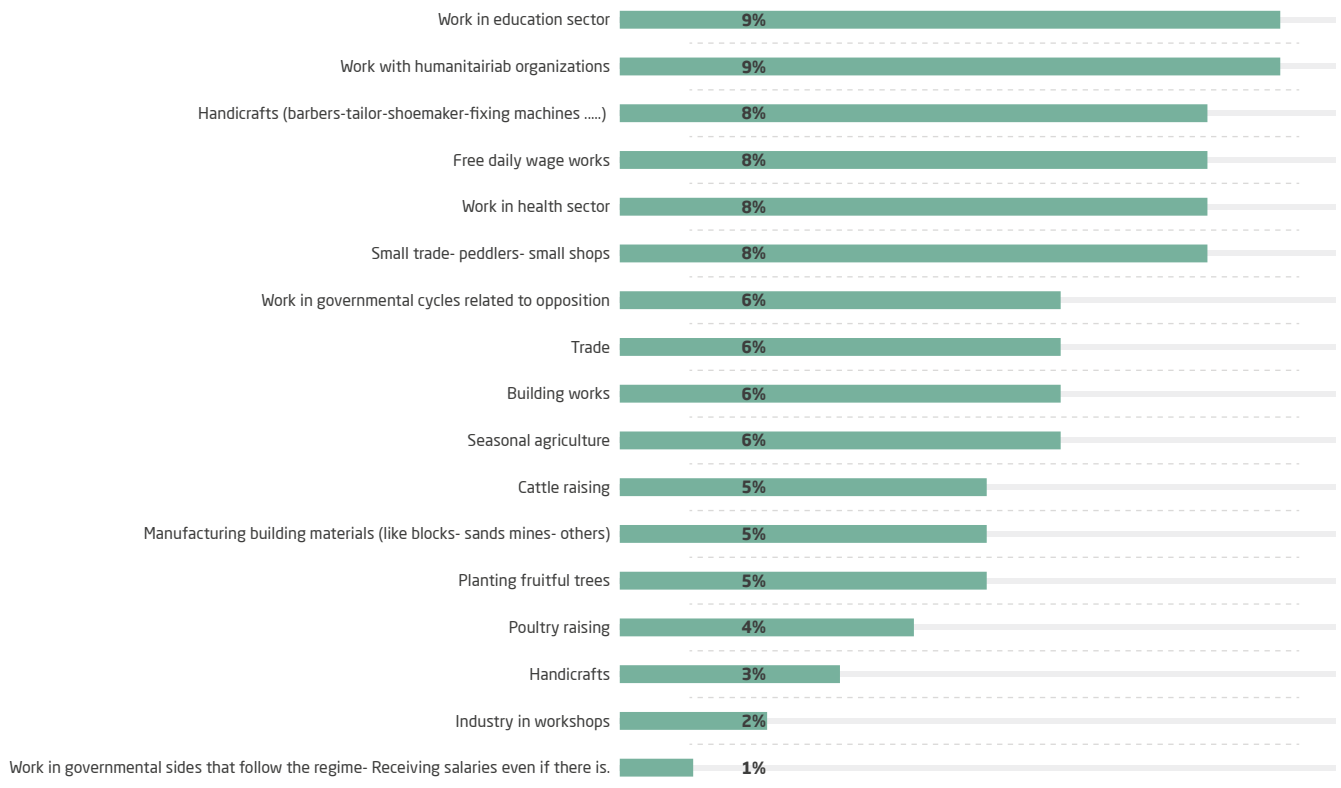
Seasonal planting comes on top of the sources of income in northern Aleppo, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa after the educational sector. Also, the handicraft and work in governmental departments of opposition and small trade formed a high source of income.

Figure 4 Available sources of income in the north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh according to their percentages



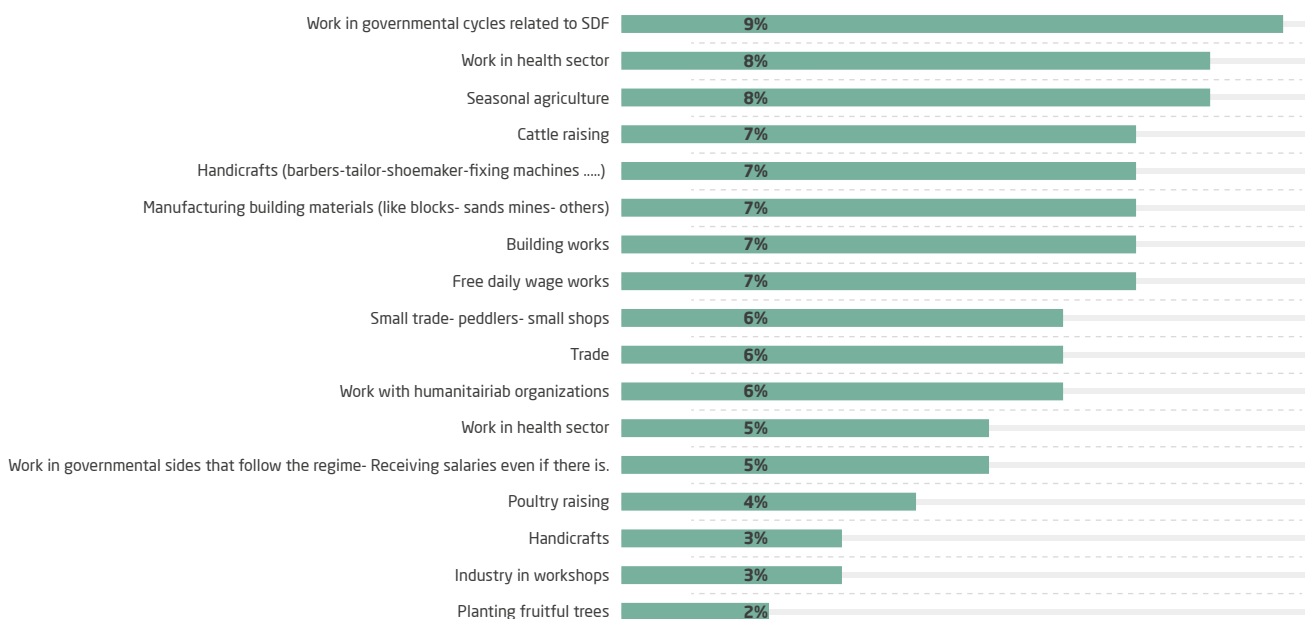
In northern Idlib governorate work in humanitarian organizations came on the top of sources of income after the educational sector. Also, the handicraft and daily wage works and work in the health sector and small trades were also among the profession on the top of the list.

Figure 5 Available sources of income in Idlib governorate.



In the east of Syria and unlike other regions, the work in governmental departments affiliated with SDF came on the top of available sources of income followed by the work in education sector. Also, the work in seasonal planting, cattle raising, hand professions, production of building materials and building works took ranked high among the available sources of income.

Figure 6 Available sources of income in the east of Syria



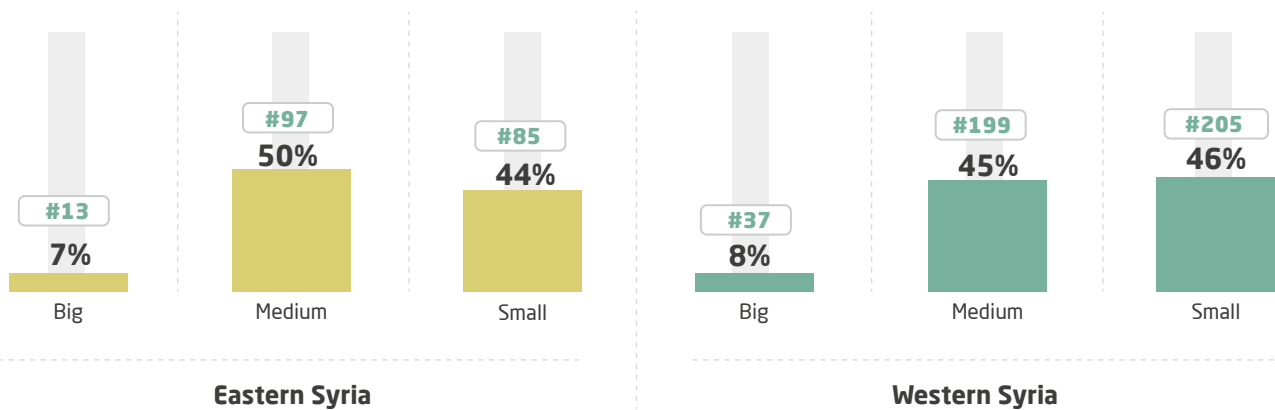
03 Employers' survey: Size of economic facilities

Through the surveys¹ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed employers were asked about the size of economic facilities they own or run.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %46 of employers included in the survey (205 persons) own or run small size facilities, 199) %45 persons) own or run medium size facilities and 37) %8 persons) only own or run big size facilities.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %44 of employers included in the survey (85 persons) own or run small size facilities, 97) %50 persons) own or run medium size facilities and 13) %7 persons) only own or run big size facilities.

Figure 7 Employers' survey Size of economic facilities



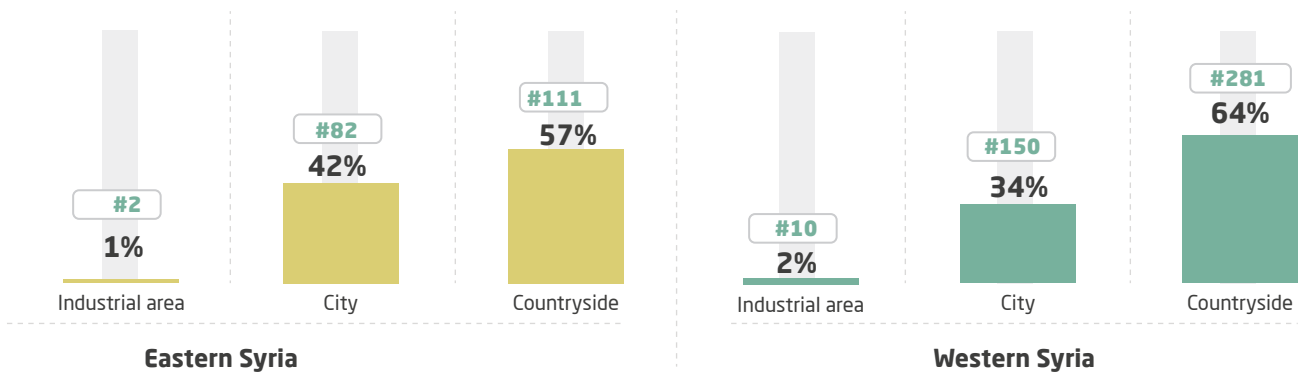
04 Employers' survey: Locations of economic facilities

Through the surveys² which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed employers were asked about the locations of economic facilities they own or run.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that 64% of employers included in the survey (281 persons) own or run facilities that exist in the countryside, 34% (140 persons) own or run facilities that exist in the cities and 2% (10 persons) only own or run facilities that exist in industrial area that is specialized for economic facilities.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that 57% of employers included in the survey (111 persons) own or run facilities that exist in the countryside, 42% (82 persons) own or run facilities that exist in the cities and 2% (2 persons) only own or run facilities that exist in industrial area that is specialized for economic facilities.

Figure 8 Employers' survey Locations of economic facilities



01 The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 636 persons that own economic projects within 5 governorates. The females formed %14 of them and males formed %86.

02 The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 636 persons that own economic projects within 5 governorates. The females formed %14 of them and males formed %86.

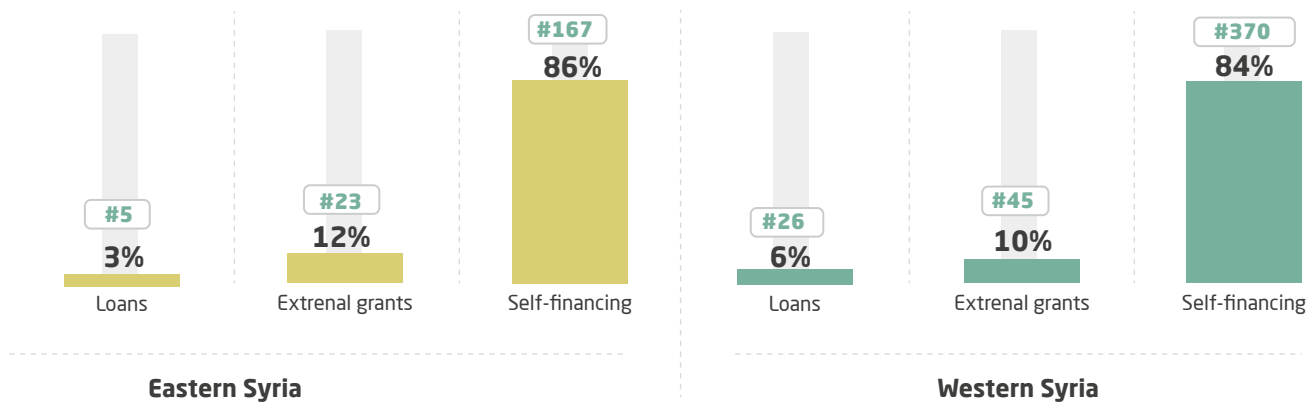
05 Employers' survey: Sources of financing for economic facilities

Through the surveys³ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed employers were asked about the sources of financing of economic facilities they own or run.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %84 of employers included in the survey (370 persons) own or run self-financing facilities, 45) %10 persons) own or run facilities that depend on external grants, and 26) %6 persons) only own or run facilities that rely on loans.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %86 of employers included in the survey (167 persons) own or run self-financing facilities, 23) %12 persons) own or run facilities that depend on external grants, and 5) %3 persons) only own or run facilities that rely on loans.

Figure 9 Employers' survey Sources of financing for economic facilities



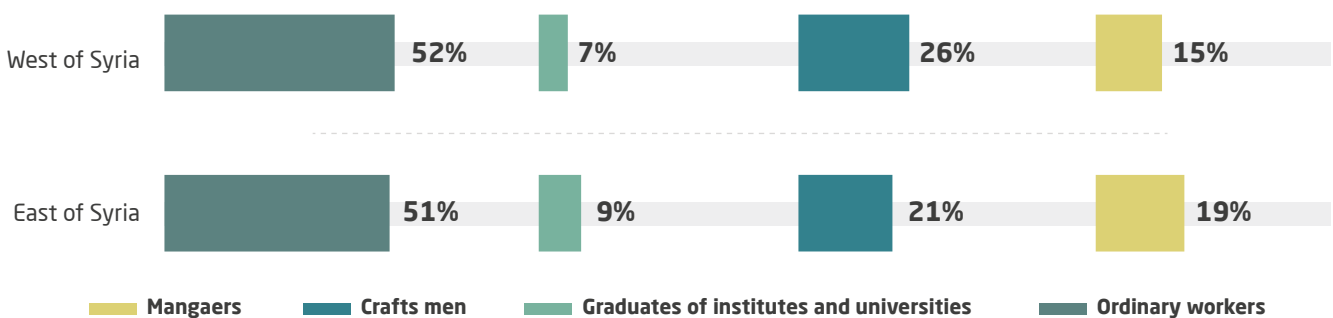
06 Employers' survey: Experience and level of education for workers in economic facilities

Through the surveys⁴ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed employers were asked about experience and educational level of workers in their facilities.

In northwestern Syria: the surveys showed that %26 of workers in the facilities are craftsmen that are perfect in their professions, %52 are ordinary workers and don't own any professional skills, %7 are graduates of intermediate institutes or universities and they were forced to work in factories and workshops because of the current conditions and lack of proper job opportunities and %15 work in management.

In northeastern Syria: the surveys showed that %21 of workers in the facilities are craftsmen that are perfect in their professions, %51 are ordinary workers and don't own any professional skills, %9 are graduates of intermediate institutes or universities and they were forced to work in factories and workshops because of the current conditions and lack of proper job opportunities and %19 work in management.

Figure 10 Employers' survey Experience and level of education for workers in economic facilities



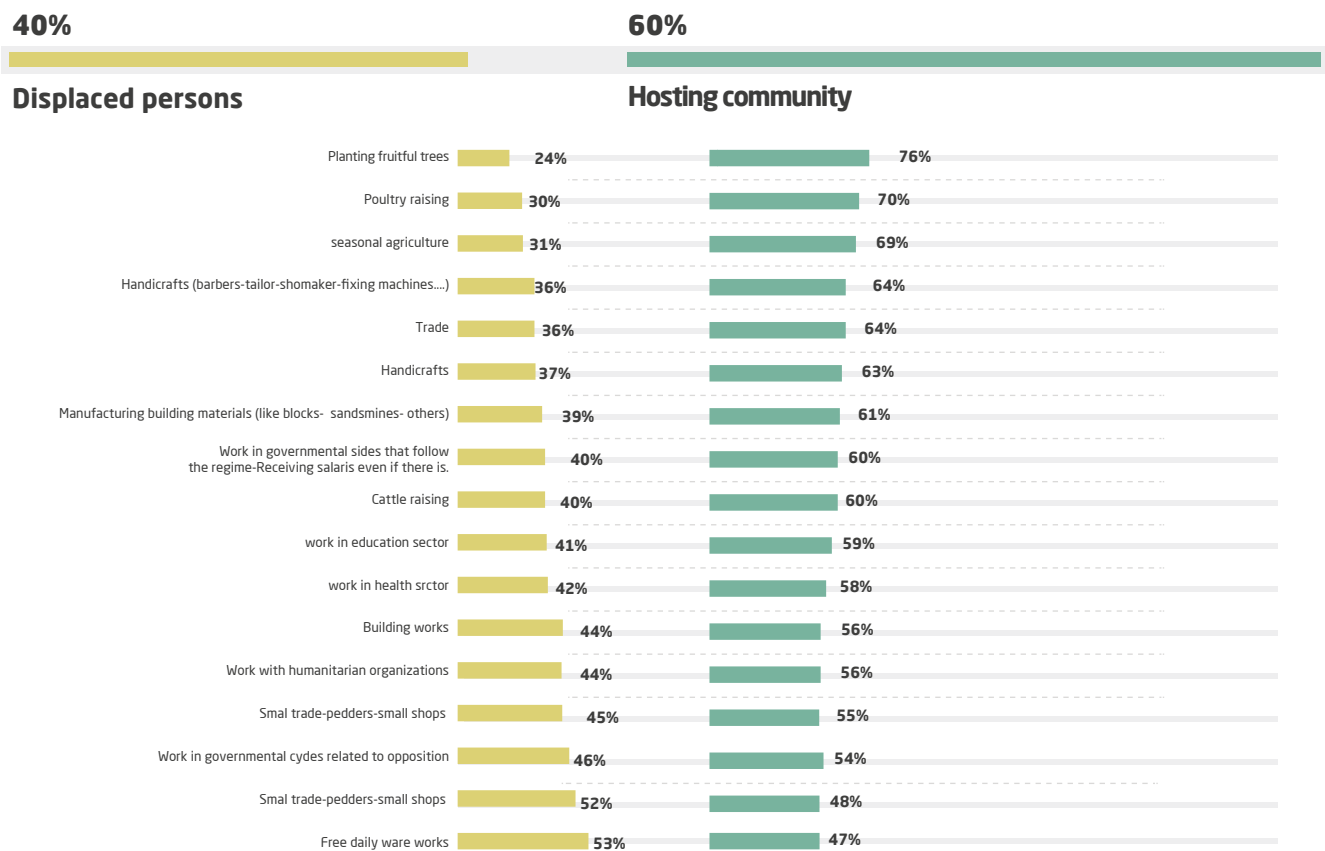
03 The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 636 persons that own economic projects within 5 governorates. The females formed %14 of them and males formed %86.

04 The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 636 persons that own economic projects within 5 governorates. The females formed %14 of them and males formed %86.

07 Available professions according to the state of residency (displaced – hosting community)

According to the interactive study⁵ of the population and the displacement and return movements in Northern Syria issued monthly by ACU, the percentages of IDPs form %43 of the total population in Idleb governorate. The results of this study showed that IDPs form %40 of the manpower within all available professions in Idleb. The percentage of workers from IDPs is higher than the percentage of workers from the host community within the daily wage works and in workshops while the percentage of workers from IDPs is close to the percentage of workers from host community regarding work in the governmental departments affiliated with the opposition, small trades, work in humanitarian organizations, building works, educational and health sectors and cattle raising. Moreover, the percentage of workers from IDPs in the seasonal planting, poultry and planting fruitful trees is low.

Figure 11 Available professions according to the percentage of workers from displaced persons to the percentage of workers from the hosting community in Idlib governorate.

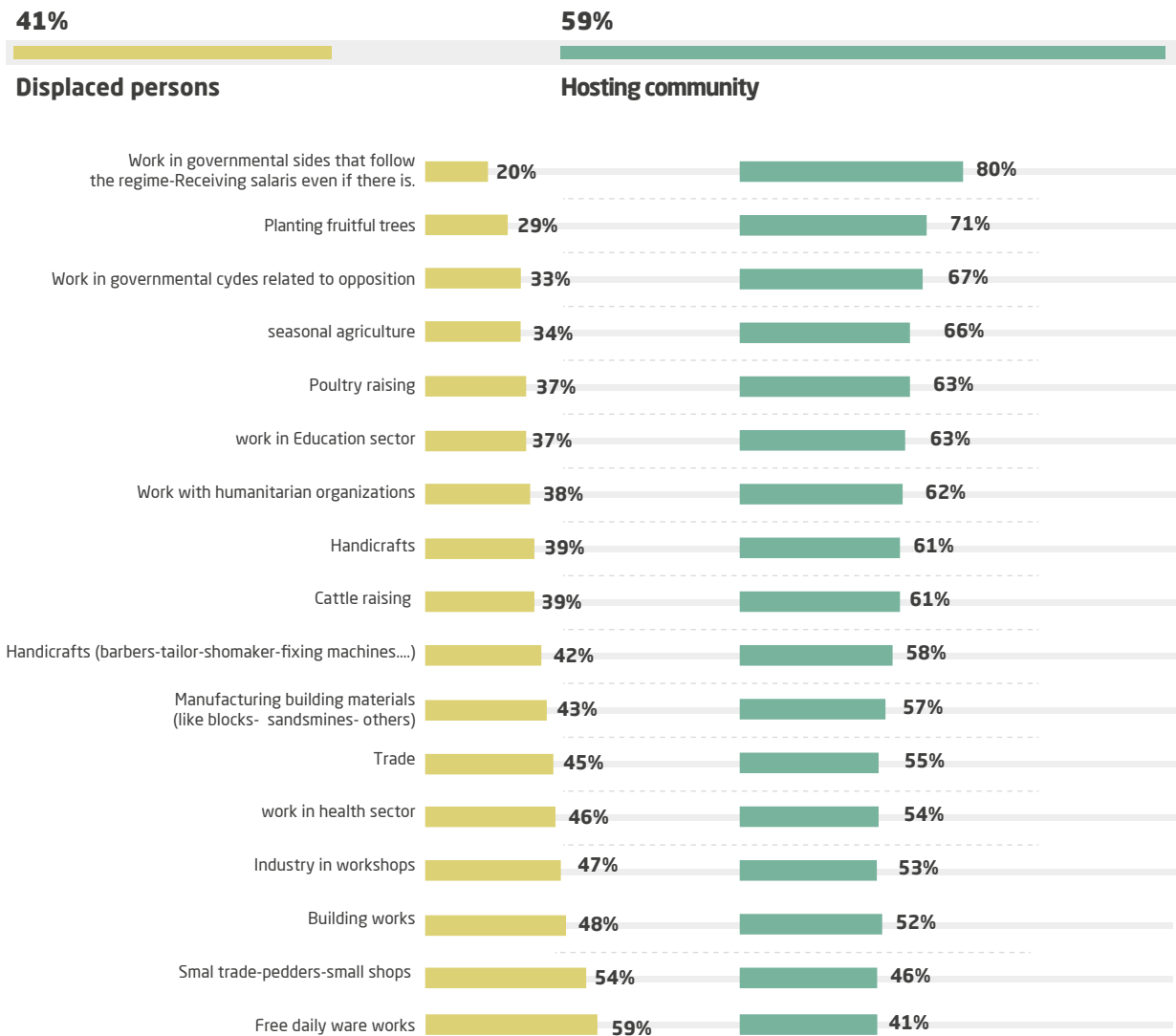


According to the interactive study⁶ of the population and the displacement and return movements in Northern Syria issued monthly by ACU, the percentages of IDPs form %36 of the total population in the north of Idleb, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates. The results of this study showed that the IDPs form %41 of the manpower within all available professions in the north of Idleb, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates. The percentage of workers from IDPs is higher than the percentage of workers from the host community within the daily wage works and in workshops while the percentage of workers from IDPs is close to the percentage of workers from host community regarding work in building works, workshops, work in the health sector, trade, producing building materials and hand crafts. And the percentages of workers from IDPs in the educational sector and humanitarian organizations is low and also the percentages of workers from IDPs in planting fruitful trees and governmental departments affiliated with the opposition is remarkably low.

05 <https://qrqo.page.link/WtLWt>

06 <https://qrqo.page.link/TPVus>

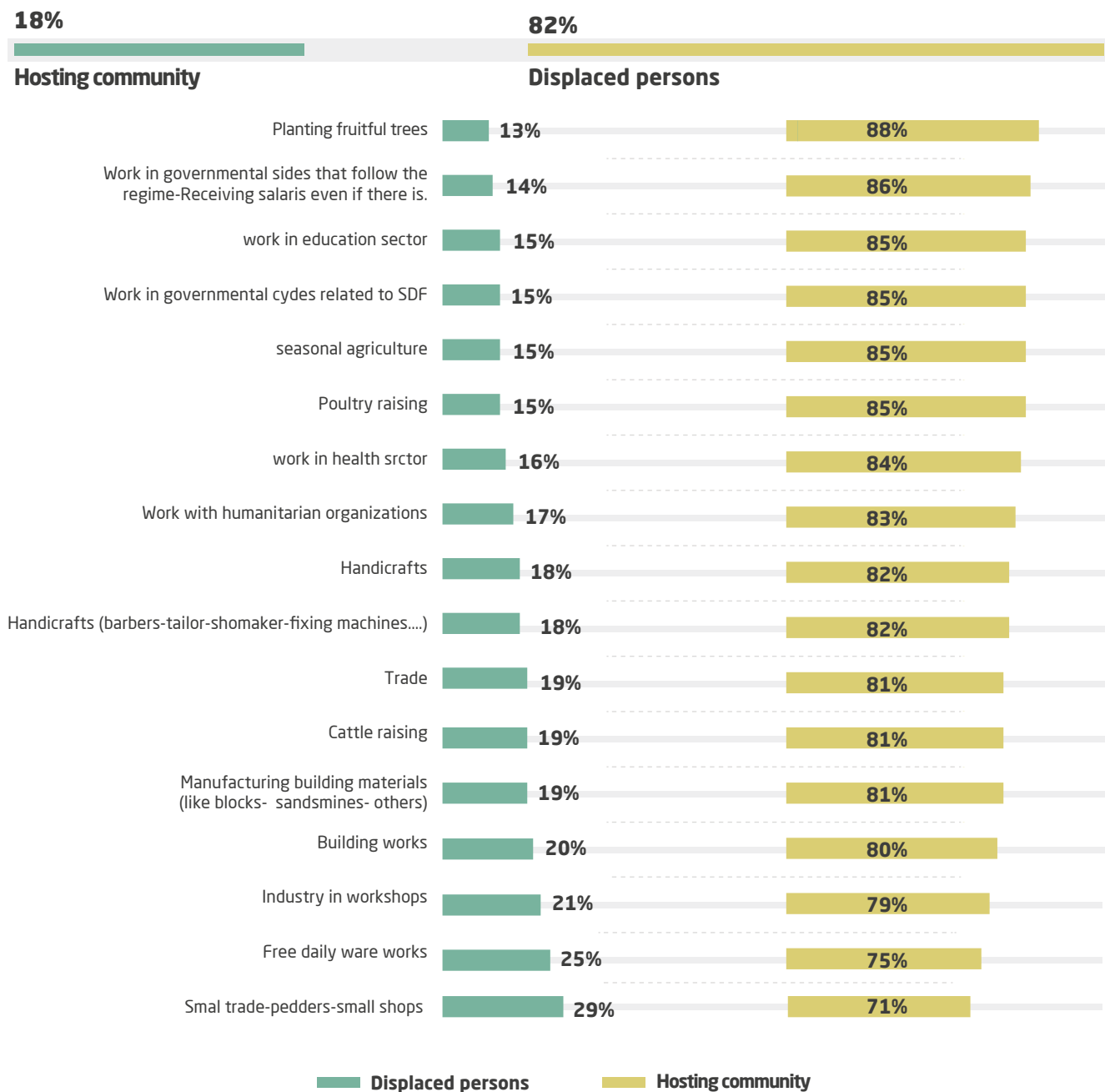
Figure 12 Available professions according to the percentage of workers from displaced persons to the percentage of workers from the hosting community in the north of Idlib, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa governorates



According to the interactive study⁷ of the population, displacement and return movements in Northern Syria that get monthly issued by ACU, the percentage of IDPs form %15 from the total population in the east of Syria. The results of this study showed that the IDPs form %18 from the manpower within all available professions in the east of Syria. The higher percentage of workers from IDPs is in small trade (peddlers) and the percentage of workers in this profession form %29 only. And their percentage in the daily wage work form %25 and in workshops %21 and in building works %20.

07 <https://qrgo.page.link/HXKu7>

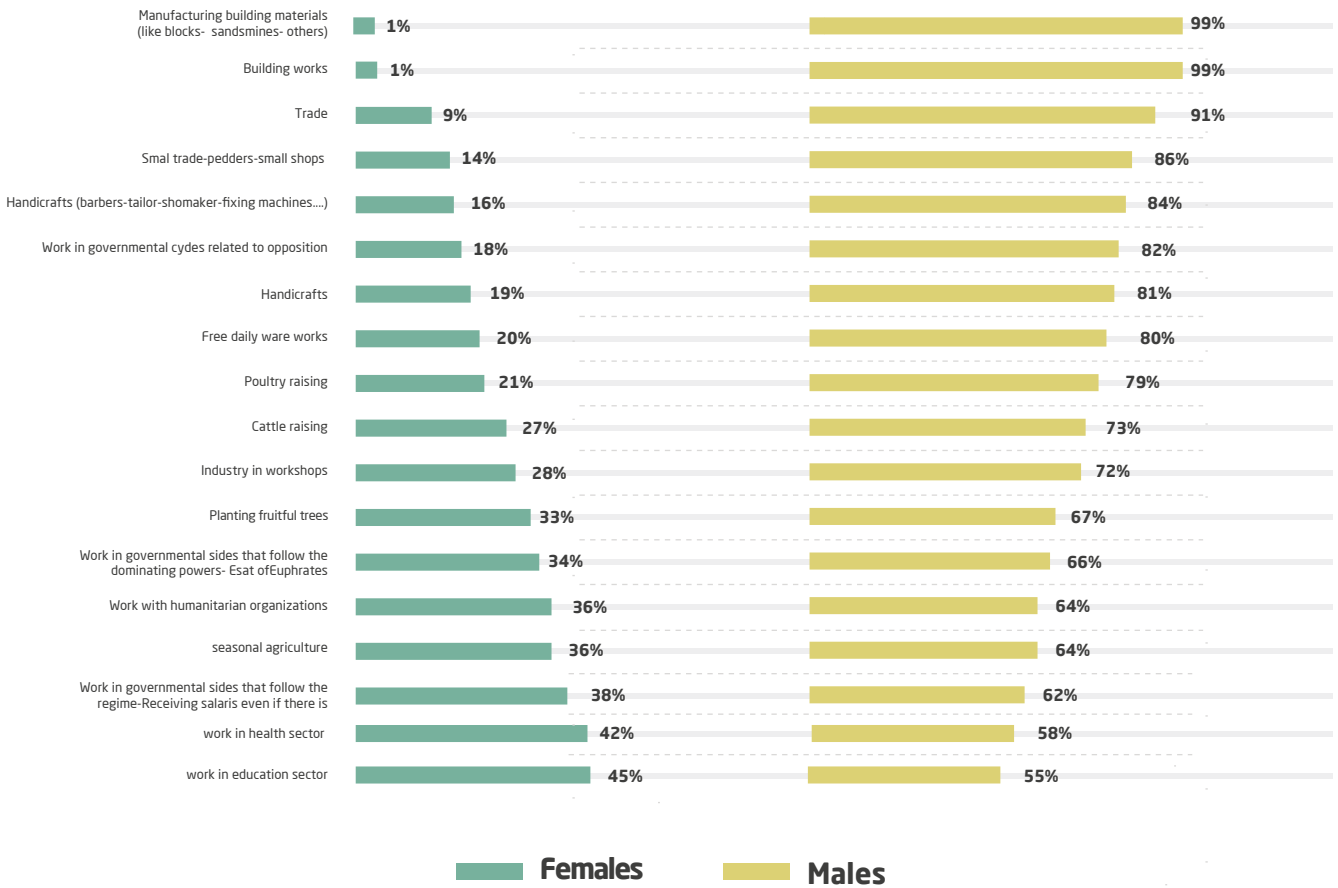
Figure 13 Available professions according to the percentage of workers from displaced persons to the percentage of workers from the hosting community in the east of Syria



08 Available professions according to gender (males- females)

Females form only %24 of workers aged between 20 and 45 years old while males form %76 of workers. The percentages of workers from both genders are close in the sectors of education and health while the percentage of female workers noticeably decreases in the governmental departments affiliated with the opposition, the hand crafts and trade with its big and small types. The chances of work for women within the sectors of building and producing its materials are not mentioned as these professions don't fit the physical state of women. The work of women in these sectors is only limited to tasks that don't require physical effort.

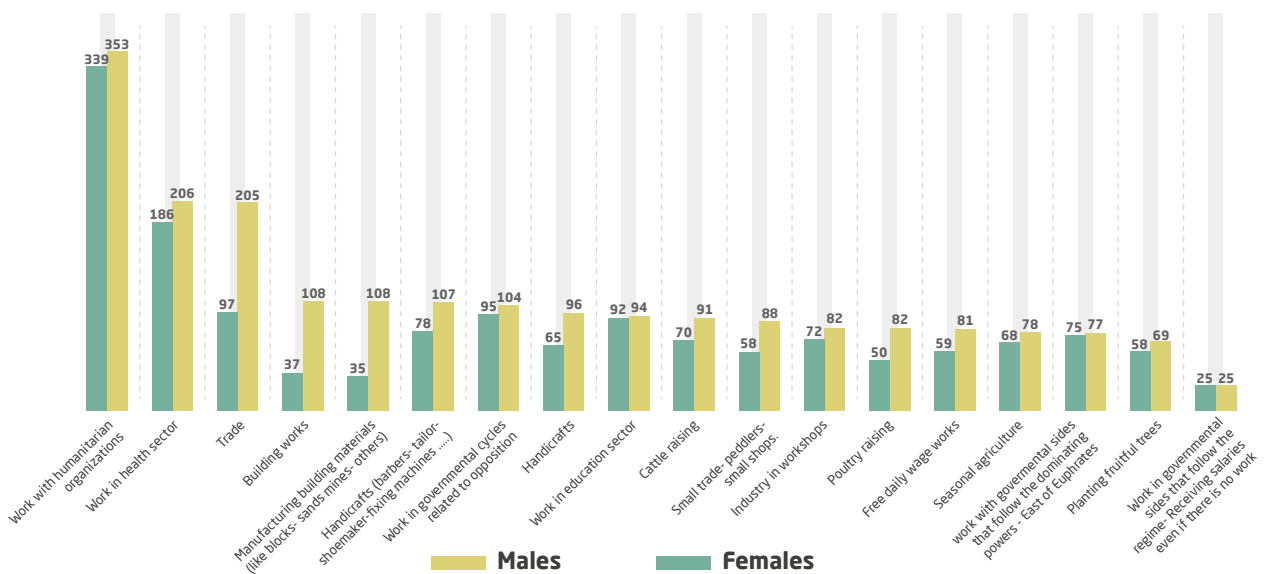
Figure 14 Available professions according to the percentages of workers' gender in the Syrian North



09 Wages rates of available professions according to gender (males- females)

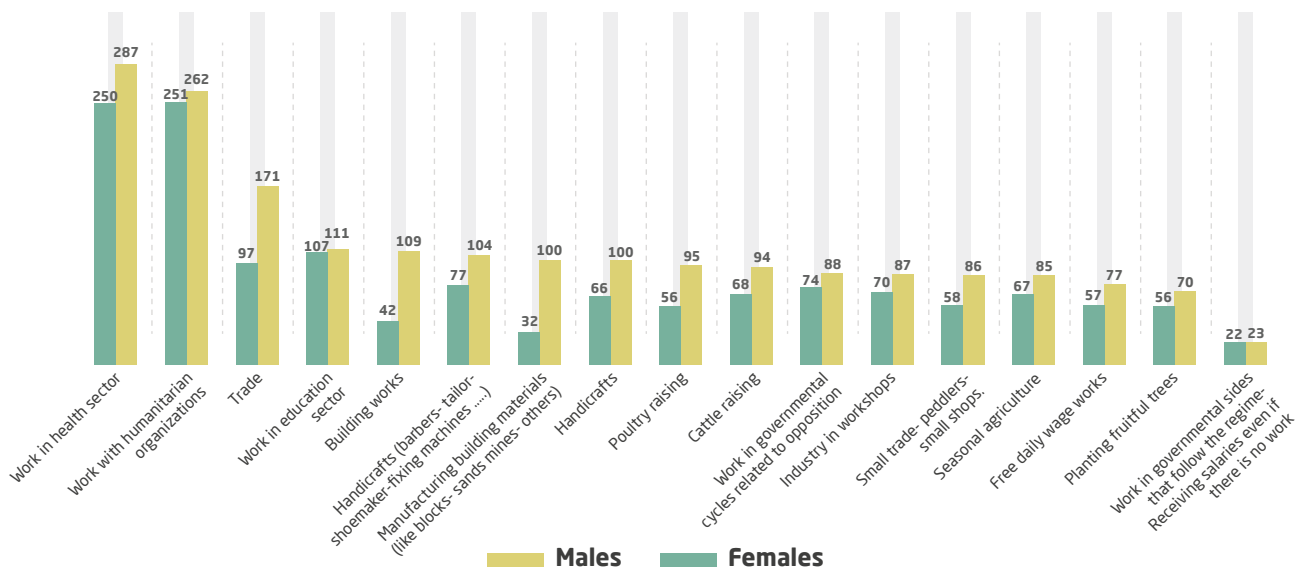
The minimal level of survival (providing basic requirements of life) in Syria is estimated by 90 Dollars per family monthly. The study shows that females get wages lower than males in all professions and the results of the study revealed that the average wages of workers in humanitarian organizations is 353 USD monthly for males and 339 USD for females, while the average wage for workers in the health sector is 209 USD monthly for males and 186 USD for females, and the average wages for workers in trade sector is 205 USD monthly for males and 97 USD for females. On the other hand, workers in cattle raising, small trades, workshops, poultry raising, daily wage works, agriculture (with its seasonal and fruitful trees types) and worker in governmental departments affiliated with SDF and regime don't acquire minimal level of survival and these professions don't have fixed income as the daily wage workers can't practice their works in dangerous security conditions because of the closure of markets and work centers and also the works of agriculture with its seasonal and planting fruitful trees types are connected to some months during the year and the works of building decreases remarkably in winter.

Figure 15 Average monthly wages of workers based on gender in the Syrian North (in Dollar)



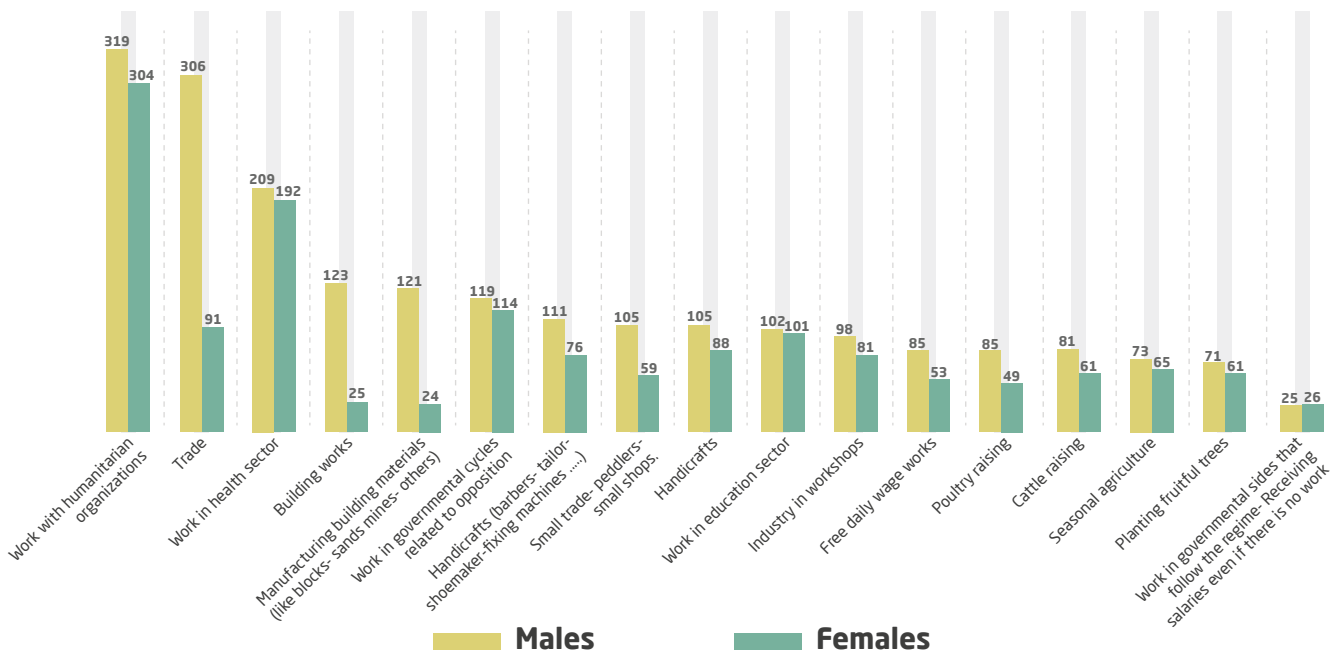
In Idlib governorate the females receive lower wages than males in all professions and they don't get minimal level of survival (providing basic requirements of life) in most of professions. While neither males nor females get minimal level of survival through their work in governmental departments affiliated with the opposition and Regime and also workshops, small trade (peddlers) seasonal agriculture, daily wage works and planting fruitful trees.

Figure 16 Average monthly wages of workers based on gender in Idlib (in Dollar)



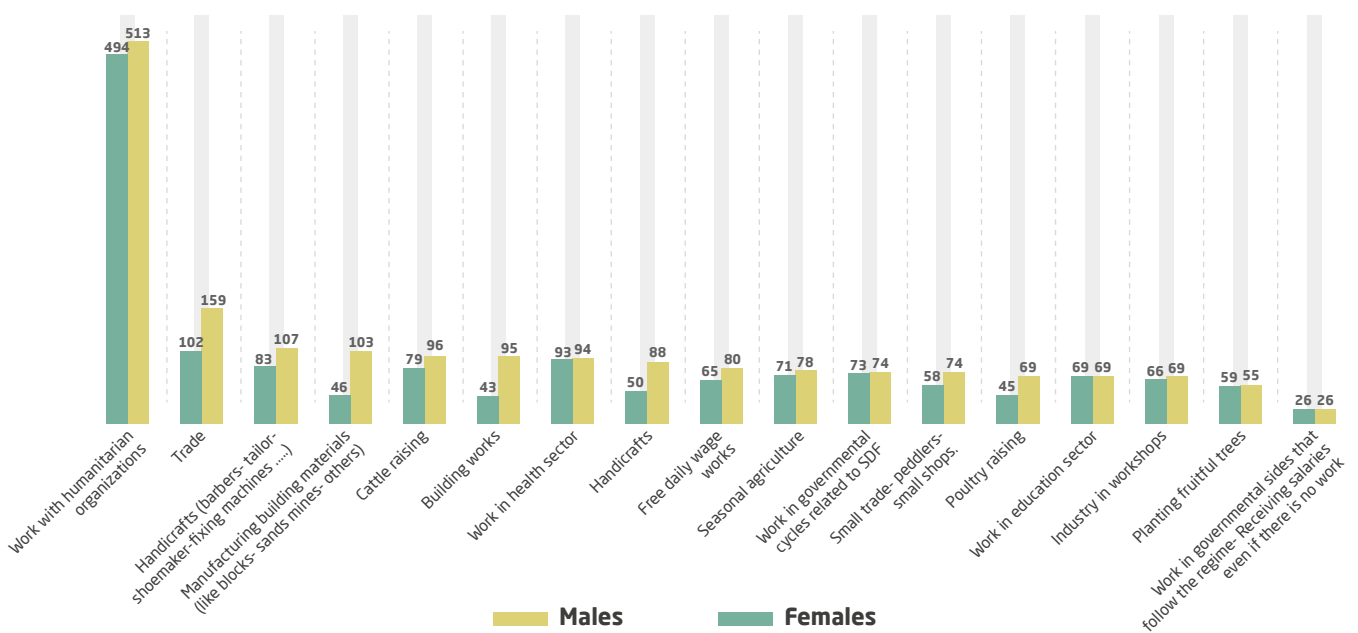
In northern Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh the females receive wages lower than males in all professions. The discrepancy between males and females appears clearly in trade and building works. Moreover, females don't get minimal level of survival (providing basic requirements of life) in most of professions while neither males nor females get minimal level of survival in daily wage worker, poultry raising, cattle raising, seasonal planting and planting fruitful trees as well as work in governmental departments affiliated with the regime. And it's noticed in northern Aleppo, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa the rise of wages average of workers in trade compared to other regions.

Figure 17 Average monthly wages of workers based on gender in the north of Aleppo, Al-Hasakeh and Ar-Raqqa (in Dollar)



In eastern Syria, the females receive wages lower than males in all professions and neither males nor females get the minimal level of survival in most of professions while they get the minimal level of survival only through working in humanitarian organizations and trade.

Figure 18 Average monthly wages of workers based on gender in the Syrian East (in Dollar)



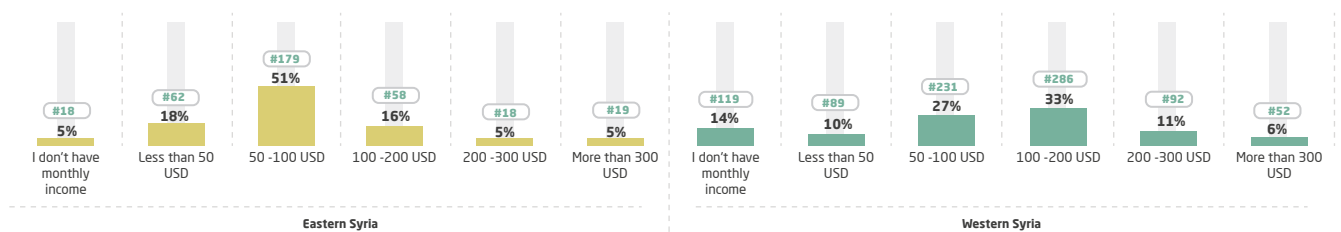
10 Surveys of population: Their monthly average income

Through the surveys⁸ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed persons were asked about their average monthly income.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %14 of persons included in the survey (119 persons) don't have a monthly income, 89) %10 persons) has monthly income less than 50 USD, 231) %27 persons) has monthly income between 50 USD and 100 USD, 286) %33 persons) has monthly income between 100 USD and 200 USD, 92) %11 persons) has monthly income between 200 USD and 300 USD and 52) %6 persons) has monthly income more than 300 USD.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %5 of persons included in the survey (18 persons) don't have a monthly income, 62) %18 persons) has monthly income less than 50 USD, 179) %51 persons) has monthly income between 50 USD and 100 USD, 58) %16 persons) has monthly income between 100 USD and 200 USD, 18) %5 persons) has monthly income between 200 USD and 300 USD and 19) %5 persons) has monthly income more than 300 USD.

Figure 19 Population survey, number/ percentages of population that participated in the survey according to the average monthly income.



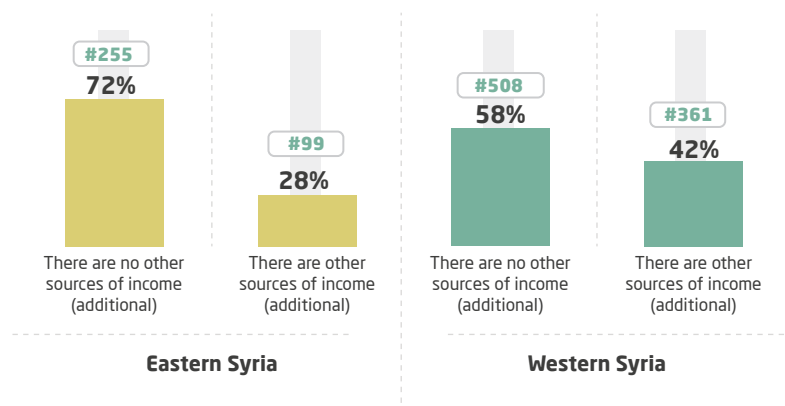
11 Surveys of population: Availability of additional source of income

Through surveys performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed persons were asked about the availability of additional source of income (beside their basic income they get from their daily work).

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %42 of persons included in the survey (361 persons) own additional source of income while 508) %51 persons) don't own any additional source of income.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %28 of persons included in the survey (99 persons) own additional source of income while 255) %72 persons) don't own any additional source of income.

Figure 20 Population survey, number/ percentages of population that participated in the survey based on the availability of additional source of income.



⁰⁷ The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 1,223 persons from ages above 18 years old within 5 governorates. Females formed %32 of them and males formed %68. About %56 of persons included in the survey are from the hosting community and %44 are from the internally displaced persons and %19 from persons included in the survey weren't able to get a work opportunity.

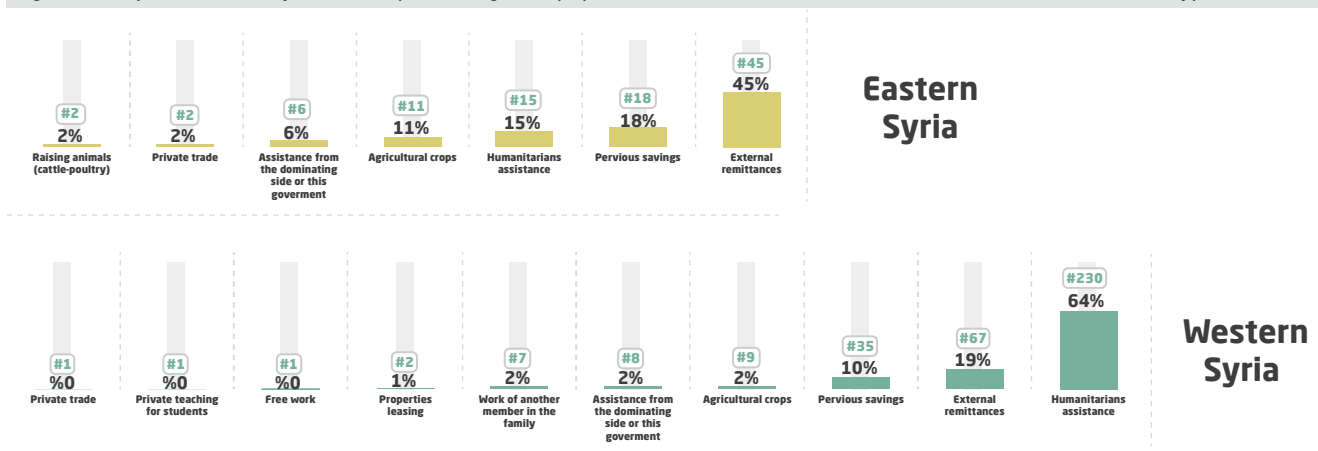
12 Surveys of population: Available sources of income

Through the surveys⁹ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed persons who have additional source of income were asked about the type of this income.

In northwestern Syria: The survey showed that %64 of persons included in the survey (230 persons) rely on humanitarian assistance as an additional source of income, 67) %19 persons) rely on remittances from this relatives that exist outside Syria, 35) %10 persons) rely on their own savings, 9) %2 persons) rely on agricultural crops, 8) %2 persons) rely on assistances given by the dominating side or its government and 7) %2 persons) rely on the work of another member in the family.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %45 of persons included in the survey (45 persons) rely on remittances from their relatives that exist outside Syria as an additional source of income, 18) %18 persons) rely on their own savings, 15) %15 persons) rely on humanitarian assistance, 11) %11 persons) rely on agricultural crops and 6) %6 persons) rely on assistances provided by the dominating party or its government.

Figure 21 Population survey, number/ percentages of population that own addition source of income based on the type of source.



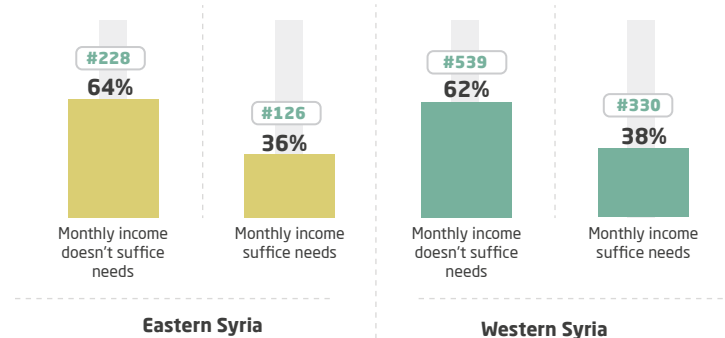
13 Surveys of population: Sufficiency of monthly income in satisfying basic needs

Through the surveys¹⁰ which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed persons were asked about the sufficiency of their monthly income in satisfying their basic needs.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %38 of persons included in the survey (330 persons) own monthly income that satisfies their basic needs while 539) %62 persons) don't own monthly income that satisfies their basic needs.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %36 of persons included in the survey (126 persons) own monthly income that satisfies their basic needs while 228) %64 persons) don't own monthly income that satisfies their basic needs.

Figure 22 Population survey, number/ percentages of population that participated in the survey based on sufficiency of monthly income in satisfying basic needs



⁰⁹ The researchers of Information Management Unit performed a survey with 1,223 persons from ages above 18 years old within 5 governorates. Females formed %32 of them and males formed %68. About %56 of persons included in the survey are from the hosting community and %44 are from the internally displaced persons and %19 from persons included in the survey weren't able to get a work opportunity.

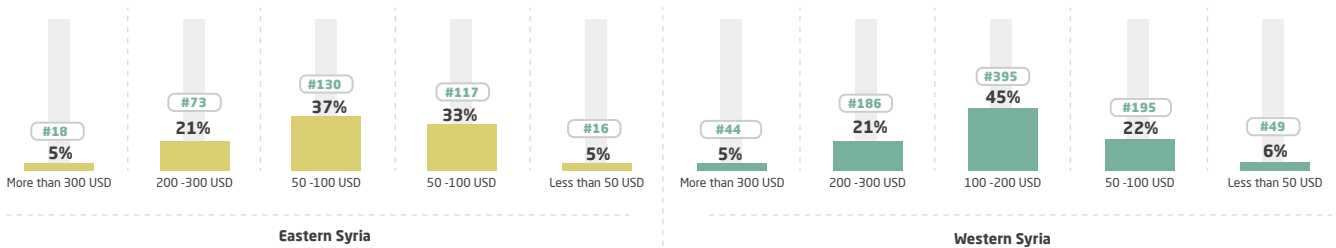
14 Surveys of population: Average monthly expenditure

Through the surveys which were performed by the enumerators of Information management Unit (IMU), the interviewed persons were asked about their average monthly expenditure.

In northwestern Syria: The surveys showed that %6 of persons included in the survey (49 persons) have monthly expenditure that doesn't exceed 50 USD, 195) %22 persons) has monthly expenditure between 50 USD and 100 USD, 395) %45 persons) have monthly expenditure between 100 USD and 200 USD, 186) %21 persons) have monthly expenditure between 200 USD and 300 USD and 44) %5 persons) have monthly expenditure more than 300 USD.

In northeastern Syria: The surveys showed that %5 of persons included in the survey (16 persons) have monthly expenditure that doesn't exceed 50 USD, 117) %33 persons) have monthly expenditure between 50 USD and 100 USD, 130) %37 persons) have monthly expenditure between 100 USD and 200 USD, 73) %21 persons) have monthly expenditure between 200 USD and 300 USD and 18) %5 persons) have monthly expenditure more than 300 USD.

Figure 23 Population survey, number/percentages of population that participated in the survey based on the average monthly expenditure.



Part Three

Trade Sector



01 Types of trade

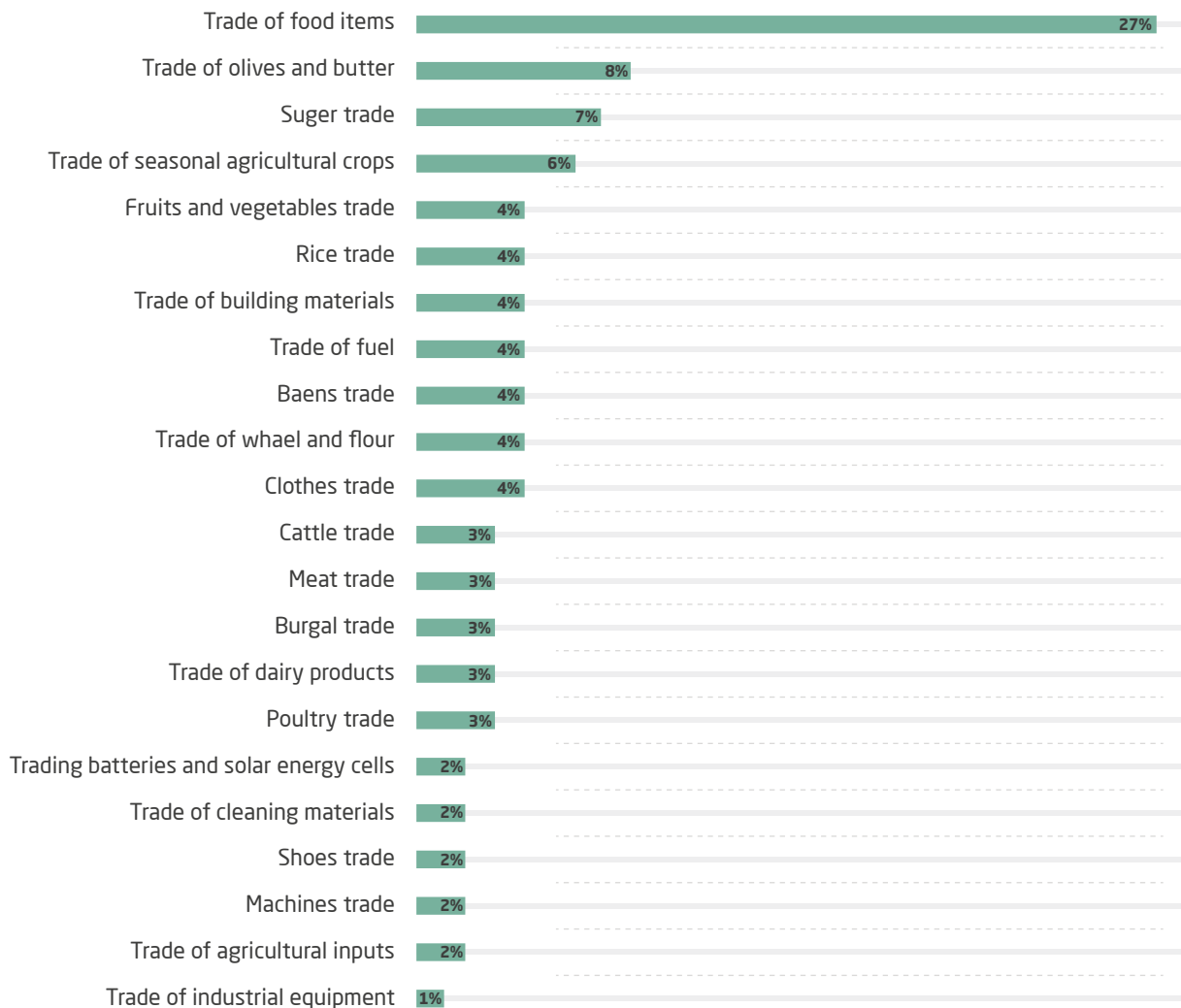
The trade of food items formed %50 of trade types in northern Syria and it includes oils, sugar, rice, beans, bulgur, canned food and other consumer items, while the trade of seasonal agricultural crops formed %6 of trade types. The vegetables and fruits trade as well as the trade of building materials, fuels, wheat, flour and clothes formed %4 of trade types. In addition to that, the trade of cattle, meat, dairy products, and poultry formed %3 of trade types and the trade of batteries, solar energy cells, cleaning materials, shoes, agricultural inputs and machines formed %2 of trade types and the trade of industrial equipment formed %1 only from trade types.

The advancement of food items trade in Syria over other types of trade shows the deterioration of humanitarian conditions because of the war. Moreover, the focus of population on mainly getting food items for survival and deterioration of clothes trade and new shoes reflects the conditions of after war life. The trade of used clothes and shoes has increased and also the trade of batteries and solar cells increased because of the cut of electricity for long hours and lack of electricity in many regions.

Before war, there was more than 13 workshops for bulgur in Al-Hasakeh governorate as well as big number of medium and small workshops of producing bulgur. These local workshops used to produce amounts of bulgur that are 3 times more than the need of the local market and it was of the finest types of bulgur as it used to get exported outside Syria. The production and trade of the Syrian bulgur has remarkably decreased after the war in Syria and the local markets are now flooded with imported bulgur.

The trade of meat and poultry has noticeably decreased in Syria after the start of the ongoing war as big number of cattle was contrabanded outside Syria and the excessive slaughter of cattle led to severe decrease in its number. The local markets are now full of frozen meats which started to compete with local meats and the big portion of population is obliged to stop consuming meat or decreasing their consumption because of the weakness of their buying ability.

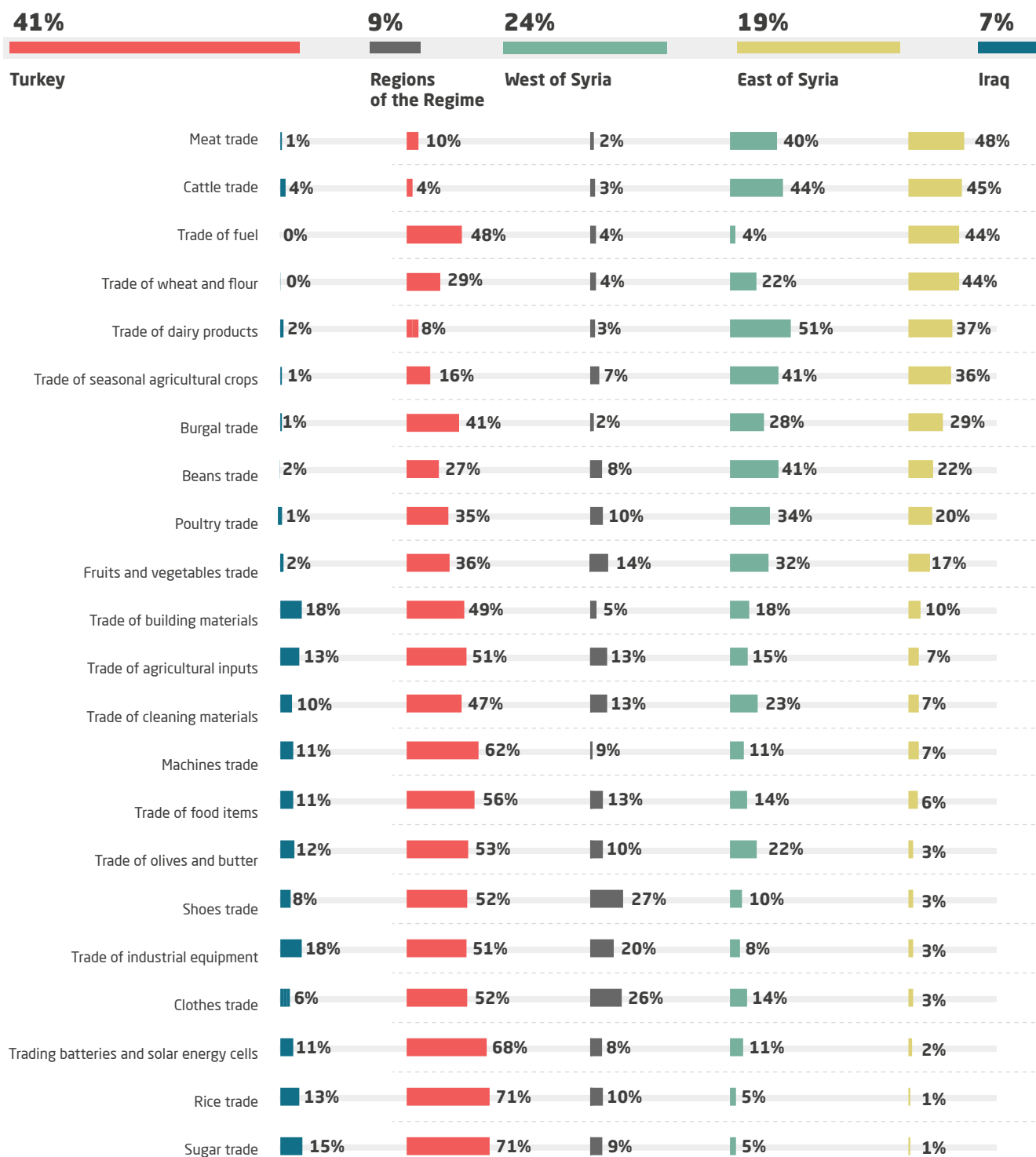
Figure 24 types of most popular trades in the Syrian North.



02 Sources of trade materials

The results of the study showed that the source of %41 of the trade materials available in the market is Turkey, %24 from western Syria, %19 from eastern Syria, %9 from the areas dominated by the Regime and %7 from Iraq.

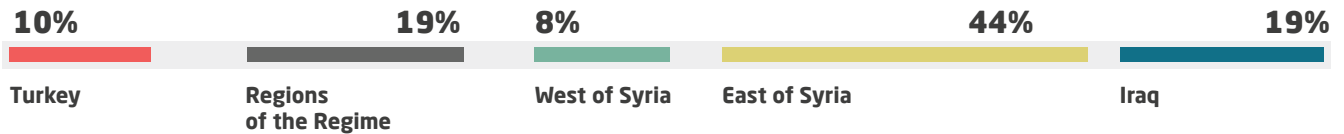
Figure 25 sources of trade materials in the Syrian North



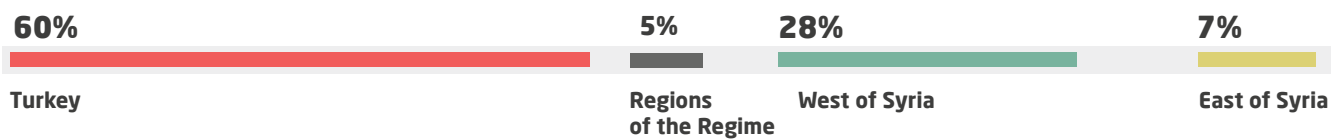
It is noticed in eastern Syria that there is an increase in the percentage of trade materials that come from Iraq and areas of the Regime compared to the trade materials that come from Turkey. In the north of Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo and Idleb, it's noticed that there is an increase in the percentage of the trade materials that come from Turkey compared to the decrease in the trade materials that come from areas under the control of the Regime while there are no trade materials from Iraqi source.

Figure 26 sources of trade materials based on regions.

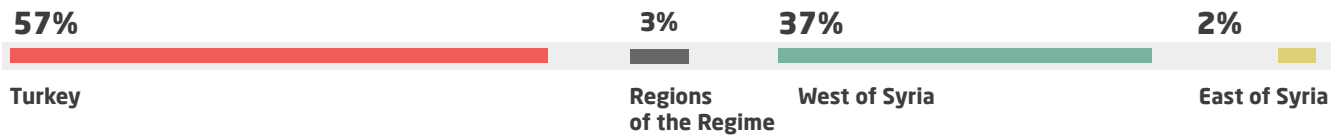
Percentages of sources of trade materials in eastern Syria



Percentages of sources of trade materials in north of Aleppo, North of Ar-Raqqa and North of Al-Hasakeh



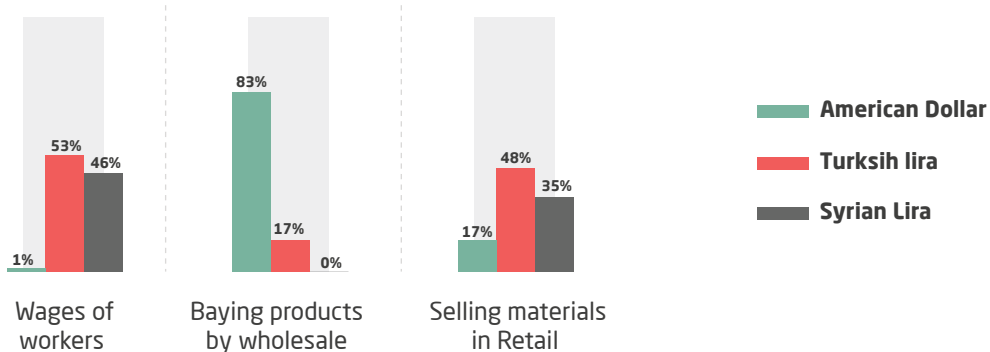
Percentages of sources of trade materials in Idleb



03 Cash used in trade dealings

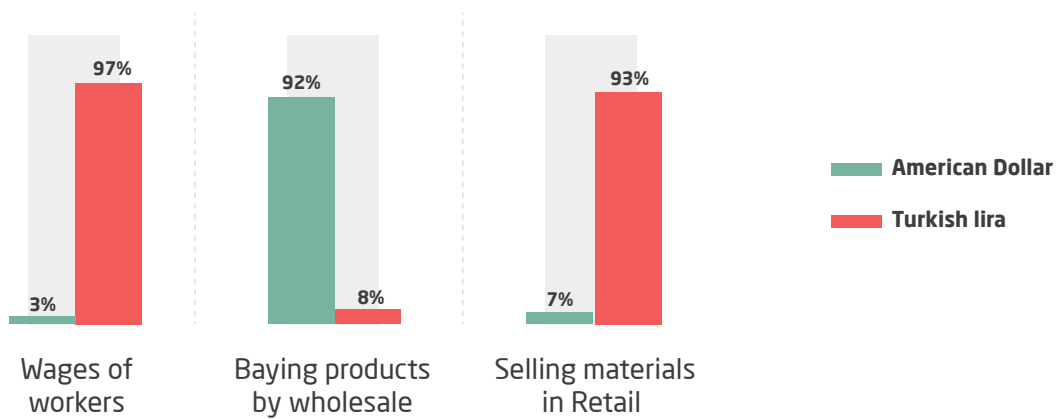
In northern Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh the American Dollar is used for buying %83 of wholesale materials and the Turkish Lira is used for buying %17 of wholesale materials, while the SYP is not used for wholesale buying. The Turkish Lira is used for selling %48 of materials for consumers (retail) and the SYP is used for selling %35 of materials for consumers and the American Dollar is used for selling %17 of the materials for consumers. The Turkish Liras is used for paying wages of %53 of the workers in the trade sector and the SYPs is used for paying wages of %46 of workers in the trade sector and the American Dollar gets used for paying wages of %1 only of workers in trade sector.

Figure 27 Percentages of cash type used in trade dealings in the north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh.



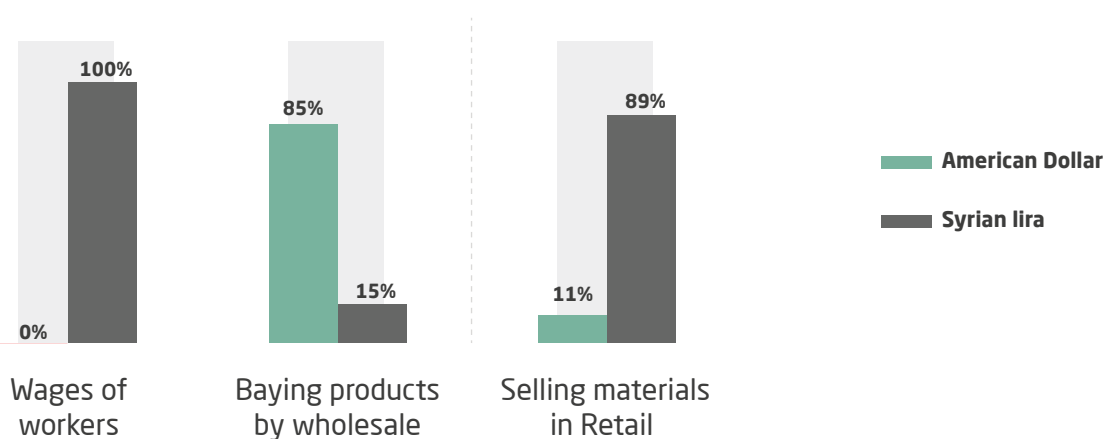
In the north of Idlib governorate the American Dollar is used for buying %92 of wholesale materials and the Turkish Lira is used for buying %8 of wholesale materials, while the SYP is not used for wholesale buying. The Turkish Lira is used for selling %93 of materials for consumers (in Retail) and the American Dollar is used for selling %7 of materials for consumers while the SYP is not used for selling materials for consumers. The Turkish Lira is used for paying the wages of %97 of the workers in the trade sector and the American Dollar is used for paying wages of %3 of workers in the trade sector and the SYP is used for paying any wages of workers in trade sector.

Figure 28 Percentages of cash type used in trade dealings in Idlib.



In eastern Syria, the American Dollar is used for buying %85 of wholesale materials and the SYP is used for buying %15 of wholesale materials. On the other hand, the SYP is used for selling %89 of materials for consumers (in Retail) and the American Dollar is used for selling %11 of materials for consumers. The SYP is used for paying all wages of the workers in trade sector and the American Dollar is not used for paying wages of workers in the trade sector and the Turkish Lira is not used in any commercial dealings in eastern Syria.

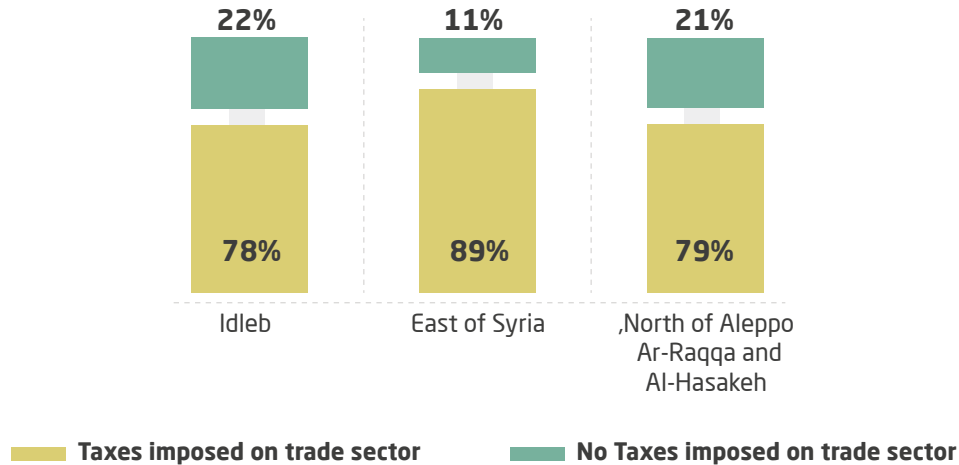
Figure 29 Percentages of cash type used in trade dealings in east of Syria



04 Taxes imposed on trade sectors and laws.

%82 of interviewed key informants confirmed the existence of taxes on trade sector while %49 of key informants stated the absence of taxes on trade sector.

Figure 30 Imposed taxes on trade sector



The information asserts that taxes are imposed only on imported and exported materials. The interim government issues the list of taxes on imported and exported materials in the west of Syria (for the border crossings within Idleb and northern Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh governorates), while the Syrian Democratic Forces SDF imposes taxes on border crossings with Iraq and there are taxes imposed on commercial cars that are transported through different powers of domination.

The Syrian Interim Government has issued the new customs tariff (importing charges) for the year 2021 in border crossings related to it in northwestern Syria. The decision included decreasing the tax charges imposed on goods from Turkish origin that pass through these crossings compared to other foreign goods. The tax charges imposed on exported materials from the Syria to Turkey were decreased according to the decision. Also, the decision made the charges of exporting very low in order to protect the locally manufactured products from areas outside the control of the regime and in order to encourage exporting. Also, higher charges were imposed on imported products that have similar production in the region like: Potatoes, onions and shoes.

And some examples for the value of new importing charges which give preference for the Turkish goods: The charges of forage products are 30 TRY per ton while the foreign equivalent costs 50 TRY per ton. Charges of Turkish vegetables are 40 TRY per ton and the charges of foreign vegetables are 50 TRY per ton. Charges of Turkish dairy products are 100 TRY per ton and the charges of foreign dairy products are 125 TRY per ton. Charges of Turkish fertilizer are 85 TRY per ton and the charges of foreign fertilizer are 100 TRY per ton. Charges of Turkish Ceramic are 95 TRY per ton and the charges of foreign Ceramic are 110 TRY per ton.

The food items, heating material, building materials, fertilizers and touristic cars are regarded the most frequent imported products from Turkey while the most frequent exported products to Turkey are Potatoes, onion, cumin, flax seeds, coriander, cotton, corn, sesame, peach, mangosteen, soap, shoes and clothes.

The ministry of economy and resources in Idleb is regarded responsible for issuing laws related to commercial dealings and this ministry is related to the salvage government and it has many directorates under its umbrella like the commercial chamber and crossings management.

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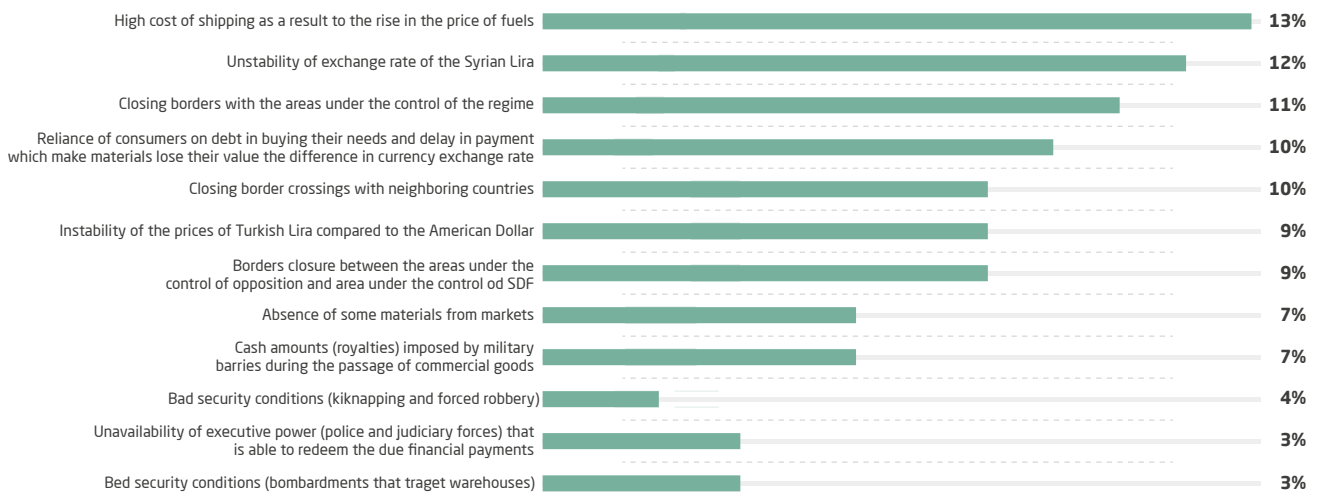
The Local Councils In northern Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Hasakeh are regarded responsible for issuing laws related to commercial dealings and these councils have number of directorates under their umbrella like the commercial chamber.

The commission of finance and taxes in eastern Syria is regarded responsible for issuing laws related to commercial dealings and it is related to the SDF and has number of directorates under its umbrella like the commercial chamber and economic committee.

05 The main difficulties faced by trading

The increase in the price of fuel is on the top of the difficulties list faced by trade sector. Those difficulties resulted in higher freight cost and SYP exchange rate instability against other foreign currencies which created a burden on the trade sector. One of the difficulties faced by trade sector consumers rely on debit to buy their needs and delays in payment that may result in items loss of value with the variation in exchange rate of the currencies used in sales. Also, the closure of the internal crossing points (between different forces of domination) and border crossings (with neighboring countries) created a serious obstacle for commercial exchange. In addition, cash required to be paid (royalties) as it passes over military checkpoints created a serious obstacle for the trade sector growth which result in an increase in the price of trade items.

Figure 31 difficulties faced by trade sector in north of Syria



Part Four

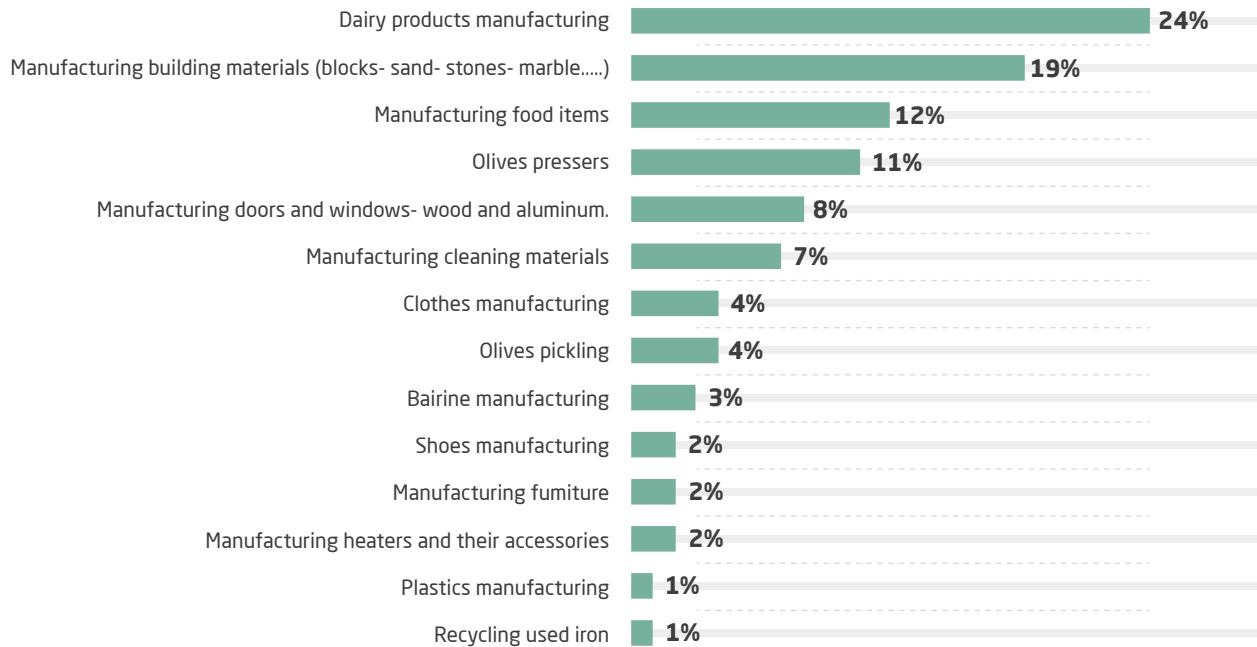
The industrial sector



01 Industry types

Milk and dairy products manufacturing constitute %24 of industrial sector in northern Syria. Building materials manufacturing came second, as it constitutes %19 of the industry list. Also, food stuff manufacturing constitutes %19, olive presses constitute %11, manufacturing doors and windows whether wooden or aluminum constitutes %8, and cleaning supplies manufacturing constitutes %7.

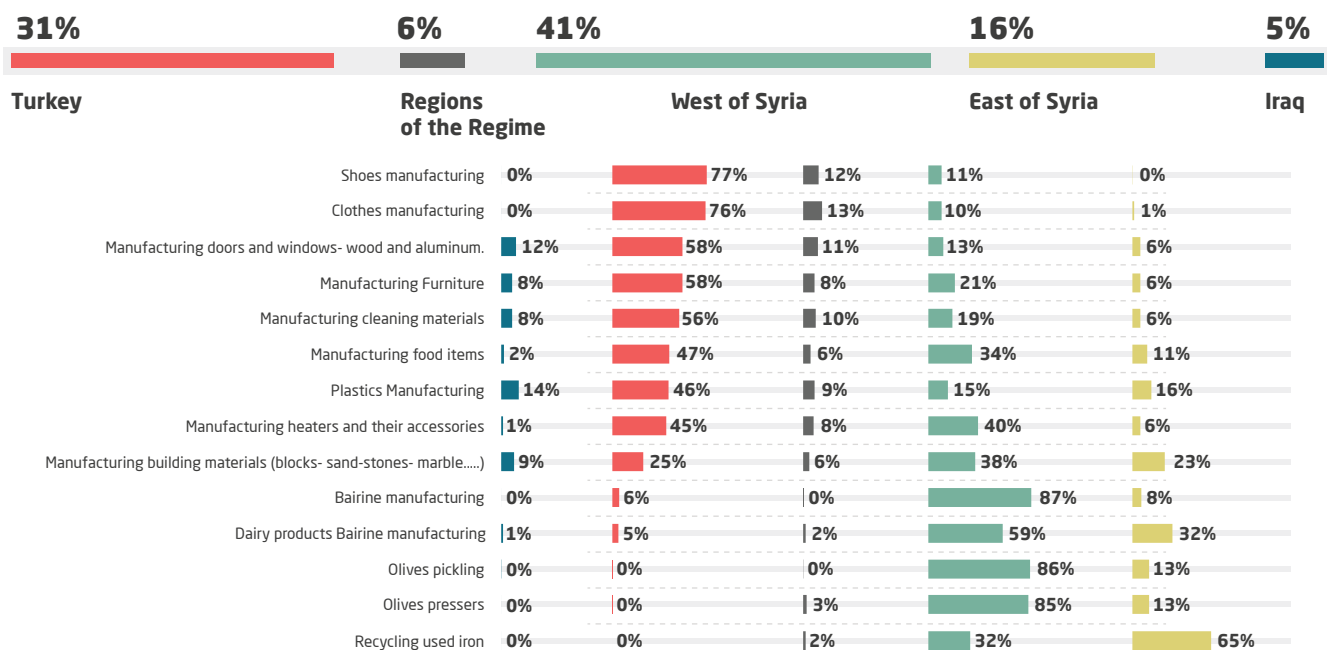
Figure 32 most common types of industry in north of Syria



02 Raw materials resources used in industry

The study results showed that %41 of the raw materials used in industry are from the local markets of west Syria, %16 of the raw materials used in industry are from local markets of east Syria, and %6 are from regime areas of control. %31 of the raw materials are imported from Turkey, and %5 of the raw materials are imported from Iraq.

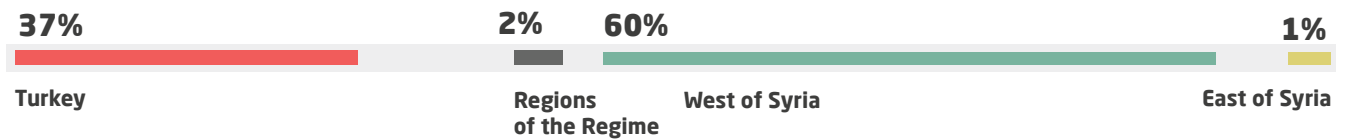
Figure 33 raw materials used in industry in north of Syria



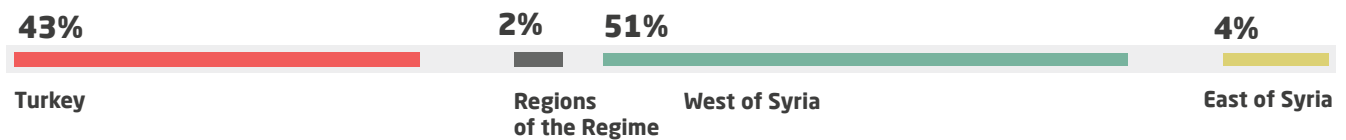
In east of Syria, high rate of the raw materials used in industry originating from Iraq and regime areas is noted. Whereas, low rates of the raw materials originating from Turkey is also noted. In northern Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, and Idleb governorates, the rates of the raw materials used in industry originating from Turkey are high, whereas low rates of the raw materials used in industry originating from regime areas is noted, as well as non-availability of raw materials originating from Iraq. The study showed that exchanging rate of the raw materials declined between east and west of Syria.

Figure 34 raw materials used in industry based on area

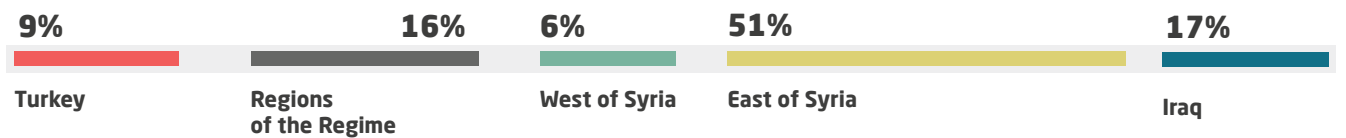
Percentages of sources of raw materials in Idleb



Percentages of raw materials in north of Aleppo, North of Ar-Raqqa and North of Al-Hasakeh



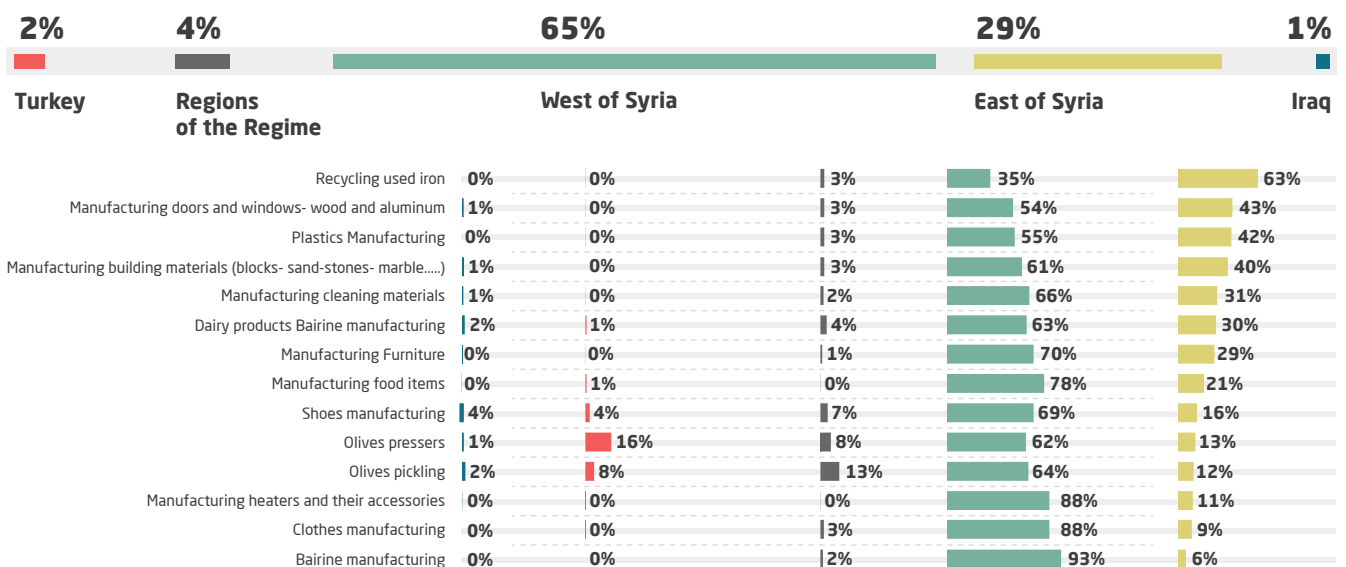
Percentages of sources of raw materials in eastern Syria



03 Markets for the products locally manufactured

The study results showed that %98 of materials locally manufactured are sold locally, while %2 only of the manufactured products are exported to Turkey, and %1 only are exported to Iraq. On top of the list of the products exported to Iraq are olive oil and pickled olives.

Figure 35 Products locally manufactured outlet markets in eastern Syria



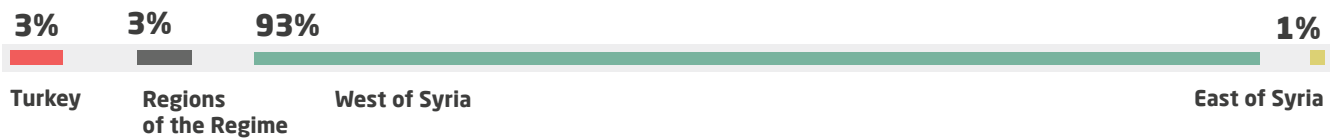
In Idleb governorate, %93 of manufactured products are sold within the governorate west of Syria, while %3 of products are sold in regime areas, %1 of products are sold east of Syria, and %3 of locally manufactured products are exported to Turkey.

In north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, %85 of manufactured materials are sold in west of Syria, %2 of products are sold in regime areas, %10 of products are sold in east of Syria, and %4 of locally manufactured materials are exported to Turkey.

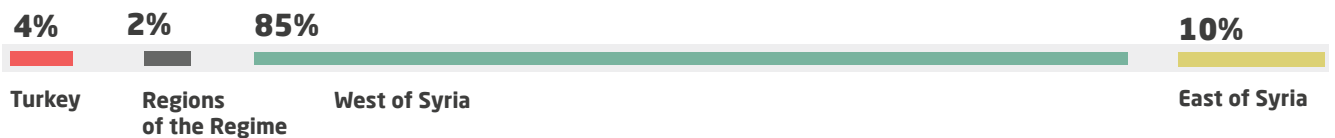
In east of Syria, %88 of manufactured materials are sold in east of Syria, %6 of products are sold in regime areas, %4 of products are sold west of Syria, and %2 of locally manufactured materials are exported to Iraq.

Figure 36 Products locally manufactured outlet markets based on area

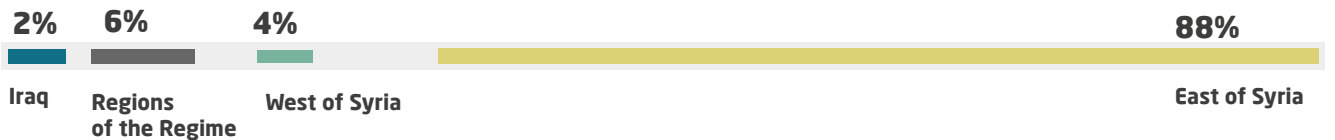
Percentages of markets of selling products manufactured in Idleb



Percentages of selling markets of manufactured products in north of Aleppo, north of Ar-Raqqa and north Al-Hasakeh



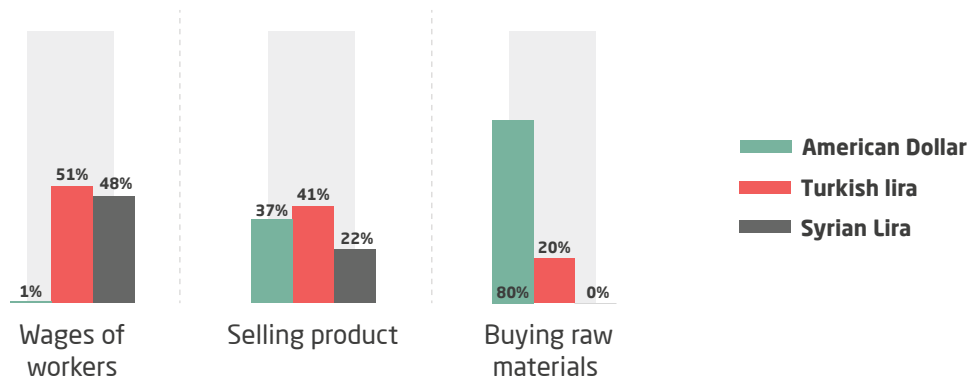
Percentages of markets of selling products manufactured in eastern Syria



04 Currency used in the industrial transactions

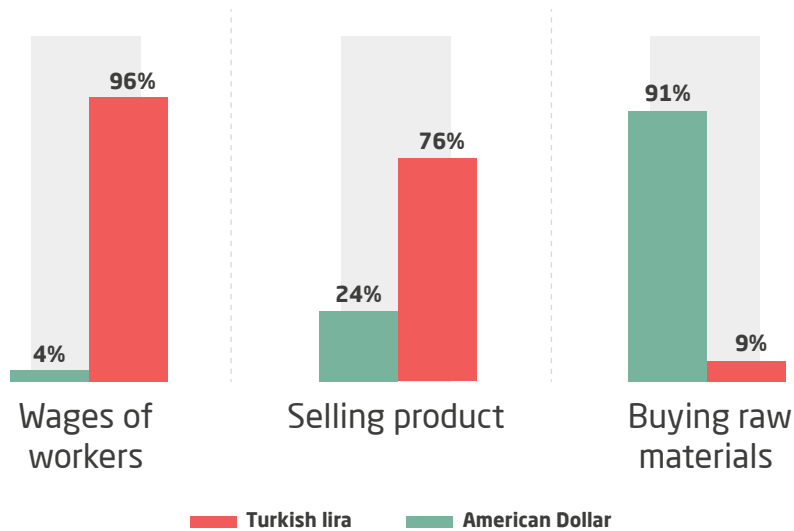
In north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, American dollar is used to buy %80 of the raw materials used in industry, while Turkish Lira is used to buy %20 of the raw materials used in industry. SYP is not used to buy raw materials, while Turkish Lira is used to sell %41 of the products (manufactured materials). The American dollar is used to sell %37 of the production, while SYP is used to sell %22 of the products. Turkish Lira is used to pay %51 of the workers' wages in the industrial sector, while SYP is used to pay %48 pf the workers' wages in the industrial sector, and American dollar to pay %1 only of workers' wages in the industrial sector.

Figure 37 the rate of currency used in the industrial transactions in north of Aleppo, Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh



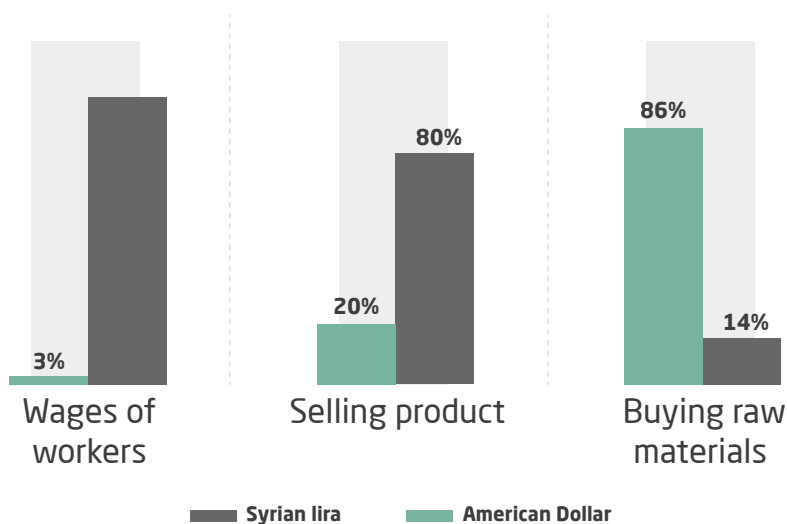
In north of Idleb governorate, American dollar is used to buy %91 of the raw materials used in industry, while Turkish Lira is used to buy %9 of the raw materials used in industry. Also, SYP is not used to buy raw materials, while Turkish Lira is used to sell %76 of the products (raw materials), and American dollar is used to sell %24 of the products. Moreover, American dollar is used to pay %4 only of the workers' wages in the industrial sector, while SYP is not used to pay wages.

Figure 38 currency rates used in the industrial transactions in Idlib



In east of Syria, American dollar is used to buy %86 of the raw materials used in industry, while SYP is used to buy %14 of the raw materials used in industry. SYP is used to buy %80 of the products (manufactured materials), while American dollar is used to buy %20 of the products. SYP is used to pay %97 of the workers' wages in industrial sector, while SYP is used to pay %3 only of the workers' wages in the industrial sector and Turkish Lira is not used in industrial transactions east of Syria.

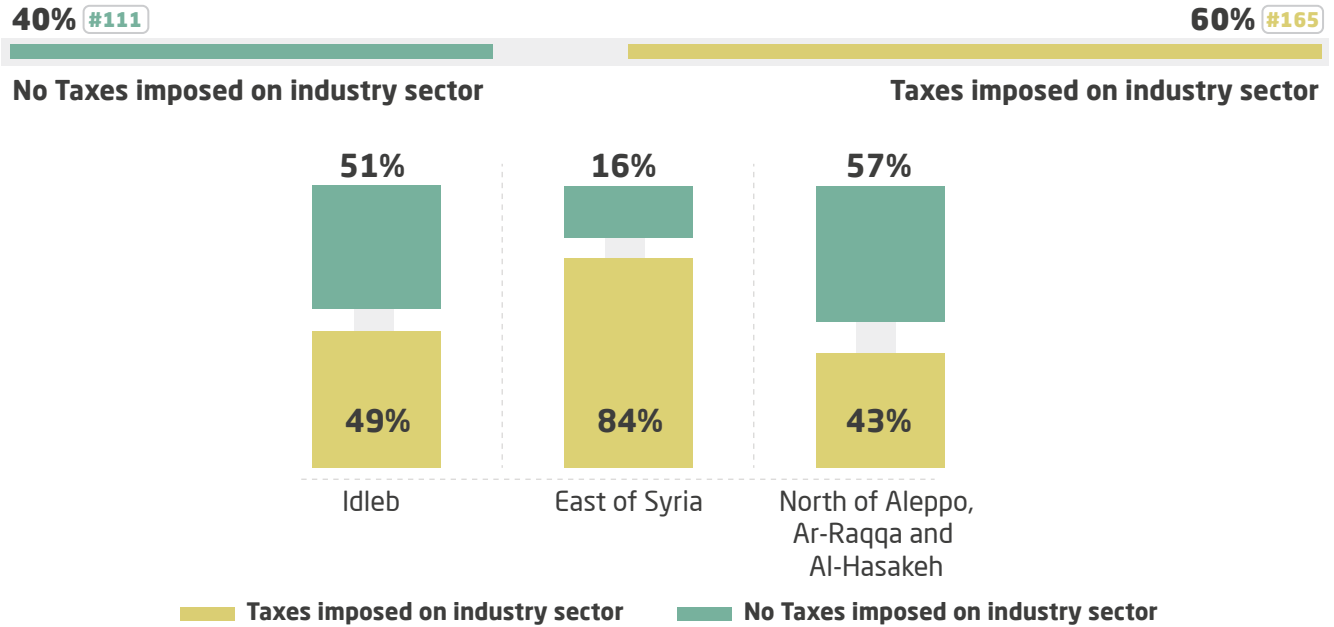
Figure 39 currency rates used in the industrial transactions in east of Syria



05 Taxes imposed on the industrial sector

%60 of information sources stated that taxes imposed on the industrial sector, while %40 stated the non-existence of taxes in the industrial sector. All those resources confirmed that taxes are imposed on the factories or the larger workshops, as they are in-kind amounts and paid only once every year, while no taxes are imposed on the small workshops.

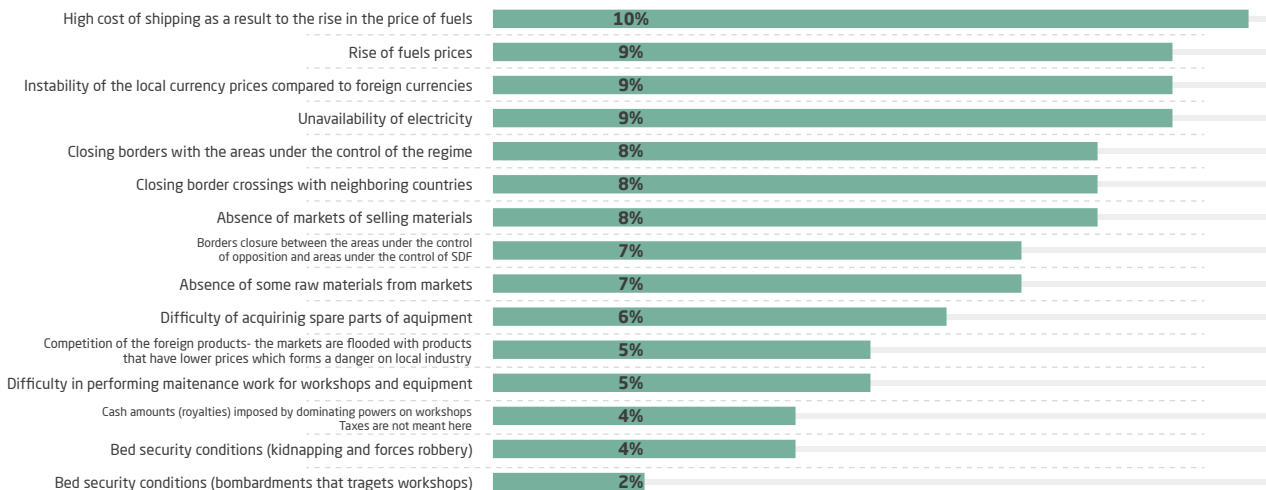
Figure 40 taxes imposed on the industrial sector



06 Most important obstacles faced by the industry

The increase in the price of fuel is on the top of the difficulties list faced by the trade sector. Those difficulties resulted in higher freight cost and SYP exchange rate instability against other foreign currencies which created a burden on the trade sector. One of the difficulties faced by trade sector, is non-availability of electricity, which led workshops to rely on generators that use diesel to generate electricity. hence, increases the industrial costs. Also, the closure of the internal crossing points (between different forces of domination) and border crossings (with neighboring countries) created a serious obstacle for commercial exchange. Moreover, the lack of product selling markets and competition of imported goods that created a serious obstacle for industrial growth. Actually, the owners of those factories faced an obstacle to implement maintenance work on industrial tools or acquire spare parts. In addition, some of the dominant powers impose some amounts to be paid (royalties) by the factories.

Figure 41 obstacles faced by the industry in north of Syria



Part Five

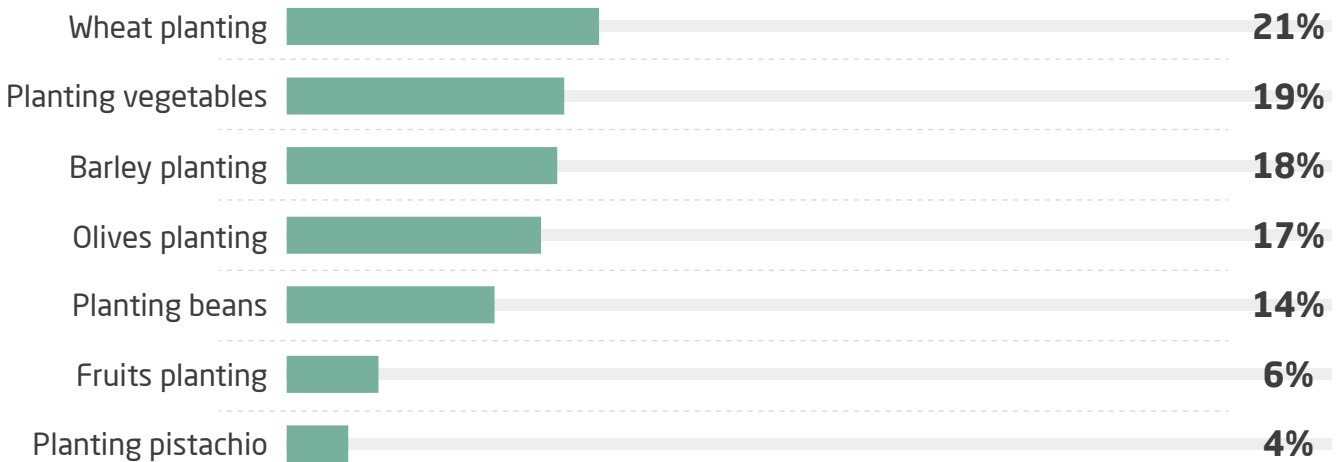
The agricultural sector



01 Types of agriculture

The results showed that seasonal crops, stockbreeding, and planting productive trees provide %18 only of income opportunities, which mean that those sectors highly declined taking into consideration that Syria is an agricultural country, wheat was on the top of the agricultural list north of Syria. The cultivated lands constitute %21, while farming vegetables constitute %19 of cultivated lands, planting barley constitutes %18 of the cultivated lands, farming olive constitute %17 of cultivated lands, farming legumes constitute %14, farming vegetables constitutes %6, Aleppo pistachio constitute %4 of cultivated lands north of Syria.

Figure 42 most common agricultural types in north of Syria



Based on Ar-Raqqa governorate panoramic report issued by the assistance coordination unit (ACU), "Raqqqa governorate has an area of 1,961,586 hectares. cultivable lands constitute 806,155) %41 hectares). The cultivated lands have an area of 596,806 hectares till 2011, of which 188,503) %32 hectares) are cultivated by irrigation, %68 403,303)) are rain-fed. Ar-Raqqa governorate contains ten main irrigation projects that were established on 103,659 hectares within Ar-Raqqa governorate. Al-Hasakeh is considered the Syrian food basket due to wheat farming.

Syria is ranked among the first states to grow olives, as the number of olive trees has reached more than 12 million trees till 2011. Thus, growing olives has deteriorated during the war in Syria. By the beginning of 2020, the regime took control of 125 cities and villages in the southern and eastern countryside of Idleb, the southern countryside of Hama, and the southern and western countryside of Aleppo governorate. The control area held by the regime reached nearly 3,068 KM2, as most of them are cultivated lands.

02 Resources of the agricultural inputs

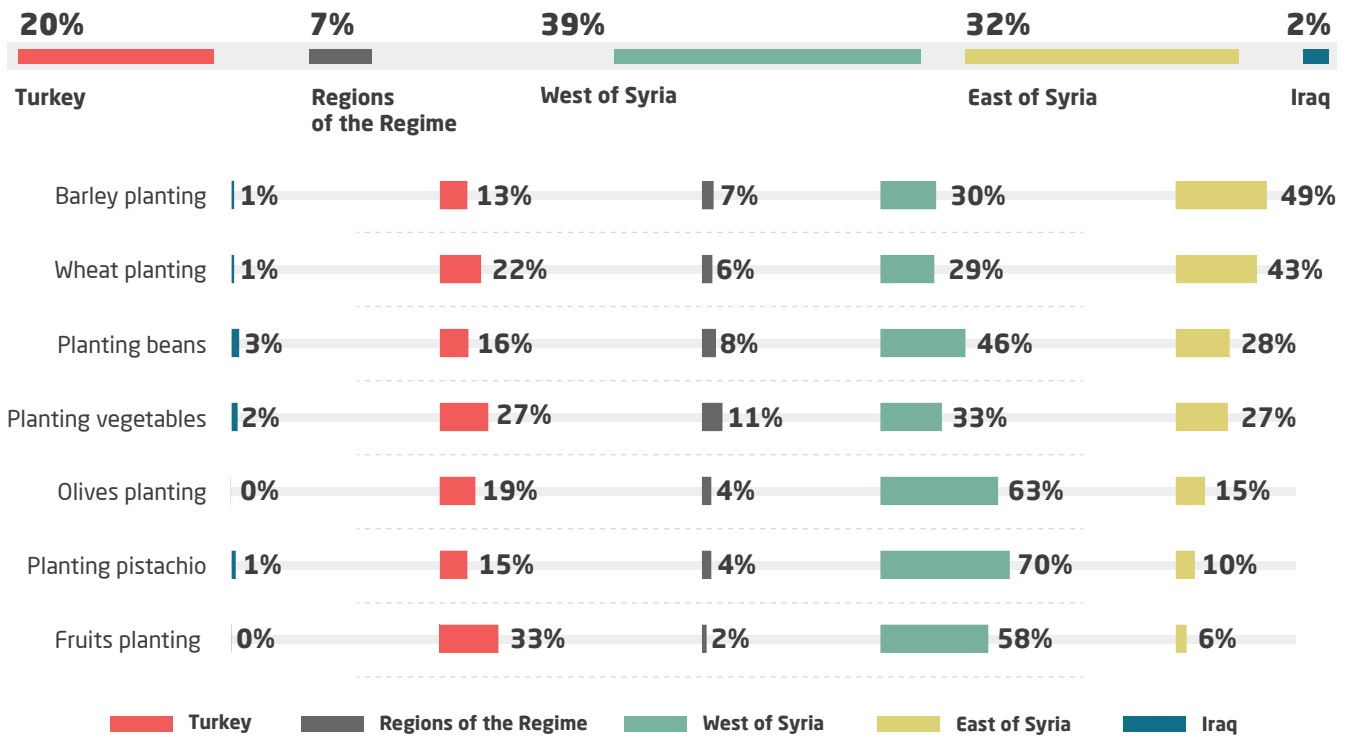
The study results showed that %39 of agricultural inputs originated from local markets in west of Syria, %32 of the agricultural inputs originated from local markets in east of Syria, and %7 originated from regime-controlled areas. While %20 of the agricultural inputs were imported from Turkey, and %2 of the agricultural inputs are imported from Iraq.

Information management unit (IMU) of ACU issued a study about agricultural materials inputs upon non-governmental organizations request. Those organizations are implementing agricultural projects in the areas out of the Syrian regime control. IMU collected basic information through its enumerators regarding agricultural fertilizers, seeds, and agricultural machinery of all types within 63 districts in 5 governorates (Aleppo, Hama, Idleb, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, and Deir ez-Zor). The study includes illustrating figures of price and type of agricultural materials and supplies.

¹⁰ https://www.acu-sy.org/wp-content/uploads/12/2019/IMU_Ar-Raqqa-Panoramic_.pdf

¹¹ <https://www.acu-sy.org/wp-content/uploads/02/2019/Seasonal-Vegetable-Planting-Inputs-Dashboard260219-.pdf>

Figure 43 agricultural inputs resources in north of Syria

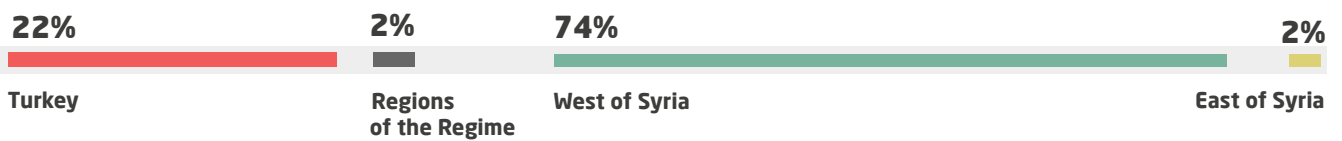


In east of Syria, high rates of agricultural inputs originated from Iraq and regime areas are noticed compared to other areas. Whereas, it is noted that there is a decline in the agricultural inputs originated from Turkey.

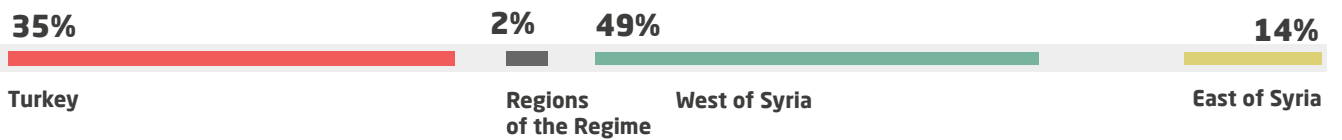
In north of Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, and Idleb governorates, high rates of agricultural inputs originated from Turkey are noticed. Whereas, it is noted that there is a decline in the agricultural inputs originated from regime areas. Information about Iraqi agricultural inputs is not available.

Figure 44 agricultural inputs resources based on area

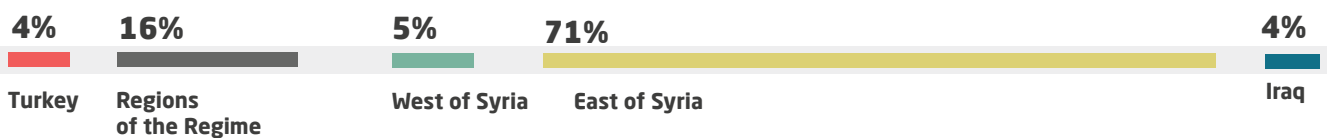
Percentages of sources of agricultural inputs in Idleb



Percentages of agricultural inputs in north of Alepoo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-hasakeh



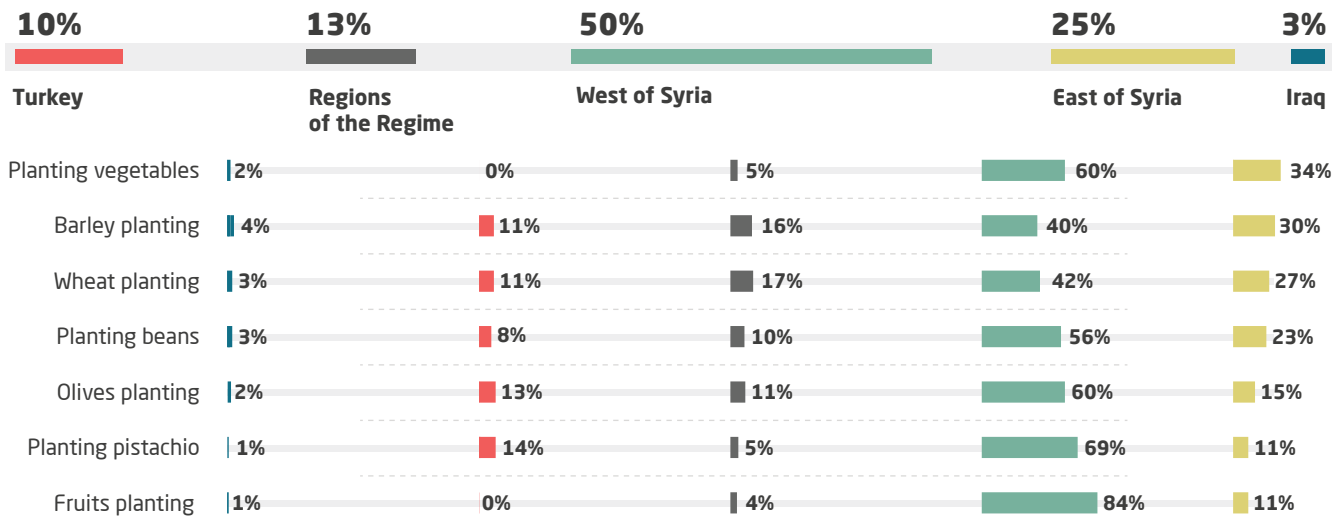
Percentages of sources of agricultural inputs in east of syria



03 Markets for the agricultural products

The study results showed that %88 of the agricultural products are locally sold (%50 of agricultural products are sold west of Syria, %25 in east of Syria, %13 in regime areas), while %10 of agricultural products are exported to Turkey and %3 only are exported to Iraq.

Figure 45 rates of agricultural products outlet products in north of Syria



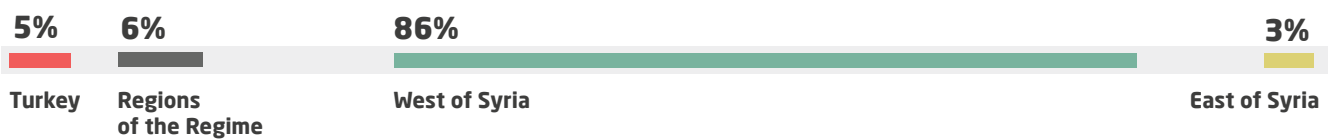
In Idleb governorate, %86 of the agricultural products are sold in west of Syria, %3 of the products are sold east of Syria, and %6 of the products are sold in regime areas. While %5 of the agricultural products are exported to Turkey.

In northern Aleppo, Ar-raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, %70 of the agricultural products are sold west of Syria, %8 of the products are sold east of Syria, and %3 of the products are sold in regime areas. While %20 of agricultural products are exported to Turkey.

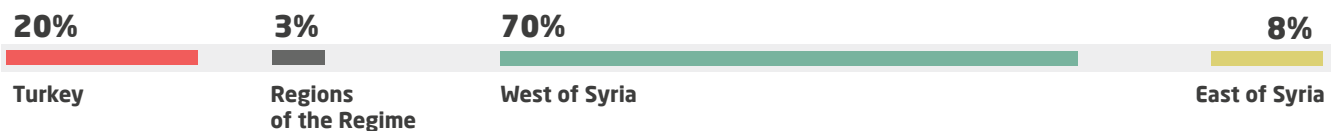
In west of Syria, %56 of the agricultural products are sold east of Syria, %7 of the products are sold west of Syria, and %28 of the products are sold in regime areas. While %7 of the agricultural products are exported to Iraq and %2 of the agricultural products are exported to Turkey.

Figure 46 Agricultural products outlet markets based on area

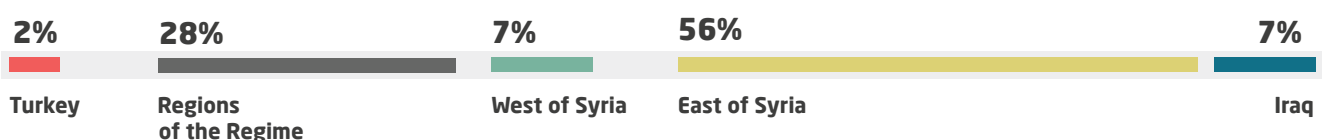
Percentages of selling markets in Idleb



Percentages of selling markets in north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-hasakeh



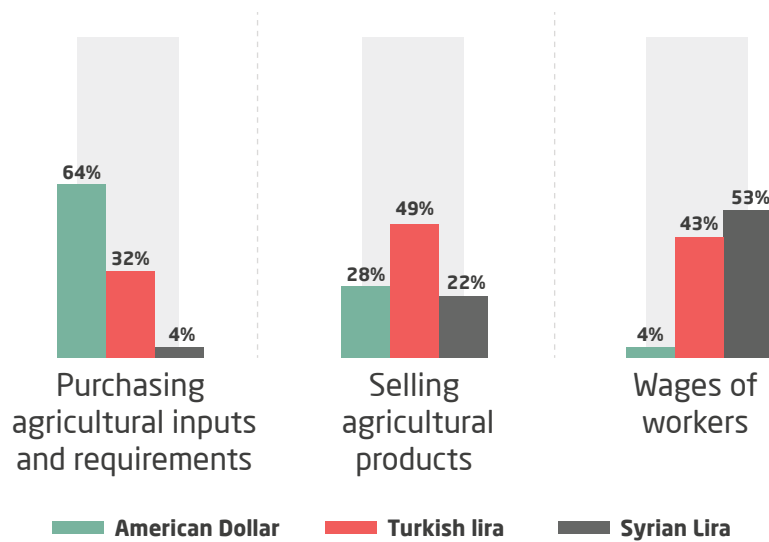
Percentages of selling markets in eastern Syria



04 Currency used in in the agricultural transactions

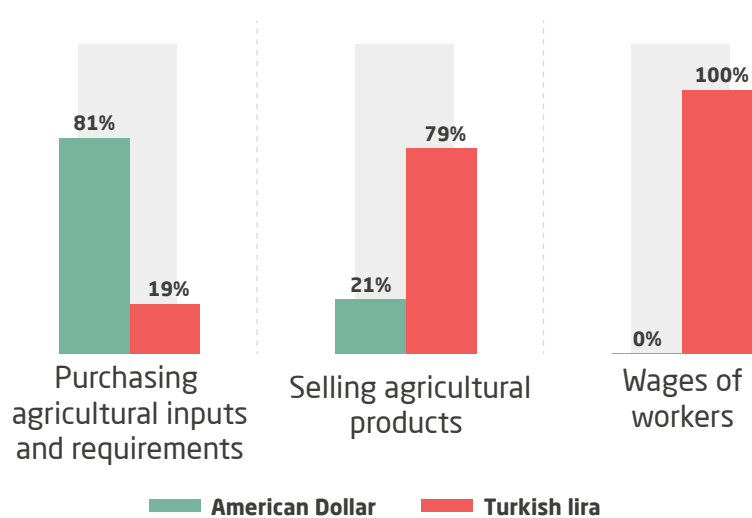
In north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, American dollar is used to buy %64 of the agricultural inputs, Turkish Lira is used to buy %32 of agricultural inputs, and SYP is used to buy %4 of agricultural inputs. While Turkish Lira is used to sell %49 of the agricultural crops, American dollar is used to sell %28 of the agricultural crops, and SYP is used to sell %22 of the agricultural crops. Also, SYP is used to pay %53 of workers' wages in agricultural sector, Turkish Lira is used to pay %43 of workers' wages in agricultural sector, and American dollar is used to pay %4 only of workers' wages in agricultural sector.

Figure 47 currency rates used in agricultural transactions in north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh



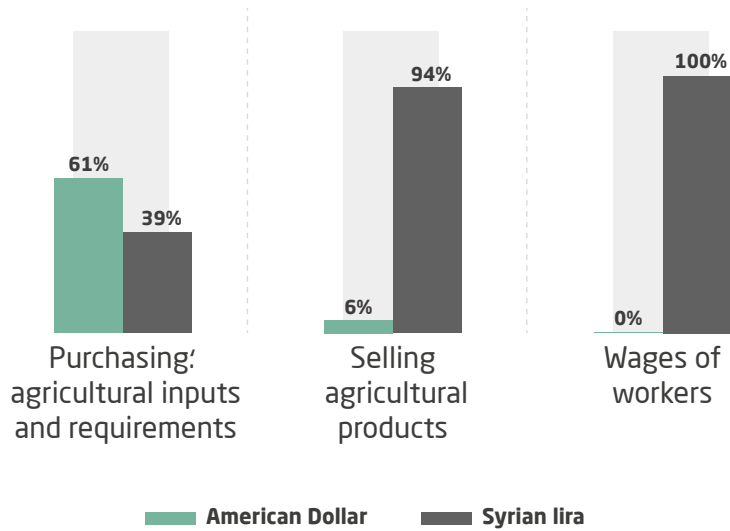
In northern Idlib government, American dollar is used to buy %81 of the agricultural inputs, and Turkish Lira is used to buy %19 of the agricultural inputs. Whereas Turkish Lira is used to sell %79 of the agricultural crops, and American dollar is used to sell %21 of the agricultural crops. Also, Turkish Lira is used to pay all the workers' wages in the agricultural sector. Whereas SYP is not used in the agricultural transactions in Idlib governorate.

Figure 48 rates of currencies used in agricultural transactions in Idlib



In east of Syria, American dollar is used to buy %61 of the agricultural inputs, while SYP is used to buy %39 of the agricultural inputs. SYP is used to sell %94 of the agricultural crops, while American dollar is used to sell %6 of the agricultural crops. SYP is used to pay all of the workers' wages in agricultural sector, while Turkish Lira is not used in agricultural transactions in east of Syria.

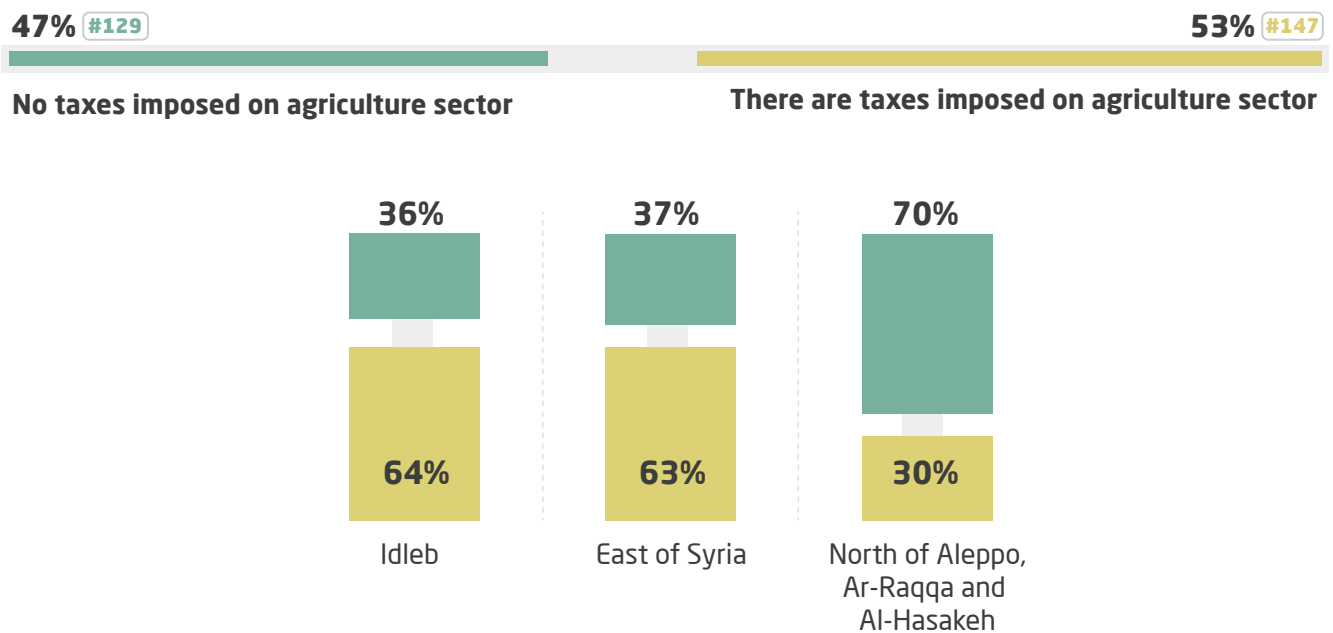
Figure 49 currencies rates used in agricultural transactions in east of Syria



05 Taxes imposed on the agricultural sector

%53 of the information sources stated that taxes are imposed on the agricultural sector, while %47 of the information sources stated that taxes are not imposed on agricultural sector. Also, information sources assured that Zakat authority collects %5 of the irrigated crops income every year (irrigated by surface and underground water).

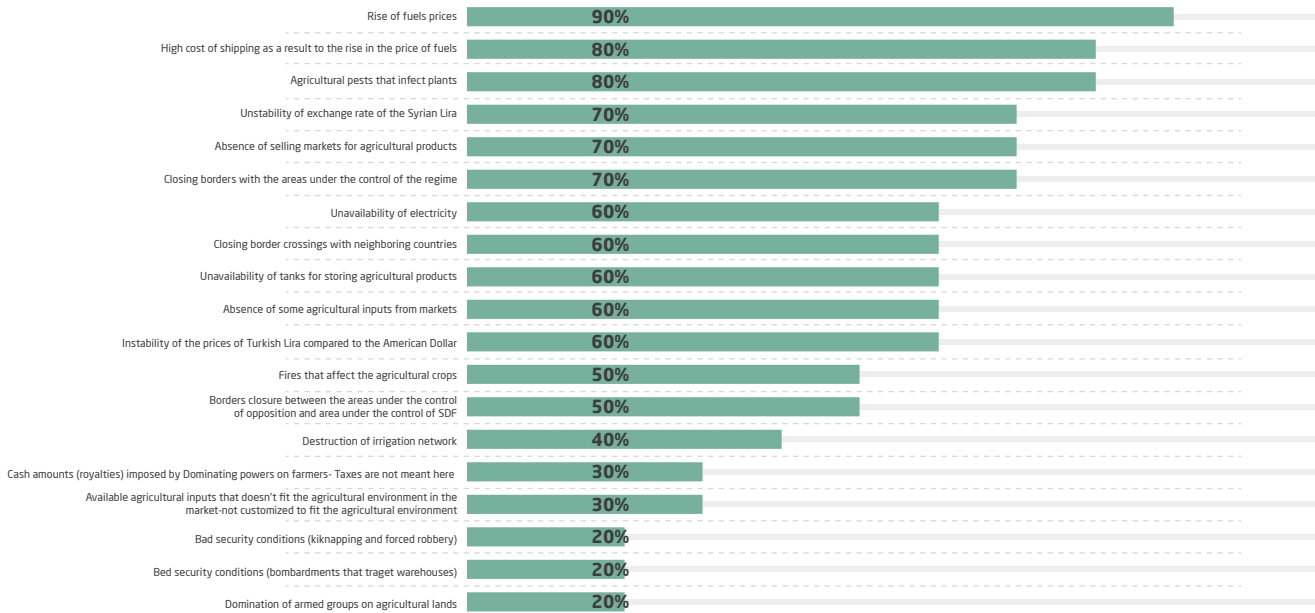
Figure 50 taxes imposed on agricultural sector



06 The main difficulties faced by the agricultural sector

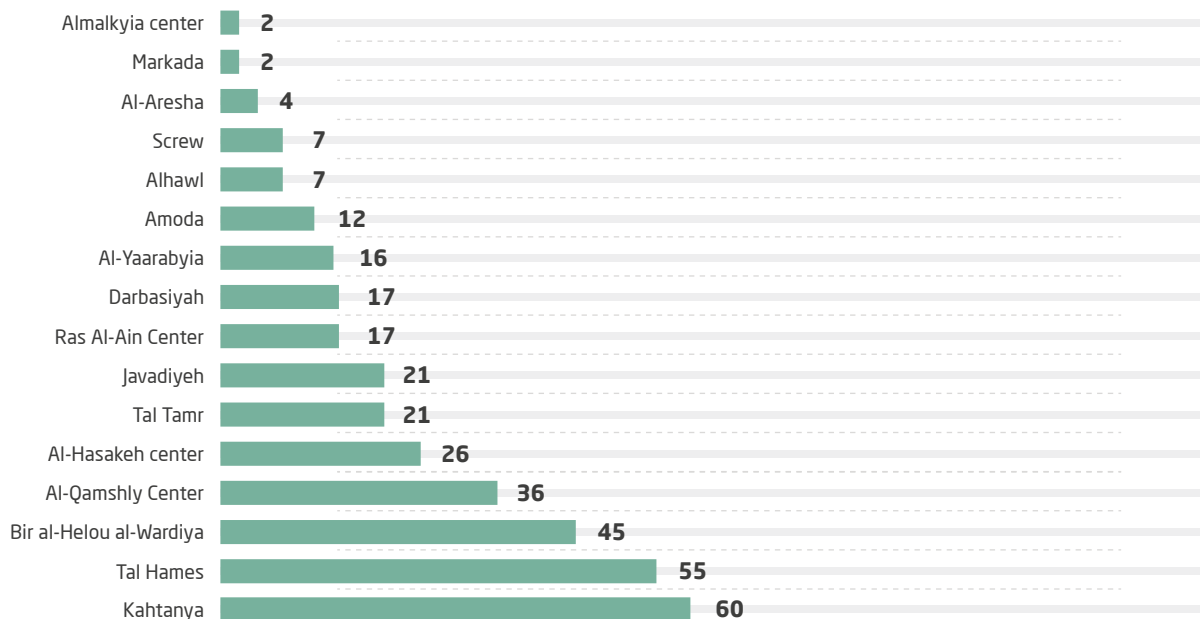
The increase in the price of fuel is on the top of the difficulties list faced by the agricultural sector. Those difficulties resulted in higher irrigation costs. Agricultural pest affecting the plantings came third of the difficulties. One of the most important difficulty is the lack of markets to sell the products and closure of border crossings and internal checkpoints between different powers of control related to the lack of coolers to store agricultural products. Those difficulties lead to causing damage to the agricultural crops before selling. Also, one of the difficulties faced by seasonal crops, the fire happened to large areas of agricultural crops before farmers be able to harvest in addition to the destruction of irrigation networks.

Figure 51 the difficulties faced by agricultural sector in north of Syria



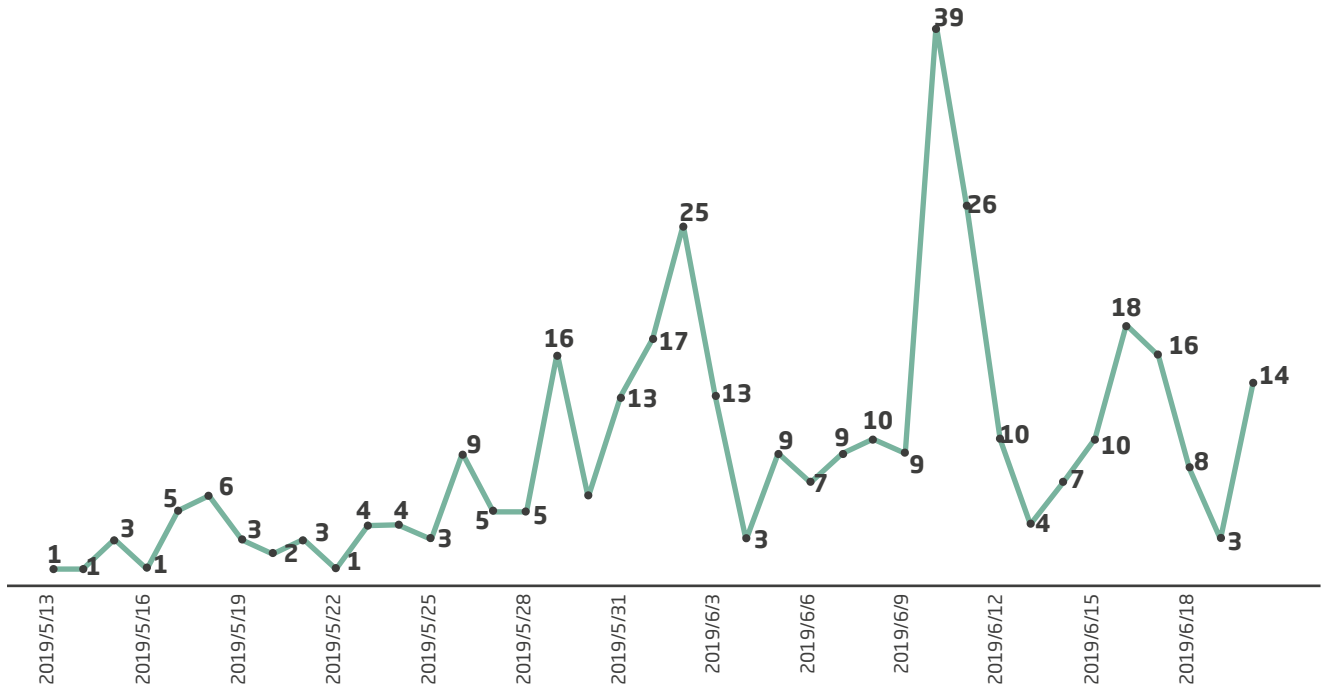
Every year, farmers suffer during the harvest period from fires affecting the agricultural crops. Also, IMU enumerators of ACU managed to count 348 fires affecting the agricultural crops in Al-Hasakeh governorate during 2019. The largest number of fires broke out in Al-Qahtaniyah sub-district reaching 60 fires there.

Figure 52 number of fires in the cultivated land within Al-Hasakeh governorate at the level of the district period from 13 may to 20 June 2019.



Given the sequence of fire incidents in Al-Hasakeh governorate, fires broke out in May 2019. High number of fires in the first half of June 2019 was noticed.

Figure 53 fire sequence of the cultivated lands within Al-Hasakeh governorate at the level of the district period from 13 may to 20 June 2019.



Through the survey of burned cultivated lands in Al-Hasakeh governorate, IMU and ACU estimated the burned cultivated area in Syria at 29,380 dunams during May and June 2019, with the largest of burned cultivated lands being found in Beir Al-Helw Al-Wardeya district. The burned cultivated lands are estimated at 6,500 dunams. The area of burned cultivated lands in both Tal Hmis and Tal Tamer is estimated at 6,000 dunams.

In Idleb governorate, the free civil defence manager “Ali Jomaa” stated about Syrian regime fires and their Russian and Iranian allies that cultivated lands exceeded 200 hectares in the southern and western countrysides of Aleppo in just one month in 2019. The civil defence center manager assured that 50 hectares of the burned lands contain unharvested wheat and barley. Whereas there are 150 hectares of unharvested cultivated lands, however they contain hay used to feed animals. Moreover, fires hardly extinguished in the northern countryside of Hama due to the daily napalm bombing by the regime. On 7 June 2019, during aerial and land bombing, the regime burned 300 dunams of unharvested cultivated lands in Kafr Zeita in the northern countryside of Hama as part of a military campaign to control the area.

Part Six

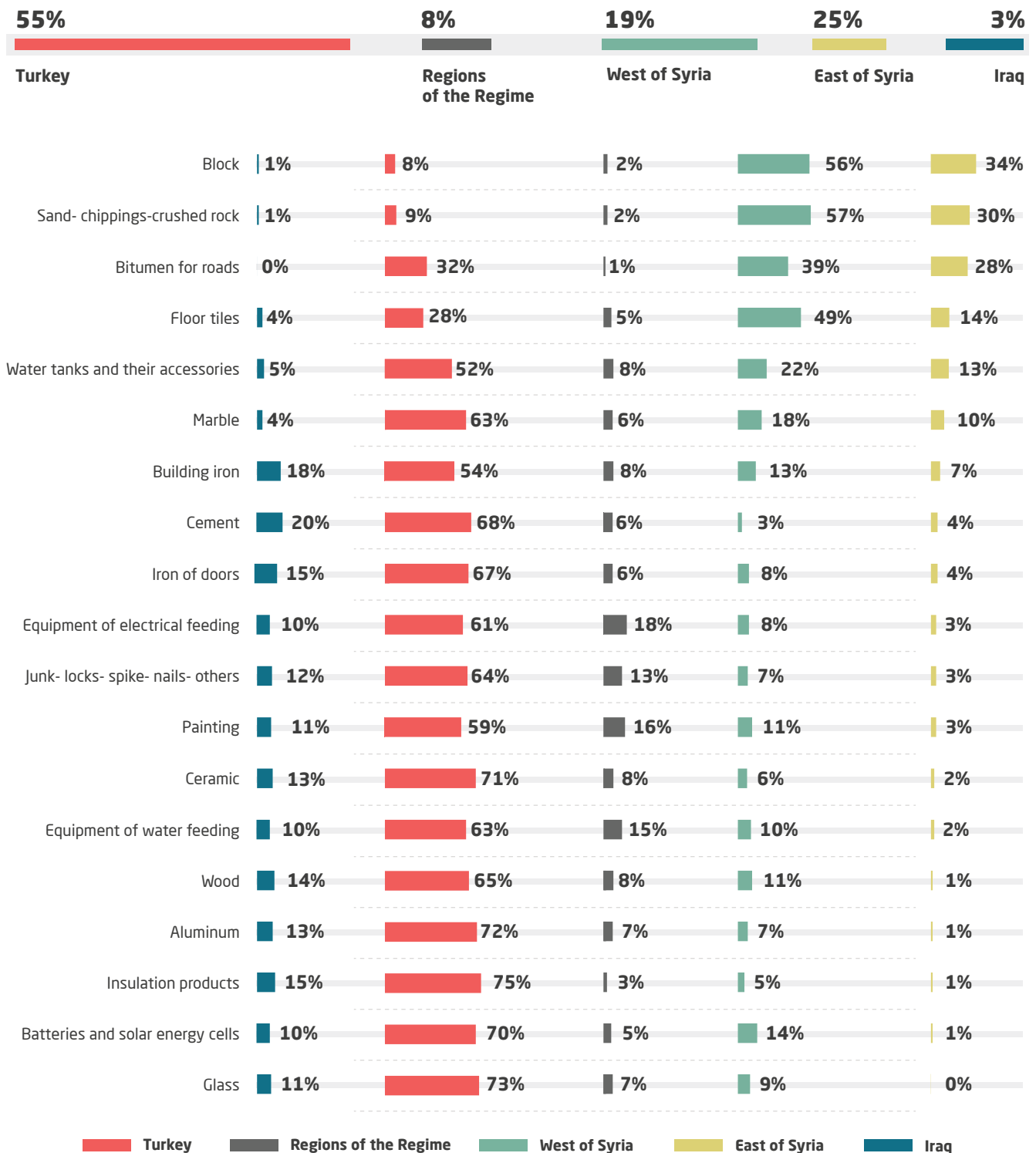
The construction and contracting sector



01 Resources of materials used in construction and contracting

The results of the study showed that %19 of the used materials in construction and contracting are from local markets western Syria, %9 of the used materials in construction and contracting are from the local markets in east of Syria, and %8 are from the regime control areas. Also, %55 of the used materials in construction and contracting are imported from Turkey, %10 of the used materials in construction and contracting are imported from Iraq.

Figure 54 resources of the materials used in construction and contracting in north of Syria

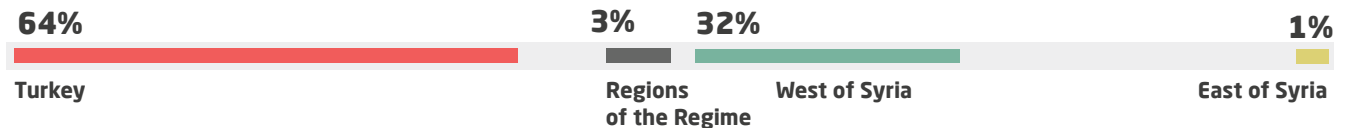


In east of Syria, a high rate of construction and contracting materials originating from Iraq and regime areas compared to other areas is noticed, whereas construction and contracting materials originating from Turkey decline.

In north of Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakeh, Aleppo, and Idleb governorate, a high rate of construction and contracting materials originating from Turkey is noticed, whereas construction and contracting materials from regime areas decline. It worth mentioning that construction and contracting materials from Iraq are not available.

Figure 55 resources of used materials in construction and contracting sector based on area

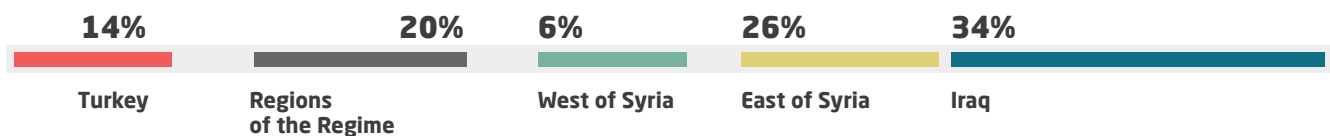
sources of materials used in building and contracting sector in Idleb



sources of materials used in building and contracting sector in north of Alepoo, Ar-Raqqa and Al-hasakeh



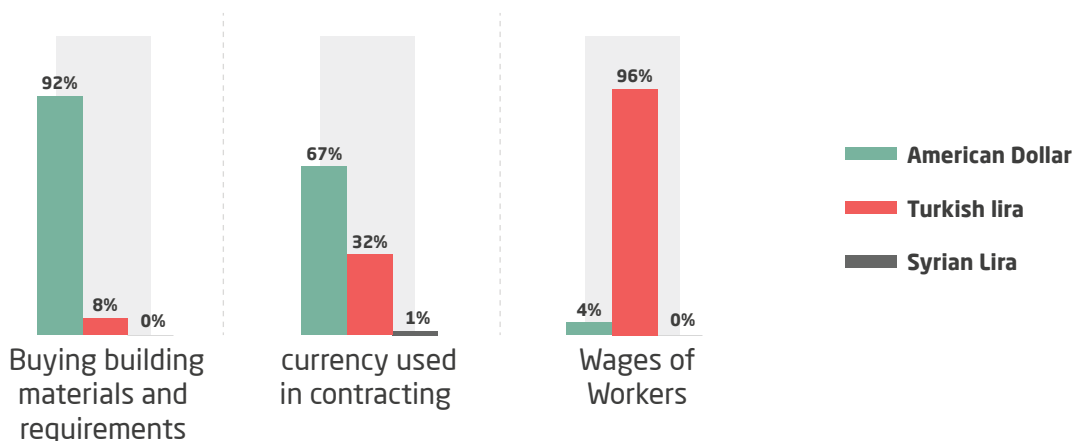
sources of materials used in building and contracting sector in Eastern syria



02 Currency used in construction and contracting transactions

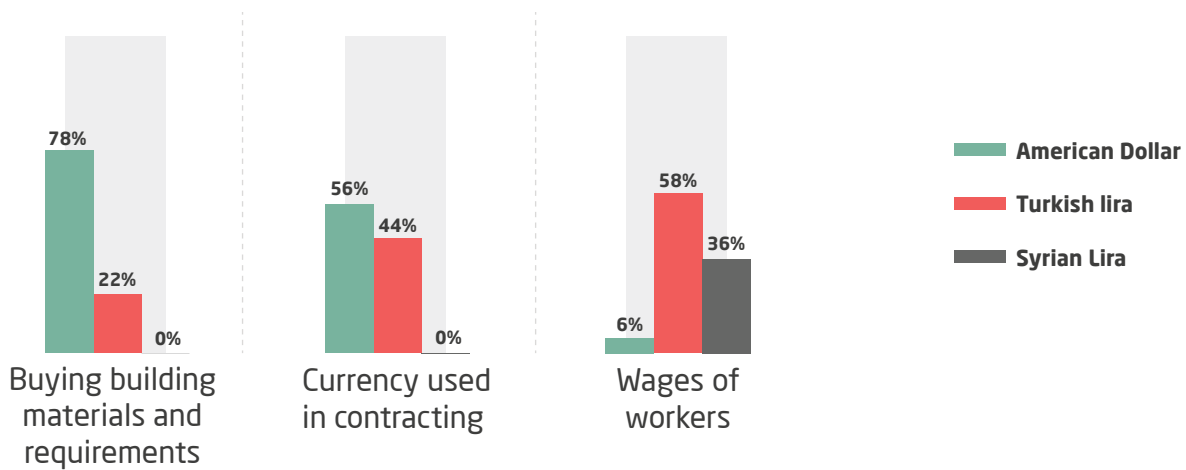
In north of Idleb governorate, American dollar is used to buy %92 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting, and Turkish Lira is used to buy %8 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting, SYP is not used to buy materials and accessories of construction and contracting. American dollar is used for %67 of construction and contracting contracts, Turkish Lira is used for %32 of construction and contracting contracts, and SYP is used for %1 only of construction and contracting contracts. While Turkish Lira is used to pay %96 of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector and American dollar is used to pay %4 of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector, and SYP is not used to pay workers' wages in construction and contracting sector.

Figure 56 rates of currency used in construction and contracting transactions in Idlib



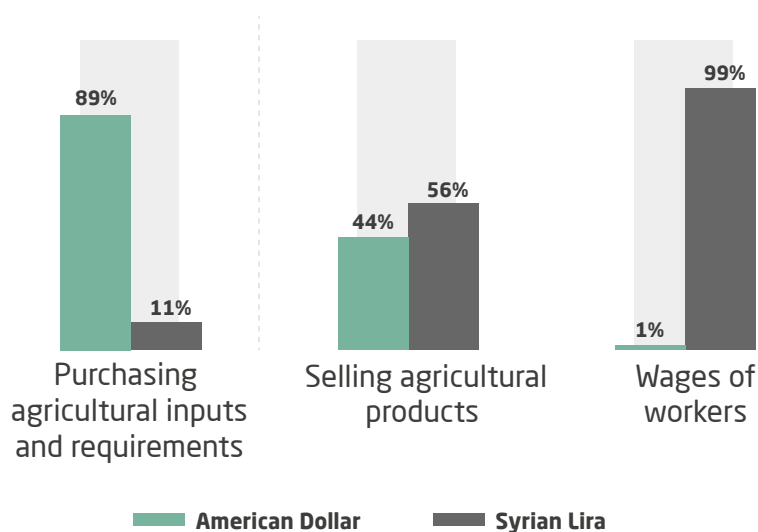
In north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, American dollar is used to buy %78 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting and Turkish Lira is used to buy %22 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting, while SYP is not used to buy the materials and accessories of construction and contracting. Also, %56 of construction and contracting contracts uses American dollar and %44 of construction and contracting contracts uses Turkish Lira, while SYP is not used in any construction and contracting contracts. Turkish Lira is used to pay %58 of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector, SYP is used to pay %36 of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector, and American dollar is used to pay %6 only of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector.

Figure 57 rates of currency used in construction and contracting transactions in north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hashaka



In east of Syria, American dollar is used to pay %89 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting and SYP is used to pay %11 of the materials and accessories of construction and contracting, while %44 of construction and contracting uses American dollar, and %56 of construction and contracting contracts uses SYP. Also, SYP is used to pay %99 of the workers' wages in construction and contracting sector and American dollar is used to pay %1 only of the workers' wages of construction and contracting sector, whereas Turkish Lira is not used in cash transactions within construction and contracting sector.

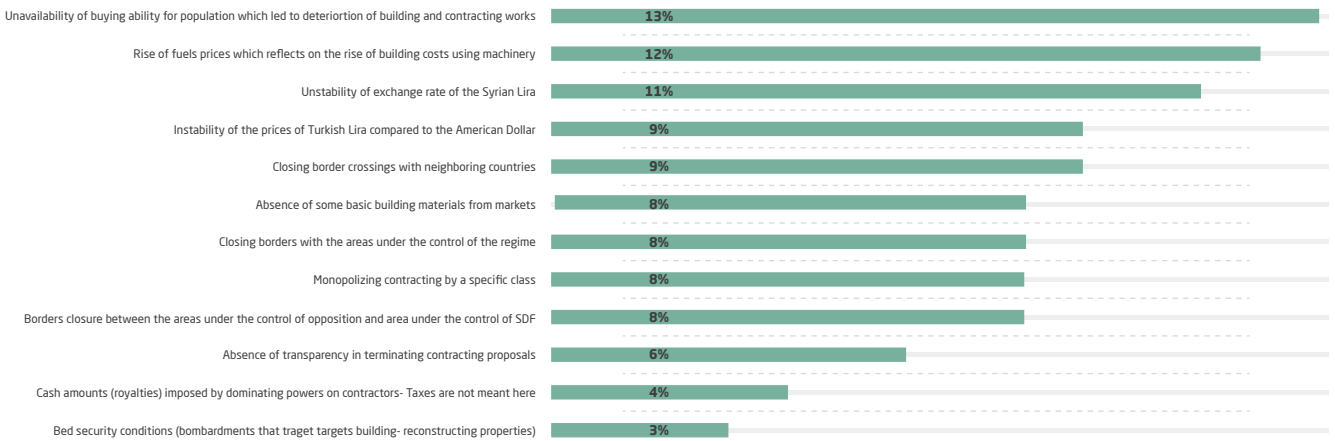
Figure 58 rates of currency used in construction and contracting transactions in east of Syria



03 The main difficulties faced by construction and contracting sector

On top of the list of difficulties faced by construction and contracting sector, comes the lack of purchasing power of citizens which led to a decline in construction and contracting work. Prices of fuel came second which led to a high cost of construction. Also, instability of local currency exchange rate comes third compared to other foreign currencies considering that the largest part of transactions within construction and contracting sector are made using a foreign currency. Moreover, the closure of internal crossings (between various control powers) and border crossings affected the availability of materials used in the construction and contracting sector and their prices.

Figure 59 difficulties faced by construction and contracting sector in north of Syria



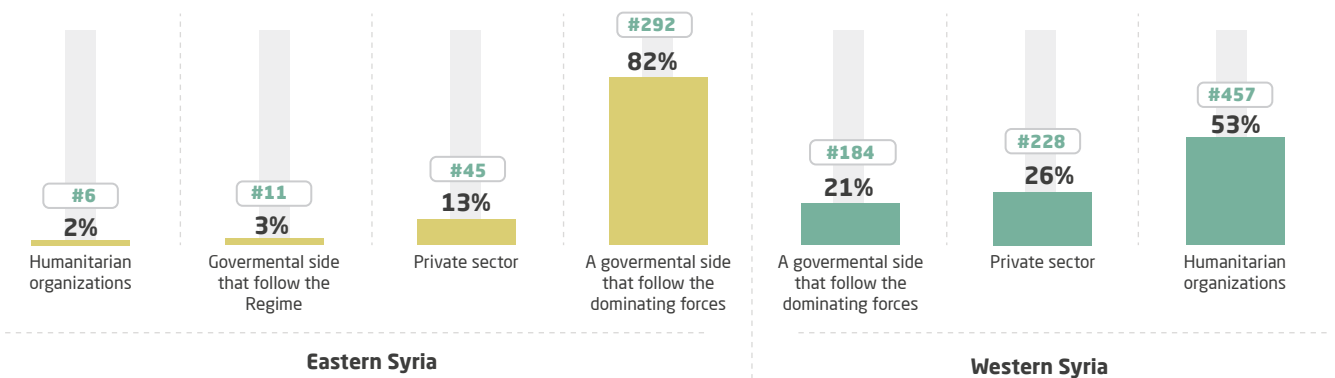
04 Population perception surveys: the authority responsible for providing water services

Through perception surveys¹³ conducted by IMU enumerators, people surveyed were asked about authorities responsible for providing water services in their area.

In western Syria, %53 of people (457 persons) interviewed stated that humanitarian organizations provide water services in their area, 228) %26 persons) stated that the private sector provide water services, and 184) %21 persons) stated that the authority of dominating powers provide water services.

In eastern Syria, 292) %82 persons) of the people interviewed stated that the dominating powers provide water services in their area, 45) %13 persons) stated that the private sector provides the water services, 11) %3 persons) stated that authority affiliated with the regime government provides water services, and 6) %2 persons) stated that humanitarian organizations provide water services.

Figure 60 citizens' opinion poll, number/rate of citizens interviewed based on authority responsible for providing water services.



¹³ IMU researchers conducted opinion poll with ~1,223 person over 18 years old within 5 governorates. Females constitute %32 and males constitute %68. Also, %56 of people surveyed form host society, %44 of displaced people, and %19 of people surveyed could not acquire job opportunities.

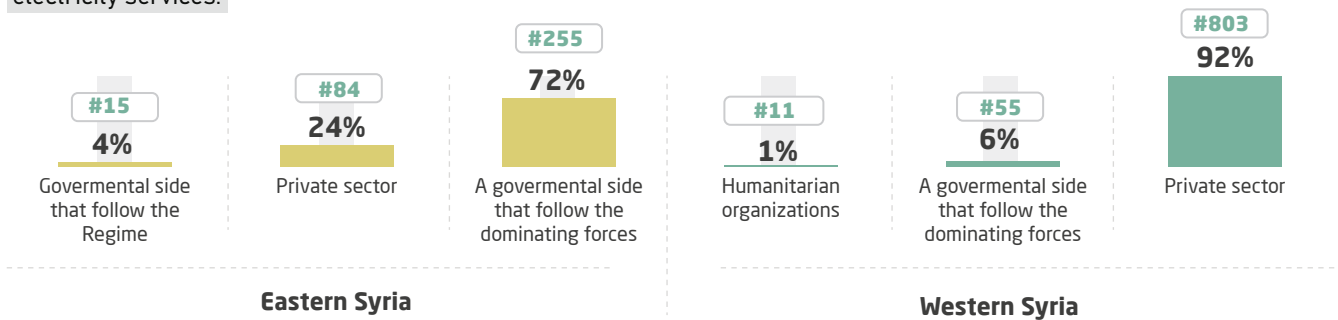
05 Population perception surveys: the authority responsible for providing electricity services

Through perception surveys conducted by IMU enumerators, people surveyed were asked about authorities responsible for providing electricity services in their area.

In western Syria, 803) %92 persons) of the people interviewed stated that private sector provides electricity services in their area, 55) %6 persons) stated that government authority affiliated with the dominating powers provide electricity services, and 11) %1 persons) of humanitarian organizations provide electricity services.

In eastern Syria, 255) %72 persons) of the people interviewed stated that government authority affiliated with the dominating powers provide electricity services in their area, 84) %24 persons) stated that the private sector provides electricity services, and 15) %4 persons) stated that the authority affiliated with the regime government provides electricity services.

Figure 61 citizens' opinion roll, number/rate of citizens interviewed based on authority responsible for providing electricity services.



05 Population perception surveys: the authority responsible for providing transportation means

Through the perception surveys conducted by IMU enumerators, people surveyed were asked about authorities responsible for providing transportation means in their area.

In western Syria, 822) %95 persons) of the people interviewed stated that the private sector provides transportation means in their area, 31) %4 persons) stated that governmental authorities affiliated with the dominating power provide transportation means, and 16) %2 persons) stated that humanitarian organizations provide transportation means.

In eastern Syria, 204) %58 persons) of the people interviewed stated that private sector provides transportation means in their area and 150) %42 persons) stated that governmental authorities affiliated with the dominating power provide transportation means in their area.

In west of Syria, 822) %95 persons) of people interviewed stated that private sector provides transportation means in their area, 31) %4 persons) stated that governmental authorities affiliate to dominating power provide transportation means, and 16) %2 persons) stated that humanitarian organizations provide transportation means.

In east of Syria, 204) %58 persons) of people interviewed stated that private sector provides transportation means in their area and 150) %42 persons) stated that governmental authorities affiliate to dominating power provide transportation means in their area.

Figure 62 citizens' opinion roll, number/rate of citizens interviewed based on authority responsible for providing transportation means.



14 IMU researchers conducted opinion poll with 1,223 person over 18 years old within 5 governorates. Females constitute %32 and males constitute %68. Also, %56 of people surveyed form host society, %44 of displaced people, and %19 of people surveyed could not acquire job opportunities.

Part Seven

The financial transactions and remittances



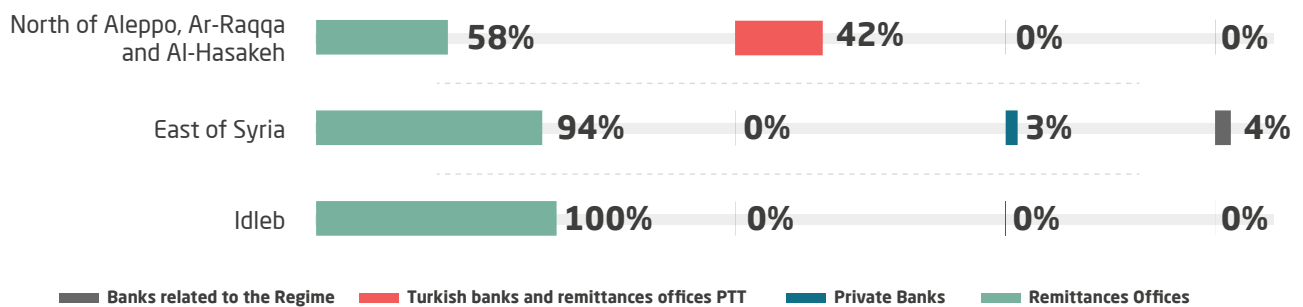
01 Available mechanism to manage and transfer funds

In Idleb governorate, the only mechanism available for managing and transferring funds is private remittance offices. Remittance offices provide transfer services inside and outside Syria in all currencies. Often, transferring and receiving funds takes place in SYP, American dollar, and Euro. Additionally, exchange services of all kinds of currencies are provided.

In the north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, Turkish banks, PTT, and private remittance offices are available. PTT provides remittance services in Turkish Lira only after opening an account in PTT in addition to fund remittances.

In eastern Syria, the only mechanism available for managing and transferring funds is private remittances offices. There is a bank available at Al-Quamishly city within Al-Hasakeh governorate affiliated with the regime and other private banks, however banks of the regime and private sector are ineffective.

Figure 63 mechanism available for managing and transferring funds



02 Licenses of remittance offices

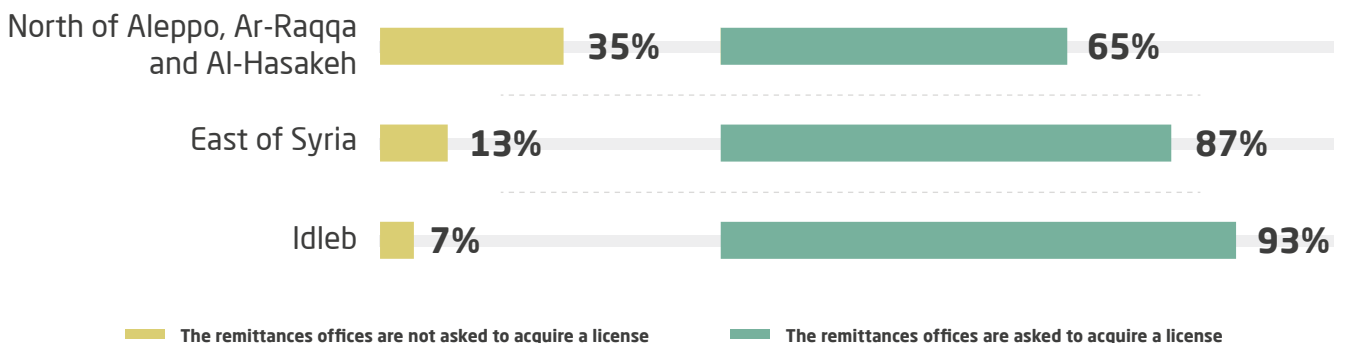
The study showed that the largest part of remittance offices in northern Syria are registered by various authorities according to the control powers.

In Idleb governorate, %93 of the interviewed information sources stated that remittance offices in their areas are licensed and %7 only of remittances offices in their areas are not licensed. The salvation government requires the remittance offices to acquire license from the government to work in Idleb governorate.

In the north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh, %65 of the interviewed information sources stated that remittance offices in their areas are licensed and %35 of remittances offices in their areas are not licensed. Local councils require the remittance office to acquire license from the council to work in the north of Aleppo, Ar-Raqqa, and Al-Hasakeh.

In eastern Syria, %87 of the interviewed information sources stated that remittance offices in their areas are licensed and %13 of the remittance offices in their areas are not licensed. The government affiliated with the Syrian democratic forces (SDF) requires the remittance office to acquire license from SDF eastern Syria.

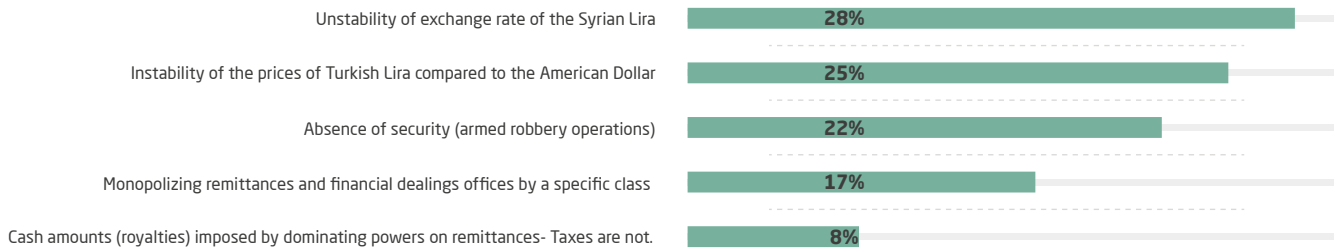
Figure 64 Licenses of remittance offices



03 The difficulties faced by manage and transfer funds sector

Instability of SYP exchange rate against foreign currencies is on the top of the difficulties faced by the sector of funds management and transfer. Instability of Turkish Lira against American Dollar comes second, while the lack of security, kidnapping and armed robbery faced by workers of the sector of funds management and transfer comes third.

Figure 65 The difficulties faced by manage and transfer funds sector



Part Eight

Recommendations

- The results of the study showed that humanitarian work and aid offered to northern Syria provide the largest part of job opportunities. As workers in the educational sector constitute %9 of all workers in all professions. While working in humanitarian organizations constitute %6 and working in the health sector constitute %6. In addition, humanitarian projects implemented inside by contractors. Also, salaries paid in those sectors contribute significantly to stimulate economy northern Syria. **Thus, countries and donors have to provide stable support to the workers in education, health and humanitarian sector, till local economy recovers and a government able to pay for the workers of these sectors exist.**
- The study results showed that large-scale economic enterprises do not exceed %8 of the economic enterprises present northern Syria. This reflects the weak local investment despite abundance of manpower. However, the local components discourage Syrian investors to establish projects northern Syria, due to instability of the security situation, lack of main energy carriers. **Thus, international society has to ensure secured environment that contributes in Syrian capital repatriation to north Syria.**
- The study showed that high rate of fuel is on the top of the difficulties faced by all economic sectors. As, high rate of fuel reflected on fright cost, irrigating cultivated lands, operation of agricultural machinery, and workshops. **Therefore, the need to provide main energy carriers to contribute to local economy recovery is essential.**
- It is also found based on the perception surveys conducted by IMU enumerators, and as the employers stated, %84 of economic establishments depend on self-finance only and do not receive any donation or loans. **Therefore, the need to provide grants for the economic establishments according to specific terms is essential. Those terms may be new job opportunities that match with the volume of granted donation, as the new job opportunities target most vulnerable groups of the society.**
- The trade sector showed that %48 of trade materials are from outside Syria. While %3 only of the local manufactured materials are exported outside Syria. **Therefore, there is a need to protect local products through placing restrictions on importing materials competing local production. Also, taxes imposed on exports have to be eliminated till the local economy recovers and local products are able to compete in the markets of other countries. Also, import and export fees must be reassessed periodically to avoid deprivation of the citizens northern Syria from local products through exporting them outside Syria.**
- The study results showed that the closure of internal crossings between different dominating powers adversely affected the local economy. Also, some powers pose cash (royalties) to cross their borders. **Therefore, facilitating the movement of trade materials of all kinds between various dominating powers inside Syria and protecting trade movement from military powers exploitation had to be worked on.**

- Given that Syria is an agricultural country, the study results showed that seasonal farming and fruit tress constitute %12 of available job opportunities. Agricultural pest is on the top of the difficulties faced by the agricultural sector. **Therefore, support of establishing agricultural extension units which is the basic reference of the farmers to face agricultural pest must be worked on, as they help in developing agricultural plans that contribute to avoiding market flood with specific types of agricultural crops. This effects the prices of those crops and lead to loss of other crops.**
- Through perception surveys conducted by IMU enumerators, employers stated that %26 of the workers in the facilities are professional craftsmen, %52 of the workers are unprofessional and with no skills, and %7 of intermediate institutes or university graduates are forced by recent events and lack of appropriate job opportunities to head for the work in factory and workshops. During 2019, IMU and ACU drafted a report¹⁶ about children co-education outside school in northwest of Syria and in the areas out of regime control supervised by Education Cluster in Turkey and Save the Children International in cooperation with a range of partners in education sector composed of thirteen Syrian humanitarian organizations. Based on the report results, “%33 of (1,493 children) children stated that the main reason related to livelihood and income level that led them to drop out of school is that education became no avail and do not secure job opportunities, which is confirmed by 1,473) %25) of the drop out children’s caregivers”. Therefore, the need to provide education **matches available labor market northern Syria and to provide vocational and professional education contribute to providing the local economy with skilled manpower.**

¹⁶ https://www.acu-sy.org/wp-content/uploads/01/2017/JENA-Ar_Dec2019-.pdf

April 2021

Economic Reality In Northern Syria



Issued by: Information Management unit (IMU)



Funded by MEAE

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