



## Menbij City

Menbij is a city in the northeast of Aleppo governorate and around 85 kilometres from Aleppo city. It is 32 kilometres from the Syrian-Turkish borders and separated from them by Jarablus sub-district. The city has strategic importance for including the crossroad separating eastern governorates from western ones. Additionally, most roads to Aleppo eastern countryside pass through this city. Menbij city is the centre of Menbij district and composes of 316 population agglomeration – cities, towns or villages – of various sizes.



## Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU)

The Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) is a national Syrian non-government, non-political, non-profit institution focused on maximizing the impact of assistance delivered to the Syrian people by coordinating the efforts of donors, implementing agencies, and community representatives.



MENBIJ CITY  
PANORAMIC REPORT  
JULY 2019  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT UNIT  
ASSISTANCE COORDINATION UNIT

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### Contact us for more information

[www.acu-sy.org](http://www.acu-sy.org) +90 (34) 2220 10 77  
[imu@acu-sy.org](mailto:imu@acu-sy.org) +90 (34) 2220 10 88  
+90 (34) 2220 10 99



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Tel: +90 (34) 2220 10 99.

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**LIST OF ACRONYMS:**

ACU	Assistance Coordination Unit
CT	Computed Tomography
EU	European Union
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IMU	Information Management Unit
ISIL	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
PKK	Kurdistan Workers' Party
PTT	Government Agency for Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services
SYP	Syrian Pound
UN	United Nations
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **The Population Fabric of Menbij District:** Arabs formed the bulk of Menbij population before the ongoing crisis, as well as the Kurds who were distributed in Asaliyeh and Mahsana-Bak Weiran, and Abu Qalqal villages, while the Turkmen were distributed in Hoshryeh, Nazl Hseinoh and Jeb Elarus. Additionally, there were some Circassian families and several Christian families in Menbij district.
- **Tribes of Menbij District:** Arab tribes constitute the bulk of Menbij population, as 25 Arab tribes are spread in Menbij district, along with other Syrian components such as Kurds, Circassians and Turkmen. This section includes the villages where each tribe is residing.
- **Working Groups Affiliated with the Syrian regime and its Allies:** There are three working groups affiliated with the Syrian regime and its allies in Menbij district; working groups affiliated with the regime, working groups associated with Russia and working groups associated with Iran. This section demonstrates the agendas of those groups.
- **Forced Recruitment Campaigns by Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK):** This section presents PKK practices to subjugate the population by obliging them to serve in its forces, includes a detailed explanation of its forced recruitment campaigns and issued decisions, and displays the population's rejection of those campaigns and peaceful movement against them.
- **General Information on Menbij City:** This section contains geographical information on the city and division of its neighbourhoods, illustrates the nature of those neighbourhoods and their populations, as Menbij city includes 22 neighbourhoods distributed across four main sectors, and presents the sequence of key events in the city during the successive conflicts to control it.
- **Population Census and Age Groups in Menbij City:** Menbij population reached 157,560 in November 2018; females formed 53% of them. Menbij city included 28,211 IDPs; that is 18% of the city population at the time of writing this report. 97% (27,453 IDPs) of IDPs settled in rented houses, 2% (403 IDPs) settled in tents and 1% (233 IDPs) settled in a pre-fabricated school.
- **Actors in Menbij City:** Key actors in Menbij city are the Legislative Council, the Executive Council, the Military Council, the Police and Civil Society Bodies. This report details the structure of those entities, their working mechanism and the relation regulating work amongst them.
- **Health Sector in Menbij City:** The number of basic medical points in Menbij city is 11 medical points, 8 hospitals, 3 dispensaries, in addition to a large number of private clinics. The total number of doctors working in hospitals and dispensaries in Menbij city was 127 doctors from both genders; 30 of them were females, and 97 of them were males. This section details the specialisations of doctors within each hospital. Menbij hospitals contained 23 operation rooms and 239 patient beds.
- **Food Security Sector in Menbij City:** The study shows that there is an agricultural land estimated at 2,276 hectares around Menbij city; where 2,140 hectares are cultivated with fruit trees and 136 hectares are cultivated with wheat. Moreover, Menbij city includes 14 bakeries producing bread; 1 bakery is affiliated with the public sector and called the automatic bakery, and 13 bakeries are affiliated with the private sector. The productive capacity of the public automatic bakery is 60 tons per shift if the four production lines were operating. The private bakeries' productive capacity ranges between 3-5 tons per shift. The PKK affiliated Department of Bakeries secures flour for the public automatic bakery, while all private bakeries secure flour from traders. Flour is imported from Turkish territories. Menbij city has one wheat mill which was owned by the public sector. The mill's productive capacity is 19.12 tons of wheat per working hour.

- **Education Sector in Menbij City:** Menbij city includes 35 schools; 32 functional schools and 3 non-functional schools. The accommodation capacity of functional schools in Menbij city is 19,334 students per shift. Classrooms used for teaching purposes formed 92% (587 classrooms) of the total number of classrooms in Menbij city. Functional toilets formed 48% (150 toilets) of the total number of toilets in the schools, 25% (185 doors) of the total doors need repairs, 11% (84 doors) need replacement or are unavailable and alternative ones should be installed, whereas 21% (263 windows) of the total number of windows need repairs and 32% (409 windows) need replacement or are unavailable and alternative ones should be installed. Formal teachers constituted 71% (1,129 teachers) of the total teaching cadres working in Menbij city, while informal “volunteer” teachers constituted 29% (453 teachers) of the total teaching cadres working in Menbij city. The total number of students in schools within Menbij city was 30,125 students; 48% of them were males.
- **Water Sector in Menbij City:** The study shows that the public water network is the source of 85% of the water used by Menbij city population, whereas water tankers are the source of 10% of the water used and wells are the source of 5% of the water used. Furthermore, 85% of the water used in Menbij city is drinkable, 9% is drinkable but requires treatment, and 6% is undrinkable. Menbij city has 20 surface wells, ACU enumerators could collect information on 10 wells only, and 4 subterranean wells, the report includes detailed information on them. Additionally, the report contains information about Al-Babiri water station which supplies the city with the largest portion of water. Also, the report clarifies the status of the public water network within Menbij city. In cooperation with IMU enumerators, ACU enumerators in the WASH department, which is affiliated with EWARN program, collected information in this section through visits to the wells and communication with key informants who used to work in the WASH sector before the ongoing crisis, and key informants currently working in the WASH sector.
- **Sanitation in Menbij City:** 5% of wastewater is disposed of in septic pits, 1% of wastewater is disposed of in the open, whereas 94% of wastewater is disposed of through the public sewerage system. The report includes detailed information on the status of the sewerage system at the neighbourhood level.
- **Electricity in Menbij City:** When ISIL was controlling Menbij city, it started to repair the public electricity grid to transport electricity to Menbij city through the public grid, as the project aimed to supply the city with electricity from Tishreen Dam. When PKK controlled the city, it resumed the project and electricity started to reach the city neighbourhoods through the public grid. This section explains the status of the public grid at the neighbourhood level in details.
- **Public Roads in Menbij City:** Since the regime lost control over Menbij city, no entity has conducted any maintenance in the public road network within the city, which increased the percentage of destruction in roads. Additionally, percentages of destruction have increased as a result of the numerous battles witnessed in the city. This section presents a detailed explanation of the status of the public road network within Menbij city.



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# METHODOLOGY

Work on Menbij city report was initiated in early February 2019, and the final report was issued in late April 2019.

## Timetable

Design and review of the questionnaires were finalised in mid-October 2019, then the enumerators were trained on the questionnaires at the end of the month via Skype for Business application. 4 enumerators were trained in one day on the mechanism of data collection, triangulation and submission. Data collection started shortly after that and lasted for 11 working days. The Network Coordinator was in continuous and daily contact with the enumerators to respond to any questions and provide alternative solutions in case of any obstacles. The enumerators were referred to regarding sent values and provided data was daily debriefed. Questionnaire of key informants was collected on paper, and its data was cleared into Excel tables. The process of cleaning received data was conducted in one day. Analysis and visualisation of some data lasted for three working days; began in early March 2019 and concluded on schedule. Then, the report writing lasted for 11 working days and was completed in mid-month, as the maps were prepared in conjunction with the report writing. After that, the report was translated within 10 working days to be finalised on the 15th of April 2019. Finally, the designer issued the final version by the end of April 2019.

## Used Tools and Programs

Three questionnaires were designed for data collection as follows:

- **Electronic Key Informants1 Questionnaire:** electronically programmed using KOBO Collect to obtain some indicators on the general condition in Menbij city.
- **Paper Key Informants2 Questionnaire:** this questionnaire was collected on paper so the enumerator can add as much data as possible during the key informant interview.
- **Questionnaire of Enumerator's General Observations:** a paper questionnaire for the enumerator to add observations during the data collection period aiming to enrich the report with information and explain difficulties and obstacles faced during the data collection period and how alternative solutions were found.

The enumerators need to interview at least three key informants per sector; which means that the number of interviews exceeded 30 key informant interviews. Information in some sectors requires field visits; to schools in the education sector and to wells and stations in the water sector, for instance. The Network Coordinator trained 4 enumerators on data collection using Skype for Business application. Paper data was entered into Excel tables, as this application was used to visualise figures and tables. The GIS Officer used Arc GIS application to produce maps and charts, while the Designers used Adobe InDesign to produce the final versions of the report in both Arabic and English languages.

## Difficulties and Challenges

- **Military Situation and Constrictive Security Imposed by Dominating Forces:** The bad security condition forced the enumerators to work in strict secrecy for their own safety. They were obliged to use their personal relations in collecting data and avoid direct questions.
- **Time Constraints and Voluminous Information Required:** This questionnaire requires a vast amount of information collected for the first time; as accurate details from available facilities were needed, so the enumerators had to visit the facilities and check their status. This difficulty was overcome by dividing the work as per the report's sectors and adopting a clear division of the city's neighbourhoods to organise work. By such division, the enumerator avoided paying repeated visits to the neighbourhood thus saved time and interviewed the largest number of key informants in one day. Moreover, knowing and avoiding weaknesses in the facility's information during data collection saved the enumerators' time and efforts.
- **Difficulty in Obtaining Information on Private Facilities:** There is a number of service facilities owned and supervised by private entities; such as bakeries, wells, electricity generators...etc. It was difficult to obtain information from such facilities, so the enumerators used their personal relations to contact such individuals and get information from them.

**SECTION.01**

# **THE POPULATION FABRIC OF MENBIJ DISTRICT**

The total population of Menbij district, as per estimated statistics of the regime for 2011, was approximately 372,735 persons distributed across 316 villages in four sub-districts: Menbij centre, Abu Qalqal, Maskana and Al-Khafsa sub-districts. Prior to the ongoing crisis, Arabs constituted the bulk of Menbij population, as well as the Kurds who distributed in Asaliyeh, Mahsana-Bak Weiran and Abu Qalqal villages. Before 2000, the percentage of the Kurdish population in Menbij district was extremely small, while the majority of the Kurds in Menbij district today are from Ain Al Arab district, and their civil registry records are still affiliated with Ain Al Arab district. The Kurds began to arrive in Menbij district for work purposes after 2001 since the area witnessed an urban recovery when Tishreen Dam was constructed, as most of the Syrian Kurdish population worked in construction. Later, the Syrian Kurds started to buy lands in the outskirts of Menbij city aiming to settle in the area. The regime considered this significant land acquisition by Syrian Kurds as an organised migration by Kurdish parties in purpose of making a demographic change in the area. This prompted the regime to issue Law No. 41 of 2004, concerning lands in border areas, and amended it later by the Legislative Decree No. 49 of 9 October 2008, according to which, Menbij city was considered to be located within border areas, and by the Legislative Decree No. 43 of 2011, restricting acquisition of any property rights on lands located in a border area. The Turkmen population are distributed in Hoshryeh, Nazl Hseinoh and Jeb Elarus towns. Additionally, there are some Circassian families and a number of Christian families in Menbij district.

**SECTION.02**

# TRIBES IN MENBIJ DISTRICT

Arab tribes constitute the bulk of Menbij district population. The number of Arab tribes spreading in Menbij district is 25 tribes, along with the other Syrian components; such as Kurds, Circassians and Turkmen.

**Table 01:** Main Tribes in Menbij District

#	Tribe Name	#	Tribe Name	#	Tribe Name	#	Tribe Name	#	Tribe Name
1	Albu Bana	6	Al-Hamdoun	11	Al-Jaabrah	16	Al-Toamat	21	Al-Ghanim
2	Bani Said	7	Al-Damalkha	12	Tay	17	Al-Sreesat	22	Al-Adwan
3	Albu Sultan	8	Al-Hanadi	13	Al-Hdeden	18	Weld Ali	23	Al-Jaabat
4	Al-Glaz	9	Jis	14	Al-Bakarah	19	Al-Awasi	24	Al-Naem
5	Albu Batush	10	Albu Sabee	15	Al-Amierat	20	Albu Dabash	25	Al-Khanafrah

Albu Bana, Bani Said, Albu Sultan, Albu Batush, Al-Glaz, Al-Damalkha, Al-Hanadi, Bani Asead, Al-Hamdoun, Jis, Al-Ghanim, and Albu Sabee are the main tribes with a significant presence in Menbij city and its countryside. They also played a role in the ongoing crisis, and prominent figures emerged from them recently.

### 1. Albu Bana Tribe

It is considered as one of the largest tribes in Menbij district, distributed across 63 villages and farms and located in eastern and southern parts of Menbij city in addition to a large number of Menbij city population. It is divided into two: Southerners and Northerners.

**Table 02:** Main Villages where Albu Bana Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Jeifiyet Elmashi	15	Kherbet Elsauda	29	Mahshiet Eltawahin
2	Big Qura	16	Al Hajj Ahmad	30	Mahshiet Elsheikh Obeid
3	Little Qura	17	Neimiyeh	31	Hwaijet Al- Dhura
4	Himar Labda	18	Elbashama	32	Qeshlet Yusef Basha
5	Jeb Elkajli	19	Big Sandaliyeh	33	Kherbet Khaled
6	Kerwali	20	Sakawiyeh	34	Al-Halula
7	Zamala	21	Little Hama	35	Jdidet Elfaras
8	Kherbet Elrus	22	Little Sandaliyeh	36	Al-Keryat
9	Jeb Elsheikh Obeid	23	Big Fors	37	Um Al-Jalal
10	Jeb Elashra	24	Little Fors	38	Kherbet Tweini
11	Elashra	25	Al-Karsan	39	Bashar
12	Jeb Hamza	26	Hajar Abyad	40	Al-Khawaldeh
13	Mahshiet Eltawahin	27	Shjif Dahabiyeh	41	Abu Qalqal
14	Um Adase Elfaras	28	Big Hama	42	Ojaq Qana



## 2. Bani Said Tribes

Those tribes descend from five siblings, each of whom formed a tribe later (Al-Ghanayem – Al-Own – Bani Said – Al-Kharraj – Al-Ajlan). The five siblings descend from Al-Sadoon Tribe. Each tribe has its own leaders.

**Table 03:** Villages where Bani Said Tribes Spread

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Tal Arsh	13	Eastern Bu Said	25	Um Elsaifa
2	Little Madneh	14	Mashrafet Zakaria	26	Bweir
3	Shweihet Kheznavi	15	Mankubeh	27	Khreijeh
4	Little Quraa	16	Little Madneh	28	Big Arab Hasan
5	Um Myal	17	Western Saidiyeh	29	Um Elsatheh
6	Oun Al-Dadat	18	Al-Yasti	30	Sheikh Yehya
7	Al-Othman	19	Kherbet Elsheyab	31	Kherbet Nafakh
8	Southern Qana	20	Western Bor Said	32	Al-Khattab
9	Little Kaber	21	Tal Akhdar	33	Um Tmakh
10	Eastern Saidiyeh	22	Northern Qana	34	Al-Alwat
11	Middle Quraa	23	Labda- Milo Yran	35	Khishfet Um Adaseh
12	Sayada	24	Al-Zonghol		

## 3. Albu Sultan Tribe

Albu Sultan Tribe spreads in Menbij city and villages located in east and south the city. This tribe descends from Al-Bakarah Tribe.

**Table 04:** Villages where Albu Sultan Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Rasm Elakhdar	9	Khirbet Ayyoush	17	Kherbet Massi
2	Sultahiyeh	10	Al-Jat	18	Jeb Nahid
3	Tal Elrafee	11	Mala Asaad	19	Jeb Hamad Elshlal
4	Ein Elnakhil	12	Qabab Bonyeh	20	Little Jeb Elkalb
5	Atshana	13	Al-Khattaf	21	Omariyeh
6	Hudhud	14	Hudhud	22	Northern Nawaja
7	Rasm Elmashrafeh	15	Elhisan	23	Safi
8	Rummana	16	Kherbet Elhsan		

#### 4. Albu Batush Tribe

Albu Batush Tribe spreads in Menbij southwestern countryside and descends from Al-Obeid Clan.

**Table 05:** Villages where Albu Batush Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Little Osajli	5	Nahliya	9	Treikiyeh
2	Big Osajli	6	Mustariha	10	Batushiyah
3	Little Kharufiyeh	7	Beylan		
4	Big Kharufiyeh	8	Al Mokbelah		

#### 5. Al-Glaz Tribe

Al-Glaz Tribe spreads in the south of Menbij (in Al-Khafsa sub-district), Menbij city and north of Menbij city, and descends from Jis Tribe and some of them from Al-Naeem Tribe.

**Table 06:** Villages where Al-Glaz Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Hneizel	4	Rasm Elmasatiha	7	Al-Kadro (Jeb Elhamam)
2	Buz Kij	5	Huthan	8	Jdidet Mistaha
3	Al-Athamin	6	Shweihet Kheznawi		

#### 6. Al-Damalkha Tribe

Spreads in Menbij southern countryside and descends from Al-Naeem Clan.

**Table 07:** Villages where Al-Damalkha Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Hassan Agha	5	Big Kaber	9	Hamran
2	Nmuqbilet Hassan Agha	6	Shweihet Kheznawi	10	Jeb Eltawil
3	Mazraet Hassan Agha	7	Kherbet Elsheyab		
4	Big Quraa	8	Um Jlud		

#### 7. Al-Hanadi Tribe

Al-Hanadi Tribe spreads in Abu Qalqal and Kherbet Elashra villages and dates back to the 18th century. Multiple local informed resources mentioned that the tribe's members are not related; rather they are descendants of the soldiers who came with Ibrahim Pasha campaign to Syria.

#### 8. Bani Asead Tribe

Spreads in the northeast of Menbij countryside near the Euphrates river, and descends from Al Ziad Clan.

**Table 08:** Villages where Bani Asead Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Bir Khalo	5	Khirfan	9	Little Hayyeh
2	Big Hayyeh	6	Jotha	10	Qaber Imu
3	Jeb Qader	7	Little Hamam		
4	Al-Twal	8	Anzawiyeh		

## 9. Al-Hamdoun Tribe

Spreads in Menbij countryside and descends from Al-Jabbour Tribe.

**Table 09:** Villages where Bani Al-Hamdoun Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Hamduniyeh	4	Buz Kij	7	Tahna
2	Middle Majra	5	Big Jeb Elkalb	8	Little Mohtaraq
3	Mazraeat Al-Hamdoun	6			

## 10. Jis Tribe

It is considered as one of the major tribes in Syria; however, its presence in Menbij is little when compared to that of the other tribes.

**Table 10:** Villages where Bani Jis Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village
1	Menbij	3	Big Mohtaraq
2	Himar Jis	4	Little Mohtaraq

## 11. Al-Ghanim Tribe

It is regarded as one of the largest tribes in Menbij southern countryside. It spreads till Ar-Raqqa governorate, and most of its villages are under the regime control. This tribe descends from Al-Waldah Clan.

**Table 11:** PKK-held Villages where Al-Ghanim Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Big Arbaa	3	Alsayed	5	Tal Aswad
2	Jdidet Elhomor	4	Ash-Shajara	6	Mazyuneh

## 12. Albu Sabee Tribe

In Menbij, the tribe members are known as Al-Qaraween and descend from Albu Sabee Tribe.

**Table 12:** Villages where Albu Sabee Tribe Spreads

#	Village	#	Village	#	Village
1	Qanat Shekh Tabbash	2	Qanat Elghrra	3	Jeb Elthor

**SECTION.03**

**WORKING GROUPS  
AFFILIATED WITH  
THE SYRIAN REGIME  
AND ITS ALLIES**

Working groups affiliated with the Syrian regime and its allies in Menbij district are divided into three groups:

### **01. Working Groups Associated with the Syrian Regime:**

These groups spread rumours about the regime's return to Menbij district, captures names of collaborators with PKK, ISIL or the Free Syrian Army (FSA) factions and sends them periodically to the regime, and instigates the public against PKK practices. Those groups are led by tribal figures affiliated with Al-Baath Party.

### **2. Working Groups Associated with Russia:**

This group is specialized in reconciliations with the regime. It is in direct contact with Russian officers and holds periodic meetings with them in the regime held areas. Recently, these groups have been significantly active and held multiple meetings with the Russian side in Kuweires Military Airport.

### **3. Working Groups Associated with Iran:**

These groups are characterised by their security and military nature, as they harness the youth within committees supervised by Iranians. They carry out intelligence acts including photographing headquarters and personalities, and they train some members on using explosives too.

**SECTION.04**

**FORCED  
RECRUITMENT  
CAMPAIGNS  
BY KURDISTAN  
WORKERS' PARTY  
(PKK)**

Since ISIL left Menbij city, the new controlling forces started arresting and taking the youth for forced recruitment. Forced recruitment campaigns were commenced without any official decision from any entity indicating recruitment causes and terms or the side for which the youth will serve. Those campaigns were intermittent, and the youth was taken from unfixed checkpoints affiliated with the new controlling forces. The locals referred the purpose from those campaigns to creating a popular base for the new dominating force in the district, as ideas of military forces were often implanted amongst all recruits, or those campaigns might be proactive operations in case of any popular movement might be initiated by the youth in the area, as these campaigns will drain young capacities there.

## 1. First Forced Recruitment Campaigns

The dominating force endorsed its first forced recruitment campaign in November 2017. The recruitment campaigns started forming committees whose mission was to visit neighbourhoods and villages to elaborate on the issue of forced recruitment or the so-called “self-defence duty”. After meeting and discussing the forced recruitment decision with them, the residents rejected this decision, which led to verbal altercations between the residents and the recruitment committees. Those altercations turned into an exchange of accusations of treason, affiliation and agendas. One of the significant verbal altercations occurred between the recruitment committees and an elder prominent figure in Menbij district. As a result of this altercation, the man was imprisoned; and because of this arbitrary arrest, Menbij villages experienced popular movements and protests to release that old man, which obliged the dominating force to release him.

## 2. Issuance of Forced Recruitment Law

After the residents’ rejection of forced recruitment campaigns in Menbij district, the dominating forces presented the so-called Legislative Council through which they passed the forced recruitment law and called it “self-defence duty”. So, they advocated this law as a popular decision taken by an elected entity. Key clauses of the forced recruitment law issued in this phase were:

- Required age from 18 to 30 years old, service duration is 9 months.
- Exemption from service (an only son in the family, sons and siblings of martyrs killed fighting with the dominating force in battles, and the disabled)
- Deferrals are granted for students, deferrals for family providers until other providers are found.

A building for forced recruitment was equipped and included a room for medical checks, a room for deferrals and a room for receiving recruits. The residents rejected this law and called for demonstrations. A strike took place in Menbij city on the 5th of November 2017 and covered over 80% of commercial shops in Menbij district. As a result, the controlling force obliged shop owners to open their shops by force, removed locks of some shops and sealed some for their owners’ violation. In the next morning of the strike, the controlling force deployed multiple checkpoints and arrested over 700 men aiming at recruiting them to fight. The residents organised huge demonstrations that covered Menbij district. The controlling forces tried to forcefully disperse the demonstrations which developed into hand and stone fights between the dominating forces and demonstrators. Moreover, there was hand-fighting between the youth arrested for recruitment and members from the controlling force as the arrested youth declared outright disobedience and clashed with jail guards. The most intense fighting occurred in Tishreen Dam Camp forcing members of the dominating forces to release the detained recruits. However, movement rejecting forced recruitment campaigns continued in all villages of Aleppo eastern countryside. Key practices of this movement were:

- Burning tyres on roads in eastern villages of Menbij city in rejection of forced recruitment.
- Support and buy-in demonstrations took place in all opposition-held areas near Menbij.
- The dominating force intensified its security deployment in Menbij city and its villages to prevent demonstrations.
- Several statements were declared by governmental bodies affiliated with the opposition and popular gatherings, in addition to the district tribes, calling for rejecting forced recruitment.

After the public pressure, the controlling force in Menbij cancelled forced recruitment and made it voluntary. However, the Head of Defense Committee issued a vague statement saying: "Recruitment is neither compulsory nor voluntary", which worried the residents and forced tens of youth to flee Menbij city for fear of detention. It was later discovered that the controlling forces circumvented the popular movement by announcing the cancellation of forced recruitment, yet continued to arrest the youth at military checkpoints for unknown reasons and sent them to recruitment camps after several months of detention. The controlling forces held multiple meetings with the dignitaries and clan elders in Menbij city demanding that they exhort their sons to participate in defending the city against any external threat. When all attempts for recruiting the youth failed, they exploited the population's deteriorating living conditions by paying an estimated wage of 115,000 SYP per volunteer. This amount is tempting within such difficult conditions and spread of unemployment. Despite those temptations, enrolment remained weak.

### **3. Special Communiqué No. (5) on Forced Recruitment**

On 20 November 2018, the so-called Self-Defense Committee in Menbij city – which is affiliated with the so-called Executive Council of Menbij city and its countryside – issued communiqué No. (5) which forces the youth to enrol in forced recruitment and threatens evaders with fines and imprisonment. The residents rejected this decision and threatened the dominating force in Menbij district with demonstrations and strikes in case of implementation of this decision.



**SECTION.05**

# **MENBIJ CITY**

## 01. General Information

Menbij is a city in the northeast of Aleppo governorate and around 85 kilometres from Aleppo city. It is 32 kilometres from the Syrian-Turkish borders and separated from them by Jarablus sub-district. The city has strategic importance for including the crossroad separating eastern governorates from western ones. Additionally, most roads to Aleppo eastern countryside pass through this city. Menbij city is the centre of Menbij district and composes of 316 population agglomeration – cities, towns or villages – of various sizes. Menbij city is the first commercial centre for those agglomerations. When Menbij city became outside the regime control in July 2012 and was held by the opposition factions, it became a resort for a significant portion of IDPs fleeing the regime's brutality and its population multiplied due to massive influx of IDPs. In January 2014, ISIL seized the city after fierce battles against the opposition forces. During that time, Menbij city became ISIL centre of gravity and base in the eastern countryside of Aleppo governorate. In May 2016, backed by the International Coalition, PKK took over the city.

Menbij city is divided into five sectors as per geographical trends:

- City centre
- Western neighbourhoods(Aleppo Road)
- Eastern neighbourhoods(Al Jazira Road)
- Southern neighbourhoods(Al-Khafsa Road)
- Northern neighbourhoods(Jarablus Road)

Names of most new neighbourhoodsin the city are linked to the names of features, schools or facilities in the city. The city is divided into 22 neighbourhoods distributed across the five aforementioned sectors.

### Southern Sector

1. Al-Karama Neighbourhood: located in the southern side of the city and extends from Aleppo-Al-Hasakeh Highway to the Old Wall west of Al-Khafsa Road. It is one of the poor neighbourhoods and characterised by its population density. Records of most of its population are from outside Menbij city and mostly from Arabs. Al-Karama is one of the largest neighbourhoodsin Menbij city.
2. Al-Adiyat (Al-Kajli): located in the southern side of the city and extends from Aleppo-Al-Hasakeh Highway to Souq Al-Ghanam Road east of Al-Khafsa Road.The majority of its population is from villages of Menbij southern countryside which are submerged by Tishreen Dam Lake. It is one of the poor neighbourhoods and has a medium population density.
3. Bustan Al Hezefaoui Neighbourhood: located in the southeastern side of the city and extends from Aleppo Highway to Wadi Al-Seil Al-Sharqi and between Al-Bazar Road, the Grain Warehouse and Omar Abu Reeshah School. It is a semi-rural neighbourhood, and its houses are mainly of rural style (single-floored). Most of its population is from Arabs.

### Northern Sector

1. Al-Serb Neighbourhood: located in the northwestern side of the city and extends from Masab Al-Qahwa Roundabout to Jarablus Highway, west of Jarablus Road. Most of its population is from those whose houses were submerged by Al-Asad lake in Jarablus countryside or Lower Shyookh. The majority of its population is from Arabs with a little percentage from Turkmen.
2. Bustan Al-Jelawi Neighbourhood: located in the northern side of the city and extends from Jarablus Roundabout to the end of the city (Arbaa Kilo district), east of Jarablus Road. The majority of its population is from Arabs with a little percentage from Turkmen arriving from Jarablus countryside.
3. Al-Hawatmeh Neighbourhood: located in the northern side of the city, east of Jarablus Road, and extends from Wadi Al-Seil to Bustan Al-Jelawi. Its population density is little because its land is agricultural. The majority of its population is from Arabs.

### Eastern Sector

1. Al-Ghassaniyeh or Al-Wardi Neighbourhood: located in the southeastern side of the city and extends from Al-Jazira Roundabout to the Cement Warehouse Roundabout, and particularly north Al-Jazira Road. It is named after Al-Ghassaniyeh School, and the majority of its population is from Arabs, but there are Kurdish communities too. It is a semi-rural neighbourhood, and its houses are mainly of the rural style (single-floored).
2. Al-Nawajah Neighbourhood: located north and south of Al-Jazira Road and extends from the Cement Roundabout to Aleppo-Al-Hasakeh Highway. The majority of its population is from Arabs, with a small percentage of Kurds too. This neighbourhood has a little population density.
3. Al-Awasi Neighbourhood: located south of Al-Jazira Road and extends from the cement factory to Al-Mustawsaf Al-Sharqi Street. The majority of its population is from Arabs. Its population density is little.
4. Al-Mustawsaf Al-Sharqi Neighbourhood: located south of Al-Jazira Road and extends from Al-Jazira Roundabout to the dispensary and up to Omar Abu Reesheh School. Its population density is little, and the majority of its population is from Arabs.

### Western Sector

1. Al-Rabtah Street Neighbourhood: located north of Aleppo Road and bordered by Wadi Al-Seil, Menbij Secondary School and Masab Al-Qahwa Roundabout. It is one of the newly-built neighbourhoods with a high population density. Its buildings are composed of floors, and it has a combination of populations and mostly from Arabs.
2. Al-Hneizel Neighbourhood: located north of Aleppo Road and west of Al-Rabtah Street. The majority of its population is from Arabs, and it has a medium population density.
3. Sabea Bahrat Neighbourhood: extends from north and south of Aleppo Road to the Industrial Secondary School. It has a high population density and mostly from Arabs.
4. Al-Shariah Neighbourhood: located in the western part of the city and around Al-Shariah School. The majority of its population is from Arabs originally coming from the western countryside of Menbij district. It has a medium population density.

### City Centre Sector

1. Al-Souq Al-Raisee: composed of the covered (indoor) market, in addition to a group of commercial shops and vegetable marketplaces. It is located close to the security square and contains some residential buildings inhabited by Arab residents and a small percentage of Circassians.
2. Al-Baath School Neighbourhood (Carpet Factory): located west of Sheikh Aqil Graveyard and south of the automatic bakery. Its physical character varies between ancient and modern. Its population density is medium and mostly from Arabs.
3. Sheikh Aqil Neighbourhood: located northeast of Sheikh Aqil Graveyard and extends to Al-Batta Roundabout. Its buildings are old. It has a high population density, and the largest portion of its population is from Arabs, with a small percentage of Kurds.
4. Al-Nabi Yunus Neighbourhood: located east of Sheikh Aqil Graveyard and extends from Al-Batta Roundabout to Wadi Al-Seil Al-Sharqi near Al-Nabi Yunus Graveyard. Its buildings are old. Its population density is high and mostly from Arabs.
5. Al-Tabba Neighbourhood: located east of Al-Souq Al-Raisee. Its population density is high and mostly from Circassians and Turkmen.
6. Souq Al-Hal Neighbourhood.
7. Gaziantep Neighbourhood: located north of Saraya, west of Jarablus Road and south of Wadi Al-Seil. It is one of the old neighbourhoods, and its houses are of Ottoman style. Its population is from urban Arabs or those referred to as the city original residents.
8. Joret El-Arayes: located east of Jarablus Road and extends from Wadi Al-Seil from the north to the industrial zone from the east to Souq Al-Sabt. Most Turkmen live in this neighbourhood.

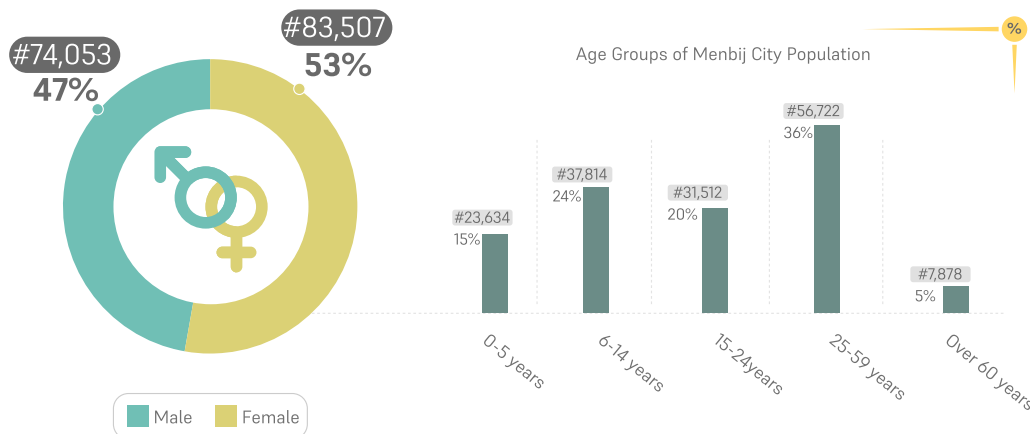


## 02. Population Census and Age Groups

### Population Census and Age Groups

As per population statistics conducted by IMU enumerators in ACU, the population in Menbij city reached 157,560 persons in November 2018. Females formed 53% (83,507 females) of Menbij city population, while males formed 47% (74,053 males).

**Figure 01:** Population Census as per Gender and Age Groups



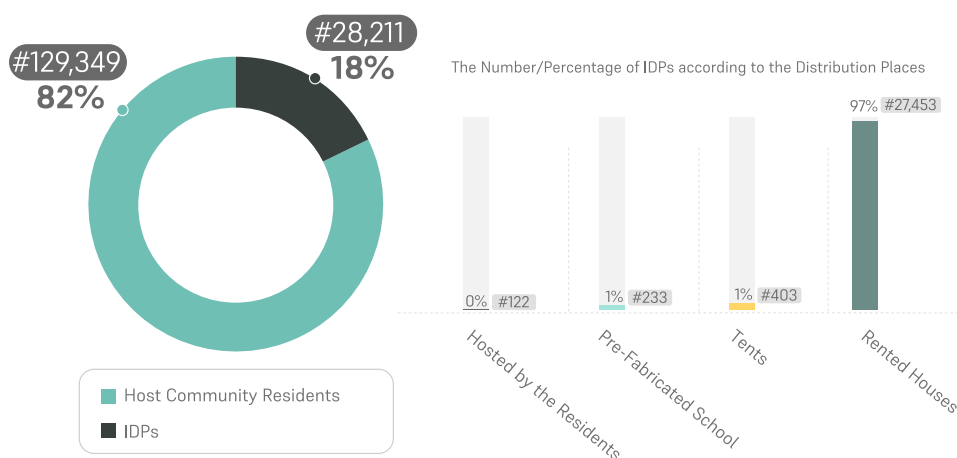
The number of Menbij city population reached 157,560. Children up to 5 years of age formed 15% (23,634 children) of the city population and children between 6 and 14 years old formed 24% (37,814 children) of Menbij city population; this segment reportedly constitutes school age and primary school children.

Individuals between 15 and 24 years of age formed 20% (31,512 persons) of the city population, individuals between 25 and 29 years of age formed 36% (56,722 persons), and elderlies above 60 years of age formed 5% (7,878 persons) of Menbij city population. It is reported that the largest portion of youth was displaced from Menbij city for several reasons and most importantly to flee the dominating forces' practices which started since ISIL seized the city and remained ongoing under the present dominating forces.

### IDPs and their Places of Distribution

The number of IDPs in Menbij city reached 28,211 IDPs, which represents 18% of the city population, whereas the number of host community residents reached 129,349 residents, which represents 82% of Menbij city population.

**Figure 02:** IDPs and their Places of Distribution



Menbij city has witnessed a frequent demographic change with every change in the dominating party in the area. In July 2012, the city became out of the regime control, so a portion of its population left towards the regime-held neighbourhoods in Aleppo city aiming to stay in their governmental jobs of the regime. Additionally, migratory movements abroad started in few numbers, on the one hand, but Menbij city was a resort for the displaced people from military escalation zones in Aleppo eastern countryside, on the other. In January 2014, ISIL seized Menbij city which flourished because ISIL adopted it as its centre of gravity in Aleppo eastern countryside.

Moreover, a number of ISIL fighters lived in the city with their families, and some of those families immigrated from other countries and settled in Syria to fight with ISIL. Backed by the International Coalition, PKK took over the city in May 2016 and attracted PKK fighters with their families to live in the city. Local sources reported that the number of Kurds who flocked to the city since PKK took over is estimated at 10,000 persons; some came to work, and some came to fight. At the date of writing this report, the number of IDPs in Menbij city reached 28,211 IDPs; 97% (27,453 IDPs) settled in rented houses and some of those houses were not fully equipped, 1% (403 IDPs) settled in isolated tents around the city and most of those tents were in Al-Serb neighborhood, 1% (233 IDPs) settled in pre-fabricated rooms formerly used as schools, and were called Al Dawlkah cluster and located in Al-Shariah neighborhood in the western part of the city, and 122 IDPs settled at host families.

### 03. Actors

#### The Legislative Council

The Legislative Council takes the role of the local council to administrate the city. Some consider it as a governorate council supervising Aleppo governorate's entire eastern countryside which is seized by the Kurdish forces. The Presidential Office of the Legislative Council in Menbij city has 6 members; 3 females and 3 males. It composes of two joint heads of the council, one male and one female, in addition to three members and an advisor. Issuing decisions regulating the city administration is one of the Legislative Council's tasks.

**Table (13):** Gender of Members of Presidential Office in the Legislative Council

#	Gender of Member in the Legislative Office	Position
1	Male	Joint Head of Legislative Council
2	Female	Joint Head of Legislative Council
3	Female	Presiding Member
4	Female	Presiding Member
5	Male	Presiding Member
6	Male	Legislative Council Advisor

The Legislative Council has 17 subsidiary legislative offices headed by members from the Legislative Council and include monthly paid employees.

**Table (14):** Offices of the Legislative Council

#	Office Name	#	Office Name
1	Families of Fighters	10	Public Relations
2	Home of Injured	11	Lines Management
3	Women's Home	12	Education
4	Garage	13	Media and Information
5	Customs	14	Neighbourhood Regularization
6	Military Court	15	Municipality
7	Asayish	16	Intelligence in Abu Qalqal
8	Military Relations	17	Traffic
9	Service Management		

## The Executive Council

This council takes the role of governmental departments and is affiliated with the Legislative Council. The Executive Council has a number of committees that provide services and implement projects in the city and the countryside. The Executive Council has subsidiary communes distributed across all neighbourhoods in the city and the countryside. There is a commune for each of the city's neighbourhoods and a commune for each village in Menbij countryside. This commune provides services for the population of neighbourhoods or villages where it works. The Executive Office has 13 executive committees with various specialisations. Each committee has two heads; one female and one male. The Executive Council members meet with the committees on a weekly basis to discuss projects and works being implemented. The Executive Office's main task is to supervise the application of policies endorsed by the Legislative Council. Committees of the Executive Council periodically meet with the communes to check their work.

**Table (15):** Committees Affiliated with the Executive Office

#	Committee Name	#	Committee Name
1	Internal Committee	8	Women Committee
2	Economy Committee	9	Committee of Families of Martyrs
3	Municipality Committee	10	Youth Committee
4	Relations Committee	11	Committee of Social Affairs and Labor
5	Health Committee	12	Culture Committee
6	Education Committee	13	Finance Committee
7	Self-Defense Committee		

## The Military Council

The average wage of a fighter in Menbij city Military Council is 100,000 SYP (approximately 208 USD). This amount is tempting for youth in Menbij who are suffering from unemployment and deteriorating living conditions. The dominating forces pay their fighters' wages from funds directly or indirectly received from the International Coalition Forces. Additionally, they collect much money from posing taxes on the population and customs duty on all goods passing through Menbij, especially the fuels tankers.

## Civil Society Entities

There are 12 local and international organisations; of which 6 organisations are still functional at the date of writing this report, and 6 organisations suspended their work a relatively short time ago, as organisations started to suspend their work when several entities declared that a potential military action might be launched on Menbij city.



**Table (16)** :Top Organisations Working in Menbij City and its Countryside

Organisation/Entity Name	Date of Establishment	Currently Functional	Key Activities and Work Fields	Support Sources/Donors of the Organisation
Local Organisation	2016	Non-functional	Distributing food/hygiene kits, clothes, kitchen sets, blankets and mattresses	External Support / Political Party
International Medical Organisation	2013	Non-functional	Supervising Al-Furat Hospital (securing equipment, workers' salaries and medications), conducting periodic visits to Menbij camp and providing vaccines	United Nations
Local Organisation	2017	Non-functional	Medical dispensary	
International Organisation	2017	Functional	Distributing cash vouchers and restoring sewerage systems	United Nations and European Union
International Organisation	2018	Non-functional	Reporting on the humanitarian condition	United Nations
Local/Political Organisation	2016	Functional	A health centre in Abu Qalqal sub-district, a health centre in Kabir sub-district, and provision of vaccines	External Support / Political Party
Local Organisation	2018	Non-functional	It has an office, but its work is in the east of the Euphrates	
International Organisation	2017	Non-functional	Supporting Nour Al-Mustaqbal Association. Its work field is awareness	External Support / Political Party
International Organisation	2017	Functional	Hygiene assistances	United Nations
International Organisation	2017	Functional	Providing cash vouchers	United Nations
Political Office of an International Entity	2017	Functional	Supporting Menbij Civil Council	International entity
Local Organisation	2017	Functional	Health services (dispensary, clinics, deliveries, family planning services, medications and vaccines).	External Support / Political Party

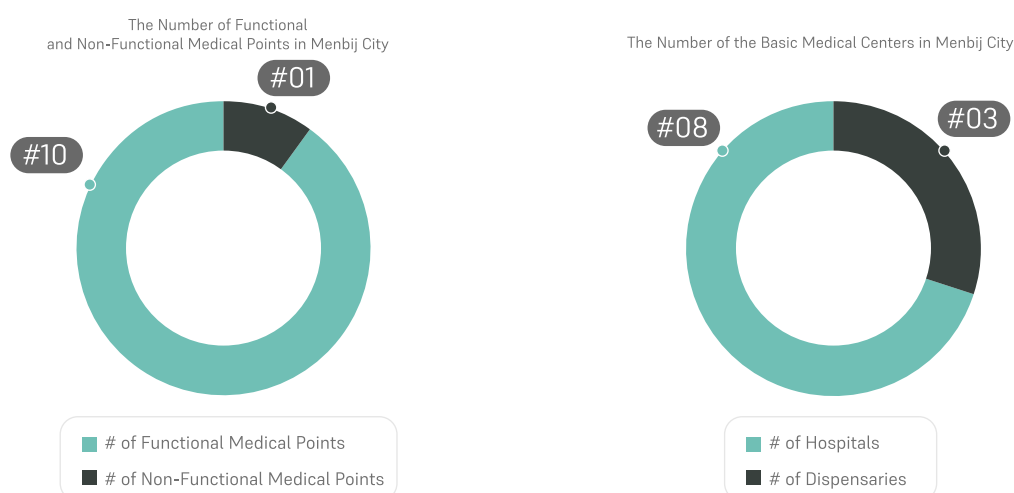
**SECTION.06**

# **HEALTH SECTOR**

## 01. Entities Supervising and Supporting the Medical Sector

Menbij city has 11 basic medical points, 8 hospitals and 3 dispensaries, in addition to a large number of private clinics, physical therapy centres and laboratories not covered in this report.

**Figure (3):** Numbers of Hospitals and Dispensaries in Menbij City



Menbij city has 8 hospitals; one publicly owned hospital and 7 privately owned hospitals.

No entity is supporting the private hospitals in Menbij city, and the dominating force obligates them to treat its fighters and their families for free and imposes some taxes on them.

The Executive Office affiliated Health Committee supervises Al-Furat Hospital and secures its workers' wages and its medical supplies and medications. This hospital was formerly supported by Doctors Without Borders before the suspension of its work in the area several months ago.

Entities that own private hospitals supervise their work and those hospitals do not receive support from any entity. The owners of the Hospitals secure all medical supplies, medications and operational expenses from treatment expenses paid by patients, as all those hospitals charge money for all their medical services.

The three dispensaries in Menbij city are supervised by the Health Committee of the Executive Office, as well as the regime. The Health Committee secures salaries of the dispensaries' workers, while the regime supplies the dispensaries with periodic vaccines.

**Table (17):** Information on the Medical Centres in Menbij City

Name of Hospital/Dispensary	Entity Supervising the Hospital	Entity Supporting the Hospital	Type of Provided Support
Al-Furat Hospital	Health Committee	Health Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Paying salaries</li> <li>•Securing medications and supplies</li> </ul>
Al-Amal Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
Al-Borkol Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
The Specialized Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
Tishreen Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
Al-Furqan Specialized Hospital (Private)	Closed	-	-
Al-Hekma Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
Al-Madina Hospital (Private)	Private sector	No support	No support
Dispensary of Al-Furat Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Regime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Aleppo Health</li> <li>•Directorate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Paying salaries</li> <li>•Securing vaccines</li> </ul>
Al-Rabtah Dispensary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Regime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Aleppo Health</li> <li>•Directorate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Paying salaries</li> <li>•Securing vaccines</li> </ul>
Al-Jazira Road Dispensary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Regime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Health Committee</li> <li>•Aleppo Health</li> <li>•Directorate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Paying salaries</li> <li>•Securing vaccines</li> </ul>

## 02. Medical Cadres and Specializations

The total number of doctors working in hospitals and dispensaries in Menbij city is 127 doctors; 30 of them are females, and 97 of them are males. Those numbers do not reflect the actual reality of medical cadres in the city, as a portion of doctors works in more than one hospital inside the city and might work in other hospitals in neighbouring cities. Moreover, a number of doctors who work in their private clinics have not been mentioned in this report. The number of male nurses working in hospitals and dispensaries in Menbij city is 98 male nurses, while the number of female nurses is 172 female nurses. There are 30 technicians with various specialisations, 25 administrators and 80 service workers.

**Table (18):** Information on Medical Cadres in Menbij City

Name of Hospital/Dispensary	No. of Doctors/Total	Specialisations of Doctors	No. of Female Doctors	No. of Male Nurses	No. of Female Nurses	No. of Technicians	No. of Administrators	No. of Service Workers
Al-Furat Hospital	8	•Cardiology •Orthopaedics •General surgery •Urology •Internal •Neurology •Gynaecology •Anesthesiology	2	17	23	4	3	10
Al-Amal Hospital (Private)	21	•Cardiology •Orthopaedics •General surgery •Urology •Internal •Neurology •Gynaecology •Anesthesiology •Radiology •Paediatrics •Thoracic and chest diseases •Ear, nose and throat diseases	6	15	25	5	4	14
Al-Borkol Hospital (Private)	25	•Cardiology •Orthopaedics •General surgery •Urology •Internal •Neurology •Gynaecology •Anesthesiology •Paediatrics •Ear, nose and throat diseases	9	16	27	3	2	9
Menbij Specialized Hospital (Private)	20	•Cardiology •Orthopaedics •General surgery •Internal •Neurology •Nephrology •Thoracic and chest diseases •Paediatrics •Gynaecology •Radiology •Ear, nose and throat diseases	4	13	26	4	3	15
Tishreen Hospital (Private)	15	•Gynaecology •Orthopaedics •Anesthesiology •Neurology •Paediatrics •Internal •Ear, nose and throat diseases •General surgery	1	11	17	3	2	8
Al-Hekma Hospital (Private)	18	•Cardiology •Orthopaedics •Laboratory •Internal •Neurology •Paediatrics •Gynaecology •Anesthesiology •Ear, nose and throat diseases •Thoracic and chest diseases •Urology •Radiology •General surgery	1	12	21	5	3	10
Al-Madina Hospital (Private)	15	•Gynaecology •Paediatrics •Anesthesiology •Thoracic and chest diseases •Cardiology •Internal •Ear, nose and throat diseases •General surgery	6	9	22	2	2	9
Dispensary of Al-Furat Hospital	0	-	0	2	2	0	1	0
Al-Rabtah Dispensary	2	•Paediatrics •Gynaecology	1	0	3	2	1	1
Al-Jazira Road Dispensary	3	•Paediatrics •Gynaecology •Dentistry	0	3	6	2	5	4
Total	127	-	30	98	172	30	25	80

### 03. Equipment of Medical Centres

Menbij city hospitals contain 23 operation rooms and 239 beds for patients. Al-Furat Public Hospital, Al-Amal Private Hospital and Al-Hekma Private Hospital have a CT scanner, while the other hospitals do not. Al-Furat is the only equipped hospital with dialysis equipment, while available equipment in the hospital is insufficient for the large number of patients coming from the city and the surrounding rural areas for treatment in this hospital. All hospitals have electricity generators while the dispensaries do not. The dispensary of Al-Furat Hospital depends on the hospital's generators as both, the hospital and the dispensary, share the same building.

**Table (19):** Equipment of Medical Centres in Menbij City

Name of Hospital/Dispensary	No. of Equipped Operation Rooms	No. of Beds in the Hospital	Is there a CT Machine?	Is the Hospital Equipped for Dialysis?	No. of Generators in the Hospital	Quantity of Needed Diesel for the Generators per Working Hour
Al-Furat Hospital	4	50	Yes	Yes	2	30
Al-Amal Hospital (Private)	3	38	Yes	No	3	45
Al-Borkol Hospital (Private)	3	35	No	No	2	50
Menbij Specialized Hospital (Private)	4	47	No	No	3	45
Tishreen Hospital (Private)	3	25	No	No	2	30
Al-Hekma Hospital (Private)	3	30	Yes	No	3	45
Al-Madina Hospital (Private)	3	14	No	No	3	30
Dispensary of Al-Furat Hospital	-	-	-	-	0	-
Al-Rabtah Dispensary	-	-	-	-	0	-
Al-Jazira Road Dispensary	-	-	-	-	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>239</b>	-	-	<b>18</b>	-

### 04. Beneficiaries of Medical Services

The number of patients who came to Menbij city hospitals and dispensaries during October 2018 was 4,830 patients, while the number of performed operations in the city hospitals reached 873 surgeries. Medical services are fully paid by the patient in all Menbij city hospitals. In case of emergencies resulted from war or explosive remnants injuries, emergency services are provided for free. Fees are charged if the patient needed surgery. The dominating force obliges all medical points to treat its fighters and their families for free.

All dispensaries provide free services limited to vaccination and medical consultations. Since all medical services in Menbij city are paid in full, a portion of patients who cannot afford treatment expenses travels to neighbouring areas that include hospitals providing free services. Additionally, a part of the population resorts to private clinics as their medical consultations are cheaper than those of the private hospitals. Some people might resort to pharmacies to diagnose the illness and receive treatment, which is often pointless.

**Table (20):** Numbers of Beneficiaries of Medical Centres in Menbij City

Name of Hospital/Dispensary	No. of Patients who Came to the Hospital during One Month	No. of Operations Performed during One Month	Cases of Free Service
Al-Furat Hospital	1,100	200	War injury emergencies
Al-Amal Hospital (Private)	500	190	None
Al-Borkol Hospital (Private)	650	143	War injury emergencies
Menbij Specialized Hospital (Private)	450	180	War injury emergencies
Tishreen Hospital (Private)	190	60	War injury emergencies
Al-Hekma Hospital (Private)	230	70	None
Al-Madina Hospital (Private)	170	30	None
Dispensary of Al-Furat Hospital	415	-	All cases
Al-Rabtah Dispensary	450	-	All cases
Al-Jazira Road Dispensary	675	-	All cases
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>873</b>	-

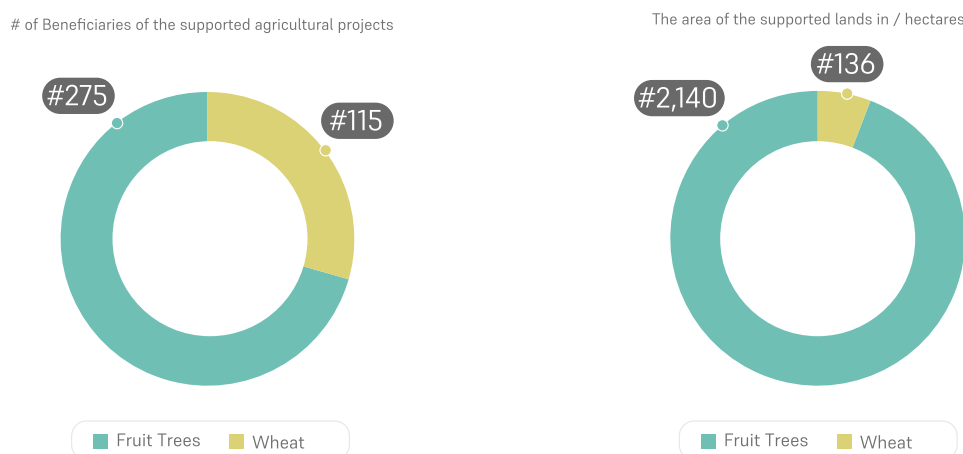
**SECTION.07**

# FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

## 01. Agriculture

The study shows that there is an agricultural land estimated at 2,276 hectares around Menbij city, where 2,140 hectares are planted with fruit trees, while 136 hectares are planted with wheat. The Economic Committee supports those lands by securing some raw materials at subsidised prices, and 390 farmers are benefitting from this support.

**Figure (4):** Agriculturally Supported Lands and Numbers of Beneficiaries

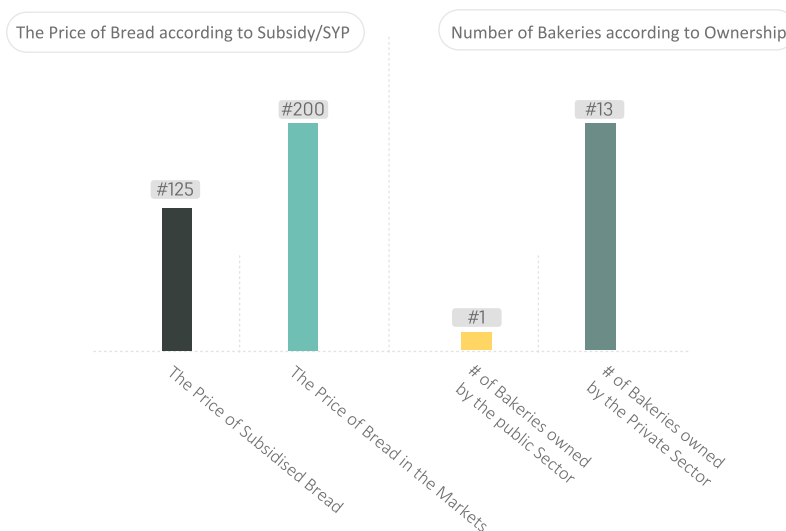


Menbij city is surrounded by agricultural lands estimated at 2,276 hectares; of which 2,140 hectares are planted with fruit trees and most importantly olive, pistachio, grapes and other kinds of trees. Moreover, 136 hectares are planted with wheat. The total number of farmers who own wheat cultivated lands in Menbij Centre sub-district is estimated at 225 farmers; only 115 farmers of them receive support as the Economic Committee supports agricultural projects in exchange of purchasing crops from farmers. Also, the Economic Committee sets the prices of agricultural crops and the farmers are mostly exploited in multiple ways to get their crops at low prices. Support provided by the Economic Committee is 200 litres of diesel at a subsidised price per agricultural tractor, and 300 kilograms of seeds per a hectare of wheat cultivated land for 160 SYP per kilo (approximately 0,33 USD). Also, some fertilisers are provided at subsidised prices. The number of agricultural tractors in Menbij city and its surrounding rural areas is reportedly limited, which deprived a large portion of farmers of getting fuel at lower prices and forced others to contract owners of agricultural tractors to prepare the land for cultivation in exchange for money.

## 02. Number of Bakeries and Price of Bread

Menbij city has 14 bakeries producing bread. One bakery – called the automatic bakery- is publicly owned and was controlled and operated by the Department of Bakeries of the Executive Council, while 13 bakeries are privately owned. The public automatic bakery sells bread at a subsidised price of 125 SYP (an equivalent to 0.26 USD); however, quantities of bread produced by this bakery are little and do not cover more than 20% of the city population's need, and quality of its bread is bad when compared to the bread produced by private bakeries. Bread of private bakeries is sold at the market price (unsubsidized); 200 SYP per 1 kilogram of bread (approximately 0.41 USD).

**Figure (5):** Number of Bakeries and Price of Bread



The controlling military forces in Menbij city use the publicly owned automatic bakery to produce subsidised bread which quality is very bad when compared to that produced by private bakeries; “Al-Siyahi Bread” . The private bakeries use imported flour “Turkish-00 flour” to produce Al-Siyahi Bread. However, Al-Siyahi Bread – produced by private bakeries- is less satiating when compared to bread produced by the automatic bakery; as the individual would need a larger quantity of this bread to feel satiated. Additionally, the high cost of Al-Siyahi Bread forces the bulk of the population to go for bread produced by the automatic bakery despite its bad quality. The population of the city and its neighboring countryside resort to buying bread from the automatic bakery; therefore, there is a sharp shortage in quantities of subsidized bread, which prompted the controlling military forces in the city to issue a statement, through the Department of Bakeries, setting the quantity of subsidized bread the people are allowed to purchase daily.

### 03. Entities Supervising the Performance of Bakeries and Cadres

The Department of Bakeries of the Executive Council supervises the operation and management of the automatic bakery which was publicly owned before the ongoing crisis. The Department of Bakeries supports this bakery with flour, yeast, fuel, workers’ salaries and maintenance supplies, and collects all profits from selling the bread. This bakery has 3 administrators, 4 maintenance technicians and 96 workers distributed on two work shifts.

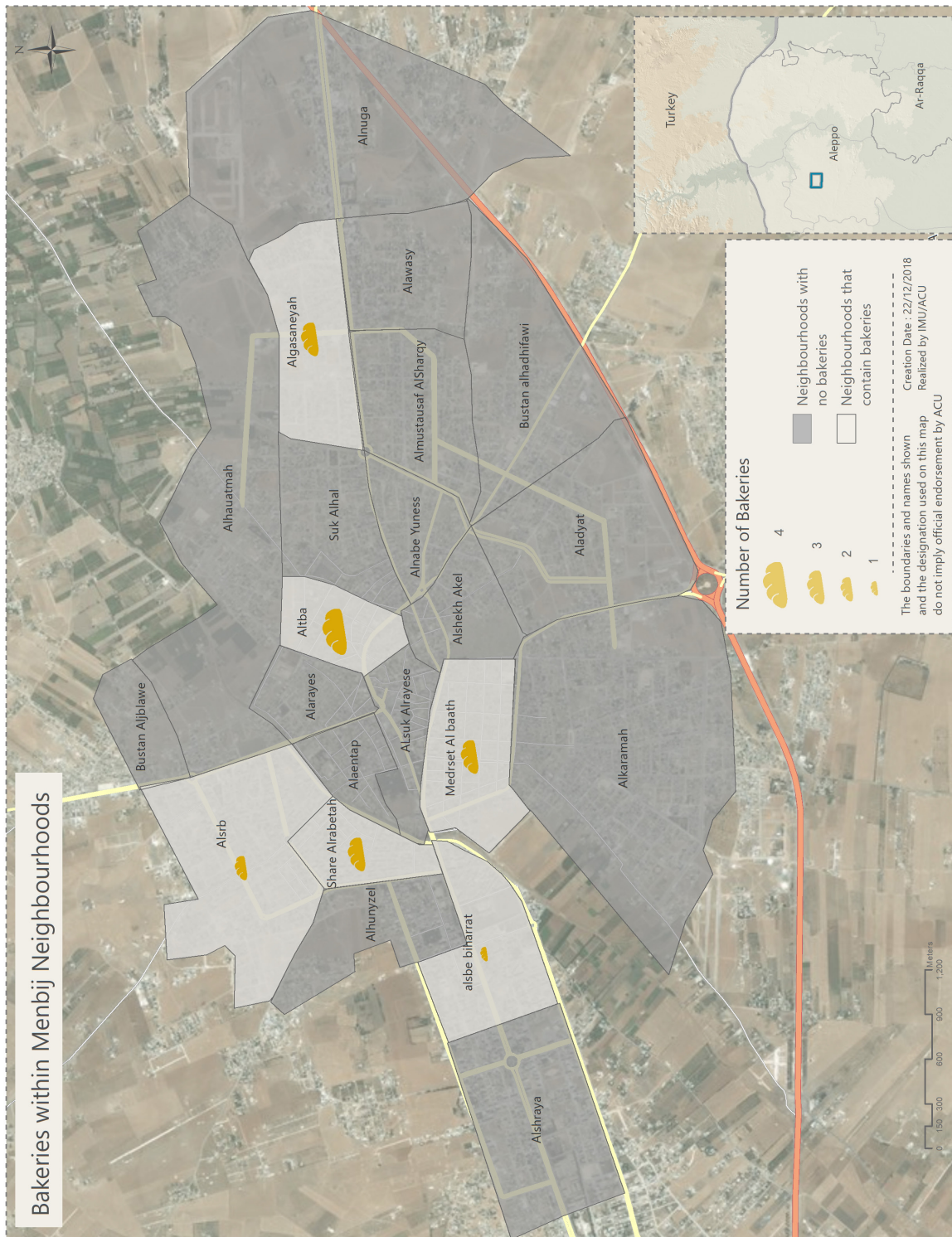
Private bakeries are managed by their owners without support from any entity. Owners of those bakeries secure production inputs and operational expenses from selling bread. The number of workers in those bakeries ranges between 8-14 workers, all of whom often work within one work shift as those bakeries are small when compared to the public automatic bakery.

**Table (21):** Bakeries in Menbij City and Entities Supervising their Work

#	Name of Bakery	Location/Neighbourhood of Bakery	Owner/Supervising Entity	Donor Entity	Type of Support	Number of Administrators	Number of Technicians	Number of Workers
1	Al-Dalo Al-Siyahi Bakery	Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Private property	-	-	2	1	9
2	Al-Rabtah Al-Siyahi Bakery	Al-Rabtah Neighbourhood	Private property	-	-	1	1	8
3	The Automatic Bakery	Al-Baath School Neighbourhood	The dominating forces affiliated Department of Bakeries	The dominating forces affiliated Department of Bakeries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Flour</li> <li>•Yeast</li> <li>•Fuel</li> <li>•Salaries</li> </ul>	3	4	96
4	Abu Saddam Al-Siyahi	Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Saddam Al-Hassani	-	-	1	1	9
5	Al-Barakah	Al-Rabtah Neighbourhood	Abu Nadim	-	-	2	1	11
6	Al-Qasr	Sabea Bahrat	Private property	-	-	2	1	11
7	Al-Taj	Sabea Bahrat	Private property	-	-	1	2	8
8	Al-Aziz	Sabea Bahrat	Private property	-	-	2	1	11
9	Al-Baraem	Sabea Bahrat	Private property	-	-	1	1	9
10	Al-Saadi	Tabba Neighbourhood	Private property	-	-	2	1	10
11	Al-Taqwa	Al-Baath School	Private property	-	-	2	1	11
12	Al-Nawras	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Private property	-	-	1	1	12
13	Al-Madina	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Private property	-	-	2	1	14
14	Al-Rashid	Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Private property	-	-	1	1	8



**Map (2):** Number of Bakeries Operating in Menbij City as per Neighborhoods



#### 04. Bakery's Productive Capacity and Cost of Bread Production

The productive capacity of the publicly owned automatic bakery is 60 tons per work shift if the four production lines were operated. Productive capacities of private bakeries range between 3-5 tons per work shift.

**Table (22):** Bakeries' Productive Capacity and Cost in Menbij City

#	Name of Bakery	Bakery's Actual Productive Capacity /Ton	Current Productive Quantity	No. of Bakery's Production Lines	Cost of Producing 1 ton of Bread/USD	Where the Bakery is Getting Operational Expenses from
1	Al-Dalo Al-Siyahi Bakery	3.5	3.5	1	150	Selling bread
2	Al-Rabtah Al-Siyahi Bakery	3.75	2	1	150	Selling bread
3	The Automatic Bakery	60	30	4	-	Controlling forces affiliated Department of Bakeries
4	Abu Saddam Al-Siyahi	3.5	1.5	1	150	Selling bread
5	Al-Barakah	4	3	1	150	Selling bread
6	Al-Qasr	4	3	1	150	Selling bread
7	Al-Taj	3	2.5	2	150	Selling bread
8	Al-Aziz	3	2	1	150	Selling bread
9	Al-Baraem	3	1.6	1	150	Selling bread
10	Al-Saadi	4	2	1	150	Selling bread
11	Al-Taqwa	5	3	1	150	Selling bread
12	Al-Ghassaniyeh	4	3	1	150	Selling bread
13	Al-Madina	3	1.7	1	150	Selling bread
14	Al-Rashid	3.5	1.8	1	150	Selling bread

The bakery's productive capacity changes as per its size and equipment and depends on several criteria, the most important of which is the number of production lines. The more the production lines, the higher the bakery's productive capacity. Similarly, the larger the fermentation conveyor belts and the oven, the higher the bakery's productive capacity.

The productive capacity of the publicly owned automatic bakery is 60 tons per work shift if the four production lines were operated. However, it currently produces only 30 tons. The bakery operates on two shifts. The Department of Bakeries secures its operational expenses and production's raw materials in exchange for profits from selling the bread. Productive capacities of private bakeries range between 3-5 tons per work shift.

All those bakeries have one production line, except for Al-Taj Bakery which has two production lines. The production cost in all private bakeries reached 150 USD per 1 ton of bread. It is reported that this cost does not include the flour cost, but includes costs of yeast, salt, water and fuel, salaries of workers and employees, expenses of periodic maintenance, in addition to a simple margin of profit for the bakery's owner.

#### 05. Sources of Flour and Method of Selling Bread

The Department of Bakeries, which is affiliated with the controlling military forces, secures flour for the public automatic bakery, as it grinds the locally produced wheat, after mixing it with other materials like corn, in Menbij mill, then transports the flour to Menbij automatic bakery which, in its turn, produces the bread and sells it to the population at the subsidized price. The entire population of the city and its neighbouring countryside benefit from this bakery's bread; however, the quantity of produced bread covers 20% of needs. Even though the quantity of produced bread is large, it is distributed in the city and its related countryside, which made it an insufficient quantity to meet the needs of the city population.

All private bakeries get flour from traders. This flour is imported from Turkish areas and enters the city through Jarablus border crossing. It is called the Turkish flour and commonly termed as "00 flour". Both Al-Masrab and Jarablus Road neighbourhoods in Menbij city benefit from Al-Dalo Al-Siyahi Bakery, while Al-Rabtah Street and Aleppo Road neighbourhoods in Menbij city benefit from Al-Rabtah Al-Siyahi Bakery. All the other private bakeries sell bread for the population of the city and neighbouring rural areas.

**Table (23):** Flour Sources in Menbij City and Selling Bread

#	Name of Bakery	Flour Source	Bread Beneficiaries
1	Al-Dalo Al-Siyahi Bakery	Turkish flour – from traders	The city residents (Al-Masrab Neighbourhood – Jarab-lus Road)
2	Al-Rabtah Al-Siyahi Bakery	Turkish flour – from traders	The city residents (Al-Rabtah Street – Aleppo Road)
3	The Automatic Bakery	Controlling forces affiliated Department of Bakeries	Residents of the city – all villages
4	Abu Saddam Al-Siyahi	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
5	Al-Barakah	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
6	Al-Qasr	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
7	Al-Taj	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
8	Al-Aziz	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
9	Al-Baraem	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
10	Al-Saadi	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
11	Al-Taqwa	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
12	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
13	Al-Madina	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages
14	Al-Rashid	Turkish flour – from traders	Residents of the city – neighbouring villages

## 06. Maintenance Works for the Bakeries

During the period of data collection, all bakeries in Menbij city were operating and did not need urgent maintenance works or replacement of parts, as most bakeries in Menbij city are owned by private entities that periodically secure their maintenance works. All bakeries in Menbij city get maintenance supplies and spare parts from a spare-parts store called Al-Sharq Al-Awsat Centre which is located outside Menbij city on the road to Aleppo city. Bakeries need periodic maintenance items such as oils and lubrication, periodic spare parts for perishable parts such as cogs, bearings and rotating axes, replacement of cotton conveyor belts, known as fermentation conveyor belts, and metal conveyor belts, known as oven conveyor belts, in addition to periodic restoration of the oven, which, in Syrian bakeries, is made of a particular type of locally produced thermal brick.

## 07. Mills

Menbij city has one wheat mill formerly owned by the public sector but currently affiliated with the Department of Bakeries of the controlling military forces. The mill's productive capacity is 19.12 tons of wheat per work hour and consumes 105 litres of diesel per work hour. The mill charges 195 USD for grinding 1 ton of wheat. Maintenance works for this mill are periodically conducted as the largest portion of the population in Aleppo eastern countryside depends on it in grinding their agricultural crops.

**Table (24):** Mills of Menbij City

Name of Mill	Supervising/Controlling Entity over the Mill	Mill's Productive Capacity/ Ton per Work Hour	Mill's Need for Diesel/Liters per Work Hour	Cost of Grinding 1 Ton of Wheat/USD
Menbij Fodders Mill	Controlling Force Affiliated Economic Committee	10.12	105	195

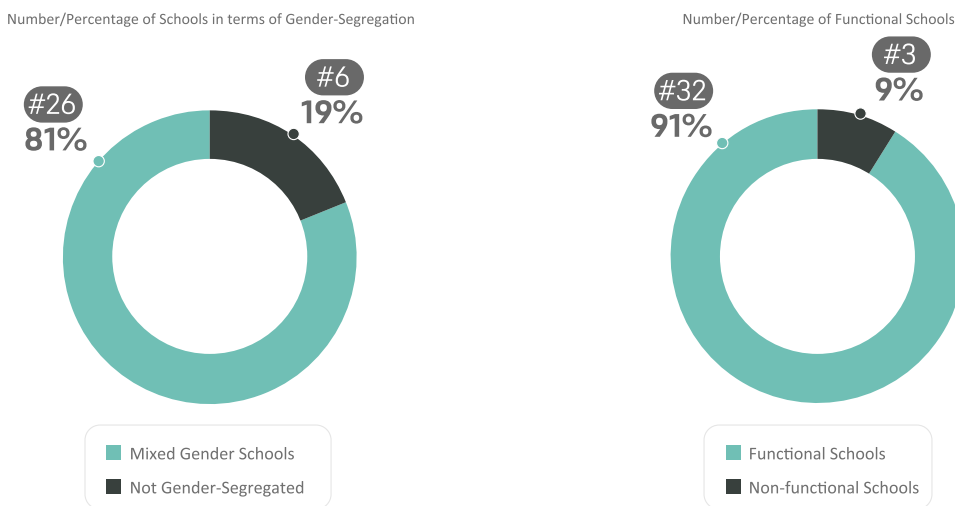
**SECTION.08**

# **EDUCATION**

## 1. School Information

Menbij city has 35 schools; 32 of them are functional, and 3 are non-functional. 19% (6 schools) of functional schools in Menbij city are gender-segregated, designated for a single gender of students, whereas 81% (26 schools) are gender-mixed, not gender-segregated.

**Figure (6):** Numbers of Schools and Gender-Segregation



Menbij city has 35 schools distributed across the city neighbourhoods. The highest number of functional schools, which is 5 schools, is in Sabea Bahrat neighbourhood which is in the western part of the city and reportedly has a high population density. Al-Serb neighbourhood in the northwestern part of the city came in second place as it includes 4 schools. 6 neighbourhoods in Menbij city do not have schools the thing which forces the students to seek education in the adjacent neighbourhoods.

Menbij city has 3 non-functional schools; 2 of which are destroyed, and one is used by the controlling military forces. Al-Ziraa School in Al-Hanzel neighbourhood is used as a headquarter for the dominating military forces. Al-Ghassaniyeh School in Al-Ghassaniyeh neighborhood is destroyed by 60% due to air bombardments by Russian warplanes; also Al-Bayram School in Sabea Bahrat neighborhood is destroyed by 95% due to air bombardments by the regime.

The accommodation capacity of functional schools in Menbij city is 19,334 students in one shift. This number represents the number of students who can be accommodated by schools in one shift and is linked to the size of schools, as there are some large schools in Menbij city such as 16 Tishreen Schools, Mulhaq Al-Bakkar and Ragheb Haroun which accommodation capacity exceeded 1,000 students, whereas the accommodation capacity of Al-Qadesyeh School was only 100 students as it is the smallest school in Menbij city. Due to the huge number of students in Menbij city and lack of schools for accommodating those numbers of students, all the city schools work on two shifts; a morning shift from 8:00 am to 11:30 am and an evening shift from 12:00 pm to 16:00 pm.

**Table (25):** General Information on Menbij Schools

Current Name of School	Address/Neighbourhood of School	Condition of School	Accommodation Capacity of School in One Shift	Is the School Functional	Is the School Gender-Mixed	No. of Shifts	Stages
Saif Al-Dawla Al-Hamdanyah	Al-Serb	Undestroyed	250	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-6
Al-Karama	Al-Karama (Al-Hazawna)	Undestroyed	815	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Qasr Banat Al-Arab	Al-Serb	Undestroyed	614	Yes	Females	Two shifts	5-9
Hasan Muhammad Al-Hassani	Al-Serb	Undestroyed	675	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-4
Hasan Al-Damen	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Undestroyed	476	Yes	Males	Two shifts	7-9
Abu Firas Al-Hamadani	Gaziantep	Undestroyed	900	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-6
Al-Buhturi	Al-Baath School	Undestroyed	300	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	7-9
Mustafa Al-Bakkar	Sabea Bahrat	Undestroyed	453	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-6
Nawajah Kabir	Al-Nawajah	Undestroyed	200	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-5
Al-Abbas Private School	Sabea Bahrat	Undestroyed	750	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-12
Abdul Jalil Al-Hasan	Bustan Al-Jelawi	Undestroyed	175	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-6
16 Tishreen	Al-Serb	Undestroyed	1,100	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Manaret Al-Elm Private School	Al-Shariah	Undestroyed	850	Yes		Two shifts	1-9
Al-Ghassaniyeh School	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Destroyed by 60%	Destroyed due to Russian shelling				
Al-Bairam School	Sabea Bahrat	Destroyed by 95%	Destroyed due to the regime shelling				
Banat Menbij	Al-Souq Al-Raisee	Undestroyed	395	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	
Al-Banat Secondary School	Al-Souq Al-Raisee	Undestroyed	450	Yes	Females	Two shifts	10-12
Aghiad Al-Husaini	Gaziantep	Undestroyed	270	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-5
Zeidan Hneizel	Al-Hneizel	Undestroyed	442	Yes	Males	Two shifts	1-5
16 Tishreen Stage 2	Al-Hneizel	Undestroyed	885	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	6-9
Mulhaq Al-Bakkar	Al-Hneizel	Undestroyed	1,000	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Dawqala	Al-Shariah	Undestroyed	600	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Orouba School	Al-Shariah	Undestroyed	650	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 1	Sabea Bahrat	Undestroyed	850	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-5
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 2	Sabea Bahrat	Undestroyed	345	Yes	Females	Two shifts	6-9
Ahmad Aqil Al-Bairam (Al-Iman)	Sabea Bahrat	Undestroyed	959	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Muhammad Al-Qasem Al-Thaqafi	Al-Tabba	Undestroyed	750	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Salahuddin	Al-Nabi Yunus	Undestroyed	300	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Ramadan Hajjo	Al-Adiyat (Al-Kajli)	Undestroyed	750	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Omar Abu Reesheh	Karm Al-Hezefaoui	Undestroyed	600	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Baath	Al-Baath School	Undestroyed	850	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Ragheb Haroun	Al-Karama	Undestroyed	1,260	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Qadsia	Al-Madina Southern Wall	Undestroyed	100	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Asadyeh	Al-Madina Southern Wall	Undestroyed	320	Yes	Gender-mixed	Two shifts	1-9
Al-Ziraa School	Al-Hneizel	Undestroyed	The school is used as a PKK headquarters				
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>19,334</b>	-	-	-	-

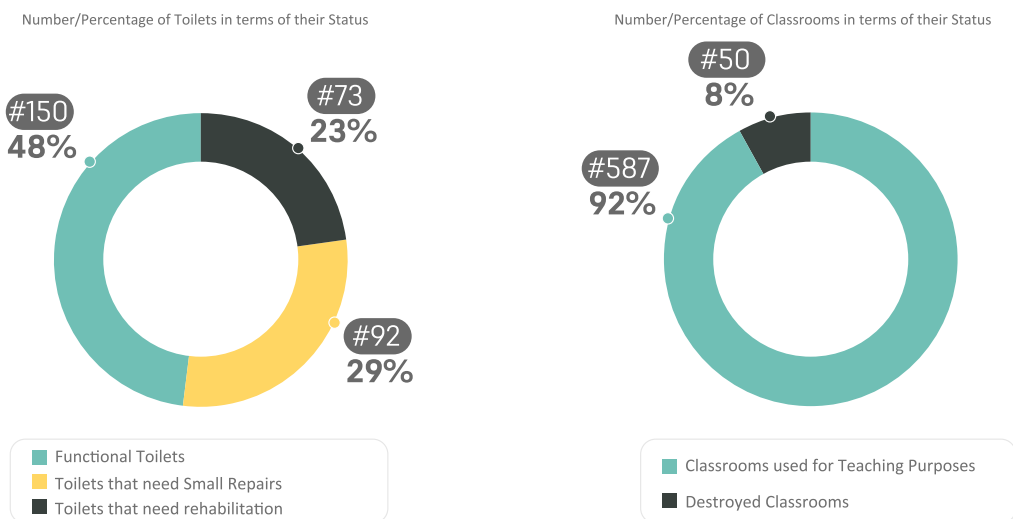


## 02. Status of Schools in Menbij City

Classrooms used for teaching purposes formed 92% (587 classrooms) of the entire classrooms in Menbij city, while destroyed classrooms formed 8% (50 classrooms) of the entire classrooms.

Functional toilets formed 48% (150 toilets) of the total toilets in schools, while 29% (92 toilets) of toilets need simple repairs to be usable and 23% (73 toilets) need full rehabilitation.

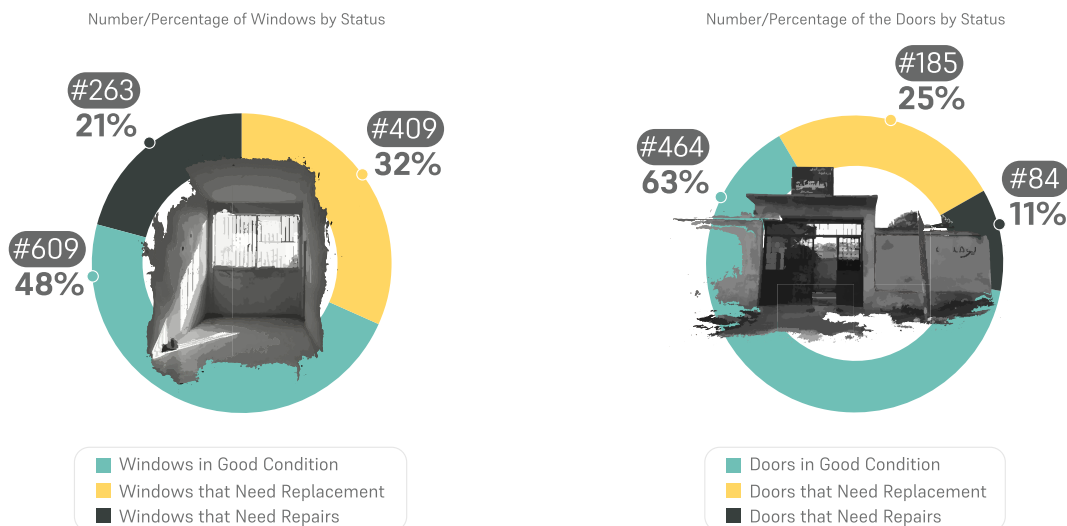
**Figure (7):** Technical Status of Classrooms and Toilets



The percentage of doors in good condition reached 63% (464 doors) of the total doors in schools, while 25% (185 doors) of the total doors need repairs, and 11% (84 doors) need replacement or are unavailable and alternative doors need to be installed.

The percentage of windows in good condition reached 48% (609 windows) of the total windows in schools, while 21% (263 windows) of the total windows need repairs, and 32% (409 windows) of the total windows need replacement or are unavailable and alternative windows need to be installed.

**Figure (8):** Technical Status of Doors and Windows





**Table (26):** Information on the Technical Status of the Facilities in Schools in Menbij City

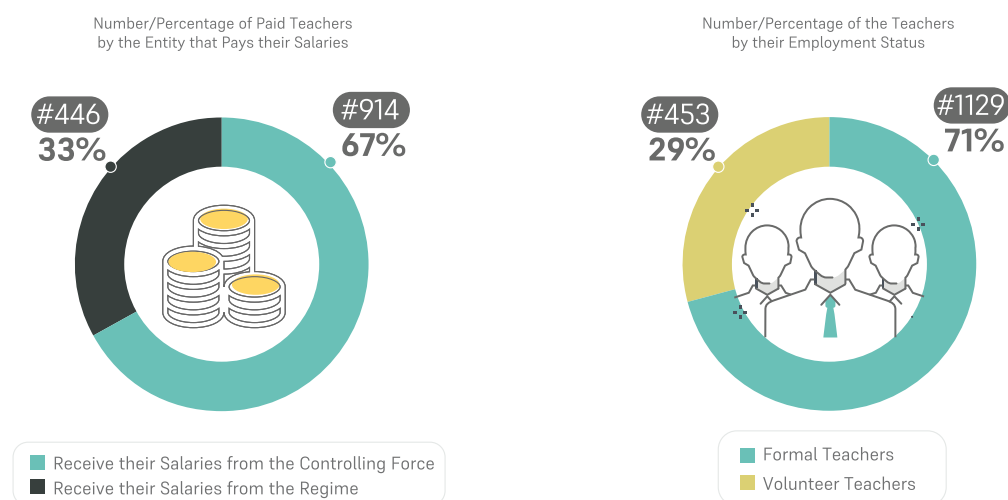
Current Name of School	Classrooms used for Teaching Purposes	Fully Destroyed Class-rooms	Windows Need Re-placement	Windows Need Repairs	Windows in Good Condition	Proper Doors	Doors Need Repairs	Doors Need Replace-ment	Functional Toilets	Toilets Need Simple Repairs	Toilets Need Full Rehabil-itationz
Saif Al-Dawla Al-Hamdanyah	10	0	2	6	12	10	0	0	6	3	4
Al-Karama	25	0	0	5	45	25	0	0	4	2	0
Qasr Banat Al-Arab	26	4	8	2	65	30	6	2	4	5	0
Hasan Muhammad Al-Hassani	18	9	3	3	35	26	2	0	6	2	1
Hasan Al-Damen	15	0	0	0	30	15	0	0	3	2	1
Abu Firas Al-Hama-dani	26	0	3	10	37	25	0	0	6	4	0
Al-Buhturi	10	0	0	0	20	10	0	0	5	2	0
Mustafa Al-Bakkar	14	0	3	0	21	14	0	0	4	2	0
Nawajah Kabir	14	0	2	0	12	8	0	0	3	0	0
Al-Abbas Private School	35	0	35	0	0	35	0	0	9	0	0
Abdul Jalil Al-Hasan	9	0	0	4	20	9	0	0	4	1	2
16 Tishreen	20	7	5	10	20	20	2	5	3	3	1
Manaret Al-Elm Private School	32	0	32	0	0	32	0	0	8	0	0
Banat Menbij	8	0	0	2	40	0	11	0	0	4	0
Al-Banat Secondary School	15	2	10	10	20	20	3	1	0	10	5
Aghiad Al-Husaini	6	0	1	7	2	7	1	1	7	1	0
Zeidan Hneizel	18	0	0	60	0	26	0	0	12	0	0
16 Tishreen Stage 2	20	0	50	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	12
Mulhaq Al-Bakkar	22	0	52	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	12
Al-Dawqala	16	6	12	0	35	16	0	6	6	0	6
Al-Orouba School	18	0	10	6	40	0	25	4	3	4	3
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 1	23	0	26	35	20	30	3	3	15	15	0
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 2	16	0	12	50	0	1	29	7	2	3	4
Ahmad Aqil Al-Bai-ram (Al-Iman)	16	0	0	1	100	15	3	0	5	5	10
Muhammad Al-Qa-sem Al-Thaqafi	22	0	0	15	5	15	2	3	12	5	0
Salahuddin	19	2	26	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	8
Ramadan Hajjo	20	20	50	20	10	12	30	0	4	3	1
Omar Abu Reesheh	22	0	40	0	0	22	0	0	3	0	3
Al-Baath	21	0	5	7	20	25	20	3	12	12	0
Ragheb Haroun	35	0	0	0	0	10	25	0	0	0	0
Al-Qadsia	3	0	6	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0
Al-Asadyeh	13	0	16	10	0	6	2	5	3	3	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>73</b>

### 03. Teaching Cadres

Formal teachers formed 71% (1,129 teachers) of the total teaching cadres working in Menbij city, while informal “volunteer” teachers formed 29% (453 teachers) of the teaching cadres working in Menbij city.

33% (446 teachers) of the total teachers receive their monthly salaries from the regime, and 67% (914 teachers) receive their salaries from the controlling military forces, while 195 teachers do not receive any salaries from any entity and teach without pay.

**Figure (10):** Employment Status and Salaries of the Teaching Cadres



The term “formal teachers” means those who have already been in the teaching profession before the ongoing crisis, as they were assigned by the Syrian Directorate of Education by permanent job contracts. After graduating from intermediate colleges or institutes, they undergo a recruitment competition held by the Ministry of Education, and those who pass the competition sign permanent job contracts with the Ministry and are assigned as per their different specialisations.

When it became outside the regime’s control, Menbij district received a massive number of IDPs, which doubled the numbers of students in the city schools. Additionally, a large number of formal teachers residing in the city have migrated. Furthermore the practices of the dominating forces, including ISIL and the current military forces, contributed to multiplying the numbers of fleeing teachers, which created a huge gap in the numbers of teachers in Menbij city. Therefore, informal “volunteer” teachers were relied on to fill this large gap in numbers of teachers and 453 individuals were assigned to practice teaching. Several sources confirmed the ineligibility of the bulk of volunteers “recently appointed to practice teaching”; nonetheless, supporting the dominating forces contributed to their practice of this profession.

The regime obliges all teachers in areas outside its control to go to its adopted directorates located in areas under its control to receive their salaries. Therefore, all teachers working in Aleppo countryside are forced to go to Aleppo city to receive their salaries. Because of the successive change of various controlling forces in Menbij city, a large number of teachers cannot go to the regime-held areas to receive their salaries as some might be arrested for political reasons or taken to the military service or reserve. Only 33% (446 teachers) of the teachers in Menbij city are receiving their salaries from the regime which pays salaries ranging between 35,000-45,000 SYP (an equivalent to 73-94 USD) monthly.

The dominating military forces in Menbij city took advantage of the teachers’ need, who became almost dismissed from the Syrian Directorate of Education, and affiliated them to the Education Committee of the Executive and Legislative Councils. Thus, the teachers were subjected to laws of the dominating forces which conducted several training courses for a large portion on some subjects added to the Syrian curriculum, such as The Kurdish language, culture and ethics subjects. 67% (914 teachers) receive their salaries from the Education Committee which is affiliated with the dominating forces. The monthly salary paid for each teacher is 49,000 SYP (approximately 102 USD). Several sources confirmed that external donors are providing the teachers’ salaries through the Education Committee of the controlling forces.

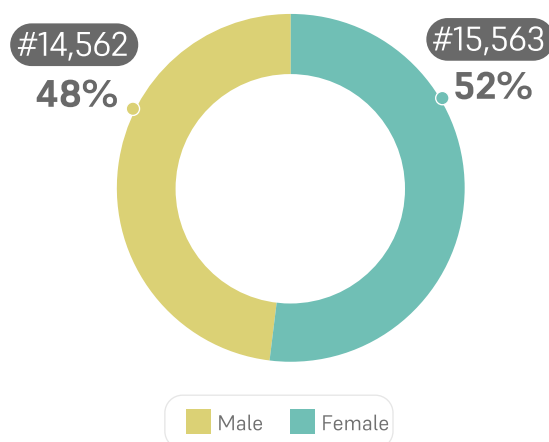
**Table (27):** Teaching Cadres in Menbij Schools

Current Name of School	No. of Male Teachers (Teaching is their Profession)	No. of Female Teachers (Teaching is their Profession)	No. of Volunteer Teachers	No. of Teachers Salaried by the Regime	No. of Teachers Salaried by the Dominating Forces
Saif Al-Dawla Al-Hamdanyah	9	11	3	12	5
Al-Karama	35	23	59	20	23
Qasr Banat Al-Arab	25	20	10	15	20
Hasan Muhammad Al-Hassani	20	26	7	16	19
Hasan Al-Damen	33	7	26	12	24
Abu Firas Al-Hamadani	7	11	81	43	20
Al-Buhturi	9	13	19	0	41
Mustafa Al-Bakkar	7	18	30	25	30
Nawajah Kabir	8	6	3	11	6
Al-Abbas Private School	74	30	0	0	104
Abdul Jalil Al-Hasan	6	16	17	18	21
16 Tishreen	15	20	23	15	43
Manaret Al-Elm Private School	70	28	0	0	98
Banat Menbij	0	16	6	16	6
Al-Banat Secondary School	25	20	15	35	25
Aghiad Al-Husaini	1	12	2	12	2
Zeidan Hneizel	31	2	10	20	23
16 Tishreen Stage 2	13	15	6	16	18
Mulhaq Al-Bakkar	15	13	9	16	20
Al-Dawqala	14	26	11	24	27
Al-Ourouba School	7	25	12	14	20
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 1	8	45	15	30	38
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 2	6	12	8	19	7
Ahmad Aqil Al-Bairam (Al-Iman)	14	19	10	7	36
Muhammad Al-Qasem Al-Thaqafi	6	30	15	8	43
Salahuddin	8	12	5	3	22
Ramadan Hajjo	9	25	6	6	34
Omar Abu Reesheh	10	10	2	3	19
Al-Baath	12	35	20	18	49
Ragheb Haroun	11	41	20	8	65
Al-Qadsia	3	4	0	1	6
Al-Asadyeh	11	16	3	3	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>914</b>

#### 04. Students

The number of students in Menbij city schools reached 30,125 students; 48% (14,562 students) of them were males and 52% (15,563 students) were females.

Figure (11): Numbers of Students as per Gender



Results show that dropout rates among male students are higher than those among female students due to many reasons, such as child labour and child recruitment by dominating forces. Additionally, female students are often capable of going to the regime-held areas to undergo intermediate, secondary or even undergraduate examinations, which might encourage them to continue their education, while, on the other hand, male students cannot obtain a recognised secondary certificate, which might increase dropout rates among them. The regime curriculum is still adopted in all Menbij city schools; however, the dominating military forces in the city have imposed new subjects for the students, such as Kurdish language, culture and ethics subjects.

**Table (28)** :Information on Students in Menbij Schools

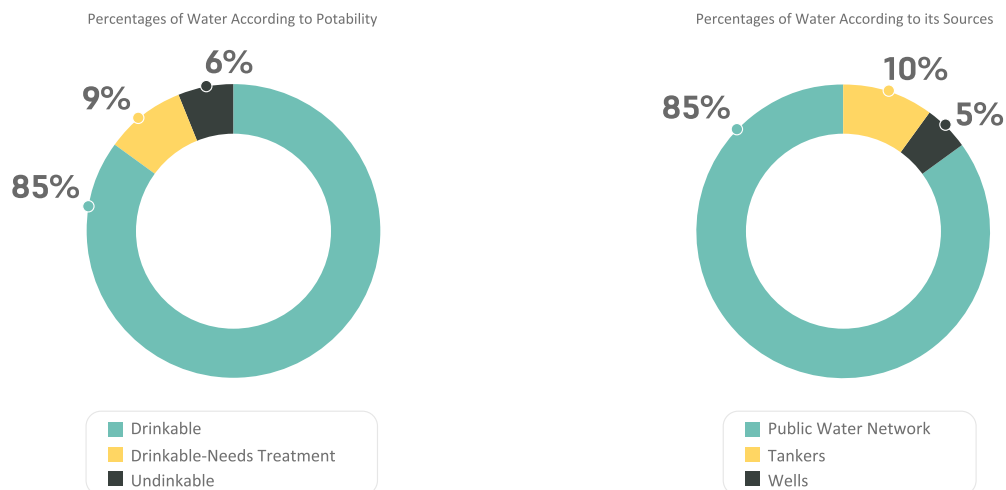
Current Name of School	No. of Male Students	No. of Female Students
Saif Al-Dawla Al-Hamdanyah	240	277
Al-Karama	724	798
Qasr Banat Al-Arab	20	498
Hasan Muhammad Al-Hassani	555	468
Hasan Al-Damen	821	0
Abu Firas Al-Hamadani	743	722
Al-Buhturi	285	302
Mustafa Al-Bakkar	435	476
Nawajah Kabir	206	175
Al-Abbas Private School	721	668
Abdul Jalil Al-Hasan	162	148
16 Tishreen	628	315
Banat Menbij	150	620
Al-Banat Secondary School	0	450
Aghiad Al-Husaini	239	288
Zeidan Hneizel	442	0
16 Tishreen Stage 2	400	485
Mulhaq Al-Bakkar	408	592
Al-Dawqala	500	700
Al-Orouba School	474	825
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 1	878	949
Al-Tatbiqat Al-Maslakyeh School Stage 2	0	345
Ahmad Aqil Al-Bairam (Al-Iman)	996	393
Muhammad Al-Qasem Al-Thaqafi	594	900
Salahuddin	200	400
Ramadan Hajjo	687	813
Omar Abu Reesheh	569	449
Al-Baath	850	824
Ragheb Haroun	1,280	1,237
Al-Qadsia	102	132
Al-Asadyeh	253	314
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,562</b>	<b>15,563</b>

**SECTION.09**  
**WATER**

## 01. Water Sources and Potability

The study showed that the public water network is the source of 85% of the water used by Menbij city population, water tankers are the source of 10% of used water, and wells are the source of 5% of the used water. Furthermore, 85% of the water used in Menbij city is drinkable, whereas 9% is drinkable but needs treatment and 6% is undrinkable.

**Figure (12):** Percentages of Water as per Sources and Usability for Drinking



Prior to the ongoing crisis, the public water network was the only source of water for drinking and use in Menbij city as its water used to cover all population needs. When the city became out of the regime's control, the network's water gradually decreased while the need for water increased with the increasing number of population in the city due to the massive influx of IDPs. Moreover, the dilapidated network and leakage of a part of water into ground cracks weakened the network's water pressure, and so the water stopped reaching many parts of the city. This forced the population to search for new water sources. Menbij city population pay 1,000 SYP every two months to receive water from the public network (approximately 2 USD). Water fees are collected by Jubat (collectors) working at the Economic Committee affiliated with the dominating military forces in the city. Some residents drilled surface wells to secure water for their houses. Owners of surface wells mostly supply a number of neighbouring houses with water. Some residents drilled artesian wells which depth exceeds 100 meters. Those wells provide large quantities of water, and their owners sell water to water tankers which, in their turn, sell the water to houses.

Water tankers are the source of 10% of water used in Menbij city. The cost of 1 cubic meter of water from tankers is 1,500 SYP (approximately 3.12 USD). (It is customary in Menbij city that 1 cubic meter of water equals a 5-barrel water tank). The population's need for water in Menbij city increases in summer which increases reliance on water tankers. Dependence on water tankers for several months in summer might reach 20% of used water.

Even though water from the public water network is not of high purity and includes impurities, the city population consider it drinkable and use it for drinking, cooking and other domestic uses. It forms 85% of water considered drinkable by Menbij city population. Most water wells drilled by the city population are drinkable if treated. Multiple organisations formerly distributed capsules for domestic filtration of wells' water.

At the time of preparing this report, no entity was distributing such capsules. Drinkable water that needs treatment constituted 9% of the water used in the city. Menbij city wells are the source of this water. Multiple wells have been recently drilled in Al-Manqouba district on the northern outskirts of the city and close to the industrial area. Water of wells in Al-Manqouba district is undrinkable due to its closure to sewers. This water forms 6% of the water used in Menbij city. Use of water from those wells increases in summer with the increasing water demand. Water of those wells is mostly used for cleaning purposes only.

## 02. Private Wells (Surface)

Due to weak water pressure from the public network and its unavailability in some of the city neighbourhoods, the residents resorted to drilling surface wells (private), which depth is less than 100 meters. Those wells depend on the collection of rainwaters for multiple hours, and then submersible pumps are operated to draw this water. The deeper the well, the more abundant the water within.

Water from the public network weakens towards the north of Menbij city as the main water line enters Menbij city from its south and ends in its north, which weakens the water in northern neighbourhoods of the city. The network's water is often non-existent in elevated areas such as Al-Serb Neighbourhood, which explains the large number of private wells in this neighbourhood. The number of private wells in Menbij city is estimated at around 20 private wells. The following table shows the top important wells and their locations in the city. Each of the private wells reportedly covers the water needs of a few houses ranging between 3-5 houses. At most times, owners of those wells are not paid for providing neighbours and relatives with water.

**Table (29):** Top Important Surface Wells (Private) in Menbij City

Location of Well	Functional/ Non-functional	Water Abundance Cubic Meter/Hour	No. of Opera- tion Hours/Daily Average	Quality of Water in Terms of Potability
Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Functional	4	1	Drinkable
Joret El-Arayes Neighbourhood	Non-functional	-	-	-
Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Functional	2	1	Drinkable
Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Functional	5	5	Drinkable
Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Functional	1	1	Drinkable
Al-Serb Neighbourhood	Non-functional	3	1	Drinkable
Bustan Al-Jeblawi Neighbourhood	Functional	6	2	Drinkable
Al-Hneizel Neighbourhood	Functional	3	1	Drinkable
Al-Ghassaniyeh Neighbourhood	Functional	2	1.5	Drinkable
Al-Awasi Neighbourhood	Functional	3	2	Drinkable

## 03. Public Wells (Artesian)

Menbij city has 4 artesian wells, which are known as public wells. Owners of those wells drilled and equipped them to sell water to the population. Those wells are too deep, which makes their water more abundant when compared to surface wells. However, they need large submersible pumps and special generator sets to secure the needed electricity for operating the pumps. Those wells are operated using the electricity grid if available, or their special generator sets if the electricity grid was not available. Water abundance in those wells ranges between 8-12 cubic meters per hour. The Economic Committee of the dominating military forces supports the wells with needed fuel in return of finance fees posed on owners of those wells. Owners of water tankers sell the wells' water to the population in return of 1,500 SYP per 1 cubic meter of the tanker's water (an equivalent to 3.12 USD) (it is customary in Menbij city that 1 cubic meter equals a 5-barrel water tank).

The water of the artesian well in Al-Hawatmeh neighbourhood is not desired by the city population as this well is close to the sewage dump of Menbij city, which might pollute the well's water. Entities in charge of public wells noticed a decrease in the water rate of two artesian wells located in Al-Hawatmeh and Al-Nawajah neighbourhoods. Sources reported that the water rates of those two wells have decreased in comparison with those of the last year. Whereas those in charge of Al-Bustan and Al-Shariah artesian wells saw that their water rate did not decrease, but demand for water has increased in comparison with last year.



**Table (30):** Artesian Wells (Public) in Menbij City

Location of Well	Entity Supporting the Well	Entity Supporting the Well	Functional/ Non-functional	Water Abundance	Quality of Water	Quality of Water	Power Source	Noted a Change in the Water Rate
Al-Hawatmeh Neighbourhood	Private	Economic Committee	Functional	8	7	Undrinkable	Amperes-Generator Set	Decrease
Bustan Al-Jeb-lawi Neighbourhood	Private	Economic Committee	Functional	8	10	Drinkable	Amperes-Generator Set	No
Al-Nawajah Neighbourhood	Private	Economic Committee	Functional	12	6	Drinkable	Amperes-Generator Set	Decrease
Al-Shariah Neighbourhood	Private	Economic Committee	Functional	8	8	Drinkable	Amperes-Generator Set	No

#### 04. Water Stations

Menbij city depends on Babiri water station in Babiri village, which is affiliated with Maskana sub-district in Aleppo eastern countryside. The water station is located near the Euphrates River and in the regime held areas. It includes 14 lifting pumps, and its productive capacity is 680,000 cubic meters a day. The station supplies most villages in Aleppo eastern countryside with water and pumps water to Al-Qaraa water tank in Qaraa Kabir town in Menbij centre sub-district. Water is pumped from this water tank towards Menbij city. Water supplied from the station through the public network covers 85% of water need in Menbij city.

Additionally, the station pumps water towards the countryside of Menbij sub-district and covers 10% of water need in the countryside of Menbij centre sub-district. The station is power-supplied through the public electricity grid, in addition to a number of generators operating on diesel (oil). Since this water station is located in the regime held areas, the regime is likely to cut water supply to Menbij sub-district if tensions with the currently dominating forces occur or the controlling entity changes.

**Table (31):** Public Water Stations Supplying Menbij City

Name of Station	Location of Station	Entity Admin-istrating the Station	Supporting Entity	No. of Pump-ing Engines	Power Source	Productive Capacity per Day/Cubic Meter
Babiri Station	Babiri village	Syrian regime	Public Water Institution	14	Public elec-tricity grid	680,000

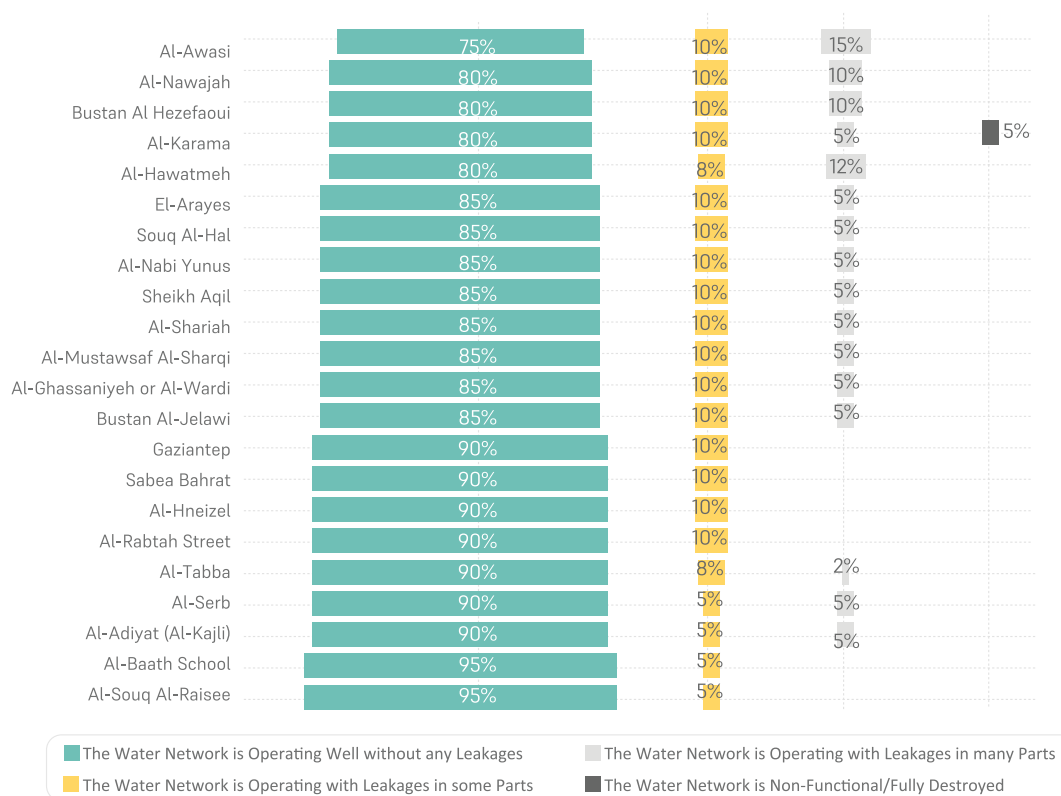


### 05. Public Water Network

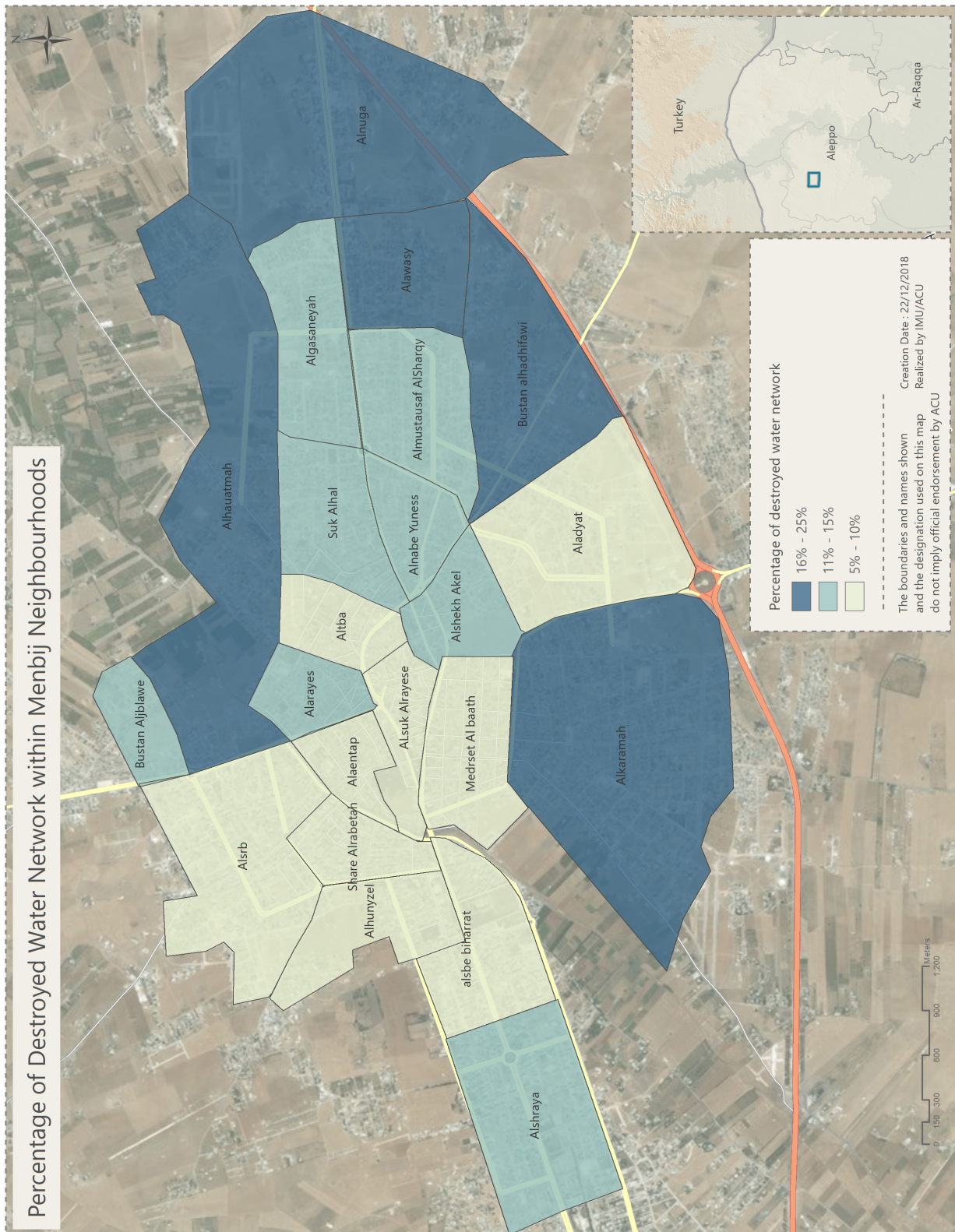
The public water network of all neighbourhoods in Menbij city suffers from malfunctions causing water leakages through cracks; however, the percentage of malfunctions in all neighbourhoods does not exceed 70%. Percentage of malfunctions in the public water network is higher in eastern neighbourhoods of the city such as Al-Awasi, Al-Nawajah, Bustan Al-Hezefaoui, Al-Karama and Al-Hawatmeh neighbourhoods due to military actions and intense bombardments in those neighbourhoods at the time of seizing control over the city from ISIL. Those neighbourhoods were exposed to hundreds of airstrikes by the International Coalition planes, along with artillery shelling. No maintenance works were conducted for the network since ISIL control till the date of preparing this report. Simple maintenance works took place only to stop the water leakage without replacement of damaged parts of the network. Most northern neighbourhoods in the city are reportedly not supplied by the public water network due to the public network's weak water pressure towards the north, as the main water line enters Menbij city from its southern part and ends in its northern part, which weakens the water pressure in northern neighbourhoods of the city, also water is often non-existent in elevated areas such as Al-Serb Neighbourhood.

In Al-Karama Neighbourhood, which is located in the south of Menbij city, it was shown that 5% of the water network's parts are fully destroyed and need replacement, 5% of the public network's parts in this neighbourhood suffer from significant destruction, whereas 10% of the network suffers from average destruction.

Figure (13): Technical Status of the Water Network at the Neighbourhood Level



**Map (5)** Destruction in the Water Network in Menbij City as per Neighbourhoods



**SECTION.10**

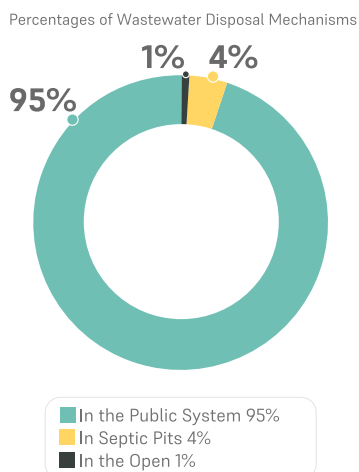
**WASTEWATER  
AND SEWAGE**

## 01. Wastewater Disposal Mechanisms

Prior to the ongoing crisis, wastewater used to be disposed of through the public system in all the city neighbourhoods. After the crisis, and due to urban expansion in neighbourhoods located in the city outskirts, other disposal mechanisms have emerged; as 4% of wastewater is disposed of in septic pits, 1% is disposed of in the open while 95% is disposed of through the public system.

The urban expansion in the outskirts and non-establishment of a sewerage system in the new urban expansions by any entity have led to residents' use of less costly means of disposal such as septic pits or in the open. In Al-Nawajah neighbourhood, located in the northeastern part of the city, 15% of wastewater is disposed of in septic pits and 5% in the open. In Al-Bustan Al-Jelawi neighborhood, located in the far north of the city, 10% of wastewater is disposed of in septic pits and 10% in the open.

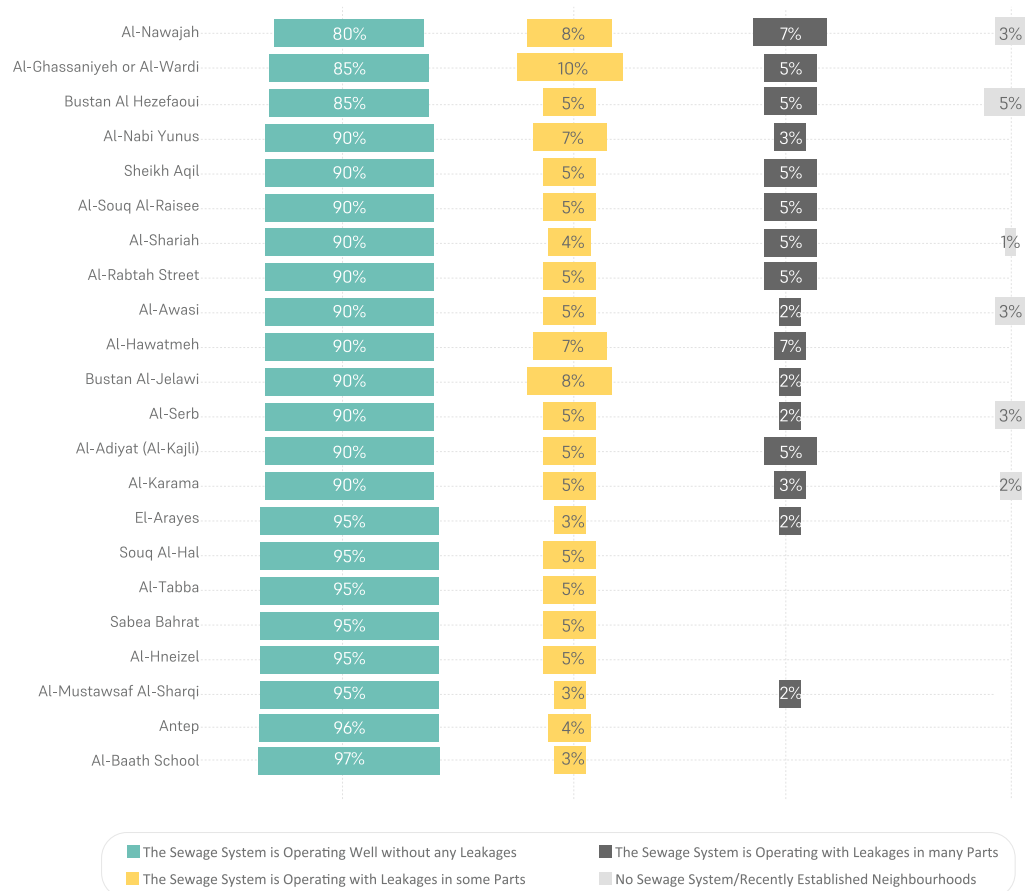
**Figure (14):** Wastewater Disposal Mechanisms in Menbij City



## 02. Sewage System Status

During clashes between ISIL and PKK, and the latter's attempt to control the city, a part of the sewage system in the city was destroyed as the International Coalition planes shelled all the city neighbourhoods. The shelling was concentrated on the eastern part of the city, where PKK forces advanced, which increased the percentages of destruction in eastern neighbourhoods when compared to the other neighbourhoods. Through support from the international organisations, Menbij municipality offered tenders for contractors to repair the system; however, maintenance works were limited to simple repairs to stop water leakages without repairing or replacing the damaged system.

**Figure (15):** Percentages of the Sewage System by the Technical Status – at the Neighbourhood Level







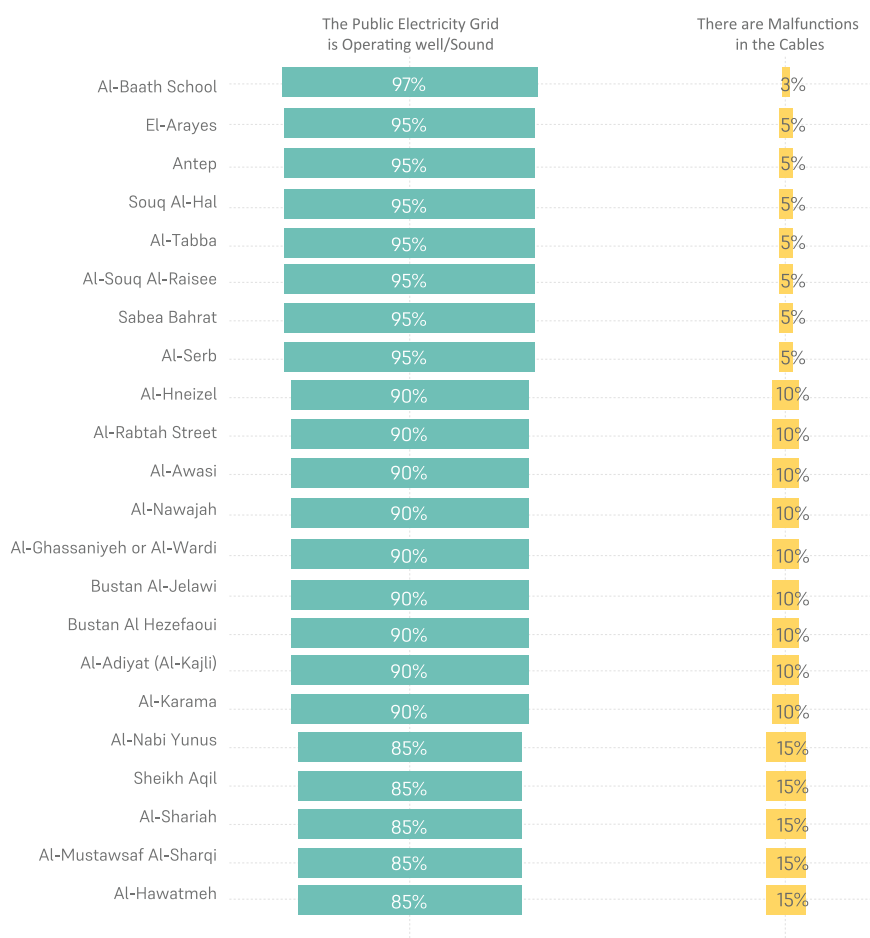
**SECTION.11**

# **ELECTRICITY**

Before the ongoing crisis, Menbij city neighbourhoods used to be covered by a wind-electricity-generating grid composed of cement, metal or wooden pillars and electrical wires with the majority of which made of aluminium and some made of copper. While the regime was losing control over Menbij, the city was bombed which caused malfunctions in the grid as some electrical wires were cut and some pillars were destroyed. Additionally, some parts of the wires were stolen because of the electricity cut off in the city, and the condition of the electricity grid had significantly deteriorated due to negligence. The city population started to use the grid at the neighbourhood level only to operate private ampere generators, which forced them to restore some parts of the grid on their own expense and within available capacities.

When ISIL was controlling Menbij city, it started to repair the public electricity grid in purpose of transporting electricity to Menbij city through the public grid, as the project aimed to supply the city with electricity from Tishreen Dam. When PKK controlled the city, it finalised the project and electricity started to reach the city neighbourhoods through the public grid. Many neighbourhoods in Menbij city still suffer from destruction in the public electricity grid estimated at 15% of the grid; and they are Al-Nabi Yunus, Al-Sheikh Aqil, Al-Shariah, Al-Mustawsaf Al-Sharqi and Al-Hawatmeh neighbourhoods, while the other neighbourhoods are suffering from destruction percentages estimated at 5-10% of the grid.

**Figure (16):** The Status of the Electricity Grid at the Neighbourhood Level





Menbij has 70 electricity transformers distributed across the city neighbourhoods; 58 ground pad-mounted transformers and 12 vertical pad-mounted transformers. During the period of data collection, there were 6 transformers ready for work, and did not need repairs, but required periodic maintenance works summed up in periodic check of the quantity of oil in the transformer. Also, 64 transformers require some spare parts to become ready for work; such as circuit breakers, cables, boards and oils.

**Table (32):** Electricity Transformers in Menbij City

Transformer No.	Name of Neighbourhood	Type	Technical Status	Capacity	Needs
1	Al-Karama Neighbourhood	Ground pad-mounted	Functional	1,600	Periodic maintenance
2		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil, cables and protection equipment
3		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker, crimping lugs and lug nuts
4		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Complete board and oil
5		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker, cables and outlets
6	Al-Kajli Neighbourhood	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	1,000	Oil, circuit breaker and lug nuts
7		Ground pad-mounted	Functional	630	Periodic maintenance
8		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Oil, cables and circuit breaker
9	Karm Al-Hezefaoui	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Complete board, cables and oil
10		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker, oil and lug nuts
11		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Oil, board and cables
12	Al-Serb	Ground pad-mounted	Functional	1,600	Periodic maintenance
13		Ground pad-mounted	Functional	630	Periodic maintenance
14		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Crimping lugs, circuit breaker and cables
15		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Complete board with its equipment
16		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	200	Oil, cables and circuit breaker
17	Al-Jeblawi	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Board, oil and cables
18		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker, crimping lugs and lug nuts
19		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Crimping lugs, cables and circuit breaker
20	Al-Hawatmeh	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil, cables and circuit breaker
21		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker, cables and board
22		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker, lug nuts and oil
23	Al-Ghassaniyeh	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker
24		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and cables
25		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Cables and crimping lugs
26	Al-Nawaja	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
27		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Complete board with its equipment
28		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Oil
29	Al-Awasi	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker and cables
30		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and cables
31		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Oil
32	Al-Mustawsaf Al-Sharqi	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	1,000	Cables and circuit breaker
33		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
34		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker, oil, cables and crimping lugs

35		Needs maintenance	1,000	Circuit breaker	Sigorta
36	Al-Rabtah Street	Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
37		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Control board
38	Al-Hneizel	Needs maintenance	1,000	Cables	Kablo
39		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Cables
40		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker
41	Sabea Bahrat	Functional	1,600	Periodic maintenance	Periyodik Bakım
42		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and cables
43		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and crimping lugs
44	Al-Shariah Neighbourhood	Needs maintenance	1,000	Circuit breaker	Sigorta
45		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
46		Vertical pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Control board with its equipment
47	Al-Souq Al-Raisee	Needs maintenance	1,600	Oil	Yağ
48		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Crimping lugs and circuit breaker
49		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Control board, cables and lug nuts
50	Al-Baath School	Functional	1,600	Periodic maintenance	Periyodik Bakım
51		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
52		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Cables
53	Sheikh Aqil	Needs maintenance	1,600	Control board and oil	Kontrol Paneli- Yağ
54		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker and cables
55		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Oil
56	Al-Nabi Yunus	Needs maintenance	1,000	Oil and circuit breaker	Sigorta- Kablo
57		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker
58		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
59	Souq Al-Hal	Needs maintenance	1,000	Crimping lugs, cables and circuit breaker	Sigorta- Kablo- Bakır Kablo Başlıkları
60		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and cables
61		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker and oil
62	Al-Tabba	Needs maintenance	1,000	Control board with its equipment and cables	Ekipmanlarla Komple Elektrik Paneli- Kablo
63		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil and circuit breaker
64		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Control board
65	Gaziantep	Needs maintenance	1,000	Cables and oil	Kablo- Yağ
66		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Cables, oil and circuit breaker
67		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	400	Circuit breaker
68	Joret El-Arayes	Needs maintenance	1,000	Cables, crimping lugs and circuit breaker	Sigorta- Kablo- Bakır Kablo Başlıkları
69		Ground pad-mounted	Needs maintenance	630	Oil
70			Needs maintenance	630	Circuit breaker and cables

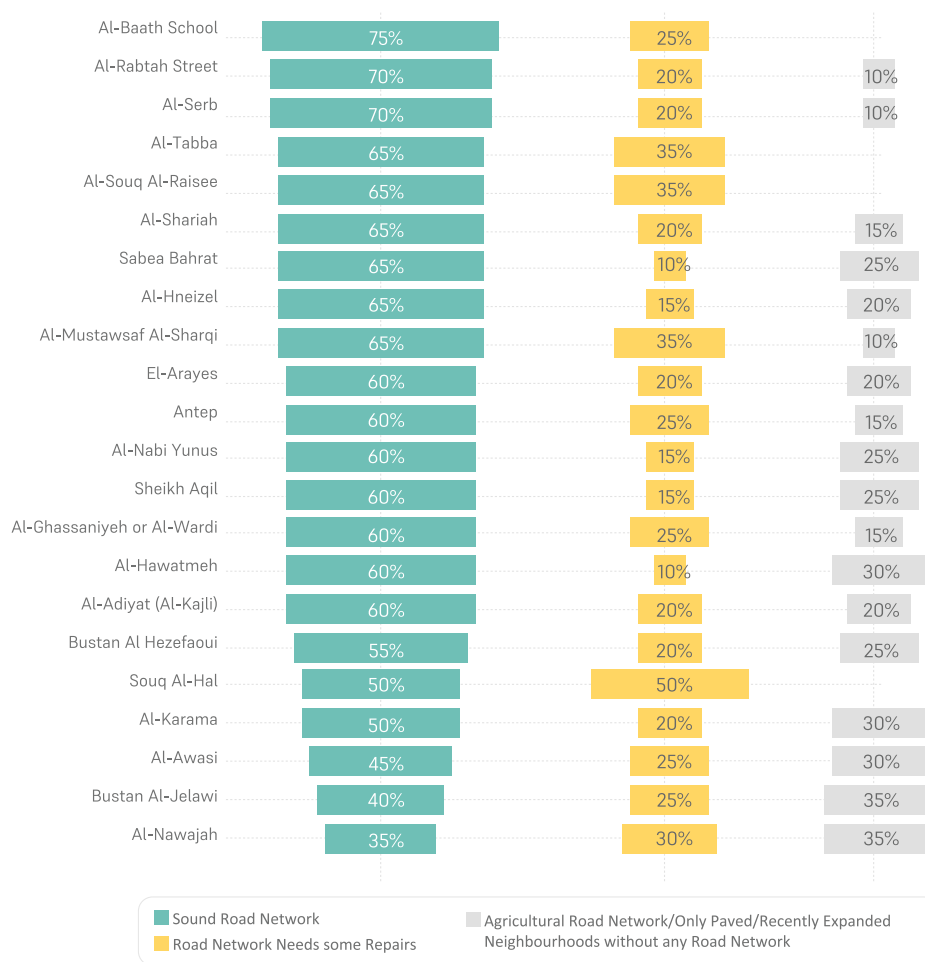
**SECTION.12**

# **PUBLIC ROADS**

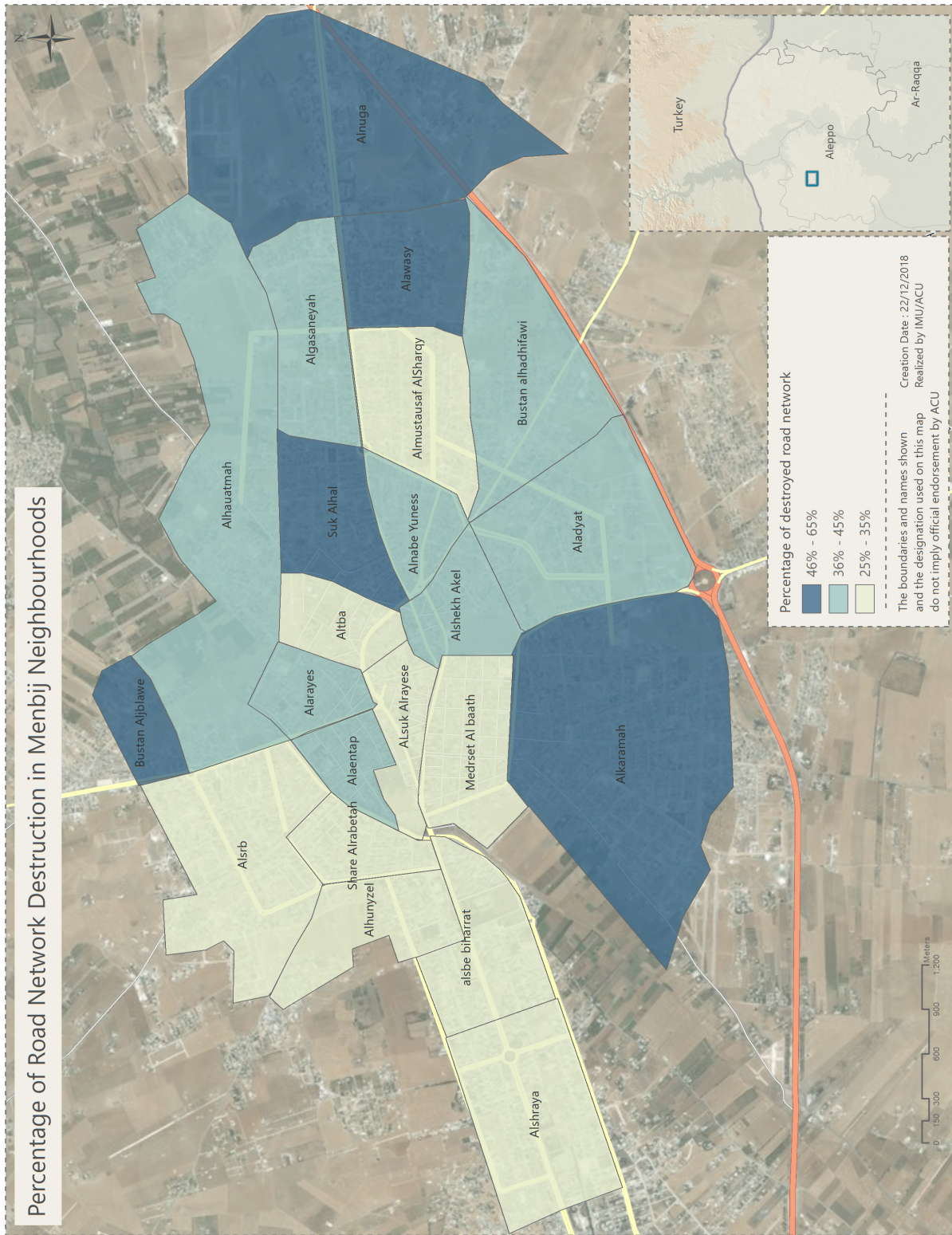
Since Menbij city became out of the regime control, no entity has conducted any maintenance works in the public road network of the city, and no new roads have been constructed in the neighbourhoods which have been newly expanded. The regime affiliated Department of Public Roads was responsible for maintenance of public roads and construction of new roads and used to implement all its projects through the Military Housing Corporation or some contractors associated with the regime.

Menbij city witnessed many significant battles which led to the destruction of parts of the roads. Battles between the regime and the opposition forces took place while liberating the city from the regime control, which shelled the city during the liberation period, then air-struck and land-bombed it. The Regime bombardment operations continued for as long as the opposition controlled the city. When ISIL seized it, the city was bombed by the International Coalition air strikes. Shelling reached a climax during the period of battles waged by PKK to seize the city. The largest percentage of destroyed roads was concentrated in the city centre in Souq Al-Hal neighbourhood which was exposed to many bombardments, in addition to overconsumption and negligence of roads due to the absence of periodic maintenance works. Furthermore, the percentages of destroyed roads were high in Al-Tabba, Al-Souq Al-Raisee and Al-Mustawsaf Al-Sharqi neighbourhoods and exceeded 35% of the total roads. All Menbij city outskirts have experienced an urbanization which generated a large portion of roads unequipped with an asphalt layer and mostly dirt roads neither asphalted nor paved with a layer of gravel in the distant neighbourhoods.

**Figure (17):** Percentages of the Road Network by the Technical Status- at the Neighbourhood Level



**Map (8):** Destruction of the Road Network in Menbij City at the Neighbourhood Level





**SECTION.13**

**PUBLIC  
TELECOMMUNI-  
CATIONS**

- **Mobile Phones**

When ISIL was controlling Menbij city, the coverage towers of the Syrian mobile networks (Syriatel and MTN companies), which are affiliated with the regime and were out of service at that time, were dismantled. When PKK seized Menbij city, and due to the lack of mobile networks, Turkcell- a Turkish mobile network, was widely used in Menbij city. However, availability of Turkish telecommunication networks has grown weaker those days with limited coverage of areas near the Syrian-Turkish borders only. Since early 2017, the Syrian mobile network (Syriatel) of the regime was operated in Menbij city and its eastern countryside using communication towers connecting Menbij city and Ain Al Arab (Kubani) to Al-Hasakeh governorate. Over the recent months, three towers of Syriatel Company, which is affiliated with the regime, were installed in Menbij city. Recently, MTN network of the regime was operated in Menbij city. In general, Syrian mobile networks are largely used for communications in Menbij city and its countryside. (3G) mobile internet is used on mobile phones yet very little due to the high costs of mobile internet network packages when compared to satellite internet network used in Menbij city.

- **Terrestrial Communication Network**

During battles between PKK and ISIL, the PTT building (terrestrial communication switchboard) was fully destroyed due to exposure to several airstrikes by the International Coalition. As a result of those strikes, the main PTT centre (switchboard/operator) was fully destroyed and became out of service, as the damage was in the control room along with the destruction of the switchboard's main tower. Therefore, there are no terrestrial communication or DSL internet services in Menbij city or its countryside. The PTT building needs to be rebuilt from the ground up due to its enormous damage and new equipment and supplies need to be secured. As for the terrestrial communication network in Menbij city neighbourhoods, they are fully destroyed, and the percentage of destruction in all neighbourhoods reached 95% of the network.

- **Satellite Internet Service**

Provided through satellite communication devices (two-way) or what is known as (Metro). This network is cheap in comparison with mobile internet network (3G), but it is somehow slow due to overload caused by the large number of users. The cost of 1 GB is 2,000 SYP (approximately 4 USD). In the present time, there are reports that the dominating military forces in the city intend to include mobile and internet communication services through private sector investors under the supervision of the dominating military forces and to disseminate this network in all PKK-held areas.



**MENBIJ**

**CITY**

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MENBIJ CITY  
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INFORMATION MANAGEMENT UNIT  
ASSISTANCE COORDINATION UNIT  
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**Contact us for more information**

[www.acu-sy.org](http://www.acu-sy.org) +90 (34) 2220 10 77  
[imu@acu-sy.org](mailto:imu@acu-sy.org) +90 (34) 2220 10 88  
+90 (34) 2220 10 99



incilipinar Mah.3 Nolu Cd.  
Akınalan iş Mrk. Kat 5  
ŞehitKamil /Gaziantep. Turkey

+90 (342) 220 10 77  
imu@acu-sy.org  
www.acu-sy.org

**Menbij City**