

POST-CONFLICT MULTISECTORAL RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN SYRIA

December 2024



Post-Conflict Multisectoral Rapid Needs Assessment in Syria

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Post-Conflict Multisectoral Rapid Needs Assessment in Syria

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1. Executive Summary

After 13 years of relentless conflict, Syria faces severe humanitarian challenges driven by deteriorating infrastructure, disrupted livelihoods, and inadequate essential services. With the recent fall of Assad's regime and Syria's liberation, the Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) underscores pressing multisectoral needs in education, food security, WASH, protection, livelihoods, health, and shelter. Key priorities include restoring electricity, enhancing education, ensuring security, delivering food and water, and addressing critical health and shelter needs. 2,105 surveys, between December 19 and 24, with diverse key informants (KIs) are conducted through 225 enumerators across all governorates. These findings highlight the urgency of coordinated interventions to tackle the complex crises affecting communities in Syria. The findings are as follows:

- **Education:** 80% of respondents reported disruptions to education services. Barriers include child labor (33%), safety concerns (22%) and loss of furniture (18%). Immediate needs are heating (28%), textbooks (24%), and winterization kits for children (18%).
- **Food Security:** 79% of respondents report that there are severe food shortages; 82% require emergency food aid. Staple foods (30%), cooking fuel (27%), and protein sources are top priorities.
- **WASH:** Respondents report that piped water networks (43%), water trucking (30%), and closed wells (10%) are primary water sources. Regarding water problems, 33% of respondents report face insufficient water, 15% report limited network operation, and 10% report unavailability and poor quality of water.
- **Protection:** The protection needs include property rights protection (38%), legal services (34%), and psychosocial support (28%). 78% of respondents report no presence of unexploded ordinance. Child labor (31%), begging (24%), and abuse neglect (18) are the top reported child protection risks. While lack of access to services (28%), violence in the home (23%), being asked to marry (21%) are key concerns for women and girls.
- **Early Recovery:** Infrastructure is significantly damaged. Top rehabilitation priorities include electricity (80%), roads (25%), and water supply (22%). Government institutions and sectors, including skilled and unskilled labor, trading, markets, and corporations, are partially affected (61%), while 31% are fully impacted.
- **Health:** Lack of medicines (35%), medical personnel (19%), and female doctors (16%) are top barriers to healthcare access. Top health needs include first aid (32%), medicine (26%), and chronic disease treatment (25%).
- **Shelter and NFIs:** 20% of shelters are damaged. Fuel (28%), winter clothing kits (24%), and NFI kits (17%) are the top shelter and NFI needs,
- **Access:** Local civilian authorities (46%) and humanitarian affairs offices/relief offices (38%) are identified as the key actors in coordinating humanitarian assistance delivery. A smaller role is played by local military authorities (8%).

Top overarching priorities following the recent developments in Syria include electricity (19%), security (18%), food (17%), water (13%), and fuel supply (13%)

2. Methodology

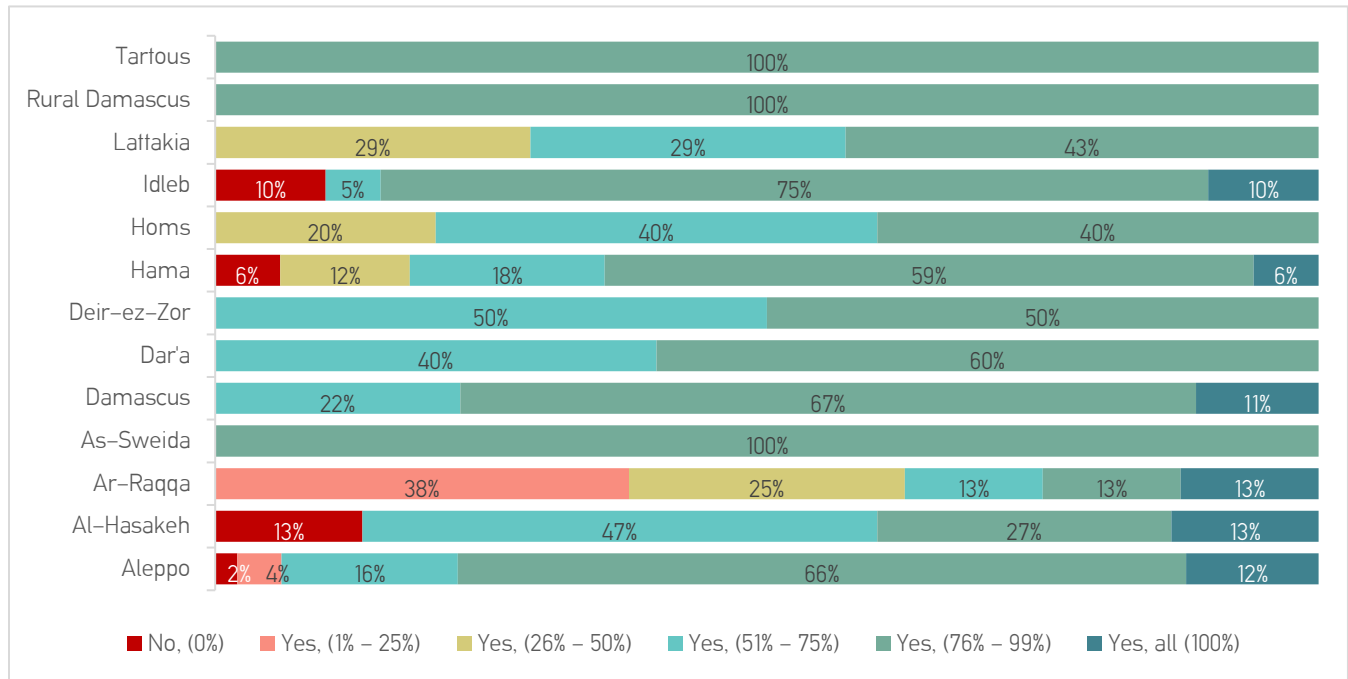
The RNA utilized Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) to collect data across major cities, towns, and communities. A team of 225 enumerators conducted 2,015 surveys from December 19 to 24, 2024, with 88% being face-to-face, engaging directly with respondents. KIIs included local councils (24%), civil society groups (16%), mukhtars (14%), NGO staff (10%), community leaders (7%), health workers (7%), school principals (4%), among others. This approach provided a comprehensive understanding of the needs and challenges faced by the population exceeding 23 million. Enumerators' observations further enriched the qualitative data, enhancing the overall analysis.

3. Sectoral Analysis

1. Education

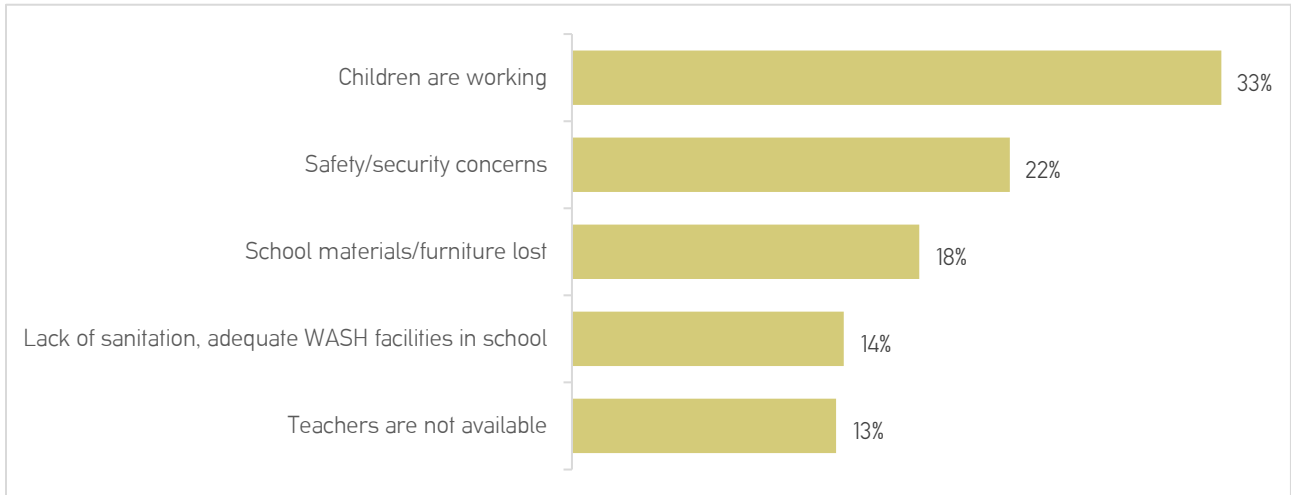
The RNA revealed that 80% of respondents reported disruptions to education services. The survey highlighted the proportion of school-age children attending school. While 59% of respondents indicated that 76%–99% of children attend, 21% stated that 51%–75% of children attend, 5% reported attendance ranging from 26%–50%, 3% indicated 1%–25% attendance, only 8% reported full attendance, and 4% stated that no children attend school at all. Detailed breakdowns by governorate are provided below.

Figure 1 Proportion of School-Age Children Attending School



The RNA highlights child labor (33%), safety concerns (22%), and loss of school furniture (18%) as the primary education barriers, followed by inadequate sanitation and WASH facilities (14%) and teacher shortages (13%).

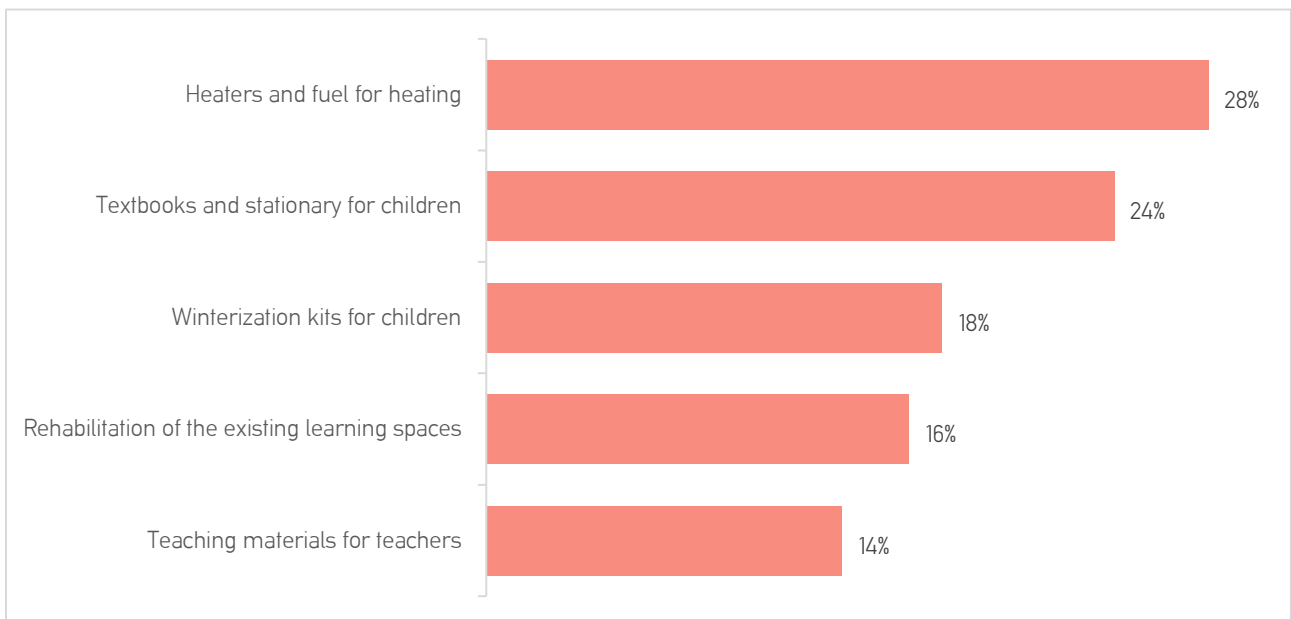
Figure 2 Top Barriers to Education



Education Needs:

Top education needs are heating (28%), textbooks (24%), and winterization kits (18%), followed by rehabilitation (16%) and teaching materials (15%).

Figure3 Top Education Needs



2. Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

82% indicate a need for emergency food distributions, cash transfers (45%) are the most preferred form of food assistance, followed by food vouchers (29%), and in-kind commodities (26%).

Figure 5 Need for Immediate Emergency Food Distributions

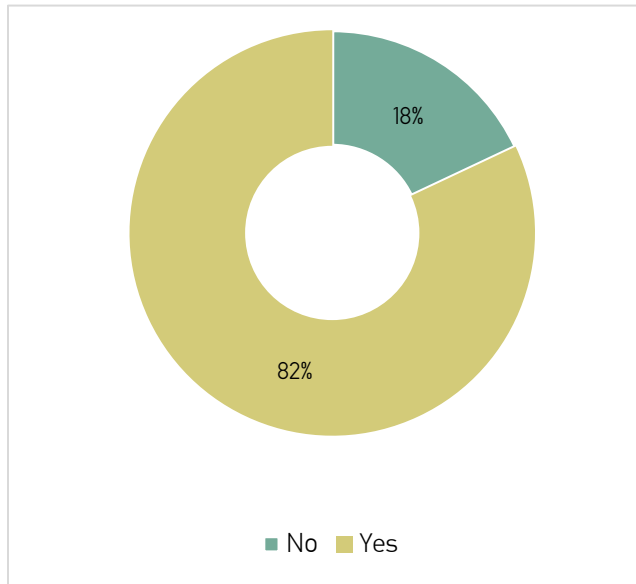
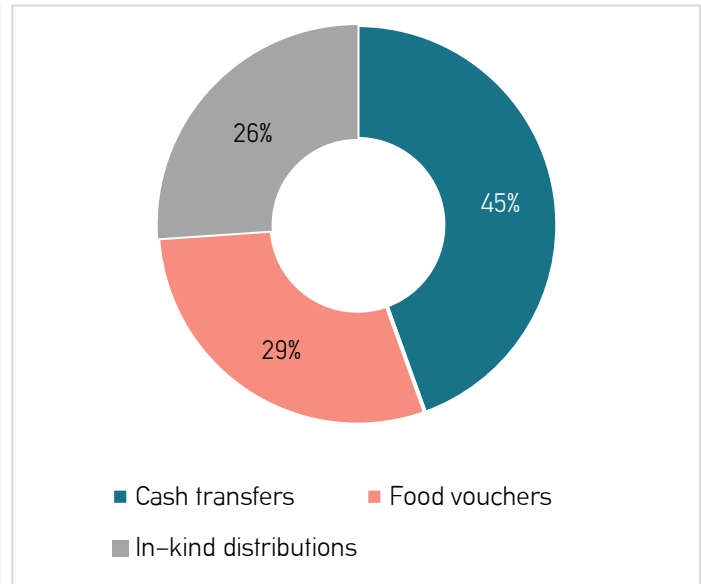


Figure 4 Preferred Types of Food Assistance



79% report severe food shortages, as only 23% confirm ongoing food assistance programs.

Figure 7 Households Facing Severe Food Shortages

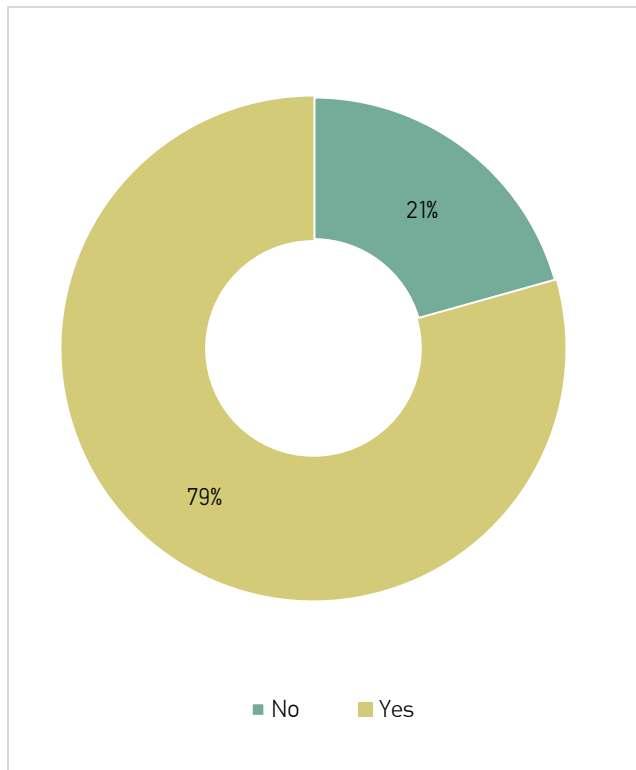
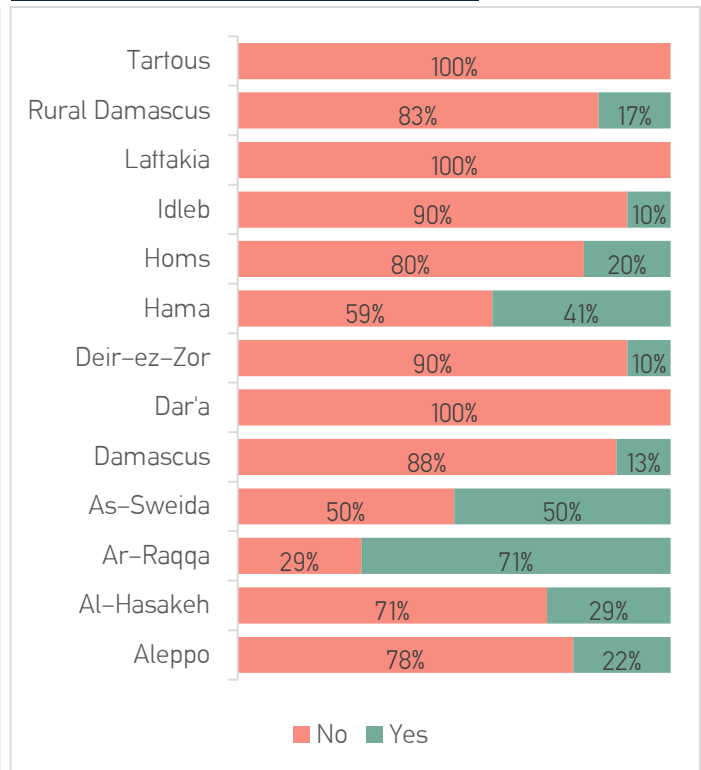


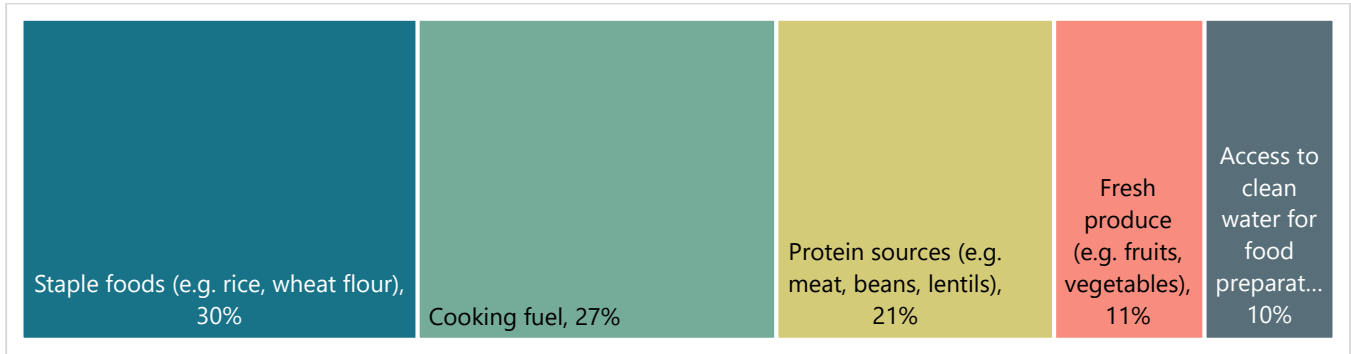
Figure 6 Ongoing Food Assistance Distributions



Immediate Food Needs:

Immediate food needs include staple foods (30%), cooking fuel (27%), and protein sources (21%) as top priorities for displaced populations. Followed by fresh produce (11%) and clean water for food preparation (10%). Notably, Tartous reported the need for staple foods merely.

Figure 8 Immediate Food Needs of Displaced Population



3. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Main Water Sources:

Piped water networks (43%) and water trucking (30%) are the main water sources accessed by the population. Followed by closed well (10%), bottled water (9%), and open wells (7%). Regarding the daily consumption, 33% consume 15–30 liters/day, 26% consume 30–50 liters/day, 18% consume less than 15 liters/day, while 22% exceed 50 liters/day.

Figure 9 Distribution of Main Water Sources

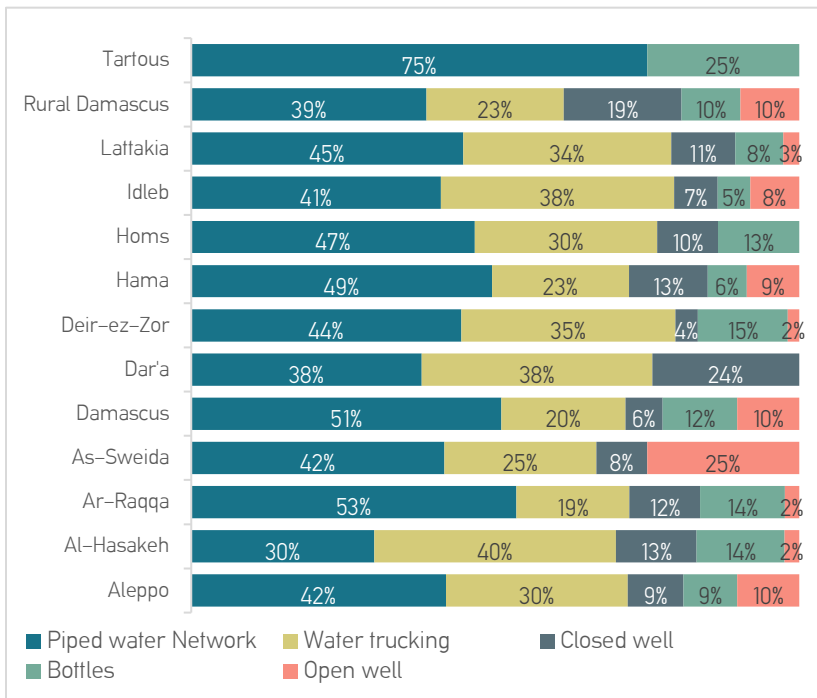
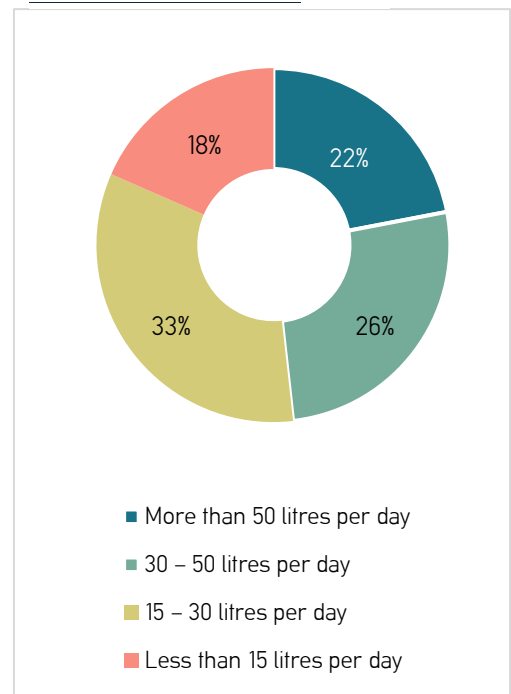


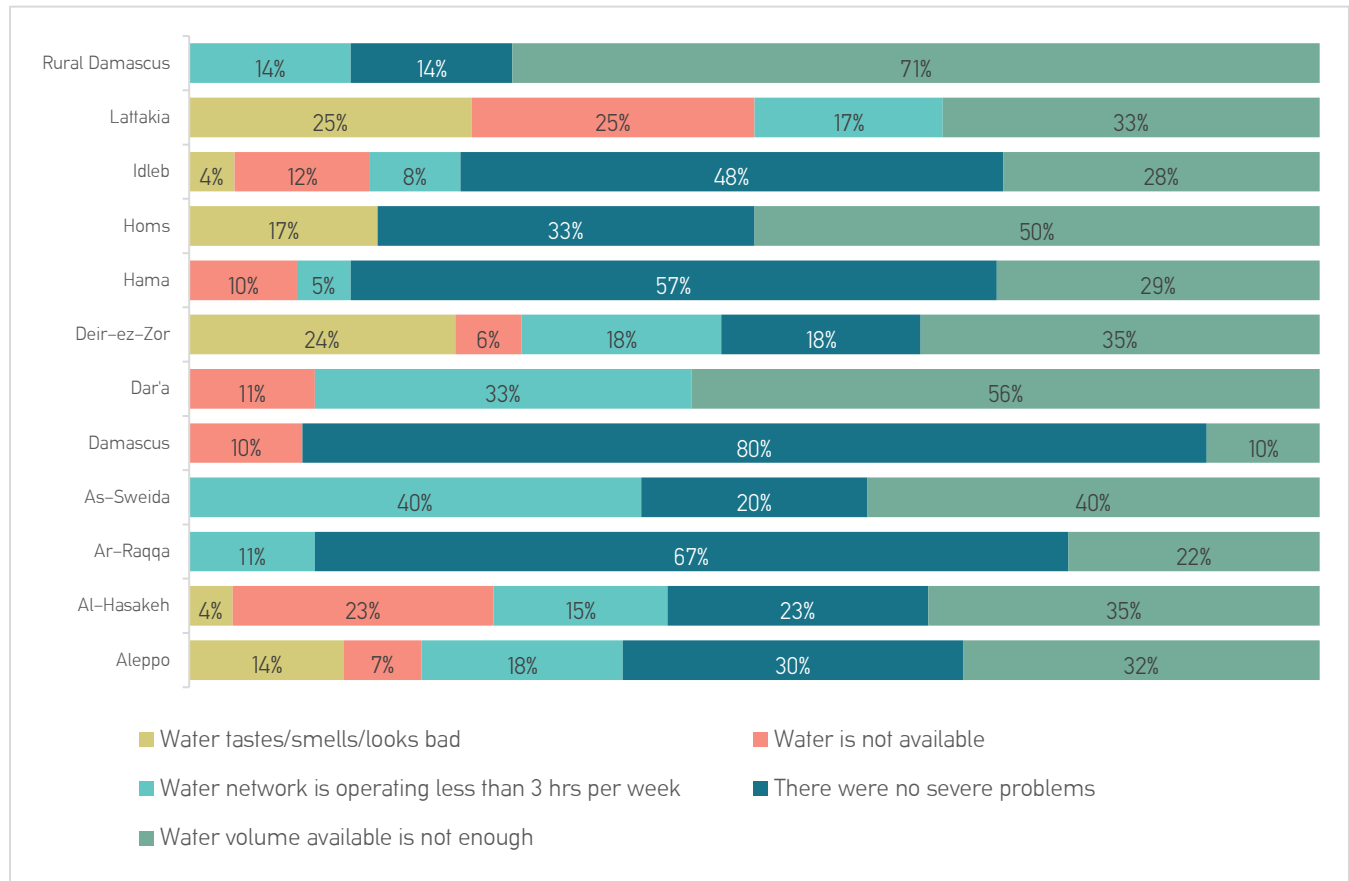
Figure 10 Average Daily Water Consumption per Individual



Problems with Drinking Water Source:

33% reported insufficient water, with key concerns include limited network operation (15%), unavailability (10%), and poor quality (9%). While another 33% reported no issues. Detailed breakdowns by governorate are provided below.

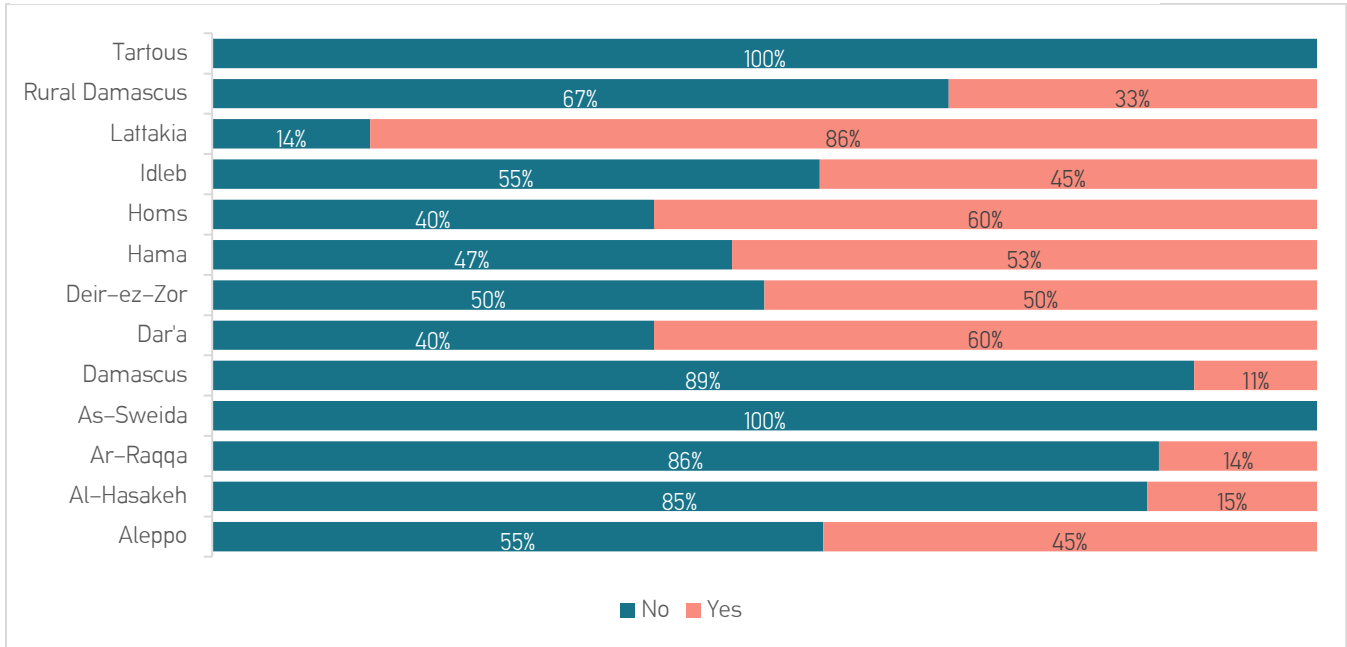
Figure11 Severe Problems Identified with Main Drinking Water Source



4. Protection

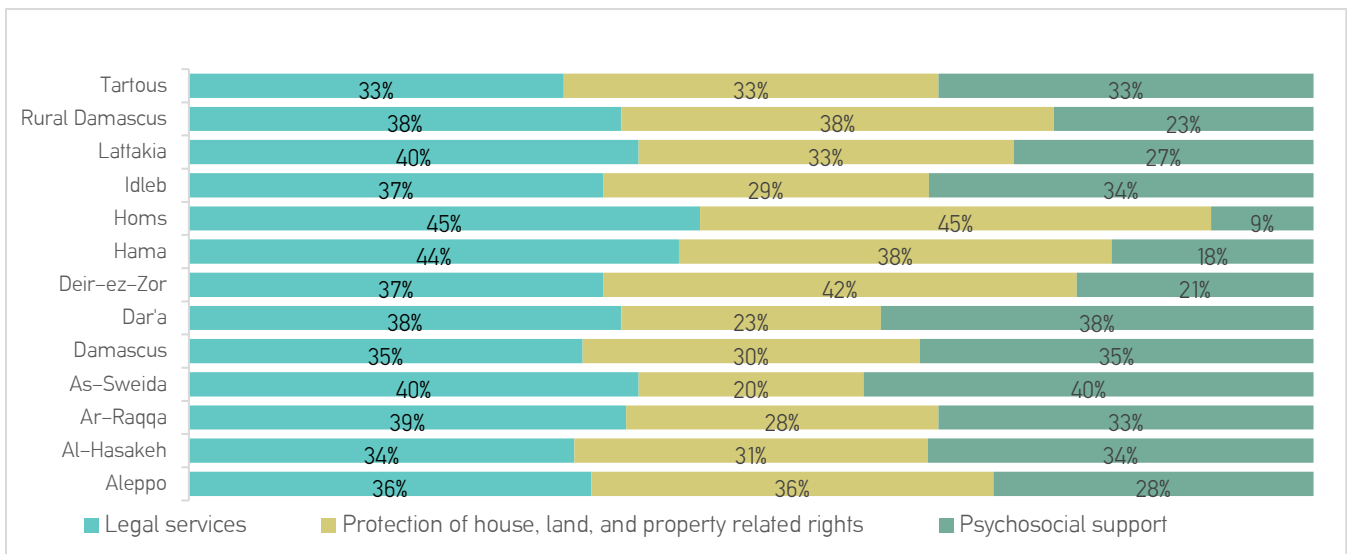
The recent developments left impact on the housing, land, and property rights as stated by 41% of the respondents.

Figure 12 Impact on HLP



Meanwhile, the protection needs include property rights protection (38%), legal services (34%), and psychosocial support (28%).

Figure 13 Top Protection Needs



Safety and Security Concerns:

78% report no presence of unexploded ordinance (UXO), while 82% confirm no related incidents related are reported.

Figure 15 Identification of UXO Elements

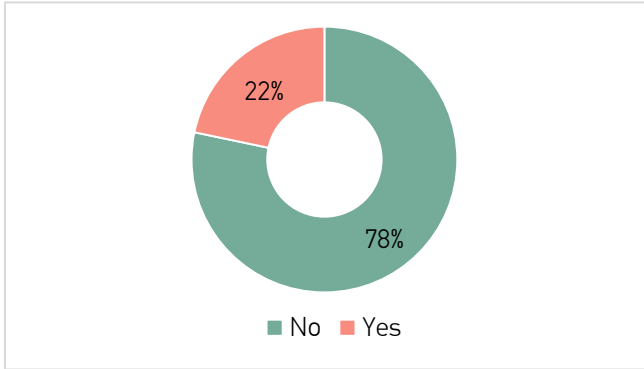
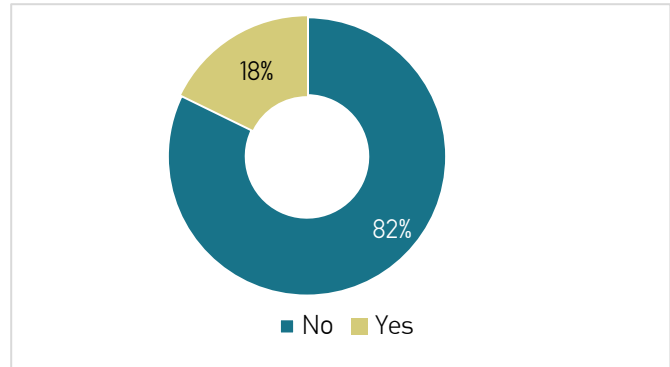
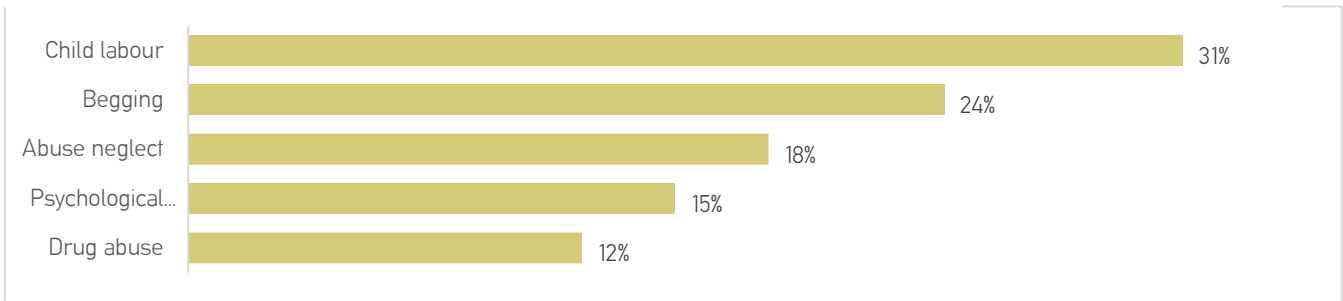


Figure 14 Reported Incidents Related to UXO



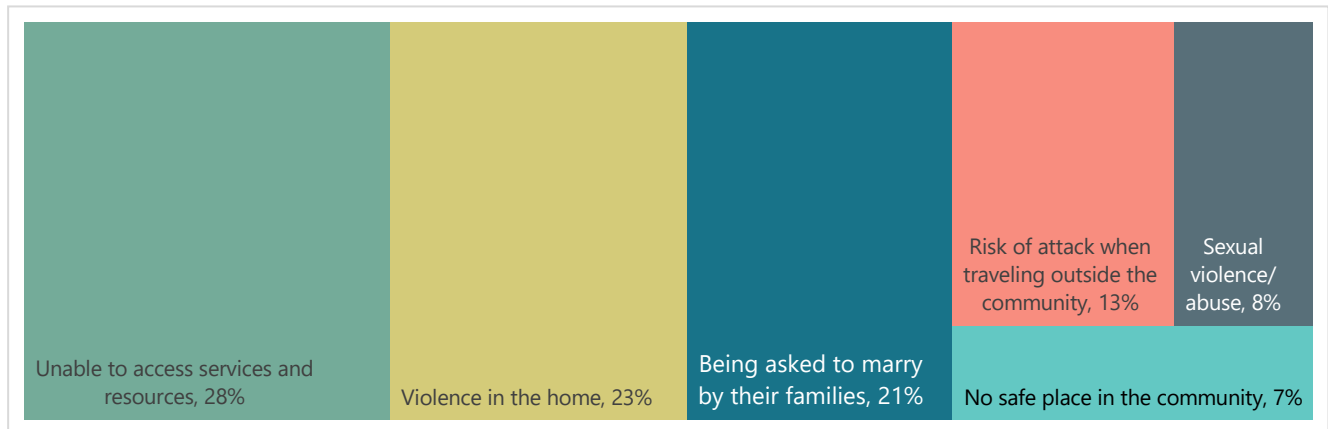
Child labor (31%), begging (24%), and abuse neglect (18%) are the top reported child protection risks.

Figure 16 Child Protection Risks



While lack of access to services (28%), violence in the home (23%), being asked to marry (21%) are key concerns for women and girls. Fear of being identified (32%), lack of confidential treatment (24%), and lack of trained staff (22%) are key barriers to accessing GBV services.

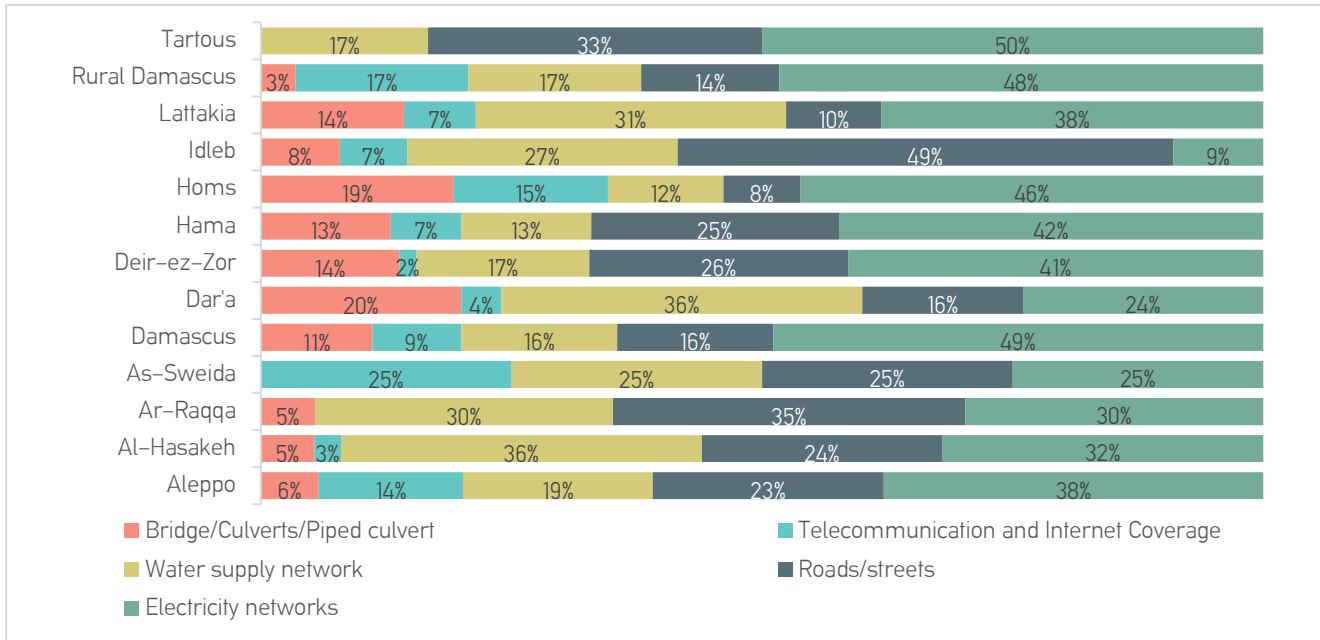
Figure 17 Safety and Security Concerns for Women and Girls



5. Early Recovery and Livelihoods (ERL)

Electricity networks (35%), roads and streets (25%), and water supply systems (22%) are the top rehabilitation priorities, followed by telecommunications and infrastructure such as bridges and culverts. Detailed breakdowns at governorate level are provided below.

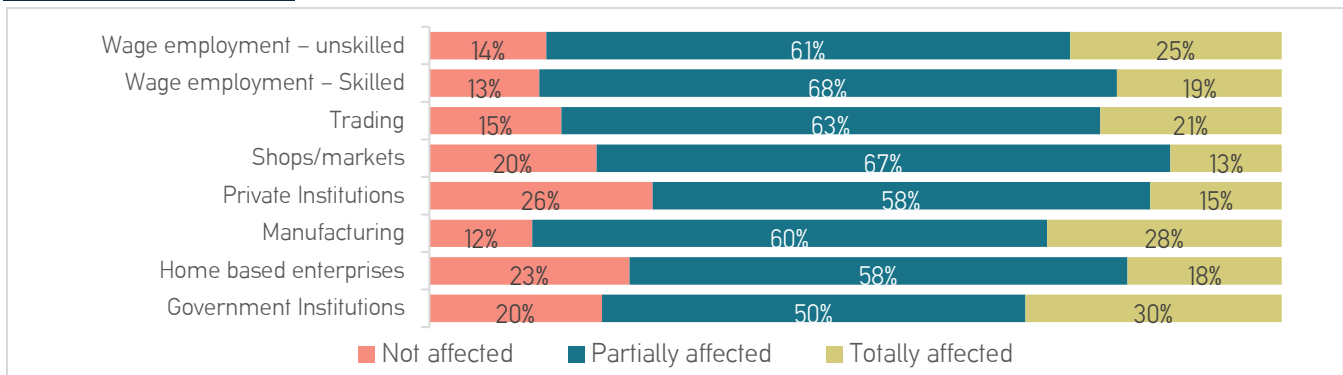
Figure 18 Community Priorities for Repair or Rehabilitation



Impact on Livelihood Opportunities and Assets:

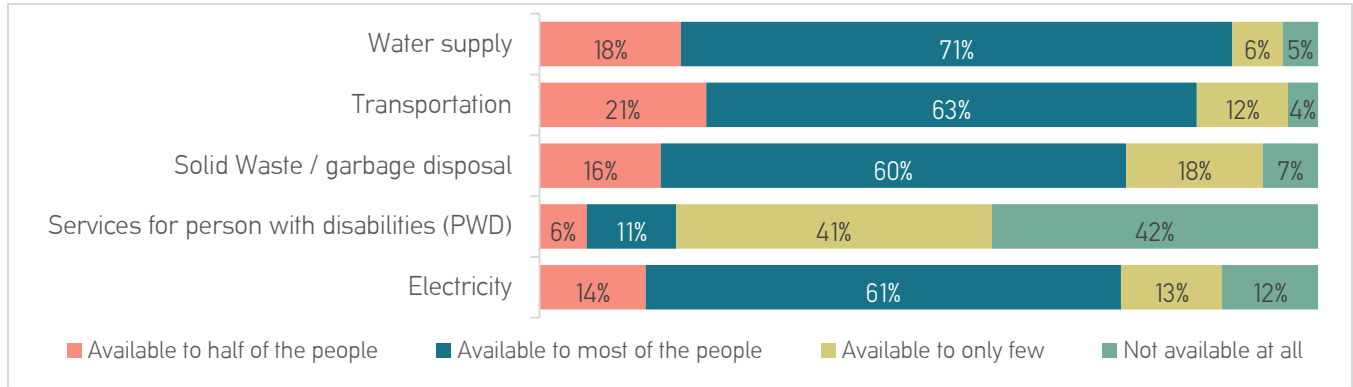
Government institutions and sectors, including skilled and unskilled labor, trading, markets, and corporations, are partially affected (61%), while 31% are fully impacted. Notably, 18% remain unaffected.

Figure 19 Impact on Business



Services such as electricity, water, solid waste management, and transportation are accessible to most people, according to 54% of respondents. Additionally, 15% indicated these services are available to half of the population, while 18% reported limited access for only a few individuals. Notably, 14% stated that these services are entirely unavailable. Detailed breakdowns are provided below.

Figure 20 Accessibility of Services

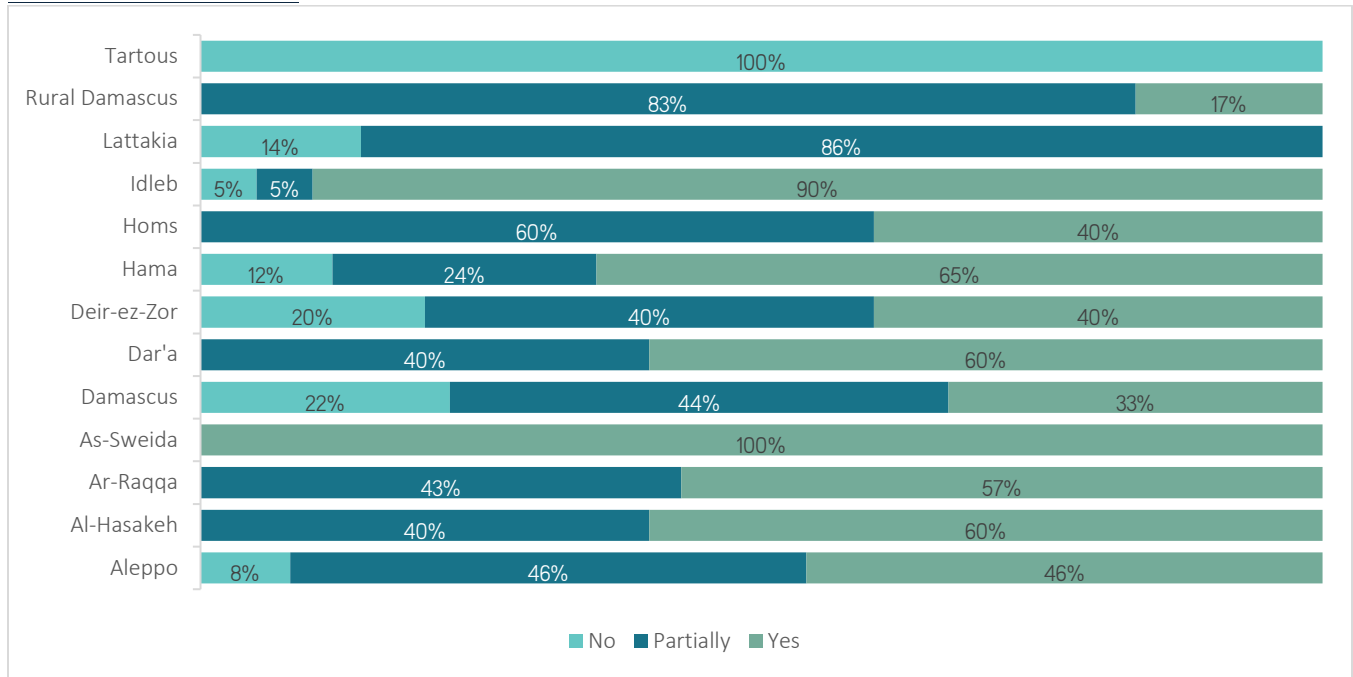


6. Cash Assistance

Markets

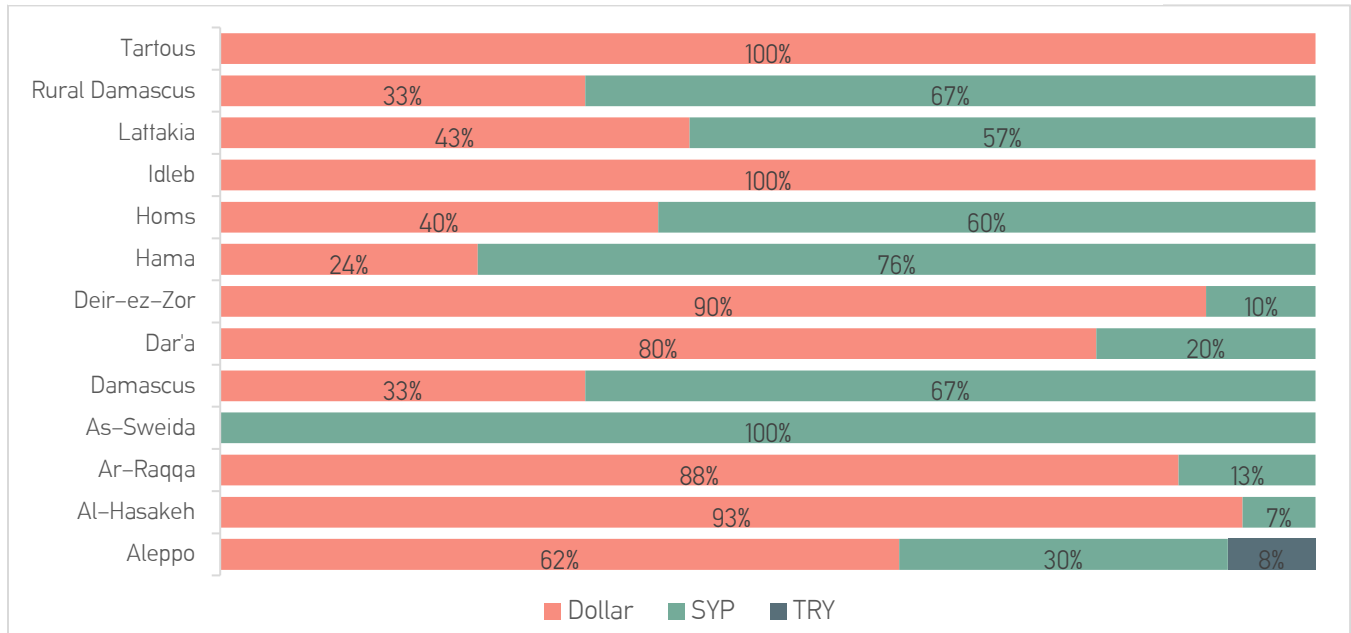
40% report partial market accessibility, 52% have full access, and 8% face no access. Breakdowns are provided below.

Figure 21 Market Accessibility



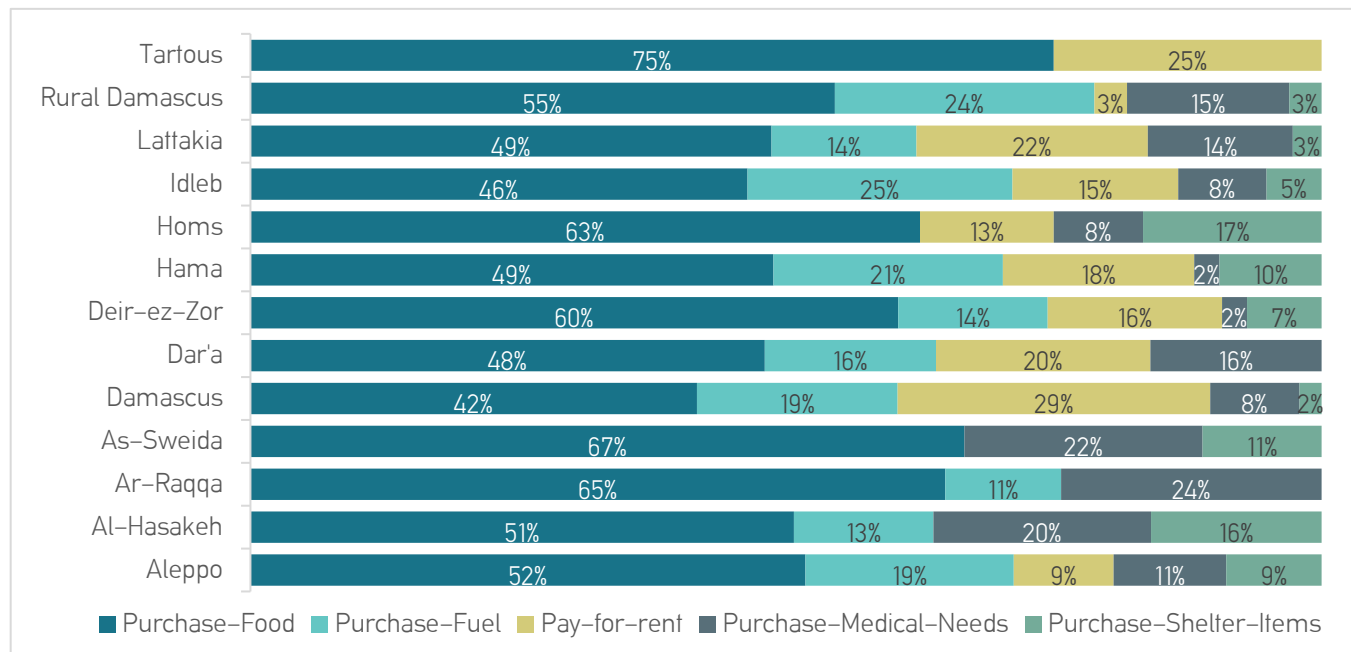
65% of households prefer cash assistance (CA) in USD, while 33% prefer SYP. Breakdowns are provided below.

Figure 22 Preferred Currency to receive CA



Food purchases (52%) dominate household spending priorities for cash assistance, followed by fuel (18%), rent (12%), medical needs (11%), and shelter items (8%). Detailed breakdowns by governorate are provided below.

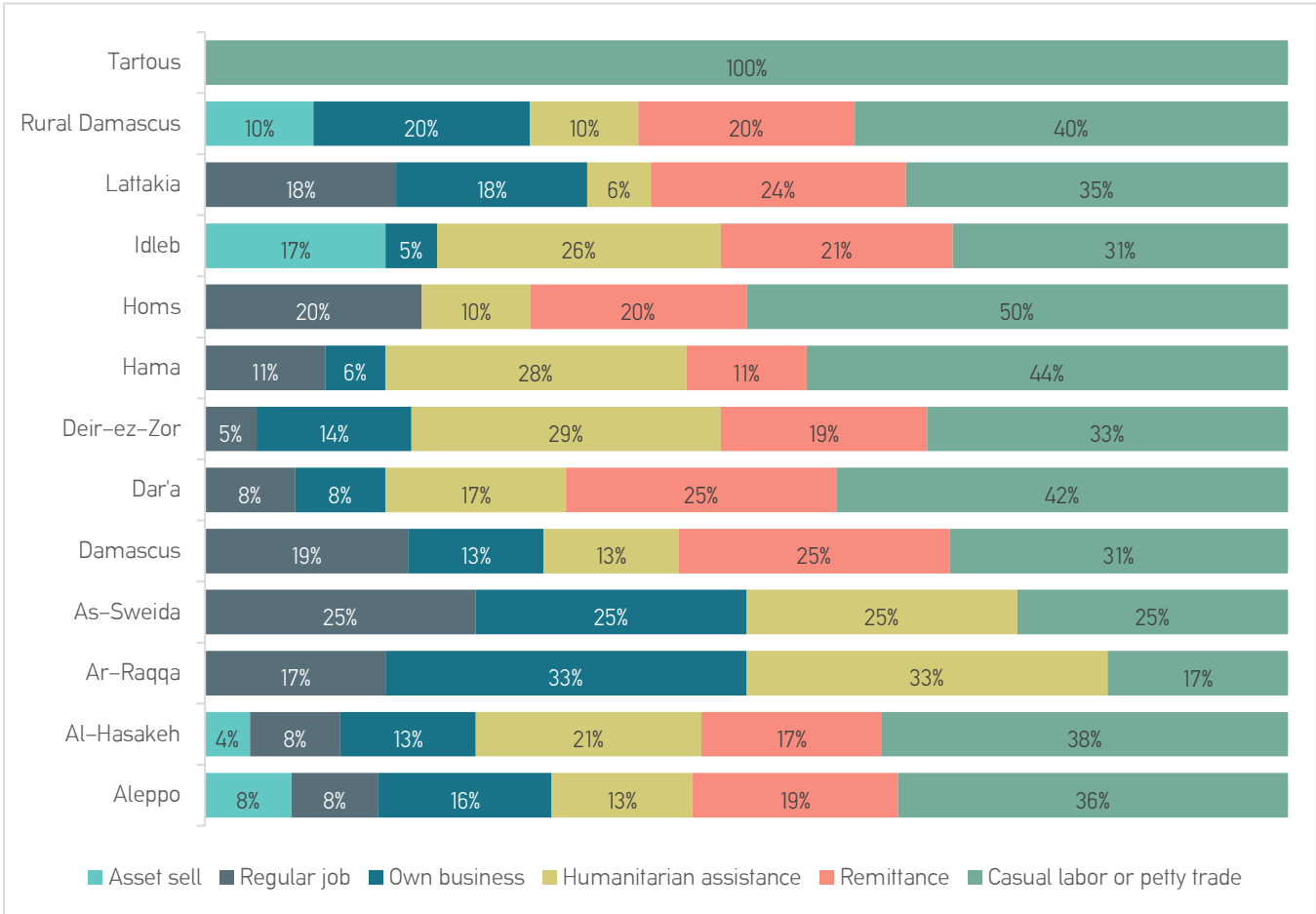
Figure 23 Household Spending Priorities for Cash Assistance



Income Sources

Casual labor (37%) and remittances (24%) are the primary income sources, followed by own businesses (14%) and humanitarian assistance (12%). Detailed breakdowns by governorate are provided below.

Figure 24 Income Sources

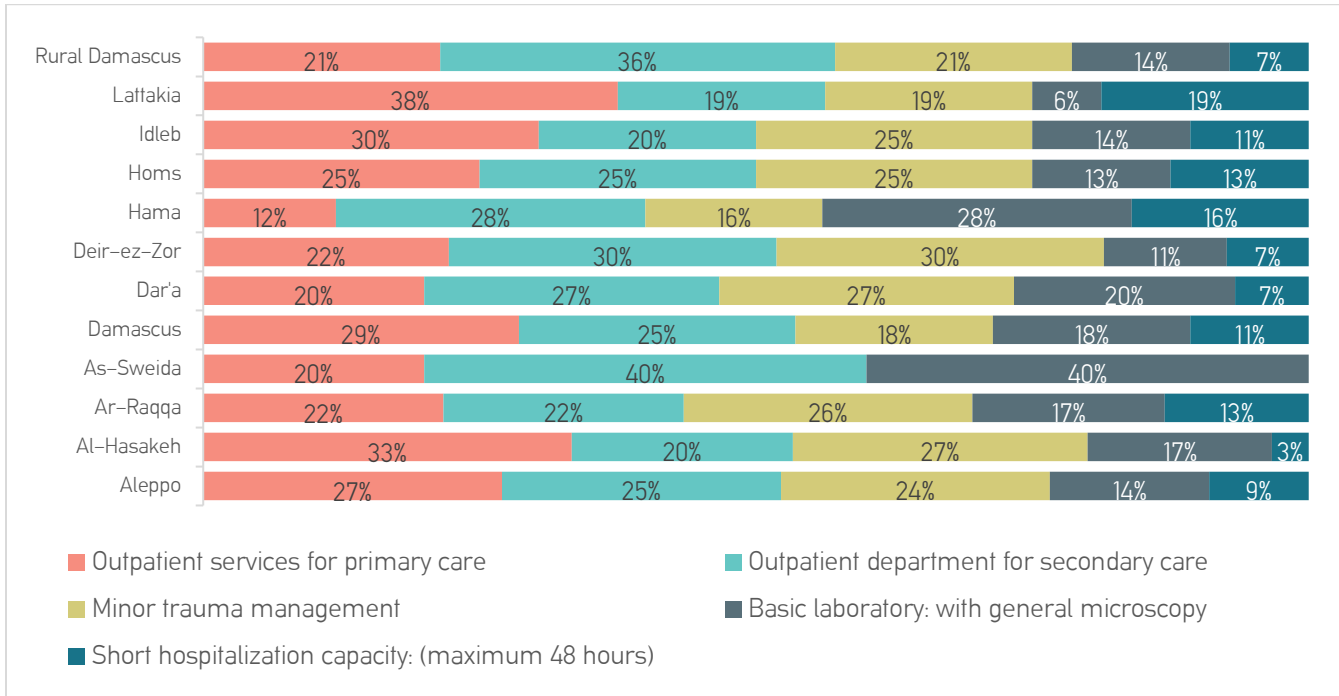


7. Health

Availability and Modality of Health Services:

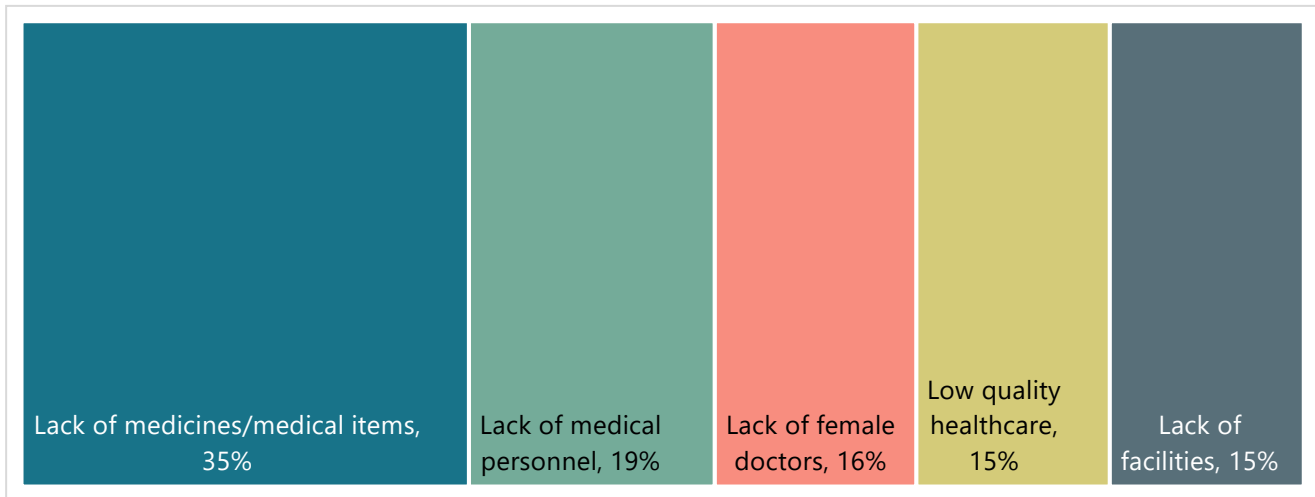
81% confirm availability of health services. With primary care outpatient services (26%), secondary care departments (25%), minor trauma management (23%), and basic laboratory (16%) are the most provided health services. Breakdowns are provided below.

Figure 25 Health Service Provision Modalities



Lack of medicines (35%), medical personnel (19%), and female doctors (16%) are top barriers to healthcare access. Followed by lack of facilities, and low-quality service (15% each).

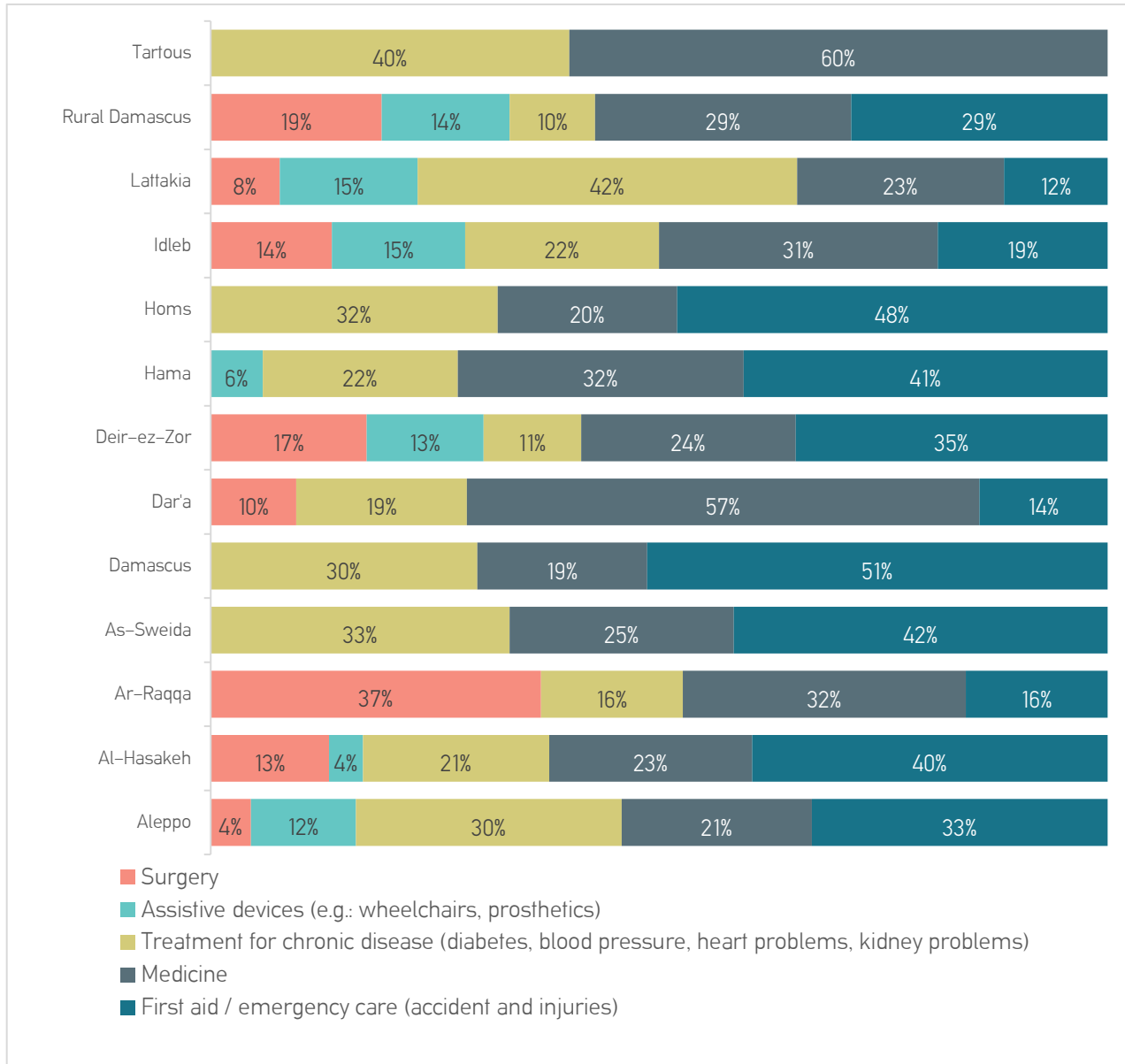
Figure 26 Challenges Preventing Access to Healthcare



Health Needs:

Top health needs include first aid (32%), medicine (26%), and chronic disease treatment (25%). Followed by assistive devices (9%), and surgery (8%). Breakdowns are provided below.

Figure27 Health Needs



8. Nutrition

68% nutrition health facilities (HF) and RRTs are reported as functional, while 32% are non-functional. 58% of which report no shortage of nutrition supplies, while 42% indicate a shortage.

Figure 29 HF & RRT Functionality

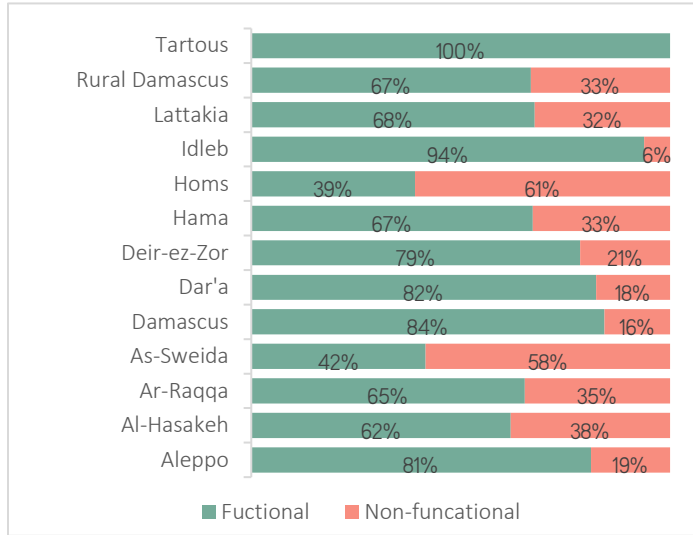
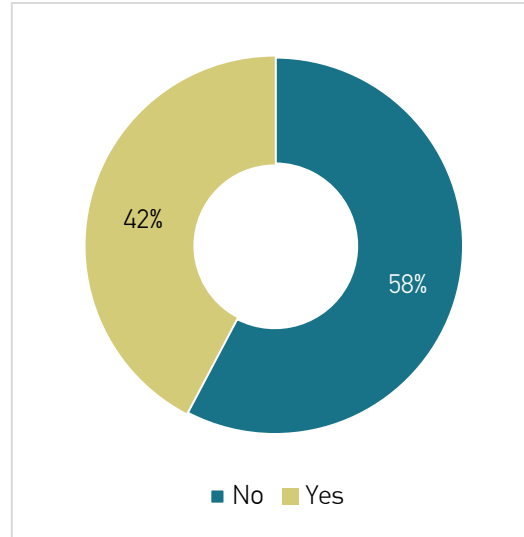
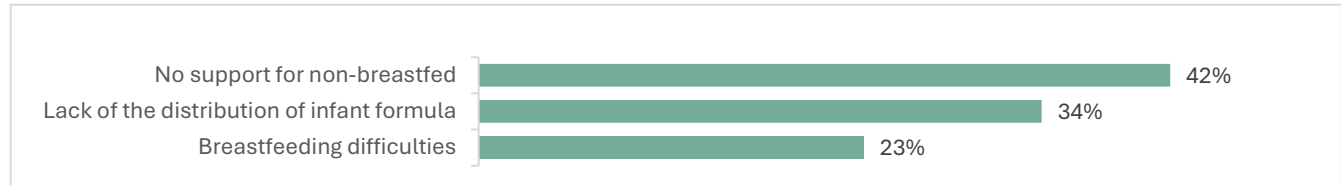


Figure 28 HFs Reporting Nutrition Supplies



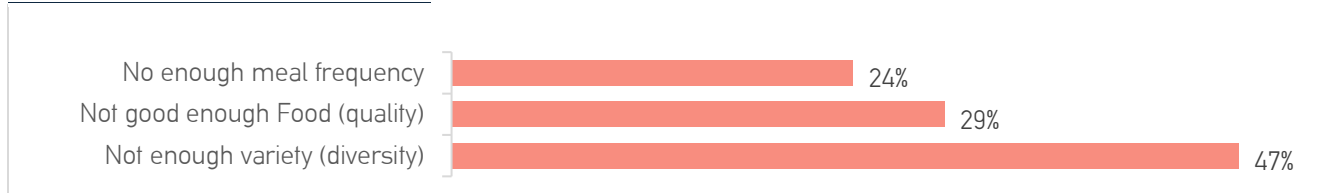
Newborns (0–6 months) face lack of support for non-breastfed infants (42%) and lack of distribution of infant formula (34%).

Figure 30 Top Health Problems in Newborns



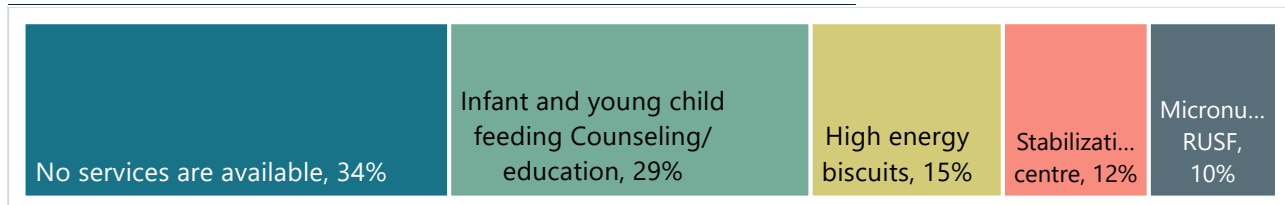
While toddlers (6 – 23 months) suffer from insufficient meal variety (47%) and poor food quality (29%).

Figure 31 Top Health Problems in Toddlers



34% report no services available for children under 5 and pregnant/lactating women.

Figure 32 Availability of Services for Children Under 5 and Pregnant/Lactating Women



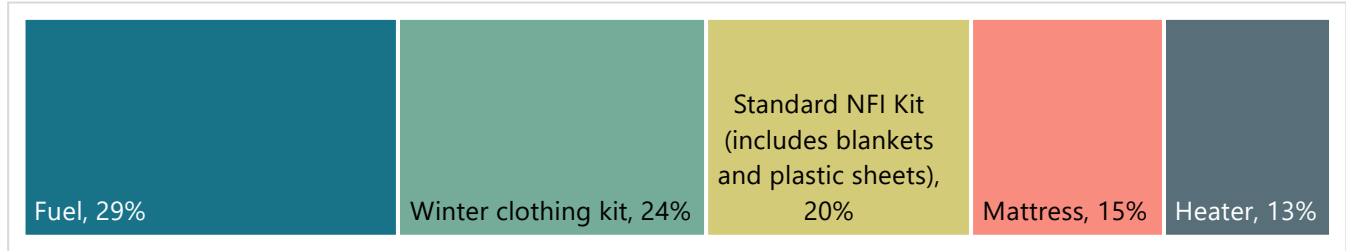
9. Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI)

The damage across shelters is 20%, combining completely or partially damaged shelters.

Shelter and NFI Needs:

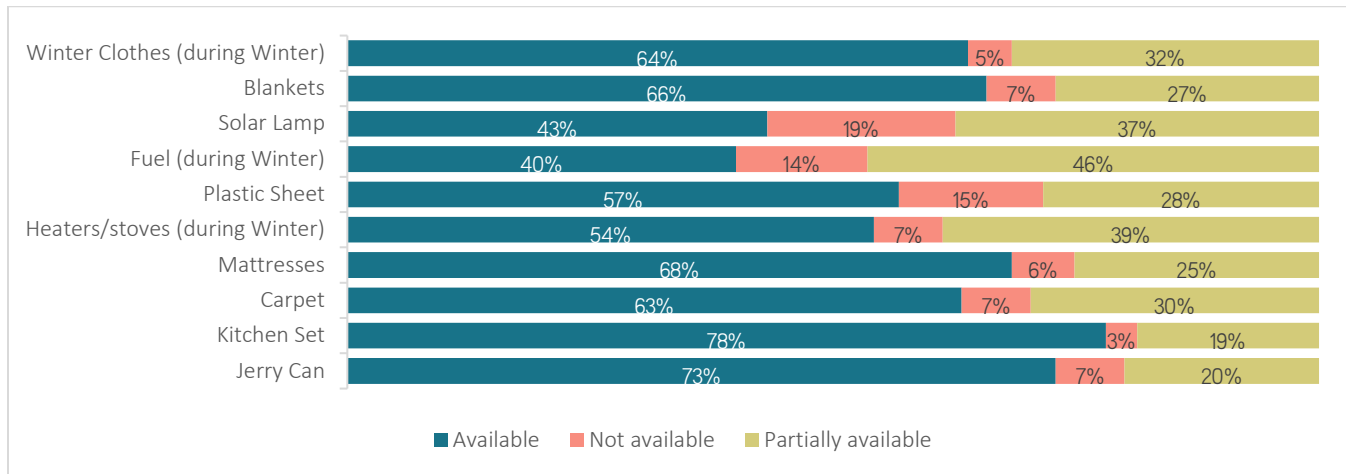
Fuel (28%) and winter clothing kits (24%) are the top shelter and NFI needs, followed by standard NFI kits (17%), heaters (14%), mattresses (10%), and kitchen sets (7%)

Figure 33 Shelter and NFI Needs



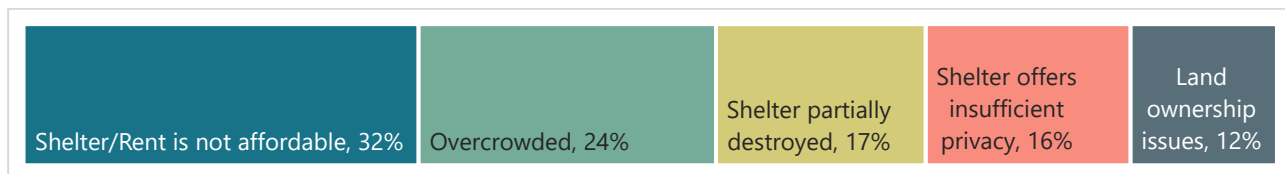
A shortage of NFIs in local markets has been reported, with availability rates as follows: fuel (40%), winter clothing (64%), solar lamps (43%), heaters (54%), and blankets (66%).

Figure34 Availability ratio



The primary shelter challenges for newly arrived IDPs include unaffordable rent or shelter (32%) and overcrowding (24%). Additional issues reported are partially destroyed shelters (17%), insufficient privacy (16%), and land ownership disputes (12%).

Figure35 Main Shelter Issues for Newly Arrived IDPs



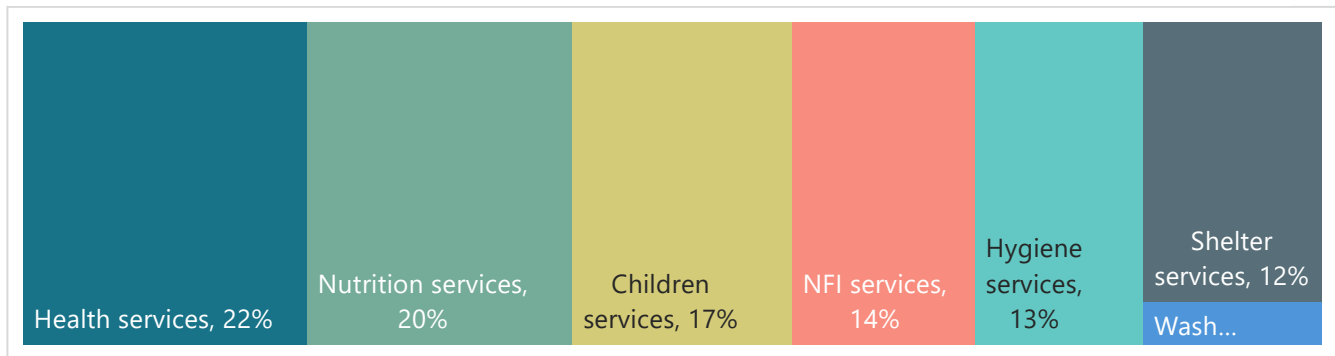
10.Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

WhatsApp is the most preferred channel for receiving information (29%), and in-person conversations and mobile phone calls (18% each), followed by SMS (11%), and awareness sessions and leaflet (7% each).

Services Requiring Information Dissemination:

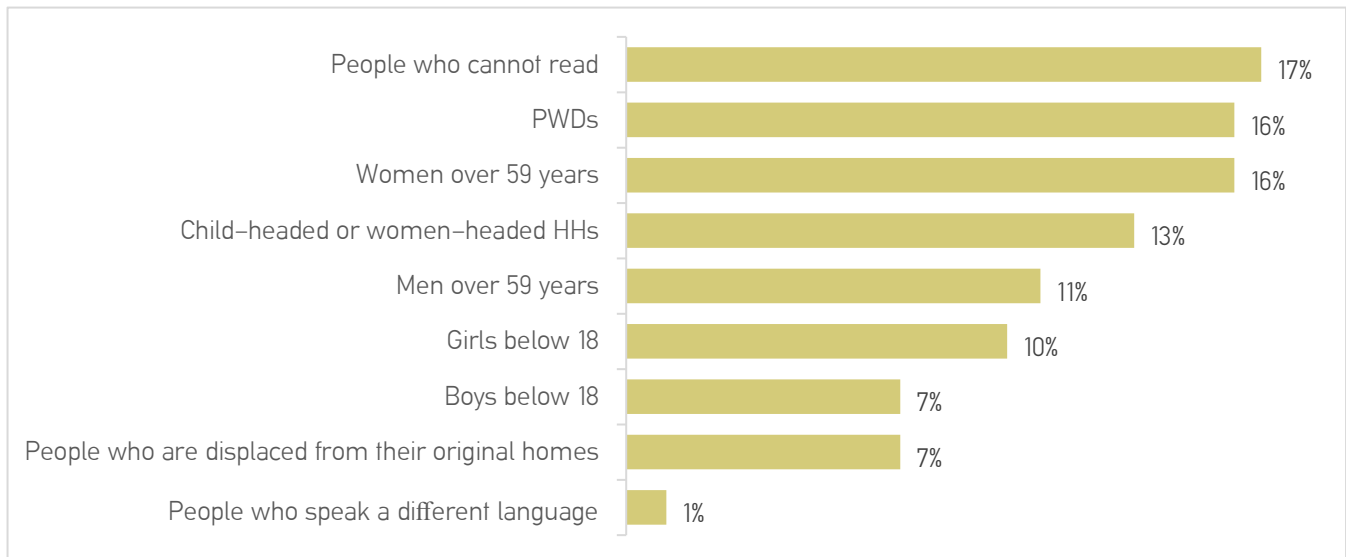
Health services (22%) and nutrition services (20%) are the most needed areas for information dissemination, followed by children, NFI, hygiene, shelter, and WASH services (17%, 14%, 13%, 12%, and 2% respectively).

Figure36 Services for Which Information is Needed



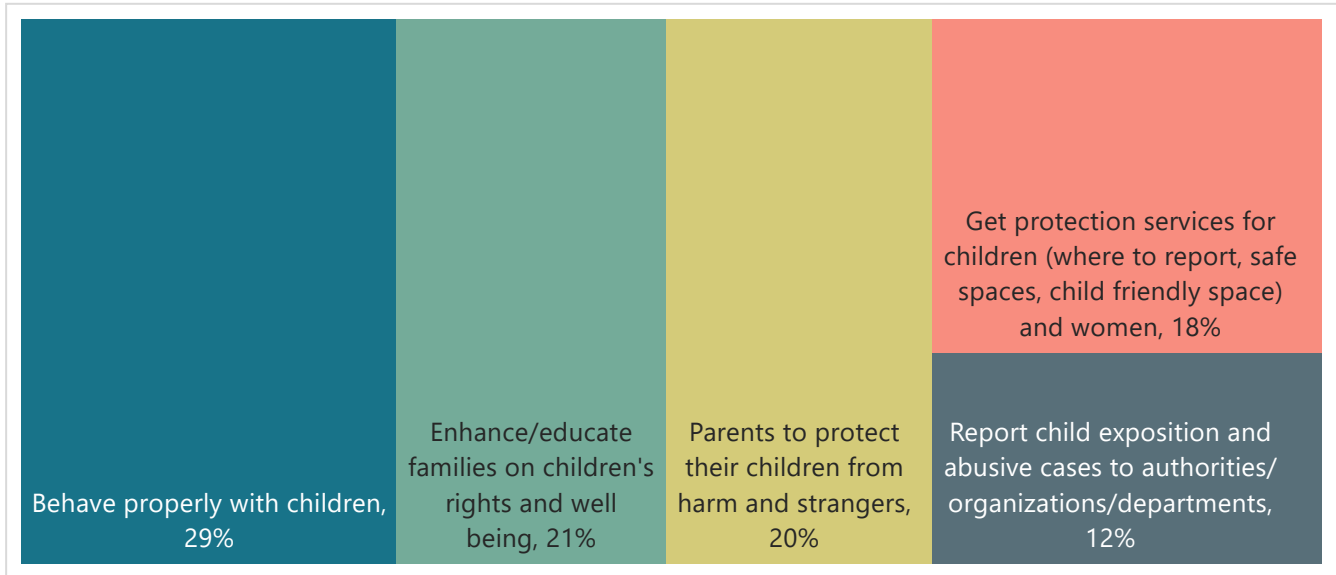
Key groups facing information access challenges are non-readers (17%), PWDs (16%), women over 59 (16%), and child/women-headed HHs (13%), with 7%–10% among others.

Figure 37 Groups Facing Information Access Challenges



Top child safety needs are behavior guidance (29%), awareness of rights (21%), and protection from harm (20%) and provision of protection services (18%).

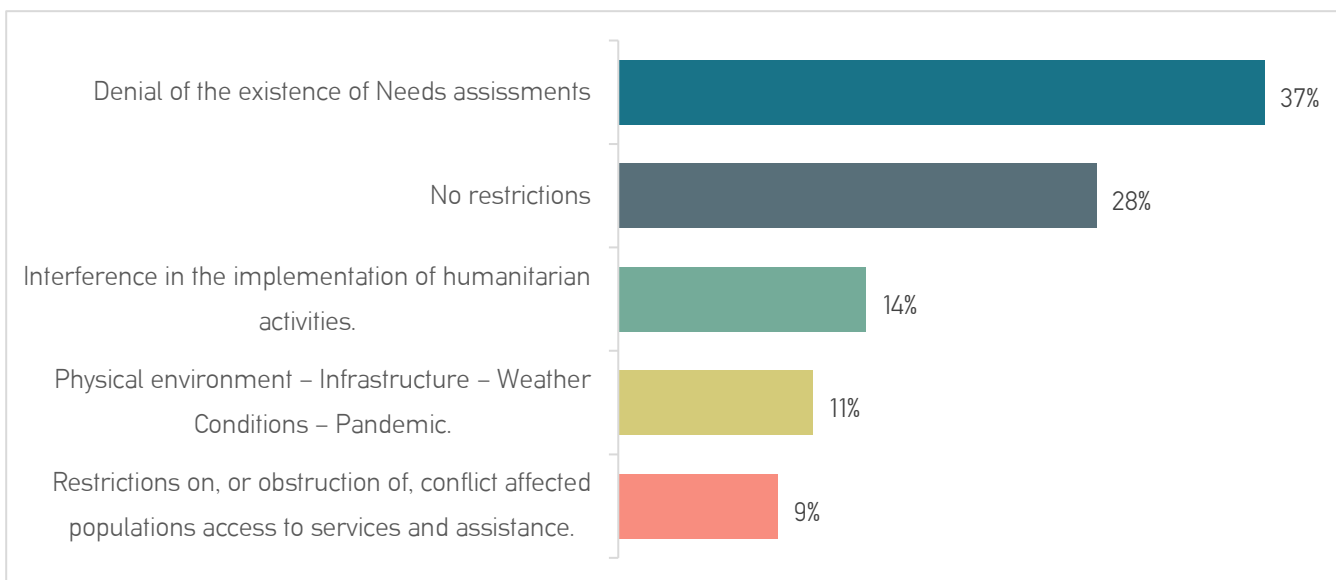
Figure 38 Chart Child Safety Information Needs



11. Access

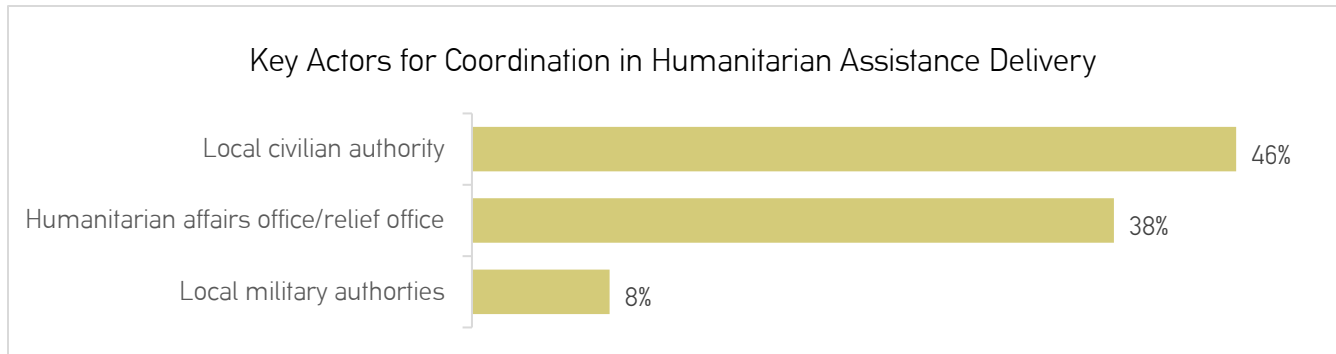
The primary barrier to humanitarian access is the denial of needs assessments as reported by 37% of the respondents, followed by interference in humanitarian activities (14%). Other reported barriers include environmental and infrastructural challenges (11%), and restrictions on accessing services and assistance (9%).

Figure39 Main Barriers to Humanitarian Access



Local civilian authorities (46%) and humanitarian affairs offices/relief offices (38%) are identified as the key actors in coordinating humanitarian assistance delivery. A smaller role is played by local military authorities (8%).

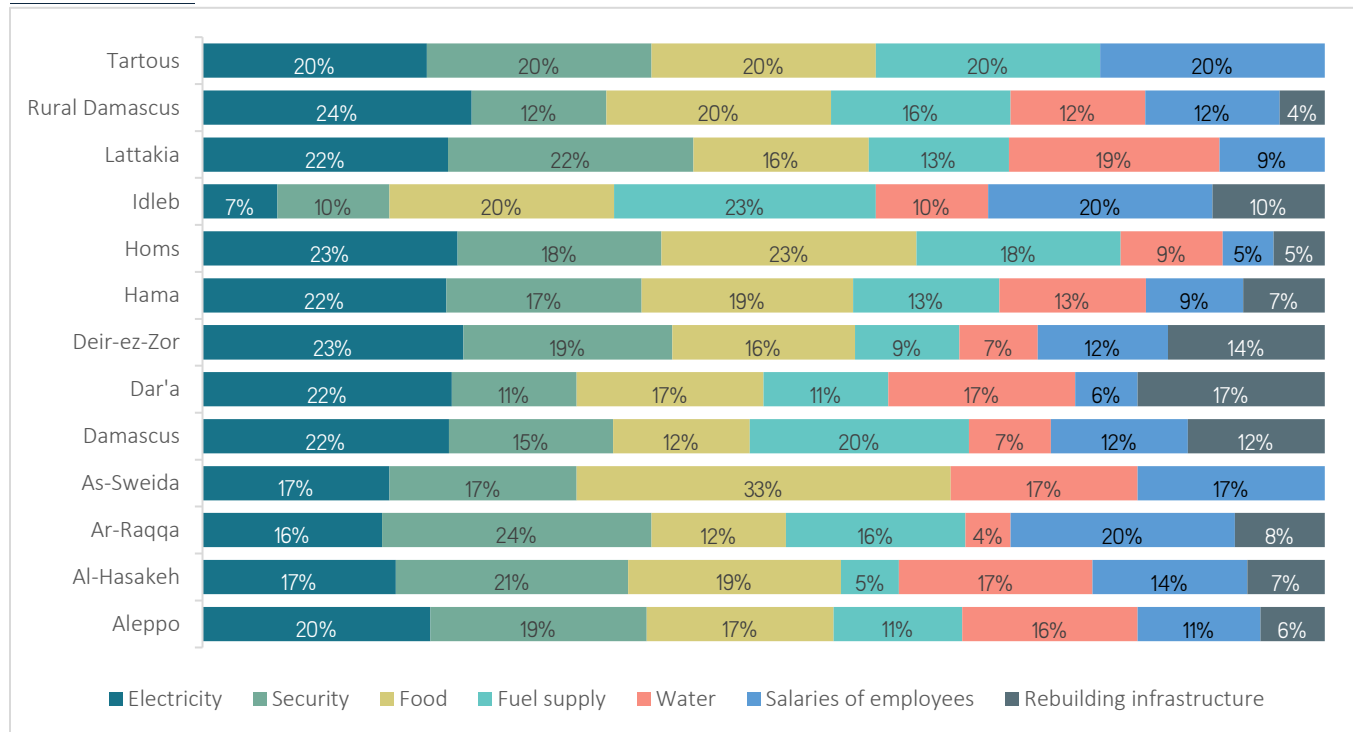
Figure 40 Key Actors for Coordination in Humanitarian Assistance Delivery



4. Overarching Priorities

Top priorities following the recent developments in Syria include electricity (19%), security (18%), food (17%), water (13%), and fuel supply (13%), salaries (12%), and rebuilding infrastructure. Detailed breakdowns are provided below.

Figure 41 Priorities



POST-CONFLICT
MULTISECTORAL

**RAPID NEEDS
ASSESSMENT IN SYRIA**

December 2024



A study produced by the Information
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