WASH Situational Overview: Whole of Syria

The conflict in Syria has created and exacerbated large-scale humanitarian needs around water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for the country’s population. In order to understand the WASH needs and conditions of the Syrian population, between April and July 2018 the WASH cluster partners conducted a survey of over 24,000 households in 3,560 communities across 254 sub-districts in all 14 governorates in Syria. The data represented below is aggregated to the country’s population. Findings in this factsheet show that access to safe water is not uniform across all governorates. Findings are representative at the sub-district and country level. Findings in this factsheet show that access to safe water is not uniform across all governorates. For instance, 29% of households in Deir-ez-Zor governorate reportedly spent more than 10% of their income on water. In Al-Hasakeh, Rural Damascus, and Quneitra, no households used water that was sufficiently chlorinated. Additionally, 11% of households in Syria did not have access to all assessed hygiene items. 

Percentage of households who reported primarily obtaining water from each source in the 30 days prior to data collection, across governorates:

- Deir-ez-Zor: 29%
- Damascus: 21%
- Hama: 20%
- Quneitra: 16%
- Tartous: 14%
- Other: 10%

Governorates with the largest proportion of households whose main source of water was water trucking in the 30 days prior to data collection:

- Al-Hasakeh: 62%
- Deir-ez-Zor: 55%
- Dar’a: 54%
- Quneitra: 47%

A water trucking network 

WATER SOURCE

Percentage of households whose primary water source was water trucking:

- Deir-ez-Zor: 78%
- Damascus: 70%
- Rural Damascus: 61%
- Homs: 55%
- Hama: 51%

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WATER PURCHASE

Of the households who primarily accessed water through the network and water trucking respectively, proportion of income spent on water by percentage of households, across governorates:

Network: 78%
Water trucking: 22%

Top 3 governorates with highest proportion of households using over 10% of income to buy water:

1. Deir-ez-Zor: 79%
2. Dar’a: 70%
3. Idleb: 63%

TREATMENT OF DRINKING WATER

45% of households reported treating drinking water to make it safer in the 7 days prior to data collection. Of those households, 20% reported treating water through the following methods, across all governorates:

- Chlorine: 14%
- Boil the water: 5%
- Other: 1%

Top 5 governorates showing highest proportion of households with Free Residual Chlorine (FRC) score less than 0.2:

- Deir-ez-Zor: 100%
- As-Sweida: 99%
- Damascus: 94%
- Quneitra: 93%
- Idleb: 82%

ACCESS TO HYGIENE SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

Percentage of households who reported not having access to all assessed hygiene items, across governorates:

- Ar-Raqq: 69%
- As-Sweida: 47%
- Deir-ez-Zor: 32%
- Al-Hasakeh: 20%

Governorates with the largest proportion of households who were unable to access all assessed hygiene items:

- Ar-Raqq: 89%
- As-Sweida: 89%
- Deir-ez-Zor: 11%
- Al-Hasakeh: 5%

A water trucking network

ACCESS TO FUNCTIONING TOILETS AND BATHING FACILITIES

Percentage of households who reported primary obtaining water from each source in the 30 days prior to data collection, across governorates:

- Deir-ez-Zor: 39%
- Damascus: 32%
- Homs: 21%
- Rural Damascus: 16%
- Hama: 14%

Use of alternative water sources other than reported main source in the 30 days prior to data collection, across all governorates:

- Water trucking: 61%
- Other: 39%

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GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Percentage of households who reported not having access to garbage collection (free or paid) for garbage disposal:

- Ar-Raqq: 29%
- As-Sweida: 23%
- Deir-ez-Zor: 21%
- Al-Hasakeh: 20%

Governorates with the largest proportion of households who were unable to access all assessed hygiene items:

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