



Shelter/NFI Cluster
X-Border Operation - Turkey Hub
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW OF SHELTER CONDITIONS IN NORTHWEST SYRIA

SEPTEMBER 2019

SHELTER/NFI CLUSTER

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (HNAP)

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INTRODUCTION

This joint report by northwest Syria Shelter/NFI Cluster and the Humanitarian Needs Assessment Program (HNAP) investigates the shelter conditions in northwest Syria. Recent escalations in conflict have led to mass regional displacement, which has in turn put increasing strain on already overstretched and limited resources, including shelter access.

Over the months prior to data collection in July 2019, the Syrian Arab Republic experienced very high levels of internal displacement as a result of conflict escalation. In June 2019, 299,551 Syrians were internally displaced, of whom 95 percent were displaced from Idleb and Hama governorates, in northwest Syria. Dana sub-district in Idleb governorate absorbed 182,654 IDPs in May 2019, putting enormous strain on a densely populated community, in which IDPs currently outnumber residents. Under such circumstances, it is essential that shelter conditions are thoroughly explored.

This short report looks at shelter conditions for residents, IDPs and returnees throughout sub-districts of northwest Syria: more specifically, shelter types in which households (HHs) are hosted, adequacy issues faced by HHs, and the ability to pay rent. The household was used as the primary unit of analysis - referring to present and absent members within a household or domestic unit, who are related by blood or law (i.e. marriage, adoption), who live together, or used to live together sharing meals and accommodation.

Although the survey was conducted at the sub-district level throughout the whole of Syria, due to the scope of the report, breakdowns are only provided for sub-districts in northwest Syria. Furthermore, 29 selected sub-districts, of 60 sub-districts in north-west Syria, are intentionally focused upon, since they are currently accessible for humanitarian programing and operational activity.

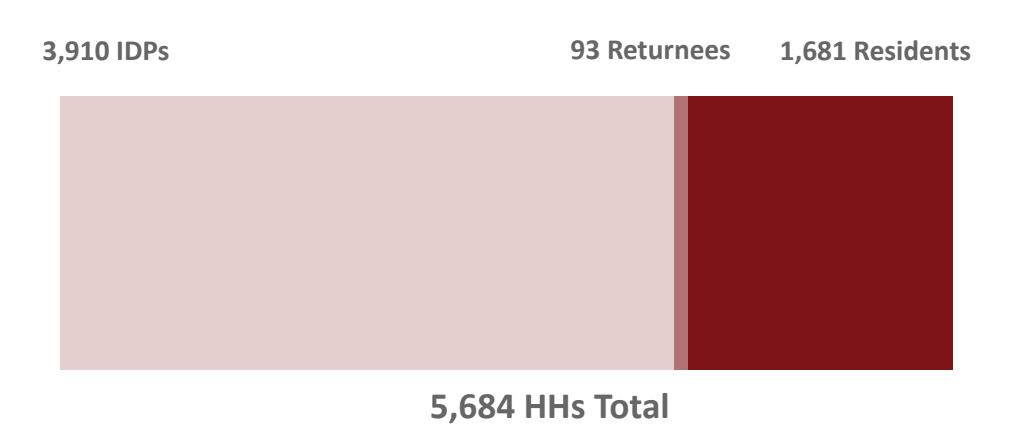
METHODOLOGY

To calculate the sample, the May 2019 HNAP Population Baseline estimate of the Syrian population was used as reference population, that is, 20,040,532 individuals (4,008,099 households).

A stratified cluster sample of 25,654 households was drawn, representative of the Syrian population with a 95% confidence interval and a 10% margin of error at the sub-district level. The identified sample size at the sub-district level was then allocated proportionally across sub-district communities to ensure the maximum heterogeneity. HNAP achieved the sampling objective and achieved optimal coverage.

Following the receipt of the data, weights were calculated with reference to the population estimates at district level (HNAP Baseline, May 2019) for the host community and the IDPs and at the governorate level for the returnees. These weights were applied overall and at the governorate level and according to the type of population (IDP, Host, Returnee). In order to produce estimates on the overall population at sub-district level, an additional set of weights was calculated according to sub-district figures from HNAP Baseline, May 2019. These weights were used to analyse sub-district level data, not differentiated according to the type of population. Both set of weights were calculated with reference to HNAP Baseline, May 2019 (individuals) considering an average household size of five members throughout Syria. This methodology enables the final analysis to provide implementing teams with a situational overview, down to the sub-district level. It further makes available an in-depth perspective on how different population types are uniquely affected across Syria.

Figure 1: # of Sampled HHs in Northwest Syria sub-districts



LIMITATIONS

The weighting exercise provides implementing teams with an accurate and confirmed statistically relevant results according to baseline census data. However, in order to extract these estimates, data can be exposed to increased error, due to the fact that they represent the reference population, not the population sampled. The figures extracted are designed to guide programming by highlighting key trends across the whole of Syria. Organizations should endeavour to use these figures as reference, but further conduct project-specific assessments based on their more particular areas of intervention.

The level of data and weighting requires numerous checks and an extensive cleaning process. In the evolving context of the Syrian crisis, conflict dynamics can alter the situation of surveyed populations rapidly. While HNAP work to analyse and develop published reports as rapidly as possible, readers should note that the data extracted is from June 2019 and therefore subject to change by the time of reading.

Given the nature of random sampling, data collection is subject to a margin of error and surveyors can face limitations on who they are able to access during the time of data collection. For example, in this survey, there was a minor over-representation of returnees from abroad at the national-level. Similarly, there is an over-representation of those residing in collective shelters. Such population fluctuations are an inherent risk when drawing a sample from the

sub district level; however, must be taken into consideration when conducting analyses. Another limitation is that HHs were interviewed within the boundaries of respective communities. This means that highly vulnerable HHs who live outside of p-coded community boundaries - for example in sprawling fields with no shelter - are not captured within the sample. This limitation is specifically pertinent when considering northwest Syria, because given the impact of the recent conflict escalation, we would expect high numbers of HHs to be sheltered in this way.

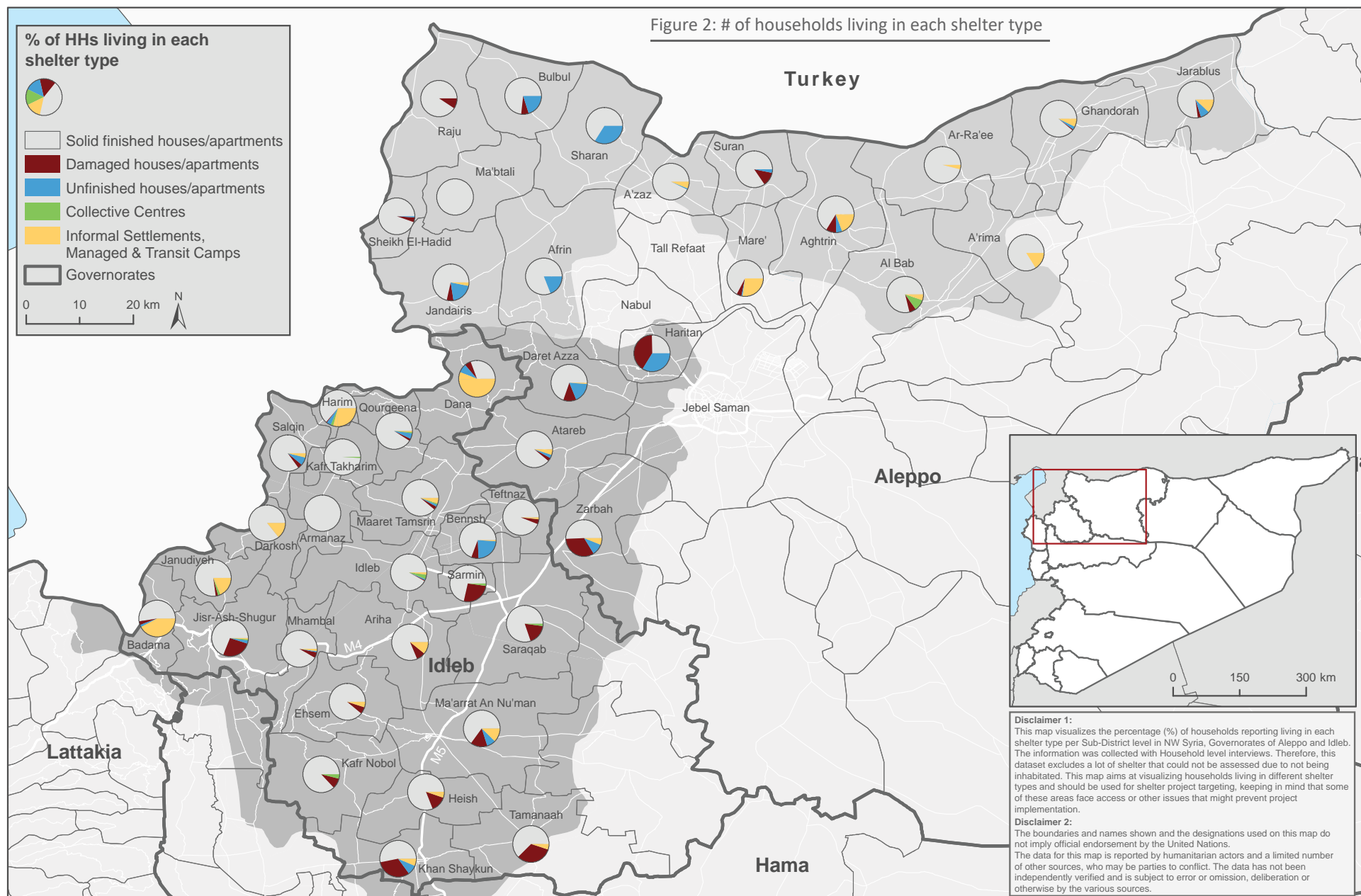
Data is representative at the sub-district level and was provided at the governorate level for a range of indicators. After agreeing to release this report, HNAP reran analysis on the data - taking the 60 sub-districts of north-west Syria as one entity, as though it were a governorate. This in itself is not a limitation, but throughout the report, total figures on north-west Syria are provided as totals based on the 60 sub-districts, or, where sub-district data was available, as totals based on the 29 accessible sub-districts - which, although is not a limitation, might be confusing and should be noted.

Overall, the methodology was widely determined to be the most-sound and provide the utmost representative data across all governorates and areas of control within Syria.

DEFINITIONS

- **Managed/Planned Camp:** A site or structure established by an accountable humanitarian actor to shelter IDPs that, to the extent possible, meets minimum SPHERE standards.
- **Informal Camps/Settlements:** A group of tented or other types of housing units established by IDPs themselves or by non-experienced actors, often erected on land that the occupants have no legal claim to. IDPs do not usually intend to stay in these locations for extended periods of time.
- **Collective Centers:** Other types of settlements, e.g. schools, public buildings or factories that are inhabited by five or more IDP families.
- **Transit Site:** IDPs have gathered in a single location for an extremely short-term basis and intend to move to an alternative location immediately. Usually, this is considered a transit camp if it hosts more than 10 households and is occupied for a period of a week or more.
- **Damaged Home/Apartment:** For the purposes of this survey, there was no technical definition for what would constitute 'damage'. Houses/apartments were judged to be damaged based on the perspective of the interviewee or obvious damage that was noted by the enumerator.

SHELTER TYPES

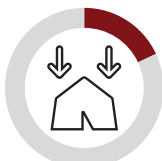


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Highlights



70%
live in **solid/
finished houses/
apartments**



18%
live in **managed,
informal or
transit camps**¹



6%
live in **unfinished
houses/
apartments**



5%
live in **damaged
houses/
apartments**



1%
live in **collective
centers**¹

SHELTER TYPE ANALYSIS

In total, 70 percent of HHs live in solid and finished apartments or houses. 18 percent live in either managed, informal or transit camps across the region, 6 percent live in unfinished apartments or houses, 5 percent live in damaged houses/apartments, and 1 percent in collective centers. All households in Ma'abtali and Armanaz, and 99 percent in Kafr Takharim, live in solid/finished apartments/houses. Conversely, sub-districts where very low percentages of HHs are sheltered in solid/finished apartments/houses include Haritan, Aleppo governorate (25 percent) and Dana, Idlib governorate (30 percent). These sub-districts should therefore be noted as providing adequate shelter conditions to a critically low number of inhabitants. In the case of Haritan, low percentages of HHs living in solid/finished apartments/houses are explained by poor quality housing: very high rates of HHs live in either damaged or unfinished housing (41 percent and 34 percent, respectively).

In the case of Dana, however, low rates of HHs in adequate shelters are due to an absence of housing available to shelter the recent huge influx of IDPs to the sub-district¹ - which has left 56 percent of

HHs in the sub-district living in vulnerable conditions in managed, informal or transit camps. Overall, numbers of HHs living in damaged apartments/houses are highest in Dana (7,886 HHs), Saraqab (5,224 HHs), Daret Azza (2,905 HHs), and Haritan (1,847) - in the latter, the rate of HHs living in damaged apartments/housing is highest as a percentage of sub-district population (41 percent). Collective centers, overall, shelter just 1 percent of the population; however, their preponderance is highest in Al Bab, Aleppo, where they shelter 2,625 HHs and 10 percent of the sub-district's population. 5 percent of HHs live in unfinished houses or apartments, although they shelter over one in three HHs in the Haritan and Sharan sub-districts of Aleppo (34 percents). Nearly one in five HHs, in total, live in informal settlements, managed camps or transit centers (18 percent), the vast majority of whom (14 percent) live in managed camps. Managed camps are most common in Dana, where they host 68,344 HHs - 49 percent of the sub-district population. Collective centers host only 0.04 percent of total population, and are only relevant in Maaret Tamsrin sub-district, where they shelter 319 HHs (<1% of sub-district population).

TOP 5 Sub-Districts

Evidence-based prioritization is essential to the delivery of better-targeted assistance. The following tables provide partners with top 5 priority sub-districts, based on either under-representation in secure shelter types or over-representation in vulnerable shelter types. The percentages highlighted are the highest figures against the total population, while overall figures are listed in order of absolute value.

HHs living in damaged houses/apartments

Rank	Sub-District	Total	% of pop
1	Dana	7,886	6%
2	Saraqab	5,224	18%
3	Daret Azza	2,905	11%
4	Haritan	1,847	41%
5	Suran	1,648	12%

HHs living in managed, informal or transit camps

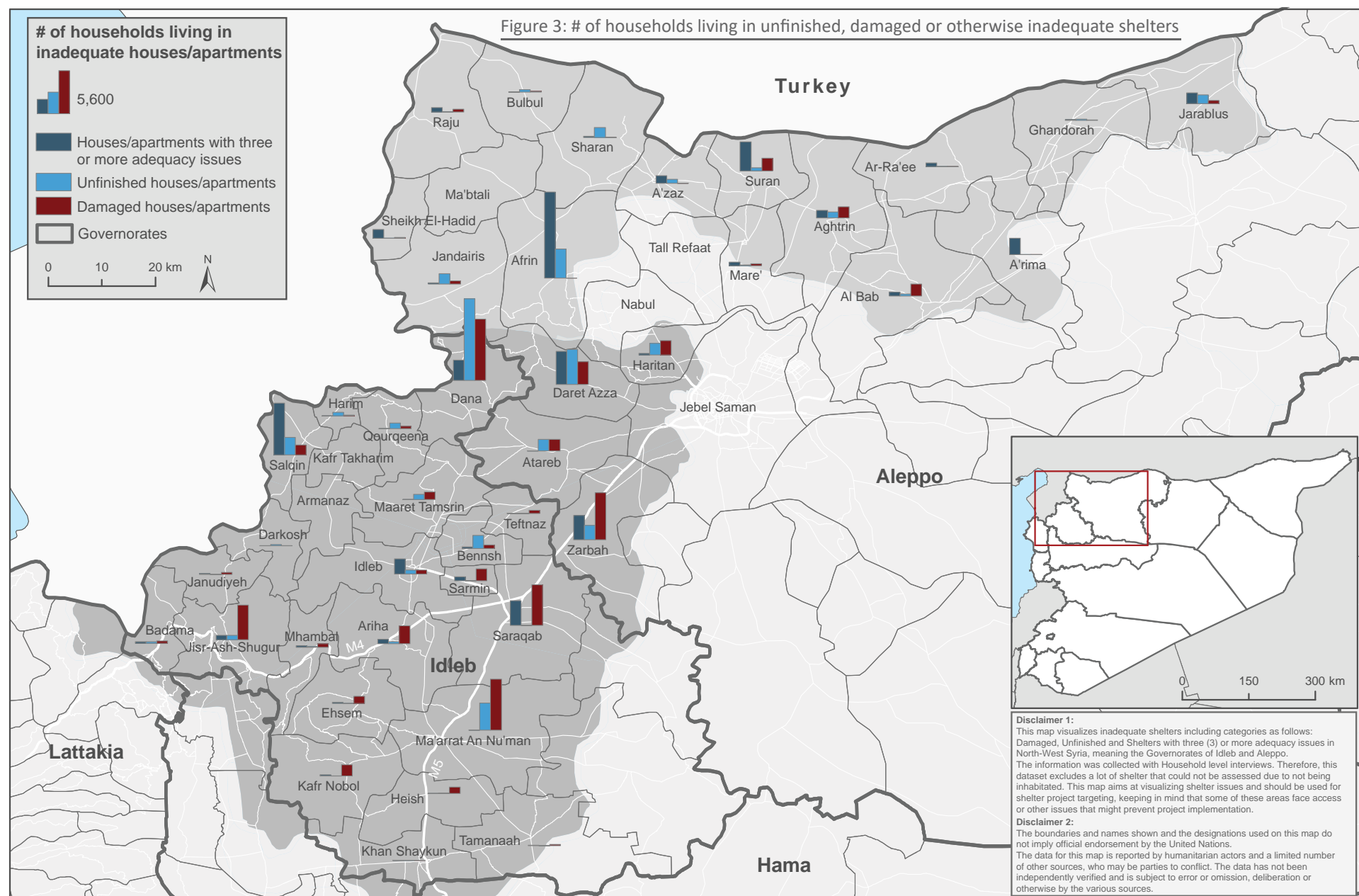
Rank	Sub-District	Total	% of pop
1	Dana	77,544	56%
2	Aghtrin	3,084	19%
3	A'zaz	2,897	6%
4	Atareb	2,491	5%
5	Janudiyeh	2,058	19%

HHs living in unfinished houses/apartments

Rank	Sub-District	Total	% of pop
1	Dana	10,514	8%
2	Daret Azza	4,489	18%
3	Afrin	3,770	19%
4	Salqin	2,219	7%
5	Haritan	1,516	34%

¹ For a definition of shelter types, please consult pg. 3

ADEQUACY ISSUES



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ADEQUACY ISSUES SOLID/FINISHED APARTMENTS OR HOUSES

ADEQUACY ISSUES ²



Bathing Facilities (4)

lack/distance/safety inside/safety on the way



Cooking Facilities

lack of safe access



Safe Drinking Water

lack of access



Toilets (4)

lack/distance/safety inside/safety on the way



Heating

lack of heating



Insulation

lack of insulation from cold



Lighting (2)

lack of lighting inside/around shelter



Privacy

lack of privacy



Space

lack of space (min 21m² per HH)



Ventilation

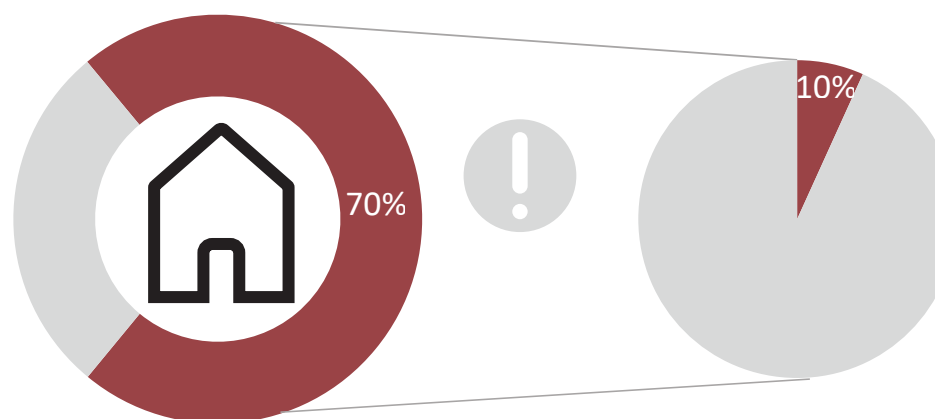
lack of ventilation (less than 0.5m² per room)



Locking Home

70 percent of HHs live in solid/finished apartments/houses

Of those, 10 percent face 3 or more adequacy issues



Top 5 HHs living in solid/finished houses/apartments with three or more adequacy issues

Rank	Sub-District	Total	% of sub-district pop ³
1	Afrin	11,100	69%
2	Salqin	6,658	25%
3	Suran	3,707	33%
4	Saraqab	3,192	14%
5	Daret Azza	4,225	26%

Top 5 Reported Adequacy Issues Reported by HHs living in solid/finished houses/apartments

Rank	Adequacy Issues	% of HHs
1	Lack of lighting around shelter	17%
2	Lack of heating	16%
3	Lack of insulation from cold	11%
4	Lack of lighting in shelter	8%
5	Lack of privacy inside shelter	2%

² The numbers next to the adequacy issues denote adequacy issues within which more than one question is asked; e.g. four adequacy issues were asked to HHs regarding bathing facilities.

TABLE PRESENTATION

Evidence-based prioritization is essential to the delivery of better-targeted assistance. The following tables provide partners with a complete list of key adequacy issues faced by each population group. It further highlights the most common adequacy areas by sub district. Each column has been color coded to highlight the “most severe” areas, red being the most severe. The heat scale does not imply a gap in programming nor the need to prioritise specific areas or population groups. Instead, it acts merely as a guide to assist partners in extracting key information to be used for future programming.

Of note, the following tables assess adequacy issues within existing/finished buildings. Specifics of adequacy issues in damaged or unfinished buildings are not included in the presented data and remain outside the scope of this analysis.

Figure 4: % of households reporting adequacy issues in solid/finished apartments/buildings by population group (all sub-districts of NW Syria)

	Residents	Returnees	IDPs	Total
Lack of lighting around the shelter	18%	32%	14%	17%
Lack of heating	17%	27%	10%	16%
Lack of insulation from cold	12%	10%	7%	11%
Lack of lighting inside the shelter	8%	11%	9%	8%
Lack of privacy inside shelter	2%	10%	3%	2%
Lack of bathing facilities	1%	0%	2%	1%
Limited ventilation	1%	0%	1%	1%
Lack of space inside shelter	1%	1%	1%	1%
Lack of toilets	1%	0%	1%	1%
Other issues	0%	5%	0%	0%

Figure 5: % of households reporting selected adequacy issues in solid/finished apartments/buildings by subdistrict

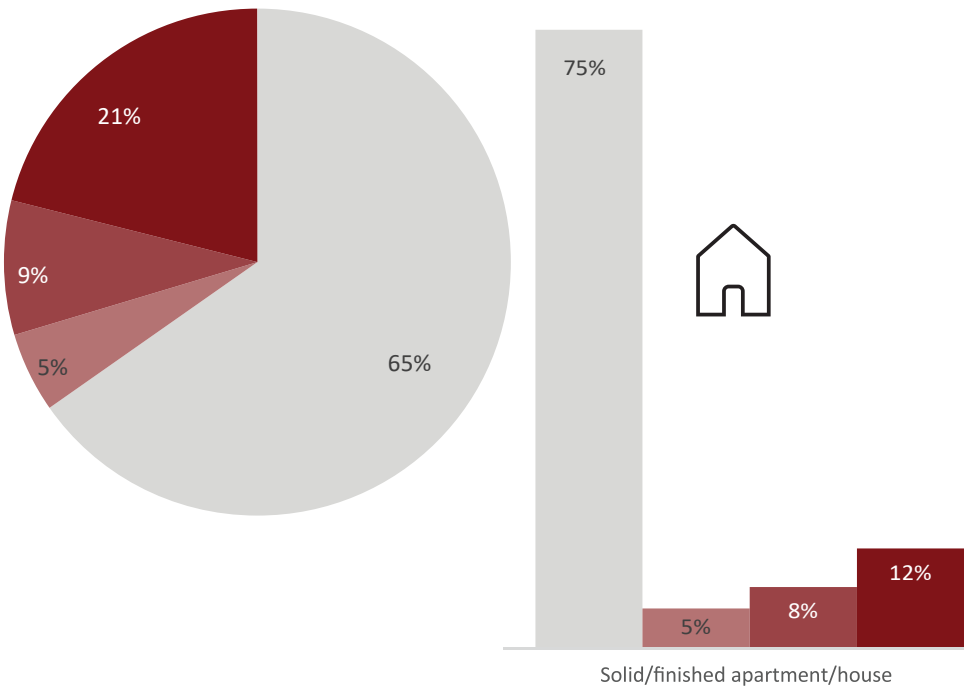
Sub-District	Lack of Toilets	Lack of bathing facilities	Lack of access to safe drinking water
A'zaz	1%	1%	0%
Afrin	0%	0%	0%
Aghtrin	2%	2%	0%
Al Bab	0%	0%	1%
Ar-Ra'ee	2%	3%	1%
Atareb	0%	4%	0%
Bulbul	1%	1%	0%
Daret Azza	3%	3%	0%
Ghandorah	0%	2%	0%
Haritan	0%	0%	0%
Jandairis	1%	6%	0%
Jarablus	0%	1%	0%
Ma'btali	0%	2%	0%
Mare'	0%	0%	0%
Nabul	0%	0%	0%
Raju	0%	0%	0%
Sharan	0%	0%	0%
Sheikh El-Hadid	0%	0%	4%
Suran	5%	2%	0%
Armanaz	0%	0%	0%
Dana	0%	0%	0%
Darkosh	0%	0%	0%
Janudiyeh	0%	0%	0%
Kafr Takharim	0%	0%	0%
Maaret Tamsrin	1%	0%	0%
Qourqeena	0%	0%	0%
Salqin	0%	0%	0%
Sanjar	2%	1%	0%
Saraqab	15%	19%	0%

ADEQUACY ISSUES | ALL APARTMENTS/HOUSES

Overall, almost two thirds of HHs living in apartments/houses in north-west Syria reported that they don't face any adequacy issues, in regard to their shelter (65 percent). Over one in five, however, reported that they face three or more adequacy issues (21 percent), while a much smaller percentage reported that they face one (5 percent) or two (9 percent).⁴

Figure 6: Number of Adequacy Issues faced by HHs living in solid/finished, damaged and unfinished apartments/houses (% of HHs)

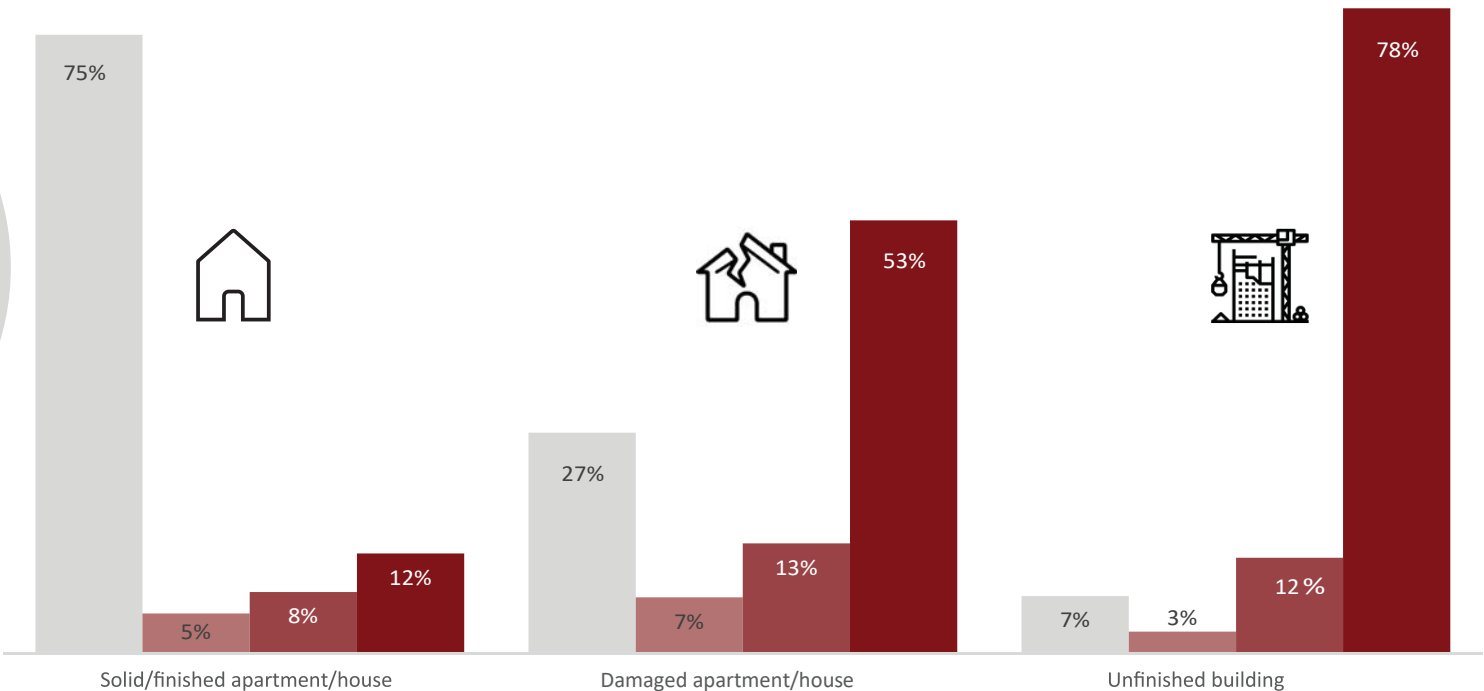
- No adequacy issues
- 1 adequacy issue
- 2 adequacy issues
- 3 or more adequacy issues



As would be expected, the prevalence of adequacy issues are lowest in solid/finished buildings, highest in unfinished buildings, and in-between for damaged buildings.

In unfinished buildings, only 7 percent of HHs have no adequacy issues and 78 percent report that they face three or more adequacy issues. On the other hand, in solid/finished buildings, only 12 percent report facing three or more adequacy issues, while three out four households report that they do not face any adequacy issues.

Figure 7: Number of Adequacy Issues by type of apartment/house(% of HHs)



⁴ All figures in this section are taken from the entirety of sub-districts in north-west Syria; therefore, they differ from the figures in the previous page, which were derived from shortened list of northwest Syria sub-districts

ADEQUACY ISSUES IN CAMPS AND COLLECTIVE CENTERS

As compared to HHs living in houses or apartments, HHs living in collective centers, informal camps, managed camps, and transit camps face much higher rates of adequacy issues. 83 percent report facing three or more adequacy issues - 62 percentage points higher than those living in houses or apartments. Only 9 percent reported no adequacy issues, 1 percent reported one, and 6 percent reported two.

All HHs in transit camps (427 HHs) report three or more adequacy issues. HHs living in managed camps report a slightly lower rate of adequacy issues compared to informal camps - 10 percent in managed camps report no adequacy issues compared to just 4 percent in informal settlements. HHs in collective centers report the lowest rates of adequacy issues: only 44 percent report three or more and 22 percent report none.

Figure 8: Number of Adequacy Issues (% of HHs living in collective centers, informal camps, managed camps, or transit camps)

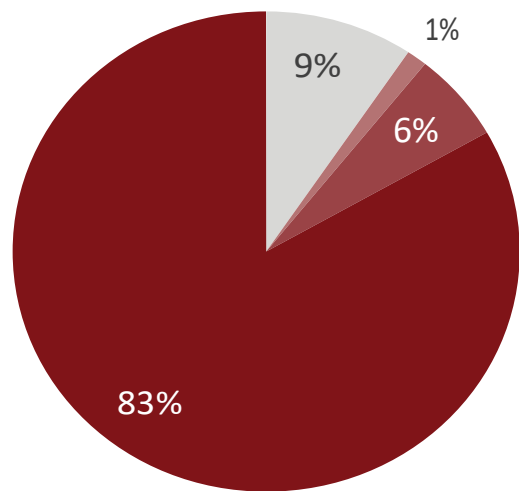


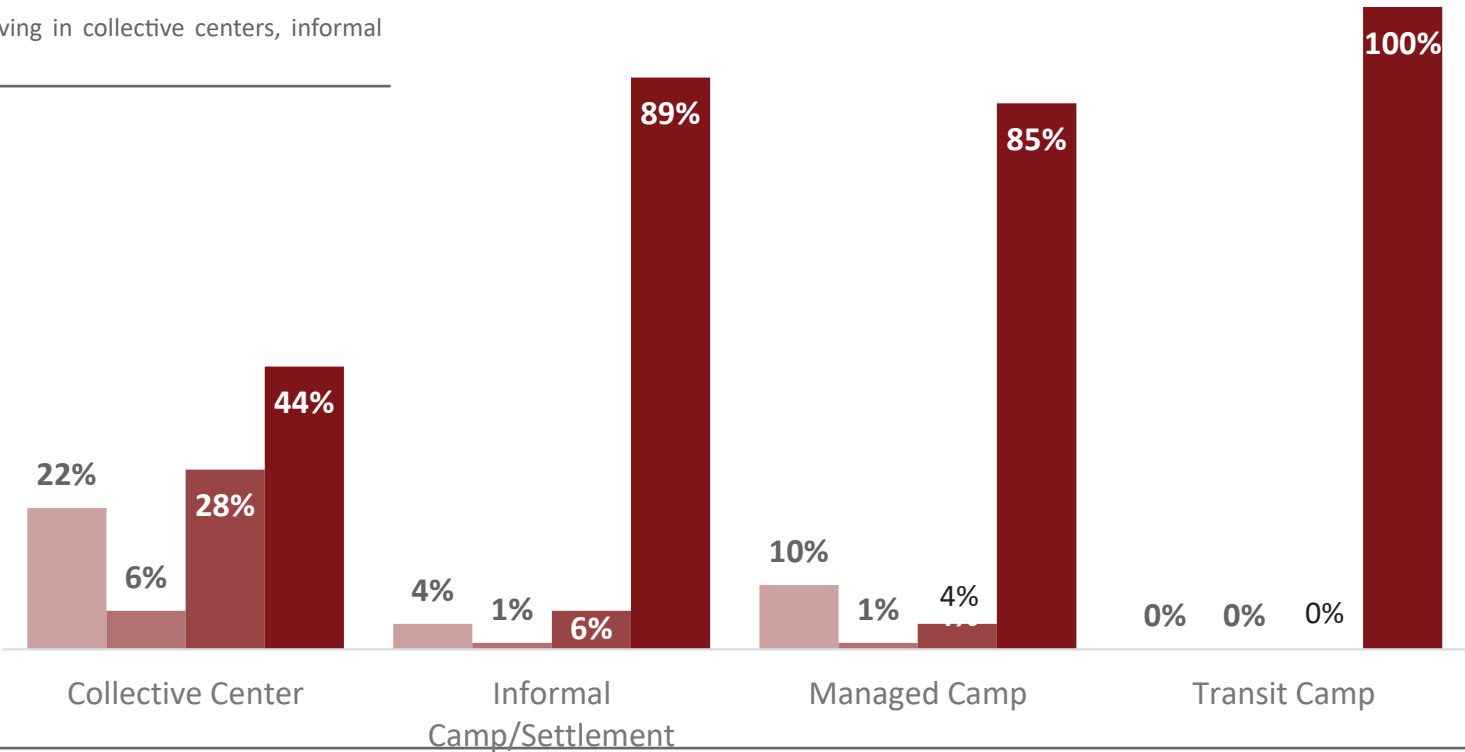
Figure 9: Number of Adequacy Issues by Shelter Type (% of HHs)

- No adequacy issues

1 adequacy issue

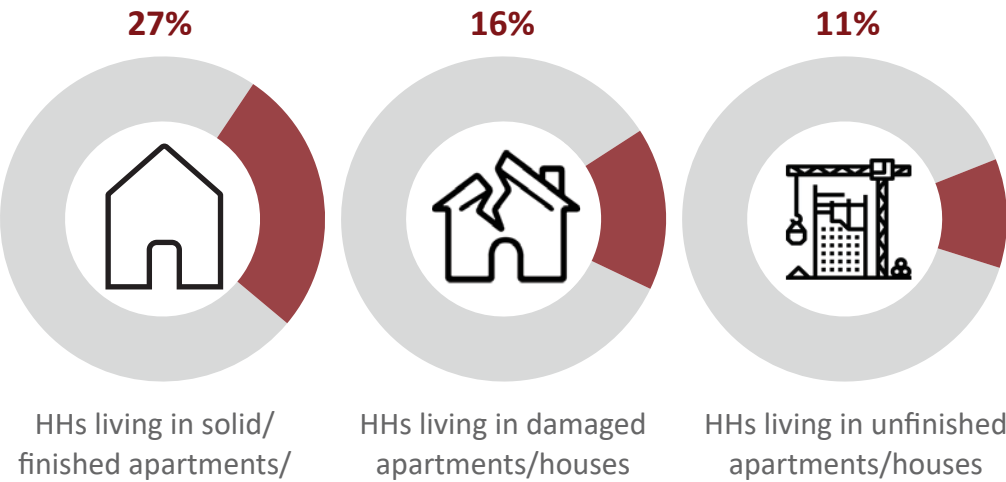
2 adequacy issues

3 or more adequacy issues



ABILITY TO PAY RENT

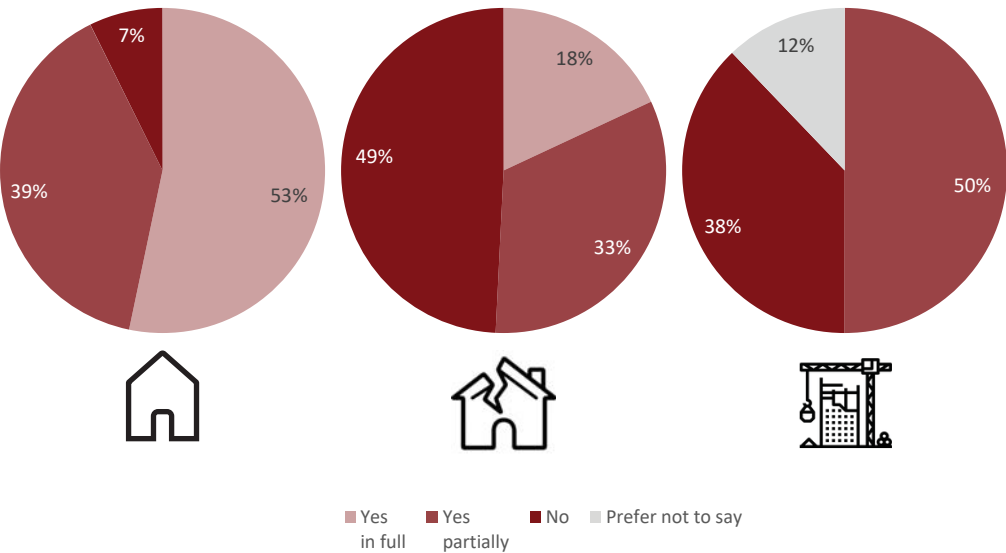
Figure 10: % of HHs that are eligible to pay rent by shelter type



27 percent of HHs in solid, finished buildings, 16 percent in damaged buildings and 11 percent in unfinished buildings are obliged to pay rent. The remainder of HHs either own the property or are living with other families, rent-free.

no household living in an unfinished building is able to pay their rent in full- 50 percent can pay partially. Complete inability to pay rent is most critical in Dana Sub District- 21 percent of the population who are eligible to pay rent reported that they have not been able to pay their rent on time over the last three months. Other highly impacted sub districts are Atareb, Al Bab, Daret Azza and Bulbul- in which over one in ten HHs who are eligible to pay rent are not able to do so.

Figure 11: Ability to pay rent of HHs that are eligible to pay rent (% of HHs)



Top 5 Sub-Districts where HHs who are eligible to pay rent cannot pay (selected 'no')

Rank	Sub-District	Total	% of sub-district pop.
1	Dana	3,943	21%
2	Atareb	1,993	13%
3	Daret Azza	1,320	19%
4	Al Bab	1,312	11%
5	Aghtrin	1,298	29%

* HHs were asked whether they are able to pay rent on time and in full over the last three months.

ANNEX 1: TABLES FOR FIGURE 2- # OF HHS LIVING IN EACH SHELTER TYPE

Sub District	Damaged apartments / houses	Unfinished apartment s/houses	Collective Centers	Informal Settlements, Managed, and Transit Camps	Solid/finished apartments/ houses
Abul Thohur	3,689	-	-	-	1,542
Afrin	-	3,770	-	-	16,127
Agghtrin	1,461	812	-	3,084	10,550
Al Bab	1,575	262	2,625	1,312	20,473
Ariha	2,320	290	290	3,190	24,069
A'rima	-	-	-	1,186	6,298
Armanaz	-	-	-	-	11,146
Ar-Ra'ee	-	-	-	157	3,880
Atareb	1,495	1,495	-	2,491	44,836
A'zaz	-	483	-	2,897	44,428
Badama	318	212	-	4,348	5,409
Bennsh	465	1,703	-	77	5,110
Bulbul	97	308	-	-	1,119
Dana	7,886	10,514	1,314	77,544	42,058
Daret Azza	2,905	4,489	-	264	17,694
Darkosh	-	147	-	2,054	12,473
Ehsem	916	-	-	916	13,428
Ghandorah	43	128	-	298	3,709
Hadher	52	-	-	-	1,546
Harim	114	457	229	3,314	7,199
Haritan	1,847	1,516	-	-	1,137
Heish	833	59	-	297	4,817
Idleb	486	486	1,944	972	44,226
Jandairis	400	1,332	-	266	4,796
Janudiyeh	229	-	229	2,058	8,577
Jarablus	409	1,090	-	1,635	10,356
Jebel Saman	73,604	17,601	-	-	235,213
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	4,454	534	178	178	11,758
Kafr Nobol	1,440	-	640	-	13,757

Sub District	Damaged apartments/ houses	Unfinished apartments/ houses	Collective Centers	Informal Settlements, Managed, and Transit Camps	Solid/finished apartments/ houses
Kafr Takharim	-	-	62	-	6,032
Kafr Zeita	1,171	-	-	-	754
Kansaba	-	-	-	-	252
Karnaz	138	-	-	-	1,650
Khan Shaykun	28	7	-	6	46
Maaret Tamsrin	958	639	319	1,596	28,094
Ma'arrat An Nu'man	6,555	3,496	-	5,681	28,403
Ma'btali	-	-	-	-	3,461
Madiq Castle	86	-	-	-	1,240
Mare'	249	62	-	1,621	3,991
Menbij	1,179	1,179	-	589	53,050
Mhambal	449	90	-	180	8,174
Muhradah	426	71	-	-	6,387
Nabul	-	307	-	-	9,405
Qourqeena	286	715	143	143	12,734
Raju	389	-	-	-	4,019
Salqin	1,268	2,219	-	1,268	26,315
Sanjar	99	17	-	-	1,472
Saraqab	5,224	-	580	290	23,507
Sarmin	1,546	-	124	-	4,143
Sharan	-	1,263	-	-	2,453
Sheikh El-Hadid	81	20	-	-	1,817
Suran	1,648	412	-	-	11,259
Suran	2,556	660	-	-	4,783
Tadaf	59	-	-	89	2,728
Tamanaah	143	-	-	22	274
Teftnaz	407	-	-	204	9,268
Zarbah	6,053	1,834	-	1,100	9,171
Ziyara	734	-	-	-	1,423

ANNEX 2: TABLE FOR FIG.3- # OF HHS LIVING IN UNFINISHED, DAMAGED OR INADEQUATE SHELTERS

Sub District	# in damaged house/apartment	# in unfinished house/apartment	# in solid apartment/house w/3 or more adequacy issues
Abul Thohur	3,689	-	110
Afrin	-	3,769	11,100
Aghtrin	1,461	812	974
Al Bab	1,574	262	525
Ariha	2,320	290	580
A'rima	-	-	2,075
Armanaz	-	-	-
Ar-Ra'ee	-	-	470
Atareb	1,495	1,495	-
A'zaz	-	483	966
Badama	318	212	212
Bennsh	465	1,703	232
Bulbul	97	308	-
Dana	7,886	10,514	2,629
Daret Azza	2,905	4,489	4,225
Darkosh	-	147	-
Ehsem	916	-	153
Ghandorah	43	128	85
Hadher	52	-	226
Harim	114	457	-
Haritan	1,847	1,516	237
Heish	833	59	-
Idleb	486	486	1,944
Jandairis	400	1,332	133
Janudiyeh	229	-	114
Jarablus	409	1,090	1,363
Jebel Saman	73,604	17,601	17,601
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	4,454	534	534
Kafr Nobol	1,440	-	160

Sub District	# in damaged house/apartment	# in unfinished house/apartment	# in solid apartment/house w/3 or more adequacy issues
Kafr Takharim	-	-	-
Kafr Zeita	1,171	-	139
Kansaba	-	-	-
Karnaz	138	-	98
Khan Shaykun	28	7	7
Maaret Tamsrin	958	639	-
Ma'arrat An Nu'man	6,555	3,496	-
Ma'bali	-	-	-
Madiq Castle	86	-	58
Mare'	249	62	437
Menbij	1,179	1,179	39,493
Mhambal	449	90	180
Muhradah	426	71	-
Nabul	-	307	-
Qourqeena	286	715	-
Raju	389	-	605
Salqin	1,268	2,219	6,658
Sanjar	99	17	480
Saraqab	5,224	-	3,192
Sarmin	1,546	-	495
Sharan	-	1,263	144
Sheikh El-Hadid	81	20	1,110
Suran	1,648	412	3,707
Suran	2,556	660	660
Tadaf	59	-	1,512
Tamanaah	143	-	71
Teftnaz	407	-	-
Zarbah	6,053	1,834	3,118
Ziyara	734	-	207