



Monthly Bulletin for Consumer Price Index and Inflation in Syria

Issue (4) – April 2025



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AA	Autonomous Administration
CPI	Consumer Price Index
GoS	Government of Syrian regime
M-o-M	Month on month
SCPR	Syrian Center for Policy Research
SIG	Syrian Interim Government
SSG	Syrian Salvation Government
SYP	Syrian Pound
SYP-GA	SYP-Governed Areas
TL	Turkish Lira
TL-GA	TL-Governed Areas
USD	United States Dollar
Y-o-Y	Year on year

1. Preamble

This bulletin provides an independent assessment of consumer prices and inflation rates across all Syrian regions, based on a monthly price survey implemented by the Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) since October 2020. The Center has developed a methodology for constructing the Consumer Price Index (CPI), relating to consumer basket components, weight distribution, and market selection ([SCPR Consumer Price Index Manual in Syria, 2022](#)).

This bulletin presents the results of the monthly consumer price survey, reviewing the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for April 2025 (Base Year 2021), according to regions and main goods and services groups. Based on the price index, the bulletin estimates living costs and poverty lines at the local level in all Syrian regions.

The bulletin of this month (April 2025) comes within a macroeconomic context characterized by significant fluctuations, as survey data indicates a notable return to the inflationary path after a brief period of relative stability, confirming the continuation of severe inflationary pressures on Syrian households. This inflation is a reflection of the reality of governance fragmentation between regions. In northern Syria, monetary and administrative frameworks vary; reliance on the Turkish Lira (TL) continues in some areas (Aleppo countryside and Idlib), while uncertainty surrounds recent integration agreements in the Autonomous Administration (AA) areas.

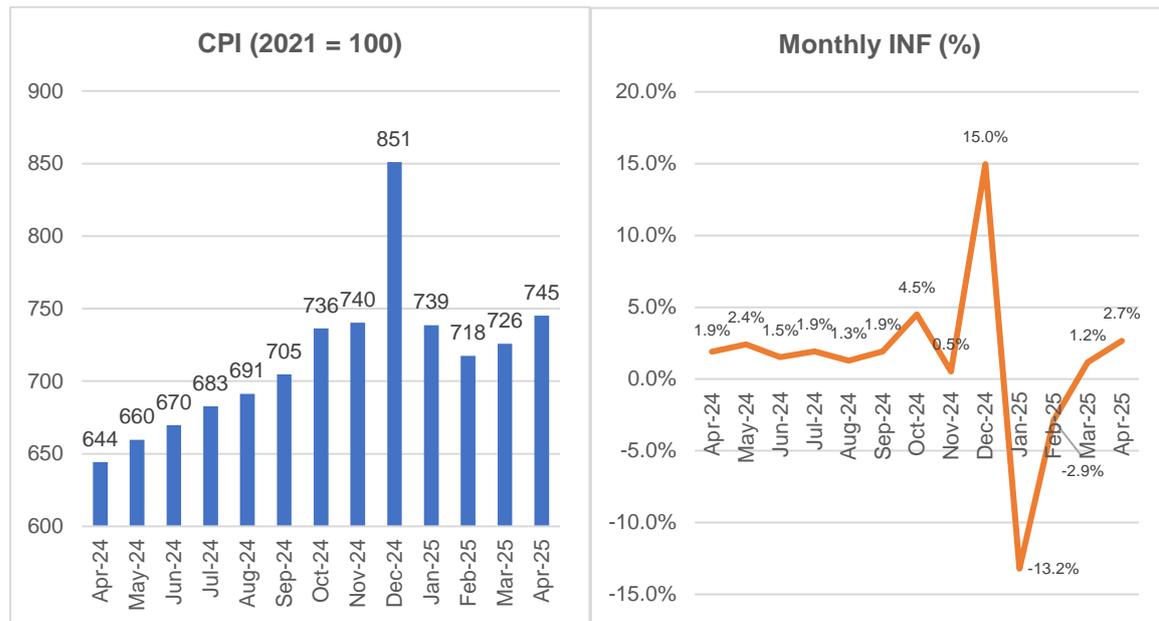
Political and economic contradictions are particularly evident in the Transitional Syrian Government areas, where the policy of import liberalization (which increases demand for hard currency) and liquidity restriction in the local market has created pressures on consumer prices and exchange rates. This was particularly manifested in the rise in prices of the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group, and the Housing, Water, Electricity, and Fuel group. Parallel to these challenges, the "Syrian Interim Government" (SIG) in Aleppo countryside continues its administrative tasks, retains its institutions, and pursues its procedures, despite the formation of a new central government in Damascus and the former's intention to merge with it.¹

¹ Syria TV. (2025, April 21). [What is the fate of the "Interim Government" after the formation of a new central government in Syria?](#)

2. Inflation in Syria, April 2025

The first quarter of 2025 witnessed sharp fluctuations in monthly inflation rates, starting with a sharp decline in January of 13.2 per cent, followed by a less severe decline in February of 2.9 per cent. However, the trend changed in March 2025, as inflation returned to rise by 1.2 per cent, and this rise continued in April at a rate of 2.7 per cent. This pattern reflects the start of a new period of price increases, returning the inflation rate to levels similar to those seen in mid-2024.

Figure (1): Consumer Price Index and Monthly Inflation (M-o-M) in Syria during the period (April 2024 – April 2025), (Base Year 2021 = 100) and (Inflation in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2024 and 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

The analysis of monthly inflation for all groups between March and April 2025 shows that the overall CPI rose by 2.7 per cent, driven mainly by significant increases in specific groups: the Tobacco group, the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group, and the Recreation and Culture group. In contrast, some groups witnessed a decrease in prices, most notably: the Communication group, the Household Equipment and Maintenance group, and the Transport group.

At the level of main consumption groups, prices of the Tobacco group rose by 9.8 per cent during April 2025 compared to the previous month, due to the rise in foreign tobacco prices amidst the decline of the Syrian Pound (SYP) exchange rate against the United States Dollar (USD). The price of an imported pack of cigarettes (20 pieces) reached SYP 9700 in April 2025 compared to SYP 8800 in the previous month.

Prices of the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group rose by 6 per cent during April 2025 compared to March 2025. At the level of its subgroups, fruit prices rose by 17 per cent, where the average price of a kilogram of lemon reached SYP 11000 compared to SYP 6500 in the previous month, and the price of a kilogram of imported bananas reached SYP 13000 compared to SYP 12000 in the previous month, and red apples reached SYP 12300 compared to SYP 10500 in the previous month.

Table (1): Monthly Consumer Price Inflation in Syria for April 2025 by Consumption Groups, (Base Year 2021 = 100) and (Inflation in per cent)

#	Group	CPI in March 2025	CPI in April 2025	Monthly Inflation (M-o-M)
	All commodities	726	745	%2.7
1	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	538	571	%6.1
2	Tobacco	406	446	%9.8
3	Clothes and shoes	591	597	%1.1
4	Housing, water, electricity, and other fuel oils	1,199	1,216	%1.4
5	Household equipment, supplies, and maintenance	503	495	%1.6-
6	Health	754	763	%1.1
7	Transportation	961	951	%1.1-
8	Communications	231	206	%10.9-
9	Entertainment and culture	486	512	%5.4
10	Education	730	726	%0.6-
11+12	Various commodities and services	709	716	%1.0

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

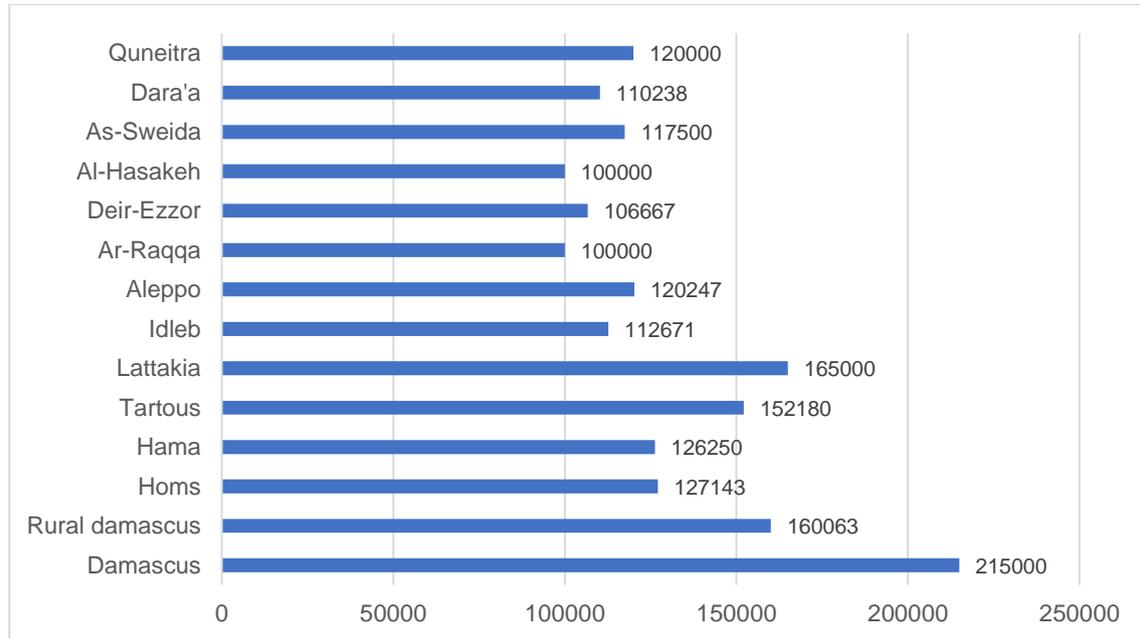
The Legumes and Vegetables group recorded a price increase of 7 per cent during April 2025 compared to the previous March; the price of a kilogram of local tomatoes reached SYP 8800 in April 2025 after being SYP 6500 in March 2025, and the price of a kilogram of black eggplant rose to SYP 6300 in April 2025 compared to SYP 5300 in the previous month. The price of a kilogram of salty potatoes rose to SYP 6300 in April 2025 compared to SYP 5200 in the previous month; it is worth noting that a decision was issued to stop importing potatoes in March 2025 due to a surplus in the Syrian market.²

Prices of the Meat group rose by 5.6 per cent in April 2025 compared to the previous March, as the price of a kilogram of lamb meat (Habra) reached SYP 131000 in April 2025 after being around SYP 120000 in the previous month. The price of lamb meat varies between Syrian governorates, with the price of one kilogram ranging between SYP 165000 and SYP 215000 in the governorates of Tartous, Latakia, Rural Damascus, and Damascus, and between SYP 105000 and SYP 125000 in the rest of the governorates.

² Al Wahda. (2025, March 26). [Ban on potato imports due to surplus.](#)

The rise in meat prices is attributed to several factors, most notably drought and rising fodder prices, in addition to allowing the export of about 200,000 male Awassi sheep.³

Figure (2): Comparison of the price of one kilogram of lamb meat by governorate during April 2025 (in Syrian Pounds)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research, Monthly consumer price survey in Syria 2025.

Prices of the Bread and Cereals group rose by 4 per cent during April 2025 compared to the previous month; the price of a kilogram of white bread from private bakeries reached around SYP 10200, and short rice reached SYP 12000. April 2025 recorded the arrival of the first maritime wheat shipment to Syria in five months; this shipment arrived from Russia via private sector merchants with a total quantity of 6600 tons, noting that Russia suspended wheat exports to Syria immediately after the fall of the regime. Ukraine expressed its readiness to supply wheat to Syria at that time.⁴

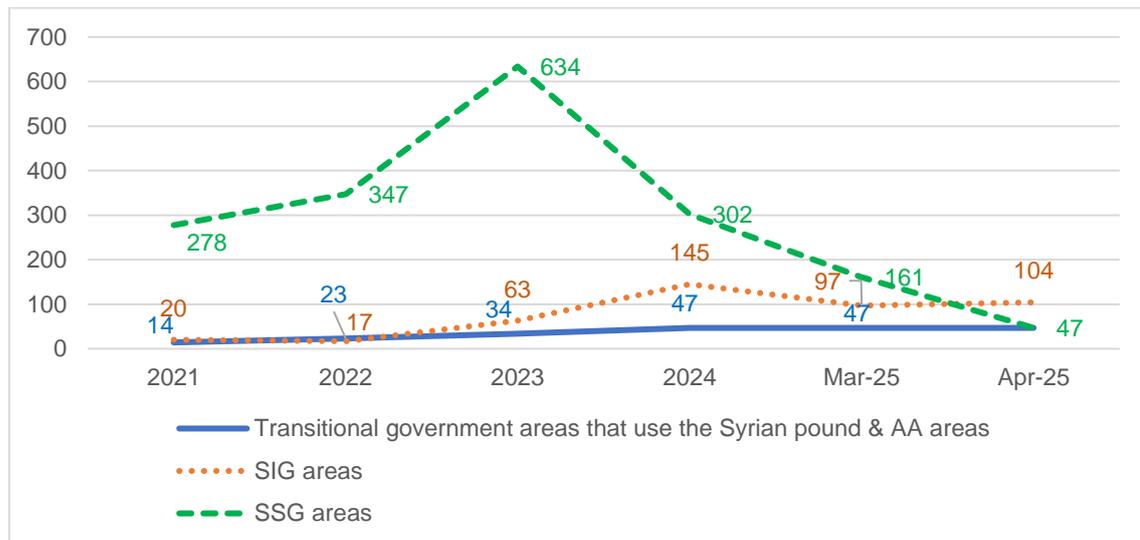
The Communication group witnessed a price decrease of 10.9 per cent in April 2025 compared to the previous month. This decline is attributed to the reactivation of the MTN network in Idleb governorate,⁵ in addition to the cessation of services by "Syriaphone," prompting customers to move from Syriaphone to MTN. It is worth noting that the price per minute via MTN reached SYP 47 in March 2025, while it reached SYP 161 via "Syriaphone".

³ Qasioun. (April 13, 2025). [Sheep exports raise meat prices... and citizens pay the price.](#)

⁴ Enab Baladi (April 26, 2025). ["Exceptional": A single Russian wheat shipment to Syria.](#)

⁵ Al-Hurriyah Newspaper. (2025, April 7). ["SyriaPhone" Telecommunications Network Halts Operations in Idlib Governorate.](#)

Figure (3): Comparison of the price of a cellular call minute between control areas during the period (2021 – April 2025), (in Syrian Pounds)



Note: The first decrease in the price of a cellular call in the Salvation Government areas occurred in July 2023 when switching from the international "E-Lux" network to the local "Syriaphone" network, and the second decrease occurred in April 2025 when switching from the "Syriaphone" network to the "MTN" network. As for the Interim Government areas in Aleppo countryside, they still rely on the Turkish "Turkcell" network to date due to the non-activation of local network towers there. Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research, Monthly Consumer Price Surveys in Syria 2021-2025.

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research, Monthly consumer price surveys in Syria 2021- 2025.

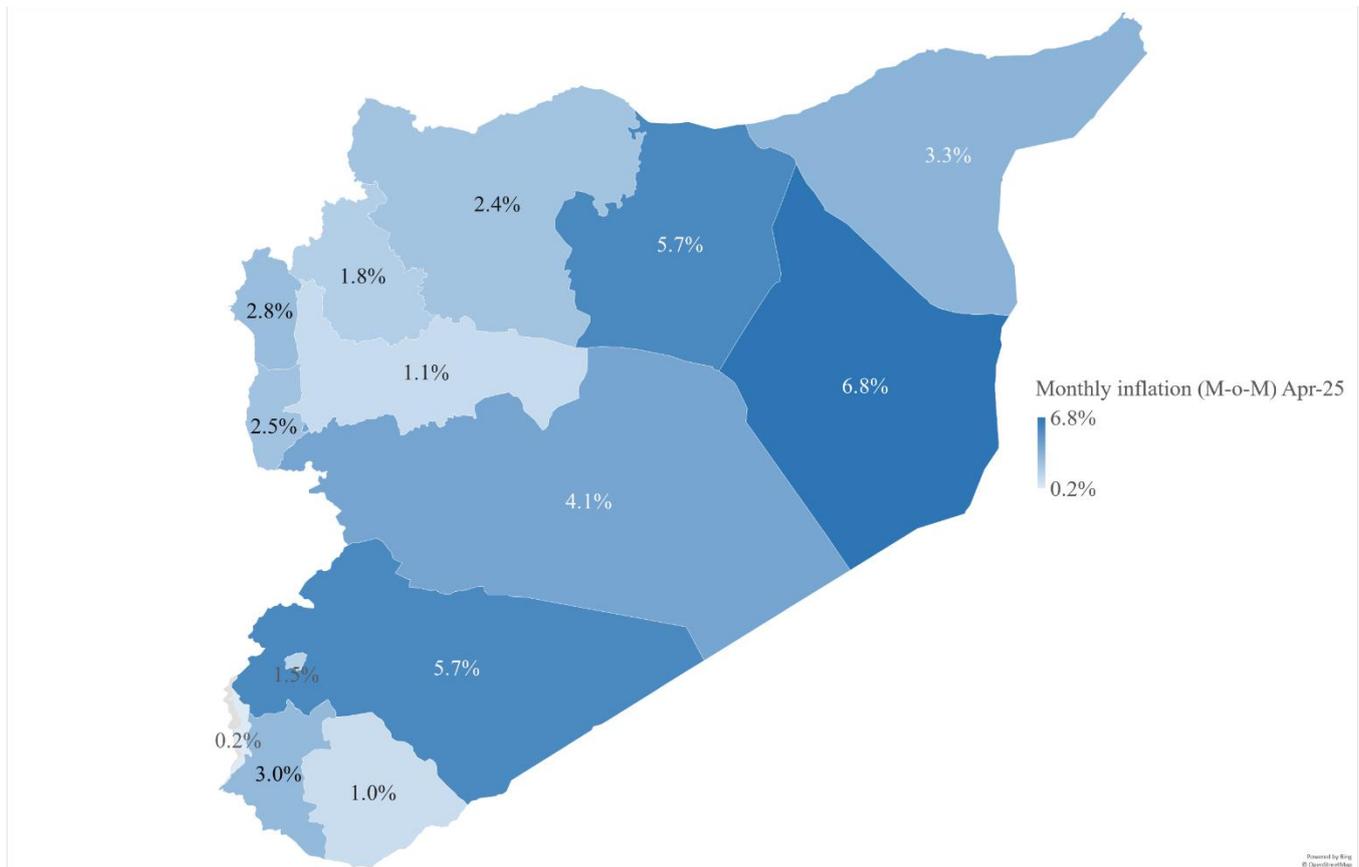
The Transport group prices decreased by 1.1 per cent during April 2025 compared to the previous month. It is necessary to note a significant decrease in car prices in Syria with the flooding of the Syrian market with imported cars due to the "Transitional Caretaker Government" allowing the import of cars over 15 years old and significantly reducing customs duties on them; from the fall of the regime until April 2025, about 100,000 cars were imported, which had an impact on the outflow of large quantities of foreign currency outside Syria.⁶

⁶ SANA (2025, April 24). [Shartah: 100,000 cars imported since liberation, with customs duties reduced by up to 80% compared to the previous period.](#)

3. Inflation by Governorate

Monthly inflation data in Syria for April 2025 indicate a fundamental disparity between governorates, confirming the direct impact of local factors on price dynamics. All governorates witnessed an increase in consumer goods prices, ranging between 0.2 per cent and 6.8 per cent. Deir-Ezzor governorate recorded the highest monthly inflation rate at 6.8 per cent, followed by Ar-Raqqa and Rural Damascus at 5.7 per cent each.

Figure (4): Monthly Consumer Price Inflation (M-o-M) in Syria during April 2025 (in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

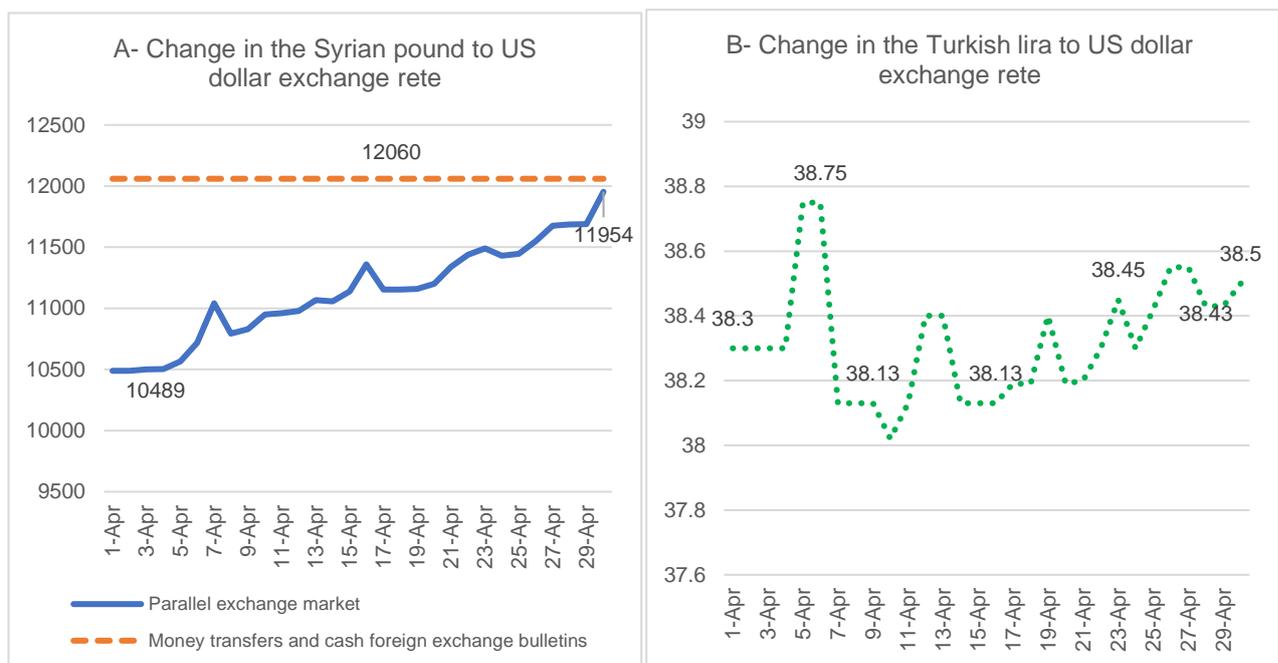
Monthly inflation in the Autonomous Administration (AA) control areas was the highest during April 2025, reaching around 7.6 per cent compared to the previous month. The reason for the significant price increase there is attributed to the AA raising fuel prices (diesel and gasoline) by a large percentage, reaching 50 per cent on April 20, 2025. This led to a direct increase in food prices, bread, and transport fares in its areas during April 2025; the price of a kilogram of bread reached SYP 3000 after being SYP 2000 in the previous month, and the price of a liter of diesel exceeded SYP 6200, exacerbating economic burdens on the population. There are major fears of significantly threatening the agricultural season due to high operating costs.

4. Exchange Rate Changes

April 2025 witnessed a significant decline in the Syrian Pound (SYP) exchange rate against the United States Dollar (USD) in the unofficial market by 6.5 per cent, as the average SYP exchange rate against the USD reached SYP 11127 per dollar in April 2025 compared to SYP 10446 per dollar in March 2025, and the month of April closed at a price of SYP 11954 per USD. The official rate remained fixed at SYP 12060 per dollar throughout the month.

The Central Bank of Syria continued to implement the liquidity restriction policy in April 2025, and the amounts that depositors can withdraw remained limited to SYP 1 million only weekly in two installments. Depositors who deposited large amounts in banks via the import platform before the fall of the regime were unable to obtain their dues, despite the issuance of a circular four months ago stipulating their repayment schedule over six months. On another level, exchange and money transfer companies do not adhere to the official dollar rate set at SYP 12060 per dollar, but rather rely on the unofficial market rate when delivering remittances.

Figure (5): Exchange rate changes of the Syrian Pound and Turkish Lira against the United States Dollar during April 2025



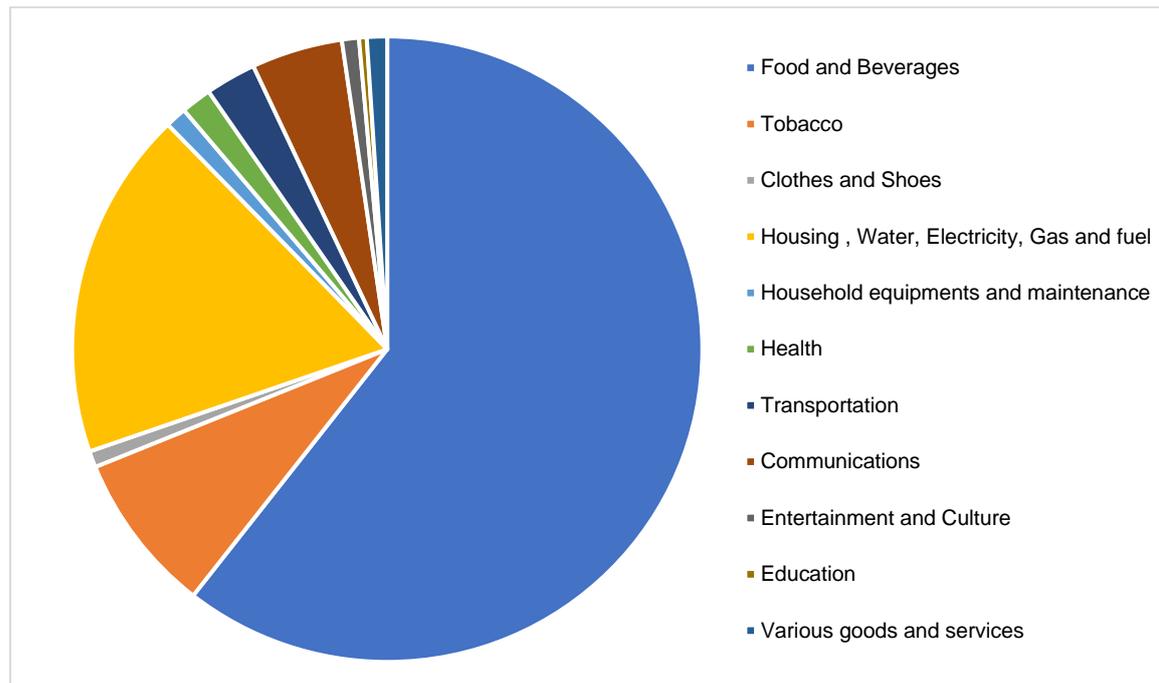
Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

On the other hand, the Turkish Lira (TL) recorded a decline in value in northwest Syria regions by 3 per cent, where the average TL exchange rate against the USD reached TL 38.3 per dollar in April 2025, after being around TL 37.2 per dollar in the previous month. The month of April 2025 closed at an exchange rate of TL 38.5 per USD.

5. Contributors to Inflation

The Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group made the largest contribution to monthly inflation for April 2025 (which amounted to 2.6 per cent) with a contribution rate of 73.5 per cent, followed by the Housing, Water, Electricity, and Gas group at 21.9 per cent, then the Tobacco group at 10.1 per cent. This distribution illustrates that inflation in April 2025 was driven primarily by the food and beverage sector, which constitutes the largest part of the household consumption basket.

Figure (6): Contribution of Main Consumption Groups to the Monthly Inflation Rate (M-o-M) for April 2025 (in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

At the level of control areas, contributions to monthly inflation varied. In the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) (formerly Interim and Salvation areas), the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels group contributed 96.8 per cent of the inflation rate of 3.5 per cent there. This is attributed to the significant rise in rental prices. In the Autonomous Administration (AA) areas, the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group formed the largest contribution to the monthly inflation of 6.7 per cent there, at a rate of 87 per cent. This is mainly due to the rise in fuel and bread prices by 50 per cent. As for the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) (formerly regime areas), the largest contribution was from the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group at 74 per cent of the monthly inflation of 2.2 per cent there. The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels group also contributed 20 per cent of the monthly inflation.

6. Wages in Syria, April 2025

The average monthly wage for a university-educated employee in the public sector (at entry level) in Syria reached approximately SYP 649000 in April 2025. In contrast, the average monthly wage for a worker in the private sector reached SYP 1.09 million, while an employee in the civil sector recorded SYP 2.43 million during the same month.

Table (2): Average Monthly Wages in Syria during April 2025 (in Syrian Pounds)

	SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA)	TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA)	AA areas	Whole of Syria
A- Public sector workers				
Employee Wage (University Professor)	1090044	5548824	3090000	1949121
Employee Wage (University Grad)	311501	2007920	1060000	649106
Employee Wage (4th band)	286038	1350268	1040000	545778
B- Private sector workers				
Company Manager Wage	2757052	4227347	2307787	2924655
Shop Worker Wage	1017478	1343349	1088060	1085937
C- Civil sector workers				
Employee Wage (University Grad)	1782070	4649389	3541253	2426065

Note: Wages of workers in Salvation Government areas are set in US Dollars or their equivalent in Turkish Lira, and workers in Interim Government areas receive their wages in Turkish Lira. Wage values in this table have been converted to Syrian Pounds for comparison with the rest of the regions.

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

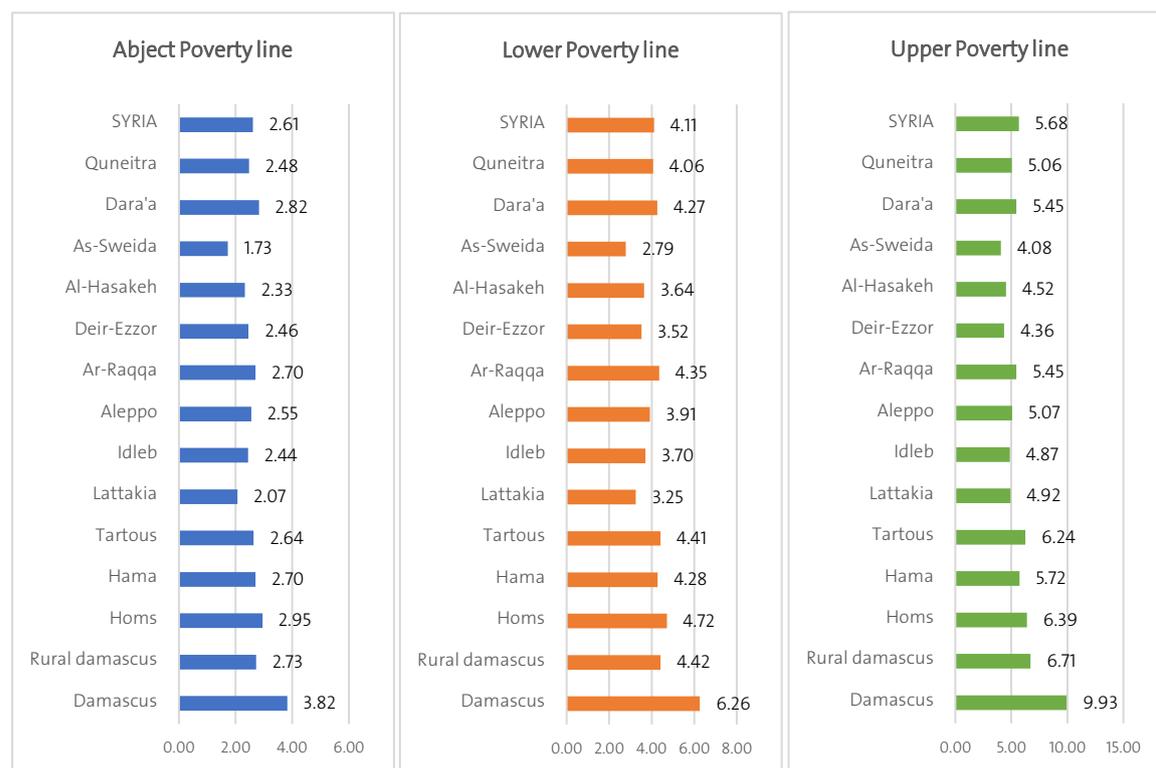
When comparing nominal wages (at current prices) between control areas, it becomes clear that wages in both the public and private sectors in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) (formerly Interim and Salvation areas) were the highest, followed by wages in the Autonomous Administration (AA) areas, while wages in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) (formerly regime areas) came in last place. A significant disparity in wage levels is observed between these three regions. It also appears that wages of workers in the public and private sectors are much lower compared to wages of workers in the civil sector. Despite their relative increase compared to public and private sector wages, wages of civil sector workers in areas formerly under Syrian regime control are very low compared to the rest of the regions, as they equal only 38 per cent of civil sector worker wages in AA areas, and 50 per cent of civil sector worker wages in TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) during April 2025.

When comparing nominal wages (at current prices) between the control regions, it is clear that wages in both the public and private sectors in the Transitional Government-controlled areas using the Turkish Lira (Idleb and Aleppo countryside) were the highest, followed by wages in the AA areas, while wages in the Transitional Government-controlled areas using the Syrian Pound (former regime areas) came in last. A significant variance in wage levels is observed across these three regions.

7. Poverty Lines in Syria, April 2025

The household abject poverty line,⁷ which is an indicator of food deprivation, reached SYP 2.61 million per month at the Syria level in April 2025, the lower poverty line rose to SYP 4.11 million, while the upper poverty line reached SYP 5.68 million. Poverty lines recorded their highest levels in the governorates of Damascus, Homs, and Rural Damascus, while the governorates of As-Sweida, Deir-Ezzor, Lattakia, and Al-Hasakeh recorded their lowest values during the same month.

Figure (7): Monthly Poverty Lines in Syria during April 2025 (SYP million)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

When comparing nominal wages with monthly poverty levels,⁸ it becomes clear that the wage coverage ratio for the abject poverty line does not exceed 24.8 per cent for a university-educated employee in the public sector, 58.5 per cent for a worker in the private sector, and 7.2 per cent for workers in the civil sector during April 2025. The coverage ratio of civil sector worker wages in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) (formerly Interim and Salvation areas) was 193 per cent, and reached 144 per cent in AA areas, while it reached only 68 per cent in SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) (formerly regime areas). These data confirm the large disparity in living standards between regions and particularly reflect the relative rise of civil sector wages in TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) and in AA areas compared to other sectors and regions.

⁷ Poverty lines (abject, lower, and upper) were calculated by measuring the effect of inflation on the 2009 poverty lines.

⁸ t is equal to the relative difference between the monthly wage and the poverty line. International Labour Organization (ILO). For details, see: International Labour Organization. (2013). [Equal Pay – an introductory guide](#). Geneva.

Table (3): Monthly Wage Coverage of Poverty Lines in Syria during April 2025 (in per cent)

	SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA)	TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA)	AA areas	Whole of Syria
A- Wage Coverage of Abject Poverty Line				
Public Employee (Uni Grad)	11.9%	83.3%	43.2%	24.8%
Private Sector Worker	38.7%	55.7%	44.4%	41.5%
Civil Sector Employee	67.9%	192.9%	144.4%	92.8%
B- Wage Coverage of Lower Poverty Line				
Public Employee (Uni Grad)	7.5%	54.7%	28.2%	15.8%
Private Sector Worker	24.5%	36.6%	28.9%	26.4%
Civil Sector Employee	42.9%	126.6%	94.2%	59.0%
C- Wage Coverage of Upper Poverty Line				
Public Employee (Uni Grad)	5.4%	41.8%	22.6%	11.4%
Private Sector Worker	17.7%	28.0%	23.2%	19.1%
Civil Sector Employee	31.0%	96.9%	75.6%	42.7%

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR) 2025, Monthly Consumer Price Survey in Syria.

Public sector employee wage coverage for the upper poverty line reached only 5.4 per cent in SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA), and 22.6 per cent in AA areas, while it reached 41.8 per cent in TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) (formerly Interim and Salvation areas). The same applies to private sector employees, where coverage ratios reach 17.7 per cent for employee wages in SYP areas (formerly regime), 23 per cent for worker wages in AA areas, and 28 per cent for worker wages in TL areas (Interim and Salvation). These dangerous indicators show that the wages of all government employees in the three regions do not cover the minimum basic goods and services necessary for a decent life. This highlights the critical economic situation and insufficiency of income to cover basic needs.

Annexes

Annex (1): Consumer Price Index in Syria during April 2025 by Consumption Groups and Governorates (Base Year 2021 = 100)

	Damascus	Rural Damascus	Homs	Hama	Tartous	Lattakia	Idleb	Aleppo	Ar-Raqqa	Deir-Ezzor	Al-Hasakeh	As-Sweida	Dara'a	Quneitra	SYRIA
All commodities	1,065	850	1,005	857	947	803	522	765	653	688	754	809	720	809	745
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	656	584	655	655	652	590	524	579	562	713	672	570	584	609	571
Tobacco	429	453	440	474	480	422	508	426	401	658	446	506	371	344	446
Clothing and Shoes	537	559	636	621	731	648	707	609	685	586	806	722	465	404	597
Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels	1,668	1,564	1,874	1,495	1,541	1,298	646	1,022	981	766	997	1,574	1,259	1,409	1,216
Household equipment and maintenance	653	479	526	721	583	384	453	406	431	571	787	456	536	552	495
Health	836	828	758	730	863	846	526	768	836	676	717	869	969	685	763
Transportation	1,595	1,313	1,367	1,329	1,438	1,548	553	844	703	690	964	872	801	1,393	951
Communications	330	329	329	328	329	327	41	504	329	332	329	332	331	329	206
Culture and entertainment	360	528	478	406	672	442	405	560	1,327	448	554	461	489	284	512
Education	816	604	831	742	892	733	1,039	684	458	507	842	636	954	730	726
Various goods and services	894	718	855	646	1,025	582	439	765	627	728	545	822	645	599	716

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research, Monthly consumer price survey in Syria 2025.



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