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Two-Speed InflationA Temporary Slowdown Outside Al-Hasakeh and a Severe Energy Shock Within the Governorate in June 2026

Monthly Bulletin for Consumer Price Index and Inflation in Syria
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Executive summary

The Consumer Price Index in Syria increased by 0.8 per cent during June 2026 compared to May. This rise was the result of opposite trends. Pressures from rising housing, energy, transportation and education costs are offset by seasonal declines in food prices, especially vegetables. However, this slowdown in the monthly inflation rate compared to the previous month should not be interpreted as a general stability in prices. Annual inflation remained at 40.5 per cent, and the housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuel groups remained the highest inflation group on an annual basis at 59.8 per cent. Therefore, the decline in the monthly inflation rate in June reflects a temporary balance between seasonal declines in food and continuing increases in housing, energy, and transportation, more than it reflects a sustainable improvement in the cost of living.

Al-Hasakeh recorded an exceptional trend compared to the rest of the governorates, as its monthly inflation rate reached 24.8 per cent. This increase was mainly linked to the sharp increase in electricity tariffs and the prices of some energy sources, in the context of bringing local pricing systems closer to the tariffs approved in SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA). Al-Hasakeh clearly shows the dangers of unifying or approximating pricing systems without gradual implementation or safeguards. The increase in electricity tariffs and free diesel prices, along with the disruption in fuel availability, led to the shock being transmitted to transportation, water, rents, and services. Thus, the governorate has become a revealing case of what can happen when the cost of energy is transferred to consumers and producers more quickly than the ability of local incomes to adapt.

Inflation moved during the month under the influence of two opposite factors: The rise in housing, energy and transportation costs pushed the general price level higher, while the decline in vegetable prices by 19.5 per cent contributed to reducing inflation, as a result of the expansion of domestic supply during the production season.

In the exchange market, the average price of the dollar in the parallel market increased by about 2.7 per cent during June compared to May, despite the noticeable improvement in the value of the lira during the last week of the month. This late improvement was not enough to change the trend that prevailed in the exchange market during most days of the month.

In contrast, wages remained far from keeping pace with the cost of living; The average monthly wage of a university employee in the public sector covered only 44.0 per cent of the family's abject poverty line. This reflects the continuing wide gap between incomes and prices, and the resulting pressure on families to reduce their consumption or rely on additional sources of income and external transfers.

The upper poverty line for a family of five was about SYP 7.47 million per month, which confirms that most wage earners remain unable to secure a basic standard of living. The comparison between incomes and poverty lines also shows that limited inflation during the month does not mean an actual improvement in living conditions, in light of the accumulation of previous increases and the continued weakness of purchasing power.

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1. Consumer Price Bulletin: Methodology and Scope of Coverage

This bulletin provides an independent assessment of the development of consumer prices and inflation in Syrian governorates, based on a monthly survey carried out regularly by the Syrian Center for Policy Research since October 2020. The Center developed the survey methodology based on the concepts and standards contained in the Consumer Price Index issued by the International Labour Organization. The guide measures the change in prices of a reference basket that includes 112 goods and services, classified according to the International Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), and represents about 78 per cent of total household consumption spending, according to the Household Income and Expenditures Survey for 2009. The Center reconstructed the weights for the basket based on the multi-purpose surveys that it implemented in 2020, in addition to a set of primary and secondary data. This took into account the changes that occurred during the years of conflict in household consumption patterns, as well as the differences between governorates and local economies. Accordingly, the basket included alternative energy and water sources, goods available at free prices, private university education, and other items that have come to account for an increasing share of household spending.

The survey covers 58 markets, including 25 markets in governorate centers and 33 markets outside them, distributed between urban and rural locations chosen according to population size, commercial activity, geographical distribution, and social diversity. The data is collected by 35 researchers residing in the covered areas, through regular field visits carried out during the fourth week of every month. The data is subject to auditing and matching processes at the commodity, market, and governorate levels, which include verifying the stability of specifications, reviewing outliers, and addressing cases of absence of items or changes in their quality. When it is not possible to temporarily monitor a seasonal good, its price movement is estimated based on similar items or the closest group, according to the approved substitution and transfer rules, until monitoring of its actual price resumes.

The survey includes, in addition to the prices of goods and services, a monthly monitoring of the wages of eight reference job categories, which include employees in the public sector who hold a university degree and a basic education certificate, a university faculty member, a shop worker, a company manager, in addition to a university employee, a maintenance employee in a civil society organization, and a day laborer. The wages of these groups are monitored in the 58 markets covered by the survey, which allows tracking their monthly changes and existing disparities between them according to regions and sectors, as well as measuring the ability of a single wage to cover the reference family's living costs and updated price poverty lines.

The index is calculated using estimated consumption weights for the year 2020, with 2021 prices as the base year. The price indices for goods and services are then gradually collected at the level of groups, markets, and governorates, arriving at the general index for Syria. The results are used to measure inflation, analyze geographic and sectoral differences, estimate costs of living and poverty lines, and track the purchasing power of wages. Details regarding the calculation formula, weights, and mechanisms for aggregation, substitution, and quality control are provided in (The Syrian Center for Policy Research's Consumer Price Index in Syria, 2022).

2. Economic context and price drivers during June 2026

The June 2026 results reveal a clear difference in price movement between Al-Hasakeh and the rest of the governorates, as a result of the different factors affecting them. In most regions, rising housing, energy and transportation costs coincided with a seasonal decline in food prices, especially vegetables, which limited inflationary pressures during the month. As for Al-Hasakeh, the rise in electricity and energy prices had the greatest impact on price movement, in light of the trend to bring some local pricing systems closer to the tariffs approved in SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA). This variation helps understand the impact of economic developments and price policies on price trends during the month.

In the field of trade and agricultural policies, the implementation of Resolution No. 10, issued on April 27, 2026, related to preventing the import of a group of agricultural products during their local production seasons, began on June 1. The ban included tomatoes, eggplant, green peppers, and red and yellow watermelon until October 31, 2026, and apricots, peaches, cherries, and peaches until August 31, 2026. The survey results show that the decline in the prices of a number of vegetables during June played a major role in curbing inflation, highlighting the importance of actual seasonal abundance in addition to the restrictions imposed on imports.[1]

On June 9, the National Import and Export Committee issued Resolution No. 11 of 2026, suspending the import of broiler chickens, laying hens, and hatching eggs until further notice. The decision aims to reorganize the relationship between import and local production in the poultry sector, but its impact on prices and availability depends on the ability of local producers to compensate for imports, and on the development of feed, energy, and transportation costs and the availability of breeding supplies.[2]

Energy pricing policy was one of the most prominent institutional changes during the month. On June 23, the Minister of Energy issued Resolution No. 844 of 2026, stipulating the formation of the "Permanent Committee to Determine the Prices of Petroleum Products and Mineral Resources," with the participation of representatives of technical, economic, and financial bodies, including the Central Bank of Syria. The committee was entrusted with tracking prices, reviewing them periodically, and submitting its recommendations to the Minister of Energy.[3]

This was followed by the adoption of the SYP as a single currency for pricing oil derivatives, and then the approval of new cuts that came into effect on June 27. The price of a liter of 90 octane gasoline fell to SYP 12500, a decrease of nearly 20 per cent, and 95 octane gasoline to SYP 13000, a 20.4 per cent decrease. The price of a liter of diesel also fell to SYP 10700, by 14.4 per cent, and the price of a domestic gas cylinder to SYP 150000, and an industrial gas cylinder to SYP 240000, a decrease of approximately 15.5 per cent for each. This amendment has a direct impact on fuel prices, and a possible indirect impact on transportation, production and distribution costs during subsequent periods.[4]

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[1]Syrian newspaper Al-Thawra, "Decision to ban the import of a number of agricultural products," April 27, 2026.

[2]Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA), Announcement of Resolution No. 11 of 2026 regarding stopping the import of broiler chickens, laying hens, and hatching eggs, June 9, 2026.

[3]SANA Agency, "The Permanent Committee for Setting Petroleum Products Prices issues a statement on the new pricing mechanism," June 28, 2026.

[4]SANA Agency, "The Minister of Energy approves a reduction in the prices of petroleum derivatives," June 27, 2026.

This coincided with an improvement in the exchange rate of the SYP in the parallel market during the last week of June. The USD fell from a peak of approximately SYP 14564 on 11 and 12 June to SYP 12854 on 28 June, before rising again to around SYP 13268 at the end of the month. Nevertheless, the average parallel-market exchange rate was approximately SYP 14001 per USD in June, compared with SYP 13630 in May, representing a M-o-M increase of about 2.7 per cent. This means that the improvement recorded in the final days of the month was insufficient to reverse the trend that prevailed during most of June.

In parallel, the Central Bank of Syria adjusted the remittance and foreign-exchange rate in three stages, after maintaining it at SYP 11350 per USD through 23 June. It raised the rate to SYP 11650 on 24 June, then to SYP 11950 on 25 June, and finally to SYP 12250 from 28 June. The rise in the official rate, together with the improvement in the parallel-market rate, narrowed the gap between the two. However, the rapid exchange-rate movements over a short period, followed by the renewed increase in the USD after it reached its lowest level on 28 June, do not provide sufficient evidence of a sustained change in the underlying monetary and economic factors. Short-term market interventions and speculation may have played an important role. In north-western Syria, the TL continued its gradual depreciation against the USD, with the exchange rate rising from about TL 46.3 per USD at the beginning of June to nearly TL 47 at month-end.

On June 15, the Ministry of Economy and Industry issued a circular that took effect on June 20, reducing the number of loaves of bread from ten to eight, setting their weight at 1000 grams and fixing their price at SYP 4000. Accordingly, reducing the weight of the bundle from 1050 to 1000 grams, with the price remaining constant, led to an increase in the price of a kilogram from about SYP 3810 to SYP 4000, or by 5 per cent, bringing the cumulative increase compared to the previous price of the May decision reached about 20 per cent. This amendment has a direct social impact given the high weight of bread in the consumption of families, especially those with limited income.

The changes were more severe in the electricity sector in Al-Hasakeh. In early June, the value of the home consumption package of 300 kilowatt-hours allocated for two months increased from SYP 105000 to SYP 180000, or by 71.4 per cent, so that the implicit price of the kilowatt-hour included in it rose from SYP 350 to SYP 600. The price of the 750 kilowatt-hour package was also set at about SYP 810000, equivalent to SYP 1080 per kilowatt, while the commercial electricity tariff was SYP 1400 per kilowatt and the other commercial tariff was SYP 1700. The Energy Authority on the island explained that the regulation was based on the tariffs issued by the Ministry of Energy in the transitional government, making it a local application of a central tariff rather than an independent price decision for the AA. This adjustment provides a direct explanation for the concentration of most of Al-Hasakeh inflation in the housing and energy group during June.[5]

The impact of raising the electricity tariff is not limited to the household consumption bill, but extends to the cost of operating workshops, shops, and small services, and to the cost of water pumping, cooling, and storage. Therefore, the rise in electricity in Al-Hasakeh acts as indirect costs on local activity, and its subsequent impact is likely to appear in the prices of services and goods produced or distributed within the governorate. On June 15, a meeting was held that included the Governor of Al-Hasakeh, the General Director of the Syrian Petroleum

[5]Hawar News Agency, "Popular dissatisfaction with the rise in electricity bills in Al-Hasakeh and the Energy Authority explains the reason," June 9, 2026.

Storage and Distribution Company, and a delegation from the Jazeera Fuel Department. As a result, the price of free market diesel increased from 55 to 75 cents per liter, by 36.4 per cent, while the price of service diesel intended for public ovens and generators remained at SYP 125 per liter. This led to increased energy costs in the free market, with partial protection of service activities covered by the fixed price.[6]

The widening gap between subsidized diesel and free diesel shows that energy subsidies were not completely abolished, but rather were redirected towards specific channels, while the transportation, agriculture, industry, and service sectors were left with higher prices. This pattern does not necessarily reduce inflation, but rather moves it from the general support bill to the cost of production and final prices.

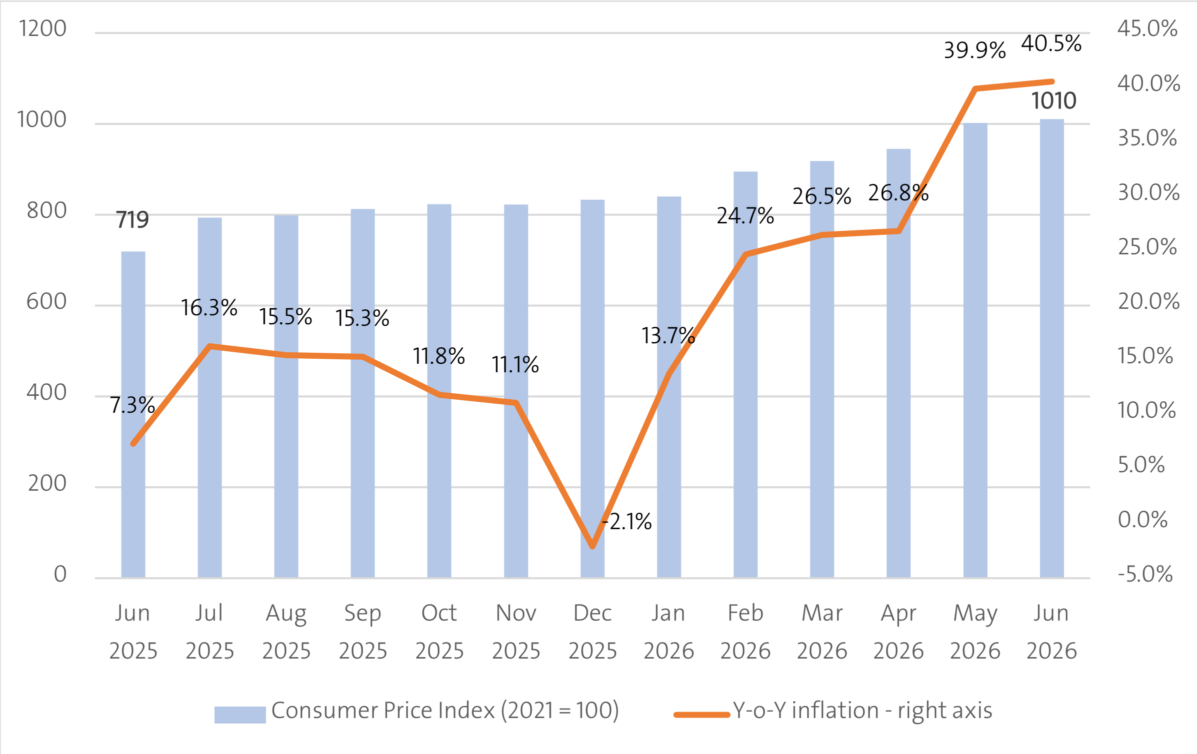
In light of these developments, consumer price results in June reflect the interplay of price policies and the rise in production and service costs with a decline in purchasing power, in light of a clear disparity in economic and living conditions between governorates.

[6] Hawar News Agency, "Fuel Department: The price of service diesel is fixed at SYP 125," June 16, 2026.

3. Annual inflation (Y-o-Y) in Syria

In June 2026, the Consumer Price Index recorded annual inflation of 40.5 per cent, after rising from 719 points in June 2025 to 1010 points, according to the base year 2021=100. Thus, the general price level increased by 292 points in one year, and the cost of the consumption basket became, on average, more than ten times its cost in the base year 2021. The annual inflation rate also rose slightly from 39.9 per cent in May to 40.5 per cent in June, despite monthly inflation slowing to 0.8 per cent. This indicates that the slowdown in price increases during June was not sufficient to reduce the price gap accumulated throughout the year, in light of the successive increases that affected the prices of energy, housing, transportation, and a number of basic commodities.

Figure (1): Consumer Price Index and annual inflation (Y-o-Y) of prices in Syria during the period (June 2025 - June 2026), (base year 2021 = 100) and (inflation in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2025 and 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

The group of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other types of fuel topped the annual increases, recording annual inflation of 59.8 per cent, after its record number rose from 1192 points in June 2025 to 1906 points in June 2026, that is, an increase of 714 points. This rise confirms the continued concentration of the most severe inflationary pressures in basic and semi-fixed expenses, which families do not have much room to reduce, primarily rents, electricity, water, gas, and energy sources. The Tobacco and Tobacco group came in second place, with an annual increase of 52.6 per cent, as its index rose from 440 to 671 points, in light of the rise in local production and import costs, fees, and exchange rate fluctuations. The education group also recorded a high annual inflation of 34.8 per cent, after its index rose from 741 to 999 points, which reflects the increasing burdens associated with fees, supplies, transportation, and educational services.

Prices of various goods and services rose by 34.4 per cent Y-o-Y, followed by household supplies, equipment, and maintenance work by 31.0 per cent. The rise in these two groups indicates that the impact of increased energy, transportation, and import costs extends to a broader range of goods and services, including maintenance materials, household appliances, and personal services. The price index for food and non-alcoholic beverages also rose from 537 to 690 points, recording annual inflation of 28.5 per cent. Although this rate remains below general inflation, its impact on families' livelihoods remains significant due to the high weight of food in their spending, especially among poor families, in addition to the start of prices from already high levels. Therefore, food inflation being lower than the general average does not mean an improvement in access to food, but rather reflects prices for other groups rising more rapidly.

Table (1): Annual consumer price inflation in Syria for June 2026 by consumption groups, (base year 2021 = 100) and (inflation in per cent)

#	Group	CPI, June 2025	CPI, June 2026	Y-o-Y inflation
	All goods	**719**	**1010**	40.5%
1	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	537	690	28.5%
2	Tobacco	440	671	52.6%
3	Clothes and shoes	574	683	19.1%
4	Housing, water, electricity, and gas	1192	1906	59.8%
5	Household fixtures and equipment and maintenance work	449	589	31.0%
6	Health	735	844	14.9%
7	Transportation	919	1112	21.1%
8	Communications	207	202	-2.7%
9	Recreation and culture	470	507	7.8%
10	Education	741	999	34.8%
11+12	Various goods and services	709	953	34.4%

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

The transportation group recorded an annual increase of 21.1 per cent, after its index rose from 919 to 1112 points, affected by changes in fuel prices, transportation fees, and the costs of purchasing and operating vehicles. The impact of this rise is not limited to household transportation expenses, but extends to the costs of producing, transporting and distributing goods, which makes transportation one of the basic channels for transmitting inflationary pressures to the rest of the groups. The prices of clothing and shoes also increased by 19.1 per cent, health by 14.9 per cent, and recreation and culture by 7.8 per cent. The lower relative inflation rates for health, recreation and culture mean that their prices rose more slowly than the other groups, not that they fell, as their index numbers remained above June 2025 levels.

On the other hand, telecommunications was the only group that recorded an annual contraction, by 2.7 per cent, as its index fell from 207 points in June 2025 to 202 points in June 2026. This decline is due to a decrease in reliance on the most expensive foreign service providers, in addition to opening the door to importing telecommunications equipment and reducing the fees imposed on some of them.

In general, the structure of annual inflation in June suggests that price pressures on tradable goods coincide with stronger pressures on non-tradable goods and services, especially housing, water, electricity and gas. This indicates that inflation was not linked to import and transport costs and exchange rate fluctuations alone, but was also affected by internal factors, including price and tariff adjustments, high rents and operating costs, and weak supply and infrastructure. The increase in the prices of tradable inputs, such as fuel, vehicles, spare parts, and medicines, was also partially transferred to the costs of local services, including transportation, health, and education, while the decrease in communications prices was an exception with a limited impact. Taking into account that the index groups combine tradable and non-tradable components, the results indicate in general that the scope of inflationary pressures has expanded to include basic expenses that are difficult for families to reduce or find alternatives to, which has exacerbated their impact on living standards, especially in light of the failure of wages and incomes to keep pace with the cumulative rise in prices.

4. Monthly inflation (M-o-M) in Syria

Analysis of monthly inflation in June 2026 reveals an exceptional discrepancy between price movement in Al-Hasakeh and the rest of the governorates, as the inflation rate in the governorate reached 24.8 per cent, compared to 0.8 per cent nationwide. To clarify the impact of this discrepancy in the reading of the general result, the index was recalculated without Al-Hasakeh, so the monthly inflation rate fell to 0.3 per cent. The general index, when all governorates were included, rose from 1002 points in May to 1010 points in June, while the recalculated index excluding Al-Hasakeh rose from 1018 to 1021 points. The lower level of the index when Al-Hasakeh was included does not mean that prices there declined during the month, but rather reflects that price levels there remained relatively lower than the Syrian average in some groups, despite the sharp monthly rise it witnessed.

Table (2): Monthly consumer price inflation in Syria for June 2026 by consumption groups, (base year 2021 = 100) and (inflation in per cent)

#	Group	CPI, May 2026	CPI, June 2026	M-o-M inflation	CPI, May 2026 (excluding Al-Hasakeh)	CPI, June 2026 (excluding Al-Hasakeh)	M-o-M inflation excluding Al-Hasakeh
	All goods	**1002**	**1010**	0.8%	**1018**	**1021**	**0.3%**
1	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	713	690	-3.2%	710	685	-3.6%
2	Tobacco	676	671	-0.8%	677	666	-1.6%
3	Clothes and shoes	692	683	-1.2%	673	660	-1.9%
4	Housing, water, electricity, and gas	1843	1906	3.4%	1912	1964	2.7%
5	Household fixtures and equipment and maintenance work	597	589	-1.5%	600	594	-1.1%
6	Health	844	844	0.0%	837	831	-0.7%
7	Transportation	1062	1112	4.7%	1096	1129	3.0%
8	Communications	202	202	0.0%	201	201	0.0%
9	Recreation and culture	493	507	2.7%	483	497	2.9%
10	Education	961	999	3.9%	964	1002	4.0%
11+12	Various goods and services	960	953	-0.7%	933	917	-1.7%

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

The discrepancy was most evident in the transportation group, whose monthly inflation reached 4.7 per cent when all governorates were included, compared to about 3 per cent when Al-Hasakeh was excluded. The same effect appeared, albeit to a lesser extent, in the housing, water, electricity and gas group, as their inflation reached 3.4 per cent with Al-Hasakeh and 2.7 per cent without it, and in recreation and culture, at 2.7 compared to 2.9 per cent. The increases that Al-Hasakeh witnessed during June are linked to changes in fuel prices and availability, and the resulting increase in transportation costs and disruption of the operation of private electricity generators. The increase in the prices of free diesel and gasoline designated for transportation coincided with the decline in subsidized allocations, which prompted some drivers to buy fuel from the free market and had a direct impact on transportation fees within the governorate and between its cities. The shortage of diesel also led to a reduction in the operating hours of ampere generators and some of them stopped temporarily, which increased the disruption of the electrical supply and related services.

The divergence also extended to groups that recorded monthly declines. Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages fell by 3.2 per cent when Al-Hasakeh was included, compared with 3.6 per cent when it was excluded. Tobacco prices declined by 0.8 per cent versus 1.6 per cent, while clothing and footwear prices fell by 1.2 per cent versus 1.9 per cent. The same pattern appeared in household furnishings, equipment and routine maintenance, whose prices declined by 1.5 per cent with Al-Hasakeh and by 1.1 per cent without it. Health prices remained stable when Al-Hasakeh was included, compared with a decline of 0.7 per cent when it was excluded, while miscellaneous goods and services declined by 0.7 per cent versus 1.7 per cent. This indicates that prices in these groups either increased in Al-Hasakeh or declined more slowly than the average in the other governorates. The difference was limited in education, where inflation was 3.9 per cent with Al-Hasakeh and 4.0 per cent without it.

4.1. Monthly inflation by consumption groups

The following analysis reviews the most prominent commodity and service groups that witnessed significant changes in their price index during the month of June 2026, based on the monthly comparison with the previous month of May.

4.1.1. Transport group

Transport group prices rose across Syria by 4.7 per cent during June 2026, recording the highest monthly inflation rate among consumption groups. The increase included the prices of cars, fuel, and transportation service fees. The average car purchase price increased from about SYP 154.2 million in May to SYP 163.4 million in June, or by approximately 6 per cent. This increase coincided with the start of implementing the new customs tariff at the beginning of June, under Decree No. 110 of 2026, which set fees on gasoline-powered tourist cars at 20 per cent of the value of the invoice, and on electric cars at 10 per cent, instead of the flat fees previously in effect. (Decree No. 110 of 2026).

Transport fees recorded significant increases during the month. The average taxi fare within the city increased from about SYP 25.7 thousand in May to SYP 28.2 thousand in June, by 9.7 per cent. The bus or service fare also increased from SYP 2911 to SYP 3115 per round, by 7 per cent, and the fare for intercity bus transportation from about 337 to SYP 352 per kilometer, by 4.3 per cent. These increases reflect the continued transfer of the impact of the increase in fuel prices in the previous month to transportation fees, in parallel with the rise in the costs of maintenance, spare parts, and vehicle operation.

The rise in fuel prices was less severe than the increase in car prices and transportation fares. The average price of subsidized fuel for private cars increased from about SYP 14551 per liter in May to SYP 14795 in June, by 1.7 per cent, while the price of free fuel increased from about 15533 to SYP 16306 per liter, by 5 per cent. Thus, transportation inflation was not caused by the change in fuel prices during June alone, but also reflected the delayed effect of the increase in fuel prices in May, in addition to drivers being forced to buy fuel from the free market when subsidized allocations were insufficient.

On June 27, the Ministry of Energy reduced the prices of oil derivatives after adopting the SYP instead of the dollar in pricing. The price of 90 octane gasoline fell by 19.97 per cent to SYP 12500, 95 octane gasoline by 20.39 per cent to SYP 13000, and diesel by 14.37 per cent to SYP 10,700. However, the issuance of the decision in the last days of the month made its impact limited on the monthly average, and it was not transmitted directly to transportation fees, which remained affected by the high costs accumulated since May. The impact of the reduction may appear more clearly in the July data, if it is actually reflected in the transport tariff.

Al-Hasakeh recorded the highest fare for transportation between cities, amounting to SYP 523 per kilometer, compared to about SYP 278 in Deir-Ezzor and SYP 292 in Ar-Raqqa. This came in conjunction with raising the price of a liter of free, locally produced diesel from USD 0.55 to USD 0.75 on June 16, that is, by 36.4 per cent, in addition to stopping supplying some transport companies with their allocations of subsidized diesel, forcing them to buy fuel at the free price. This was reflected in the fees of a number of transportation lines. The fare for the trip between Qamishli and Al-Hasakeh, for example, increased from SYP 15000 to SYP 30000. On the other hand, survey data showed that the average price of subsidized fuel for cars in the governorate remained at about SYP 7760 per liter, which reflects the widening gap in fuel costs between the subsidized and free distribution channels.

4.1.2. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and other Types of Fuel

The group of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other types of fuel recorded a monthly increase of 3.4 per cent across Syria during June 2026, exceeding the general inflation rate of 0.8 per cent. However, this average hides sharp spatial variation. Group inflation in Al-Hasakeh reached 50.5 per cent, while most other governorates recorded limited increases or declines in prices. The increase in Al-Hasakeh was concentrated in the prices of electricity, diesel, and water purchased for drinking, in addition to an increase in rents and the prices of some building materials.

The rise in electricity prices came after the electricity directorates in Al-Hasakeh implemented, in early June, a new tariff based on the prices issued by the Ministry of Energy in the transitional government. Under the new tariff, the cost of the home consumption package of 300 kilowatt-hours per two months increased from SYP 105000 to SYP 180000, or by 71.4 per cent. The cost of the 750 kilowatt-hour package was also set at about SYP 810000, equivalent to SYP 1080 per kilowatt-hour, while the commercial consumption tariff amounted to SYP 1400 per kilowatt of rated electricity and SYP 1700 for the rest of the commercial consumption (Energy Authority and Electricity Directorates in Al-Jazeera Region, June 2026).

This coincided with raising the price of free market diesel from USD 0.55 to USD 0.75 per liter, or 36.4 per cent, following the meeting held on June 15 between Al-Hasakeh Governorate, the Syrian Fuel Company, and the Autonomous Administration delegation. This amendment is consistent with the increase observed by the survey in the price of diesel on the black market, amounting to 42.3 per cent. The increase came as a continuation of the restructuring of diesel prices that began in May. The price of agricultural diesel rose from about USD 0.10 to USD 0.25 per liter, and institutional diesel from USD 0.24 to USD 0.55, while the price of industrial diesel and diesel for tourist ovens was set at USD 0.55 per liter. In contrast, the price of service diesel allocated to general furnaces and generators remained at SYP 125 per liter. These differences reflect a trend towards limiting support to some public services, in exchange for charging agricultural, industrial and commercial activities a greater share of the fuel cost (Autonomous Administration for North and East Syria, May 3, 2026; Al-Hasakeh Governorate and the Syrian Fuel Company, June 15, 2026).

Drinking-water tariffs in Aleppo countryside shifted in June from disparate local pricing arrangements to a unified monthly tariff, following the introduction of a household subscription fee of SYP 50000 per month. Assuming that the reference household consumes approximately 15 cubic metres per month, the implicit price per cubic metre increased from about SYP 1923 in May to SYP 3333 in June, or by 73.3 per cent. The decision highlighted the wider disparities among water-pricing systems in Syria. The cost of the same assumed consumption was approximately SYP 330 per month under the block-tariff system in Aleppo city, SYP 10000 in Al-Hasakeh and Qamishli, about SYP 18742 in areas formerly administered by the SSG, and SYP 50000 in Aleppo countryside. Thus, the cost of water in Aleppo countryside became five times that in Al-Hasakeh and Qamishli, about 2.7 times the cost in areas formerly administered by the SSG, and more than 151 times the cost under the block-tariff system in Aleppo city. This disparity reflects the fragmentation of water-sector governance, the multiplicity of pricing and collection systems and currencies in use, and the absence of a unified framework linking tariffs to the quantity of water delivered to households, household income, service regularity, and service quality (Syrian Center for Policy Research, Consumer Price Survey, May-June 2026; General Company for Drinking Water and Sanitation in Aleppo, Circular No. 2235/D, 24 June 2026).

4.1.3. Food and non-alcoholic beverages group.

The index for food and non-alcoholic beverages declined by 3.2 per cent in June 2026 compared with May, while the overall CPI increased by 0.8 per cent. The decline covered most governorates and was steepest in Aleppo and Rural Damascus, at 7.1 and 6.7 per cent, respectively. They were followed by Hama at 5.2 per cent, As-Sweida at 4.2 per cent, Dara'a at 3.6 per cent, and Tartous and Deir-Ezzor at 3.4 and 3.3 per cent, respectively. Al-Hasakeh was the only governorate where prices in this group increased, by 2.5 per cent, while declines in Homs, Quneitra and Ar-Raqqa were limited. Despite the monthly decrease, the group index remained elevated at 690 points nationally, with 2021 as the base year, ranging from 683 points in Tartous to 831 points in Deir-Ezzor. The June decline therefore did not offset the accumulated increase in food prices since the base year and continued to reveal disparities in price levels and cumulative trajectories across governorates. The decline should also be interpreted cautiously, as it was largely associated with the seasonal abundance of vegetables rather than a structural improvement in households' access to food. Food prices remained substantially above their levels a year earlier, and renewed increases in transport or energy costs, or a decline in agricultural supply, could quickly reverse this decrease in subsequent months.

The largest part of the decline came from the group of legumes and vegetables, whose index fell by 19.5 per cent across Syria, and recorded a decline in all governorates. The decline was maximum in Dara'a by 33.2 per cent, followed by the Damascus countryside by 27.3 per cent, Aleppo by 24.5 per cent, Deir-Ezzor by 23.2 per cent, and Damascus by 22.5 per cent. This was associated with an increase in the seasonal supply of vegetables; The average price of a kilogram of red watermelon decreased from 6254 to SYP 3765, by approximately 39.8 per cent, the price of tomatoes from 9865 to SYP 6806, by 31 per cent, and cucumbers from 10349 to SYP 7053, by 31.9 per cent. The price of potatoes also decreased by about 11 per cent, garlic by 8.3 per cent, and eggplant by 5.4 per cent. The same trend extended, albeit to a lesser extent, to fruits, whose record number decreased by 3.7 per cent, driven by a decline in the price of bananas by about 10.4 per cent and oranges by 3.4 per cent, despite the increase in the prices of apples, grapes, and lemons. Thus, fresh fruits and vegetables were the main factor behind the decline in food prices during the month. However, the seasonal nature of this decline, and its concentration in a limited number of fresh varieties, means that it does not reflect a general and sustainable decline in the cost of food, nor does it dissipate the accumulated price pressures on families.

On the other hand, recorded increases in the prices of bread, cereals, fish, and some animal products limited the overall decline in food prices. The index for bread and cereals rose by 1.1 per cent across Syria, coinciding with an increase in the average price of a kilogram of standard oven bread from 4061 to SYP 4133, tourist bread from 9886 to SYP 10055, and pasta from 14115 to SYP 14572. The increase was more severe in Al-Hasakeh, where the index for bread and cereals increased by 17.5 per cent. The price of standard oven bread increased from SYP 3100 to SYP 3867 per kilogram, or 24.7 per cent, and tourist bread from 6467 to SYP 8800, or 36.1 per cent. At the same time, the overall index for coffee, cheese, and eggs remained stable, despite the varying movement of their components. The prices of milk and white cheese increased, while the prices of eggs decreased. As for meat, its index decreased by a limited amount of 0.3 per cent, as the increase in the price of lamb compensated for a large part of the decrease in the prices of beef and chicken.

4.2. Monthly inflation by governorate

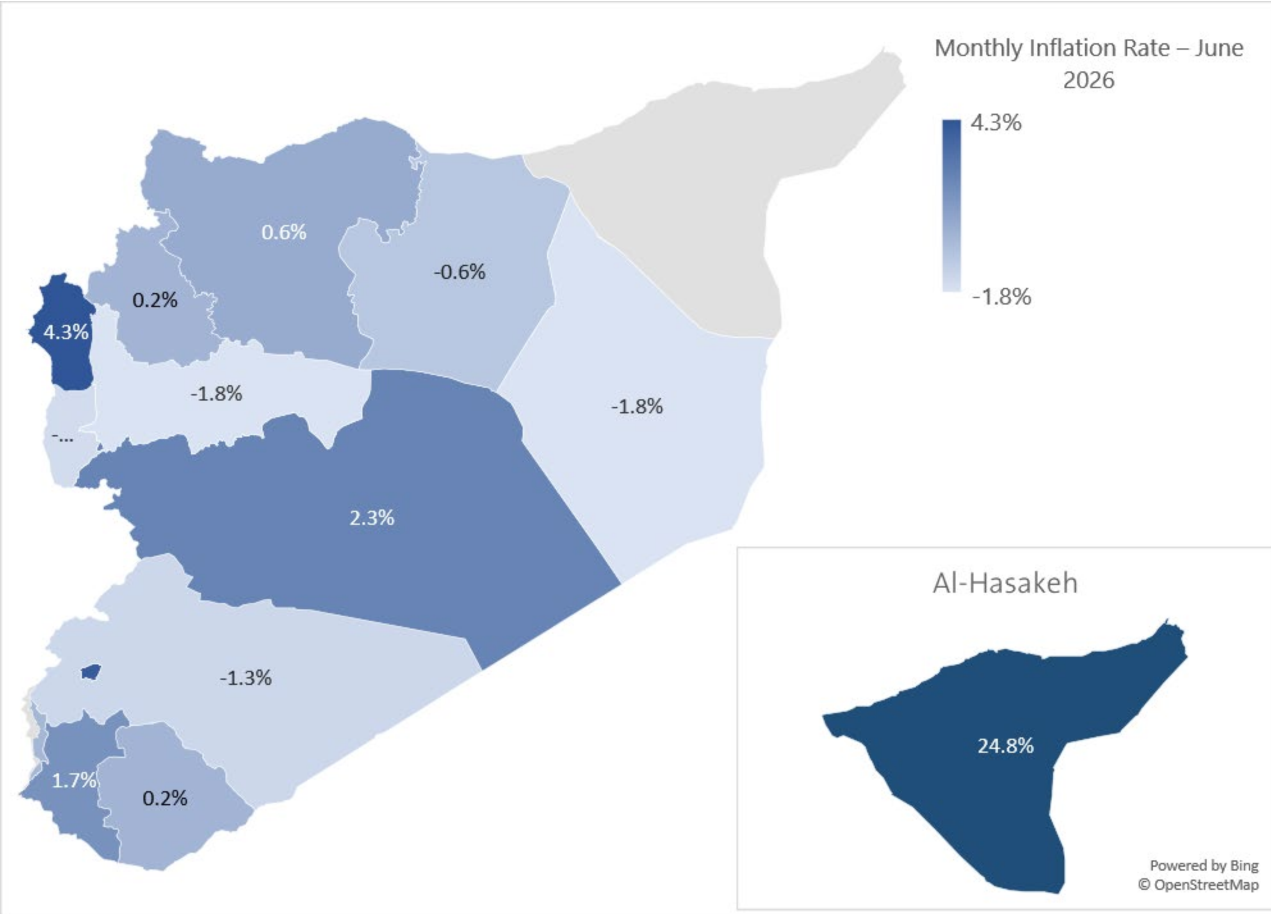
The general CPI in Syria increased by 0.8 per cent M-o-M in June 2026. However, this rate concealed a sharp geographical disparity: prices increased in nine governorates and declined in five. Excluding Al-Hasakeh, monthly inflation ranged from a contraction of 1.8 per cent in Deir-Ezzor to an increase of 4.3 per cent in Lattakia. This variation reflects differences in the effect of seasonal declines in vegetable and fruit prices across local markets, against uneven pressures from housing, energy, transport and service costs.

Lattakia recorded the highest monthly inflation rate after Al-Hasakeh, at 4.3 per cent, followed by Damascus at 4.0 per cent, Homs at 2.3 per cent, and Dara'a at 1.7 per cent. In contrast, price increases were more limited in Aleppo and Idleb, at 0.6 and 0.2 per cent, respectively. Inflation in Damascus was linked to continued price pressures in rents, transportation, some services, and non-food goods.

In the opposite direction, the general price level declined by 1.8 per cent in Deir-Ezzor and Hama, 1.5 per cent in Tartous, 1.3 per cent in Rural Damascus, and 0.6 per cent in Ar-Raqqa. As-Sweida and Quneitra were close to stability, recording limited increases of 0.2 and 0.1 per cent, respectively. This deflation was mainly attributable to lower seasonal food prices, particularly vegetables and fruit, which offset increases recorded in some other groups.

As for Al-Hasakeh, it represented an exceptional case. Its monthly inflation rate reached 24.8 per cent, driven by a price shock that was mainly linked to the repricing of electricity, fuel, and bread, and the resulting increase in transportation, production, and service costs. Thus, prices in the governorate took a path separate from the prevailing trend in the rest of the governorates, as the seasonal decline in food prices limited the general inflation rate.

Figure (2): Monthly inflation (M-o-M) of consumer prices by governorate in Syria during June 2026 (in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

5. Price variation between governorates

The results of the price variation analysis[7] during June 2026 reveal wide geographical variations in the prices of goods and services across Syrian governorates. The unweighted arithmetic mean of the coefficients of variation for the goods and services comprising the main groups ranged from 0.332 for communications to 0.745 for transportation.

The transportation group recorded the highest average coefficient of variation among its components, at 0.745, reflecting wide differences in fuel prices and transport service fares. The fare for a three-kilometre taxi journey ranged from SYP 14.5 thousand in Tartous to SYP 50 thousand in Quneitra, while the fare for an intra-city bus or service taxi ranged from SYP 2 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 6.3 thousand in Aleppo countryside. Inter-city bus fares reached SYP 523 per kilometre in Al-Hasakeh, compared with SYP 278 in Deir-Ezzor.

The housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group ranked second, with an unweighted average coefficient of variation of 0.742 across its components. The variation was particularly pronounced in rents, water prices and energy sources. Average monthly rent was about SYP 8.63 million in Damascus, compared with SYP 900 thousand in As-Sweida and approximately SYP 1.68 million in Al-Hasakeh. The price of purchased drinking water ranged from about SYP 17.5 thousand per cubic metre in Ar-Raqqa to SYP 136.7 thousand in Damascus. Tariffs for water supplied through the public network remained at SYP 39 per cubic metre in most governorates, but reached approximately SYP 1.8 thousand in Aleppo city and SYP 3.5 thousand in Aleppo countryside. Differences in subsidy systems were also evident in the price of subsidised diesel, which was about SYP 12 thousand per litre in most governorates, compared with SYP 1190 in Al-Hasakeh. These differences reflect the multiplicity of pricing, subsidy and public-service delivery systems, as well as variations in housing demand and the cost of obtaining private alternatives for water and energy.

The recreation and culture group recorded an average coefficient of variation of 0.598 across its components, with marked differences in the prices of electronic devices and some cultural goods and supplies. The price of a television ranged from SYP 1.15 million in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 1.85 million in Damascus. The average coefficient of variation for health components was 0.543, amid wide differences in medical-service prices. General-practitioner consultation fees ranged from SYP 25 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 88.6 thousand in Idleb, while specialist consultation fees ranged from SYP 47.5 thousand in Lattakia to SYP 183.3 thousand in Damascus. The cost of a one-night stay in a private hospital ranged from SYP 150 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 1.5 million in Dara'a.

The unweighted arithmetic mean of the coefficients of variation for food and non-alcoholic beverage components was 0.502, indicating notable relative price variation across governorates. Available examples show particularly wide differences in meat, fruit and locally produced agricultural goods. The price of one kilogram of lamb ranged from about SYP 155 thousand in Quneitra to SYP 328 thousand in Damascus, while the price of one kilogram of

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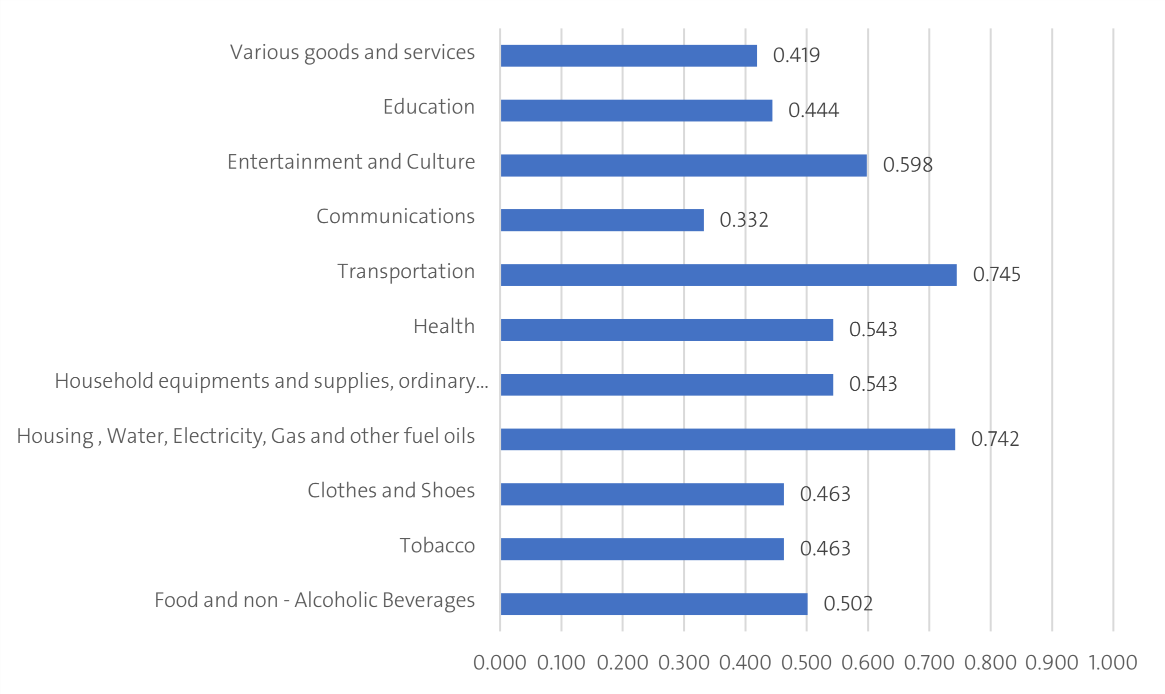
[7] The coefficient of variation for each good or service was calculated by dividing the standard deviation of its prices across governorates by their arithmetic mean. Values closer to zero indicate price convergence and low relative variance between governorates, while higher values, closer to one, indicate wider variance; a value of 1 means that the standard deviation equals the arithmetic mean. The coefficient of variation can exceed one, therefore one does not represent an upper limit for the index. The value presented for each main group represents the unweighted arithmetic mean of the coefficients of variation of its components, and is not a coefficient of variation calculated directly for the group.

grapes ranged from SYP 7.5 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 37.3 thousand in Homs. These differences are associated with the distance between production and consumption areas, seasonality, and transport and storage costs. By contrast, regulated standard bread prices displayed greater relative convergence because of administrative pricing.

Figure (3): Unweighted arithmetic averages of the coefficients of variation in the prices of goods and services according to the main consumption groups during June 2026



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

The unweighted average coefficient of variation was 0.543 for household furnishings, equipment and routine maintenance components, compared with 0.463 for both clothing and footwear and tobacco. Variation in clothing and footwear was evident across several items: the price of men's genuine-leather shoes ranged from SYP 175 thousand in Quneitra to SYP 927 thousand in Al-Hasakeh, while imported men's trousers ranged from approximately SYP 123 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 533 thousand in Damascus.

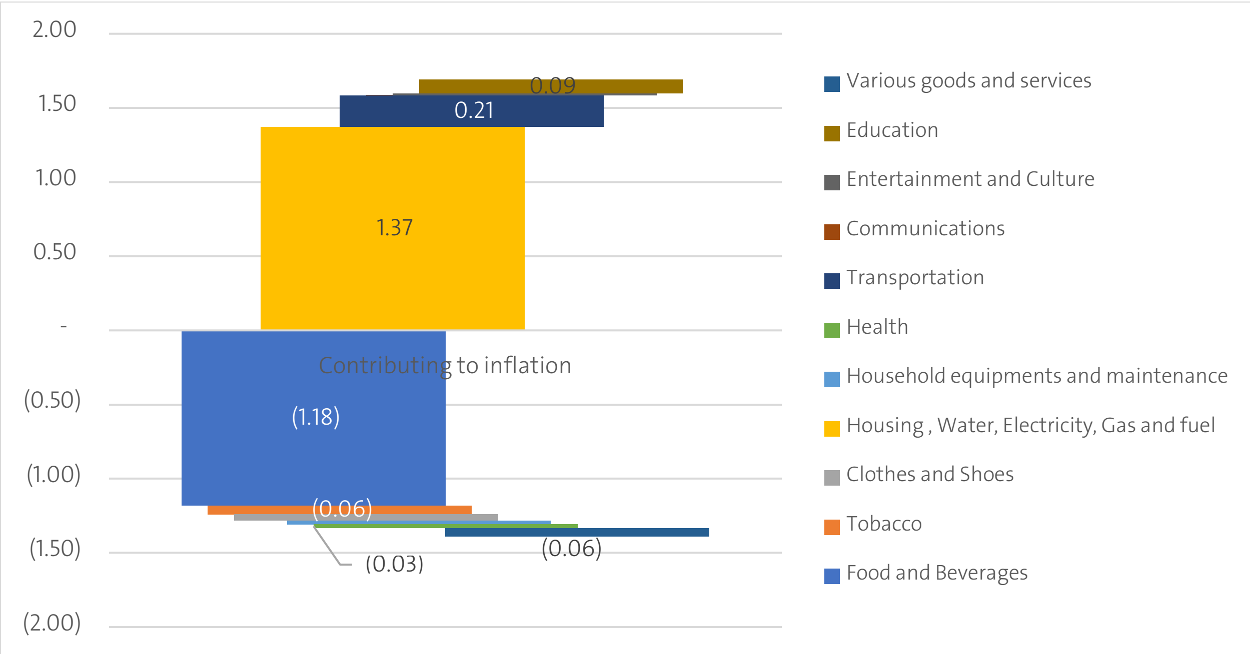
The education group recorded an unweighted average coefficient of variation of 0.444, with clear differences in private-school fees and private-tutoring costs, compared with greater convergence in centrally determined university fees. Annual secondary-school fees at private schools ranged from about SYP 3.25 million in Quneitra to SYP 16.13 million in Aleppo city, while the cost of a private tutoring session ranged from SYP 25.2 thousand in Deir-Ezzor to SYP 116.7 thousand in Damascus. The unweighted average coefficient of variation for miscellaneous goods and services was 0.419. Communications recorded the lowest average among the main groups, at 0.332, indicating that its components were, on average, the least dispersed across governorates. This convergence can be associated with the centralised pricing of call services and cards, while mobile-phone prices continued to vary according to specifications, brands, country of origin and supply conditions.

6. Contributing to inflation

The results of June 2026 reveal two different inflation paths between Al-Hasakeh and the rest of the Syrian regions. Monthly inflation in Syria, excluding Al-Hasakeh, reached about 0.3 per cent, compared to 24.8 per cent in Al-Hasakeh. The low rate outside Al-Hasakeh does not reflect general price stability, but rather was the result of a balance between positive and negative inflationary contributions. As for Al-Hasakeh, most groups moved towards raising the record, with pressures concentrated on housing, energy, and transportation. This division confirms that inflation in June was not a unified national phenomenon, but rather the product of an interaction between local price policies and the seasonality of food and energy costs. In the rest of the governorates, food reduced part of the impact of the rise in housing, energy, and transportation, while in Al-Hasakeh, the electricity and diesel shock overshadowed any adverse effect, which produced severe local inflation.

At the level of Syria, except for Al-Hasakeh, the group of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other types of fuel contributed about 1.37 percentage points to monthly inflation, and thus constituted the main driver of the rise in prices. The transportation group came next, with a contribution of 0.21 points, then education, with a contribution of 0.09 points. However, these increases were mainly offset by a decrease in the food and beverage group, which reduced the rate by about 1.18 percentage points, in addition to limited negative contributions for tobacco and miscellaneous goods and services, by about 0.06 points each, clothing and shoes by about 0.04 points, and health by about 0.03 points. These opposite contributions explain the net inflation being limited to about 0.3 per cent.[8]

Figure (4): Contribution of the main consumption groups to the monthly inflation rate in Syria, excluding Al-Hasakeh, during June 2026 (percentage points)

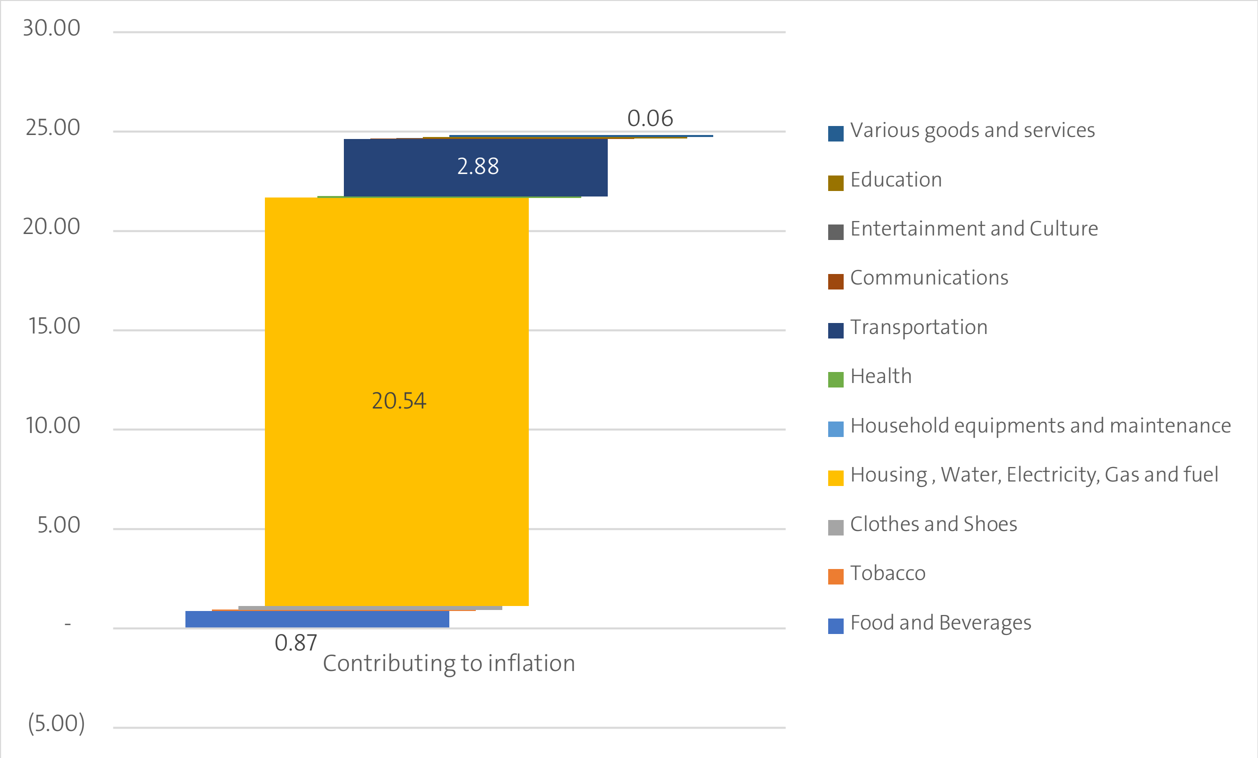


Note: The contribution in percentage points expresses how much each group added to or subtracted from the overall inflation rate; Therefore, the sum of the positive and negative contributions is approximately equal to the monthly inflation rate
Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

[8]The contribution of each major group to monthly inflation is measured in percentage points, by applying its weight to the monthly rate of change in its index figure. Their relative share of inflation is calculated by dividing this contribution by the general inflation rate.

In Al-Hasakeh, housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels contributed approximately 20.54 percentage points to the monthly inflation rate of 24.8 per cent. Transport contributed 2.88 percentage points, food and non-alcoholic beverages 0.87 points, and clothing and footwear 0.18 points. Miscellaneous goods and services contributed 0.10 points, tobacco 0.07 points, health 0.08 points, and education 0.06 points. Only household furnishings and equipment made a limited negative contribution, of 0.02 percentage points. The comparison shows that housing and energy were the main source of pressure in both areas. However, lower food prices offset a large share of the increases outside Al-Hasakeh, whereas the energy shock in Al-Hasakeh raised the overall index without a significant countervailing contractionary effect.

Figure (5): Contribution of the main consumption groups to the monthly inflation rate (M-o-M) for the AA areas (Al-Hasakeh) for the month of June 2026 (percentage points)



Note: The contribution in percentage points expresses how much each group added to or subtracted from the overall inflation rate; Therefore, the sum of the positive and negative contributions is approximately equal to the monthly inflation rate

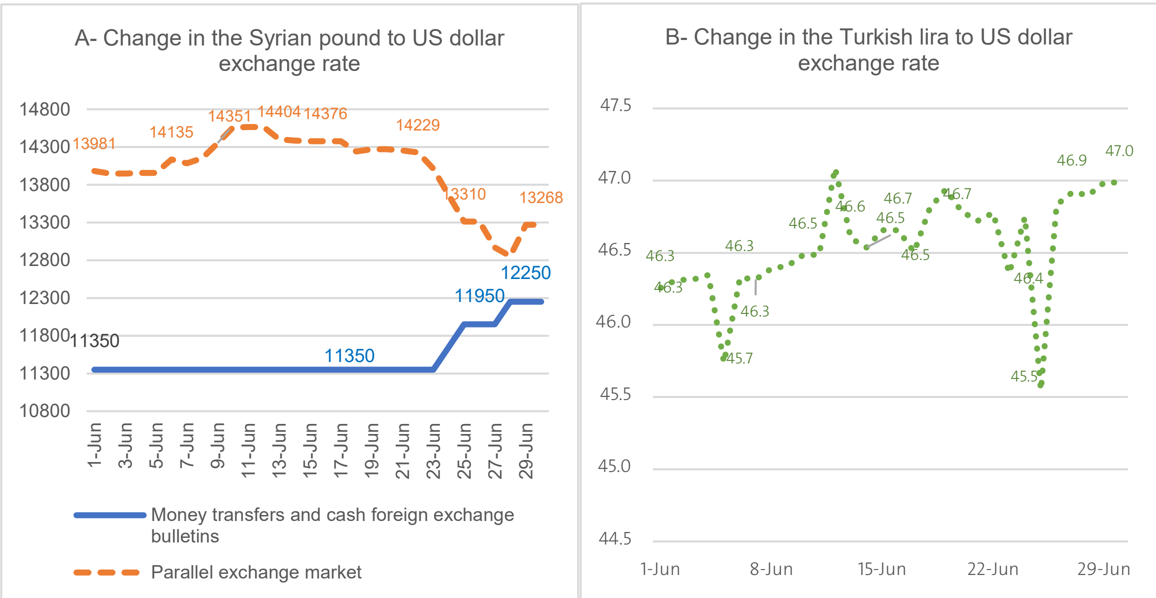
Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

7. Changes in exchange rates

The SYP exchange rate against the USD continued to fluctuate during June 2026. The parallel-market rate rose from about SYP 13981 per USD at the beginning of the month to a peak of SYP 14564 on 11 and 12 June. It then declined during the second half of the month, particularly in the final week, reaching a low of SYP 12854 on 28 June, before rising again to approximately SYP 13268 at month-end. Accordingly, the USD exchange rate declined by about 5.1 per cent between the beginning and end of June, equivalent to an appreciation of approximately 5.4 per cent in the value of the SYP.

Despite the appreciation of the SYP at the end of the month, the average USD exchange rate remained above its May level. The parallel-market monthly average was approximately SYP 14001 in June, compared with SYP 13630 in the previous month, representing an increase of about 2.7 per cent. The improvement recorded in the final week was therefore insufficient to reverse the overall trend in the monthly average. The renewed rise in the USD after it reached its lowest level on 28 June also indicates that the improvement was temporary and may have been influenced by short-term intervention and speculative factors, without sufficient evidence of a sustained change in the underlying economic and monetary determinants of the exchange rate. The Central Bank of Syria adjusted the USD rate used in the remittance, foreign-exchange and official-market bulletins in three stages, after maintaining it at SYP 11,350 through 23 June: to SYP 11650 on 24 June, SYP 11950 on 25 June, and SYP 12250 from 28 June. The official rate at month-end was therefore about 7.9 per cent higher than the rate applied in May and during most of June.

Figure (6): Changes in the exchange rate of the SYP and the TL against the USD during June 2026



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

The TL continued its gradual depreciation against the USD during June, with marked fluctuations in the final days of the month. The USD exchange rate rose from approximately TL 46.3 at the beginning of the month to nearly TL 47 at month-end, implying a depreciation of about 1.6 per cent in the value of the TL. The general trend of the USD rate remained upward despite the sharp but temporary appreciation of the TL on 25 June.

8. Wages in Syria

The results of the monthly consumer price survey in June 2026 showed a large disparity in nominal wages between sectors, job categories, and areas of previous control. The average monthly wage of a university employee in the public sector amounted to about SYP 1.514 million across Syria, compared to about SYP 1.300 million for an employee at the basic education level. However, these general averages mask clear regional differences, which are linked to the continuation of different wage systems that were formed during the years of multiple authorities and administrative and legal frameworks.

The average wage of a university employee in SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) was about SYP 1.403 million per month, after the general increase of 50 per cent approved by Decree No. 67 of 2026. It rose to about SYP 2.366 million in the former Syrian Interim Government and Syrian Salvation Government areas, while it decreased to about SYP 1.060 million in the AA areas in Al-Hasakeh Governorate. Thus, the wage in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) exceeded its counterpart in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) by about 68.7 per cent, and reached more than twice its level in Al-Hasakeh. Since the comparison deals with employees of the same educational level, this gap cannot be explained by differences in qualifications, but is mainly due to differences in wage determination systems, funding sources, and institutional arrangements between regions. However, the observed values may also be affected by job grade, seniority, experience and the nature of responsibilities, characteristics on which the survey does not provide detailed information. This gap becomes more serious in governorates that witnessed severe local price shocks, such as Al-Hasakeh in June. The nominal wage itself loses purchasing power differently depending on the governorate, because the cost of electricity, transportation, water, and rents do not rise at the same pace in all regions. Therefore, assessing the adequacy of wages needs to be linked to local poverty lines and price shocks specific to each governorate, not just the national average.

A similar, although less severe, disparity was recorded in the wages of employees with basic education. The average wage reached about SYP 1.289 million in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA), and SYP 1.525 million in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA), compared to SYP 1.040 million in Al-Hasakeh (Autonomous Administration), bringing the Syrian average to about SYP 1.300 million. The differences between the wages of university employees and basic education employees also remained relatively limited in most regions, reflecting the continued compression of the wage scale and the lack of widening of the differences in proportion to the differences in qualifications, skills and responsibilities.

In contrast, the average monthly wage recorded for a university professor in the public sector was about SYP 10.986 million, which is equivalent to about 7.3 times the wage of a university employee in the same sector. The wage in the SYP-GA and TL-GA amounted to about SYP 11.593 million, while it did not exceed SYP 3.090 million in Al-Hasakeh, i.e. only 26.7 per cent of its level across SYP-GA and TL-GA. This shows that the disparity is not limited to differences between regions, but rather extends to within the public sector itself, especially between regular jobs and some specialized categories, such as members of the teaching staff in universities.

Table (3): Average monthly wages in Syria during June 2026 (in SYP)

	Transitional government areas (SYP)	TL-Governed Areas	Autonomous Administration areas (Al-Hasakeh)	Syria
A- Employees in the public sector				
Employee wages (university doctor)	11,593,000	11592990	3090000	**10985641**
Employee wages (university)	1,402,500	2365554	1060000	**1514185**
Employee wages (basic education)	1,288,500	1525268	1040000	**1299690**
B- Workers in the private sector			-	
Company manager wages	11,595,920	7783432	11005566	**11252405**
Wages of a worker in a commercial store	3,028,742	2324944	2497417	**2938336**
C- Civil sector workers			-	
Employee wages (university)	6,260,940	5015535	6349365	**6092243**

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

In the private sector, the average monthly wage for a company manager amounted to about SYP 11.252 million across Syria, compared to SYP 2.938 million for a worker in a commercial store, meaning that the manager’s wage is about 3.8 times the worker’s wage. The average salary of the company manager was SYP 11.596 million in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA), and SYP 11.006 million in Al-Hasakeh, while it decreased to SYP 7.783 million in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA). As for the wage of a worker in a commercial store, it amounted to about SYP 3.029 million in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA), SYP 2.497 million in Al-Hasakeh, and SYP 2.325 million in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA).

These levels reveal a clear gap between senior management and workers within the private sector. The company manager's wage was equivalent to about 3.8 times the wage of a worker in a commercial store in the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA), and the percentage rose to 4.4 times in Al-Hasakeh, while it reached about 3.3 times in the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA). This may be related to differences in qualifications, responsibilities, sizes of establishments, nature of economic activity, and demand for work. Private sector wages are determined within a contractual and market context that differs from the public sector, and are not directly subject to the wages and compensation decrees applied to workers in public entities.

As for the civil sector, which includes in the survey data civil society organizations and non-governmental and development agencies, the average monthly wage of a university employee reached about SYP 6.092 million. The highest average was recorded in Al-Hasakeh at about SYP 6.349 million, followed by the SYP-Governed Areas (SYP-GA) with about 6.261 million, then the TL-Governed Areas (TL-GA) with about SYP 5.016 million. The relative convergence between these levels indicates that regional disparity in the civil sector was less severe than in the public sector.

At the level of Syria, the wage of a university employee in the civil sector was about four times the wage of his counterpart in the public sector, 2.1 times the wage of a worker in a commercial store, and equivalent to about 54.1 per cent of the wage of a private company manager. Thus, the university employee in the civil sector came in a middle position within the wage structure: clearly higher than the regular government employee and the worker in a commercial store, and lower than the director of a private company and the university doctor in the public sector. However, this comparison should be treated with caution, given the different nature of civil institutions, their sources of funding, their sizes, and the scope of their work, as well as the varying experiences and responsibilities of their workers.

In sum, the wage structure in Syria during June 2026 was characterized by three overlapping forms of disparity: regional disparity resulting from the continuation of different wage and institutional systems, gaps between the public, private and civil sectors, and differences within one sector between regular jobs and specialized and administrative categories. The disparity within the public sector was particularly striking, as the average wage of a university doctor approached the wage of a private company manager, while the wage of a government university employee remained much lower than the wage of a university employee in the civil sector.

9. Poverty lines in Syria

The household poverty line[9] (as an indicator of food deprivation) in Syria reached about SYP 3.44 million per month in Syria in June 2026, while the lower poverty line reached about SYP 5.41 million, and the upper poverty line reached about SYP 7.47 million. Poverty lines recorded generally high levels in the governorates of Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, Idleb, and Dara'a, while their lowest levels appeared in As-Sweida, Lattakia, Tartous, Deir-Ezzor, and Quneitra, with the order of the governorates varying according to the approved poverty line.

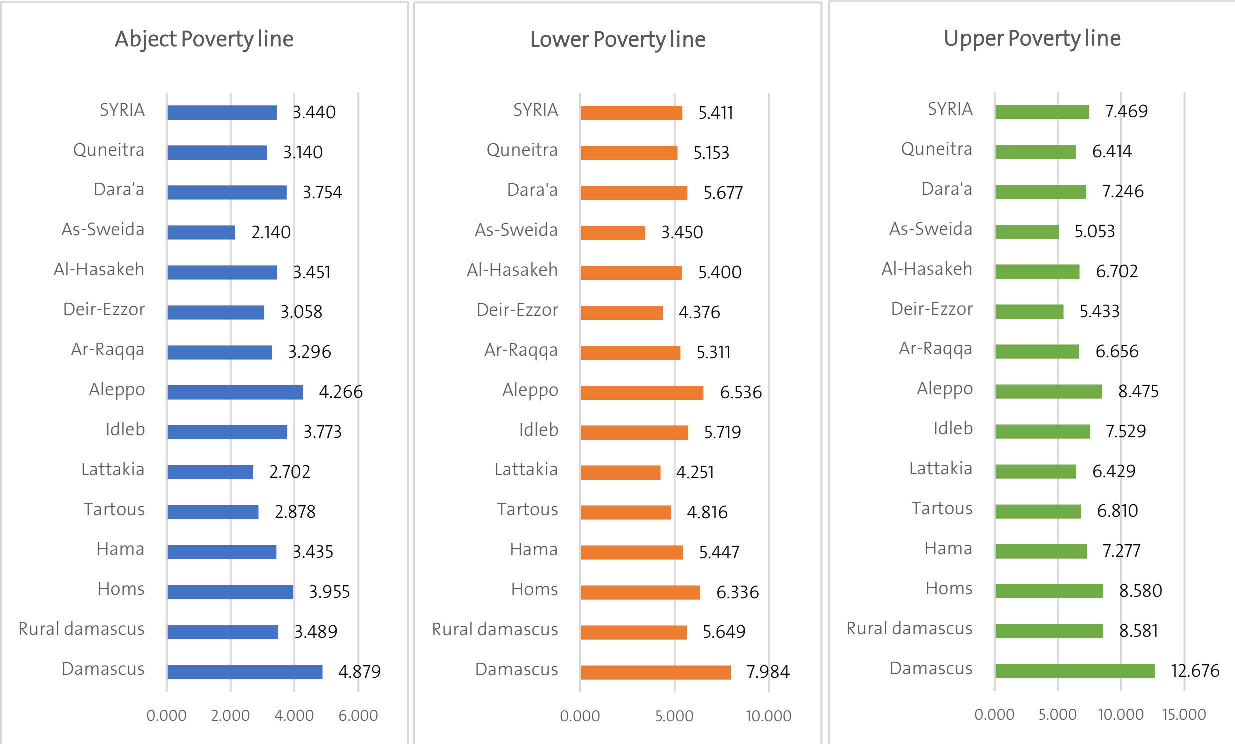
The abject poverty line was characterized by wide disparities between governorates. Damascus recorded the highest level, at about SYP 4.88 million per month, exceeding the Syrian average by 41.8 per cent, followed by Aleppo with about SYP 4.27 million, then Homs, Idleb, and Dara'a with about 3.96, 3.77, and SYP 3.75 million, respectively. Its value in the Damascus countryside, Al-Hasakeh, and Hama was close to the national average, reaching about 3.49, 3.45, and SYP 3.44 million, respectively. Ar-Raqqa, Quneitra, Deir-Ezzor, Tartous, and Lattakia recorded levels below average, while As-Sweida came in last place with about SYP 2.13 million.

The gap between the highest value, recorded in Damascus, and the lowest value, recorded in As-Sweida, was about SYP 2.74 million, while the abject poverty line in Damascus was approximately 2.28 times the same as its counterpart in As-Sweida. This disparity reflects the difference in the cost of the basic food basket between governorates, but it does not mean that governorates with the least expensive lines necessarily record lower levels of poverty. The poverty line measures the cost of securing the minimum nutritional needs, and does not measure families' incomes or their actual ability to cover this cost.

Indicators of wage coverage of poverty lines reveal a widening gap between workers' incomes and the costs of meeting basic needs, with clear disparities between work sectors. This indicator expresses the percentage of the poverty line covered by the wage. Reaching 100 per cent coverage means that the wage is equivalent to the poverty line, while lower percentages indicate a deficit, and higher percentages indicate that the wage exceeds that line. The results show that the wages of a university employee in the public sector and a worker in the private sector are not sufficient to reach any of the three poverty lines, while the wages of an employee in the civil sector exceed the abject poverty and lower lines, but remain below the upper poverty line.

[9] The estimated extreme, lower and upper poverty lines for 2009 have been updated to reflect the effect of cumulative inflation up to the month under study.

Figure (7): Monthly poverty lines in Syria during June 2026 (million SYP)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

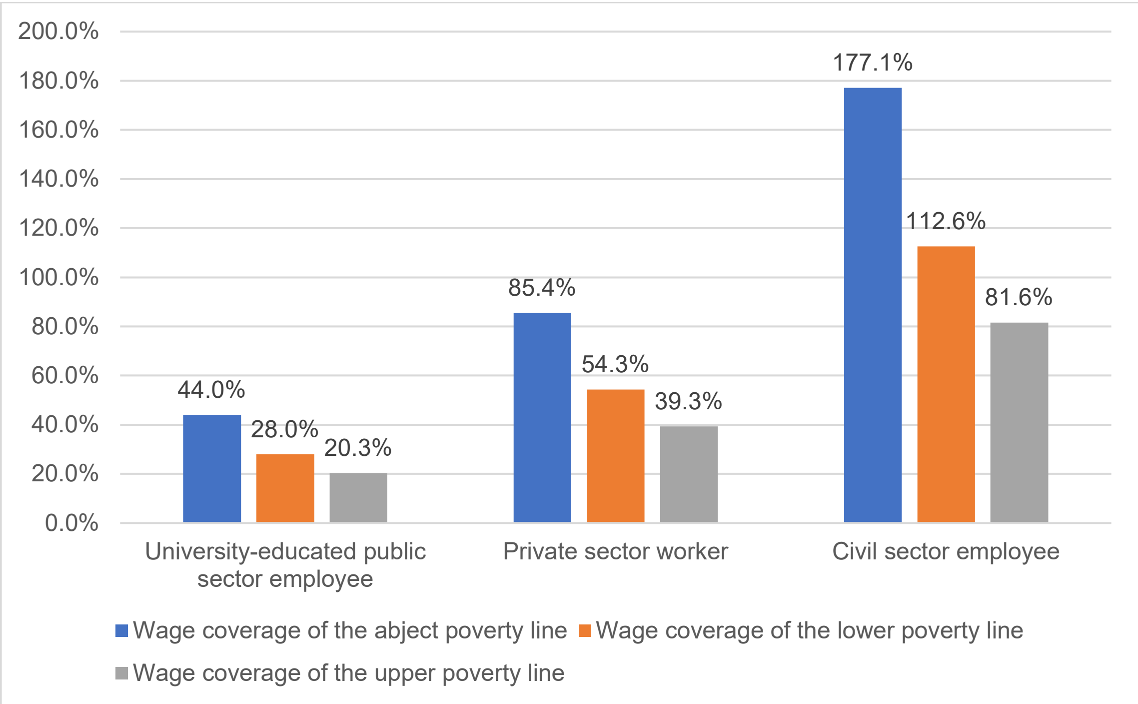
The university employee in the public sector faces the widest living gap, as his wages cover only 44.0 per cent of the abject poverty line, leaving a deficit of 56.0 per cent above the level necessary to secure the basic needs for survival. The coverage rate drops to 28.0 per cent of the lower poverty line and only 20.3 per cent of the upper poverty line. Thus, the family needs an income equivalent to about 2.3 times this wage to reach the abject poverty line, 3.6 times it to reach the lower poverty line, and about five times it to reach the upper poverty line. These results reflect the sharp decline in the purchasing power of public sector wages, as a university employee's wage no longer provides even half of the requirements of the abject poverty line.

The worker in the private sector achieves relatively better coverage, but it remains insufficient to escape the cycle of poverty. His wage covers 85.4 per cent of the abject poverty line, with a deficit of 14.6 per cent, while coverage drops to 54.3 per cent of the lower poverty line and 39.3 per cent of the upper poverty line. This means that the wage is close to covering the minimum needs necessary for survival, but it remains far from securing the entire basic needs of the family. The worker needs an income equivalent to about 1.2 times his wage to reach the abject poverty line, 1.8 times to reach the lower line, and about 2.6 times to reach the upper line.

As for the employee in the civil sector, he enjoys a relatively better situation. His wage covers 177.1 per cent of the abject poverty line and 112.6 per cent of the lower poverty line, exceeding the two lines by about 77.1 and 12.6 per cent, respectively. However, its coverage of the upper poverty line is only 81.6 per cent, leaving a gap of 18.4 per cent. Accordingly, this wage is sufficient to exceed abject poverty and lower poverty, but it does not guarantee the attainment of the standard of living represented by the upper poverty line, and it also leaves a limited margin to confront rising prices or emergency expenses.

The comparison reveals a sharp wage disparity between sectors. The coverage of the wage of an employee in the civil sector for each poverty line is equivalent to about four times the coverage of the wage of a university employee in the public sector, and slightly more than twice the coverage of the wage of a worker in the private sector. Therefore, the problem is not limited to the general low wages, but also includes a clear imbalance in their structure and distribution between sectors. Limited coverage forces families dependent on one wage, especially families of public sector workers, to search for additional sources of income, reduce consumption of food and basic services, or resort to remittances, aid, savings, and borrowing to fill the living gap.

Figure (8): Monthly wage coverage of poverty lines in Syria during June 2026 (in per cent)



Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

10. conclusion

The June 2026 results indicate that the slowdown in monthly inflation at the national level does not reflect a general improvement in living conditions, but rather hides two opposite paths. In most provinces, seasonal declines in vegetable prices helped curb inflation, while housing, energy and transportation costs continued to rise. As for Al-Hasakeh, the electricity and diesel shock led to a severe inflationary wave, making the governorate a revealing case for the dangers of unifying or approximating pricing systems without adequate social protection. These results reveal that inflation is no longer linked only to the exchange rate or the prices of imported goods, but also to the redistribution of the cost of energy and services between the state, consumers, and producers. In Al-Hasakeh, the increase in electricity and diesel was transferred to transportation, water, housing, and services. Outside of Al-Hasakeh, the decrease in seasonal food offset part of the increase in housing and energy, but it did not eliminate the pressure on families, because these items represent fixed and recurring expenses that are difficult to reduce. At the same time, wage data reveal the continued wide gap between incomes and costs of living, despite nominal increases in public sector wages. The ability of wages to cover basic needs also varies according to sectors and job categories. Therefore, increasing wages does not represent a real improvement unless it increases purchasing power and reduces the gap with the cost of living and poverty lines.

In light of this, the following policy priorities emerge:

1. Evaluating the direct and indirect effects of raising the prices of fuel, bread, electricity, and transportation, and following up on their transmission to production, distribution, and service costs.
2. Following up on the basic components of inflation, especially housing, energy, and transportation, and not treating seasonal declines in the prices of some goods as a sustainable improvement in living conditions.
3. Reviewing wages periodically based on the Consumer Price Index and poverty lines, while raising the minimum wage and addressing the compression of the salary scale and the decline in differences between job grades.
4. Adjusting transportation tariffs, supporting mass transportation, and working to ensure the availability of fuel and the stability of its supplies and prices.
5. Supporting agricultural production and reducing transportation, storage, and marketing costs, while providing mechanisms that protect producers from losses during seasons of abundant production and low prices.
6. Developing social protection policies to enhance their ability to respond to price shocks and reach the most vulnerable families and groups.
7. Unifying markets and service prices in a gradual and fair manner, taking into account the disparity in incomes, purchasing power, and level of availability of services between regions.

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Appendices

Appendix (1): Consumer Price Index in Syria during June 2026 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 goods	**1,397**	**1,132**	**1,531**	**1,151**	**1,144**	**1,153**	**879**	**1,375**	**915**	**910**	**1,215**	**1,067**	**1,098**	**1,164**	**1,010**
Food and beverages	783	720	805	743	683	713	768	762	714	831	830	700	698	757	690
Tobacco	753	837	686	674	613	582	666	796	521	726	697	637	666	526	671
Clothes and shoes	620	718	569	771	664	759	819	861	499	641	1,120	845	564	601	683
Housing, electricity, and fuel	2,377	2,263	3,452	2,457	2,235	2,464	1,334	2,281	1,889	1,471	2,121	2,313	2,700	2,311	1,906
Home furnishings and maintenance	730	483	641	1,000	467	520	695	577	469	437	1,077	528	866	575	589
health	890	922	850	863	806	794	657	1,049	733	829	891	980	1,179	732	844
Transportation	1,714	1,369	1,542	1,421	1,421	1,895	629	989	1,095	1,066	1,513	1,108	1,033	1,593	1,112
Communications	331	330	331	331	329	329	46	322	330	333	337	333	332	330	202
Recreation and culture	461	706	485	412	416	480	509	686	608	593	568	522	513	347	507
education	861	1,075	1,181	1,076	1,402	975	1,335	1,178	1,426	797	1,231	1,038	1,051	1,083	999
Various goods and services	928	973	1,110	888	907	725	916	1,024	929	848	1,021	954	937	1,604	953

Source: Syrian Center for Policy Research 2026, Monthly Survey of Consumer Prices in Syria.

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