



Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme (HNAP) | Syria

# IDP REPORT SERIES 2020

## *SHELTER CONDITIONS*

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**SYRIAN**

**ARAB REPUBLIC**

# Methodology

In October 2020, HNAP conducted a nationwide socioeconomic household survey across all 14 governorates in Syria, surveying IDP households. Fieldwork was carried out by experienced HNAP field teams who were trained on coded surveys by data collection experts. The survey collected data on key demographic and socio-economic indicators, which is representative at the country, governorate and sub-district level - also according to central and south Syria (CSS), north Syria (NS), north-west Syria (NWS) and north-east Syria (NES).<sup>1</sup>

The sample frame was sourced from the list of (p-coded) locations, updated by OCHA in August 2020, while the population figures were obtained from HNAP's Monthly Needs Monitoring population baseline, updated in September 2020. The sample was stratified at the sub-district level, with a total sample size allocated unequally, targeting at most a 10 percent margin of error in each sub-district. The total sample size of 18,366 households, allocated to each sub-district, was distributed proportionally among its 2,561 locations. For the purposes of data analysis, a combination of base weights as well as weights accounting for non-response or over-response were calculated.

The data in the report are weighted population estimates, i.e. they represent the reference population not the sample population. Figures on absent members rely on the recall of the interviewed households, and as such may not include the entire population who left Syria.

*Note: To better inform humanitarian partners based on their regions of operation, HNAP refers to the following regions of Syria:*

- Central and south Syria (CSS)
- North Syria (NS)
- North-West Syria (NWS)
- North-East Syria (NES)

*Any boundaries, areas and names shown, and the designations used in this report, do not imply any form of official endorsement or acceptance. Reference is made to these designations as HNAP revised area of control (AOC) frontlines to better account for the comparative similarity of conditions and access to services within designated boundaries, as well as the sampling methodology employed during data collection. A complete methodology is available upon request.*

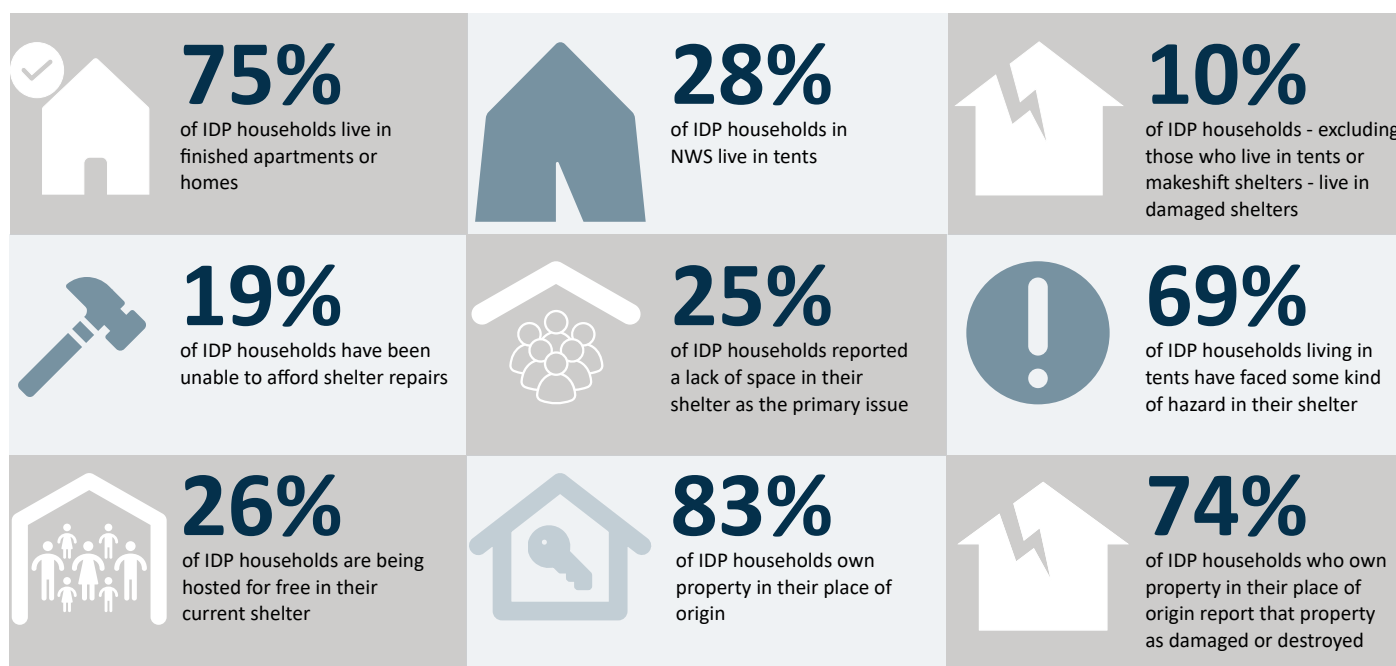
# Overview of Findings

This fact-sheet investigates IDP shelter conditions across the whole of Syria, especially the shelter conditions in the place of displacement. Specifically, the following areas are explored: shelter types; settlement types; shelter damages; problems or issues reported in shelters; hazards; evictions; occupancy status and property status in the place of origin. In each of the aforementioned sections, breakdowns are provided, wherever relevant, to explore differences between regions, key population groups (such as female-headed households or in-camp IDPs),

and shelter types themselves (such as the differences between rates of reported damages in finished houses/apartments compared to tents).

Throughout data collection, enumerators also took photos of shelters throughout the country. A selection of these photos are included throughout the fact-sheet.

*Key findings are summarized below:*



## HNAP

The Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme (HNAP) for Syria is a joint UN assessment initiative which tracks displacement and return movements, conducts sector and multi-sectoral assessments, and monitors humanitarian needs inside Syria. HNAP is implemented with technical support from UN Agencies, through local Syrian NGOs, whose collection of data, often in difficult circumstances, is deeply appreciated.

<sup>1</sup> The geographical boundaries used do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by HNAP.

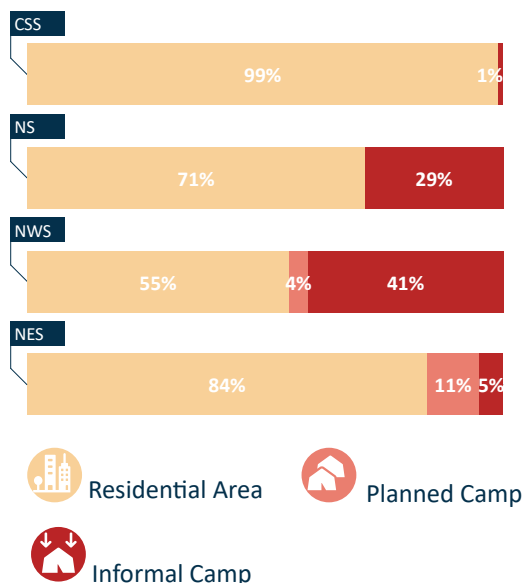
<sup>2</sup> List of locations were provided primarily by OCHA and supplemented with the CCCM and SSWG list of camps across the north-west and north-east.



# Current Settlement and Shelter Type

## TYPE OF SETTLEMENT

Across the whole of Syria, 83 percent of IDP households live in residential areas, 15 percent in informal camps or settlements, and 2 percent in planned camps or settlement. A regional breakdown is provided below.



IDP settlements sprawled across NES (top photo) and NWS (bottom photo).

## TYPE OF SHELTER

IDP shelter conditions throughout the whole of Syria are poor. While three quarters of IDP households live in finished homes or apartments, a significant 11 percent live in tents and 7 percent in unfinished houses or apartments. Shelter types are highly variant when comparing across regions of control - please see next page.

Finished Houses/Apartments



Tents



Unfinished Houses/Apartments



Concrete Block Shelters



Makeshift Shelters



Non-Residential Buildings<sup>3</sup>



Other



Finished homes or apartments are the most common types of shelters for IDPs across the country (sheltering 75 percent of IDP HHs)

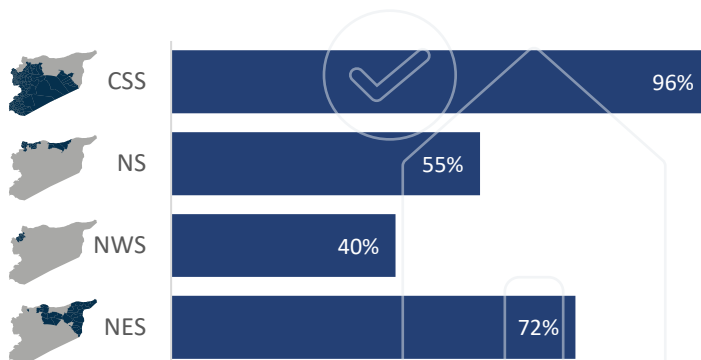
<sup>3</sup> Non-residential buildings house only one family, differentiating them from collective shelters which house at least two families.

# Shelter Types (cont.)

## REGIONAL BREAKDOWNS (BY SHELTER TYPE)

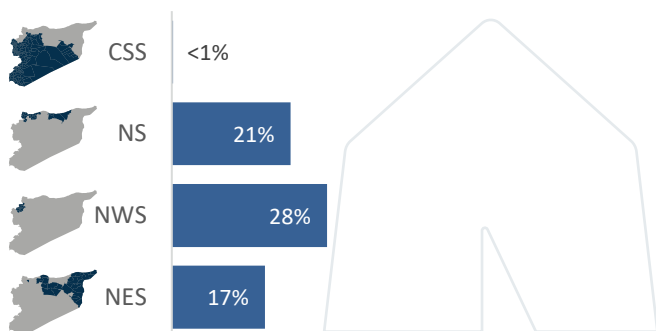
### FINISHED HOUSES/APARTMENTS (% OF HHs)

In central and south Syria, almost all IDP households live in finished homes or apartments (96 percent), and while it is the most common shelter type across all regions, it is lowest in north-west Syria, housing only 40 percent of IDP households.



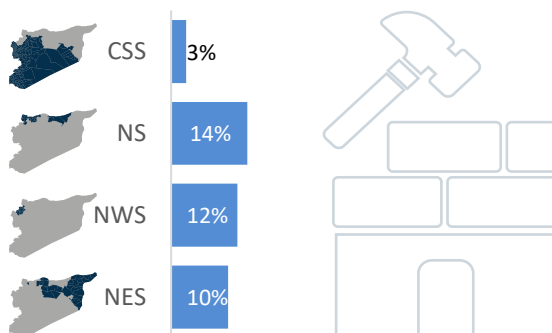
### TENTS (% OF HHs)

The highest rate of IDP households in tents can be found in NWS (28 percent), with substantial rates also found in NS and NES. In total, 0.25 percent of IDP households in CSS were found to be living in camps.<sup>4</sup>



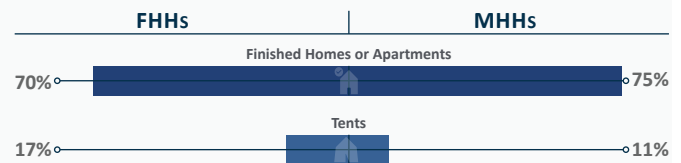
### UNFINISHED HOUSES/APARTMENTS (% OF HHs)

Overall, 7 percent of IDP households live in unfinished homes or apartments. Rates are lowest in CSS (3 percent) - where the majority live in finished homes or apartments - and are highest in NS (14 percent).



## SEX OF HH BREAKDOWN (BY SHELTER TYPE)

Female-headed households (FHHs) have higher rates of living in tents as compared to male-headed households. Concurrently, male-headed households (MHHs) have higher rates of living in finished homes or apartments.



## SHELTER SHARING (NON-CAMP HHs ONLY)

**8%**  
of non-camp IDP households nationwide share their shelter with at least one other household

**10%**  
of non-camp IDP households in NS share their shelter with at least one other household (highest regional rate)

**18%**  
of non-camp female-headed IDP households share their shelter with at least one other household - which is much higher than the rate for male-headed IDP households (7 percent)

## SHARING ACCESS TO FUNCTIONAL TOILETS

**12%**  
of IDP HHs are sharing access to functional toilets with at least one other household

**22%**  
of IDP HHs in NES are sharing access to functional toilets (highest regional rate)

**30%**  
of female-headed IDP HHs are sharing access to functional toilets (11 percent for male-headed IDP HHs)

**33%**  
of *in-camp IDP HHs* are sharing access to functional toilets

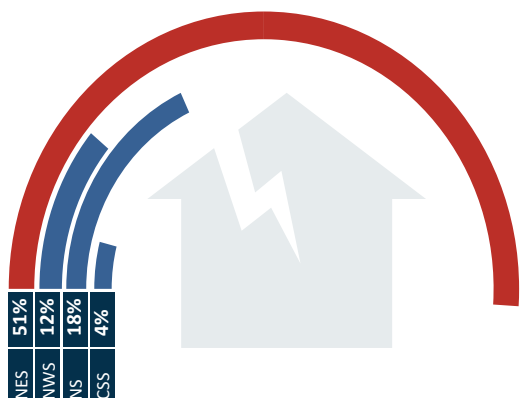


Bathroom in collective shelter in NES (top photo) and collective shelter in NWS (bottom photo)

<sup>4</sup> For the remainder of this fact-sheet, camp breakdowns in CSS are not considered.

# Shelter Damages (all shelters excluding tents and makeshift shelters)<sup>4</sup>

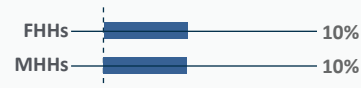
**10%** of IDP shelters nationwide are damaged



When excluding tents and makeshift shelters, 10 percent of IDP shelters are reportedly damaged, although high regional variance is observed. Conditions in NES are most critical, where over half of IDP shelters are damaged (51 percent), compared to just 4 percent in CSS, where the lowest rates are reported.

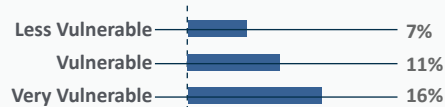
## SEX OF HoH BREAKDOWN

Overall, there are no differences in rates of shelter damages between male-headed and female-headed households: 10 percent of both report damages to their current shelter.



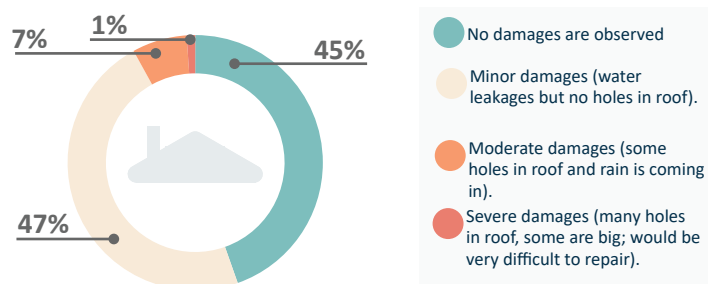
## VULNERABILITY BREAKDOWN

Shelter damages are also positively correlated with the level of household vulnerability. 16 percent of very vulnerable households report shelter damages compared to just 7 percent of less vulnerable households.

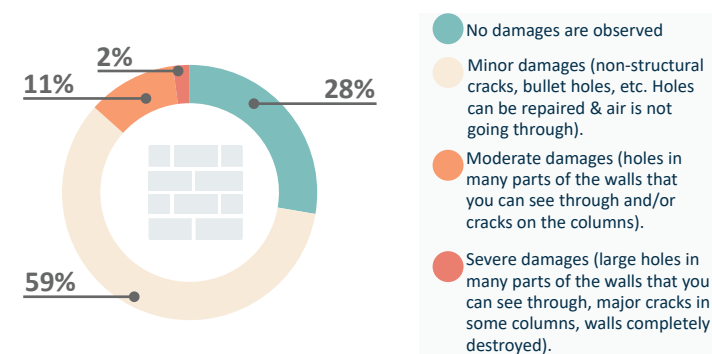


## DAMAGES BY PART OF SHELTER (as % of HHs who reported damages)<sup>5</sup>

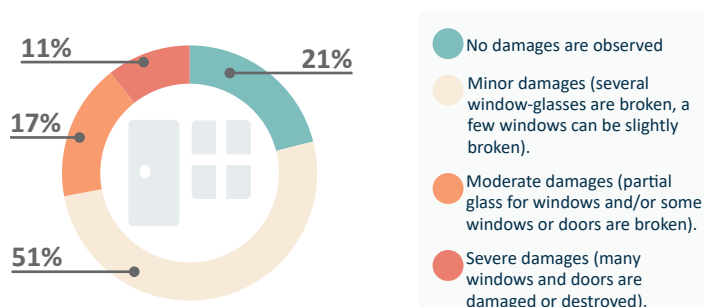
### ROOF DAMAGES



### WALL DAMAGES

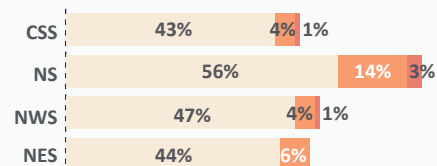


### WINDOW/DOOR DAMAGES

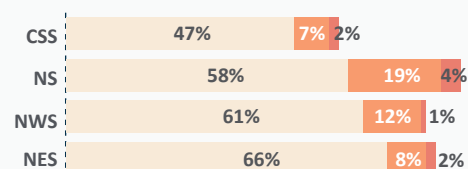


## REGIONAL BREAKDOWNS

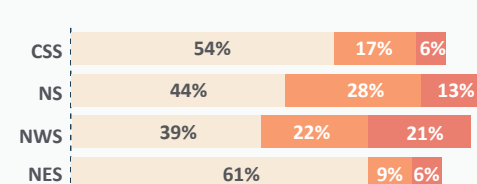
### ROOF DAMAGES



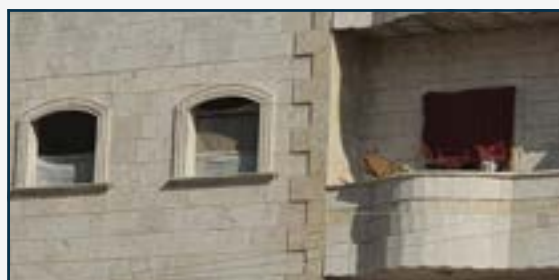
### WALL DAMAGES



### WINDOW/DOOR DAMAGES



\* The above charts show the type of damage by region. 'No damages' are ignored and the categories follow the same legend as their respective counterparts (at the national level), on the left.



Windows of IDP home in NWS are damaged and replaced with random materials

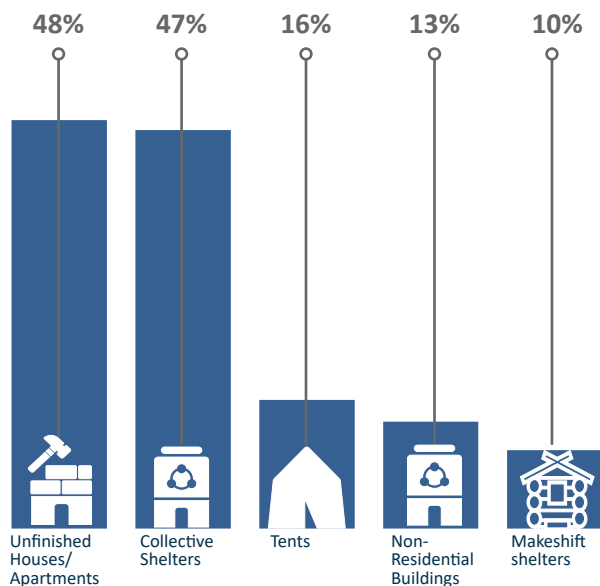
<sup>4</sup> Tents and makeshift shelters are removed from the analysis throughout this page in the interest of shelter rehabilitation purposes.

<sup>5</sup> All charts and figures in this section (total and regional) consider only the percentage of those who reported their shelter damaged. For example, when considering the first chart, 47 percent of households who reported shelter damage, report minor damages to the roof.

# Shelter Damages (incl. all shelter types)

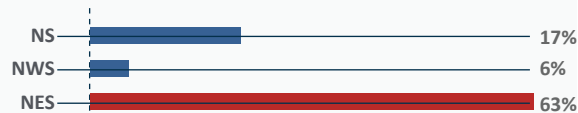
## BREAKDOWN BY SHELTER TYPE<sup>6</sup>

The below chart details the shelter types which have the highest level of reported damages. Overall, almost half of all households living in unfinished houses or apartments (48 percent) and collective shelters (47 percent) report damages. A significant 16 percent of households living in tents report damages.



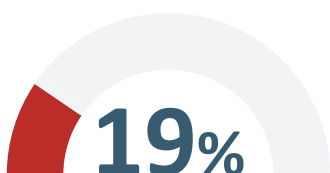
## TENT DAMAGES BY REGION

In total, 16 percent of households in tents report damages. Extremely high rates of damages are reported in NES (63 percent) and significant rates are reported in NS (17 percent), while rates of damage in NWS are comparatively very low (6 percent).

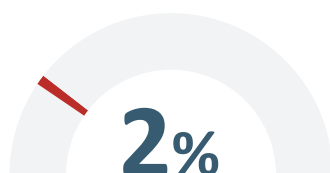


Damaged shelter in north-east Syria where 53 percent of IDP HHs report living in damaged shelters

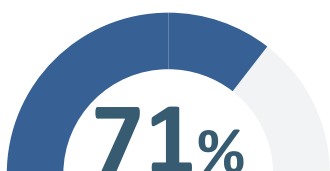
# Shelter Repairs



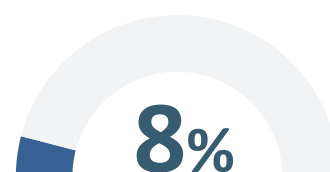
have been unable to make repairs to their current shelter because **they can't afford it**



have been unable to make repairs to their current shelter because **they don't have the tools**



have never needed to carry out repairs to their current shelter

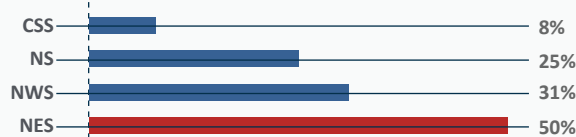


have been able to make repairs to their current shelter

## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

### INABILITY TO AFFORD REPAIRS

In total, 19 percent of IDP households report that they are unable to afford shelter repairs. In NES, where 53 percent of households report their shelters damaged, an extremely significant 50 percent report that they are unable to afford repairs.



Missing windows and doors in an apartment housing an IDP family in north-west Syria

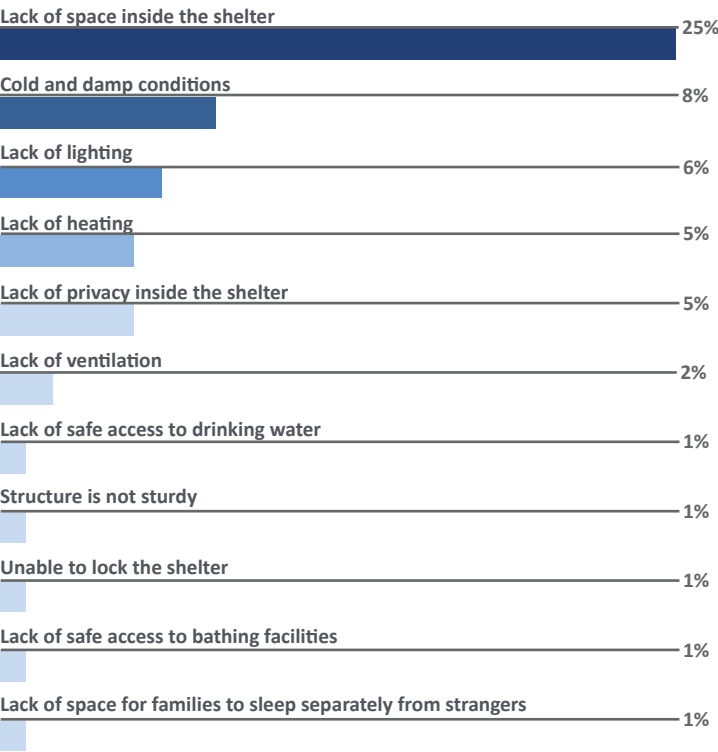
<sup>6</sup> It is important to note that relatively low rates of reported damage across certain types of shelters do not imply that they are suitable for residence. Many will, for example, still be host to numerous issues or problems. See next page.



# Problems with Shelter

## MOST REPORTED PROBLEMS (% OF HHS)

The below chart displays the most important issues (rated first) as reported by households in regard to their current shelter. Please note, 44 percent of IDP households reported no issues with their shelter.



## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (% OF HHS)

IDP households in NWS and NES report much higher rates of lack of space inside in their shelter than those in NS and CSS.

Most Reported Issue	CSS	NS	NWS	NES
Lack of space inside shelter	16%	21%	44%	31%
Cold and damp conditions	7%	9%	7%	11%
Lack of lighting	5%	9%	4%	8%
Lack of heating	4%	4%	8%	3%
Lack of privacy inside shelter	2%	6%	8%	8%

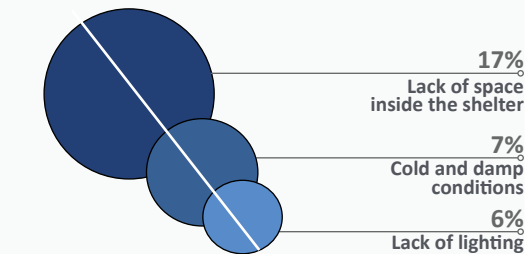


60% of HHs in tents report lack of space. The above photos show tent shelters across NWS and NES, as well as a bathroom facility which lacks partitions.

## BREAKDOWN BY SHELTER TYPE

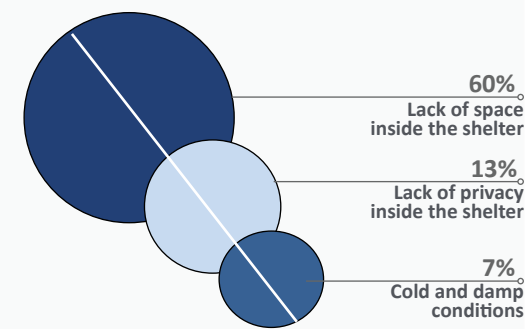
### FINISHED HOUSES/APARTMENTS

57 percent of IDP households in finished homes or apartments report that they have no issues with their shelter - 13 percentage points above national average. The most reported issue (17 percent) is a lack of privacy inside the shelter.



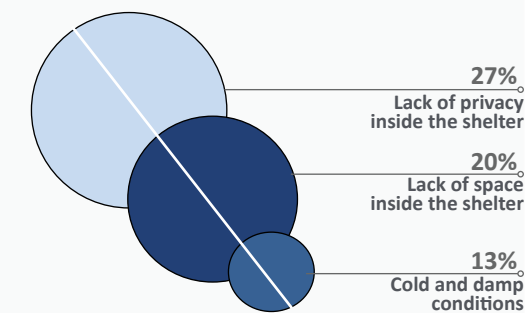
### TENTS

Only 3 percent of IDP households living in tents reported no issues with their shelter. The majority cited lack of space as the most relevant issue, followed by lack of privacy and cold and damp conditions.



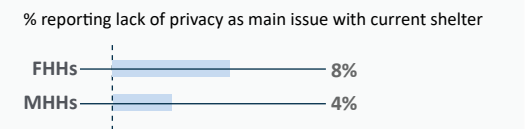
### UNFINISHED HOUSES/APARTMENTS

Only 9 percent of IDP households living in unfinished homes or apartments reported no issues. Almost half of IDP households either reported a lack of privacy or a lack of space in the shelter as their highest concern. 13 percent cited cold and damp conditions.



## SEX OF HOH BREAKDOWN

Female-headed households are more likely to report lack of privacy inside the shelter as their primary issue with the shelter. This finding is likely connected to the relative higher rates of FHHs living in shared shelters.

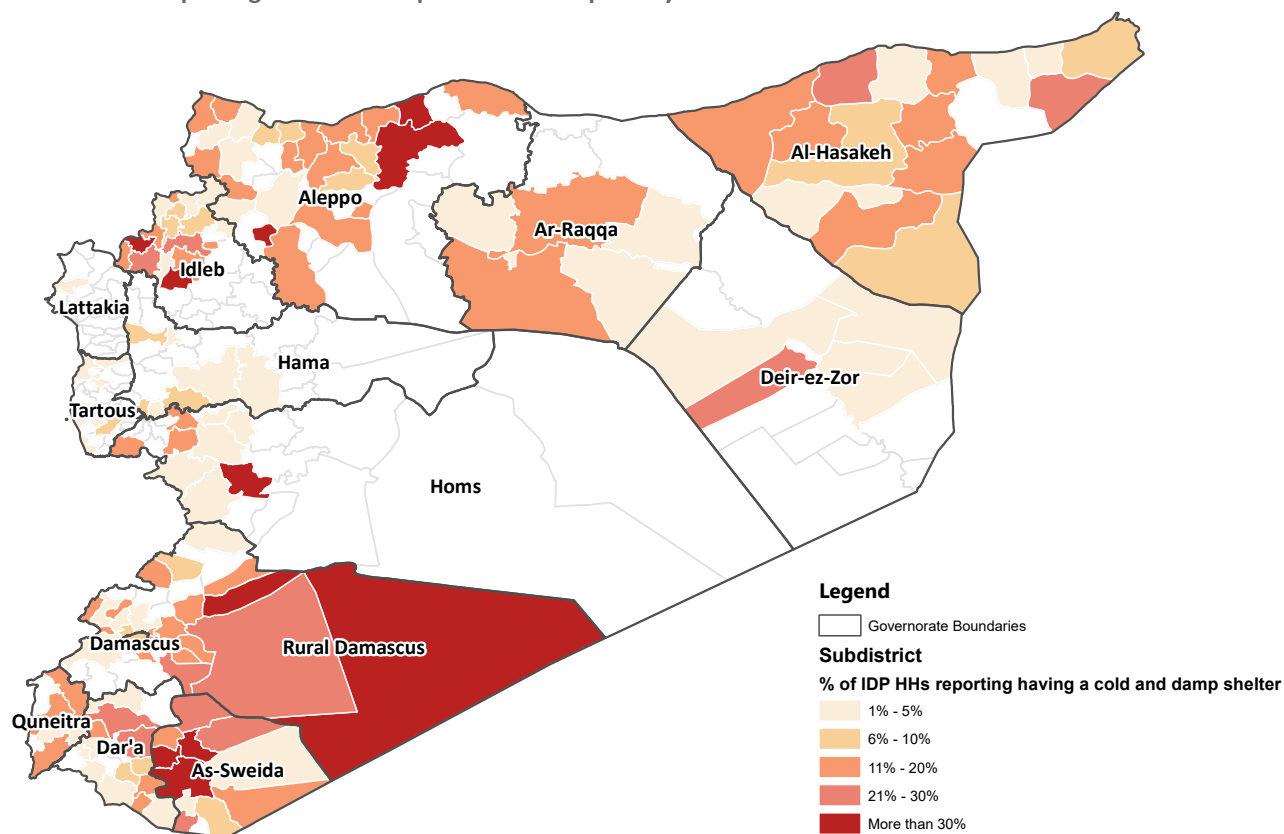


## Problems with Shelter (cont.)<sup>7</sup>

### COLD & DAMP CONDITIONS BY SUB-DISTRICT

Map: % of households reporting cold and damp conditions as primary issue

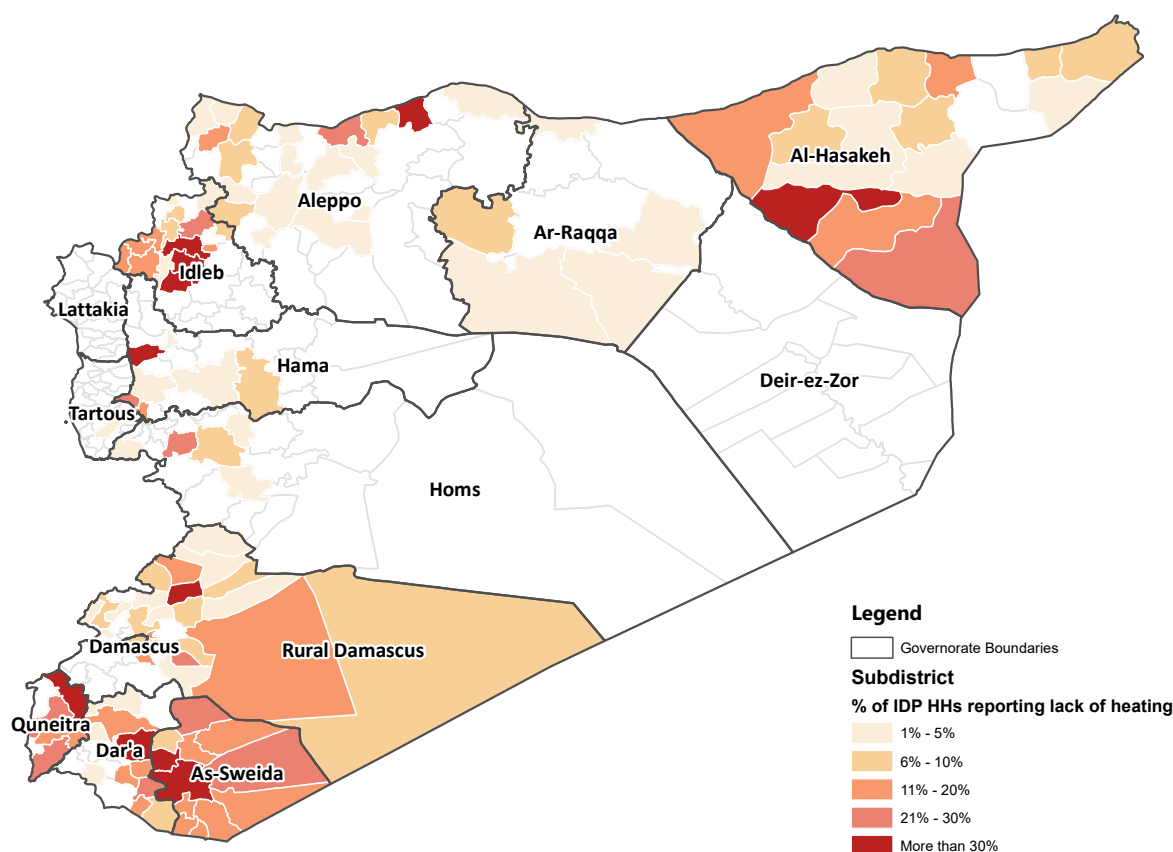
**8%** of IDP households nationwide reported cold and damp conditions as the primary issue



### LACK OF HEATING BY SUB-DISTRICT

Map: % of households reporting lack of heating as primary issue

**5%** of IDP households nationwide reported a lack of heating as the primary issue



<sup>7</sup> Both sub-district level maps on this page are related to winterization. This is the reason a 'lack of space' map is missing. For this breakdown, please contact [hnap-syria@un.org](mailto:hnap-syria@un.org)



## Hazards

Hazards were much more frequently reported by households living in camp. The most common hazard reported was wind causing damage to shelters (reported by 57 percent of in-camp IDPs and 13 percent of total IDPs). Flooding was reported by 20 percent of in-camp IDPs but only 4 percent of the total IDP population, while theft of belongings was reported by 8 percent of both total IDPs and in-camp IDPs.

**23%**

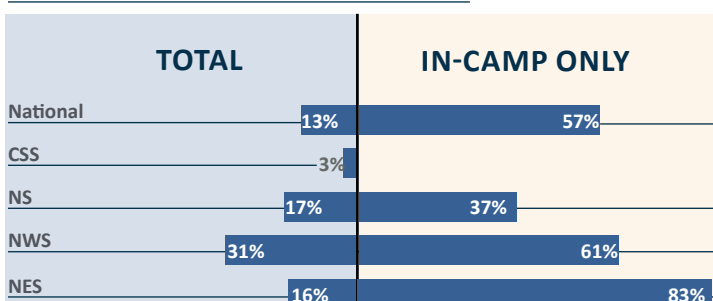
of IDP households reported having faced some kind of hazard in their current shelter

**69%**

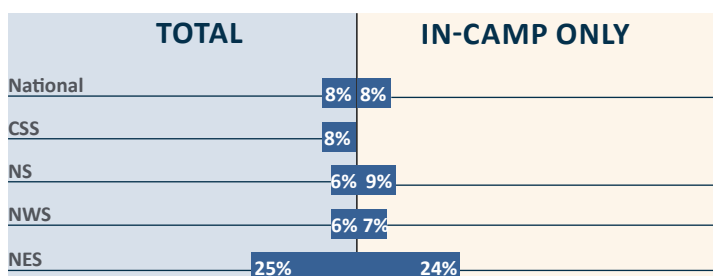
of IDP households *living in camps* reported having faced some kind of hazard in their current shelter

### TYPE OF HAZARDS REPORTED (% OF HHS)

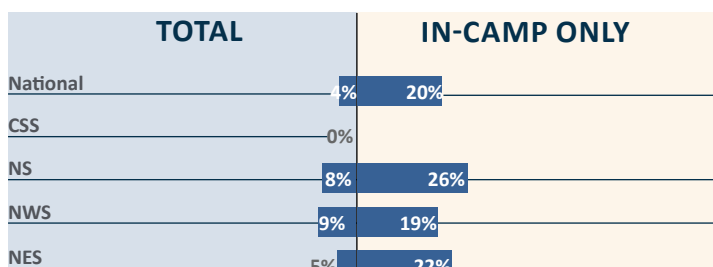
#### WIND DAMAGES



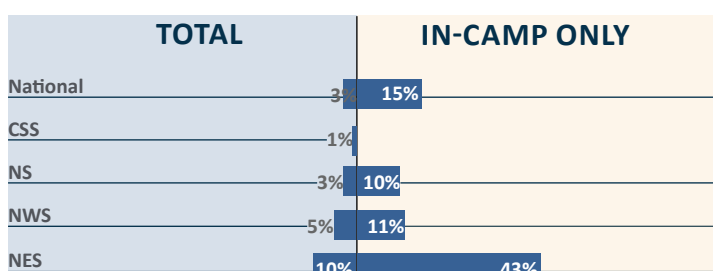
#### THEFT OF BELONGINGS



#### FLOODING



#### DUST/SAND STORMS



## Evictions

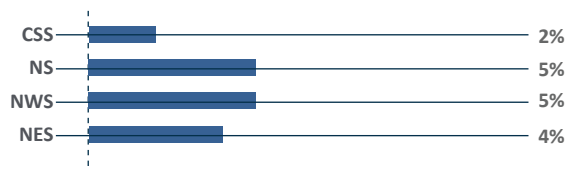
**3%** of IDP households have been evicted in the last 12 months



**2%** of IDP households *living in camps* have been evicted in the last 12 months

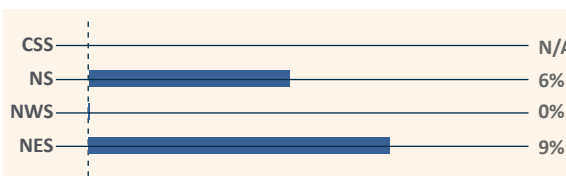


### REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (% OF HHS)



### REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (% OF IN-CAMP HHS)

Although total rates of eviction over the past year are higher than in-camp rates (3 percent versus 2 percent), rates of eviction for in-camp IDP households are extremely high in NES: nearly one in ten have been evicted over the past 12 months.



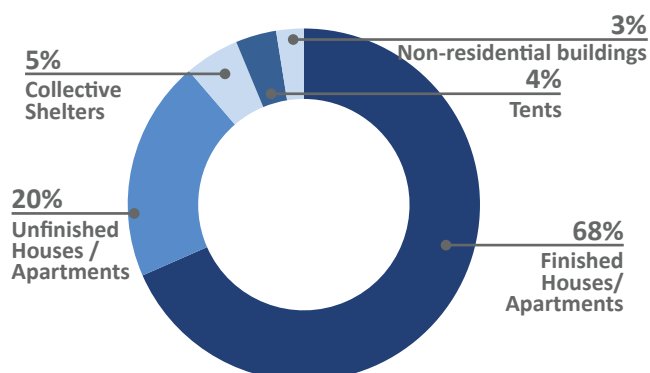
### SEX OF HOH BREAKDOWN (% OF HHS)

Female-headed households had slightly higher rates of being evicted in the last 12 months than male-headed households. This is most notably the case in NS, where 9 percent of the in-camp female-headed HHS have been evicted.



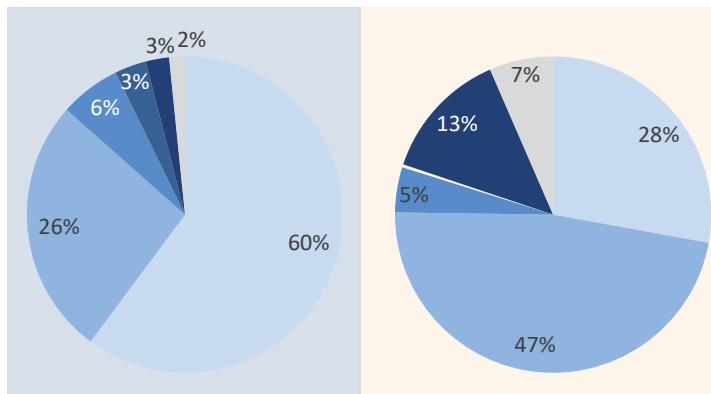
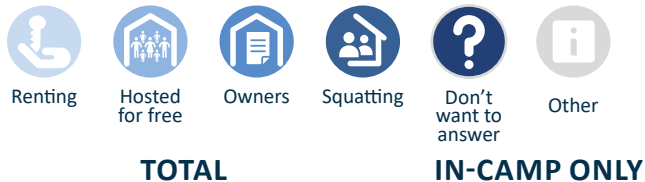
### SHELTER TYPE BREAKDOWN (% OF EVICTED HHS)

Of the total number of IDP households who reported eviction in the past 12 months, the majority (68 percent) were evicted from finished homes or apartments, 20 percent from unfinished houses or apartments, 5 percent from collective shelters, 4 percent from tents, and 3 percent from non-residential buildings.



# Occupancy Status

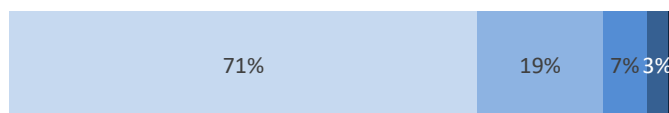
The majority of IDP households rent their current shelter, although a significant 26 percent are being hosted for free, indicative of a more precarious situation, due to heightened dependence. Only 6 percent own their shelter. In-camp populations are much more likely to be hosted for free (47 percent) and less likely to be renting (28 percent).



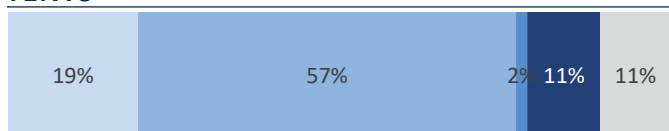
## SHELTER TYPE BREAKDOWN<sup>8</sup>

Rates of renting are very high among households living in finished houses or apartments (71 percent), while being hosted for free is the most common occupancy type for households living in tents (57 percent).

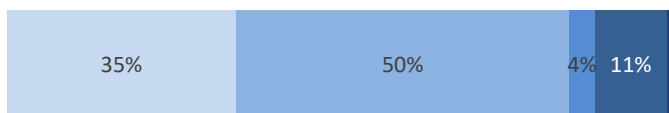
### FINISHED HOUSES/APARTMENTS



### TENTS

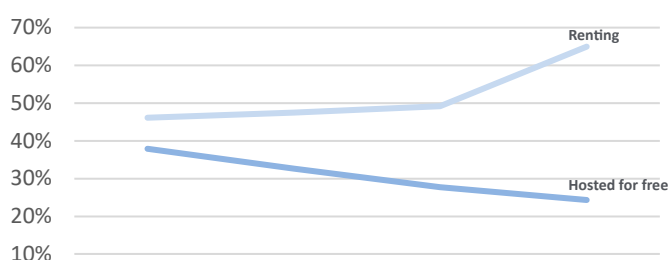


### UNFINISHED HOMES/APARTMENTS



## RENTING & HOSTED BY DISPLACEMENT DURATION

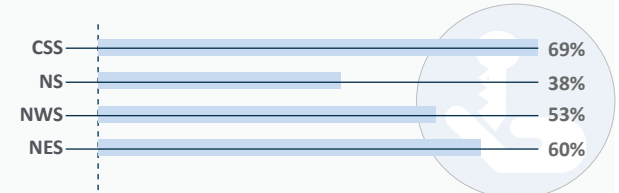
Rates of IDP households renting their shelter is positively correlated with length of displacement, which is likely a reflection of increased economic recovery gained over time. Conversely, but indicative of the same message, rates of IDP households being hosted for free is negatively correlated with displacement duration.



## REGIONAL BREAKDOWNS

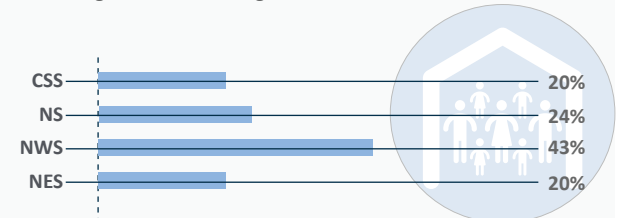
### RENTING

Renting rates are highest in CSS (69 percent) and lowest in north Syria (38 percent).



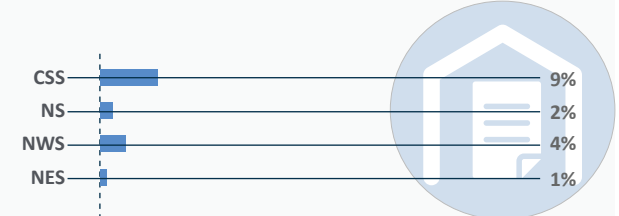
### HOSTED FOR FREE

Being hosted for free is highest in NWS - 43 percent of IDP households, which is 19 percentage points higher than in NS - the region with the second-highest rates of being hosted for free.



### OWNERS

Owning current shelter is most common in CSS (9 percent) and fairly low across other regions.



### SQUATTING

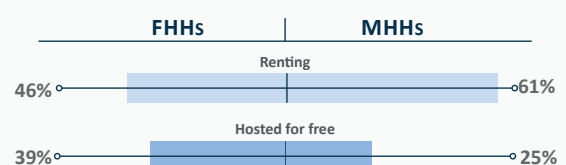
Squatting rates across the nation are very low - 3 percent in total - but they are very high in NS, where 17 percent of IDP households are reportedly squatting.



## BREAKDOWN BY SEX OF HoH

### RENTING AND HOSTED FOR FREE

Higher rates of female-headed IDP households are hosted for free; conversely a higher rate of male-headed IDP households are renting.

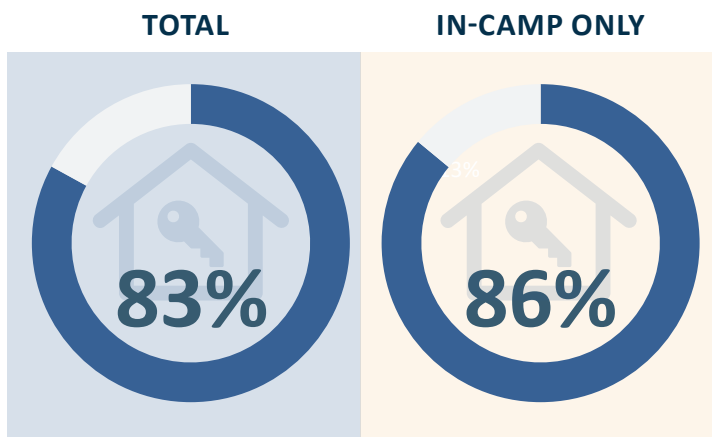


<sup>8</sup>The occupancy status categories for the charts in this section follow the same legend as in the previous chart.

# Property in Place of Origin

## PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

In total, 83 percent of IDP households own property in their place of origin; this proportion is slightly higher for only in-camp IDPs (86 percent).

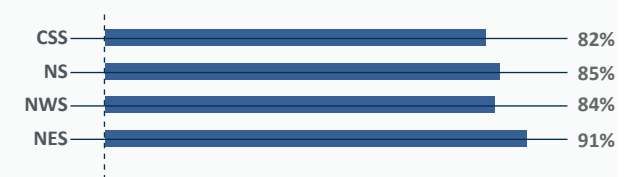


## SEX OF HOH BREAKDOWN



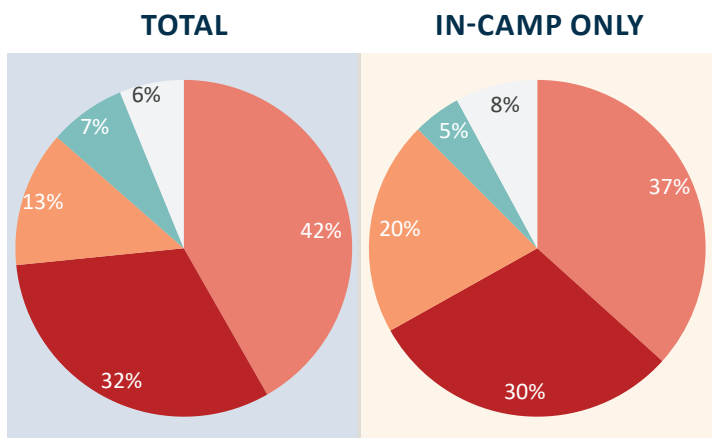
## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (ORIGIN)<sup>9</sup>

IDPs originally from NES report the highest rates of owning property (91 percent), followed by IDPs originally from NS (85 percent).



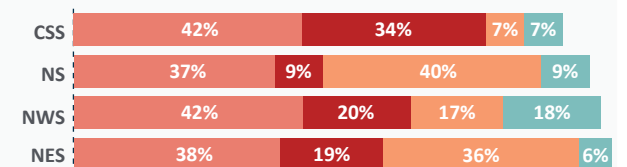
## STATUS OF PROPERTY

Although a total of 83 percent of IDP households own property in their place of origin, 74 percent of those households report their property damaged or destroyed, while only 7 percent report it intact.



## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (ORIGIN)

The highest rates of both damaged and destroyed properties at the origin are reported by IDPs originally from CSS (42 percent and 34 percent, respectively). Rates of occupied shelter at the origin are most reported by IDPs originally from NS (40 percent) and NES (36 percent).



\* The above charts omit 'unknown', therefore do not sum to 100 percent. The other categories follow the same legend as the chart(s) on the left.

## DOCUMENT OWNERSHIP

**71%**  
of property-owning IDP HHs possess the ownership document

## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (ORIGIN)

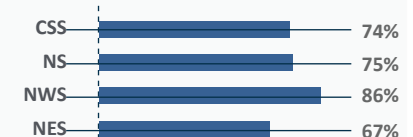


## SEX OF HOH BREAKDOWN



**74%**  
of IDP HHs with the property document have it on their persons

## REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (ORIGIN)



## SEX OF HOH BREAKDOWN



<sup>9</sup> All regional breakdowns on this page consider the region of origin as opposed to the region of displacement.