

South Sudan | Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

1-12 August 2026

Market Overview

INTRODUCTION

With the aim of informing cash-based interventions and to better understand market dynamics in South Sudan, the **Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)** was initiated by the South Sudan Cash Working Group (CWG) in August 2019. The initiative is guided by the JMMI Technical Working Group, led by REACH, and supported by the CWG members. The initiative is funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). Marketplaces across South Sudan are assessed on a monthly basis. In each location, field teams record prices and other market indicators through trader interviews. This factsheet presents an overview of prices for key foods and non-food items (NFIs) in the assessed areas, as well as the costs associated with key elements of the **Multi-Sector Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB)**.

45	Assessed locations	53	Assessed marketplaces
1,083	Trader key informants surveyed	34	Assessed commodities
42	Partner key informants surveyed	17	Participating agencies ⁵
1,125	Total key informant interviews (KIs)		

KEY FINDINGS

- In July 2026, the Multi-Sector Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB) had increased by 6%, reaching 782,787 SSP. This seasonal trend continued into August, when the MSSMEB rose by 16% to 906,023 SSP. The food basket recorded a similar pattern, increasing by 4% in July and a further 16% in August. These sustained increases reflect continued seasonal pressures on the prices of essential food commodities and non-food items (NFIs) during the lean season.
- Overall, the official exchange rate depreciated by 18%, from 4,871 SSP (1USD) in July to 5,661 SSP (1 USD) in August 2026. This depreciation contributed to higher MSSMEB, food basket, and MEB costs when expressed in SSP, as well as higher MPC transfer values. However, despite the depreciation of the SSP, overall MSSMEB, food basket, and MEB costs decreased when measured in USD.
- Elevated prices in South Sudan continue to reflect ongoing challenges affecting trade and market restocking. The August 2026 JMMI found that traders mainly identified SSP depreciation (40%), high taxation (37%), high fuel costs (28%), poor road conditions (26%), checkpoint costs (22%), and limited capital (20%) as key constraints. These challenges continue to increase operating costs and make it difficult for traders to reduce prices.
- The largest MSSMEB increase was recorded in Paloich (Melut County) at 32%, with the food basket rising by 26%. This was followed by Baliet Town (Baliet County), where MSSMEB increased by 30% and the food basket by 33%. In Jur River, MSSMEB rose by 29% and the food basket by 28%, while Nyangore (Ulang County) recorded a 28% increase in both. Pibor had the lowest increases, at 25% for MSSMEB and 18% for the food basket.
- Market functionality remained broadly stable between July and August 2026, with limited functionality reported in 24% of locations in August (11 of 45) compared with 24% in July (12 of 50). Despite the marginal increase, market constraints continued to affect the availability, affordability, and accessibility of essential items.

KEY INDICATORS

Median Cost of MSSMEB¹

906,023 SSP

160 USD³

Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 123,236 SSP +16%

▼ 4 USD -2%

Median Cost of Foo Basket²

705,116 SSP

125 USD³

Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 98,355 SSP +16%

▼ 2 USD -2%

USD/SSP (Official)³

1 USD = 5,661 SSP

Monthly change since July 2026⁴

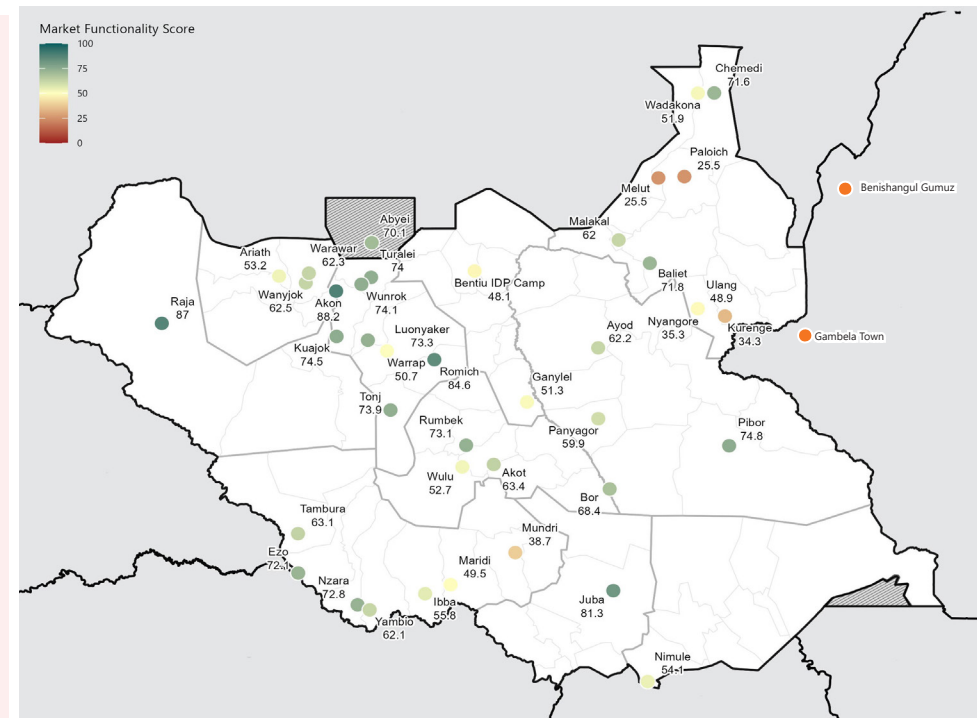
▲ 880 USD +18%

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE (MFS), BY LOCATION

i The MFS is a method of classifying markets based on their level of functionality. The MFS is divided into five dimensions:

- Accessibility (25%):** physical and social access to markets
- Availability (30%):** ability of markets to consistently supply core commodities
- Affordability (15%):** financial access to markets and price volatility
- Resilience (20%):** vulnerability of supply chains and ease of restocking
- Infrastructure (10%):** state of markets' physical and financial infrastructure

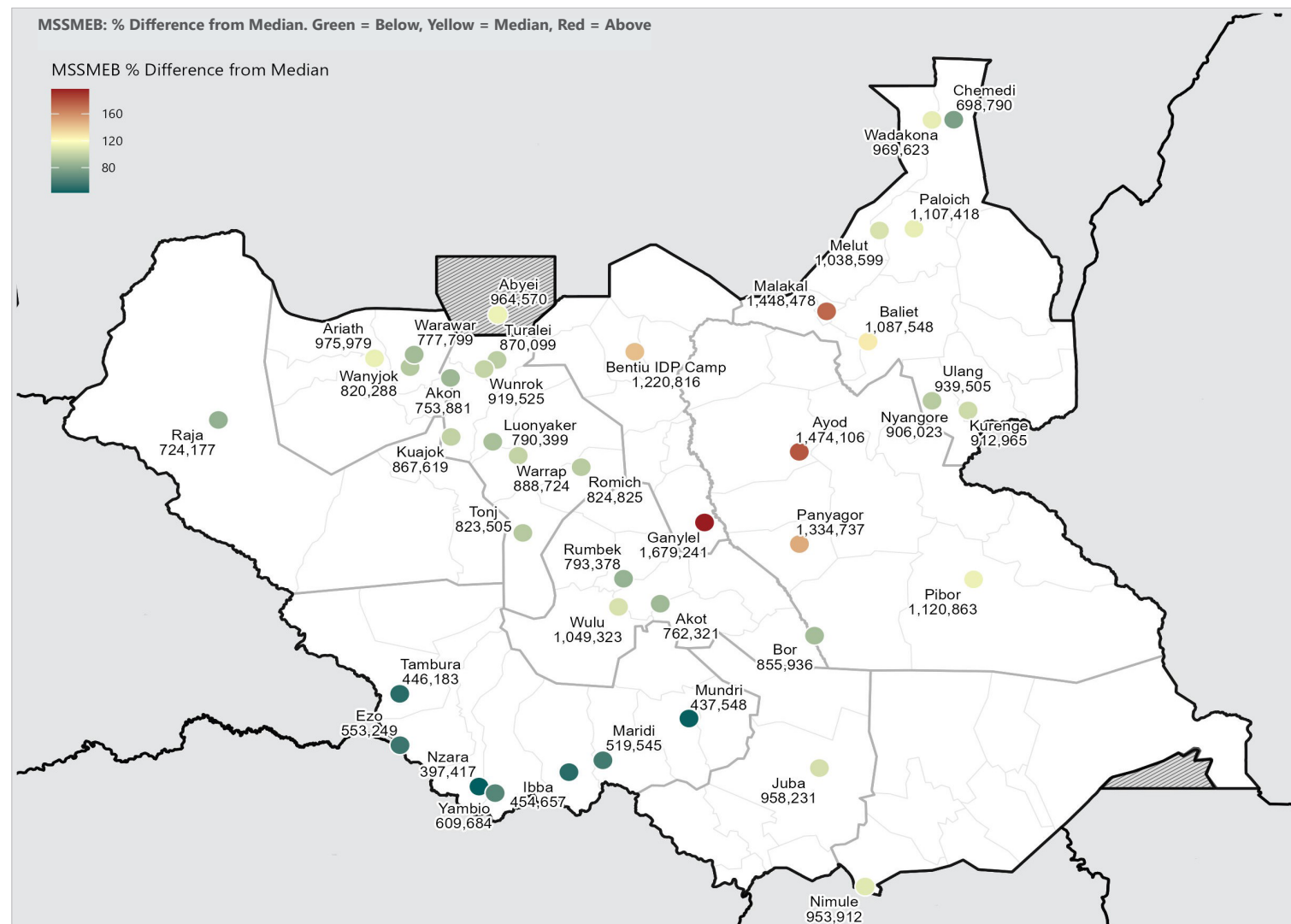
The MFS is scored on a scale from 0 to 100, with 50 as the cutoff point between functional and markets with limited functionality.



* The Abyei Region and Ilemi are shaded to acknowledge their status as disputed territories.

MULTI-SECTOR SURVIVAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET COSTS PER LOCATION

i The **Multi-Sector Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB)** represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a six-person South Sudanese household for one month. The cost of the MSSMEB can be used as a proxy for the financial burden faced by households in different locations. The MSSMEB contents were defined by the CWG in consultation with relevant sector leads. The **MSSMEB is a subset** of the **Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)**, which contains a proportion of each sectoral MEB (Food, NFI, Shelter, WASH, Protection, Education, Health, Energy, Communication, Milling Costs, and Transport Allowance). For more information, see page 6.



Median Cost of MSSMEB¹

906,023 SSP

160 USD³

Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 123,236 SSP +16%

▼ 4 USD -2%

Yearly change since August 2025

▲ 228,496 SSP +34%

MSSMEB Items

Food basket component of the MSSMEB

Cereals	90 kg	Pulses	9 kg
Vegetable Oil	6 Liters	Salt	1 kg

Other components of the MSSMEB

Soap bar (1800g)	3 pcs	Charcoal	50 kg
Education	5%	Milling cost	30 kg

Key Findings

Ganyiel and Ayod were the locations that consistently recorded the highest MSSMEB costs in both July and August 2026. In August, Ganyiel, Ayod, Malakal Town, Panyagor, and Bentiu IDP Camp were added to the high-cost locations, while Wulu was no longer among them. Cost increase may partly reflect market specific supply and transportation constraints. In particular, the deteriorating condition of the Juba to Nimule highway, South Sudan's main trade corridor for imported goods, has been reported to cause delays in the movement of cargo trucks and other vehicles. Recent [news](#) report that poor road conditions were significantly increasing the travel time between Nimule and Juba from 3 to 8 hours, an important trading route supplying many parts of the country. Such delays can increase transportation and logistics costs and may likely, place upward pressure on commodity prices in markets that depend heavily on supplies transported along this corridor. This was reported after data was collected, meaning August data might not have fully reflected the impact of these delays.

MEDIAN MSSMEB COST PER LOCATION

Table 1: Median MSSMEB cost per location, comparison with average and % change to previous month and the previous year

County	Location	MSSMEB in SSP	% Change since previous month	% Change since previous year*	MSSMEB in USD
Central Equatoria					
Juba	Juba Town	958,231	-8%	+49%	169.27
Eastern Equatoria					
Magwi	Nimule	953,912	NA	NA	168.51
Jonglei					
Ayod	Ayod Town	1,474,106	+19%	+125%	260.40
Bor South	Bor Town	855,936	NA	NA	151.20
Fangak	Paguir	1,045,472	NA	NA	184.68
Pibor	Pibor Town	1,120,863	+25%	NA	198.00
Twic East	Panyagor	1,334,737	NA	+119%	235.78
Lakes					
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	793,378	+18%	+2%	140.15
Rumbek East	Akot	762,321	NA	NA	134.66
Wulu	Wulu Town	1,049,323	-32%	+67%	185.36
Northern Bahr el Ghazal					
Aweil East	Wanyjok	820,288	+10%	+19%	144.90
Aweil East	Warawar	777,799	+11%	+18%	137.40
Aweil North	Ariath	975,979	+5%	+49%	172.40
Unity					
Panyijar	Ganyiel	1,679,241	+3%	NA	296.63
Rubkona	Bentiu IDP Camp	1,220,816	+20%	+67%	215.65
Upper Nile					
Baliet	Baliet Town	1,087,548	+30%	NA	192.11
Luakpiny Nasir	Kurenge	912,965	+13%	NA	161.27
Malakal	Malakal IDP Camp	1,072,401	NA	NA	189.44
Malakal	Malakal Town	1,448,478	NA	NA	255.87
Manyo	Wadakona	969,623	NA	NA	171.28
Melut	Melut Town	1,038,599	+13%	+38%	183.47
Melut	Paloich	1,107,418	+32%	+50%	195.62
Renk	Chemedi	698,790	+14%	NA	123.44
Renk	Gosfami	708,265	NA	NA	125.11
Ulang	Barmach	946,849	NA	NA	167.26
Ulang	Nyangore	906,023	+28%	NA	160.05
Ulang	Ulang Town	939,505	+20%	NA	165.96
Warrap					
Abyei Region	Abyei Town	964,570	+13%	NA	170.39
Gogrial East	Luonyaker	790,399	+7%	-1%	139.62
Gogrial West	Akon	753,881	+20%	-10%	133.17
Gogrial West	Kuajok	867,619	+13%	+23%	153.26
Tonj East	Romich	824,825	+17%	+32%	145.70
Tonj North	Warrap Town	888,724	+12%	NA	156.99
Tonj South	Tonj Town	823,505	+1%	-2%	145.47
Twic	Turalei	870,099	+3%	+3%	153.70
Twic	Wunrok	919,525	+10%	+10%	162.43
Western Bahr el Ghazal					
Jur River	Jur River	935,441	+29%	NA	165.24
Raja	Raja Town	724,177	+8%	+2%	127.92
Western Equatoria					
Ezo	Ezo Town	553,249	+14%	-14%	97.73
Ibba	Ibba Town	454,657	-10%	NA	80.31
Maridi	Maridi Town	519,545	+10%	+10%	91.78
Mundri West	Mundri Town	437,548	+3%	-32%	77.29
Nzara	Nzara Town	397,417	-9%	-23%	70.20
Tambura	Tambura Town	446,183	-11%	+2%	78.82
Yambio	Yambio Town	609,684	NA	+32%	107.70
Median		906,023	+16%	+34%	160.05

NA: no sufficient price data is available for calculating the cost of the MSSMEB.

*This is a comparison between August 2026 and August 2025

Key Findings

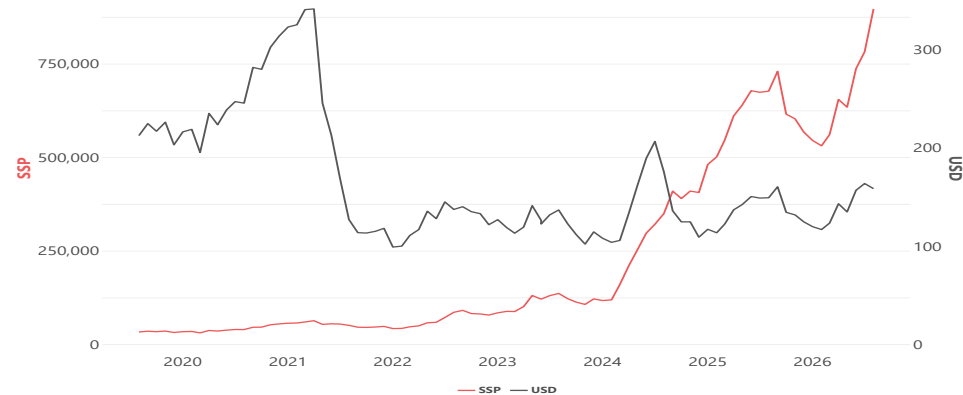
Compared to July, more markets in August had high costs of the MSSMEB. In July, high costs were concentrated in Ganyiel, Wulu, Ayod, Rubkona, and Bentiu, and in August higher costs were shown in Malakal, Panyagor, Bentiu IDP Camp, Melut, Paloich, Baliet, Pibor, and Paguir. Ganyiel, Wulu, and Ayod remained consistently high-cost markets.

The increase was according to vendors, mainly driven by higher prices of maize, sorghum, cooking oil, beans, and salt, alongside currency depreciation, high fuel and taxation costs, poor roads, checkpoint fees, limited access to capital, and foreign-currency shortages. These constraints increased transport and restocking costs and, combined with lean-season pressures, contributed to greater market price variation.

This trend aligns with the [FEWS NET](#) report, which identifies North-Central Jonglei and southeastern Upper Nile as areas of serious concern, where conflict and flooding disrupted trade and livelihoods, displacement, and limited humanitarian access are expected to worsen access to goods, specifically to food, through September 2026.

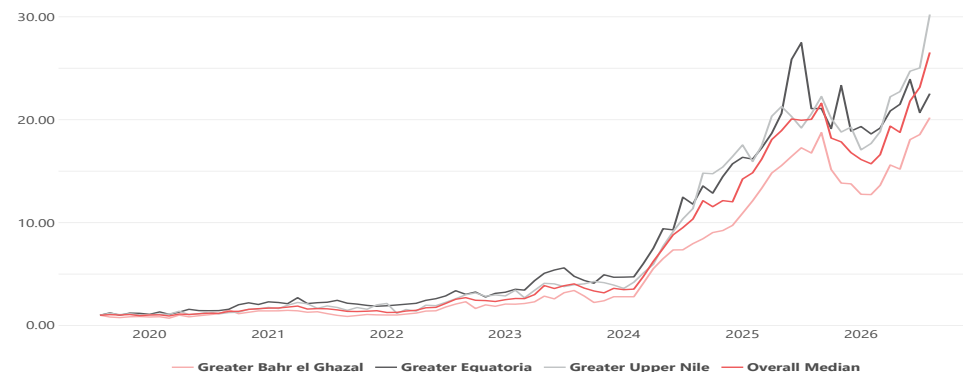
MSSMEB OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



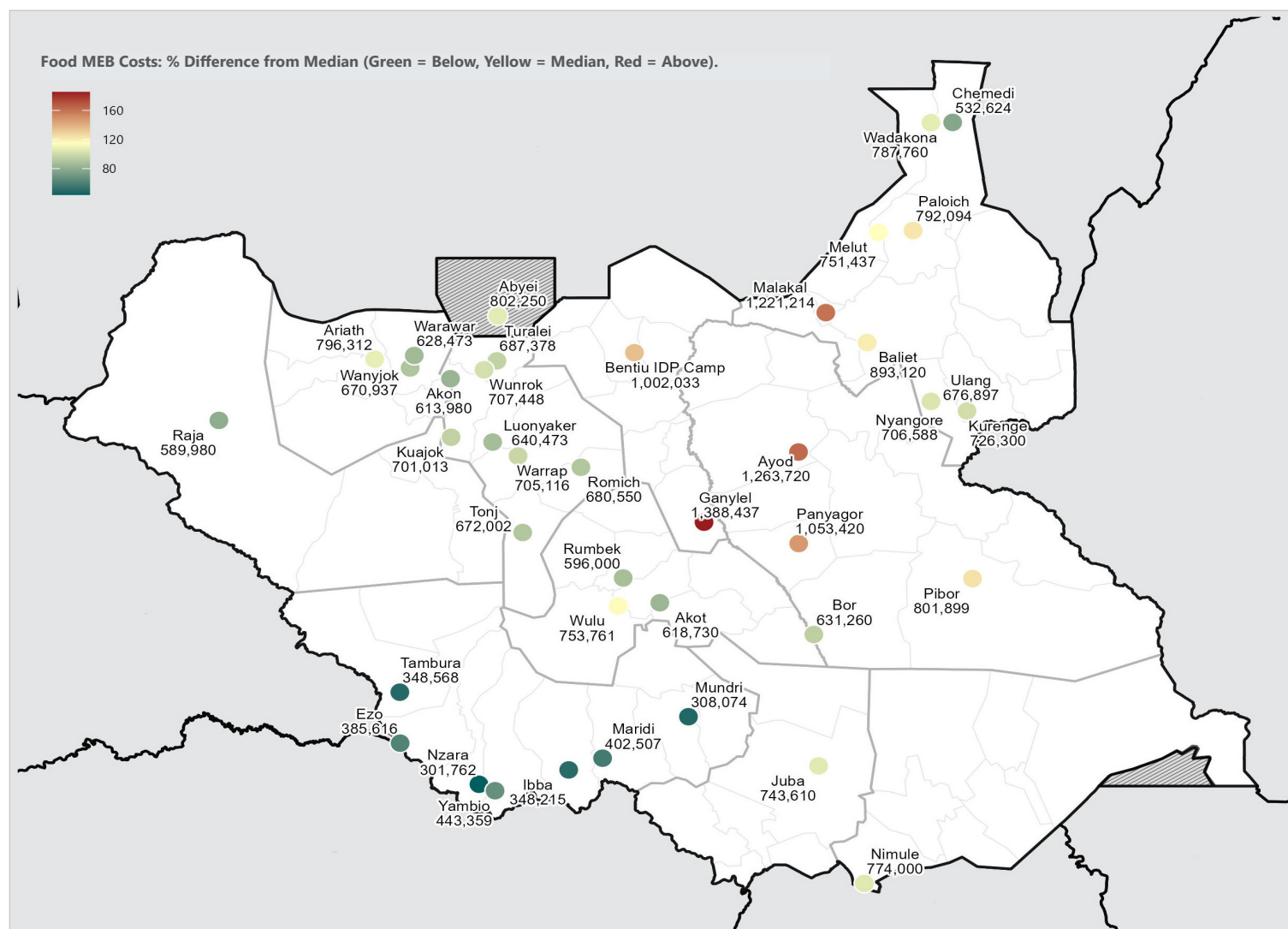
MSSMEB OVER TIME⁶

Indexed to August 2019 = 1.00



MEDIAN FOOD MEB COST PER LOCATION

i The Food Basket components of the **MEB** represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of food items required to support a six-person South Sudanese household for one month. The contents were defined by the CWG in consultation with relevant sector leads.



Median Cost of Food Basket²

705,116 SSP

125 USD³Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 98,355 SSP +16%

▼ 2 USD -2%

Yearly change since August 2025

▲ 162,922 SSP +30%

Food Basket Components

Cereals	90 kg	Pulses	9 kg
Vegetable Oil	6 Liters	Salt	1 kg

Key Findings

Some of the locations registering the highest costs in July changed in August. Partly this is explained to difference in market coverage, but also could be explained with other factors. Markets in Unity (Bentiu IDP Camp and Ganyiel, Jonglei (Ayod and Panyagor), and Upper Nile (Malakal town) registered the highest food basket costs, while markets in Western Equatoria were registering the lowest.

Studies on food security (FEWSNET) [projected](#) an increase in food insecurity, malnutrition between February and September 2026 in these locations due to conflict and seasonal flooding affecting trade, livelihoods and humanitarian access. Nonetheless, increased conflict in some areas seems to be a higher impact than flooding. Below-average rainfall and higher temperatures associated with El Niño were found to be affecting crops and expected to impact harvest production. Consequently, the usual post-harvest declines in food prices and improvements in food security could be more limited than normal.

Meanwhile, currency depreciation and rising fuel (from 18,000 to 22,000 SSP per litre in parallel market) may continue to place upward pressure on staple food, affecting transportation and commodity costs amid an already constrained household purchasing power.

MEDIAN FOOD MEB COST PER LOCATION

Table 2: Median Food MEB cost per location, comparison with average and % change to previous month and the previous year

County	Location	MSSMEB food basket in SSP	% Change since previous month	% Change since previous year*	MSSMEB food basket in USD
Central Equatoria					
Juba	Juba Town	743,610	-8%	+56%	131.4
Eastern Equatoria					
Magwi	Nimule	774,000	NA	NA	136.7
Jonglei					
Ayod	Ayod Town	1,263,720	+19%	+143%	223.2
Bor South	Bor Town	631,260	NA	NA	111.5
Fangak	Paguir	829,500	NA	NA	146.5
Pibor	Pibor Town	801,899	+18%	NA	141.7
Twic East	Panyagor	1,053,420	NA	+123%	186.1
Lakes					
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	596,000	+14%	-8%	105.3
Rumbek East	Akot	618,730	NA	NA	109.3
Wulu	Wulu Town	753,761	-39%	+48%	133.1
Northern Bahrel Ghazal					
Aweil East	Wanyjok	670,937	+11%	+24%	118.5
Aweil East	Warawar	628,473	+13%	+21%	111
Aweil North	Ariath	796,312	+5%	+46%	140.7
Unity					
Panyijiar	Ganyiel	1,388,437	+1%	NA	245.3
Rubkona	Bentiu IDP Camp	1,002,033	+22%	+67%	177
Upper Nile					
Baliet	Baliet Town	893,120	+33%	NA	157.8
Luakpiny Nasir	Kurenge	726,300	+15%	NA	128.3
Malakal	Malakal IDP Camp	846,544	NA	NA	149.5
Malakal	Malakal Town	1,221,214	NA	NA	215.7
Manyo	Wadakona	787,760	NA	NA	139.2
Melut	Melut Town	751,437	+12%	+35%	132.7
Melut	Paloich	792,094	+26%	+36%	139.9
Renk	Chernedi	532,624	+14%	NA	94.1
Renk	Gosfami	557,398	NA	NA	98.5
Ulang	Barmach	749,571	NA	NA	132.4
Ulang	Nyangore	706,588	+28%	NA	124.8
Ulang	Ulang Town	676,897	+12%	NA	119.6
Warrap					
Abyei Region	Abyei Town	802,250	+14%	NA	141.7
Gogrial East	Luonyaker	640,473	+13%	-3%	113.1
Gogrial West	Akon	613,980	+25%	-9%	108.5
Gogrial West	Kuajok	701,013	+16%	+22%	123.8
Tonj East	Romich	680,550	+19%	+37%	120.2
Tonj North	Warrap Town	705,116	+16%	NA	124.6
Tonj South	Tonj Town	672,002	+5%	-4%	118.7
Twic	Turalei	687,378	+4%	0%	121.4
Twic	Wunrok	707,448	+8%	+6%	125
Western Bahrel Ghazal					
Jur River	Jur River	758,282	+28%	NA	133.9
Raja	Raja Town	589,980	+9%	+4%	104.2
Western Equatoria					
Ezo	Ezo Town	385,616	+4%	-24%	68.1
Ibba	Ibba Town	348,215	-2%	NA	61.5
Maridi	Maridi Town	402,507	+10%	+5%	71.1
Mundri West	Mundri Town	308,074	+5%	-41%	54.4
Nzara	Nzara Town	301,762	-4%	-29%	53.3
Tambura	Tambura Town	348,568	-11%	-5%	61.6
Yambio	Yambio Town	443,359	NA	+36%	78.3
Median		705,116	+16%	+30%	124.6

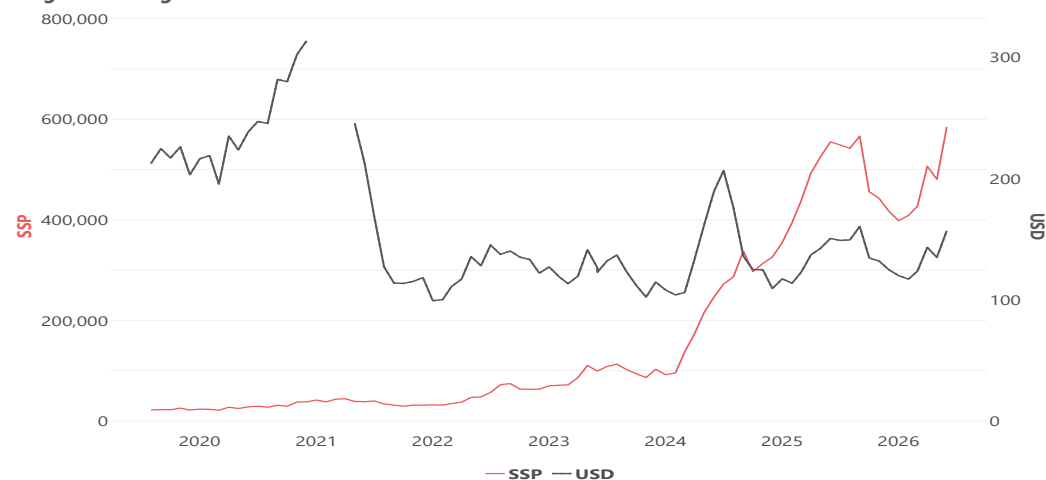
*This is a comparison between August 2026 and August 2025.

**The food price index was calculated by adding up the median prices of one unit of each assessed food item. Where the median value is not available, the median price across all locations was used for the calculation of the index.

NA: no sufficient price data is available for calculating the cost of the Food MEB.

FOOD MEB COST OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



Reported restocking source by staple cereal traders:



80% Wholesalers
20% Local producers

Food traders' expectations for food prices over the next three months



83% Expected increase
17% No change expected

Key Findings

In August 2026, the highest food basket costs were concentrated mainly in Unity State, particularly in Ganyiel and Bentiu IDP Camp. High-cost markets were also recorded in Jonglei State, including Ayod and Panyagor, while Malakal Town in Upper Nile State also recorded among the highest food basket costs. This concentration of high prices across Unity, Jonglei, and Upper Nile indicates continued food market pressure and challenges to food affordability in these areas.

Median time to restock period reported by the vendors



1 day

Median time to restock locally produced cereals from out of town

CASH WORKING GROUP'S (CWG) SECTORAL MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (SMEB) AND MPC GUIDE⁷

Table 3: Fixed MPC Transfer Value Rate of Reference Month (**July 2026**) for MPC

County	SMEB Total in SSP	MPC in SSP with 15%	MPCA at 80% (SSP)	MPC in USD with 80%	MPCA at (USD)
Central Equatoria					
Juba	897K	1M	825K	216	173
Eastern Equatoria					
Budi	789K	907K	726K	190	152
Jonglei					
Akobo	826K	950K	760K	199	159
Ayod	1M	1M	966K	253	202
Duk	699K	804K	643K	168	134
Pibor	928K	1M	854K	223	178
Twic East	1M	1M	1M	277	222
Lakes					
Rumbek Centre	903K	1M	831K	217	174
Rumbek East	763K	877K	702K	183	147
Wulu	1M	2M	1M	314	251
Northern Bahr el Ghazal					
Aweil Centre	945K	1M	869K	228	182
Aweil East	706K	811K	649K	170	136
Aweil North	796K	915K	732K	191	153
Aweil South	895K	1M	824K	215	172
Aweil West	762K	877K	701K	183	147
Unity					
Panyijiar	1M	2M	1M	320	256
Rubkona	973K	1M	895K	235	188
Upper Nile					
Baliet	831K	956K	765K	200	160
Fashoda	816K	938K	750K	197	157
Luakpiny Nasir	1M	1M	963K	252	201
Manyo	828K	952K	762K	199	159
Melut	808K	929K	743K	194	155
Renk	713K	820K	656K	171	137
Ulang	964K	1M	887K	232	185
Warrap					
Abyei Region	918K	1M	845K	221	177
Gogrial East	700K	805K	644K	168	134
Gogrial West	684K	787K	630K	164	132
Tonj East	710K	817K	653K	171	137
Tonj North	740K	851K	681K	178	143
Tonj South	714K	821K	657K	171	137
Twic	810K	931K	745K	195	156
Western Bahr el Ghazal					
Jur River	754K	867K	694K	182	145
Raja	656K	755K	604K	158	126
Western Equatoria					
Ezo	768K	883K	707K	185	148
Ibba	608K	699K	560K	146	117
Maridi	617K	710K	568K	148	119
Mundri West	652K	750K	600K	156	125
Nzara	677K	779K	623K	163	131
Tambura	587K	676K	540K	141	113
Median	796K	915K	732K	191	153

Table 4: Shows all calculated Sector MEBs, total of full SMEB, calculated MPC with 15% buffer and value change percentages from the previous and reference month. The buffer was changed, and values are now presented in SSP instead of USD. Note: Values in this table are presented in thousands (K).

County	Food MEB in SSP	NFI MEB in SSP	WASH MEB in SSP	Shelter MEB in SSP	Comm MEB in SSP	Education MEB in SSP	Energy MEB in SSP	Health MEB in SSP	Milling MEB in SSP	Protection & GBV MEB in SSP	Transport MEB in SSP	SMEB Total in SSP	MPC in SSP With 15%	MPC change since previous month	MPC change for Ref Month	MPC in SSP With 80%	MPC in USD With 15%	MPC in USD With 80%
Central Equatoria																		
Juba	372K	80K	10K	130K	34K	51K	43K	23K	8K	100K	57K	907K	1M	+1%	+1%	834K	184	147
Pibor	341K	79K	17K	145K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	85K	57K	869K	999K	NA	NA	799K	176	141
Eastern Equatoria																		
Magwi	387K	106K	12K	210K	34K	51K	31K	23K	8K	37K	57K	955K	1M	NA	NA	878K	194	155
Jonglei																		
Ayod	632K	93K	19K	197K	34K	51K	27K	23K	8K	85K	57K	1M	1M	+17%	+17%	1M	250	200
Bor South	316K	111K	14K	200K	34K	51K	17K	23K	8K	85K	57K	916K	1M	NA	NA	842K	186	149
Fangak	581K	88K	24K	183K	34K	51K	12K	23K	8K	36K	57K	1M	1M	NA	NA	1M	223	178
Pibor	401K	139K	11K	232K	34K	51K	16K	23K	8K	52K	57K	1M	1M	+10%	+10%	942K	208	166
Twic East	527K	67K	19K	212K	34K	51K	106K	23K	8K	92K	57K	1M	1M	+4%	+4%	1M	243	194
Lakes																		
Rumbek Centre	298K	94K	13K	159K	34K	51K	55K	23K	8K	70K	57K	862K	991K	-5%	-5%	793K	175	140
Rumbek East	309K	83K	16K	145K	34K	51K	18K	23K	8K	85K	57K	830K	954K	+9%	+9%	763K	169	135
Wulu	377K	83K	18K	190K	34K	51K	31K	23K	8K	110K	57K	982K	1M	-25%	-25%	903K	199	159
Northern Bahr el Ghazal																		
Aweil East	325K	77K	25K	111K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	76K	57K	817K	940K	+16%	+16%	752K	166	133
Aweil North	398K	88K	17K	109K	34K	51K	45K	23K	8K	80K	57K	909K	1M	+14%	+14%	837K	185	148
Unity																		
Panyijiar	694K	88K	18K	145K	34K	51K	31K	23K	8K	85K	57K	1M	1M	-7%	-7%	1M	251	201
Rubkona	489K	67K	20K	192K	34K	51K	32K	23K	8K	90K	57K	1M	1M	+9%	+9%	977K	216	173
Upper Nile																		
Baliet	447K	61K	19K	171K	34K	51K	20K	23K	8K	115K	57K	1M	1M	+21%	+21%	924K	204	163
Luakpiny Nasir	363K	79K	17K	145K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	85K	57K	892K	1M	-15%	-15%	821K	182	146
Malakal	517K	113K	20K	211K	34K	51K	35K	23K	8K	110K	57K	1M	1M	NA	NA	1M	239	191
Manyo	394K	79K	15K	151K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	94K	57K	935K	1M	+13%	+13%	861K	190	152
Melut	386K	71K	17K	130K	34K	51K	87K	23K	8K	85K	57K	949K	1M	+17%	+17%	873K	193	154
Renk	273K	81K	17K	162K	34K	51K	18K	23K	8K	98K	57K	820K	943K	+15%	+15%	755K	167	134
Ulang	495K	76K	18K	145K	34K	51K	37K	23K	8K	135K	57K	1M	1M	+11%	+11%	987K	218	174
Warrap																		
Abyei Region	401K	140K	27K	175K	34K	51K	7K	23K	8K	95K	57K	1M	1M	+11%	+11%	936K	207	166
Gogrial East	320K	87K	24K	105K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	90K	57K	830K	954K	+19%	+19%	763K	169	135
Gogrial West	329K	66K	15K	113K	34K	51K	21K	23K	8K	62K	57K	777K	894K	+14%	+14%	715K	158	126
Tonj East	340K	81K	15K	106K	34K	51K	15K	23K	8K	72K	57K	802K	923K	+13%	+13%	738K	163	130
Tonj North	353K	62K	17K	116K	34K	51K	22K	23K	8K	80K	57K	822K	946K	+11%	+11%	757K	167	134
Tonj South	318K	87K	24K	131K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	90K	57K	853K	981K	+19%	+19%	784K	174	139
Twic	349K	60K	17K	143K	34K	51K	36K	23K	8K	84K	57K	861K	990K	+6%	+6%	792K	175	140
Western Bahr el Ghazal																		
Jur River	379K	79K	16K	145K	34K	51K	13K	23K	8K	85K	57K	890K	1M	+18%	+18%	819K	181	145
Raja	295K	72K	18K	100K	34K	51K	15K	23K	8K	55K	57K	727K	837K	+11%	+11%	669K	147	118
Western Equatoria																		
Ezo	193K	117K	21K	151K	34K	51K	31K	23K	8K	72K	57K	757K	871K	-1%	-1%	697K	154	123
Ibba	174K	79K	14K	145K	34K	51K	45K	23K	8K	30K	57K	659K	758K	+8%	+8%	606K	133	106
Maridi	201K	79K	14K	145K	34K	51K	45K	23K	8K	45K	57K	702K	807K	+14%	+14%	646K	143	114
Mundri West	154K	106K	16K	102K	34K	51K	42K	23K	8K	75K	57K	668K	768K	+2%	+2%	615K	136	109
Nzara	151K	69K	17K	181K	34K	51K	90K	23K	8K	85K	57K	765K	880K	+13%	+13%	704K	155	124
Tambura	174K	77K	16K	127K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	80K	57K	677K	779K	+15%	+15%	623K	138	110
Yambio	222K	60K	16K	103K	34K	51K	9K	23K	8K	90K	57K	673K	774K	NA	NA	619K	137	110
Median	351K	79K	17K	145K	34K	51K	30K	23K	8K	85K	57K	879K	1M	+11%	+11%	809K	178	143

The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)

represents the estimated monthly cost of goods and services required by a typical household to meet its essential needs through the market. It includes critical goods, services, utilities, and commodities identified by humanitarian clusters as necessary for survival and a minimum living standard.

To calculate the **Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)**, only a proportion of each sectoral MEB is included, reflecting the minimum expenditure required for household survival. The current inclusion rates are: Food (50%, except in the Priority 8 counties of Ulang, Nasir, Duk, Fangak, and Canal Pigi where 70% is used), WASH (20%), Shelter (20%), NFI (20%), Protection/GBV (50%), Health (50%), Energy (30%), Education (30%), Communication (100%), Milling Costs (50%), and Transport Allowance (20%). All calculations use the official USD–SSP exchange rate. The resulting sectoral values are combined to derive the SMEB. The MSSMEB is a subset of the SMEB (page 2).

The Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)

transfer value is derived from the SMEB. An additional 15% buffer is applied for inflation and market volatility, resulting in the MPC value. Regular MPCA transfer values are then set at 80% of the MPC value. Transfer values are based on a CWG-selected reference month and reflected in Table 3. The **reference month** is reviewed and updated periodically based on SMEB trend monitoring to ensure transfer values remain representative of market conditions. For markets not included in **Table 3**, the most recent data in **Table 4** or the neighbouring market should be used.

MPC Trends Since Reference Month

Compared with July 2026, MPC values increased by 15% or more in **Ayod** (17%), **Aweil East** (16%), **Baliet** (21%), **Melut** (17%), **Gogerial East** (19%), **Renk** (15%), **Tonj South** (19%), **Jur River** (18%), and **Tambura** (15%).

These markets will be monitored for increases in September.

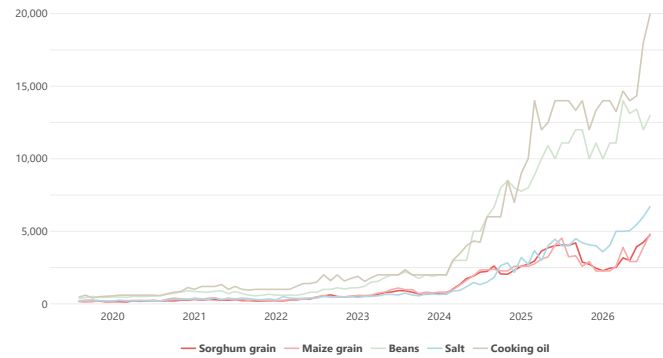
PRICES OF MONITORED ITEMS

Table 5: Median prices of monitored items and % change of prices from previous month and last year

Item	Unit	Median price in SSP	Change since July 2026	Change since Aug 2025	Median price in USD
Food Items					
Sorghum grain	1 kg	4,764	▲12%	▲18%	0.84
Maize grain	1 kg	4,859	▲25%	▲50%	0.86
Wheat flour	1 kg	12,500	▲4%	▲48%	2.21
Rice	1 kg	10,844	▼1%	▲20%	1.92
Groundnuts	1 kg	4,539	▲9%	▲4%	0.80
Beans	1 kg	13,000	▲8%	▲17%	2.30
Sugar	1 kg	12,000	▲20%	▲33%	2.12
Salt	1 kg	6,730	▲12%	▲68%	1.19
Cooking oil	1 L	20,000	▲11%	▲43%	3.53
Non-Food Items					
Soap	200 g	3,333	▲11%	▲43%	0.59
Jerrycan	1 pc	23,750	▲19%	▲48%	4.20
Mosquito net	1 pc	25,500	▼5%	▼22%	4.50
Exercise book	1 pc	5,500	▲10%	▲24%	0.97
Blanket	1 pc	45,000	►0%	►0%	7.95
Cooking pot	1 pc	52,500	▲1%	▲5%	9.27
Plastic sheet	1 pc	113,500	▲35%	▲60%	20.05
Pole	1 pc	15,000	▲36%	▲50%	2.65
Firewood	1 bun	10,000	►0%	▲5%	1.77
Charcoal	1 kg	1,638	▲28%	▲41%	0.29
Rubber rope	1 roll	18,250	▲11%	▲16%	3.22
Kanga	1 roll	60,000	▲20%	▲9%	10.60
Solar lamp	1 pc	45,000	▼10%	►0%	7.95
Plastic bucket	1 pc	30,000	▲20%	▲20%	5.30
Sanitary pads	1 pc	10,000	▲25%	▲82%	1.77
Pen	1 pc	2,000	►0%	▲48%	0.35
Pencil	1 pc	1,000	►0%	►0%	0.18
Rubber	1 pc	1,000	▲60%	▲100%	0.18
Sharpener	1 pc	1,000	►0%	▲100%	0.18
Sleeping mat	1 pc	82,750	▲1%	▲3%	14.62
Bamboo	1 bun	15,000	►0%	▼3%	2.65
Underwear	1 pc	15,000	►0%	▲25%	2.65
School bag	1 pc	66,500	▲11%	▲21%	11.75
Bra	1 pc	17,000	▼6%	▲70%	3.00
Grass	1 bun	15,000	►0%	▼25%	2.65
Livestock					
Goat	1 goat	260,000	▲4%	▼5%	45.93
Chicken	1 chicken	35,000	▲4%	▲17%	6.18
Services					
Milling costs	1 kg	1,143	►0%	▲33%	0.20
Currencies					
US Dollar	1 USD	7,625	▲16%	▲24%	
Sudanese Pound	1 SDG	na	na	na	
Ethiopian Birr	1 ETB	na	na	na	
Ugandan Shilling	1 UGX	na	na	na	
Kenya Shilling	1 KES	na	na	na	

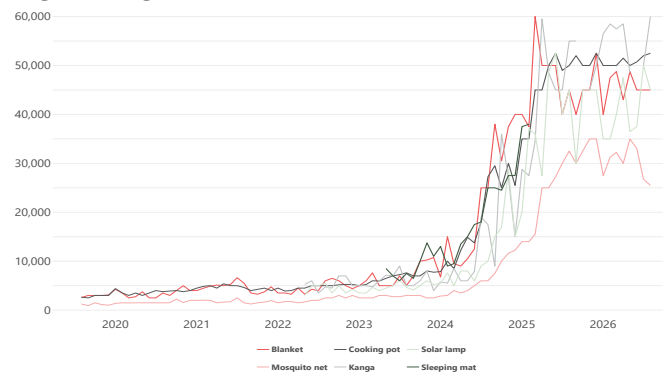
MEDIAN FOOD MEB PRICES OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



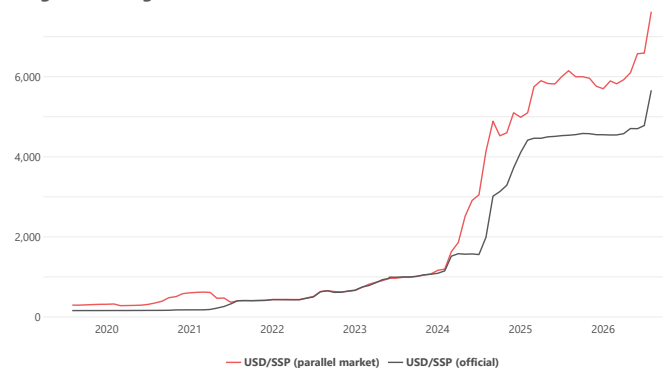
MEDIAN NFI MEB PRICES OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



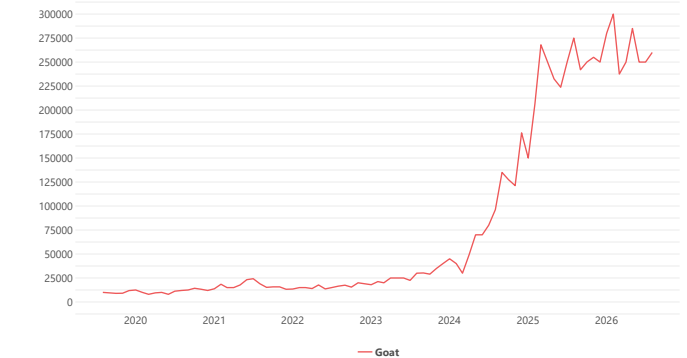
USD EXCHANGE RATE OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



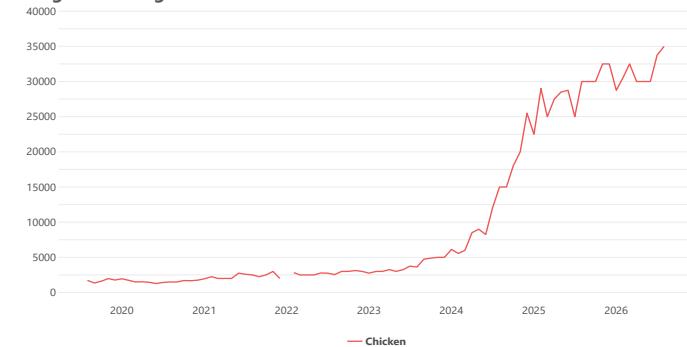
MEDIAN GOAT PRICES OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



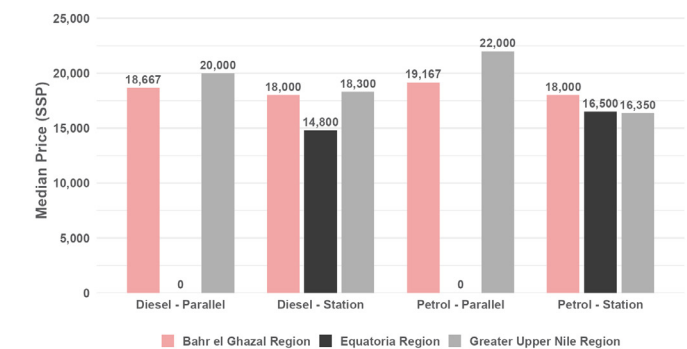
MEDIAN CHICKEN PRICES OVER TIME

Aug 2019 - August 2026 in SSP



There is a gap in July 2022 because prices for chicken were not collected.

MEDIAN FUEL PRICES PER LITER IN Aug (SSP)



Key Findings

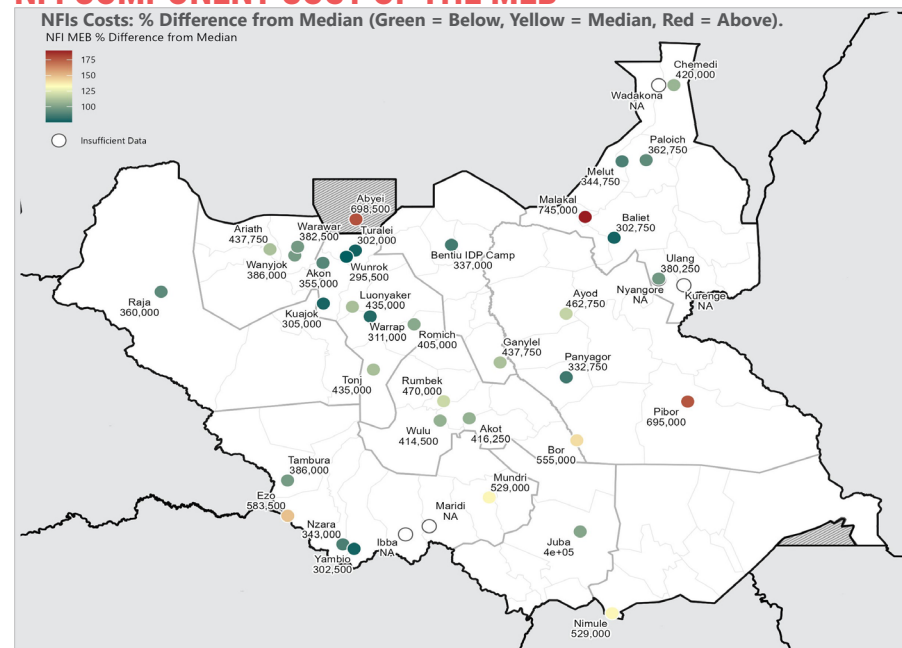
The Non-Food Item (NFI) basket cost increased by 5% in August, reversing the 6% decrease recorded in July indicating a move from declining to rising NFI prices.

Despite the overall increase, Abyei, Malakal Town, and Pibor Town recorded the highest NFI prices.

This suggests that localized market pressures remained significant, possibly due to differences in supply, transportation, and market access.

Overall, the August increase indicates rising pressure on household expenditure for essential non-food items, while the high prices in specific markets highlight the need for continued monitoring of localized price trends.

NFI COMPONENT COST OF THE MEB



NA: no sufficient price data is available for calculating the NFI component cost of the MEB.

Median cost of NFIs & Shelter MEB¹

NFIs MEB	Shelter MEB
393,000 SSP	724,500 SSP
69 USD ³	128 USD ³

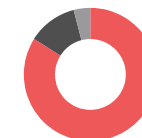
Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 19,000 SSP +5%	▲ 68,500 SSP +10%
▼ 9 USD -12%	▼ 9 USD -7%

NFI components of the MEB

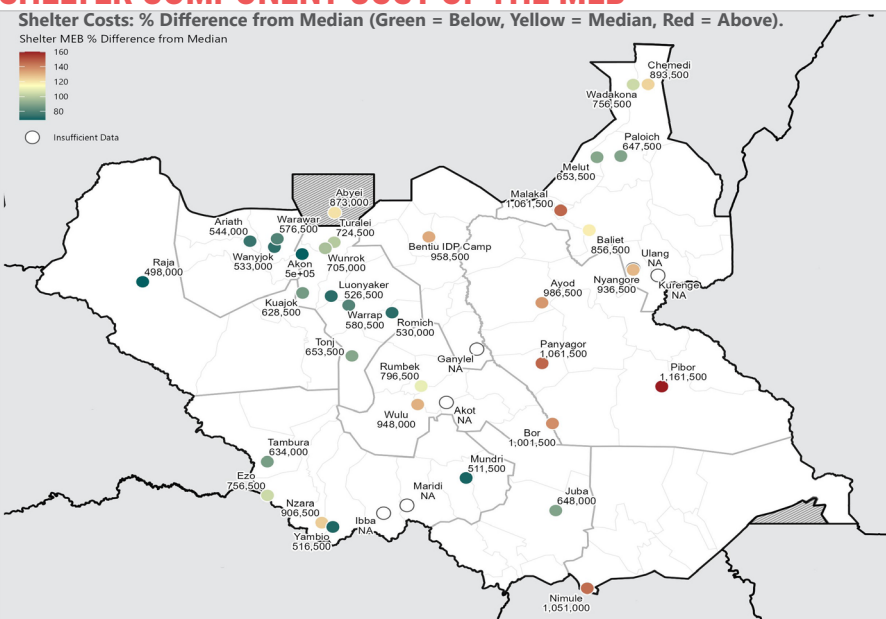
Blanket	2 Pcs	Kanga	1 Pc
Mosquito net	2 Pcs	Solar lamp	1 Pc
Cooking pot	1 Pc	Sleeping mat	2 Pcs

Expectations for NFI prices over the next three months



84% Expected increase
12% No change expected
4% Unsure/Don't know

SHELTER COMPONENT COST OF THE MEB



NA: no sufficient price data is available for calculating the Shelter component cost of the MEB.

Shelter components of the MEB

Grass	20 Bundles	Bamboo	2 Bundles
Plastic sheet	2 Pcs	Poles	6 Pcs
Rubber rope	2 Pcs		

Key Findings

The shelter component of the MEB increased by 10% in August 2026, reversing the 9% decline recorded in July and indicating a shift toward rising shelter costs. Pibor, Malakal, Panyagor, Bentiu IDP Camp, Ayod, Bor, Wulu, Nimule, and Yambio recorded the highest shelter costs, suggesting continued localized price pressures. The increase may place additional pressure on household expenditure and overall living costs, particularly in markets where shelter prices remain elevated.

NFIs traders reporting to stock from wholesalers in town:



29% Yes
71% No

Median time to restock period reported by the vendors



4 days

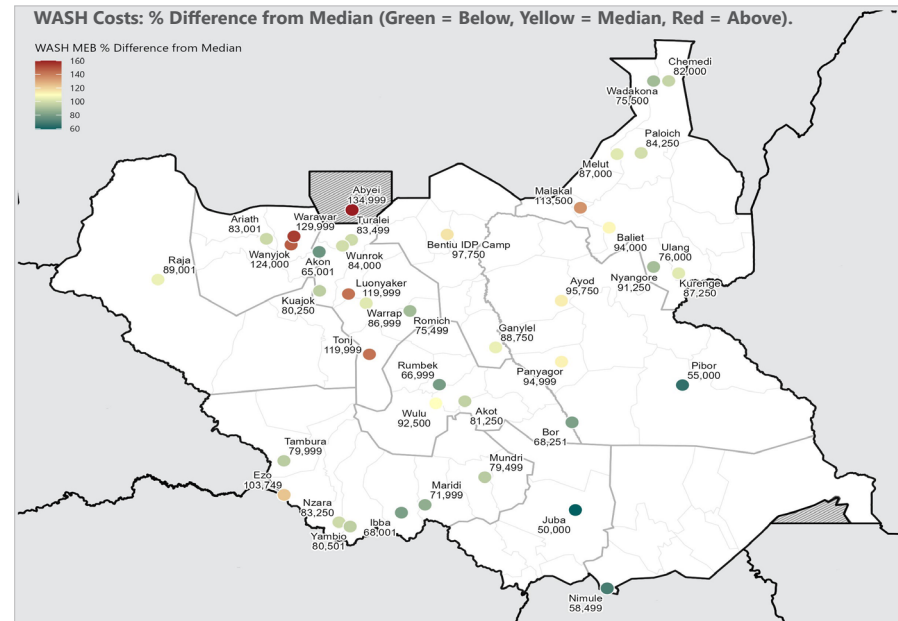
Median number of days reported by traders to restock NFIs from out of town

Key Findings

Although the WASH component of the MEB decreased in July, several markets continued to record relatively high WASH costs in August, particularly Ezo, Wanyjok, Warawar, Luonyaker, Tonj, and Malakal. In July, the highest costs were recorded in Ezo, Pibor, Abyei, Wulu, and Ayod.

The comparison shows a clear shift in the geographic distribution of WASH cost pressures. While Ezo remained among the higher cost markets, several new locations emerged in August, replacing some of the markets that recorded the highest costs in July. This indicates that WASH-related cost pressures varied across locations and changed over time, highlighting the need for continued monitoring of local market conditions.

WASH COMPONENT COST OF THE MEB



Median Cost of WASH MEB¹

84,250 SSP

15 USD³Monthly change since July 2026⁴

▲ 12,249 SSP +17%

▼ 0 USD -0%

WASH components of the MEB

Soap bar (1800 g)	3 Pcs
Sanitary pads	2 Pcs
Plastic bucket	1 Pc
Jerrycan	1 Pc

MAIN NFI SUPPLY ROUTES



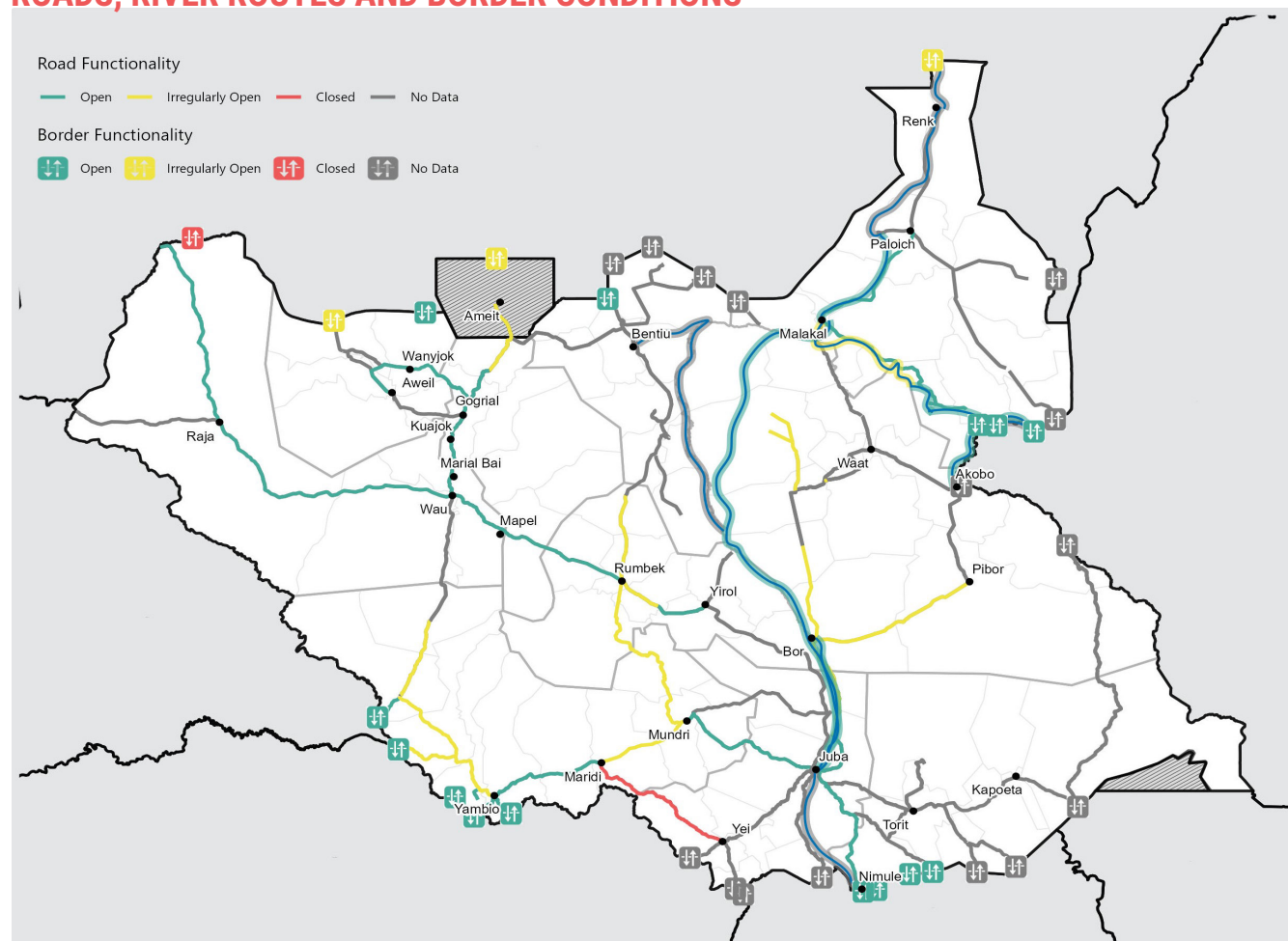
Key Findings

In August 2026, most supply routes remained unchanged compared with July, with three additional routes reported: Uganda to Nimule, Renk to Chamed, and Juba to Paguir. However, transport conditions remained challenging of routes and transportation routes, for example Juba to Nimule highway, a key corridor for imported goods. [Eye Radio](#) reported on 23 August 2026 that damaged and eroded sections of the road were causing delays for cargo trucks, passenger buses, and other road users, potentially increasing transport costs and delivery times along the corridor.

Primary transportation methods used by traders to restock local cereals

Car	62%	
Boda (Motorcycle)	14%	
Truck	10%	
Boat	9%	
People (porters)	2%	
Bicycle	1%	
Canoe	1%	
Tractor	1%	

ROADS, RIVER ROUTES AND BORDER CONDITIONS

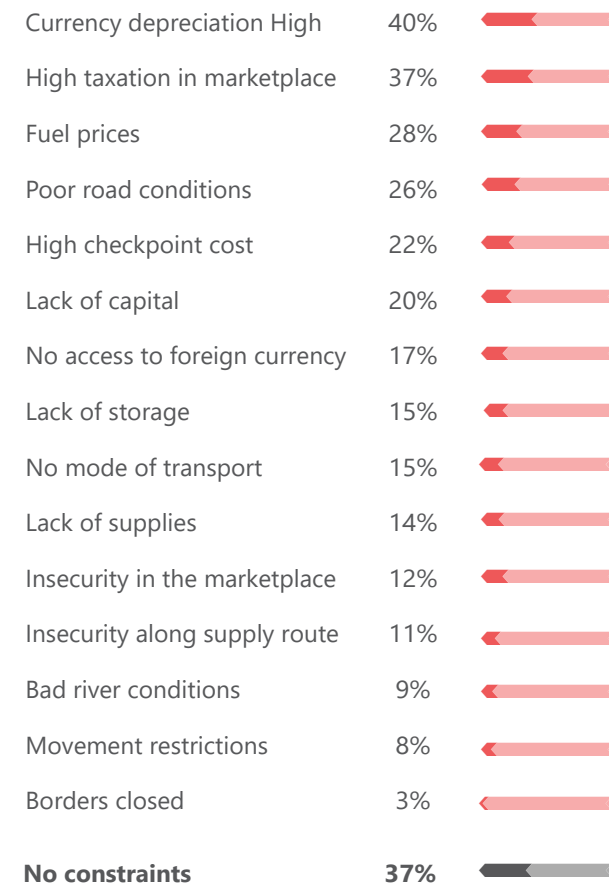


This map illustrates the reported road, river route and border crossing conditions at the time of data collection. The results are indicative of trade activity only.

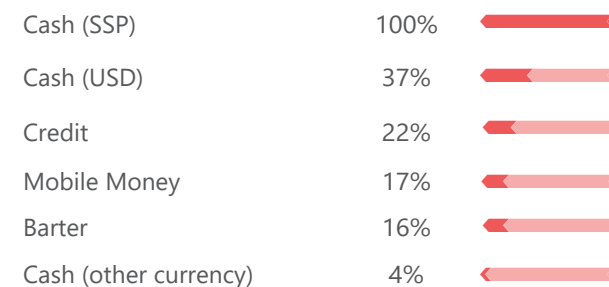
Seasonal road closures continued to constrain market supply in both July and August 2026. In both months, the Raja border crossing and the South Sudan–Sudan trade corridor via Raja remained closed, indicating persistent disruption to cross-border trade.

In July, additional closures were reported along the Tonj to Wau, Lankien to Waat, Duk Padiet to Waat, Waat to Akobo, and Pibor to Akobo routes. In August, closures were reported along the Maridi to Yei route, indicating a shift in the areas affected by seasonal flooding and road inaccessibility. Overall, while the Raja corridor remained consistently disrupted, the additional affected routes changed between July and August. These closures continued to restrict the movement of goods and traders, limit market accessibility, disrupt supply chains, and increase transportation costs, contributing to continued price pressures in affected markets.

Restocking constraints reported by traders*



Accepted payment modalities*

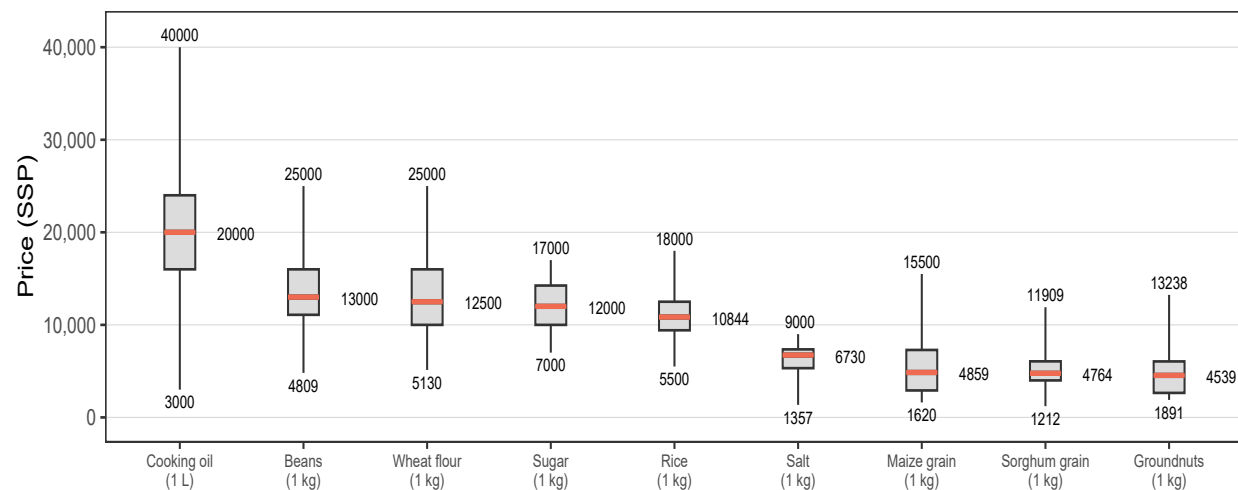


* Values add up to more than 100% as traders were allowed to select multiple options.

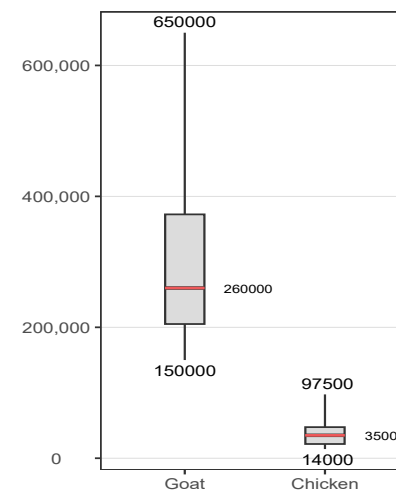
APPENDIX

Distribution of Prices

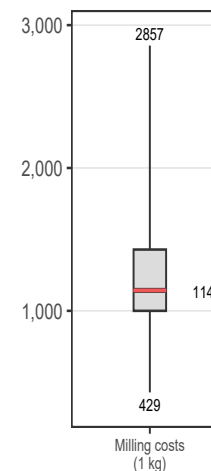
Food Items



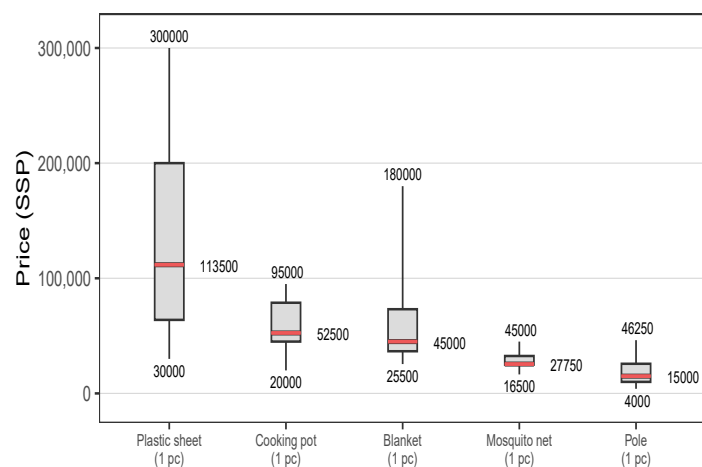
Livestock



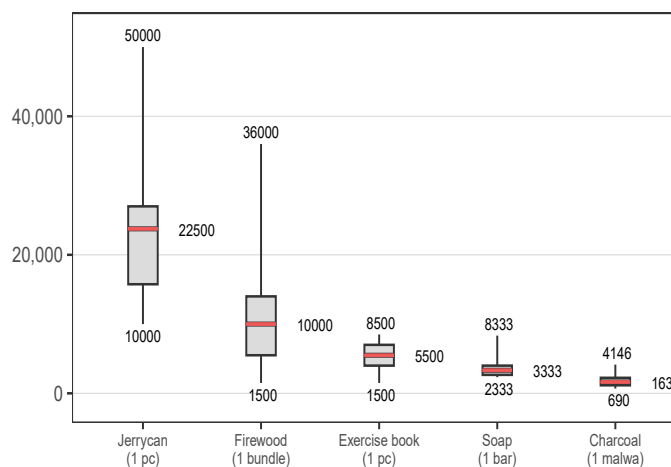
Services



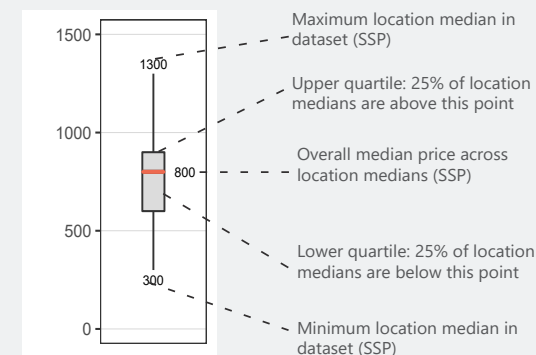
NFIs 1



NFIs 2



How to read a boxplot



Methodology

The JMMI aims to inform market-based programming in South Sudan. Coverage depends on the interest of the partner organisations and their field teams' capacities to regularly collect market data. Locations are added once partners willing to cover them are identified, and their field teams are trained. As the initiative continues to scale up, coverage will likely be expanded in future data collection rounds.

In each assessed location, at least four prices per food, non-food, and livestock items need to be collected from different traders to ensure the quality and consistency of the data. Two prices are collected for both currencies and milling costs. In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the prices of the cheapest available types are recorded for each item.

Partner field teams identify traders to assess based on the following criteria:

- Traders are retailers selling directly to consumers.
- Traders with weight scales are prioritised when recording prices of dry food items.
- Traders need to be representative of the local price level.
- To the extent possible, the same traders are revisited in every data collection round.

The data is collected by field staff familiar with the local market conditions. They are trained on methodology and tools by REACH. Data collection is conducted through the ODK Collect mobile application. The data collection tool is published alongside the dataset every month and disseminated to the humanitarian community. Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partner data, normalizing prices, cross-checking outliers, and calculating the median cost of an MSSMEB in each assessed location.

The median item prices reported in this factsheet are 'location medians', designed to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations.

First, the median prices of all assessed items are calculated within each assessed location; then, REACH calculates the median of this list of medians. All MSSMEB and price index calculations are created using this method.

MSSMEB Calculation

- The cost of the MSSMEB is calculated by multiplying the median price of each item in the respective location by the quantity listed in the table on page 3.
- Sorghum grain prices are used for the calculation of the cereal component, and maize grain prices for areas where maize is more commonly consumed. In areas where both cereals are consumed equally, the price of the cheaper item is used.
- Bean prices are used for the pulse component.
- Rather than the prices of vegetable oil, the prices of the cheapest locally available cooking oil is used.
- For airtime, a monthly cost of 1 USD is assumed, based on the rates of local telecom providers.
- All USD amounts are converted to SSP using the official rates of Central Bank of South Sudan.
- If a component of the MSSMEB is unavailable in a location, the overall median price is used for the calculation of the index.

In addition to data collected from traders, partners are required to complete a feedback form on market conditions, which is used to triangulate the trader data.

More details on the methodology can be found in the JMMI terms of reference (ToR).

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative for the time frame within which it was collected. Prices may vary between data collection rounds.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across regions.

Therefore, price comparisons across regions may be based on slightly varying products.

- Standardising unit sizes of dry food items is inherently difficult in South Sudan, as many traders sell commodities by volume rather than weight. This may create a measurement error.
- With current coverage, data is mostly collected from main markets, which may not be representative of rural areas.
- As the JMMI continues to expand and is extended to additional locations, the reported changes in the overall median prices may be driven by shifts in coverage rather than actual price changes.

Participating agencies in August⁵

- ACF
- ACTED
- Caritas
- Concern WorldWide
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- DROP in the bucket's
- GOAL
- IOM
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Nile Hope (NH)
- Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
- Save the Children
- Solidarite's International
- Spedp
- Star Trust Organization (STO)
- VSF-SUISSI
- Youth Affairs Centre for Africa (YACA)

We would love your feedback!

Please take a moment to fill out our short feedback form by scanning the QR code below.

Your input helps us improve the quality and relevance of our reports. Thank you!



Endnotes

¹ The MSSMEB is calculated in each assessed location as described in the methodology box on the left and only includes key items. The overall MSSMEB is the median across all assessed locations.

² The food basket is composed of only the food items in the MSSMEB. The overall cost of the food basket is the median across all assessed locations.

³ Source: Central Bank of South Sudan (2020, November 1). Retrieved from <https://www.boss.gov.ss>. The rates from 13th August 2026 were used for the calculation of the monthly change and conversion to USD.

⁴ Reported changes are month-over-month and may be impacted by changes in coverage.

⁵ The number of participating agencies indicates the total number of partner organisations that collected data in August 2026.

⁶ The prices were normalised by setting August 2019 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in August 2019.

⁷ The Multipurpose Cash (MPC) is a cash transfer guide that has been designed to address multiple needs, with the transfer value calculated accordingly in the assessed locations.

⁸ The SMEB and MPC calculate that 70% of the food basket is to be covered in the priority counties while 50% will be covered in other counties. The list of priority counties was recommended by the FSL Cluster, in agreement with the CWG, in January 2026. The priorities were revised from Aweil East, Duk, Nyirol, Pibor, and Rubkona to Ulang, Nasir, Duk, Fangak, and Canal Pigi.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES



JMMI OUTPUTS 2026

Datasets	Factsheets
January	January
February	February
March	March
April	April
May	May
June	June
July	July
August	

2025

Datasets	Factsheets
January	January
February	February
March	March
April	April
May	May
June	June
July	July
August	August
September	September
October	October
November	November
December	December

JMMI factsheets & datasets can be accessed through the [Dashboard](#)

About REACH

REACH is a leading humanitarian initiative that collects primary data and produces in-depth analysis to help aid actors make evidence-based decisions in support of crisis-affected people. With this in mind, our flagship research programmes aim to inform the prioritisation of aid according to levels of need - both crisis-level planning and targeted rapid response - as well as decisions around appropriate modalities of aid.

Through our team of assessment, data, geospatial, and thematic specialists, we promote the design of people-centred research and set standards for collecting and analysing rigorous, high quality data in complex environments. Visit us at www.reach-initiative.org

About the CWG

Established in 2019, the South Sudan Cash Working Group (CWG) is a community of humanitarian actors that support and coordinate cash-based interventions in South Sudan. Currently, CWG is co-led by OCHA, WFP, Save the Children, and CH who provide technical support and leadership to the CWG hosted by IOM.