

INTRODUCTION

The Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was launched by REACH in collaboration with the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster and the Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) to support humanitarian actors with the harmonisation of price monitoring among all cash actors in Yemen. With the current global COVID-19 pandemic, REACH has adapted the JMMI to begin assessing the potential impact of the pandemic on markets and on respondent businesses. The JMMI continues to collect price data for fuel, water, and hygiene products, including all the components of the WASH Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB). In addition, new indicators specific to the COVID-19 crisis and its potential impact on markets are now being tracked on a bi-weekly basis from April 2020.* Additional methodology can be found in the [full JMMI fact sheet](#).

*May Round 2 - May 27th to June 4th, June Round 1 - June 14th to June 18th

KEY FINDINGS: 14 - 18 JUNE, 2020

- There have reportedly been minimal store closures in the two weeks prior to data collection.
- Nearly 25% of vendors reported facing additional difficulties added difficulty acquiring goods due to disruptions caused by COVID-19.
- The price of water trucking was reported to have increased by 150%, which has caused an increase in the overall SMEB cost.
- Petrol and diesel were some of the more difficult goods to obtain according to vendors.
- Restocking times for WASH goods was higher than fuel restocking times.
- The ability of vendors to adapt to changing demand of 50% and 100% has reportedly continued to decrease.
- High volatility in fuel prices has been seen throughout various governorates (see pg 2).

Price tracking for key items: 3 months (YER)

Items	Mar-20	May(R2)-20	Jun(R1)-20	Change (from May R2)
WASH SMEB*	11300	8942	14903	+66.7%
Soap (100g)	150	150	158	+5.3%
Laundry powder (100g)	120	119	118	-0.8%
Sanitary napkins (10 Pack)	512	525	520	-1.0%
Water trucking (1m ³)	2000	1250	3125	+150%
Petrol (1L)	365	295	295	0.0%[^]
Diesel (1L)	430	345	345	0.0%[^]
Bottled water (0.75L)	138	150	139	-7.3%
Treated water (10L)	120	112	100	-10.7%
Bleach (1L)	NA	675	750	+11.1%

*Contains soap (10.5 Kg), laundry powder (2 Kg), sanitary napkins (20 units), and water (3.15 m³)

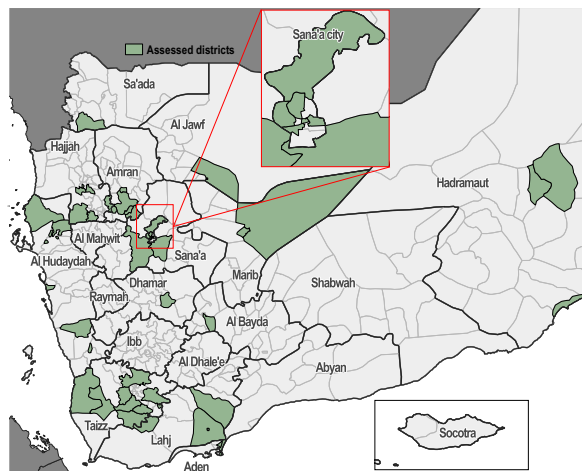
[^] High volatility in the governorate prices

Exchange rate (YER/USD)*

Governorate	Mar 2020	May (R2) 2020	Jun (R1) 2020
Aden	658 (658)	688 (688)	720 (735)
Al Bayda	596 (596)	598	610
Al Hudaydah	595 (597)	598	691 (748)
Al Jawf	650	670	618
Amran	595	599	730 (725)
Dhamar	595	601	730
Hadramaut	NA	NA	620 (682)
Hajjah	594	598	671 (713)
Ibb	592	598	NA
Lahj	654 (654)	686 (687)	620 (688)
Marib	628	690	677 (735)
Sa'ada	598	599	750
Sana'a	595	598	687 (730)
Sana'a City	598 (628)	597	711 (730)
Taizz	654 (656)	680 (685)	701 (730)

*Exchange rate for the new currency released last year is in parenthesis

ASSESSED DISTRICTS



COVID-19 MARKET INDICATORS

Business closures

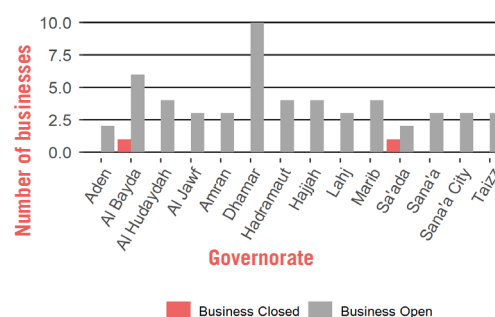
Average Number of Nearby Businesses Open[^]



Average Number of Nearby Businesses Closed[^]



Average business closures by governorate[^]



[^]Average number reported for the respondent's stores within a two-minute walk and in the two weeks prior

Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' businesses

Overall, **79** respondents indicated that there has been a negative change, while **58** respondents saw a positive change, in the amount of customers they have seen over the two weeks prior to data collection. The graph to the right highlights how many of those businesses have seen change in the number of clientele in the two weeks prior to data collection.

Of the **234** respondents surveyed, **24.4%** stated that they had difficulty obtaining key commodities due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 (was **19.3%** in May Round 2).

Top 3 most difficult goods to obtain according to vendors*

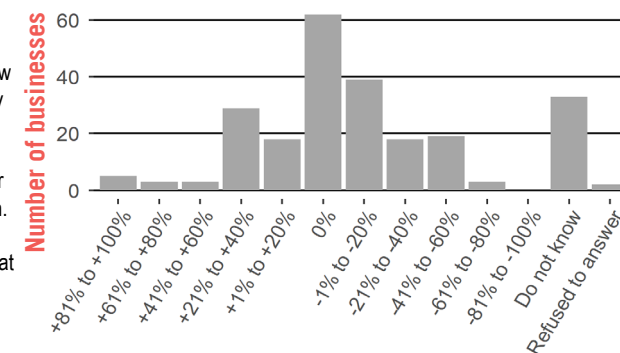
Petrol	52.6%
Diesel	47.4%
Cooking gas	35.1%

Previous JMMI List (May Round 2, 2020)

Cooking gas	42.2%
Sanitary napkins	31.1%
Diesel	26.7%

*Based on the responses from the 24.4% of vendors who had difficulty obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

Reported change in amount of customers



Top 3 COVID-19 related constraints according to vendors*

Imported item less available	40.4%
Not enough demand	29.8%
Not enough supply / Transportation / Increased checkpoints	28.1%

Previous JMMI List (May Round 1, 2020)

Imported item less available	62.0%
Not enough supply	50.0%
Not enough demand	30.0%

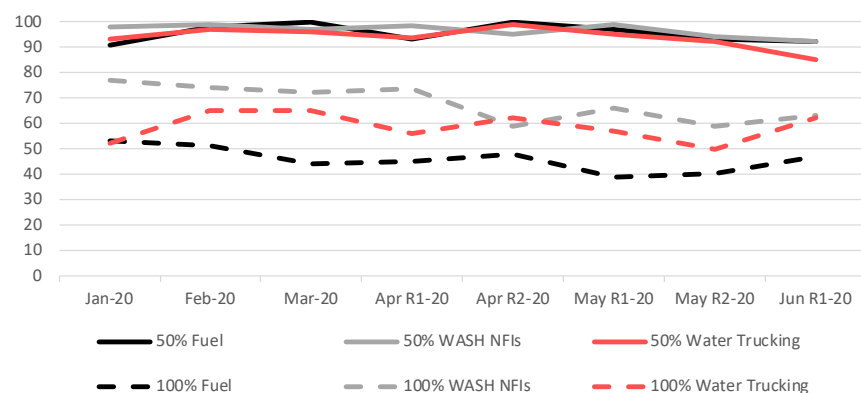
*Based on the responses from the 24.4% of vendors who had difficulty obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

MARKET INDICATORS AND PRICES

Vendor capacity to respond to a sudden increase in demand

To understand vendor capacity to cope with sudden increases in the demand for water trucking, fuel, and WASH items, vendor KIs were asked if they would be able to increase their stock by 50% and 100% respectively. Responses indicated that KIs are better able to absorb a 50% increase in demand, compared to a 100% increase in demand, regardless of the item in question.

Proportion of Vendors able to absorb a 50% and 100% increase in demand for key items



Average reported restocking time (days)*

Governorate	Fuel Items	WASH Items
Aden	2 (-2)	6 (4)
Al Bayda	NA (NA)	16 (NA)
Al Hudaydah	7 (-1)	4 (-3)
Al Jawf	5 (0)	2 (-2)
Amran	NA (NA)	5 (-9)
Dhamar	1 (-1)	18 (15)
Hadramaut	4 (NA)	3 (NA)
Hajjah	8 (-1)	10 (1)
Lahj	6 (2)	3 (-2)
Marib	17 (5)	4 (-7)
Sa'ada	NA (NA)	2 (-4)
Sana'a	NA (NA)	7 (6)
Sana'a City	5 (-2)	7 (5)
Taizz	6 (-3)	5 (-1)

*Change in days from May Round 2 JMIMI in brackets

Top 3 reported economic constraints for fuel vendors*

Price inflation	66.7%
Transportation	28.2%
Insecurity	22.2%

Top 3 reported economic constraints for WASH NFI vendors*

Price inflation	75.5%
Transportation	30.3%
Shortage of demand	22.6%

Top 3 reported economic constraints for water trucking vendors*

Price inflation	66.2%
Transportation	35.1%
Shortage of supply	20.8%

*Values do not add up to 100% as vendor KIs were allowed to select multiple options. Shortage of demand was 16.2% for fuel and 15.6% for water trucking

Median commodity prices per governorate, June 14th - June 18th 2020 (YER)

Governorate	Petrol (1L)	Diesel (1L)	Bottled water (0.75L)	Treated water (10L)	Bleach (1L)	Soap (1 Unit)	Laundry powder (100g)	Sanitary napkins (10)	Water trucking (1m³)	WASH SMEB
Aden	190	310	100	130	800	158	120	500	4000	17659
Al Bayda	295	345	100	170	600	138	100	500	4575	18860
Al Hudaydah	750	500	139	116	853	175	105	520	3000	14428
Al Jawf	765	NA	150	125	725	150	118	500	3167	14911
Amran	NA	NA	125	112	900	185	122	575	3167	15509
Dhamar	295	345	108	50	600	120	125	500	1083	8171
Hadramaut	285	290	120	120	725	150	120	550	3000	14525
Hajjah	1000	600	150	150	700	150	110	550	4375	18656
Lahj	195	315	125	100	800	175	118	588	3125	15216
Marib	175	310	140	100	688	150	118	500	4100	17837
Sa'ada	295	345	200	100	800	145	120	575	NA	NA
Sana'a	NA	345	160	100	750	180	136	600	2000	12110
Sana'a City	295	345	142	100	750	150	119	500	2125	11649
Taizz	300	345	120	112	738	172	103	550	3000	14421

Payment modalities accepted by vendors*

Modality	Fuel Vendors	WASH NFI Vendors	Water Trucking Vendors
Bartering	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Cash	99.1% (-0.2%)	99.4% (-0.6%)	100% (+1.1%)
Credit	17.1% (+8.2%)	36.1% (+11.2%)	16.9% (+7%)
Credit / debit card	0.9% (-0.5%)	0.6% (-0.6%)	0% (-2.2%)
Mobile money	0% (-)	0.6% (-0.6%)	0% (-)
Prepaid cards	3.4% (+3.4%)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Vouchers	3.4% (+3.4%)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Other	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Do not know	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)

*The percentage change from the May Round 2 JMIMI is in brackets

ABOUT REACH'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

As an initiative deployed in many vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, REACH is deeply concerned by the devastating impact the COVID-19 pandemic may have on the millions of affected people we seek to serve. REACH is currently working with Cash Working Groups and partners to scale up its programming in response to this pandemic, with the goal of identifying practical ways to inform humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments are a key area where REACH aims to leverage its existing expertise to help humanitarian actors understand the impact of changing restrictions on markets and trade. Updates regarding REACH's response to COVID-19 can be found in [a devoted thread](#) on the REACH website. Contact geneva@impact-initiatives.org for further information.

PARTNER LIST



For more information, please visit our website at www.reach-initiative.org, or contact us directly at yemen@reach-initiative.org



CMWG | Intersector Cash and Market Working Group

REACH | Informing more effective humanitarian action