

Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMIMI) | Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camp (Kenya)

Q2 2025 (April - June)

MARKET OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

As of the end of June, 2025, the total number of registered refugees and asylum-seekers in Kenya stood at 854,876. The majority were hosted in Dadaab refugee camp (51%), followed by Kakuma refugee camp (36%).⁶

To facilitate humanitarian cash programming, the quarterly **Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMIMI)** was conducted to assess the availability and prices of essential commodities typically sold in markets and consumed by the average household.

This factsheet provides an overview of key foods and non-food items' (NFIs) prices and cost of the **Refugee Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)**¹ in the assessed camps. Additionally, it evaluates the supply chains along with the vendors' perceptions of the marketplace conditions and market functionality. Data collection for the Q2 2025 round was conducted from 3rd to 9th July across 12 markets (8 in Kakuma and 4 in Dadaab).

For more information on the methodology, please refer to [page 9](#).

Q2 2025 REFUGEE CAMP COVERAGE

312	Vendors interviewed
36	Commodities assessed
12	Markets assessed
6	Participating agencies
2	Camps assessed

KEY INDICATORS

Cost of Food MEB ¹	Cost of Non Food MEB ¹	Cost of MEB ¹
12,026 KES	4,398 KES	16,424 KES
92.82 USD ²	33.94 USD ²	126.76 USD ²
▼ 98 KES (1%) ³	▼ 258 KES (6%) ³	▼ 355 KES (2%) ³

ASSESSED REFUGEE CAMPS AND MEDIAN MEB VALUES

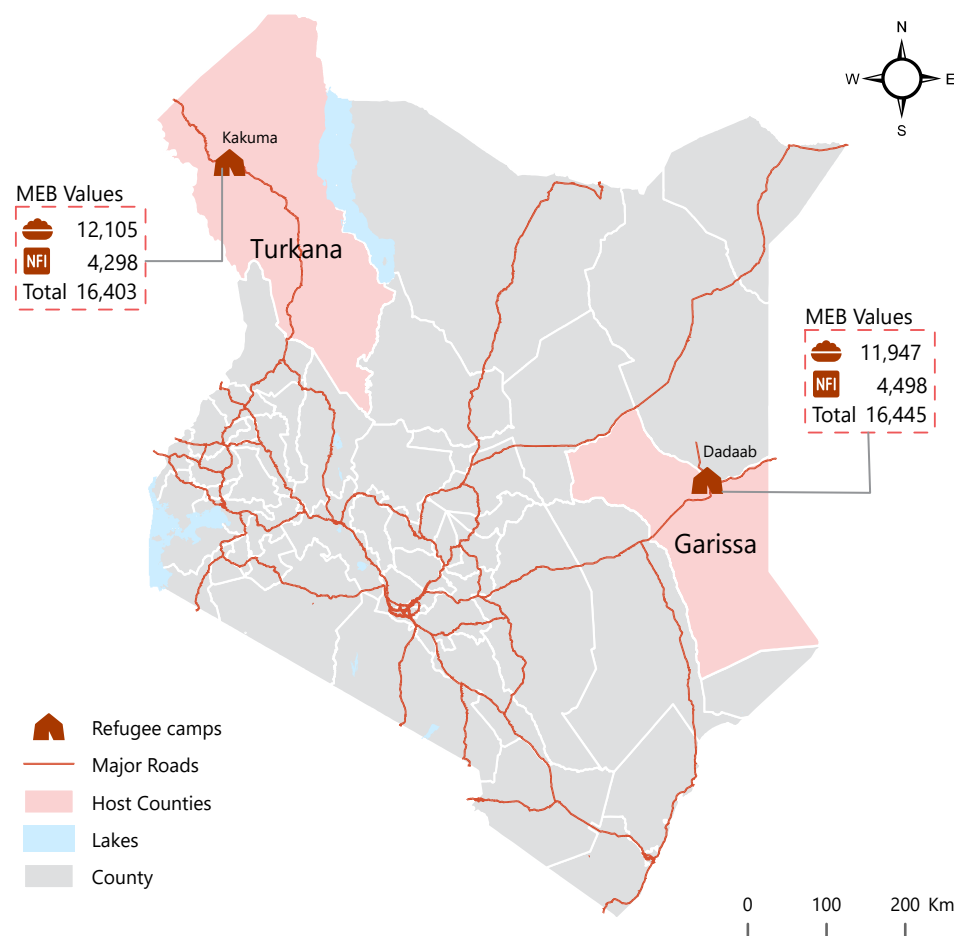


Figure 1: Map of the Q2 2025 assessed refugee camps and MEB values

KEY FINDINGS

- Overall, the **reduction in food prices can be attributed to the improved supply following the positive effects of the March-April-May (MAM) 2025 rains, which boosted agricultural productivity**, alongside ongoing government measures geared towards improving agriculture productivity.^{4,5}
- For the NFI MEB, the cost of the school items was found to have decreased in both camps**, likely due to the off-peak school season following the closure of the school term. Higher energy prices (charcoal and firewood) reflect the seasonal impact of the MAM 2025 long rains, which typically reduce supply of these commodities.
- A majority of vendors (overall 96%), reported facing challenges, including low demand (73%), lack of funds to restock (53%) and high prices (39%).
- While key goods remain physically accessible in both camps, vendors reported that customers increasingly cannot afford them. These findings suggest that economic affordability is the most significant constraint to market access for HHs.
- Assessed markets in both Dadaab and Kakuma face significant constraints in availability and affordability, with all markets classified as having poor functionality, and functionality declining in four markets compared to the [previous quarter](#).

REFUGEE MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (MEB)

The refugee MEB¹ is composed of essential commodities and services. The MEB is used as an operational tool to quantify the average minimum cost of the culturally adjusted basket of basic items required to support a five-person household for one month. Developed by the Kenya Cash Working Group (KCWG) through the MEB work-stream, it differs from the rural MEB¹ by specifically considering refugee needs. The cost of the refugee MEB serves as a proxy for a household's monthly expenditure on basic needs. Only the refugee MEB's key elements, i.e. food and NFIs as defined by the KCWG were incorporated into computing the refugee MEB.

Food Items	Quantity
Maize grain	21 Kg
Rice	21 Kg
Wheat flour	21 Kg
Oil, Vegetable	5.25 L
Dried beans	7.5 Kg
Cow milk, whole	15 Kg
Dark green leafy vegetables	15 Kg
Salt, Iodized	0.75 Kg
Sugar	0.75 Kg
Non-Food Items	Quantity
Multipurpose soap	2.75 Kg
Toothpaste	0.140 L
Tissue paper	8 pcs
Sanitary pads	4 packs of 8
Education (pen, pencil, ruler, book, rubber, sharpener)	1 kit
Firewood	1.5 bundles
Matchbox	2 boxes
Lighting cost	800 KES
National Health Coverage	500 KES
Public transport	1,000 KES

MEDIAN PRICE IN KES² OF ITEMS PER CAMP

Items	Unit	Dadaab	Change ³	Kakuma	Change ³
Food					
White maize	1kg	60	0%	70	0%
Maize flour	1kg	100	0%	90	▲ 12%
Wheat flour	1kg	100	0%	90	0%
Rice	1kg	110	▼ 8%	105	▼ 12%
Spaghetti	500g	80	0%	80	0%
Beans	1kg	130	0%	140	▲ 8%
Cowpeas	1kg	130	▼ 13%	150	▼ 17%
Cowpea leaves	1kg	100	0%	80	▲ 60%
Yellow split peas	1kg	100	0%	130	▼ 28%
Sugar	1kg	130	0%	170	▲ 6%
Vegetable oil	1lt	270	▼ 4%	300	0%
Salt	200g	10	0%	10	0%
Cattle milk	1lt	150	0%	160	0%
Camel milk	1lt	150	0%	200	▼ 7%
Goat meat	1kg	800	0%	650	0%
Camel meat	1kg	600	▼ 8%	600	0%
Onions	1kg	110	▼ 8%	100	0%
Tomatoes	1kg	50	▼ 38%	100	0%
Kale	1kg	100	0%	90	▲ 29%
WASH					
Tooth paste	50g	50	0%	100	▲ 100%
Tooth brush	1pc	50	0%	30	0%
Tissue paper	1pc	50	▼ 50%	30	0%
Bar soap	200g	50	0%	50	0%
Jerry can	1pc	150	0%	150	▼ 21%
Bucket	1pc	200	0%	200	▲ 33%
Pads	1pc	100	0%	100	0%
Education					
Pencils	1pc	10	0%	5	0%
Pens	1pc	10	▼ 50%	10	0%
Exercise books	1pc	20	▼ 20%	10	▼ 33%
Rubbers	1pc	10	0%	5	0%
Ruler	1pc	30	0%	30	0%
Geometric set	1pc	200	0%	100	0%
Sharpener	1pc	10	0%	5	0%
Cooking energy					
Charcoal	2kg	200	▲ 54%	80	▲ 60%
Matchbox	1pc	5	0%	5	0%
Firewood	1 bundle	100	0%	90	▲ 13%

COST OF THE MEB IN KES² AND CHANGE SINCE Q1 2025

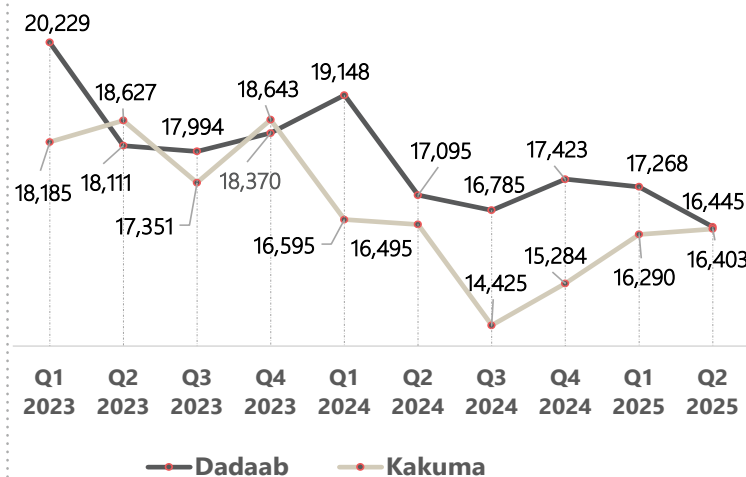
Camp	MEB ¹	Change ³	Food MEB	Change ³	NFI MEB	Change ³
Dadaab	16,445	▼ 5%	11,947	▼ 2%	4,498	▼ 11%
Kakuma	16,403	▲ 1%	12,105	▲ 1%	4,298	▲ 1%

Over the first six months of 2025, the MEB values between Kakuma and Dadaab have shown a convergence, suggesting that markets are becoming more aligned, possibly due to shared supply challenges and shifts in aid programming.

Between March and June 2025, the median cost of the refugee MEB followed opposite trends in the two camps. In Dadaab the MEB declined, mainly driven by lower prices of rice (-8%) and cooking oil (-4%). However, it remained slightly higher than that of Kakuma. In Kakuma, although rice prices also dropped, increases in kales (+29%) and sugar (+6%) contributed to a slight rise in the food basket cost.

Despite the increase in Kakuma's food MEB, food prices remained higher in **Turkana**, the host county. Over the years, staples including maize, rice, wheat flour and beans are generally cheaper in camps than in the host counties. Fresh produce including monitored vegetables prices are often higher and volatile in camps.

EVOLUTION OF THE REFUGEE MEB IN KES² PER CAMP OVER TIME



KEY
 2 ▼ Decrease ▲ Increase • No change

AVAILABLE STOCK, TIME NEEDED TO RESTOCK, AND CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF ITEMS IN THE MARKET PER CAMP

Items ⁷ -Dadaab	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)	Items ⁷ -Kakuma	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)
White maize	41%	59%	15	0	White maize	88%	12%	25	1
Maize flour	81%	19%	10	0	Maize flour	100%	0%	25	1
Wheat flour	97%	3%	10	0	Wheat flour	100%	0%	30	1
Rice	94%	6%	14	0	Rice	100%	0%	30	1
Spaghetti	97%	3%	10	0	Spaghetti	96%	4%	25	1
Beans	79%	21%	15	0	Beans	88%	12%	28	1
Cowpeas	30%	70%	14	0	Cowpeas	67%	33%	30	1
Cowpeas leaves	29%	71%	1	0	Cowpeas leaves	50%	50%	2	1
Yellow split peas	31%	69%	15	0	Yellow split peas	76%	24%	30	1
Sugar	90%	10%	14	0	Sugar	100%	0%	20	1
Vegetable oil	93%	7%	14	0	Vegetable oil	100%	0%	30	1
Salt	94%	6%	17	0	Salt	100%	0%	30	1
Cattle milk	47%	53%	1	0	Cattle milk	100%	0%	14	1
Camel milk	67%	33%	1	0	Camel milk	0%	100%	3	2
Goat meat	53%	47%	1	0	Goat meat	25%	75%	1	1
Camel meat	70%	30%	1	0	Camel meat	30%	70%	1	1
Onions	83%	17%	7	0	Onions	92%	8%	8	1
Tomatoes	85%	15%	2	0	Tomatoes	100%	0%	4	1
Kale	55%	45%	1	0	Kale	50%	46%	2	1
Pads	39%	61%	20	0	Pads	73%	23%	30	1
Toothbrush	58%	42%	18	0	Toothbrush	96%	4%	30	1
Tooth paste	55%	45%	15	0	Tooth paste	96%	4%	30	1
Tissue paper	52%	48%	15	0	Tissue paper	77%	23%	30	1
Bar soap	97%	3%	15	0	Bar soap	92%	8%	30	1
Jerry can	52%	48%	20	1	Jerry can	59%	41%	14	1
Bucket	52%	48%	20	0	Bucket	44%	56%	30	1
Firewood	53%	47%	10	1	Firewood	45%	55%	7	1
Charcoal	33%	67%	14	1	Charcoal	67%	33%	7	1
Matchbox	86%	14%	20	0	Matchbox	100%	0%	30	1
Exercise book	47%	53%	19	0	Exercise book	60%	40%	30	1
Pencil	71%	29%	20	0	Pencil	88%	12%	30	1
Pen	74%	26%	18	0	Pen	96%	4%	30	1
Rubber	56%	44%	20	0	Rubber	88%	12%	30	1
Ruler	48%	52%	20	0	Ruler	59%	41%	30	1
Sharpener	34%	66%	21	0	Sharpener	73%	27%	30	1
Geometric set	31%	69%	20	0	Geometric set	57%	43%	30	1

MAIN SUPPLY ROUTES

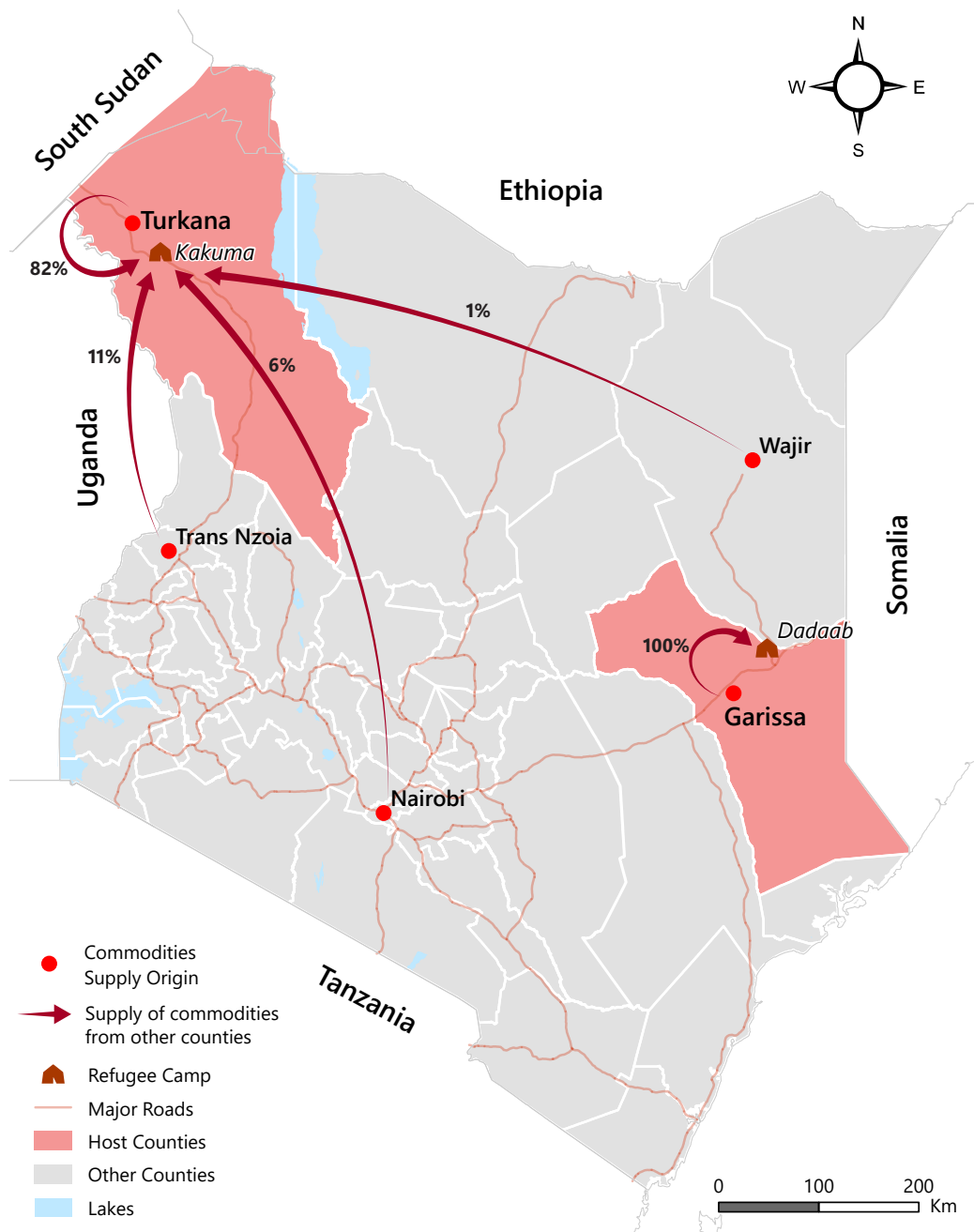


Figure 2: Map of main supply route of assessed refugee camps

LOCATION OF THE MAIN SUPPLIER

Figure 2 presents the supply route map, illustrating the flow of commodities from the main suppliers as reported by interviewed vendors. Sourcing gives insights for assessing market resilience.

At the time of data collection, all interviewed vendors in Dadaab and the majority (82%) in Kakuma indicated that their main supplier was located within their respective counties. In Dadaab, the short restocking time, often within the same day can be attributed to the high proportion of interviewed vendors sourcing goods locally within Garissa, the host county. In Kakuma, vendors reported sourcing from other counties including Nairobi (6%) and Wajir (1% for camel milk vendors), which likely increases restocking time due to the distance. Additionally, 11% of vendors in Kakuma camp indicated that they sourced their goods from Trans Nzoia County, a key agricultural production county.⁸ No significant differences in sourcing patterns were reported between male and female vendors.

REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGES IN SUPPLIER'S PRICES

The data indicates that over half of the interviewed vendors in Kakuma (57%) reported being able to predict changes in supplier prices one month after data collection. In contrast, the majority of vendors in Dadaab (55%) reported not being able to predict prices, a shift from the [previous quarter](#). Most of the vendors (79% in Kakuma and 56% in Dadaab) expected prices to rise. Prices of key cereal products and vegetables are expected to increase reflecting seasonal factors.⁵

However, more than half (55%) of interviewed vendors in Dadaab and 29% in Kakuma, cited frequent price fluctuations as the primary reason for their inability to predict changes. Following the MAM 2025 rainy season, as most ASAL counties enter the lean season, poor or erratic rainfall may affect crop yields and pasture availability, contributing to price fluctuations and making it difficult to predict the cost of commonly consumed goods.⁹

Proportion of vendors reporting on their ability to predict changes in supplier's prices for popular commodities in the one month after data collection, per camp:*

Dadaab



Yes 45%
No 55%

Kakuma



Yes 57%
No 29%
Do not know 14%

Expectation of supplier price changes one month following data collection, by % of vendors (45% in Dadaab and 57% in Kakuma) who reported being able to predict supplier price changes, per camp:¹⁰

Dadaab 56% ▲ 8% ▼ 36% ● Kakuma 79% ▲ 6% ▼ 16% ●

* This is a self-reported question by the vendors, and opinions may change from one vendor to another.

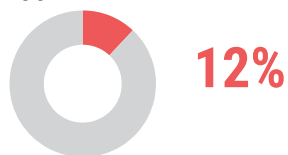
KEY

▼ Decrease ▲ Increase ● No change

SUPPLIER

Dadaab

Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for food items.

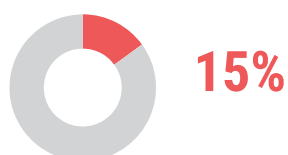


Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for non-food items.



Kakuma

Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for food items.



Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for non-food items.



A higher proportion of vendors in both camps (15% in Kakuma and 12% in Dadaab) reported relying on a single supplier for food items compared to NFI items. Vendors who rely on a sole supplier are vulnerable to supply disruptions.

Compared to the Q1 2025 findings, the slight decrease in dependency on single supplier in both Dadaab and Kakuma may enhance market competitiveness and reduce vulnerability to shocks.

ACCESS TO A LOCKED, SECURED STORAGE FACILITY

There was an improvement, compared to the [previous quarter](#) in the proportion of vendors reporting access to secure storage, with all vendors in Dadaab and 90% in Kakuma (up from 87%) indicating they have access to secure storage facility. In both camps, the majority of vendors stored commodities within their own business premises. Improved access to secure storage facilities enhances vendors' capacity to safeguard their stock, maintain adequate inventory, and reduce the risk of theft and vandalism.

Proportion of vendors reporting on access to a locked, secured storage facility in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹⁰

Dadaab

- 83% Yes, within my own business facilities
- 2% Yes, elsewhere within the marketplace
- 1% No, I store goods at my home
- 14% No, storage outside the marketplace at another facility
- 0% No storage facility

Kakuma

- 65% Yes, within my own business facilities
- 16% Yes, elsewhere within the marketplace
- 9% No, I store goods at my home
- 1% No, storage outside the marketplace at another facility
- 10% No storage facility

VENDOR CHALLENGES

Most reported challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹¹

Dadaab

- 1 60% Number of clients reduced
- 2 50% Lack of funds to restock
- 3 35% Price increase by the supplier
- 4 19% High cost of transportation

Kakuma

- 1 82% Number of clients reduced
- 2 50% Lack of funds to restock
- 3 41% Price increase by the supplier
- 4 12% Flooding

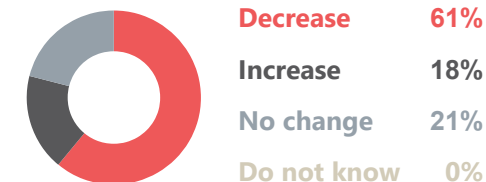
A slightly higher proportion of male vendors (96%) than female vendors (95%) reportedly faced vendor-related challenges. The most commonly reported challenge among both male and female vendors was a reduction in the number of customers (74% by female and 73% by male) vendors.¹¹

All vendors in Dadaab camp and the majority (92%) in Kakuma reported facing various challenges, with a reduction in clients being the most commonly cited (82% in Kakuma and 60% in Dadaab)¹¹. This reduction is likely linked to the effects of reduced assistance in the refugee camps contributing to lower customers' purchasing power and vendors reduced willingness to offer credit purchases.¹² The subsequent challenge in both camps is the difficulty in restocking, driven by a lack of funds and increased supplier prices possibly straining the vendors' ability to maintain consistent supply. As a result of these challenges, most vendors (61%) in Dadaab and nearly half (49%) in Kakuma reported that the number of vendors operating within the marketplace decreased compared to three months prior to data collection.

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF VENDORS

Proportion of vendors reporting on changes in the number of vendors operating in their marketplace in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:

Dadaab



Kakuma



CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS

% of vendors reporting on the change in the number of customers purchasing from their shop in the 3 months prior to data collection, among those vendors (71% Dadaab, 82% Kakuma) who reported a change:

Dadaab 27% ▲ 73% ▼

Kakuma 3% ▲ 97% ▼

The significant reduction in customers reflects weakened purchasing power among refugees, highlighting constraints in consumer demand. This finding is more evident in Kakuma than Dadaab, as a higher proportion of vendors reported a decline in customers.

DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING THE BUSINESS OPERATIONAL AND WELL-STOCKED

Two-thirds (66%) of the female vendors and more than half (57%) of male vendors reported having faced difficulties keeping their businesses operational and wellstocked.

This challenge was particularly pronounced in Kakuma, where more than three-quarters (76%) of interviewed vendors reported such difficulties, compared to 40% of interviewed vendors in Dadaab. The most commonly reported challenges listed above directly affect vendors' ability to purchase additional stock.

Despite the reported challenges, most retailers relied on multiple suppliers to restock commodities, and vendors generally reported having stock levels that substantially exceeded restocking times.

Reported difficulty in keeping the business operational and well-stocked by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection:¹¹

Dadaab

- 24%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- 19%** Movement restrictions
- 11%** Difficulty with availability of core goods
- 8%** Difficulty accessing enough bank notes to pay suppliers

Kakuma

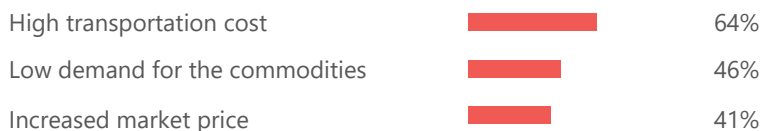
- 54%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- 16%** Difficulty with availability of core goods
- 10%** Flooding in the marketplace
- 9%** Difficulties fully staffing your store

SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES

More than three-quarters of vendors in Dadaab (77%) and over half in Kakuma (57%) reported a complete lack of or limited availability of some commodities. In both camps, price increases were cited as a major cause of shortages. However, vendors in Dadaab reported high transportation costs as a key factor while low demand given the reduction of the customers emerged as a contributing factor compared to the previous round.

Most reported causes of shortage of commodities by vendors (77% Dadaab, 57% in Kakuma) who reported experiencing shortage of some commodities at the time of data collection, per camp:¹¹

Dadaab

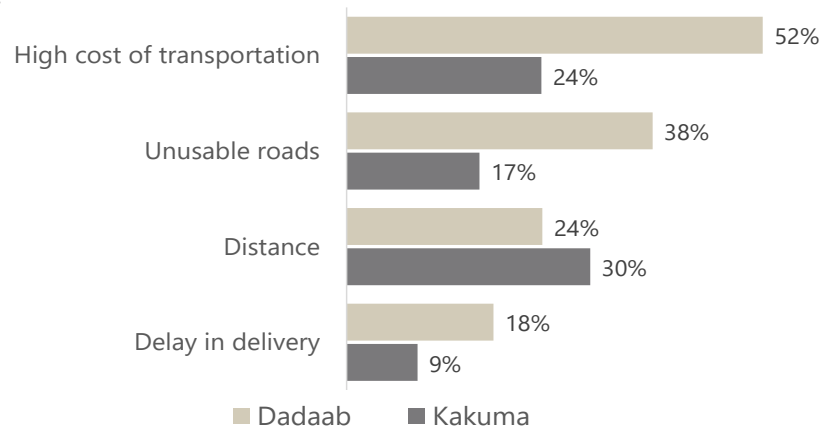


Kakuma



CHALLENGES FACED WHEN TRANSPORTING COMMODITIES

Most reported transportation challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹¹



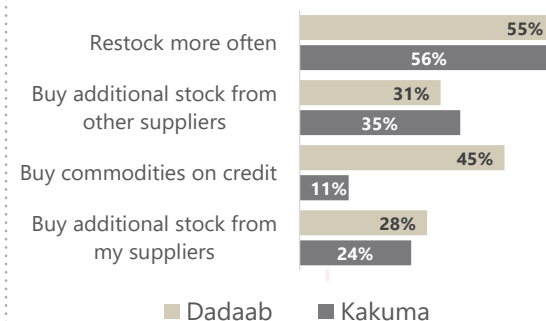
Transport challenges was more present in Dadaab (97%) compared to 71% in Kakuma. The most common means of transport used for restocking commodities was cart in Dadaab (56%) and motorcycles in Kakuma (39%).

COPING MECHANISMS EMPLOYED TO DEAL WITH SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES

Vendors facing commodity shortages in the three months prior to data collection employed various coping strategies. The most common strategy reported was restocking more often by 56%¹¹ of vendors in Kakuma and 55%¹¹ of vendors in Dadaab was to buy additional stock from other suppliers.

However, 15% of vendors in Kakuma and a small proportion of vendors in Dadaab (3%) reported having no coping mechanisms in place. Combined with the already reported difficulty in restocking, this leaves the vendors particularly vulnerable to revenue loss and business disruptions during periods of shortage.

Strategies employed by interviewed vendors to address unavailability of commodities at the time of data collection, by % of vendors (77% Dadaab, 57% in Kakuma) who reported experiencing shortage of some commodities per camp:¹¹



BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS

Physical barriers

Physical access to markets improved compared to the previous quarter, supported by better weather conditions following the cessation of the MAM 2025 rainy season. The majority of interviewed vendors (89% in Dadaab and 71% in Kakuma) reported not facing any physical barriers. However, there is a slight gender disparity in terms of encountering barriers. A slightly higher proportion of male vendors (22%) reported encountering barriers compared to female vendors (21%).

Nonetheless, specific physical barriers varied across camps despite the overall improvements in accessibility. The findings highlight mobility challenges that continue to hinder access to markets. The main barriers include infrastructure limitations within market facilities, inadequate transportation options, as well as restricted movement due to safety concerns and limited business operating hours.

Most reported physical barriers to accessing the marketplace by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹¹

Dadaab

- 89% No physical barriers
- 3% Inadequate facilities
- 2% Lack of transportation options
- 1% Ongoing or active fighting in the area

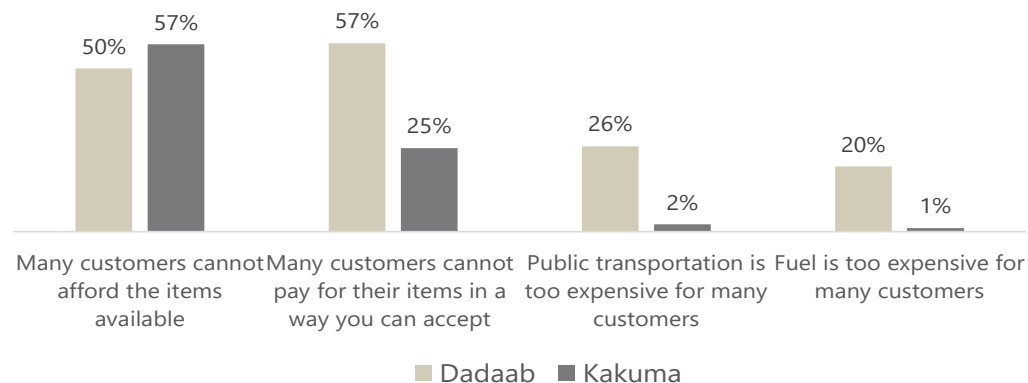
Kakuma

- 71% No physical barriers
- 11% Curfew or movement restrictions
- 9% Flooding in the marketplace
- 6% Limited operating hours of the market

Financial barriers

Despite improved physical access, financial constraints remain a major barrier, as many households still cannot afford goods in the market. The majority (90%) of interviewed vendors in Dadaab and more than three-quarters (78%) in Kakuma reported that their customers encountered financial difficulties. These challenges are more pronounced in Dadaab, where a wider range of financial difficulties including high transportation and fuel costs were reported, compared to Kakuma.

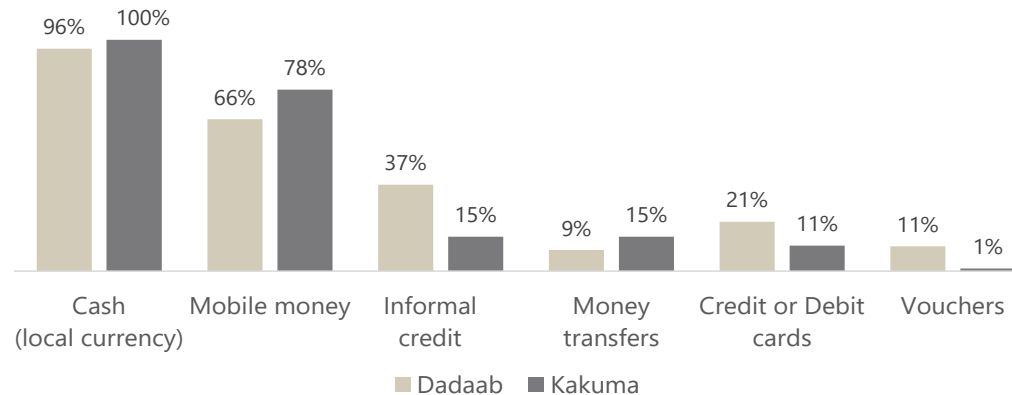
Most reported financial barriers to accessing the marketplace by customers as perceived by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹¹



PAYMENT MODALITIES

The prevalence of mobile money platforms in Kenya provides an alternative payment method to cash strengthening the financial infrastructure within the markets. In Dadaab, a proportion of customers also used informal credit and credit or debit card payments, compared to Kakuma.

Most commonly reported accepted payment modalities, per camp:¹¹



Social barriers

Proportion of vendors reporting groups of people who sometimes avoided going to the marketplace due to discrimination, exclusion, or feeling unwelcome in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:

Dadaab



Kakuma



Social barriers are more pronounced in Dadaab's marketplace than in Kakuma.

SECURITY ISSUES

The findings indicate an improvement in the security situation since the [previous quarter](#). Security issues were more prevalent in Kakuma, where 33% of vendors (down from 42%) compared to 4% in Dadaab (down from 16%) vendors reported security challenges negatively affecting their businesses.

In Kakuma, the most commonly reported threats was fear of violence (21%)¹¹ while in Dadaab was danger on roads leading to the marketplace (2%)¹¹, reflecting ongoing security and mobility challenges.

A slightly higher proportion of female (21%) than male (20%) vendors reported experiencing security issues in the 3 months prior to data collection.

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE (MFS)¹³, BY CAMP

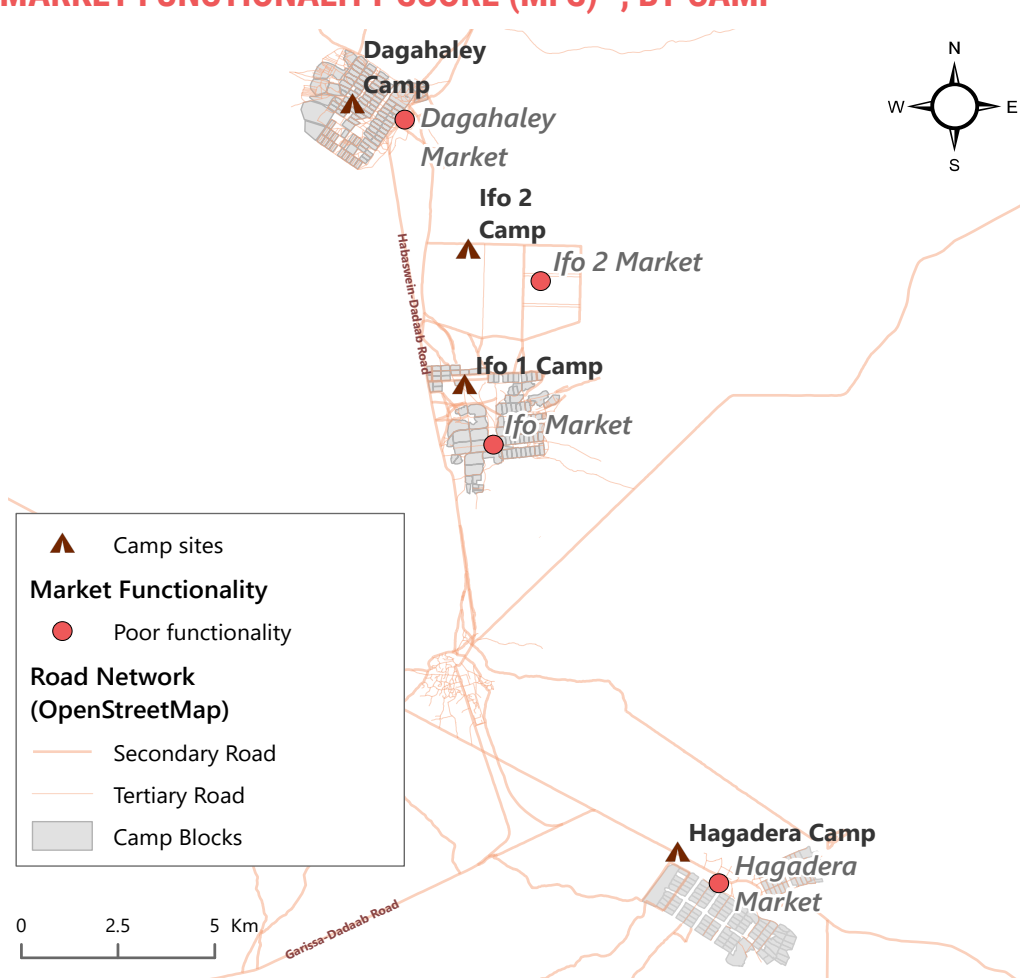


Figure 3: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Dadaab

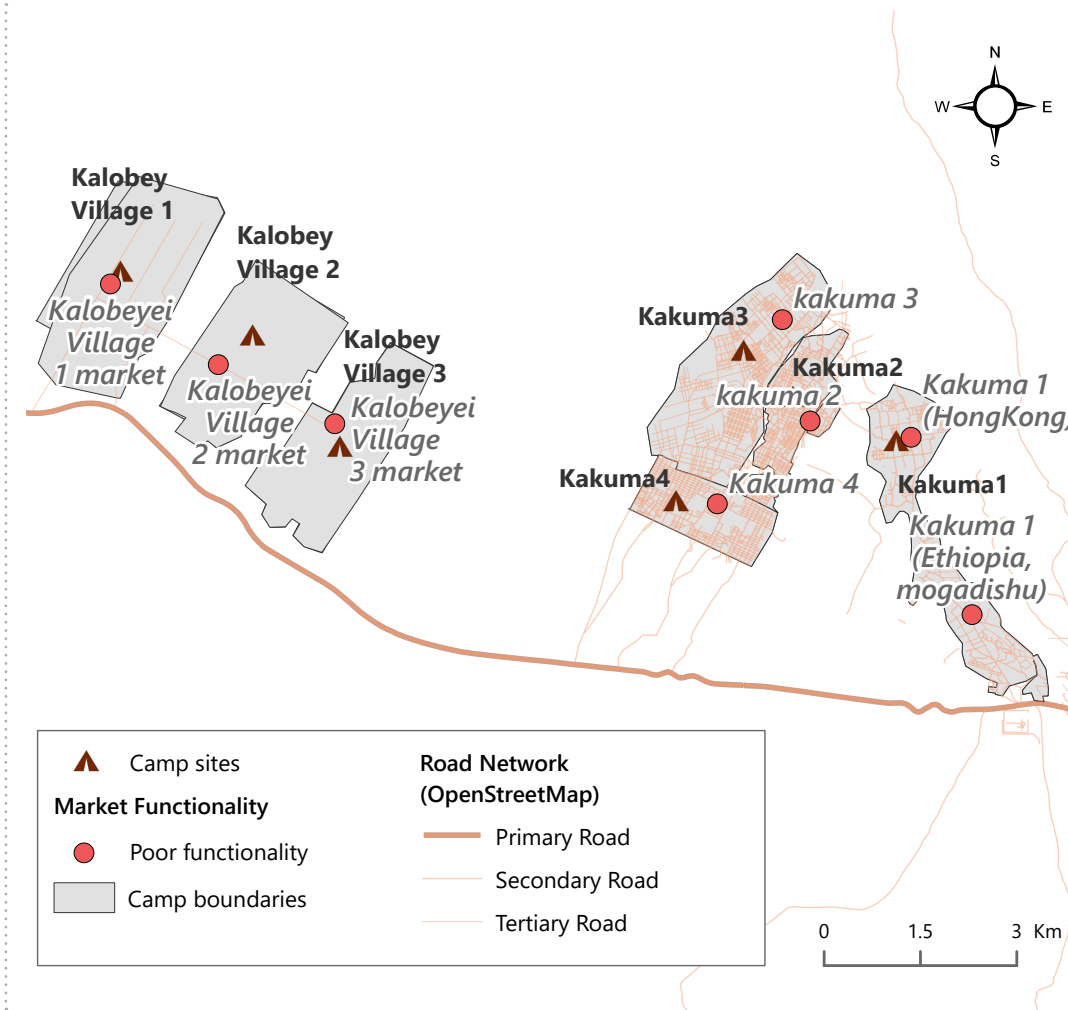


Figure 4: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Kakuma

The Market Functionality Score (MFS)¹³ evaluates markets across five key dimensions: accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. An analysis of the 12 markets assessed in Q2 2025 found that all were classified as having poor functionality. Notably, five markets that had previously been classified as having limited functionality namely IFO 2 in Dadaab and four in Kakuma (Kakuma 1–Hong Kong, Kakuma 3, Kakuma 4, and Kalobeyei Village 1) deteriorated to the poor category. The remaining markets maintained in the same classification as in the previous quarter.

In comparison to Q1 2025, the most significant decline was observed in the availability dimension which emerged as the lowest-performing pillar. All market assessed scores decreased and scoring below the availability dimension (<15/30), reflecting possible supply constraint. The second-lowest performing pillar was affordability, which considers price comparisons of monitored items against national medians, customers’ financial access, and price predictability. These findings indicate that prices likely remained high or rose relative to household income, thereby worsening affordability. While physical infrastructure in markets remains largely functional, persistent financial barriers, coupled with reported challenges in availability, may limit HHs’ ability to access sufficient goods at affordable prices.

Methodology

The JMMI is conducted jointly with KCWG partners. The geographic coverage is determined by the access and capacity of participating partners. The participating agencies collectively developed and reviewed the data collection tools, and trained their enumerators on the JMMI methodology and data collection tools. Primary data was collected through interviews with vendors (who sell directly to customers) in the targeted marketplaces. Enumerators were asked to record three prices per item in each targeted marketplace. Data was collected through the Kobo collect mobile application and was uploaded to a secure server for cleaning and analysis.

For each item, the median prices per marketplace were calculated, after which the median of all those locations was calculated to derive the aggregated median prices presented in this factsheet. This methodology is derived to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. Outliers are reported only where relevant. Non-numeric indicators of categorical values are calculated as proportions.

Using purposive sampling, 312 vendors were interviewed as key informants (181 from Kakuma and 131 from Dadaab). At least three prices per item in each of the camps were collected for a total of 36 basic food and NFIs. The interviews were conducted both face-to-face and remotely with vendors selling food and non-food items. Data was collected between the 3rd and 9th July 2025 across 12 markets (8 in Kakuma and 4 in Dadaab).

In addition to the core commodities regularly monitored, data on shelter-related items will be collected on an annual basis during the first quarter. These items include key household goods such as kitchenware and essential construction materials. This aligns with feedback from stakeholders and partners.

WFP performed daily data quality checks with the partners during and after data collection. This process includes checking for duplicate interviews and numerical outliers (particularly item prices). Data was analysed at the camp level using R statistical software. All findings are indicative and only apply to the period within which data was collected. Moreover, item specifications may vary slightly between locations according to the different brands available, and comparability between the locations assessed is limited.

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative of the time frame within which it was collected.
- For some questions, vendors were asked to recall events over a 3-month period. This is a long period of time, which might impact the accuracy of answers.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across the camps, price comparisons across the camps may be based on slight variants of the same product.
- Some vendors lacked weighing scales and owing to this, an estimation of how much forms a kilogram was done. This was for commodities such as vegetables, onions, and tomatoes. In some cases, the estimation may differ.
- The methodology specifies that three prices are collected per commodity, per market. Due to the unavailability of multiple vendors selling various commodities at the market, it was not possible to collect 3 prices for some commodities in some markets.

Endnotes

¹ The Minimum Expenditure Basked (MEB) is defined as what a household requires to meet basic needs on a regular or seasonal basis - and its average cost.

² 1 USD-129.57 KES in June, 2025.

³ Change since the last round of JMMI data collection in March 2025 (Q1 2025).

⁴ National Drought Early Warning Bulletin by NDMA, June 2025.

⁵ Agricultural Sector Survey by CBK, May 2025.

⁶ Kenya Refugee Population by UNHCR, June 2025.

⁷ The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "I do not know" or indicating "complete unavailability of commodity."

⁸ Gross County Product by KNBS, December 2024.

⁹ Seasonal Calendar for a typical year, FEWS NET, June 2024.

¹⁰ The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "Prefer not to answer".

¹¹ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.

¹² Kenya Country Brief by WFP, June 2025.

¹³ Market functionality score consists of a collection of indicators, drawn from a single vendor-focused assessment for ease of analysis, that capture data on the five different dimensions of market functionality; accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. The markets are categorized into "full functionality", "reduced functionality", "limited functionality", or "poor functionality".

About the Kenya Cash Working Group

The KCWG is a multi-agency, inter-cluster technical working group set up to ensure that cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Kenya is coordinated, harmonised, and context-specific, and is undertaken in a manner that does not inflict harm or exacerbate vulnerabilities of the affected population. The working group was established to provide an enabling environment for collective learning, operational and technical collaboration. Additionally, develop a common reference point for both national and international actors for the harmonization of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) across the country. The KCWG is currently co-chaired by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), and the MEB workstream is co-chaired by the World Food Programme (WFP) and REACH Initiative.

Participating agencies

