

## INTRODUCTION

The Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMIMI) 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 JMIMI to begin assessing the potential impact of the pandemic on markets and on respondents' businesses. The JMIMI 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 (by rounds #R)\*. Findings are based on 269 interviews with vendor key informants (KIs), and are to be considered indicative only. Additional methodology can be found in the [full JMIMI fact sheet](#).

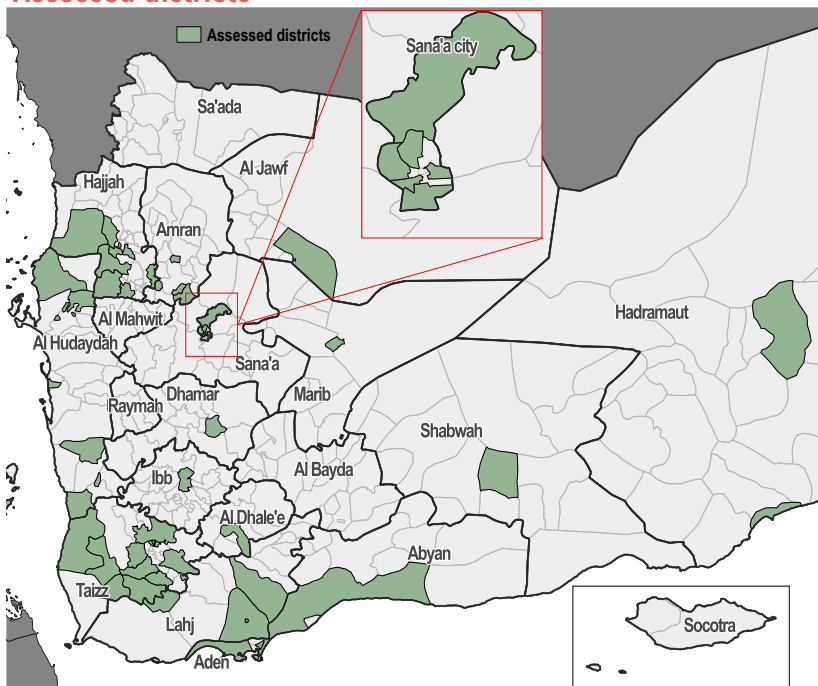
\*The primary tool to support a 6-person household for a month with the minimum, culturally adjusted items required for survival.

^July Round 1, 12-16 July 2020

## KEY FINDINGS: 12 - 16 JULY 2020

- There have reportedly been minimal store closures in the two weeks prior to data collection.
- Nearly 62% of vendors reported facing additional difficulties obtaining petrol. 83% of vendors also reported that diesel was difficult to obtain.
- Price inflation is still the most commonly reported economic issue when obtaining fuel, WASH items, and water trucking services.
- Bleach is the only SMEB item that recorded a change in price this round, thus causing a 0.9% increase in the total WASH SMEB.
- Restocking times for food items were lower than for fuel and WASH items.
- Exchange rates are still wavering, rates under 600 Yemeni Riyals (YER) for one US dollar (USD) have been recorded in Shabwah, Hajjah and Amran while the highest were recorded in Abyan, Aden and Lahj.

## Assessed districts



## Price tracking for key items: 3 months (YER)

Assessed items	Mar-2020	Jun-2020 (R2)	Jul-2020 (R1)	Change (from Jun-2020 R2)
<b>Full SMEB</b>	NA	NA	<b>57975</b>	NA
<b>WASH SMEB*</b>	<b>11300</b>	<b>11275</b>	<b>11375</b>	<b>+0.9%</b>
Soap (100g)	150	150	150	0.0%^
Laundry powder (100g)	120	120	120	0.0%^
Sanitary napkins (10 Pack)	512	550	550	0.0%^
Water trucking (1m <sup>3</sup> )	2000	2000	2000	0.0%^
Petrol (1L)	365	315	350	<b>+11.1%</b>
Diesel (1L)	430	345	390	<b>+13.0%</b>
Bottled water (0.75L)	138	150	150	0.0%^
Treated water (10L)	120	100	100	0.0%^
Bleach (1L)	NA	690	700	<b>+1.4%</b>
Cooking gas (1cylinder)	NA	NA	4000	NA
<b>Food SMEB^</b>	NA	NA	<b>44565</b>	NA
Wheat flour (1 kg)	NA	NA	350	NA
Rice (1 kg)	NA	NA	650	NA
Dry Kidney beans (1 kg)	NA	NA	700	NA
Canned kidney beans (1 15oz can)	NA	NA	300	NA
Lentils (1 kg)	NA	NA	700	NA
Vegetable Oil (1 Liter)	NA	NA	900	NA
Sugar (1 kg)	NA	NA	425	NA
Salt (1 kg)	NA	NA	150	NA
Potatoes (1 kg)	NA	NA	400	NA
Onions (1 kg)	NA	NA	425	NA

\*Contains soap (10.5 Kg), laundry powder (2 Kg), sanitary napkins (20 units), and water (3.15 m<sup>3</sup>)

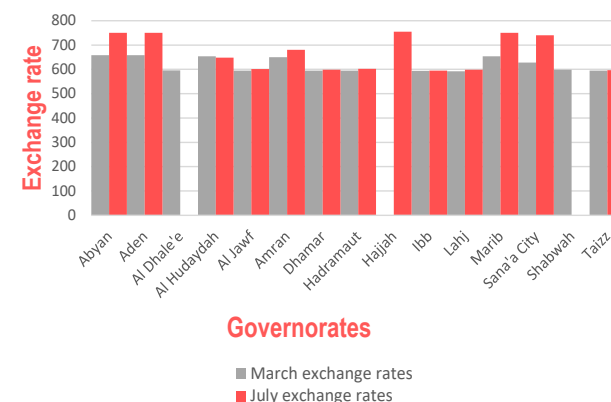
^ Contains wheat flour (75 kg), dry kidney beans (10 kg), vegetable oil (8 liters), sugar (2.5 kg), iodized salt (1)

## Exchange rate per governorate(USD/YER)\*

Governorate	March 2020	June (Round 2)	July (Round 1)
Abyan	658 (658)	745 (745)	750 (750)
Aden	658 (658)	744 (740)	750 (749)
Al Bayda	596 (596)	617	NA
Al Dhale'e	654 (656)	710 (750)	648 (748)
Al Hudaydah	595 (597)	620	601
Al Jawf	650	670	680
Amran	595	618	598
Dhamar	595	622	602
Hadramaut	NA	745	755
Hajjah	594	615	595
Ibb	592	NA	598
Lahj	654 (654)	744 (744)	750 (750)
Marib	628	740	740
Sa'ada	598	NA	NA
Sana'a	595	618	NA
Sana'a City	598 (628)	617	735 (742)
Shabwah	NA	NA	598
Taizz	654 (656)	740 (740)	740 (736)

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

## Exchange rate graph (USD/YER)\*



### Governorates

■ March exchange rates  
■ July exchange rates

\*Governorate labels point to two bars indicating March base value and July round 1 value, gaps between bars indicate no exchange rate value.

## Median commodity prices per governorate, July 12th - July 16th 2020 (YER)

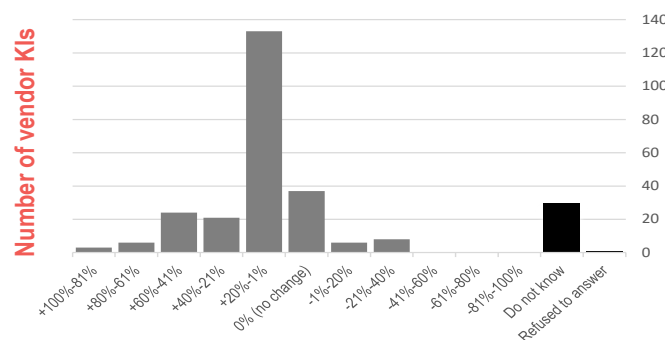
Governorate	Petrol (1L)	Diesel (1L)	Cooking gas	Bottled water (0.75L)	Treated water (10L)	Bleach (1L)	Soap (1 Unit)	Laundry powder (100g)	Sanitary napkins (10)	Water trucking (1m³)	WASH SMEB	Wheat flour (1Kg)	Rice (1Kg)	Beans Dry (1Kg)	Beans cans (1 15oz can)	Lentils (1 Kg)	Vegetable oil (1L)	Sugar (1Kg)	Salt (1Kg)	Potatoes (1Kg)	Onions (1 Kg)	Food SMEB
Abyan	300	325	3500	150	100	168	830	100	600	1800	10634	370	800	7000	270	NA	750	500	100	400	500	44820
Aden	285	300	1882	200	100	154	750	100	600	1000	7967	350	1000	8000	350	800	1000	450	100	400	400	48075
Al Dhale'e	290	320	246	100	200	150	900	100	500	2500	12450	300	500	700	NA	500	1200	460	200	450	500	NA
Al Hudaydah	600	600	3800	160	110	132	485	130	470	3500	15946	10500*	605	5000	307	800	800	380	200	450	300	806084
Al Jawf	650	500	NA	200	1000	260	600	120	750	1250	10568	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amran	NA	NA	NA	120	225	150	700	119	500	813	7516	300	450	NA	300	400	710	350	150	450	375	40005
Dhamar	700	800	NA	150	500	150	750	120	500	1000	8125	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hadramaut	270	305	2500	100	350	240	750	100	600	4000	18320	320	580	525	300	650	760	450	200	575	350	42205
Hajjah	600	650	7000	150	100	150	450	120	500	2500	12850	300	600	2000	300	700	850	400	100	500	400	41200
Ibb	295	435	5500	150	100	200	750	150	600	3000	15750	325	400	NA	325	650	625	400	150	300	400	42225
Lahj	293	358	5000	200	225	200	600	116	500	1200	9200	320	900	1400	315	850	1000	450	100	400	400	44565
Marib	175	365	NA	65	50	125	700	125	500	1000	7966	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sana'a City	295	345	NA	100	100	150	400	109	500	8000	29955	265	400	350^	300	600	750	350	400	350	500	37950
Shabwah	345	345	3200	100	NA	150	700	100	5000	1333	17774	7500	813	NA	350	1550	2200	640	100	NA	NA	594400
Taizz	400	410	4000	170	100	150	800	130	600	2000	11675	400	538	400	350	600	913	450	112	400	500	51142

\*Red color indicates the highest outliers in a certain commodity column.

^ Blue color indicates the lowest outliers in a certain commodity column.

## Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' businesses

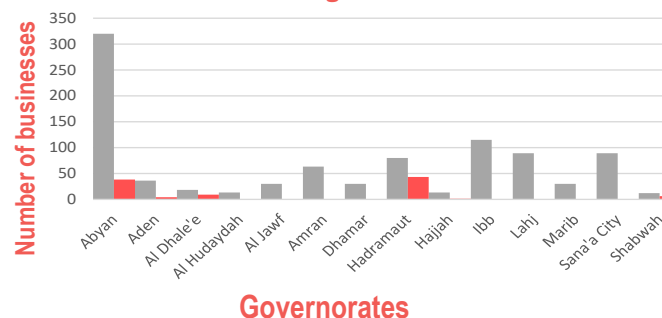
Reported change in number of customers in the two weeks prior to data collection



Overall, **54** vendor KIs indicated that there has been a negative change, while **51** vendor KIs saw a positive change, in the number of customers they have seen over the two weeks prior to data collection. The graph to the left highlights how many of those businesses have seen change in the number of customers in the two weeks prior to data collection.

Of the **269** respondents surveyed, **6.6%** stated that they had difficulties obtaining key commodities due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 (**17.5%** in June Round 2).

## Average number of businesses closures/openings by governorate^



## Governorates

■ Businesses open ■ Businesses closed

Average Number of Nearby Businesses Open^

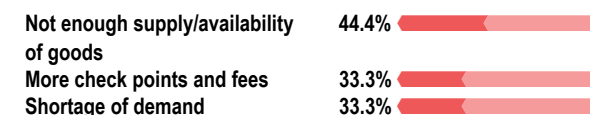


Average Number of Nearby Businesses Closed^

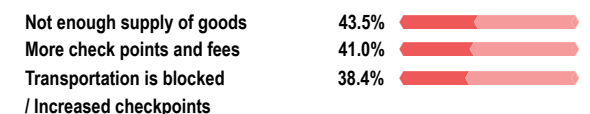


^Average number of open/closed businesses within a two minute walk reported in the prior two weeks due to COVID-19.

## Top 3 COVID-19 related constraints according to vendors\*

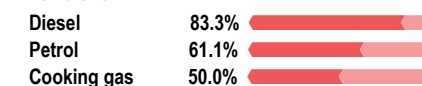


Results from the previous JMMI round

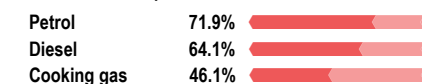


\*Based on the responses from the 6.6% of vendors who had difficulties obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

## Top 3 most difficult goods to obtain according to vendors\*



Results from the previous JMMI round



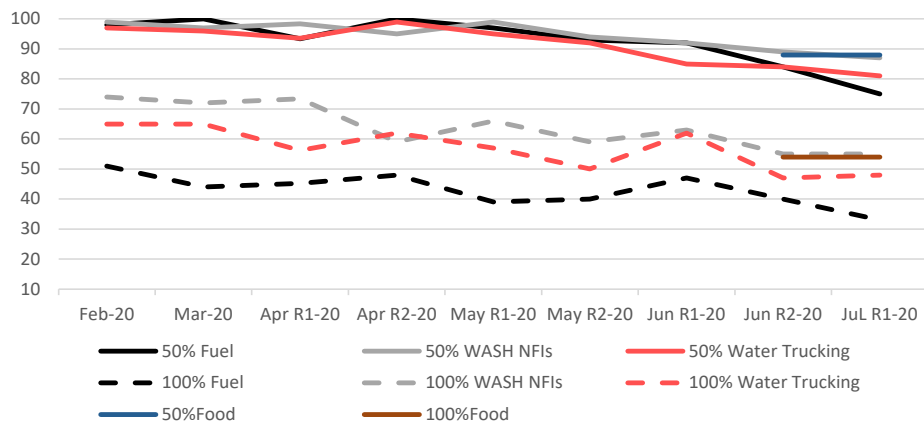
\*Based on the responses from the 6.6% of vendors who had difficulties obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

## 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 in this round of data collection.

### Proportion of vendors reporting being able to absorb a 50% and 100% increase in demand for key item



### Payment modalities reportedly accepted

Modality	Fuel Vendors	WASH NFI Vendors	Food Vendors	Water Trucking Vendors
Bartering	0% (-)	0% (-)	0.6% (-)	0% (-)
Cash	98.6% (-1.4%)	100% (0.3%)	98.6% (-)	100% (-)
Credit	27.8% (23.1%)	34.4% (1.7%)	37.7% (-)	19.4% (13.5%)
Credit / debit card	0.0% (-0.6%)	32.7% (+27.9%)	1.9% (-)	0% (-5.8%)
Mobile money	0.6% (-)	1.6% (-4.4%)	0.6% (-)	0% (-)
Prepaid cards	2.6% (2.6%)	0% (-1.2%)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Vouchers	2.6% (2.6%)	0% (-2.4%)	0% (-)	0.8% (0.8%)
Other	1.3% (1.3%)	7.1% (7.1%)	10% (-)	0.8% (0.8%)
Do not know	0.6% (0.6%)	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)

\*The percentage change from the June Round 2 JMIMI is in brackets, (-)% indicating no change.

### Top 3 reported economic constraints by fuel vendors\*

Price inflation	67.5%
Transportation	35.7%
Shortage of supply	35.1%

### Top 3 reported economic constraints by WASH NFI vendors\*

Price inflation	75.4%
Transportation	34.4%
Insecurity and instability	31.1%

\*Values do not add up to 100% as vendor KIs were allowed to select multiple options.

### Top 3 reported economic constraints by food vendors\*

Price inflation	75.4%
Transportation	36.4%
Insecurity and instability	33.1%

### Top 3 reported economic constraints by water trucking vendors\*

Price inflation	62.7%
Shortage of demand	27.9%
Transportation	27.9%

### Average reported restocking time (days)\*

Governorate	Fuel Items	WASH Items	Food Items
Abyan	10 (NA)	8 (4)	12 (NA)
Aden	3 (1)	2 (NA)	2 (NA)
Al Dhale'e	5 (-2)	2 (-3)	3 (NA)
Al Hudaydah	7 (-2)	6 (-4)	5 (NA)
Al Jawf	10 (8)	8 (4)	NA (NA)
Amran	NA (NA)	16 (2)	3 (NA)
Dhamar	5 (4)	8 (-7)	NA (NA)
Hadramaut	4 (2)	3 (1)	2 (NA)
Hajjah	7 (-3)	4 (-9)	4 (NA)
Ibb	10 (NA)	5 (NA)	4 (NA)
Lahj	4 (1)	6 (2)	6 (NA)
Marib	8 (-6)	27 (2)	NA (NA)
Sana'a	NA (NA)	NA (NA)	NA (NA)
Sana'a City	2 (-2)	5 (1)	NA (NA)
Shabwah	2 (NA)	2 (NA)	1 (NA)
Taizz	5 (NA)	6 (1)	NA (NA)

\*Change in days from June Round 2 JMIMI in brackets, the negative indicates a reported reduction in restocking time.

### 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](mailto:geneva@impact-initiatives.org) for further information.

### PARTNER LIST



For more information, please visit our website at [www.reach-initiative.org](http://www.reach-initiative.org), or contact us directly at [yemen@reach-initiative.org](mailto:yemen@reach-initiative.org)



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