

Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative

April 2018



WASH Cluster
Water Sanitation Hygiene

CMWG

Intersector Cash
and Market
Working Group

REACH

Informing
more effective
humanitarian action

INTRODUCTION

This is the April factsheet for the Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI). The JMMI has been launched by REACH in collaboration with the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster and Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) to support humanitarian actors and with the objective of harmonizing price monitoring among all cash actors in Yemen. The JMMI incorporates information on market systems including price levels and supply chains. The basket of goods to be assessed comprises eight Non-Food Item (NFI) products, including fuel, water and hygiene products, reflecting programmatic areas of the WASH Cluster.

METHODOLOGY

Data collection for the second round of the JMMI took place between the 21st and 27th April 2018. Enumerators from eleven partner organisations collected data in 73 districts across 15 governorates, through Key Informant (KI) interviews. The sample of vendors was selected from markets of various sizes in both urban and rural areas. The data collected has been analysed in comparison with the price quotations recorded during the Multi-Agency Joint Cash Study in September 2017 and previous Weekly Price Monitoring Initiative, which began during the economic blockade of Yemen in November 2017. Findings of this analysis will be presented in the form of both this factsheet and a supplementary dataset, published on a monthly basis.

KEY FINDINGS

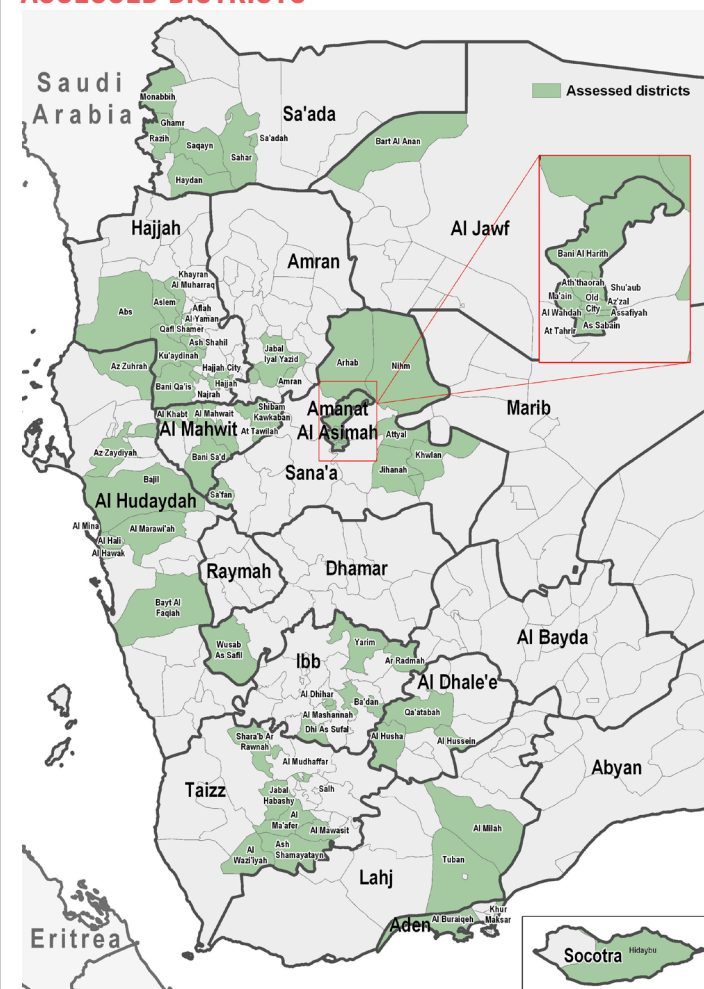
PRICE MONITORING OVERVIEW

- Prices levels of the basket of assessed goods were largely stable between March and April, however prices remain significantly higher than prices observed prior to the economic blockade imposed in November 2017.
- Petrol and Diesel prices have been stable since March. The highest fuel prices were observed in Sa'ada and Sana'a, while the lowest prices were observed in Aden and Socotra.
- The median observed price of soap was 13.5% higher than last month, with Al Jawf recording the highest prices for April.

SUPPLY OVERVIEW

- Minimum and maximum restocking times ranged considerably within districts. Vendor KIs indicated that this was due to a inconsistent supply of diesel, which created uncertainty in all supply chains.
- Al Hudaydah continued to supply the majority of fuel vendors KIs in the north west of the country, while Marib also continued to supply fuel to multiple districts in the region, despite restrictions on trade. Aden was the primary supply point for the south west and Socotra. Fuel vendors KIs reported lower prices in districts supplied by Aden, than those supplied by Al Hudaydah or Marib.
- Price inflation remained the primary challenge facing vendor KIs.
- 84% of water trucking vendor KIs stated that they sold non-chlorinated water.

ASSESSED DISTRICTS



MONTHLY FIGURES

11 Participating partners
73 Districts assessed
414 Vendors surveyed

EXCHANGE RATES

1 US Dollar (USD)
is equivalent to
250 Yemeni Riyal (YER)

Source: XE.com

PARTNERS

Al Tadhamon
CYF
IMC
NFHD

Old City
ROC
SCI
SDF

VHI
YFCA
YSD

ASSESSED ITEMS

Petrol
Diesel

Water trucking
Treated water
Bottled water

Soap
Laundry powder
Sanitary napkins

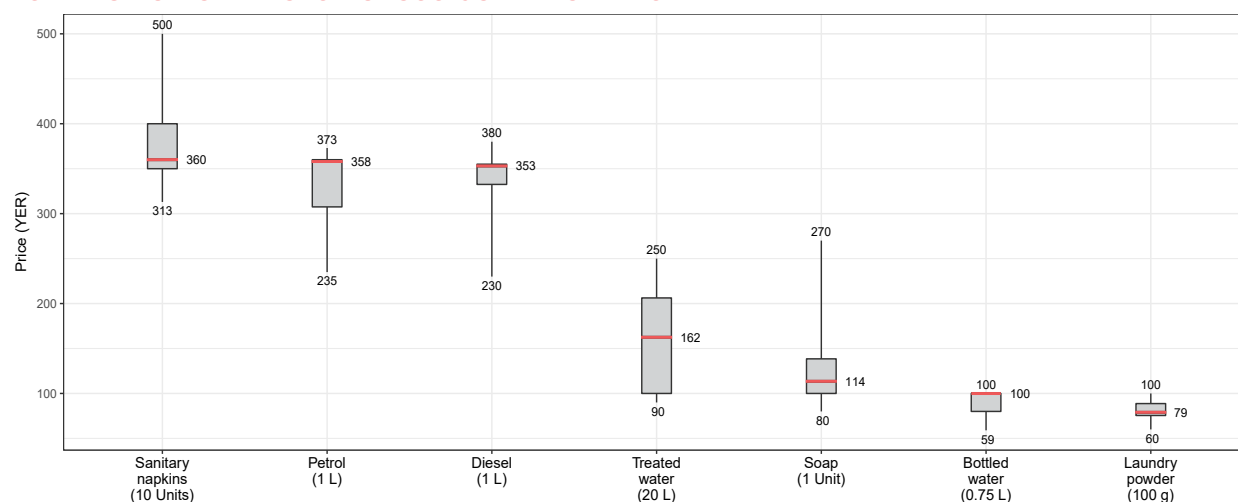
PRICE MONITORING OVERVIEW FOR YEMEN

MEDIAN PRICE PER GOVERNORATE (IN YER)

Governorate	Petrol (1L)	Diesel (1L)	Treated water (20L)	Bottled water (0.75L)	Soap (1 Unit)	Laundry powder (100g)	Sanitary napkins (10)	Water trucking (1m³)
Aden	290	315	250	100	143	100	400	NA
Al Dhale'e	315	310	200	100	100	80	400	3,500
Al Hudaydah	355	350	100	100	117	95	361	2,000
Al Jawf	300	355	100	NA	270	85	NA	2,000
Al Mahwit	360	350	175	80	102	78	350	1,150
Amanat Al Asimah	360	353	100	59	80	60	327	840
Amran	360	360	NA	100	214	77	500	1,250
Dhamar	358	353	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,250
Hajjah	365	355	200	100	90	80	350	1,875
Ibb	360	350	90	100	110	77	350	1,050
Lahj	293	290	225	100	143	63	313	1,500
Sa'ada	370	380	100	80	118	90	360	1,225
Sana'a	373	370	150	80	125	100	350	1,500
Socotra	235	230	NA	100	100	70	400	1,100
Taizz	355	355	225	100	100	75	430	525

Note: red indicates the highest median price; and green the lowest.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES ACROSS GOVERNORATES

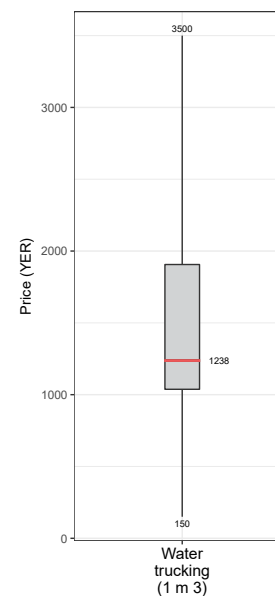


MEDIAN PRICE PER ITEM SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017 (IN YER)¹

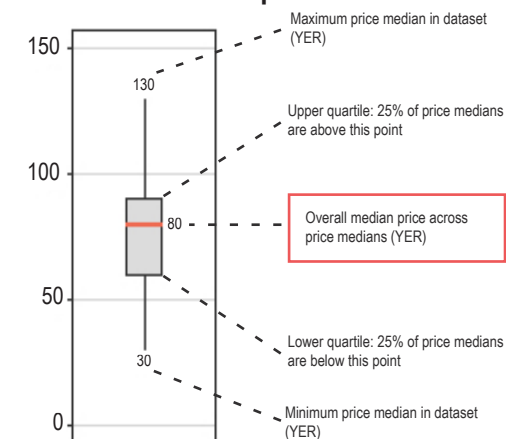
Item	September (baseline)	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	Changes (April/March) in %
Diesel	235	NA	394	333	360	358	350	353	+0.86
Petrol	275	NA	349	355	370	360	360	358	-0.56
Treated water	NA	NA	175	200	145	150	200	162	-18.75
Bottled water	70	NA	100	100	100	100	100	100	0.00
Soap	88	NA	NA	NA	98	100	100	113	+13.50
Sanitary napkins	250	NA	NA	NA	NA	338	363	360	-0.69
Laundry powder	50	NA	NA	NA	125	93	85	79	-7.06
Water trucking	825	NA	1,700	1,800	2,000	2,175	1,292	1,250	-3.21

1. Price variations between March and April items will be partially influenced by a significant increase in the number of districts assessed, with geographical coverage area growing from 29 to 73 districts between March and April 2018.

Data recorded in September 2017 for the Inter-Agency Joint Cash Study was used as the baseline for this analysis. The table above illustrates the rise in price levels observed during the economic blockade in November last year. While prices stabilised and then decreased over the past five months, price levels have not returned to the pre-blockade levels.



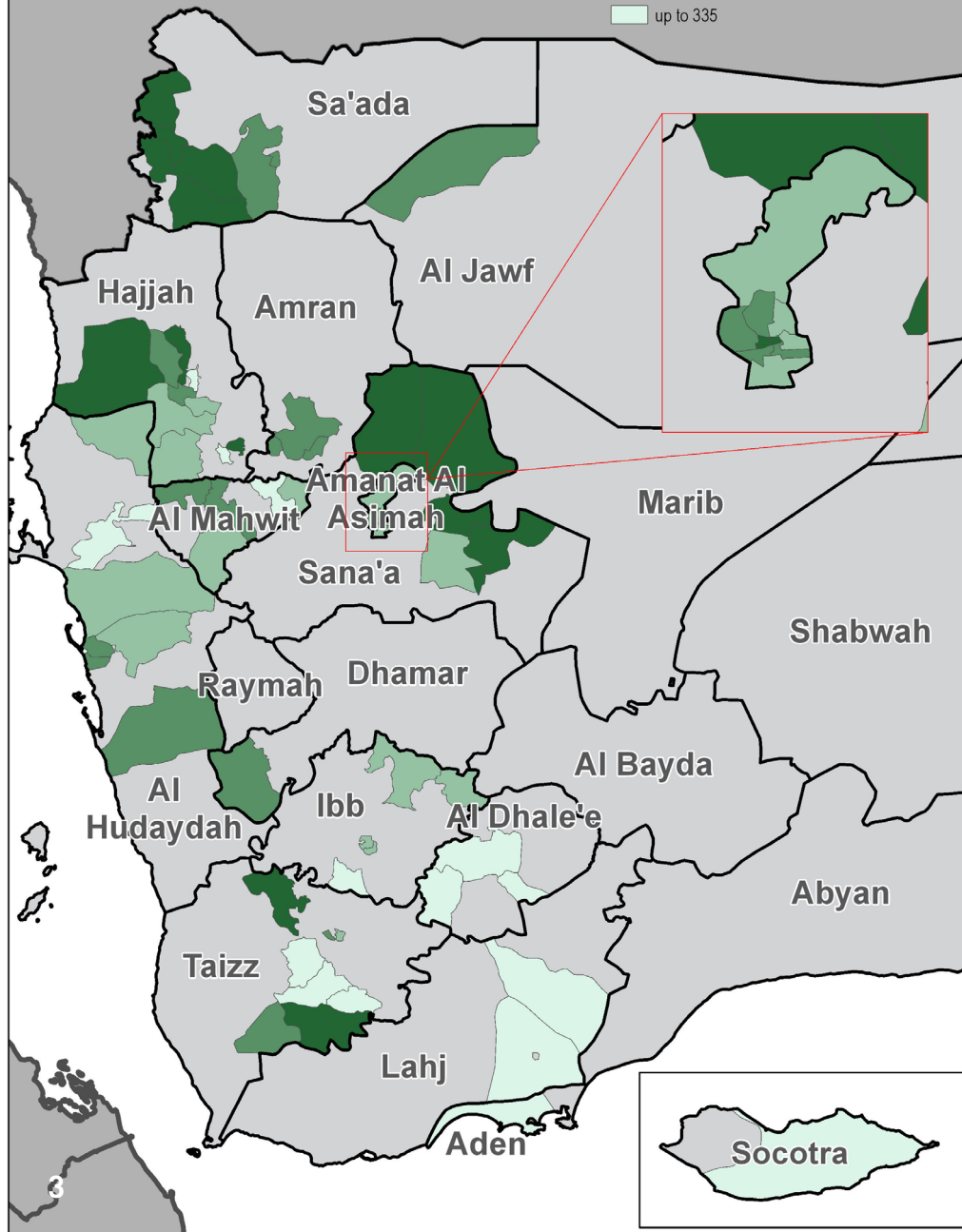
How to read a box plot



Petrol Prices

Median price of Petrol per district per liter (YER)

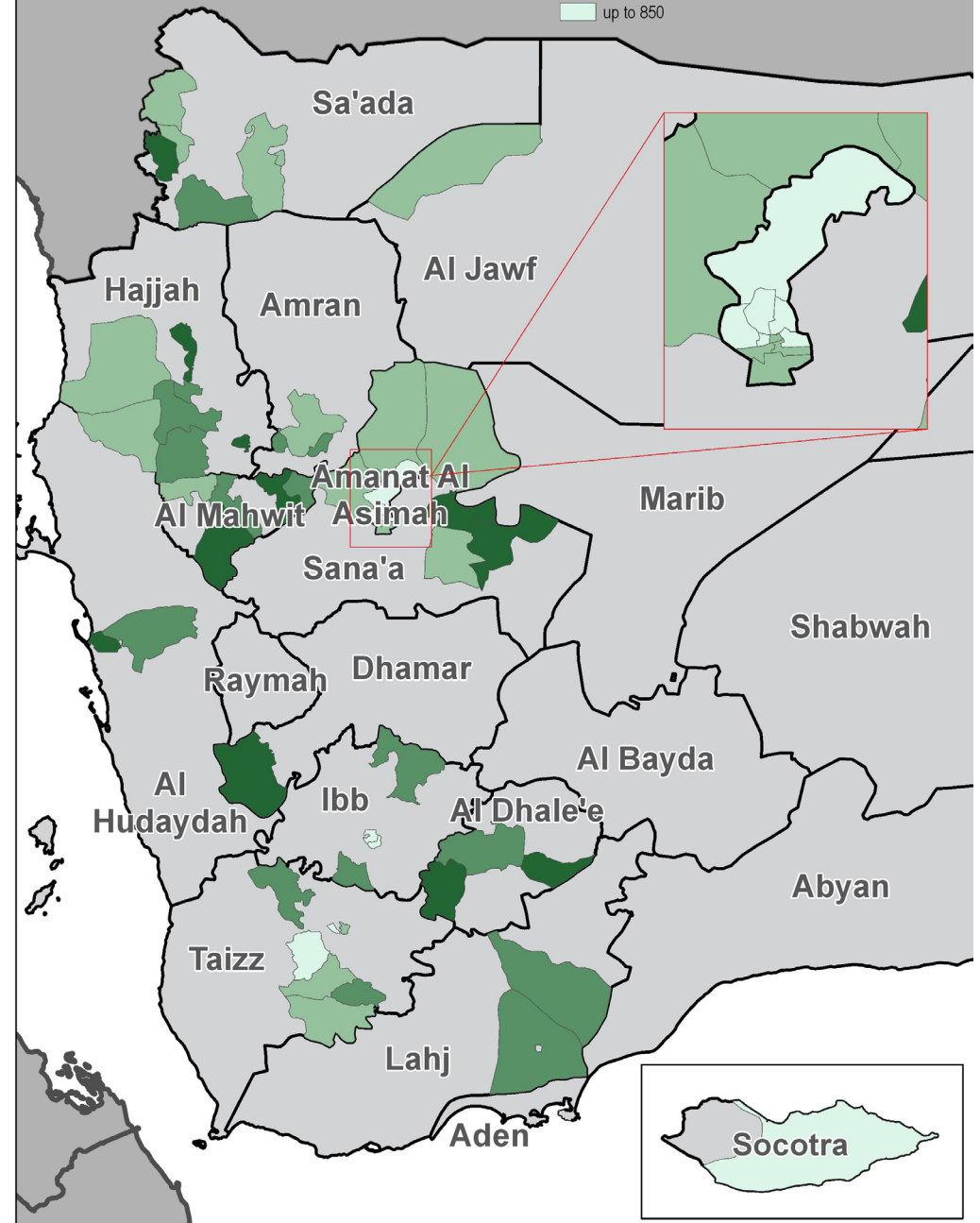
- 366 and above
- 356 - 365
- 336 - 355
- up to 335



Water Trucking Prices

Median price of Water Trucking per district per liter (YER)

- 2001 and above
- 1401 - 2000
- 851 - 1400
- up to 850



SUPPLY OVERVIEW FOR YEMEN

AVERAGE RESTOCKING TIME REPORTED (DAYS)²

Governorate	Diesel	Petrol	Bottled water	Treated water	Soap	Sanitary napkins	Laundry powder
Aden	6	5	2	2	2	2	2
Al Dhale'e	17	17	4	3	3	4	4
Al Hudaydah	1	1	0	1	1	2	1
Al Jawf	4	5	3	3	4	NA	3
Al Mahwit	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
Amanat Al Asimah	6	6	2	1	2	2	2
Amran	2	2	4	0	1	1	1
Dhamar	3	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hajjah	4	4	2	2	2	2	2
Ibb	8	7	4	11	15	21	16
Lahj	2	3	2	2	1	1	1
Sa'ada	5	5	3	2	3	3	3
Sana'a	4	4	3	2	3	2	3
Socotra	2	3	2	1	2	2	2

2. Variations between restocking time the March and April factsheets are partially caused by changes to the research methodology, which calculated an average of both a minimum and maximum restocking time, rather than KIs reporting a single average time.

OVERVIEW FOR WATER TRUCKING

70% of interviewed water trucking vendors stated that they charged additional delivery costs based upon the distance between the water source and delivery point. The median additional delivery cost per truck is:

2,000 YER for 10 km.

4,000 YER for 20 km.

6,000 YER for 30 km.

84% of water trucking vendor KIs stated that they sell non-chlorinated water.

Proportion of water vendor KIs reporting sourcing water from each type of source:

91% from a pumping station or a borehole;

7% from water spring and;

1% from treatment station.

99% of water vendor KIs reported that they acquire their water from privately owned sources.

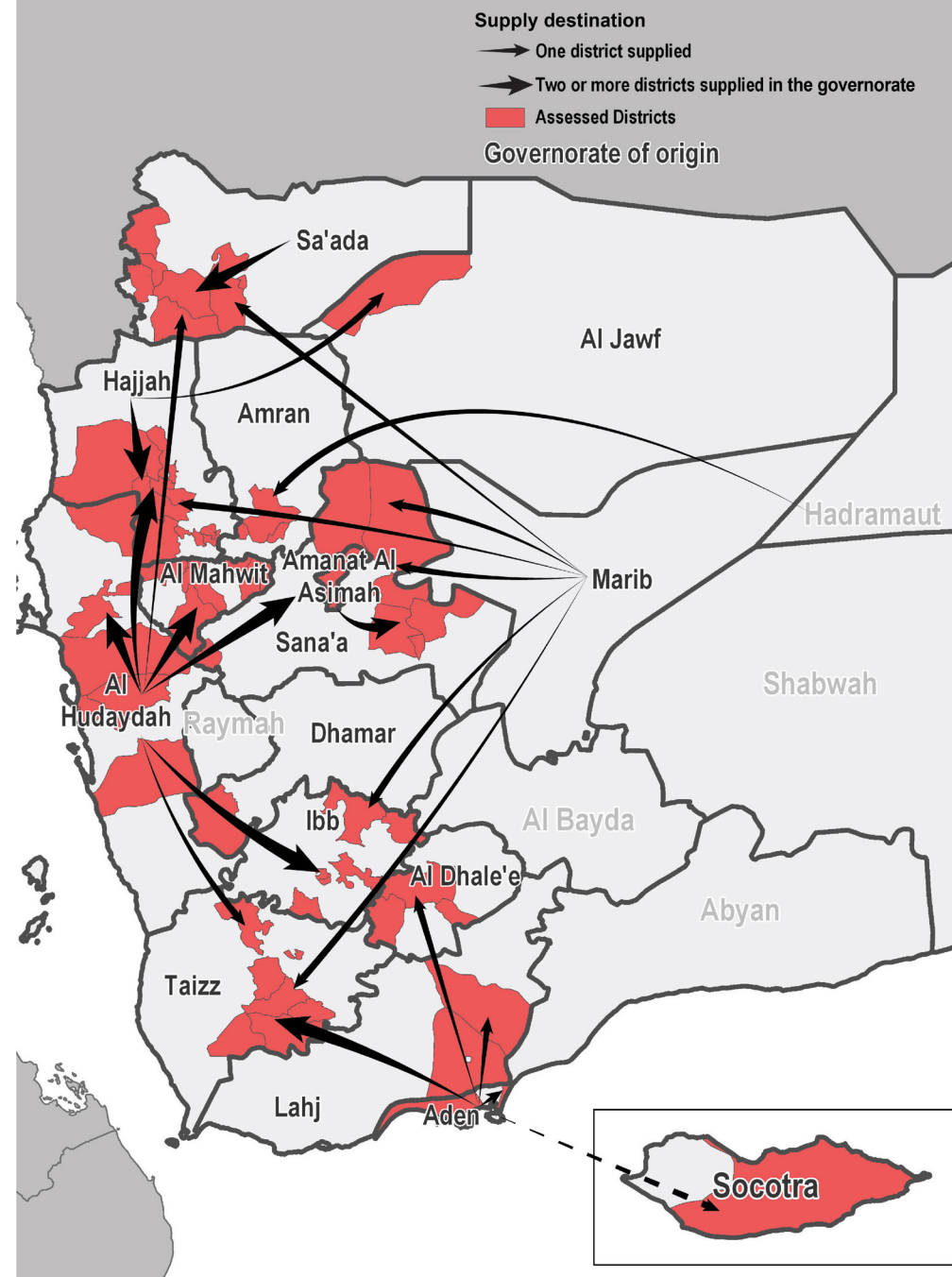
CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

Respondents were asked to state which challenges they were currently facing in buying and selling their products. The figures below represent the proportion of vendor KIs who stated that they were facing each challenge:

Price inflation	87%
Liquidity shortage	43%
Transportation issues	35%
Supply shortage	35%
Insecurity and instability	33%
Shortage of demand	25%
Government regulations	18%
Other ³	6%

3. Main other challenge highlighted is that the availability of diesel impacts the supply chains of other products.

Petrol and Diesel main supply chains in assessed districts



APPENDIX

WHAT IS THE INTERSECTOR CASH AND MARKET WORKING GROUP?

With the emerging crisis in 2014, the humanitarian actors in Yemen started using cash and vouchers as a response tool to meet the immediate needs of the Yemeni population. The CMWG was established to provide a platform for discussion and setting standards/recommendations on cash and market-based responses (inclusive of cash and vouchers) for the people in need in Yemen. REACH and the CMWG have worked together on joint assessments since the Inter-Agency Joint Cash Study published in December 2017⁴. The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative was developed by CMWG, the WASH Cluster for Yemen and REACH Initiative in order to conduct harmonized price monitoring among all cash actors in Yemen.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON METHODOLOGY

To be included in the Yemen Market Monitoring Initiative, markets must be either a single permanent market, or a local community where multiple shops are located in close proximity to one another. Where possible, markets are selected when there is at least one wholesaler operating in the market and there are enough shops located in the market to provide a minimum of three price quotations per product.

Participating organisations train their enumerators on the Market Monitoring methodology and data collection tools using standard training materials developed by REACH. Each month, enumerators conduct key informant interviews with market

vendors to collect price quotations for each product from a minimum of two markets, from which a median price is identified.

Two separate data collection tools are used within the JMML framework. The general tool is used for all products, except for water trucking which has a separate tool tailored to the unique market mechanisms of the product. For the general tool, enumerators record the location and type of market before obtaining price quotations. In addition to price levels, vendors are asked to state the current availability of the product in their local area, the location of their supplier, the number of days it takes to restock the product in their local area, and the constraints which they are facing in purchasing and retailing the item in question. The water trucking tool has additional questions, to gauge the impact of delivery distance upon price level.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partners' data, normalising prices and cross-checking outliers. The cleaned data is then analysed by commodity and by governorate. Prices are divided into quartiles and boxplots are created to help CMWG members understand the distribution of prices. To illustrate local variations in prices and availability, REACH uses the collected data to map the price of each type of item in each district. The cleaned data sets are available on the REACH Resource Centre and are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to interested clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

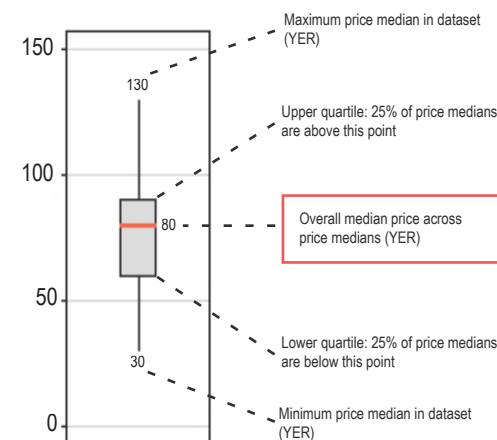
LIMITATIONS

Due to issues of access and security across Yemen, the districts included in the JMML will vary on a monthly basis, and as such there are a limited number of districts for which trends can be assessed over time. Governorate level data is composed of the respective districts assessed in a given month, and so the findings are not representative of markets in all areas of the governorate. Finally, the market monitoring process has been coordinated remotely by REACH, which inherently presents further challenges in terms of enumerator training, consistent communication and verification of results which are harder to resolve from afar.

CALCULATION OF MEDIAN CHEAPEST PRICE

The aggregated median price table is calculated by taking the median of the minimum-reported prices of a governorate's districts. In turn, the minimum-reported prices for each district are calculated from the average of the minimum reported prices of the constituent markets assessed.

HOW TO READ A BOXPLOT



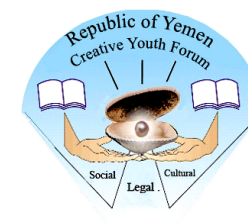
ABOUT REACH

REACH is a joint initiative that facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. By doing so, REACH contributes to ensuring that communities affected by emergencies receive the support they need. All REACH activities are conducted in support to and within the framework of inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. For more information, please visit our website at www.reach-initiative.org, contact us directly at yemen@reach-initiative.org or follow us on Twitter at [@REACH_info](https://twitter.com/REACH_info).

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS INCLUDE



Save the Children.



4. REACH, *Inter-Agency Joint Cash Study: Market Functionality and Community Perception of Cash Based Assistance*. December 2017 (link : <https://bit.ly/2FqH4UV>).