SOMALIA JOINT MARKET MONITORING INITIATIVE (JMMI)

August 2023

INTRODUCTION

Five consecutive below-average rainy seasons have led to severe water shortages, widespread displacement, and rising food prices throughout Somalia. Against the backdrop of this dire situation, 8.25 million people are estimated to be in need of assistance in 2023[1].

The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) is a joint initiative from the Somalia WASH, Shelter, Education clusters, Somalia's Cash Working Group and REACH. It aims to address an information gap in the country in terms of regular and updated monitoring of market functionality on a broad range of non-food items (NFIs), while contributing to the existing supply chain and price monitoring of the main Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) items.

The aim of the JMMI is to harmonise market monitoring, avoid duplications and overlaps in data collection, maximise geographic coverage and ensure a regular and timely output to inform cluster programming and cash responses. It is a model that REACH supports and coordinates in several countries.

The assessed items are selected based on the needs of the three clusters and their members, currently implementing or planning to implement Market-Based Programming (MBP) and Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA). On the supply side, MBP supports traders to expand their products, for example through providing non-refundable cash grants for business development. On the demand side, CVA is provided to increase access to WASH, shelter, and education commodities.

Data collection takes place on a quarterly basis. The pilot round of the JMMI in Somalia took place in June 2020 in 6 locations. The August 2020 round was the first full round of the JMMI, which covered more than 50 items from the WASH and Shelter clusters, in 12 different locations.

The data collection for this quarter occurred from August 15th to September 4th, 2023, encompassing the assessment of prices for 136 items in 11 districts.

SUMMARY FROM THE CURRENT ROUND

11	Participating agencies
11	Assessed locations
136	Assessed items
453	Interviews conducted

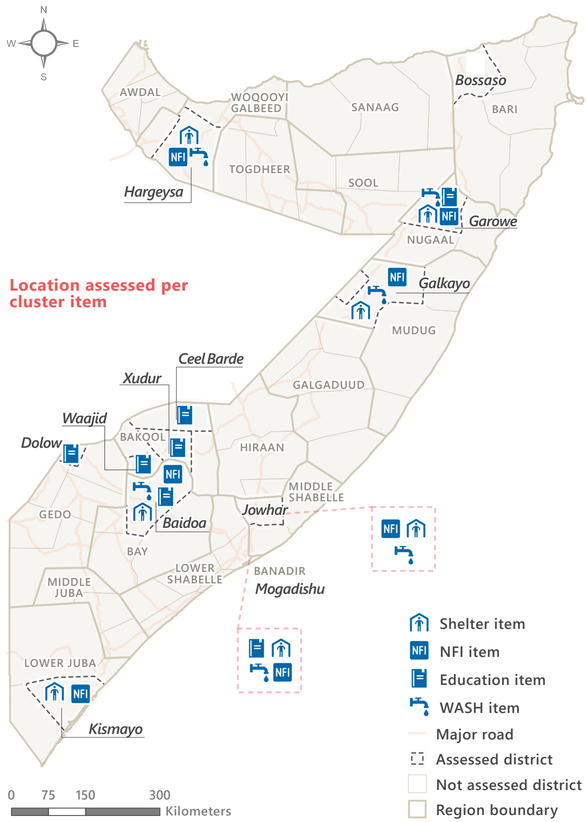
BREAKDOWN OF INTERVIEWS PER LOCATION

22	Waajid
121	Baidoa
3	Marka
17	Ceel Barde
4	Kismayo
28	Galkayo
76	Garowe
60	Hargeysa
15	Xudur
42	Jowhar
65	Mogadishu

BREAKDOWN OF INTERVIEWS PER VENDOR TYPE

92	Construction
190	General NFIs
142	Stationery
29	Water

Locations assessed per cluster items, and main roads



KEY FINDINGS

- The **United States Dollar (USD)** remained the **most widely used currency in vendors' shops**, with 96% of transactions conducted using cash or mobile money transfer methods.
- The findings highlight that the **overall cost of general non-food items (NFI) and hygiene kit had reduced**. However, the overall rounded stationery median cost remained unchanged compared to the previous round in May 2023.
- The findings indicate that vendors faced multiple obstacles in their supply chain, including **damaged routes**, **transportation barriers**, and **arbitrary detentions** during transit. Furthermore, Financial constraints and banking issues, such as **limited cash flow** and **difficulties accessing loans** and **cash from banks**, posed significant challenges. Subsequently, the **majority of the vendors did not offer credit to customers.**

OVERVIEW

This factsheet presents data collected by JMMI partners through key informant interviews with local vendors. Findings are presented at the district level and should be considered indicative rather than representative. Hence, the narrative only summarises general trends and particular outliers.

PRICES[2]

The tables on the following pages present the median reported prices of assessed items in all assessed locations, converted to USD using the exchange rate reported by each vendor at the time of data collection.

For the aggregated prices, labelled as "All", the methodology used is the "medians-of-medians" approach, whereby the median prices for each of all assessed items are calculated first within each assessed location and then the median of all of those locations' medians is calculated to derive aggregated prices.

The tables also include the aggregated values for the first and third quartiles, which represent the distribution of the 50% most common prices (25% below and 25% above the median, respectively). These boundaries, combined with the particular distribution of prices (standard deviation[3]), are used to calculate outliers (crossed with a red line).

Changes in prices were noted for all items with sufficient price quotations from both the current and previous rounds. The changes are categorised as: large increase (> 70, or current price more than doubled since the previous round), medium increase (15 to 70), small increase (5 to 15), minor change (-5 to 5), small decrease (-5 to -15), medium decrease (-15 to -70), and large decrease (< -70, or current price less than half of the previous round[4]).

As the locations covered by the JMMI differ between rounds, price changes are not noted for aggregated global level prices, and are presented only for those locations that were included in both the current and most recent previous round.

PAYMENT METHOD

The majority of the vendors reported that the United States Dollar (USD) was the main currency used in their shops (96%). Other vendors reported Ethiopian Birr—ETB (4%).

Vendor in Hargeysa used the US dollar as their main currency (97%) and the Somaliland shilling as their secondary currency (3%).

Vendors in Ceel Barde are the only ones that reported using Ethiopian Birr (100%). Most vendors interviewed in all locations accepted mobile payment (99%). They also accepted cash (74%) and vouchers (6%) as a mode of payment.

Vendors in Marka (100%), Kismayo (25%), Hargeysa (22%) and Mogadishu (18%) accepted vouchers as a mode of payment.

% of interviewed vendors by currency they reported using most frequently in their shop, per location.

Location	USD	ETB	SLSH
All	96	4	0
Ceel Barde	0	100	0
Waajid	100	0	0
Mogadishu	100	0	0
Xudur	100	0	0
Baidoa	100	0	0
Marka	100	0	0
Jowhar	100	0	0
Garowe	100	0	0
Galkayo	100	0	0
Kismayo	100	0	0
Hargeysa	97	0	3

Payment methods interviewed vendors reported accepting in their shops, by % of interviewed vendors per location*.

Location	Cash	Mobile	Voucher
All	74	99	6
Ceel Barde	100	100	0
Waajid	100	100	0
Mogadishu	92	98	18
Xudur	100	100	0
Baidoa	88	100	0
Marka	100	100	100
Jowhar	100	100	0
Garowe	1	100	0
Galkayo	25	100	0
Kismayo	100	100	25
Hargeysa	97	95	22

*Respondents could choose multiple answers, results may exceed 100%

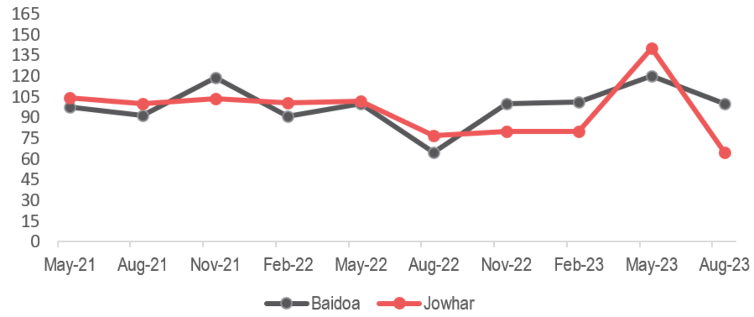
GENERAL NFIs

Median price of basic NFI kit (USD) - August 2023

Item	Overall median, per assessed item spec (USD).	Median change (USD) since previous round	Quantity per kit, per household	Median item cost	Baidoa, cost per kit	Hargeysa, cost per kit	Jowhar, cost per kit	Mogadishu, cost per kit
Blanket 1.5m x 2.0m, polyester	10.00	0.00	3	30.00	36.00	30.00	0.00	18.00
Bowl 1 litre	2.10	0.39	5	10.50	11.00	12.50	7.50	10.00
Cooking Pot 5 litres	4.90	-3.10	1	4.90	4.00	8.00	4.80	5.00
Cooking Pot 7 litres	6.25	-2.25	1	6.25	6.00	8.00	5.80	6.50
Cup 250ml	0.90	0.10	5	4.50	2.50	10.00	4.00	5.00
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	2.00	-0.50	2	4.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
Kettle 2 litres	5.00	3.20	1	5.00	5.00	8.00	4.50	5.00
Knife medium	1.00	-4.00	1	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00
Mosquito Net 1.8m x 1.6m x 1.5m	5.03	3.53	1	5.03	3.50	9.00	5.05	5.00
Mug unit	0.85	-0.65	1	0.85	0.50	2.00	0.70	1.00
Plastic Sheet 4m x 5m	10.00	4.00	1	10.00	6.00	12.00	0.00	10.00
Plate 25cm diameter	1.50	-7.00	5	7.50	4.50	10.00	7.50	7.50
Serving Spoon 125ml	1.00	-0.25	1	1.00	0.90	2.00	1.00	1.00
Sleeping Mat 1.8m x 0.9m	7.93	3.93	2	15.85	8.00	20.00	15.70	16.00
Solar Lamp unit	4.00	-6.00	1	4.00	5.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Spoon unit	0.55	-0.55	5	2.75	1.50	10.00	2.75	0.00
Total basic NFI kit cost	**63.00**	-9.16	NA	**113.13**	**98.4**	**150.50**	**64.30**	**91.00**
Rounded basic NFI kit cost	**65.00**	-5.00	NA	**115.00**	**100.00**	**150.00**	**65.00**	**90.00**

The table on the left contains the items that should be included in a basic NFI kit, as guided by the Somalia Shelter Cluster's Sustainable Solutions Technical Working Group. It should be noted that the median price of the kit varies by location and not all items included in the kit were available at the time of the assessment in all assessed markets.

Median price of basic NFI kit over time (USD) - Baidoa & Jowhar*



The price of the cost of NFI kit in Jowhar decreased slightly. However, the price of the NFI kit in Baidoa decreased significantly in August 2023, as illustrated in the graph above. The reason for this could be higher restocking of NFI kits by vendors in Baidoa due to expected flooding in November 2023.

***Rounding** has been done to the nearest 5 USD for ease of implementation at the programmatic level, following the methodology used in the Quarterly Cash and Markets Dashboard MEB Revisions.

*General NFIs - are any non-food items or tools that contribute to the physical and/or psychological health of populations affected by a significant deterioration in their environment which threatens their survival.

*Baidoa and Jowhar were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed GNFI items since May 21st.

Median prices of monitored items (USD)[1] in August 2023 compared to previous round in May 2023 - General NFIs

Item	Total Number of Vendors interviewed	Overall Median	Price change (USD)	1st Quartile*	3rd Quartile*	Baidoa	Hargeysa	Jowhar	Mogadishu
Blanket 1.5m x 2.0m, polyester	38	10.00	0.00	10.00	12.00	12.00	10.00	NA	6.00
Bowl 1 litre	26	2.10	0.39	1.50	2.28	2.20	2.50	1.50	2.00
Bucket 10 litres	38	3.25	-0.75	3.00	4.00	3.00	4.00	3.50	3.00
Chlorine Tabs clear 10 L of water	23	2.60	-0.07	0.20	5.00	0.20	NA	5.00	NA
Cooking Pot 5 litres	37	4.90	-3.10	4.50	8.00	4.00	8.00	4.80	5.00
Cooking Pot 7 litres	36	6.25	-2.25	6.00	8.00	6.00	8.00	5.80	6.50
Cup 250ml	42	0.90	0.10	0.63	2.00	0.50	2.00	0.80	1.00
Jerry Can 20 litres, plastic	32	2.00	-0.50	1.58	2.00	1.50	2.00	2.00	NA
Jerry Can 10 litres, collapsible	23	2.00	0.10	1.80	2.35	1.80	2.00	2.15	NA
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	28	2.00	0.20	1.80	2.10	1.90	2.00	2.20	NA
Kettle 2 litres	43	5.00	0.00	4.00	8.00	5.00	8.00	4.50	5.00
Knife medium	50	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00
Lock unit	22	2.20	-0.30	2.00	3.00	2.20	3.00	NA	2.00
MHM[3] disposable, pack 10-14 units	26	1.08	-0.43	1.00	1.50	1.00	2.00	1.15	1.00
MHM reusable, 5 units	20	1.00	-0.50	1.00	1.85	1.00	NA	1.70	1.00
Mosquito Net 1.8m x 1.6m x 1.5m	36	5.03	-3.48	4.53	9.00	3.50	9.00	5.05	5.00
Mug unit	40	0.85	-0.15	0.80	2.00	0.50	2.00	0.70	1.00
Face Mask box, 50 units	20	6.00	0.00	3.63	6.13	3.50	NA	6.00	9.00
Plastic Gloves box, 100 units	25	6.25	-0.75	5.00	7.00	6.25	NA	7.00	5.00
Plastic Sheet 4m x 5m	24	10.00	1.50	6.00	12.00	6.00	12.00	NA	10.00
Plastic Sheet 6m x 7.5m	22	12.00	0.02	12.00	12.90	12.85	12.00	NA	10.00
Plate 25cm diameter	43	1.50	0.25	1.45	2.00	0.90	2.00	1.50	1.50
Rake unit	19	4.00	0.00	4.00	6.00	4.00	6.00	NA	4.00
Serving Spoon 125ml	38	1.00	-0.50	1.00	2.00	0.90	2.00	1.00	1.00
Sleeping Mat 1.8m x 0.9m	44	7.93	-2.08	5.93	10.00	4.00	10.00	7.85	8.00
Soap 3 small bars (150g)	37	1.03	-0.08	0.60	1.50	0.80	0.50	1.25	2.00
Solar Lamp unit	15	4.00	-0.30	3.00	5.10	5.00	3.00	NA	NA
Spoon unit	33	0.55	0.15	0.50	2.00	0.30	2.00	0.55	NA
Washing Powder 100 grams	41	0.50	0.30	0.20	0.60	0.20	0.50	0.70	NA
Water 1 litre bottle	21	0.50	-0.05	0.50	0.80	0.80	0.50	NA	0.50

*General NFIs are any non-food items or tools that contribute to the physical and/or psychological health of populations affected by a significant deterioration in their environment which threatens their survival.

PRICE CHANGE KEY

- Large increase (> 70)
- Medium increase 15 to 70)
- Small increase (5 to 15)
- Minor change (-5 to 5)
- Small decrease (-5 to -15)
- Medium decrease (-15 to -70)
- Large decrease (< -70)
- x Inconclusive change[2]
- x Inconclusive price, based on only one quote
- 1 Price outliers: prices with strong deviation (+2) to the overall median price

*1st Quartile and 3rd Quartile: the prices listed here represent the aggregated value for the distribution of the 50% most common prices (25% of prices below and 25% of prices above the median, respectively)

The overall cost of general NFI items decreased. Prices of 11 monitored items decreased while the price of 6 items increased. No price changes for only one monitored general NFI item (Blanket).

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting restocking difficulties, per location - General NFIs

Item	All	Mogadishu (n = 8)	Baidoa (n = 108)	Jowhar (n = 94)	Garowe (n = 18)	Galkayo (n = 2)	Hargeysa (n = 42)
Kitchen bowl	23	0	40	57	0	0	0
Bucket	26	0	56	36	0	0	8
Cooking pot	35	0	63	38	50	0	27
Jerry can	25	0	50	25	50	0	0
Kettle	28	0	57	44	0	0	18
Kitchen knife	32	0	67	50	50	0	16
Lock	18	25	43	0	0	0	0
Mosquito net	27	25	33	50	50	0	16
Face Mask	50	25	50	100	50	0	0
Kitchen plate	35	0	57	60	50	0	20
Kitchen serving spoon	29	0	50	57	50	0	15
Solar lamp	53	0	71	100	50	100	0

The table above illustrates the percentage of interviewed general NFI vendors reporting difficulties in restocking each item by their location.

Over the 3 months prior to data collection, vendors have had trouble restocking solar lamps (53%), chlorine tablets (52%), face masks (50%) and washing powder (49%). The average stock time to restock the chlorine tablets was 5 days, solar lamp (4 days), face mask (4 days) and washing powder (4 days).

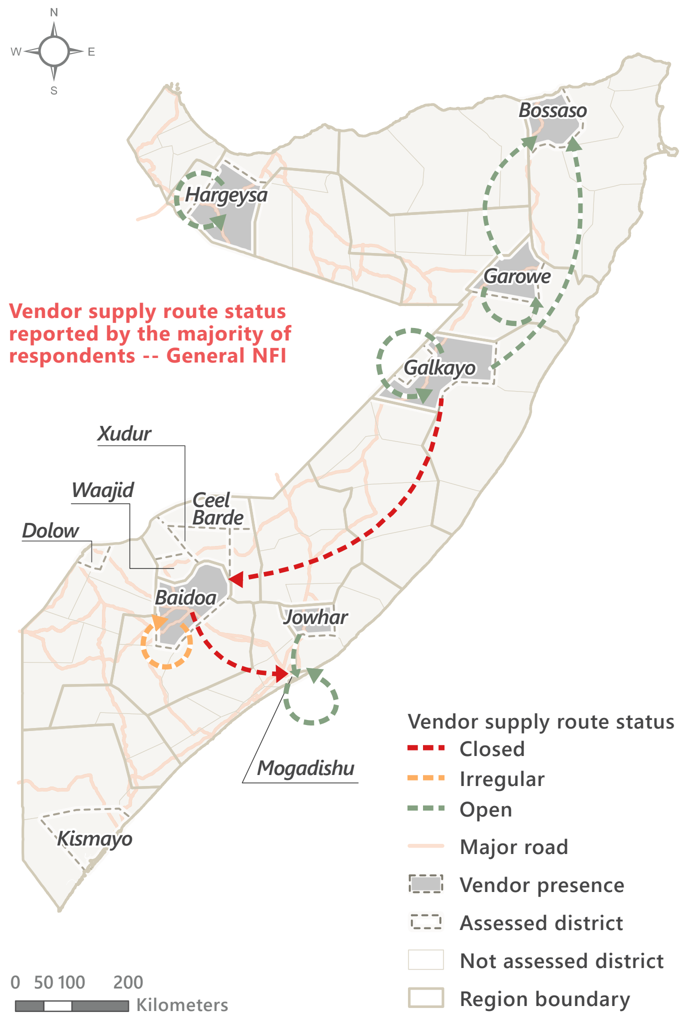
The vendors used different ways to transport supplies from the main supplier. They used hired vehicles (56%), their own vehicles (14%), professional transporters (8%) and wholesalers (8%). Only 4% reported using airplanes for transportation.

The vendors in Baidoa had trouble restocking solar lamps (71%) and chlorine tablets (57%). Vendors in Jowhar had trouble restocking face masks (100%) and solar lamps (100%). Vendors in Garowe had trouble restocking menstrual hygiene materials, face masks, solar lamps and washing powder in equal measure (50%), while Mogadishu vendors had the most trouble restocking face masks (25%). Non-security barriers affected both Baidoa (37%) and Garowe (17%). Financial barriers affected Jowhar (19%) while transportation barriers affected Mogadishu (25%).

Vendors in Ceel berde (69%), Baidoa (40%), Jowhar (32%), and Mogadishu (29%) reported the supply route from their supplier was open but damaged. In Garowe, the supply route was not a major barrier and vendors reported their supply route was open (100%).

The map to the right visualises the supply flow of transported general NFIs as reported by the interviewed vendors. Supply routes are shown as either damaged/ closed or open based on the response provided by most vendors reliant on a particular supply route. Although this information might help to provide context to restocking difficulties and supply barriers reported by vendors, it should be considered indicative in nature.

Supply routes reported by interviewed vendors in August 2023 - General NFIs



General NFIs are any non-food items or tools that contribute to the physical and/or psychological health of populations affected by a significant deterioration in their environment which threatens their survival. Please note that the difference in reporting on the supply route from Mogadishu to Galkayo could be due to the fact that general NFI vendors commonly reported preferring to supply from Bossaso Town rather than Mogadishu. Thus, the map might reflect the preference for one route over the other rather than route closure.

Median price (USD) of basic hygiene kit and minimum household water supply in August 2023

Item	Overall median, per assessed item spec.	Quantity per kit, per household	Median item cost per kit/household	Baidoa, cost per kit	Hargeysa, cost per kit	Jowhar, cost per kit	Mogadishu, cost per kit	Garowe, cost per kit
Bucket 10 litres	3.25	1	3.25	3.00	4.00	3.50	3.00	0.00
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	2.00	1	2.00	1.90	2.00	2.20	0.00	0.00
MHM disposable, pack 10-14 units	1.08	2	2.15	2.00	4.00	2.30	2.00	0.00
Soap 3 small bars (150g)	1.03	1000 g	6.83	5.33	3.33	8.33	13.33	0.00
Washing Powder 100 grams	0.50	300 g	1.50	0.60	1.50	2.10	0.00	0.00
Basic hygiene kit cost	7.85	NA	15.73	NA	14.83	18.43	18.33	0.00
Rounded basic hygiene kit cost rounded*	10.00	NA	15.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	20.00	0.00
Communal water 20 litres	0.11	2790 l	15.09	55.80	41.85	0.00	0.00	0.00
Piped water 1000 litres	2.00	2790 l	5.58	6.98	4.88	0.00	0.00	NA
Trucked water 1000 litres	3.00	2790 l	8.37	8.37	22.32	0.00	0.00	34.88

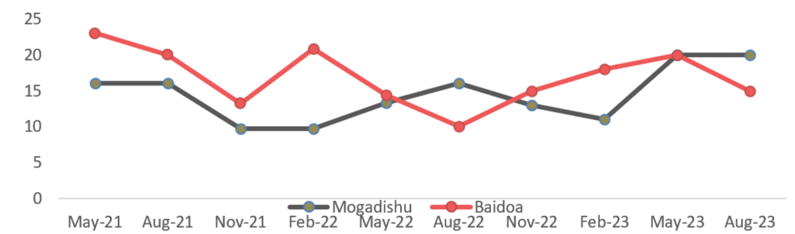
The table above contains the items that should be included in a basic hygiene kit as guided by the WASH Cluster in Somalia. The frequency with which these items should be distributed varies, as consumable items like soap, menstrual hygiene products, and washing powder would need to be distributed more frequently than non-consumable items like buckets and jerry cans.

The quantity of water required per household is based on the average Somali household size of 6, and the Sphere Minimum Standard of 15 litres of water per person per day (6 persons x 15 litres x 31 days).

*Rounding has been done to the nearest 5 USD for ease of implementation at the programmatic level, following the methodology used in the Quarterly Cash and Markets Dashboard MEB revisions.

It should be noted that the median price of the kit varies by location and not all items included in the kit were available at the time of the assessment in all assessed markets. However, this estimate/substitution may not always accurately reflect the cost of said item in said location. Therefore, the overall median for the assessed items was used to determine the price of the kit.

Median price of basic hygiene kit over time (USD) - Mogadishu & Baidoa



The kit price decreased in all locations. However, the median price of washing powder dropped drastically from $4.30 in May 2023 to $0.50 in August 2023.

The price of the hygiene kit decreased from $15 to $10 in August 2023. According to the Joint Markets and Supply Chain Update (13 – 19 August 2023)[6], most retailers had plenty of stocks to meet demand. However, the report anticipates a price increase in commodities in the upcoming weeks due to the Jilal season.

*Mogadishu and Baidoa were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed Hygiene items since May 21st.

CONSTRUCTION ITEMS

Median prices of monitored items (USD) in August 2023 compared to previous round in May 2023 - Construction items and water suppliers

Item	Total Number of vendors interviewed	Overall Median	Prices Change (USD)	1st Quartile*	3rd Quartile*	Baidoa	Garowe	Hargeysa	Mogadishu	Kismayo
Brick 20cm x 20cm	36	0.50	-0.20	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.78	0.50	0.50	NA
Cement 50kg	51	7.40	-0.60	7.00	8.00	10.50	6.65	7.00	7.40	8.00
Gravel cubic meter	28	37.75	-4.25	30.75	76.25	81.00	30.00	40.50	35.00	NA
Gumboots one pair	41	9.00	-2.00	4.20	12.00	4.00	12.00	19.00	9.00	4.50
Hammer 0.5kg	45	3.30	-0.70	3.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	3.30	3.50
Hinges 4 inches	36	6.50	0.50	2.00	7.25	12.15	6.50	1.00	8.50	3.00
Iron Sheet 0.9m x 1.5m	45	2.00	-4.50	4.50	7.00	2.00	1.60	2.00	2.80	NA
Metal Bar 1 quintal, 6mm	32	2.00	-4.00	3.95	6.13	2.00	2.00	2.00	NA	NA
Metal Bar 1 quintal, 8mm	32	4.95	-2.75	6.00	8.25	3.55	6.35	7.50	NA	NA
Nails 1 box, No.5 (1.5 inch)	47	5.00	3.20	1.80	2.00	5.00	6.15	3.50	2.50	2.00
Nails 1 box, No.6 (2.5 inches)	47	8.00	6.00	2.00	2.00	8.50	8.00	5.50	2.50	2.00
Sand cubic meter	21	36.50	1.50	30.00	43.00	44.60	36.50	11.00	NA	NA
Spade unit	36	3.28	-0.73	3.00	4.00	3.00	3.55	4.00	3.00	NA
Timber 5cm x 2.5cm, 4m long	38	11.00	4.00	6.40	11.83	11.00	6.50	31.00	5.00	11.00
Timber 8cm x 4cm, 4m long	38	5.00	-1.00	5.00	8.45	7.00	5.00	21.00	4.00	5.00
Timber 10cm x 2.5cm, 4m	34	7.00	1.00	6.00	8.00	7.00	6.00	30.00	4.50	8.00
Vent Pipe 4m long	26	8.70	0.20	8.08	11.50	13.00	8.70	NA	6.00	NA
Wheelbarrow unit	37	29.50	-3.00	28.00	32.00	30.00	29.00	35.00	28.00	NA
Wooden Pole 6m long	35	4.00	0.00	3.00	4.20	2.60	4.00	5.00	4.00	NA
Wood Saw 10 inches long	36	3.55	-0.45	3.60	4.70	3.00	3.85	5.00	3.25	NA
Communal water 20 litres	10	0.35	0.24	0.23	0.40	0.40	NA	0.30	NA	NA
Piped water 1000 litres	11	1.75	-0.25	1.42	2.25	2.50	1.33	1.75	NA	NA
Trucked water 1000 litres	15	8.00	5.00	3.00	8.12	3.00	12.50	8.00	NA	NA

PRICE CHANGE KEY

- ▲ Large increase (> 70)
- ▲ Medium increase (15 to 70)
- ▲ Small increase (5 to 15)
- ● Minor change (-5 to 5)
- ▼ Small decrease (-5 to -15)
- ▼ Medium decrease (-15 to -70)
- ▼ Large decrease (< -70)
- x Inconclusive change

*1st Quartile and 3rd Quartile: the prices listed here represent the aggregated value for the distribution of the 50% most common prices (25% of prices below and 25% of prices above the median, respectively)

There was a slight decrease in the cost of construction items. The prices of 10 items decreased slightly, but the prices of 7 items (nails, trucked water, timber, hammer, spade, cement) specifically increased significantly. There were no price changes for 6 monitored construction items. These include brick, vent pipe, wooden pole, wooden saw, communal water, and piped water.

Iron sheets is one of the monitored construction items that showed a drastic change in price in this round of August compared to the last round of May 2023. The price of iron sheets decreased drastically from $6.35 to $1.60 in Garowe compared to the last round of May 2023. Same for Hargeysa where the price of iron sheets dropped from $8 to $2 compared to the results of Quarter 2 (round of May 2023). Vendors in Mogadishu also reported a decrease in price from $5 to $2.80 in Quarter 3 (round of August 2023).

Furthermore, the Joint Markets and Supply Chain Update (13 – 19 August 2023)[7] reported that the movement of commodities was consistent and every port was at least partially accessible. Most roads in the assessed locations were passable. Prices of food and non-food items exhibited in Banaadir and Hirshabelle remained relatively stable.

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting restocking difficulties, per location - Construction items

Item	All	Mogadishu (n = 14)	Baidoa (n = 64)	Jowhar (n = 15)	Galkayo (n = 1)	Hargeysa (n = 33)
Brick	28	67	44	100	100	0
Cement	25	60	50	100	50	17
Gravel	24	0	60	100	0	0
Hammer	22	50	50	100	0	17
Hinges	14	0	50	100	0	10
Iron Sheet	20	50	50	100	0	17
Metal Bar	23	33	63	100	0	10
Sand	20	25	43	100	0	0
Spade	25	50	60	100	0	0
Timber	29	25	75	100	0	33
Vent Pipe	23	25	50	100	0	50
Wheelbarrow	26	20	63	100	0	22
Wooden Pole	29	33	64	100	0	14
Wooden Saw	24	25	57	100	0	30

The table above illustrates the proportion of construction vendors reporting difficulties restocking each item by their location. It should be noted that vendors were only asked about restocking difficulties for items that they currently had in stock, not for items that were reportedly unavailable.

The map to the right visualises the supply route conditions as reported by the interviewed construction vendor KIs.

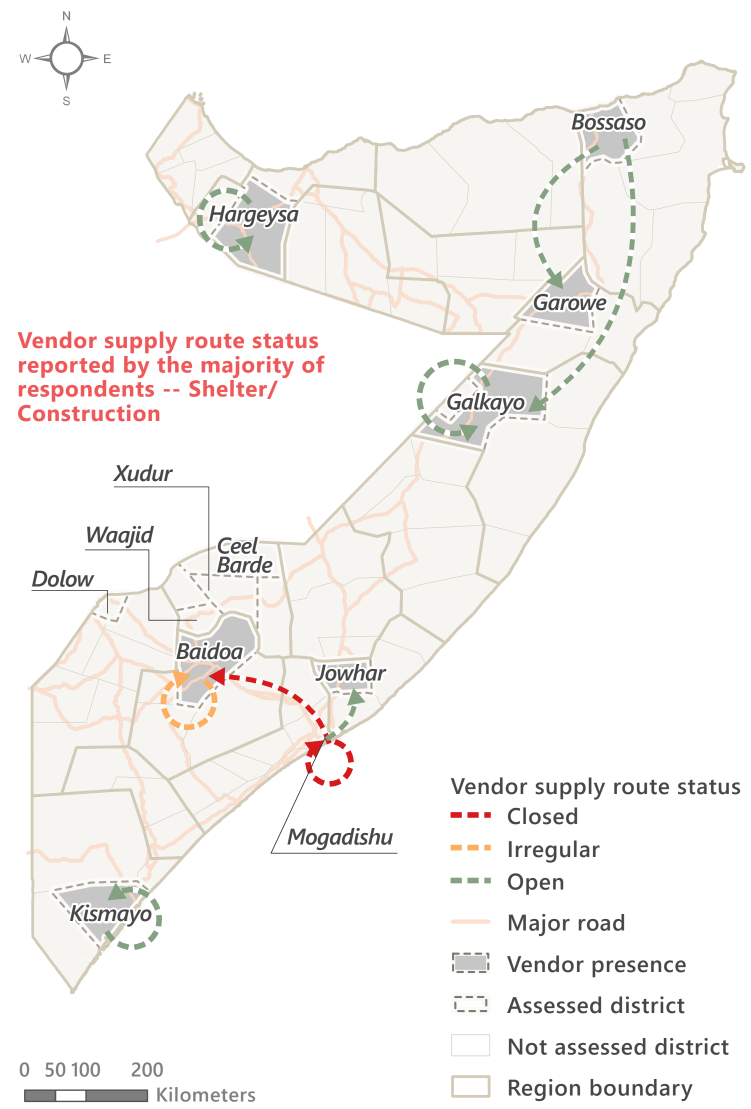
Vendors said it was hard to restock timber (29%), wooden pole (29%), brick (28%), cement (25%) and spade (25%) in the last 3 months. This could be a contributing factor to the observed increase in prices for certain items, including spades, cement, and timber, as outlined on page 7.
The average stock time to restock cement was 7 days, spade (7 days), brick (3 days) and wooden pole (3 days). Vendors in Mogadishu, Baidoa, Jowhar and Hargeysa had the most trouble restocking (cement, timber, ventilation pipe and wheelbarrow), while vendors in Galkayo had trouble restocking brick and cement.

The majority (56%) of the vendors stated that they utilized a rented vehicle, while 14% relied on their own vehicle. Only a small percentage (4%) mentioned using airplanes for transportation.

Vendors in Mogadishu said that their two main financial barriers to restocking were low purchasing power/inflation (48%) and limited cash (23%). Transportation-related barriers also affected supply routes for vendors in Mogadishu (25%). Though vendors in Mogadishu reported an open supply route, it was still damaged (29%) due to poor road quality (82%).

Vendors in Galkayo (50%) and Baidoa (31%) reported limited cash as their main financial barrier to the restocking of goods. However, vendors in Hargeysa reported their lack of access to credit (67%) is their main barrier to restocking of goods. Vendors in Jowhar reported that the supply route from their supplier is open but damaged (32%). The roads were in bad condition (79%). This made major roads impossible to use in July-September (Autumn) and October-December (Spring) (100%).

Supply routes reported by interviewed vendors in August 2023 - Construction Items

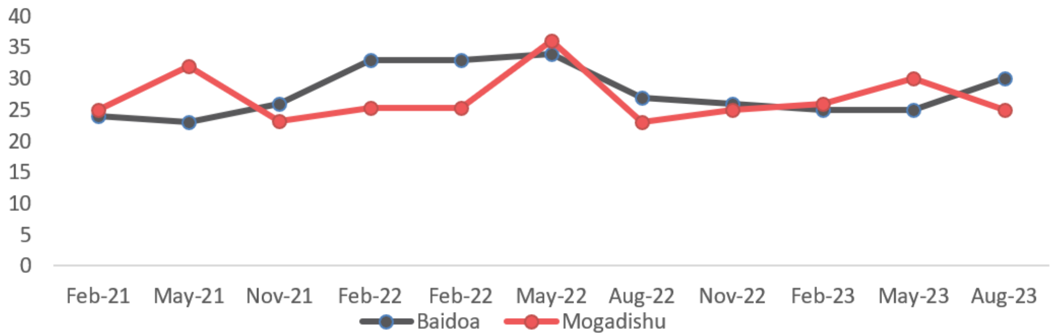


STATIONARY ITEMS

Median price (USD) of basic learning kit - Education Cluster August 2023

Item	Overall median, per assessed	Quantity per kit, per learner	Median item cost per kit/per	Baidoa, cost per kit	Ceel Barde, cost per kit	Waajid, cost per kit	Xudur, cost per kit	Marka, cost per kit	Garowe, cost per kit	Mogadishu, cost per kit
Bag unit, polyester	6.00	1	6.00	4.80	4.65	0.00	0.00	6.00	6.00	7.00
Crayons packet, 24 units	1.00	1	1.00	1.00	0.26	0.00	0.50	0.00	1.30	1.00
Exercise Book 100 pages, A5	0.80	6	4.80	6.00	2.70	3.00	6.00	15.00	4.80	4.80
Math set set	2.00	1	2.00	1.00	2.88	2.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	2.00
Pencils pack, 24 units	2.00	4	8.00	8.00	3.40	9.40	0.48	0.00	8.00	8.00
Pens 10 units	1.25	2	2.50	8.00	2.00	0.00	0.32	0.00	4.00	2.50
Rubber unit	0.20	4	0.80	0.80	0.80	3.00	0.48	0.00	0.80	0.80
Ruler unit, 30 cm long	0.30	1	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.24	0.25	0.46	0.30
Sharpener unit	0.20	1	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.50	0.12	0.20	0.20	0.20
Total basic education kit cost	**13.75**	NA	**25.60**	**30.1**	**17.19**	**17.90**	**8.14**	**21.45**	**26.76**	**26.60**
Rounded basic education kit	**15.00**	NA	**25.00**	**30.00**	**15.00**	**20.00**	**10.00**	**20.00**	**25.00**	**25.00**

Median price of education kit over time (USD) - Baidoa and Mogadishu



*Mogadishu and Baidoa were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed stationery items since May 21st.

The table on the left contains the items that should be included in a basic learning kit, as determined by Education Cluster Somalia. The quantities listed in the kit are to be included per learner per school term. The median price of the kit varies by location and not all items included in the kit were available at the time of the assessment in all assessed markets.

The overall rounded stationery median cost remained unchanged compared to the last round of May 2023 ($15).

The kit cost decreased in Ceel Barde, Xudur and Waajid. However, the kit cost increased in Mogadishu and Baidoa.

In Xudur, vendors reported a drastic decrease in the cost of education kits from $30 (round of May 2023) to $10 in Quarter 3 (August 2023). This price decrease is a result of vendors reporting having fewer transportation challenges in the last 3 months before the data collection. The majority of the vendors in Xudur reported they had no transportation challenges (93%).

On the other hand, the median price of some education items such as pens and pencils doubled in price compared to the last quarter (May 2023). This is followed by an increase in median price for bags from $4 (in May 2023) to $6 in Quarter 3 (August 2023).

*__Rounding__ has been done upwards to the nearest 5 USD for ease of implementation at the programmatic level, following the methodology used in the Quarterly Cash and Markets Dashboard MEB revisions.

Median prices of monitored items (USD) in August 2023 compared to previous round in May 2023 - Stationery items

Item	Total Number of Vendors interviewed	Overall Median	Price change (USD)	1st Quartile*	3rd Quartile*	Baidoa	Ceel Barde	Garowe	Marka	Mogadishu	Xudur	Waajid
Bag unit, polyester	58	6.00	0.00	4.00	6.50	4.80	4.65	6.00	6.00	7.00	NA	NA
Blackboard Drawing set	48	3.00	1.00	1.00	4.00	1.50	NA	4.00	NA	3.00	NA	NA
Blackboard plywood	45	28.00	21.00	7.00	25.00	7.75	NA	44.50	16.00	40.00	NA	NA
Calculator unit	54	11.85	2.35	11.00	12.00	11.50	13.15	11.85	11.00	12.00	NA	NA
Chalk box, 10 units	48	4.03	2.48	1.50	4.20	1.50	3.05	5.55	NA	5.00	NA	NA
Crayons packet, 24 units	61	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.26	1.30	NA	1.00	0.50	NA
Duster unit	61	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.05	1.00	1.00	1.50	NA
Exercise Book 100 pages, A5 size	88	0.80	-0.20	0.60	1.00	1.00	0.45	0.80	2.50	0.80	1.00	0.50
Maps set	42	5.00	-1.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	0.55	5.00	NA	5.00	NA	NA
Marker unit	53	0.53	-0.48	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.35	0.53	NA	0.50	1.00	NA
Math set set	53	2.00	0.50	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.88	1.20	NA	2.00	NA	2.00
Paper pack, 500 sheets A4 size	60	5.75	-0.25	4.00	5.90	5.00	6.40	6.00	5.75	5.00	NA	NA
Pencils pack, 24 units	72	2.00	0.00	0.76	2.00	2.00	0.85	2.00	NA	2.00	0.12	2.35
Pens 10 units	73	1.25	-0.75	1.00	4.00	4.00	1.00	2.00	NA	1.25	0.16	NA
Register unit, large	54	4.25	1.25	3.50	5.00	3.50	NA	5.00	3.50	5.00	NA	NA
Rubber unit	71	0.20	0.00	0.12	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	NA	0.20	0.12	0.75
Ruler unit, 30 cm long	54	0.30	-0.10	0.25	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.46	0.25	0.30	0.24	NA
Scissor unit, medium	63	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	NA	1.00	1.00	NA
Sharpener unit	66	0.20	-0.08	0.12	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.12	0.50
Whiteboard aluminum	36	37.00	0.00	35.00	40.00	36.50	29.00	37.00	75.00	50.00	NA	NA

PRICE CHANGE KEY

- ▲ Large increase (> 70)
- ▲ Medium increase (15 to 70)
- ▲ Small increase (5 to 15)
- ● Minor change (-5 to 5)
- ▼ Small decrease (-5 to -15)
- ▼ Medium decrease (-15 to -70)
- ▼ Large decrease (< -70)
- x Inconclusive change
- x Inconclusive price, based on only one quote
- 1 Price outliers: prices with strong deviation (+2) to the overall median price

*1st Quartile and 3rd Quartile: the prices listed here represent the aggregated value for the distribution of the 50% most common prices (25% of prices below and 25% of prices above the median, respectively)

The median prices of 5 education items increased slightly while the median prices of 2 items decreased slightly.

However, there was a massive increase in blackboard prices. The median price increased from $7 (in May 2023) to $28 in Quarter 3 (August 2023).

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting restocking difficulties, per location - Stationery items

Item	All	Ceel Barde (n = 25)	Waajid (n = 6)	Mogadishu (n = 2)	Xudur (n = 131)	Baidoa (n = 2)	Marka (n = 12)	Jowhar (n = 8)
Bag	4%	0%	5%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Blackboard Drawing	2%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Blackboard	4%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Calculator	7%	25%	0%	0%	100%	3%	0%	0%
Chalk	4%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Crayons	21%	25%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%	100%
Duster	13%	75%	0%	0%	100%	0%	67%	0%
Exercise Book	17%	0%	5%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Maps	9%	75%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
Marker	24%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	50%	100%
Math Set	12%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%	0%
Paper	8%	75%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Pencils	21%	0%	0%	7%	100%	5%	0%	100%
Pens	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Register	5%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Rubber	20%	0%	5%	0%	100%	0%	50%	100%
Ruler	14%	0%	0%	9%	100%	0%	33%	0%
Scissor	26%	67%	7%	0%	100%	0%	50%	100%
Sharpener	21%	0%	10%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
White Board	8%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%

Supply routes are shown as either damaged/closed or open based on the response provided by most vendors reliant on a particular supply route. Although this information might help to provide context to restocking difficulties and supply barriers reported by vendors, it should be considered indicative in nature.

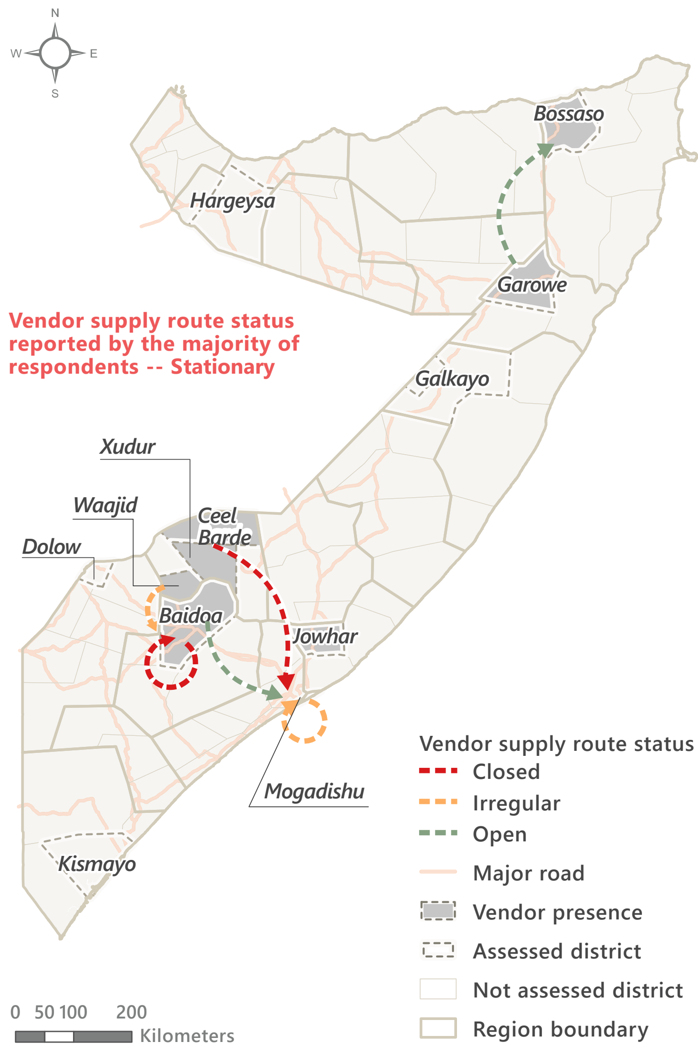
The table to the left illustrates the percentage of interviewed Stationery vendors reporting difficulties in restocking each item by their location.

Over the past three months, vendors who were interviewed reported facing significant challenges in restocking their supplies. Scissors (26% of vendors), marker pens (24%), crayons (21%), and sharpeners (21%) were found to be particularly difficult to restock. Marker pens took 8 days to restock, pencil sharpener (7 days), colored crayons (6 days) and scissors took 6 days.

Vendors from Ceel Barde, Xudur, Marka, and Jowhar reported these challenges. Vendors in Ceel Barde (76%) and Jowhar (57%) majorly relied on rented vehicles to transport their stock from major suppliers.

In Marka, all the vendors (100%) relied on rental vehicles as their primary mode of transportation. However, this method proved to be slow and had limitations in terms of stock capacity. This is a result of issues with the supply route from major wholesalers. Open but damaged supply routes (100%) affected the vendors in Marka.

Supply route conditions reported by interviewed vendors in August 2023 - Stationery items



MARKET ENVIRONMENT

To provide context to the restocking difficulties reported by vendors in certain locations, it is important to understand the overall market environment in which they operate, including any potential supply barriers.

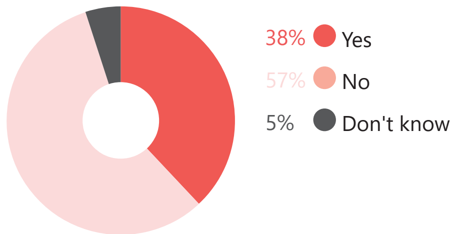
Among the interviewed vendors in the assessed markets, 53% reported that the supply routes were open. Others (23%) noted that the routes were open but damaged, 17% reported irregular open routes while the rest either did not know or chose not to respond (6%). Vendors reported seasonal barriers contributed to a disrupted supply chain. Deyr (39%) and Gu (51%) were the two rainy seasons causing supply challenges between May and August.

40% of the vendors reported not facing any transportation barriers. However, 38% reported poor quality of roads as a major transportation barrier. Some vendors reported they sometimes got detained for no reason (14%). They also mentioned the risk of bombings during transportation (10%). Road closures imposed by both authorities (9%), and armed groups (9%) also played a role in hindering movement of goods.

Financial constraints further hindered vendors' ability to restock items. Vendors reported limited cash (28%) and low purchasing power or inflation (28%) as major financial constraints. Some reported issues with banks. They either provided limited loans (14%) or limited cash (9%). Some vendors reported closed banks (6%) and hawala*** (3%). A few mentioned restrictions on hawala-related movements (1%).

Interviewed vendors reported security barriers in their business contexts, hindering the supply chain. These included the risk of theft (19%), arbitrary detentions (11%), and the threat of bombings (11%). The risk of gun attacks (5%), and tensions between population groups (3%) boosted further the supply chain challenges imposed by security barriers.

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting facing greater supply issues in a particular season



The interviewed vendors (38%) reported facing greater supply barriers in a particular season. Stock conditions might have been partially affected by seasonality.

Among the 38% of vendors reporting facing greater supply issues in particular seasons, % of vendors per season they reportedly faced greater supply issues.**

The percentage of vendors interviewed who reported being affected by supply issues varied with each season.

Location	Hagaa	Deyr	Jilal	Gu
All	42	39	40	51
Ceel Barde	38	50	25	75
Waajid	0	0	100	6
Mogadishu	70	30	10	0
Xudur	100	100	100	100
Baidoa	3	32	51	66
Marka	0	100	0	100
Jowhar	81	100	0	100
Garowe	100	0	0	0
Kismayo	0	0	100	0
Hargeysa	62	14	24	14

Proportion of vendors reporting having been affected by supply barriers, per type of barrier, compared with the previous round in May 2023.

Location	Non-security	Security	Financial	Transportation
Baidoa	37%	28%	35%	33%
Ceel Barde	6%	4%	7%	6%
Galkayo	7%	9%	7%	8%
Garowe	17%	17%	17%	15%
Hargeysa	13%	13%	14%	11%
Xudur	3%	3%	6%	3%
Jowhar	14%	11%	19%	17%
Kismayo	1%	1%	1%	1%
Marka	2%	2%	2%	2%
Mogadishu	23%	23%	24%	25%
Waajid	9%	5%	5%	5%

KEY

(table above)

- Increase from previous round
- Decrease from previous round
- No change from previous round

*Non-security barriers are non-security, non-financial, non-transportation-related challenges faced by vendors in their shop or in the market e.g. product expiration, rotting and contamination.

**Respondents were allowed to choose multiple answers, results may exceed 100%

***Hawala networks serve as informal channels for transferring funds both domestically and internationally. Originating to support trade between distant regions lacking robust banking infrastructure, they function alongside traditional banks. Offering swift, secure, and economical transactions, they're commonly utilized by diaspora communities to send money back to their families in their home countries.

Percentage of interviewed vendors reportedly affected by each barrier, per location (part 1)

	Financial Barriers											Transportation Barriers									
Location	None	Vendor has limited cash	Low purchasing power/inflation	Banks are closed	Banks have limited cash	Banks limiting loans	Hawalas are closed	Hawalas have limited cash	Restrictions on movement for hawalas	Don't know	Prefer not to answer	None	Risk of bombings during transportation	Arbitrary detention	Closure of roads by authorities	Closure of roads by armed groups	Poor quality of roads	Closure of roads by floods	Supplier does not have proper authorization for movement	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	41	28	28	6	9	14	3	2	1	4	1	40	10	14	9	9	38	7	1	5	0
Ceel Barde	6	76	41	12	12	12	6	12	12	0	0	6	47	6	12	6	65	6	6	0	0
Waajid	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	82	0	0	0	0
Mogadishu	15	23	48	22	15	22	9	5	2	0	5	25	14	32	28	25	31	9	0	9	0
Xudur	0	73	100	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baidoa	33	31	23	4	10	26	2	2	2	0	0	23	1	11	10	15	66	5	4	0	0
Marka	0	67	67	67	33	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	67	67	67	33	67	0	0	0	0
Jowhar	29	62	43	2	29	31	0	2	0	2	0	5	14	31	5	2	79	40	0	2	0
Garowe	59	11	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	22	0	71	1	1	1	1	3	0	0	18	3
Galkayo	46	50	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	60	36	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kismayo	75	0	0	0	25	25	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	25	0	75	25	0	0	0
Hargeysa	68	5	30	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0

Percentage of interviewed vendors reportedly affected by each barrier, per location (part 2)

		Non-security Barriers													Security Barriers							
Location	None	Government restrictions on the sale of goods	Contamination of commodities in shop by rodents, pests	Rotting of commodities in shop due to water leakage, flooding.	Expiry of commodities (due to length of storage time)	Difficult in carrying commodities from storage to shop for sale	Supplier unwilling to sell	Supplier on curfew	Supplier out of stock	Supplier limited supply	No suppliers	Don't know	Prefer not to answer	None	Risk of theft	Risk of gun attacks (for purposes other than robbery)	Risk of bombings	Arbitrary detention	Forced closure of shop or market by authorities	Tensions between population groups	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	53	3	14	12	13	6	5	1	8	6	3	8	1	55	19	5	11	11	4	3	8	1
Ceel Barde	18	18	0	12	0	29	0	6	47	29	6	0	0	24	71	6	6	0	0	6	6	0
Waajid	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	77	68	0	0	0	95	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mogadishu	38	3	29	37	22	9	2	0	3	2	2	15	2	35	18	12	32	32	14	3	9	2
Xudur	67	0	20	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baidoa	39	1	22	13	33	3	16	0	0	2	8	0	0	52	7	7	7	18	7	7	0	0
Marka	0	0	33	33	67	100	33	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	67	100	67	33	0	0
Jowhar	43	10	10	26	0	19	0	0	21	7	0	17	0	7	52	2	14	5	0	0	38	0
Garowe	72	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	22	3	59	25	0	0	0	0	0	13	3
Galkayo	46	11	36	7	0	0	0	4	4	0	4	0	0	46	50	7	36	11	0	0	0	0
Kismayo	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hargeysa	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

ANTICIPATED CVA

One of the main purposes of the JMMI data is to provide updated information to humanitarian actors implementing or planning to implement CVA programming. A randomly chosen subset of 50% of vendors interviewed were asked about their perceptions of the possible effect of CVA on prices. It should be noted that the results presented for this question are indicative, and purely based on the subjective perception of the vendors interviewed.

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting different anticipated effects on prices, if CVA were to be distributed to the local population (aggregated level).

Vendors were interviewed about the perceived effect of CVA. Nearly half (49%) of the vendors interviewed reported anticipating no change in prices, 29% of the vendors reported being uncertain. However, 16% of the vendors reported expecting a price increase, while 5% reported a price decrease and only 1% of the vendors interviewed opted not to provide an answer.

CREDIT

Interviewed vendors reported access to different sources of credit available to them.

Credit from wholesalers (32%) was their major source of credit. Vendors reported other sources, such as borrowing from friends and family in this town (25%). They also reported access to loans from banks (20%) and microfinance organizations (5%). Some had access to borrowing from friends and family outside this town (20%). People in the community (3%) and informal savings groups (4%) also provided loans.

Vendors in Jowhar (98%), Ceel Barde (59%) and Mogadishu (46%) are the 3 locations with the highest access to credit from wholesalers.

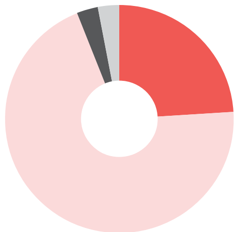
All vendors in Xudur had access to borrowings from friends and families within and outside the town (100%). Most of the vendors in Waajid could borrow from friends and families outside the town (77%).

24% of vendors offered goods on credit to at least one of their customers in the 30 days before data collection. Almost two-thirds of the vendors (70%) reported not providing any credit to customers.

Of all the vendors interviewed, those in Ceel Barde provided credit to 100% of their customers. In Mogadishu, the percentage was 51%. In Kismayo, it was 51%.

Vendors in Jowhar (93%), Waajid (73%) and Xudur (73%) said they did not offer any credit to their customers in the past 30 days.

Percentage of interviewed vendors reporting having provided goods on credit to any of their customers in the 30 days prior to data



120 USD was the average median credit that vendors offered to any of their customers and were still expecting to be paid back.

Percentage of vendors reporting being able to access the following sources of credit when in need of extra capital for their business

Location	None	Credit from wholesalers	Borrowing from friends and family in this town	Borrowing from friends and family outside this town	Loans from banks	Loans from microfinance organisations	Loans from local money lending agents (informal)	Loans from SACCOs (Savings and Credit)	Loans from informal savings groups e.g. vendors savings	Loans from other members of the community	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	29	32	25	20	20	5	3	1	4	3	3	0
Ceel Barde	6	59	24	0	0	0	18	29	12	24	0	0
Waajid	14	0	86	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mogadishu	22	46	18	25	40	26	11	0	0	0	2	0
Xudur	0	27	100	100	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baidoa	11	25	26	29	34	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
Marka	0	33	0	33	0	0	33	0	33	0	33	0
Jowhar	0	98	36	14	7	0	2	0	29	17	0	0
Garowe	57	3	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	1	14	1
Galkayo	46	36	25	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kismayo	75	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hargeysa	67	32	15	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0

METHODOLOGY

The WASH, Shelter, and Education Clusters are responsible for the identification of partners, among cluster members, willing to contribute to the JMMI. The clusters also lead the external coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) stakeholders and government actors.

Cluster members identified as partners provide data collection capacity according to their access and availability, and support the study with sector-specific expertise.

REACH is responsible for leading the tools and analysis framework design, training of partners and technical support for data collection, supporting focal points in managing the field data collection, leading on technical data management and data cleaning, data analysis, and output production.

The geographic coverage is determined by the access and capacity of partners. In order to maximise efficacy, certain markets are prioritised to reflect the areas in which cash transfer programmes, particularly focused on NFIs, are planned or ongoing, as well as key supply chains information for the main NFIs assessed. Key target locations are Ceelbarde, Wajid, Mogadishu, Budur, Baidoa, Marka, Jowhar, Garowe, Galkayo, Kismayo and Hargeysa.

Not all items are monitored in all locations listed above, and not all locations are included in each round (see map on page 1).

A market is defined in this case either as a single permanent market or as multiple shops located in close proximity to one another. Markets are selected in each location by partners, based on their size, location, and accessibility. While large, easily accessible, and centrally located markets are preferred in general, partners are free to select other markets to best inform their cash programming.

Primary data is collected through key informant interviews (KIIs) with market vendors. In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the prices of the cheapest available types are recorded for each item. In each assessed location, at least three prices per item need to be collected from different vendors to ensure the quality and consistency of the collected data. Considering water suppliers are less numerous, at least two prices need to be collected for communal, piped, and trucked water. Vendors should be retailers selling directly to consumers and are purposively selected based on the items sold, until the minimum number of prices is collected, or up to a maximum of 20-25 vendors per shop type (general NFIs, construction items, stationery items), and 5 water suppliers per location.

The data is collected by field staff from the cluster partners, trained on the methodology and tools by REACH. Data collection is conducted through the ODK Collect mobile application. Market data is published quarterly, stratified by location. During emergencies, rapid assessments are carried out and published based on agreed necessity.

DATA PROCESSING

REACH performs data checks with the partners during and after the main data collection. Data processing includes conducting checks for duplicate interviews (same vendor interviewed multiple times), unusually short interviews, and various numerical outliers (particularly item prices), as well as translating and standardising the text fields.

The methodology used for price analysis and other numeric indicators is "location medians" or "medians-of-medians," approach whereby the median prices for each of all assessed items are calculated as medians within each assessed location and then the median of all of those locations is calculated to derive aggregated prices. In locations with distinct markets (e.g. Mogadishu), the location median is calculated before the overall median. This methodology is designed to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. Quartiles and outliers are reported only where relevant.

Non-numeric indicators of categorical values are calculated as proportions (percentages). Indicators based on yes or no questions are reported for all options. For questions that allow respondents to select more than one option, the sum of the percentages may exceed 100%.

Some indicators are currently at an early experimentation phase, and were randomly included in a subset of interviews. They are based on a lower number of interviews, and should be considered only as indications for future rounds.

As vendors are selected purposively, findings are not statistically representative. All findings are indicative only for the time frame within which data was collected, and specifications may vary slightly between locations according to different brands available.

LIMITATIONS

In this round of the JMMI, data was collected partially remotely (13% of interviews), using vendor contact information collected prior to the data collection by the partners.

Market monitoring can be challenging, especially through remote interviews. While questions are standardised across all locations, different variables might interfere with the quality of the data collected. It is important to keep in mind that some vendors might feel more or less inclined to share their actual experiences (fearing that the information shared might be used by competitors or otherwise against their business), while others might adjust their answers based on the expected effect that they will have on humanitarian programming. Similarly, even though all enumerators received the same training, some might have more previous experience and might therefore be better able to produce higher quality data. As the JMMI gradually manages to establish a stronger internal coordination and external relations with vendors, and longitudinal data becomes available, the accuracy of findings is expected to increase.

The interaction with market vendors is a key element affecting the quality of the data. Starting with remote interviews limited the capacity of partners to establish a relationship and explain to these vendors the goals of the JMMI in more detail. This could have also limited the enumerators' capacity to ensure that vendors felt that their concerns were observed and addressed.

Conducting remote interviews with preselected vendors also limited the capacity of enumerators to target specific vendors, according to the specific items sold. In that regard, item availability could have been reported with a degree of false negatives. In other words, items may wrongfully appear to be unavailable because enumerators had a limited pool of vendors to interview. On top of that, vendors were often not available for clarifications after the initial data collection period, which might have resulted in slightly skewed results.

As the subsequent rounds continue to shift back to face-to-face interviews, these limitations are expected to be minimised. Concurrently, as the JMMI evolves, a longitudinal perspective can offer steadier trends, which may help target specific points of contention.

NFIs are particularly challenging to standardise as they vary significantly in terms of types, brands, and specifications. The JMMI methodology aims to balance consistency and comparability considerations with geographical variations in availability.

The markets selected by the partners are mostly large urban markets, which may not be representative of rural areas.

ONLINE DASHBOARD

To facilitate the interaction with the JMMI, an interactive dashboard is available online. The dashboard is designed to allow users to navigate more easily and draw geographical and temporal comparisons, and filter on particular items. The development of the interactive dashboard started in September 2020.

To use the online interactive dashboard, access here https://dashboards.impact-initiatives.org/som/jmmi/

In all multiple choice questions, respondents could choose not to answer (Prefer not to answer) or report as not knowing the answer (Don't know). These responses were recorded and are reported separately, unless specified otherwise.

Some words, particularly "items" and "commodities" are used interchangeably.

Seasons are referred to using their names in Somali, as they are normally referred to in other publications. This is because the seasons are observed in accordance with meteorological events and might not coincide with the Western seasons. A rough equivalence with the seasons in the northern hemisphere would be Hagaa (summer), Deyr (autumn), Jilal (winter), and Gu' (spring). The two rainy seasons are Deyr and Gu'.

To access the complete Terms of Reference, access this link.

FEEDBACK

We are devoted to improving our outputs, so that we can continue supporting our partners and all actors within the humanitarian response. Please share your feedback related to this factsheet using this link.

ENDNOTES

1. OCHA Somalia, Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2023.

2. Prices are calculated from the median of at least 3 reported prices, for "general", "construction", and "stationery" items, or at least 2 reported items from water suppliers.

3. Considering a normal distribution of prices, the standard deviation can be understood as the range within which 68% of prices are located. For example, if the price of one item presents a standard deviation of 10 USD, then 68% of prices collected were within a 20 USD range. This could be 100-120 USD or 10-30 USD, so it is understandable that more expensive items are more prone to a higher standard deviation.

4. Vendors were asked to report on the condition of their main supply routes (irregularly open, closed, damaged, and open). The supply flow visualised in this map (and the maps on pages 5, 8 and 11) represent the most commonly reported road condition for each supply route.

5. Inconclusive due to limited data available. In most cases, less than three prices are available from the current and/or the previous round of data collection.

6. WFP Somalia, Joint Markets and Supply Chain Update August 2023

7. WFP Somalia, Joint Markets and Supply Chain Update August 2023

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

CVA	Cash and Voucher Assistance
CWG	Cash Working Group
ETB	Ethiopian Birr
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
JMMI	Joint Market Monitoring Initiative
KII	Key Informant Interview
MBP	Market-Based Programming
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management
MEB	Minimum Expenditure Basket
NA	Not available
NFI	Non-Food Item
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Organisation
SOSH	Somali Shilling
SLSH	Somaliland Shilling
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme

Appendix

JMMI Previous Factsheets:

2021
February
May
August
November

2022
February
May
August
November

2023
February
May

Co-leads:

Participating agencies (August 2023):

Donor: