

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 249 interviews with vendor key informants (KIs), and are to be considered indicative only. Additional methodology can be found in the [full JMIMI fact sheet](#).

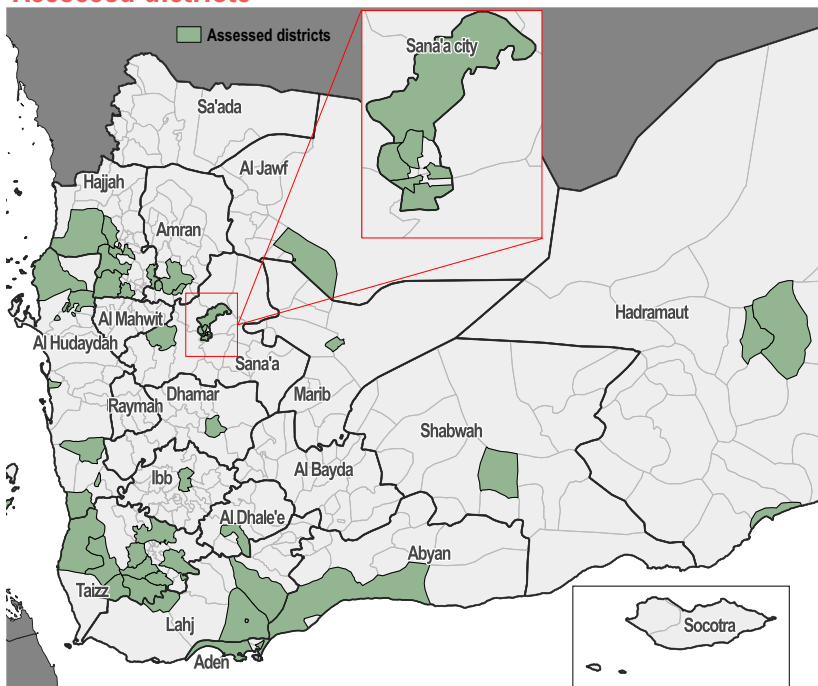
*The primary tool to support a 6-person household for a month with the minimum, culturally adjusted items required for survival.

^July Round 2, 23-30 July 2020

KEY FINDINGS: 23 - 30 JULY 2020

- The number of businesses reported as open within a 2 minute walk from KIs has continued to increase.
- Vendor KIs reported facing additional difficulties obtaining fuel. 91% of vendor KIs reported that diesel was difficult to obtain and 82% reported difficulties obtaining petrol.
- Prince inflation remains the most commonly reported economic issue when obtaining fuel, WASH, food items, and water trucking services.
- The food SMEB cost was found to have decreased by 16.3% since early July, contributing to a 13.4% decrease in the overall SMEB cost.
- The average restocking time for food items was found to be lower than for fuel and WASH items.
- Exchange rates continue to differ across the country: rates under 600 Yemeni Riyals (YER) to one US dollar (USD) were reported in Al Hudaydah, Amran, Hajjah, Ibb, and Sana'a City. Meanwhile, the highest exchange rates were reported in Hadramaut, Lahj, Aden and Abyan.

Assessed districts



Price tracking for key items since COVID-19 outbreak (YER)

Assessed items	Mar-2020	Jul-2020 (R1)	Jul-2020 (R2)	Change (from Jul-2020 R1)
Full SMEB	NA	57975	50150	-13.4%
WASH SMEB*	11300	11375	12850	+12.9%
Soap (100g)	150	150	150	0.0%
Laundry powder (100g)	120	120	120	0.0%
Sanitary napkins (10 Pack)	512	550	500	-9%
Water trucking (1m ³)	2000	2000	2500	+25%
Petrol (1L)	365	350	400	+14.2%
Diesel (1L)	430	390	425	+8.9%
Bottled water (0.75L)	138	150	131	-12.6%
Treated water (10L)	120	100	100	0.0%
Bleach (1L)	NA	700	700	0.0%
Cooking gas (1cylinder)	NA	4000	4000	0.0%
Food SMEB^	NA	44565	37300	-16.3%
Wheat flour (1 kg)	NA	350	300	-14.2%
Rice (1 kg)	NA	650	650	0.0%
Dry Kidney beans (1 kg)	NA	700	700	0.0%
Canned kidney beans (1 15oz can)	NA	300	300	0.0%
Lentils (1 kg)	NA	700	700	0.0%
Vegetable Oil (1 Liter)	NA	900	850	-5.5%
Sugar (1 kg)	NA	425	400	-5.8%
Salt (1 kg)	NA	150	100	-33.3%
Potatoes (1 kg)	NA	400	450	+12.5%
Onions (1 kg)	NA	425	400	-5.8%

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

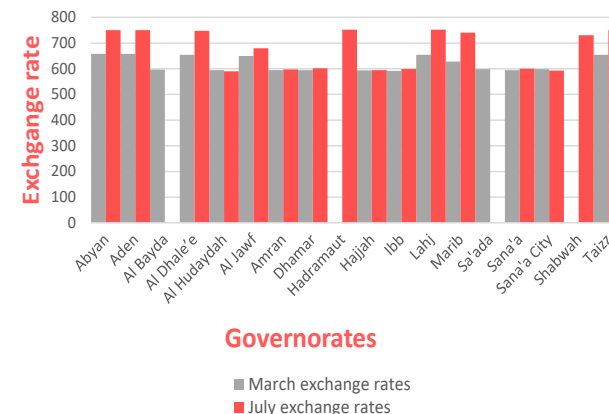
^ Contains wheat flour (75 kg), dry kidney beans (10 kg), vegetable oil (8 liters), sugar (2.5 kg), iodized salt (1)

Exchange rate per governorate (USD/YER)*

Governorate	March 2020	July (Round 1)	July (Round 2)
Abyan	658 (658)	750 (750)	750 (750)
Aden	658 (658)	750 (749)	750 (750)
Al Bayda	596 (596)	NA	NA
Al Dhale'e	654 (656)	648 (748)	748 (751)
Al Hudaydah	595 (597)	601	590 (590)
Al Jawf	650	680	680
Amran	595	598	597
Dhamar	595	602	602
Hadramaut	NA	755	752
Hajjah	594	595	595 (594)
Ibb	592	598	599
Lahj	654 (654)	750 (750)	752 (750)
Marib	628	740	740
Sa'ada	598	NA	NA
Sana'a	595	NA	600
Sana'a City	598 (628)	735 (742)	593
Shabwah	NA	598	730 (745)
Taizz	654 (656)	740 (736)	750 (749)

*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 values and July round 2 values, gaps between bars indicates that no exchange rate value was recorded in this governorate.

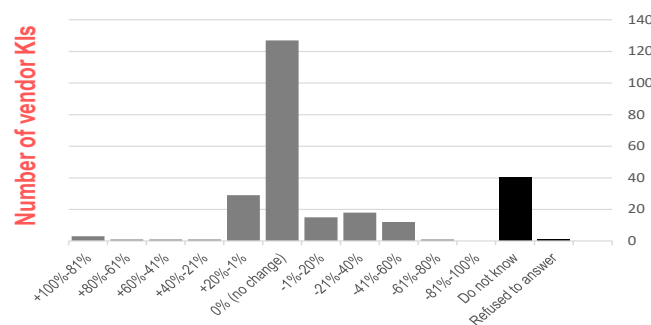
Median commodity prices per governorate, July 23th - July 30th 2020 (YER)*

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	290	410	3500	120	100	900	168	100	600	1800	10634	350	800	700	300	NA	800	500	100	500	600	41000
Aden	285	385	5000	100	100	950	154	100	600	2200	11747	350	1000	800	350	850	1000	475	100	400	400	43538
Al Dhale'e	300	380	3200	100	100	900	170	100	500	3000	14235	300	500	700	NA	500	1000	450	100	500	450	38725
Al Hudaydah	600	650	4000	150	NA	460	141	130	470	5000	20771	265	675	NA	300	650	775	400	125	500	450	NA
Al Jawf	500	480	NA	200	1000	560	250	120	650	1250	10263	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amran	295	345	NA	120	100	700	150	120	500	1000	8125	300	450	NA	300	400	740	350	150	450	375	NA
Dhamar	700	800	NA	150	500	750	150	120	500	1000	8125	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hadramaut	285	305	3000	100	540	745	183	100	600	4000	17722	310	580	700	300	775	760	410	200	550	450	37555
Hajjah	550	500	7000	100	100	500	150	120	500	2500	12850	250	620	500	300	700	850	400	100	500	400	31650
Ibb	295	345	5000	130	100	700	200	130	600	3000	15350	325	400	NA	350	700	625	400	150	325	350	NA
Lahj	285	390	3900	100	100	1000	200	120	600	1750	11213	312	970	1200	350	875	960	385	125	400	350	44168
Marib	175	370	NA	65	50	700	125	120	500	900	7548	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sana'a	NA	NA	3950	120	100	725	128	109	450	1200	8204	300	350	NA	300	475	900	400	200	400	375	NA
Sana'a City	295	345	NA	120	110	350	145	109	500	6000	23598	300	800	NA	380	500	775	350	100	300	400	NA
Shabwah	350	375	3250	100	NA	700	200	71	500	1250	8458	340	720	NA	350	NA	1000	440	100	NA	NA	NA
Taizz	400	425	4000	150	100	906	150	125	550	3000	14625	340	507	800	325	700	950	420	110	450	475	42260

*Darker color strokes indicate high outliers for each commodity, lighter color strokes indicate the low outliers of each commodity.

Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' businesses

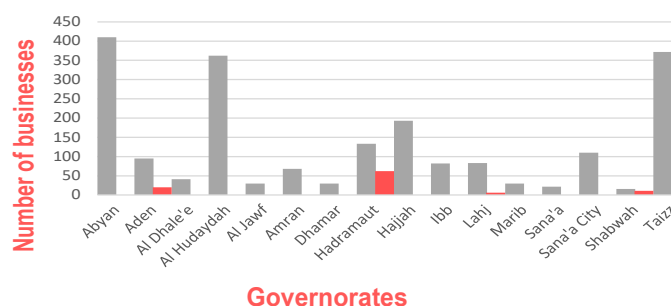
Reported change in number of customers in the two weeks prior to data collection



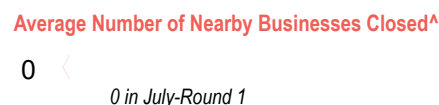
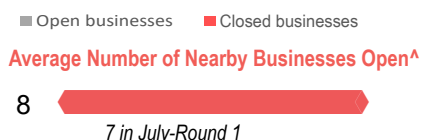
Overall, **46** vendor KIs indicated that there has been a decrease, while **35** vendor KIs saw an increase, in the number of customers they have seen over the two weeks prior to data collection. The graph above highlights how many businesses have seen change in the number of customers in the two weeks prior to data collection.

Of the **249** vendor KIs surveyed, **4.4%** stated that they had difficulties obtaining key commodities due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 (**6.6%** in July Round 1).

Average number of businesses closures/openings by governorate^

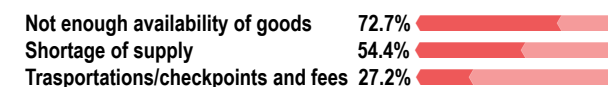


Governorates

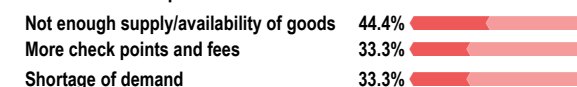


^Average number of open/closed businesses within a two minute walk reported in the prior two weeks due to COVID-19.

Top 3 COVID-19 related constraints according to vendors KIs*



Results from the previous JMMI round

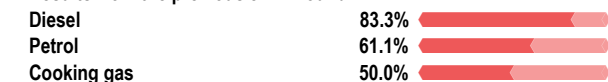


*Based on the responses from the 4.4% of vendor KIs who had difficulties obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

Top 3 most difficult goods to obtain according to vendor KIs*



Results from the previous JMMI round



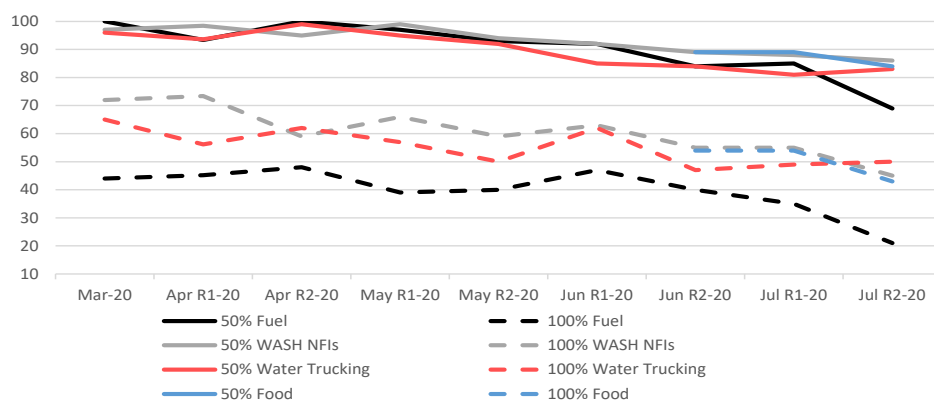
*Based on the responses from the 4.4% of vendor KIs who had difficulties obtaining goods due to COVID-19.

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 vendor KIs reporting being able to absorb a 50% and 100% increase in demand for key item



Payment modalities reportedly accepted by vendor KIs*

Modality	Fuel Vendor KIs	WASH NFI Vendor KIs	Food Vendor KIs	Water Trucking Vendor KIs
Bartering	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-0.6%)	0% (-)
Cash	100% (1.4%)	99.4% (-0.5%)	99.3% (0.7%)	100% (-)
Credit	22.8% (-17.8%)	38.7% (12.5%)	44.8% (18.9%)	18.4% (-4.9%)
Credit / debit card	0% (-)	2.9% (-91.1%)	3.4% (81.4%)	0% (-)
Mobile money	0% (-)	0.57% (-63.8%)	0.6% (-)	0% (-)
Prepaid cards	1.2% (-52.5%)	0% (0%)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Vouchers	2.4% (-5%)	0% (0%)	0% (-)	0% (-0.8%)
Other	0% (-1.3%)	1.1% (-83.7%)	4.1% (-58.6%)	0.97% (21.3%)
Do not know	0% (-0.6%)	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)

*The percentage change from the July Round 1 JMIMI is in brackets, (-) indicating no change.

Top 3 reported economic constraints by fuel vendor KIs*

Price inflation	57.4%
Shortage of supply	33.9%
Transportation	32.7%

Top 3 reported economic constraints by WASH NFI vendor KIs*

Price inflation	66.4%
Transportation	24.3%
Insecurity and instability	19.7%

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

Top 3 reported economic constraints by food vendor KIs*

Price inflation	68.9%
Transportation	28.9%
Shortage of liquidity	17.2%

Top 3 reported economic constraints by water trucking vendor KIs*

Price inflation	55.3%
Shortage of demand	15.5%
Transportation	25.2%

Average reported restocking time (days)*

Governorate	Fuel Items	WASH Items	Food Items
Abyan	4 (-6)	8 (4)	11 (-1)
Aden	3 (NA)	3 (1)	2 (NA)
Al Dhale'e	3 (-2)	1 (-1)	2 (-1)
Al Hudaydah	5 (-2)	8 (2)	4 (-1)
Al Jawf	20 (10)	4 (-4)	NA (NA)
Amran	6 (6)	14 (-2)	5 (2)
Dhamar	22 (17)	9 (1)	NA (NA)
Hadramaut	4 (NA)	7 (4)	2 (NA)
Hajjah	8 (1)	7 (3)	7 (3)
Ibb	9 (-1)	6 (1)	5 (1)
Lahj	4 (NA)	4 (-2)	4 (-2)
Marib	9 (1)	30 (3)	NA (NA)
Sana'a	7 (7)	2 (2)	2 (2)
Sana'a City	8 (6)	7 (2)	3 (3)
Shabwah	2 (NA)	1 (-1)	2 (1)
Taizz	5 (NA)	5 (-1)	6 (6)

*Change in days from July Round 1 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 for further information.

PARTNER LIST



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



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