

MARKET OVERVIEW

10 - 20 October 2023

INTRODUCTION

To inform cash-based interventions and gain a deeper understanding of market dynamics in Sudan, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was established under the guidance of the Sudan Cash Working Group (CWG). The JMMI aims to inform market-based programming in Sudan through monthly monitoring of prices of selected food and non-food items (NFI) as well as other critical market indicators.

With the exception of some state capitals, where prices of food items is monitored by the World Food Program (WFP)¹, JMMI partners record prices and other critical market indicators through interviews with retailers.

This findings presented in this factsheet is based on the pilot of the JMIMI conducted from October 10-20, 2023. The factsheet presents an overview of median prices for food and non-food items (NFIs) in the main markets of the localities assessed, a comprehensive breakdown of the cost of the interim Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), and the Market Functionality Score (MFS) for the markets assessed at locality level.

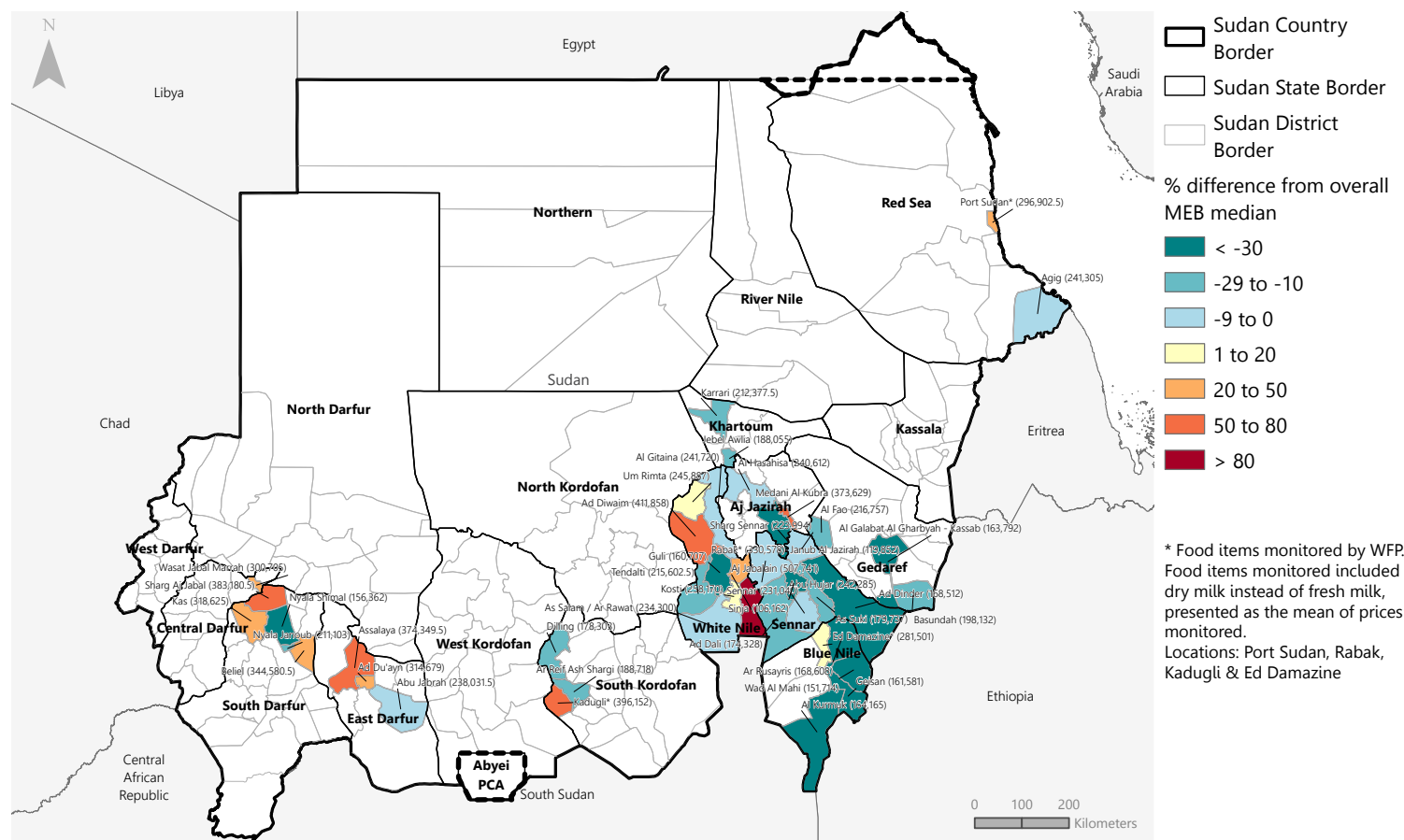
The MEB costs for October do not include gas cylinder, water container and the kitchen-set.

10	Participating partners
43	Assessed localities
728	Key informants
19	Commodities assessed

KEY INDICATORS

Cost of MEB	Cost of Food basket MEB	Cost of NFI Basket MEB
231 040 SDG	87 381 SDG	62 994 SDG
384.75 USD ²	141.51 USD ²	104.90 USD ²

MEDIAN MEB COSTS PER LOCALITY AND % DIFFERENCE FROM NATIONAL MEB³



¹ In October these locations included Port Sudan, Rabak, Kadugli and Ed Damazine. The mean prices of food items monitored by WFP have been used to calculate the median cost of the MEB at state and national level. The figures used can be found in [WFP Market Monitor for October 2023](#).

² Exchange rate used is the average exchange rate of October 2023.

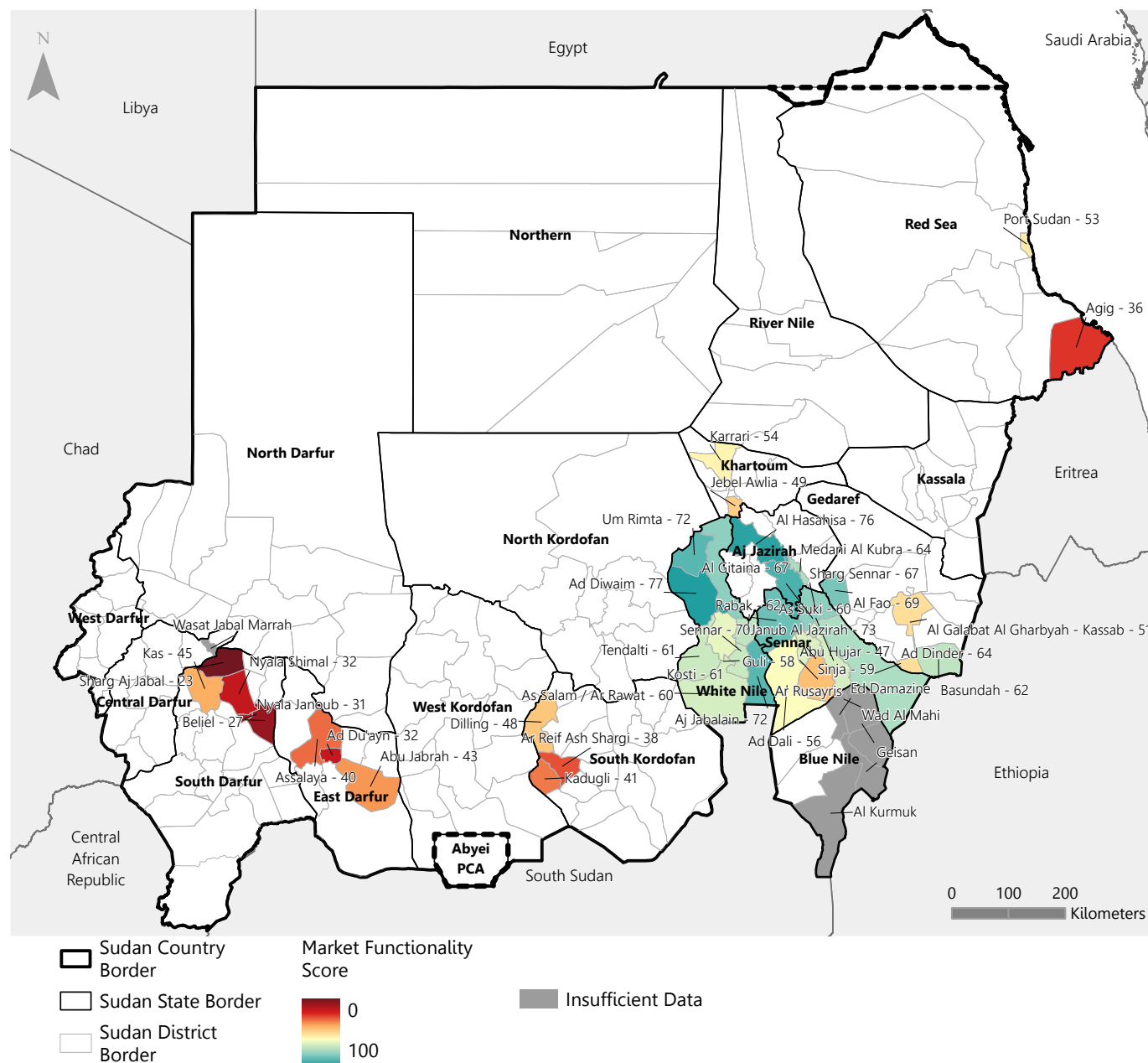
³ The MEB presented for Nyala Shimal, Nyala Janoub, and Ad Du'yan only includes NFI items.

Market Functionality Score (MFS)

The Market Functionality Score (MFS) is a method used to classify markets based on their level of functionality. The MFS can be used to supporting humanitarian actors to design market based interventions and programming based on the functionality of the markets. The MFS is calculated based on selected indicators across the five dimensions listed below. Each of the dimensions has been assigned different weights in the combined MFS.

- Accessibility (25%): physical and social access to markets
- Availability (30%): ability of markets to consistently supply core commodities
- Affordability (15%): financial access to markets and price volatility
- Resilience (20%): vulnerability of supply chains and ease of restocking
- Infrastructure (10%): state of markets' physical and financial infrastructure

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE PER LOCALITY



Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)

The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) represents the minimum culturally adjusted set of items required to support a six-person Sudanese household for one month. The cost of the MEB can be used as a proxy for the financial burdens facing households in different locations. The MEB's contents were defined by the CWG in consultation with relevant sector leads.

Food Items

Sorghum	81 kg
Onions	9 kg
Vegetable oil	4.5 kg
Milk	4.5 kg
Cow meat (beef)	0.9 kg
Goat meat	0.9 kg
Tomato paste	4.5 kg
Sugar	7.2 kg

Household NFIs

Gas Refill	12.5 L
Water supply	5 040 L

Hygiene NFIs

Body soap	12 bars (250g)
Toothpaste	1 Tube
Toothbrush	1
Laundry soap	6 bars
Liquid dish soap	1 Bottle (600ml)
Sanitary pads	3 packs (8pcs/pack)

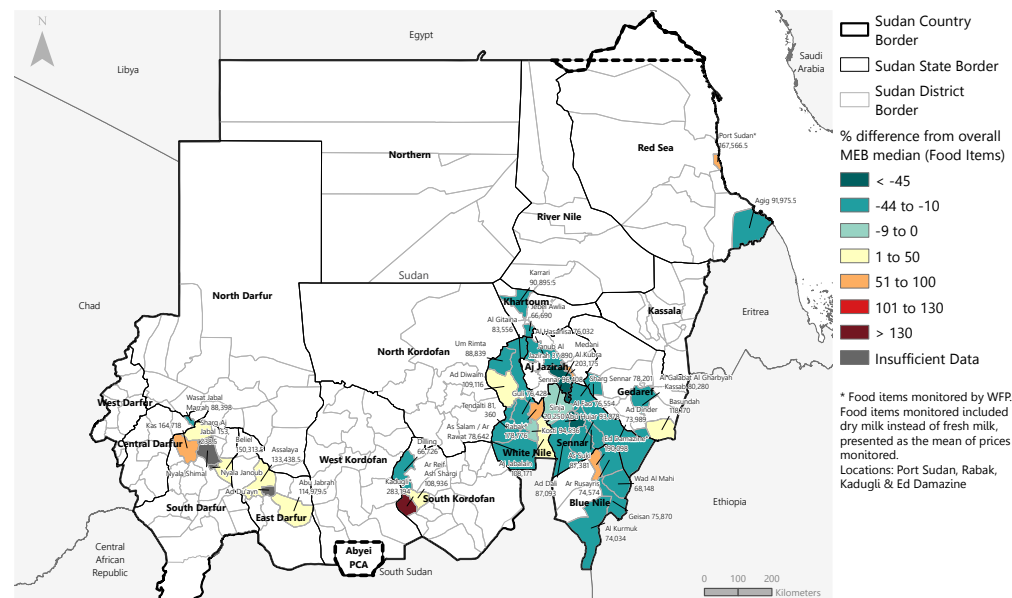
Additional Items

Charcoal	60 kg
Firewood	60 kg

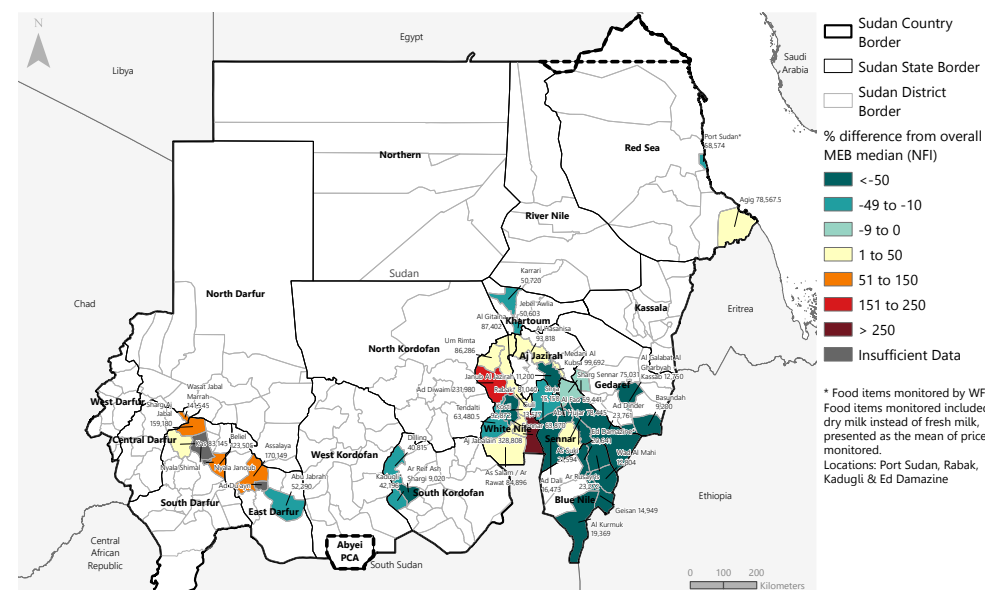
Lump sums (prices)

Medical expenses	16 489
Education	15 503
Clothes	6 6620
Transportation	9 547
Communication	3 603
Energy for lighting	19 000

FOOD BASKET COSTS



NON-FOOD BASKET COSTS



Location	Median MEB cost	Change since April 2023
Khartoum		
Jebel Awlia	188 055	+42%
Karrari	212 377	+35%
South Darfur		
Kass	318 625	+65%
Sharg Aj Jabal	383 180	+75%
Billiel	344 580	+70%
Nyala Shimal ⁴	156 362	+71%
Nyala Janoub ⁴	211 103	+121%
East Darfur		
Abu Jabra	238 031	+44%
Ad Du'ayn ⁴	314 679	+144%
Assalay	371 349	+78%
Central Darfur		
Wasat Jabal Marrah	300 705	+124%
South Kordofan		
Dilling	178 303	+42%
Ar Reif Ash Shargi	188 718	+49%
Kadugli ⁵	396 152	317%
Blue Nile		
Ed Damazine ⁵	281 501	+147%
Al Kurmuk	164 165	+14%
Ar Rusayris	168 608	+24%
Geisan	161 581	+17%
Wad Al Mahi	151 714	+10%
White Nile		
Ad Diwaim	411 858	+61%
Um Rimta	245 887	+36%
Rabak ⁵	330 578	+160%
Kosti	258 170	+43%
Tendalti	215 602	+38%
As Salam / Ar Rawat	234 300	+89%
Al Gitaina	241 720	+33%
Aj Jabalain	507 741	+118%
Guli	160 707	+16%
Red Sea		
Port Sudan ⁵	296 902	+136%
Agig	241 305	+44%
Gedaref		
Al Fao	216 757	+19%
Busundah	198 132	+31%
Al Galabat Al	163 792	+33%
Sennar		
Abu Hajar	242 285	+35%
Sennar	231 040	+23%
Ad Dali	174 328	+24%
Ad Dinder	168 512	+20%
As Suki	179 737	+19%
Sharg Sennar	223 994	+37%
Sinja	106 162	+15%
Aj Jazirah		
Medani Al Kubra	373 629	+64%
Janub Al Jazirah	119 852	-3%
Al Hasahisa	240 612	+11%
Overall	231 040	+56%

⁴The MEB presented for Nyala Shimal, Nyala Janoub, and Ad Du'ayn only includes NFI items.

⁵Food items monitored by WFP. Food items monitored included dry milk instead of fresh milk, presented as the mean of prices monitored.

Most commonly reported payment modalities, by % of interviewed vendor, per state:

	Cash (Sudanese pounds)	Mobile money	Informal credit (customers can buy now and pay later)
Khartoum	100%	80%	20%
South Darfur	96%	28%	24%
East Darfur	91%	26%	6%
Central Darfur	100%	25%	0%
South Kordofan	98%	31%	39%
Blue Nile	90%	4%	26%
White Nile	99%	31%	39%
Red Sea	100%	10%	46%
Gedaref	100%	29%	0%
Sennar	100%	40%	54%
Aj Jazirah	100%	56%	22%

Median time to stock and restock food and NFI items monitored:

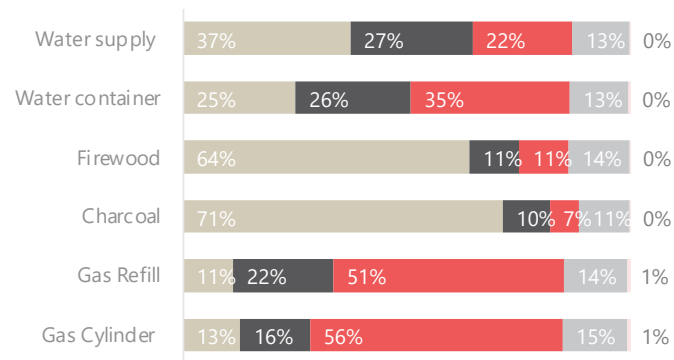


44%

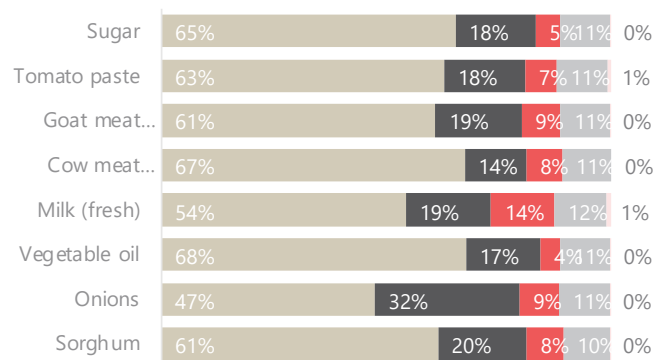
of the interviewed vendors reported having difficulties obtaining enough items to meet their customers demand

Reported availability of items during data collection, by item monitored:

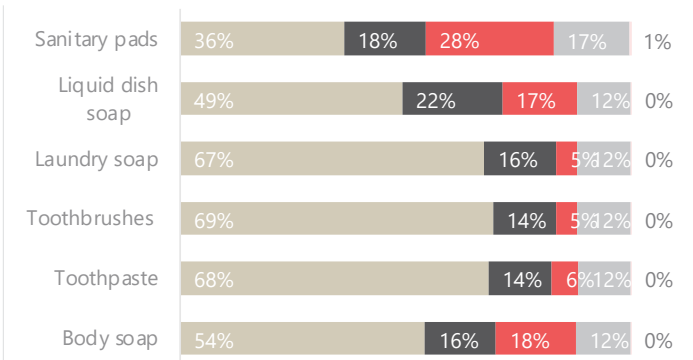
Household items



Food items



Hygiene items



■ Widely available
■ Limited availability
■ Completely unavailable
■ Don't know
■ Prefer not to answer

■ Widely available
■ Limited availability
■ Completely unavailable
■ Don't know
■ Prefer not to answer

■ Widely available
■ Limited availability
■ Completely unavailable
■ Don't know
■ Prefer not to answer

Methodology

The JMMI aims to inform market-based programming in Sudan through monthly monitoring of prices of selected food and NFI items as well as other critical market indicators.

The coverage of the JMMI may vary between months as it depends on the interest of the partner organisations and their field teams' capacities to regularly collect market data. Locations are added once partners willing to cover them are identified, and their field teams are trained. As the initiative is currently being built up, coverage will likely be expanded in future data collection rounds.

This findings presented in this factsheet is based on the pilot of the JMMI conducted from October 10-20, 2023. The factsheet presents an overview of median prices for food and non-food items (NFIs) in the main markets of the localities assessed, a comprehensive breakdown of the cost of the interim Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), and the Market Functionality Score (MFS) for the markets assessed at locality level.

In each assessed location, the aim is to collect at least four prices per item from different retailers to ensure quality and consistency of the collected data. In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the prices of the cheapest available types are recorded for each item.

With the exception of some state capitals, where prices of food items is monitored by the World Food Program (WFP)¹, JMMI partners record prices and other critical market indicators through interviews with retailers.

The retailer to interview is based on the following criteria:

- Vendors are retailers selling directly to consumers.
- Vendors with weight scales are prioritised when recording prices of dry food items.
- Vendors are representative of the local price level.
- To the extent possible, the same vendors are

revisited in every data collection round.

The data is collected by enumerators familiar with the local market conditions, and have all received comprehensive training prior to the data collection.

The median item prices reported in this factsheet are 'locality medians', designed to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. The median prices of all assessed items are calculated within each assessed locality. Because items monitored by WFP was only available as means, these figures have been used to calculate the overall medians at state and national level.

All MEB and price index calculations are created using this method.

- The cost of the Interim MEB is calculated by multiplying the median price of each item in the respective locality by the quantity listed in the table on page 3 adding to it the lump sums listed in the same page.
- In 4 localities (Port Sudan, Rabak, Kadugli, and Ed Damazine) the prices of the food item were collected by World Food Program (WFP). Because the prices monitored by WFP were only available as means, these figures were used to calculate the overall median costs of the MEB at state and national level.
- In localities where gas was not available/used by households for cooking and heating, the Interim MEB was calculated using the Firewood as a substitute to the gas component.
- Because of some challenges recording the unit for some items (see below), the MEB costs for October do not include gas cylinder, water container and the kitchen-set.

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative for the time frame within which it was collected. Prices may vary between data collection rounds.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be

recorded, as availability varies across regions. Therefore, price comparisons across regions may be based on slightly varying products.

- Standardising local unit sizes of dry food and household items is inherently difficult in Sudan, as many traders sell commodities by volume rather than weight, additionally the same units of measurements varies slightly from one locality to another. Due to the challenges of converting some of the unit of measurements the prices based on volume should if possible be triangulated with other data sources.
- As the JMMI continues to expand and is extended to additional locations, the reported changes in the overall median prices may be driven by shifts in coverage rather than actual price changes.
- The reference prices before the conflict (15 of April) are only indicative since the recall period goes back to 6 months.

Participating agencies

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Acted

Adventist Development Council
Agency (ADRA)

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

African Relief Committee

Solidarity International (SI)

Save the Children International

Action Against Hunger

Mercy Corps

IAS/LM International Sudan (IAS-LMI)

About the CWG

Created in 2015, the national Sudan Cash Working Group (CWG) serves as the principal coordination forum for all humanitarian cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Sudan. Composed of over 50 member organizations (UN agencies, local and international NGOs, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, donors, and financial service providers), the CWG provides technical support to and across sectors, advises on issues related to CVA, and provides evidence and knowledge in response option analysis processes.

MEDIAN ITEM PRICES PER LOCALITY (in SP)

Localities	Sorghum grain (1 kg)	Onions (1 kg)	Vegetable Oil (1 L)	Milk (fresh) (1 L)	Cow Meat (fresh) (1 kg)	Goat Meat (fresh) (1 kg)	Tomato Paste (1kg)	Sugar (1 kg)	Gas Refill (12.5 L)	Firewood (1 kg)	Water supply (1 L)	Body Soap (125g)	Tooth paste (100 ml)	Tooth brush (Adult) (1pc)	Tooth brush (Kid) (1pc)	Laundry Soap (200g)	Liquid Dish Soap (600 ml)	Sanitary Pads (8 pc)
Karthoum																		
Jebel Awlia	400	400	2800	1200	NA	NA	900	1200	NA	83	8	250	700	200	200	400	1000	1000
Karrari	486	343	2800	1200	4000	5000	3125	1150	NA	NA	8	250	600	200	500	450	1000	1000
South Darfur																		
Kas	1200	735	2833	2800	3500	4600	2921	2100	NA	125	8	1400	2000	1000	800	1300	4500	3700
Sharg Aj Jabal	929	1874	3983	1800	4000	5000	2000	2500	30000	200	17	1500	3550	1500	1000	1500	3000	3000
Beliel	857	2247	3333	2000	4000	5000	2750	2250	5000	250	17	450	3250	1650	1350	1600	3000	3500
Nyala Shimal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	35000	650	5	700	1600	500	400	1200	3100	1400
Nyala Janoub	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	35000	156	14	1200	1600	650	375	1200	3150	2650
East Darfur																		
Abu Jabrah	714	2697	2250	1800	2500	4000	875	675	NA	100	6	300	1000	900	550	1000	1900	3000
Ad Du'ayn	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	35000	147	33	1600	3500	1000	1000	1000	2750	3500
Assalaya	714	3034	3333	2000	3000	4000	800	2000	35000	281	20	1250	2000	900	600	1400	2350	1956
Central Darfur																		
Wasat Jabal Marrah	550	1167	1500	NA	2250	3500	2000	1725	NA	250	23	1500	1500	750	500	500	2500	NA
South Kordofan																		
Dilling	NA	714	2800	800	2000	NA	7000	1500	NA	NA	5	375	933	300	200	900	1632	1000
Ar Reif Ash Shargi	486	1143	3000	500	3000	4000	5714	1600	NA	NA	NA	NA	1270	400	200	300	2450	1100
Kadugli*	2335	790	3690	10000	2800	4160	2000	1400	NA	17	6	250	1270	400	200	150	2069	1500
Blue Nile																		
Ed Damazine*	1400	750	3000	8000	3920	NA	1840	1200	6600	NA	NA	500	1100	250	200	236	2400	1000
Al Kurmuk	286	667	2700	NA	4000	4000	3750	1200	NA	21	NA	833	952	200	200	625	1550	1000
Ar Rusayris	354	500	2200	650	2400	6000	2750	1200	6250	NA	NA	714	794	200	150	500	1560	1000
Geisan	286	667	2850	800	4000	4800	3048	1200	NA	17	NA	600	952	300	150	625	2880	NA
Wad Al Mahi	317	500	2400	300	4000	5000	2098	1150	NA	NA	NA	625	714	300	200	240	NA	1000
White Nile																		
Ad Diwaim	800	814	2150	550	4000	6000	1600	1200	7000	NA	42	500	700	200	200	500	1100	800
Um Rimta	400	371	2400	1000	4000	5000	5000	1000	25000	NA	8	784	794	200	100	800	2864	1000
Rabak*	1026	1200	2800	9600	5000	6500	1600	1600	6500	NA	12	500	1000	200	100	360	1800	1000
Kosti	514	343	2400	1200	3800	6000	3750	1100	6700	NA	14	667	794	200	200	399	1920	800
Tendalti	343	343	2400	1000	4000	5500	4000	1200	7000	62	8	650	800	225	200	500	1386	1000
As Salam / Ar	286	314	2400	800	4000	4500	6000	500	10000	52	12	500	650	300	200	475	1714	1000
Al Gitaina	357	286	2350	1000	4000	5000	4500	1200	7000	28	12	817	1200	200	100	662	1818	1000
Aj Jabalain	800	314	2250	800	4000	5750	2250	1100	6000	28	62	350	800	200	200	400	1000	600
Guli	343	400	2400	800	4000	5000	3250	1100	NA	NA	NA	400	813	250	100	380	2400	1033
Red Sea																		
Port Sudan*	1050	700	3375	7000	5000	6000	2762	1000	5000	NA	8	375	1000	450	300	600	929	1000
Agig	600	1000	2450	2000	NA	4000	469	1200	NA	NA	12	525	500	325	200	850	1150	1625
Gedaref																		
Al Fao	417	333	2000	1000	4000	6000	2000	1150	4600	19	10	450	600	300	150	612	1000	1200
Basundah	950	400	2000	600	NA	NA	4000	1100	NA	NA	NA	450	300	200	400	400	1000	NA
Al Galabat Al	400	300	2400	NA	4000	5000	4000	1150	NA	NA	NA	450	250	200	200	400	1000	1200
Al Jazirah																		
Medani Al Kubra	1575	950	1844	6000	4600	8000	3000	960	NA	62	12	2500	1300	500	NA	500	1600	1000
Janub Al Jazira	NA	NA	2500	NA	NA	NA	4000	1200	NA	NA	NA	300	300	400	300	600	1100	800
Al Hasahisa	257	175	2500	2700	4000	5000	3000	1200	NA	288	12	2000	1400	600	500	450	1500	1050

*Food items monitored by WFP. Food items monitored included dry milk instead of fresh milk, presented as the mean of prices monitored.

MEDIAN ITEM PRICES PER LOCALITY (in SP) (CONTINUED)

Localities	Sorghum grain (1 kg)	Onions (1 kg)	Vegetable Oil (1 L)	Milk (fresh) (1 L)	Cow Meat (fresh) (1 kg)	Goat Meat (fresh) (1 kg)	Tomato Paste (1kg)	Sugar (1 kg)	Gas Refill (12.5 L)	Firewood (1kg)	Water Supply (1 L)	Body Soap (125g)	Tooth paste (100 ml)	Tooth brush (Adult) (1pc)	Tooth brush (Kid) (1pc)	Laundry Soap (200g)	Liquid Dish Soap (600 ml)	Sanitary Pads (8 pc)
Sennar																		
Abu Hujar	371	343	2400	1000	4000	6000	6000	1200	6000	25	12	400	265	250	100	500	1500	750
Sennar	438	500	2550	1000	3600	6750	5000	1200	7500	NA	8	600	1200	300	200	550	1200	1000
Ad Dali	286	343	2800	1000	4000	5000	6000	1200	NA	NA	NA	588	824	300	100	500	1843	1200
Ad Dinder	243	429	2650	1000	3200	5000	4000	1200	NA	NA	1	850	950	400	150	550	1371	900
As Suki	311	400	2400	1000	3500	5000	6000	1200	6000	NA	NA	562	1750	400	150	500	1350	850
Sharg Sennar	375	314	2100	1000	3500	3000	4000	1000	7100	88	11	419	450	250	150	500	1100	900
Sinja	NA	NA	1500	500	NA	NA	2500	NA	NA	NA	NA	600	500	500	100	600	600	1000
Overall median																		
Overall median	438	500	2425	1000	4000	5000	3024	1200	7000	85.5	12	575	950	300	200	500	1616	1000

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE PER LOCALITY

Localities	Physical access score	Physical roads access score	Social access score	Safety access score	Availability access score	Affordability access score	Affordability access score	Resilience access score	Resilience supply diverse score	Resilience supply score	Infrastructures facilities score	Infrastructure storage score	Infrastructure payment score	Total MFS
Karthoum														
Jebel Awlia	0	0	0	0	40	7.2	0	40	5	0	4	0	3	49
Karrari	0	0	0	0	55	5.475	0	36.5	3	0	4	0	3	54
South Darfur														
Kas	0	0	0	0	45	2.925	0	34	9	0	2	0	3	45
Sharg Aj Jabal	0	1	2	0	25	1.725	0	0	6	0	1	0	2	24
Beliel	0	1	2	0	22	2.55	0	0	9	0	4	0	2	27
Nyala Shimal	0	3	0	0	40	5.1	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	32
Nyala Janoub	0	2	2	0	38	3.075	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	31
East Darfur														
Abu Jabrah	0	2	2	0	45	4.65	0	14	9	0	4	0	1	42
Ad Du'ayn	0	2	0	0	40	3.075	0	0	6	0	4	0	1	32
Assalaya	4	3	2	0	41	2.775	0	0	9	0	4	0	0	39
South Kordofan														
Dilling	0	1	0	0	48	6.675	0	20	9	0	4	0	2	48
Ar Reif Ash Shargi	2	1	0	0	41	5.775	0	2	9	0	4	0	3	38
Kadugli	0	4	0	0	40	6.75	0	13	6	0	4	0	1	41
White Nile														
Ad Diwaim	8	4	2	3	58	7.275	3	5	9	12	4	0	1	76
Um Rimta	8	4	2	3	48	6.225	3	27	7	3	4	0	2	72
Rabak	8	4	2	0	53	6.675	0	0	6	6	4	0	2	62
Kosti	8	4	2	2	48	6.825	0	0	8	0	4	0	2	61
Tendalti	4	4	0	1	48	7.2	0	33	9	0	4	0	2	61
As Salam / Ar	4	4	2	3	45	9.45	0	13.5	8	3	4	0	2	60
Al Gitaina	8	4	2	2	54	6.825	3	0	9	3	4	0	2	67
Aj Jabalain	8	4	2	3	58	7.875	3	0	9	3	4	0	1	72
Guli	8	4	0	2	42	7.425	0	0	8	6	4	0	2	58
Red Sea														
Port Sudan	4	4	2	0	48	6.15	3	0	6	0	4	0	1	53
Agig	6	4	2	3	0	6.825	0	0	6	0	4	0	3	36
Gedaref														
Al Fao	8	4	2	3	60	5.475	0	0	9	6	4	0	0	69
Basundah	4	4	2	3	43	8.25	0	9	9	0	4	0	3	62
Al Galabat Al	4	4	2	3	30	7.8	0	6	9	0	4	0	3	51
Al Jazirah														
Medani Al Kubra	2	4	2	0	53	5.25	9	21	3	0	4	0	3	47
Janub Al Jazira	8	4	2	3	51	5.1	9	22	0	0	4	0	0	70
Sennar														
Abu Hujar	8	4	2	3	0	6.975	9	0	9	12	4	0	0	64
Sennar	8	4	2	3	55	3.6	0	0	9	6	4	0	3	60
Ad Dali	6	4	0	3	49	6.15	0	0	9	0	4	0	2	67
Ad Dinder	8	4	2	1	53	7.35	0	0	9	3	4	0	3	59
As Suki	8	4	2	3	39	6.3	0	0	9	3	4	0	2	64
Sharg Sennar	6	4	2	3	52	8.4	0	0	9	3	4	0	3	73
Sinja	0	4	2	3	50	6.075	0	24	9	0	4	0	0	76