

Ethiopia | Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

01 - 17 January 2024

INTRODUCTION

The aim of the Ethiopia JMMI is to provide regular and reliable information on prices and market functionality through the use of harmonised tools and validated analysis. The Ethiopia JMMI is a joint exercise led by REACH in close collaboration with Ethiopia Cash Working Group (ECWG) members. This initiative aims to collaboratively develop an evidence base for the wider use of cash and voucher assistance (CVA), as well as facilitate discussions of changes in critical market dynamics, which are an integral part of cash feasibility considerations.

With a uniform methodology, ECWG members collect data from their respective areas of operation on a voluntary basis. The geographical coverage of the exercise depends on the ability of ECWG members to consistently collect data and thus the coverage varies from month to month.

Data has been collected using key informant interviews (KIIs) with three retail vendors located in a woreda capital. For commodity prices and stock levels, the median prices/stock levels are calculated for each item within each assessed woreda. The national and regional median prices are aggregated results of the woreda median prices.

- 21 Participating agencies
- 12 Assessed regions
- 85 Assessed woredas
- 764 Key informant interviews (KIIs)
- 35 Commodities assessed

KEY INDICATORS

Median Cost of JMMI Full Basket

10,794.49 ETB

193.21 USD*

▼ 803 ETB -7%

Median Cost of JMMI Food Basket

10,284.49 ETB

184.08 USD*

▼ 796 ETB -7%

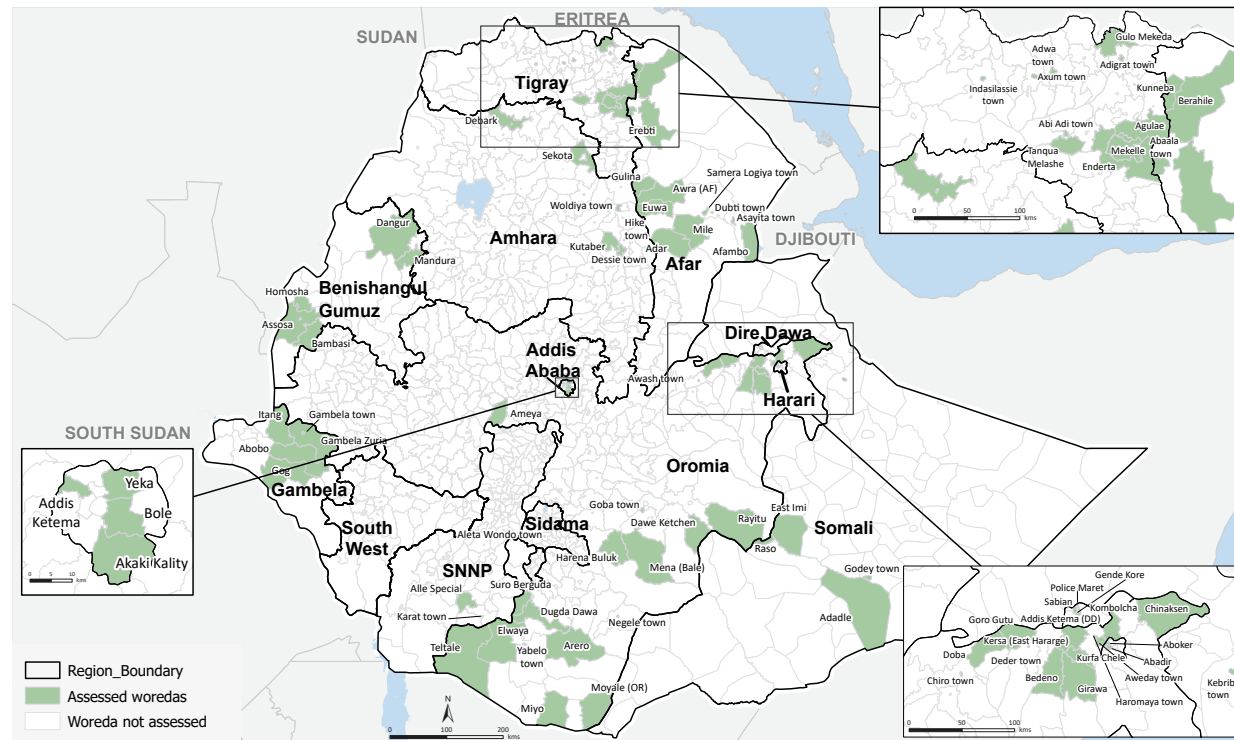
Median Cost of NFI Basket

510.00 ETB

9.17 USD*

▼ 17.5 ETB -1%

Map 1: Assessed Marketplaces, By Woreda



Key Messages

- In January, the national JMMI full basket median price decreased by 7%.
- Among cereals, barley (+18%) was observed to have the largest increase in median prices at the national level since December 2023.
- Among vegetables, Okra (+33%) and onion (+13%) were observed to have the largest increase in median prices at the national level since December 2023.
- About half of interviewed retailers reported that dry fish (50%), teff (44%), wheat (43%), and tomatoes (43%) had limited availability in January 2024.
- The overall market functionality score indicates that the majority of assessed markets in January had limited functionality.
- Markets in Somali, Dire Dawa, Harari and Benishangul Gumuz had severe availability.
- Almost all markets had poor consistency in supplying key commodities.

Market Functionality Score (MFS)

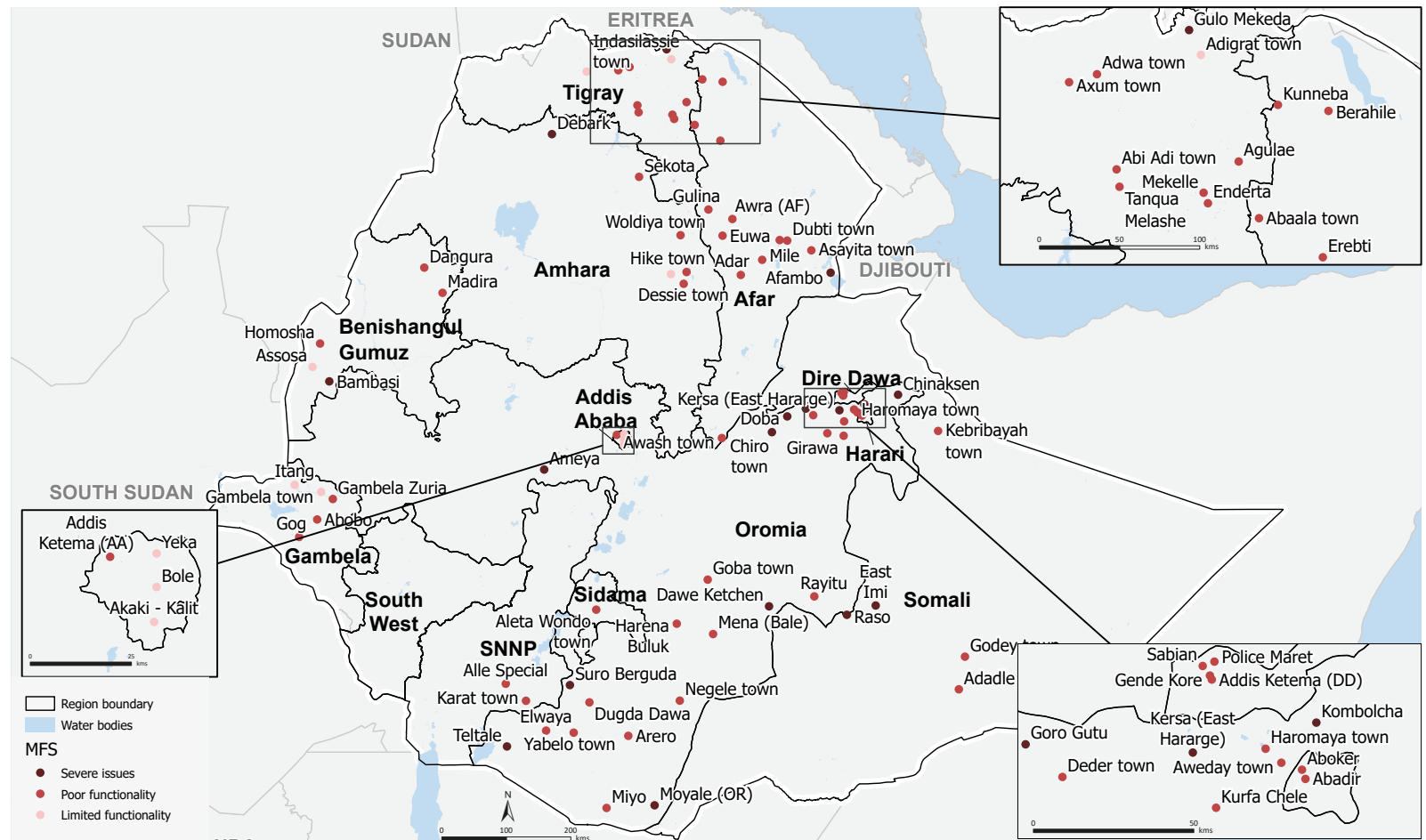
The Market Functionality Score (MFS) is a method of classifying markets based on their level of functionality, helping aid actors understand which markets function well enough to support cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and which may require alternative interventions. The MFS is divided into five dimensions:

- **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

Key Findings

- The overall market functionality score indicates that the majority of assessed markets in January had limited functionality.
- Market in Amhara had lower accessibility than other regions in January 2024.
- Market in all regions had availability problems, and this is severe in Somali, Dire Dawa, Harari and Benishangul Gumuz.
- In January, all markets had poor resilience in supplying key commodities, and this was severe in Somali, Dire Dawa, Harari and Oromia

Map 2: Market Functionality Score (MFS), By Woreda



JMMI Basket

The JMMI basket is a selection of food and hygiene items that represent some of the core monthly expenditures incurred by an average Ethiopian household (6 persons) in an average month (30 days). It is designed to incorporate a different set of four staple crops in each region in order to reflect consumption patterns in the regions. While the JMMI Basket is based in part on the Ethiopia Cash Working Group effort to develop a Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for the Somali region in 2020,¹ it is not a complete MEB itself and does not reflect the full spectrum of regular household expenditures in Ethiopia. It can, however, be tracked over time to understand how household financial burdens are evolving.

Food Items

Cereals & root crops (maize, sorghum, wheat, teff, barley, rice & enset)	72 kg	Tomatoes	5 kg
Meat	2.7 kg	Potatoes	3 kg
Green leafy vegetables	5 kg	Onions	5 kg
		Egg	18 pieces
		Cooking oil	5.86 L

Non-Food Items

Bath soap	0.375 kg (3* 125g bars)
Laundry soap	1.2 kg (6* 200g bars)

USD/ETB official exchange rate²

55.869 ETB

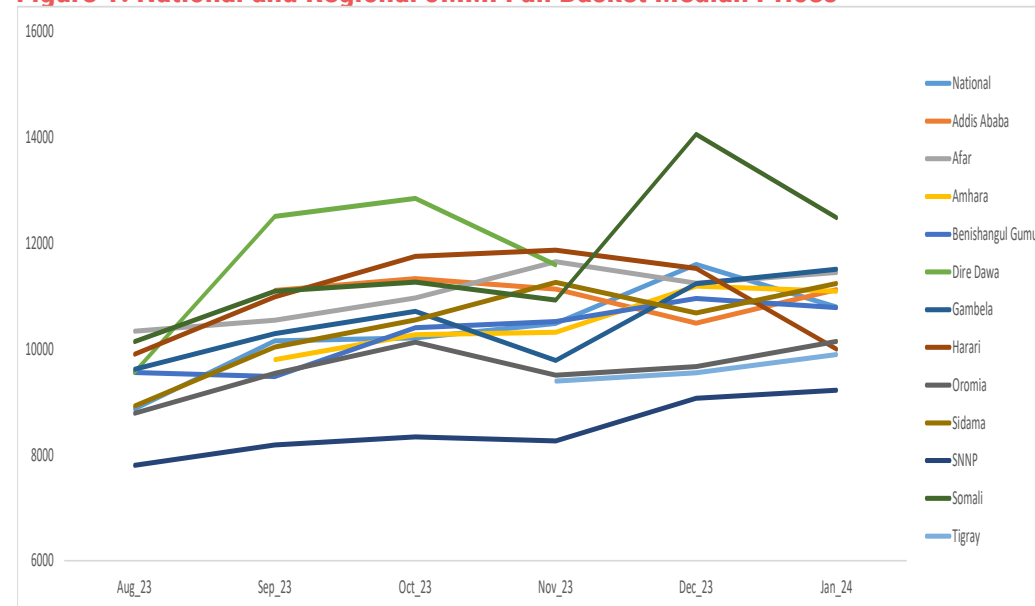
The food basket composition according to the regional consumption patterns:

Beef	Addis Ababa, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, SNNP ³ , Harari, Dire Dawa, Sidama
Beef and goat meat	Afar
Camel and goat meat	Somali
Maize, sorghum, teff, wheat	Addis Ababa, Gambela, Oromia, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Harari, Dire Dawa
Maize, sorghum, wheat, rice	Somali
Maize, sorghum, teff, barley	Afar
Maize, teff, barley, enset	SNNP, Sidama

Table 1: JMMI Full Basket Median Price Per Region

Region	Full basket median price in Jan (ETB)	Full basket median price in Jan (USD)	Full basket median price in Dec ETB	Full basket median price in Dec (USD)	Change since Dec 2023
Addis Ababa	11,124.18	199.11	10,488.86	188.62	▲ 6%
Afar	11,447.29	204.90	11,244.57	202.22	▲ 4%
Amhara	11,090.94	198.52	11,186.00	201.16	▼ 1%
Benishangul Gumuz	10,779.95	192.95	10,952.47	196.96	▼ 2%
Dire Dawa	10,736.11	192.17	NA	NA	-
Gambela	11,506.29	205.95	11,232.09	201.99	▲ 2%
Harari	9,997.74	178.95	11,521.44	207.19	▼ 13%
Oromia	10,144.29	181.57	9,667.74	173.86	▲ 5%
Sidama	11,239.40	201.17	10,682.90	192.11	▲ 5%
SNNP	9,229.49	165.06	9,068.88	163.09	▲ 2%
Somali	12,480.83	223.39	14,056.74	252.79	▼ 11%
Tigray	9,897.23	177.15	9,551.16	171.76	▲ 4%
JMMI full basket	10,794.49 ETB	208.57 USD¹	ETB 803	ETB 796	▼ 7%
JMMI food basket	10,284.49 ETB	199.26 USD¹	ETB 796	ETB 796	▼ 7%

Figure 1: National and Regional JMMI Full Basket Median Prices



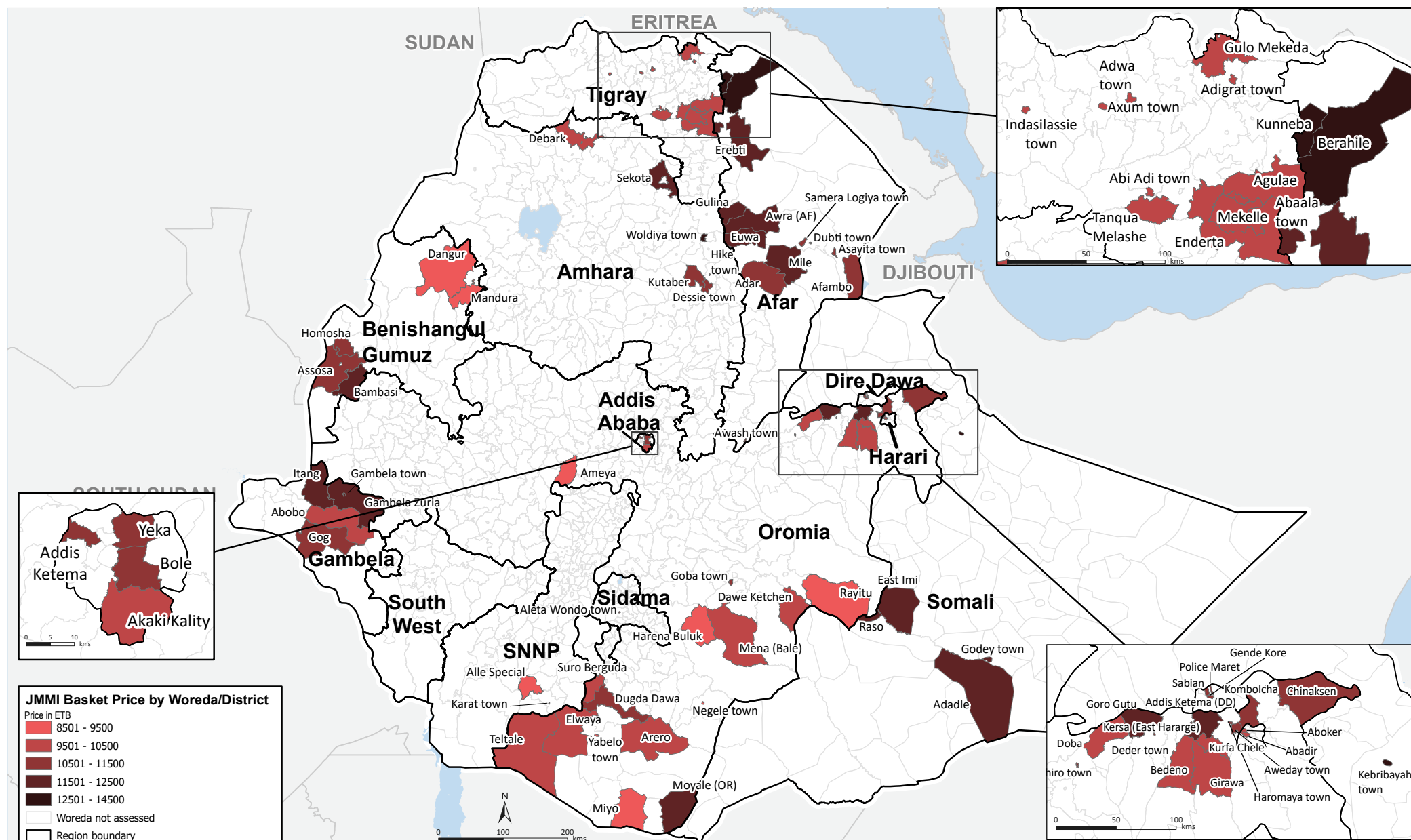
- In January, majority of regions experienced JMMI full basket median price rise.
- An overall JMMI full basket median price increase was observed in Addis Ababa (6%), Oromia (5%) and Sidama (5%) compared to regional median prices in December 2023.
- In January, Somali had the highest full basket median price compared to the price in other regions.

1. Minimum Expenditure Basket for Somali Region Guidance Note, June 2020. Additional sources consulted to assemble the JMMI Basket include the Ethiopia Food Security and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sectors, World Food Programme (WFP) vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM), and publications by the Global WASH Cluster, Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

2. Exchange rates are taken from the United Nations (UN) Operational Rates of Exchange

3. Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region

Map 3: Cost of JMMI Full Basket, By Woreda



All items listed under the shelter and education sections are not included in the JMMI basket. Additionally, water treatment and CBHI⁴ are also not in the JMMI basket. These items are assessed solely to inform humanitarian actors involved in CVA about price evolution of the items.

- Among cereals, barley (+18%) was observed to have the largest increase in median prices at the national level since December 2023.
- The price of rice decreased by 10% since December 2023.
- In January, the highest increase on pulses' prices was recorded on garden peas (+18%).
- The price of goat meat (-25%) and dry fish (-12%) showed highest decrease from December 2023.
- Among vegetables, okra (+33%) and onion (+13%) were observed to have the largest increase.
- The price of water treatment (+24%) showed the highest rise.
- The price of rubber also increased at 23%.

Table 2: National and Regional Median Prices Per Item⁵

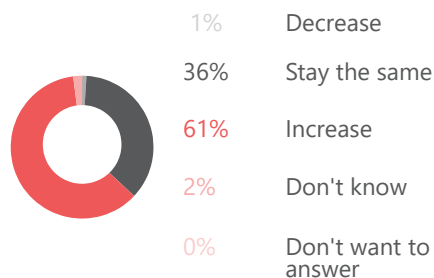
Item	National change since Nov 2023	National	Addis Ababa	Afar	Amhara	Benihsangul Gumuz	Dire Dawa	Gambela	Harari	Oromia	Sidama	SNNP	Somali	Tigray
Cereals														
Maize	▼ 2%	48.5	65	60	49.5	52.5	50	55	45	44	40	45	70	45
Sorghum	▲ 4%	62.5	82.5	60	70	50	65	80	60	53.75			100	57.5
Teff	▲ 4%	120	112.5	127.5	125	122.5	120	125	120	107.5	120	99		130
Wheat	0	70	95		67.5	79	80	65	65	70			100	65
Barley	▲ 18%	82.5		100							50	43.5		
Enset	0	100									100	NA		
Rice	▼ 10%	130												130
Pulses														
Garden pea	▲ 18%	100	97.5	140	170	110	NA	100	NA	67.5	NA	NA	NA	72.5
Faba bean	▼ 3%	90	107.5	145	100	97.5	NA	90	NA	62.5	NA	NA	NA	75
Lentils	0	150	140	150	160	155	NA	155	NA	132.5	NA	NA	NA	140
Meat and Fish														
Beef	▼ 3%	650	650	700	775	625	600	687.5	600	712.5	800	700		600
Goat meat	▼ 25%	600		600									675	
Camel meat	-	NA											NA	
Dry fish	▼ 12%	115						115						
Vegetables														
Green leafy	▼ 8%	55	45	65	52.5	60	NA	105	NA	40	75	25	80	40
Tomatoes	▼ 9%	72.5	80	90	65	70	70	96.25	50	70	70	90	100	35
Onions	▲ 13%	140	125	120	140	145	200	150	132.5	140	140	135	160	128.75
Potatoes	0	50	45	60	50	42.5	50	57.5	35	40	35	45	77.5	42.5
Okra	▲ 33%	100						100						
WASH														
Bath soap	▼ 5%	50	70	45	70	60	45	75	45	45	50	55	107.5	53.75
Laundry soap	0	60	55	60	55.5	60	55	60	55	60	50	28.5	60	50
Sanitary pads	0	60	50	55	60	67.5	60	65	60	65	50	NA	NA	48.75
Water treatment	▲ 24%	35	60	17.5	NA	NA	NA	25	NA	25	NA	NA	80	40
Shelter														
Plastic bucket	▲ 6%	190	190	250	182.5	150	NA	210	NA	150	NA	NA	NA	171.25
Washing basin	▲ 4%	207.5	205	335	155	200	NA	210	NA	232.5	NA	NA	NA	150
Education														
Exercise book	▼ 3%	50.83	50	63.3	55	40	54.2	55	37.5	50	NA	NA	37.5	49.6
Pen/pencil	0	15.7	15	20	16.25	15	15	17.5	NA	20.8	NA	NA	10	15
Rubber	▲ 23%	12.25	25	10	12.25	25	NA	20	NA	15	NA	NA	NA	10
Ruler	0	25	30	17.5	22.5	17.5	NA	35	NA	27.5	NA	NA	NA	47.5
Other														
Cooking oil	▼ 4%	190	150	185	200	220	160	155	200	200	220	155	120	182.5
Milk	0	100	100	95	65	NA	NA	130	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	80
Egg	▼ 4%	13	9	16	12	15.25	14	20	12	12	12	10.5	18	13
Salt	▼ 4%	30	72.5	35	30	90	NA	47.5	NA	35	50	NA	NA	25

4. Community Based Health Insurance.

5. The blank spaces represent the item is not part of the basket in that region.

REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF FOOD ITEMS

% of vendors reporting predicted price changes for food items in the 30 days following data collection:

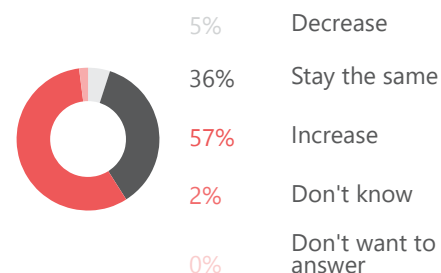


Out of those vendors predicting an increase in food prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:⁶

- 1 20% Rising exchange rate
- 2 18% Customers will demand more of these items
- 3 17% Customers will run out of these items

REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF NON-FOOD ITEMS

% of vendors reporting predicted price changes for hygiene items in the 30 days following data collection:



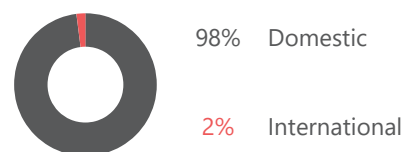
Out of those vendors predicting an increase in hygiene item prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:⁶

- 1 23% Customers will run out of these items
- 2 20% Rising exchange rate
- 3 18% Customers will demand more of these items

LOCATION OF MAIN SUPPLIERS FOR FOOD ITEMS

59% of vendors reported that their main supplier of food items was located in the same woreda.

Proportion of vendors by reported origin of their main supplier for food items (out of the 40% of the vendors whose suppliers were not located in the same woreda):



40% of vendors reported that their main supplier of food items was not located in the same woreda as them.

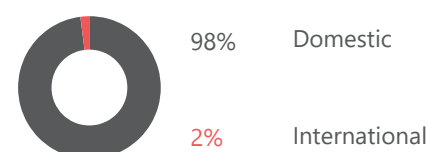
Proportion of vendors whose main food items supplier was not located in the same woreda by reported region where the supplier is located:⁶

36%	Oromia
14%	Amhara
14%	Tigray
9%	Addis Ababa
6%	Afar

LOCATION OF MAIN SUPPLIERS FOR NON-FOOD ITEMS

48% of vendors reported that their main supplier of NFIs was located in the same woreda.

Proportion of vendors by reported origin of their main supplier for NFI items (out of the 54% of the vendors whose suppliers were not located in the same woreda):



49% of vendors reported that their main supplier of NFIs was not located in the same woreda as them.

Proportion of vendors whose main NFIs supplier was not located in the same woreda by reported region where the supplier is located:⁶

22%	Oromia
18%	Tigray
16%	Amhara
12%	Addis Ababa
6%	Afar

6. Percentages do not add up to 100% as vendors were allowed to give multiple answers.

DIFFICULTIES IN MEETING DEMAND AND TRANSPORTING OR PROCURING SUPPLIES

24% (n= 171) of vendors reported having faced difficulties obtaining enough food items to meet demand in the 30 days prior to data collection.

The three most frequently cited reasons for shortage of food items supply were:⁶

- 1 23% (n=41) Producers producing less
- 2 20% (n= 31) Not enough money
- 3 16% (n= 27) Not enough credit

21% (n= 49) of vendors reported having faced difficulties obtaining enough NFIs to meet demand in the 30 days prior to data collection.

The three most frequently cited reasons for shortage of NFIs supply were:⁶

- 1 27% (n= 20) Not enough credit
- 2 26% (n= 10) Not enough money
- 3 15% (n= 10) Domestic transport restrictions

BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS FOR CUSTOMERS

Customer groups that were reported to have faced difficulties visiting markets in the 30 days prior to data collection, by proportion of vendors (e.g., due to movement restrictions):⁶

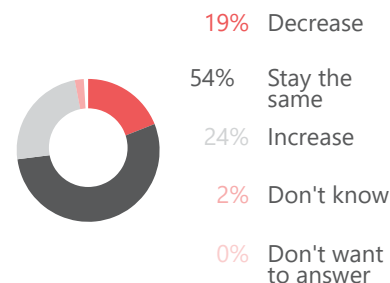
- 1 4% Women
- 2 4% Children
- 3 3% Chronically ill people

Proportion of the vendors reporting having observed or heard of any safety or security incidents in their market place in the 30 days prior to data collection.⁶

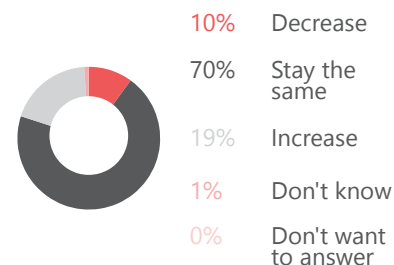
- 1 7% Fear of violence
- 2 7% Fear of looting
- 3 7% Fear of robbery
- 4 6% Curfew

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AND VENDORS

Proportion of vendors reporting perceived changes in the number of customers coming to their shop as compared to previous month:



Proportion of vendors reporting perceived changes in the number of active traders in their marketplace as compared to previous month:



TYPES OF PAYMENT MODALITIES

Proportion of vendors reporting accepting different types of payment in the 30 days prior to data collection:⁶

- 1 94% Cash (ETB)
- 2 17% Mobile money
- 3 16% Money transfer

Table 3: Availability of Items in the Market, Available Stock and Time Needed to Restock in January 2023

Item ⁷	Availability			Stock and Restock	
	Available (% Kls)	Limited Available (% Kls)	Not available (% Kls)	Days stock available	Days needed to restock
Cereals					
Maize	63%	30%	7%	15	4
Sorghum	54%	33%	13%	15	4
Teff	52%	44%	4%	15	5
Wheat	39%	43%	16%	14	5
Barley	35%	35%	21%	25	3
Enset	9%	20%	64%	2	2
Rice	41%	35%	16%	13	4
Pulses					
Garden pea	100%	0%	0%	30	3
Faba bean	100%	0%	0%	20	3
Lentils	100%	0%	0%	18	3
Meat and Fish					
Beef	57%	29%	14%	2	1
Goat meat	64%	36%	0%	1	1
Camel meat	NA	NA	NA	2	4
Dry fish	50%	50%	0%	8	2
Vegetables					
Green leafy	51%	39%	8%	3	2
Tomatoes	57%	43%	0%	4	2
Onions	60%	40%	0%	5	2
Potatoes	65%	35%	0%	5	3
Okra	100%	0%	0%	2	1
WASH					
Bath soap	78%	22%	0%	20	3
Laundry soap	77%	22%	1%	20	3
Sanitary pads	59%	29%	9%	15	3
Water treatment	23%	23%	42%	25	2
Shelter					
Plastic bucket	43%	33%	17%	25	3
Washing basin	41%	33%	17%	20	3
Education					
Exercise book	70%	26%	1%	25	3
Pen/pencil	71%	23%	3%	18	3
Rubber	49%	25%	20%	20	3
Ruler	48%	23%	22%	16	3
Other					
Cooking oil	70%	30%	0%	15	3
Milk	36%	41%	16%	1	1
Egg	56%	36%	5%	5	2
Salt	75%	22%	2%	20	3

- All interviewed retailers reported availability of garden pea, faba bean, lentils, and okra in January 2024.
- Dry fish (50%), wheat (43%) and tomatoes (41%) were reported to have limited availability in January 2024. Tomatoes also had limited availability in December 2023, as reported by 41% of the traders.

7. Red numbers in this table flag the rate of unavailability of items.

Methodology

JMMI data is collected in the form of key informant interviews (KIIs), with retailers in target markets serving as the key informants (KIs). KIs were asked for information encompassing the 30 days prior to data collection. Findings represent KIs' understanding of the situation in their markets and therefore are indicative only.

A woreda's largest urban market place(s) devoted to retail is/are prioritised for data collection, with expansion to rural areas depending on the availability of contributing partners. For the purposes of the Ethiopia JMMI, a market place is defined as an area with a relatively sizable concentration of traders in close proximity to each other. Within each target market place, field teams are responsible for identifying a sufficient number of traders to interview those who sell directly to consumers, who sell at least one item of that region's JMMI Basket and who are patronised by average consumers in the area. Field teams aim to collect a minimum of three prices per assessed item per assessed woreda.

Once data has been collected, it is uploaded to a secure KoBo server for cleaning and analysis. As the data is collected at the KI level, the following steps are undertaken to aggregate the trader level data to the location level:

- Availability is defined categorically (available, limited, unavailable) for each item
- Commodity prices and stock levels are collected from individual traders and median prices/stock levels are calculated for each item within each assessed woreda

- National and regional medians are then calculated using a "median of medians" approach, i.e. by calculating a new median from all woreda-level medians
- All vendors are asked about their ability to restock and whether a trader has restocked in the last month. If any given trader states they are able to restock an item or, if at least one trader restocked in the last month, respectively, then those abilities are assumed for that woreda.

Data collection for this round took place between 2 and 17 January 2024. In January, 21 of the JMMI partners conducted a total of 764 KIIs. This round covered 198 market places, which were sampled by partners nationwide based on their access and existing areas of intervention. This round includes 85 out of 1040 woredas in Ethiopia.

Challenges and limitations

- The South west region was not assessed due to the unavailability of data collection partners.
- In January 2024, prices for camel meat, pulses, milk, salt and teff were not collected in Somali, while enset prices were not collected in SNNP, which can be one factor for the monthly price change reported in Table 2.
- The JMMI methodology specifies that three prices should be collected per commodity, per woreda. For this round of data collection, less than three prices were collected per woreda for fababean, lentils, plastic bucket, rubber, ruler, washing basin and water treatment items.
- All findings are indicative and not statistically generalisable at any level.

About the CWG

The Ethiopia Cash Working Group (ECWG) is a forum of technical professionals dedicated to enhancing the quality of CVA. Established in 2021, the ECWG serves as an inter-agency and inter-sectoral platform providing strategic and technical support on cash programming across sectors and clusters, social-protection mechanisms and development and resilience-based response. The CWGs support includes both technical functions that focus on process and strategic functions that focus more on results and impact.

Participating agencies

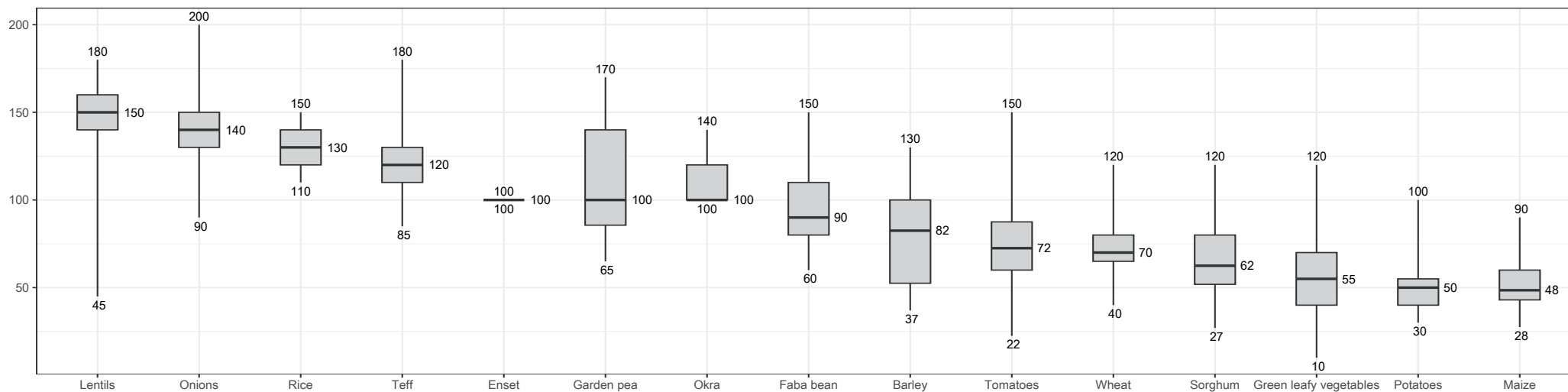
- ACF – Action Contre le Faim
- ACTED – Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
- ASDEPO – Action for Social Development and Environmental Protection Organization
- AIE – Action Aid Ethiopia
- Ayuda en Acción Ethiopia
- CARE
- Caritas Switzerland
- Christian Aid
- Concern Worldwide
- COOPI – Cooperazione Internazionale
- DCA – Danish Church Aid
- EECMY DASSC
- FRC – Finish Refugee Council
- GOAL
- IRC – International Rescue Committee
- Mercy Corps
- NRC – Norwegian Refugee Council
- Oxfam
- Plan International
- SCI – Save the Children
- WVI – World Vision International

About REACH

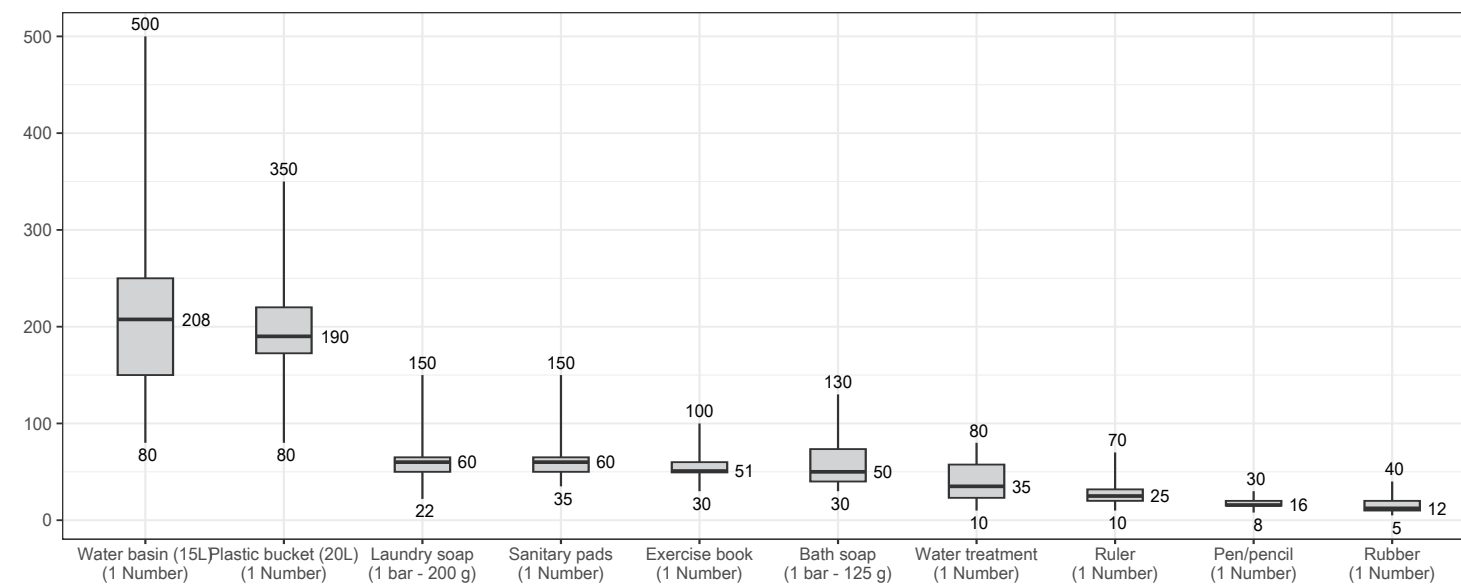
REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research – Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

ANNEX 1: Distribution of Prices

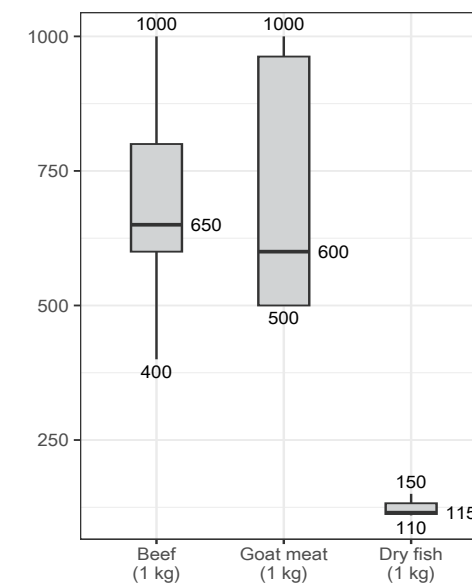
Food Items 1



NFIs



Meat Items



Other Food Items

