SOMALIA JOINT MARKET MONITORING INITIATIVE (JMMI)

November 2023

INTRODUCTION

The recurrent cycle of droughts and floods in Somalia poses continuous challenges for communities, disrupting their livelihoods and highlighting the need for improved adaptation measures. As per the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Somalia in 2023, approximately 8.25 million people were in need of assistance due to these environmental fluctuations[1].

Working in collaboration with the Somali Cash Working Group and its partners, REACH implements the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) in Somalia. This initiative addresses the need for regular and up-to-date monitoring of market functionality, with a particular emphasis on a wide range of non-food items (NFIs). By filling an information gap in the country, the JMMI aims to contribute to the existing supply chain and price monitoring of essential items in the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). Its goal is to provide valuable insights into market dynamics and inform cash-based interventions. The JMMI primarily focuses on assessing NFIs and collaborates with various clusters, including WASH, Shelter, and Education to enhance the humanitarian response in Somalia.

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 current round of data collection took place between the 15th November to 5th December 2023. During this period, a total of 64 items were assessed, spanning across 9 districts.

SUMMARY FROM THE CURRENT ROUND

6	Participating agencies
9	Assessed locations
64	Assessed items
332	Interviews conducted

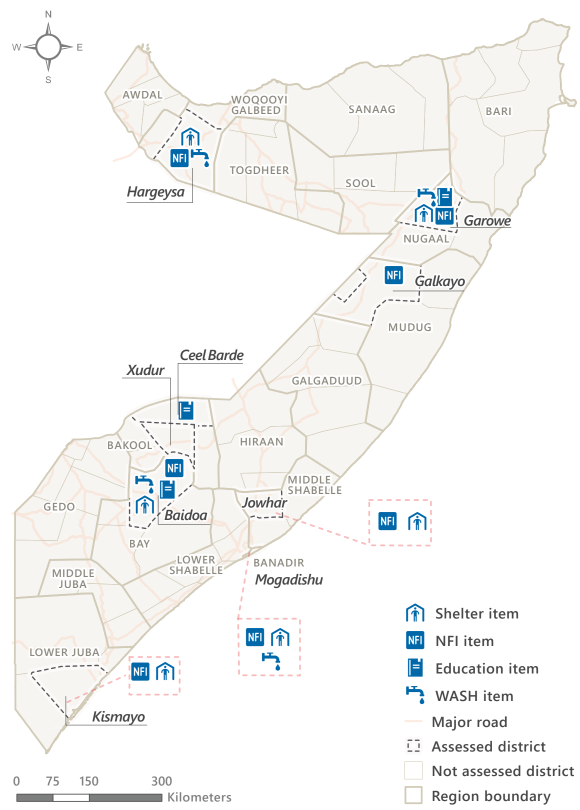
BREAKDOWN OF INTERVIEWS PER LOCATION

93	Baidoa
19	Ceel Barde
18	Galkayo
39	Garowe
58	Hargeysa
20	Xudur
52	Jowhar
12	Kismayo
21	Mogadishu

BREAKDOWN OF INTERVIEWS PER VENDOR TYPE

57	Construction
135	General NFIs
108	Stationery
32	Water

Locations assessed per cluster items, and main roads



KEY FINDINGS

- The **United States Dollar (USD)** was reported as the predominant currency in vendors' shops, with **mobile money transfer** being the **primary** method of **payment**.
- The overall cost of basic hygiene kit remained unchanged and the general non-food items (NFI) exhibited diverse trends in price fluctuations. Nevertheless, in **Baidoa** district, the median prices for most general non-food items (GNFIs) had increased in November 2023 compared to August 2023. These price hikes can be attributed to supply chain disruptions caused by the **Deyr flooding**.
- Vendors encountered significant hurdles due to poor infrastructure, notably concerning roads, impacting commodity transportation. High percentages attribute to **poor quality of roads** and **closure of roads by floods** among transportation challenges. Financial barriers, including **limited cash** and **low purchasing power**, also hinder effective business operations due to the financial constraints they are facing.

OVERVIEW

This factsheet presents data collected by JMMI partners through key informant interviews with local vendors. The findings are presented at the district level and should be considered indicative rather than representative. Hence, the narrative only summarises general trends and specific 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, labeled 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 (6%).

Vendors in Hargeysa used the US dollar as their main currency (98%) and the Somaliland shilling as their secondary currency (2%).

Vendors in Ceel Barde are the only ones that reported only using Ethiopian Birr (100%). Most vendors interviewed in all locations accepted mobile payment (99%). They also accepted cash (73%) and vouchers (6%) as a mode of payment.

Interviewed vendors from Garowe (100%) accepted mobile money payment. Additionally, vendors in Kismayo (42%) and Hargeysa (24%) 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	94	6	0
Ceel Barde	0	100	0
Baidoa	100	0	0
Xudur	100	0	0
Galkayo	100	0	0
Garowe	100	0	0
Jowhar	100	0	0
Mogadishu	100	0	0
Hargeysa	98	0	2
Kismayo	100	0	0

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

Location	Cash	Mobile	Voucher
All	73	99	6
Ceel Barde	100	95	0
Baidoa	94	100	0
Xudur	100	100	0
Galkayo	39	100	0
Garowe	0	100	0
Jowhar	81	100	0
Mogadishu	19	95	0
Hargeysa	98	100	24
Kismayo	58	100	42

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

GENERAL NFIs*

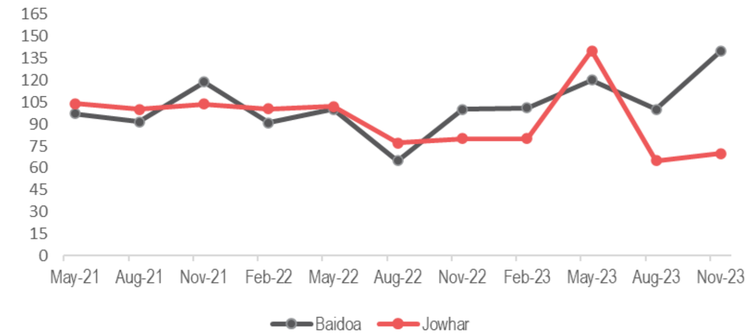
Median price of basic NFI kit (USD) - November 2023

Item	Overall median, per assessed	Median change (USD) since previous round	Quantity per kit,	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	46.50	45.00	0.00	16.50
Bowl 1 litre	2.00	-0.10	5	10.00	12.50	7.50	7.50	10.00
Cooking Pot 5 litres	6.00	1.10	1	6.00	7.00	15.00	6.00	4.00
Cooking Pot 7 litres	7.05	0.80	1	7.05	9.50	16.50	6.50	5.00
Cup 250ml	1.00	0.10	5	5.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	2.50	0.50	2	5.00	4.00	5.00	5.35	0.00
Kettle 2 litres	5.00	0.00	1	5.00	6.00	4.00	5.00	5.00
Knife medium	1.00	0.00	1	1.00	1.50	1.00	1.05	1.00
Mosquito Net 1.8m x 1.6m x 1.5m	5.00	-0.03	1	5.00	4.50	0.00	7.75	4.00
Mug unit	1.00	0.15	1	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Plastic Sheet 4m x 5m	8.00	2.00	1	8.00	11.00	13.00	0.00	7.00
Plate 25cm diameter	1.40	-0.10	5	7.00	10.00	6.00	7.00	7.50
Serving Spoon 125ml	1.50	0.50	1	1.50	3.50	2.00	1.00	1.00
Sleeping Mat 1.8m x 0.9m	7.00	-0.93	2	14.00	11.50	16.00	13.00	14.00
Solar Lamp unit	3.50	-0.50	1	3.50	4.50	3.00	0.00	0.00
Spoon unit	0.50	-0.05	5	2.5	3.00	1.50	4.00	0.00
Total basic NFI kit cost	62.45	3.45	NA	111.55	139	141.50	70.15	81.00
Rounded basic NFI kit cost	60.00	5.00	NA	110.00	140.00	140.00	70.00	80.00

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.

The general non-food items (NFI) displayed varied trends in price fluctuations, characterized by marginal increases and decreases across different categories. Among the 16 NFI items evaluated, 7 showed slight price upticks, 6 saw minor decreases, while 3 remained unchanged. The overall rounded median cost for NFI items decreased by $5 compared to the last round in August.

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



The cost of total basic rounded NFI (Non-Food Items) kits in Jowhar has remained relatively stable, with a slight increase of $5. However, in Baidoa, there was a notable surge in the price of NFI kits in November 2023, rising from $100 to $140, as depicted in the above graph. These price hikes can be attributed to supply chain disruptions caused by the Deyr flooding.

***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 Johwar were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed GNFI items since May 2021.

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

Item	Total Number	Overall Median	Price change (USD)	1st Quartile*	3rd Quartile*	Baidoa	Hargeysa		Jowhar
Blanket 1.5m x 2.0m, polyester	29	10.00	0.00	6.00	16.00	15.50	15.00	5.50	7.40
Bowl 1 litre	33	2.00	-0.10	1.50	2.00	2.50	1.50	2.00	1.50
Bucket 10 litres	39	4.00	0.75	4.00	4.95	4.00	4.00	2.50	4.80
Chlorine Tabs clear 10 L of water	18	2.50	-0.10	2.00	3.48	NA	NA	NA	3.45
Cooking Pot 5 litres	29	6.00	1.10	5.00	12.00	7.00	15.00	4.00	6.00
Cooking Pot 7 litres	30	7.05	0.80	6.00	15.75	9.50	16.50	5.00	6.50
Cup 250ml	39	1.00	0.10	1.00	1.00	0.80	1.00	1.00	1.00
Jerry Can 20 litres, plastic	30	2.50	0.50	2.00	2.98	2.00	2.50	2.00	2.68
Jerry Can 10 litres, collapsible	22	2.00	0.00	2.00	2.50	NA	2.00	NA	2.50
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	26	2.05	0.05	2.00	2.50	2.50	2.00	2.00	2.50
Kettle 2 litres	36	5.00	0.00	4.00	5.63	6.00	4.00	5.00	5.00
Knife medium	36	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.05
Lock unit	25	3.00	0.80	2.00	3.50	3.50	3.00	1.50	NA
MHM[3] disposable, pack 10-14 units	31	1.50	0.43	1.00	2.00	1.30	2.00	1.00	2.60
MHM reusable, 5 units	18	1.50	0.50	1.23	2.98	NA	NA	1.00	2.95
Mosquito Net 1.8m x 1.6m x 1.5m	29	5.00	-0.03	5.00	8.00	4.50	NA	4.00	7.75
Mug unit	33	1.00	0.15	1.00	1.00	NA	1.00	1.00	1.00
Face Mask box, 50 units	24	5.75	-0.25	1.75	8.70	5.50	1.10	9.00	7.00
Plastic Gloves box, 100 units	22	6.20	-0.05	5.00	7.90	NA	NA	5.50	7.60
Plastic Sheet 4m x 5m	28	8.00	-2.00	7.00	10.25	11.00	13.00	7.00	7.60
Plastic Sheet 6m x 7.5m	28	9.00	-3.00	7.58	15.75	22.00	19.00	7.50	8.00
Plate 25cm diameter	31	1.40	-0.10	1.20	2.00	2.00	1.20	1.50	1.40
Rake unit	24	4.75	0.75	4.00	5.70	4.00	4.75	3.00	5.60
Serving Spoon 125ml	26	1.50	0.50	1.00	2.00	3.50	2.00	1.00	1.00
Sleeping Mat 1.8m x 0.9m	42	7.00	-0.93	6.13	8.00	5.75	8.00	7.00	6.50
Soap 3 small bars (150g)	47	1.00	-0.02	0.70	1.50	1.00	0.50	1.50	1.40
Solar Lamp unit	14	3.50	-0.50	3.00	4.38	4.50	3.00	NA	NA
Spoon unit	27	0.50	-0.05	0.30	0.65	0.60	0.30	0.50	0.80
Washing Powder 100 grams	34	0.40	-0.10	0.25	0.60	0.25	0.20	NA	0.60
Water 1 litre bottle	30	0.50	0.00	0.40	0.50	0.80	0.43	0.50	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[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 price assessment for 16 general non-food items shows a mixed trend compared to the previous round in August: 7 items have seen slight increases, 6 have experienced minor decreases, and 3 have remained unchanged. However, in some locations, such as Baidoa and Jowhar, prices increased for most of the items monitored. In Baidoa district, the median prices for general non-food items (GNFIs) increased in November 2023 compared to August 2023, except for rakes and solar lamps. The price increases can be attributed to supply chain disruptions caused by the Deyr flooding[6]. Similarly, Jowhar had reported an increase in prices for most of the GNFI items. The price of mosquito nets had increased from $5.05 in August to $7.75 in November 2024. However, there was a decrease in prices in items such as chlorine tablets (from $5 to $3.45) and sleeping mats (from $7.85 to $6.50).

According to the weekly joint Markets and Supply Chain Update by WFP for December 11th to December 17th, 2023[7], prices for both food and non-food items in most states either remained stable or exhibited a downward trend compared to the previous week. Improved road conditions have facilitated the transportation of goods to markets previously inaccessible due to flooding. This has helped improve supply chains and caused a positive change.

*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.

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

Item	All	Baidoa (n = 13)	Jowhar (n = 158)	Hargeysa (n = 34)
Kitchen bowl	18	0	67	0
Bucket	23	0	56	0
Chlorine tablet	44	0	80	0
Cooking pot	23	0	67	11
Kitchen cup	26	33	64	0
Jerry can	31	33	67	13
Kettle	22	33	58	0
Kitchen knife	25	0	80	7
Lock	28	0	0	64
Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)	23	25	46	0
Mosquito net	28	60	42	0
Mug	30	0	71	0
Face Mask	33	0	100	50
Plastic glove	43	0	100	33
Plastic sheet / tarpulin	43	80	73	0
Kitchen plate	23	0	78	0
Rake	25	0	100	0
Kitchen serving spoon	19	0	100	0
Sleeping mat	12	0	45	0
Soap bar (body hygiene)	32	0	56	38
Kitchen table spoon	19	0	83	0
Washing powder	56	50	91	54
Drinking water	27	0	100	50

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

Over the past 3 months, vendors have had trouble restocking washing powder (56%), chlorine tablets (44%), plastic gloves (43%) and plastic sheets (43%). In Jowhar, vendors encountered difficulties in restocking nearly all assessed items, except for locks. Notably, face masks, rakes, kitchen serving spoons, plastic gloves, and drinking water faced the most challenges, with a 100% restocking difficulty across all items. In Baidoa, vendors faced significant hurdles in restocking plastic sheets (80%) and mosquito nets (60%). Meanwhile, in Hargeysa, difficulties emerged in restocking locks (64%) and washing powder (54%).

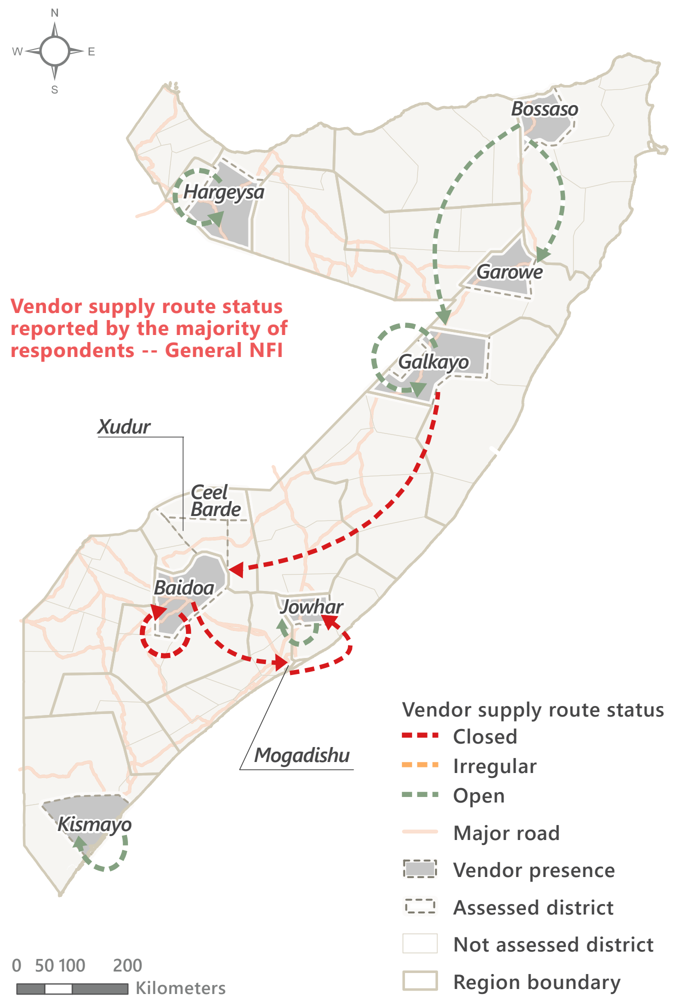
Regarding transportation methods, the majority of vendors utilized hired vehicles (68.33%), while 11% relied on deliveries from wholesalers. A smaller proportion opted for transportation via airplane (7%), their own vehicles (7%), or professional transporters (5%). Only 1% reported using donkeys for transportation.

Vendor in Baidoa and Jowhar revealed common challenges. In Baidoa, vendors cited non-security issues (29%), security concerns (21%), financial constraints (28%), and transportation difficulties (28%). In Jowhar, obstacles included non-security factors (22%), financial limitations (20%), and transportation challenges (26%).

Vendors in Mogadishu (57%), Jowhar (44%) and Baidoa (31%) reported the supply route from their supplier was open but damaged. Some vendors in Baidoa (36%) reported their supply route was closed. In contrast, vendors in Garowe (88%), reported that the supply route was open normally.

The map to the right visualizes 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 November 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 November 2023

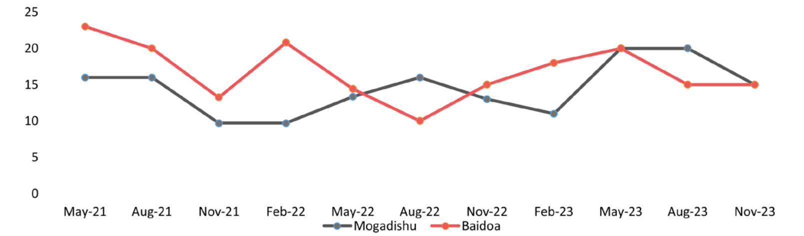
Item	Overall median, per assessed item spec.	Quantity per kit, per household	Median item cost per kit/household	Baidoa, cost per kit	Hargeysa, cost per kit	Jowhar, cost per kit	Mogadishu, cost per kit	Garowe, cost per kit
Bucket 10 litres	4	1	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.80	2.50	4.00
Jerry Can 10 litres, non-collapsible	2.05	1	2.05	2.50	2.00	2.50	2.00	2.00
MHM disposable, pack 10-14 units	1.5	2	3.00	2.60	4.00	5.20	2.00	3.00
Soap 3 small bars (150g)	1	1000 g	6.67	6.67	3.33	9.33	10.00	11.33
Washing Powder 100 grams	0.4	300 g	1.20	0.75	0.60	1.80	0.00	2.40
Basic hygiene kit cost	8.95	NA	16.92	16.52	13.93	23.63	16.50	22.73
Rounded basic hygiene kit cost rounded*	10.00	NA	15.00	15.00	15.00	25.00	15.00	25.00
Communal water 20 litres	0.2	2790 l	27.90	55.80	27.90	0.00	0	1.395
Piped water 1000 litres	1.5	2790 l	4.19	6.14	4.19	0.00	4.185	3.71
Trucked water 1000 litres	7.5	2790 l	20.93	9.63	22.32	0.00	20.93	34.46

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).

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 overall price of the hygiene kit in Mogadishu decreased from $20 to $15 in November 2023, while the price stayed the same in Baidoa.

Three out of the five hygiene items assessed (jerrican, bucket, and MHM) have experienced a slight price increase, whereas the other two (soap and washing powder) have seen a small decrease in price. However, the overall cost of rounded basic hygiene kit remain unchanged.

*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.

*Mogadishu and Baidoa were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed Hygiene items since May 2021.

CONSTRUCTION ITEMS

Median prices of monitored items (USD) in November 2023 compared to previous round in August 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	0.73	0.23	0.55	0.80	0.95	0.78	0.53	0.50	NA
Cement 50kg	51	6.70	-0.70	6.50	7.00	12.00	6.50	6.50	7.50	7.00
Gravel cubic meter	28	30.00	-7.75	29.00	46.50	115.00	30.00	46.00	30.00	NA
Gumboots one pair	41	11.00	2.00	8.50	11.85	3.00	11.75	11.00	10.00	4.00
Hammer 0.5kg	45	3.00	-0.30	3.00	4.00	4.90	2.95	3.85	2.50	4.00
Hinges 4 inches	36	5.00	-1.50	2.50	6.50	14.00	6.35	2.50	10.00	3.00
Iron Sheet 0.9m x 1.5m	45	6.00	4.00	5.00	6.63	7.00	6.35	6.50	4.00	5.00
Metal Bar 1 quintal, 6mm x 6m	32	5.60	3.60	4.00	6.00	8.00	6.00	4.00	NA	NA
Metal Bar 1 quintal, 8mm x 6m	32	8.00	3.05	6.13	8.50	10.00	8.15	7.00	NA	NA
Nails 1 box, No.5 (1.5 inch)	47	2.00	-3.00	1.78	2.50	2.35	1.70	2.00	2.00	2.50
Nails 1 box, No.6 (2.5 inches)	47	2.00	-6.00	2.00	3.00	2.75	2.00	2.50	2.50	2.50
Sand cubic meter	21	37.00	0.50	35.50	51.50	75.00	37.00	NA	NA	NA
Spade unit	36	4.00	0.73	3.50	4.50	5.00	3.50	4.00	3.00	NA
Timber 5cm x 2.5cm, 4m long	38	6.50	-4.50	6.00	16.75	14.50	6.00	25.00	6.00	5.00
Timber 8cm x 4cm, 4m long	38	6.00	1.00	4.00	15.00	8.60	4.50	18.00	4.00	6.50
Timber 10cm x 2.5cm, 4m long	34	6.00	-1.00	5.00	11.00	6.00	5.20	35.00	4.00	12.00
Vent Pipe 4m long	26	8.50	-0.20	8.00	13.25	15.00	8.40	15.00	8.00	NA
Wheelbarrow unit	37	30.00	0.50	30.00	35.00	33.50	30.00	36.00	26.00	39.00
Wooden Pole 6m long	35	4.00	0.00	4.00	5.28	3.00	4.75	4.00	NA	NA
Wood Saw 10 inches long	36	4.00	0.45	3.80	4.00	4.00	3.80	4.50	3.00	NA
Communal water 20 litres	10	0.20	-0.15	0.05	0.28	0.40	0.01	0.20	NA	NA
Piped water 1000 litres	11	1.50	-0.25	1.33	1.88	2.20	1.33	1.50	1.50	NA
Trucked water 1000 litres	15	7.50	-0.50	4.00	11.00	3.45	12.35	8.00	7.50	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)

Compared to the previous round in August 2023, the overall price in construction materials had increased in November 2023. The price of iron sheet had drastically increased from $2 to $6 (300%). Likewise, the prices of both assessed types of metal bars have risen. However, the prices of certain construction materials had decreased. Notably the cost of timber (5cm x 2.5cm, 4m long) had drastically decreased from $11 to $ 6.5 and the price of gravel had decreased from $37.75 to $30.

In Baidoa, there was a notable increase in prices for most construction materials in this round compared to the previous round in August. The cost of bricks rose significantly from $0.50 to $0.95, while cement prices increased from $10.50 to $12.00. The market supply chain in Baidoa was greatly affected by flash flooding during this quarter.

In Mogadishu, there were price changes in construction items in this round. The prices of 6 items had small increases in price, whereas other 6 items had small decreases in cost.

According to the Somalia Shelter Cluster report released in December 2023[8], the escalation of shelter commodity prices is impeding the distribution of aid, particularly affecting individuals displaced by floods.

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

Item	All	Baidoa (n = 21)	Jowhar (n = 16)	Hargeysa (n = 70)
Brick	8	25	100	0
Cement	29	75	100	45
Gravel	13	40	100	0
Gumboots	6	0	100	11
Hammer	22	0	100	41
Hinge	27	25	100	53
Iron Sheet	31	80	100	45
Iron / metal bar	41	100	100	67
Sand	5	0	100	0
Spade	17	0	100	33
Timber	26	100	100	50
Vent Pipe	4	0	100	0
Wheel barrow	14	75	100	0
Wooden pole	10	25	100	0
Wood saw	11	0	100	29

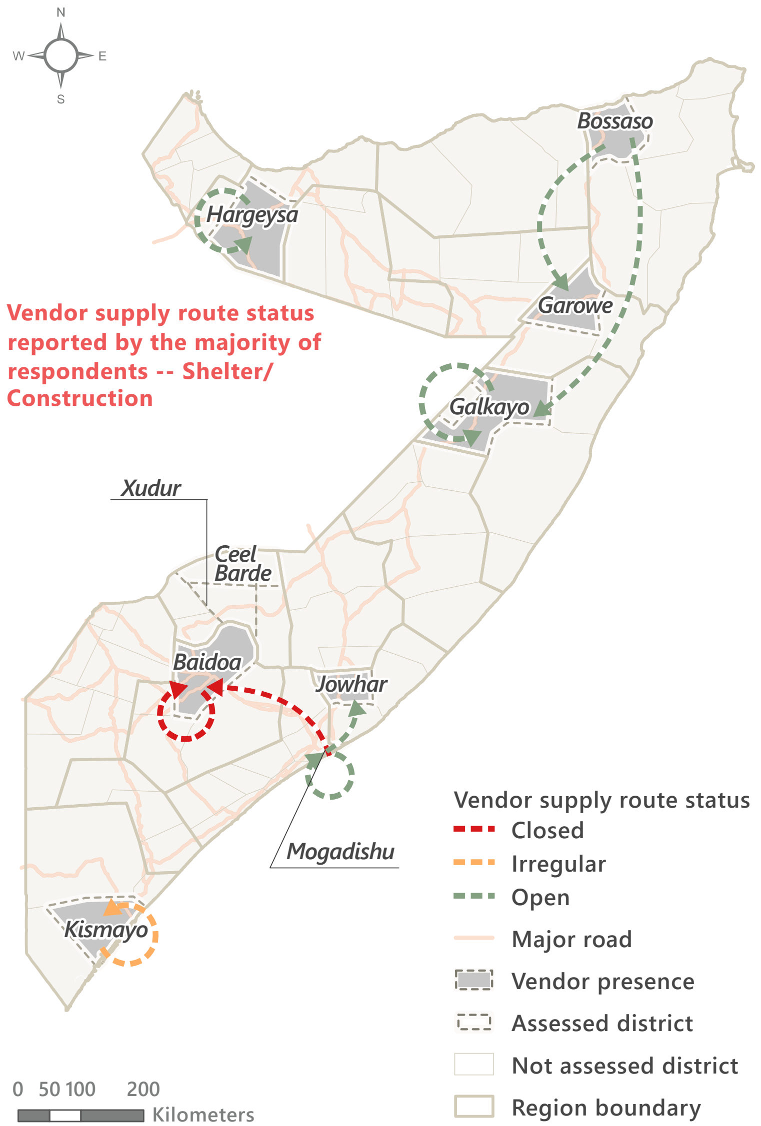
The table above illustrates the proportion of construction vendors reporting difficulties restocking each item by their location. It should be noted that vendors were only asked about restocking difficulties for items that they currently had in stock, not for items that were reportedly unavailable.

The map to the right visualizes supply route conditions as reported by the interviewed construction vendors. The status of supply routes is based on the response provided by vendors who heavily rely on specific routes, as indicated as either damaged/closed or open. Vendors in Mogadishu (57%), Jowhar (44%) and Baidoa (31%) reported the supply route from their supplier was open but damaged. Some vendors in Baidoa (36%) reported their supply route was closed. In contrast, vendors in Garowe (88%), reported that the supply route was open normally.

At aggregate level, the items most commonly reported as being difficult to restock were iron/metal bars (41%), iron sheets (31%), cement (29%) and timber (26%) in the last 3 months prior to data collection.

The findings from the interviews with vendors regarding restocking difficulties in various locations revealed notable variations across different construction items. In Baidoa, a significant proportion of vendors reported challenges in restocking items such as cement (75%), iron/ metal bars (100%), and timber (100%). Jowhar exhibited extensive difficulties across all items surveyed, with 100% of vendors reporting restocking issues. Hargeysa saw moderate to high levels of difficulty, particularly with hinges (53%), iron/metal bars (67%), and hammers (41%).

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

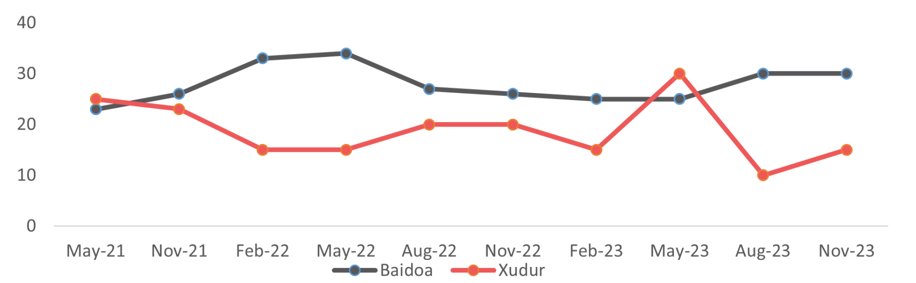


STATIONERY ITEMS

Median price (USD) of basic learning kit - Education Cluster November 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	Xudur, cost per kit	Garowe, cost per kit
Bag unit, polyester	6.00	1	6.00	6.00	5.95	8.00	6.50
Crayons packet, 24 units	1.00	1	1.00	1.50	0.35	0.40	1.00
Exercise Book 100 pages, A5	1.00	6	6.00	6.00	3.60	4.80	6.00
Math set set	2.00	1	2.00	2.00	3.44	0.00	1.05
Pencils pack, 24 units	0.95	4	3.80	8.00	4.87	0.48	7.80
Pens 10 units	1.50	2	3.00	3.60	1.90	0.24	4.00
Rubber unit	0.20	4	0.80	1.60	1.07	0.48	0.80
Ruler unit, 30 cm long	0.40	1	0.40	0.40	0.25	0.40	0.45
Sharpener unit	0.20	1	0.20	0.30	0.10	0.12	0.20
Total basic education kit cost	**13.25**	NA	**23.20**	**29.40**	**21.53**	**14.92**	**27.80**
Rounded basic education kit	**15.00**	NA	**25.00**	**30.00**	**20.00**	**15.00**	**30.00**

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



*Xudur and Baidoa were selected because they have consistently hosted the listed Stationery items since May 2021.

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 cost of the Basic stationery kit decreased slightly from $13.75 to $13.25, while the Rounded stationery kit cost remained unchanged at $15.00 in both rounds.

Between August and November, there were various price fluctuations across different items in the assessed districts. In Baidoa, crayons experienced a modest price increase from $1.00 to $1.50, while math sets doubled in cost from $1.00 to $2.00. Conversely, pens saw a significant drop in price from $8.00 to $3.60 during the same period. Rubber prices also rose from $0.80 to $1.60. In Ceel Barde, the prices for items such as exercise books and pencils increased notably, with exercise books rising from $2.70 to $3.60 and pencils from $3.40 to $4.87. However, in Xudur, the cost of exercise books reduced from $6.00 to $4.80. Meanwhile, in Garowe, there was an observable increase in the cost of pens per kit, lowering from $4.80 to $4.00.

The graph illustrates that the cost of Rounded basic education kit remained unchanged at $30 in Baidoa compared to the last round. Conversely, in Xudur, there was a slight increase in price from $10 to $15 compared to the previous quarter, although it still remains lower that in Baidoa.

*__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 November 2023 compared to previous round in August 2023 - Stationery items

Item	Total Number of Vendors interviewed	Overall Median	Price change (USD)	1st Quartile*	3rd Quartile*	Baidoa	Ceel Barde	Garowe	Xudur
Bag unit, polyester	59	6.00	0.00	5.00	6.80	6.00	5.95	6.50	6.50
Blackboard Drawing set	42	2.00	-1.00	1.78	3.00	2.00	3.80	2.85	NA
Blackboard plywood	39	17.00	-11.00	9.00	23.50	14.00	7.00	38.00	NA
Calculator unit	48	12.00	0.15	11.50	13.00	12.00	14.05	11.85	NA
Chalk box, 10 units	57	2.00	-2.03	1.50	4.00	2.00	4.00	5.55	2.85
Crayons packet, 24 units	56	1.00	0.00	0.48	1.65	1.50	0.35	1.00	NA
Duster unit	51	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.65	1.50	0.40	1.00	11.85
Exercise Book 100 pages, A5 size	73	1.00	0.20	0.80	1.00	1.00	0.60	1.00	5.55
Maps set	37	6.00	1.00	5.00	7.00	7.00	0.63	5.00	NA
Marker unit	56	1.00	0.48	0.78	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.65	1.00
Math set set	50	2.00	0.00	1.33	2.50	2.00	3.44	1.05	NA
Paper pack, 500 sheets A4 size	50	5.85	0.10	4.70	6.00	5.00	8.40	5.95	NA
Pencils pack, 24 units	60	0.95	-1.05	0.12	2.00	2.00	1.22	1.95	1.00
Pens 10 units	65	1.50	0.25	0.16	2.00	1.80	0.95	2.00	1.00
Register unit, large	52	4.00	-0.25	2.50	5.00	2.60	4.10	5.20	NA
Rubber unit	55	0.20	0.00	0.12	0.40	0.40	0.27	0.20	5.00
Ruler unit, 30 cm long	45	0.40	0.10	0.30	0.50	0.40	0.25	0.45	0.65
Scissor unit, medium	60	1.00	0.00	0.80	1.20	1.20	0.58	1.00	1.05
Sharpener unit	62	0.20	0.00	0.12	0.30	0.30	0.10	0.20	5.95
Whiteboard aluminum	30	38.50	1.50	37.00	42.00	42.00	8.85	38.00	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)

Among the stationery items assessed, seven remained price neutral, showing little to no change in their costs. Five items experienced price decreases compared to the last round. Conversely, eight items saw price increases, with the most notable changes observed in the prices of blackboards (plywood), markers, and whiteboard. Blackboard prices experienced a substantial decrease, dropping by $11.00 from $28.00 to $17.00. In contrast, markers saw a remarkable increase in their median price, rising by $0.48 from $0.53 to $1.00.

At the district level, the price of Blackboards (plywood) in Baidoa had significantly increased from $7.75 in August to $14.00 in November 2023.

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

Item	All	Ceel Barde (n = 8)	Baidoa (n = 186)	Xudur (n = 184)
School Bag	33.90%	0%	27.03%	100%
Blackboard drawing	30.95%	40.00%	37.93%	0%
Blackboard	33.33%	0%	50.00%	100%
Scientific calculator	25.00%	0%	29.41%	100%
Chalk (for black	26.32%	40.00	24.39%	100%
Colored crayons	44.64%	0%	41.94%	100%
Duster (for black board)	27.45%	0%	31.43%	100%
Exercise book	40.54%	0%	25.00%	100%
Maps	35.14%	50.00%	43.48%	100%
Marker pens	43.55%	0%	28.12%	100%
Mathematical set	20.00%	0%	22.22%	100%
Drawing Paper (A4	23.53%	0%	25.71%	100%
Pencils	46.67%	0%	28.57%	100%
Attendance Registers	21.15%	16.67%	22.22%	100%
Rubber	50.91%	0%	34.78%	100%
Rulers Plastic	35.56%	0%	32.00%	100%
Scissors	45.00%	0%	27.59%	100%
Pencil Sharpener	42.86%	0%	22.58%	100%
White board	30.00%	0%	47.06%	100%

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

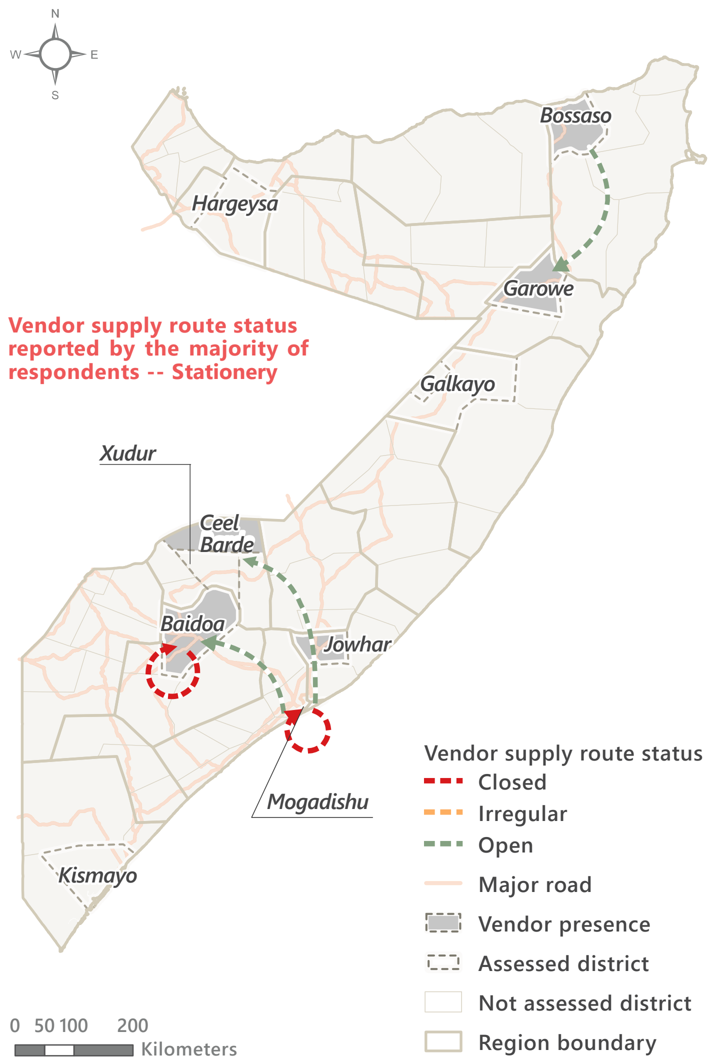
Findings show that over the past three months prior to data collection certain items appear to encounter consistent restocking issues across multiple locations, such as school bags, blackboards, scientific calculators, colored crayons, and pencils, where difficulties are reported by vendors in almost all regions surveyed. On the other hand, some items seem to face less widespread challenges, with certain locations reporting higher percentages of difficulties compared to others.

Restocking poses distinct challenges in different regions. In Xudur, accessibility to most items is limited, with the exception of blackboard drawing materials. In Baidoa, obtaining rubber and blackboards proves to be particularly challenging. Meanwhile, in Ceel Barde, the replenishment of map supplies and blackboard drawing tools faces significant obstacle.

81% of vendors interviewed in Baidoa cited closure of roads due to floods as a significant transportation barrier. Meanwhile, all stationery vendors in Xudur reported facing challenges due to airport restrictions, potentially explaining the 100% restocking difficulty reported for stationery items in Xudur. Additionally, in Ceel Barde, 47% of vendors reported concerns about the risk of bombings during transportation.

The status of supply routes is indicated as either damaged/closed or open, based on the feedback provided by vendors who heavily rely on those routes. While this information can offer some insight into restocking challenges and supply obstacles reported by vendors, it should be regarded as indicative only.

Supply route conditions reported by interviewed vendors in November 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.

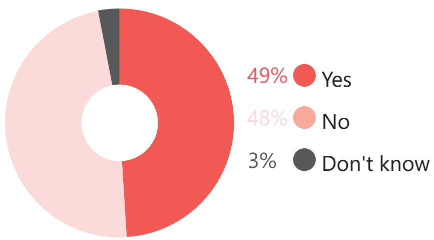
Among the interviewed vendors in the assessed markets, 50% reported the supply routes were open while 23% noted that the routes were open but damaged. On the other hand, 19% reported irregular open routes, and 10.43% reported that the routes were open irregularly.

42% of the vendors reported no transportation barriers. However, 39% reported poor road quality as a major barrier, and the same proportion reported road closures due to floods. Some vendors mentioned occasional detainment for no reason (6%) and the risk of bombings during transportation (6%). Authorities closing roads (3%) and armed groups (3%) also hindered the movement of goods.

Financial constraints further hindered vendors' ability to restock items. Vendors reported low purchasing power or inflation (17%) and limited cash(13%) as major financial constraints.

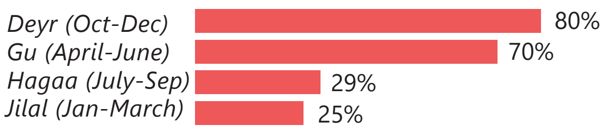
Interviewed vendors reported security barriers in their business contexts, hindering the supply chain. These included the risk of theft (18%), arbitrary detentions (5%) and forced closure of shop or market by authorities (2%).

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



The interviewed vendors (49%) reported facing greater supply barriers in a particular season. Stock conditions might have been partially affected by seasonality.

Among the 48% 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	29	80	25	70
Ceel Barde	38	75	38	63
Baidoa	2	90	11	84
Xudur	100	100	100	100
Galkayo	100	0	0	0
Garowe	0	0	0	0
Jowhar	56	100	0	72
Mogadishu	0	78	22	0
Hargeysa	40	0	53	7
Kismayo	0	0	0	100

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	29%	21%	28%	28%
Ceel Barde	6%	4%	7%	8%
Galkayo	4%	4%	4%	3%
Garowe	9%	9%	9%	6%
Hargeysa	13%	13%	16%	11%
Xudur	6%	4%	12%	4%
Jowhar	22%	15%	20%	26%
Kismayo	3%	3%	4%	3%
Mogadishu	5%	5%	6%	7%

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%

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

	Financial Barriers											Transportation Barriers										
Location	None	Limited cash	Low purchasing power	Banks are closed	Banks limited have cash	Banks limiting loans	Hawala are closed	Hawala have limited cash	Restrictions on movement for hawalas	Don't know	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	Airport restriction	Other (specify)	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	42	33	47	2	8	7	1	1	2	2	42	5	6	6	3	39	39	1	100	0	0	0
Ceel Barde	0	74	89	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	47	21	26	11	79	11	5	0	0	0	0
Baidoa	38	46	34	2	4	3	2	1	8	0	7	0	0	0	1	57	81	0	0	0	0	0
Xudur	0	45	90	0	90	45	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	100	0	0	0
Galkayo	94	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garowe	79	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jowhar	13	52	83	0	2	17	0	4	0	0	13	13	17	12	8	85	77	2	0	0	0	0
Mogadishu	33	19	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	22	33	11	39	22	0	0	0	6	0
Hargeysa	55	14	45	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kismayo	75	8	25	0	17	8	0	0	0	0	83	0	0	8	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0

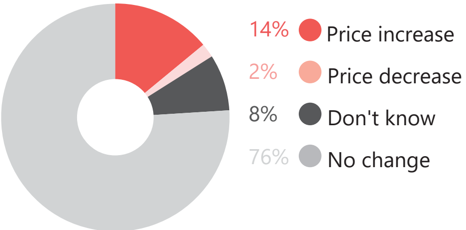
Percentage of interviewed vendors reportedly affected by each barrier, per location (part 2)

	Non-Security Barriers													Security Barriers								
Location	None	Government restrictions on the sale of goods	Contamition	Rotting of commodities in shop due to water leakage, flooding etc.	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	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	Other (specify)	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	64	2	10	12	17	8	3	0	5	3	6	3	65	18	2	1	5	2	1	5	6	0
Ceel Barde	42	5	0	0	0	32	5	5	37	11	5	0	21	68	0	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
Baidoa	48	3	9	4	38	4	11	0	3	3	19	0	58	19	3	0	1	0	1	18	0	1
Xudur	60	0	30	35	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Galkayo	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
Garowe	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0
Jowhar	23	4	33	50	35	29	0	0	8	8	0	2	17	52	10	4	23	4	4	0	13	0
Mogadishu	76	0	5	10	5	0	0	0	0	5	5	10	57	14	0	0	14	10	0	0	19	0
Hargeysa	97	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	98	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Kismayo	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	8	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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 was 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. Majority (76%) of the vendors interviewed reported anticipating no change in prices, 8% of the vendors reported being uncertain. However, 14% of the vendors reported expecting a price increase, while 2% reported a price decrease.

CREDIT

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

Credit from wholesalers (47%) was their major source of credit. Vendors reported other sources, such as borrowing from friends and family within the same town (25%). They also reported access to loans from banks (14%) and microfinance organizations (2%). Some had access to borrowing from friends and family outside town (14%). Loans from other members of the community e.g. doctors, other shopkeepers, etc (2%) and informal savings groups (2%) also provided loans.

Vendors in Jowhar (94%), Mogadishu (81%) and Ceel Barde (63%) are the 3 locations with the highest access to credit from wholesalers.

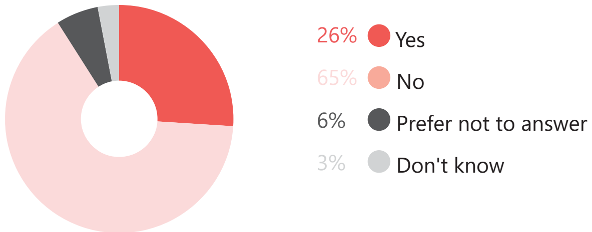
Almost all of vendors in Xudur could borrow from friends and families within and outside the town (85-95%). More than half of the vendors in Mogadishu had access to loans from banks (57%).

26% 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 (65%) reported not providing any credit to customers.

63% of vendors interviewed in Ceel Barde and 62% in Mogadishu provided credit to their customers. However, in Kismayo, only 42% of vendors offered credit to their customers.

Vendors in Jowhar (88%), Galkayo (78%) and Hargeysa (69%) said they did not offer any credit to their customers in the past 30 days before data collection.

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



71 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	Credit from wholesalers	Borrowing from friends and family in this town	Borrowing from friends and family outside this town	Loans from banks	Loans from microfince	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 e.g.	None	Don't know	Prefer not to answer
All	32	25	20	20	5	3	1	4	3	29	3	0
Ceel Barde	59	24	0	0	0	18	29	12	24	6	0	0
Baidoa	0	86	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0
Xudur	46	18	25	40	26	11	0	0	0	22	2	0
Galkayo	27	100	100	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garowe	25	26	29	34	3	1	0	1	0	11	0	0
Jowhar	33	0	33	0	0	33	0	33	0	0	33	0
Mogadishu	98	36	14	7	0	2	0	29	17	0	0	0
Hargeysa	3	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	1	57	14	1
Kismayo	36	25	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	0

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

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 for this quarter are Ceel Barde, Baidoa, Xudur, Galkayo, Garowe, Jowhar, Mogadishu, Hargeysa and Kismayo.

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 (12% 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, 2023 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP).

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 prices of one item present 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. UNICEF, WASH Cluster. WASH Cluster Somalia: 2023 El Niño Rainfall Update - Baidoa Flash Floods, as of 6th November 2023

7. WFP Somalia, Joint Markets and Supply Chain Update | 11 Dec – 17 Dec 2023

8. Shelter Cluster, Somalia. 2023-12 FACTSHEET - SOMALIA

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
August

Co-leads:

Participating agencies (November 2023):

Funded by