Libya Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

1 - 11 February 2022 | 1 - 11 March 2022

Libya Cash Working Group

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action

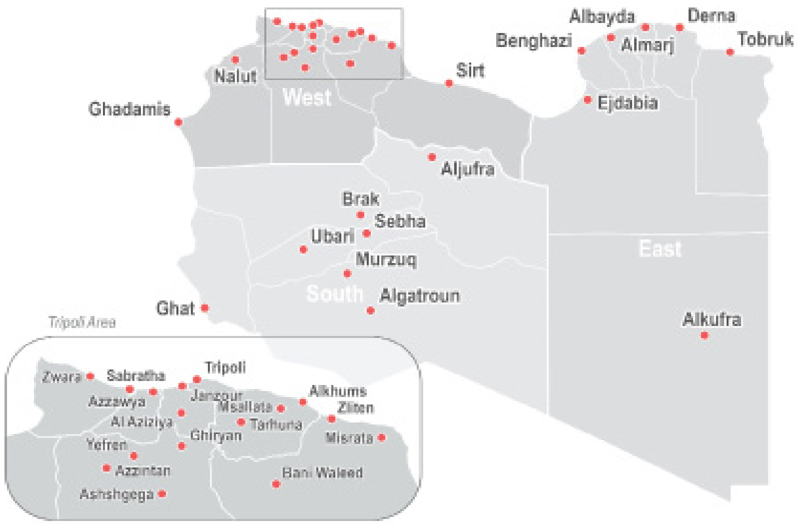
INTRODUCTION

- In an effort to inform cash-based interventions and better understand market dynamics in Libya, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was created by the Libya Cash & Markets Working Group (CMWG) in June 2017. The initiative is led by REACH and supported by the CMWG members. It is funded by the Office of U.S. Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- Markets in key urban areas across Libya are assessed on a monthly basis. In each location, field teams record prices and availability of basic food and non-food items (NFIs) sold in local shops and markets. This factsheet presents an overview of price ranges and medians for key food items and NFIs in the assessed areas, as well as the costs associated with key elements of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB).

METHODOLOGY

- Field staff familiar with the local market conditions identified shops representative of the general price level in their respective locations.
- At least **four** prices per assessed item were collected within each location. In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the price of the cheapest available brand was recorded for each item.
- Enumerators were trained on methodology and tools by REACH. Data collection was conducted through the KoBoCollect mobile application.
- During the January and February 2022 rounds, a collection of gas stations items was done. Enumerators have surveyed vendors from a number of 296 public gas stations to ask questions focused on stocking, re-stocking and the challenges related to them.
- During February and March 2022 rounds, a collection of liquidity items was done. Enumerators have surveyed both vendors and customers from a number of shops to ask questions focused on access to cash and alternative payment modalities.
- Following data collection, REACH compiled and cleaned all partner data, normalised prices, cross-checked outliers and calculated the median cost of the MEB in each assessed market. Qualitative information was also gathered from both local sources and economic experts through key informant (KI) interviews.
- REACH has extracted prices on a daily basis from the website, "Open Souq" and conducted KI interviews with property market professionals to better understand the rental market in Libya.
- More details are available in the Methodology section of the Appendix.

COVERAGE IN MARCH 2022



JMMI KEY FINDINGS

- The cost of the MEB across Libya decreased overall by **-1.5%** between January 2022 and February 2022 while it has increased overall by **+6.1%** between February 2022 and March 2022 (See page 8). The overall decrease in February 2022 was mainly driven by a decrease in the cost of the fuel proportion of the MEB **(-25.2%)** and the food portion of the MEB **(-0.9%)**. Between January 2022 and February 2022, the slight decrease in price of the food proportion of the overall MEB was mainly driven by a decrease in price of onions **(-20%)**, rice **(-11.9%)**, vegetable oil **(-5.6%)**, and sugar **(-4.8%)** (See page 3). In the same period, the prices of hygiene items showed a monthly increase of **3.5%**. That was mainly driven by the increase in price of dishwashing liquid **(+93%)** and, sanitary pads **(+25.8%)**. Pharmaceutical items generally increased in price, such as Amoxicillin **(+7.3%)**, Ibuprofen **(+9.3%)**, and Metoclopramide **(+6.5%)** (See page3).
- The overall increase in March 2022 was mainly driven by an increase in the food proportion of the MEB **(+7.4%)** and the hygiene proportion of the MEB **(+1.8%)**. The cost of the MEB in March 2022 was **32.3%** higher than pre-COVID levels in March 2020.
- Between February 2022 and March 2022, the cost of the food proportion of the overall MEB showed an increase by **7.4%**. This overall increase was driven by the increase in price of some items such as tomatoes **(+10%)**, couscous **(+6.3%)**, vegetable oil **(+6.4%)**, canned tuna **(+9.6%)** and flour **(+11.7%)**. The cost of the hygiene proportion of the overall MEB showed also an increase by **1.8%**. This increase was a result of some items' prices spiking such as laundry detergent **(+27.1%)**, and handsanitiser **(+31%)** (See page3).
- The cost of the cooking fuel portion of the overall MEB showed a monthly decrease in both of February 2022 **(-25.2%)** and March 2022 **(-15.8%)**. The price of the cooking fuel component of MEB shifted from **31.75 LYD** in January 2022 to **23.75 LYD** in February 2022 to a value of 20.00 LYD in March 2022.
- **In February 2022**, among 658 interviewed vendors KIs, 96.7% reported that cash is the most widely used payment modality by customers in their shops. Similarly, in February 2022, among 633 customer KIs interviewed, 27.3% reported that the most prevalent cash attainment alternative outside of the banking system is selling cheques on the parallel market. That is in addition to getting cash from workplaces (19%), borrowing cash from vendors (8.7%) exchanging cheques with businesses (5.4%). The rest of the customer KIs prefered not answeringthe question (51.7%) and reported other (7.1%) ways attaining cash.
- In **January 2022**, among a total of 174 of stations, 92% reported selling public gasoline (25% in the east, 19% in the south, and 57% in the west). In **February 2022**, among a total of 117 gas stations, 96% reported selling public gasoline (29% in the east, 13% in the south, and 58% in the west). The rest of gas stations in both January (8%) and February 2022 (4%) reported selling both private and public gasoline (See page 11).

JMMI KEY FIGURES

Feb-data collection from 1 - 11 February 2022

2 participating agencies: (REACH, WFP)
34 assessed cities
56 assessed items
659 assessed shops

Mar-data collection from 1 - 11 March 2022

3 participating agencies: (REACH, WFP, DRC)
33 assessed cities
56 assessed items
649 assessed shops

KEY MONTHLY CHANGES IN MEB

Median cost of overall MEB

Feb-22	**784.7 LYD**	▼ -11.6 LYD	▼ -1.5%
Mar-22	**832.7 LYD**	▲ +48.1 LYD	▲ +6.1%

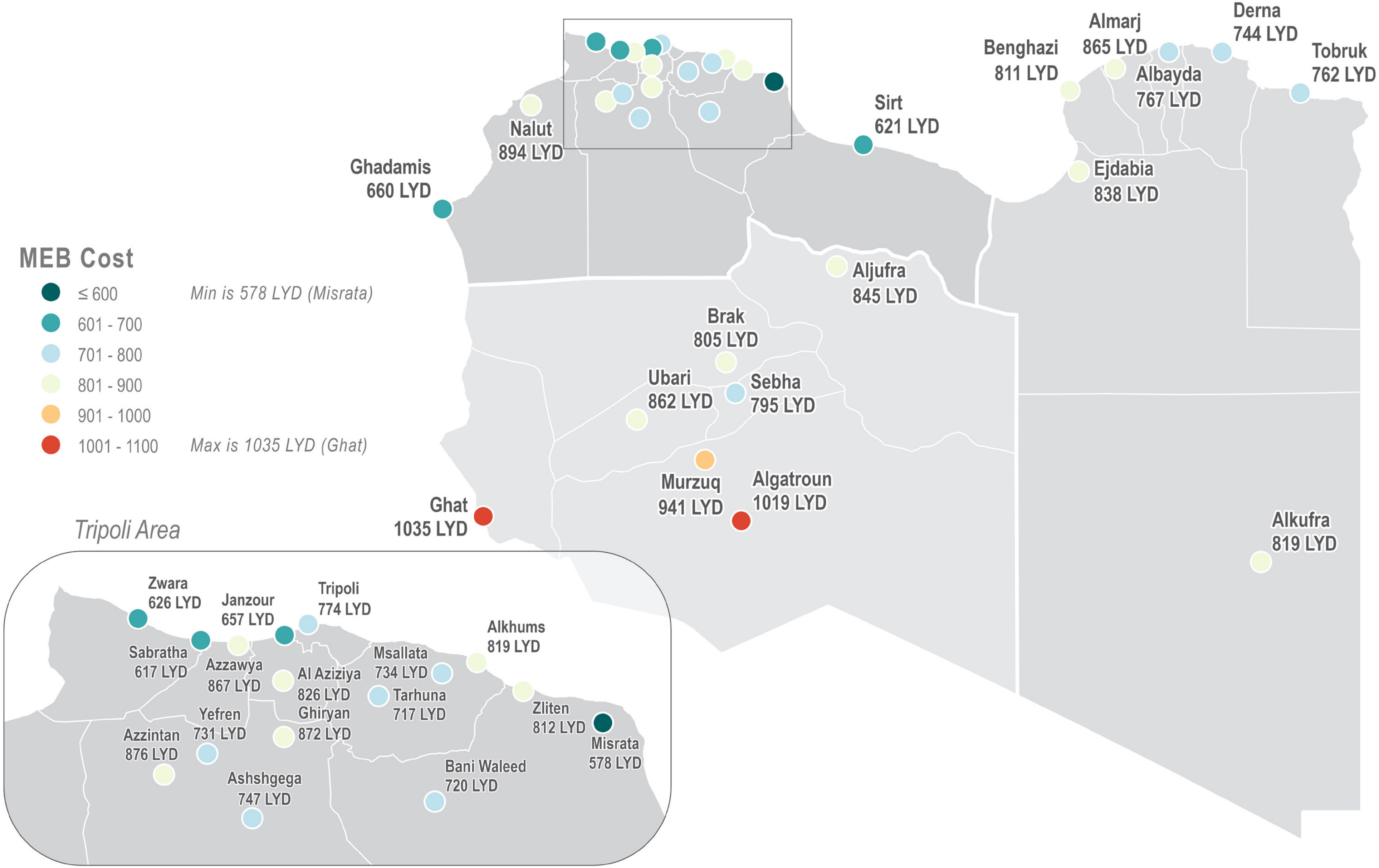
MEDIAN COST OF MEB BY REGION IN FEBRUARY 2022

West	754.36 LYD	▼ -8.6%
East	810.70 LYD	▲ +7.4%
South	881.33 LYD	▲ -0.3%

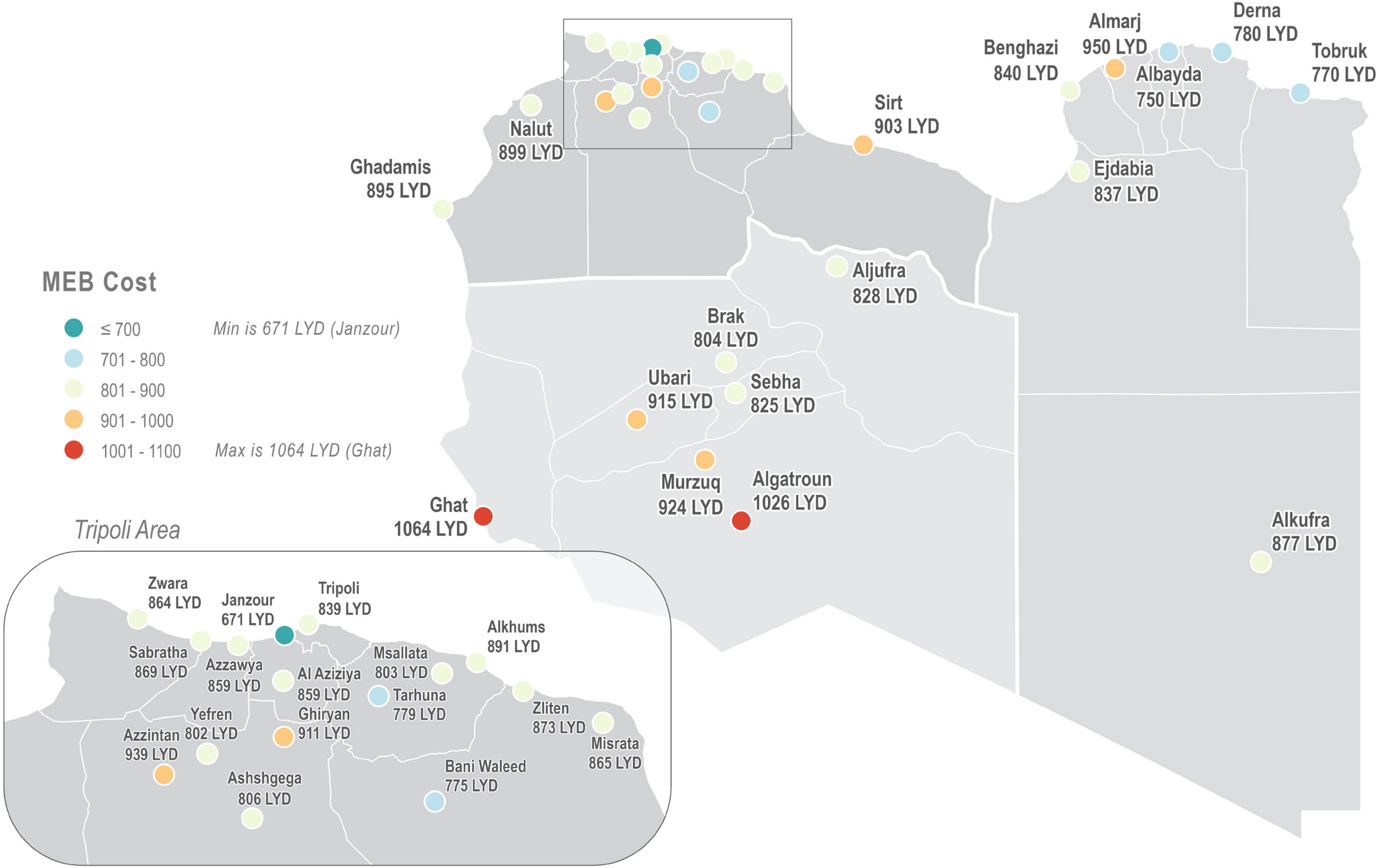
MEDIAN COST OF MEB BY REGION IN MARCH 2022

West	864.70 LYD	▲ +14.6%
East	837.91 LYD	▲ +3.4%
South	896.67 LYD	▲ +1.7%

Cost of MEB Key Elements by Location in February 2022



Cost of MEB Key Elements by Location in March 2022



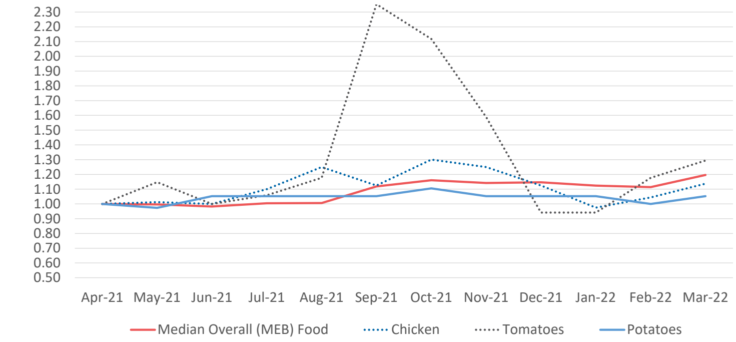
PRICES OF MONITORED ITEMS

Item	Unit	Median price in February 2022 (LYD)	Change between Feb-Jan 2022	Median price in March 2022 (LYD)	Change between Feb-Mar 2022	Change since March 2020*
Food items						
Tomatoes	1 kg	2.50	+25.0%	2.75	+10.0%	+37.5%
Green tea	250 g	4.50	+20.0%	4.88	+8.3%	+62.5%
Vegetable oil	1 L	8.50	-5.6%	9.04	+6.4%	+100.9%
Black tea	250 g	6.29	-3.2%	6.34	+0.7%	+26.7%
Onions	1 kg	2.00	-20.0%	2.50	+25.0%	-16.7%
Rice	1 kg	4.63	-11.9%	4.75	+2.7%	+46.2%
Eggs	30 eggs	16.00	+12.3%	15.75	-1.6%	+57.5%
Pasta	500 g	2.00	0.0%	2.50	+25.0%	+66.7%
Milk	1 L	4.00	-5.9%	4.50	+12.5%	+28.6%
Beans	400 g	2.50	0.0%	2.50	0.0%	+53.8%
Bread	5 pieces	1.25	0.0%	1.25	0.0%	+11.1%
Chickpeas	400 g	2.50	0.0%	2.50	0.0%	+66.7%
Peppers	1 kg	4.63	-2.6%	6.50	+40.5%	+62.5%
Potatoes	1 kg	2.38	-5.0%	2.50	+5.3%	-16.7%
Sugar	1 kg	3.69	-4.8%	3.88	+5.1%	+63.2%
Tomato paste	400 g	3.00	0.0%	3.00	0.0%	+50.0%
Tuna	200 g	4.56	-6.4%	5.00	+9.6%	+66.7%
Condensed Milk	200 mL	2.46	+10.1%	2.08	-15.4%	+4.0%
Couscous	1 kg	4.00	+8.5%	4.25	+6.3%	+21.4%
Lamb meat	1 kg	42.00	+2.4%	44.50	+6.0%	+25.4%
Flour	1 kg	3.00	+2.1%	3.35	+11.7%	+67.5%
Chicken meat	1 kg	10.44	+7.1%	11.38	+9.0%	+21.3%
Salt	1 kg	1.00	0.0%	1.00	0.0%	0.0%
Hygiene items						
Toothbrush	1 brush	2.25	-10.0%	2.50	+11.1%	+25.0%
Laundry detergent	1 L	4.38	-14.2%	5.56	+27.1%	+147.2%
Toothpaste	100 mL	5.13	-8.9%	6.00	+17.1%	+50.0%
Baby diapers	30	18.00	-7.7%	19.25	-6.9%	+28.3%
Handwashing soap	1 bar	2.00	0.0%	2.05	+2.5%	+36.7%
Laundry powder	1 kg	6.50	-15.5%	7.50	+15.4%	+15.4%
Sanitary pads	10 pads	4.88	+25.8%	3.94	-19.2%	+12.5%
Shampoo	250 mL	6.00	+17.1%	5.78	-3.7%	+13.9%
Bleach	1 L	9.50	-17.8%	10.36	+9.0%	No data
Hand Sanitiser	1 L	21.00	-40.0%	27.50	+31.0%	No data
Dishwashing liquid	1 L	3.09	+93.0%	2.10	-32.0%	-21.5%
Other items						
Water	1 L	0.29	0.0%	0.29	0.0%	0.0%

* The change since March 2020 is calculated in comparison to March 2022 values.
** The median in the south is unavailbale for February & March 2022 due to missing data.

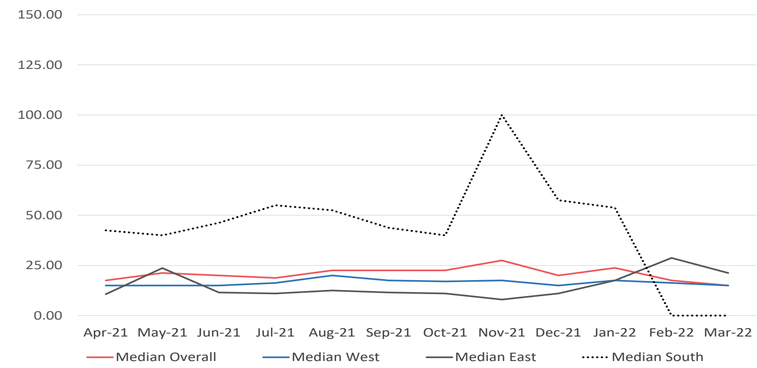
FLUCTUATION OF FOOD PRICES OVER TIME

Selected items (normalised, April 2021 = 1.00)[1]



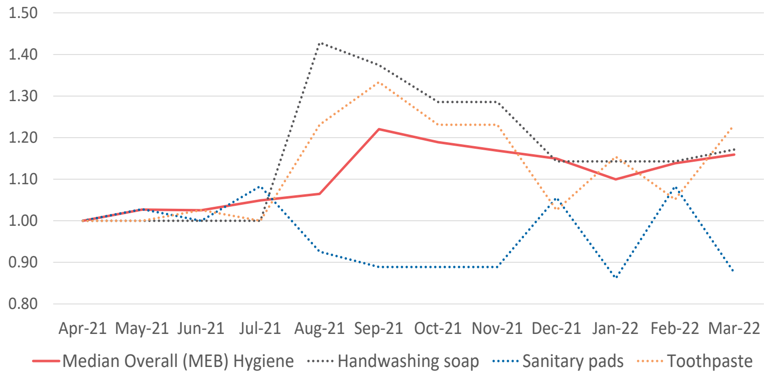
PRICES FROM UNOFFICIAL COOKING FUEL VENDORS (11 KG LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) CYLINDER)

(Since April 2021, non-normalised)**



FLUCTUATION OF HYGIENE ITEM PRICES OVER TIME

Selected items (normalised, February 2021 = 1.00)[2]



PRICES OF FUEL AND HEALTH ITEMS

Item	Unit	Median price in February 2022 (LYD)	Change between Jan-Feb 2022	Median price in March 2022 (LYD)	Change between Feb-Mar 2022
Fuel items					
Unofficial LPG	11 kg	17.50	+7.7%	15.00	+33.3%
Unofficial Gasoline	1 Litre	1.00	0.0%	0.74	-26.3%
Official LPG	11 kg	6.25	-21.9%	5.00	-20.0%
Official Gasoline	1 Litre	0.15	0.0%	0.15	0.0%
Pharmaceutical items					
Paracetamol	400mg [20 pack]	7.00	-1.0%	7.07	+1.0%
Vitamin B	[40 pack]	15.50	-13.9%	16.00	+16.1%
Amoxicillin	500mg [21 pack]	11.00	+7.3%	10.50	-4.5%
Metoclopramide	10mg [40 pack]	14.00	+6.5%	15.15	+8.2%
Ibuprofen	400mg [20 pack]	6.38	+9.3%	5.88	-7.8%

NOTABLE MONTH-ON-MONTH CHANGES

March 2022

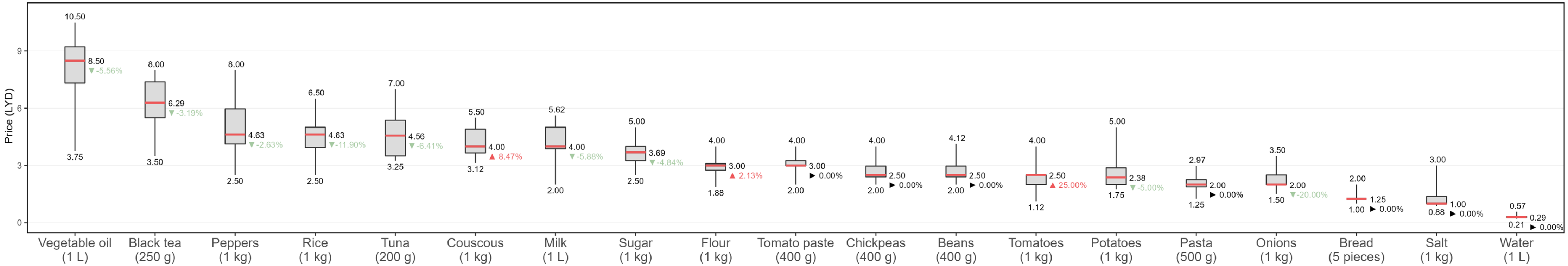
Dishwashing liquid	▼ -32.0%
Pasta	▲ +25.0%
Laundry detergent	▲ +27.1%
Flour	▲ +11.7%

February 2022

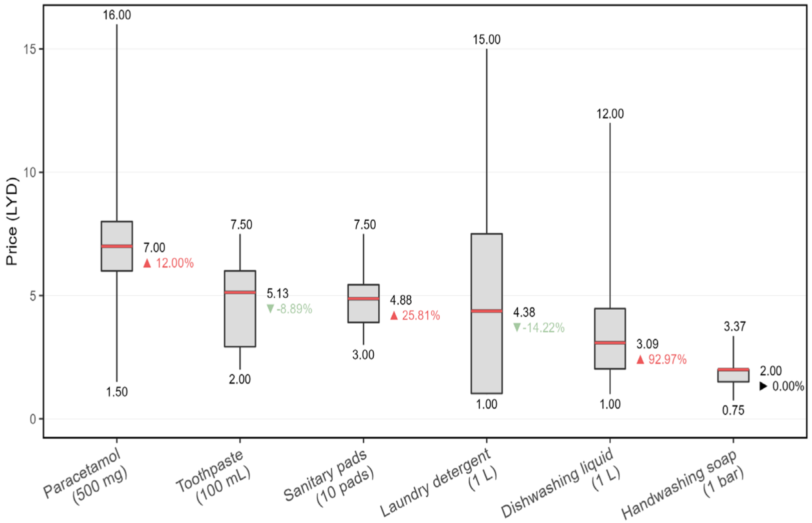
Sanitary pads	▲ +22.8%
Hand sanitizer	▼ -40.0%
Tomatoes	▲ +25.0%
Onions	▼ -20.0%

Distribution of Prices in Libya in February 2022

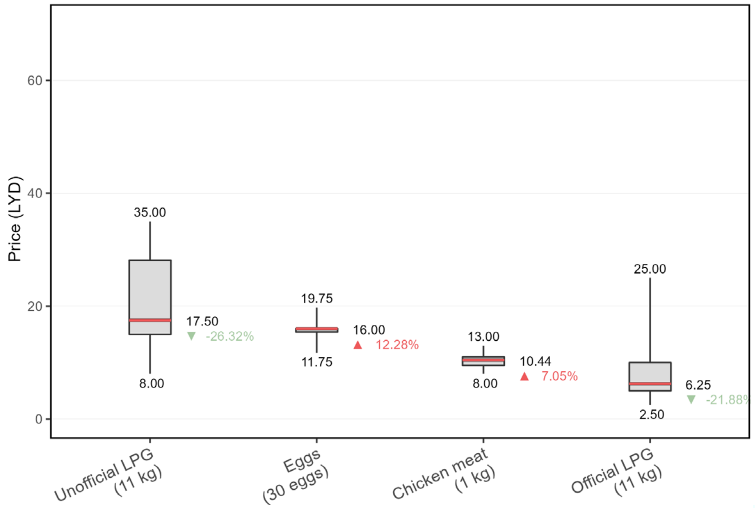
FOOD ITEMS



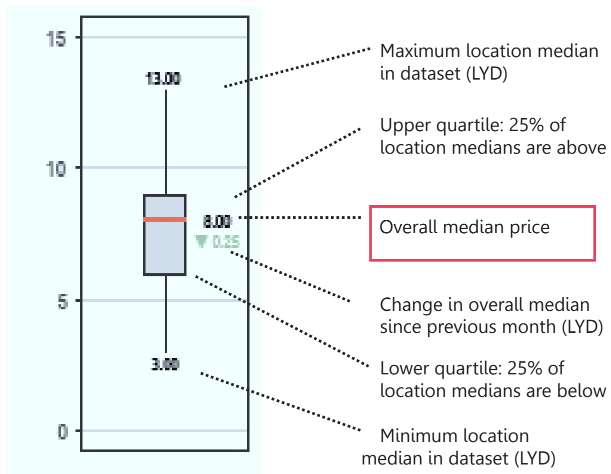
HYGIENE AND HEALTH ITEMS



ITEMS WITH HIGHEST PRICES



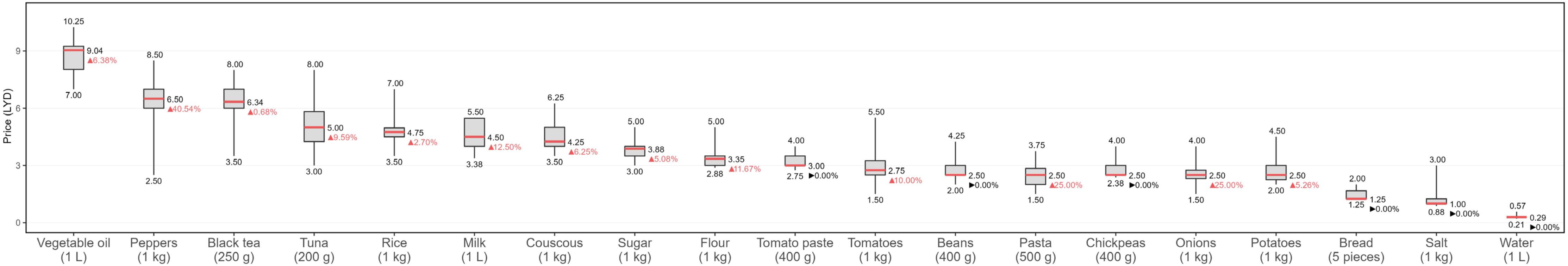
How to read a boxplot



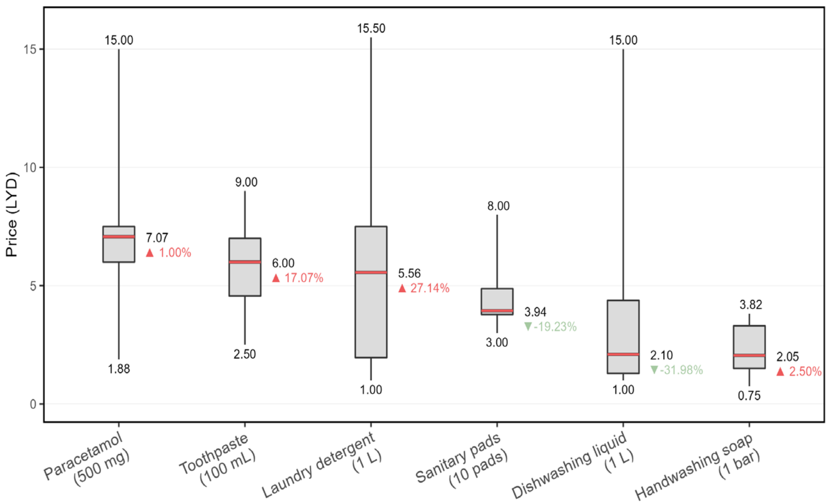
The 'location median' is calculated by first finding the median price of a given item in each assessed location, then taking the median of the resulting set of median prices.

Distribution of Prices in Libya in March 2022

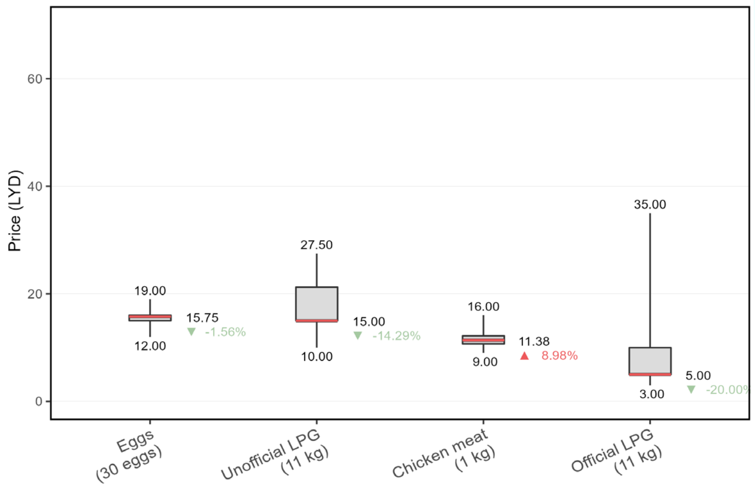
FOOD ITEMS



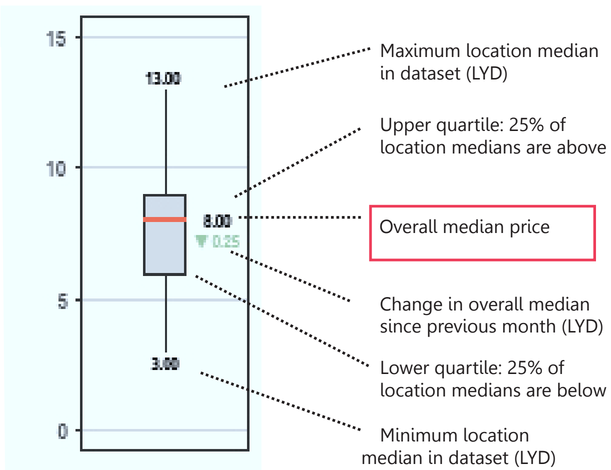
HYGIENE ITEMS



ITEMS WITH HIGHEST PRICES



How to read a boxplot



The 'location median' is calculated by first finding the median price of a given item in each assessed location, then taking the median of the resulting set of median prices.

Rent Monitoring

Introduction

- Ever since the onset of the conflict in and around Tripoli and Murzuq in April 2019, Tripoli has been a key displacement destination for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).[3] Furthermore, conflict related political tensions in West Libya led large numbers of IDPs to move to eastern cities, especially Benghazi.
- REACH is therefore including rent monitoring as part of the JMMI, in order to provide humanitarian actors with a more accurate overview of key expenditures facing IDPs in Tripoli and Benghazi.

Methodology

- From May 2020 onwards, in addition to the price monitoring of key items (MEB), REACH began analyzing rental prices, which were extracted on a daily basis from the website 'Open Souq'. In February 2022, 2067 rental prices were collected in Tripoli and Benghazi. In March 2022, 2644 rental prices were collected in Tripoli and Benghazi. The price change findings are indicative.
- In order to standardise property prices, key features were isolated through consultation with KIs to identify the average apartment specification for typical HHs in Tripoli and Benghazi. The average apartment for typical HHs was found to be a furnished, 3-bedroom apartment with 1 bathroom. All rental prices presented in this report have been standardised to this accommodation type.

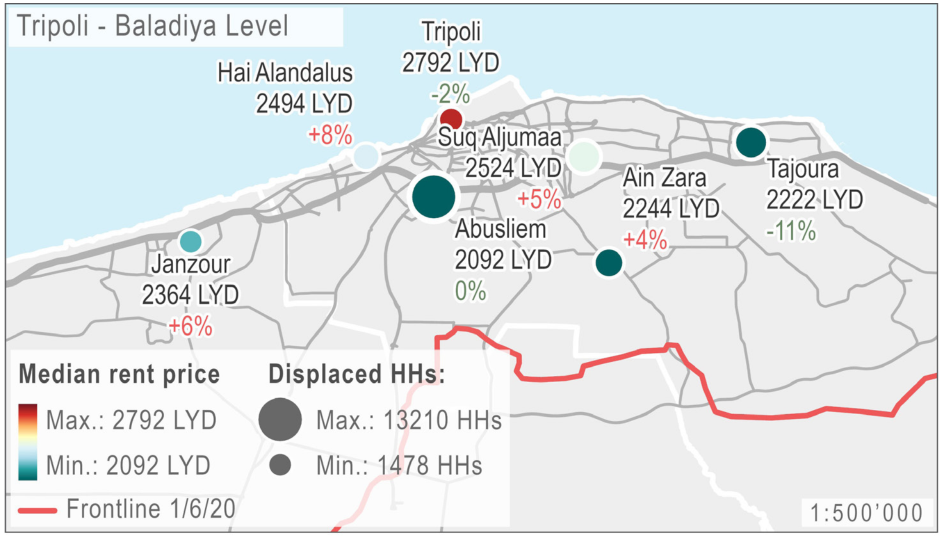
Key Findings

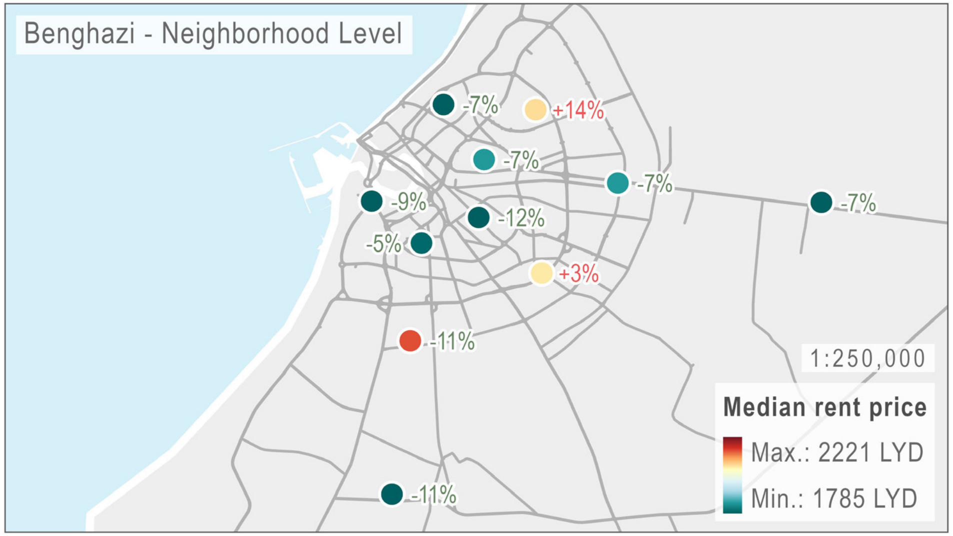
- Between January and February 2022 rental prices have increased in Tripoli **(+2.2%)** and decreased in Benghazi **(-7.7%)**. Between February and March 2022 the rental prices have decreased in Tripoli **(-5.2%)** and increased in Benghazi **(+6.3%)** **(See maps below representing the rent monitoring in March 2022).**
- The most recent data on IDP numbers* in Benghazi and Tripoli is from December 2021 and January 2022. Between December 2021 and January 2022 the number of IDPs in Benghazi barely changed while it decreased in Tripoli **(-1.4%)**. The number of returnees** during the same period remained the same in Benghazi while it increased with **1.4%** in Tripoli.

Standardised rental prices February & March 2022

Location	Standard price in February 2022 (LYD)	Change between Jan-Feb 2022	Standard price in March 2022 (LYD)	Change between Feb-Mar 2022	Change in IDPs* Dec-Jan	Change in Returnees** Dec-Jan
Municipality						
Abusliem	2092	-0.4%	2148	+2.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Ain Zara	2244	+3.6%	2106	-6.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Hai Alandalus	2494	+7.9%	2242	-10.1%	+4.2%	+2.3%
Janzour	2364	+6.3%	2042	-13.6%	-75.2%	N/A
Suq Aljumaa	2524	+4.7%	2448	-3.0%	-11.9%	0.0%
Tajoura	2222	-10.9%	2276	+2.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Tripoli Center	2792	-1.5%	2713	-2.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Tripoli Overall	**2364**	+2.2%	**2242**	**-5.2%**	**-1.4%**	**+1.4%**
Benghazi Overall	**1882**	**-7.7%**	**2000**	**+6.3%**	**-0.1%**	0.0%

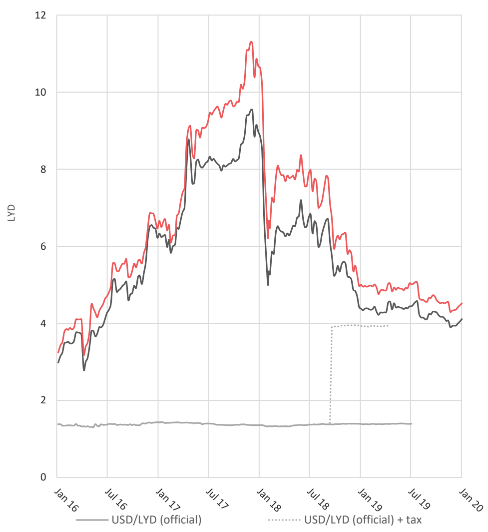
* Change in the number of IDPs and returnees are derived from the latest Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) (Round 40) from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
** Numbers based on IOM-DTM numbers as well, comparing December 2021 to January 2022.



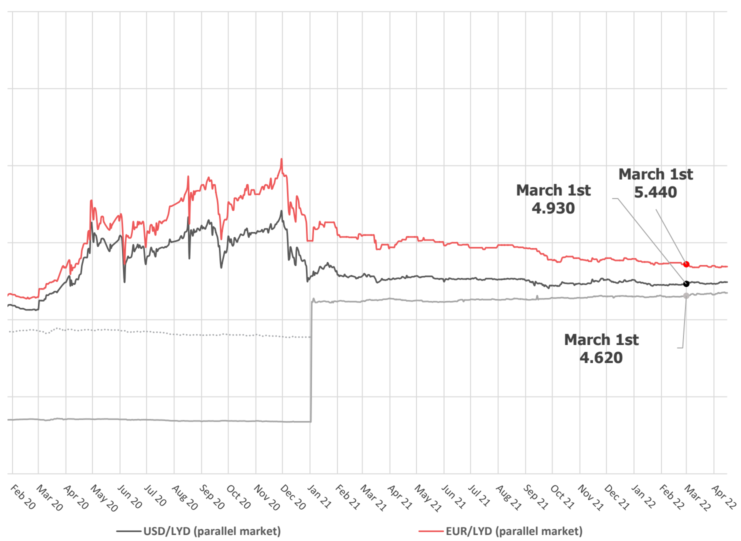


EXCHANGE RATES OVER TIME[4]

January 2016-January 2020



Since March 2020



EXCHANGE RATES [5]

	USD/LYD official	USD/LYD parallel market	EUR/LYD parallel market
FEBRUARY 2022	4.617 USD/LYD official ▲ +0.3%	4.905 USD/LYD parallel market ▼ -2.6%	5.450 EUR/LYD parallel market ▼ -2.3
MARCH 2022	4.620 USD/LYD official 0.0%	4.930 USD/LYD parallel market ▲ +0.5%	5.440 EUR/LYD parallel market ▼ -0.2%

MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (MEB)

Key Elements: Food Items

Bread	32 kg	Tomatoes	10 kg
Rice	10.5 kg	Potatoes	12 kg
Pasta	9.5 kg	Onions	7 kg
Couscous	5.5 kg	Peppers	4.5 kg
Beans	6 kg	Tomato paste	6 kg
Chicken	7.5 kg	Black tea	2 kg
Tuna	4 kg	Vegetable oil	5 L
Eggs	4 kg	Sugar	2 kg

Key Elements: Non-Food Items

Bathing soap	1.4 kg (9 150-g bars)
Toothpaste	0.5 kg (5 100-g tubes)
Laundry detergent	1.3 L
Dishwashing liquid	1.3 L
Sanitary pads	4 packs of 10
Cooking fuel (LPG)	22 kg (2 11-kg refills)

Optional Elements

Water (drinking use only)	458 L
Median rent for 3-rm flat	1 month

The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a five-person Libyan household (HH) 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 CMWG in consultation with relevant sector leads.

Only the MEB's key elements (food and non-food items) were incorporated into the calculations in this factsheet.

MEDIAN MEB COST BY LOCATION

Location	Cost of MEB February 2022 (LYD)	Change between Jan-Feb 2022	Cost of MEB March 2022 (LYD)	Change between Feb-Mar 2022	Change since March 2020 (compared to March 2022)
Nalut	894.29	+1.6%	899.09	+0.5%	+22.8%
Azzintan	875.66	+5.6%	938.77	+7.2%	+38.0%
Ghiryan	871.86	+5.8%	911.07	+4.5%	+30.6%
Zwara	625.66	-24.1%	864.36	+38.2%	+58.0%
Ghadamis	660.09	-19.9%	895.40	+35.6%	+31.1%
Sabratha	617.20	-24.2%	869.11	+40.8%	+55.9%
Azzawya	867.48	+2.4%	859.36	-0.9%	+57.4%
Sirt	621.25	-24.4%	902.55	+45.3%	+49.1%
AlKhums	819.21	-0.2%	891.03	+8.8%	+65.0%
Misrata	578.24	-29.0%	865.09	+49.6%	+54.3%
Al Aziziya	826.39	-1.2%	859.36	+4.0%	+57.0%
Ashshgega	747.14	-2.4%	806.16	+7.9%	+24.8%
Zliten	811.78	+9.7%	873.32	+7.6%	+41.9%
Yefren	731.41	+1.7%	802.19	+9.7%	+22.4%
Tripoli	773.84	+4.7%	838.71	+8.4%	+28.1%
Msallata	733.61	+5.2%	803.32	+9.5%	+34.8%
Tarhuna	717.06	+4.0%	779.32	+8.7%	+32.4%
Bani Waleed	720.38	-0.2%	774.88	+7.6%	+29.7%
Janzour	657.35	+2.7%	671.35	+2.1%	+13.2%
Median West	**754.36**	**-8.6%**	**864.70**	**+14.6%**	**+38.4%**
Benghazi	811.11	-1.3%	839.98	+3.6%	+37.2%
Ejdabia	838.08	+10.3%	837.27	-0.1%	+29.0%
AlMarj	865.10	+1.3%	950.25	+9.8%	+48.5%
AlKufra	819.10	+4.7%	876.82	+7.0%	+34.3%
Tobruk	761.69	+0.9%	769.59	+1.0%	+22.4%
AlBayda	766.91	+4.3%	749.59	-2.3%	+16.2%
Derna	743.90	+6.4%	779.90	+4.8%	+28.1%
Median East	**810.70**	**+7.4%**	**837.91**	**+3.4%**	**+33.0%**
Algatroun	1019.42	-5.7%	1025.52	+0.6%	-9.3%
Ghat	1035.29	+0.2%	1064.19	+2.8%	-7.0%
Ubari	861.60	-1.0%	915.29	+6.2%	-16.1%
Aljufra	844.65	-0.2%	827.58	-2.0%	+7.3%
Brak	805.18	+3.3%	803.79	-0.2%	+10.2%
Sebha	795.10	+5.8%	824.79	+3.7%	+9.2%
Median South	**881.33**	**-0.3%**	**896.67**	**+1.7%**	**+2.0%**
Median Overall	**784.70**	**-1.5%**	**832.87**	**+6.1%**	**+32.3%**

COST OF MEDIAN OVERALL MEB IN FEBRUARY 2022

784.70 LYD

Change since January 2022	Change since March 2020
▼ -11.67 LYD (-1.5%)	▲ + 155.23 LYD (+32.3%)

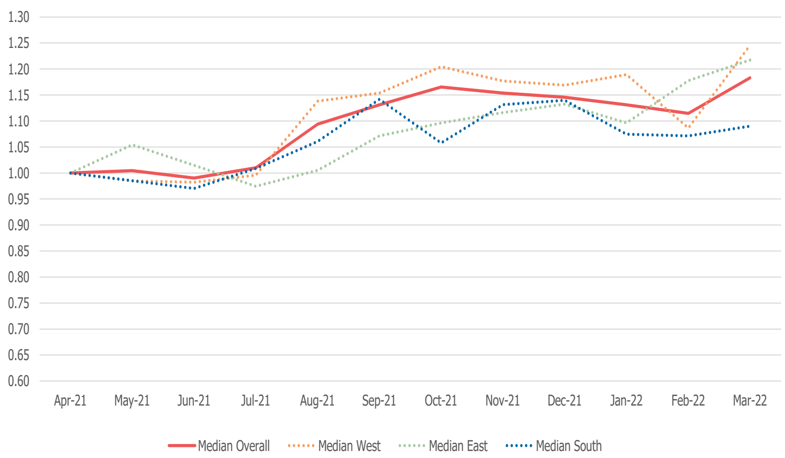
COST OF MEDIAN OVERALL MEB IN MARCH 2022

832.87 LYD

Change since February 2022	Change since March 2020
▲ +48.17 LYD (+1.6%)	▲ + 203.40 LYD (+32.3%)

MEB PRICE INDEX

Since April 2021 (normalised, April 2021 = 1.00)[6]



Liquidity and Financial Infrastructure March 2022

Methodology

- In March 2022, JMMI collected a series of additional data on the ability to access cash and payment modalities from 647 customers and 649 vendors across 33 cities in Libya.
- Due to Due to non-probability sampling, findings are indicative only. For more information on the methodology, please refet to the **appendix**.

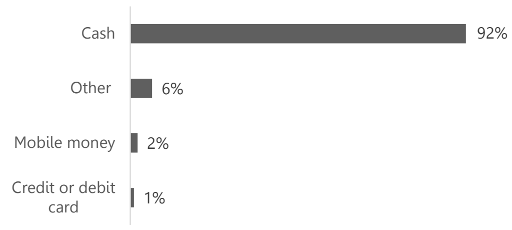
Vendor Key Informant Interviews

- Most interviewed vendors reported cash (92%) as the most widely used payment modality by customers in their shops. Only 2% reported the mobile money modality, the credit and debit card (1%) and other (6%) modalities.
- When asking the interviewed vendors about the barriers to using multiple modality types (in other words more than one/two modalities to be available in their shops), 24% reported not knowing the financial service providers, lack of internet (18%), lack of demand (17%), supporting multiple payment modalities is too expensive (5%) and power cuts (1%). Most vendor KIs (48%) reported "other" modalities (49% preferred not answering, 46% reported not wanting any other payment modalities and preferring dealing in cash only due to the liquidity crisis and the rest reported other payment modalities being non available, non reliable and taking a lot of time and effort). That is explained by the fact that most vendors would like to hold on to cash due the the lack of trust in other payment modalities.

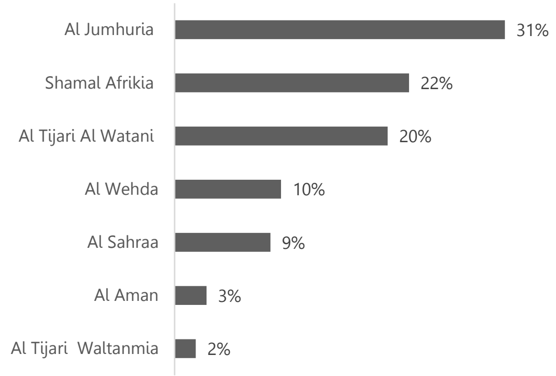
Customer Key Informant Interviews

- Generally, cash was the most used payment modality according to customer KIs. 97% reported they use cash as payment modality, while 2% reported using mobile money, and 1% reported using credit or debit card.
- The banks primarily used by the interviewed customers were Al Jumhuria bank (31%), Shamal Afrikia bank (22%), Al Tijari Al Watani bank (20%), Al Wehda bank (10%), Al Sahara (9%), Al Aman (3%), and Al Tijara Waltanmia bank (2%).
- Information on how costumers obtain cash outside the banking system was confirmed to be sensitive. 35% of customer KIs preferred not answer, while 32% reported they obtain cash directly from employers, and 24% sell cheques on the parallel market. The reason why alternative methods are used by customers to obtain cash might be linked to the widespread distrust in Libya's financial sector. Parallel market actors have exploited the financial system since 2014 whereby they profit from the distrust among the population and the limited availability of physical LYD.[7]

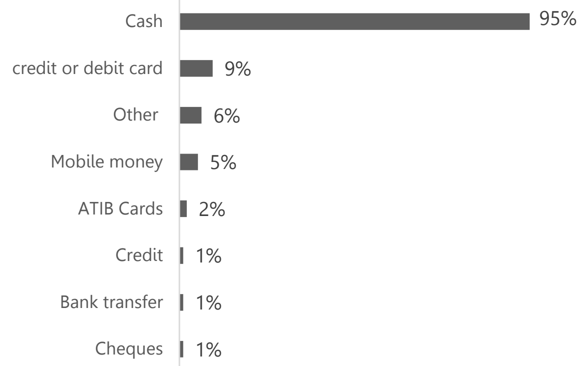
% of vendor KIs that reported the following most widely used payment modality by customers in their shops



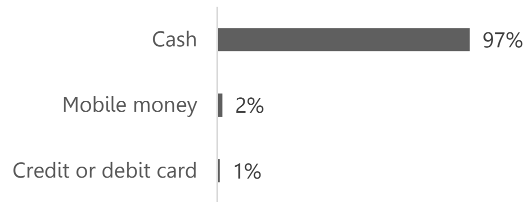
% of customer KIs reporting on their primarly used bank



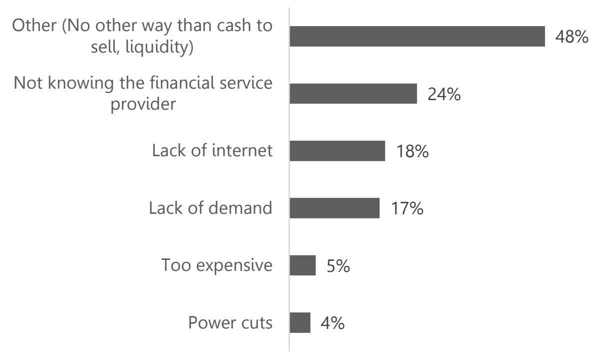
% of most common payment modalities reported to be accepted by vendor KIs



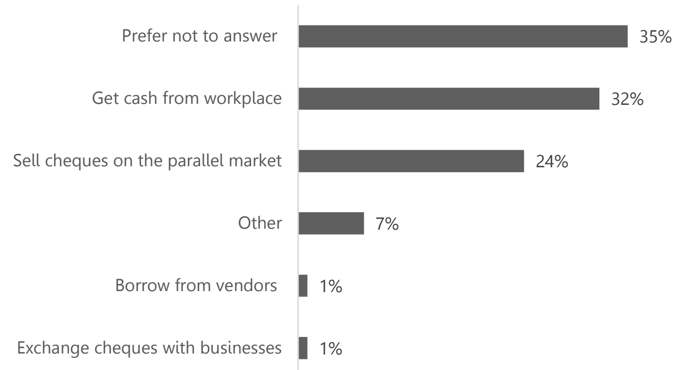
% most common payment modalities reported to be used by customer KIs in transactions with vendors



% most commonly reported barriers to supporting multiple payment modalities by vendor KIs



% most common alternative methods used by customer KIs to obtain cash outside the banking system



Gas stations

Methodology

- In January and February 2022, JMMI collected a series of additional data on gas stations in different mantikas. Enumerators surveyed 291 gas station vendors (174 in January and 117 in February 2022) on gasoline's selling, re-stocking and the challenges related to them.
- Findings are indicative only.

Findings

- In **January 2022**, among a total of 174 gas stations, 92% reported selling public gasoline (25% in the east, 19% in the south, and 57% in the west). The remaining 8% of public gas stations reported selling both private and public gasoline.
- Among a total of 160 public gas stations, 91% (n=145) reported public gasoline being currently available in the shop. 9% of public gas stations reported the public gasoline being unavailable in the shop. This was only observed in the west.
- The median price of public gasoline was in January 2022 0.15 LYD per liter in east, west and south but in the south some higher prices were reported as well (to note here that the price in the south, specifically, varied between 0.15 LYD, 0.75 LYD, and 1.00 LYD/Liter).
- In **February 2022**, among a total of 117 gas stations, 96% reported selling public gasoline (29% in the east, 13% in the south, and 58% in the west). The remaining 4% of public gas stations reported selling both private and public gasoline.
- Among a total of 112 public gas stations, 91% (n=102) reported public gasoline being currently available in the shop. Public gas stations reporting the public gasoline being unavailable in the shop (9%) was observed only in the west.
- The public gasoline price per Liter was estimated to be 0.15 LYD in both east and west when it ranged between 0.15 and 0.20 LYD in the south.
- The numbers of days re-stocking in the east ranged between 1-6 days in January 2022, while they ranged between 1-14 days in February 2022. In the west, the average gasoline re-stocking days ranged between 1-30 days in January 2022, while, they ranged between 1-7 days in February 2022.
- In January 2022, 51% of public gas stations preferred not to answer regarding concerns of re-stocking, while 48% reported they do not have any concerns. In February 2022, among a total of 112 public gas stations, 13 reported concerns related to re-stocking among which logistical challenges was the main concern.

Distribution of the surveyed public gas stations per mantika and region

Location	Number of surveyed gas stations in January 2022 (n=160)	Number of surveyed gas stations in February 2022 (n=112)
Al Jabal Al Akhdar	4	4
Alkufra	4	4
Almarj	8	8
Benghazi	4	4
Derna	8	4
Ejdabia	8	4
Tobruk	4	4
Total East	**40**	**32**
Al Jufra	3	4
Ghat	2	1
Murzuq	4	2
Sebha	8	4
Ubari	7	2
Wadi Ashshati	7	2
Total South	**31**	**15**
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	8	6
Aljfara	8	8
Almargeb	12	7
Azzawya	4	2
Misrata	13	8
Nalut	6	8
Sirt	4	4
Tripoli	26	14
Zwara	8	8
Total West	**89**	**65**
Total	**160**	**112**

PREVIOUS JMMI OUTPUTS

Factsheets	Datasets
2022	
March (Pending)	March
February (Pending)	February
January	January
2021	
December	December
November	November
October	October
September	September
August	August
July	July
June	June
May	May
April	April
March	March
February	February
January	January
2020	
December	December
November	November
October	October
September	September
August	August
July	July
June	June
May	May
April	April
March	March
February	February
January	January
2019	
December	December
November	November
October	October
September	September
July	July
June	June
May	May
April	April
March	March
February	February
January	January

What is the CMWG?

The Libya Cash & Markets Working Group (CMWG), established in September 2016, is a community of humanitarian actors that support and coordinate cash-based interventions in Libya. The CMWG, based jointly in Tripoli and Tunis, is currently led by UNHCR.

Methodology (cont. from page 1)

The methodology for the JMMI is based on purposive sampling. In each assessed market, at least four prices per item need to be collected from different shops to ensure the quality and consistency of collected data. Partner field teams, in coordination with the CMWG, identify shops to assess based on the following criteria:

1. Shops need to be large enough to sell all or most assessed items.
2. Prices in these shops need to be good indicators of the general price levels in the assessed area.
3. Shops should be located in different areas within the assessed city or baladiya.

In locations where it is not possible to identify four large markets that fulfil criterion (1), smaller shops, such as grocery shops, vegetable vendors, butchers and bakeries, are added to the shop list, as long as they fit criteria (2) and (3), in order to guarantee at least four prices per item of interest. Each month, price data is collected from the same shops whenever possible to ensure comparability across months.

The CMWG primarily targets urban areas throughout Libya, aiming to ensure coverage of markets that serve as commercial hubs for surrounding regions.

Data is collected via the KoBo mobile data collection application. The CMWG maintains a joint KoBo account for the JMMI. The data collection tool is published alongside the dataset every month and disseminated to the humanitarian community.

In addition, in order to obtain a median price for an item in Tripoli, an aggregation of the median prices of that specific item in Abuselim, Ain Zara, Tajoura and Suq Aljumaa is done when Hai Alandalus, Tripoli center and Qasr ben Ghashir are excluded temporarily.

Analyses

The median prices reported in this factsheet are 'location medians', designed to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. First, the median prices of all assessed items are calculated within each assessed location (city or muhalla); then, REACH calculates the median of this list of medians. All boxplots, as well as the MEB and price index calculations are created using this method.

The cost of the MEB is calculated by multiplying the median price of each item in the MEB's 'Key Elements' section by the quantity listed in the table on page 6.

In cases where no median price is available for an item in a city then the price from the nearest city is imputed (using google maps). For example, for a city X, if the median cost of salt is missing, imputation happens: In other words, X takes a value of the median price of salt of the closest city geographically.

Challenges and limitations

Price data is only indicative for the time frame within which it was collected. Prices may vary during the weeks between adjacent data collection rounds.

The data is only indicative of the general price levels in each assessed location. Representativeness on the mantika (district) level cannot be claimed. Even on the city level, price data must be interpreted with caution, particularly in larger cities where there is substantial variation in neighbourhoods' socioeconomic levels.

The JMMI data collection tool requires enumerators to record the cheapest available price for each item, but does not require a specific brand, as brand availability may vary. Therefore, price comparisons across regions may be based on slight variants of the same product.

The JMMI does not intend to measure general inflation levels on Libyan markets. As per JMMI methodology, only the cheapest available price per item is collected, meaning that changes in middle-market and upmarket goods are not captured.

Rent Price Monitoring

Benghazi consists of only one municipality, therefore neighbourhoods across the city were grouped together into 11 area units.

Limitations: the data collected are new offers presented by Open Souq, therefore they may not represent the rental expenses of all IDPs, as tenants may receive cheaper offer through informal channels.

Liquidity Crisis

The respondents were vendors and customers from market places already monitored by the JMMI.

Respondents were selected purposively, with an average number of 8 customers and 4 vendors per region. The findings are indicative and not statistically representative.

Endnotes

[1] The food prices were normalised by setting April 2021 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in April 2021.

[2] The hygiene prices were normalised by setting April 2021 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in April 2021.

[3] Libya IDP and Returnee Report November - December 2020, DTM IOM, October 2020.

[4] Official rate: Central Bank of Libya (1 January 2021). Parallel market rates: Ewan Libya (1 January 2021). Both the official and the parralel market rates from January 2021 were used for the calculation of the monthly changes .

[5] Official rate: Central Bank of Libya (27 January 2021). Parallel marketrates: The rates from 1 January 2021 and 1 January 2020 were used for the calculation of the monthly changes (http://www.ewanlibya.ly/).

[6] The MEB price index was normalised by setting April 2021 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in April 2021.

[7] Libya's Liquidity Crunch, Jason Pack, April 2017 (https://www.libyaherald.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Liquidity-Crunch-in-Libya-report-USLBA-210417-LH.pdf).

REACH is a program of ACTED. It strengthens evidence based decision-making by humanitarian actors through efficient data collection, management and analysis in contexts of crisis.

ACTED is an international NGO. Independent, private and non-profit, ACTED respects a strict political and religious impartiality, and operates following principles of non-discrimination, and transparency. Since 2011, ACTED has been providing humanitarian aid and has supported civil society and local governance throughout Libya, from its offices in Tripoli, Sebha and Benghazi.