

INTRODUCTION

The Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was launched by REACH in collaboration with the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster and the Cash and Market Working Group (CMWG) to support humanitarian actors with the harmonization of price monitoring among all cash actors in Yemen. The JMMI incorporates information on market systems including price levels and supply chains. The basket of goods to be assessed comprises eight non-food items (NFIs), including fuel, water and hygiene products, reflecting the programmatic areas of the WASH Cluster. Since September 2018, the JMMI tracks all components of the WASH Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB).

METHODOLOGY

Data was collected through interviews with vendor Key Informants (KIs), selected by partner organisations from markets of various sizes in both urban and rural areas.

The data collected has been analysed in comparison with the price quotations recorded during the Multi-Agency Joint Cash Study conducted in September 2017, and the Weekly Price Monitoring Initiative (WPMI) which was conducted during the economic blockade of Yemen in November 2017.

More details are available in the Methodology section of the appendix. Findings are indicative for the assessed locations and time frame in which the data was collected.

JMMI MONTHLY FIGURES

Data collection **20-30 January 2019**

- 16 Participating partners
- 64 Districts assessed
- 372 Vendor KIs surveyed

KEY FINDINGS

In January 2019, the trend of appreciation of the Yemeni Riyal (YER) against the US Dollar (USD) observed in November and December 2018 was reversed, with the USD gaining 9% on the parallel market.

250 USD/YER <i>Official</i> ▶ 0.0%	545 USD/YER <i>Parallel market</i> ▲ 9.0%	500 USD/YER <i>Parallel market</i> <i>December 2018</i>
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KEY PRICE FIGURES

The depreciation was not accompanied by a general increase in the median price of the assessed items, instead some items reported a marginal decrease. Only the price of treated water showed an increase of 20%.

Petrol Price	410 YER	▼ 1.9%
Diesel Price	410 YER	▼ 8.5%
Bottled Water Price	118 YER	▼ 2.1%
Treated Water Price	120 YER	▲ 20.0%

WASH SMEB FIGURES

The median cost for the WASH SMEB was 9,510 YER, marking a decrease of 6% from the cost observed in December 2018.

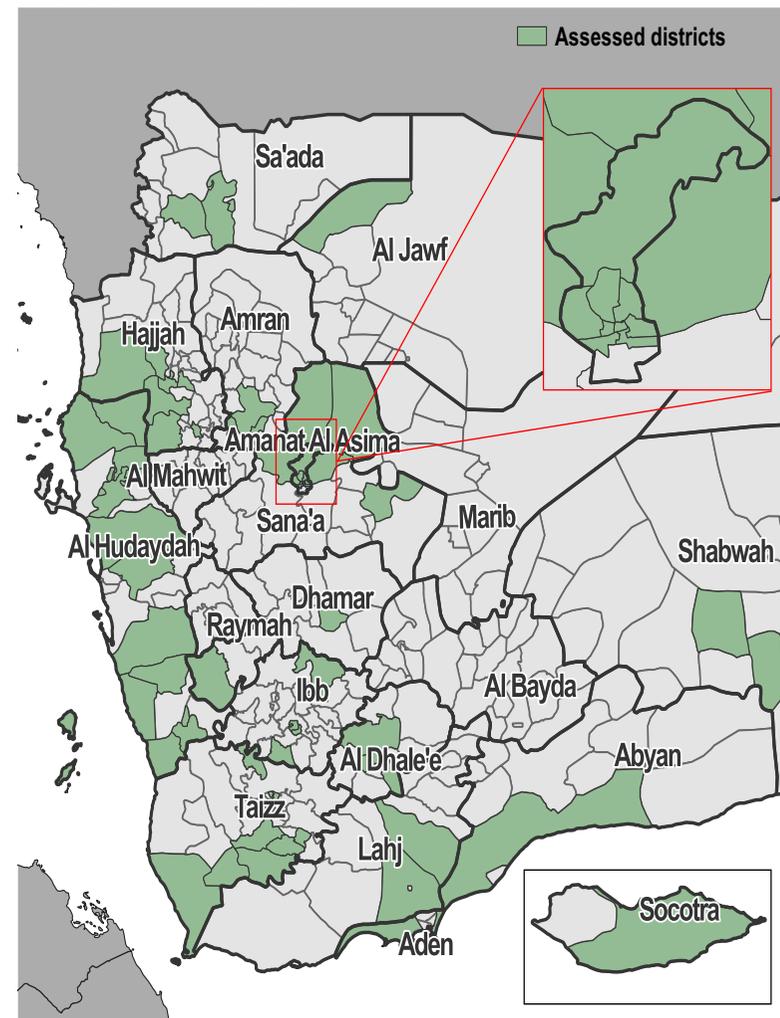
January	9,510 YER	▼ 575 YER	-6.0%
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SUPPLY OVERVIEW

Despite the overall reduction in prices, the assessed districts supplied by the governorate of al Hudaydah showed higher prices compared to those supplied by the governorate of Aden.

The median restocking time reported by fuel vendor KIs was 5 days compared to 6 days reported in December 2018, and WASH items median restocking time was 3 days compared to 4 days as reported in December 2018.

ASSESSED DISTRICTS



WASH SMEB

Soap
Laundry powder
Sanitary napkins
Water trucking

1.05 kg
2 kg
20 units
3.15 m³

OTHER ASSESSED ITEMS

Petrol
Diesel
Treated water
Bottled water

1 liter
1 liter
10 liter
0.75 liter

WASH SMEB COST OVERVIEW

The **WASH Survival Minimum Expenditure Basked (SMEB)** represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of WASH items required to support a Yemeni family of eight for a month.

The cost of the WASH SMEB can be used as a proxy for the financial burdens, relative to WASH items, a household is facing in different locations. The WASH SMEB components were defined by the CMWG in consultation with relevant sector leads.

MEDIAN COST OF WASH SMEB

9,510 YER

Change since December 2018: **▼ 575 YER -6.0%**
Change since September 2017: **▲ 4,448 YER +89.3%**

PAYMENT MODALITIES ACCEPTED*

Cash	99.8%	
Credit	11.3%	
Mobile money	1.3%	
Prepaid cards	0.3%	
Credit/Debit cards	0.1%	
Bartering	0.4%	

* Payment modalities can add up to more than 100%

MEDIAN WASH SMEB PRICES, BY GOVERNORATE (IN YER)

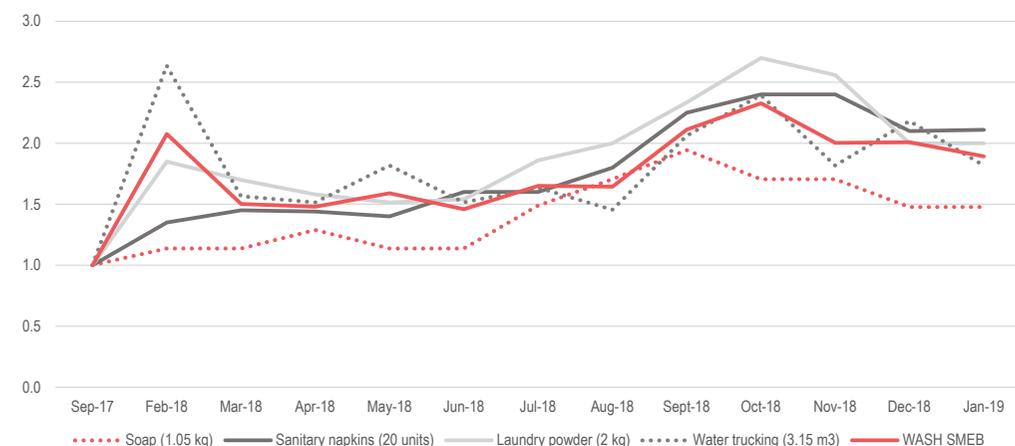
Governorate	Soap (10.5 kg)	Laundry powder (2 kg)	Sanitary napkins (20 units)	Water trucking (3.15 m³)	WASH SMEB Jan-19	Change since Dec-18
Abyan	1,260	1,600	1,000	NA	NA	NA*
Aden	1,620	2,455	1,025	11,222	16,321	+11%
al Dhale'e	2,350	1,564	1,100	7,481	12,495	+8%
al Hudaydah	1,456	2,182	1,000	4,725	9,363	-14%
al Jawf	1,082	2,200	1,600	3,150	8,032	-18%
Amanat al Asimah	974	2,000	1,100	3,753	7,828	-5%
Amran	1,440	1,818	1,075	2,993	7,325	-4%
Dhamar	1,470	2,000	1,030	7,088	11,588	-18%
Hajjah	1,344	1,800	1,000	6,300	10,444	+12%
Ibb	1,365	2,000	900	7,560	11,825	+2%
Lahj	1,770	1,091	1,150	978	4,987	-27%
Sa'ada	1,155	2,100	1,800	2,993	8,048	-31%
Sana'a	1,680	2,200	1,000	4,253	9,133	+3%
Shabwah	1,365	2,564	1,100	6,804	11,833	NA^
Socotra	1,008	2,200	1,200	3,780	8,188	-7%
Taizz	1,166	2,000	1,200	9,450	13,816	+12%

* Enumerators were not able to collect water trucking prices in Abyan

^ Prices in the governorate of Shabwah were collected for the first time in January 2019

WASH SMEB PRICE INDEX

Since September 2017 (normalized, September 2017 = 1.00)



MAIN DISTRICTS MONTH-TO-MONTH CHANGES IN MEDIAN WASH SMEB COST

Aden

December 2018: **14,747 YER** ▲ 11%
January 2019: **16,321 YER**

al Hudaydah

December 2018: **10,878 YER** ▼ 14%
January 2019: **9,363 YER**

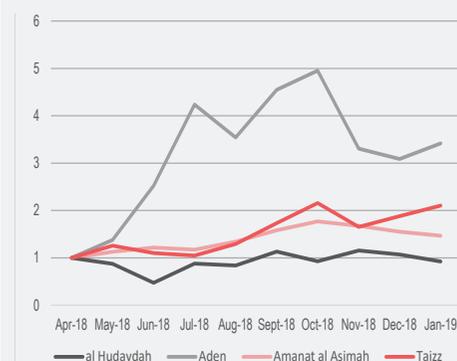
Taizz

December 2018: **12,345 YER** ▲ 12%
January 2019: **13,816 YER**

Amanat al Asimah

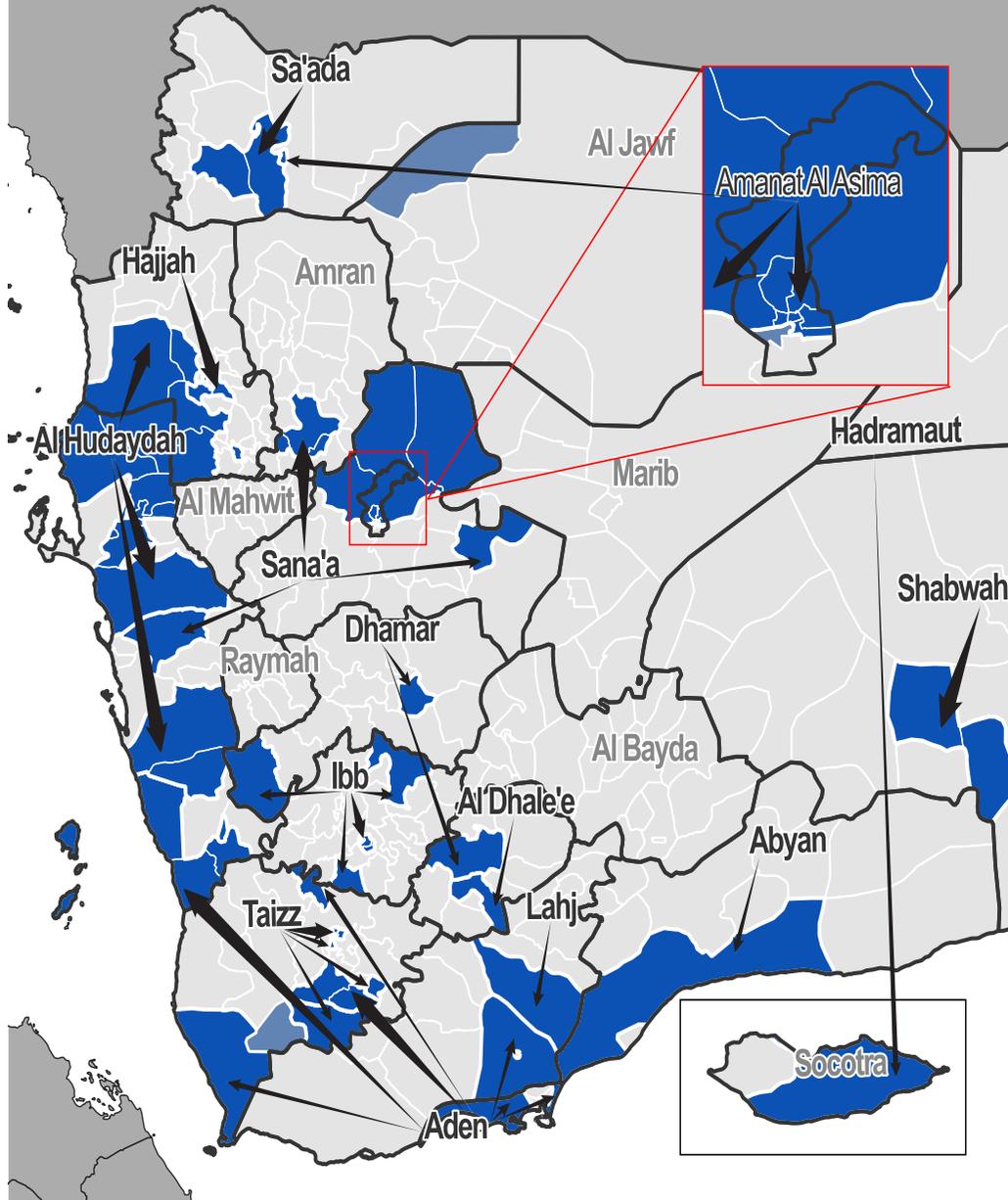
December 2018: **8,282 YER** ▼ 5%
January 2019: **7,828 YER**

WASH SMEB PRICE TREND (normalized, April 2018 = 1)



WASH SMEB Supply Chain Overview

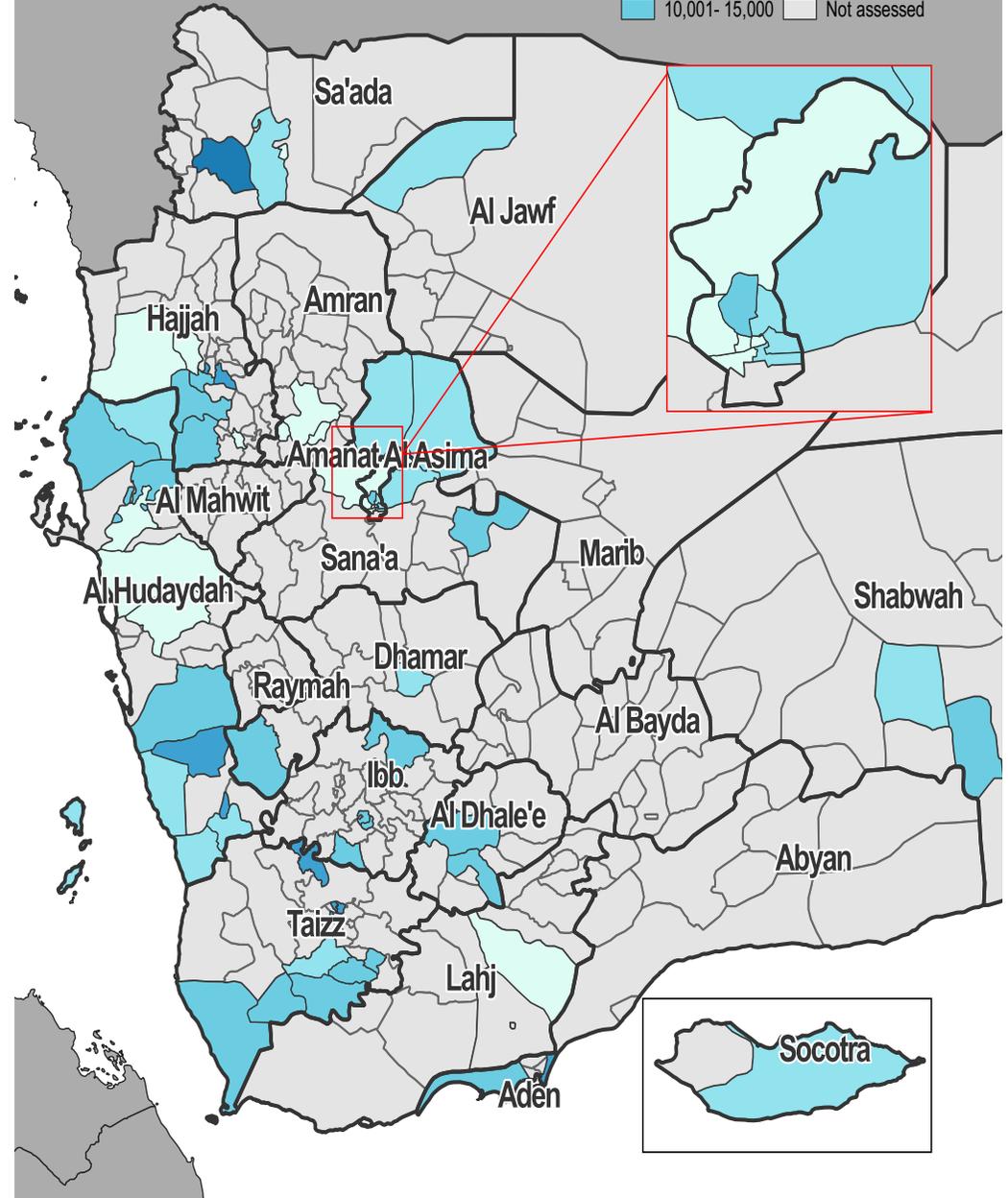
- Supply destination**
- One district supplied
 - ➔ Two or more districts supplied
 - Light Blue Districts without a main supplier *
 - Dark Blue Districts with a main supplier



*The map shows fuel supply chain inside the same governorate and towards other governorates. District without a main supplier are those district where vendor KIs could not identify the origin of the fuel they sold.

Median cost of WASH SMEB

- Median WASH SMEB Cost (YER)**
- Dark Blue: 25,001 - 25,635
 - Light Blue: 8,001 - 10,000
 - Medium Blue: 15,001 - 25,000
 - White: 4,537 - 8,000
 - Lightest Blue: 10,001 - 15,000
 - Grey: Not assessed



Note: only complete SMEB are taken into account.

PRICE MONITORING OVERVIEW FOR YEMEN

MEDIAN PRICE LEVELS, PER ITEM, PER MONTH (IN YER)*

Item	September 2017 (baseline) [^]	November 2017 [^]	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	% Change (Dec-Jan)
Diesel	235	394	580	550	448	410	-8.5%
Petrol	275	349	585	550	418	410	-1.9%
Treated water	NA	175 ↯	155	120	100	120	+20.0%
Bottled water	70	100	150	150	120	118	-2.1%
Soap	88	NA	150	150	130	130	0.0%
Sanitary napkins	250	NA	600	600	518	528	+1.8%
Laundry powder	50	NA	135	128	100	100	0.0%
Water trucking	825	1,700	1,975	1,500	1,800	1,650	-8.3%

* Price variations and the percentage change are calculated using data from markets that were assessed in both consecutive months.

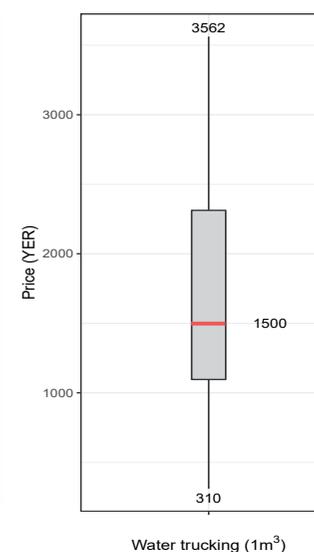
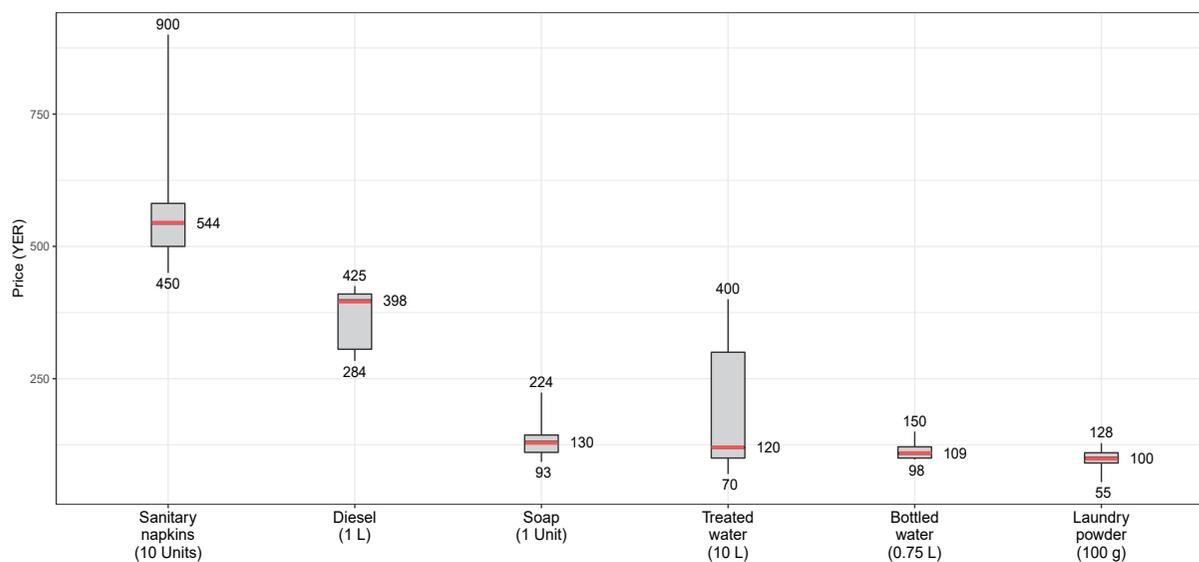
[^] Price levels for September 2017 are the price quotations recorded during the Multi-Agency Joint Cash Study, while prices for November 2017 were recorded during the Weekly Price Monitoring Initiative conducted by the WASH Cluster.

↯ Treated water prices for September and November 2017 were for 20L, while the JMMI collects prices for 10L.

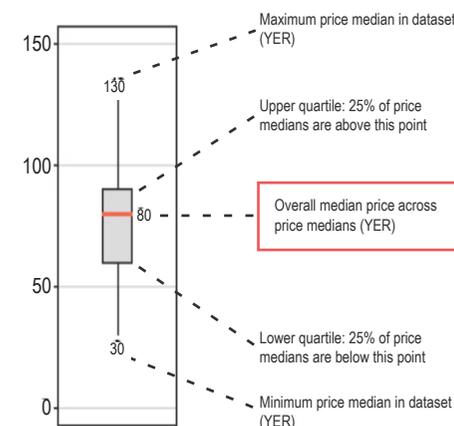
MEDIAN PRICE PER GOVERNORATE (IN YER)

Governorate	Petrol (1L)	Diesel (1L)	Bottled water (0.75L)	Treated water (10L)	Soap (1 Unit)	Laundry powder (100g)	Sanitary napkins (10)	Water trucking (1m ³)
Abyan	310	310	120	100	120	80	500	NA
Aden	284	310	143	108	154	123	513	3,563
al Dhale'e	300	300	98	98	224	78	550	2,375
al Hudaydah	410	410	150	125	139	110	500	1,500
al Jawf	400	400	100	305	103	110	800	1,000
Amanat al Asimah	425	425	100	120	93	100	550	1,192
Amran	410	410	108	400	137	91	538	950
Dhamar	415	415	110	398	140	100	515	2,250
Hajjah	410	410	120	100	128	90	500	2,000
Ibb	395	395	110	185	130	100	450	2,400
Lahj	308	308	135	300	169	55	575	310
Sa'ada	415	415	100	300	110	105	900	950
Sana'a	410	410	100	70	160	110	500	1,350
Shabwah	295	295	100	100	130	128	550	2,160
Socotra	300	300	100	120	96	110	600	1,200
Taizz	345	345	125	115	111	100	600	3,000

DISTRIBUTION OF PRICES ACROSS YEMEN

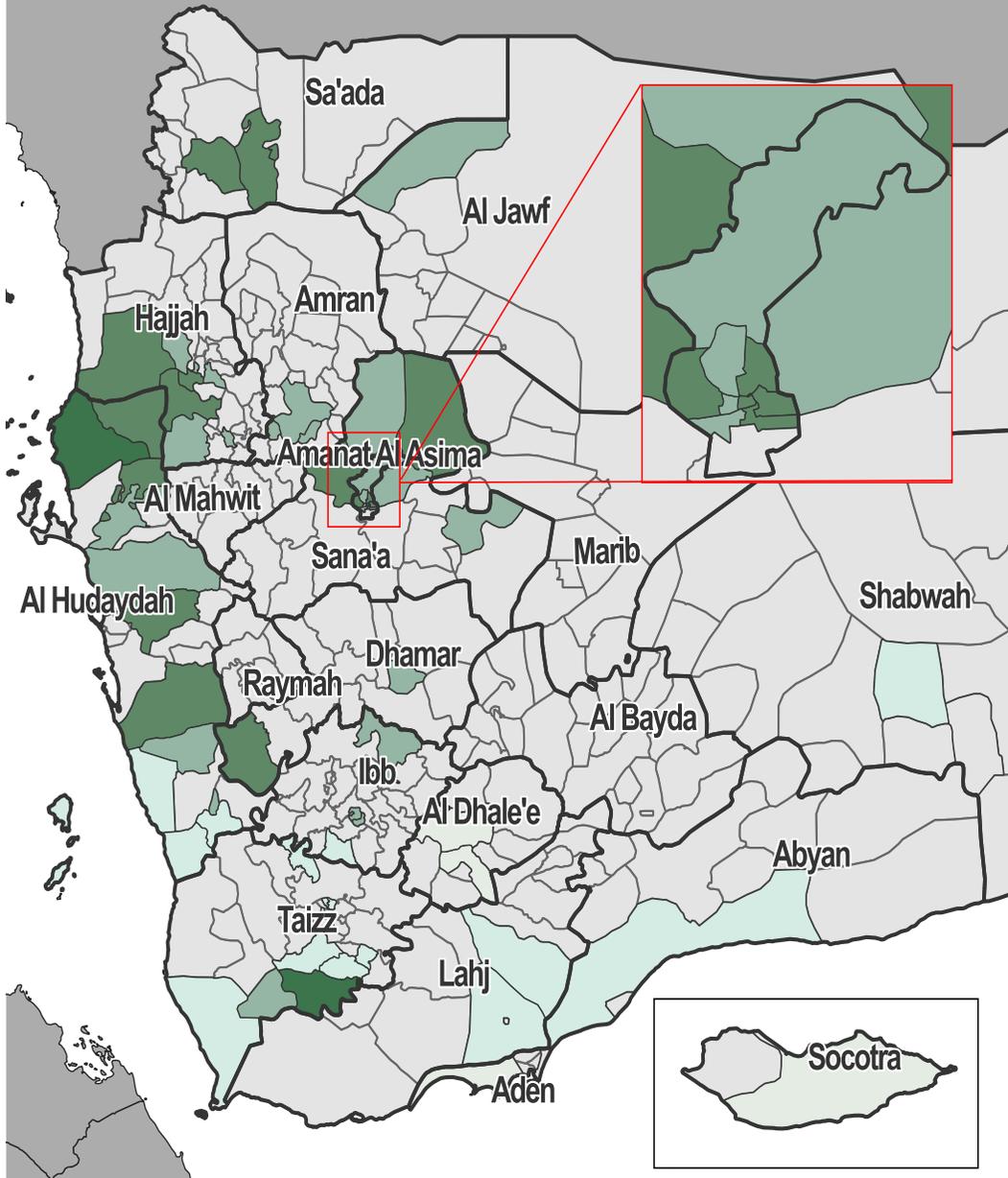


How to read a box plot



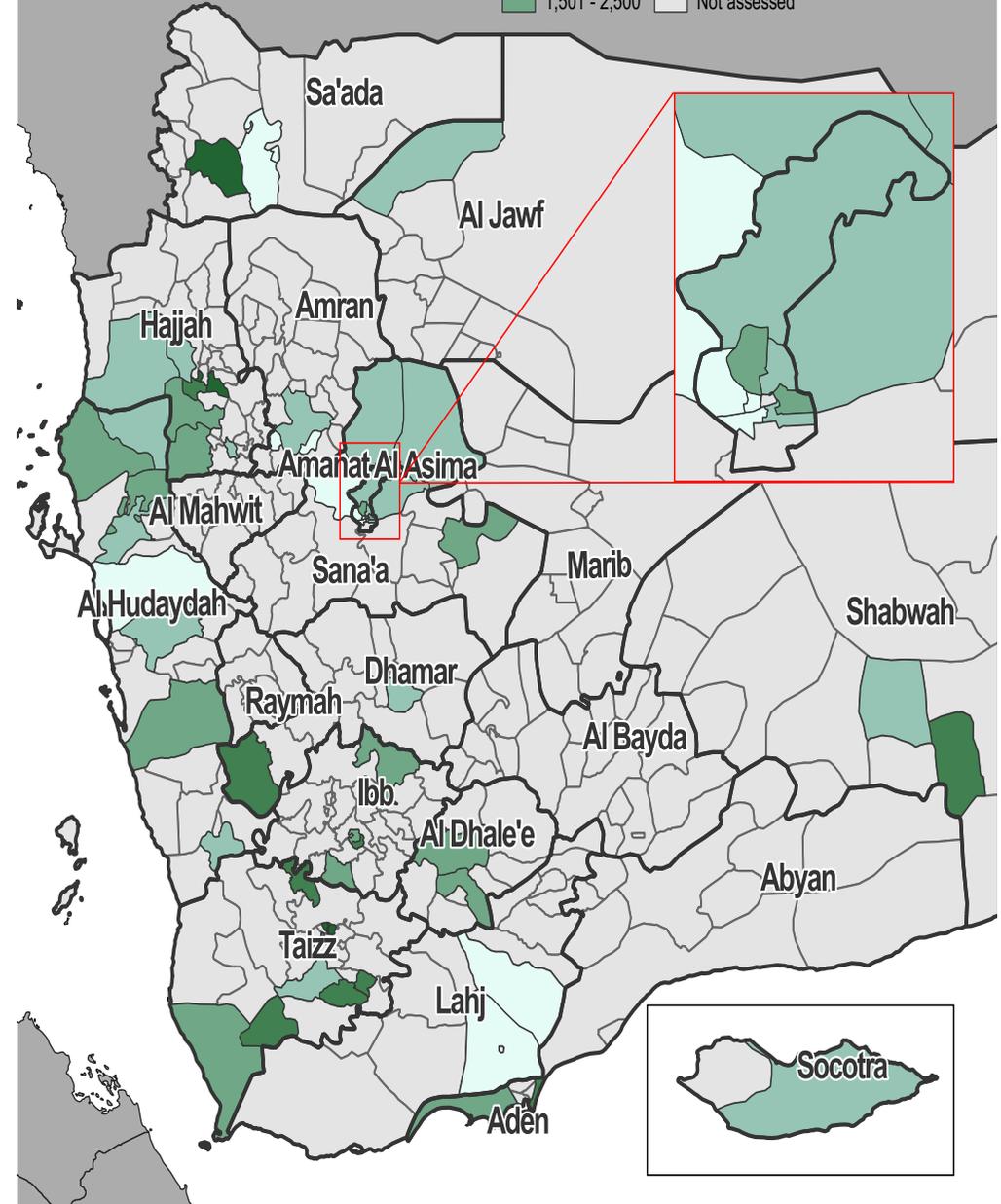
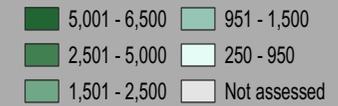
Petrol Prices

Median price of petrol per district per liter (in YER)



Water Trucking Prices

Water trucking prices per district per cubic meter (YER)



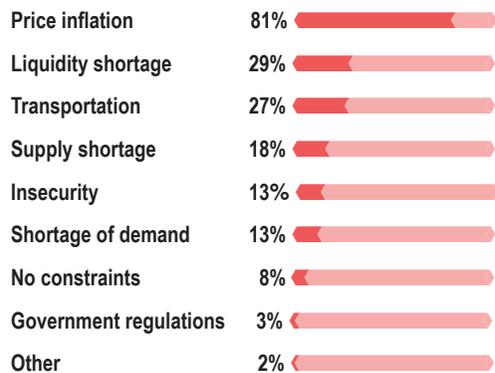
Note: the differences in the number of districts shown between the two maps for fuel and water prices are due to the methodology-stipulated requirement for a minimum of three price quotations per market per district not being met.

SUPPLY CHAIN OVERVIEW FOR YEMEN

AVERAGE RESTOCKING TIME (DAYS)

Governorate	Fuel Items	WASH Items
Abyan	6	5
Aden	3	2
al Dhale'e	15	10
al Hudaydah	5	3
al Jawf	30	3
Amanat al Asimah	7	4
Amran	5	2
Dhamar	4	2
Hajjah	8	4
Ibb	5	9
Lahj	5	3
Sa'ada	10	5
Sana'a	5	1
Shabwah	5	1
Socotra	4	2
Taizz	3	3

MOST REPORTED CONSTRAINTS*



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

OVERVIEW FOR WATER TRUCKING

69% of water trucking vendor KIs stated that they charged delivery costs based on the distance between the water source and the delivery point. The additional price for 5km is **7,000 YER** and **8,000 YER** for 10 km.

72% of water trucking vendor KIs stated that they sell non-chlorinated water.

18% of water trucking vendor KIs stated that they sell chlorinated water. An additional **10%** reported being unaware if the water they sold was chlorinated.

90% of water vendor KIs reported sourcing water from a pumping station or a borehole.

3% of water vendor KIs reported sourcing water from a treatment station.

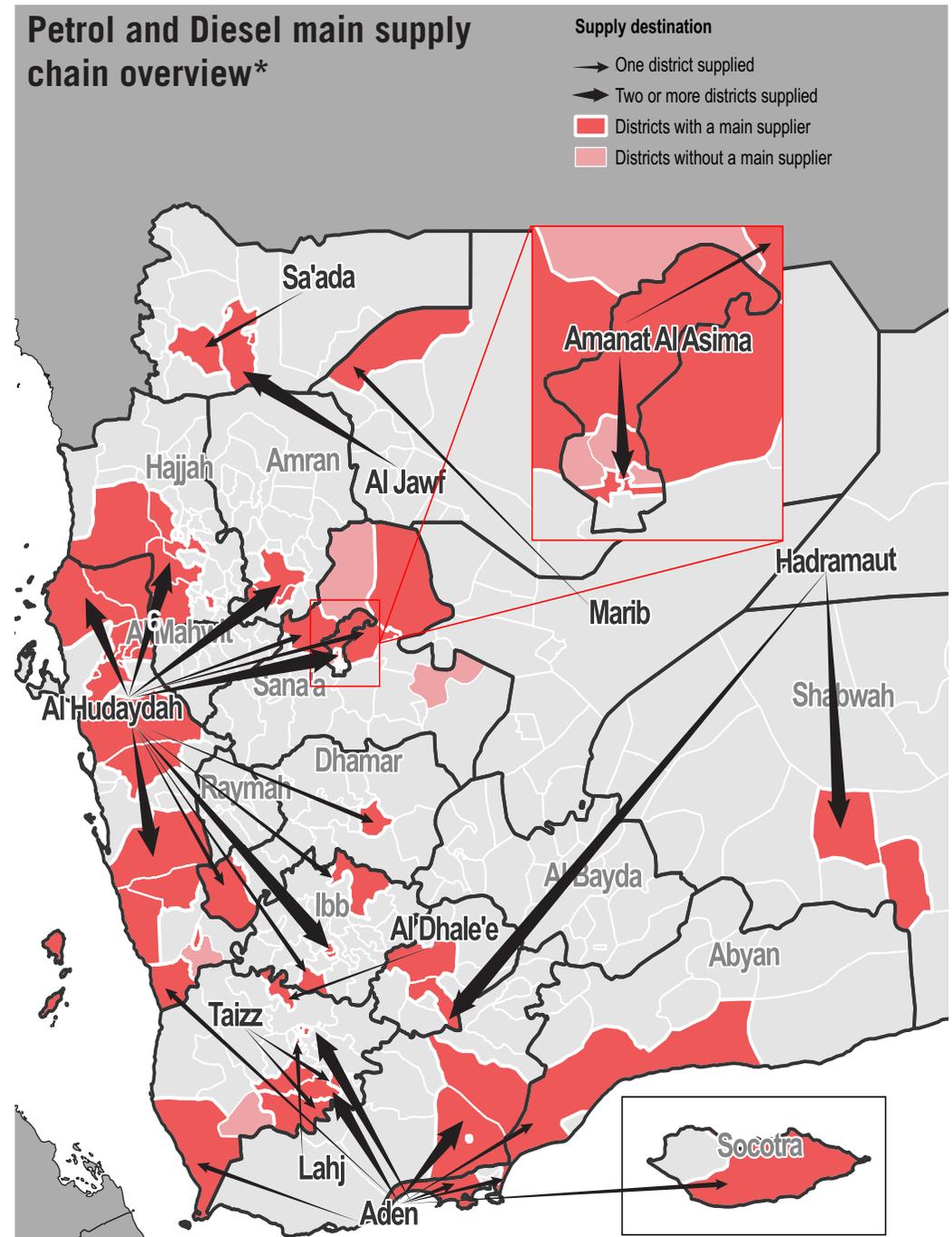
7% of water vendor KIs reported sourcing water from a spring.

CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

When asked about the top constraints vendors faced in conducting their business, KIs reported price inflation, liquidity shortage, transportation issues, and shortages in the supply as their four main concerns.

Moreover, vendor KIs reported insecurity and instability, and an overall decrease in the demand as other constraints. Multiple shop owners reported having issues sourcing diesel from a fuel station and having to resort to purchasing it from the black market.

Petrol and Diesel main supply chain overview*



*The map shows fuel supply chain inside the same governorate and towards other governorates. District without a main supplier are those district where vendor KIs could not identify the origin of the fuel they sold.

APPENDIX

WHAT IS THE INTERSECT OR CASH AND MARKET WORKING GROUP?

With the emergence of the conflict in 2014, humanitarian actors in Yemen began using cash and vouchers as a response tool to meet the immediate needs of the Yemeni population. The CMWG was established to provide a platform for discussion and setting standards/recommendations on cash and market-based responses (inclusive of cash and vouchers) for the cash actors in Yemen. The JMMI was developed by the CMWG, the WASH Cluster, and REACH in order to harmonize price monitoring amongst WASH actors in Yemen.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON METHODOLOGY

To be assessed by the JMMI, markets must be either a single permanent market, or a local community where multiple commercial areas are located in close proximity to one another. When possible, markets/shops are selected within a single geographical location, where there is at least one wholesaler operating in the market, or multiple areas of commerce within the same geographical location when it is too small, to provide a minimum of three price quotations per assessed item.

Participating organisations train their enumerators on the JMMI methodology and data collection tools using standard training materials developed by REACH. Each month, enumerators conduct KI interviews with market vendors to collect three price quotations for each item from the same market in each district. In addition to price levels, vendors are asked about the location of their supplier, the number of days it takes to restock the items, and the constraints they are

facing in purchasing and selling the items in question. Additional questions are included for water trucking, to gauge the impact of delivery distance upon price level.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partner data, normalising prices and cross-checking outliers. The cleaned data is then analysed by commodity and by governorate. To illustrate local variations in prices and availability, REACH uses the collected data to map the price of each type of item in each district. REACH also calculates the WASH SMEB (Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket), which is composed of four items: soap (1.05 kg), laundry powder (2 kg), sanitary napkins (20 units) and water trucking (3.15 m3). The cleaned data sets are available on the [REACH Resource Centre](#) and are distributed to all participating partners, as well as to relevant clusters and the broader humanitarian community.

LIMITATIONS

Due to issues of access and security across Yemen, the districts included in the JMMI vary on a monthly basis, and as such there are sometimes a limited number of districts for which trends can be assessed over time. Governorate level data is aggregated from the respective districts assessed in a given month, and so the findings are not representative of individual markets. Finally, the market monitoring process has been coordinated remotely by REACH, which inherently presents some challenges in terms of coordination and follow-up with partners. Participating organisations are therefore requested to adopt harmonised data collection methodologies and tools to ensure that the data uploaded is as accurate as possible.

CALCULATION OF DISTRICT AND GOVERNORATE MEDIAN PRICE

The calculation of the aggregated median price for districts and governorates is done following a stepped approach. Firstly, the median of all the price quotations related to the same market is taken. Secondly, the median quotation from each market is aggregated to calculate the district median. Finally, the median quotation from each district is aggregated to calculate the governorate median. Additionally, district and governorate median prices and percentage change from one month to another are calculated only on data from markets that were assessed in both consecutive months.

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS INCLUDE



ABOUT REACH

REACH is a joint initiative that 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. By doing so, REACH contributes to ensuring that communities affected by emergencies receive the support they need. All REACH activities are conducted in support to and within the framework of inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. For more information, please visit our website at www.reach-initiative.org, contact us directly at yemen@reach-initiative.org or follow us on Twitter at [@REACH_info](https://twitter.com/REACH_info).