Libya Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

3 - 13 October 2020

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. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

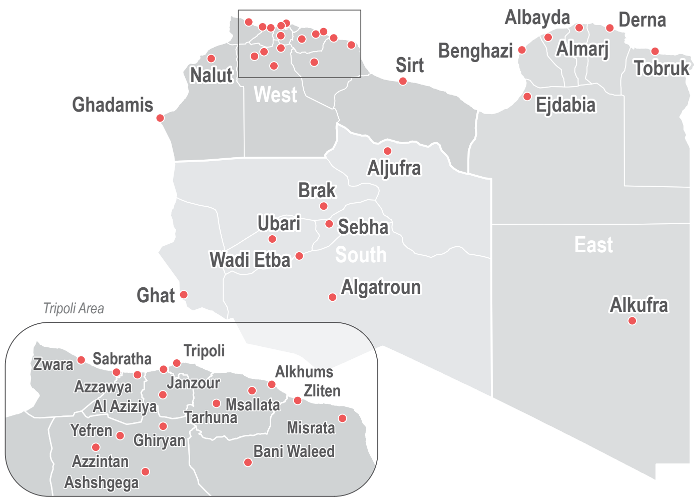
Markets in key urban areas across Libya are assessed on a monthly basis. In each location, field teams record prices and availability of basic food and non-food items (NFIs) sold in local shops and markets. This factsheet presents an overview of price ranges and medians for key food items and NFIs in the assessed areas, as well as the costs associated with key elements of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB).

REACH has also conducted analysis highlighting economic vulnerability for at-risk population groups that can be accessed through an interactive dashboard.

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.
- Following data collection, REACH compiled and cleaned all partner data, normalising prices, cross-checking outliers and calculating the median cost of the MEB in each assessed market.
- Qualitaive information is also gathered from 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 to better understand the rental market in Libya.
- Enmuerators have also surveyd customers from a number of shops to ask questions focused on access to cash and alternative payment modalities.
- More details are available in the Methodology section of the Appendix.

COVERAGE



KEY FINDINGS

- **In October 2020, the cost of the overall MEB increased by 4.3%. This month's MEB is 14.3% more expensive than pre-COVID levels in March 2020*.** The increase in the MEB from September - October 2020 may be attributed to seasonal production cost increases for domestically grown agricultural products, such as potatoes (+20.0%), peppers (+18.8%) and tomatoes (+18.2%).
- After the lifting of the oil blockade on the 18th September 2020, Libya has rapidly increased its oil output. **On the 13th November 2020, Reuters has reported that oil production has risen to 1.2m barrels per day (bpd).[1] The rise in oil production may have led to the decrease in parallel market gasoline (-12.5%) and cooking fuel (-16.5%) prices in across Libya.** West and East Libya have witnessed cooking fuel prices reverting back to pre-oil blockade levels (December 2019), whereas the cost of fuel in South Libya continues to be more than twice as expensive compared to December 2019.
- **After lengthy protests on both sides of the Libyan/ Tunisian border, authorities decided to allow all types of trade to continue at the Ras Jedir border crossing.**[2] The reopening of the border comes as a relief for those dependent on transporting goods between the two countries and may reduce the cost of the MEB in western cities close to Tunisia.
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reports that the 2020 cereal crop production is 5% lower than the previous year, while crop yield is 12% below average. The low output may only have marginal effect on wheat prices, as the country imports 90% of its cereal consumption requirments. Farmers report that "power cuts, insecurity as well as expensive inputs, including seeds, water, fuel, tools and machinery, continue to constrain their ability to produce". **Along with movement restrictions, these challenges have likely led to a decrease in farmer income, and may cause additional price spikes for locally produced products.** [3]

* Erratum: the previous factsheet reported that the September MEB was 21.3% more expensive than March 2019, but this should have been 9.6% more expensive.

JMMI KEY FIGURES

Data collection from 3 - 13 October 2020

3 participating agencies (REACH, WFP)
33 assessed cities
45 assessed items
635 assessed shops

EXCHANGE RATES[4]

1.373	6.170	7.050
USD/LYD	USD/LYD	EUR/LYD
official	*parallel market*	*parallel market*
▲ +0.8%	▼ -4.3%	▼ -6.0%

KEY MONTHLY CHANGES IN MEB

Median cost of overall MEB
719.61 LYD ▲ 29.49 LYD ▲ +4.3%

Food items	Hygiene items	Cooking fuel.[9]
▲ +5.1%	▲ +7.1%	▼ -14.3%

MEDIAN COST OF MEB BY REGION

West	657.0 LYD	▲ +8.2%
East	712.2 LYD	▲ +3.3%
South	919.6 LYD	▲ +11.2%

MARKET SHORTAGES

- None reported

Reported changes are month-on-month

Access the JMMI online dashboard

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
Milk	8.5 L	Salt	1 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[7]

Water (drinking use only)	458 L
Median rent for 3-rm flat	1 month
Float[8]	20% of key elements

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.

COST OF MEDIAN OVERALL MEB

719.6 LYD

Change since September 2020	Change since March 2019
▲ +29.49 LYD (+4.3%)	▲ +49.98 LYD (+7.5%)

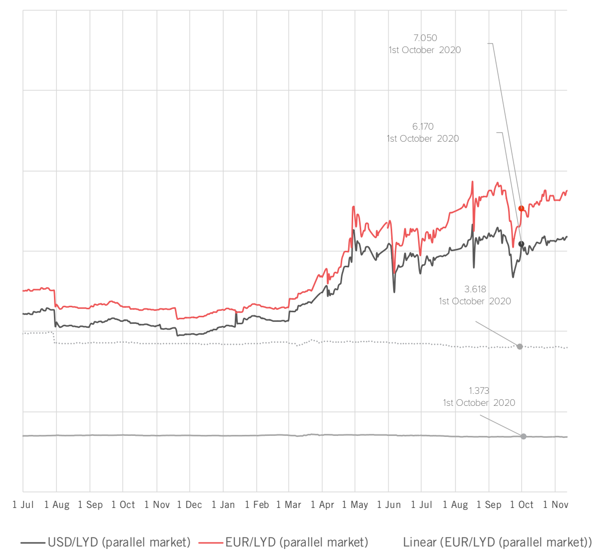
MEDIAN MEB COST BY LOCATION

Location	Cost of MEB (LYD)	Since Sep 2020	Since March 2019
Ashshgega	825.0	11.2%	26.7%
Azzintan	823.0	-2.7%	22.2%
Yefren	806.6	14.3%	18.5%
Nalut	799.1	1.1%	13.1%
Msallata	781.8	6.4%	32.6%
Ghiryan	773.7	-3.9%	10.6%
Zwara	732.9	10.4%	10.5%
Tripoli	725.7	11.2%	12.4%
Zliten	712.0	12.6%	8.7%
Sabratha	705.7	8.1%	10.3%
Azzawya	702.3	8.8%	8.4%
Ghadamis	692.2	10.5%	0.2%
Al Aziziya	687.2	11.0%	8.8%
Sirt	651.3	6.1%	11.7%
Bani Waleed	649.4	17.8%	3.6%
Tarhuna	647.7	12.7%	1.7%
Alkhums	618.9	7.1%	-2.9%
Misrata	598.0	3.0%	-4.1%
Janzour	567.1	0.3%	-2.4%
Median West	**695.0**	**8.2%**	**7.8%**
Albayda	924.6	7.5%	51.2%
Benghazi	764.7	4.6%	26.3%
Derna	731.6	12.2%	18.7%
Alkufra	717.0	1.2%	8.4%
Ejdabia	701.1	-3.1%	12.8%
Tobruk	672.5	3.3%	8.7%
Almarj	668.4	12.6%	11.5%
Median East	**724.6**	**3.3%**	**18.1%**
Ghat	1380.7	6.1%	31.2%
Ubari	1284.1	8.2%	30.1%
Algatroun	1209.5	9.7%	14.5%
Wadi Etba	959.8	0.3%	No data
Sebha	824.6	-3.7%	19.9%
Brak	812.6	12.2%	15.7%
Aljufra	777.3	-2.9%	3.7%
Median South	**950.3**	**11.2%**	**11.4%**
Median Overall	**719.6**	**4.3%**	**7.5%**

EXCHANGE RATES OVER TIME[6]

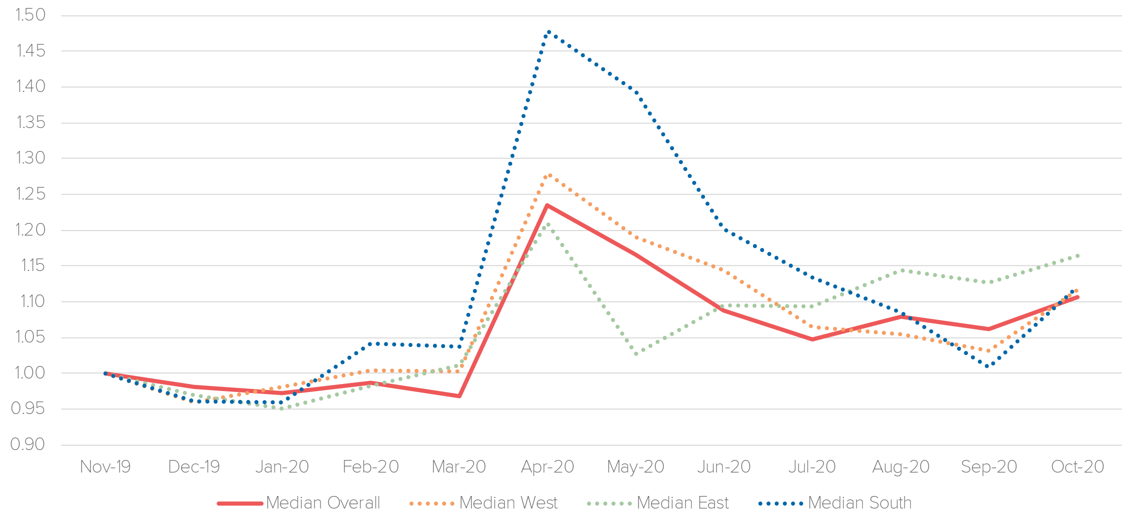
January 2016-July 2019

Since July 2019

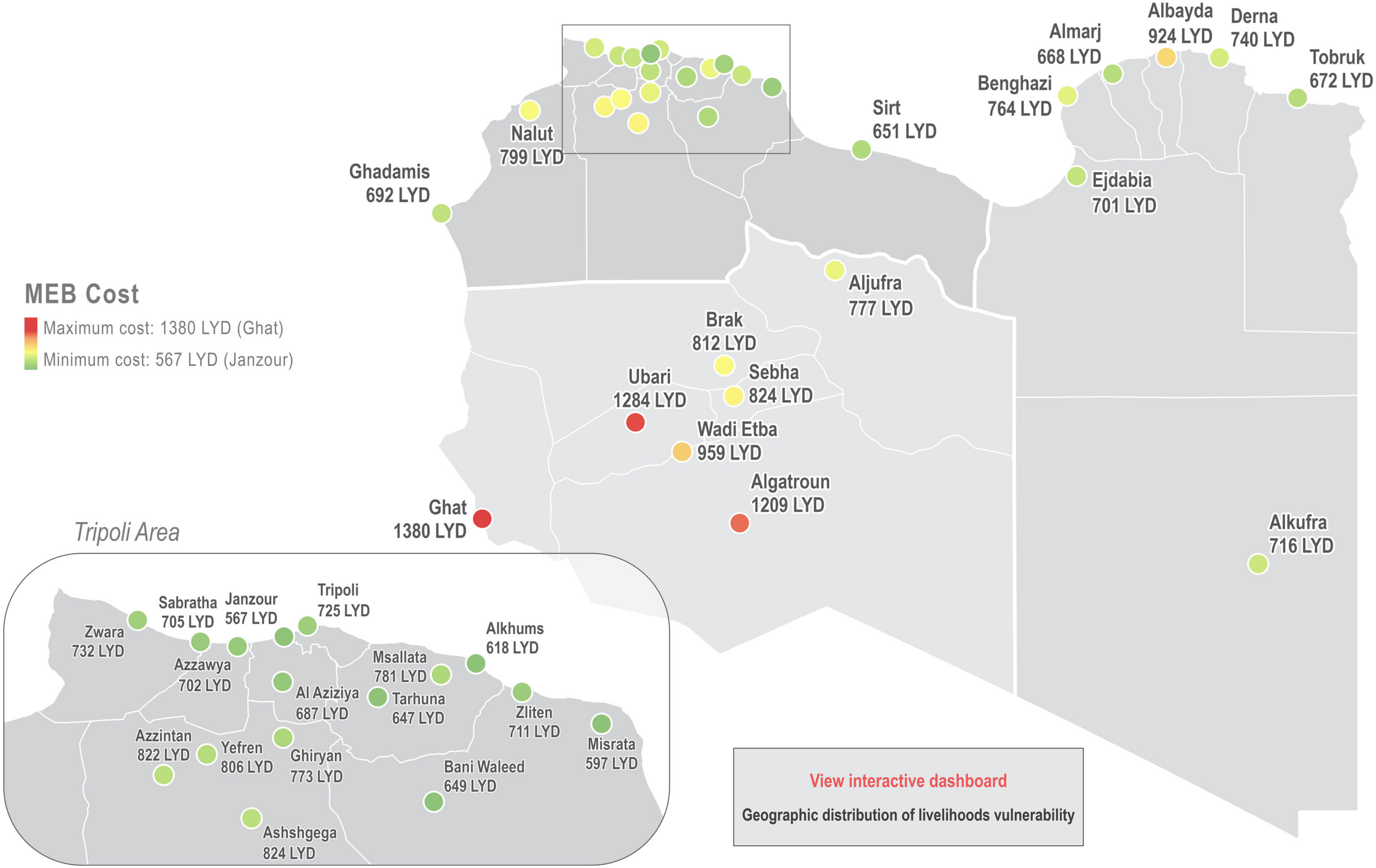


MEB PRICE INDEX

Since November 2019 (normalised, November 2019 = 1.00)[9]



Cost of MEB Key Elements by Location



View interactive dashboard

Geographic distribution of livelihoods vulnerability

Liquidity and Financial Infrastructure

Key findings

- A number of recent reports have indicated that the liquidity crisis in Libya is a growing concern for the population, as households are not able to withdraw sufficient amounts to meet needs.[10] **Only 3.7% of customer respondents in Libya overall were able to purchase the items necessary to meet their basic needs using cash withdrawn from banks within the last 30 days.**
- To attain the required amount of cash, customers commonly reported resorting to using alternative methods, such as selling certified cheques on parallel markets. According to an expert KI, cheque traders provide physical cash at a cost that is defined by the liquidity levels of the cheque's bank.

79.2% of customers reported being unable to withdraw cash from bank

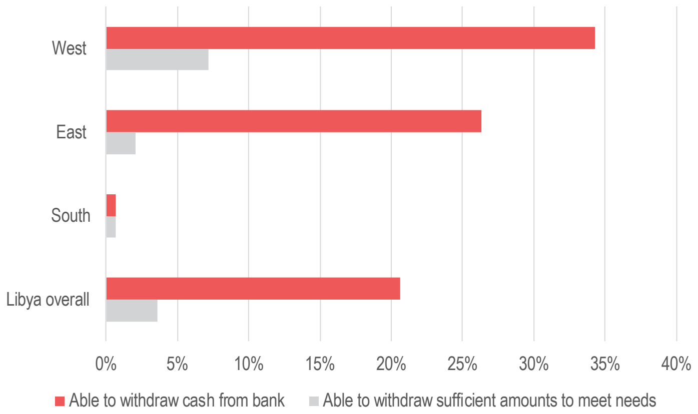
64.1% of customers reported exchanging cheques for cash on parallel market

Customers lose on average 23.4% of the cheque value during parallel market exchange

Methodology

- From October 2020, JMMI collected a series of additional data on the ability to access cash and payment modalities from 428 customers and 571 vendors across 25 cities in Libya.
- Due to non-probability sampling, findings are indicative only. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the appendix.

Ability to withdraw cash



Location	West Libya	East Libya	South Libya	Libya Overall
% of customers reporting ability to withdraw cash in 30 days prior to data collection				
Unable to withdraw cash from bank	65.2%	73.7%	99.3%	79.2%
Able to withdraw cash from bank, but not sufficient amount to meet basic needs	37.1%	24.2%	0%	16.9%
Cash withdrawn is sufficient amount to meet basic needs	7.2%	2.1%	0.7%	3.7%
% of customers reported using alternative methods of attaining cash				
Selling cheques on parallel market	39.2%	77.8%	85.5%	64.1%
Exchanging cheques with businessess	8.84%	5.21%	2.0%	5.6%
Loans	0.6%	0%	0.7%	0.5%
Others	13.3%	0%	7.9%	8.4%
Prefered not to answer	23.8%	20.8%	20.8%	17.3%
Average reported mark-up fee				
Selling cheques on parallel market	18.3%	22.2%	26.6%	23.4%
Exchanging cheques with businesses	18.8%	25.0%	11.7%	19.6%

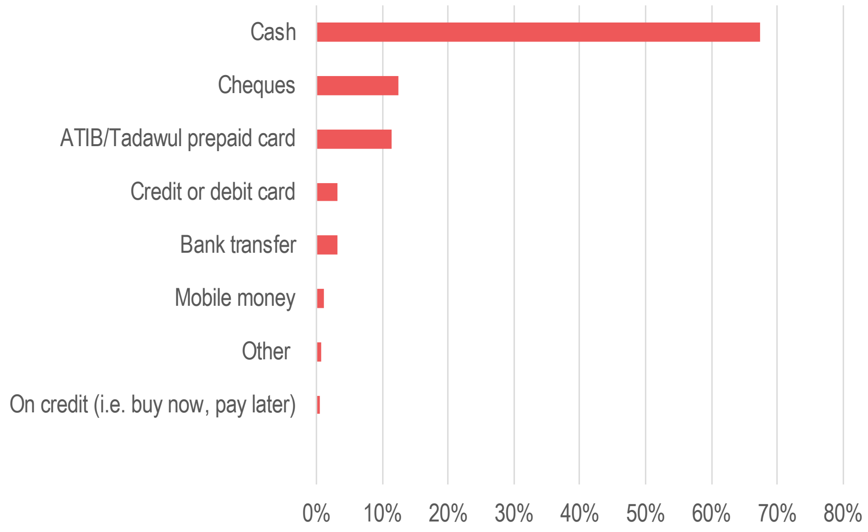
Location	Respodents reported principal bank	Customers able to withdraw cash in 30 days prior to data collection	Average reported cheque mark-up fee
Name of Bank			
Aljumhuria	22.8%	26.5%	20.9%
Altijarii alwatani	23.3%	15.0%	26.2%
Alwehda	14.9%	18.8%	19.5%
Alsaharaa	6.1%	23.1%	26.6%
Shamal 'afriqia	15.6%	22.4%	24.8%
Alwaha	0.7%	0.0%	-
Al'aman	5.1%	50.0%	25.0%
Alsaraya	1.4%	100.0%	-
Almutahid	0.9%	50.0%	-
Altijara waltanmia	1.9%	50.0%	11.3%
Other	3.7%	-	-

Liquidity and Financial Infrastructure

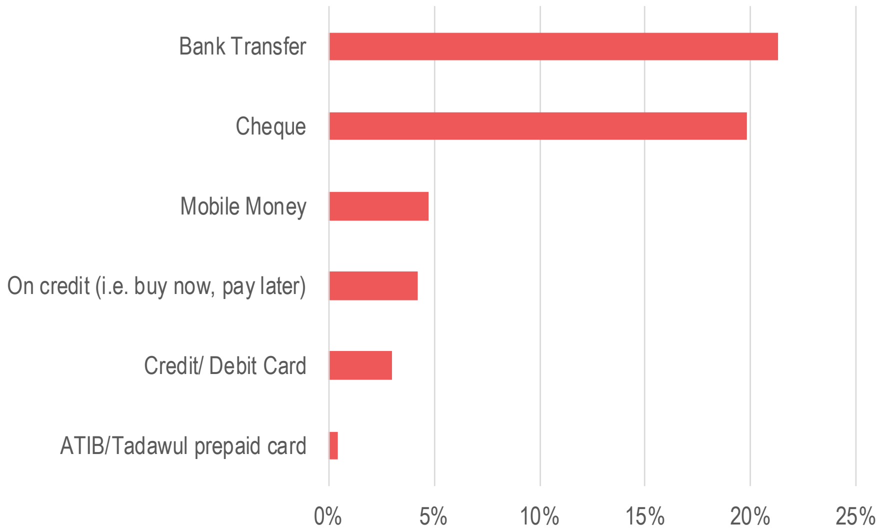
- Overall, 54.4% of interviewed vendors reported only accepting cash. From the vendors only accepting one payment modality, the most commonly reported barriers to introduce alternatives were power cuts (30.8%) and a lack of functioning Internet (20.5%). Only 8.1% of vendors that reported not accepting other payment modalities cited a lack of demand for alternative modalities as the main reason, and another 11.4% reported not knowing any financial service providers who could help them expanding their financial infrastructure to enable them to accept additional modalities.
- There are clear regional differences in payment modalities preferences. **In East Libya, the most prevelant modality besides cash are cheques (14.2%) and mobile money (12.5%), southern vendors accept cheques (22.6%) and west Libyan vendors reporting using ATIB cards (11.1%).**

Location	West Libya	East Libya	South Libya	Libya Overall	Average Mark-up Fee
% of customers reporting using the following payment modalities					
Cash	93.9%	91.7%	99.3%	94.1%	-
Credit/debit card	20.4%	6.3%	5.3%	15.5%	3.0%
ATIB Card	45.3%	4.2%	0.0%	30.7%	0.4%
Cheque	8.8%	39.6%	66.5%	21.6%	19.8%
Mobile Money	12.2%	9.4%	0.0%	10.6%	4.7%
Credit	0.0%	5.2%	12.5%	2.3%	4.2%
Bank Transfer	0.6%	9.4%	54.6%	6.8%	21.3%
Other	0.0%	3.1%	0.7%	0.9%	-
% of vendors reporting accepting the following payment modalities					
Cash	99.6%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-
Credit/debit card	9.8%	5.0%	6.3%	8.2%	1.1%
ATIB Card	11.1%	6.7%	0.0%	9.1%	2.6%
Cheque	2.5%	14.2%	22.6%	7.2%	4.1%
Mobile Money	2.1%	12.5%	0.0%	4.9%	3.6%
Credit	1.6%	0.0%	5.3%	1.4%	0.0%
Bank Transfer	0.0%	5.0%	6.7%	1.9%	2.2%
Other	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.2%	-

Most commonly used payment modalities by % of customer respondents



Average reported mark-up fees for customers

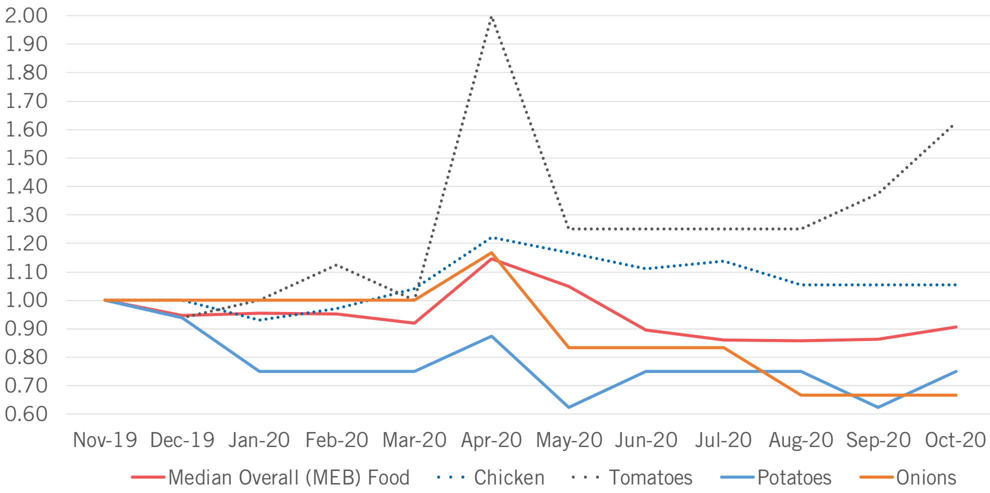


PRICES OF MONITORED ITEMS

Item	Unit	Median price (LYD)	Change since Sep 2020	Change since March 2019
Food items				
Eggs	30 eggs	13.00	30.0%	23.8%
Potatoes	1 kg	3.00	20.0%	20.0%
Peppers	1 kg	4.75	18.8%	5.6%
Tomatoes	1 kg	3.25	18.2%	30.0%
Couscous	1 kg	6.50	8.3%	108.0%
Green tea	250 g	3.75	7.1%	7.1%
Pasta	500 g	2.00	6.4%	33.3%
Beans	400 g	2.13	6.3%	-10.5%
Flour	1 kg	2.50	5.3%	11.1%
Black tea	250 g	6.25	4.2%	-2.0%
Bread	5 pieces	1.25	0.0%	0.0%
Chicken	1 kg	9.50	0.0%	5.6%
Chickpeas	400 g	2.00	0.0%	-11.1%
Condensed milk	200 ml	2.50	0.0%	12.4%
Milk	1 L	4.00	0.0%	23.1%
Onions	1 kg	2.00	0.0%	-11.1%
Canned tuna	200 g	3.50	0.0%	-18.4%
Vegetable oil	1 L	5.00	0.0%	5.3%
Lamb meat	1 kg	39.00	-1.3%	25.8%
Sugar	1 kg	2.50	-4.8%	17.6%
Tomato paste	400 g	2.38	-5.0%	5.6%
Rice	1 kg	3.25	-7.1%	-18.8%
Salt	1 kg	1.38	-8.3%	37.5%
Hygiene items				
Sanitary pads	10 pads	5.00	17.6%	66.7%
Handwashing soap	1 bar	1.75	16.7%	-12.5%
Toothbrush	1 brush	2.25	12.5%	-10.0%
Dishwashing liquid	1 L	3.00	0.0%	100.0%
Shampoo	250 ml	5.00	0.0%	-16.7%
Toothpaste	100 ml	4.00	0.0%	-20.0%
Baby diapers	30	16.25	-1.5%	1.6%
Hand Sanitiser	1 L	38.50	-3.8%	No data
Laundry powder	1 kg	6.25	-3.8%	-10.7%
Bleach	1 L	10.50	-12.5%	No data
Laundry detergent	1 L	1.60	-36.0%	23.1%
Other items				
Bottled water	1 L	0.29	0.0%	0.0%

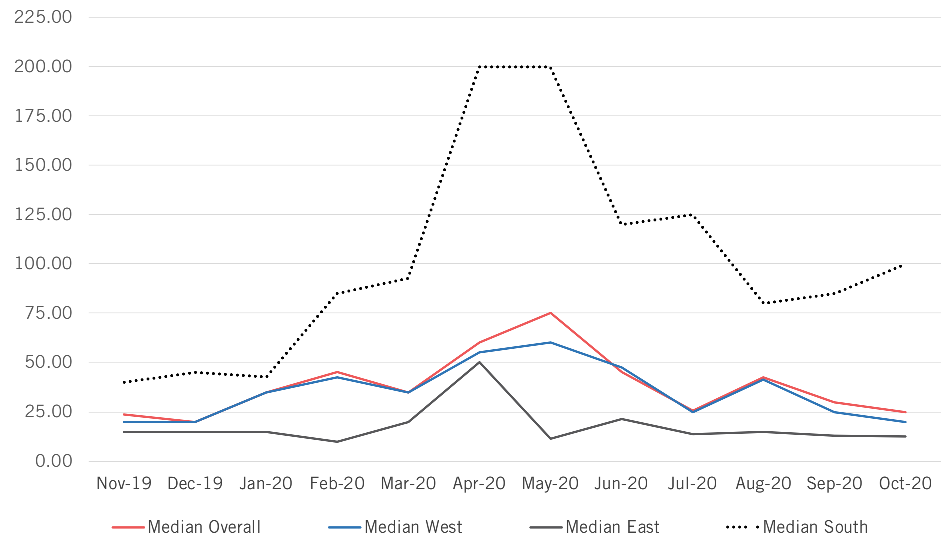
FOOD PRICES OVER TIME

Selected items (normalised, November 2019 = 1.00)[11]



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

(since November 2019, non-normalised)



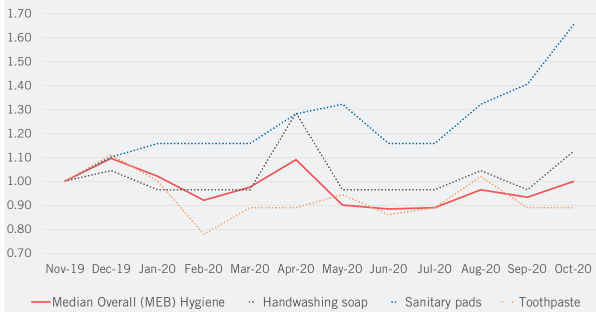
PRICES OF FUEL AND HEALTH ITEMS

Item	Unit	Median price (LYD)	Change since Aug 2020	Change since March 2019
Fuel items				
Public LPG	11 kg	5.00	0.0%	0.0%
Official Gasoline	1 Litre	0.15	0.0%	No data
Unofficial Gasoline	1 Litre	1.75	-12.5%	No data
Private LPG	11 kg	25.00	-16.7%	66.7%
Pharmaceutical items				
Ibuprofen *	400mg (20 pack)	6.59	-1.9%	19.7%
Paracetamol	500mg (12 pack)	6.00	-2.0%	-13.5%
Metoclopramide*	10mg (40 pack)	11.50	-4.2%	15.0%
Amoxicillin*	500mg (21 Pack)	10.00	-4.8%	11.1%
Vitamin B*	(40 pack) tablets	10.00	-21.6%	-2.4%

* Due to a lack of data, the comparison month is March 2020, instead of March 2019

HYGIENE ITEM PRICES OVER TIME

Selected items (normalised, November 2019 = 1.00)[12]

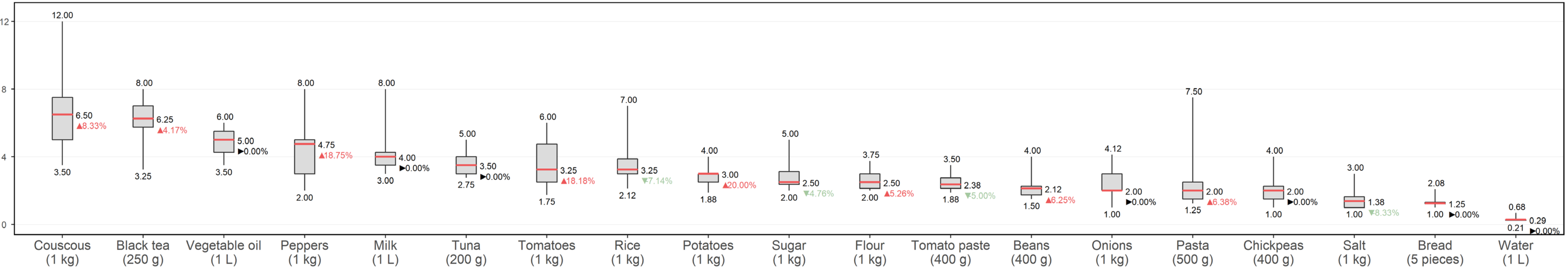


NOTABLE MONTH-ON-MONTH CHANGES

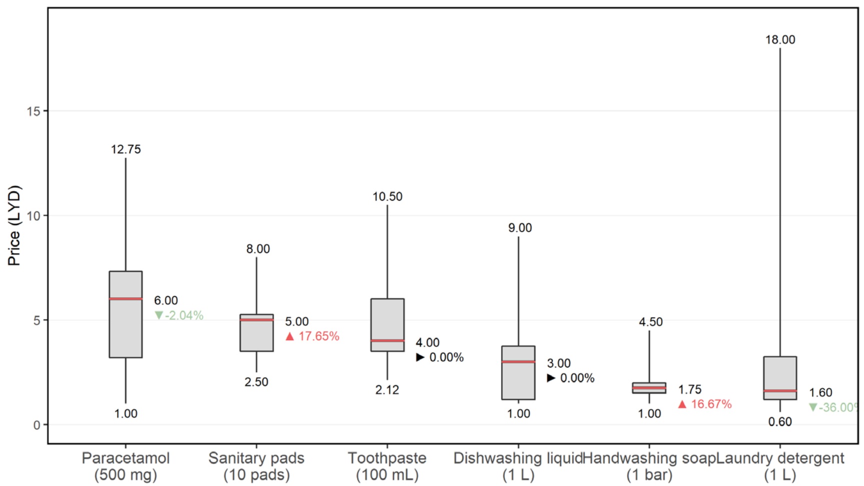
Laundry Detergent	▼ -36.0%
Eggs	▲ +30.0%
Potatoes	▲ +20.0%
Peppers	▲ +18.8%
Tomatoes	▲ +18.2%

Distribution of Prices in Libya

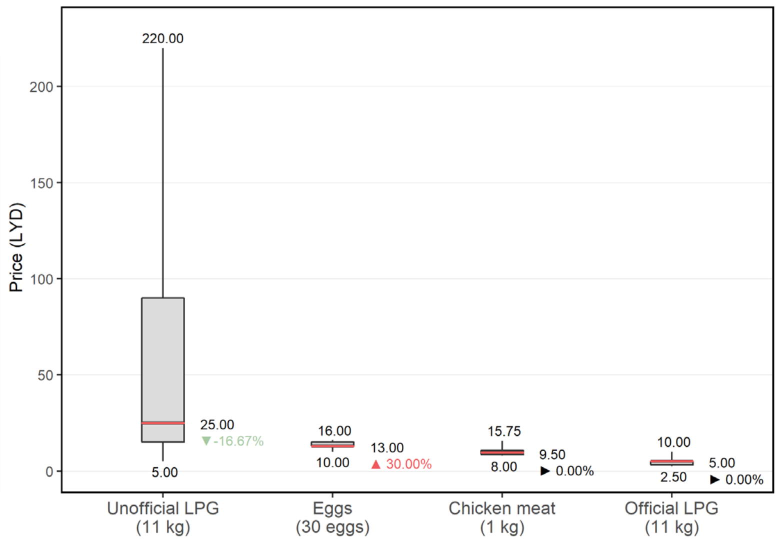
FOOD ITEMS



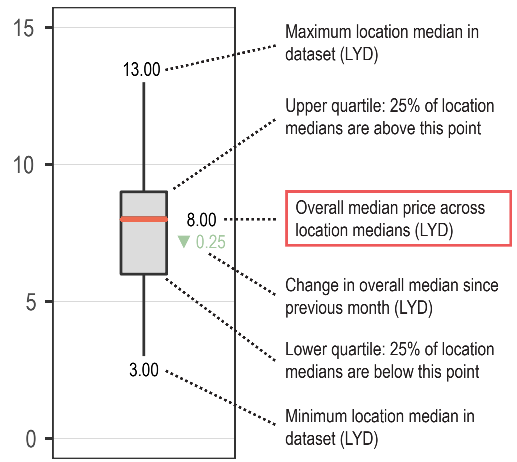
HYGIENE ITEMS



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), with the municipalities of Suq Aljuma, Hai Andalus, and Tajoura particularly hosting an estimated 71% of the approximate 108,003 IDPs in the region.[13]
- When entering Tripoli, IDPs typically seek to enter the rental market – with 60% of IDPs reporting to live in rented accommodation as of April 2020.[14]
- On the 5th June, a shift in power political control in Tarhuna and Bani Walid lead to large numbers of IDPs to move to eastern cities, especially Benghazi.
- REACH is therefore exploring 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 commenced analyzing rental prices, which were extracted on a daily basis from the website 'Open Souq'. **In October 2020, 2057 rental prices were collected in Tripoli and Benghazi.** The price change findings are indicative.
- For more information please refer to the appendix.

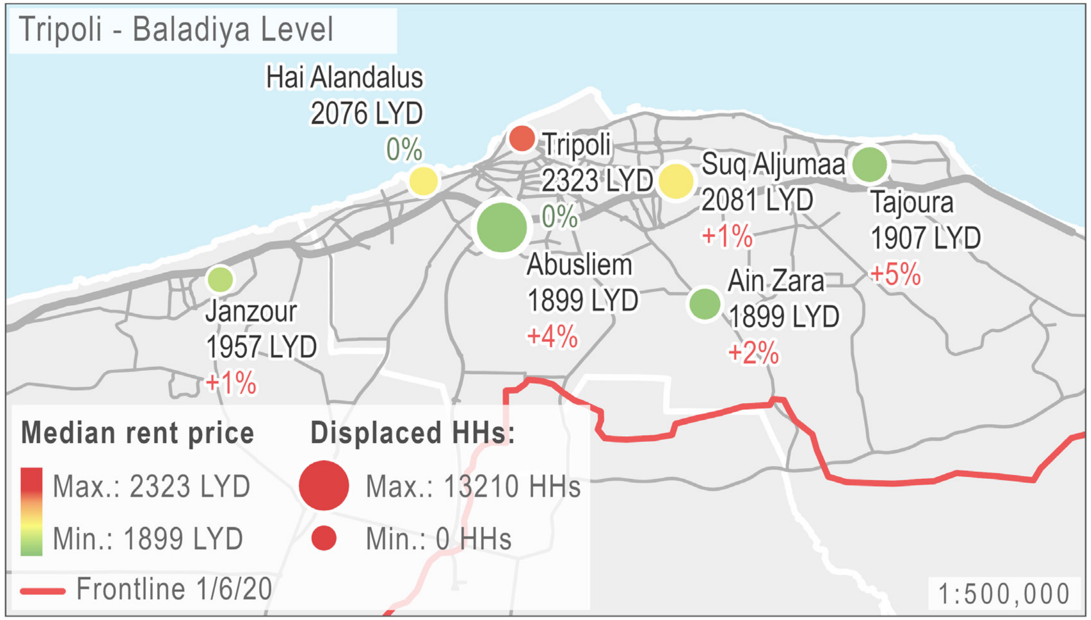
Key Findings

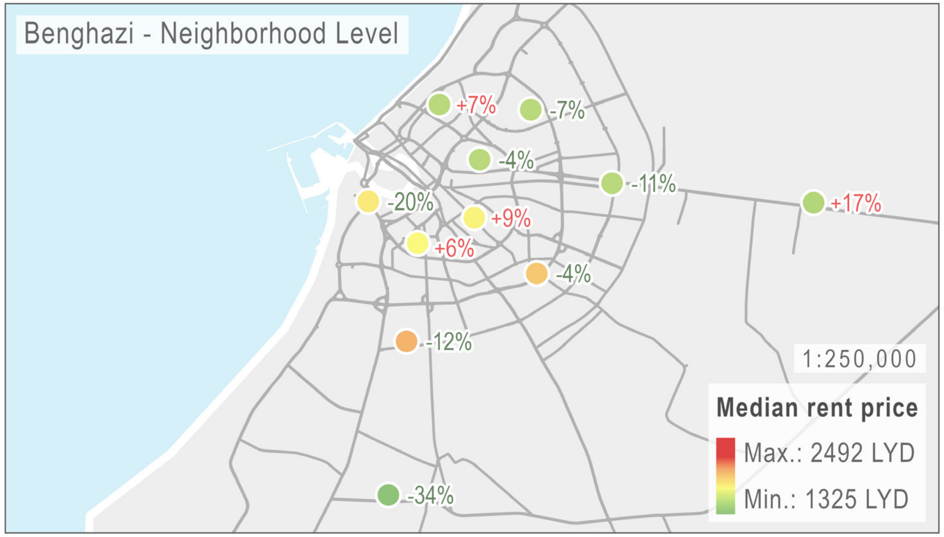
- Since May 2020, rental prices seem to have considerably decreased in Tripoli overall (-27.0%). Within approximately the same time period (April - August 2020), there has been a 12.2% decrease in IDP numbers in Tripoli overall.
- While the number of IDPs in Benghazi has reportedly increased by 24.9% between April and August 2020, findings indicate that Benghazi has seen a 2.0% overall decrease in rental prices since July 2020.

Standardised rental prices September 2020

Location	Standard price (LYD)	Since Sep 2020	Since May 2020	IDP* change	Returnee* change
Municipality					
Abusliem	1899	4.2%	-29.2%	-43.4%	34.8%
Ain Zara	1899	1.7%	-35.0%	-27.5%	28.4%
Hai Alandalus	2076	0.4%	-22.6%	-12.0%	0.0%
Janzour	1957	1.2%	-15.0%	-40.7%	0.0%
Suq Aljumaa	2081	0.7%	-22.4%	-4.0%	4.9%
Tajoura	1907	4.6%	-19.0%	8.4%	No data
Tripoli Center	2323	0.0%	-22.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Tripoli Overall	**1957**	**1.2%**	**-27.0%**	**-10.9%**	**28.9%**
Benghazi Overall	**2020**	**-3.7%**	**2.0%**	**0.7%**	**0.0%**

* Change in the number of IDPs and returnees (comparing June and August 2020), is derived from the latest Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) from the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

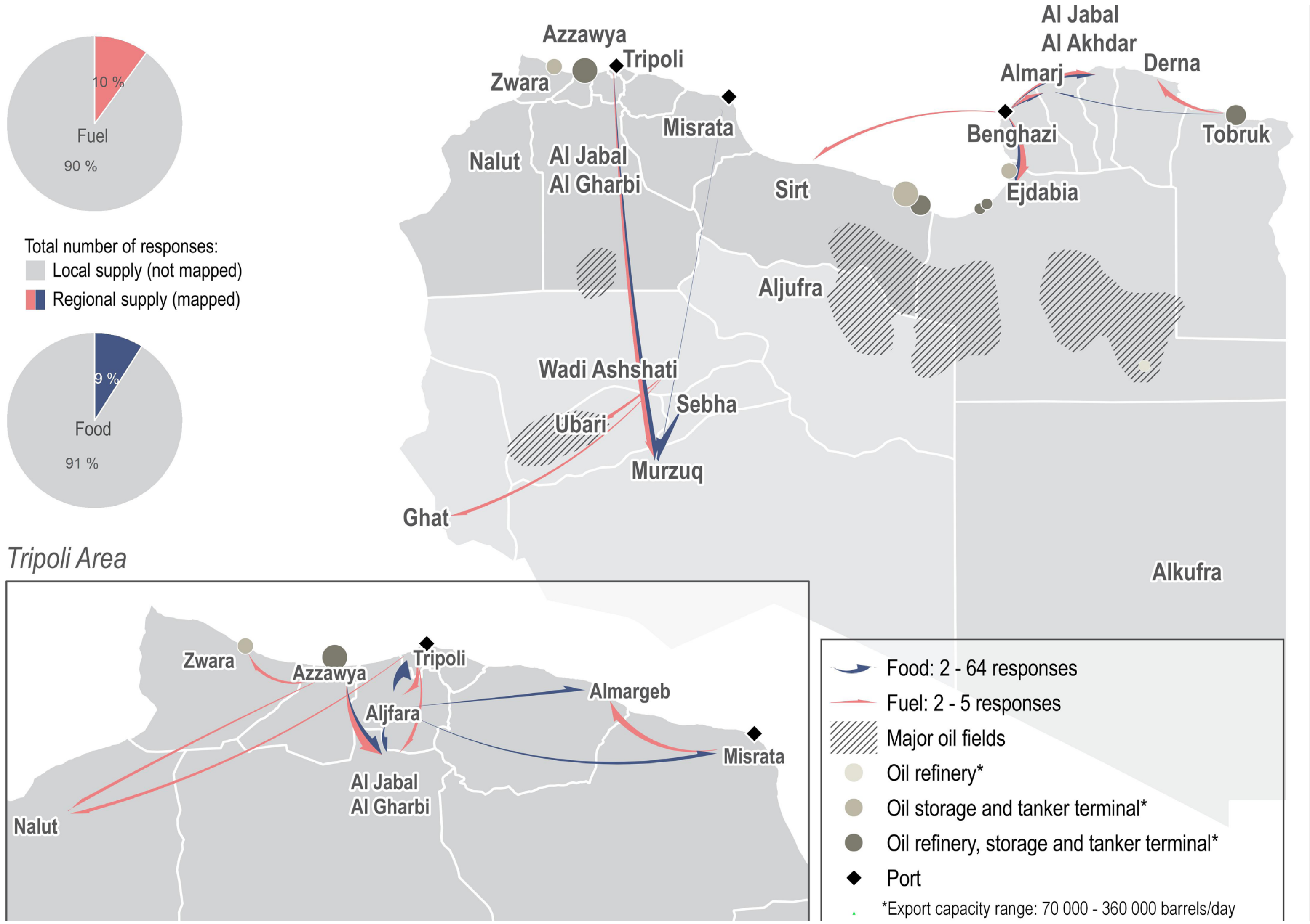




Main Food and Fuel Supply Routes

This map indicates the source and flow of transported fuel and food products according to the shop owner and vendor KIs. The arrow sizes are determined by the quantity of responses and provide an indicative scale of the reported supply routes.

The indicated supply routes only visualize the flow of goods between mantikas (on a regional level), the map does not show the trajectory of goods that are sourced more locally.



Appendix

PREVIOUS JMMI OUTPUTS

Factsheets	Datasets
2020	
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
September	September
July	July
June	June
May	May
April	April
March	March
February	February
January	January
2018	
December	December
November	November
October	October
September	September
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 CWG, based jointly in Tripoli and Tunis, is currently led by UNHCR and co-led by Mercy Corps.

Methodology (cont. from page 1)

Enumerators were trained on methodology and tools by REACH. Data collection was conducted through the KoBoCollect mobile application.

Following data collection, REACH compiled and cleaned all partner data, normalising prices, cross-checking outliers and calculating the median cost of the MEB in each assessed market.

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 CWG, 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 CWG 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 CWG 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.

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 mahalla); then, REACH calculates the median of this list of medians. All boxplots, as well as 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 2. In cases where no median price is available for an item in a particular location, the median price for that item across the region (west, east, or south) is substituted.

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 with 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.

Rental Prices

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 accomodation type.

Benghazi consits 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.

Liqudity 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. The sample from south Libya is disportoprtionately large, therefore national level data may be skewed towards southern Libyan respondent findings.

Endnotes

[1] UPDATE 1-Libyan oil production tops 1.2 million bpd, Reuters, 13 November 2020

[2] Inside Libya, Libya Desk, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), November 2020

[3] GIEWS Country Brief, Food and Agriculture Department of the United Nations, 26 October 2020

[4] Official rate: Central Bank of Libya (1 September 2020). Parallel market rates: Ewan Libya (1 September 2020). The rates from 1 October 2020 and 1 September 2020 were used for the calculation of the monthly changes.

[5] The cooking fuel price is calculated by taking the average of the official LPG median and the unofficial LPG median.

[6] Official rate: Central Bank of Libya (1 September 2020). Parallel market rates: Ewan Libya (1 September 2020). The rates from 1 October 2020 and 1 September 2020 were used for the calculation of the monthly changes.

[7] The 'Optional Elements' section of the MEB includes basic expenditures that are incurred by some, but not all, Libyan households, as well as expenditures that extend beyond basic survival and dignity needs. They are not included in the JMMI's MEB calculations.

[8] The 20% float includes expenses on healthcare, medicine, education, utilities, transportation, and communications.

[9] The MEB price index was normalised by setting November 2019 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in November 2019 .

[10] Cash shortage adds to weary Eastern Libyans' woes, Reuters, 7th October 2020

[11] The food prices were normalised by setting November 2019 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in November 2019.

[12] The hygiene prices were normalised by setting November 2019 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in November 2019.

[13] Libya IDP and Returnee March - April 2020, DTM IOM, June 2020

[14] Ibid.

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.