

Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) | Dadaab and Kakuma Refugee Camp (Kenya)

Q3 (July - September, 2024)

MARKET OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Kenya Cash Working Group (KCWG) launched the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) for refugee camps in January 2023, in an effort to understand the degree to which the refugee camps' markets are functional, integrated, and responsive to the needs of refugees. This factsheet presents price monitoring of essential items in the [Refugee Minimum Expenditure Basket \(MEB\)](#).¹

As of 30th September 2024, the refugee and asylum-seeker population in Kenya increased within the quarter to 804,594 persons.² Among them, 402,191 (50%) were in the Dadaab refugee camp and 295,617 (37%) in the Kakuma refugee camp.²

According to the National Drought Management Authority's (NDMA) September 2024 drought phase classification, Turkana County, host to Kakuma refugee camp, was categorized under the Normal drought phase.³ In contrast, Garissa County, home to the Dadaab refugee camp, was classified in the alert drought phase.³ Drought conditions are worsening due to the delayed onset of the 2024 October-November-December (OND) rainy seasons. The role of weather, transportation and input costs remained significant in determining the prices of agricultural commodities.⁴

Data was collected between 19th September and 2nd October 2024. **For more information on the methodology, please refer to [page 9](#).*

KEY INDICATORS

Cost of Food MEB ¹	Cost of Non Food MEB ¹	Cost of MEB ¹
11,168 KES	4,438 KES	15,605 KES
86.49 USD ⁵	34.37 USD ⁵	120.85 USD ⁵
▼ 1,125 KES (9%) ⁶	▼ 65 KES (1%) ⁶	▼ 1,190 KES (7%) ⁶

KEY FINDINGS

- Compared to the [previous quarter](#)⁷, the median prices for both food and non-food items decreased, leading to a drop in the MEB¹ for both camps. This decline is likely attributed to above-average rainfall during the previous season. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the average prices of certain widely consumed food commodities, such as milk, wheat flour, and sugar, decreased in September 2024 compared to the previous month.⁸
- In Q3 2024, the MEB¹ in Dadaab refugee camp decreased to **16,785 KES**, a slight decrease of 2% compared to the previous quarter. **The Kakuma refugee camp MEB¹ was found to be 14,425 KES, marking the largest drop (13%) in the past year.**
- The market situation in Dadaab and Kakuma camps is varied. While there is a general trend of limited functionality, four markets were not operating effectively. This assessment highlights significant challenges in market operations and underscores the dynamic nature of market functionality in these camps.

ASSESSED REFUGEE CAMPS AND MEDIAN MEB VALUES

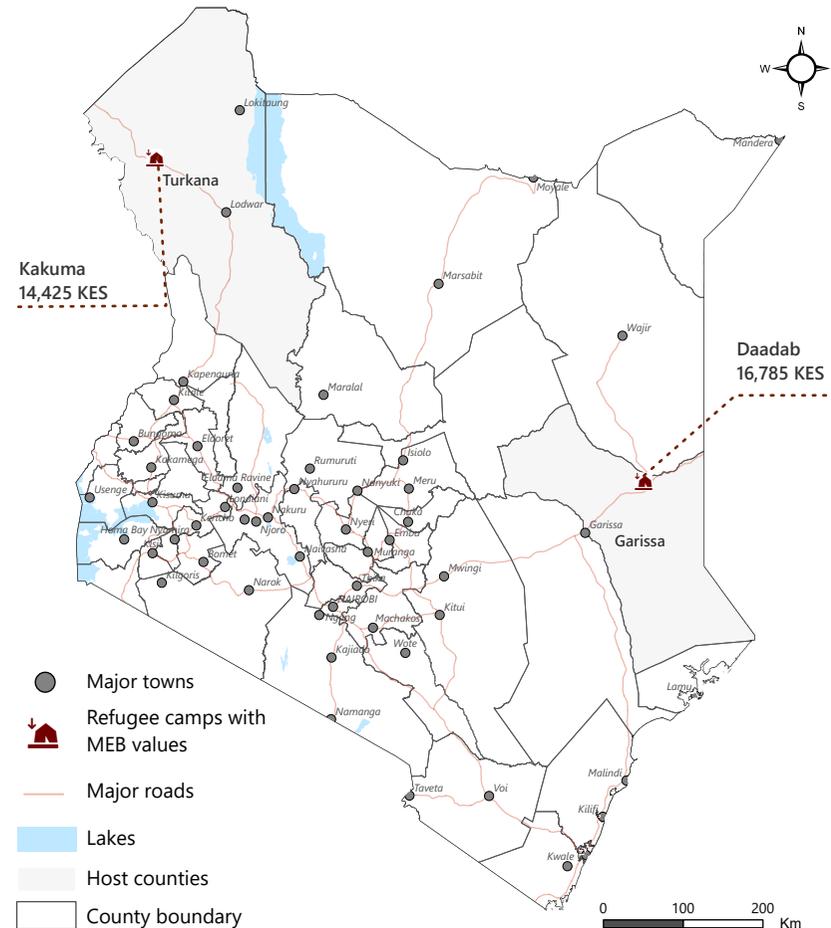


Figure 1: Map on the Q3 2024 assessed refugee camps and MEB values

Q3 2024 REFUGEE CAMP COVERAGE

422	Vendors interviewed
48	Commodities assessed
14	Markets assessed
5	Participating agencies
2	Camps assessed

MEDIAN PRICE IN KES AND CHANGE BETWEEN Q2 2024 AND Q3 2024 IN PRICES OF ITEMS PER CAMP

Items	Unit	Dadaab	Change ⁶	Kakuma	Change ⁶
Food items					
White maize	1kg	60	0%	50	▼ 17%
Maize flour	1kg	90	▼ 10%	80	0%
Wheat flour	1kg	100	0%	90	▼ 10%
Rice	1kg	100	0%	120	▼ 8%
Spaghetti	500g	80	0%	80	0%
Beans	1kg	130	▼ 7%	140	▼ 7%
Cowpeas	1kg	120	▼ 6%	140	▼ 10%
Cowpeas leaves	1kg	60	▼ 40%	50	▼ 29%
Yellow split peas	1kg	100	0%	120	▼ 8%
Sugar	1kg	120	▼ 8%	130	▼ 13%
Vegetable oil	1lt	250	0%	250	0%
Salt	200g	10	0%	10	0%
Cattle milk	1lt	180	0%	80	▼ 50%
Camel milk	1lt	150	▼ 17%	200	0%
Goat meat	1kg	700	▼ 7%	700	0%
Camel meat	1kg	600	0%	600	0%
Onions	1kg	120	▼ 14%	120	▼ 33%
Tomatoes	1kg	60	▼ 33%	100	▼ 17%
Kale	1kg	100	▼ 17%	70	0%

WASH items					
Sleeping mat	1pc	500	▲ 67%	350	▼ 42%
Mosquito net	1pc	350	▼ 12%	550	▲ 10%
Tooth paste	50g	100	0%	100	▲ 25%
Tissue paper	1pc	50	0%	30	0%
Bar soap	200g	50	0%	50	0%
Jerry can	1pc	150	0%	165	▼ 18%
Bucket	1pc	180	▲ 6%	150	0%
Pads	1pc	100	0%	100	0%
Toothbrush	1pc	50	0%	30	0%
Inner wear for girls	1pc	100	0%	50	0%
Inner wear for female adults	1pc	150	0%	100	0%
Blanket	1pc	350	▼ 12%	500	▲ 43%

Cooking energy items					
Firewood	1 bundle	100	0%	60	0%
Charcoal	2kg	150	▲ 15%	50	*
Matchbox	2pc	5	0%	5	0%

* No price data collected as a result of unavailability of the respective commodity at the time of data collection to allow for comparison

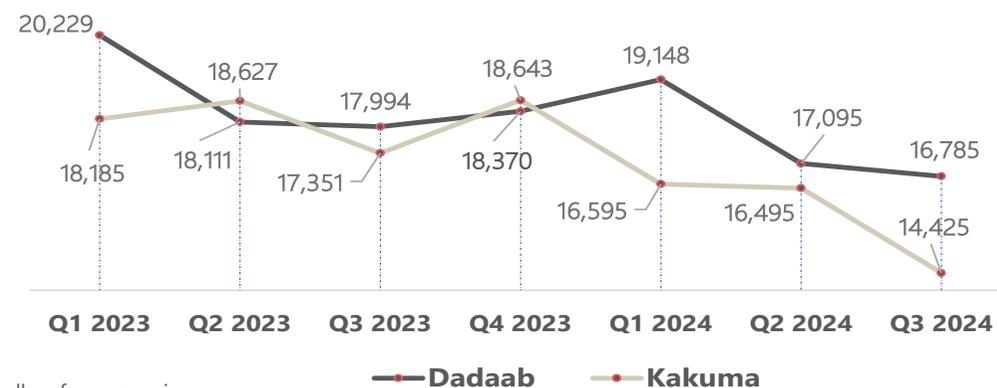
Items	Unit	Dadaab	Change ⁶	Kakuma	Change ⁶
Education items					
Shoes (< five years boys/girls)	1pair	800	0%	700	▼ 22%
Shoes (5-12 years boys/girls)	1pair	1,100	▲ 10%	900	▲ 12%
Uniform girls	1pair	1,800	▲ 4%	700	▼ 12%
Uniform boys	1pair	1,300	▼ 7%	700	▼ 12%
Pencils	1pc	10	0%	5	▼ 50%
Pens	1pc	10	0%	10	0%
Exercise books	1pc	30	▲ 50%	15	0%
Rubbers	1pc	10	0%	5	▼ 50%
Socks	1pc	50	0%	100	▲ 100%
School bag	1pc	700	0%	500	▼ 9%
Ruler	1pc	30	0%	25	▼ 17%
Geometric set	1pc	250	▲ 25%	100	▼ 33%
Sharpener	1pc	10	0%	5	▼ 50%

COST OF THE MEB IN KES AND CHANGE SINCE Q2 2024

Camp	MEB ¹	Change since Q2 2024	Food MEB	Change since Q2 2024	NFI MEB	Change since Q2 2024
Dadaab	16,785	▼ 2%	12,128	▼ 3%	4,658	0%
Kakuma	14,425	▼ 13%	10,208	▼ 10%	4,218	▼ 3%

Compared to the last quarter, the MEB for Dadaab decreased slightly by 2%, primarily due to a 3% reduction in the food MEB. In contrast, the Kakuma MEB decreased (-13%), marking the largest drop in the past year. The price reduction can be attributed to the positive effects of the rainy season, which replenished water sources and boosted agricultural productivity which subsequently drove down prices.⁹

EVOLUTION OF THE MEB IN KES⁵ PER CAMP OVERTIME



AVAILABLE STOCK, TIME NEEDED TO RESTOCK, AND CURRENT AVAILABILITY OF ITEMS IN THE MARKET PER CAMP

Items ¹⁰ -Dadaab	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)	Items ¹⁰ -Kakuma	Wide availability (%KIs)	Limited availability (%KIs)	Remaining stock (days)	Time needed to restock (days)
White maize	48%	52%	7	1	White maize	78%	20%	25	1
Maize flour	92%	8%	10	0	Maize flour	97%	3%	21	1
Wheat flour	100%	0%	7	0	Wheat flour	100%	0%	20	1
Rice	100%	0%	8	0	Rice	100%	0%	21	1
Spaghetti	100%	0%	9	0	Spaghetti	100%	0%	21	1
Beans	70%	26%	7	1	Beans	90%	10%	30	1
Cowpeas	22%	78%	12	1	Cowpeas	46%	54%	21	2
Cowpeas leaves	50%	50%	1	0	Cowpeas leaves	57%	43%	1	1
Yellow split peas	61%	39%	7	1	Yellow split peas	39%	61%	25	2
Sugar	96%	4%	7	0	Sugar	98%	3%	20	1
Vegetable oil	61%	39%	14	0	Vegetable oil	100%	0%	21	1
Salt	96%	4%	14	0	Salt	100%	0%	30	1
Cattle milk	61%	39%	1	1	Cattle milk	82%	18%	14	1
Camel milk	96%	4%	1	1	Camel milk	0%	100%	2	2
Goat meat	96%	4%	1	1	Goat meat	67%	33%	1	1
Camel meat	100%	0%	1	1	Camel meat	54%	46%	1	1
Onions	74%	26%	7	1	Onions	88%	12%	7	1
Tomatoes	95%	5%	1	1	Tomatoes	97%	3%	2	1
Kale	50%	50%	1	1	Kale	66%	34%	2	1
Pads	54%	46%	18	0	Pads	100%	0%	30	1
Toothbrush	54%	46%	16	0	Toothbrush	100%	0%	21	1
Tooth paste	50%	50%	15	0	Tooth paste	100%	0%	21	1
Tissue paper	50%	50%	15	0	Tissue paper	97%	3%	25	1
Bar soap	71%	29%	15	0	Bar soap	98%	3%	30	1
Jerry can	88%	13%	15	0	Jerry can	47%	53%	7	1
Bucket	83%	17%	21	1	Bucket	50%	50%	30	2
Sleeping mat	96%	4%	21	0	Sleeping mat	54%	46%	30	2
Mosquito net	96%	4%	18	1	Mosquito net	68%	32%	30	2
Inner wear for girls	29%	71%	25	1	Inner wear for girls	74%	26%	30	2
Inner wear for female adults	42%	58%	25	1	Inner wear for female adults	71%	29%	30	2
Blanket	83%	17%	21	0	Blanket	55%	45%	30	2
Firewood	65%	35%	10	1	Firewood	26%	74%	2	2
Charcoal	43%	57%	8	1	Charcoal	67%	33%	7	1
Matchbox	88%	13%	15	0	Matchbox	100%	0%	30	1
Shoes (<five years boys/girls)	33%	67%	20	1	Shoes (<five years boys/girls)	75%	25%	45	2
Shoes (5-12 years boys/girls)	38%	63%	20	1	Shoes (5-12 years boys/girls)	75%	25%	45	2
Uniform girls	50%	50%	20	1	Uniform girls	52%	48%	30	2
Uniform boys	54%	46%	20	1	Uniform boys	55%	45%	30	2
Socks	58%	42%	14	0	Socks	49%	51%	30	2
School bag	54%	46%	20	1	School bag	60%	40%	30	2
Exercise book	50%	50%	15	0	Exercise book	81%	19%	30	1
Pencil	50%	50%	15	0	Pencil	97%	3%	30	1
Pen	50%	50%	15	0	Pen	97%	3%	30	1
Rubber	50%	50%	15	0	Rubber	83%	17%	30	1
Ruler	50%	50%	15	0	Ruler	78%	22%	30	1
Sharpener	71%	29%	14	0	Sharpener	84%	16%	30	1
Geometric set	67%	33%	20	0	Geometric set	67%	33%	30	1

* No price data collected as a result of unavailability of the respective commodity at the time of data collection.

MAIN SUPPLY ROUTES

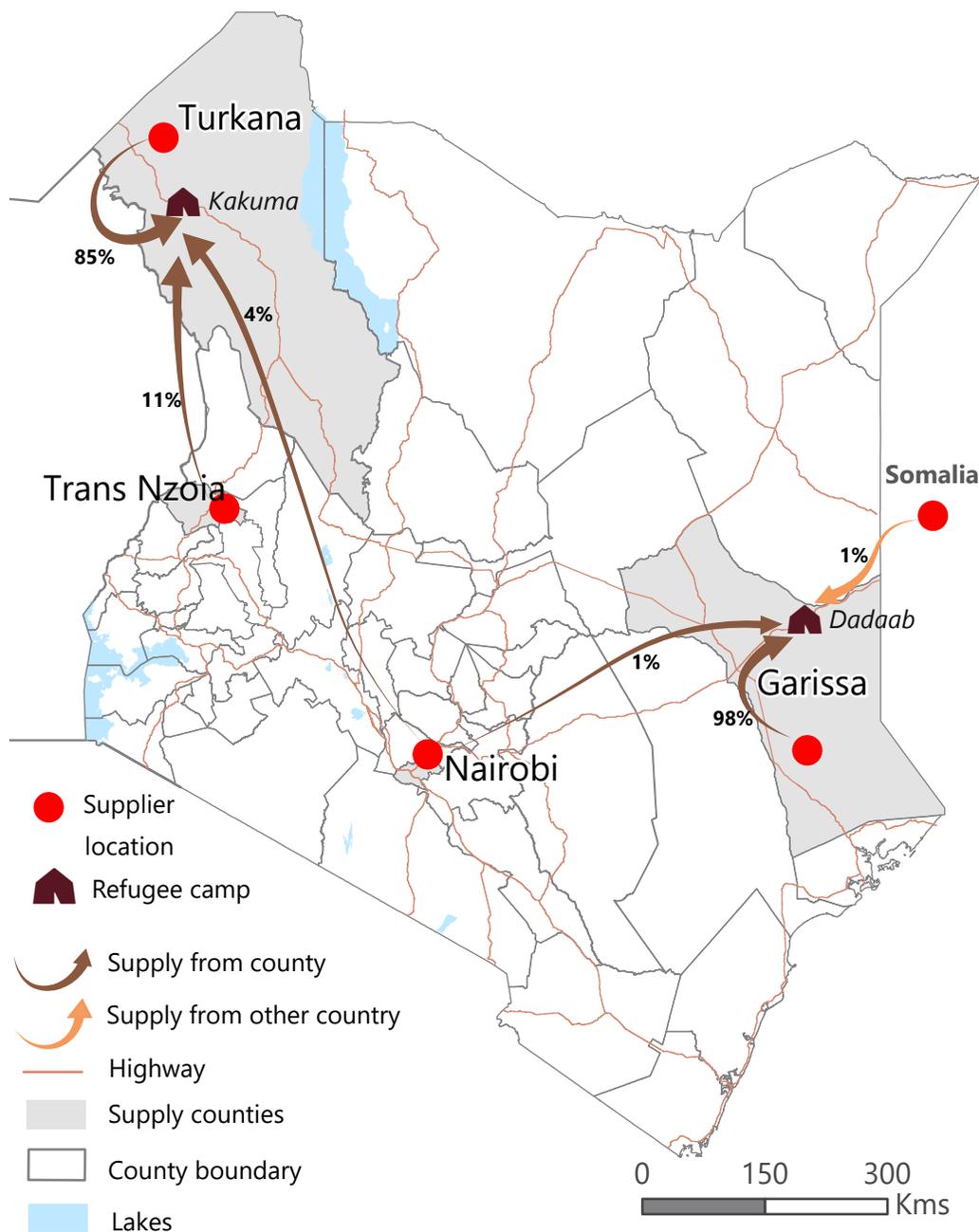


Figure 2: Map of main supply route of assessed refugee camps

LOCATION OF THE MAIN SUPPLIER

Figure 2 presents the supply route map, showing the supply routes of commodities from the main suppliers as reported by the interviewed vendors. These insights into the supply routes are crucial for determining markets' resilience.

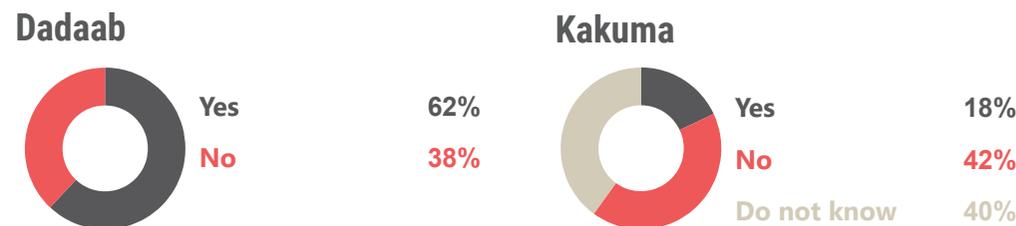
At the time of data collection, the majority of vendors in Dadaab camp (98%) and Kakuma camp (85%) indicated that their main supplier was located within the country, primarily within their respective counties. Some vendors, specifically 4% in Kakuma and 1% in Dadaab, reported sourcing their goods from Nairobi, the capital city. Additionally, 11% of vendors in Kakuma camp indicated that they sourced their goods from the county of Trans Nzoia, among the counties that are heavily reliant on agricultural production, such as maize, potatoes and vegetables.¹¹ Few vendors (1%) in Dadaab camp who source commodities from Somalia may face cross-border supply chain disruptions due to transportation issues or movement restrictions.

REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGES IN SUPPLIER'S PRICES

The findings indicate that most vendors in Kakuma (42%) reported being unable to predict changes in supplier prices within one month of data collection. Among those who could predict prices (18%), the majority (62%) expected prices to rise. In contrast, most vendors in Dadaab (62%) reported that they could predict changes in supplier prices, with nearly half (49%) anticipating a decrease in prices within one month of data collection.

The Government of Kenya introduced a 2% import levies on cereals and legumes/pulses, along with a 0.3% export levy on the same products.¹² These levies are likely to increase the price of rice and wheat as importers pass on the additional costs to consumers. The likely price increases for these staple foods are anticipated to impact households across the country.

Proportion of vendors reporting on their ability to predict changes in supplier's prices for popular commodities in the one month after data collection, per camp:**



Expectation of supplier price changes one month following data collection, by % of vendors (62% in Dadaab and 18% in Kakuma) who reported being able to predict supplier price changes, per camp:¹³

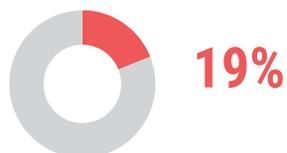


** This is a self-reported question by the vendors, and opinions may change from one vendor to another.

SUPPLIER

Dadaab

Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for food items.



Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for non-food items.



Kakuma

Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for food items.



Proportion of vendors depending on one supplier for non-food items.



A higher proportion of vendors in Dadaab camp (19% for both food items and for NFIs) compared to Kakuma camp, reported relying on a single supplier. Vendors who rely on a sole supplier are vulnerable to supply disruptions.

ACCESS TO A LOCKED, SECURED STORAGE FACILITY

Most of the vendors (99%) in Dadaab had access to a locked secured storage facility for their commodities. Among them, 69% stored commodities within their own business premises, 16% utilized storage facilities within the marketplace, and 13% stored their goods at another facility outside the marketplace. Conversely, nearly half (42%) of vendors in Kakuma camp reported lacking access to a locked and secure storage facility, which limits their ability to maintain adequate stock and restricts their product offerings.

Proportion of vendors reporting on access to a locked, secured storage facility in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹³

Dadaab

- 69% Yes, within my own business facilities
- 16% Yes, elsewhere within the marketplace
- 2% No, I store goods at my home
- 1% No storage facility
- 13% No, storage outside the marketplace at another facility

Kakuma

- 49% Yes, within my own business facilities
- 9% Yes, elsewhere within the marketplace
- 3% No, I store goods at my home
- 42% No storage facility
- 0% No, storage outside the marketplace at another facility

VENDOR CHALLENGES

Most reported challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹⁴

Dadaab

- 1 42% Price increase by the supplier
- 2 26% High cost of transportation
- 3 18% Lack of funds to restock
- 4 14% Shortage of supplies

Kakuma

- 1 67% Number of clients reduced
- 2 41% Lack of funds to restock
- 3 27% Price increase by the supplier
- 4 9% Insecurity in the area

The majority of vendors (95%) in Kakuma reported facing a variety of challenges, with a reduction in clients (67%)¹⁴ and lack of funds to restock (41%)¹⁴ being the most commonly cited. Meanwhile, 87% of vendors in Dadaab reported challenges, including shortage of supplies (14%)¹⁴. These issues affect vendors' ability to purchase additional stock and compromise the profitability of their businesses.

Nonetheless, the majority of vendors (79%) in Dadaab whereas 29% in Kakuma reported that the number of vendors operating within the marketplace increased compared to three months prior to data collection. An increase in the number of vendors in the market could enhance competition, potentially leading to better prices and more diverse product offerings for consumers.

CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF VENDORS

Proportion of vendors reporting on changes in the number of vendors operating in their marketplace in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:

Dadaab



Kakuma



CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS

A significant proportion of vendors in Dadaab (70%) and Kakuma (71%) reported changes in the number of customers purchasing from their shops in the three months preceding data collection. In Dadaab, the majority (91%) of these vendors reported an increase in customers, contrary to the previous quarter. This growth is likely due to improved market accessibility compared to the last quarter, indicating that most businesses are experiencing growth.

Conversely, in Kakuma, 89% of vendors reported a decrease in customer numbers. This decline highlights challenges for vendors in the camp, potentially leading to reduced income.

DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING THE BUSINESS OPERATIONAL AND WELL-STOCKED

More than half (64%) of the interviewed vendors in Dadaab and 40% of vendors in Kakuma reported that they faced difficulties in keeping their businesses well stocked.

Similar to the [previous quarter](#), vendors in both camps frequently reported challenges with accessing essential goods and dealing with high supplier prices, despite a noted decline in commodity prices. These issues likely limited their ability to replenish stock and reduced the profitability of their businesses.

Reported difficulty in keeping the business operational and well-stocked by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection:¹⁴

Dadaab

- 19%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- 14%** Movement restrictions
- 12%** Theft or damage of commodities
- 6%** Difficulty with availability of core goods

Kakuma

- 48%** Difficulty with price charged by supplier
- 18%** Difficulty with availability of core goods
- 3%** Movement restrictions
- 3%** Flooding in the marketplace

SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES:

Most (72%) of the interviewed vendors in Kakuma and over half (52%) in Dadaab reported a lack of or limited availability of some commodities. The top two reported causes of shortages in both camps were similar. The low demand for commodities can be attributed to the reported decrease in the number of customers, which vendors noted as a challenge, especially in Kakuma. This may be a result of a decrease in consumers' disposable income and reduced spending.

Most reported causes of shortage of commodities by vendors (52% in Dadaab, 72% in Kakuma) at the time of data collection, per camp:¹⁴

Dadaab

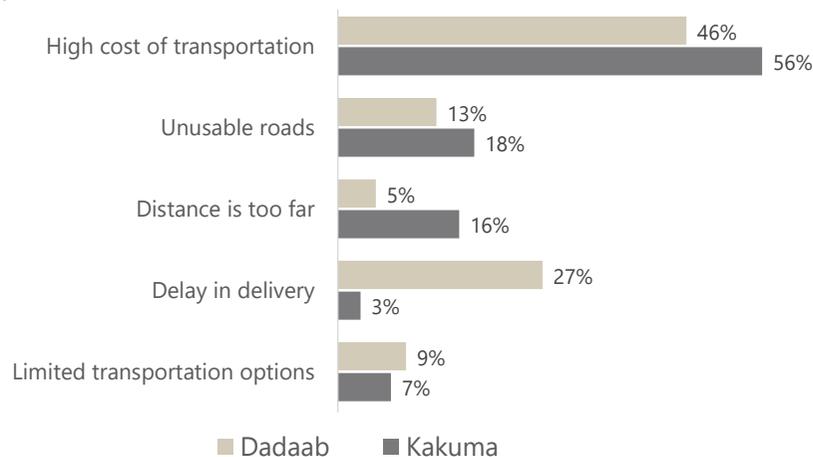
Increased market price	61%
High transportation cost	39%
Low demand for the commodities	14%

Kakuma

Increased market price	41%
Lack of commodities by supplier	34%
Low demand for the commodities	34%

CHALLENGES FACED WHEN TRANSPORTING COMMODITIES:

Most reported transportation challenges by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹⁴

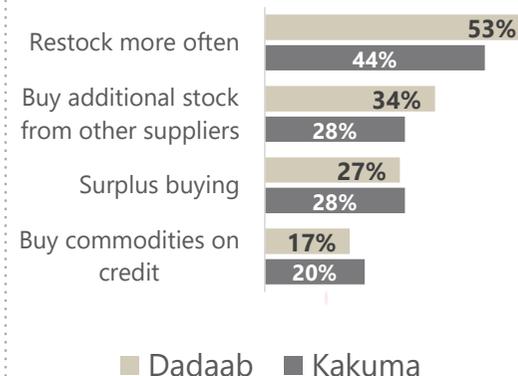


Across both camps, the most cited transport challenge is related to the cost of fuel, similar to the previous quarter as the price for petrol, diesel and kerosene remained unchanged.¹⁵ The most common means of transport were the use of motorcycles (36% in Kakuma and 15% in Dadaab) when restocking commodities. The high cost of transport may prompt businesses to pass this burden onto consumers by raising commodity prices.

COPING MECHANISMS EMPLOYED TO DEAL WITH SHORTAGE OF COMMODITIES:

Vendors facing commodity shortages in the three months prior to data collection employed various coping strategies. The most common strategy, reported by 58%¹⁴ of vendors in Dadaab and 44%¹⁴ in Kakuma, was to restock more often. However, a few (14% in Kakuma and 3% in Dadaab) of interviewed vendors did not have any coping mechanisms in place, leaving them vulnerable to revenue loss and business disruptions in the event of shortages.

Strategies employed by interviewed vendors to address unavailability of commodities at the time of data collection, by % of vendors (52% in Dadaab, 72% in Kakuma) who reported experiencing shortage of some commodities per camp:¹⁴



BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS

Physical barriers

Marketplaces in both refugee camps appeared to be accessible as majority of vendors (89% in Dadaab and 87% in Kakuma) reported not facing any physical barriers. However, physical access challenges were slightly more prevalent in Kakuma, where vendors cited insecurity as a key issue. This insecurity likely led to the imposition of curfews by authorities, restricting market operating hours and limiting movement.

In Dadaab, the most commonly reported physical barrier was the inaccessibility of markets for individuals with disabilities or mobility challenges. Additionally, the lack of adequate transportation further compounded difficulties in physically accessing the markets in Dadaab.

Most reported physical barriers to accessing the marketplace by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹⁴

Dadaab

- 89% No physical barriers
- 4% Difficulty to access for people with disabilities
- 3% Lack of transportation option
- 2% Lack of basic items in the market

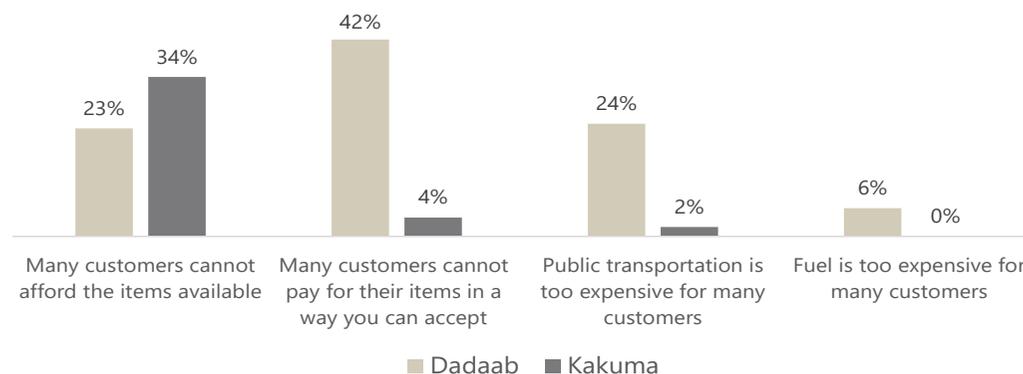
Kakuma

- 87% No physical barriers
- 1% Limited operating hours of the market
- 1% Curfew and movement restrictions
- 1% Customers do not feel safe

Financial barriers

A high proportion (76% in Dadaab and 73% in Kakuma) of vendors reported that their customers encountered financial difficulties. In Dadaab, 42% faced challenges in paying for their purchases using acceptable payment methods due to insufficient cash and lack of a mobile money account. Meanwhile in Kakuma, 34% of customers were unable to afford the available items. Affordability was identified as the primary financial challenge in both camps, indicating that while the availability of goods is not a major concern, customers' ability to afford them remains a critical issue.

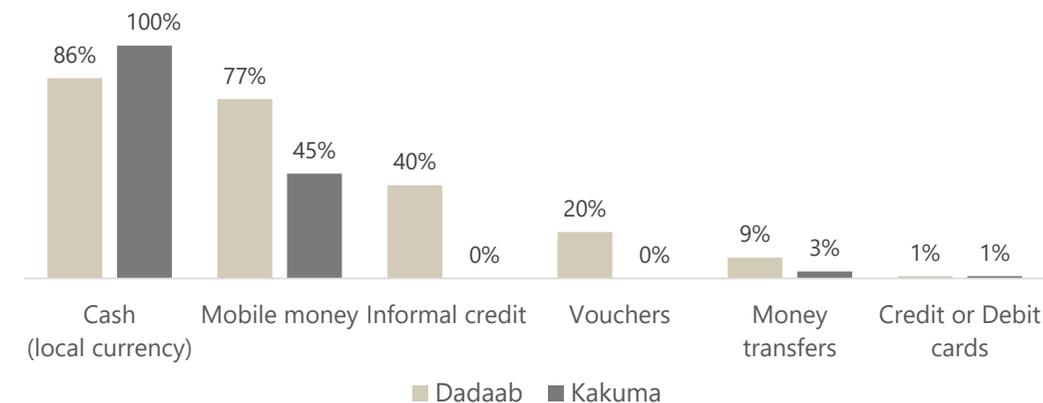
Most reported financial barriers to accessing the marketplace by customers as perceived by vendors in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:¹⁴



PAYMENT MODALITIES:

The prevalence of mobile money platforms in Kenya provides an alternative payment method to cash strengthening the financial infrastructure within the markets. In Dadaab, informal credit and vouchers were also used as payment by a proportion of the customers.

Most commonly reported accepted payment modalities, per camp:¹⁴



Social barriers

Proportion of vendors reporting groups of people who sometimes avoided going to the marketplace due to discrimination, exclusion, or feeling unwelcome in the 3 months prior to data collection, per camp:

Dadaab



Kakuma



SECURITY ISSUES

Security issues were more prevalent in Kakuma, with 14% of vendors reporting security threats, compared to only 1% of vendors in Dadaab who reported facing security issues that negatively impacted their businesses.

In Kakuma, the most commonly reported threats were fear of robbery (9%) followed by fear of violence (8%). In Dadaab, the sole security concern reported was the danger on roads leading to the marketplace (1%).

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE (MFS)¹⁶, BY CAMP

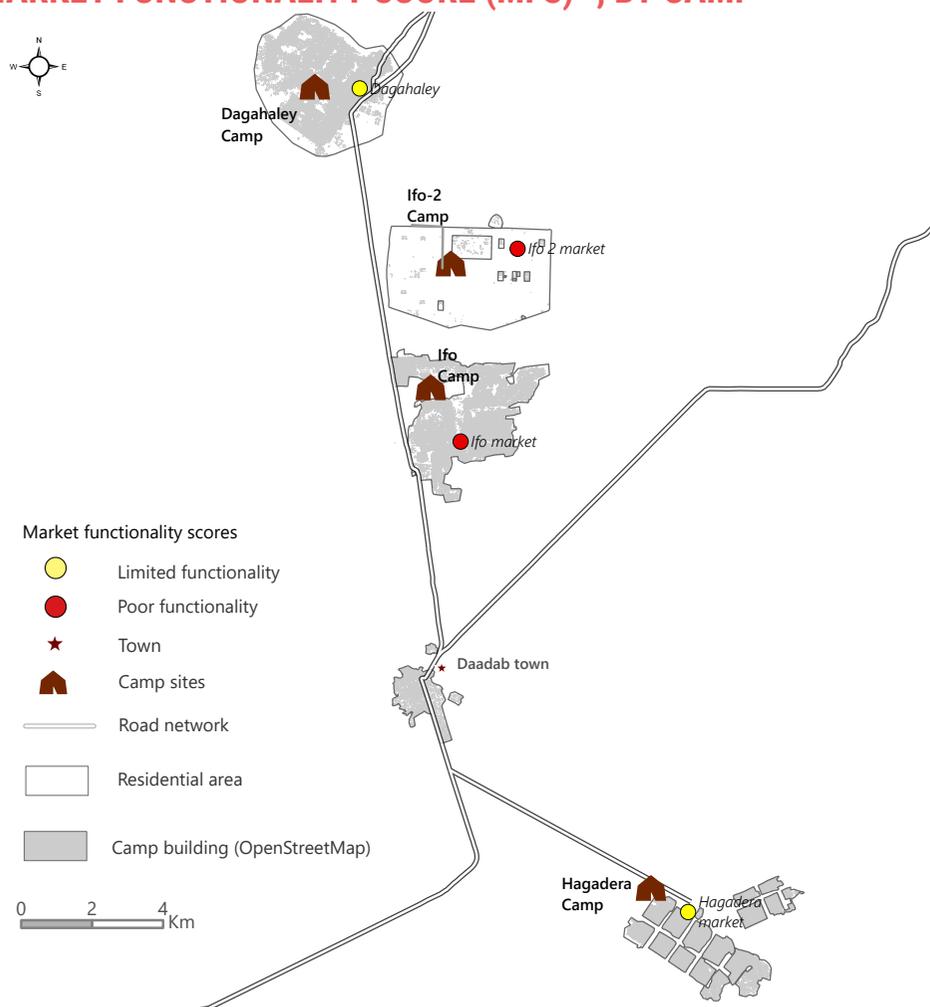


Figure 3: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Dadaab

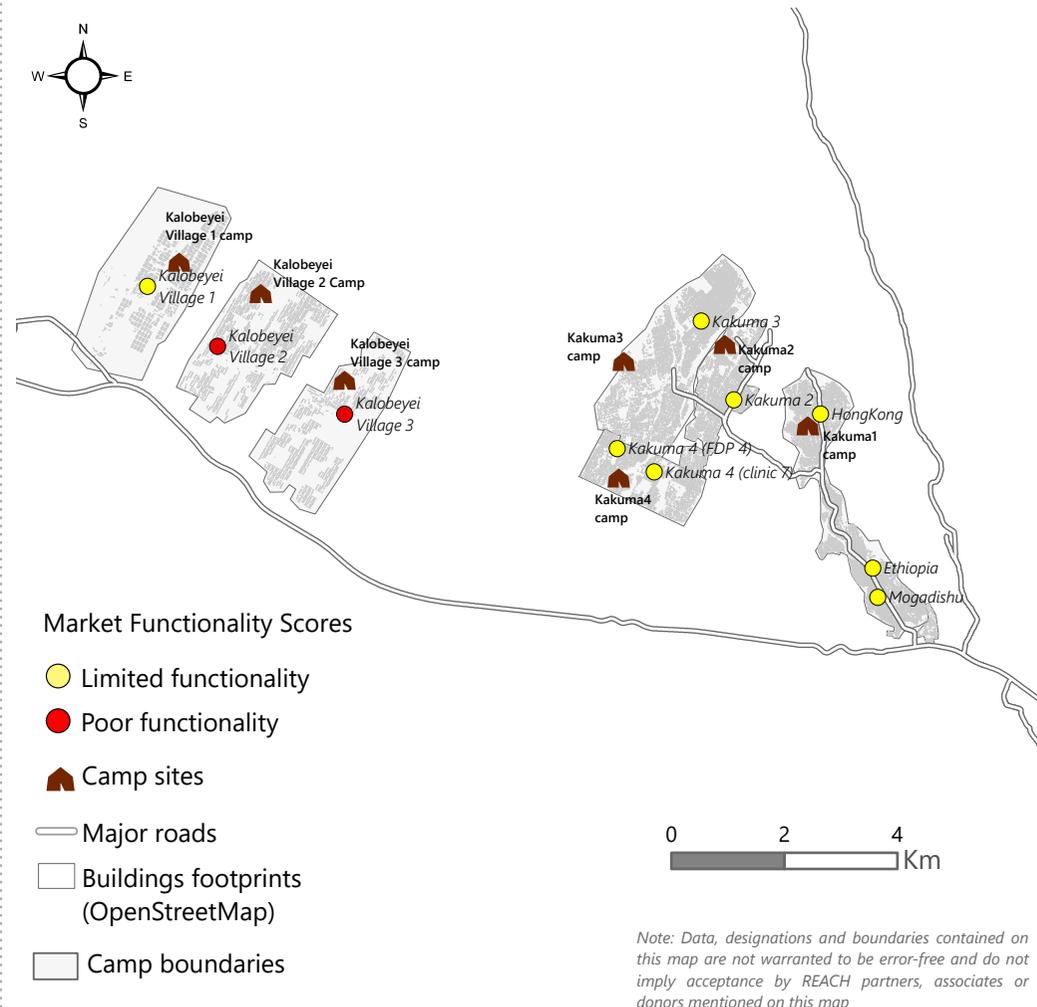


Figure 4: Map of market functionality of assessed markets in Kakuma

Market functionality, as an extension of the JMMI, is a recurring assessment process. The Market Functionality Score (MFS)¹⁶ assessed markets across five key dimensions: accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. However, the MFS calculation is limited by the use of these five dimensions, which may not capture all relevant attributes. Markets with fewer surveys, often due to a lack of vendors or limited commodity variety, may affect their scores on availability and affordability, leading to a less favorable market classification.

An analysis of the 14 markets assessed revealed that none were fully functional. It was found that two markets in Dadaab (Ifo and Ifo 2) and two in Kakuma (Kalobeyei Village 2 and Village 3) were operating with restricted capabilities. Compared to Q2 2024, the Ifo 2 market in Dadaab was the only market that experienced a deterioration in functionality, decreasing from limited to poor. In Kakuma, more than three-quarters (eight) of the markets were classified as having limited functionality. Affordability depends on customers' ability to purchase core items and predict future costs. Affordability was identified as the most poorly performing attribute in markets with poor functionality, with 76% of vendors in Dadaab and 73% in Kakuma reporting financial barriers faced by their customers.

Methodology

The JMMI is conducted jointly with KCWG partners. The geographic coverage is determined by the access and capacity of participating partners. The participating agencies collectively developed and reviewed the data collection tools, and trained their enumerators on the JMMI methodology and data collection tools. Primary data was collected through interviews with vendors (vendors who sell directly to customers) in the targeted marketplaces. Enumerators were asked to record three prices per item in each targeted marketplace. Data was collected through the Kobo collect mobile application and was uploaded to a secure server for cleaning and analysis.

For each item, the median prices per marketplace were calculated, after which the median of all those locations was calculated to derive the aggregated median prices presented in this factsheet. This methodology is derived to minimise the effects of outliers and differing amounts of data among assessed locations. Outliers are reported only where relevant. Non-numeric indicators of categorical values are calculated as proportions.

Using purposive sampling, 422 vendors were interviewed as key informants (314 from Kakuma and 108 from Dadaab). At least three prices per item in each of the camps were collected for a total of 48 basic food and NFIs. The interviews were conducted both face-to-face and remotely with vendors selling food and non-food items. Data was collected between the 19th September and 2nd October 2024 across 14 markets (10 in Kakuma and 4 in Dadaab).

REACH performed daily data quality checks with the partners during and after data collection. This process includes checking for duplicate interviews and numerical outliers (particularly item prices). Data was analysed at the camp level using R statistical software. All findings

are indicative and only apply to the period within which data was collected. Moreover, item specifications may vary slightly between locations according to the different brands available, and comparability between the locations assessed is limited.

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative of the time frame within which it was collected.
- For some questions, vendors were asked to recall events over a 3-month period. This is a long period of time, which might impact the accuracy of answers.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across the camps, price comparisons across the camps may be based on slightly varying products.
- Some vendors lacked weighing scales and owing to this, an estimation of how much forms a kilogram was done. This was for commodities such as vegetables, onions, and tomatoes. In some cases, the estimation may differ.
- The methodology specifies that three prices are collected per commodity, per market. Due to the unavailability of multiple vendors selling various commodities at the market, it was not possible to collect 3 prices for some commodities in some markets.
- The quality of some of the assessed items differed, hence the high price variations e.g. kitchen ware.

Endnotes

- ¹ The Minimum Expenditure Basked (MEB) is defined as what a household requires to meet basic needs on a regular or seasonal basis - and its average cost.
- ² Kenya Operational Update by UNHCR, September 2024.
- ³ National Drought Early Warning Bulletin by NDMA, September 2024.
- ⁴ Agriculture Sector Survey by CBK, September 2024.
- ⁵ 1 USD-129.13 KES in September, 2024.
- ⁶ Change since the last round of JMMI data collection in June 2024 (Q2 2024).
- ⁷ Refugee Camps Joint Market Monitoring Initiative, KCWG, September 2024.
- ⁸ Consumer Price Indices and Inflation Rates by KNBS, September 2024.
- ⁹ Turkana County: Drought Early Warning Bulletin by NDMA, September 2024.
- ¹⁰ The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "I do not know" or indicating "complete unavailability of commodity."
- ¹¹ Gross County Product by KNBS, 2023.
- ¹² Food Security Monitor by AGRA, September 2024.
- ¹³ The total percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding up or respondents choosing "I do not know" or "Prefer not to answer".
- ¹⁴ For multiple answer questions, respondents could select multiple options hence the findings may exceed 100%.
- ¹⁵ Retail Petroleum prices in Kenya by EPRA, September 2024.
- ¹⁶ Market functionality score consists of a collection of indicators, drawn from a single vendor-focused assessment for ease of analysis, that capture data on the five different dimensions of market functionality; accessibility, availability, affordability, resilience, and infrastructure. The markets are categorized into "full functionality", "reduced functionality", "limited functionality", or "poor functionality".

REFUGEE MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (MEB)

The refugee MEB is composed of essential commodities and services. The MEB is used as an operational tool to quantify the average minimum cost of the culturally adjusted basket of basic items required to support a five-person household for one month. Developed by the Kenya Cash Working Group (KCWG) through the MEB work-stream, it differs from the rural MEB¹ by specifically considering refugee needs. The cost of the refugee MEB serves as a proxy for a household's monthly expenditure on basic needs. Only the refugee MEB's key elements, i.e. food and NFIs as defined by the KCWG were incorporated into computing the refugee MEB.

Food Items	Quantity	Non-Food Items	Quantity
Maize grain	21 Kg	Multipurpose soap	2.75 Kg
Rice	21 Kg	Toothpaste	0.140 L
Wheat flour	21 Kg	Tissue paper	8 pcs
Oil, Vegetable	5.25 L	Sanitary pads	4 packs of 8
Dried beans	7.5 Kg	Education (pen, pencil, ruler, book, rubber, sharpener)	1 kit
Cow milk, whole	15 Kg	Firewood	1.5 bundles
Dark green leafy vegetables	15 Kg	Matchbox	2 boxes
Salt, Iodized	0.75 Kg	Lighting cost	800 KES
Sugar	0.75 Kg	National Health Insurance Fund	500 KES
		Public transport	1,000 KES

About the Kenya Cash Working Group

The KCWG is a multi-agency, inter-cluster technical working group set up to ensure that cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Kenya is coordinated, harmonised, and context-specific, and is undertaken in a manner that does not inflict harm or exacerbate vulnerabilities of the affected population. The working group was established to provide an enabling environment for collective learning, operational and technical collaboration. Additionally, develop a common reference point for both national and international actors for the harmonization of multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) across the country. The KCWG is currently co-chaired by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), and the MEB workstream is co-chaired by the World Food Programme (WFP) and REACH Initiative.

Participating agencies



Kenya
Red Cross



World Food
Programme

REACH Informing
more effective
humanitarian action