

## INTRODUCTION

The aim of the Ethiopia JMMI is to provide regular, reliable information on prices and market functionality through the use of harmonised tools and validated analysis. The Ethiopia JMMI is a joint exercise led by REACH (ACTED's initiative) in close collaboration with Ethiopia Collaborative Cash Delivery (CCD) Network members. This initiative aims to collaboratively develop an evidence base for the wider use of cash and voucher assistance (CVA), as well as facilitate discussions of changes in critical market dynamics, which are an integral part of cash feasibility considerations.

With a uniform methodology, CCD members collect data from their respective areas of operation on a voluntary basis. CCD members formed a JMMI task force which reviews and validates the collected data. The geographical coverage of the exercise depends on the access of CCD members to priority areas of the country and their ability to collect data from these areas consistently.

Information is collected via key informant interviews (KIIs) with retail vendors in marketplaces frequented by average households. For commodity prices and stock levels, the median prices/stock levels are calculated for each item within each assessed woreda. The national and regional median prices are aggregated results of the woreda median prices. Data for this JMMI round was collected between 3 and 16 September 2023 and is strictly indicative<sup>2</sup>.

For more information on the methodology and the JMMI task force, please refer to the methodology section in Annex 1 on page 6.

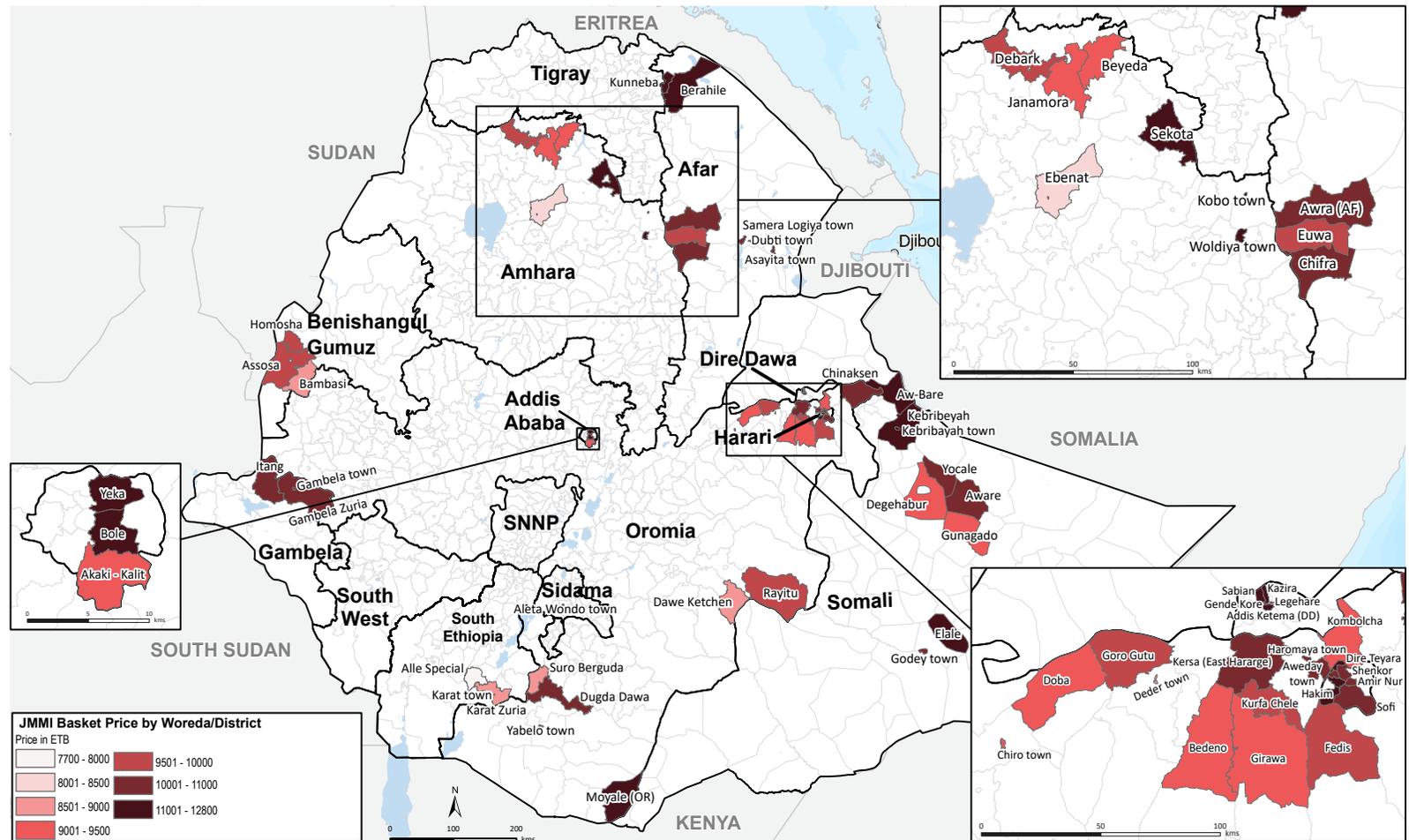
1. Exchange rates are taken from the [United Nations \(UN\) Operational Rates of Exchange](#)  
 2. Some data collected prior to this period has been included in this analysis (Mar - Aug 2023).

**Median cost of JMMI full basket**  
**10154.96 ETB**  
**184.53 USD<sup>1</sup>**  
 Change since August 2023  
 ▲ **ETB 1288 15%**

**Median cost of JMMI Food basket**  
**9614.96 ETB**  
**174.72 USD<sup>1</sup>**  
 Change since August 2023  
 ▲ **ETB 1212 14%**

10 participating agencies,  
 147 assessed marketplaces, in 68 woredas  
 across 11 regions, 655 KIIs with vendors

## ASSESSED WOREDAS, SEPTEMBER 2023



Funded by the European Union



**KEY MESSAGES**

- In September, the proportion of vendors who reported that their main hygiene suppliers were located internationally has increased to 11%, compared to the 5% response in the month of August.
- Among cereals, enset (+67%) and sorghum (+19%) were observed to have the largest increase in median prices at the national level since August 2023.
- An overall JMMI full basket median price increase was observed in most regions (Afar, Dire Dawa, Gambela, Harari, Oromia, Sidama, SNNP and Somali), when compared to regional median prices observed in August 2023. These increases could possibly be attributed to the ongoing conflict in Amhara and some parts of Ormomia regions.
- Almost half of retailers interviewed reported that tomatoes (46%), and onions (41%) had limited availability in the market at the time of data collection. These two items were also having limited availability in August 2023, as reported by 40% and 33% of the traders respectively at that time.

**ETHIOPIA JMMI BASKET CONTENT**

**JMMI Food Basket**

Cereals and root crops	72 kg	Cooking oil	5.86 L
Meat	2.7 kg	Onions	5 kg
Eggs (local)	18 pieces	Tomatoes	5 kg
Green leafy vegetables	5 kg	Potatoes	3 kg

**JMMI Full Basket**

Bath soap	3x 125 g bars
Laundry soap	6x 200 g bars

The JMMI basket is a selection of food and hygiene items that represents some of the core monthly expenditures incurred by an average Ethiopian household (6 persons) in an average month (30 days). It is designed to incorporate a different set of four staple crops in each region in order to reflect consumption patterns in that region. While the JMMI Basket is based in part on the Ethiopia Cash Working Group effort to develop a Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for the Somali region in 2020,<sup>3</sup> it is not itself a MEB and does not reflect the full spectrum of regular household expenditures in Ethiopia. It can, however, be tracked over time to understand how household financial burdens are evolving.

**USD/ETB buy rate<sup>1</sup>**  
**55.032 ETB**

**Assumptions:**

1. The meat component is equally distributed among beef, goat, and camel when calculating the national-level JMMI basket. At regional, zone and woreda levels, meat prices were assessed as follows:

Beef	Addis Ababa, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, Oromia, SNNP <sup>4</sup> , Harari, Dire Dawa, Sidama
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Beef and goat meat	Afar
Camel and goat meat	Somali

2. When calculating the national-level JMMI basket, the cereal and root crop component is equally distributed among all seven staple cereals and root crops monitored (10.3 kg each). At regional, zone, and woreda levels, this component is equally distributed among the four specific staple cereals and/or root crops included in the basket for each region (18 kg each). KIs were queried about the cereal prices relative to their region as follows:

Maize, sorghum, teff, wheat	Addis Ababa, Gambela, Oromia, Amhara, Benishangul Gumuz, Harari, Dire Dawa
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Maize, sorghum, wheat, rice	Somali
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Maize, sorghum, teff, barley	Afar
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Maize, teff, barley, enset	SNNP, Sidama
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**TABLE 1: JMMI FULL BASKET MEDIAN PRICE PER REGION**

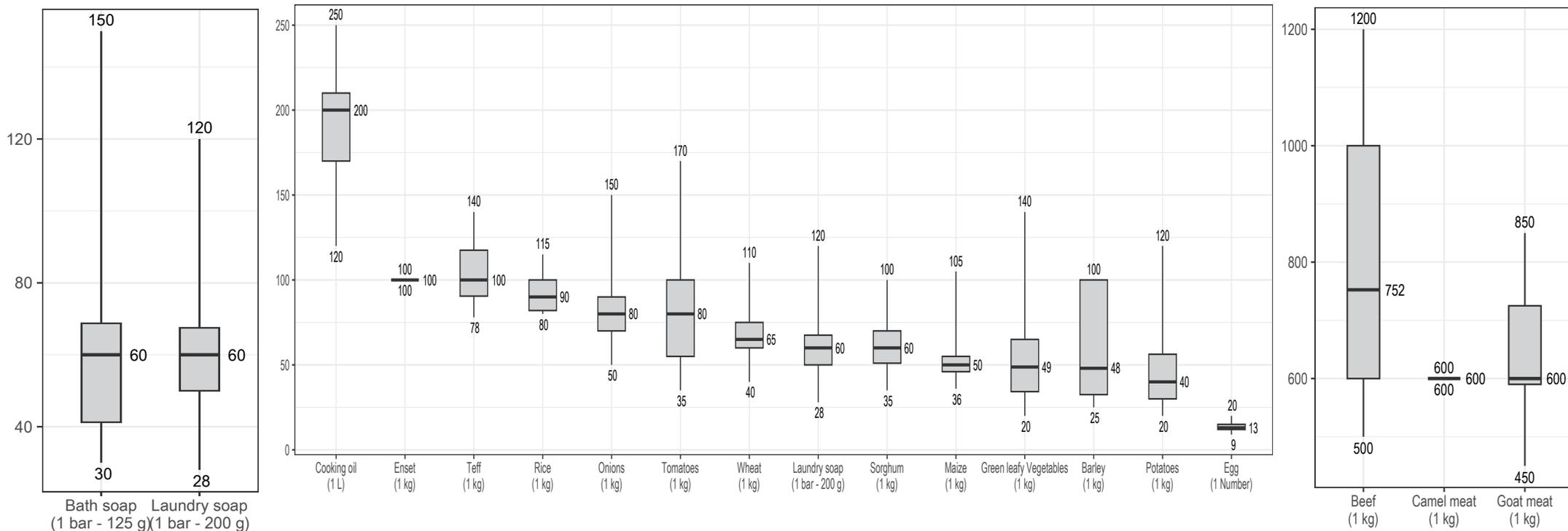
Region	JMMI basket in ETB	JMMI basket in USD	Change since August round <sup>5</sup>	JMMI basket (August) in	JMMI basket (August) in USD
Addis Ababa	11105.92	201.81	NA	NA	NA
Afar	10545.76	191.63	▲ 2%	10226.44	189.10
Amhara	9799.16	178.06	NA	NA	NA
Benishangul Gumuz	9480.36	172.27	▼ 1%	9557.81	174.86
Dire Dawa	12506.17	227.25	▲ 31%	9559.61	174.89
Gambela	10289.58	186.97	▲ 7%	9614.77	175.90
Harari	10987.05	199.65	▲ 11%	9899.34	181.11
Oromia	9539.26	173.34	▲ 9%	8787.13	160.76
Sidama	10038.08	182.40	▲ 13%	8920.57	163.20
SNNP	8188.51	148.80	▲ 5%	7801.34	142.72
Somali	11091.65	201.55	▲ 9%	10137.72	187.47
<b>JMMI full basket</b>		<b>10154.96 ETB</b>	<b>184.53 USD<sup>1</sup></b>	▲ <b>ETB 1288</b>	▲ <b>15%</b>
<b>JMMI food basket</b>		<b>9614.96 ETB</b>	<b>174.72 USD<sup>1</sup></b>	▼ <b>ETB 1212</b>	▲ <b>14%</b>

**TABLE 2: NATIONWIDE MEDIAN PRICE PER ASSESSED ITEM**

Item	Unit	Price in ETB	Price in USD	Change since August round	Price (August)	Price (August) in USD
<b>Food Items</b>						
Maize	1 kg	50	0.91	▲ 11%	45	0.82
Sorghum	1 kg	60	1.09	▲ 19%	50.5	0.92
Teff	1 kg	100	1.82	▲ 11%	90	1.65
Wheat	1 kg	65	1.18	▲ 8%	60	1.10
Barley	1 kg	48	0.87	▼ 35%	73.5	1.34
Enset	1 kg	100	1.82	▲ 67%	60	1.10
Rice	1 kg	90	1.64	▲ 9%	82.5	1.51
Beef	1 kg	752.5	13.67	▲ 25%	600	10.98
Goat meat	1 kg	600	10.90	▲ 2%	587.5	10.75
Camel meat	1 kg	600	10.90	NA	NA	NA
Leafy vegetables	1 kg	48.75	0.89	▼ 3%	50	0.91
Tomatoes	1 kg	80	1.45	0%	80	1.46
Onions	1 kg	80	1.45	0%	80	1.46
Potatoes	1 kg	40	0.73	0%	40	0.73
Eggs (local)	1 egg	13	0.24	0%	13	0.24
Cooking oil	1 L	200	3.63	0%	200	3.66
<b>Hygiene Items</b>						
Bath soap	125 grams	60	1.09	▲ 35%	44.5	0.81
Laundry soap	200 grams	60	1.09	▲ 9%	55	1.01

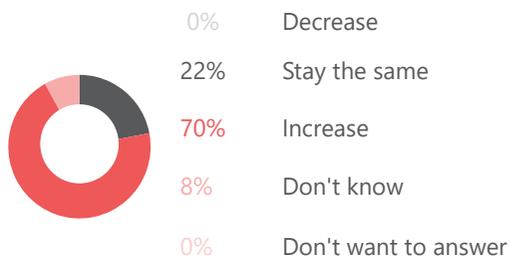
3. Minimum Expenditure Basket for Somali Region Guidance Note, June 2020. Additional sources consulted to assemble the JMMI Basket include the Ethiopia Food Security and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sectors, World Food Programme (WFP) vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM), and publications by the Global WASH Cluster, Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).  
4. Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region

**PRICE VARIATIONS FOR JMMI BASKET ITEMS (ETB)**



**REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF FOOD ITEMS**

% of vendors reporting predicted price changes for food items in the 30 days after data collection:

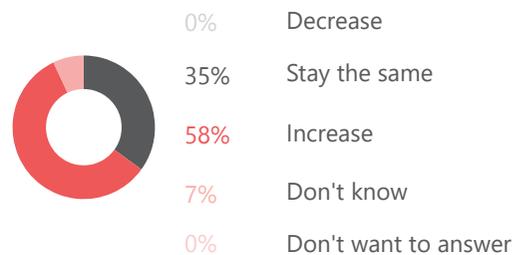


Out of those vendors predicting an increase in food prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>5</sup>

- 72% Rising exchange rate
- 36% Customers will demand more of these items
- 33% Customers will run out of these items

**REPORTED PREDICTED CHANGE IN PRICE OF HYGIENE ITEMS**

% of vendors reporting predicted price changes for hygiene items in the 30 days after data collection:



Out of those vendors predicting an increase in hygiene item prices, the most frequently cited reasons were:<sup>5</sup>

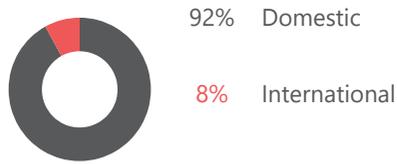
- 72% Rising exchange rate
- 35% Customers will run out of these items
- 33% Customers will demand more of these items

5. Percentages do not add up to 100% as vendors were allowed to give multiple answers.

## LOCATION OF MAIN SUPPLIERS FOR FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS

**54%** of vendors reported that their main supplier of food items was located in the same woreda as them.

Proportion of vendors by reported origin of their main supplier's for food items (out of the 46% of the vendors whose suppliers were not located in the same woreda):



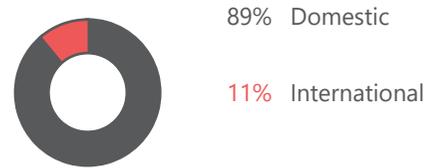
**46%** of vendors reported that their main supplier of food items was not located in the same woreda as them.

Proportion of vendors whose main food supplier was not located in the same woreda by reported region where the supplier is located:

45%	Oromia
17%	Amhara
9%	Somali
6%	Afar
5%	Gambela

**52%** of vendors reported that their main supplier of hygiene items was located in the same woreda as them.

Proportion of vendors by reported origin of their main supplier's for hygiene items (out of the 44% of the vendors whose suppliers were not located in the same woreda):



**44%** of vendors reported that their main supplier of hygiene items was not located in the same woreda as them.

Proportion of vendors whose main hygiene supplier was not located in the same woreda by reported region where the supplier is located:

26%	Oromia
20%	Amhara
12%	Somali
10%	Addis Ababa
6%	Afar

## DIFFICULTIES TO MEET DEMAND AND TO TRANSPORT OR PROCURE SUPPLIES

**15%** (n= 85) of vendors reported having faced difficulties obtaining enough food items to meet demand in the 30 days prior to data collection.

The three most frequently cited reasons for food items supply were:<sup>5</sup>

- 1 62% (n= 57) Domestic transport restriction
- 2 49% (n= 42) No enough money
- 3 49% (n=42) Increased demand

**21%** (n= 31) of vendors reported having faced difficulties obtaining enough hygiene items to meet demand in the 30 days prior to data collection.

The three most frequently cited reasons for hygiene items were:<sup>5</sup>

- 1 71% (n= 22) Domestic transport restriction
- 2 48% (n= 15) Producers producing less
- 3 45% (n=14) Inability of suppliers to meet demand

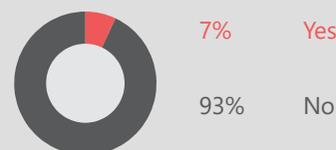
5. Percentages do not add up to 100% as vendors were allowed to give multiple answers.

### BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS FOR CUSTOMERS

Customer groups that were reported to have faced difficulties visiting market places in the 30 days prior to data collection, by proportion of vendors e.g., due to movement restrictions:<sup>6</sup>

- 1 22% People with disabilities
- 2 21% Older persons
- 3 18% Chronically ill
- 4 11% Children

Proportion of the vendors reporting having observed or heard of any safety or security incidents in their market place in the 30 days prior to data collection.



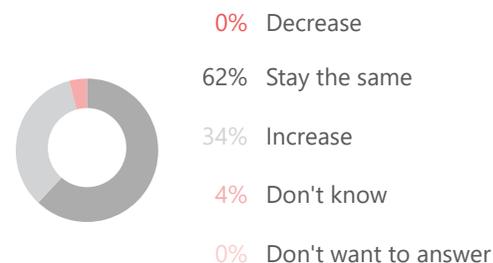
**TABLE 3: AVAILABILITY OF ITEMS IN THE MARKET, AVAILABLE STOCK AND TIME NEEDED TO RESTOCK AT THE TIME OF DATA COLLECTION**

Item	Available (% KIs)	Limited (% KIs)	Not available (% KIs)	Item <sup>8</sup>	Stock available for (days)	Restock in (days)
<b>Food items<sup>7</sup></b>				<b>Food items</b>		
Maize	64%	25%	10%	Maize	7	3
Sorghum	49%	36%	15%	Sorghum	7	3
Teff	54%	29%	12%	Teff	10	4.5
Wheat	51%	31%	19%	Wheat	8	3
Barley	25%	34%	29%	Barley	20	3
Rice	47%	22%	17%	Rice	12	2
Enset	5%	20%	49%	Enset	2	2
Beef	62%	23%	15%	Beef	2	1
Goat meat	82%	18%	0%	Goat meat	1	1
Camel meat	33%	0%	67%	Camel meat	1	1
Eggs (local)	56%	28%	16%	Eggs (local)	5	2
Leafy vegetables	63%	30%	6%	Leafy vegetables	3	2
Onions	59%	41%	0%	Onions	5	2
Tomatoes	52%	46%	2%	Tomatoes	3	2
Potatoes	70%	28%	2%	Potatoes	4	2
Cooking oil	74%	23%	2%	Cooking oil	10	2
<b>Hygiene items</b>				<b>Hygiene items</b>		
Laundry soap	85%	15%	0%	Laundry soap	12	2
Bath soap	81%	17%	0%	Bath soap	15	2

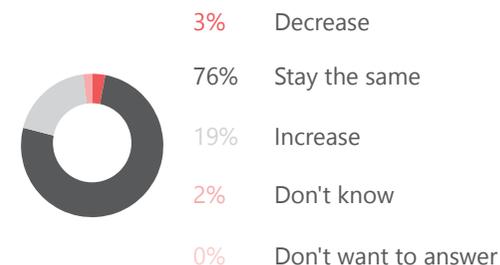
6. In addition, 73% of the vendors answered "don't know" about consumer groups reported to have faced the most difficulty accessing places.  
 7. Some of the percentages in this list do not add up to 100% either due to rounding or because there is no data for some locations.  
 8. Red numbers in this table flag restocking times that exceed the time that current stocks will last, thus indicating potential shortages.

### CHANGE IN NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS AND VENDORS

Proportion of vendors reporting perceived changes in the number of customers coming to their shop as compared to previous month:



Proportion of vendors reporting perceived changes in the number of active traders in their market place as compared to previous month:



### TYPES OF PAYMENT MODALITIES AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS

Proportion of vendors reporting accepting different types of payment in the 30 days prior to data collection:<sup>5</sup>

- 1 99% Cash (ETB)
- 2 14% Mobile money
- 3 14% Informal credit

## About the Ethiopia JMMI and Ethiopia CCD

The Ethiopia JMMI is a joint initiative led by REACH on behalf of the Ethiopia CCD and in close collaboration with its 14 member organisations, which include REACH in its capacity as an ACTED's initiative hosted by ACTED in country.

The Ethiopia CCD was mandated in 2018 with funding from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) to form a consortium testing an operational model to improve the efficiency and quality of CVA in Ethiopia through close, ongoing collaboration and harmonisation among cash actors.

In 2021, with funding from the European Union, the Ethiopia JMMI has been relaunched and consolidated in order to improve access to timely and accurate regional and nationwide data to inform the Ethiopia Cash response, through providing evolutions in prices, market functionality and supply chains.

Data collection for the Ethiopia JMMI is a joint exercise led by REACH on behalf of Ethiopia CCD and in close collaboration with its members, who collect data from their respective areas of operation on a voluntary basis. To ensure activities are implemented with full consultation and buy-in and are to the benefit of CCD members, a JMMI Taskforce was formed in 2020 to serve as the decision-making body guiding the initiative. The taskforce counts all partner organisations contributing to the initiative as members.

The JMMI Taskforce has agreed to adopt a common approach toward the key pillars of the initiative, such as methodology, data collection tools, item list, coverage, visibility, and ownership of data. The objectives of the Taskforce are to support the design and successful implementation of the JMMI and any further JMMI projects launched in Ethiopia, to develop an evidence base for the wider use of CVA, and to facilitate discussions of changes in critical market dynamics, which are an integral part of cash feasibility considerations.

## Challenges & Limitations

- South west and Tigray regions were not assessed due to access constraints and no presence of data collection partners.
- In August 2023, onset prices were not collected in SNNP and no data were collected from Amhara and Addis Ababa regions, which can be one factor for the monthly price change reported in Table 2.
- The JMMI methodology specifies that three prices are collected per commodity, per woreda. For this round of data collection, there were less than three prices collected per commodity, per woreda for some commodities.\*
- All findings are indicative and not statistically generalisable at any level.

\*For this reason less than 3 prices were collected for specific items: Dire Dawa-green leafy vegetables; Somali-green leafy vegetables; SNNP-onset; and Harari-green leafy vegetables.

## JMMI Partners

- ACF - Action contre la Faim<sup>9</sup>
- ACTED - Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
- CARE<sup>9</sup>
- Concern Worldwide<sup>9</sup>
- CRS - Catholic Relief Services
- DCA - DanChurchAid<sup>9</sup>
- DRC - Danish Refugee Council
- GOALS
- IRC - International Rescue Committee<sup>9</sup>
- Mercy Corps<sup>9</sup>
- NRC - Norwegian Refugee Council<sup>9</sup>
- Oxfam<sup>9</sup>
- SCI - Save the Childrens<sup>9</sup>
- WVI - World Vision International<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup>. These JMMI partners participated in the August 2023 round of data collection.

## METHODOLOGY

JMMI data is collected in the form of key informant interviews (KIIs), with retailers in target markets serving as the key informants (KIs). KIs were asked for information encompassing the 30 days prior to data collection. Findings represent KIs' understanding of the situation in their markets and therefore are indicative only.

A woreda's largest urban market place(s) devoted to retail is/are prioritised for data collection, with expansion to rural areas depending on the availability of contributing partners. For the purposes of the Ethiopia JMMI, a market place is defined as an area with a relatively sizable concentration of traders in close proximity to each other. Within each target market place, field teams are responsible for identifying a sufficient number of traders to interview who sell directly to consumers, who sell at least one item of that region's JMMI Basket and who are patronised by average consumers in the area. Field teams aim to collect a minimum of three prices per assessed item per assessed woreda.

Once data has been collected, it is uploaded to a secure KoBo server for cleaning and analysis. As the data is collected at the KI level, the following steps are undertaken to aggregate the trader level data to the location level:

- Availability is defined categorically (available, limited, unavailable) for each item
- Commodity prices and stock levels are collected from individual traders and median prices/stock levels are calculated for each item within each assessed woreda
- National and regional medians are then calculated using a "median of medians" approach, i.e. by calculating a new median from all woreda-level medians
- All vendors are asked about their ability to restock and whether a trader has restocked in the last month. If any given trader states they are able to restock an item or, if at least one trader restocked in the last month, respectively, then those abilities are assumed for that woreda.

Data collection for this round took place between 3 and 16 September 2023. In September, 10 out of 14 of the JMMI partners conducted a total of 655 KIIs. This round covered 147 market places, which were sampled by partners nationwide based on their access and existing areas of intervention. This includes 5 in 68 out of 1040 woredas in Ethiopia. However, data collection for this round could not be held in Amhara region due to access issues following the ongoing conflict. In addition, there was no partner to collect data in Addis Ababa for the month of August. Thus, these gaps may have an impact on the overall calculation of national median prices.

## 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](http://www.reach-initiative.org) or follow us on Twitter at @REACH\_info.



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