

## INTRODUCTION

The Yemen Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMIMI) 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 harmonisation of price monitoring among all cash actors in Yemen. With the current global COVID-19 pandemic, REACH has adapted the JMIMI to begin assessing the potential impact of the pandemic on markets and on respondent businesses. The JMIMI continues to collect price data for fuel, water, and hygiene products, including all the components of the WASH Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB). In addition, new indicators specific to the COVID-19 crisis and its potential impact on markets are now being tracked on a bi-weekly basis from April 2020.\* Additional methodology can be found in the [full JMIMI fact sheet](#).

\*April Round 1 - April 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>; April Round 2 - April 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>

## KEY FINDINGS: 25 -30 APRIL, 2020

- There have reportedly been minimal store closures in the two weeks prior to data collection.
- Eighty-two per cent (82%) of vendors did not report any added difficulty acquiring goods due to disruptions caused by COVID-19.
- The price of treated water reportedly continues to increase, however the overall WASH SMEB decreased for the second month in a row.
- The WASH SMEB in Al Jawf decreased by more than 40% after rising by 80% between the end of March and the second week of April.
- Restocking times in Marib and Amran were reportedly the highest of assessed governorates.
- Many vendors are experiencing issues with price inflation.
- Vendors reported supply issues as the top COVID-19 related constraints.

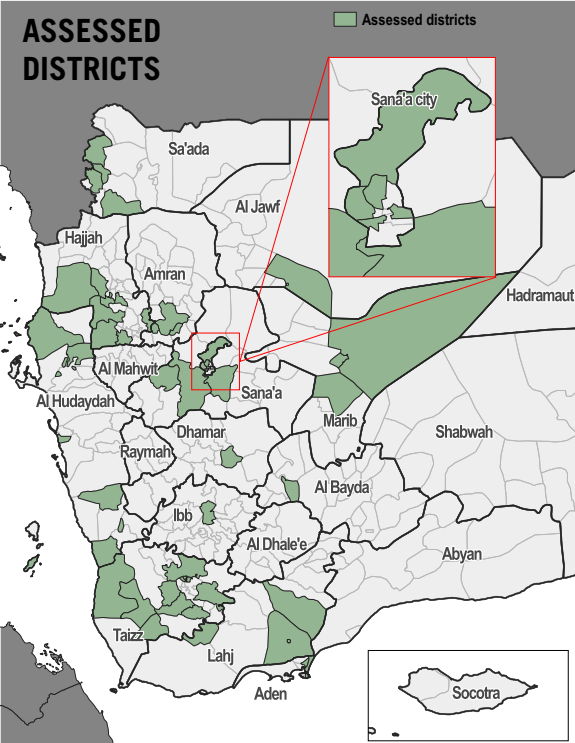
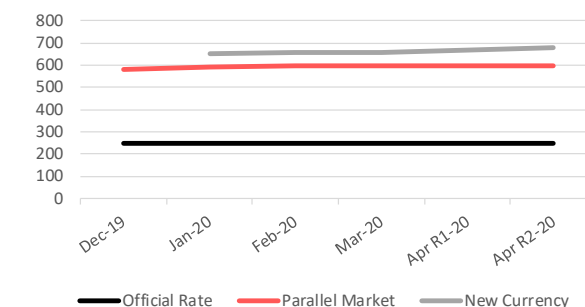
## Price tracking for key items: 3 months (YER)

Items	Mar-20	Apr(R1)-20	Apr(R2)-20	Change (from Apr R1)
WASH SMEB*	11300	11208	9916	-11.5%
Soap (100g)	150	145	148	+2.1%
Laundry powder (100g)	120	118	116	-1.7%
Sanitary napkins (10 Pack)	513	513	500	-2.3%
Water trucking (1m <sup>3</sup> )	2000	2000	1600	-20.0%
Petrol (1L)	365	295	295	0.0%
Diesel (1L)	430	345	345	0.0%
Bottled water (0.75L)	138	150	129	-14.0%
Treated water (10L)	120	140	168	+20.0%
Bleach (1L)	NA	700	700	0.0%

\*Contains soap (10.5 Kg), laundry powder (2 Kg), sanitary napkins (20 units), and water (3.15 m<sup>3</sup>)

## Exchange rate (YER/USD)

Exchange Rate	Mar-20	Apr(R1)-20	Apr(R2)-20
Official rate	250	250	250
Parallel market	597	600	600
New currency market	655	666	679



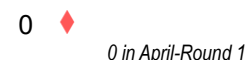
## COVID-19 MARKET INDICATORS

### Business closures

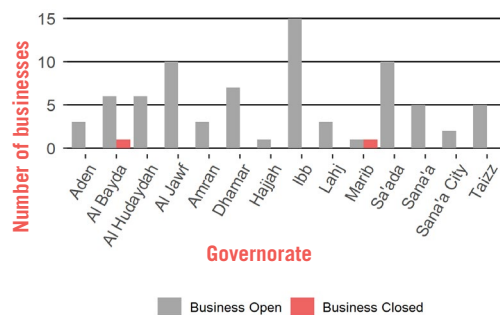
Average Number of Nearby Businesses Open<sup>^</sup>



Average Number of Nearby Businesses Closed<sup>^</sup>



### Average business closures by governorate<sup>^</sup>



<sup>^</sup>average number reported for the respondent's stores within a two-minute walk and in the two weeks prior

### Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' businesses

Overall, **153** respondents indicated that there has been no change in the amount of customers they have seen over the two weeks prior to data collection. The graph to the right highlights how many of those businesses have seen change in the number of clientele in the two weeks prior to data collection.

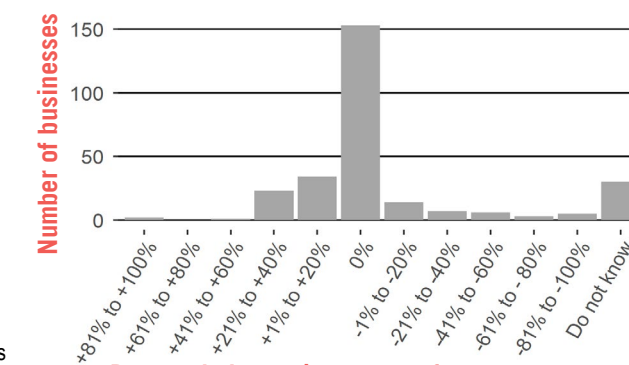
Of the **278** respondents surveyed, **17.6%** stated that they had difficulty obtaining key commodities due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 (was **13.6%** in April Round 1).

### Top 3 most difficult goods to obtain according to vendors:

Cereals (flours)	51.3%	
Sugar	51.3%	
Cooking gas	41.0%	

Previous JMIMI List (April Round 1, 2020)

Cooking gas	29.2%	
Cereals (flours)	25.0%	
Sugar	25.0%	
Water	25.0%	
Diesel	25.0%	



### Reported change in amount of customers

### Top 3 COVID-19 related constraints according to vendors:

Not enough supply	77.6%	
Transportation restrictions	53.1%	
Increased checkpoint fees	28.6%	

Previous JMIMI List (April Round 1, 2020)

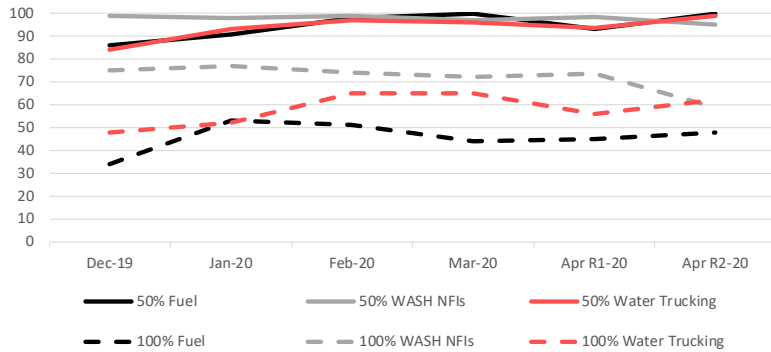
Transportation restrictions	70.8%	
Unsafe to transport goods	41.7%	
Not enough supply	41.7%	

## MARKET INDICATORS AND PRICES

### Vendor capacity to respond to a sudden increase in demand

To understand vendor capacity to cope with sudden increases in the demand for water trucking, fuel, and WASH items, vendor KIs were asked if they would be able to increase their stock by 50% and 100% respectively. Responses indicated that KIs are better able to absorb a 50% increase in demand, compared to a 100% increase in demand, regardless of the item in question.

Proportion of Vendors able to absorb a 50% and 100% increase in demand for key items



### Average reported restocking time (days)\*

Governorate	Fuel Items	WASH Items
Aden	3 (0)	2 (0)
Al Bayda	NA (NA)	NA (NA)
Al Hudaydah	6 (-1)	6 (0)
Al Jawf	6 (1)	4 (-1)
Amran	10 (1)	9 (-2)
Dhamar	7 (5)	4 (-7)
Hajjah	8 (-2)	7 (-3)
Ibb	7 (-1)	2 (0)
Lahj	6 (2)	5 (1)
Marib	17 (6)	13 (-14)
Sa'ada	7 (1)	7 (1)
Sana'a	3 (NA)	2 (NA)
Sana'a City	8 (0)	5 (2)
Taizz	6 (2)	4 (2)

\*Change in days from April Round 1 JMMI in brackets

### Top 3 reported economic constraints for fuel vendors\*

Price inflation	57.6%
Transportation	34.1%
Insecurity	25.3%

### Top 3 reported economic constraints for WASH NFI vendors\*

Price inflation	70.5%
Transportation	37.5%
Insecurity	29.5%

### Top 3 reported economic constraints for water trucking vendors\*

Price inflation	65.7%
Shortage of demand	28.6%
Transportation	28.6%

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

### Median commodity prices per governorate, 25-30 April 2020 (YER)

Governorate	Petrol (1L)	Diesel (1L)	Bottled water (0.75L)	Treated water (10L)	Bleach (1L)	Soap (1 Unit)	Laundry powder (100g)	Sanitary napkins (10)	Water trucking (1m³)	WASH SMEB	Change from Apr(R1) JMMI
Aden	165	200	180	100	800	135	90	500	1200	7998	-14.5%
Al Bayda	295	345	100	170	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Al Hudaydah	295	348	150	100	600	125	104	500	2100	11008	-1.2%
Al Jawf	275	475	200	NA	500	250	100	625	1300	9970	-41.9%
Amran	295	345	128	238	750	162	116	500	1005	8188	+1.3%
Dhamar	295	345	130	500	700	150	120	500	750	7338	-1.4%
Hajjah	295	350	150	120	450	150	125	525	2334	12476	-9.1%
Ibb	295	345	150	100	800	200	150	556	2000	12512	-1.9%
Lahj	165	255	112	162	450	150	98	550	1550	9518	-8.9%
Marib	175	300	100	NA	800	165	150	150	1000	8182	+4.5%
Sa'ada	300	350	128	170	NA	140	200	600	3000	16120	-3.6%
Sana'a	295	345	95	165	700	120	120	700	800	7580	NA
Sana'a City	295	345	120	125	700	140	100	500	1400	8880	+0.1%
Taizz	225	300	180	100	750	150	120	525	2000	11325	+1.6%

### Payment modalities accepted by vendors\*

Modality	Fuel Vendors	WASH NFI Vendors	Water Trucking Vendors
Bartering	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Cash	98.8% (-1.2%)	100% (-)	100% (+2.6%)
Credit	14.1% (+8.5%)	28.0% (+11.3%)	7.7% (+1.8%)
Credit / debit card	1.0% (-2.2%)	1.5% (-2.7%)	7.7% (+1.8%)
Mobile money	1.0% (-3.0%)	2.1% (-3.9%)	0% (-)
Prepaid cards	1.8% (-0.6%)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Vouchers	0% (-)	1.0% (+1.0%)	0% (-)
Other	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)
Do not know	0% (-)	0% (-)	0% (-)

\*The percentage change from the April Round 1 JMMI is in brackets

### ABOUT REACH'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

As an initiative deployed in many vulnerable and crisis-affected countries, REACH is deeply concerned by the devastating impact the COVID-19 pandemic may have on the millions of affected people we seek to serve. REACH is currently working with Cash Working Groups and partners to scale up its programming in response to this pandemic, with the goal of identifying practical ways to inform humanitarian responses in the countries where we operate. COVID-19-relevant market monitoring and market assessments are a key area where REACH aims to leverage its existing expertise to help humanitarian actors understand the impact of changing restrictions on markets and trade. Updates regarding REACH's response to COVID-19 can be found in [a devoted thread](#) on the REACH website. Contact [geneva@impact-initiatives.org](mailto:geneva@impact-initiatives.org) for further information.

### PARTNER LIST



For more information, please visit our website at [www.reach-initiative.org](http://www.reach-initiative.org), or contact us directly at [yemen@reach-initiative.org](mailto:yemen@reach-initiative.org)



CMWG | Intersector Cash and Market Working Group

REACH | Informing more effective humanitarian action