

INTRODUCTION

In an effort to inform cash-based interventions and better understand market dynamics in South Sudan, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) was created by the South Sudan Cash Working Group (CWG) in August 2019. The initiative is guided by the JMMI Technical Working Group (JMMI-TWG), led by REACH and supported by the CWG members. The initiative is funded by World Food Programme.

Marketplaces across South Sudan are assessed on a monthly basis. In each location, field teams record prices and other market indicators through trader interviews.

This factsheet presents an overview of prices for key foods and non-food items (NFIs) in the assessed areas, as well as the costs associated with key elements of the Multi-Sector Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB).

Cost of MSSMEB¹

53,142 SSP

104.71 USD*

+6,412 SSP ▲ 14%

Cost of food basket²

37,666 SSP

74.22 USD*

+8,519 SSP ▲ 29%

USD/SSP (parallel market)³

508

+25 SSP ▲ 5%

USD/SSP (official)⁴

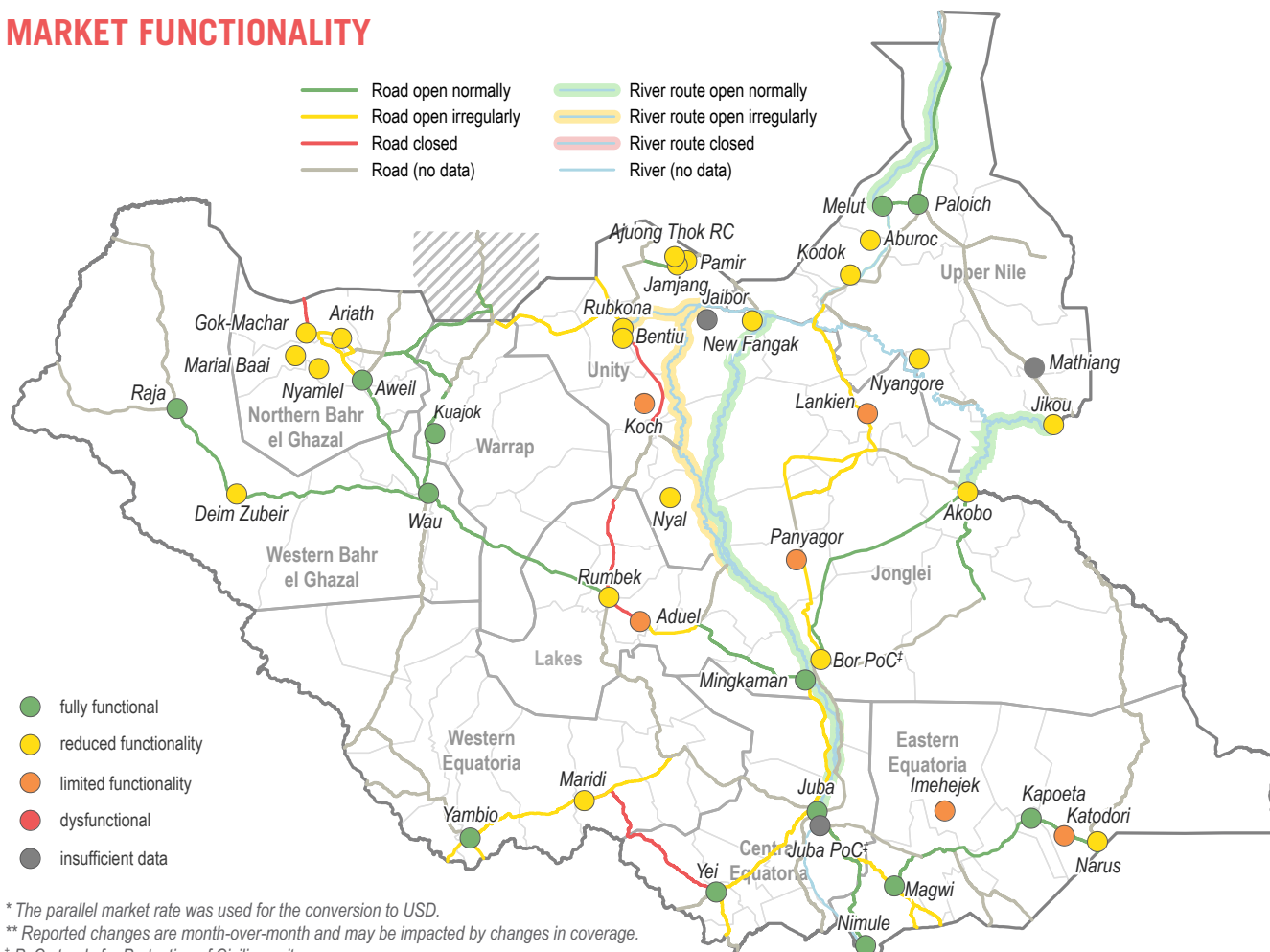
176

+8 SSP ▲ 5%

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- ACTED
- CAFOD-Trócaire
- CARE
- Caritas
- Church & Development
- Concern
- Cordaid
- DCA
- DRC
- ICPDO
- GOAL
- HARD
- IOM
- Malteser Int.
- IRC
- Nile Hope
- NRDC
- Oxfam
- Plan
- REACH
- Save the Children
- Solidarités
- SPEDP
- Tearfund
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNKEA
- Welthungerhilfe
- Windle Trust Int.
- World Vision

MARKET FUNCTIONALITY



- fully functional
- reduced functionality
- limited functionality
- dysfunctional
- insufficient data

* The parallel market rate was used for the conversion to USD.

** Reported changes are month-over-month and may be impacted by changes in coverage.

† PoC stands for Protection of Civilians site.

‡ The Abyei Region is shaded to acknowledge its status as a disputed territory.

§ The number of participating agencies indicates the total number of partner organisations that collected data in September

24 participating agencies[§]

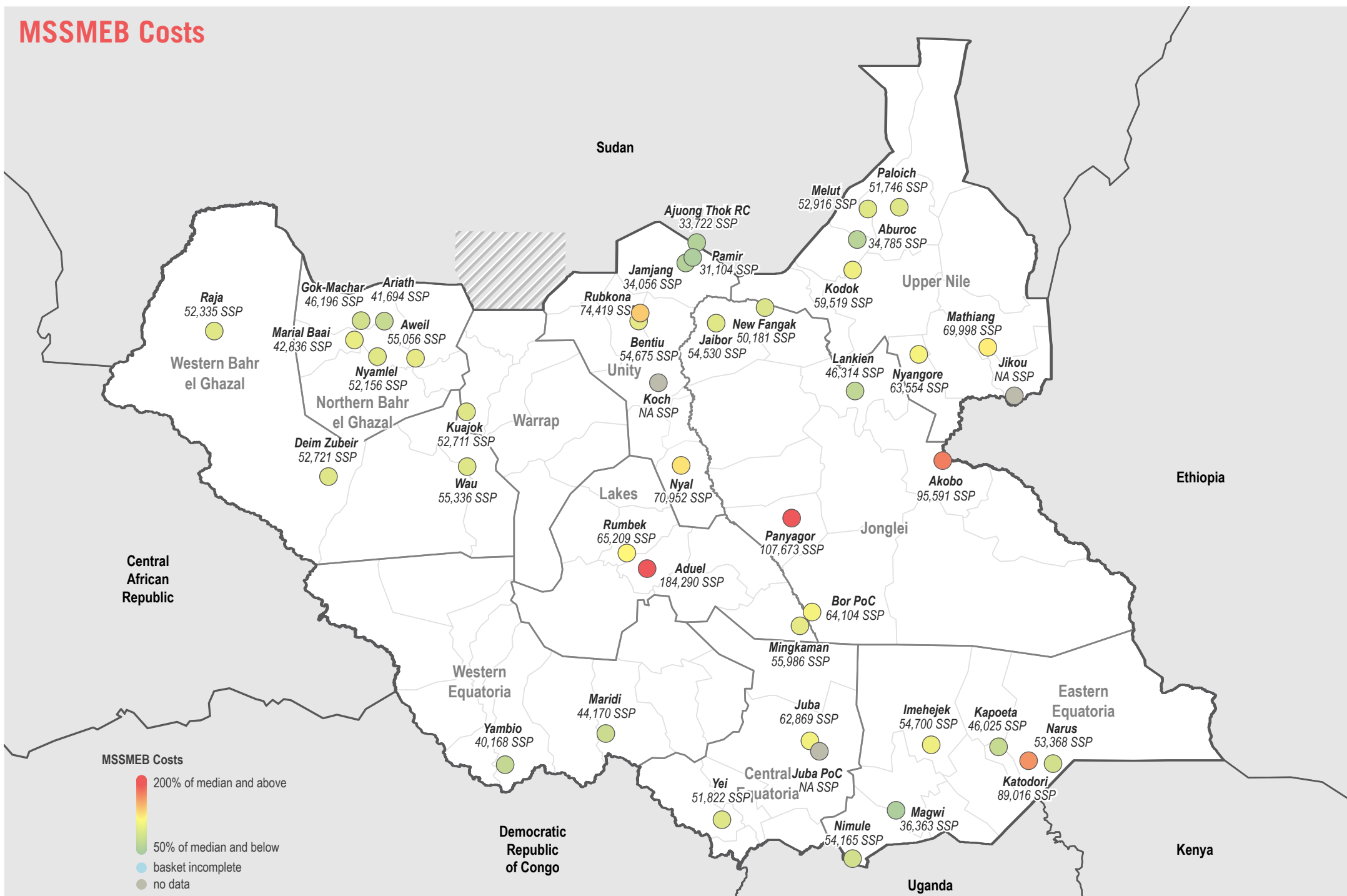
43 assessed locations[†]

56 assessed marketplaces

1,100 key informants

21 assessed commodities

MSSMEB Costs



MSSMEB CONTENTS

Food Items

Cereals	90 kg	Vegetable oil	6 L
Pulses	9 kg	Salt	1 kg

Non-Food Items (monthly)

Charcoal	50 kg	School fee	3 USD
Milling cost	30 kg	Exercise book	12 pcs
Bar soap	6 pcs	Pencil*	6 pcs
Bleach*	1.5 L	Pen*	6 pcs
Human drugs	10 USD	Rubber*	3 pcs
Airtime	30 min	Sharpener*	3 pcs
Transport	3 USD		

Non-Food Items (one-off)*

Blanket	2 pcs	Sanitary pad	4 pcs
Mosquito net	2 pcs	Underwear	4 pcs
Kitchen set	1 pc	Kanga**	2 pcs
Jerrycan	2 pcs		

The Multi-Sectoral Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB) represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a six-person South Sudanese household for one month. The cost of the MSSMEB can be used as a proxy for the financial burdens facing households in different locations. The MSSMEB's contents were defined by the CWG in consultation with relevant sector leads.

* Only the MSSMEB's key elements (food and monthly non-food items, excluding bleach, pencils, pens, rubbers and sharpeners) were incorporated into the calculations in this factsheet. See appendix for more detail on the calculation of the MSSMEB.

** Traditional piece of garment

Cost of median MSSMEB (key items)

53,142 SSP

104.71 (at parallel market rate)

302.24 (at official rate)

Change since Oct 2020

+6,412 SSP ▲ 14%

Change since Nov 2019

+16,980 SSP ▲ 46.95%

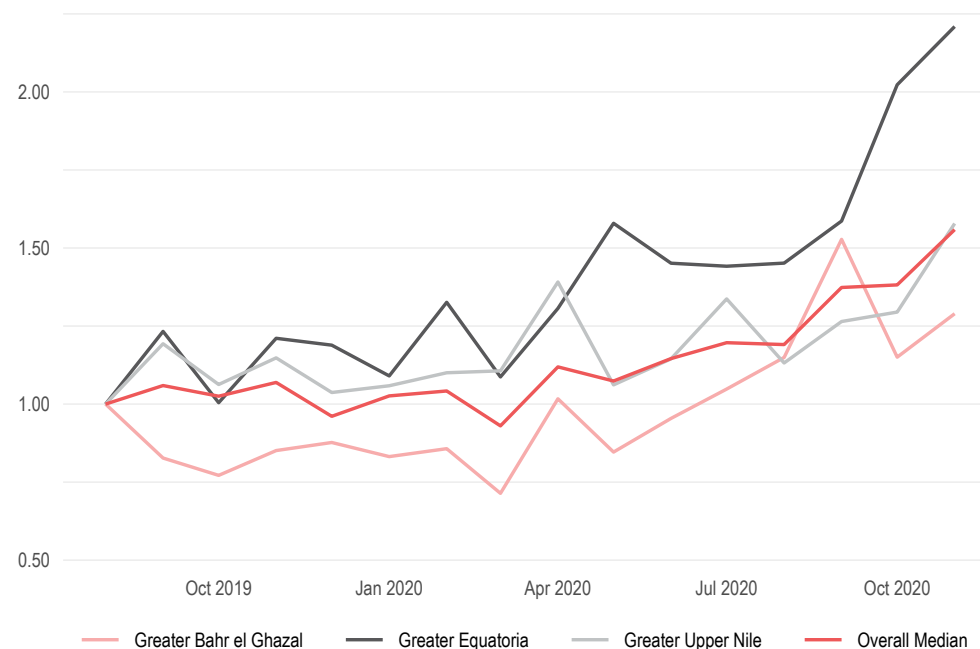
MSSMEB PER LOCATION

County	Location	MSSMEB key items in SSP	Change since Oct 2020	Change since Nov 2019	MSSMEB key items in USD†
Central Equatoria					
Juba	Juba PoC §	na	na	na	na
	Juba Town	62,869	▲ 30%	▲ 149%	113.28
Yei	Yei Town	51,823	na	na	102.11
Eastern Equatoria					
Kapoeta East	Katodori	89,016	▲ 49%	na	175.40
	Narus	53,368	na	na	125.57
Kapoeta South	Kapoeta Town	46,025	▲ 7%	▲ 46%	80.04
Lafon	Imehejek	54,700	na	na	132.61
Magwi	Magwi Town	36,363	na	na	72.73
	Nimule	54,165	▼ 31%	▲ 108%	94.20
Jonglei					
Akobo	Akobo Town	95,591	▲ 61%	▲ 111%	219.75
Bor South	Bor PoC †	64,105	▲ 52%	▲ 85%	126.31
Fangak	Jaibor	54,530	na	na	107.45
	New Fangak	50,181	▲ 33%	▼ 25%	102.41
Nyirou	Lankien	46,314	▲ 30%	▲ 30%	95.00
Twic East	Panyagor	107,673	▲ 158%	▲ 149%	234.07
Lakes					
Awerial	Mingkaman	55,986	▼ 6%	▲ 54%	110.32
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	65,209	▲ 15%	▲ 77%	116.44
Rumbek East	Aduel	184,290	▲ 127%	▲ 430%	363.13
Northern Bahr el Ghazal					
Aweil Centre	Aweil Town	55,056	▲ 17%	na	98.31
Aweil North	Ariath	41,694	▲ 8%	na	82.16
	Gok-Machar	46,196	▲ 8%	na	91.03
Aweil West	Marial Baai	42,836	▲ 3%	na	84.41
	Nyamlel Town	52,156	▲ 12%	na	93.97
Unity					
Koch	Koch Town §	na	na	na	na
Panyijiar	Nyal	70,952	na	▲ 79%	139.81
Pariang	Ajuong Thok RC	33,722	▼ 5%	▲ 42%	65.48
	Jamjang	34,056	▲ 16%	na	67.11
	Pamir RC	31,104	▲ 20%	▼ 1%	61.29
Rubkona	Bentiu	54,675	▲ 20%	▲ 30%	99.41
	Rubkona	74,419	▲ 53%	▲ 57%	133.19
Upper Nile					
Fashoda	Aburoc	34,785	▼ 26%	na	75.21
	Kodok	59,519	▲ 7%	na	119.94
Longochuk	Mathiang	69,998	▼ 36%	na	174.99
Maiwut	Jikou ‡	na	na	na	na
Melut	Melut Town	52,916	na	na	107.99
	Paloich	51,746	▲ 8%	▼ 9%	111.28
Ulang	Nyangore	63,554	na	na	125.23
Warrap					
Gogrial West	Kuajok	52,711	▼ 22%	▲ 1%	92.48
Western Bahr el Ghazal					
Raja	Deim Zubeir	52,721	▲ 3%	na	103.88
	Raja Town	52,335	▲ 43%	na	107.91
Wau	Wau	55,336	▲ 1%	▲ 69%	100.61
Western Equatoria					
Maridi	Maridi	44,170	▲ 17%	▲ 101%	83.73
Yambio	Yambio	40,168	▲ 11%	▼ 8%	75.79
Overall		54,132	▲ 13%	▲ 46%	104.71

MSSMEB OVER TIME⁵ in SSP



MSSMEB OVER TIME⁵ Indexed to August 2019 = 1.00⁶



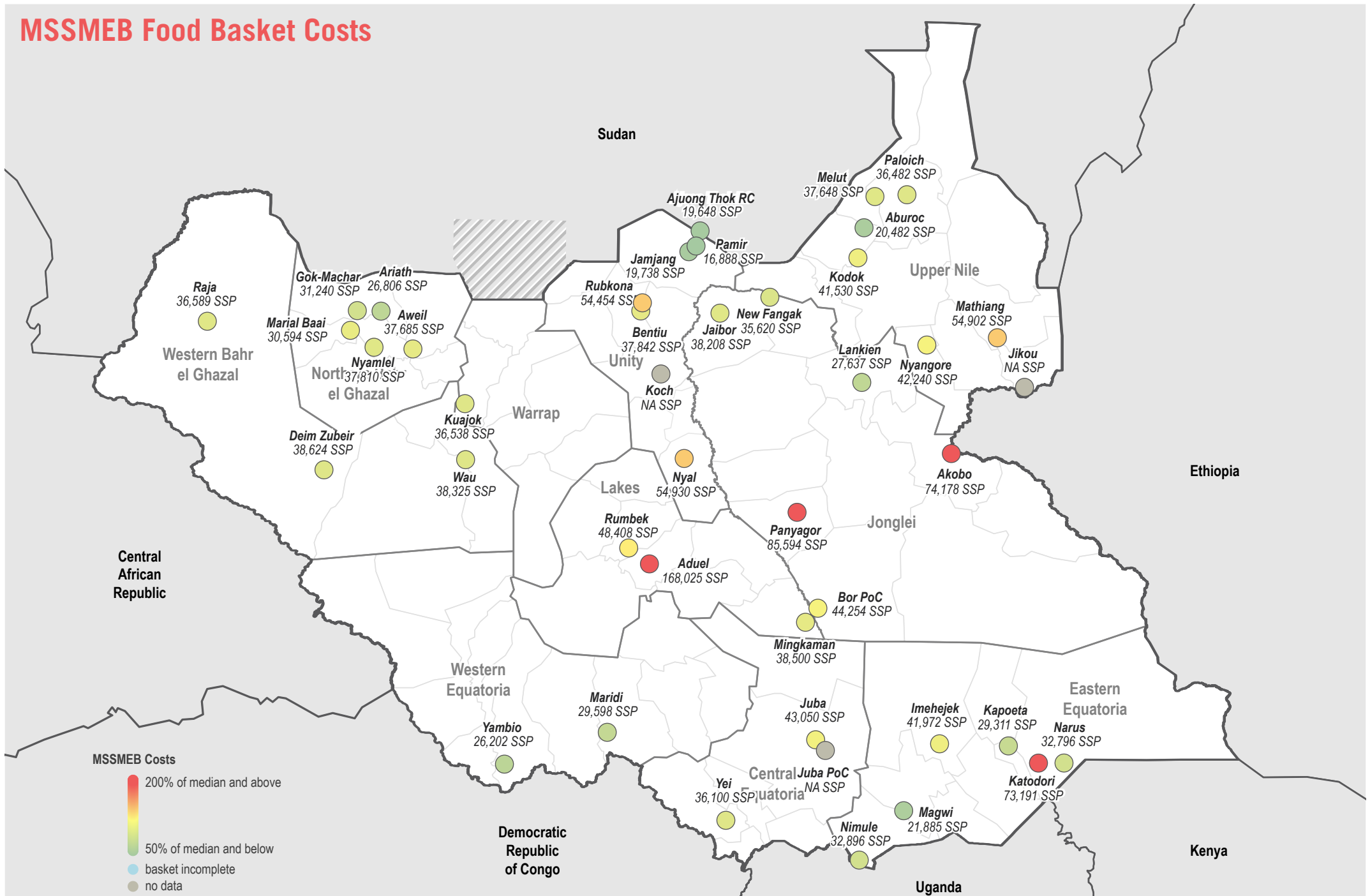
† The parallel market rate was used for the conversion to USD.

‡ The food basket was incomplete, or no SSP conversion rate was available. The MSSMEB index is therefore incomplete in Jikou.

§ No sorghum nor maize prices were available. No alternate cereal prices were available for Juba PoC and Koch, therefore the MSSMEB has been left blank.

† No sorghum nor maize prices were available. The cereal prices for September were inputted for Bor PoC.

MSSMEB Food Basket Costs



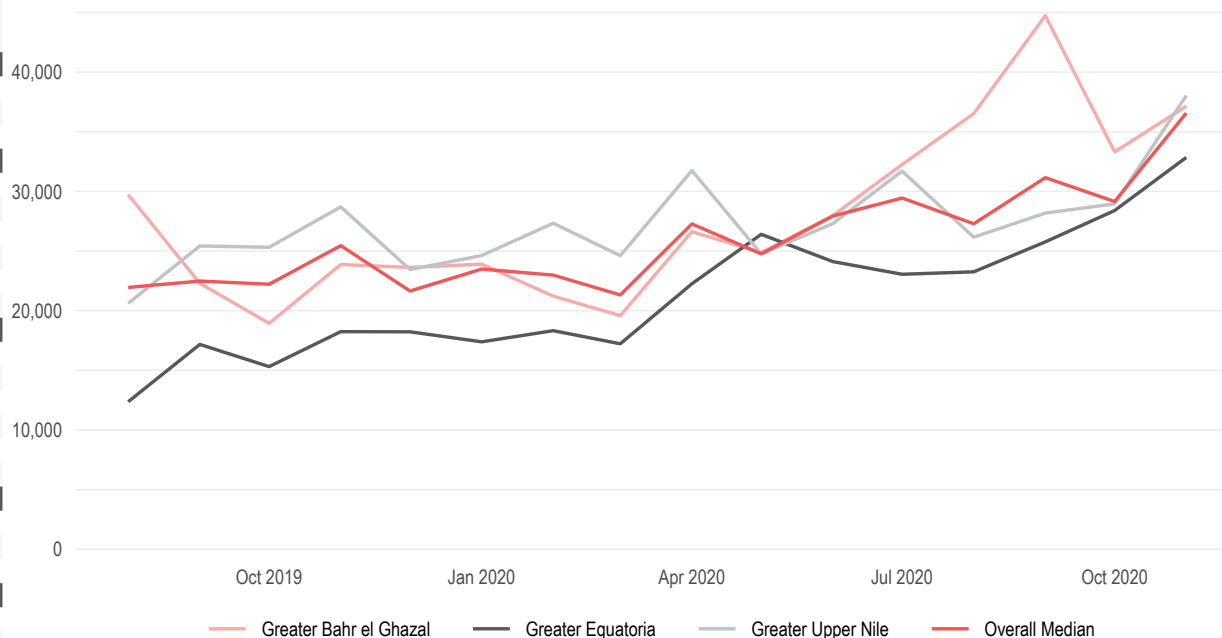
INDICES PER LOCATION

County	Location	MSSMEB food basket in SSP	Change since Oct 2020	Change since Nov 2019	Food price index* in SSP	Change since Oct 2020	Change since Nov 2019
Central Equatoria							
Juba	Juba PoC	na	na	na	3,837	na	na
	Juba Town	43,050	▲ 50%	▲ 161%	4,754	▲ 8%	▲ 112%
Yei	Yei Town	36,100	na	na	4,343	▲ 23%	na
Eastern Equatoria							
Kapoeta East	Katodori	73,191	▲ 62%	na	4,556	▲ 15%	na
	Narus	32,797	na	na	3,546	na	na
Kapoeta South	Kapoeta Town	29,311	▲ 15%	▲ 58%	4,350	▲ 25%	▲ 28%
Lafon	Imehejek	41,973	na	na	4,335	na	na
Magwi	Magwi Town	21,885	na	na	4,210	na	na
	Nimule	32,896	▼ 50%	▲ 83%	5,789	▶ 0%	▲ 128%
Jonglei							
Akobo	Akobo Town	74,178	▲ 74%	▲ 148%	5,195	▼ 5%	▲ 10%
Bor South	Bor PoC	44,254	▲ 81%	▲ 92%	3,749	▲ 7%	▲ 49%
Fangak	Jaibor	38,208	na	na	4,853	na	na
	New Fangak	35,621	▲ 40%	▼ 36%	4,323	▲ 1%	▼ 1%
Nyirrol	Lankien	27,637	▲ 54%	▲ 23%	8,662	▲ 29%	▲ 116%
TwicEast	Panyagor	85,594	▲ 222%	▲ 162%	7,510	▲ 30%	▲ 86%
Lakes							
Awerial	Mingkaman	38,500	▼ 3%	▲ 55%	4,792	▼ 7%	▲ 53%
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	48,408	▲ 14%	▲ 69%	4,978	▲ 3%	▲ 87%
Rumbek East	Aduel	168,025	▲ 152%	▲ 604%	11,674	▲ 110%	▲ 371%
Northern Bahr el Ghazal							
Aweil Centre	Aweil Town	37,685	▲ 17%	na	4,870	▲ 7%	na
Aweil North	Ariath	26,806	▲ 5%	na	4,051	▼ 14%	na
	Gok-Machar	31,241	▲ 8%	na	4,768	▲ 12%	na
Aweil West	Marial Baii	30,594	▲ 6%	na	5,007	▲ 9%	na
	Nyamlel Town	37,810	▲ 14%	na	5,734	▲ 16%	na
Unity							
Koch	Koch Town	na	na	na	6,244	na	▲ 30%
Panyijiar	Nyal	54,930	na	▲ 98%	4,922	▲ 3%	▲ 22%
Pariang	AjuongThok RC	19,648	▼ 9%	▲ 34%	4,368	▼ 1%	▲ 32%
	Jamjang	19,738	▲ 21%	na	4,119	▼ 2%	na
	Pamir RC	16,888	▲ 33%	▼ 24%	4,044	▲ 12%	▲ 0%
Rubkona	Bentiu	37,842	▲ 30%	▲ 27%	6,853	▲ 26%	▲ 51%
	Rubkona Town	54,454	▲ 76%	▲ 54%	6,642	▲ 22%	▲ 40%
Upper Nile							
Fashoda	Aburoc	20,482	▼ 39%	na	4,400	▲ 8%	na
	Kodok	41,530	▲ 9%	na	5,569	▼ 3%	na
Longochuk	Mathiang	54,903	▼ 37%	na	3,953	▼ 42%	na
Maiwut	Jikou	na	na	na	na	na	na
Melut	Melut Town	37,648	na	na	4,631	na	na
	Paloich	36,482	▲ 9%	▼ 6%	4,446	▼ 3%	▲ 33%
Ulang	Nyangore	42,240	na	na	4,657	na	na
Warrap							
Gogrial West	Kuajok	36,538	▼ 30%	▼ 14%	4,292	▲ 0%	▲ 36%
Western Bahr el Ghazal							
Raja	Deim Zubeir	38,625	▲ 1%	na	3,848	▲ 1%	na
	Raja Town	36,589	▲ 49%	na	4,492	▲ 25%	na
Wau	Wau	38,325	▼ 0%	▲ 85%	3,850	▲ 5%	▲ 54%
Western Equatoria							
Maridi	Maridi	29,598	▲ 22%	▲ 123%	6,701	▲ 20%	▲ 167%
Yambio	Yambio	26,203	▲ 18%	▼ 22%	4,776	▲ 6%	▲ 73%
Overall		37,666	▲ 25%	▲ 44%	4,644	▲ 2%	▲ 40%

*The food price index was calculated by adding up the median prices of one unit of each assessed food item. Where the median value is not available, the median price across all locations was used for the calculation of the index.

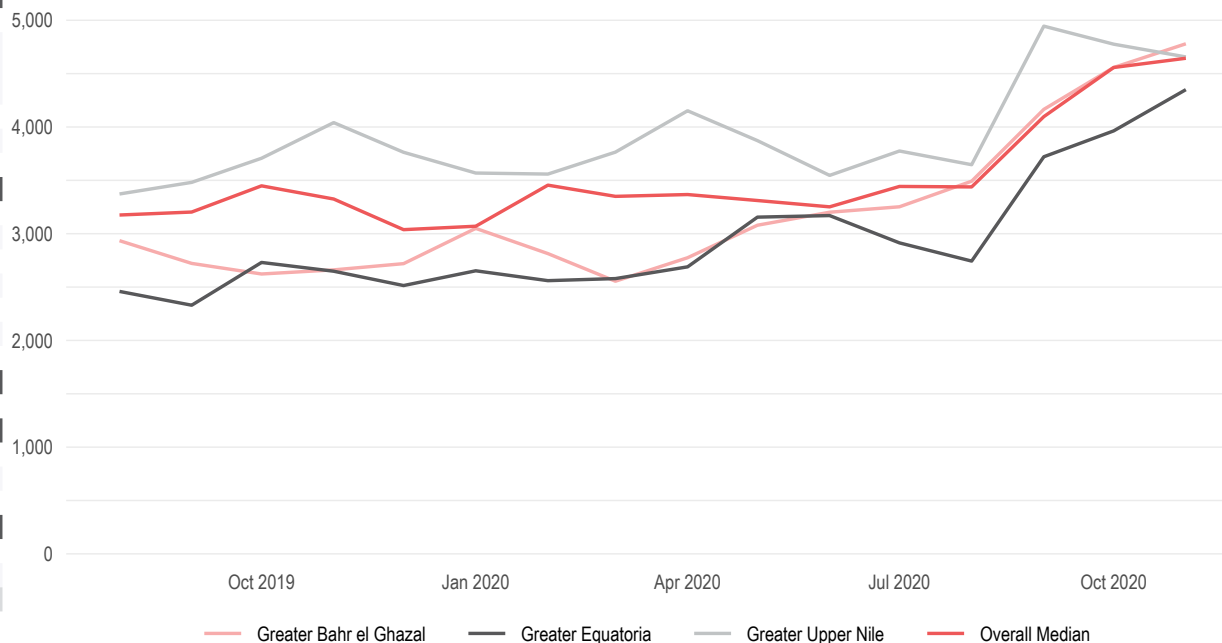
MSSMEB FOOD BASKET OVER TIME⁵

in SSP



FOOD PRICE INDEX OVER TIME⁵

in SSP



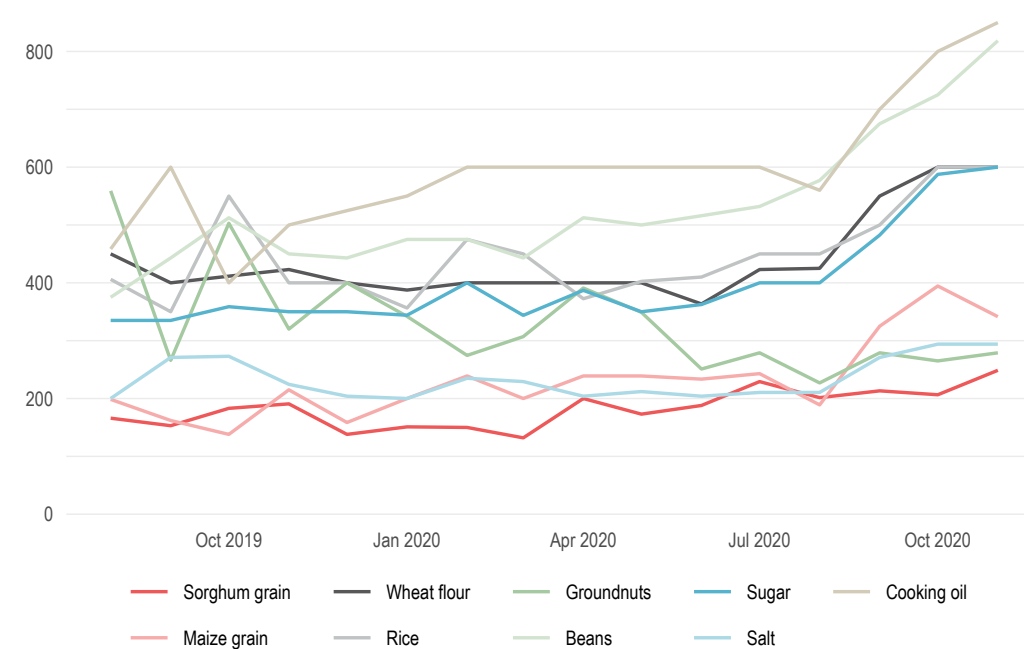
PRICES OF MONITORED ITEMS

Item	Unit	Median price in SSP	Change since Sept 2020	Change since Oct 2019	Median price in USD
Food Items					
Sorghum grain	1 kg	249	▲ 20%	▲ 30%	0.49
Maize grain	1 kg	342	▼ 13%	▲ 59%	0.67
Wheat flour	1 kg	600	► 0%	▲ 42%	1.18
Rice	1 kg	600	► 0%	▲ 50%	1.18
Groundnuts (shelled)	1 kg	279	▲ 5%	▼ 13%	0.55
Beans	1 kg	819	▲ 13%	▲ 82%	1.61
Sugar	1 kg	600	▲ 2%	▲ 71%	1.18
Salt	1 kg	294	► 0%	▲ 31%	0.58
Cooking oil	1 L	850	▲ 6%	▲ 70%	1.67
Water*	1 L	25	▼ 13%	na	.05
Non-Food Items					
Soap	200 g	167	▲ 43%	▲ 101%	0.33
Jerrycan	1 pc	688	▲ 38%	▲ 38%	1.35
Mosquito net	1 pc	1,550	▼ 31%	▲ 38%	3.05
Exercise book	1 pc	250	▲ 6%	▲ 25%	0.49
Blanket	1 pc	5,000	▲ 25%	▲ 67%	9.85
Cooking pot	1 pc	3,775	▼ 6%	▲ 26%	7.44
Plastic sheet	1 pc	6,750	▼ 7%	▲ 35%	13.30
Pole	1 pc	1,000	► 0%	▲ 54%	1.97
Firewood	1 bundle	475	▲ 11%	▲ 90%	0.94
Charcoal	1 kg	103	▲ 19%	▲ 18%	0.20
Livestock Items					
Goat	1 goat	13,250	▼ 7%	▲ 45%	26.11
Chicken	1 chicken	1,675	▼ 1%	▼ 15%	3.30
Services					
Milling costs	1 kg	47	▲ 58%	▲ 105%	0.09
Currencies					
US dollar	1 USD	508	▲ 5%	▲ 64%	
Sudanese pound	1 SDG	3.7	▲ 31%	▼ 16%	
Ethiopian birr	1 ETB	25.5	▲ 155%	▲ 240%	
Ugandan shilling	1 UGX	0.145	▼ 5%	▲ 61%	
Kenyan shilling	1 KES	4.100	▼ 10%	▲ 25%	

* Prices only collected for Juba Town

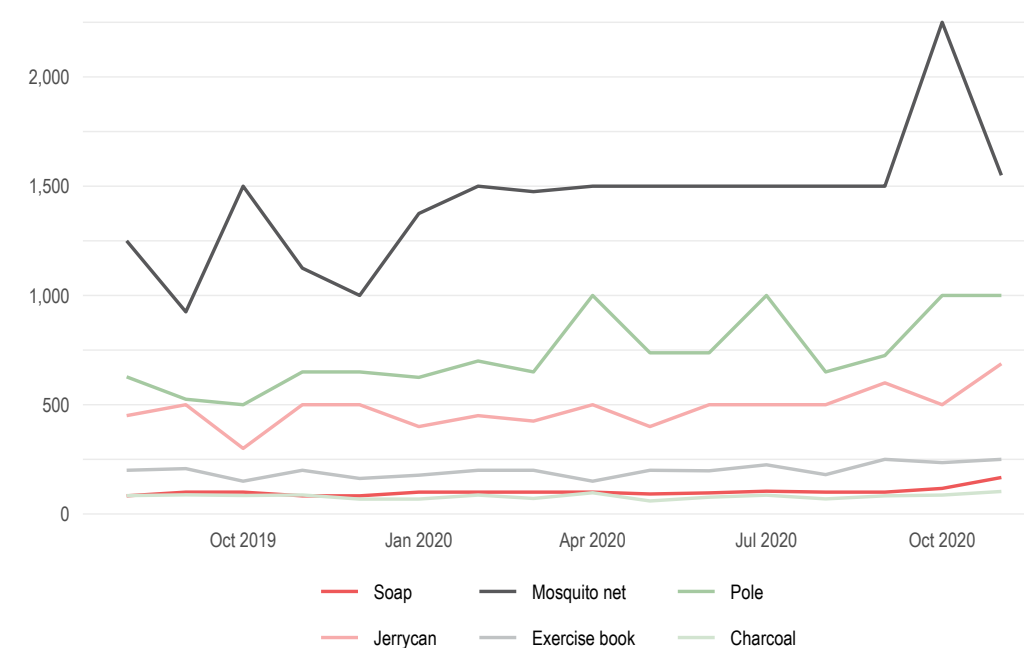
FOOD PRICES OVER TIME

in SSP



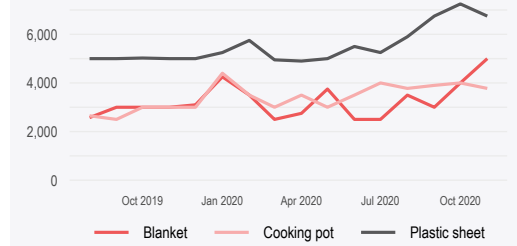
NFI PRICES OVER TIME

in SSP



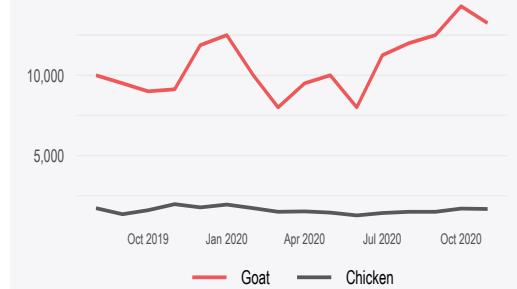
NFI PRICES OVER TIME CONT.

in SSP

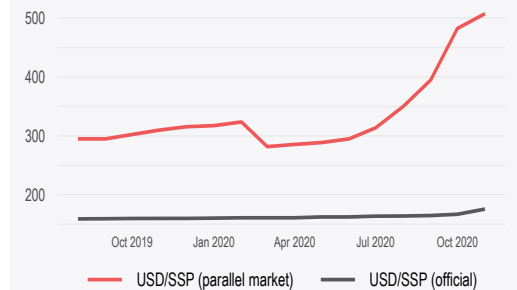


LIVESTOCK PRICES OVER TIME

in SSP

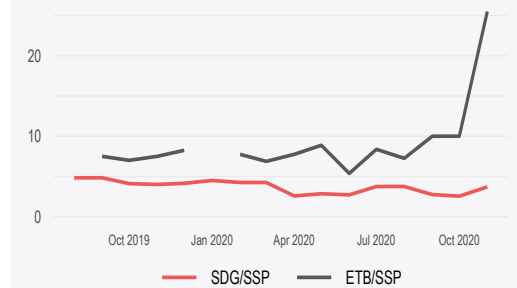


USD EXCHANGE RATE OVER TIME

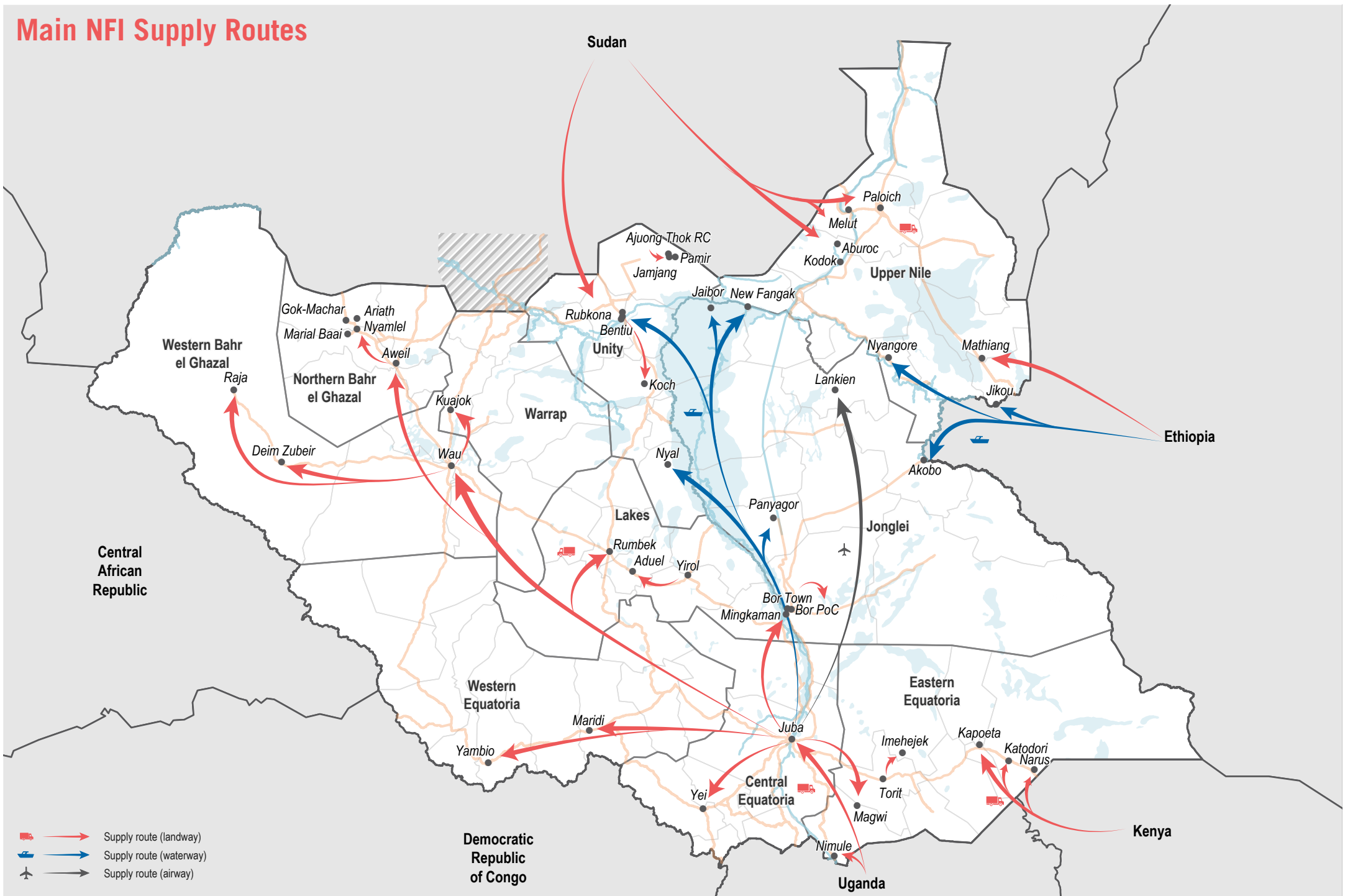


OTHER EXCHANGE RATES OVER TIME

(Parallel market rates)

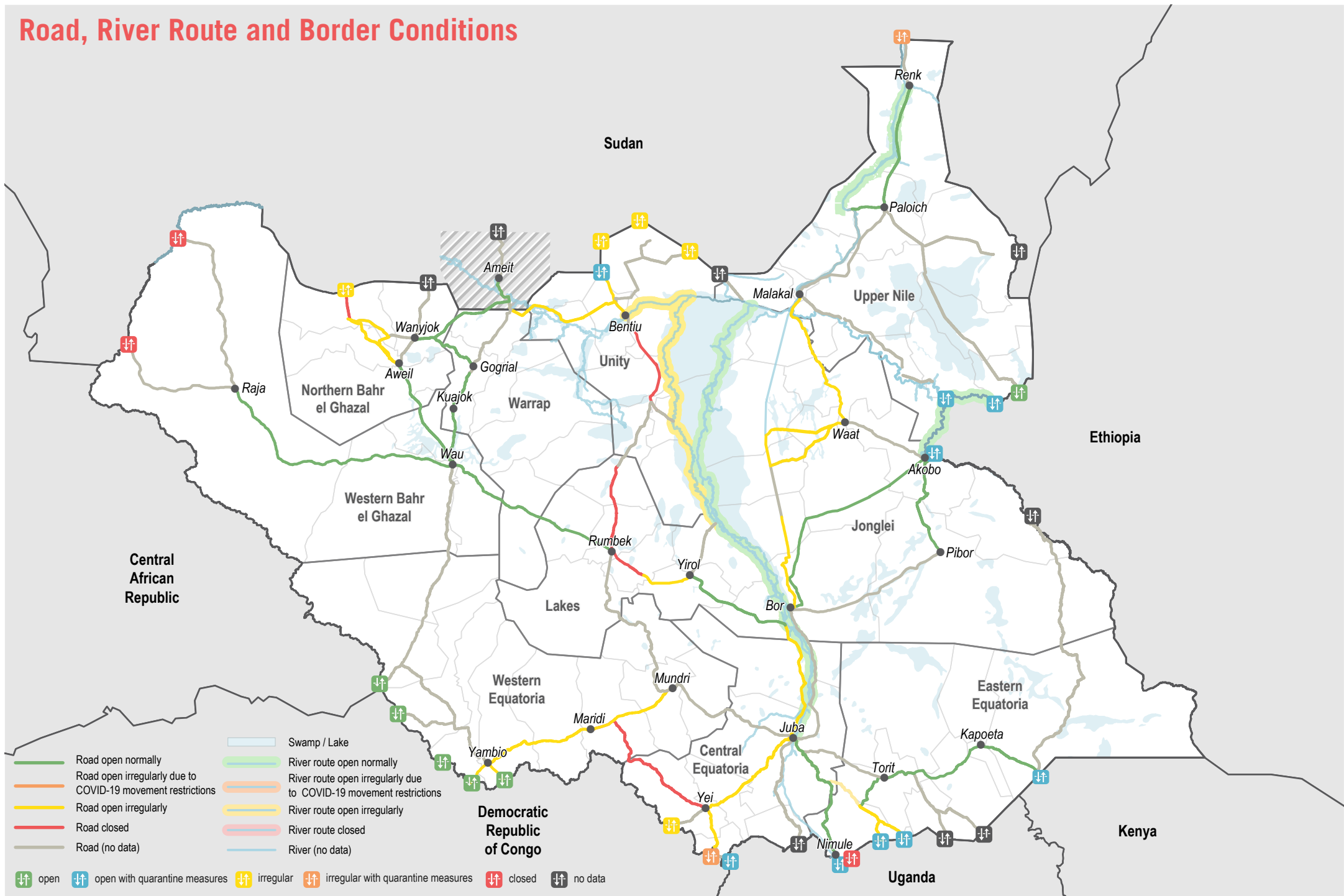


Main NFI Supply Routes



This map illustrates where vendors reported their market location to be supplied from with NFIs. Only the most frequently reported non-food supply market connection is shown for each location. Additional linkages and supply routes may exist.

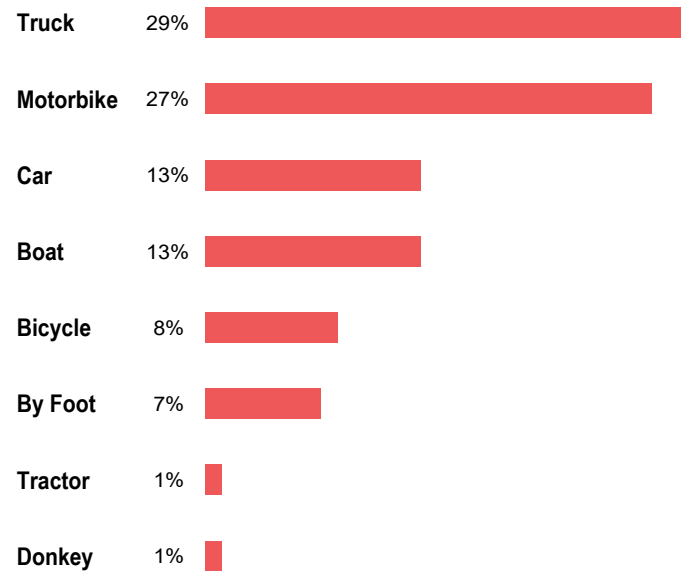
Road, River Route and Border Conditions



The map illustrates the reported road, river route and border crossing conditions at the time of data collection. The results are indicative of trade activity only.

Additional Indicators

Primary modes of transport for restocking local cereals reported by traders



4 days

median time to restock locally produced cereals from out of town



33% of traders reported restocking NFIs from a wholesaler in town

63% of food traders expect price increases

6% of food traders do not expect price changes

24% of food traders expect price decreases

7% of food traders do not have any price expectations



4 days

median reported additional time needed to restock for traders that reported undergoing quarantine measures at border crossings.

6 days

median reported number of days needed to restock NFIs from out of town



64% of staple cereal traders reported restocking from a local producer

58% of non-food traders expect price increases

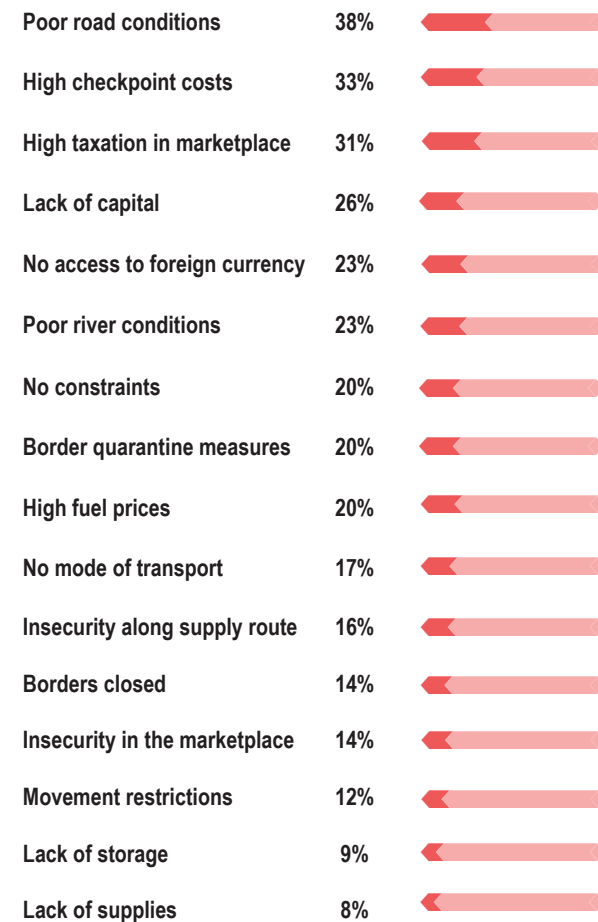
8% of non-food traders do not expect price changes

30% of non-food traders expect price decreases

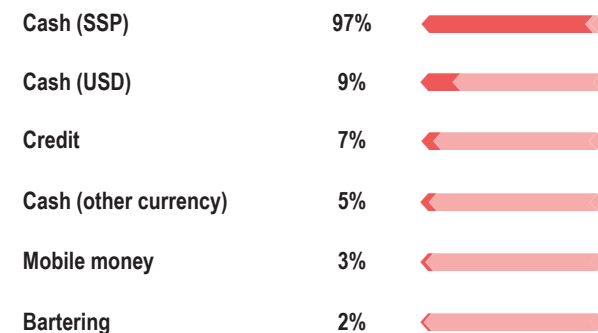
4% of non-food traders do not have any price expectations



Reported restocking constraints*



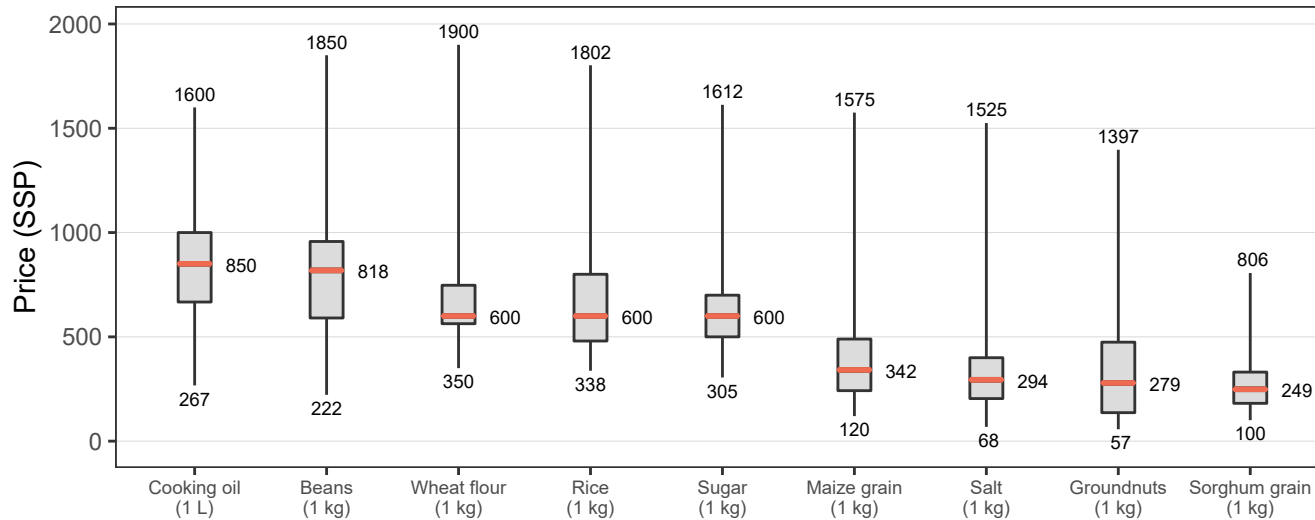
Accepted payment modalities*



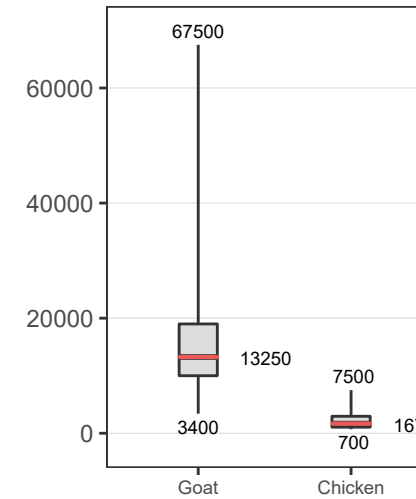
* Values do not add up to 100% as traders were allowed to select multiple options.

Distribution of Prices

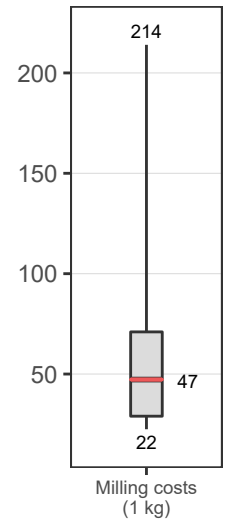
Food Items



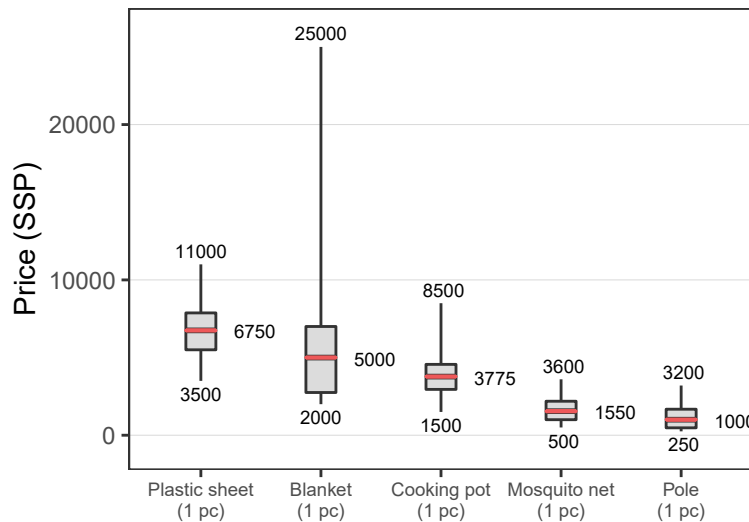
Livestock



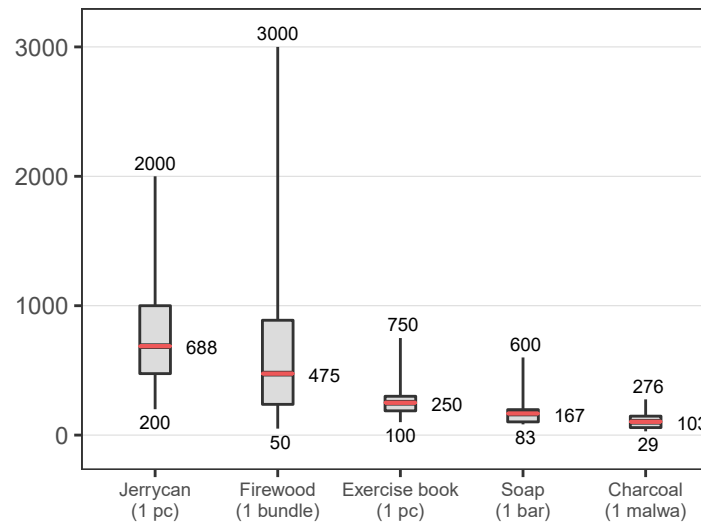
Services



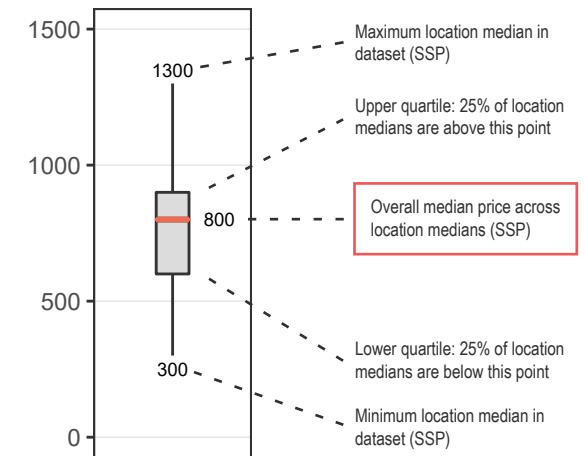
NFIs



NFIs cont.



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.

MEDIAN STOCK LEVELS PER LOCATION (in days)

County	Location	Sorghum grain	Maize grain	Wheat flour	Rice	Groundnuts (shelled)	Beans	Sugar	Salt	Cooking oil	Soap	Jerrycan	Mosquito net	Exercise book	Blanket	Cooking pot	Plastic sheet	Median time to restock local staple cereals	Median time to restock imported food items	Median time to restock NFIs	
Central Equatoria																					
Juba	Juba PoC	na	na	21	59	na	75	26	74	25	60	na	na	na	na	na	na	2	3	5	
	Juba Town	6	8	6	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	14	12	21	25	21	na	18	14	
Yei	Yei Town	7	7	19	14	na	30	30	30	30	11	19	21	na	na	na	na	na	4	3	
Eastern Equatoria																					
Kapoeta East	Katodori	14	14	14	14	na	18	18	30	14	21	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	4	3	
	Narus	14	26	13	14	14	14	6	30	7	14	14	30	60	60	75	45	na	4	5	
Kapoeta South	Kapoeta Town	26	30	21	30	26	22	14	45	14	14	30	45	90	60	60	26	7	7	7	
Lafon	Imehejek	6	na	na	11	na	na	7	14	11	21	na	na	na	na	na	na	14	1	1	
Magwi	Magwi Town	120	21	21	21	75	21	21	25	29	21	60	120	180	90	105	21	na	1	2	
	Nimule	10	14	11	6	7	5	7	26	6	21	14	30	35	29	30	60	na	na	na	
Jonglei																					
Akobo	Akobo Town	120	na	90	90	na	60	90	90	90	90	90	90	120	59	90	52	na	14	14	
BorSouth	Bor PoC	na	na	18	14	7	21	14	26	18	26	na	na	90	na	na	na	na	1	1	
Fangak	Jaibor	14	14	na	8	na	na	7	18	21	14	na	na	na	na	na	na	6	10	15	
	New Fangak	21	37	14	21	na	na	14	30	18	14	na	4	na	na	na	na	6	6	6	
Nyirrol	Lankien	30	na	41	45	na	30	29	26	26	29	na	na	na	na	na	na	30	30	30	
Twic East	Panyagor	18	13	6	41	10	21	75	21	13	21	13	21	75	21	90	21	7	6	6	
Lakes																					
Awerial	Mingkaman	30	na	60	30	30	30	60	60	60	60	30	30	30	30	60	60	na	10	5	
Rumbek Centre	Rumbek Town	na	2	na	10	3	10	2	15	5	5	na	na	na	na	na	na	7	90	na	
Rumbek East	Aduel	na	9	7	14	30	8	7	13	7	7	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	3	2	
Northern Bahr el Ghazal																					
Aweil Centre	Aweil Town	3	na	3	18	4	21	2	14	6	5	na	na	na	na	12	28	2	20	na	
Aweil North	Ariath	14	na	21	na	15	na	21	49	56	75	na	na	105	na	90	41	na	1	4	
	Gok-Machar	21	na	18	21	21	na	30	60	18	45	25	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	
Aweil West	Marial Baai	14	na	19	14	21	28	30	45	11	60	2	na	7	na	na	na	na	na	na	
	Nyamiel Town	2	na	11	14	4	14	3	14	6	3	na	na	30	na	60	2	2	11	1	
Unity																					
Koch	Koch Town	na	na	40	22	na	60	10	18	25	15	na	na	45	na	na	na	na	12	14	
Panyijiar	Nyal	2	na	22	18	na	45	41	60	19	89	na	60	na	60	60	na	na	7	7	
Pariang	Ajuong Thok RC	35	na	35	60	42	35	35	30	35	30	na	na	60	na	na	na	4	4	4	
	Jamjang	120	na	120	120	74	74	120	120	120	120	na	na	120	na	na	na	na	4	4	
	Pamir RC	120	na	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	na	na	120	na	na	na	na	na	30	
Rubkona	Bentiu	18	9	16	18	12	14	21	11	14	12	21	21	25	18	18	14	na	6	6	
	Rubkona Town	21	6	28	28	12	14	35	39	25	35	18	18	28	14	21	25	na	10	10	
Upper Nile																					
Fashoda	Aburoc	42	na	18	14	na	na	na	21	na	na	na	na	75	na	na	na	4	13	13	
	Kodok	na	na	25	28	na	na	28	51	25	32	18	21	28	na	51	14	na	6	6	
Longochuk	Mathiang	120	90	75	90	na	na	90	60	90	60	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	16	20	
Maiwut	Jikou	5	6	6	na	na	na	na	14	na	6	na	na	na	na	na	na	4	na	6	
Melut	Melut Town	60	na	60	30	28	na	29	30	30	45	60	60	60	60	60	90	na	na	na	
	Paloich	60	na	60	28	21	30	60	28	28	44	28	28	60	75	44	44	1	na	na	
Ulang	Nyangore	30	21	30	30	na	na	30	30	6	14	180	120	na	180	270	21	na	8	4	
Warrap																					
Gogrial West	Kuajok	14	3	30	35	13	35	21	32	28	14	42	26	42	32	45	21	2	3	1	
Western Bahr el Ghazal																					
Raja	Deim Zubeir	7	na	7	26	34	na	30	45	30	22	45	30	na	na	na	na	2	2	2	
	Raja Town	5	na	9	5	1	na	8	21	7	5	7	21	28	na	21	37	na	2	2	
Wau	Wau	10	21	10	10	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	14	14	14	18	11	na	9	21	
Western Equatoria																					
Maridi	Maridi	na	na	90	na	60	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	210	na	na	na	na	
Yambio	Yambio	na	5	na	5	3	na	na	7	14	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	11	14	

na : no stock level data available

: none of the interviewed traders reported being able to restock this item

METHODOLOGY

The JMMI aims to inform market-based programming in South Sudan. Coverage depends on the interest of the partner organisations and their field teams' capacities to regularly collect market data. Locations are added once partners willing to cover them are identified, and their field teams are trained. As the initiative is currently being built up, coverage will likely be expanded in future data collection rounds.

In each assessed location, at least four prices per food, non-food, and livestock item need to be collected from different traders to ensure the quality and consistency of the collected data (2 for currencies and milling costs, 5 for casual labor). In line with the purpose of the JMMI, only the prices of the cheapest available types are recorded for each item.

Partner field teams identify traders to assess based on the following criteria:

- Traders are retailers selling directly to consumers.
- Traders with weight scales are prioritised when recording prices of dry food items.
- Traders need to be representative of the local price level.
- To the extent possible, the same traders are revisited in every data collection round.

The data is collected by field staff familiar with the local market conditions. They are trained on methodology and tools by REACH. Data collection is conducted through the ODK Collect mobile application. The data collection tool is published alongside the dataset every month and disseminated to the humanitarian community.

Following data collection, REACH compiles and cleans all partner data, normalising prices, cross-checking outliers, and calculating the median cost of an MSSMEB in each assessed location.

The median item 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; then, REACH calculates the median of this list of medians. All MSSMEB and price index calculations are created using this method.

MSSMEB Calculation

- The cost of the MSSMEB is calculated by multiplying the median price of each item in the respective location by the quantity listed in the table on page 2.
- Sorghum grain prices are used for the calculation of the cereal component, and maize grain prices for areas where maize is more commonly consumed. In areas where both cereals are consumed equally, the price of the cheaper item is used.
- Bean prices are used for the pulse component.
- Rather than the prices of vegetable oil, the prices of the cheapest locally available cooking oil is used.
- For airtime, a monthly cost of 1 USD is assumed, based on the rates of local telecom providers.
- All USD amounts are converted to SSP using the local parallel market exchange rates.
- If a component of the MSSMEB is unavailable in a location, the overall median price is used for the calculation of the index.

More details on the methodology can be found in the [JMMI terms of reference \(ToR\)](#).

Challenges and Limitations

- Price data is only indicative for the time frame within which it was collected. Prices may vary between data collection rounds.
- The JMMI data collection tool requests the cheapest available type of each item to be recorded, as availability varies across regions. Therefore, price comparisons across regions may be based on slightly varying products.
- Standardising unit sizes of dry food items is inherently difficult in South Sudan, as many traders sell commodities by volume rather than weight. This may create a measurement error.
- With current coverage, data is mostly collected from main markets, which may not be representative of rural areas.
- As the JMMI continues to expand and is extended to additional locations, the reported changes in the overall median prices may be driven by shifts in coverage rather than actual price changes.

Participating Agencies

- **ACTED** – *Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development*
- **CAFOD-Trócaire** – *Catholic Agency for Overseas Development & Trócaire*
- **CARE**
- **Caritas**
- **Church & Development**
- **Concern**
- **Cordaid**
- **DCA** – *Danish Church Aid*
- **DRC** – *Danish Refugee Council*
- **GOAL**
- **HARD** – *Hope Agency for Relief and Development*
- **ICPDO** – *Integrated Community Peace & Development Organization*
- **IOM** – *International Organization for Migration*
- **Maltester** - *International*
- **IRC** – *International Rescue Committee*

- **NRDC** – *National Relief and Development Corps*
- **Nile Hope**
- **Oxfam**
- **Plan international**
- **REACH Initiative**
- **Save the Children**
- **Solidarites International**
- **SPEDP** – *Support for Peace and Education Development Programme*
- **Tearfund**
- **UNHCR** - *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee*
- **UNICEF** – *United Nations Children's Fund*
- **UNKEA** – *Universal Network for Knowledge & Empowerment Agency*
- **Welthungerhilfe (WHH)**
- **Windle Trust International**
- **World Vision**

Endnotes

¹ The MSSMEB is calculated in each assessed location as described in the methodology box on the left and only includes key items. The overall MSSMEB is the median across all assessed locations.

² The food basket is composed of only the food items in the MSSMEB. The overall cost of the food basket is the median across all assessed locations.

³ The parallel market exchange rate (buy and sell rate) was collected from two traders in each assessed location. The overall rate is calculated by first finding the median in each assessed location, then taking the median of the resulting set of median rates.

⁴ Source: Central Bank of South Sudan (2020, November 1). Retrieved from www.bankofsouthsudan.org. The rates from 19 September were used for the calculation of the monthly change.

JMMI OUTPUTS

Factsheets Datasets

2020

October	October
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
August	August

⁵ Greater Bahr el Ghazal includes the states of Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal; Greater Equatoria includes the states of Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria and Western Equatoria; Greater Upper Nile includes the states of Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile.

⁶ The prices were normalised by setting August 2019 as the baseline and dividing each month's price by the price in August 2019.