

RBC MONTHLY MARKET ALERT - JAN 2020

As of January, prices were relatively stable across the entire region, except for Sudan, Syria, and Iran.

- Prices in **Sudan** have been exceptionally high since the beginning of 2019, indicating an overall **"crisis"** level over the past two years. In January 2020, the cost of the food basket showed an annual increase of 96 percent and a monthly increase of 15 percent.

- In **Syria**, the depreciation of the local currency in the informal exchange market coupled with intensified fighting in the north-east led to a general increase in the cost of the food basket (up 6 percent from December 2019 and up 55 percent compared to January 2019). Note: WFP SNAP monitored food basket comprises of 4.93 bundles of bread, 1 kg of sugar, 3.8 kg of lentils, 1.4 liters of oil.

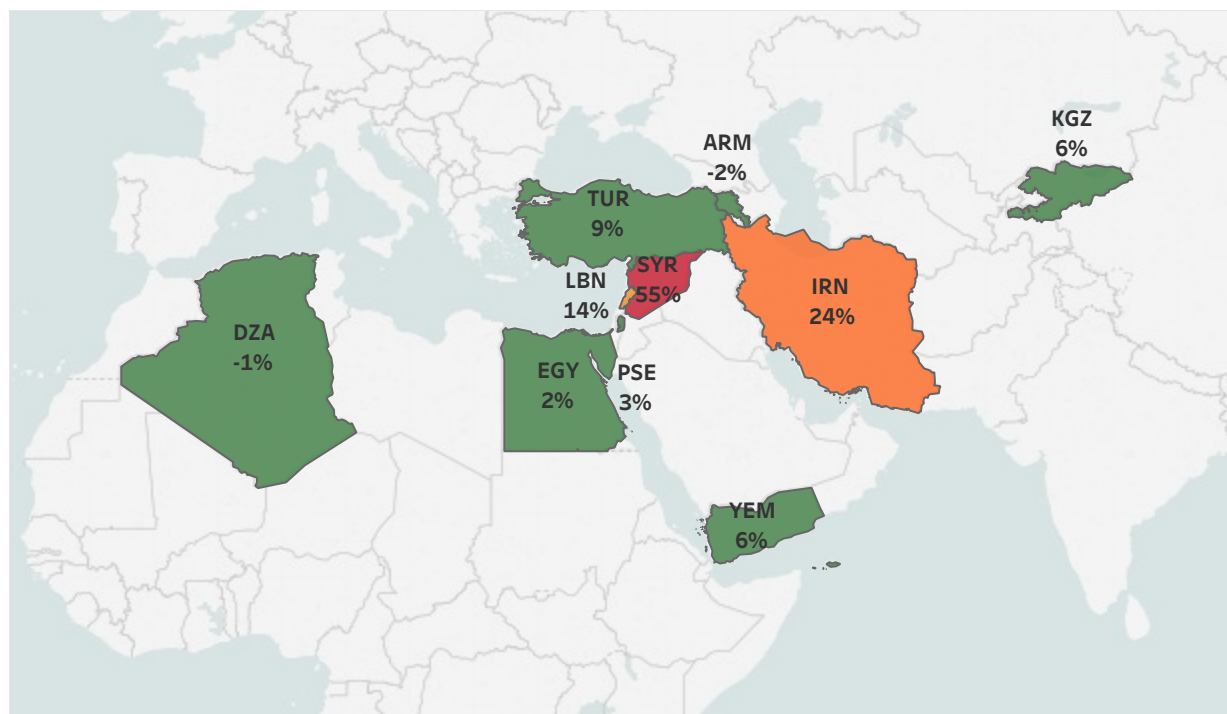
- Since October 2019, **Lebanon** entered a period of economic and political instability affecting general price level. In January 2020, total inflation increased by 10.4 percent compared to the same period in 2019, recording the highest increase since August 2018. Annual food inflation increased by 14 percent, the highest rate in the last ten years.

- Similarly, the costs of living in **Iran** have been affected by socio-economic factors, which led to an increase of annual inflation and food inflation (up 26.3 percent and up 24 percent in January 2020, respectively). The situation has, however, slightly improved as the country has passed from **"crisis"** to **"alert"** level.

- Although inflation rates were contained in **Turkey** during September and October 2019 (9 percent each), they picked up again between December 2019 and January 2020 at 11.8 and 12.1 percent, respectively.

- In January 2020, WFP SNAP monitored food basket in **Yemen** increased annually by 5.7 percent, following currency depreciation from YER 533 per USD in January 2019 to YER 612 per USD in January 2020.

- Click on any country to get further information about food basket cost and exchange rate



- Select an indicator

- Annual Inflation Rate
- Annual Food Inflation Rate
- Monthly Inflation Rate
- Monthly Food Inflation Rate

- Select a month

Jan 2020

Status of markets was defined based on annual consumer inflation/ food inflation rates:

- Normal: <10%
- Alert: 20-30%
- Stress: 10-20%
- Crisis: >30%

Note: for Yemen and Syria, Annual Food Inflation Rate and Monthly Food Inflation Rate are based on Food Basket Cost given data scarcity.

Data source for the different indicators: Inflation rates are extracted from corresponding government statistics office and/or central banks, exchange rates' source are FXTOP and/or country office, and food basket cost refer to WFP-monitored food basket and is extracted from SNAP- RBC Price analysis and monitoring tool.

* Countries are not displayed have no available data for the selective indicator in the selective month



For further information please contact:

Head of Programme and Measurement a.i
Siddharth Krishnaswamy
Siddharth.Krishnaswamy@wfp.org

Market and Food Security Analyst
Cinzia Monetta
cinzia.monetta@wfp.org

Economic and Market Analyst
Omneya Mansour
Omneya.mansour@wfp.org

Monthly Trend for Annual Food Inflation Rate

