

Yemen Food Security Update

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

December 2022

Highlights



The average exchange rate of the Yemeni rial vis-à-vis the US dollar remained almost the same in areas under the internationally recognized government of Yemen (IRG), compared to the previous month. Nevertheless, the rial lost 22 percent of its value against the US dollar since the beginning of the calendar year. Foreign currency reserves in CBY Aden are nearly depleted and prospects of foreign financial support from the Arab Gulf are precarious. The exchange rate remains unchanged in areas under Sana'a-based Authorities.



Local fuel prices continued to decrease countrywide for the fourth consecutive month, mainly due to increased fuel supply. Pumping prices for petrol and diesel decreased during November by one percent in the governorates under the control of IRG and by three percent in those under Sana'a-based authorities.



The global Food Price Index (FFPI) retracted to pre-war levels (Russia-Ukraine war) since July 2022, and by end of November the FFPI had decreased by 15 percent compared to the all-time high in March 2022. This decline was mainly driven by the decrease in global prices of oils and cereals by 39 percent and 12 percent respectively.



The monthly average cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) decreased by two percent compared to the previous month. Year-on-year, the cost of MFB remained at similarly high levels in areas under IRG, while it increased by 13 percent in areas under Sana'a-based authorities. High domestic food prices were reported as a principal impediment for accessing adequate diets by 15 percent of surveyed households in the south and nine percent in the north.



For more details, you can visit:

WFP Yemen food security and market monitoring dashboard



As of November, UNVIM data showed no signs of disruption to fuel imports since the expiration of the truce in early October. The flow of imported fuel through Red Sea ports in November 2022 was nearly thirteen times the level of imports reported in November 2021, and the total volume of imported fuel since the beginning of 2022 (Jan-Nov 2022) is 281 percent higher than fuel imports during the same period in 2021.



During Jan-Nov 2022, total food imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports were 13 percent higher compared to the same period last year, whereas it decreased by 45 percent in the southern ports of Aden and Mukalla. With the Black Sea Grain Initiative to facilitate shipments from Ukrainian and Russian ports in late July, five vessels carrying around 153 metric tons of wheat grain were destined to Yemen, including three vessels which departed the Ukrainian ports during November with 85 metric tons.



With recent increases in funding for food assistance in Yemen since September 2022, WFP is currently targeting 13 million people each distribution cycle. Households are receiving reduced rations still, equivalent to 65 percent of the standard food basket.



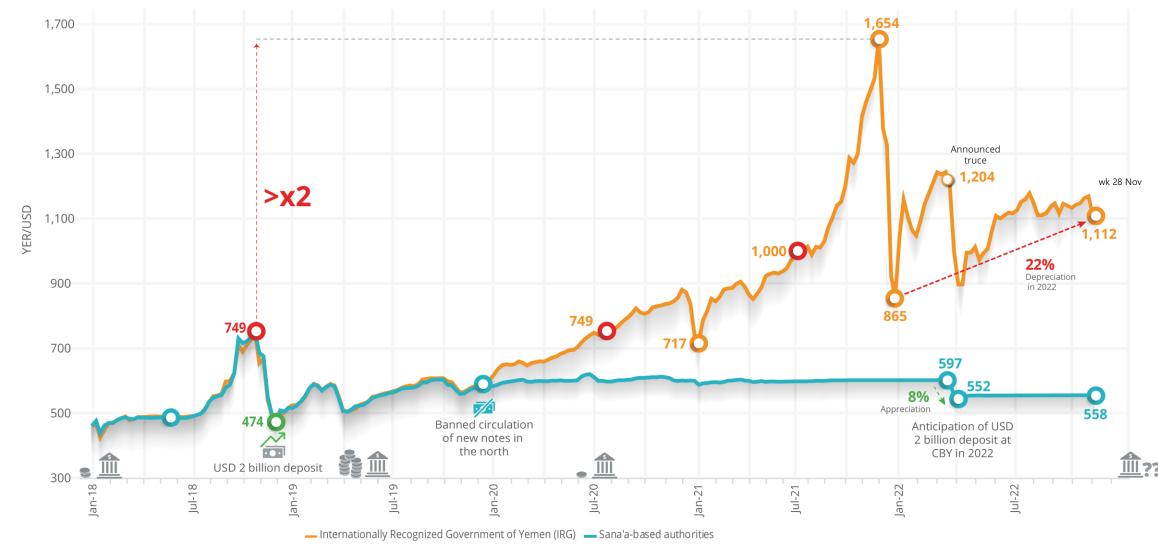
Food insecurity is concerning and remains at critically high levels still in November. While the overall share of households with inadequate food consumption decreased for the third month in a row, however nearly half of the surveyed households (52 percent in areas under IRG and 47 percent in areas under Sana'a-based authorities) were still unable to meet their minimum food needs during November. In 16 out of the 22 governorates, the proportion of households reporting inadequate food consumption exceeded the "very high" threshold of ≥40 percent. It's worth noting that the 2022 Global Hunger Index (GHI) shows that Yemen has the highest and most concerning GHI score in 2022, driven by conflict, economic fragility and further exacerbated by the implications of Russia-Ukraine war on food and fuel markets.

Drivers of food insecurity, beyond conflict



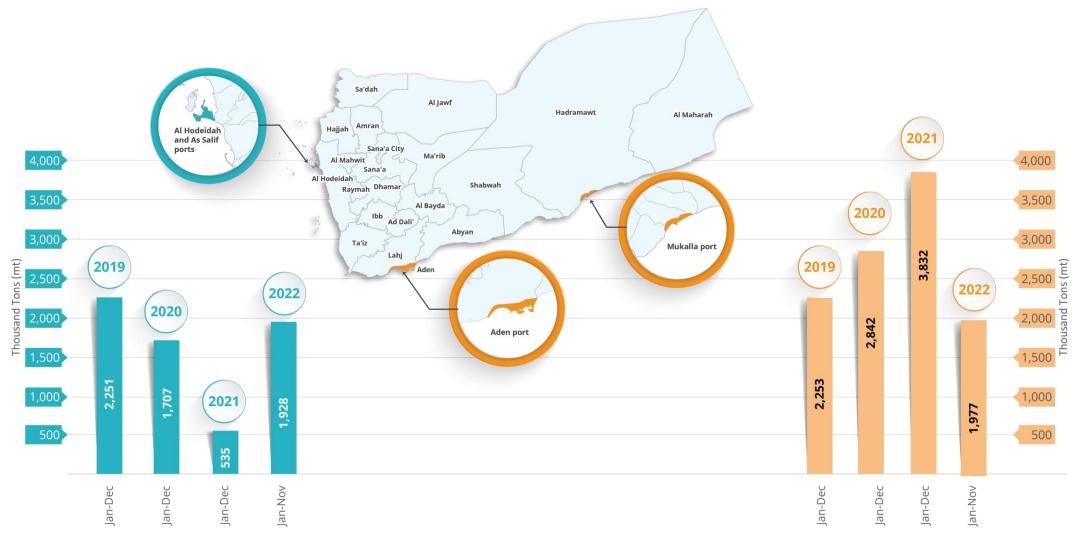


Exchange rate



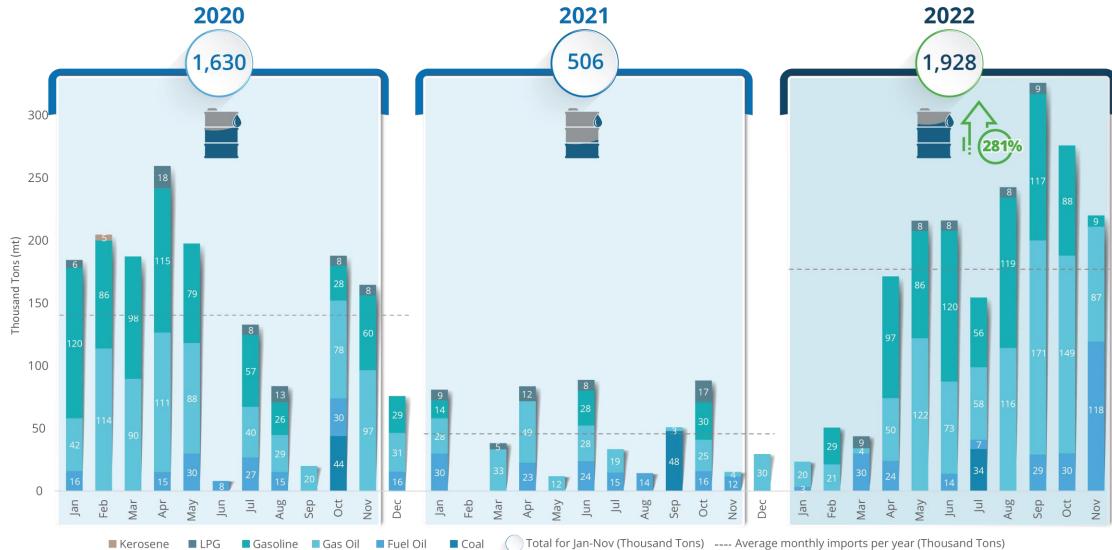


Fuel imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif, Mukalla and Aden ports (in thousand tons (mt))



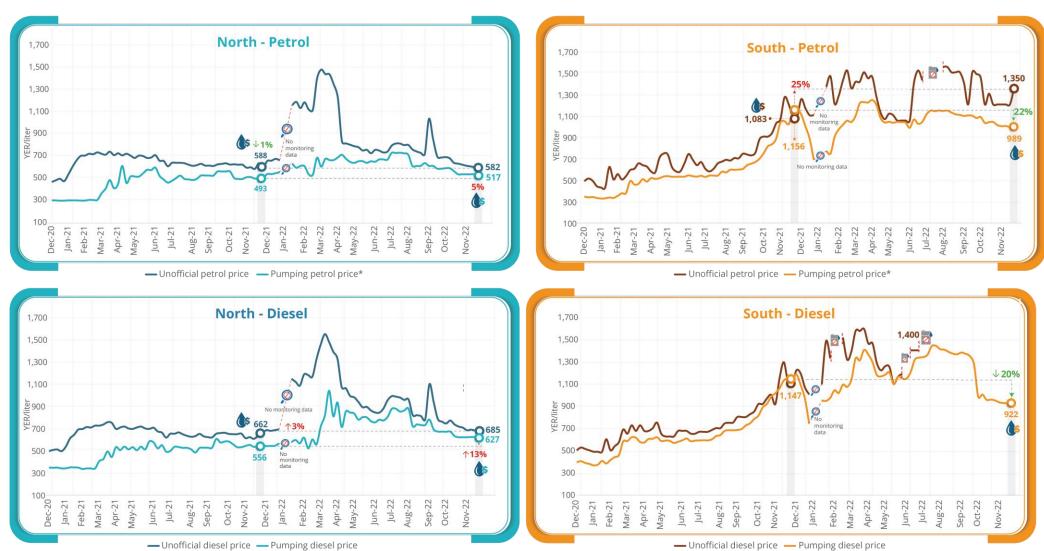


Fuel imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports (in thousand tons (mt))



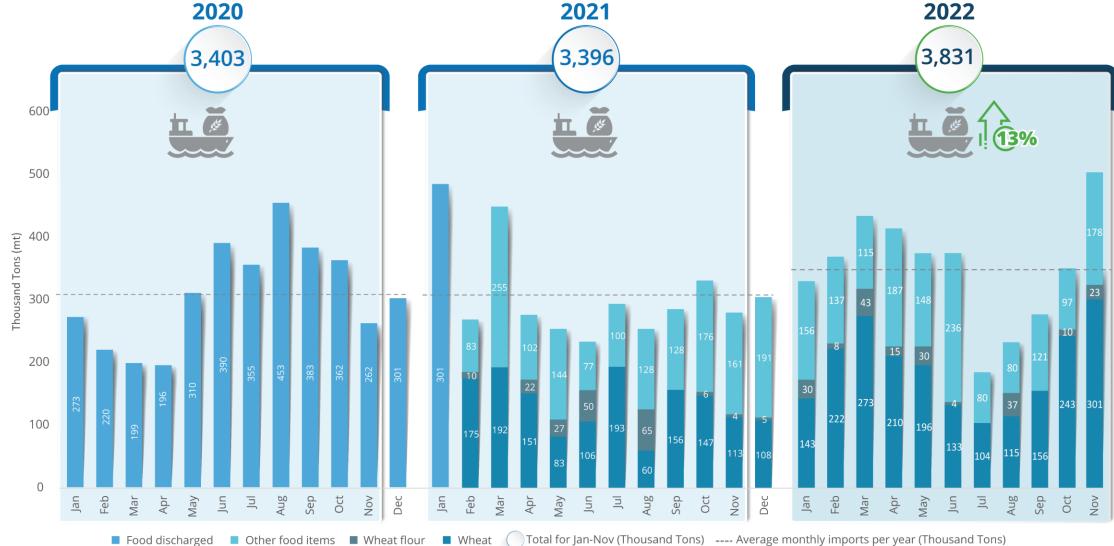








Food imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports (in thousand tons (mt))

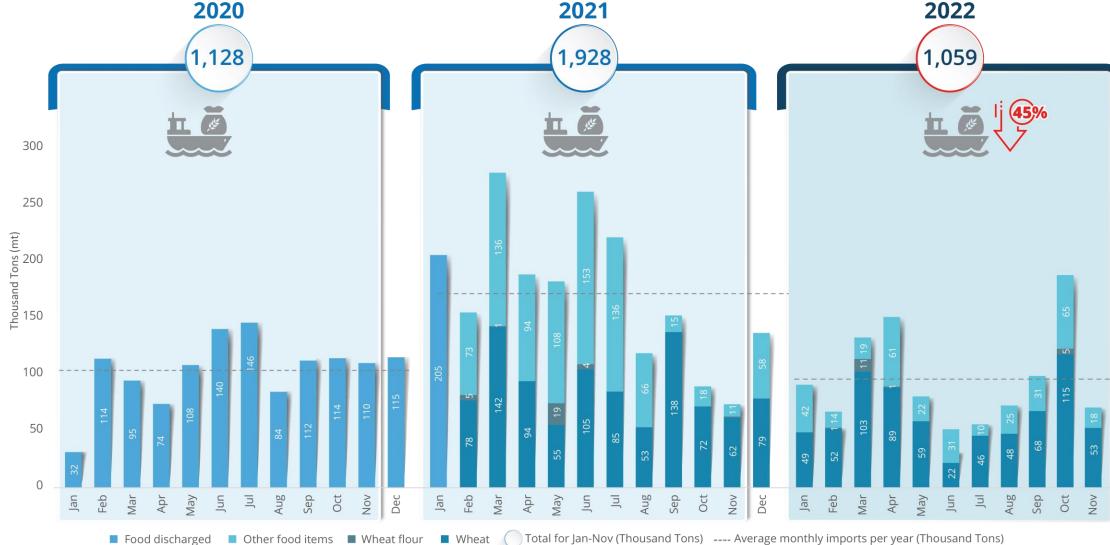




Source: UNVIM data
Page | 8-14



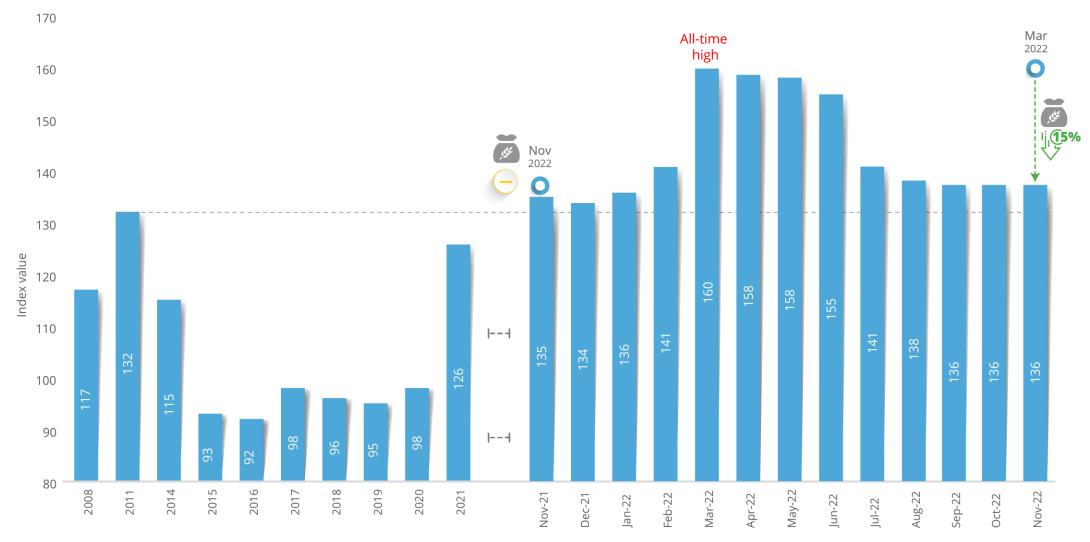
Food imports through Aden and Mukalla Ports (in thousand tons (mt))





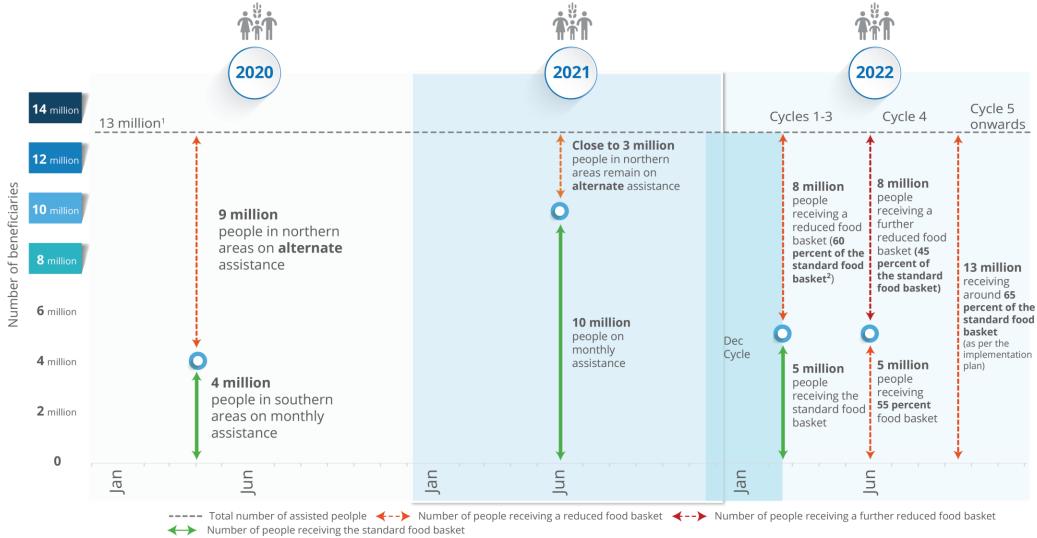


Global food prices





Humanitarian food assistance*



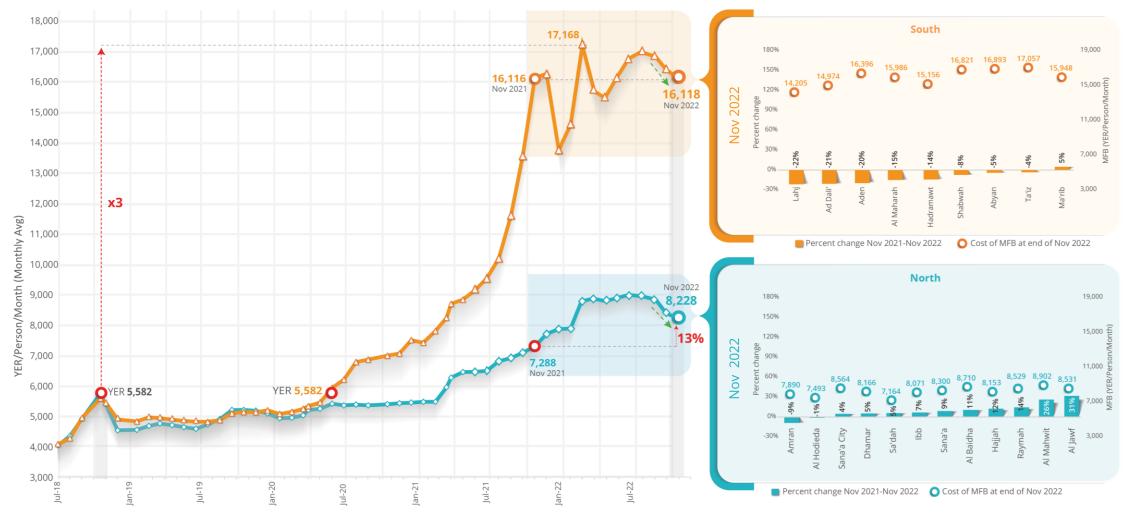
^{*}WFP food assistance, all figures are rounded

¹ Actuals were below the plan due shortages of commodities.

² The standard full basket is equivalent to 1,650 Kcal per person per day for a period of 30 days. In 2022, food assistance is provided on a cycle basis rather than monthly basis.



Average cost of minimum food basket (food affordability)

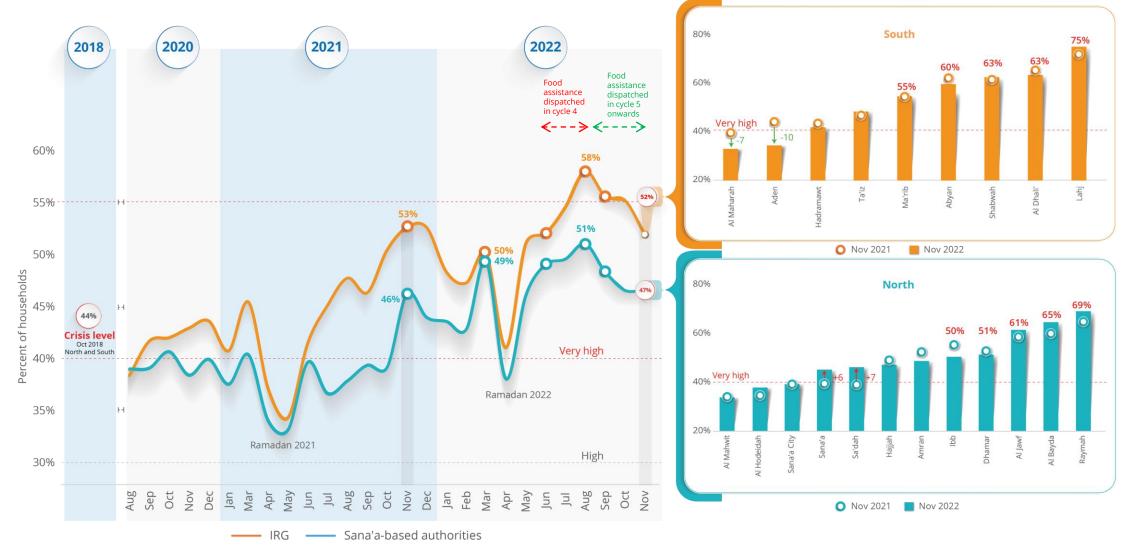


Source: Weekly WFP monitoring data

Page | 12-14



Food security outcomes (inadequate food consumption by governorate)



Source: WFP monitoring data

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