

Yemen Resilience Monitor: Communities coping with Conflict



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Impact of the War on

Livelihoods

Coping Strategies

April 2016



Methodology

Data was collected between August and September 2015 at the household level.



Covering a sample of 1,152 families across six governorates.



1152 families



The Integrated Assessment examines baseline and preliminary impact of the crisis on local governance, mine action, security, justice and livelihoods to identify immediate early recovery needs to build community-based resilience to ongoing and future shocks.



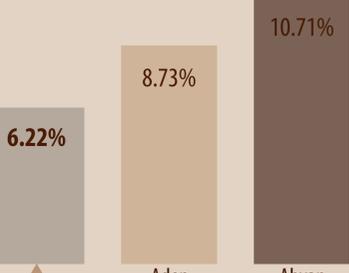
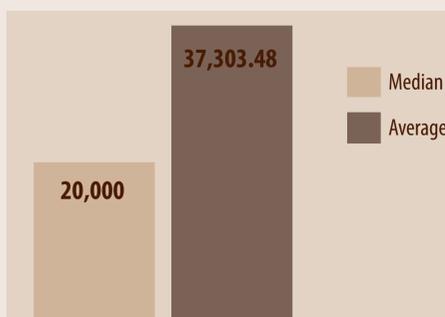
Findings

Families have suffered during this crisis and experienced shocks. When asked if they borrowed any money in the most recent 30 days, 42% of the sample responded positively, more in urban areas than rural. Less women borrowed money, which can either suggest that they lack access to financial services or find alternate means to cope.

In the most recent 30 days, did you borrow any money? (Yes)



The average amount borrowed was YER 37,303.48 which represents around USD 180.



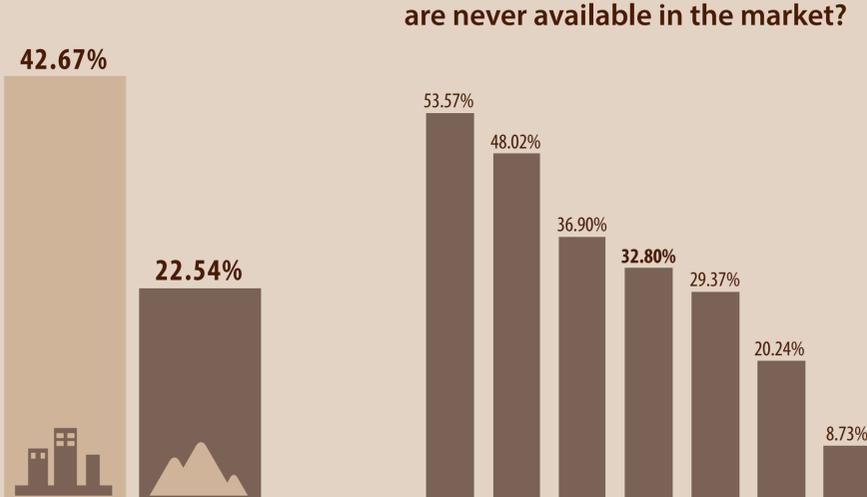
Bartering was marginal in comparison, with 6.22% of families reporting bartering of items in the most recent 30 days. The phenomenon was higher in the Southern Governorates surveyed, i.e. Abyan and Aden. This may correlate with the lack of liquidity experienced by financial providers during the data collection period and depletion of assets.

Migration has also been used by 10% of households to secure income. In 67% of cases, the family member who migrated did succeed. This affected Sa'ada particularly more than other Governorates.



The crisis has disrupted local economic activity and market functionality. Nearly one-third of families report that there are key items they want to buy which cannot be found in the market. As with other difficulties observed, this affects urban areas more than rural locations.

Are there any key items that you want to buy which are never available in the market?



Examining potential coping strategies adopted by households and their incidence in the most recent 30 days, four emerged as most frequently followed: 1) borrow food/money to buy essential items, or rely on help from friends or relatives, 2) rely on less preferred and less expensive food, 3) limit portion size at meals/reduce number of meals, and 4) use of alternative energy sources. Of note, only 1.46% of families report resorting to child labour.

	YES	Number of days in last 30 days (average)
Borrow food/money to buy essential items, or rely on help from friends or relatives	35.78%	16.3
Rely on less preferred and less expensive food	34.26%	18.1
Limit portion size at meals/reduce number of meals	25.4%	14.3
Use of alternative energy sources	12.76%	22.3

These strategies are mainly adopted by urban Yemenis: for instance, around 75% of those using alternative energy sources live in urban areas. Nearly 6% of families participate in community-based relief initiatives, which could be categorized as a positive coping strategies (self-help) in the absence of institutional assistance. Similarly, 4.3% of the sample are identifying new livelihoods opportunities in the crisis.

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