



World Food
Programme

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YEMEN FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

August 2023

Highlights



In areas under the control of IRG, the Yemeni riyal experienced a slight depreciation of around two percent against the US dollar compared to the preceding month, and a 17 percent depreciation compared to the previous year, reaching YER 1,393/USD by the end of July 2023. This depreciation is primarily attributed to the low levels of foreign currency reserves amid the decline in crude oil exports and remittance inflows. It is worth noting that in early August 2023, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia deposited an economic support package valued at approximately USD 200 million into CBY-Aden.



Pumping prices for petrol and diesel saw a minor decrease of less than two percent in areas under the control of Sana'a-based authorities, when compared to the preceding month. Conversely, in areas controlled by IRG, there was a slight increase by less than five percent, primarily linked to currency depreciation in the south. At national level, it's important to note that fuel prices exhibited an annual decline, mainly attributed to the global decrease in fuel prices and the improved fuel supply in Yemen.



In July 2023, the global FAO Food Price Index saw a modest uptick of one percent compared to the previous month. This rise was predominantly attributed to a 12 percent increase in the sub-index for vegetable oils. This increase was also associated with the announced conclusion of the Black Sea Grain Initiative by mid-July. However, global food prices continued to remain 12 percent lower than the level recorded in the previous year.



In IRG-controlled areas, the cost of the minimum food basket (MFB) saw a slight increase of two percent compared to the previous month, yet it decreased by three percent compared to the previous year. Simultaneously, the cost of the MFB continued its twelve-month decline in regions under Sana'a-based authorities (SBA), resulting in an annual decrease of 22 percent. Nevertheless, despite these trends, food prices remained prohibitively high, with 24 percent of surveyed households in the south and 14 percent in the north indicating that elevated food prices significantly hindered their access to an adequate diet.



Fuel vessels have maintained a steady flow into Red Sea ports since the truce was enacted. During the period from January to July 2023, the combined volume of fuel imported through the northern ports of Al-Hodeidah and As-Salif witnessed a substantial 81 percent increase compared to the corresponding timeframe in 2022.



Between January and July 2023, the volume of food imports via the southern ports of Aden and Mukalla increased by 19 percent compared to the corresponding period in 2022. This expansion effectively counterbalanced the marginal two percent decline noted through the northern ports of Al Hodeidah and Salif. Collectively, the aggregate volume of food imports across all Yemeni ports experienced a modest two percent uptick on an annual scale.



WFP is currently assisting 13 million people each distribution cycle, however with reduced rations equivalent to 41 percent of the standard food basket per cycle. The WFP's needs-based plan is only 20 percent funded during Sep 2023 – Feb 2024. Due to the crippling funding crisis, WFP was compelled to make cuts to its malnutrition prevention programme and scale down its resilience and livelihoods activities. Without new funding, further reduction in assistance could impact around three million people in the north and 1.4 million beneficiaries in the south starting the last quarter of 2023.



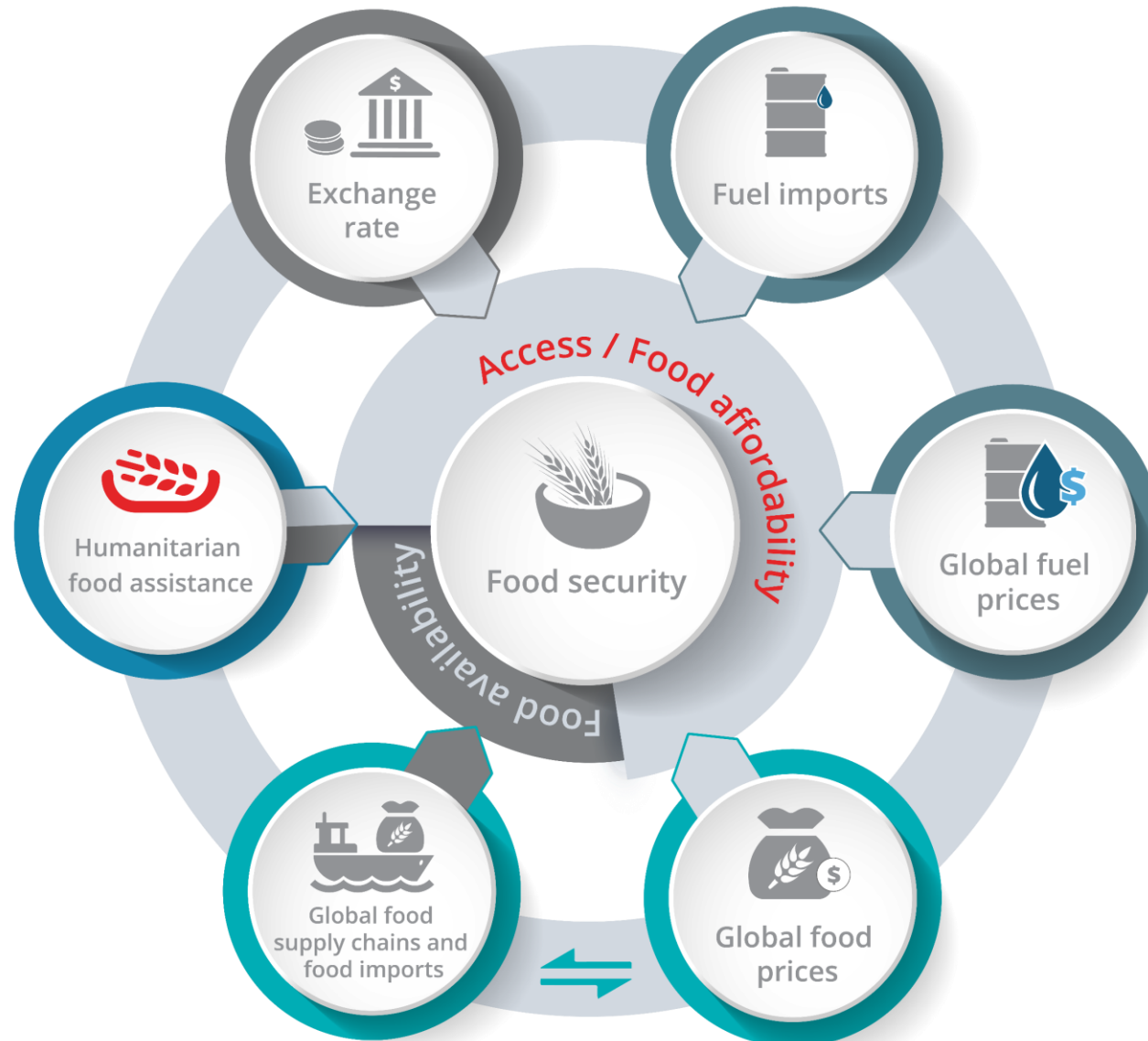
Food insecurity in Yemen deteriorated further in July 2023. The prevalence of inadequate food consumption rose to 52 percent in IRG-controlled areas in South of Yemen and 47 percent in northern regions under Sana'a-based authorities. These figures represent an increase of two and nine percent, respectively, when compared to the previous month. Based on data from WFP mVAM, additional deterioration is expected throughout the country in the remainder of Q3-2023.



For more details, you can visit:

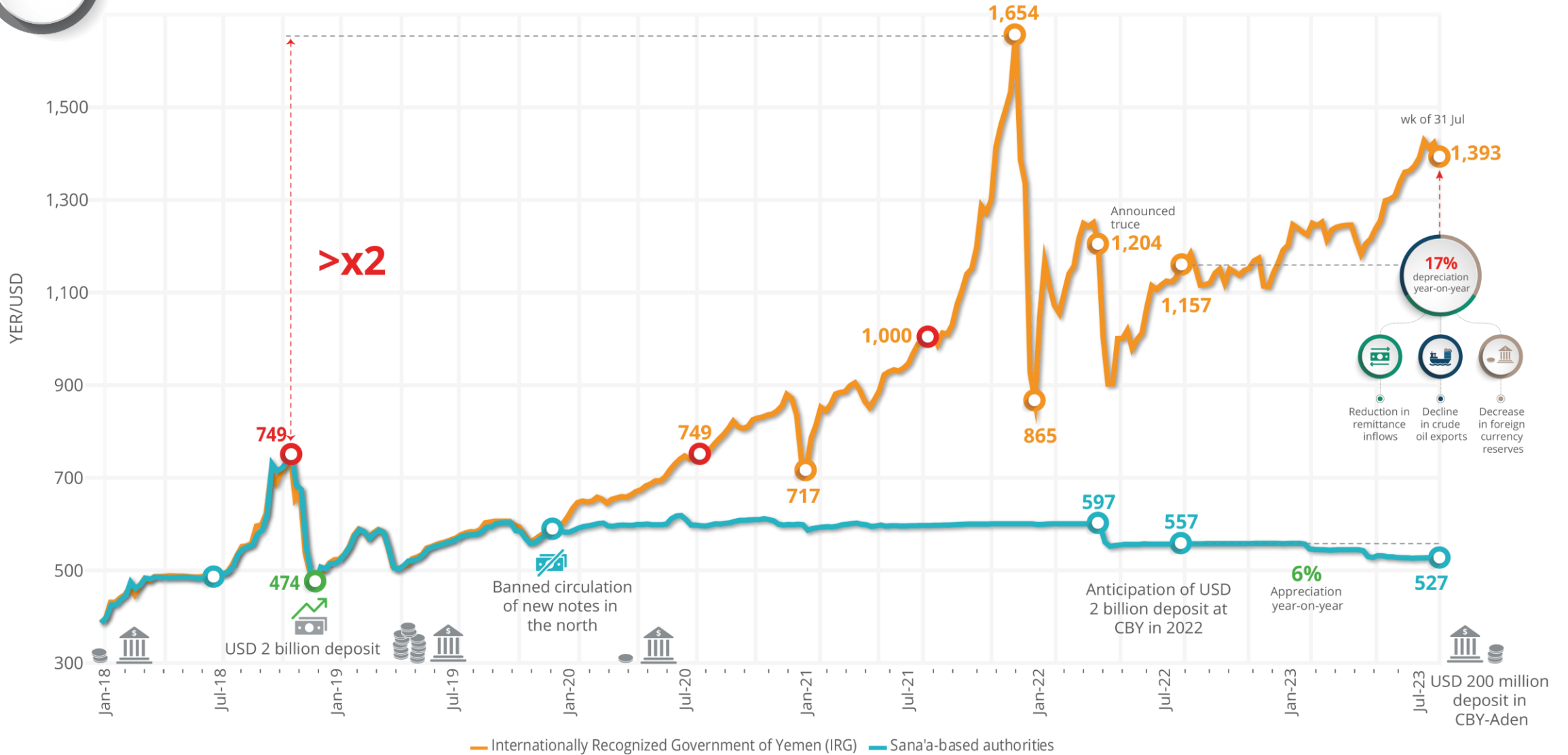
[WFP Yemen food security and market monitoring dashboard](#)

Drivers of food insecurity, beyond conflict





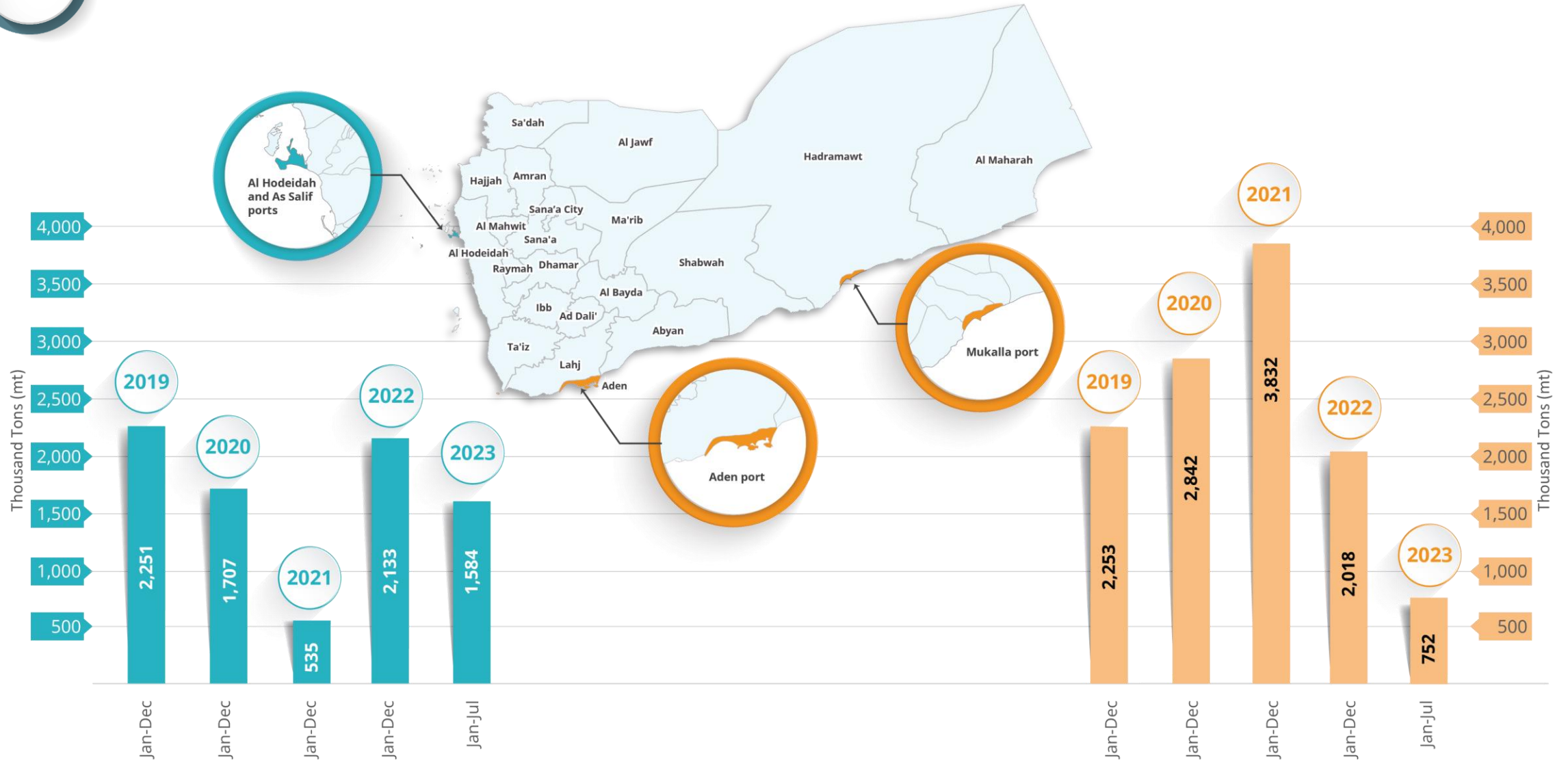
Exchange rate



Source: weekly WFP monitoring data (average weekly exchange rates)



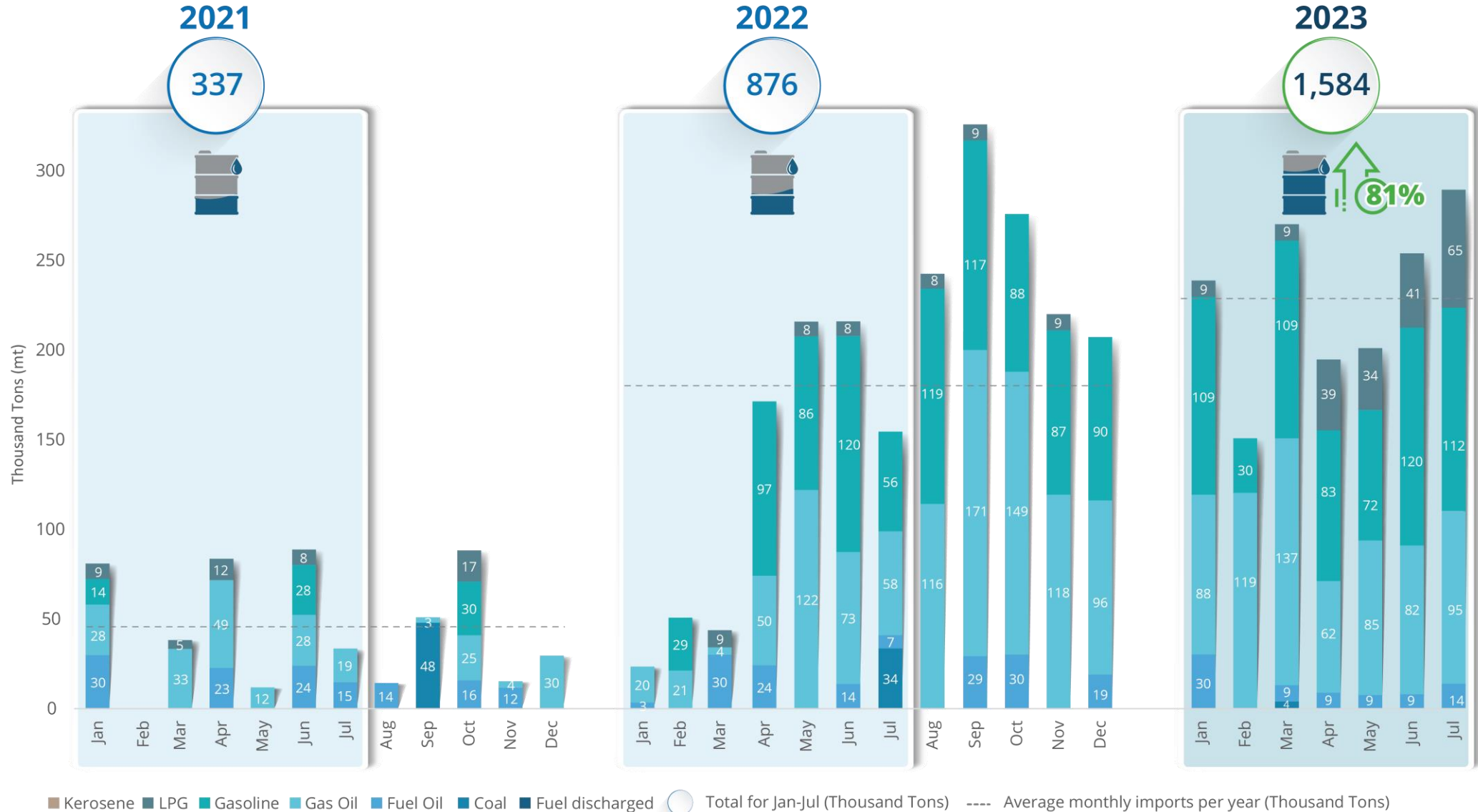
Fuel imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif, Mukalla and Aden ports



Source: UNVIM and shipment data from Wilhelmssen



Fuel imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports



Commercial imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports

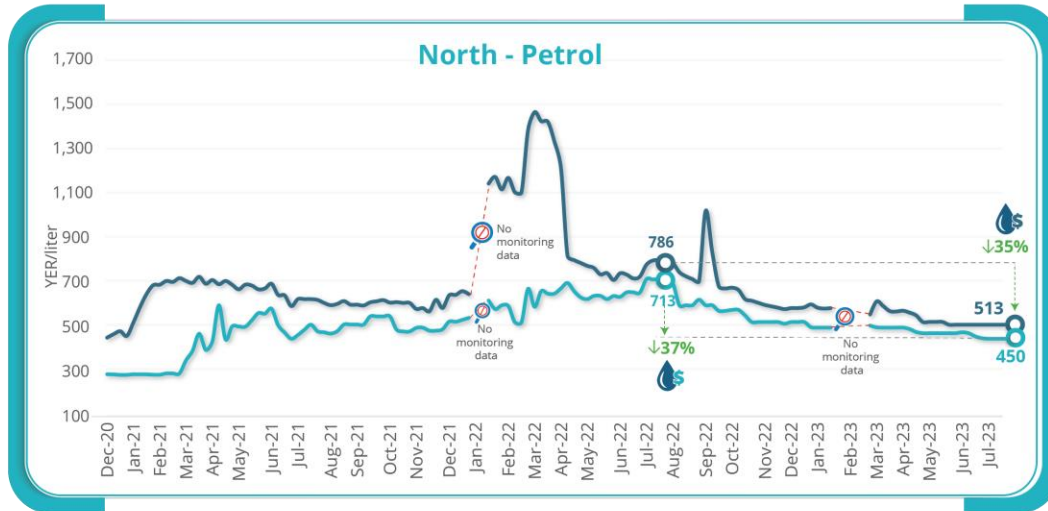
Source: UNVIM data

The figures of May-Jul 2023 are based on the data from Yemen Red Sea Ports Corporation

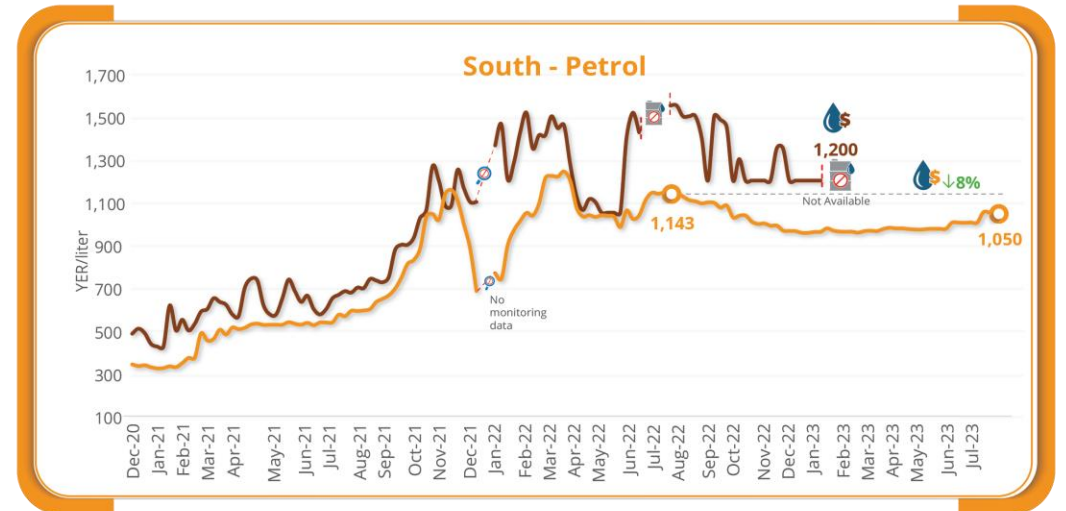
Data of fuel imports through Red Sea ports during June 2023 was revised and updated by the shipping agents



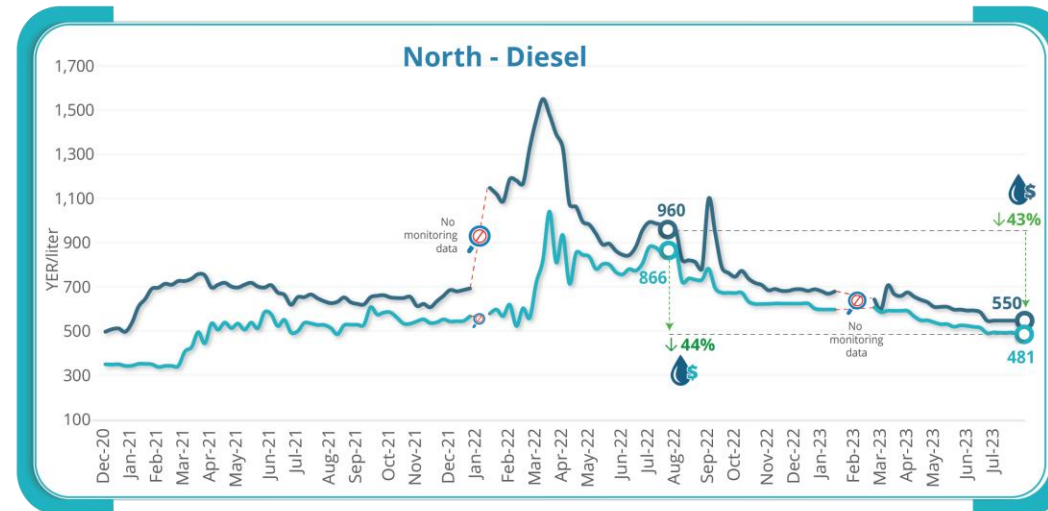
Fuel prices



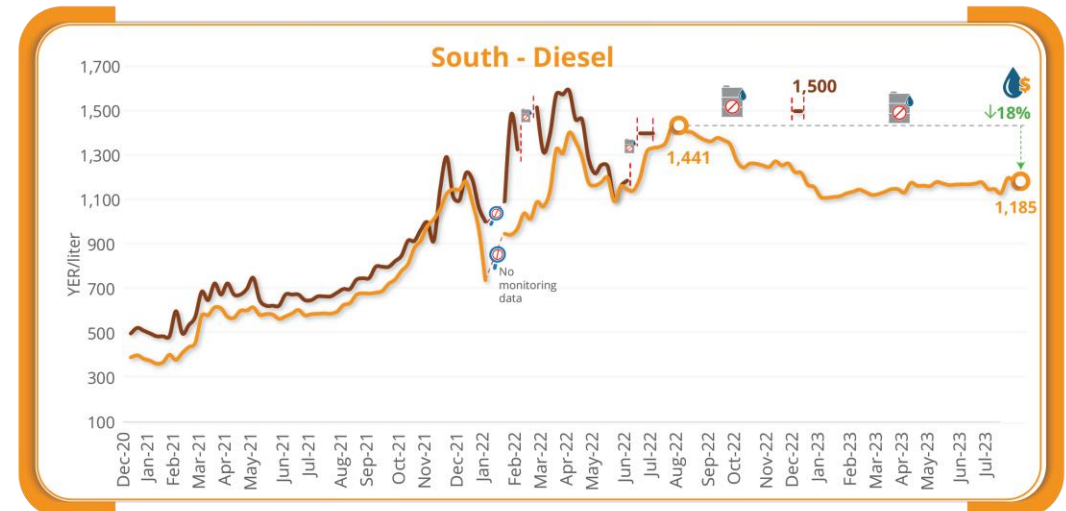
— Unofficial petrol price — Pumping petrol price*



— Unofficial petrol price — Pumping petrol price*



— Unofficial diesel price — Pumping diesel price

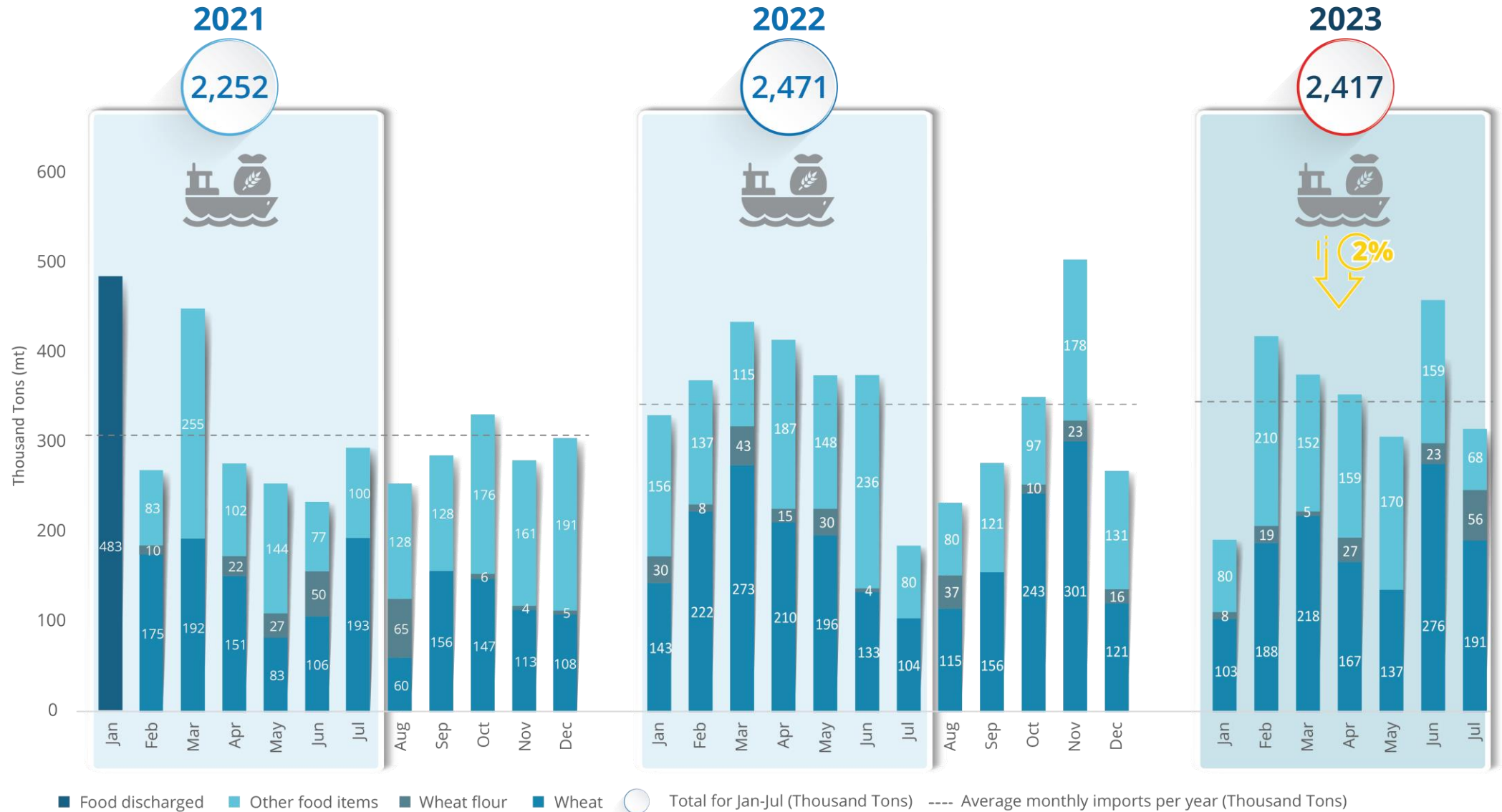


— Unofficial diesel price — Pumping diesel price

Pumping price: The average price of the official and commercial petrol/diesel sold through the gas stations



Food imports through Al Hodeidah and As Salif ports

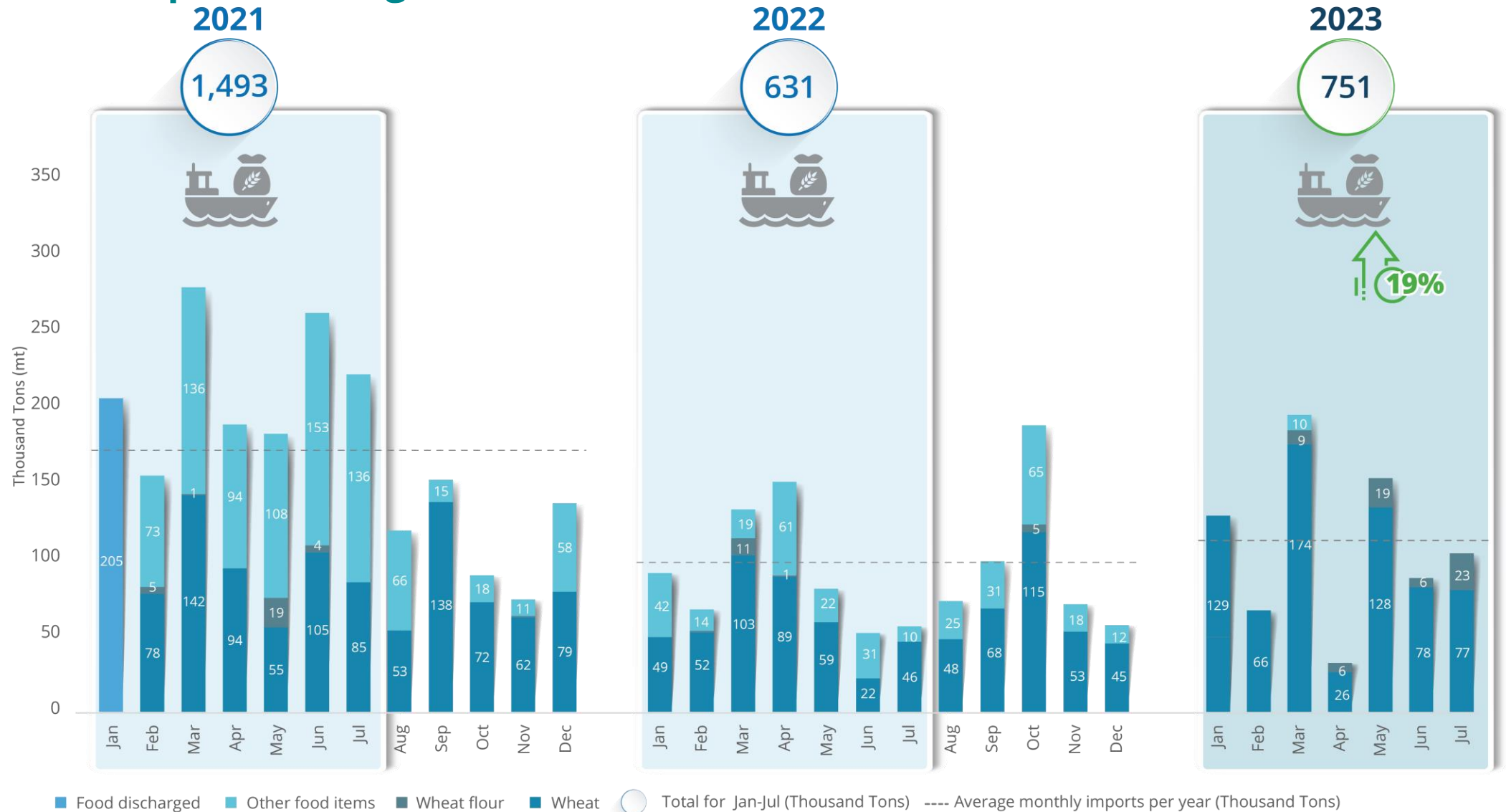


■ Food discharged
 ■ Other food items
 ■ Wheat flour
 ■ Wheat
 ○ Total for Jan-Jul (Thousand Tons)
 ---- Average monthly imports per year (Thousand Tons)

Source: UNVIM data
 The figures of May-Jul 2023 are based on the data from Yemen Red Sea Ports Corporation
 Data of food imports through Red Sea ports during June 2023 was revised and updated by the shipping agents



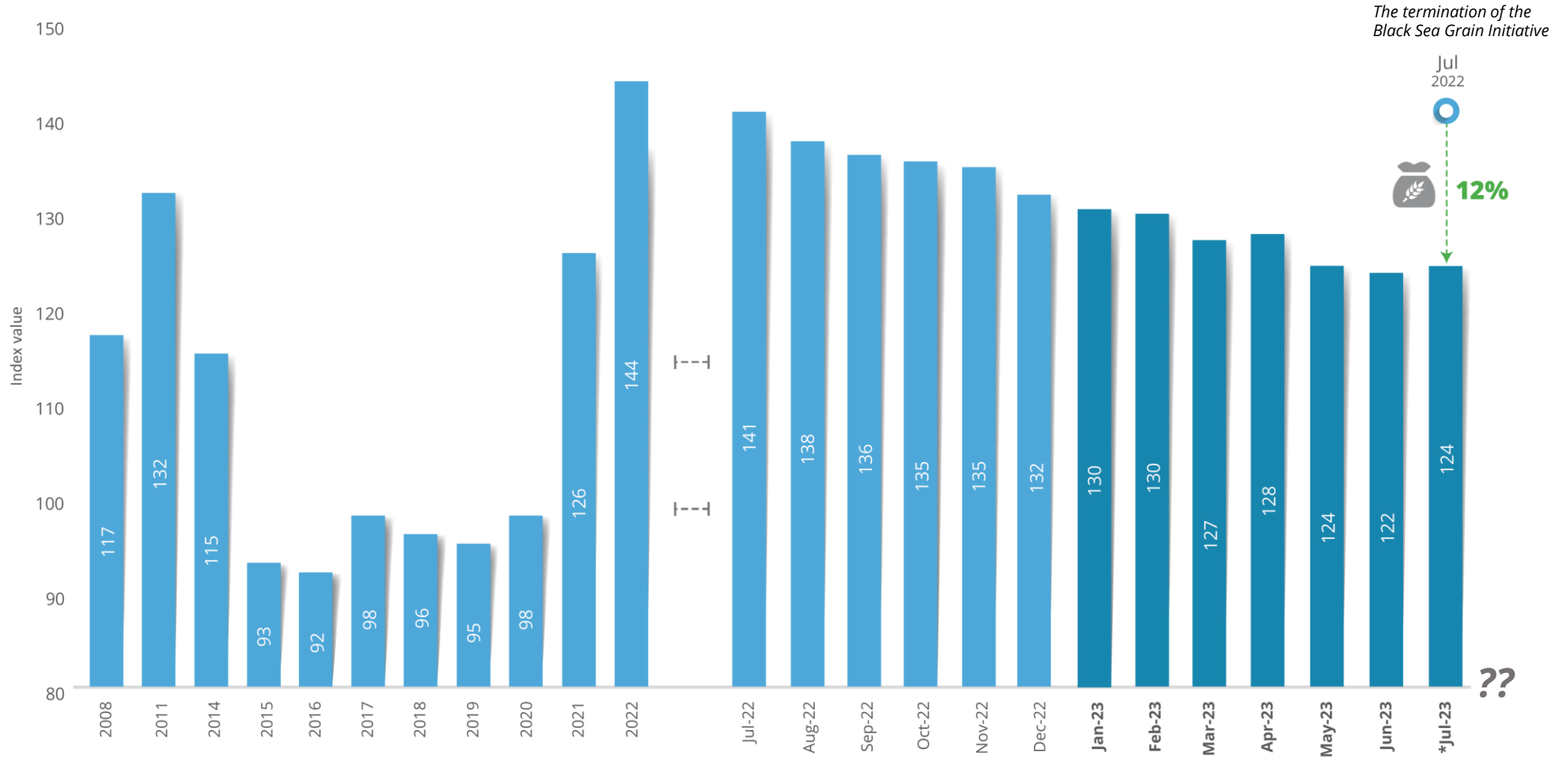
Food imports through Aden and Mukalla Ports



Source: Aden Ports Authority
 Data of food imports through Aden port during May-June 2023 was revised and updated by the shipping agents



Global food prices



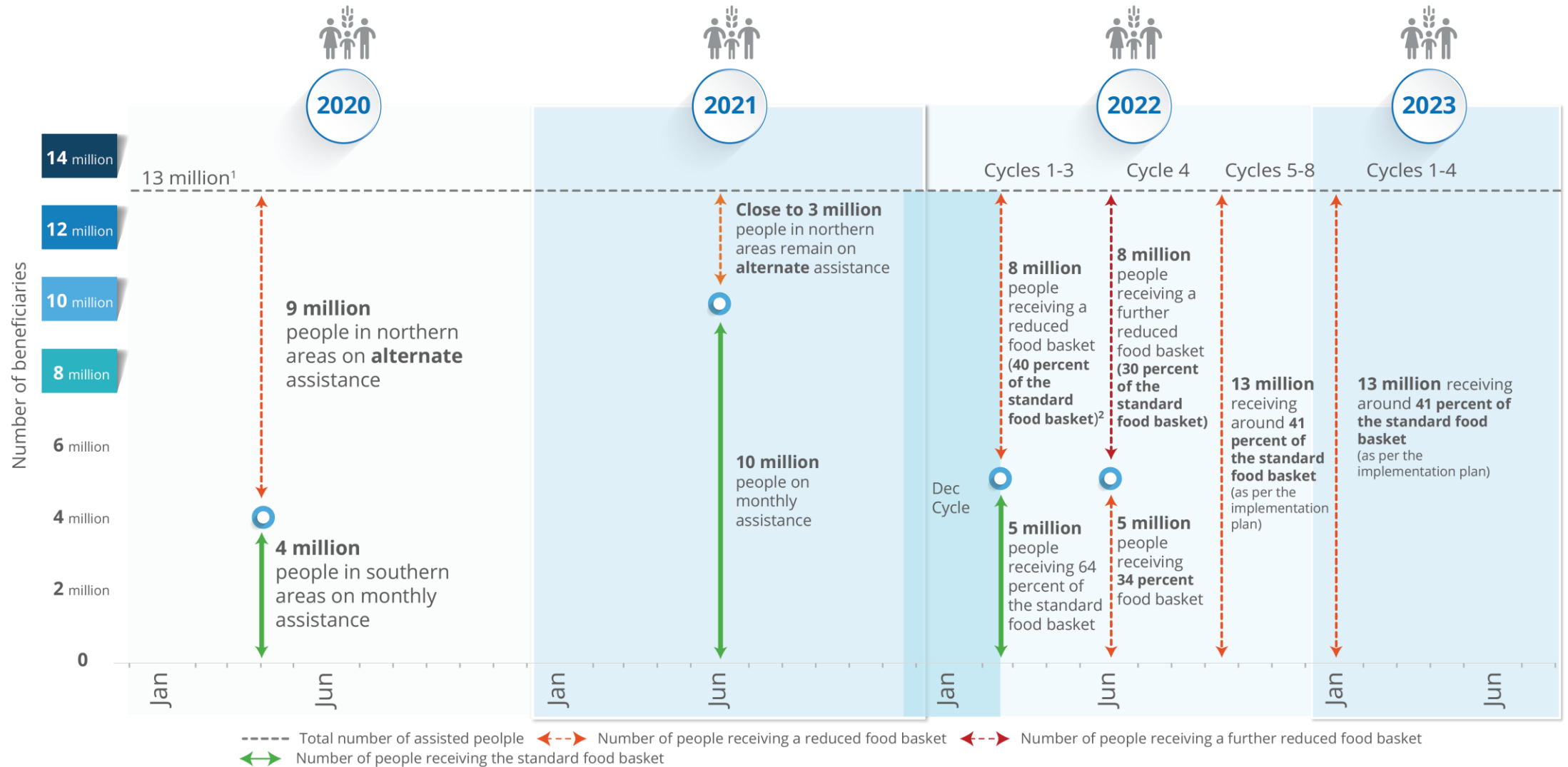
Source: FAO global food price index (FFPI)

*In July, the FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index increased by 12 percent compared to June, after seven months of consecutive declines.

The year-on-year decline of the global FFPI during July 2022 - July 2023 was driven by the decrease in the subindexes for oils, dairy and cereals by 23, 21 and 14 percent respectively.



Humanitarian food assistance*



*WFP food assistance, all figures are rounded

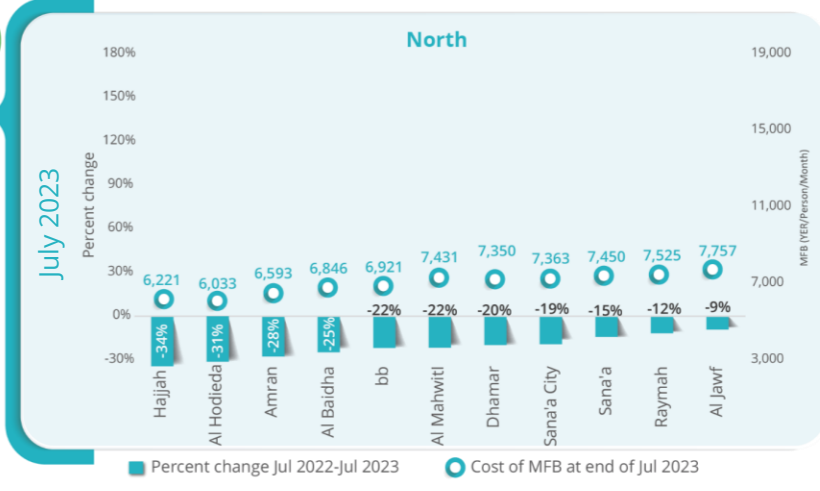
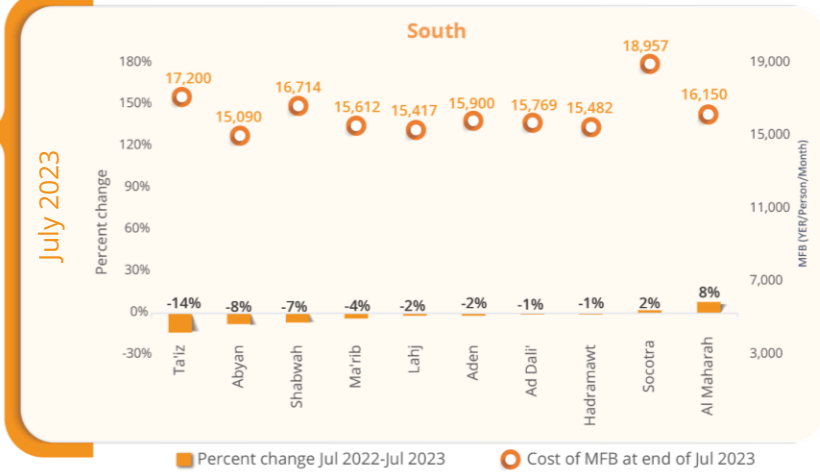
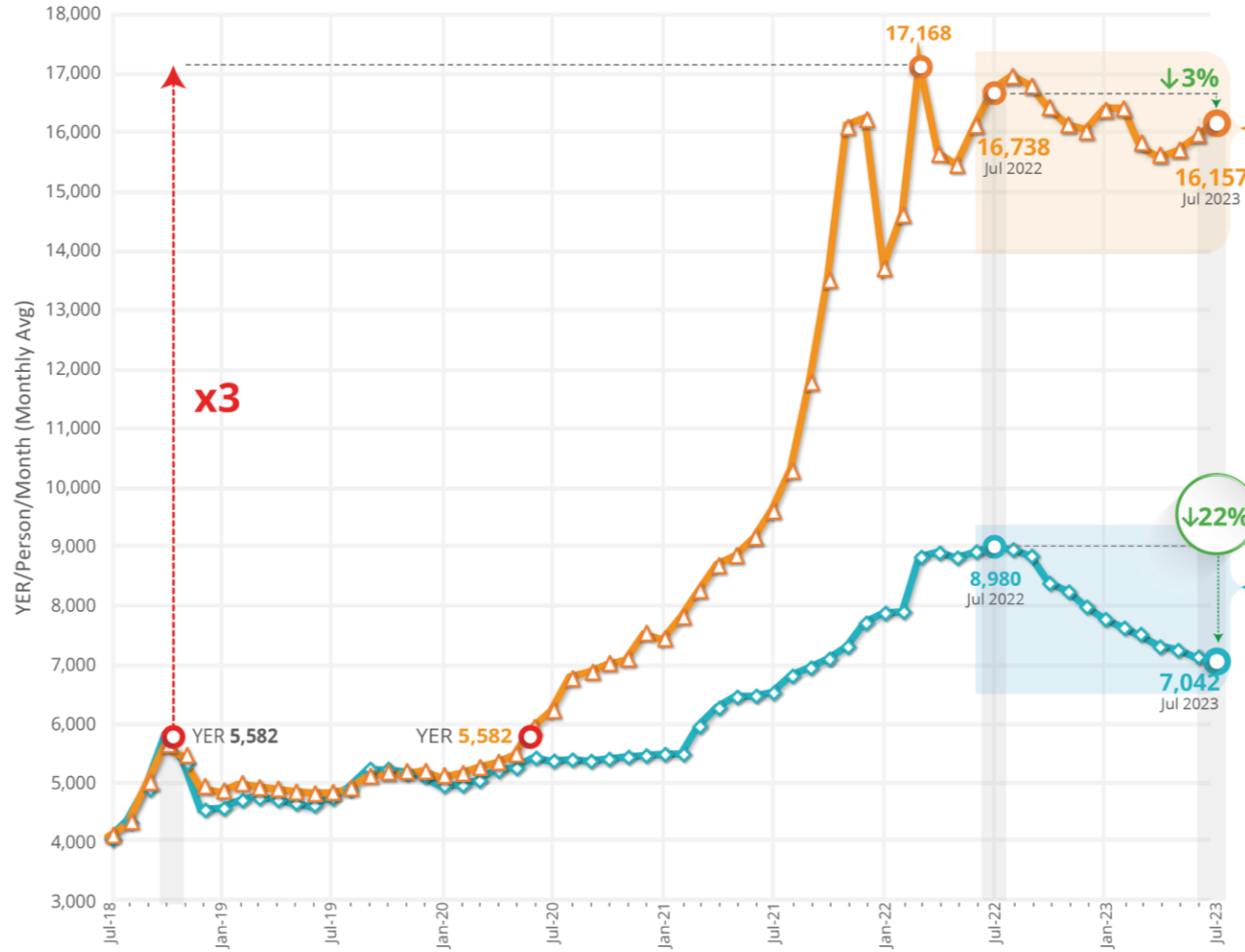
1 The figures reflect the implementation plan

2 The standard full basket is equivalent to 1,745 Kcal per person per day for a period of 30 days. Since 2022, food assistance is provided on a cycle basis (45 days) rather than monthly basis.

Without new funding, further reduction in assistance could impact around three million people in the north and 1.4 million people in the south starting the last quarter of 2023.



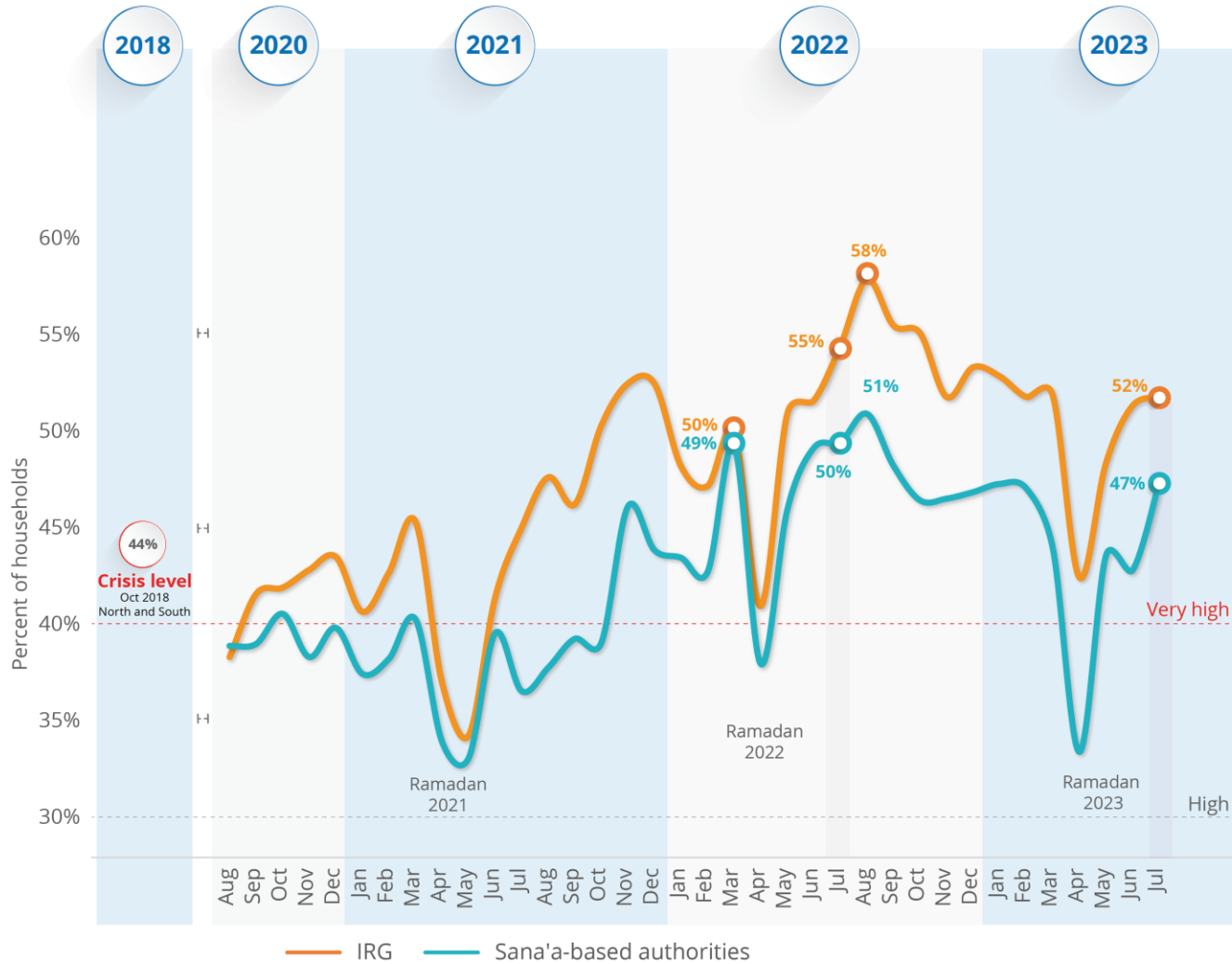
Average cost of minimum food basket (food affordability)



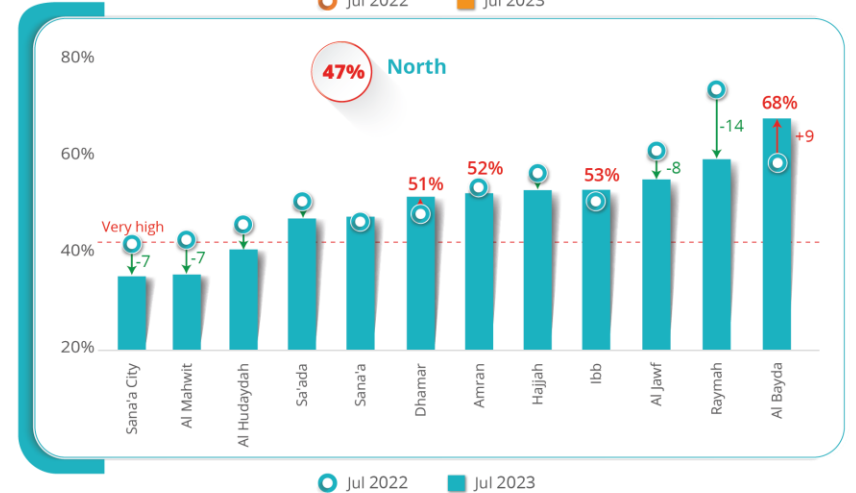
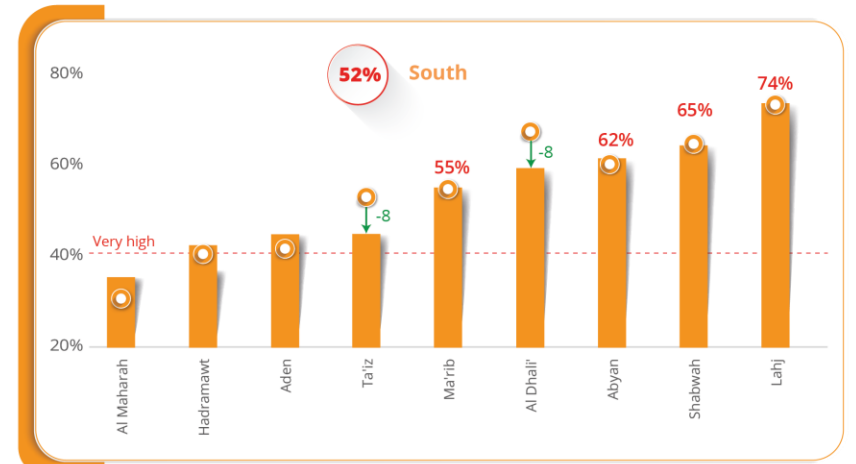
Source: Weekly WFP monitoring data



Food security outcomes (inadequate food consumption by governorate)



Source: WFP monitoring data



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