

SITUATION REPORT NOVEMBER 2020



A displaced man carrying aid items in Marib © IOM 2020



3,400

Migrants registered for return
 * registered since October 2020



1,214

Shelter and non-food item kits released from IOM's Contingency Stock Pipeline



13,331

Individuals received multi-purpose cash assistance

SITUATION OVERVIEW

This year has seen the humanitarian situation in Yemen, the largest crisis in the world, deteriorate to further alarming levels. Millions of people are displaced across the country, with 166,000 new displacements in 2019 alone, while at least 14,500 migrants are stranded in cities like Aden and Marib in dire need of assistance. Displacement and migration challenges have been compounded by a fuel and economic crisis, weakened public and health services, and COVID-19 pandemic.

The recently released [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\) analyses](#) show pockets of famine-like conditions returning in the country for the first time in two years. The number of people experiencing this degree of catastrophic food insecurity is predicted to nearly triple between January and June 2021 if immediate humanitarian support is not increased. Against this backdrop, the economic downturn is severely affecting food prices and households' purchasing power; by the end of November, the Yemeni Rial reached a record low of YER 875 per USD in southern governorates.

Following trends throughout the year, hostilities have continued this month in hot spots like Taizz, Al Jawf, Abyan, Al Hudaydah and Marib further exacerbating vulnerabilities and putting pressure on host communities. In Marib, conflict has displaced over 103,000 people within and to Marib since January 2020. As IOM and partners scale up [response and contingency planning](#), the humanitarian community is estimating that an additional 385,000 people could be displaced from Marib City into eastern Marib, Hadramaut and Shabwah, if the frontlines shift eastward. Those displaced by the conflict are some of the most vulnerable, with a majority being displaced for the second time.

While Yemen faces extreme challenges, migrants' needs have increased to unprecedented levels. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, international border closure and barriers to movement within Yemen have left thousands of migrants stranded at various locations with no means to return home, increasingly vulnerable to protection and safety risks. IOM estimates that at least 14,500, mainly young Ethiopian nationals, are stranded across the main migrant transit hubs within the country (Sana'a, Aden, Marib and Sa'ada), with little access to basic services or traditional coping mechanisms, such as support from host communities.

By the end of the month, the number of reported cases of COVID-19 in Yemen reached 2,088, with 605 fatalities. Limitations around testing and response capacities persist, and as a result the extent of the spread of virus still is unknown eight months into the outbreak. [IOM and partner efforts](#) have been constrained by access issues and global shortages that limit the import of supplies, as well as funding gaps and limited local level efforts to reduce transmission. These challenges are more pronounced in some areas in the north where humanitarian access issues, centred around bureaucratic impediments, continue to severely impede humanitarian response activities.

IOM HEALTH

In Al Jawf, Aden, Sa'ada, Al Baydah, Amanat Al Asimah, Lahj, Marib and Shabwah governorates, IOM continues to provide medical supplies and human resource support in 17 health facilities, reaching 18,610 people. Additionally, eight of these health facilities received medicines, medical supplies and hospital equipment this month. Emergency health support to IDPs and migrants is also being provided through IOM-supported mobile medical teams, anchored to IOM-supported primary and secondary health facilities in Aden, Lahj and Marib. As part of efforts to protect health workers and ensure an appropriate COVID-19 response, IOM continues to roll out COVID-19 case management and prevention trainings, reaching 121 health workers in Marib this month.

IOM has also completed the rehabilitation of the anti-retroviral treatment (ART) site at in Aden. The ART site provides counselling, testing, treatment and health education services, serving approximately 680 patients at a time. IOM, through the National Aids Programme (NAP), conducted trainings for 259 health workers on prevention, treatment and care services, in eight governorates. IOM distributed 10,100 long lasting insecticide nets in Amran and Al Mawit governorates in efforts to prevent malaria transmission.



18,610 Primary health care consultations conducted



8 Health facilities received medical supplies and equipment



A young mother getting treatment at IOM clinic in Rada'a © IOM 2020

CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

IOM is providing CCCM support in 66 IDP hosting sites, carrying out site improvements, coordinating service delivery for internally displaced persons (IDPs), and conducting community mobilization and committee empowerment activities. IOM also supported the implementation of COVID-19 prevention measures at the site level in Marib, Ibb and Taizz. Over 70 women in Marib participated in two mask making trainings; following these trainings, the women will receive materials for sewing masks, support for labour and then masks will be distributed in their sites. IOM's COVID-19 awareness raising efforts have also been complemented by community shielding approaches and site vulnerability assessments aimed at identifying and supporting households at high risk of contracting COVID-19.

IOM is working with partners to respond to land and property issues in informal settlements and collective sites in Taizz – 78 households facing eviction threats were referred to cluster partners for urgent shelter and relocation assistance. In 19 sites in Ibb, IOM distributed carpentry kits to IDP committees, ahead of onsite maintenance activities; trainings for site focal points on site management have also taken place in these sites.

In Marib, a priority for the Organization has been responding to the mass displacement crisis. With approximately 57 per cent of new IDPs now settling in displacement sites or informal settlements in Marib city and surrounding districts, IOM and partner capacities are stretched. IOM prioritized rolling out various site improvement and risk reduction projects in migrant and IDP hosting sites, while coordinating the CCCM response in partner-supported sites. Still, service gaps are widespread in the 46 displacement sites supported by IOM and partners, and some 84 IDP hosting sites (8,216 IDP HHs) are not supported by any site management and coordination partners.



79,133 Displaced households supported in 66 sites



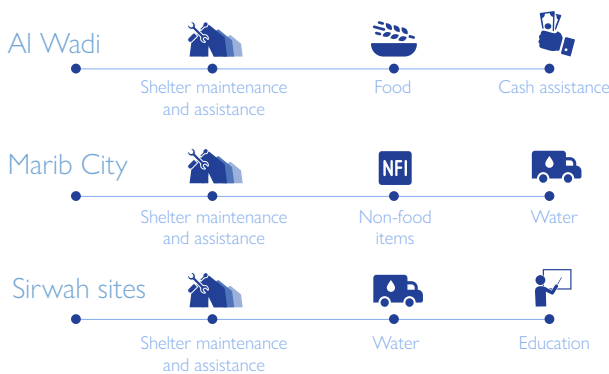
81 Displacement site infrastructure and maintenance projects



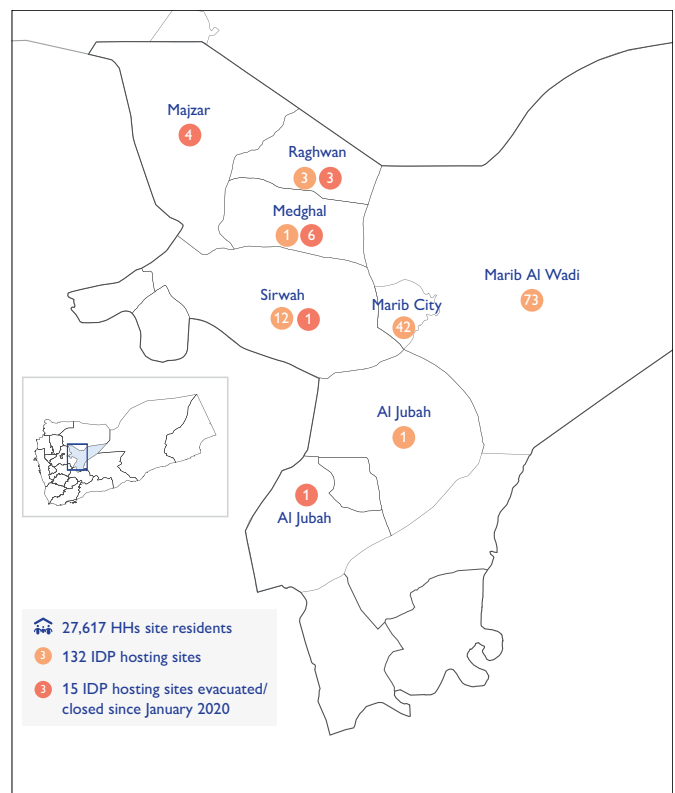
56 IDP committees established

Preliminary findings from needs assessments carried out across 132 IDP hosting sites in Marib

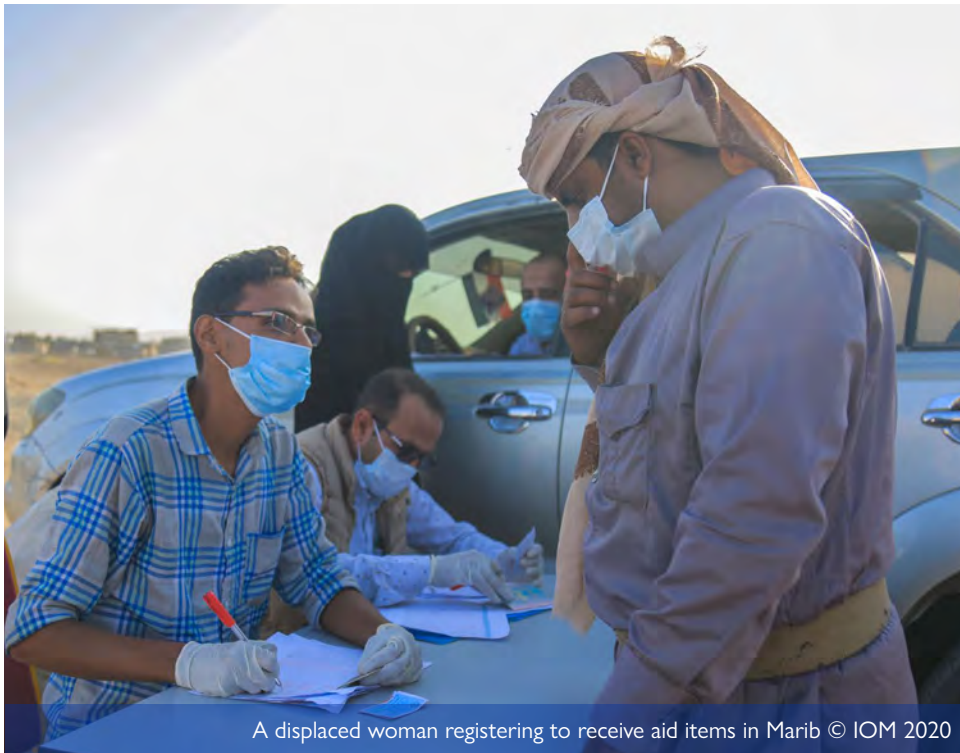
Priority Needs



- 131 sites:** Inadequate WASH services, protection support and livelihood
- 123 sites:** Inadequate health services
- 131 sites:** Inadequate livelihood opportunities
- 128 sites:** Inadequate nutrition support
- 107 sites:** Inadequate education services



 SHELTER & NON-FOOD ITEMS (S-NFI)



A displaced woman registering to receive aid items in Marib © IOM 2020



1,021 Households provided with emergency shelter materials



1,735 Households were provided with multi-purpose cash

IOM continued providing shelter and non-food items assistance to vulnerable groups and affected populations. In November, 1,083 families were reached with 744 NFIs, 682 tents, 495 shelter kits, and 20 SNFI kits. Through the IOM-managed Multi-Sector Contingency Pipeline, IOM is facilitating the rapid deployment of critical emergency shelter, NFI and hygiene items to cover emergency needs. During this reporting period, IOM released 495 shelter kits, 719 NFI, and 672 tents to partners and prepositioned additional stock to Al Hudaydah, Marib and Aden to meet future requests. In five governorates, IOM also provided assistance through the Rapid Response Mechanism to 10,269 people to meet the immediate needs of displaced persons. For IDPs displaced six months or longer, IOM is providing transitional shelters, allowing them to safely reside in semi-permanent shelter in the mid-term. So far, 807 transitional shelters have been constructed across Taizz and Marib. This month IOM, in coordination with the local authorities and communities, identified six additional IDP sites for transitional shelter support.

 PROTECTION

Faced with many complex challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM intensified its efforts to strengthen migrant assistance programmes and provide adequate support for the most vulnerable. As thousands of stranded migrants seek to return home amidst the limited options for movements brought on by the pandemic, IOM is working to restart its Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme while providing lifesaving assistance – food, water and other basic humanitarian assistance – for vulnerable migrants through its reception facilities and mobile teams. In Aden, since October, IOM has registered over 3,400 migrant applicants for VHR, and on 30 November, Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and immigration officials from arrived in Aden to conduct nationality verification activities. In the interim, the cash for work cleaning campaign that is engaging 1,200 migrants in Aden city is ongoing, and IOM plans to expand this initiative to support host community members, which will contribute to alleviating community tensions. In Marib, where a static population of migrants are facing dire humanitarian conditions, IOM is scaling up assistance and supporting temporary shelter – for example, IOM is supporting the relocation of a group of migrants to safer locations and providing 15 new tents in another informal site. Through IOM’s foster family, 24 migrants in Sana’a and Aden were provided with temporary shelter, food and NFI kits, and 31 infants received nutrition and other support. In Aden, 42 IDP children received wheelchairs, 13 children received glasses and eight girls received hearing aids.



5,381 Migrants received humanitarian assistance

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

IOM is providing safe water, water tanks, hygiene kits and long-lasting insecticidal nets to displaced and host communities across seven governorates while also constructing or rehabilitating water systems. In Al Hudaydah, for example, IOM carried out a combination of first and second line WASH activities - most recently through the construction of a concrete water tank tower supplying approximately 10,500 people with clean water in an IDP site and surrounding host community areas. In Taizz, IOM is carrying out the rehabilitation of water systems in two IDP hosting sites for 25,163 people. In Shabwah, the Organization is also rehabilitating a sewage system to support 20,000 people living around the system. In addition, IOM is maintaining waste collection activities in eight IDP hosting sites in Marib and Lahj.

Hygiene promotion activities, which incorporate COVID-19 messaging, are important mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases. IOM community health volunteers carried out 1,223 household visits, reaching 14,439 individuals in Taizz, Abyan and Marib governorates, which focused on cholera and COVID-19 prevention and handwashing techniques. IOM trained nearly 40 volunteers in Taizz and Shabwah. To ensure critical sanitation infrastrure is available in Marib, particalarly given the displacement crisis, IOM worked with communities to provide 283 latrines, engaging communities through cash for work this year. To ensure water supply is maintained, IOM trained and distributed WASH maintenance tools to six water management committees (51 members) and supplied approximately 670 individuals in three IDP hosting sites with 111 household water storage tanks.

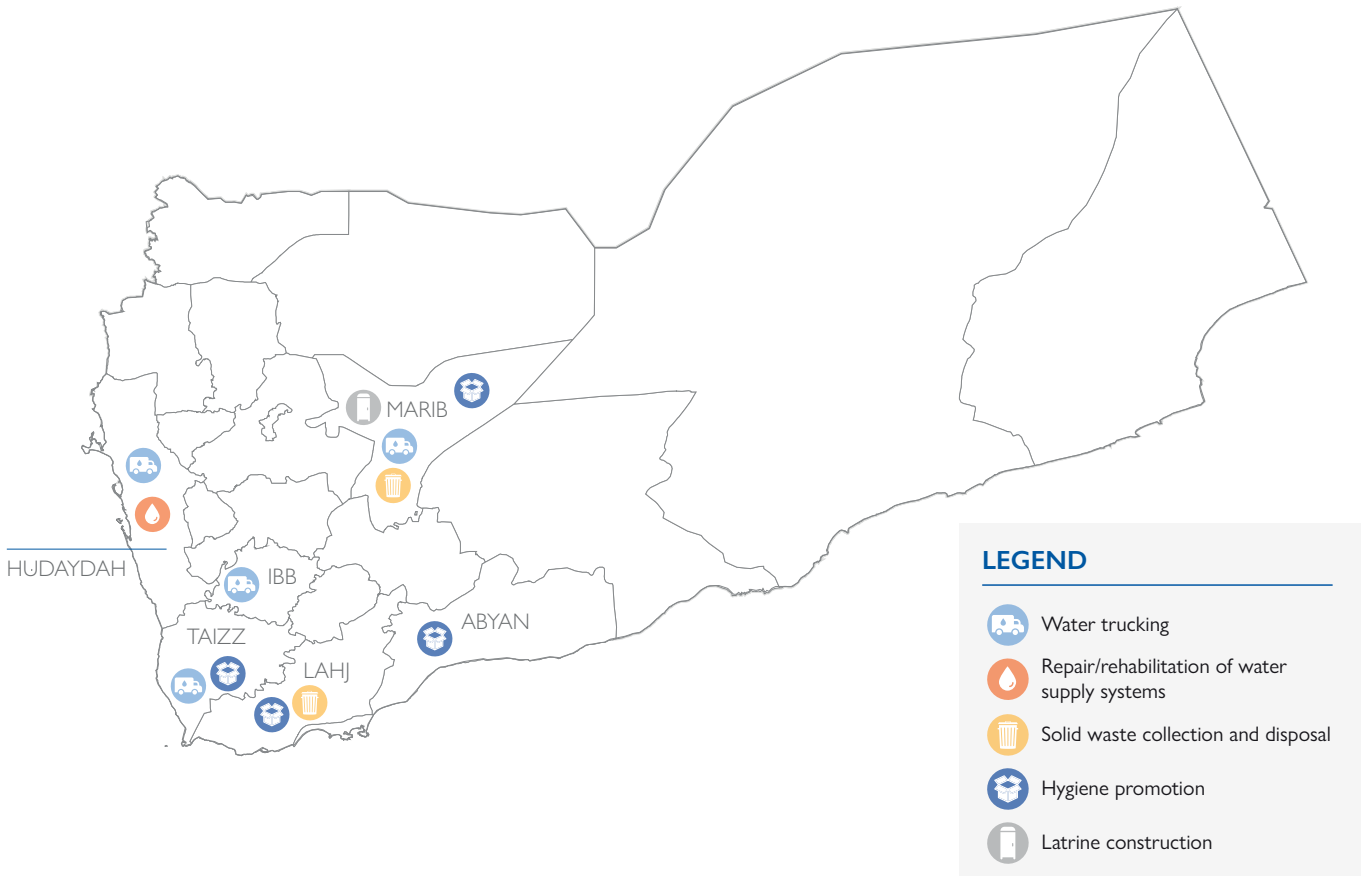


159,718 People supported with access to safe water



13,344 Hygiene kits distributed

IOM YEMEN WASH INTERVENTIONS



TRANSITION AND RECOVERY

IOM distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 1,692 IDP households in Marib. The Organization is also carrying out several community uninfrastructure improvement projects centered on ensuring local ownership. In partnership with FAO and Almaroof Association for Development, IOM trained 25 members of three local water user associations in Tarim, Hadramout on project administration, finance and procurement, water management and climate change, gender empowerment and conflict resolution to enable them to sustainably manage their own water supply in Wadi Thabi. In partnership with Al Ahlia Association for Water and Irrigation Users, IOM also continued soil preparation work for the rehabilitation of the Wadi Thabi irrigation channel in Hadramaut.

Senior officials from IOM met with the Lahj Governor, the Executive Unit manager and the Lahj Office of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) to introduce IOM's new projects in the governorate, which include the rehabilitation of schools, improvement of public services and social cohesion building in displacement affected communities. The meeting paved the way to kick off the project coordination with respective district officials, community members and line ministry departments to identify locations and activities and start implementation. IOM coordinated with district officials on arranging community consultations in Tuban, Al Houtah, Al Qabeitah and Al Musaimeer districts to identify priority interventions. In Marib, IOM conducted technical assessments of public service improvement activities prioritized through community consultations, which include school rehabilitations, WASH, health facility improvements and others.

Access to basic and health services remain impacted by the pandemic, particularly that of internally displaced people (IDPs). In a five-governorate study conducted by IOM in October and November, IDPs reported facing worse access to public services, water and food since the outset of the pandemic. IOM assessments also indicated further interruptions in education due to COVID-19, with only 65 per cent of children in IDP HHs outside of camps reporting attending school, only 43 per cent of IDP children in camps and 56 per cent of returnee children.



IOM staff and implementing partners discuss project activities in Marib © IOM 2020

A SELECTION OF THE KEY RESULTS FROM IOM'S MULTISECTORAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN MARIB AND LAHJ

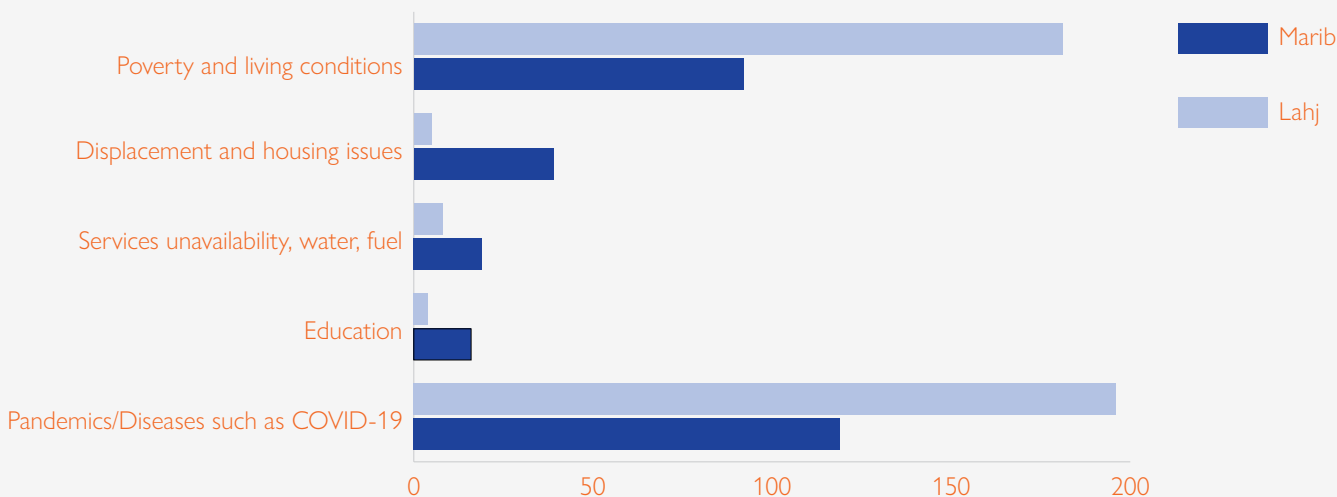
 **920** Household surveys

 **14,076** Key informant interviews

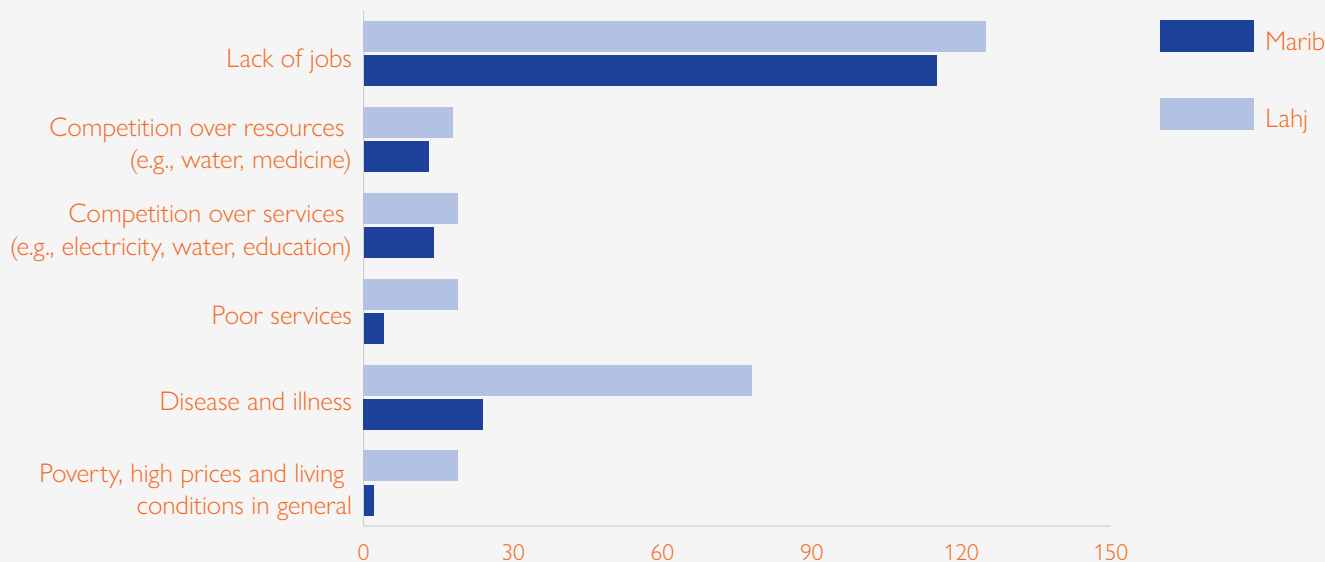
KEY TRENDS

1. Women face issues accessing services and decision-making processes;
2. COVID-19 and poverty have emerged as the primary concern among Yemenis;
3. Livelihoods and income are the primary drivers of community tensions;

What Issue is of Greatest Concern to Your Personal Life?



What is the Main Source of Tension in your Community?

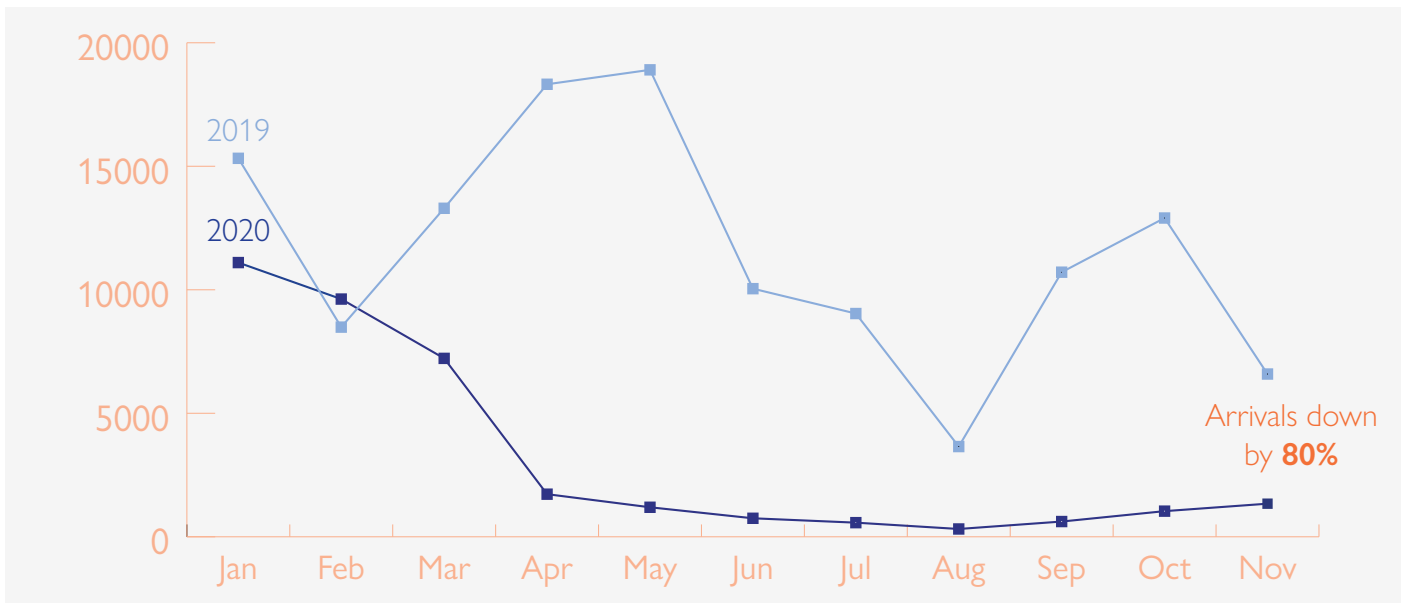


DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

Rapid Displacement Tracking (RDT) activities continued in the 13 governorates where IOM has access and tracked 1,387 HH displacements in November, mainly within and from Marib, Taizz, Al Hudaydah and Al Dhale'e governorates. In total, 27,777 HHs have been displaced so far in 2020. From the beginning of the year until the end of November, an estimated 35,500 migrants arrived in Yemen, and 13,895 Yemenis returned from KSA, while another 266 Yemenis returned from the Horn of Africa. In November, migrant arrivals to Yemen continued to be lower when compared with the same period in 2019. However, October and November 2020 witnessed a slight increase compared with the previous two months (August and September). DTM recorded 1,340 new migrant arrivals in Yemen through Lahj, Shabwah, Abyan and Hadramaut, originating from Ethiopia (88%) and Somalia (12%). Migrant arrivals in November 2020 were about five times less than arrivals recorded in November 2019 when 6,589 people entered the country.

High needs reported on food amongst IDP communities: [IOM teams and key informants also observed high needs amongst IDPs for food](#). In Lahj (85%), Shabwah (67%), Al Dhale'e (59%) and Abyan (58%), for example, food is the prioritized need for most of the displaced population, with IDPs reporting increased prices of essential commodities in the local markets. This is alarming because many IDPs in Lahj and Shabwah live with either host families or relatives and do not pay rent, indicating that the host communities are experiencing increasing dire economic conditions, limited resources and shortages in food supplies. In areas like Al Dhale'e governorate, where 73 per cent of IDPs are displaced from within the same governorate, a majority are farmers who are now unable to find new income sources to support their families.

Migrant Arrivals in Yemen 2019 & 2020



Find all DTM reports on displacement and migration [here](#).

IOM YEMEN'S ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER 2020 WERE SUPPORTED BY

