ERI / A useful check for your next stock purchase

189 distinct merchants in Yaba, Sabo and Tejuosho, Lagos; 1 return visit.

Field visits: 7 October 2026 - 23 October 2026. 189 initial observations.

See what other businesses in these markets reported, then decide whether a small check would be useful in your own shop.

WHAT MERCHANTS TOLD US

The cost of restocking: 139 of 173 respondents who restock reported spending more than about three months earlier. 173 usable responses out of 189 initial observations. 16 answers were missing, unclear, inconsistent or not applicable. Spending can rise because prices, quantities or the products purchased have changed. We have not separated those factors yet.

BEFORE YOU ACT: This is an optional practice to try, not a measured effect or a promise of higher sales or profit. Keep customer and bank details private.

YOUR NEXT STEP: At your next stock purchase, note the item, pack size, quantity, unit cost and transport cost. Compare the same items next time.

These findings describe the businesses we visited, not every business in Lagos. Each figure uses the responses available for that question.

Tell the ERI field team what you noticed and whether this was useful.

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