

Market Price Report

The MAU tracks market prices in Southeast Myanmar. Data are collected from three vendors per product per market in the last week of each month. The data include prices from Demoso (village), Hpapun (Kamamaung), Hsihseng (main), Kawkareik (main), Loikaw (main), Pekon (main), and Taungoo (Nat Htet). Data are available online at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

KEY FINDINGS

- **Essential food prices were fairly stable**, with rice prices up 4-6% and pulses and cooking oil mostly stable;
- **Meat/fish prices were stable or rising in June**, and they climbed faster than other food categories like vegetables or essential foods;
- **NFI price trends varied by market**, with more stable prices in Pekon and Demoso and more rising prices in Taungoo;
- **Soap and detergent prices jump 20-25%**, but prices for other hygiene NFIs were relatively stable;
- **Essential food prices remained 30-50% above 2023**, while vegetable prices were 60-100% higher, and NFIs prices were 30-90% higher;
- **Vegetable prices have risen slower than last year**, suggesting large increases may yet be ahead as the monsoon season progresses.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Essential food prices were fairly stable in June, although prices rose in Hpapun Township. Rice prices were stable in June except for a few price hikes of 4-6%. Cooking oil prices in Demoso jumped due to supply challenges, but elsewhere prices were stable. Prices for essentials foods rose 8-14% in Hpapun Township, but other markets were fairly stable.

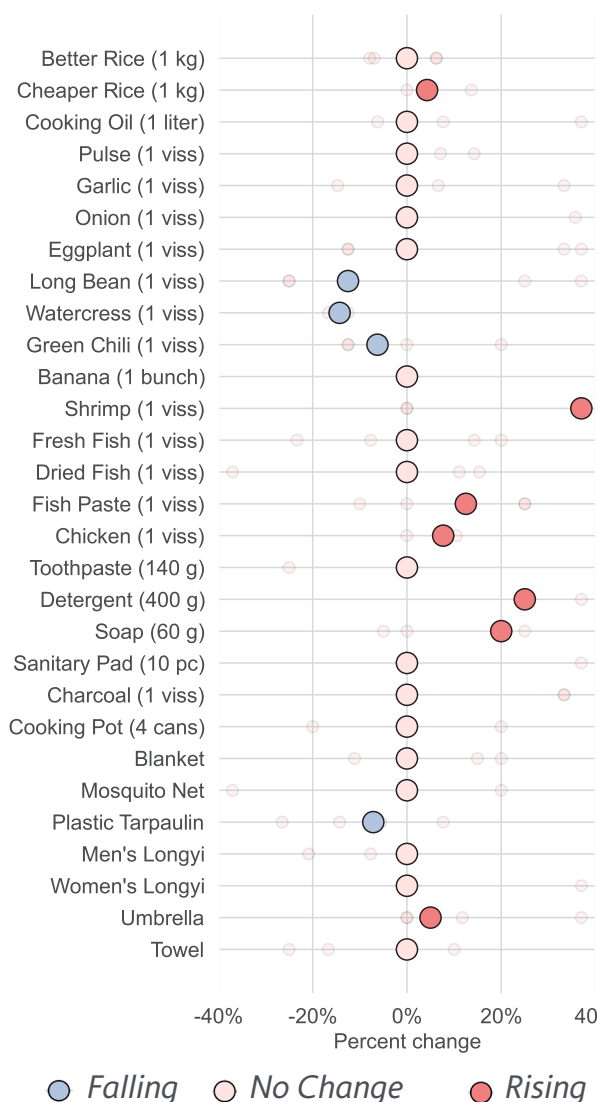
Vegetables – Vegetable prices fell in Southern Shan State but rose in Hpapun Township. Watercress prices fell 14% in June and onion prices were stable, but price trends otherwise differed by township. Most vegetable prices fell 12-14% in Pekon and Pinlaung, while prices rose 20-40% in Hpapun. Demoso and Taungoo saw a mix of rising and falling vegetable prices.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices were stable or rising in June. Chicken and fish paste prices rose 8-12% in June, while shrimp prices jumped due to poor availability of cheaper varieties. Prices for dried fish, fresh fish, and pork varied by market, but there were overall very few instance of falling prices for meat/fish in June.

Hygiene Products – Soap and detergent prices jumped 20-25%, but prices for other hygiene products were stable. Prices for hygiene products were fairly stable in Hpapun and Taungoo, but elsewhere prices rose for soap and detergent. Prices for toothpaste and sanitary pads were stable except in Taungoo.

Other NFIs – NFI prices varied by market with prices rising in Taungoo and falling in Demoso. Plastic tarp prices fell 7% in June, but NFI price trends otherwise varied by market. NFI prices were stable in Pinlaung and Pekon while falling 10-20% in Demoso. Taungoo saw dramatic price swings of 15-30% (both lower and higher), while NFI prices in Hpapun were fairly stable.

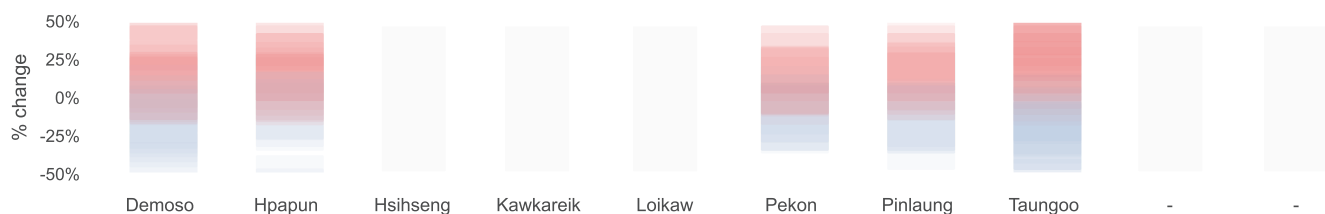
Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

June saw an extension of last month's trends at the township-level, with more rising prices in Taungoo and relatively stable prices in Pekon and Pinlaung. One-quarter of all prices monitored in Taungoo rose 27% or more in June, but one-quarter of all prices there also fell at least 16%, signaling a fair amount of volatility. Demoso and Hpapun saw the next most price hikes, with one-quarter of all prices monitored rising 8% and 10%, respectively. Prices were quite stable in Pekon and Pinlaung, where half of all prices monitored in June were unchanged. All five markets saw relatively few falling prices in June.

Chart 2. Price Change for All Products, by Township (One Month)



The above chart provides a general impression of the frequency of rising/falling prices in each market. Horizontal bands represent the density of products at a given percent-change. Red indicates rising prices, blue indicates falling prices.

Chart 3. Direction of Price Change, by Township and Product Category (One Month)



The above chart provides a general impression of the direction of price changes in each market by product category. Product categories are labeled as stable (grey), falling (blue), rising (red), or mixed (pink).

Twelve-Month Price Changes²

Essential Foods – Fairly stable essential food prices rose at a pace slower than last year. Prices for cheaper rice (+47%), better rice (+52%), pulses (+36%), and cooking oil (+35%) were significantly above last year, but prices were rising slower than last year.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices rose slower than last year, but some still remained 60-80% higher. The median 12-month price change for most vegetables narrowed by 10-50 percentage points in June. Prices for garlic (+110%), eggplant (+60%), and watercress (+75%) were still much higher, but prices for onion (+20%) and long bean (+12%) were only moderately higher.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices also rose more slowly than last year. Prices remained far higher than last year for fresh fish (+75%) and fish paste (+50%), and pork prices were moderately higher (+20%), but dried fish (+0%) and chicken (+4%) prices were nearly on par.

Hygiene Products – Rising prices for hygiene products were 30-50% above last year. Prices were far higher for toothpaste (+110%), and prices were significantly higher

for detergent (+33%), soap (+36%), and sanitary pads (+40%).

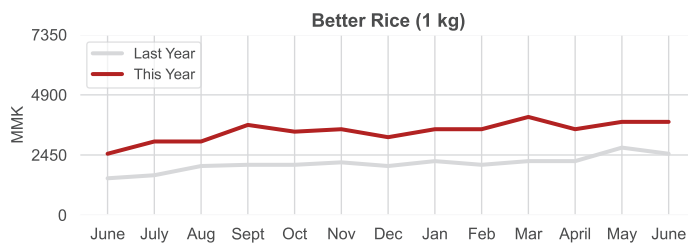
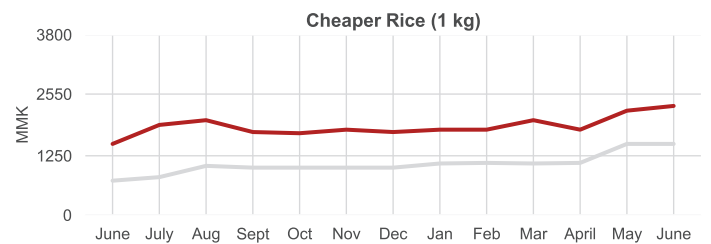
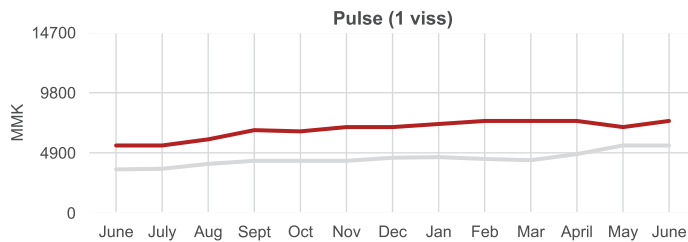
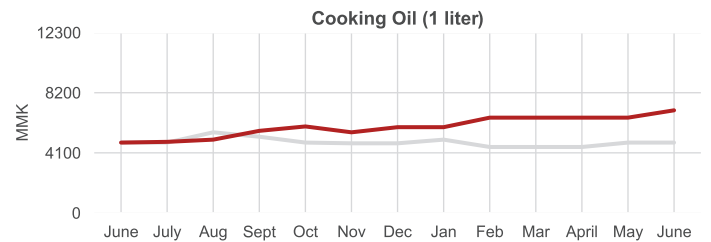
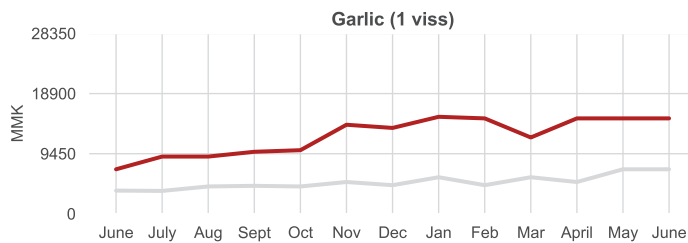
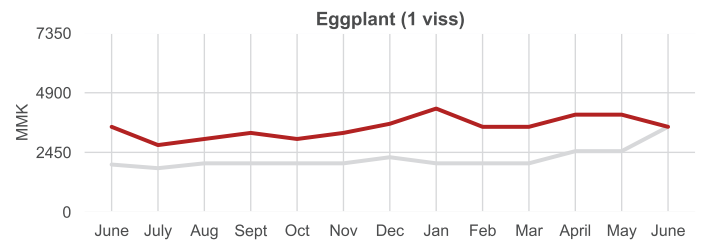
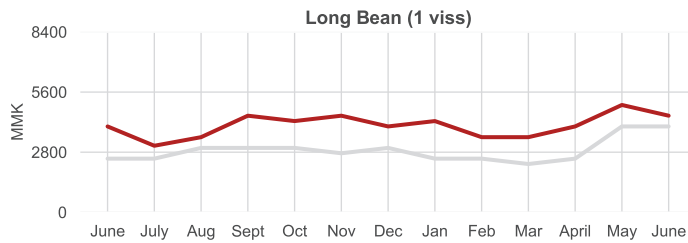
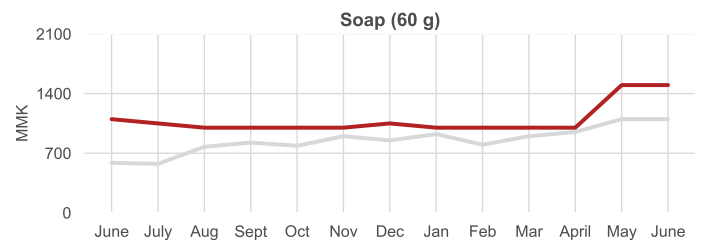
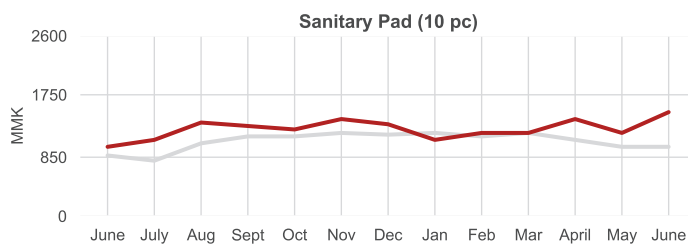
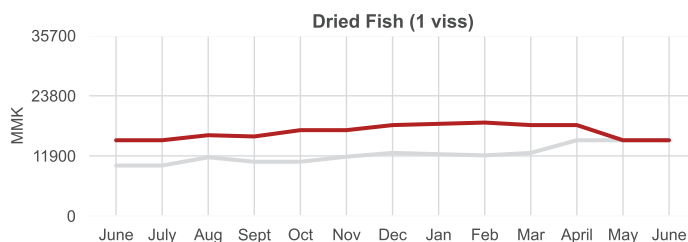
Other NFIs – NFI prices were generally 40-90% above 2023 levels. NFI prices rose at a pace similar to last year, and prices remained significantly higher for charcoal (73%), blankets (67%), plastic tarps (94%), and towels (50%). Prices for jerry cans, mosquito nets, longyis, and cooking pots were somewhat closer to last year but still 10-20% higher in some cases.

What to Watch

- Prices for **vegetables**, which began climbing slightly later this year than last, are likely to rise faster in the remainder of the monsoon season;
- After two months of rising prices, **Taungoo** suppliers may pass along higher prices to retailers in Pekon and Demoso where prices have been more stable;
- Spiking prices for **hygiene** products were not unexpected and are likely to continue climbing due to poor supply and increased seasonal demand.

² Twelve-month price changes are based on three-month rolling averages. This is meant to smooth monthly price fluctuations and help capture trends.

Charts 4-15. Median Township Price, Selected Products (Thirteen Months)



Prices for June 2024 (MMK)

Product	Demoso (village)	Hpapun (Kamarmaung)	Hsiseng (town)	Kawkareik (town)	Loikaw (town)	Pekon (village)	Pinlaung (town)	Taungoo (town)
Better Rice (1 kg)	2,550	4,250	-	-	-	4,000	3,800	3,500
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	2,300	2,500	2,600
Palm Oil (1 liter)	13,000	7,000	-	-	-	6,500	6,500	7,500
Pulse (1 viss)	10,000	8,000	-	-	-	7,500	7,500	6,500
Salt (500 g)	500	200	-	-	-	500	500	500
Garlic (1 viss)	12,000	16,000	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	14,500
Onion (1 viss)	3,000	3,500	-	-	-	3,000	3,000	3,800
Eggplant (1 viss)	2,000	7,000	-	-	-	3,500	3,500	4,000
Long Bean (1 viss)	7,000	10,000	-	-	-	3,500	3,000	4,500
Watercress (1 viss)	3,000	3,500	-	-	-	3,000	3,000	2,500
Green Chili (1 viss)	8,000	6,000	-	-	-	3,500	3,500	10,000
Bananas	3,500	4,000	-	-	-	2,000	2,000	4,000
Toothpaste (140g)	24,000	60,000	-	-	-	8,000	8,000	19,000
Detergent (400g)	11,500	12,000	-	-	-	16,000	16,000	12,000
Soap (60g)	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	20,000	13,000	12,500
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	-	9,000	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Shrimp (1 viss)	14,000	21,000	-	-	-	13,000	14,000	16,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	20,000	18,000	-	-	-	18,000	18,000	20,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	-	21,000	-	-	-	28,000	25,000	12,000
Ar Bae Kyauk (1 viss)	3,000	3,000	-	-	-	1,800	1,800	3,000
Chicken (1 viss)	2,500	4,000	-	-	-	1,500	1,500	-
Fish Paste (1 viss)	2,500	1,900	-	-	-	1,200	1,200	1,500
Pork (1 viss)	1,500	1,500	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,800
Charcoal (1 viss)	1,200	1,000	-	-	-	1,500	2,000	2,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	11,000	15,000	-	-	-	8,000	8,000	9,000
Blanket	16,000	15,000	-	-	-	15,000	18,000	10,000
Mosquito Net	15,000	25,000	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	12,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	35,000	34,000	-	-	-	32,500	30,000	25,000
Men's Longyi	12,000	10,000	-	-	-	12,000	12,000	9,500
Women's Longyi	12,000	10,000	-	-	-	9,500	9,500	7,000
Umbrella	10,500	9,000	-	-	-	9,500	8,500	12,000
Towel	5,000	7,000	-	-	-	2,200	2,000	4,500
Vacuum Flask	8,000	25,000	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	13,500
Jerry Can	10,000	8,000	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	6,500

*Dashes indicate products that were unavailable at specification.

Market Analysis Unit (MAU)

The Market Analysis Unit is an independent project that provides donors, humanitarian responders, development practitioners and private sector actors in Myanmar with data and analysis to better understand the impacts of market developments, conflict and other crises on:

- Household purchasing power, including coping mechanisms, safety nets and access to basic needs;
- Supply chains, including trade, cross-border dynamics and market functionality (particularly as it relates to food systems);
- Financial services, including financial services providers, household and business access to finance and remittances; and
- Labor markets (formal and informal), with a focus on agricultural labor and low-wage sectors (e.g., construction, food services).

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