

Market Price Report

The MAU tracks market prices in Central and Northern Rakhine State and Chin State. Data are collected from three vendors per product per market in the last week of each month.¹ Data and product specifications are available online through the MPR dashboard at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

KEY FINDINGS

- **Cooking oil prices rose 7% in June**, but prices for other essentials like rice and pulses were fairly stable;
- **Some vegetables prices rose 40-60%** amid reports that road closures significantly increased shipping costs;
- **Meat/fish prices rose another 5-9% in June**, continuing upward at a pace similar to May;
- **Toothpaste and detergent prices rose 12-17%**, but other hygiene NFIs were stable after May's sharp hikes;
- **NFI prices rose 6-15% in June**, and NFI price hikes were particularly steep in Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun;
- **Hygiene NFI prices remained 100-300% above 2023**, while other NFIs were often double last year's levels;
- **Hygiene and shelter NFI prices will likely keep rising**, putting some items out of reach of most households;
- **Prices may cool in some markets in July**, such as Ponnagyun and Myebon, where prices spiked in June.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Essential food prices were relatively stable in June. Rice prices fluctuated 5-7% in June but were overall fairly stable. Prices for cooking oil also fluctuated but were overall 3% lower than last month. Prices for pulses were flat after rising steadily in March and April.

Vegetables – Vegetables prices rose again in June, although eggplant and watercress price were relatively stable. Onion and green chili prices jumped 40-60% as road closures increased shipping costs, and garlic prices rose 12%. Eggplant prices were stable after rising in May, and long bean prices were stable too. Watercress prices were down 9% in June. Notwithstanding Pauktaw, most markets saw wide vegetable price increases in June.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices climbed 5-9% in June, rising at a pace similar to May. Prices for fresh fish, dried fish, and fish paste rose 5-6%, while chicken prices rose 9%. Shrimp prices fell 3%. Retailers said rising fuel costs added to fishermen's expenses, driving them to increase prices.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products rose again in June but slower than they had in past months. Prices for toothpaste and detergent rose 12-17% on reports of limited supply and high demand. Prices for sanitary pads were stable while soap prices fell 5%.

Other NFIs – NFI prices increased 6-15% in June, and the steepest increases were in Kyauktaw Township. Prices for plastic tarps and mosquito nets rose 10% and 15%, respectively, while towels rose 6% and longyis rose 9-15%. Prices for some NFIs like charcoal and cooking pots were stable in June, except in Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun where NFI prices rose sharpest in June.

Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)

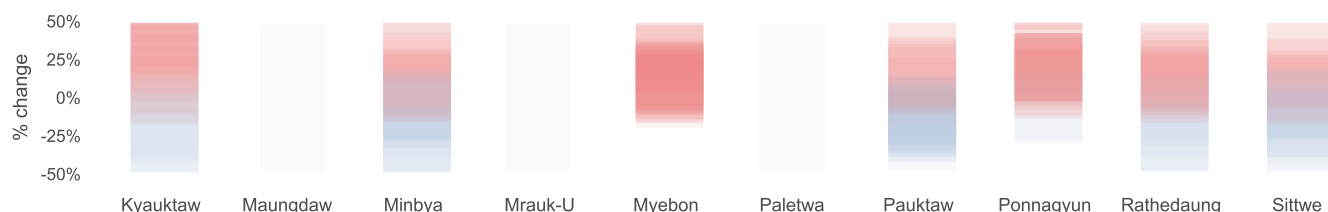


¹ Due to town market closures in Pauktaw, Ponnagyun, and Rathedaung, prices were gathered in nearby village markets.

Township-Level Price Changes

Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, and Myebon saw particularly broad price hikes in June, while Minbya and Pauktaw saw the most price relief. Half of all prices monitored in Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun rose at least 16% and 20%, respectively, and one-quarter rose at least 45% and 42%. Myebon also saw half of all prices monitored rise at least 11%, and there were no lower prices there in June. By contrast, one-quarter of all prices monitored in Minbya and Pauktaw fell at least 8% and 13%, respectively. Rathedaung and Sittwe saw more of a mix of rising and falling prices in June, although one-quarter of all prices monitored in Rathedaung increased at least 14%.

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 – Rice prices rose slower than at this time last year, while cooking oil rose more quickly. Prices for better rice (+9%) and cheaper rice (+3%) were only moderately higher than June of last year. By contrast, prices for cooking oil (+150%) and pulses (+270%) remained far higher than last year.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices lingered at least 70% above last year's levels. Prices for garlic (+360%) and green chili (+190%) remained far higher than last year, while prices for eggplant (+80%), long bean (+71%), and banana (+100%) were nearly double.

Meat and Fish – Meat/fish prices rose a bit later than they did last year, but they were still up 20-60%. Meat/fish prices drifted closer to 2023 levels in June despite rising prices, because prices rose later this year. The median twelve-month increase for fresh fish (+17%), dried fish (+36%), and fish paste (+60%) narrowed by 7-20 percentage points in June. Shrimp prices remained double last year's level.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were

two-to-four times higher than June 2023. Prices were far higher for toothpaste (+280%), soap (+150%), detergent (+230%), and particularly sanitary pads (+300%).

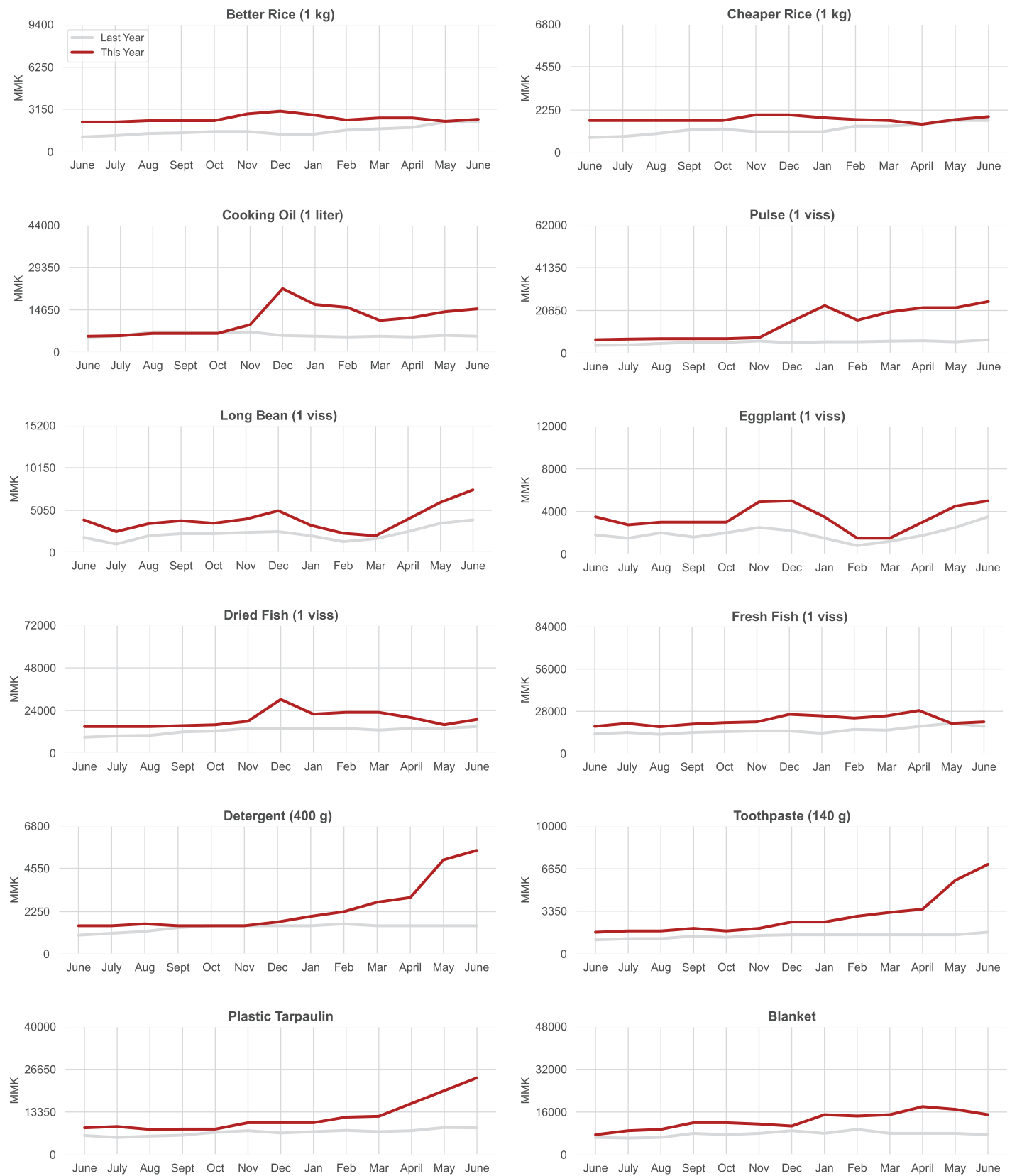
Other NFIs – NFI prices were double or triple June 2023 levels. Prices for cooking pots (+130%), blankets (+110%), and longyi (+110%) were roughly double last year, while mosquito nets (+200%) were triple. Towels (+62%) and charcoal (+67%) were also higher but had risen less dramatically.

What to Watch

- Months of compounding price hikes for **hygiene** and **shelter** NFIs will continue to stretch household finances throughout the rainy months;
- Prices for **cooking oil** continue to increase at an alarming rate, possibly due to transportation challenges reducing access to cheaper imports;
- Price increases of 200-400% for **NFIs** in the past year suggest cash transfer values targeting these goods should continue to be reviewed.

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 3-14. Median Township Price, Selected Products (Thirteen Months)



Prices for June 2024 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Myebon	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	2,300	-	2,100	-	2,500	-	2,300	2,500	-	5,000
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	2,000	-	1,800	-	1,700	-	1,500	2,000	-	3,300
Palm Oil (1 liter)	13,500	-	16,000	-	16,500	-	11,000	15,000	16,000	7,000
Pulse (1 viss)	30,000	-	25,000	-	19,500	-	22,000	30,000	30,000	15,000
Garlic (1 viss)	27,000	-	30,000	-	42,000	-	30,000	50,000	30,000	15,000
Onion (1 viss)	15,000	-	40,000	-	30,000	-	18,000	30,000	30,000	5,500
Eggplant (1 viss)	2,500	-	3,500	-	5,000	-	3,000	7,500	7,500	9,000
Long Bean (1 viss)	7,500	-	7,500	-	6,500	-	4,000	20,000	7,500	-
Watercress (1 viss)	700	-	2,000	-	2,500	-	2,000	1,000	2,500	7,000
Green Chili (1 viss)	50,000	-	49,000	-	40,000	-	8,000	30,000	20,000	12,500
Banana (1 bunch)	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,500	-	2,000	3,000	-	8,000
Shrimp (1 viss)	8,250	-	8,000	-	5,250	-	6,500	7,000	7,500	2,800
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	6,000	-	5,500	-	4,500	-	7,000	6,000	5,000	2,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	2,000	-	2,500	-	2,500	-	2,500	3,000	2,500	1,500
Fish Paste (1 viss)	4,000	-	3,600	-	4,000	-	4,000	4,500	5,000	1,900
Chicken (1 viss)	18,000	-	12,000	-	19,000	-	8,000	30,000	20,000	39,000
Toothpaste (140 g)	20,000	-	22,000	-	20,000	-	9,000	50,000	30,000	-
Detergent (400 g)	21,000	-	19,000	-	18,000	-	12,000	15,000	20,000	25,000
Soap (60 g)	4,000	-	5,000	-	7,000	-	10,000	10,000	-	14,000
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	50,000	-	25,000	-	18,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Charcoal (1 viss)	1,300	-	1,000	-	3,000	-	1,500	4,000	1,500	4,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	22,500	-	8,500	-	16,000	-	18,500	17,000	22,000	6,000
Blanket	-	-	17,000	-	15,000	-	15,000	20,000	15,000	-
Mosquito Net	20,000	-	15,000	-	14,000	-	16,000	20,000	17,000	-
Plastic Tarpaulin	35,000	-	25,000	-	22,000	-	13,000	24,000	30,000	12,000
Men's Longyi	18,000	-	15,000	-	15,000	-	23,000	16,000	16,000	12,000
Women's Longyi	18,000	-	22,000	-	16,000	-	13,000	18,000	10,000	10,500
Umbrella	20,000	-	25,000	-	20,000	-	18,000	20,000	20,000	-
Towel	5,000	-	8,500	-	6,500	-	7,000	8,000	9,000	3,500

*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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