

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 12% further in July** as transportation costs pushed essential food prices higher;
- **Some vegetables prices rose 30%**, although other vegetable prices also fell by as much as 30%;
- **The price of fish products rose 10-16% in July** as fishermen reported increasing operating costs;
- **Toothpaste and detergent prices rose 10-20%**, climbing at a pace similar to June;
- **Charcoal prices rose 27%** as electricity cuts continued to boost demand and in turn strain supply;
- **Hygiene NFI prices remained 300% above 2023**, and other NFIs—while stable in July—were still 100% higher;
- **Shipping costs are likely to push prices up in August**, as fuel prices climb and transportation links fray;
- **Myebon households may face particular stress**, after two consecutive months of very steep price hikes.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Rising transportation costs lifted essential food prices in July. Prices for higher-quality rice rose 6% in July, although lower-quality rice prices were fairly stable. Cooking oil prices rose at least 12% in most markets monitored, while prices for pulse held steady for a second straight month. Meybon saw the steepest price hikes for essential foods in July.

Vegetables – Shifts in supply increased prices for some vegetables while lowering prices for others. Prices for green chili and garlic rose 30-33% in July, while prices for onion and long bean fell 18-30% on reports of increased supply. Eggplant and watercress prices were fairly stable in July. Kyauktaw saw the steepest vegetable price increases in July.

Meat and Fish – Fish prices rose in July and fishermen said their operating costs were rising. Prices for fish paste and dried fish rose 10-16% in July, although prices for fresh fish and chicken were stable. Shrimp prices fell 8% in July partly due to increased monsoon season supply.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products rose another 10-20% in July amid rising transportation costs. Toothpaste and detergent prices rose another 19-20% in July, and soap prices rose 10%. Prices for sanitary pads were stable in July. Prices for hygiene products increased most dramatically in Myebon.

Other NFIs – Electricity cuts boosted charcoal prices in July, but other NFIs were relatively stable. Charcoal prices rose 27% in July and longyi prices rose 5-12%, but most other NFI prices were relatively stable. Minbya and Rathedaung saw a mix of rising and falling NFI prices, while in other markets prices were stable or rising. NFI prices rose steeply in Meybon.

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

Prices increased sharply in Myebon in July, while Minbya saw price relief for a second straight month. Four-in-five products monitored in Myebon saw higher prices in July, and half of all prices monitored rose at least 13%. Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, and Sittwe also saw prices rise for more than half of all products monitored. The deepest price increases in July were in Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, and Myebon, where one-quarter of all prices monitored increased at least 25%. That said, half of all markets monitored in July saw at least some price relief. For example, one-quarter of all products monitored in Minbya, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, and Sittwe fell at least 7% in July.

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

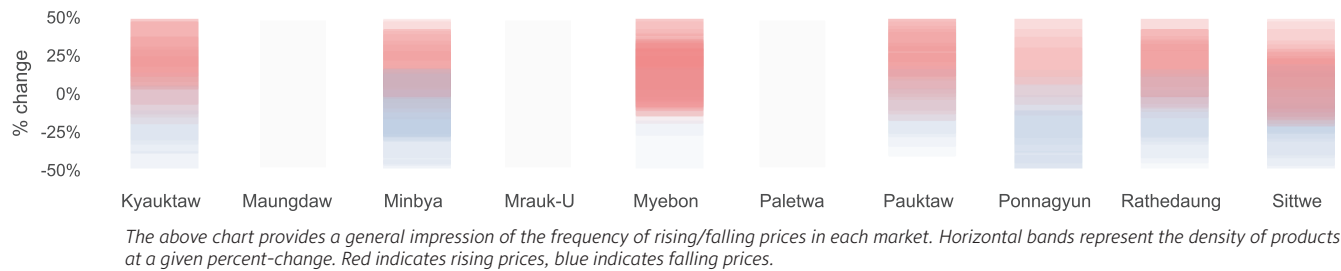
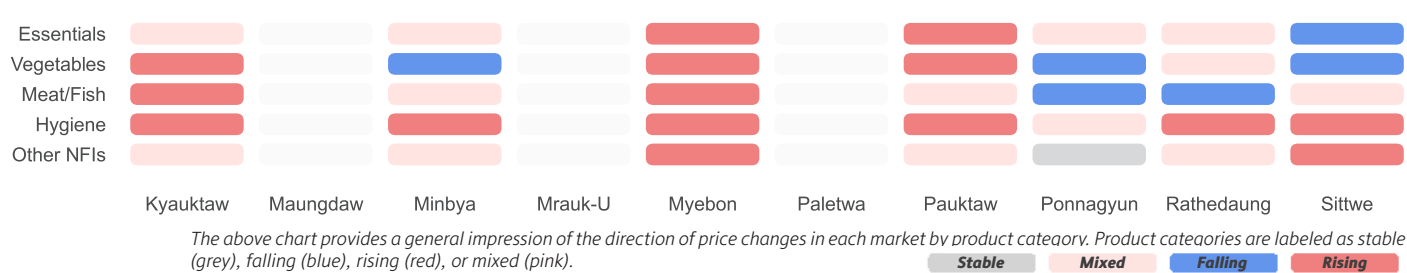


Chart 3. Direction of Price Change, by Township and Product Category (One Month)



Twelve-Month Price Changes²

Essential Foods – Essential food prices rose on pace with July 2023. Prices for better rice (+9%) and cheaper rice (+12%) remained moderately higher than June of last year. However, prices for cooking oil (+150%) and pulses (+270%) also remained far higher than last year.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices lingered at least 70% above last year's levels. Recent price spikes pushed onion (+560%) and green chili (+330%) far above last year. Other vegetables rose at a pace similar to last year, but prices for eggplant (+82%) and long bean (+71%) were still nearly twice as high.

Meat and Fish – Most meat/fish prices were at least 30% higher than last year. Prices for shrimp (+100%), chicken (+72%), and fish paste (+70%) were nearly double July 2023 levels. Prices for dried fish (+27%) were also considerably higher, while fresh fish (+5%) prices were just slightly higher.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were 300% higher than July 2023. Prices for toothpaste (+310%) and detergent (+270%)—which have risen most

steeply in recent months—stretched their lead over last year, while soap (+150%) and sanitary pads (+300%) also remained much higher.

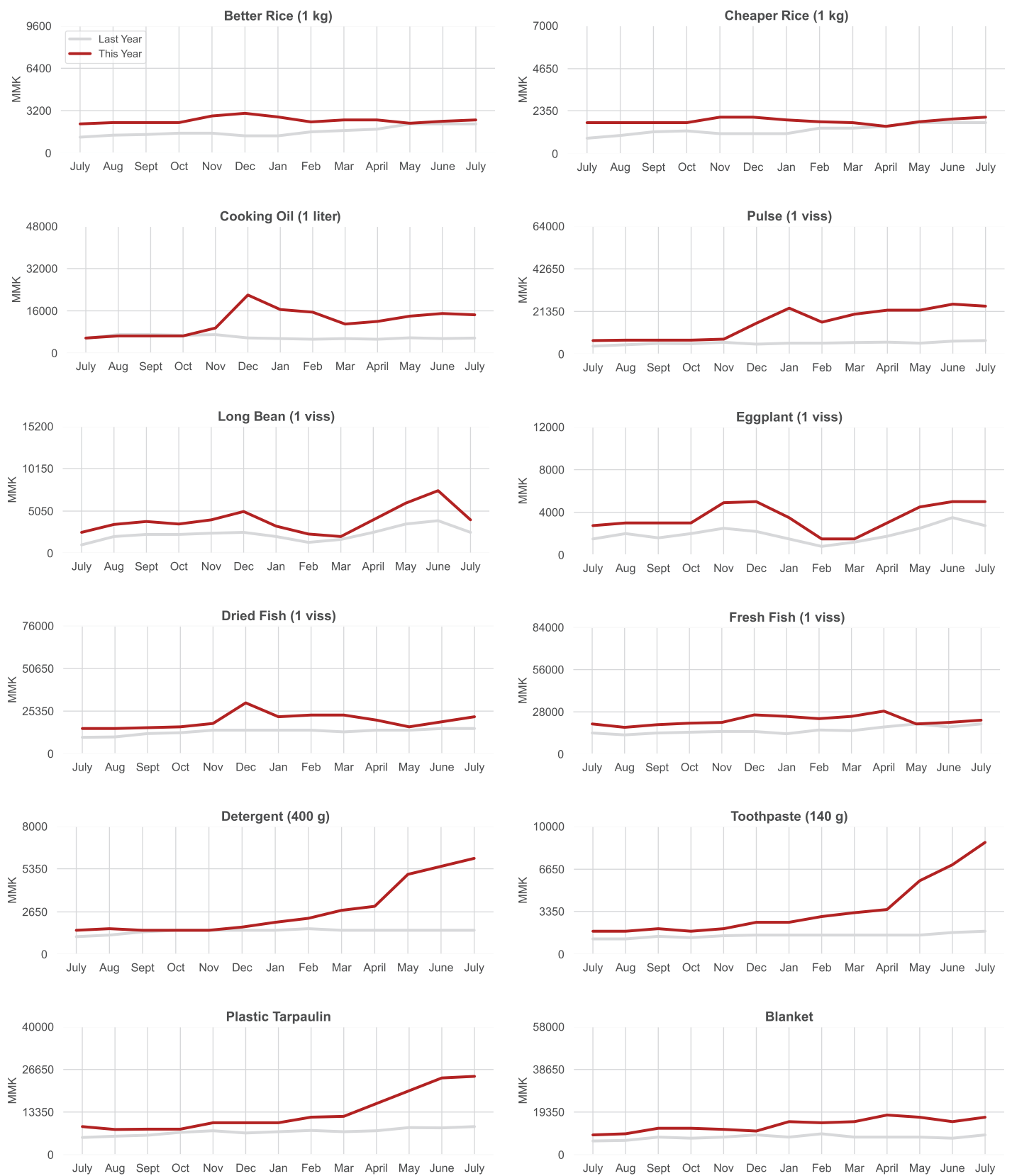
Other NFIs – NFI prices remained double or triple July 2023 levels, and prices rose faster than last year. Prices for cooking pots (+180%), mosquito nets (+220%), and plastic tarps (+180) rose faster than last year, while prices for charcoal (+67%), blankets (+110%), longyis (+110%) and towels (+75) were double last year.

What to Watch

- Prices for **hygiene** products like toothpaste and detergent continue to rise sharply, and it remains unclear when their price increases will slow;
- Rising **transportation** costs will continue to push prices higher, as movement restrictions and rising fuel costs complicated shipping in early August;
- Relatively stable **rice** prices will likely give way to higher prices in the third quarter of 2024 until the new harvest comes online near year's end.

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 July 2024 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Myebon	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	2,500	-	2,100	2,100	3,000	-	2,400	2,700	-	4,800
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	2,000	-	1,900	1,600	2,000	-	1,500	2,000	-	3,000
Palm Oil (1 liter)	12,000	-	18,000	10,000	19,000	-	13,000	18,000	16,000	7,500
Pulse (1 viss)	32,000	-	24,000	24,000	20,000	-	23,000	28,000	24,000	12,000
Garlic (1 viss)	50,000	-	35,000	50,000	45,000	-	40,000	50,000	40,000	20,000
Onion (1 viss)	20,000	-	25,000	25,000	35,000	-	22,000	23,000	23,000	4,500
Eggplant (1 viss)	6,000	-	2,800	5,000	5,000	-	3,000	3,000	7,500	-
Long Bean (1 viss)	3,000	-	2,600	4,000	7,000	-	4,000	4,500	7,500	-
Watercress (1 viss)	1,500	-	1,500	2,000	1,500	-	2,500	1,000	2,500	5,000
Green Chili (1 viss)	65,000	-	46,000	70,000	45,000	-	12,000	40,000	30,000	12,000
Banana (1 bunch)	2,000	-	2,400	1,100	4,000	-	2,000	2,000	1,000	6,000
Shrimp (1 viss)	15,000	-	11,000	5,000	18,000	-	8,000	20,000	5,000	40,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	25,000	-	20,000	15,000	28,000	-	10,000	42,000	20,000	80,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	28,000	-	24,000	22,000	20,000	-	12,000	10,000	-	30,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	5,000	-	5,500	11,000	7,750	-	15,000	10,000	-	13,000
Chicken (1 viss)	50,000	-	25,000	35,000	20,000	-	24,000	-	-	35,000
Toothpaste (140 g)	9,500	-	9,500	9,000	7,250	-	8,500	9,000	8,500	3,000
Detergent (400 g)	5,500	-	5,500	12,000	8,000	-	10,000	6,000	6,000	2,500
Soap (60 g)	2,500	-	2,500	3,500	4,000	-	3,000	2,500	2,500	1,650
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	4,000	-	4,500	3,500	4,000	-	3,500	4,000	6,000	2,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	-	-	1,200	1,200	4,500	-	2,000	1,500	-	-
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	23,000	-	8,000	20,000	20,000	-	15,000	17,000	20,000	-
Blanket	10,500	-	16,000	39,000	17,000	-	15,000	20,000	18,000	-
Mosquito Net	23,000	-	14,000	16,000	15,000	-	15,000	23,000	16,000	-
Plastic Tarpaulin	29,000	-	36,000	11,000	25,000	-	24,000	24,000	28,000	12,000
Men's Longyi	18,000	-	18,000	17,000	17,000	-	25,000	16,000	18,000	13,500
Women's Longyi	12,000	-	20,000	20,000	18,000	-	13,000	23,000	12,000	11,000
Umbrella	20,000	-	19,000	22,000	35,000	-	18,000	20,000	20,000	-
Towel	7,000	-	8,000	5,000	7,000	-	7,000	8,000	8,000	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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