

# Myanmar | Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

5 - 22 March 2026

## MARKET OVERVIEW

## INTRODUCTION

With the aim of informing actors in the cash and markets space in Myanmar, the Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) tracks markets and prices through monthly data collection using harmonised tools and analysis frameworks.

Items monitored by the JMMI are determined in close collaboration with the Cash and Markets Working Group (CMWG) and relevant clusters. The JMMI incorporates WFP price monitoring data which has supplemented the dataset used for this month's analysis by a total of 253 interviews in 62 townships.

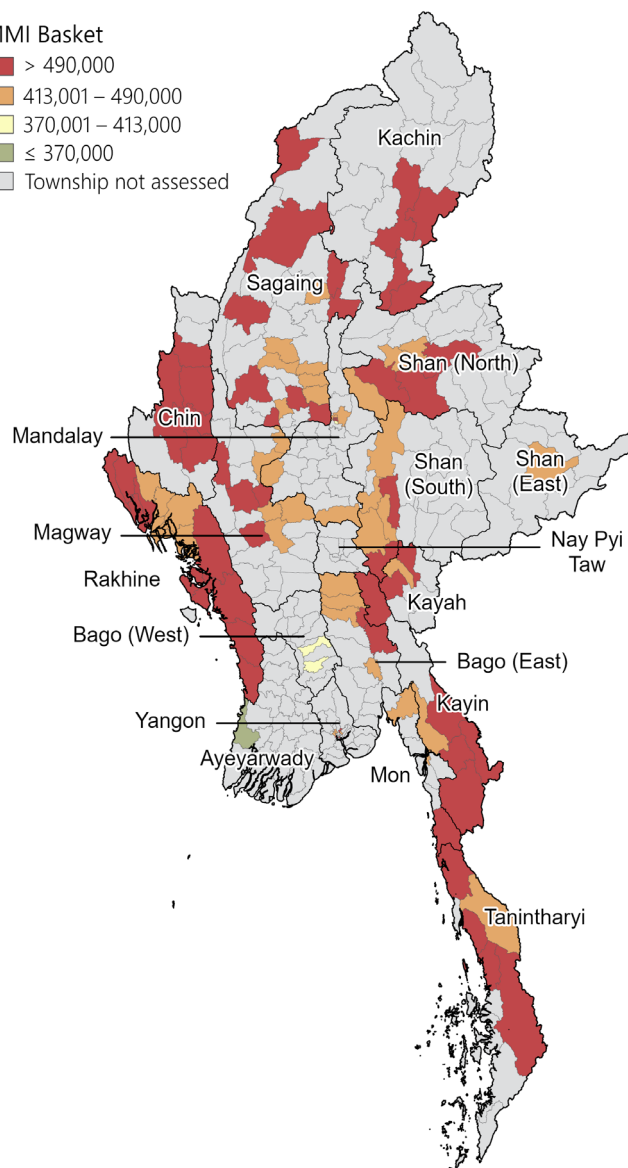
Data was collected through key informant interviews (KIIs) with market vendors across the 17 states and regions surveyed. A minimum of three vendors were interviewed per assessed township, and if possible, at least three prices were collected for each item. Aggregated results are presented at national, regional/state, and township levels. For more details on the methodology, see page 7.<sup>1</sup>

| Food Items <sup>2</sup>                                                            |         |            |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| Rice                                                                               | 48.3 kg | Pork       | 1.2 kg |
| Palm oil                                                                           | 3.6 L   | Chicken    | 1.4 kg |
| Split chickpeas                                                                    | 1.7 kg  | Egg        | 1.4 kg |
| Onion                                                                              | 2.7 kg  | Dried fish | 1.4 kg |
| Tomato                                                                             | 3.9 kg  | Fish paste | 1 kg   |
| Banana                                                                             | 4.6 kg  |            |        |
| Food Basket                                                                        |         |            |        |
| all items mentioned above + 32.6% added for other food items not itemized          |         |            |        |
| JMMI Basket                                                                        |         |            |        |
| all food items, the food top-up +38% added to account for essential non-food items |         |            |        |

## JMMI BASKET PRICE BY TOWNSHIP

JMMI Basket

- > 490,000
- 413,001 – 490,000
- 370,001 – 413,000
- ≤ 370,000
- Township not assessed



## KEY INDICATORS

### Cost of JMMI Basket<sup>3</sup>

484,325 MMK

▼ 1,047 MMK 0%

### Cost of Monitored Food Items

350,960 MMK

▼ 759 MMK 0%

### Cost of Monitored NFI Items<sup>4</sup>

49,313 MMK

▼ 26,660 MMK -35%

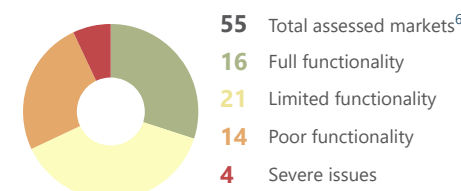
### Cost of WASH Items

55,421 MMK

▲ 1,197 MMK +2%

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 17               | States/Regions                  |
| 104              | Townships                       |
| 532 <sup>5</sup> | Key informant interviews (KIIs) |
| 31               | Items/Services monitored        |

## MARKET FUNCTIONALITY SCORE



## KEY FINDINGS

- The national JMMI Basket price (484,321 MMK) remained broadly stable compared to February; however, this stability obscured substantial variation across states and regions and notable price increases were recorded in several areas, these were largely driven by rising prices of core staple food items such as rice, chickpea, palmoil and salt.
- At the same time, sharp increases in fuel prices between February and March, alongside widespread fuel scarcity, continued to exert pressure on transport costs and market operations nationwide.<sup>7</sup>
- Despite the fuel price shock, market functionality remained stable but constrained across the country, with most assessed markets operating at limited or poor levels with nearly a third of markets showing full functionality. As in previous rounds, affordability marked as the predominant constraint, compounded by customers' financial limitations, rising input costs, and vendors' limited ability to forecast prices.
- Due to the ongoing conflict, security concerns continue to play a significant role in shaping market conditions and limited accessibility in nationwide but to a larger degree in Rakhine, and Northwest.

1. If your organization has preferences for areas to cover, please contact the JMMI Myanmar team through the Cash and Markets Working Group (CMWG).  
2. More details on calculation can be found on page 2.  
3. The calculation of the JMMI Basket follows the process outlined in the Myanmar Minimum Expenditure Basket November 2024 Update. [Link](#).

4. The cost of the monitored NFI items excludes WASH NFIs.  
5. 532 include the number of interviews conducted by WFP. 279 were conducted by JMMI partners in 55 townships where MFS score is available.  
6. More information on trends can be found in Annex 1 which includes a breakdown of JMMI basket price changes over the last two months and the JMMI dashboard which includes time series data starting May 2025.

## JMMI Basket

The JMMI Basket represents the minimum set of food and non-food items necessary to support a household of 4.2 members for one month.

The cost of the basket can be used as a proxy for the financial burdens facing households in different locations. The basket's composition was determined in collaboration with the Myanmar CMWG and relevant partners. It is largely aligned with but **should not be considered the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)**, which is a metric that is calculated and published by the CMWG alone.

The JMMI Basket is calculated as follows (see table p.1):<sup>8</sup>

- Food component: accumulated price of the itemised food list.
- Supplemented by 32.6% of that accumulated price for unspecified food items.
- An additional 38% is added to this figure to account for essential Non-food items (NFIs). Prices of NFIs and other items can be found in annex 2.

## Market Functionality Score (MFS)<sup>9</sup>

The MFS is a method of classifying markets based on their level of functionality with the aim of helping humanitarian actors in comparing townships and understanding which markets could support Cash and Voucher Assistance, where local procurement is possible, and where alternative interventions may be necessary. The MFS is made up of the below five dimensions, each weighed based on how strongly it influences a market's overall ability to meet customer demand.

- Accessibility (25%): physical and social access to markets.
- Availability (30%): ability of markets to consistently supply core commodities.
- Affordability (15%): financial access to markets and price volatility.
- Resilience (20%): vulnerability of supply chains and ease of restocking.
- Infrastructure (10%): state of markets' physical and financial infrastructure.

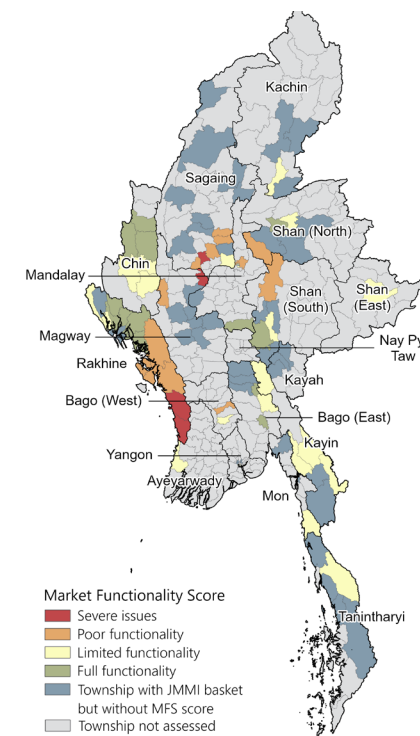
## Findings overview at national level

Overall, the national JMMI median Basket remained highly stable compared to February, although significant variations were observed across states and regions. At the state/region level, major increases in JMMI Basket prices were observed in Bago (East) (12%), Mon (7%), and Kayin and Tanintharyi (6%) (see annex 1 for more details). In Bago (East), the increase was largely driven by sharp rises in rice prices in several townships, particularly Nyaunglebin, Htantabin, and Kyaukkyi. Market accessibility generally improved across assessed locations, mainly due to full market access across most townships. Although minor localized constraints were reported in Kyaukkyi, they did not significantly affect overall market accessibility. In Kayin, higher basket prices were mainly influenced by increases in commonly fluctuating food items such as rice, onions, dried fish, and fish paste, particularly in Hlaingbwe<sup>10</sup> and Kawkareik<sup>11</sup>. While market functionality remained largely unchanged, reduced affordability and rising fuel prices were reported as key constraints affecting households' purchasing power. In Mon State, the observed increase was mainly driven by a sharp rise in fish paste prices, with price trends varying considerably across townships, reflecting continued volatility in local markets. In Tanintharyi, the increase was largely driven by sharp rises in food commodity prices in Thayetchaung, with domestic transport restrictions continuing to disrupt supply routes and constrain market resilience, despite slight improvements in market functionality observed in Dawei.

At the same time, price decreases were observed in Rakhine State, partially offsetting increases observed in several other states and regions. In Rakhine, price declines were mainly concentrated in typically volatile food items such as dried fish, and chicken, with the most pronounced decreases recorded in central and northern parts of the state. Despite these price reductions, market functionality across Rakhine remained constrained, with markets operating at limited to poor levels, particularly in southern townships where security concerns, movement restrictions, and affordability challenges persisted.

A notable decrease was also observed in the S-NFI basket prices, which declined by nearly 35% at the national level. Prices of construction items continued to fluctuate and were reported as limited or completely unavailable in up to 10 states/regions. Similarly, the availability of medicines remained constrained in Chin, Shan (South), Magway, Kayin, Rakhine, and Sagaing. Petrol and diesel were reported as limited or completely unavailable across all states and regions.<sup>12</sup>

## MFS SCORE BY TOWNSHIP



National median fuel prices increased sharply between February and March: The petrol price increased by 27% (from 4,150 MMK to 5,250 MMK per liter, Octane 92) and diesel by 50% (from 3,625 MMK to 5,450 MMK per liter). The sharpest price spikes were observed in Shan (North), Kayin, Sagaing and Kachin, where prices more than doubled. Further developments in the prices for fuel as well as potential impacts on commodity prices will be monitored closely going forward. Analysis of data collected in April will be released in early May and will include a focus on development and impacts of the fuel crisis.

In terms of market functionality, conditions remained largely constrained at the national level this round. Among the 55 assessed markets, most continued to operate at limited (21/55), or poor functionality (14/55), while an additional four markets classified as experiencing severe issues. A total of 16 markets were assessed as fully functional with a slight decline compared to the previous round, despite expanded coverage. As in recent months, MFS outcomes were largely driven by affordability constraints, with customers facing financial difficulties.

7. Our separate analysis on fuel published on MIMU.

8. 32.6% of the full food MEB consists of other food items including vegetables or dairy products outside of what was listed on page 1. The additional 38% for NFI is based on the 2024 CMWG technical guidance, and is designed to account for diverse expenditures (e.g. rent/shelter, WASH, utilities, fuel/energy, NFIs...).

9. MFS findings only include data collected by JMMI partners and does not include WFP data. In February, the MFS was compiled for 55 townships across 15 states / regions.

10. Hlaingbwe is covered by WFP data

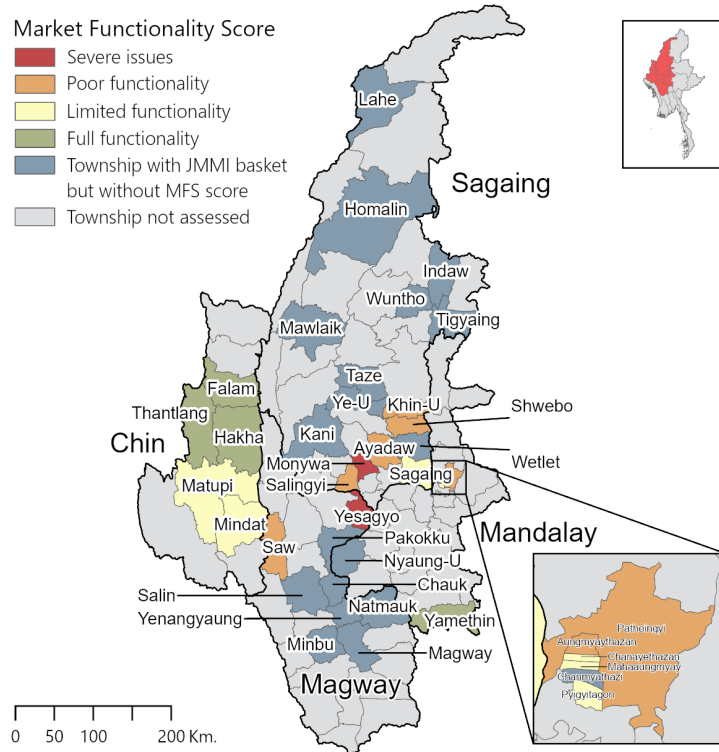
11. Kawkareik is also covered by WFP data

12. Our separate fuel analysis available on MIMU. [Link](#).

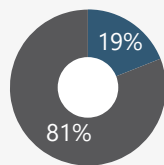
## Sub-region: Northwest

### Market Functionality Score

- Severe issues
- Poor functionality
- Limited functionality
- Full functionality
- Township with JMMI basket but without MFS score
- Township not assessed



### Key market functionality figures



19% of vendors reporting **problems that prevented customers or vendors** from physically traveling to, working at, or shopping at this marketplace in the 7 days prior to data collection.

When reported, main security factors having a negative impact on business, customers or vendors themselves, by number of vendors<sup>13</sup>

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Fear of airstrikes                  | 43/279 |
| Fear of being recruit by army group | 21/279 |
| Presence of armed groups            | 20/279 |

13. This excludes 'none' reported by 195 vendors.

14. Reported by key informants under the comments section of the JMMI.

15. These townships are also exclusively covered by WFP. For the March data collection, most items could not be included compared to the previous round in Kani township.

## Chin

- JMMI Basket prices in Chin remained largely stable at the state level despite changes in coverage**, while a sharper increase was recorded in Mindat (+8%). Minor fluctuations were observed in rice, palm oil, and tarpaulin in March. At the township level, variations recorded mainly in Mindat, where fish products also decreased but were offset by more than doubled palm oil prices.
- The pattern of high prices across townships remained similar to the past two months**, with Thantlang recording the highest JMMI Basket price nationally, (866,368 MMK). For more detail, a pyi of rice was reported at 10,000 MMK (compared to the national median of 4,618 MMK), while 1 Viss of tomato was reported 14,000 MMK (compared to 4,976 MMK nationally).
- Market functionality remained consistently strong in three townships**; Falam, Thantlang, and Hakha, while it was limited in Matupi and Mindat. Across all markets, affordability driven by high prices and aligning with the above mentioned high JMMI basket costs.
- No major changes in availability and supply chains were recorded—except in Mindat, where some vendors reported people are currently facing transportation challenges due to the limited sale of petrol and diesel by suppliers.<sup>14</sup>

## Sagaing

- The JMMI Basket remained stable at the state level compared to February**, despite some coverage areas not being included in this round, such as Yimmarbin, which recorded a relatively high JMMI Basket price in the previous round. Notable changes were observed in Kani (-36%), Homalin (-24%) and Wuntho (-21%)<sup>15</sup>, alongside sharp increases in Shwebo (+16%) and Ayadaw (+15%). Rising prices in Shwebo were reported directly linked to an increase in fuel and diesel costs, which have more than doubled.
- The largest price reductions at the state level were observed in tomatoes, dried fish, and fish paste, while increases in other commodities highlighted ongoing price volatility. Homalin recorded the second-highest JMMI Basket value this month (759,568 MMK) across all covered townships, followed by Lahe, which ranked third (719,664 MMK).
- Overall, market functionality across the assessed townships deteriorated in several townships remained constrained in the rest.** Most markets shifted from limited to poor functionality, particularly in Shwebo, Ayadaw, Khin-U, and Salingyi, while Monywa continued to experience severe market dysfunction. Market functionality in Sagaing remained classified as limited.
- Affordability was the weakest dimension, as vendors

16. This township is also exclusively covered by WFP and only collected key food commodities prices in this round.

17. A list of admin 3 (township)-level JMMI Basket costs can be found in annex 1.

reported difficulties in meeting customer demand due to rising prices of fuel and palm oil, which made goods harder to sell.

- In addition, limited availability of other products in the market and the current situation more broadly have made buying and selling items challenging. Restocking has also become more difficult due to the daily increase in commodity prices.

## Mandalay

- At the state level, the JMMI Basket price remained stable** despite some coverage changes compared to February. However, a notable price increase was recorded in Chanmyathazi<sup>16</sup> (+11%) driven by sharp rises in the price of palm oil (+34%), onion (+33%), as well as tomato (+27%).
- Compared with the previous month, market functionality in Mandalay showed a slight decline.** Markets in Chanayethazan and Mahaangmyay shifted from full functionality to limited functionality, mainly driven by accessibility constraints.
- Patheingyi was newly assessed for MFS in this round and its market conditions were classified as having poor functionality. Aungmyaythazan also recorded poor market functionality, mainly driven by customers' financial constraints and supply chain disruptions.

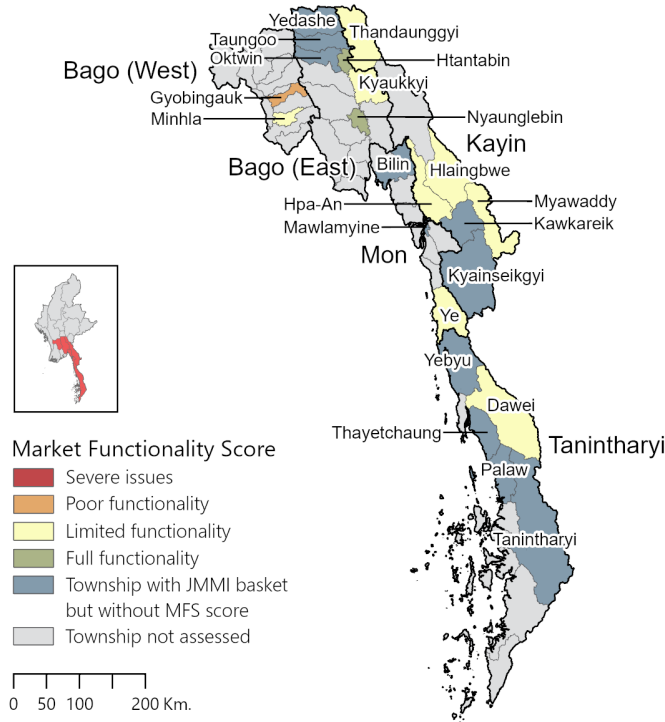
## Magway

- The state level JMMI Basket remained stable (+2% compared to February)** though notable changes were observed in Yesagyo (+20%), Saw (+8%), and Chauk (-7%).
- Chauk, still recorded the highest basket value (534,390 MMK in March) in Magway**, with the price of a pyi of rice at 5,921 MMK compared to the state median of 4,838 MMK. Compared to the last month, Yesagyo experienced the most increase in JMMI basket price primarily driven by more extensive price data collection.
- Market functionality in Yesagyo was assessed as severely functional this month**, driven by lower accessibility, affordability, and infrastructure scores, while Saw continued to show poor market functionality.

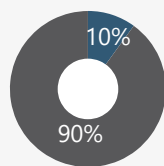
### JMMI BASKET COSTS BY STATE/REGION<sup>17</sup>

| State/Region | Food Basket | JMMI Basket | Change from February |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Chin         | 459,779     | 634,495     | ▲ 4%                 |
| Sagaing      | 357,488     | 493,334     | ▼ 3%                 |
| Magway       | 353,358     | 487,633     | ▲ 2%                 |
| Mandalay     | 354,943     | 489,822     | ▲ 2%                 |

## Sub-region: Southeast



### Key market functionality figures



10% of vendors reporting **problems that prevented customers or vendors** from physically traveling to, working at, or shopping at this marketplace in the 7 days prior to data collection, all located in Kayin, Bago (East), Bago (West) and Tanintharyi. Checkpoints and movement restrictions were the most common cited reasons, aligning with dynamics around the key road axis.

When reported, main security factors having a negative impact on business, customers or vendors themselves, by number of vendors<sup>18</sup>

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Curfews                  | 14/43 |
| Fear of recruitment      | 8/43  |
| Presence of armed actors | 7/43  |

18. This excludes 'none' reported by 14 vendors.

19. According to secondary sources.

20. Reported by key informants under the comments section of the JMMI.

## Bago (East)

- The median JMMI Basket price in Bago (East) increased this month at the state/region level.** Except for Yedashe, an increase in the rice prices in Bago (East) were observed in Nyaunglebin (+25%), and Htantabin (+25%), and Kyaukkyi (+22%).
- Market functionality showed overall improvement across the three assessed townships** in Bago (East) this month. Markets in Htantabin and Nyaunglebin were classified as fully functional, improving from severely functional in the previous round. **Market conditions in Kyaukkyi also improved**, shifting from severely functional to limited functionality. These improvements were mainly driven by full market accessibility across townships in Bago (East), despite the continuation of localized insecurity linked to ongoing conflict. Although minor localized constraints were reported in Kyaukkyi<sup>19</sup>, they did not significantly affect overall market accessibility.
- Product availability remained unchanged, with all of the food items reported as unavailable limited. Affordability in Kyaukkyi showed slight improvement but remained relatively constrained by high prices.

## Bago (West)

- Bago(West) was newly covered this month with a focus placed on Min Hla and Gyobingauk through JMMI partners.
- Bago (West) recorded the third-lowest JMMI basket price at the national level**, at 388,126 MMK, approximately 19% lower than prices observed in Bago (East). Prices of key food items in Bago (West) were notable lower compared to Bago (East), with rice prices around 20% lower, fish products 53% lower, and tomatoes 61% lower.
- Markets in Gyobingauk were classified as having poor functionality**, reflecting significant constraints to market operations, mainly due to customers' financial constraints and vendors' inability to forecast the prices.
- Minhla markets were assessed as limited functionality** due to supply chain disruptions.

## Kayin

- The state-level JMMI Basket recorded a slight increase of 6%, with notable variations in price trends across townships.** The increase was primarily driven by Hlaingbwe, which recorded notable increases in food items including rice (+15%), onions (+16%), and dried fish (+31%), and fish paste (+44%). Either state that rice prices increased in most townships. Kawkareik recorded the highest basket value this month (583,108 MMK) among townships in the state.
- Market functionality remained unchanged, with all four accessed townships classified as limited. In Tandaunggyi

township, the proportion of vendors reporting access constraints due to movement restrictions decreased. **In Hlaingbwe and Hpa-An, the lower market functionality score** was primarily driven by high supplier prices passed on to vendors while other MFS pillars remained stable.

- Fuel availability and prices were a key constraint: vendors reported that fuel prices have become unfordable for many customers, with incidents of supply shortage.<sup>20</sup>
- No significant changes in market functionality were observed in Myawaddy**, where affordability remained the weakest pillar, partly due to continued price volatility and vendors' inability to forecast prices.

## Mon

- In Mon State, **despite the absence of data for Kyaukto from this month's coverage, the JMMI Basket recorded a slight increase**, mainly driven by a sharp rise of prices in chickpea, dried fish, and fish paste. Price increases were observed primarily in Mawlamyine and Ye, while Bilin recorded a decrease.
- Ye recorded the highest basket median this month** at the state level and was the only township assessed for MFS, dropped from fully functional to limited functional compared to last month, and it was mainly driven by a weaker supply chain and vendors' limited ability to source products.

## Tanintharyi

- A sharp increase in the JMMI Basket price mainly driven by a more noticeable increase in the JMMI Basket in Tayetchaung** compared to February due to a sharp rises of price in key food commodities such as rice, chickpea, onion, and egg.
- Dawei was the only market assessed for functionality, and recorded a slight improvement in the MFS score.** However, the market continued to be classified as having limited functionality. Resilience remained a major constraint; as vendors reported that domestic transport restrictions continued to disrupt supply routes for severe commodities.<sup>21</sup>

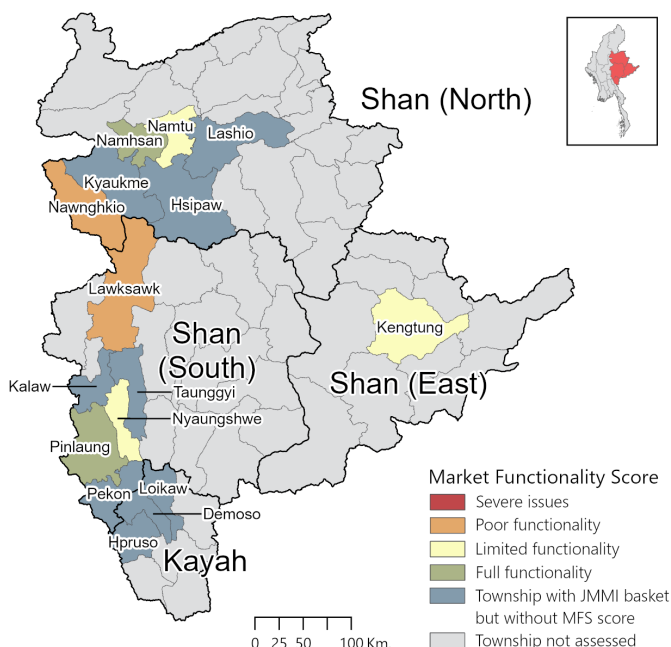
### JMMI BASKET COSTS BY STATE/REGION<sup>22</sup>

| State/Region | Food Basket | JMMI Basket | Change from February |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Kayin        | 382,950     | 528,471     | ▲ 6%                 |
| Tanintharyi  | 370,443     | 511,211     | ▲ 6%                 |
| Mon          | 343,350     | 473,823     | ▲ 7%                 |
| Bago (East)  | 348,344     | 480,715     | ▲ 12%                |
| Bago (West)  | 281,251     | 388,127     |                      |

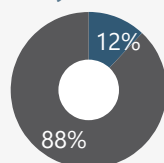
21. Reported by key informants under the comments section of the JMMI.

22. A list of admin 3 (township)-level JMMI Basket costs can be found in annex 1.

## Sub-region: Shan and Kayah



### Key market functionality figures



12% of vendors reported **problems that prevented customers or vendors** from physically traveling to, working at, or shopping at this marketplace in the 7 days prior to data collection.

These findings show an important increase in reports of accessibility issues compared to last month when 2% of vendors highlighted them.

When reported, most common difficulties faced by vendors to maintain their business operational and well-stocked, by number of vendors<sup>23</sup>

Prices charged by suppliers 17/42

Other reasons, all cited by 4 vendors: agricultural gaps, availability, movement restrictions, not enough cash, not enough staff, transport affected by conflict.

### Shan (North)

- After the sharp decrease observed between January and February, **the JMMI state median Basket remained relatively stable** overall. However, notable changes were recorded in **Lashio (+11%), Nawngkhio (+10%), and Namhsan (-11%)**, mainly driven by fluctuations in rice prices. Rice prices declined sharply by 40% in Namhsan, but increased by 21% in Lashio, and 17% in Nawngkhio.
- Hsipaw recorded the highest basket price within the state, with rice price increasing by 16%.** While prices for chickpeas and vegetables' prices generally declined across the state/region, tomato remained limited availability in Namhsan with the increasing of price by 25%.
- MFS improvement were observed in Namhsan**, where market functionality shifted from limited to fully functional with infrastructure improvements recorded while markets in Namtu remained unchanged at limited functionality.
- Nawngkhio's markets declined from limited to poor functionality** due to affordability constraints as many customers were reportedly unable to afford the items available in the market.

### Shan (South)

- The JMMI state median Basket remained stable** during this round in Shan (South). However, vendors in Lawksawk continued to report ongoing challenges; people in this township were facing multiple taxes imposed by different armed groups, and prices of major commodities including rice, and palm oil increased sharply, driven by the combined impacts of the civil war and current ongoing foreign conflict.<sup>24</sup>
- At the state level, major commodity **prices remained unchanged in Pekon which continued to record the highest basket value** while Taunggyi had the second-highest JMMI basket value, mainly driven by price increases in rice (16%), and palm oil (30%). A substantial **decline in rice prices was observed in Nyaungshwe, where rice price declined by 67% compared to the February.**
- Similar to last month and despite the price fluctuations, the markets in Pinlaung were accessed to be fully functional. Nyaungshwe was classified **as having limited functionality** while markets in **Lawksawk deteriorated from limited to poor functionality.** In the townships with poor functionality, affordability remained the main constraint, driven by both financial constraints on the side of customers and vendors' inability to forecast prices.

### Shan (East)

- Compared to the rest of the Shan region, **JMMI basket prices in Shan (East) remained stable**, with only minor fluctuations despite the expanded food items (onion, fish paste) coverage.
- Likewise, **markets in Kengtung remained classified at limited functionality**, with only minor changes in the MFS, particularly due to vendors' inability to forecast prices.

### Kayah

- After an increase in the state-level JMMI Basket in February, the JMMI Basket in Kayah recorded **no major changes this round.**
- Kayah remained the third highest basket price among all states and regions, despite price decreases observed across all assessed townships.
- No market functionality data was collected in March.

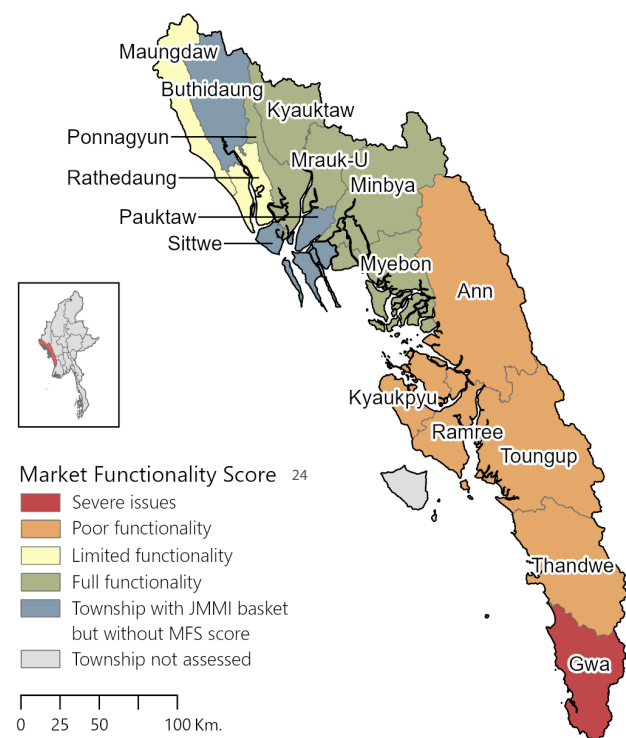
### JMMI BASKET COSTS BY TOWNSHIP

| State/<br>Townships | Food Basket    | JMMI Basket    | Change from<br>February |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Kayah</b>        | <b>391,115</b> | <b>539,738</b> | <b>▼ 2%</b>             |
| Loikaw              | 419,253        | 578,569        | ▼ 3%                    |
| Hpruso              | 388,581        | 536,241        | ▼ 2%                    |
| Demoso              | 347,417        | 479,435        | ▼ 5%                    |
| <b>Shan (North)</b> | <b>366,993</b> | <b>506,450</b> | <b>▲ 2%</b>             |
| Namhsan             | 348,396        | 480,787        | ▼ 11%                   |
| Kyaukme             | 391,591        | 540,396        | ▲ 3%                    |
| Hsipaw              | 392,803        | 542,068        | ▲ 8%                    |
| Lashio              | 392,334        | 541,421        | ▲ 11%                   |
| Namtu               | 333,906        | 460,790        | ▼ 3%                    |
| Nawngkhio           | 324,787        | 448,207        | ▲ 10%                   |
| <b>Shan (South)</b> | <b>342,545</b> | <b>472,712</b> | <b>▼ 1%</b>             |
| Pekon               | 391,727        | 540,583        | ▼ 0%                    |
| Nyaungshwe          | 330,422        | 455,983        | ▼ 15%                   |
| Kalaw               | 353,873        | 488,345        | ▼ 1%                    |
| Pinlaung            | 347,523        | 479,581        | ▲ 7%                    |
| Taunggyi            | 367,637        | 507,339        | ▲ 14%                   |
| Lawksawk            | 302,394        | 417,303        | ▼ 3%                    |
| <b>Shan (East)</b>  | <b>326,296</b> | <b>450,289</b> | <b>▼ 2%</b>             |
| Kengtung            | 326,296        | 450,289        | ▼ 2%                    |

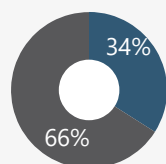
23. This excludes 'none' reported by 25 vendors.

24. Reported by key informants under the comments section of the JMMI.

## Sub-region: Rakhine



### Key market functionality figures



34% of vendors reporting **problems that prevented customers or vendors** from physically traveling to, working at, or shopping at this marketplace in the 7 days prior to data collection.

Most frequently reported security factors having a negative impact on business, customers or vendors themselves, by number of vendors<sup>25</sup>

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Fear of airstrikes       | 17/65 |
| Presence of armed actors | 6/65  |
| Curfews                  | 6/65  |

## State level

- **A slight decrease in the state-level JMMI Basket median was recorded**, with a more noticeable decline recorded in the central part of the state. The main price changes were concentrated among typically key food commodities including rice, chickpea, fish dried, and chicken.
- **A small improvement was observed in the availability of key food items and NFI**s, while the availability of medicines remained limited due to domestic transport restrictions, which have continued to disrupt supply routes for these commodities.
- **Market functionality remained at limited to poor functionality**, with no significant improvement observed this round while affordability and accessibility continued to be key constraints.

## Northern

- **A small decrease in JMMI Basket prices was observed in Rathedaung, Maungdaw, as well as in Buthidaung**, mainly due to the lower prices for chickpea, and meat products compared to February.
- As in the last rounds, **availability of items was reported to be good**, with restocking times continuing to shorten slightly and remaining below 10 days for most items. However, **transportation constraints and border closures persisted** as key challenges reported by vendors, affecting their ability to restock.
- **Market functionality remained classified as limited**, with no major changes compared to last month. Affordability continued to be the primary constraint for customers.

## Central

- The majority of townships in the central area **experienced slight fluctuations in their JMMI Basket prices with a trend towards decreasing score**. Price variations were mainly observed in key food commodities, especially chickpeas, vegetables, meat products, and fish paste. The price of baskets in Sittwe remained stable despite a noticeable increase of rice price in 12%.
- **Availability of the items remained stable** with no major disruptions in supply chain, as well as restocking times compared to last month, although longer delays (around 15 days) were reported in Myebon, Minbya, Mrauk-U, and Ponnagyun.
- **All the assessed townships maintained their classification as fully functional**, and vendors did not report significant issues affecting market accessibility.

## Southern

- **No major changes or price fluctuations were observed in Southern Rakhine State**. Although price levels remained elevated and Gwa and Kyaukpyu recorded particularly high market basket values, exceeding 700,000 MMK.
- **Market functionality remained weak across Southern Rakhine**, with a notable deterioration in Thandwe, where the Market Functionality Score (MFS) declined sharply and markets shifted from poor to severe functionality. This decline was primarily driven by security concerns and restricted social accessibility. Gwa markets also continued to be classified as severely functional, mainly due to financial constraints and vendors' inability to accurately forecast prices.
- **No improvements were observed in other townships, with markets in Taungup, Ann, and Kyaukphyu remaining classified as poor**. Accessibility continued to be the primary constraint, driven by curfews, movement restrictions, and ongoing fighting, including airstrikes. These factors limited market operating hours, particularly in Kyaukpyu.
- Affordability constraints also persisted, as vendors reported that many consumers lacked sufficient cash and access to financial services due to liquidity challenges.

## JMMI BASKET COSTS BY TOWNSHIP

| Township   | Food Basket | JMMI Basket | Change from January |
|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Rakhine    | 395,336     | 545,564     | ▼ 7%                |
| Gwa        | 518,445     | 715,454     | ▲ 1%                |
| Ann        | 489,692     | 657,775     | ▼ 4%                |
| Kyaukpyu   | 515,989     | 712,065     | ▲ 1%                |
| Ramree     | 488,860     | 674,627     | ▼ 1%                |
| Rathedaung | 414,752     | 572,358     | ▼ 5%                |
| Toungup    | 428,726     | 591,642     | ▼ 1%                |
| Thandwe    | 423,366     | 584,245     | ▼ 1%                |
| Minbya     | 341,194     | 470,847     | ▼ 18%               |
| Myebon     | 341,194     | 470,847     | ▼ 18%               |
| Ponnagyun  | 384,298     | 530,331     | ▼ 7%                |
| Maungdaw   | 396,070     | 546,577     | ▼ 3%                |
| Kyauktaw   | 345,981     | 477,454     | ▼ 13%               |
| Buthidaung | 391,586     | 540,388     | ▼ 2%                |
| Mrauk-U    | 341,194     | 470,847     | ▼ 14%               |
| Sittwe     | 382,375     | 527,678     | ▲ 3%                |
| Pauktaw    | 342,531     | 472,693     | ▼ 3%                |

# Sub-regions: Kachin; Yangon and Ayeyarwady

## Kachin

- After the increase observed between January and February, **the JMMI Basket price at the state level remained unchanged during this round.** Food commodities prices fluctuated, with rice prices increasing, chicken and pork meat decreasing, and a large drop in tomato prices.
- MFS data were only collected in Bhamo which remained at limited functionality** as the previous round. However, slight improvements in the MFS were observed, driven by better vendors' ability to forecast the prices and full accessibility of goods. Availability of several food items and NFIs remained constrained; although no security concerns were reported.

## Yangon

- The JMMI Basket price remained largely stable in Yangon** (+3% compared to the previous round). Notable price fluctuations were observed in North Oakkalapa, mainly driven by increase of key food commodities including rice, palm oil, and onion.
- The three markets assessed for MFS were **fully functional**, with no major issues reported.

## Ayeyarwady

- Pathein was the only assessed township this round and **recorded lowest JMMI Basket price among other states and regions**, with no major fluctuations.
- No major changes in the MFS, and the markets in Pathein remained at a **limited functionality**. This was mainly due to affordability challenges (customers' financial constraints, vendors' difficulty in forecasting prices), and some security concerns.

### JMMI BASKET COSTS BY STATE/REGION<sup>26</sup>

| State/Region | Food Basket | JMMI Basket | Change from February |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Kachin       | 377,969     | 521,597     | ▲ 1%                 |
| Yangon       | 357,377     | 493,180     | ▲ 3%                 |
| Ayeyarwady   | 262,994     | 362,932     | ▼ 2%                 |

## Methodology

The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI) gathers data through Key Informant Interviews (KIs) with retail vendors in selected markets. Vendors share insights based on their experience in the 30 days prior to data collection.

The March 2026 round took place between 5th-22th February with a total of 532 KIs conducted across 104 townships in 17 states/regions by data collection partners. In each assessed township, at least three vendors were interviewed using a structured questionnaire. Enumerators identified traders selling directly to consumers, stocking at least one monitored item, and serving mainly low- to middle-income customers. When possible, at least three price points per item per township were collected for reliability. Data collection followed a hybrid approach: in-person where access allowed it, remote in restricted areas.

The integration of WFP Price Monitoring into the JMMI, increased coverage by 279 interviews in 55. WFP data focuses on core food items: rice, pulses, tomato, onion, egg and salt and is valuable to expand coverage and produce food basket prices.

Vendor-level data were aggregated at township level. Prices and stock levels were recorded from individual traders, and the median value for each item was calculated per township. National and regional estimates were generated using a "medians of medians" approach, calculating medians across township-level medians rather than raw data. This methodology provides consistent, timely, and context-sensitive insights into market functionality and price trends across both stable and crisis-affected areas on a monthly basis. **Please contact the JMMI Myanmar team for further information.**

## Limitations

### Sampling and representativeness:

due to the purposive sampling strategy employed, **the findings should be considered indicative and cannot be interpreted as statistically representative at township, regional, or national levels.** This approach may also introduce some bias towards larger markets as these were more likely to have more items compared to smaller, or informal, markets that are essential in many areas. Another limitation is linked to the urban bias and uneven geographical coverage.

### Key informant Data Reliability:

Findings rely on the ability of the surveyed vendors to accurately report their prices, stock levels, or availability of items, likely impacted by misunderstanding, optimism bias, or perceived potential for aid delivery as a result of the assessment. Additionally, in several questions, vendors were asked to give their perspective on topics relating to customers (access and security issues). The perception is not holistic, since the situation of vendors and customers who cannot access the market may be missing from the dataset. Lastly, estimates of prices for the daily unskilled labour should be interpreted with caution as these data are sourced from market vendors rather than labour unions and the type of labour was not specified.

### Price imputation from higher administrative levels:

In the event that township level data was missing, prices used for the calculation of the baskets were imputed from township median or regional medians. As a result, findings from urban areas with more coverage, may influence rural areas.

## Data collection partners

ADRA AYO, CLCA, CPU, CSI, KMSS-B, KRRC, LDA, M-Dos, NAG/CLHS, Save The Children, SPCD, WAPAN & others

### About WFP Price Monitoring

The World Food Programme (WFP) conducts regular global market analyses by monitoring food-price data from amongst low income or crisis affected communities which WFP is directly serving.

### About the JMMI

The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative is a response wide approach to monitor markets jointly with Cash Working Groups (CWG), based on collaboration and efficient use of resources and which enables humanitarian actors to work toward a common goal. Organisations which participate in the Initiative collect data on a monthly basis in pre-determined markets, using a standardized methodology and questionnaire. Data from partners is then compiled, cleaned, analysed and released for the benefit of all humanitarian actors.

## Annex 1: Breakdown of JMMI Basket and Food Component by Sub-National Division, State/Region, and Township

| Northwest       | Food Basket    | JMMI Basket    | Change from February |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Chin</b>     | <b>459,779</b> | <b>634,495</b> | <b>▲ 4%</b>          |
| Thantlang       | 627,803        | 866,368        | 0%                   |
| Matupi          | 498,758        | 688,286        | 0%                   |
| Falam           | 430,389        | 593,937        | ▲ 1%                 |
| Hakha           | 417,233        | 575,781        | ▲ 1%                 |
| Mindat          | 395,813        | 546,222        | ▲ 8%                 |
| <b>Sagaing</b>  | <b>357,489</b> | <b>493,334</b> | <b>▼ 3%</b>          |
| Homalin         | 550,412        | 759,568        | ▼ 24%                |
| Lahe            | 521,496        | 719,664        | ▼ 7%                 |
| Mawlaik         | 425,169        | 586,734        | ▼ 11%                |
| Wuntho          | 340,024        | 469,234        | ▼ 21%                |
| Tigyaing        | 371,101        | 512,119        | ▼ 7%                 |
| Monywa          | 352,034        | 485,808        | ▼ 12%                |
| Indaw           | 359,505        | 496,116        | ▼ 1%                 |
| Ye-U            | 345,926        | 477,378        | ▼ 4%                 |
| Salingyi        | 357,030        | 492,702        | NA                   |
| Sagaing         | 385,775        | 532,369        | ▲ 8%                 |
| Taze            | 345,128        | 476,277        | ▼ 2%                 |
| Khin-U          | 354,025        | 488,555        | ▲ 3%                 |
| Kani            | 364,929        | 503,602        | ▼ 36%                |
| Wetlet          | 336,471        | 464,330        | ▲ 2%                 |
| Ayadaw          | 373,294        | 515,146        | ▲ 15%                |
| Shwebo          | 320,333        | 442,059        | ▲ 16%                |
| <b>Magway</b>   | <b>353,358</b> | <b>487,633</b> | <b>▲ 2%</b>          |
| Chauk           | 387,239        | 534,390        | ▼ 7%                 |
| Salin           | 384,187        | 530,177        | ▲ 1%                 |
| Yenangyaung     | 348,322        | 480,684        | ▼ 4%                 |
| Magway          | 346,379        | 478,003        | ▼ 1%                 |
| Minbu           | 360,865        | 497,993        | ▲ 4%                 |
| Saw             | 387,052        | 506,531        | ▲ 8%                 |
| Natmauk         | 301,083        | 415,494        | ▼ 1%                 |
| Pakokku         | 302,446        | 417,375        | ▲ 2%                 |
| Yesagyo         | 339,585        | 468,627        | ▲ 20%                |
| <b>Mandalay</b> | <b>354,943</b> | <b>489,821</b> | <b>▲ 2%</b>          |
| Patheingyi      | 342,880        | 473,174        | NA                   |
| Nyaung-U        | 354,847        | 489,689        | ▲ 11%                |
| Mahaaungmyay    | 384,280        | 530,307        | ▲ 1%                 |
| Chanayethazan   | 368,331        | 508,296        | ▲ 3%                 |
| Aungmyaythazan  | 353,259        | 487,498        | ▲ 4%                 |
| Chanmyathazi    | 375,492        | 518,178        | ▲ 11%                |
| Yamethin        | 325,783        | 449,580        | ▼ 11%                |
| Pyigyitagon     | 289,376        | 399,338        | 0%                   |

| Southeast             |                |                |              |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Kayin</b>          | <b>382,950</b> | <b>528,471</b> | <b>▲ 6%</b>  |
| Kyainseikgyi          | 418,471        | 577,489        | ▲ 2%         |
| Kawkareik             | 422,542        | 583,108        | ▲ 7%         |
| Myawaddy              | 394,093        | 543,848        | ▲ 1%         |
| Thandaunggyi          | 390,212        | 538,492        | ▲ 7%         |
| Hlaingbwe             | 372,169        | 513,593        | ▲ 15%        |
| Hpa-An                | 290,804        | 442,709        | ▲ 8%         |
| <b>Tanintharyi</b>    | <b>370,443</b> | <b>511,211</b> | <b>▲ 6%</b>  |
| Dawei                 | 354,426        | 489,107        | ▼ 3%         |
| Palaw                 | 394,359        | 544,215        | ▲ 7%         |
| Tanintharyi           | 378,528        | 522,368        | ▲ 8%         |
| Yebyu                 | 365,767        | 504,758        | ▲ 3%         |
| Thayetchaung          | 381,244        | 526,116        | ▲ 17%        |
| <b>Mon</b>            | <b>343,350</b> | <b>473,822</b> | <b>▲ 7%</b>  |
| Bilin                 | 340,389        | 470,357        | ▼ 25%        |
| Ye                    | 358,878        | 495,251        | ▲ 15%        |
| Mawlamyine            | 326,974        | 451,224        | ▲ 4%         |
| <b>Bago (East)</b>    | <b>348,344</b> | <b>480,714</b> | <b>▲ 12%</b> |
| Kyaukkyi              | 428,498        | 591,327        | ▲ 17%        |
| Yedashe               | 323,031        | 445,782        | ▼ 2%         |
| Htantabin             | 375,596        | 518,322        | ▲ 14%        |
| Taungoo               | 333,256        | 459,893        | ▲ 2%         |
| Oktwin                | 325,104        | 448,643        | ▲ 8%         |
| Nyaunglebin           | 350,446        | 483,615        | ▲ 20%        |
| <b>Bago (West)</b>    | <b>281,251</b> | <b>388,126</b> | <b>NA</b>    |
| Minhla                | 280,675        | 387,331        | NA           |
| Gyobingauk            | 281,827        | 388,921        | NA           |
| <b>Shan and Kayah</b> |                |                |              |
| <b>Kayah</b>          | <b>391,114</b> | <b>539,738</b> | <b>▼ 2%</b>  |
| Loikaw                | 419,253        | 578,569        | ▼ 3%         |
| Hpruso                | 388,580        | 536,241        | ▼ 2%         |
| Demoso                | 347,416        | 479,435        | ▼ 5%         |
| <b>Shan (North)</b>   | <b>366,992</b> | <b>506,450</b> | <b>▲ 2%</b>  |
| Namhsan               | 348,396        | 480,787        | ▼ 11%        |
| Kyaukme               | 391,591        | 540,396        | ▲ 3%         |
| Hsipaw                | 392,802        | 542,067        | ▲ 8%         |
| Lashio                | 392,334        | 541,420        | ▲ 11%        |
| Namtu                 | 333,905        | 460,789        | ▼ 3%         |
| Nawngkhio             | 324,787        | 448,206        | ▲ 10%        |

|                     |                |                |             |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| <b>Shan (South)</b> | <b>355,280</b> | <b>490,287</b> | <b>▲ 4%</b> |
| Pekon               | 391,726        | 540,582        | 0%          |
| Nyaungshwe          | 330,422        | 455,982        | ▼ 15%       |
| Kalaw               | 353,873        | 488,345        | ▼ 1%        |
| Pinlaung            | 347,522        | 479,581        | ▲ 7%        |
| Taunggyi            | 367,636        | 507,338        | ▲ 14%       |
| Lawksawk            | 302,393        | 417,303        | ▼ 3%        |
| <b>Shan (East)</b>  | <b>326,296</b> | <b>450,288</b> | <b>▼ 2%</b> |
| Kengtung            | 326,296        | 450,288        | ▼ 2%        |
| <b>Rakhine</b>      | <b>395,336</b> | <b>545,564</b> | <b>▼ 7%</b> |
| Gwa                 | 518,445        | 715,454        | ▲ 1%        |
| Ann                 | 489,692        | 657,775        | ▼ 4%        |
| Kyaukpyu            | 515,989        | 712,065        | ▲ 1%        |
| Ramree              | 488,860        | 674,627        | ▼ 1%        |
| Rathedaung          | 414,752        | 572,358        | ▼ 5%        |
| Toungup             | 428,726        | 591,642        | ▼ 1%        |
| Thandwe             | 423,366        | 584,245        | ▼ 1%        |
| Minbya              | 341,194        | 470,847        | ▼ 18%       |
| Myebon              | 341,194        | 470,847        | ▼ 18%       |
| Ponnagyun           | 384,298        | 530,331        | ▼ 7%        |
| Maungdaw            | 396,070        | 546,577        | ▼ 3%        |
| Kyauktaw            | 345,981        | 477,454        | ▼ 13%       |
| Buthidaung          | 391,586        | 540,388        | ▼ 2%        |
| Mrauk-U             | 341,194        | 470,847        | ▼ 14%       |
| Sittwe              | 382,375        | 527,678        | ▲ 3%        |
| Pauktaw             | 342,531        | 472,693        | ▼ 3%        |
| <b>Kachin</b>       | <b>377,968</b> | <b>518,864</b> | <b>▲ 1%</b> |
| Mansi               | 379,850        | 538,420        | ▼ 3%        |
| Waingmaw            | 375,829        | 518,644        | ▼ 2%        |
| Myitkyina           | 382,349        | 527,642        | ▲ 2%        |
| Bhamo               | 360,352        | 497,286        | ▼ 2%        |
| <b>Yangon</b>       | <b>357,376</b> | <b>493,179</b> | <b>▲ 3%</b> |
| Bahan               | 422,054        | 582,434        | ▼ 6%        |
| Sanchaung           | 388,361        | 535,938        | ▼ 7%        |
| Kyeemyindaing       | 396,750        | 547,515        | ▼ 3%        |
| Hlaingtharya        | 344,524        | 475,443        | ▲ 2%        |
| North Okkalapa      | 366,500        | 505,770        | ▲ 9%        |
| Insein              | 338,753        | 467,479        | ▲ 2%        |
| Dagon Myothit       | 342,336        | 472,424        | ▲ 5%        |
| <b>Ayeyarwady</b>   | <b>262,993</b> | <b>362,931</b> | <b>▼ 2%</b> |
| Patheingyi          | 262,993        | 362,931        | ▼ 2%        |

## Annex 2: Breakdown of NFI Basket, labor cost, and other items monitored

### Median price for all monitored NFI

| Location        | March             | February          | Change from February |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Kachin          | 99,497 MMK        | 111,294 MMK       | ▼ 11%                |
| Chin            | 73,671 MMK        | 74,599 MMK        | ▼ 1%                 |
| Mandalay        | 55,841 MMK        | 60,671 MMK        | ▼ 8%                 |
| Yangon          | 54,504 MMK        | 69,876 MMK        | ▼ 22%                |
| Sagaing         | 54,470 MMK        | 75,973 MMK        | ▼ 28%                |
| Shan (South)    | 51,939 MMK        | 70,195 MMK        | ▼ 26%                |
| Kayah           | 50,550 MMK        | 61,344 MMK        | ▼ 18%                |
| <b>National</b> | <b>49,313 MMK</b> | <b>61,344 MMK</b> | <b>▼ 20%</b>         |
| Mon             | 49,313 MMK        | 72,748 MMK        | ▼ 32%                |
| Tanintharyi     | 49,313 MMK        | 61,344 MMK        | ▼ 20%                |
| Bago (West)     | 49,313 MMK        | NA                | NA                   |
| Shan (East)     | 49,243 MMK        | 59,804 MMK        | ▼ 18%                |
| Ayeyarwady      | 48,598 MMK        | 50,622 MMK        | ▼ 4%                 |
| Kayin           | 46,982 MMK        | 43,811 MMK        | ▲ 7%                 |
| Rakhine         | 45,720 MMK        | 60,926 MMK        | ▼ 25%                |
| Shan (North)    | 44,922 MMK        | 45,759 MMK        | ▼ 2%                 |
| Bago (East)     | 43,213 MMK        | 83,402 MMK        | ▼ 48%                |
| Magway          | 37,259 MMK        | 44,789 MMK        | ▼ 17%                |

| Items         | Unit      | March      | February   | Change from February |
|---------------|-----------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Octane 92     | 1 litre   | 5,250 MMK  | 4,150 MMK  | ▲ 27%                |
| Disel         | 1 litre   | 5,450 MMK  | 3,625 MMK  | ▲ 50%                |
| Bucket        | 20 litres | 14,700 MMK | 14,750 MMK | ▼ 5%                 |
| Sanitary Pad  | 10 pieces | 2,887 MMK  | 2,500 MMK  | ▲ 15%                |
| Soap          | 60gr bar  | 2,500 MMK  | 2,500 MMK  | 0%                   |
| Metformin     | 10 pieces | 2,250 MMK  | 2,500 MMK  | ▼ 10%                |
| Metronidazole | 10 pieces | 1,325 MMK  | 1,500 MMK  | ▼ 12%                |
| Amoxicillin   | 10 pieces | 2,500 MMK  | 2,325 MMK  | ▲ 8%                 |
| Paracetamol   | 10 pieces | 1,375 MMK  | 1,500 MMK  | ▼ 8%                 |

### State/region-level labor cost medians for the last two rounds

| Location        | March            | February         | Change from February <sup>27</sup> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Kachin          | 20000 MMK        | 20000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Tanintharyi     | 20000 MMK        | 20000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Yangon          | 20000 MMK        | 20000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Rakhine         | 18000 MMK        | 18000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Kayin           | 17500 MMK        | 15000 MMK        | ▲ 17%                              |
| <b>National</b> | <b>15000 MMK</b> | <b>15000 MMK</b> | 0%                                 |
| Bago (East)     | 12500 MMK        | 12000 MMK        | ▲ 4%                               |
| Mon             | 15000 MMK        | 16500 MMK        | ▼ 9%                               |
| Magway          | 15000 MMK        | 13500 MMK        | ▲ 11%                              |
| Shan (South)    | 15000 MMK        | 15000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Shan (North)    | 15000 MMK        | 12000 MMK        | ▲ 25%                              |
| Shan (East)     | 15000 MMK        | 15000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Ayeyarwady      | 15000 MMK        | 15000 MMK        | 0%                                 |
| Bago (West)     | 14000 MMK        | NA               | NA                                 |
| Mandalay        | 11500 MMK        | 10000 MMK        | ▲ 15%                              |
| Sagaing         | 11000 MMK        | 15000 MMK        | ▼ 27%                              |
| Chin            | 10000 MMK        | 12500 MMK        | ▼ 20%                              |

### Key Findings for Fuel<sup>28</sup>

- National median fuel prices increased sharply between February and March, with petrol (Octane 92) rising by 27% and diesel by 50%. The steepest increases were recorded in Shan (North), Kayin, Sagaing, and Kachin, where prices more than doubled.
- No immediate impacts on food and NFI prices were observed in March. Most vendors reported transportation constraints and higher supplier prices, alongside reduced market access due to fuel rationing and mobility restrictions, indicating potential downstream effects in the coming weeks. Impacts on commodity prices were not yet evident from JMIMI food and NFI March price data. This may be an indication that possible impacts on commodity prices could be visible in the April dataset.

9 27. The source of information for labor costs relies solely on market vendors and not on unions or similar organizations. Please note that these findings are highly indicative.

28. Our separate fuel analysis available on MIMU. [Link](#).