

RAKHINE STATE (APRIL 2022)

MARKET PRICE REPORT

Market Analysis Unit (MAU)

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. Data and product specifications are available online through the MPR dashboard at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

- **Prices continued to rise in April**, although they did so less dramatically than in March;
- **Essential food prices were stable in April**, although rice prices increased slightly;
- **Palm oil prices remained 88% above April 2021 levels**, with little signs of relief from recent price hikes;
- **Meat and fish prices rose in April**, and vegetable prices continued their usual seasonal climb;
- **Kyauktaw and Pauktaw markets saw the most price increases**, while other markets were more stable.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Rice prices inched upward in April, but essential foods were otherwise fairly stable. High-quality rice rose by 8% or more in four townships, and low-quality rice rose by 11% or more in four; elsewhere rice was stable. Prices for pulses and palm oil were also stable in April.

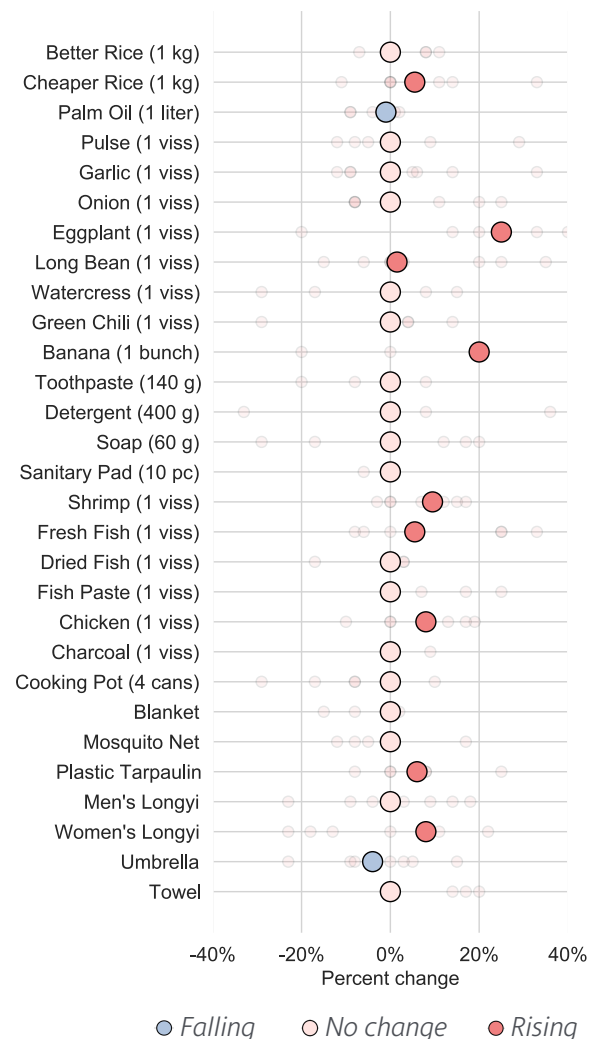
Vegetables – Vegetable and fruit prices rose in April, particularly eggplant and banana. Excluding Ponnagyun, prices rose in all markets for eggplant (at least 14%) and banana (at least 20%). Garlic, onion, long bean and green chili each saw price increases in four townships, but the increase was small. Watercress prices rose and fell in different markets.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were quite stable in April. Soap and detergent prices jumped in a few markets, correcting price decreases observed in March. Prices for toothpaste and sanitary pads were very stable in April.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices rose moderately in April. More than half of all markets monitored saw price increases for shrimp, fresh fish and chicken (usually 5-25%). Prices for dried fish and fish paste were very stable in April.

Other NFIs – NFI prices were fairly stable in April, although prices rose or fell in some townships. Charcoal and blanket prices were very stable in April, while other NFI prices rose or fell slightly (usually 8-15%). NFI prices were generally rising in Kyauktaw township and falling in Maungdaw and Paletwa.

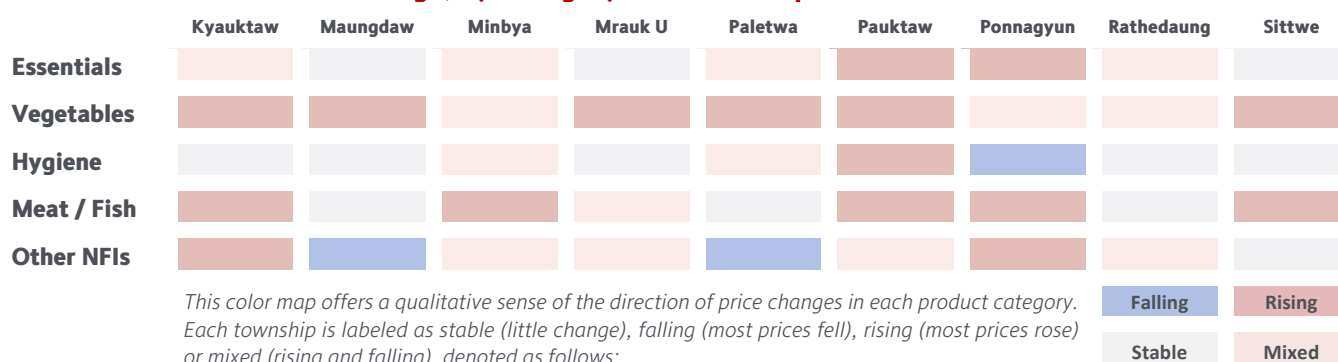
Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Kyauktaw and Pauktaw township saw continued price increases in April, while other townships saw prices start to plateau after March's dramatic increases. Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun saw moderate price increases across all categories in April (the sharpest affected meat and fish), while Pauktaw saw widespread increases with notable spikes in prices for vegetable and rice. Prices were generally stable in Maungdaw, Mrauk U and Sittwe, while Minbya and Paletwa saw prices pull back just a bit after March's steep increases.

Chart 2. Direction of Price Change, by Category and Township



Twelve-Month Price Changes¹

Essential Foods – Most essential food prices remained significantly above April 2021 levels. The median twelve-month increase was 18-21% for high- and low-quality rice and 29% for pulses, while palm oil remained 88% above last year (Charts 3-14).

Vegetables – Vegetable prices remained above April 2021 levels. Most vegetable prices remained 10-30% above last year's level, although onion prices were often 50% higher and garlic prices stayed roughly on par with last year.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products remained well above April 2021 levels. The median twelve-month increase was 29% for toothpaste and sanitary pads and a far steeper 46-52% for soap and detergent.

Meat and Fish – Shrimp and fresh fish prices remained similar to April 2021, but dried fish prices were still higher. Most dried fish prices remained 39% above April 2021, while rising prices pushed shrimp and fresh fish just slightly above last year's levels. Most chicken prices remained 19% lower than last year.

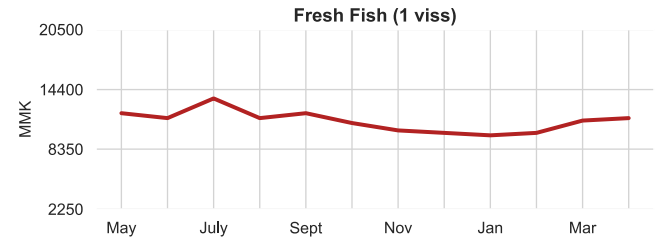
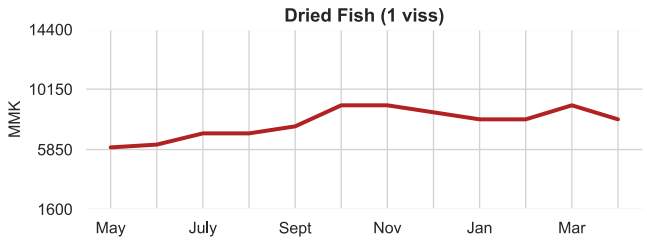
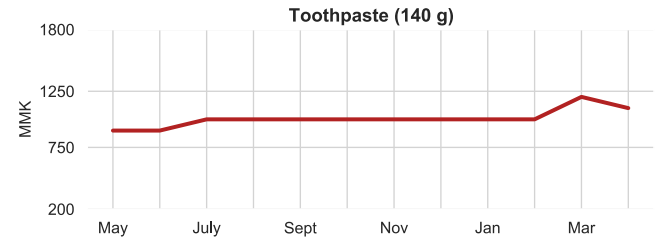
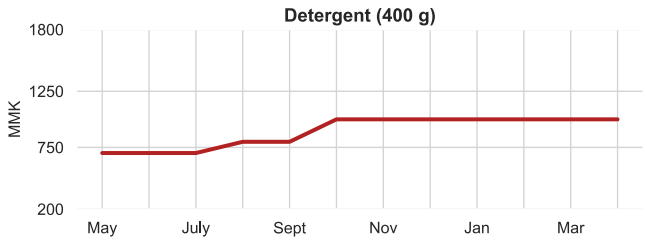
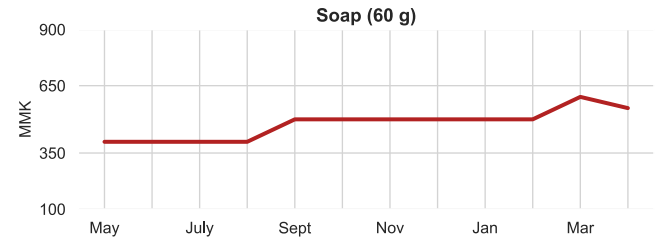
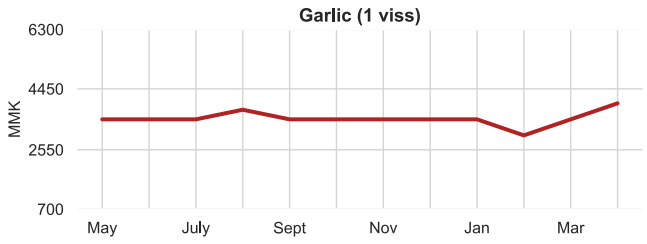
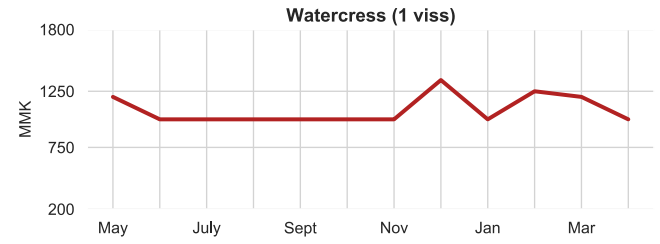
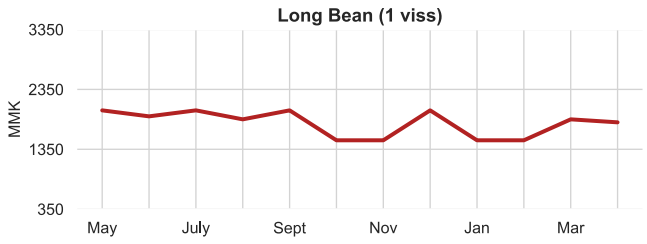
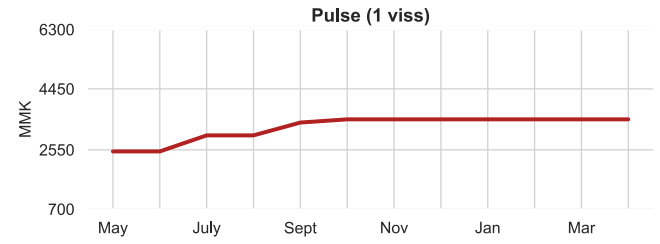
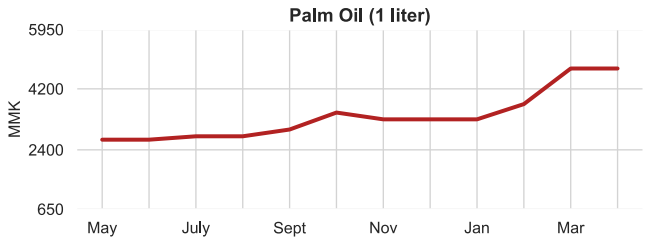
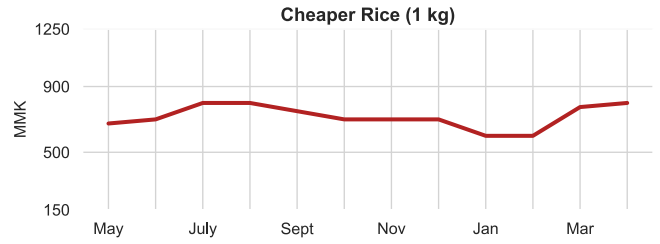
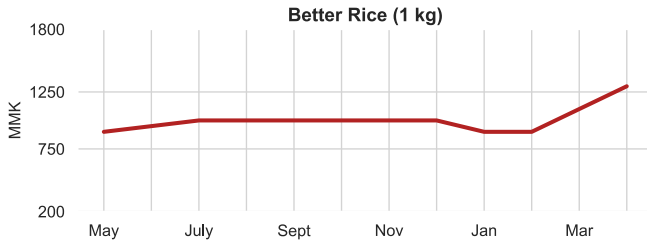
Other NFIs – NFI prices in April remained higher than last year, particularly for mosquito nets. The median twelve-month increase for most NFIs was 16-54%, as was the case in March. Mosquito net prices rose slower than one year ago, but they remained double 2021 levels.

What to Watch

- **Palm oil** prices showed no signs of pulling back following March's increases, likely adding to mounting pressure on household finances;
- **Vegetable** prices continued their seasonal climb with further price increases likely in May;
- **Meat and fish** prices were generally higher in April, although it's unclear whether this will prove to be a trend;
- April offered few price corrections to March's price spikes, and many prices—particularly in **Pauktaw Township**—continued to creep higher.

¹ Twelve-month price changes are based on three-month rolling averages. This is intended to smooth monthly price fluctuations and more accurately capture trends.

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



Prices for April 2022 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,500	1,100	1,300	1,100	1,400	1,500	1,000	1,300	1,100
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	1,000	800	700	750	1,000	1,200	800	-	800
Palm Oil (1 liter)	4,700	4,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,800	4,650	5,000	4,500
Pulse (1 viss)	3,600	3,550	3,500	3,500	4,500	3,000	3,500	3,800	3,500
Garlic (1 viss)	4,100	4,000	3,200	3,500	4,000	3,200	4,000	4,000	3,500
Onion (1 viss)	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,500	1,200	1,100
Eggplant (1 viss)	1,600	2,800	1,250	1,000	2,000	2,000	800	1,400	1,800
Long Bean (1 viss)	1,550	2,800	1,700	1,500	2,000	2,700	1,800	1,600	2,000
Watercress (1 viss)	1,400	1,000	1,000	1,000	875	2,300	1,000	1,000	1,000
Green Chili (1 viss)	1,600	2,800	1,450	2,000	4,250	2,000	1,300	2,000	1,500
Banana (1 bunch)	600	1,000	800	1,200	-	1,500	400	1,200	1,500
Toothpaste (140 g)	1,000	800	1,200	1,200	1,500	1,000	1,100	1,000	1,200
Detergent (400 g)	1,300	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,500	1,000	900	1,000
Soap (60 g)	700	500	450	700	500	600	550	500	600
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	700	750	700	700	800	700	500	700	700
Shrimp (1 viss)	9,000	7,000	7,500	4,500	-	7,500	7,000	7,000	6,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	10,000	17,500	15,000	11,000	-	9,000	11,000	15,000	12,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	11,300	8,000	10,000	9,000	9,000	7,500	8,000	8,000	6,500
Fish Paste (1 viss)	2,500	8,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,000	3,750	4,000	3,500
Chicken (1 viss)	9,500	10,000	8,000	9,000	13,000	7,000	8,500	10,000	8,500
Charcoal (1 viss)	600	1,000	600	800	-	500	600	-	1,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	5,500	4,000	5,500	4,000	3,750	2,500	6,000	4,000	3,500
Blanket	4,600	6,000	5,500	6,000	-	7,500	8,250	7,000	6,500
Mosquito Net	6,000	4,500	5,000	3,500	-	3,500	6,250	3,500	6,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	5,500	6,000	5,000	6,000	-	4,500	-	5,600	6,500
Men's Longyi	6,200	5,500	6,500	5,500	5,750	5,000	6,000	6,000	7,500
Women's Longyi	5,400	5,000	6,500	5,000	5,750	4,500	6,000	5,500	7,500
Umbrella	5,800	-	5,000	5,000	3,000	7,500	8,000	4,000	5,500
Towel	3,500	1,400	2,500	1,200	1,750	2,500	1,600	2,000	3,500

*Dashes indicate products that were unavailable at specification.

Market Analysis Unit (MAU)

The Market Analysis Unit provides development practitioners, policymakers and private sector actors in Myanmar with data and analysis to better understand the impacts of Covid-19, 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 service).

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