

RAKHINE STATE (JUNE 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 increases were widespread in June**, and palm oil prices resumed their upward trajectory;
- **Prices for essential foods, vegetables and NFIs rose in nearly all markets in June**;
- **Prices remained well above 2021 levels**, yet the gap narrowed as prices rose slower than last year;
- **Most markets experienced similar trends in June**, with rising prices for essentials, vegetables and monsoon-related NFIs and generally-stable prices for meat, fish and hygiene products.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Prices for palm oil and pulses rose in June, while rice held stable. Almost all markets monitored saw price increases for palm oil and pulses (typically around 3-10%). The increase was unusual for pulses, which are usually stable. Rice prices were stable in June, although they rose in Paletwa due to road closures disrupting supply from Kyauktaw.

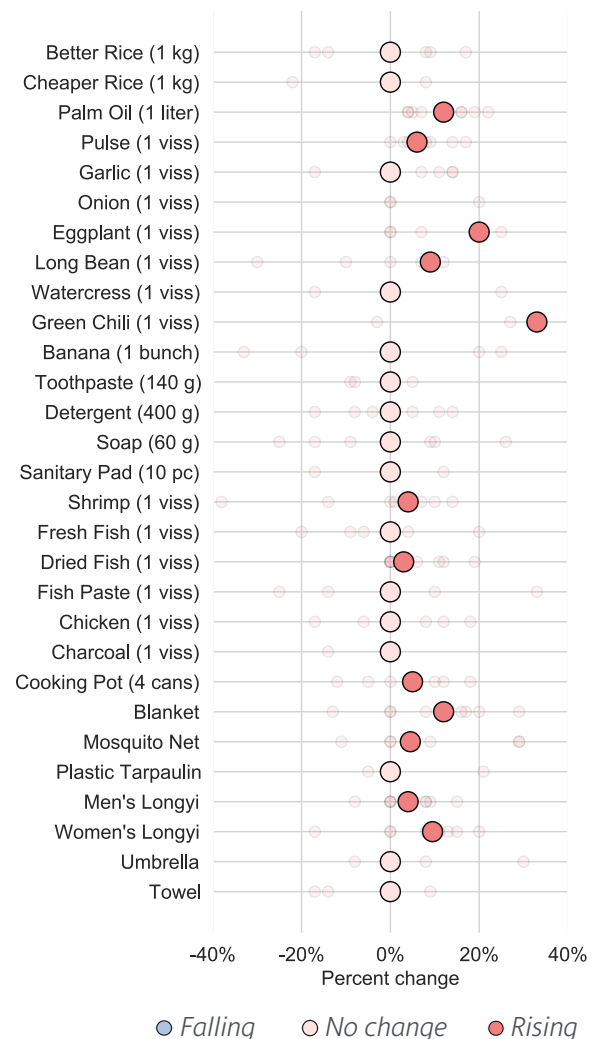
Vegetables – Vegetable prices rose sharply in June, likely reflecting the usual seasonal effect. Vegetable prices rose across all monitored markets in June, often as much as 50%. Price increases were most pronounced for onion (which saw nationwide increases) and green chili. June also saw more vegetable stockouts than usual, particularly for eggplant, watercress, and green chili.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were fairly stable in June. Prices for toothpaste and sanitary pads were very stable in June. Some markets saw price shifts of at least 9% for detergent and 4% for soap, but the shifts were upward in some markets and downward in others.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices in June were relatively stable for a second straight month. Half of all townships monitored saw price increases for shrimp and dried fish, but the magnitude was generally small. Other products in the meat and fish category also saw upward or downward price shifts in four or five markets (typically less than 14%).

Other NFIs – After several months of stability, NFI prices rose

Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)

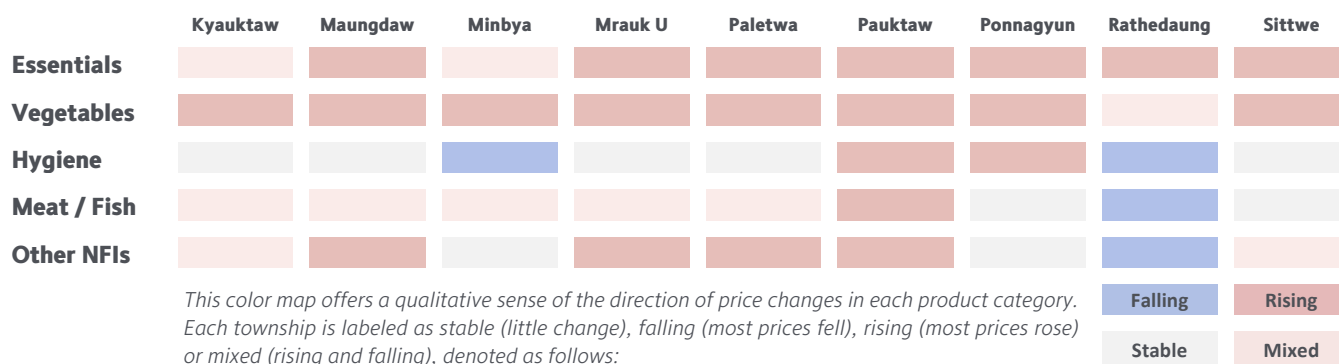


in June. Prices for cooking pots, blankets and women’s longyis rose in many markets in June, although typically not more than 15%. Some products also saw stockouts in three or more markets, particularly goods that see high demand in monsoon season (e.g., mosquito nets, tarps, umbrellas and towels).

Township-Level Price Changes

All townships monitored saw stable or rising prices in June, and only Rathedaung saw declining prices. Prices in June varied more by product category than by market, with most townships observing a similar trend: rising prices for essentials, vegetables and NFIs and generally-stable prices for meat, fish and hygiene products. The key exceptions were Rathedaung (more stable or declining prices) and Pauktaw (broader price increases).

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



Twelve-Month Price Changes¹

Essential Foods – In June essential foods narrowed the gap between 2021 and 2022 prices. A slight dip in rice prices in May/June brought more alignment with 2021, although the median twelve-month increase for rice was still 18-20%. Rising prices pushed the median increase for pulses to 42%, while palm oil remained 82% above 2021 (Charts 3-14).

Vegetables – Despite rising vegetable prices, the twelve-month increase in prices was largely unchanged in June. The median increase for garlic, eggplant, watercress and green chili remained around 11-30%, due to similar price increases in both years. However, half of all markets saw 15% lower prices for long bean in June compared to one year ago.

Hygiene Products – Stable prices for hygiene products in June helped narrow the gap with 2021 levels. The median twelve-month increase for sanitary pads and toothpaste fell to 14-19% (since prices were rising in June 2021). Soap and detergent remained 41-47% above 2021 levels.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices remained somewhat above 2021 levels in June. The median twelve-month price increase was 22% or less for shrimp, fresh fish and chicken and 36% for dried fish.

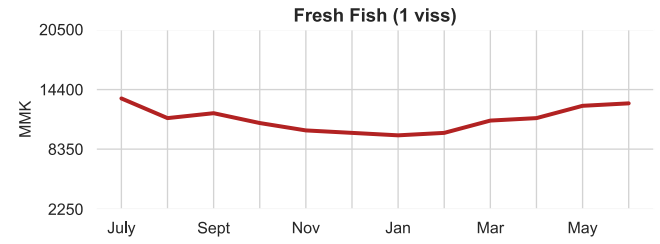
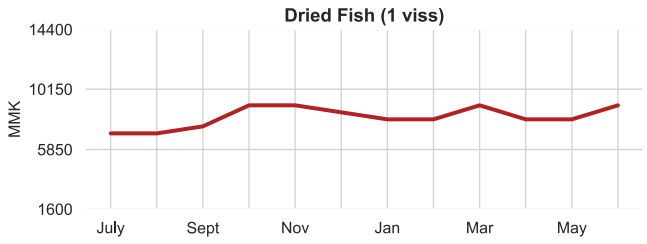
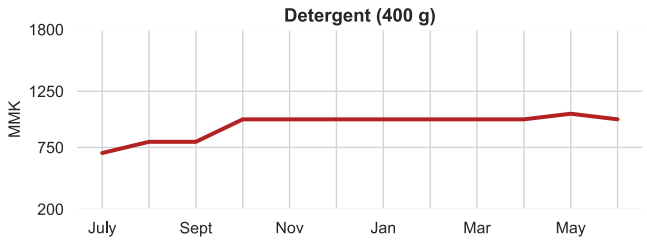
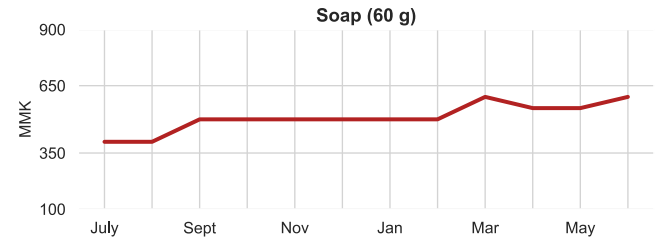
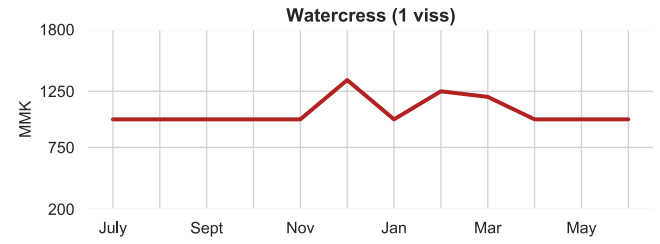
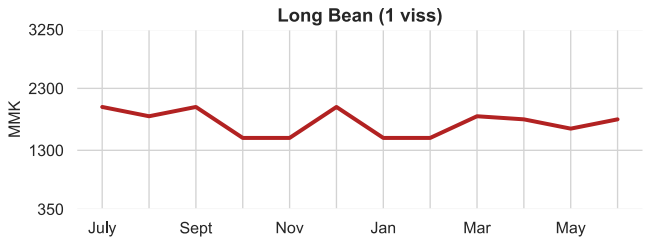
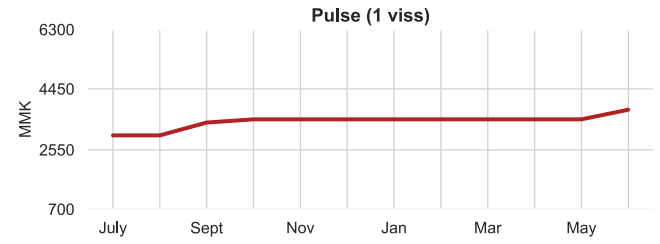
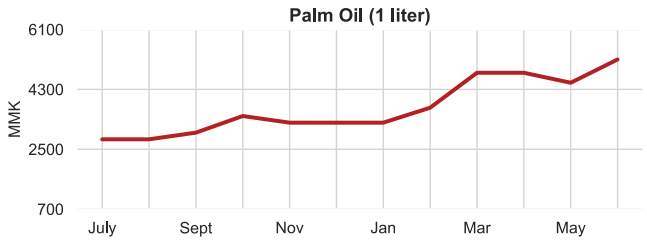
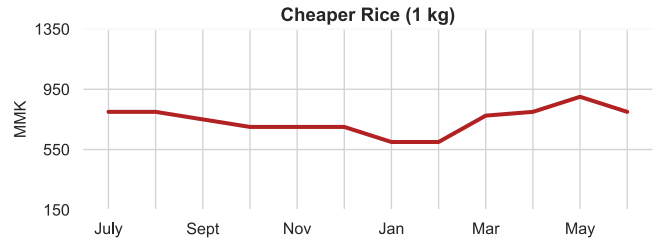
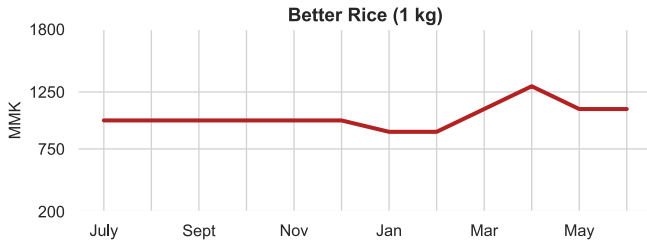
Other NFIs – NFI prices remained well above June 2021 levels. The median twelve-month increase for most NFIs remained 43% or more, although rising NFI prices in June increased the gap slightly for some goods (e.g., cooking pots, blankets, longyis, umbrellas).

What to Watch

- **Palm oil** prices show no sign of topping-out yet, therefore the impact on household consumption and dietary health should be watched closely;
- **Vegetable** prices are likely to climb higher throughout monsoon season, rendering supply from central Myanmar all the more critical;
- The reasons for rising **NFI** prices remain unclear and could be the start of an upward trend.

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 June 2022 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,200	1,200	1,000	1,100	1,750	1,000	1,100	1,300	1,100
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	900	900	700	750	1,500	750	800	700	900
Palm Oil (1 liter)	5,000	5,200	5,000	5,500	5,250	5,350	4,750	5,500	5,200
Pulse (1 viss)	3,500	3,600	3,800	4,000	4,500	3,900	3,650	4,000	3,500
Garlic (1 viss)	4,000	4,000	3,500	4,000	5,000	3,750	4,000	4,000	3,500
Onion (1 viss)	2,000	2,000	1,800	2,000	2,500	2,000	2,150	1,200	1,200
Eggplant (1 viss)	1,300	-	-	2,000	2,000	1,500	1,600	2,000	1,800
Long Bean (1 viss)	1,900	2,800	1,500	1,600	1,750	1,800	1,800	1,800	3,000
Watercress (1 viss)	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,500	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,500
Green Chili (1 viss)	-	7,000	-	3,000	-	-	3,500	2,800	2,000
Banana (1 bunch)	600	700	-	2,000	-	800	750	1,000	1,000
Toothpaste (140 g)	1,000	800	1,200	1,100	1,300	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,500
Detergent (400 g)	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,150	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,200
Soap (60 g)	600	500	500	700	550	600	600	500	600
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	700	750	675	600	700	-	600	700	700
Shrimp (1 viss)	8,000	8,000	5,000	5,500	-	6,000	8,100	6,000	6,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	8,000	14,000	12,000	10,000	-	25,000	14,000	15,000	12,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	11,000	8,500	9,000	9,000	10,000	9,000	8,000	9,500	6,500
Fish Paste (1 viss)	2,200	6,000	-	4,000	2,500	2,500	3,500	3,000	3,500
Chicken (1 viss)	8,500	11,000	10,000	9,000	10,000	9,500	9,750	10,000	9,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	600	1,000	550	800	-	775	700	-	1,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	5,500	4,500	3,800	4,000	7,000	4,500	6,250	3,500	3,500
Blanket	4,500	6,500	6,500	7,000	6,000	6,500	9,250	7,000	5,500
Mosquito Net	6,000	4,500	3,500	4,000	-	4,500	6,000	3,500	4,500
Plastic Tarpaulin	5,200	6,000	-	6,000	-	-	-	6,800	6,500
Men's Longyi	6,000	6,000	6,000	5,500	6,500	6,500	6,000	5,500	7,500
Women's Longyi	5,000	6,000	6,000	5,000	6,500	6,500	6,000	5,000	7,500
Umbrella	6,500	-	5,500	6,500	5,000	6,500	6,000	4,000	6,000
Towel	3,500	1,400	-	1,200	-	2,800	-	2,000	2,500

*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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