

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

KEY FINDINGS

- **Rice prices were fairly stable** after two months of large increases, but they remained double June 2022 levels;
- **Stockouts affected vegetables** as seasonal change and crop damage from Cyclone Mocha reduced supply;
- **Prices increased 8% for pulses in June**, although palm oil entered a fourth month of relative stability;
- **NFI prices were stable or rising**, with higher prices for plastic tarps, umbrellas, and mosquito nets;
- **Sittwe enjoyed some price relief in June** after increases in May that were deeper than surrounding townships;
- **Most prices increased 13% or more in Rathedaung**, where prices had not risen in May;
- **Vegetable and NFI prices should be monitored closely** due to the extended effects of Cyclone Mocha, and nutrition remains a significant concern.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Rice prices stabilized in June after two months of rising prices. Prices for cheaper rice fell 3-6% in four markets in June, and elsewhere prices were fairly stable. Palm oil prices were also stable, although prices for pulses—steadily rising since early-2023—increased at least 8% in half of all markets.

Vegetables – Vegetable supply remained poor and prices were volatile. Vegetable prices remained volatile—rising or falling by 20% or more—and prices climbed sharply in Rathedaung Township. Common vegetables like eggplant, long bean and green chili were affected by stockouts in June due to crop damage from Cyclone Mocha and seasonal supply reductions, and the absence of prices in such cases gave the illusion of price stability.

Hygiene Products – Soap prices rose 10% in June, although prices for other hygiene products were generally stable. Prices for detergent and sanitary pads were stable in most markets in June, and toothpaste prices fluctuated. Rising wholesale prices pushed soap up 10% or more in half of all markets monitored.

Meat and Fish – Prices for meat/fish were stable or rising in June. Dried fish, fish paste and chicken each saw increases of 10-20% in three or four markets, but prices were otherwise stable. Prices for shrimp and fresh fish fell by 15-25% in Sittwe, Minbya, and Paletwa, but they were relatively stable elsewhere.

Other NFIs – NFI prices were stable or rising in June, and stockouts were common. Prices for cooking pots, blankets, mosquito nets, and umbrellas rose at least 10% in most markets in June, and prices for plastic tarps jumped in some markets. Other NFIs were fairly stable, although stockouts were common particularly in Sittwe and Minbya.

Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Sittwe experienced some relief in June from last month's steep price hikes, while Rathedaung saw the most dramatic price increases in the region. In Sittwe, one-quarter of all products monitored fell 17% or more in June (particularly vegetables, meat, and fish). By contrast, half of all products monitored in Rathedaung increased by at least 13% (particularly vegetables and NFIs), and one-quarter of all prices were up at least 29%. Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, and Mrauk U also saw their share of price increases, particularly for vegetables, meat/fish and NFIs. Minbya and Ponnagyun saw the most price stability in June.

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

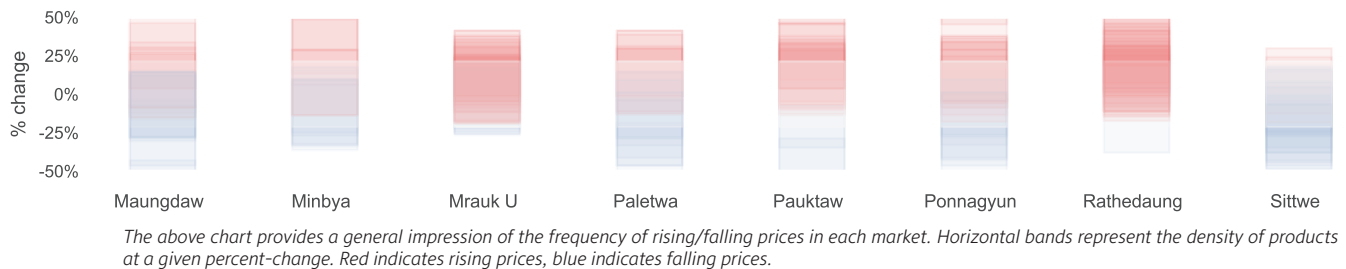
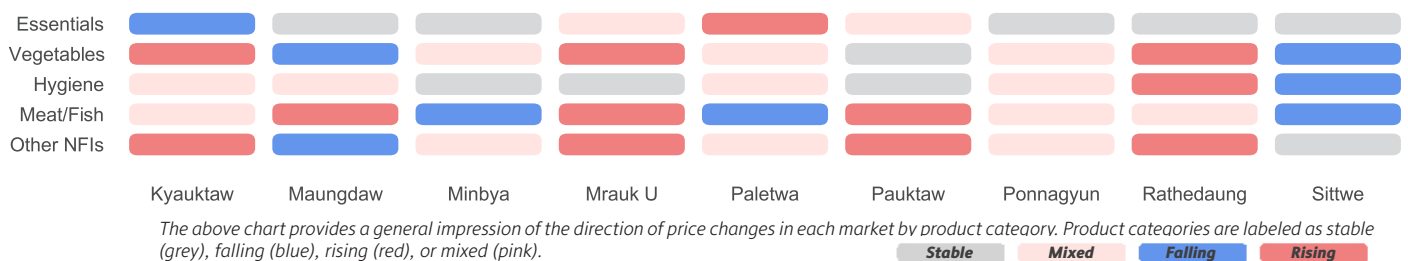


Chart 3. Direction of Price Change, by Township and Product Category (One Month)



Twelve-Month Price Changes¹

Essential Foods – Rice prices in June remained roughly double what they were this time last year. Despite generally-stable prices, the median twelve-month increase grew by 8-10 percentage points for better rice (+74%), cheaper rice (+100%). Prices for pulses (+64%) and palm oil (+16%) tracked with last year.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices continued to stretch their lead over 2022 in June. Some vegetables stretched their lead over 2022 by at least 15 percentage points in June, including eggplant (+77%), long bean (+87%), watercress (+92%), and garlic (+15%). Green chili continued to track with last year (+190%), while onion prices (+98%) drew slightly closer to June 2022.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products remained at least 40% above June 2022 levels. Prices remained elevated for toothpaste (+43%), detergent (+46%), soap (+89%), and sanitary pads (+58%).

Meat and Fish – Rising meat/fish prices pulled further from June 2022 levels. Prices for shrimp (+30%), dried fish (+70%), and chicken (+54%) largely tracked with this time last year, while fresh fish (+63%) and fish paste

(+35%) stretched their lead by 10-20 percentage points.

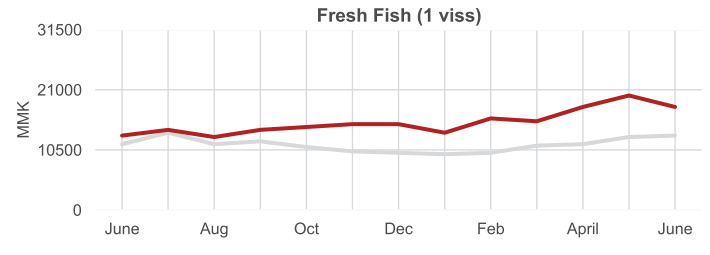
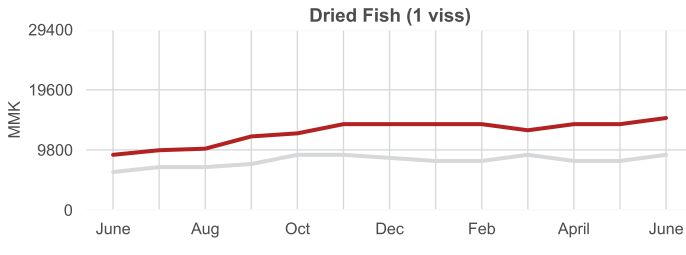
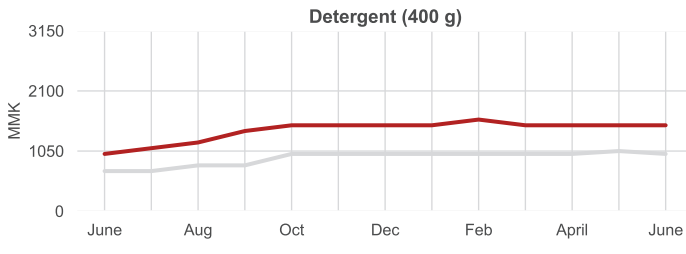
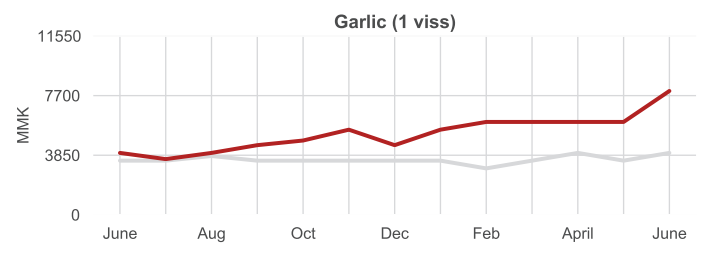
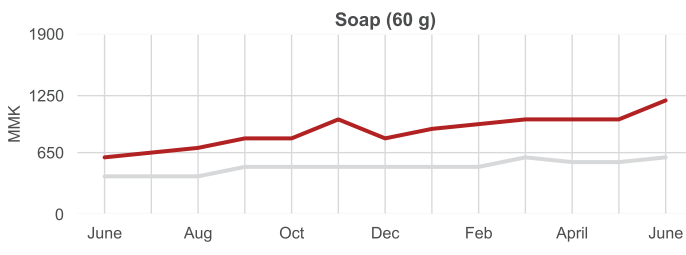
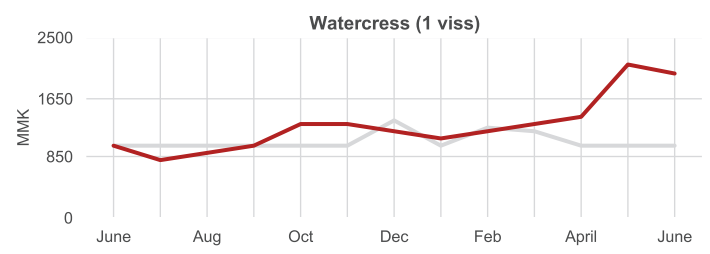
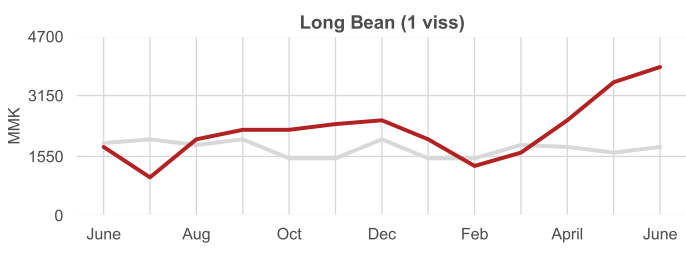
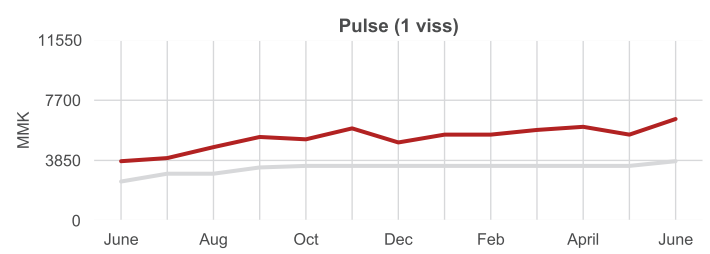
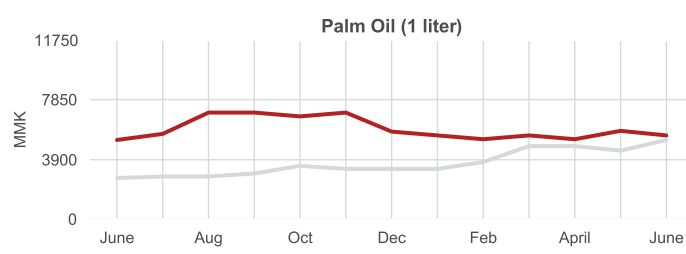
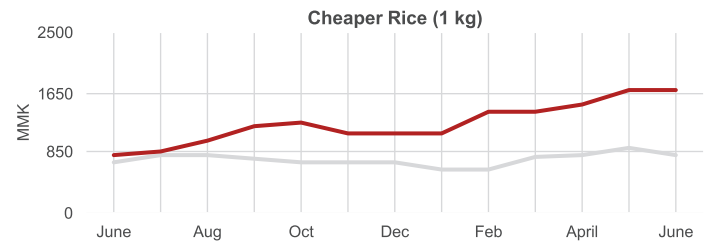
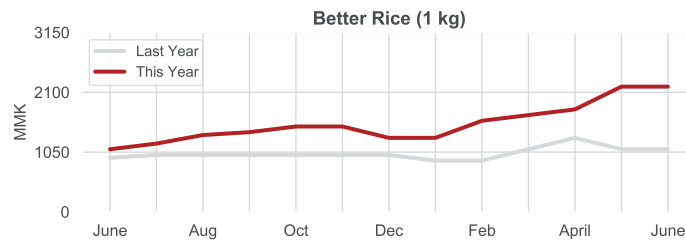
Other NFIs – Rising NFI prices largely tracked with price trends at this time last year. After several months in which NFI prices drifted closer to 2022 levels, NFI prices widened the gap by a modest 3-6 percentage points in June; this is due largely to growing stability in NFI markets beginning at this time last year. That said, June prices remained 20-60% higher than last year for blankets (+27%), towels (+58%), plastic tarps (+48%), cooking pots (27%), charcoal (+32%), and umbrellas (+27%).

What to Watch

- Prices for **vegetables** should be monitored closely, as reliance on supply from central Myanmar is likely to drive prices up further during monsoon season;
- Concerns about **nutrition** remains a priority as crop damage from Cyclone Mocha may reduce local vegetable supply in the months ahead;
- Access to shelter-related **NFIs** should be monitored closely during monsoon season amid increased demand and limited supply following Cyclone Mocha.

¹ 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 2023 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,900	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,700	1,900	2,500	2,200	2,200
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	1,500	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,700	1,500	1,800	1,500	1,650
Palm Oil (1 liter)	5,800	5,000	5,250	6,300	6,000	6,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Pulse (1 viss)	5,000	6,000	7,000	6,000	6,500	5,500	7,000	8,000	7,500
Garlic (1 viss)	10,000	8,000	7,750	5,800	9,000	4,500	7,000	12,000	10,000
Onion (1 viss)	4,000	2,800	3,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	2,800	4,000	3,800
Eggplant (1 viss)	3,500	7,000	3,250	-	1,500	-	5,000	3,500	3,500
Long Bean (1 viss)	3,900	5,000	3,500	2,000	4,000	2,500	5,000	4,500	3,800
Watercress (1 viss)	1,600	1,500	2,000	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,500	3,500	3,000
Green Chili (1 viss)	-	10,500	-	4,500	5,000	-	6,000	15,000	8,000
Banana (1 bunch)	1,000	1,000	-	900	300	-	2,500	1,700	1,500
Toothpaste (140 g)	1,700	1,800	1,700	1,500	1,850	1,500	1,000	1,800	1,800
Detergent (400 g)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,700	1,700
Soap (60 g)	1,500	1,200	1,000	1,200	1,200	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,000
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,000	1,500	1,300
Shrimp (1 viss)	10,000	10,500	7,000	7,500	15,000	8,500	7,500	7,500	10,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	15,000	28,000	17,000	18,250	15,000	14,000	22,000	26,000	18,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	15,000	15,000	14,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	18,000	15,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	2,800	8,500	4,500	3,000	5,000	2,500	5,000	8,000	9,500
Chicken (1 viss)	15,500	15,000	13,000	16,500	-	13,000	14,500	15,000	13,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	900	1,000	1,200	500	700	1,000	1,000	7,000	1,500
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	5,500	4,500	6,000	6,500	6,500	4,500	7,000	5,500	6,500
Blanket	3,500	7,500	-	14,000	-	5,500	9,000	7,500	7,500
Mosquito Net	6,800	-	-	4,000	5,500	8,000	3,500	5,500	5,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	8,000	8,000	-	9,400	8,800	8,000	7,500	19,000	18,000
Men's Longyi	6,700	6,500	7,500	8,000	8,000	7,500	7,500	9,000	9,500
Women's Longyi	6,700	6,500	7,500	8,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	7,500
Umbrella	7,500	7,000	-	7,500	-	10,000	6,500	10,000	9,500
Towel	3,500	2,000	3,500	4,500	4,000	4,500	4,000	3,500	3,000

*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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