

# **Interim Price Update**

Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, Rathedaung, Sittwe

This price update is intended as a suppliment to the monthly Market Price Report (MPR) pending its release in December. Most data were collected through KIIs on Nov. 24 (Mrauk-U, Rathedaung, Sittwe) and Nov. 28 (Maungdaw). Reports available at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

- Essential food prices were up sharply in Maungdaw, while other market saw smaller but significant increases;
- **Vegetable prices were two- or four-times higher** than October, likely due to transportation blockages preventing supply from villages to town markets;
- Prices for hygiene products were often up 11-67%, although prices for sanitary pads were stable;
- Nov. 30 prices were much higher than Nov. 24 prices, suggesting dramatic day-by-day prices increases;
- **NFI prices appeared more stable than food prices**, although this may be due to measurement error caused by variation in product specifications;
- Gasoline prices were up 40-167% in the past week, with prices often approaching 10,000 MMK/liter.

**Essential Foods - Essential food prices were rising across markets, and prices were up most sharply in Maungdaw.** Rice prices reported on Nov. 24 were within 20% of October levels, while Maungdaw prices from Nov. 28 were double October levels. Prices for pulses were up 14-71% in three-of-four markets, and they were up three-fold in Mrauk-U. Cooking oil prices were 8-54% higher than in October, and egg prices were up 67-107%.<sup>1</sup>

**Vegetables - Vegetable prices were often 25-200% higher than in October.** Prices for green chili and banana were between two- and four-times October levels, while onion and garlic prices were 25-200% higher than in October. Eggplant and long bean prices were rising, but increases were not remarkebly different from other bullish months. Vegetable prices in Maungdaw were a hefty 80-500% higher than reported in October.

Hygiene Products - Prices for toothpaste, detergent, and soap were 11-67% higher than in October. Prices for most hygiene products were up 11-67%, although prices for sanitary pads were within 20% of October levels. In Maungdaw and Rathedaung, some products like soap and toothpaste were double October levels.

Meat/Fish - Meat and fish prices were up 33-100% in Maungdaw, and they were often up 10-50% elsewhere. Prices were up 11-48% for chick-

en, 23-100% for dried fish, and more than double for shrimp. Many meat/fish items were unavailable in Mrauk-U and Rathedaung.

Other NFIs - NFI prices were often 30% higher or lower than in October. Prices for cooking pots and charcoal were higher in some markets, but other NFIs saw both higher and lower prices than in October. NFI prices may be rising less dramatically than food prices, although variations in NFI specifications (a common challenge) may have distorted some change in price.

Gasoline - Gasoline prices were rising day by day, with 40-167% increases reported in the past week. Gasoline prices were reportedly 3,500-5000 MMK on Nov. 24 and 7,000-10,000 MMK on Nov. 30. Prices varied by size of distributor—with larger distributors offering lower prices—and there were multiple reports of limited supply (e.g., Rathedaung).

## **Note on Methodology**

Most prices in this update are based on individual measurements, rather than the more-robust MPR methodology and retailer network. Individual measurements more often introduce error due to variation in product specifications or suppliers, and they may lead to reports of maximum prices (rather than averages). As such, percent-change calculations should be intepreted with caution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> October egg prices based on UN data.

# **Nov. 30 Interim Price Update, MPR Products**

Interim Prices Collected Nov. 24-28 (MMK)

#### Percent Change, Compared to Nov. 1 MPR

#### Summary of Township Avg.

Magnitude

Large

Large

Large

Large

Large

Large

Large

	Maungdaw	Mrauk-U	Rathedaung	Sittwe	Twp. Avg.	Maungdaw	Mrauk-U	Rathedaung	Sittwe	Twp. Avg.	D
Better Rice (1 kg)	4,200	2,200	3,000	2,600	3,000	91%	-4%	11%	4%	24%	
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	3,800	1,500	1,800	1,800	2,225	100%	-17%	20%	-10%	24%	
Palm Oil (1 liter)	9,000	10,000	7,500	7,000	8,375	38%	54%	7%	8%	26%	
Pulse (1 viss)	12,000	20,000	8,000	8,000	12,000	71%	194%	14%	18%	74%	
Garlic (1 viss)	16,000	25,000	15,000	18,000	18,500	60%	108%	50%	64%	<b>72</b> %	
Onion (1 viss)	11,000	12,000	5,000	4,500	8,125	214%	243%	25%	29%	124%	
Eggplant (1 viss)	7,500	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,875	168%	33%	7%	-33%	25%	
Long Bean (1 viss)	7,500	6,000	5,000	5,000	5,875	79%	0%	0%	25%	22%	
Watercress (1 viss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Green Chili (1 viss)	40,000	14,000	-	15,000	23,000	471%	180%	-	329%	360%	
Banana (1 bunch)	3,000	2,500	3,000	5,000	3,375	200%	67%	100%	285%	155%	
Shrimp (1 viss)	35,000	-	-	18,000	26,500	400%	-	-	140%	302%	
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	40,000	-	-	20,000	30,000	90%	-	-	0%	32%	
Dried Fish (1 viss)	30,000	28,000	16,000	15,000	22,250	100%	75%	23%	0%	51%	
Fish Paste (1 viss)	13,000	-	-	10,000	11,500	63%	-	-	43%	77%	
Chicken (1 viss)	20,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	21,250	33%	-	11%	48%	37%	
Toothpaste (140 g)	3,500	2,000	2,400	2,000	2,475	106%	0%	33%	11%	36%	
Detergent (400 g)	1,800	2,500	2,000	1,700	2,000	20%	67%	0%	13%	23%	
Soap (60 g)	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,500	1,725	50%	50%	80%	36%	53%	
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,200	900	1,200	900	1,050	20%	-10%	0%	-10%	0%	
Charcoal (1 viss)	-	1,500	-	1,400	1,450	-	200%	-	8%	61%	
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	-	12,000	-	8,000	10,000	-	78%	-	23%	58%	
Blanket	-	10,000	10,000	12,000	10,667	-	-29%	-23%	9%	-16%	
Mosquito Net	-	10,000	-	6,000	8,000	-	100%	-	-20%	30%	
Plastic Tarpaulin	10,000	7,000	8,000	8,000	8,250	25%	-26%	-20%	0%	-7%	
Men's Longyi	8,000	7,500	8,000	7,000	7,625	14%	-17%	-6%	-18%	-8%	
Women's Longyi	8,000	-	9,000	8,500	8,500	14%	-	13%	0%	6%	
Umbrella	9,000	7,500	8,000	7,000	7,875	29%	-9%	33%	-	11%	
Towel	3,000	4,200	4,000	3,500	3,675	36%	-7%	-11%	17%	4%	

UP	Medium
UP	Medium
-	-
UP	Large
UP	Medium
UP	Large
UP	Large
UP	Large
STABLE	-
UP	Large
UP	Large
DOWN	Medium
UP	Large
DOWN	Small
DOWN	Small
UP	Small
UP	Medium
UP	Small

Summary of Township Avg.

Large

Large

UP

UP

#### **Additional Non-MPR Products**

Interim Prices Collected Nov. 24-30 (MMK)					Percent Change for Period Nov. 24-30					
Eggs (1 pc)	-	600	500	600	567	-	107%	67%	96%	89%
Gasoline (1 liter)	7,000	10,000	10,000	8,000	8,750	40%	67%	100%	167%	84%

### **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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