

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

- **Most essential food prices rose at least 8%** in November, and many prices were up 20-60%;
- **Vegetable prices skyrocketed in November**, rising two-, three- or four-fold due to local supply disruptions;
- **Meat and fish prices increased less than other foods**, but they too rose 10-60% in some cases;
- **NFI prices rose less dramatically than food prices**, and NFI price trends varied significantly by township;
- **Prices hikes were steepest in Kyauktaw and Minbya**, where most prices monitored rose 22% or more;
- **Pauktaw and Ponnagyun main markets were closed** due to infrastructure damage and/or risk of danger;
- **Price trends will depend largely on conflict events** as transportation disruptions prevent resupply of perishable vegetables and freeze inventories of stored goods.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Most essential food prices rose at least 8% in November, and many prices were up 20-60%. Rice prices rose 10-47% across markets in November, and cooking oil prices increased 36-88% in four markets. Prices for pulses increased 3-14% in most markets and even more in Minbya and Mrauk-U.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices skyrocketed in November, rising two-, three-, or four-fold. Green chili—typically supplied to towns from local villages—saw prices climb 200-300%, and garlic, onion, and eggplant rose 100-200%. Long bean and watercress prices were up 20-70%. Vegetable prices increased most in Maungdaw, and stockouts affected watercress in some markets.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices increased less than other foods, but they too rose 10-60% in some cases. Shrimp prices increased 40-50% in four markets, and dried fish prices rose at least 12% in most markets. Stockouts affected fresh fish and chicken, and prices were up at least 8% when available.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products climbed at least 10% in Kyauktaw, Minbya, and Paletwa. Prices for hygiene products varied by market with stable prices in Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, and Rathedaung even as prices increased elsewhere. Prices often rose 11-16% for toothpaste, 9-25% for soap, and 5-16% for sanitary pads.

Other NFIs – NFI prices varied by market with the sharpest increases in Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, and Mrauk-U. NFI prices increased less than food items, and no products saw region-wide price increases. NFI prices rose 6-13% in Mrauk-U, 10-25% in Maungdaw, and 21-40% in Kyauktaw. Paletwa and Rathedaung saw more stable NFI prices, and NFI prices fell 8-11% in Sittwe.

Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Kyauktaw and Minbya saw the most dramatic price increases in November, but all markets monitored saw widespread price increases of 10% or more for most products. Virtually all prices monitored rose in Kyauktaw in November, and half of all prices were up at least 22%. Minbya also saw many price increases, and half of all prices there increased at least 27%. Other markets saw most prices increase 10% or more, but they also saw a number of stable prices. Sittwe was the only market to see any price reductions in November, but this consisted only of modest price-reductions for some NFIs.

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

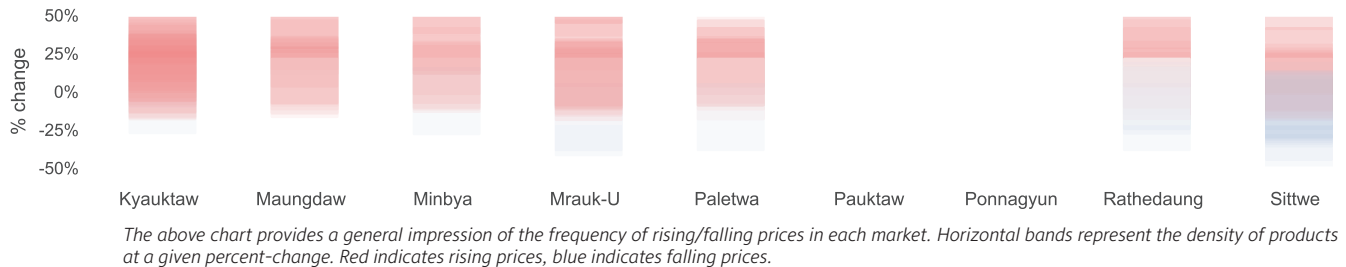
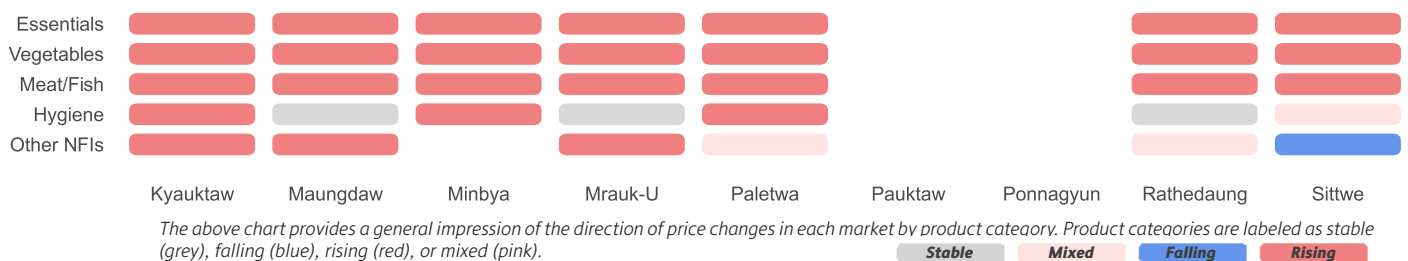


Chart 3. Direction of Price Change, by Township and Product Category (One Month)



Twelve-Month Price Changes¹

Essential Foods – Essential food prices were 30–65% above last year's levels. The median twelve-month price increase for essential foods was largely unchanged in November (annual changes are calculated using three-month rolling averages, and prices were very stable in September–October). That said, prices remained higher for better rice (+64%), cheaper rice (+50%), and pulses (+31%). Palm oil prices were on par with last year.

Vegetables – Vegetable prices were 20–60% higher than November 2022 levels. Prices remained much higher than last year for eggplant (+63%), long bean (+49%), watercress (+53%), onion (+19%), and green chili (+39%). Garlic prices were up 160% since last year.

Meat and Fish – Meat/fish prices remained 20–40% higher than 2022 levels. Meat/fish prices rose slower than last year in recent months, yet prices remained much higher for shrimp (+25%), dried fish (+20%), chicken (+19%), fresh fish (+25%), and fish paste (+25%).

Hygiene Products – Some prices for hygiene products remained higher than 2022 levels. Prices remained

higher for toothpaste (+29%) and soap (+24%), but prices were similar to last year for detergent (+0%) and sanitary pads (-3%).

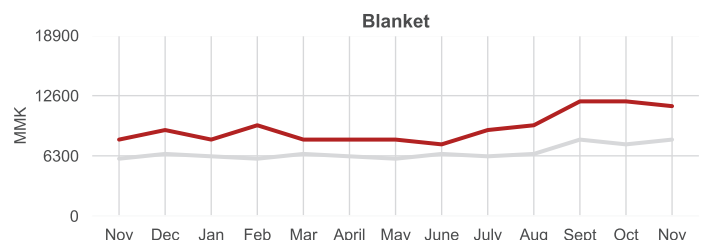
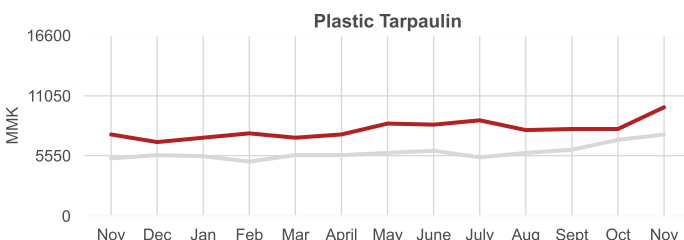
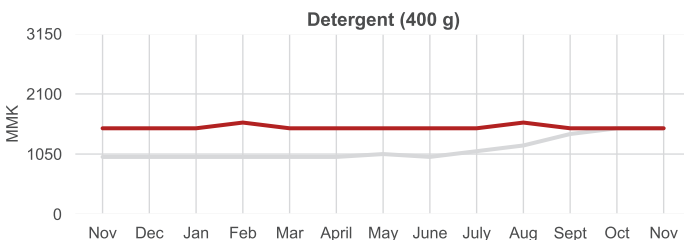
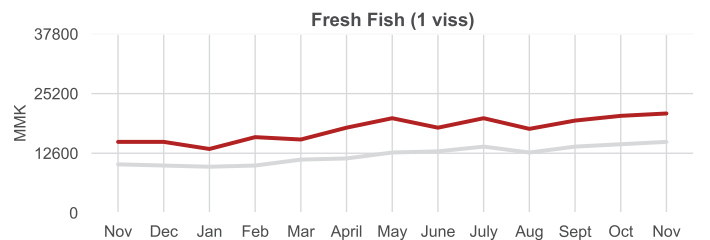
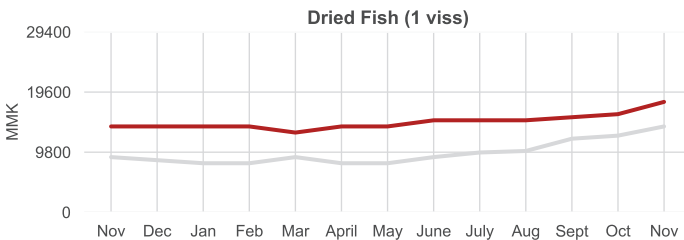
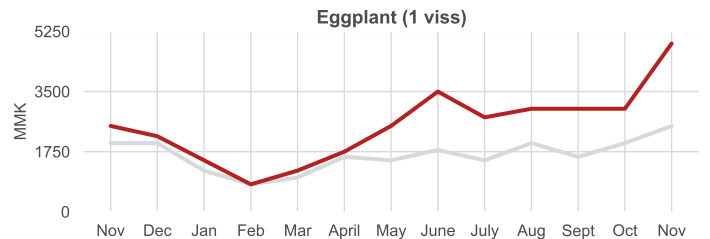
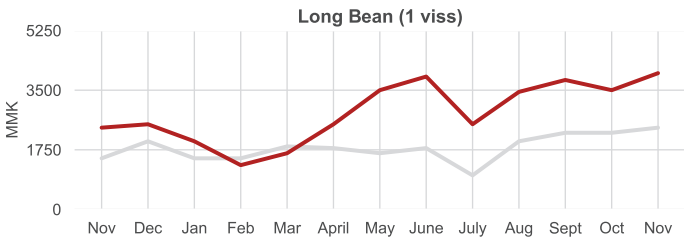
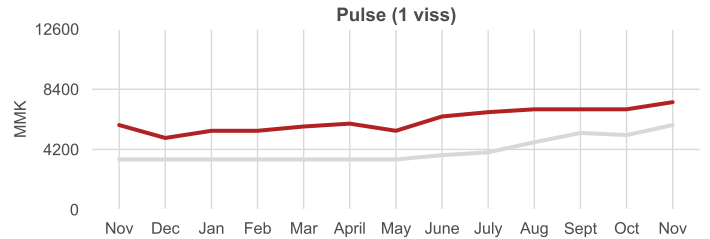
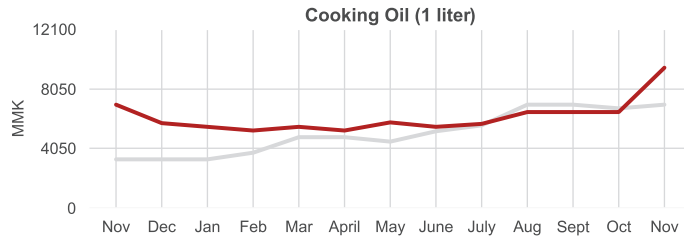
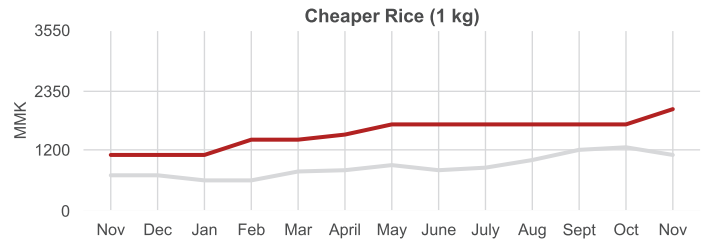
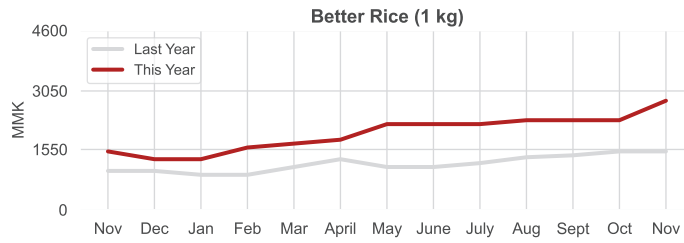
Other NFIs – NFI prices were 10–35% above November 2022 levels. NFI prices were much higher for cooking pots (+34%), blankets (+35%), and plastic tarps (+34%), but they were only slightly higher for mosquito nets (+8%), longyis (+10–11%), umbrellas (+21%), and towels (+12%).

What to Watch

- Price changes remained highly-unpredictable insofar as they continue to be driven by conflict-related supply disruptions;
- While transportation disruptions keep **vegetables** prices elevated in town markets, they are likely lower in villages where local vegetables are sourced;
- Disruptions to village mills—which supply **rice** locally—may badly impacting local food security even while having little impact on town prices.

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 November 2023 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	2,800	3,000	2,200	2,300	-	-	-	2,800	3,000
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	1,700	2,800	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	1,800	2,200
Palm Oil (1 liter)	12,000	7,000	10,000	10,000	7,250	-	-	9,500	6,500
Pulse (1 viss)	6,500	7,500	9,500	10,000	8,000	-	-	7,000	7,000
Garlic (1 viss)	27,000	18,000	25,000	19,000	20,000	-	-	15,000	17,000
Onion (1 viss)	16,000	10,000	12,000	8,000	6,000	-	-	7,000	10,000
Eggplant (1 viss)	4,900	10,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	-	-	4,000	3,000
Long Bean (1 viss)	3,900	10,000	4,000	5,000	3,000	-	-	5,000	3,500
Watercress (1 viss)	1,800	2,000	-	2,500	-	-	-	1,500	-
Green Chili (1 viss)	23,000	21,000	15,000	20,000	15,000	-	-	15,000	30,000
Banana (1 bunch)	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,200	500	-	-	1,500	3,000
Shrimp (1 viss)	12,000	10,500	7,500	9,375	-	-	-	7,000	8,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	14,000	21,000	19,500	-	-	-	-	28,000	32,500
Dried Fish (1 viss)	35,000	-	16,000	18,000	20,000	-	-	18,000	18,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	4,600	9,000	8,000	5,500	5,000	-	-	6,000	6,000
Chicken (1 viss)	17,000	-	14,000	-	-	-	-	18,000	18,000
Toothpaste (140 g)	2,200	1,700	2,000	2,000	2,250	-	-	2,000	1,750
Detergent (400 g)	2,500	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,500	-	-	2,000	1,350
Soap (60 g)	1,500	-	1,200	1,500	1,100	-	-	1,000	1,200
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,100	1,050	1,000	1,000	1,350	-	-	1,200	1,050
Charcoal (1 viss)	1,200	1,000	1,100	500	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	6,000	5,500	7,000	6,750	7,500	-	-	6,800	6,750
Blanket	-	-	-	15,000	10,000	-	-	13,000	10,000
Mosquito Net	6,500	-	-	5,500	5,000	-	-	5,000	6,650
Plastic Tarpaulin	8,000	10,000	-	10,600	-	-	-	10,000	8,000
Men's Longyi	7,300	7,000	-	9,000	9,000	-	-	8,000	7,800
Women's Longyi	8,500	7,000	-	9,000	9,000	-	-	8,000	8,500
Umbrella	8,600	8,000	-	8,500	-	-	-	6,000	6,250
Towel	4,200	2,500	-	5,000	4,000	-	-	4,500	2,750

*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).

CONTACT

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