

# 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](http://www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit).

## KEY FINDINGS

- **October brought some lower prices after several months of sharp increases**, although vegetable prices continued to rise;
- **Essential food prices were fairly stable**, and some markets saw palm oil prices fall for the first time in months;
- **Vegetable prices rose in most townships in October**—often by 10% or more—amid reports of poor supply and transportation disruptions;
- **Prices for meat/fish and NFIs rose and fell in different markets in October**, with price hikes more common Sittwe, Kyauktaw and Mrauk U;
- **Prices often trended lower in Minbya, Pauktaw and Ponnagyun in October**;
- **The impacts of conflict on local transportation should be watched closely**, as this could greatly affect the availability and price of goods in the region.

## Product-Level Price Changes

**Essential Foods – Essential foods regained some stability in October after months of rising prices.** Essential food prices rose and fell in different markets in October, but usually by just 4-8%. Palm oil prices were stable or falling in October, trending lower for only the second time in the past twelve months (Sittwe was an exception, where palm oil prices rose 17% in October).

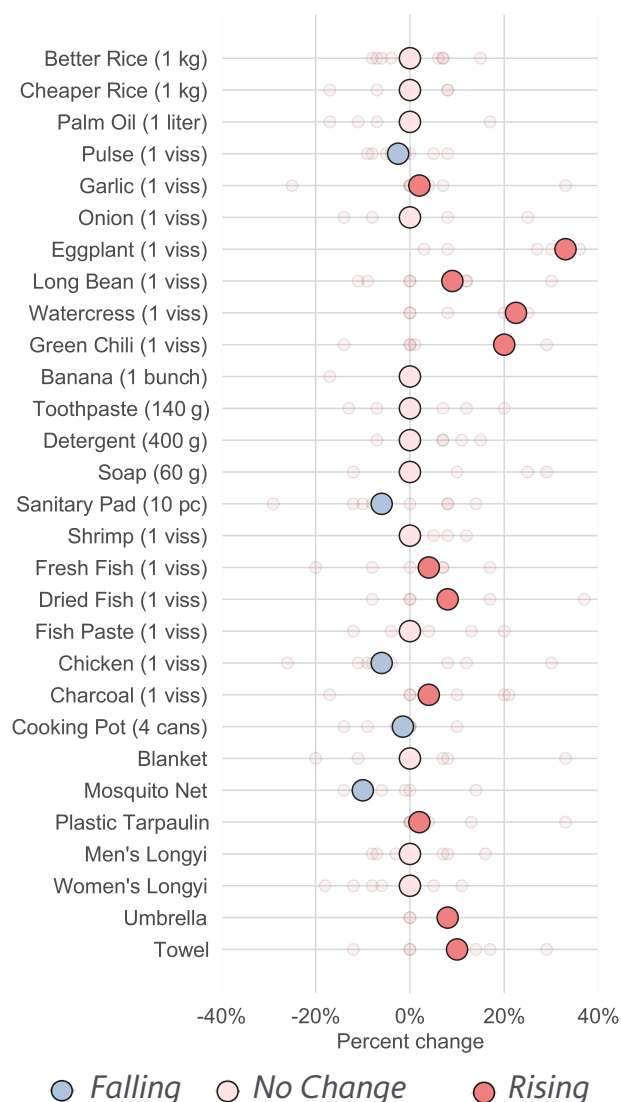
**Vegetables – Vegetable prices rose sharply in October with reports of poor supply and local transport disruptions.** Eggplant, watercress and green chili saw large and widespread price increases. Price hikes were most common in Minbya, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung and Sittwe. Retailers attributed higher price for vegetables (which are shipped daily throughout the region because they are perishable) to conflict-related route closures.

**Hygiene Products – Hygiene products were relatively stable in October, with some markets experiencing lower prices for the first time since July.** Prices for soap and detergent were generally stable or rising in October, while toothpaste saw prices fall in a few markets. Prices for sanitary pads fell by 6% or more in most markets, partly reversing September's increases.

**Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices rose and fell across markets in October, although most price changes were small.** Prices for shrimp and dried fish were stable or rising by 8-17% in October, while chicken prices often fell by 4% or more. Meat/fish prices rose most Kyauktaw, Mrauk U and Maungdaw, where traders reported supply disruptions from route closures.

**Other NFIs – After several months of rising prices, NFIs saw a mix of rising and falling prices in October.** Mosquito nets saw September's price increases reversed in October, and prices for cooking pots and blankets fell by 9% or more in some markets.

Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)

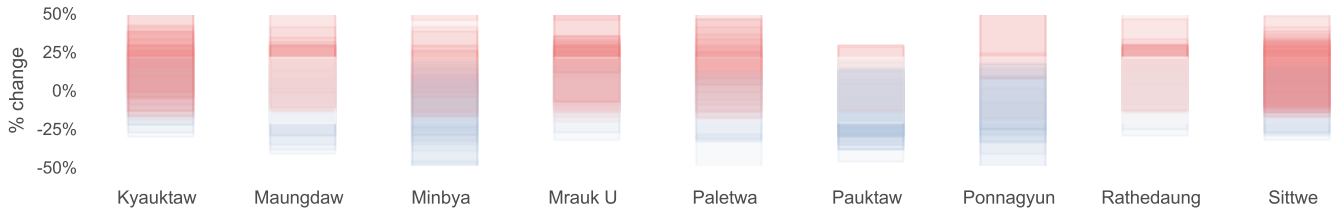


NFI prices rose notably in Sittwe in Kyauktaw, which retailers attributed to higher transport costs and wholesale prices in Mandalay and Yangon.

## Township-Level Price Changes

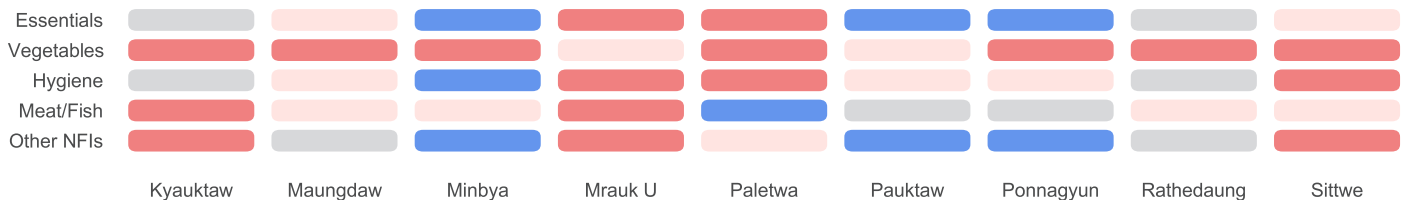
Price trends varied significantly by township in October, with prices climbing in some locations and falling in others. October brought lower prices for half of all products monitored in Minbya, Pauktaw and Ponnagyun—particularly essential foods and certain NFIs. By contrast, prices rose for half of all products monitored in Sittwe, Mrauk U, Kyauktaw and Paletwa—particularly NFIs and perishables like meat/fish and vegetables. Vegetables were the only product category which trended in the same direction (up) across townships. Conflict-related transport disruptions between Sittwe and townships in Mrauk U District may partly explain this trend, as this could make it harder for Sittwe to supply NFIs regionally and for vegetable-rich townships like Kyauktaw and Mrauk U to supply produce to Sittwe.

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



The above chart provides a general impression of the frequency of rising/falling prices in each market. Horizontal bands represent the density of products at a given percent-change. Red indicates rising prices, blue indicates falling prices.

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



The above chart provides a general impression of the direction of price changes in each market by product category. Product categories are labeled as stable (grey), falling (blue), rising (red), or mixed (pink).

## Twelve-Month Price Changes<sup>1</sup>

**Essential Foods – The gap between 2021 and 2022 essential food prices held steady in October.** The median twelve-month increase was virtually unchanged for palm oil (+115%), pulses (+57%) and high-quality rice (+37%). Low-quality rice rose to 44% above 2021 levels, as prices failed to dip as they did last year (Charts 3-14).

**Vegetables – Vegetable prices in October sprinted ahead of 2021 levels.** The median twelve-month price increase for most vegetables grew by 6 to 12 percentage points in October, as vegetable prices climbed faster than they did last year (green chili was an exception, slightly reducing the gap with 2021 levels).

**Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products remained well above 2021 levels in October.** The median twelve-month increase grew by 4 to 8 percentage points for toothpaste (+38%), sanitary pads (+58%) and soap (+78%) in October. Detergent prices remained 65% above October 2021.

**Meat and Fish – Meat/fish prices drifted closer to 2021 levels in October.** In October the gap between

2021 and 2022 prices for meat/fish products narrowed by 3 to 8 percent for fresh fish (+14%), dried fish (+44%) and chicken (+25%); shrimp prices fell more in line with October 2021 as well (+14%).

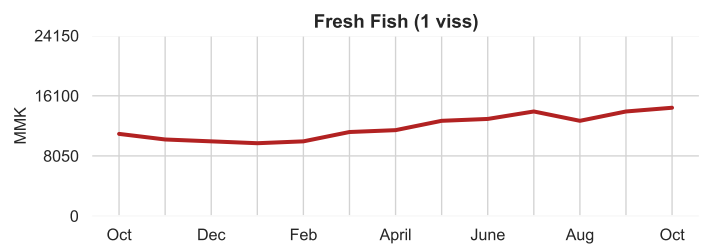
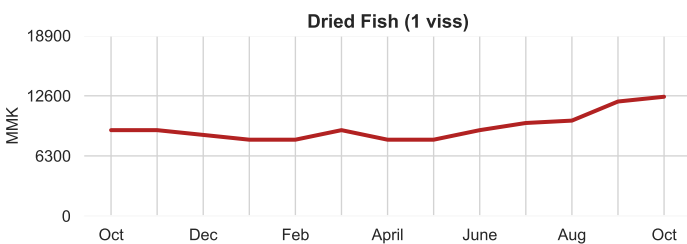
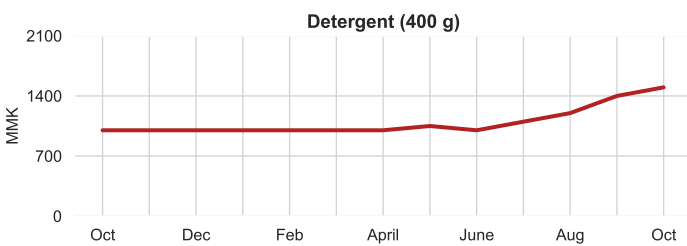
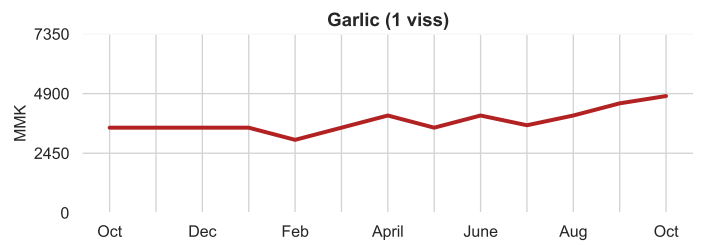
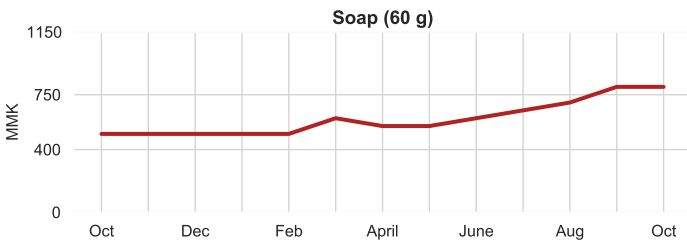
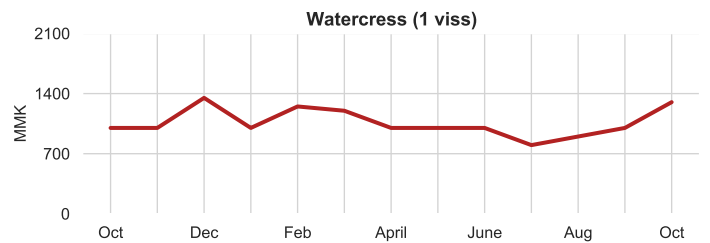
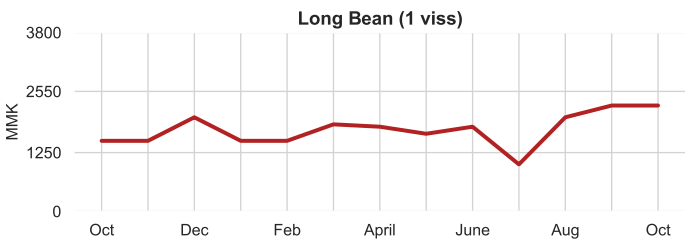
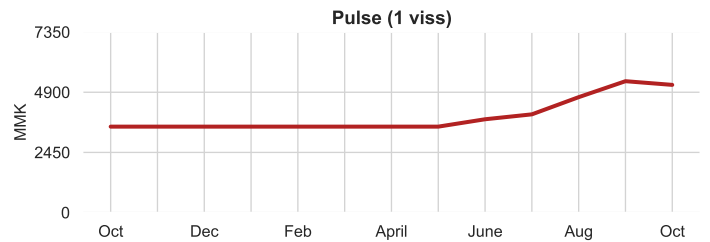
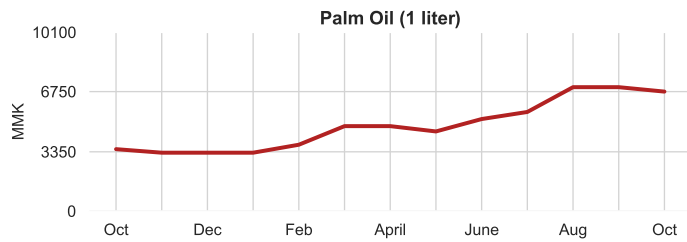
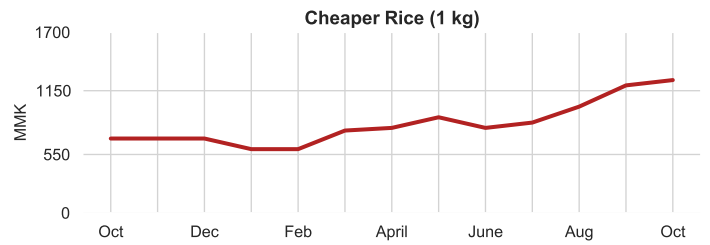
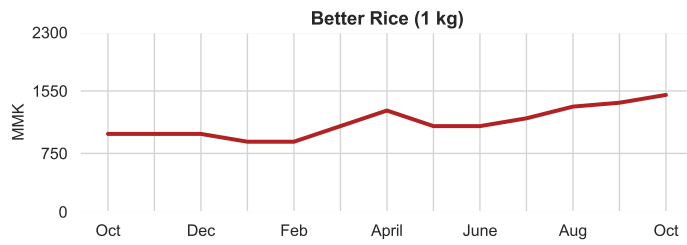
**Other NFIs – NFI prices remained well above October 2021 levels.** Prices for most NFIs—which were 46–65% above 2021 levels in September—maintained their lead in October; blankets and mosquito nets narrowed the gaps slightly, while towels widened it.

### What to Watch

- Further transportation disruptions from conflict could increase prices for perishables like **meat/fish** and **vegetables** that rely on daily or weekly supply;
- Escalating armed conflict in or near **Paletwa, Maungdaw, Rathedaung, and Kyauktaw** is likely to further disrupt supply to/from these areas.
- Reports of road and water route closures in Rakhine state in November suggest that the impact of transportation on prices should be monitored closely.

<sup>1</sup> 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 October 2022 (MMK)

Product	Kyauktaw	Maungdaw	Minbya	Mrauk U	Paletwa	Pauktaw	Ponnagyun	Rathedaung	Sittwe
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,400	1,600	1,200	1,600	1,500	1,300	1,300	1,700	1,600
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	1,200	1,300	1,000	1,300	1,400	1,000	1,000	1,300	1,250
Palm Oil (1 liter)	7,000	6,200	6,000	-	7,000	6,500	5,500	8,250	7,800
Pulse (1 viss)	3,600	5,500	5,200	5,200	-	5,000	5,000	5,500	5,450
Garlic (1 viss)	4,200	5,000	4,400	4,800	6,000	3,000	3,600	5,500	5,500
Onion (1 viss)	3,600	5,000	4,300	4,000	5,000	3,000	3,700	4,500	4,500
Eggplant (1 viss)	1,300	2,000	2,500	2,000	1,750	1,300	3,500	3,000	2,800
Long Bean (1 viss)	1,300	4,200	2,000	2,000	2,250	1,000	3,600	2,500	2,800
Watercress (1 viss)	700	2,000	1,500	1,200	-	2,000	1,400	1,000	1,200
Green Chili (1 viss)	8,500	6,000	3,000	3,800	5,000	4,000	4,500	12,500	10,000
Banana (1 bunch)	700	1,500	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,500
Toothpaste (140 g)	1,200	1,200	1,500	1,450	1,800	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,500
Detergent (400 g)	1,200	1,500	1,400	1,550	1,600	1,500	1,400	1,700	1,500
Soap (60 g)	800	1,000	850	800	1,000	700	900	800	700
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	750	1,100	1,100	1,200	900	800	850	1,300	1,300
Shrimp (1 viss)	6,500	7,000	5,750	5,000	-	8,000	5,000	9,000	8,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	13,500	14,000	15,000	12,500	-	11,000	20,000	16,000	15,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	13,000	13,000	14,000	12,000	-	11,000	12,000	14,000	12,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	3,000	8,500	-	2,000	3,500	2,500	3,500	6,250	7,800
Chicken (1 viss)	9,000	13,000	10,000	13,000	-	10,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	850	1,200	600	500	700	1,000	1,200	1,000	1,100
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	5,900	5,000	4,300	5,000	-	3,500	3,500	5,000	5,500
Blanket	4,000	8,000	7,500	12,000	8,000	6,500	12,000	7,000	7,500
Mosquito Net	6,700	-	4,000	4,000	7,000	6,000	3,500	4,500	4,500
Plastic Tarpaulin	5,800	6,800	-	8,000	-	4,500	8,000	7,500	7,000
Men's Longyi	6,700	6,500	7,300	7,500	7,000	6,000	7,000	7,500	7,500
Women's Longyi	5,800	6,500	7,000	8,000	8,000	6,000	7,500	7,000	7,200
Umbrella	6,500	6,000	-	-	-	7,000	6,000	6,500	6,000
Towel	4,200	2,200	2,200	4,000	4,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,000

\*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).

### **CONTACT**

Market Analysis Unit  
[market.analysis.unit@gmail.com](mailto:market.analysis.unit@gmail.com)