

SOUTHEAST MYANMAR (APRIL 2022)

MARKET PRICE REPORT

Market Analysis Unit (MAU)

The MAU tracks market prices in Southeast Myanmar. Data are collected from three vendors per product per market in the last week of each month. The data include prices from Hpapun (Kamamaung market), and Kawkareik (main) and Taungoo (Nat Htet). Data will soon be available online at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

- **Food and NFI prices generally increased in April**, particularly in Kawkareik township;
- **Vegetable prices rose steeply in Hpapun and Kawkareik townships** but not in Taungoo township;
- **Meat and fish prices rose steeply in Hpapun and Taungoo townships** but not in Kawkareik township;
- **NFI prices trended generally upward in all three markets**, although hygiene products were stable;
- **Taungoo township saw moderately lower prices for essential foods, vegetables and hygiene products.**

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Essential foods extended several months of moderate price increases in April. Rice, pulses and palm oil each saw prices increase, but usually less than 10%.

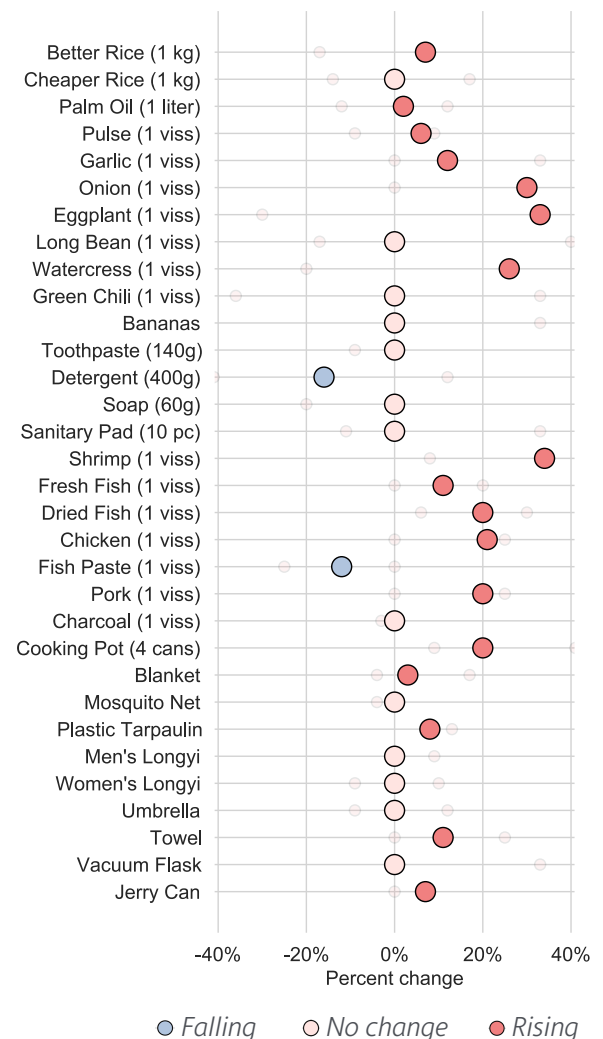
Vegetables – Vegetable prices rose sharply in Hpapun and Kawkareik, but less so in Taungoo. In Kawkareik most vegetable prices rose by at least 30%, while in Hpapun four of six vegetables monitored rose by at least 12%. Vegetable prices in Taungoo both rose and fell in April

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products fell in Kawkareik but were mostly stable elsewhere. Prices for hygiene products fell by 2-16% in Taungoo while holding mostly stable in Hpapun; Kawkareik saw price hikes for detergent and sanitary pads.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices rose noticeably in Taungoo and Hpapun in April, but they held stable in Kawkareik. Fresh and dried fish prices trended upward by 11-30% in all three townships, although chicken and pork prices rose only in Hpapun and Taungoo. Fish paste prices were falling or stable in April.

Other NFIs – NFI prices increased across three townships in April, particularly in Kawkareik. Prices for most NFIs monitored rose by at least 9% in April. In Hpapun, NFI prices were up just 3-11% in most cases, while Taungoo had a mixture of rising and moderately falling prices.

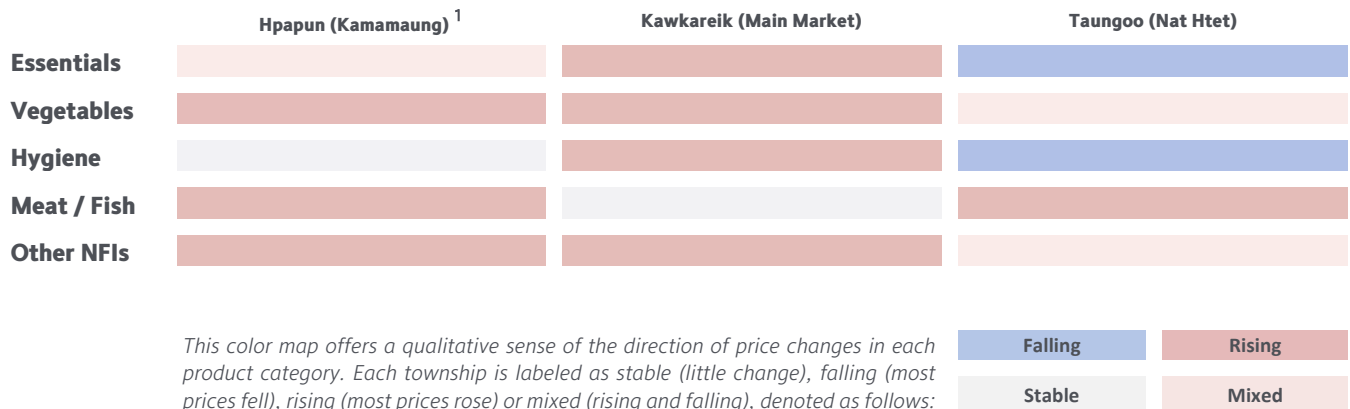
Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Hpapun and Kawkareik markets saw higher prices in April, although the picture in Taungoo was more mixed. Kawkareik township saw the most and steepest price hikes, with increases across all categories except for meat and fish. Prices in Hpapun were generally stable or rising, with the steepest increases affecting vegetables and meat/fish. Taungoo township saw a mixture of rising and falling prices in April, with prices for essential foods, hygiene products and even vegetables declining somewhat.

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



What to Watch

- High prices in **Kawkareik** township—possibly due to transportation disruptions caused by recent armed conflict—could increase further if instability in the region continues;
- **Palm oil** prices, although relatively stable in April, should be expected to rise if undersupply in the broader Myanmar market continues;
- **Vegetable** prices are likely to continue rising, including in Taungoo township, as the monsoon season takes hold.

¹ Note that prices are tracked at Kamamaung Market in Hpapun Townships, as the main Hpapun market has limited functionality.

Prices for April 2022 (MMK)

Product	Hpapun (Kamamaung)	Kawkareik (Main market)	Taungoo (Nat Htet)
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,250	1,500	1,500
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	650	700	600
Palm Oil (1 liter)	4,300	4,500	4,300
Pulse (1 viss)	3,500	3,500	3,200
Garlic (1 viss)	4,500	3,800	4,000
Onion (1 viss)	1,300	1,300	1,000
Eggplant (1 viss)	2,500	2,000	700
Long Bean (1 viss)	3,500	2,500	1,500
Watercress (1 viss)	2,000	1,500	1,200
Green Chili (1 viss)	2,000	2,000	5,000
Bananas	1,500	2,000	1,000
Toothpaste (140g)	1,200	500	1,000
Detergent (400g)	1,300	900	800
Soap (60g)	500	400	800
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,000	800	800
Shrimp (1 viss)	-	13,000	12,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	6,000	5,000	6,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	13,000	9,500	9,000
Chicken (1 viss)	12,000	12,000	9,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	10,000	7,500	8,500
Pork (1 viss)	3,500	5,000	3,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	10,000	10,000	12,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	435	1,000	600
Blanket	6,000	9,000	12,000
Mosquito Net	5,500	7,000	6,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	12,500	9,500	15,000
Men's Longyi	21,500	17,000	13,000
Women's Longyi	5,750	6,000	5,000
Umbrella	6,000	5,500	5,000
Towel	3,500	4,500	5,000
Vacuum Flask	5,000	2,500	1,500
Jerry Can	16,000	16,000	10,000

*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).

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