

SOUTHEAST MYANMAR (JULY 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), Kawkareik (main), Loikaw (Thiri Mingalar) and Taungoo (Nat Htet). Data will soon be available online at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.

- **Essential food prices rose slightly for a second straight month**, although palm oil remained stable;
- **In July prices rose in Taungoo and to some extent Kawkareik**, but prices were stable in Loikaw;
- **Price spikes were fairly few and moderate in July**, despite generally-rising prices;
- **Taungoo may see further price increases** if local conflict continues, and this could be passed on to downstream markets in Hpapun.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Essential food prices rose slightly in July. Prices for rice rose by 7-8%, but essential foods were in general fairly stable. There were a few price swings, such as in Taungoo where cheaper rice spiked and in Loikaw where palm oil dipped (a reversal of June increases due to stockouts).

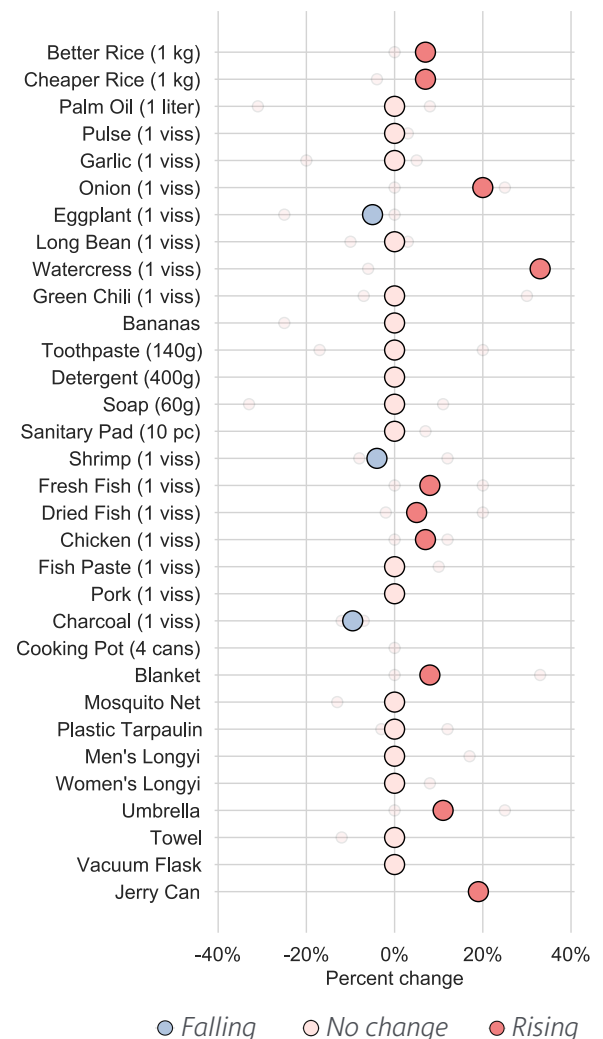
Vegetables – Vegetable prices fluctuated in Taungoo in July but were again stable in Kawkareik and Loikaw. Vegetable prices fluctuated by 20-50% in Taungoo but shifted by just 3-7% in Loikaw. In Kawkareik, vegetable prices were stable outside of a few price spikes for watercress and onion.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were stable in Loikaw but fluctuating in Kawkareik and Taungoo. Prices for hygiene products were stable in Loikaw—possibly due to limited new inventory—but prices shifted upward or downward by 7% or more in Kawkareik and Taungoo.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices rose in Kawkareik and Taungoo and held steady or fell in Loikaw. Meat and fish prices climbed 10-20% in Taungoo and 5-20% in Kawkareik in July. In Loikaw, meat and fish prices were stable or falling by 2-8%.

Other NFIs – NFI prices rose in Taungoo in July while holding mostly stable in Loikaw and Kawkareik. Many NFI prices rose by 8% or more in Taungoo, and stockouts increased prices for cooking pots. NFI prices were stable in Loikaw and fairly stable in Kawkareik as well. In Kawkareik, prices for blankets, umbrellas and jerry cans rose by 8-20%.

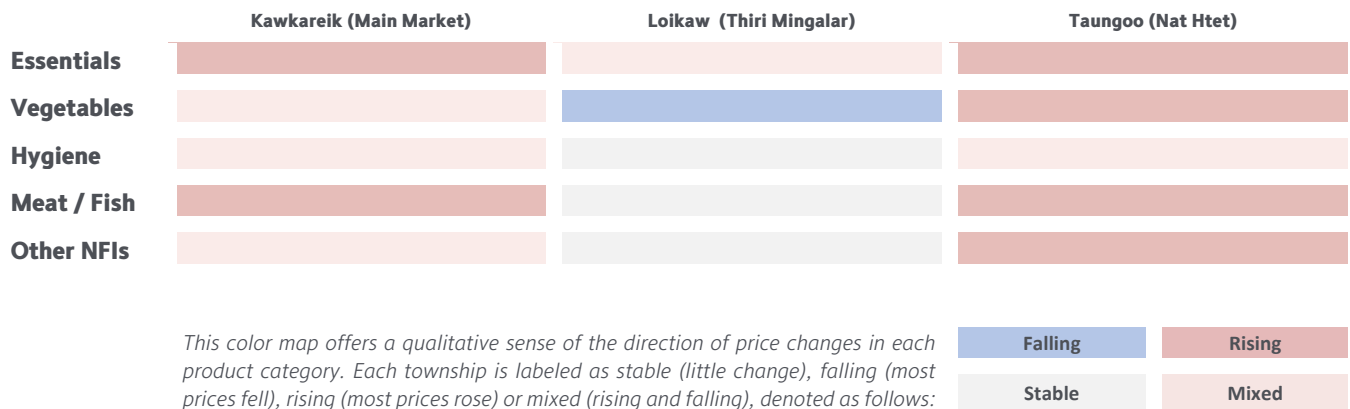
Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Most prices increased in Taungoo in July and to some extent also in Kawkareik, but prices were stable in Loikaw. Taungoo saw a clear trend of rising prices across categories in July, which retailers associated with an uptick in local conflict. Kawkareik also saw rising prices, although this was smaller in magnitude and mixed with some falling prices. Prices in Loikaw were generally stable, although prices fell 2-8% for a quarter of all products monitored.

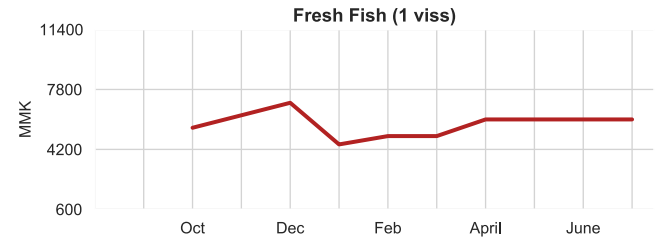
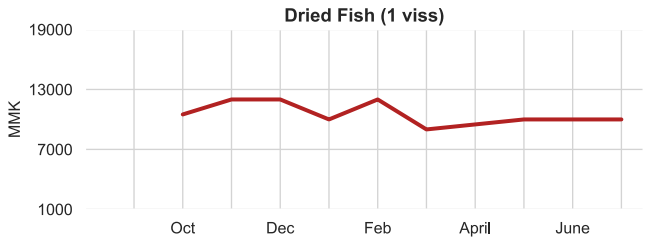
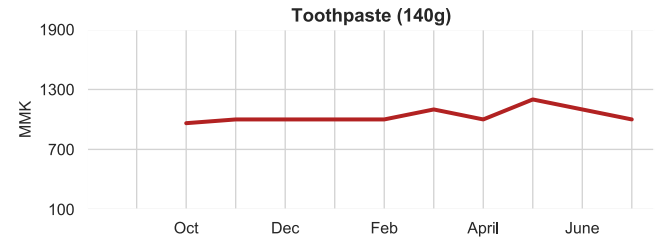
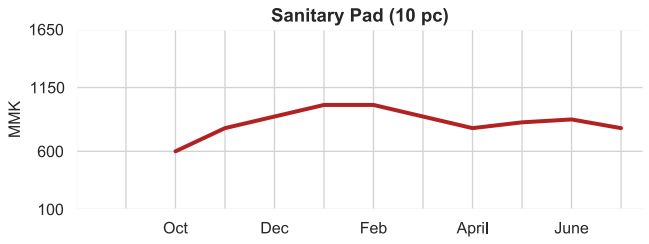
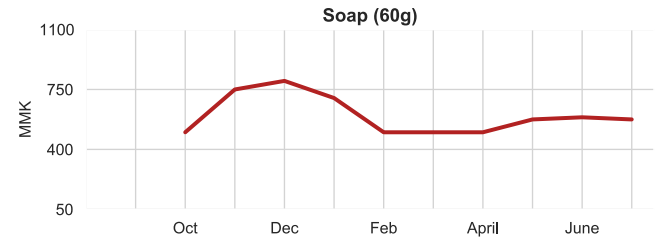
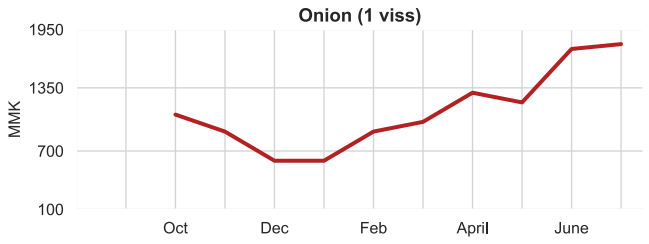
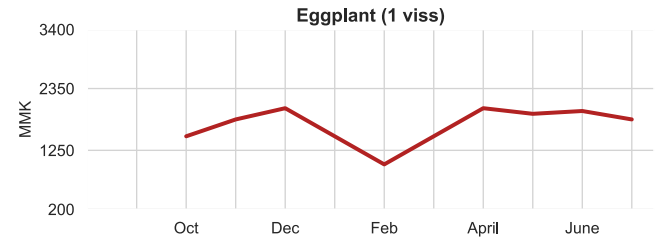
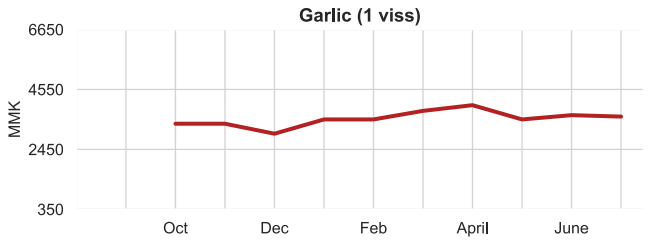
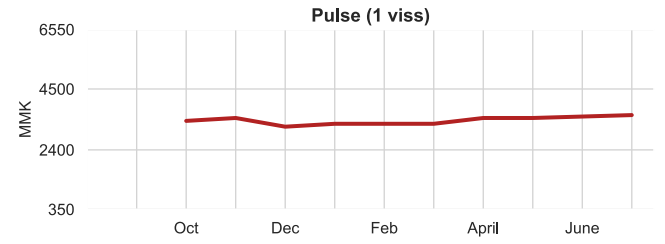
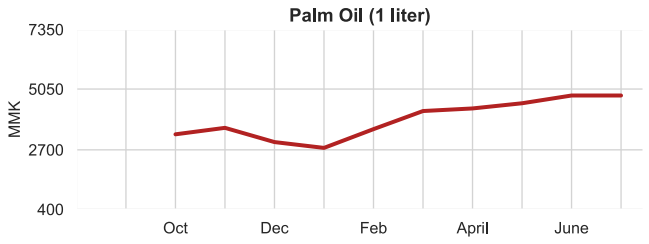
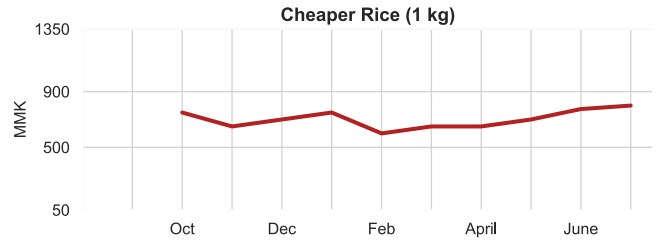
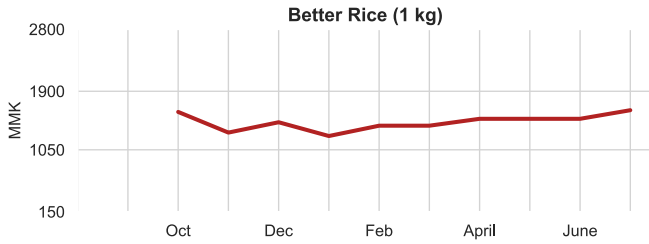
Chart 2. Direction of Price Change, by Category and Township



What to Watch

- Prices in **Loikaw** remain stable—possibly due to limited inventory turnover—but this could also render these markets vulnerable to future shocks;
- Reports of increasing tensions in Bago Region could suggest further price increase in **Taungoo**, which may be passed on in part to **Hpapun** as well;
- Rising prices for goods like **meat / fish** could indicate the start of a seasonal shift in some prices.

Charts 3-14. Median Township Price, Selected Products (Twelve Months)



Prices for July 2022 (MMK)

Product	Hpapun (Kamamaung)	Kawkareik (Main market)	Loikaw (Thiri Mingalar)	Taungoo (Nat Htet)
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,250	1,600	1,625	1,800
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	600	800	675	1,300
Palm Oil (1 liter)	4,500	4,800	4,500	5,200
Pulse (1 viss)	3,500	3,900	3,500	3,600
Garlic (1 viss)	3,500	4,000	3,000	3,600
Onion (1 viss)	2,400	2,500	1,200	1,800
Eggplant (1 viss)	3,000	2,000	1,800	600
Long Bean (1 viss)	2,500	2,500	4,650	1,800
Watercress (1 viss)	1,000	2,000	750	1,500
Green Chili (1 viss)	3,000	1,500	6,500	6,500
Bananas	1,500	1,500	800	1,500
Toothpaste (140g)	1,000	600	1,200	1,000
Detergent (400g)	1,000	1,000	900	950
Soap (60g)	500	400	575	1,000
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,000	1,000	700	800
Shrimp (1 viss)	10,000	12,000	5,500	13,500
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	6,000	6,000	6,000	7,000
Dried Fish (1 viss)	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000
Chicken (1 viss)	8,000	13,000	13,250	14,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	3,750	8,000	7,500	9,000
Pork (1 viss)	13,000	5,000	6,000	5,500
Charcoal (1 viss)	450	13,000	14,000	12,000
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	6,000	700	-	650
Blanket	6,250	10,000	-	12,000
Mosquito Net	14,500	6,500	5,250	10,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	22,000	10,000	12,500	13,000
Men's Longyi	5,750	16,500	14,000	18,000
Women's Longyi	6,250	6,000	5,800	7,000
Umbrella	5,250	6,000	5,250	7,000
Towel	5,000	5,000	5,000	7,500
Vacuum Flask	15,500	2,500	2,000	3,500
Jerry Can	6,000	15,000	-	12,000

*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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