

SOUTHEAST MYANMAR (JUNE 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 trended upward in June**, and palm oil prices spiked in Loikaw Township;
- **Prices were generally stable in Kawkareik and Loikaw**, although prices there rose for some NFIs;
- **Prices increased for two-thirds of products monitored in Taungoo**, typically by 10-20%;
- **Prices in Loikaw Township should be monitored closely**, as unusually-stable prices could give way to larger shifts as retailers purchase new inventory.

Product-Level Price Changes

Essential Foods – Essential foods prices rose gradually in June, and palm oil prices spiked in Loikaw. Kawkareik and Taungoo saw price increases of 4-12% for rice, palm oil and pulses. Rice and pulses were stable in Loikaw, but palm oil prices rose 44% amid reports of stockouts.

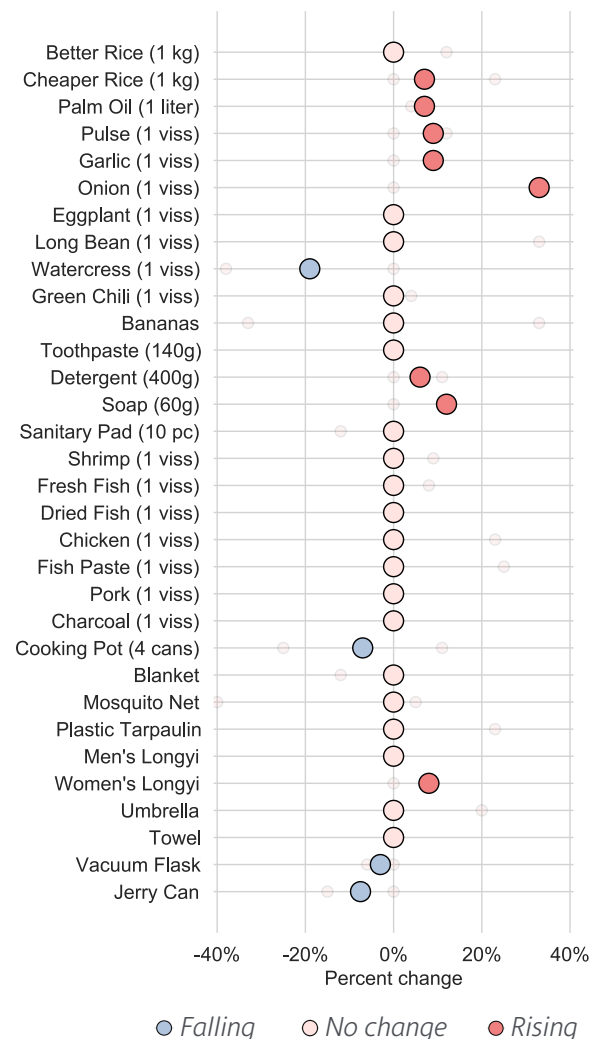
Vegetables – Vegetable prices fluctuated in Taungoo but held stable in Kawkareik and Loikaw. Eggplant and green chili were stable across markets, while onion rose by 33-66% (matching a nationwide trend). Taungoo saw a mix of rising and falling vegetable prices, with watercress and bananas lower in June.

Hygiene Products – Prices for hygiene products were stable or rising slightly in June. Taungoo and Kawkareik saw several price shifts of 6-12%, while Loikaw prices held stable. Soap prices spiked in Kawkareik as only large-sizes were available.

Meat and Fish – Meat and fish prices rose in Taungoo in June but held stable in Kawkareik and Loikaw. Prices for chicken and fish paste rose 23-25% in Taungoo, and shrimp and fresh fish rose 8-9%.

Other NFIs – NFI prices were generally stable in Loikaw and Kawkareik, while in Taungoo prices both rose and fell. In Taungoo, some NFI prices fell moderately (e.g., cooking pots, blankets, mosquito nets) while others rose (e.g., plastic tarps, longyis, umbrellas). Stockouts were reported in Loikaw, Hpapun and Taungoo, pushing prices higher in some cases (e.g., towels).

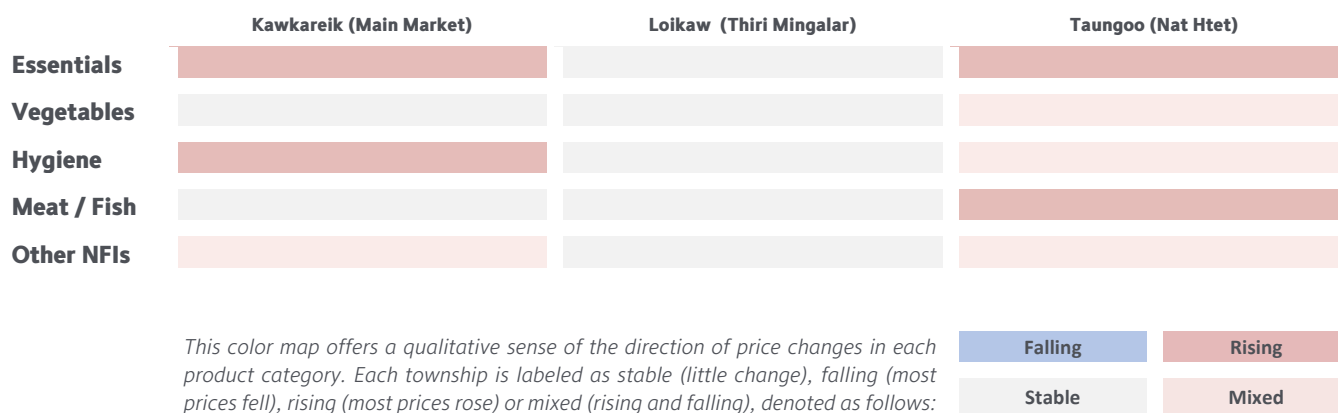
Chart 1. Median Price Change (One Month)



Township-Level Price Changes

Prices were very stable in Loikaw in June, while Kawkareik and Taungoo saw a mixture of stable or rising prices. Prices for essential foods and hygiene products rose in Kawkareik in June, while other products remained stable (there were no falling prices). Taungoo saw rising prices for essential foods, meat and fish—possibly tied to conflict-related supply disruptions in late-June—while other product categories saw a mix rising and falling prices. Loikaw saw very few price changes in June, possibly due to limited re-stocking of goods at new prices.

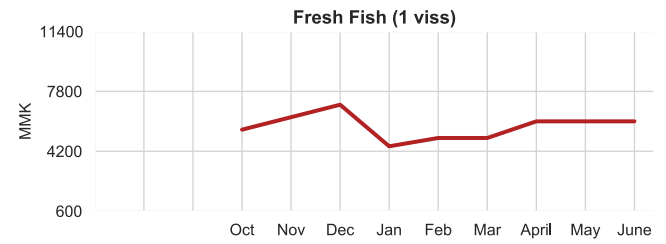
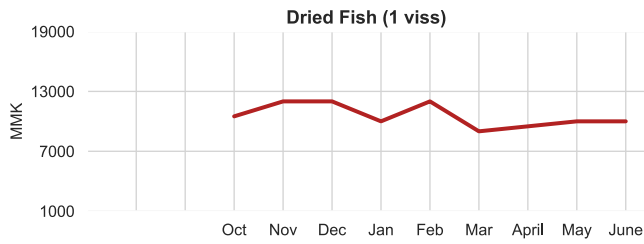
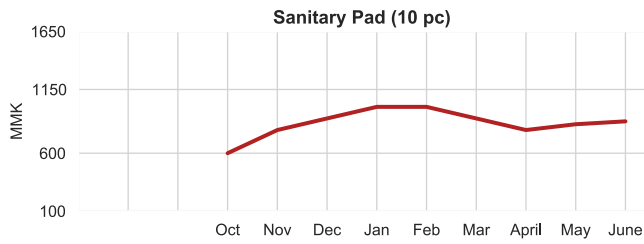
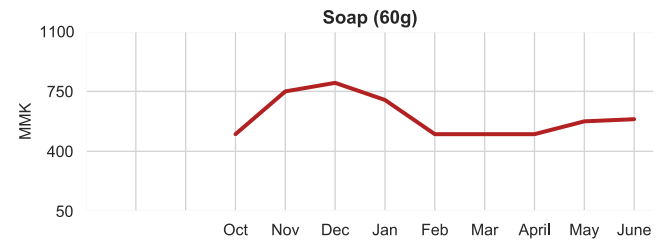
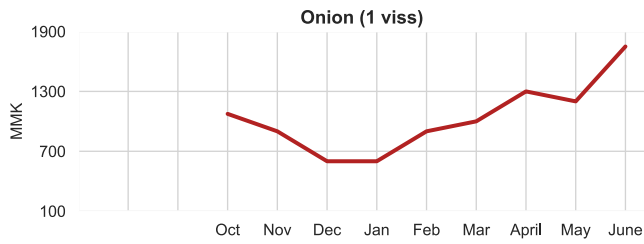
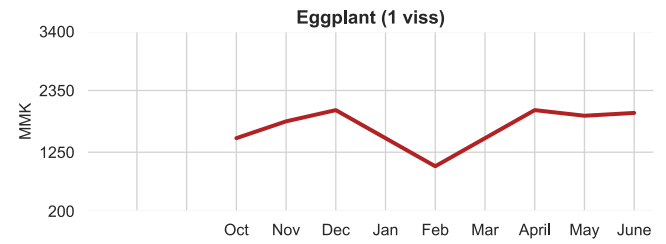
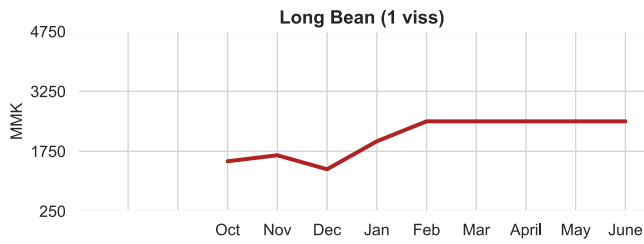
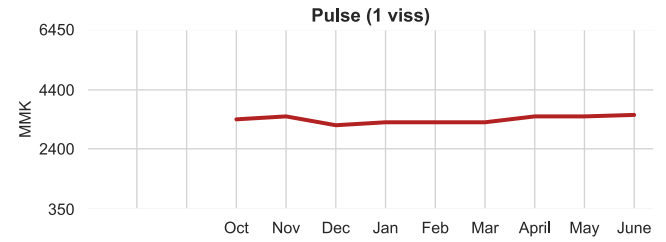
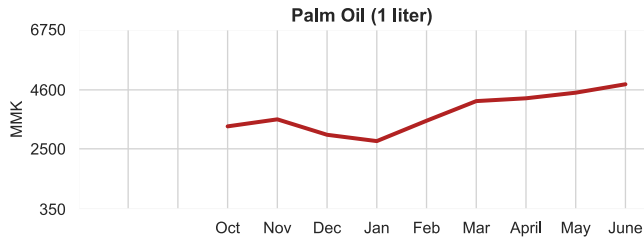
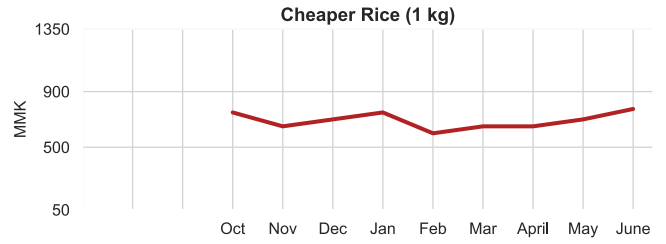
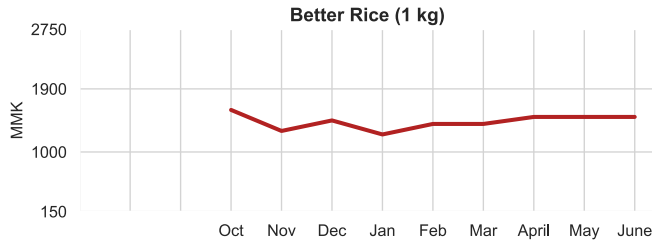
Chart 2. Direction of Price Change, by Category and Township



What to Watch

- Prices in **Loikaw**—which have been unusually stable—could shift significantly if prices have changed greatly since retailers last restocked inventory;
- Prices in **Taungoo** and **Hpapun** (Kamarmaung) could increase in July if late-June tensions in East-Bago disrupt supply;
- The slightly-upward trajectory of prices in June may portend a broader trend toward higher prices, particularly for **essential foods** which rose across multiple markets.

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



Prices for June 2022 (MMK)

Product	Hpapun (Kamamaung)	Kawkareik (Main market)	Loikaw (Thiri Mingalar)	Taungoo (Nat Htet)
Better Rice (1 kg)	1,250	1,500	1,500	1,800
Cheaper Rice (1 kg)	600	750	1,400	800
Palm Oil (1 liter)	4,500	4,800	6,500	4,800
Pulse (1 viss)	3,500	3,800	3,500	3,600
Garlic (1 viss)	3,500	3,800	3,000	4,500
Onion (1 viss)	2,400	2,000	1,200	1,500
Eggplant (1 viss)	3,000	2,000	1,900	800
Long Bean (1 viss)	2,500	2,500	4,500	2,000
Watercress (1 viss)	1,000	1,500	-	1,000
Green Chili (1 viss)	3,000	1,500	7,000	5,000
Bananas	1,500	2,000	800	1,000
Toothpaste (140g)	1,000	500	1,200	1,200
Detergent (400g)	1,000	1,000	900	950
Soap (60g)	500	600	575	900
Sanitary Pad (10 pc)	1,000	1,000	700	750
Shrimp (1 viss)	10,000	12,500	6,000	12,000
Fresh Fish (1 viss)	6,000	5,000	6,000	6,500
Dried Fish (1 viss)	10,000	9,500	10,250	10,000
Chicken (1 viss)	8,000	7,500	7,500	8,000
Fish Paste (1 viss)	3,750	5,000	6,000	5,000
Pork (1 viss)	13,000	13,000	14,000	12,000
Charcoal (1 viss)	450	800	-	700
Cooking Pot (4 cans)	6,000	10,000	-	6,000
Blanket	6,250	6,000	5,250	7,500
Mosquito Net	14,500	10,000	12,500	15,000
Plastic Tarpaulin	22,000	17,000	14,000	16,000
Men's Longyi	5,750	6,000	5,800	6,000
Women's Longyi	6,250	6,000	5,250	6,500
Umbrella	5,250	4,500	5,000	6,000
Towel	5,000	2,500	2,000	4,000
Vacuum Flask	15,500	15,000	-	12,000
Jerry Can	6,000	7,500	-	5,500

*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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