



MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

KEY MESSAGES

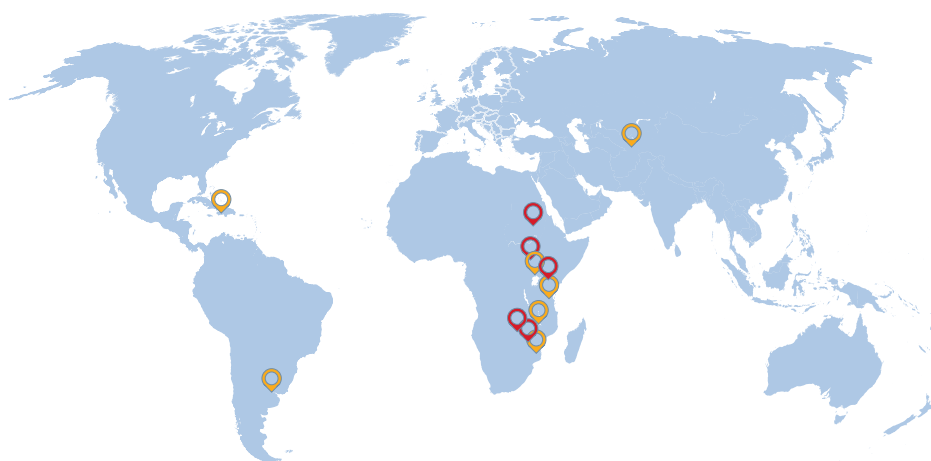
- International prices of wheat rose in October after declining during the past few months due to strong demand for exports and lower production prospects in key producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere. Prices of maize also increased, supported by reduced supplies in the United States of America and a pick-up in sales from Argentina and Ukraine. By contrast, slow demand and harvest pressure caused international rice prices to subside.
- In Southern Africa, tight supplies and currency weakness in several countries continued to support prices of the main food staple, maize, which remained at high levels across the subregion.
- In East Africa, prices of coarse grains in October were at levels well above those a year earlier in several countries of the subregion, mainly due to reduced harvests. In the Sudan and South Sudan, prices of coarse grains remained stable or declined slightly but were still high due to the difficult macroeconomic situation.
- In CIS Asia, prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan recorded atypical increases in October, after several months of relative stability, mainly underpinned by higher price quotations in the regional export market.

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES.....	2
DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS.....	3
WEST AFRICA.....	8
SOUTHERN AFRICA.....	10
EAST AFRICA.....	12
EAST ASIA.....	14
CIS - ASIA AND EUROPE.....	16
CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.....	18
SOUTH AMERICA.....	19

Domestic price warnings

Price warning level:  High  Moderate [Based on GIEWS analysis]



Warnings are only included if latest available price data is not older than two months.

Argentina | Grains
Haiti | Cereals
Kenya | Maize
Malawi | Maize
Mozambique | Maize
South Sudan | Staple foods
Sudan | Staple foods
Tajikistan | Wheat flour
Uganda | Maize
United Republic of Tanzania | Maize
Zambia | Maize
Zimbabwe | Cereals

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

Export prices of wheat and maize increased in October

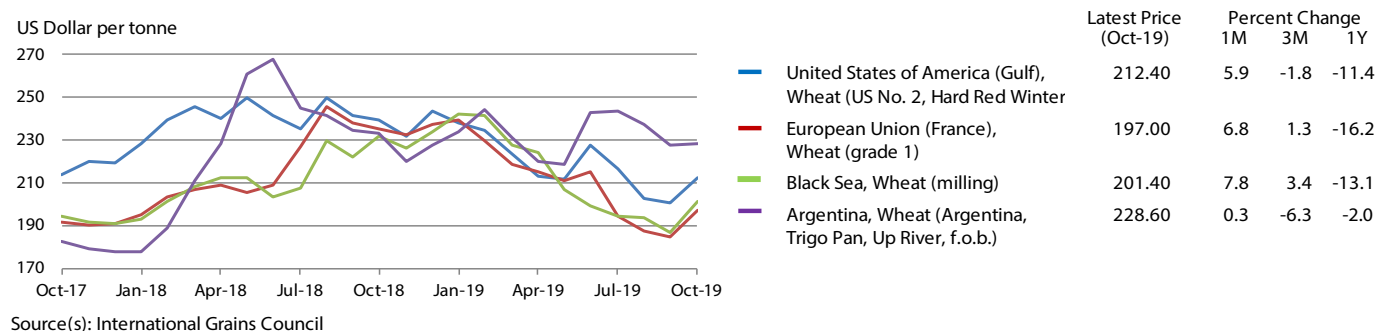
Export prices of **wheat** generally increased in October. The benchmark US wheat (No.2 Hard Red Winter, f.o.b.) rose after declining during the previous three months and averaged USD 212 per tonne, up 6 percent from September but still more than 11 percent down from October last year. The price increase in October was underpinned by deteriorating production prospects mainly in Argentina and Australia, coupled with concerns over spring crop quality and harvest delays in North America due to excessive wet conditions. Strong demand for exports also provided upward pressure. However, with ample global supplies, prices remained at levels below those a year earlier.

Export prices of **maize** also rose in October. The benchmark US maize (No.2, Yellow, f.o.b.) increased after the decline of the previous three months and averaged USD 168 per tonne, up nearly 7 percent from September and 5 percent from its level in the corresponding month last year. Upward pressure on prices was provided by a significant downward

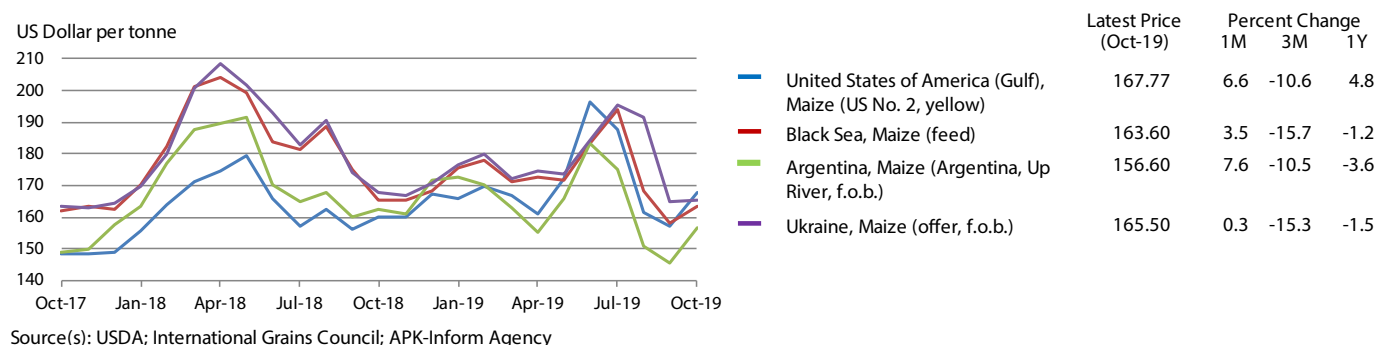
revision of the 2019/20 stocks in the United States of America and concerns over adverse weather damaging crops. However, sluggish export demand prevented steeper price increases. Strong export sales led to maize price increases in Ukraine and Argentina, where concerns over planting conditions also provided support.

The FAO All Rice Price Index (2002-04=100) averaged 225.1 points in October, down 1.1 percent from its value a month earlier. In Asia, Indian and Thai prices of parboiled rice lost ground during October, as official efforts to curb import inflows into Nigeria intensified, raising the likelihood of lower shipments to the country. Price quotations of white rice also eased in Thailand, pressured by poor buying interest, and in Pakistan due to harvest progress. In India, tight availabilities kept non-parboiled values steady, while Vietnamese prices rebounded, aided by the completion of the "summer-autumn" harvest and purchases from African buyers. In the Americas, regional orders as well as those of Iraq, kept Indica prices mostly stable.

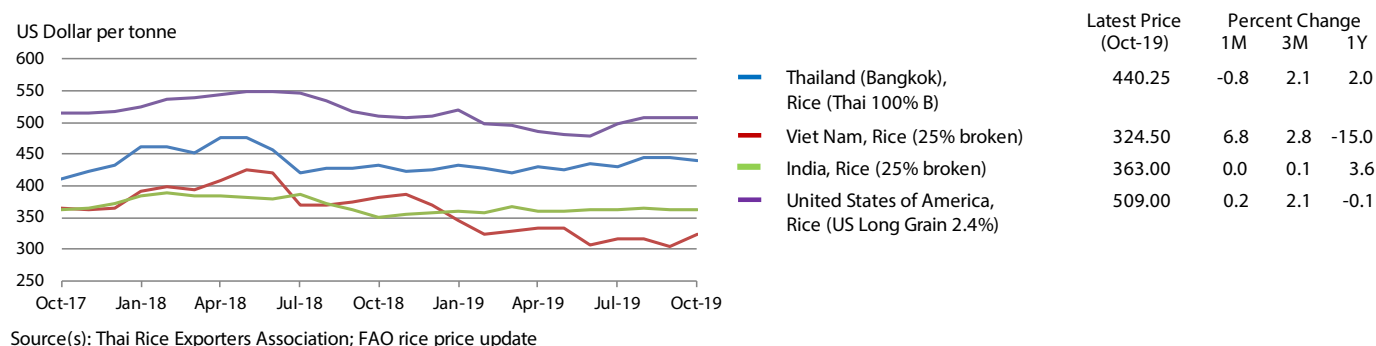
International wheat prices



International maize prices



International rice prices




For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS

Countries where prices of one or more basic food commodity are at abnormal high levels which could negatively impact access to food

Argentina | Grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 2.3	-0.5
12 months	0.3	0.8



Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Argentina, Rosario, Wholesale, Maize (yellow)

Prices of grains on the increase and well above those a year earlier

Wholesale prices of **yellow maize** increased for the third consecutive month in October. Concerns over the slow planting progress of the 2020 crop due to dry weather and record shipments for the month triggered the increase and sustained the high level of prices. Despite ample supplies from the record 2019 harvest ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)), prices were more than 55 percent higher than a year earlier in nominal terms following large exports in the past several months. Maize exports in the 2019/20 marketing year (March/February) are forecast at an all-time high of 35 million tonnes, supported by a sustained and significant depreciation of the country's currency, which lost nearly 60 percent of its value against the US dollar over a year in October. Despite concerns over the impact of dryness on planting, forward sales of the 2020 crop amounted to about 11 million tonnes as of end-October, raising expectations for strong exports in the 2020/21 marketing year. Similarly, prices of **wheat** grain continued to increase in October on seasonal pressure compounded by concerns over the impact of persisting unfavourable weather conditions on crop yields in key producing areas. However, in some northern regions, where the harvest recently started, yields were reportedly better than expected. Prices were nearly 50 percent higher year on year after the sharp increases of the past several months, mainly instigated by the strong demand for exports. Exports of wheat in the 2019/20 marketing year (December/November) are forecast at a near record level of 13.5 million tonnes. Increased prices of wheat grain contributed to the gain in retail prices of wheat products, with prices of **bread** and **wheat flour** 47 and 42 percent, respectively, higher than in September last year. The increase in nominal prices is also closely related with an upsurge of the year-on-year general inflation, which increased by 52.4 percent in September in the Greater Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area. Amid the sharp increase of food prices and worsening access to food, the Government approved the food emergency law, to be valid until 2022, which sets out a 50 percent increase in budget for public food and nutrition policies by the end of 2019 ([GIEWS Update](#)).

Haiti | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 09-19	Same period average
3 months	 3.6	-1.9
12 months	 3.9	-0.5

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Haiti, Port-au-Prince, Retail, Maize meal (local)


Prices of maize and rice higher than their values last year

Retail prices of **maize meal** decreased for the second consecutive month in most markets in September as a result of improved supplies from the main season harvest, combined with favourable conditions for the minor "summer" season crop, which benefited from improved rainfall. However, prices remained well above those a year earlier due to a reduced main season output, affected by prolonged dry spells during the development and flowering stages that lowered yields. The increase in prices was also supported by fuel shortages and higher production costs, underpinned by a weak currency that lost about 35 percent of its value against the US dollar year on year as of October. The weak currency also contributed to high prices of imported **rice** that were more than 10 percent higher year on year despite large imports in the third quarter of 2019 and improved supplies from the "summer" harvest.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Kenya | Maize



Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	-5.5	-6.0
12 months	 5.6	-1.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Kenya, Nakuru, Wholesale, Maize

Prices of maize still relatively high despite further declines in October

Prices of **maize** declined in most markets in October, except in the capital, Nairobi, mainly reflecting sustained imports from the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. However, prices remained significantly higher on a yearly basis, after significant increases in the second quarter of 2019. These were driven by concerns over the performance of the main “long-rains” harvest, about to begin in western key producing areas with a delay of about one month, following severe dry conditions that resulted in widespread germination failure and caused a significant decrease in plantings. Despite improved mid and late season rains which lifted crop prospects, the cereal output is still expected at below-average levels, with harvesting operations being hampered by heavy October-December rains. Further support to prices was exerted by low carryover stocks after the poor 2018/19 “short-rains” second season harvest and by a sharply reduced “long-rains” cereal production in marginal agricultural areas, where the harvest, concluded in August, was estimated at about 50-60 percent below the average, with a near failure reported in southeastern areas.

Malawi | Maize



Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 5.5	0.3
12 months	 4.7	-0.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Malawi, National Average, Retail, Maize

Prices of maize remain significantly higher on a yearly basis

Prices of **maize** grain held steady for the second consecutive month in October, but were still well above their year-earlier levels. The firmness in prices mostly reflects the impact of this year's production upturn, with the 2019 harvest estimated at an above-average level due to conducive weather conditions ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). However, on a yearly basis, prices remained higher, as downward pressure from the good output was mostly offset by the heightened demand from importing countries following generally poor harvests across the subregion, and an increase in the farm gate price to MWK 180 per kg (up from MWK 150). Institutional purchases, as the country seeks to shore up the national strategic reserves, added additional upward pressure.

Mozambique | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 09-19	Same period average
3 months	 10.1	3.3
12 months	 3.9	-0.8

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Mozambique, Maputo, Retail, Maize (white)

Prices of maize on the increase and high

Prices of **maize** continued to rise in September, pushing them up to 75 percent above their year-earlier levels. The high and increasing prices mainly reflect the impact of the two cyclones that struck central and northern provinces in March and April, as well as drought conditions in the southern provinces, which caused a decline in the 2019 maize output compared to last year's above-average level ([GIEWS Special Report](#)). As a result, supplies are tight in the affected provinces, sustaining upward pressure on cereal prices. In addition, higher year-on-year prices of grain in South Africa, a key supplier of maize for southern provinces, and a weaker currency exerted additional upward pressure.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

South Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 4.5	-1.7
12 months	-4.0	-0.7

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: South Sudan, Juba, Retail, Sorghum (Feterita)

Prices of food at exceptionally high levels

In the capital, Juba, prices of **maize**, **sorghum** and **wheat flour** levelled off in October, after the increases of the past months, as the country's currency held steadier after a sharp depreciation in the previous months and as a result of improvements in security conditions, which benefitted commodity flows. Improved market supplies from the 2019 first season harvest also contributed to the relative stability in prices. Prices of grains in October were at exceptionally high levels, 40 to 60 percent higher year on year and more than 10 times above their levels in July 2015, the period before the currency collapse. Prices of **groundnuts** also declined in October but remained at near record levels. High food prices were driven by currency weakness, high production and transport costs and the lingering impact of prolonged conflict.

Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	-5.8	-1.0
12 months	 3.0	0.0



Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Sudan, El Gedarif, Wholesale, Sorghum (Feterita)

Prices of staple foods decline but still at record or near record highs

Prices of locally grown **sorghum** and **millet** began to decline seasonally in October with the start of the 2019 harvest, while prices of imported **wheat** increased. Overall, prices of cereals were still at record or near record levels despite the above-average 2018 harvest and overall favourable prospects for the current crops. The June-September rainy season was characterized by above-average rainfall, which benefitted vegetation conditions and boosted yields, although they also triggered floods that resulted in localized losses of standing crops. The exceptionally high level of food prices is the result of the significant depreciation of the country's currency, coupled with fuel shortages and soaring prices of agricultural inputs, which inflated production and transportation costs. The weak currency, coupled with shortages of hard currency, restrained the country's ability to import food and non-food items, including wheat flour and fuel, thus causing shortages and higher prices.

Tajikistan | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 6.0	1.4
12 months	 1.9	-0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Tajikistan, Khujand, Retail, Wheat (flour, first grade)


Prices of wheat flour rose markedly in the past two months

Retail prices of first grade **wheat flour** increased by nearly 20 percent in the past two months, after a period of relative stability, and reached levels well above those a year earlier. The increase mainly reflects higher export price quotations from the key supplier, Kazakhstan, where strong export demand and expectations of the poor 2019 output pushed prices up by 24 percent on a yearly basis. Although purchases of wheat flour have decreased significantly in recent years on improved domestic milling capacities, Tajikistan still heavily depends on imports of wheat grain. Imports of wheat account on average for more than half of the country's domestic consumption. A slight depreciation of the country's currency and a moderate increase in fuel prices in the past few months also provided some support.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Uganda | Maize



Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	-4.0	-12.9
12 months	 8.6	-1.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Uganda, Masindi, Wholesale, Maize

Prices of maize on the increase and well above year-earlier values

Prices of **maize** increased sharply in October in all monitored markets, as seasonal patterns were compounded by sustained regional demand. Large exports in the second and third quarter of 2019 were reported to Kenya, where harvests were affected by poor and erratic rains, and to South Sudan, where an improved security situation resulted in improved trade flows, both internally and on the Juba-Nimule road, the main route for goods imported from Uganda. Prices of maize were more than twice their values in October last year also due to the below-average 2019 first season harvest, completed with a one month delay in August due to severe early season dryness, which followed the reduced 2018 second season output.

United Republic of Tanzania | Maize



Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 11.2	-2.8
12 months	 8.4	-1.0

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: United Republic of Tanzania, Iringa, Wholesale, Maize

Prices of maize firm at high levels

Prices of **maize** remained relatively firm in October after surging in previous months and were well above their year-earlier levels, more than double their values a year earlier in some markets. Despite the above-average main "Msimu" harvest, completed in June, following adequate and well-distributed precipitation in key cropping areas of the southern highlands, the price increases were underpinned by strong exports to Kenya, Rwanda and some Southern African countries, particularly Zimbabwe. Further support was provided by a reduced output of the secondary "Masika" harvest, completed in August in northern bi-modal rainfall cropping areas, due to inadequate precipitation.

Zambia | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 9.2	-0.1
12 months	 4.8	-0.2


Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Zambia, National Average, Retail, White roller maize meal

Prices of maize hit record highs

Prices of **maize grain** and **maize meal** products reached record highs in October, as month-on-month increases continued although at a lesser rate than in previous months. Prices were up to 95 percent higher on a yearly basis. The elevated levels were mostly the result of reduced domestic supplies, following a 16 percent decline in the 2019 maize harvest, the second consecutive annual production decline that put this year's output at about 1 million tonnes below the five-year average ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). In addition, the inflationary effects of a weaker currency added additional support. In response to the sharp price hikes of the main food staple, the Government, in agreement with millers, retailers and grain traders, introduced price controls in late August ([FPMA Food Policies](#)).

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Zimbabwe | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 09-19	Same period average
3 months	 16.0	-0.5
12 months	 7.7	-0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Zimbabwe, Mash west, Retail, Bread

Substantial cereal price increases persist

Prices of **maize meal**, the primary food staple, rose by more than 40 percent on a monthly basis in September, taking them seven times above their year-earlier levels. Similarly, prices of **bread** and **rice** also rose steeply, putting them significantly higher on a yearly basis. The sustained sharp price gains were mostly the result of the currency depreciation and foreign exchange shortages that restrained the country's ability to import much needed food supplies and drove up the costs of production and distribution within the country. Further upward pressure was provided by the impact of the weather-reduced 2019 agricultural output that cut domestic cereal availabilities, with the maize output down by 40 percent compared to the five-year average ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)).

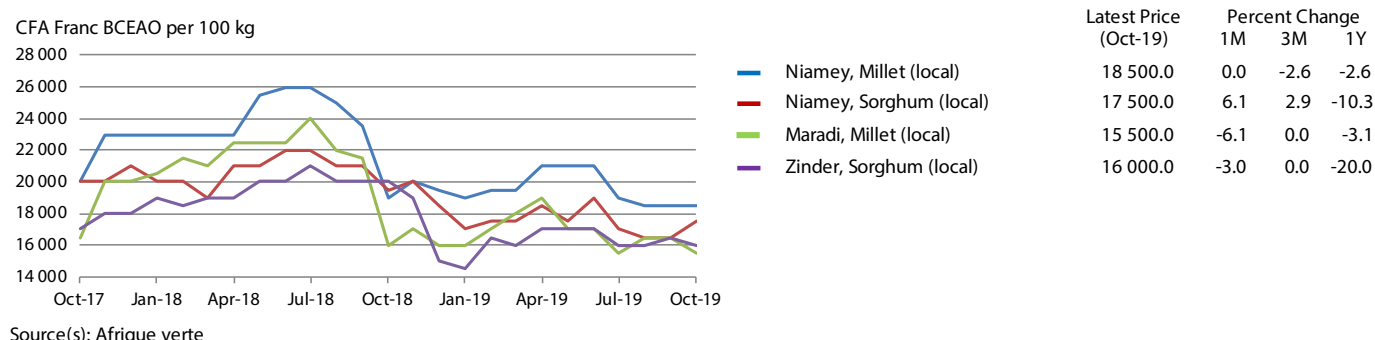
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Prices of coarse grains generally declining and low, except in conflict-affected areas

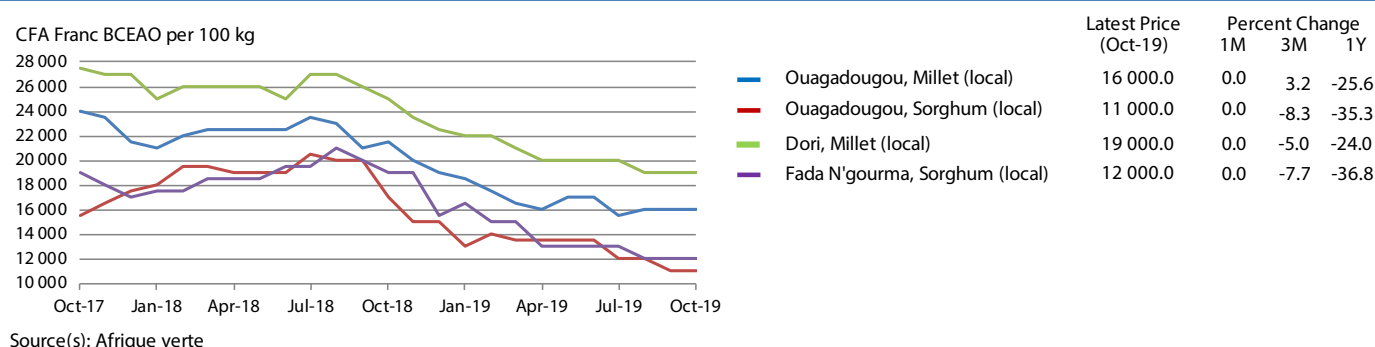
In most Sahelian countries, prices of coarse grains remained stable or decreased in October and were overall well below their year-earlier levels on account of good domestic availabilities. However, market disruptions and price increases were reported in the conflict-affected areas of the Lake Chad Basin, Tibesti and Liptako-Gourma regions. In addition, the closure of Nigeria's land borders ([FPMA Food Policies](#)), affecting trade flows, also provided upward pressure on prices in some areas. In **Niger**, prices of millet and sorghum were stable or declined in October with the start of the new harvests and were lower than a year earlier on account of good domestic availabilities from imports and carryover stocks. However, disruption in market flows and price increases were recorded in areas affected by the conflict in Diffa, Tillabery and Tahoua regions. In **Burkina Faso** and **Mali**, prices of coarse grains remained broadly stable in October and well below their levels a year earlier as a result of good market availabilities, with food distribution programmes and Government sales at subsidized prices contributing to keep markets well supplied. In some areas, however, insecurity continued to disrupt the normal functioning of markets. In **Chad**, prices of millet and sorghum declined significantly in most markets in September and reached levels some 30 percent below those a year earlier as a result of improved market availabilities from the new harvest, which boosted the already adequate domestic availabilities. However, high food prices were reported in the Lake Chad and Tibesti areas due to

conflict. By contrast, in **Senegal**, prices of millet increased further in September in line with seasonal trends and were generally above their year-earlier levels, while those of locally-produced rice remained relatively stable. In coastal countries along the Gulf of Guinea, good supplies from the recently-harvested maize crops continued to improve market availabilities and weigh on prices. In **Ghana**, prices of maize declined for the third consecutive month in October following the main season harvest and were down from a year earlier. However, in the capital, Accra, prices rose in the past month on account of sustained local demand, including institutional purchases for the country's school feeding programme. Similarly, in **Togo** and **Benin**, prices of maize, the countries' main staple food, generally declined in the past few months as a result of improved market availabilities from the recent 2019 main season harvests. In **Nigeria**, despite the start of the new harvest and favourable production prospects, prices of cereals showed mixed trends in September. Prices were generally stable or declined and were lower than a year earlier, while increases and high level of prices were reported in the conflict-affected areas of the northeast. In addition, following the closure of the country's land borders, trade flows with neighbouring countries were disrupted, leading to price increases in some markets. Prices of imported rice rose sharply throughout all monitored markets. The border closure has also reduced availabilities of other foods, including some vegetable and livestock products.

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Niger



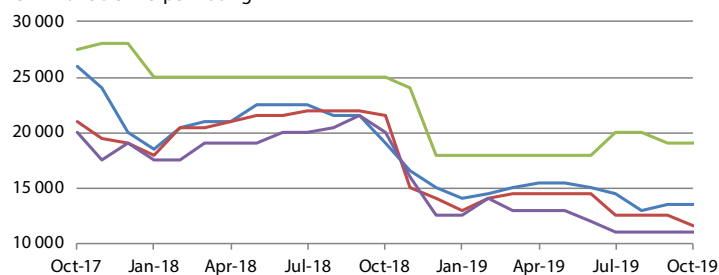
Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Burkina Faso



For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Mali

CFA Franc BCEAO per 100 kg

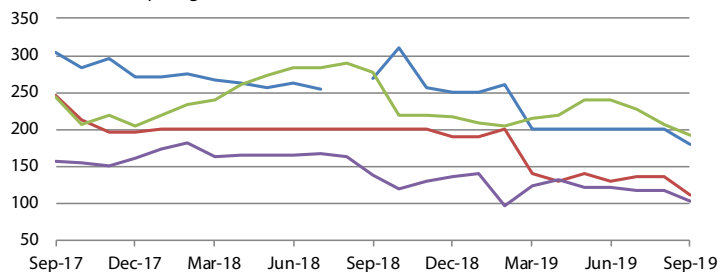


Source(s): Afrique verte

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
13 500.0	0.0	-6.9	-28.9
11 500.0	-8.0	-8.0	-46.5
19 000.0	0.0	-5.0	-24.0
11 000.0	0.0	0.0	-45.0

Retail prices of millet and sorghum in Chad

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

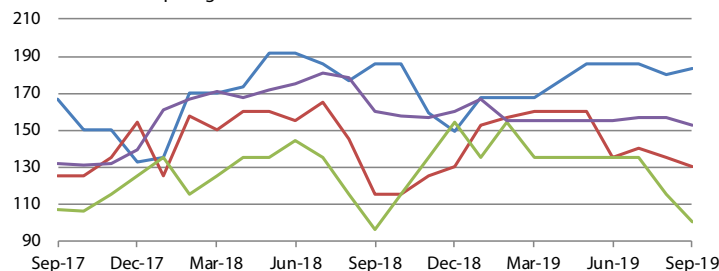


Source(s): FEWSNET

Latest Price (Sep-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
180.00	-10.0	-10.0	-32.8
110.00	-18.5	-15.4	-45.0
193.00	-6.8	-19.6	-30.3
103.00	-12.7	-15.6	-25.4

Retail prices of maize in Togo

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

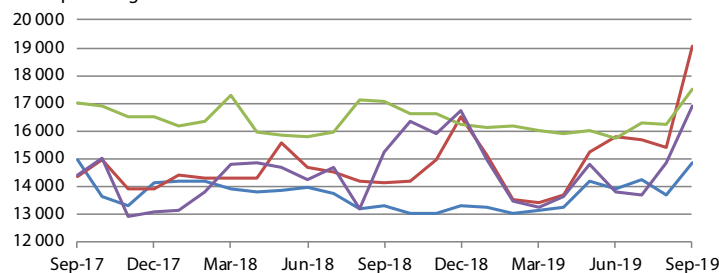


Source(s): Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Pêche

Latest Price (Sep-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
183.00	1.7	-1.6	-1.6
130.00	-3.7	-3.7	13.0
100.00	-13.0	-25.9	4.2
153.00	-2.5	-1.3	-4.4

Wholesale prices of imported rice in Nigeria

Naira per 50 kg



Source(s): FEWSNET

Latest Price (Sep-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
14 840.0	8.7	6.7	11.7
19 050.0	23.7	20.6	35.1
17 500.0	7.7	11.1	2.6
16 875.0	13.6	22.5	10.7

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

SOUTHERN AFRICA

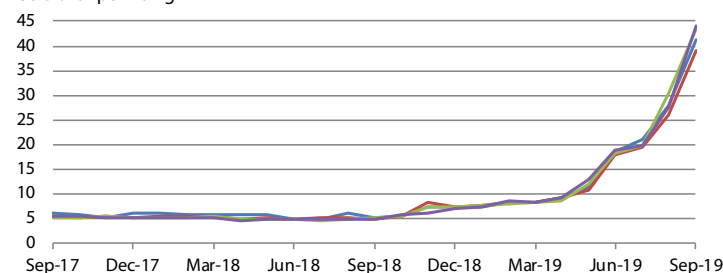
Prices of maize linger at higher year-on-year levels across the subregion

In several countries, tight supply situations and currency weaknesses continued to drive up prices of maize, the main food staple, which remained at high levels across the subregion. As in previous months, the steepest increases were recorded in **Zimbabwe**, where prices of maize meal jumped by more than 40 percent on a monthly basis in September, pushing them seven times above their year-earlier values. Prices of other cereal products also increased, although to a lesser extent, and were also well above their levels in September last year. The sharp price gains were mostly the result of the country's currency depreciation, foreign exchange deficits that curtailed import supplies and the impact of the weather-reduced 2019 agricultural output that cut domestic cereal availabilities. A tight domestic supply situation was also the main driver of the increases in prices in **Zambia**, where prices of maize meal products in October were close to double their year-earlier levels. In response to the price hikes, the Government imposed price controls in August ([FPMA Food Policies](#)), which eased the upward pressure on prices. In **Mozambique**, reduced domestic supplies, due to extensive cyclone-induced crop losses, triggered

price hikes earlier in the year and have sustained higher year-on-year levels as of September. Prices in central and southern regions of the country increased the most, on account of the more severe effects of the adverse weather conditions on subnational cereal harvests. In **Malawi**, prices of maize remained mostly firm for the second consecutive month in October, reflecting improved supplies from this year's production upturn. In **South Africa**, the key cereal producer and exporter in the subregion, prices of maize grain rose in October amid higher international price quotations, while a slight depreciation of the country's currency provided further support. On a yearly basis, prices of maize were some 20 percent higher owing to a lower cereal output this year ([GLEWS Country Brief](#)). In import dependent **Eswatini** and **Namibia**, prices of maize meal generally held steady reflecting the well-supplied markets on account of increased imports from South Africa. In **Madagascar**, prices of domestic rice varieties continued to rise seasonally in October. However, the month-on-month increases were more subdued this year compared to 2018, reflecting the larger harvest in 2019.

Retail prices of maize meal in Zimbabwe

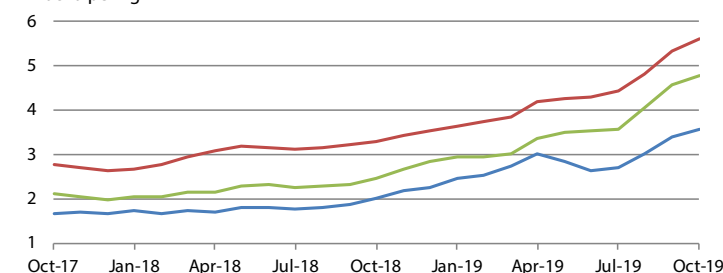
US Dollar per 10 kg



Source(s): ZIMSTAT

Retail prices of maize in Zambia

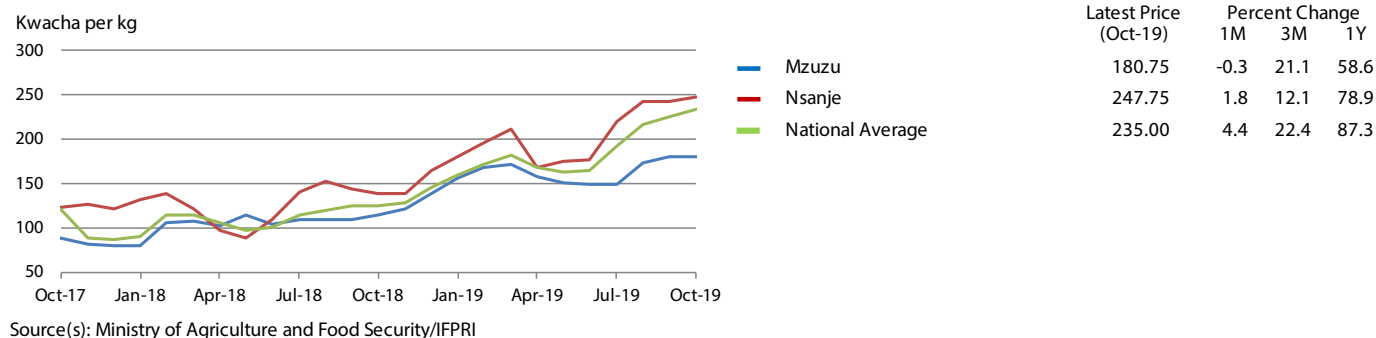
Kwacha per kg



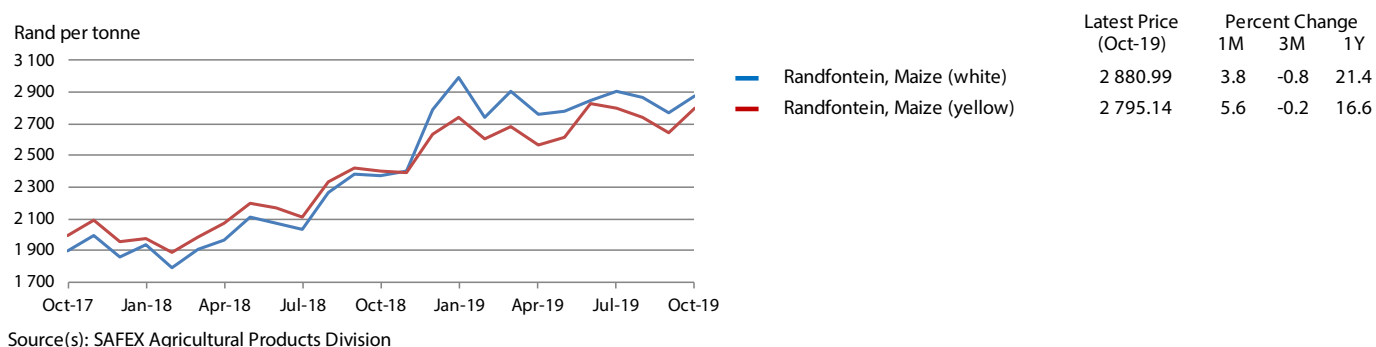
Source(s): Central Statistical Office

For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

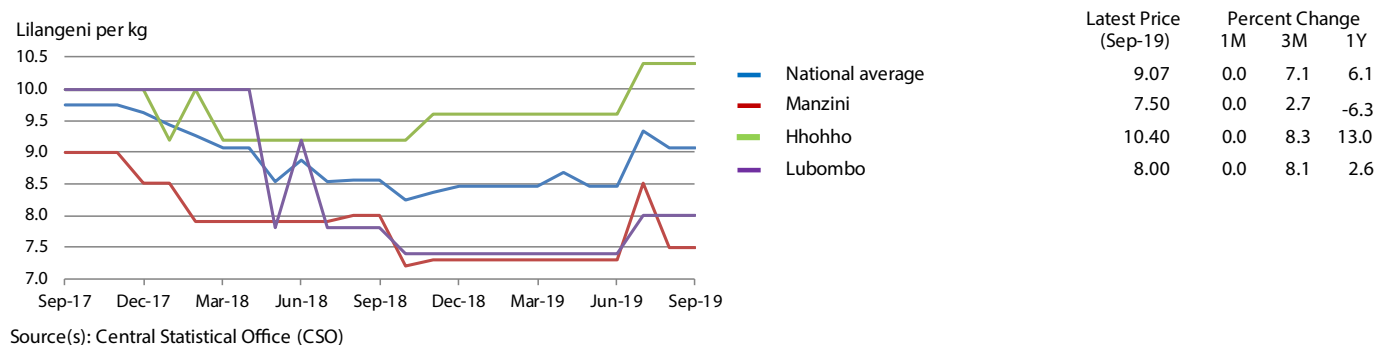
Retail prices of maize in Malawi



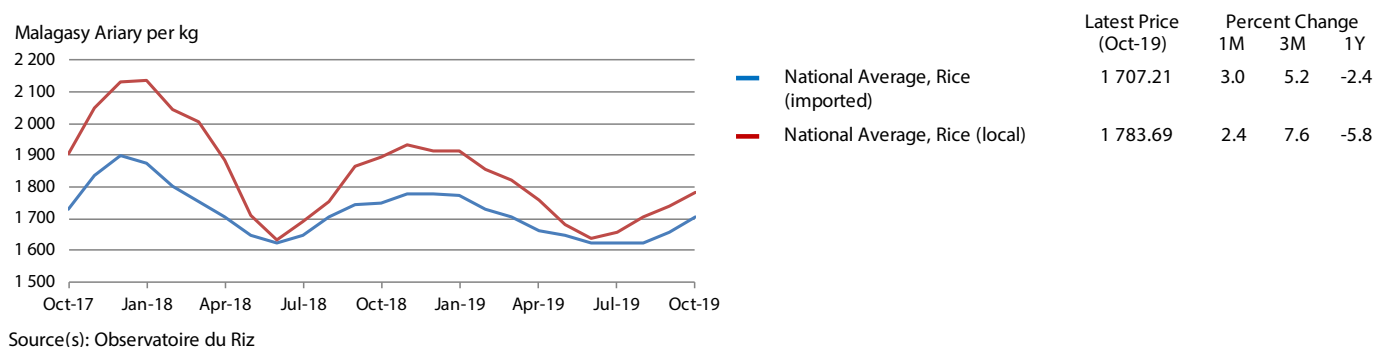
Wholesale prices of maize in South Africa



Retail prices of maize meal in Eswatini



Retail prices of rice in Madagascar



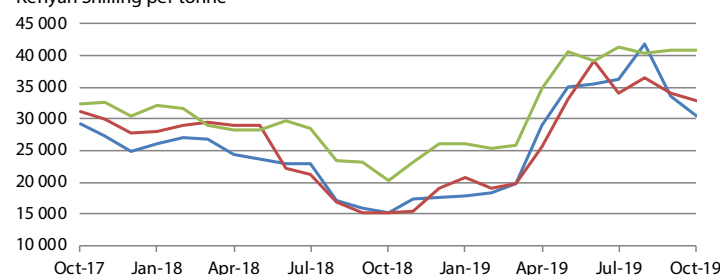
Prices of coarse grains at high levels across the subregion

Prices of coarse grains followed mixed trends in October across the subregion but remained generally at high levels, well above those a year earlier, due to reduced harvests in several countries and a difficult macroeconomic situation in the Sudan and South Sudan. In **Kenya**, prices of maize declined further in October in most markets, mainly as a result of sustained imports from Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Prices in October were, however, up to twice their year-earlier levels after significant increases in the second quarter of 2019, driven by concerns over the 2019 first season harvest due to severe early season dryness and a poor 2018/19 second season harvest. By contrast, in **Uganda**, prices of maize rose sharply in October and reached levels well above those a year earlier, due to a drought-reduced first season harvest and sustained foreign demand, mainly from Kenya and South Sudan. Similarly, in **the United Republic of Tanzania**, strong demand from Kenya, Rwanda and Southern African countries kept prices well above their year-earlier values despite adequate domestic availabilities. In **Burundi**, prices of maize rose seasonally in October and were higher year on year. Similarly, in **Ethiopia**, seasonal price increases were reported in September, although normal patterns were

exacerbated by reduced supplies from the secondary “Belg” harvest, affected by poor seasonal rains. October prices were well above their year-earlier levels. By contrast, in **Somalia**, prices of sorghum and maize declined in September in some key southern markets, including the capital, Mogadishu, with new supplies from the “Gu” main harvest, although the output was sharply reduced due to drought. Prices of coarse grains in September were significantly higher than in the same month last year, due to a tight supply situation following the poor 2019 “Gu” harvest and limited carryover stocks from previous seasons. Similarly, in **the Sudan**, prices of sorghum and millet began to decline seasonally in October with the start of the 2019 harvest, but remained at exceptionally high levels, due to a weak currency, coupled with fuel shortages and high prices of agricultural inputs affecting production and transportation costs. In **South Sudan**, prices of coarse grains remained stable in October as the country’s currency held steadier and following improvements in security conditions. Prices in October, however, remained at exceptionally high levels, mainly driven by difficult macroeconomic conditions and the lingering impact of prolonged conflict.

Wholesale prices of maize in Kenya

Kenyan Shilling per tonne

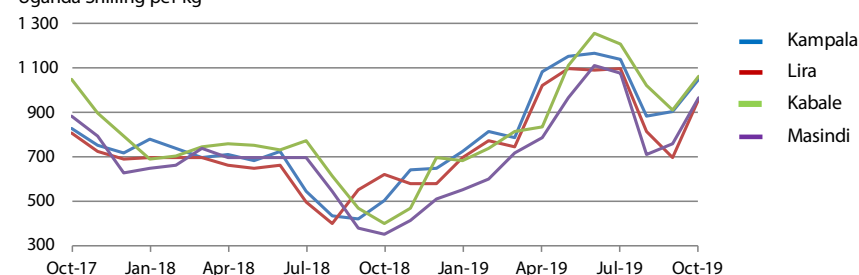


Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
30 439.0	-9.2	-16.2	101.6
32 988.0	-2.9	-3.1	118.0
40 950.0	-0.1	-1.2	102.5

Wholesale prices of maize in Uganda

Uganda Shilling per kg

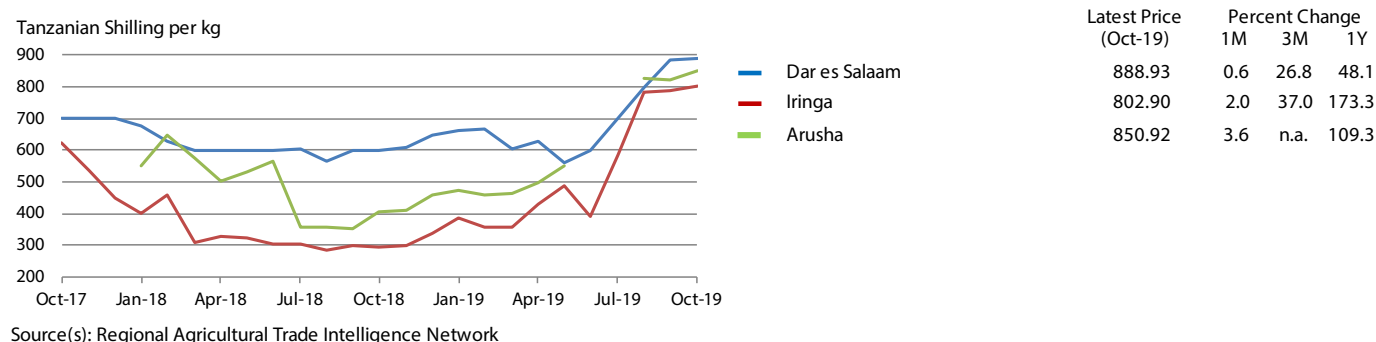


Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

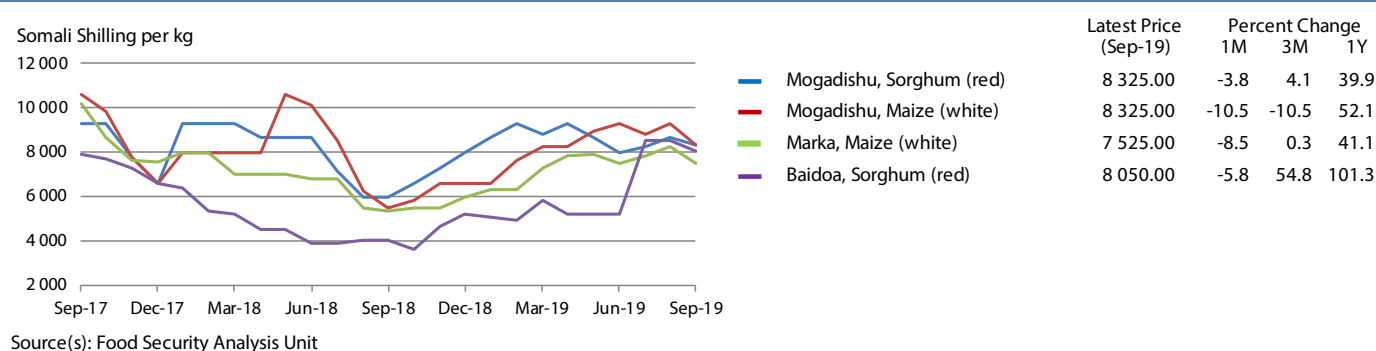
Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
1 049.97	16.0	-8.2	108.7
961.23	37.2	-12.7	55.4
1 063.85	16.8	-12.0	165.8
969.17	28.0	-10.3	175.8

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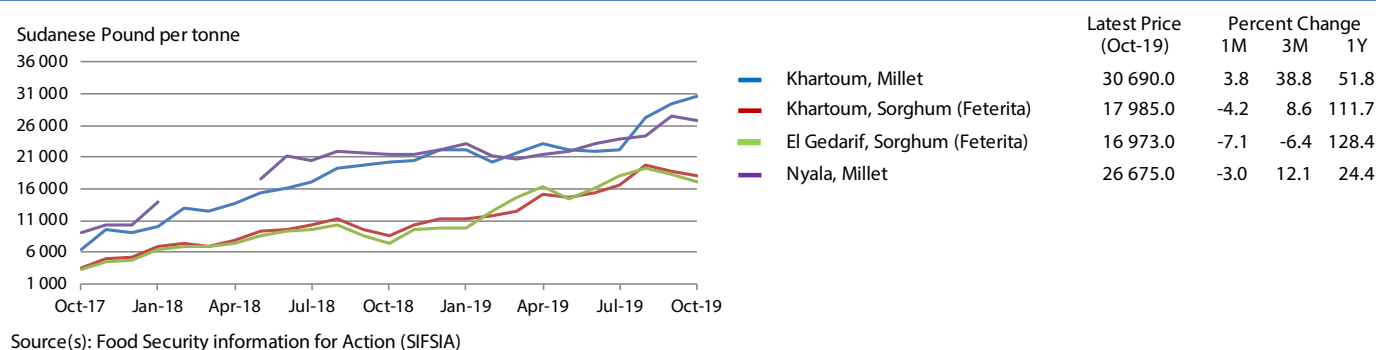
Wholesale prices of maize in the United Republic of Tanzania



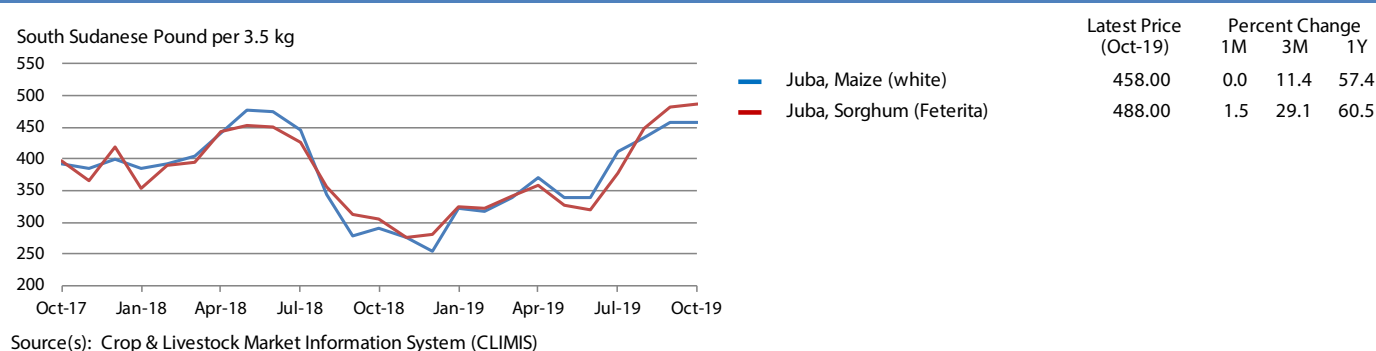
Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia



Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in the Sudan



Retail prices of maize and sorghum in South Sudan

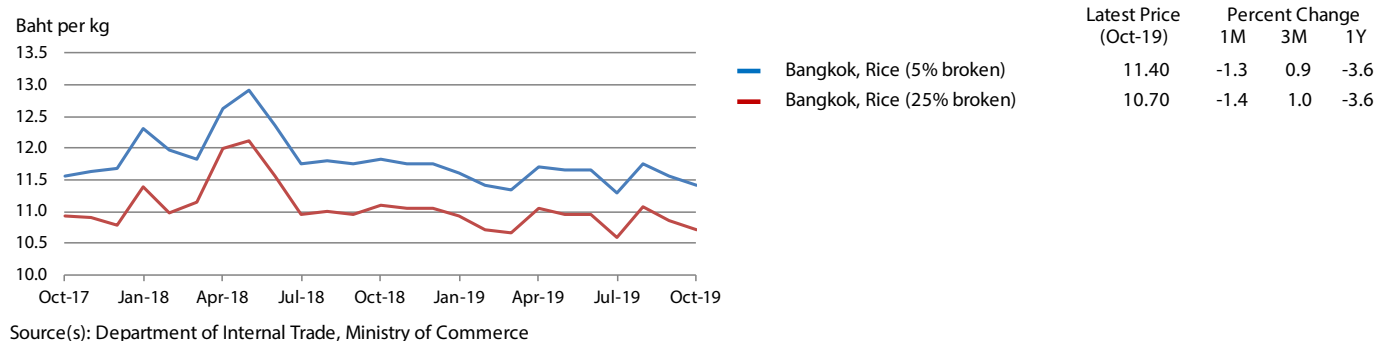


Prices of rice followed mixed trends in October but at low levels, while those of wheat were generally stable

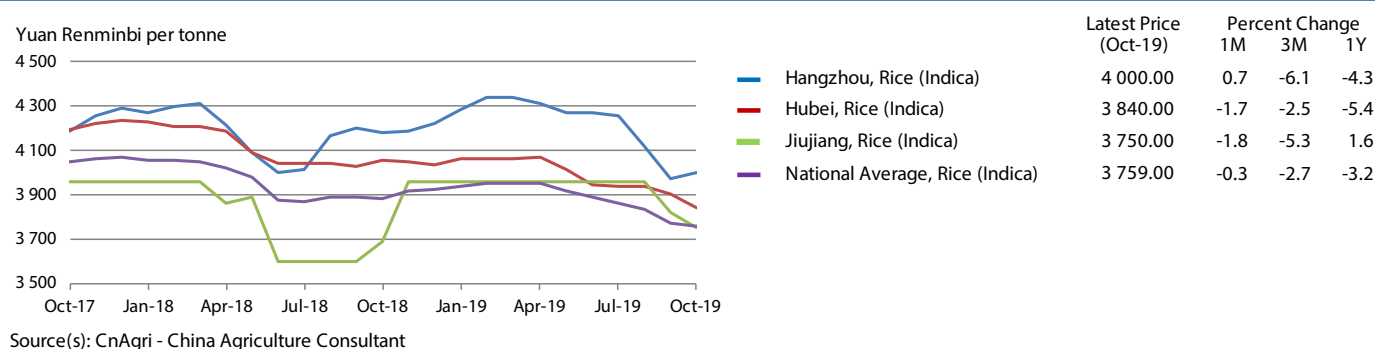
Prices of rice followed mixed trends in October across the subregion but were generally below their year-earlier levels. After a decline in the previous two months, prices increased in **Viet Nam** following the completion of the “summer-autumn” harvest. By contrast, in **Thailand**, prices continued to decrease in October with the start of the 2019/20 main season harvest and on account of low international demand. Further declines were also recorded in key producing areas of **China (Mainland)**, triggered by the recent start of the “late” season rice harvest, while supplies from the previous harvests remain ample. In **India**, prices remained stable or strengthened ahead of the arrival into the markets of the new main harvest and with the start of the Government procurement campaign. According to official estimates, as of 1 November 2019, almost 17 million tonnes of paddy rice, around 10 percent of the main season output, were already procured. Prices moved little also in **Cambodia** and were lower than a year earlier reflecting adequate domestic supplies. Similarly, in **Myanmar**, wholesale prices of rice remained stable in October and were well below their year-earlier levels. To protect farmers from excessively low prices, the Government announced in mid-October a minimum purchasing price for the procurement of the 2019/20 main and second season crops ([FPMA Food Policies](#)). Prices continued to decrease in **Bangladesh** on account of abundant domestic supplies from the

2019 harvests and in **the Philippines**, where the main season harvest has recently started. By contrast, in **Sri Lanka**, prices of white rice increased by about 5 percent in October, with seasonal pressure compounded by the dry weather-reduced 2019 secondary season harvest, while in **Indonesia**, prices remained virtually unchanged and close to their year-earlier levels. As for wheat and wheat flour, prices remained generally stable, with the exceptions of seasonal increases recorded in **India** and in **Pakistan**, where prices were above their year-earlier levels underpinned by tighter availabilities from the below-average 2019 output and strong exports prior to the introduction of a ban ([FPMA Food Policies](#)). Prices of wheat flour increased also in **Afghanistan** and were up on a year earlier, supported by higher export quotations from Kazakhstan and by Pakistan’s halt to exports, although a partial resumption of wheat flour and related items exports was reported in early October. In **China (Mainland)**, prices of wheat were stable or weakened amid good market availabilities from the near-average 2019 output. In importing countries, prices of wheat flour levelled off in **Bangladesh** after an increase in previous months, reflecting improved supplies from a pick-up in imports and as a result of continuing Open Market Sales (OMS) across the country. In **Indonesia** and **Sri Lanka**, which do not produce wheat, steady imports in recent months contributed to keep prices stable in October.

Wholesale prices of rice in Thailand

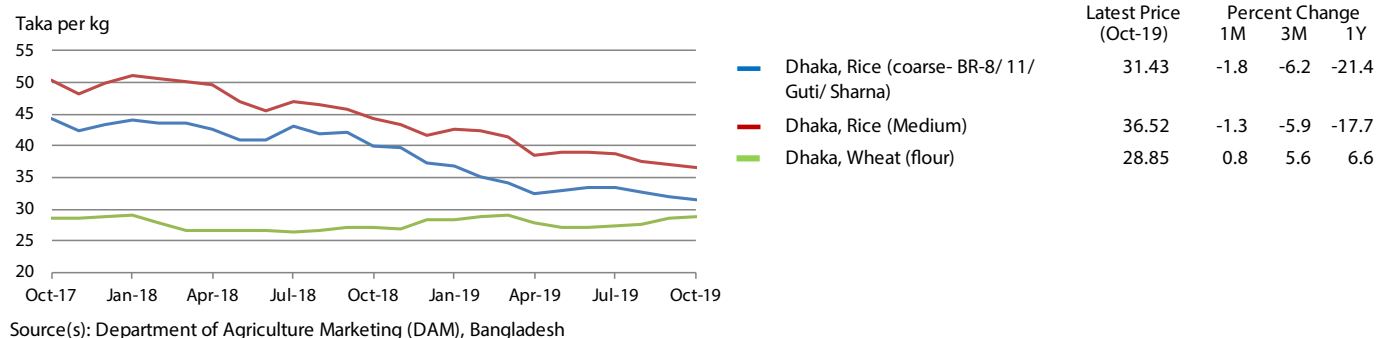


Wholesale prices of rice in China

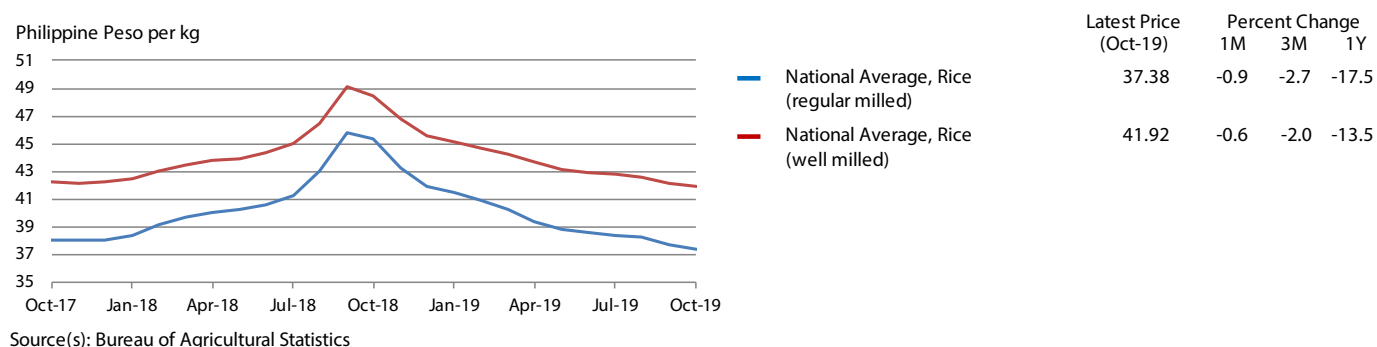


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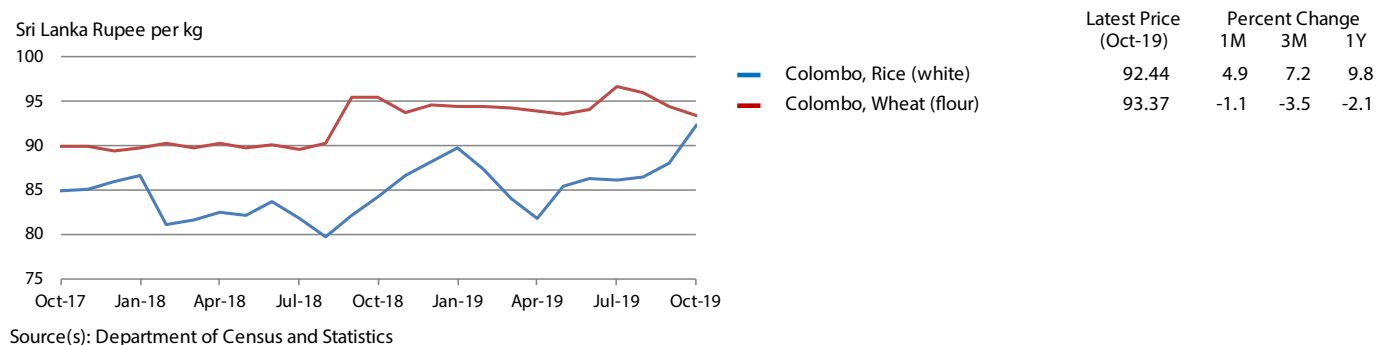
Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Bangladesh



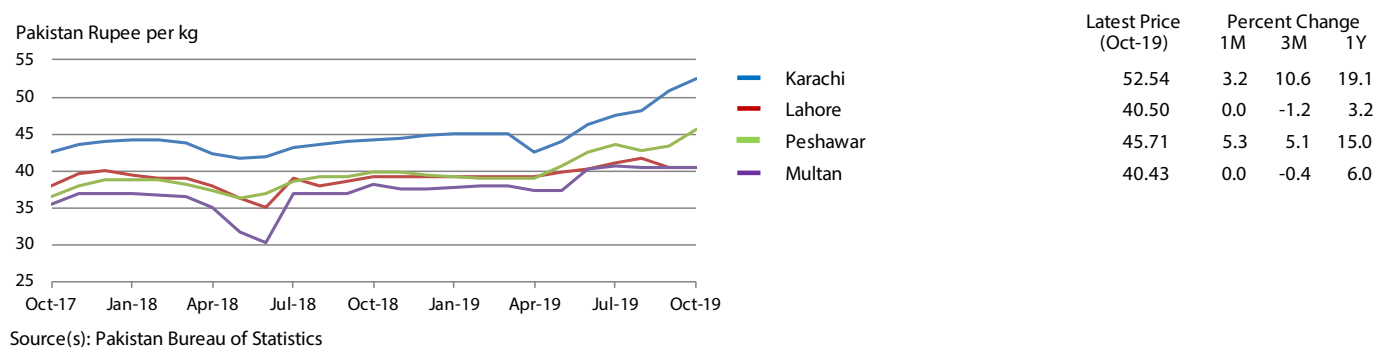
Retail prices of rice in the Philippines



Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Sri Lanka



Retail prices of wheat flour in Pakistan

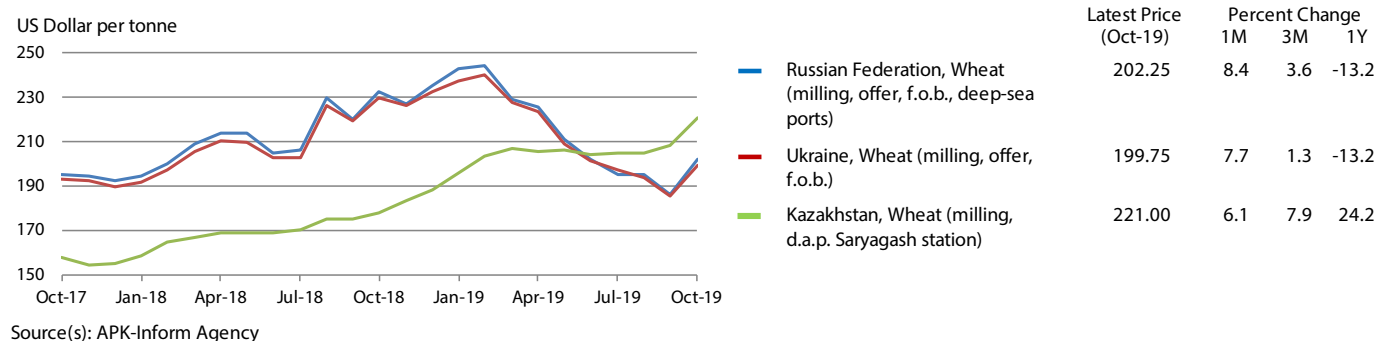


Export and domestic prices of wheat increased in October and were higher year on year

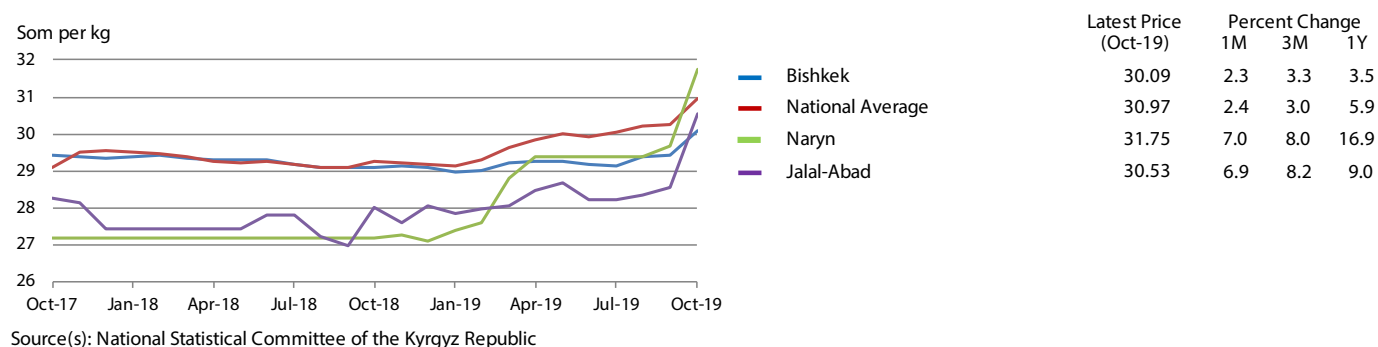
In the exporting countries of the subregion, export prices of milling wheat increased in October by some 8 percent in **the Russian Federation** and **Ukraine** after seven months of consecutive declines. The increase mainly reflects stronger demand for exports and trends in the international market. Prices, however, remained more than 10 percent below those a year earlier reflecting the good outputs this year. In **Kazakhstan**, export prices of wheat continued to increase in October and reached levels 24 percent higher than in the corresponding month last year. A weaker currency and the below-average 2019 output ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)), following adverse weather conditions in the season, triggered the increase in prices. In the domestic market, prices of wheat also rose in October, but while, in **the Russian Federation** and **Ukraine**, prices remained lower than their values a year earlier, in **Kazakhstan**, retail prices of wheat flour were 20 to 30 percent above their values in October last year. Higher prices of wheat flour were one of the key drivers of the 7 percent increase in the cumulative food inflation rate in the first ten months of 2019. In order to prevent an increase in the price of

social bread, the Government is purchasing grain for the stabilization fund to resell it at subsidized prices from February to July 2020. In the importing countries of the subregion, retail prices of wheat flour increased markedly in **Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan** in October and were higher than a year earlier. Despite the good 2019 outputs, higher price quotations in Kazakhstan, the countries' key supplier, underpinned the recent price increases. By contrast, prices held steady in **Armenia** in October, and also in **Belarus** and in **Azerbaijan** in September on account of the good 2019 harvests, completed in August. Also in these countries, however, prices of wheat flour were higher year on year. With regard to potatoes, another staple food, prices decreased seasonally in October in most countries of the subregion. In **the Russian Federation** and **Tajikistan**, prices declined to levels below those in October 2018, while they remained higher year on year in **Armenia**, **Kazakhstan** and **Kyrgyzstan**. By contrast, prices strengthened seasonally in **Georgia**, and were higher than in October last year. Prices were higher than a year earlier also in **Azerbaijan** and **Belarus**.

Export prices of milling wheat in CIS countries

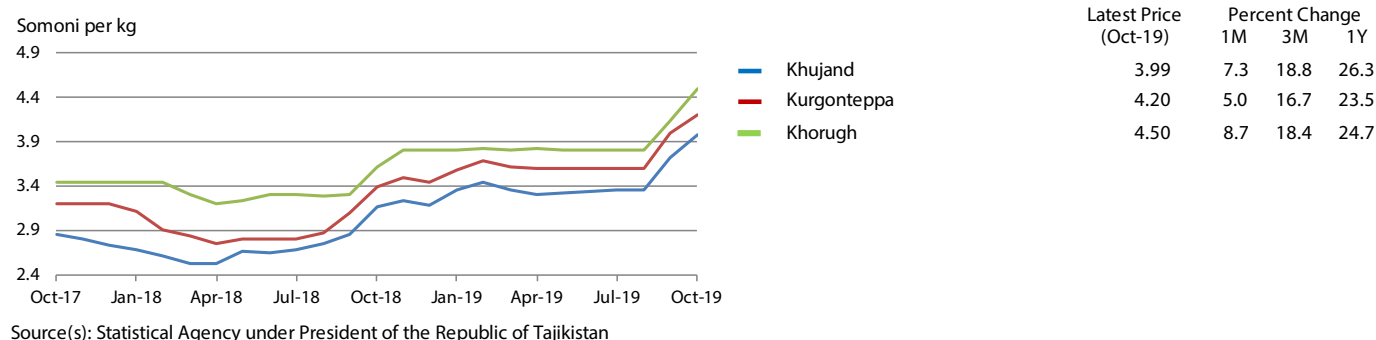


Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan

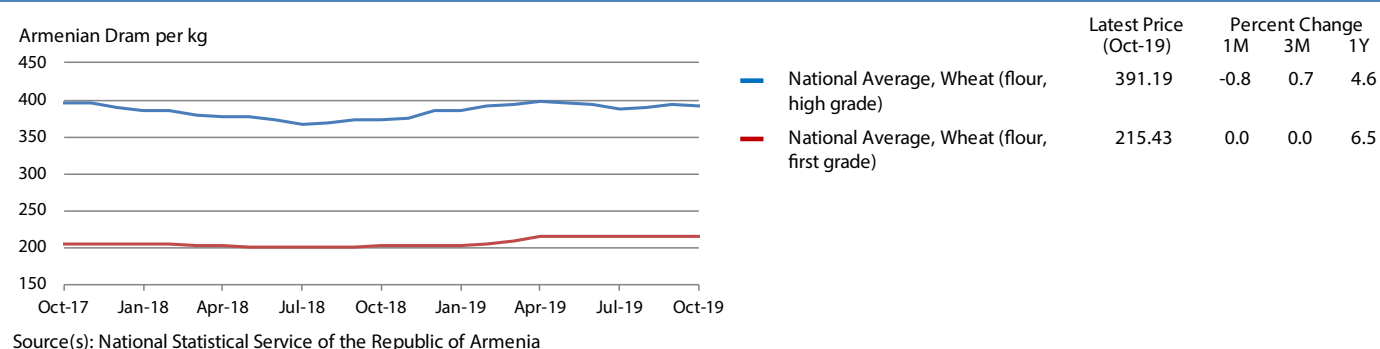


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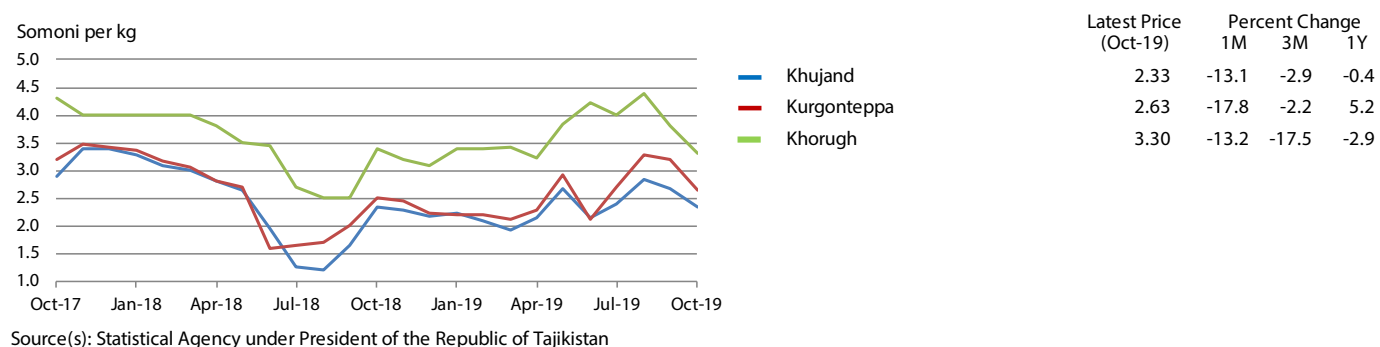
Retail prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan



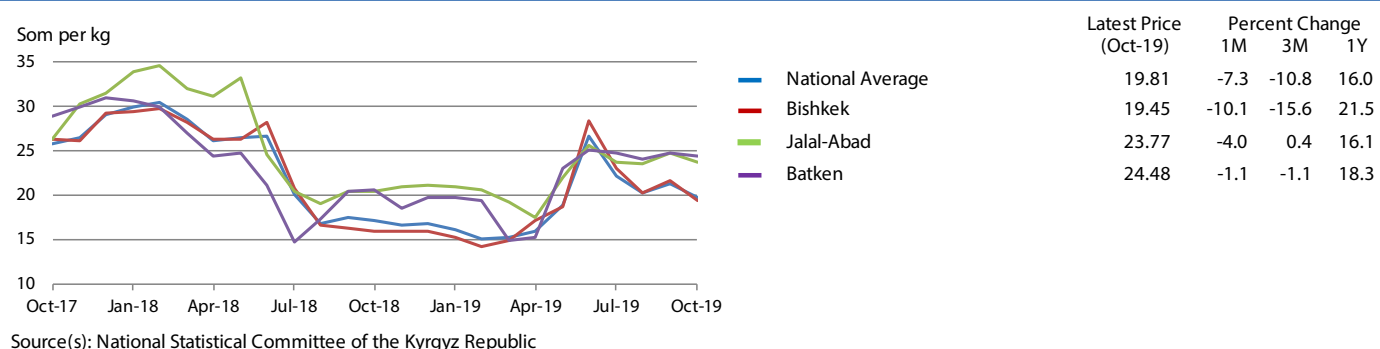
Retail prices of wheat flour in Armenia



Retail prices of potatoes in Tajikistan



Retail prices of potatoes in Kyrgyzstan



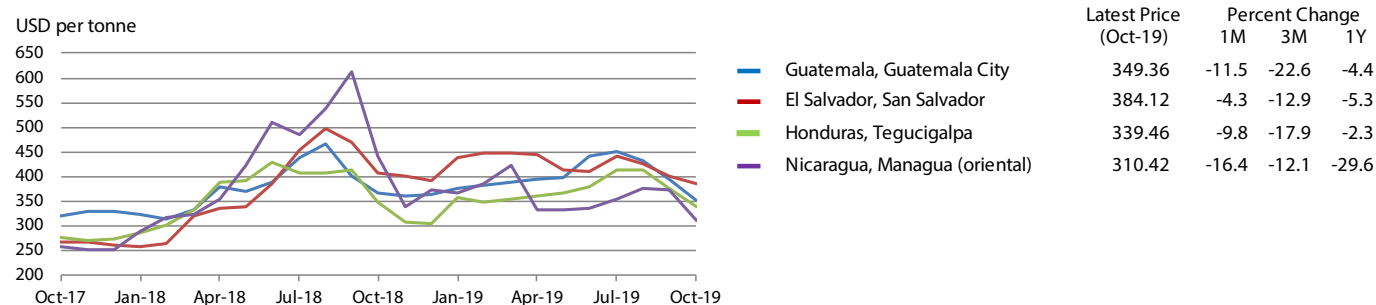
CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Prices of maize decline further, while those of beans on the increase

Prices of maize declined further in October and were overall down from the high levels a year earlier as a result of improved supplies from the recently-completed 2019 main season harvest. In **Guatemala**, prices of white maize declined at a steep rate and for the third consecutive month in October, reflecting abundant market supplies from the main season harvest in the key producing areas and imports from Mexico. Similarly, in **El Salvador**, the decline in prices that started in August continued in October, with imports mainly from the United States of America boosting supplies and contributing to the overall downward trend. Prices of white maize declined significantly in **Honduras** in October and also in **Nicaragua**, where they decreased by more than 15 percent on account of improved supplies from the recently-completed main season harvest. Prices were well below the near record highs of a year earlier, when increased input costs and social turmoil had caused an upsurge. In **Mexico**, prices of white maize held steady ahead of the main season harvest, after declining in the previous

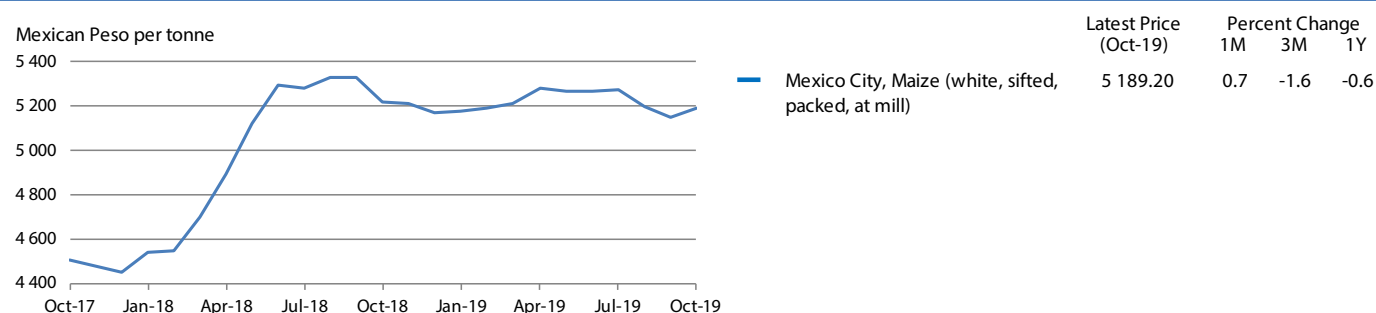
two months with the above-average minor season harvest. In the Caribbean, prices of maize declined in **the Dominican Republic** with increased imports and in **Haiti** reflecting new supplies from the late season main harvest. However, a reduced output and a weak currency kept prices well above those a year earlier, including prices of staple food, rice, which is mostly imported. With regard to beans, prices of red beans increased sharply in October in **Nicaragua, El Salvador** and **Honduras** and were well above their values a year earlier. This follows below-average minor season harvests and unfavourable weather affecting the main season crops. In **Guatemala**, prices of black beans strengthened for the fourth consecutive month in October and were slightly up from a year earlier, but they are expected to decline with the start of the second season harvest in the eastern growing areas. By contrast, in **Mexico**, prices weakened and were lower than in October last year. In the Caribbean, prices of black beans increased in **the Dominican Republic** and in **Haiti** and were above their values a year earlier.

Wholesale prices of white maize in Central America



Source(s): Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG; SIMPAH

Wholesale prices of maize in Mexico



Source(s): Agencia de Servicios a la Comercialización y Desarrollo de Mercados Agropecuarios (ASERCA)

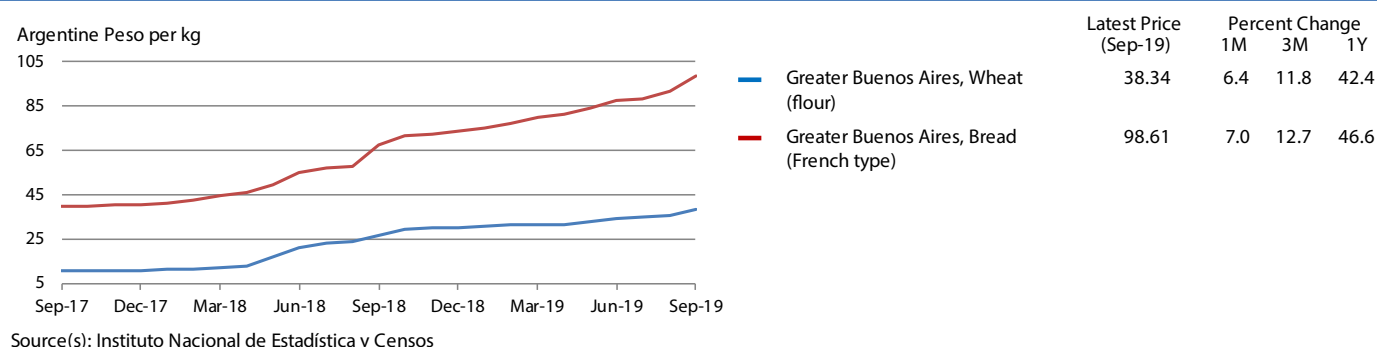
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Prices of wheat and rice followed mixed trends in October while those of maize generally increased

In several countries of the subregion, prices of wheat weakened in October on account of favourable production prospects for the 2019 crops with the notable exception of **Argentina**, where wholesale prices of wheat grain continued to increase with seasonal pressure compounded by concerns over the impact of dry weather on crops. Prices in Argentina were about 50 percent above their values a year earlier in nominal terms, mainly underpinned by large exports. In **Uruguay**, prices of wheat weakened after the increase of the past several months, mainly reflecting good prospects for the 2019 crop, to be harvested from November. Similarly, in **Chile**, the good outlook for the approaching harvest and adequate domestic supplies from increased imports in the third quarter of 2019 pressured prices downwards for the fourth consecutive month in October. In **Brazil**, a net importer of wheat, despite the ongoing harvest, prices in the main growing state of Parana held steady in October due to concerns over the impact of adverse weather during the growing period on crop yields. In early November, the Government introduced a 750 000 tonnes tariff-free quota with no end-date for imports of wheat from outside the Mercosur area. In other importing countries, prices of wheat flour remained virtually unchanged and down from a year earlier in **Ecuador** and **Peru**. Similarly, prices of imported wheat flour remained relatively stable and well below their year-earlier values in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**. In **Colombia**, the sustained depreciation of the country's currency contributed to maintain upward pressure on prices, which remained at levels above those a year earlier. With regard to maize, prices generally increased in October in line with seasonal trends and were higher than a year earlier in most countries of the subregion. Amid concerns over a slow planting progress due to reduced rainfall in key producing regions, prices of yellow maize in **Argentina** continued to increase in October, with strong exports providing further support. Similarly, in **Brazil**, prices increased following seasonal trends, with the first

minor season planting nearing completion, while concerns over the impact of limited rainfall on crops and strong exports exerted further upward pressure. In the key growing areas of **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, prices of yellow maize rose in October with planting of the 2020 main "summer" harvest recently started and despite the recent completion of the minor harvest. Prices were above their year-earlier values due to the smaller 2019 aggregate output. In **Chile**, prices also strengthened seasonally in October and were higher year on year owing to a reduced output this year and costlier imports that put upward pressures on prices in the past months. In **Colombia**, prices increased in October after declining in the previous two months and were well above their values last year, mainly supported by costlier imports, which account for more than 70 percent of the domestic requirements. In **Ecuador**, prices of yellow maize were stable or decreased in October with the start of the minor season harvest and were slightly lower year on year on account of good supplies from the main season output. Similarly, in **Peru**, prices declined and were down from a year earlier reflecting the good output in 2019. With regard to rice, in **Brazil**, the major producer of the subregion, where planting is ongoing, prices increased for the second consecutive month in the key producing state of Rio Grande do Sul and were higher than a year earlier. Prices increased also in **Uruguay**, with heavy rainfall hindering planting operations of the new crop. Prices were higher than a year earlier due to a decline in the 2019 output. In **Colombia**, retail prices of rice remained relatively stable in October and were overall higher than their year-earlier levels due to the depreciation of the country's currency, which contributed to an increase in production costs. By contrast, in **Ecuador**, prices weakened seasonally as the minor crop harvest is ongoing and prospects are favourable. Also in **Peru**, prices of rice softened in October after a sharp increase in the past two months but remained up on a year earlier following a year-on-year contraction in output.

Retail prices of wheat flour and bread in Argentina



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This bulletin is prepared by the **Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA)** Team of the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) in the Trade and Markets Division of FAO. It contains latest information and analysis on domestic prices of basic foods mainly in developing countries, complementing FAO analysis on international markets. It provides early warning on high food prices at country level that may negatively affect food security.

This report is based on information available up to early November 2019.

All the data used in the analysis can be found in the **FPMA Tool** at: www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/index.html#/home.

For more information visit the **FPMA Website** at: www.fao.org/giews/food-prices.

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