



## MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

### KEY MESSAGES

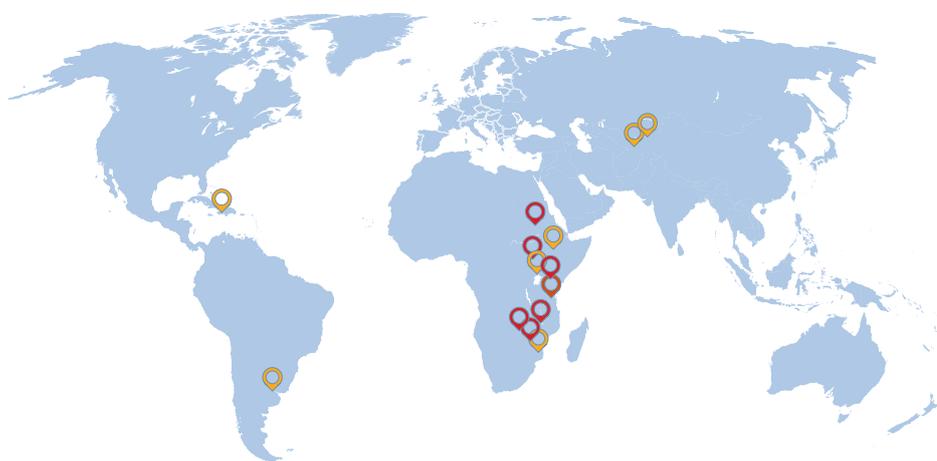
- International prices of wheat generally rose in November although large global supplies capped the increases, those of maize also increased except in the United States of America, where they softened amid a slow pace in export sales. International prices of rice fell to six-month lows, pressured by new crop arrivals and sluggish demand.
- In Southern Africa, food prices continued to climb steeply in Zimbabwe amidst an economic crisis. Elsewhere, tight supplies and weak currencies continued to exert upward pressure on cereal prices, which were significantly higher on a yearly basis and at record highs in several countries.
- In East Africa, prices of coarse grains generally increased in November and reached high levels on a yearly basis, with seasonal trends compounded by reduced harvests in several countries and by a difficult macroeconomic situation in the Sudan and South Sudan.
- In CIS Asia, prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan continued to record atypical increases in November, 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]



- Argentina** | Grains
- Ethiopia** | Cereals
- Haiti** | Cereals
- Kenya** | Maize
- Kyrgyzstan** | Wheat flour
- 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

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

# INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

## Export prices of wheat and maize generally firmer in November

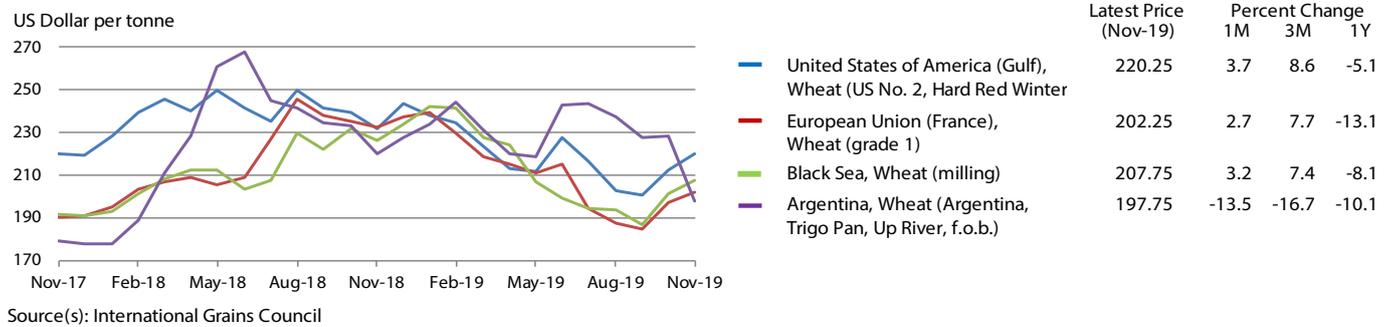
Export prices of **wheat** mostly rose in November, but large supplies and stiff competition among the major exporters limited the month-on-month increases. The benchmark US wheat (No.2 Hard Red Winter, f.o.b.) rose for the second consecutive month and averaged USD 220 per tonne, up almost 4 percent from October but still 5 percent down from its level in November 2018. Uncertain production prospects in southern hemisphere countries, coupled with less than ideal planting conditions for the 2020 winter wheat crops in key northern hemisphere producing countries, continued to provide support to prices. Export prices from the Black Sea region and the European Union also increased in recent weeks. By contrast, price quotations from Argentina moved sharply lower, largely reflecting harvest pressure.

Similarly, **maize** export prices were generally higher in November, except from the United States of America. At USD 168 per tonne, the benchmark US maize (No.2, Yellow, f.o.b.) averaged slightly down from October, though still higher by more than 4 percent from its level in the corresponding month

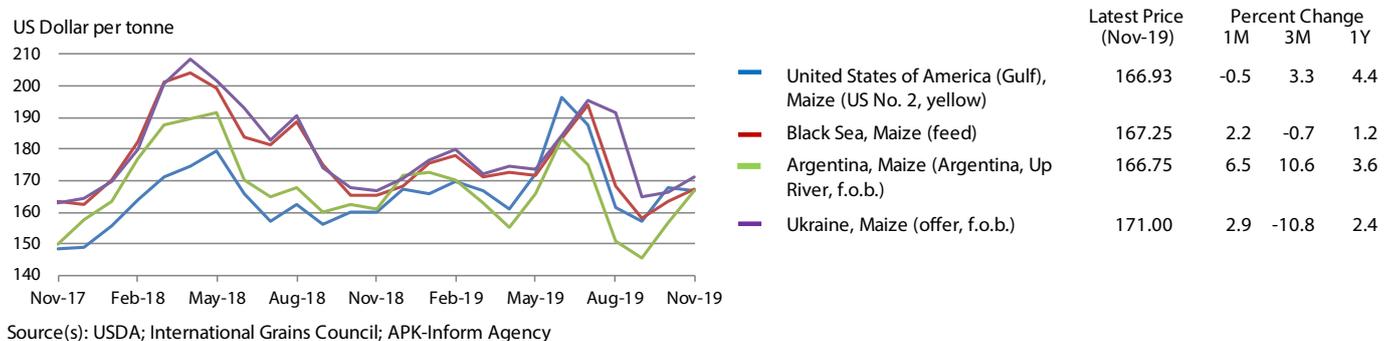
last year. The softer tone, which followed a rise in October, was driven mostly by slower sales and seasonal harvest pressure. By contrast, export prices from the other leading exporters benefitted from more brisk trade activity, while dry weather delaying planting operations in Argentina also lent support.

The FAO All Rice Price Index (2002-04=100) averaged 222.8 points in November, down 1.5 percent from October and hitting a six-month low. In Asian markets, prices of Indica rice were generally weaker during November, as the main crop harvests gained momentum and demand remained persistently low. In India, a weaker currency also contributed to the price falls. In Thailand and Viet Nam, the generally quiet trading environment prevented price quotations from moving up, although in Viet Nam signs of a revival in the Philippines' buying interest lent some support to prices, as did the strength of the Baht in Thailand, combined with concerns over the impact of poor weather on production. In the United States of America, prices of long grain rice were little varied.

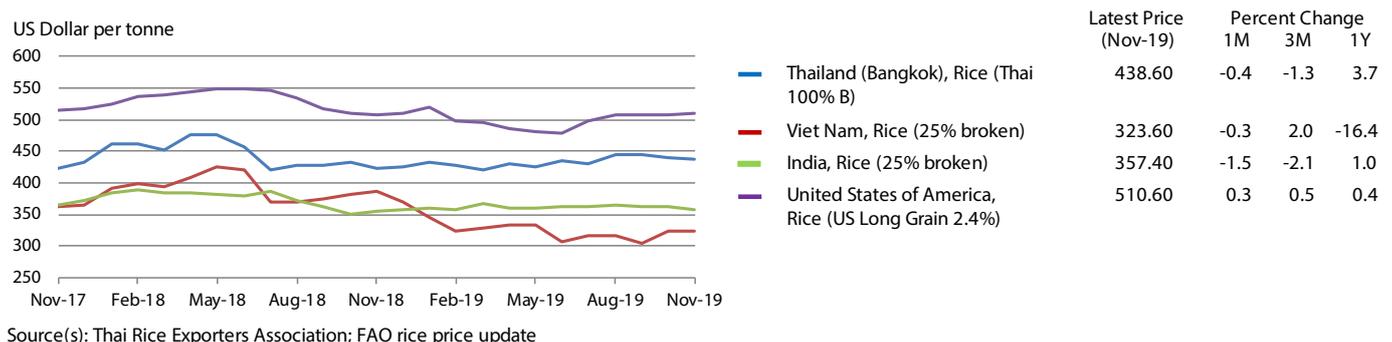
### International wheat prices



### 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 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 3.6	1.1
12 months	1.4	0.7

Compound growth rate in real terms.

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

### Prices of grains under upward pressure and higher year on year

Wholesale prices of **yellow maize** continued to increase in November. With planting of the 2020 maize crop, about half-complete by the end of the month, seasonal upward pressure was compounded by concerns over the impact of persistent dryness on crops in key growing areas. Despite ample supplies from the record 2019 harvest, the continued record pace of shipments, supported by a weak currency, contributed to sustain the high level of prices, 75 percent higher, year on year, in November in nominal terms. Maize exports in the 2019/20 marketing year (March/February) are forecast at an all-time high of 35 million tonnes, sustained by the significant depreciation of the country's currency, which was more than 60 percent down, year on year, in value against the US dollar in November. Despite concerns over the 2020 output, demand for exports is expected to be strong in the 2020/21 marketing year, as shown by the large volumes of forward sales of the new crop standing at nearly 14 million tonnes in late November. Regarding **wheat**, prices of wheat grain declined in November for the first time in the past several months on account of improved market supplies from the ongoing harvest. Prices, however, remained nearly 60 percent above their year-earlier values after the sharp increases of the past several months due to the record high volume of exports, which are expected to remain at a near record level in the new marketing year (December/November). The increased prices of wheat grain contributed to the gain in retail prices of wheat products, with prices of **bread** and **wheat flour** 40 and 33 percent, respectively, higher than in October last year. The increase in prices is also closely related with an upsurge of the year-on-year general inflation, which increased by 49.7 percent in October 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](#)).

## Ethiopia | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 5.2	-0.2
12 months	1.9	-0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Ethiopia, Mekele, Wholesale, Maize

### High prices of cereals after sustained increases since mid-2019

Prices of **maize** levelled off in October in the capital, Addis Ababa, and in the key cereal producing area of Bahirdar with the start of the "Meher" harvest, while they increased sharply in the Mekele market in Tigray State, mainly due to concerns over the impact of desert locust outbreaks on the performance of the current crops. Production prospects for the 2019 main "Meher" season crops are generally favourable, however, unseasonal heavy rains at harvest time in October and November, coupled with desert locust infestations are likely to have led to localized crop losses in eastern Amhara, eastern Oromiya and Tigray regions ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). Prices of cereals, including **maize**, **sorghum**, **teff** and **wheat** in October were well above their year-earlier levels, supported by reduced supplies from the secondary "Belg" harvest due to erratic and below-average rains, and by the gradual depreciation of the country's currency, which resulted in increasing fuel and agricultural input prices inflating transport and production costs.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

## Haiti | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 3.8	-1.8
12 months	 4.2	-0.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.

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

### Prices of maize and rice at record or near-record highs

Retail prices of locally produced **maize meal** increased in October after the declines of the previous two months and reached record or near-record highs. This reflects the deteriorating production prospects for the upcoming secondary season harvests due to rain deficits following an already reduced main season harvest, affected by prolonged dry spells during the development and flowering stages that lowered yields. The ongoing civil unrest also added upward pressure on prices by hampering trade flows across the country and reducing market availabilities. Prices were also underpinned by high production costs due to a weak currency that had lost more than 30 percent of its value against the US dollar, year on year, as of October. The weak currency also contributed to the high prices of mostly imported **rice** that were at record or near-record highs in October despite the large imports during the third quarter of 2019.

## Kenya | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	1.8	-1.5
12 months	 4.1	-0.7

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Kenya, Nairobi, Wholesale, Maize

### Prices of maize linger above those a year earlier

Prices of **maize** followed mixed trends in November but were overall significantly higher on a yearly basis despite sustained imports from Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Prices surged in the second quarter of 2019 on concerns over the performance of the main "long-rains" harvest, currently ongoing in western key producing areas, after severe early season dryness delayed planting operations and affected crop germination and vegetation conditions. Despite the improved rains from May, which offset the impact of earlier rainfall deficits and resulted in a substantial recovery of water stress and late planted crops, the harvest is expected to be reduced compared to the previous year, although at near-average levels. In central, southeastern and coastal agro-pastoral and marginal agricultural areas, where the rainy season is normally shorter, the early season drought caused a sharper decline in the "long-rains" maize production, with the harvest, completed in August, estimated to be about 50-60 percent below the average. Low carryover stocks exerted further support to prices after the poor 2018/19 "short-rains" second season harvest.

## Kyrgyzstan | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 2.5	-0.2
12 months	 0.8	-0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Kyrgyzstan, National Average, Retail, Wheat (flour, first grade)

### Prices of wheat flour on the increase and higher year on year

Retail prices of first grade **wheat flour** increased atypically by some 10 percent between October and November and reached levels well above those a year earlier. This mainly reflects the increase in export price quotations from Kazakhstan, which were nearly 30 percent higher, year on year, in November due to a sharp drop in the 2019 output. Imports account for almost half of the domestic consumption needs and shipments are mainly sourced from Kazakhstan. A reduction in the 2019 domestic wheat output compared to a year earlier and to the average of the past five years, also contributed to the upward pressure on prices. As of early December, the Government was considering a ban on exports of wheat grain and wheat flour for a period of six months to avoid shortages in supplies and keep prices in check.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

## Malawi | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 3.8	-3.1
12 months	 5.1	-0.2

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

### Prices of maize increased again in November

Prices of **maize** grain rose in November after two months of relative stability. However, the production upturn in 2019, estimated at an above-average level, tempered larger monthly gains. When compared to their year-earlier levels, however, prices were significantly higher mainly due to increased demand from neighbouring countries, reflecting the generally poor harvests. In addition, institutional purchases to bolster the national strategic reserves exerted further pressure: the Government procurement price was recently revised upwards to MWK 230 per kg in rural areas and MWK 250 per kg in central depots (up from MWK 180). An upward adjustment to prices of petrol and diesel in early November is likely to support further price gains, particularly in structurally deficit areas.

## Mozambique | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 14.3	2.8
12 months	 4.2	-0.1

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

### Prices of maize remained high, but monthly increases eased

Although **maize** price increases eased in October compared to the previous months, prices were still on average at about 50 percent higher on a yearly basis. The high level of prices mostly reflects the impact of extensive cyclone-induced crop losses, as well as drought conditions in the southern provinces which caused a decline in the 2019 maize output compared to the above-average output in 2018. As a result, supplies are tight in the affected provinces, sustaining the 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 supported the higher levels.

## South Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 -6.4	-6.3
12 months	-4.3	-0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.  
Refers to: South Sudan, Juba, Retail, Maize (white)

### Prices of food at exceptionally high levels

In the capital, Juba, prices of staple foods followed mixed trends in November. Prices of **maize** and **cassava** declined slightly, those of **sorghum** remained stable, while prices of **groundnuts** and **wheat flour** strengthened. Prices were overall at exceptionally high levels in November, up to 80 percent higher, year on year, and more than ten times above their values in July 2015, just before the currency collapse. The high food prices were driven by currency weakness, high production and transport costs and the lingering impact of prolonged conflict. More recently, significant flood-induced crop production shortfalls affecting the 2019 harvest added to the upward pressure on prices. Exceptionally abundant late-season rains in September and October, especially in northern and eastern areas, resulted in widespread floods that affected about 900 000 people and prompted the Government to declare a state of emergency. According to preliminary estimates, about 74 000 hectares of crops were lost in former Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Unity, Jonglei, Lakes, Warrap, Eastern and Central Equatoria states. The national 2019 crop production estimates will be provided by a joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) being fielded in late December.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

## Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	-6.1	-1.7
12 months	 1.1	0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

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

### Prices of staple foods increase and at record or near-record highs

Prices of locally grown **sorghum** and **millet** increased in November in spite of the ongoing harvest, while prices of imported **wheat** rose further. Overall, prices of cereals were at record or near-record levels despite the above-average 2018 harvest and overall favourable prospects for the current crops. An ongoing nationwide Government-led crop assessment, supported by FAO, will provide detailed production estimates in early 2020. Despite the good 2019 production outlook, food prices remained under upward pressure and at exceptionally high levels due to 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 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 6.0	0.8
12 months	 1.8	-0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

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

### Prices of wheat flour continue to rise

Retail prices of first grade **wheat flour** generally increased for the third consecutive month in November, taking the overall increase since October to some 20 percent, and were at record highs in nominal terms. The recent upsurge in prices mainly reflects high export price quotations from Kazakhstan, the country's main supplier, where export prices in November were nearly 30 percent higher than the corresponding month a year earlier, due to a well below-average output in 2019. Although purchases of wheat flour have decreased significantly in recent years on improved domestic milling capacities, the country still heavily relies on wheat grain imports to meet its consumption needs and shipments from Kazakhstan account for more than 95 percent of the total purchases. A recent weakening of country's currency and a moderate increase in fuel prices in the past few months also contributed to the upward pressure on prices.

## Uganda | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	8.4	5.3
12 months	 4.7	-0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Uganda, Kampala, Wholesale, Maize

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

Prices of **maize** increased seasonally for the second consecutive month in November, albeit at slower rates compared to October. Prices were more than twice their values in November last year, supported by sustained regional demand, mainly from Kenya, where the harvests were affected by poor and erratic rains, and South Sudan, where an improved security situation resulted in better trade flows, both internally and on the Juba-Nimule road, the main route for goods imported from Uganda. Prices were also underpinned by a below-average 2019 first season harvest, completed with a one-month delay in August due to severe early season dryness, which followed a reduced 2018 second season output. However, supply pressure should be eased by the 2019 second season harvest that is about to be gathered and prospects are overall favourable following abundant and well-distributed precipitation.

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

## United Republic of Tanzania | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	3.0	1.7
12 months	 6.5	0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: United Republic of Tanzania, Arusha, Wholesale, Maize

### Prices of maize growing to exceptionally high levels

Prices of **maize** increased sharply in November and were at extremely high levels, up to three times above their values a year earlier. Despite the above-average main "Msimu" harvest, completed in June, following adequate and well-distributed precipitation in key cropping areas of the southern highlands, seasonal price increases were exacerbated 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. More recently, heavy rains in most parts of the country hampered transport and market supplies, exerting additional upward pressure on prices.

## Zambia | Maize

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 11-19	Same period average
3 months	 6.6	0.2
12 months	 3.9	-0.2

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Zambia, National Average, Retail, Breakfast maize meal

### Prices of maize continued to climb in November

Prices of **maize** products continued to rise reaching all-time highs in November, up to 90 percent higher on a yearly basis. The significantly elevated level of prices mostly reflects supply pressure, stemming from a second consecutive below-average harvest in 2019 due to extreme rainfall deficits. Drought conditions in 2019 also curbed the country's capacity to produce hydroelectricity, increasing the need to import costlier electricity and, in turn, raising production costs for milling companies, adding to the price hikes. In addition, the inflationary effects of a weaker currency provided further upward support.

## Zimbabwe | Cereals

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 10-19	Same period average
3 months	 19.9	-0.2
12 months	 6.9	0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Zimbabwe, Mash east, Retail, Bread

### Strong increases in cereal prices persisted in October

Prices of **maize meal**, the primary food staple, increased by up to 50 percent on a monthly basis in October and, as a result, were more than eight times higher year on year. Prices of other cereal products, including bread and rice, also continued to increase steeply, putting them considerably higher on a yearly basis. These steep increases were reflected in the monthly inflation rate for October, which was estimated at 38.8 percent, up from 17.7 percent, month on month, in September, as reported by the Zimbabwe Statistical Agency on 15 November 2019. The sharply weaker currency and the impact of the weather-reduced 2019 agricultural output were the primary drivers of the significantly high prices. In addition, foreign exchange shortages that have restrained the country's ability to import food as well as higher prices of electricity and fuel, provided further upward pressure. However, an easing of import restrictions from November ([FPMA Food Policies](#)) could help to stimulate trade and partly alleviate the supply pressure.

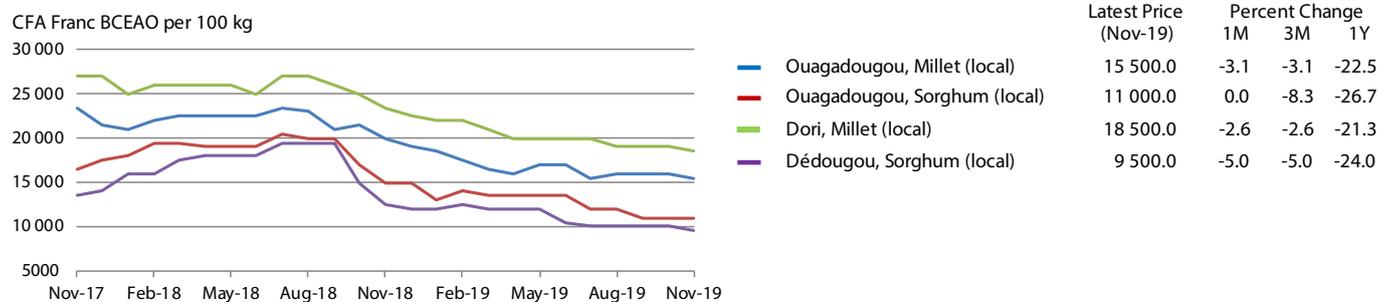
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

## Prices of coarse grains generally declined but still high in conflict-affected areas

In Sahelian countries, prices of coarse grains continued to remain stable or declined further in November reflecting improved supplies from the 2019 harvests and were generally lower than a year earlier on account of good domestic supplies from imports and substantial carryover stocks from the 2018 record outputs. Prices were generally lower than a year earlier except in the conflict-affected areas of the Lake Chad Basin, Liptako-Gourma and Tibesti regions. In addition, the closure of Nigeria's land borders (FPMA Food Policies) continued to disrupt the regular market functioning, putting upward pressure on prices in some areas. In **Burkina Faso**, prices of millet and sorghum generally declined in November and were well below those a year earlier as a result of seasonal harvest pressure compounded by food distribution programmes and Government sales at subsidized prices. In **Mali**, prices of coarse grains remained mostly stable and down from a year earlier. In these countries, market disruptions hampering access to food were reported in some areas affected by insecurity. In **Niger**, prices of coarse grains declined or remained relatively stable in November and were lower than a year earlier reflecting good domestic availabilities. In some areas, however, market supplies were hindered by Nigeria's borders closure and in Diffa, Tahoua and Tillabery regions by conflict. In **Chad**, prices of coarse grains were overall stable or declined in October and were lower than a year earlier on account of the new supplies from the 2019 harvest and good carryover stocks. Persisting conflict continued to limit market flows in the Lake Chad and Tibesti regions. In **Senegal**, prices of millet declined seasonally in

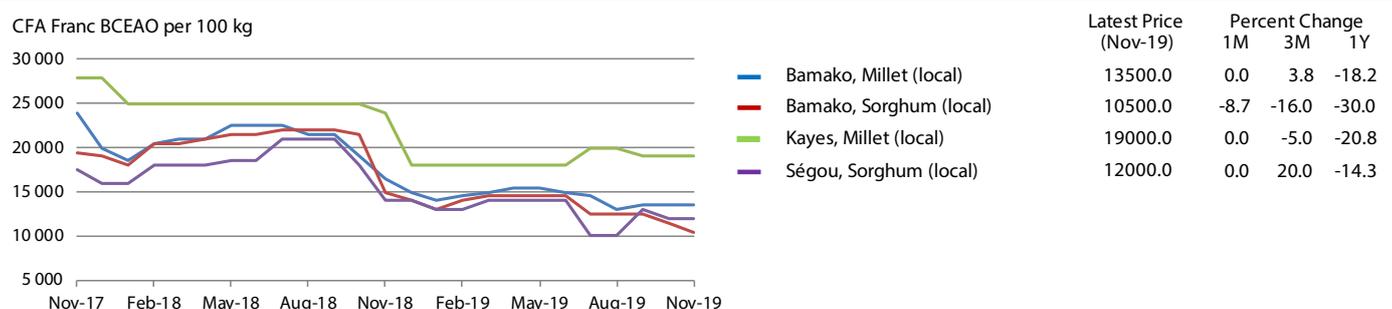
October but were higher than their year-earlier levels due to a lower output in 2019 compared with the record crop of last year. Prices of imported rice, the most consumed cereal, remained relatively stable. In coastal countries, harvesting of the 2019 cereal crops is still ongoing and prices generally decreased or remained stable. In **Ghana**, after declining with the 2019 harvest, prices of maize showed mixed trends in November. In general, however, prices remained stable or declined and were below their values in November last year. In **Togo**, prices of maize continued to decline in October and were down from a year earlier across most markets reflecting the good harvest and reduced exports to Nigeria following the closure of the land borders. By contrast in **Benin**, prices of maize, the countries' main staple food, rose in November in most markets due to strong domestic demand as well as demand from neighbouring Sahelian countries. In **Nigeria**, prices of coarse grains remained relatively stable or declined in October with the new harvest, while prices of rice rose significantly for the second consecutive month across the country and were higher than a year earlier. The substantial rise in prices of rice follows the closure of the land borders, which is constraining domestic availabilities particularly in the border markets, where increases in prices of coarse grains, vegetables and livestock products were also reported. Nigeria recently agreed with Benin and Niger to create a joint border patrol force to control the unofficial cross-border trade, particularly of rice, which had pushed the Government to close the land borders. High food prices were also reported in the conflict-affected areas of the northeast.

### Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Burkina Faso



Source(s): Afrique verte

### Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Mali

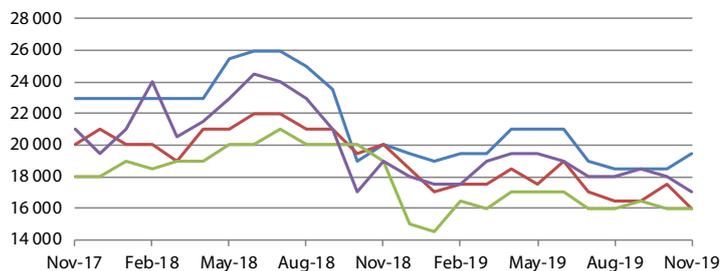


Source(s): Afrique verte

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

## Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Niger

CFA Franc BCEAO per 100 kg

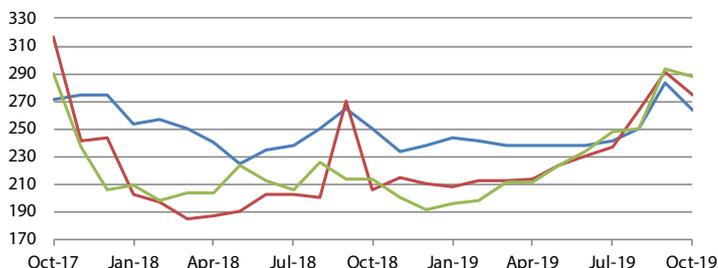


Source(s): Afrique verte

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
19 500.0	5.4	5.4	-2.5
16 000.0	-8.6	-3.0	-20.0
16 000.0	0.0	0.0	-15.8
17 000.0	-5.6	-5.6	-10.5

## Retail prices of millet in Senegal

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

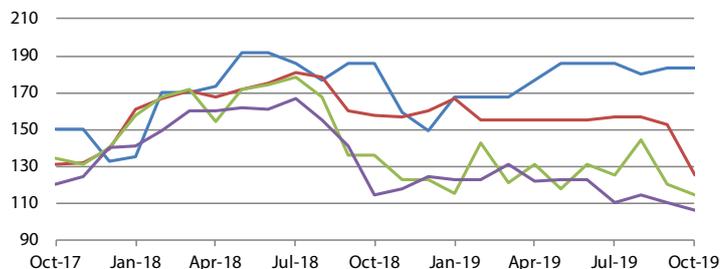


Source(s): Agence Nationale de la Statistique et la Démographie (ANSD)

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
263.00	-7.1	9.1	5.2
275.00	-5.5	16.0	33.5
288.00	-1.7	16.1	34.6

## Retail prices of maize in Togo

CFA Franc BCEAO per kg

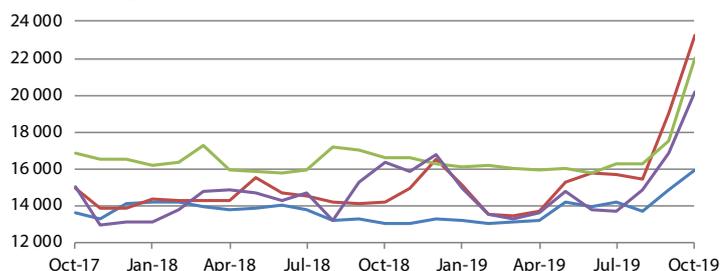


Source(s): Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Pêche

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
183.00	0.0	-1.6	-1.6
125.00	-18.3	-20.4	-20.9
114.00	-5.0	-8.8	-16.2
106.00	-3.6	-3.6	-7.0

## Wholesale prices of imported rice in Nigeria

Naira per 50 kg



Source(s): FEWSNET

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
15 930.0	7.3	12.0	22.2
23 240.0	22.0	48.2	63.9
22 000.0	25.7	35.0	32.5
20 133.3	19.3	47.0	23.1

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

# SOUTHERN AFRICA

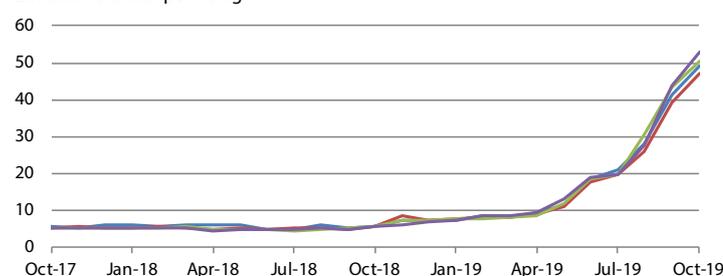
## Prices of maize continue to increase and significantly higher year on year

In most countries of the subregion, prices of maize continued to increase in November and were significantly higher year on year underpinned by tight supplies and weak currencies. Amid an economic crisis, **Zimbabwe** continued to experience soaring inflation rates in October and prices of key staple foods surged on a monthly basis. Compared to a year earlier, retail prices of maize meal were more than eight times higher, underpinned by a weak currency and reduced domestic supplies following a drought-reduced 2019 harvest and on account of foreign exchange shortages that curtailed imports. However, the lift of import restrictions announced in late November ([FPMA Food Policies](#)) could stimulate trade and alleviate the supply pressure. In **Zambia**, prices of maize meal increased further in November and reached record highs, after the second consecutive drought-reduced harvest in 2019 led to a considerable decline in domestic supplies. In addition, the drought also curbed the generation of hydroelectricity, raising production costs for milling companies that translated into further price hikes. In **Malawi**, the production upturn in 2019, which put this year's harvest at an above-average level, tempered the monthly gains. Nevertheless, on a yearly basis, prices of maize grain in November

were significantly higher especially in southern markets due to localized production shortfalls and diminished supplies in bordering countries that reduced opportunities to buffer domestic availabilities. Extensive cyclone-induced crop losses in the key central growing areas was the main factor triggering the higher year-on-year prices of maize in **Mozambique**. In addition, a weaker currency and higher year-on-year prices in South Africa, a key supplier of grain, exerted further upward pressure on prices. In **South Africa**, wholesale prices of maize grain dipped in November on prospects of an expansion in the area planted, which bodes well for 2020 crop prospects. However, upward pressure from the reduced 2019 cereal output continued to sustain higher year-on-year prices, further supported by a weaker currency and higher international quotations. Prices of maize in import dependent **Eswatini** and **Namibia**, broadly reflected trends in South Africa, the countries' main supplier of cereals. In both countries, prices of maize meal were slightly higher on a yearly basis in October. In **Madagascar**, retail prices of rice levelled off in November, after moderate increases in the previous months, reflecting the good 2019 harvest and comparatively stable prices in exporting countries.

### Retail prices of maize meal in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe Dollar per 10 kg

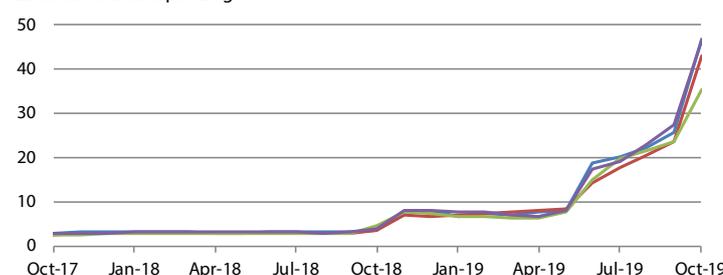


Source(s): ZIMSTAT

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
49.35	19.2	134	797.3
47.10	20.1	140.8	783.7
50.34	15.9	154.0	825.4
52.83	20.2	169.4	833.4

### Retail prices of rice in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe Dollar per 2 kg



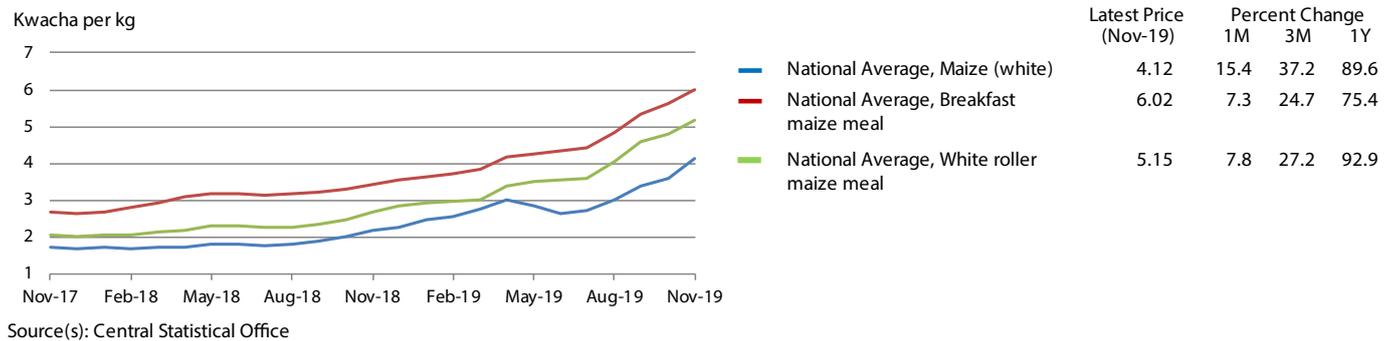
Source(s): ZIMSTAT

Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
46.81	81.9	131.2	1 203.0
43.11	82.0	141.1	1 131.0
35.53	50.1	78.5	698.4
46.43	69.0	144.5	1 057.0

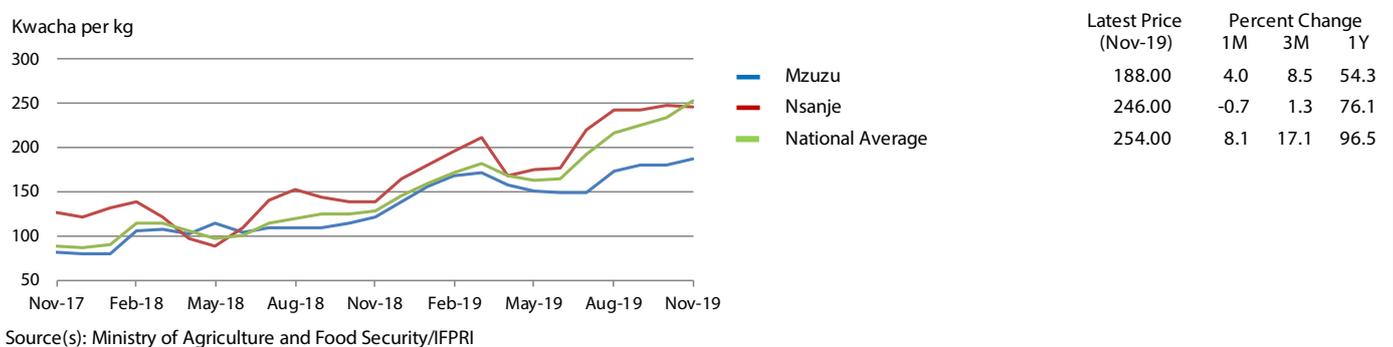
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

# SOUTHERN AFRICA cont'd

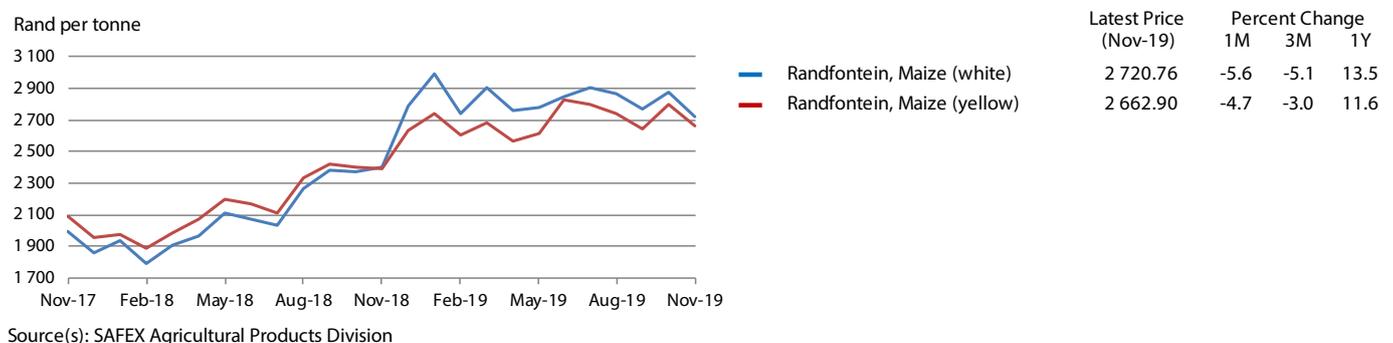
## Retail prices of maize in Zambia



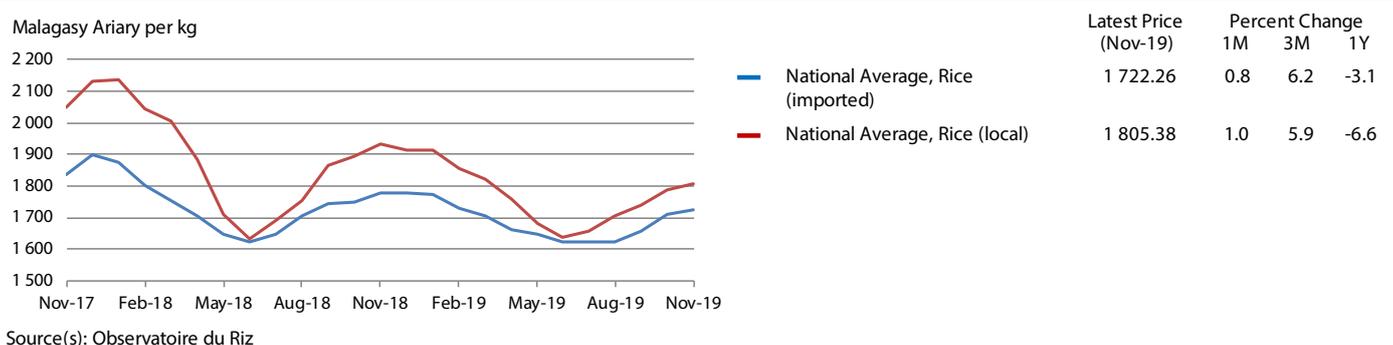
## Retail prices of maize in Malawi



## Wholesale prices of maize in South Africa



## Retail prices of rice in Madagascar



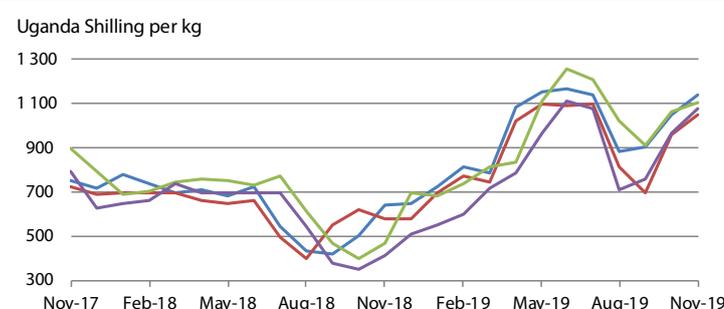
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

## Prices of coarse grains generally increased and at high levels across the subregion

In several countries of the subregion, prices of coarse grains increased seasonally in November and reached levels well above those a year earlier due to reduced harvests in several cropping areas and to the difficult macroeconomic situation in the Sudan and South Sudan. In **Uganda**, prices of maize increased seasonally for the second consecutive month in November, albeit at a slower rate than in the previous month. Prices were well above those a year earlier as a result of a reduced first season harvest and sustained foreign demand, mainly from Kenya and South Sudan. Similarly, in the **United Republic of Tanzania**, prices increased in November following seasonal patterns and were well above their year-earlier values despite adequate domestic availabilities underpinned by strong demand from Kenya, Rwanda and Southern African countries. Also in **Somalia**, prices of maize and sorghum 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 the previous seasons. In **the Sudan**, prices of sorghum and millet increased in November in spite of the ongoing harvest and were at exceptionally high levels as a weak currency, coupled with fuel shortages and high prices of agricultural inputs, inflated production and transportation costs. In **Rwanda**,

prices of maize increased seasonally in November and reached high levels despite consecutive above-average harvests and favourable prospects for the "2020A" crops, supported by reduced imports from Uganda after the border closure. Prices increased also in **Burundi** and were higher year on year. In **Kenya**, prices of maize lingered at high levels in November, up to twice their year-earlier values, supported by concerns over a reduced "long-rains" harvest, currently ongoing, coupled with overall tight domestic availabilities. In **Ethiopia**, prices of maize levelled off in October with the start of the "Meher" harvest in some markets, but recorded sharp increases in others due to concerns over the impact of heavy rainfall and desert locust outbreaks on the performance of the current crops. Prices in November were well above their year-earlier levels, supported by reduced supplies from the secondary "Belg" harvest and by the depreciation of the currency which inflated production costs. In **South Sudan**, prices of maize declined slightly in November while prices of sorghum remained firm. Overall, prices of coarse grains in November were at exceptionally high levels, mainly driven by the significant flood-induced crop losses to the 2019 harvest, a difficult macroeconomic situation and the lingering impact of the prolonged conflict.

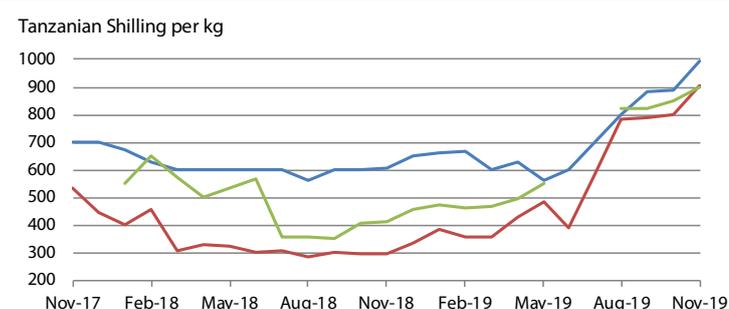
### Wholesale prices of maize in Uganda



Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
1 140.94	8.7	29.3	78.4
1 053.48	9.6	29.5	82.9
1 103.41	3.7	7.7	134.6
1 077.65	11.2	51.5	162.2

### Wholesale prices of maize in the United Republic of Tanzania

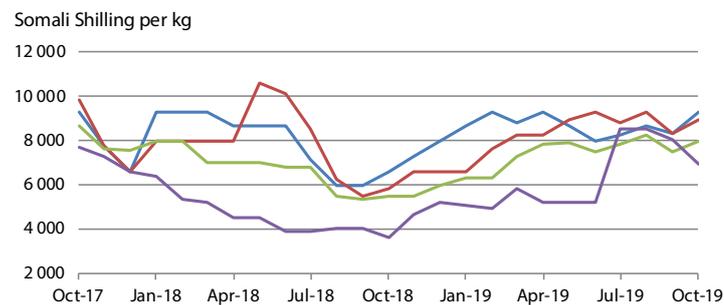


Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
996.12	12.1	24.5	64.2
904.28	12.6	15.4	205.4
902.39	6.0	9.4	120.3

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

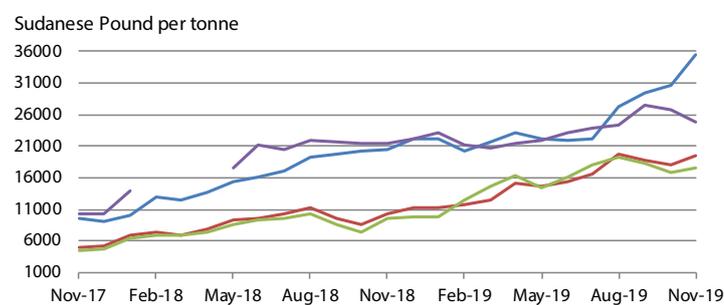
## Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia



Source(s): Food Security Analysis Unit

	Latest Price (Oct-19)	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Mogadishu, Sorghum (red)	9 300.00	11.7	12.6	40.9
Mogadishu, Maize (white)	8 975.00	7.8	2.2	54.2
Marka, Maize (white)	8 000.00	6.3	2.1	46.3
Baidoa, Sorghum (red)	6 950.00	-13.7	-18.4	90.9

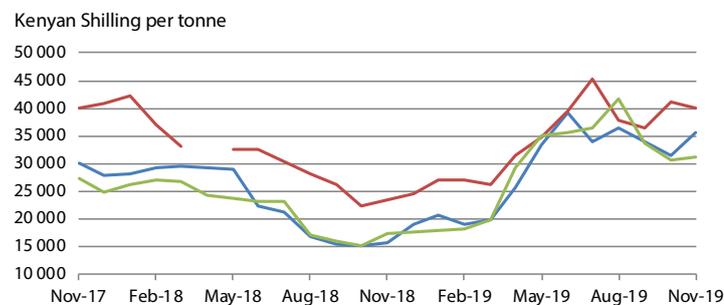
## Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in the Sudan



Source(s): Food Security information for Action (SIFISA)

	Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Khartoum, Millet	35612.5	16	30.2	73.1
Khartoum, Sorghum (Feterita)	19387.5	7.8	-1.4	89.5
El Gedarif, Sorghum (Feterita)	17562.6	4.5	-9.3	84
Nyala, Millet	24750.0	-7.2	1.4	16

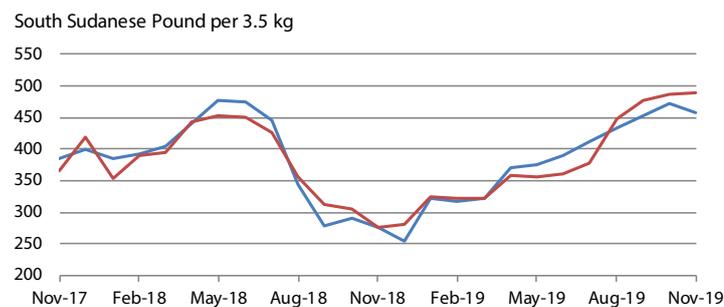
## Wholesale prices of maize in Kenya



Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

	Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Eldoret	35 535.0	13.5	-2.7	129.3
Nairobi	39 971.0	-3.1	6.0	70.6
Nakuru	31 062.0	1.8	-25.6	78.3

## Retail prices of maize and sorghum in South Sudan



Source(s): Crop & Livestock Market Information System (CLIMIS)

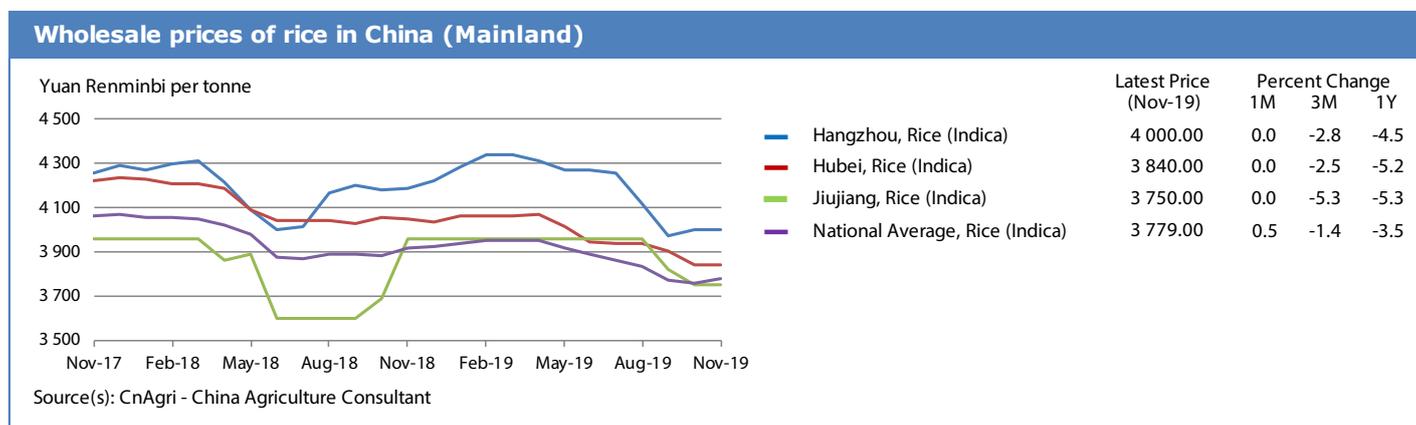
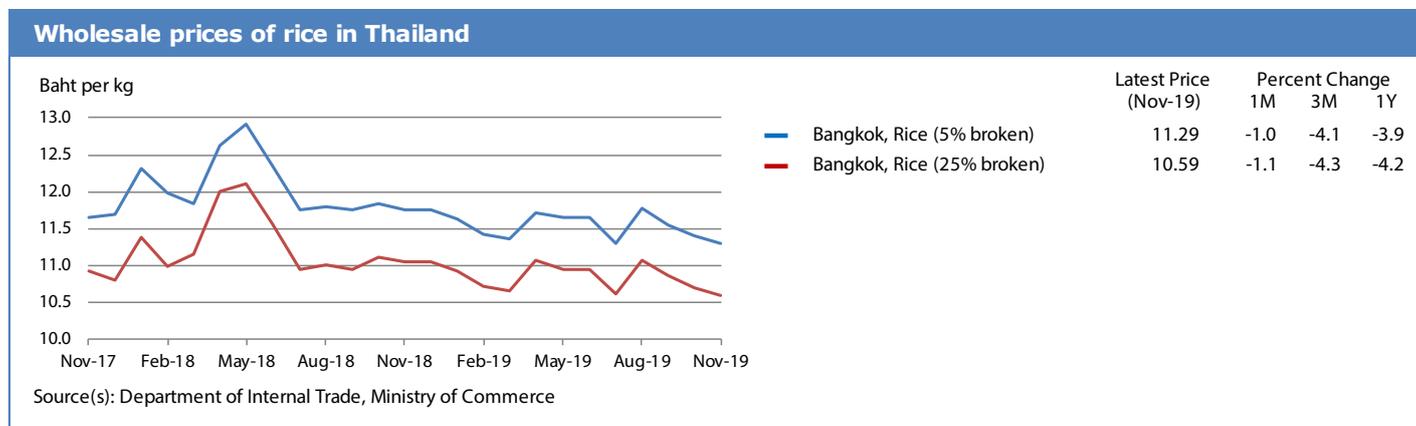
	Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Juba, Maize (white)	458.00	-3.2	5.5	66.5
Juba, Sorghum (Feterita)	490.00	0.6	9.6	78.2

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

## Prices of rice and wheat showed mixed trends in November

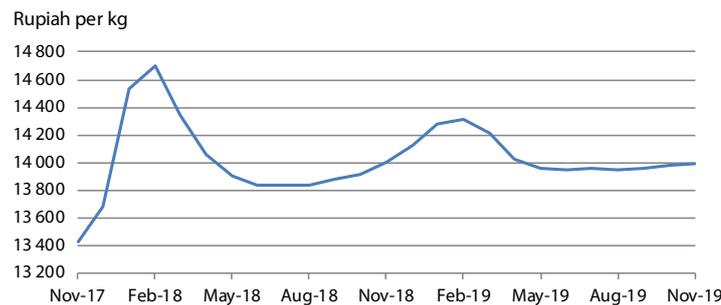
Domestic prices of rice showed mixed trends across the subregion in November but were overall well below their year-earlier levels. Prices continued to soften in **Thailand**, weighed down by improved market supplies from the ongoing 2019 main season harvest and subdued international demand. However, the decline in prices was somewhat limited by weather-related crop damage to the 2019 main season crop and concerns over limited water supplies for the forthcoming 2019/20 mostly irrigated secondary season crop. By contrast, in **Viet Nam**, prices rose for the second consecutive month in line with seasonal trends but were well below their year-earlier levels, after the significant declines in the previous months associated with good market availabilities from the 2019 harvest and an overall weak foreign demand. In **India**, harvest delays of the 2019 main season crop and damages following heavy rainfall in October and November, coupled with a robust pace of Government procurement put upward pressure on prices of rice. Excessive rainfall also caused damage to the second season onion crop, being harvested, which follows an already sharply-reduced first season output earlier in the year, affected by dry weather conditions. This led to significant price increases in November, which pushed prices at levels well above those a year earlier. In **Myanmar**, prices of rice were supported by strong exports despite the progressive arrival of the 2019 main season harvest, estimated at an above-average level. Prices were generally stable in **China (Mainland)** reflecting adequate market availabilities and changed little also in **Cambodia**, although they decreased in the

Battambang market with the early onset of the 2019 main season harvest, estimated at an above-average level. In the importing countries, prices were generally stable in **Indonesia**, while they decreased marginally in **the Philippines** pressured by the ongoing 2019 main harvest. In **Bangladesh**, prices strengthened in November for the first time in the past several months supported by concerns about the impact of heavy rains on the ready-to-be-harvested 2019 "Aman" crop, which accounts for 35 percent of the total annual output. In **Sri Lanka**, seasonal price increases were compounded by a reduced 2019 secondary season harvest affected by prolonged dry weather. As for wheat and wheat flour, prices also showed mixed trends in November, although changes were moderate. In the major producing countries, prices strengthened in most monitored markets in **China (Mainland)** reflecting seasonal patterns but remained lower than a year earlier, while they were higher in **Pakistan**, sustained by a below-average 2019 output. In **India**, seasonal upward pressure was partially offset by adequate market availabilities from a record 2019 production and increased sales through the Open Market Sales Scheme. Prices changed little in the importers, **Indonesia** and **Sri Lanka**, while they decreased marginally in **Bangladesh** reflecting large imports in recent months. In **Afghanistan**, prices of mostly imported wheat flour increased in November and were higher, year on year, due to higher prices from the key supplier, Kazakhstan, as well as due to Pakistan's ban on exports of wheat and wheat flour, although a partial resumption of exports was reported.



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

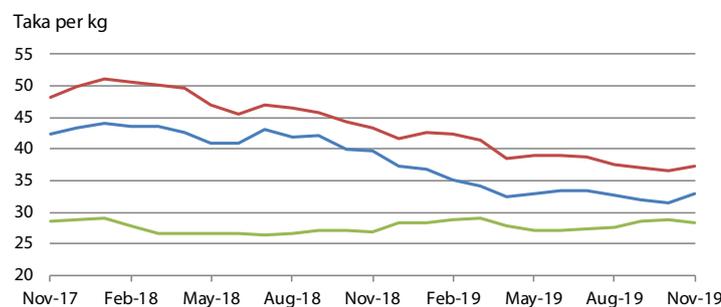
## Retail prices of rice in Indonesia



Source(s): Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS)

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
13 995.0	0.1	0.4	-0.1

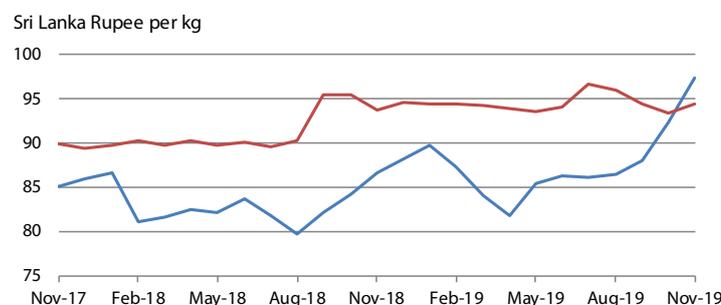
## Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Bangladesh



Source(s): Department of Agriculture Marketing (DAM), Bangladesh

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
32.94	4.8	0.6	-16.8
37.38	2.4	-0.5	-13.9
28.24	-2.1	2.5	5.1

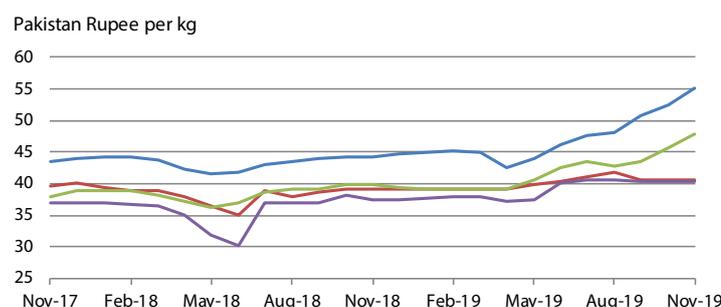
## Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Sri Lanka



Source(s): Department of Census and Statistics

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
97.34	5.3	12.5	12.4
94.51	1.2	-1.5	0.9

## Retail prices of wheat flour in Pakistan



Source(s): Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
55.15	5.0	14.5	24.4
40.50	0.0	-3.0	3.2
47.97	4.9	12.1	20.2
40.43	0.0	-0.1	7.8

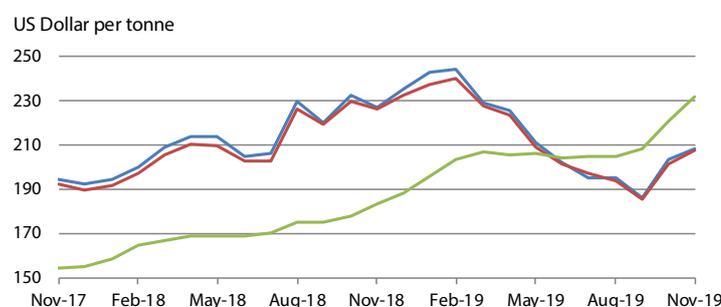
For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

## Prices of wheat flour generally on the increase and higher year on year

In the exporting countries of the subregion, export prices of milling wheat continued to increase in November in line with trends in the international market. In **the Russian Federation**, the upward pressure was mainly sustained by strong demand for export, while in **Ukraine**, concerns over the impact of dry weather conditions on the 2020 winter wheat crop provided support. In both countries, however, prices remained nearly 10 percent below their levels in November last year, reflecting the good outputs in 2019. In **Kazakhstan**, prices rose to their highest levels since August 2015 and were 26 percent above their values in November last year, mainly due to the below-average 2019 output ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)), which is expected to cause a significant drop in exports in the new season. In the domestic markets, prices of wheat grain increased seasonally in November in **the Russian Federation** and **Ukraine**, although remaining below their levels a year earlier, while in **Kazakhstan**, average retail prices of wheat flour rose to values 30 percent above those a year earlier. In the importing countries of the subregion, retail prices of wheat flour were generally higher year on year. Prices continued to increase significantly in **Kyrgyzstan** and, to a

lesser extent, in most markets in **Tajikistan**. The rise mainly reflects higher export quotations from Kazakhstan, the main wheat supplier to the countries, which kept prices above their year-earlier levels. Prices in **Georgia** strengthened for the second consecutive month in November, underpinned by the increase in export prices of wheat flour from the Russian Federation and were some 15 percent up year on year. By contrast, prices remained virtually unchanged in **Armenia** in November although slightly higher than a year earlier. In **Azerbaijan** and **Belarus**, the good 2019 outputs and large imports during the year contributed to the relative stability of prices in the past few months. With regard to potatoes, another staple food in the subregion, prices weakened in several countries of the subregion in November and were generally higher than a year earlier. The notable exception to the general downward trend was **Tajikistan**, where they increased. Prices eased in **the Russian Federation** and decreased in **Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan** and **Kyrgyzstan**, although remaining above the levels in November 2018. Prices declined also in **Belarus** in October, while they strengthened in **Azerbaijan** in line with seasonal trends.

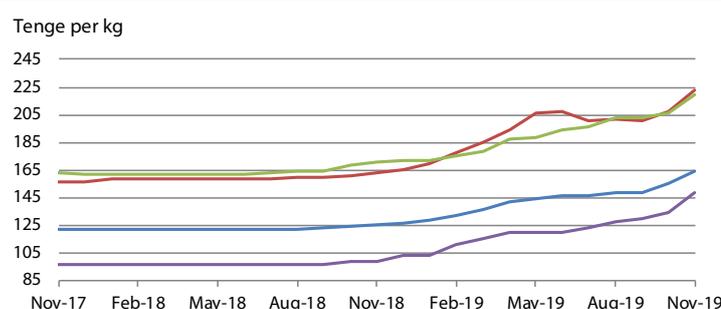
### Export prices of milling wheat in CIS countries



Source(s): APK-Inform Agency

Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
208.50	2.5	6.8	-8.3
207.50	3.1	6.8	-8.3
231.75	4.8	13.0	26.1

### Retail prices of wheat flour in Kazakhstan

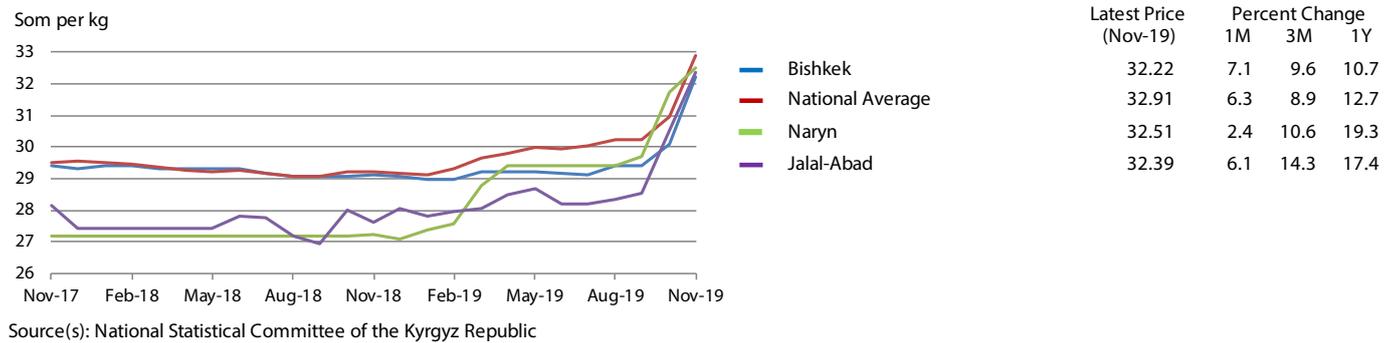


Source(s): Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan - Committee on Statistics

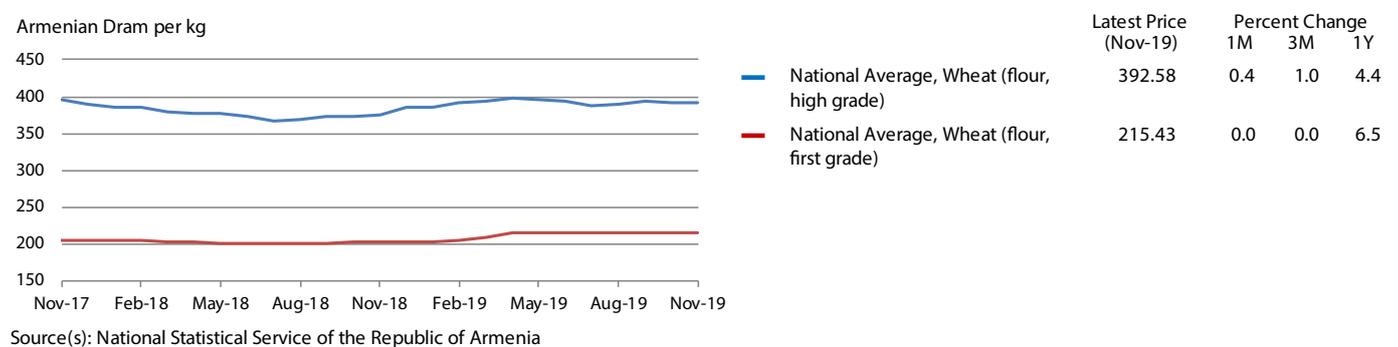
Latest Price (Nov-19)	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
164.05	6.0	10.8	30.6
223.00	7.7	10.4	36.8
219.00	6.3	7.9	28.1
148.00	10.4	15.6	49.5

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

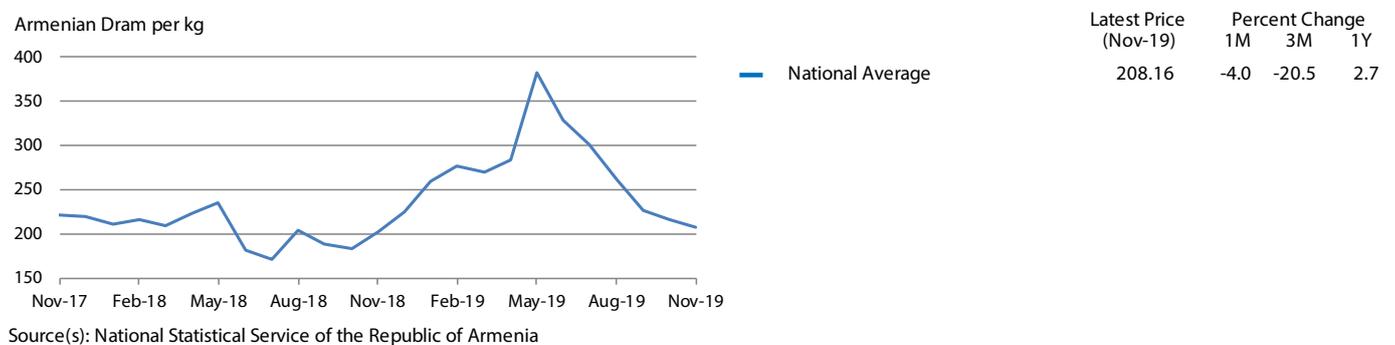
## Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan



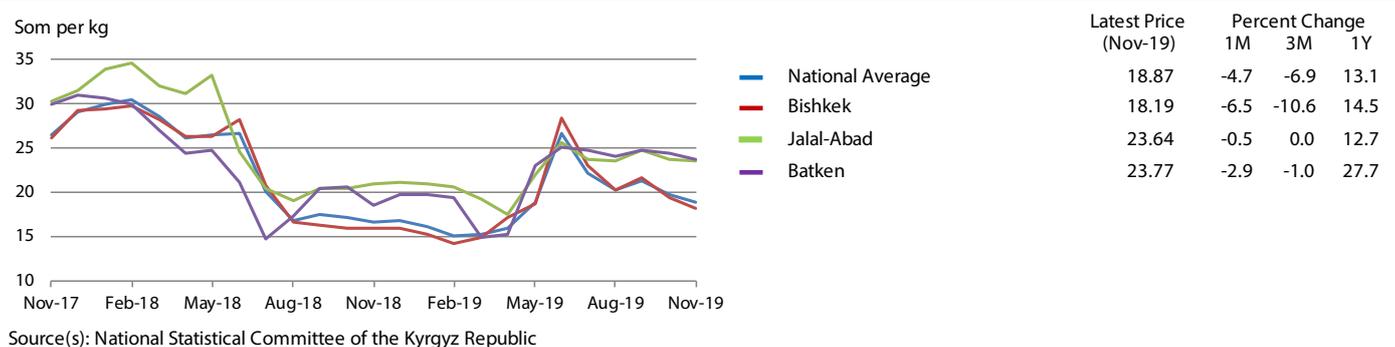
## Retail prices of wheat flour in Armenia



## Retail prices of potatoes in Armenia



## Retail prices of potatoes in Kyrgyzstan



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

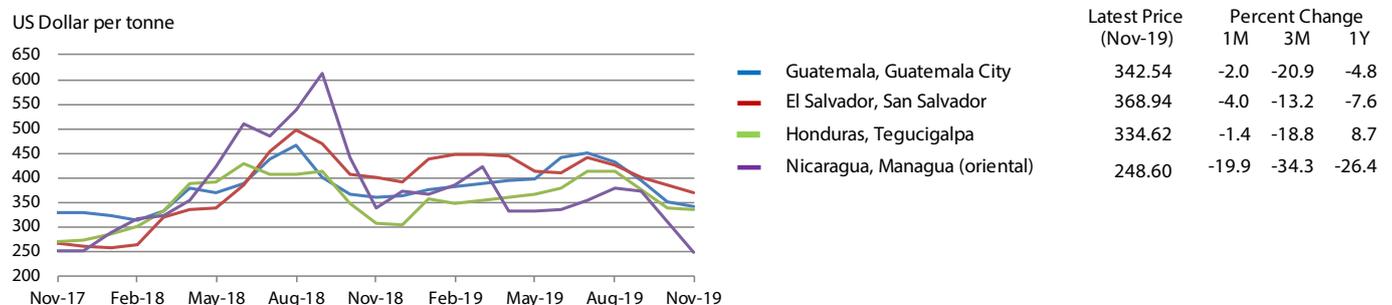
# CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## Prices of maize continue to decline seasonally and overall lower year on year

Prices of white maize continued to decrease seasonally across most of the subregion in November with the entry into the markets of the new product from the 2019 main season harvests. In **Guatemala**, the decline in prices that started in August continued in November reflecting improved supplies from the main season harvest and imports from Mexico. Similarly, in **El Salvador**, prices declined for the fourth consecutive month in November on account of good domestic supplies from the main season output and imports from the United States of America. In both countries, prices were down from a year earlier. In **Nicaragua**, a nearly 20 percent drop in November, which followed a sharp fall already in October, pushed prices of white maize down to levels well below those a year earlier. By contrast, in **Honduras**, after two months of sharp declines, prices remained relatively stable in November and were higher year on year, mainly due to the below-average main season harvest which was affected by drought. In **Mexico**, the downward pressure on prices from the ongoing main season harvest was partly offset by the expected decline in output following reduced rainfall in the June-August period, which led to a contraction in plantings and lower yields ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). In the Caribbean, while prices of yellow maize continued to decline

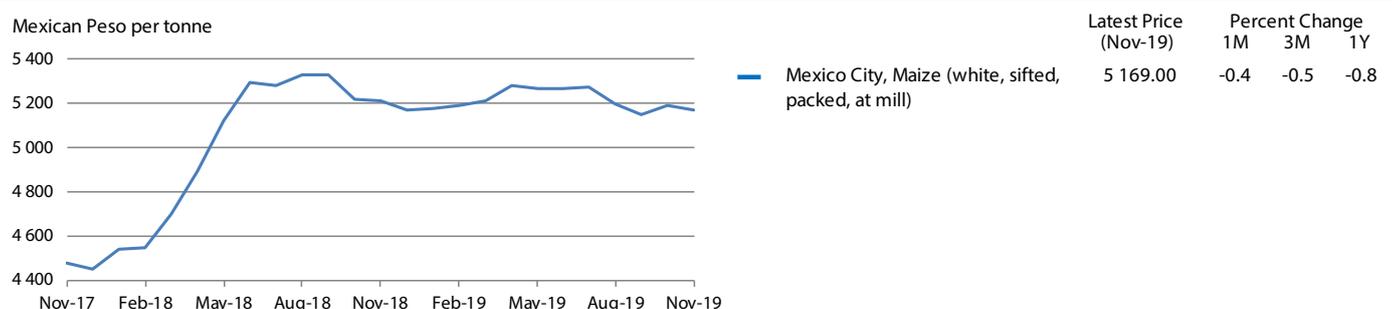
in **the Dominican Republic** with increased imports, prices of maize meal rose in **Haiti** in October and were significantly higher than their values a year earlier on account of reduced market availabilities and a weak local currency. The latter also kept prices of rice, mostly imported, at levels well above those in October last year. With regard to beans, prices of red beans declined in **El Salvador** with the early harvest of the main season crop. By contrast, prices increased sharply for the second consecutive month in **Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, where they reached levels about 30 and 40 percent higher year on year, respectively. The recent sharp increases reflect seasonal trends compounded by below-average minor season harvests and localized heavy rainfall affecting the development of the main season crops, about to be harvested. In **Guatemala**, prices of black beans, on the increase since July, continued to rise in November, but they are expected to decline with the recently-started main season harvest. In **Mexico**, prices of black beans remained relatively stable in November, as good domestic availabilities mostly offset the upward pressure from the unfavourable production prospects for the current season. In the Caribbean, retail prices of black beans generally increased in **Haiti** and in **the Dominican Republic** and were higher year on year.

### 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)

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

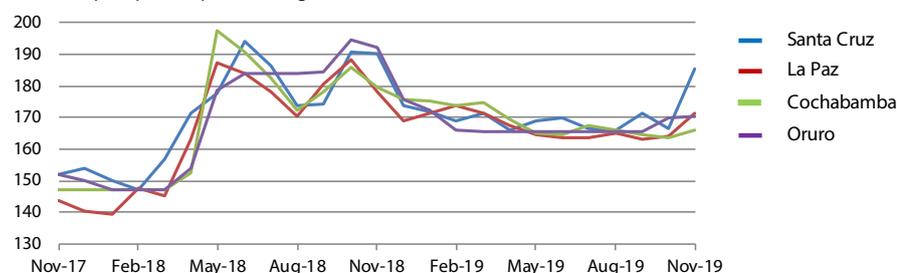
## Prices of maize increase, those of wheat and rice show mixed trends

Prices of wheat showed mixed trends across the subregion in November, declining in countries where the harvests have begun, while increasing or remaining stable elsewhere. In **Argentina**, wholesale prices of wheat grain declined significantly for the first time in the past several months with the start of the 2019 harvest. Prices, however, remained about 60 percent higher year on year in nominal terms, underpinned by large exports. In **Uruguay**, prices of wheat softened for the second consecutive month in November as the harvest has begun, but remained above their year-earlier levels as a result of higher exports and increased input costs spurred by a weaker currency. By contrast, in **Chile**, prices of wheat grain increased seasonally in November, with the new harvest about to start. Prices, however, were down from a year earlier on account of large imports in the past months. In **Brazil**, where the harvest is nearly completed, prices of wheat in the main producing Paraná State increased slightly in November and were moderately above their values a year earlier, mainly supported by the expected decline in the 2019 output and costly imports from the main supplier, Argentina. Similarly, in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, which imports mostly from Argentina, prices of imported wheat flour increased in November, although remaining down from a year earlier, while in **Colombia, Ecuador and Peru**, prices remained relatively stable. With regard to yellow maize, prices increased seasonally in most countries of the subregion in November and were generally higher than a year earlier. In **Argentina**, prices of yellow maize continued to increase in November with seasonal trends compounded by concerns over the impact of adverse weather on the 2020 crop and by large exports,

which sustained the high year-on-year level of prices. Similarly, in **Brazil**, where planting of the first minor season is virtually completed, prices increased on account of strong domestic and foreign demand. In **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, prices of yellow maize rose further in November in the major producing Santa Cruz Department in line with historical trends and were above their year-earlier values due to the year-on-year drop in the 2019 aggregate output ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). In **Ecuador**, prices of yellow maize remained relatively stable in November reflecting adequate supplies from the ongoing minor season harvest and were around or below their year-earlier values pressured by the good output in 2019 ([GIEWS Country Brief](#)). In **Chile and Colombia**, which depend on imports, prices also increased in November but were higher, year on year, owing to reduced outputs in 2019 and costlier imports. By contrast, in **Peru**, adequate domestic availabilities contributed to weigh on prices and to keep them down from a year earlier. With regard to rice, in **Brazil**, the major producer of the subregion, prices decreased in the key producing Rio Grande do Sul State reflecting a slowdown in demand and an increase in imports. Prices strengthened also in **Uruguay** and were higher, year on year, mainly due to a reduced 2019 output. Similarly, a contraction in output kept prices up on a year earlier in **Peru**, despite a recent softening. In **Colombia**, national average prices of rice increased slightly in November and were about 10 percent higher than their year-earlier levels despite the good output this year, mainly due to the impact of a weaker currency. Prices of rice held relatively steady in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)** and **Ecuador**.

### Wholesale prices of imported wheat flour in Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

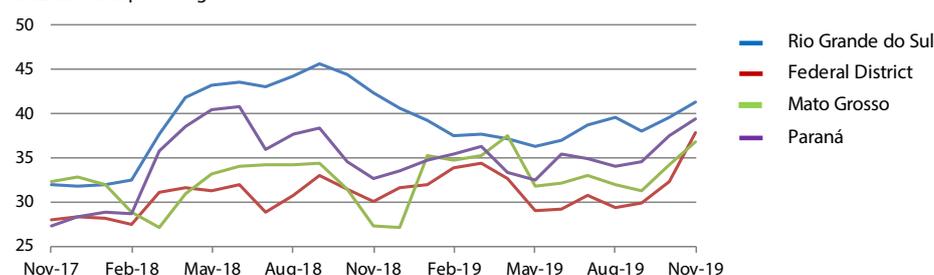
Boliviano per Spanish quintal (46 kg)



Source(s): Observatorio Agroambiental y Productivo - OAP/MDRyT

### Wholesale prices of yellow maize in Brazil

Brazilian Real per 60 kg



Source(s): Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (Conab)

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

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 December 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](http://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](http://www.fao.org/giews/food-prices).

Enquiries may be directed to:

GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Team

Trade and Markets Division (EST)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome, Italy

E-mail: [GIEWS1@fao.org](mailto:GIEWS1@fao.org)

The **Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS)** has set up a mailing list to disseminate its reports. To subscribe, submit the Registration Form on the following link: [http://newsletters.fao.org/k/Fao/trade\\_and\\_markets\\_english\\_giews\\_world](http://newsletters.fao.org/k/Fao/trade_and_markets_english_giews_world).

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO.

© FAO, 2019



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo/legalcode>).

Under the terms of this licence, this work may be copied, redistributed and adapted for non-commercial purposes, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that FAO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the FAO logo is not permitted. If the work is adapted, then it must be licensed under the same or equivalent Creative Commons license. If a translation of this work is created, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: "This translation was not created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original [Language] edition shall be the authoritative edition.

Disputes arising under the licence that cannot be settled amicably will be resolved by mediation and arbitration as described in Article 8 of the licence except as otherwise provided herein. The applicable mediation rules will be the mediation rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization <http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/mediation/rules> and any arbitration will be in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

**Third-party materials.** Users wishing to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and for obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

**Sales, rights and licensing.** FAO information products are available on the FAO website ([www.fao.org/publications](http://www.fao.org/publications)) and can be purchased through [publications-sales@fao.org](mailto:publications-sales@fao.org). Requests for commercial use should be submitted via: [www.fao.org/contact-us/licence-request](http://www.fao.org/contact-us/licence-request). Queries regarding rights and licensing should be submitted to: [copyright@fao.org](mailto:copyright@fao.org).